GEOGRAPHICAL – DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Country's location

es un país transcontinental situado en el suroeste de Europa y en el norte de África. Además de ocupar la mayor parte de la península ibérica, España está formada por dos archipiélagos (el de las islas Canarias en el océano Atlántico y el de las islas Baleares en el mar Mediterráneo) y dos ciudades autónomas (Ceuta y Melilla) en el norte de África, aparte de varias islas menores en esta zona y otras cercanas a la península, como el peñón de Vélez de la Gomera, el peñón de Alhucemas, las islas Chafarinas y la isla del Perejil. España limita al oeste con el océano Atlántico y Portugal; al norte con el mar Cantábrico, al noreste con Francia y Andorra, al otro lado de la cordillera de los Pirineos; al este con el mar Mediterráneo y al sur con Marruecos, en las fronteras de Ceuta y de Melilla en el continente africano.



Country's geographic divisions (Communities, cities etc.)

Spain and its autonomous communities are divided into fifty **provinces** (Spanish: *provincias*, IPA: [proˈβinθjas]; sing. *provincia*).[note 1] Spain's provincial system was recognized in its 1978 constitution but its origin dates back to 1833. Ceuta, Melilla and the Plazas de soberanía are not part of any provinces.

Provinces

Province name	Capital	Autonomous community	Lists of municipalities
A Coruña *(Galician)*; **La Coruña** *(Spanish)*; **Corunna** *(English, archaic)*	A Coruña *(Galician)*; La Coruña *(Spanish)*; Corunna *(English, archaic)*	Galicia	Municipalities
Álava; **Araba** *(Basque)*	Vitoria-Gasteiz; Gasteiz *(Basque)*; Vitoria *(Spanish)*	Basque Country	Municipalities

Province name	Capital	Autonomous community	Lists of municipalities
Albacete	Albacete	Castilla-La Mancha	Municipalities
Alicante; **Alacant** (*Valencian*)	Alicante; Alacant (*Valencian*)	Valencian Community	Municipalities
Almería	Almería	Andalusia	Municipalities
Asturias; **Asturies** (*Asturian*)	Oviedo; Uviéu (*Asturian*)	Asturias	Municipalities
Ávila	Ávila	Castile and León	Municipalities
Badajoz	Badajoz	Extremadura	Municipalities
Balearic Islands; **Illes Balears** (*Catalan*); **Islas Baleares** (*Spanish*)	Palma	Balearic Islands	Municipalities
Barcelona	Barcelona	Catalonia	Municipalities
Biscay; **Bizkaia** (*Basque*); **Vizcaya** (*Spanish*)	Bilbao; Bilbo (*Basque*)	Basque Country	Municipalities
Burgos	Burgos	Castile and León	Municipalities
Cáceres	Cáceres	Extremadura	Municipalities
Cádiz	Cádiz	Andalusia	Municipalities
Cantabria	Santander	Cantabria	Municipalities
Castellón; **Castelló** (*Valencian*)	Castellón de la Plana; Castelló de la Plana (*Valencian*)	Valencian Community	Municipalities
Ciudad Real	Ciudad Real	Castilla-La Mancha	Municipalities
Córdoba	Córdoba; Cordova (*English, archaic*)	Andalusia	Municipalities

Province name	Capital	Autonomous community	Lists of municipalities
Cuenca	Cuenca	Castilla-La Mancha	Municipalities
Gipuzkoa *(Basque)*; **Guipúzcoa** *(Spanish)*	San Sebastián *(Spanish)*; Donostia *(Basque)*	Basque Country	Municipalities
Girona *(Catalan)*; **Gerona** *(Spanish)*	Girona *(Catalan)*; Gerona *(Spanish)*	Catalonia	Municipalities
Granada	Granada	Andalusia	Municipalities
Guadalajara	Guadalajara	Castilla-La Mancha	Municipalities
Huelva	Huelva	Andalusia	Municipalities
Huesca	Huesca *(Spanish)*; *Uesca (Aragonese)*	Aragon	Municipalities
Jaén	Jaén	Andalusia	Municipalities
La Rioja	Logroño	La Rioja	Municipalities
Las Palmas	Las Palmas	Canary Islands	Municipalities
León *(Spanish)***; Llión** *(Leonese)*	León *(Spanish)* ; Llión *(Leonese)*	Castile and León	Municipalities
Lleida *(Catalan)*; **Lérida** *(Spanish)*	Lleida *(Catalan)*; Lérida *(Spanish)*	Catalonia	Municipalities
Lugo	Lugo	Galicia	Municipalities
Madrid	Madrid	Community of Madrid	Municipalities
Málaga	Málaga	Andalusia	Municipalities
Murcia	Murcia	Region of Murcia	Municipalities
Navarre; **Nafarroa** *(Basque)*; **Navarra** *(Spanish)*	Pamplona; Iruña *(Basque)*	Navarre	Municipalities

Province name	Capital	Autonomous community	Lists of municipalities
Ourense *(Galician)*; **Orense** *(Spanish)*	Ourense *(Galician)*; Orense *(Spanish)*	Galicia	Municipalities
Palencia	Palencia	Castile and León	Municipalities
Pontevedra	Pontevedra	Galicia	Municipalities
Salamanca	Salamanca	Castile and León	Municipalities
Santa Cruz de Tenerife	Santa Cruz de Tenerife	Canary Islands	Municipalities
Segovia	Segovia	Castile and León	Municipalities
Seville; **Sevilla** *(Spanish)*	Seville; Sevilla *(Spanish)*	Andalusia	Municipalities
Soria	Soria	Castile and León	Municipalities
Tarragona	Tarragona	Catalonia	Municipalities
Teruel	Teruel	Aragon	Municipalities
Toledo	Toledo	Castilla-La Mancha	Municipalities
Valencia; **València** *(Valencian)*	Valencia; València *(Valencian)*	Valencian Community	Municipalities
Valladolid	Valladolid	Castile and León	Municipalities
Zamora	Zamora	Castile and León	Municipalities
Zaragoza; **Saragossa** *(English)*	Zaragoza; Saragossa *(English)*	Aragon	Municipalities

The Climate of Spain

Climate of Spain



Köppen climate map of Spain

The **climate in Spain** varies across the country. Spain is the most climatically diverse country in Europe with 13 different Köppen climates, excluding the Canary Islands, and is within the 10 most climatically type countries in the world. Five main climatic zones can be distinguished, according to Guzman geographical situation and orographic conditions:

- The hot-summer Mediterranean climate (*Csa)* which is also characterized by dry and warm/hot summers and cool to mild and wet winters. According to the Köppen climate classification, this climate is dominant on the Iberian Peninsula, particularly the variety with summer droughts, covering all but the far northern part of the country where the Oceanic climate predominates. The hot-summer Mediterranean climate is further divided into the "Standard Mediterranean" of lowland regions and "Continentalized Mediterranean" of the interior, according to altitude and the mildness or harshness of the winter season. The Standard Mediterranean covers coastal areas (excluding the northern Atlantic coast) the Guadalquivir river basin and the lower reaches of the Tagus and Guadiana basins to the west of the country. The Continentalized Mediterranean climate predominates in Spain's vast table lands, *Meseta Central*, of the interior.
- Spains lies at temperate zone so there is nor cold nor hot
- The warm-summer Mediterranean climate (*Csb)* which predominates in parts of northwestern Spain and mostly inland in central-northern Spain at altitudes above 900-1000 masl.
- The oceanic climate (*Cfb)* is located in the northern part of the country, especially in the regions of Galicia, Basque Country, Asturias, Cantabria, and Navarre. This region has regular snowfall in the winter months.
- The semiarid climate (*Bsh* or *Bsk*) is predominant in the south eastern part of the country (Almeria province in Eastern Andalusia, Murcia region and Alicante province in Southern Valencia) and in the middle reaches of the Ebro valley to the north east (Zaragoza province), reaching as far west as southern Navarre. It is also present in large areas of the central table lands (primarily in La Mancha region which includes parts of Cuenca, Guadalajara, Madrid and Toledo provinces) and some of the driest areas of Extremadura. In contrast to the Mediterranean climate, the dry season continues beyond the end of summer and the vegetation is less dense.

- The warm-summer continental climate (*Dfb*) which can be found in many areas in north-eastern Spain, in areas starting with altitudes above 1000-1100 masl. It can be found also in some areas in the Cantabrian Mountains and the highest areas of the Sistema Ibérico mountain range in central-eastern Spain.

Apart from the five main climate zones, other noticeable sub-zones can be found, such as the humid subtropical climate in large areas in the northern half of Catalonia going down to Barcelona, the province of Huesca and northern Navarre. The dry continental climates all across Spain in the highest areas (notably in the Sierra Nevada and the highest areas in central-northern Spain), the alpine climate and the Subarctic climate in the higher areas of northern Spain's various mountain ranges (notably the Cantabrian Mountains and the Pyrenees), a tropical climate in the coastal areas of the Canary Islands and a hot desert climate in the Southeastern coastline and eastern parts of the Canary Islands, notably around Almeria and Las Palmas

Demographic info

As of 1 January 2019, Spain had a total population of 47,007,367, which represents a 0.59% increase since 2018 The CIA Factbook (2011) gives a racial description of "composite of Mediterranean and Nordic types" under "ethnic groups" instead of the usual breakdown of ethnic composition. This reflects the formation of the modern Kingdom of Spain by the accretion of several independent Iberian realms, like León, Castile, Navarre, the Crown of Aragon, and Granada, among others.

Spain's population peaked in 2012, at 46,818,216 people. Spain's official population fell by 206,000 to 47.1 million, mostly because of immigrants returning home due to the effects of the European economic and fiscal crisis. Its population density, at 91.4 inhabitants per square kilometre (237/sq mi), is lower than that of most Western European countries. With the exception of the capital Madrid, the most densely populated areas lie around the coast.

The population of Spain doubled during the twentieth century, but the pattern of growth was extremely uneven due to large-scale internal migration from the rural interior to the industrial cities, a phenomenon which happened later than in other Western European countries. No fewer than eleven of Spain's fifty provinces saw an absolute decline in population over the century.

The last quarter of the century saw a dramatic fall in birth rates. Spain's fertility rate of 1.47 (the number of children the average woman will have during her lifetime) is lower than the EU average but has climbed every year since the late 1990s. The birth rate has climbed in 10 years from 9.10 births per 1000 people per year in 1996 to 10.9 in 2006.

Spain has no official religion. The Spanish Constitution of 1978 abolished the Roman Catholic Church as the official state religion, while recognizing the role it plays in Spanish society. As of 2018, 68.5% of the population define themselves as Catholic, 26.4% as non-believers or atheists, and 2.6% other religions. Among believers, 59% assert they almost never go to any religious service, by contrast, 16.3% attend one or more religious service almost every week. Practical secularization is strong[i] and most, especially those of the younger generations, ignore the religious doctrines on issues such as pre-marital sex, sexual orientation or contraception.

Historical population		
Year	**Pop.**	**±%**
1833	12,286,941	—
1846	12,162,872	−1.0%
1857	15,464,340	+27.1%
1877	16,622,175	+7.5%
1887	17,549,608	+5.6%
1900	18,616,630	+6.1%
1910	19,990,669	+7.4%
1920	21,388,551	+7.0%
1930	23,677,095	+10.7%
1940	26,014,278	+9.9%
1950	28,117,873	+8.1%
1960	30,582,936	+8.8%
1970	33,956,047	+11.0%
1981	37,683,363	+11.0%
1991	38,872,268	+3.2%
2001	40,847,371	+5.1%
2011	46,815,916	+14.6%

2019	47,007,367	+0.4%

Source: INE

Immigration and Demographic Issues

Main article: Immigration to Spain



Immigration to Spain in 2002 by country.



Immigration to Spain in 2008 by country.

The population of Spain doubled during the twentieth century as a result of the spectacular demographic boom in the 1960s and early 1970s. After that time, the birth rate plunged through the 1980s and Spain's population became stalled, its demographics showing one of the lowest sub replacement fertility rates in the world, only above Greece, Portugal, Hungary, Ukraine, and Japan.

Many demographers have linked Spain's very low fertility rate to the country's lack of any real family planning policy. Spain spends the least on family support out of all western European countries—0.5% of GDP. A graphic illustration of the enormous social gulf in this field is the fact that a Spanish family would need to have 57 children to enjoy the same financial support as a family with 3 children in Luxembourg.

In terms of emigration vs. immigration, after centuries of net emigration, Spain, has recently experienced large-scale immigration for the first time in modern history. According to the Spanish government there were 5,730,667 foreign residents in Spain as of January 2011. Of these, more than 860,000 were Romanian, and half 760,000 were Moroccan while the number of Ecuadorians was around 390,000. Colombian population amounted to around 300,000. There are also a significant number of British (359,076 as of 2011, but more than one million are estimated to live permanently in Spain) and German (195,842) citizens, mainly in Alicante, Málaga provinces, Balearic

Islands and Canary Islands. Chinese number over 166,000. Immigrants from several sub-Saharan African countries have also settled in Spain as contract workers, although they represent only 4.08% of all the foreign residents in the country.

During the early 2000s, the mean year-on-year demographic growth set a new record with its 2003 peak variation of 2.1%, doubling the previous record reached back in the 1960s when a mean year-on-year growth of 1% was experienced. In 2005 alone, the immigrant population of Spain increased by 700,000 people.

The arrival of migrating young adults was the main reason for the slight increase in Spain's fertility rate. From 2002 through 2008 the Spanish population grew by 8%, of which 7% were foreign.