CaixaBank Research



Autonomous Community Outlook

Castilla-La Mancha



2,160,000
inhabitants (2025)

€27,307
of GDP per capita (2025)

3.5%
of Spanish GDP (2025)

2.8%
anticipated growth in GDP (2026)

Regional economic structure and position

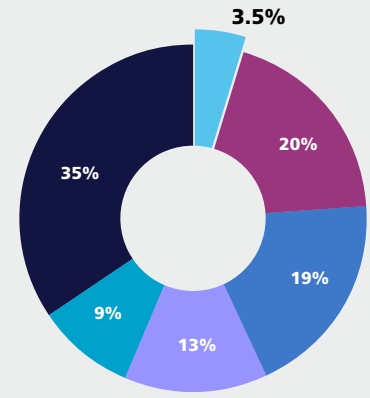
- The **2.2 million inhabitants** of Castilla-La Mancha account for 4.3% of the country's total population, making it the ninth most highly populated region. It is one of the regions with the highest population growth, standing at 1.4% in 2025 (1.0% for Spain as a whole).
- The region's GDP (58.460 billion euros) is equivalent to **3.5% of Spanish GDP**, ranking it ninth among all regions.
- **GDP per capita** (27,307 euros) is the fourth lowest in the country and 20.2% below the national average. There are significant differences between provinces: Toledo's GDP per capita is 18.3% lower than Cuenca's.
- In terms of **sectoral composition**, agriculture stands out with 8.3% of Castilla-La Mancha's GDP, the highest percentage of all regions: it is a clear leader in wine production, accounting for over half of all national output. The manufacturing industry is also of higher relative importance (15.2% vs. 11.9% in Spain), most notably the agri-food and petrochemical sectors – there is a refinery in Puertollano – and the extractive industry (7.5% vs. 3.7%). Meanwhile, industry-related services provide 19.9% of GDP (vs. 30.2%).
- Although **exports of goods** make a smaller contribution than on average in Spain (19.1% of GDP vs. 22.9%), a significant increase has been recorded in recent years, reflecting the region's international expansion efforts. Castilla-La Mancha accounts for a small proportion of all Spanish exports, just 2.9% in 2025 (11.165 billion euros): over a third of these are agri-food products, in particular beverages (9.8% of the total), with wine being the biggest contributor, in addition to meat (6.8%). Then there are chemical products (10.8%), particularly pharmaceuticals. 20% of beverages exported from Spain come from this region.

Table of structural indicators

		1995	2005	2015	**2025**
GDP per capita	Euros	9,584	17,443	18,499	**27,307**
	100 = Spain	83.9	82.1	78.9	**79.8**
Population	Thousands of inhabitants	1,708	1,917	2,049	**2,155**
	Average annual growth in the decade (%)	0.3	1.2	0.7	**0.5**
	% of the total in Spain	4.3	4.4	4.4	**4.3**
	% of population > 65 years old	18.2	18.7	18.4	**20.4**
Exports of goods as a proportion of GDP	%	6.4	8.2	15.8	**19.1**

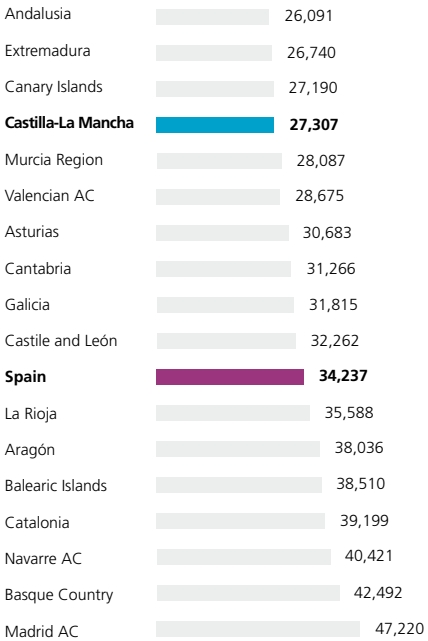
GDP by Autonomous Community

(% OF SPAIN AS A WHOLE)



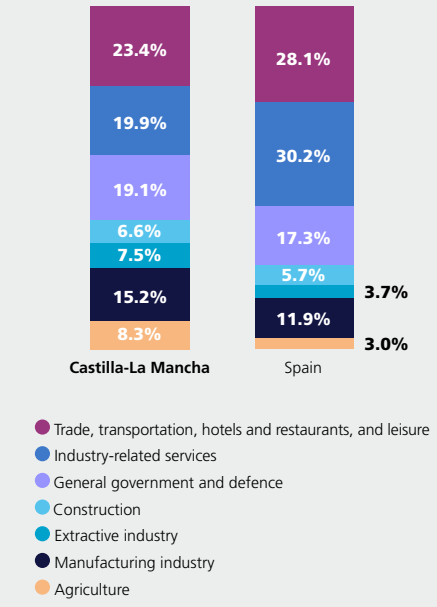
GDP per capita

(EUROS)



Productive sectors

(AS A % OF GVA)



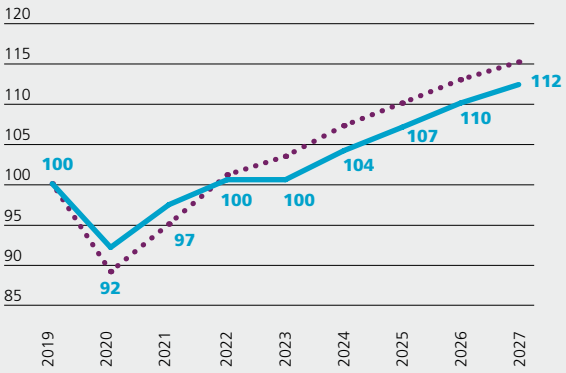
Source: CaixaBank Research, based on data from the National Statistics Institute (INE) and DataComex.

Macroeconomic situation

In 2026, we estimate that Castilla-La Mancha's GDP will grow by 2.8%, slightly above the figure for Spain as a whole (2.6%). Activity is being supported by strong employment and household consumption, which are weathering inflationary pressures and financial tightening. The construction sector and certain industrial sectors (such as agri-food) are also buoyant.

CaixaBank Research's forecasts point to a slowdown in 2027, down to 2.1%, compared with 2.0% for the country as a whole. Its diversified production base adds resilience to the regional economy, and consumption will continue to be boosted by the labour market and the region's proximity to Madrid, which attracts people to neighbouring provinces. However, economic activity will be constrained by inflationary pressures, rising energy costs – given the region's industry's heavy exposure to these costs – weak external demand – against a backdrop of geopolitical and trade instability – and reduced support from EU funds.

GDP (INDEX 100 = 2019)



Source: CaixaBank Research.

Employment in Castilla-La Mancha continues to follow a positive trend and has even gained momentum in recent months. In 2025, the **number of registered workers affiliated to Social Security** rose by 2.1% on average (2.3% in Spain), picking up further this year (3.1% year-on-year in October (vs. 3.6%), partly driven by the migrant regularisation process. However, the unemployment rate is one of the highest in the country, standing at 11.4% in Q3 2026, 1.2 percentage points above the average.

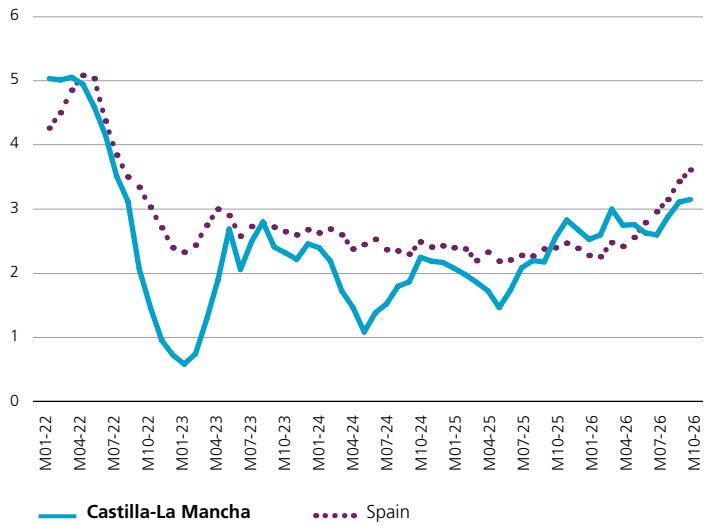
Consumption continues to show robust growth, partly due to the region's significant demographic dynamism. This strength is reflected in the volume of sales in the **retail trade**, which grew at an above-average rate in 2025 (6.2%, compared with 4.0%) and rose by 1.9% year-on-year between January and September 2026, broadly in line with the country as a whole (2.0%). Meanwhile, **CaixaBank's consumption indicator** rose by 2.7% year-on-year up to September, the highest rate of all the autonomous communities and three times the national average.

In recent years, the performance of **industrial activity** has been somewhat subdued, against a backdrop of weakening global demand. In 2025, the IPI grew by 0.7%, compared with 1.3% for Spain as a whole, driven by the capital goods and energy sectors. In 2026, the picture is somewhat more positive: up to September, industrial production rose by 1.5% year-on-year, matching the rate recorded nationwide.

Exports of goods are more buoyant than in the country as a whole. In 2025, they rose by 4.4%, compared with a modest 0.7% nationally, thanks to strong sales of mineral commodities, consumer goods (mainly textiles) and food (meat and processed foods). This offset the sharp decline in exports of capital goods, particularly transport equipment, engines/motors and electrical appliances. This year, the positive signs continue, with year-on-year growth of 10.1% up to August – the strongest of all mainland regions (vs. 3.2%) – driven by commodities and energy products.

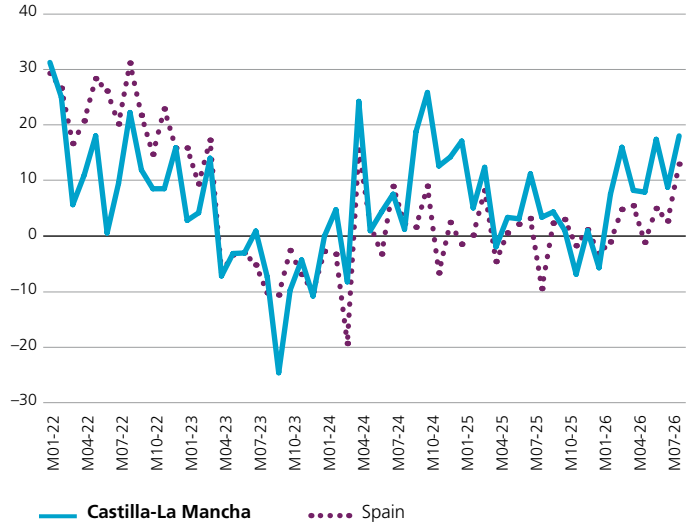
Registered workers affiliated to Social Security

(% YEAR-ON-YEAR CHANGE)



Exports of goods

(% YEAR-ON-YEAR CHANGE)



Source: CaixaBank Research, based on data from the Ministry of Labour, Migration and Social Security (MITRAMISS) and Datacomex.

Table of indicators

Castilla-La Mancha
Average in Spain

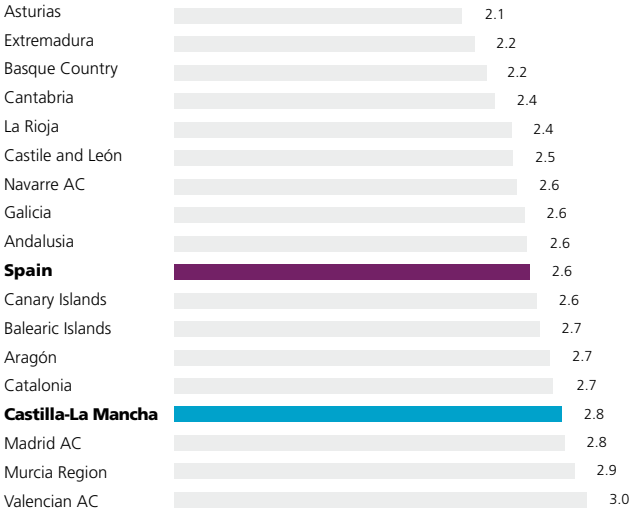
		2014-2019 average	2020	2021-2022 average	2023	2024	2025	2026	Latest figure
Activity and prices	**Real GDP** (% year-on-year change)	**2.6**	**–7.9**	**4.4**	**0.0**	**3.6**	**2.8**		**2025**
		2.8	–10.9	6.5	2.4	3.7	2.6		
	Retail trade (% cumulative annual change)	**1.7**	**–1.0**	**–1.7**	**5.0**	**2.5**	**6.2**	**1.9**	**September-26**
		2.3	–5.2	2.2	2.9	2.1	4.0	2.0	
	Industrial production index (% cumulative annual change)	**1.7**	**–8.4**	**4.8**	**0.9**	**–0.5**	**0.7**	**1.5**	**September-26**
		1.8	–9.2	4.7	–1.6	0.7	1.3	1.5	
	Service activity index (% cumulative annual change)	**5.0**	**–9.7**	**13.6**	**4.0**	**4.8**	**4.2**	**5.7**	**August-26**
		5.1	–15.6	20.1	2.2	3.0	4.8	5.5	
	Consumer price index (% year-on-year change)	**0.6**	**–0.6**	**6.9**	**3.6**	**2.7**	**2.4**	**5.5**	**September-26**
		0.7	–0.3	5.7	3.5	2.8	2.7	4.9	
Labour market	**Registered workers affiliated to Social Security** (% year-on-year change)	**3.2**	**–0.8**	**3.4**	**2.0**	**1.8**	**2.1**	**3.1**	**October-26**
		3.2	–2.1	3.2	2.7	2.4	2.3	3.6	
	Non-furloughed registered workers affiliated to Social Security (% year-on-year change)	**3.2**	**–5.7**	**6.6**	**2.8**	**2.3**	**2.5**	**3.5**	**October-26**
		3.2	–9.2	7.3	3.4	2.7	2.5	3.9	
	Unemployment rate (% working population)	**22.3**	**17.7**	**15.2**	**13.2**	**13.3**	**12.8**	**11.4**	**Q3 2026**
		18.8	15.5	14.0	12.2	11.3	10.5	10.2	
	Unemployment rate for under 25s (% working population < 25)	**49.8**	**39.4**	**34.2**	**29.7**	**28.9**	**27.7**	**28.1**	**Q3 2026**
		42.5	38.3	34.5	28.8	24.1	29.6	23.3	
Public sector	**Public deficit** (% of GDP)	**–1.1**	**0.5**	**–0.8**	**–1.1**	**0.1**	**–0.1**	**–1.2**	**Q2 2026**
		–0.9	–0.2	–0.6	–0.9	–0.2	–0.4	–1.0	
	Autonomous Communities public debt (% of GDP)	**35.2**	**38.1**	**33.1**	**30.8**	**29.9**	**28.2**	**28.1**	**Q2 2026**
		23.9	26.9	24.2	21.7	21.0	20.2	20.4	
Real estate market	**Housing prices** (% year-on-year change)	**1.9**	**1.3**	**4.2**	**1.7**	**6.5**	**11.5**	**11.7**	**Q2 2026**
		5.3	2.1	5.5	4.0	8.4	12.7	12.2	
	Housing sales (% cumulative annual change)	**10.9**	**–12.5**	**23.6**	**–5.6**	**18.4**	**14.9**	**2.6**	**August-26**
		9.7	–16.9	24.8	–10.2	9.7	11.1	–2.3	
Foreign sector & tourism	**Exports of goods** (% cumulative annual change)	**6.9**	**–3.8**	**19.1**	**–4.3**	**8.8**	**4.4**	**10.1**	**August-26**
		3.9	–9.4	21.5	–1.4	0.2	0.7	3.2	
	Tourist overnight stays (% cumulative annual change)	**5.2**	**–54.0**	**51.0**	**4.3**	**1.8**	**5.1**	**–3.1**	**September-26**
		3.0	–69.2	75.8	7.1	4.3	1.7	1.2	

Source: CaixaBank Research, based on data from the National Statistics Institute (INE), the Bank of Spain, the Ministry of Labour, Migration and Social Security (MITRAMISS), the Ministry of Finance and DataComex.

Regional comparison

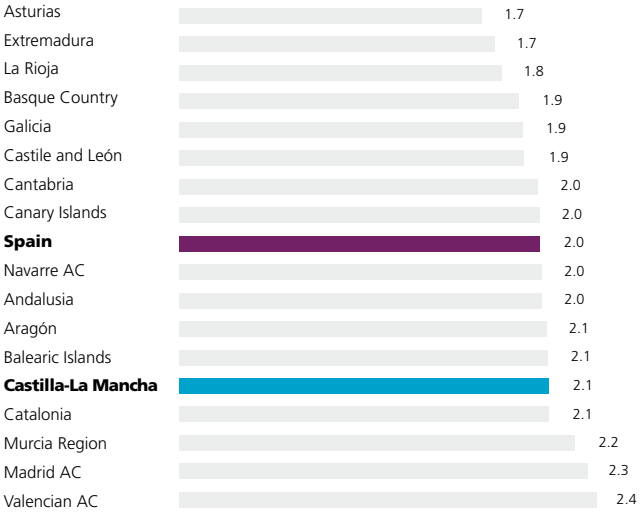
GDP growth forecast (2026)

(ANNUAL CHANGE)



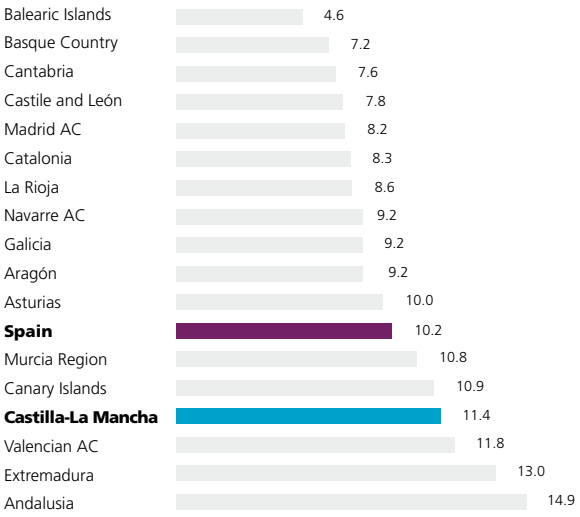
GDP growth forecast (2027)

(ANNUAL CHANGE)



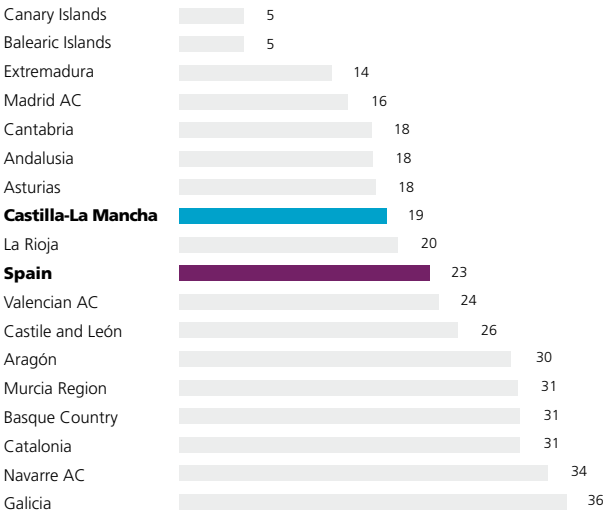
Unemployment rate (Q3 2026)

(% OF WORKING POPULATION)



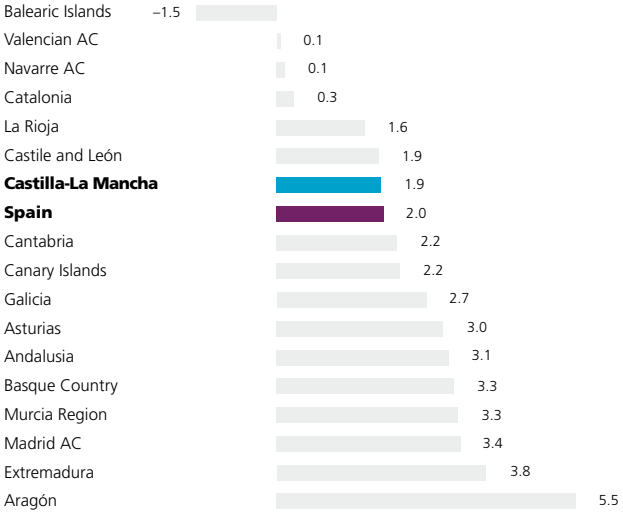
Proportion of exports of goods (2025)

(% OF GDP)



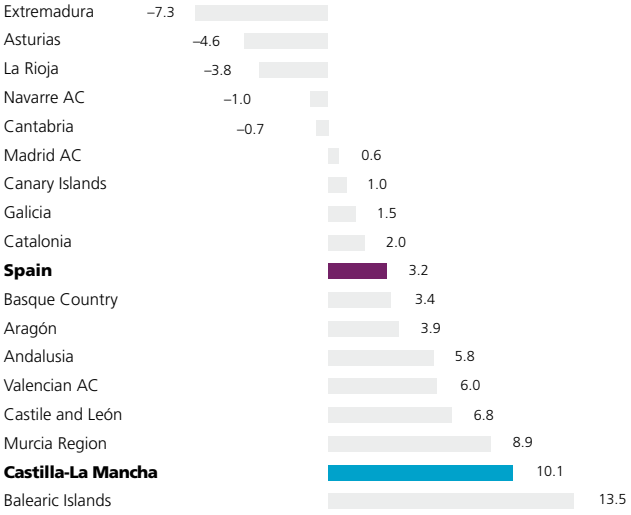
Retail trade* (January-September 2026)

(CHANGE FROM THE SAME PERIOD IN 2025)



Exports of goods (January-August 2026)

(CHANGE FROM THE SAME PERIOD IN 2025)

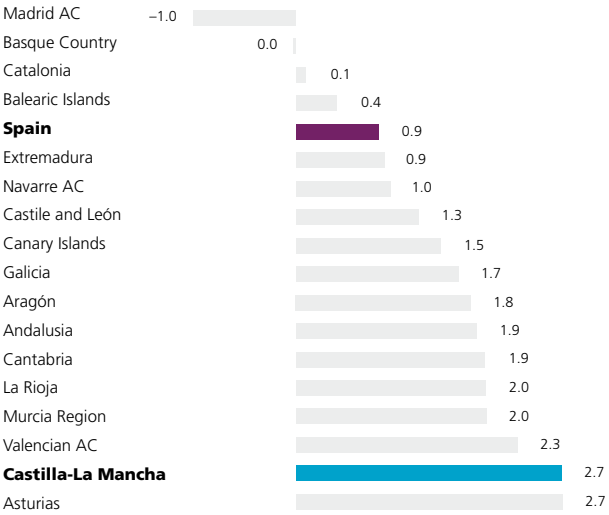


Note: *Figures adjusted, excluding service stations.
Source: CaixaBank Research, based on our own estimates and data from the National Statistics Institute (INE) and DataComex.

Regional comparison (II)*

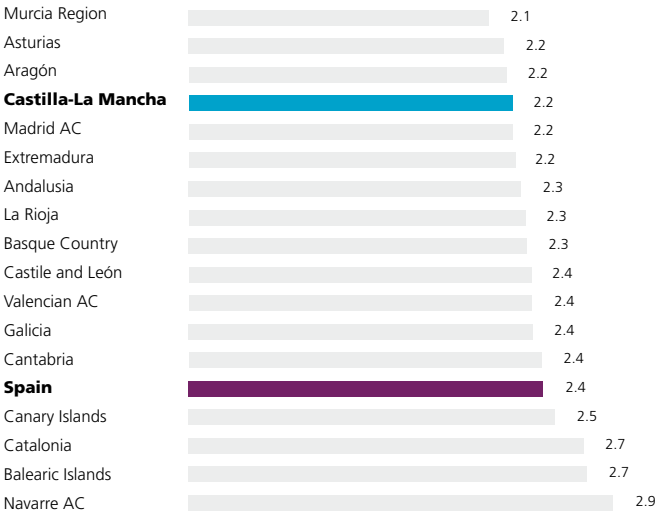
Domestic consumption (January-September 2026)

CHANGE FROM THE SAME PERIOD IN 2025 (%)



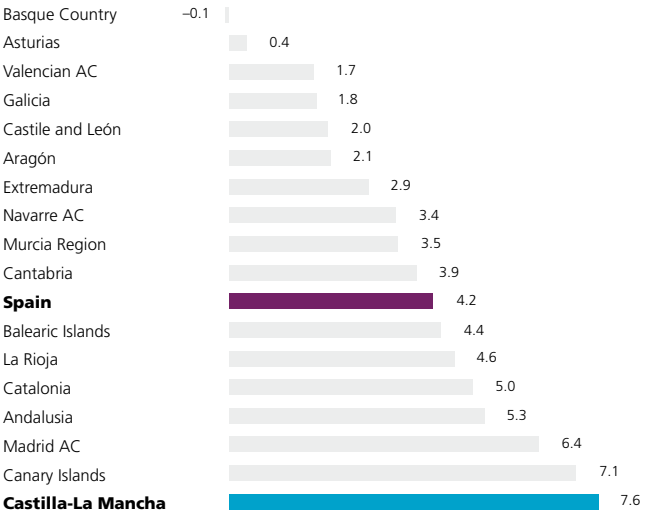
Wages (January-September 2026)

CHANGE FROM THE SAME PERIOD IN 2025 (%)



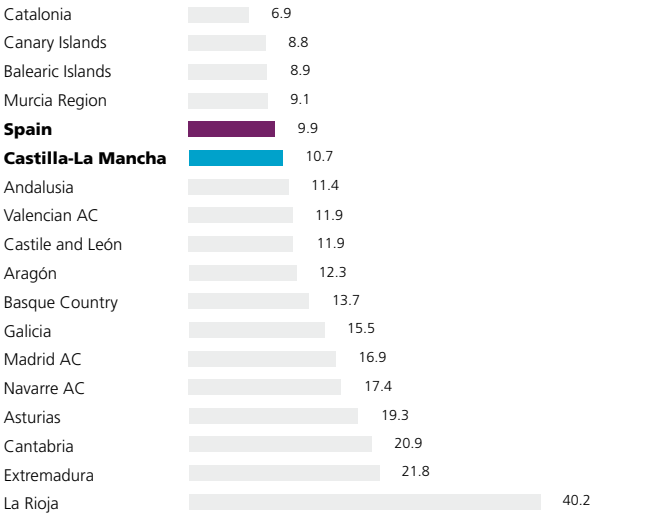
Domestic tourist spending (January-September 2026)

CHANGE FROM THE SAME PERIOD IN 2025 (%)



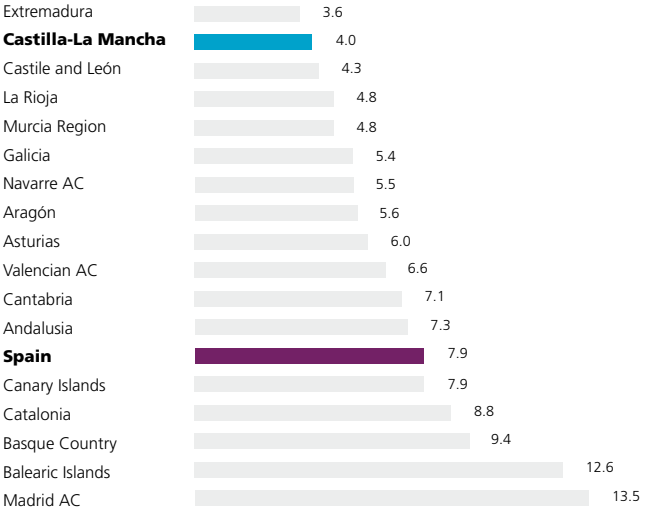
International tourist spending (January-September 2026)

CHANGE FROM THE SAME PERIOD IN 2025 (%)



Housing affordability (January-March 2026)

YEARS OF EMPLOYMENT INCOME REQUIRED TO PURCHASE A HOME



Note: *Consumption: household spending on goods and services, estimated on the basis of payments and cash withdrawals made using cards issued by CaixaBank and direct debits billed to CaixaBank customers.
Wages: monthly wage income of individuals calculated on the basis of current account transactions specifically identified as payroll. This indicator corresponds to the median year-on-year change in monthly payroll, calculated on a customer-by-customer basis.
Tourism: in-person payments and cash withdrawals made by tourists in Spain. We define tourist expenditure as payments made at CaixaBank POS terminals using cards issued by Spanish institutions in the case of domestic tourists, where these transactions take place outside their usual areas of consumption (place of residence, work, routine spending, etc.); in the case of foreign tourists, it refers to payments made using cards issued by foreign institutions. Moving average of the last three months.
Housing affordability: this measures the number of years' net earned income that the median household would, in theory, need to set aside to purchase a typical home in a given geographical area. It is based on the methodology used by the Bank of Spain to calculate the affordability ratio, and household income is estimated using the median of wages and unemployment benefits in the same area.
Source: CaixaBank Research, from internal data.

Exports of goods

	SPAIN			CASTILLA-LA MANCHA			
	Millions of euros	% of total	26/25 (%)	Millions of euros	% of total	26/25 (%)	% of Spain
Food	**49,640**	**18.8**	**–1.9**	**2,453**	**30.3**	**–4.9**	**4.9**
Meat	7,640	2.9	–11.6	427	5.3	–17.8	5.6
Dairy and eggs	1,837	0.7	2.9	283	3.5	3.6	15.4
Fish	3,878	1.5	1.2	37	0.5	5.2	0.9
Cereals	318	0.1	–23.3	2	0.0	–24.8	0.7
Fruit and pulses	18,410	7.0	2.4	418	5.2	0.3	2.3
Sugar, coffee and cocoa	2,595	1.0	–4.9	69	0.8	21.4	2.6
Processed foods	4,713	1.8	2.7	282	3.5	19.0	6.0
Beverages	3,444	1.3	–2.6	690	8.5	–7.0	20.0
Tobacco	380	0.1	3.4	0	0.0	–45.0	0.1
Fats and oils	4,778	1.8	–5.2	204	2.5	–17.2	4.3
Seeds and oleaginous fruits	162	0.1	–15.5	0	0.0	27.0	0.3
Animal feed	1,486	0.6	1.0	40	0.5	–16.8	2.7
Energy products	**20,763**	**7.9**	**34.2**	**187**	**2.3**	**307.8**	**0.9**
Commodities	**7,487**	**2.8**	**23.0**	**429**	**5.3**	**84.0**	**5.7**
Animals and vegetables	2,286	0.9	–2.7	37	0.5	20.1	1.6
Minerals	5,201	2.0	39.2	391	4.8	93.9	7.5
Semi-finished goods	**68,350**	**25.9**	**–3.3**	**1,703**	**21.0**	**12.0**	**2.5**
Non-ferrous metals	6,910	2.6	16.8	344	4.2	5.0	5.0
Iron and steel	5,670	2.1	–6.3	37	0.5	–10.0	0.7
Chemical products	42,616	16.1	–6.4	825	10.2	–1.9	1.9
Paper	3,249	1.2	–3.6	81	1.0	6.8	2.5
Construction materials	5,156	2.0	–0.9	171	2.1	16.9	3.3
Tyres and inner tubes	2,605	1.0	8.6	193	2.4	328.1	7.4
Capital goods	**50,946**	**19.3**	**4.8**	**1,974**	**24.4**	**17.3**	**3.9**
Industrial machinery	12,762	4.8	3.3	317	3.9	5.2	2.5
Office and telecommunications eq.	3,479	1.3	8.1	438	5.4	27.8	12.6
Transport equipment	9,934	3.8	–1.7	80	1.0	–22.5	0.8
Engines/Motors	3,540	1.3	12.4	174	2.1	10.2	4.9
Electrical appliances	11,375	4.3	7.6	416	5.1	7.4	3.7
Precision equipment	2,254	0.9	3.2	131	1.6	3.7	5.8
Motor vehicle industry	**32,248**	**12.2**	**1.1**	**168**	**2.1**	**–24.9**	**0.5**
Consumer durables	**3,902**	**1.5**	**–1.8**	**115**	**1.4**	**9.9**	**2.9**
Domestic appliances	1,165	0.4	–1.1	32	0.4	29.7	2.8
Consumer electronics	242	0.1	16.0	19	0.2	70.0	7.8
Furniture	2,047	0.8	–4.4	36	0.4	8.8	1.7
Consumer goods	**23,276**	**8.8**	**2.5**	**999**	**12.3**	**8.3**	**4.3**
Textiles	12,931	4.9	4.0	500	6.2	22.2	3.9
Footwear	2,468	0.9	1.6	165	2.0	–11.7	6.7
Toys	1,332	0.5	–4.0	54	0.7	34.9	4.0
Pottery	81	0.0	2.3	6	0.1	35.1	8.0
Jewellery and watches	762	0.3	–20.6	7	0.1	–3.7	0.9
Leather and leather goods	361	0.1	3.0	15	0.2	8.1	4.1
Other goods	**7,569**	**2.9**	**27.8**	**72**	**0.9**	**61.0**	**1.0**
TOTAL	**264,182**	**100.0**	**3.2**	**8,099**	**100.0**	**10.1**	**3.1**

Note: Figures from January-August 2026.

Source: CaixaBank Research, based on data from DataComex.

CaixaBank Research

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Closing date of this edition: 10 November 2026