

SPAIN

Whole country

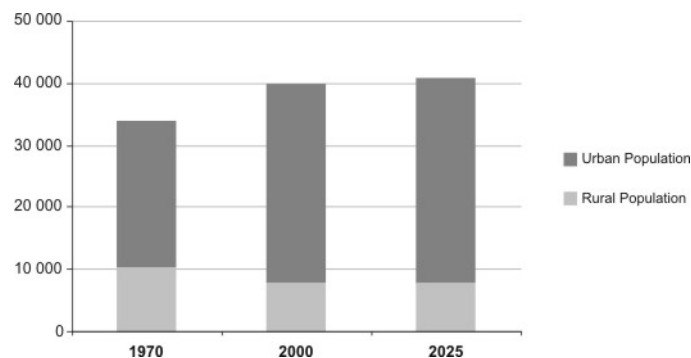
With a population of nearly 40 million in 2000, Spain is the third-largest northern Mediterranean country. Well-below-replacement level fertility from the mid-1980s (from near 3 as late as the mid-1970s, down to 1.46 children per woman in 1985-1990; 1.27 in 1990-1995, with a possible slow return to 1.80 by 2025) is behind Spain's very low population growth.



Between 2000 and 2025, it will add less than a million people at an extremely low overall growth rate of just 2.4% in a quarter century. Most of the upturn will occur between 2000 and 2015, with a mean annual growth rate of 2.3 per thousand. After that, even net immigration will not halt Spain's negative population growth, falling from 41.2 million in 2015 to 40.8 million in 2025, a net loss of 400 000 people in just ten years.

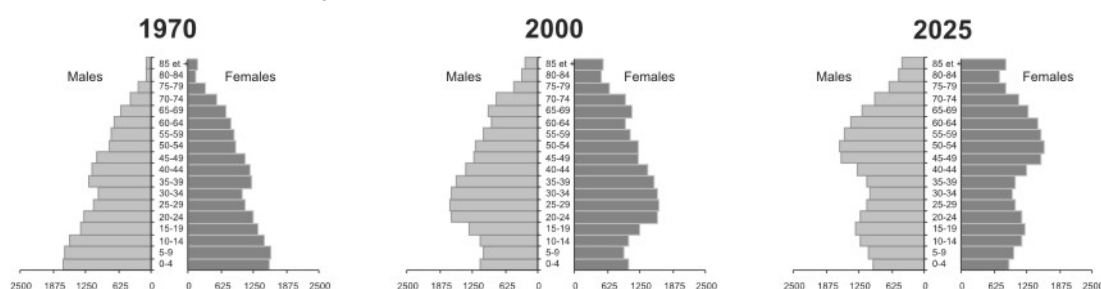
Spain is a highly urbanized country - 80% of its population live in urban areas of over 10 000 people in 2000. This proportion will rise just a shade to 80.8% in 2025. Because of its large share of the total population, the population of urban areas of over 10 000 people will mirror that trend, declining from 2015 on. Over the entire period (2000-2025), it will add only just over 1 million people in absolute numbers. National population growth over the next 25 years, therefore, will be entirely in large conurbations, while rural communities and urban areas of under 10 000 people will decline from 7.96 million in 2000 to 7.83 in 2025.

Figure 9. Rural population and urban population 1970-2000-2025 (in thousands)



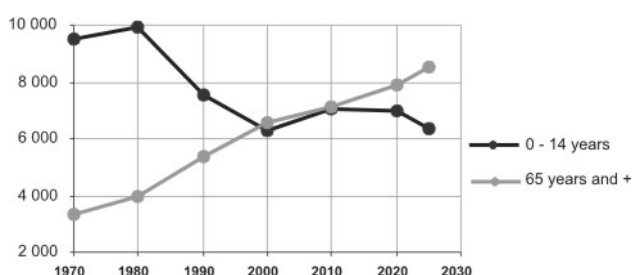
The natural increase component of Spain's population growth (surplus of births over deaths) will play a minor role: the projected net annual immigration of 35 000 people accounts for approximately 90% of overall population growth between 2000 and 2025, discounting second/third-generation immigrants. After decades as a net exporter of migrant labour, Spain turned into an importer in the mid-1970s. This puts it firmly in the northern-rim camp alongside Italy and Greece, both recently transformed into labour importing countries.

Figure 10. Population age structure (by 5-year age groups) 1970-2000-2025 (in thousands)



Like other Mediterranean countries, population of Spain is set to age more rapidly: the 16.5% of people aged 65 and over in 2000 will rise to 20.9% in 2025 - an increase of 30%, raising their total number from 6.5 million in 2000 to 8.5 million by 2025.

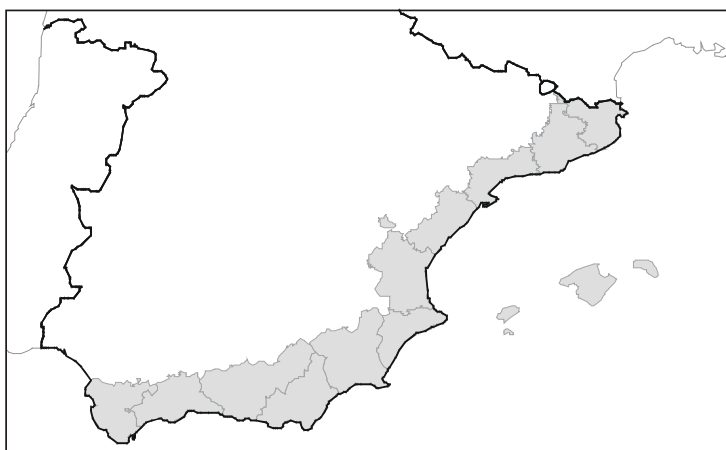
Figure 11. Populations aged 15-and-under and 65-and-over, 1970-2025 (in thousands)



The continuing large net surplus of labour force entrants over exits between 2000 and 2005 will leave a labour surplus from a strictly demographic perspective. The situation will go into reverse from 2010, when the labour supply deficit will deepen year-over-year.

Mediterranean coastal regions

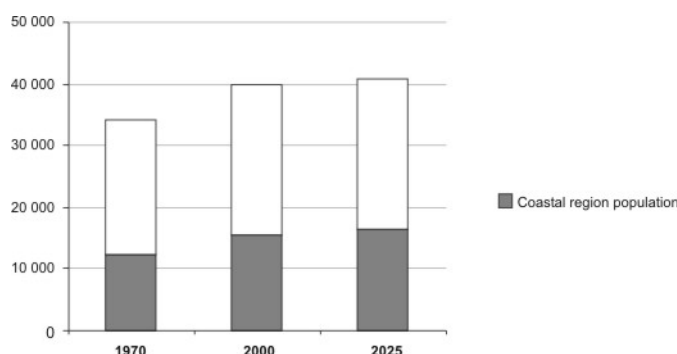
15.6 million people - over 39% of Spain's population - live on its Mediterranean coast in 2000. Notwithstanding its long Atlantic coastline, therefore, it is one of the region's most Mediterranean countries. Spain has 12 Mediterranean coastal regions (plus Ceuta and Melilla on the Moroccan coast). The aggregate growth of these Mediterranean regions was rapid through the 1970s (1.4% a



year), slowing down to 0.6% in the 1980s, levelling off at 0.5% in the first half of the 1990s. Even so, Spain's Mediterranean coastal population growth rate in past decades has significantly outstripped that of the hinterland: 0.8% and 0.5% respectively between 1970 and 2000. This is chiefly due to internal migration, although a natural increase gap has also been a factor, especially due to age structure differentials between the coastal and inland populations. Barcelona is by far the most populated - 4.624 million people in 1995 - but not the most rapidly-growing province, with a mean annual rate of growth of 0.7% between 1970 and 1995. Behind this modest rate, however, lies a significant net immigration rate: Valencia: 2.165 million people (0.8% a year), and Castelon de la Plaja, 455 000 people (0.7%), are in similar positions. Alicante (1.367 million people and 1.6% annual growth), Malaga (1.227 million, 1.4%), Murcia (1.087 million, 1.1%), the Balearic Islands (756 000, 1.2%), Tarragona (568 000, 1.1%), Gerona (525 000, 0.9%) and

Almeria (494 000, 1.1%) are even better-placed due to their migrant pull factors. Only Granada (808 000 inhabitants, 0.4%), Ceuta (70 000, 0.2%) and Melilla (60 000, and negative growth of -0.3%) are worse-off this respect.

Figure 12. Mediterranean coastal regions population as a share of total population 1970-2000-2025 (in thousands)



By contrast to the hinterland, which will flat-line (24.255 million in 2000 and 24.305 million in 2025), the Mediterranean provinces will add over 900 000 people, rising from 15.560 to 16.464 million, i.e., a mean annual rate of growth of 0.2%, increasing the Mediterranean population share from 39.1% in 2000 to 40.4% in 2025.

Spain's Mediterranean coasts are highly urbanized - approximately 85% in 2000. They have 175 urban areas of over 10 000 people, but this includes about ten which at some point reached that size, but then declined. Also, 16 of these 175 urban areas did not exist as urban localities in 1970. Finally, only 16 of them have over 100 000 people. Spain has two conurbations of over one million people: Barcelona (3.9 million) and Valencia, which is smaller (1.3 million) but growing more rapidly (1.0% a year between 1970 and 1995). Malaga, which includes several Costa del Sol localities, has not yet reached the million mark (837 000 people in 1995) but with its recent soaring population growth of 2.3% a year, is set to do so before long. Benidorm has achieved even stronger growth (3.5% a year) but within a much smaller population: 118 000 people in 1995. The mean annual rates of increase (between 1.3 and 1.7% a year between 1970 and 1995) for most of the other conurbations of over 100 000 people -including Murcia (393 000), Palma (351 000), Granada (300 000)- point to their powerful migrant pull factors. The only exceptions are Cartagena (185 000 people, 0.6% a year), Jerez (183 000, 0.8%) and Algeciras (102 000, 0.9%). Urban population growth on the Mediterranean coasts is set to continue: the population of urban areas of over 10 000 people will rise from 13.2 million in 2000 to 14.4 in 2025, - i.e., an annual rate of 0.4% - while the rest-of-country urban population virtually flat-lines or decreases slowly. As a result, the Mediterranean coastal urbanization rate will rise from 84.6 to 87.5%.

Figure 13. Rural and urban population of the Mediterranean coastal regions 1970-2000-2025 (in thousands)

