

IMPACT OF REACH IN CERAMIC AND RELATED INDUSTRIES

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This study analyses the impact that the REACH Regulation has on the various sub-sectors that make up the ceramic cluster (ceramic tiles, frits, pigments, bricks, and roof tiles etc.) and related industries (suppliers of raw materials, machinery and capital goods, etc.), in accordance with different indicators. The companies that make up the ceramic sector, and especially some of its sub-sectors (frits, glazes, and pigments), are affected by these regulations because of the presence of a wide variety of chemical substances in their business activities. The extent to which they are affected varies widely, and is basically determined by the activities performed with the substances that are imported, manufactured, or used in their facilities. The result of the study is a series of statistical charts that are summarised in an impact chart that reflects the general condition of the sector in the Valencia Region. This chart has been drawn up from an updated list of companies (May 2009), classified into four levels in accordance with the following involvement criteria:

- **High level:** companies with an obligation to register a particular substance (importing from outside the EU or manufacturing substances).
- **Medium level:** companies needing to communicate uses to suppliers, and having to draw up safety data sheets.
- **Low level:** companies needing to communicate uses and other less complex information.
- **Zero level:** companies whose activities are not affected by REACH (there are none in the ceramic sector).

The chart shows the number of companies in the sector by districts, and the percentage that corresponds to each level of involvement, in accordance with the available information. Figure 2 presents a comparison of the number of companies affected in each sub-sector.

Ceramic sector

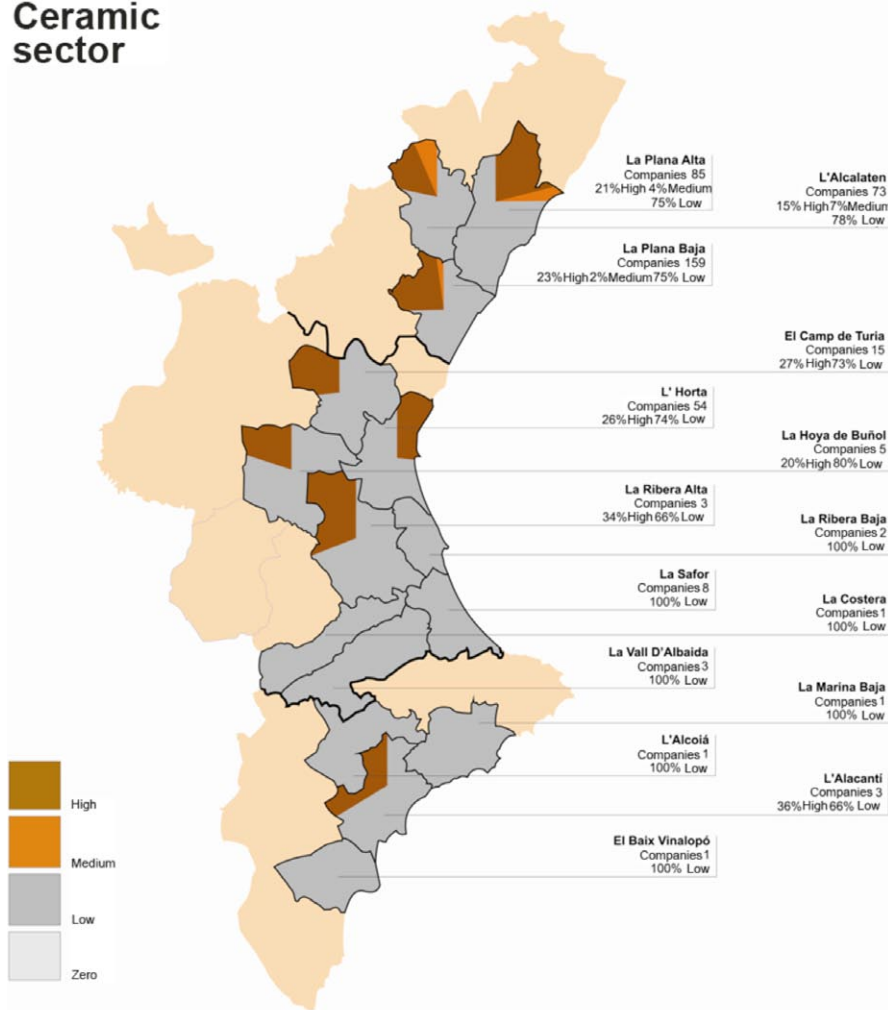


Figure 1. Impact chart.

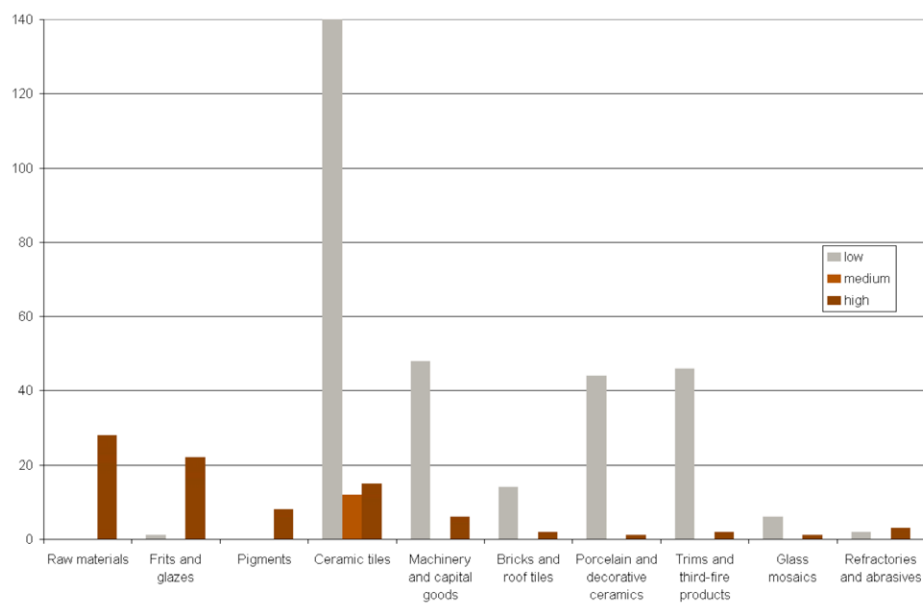


Figure 2. Number of companies affected, broken down by sub-sector.

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