



PASSPORT TO CATALONIA

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Generalitat de Catalunya
Government of Catalonia



LOCATION



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PASSPORT TO CATALONIA 2017



CATALONIA IN A FEW WORDS



CATALONIA is a Nation located in Southern Europe, spanning an area of **32,000 km²**. Its strategic situation favors a very close relationship with the other Mediterranean countries, as well as with continental European and Asian countries. Catalonia has a population of more than **7.5 million** inhabitants. Barcelona, its capital city, is a cosmopolitan town, a center of trade, culture and services, and a first-rate tourist destination.

BARCELONA is one of the best European cities for business, the top city in Southern Europe and the first worldwide city in number of attendees to conferences. Also, Catalonia became the European region attracting the most foreign investment and has been recognised as the best region for investment in southern Europe.

Politically, Catalonia has its own governing institution, the **Generalitat de Catalunya** (Government of Catalonia), an autonomous system within Spain and the European Union. It also has its own language, Catalan.

At the present time, Catalonia has a stable political system with the oldest parliament in the world (1283). In the past, Catalonia had political sovereignty until the 18th century, when, as a result of the defeat of **1714** it became part of the Spanish crown and lost all institutions and

political power (laws, coinage, tax system...), and the Catalan language was forbidden in the public domain. Not until the Second Spanish Republic was the Government of Catalonia restored (1932), but the defeat in the Civil War (1936-1939) led to the Francoist dictatorship and the abolition of the country's rights and institutions.

By the 10th century, Catalan had already become a literary and state language. Catalan literature is usually translated into a large number of other languages. Today it's Catalonia's joint official language along with Spanish, it's the world's 10th most translated language and, although being spoken by only **10 million people**, is the 19th most used language in twitter.

In recent years, Catalonia has made important progress in the field of internationalization and has been able to advance at the same pace as the world's main developed economies. Catalonia is a strategic center thanks to a knowledge economy, high competitiveness and a privileged location.

More than 6.400 foreign companies are currently operating in Catalonia. For all this, Catalonia is considered a leading knowledge hub in Southern Europe.



Catalonia and its capital, Barcelona, are the driving force of a large, dynamic and diverse economic area of Europe. Catalan GDP is similar to the one generated in Finland, Denmark or Ireland. While the population achieves 7.5 million people, comparable size to Switzerland, Austria and Denmark. The Catalan economy is very open, with a trade surplus of 11.5% of GDP. GDP per capita in PPP is 14% above the EU average.

Over the course of 2015, the economy grew at a rate of 3.4%, the highest increase since 2007, with job creation running at a rate practically parallel to this figure. The strong performance of domestic demand was key to generating these excellent results. However, it was not only domestic demand that drove the economic upturn; exports, both of goods and services, also played a vital role. We can therefore safely say that we are in front of a more balanced model, one that combines strong domestic demand with a highly dynamic external sector.

Despite the severe setbacks suffered over the years of the recession, industry has grown at rates above the European average over the last two years. This is thanks to the excellent performance of exports, as well as to expanding consumption and investment. In fact, the increased investment in capital goods in 2015 is particularly significant, because this is one of

the trends that most clearly reflects improved expectations and confidence, not only among businesses in the country, but also among foreign investors. Accordingly, the sharp increase in foreign direct investment in 2015 sends out a clear signal in this direction. Moreover, as several prestigious international reports have pointed out, Catalonia is amongst the leading European regions as regards capacity to attract productive international investment.

The productive structure of Catalonia is diverse. The services sector accounts for 74.8% of GVA and it has shown a clear upward trend in the last decade (it accounted for 65.2% of GVA in 2006). Commerce, transport and hostelling weight 28% of total GVA, well above the Spanish and EU averages. Oppositely, the public administration branch accounts for 14.1% and it is smaller in comparison with Spain and the EU. The industrial sector accounts for 9.6% of total GVA. Manufacturing is a fundamental of the Catalan economy, accounting for 16.7% of total GVA, exceeding the Spanish and European average. Construction has declined sharply in the last decade, from 11.9% in 2006 to 4.7% in 2015, as a result of the economic recession.

Nowadays its weight is under the Spanish and EU average. Finally, agriculture and livestock account for 0.9% of the total GVA. As a small and densely populated territory, Catalan agricultural production has to be moderate. However, food industry has an important contribution to the Catalan manufacturing sector.



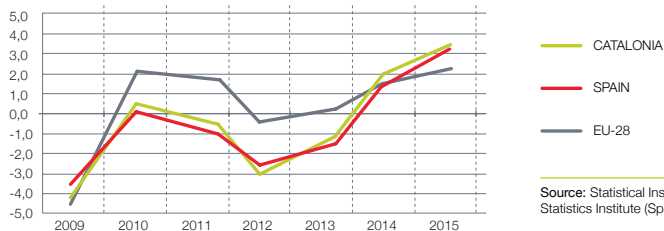
	CATALONIA	SPAIN	EU-28
Area (km ²)	32,107	505,990	4,403,357
Population (000s, 01/01/2015)	7,425	46,450	508,451
Population density (inhab/km ²)	231	92	117
Life expectancy, men (years, 2014)	80.5	80.1	78.1
Life expectancy, women (years, 2014)	86.1	85.7	83.6
GDP (€M, 2015)	214,927	1,081,190	14,625,373
GDP per inhabitant (EU28=100, 2015)	114.0	92.0	100.0
Active companies (1/01/2016)	606,512	3,236,582	-
Gross capital formation (€M, 2015)	38,820	223,352	2,905,148
Capital goods and other products. %	63.2	48.3	50.3
Construction. %	36.8	51.7	49.7

Source: Statistical Institute of Catalonia, National Statistics Institute (Spain) and Eurostat

	CATALONIA	SPAIN	EU-28
Employment (000s, 2015)	3,078	17,717	215,153
Activity rate (16-64 years, 2015)	77.6	74.3	72.5
Employment rate (16-64 years, 2015)	63.1	57.8	65.6
Unemployment rate (2015)	18.6	22.1	9.4

Source: Statistical Institute of Catalonia, National Statistics Institute (Spain) and Eurostat

GDP GROWTH (% INTERANNUAL VARIATION)



Source: Statistical Institute of Catalonia, National Statistics Institute (Spain) and Eurostat



DISTRIBUTION OF GVA AND EMPLOYMENT BY BRANCH 2015 (NACE REV. 2 ACTIVITIES)

	GVA (%)			EMPLOYMENT. PERSONS (%)		
	CATALONIA	SPAIN	EU-28	CATALONIA	SPAIN	EU-28
Total - All NACE Rev. 2 activities	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	0.9	2.5	1.5	1.9	4.0	4.8
Industry (except construction)	19.6	17.0	19.2	15.9	11.9	16.4
Manufacturing	16.7	13.3	15.4	14.6	10.7	13.9
Construction	4.7	5.5	5.4	4.9	5.6	6.3
Services	74.8	75.0	73.9	77.3	78.4	76.4
Wholesale and retail trade, transport, accommodation and food service activities	28.0	24.5	19.0	29.0	30.2	24.6
Information and communication	3.6	4.2	5.0	2.7	2.5	2.9
Financial and insurance activities	3.8	3.9	5.2	2.0	1.9	2.6
Real estate activities	12.0	11.7	11.,3	1.3	1.0	1.1
Professional, scientific, technical, administrative and support service activities	9.0	7.6	10.8	13.1	12.1	12.5
Public administration, defence, education, human health and social work activities	13.6	17.7	19.3	17.5	21.0	23.2
Arts, entertainment and recreation; other service activities	4.3	4.4	3.5	10.3	9.1	6.1

*2013
Source: Idescat, INE and Eurostat.



FOREIGN SECTOR OF THE CATALAN ECONOMY 2015 [% OF GDP]

Trade with the EU and the rest of the world	
Exports of goods and services	38.4
Imports of goods and services	21.8
Trade balance	5.6

Trade with the rest of Spain	
Trade balance	6.0
Foreing trade balance	11.5

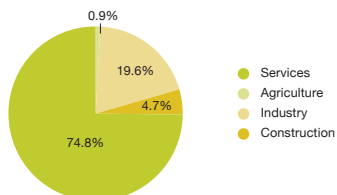
Source: Idescat.

EXPORTS OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS BY TECHNOLOGY LEVEL [%CHANGE]

Technology level	2014	2015
High	6.2	10.5
Middle-high	1.5	6.2
Middle-low	0.2	2.7
Low	4.5	6.7
Total industry exports	2.6	6.2

Source: Idescat.

DISTRIBUTION OF GVA BY BRANCH (2012)



More information...

Catalonia has a very open economy with high export capacity

Catalonia has a trade surplus of 11.5% of GDP (2015). Trade with EU Member States and the rest of the world generates a surplus of 5.5%.

Interregional trade with Spain generates a surplus of 6%.

- Degree of openness. % trade in goods and services over GDP: 114% of GDP (2011)
- Exports of high and medium-high technology: 59.8% of total (2015)
- Catalan exports of goods (in nominal value) are now 54% higher than in 2009 (and 28.5% higher than in 2007, before the crisis). In both 2014 and 2015, high-tech exports have led the growth rate of 10.5% in 2015 and of 11.9 in the first semester of 2016.

Catalonia achieved a maximum of 19.3 million foreign tourist in 2015 (more of the 28.2% of the total of Spain), and the tourist expenditure was more than 15,514 millions of euros (an increase of 2.7% over 2014).



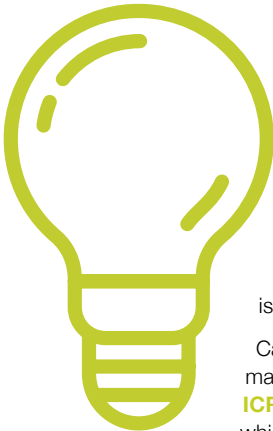
RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION



The excellence of the research carried out in Catalonia has allowed our country to gain a place in the elite world of research. Catalonia has experienced a quantum leap in research, development and innovation (**R&D&I**) in the last 20 years. One indicator of Catalonia's success is its share of the world's scientific output. With 0.1% of the world's population, Catalonia's output is 1.3% of the global scientific production.

Catalonia's investment to promoting all areas of science and technology, in particular following criteria of quality and excellence, has grown dramatically since 2002, being excellence and internationalization among the highest priorities. The future challenges involve boosting innovation and enhancing the role of knowledge as an economy driver.

Research policies in Catalonia have a wide consensus among the social, economic and political players, their goal being to become a competitive country in a knowledge society, based on progress through talent, science, technology and innovation.



Catalonia has the three factors necessary to build a region for Science (funding, freedom and lifestyle), and 1.5% of its –occupied– population is working in R&D&I. Human resources are an essential part of the Catalonia's science and technology system, and the goal is to improve them both in quantity and quality.

This commitment has largely contributed to Catalonia's success in the European Research Council's calls. Catalonia would rank fourth among the leading countries in number of **ERC** per population, and second in the European Union. Catalonia's share of all European Research Area grants is twofold share of ERA's population.

Catalan research institutions attract talent from other countries mainly through a Government-funded specific talent program, **ICREA**. About 40% of the hired come from abroad and 25% of which from leading countries such as USA or UK.



RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION



Catalonia has large-scale facilities, such as the **BARCELONA SUPERCOMPUTING CENTER (BSC)**, which participates in the EU project **PRACE** (the pan-European Partnership for Advanced Computing in Europe), the **ALBA** Synchrotron Light Facility, a new generation synchrotron and the first synchrotron light laboratory in southwest Europe, and the **CNAG**, one of the major genome sequencing centers in Europe.

In terms of expenditure on business innovation, Catalonia promotes technology transfer activities, instrumental to drive research towards the industrial tissue, linking research with innovation. Two examples of this goal and this policy are the chemical and biomedical clusters, and programs such as “Industrial PhDs” and “Knowledge Industry”.

COMPONENTS OF THE CATALAN RESEARCH SYSTEM



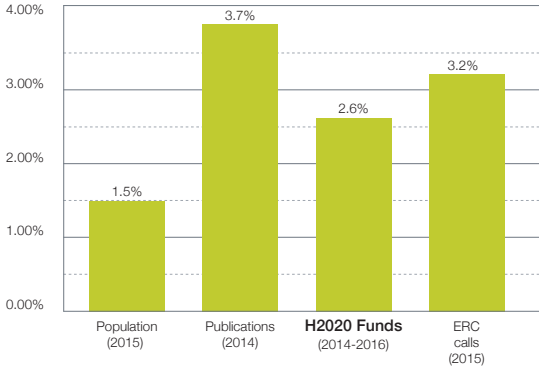
Source: Directorate general for research (2016)



RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION



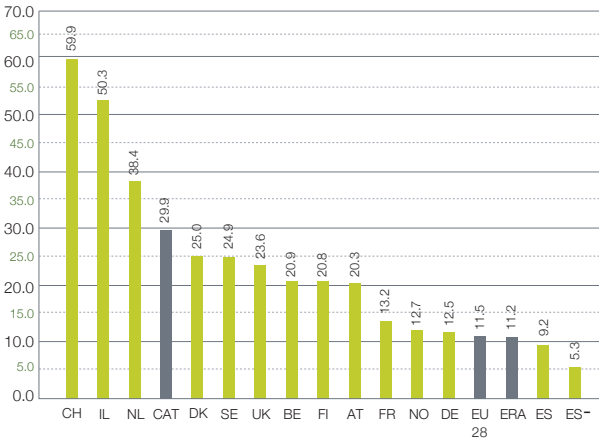
▶ CATALONIA'S CONTRIBUTION WITHIN THE EU



Catalonia's R&D performance indicators achieve from 60% to 130% over the expected per population.

Source: Directorate general for research

▶ ERC GRANTEES 2007-2016 / MILLION INHABITANTS



Source: Directorate general for research (2016)

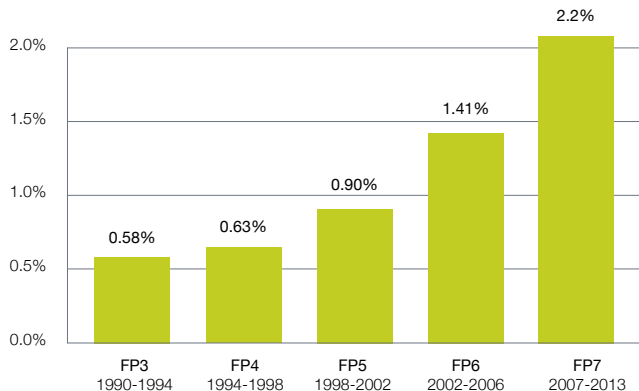
Switzerland (CH), Israel (IL), The Netherlands (NL), Catalonia (CAT), Sweden (SE), United Kingdom (UK), Denmark (DK), Belgium (BE), Finland (FI), Austria (AT), France (FR), Norway (NO), European Union (EU), Germany (DE), European Research Area (ERA), Spain (ES), Spain excluding Catalonia (ES-).



RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION

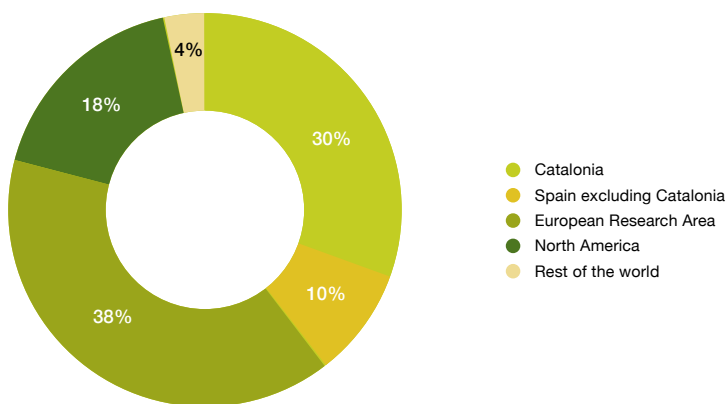


► % OF EU COMPETITIVE FUNDING WITHIN THE EUROPEAN RESEARCH AREA (EU + ASSOCIATED COUNTRIES)



Source: Directorate general for research

► ICREA RESEARCHERS BY PLACE OF ORIGIN



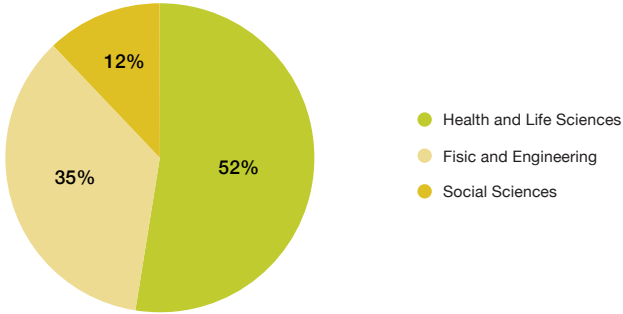
Source: ICREA (2016)



RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION



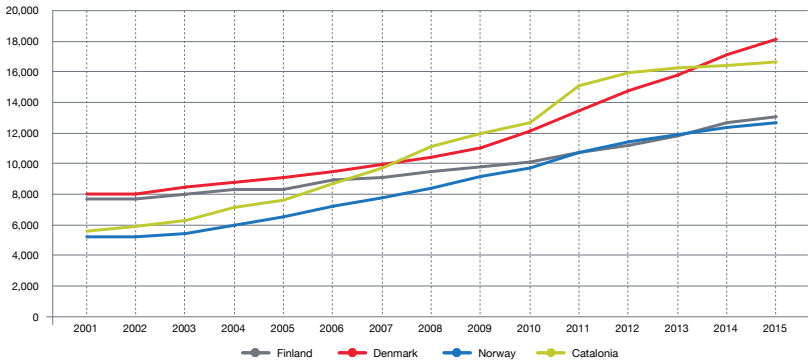
CERCA CENTER RESEARCH AREAS



Source: CERCA Centers (2016)

EVOLUTION IN THE NUMBER OF PUBLICATIONS OF THE SUBSET OF COUNTRIES WITH COMPARABLE DATA

Annual evolution in scientific production 2001-2015



Source: CERCA Centers (2016)



CERCA CENTERS



Catalonia has its own system of research centers, a model that differs to that existing in nearby contexts. Despite the short time since it was established, the **CERCA** network of centers has gained a highly significant weight within Catalonia's R&D system, contributing largely to Catalonia's recognition as a Southern Europe's knowledge hub.

The **CERCA** centers are consolidated research institutions located on university campuses or close to large hospitals. The support of the Government of Catalonia and a firm policy of talent attraction and retention have helped place our region in the European map of research.

These are the **CERCA** centers: eighteen research centers for biomedicine and Health – among which are eight hospital institutes–, nine centers for Experimental Sciences, five for Life Sciences, five for Engineering and Architecture, and five more for Social Sciences and Humanities. All together, the forty-two **CERCA** centers cover all areas of knowledge.

All of them are autonomous research institutions aimed to excellence and internationalization, following an extremely self-demanding, private management model. The centers have

provided Catalonia's R&D system with a significant advantage, allowing us to compete internationally with the leading institutions for the best talent in all fields. In addition, figures confirm that **CERCA** centers are hubs for attracting competitive funding –they are top receivers of European Union research funding and attract twice the economic support allotted by the Government.

When designing the model for these centers the Catalan Government emulated the most prominent centers in Europe, with a large research staff exhibiting an internationalized profile, organized into research groups lead by internationally-renowned scientists and with a high turnover of postdoctoral researchers.

Talent attraction and rigorous scientific advising are the two pillars sustaining this system. With 40% of research personnel coming from abroad, each center has a Scientific Advisory Board comprising independent experts of recognized international prestige, many of whom have been awarded the Nobel Prize. Their job is to periodically evaluate the center to guarantee that the research activity being carried out is in line with international standards.



UNIVERSITIES



STUDY IN CATALONIA

CATALONIA is a cutting-edge cluster and strategic hub of Southern Europe thanks to a highly competitive knowledge economy and a privileged geographic location that opens it up to the world. Its business activity benefits from an excellent university and research system that not only provides industry with well-trained professionals and innovative technology, but also allows it to attract more than half of the foreign money invested in R&D in Spain.

CATALONIA is a land that has produced artists of such international renown as Antoni Gaudí, Joan Miró, Salvador Dalí, Antoni Tàpies, Pau Casals, Mercè Rodoreda, Josep Carreras, Ferran Adrià, Quim Monzó or Montserrat Caballé. It is a talent factory that also attracts excellence from around the world thanks to the warmth of its people, the modernity of its infrastructure and a way of life of exceptional quality, made even better by the Mediterranean environment.

CATALONIA has a leading position in the world, backed by international rankings. Its capital, Barcelona, is the world's first smart city and a model of success to be followed as a sustainable and

innovative city. It has been the home of the Mobile World Congress since 2011, it ranks seventh in the classification of world's most attractive cities for working abroad, and it is the third most desired destination among American students. More than half of its jobs are generated in high-knowledge sectors and it is the fourth city in Europe and the eleventh in international rankings in terms of scientific production. Barcelona is home to two of the world's most prestigious business schools.

CATALONIA is a region with a millennium-old tradition and its own language, Catalan, and autonomous government, the Generalitat, within Spain and the European Union. It has a stable political system—in fact, its Parliament is the oldest in the world (1283)—which promotes economic activity based on knowledge, in which higher education and research are key elements. Catalonia is a worldwide benchmark of excellence in research in areas such as biotechnology, photonics, energy and nanotechnology. Its research in close contact with universities, the principal mission of which is to discover and advance in knowledge that benefits society and brings about economic prosperity.

CATALONIA has an area of approximately 32,000 km² and a population of over seven and a half million inhabitants. A region which bears the mark left by the footsteps of different cultures and a historical heritage recognised by UNESCO.



UNIVERSITIES



Catalonia has **12 universities**—seven public, one online and four private—that offer a wide array of degrees in fields of recognised excellence such as Architecture, Design, Biomedicine, Chemistry, Mathematics and Economics. In addition to their dedication to education and teaching, Catalonia's universities are internationally renowned for their research activity and play a prominent role in innovation and knowledge transfer.

LEADING UNIVERSITIES

The Catalan university system includes universities that occupy privileged positions in all international rankings in terms of research, teaching and scientific production. Catalonia has universities that are ranked among the world's best 25 with more than 400 years of history, but it is also highly placed in global rankings of young universities (those established less than 50 years ago). Barcelona is second in the world in terms of cities with the most universities ranked in the top 50 of young institutions. The Catalan university system has the second highest percentage in Europe of students enrolled at leading universities on world rankings.

MEDIEVAL TRADITION

The origins of the Catalan university system go back to the Middle Ages, to 1300 AD, when the University of Lleida, inspired in the University of Bologna, was founded. In the centuries that followed, the Universities of Barcelona, Girona, Tarragona, Tortosa, Vic and Solsona were also founded. Today's Catalan university system is the product of this medieval tradition, with centres with more than five centuries of history.

EUROPEAN DIMENSION

Catalonia is one of the founding partners in the creation of the European Higher Education Area (**EHEA**), which implements a comparable, compatible system of higher education in European universities. Currently, the Catalan university system fully complies with the EHEA's requirements, providing up-to-date courses that introduce new teaching and learning methods in which the student is the centre of academic activity. All degrees are regulated by a common credit recognition system, the European Credit Transfer System (**ECTS**), which guarantees not only the harmonisation and quality of the courses offered by the institutions that make up the EHEA, but student mobility as well.



UNIVERSITIES



QUALITY SYSTEM

The Catalan University Quality Assurance Agency (**AQU Catalunya**), the first European quality agency to receive **ISO** certification, is the entity responsible for guaranteeing that degrees comply with European quality standards. In addition, it handles the accreditation of faculty and certifies the quality of the Catalan universities and the services they offer the community. AQU Catalunya is internationally recognised by the European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (**ENQA**) and by the International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (**INQAAHE**).

INTERNATIONAL FOCUS

Catalonia provides education of the highest quality, geared towards acquiring knowledge and skills that guarantee successful entry into professional life. Academic syllabi with clear international focus that include degrees taught in collaboration with other universities and with English as the dominant language, and specific programmes to promote mobility abroad

among students, faculty and service staff as well as to attract the university community from around the world to carry out academic stays in Catalonia. A higher education system that is attractive to students from all over the world and which enables graduates to enter a job market without borders.

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED

The Catalan university system has a high rate of satisfaction among students and a high rate of job placement for graduates of its twelve universities. Employment among graduates is 15% higher than the rest of the population between 25 and 54 years of age. Eighty per cent of employed graduates find work within three months of graduation, and 40% complete their studies having already been hired. After three years, 9 out of 10 have stable employment and many of those who have not yet joined the job market have not done so because they are engaged in further studies. Nearly 85% of university students hold a position that is in line with their level of education. Furthermore, if they had to do it over again, 7 out of 10 Catalan university students would choose the same degree course.



UNIVERSITIES



CUTTING-EDGE RESEARCH

Catalonia holds a distinguished position in terms of research. With just 0.1% of the world's population, Catalonia represents 1% of international scientific production. Catalan research is also a leader in attaining European funding for research projects and receives double the European average in grants to researchers of excellence. **ICREA** researchers are the recipients of 45% of European Research Council grants. A system of reference in southern Europe that attracts scientists from around the world. 60% of the researchers working in Catalonia are foreign and the majority come from systems of accredited excellence such as the United States and the United Kingdom. All these factors have made Catalonia a leading scientific hub in southern Europe.

DEMANDING ASSESSMENT

The Catalan research system is periodically submitted to assessments by scientific advisory boards comprising independent experts of recognised international prestige, some of them Nobel Prize winners. The goal of this assessment is to guarantee that the research centres' activities are carried out in accordance with international standards.

CAMPUS OF INTERNATIONAL EXCELLENCE

The intense quality research activity of the Catalan universities has been honoured with the distinction of Campus of Excellence, awarded by the Spanish Government. Nine of the twelve Catalan universities carry this distinction thanks to the research projects they carry out in fields in which Catalonia shines, such as biomedicine, chemistry and energy.

The University of Barcelona (UB) and the Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya. BarcelonaTech (UPC) head the Barcelona Knowledge Campus (BKC), a project to create, in Barcelona, a knowledge ecosystem that favours employment, social cohesion and the economic development of the territory, in three areas of specialisation in particular: the life sciences, the social sciences and technology. Separately, the UB promotes the Health Universitat de Barcelona Campus (HUBc), which brings together four teaching centres and six hospitals in this training, research and knowledge initiative that encompasses all the disciplines of the sciences and health. The UPC is also behind the Energy Campus, the aim of which is to promote a sustainable economy based on the transformation of the energy sector through training, knowledge and innovation.



CAMPUS OF INTERNATIONAL EXCELLENCE

The Campus of International Excellence (CEI) of the Autonomous University of Barcelona (UAB) prioritises nanoscience and biotechnology as strategic lines of research, in partnership with the **ALBA Synchrotron** Light Facility.

The Icaria International Project of Pompeu Fabra University (UPF), in collaboration with the Open University of Catalonia (UOC), promotes the generation of knowledge as a means of improving the well-being of citizens and the social transformation of the city.

The University of Lleida (UdL) takes part in the CEI Campus Iberus, which is structured around the territorial area of the Ebro Valley and specialises in sustainable energy, technology at the service of public health, food and nutrition, and the conservation of cultural heritage.

Ramon Llull University (URL) bears the CEI distinction for its partnership in the Aristos Campus Mundus 2015, the aim of which is to promote academic excellence, teaching and research in the international sphere.

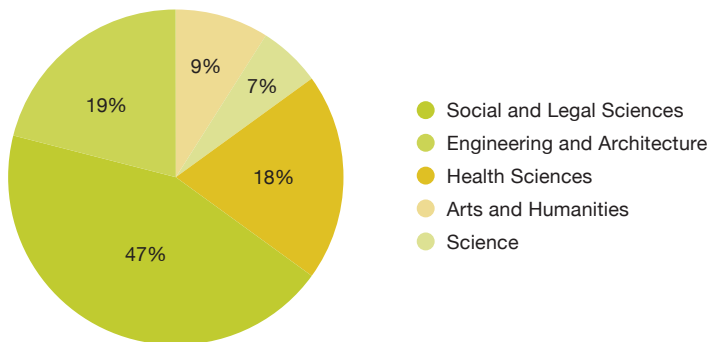
The classification of Rovira i Virgili University (URV) as a Regional European Campus of International Excellence (CEIR) is due to its extensive territorial partnership aimed at bringing international recognition to the regions of Southern Catalonia thanks to a network specialising in five fields: chemistry and energy, nutrition and health, tourism, heritage and culture, and oenology.

The University of Girona (UdG) comprises a CEIR that focuses on tourism and the need to suitably manage the environment and, in particular, water as a basic resource.



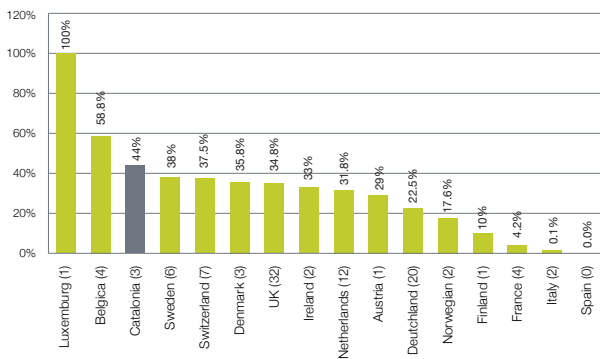


GRADUATES BY BRANCH OF KNOWLEDGE



Source: UNEIX – Directorate general for universities (2016)

PERCENTAGE OF STUDENTS ENROLLED IN EUROPE'S TOP 100 UNIVERSITIES

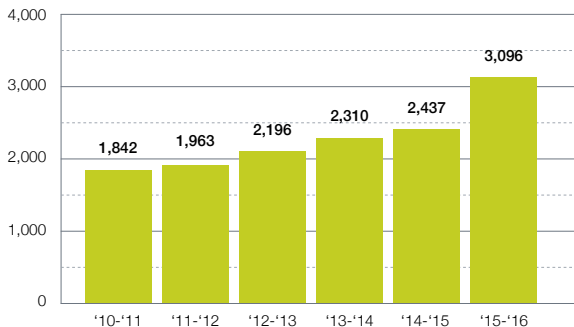


44% of students are enrolled in undergraduate and master top 100 universities in EU, representing 17% young people.

Source: UNEIX – Directorate general for universities (2016)



EVOLUTION OF THESES READ AT CATALAN UNIVERSITIES

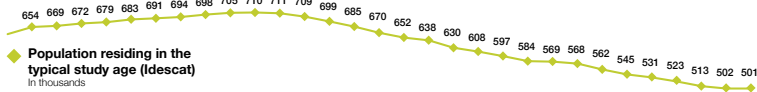


Source:
UNEIX – Directorate
general for universities

EVOLUTION OF POPULATION AGED 18 - 24 AND ON-CAMPUS ENROLLEMENT FIGURES



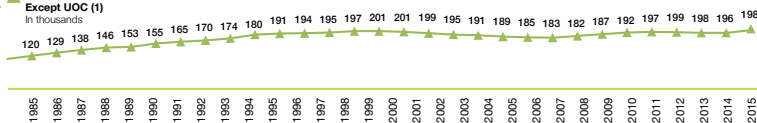
Population residing in the
typical study age (Idescat)
In thousands



Ratio of students / population in study age (%)



Students enrolled
Except UOC (1)
In thousands

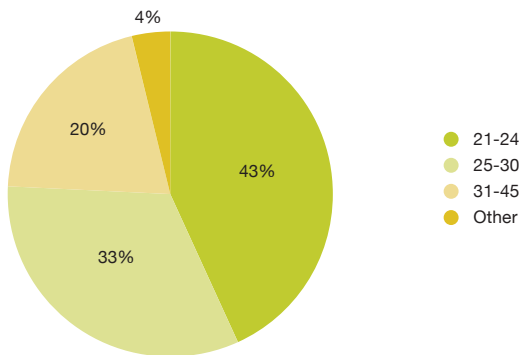


Students enrolled in 2015 represent 2014/15 and so on.

(1) Students in ancient cycles, degrees and masters of the face-to-face universities (public and private).

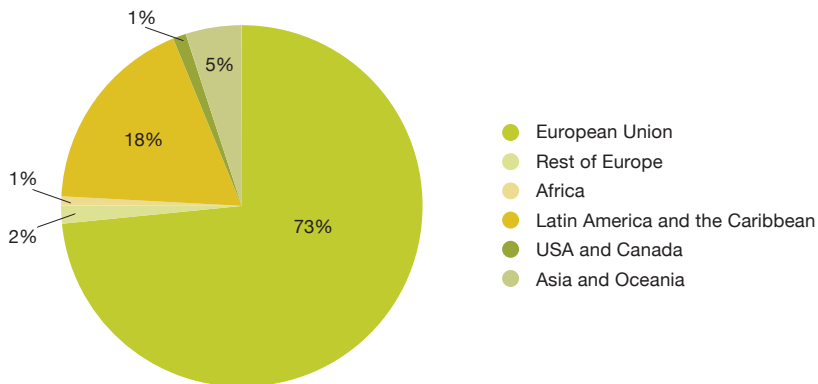


▶ MASTER'S STUDENTS BY AGE



Source: UNEIX – Directorate general for universities (2016)

▶ MASTER'S STUDENTS BY COUNTRY OF ORIGIN



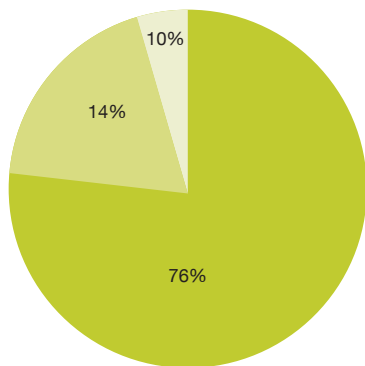
Source: UNEIX – Directorate general for universities (2016)



UNIVERSITIES



▶ THE JOB SEARCH PROCESS. TIME TO FIND EMPLOYMENT



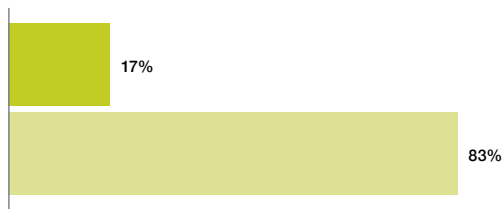
- Less than three months
- Between three months and a year
- More than a year

8 out of 10 found work within three months of graduation. 4 out of 10 were working before completing their studies.

Compared to the 2008 study, this graduating class was employed three times faster.

Source: Catalan University Quality Assurance Agency (AQU Catalunya) - 2016

▶ JOB SUITED TO DEGREE



- Non-University-Level Responsibilities
- University-Level Responsibilities

A university degree was a job requirement for 8 out of 10. The same percentage have university-level responsibilities on the job.

Source: Catalan University Quality Assurance Agency (AQU Catalunya) - 2016



UNIVERSITIES



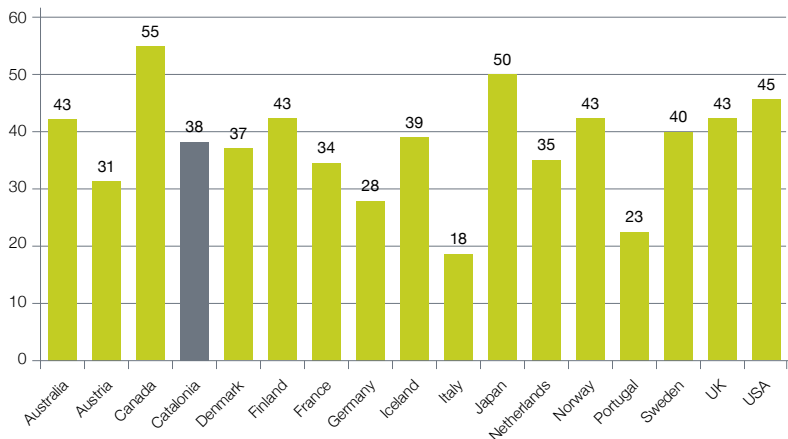
GRADUATES WHO WOULD REPEAT THEIR DEGREE COURSE



7 out of 10 would choose the same degree course if they had to start over again.

Source: Catalan University Quality Assurance Agency (AQU Catalunya) - 2016

PERCENTAGE OF POPULATION AGED 25 - 64 WITH TERTIARY EDUCATION



Source: OCDE and IDESCAT 2016



UB – UNIVERSITY OF BARCELONA

The University of Barcelona (UB) is the leading public university in Catalonia in all the international rankings, with the greatest number of students and the broadest educational offer.

It is also an important research centre, in terms of both the number of national and international projects and the excellence achieved in this area by a large number of professors and researchers.

In addition to constituting a major scientific and humanistic benchmark on an international scale, it is an urban, open, and cosmopolitan university, much like the city of Barcelona itself, with which, and with Catalonia as a whole, it has close historical ties.



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UAB - AUTONOMOUS UNIVERSITY OF BARCELONA

The **Autonomous University of Barcelona (UAB)** is today a leading university that provides quality teaching in a diversified, multidisciplinary and flexible manner.

It is also recognised internationally for the quality and innovative nature of its research. Its main campus is set in natural surroundings of great beauty, with fully equipped infrastructures created exclusively for university life, which revolves around academic, cultural and social activities.

UAB is one of the 150 best universities in the world according to the THE World University Rankings and is recognised as the tenth-best young university in the world by the QS Top 50 Under 50 ranking.



UAB

Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

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UPC – UNIVERSITAT POLITÈCNICA DE CATALUNYA. BARCELONATECH

The Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya. BarcelonaTech (UPC) is a public research and higher education institution specialising in the fields of architecture, engineering, science and technology.

It is a public, international and prestigious university that acts as a driver of economic and social change, especially in connection to innovation and the transfer of its results to the productive fabric.

Its teaching centres, spread over campuses in different cities in the province of Barcelona, have made UPC a benchmark for basic and applied research and for the training of professionals and researchers and have secured its place on the main international rankings.



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UPF – POMPEU FABRA UNIVERSITY

Even though **Pompeu Fabra University (UPF)** is one of the youngest university institutions in Catalonia, it has managed to gain recognition within the European and international system as a benchmark centre in both teaching and research.

The UPF is consolidating this status through the formation of strong ties with its students, the provision of high-quality teaching and the undertaking of research on the international plane, placing it among Southern Europe's leading centres in terms of creation, knowledge transfer and talent attraction.

International rankings recognise UPF as the world's twelfth-best young university (Times Higher Education ranking, 2015) and the ninth-best European university (the European Union's U-Multirank, 2015).



upf.

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URL - RAMON LLULL UNIVERSITY

Ramon Lull University (URL) is a private not-for-profit university, inspired by humanism and Christianity and whose aim is to provide a quality education focused on the individual that helps students in discovering the specific answers to society's needs.

Its stands out thanks to its educational model based on fully integrated teaching, implemented through the establishment of small work groups, problem-solving and personal laboratory work, which permits a close relationship with the teachers and a direct vision of the problems associated with each field.



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UDL - UNIVERSITY OF LLEIDA

The University of Lleida (UdL) combines a long and fruitful university tradition with a young and dynamic structure that is firmly dedicated to quality education and research, advanced teaching methods and internationalisation.

The UdL enjoys an important position not only for its agronomic and forestry programmes, but also the courses of study it offers in other branches of knowledge.

With a campus model that is spread out throughout the city of Lleida, the UdL contributes to the dissemination, quality and diversification of the cultural offer in the territory.



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The **University of Girona (UdG)** is a public institution that strives for excellence in teaching and research and participates in the progress and development of society through the creation, transmission, dissemination and criticism of science, technology, health sciences, humanities, social sciences and the arts.

Rooted in the Catalan country and culture, the UdG is one of the main economic and cultural driving forces in its environment, inspired by universality and openness in all its traditions, advances and cultures.

As a member of the Pyrenees-Mediterranean Cross-Border Higher Education and Research Hub (PRES-PM) and of the Euro-Mediterranean Tourism and Water Campus (Campus e-MTA), it fosters cross-border cooperation and is becoming established as a benchmark university in the Mediterranean region.



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URV - ROVIRA I VIRGILI UNIVERSITY

Rovira i Virgili University (URV) is the university of southern Catalonia.

It is dedicated to generating knowledge and placing it at the service of society in order to contribute to human, social and economic progress and foster responsible and sustainable development.

Its aim is for people to make the most of their efforts to learn and acquire skills as responsible, free citizens, who are capable in their profession and with prospects for the future.



UNIVERSITAT
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UVIC - UCC UNIVERSITY OF VIC CENTRAL UNIVERSITY OF CATALONIA

The University of Vic - Central University of Catalonia, which was created as part of a citizen and territorial initiative, aims to continue a university tradition that dates back to the Middle Ages.

It is a privately-managed public body that operates as a public service in the areas of teaching, research and the transfer of knowledge arising from the fields in which it works.

Its mission is to be a driver of knowledge and innovation within its territory and on an international scale. Its focus on students and their overall education incorporates the values of individual creativity, professional rigour and social commitment.

UVic-UCC is fully committed to its environment and to the cultural, social and economic progress of Catalonia.



UNIVERSITAT DE VIC
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The UOC is an innovative university, located in Catalonia and open to the world, which provides people with lifelong learning, contributing to both their and society's progress, while conducting research into the knowledge society.

Its educational model is based on the concepts of customisation and e-learning. Given that it is connected to the rest of the world's universities, it is a university that fosters the construction of a global space for knowledge and frontier research within the knowledge society.

It provides an innovative educational model that focuses on the student, offering high-quality customised education to foster competitiveness and contribute to society's progress.



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UIC - INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF CATALONIA

The International University of Catalonia (UIC), or UIC Barcelona, is a private centre that offers customised university education with an emphasis on professional development.

This personal approach guarantees a low number of students per course and small class sizes. UIC Barcelona focuses education on the student's professional career, providing the tools necessary to meet the challenges of modern society.

Relating professions with the business world allows students to benefit from high-quality work experience programmes that serve as springboards for their careers.



UIC
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UAO – ABAT OLIBA UNIVERSITY CEU

Abat Oliba University CEU (UAO) is an institution inspired by Christian principles and based on the ideas of the Catholic Association of Propagandists and the Magisterium of the Catholic Church. The university is an academic community dedicated to research, teaching and the comprehensive education of the students.

Achieving these objectives implies, first of all, a personal relationship between the teacher and student, with particular emphasis on guided tutorials to provide academic and professional orientation for students.

Research at Abat Oliba University CEU is based around the Humanities and Social Sciences. UAO's most relevant lines of research are work in the field of solidarity economics and studies on the concept of personal identity and the current situation of depersonalization in our society.



*Universitat
Abat Oliba CEU*

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▶ ADDRESSES AND WEBSITES OF INTEREST

- Generalitat de Catalunya. Government of Catalonia
www.gencat.cat
- Study in Catalonia
www.studyincatalonia.com
- Agency for Management of University and Research Grants (AGAUR)
www.gencat.cat/agaur
- CERCA Institute
<http://cerca.cat/en>
- Catalan Institute for Research and Advanced Studies (ICREA)
<http://www.icrea.cat>

- Catalan University Quality Assurance Agency (AQU Catalunya)
www.aqu.cat
- European Commission
<http://ec.europa.eu>
- Statistical Institute of Catalonia
<http://www.idescat.cat/en>
- Eurostat
<http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu>
- Parliaments and Civil Society in Technology Assessment (PACITA)
<http://www.pacitaproject.eu>

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