



SPAIN

Population: 49,331,076 | GDP: \$1.778 trillion | Language: Spanish | Unicorns 2009-2018: 1



What did Spain do right?

Spain is embracing self-driving vehicle development and testing, and authorities have begun partnering with the developer of an imaging system to prepare the country's infrastructure for self-driving vehicles — a step few other nations have taken. In 2018, regulators set clear guidelines that paved the way for commercial and recreational drone operations.



What can Spain do better?

Spain can adopt a more welcoming approach to the sharing economy and lift constraints on licenses to allow for a greater presence of ridesharing services. It can also encourage entrepreneurs to start new businesses and boost its lackluster new business entry rate.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

Spain maintains its place as an Innovation Leader, with mixed grades on disruptive technologies for policies that support self-driving vehicles (SDV) but not the sharing economy.



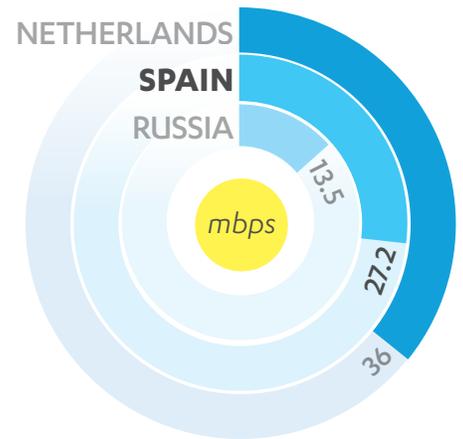
In August 2018, Spain's transport ministry director announced an expansion of the country's legal framework for SDVs, and the ministry is collaborating with Israeli vision technology company Mobileye to conduct SDV testing in Barcelona. This collaboration includes creating digital maps to allow a fleet of 5,000 new SDVs to navigate the city safely.

Spain's combative approach to the sharing economy sets the country back, however. Several major cities have banned or are planning to ban short-term rentals. In Madrid, new rules require owners to have hotel licenses and mandate that entire apartment buildings be allocated for short-term rentals before any single unit can be rented out.

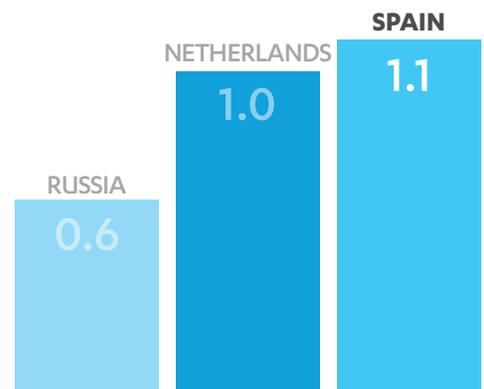
Ridesharing apps face similar barriers, including a federal rule that caps the number of rideshare licenses to one for every 30 taxi licenses. Despite Spain's approach to ridesharing, the only unicorn the country has founded since 2009 is a rideshare app, Cabify.

Sources: (Automotive News Europe) (QZ) (Reuters)

Mean Download Speed (Fixed & Mobile)



Fixed Broadband Cost Per Month



Shown as a percentage of gross monthly income per capita



Self-Driving Vehicles

Testing of self-driving vehicles is legal and has taken place in the country.



Diversity

Immigrants make up 12.8 percent of the population, and there is an above-average level of gender parity among workers ages 25-54.



Human Capital

33.3 percent of Spain's workers are highly skilled, a slight decrease from 33.5 percent in 2018, but the country awarded 35.1 percent of its college degrees in STEM fields, an increase from 26 percent in 2018.



Broadband

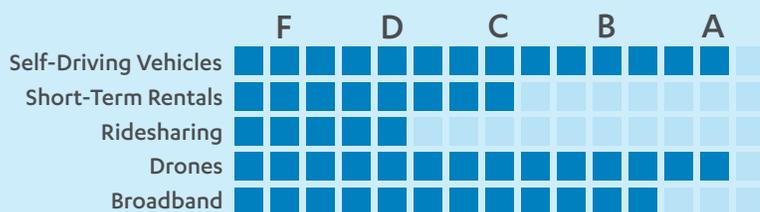
The mean download speed of fixed and mobile internet is fast at 27.2 Mbps. The monthly cost of fixed broadband is 1.1 percent of GNI per capita and prepaid mobile broadband is 0.3 percent of GNI per capita.



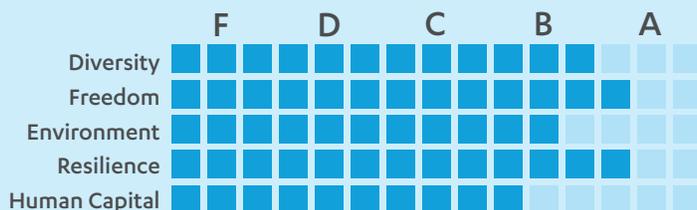
R&D Investment

The country spends 1.2 percent of its GDP on research and development, a decrease of 0.02 percentage points from 2018. Nonetheless, Spain's grade increased slightly to a B from a B- in 2018.

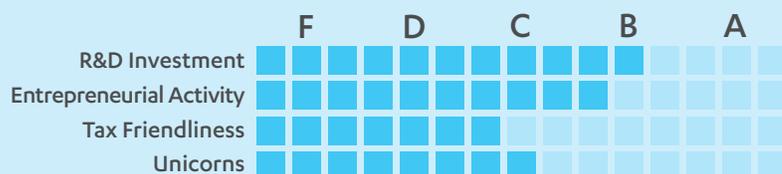
Technology



Society



Economy



ABOUT THE SCORECARD

With the 2019 International Innovation Scorecard, the Consumer Technology Association expands the report in breadth and depth, adding 23 new countries and two new categories. In this second edition, we evaluate 61 countries and the European Union across 28 indicators to determine whether they stifle progress or fuel the fires of innovation.

Each country on the Scorecard ranks in one of four tiers: Innovation Champions excel in almost all areas, followed by Innovation Leaders, which earn high scores in most. Behind the Leaders are Innovation Adopters, which promote innovation in some areas but not others. Finally, Modest Innovators may support innovation in one or more areas, but they show the greatest room for improvement.

ABOUT CTA

The Consumer Technology Association (CTA)[™] is the preeminent trade organization representing the \$398 billion U.S. consumer technology industry, which supports more than 15 million jobs. CTA serves over 2,200 companies, ranging from the startups and small businesses that make up 80 percent of its membership to some of the world's best-known brands. CTA also owns and produces CES[®], the world's premier gathering for consumer technology and the innovators who turn today's dreams into tomorrow's realities. Profits from CES are reinvested into CTA's industry services.

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