

# Performances of the Spanish educational system

## (EAG 2009 - 2007 data)

### 1. Access to education

- As far as upper secondary education for the 25-34 year-olds, Spain has one of the lowest attainment rates (64.8% against an OECD average of 79.1%).
- However the situation is much different with regard tertiary education as Spain has an attainment rate higher than the OECD average (38.9% against 34.2%).
- The graduation rate for both upper secondary education and tertiary education (long studies) is below the OECD average (74.3% against 82.1% and 32.4% against 38.7%).

### 2. Education quality

- In PISA the performances of Spain are below the average with respectively 461 in reading (35<sup>th</sup> position in 56 countries), 480 in mathematics (32<sup>th</sup> position) and 488 in sciences (31<sup>st</sup> position).
- While on average across OECD countries 7.7% of students reach PISA level 5 in science and 1.3% level 6 (the highest), the scores of Spain are respectively 4.5%, and less than 0.3%.

### 3. Expenditure

- In 2006, OECD countries spend 6.1% of their collective GDP on education. But levels vary greatly with the US spending more than 7%, and Turkey 2.7%. Spain stands at 4.7%
- However, expenditure on educational institutions (tertiary education excluded) increased in OECD countries by 40% between 1995 and 2006. It increased by 42.7% in Spain.
- In 2006, expenditure per student in Spain is lower than OECD average in the three educational sectors (primary, secondary and tertiary).
- The share of private expenditure on education institutions in Spain amounts to 11.1% in 2006 slightly below the OECD average (15.3%).
- Salaries of teachers (after 15 years of service in converted dollar using PPP) are slightly higher in Spain than in the OECD average (USD 39 912 against USD 39 007).

### 4. Organisation

	Spain	OECD average
Instruction time	6834 hours	6862 hours
Class size primary	21	21
Class size lower secondary	25	24
Teaching time per year	880	798

- In terms of organisation, Spain differs from the OECD average only as far as slightly lower instruction time for students and higher teaching time for teachers.