

SPANISH EXTERNAL SECTOR AND COMPETITIVENESS: FACTS AND FIGURES

Updated: 20 February 2018

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1. EXPORT-IMPORT PERFORMANCE

International trade of goods (Secretariat of State for Trade of the Ministry of Economy, Industry and Competitiveness with Customs data; [reports](#) and [customizable data](#))

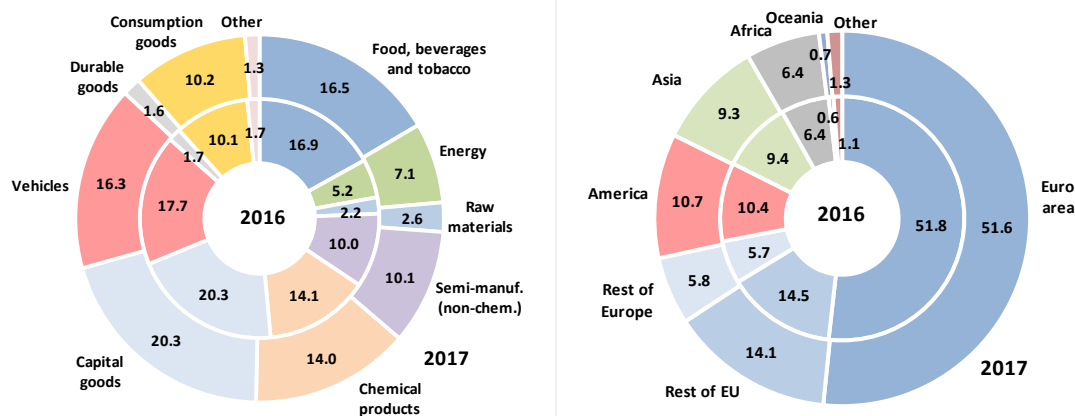
- In **2017**, exports increased by 8.9% compared to 2016 to an unprecedented amount of 277,125.7 million euros, and imports increased by 10.5% year-on-year to 301,870.1 million euros, also historical record. In **real terms**, exports rose by 8.2% year-on-year, as export prices expanded by 0.7% (according to [unit value indices](#)), and imports advanced by 5.5% year-on-year, as import prices grew by 4.7%.
- Spain's trade deficit increased to 24,744.3 million euros from a deficit of 18,753.9 million euros in 2016 (provisional data). The export/import coverage ratio reached 91.8%, 1.3 percentage points lower than in 2016 (93.1%, provisional data).

Sectoral composition

- Spain's **leading exporting sectors** in 2017 were capital goods (representing 20.3% of total exports, surging by 9.2% year-on-year), food, beverages and tobacco (16.5% of total, expanding by 6.3%), vehicles (16.3% of total, increasing by 0.1%) and chemical products (14.0% of total, rising by 7.8%). The **main contributions** by sector to the annual change of Spain's exports (8.9%) were energy (contribution of 2.5 percentage points), capital goods (1.9 points), chemical products (1.1 points) and food, beverages and tobacco (1.1 points).
- The largest shares by sector of **Spain's imports** in 2017 were capital goods (representing 21.5% of total and growing by 7.8% year-on-year), chemical products (14.9% of total imports, advancing by 5.7%), energy (13.4% of total imports, surging by 36.4%) and vehicles (12.9% of total imports, augmenting by 4.8%). In terms of their contribution to the annual change of Spain's imports (10.5%), the most positive by sector were energy products (3.9 percentage points), capital goods (1.7 points), semi-manufactures (non-chemical) (1.0 points), and food, beverages and tobacco (contribution of 0.9 points).

- Although Spain still has a lower degree of diversification than our main European trade partners (Germany, France or Italy), it has notably changed its export mix to a higher degree of sectorial diversification from 2005 to 2017.

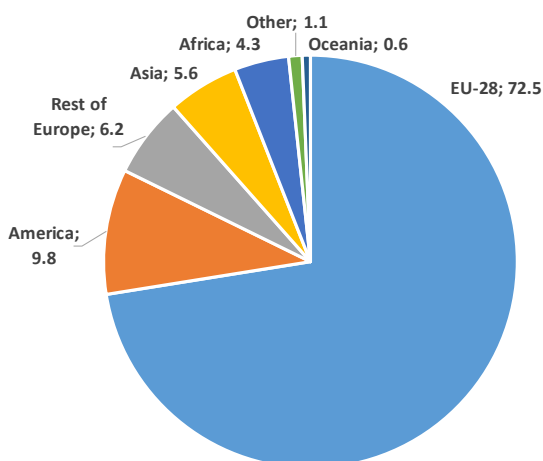
Sectoral and Geographic composition of exports



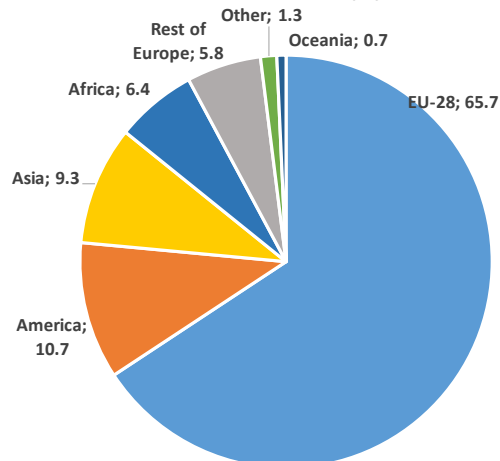
Geographic analysis

- Exports to the European Union (EU)** represented 65.7% of total exports in 2017 (down from 66.3% in 2016) and increased by 8.0% year-on-year, while exports to the euro area ran at 51.6% of total (51.8% in 2016) and advanced by 8.5%. Exports to the rest of the world amounted to 34.3% of total exports (33.7% in 2016) and expanded by 10.6% year-on-year.
- In 2017, Spain's **exports to non-EU** countries increased 10.6% year-on-year, due to the economic recovery in emerging economies and the growth of global trade, after a short period of weakness. Along the decade, exports to non-EU countries have **increased their share** in Spanish exports from 27.5% of total in 2005 to 34.3% in 2017, with a maximum of 37.4% in 2013. In 2017, exports to North America increased by 10.0% year-on-year (exports to the U.S. increasing by 10.0% y-o-y, while those to Canada growing by 10.6%), and those to Latin America rose by 12.7% (especially to Argentina by 51.0%, Mexico by 12.2% and Brazil by 11.7%). Exports to Asia augmented by 7.8% (China by 24.4% and South Korea by 7.0%) and those to Africa increased by 8.5% (particularly to Morocco by 15.7% and South Africa by 7.4%).

2005: EXPORTS BY REGION (% of total)



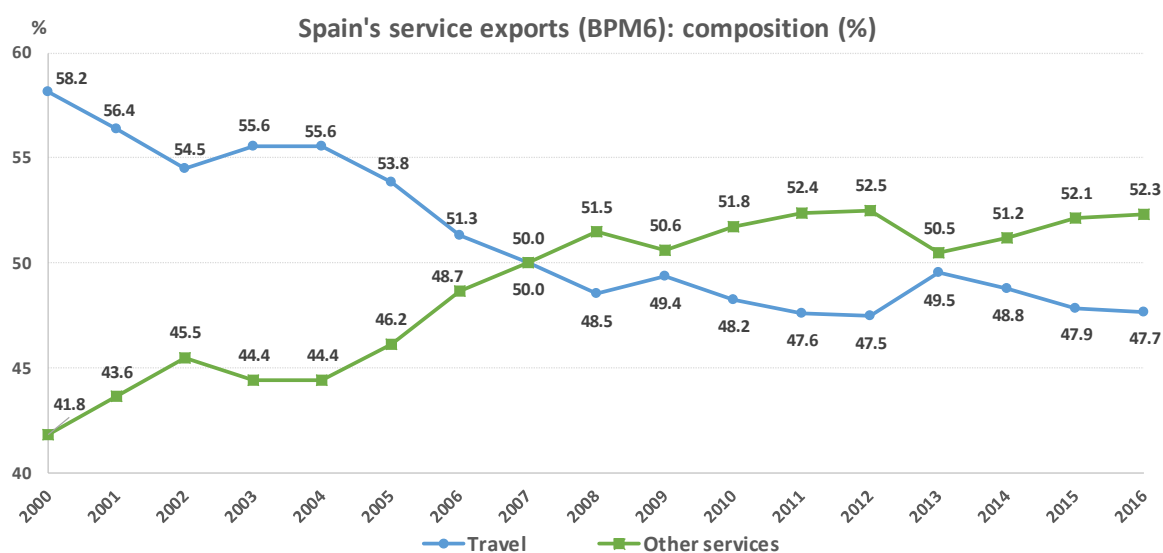
2017: EXPORTS BY REGION (% of total)



- In 2016, the good performance of exports had led to a **positive contribution of the external sector (goods and services) to GDP of 0.7 p.p.**, according to the [National Statistics Institute](#). According to [Government's Macroeconomic Scenario 2017-2018](#) (updated on 16.10.17) the forecast for the contribution of the external demand is 0.7 p.p. for 2017 and 0.5 p.p. for 2018. The Bank of Spain, in turn, forecasts a contribution of the external demand of 0.5 for 2017, 0.4 for 2018, and 0.3 for 2019 and 2020 ([Macroeconomic projections for the Spanish economy 2017-2020, December 2017](#)).

Sectorial and geographic analysis of exports of services (Bank of Spain, Balance of Payments, BPM6, [monthly](#), and [quarterly](#)).

- **In 2016, exports of services increased by 7.6% year-on-year to 114,614 million euros**, the highest value ever-achieved ([Bank of Spain](#)). This rise in 2016 was due to the 8.0% increase in other services as well as 7.2% rise in travel (tourism).
- The **share of other services** in the total exports of services has been steadily rising in the last decades in comparison with that of travel. Thus, the share of other services has reached 52.3% in 2016, up from 41.8% in 2000.



Source: Bank of Spain, Balance of payments. 27.12.2017

- **In 2016 (BPM6, [Bank of Spain](#))**, 52.3% of Spanish exports of services corresponded to other services (non-travel). By type of service, other business services represented 18.6% of total service exports, followed by transport services with 12.7% of total, and by telecommunications, computer and information services with 9.2% of total.
- **In 2016 (BPM6, [Bank of Spain](#))**, 72.1% of Spanish exports of total services went to the Europe (63.0% to EU-28 and 41.6% to the euro area), 8.3% to Asia, 6.3% to North America, 5.6% to South America, 3.5% to Central America, 3.4% to Africa and 0.7% to Oceania. By countries, the most important destinations were the U.K. (15.0%), Germany (10.9%), France (10.4%), the United States (5.6%), Switzerland (5.1%) and the Netherlands (4.8%).

Exports of goods and services, % of GDP (Eurostat)

- In the last few years, Spanish exports of goods and services have risen steadily in terms of GDP. According to Eurostat, Spanish exports of goods and services reached 32.9% of GDP in 2016, 10.2 p.p. higher than in 2009, a greater ratio than in Italy, France or the United Kingdom.

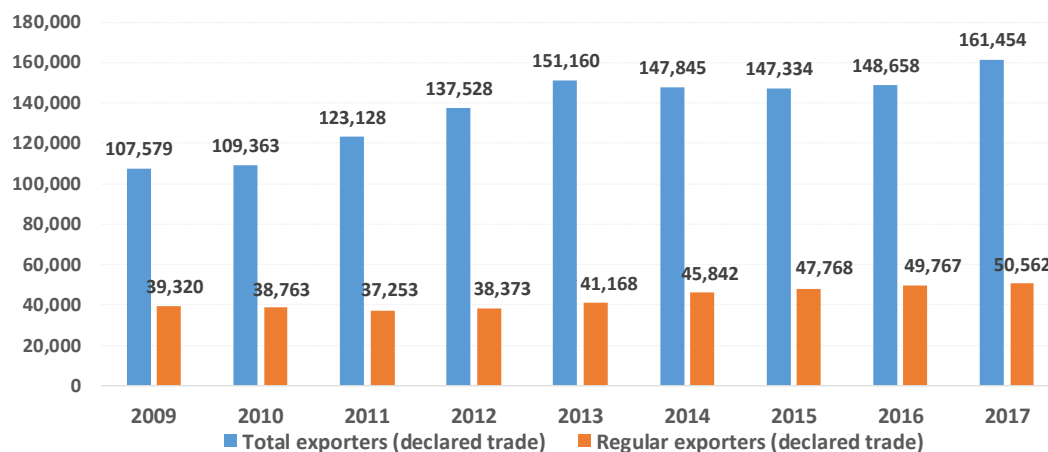


2. EXPORT BASE

Spanish exporters (Secretariat of State for Trade of the Ministry of Economy, Industry and Competitiveness with Customs data; [customizable data](#))

- Another factor explaining the good performance of the Spanish external sector is the **increase in the export base**. In 2017, the number of **regular exporters** (those that have already exported in the current year as well as in each of the three preceding years with declared trade) **rose by 1.5%** year-on-year and reached 50,562, the sixth consecutive year of increase (4.2% in 2016 and 2015, 11.4% in 2014, 7.3% in 2013 and 3.0% in 2012). The total number of exporters increased by 8.5% to 161,454 exporters (6.8% higher than in 2013, and 47.6% higher than in 2010), out of which, 38,436 had exported at least 50,000 euros in the year.

Spanish exporters (declared trade)



- The number of regular exporters has risen by 22.8% in the period 2013-2017. Despite regular exporters were only 31.3% of total exporters in 2017, they accounted for 95.0% of total declared exports. In 2017. Regular exporters exporting over 5 million euros (in the current year as well as in each of the three preceding years) accounted for 80.8% of Spain's foreign declared sales.

SPANISH REGULAR EXPORTERS (DECLARED TRADE)																	
Minimum exports	Number of exporters					Annual rate of change (%)					17/13	% of total					17/13 (p.p.)
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017		%	2013	2014	2015	2016	
Total exporters	151,160	147,845	147,334	148,658	161,454	9.9%	-2.2%	-0.3%	0.9%	8.5%	6.8%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	-
Regular exporters	41,168	45,842	47,768	49,767	50,562	7.3%	11.4%	4.2%	4.2%	1.5%	22.8%	27.2%	31.0%	32.4%	33.5%	31.3%	4.08
x>=25.000 €	24,232	25,498	26,228	27,020	28,006	4.2%	5.2%	2.9%	3.0%	3.6%	15.6%	16.0%	17.2%	17.8%	18.2%	17.3%	1.32
x>=50.000 €	21,553	22,663	23,327	24,064	24,859	4.4%	5.2%	2.9%	3.2%	3.2%	15.3%	14.3%	15.3%	15.8%	16.2%	15.4%	1.14
x>=500.000 €	11,956	12,626	13,102	13,719	14,282	5.2%	5.6%	3.8%	4.7%	4.0%	19.5%	7.9%	8.5%	8.9%	9.2%	8.8%	0.94
x>=5M€	3,220	3,426	3,603	3,760	3,945	9.0%	6.4%	5.2%	4.4%	4.9%	22.5%	2.1%	2.3%	2.4%	2.5%	2.4%	0.31
x>=50M€	357	391	435	438	466	15.5%	9.5%	11.3%	0.7%	5.9%	30.5%	0.2%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.05
Minimum exports	Value of exports in millions of euros					Annual rate of change (%)					17/13	% of total					17/13 (p.p.)
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017		%	2013	2014	2015	2016	
Total exporters	235,814.1	240,581.8	249,794.4	256,393.4	277,125.7	4.3%	2.0%	3.8%	2.6%	8.9%	17.5%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	-
Regular exporters	216,966.1	223,421.0	233,440.1	241,727.3	263,229.2	5.5%	3.0%	4.5%	3.5%	9.6%	21.3%	92.0%	92.9%	93.5%	94.3%	95.0%	2.98
x>=25.000 €	214,392.9	221,140.5	231,314.0	239,336.8	260,929.0	5.5%	3.1%	4.6%	3.5%	9.8%	21.7%	90.9%	91.9%	92.6%	93.3%	94.2%	3.24
x>=50.000 €	213,352.2	220,485.0	230,680.6	238,648.2	260,114.9	5.4%	3.3%	4.6%	3.5%	9.8%	21.9%	90.5%	91.6%	92.3%	93.1%	93.9%	3.39
x>=500.000 €	207,370.4	214,365.2	224,357.2	232,452.1	253,681.7	5.8%	3.4%	4.7%	3.6%	9.8%	22.3%	87.9%	89.1%	89.8%	90.7%	91.5%	3.60
x>=5M€	181,327.8	188,338.1	196,738.2	203,911.1	223,874.9	6.9%	3.9%	4.5%	3.6%	10.5%	23.5%	76.9%	78.3%	78.8%	79.5%	80.8%	3.89
x>=50M€	121,361.3	127,173.7	134,604.9	138,986.3	152,142.9	7.8%	4.8%	5.8%	3.3%	10.5%	25.4%	51.5%	52.9%	53.9%	54.2%	54.9%	3.44

Source: Secretariat of State for Trade with Customs data

- The number of Spanish exporters selling abroad over 50,000€ annually represented 23.8% of total in 2017 (38.436 exporters), but were responsible for almost all exports by value (99.8%). In the upper sections, in 2017 there were 727 companies exporting more than 50 million euros (0.5% of total exporters), from 573 in 2013, concentrating 63.4% of total exports in 2017 from 61.2% in 2013.

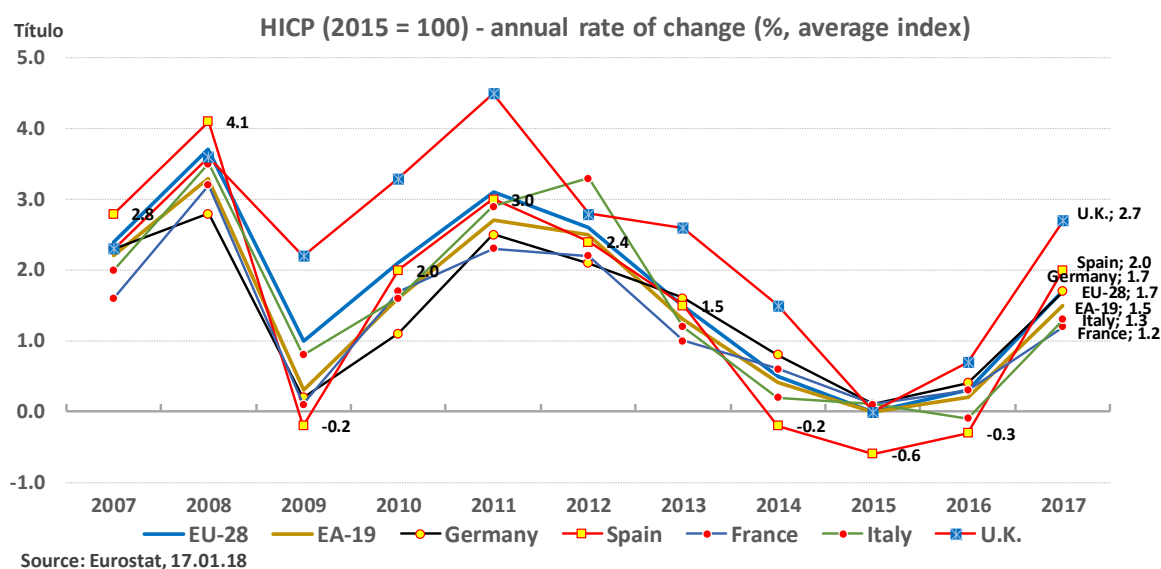
SPANISH EXPORTERS (DECLARED TRADE)																	
Brackets (value of exports)	Number of exporters					Annual rate of change (%)					17/13	% of total					17/13 (p.p.)
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017		%	2013	2014	2015	2016	
TOTAL	151,160	147,845	147,334	148,658	161,454	9.9%	-2.2%	-0.3%	0.9%	8.5%	6.8%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	-
x<50.000€	112,203	108,349	108,591	110,316	123,018	12.5%	-3.4%	0.2%	1.6%	11.4%	9.6%	74.2%	73.3%	73.7%	74.2%	76.2%	1.97
x>=50.000€	38,957	39,496	38,743	38,342	38,436	3.2%	1.4%	-1.9%	-1.0%	0.1%	-1.3%	25.8%	26.7%	26.3%	25.8%	23.8%	-1.97
50.000€ <= x < 0,5M€	19,660	19,725	18,602	18,089	17,859	3.2%	0.3%	-5.7%	-2.8%	-1.5%	-9.2%	13.0%	13.3%	12.6%	12.2%	11.1%	-1.94
0,5M€ <= x < 5M€	14,317	14,635	14,780	14,795	14,838	3.2%	2.2%	1.0%	0.1%	0.3%	3.6%	9.5%	9.9%	10.0%	10.0%	9.2%	-0.28
5M€ <= x < 50M€	4,407	4,542	4,727	4,804	5,012	3.5%	3.1%	4.1%	1.6%	4.5%	13.7%	2.9%	3.1%	3.2%	3.2%	3.1%	0.19
50M€ <= x < 250M€	473	492	530	546	604	-0.6%	4.0%	7.7%	3.0%	9.4%	27.7%	0.3%	0.3%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.06
x >= 250M€	100	102	104	108	123	5.3%	2.0%	2.0%	3.8%	17.1%	23.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.01
Brackets (value of exports)	Value of exports in millions of euros					Annual rate of change (%)					17/13	% of total					17/13 (p.p.)
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017		%	2013	2014	2015	2016	
TOTAL	235,814.1	240,581.8	249,794.4	256,393.4	277,125.7	4.3%	2.0%	3.8%	2.6%	8.9%	17.5%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	-
x<50.000€	656.0	612.2	606.2	596.1	600.7	4.4%	-6.7%	-1.0%	-1.7%	0.5%	-8.4%	0.3%	0.3%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	-0.06
x>=50.000€	235,158.1	239,969.7	249,188.3	255,797.3	276,525.1	4.3%	2.0%	3.8%	2.7%	8.9%	17.6%	99.7%	99.7%	99.8%	99.8%	99.8%	0.06
50.000€ <= x < 0,5M€	3,776.6	3,799.7	3,496.3	3,415.6	3,332.9	2.0%	0.6%	-8.0%	-2.3%	-2.5%	-11.7%	1.6%	1.6%	1.4%	1.3%	1.2%	-0.40
0,5M€ <= x < 5M€	23,801.2	24,454.1	25,089.9	25,444.7	25,683.8	2.6%	2.7%	2.6%	1.4%	0.9%	7.9%	10.1%	10.2%	10.0%	9.9%	9.3%	-0.83
5M€ <= x < 50M€	63,398.5	64,599.5	67,511.5	68,787.6	71,891.3	4.0%	1.9%	4.5%	1.9%	4.9%	13.4%	26.9%	26.9%	27.0%	26.8%	25.9%	-0.94
50M€ <= x < 250M€	47,559.0	48,841.6	52,464.1	53,913.3	58,690.7	0.2%	2.7%	7.4%	2.8%	7.6%	23.4%	20.2%	20.3%	21.0%	21.0%	21.2%	1.01
x >= 250M€	96,622.8	98,274.7	100,626.5	104,236.0	116,926.5	7.2%	1.7%	2.4%	3.6%	14.6%	21.0%	41.0%	40.8%	40.3%	40.7%	42.2%	1.22

Source: Secretariat of State for Trade with Customs data

3. COMPETITIVENESS

Price-based competitiveness indices

- In 2017, according to [Eurostat](#), the average inflation rate in Spain reached 2.0% year-on-year, the first positive annual rate, after three years in negative. In the EU-28, the inflation annual rate was 1.7% and 1.5% in the euro area. In the EU largest economies, the inflation rates were: Germany, 1.7%, France, 1.2%, Italy, 1.3%, and the U.K., 2.7%.

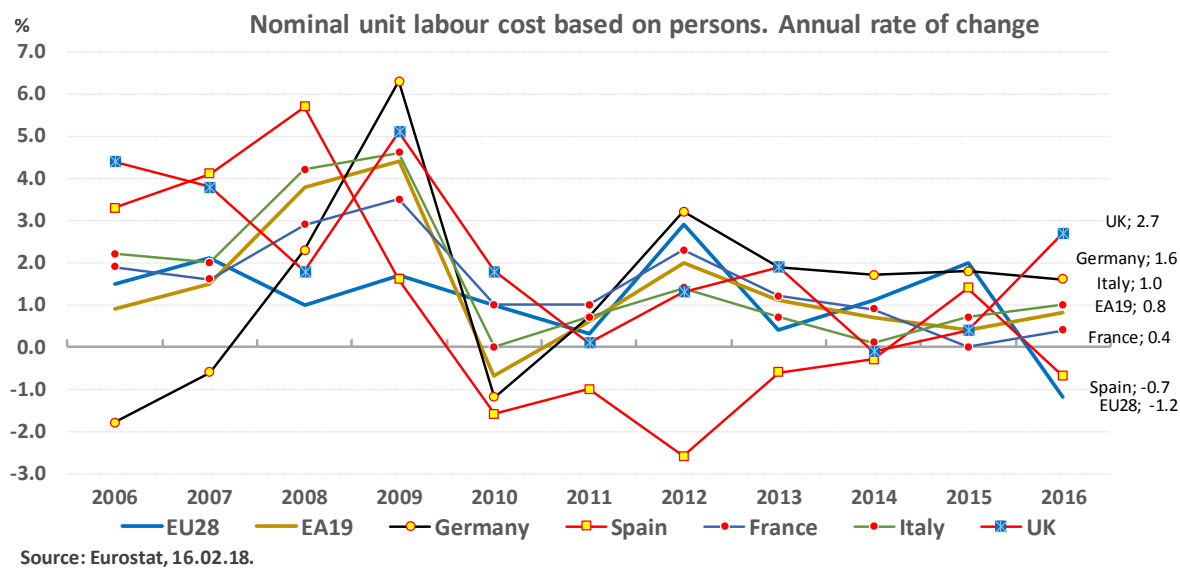


- According to the [Quarterly Report on Competitiveness Indices](#) of the Secretariat of State for Trade (7.02.18), with data based on ICP, Spain reduced its price competitiveness in the fourth quarter of 2017 compared to the same quarter of the previous year vis-à-vis the euro area (0.1%) while it gained competitiveness vis-à-vis the EU (-0.2%). In the latter, this is due to the combination of a lower increase of prices in Spain (-0.1%) and the depreciation of the euro in the quarter (-0.1%). In 2017 as a whole, Spain lost competitiveness against the euro area (0.5%) and the EU (0.8%), due to the higher inflation rate compared to the average in both regions and to the significant appreciation of the euro against the rest of the currencies of the EU-28 countries. Vis-à-vis the OECD countries, Spain's competitiveness also decreased in the fourth quarter of 2017 (3.3% y-o-y), since the gains due to lower inflation (-0.4%) were more than offset by the appreciation of the euro against the currencies of the OECD countries (3.8%). Vis-à-vis the emerging economies (BRICS), Spain lost price competitiveness in the fourth quarter of 2017 (4.6% y-o-y) due to the appreciation of the euro (5.2%) that more than offset gains from relative prices (-0.6%). In 2017 as a whole, Spain lost competitiveness vis-à-vis the OECD countries (1.5%), and against the BRICS (0.5%). In both cases, mainly due to the appreciation of the euro.

Other competitiveness indicators

- The evolution of nominal unit labour costs (ULC) in Spain is helping to gain competitiveness and to lower export prices. According to [Eurostat](#), Spanish nominal ULC based on persons decreased by 0.7% y-o-y in 2016, sixth fall in the last seven years. The ULC also fell in the EU28 as a whole (-1.2%), but they increased in Germany (1.6%), France (0.4%), Italy (0.8%) and the U.K. (2.8%).

Spanish external sector and competitiveness: facts and figures



- Total Factor Productivity (TFP) in Spain has risen for the fourth year in a row in 2016, according to European Commission data ([AMECO](#), updated 9.11.17). TFP increased in Spain in 2016 by 1.13%, a higher expansion than that of the EU-28 (0.75%) and the euro area (0.66%). Germany (0.80%), France (0.36%), Italy (0.19%) or the U.K. (0.31%) registered lower increases. For 2017, the prospects show further increases in TFP in Spain (+1.02%), as well as in the rest of major economies in the EU: Germany (0.85%), France (0.41%), Italy (0.85%) and the U.K. (0.25%).

Market share – based competitiveness indicators

- According to the latest data of the WTO (October 2017), **Spain increased its weight** in international goods exports in 2016, **to 1.81%** (compared to 1.71% in 2015), **gaining two positions up to number 16th** in the ranking of leading exporters (source: WTO, [Statistics database](#)).

WTO: leading merchandise exporters, year 2016 (world share, %)							Share chng	Share chng	Rank gain	Value 2015	Value 2016	Value chng
Rkg	País	2005	2010	2014	2015	2016	16/05 (p.p.)	16/15 (p.p.)	16/15	(000M\$)	(000M\$)	16/15 (%)
-	World	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	-	-	-	16,487.8	15,985.1	-3.0%
1	China	7.25%	10.31%	12.33%	13.79%	13.12%	5.87	-0.67	0	2,273.5	2,097.6	-7.7%
2	United States of America	8.57%	8.36%	8.53%	9.11%	9.08%	0.50	-0.04	0	1,502.6	1,451.0	-3.4%
3	Germany	9.24%	8.23%	7.87%	8.05%	8.37%	-0.87	0.32	0	1,326.8	1,337.9	0.8%
4	Japan	5.66%	5.03%	3.63%	3.79%	4.03%	-1.63	0.24	0	624.8	644.9	3.2%
5	Netherlands	3.87%	3.75%	3.54%	3.46%	3.57%	-0.29	0.11	0	570.6	571.4	0.1%
6	Hong Kong	2.78%	2.62%	2.76%	3.10%	3.23%	0.45	0.14	1	510.6	516.7	1.2%
7	France	4.41%	3.42%	3.05%	3.07%	3.14%	-1.27	0.07	1	505.8	501.2	-0.9%
8	South Korea	2.71%	3.05%	3.01%	3.19%	3.10%	0.39	-0.10	-2	526.8	495.4	-5.9%
9	Italy	3.55%	2.92%	2.79%	2.77%	2.89%	-0.66	0.11	1	457.4	461.7	0.9%
10	United Kingdom	3.72%	2.72%	2.66%	2.79%	2.56%	-1.16	-0.23	-1	460.2	409.8	-10.9%
11	Belgium	3.18%	2.66%	2.49%	2.41%	2.49%	-0.69	0.08	1	396.9	398.0	0.3%
12	Canada	3.43%	2.53%	2.51%	2.49%	2.44%	-0.99	-0.04	-1	410.0	390.3	-4.8%
13	Mexico	2.04%	1.95%	2.09%	2.31%	2.34%	0.30	0.03	0	380.6	373.9	-1.8%
14	Singapore	2.19%	2.30%	2.15%	2.10%	2.11%	-0.07	0.01	0	346.6	338.1	-2.5%
15	Switzerland	1.25%	1.28%	1.64%	1.76%	1.89%	0.65	0.14	1	289.8	302.9	4.5%
16	Spain	1.83%	1.66%	1.71%	1.71%	1.81%	-0.03	0.09	2	282.5	288.8	2.2%
17	Russia	2.32%	2.62%	2.61%	2.07%	1.76%	-0.56	-0.31	-2	341.4	281.9	-17.4%
18	Taiwan	1.89%	1.79%	1.68%	1.73%	1.75%	-0.13	0.02	-1	285.3	280.3	-1.8%
19	United Arab Emirates	1.12%	1.40%	1.97%	1.64%	1.66%	0.55	0.02	0	271.0	265.9	-1.9%
20	India	0.95%	1.48%	1.70%	1.62%	1.65%	0.71	0.03	0	267.4	264.4	-1.1%

Fuente: OMC, October 2017

- Regarding trade of commercial services, Spain obtained a **2.63%** share in 2016, maintaining the **11th position** in the ranking of leading exporters for the third year in a row (source: WTO, April 2017, [Statistics database](#))

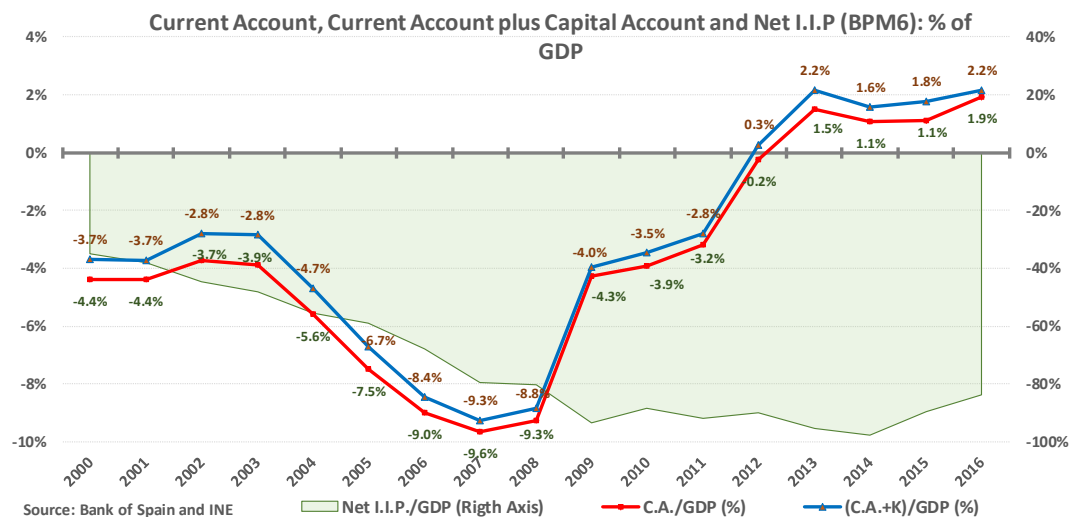
Spanish external sector and competitiveness: facts and figures

WTO: leading commercial services exporters, year 2016 (world share, %)						Share chng	Share chng	Rank gain	Value 2015	Value 2016	Value chng	
Rkg	País	2005	2010	2014	2015	2016	15/14 (p.p.)	16/15 (p.p.)	16/15	(000M\$)	(000M\$)	16/15 (%)
-	World	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	-	-	-	4,789.6	4,807.7	0.4%
1	United States of America	13.76%	14.13%	14.24%	15.25%	15.24%	1.48	-0.02	0	730.6	732.6	0.3%
2	United Kingdom	8.91%	6.91%	7.04%	7.11%	6.73%	-2.17	-0.38	0	340.5	323.7	-4.9%
3	Germany	5.89%	5.72%	5.63%	5.42%	5.57%	-0.32	0.15	0	259.6	267.8	3.2%
4	France	5.87%	5.23%	5.39%	5.03%	4.90%	-0.97	-0.13	0	240.8	235.6	-2.1%
5	China	3.00%	4.61%	4.29%	4.52%	4.31%	1.31	-0.21	0	216.5	207.3	-4.3%
6	Netherlands	0.00%	4.15%	3.84%	3.67%	3.69%	3.69	0.01	0	176.0	177.4	0.8%
7	Japan	3.84%	3.43%	3.14%	3.31%	3.51%	-0.33	0.20	0	158.3	168.7	6.6%
8	India	2.00%	3.03%	3.08%	3.25%	3.35%	1.36	0.10	0	155.7	161.3	3.6%
9	Singapore	1.78%	2.61%	3.02%	3.10%	3.11%	1.33	0.01	0	148.3	149.4	0.7%
10	Ireland	2.17%	2.38%	2.75%	2.81%	3.04%	0.87	0.24	0	134.4	146.2	8.8%
11	Spain	3.53%	2.92%	2.61%	2.46%	2.63%	-0.89	0.17	0	117.8	126.6	7.5%
12	Switzerland	2.50%	2.41%	2.35%	2.32%	2.34%	-0.17	0.02	1	110.9	112.3	1.3%
13	Belgium	2.20%	2.51%	2.43%	2.32%	2.27%	0.07	-0.06	-1	111.3	109.0	-2.1%
14	Italy	3.50%	2.59%	2.23%	2.03%	2.09%	-1.41	0.06	1	97.4	100.6	3.2%
15	Hong Kong	1.82%	2.09%	2.10%	2.18%	2.05%	0.22	-0.13	-1	104.3	98.3	-5.7%
16	Luxembourg	1.55%	1.61%	1.97%	1.99%	1.96%	0.41	-0.03	1	95.1	94.1	-1.1%
17	South Korea	1.90%	2.14%	2.19%	2.02%	1.91%	0.01	-0.11	-1	96.7	91.8	-5.0%
18	Canada	2.27%	1.96%	1.72%	1.64%	1.66%	-0.61	0.01	0	78.8	79.7	1.3%
19	Sweden	1.45%	1.39%	1.51%	1.51%	1.49%	0.03	-0.02	0	72.3	71.4	-1.2%
20	Thailand	0.76%	0.89%	1.09%	1.28%	1.38%	0.61	0.09	1	61.4	66.1	7.7%

Fuente: OMC, May 2017

4. CURRENT ACCOUNT B. AND LENDING CAPABILITY ([Bank of Spain](#))

- The good performance of the Spanish trade balance is the main factor that explains the correction of the current account deficit, from -9.6% of GDP in 2007 to 1.9% surplus in 2016 (21,484 million euros, data published on 27 December 2017 by [Bank of Spain](#)).
- The services balance has also played a positive role in the last few years, moving from a surplus of 2.7% of GDP in 2007 to a surplus of 4.6% of GDP in 2016 (51,095 million euros, [Bank of Spain](#)).
- The aggregate balance of the capital account and the current account in 2016 shows a surplus against the rest of the world of **24,166 million euro, 2.2% of GDP with BoP data (in 2015, 19,245 million euro, 1.8% of GDP)**, in sharp contrast with the borrowing needs of 100,021 million euros (-9.3% of GDP) recorded in 2007.
- According to Spanish Government [forecasts](#) (updated on 16.10.17), Spain is expected to attain a current account surplus of 1.7% in 2017 and 1.6% in 2018, and to achieve a net lending capacity vis-à-vis the rest of the world of 1.8% in 2017 and 1.7% in 2018.



APPENDIX: MAIN FORECASTS FOR SPAIN

MAIN FORECASTS FOR SPAIN																					
% annual change (unless otherwise indicated)	Exports of goods and services			Imports of goods and services			Current account bal. (% GDP)			Net lending vis-à- vis ROW (% GDP)			External sector cont. GDP (*)			Domestic demand cont. GDP (*)			GDP		
	2017	2018	2019	2017	2018	2019	2017	2018	2019	2017	2018	2019	2017	2018	2019	2017	2018	2019	2017	2018	2019
Spanish Gov. ¹	6.2	5.1	-	4.4	4.1	-	1.7	1.6	-	1.8	1.7	-	0.7	0.5	-	2.4	1.8	-	3.1	2.3	-
IMF ²	5.9	4.8	3.9	4.7	4.2	3.8	1.9	2.0	2.0	2.3	2.4	-	0.5	0.3	-	2.6	2.3	-	3.1	2.4	2.1
EC ³	6.0	4.8	4.5	4.4	4.3	4.0	1.7	1.9	1.9	2.0	2.2	2.2	0.6	0.3	0.3	2.5	2.2	1.8	3.1	2.6	2.1
OECD ⁴	6.0	4.6	4.3	4.6	4.0	4.2	1.6	1.6	1.6	-	-	-	0.6	0.3	0.2	2.5	2.0	1.9	3.1	2.3	2.1
Bank of Spain ⁵	5.2	4.9	4.7	4.1	4.1	4.2	-	-	-	2.1	2.1	2.1	0.5	0.4	0.3	2.6	2.0	1.8	3.1	2.4	2.1

(*) Contribution to GDP growth in percentage points.

[1. Macroeconomic Scenario 2017-2018, 16 October 2017](#)

[2. IMF. WEO. October 2017. GDP, WEO Update. January 2018](#)

[3. European Economic Forecast, Autumn 2017 \(nov-17\). GDP, Winter 2018 \(feb-18\)](#)

[4. OECD Economic Outlook 102, November 2017](#)

[5. Boletín Económico, December 2017](#)