



# Single Market Scoreboard

The United Kingdom withdrew from the EU on 31 January, 2020. The 2020 edition of the Single Market Scoreboard refers to time periods preceding the withdrawal of the UK, and the UK is therefore listed as a Member State.

## Spain

2020 Edition

Here you can find the country-specific factsheet for *Spain*.

### Transposition

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**Transposition deficit: 1.1 %** (*last report: 1.5 %*) – a further decrease of 0.4 percentage point since December 2018 and of 1.3 percentage points since December 2016 (-54 %).

*EU average = 0.6 %; Proposed target (in Single Market Act) = 0.5 %*

Spain is still one of the 2 Member States with the highest deficit, although it is getting increasingly closer to the 1% threshold. It transposed 19 of the 23 Single Market-related directives (83 %) due to have been transposed in the 6 months prior to the cut-off date for calculation (1 June – 30 November 2019). This shows that Spain is monitoring the timely transposition of directives better than before, although 2 (down from 5 a year ago) of its outstanding directives have been due for a long time (see below).

**Overdue directives: 11** (*last report: 15*) including 3 directives on financial services. **Two** directives are more than 2 years overdue: (1) Directive 2014/23/EU on the award of concession contracts and (2) Directive 2014/25/EU on procurement by entities operating in the water, energy, transport and postal services sectors.

**Average delay: 16.9 months** (*last report: 17.4 months*) – slight increase by 0.5 months.

*EU average = 11.5 months*

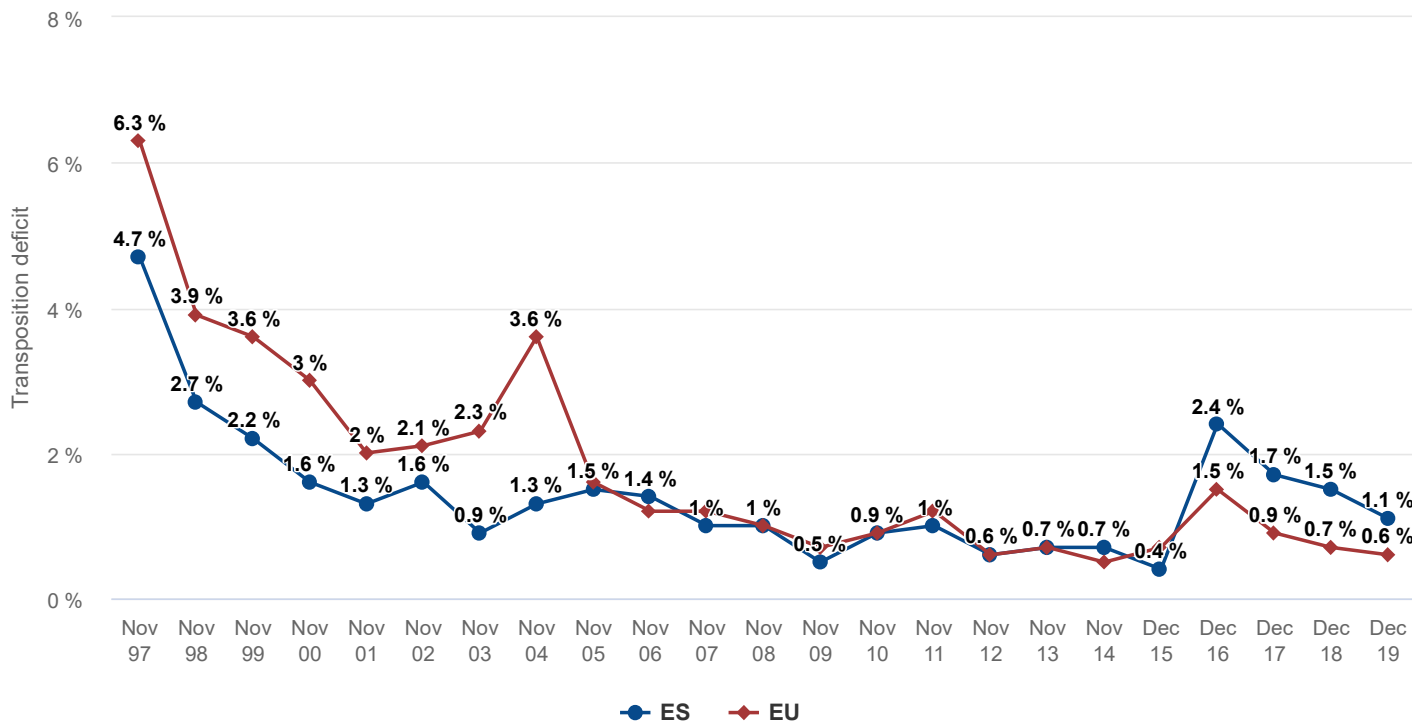
Spain now has the 5th highest delay among the Member States, down from having the highest delay in transposing directives 1 year ago. However, it is the only Member State that has managed to reduce its delay among the group of 5 Member States with the longest delays. Spain managed to transpose 3 long overdue directives in its backlog (due for 2 years or more). Therefore, 2 directives have been due for over 2 years and 4 out the 9 remaining directives have been due for between 1 and 2 years.

**Conformity deficit: 1.1 %** (*last report: 1.3 %*) –

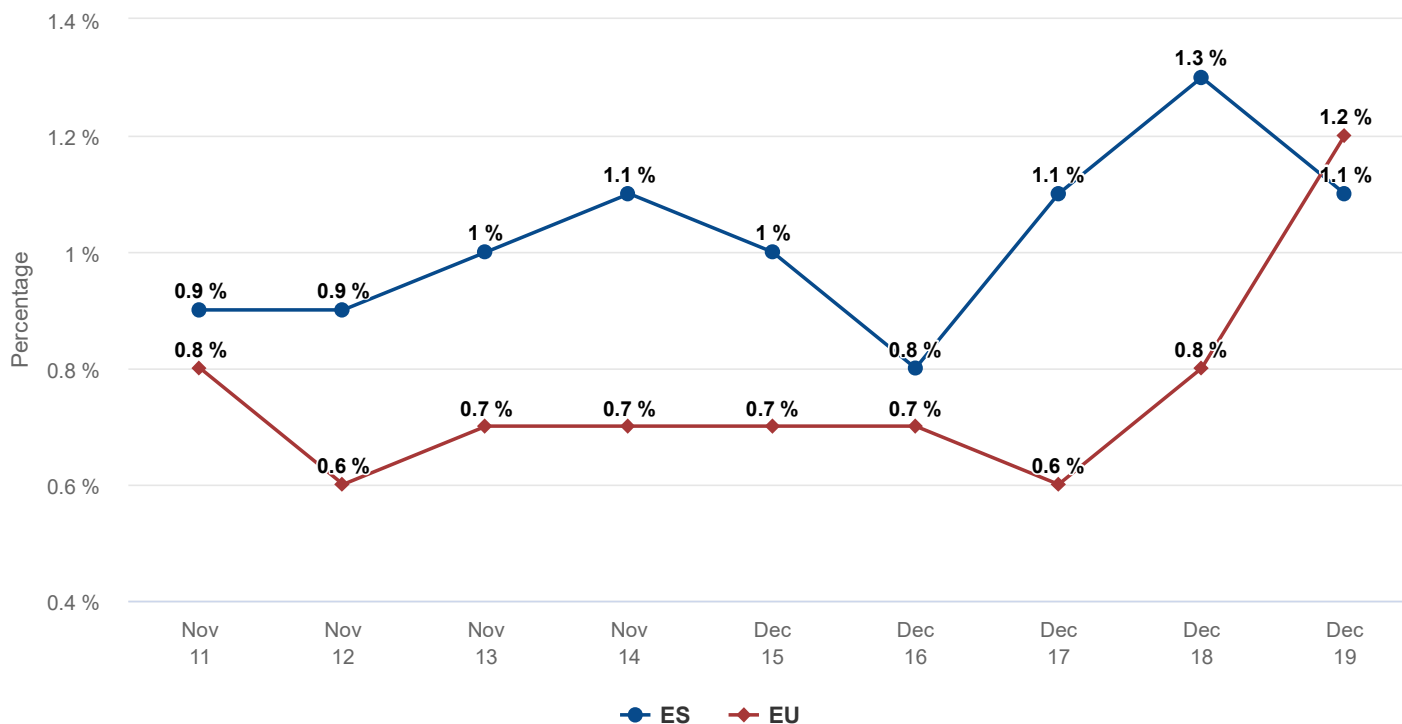
*EU average = 1.2 %; Proposed target (in Single Market Act) = 0.5 %*

Due to limited use of the EU Pilot tool, the number of directives presumed to have been incorrectly transposed has increased in the vast majority of Member States. Spain is the only Member State that managed to decrease the number of such directives (by 0.2 percentage point). One year ago, it had both the highest transposition deficit along with the 2nd highest conformity deficit. This is no longer the case: Spain's conformity deficit is now below the EU average.

### Evolution of transposition deficit – Spain



### Evolution of conformity deficit – Spain



## Infringements

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**Pending cases: 57** (14 new cases, including 4 on taxation, and 9 cases closed; last report: 52 pending cases) – marked increase of 5 cases.

*EU average = 29 cases*

Due to limited use of the EU Pilot tool, the vast majority of Member States have seen an increase in the number of infringement proceedings against them. This is the case for Spain, which is still the Member State with most Single Market-related infringements. With 57 cases, Spain has double the EU average and is back to the same number of cases it had in May 2014.

**Problematic sectors:** environment (19 cases), including 10 on water protection & management and 5 on waste management; transport (9) and direct taxation (7) = 61 % of all pending cases.

**Average case duration: 39.9 months** for the 48 Single Market cases not yet sent to the Court (*last report: 38.8 months*)

*EU average = 34.8 months*

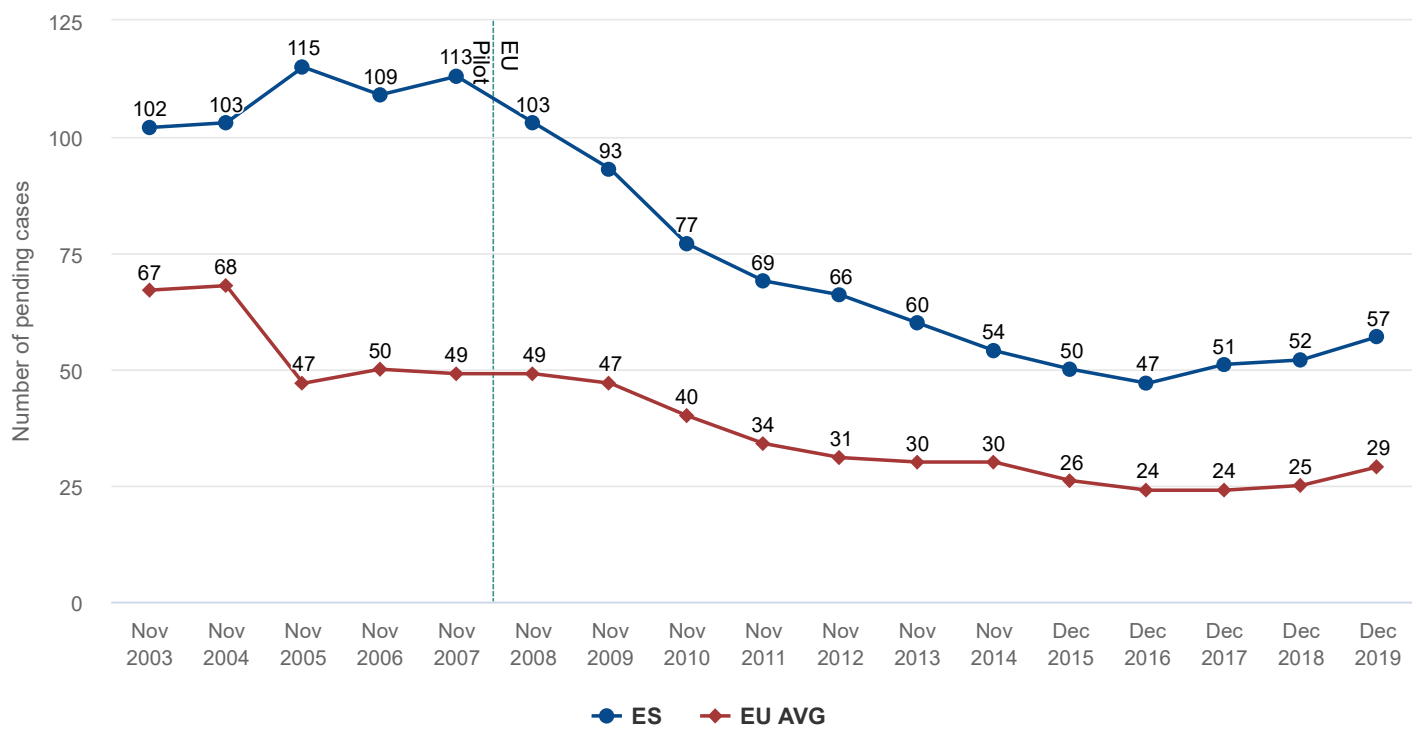
Spain is in a group of 9 Member States whose average case duration increased within the last year, although to a moderate extent (by 1.1 months). Almost half of the Spanish cases have been ongoing for a long time, with 1 on transport running for almost 15 years, 1 on air pollution for around 11 years and 19 other cases running for 3 to 9 years. The other half have shorter durations.

**Compliance with court rulings: 20.5 months** for the 11 Single Market related cases at this stage of the procedure and closed in the last 5 years (*last report: 26.4 months*)

*EU average = 29.5 months*

Spain is in a group of 7 Member States whose average compliance decreased within the last year (-5.9 months). This is mainly because 1 case with a long compliance period (7 years) is now more than 5 years old and no longer part of the calculation. Spain has a shorter compliance delay than the EU average but is still above the 18-month threshold for compliance with Court rulings. Among the 11 rulings in the last 5 years, 5 concern taxation, 3 are on transport and 3 on water protection & management.

## Evolution of infringement cases – Spain



### EU Pilot

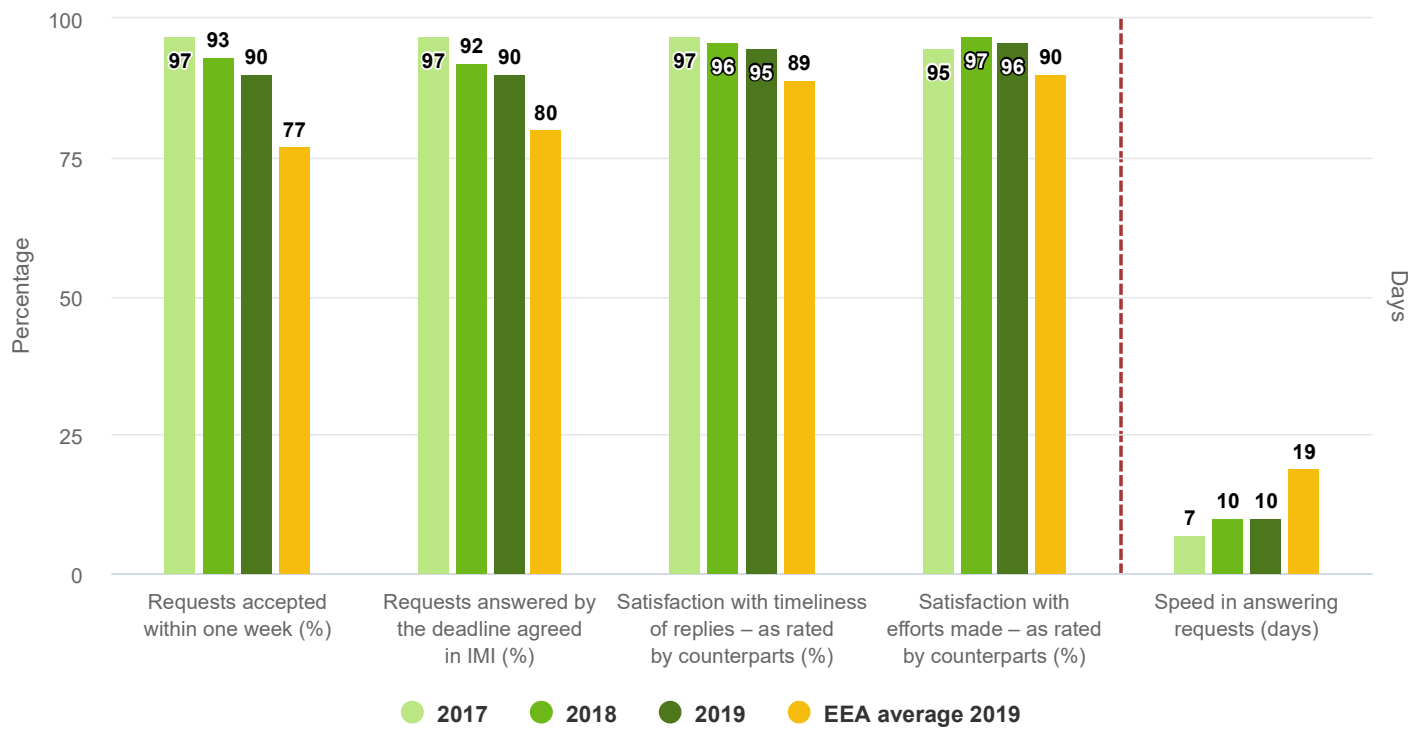
Spain's average response time currently complies with the 70-day time limit in EU Pilot.

### Internal Market Information System

**Performance** – Spain maintained its excellent performance.

- Once again, Spain's performance was exemplarily.
- It continued to perform well above the EEA average in all 5 indicators, despite very high volumes of incoming requests.
- Spain answered requests very quickly, 35% were answered within 3 days.

## Internal Market Information System – Spain



## EURES

**National provider:** [SEPE](#) (Public State Employment Service)

**Compliance:** Partially compliant

**Performance:** could be improved by transferring both job vacancies and CVs to the EURES Portal.

## Your Europe

The EU has set up a **single digital gateway** providing access to information, to procedures and to assistance and problem-solving services.

The specific regulation setting up the single digital pathway is Regulation 2018/1724 of 2 October 2018. Article 29 of the Regulation establishes a group to coordinate work on the gateway. The gateway coordination group will meet in different configurations, with one devoted to information that meets twice a year. The other two configurations are dedicated to ICT and e-procedures and assistance services.

The information group continues the work of the former Your Europe Editorial Board. This is to ensure that the gateway coordination group's work does not overlap with that of other expert groups or sub-groups.

## National equivalent?

National portal in Spanish, Catalan, Basque, Galician and English: [administracion.gob.es](https://administracion.gob.es)

## Record for this period

- active participation in the single digital gateway information group
- responsive to all requests for information to be published on the website
- promotional activities and back-linking from national websites to Your Europe

## Recommended action

Continue to:

- ensure stable representation in the single digital gateway information group
- attend the single digital gateway information group meetings twice a year
- provide information on how the country applies single market rules, in line with the requirements of the single digital gateway Regulation
- raise awareness about Your Europe within the national administration and among potential end users
- link national websites to Your Europe

## SOLVIT

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- **Caseload – very large**

*Submitted cases* – 150 (130 in 2018)

*Received cases* – 126 (113 in 2018)

*Cases not accepted* – 287 (new indicator)

- **Resolution rate** – 87 % (79 % in 2018)

- **Handling time (home centre)**

*Reply in 7 days*: 83 % (84 % in 2018) – **good**

*Cases prepared in 30 days*: 81 % (80 % in 2018) – **good**

*Solutions accepted within 7 days*: 78 % (75 % in 2018) – **good**

*Cases not accepted within 30 days*: 36 % (new indicator) – **very poor**

- **Handling time (lead centre)**

*Cases accepted within 7 days*: 66 % (78 % in 2018) – **poor**

*Cases closed in 10 weeks*: 53 % (50 % in 2018) – **very poor**

- **Staffing**

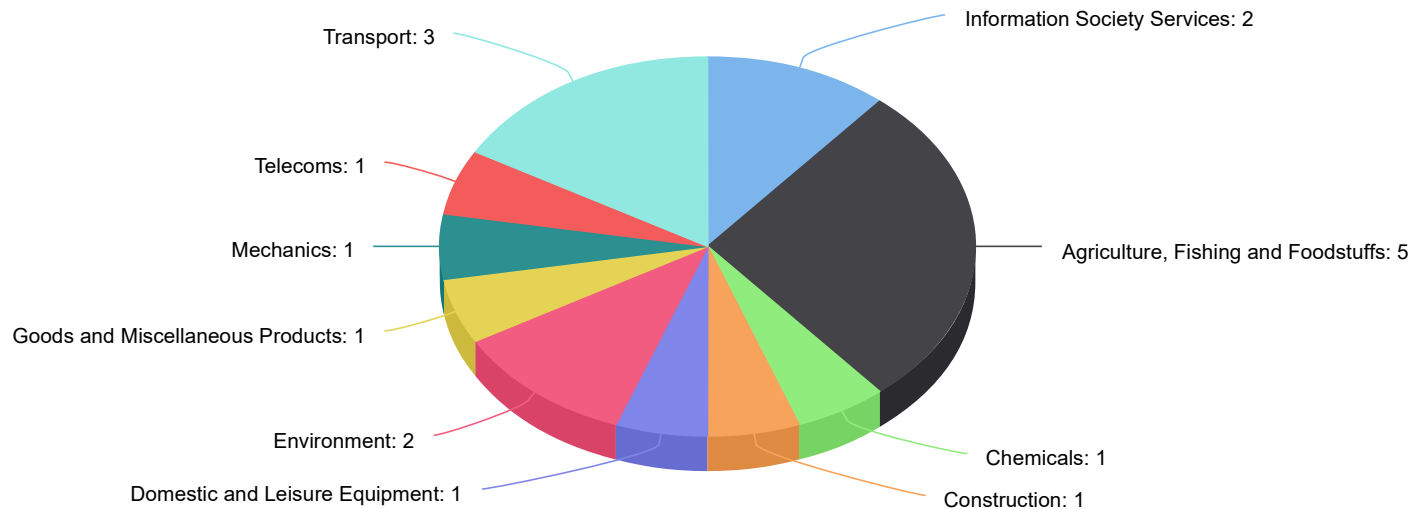
*Adequacy for 2019 caseload* – **insufficient**

*Adequacy for ongoing objectives* **insufficient**

## Technical Regulations Information System

### Notifications per sector

18 notifications



## Points of Single Contact

- 18 out of 20 analysed procedures are available online, including 9 general procedures available fully online.
- All assessed general procedures are accessible for cross-border service providers.
- Broad range of information is available in another language.
- Points identified for improvement:
  - making procedures available fully online;
  - collection of user feedback.

## Public procurement

Overall, Spain's performance in 2019 was **unsatisfactory**. For further information and the methodology applied, please see the section on [Public procurement performance](#).

## Postal services

For easier analysis EU countries are divided into 3 groups:

- **western** – Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Sweden, the UK
- **southern** – Cyprus, Greece, Italy, Malta, Portugal, Spain
- **eastern** – Bulgaria, Croatia, Czechia, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia.

- **Transit time performance D+3**: no data on D+1 performance. Under Spanish postal law, quality of service is measured in terms of **D+3 delivery**.



Some countries' reference figures for the previous period may differ slightly from those in the last Scoreboard. This is because these countries updated their data after publication.

## Trade in goods and services

Spain's trade integration in the single market for goods and services is below the EU average. In 2018, integration slightly decreased in the case of goods, while for services it experienced a moderate increase.

		Goods	Services
Intra-EU trade integration	% GDP 2018	15.4	5.4
	Change 2017 – 2018	-0.6	2.1
Intra-EU imports	% GDP 2018	14.6	3.7
	Change 2017 – 2018	-0.6	7.6



## Foreign Direct Investment (FDI)

In 2018, Spain's intra-EU FDI inflows increased slightly, while its intra-EU FDI outflows decreased moderately. Its intra-EU FDI stocks, instead, largely stalled both in their inward and outward components.

	Intra-EU FDI flows		Intra-EU FDI stocks	
	inward	outward	inward	outward
<b>Year-on-year percentage change 2017 – 18</b>	0.27	-0.63	0.08	0.02

For what concerns the extra-EU dimension, in 2018 Spain experienced a decrease in both its inward and outward extra-EU FDI flows. Over the same period, Spain's extra-EU FDI stocks remained almost unchanged.

	Extra-EU FDI flows		Extra-EU FDI stocks	
	inward	outward	inward	outward
<b>Year-on-year percentage change 2017 – 18</b>	-0.28	-0.36	0.06	-0.01