

Non-EU citizens: presence, new inflows and acquisition of citizenship

Years 2014-2015

Non-EU foreigners holding a residence permit in Italy on 1st January 2015 are 3,929,916. From 2014 to 2015 there has been an increase of approximately 55 thousand units. The most represented citizenships are: Morocco (518,357), Albania (498,419), China (332,189), Ukraine (236,682) and Philippines (169,046).

In 2014 the share of non-EU children in Italy amount to 24% of the total foreign population holding a residence permit.

The share of long-term permits is continuously growing. While in 2014 they were 2,179,607, in 2015 they are 2,248,747 and represent the largest part of the regular presence (57.2%).

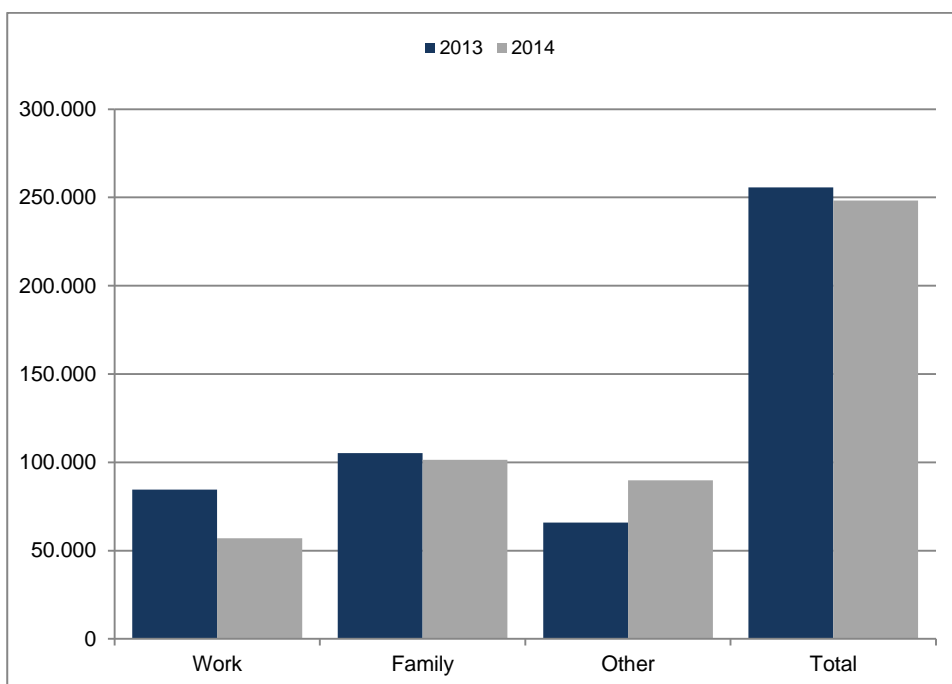
The new inflows of non-EU foreigners are still declining: in 2014 almost 248,000 new permits were issued, nearly 3% less than the previous year. The decrease in the new permits has affected women (-14%) while the male inflows increase (7.5%). In the same period the new permits issued for work decreased strongly both in absolute terms (-27,500) and relative terms; in 2013 they represented more than 33%, while in 2014 were 23% of the new issued permits. The permits for asylum and other humanitarian reasons are doubled: if in 2013 they were 19,146, in 2014 are 47,873. In relative terms they are 19.3% of new inflows, while in the 2013 were 7.5%.

In the 2014 Mali, Nigeria and Gambia were the most relevant countries of citizenship with permits issued for asylum and other humanitarian reasons: they represent 42% of all permits issued for this reason.

From 2011 to 2014 the acquisitions of citizenship of Non-EU citizens increased quickly: in 2011 they were 50 thousands, in 2014 they are 120 thousands. Between the two last years an increase of 28.7% has been registered. 40% of acquisitions of citizenship in 2014 involved people who had previously the nationality of Morocco (29,025) and Albania (21,148).

The number of acquisitions of citizenship granted to children by transmission and of persons born in Italy to foreign parents who chose Italian citizenship at eighteen years of age has rapidly grown: from about ten thousands in 2011 to near 48 thousands in 2014. People under 20 years represent 40% of the 2014's new Italian citizens.

Figure 1. Inflows of Non-EU citizens during 2013 and 2014 for reasons of the permit, absolute values.



Source: Istat on data of Ministry of Interior

Table 1. Inflows of Non-Eu citizens during 2014 for asylum and other humanitarian reasons

2014, absolute and percentage values

PAESI DI CITTADINANZA	Absolute values	% Values	% Men	% Variation on 2013
Mali	7,104	14.8	99.6	446.9
Nigeria	7,065	14.8	81.0	173.7
Gambia	5,832	12.2	99.7	736.7
Pakistan	5,489	11.5	98.9	140.1
Senegal	3,265	6.8	98.6	556.9
Bangladesh	2,852	6.0	99.4	475.0
Afghanistan	2,601	5.4	99.2	45.8
Somalia	1,750	3.7	80.7	3.1
Ghana	1,544	3.2	97.6	137.5
Eritrea	1,164	2.4	78.8	-18.4
Other countries	9,207	19.2	78.5	60.7
Total	47,873	100.0	91.4	150.0

Figure 2. Non-Eu acquisitions of citizenship by reason.

2011-2014, absolute values



Source: Istat on data of Ministry of Interior

Glossary

Non-EU citizens holding a residence permit: are included all foreign citizens holding a regular residence permit and the children registered on the permit of an adult.

Non-EU citizens holding a long-term residence permit: This permit is permanent and can only be claimed by those who have a residence permit for at least 5 years. The applicant must give proof of sufficient income and, in case the applicant is requiring the residence permit also for his/her family members, depending on the number of applicants, the annual income varies and doesn't have to be inferior to the parameters established by law.

Inflows of Non-EU citizens: are registered all the new permits issued during the year, regardless of whether the end of the year the permit is still valid or expired. Documents are accounted for and not persons. A person who has obtained two new permits in the same year is counted twice.

Methodological note

Since the early '90s until 2007, Istat has disseminated data on residence permits on the basis of the data supplied by the Ministry of Interior. Since 2008, Istat disseminate a new series on non-EU citizens in which are no longer included the EU citizens among them the "new" EU citizens (Romanian, Bulgarian), for which, from 27 March 2007, is no longer expected to issue the residence permit.

Since the entry into force of Regulation (EC) 862/2007 concerning Community statistics on migration and international protection, Istat is also collaborating with the Ministry of Interior to improve the quality of data collected and disseminated on the basis of residence permits. This led, in recent years, to a review of criteria for data processing, based on the guidelines provided by Eurostat.

For more details please refer to the Italian version

Contact person:

Cinzia Conti (ciconti@istat.it).

Socio-demographic and environmental statistics directorate

Istat – National Institute of Statistics

Viale Liegi, 14 – Rome 00198 Italy

phone +39 06 4673.7366