

National Geographic Institute in collaboration with the Spanish Association of Geography

ECONOMY AND URBAN FEATURES: What economic activities characterize settlements?

Municipality:

Predominant economic activity and what elements help you discover the urban features (maximum 200 words):

In El Ejido, what predominates is agriculture, characterised by the presence of the protected cultivation of vegetables and flowers under plastics. Greenhouses and little ponds scattered on the territory are the elements that help identifying this activity. This work is done in particular by immigrant people who work in very harsh conditions because of the high temperatures and use of toxic chemicals such as insecticides, fungicides, etc.

Aerial photograph of the municipality:





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Wikipedia results (maximum 200 words):

The economy in El Ejido is based on intensive agriculture (in greenhouses), around which a rich auxiliary industry for national and international commercialisation of horticultural products has been created. Thus, the production of tomatoes, peppers, zucchini, beans, etc., is the engine of the economy in this municipality, whose success lies in having control at various levels: creation of seeds and consumption patterns, monitoring of growth and product specialization to respond to the demands of different markets, and the creation of an international marketing network to ensure placement of the products.

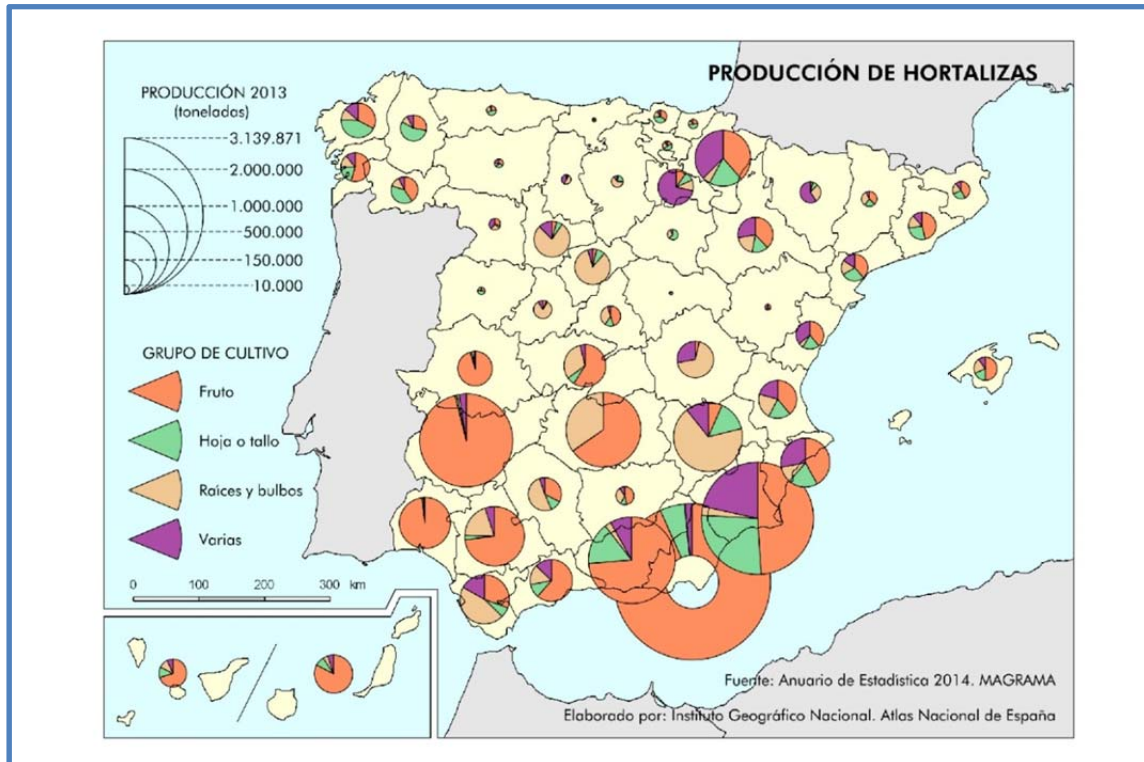
Tourism, concentrated in the coastal area, constitutes another of the development pillars in this municipality.

Some of the issues that have arisen in recent years in the municipality have to do with overexploitation of some aquifers or the growing crisis in the marketing and production model in the face of competition from non-European countries with lower production costs.

El Ejido is becoming one of the commercial centres in the western region of Almería. Investments from different public administrations and private businesses have made this possible.

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National Atlas of Spain results:



Conclusions drawn from the National Atlas of Spain:

The map of Spain available in this Atlas lets us see the significance of the vegetable production in the province of Almería and it is a reflection of the importance of protected irrigated crops (greenhouses) in this province, where the city of El Ejido plays a structural role.

Images:



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Image sources:

www.mutum.net y <http://agricolamontorofernandez.blogspot.com.es>

Report on the economic activity carried out in the municipality (maximum 200 words):

As you have seen in the maps and orthoimages, the geographical space of El Ejido is covered by crops with greenhouses in which vegetables and flowers are grown, in particular for export. We can see that cultivation in greenhouses allows for very abundant production. Therefore, the municipality of El Ejido is dedicated in particular to the export of agricultural products.