

NUTS3 Region: Cuenca (SP)

This series of fact sheets includes measures taken by the above-mentioned regional authorities during the first wave of the pandemic to strengthen public health security, adapt various aspects of city life to new reality, support vulnerable populations and support the local economy. The fact sheet has been prepared based on official sources and media reporting. However, given the variegated degrees of online communication efficiency from the part of various regional authorities, and the risks associated with collecting information from non-standardised online sources (including media), please note that the information in the table may not be comprehensive.

Contextual information

General

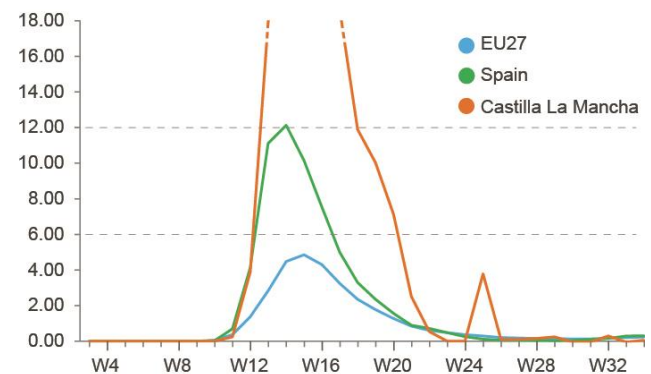
General information¹

Population (2019)	200 000
Density (inh/sqkm, 2018)	12
Type of territory (OECD typology)	Predominantly rural
Level of COVID-19 deaths (1 st wave)*	High

Governance (responsibilities of NUTS3 regions)

The responsibilities of Spanish NUTS3 regions, called provinces, vary amongst the autonomous communities they belong to; therefore there is no clear delineation of provinces' responsibilities at national level. Provinces that are part of Castilla La Mancha, such as Cuenca, have minimal responsibilities. ... to be added...

COVID-19 deaths / 100 000 inhabitants (weekly data)



* Data for Cuenca shown at corresponding NUTS2 region (Castilla La Mancha)

Policy answers at local level - Measures²

Health security

	Date	Perspective ³
• Providing the necessary material to volunteers so that they could manufacture protective materials for public workers (Civil Guard, Local Police, Post Office and Firefighters).	12-Apr	MT
• Disinfection of provincial buildings.	15-Apr	ST
• Partnership with a factory to produce protective visors (the province has bought the mold to make the components and covered the cost of the raw materials).	17-Apr	MT
• Distribution of protective visors to entrepreneurs and freelancers from Cuenca.	4-May	MT
• Financing the University La Mancha (30.000 EUR) to study the properties of local purple garlic as an anti-inflammatory that could help in the care of Covid-19.	21-May	LT
• Buying materials so that volunteers can build protective equipment for Health professionals.	Mar	ST

Daily way of life and work

• Initiation of consultations for building a provincial agreement for Culture in Covid Time.	6-May	MT
• Changes in grant procedures for NGOs (to stress the importance of social emergency).	18-May	MT
• Financial support for sport clubs to overcome financial difficulties due to covid-19.	26-May	ST
• Changes in museums' offer: opening up to younger audiences, adding online virtual tours and adding content uploaded to its YouTube channel.	31-May	MT/ LT
• Performances of all cultural groups from Cuenca to be recorded and uploaded online	4-Jun	MT/ LT
• Increasing budgets for sports clubs for purchasing protective materials.	15-Jun	ST/ MT
• Increases in aid (financial) for broadband in small municipalities (< 200 inh.) by 17%.	25-Jun	LT
• Traditional programs aiming the promotion of local artists have been adapted to the pandemic and went online (Talia Program -> Talía Online Program).	21-Jul	ST/ MT
• Call for constituent municipalities aimed at promoting art, exhibitions, museums (120.00 EUR).	12-Aug	LT

Support to vulnerable populations

• Financial allocation of 20.000 EUR for Food Bank to feed vulnerable population.	Mar	ST
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• Aid of 120.000 EUR for NGOs that are in the forefront of economic crisis	19 May	ST
• Allocation of 800.000 EUR in social assistance for people who suffered the most (mostly channeled through non-profit organizations).	29 May	ST / MT
• Financing associations with social and socio-health purposes to develop aid programs for people with health problems, disabilities or who are in situations of economic difficulty.	31 Jul	ST / MT
• Support (geronto-gymnastics, cognitive stimulation, motor skills workshops) for people affected by neurodegenerative diseases during COVID-19 pandemic.	---	MT
• Grants of 400 euros for vulnerable or highly affected population.	---	ST

Support to economic actors & recovery

• Increasing municipal liquidities (by transferring money earlier than usual, but also making extraordinary transfers in advance).	31 Mar	ST
• Making the tax payment more flexible for Cuenca citizens.	7 Apr	ST
• Partnership with a factory to produce protective visors (the province has bought the mold to make the components and covered the cost of the raw materials).	17 Apr	MT
• Reducing the average payment period to suppliers to just 1.57 days so that companies have more liquidity.	22 Apr	ST
• Subsidies for maintaining basic commercial structures in municipalities with less than 250 inhabitants.	1 Jul	ST / MT
• Investments of 32 million euros in public works to relaunch economy.	1 Jun	LT
• Launch of the most ambitious advertising campaign in the history of the provincial institution 'Cuenca, kilometers of calm' (leading to 23.5% increase in overnight stays in rural tourism during the month of July 2020 compared to July 2019).	Jul	ST / MT / LT

Policy answers at local level - Overall strategy

	Mitigating	Compensating	Circumventing	Exploit
Health security	✓			✓
Daily way of life and work	✓	✓	✓	
Support to vulnerable populations	✓			
Support to economic actors & recovery	✓	✓		✓

¹ Data source: EUROSTAT (*demo_r_pjangrp3* and *demo_r_d3dens*), OECD urban/rural typology, and ESPON COVID-19 database for mortality levels. Thresholds for COVID-19 mortality levels: low (0-6 deaths/100,000 inh.), moderate (6-12 deaths/100,000 inh.) and high (>12 deaths/100 000 inh).

² Main sources used: <https://www.dipucuenca.es/>

³ ST = short term, MT = medium term, LT = long term.