

Non-EU Citizens: presence, new inflows and acquisition of citizenship Years 2016-2017

Non-EU foreigners holding a residence permit in Italy on 1st January 2017 were 3,714,137. The most relevant citizenships were: Morocco (454,817), Albania (441,838), China (318,975), Ukraine (234,066) and Philippines (162,469).

The new inflows of non-EU foreigners were continuing to decline: in 2016 almost 227,000 new permits were issued, nearly 5% fewer than the previous year. In the period the new permits issued for work (12,973) decreased strongly (-41%). In 2015 they accounted for 9% of the total, while in 2016 were only 5% of the new permits issued. On the other hand the permits for asylum and other humanitarian reasons continued to grow both in absolute (+10,656) and relative terms (+16%). In 2015 they represented 34% of new inflows, while in the 2015 they were 28.2% and in 2014 were 19.3%.

In 2016 Nigeria, Pakistan and Gambia were the Countries of origin of most of the people with permits issued for asylum and other humanitarian reasons: they represented 44.8% of all permits issued for this reason.

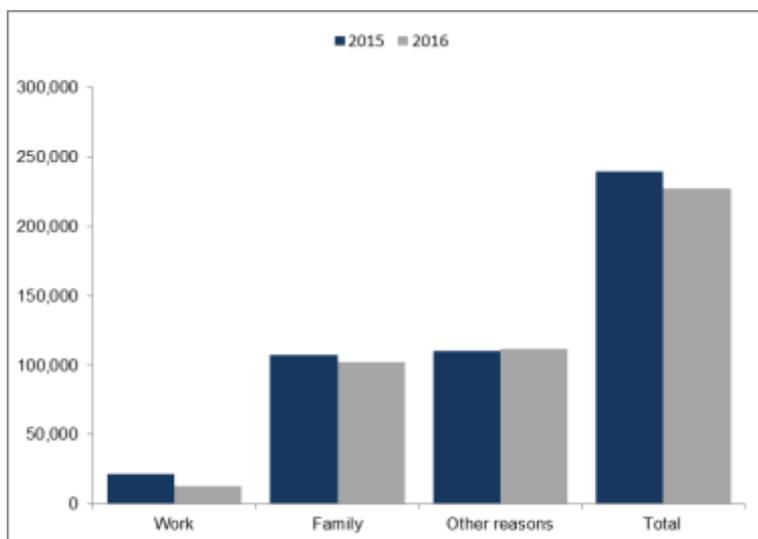
From 2011 to 2016 the acquisitions of citizenship of non-EU citizens increased rapidly: in 2011 they were 50 thousand, in 2015 they were almost 184,638. 39% of acquisitions of citizenship in 2016 involved people who had previously the nationality of Morocco (35,212) and Albania (36,920).

People under 20 years represented 41.2% of the 2016 new Italian citizens. 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 increased from about 10 thousand in 2011 to more than 76 thousand in 2016.

Households with at least a non-EU-citizens were 1 million and 300 thousand. Non-EU families with at least one Italian citizen were over 328 thousands (24.5% of the households taken into account), of which 252 thousand with Italian reference person.

Taking into account all non EU households, it is estimated that 34.2% were composed by one person, 15.8% by two persons, 16.3% had three components, 17.4% had four components and about 16% had more than four members.

FIGURE 1. INFLOWS OF NON-EU CITIZENS DURING 2015 AND 2016 FOR REASONS OF THE PERMIT, ABSOLUTE VALUES.



Source: Istat on data of Ministry of Interior

Glossary

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

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 lower to the parameters established by law.

Inflows of Non-EU citizens: all the new permits issued during the year are registered, regardless of whether the permit is still valid or expired at the end of the year. 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 has been disseminating a new series on non-EU citizens in which are no longer included the EU citizens, and 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

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