

Social risks and opportunities 2025

**MCARTHURGLEN DESIGNER
OUTLET CENTRE MÁLAGA**

01. Introduction

The Social Risks and opportunities study aimed to analyse and evaluate the Social Risks and opportunities, to which McArthurGlen Designer Outlet Centre Málaga (mentioned hereinafter as DOC Málaga), located in the city of Málaga, Spain, is exposed to.

According to the BREEAM In-Use International scheme, the RSL 08 criterion aims to assess both the social risks to which an asset may be exposed and the opportunities it may generate to enhance social well-being, particularly for underrepresented or vulnerable groups. This assessment evaluates how the asset interacts with its surrounding community and supporting infrastructure, considering both the potential impacts it may have on the community and the risks it may face, due to community-related factors. Special attention is given to vulnerable groups, examining how local vulnerabilities could be amplified or mitigated by the assets' presence and operations.

Ultimately, this assessment supports a more socially resilient approach to asset management, encouraging actions and strategies that not only mitigate risk, but also enhance community well-being, inclusivity, and the long-term social value of the asset.

02. Social risks and opportunities

The assessment considers specific indicators related to the surrounding socio-economic, demographic, and institutional context, as well as health, safety, security, and climate risks. These factors are analysed to provide a comprehensive and structured understanding of the risks and opportunities associated with the asset.

The main social aspects identified in this assessment include:

- **Population & Aging:** Spain's population in 2024 was 48 million, with 8 631 862 people residing in the autonomous community of Andalusia, representing 17.75% of the national total. Within the Province of Málaga, the population reached 1 773 136, of which 591 637 lived in the city of Málaga, accounting for 33.4% of the provincial population. The ageing index in Málaga (129.75), was lower compared to nationally (142.35).
- **Birth Rate & Labour Force:** Spain had a low crude birth rate in 2023 (6.61), slightly higher in the Province of Málaga (6.67%), while the city of Málaga registered a higher rate of 7.17%. The labour force was 24 million nationally, of these, 4 116 400 resided in the autonomous community of Andalusia. Within Andalusia, the Province of Málaga accounted for 862 600 of the active population, representing 21% of the regional total.
- **Migration Trends:** Spain in 2024, was home to approximately 6.5 million foreign residents, reflecting an increase of 7% compared to 2023. In parallel, locally Málaga in 2023, recorded 5 820 emigrants, a 21.1% increase compared

to 2022. On the other hand, 13 485 immigrants entered Málaga in 2023, showing a decline of 12% compared to 2022.

- **Security:** Spain scored 1.256 on the Global Terrorism Index in 2025. Nationally, the crime rate declined to 50.1% in 2024. However, Málaga reported a significantly higher rate of 63.4%, with a total of 34 571 crimes reported. The majority were thefts (35%).
- **Education & Literacy:** According to UNESCO, the literacy rate (for population over 15 years), has increased in Spain over recent years, reaching 100% in 2021.
- **Poverty & Social Support:** In 2024, 26.1% of Spain's population was at risk of poverty or social exclusion, higher than the EU average (21.4%). The Autonomous Community of Andalusia reported a higher rate (36%). Additionally, in the province of Málaga, there were 3,563 beneficiaries of Active Insertion Income in 2024, representing a 26% decrease compared to 2023.
- **Labor & Modern Slavery Risks:** Average working week in Spain was 36.4 hours in 2024 (above EU average, 36 hours). Illegal immigration and undeclared work are still issues, especially in construction, which illegal immigrant numbers have been increasing.
- **Economic Indicators:** Spain minimum wage in 2025 was 1 184€, following a 4% increase compared to 2024. Unemployment in 2024 stands at 11.2% nationally and 12.76% in the Province of Málaga (both higher than the EU rate, 5.9%). Inflation in the Province dropped to 3.2% in 2024, down from a peak of 3.8% in 2023.
- **Public Health:** Life expectancy in Spain is 84 years (86.7 for women, 81.3 for men). The country ranks mid-range in mental well-being. In 2024, Spain recorded a total of 310 558 doctors, with 16%, equivalent to 49 191, based in Andalusia. Of these, 21% were in the Province of Málaga, amounting to 10 496.
- **Climate Change Risks:** DOC Málaga faces physical risks like Water Stress and Flood.

03. Our impact

DOC Málaga has implemented a comprehensive set of measures to ensure the safety, well-being, and inclusion of everyone who uses the space. Security is a top priority, with high-quality CCTV cameras, trained personnel on-site, and a detailed emergency response plan in place. Specific procedures are also in place to address terrorism threats, supported by regular drills and training for building workers to ensure preparedness in all scenarios. In addition, safety and health courses are offered to staff, further promoting a safe and informed environment for all users of the centre.

Health and wellness are also key focuses. The centre offers regular health screenings to all building users, while indoor air and water quality are regularly monitored. Occupational health appointments and access to first-aid support, including a defibrillator and trained first aiders on-site, ensure prompt medical attention when needed. In addition, well-being initiatives aimed at supporting mental health are in place, alongside employee benefits designed to encourage work-life balance and overall wellbeing.

Fair labour practices are central to the site's operations. Direct staff receive fair wages and benefits. Service providers are also required to comply with minimum regional wage standards and are included in benefits plans. Contracts with tenants and suppliers mandate full compliance with labour and social security legislation, and explicitly promote human rights, adequate working conditions, and fair remuneration policies.

Inclusivity and accessibility are reflected in various aspects of the shopping centre. The space is fully accessible to people with physical and cognitive disabilities, as well as the elderly, with ramps and multilingual signage in Spanish and English. Digital tools such as websites and touchscreens provide interactive maps and access to events, enhancing the user experience for all visitors. Guest services are available to all users, with wheelchairs and baby pushchairs offered on request. The centre also runs an immigrant support programme in partnership with INPAVI, offering clothing donations to help individuals attend job interviews and hosting talks where immigrants share their experiences of integration into the Spanish workforce.



Figure 1. Crowdfunding Children's Camp 2024 INPAVI



Figure 2. No child without a Toy 2024-2025

Community engagement is encouraged through the promotion of local businesses and cultural events such as live music performances. There are spaces dedicated to affordable retail or social enterprises serving low-income customers. In addition, the centre fosters a sense of belonging through programming for different demographics, youth, seniors, families, and people with physical and mental disabilities, making it a welcoming place for relaxation and social interaction. Feedback and suggestions are encouraged through a clear complaints' procedure, promoting a responsive and community-centered environment.



Figure 3. Charity run in support of women and children

Environmental responsibility is also integrated into daily operations. The site has assessed climate risks and developed strategies to build resilience. The centre incorporates sustainability practices aimed at reducing energy and water consumption, promoting recycling, and ensure sustainable sourcing. Visitors are encouraged to use public transportation, with electric vehicle charging points available. In addition, water refill stations are provided, allowing visitors to refill their bottles and reduce single-use plastic waste. The shopping centre is also recognized with respected sustainability certifications such as BREEAM demonstrating a long-term commitment to sustainability stewardship.

Overall, this set of integrated initiatives reflects a responsible, inclusive, and sustainable approach to managing a modern shopping centre, one that prioritizes safety, health, human rights, community connection and environmental resilience.