



Why Spain for the

ICT Industry?

Information & Communications Technology propels economic development and modern knowledge-based societies. The digital economy is at the core of the Spanish Government economic growth and sustainability strategy, in line with the European Union. Spain's RRP (Recovery and Resilience Plan) is one of the largest and most ambitious on digital, devoting 28.2% of the total allocation to digital (€19.6 billion).

A mature market:

- \cdot With over 38,209 (+0.4%) domestic and international ICT companies.
- · Directly employing 636,326 people (+10%).
- €122 billion in revenue in 2022 (22.6% of GDP).
- · Technology and business activities related to ICT industry extend beyond its borders through services exports (4% of the domestic total).
- A growing industry, Spain ranks first among large European economies in very high-capacity network coverage: 93% of individuals have access to very high-capacity fixed networks (more than 100 Mbps), 20 points higher than the EU average, according to the DESI Indicators 2023 (EU Report on the state of the Digital Decade).



Facts & Figures



Market size and maturity

Over 48 million consumers and over 45 million Internet users (mobile penetration rate of 122.7%).



Leader in ICT infrastructure

Spain boasts:

- · The largest FTTH network in the European Union (3rd in OECD).
- 93% of high-speed internet connections of 100 Mbps (1st in Europe) and 82.3% 5G technology coverage.
- · Over 58 million mobile lines.
- 172,000 mobile telecommunications stations.
- The Spanish Supercomputer Network hosts supercomputer MareNostrum 4, the 3rd more powerful in Europe and 13th worldwide.
- · A strategic node for undersea cables, an extensive network connects Spain to Europe. Africa and the American continent.
- · RedIRIS: a high-capacity optics network that connects research centres in Spain with international academic networks.



Launchpad

Spain's geostrategic location and cultural ties make it an ideal springboard to a market of **1.5 billion consumers:**

- · European Union (448 million).
- · MENA countries (463 million).
- · LATAM countries (660 million).



Highly skilled talent at a moderate cost

64% of the population with basic digital skills (compared to 54% in the European Union) and **38% with above basic skills** (compared to 26% in the EU).

4th in the E.U in terms of advanced digital skills.

50.5% of the population between the ages of 25 and 34 have **higher-education qualifications.**

23.2% are graduates with STEM degrees (above the average for Europe at 21%).

Labour costs below those of other neighbouring countries and the European average.

The broad network of Spanish universities and vocational training schools offer ICT degrees and regulated studies all along the Spanish territory. Companies closely collaborate with universities fostering digital skills related training courses. Additionally, business schools and coding schools add up to the training available offer.



Institutional support and innovation

The ICT industry is a core priority for European and Spanish institutions: EU's Digital Strategy and Digital Spain 2026 place digitalization at the centre of economy development.

PERTE CHIP is the the Strategic Project launched by the Spanish Government with a budget of €12.25
billion. It aims to boost the value chain of the Spanish
microelectronics and semiconductor industry.

Support for the deployment of infrastructure: next-generation broadband and 5G technology (National 5G Observatory).

43 technology centres and 51 science parks take part in the management of public/private funds to finance R&D&I projects and promote collaboration with business.

A very **attractive tax incentives** framework for R&D&I investment.



Investment opportunities

Clear bet of the Spanish Government for the enabling technologies: Semiconductors, Al, ML, big data, 3D printing, cybersecurity, IoT, quantic computing, etc. applied to all driving sectors of economy, thus fostering projects in Industry 4.0, Green Tech, Health Tech, Connected Vehicle or Smart Tourism.

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