

Quick Note 02/03/2018

Spain · Further good labour market figures in February**Data**

- In seasonally adjusted terms:
 - **The number of social security affiliates was up** by 62,006 in February.
 - **Registered unemployment was down** by 23,139 in February.
- The **number of social security affiliates** rose by 81,483 (not seasonally adjusted), putting total affiliate numbers at **18,363,514**.
- **Registered unemployment** declined by 6,280 (not seasonally adjusted), putting the total number of unemployed at **3,470,248**.
- In the last 12 months the number of affiliates increased 615,259, while the number of unemployed declined by 280,628.

Assessment

- **The labour market posted a good performance during February**, as evidenced by the number of Social Security affiliates rising by 81,483, a faster uptick than seen in the same month 2017 (74,080). **The pace of job creation accelerated by one tenth to 3.5%** and was in line with CaixaBank Research forecasts.
- In seasonally adjusted terms, **affiliation was up considerably** (62,006 people), faster than the average monthly increase in 2017 (50,935).
- **Changes at the sector level were very much in line with 2017**. As in recent months, there was standout growth from the construction sector (+24,000), despite a slight slowdown in the pace of growth and lower figures than anticipated by CaixaBank Research. The sharpest increase came in the services sector (+64,000, an uptick of 3.5% YoY). Nearly half of the increase in the sector was due to rising affiliation in industries associated with tourism (+30,000), which grew at a pace of 4.1% YoY.
- The decline in registered unemployment, of 6,280 in the month of February, was slightly below the average dip seen during the month of February in the last three years (6,889 individuals). Overall, **unemployment continues to shrink at a steady pace** (-7.5% YoY).
- Looking ahead to the coming months, the labour market is expected to perform well, albeit losing some momentum, which would be consistent with the anticipated easing in the pace of Spanish economic growth.
- In the light of these figures, **the risks for the full-year affiliate growth forecast, of 2.4%, look balanced**.

Spain: labor market (employment records)*

Monthly change (thousands)

	2002-2007**	2008-2013**	Feb-15	Feb-16	Feb-17	Feb-18	
						Data	Forecast
Affiliated to the Social Security	140	-11	97	63	74	81	85
Agriculture	-2	-8	-7	-27	-26	-22	-10
Industry	23	-3	16	15	14	16	20
Construction	60	1	26	21	25	24	43
Services	65	-2	62	54	61	64	32
Registered unemployed	6	88	-14	2	-9	-6	4

Annual change (%)

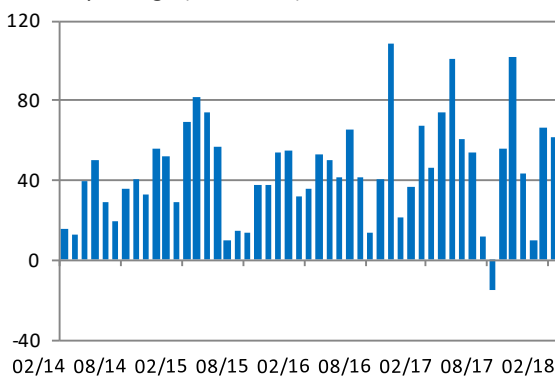
	Sep-17	Oct-17	Nov-17	Dec-17	Jan-18	Feb-18	
						Data	Forecast
Affiliated to the Social Security	3.5	3.5	3.6	3.4	3.4	3.5	3.5
Agriculture	0.7	-1.6	0.4	-0.7	-0.8	-0.5	0.6
Industry	3.2	3.1	3.2	3.3	3.3	3.4	3.5
Construction	6.3	6.8	7.1	7.4	7.6	7.2	9.0
Services	3.6	3.7	3.6	3.5	3.5	3.5	3.3
Registered unemployed	-8.3	-7.9	-8.3	-7.8	-7.5	-7.5	-7.2

Note: *Not seasonally adjusted series. ** February average.

Source: CaixaBank Research, data from MEySS.

Affiliated to the Social Security*

Monthly change (thousands)

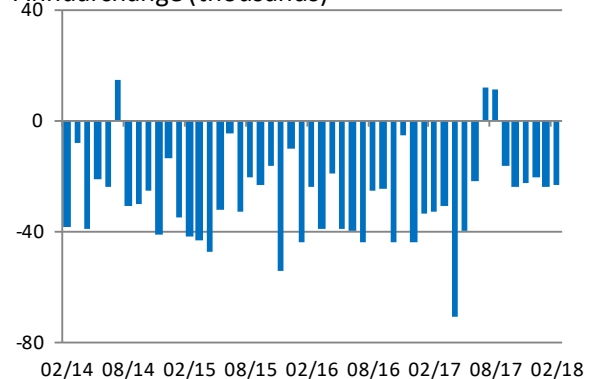


Note: *Seasonally adjusted.

Source: CaixaBank Research, data from MEySS.

Unemployed registered*

Annual change (thousands)

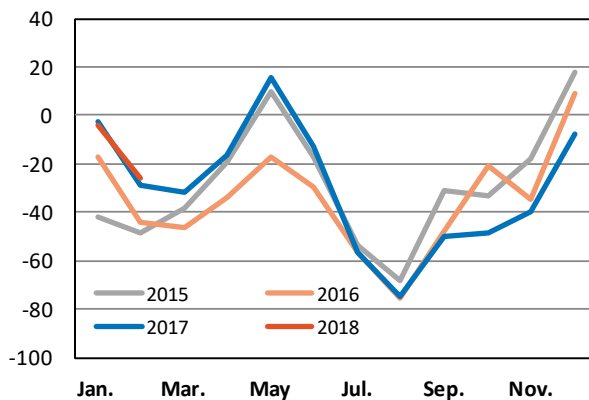


Note: *Seasonally adjusted.

Source: CaixaBank Research, data from MEySS.

Affiliated: Agriculture

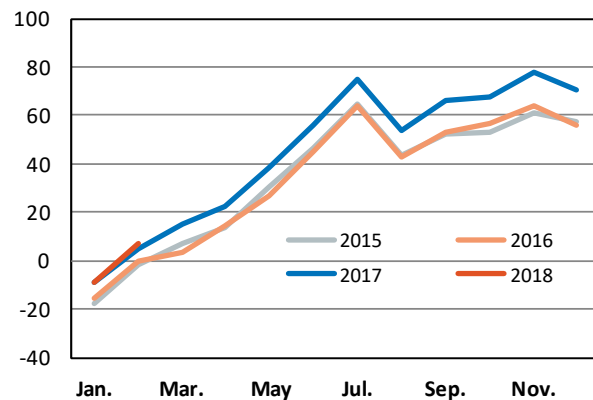
Cumulated figures for the year to date (thousands)



Source: CaixaBank Research, data from MEySS.

Affiliated: Industry

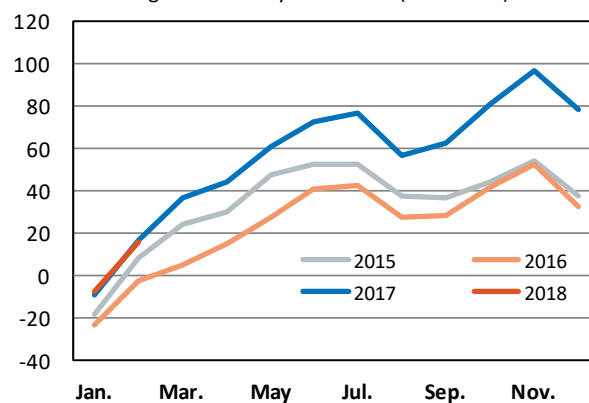
Cumulated figures for the year to date (thousands)



Source: CaixaBank Research, data from MEySS.

Affiliated: Construction

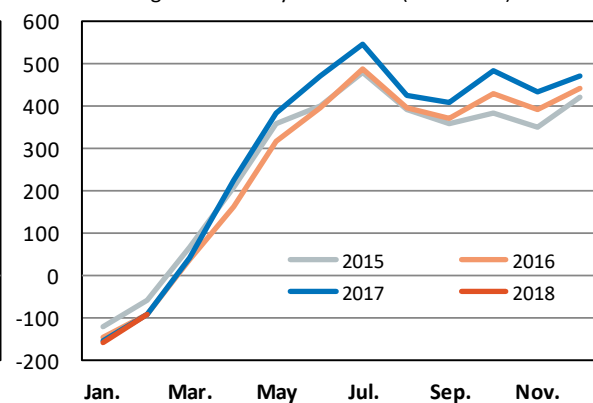
Cumulated figures for the year to date (thousands)



Source: CaixaBank Research, data from MEySS.

Affiliated: Services

Cumulated figures for the year to date (thousands)



Source: CaixaBank Research, data from MEySS.

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