

ECONOMY

BUSINESS AREA 6



Logistics



According to the World Bank, Spain ranks **23rd** in the international list for logistics performance. At a European level, the Spanish logistics sector is **fifth** in employment and transported freight volume and **fourth** in sea freight transport. A number of factors contribute to the excellent performance of this sector, including the strategic location of Spain as a link between Europe and Latin America, Northern Africa and the Middle East, as well as a first-class highway and freeway network and the active role of international transport stakeholders who are highly experienced and specialized. Furthermore, Spain is the European country with more kilometers of high-speed train lines and the **second worldwide**.

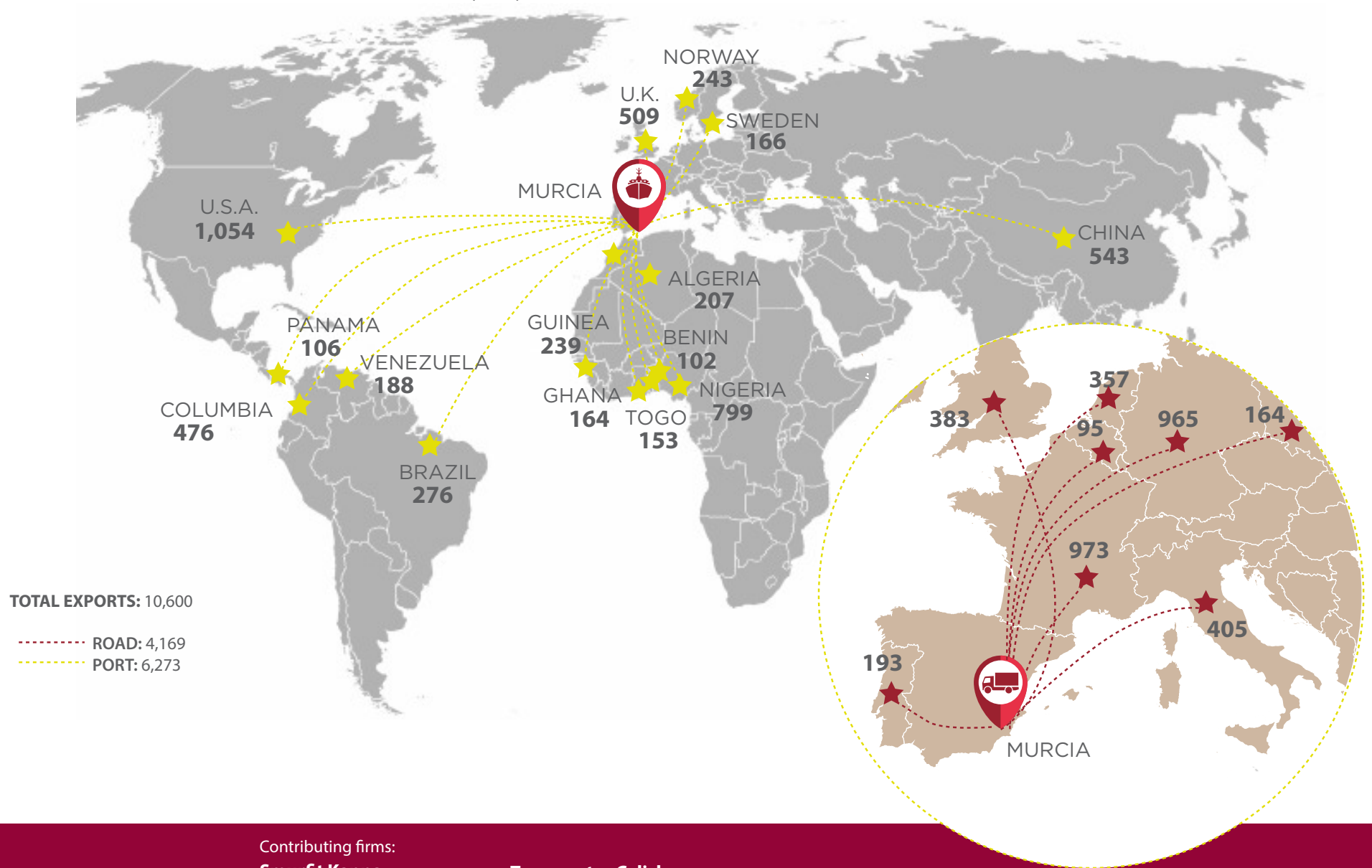
In the Region of Murcia, **logistics accounts for 4% of the regional GDP** (commerce excluded), that is **21.13%** of the gross added value, **22.06%** of employment and **4.2%** of job generation. Murcia is a region located in a strategic axis for railway, sea and air connections, thus favoring logistical chain optimization through multimodal freight transport. It is important to note that the Region's refrigerated truck fleet, the largest in Spain, specializes in fruit and vegetable transport, an industry supplying European markets on a daily basis. **Within Spain, Murcia is the region with the highest ratio of transported tonnes per kilometer.** As for the Port of Cartagena, second with

the highest growth rate in Europe, it ranks first in liquid bulk cargo nationwide and fifth in freight transport.

Other factors allowing Murcia to be at the forefront of logistics are, on the one hand, cost effectiveness, competitive demand-adapted services and, on the other hand, industrial land availability in nearly 80 industrial parks where key logistics projects are developed at a national and European level. The Region's large industrial, agricultural and service production has always required having a quick, efficient distribution network. This has allowed Murcian logistics sector agents to gain ample commercial experience and knowledge of this industry.

In addition to traditional logistics activities, in the last few years there has been an increased need for e-commerce storage and distribution, a newly-created sector with a **12.7%** business volume growth in 2016. This sector has brought new logistics surface demands, as well as the creation of specialized express carrier and parcel services. Furthermore, the spectacular growth of regional tourism has resulted in improved logistical support infrastructures.

In short, logistics and transport comprise a key sector for the Region, allowing Murcia to better position itself in today's globalized economy.



COMPANY HIGHLIGHTS:

Contributing firms:
Smurfit Kappa,
Alfil Logistics,
Primafrio,
Centros Logísticos de Lidl,
Grupo Fuentes,

Transportes Caliche,
El Mosca,
Grupo Disfrimur,
Campillo Palmera,
 to name a few.

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