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# | EXTRACTO |

El presente informe contiene los datos estadísticos registrados por las Fuerzas y Cuerpos de Seguridad del Estado y las Comunidades Autónomas en España, a fecha 31 de diciembre de 2018. Las cifras que se publican en este documento se extraen de la base de datos Personas Desaparecidas y Restos Humanos sin identificar (PDyRH), así como del Sistema Estadístico de Criminalidad (SEC).

Se trata de un informe de periodicidad anual emitido por el Centro Nacional de Desaparecidos de la Secretaría de Estado de Seguridad (Ministerio del Interior). Con esta publicación lo que se trata es de exponer una comparativa de los datos registrados a lo largo de los años relativos a personas desaparecidas, analizándolos atendiendo a diferentes parámetros e indicadores. De ahí, que se incluyan datos de desapariciones desagregados según la cifra total de denuncias interpuestas por desaparición, distinguiendo las que permanecen activas, es decir, sin resolver, y las que han sido cesada; el sexo; la nacionalidad; nivel de riesgo; or la edad, entre otros.

De los datos del informe se desprende que las mejoras realizadas por los Cuerpos policiales en este campo han posibilitado aumentar los casos de identificación y localización de personas desaparecidas en España.

### PALABRAS CLAVE

Persona desaparecida, datos estadísticos, Fuerzas y Cuerpos de Seguridad, nivel de riesgo, denuncia

### ABSTRACT

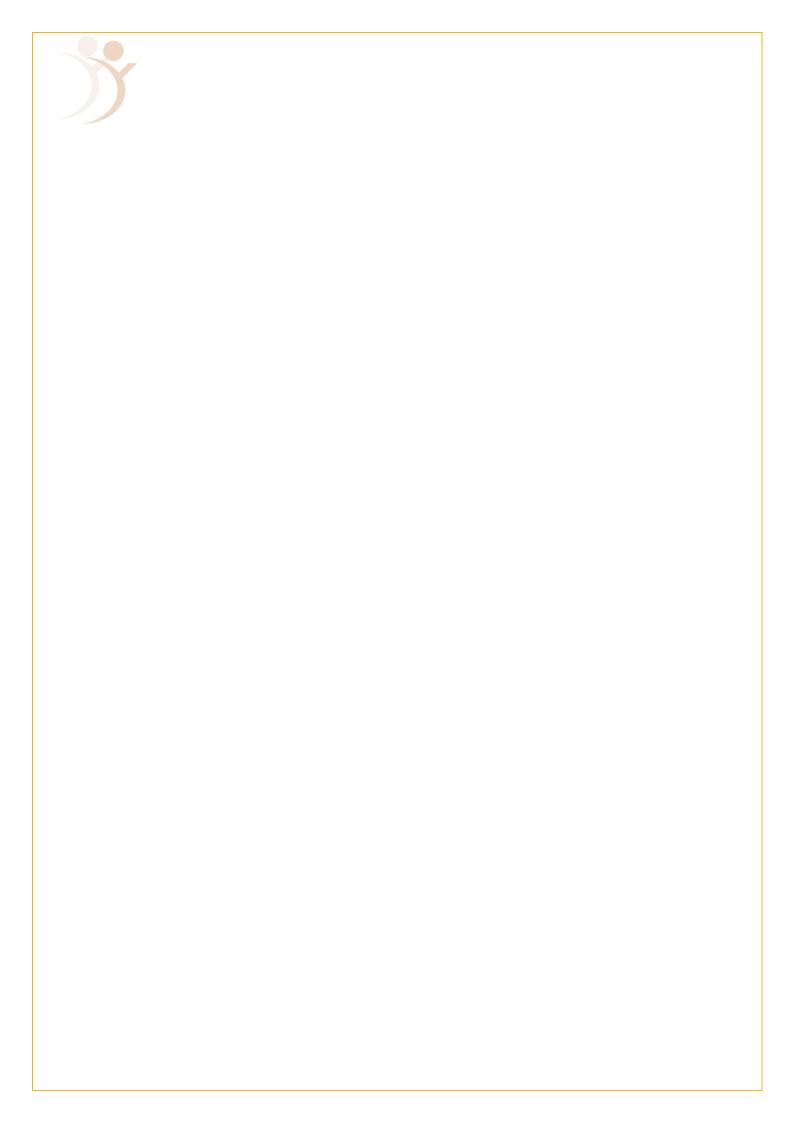
This report contains the statistical data recorded by the Spanish State Law Enforcement Agencies and Spanish Regional Governments to 31 December 2018. The figures published here are taken from the Missing Persons and Unidentified Individuals and Human Remains Data Base (PDyRH) and from the Crime Statistical System (SEC).

This is an annual report, issued by the National Missing Persons Centre in the Ministry of the Interior's State Secretariat for Security. It is designed to present a comparison by year of the data registered in connection with missing individuals, analysing them according to different parameters and indicators. Hence, disaggregated data on disappearances are included based on the total number of cases opened concerning disappearances (sex, nationality, risk level or age, among others), differentiating those that remain open and so unresolved, and those that have been closed.

The data in the report show that the improvements made by the Police Forces in this field have made it possible to enhance the identification and localisation of missing persons in Spain.

### KEY WORDS

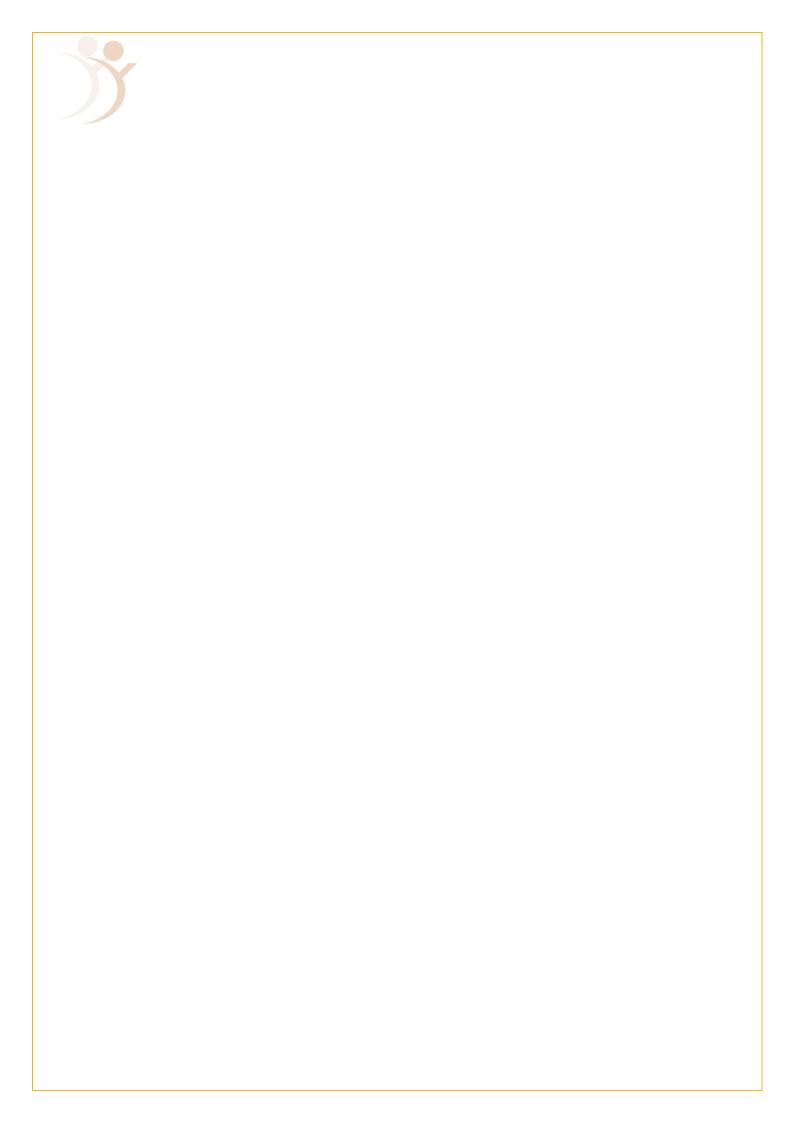
Missing person, statistical data, Law Enforcement Agencies, risk level, case





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# 1 INTRODUCTION

The creation of the National Missing Persons Centre (CNDES) was announced on 7 March 2017 with the presentation of the *First statistical report on the situation of missing persons in Spain* drawn up by the State Secretariat for Security. Royal Decree No. 770/2017 of 28 July enabling the basic organic structure of the Ministry of the Interior included this body within the State Secretariat for Security, in the Coordination and Studies Office.

It was however Instruction No. 2/2018 of 5 February which regulated the creation of the National Missing Persons Centre as the centralised management body for effectively and permanently coordinating the missing persons system used by the Law Enforcement Agencies (henceforth the PDyRH system), defining among other things its missions and functions.

The CNDES has in this context also assumed responsibility for coordinating the State Secretariat and its dependent bodies in exchanging and distributing information, for coordinating Security Forces' training in the field and for establishing general protocols for action.

The need to initiate and make room for such a Centre is seen among other things in an objective factor, such as the figures for disappearances recorded by Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs). In Spain, every year, between 20,000 and 30,000 persons are listed as missing. Even so, it must be pointed out that, notwithstanding this significant number of known cases, the figure is lower when compared with other countries around us, such as the United Kingdom, where there are approximately 250,000 cases in this field every year.

Publication of statistical reports, specifically the third of them this year, makes clear the need to establish quality audits allowing the true situation concerning missing persons in this country to be clarified and made known. Such statistical studies must be complemented with various other analyses to provide a deeper understanding of specific aspects, and to acquire information which is useful for the actions to be taken in the face of disappearances, not just in terms of preventing them but also once they have occurred.

But moreover, another of the major pillars sustaining the CNDES is the provision of support and care for families and those close to missing persons. This activity is frequently channelled through and with the intervention of agents from the third social sector, and in many other cases directly, with the creation of an uninterrupted, open channel to the communication society enabling anyone to make unimpaired contact and make their needs and concerns known to the National Missing Persons Centre.

The path followed by the CNDES, and the experience it has acquired while in operation have made it possible to create a stable and regular framework in which to focus relations with the most representative associations in the sector (the ANAR Foundation, Inter-SOS, QSD Global, and SOS Desaparecidos) and others more recently created (AFADECOR, AFADES, NUN HAGO ELKARTEA and the Association for missing persons without apparent cause Non, NORK DAKI NON). This framework, in the form of periodic meetings, has led to enhanced mutual trust and has, in particular, publicised the work being done on disappearances by the National Missing Persons Centre and Law Enforcement Agencies.

On the other hand, there has in recent months been an increasing demand in various sectors for the CNDES to be involved, not just from the missing persons associations themselves with activities, congresses and specialised courses, the presentation of papers, exchange of information or assistance for missing persons' family members, but also in other specialised national and international forums.

In this last case, mention may be made of the Centre's presence at meetings called by international organisations as with Amber Alert Europe or the European Police Expert Network on Missing Children Forum.

In addition at the international level, the CNDES has signed two conventions:

• A Memorandum of Understanding with AMBER EUROPE. Amber Alert Europe is a not-for-profit international organisation of representatives from various Public Administrations, Law Enforcement Agencies and Non-Governmental Organisations. Intended to protect missing children, the association has the backing of the European Parliament. Amber Alert Europe's objective is to encourage liaison between its members and cross-border coordination to ensure a swift and efficient distribution of missing children alerts issued in Europe. In this context, Amber Alert Europe provides member countries of the network with advice and training in the protection of children.

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• Memorandum of Understanding with the Global Missing Children Network (GMCN). The Global Missing Children Network (GMCN) was created in 1998 as a joint programme between the National Centre for Missing & Exploited Children and the International Centre for Missing & Exploited Children (ICMEC). The aim is to facilitate and streamline the search by distributing photos of children. The network's objective is to raise awareness of the problem of missing children, offering its members access to other international professionals and experts in the field, with a platform for sharing good practice, experience and training.

Similarly, the Centre has held a number of encounters on missing persons at its headquarters, including particularly:

- Seminar on disappearances caused by sects, 7 March 2018. The seminar heard speakers from families of missing persons captured by sects, with explanations of the circumstances of the disappearance and the consequences for the victims following their release, raising awareness of this extremely worrying matter. Representatives of Units specialised in sects from the Law Enforcement Agencies also spoke, and those from organisations caring for missing persons, and from the National Missing Persons Centre itself. Moreover, a member of the Supreme Court's Prosecutor's Office was present, with a paper describing the judicial point of view of this problem.
- GMCN International Conference: The GMCN (created jointly by the National Centre for Missing & Exploited Children and the International Centre for Missing & Exploited Children) holds an annual meeting to strengthen the network for collaboration and to share the latest developments in the field. Thus in 2018 Spain was selected as the site for the Annual Conference held from 26-30 November in Casa Árabe in Córdoba.
- Training seminars on Re-establishing Family Contact, 18 and 19 October, organised by the Spanish Red Cross. The CNDES took part in the round table on Missing persons in the migratory journey. Treatment of remains.

Furthermore, associations representing missing persons' families regularly seek the support of the National Missing Persons Centre, to hold seminars and sessions in this field, for example:

• First encounter of families of missing persons from the National Missing Persons Centre as part of the Second National Forum of the Families of Missing Persons, convened by QSDGlobal.



- Presentation of the Land Search and Rescue Manual drawn up by the Association SOSDesaparecidos with the participation of representatives from the Navarra Firefighters' Service and the Andalusia Emergencies Group.
- **First Seminar on the location of missing persons** organised by the CNDES along with *SOSDesaparecidos* and the Private Detectives Association APDPE.

There have also been many cases where, at the request of representative organisations or missing persons' families, various steps have been taken, nationally and beyond our borders, to try to speed up procedures such as the delivery of documents to authorities overseas, intermediation with police units and the notification of developments to consular authorities and embassies.

In addition, the Centre also promotes Conventions and Agreements with public and private institutions, to enhance the care of families and action taken when missing persons disappear.

The following are the main figures on disappearances known to Law Enforcement Agencies. This document provides a greater range of data than in the two reports published in recent years, particularly in relation to children, the nationality and the sex of those missing.

# **2** EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The data in this report have been gathered by Law Enforcement Agencies over recent years, in work that sometimes goes unacknowledged and which however is most necessary for an understanding which is closer to and as precise as possible concerning the reality of a phenomenon like that of missing persons in Spain. This is all done with the clear aim of securing the most comprehensive knowledge possible, to get to the bottom of the reality being analysed and the consequent adoption of public security measures and policies that are in line with that reality.

In writing this report, account has been taken of data registered by the State and Regional Communities Law Enforcement Agencies in the *Missing Persons and Unidentified Human Remains* system *(PDyRH)* to 31 December 2018. Other data sources have been used, such as those related to the abduction of children, drawing on the information contained in the Crime Statistical System (SEC).

The following are the most relevant data, as a summary, in connection with this second *Report on Missing Persons in Spain*:

- To 31 December 2018, the PDyRH system recorded a total of 176,063 cases of missing persons.
- Of all these, it must be made clear that **12,330** remain open, where the matter has not been resolved and the situation and status of the missing person is not known, accounting for **7%** of all the reports registered.
- If the computation of the percentage of cases that remain open is placed in relation to the period into which they fall, i.e. the actual year of the report, it is seen that the mean is around 2% except in the last two years, 2017 (close to 9%) and 2018 (more than 24%).
- For the data classifying cases according to risk level as confirmed by the Law Enforcement Agencies, of the 12,330 cases open in the PDyRH system, 271 or 2.19% are considered high-risk (confirmed and unconfirmed), so that the remaining nearly 98% are classified within the cases of limited risk.
- More than 58% of overall disappearances (176,063) registered in the PDyRH refer to men, and about 42% to women. At the same time, it is seen that of the cases that remain pending, the figure for men is far greater than that for women.



As to the **territorial distribution** of all **cases (176,063)**, **Andalusia and Catalonia** are the Autonomous Communities with most while, at the provincial level, **Madrid and Barcelona** together account for the largest number of disappearances.

- If children are considered, taking as reference the age at the moment of the disappearance, of all reports (176,063), according to the data more than 66% of the total of cases registered, specifically 117,311 in number, fall within this age group.
- Of current cases (12,330), 6,534 refer to minors (current age), 53% of the total. On the other hand, interpreting the status of minor according to age at the time of disappearance, brings 9,737 cases (nearly 79% of those still pending) into this age group.
- In the field of minors (with the reference of what would be the current age of the missing persons), confirmed current high-risk cases (12) represent just 5.33% of all the cases classified at this level (225 in total). However, applying the age of missing minors at the time of the disappearance, (20 confirmed high-risk cases) takes this figure to 8.88%.
- Moreover, most of the current cases concerning the disappearance of children (current age) relate to foreign citizens (95.79%), (with just 519 of the 12,330 still open referring to Spanish children). Nonetheless, on the basis of the age at the time of the disappearance, this figure rises slightly, to 773 cases.
- Of all the current cases of disappearance entered in the PDyRH system, a majority are concentrated among foreign missing persons from Morocco (61%).
- On the other hand, of the 9,737 active cases involving children (taking their age on the date of the disappearance), at least 5,084 refer to minors who have absconded from reception centres<sup>1</sup>, amounting to more than 52%.
- The great majority of cases open on children (9,737), **8,361** were filed in the last two years, 2017 and 2018, representing **85%** of the total.
- Cases of persons in the 13-17 year age group represent the highest figure for disappearances that remain open and, within that, foreign male children.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>This figure may well be considerably higher, but this information has not been included in the PDyRH. The figure may also vary significantly in the coming years thanks to the enhanced quality of the data in the application.

## STATISTICAL DATA ON MISSING PERSONS IN SPAIN

### **K** 3.1 The main figures

The data set out below reflect the result of study and analysis of the information entered in the *Missing Persons and Unidentified Human Remains (PDyRH)* data base in the State Secretariat for Security (SES). This information is incorporated into the PDyRH system by Law Enforcement Agencies throughout the country, i.e. the State and Regional Government Law Enforcement Agencies.

As a point of departure and taking account of the information registered in the PDyRH data base, on **31 December 2018** there were a total of **12,330** cases open concerning missing persons in Spain.

When a person is located or their situation is known to the Law Enforcement Agencies, immediately and as a consequence of these facts, the existing files opened in the data bases and systems managed by police personnel are closed. The same thing happens, a cessation, when all the specific operations and analyses have been completed which are intended to link human remains with the identity of a missing person.

Thus, by way of summary, since data have been recorded in the PDyRH data base, a total of **163,733** procedures have been terminated as a result of the associated cases filed on missing persons in this country, accounting for **93%** of all those registered by the Law Enforcement Agencies.

At the same time, it seems worth pointing out that, in each year, members of the Law Enforcement Agencies assign closures not specifically and exclusively related to cases reported and activated during that year but which may rather refer to cases of missing persons made known beforehand and so entered in the PDyRH prior to that year. In other words if a case from 2016, registered in that year, was closed in 2017, the closure is counted, for statistical purposes, in 2016.

Table 1 shows the distribution in time of the data on files open and closed, and entered in the PDyRH:

	OPEN	CLOSED	TOTAL	% OPEN	% CLOSED
PRE-2010	852	328	1,180	72.20%	27.80%
2010	99	3,087	3,186	3.11%	96.89%
2011	191	7,557	7,748	2.47%	97.53%
2012	269	19,948	20,217	1.33%	98.67%
2013	259	19,252	19,511	1.33%	98.67%
2014	342	22,275	22,617	1.51%	98.49%
2015	355	25,059	25,414	1.40%	98.60%
2016	587	20,984	21,571	2.72%	97.28%
2017	2,193	22,686	24,879	8.81%	91.19%
2018	7,183	22,557	29,740	24.15%	75.85%
TOTAL	12,330	163,733	176,063	7.00%	93.00%

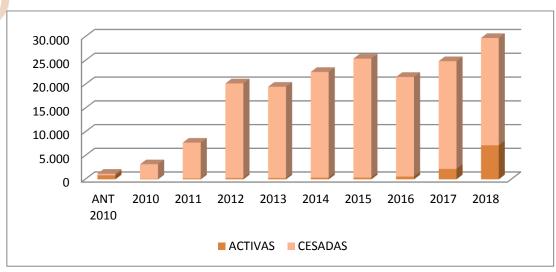
Table 1. Law Enforcement Agency missing person files, open and closed.

Source: PDyRH

Of the total of **176,063** cases registered in the PDyRH, just **7**% remain current.

If on the other hand we analyse the percentage of open cases counted year by year, we see that the average for the years prior to the last two taken into account is about 2%. In those last two years, the average of open cases rose, but review of the data published in the 2017 Ministry of the Interior Report on Missing Persons shows that in that year (2017) a total of 2,928 cases were registered and open, 33.5% more than those in the PDyRH data base for that year (see table). A total of 2,193 cases remain open at this time.

Thus this phenomenon will be observed alongside the data for the latest period included in publications published by the Ministry of the Interior and related to the data in the PDyRH.



Graph 1: Tendencies in cases in the PDyRH and the percentage of cases open.

Source: PDyRH

According to the data observed, and shown in Graph 1, the percentage of open cases of the total registered in the PDyRH – excluding those prior to 2010 – ranges between 24.15% in 2018 and 1.33% in 2012 and 2013.

It must be made clear that these figures may vary from year to year and as cases of missing persons are resolved by the Law Enforcement Agencies.

On the other hand, the data taken from the PDyRH system concerning the total cases of missing persons still open shows how their distribution in time has increased year by year, that this increase has been more marked in recent years and, most significantly, from 2017.

Thus it can be determined that the increase in the figures in the PDyRH data base in recent years is due largely to a variety of circumstances:

• Analysis of the figures registered and specifically of cases of missing persons still current in the *Missing Persons and Unidentified Human Remains (PDyRH)* system, amounting to 12,330, reveals a 103.4% increase over the data published on 7 March 2018 (6,053). This is the result in part of the fact that the Law Enforcement Agencies are posting files that remain open from the time prior to the implementation of the data base in 2010, and integrated into the final total count. In all, 852 cases of missing persons from years prior to 2010 are still open, a 13.9% increase in those recorded in 2018 compared with the pre-2010 data in the PDyRH which were published in the 2018 report.

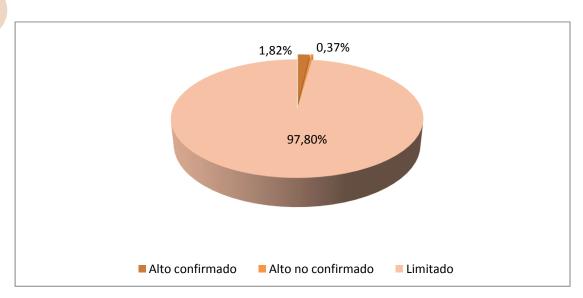
- On the other hand, it must also be pointed out that, as explained in the section on Methodology, the *System of Missing persons and Unidentified Human Remains (PDyRH)* came on line in 2010, progressively taken up by the various police corps until, in 2012, the system became fully operative for them all (national and regional). Therefore, as the PDyRH data base continues to operate longer, there will be further accumulation and the total number of cases still open will increase. Therefore, and following this logical reasoning, the total of cases open will always be higher than figures published in previous years and so must be analysed with care.
- Finally, mention may be made of a third element, perhaps the most relevant, namely the increase in files on missing children who have absconded from reception facilities, and who include unaccompanied foreign minors (MENAS).
   This aspect is the subject of a detailed analysis in a specific section of this report.

It may also be pointed out that the resolution of cases and the location of missing persons means that the figures will fall with the passage of time, so that the most recent disappearances are the ones representing a higher percentage than those that do still remain open.

	High-risk, confirmed	High-risk, unconfirmed	Limited	Total
PRE-2010	51	13	788	852
2010	12	2	85	99
2011	25	3	163	191
2012	20		249	269
2013	17		242	259
2014	28	1	313	342
2015	10	1	344	355
2016	15		572	587
2017	21	3	2,169	2,193
2018	26	23	7,134	7,183
Total	225	46	12,059	12,330

Table 2. Cases of missing persons open, by type (high- and limited risk).

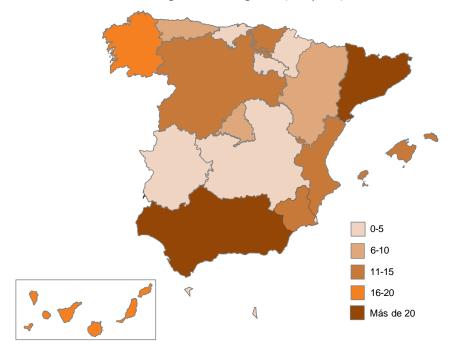
Source: PDyRH.



Graph 2: Estimated risk percentage of open cases. Source: PDyRH.

Analysis of the overall data on Table 2 and in Graph 2 leads to the conclusion that most current cases come into the category of limited risk (97.8%), so reducing the number of high-risk cases on 31 December 2018 (both confirmed and unconfirmed) to 271.

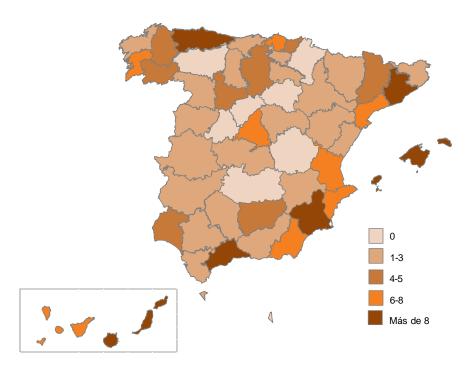
According to the territorial distribution of open files classified at the level of high risk, the Autonomous Communities of **Catalonia**, **Andalusia**, **Canary Islands** and **Galicia** are seen to be those where the figures are highest (Graph 3).



Graph 3. Data on current high-risk cases of missing persons, by Autonomous Community.

Source: PDyRH.

For their part, **Barcelona**, **Las Palmas**, **the Balearic Islands**, **Murcia and Málaga** are the provinces with the highest figures for known cases of the disappearance of persons classified in the high-risk category (Graph 4).



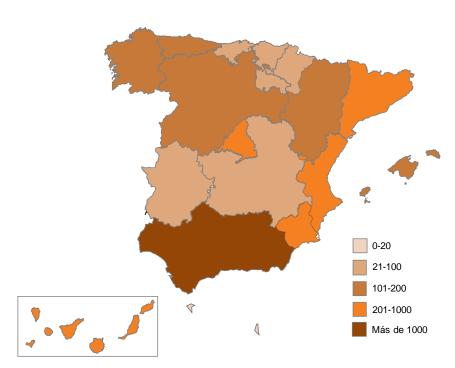
Graph 4. Data on current high-risk cases of missing persons, by province.

Source: PDyRH.

Furthermore, analysis of the data in the PDyRH base makes it possible to classify the information into a number of statistical variables such as the presentation of data on cases filed with the Law Enforcement Agencies broken down according to territorial distribution (Autonomous Community and Province). See further information on this aspect in the Appendix.

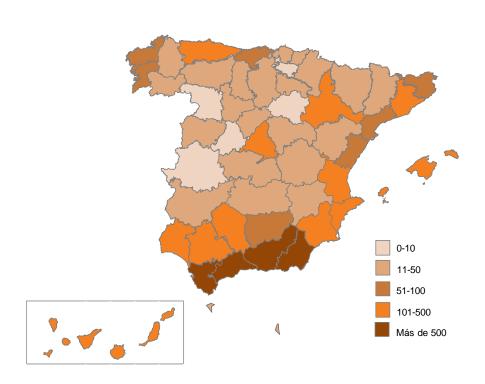
Thus, according to the data shown in Graph 5, the Autonomous Communities with the highest number of cases open on missing persons (including all current risk levels) are Andalusia, Catalonia, Murcia and Canarias while, of the provinces, Cadiz and Granada have the highest number of disappearances (Graph 6).





Graph 5. Data on current cases of missing persons, by Autonomous Community, all risk levels.

Source: PDyRH.



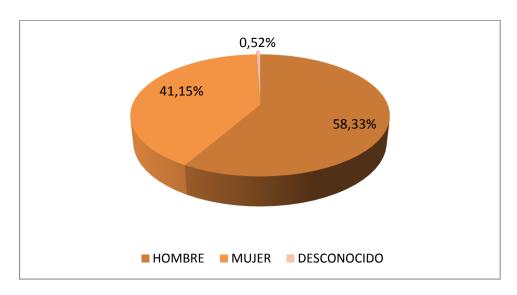
Graph 6. Data on missing persons cases open, by province, all risk levels.

Source: PDyRH.

The PDyRH data on missing persons reveal that **58%** concern men and **41%** involve women. (Table 3 and Graph 7).

	OPEN	CLOSED	TOTAL
MEN	10,877	91,812	102,689
WOMEN	1,296	71,157	72,453
UNKNOWN	157	764	921
TOTAL	12,330	163,733	176,063

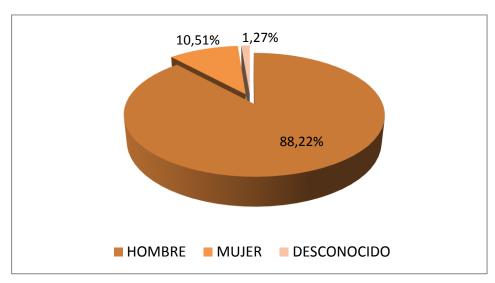
Table 3. Cases of missing persons by sex.
Source: PDyRH.



Graph 7: Distribution by sex of all cases registered.
Source: PDyRH.

On the other hand, of cases currently open, missing males account for a higher percentage at all existing risk levels (high-risk confirmed, high-risk unconfirmed, and limited). (Table 4 and Graph 8).





Graph 8: Distribution by sex of all open cases registered.

Source: PDyRH.

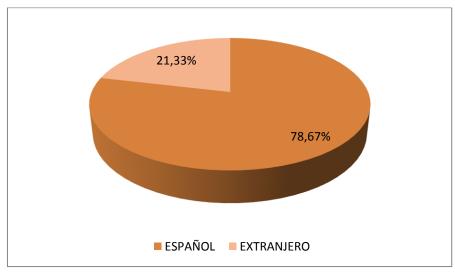
	High-risk, confirmed	High-risk, unconfirmed	Limited
MEN	1.27%	0.21%	87.87%
WOMEN	0.44%	0.16%	10.4%

Table 4. Percentage of open cases of missing persons, by risk and sex.

Source: PDyRH.

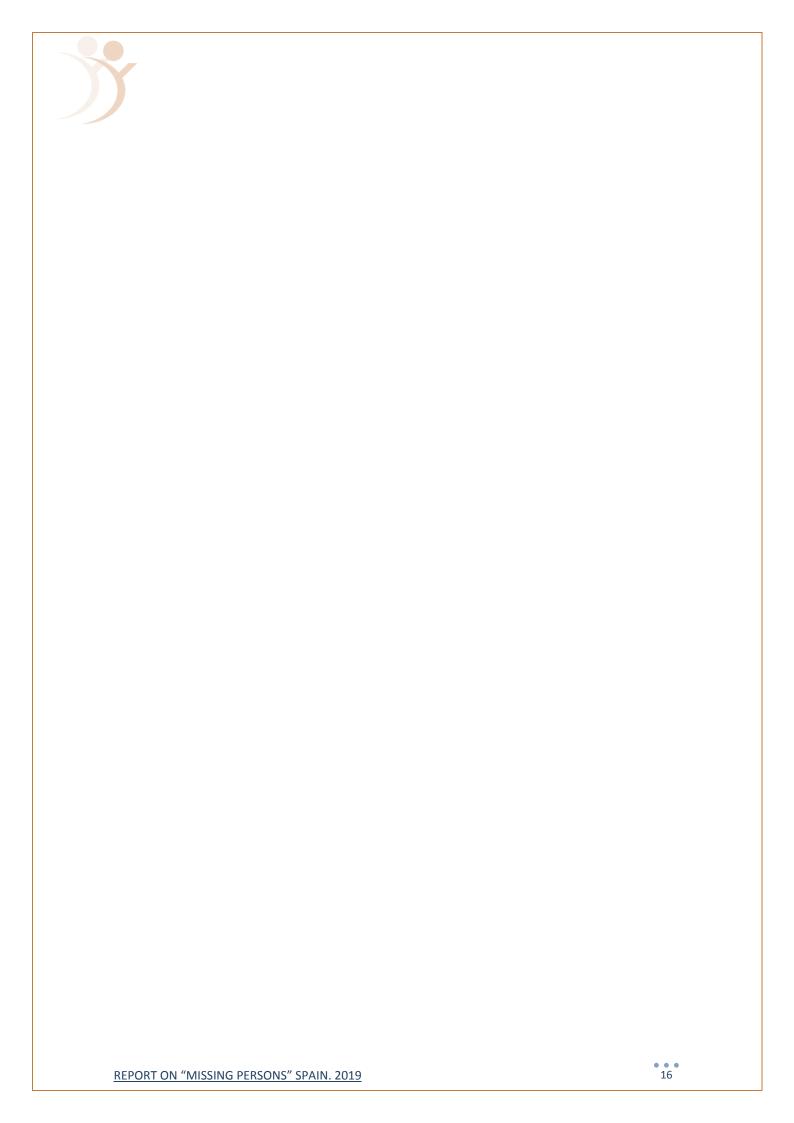
Finally, the data on files concerning missing persons included among the high-risk cases confirmed in Spain shows, in a distribution of these files according to nationality, that approximately one sixth of disappearances relate to persons of foreign origin.

Thus the majority of high-risk disappearances reported in Spain relate to Spanish nationals, at nearly **78.67%**. Those concerning citizens of foreign origin add up to a total of **21.33%** of high-risk disappearances. (Graph 9).



Graph 9: Distribution of the nationality of confirmed high-risk cases.

Source: PDyRH.



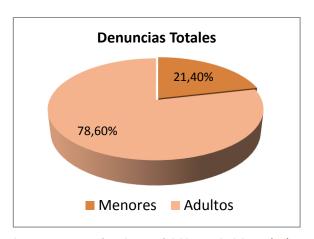
### **3.2 Missing children**

This section analyses and sets out the individualised information contained in the PdyRH system concerning the disappearance of children. An evaluation of the data available in that system shows that fewer than approximately a quarter of cases registered for the disappearance of a person refer to a minor, as the following table reveals.

	Children	Adults	Total
Closed	31,143	132,590	163,733
Open	6,534	5,796	12,330
	37,677	138,386	176,063

Table 5. Distribution of cases of adults and children on 31/12/2018.

Source: PdyRH.



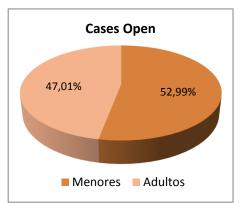
Graph 10: Percentages of total cases of children and adults. 31/12/2018.

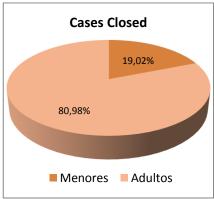
Source: PdyRH.

With an examination of the distribution of cases of disappearance, taking the current age of the missing person (adult and minor) as a statistical variable, it must be pointed out that the majority of those posted in the PdyRH system refer to persons of adult age (78.6%), while cases concerning children account for **21.4%** (Table 5 and Graph 10).

This suggests a need to clarify certain questions relative to the data on cases of missing children.







Graph 11: Percentage of child and adult cases open and closed. 31/12/2018.

Source: PDyRH.

Graph 11 fixes the proportion of current files on children against those filed for the disappearance of persons of full legal age.

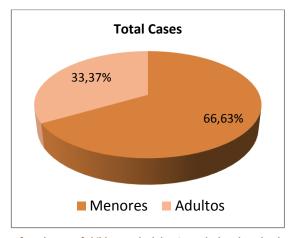
More than 56% of cases open on children refer to those who have absconded from reception centres in Spain. It is known that a significant number of minors return to the reception centre in a short space of time after escaping but that these returns are not notified to the Law Enforcement Agencies by the people responsible for them. This to some degree distorts the purpose of the PDyRH system and the statistical data revealing information on the disappearance of children.

On the other hand, the following figures from the PDyRH data base concerning disappearances of underage people are based on the age at the time when the facts were recorded. This shows clearly that the percentage of cases rises compared with the figures in the previous graphs.

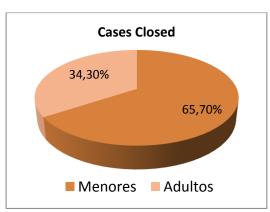


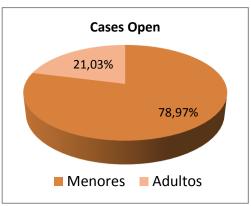
	Children	Adults	Total
Closed	107,574	56,159	163,733
Open	9,737	2,593	12,330
	117,311	58,752	176,063

Table 6. Distribution of cases of adults and children based on the date of disappearance. Source: PDyRH.



Graph 12: Percentage of total cases of children and adults. Age calculated on the date of disappearance. Source: PDyRH.





Graph 13: Percentage of cases open and closed on children and adults. Age calculated on the date of disappearance. Source: PDyRH.

It is seen furthermore that the percentage of disappearances of children (current age) drops when referring to high-risk cases, especially those of confirmed high risk which account for only 0.10% of the files still open.



	High-risk confirmed	High-risk unconfirmed	Limited	Total
Children	0.10%	0.09%	52.81%	53%
Adults	3.26%	0.28%	45%	47%

Table 7. Percentage of open missing persons, SFC cases, by current age (adult and minor on 31/12/2018) and risk level.

Source: PDyRH.

Likewise, and following the same methodology, here when speaking of the percentage of high-risk cases (confirmed or unconfirmed) related to the registration of the disappearance of children, taking the time of disappearance as the child's date, it is also seen that the figures are very similar to those on Table 8, so that the number of current high-risk cases quite low at 0.16%.

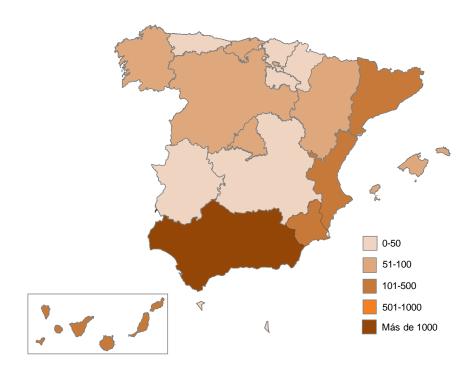
	High-risk confirmed	High-risk unconfirmed	Limited	Total
Children	0.16%	0.09%	78.72%	79%
Adults	2.11%	0.28%	19.08%	21%

Table 8. Percentage of open missing persons, SFC cases, by current age (adult and minor on 31/12/2018) and risk level.

Source: PDyRH.

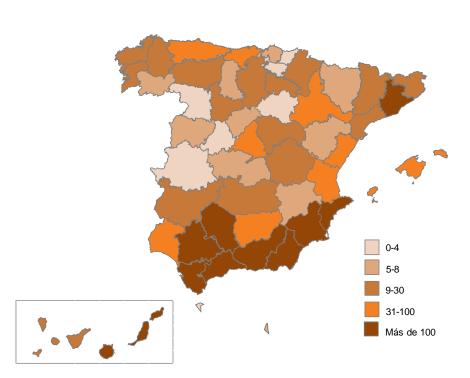
Andalusia, the Community of Valencia and Catalonia are the regions with the greatest number of cases open on children known to the police, taking as reference the date when the matter was filed. Likewise, by order of magnitude, the provinces of Cádiz, Granada, Almeria and Málaga head the list of cases filed for the disappearance of children (Graphs 14 and 15). Here it can be pointed out that there are centres for the reception of minors in localities in the provinces where the greatest number of missing children is produced or registered.





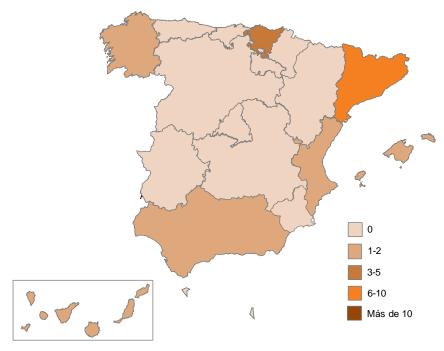
Graph 14. Open cases on missing children, and Autonomous Communities.

Source: PDyRH.



Graph 15. Percentage of open cases of missing persons, by province. Source: PDyRH.

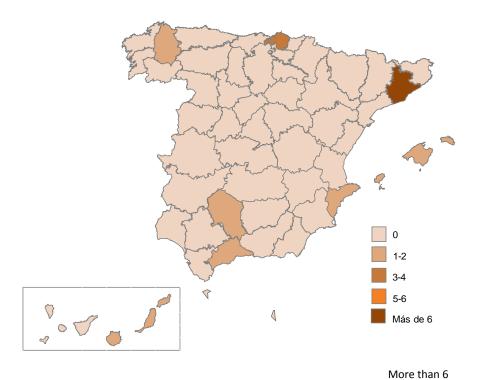
On the territorial distribution of current cases classified as high-risk and relative to minors, Catalonia is seen to be the Autonomous Community that stands out in terms of numbers and, within that region, the province of Barcelona, as shown in Graphs 16 and 17.



Graph 16. Open cases on missing children, high-risk and by Autonomous Community.

Source: PDyRH.

More than 10



Graph 17. Open cases of missing children, high-risk and by province.

Source: PDyRH.

Information is included below on current cases affecting children, and their annual distribution (based on the missing person's age when the facts occurred) and the number of cases involving flight from a centre for minors.

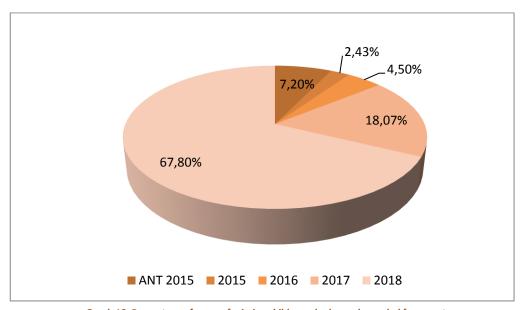
Thus, of the **9,737** current cases concerning children (the age taken on the date of disappearance), at least **5,084**, that is **more than 52%**, refer to those who have absconded from reception centres.

	Open cases	Children absconding from Centres <sup>2</sup>
PRE-2015	701	222
2015	237	77
2016	438	136
2017	1,759	794
2018	6,602	3,855
Total	9,737	5,084

Table 9. Percentage of cases of children who have absconded from centres (age calculated on the date of disappearance).

Source: PDyRH.

Moreover, the above table shows that the great majority of the 9,737 current cases on children, **8,361** which is **85%** of the total, were filed in the last two years, 2017 and 2018.

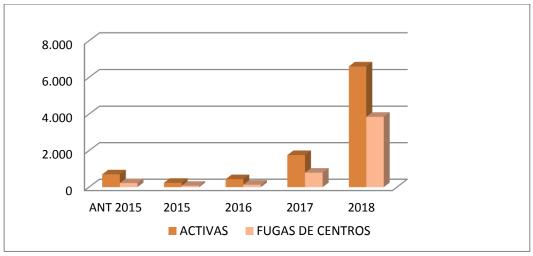


Graph 18. Percentage of cases of missing children who have absconded from centres.

Source: PDyRH.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The figure given in this report on escapes from reception centres by children is approximate, as the Law Enforcement Agencies are not obliged to register this figure when a disappearance is placed in the PDyRH system. Thus it might be concluded that the figure may in fact be higher than that detailed here.

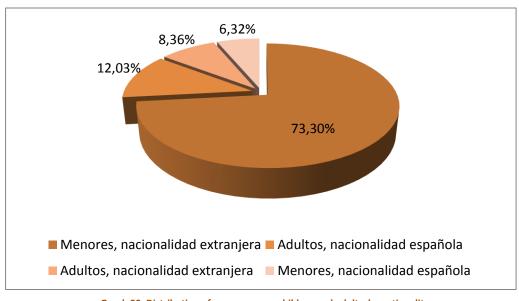
At the same time, as seen in Graph 19, although the numbers of children escaping from reception centres have increased since 2017, this increase became considerable in 2018. According to Graph 18, 67.8% of cases open on these children occurred in 2018. This phenomenon, relating to absconding children, does however include unaccompanied minors (MENAS). Therefore, in conclusion, this can be said to be one of the circumstances which meant that the increase in total figures, representing all the files open in 2018, doubled over the 2017 figure.



Graph 19. Cases open on children escaping from centres.

Source: PDyRH.

On the other hand, it can be seen that **73.3**% of all open cases refer to children of foreign nationality. (Graph 20)



Graph 20. Distribution of open cases on children and adults, by nationality.

Source: PDyRH

### 3.3 Data broken down by Sex

This section completes the data gathered under the "General figures" heading with a more detailed breakdown of the information, distributed according to nationality and sex.

Table 10 offers a breakdown of data on the cases registered by the Law Enforcement Agencies according to the sex and nationality of the missing person and revealing that most of the files that remain open (12,330) refer to the disappearance of foreign males (9,202).

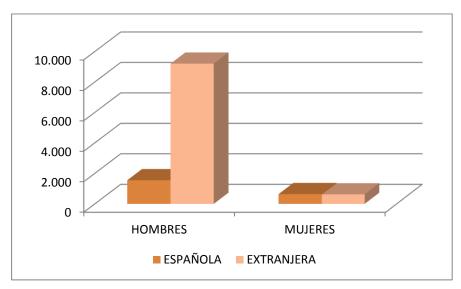
	NATIONALITY	OPEN	TOTALS
MEN	SPANISH	1,551	61,470
	FOREIGN	9,202	40,564
	UNKNOWN	124	655
	TOTAL MEN	10,877	102,689
	SPANISH	641	52,313
	FOREIGN	624	19,500
WOMEN	UNKNOWN	31	640
	TOTAL WOMEN	1,296	72,453
	SPANISH	73	441
UNKNOWN	FOREIGN	29	182
	UNKNOWN	55	298
	TOTAL UNKNOWN	157	921 <sup>3</sup>
	TOTAL	12,330	176,063

Table 10. Cases of missing persons by nationality and sex. Source: PDyRH.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> In addition to the data broken down into Spanish and foreign nationality, this Table shows cases linked to disappearances in which the missing person's nationality is unknown. Hence the inclusion of the category "Unknown".





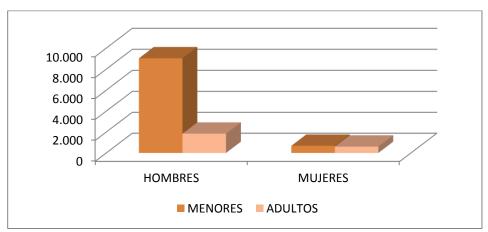
Graph 21. Number of cases known, by sex and nationality.
Source: PDyRH.

Table 11 and Graph 22 set out the data on the total of cases registered and those that remain open, distributed by the sex and age of the missing person (adults and minors). Here it is seen that, in the group containing the greatest number of current cases (Table 10 and Graph 21), the highest figure, totalling 9,032, refers to children.

	MEN	l	wo	MEN	UNKNO	WN	TOTAL
	CHILDREN	ADULTS	CHILDREN	ADULTS	CHILDREN	ADULTS	
OPEN	9,032	1,845	686	610	19	138	12,330
TOTALS	63,969	38,720	53,160	19,293	182	739	176,063

Table 11. Cases of missing persons by sex and age groups. (Adults/minors).

Source: PDyRH.



Graph 22. Number of open cases, by sex and age group (Adults/minors).

Source: PDyRH.

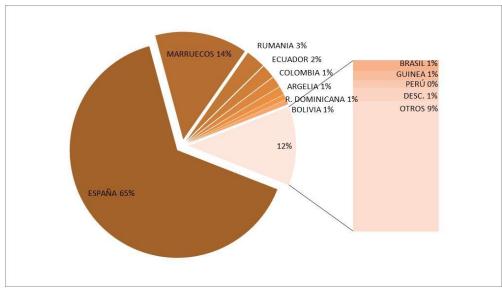
### **3.4** Data broken down by nationality

It can be seen in the overall cases of disappearance registered in the PDyRH system, both open and closed, most (114,224), 65% of the total, relate to Spanish nationals.

NATIONALITY	<b>Total Cases</b>
SPAIN	114,224
MOROCCO	24,498
RUMANIA	5,153
ECUADOR	3,617
COLOMBIA	2,856
ALGERIA	2,221
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	1,318
BOLIVIA	1,293
BRAZIL	1,293
GUINEA	1,161
PERU	909
UNKNOWN	1,593
OTHERS	15,927
TOTAL	176,063

Table 12. Total cases of missing persons, by nationality.

Source: PDyRH.



Graph 23. Total percentage of cases of missing persons by nationality.

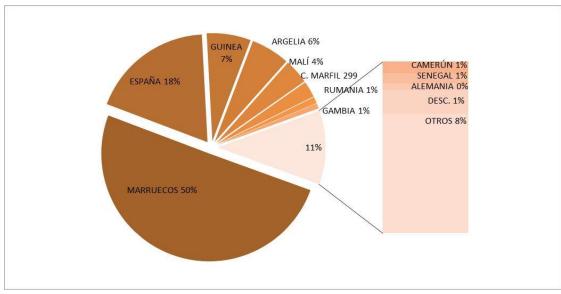
Source: PDyRH.

However, in terms of the number of files open, of the 12,330 current cases, **6,192**, which is **50**% of the total figure, are related to Moroccans.



NATIONALITY	Open cases
MOROCCO	6,192
SPAIN	2,270
GUINEA	816
ALGERIA	717
MALI	456
IVORY COAST	299
RUMANIA	120
GAMBIA	97
CAMEROON	91
SENEGAL	81
GERMANY	50
UNKNOWN	190
OTHERS	951
TOTAL	12,330

Table 13. Total of missing persons cases open, by nationality. Source: PDyRH.



Graph 24. Percentage of total missing persons cases open, by nationality. Source: PDyRH.

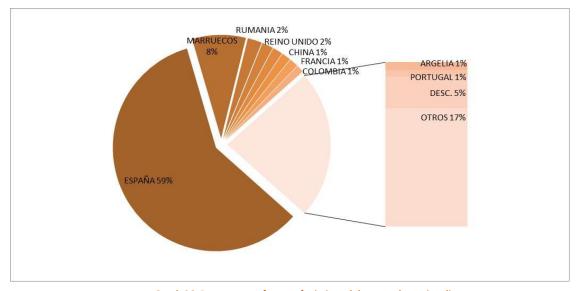
On the other hand, of current cases referring to persons of adult age, the following Table shows that the highest figure, **59%** of the total, refers to Spanish nationals.



NATIONALITY	Cases Open
SPAIN	1,471
MOROCCO	210
RUMANIA	56
GERMANY	44
UNITED KINGDOM	39
CHINA	36
FRANCE	35
COLOMBIA	29
ALGERIA	28
PORTUGAL	22
UNKNOWN	112
OTHERS	416
Total	2,498

Table 16. Total cases of missing adults open, by nationality.

Source: PDyRH.



Graph 26. Percentages of cases of missing adults open, by nationality.

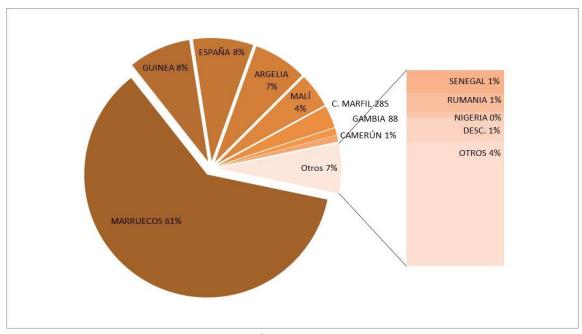
Source: PDyRH.

However, in referring to the data on minors, one aspect must be highlighted, that of the 12,330 current cases in the PDyRH, **9,737 (79%)** relate to this group (age calculated on the date of disappearance). Nonetheless, as seen on Table 15, **773** refer to Spanish nationals. Thus, and in conclusion, it can be said that the majority of the cases open are concentrated among missing children from Morocco (61%).



NATIONALITY	Cases Open
MOROCCO	5,950 <sup>4</sup>
GUINEA	795
SPAIN	773
ALGERIA	686
MALI	441
IVORY COAST	285
GAMBIA	88
CAMEROON	83
SENEGAL	72
RUMANIA	63
NIGERIA	19
UNKNOWN	78
OTHERS	404
TOTAL	9,737

Table 15. Total cases of missing children open, by nationality. Age as minor on the date of disappearance. Source: PDyRH.



Graph 26. Percentage of total missing minors cases open, by nationality. Source: PDyRH.

Table 16 below details the cases currently open in the PDyRH system distributed according to the country where the disappearance occurred. These figures nevertheless do not include all the Spanish nationals who have disappeared overseas, and refer only to cases filed in this country.

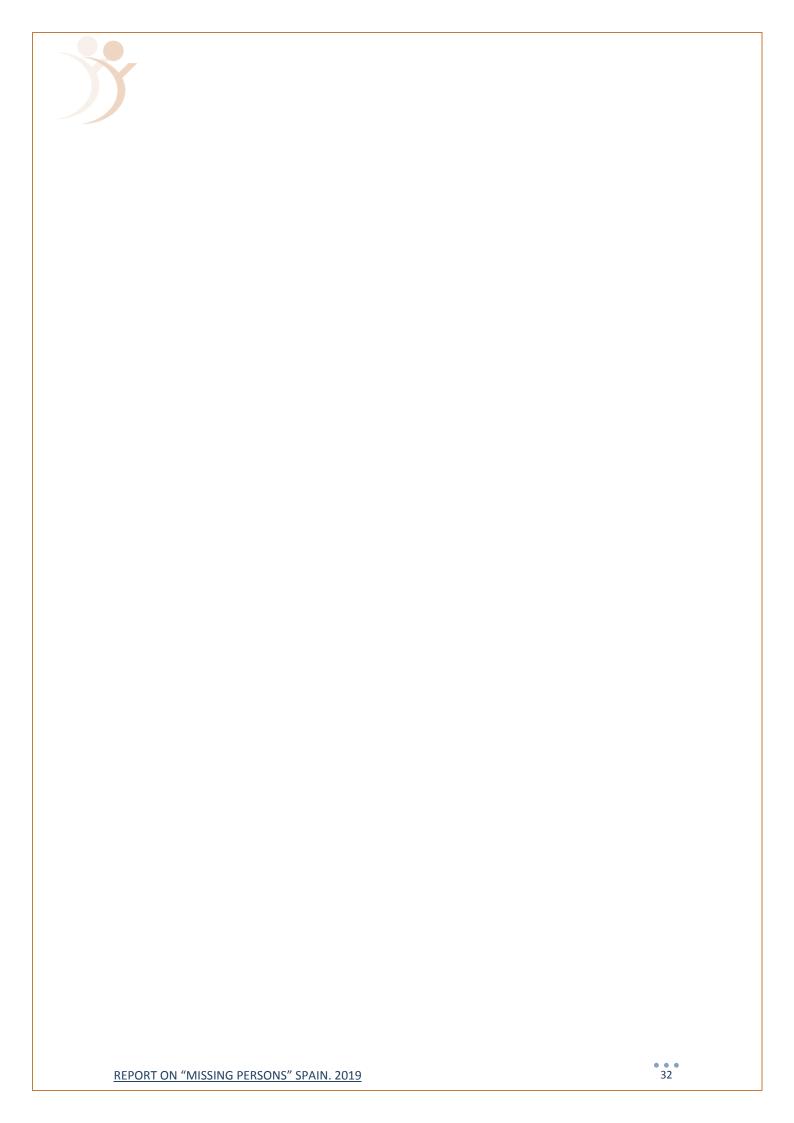
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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>It must be made clear that the figures on Tables 14 and 15 may not coincide with the total registered on Table 13. This is because the age of the missing person in many cases is not known and they cannot be placed in either of the two age groups, adults and children. Thus the total figures for open cases will always be higher than the sum of those detailed on the tables of data on children and adults.



SPAIN   12,101	COUNTRY OF DISAPPEARANCE	OPEN CASES
UNKNOWN 79 FRANCE 29 MEXICO 10 MOROCCO 10 UNITED KINGDOM 8 ALGERIA 7 PORTUGAL 6 ARGENTINA 6 PERU 5 UNITED STATES 5 VENEZUELA 5 GERMANY 5 BRAZIL 5 COLOMBIA 4 ECUADOR 3 SWEDEN 3 GUINEA 2 NICARAGUA 2 INDIA 2 BELGIUM 2 UKRAINE 2 SWITZERLAND 2 PANAMA 2 ITALY 2 DOMINICAN REPUBLIC 1 DENMARK 1 LUXEMBOURG 1 MALTA 1 INDONESIA	SPAIN	12,101
MEXICO         10           MOROCCO         10           UNITED KINGDOM         8           ALGERIA         7           PORTUGAL         6           ARGENTINA         6           PERU         5           UNITED STATES         5           VENEZUELA         5           GERMANY         5           BRAZIL         5           COLOMBIA         4           ECUADOR         3           SWEDEN         3           GUINEA         2           NICARAGUA         2           INDIA         2           BELGIUM         2           UKRAINE         2           SWITZERLAND         2           PANAMA         2           ITALY         2           DOMINICAN REPUBLIC         2           CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC         1           DENMARK         1           LUXEMBOURG         1           MALTA         1           INDONESIA         1           CHINA         1           VANUATU         1           AUSTRALIA         1           REPAL         1	UNKNOWN	
MOROCCO         10           UNITED KINGDOM         8           ALGERIA         7           PORTUGAL         6           ARGENTINA         6           PERU         5           UNITED STATES         5           VENEZUELA         5           GERMANY         5           BRAZIL         5           COLOMBIA         4           ECUADOR         3           SWEDEN         3           GUINEA         2           NICARAGUA         2           INDIA         2           BELGIUM         2           UKRAINE         2           SWITZERLAND         2           PANAMA         2           ITALY         2           DOMINICAN REPUBLIC         1           CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC         1           DENMARK         1           LUXEMBOURG         1           MALTA         1           INDONESIA         1           CHINA         1           VANUATU         1           AUSTRALIA         1           INDAINIA         1           KAZAKHSTAN	FRANCE	29
UNITED KINGDOM 8 ALGERIA 7 PORTUGAL 6 ARGENTINA 6 PERU 5 UNITED STATES 5 VENEZUELA 5 GERMANY 5 BRAZIL 5 COLOMBIA 4 ECUADOR 3 SWEDEN 3 GUINEA 2 NICARAGUA 2 INDIA 2 BELGIUM 2 UKRAINE 2 SWITZERLAND 2 PANAMA 2 ITALY 2 DOMINICAN REPUBLIC 2 CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC 1 DENMARK 1 LUXEMBOURG 1 MALTA 1 INDONESIA 1 VANUATU 1 AUSTRALIA 1 RUMANIA 1 NEPAL 1 KAZAKHSTAN 1 THAILAND 1 UNKNOWN 1 COSTA RICA 1 IRAQ 1	MEXICO	10
ALGERIA 7 PORTUGAL 6 ARGENTINA 6 PERU 5 UNITED STATES 5 VENEZUELA 5 GERMANY 5 BRAZIL 5 COLOMBIA 4 ECUADOR 3 SWEDEN 3 GUINEA 2 NICARAGUA 2 INDIA 2 BELGIUM 2 UKRAINE 2 SWITZERLAND 2 PANAMA 2 ITALY 2 DOMINICAN REPUBLIC 2 CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC 1 DENMARK 1 LUXEMBOURG 1 MALTA 1 INDONESIA 1 CHINA 1 VANUATU 1 AUSTRALIA 1 RUMANIA 1 NEPAL 1 KAZAKHSTAN 1 THAILAND 1 UNKNOWN 1 COSTA RICA 1 IRELAND 1 URUGUAY 1 CAPE VERDE 1 GUATEMALA 1 IRAQ 1	MOROCCO	10
PORTUGAL         6           ARGENTINA         6           PERU         5           UNITED STATES         5           VENEZUELA         5           GERMANY         5           BRAZIL         5           COLOMBIA         4           ECUADOR         3           SWEDEN         3           GUINEA         2           NICARAGUA         2           INDIA         2           BELGIUM         2           UKRAINE         2           SWITZERLAND         2           PANAMA         2           ITALY         2           DOMINICAN REPUBLIC         2           CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC         1           DENMARK         1           LUXEMBOURG         1           MALTA         1           INDONESIA         1           CHINA         1           VANUATU         1           AUSTRALIA         1           RUMANIA         1           NEPAL         1           KAZAKHSTAN         1           THAILAND         1           UNKNOWN         1 <td>UNITED KINGDOM</td> <td>8</td>	UNITED KINGDOM	8
ARGENTINA PERU S UNITED STATES S VENEZUELA S GERMANY S BRAZIL S COLOMBIA 4 ECUADOR 3 SWEDEN 3 GUINEA 2 NICARAGUA 2 INDIA 2 BELGIUM 2 UKRAINE SWITZERLAND 2 PANAMA 2 ITALY 2 DOMINICAN REPUBLIC CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC DENMARK 1 LUXEMBOURG 1 MALTA INDONESIA CHINA 1 VANUATU 1 AUSTRALIA 1 RUMANIA 1 NEPAL 1 KAZAKHSTAN 1 THAILAND 1 URUGUAY 1 CAPE VERDE 1 GUATEMALA 1 IRAQ IRA IRAQ 1 IRAQ IRA IRAQ IRA IRAQ IRA IRA IRAQ IRA	ALGERIA	7
PERU         5           UNITED STATES         5           VENEZUELA         5           GERMANY         5           BRAZIL         5           COLOMBIA         4           ECUADOR         3           SWEDEN         3           GUINEA         2           NICARAGUA         2           IINDIA         2           BELGIUM         2           UKRAINE         2           SWITZERLAND         2           PANAMA         2           ITALY         2           DOMINICAN REPUBLIC         2           CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC         1           DENMARK         1           LUXEMBOURG         1           MALTA         1           INDONESIA         1           CHINA         1           VANUATU         1           AUSTRALIA         1           INDONESIA         1           CHINA         1           VANUATU         1           KAZAKHSTAN         1           INDONESIA         1           INDONESIA         1           INDONESIA	PORTUGAL	6
UNITED STATES  VENEZUELA  GERMANY  5  BRAZIL  COLOMBIA  4  ECUADOR  3  SWEDEN  3  GUINEA  1  NICARAGUA  INDIA  2  BELGIUM  2  UKRAINE  2  SWITZERLAND  2  ITALY  2  DOMINICAN REPUBLIC  CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC  DENMARK  1  LUXEMBOURG  MALTA  1  INDONESIA  1  CHINA  1  VANUATU  AUSTRALIA  1  RUMANIA  1  KAZAKHSTAN  1  UNKNOWN  1  COSTA RICA  IRAQ  INA  INA  INA  INA  INA  INA  INA  I	ARGENTINA	6
VENEZUELA         5           GERMANY         5           BRAZIL         5           COLOMBIA         4           ECUADOR         3           SWEDEN         3           GUINEA         2           NICARAGUA         2           INDIA         2           BELGIUM         2           UKRAINE         2           SWITZERLAND         2           PANAMA         2           ITALY         2           DOMINICAN REPUBLIC         2           CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC         1           DENMARK         1           LUXEMBOURG         1           MALTA         1           INDONESIA         1           CHINA         1           VANUATU         1           AUSTRALIA         1           RUMANIA         1           NEPAL         1           KAZAKHSTAN         1           THAILAND         1           UNKNOWN         1           COSTA RICA         1           IRELAND         1           URUGUAY         1           CAPE VERDE         1 <td>PERU</td> <td>5</td>	PERU	5
GERMANY         5           BRAZIL         5           COLOMBIA         4           ECUADOR         3           SWEDEN         3           GUINEA         2           NICARAGUA         2           INDIA         2           BELGIUM         2           UKRAINE         2           SWITZERLAND         2           PANAMA         2           ITALY         2           DOMINICAN REPUBLIC         2           CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC         1           DENMARK         1           LUXEMBOURG         1           MALTA         1           INDONESIA         1           CHINA         1           VANUATU         1           AUSTRALIA         1           REMANIA         1           NEPAL         1           KAZAKHSTAN         1           THAILAND         1           UNKNOWN         1           COSTA RICA         1           IRELAND         1           URUGUAY         1           CAPE VERDE         1           GUATEMALA         1 <td>UNITED STATES</td> <td>5</td>	UNITED STATES	5
BRAZIL 5 COLOMBIA 4 ECUADOR 3 SWEDEN 3 GUINEA 2 NICARAGUA 2 IINDIA 2 BELGIUM 2 UKRAINE 2 SWITZERLAND 2 PANAMA 2 ITALY 2 DOMINICAN REPUBLIC 2 CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC 1 DENMARK 1 LUXEMBOURG 1 MALTA 1 INDONESIA 1 CHINA 1 VANUATU 1 AUSTRALIA 1 RUMANIA 1 NEPAL 1 KAZAKHSTAN 1 THAILAND 1 UNKNOWN 1 COSTA RICA 1 IRELAND 1 URUGUAY 1 CAPE VERDE 1 GUATEMALA 1 IRAQ 1 IRAQ 1 INDONDURAS 1	VENEZUELA	5
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SWEDEN         3           GUINEA         2           NICARAGUA         2           INDIA         2           BELGIUM         2           UKRAINE         2           SWITZERLAND         2           PANAMA         2           ITALY         2           DOMINICAN REPUBLIC         2           CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC         1           DENMARK         1           LUXEMBOURG         1           MALTA         1           INDONESIA         1           CHINA         1           VANUATU         1           AUSTRALIA         1           RUMANIA         1           NEPAL         1           KAZAKHSTAN         1           THAILAND         1           UNKNOWN         1           COSTA RICA         1           IRELAND         1           URUGUAY         1           CAPE VERDE         1           GUATEMALA         1           HONDURAS         1	COLOMBIA	4
GUINEA       2         NICARAGUA       2         INDIA       2         BELGIUM       2         UKRAINE       2         SWITZERLAND       2         PANAMA       2         ITALY       2         DOMINICAN REPUBLIC       2         CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC       1         DENMARK       1         LUXEMBOURG       1         MALTA       1         INDONESIA       1         CHINA       1         VANUATU       1         AUSTRALIA       1         RUMANIA       1         NEPAL       1         KAZAKHSTAN       1         THAILAND       1         UNKNOWN       1         COSTA RICA       1         IRELAND       1         URUGUAY       1         CAPE VERDE       1         GUATEMALA       1         HONDURAS       1	ECUADOR	3
NICARAGUA INDIA BELGIUM  UKRAINE  SWITZERLAND  PANAMA  ITALY  DOMINICAN REPUBLIC  CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC  DENMARK  LUXEMBOURG  MALTA  INDONESIA  CHINA  1 VANUATU  AUSTRALIA  RUMANIA  INEPAL  KAZAKHSTAN  THAILAND  UNKNOWN  1 COSTA RICA  IRELAND  URUGUAY  CAPE VERDE  GUATEMALA  INDONESIA  1  INDONESIA  1  INDONESIA  1  INDONESIA  1  INDONESIA  INDONE	SWEDEN	3
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SWITZERLAND PANAMA 2 ITALY 2 DOMINICAN REPUBLIC CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC DENMARK 1 LUXEMBOURG 1 MALTA INDONESIA CHINA 1 VANUATU 1 AUSTRALIA 1 RUMANIA 1 NEPAL 1 KAZAKHSTAN 1 THAILAND 1 UNKNOWN COSTA RICA IRELAND 1 URUGUAY CAPE VERDE 1 GUATEMALA IRAQ 1 HONDURAS 1	BELGIUM	2
PANAMA 2 ITALY 2 DOMINICAN REPUBLIC 2 CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC 1 DENMARK 1 LUXEMBOURG 1 MALTA 1 INDONESIA 1 CHINA 1 VANUATU 1 AUSTRALIA 1 RUMANIA 1 NEPAL 1 KAZAKHSTAN 1 THAILAND 1 UNKNOWN 1 COSTA RICA 1 IRELAND 1 URUGUAY 1 CAPE VERDE 1 GUATEMALA 1 IRAQ 1 HONDURAS 1	UKRAINE	2
ITALY DOMINICAN REPUBLIC CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC DENMARK 1 LUXEMBOURG 1 MALTA 1 INDONESIA 1 CHINA 1 VANUATU 1 AUSTRALIA 1 RUMANIA 1 NEPAL 1 KAZAKHSTAN 1 THAILAND 1 UNKNOWN 1 COSTA RICA IRELAND 1 URUGUAY CAPE VERDE 1 GUATEMALA IRAQ 1 HONDURAS 1	SWITZERLAND	2
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC 2 CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC 1 DENMARK 1 LUXEMBOURG 1 MALTA 1 INDONESIA 1 CHINA 1 VANUATU 1 AUSTRALIA 1 RUMANIA 1 NEPAL 1 KAZAKHSTAN 1 THAILAND 1 UNKNOWN 1 COSTA RICA 1 IRELAND 1 URUGUAY 1 CAPE VERDE 1 GUATEMALA 1 IRAQ 1 HONDURAS 1	PANAMA	2
CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC DENMARK 1 LUXEMBOURG 1 MALTA 1 INDONESIA 1 CHINA 1 VANUATU 1 AUSTRALIA 1 RUMANIA 1 NEPAL 1 KAZAKHSTAN 1 THAILAND 1 UNKNOWN 1 COSTA RICA IRELAND 1 URUGUAY 1 GUATEMALA IRAQ 1 HONDURAS 1	ITALY	2
DENMARK 1 LUXEMBOURG 1 MALTA 1 INDONESIA 1 CHINA 1 VANUATU 1 AUSTRALIA 1 RUMANIA 1 NEPAL 1 KAZAKHSTAN 1 THAILAND 1 UNKNOWN 1 COSTA RICA 1 IRELAND 1 URUGUAY 1 CAPE VERDE 1 GUATEMALA 1 IRAQ 1 HONDURAS 1	DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	2
LUXEMBOURG       1         MALTA       1         INDONESIA       1         CHINA       1         VANUATU       1         AUSTRALIA       1         RUMANIA       1         NEPAL       1         KAZAKHSTAN       1         THAILAND       1         UNKNOWN       1         COSTA RICA       1         IRELAND       1         URUGUAY       1         CAPE VERDE       1         GUATEMALA       1         IRAQ       1         HONDURAS       1	CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC	1
MALTA       1         INDONESIA       1         CHINA       1         VANUATU       1         AUSTRALIA       1         RUMANIA       1         NEPAL       1         KAZAKHSTAN       1         THAILAND       1         UNKNOWN       1         COSTA RICA       1         IRELAND       1         URUGUAY       1         CAPE VERDE       1         GUATEMALA       1         IRAQ       1         HONDURAS       1	DENMARK	1
INDONESIA 1 CHINA 1 VANUATU 1 AUSTRALIA 1 RUMANIA 1 NEPAL 1 KAZAKHSTAN 1 THAILAND 1 UNKNOWN 1 COSTA RICA 1 IRELAND 1 URUGUAY 1 CAPE VERDE 1 GUATEMALA 1 IRAQ 1 HONDURAS 1	LUXEMBOURG	1
CHINA       1         VANUATU       1         AUSTRALIA       1         RUMANIA       1         NEPAL       1         KAZAKHSTAN       1         THAILAND       1         UNKNOWN       1         COSTA RICA       1         IRELAND       1         URUGUAY       1         CAPE VERDE       1         GUATEMALA       1         IRAQ       1         HONDURAS       1	MALTA	1
VANUATU       1         AUSTRALIA       1         RUMANIA       1         NEPAL       1         KAZAKHSTAN       1         THAILAND       1         UNKNOWN       1         COSTA RICA       1         IRELAND       1         URUGUAY       1         CAPE VERDE       1         GUATEMALA       1         IRAQ       1         HONDURAS       1	INDONESIA	1
AUSTRALIA 1 RUMANIA 1 NEPAL 1 KAZAKHSTAN 1 THAILAND 1 UNKNOWN 1 COSTA RICA 1 IRELAND 1 URUGUAY 1 CAPE VERDE 1 GUATEMALA 1 IRAQ 1 HONDURAS 1	CHINA	1
RUMANIA 1 NEPAL 1 KAZAKHSTAN 1 THAILAND 1 UNKNOWN 1 COSTA RICA 1 IRELAND 1 URUGUAY 1 CAPE VERDE 1 GUATEMALA 1 IRAQ 1 HONDURAS 1	VANUATU	1
NEPAL       1         KAZAKHSTAN       1         THAILAND       1         UNKNOWN       1         COSTA RICA       1         IRELAND       1         URUGUAY       1         CAPE VERDE       1         GUATEMALA       1         IRAQ       1         HONDURAS       1	AUSTRALIA	1
KAZAKHSTAN 1 THAILAND 1 UNKNOWN 1 COSTA RICA 1 IRELAND 1 URUGUAY 1 CAPE VERDE 1 GUATEMALA 1 IRAQ 1 HONDURAS 1	RUMANIA	1
THAILAND 1 UNKNOWN 1 COSTA RICA 1 IRELAND 1 URUGUAY 1 CAPE VERDE 1 GUATEMALA 1 IRAQ 1 HONDURAS 1	NEPAL	1
UNKNOWN 1 COSTA RICA 1 IRELAND 1 URUGUAY 1 CAPE VERDE 1 GUATEMALA 1 IRAQ 1 HONDURAS 1	KAZAKHSTAN	1
COSTA RICA 1 IRELAND 1 URUGUAY 1 CAPE VERDE 1 GUATEMALA 1 IRAQ 1 HONDURAS 1	THAILAND	1
IRELAND 1 URUGUAY 1 CAPE VERDE 1 GUATEMALA 1 IRAQ 1 HONDURAS 1	UNKNOWN	1
URUGUAY       1         CAPE VERDE       1         GUATEMALA       1         IRAQ       1         HONDURAS       1	COSTA RICA	1
CAPE VERDE 1 GUATEMALA 1 IRAQ 1 HONDURAS 1	IRELAND	1
GUATEMALA 1 IRAQ 1 HONDURAS 1	URUGUAY	1
IRAQ 1 HONDURAS 1	CAPE VERDE	1
HONDURAS 1	GUATEMALA	1
	IRAQ	1
PHILIPPINES 1	HONDURAS	1
	PHILIPPINES	1

Table 16. Total missing persons cases open, by country of disappearance. Source: PDyRH.



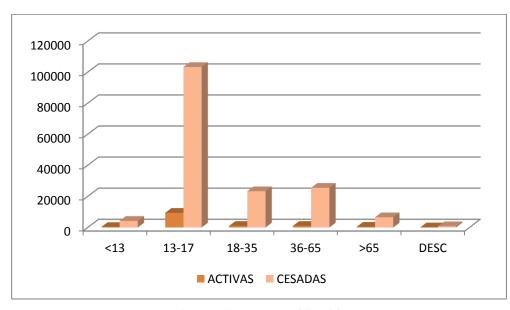
### **3.5** Data broken down by age group

This section includes information on the number of cases known to the Law Enforcement Agencies, broken down into age groups.

The following table and graph show how the cases registered in the 13 - 17 age group represent the highest figure of all.

	OPEN	CLOSED	TOTAL
<13	328	4.233	4.561
13-17	9,409	103,341	112,750
18-35	1,014	23,293	24,307
36-65	1,025	25,493	26,518
>65	454	6,574	6,930
UNKNOWN	100	799	997
	12,330	163,733	176,063

Table 17. Total cases, open and closed, by age group.
Source: PDyRH.



Graph 27. Total cases, open and closed, by age group.

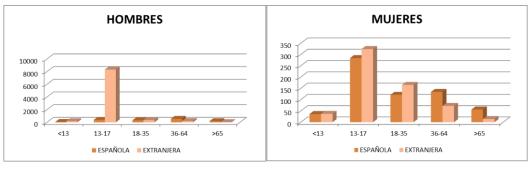
Source: PDyRH.

In addition, Table 18 and Graph 28 contain data on overall cases open, broken down by the age group, nationality and sex of the missing person.

Those data, set out on Table 18 and Graph 29, show once more that the profile of cases open on disappearances refer to males, underage, of foreign nationality, and in the 13 - 17 year age group.

		<13	13-17	18-35	36-64	>65	UNKNOWN
MEN	SPANISH	58	391	318	559	292	15
	FOREIGN	190	8,320	358	204	48	19
	UNKNOWN	3	70	8	8	7	9
WOMEN	SPANISH	36	284	121	134	74	3
	FOREIGN	37	324	165	72	16	5
	UNKNOWN	0	5	4	4	0	12
UNKNOWN	SPANISH	3	1	23	34	17	6
	FOREIGN	1	14	17	10	0	20
	UNKNOWN	0	0	0	0	0	11
	TOTAL	328	9,409	1,014	1,025	454	100

Table 18. Total cases open by age group, nationality and sex. Source: PDyRH.



Graph 28. Total cases open by age group, nationality and sex. Source: PDyRH.

### 3.6 Other PDyRH system data

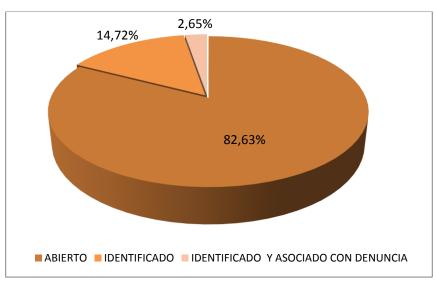
This point refers to the information contained in the PDyRH system related to *post mortem* files included in the figure for the identification of missing persons and human remains found.

Two sorts of identification are made using the PDyRH system. In the first place, so-called automatic identifications, performed by the system with the data it contains and provided as part of a case involving a missing person, and *post mortem* procedures. And, on the other hand, there are also many other examples where bodies and human remains registered in the PDyRH data base have been identified, but which are not linked to an existing case because, for example, no file has been submitted on the disappearance of the person with whom the body is identified. (Table 19 and Graph 29)

STATUS	FILES
OPEN	3.121
IDENTIFIED/ASSOCIATED WITH A CASE	100
IDENTIFIED	556

Table 19. Status of cases filed on bodies and unidentified human remains.

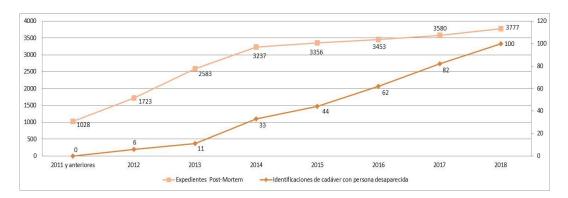
Source: PDyRH



Graph 29. Status of files on bodies and unidentified human remains.

Source: PDyRH

The data in Graph 30 below refer to the first of these cases, of identifications of missing persons where the identification is linked to a case:



Graph 30. Number of *post mortem* procedures in the system and the number of identifications of human remains found linked to cases.

Source: PDyRH.

In particular, with the statistical information provided, this section makes clear a reality which must be kept in mind: that it has been possible to increase the number of identifications in this last year by **21.95%** with the enhanced understanding of this question of missing persons in this country on the part of the Law Enforcement Agencies and, with the inauguration of the National Missing Persons Centre (CNDES), the start of work and processes designed to detail and consolidate the data in the data base on *Missing persons and Unidentified Human Remains (PDyRH)*, so making it easier to obtain better-quality statistics on the matter.

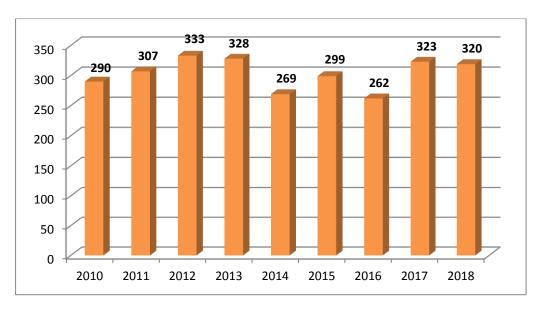
It must also be pointed out that of the 3,777 files on bodies and human remains registered in the PDyRH system, **556** were identified using the second procedure, that is without establishing a link with a prior case in the data base.

# 4 ABDUCTION OF CHILDREN IN SPAIN

#### **4.1 Figures and statistical data**

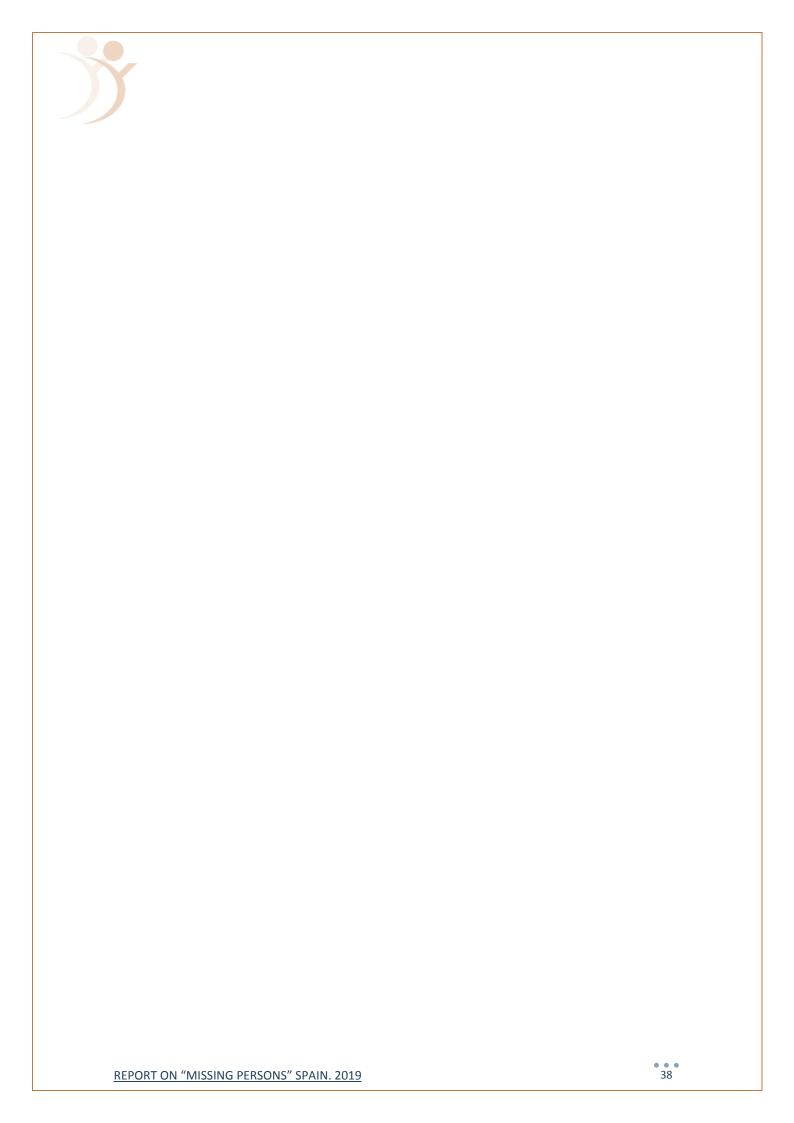
The figures set out below on known child-abduction crimes in Spain are taken from the Crime Statistical System (SEC) and not from the *Missing persons and Unidentified Human Remains (PDyRH)* data base.

Criminal offences known to and registered in the SEC by the Law Enforcement Agencies reveal figures which are, at around **300 cases** per annum, similar to the 2010-2018 historical rate shown (Graph 31).



Graph 31: Trends in the number of cases of child abduction known to the SFC.

The Appendix shows the distribution since 2010 by Autonomous Community and Province.





# 5 METHODOLOGY

As already pointed out, the data included in this report are taken mainly from the PDyRH system, which is considered the most specific for managing these disappearances. Data are however also included from the Crime Statistical System (SEC) and the National Statistics Institute (INE).

The system came on stream in 2010 and was taken up progressively by the various police forces, but it was in 2012 that it was converted and became completely operational for all those forces (national and regional).

Thus, and with the startup of the PDyRH system, a decision was taken to register disappearances from 2010 and, from the moment when a given police force had the capacity to do so, those current and open prior to the year of inauguration would be registered.

The rationale for this decision was based on the fact that, with a body discovered for example in 2015 of a person presumed to have died ten years earlier, the system was unable to cross-check the data if that person's disappearance had not previously been included in the system. Therefore, it was decided in the first instance only to record long-term or high-risk disappearances, because it made no sense to register a disappearance which had already been closed. As a result, it can be said that the PDyRH has more "normalised" data as of 2012 compared with those from 2010 and 2011.

It must also be understood that this a "living" system, permanently updated with modifications made by all its users, whether recording new cases or closing those which have been resolved, including from previous years.

This feature is important in that, depending on the time when the system is consulted, the statistical data extracted will vary according to changes made between one consultation and another. Thus the statistical information furnished in the first report on missing persons in Spain, that set out in this report and any information published in the future will not be the same, although this does not imply that those data may be erroneous or false, but that such modification is determined by this feature. For example, if on 01/01/2017 the system shows that there are 100 cases open from 2012, it is likely that within a few months this figure will shift if disappearances from that year are resolved during that time. The same thing may occur with new

disappearances if further cases are added from previous years which had not, for some reason, been reported or incorporated into the system.

Following explanation of the PDyRH system's operational dynamic, a set of terms used in the report are defined and explained below with a view to clarifying the meaning of each.

In the area of security being considered here, the Law Enforcement Agencies understand that a "missing person" is anyone of whom families, friends and acquaintance have no news.

Such disappearances may be of various types, including so-called voluntary disappearances (a change of address not notified, a voluntary distancing from what were their surroundings until that time, children running away or the flight of persons on whom there is some claim, or for other reasons). A missing person however becomes a "victim" if their disappearance was accidental (the disabled, elderly and others) or forced (especially if they suffer direct loss as a consequence) and, in this last case, their absence assumes a criminal profile.

Since 2009, following passage of Instruction No. 1/2009 of 23 April that year by the State Secretariat for Security on police action in the case of missing children, and other high-risk disappearances, officers from the Law Enforcement Agencies must assess the circumstances surrounding the specific nature of the disappearance, and decide whether it is to be treated as high-risk or on the contrary of limited risk.

The Instruction classifies cases of missing persons into two types or levels (high-risk and limited risk) and sets out the criteria that must be taken into account and met when it comes to classifying a disappearance as high-risk.

These indicators vary depending on whether the missing person is an adult or a child, in the following terms:

Child: such disappearances are always presumed to be high-risk, irrespective of
whether or not deemed to be voluntary. Only exceptional cases can be
excluded from this general rule, where there are circumstances which make it
clear that the disappearance was voluntary, such as escapes from internment
centres for those for the reception of children, or other similar circumstances.

- )
- Adults: account is taken in general of the following factors which might imply that a disappearance was forced or that there is a risk for the missing person's life or physical well-being:
  - Indication of a possible abduction, sequestration or extortion making it
    possible to presume that the disappearance had its origins in the
    criminal activity of third parties.
  - Data suggesting that there is a risk to the life or physical well-being of the missing person.
  - The missing person's absence completely contradicts his or her normal behaviour.
  - The absence of any possible explanation of the disappearance.
  - The missing person did not reach their destination and left no message.
  - The missing person took no personal effects, documentation, etc.
  - The missing person left their vehicle for no apparent reason.

The rule does nevertheless go further and makes it clear that, even in the absence of the factors described above, a disappearance may be classified as high-risk if the missing person's individual circumstances, such as those set out below, make this advisable:

- The missing person may constitute a hazard for the physical well-being of others (a violent nature, a threat to others, etc.).
- The missing person is physically or mentally impaired, or lacks autonomy (elderly, difficulties of movement, physical impairment, a serious illness, mental health problems, etc.).
- The missing person is undergoing medical treatment or must take medicines that are vital to them.
- The missing person is the victim of family violence, whether or not protective measures are in place.
- Confirmed high-risk: a case assessed as such by the Judicial Police Unit responsible for the investigation as provided for in SES Instruction No. 1/2009 on police action in cases of missing children, and other high-risk disappearances, referred to above.
- Unconfirmed high-risk: a case assessed as such by the territorial unit which
  receives the notification, but not confirmed by the Judicial Police Unit as
  provided for in SES Instruction No. 1/2009 on police action in cases of missing
  children and other high-risk disappearances, referred to above.

- **%**
- Case: this refers to each missing persons report notified to the Law Enforcement Agencies and registered in the PDyRH. There is no direct link between "case" and "missing person", as there may, in the course of a year or in different periods, be several files on the same person. The latter is a common occurrence with some children in reception centres or with family problems, or even with adults for a variety of reasons. For example, in 2015, the Civil Guard found that 40% of cases opened that year had some prior record related to a disappearance; of these, 70% were connected with a minor. To these identified cases, those must be added of foreign children who give different names following a disappearance.
- Open case: a case which has not been closed because the missing person's
  whereabouts are unknown. It is common for a family or an acquaintance to file
  a case but to forget no notify the Law Enforcement Agencies when the person
  in question is located. As a consequence, when the system is consulted, some
  open cases are not related to persons listed as missing at that time.
- **Case closed**: once a person who is the subject of a report has appeared or has been located, the case is closed. Should that person disappear once more, the matter is not reopened; rather a new file is opened.
- The location of the case: this is the place where the case was filed. The great majority coincide with the place where the disappearance occurred although, for various reasons, that is not always so. For example, a family from Castellón, on holiday in Almería, files a case in this city concerning the supposed disappearance of a son on a mountaineering hike in the Pyrenees (province unknown); this case is assigned to the province of Almería.



## **APPENDIX OF TABLES**

DISTRIBUTION	OF OPEN CASES A	CCORDING TO	RISK LEVEL AND TERRITORIAL	SCOPE	
TERRITORIAL	SCOPE		OPEN STATUS		
		High-risk confirmed	High-risk unconfirmed	Limited	Total
Autonomous Community where missing	Province where missing				
ANDALUSIA	ALMERÍA	6	0	833	839
	CÁDIZ	3	2	4,909	4,914
	CÓRDOBA	3	0	232	235
	GRANADA	3	1	1,305	1,309
	HUELVA	4	1	124	129
	JAÉN	4	0	94	98
	MÁLAGA	10	0	578	588
	SEVILLE	3	2	450	455
	TOTAL	36	6	8,525	8,567
ARAGÓN	HUESCA	2	0	11	13
	TERUEL	2	0	9	11
	ZARAGOZA	3	0	103	106
	TOTAL	7	0	123	130
ASTURIAS	ASTURIAS	9	1	91	101
	TOTAL	9	1	91	101
BALEARES	BALEARIC ISLANDS	13	1	119	133
	TOTAL	13	1	119	133
CANARY ISLANDS	PALMAS (LAS)	12	0	299	311
	SANTA CRUZ DE TENERIFE	8	0	128	136
	TOTAL	20	0	427	447
CANTABRIA	CANTABRIA	2	0	81	83
	TOTAL	2	0	81	83
CASTILLA-LEÓN	ÁVILA	0	0	10	10
	BURGOS	4	1	19	24
	LEÓN	0	0	18	18
	PALENCIA	2	0	12	14
	SALAMANCA	1	0	23	24
	SEGOVIA	0	0	11	11
	SORIA	0	0	5	5
	VALLADOLID	4	1	20	25
	ZAMORA	1	0	6	7
	TOTAL	12	2	124	138
CASTILLA-LA MANCHA	ALBACETE	1	0	11	12
	CIUDAD REAL	0	0	12	12
	CUENCA	0	0	23	23

	GUADALAJARA	1	0	16	17
	TOLEDO	3	0	21	24
	TOTAL	5	0	83	88
CATALONIA	BARCELONA	28	16	345	389
	GIRONA	1	5	63	69
	LLEIDA	4	0	23	27
	TARRAGONA	6	0	56	62
	TOTAL	39	21	487	547
COMMUNITY OF VALENCIA	ALICANTE	6	1	268	275
	CASTELLÓN	1	0	76	77
	VALENCIA	8	0	215	223
	TOTAL	15	1	559	575
EXTREMADURA	BADAJOZ	3	0	16	19
	CÁCERES	1	0	9	10
	TOTAL	4	0	25	29
GALICIA	CORUÑA (LA)	2	0	71	73
	LUGO	5	0	20	25
	OURENSE	4	0	21	25
	PONTEVEDRA	6	0	57	63
	TOTAL	17	0	169	186
MADRID	MADRID	8	11	328	347
	TOTAL	8	11	328	347
MURCIA	MURCIA	11	2	444	457
	TOTAL	11	2	444	457
NAVARRA	NAVARRA	0	0	43	43
	TOTAL	0	0	43	43
BASQUE COUNTRY	ÁLAVA	3	0	6	9
	GUIPÚZCOA	5	0	6	11
	VIZCAYA	7	1	10	18
	TOTAL	15	1	22	38
LA RIOJA	RIOJA (LA)	1	0	20	21
	TOTAL	1	0	20	21
CEUTA	CEUTA	1	0	19	20
	TOTAL	1	0	19	20
MELILLA	MELILLA	0	0	12	12
	TOTAL	0	0	12	12
FOREIGN	FOREIGN	0	0	0	0
	TOTAL	0	0	0	0
	UNKNOWN	10	0	358	368
		225	46	12,059	12,330



TERRITORIAL		OPEN STATUS							
		High-risk confirmed	High-risk confirmed High-risk unconfirmed Limited						
Autonomous Community where missing	Province where missing		_						
ANDALUSIA	ALMERÍA	0	0	787	787				
	CÁDIZ	0	2	4,825	4,827				
	CÓRDOBA	1	0	204	205				
	GRANADA	0	0	1,196	1,196				
	HUELVA	0	0	93	93				
	JAÉN	0	0	72	72				
	MÁLAGA	1	0	491	492				
	SEVILLE	0	2	384	386				
	TOTAL	2	4	8,052	8,058				
ARAGÓN	HUESCA	0	0	7	7				
	TERUEL	0	0	6	6				
	ZARAGOZA	0	0	39	39				
	TOTAL	0	0	52	52				
ASTURIAS	ASTURIAS	0	0	44	44				
	TOTAL	0	0	44	44				
BALEARES	BALEARIC ISLANDS	1	0	66	67				
	TOTAL	1	0	66	67				
CANARY ISLANDS	PALMAS (LAS)	2	0	156	158				
	SANTA CRUZ DE TENERIFE	0	0	30	30				
	TOTAL	2	0	186	188				
CANTABRIA	CANTABRIA	0	0	56	56				
	TOTAL	0	0	56	56				
CASTILLA-LEÓN	ÁVILA	0	0	4	4				
	BURGOS	0	0	10	10				
	LEÓN	0	0	10	10				
	PALENCIA	0	0	5	5				
	SALAMANCA	0	0	5	5				
	SEGOVIA	0	0	7	7				
	SORIA	0	0	4	4				
	VALLADOLID	0	0	11	11				
	ZAMORA	0	0	2	2				
	TOTAL	0	0	58	58				
CASTILLA-LA MANCHA	ALBACETE	0	0	6	6				
	CIUDAD REAL	0	0	9	9				
	CUENCA	0	0	13	13				
	GUADALAJARA	0	0	12	12				
	TOLEDO	0	0	8	8				
	TOTAL	0	0	48	48				
CATALONIA	BARCELONA	9	0	128	137				

	GIRONA	0	0	22	22
	LLEIDA	0	0	12	12
	TARRAGONA	0	0	19	19
	TOTAL	9	0	181	190
COMMUNITY OF VALENCIA	ALICANTE	1	0	209	210
	CASTELLÓN	0	0	49	49
	VALENCIA	0	0	98	98
	TOTAL	1	0	356	357
EXTREMADURA	BADAJOZ	0	0	9	9
	CÁCERES	0	0	3	3
	TOTAL	0	0	12	12
GALICIA	CORUÑA (LA)	0	0	17	17
	LUGO	1	0	11	12
	OURENSE	0	0	5	5
	PONTEVEDRA	0	0	23	23
	TOTAL	1	0	56	57
MADRID	MADRID	0	6	73	79
	TOTAL	0	6	73	79
MURCIA	MURCIA	0	0	398	398
	TOTAL	0	0	398	398
NAVARRA	NAVARRA	0	0	28	28
	TOTAL	0	0	28	28
BASQUE COUNTRY	ÁLAVA	0	0	0	0
	GUIPÚZCOA	0	0	0	0
	VIZCAYA	3	1	1	5
	TOTAL	3	1	1	5
LA RIOJA	RIOJA (LA)	0	0	11	11
	TOTAL	0	0	11	11
CEUTA	CEUTA	0	0	3	3
	TOTAL	0	0	3	3
MELILLA	MELILLA	0	0	5	5
	TOTAL	0	0	5	5
FOREIGN	FOREIGN	0	0	0	0
	TOTAL	0	0	0	0
	UNKNOWN	1	0	20	21
		20	11	9,706	9,737



#### NUMBER OF KNOWN CASES CRIMES AND MISDEMEANOURS: CHILD ABDUCTIONS **TERRITORIAL SCOPE** Almería Cádiz Córdoba Granada Huelva Jaén Málaga Seville **ANDALUSIA** Huesca Teruel Zaragoza **ARAGÓN ASTURIAS (PRINCIPALITY) BALEARIC ISLANDS** Palmas (Las) Santa Cruz de Tenerife **CANARY ISLANDS CANTABRIA** Albacete Ciudad Real Cuenca Guadalajara Toledo CASTILLA-LA MANCHA Ávila Burgos León Palencia Salamanca Segovia Soria Valladolid Zamora CASTILLA-LEÓN Barcelona Girona Lleida Tarragona **CATALONIA AUTONOMOUS CITY OF CEUTA**

**AUTONOMOUS CITY OF MELILLA** 

Alicante	16	14	9	15	16	12	12	16	19
Castellón	4	3	9	1	2	7	2	3	1
Valencia	22	17	12	14	10	13	10	14	14
COMMUNITY OF VALENCIA	42	34	30	30	28	32	24	33	34
Badajoz	5	4	1	3	1	5	5	2	3
Cáceres	1	1	0	2	0	1	1	1	0
EXTREMADURA	6	5	1	5	1	6	6	3	3
Coruña (LA)	4	1	5	1	5	3	6	4	5
Lugo	1	1	2	2	0	2	0	0	0
Ourense	1	0	1	1	0	2	0	3	2
Pontevedra	2	1	4	9	1	5	2	3	3
GALICIA	8	3	12	13	6	12	8	10	10
MADRID (COMMUNITY)	25	34	24	35	28	38	33	57	45
MURCIA (REGION)	5	3	7	5	4	13	5	8	10
NAVARRA (AUTONOMOUS COMMUNITY)	3	3	5	10	4	10	7	5	9
Álava	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
Vizcaya	1	3	1	1	1	1	0	1	2
Guipuzcoa	0	0	1	0	1	1	3	0	1
BASQUE COUNTRY	1	3	3	2	3	2	3	1	3
RIOJA (LA)	0	1	1	3	2	0	0	3	0
UNKNOWN	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
FOREIGN	9	15	15	24	18	30	28	25	16
Total	290	307	333	328	269	299	262	323	320

