

# POVERTY WATCH SPAIN

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# THE POVERTY WATCH 2018

 Describes the key characteristics of poverty and social exclusion in Spain and presents the main features of a possible Anti-Poverty Strategy, aimed at the eradication of poverty and social exclusion.





#### **EUROPE 2020 HEADLINE TARGET**

- Reducing between 1,400,000 and 1,500,000 the number of people at risk of poverty and social exclusion, according to an aggregate indicator that includes people who live below the poverty line (relative poverty); people who suffer severe material deprivation, and people who live in homes with low or no employment intensity. The reduction of child poverty would be carried out in a proportion similar to the reduction of poverty in general
- A lost decade: One year
  before the deadline set by the
  EU2020 Strategy, we are still far
  from even getting to the
  starting 2009 figures and today
  there are 12,338,187 people
  who are at risk of poverty and
  exclusion, which is 26.6% of the
  resident population in Spain.

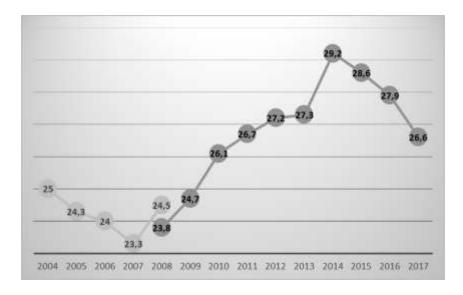




## THE TREND IS CORRECT, BUT IT'S NOT ENOUGH

 In order to meet the target, set by Spain in Europe 2020, the number of people at risk of poverty and / or social exclusion in the next two years should be reduced by 2.3 million in the next year.

Evolution of the AROPE Indicator 2004-2017







## **KEY FEATURES**

- A shortage of income (Active Population Survey: 600,000 incomeless households)
- 21,6% at-risk-of-poverty rate (10,059,000 people affected).
- 12.8% of people under 60 live in homes with low work intensity.
- 14,1% in-work-poverty.
- 21.2% of retirement pensions; 42.3% of widowhood pensions; 80.4% of orphan pensions below poverty threshold.
- Material deprivation (5,1%, 2,3 million)
- 791,726 people suffer the three factors: unemployment, poverty and material deprivation and therefore are in the worst possible economic and social situation.

- Women: Worse indicators compared to men.
- Having children increases the risk of poverty and social exclusion, Child Poverty: The third highest rate.
- Lack of decent housing and over-effort above 30% of household income.
- Difficult educational and healthcare paths due to hardships (high rates of early school leavers and NEETS (pharmaceutical poverty)
- Poverty of families living in disadvantaged environments (rural poverty + depopulation)
- Limited or truncated access to basic services (austerity measures have cut SS, while needs increase)





## AN ANTI-POVERTY STRATEGY

#### **APPROACHES**

- Macroeconomic and tax policies should not generate more poverty. Instead, should reduce income inequality (6.6 – 5.2 EU)
- Focus on Social Rights (Social Charter, EPSR, SDG).
- Strong gender-equality focus, in order to put the accent on the elimination of gender gaps which lead to more women being in poverty, material deprivation and precarious jobs.
- Anti-discrimination is also a key guideline.
- Territorial equality. Social investment.
   Quality (efficacy, efficiency). Sufficient resources.

#### **AIMS**

- To combat inequalities and difficulties of working people;
- To guarantee sufficient and adequate income;
- To expand and strengthen the protection of children;
- To re-universalize and update healthcare;
- To improve education;
- To significantly expand social housing, prioritizing people in vulnerable conditions, through integration and synergy between policies.





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