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National Immigrant Survey 2007. Results Preview

In 2.16 million Spanish households, there resides at least one person born abroad

64.9% of immigrants were working before coming to Spain

One in four married immigrants entered into matrimony with a person of Spanish nationality

The National Immigrant Survey (NIS), carried out for the first time in 2007 by the National Statistics Institute (INE), has researched 15,500 immigrants. In this sense, it is worth noting that the NIS defines immigrants as all those persons born outside Spain, irrespective of their nationality (see Methodological Annex).

According to the NIS results preview, there were 2.16 million households in which at least one of their members aged 16 years old or over was born outside Spain. On the other hand, there were 1.02 million households solely comprising immigrants and 1.14 million households comprised of immigrants and non-immigrants.

Arrivals in and departures from Spain

64.9% of immigrants were working in their countries of origin before departing for Spain (53.7% as employees and 11.2% as independent workers or businesspersons).

At the time of their departure, 13.4% of married immigrants' spouses were residing in Spain. Conversely, among immigrants with living parents, 5.8% had their father living in Spain, and 5.4% had their mother living here.

The most frequently used means of transport to enter Spain was the aeroplane (62.7%), followed by overland means (motor car, coach). On the other hand, immigrants who emigrated in dugouts or small boats barely represented 1.0% of the total.

One feature of migration to Spain was the virtual absence of intermediate countries in the process. In fact, **almost nine out of 10 immigrants arriving in Spain started their journey from their country of birth.**

The main reasons for emigrating to Spain were the demand for a better quality of life, the search for a better job or family reasons.

45% of men cited as the reason for their arrival the search for a better job, and 26% cited joblessness, whereas in the case of women, these proportions were 32% and 20%, respectively.

In turn, family regrouping was the main reason for women to move (39% as compared with 26% for men).

Immigrants by age and sex, by reason for moving to Spain

Percentages

Reasons	Total	16-54 years	55 years +	Women	Men
Retirement	3.6	0.3	23.3	3.6	3.7
Change in career direction	5.9	5.9	6.0	5.0	6.8
Joblessness	23.3	25.8	8.8	20.4	25.9
Seeking a better job	39.0	42.9	15.9	32.2	45.2
Political reasons	3.0	2.7	5.0	2.8	3.3
Religious reasons	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.5
Training or educational reasons	8.4	9.2	3.6	8.8	8.0
Quality of life	40.0	39.9	40.6	38.7	41.2
Family reasons (regrouping)	32.1	32.4	30.3	39.2	25.6
Cost of living	14.3	13.5	19.0	14.1	14.6
Climate	11.4	7.7	33.0	11.5	11.3
Temporary stay in transit country	1.1	1.2	0.7	1.3	1.0
Other reasons	12.1	11.4	15.8	13.3	11.0

Characteristics of immigrant households

Of the total of immigrants interviewed, 36.6% lived with their partner and children, 23.0% lived with their partner but with no children and 6.5% lived with no partner but with children. The remaining 33.8% lived with no partner or children.

Households by size and family ties (*)

No. of persons habitually living in the dwelling	With no partner or children	With no partner, but with children	With a partner, with no children	With a partner and with children
One	100.0	-	-	-
Two	20.5	9.4	70.1	-
Three	25.2	7.6	9.3	57.9
Four	24.8	4.7	7.8	62.7
Five	31.9	7.4	10.9	49.7
Six	36.1	6.9	11.2	45.9
Seven	44.6	4.3	7.1	44.0
Eight	39.0	7.5	11.3	42.2
Nine and more	35.8	11.5	10.5	42.2
TOTAL	33.8	6.5	23.0	36.6

(*) Data on the person selected, in other words, a person chosen at random from the dwelling, who was born abroad, aged 16 and over and having lived in Spain for at least one year or intending to do so.

Immigrants residing in Spain had 759,000 children under the age of 16 not living in their dwelling. Of these, 86.6% lived in their country of birth.

The average size of households in which there resided at least one immigrant was 3.4 members. Nevertheless, there were differences between households formed solely of

immigrants (whose average size was 3.1 members) and those composed of immigrants and persons born in Spain (an average 3.7 members).

By origin, the smallest average-sized households were formed solely by immigrants from developed countries (2.5 members) and the largest ones, among which there were only immigrants, were made up of citizens from Andean countries or of immigrants from a range of backgrounds (3.8 members).

Average size of the household, by origin of the household as a whole

Origin, by country of birth, household as a whole(*)	Average size	Number of households (thousands)
Household with immigrants, all originating from		
developed countries excluding Spain	2.54	414
Andean countries	3.76	177
other countries in Latin America	2.94	146
countries in Africa excluding South Africa	3.59	130
countries in the Rest of Europe, Asia and Oceania	3.45	71
a combination of groupings of the aforementioned countries	3.79	77
Household of Spaniards and foreign nationals originating from		
developed countries	3.35	469
Andean countries	3.96	175
other countries in Latin America.	3.34	238
countries in Africa excluding South Africa.	4.19	162
countries in the Rest of Europe, Asia and Oceania.	4.06	57
a combination of groupings of the aforementioned countries	5.07	43
TOTAL	3.40	2,158
Household with only immigrants	3.11	1,016
Household with persons born in Spain and immigrants	3.66	1,143

* Andean countries: Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru

Developed countries excluding Spain: EU 27 countries except Spain, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Monaco, Norway, Andorra, San Marino, Vatican City, Switzerland, South Africa, Canada, United States of America, Japan, Australia and New Zealand

Ways in which immigrants live together

The percentage of the married population among immigrants stood at 52.3% (it should be borne in mind that the NIS is aimed at persons aged 16 years old and over, whereby the percentage of married persons is higher than would be the case if the population being examined had no age restrictions). Conversely, 37.7% of immigrants were single, 7.1% were separated or divorced and 3.0% were widowed.

Of a total of 2.37 million married immigrants, 12.5% were not residing with their spouse. On the other hand, it is worth noting that 30% of single, separated, divorced or widowed immigrants were living with a partner in Spain.

Among married immigrants, 68% had entered into matrimony with persons of the same nationality from their country of origin, and 26.5% with persons of Spanish nationality.

Married immigrants, by country of birth of the spouses

	Total	%
Spouses with		
the same country of birth, not Spaniards and living together	1,336,513	56.5
the same country of birth, not Spaniards and not living together	269,196	11.4
different countries of birth, not Spaniards and living together	122,139	5.2
different countries of birth, not Spaniards and not living together	10,704	0.5
The immigrant's spouse is Spanish and they live together	610,671	25.8
The immigrant's spouse is Spanish and they do not live together	16,013	0.7
Married total	2,365,237	100

Type of immigrant dwelling

Immigrants resided largely in buildings comprising several dwellings, and their main mode of dwelling was lettings, although the sizeable number of property owners was worth noting.

40.3% of immigrants let, whereas 38.1% lived in a dwelling which they owned. On the other hand, 19.3% resided in transferred dwellings.

Immigrant dwellings mostly had all kinds of facilities (running water, hot water, electricity, bathroom...), although **43.7% lacked heating.**

Family dwellings with immigrants, by tenancy regime and type

Percentages

Tenancy regime of the dwelling	Single family dwelling	Flat or apartment in a building	Other type of dwelling	Total
Owned and fully paid for	28.1	11.1	5.8	15.7
Owned and still being paid for	21.9	21.7	2.7	21.7
Owned by inheritance or donation	1.5	0.5	0.0	0.8
Let or sublet	22.2	47.1	40.7	40.3
Transferred free of charge	24.0	17.4	41.8	19.3
Other situations	2.3	2.2	9.0	2.2
TOTAL	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Employment situation

22.5% of employed immigrants with over three years' residence in Spain were qualified professionals. 9.3% were uneducated or had not finished primary education.

38% of employed immigrants with over three years' residence in Spain were now working in a different occupation from the one in which they embarked on their career in Spain. On analysis of the career progression of immigrants, it was shown that the

occupations in which a greater proportion of immigrants remained with regard to those who had started were Business management and Public Administrations (84.3%) and Technicians and scientific and intellectual professionals and (81.3%). On the other hand, only 31.9% of Workers skilled in agriculture and fishing remained in that occupation.

Spain for over three years by initial and current occupation

Large occupation groups	Proportion of those remaining as compared with those who started
Armed forces	51.3
Business management and Public Administrations	84.3
Technicians and scientific and intellectual professionals	81.3
Technicians and support professionals	62.2
Administrative type employees	55.7
Catering service workers, persons working in trade...	53.6
Workers skilled in agriculture and fishing	31.9
Artisans and skilled workers in the manufacturing, construction industries...	73.8
Installation and machinery operators and assemblers	58.7
Unskilled workers	58.3

Considerable turnover by branch of activity was also observed. Indeed, 44% of employed immigrants who had been resident in Spain for over three years changed activity. In this sense, the branches with the lowest proportion of immigrants remaining in the activity in which they started were Fishing (25.8%), Agriculture (31.5%) and Extractive industries (42.5%).

On the other hand, 73.1% of those in employment who began working in Construction remained in this sector.

Immigrants in employment and resident for over three years, by initial and current branch of activity

Branch of activity	Proportion of those remaining as compared with those who started
Agriculture, livestock, hunting and forestry	31.5
Fishing	25.8
Extractive industries	42.5
Manufacturing industry	54.6
Electrical energy, gas and water production and distribution	68.5
Construction	73.1
Trade	58.2
Accommodation	52.9
Transport and communications	57.0
Financial intermediation	54.3
Real estate activities; business services	59.5
Public administration, defence and social security	66.8
Education	69.8
Health and veterinary activities, social services	63.6
Other social activities; personal services	58.5
Household activities	52.3
Extraterritorial institutions	100.0

Family regrouping plans

81.2% of immigrants with family members abroad intended to bring their family to Spain, whereas 7.7% did not anticipate family regrouping.

Immigrants with family members abroad intending to bring them to Spain. Percentages

	Does intend	Does not intend	Does not know
Total	81.2	7.7	11.1
Women	82.8	6.7	10.5
Men	79.9	8.5	11.6

For further information see INEbase-www.ine.es/en/welcome_en.htm All press releases at: www.ine.es/en/prensa/prensa_en.htm

Press office: Telephone: 91 583 93 63 / 94 08 – Fax: 91 583 90 87 - gprensa@ine.es

Information area: Telephone: 91 583 91 00 – Fax: 91 583 91 58 – www.ine.es/infoine

Methodological Annex

The INE has responded to the high demand for information on recent international immigration by developing a study complementing the available sources: the National Immigrant Survey 2007 (NIS-2007).

The objective of this research is to establish an initial broad panorama of resident immigrants, without distinguishing between groups of origin, for the entire national territory, and with a study of broad dimensions and attention to quality.

The survey is not designed to estimate the number of immigrants residing in our country, but rather to study their structures, behaviours, ... An immigrant is understood to be a person aged 16 years old and over who was born outside of Spain.

The study develops aspects complementary to the regional sources (Municipal Register, Residential Variation Statistics, Economically Active Population Survey...), investigating the structure of their households and characteristics of their dwellings, family relations (parents, siblings and children living together and not living together), their original situation, migratory itineraries, work and residential history, relations with their country of origin and in Spain.

Survey scope

The Survey is carried out throughout the country. The information collection was carried out between November 2006 and February 2007.

Sample design

The type of sample used is a stratified three-stage sample. The first-stage units are the census sections. The second-stage units are the households in which there is at least one person aged 16 years old and over who was born abroad. The third-stage units are the persons aged 16 years old and over who were born abroad.

A sample of approximately 15,500 persons was taken. The sample was distributed among Autonomous Communities, assigning one portion uniformly and another in proportion to the size of the Community. Both national and Autonomous Community results will be provided.

Information collection

The persons selected were visited by the interviewers. The information was collected via laptop computer.

Universe and elevation

The National Immigrant Survey has the same population references as all INE surveys, the Population Now Cast (ePOBa) for each date, but referring in this case to the reference universe of the same: the population residing in family dwellings in Spain, having been born abroad. For the purpose of these calculations, the reference of the population stocks of NIS-2007 is considered to be 1 January 2007.

Concept and basic universe of the NIS

The population object of the NIS are those persons born abroad, aged 16 years old and over, and residing in family dwellings. This does not refer only to foreign nationals, but also includes those persons born abroad who have Spanish nationality. Likewise, it does not include all foreign nationals, given that it excludes those born in Spain. Also excluded are group dwellings or establishments, as well as accommodations that are not considered dwellings.

Definitions

Immigrants: Those persons born abroad, aged 16 years old and over, and residing in family dwellings for one year or longer or with the intention of residing in Spain for at least one year, independently of their Spanish or foreign nationality. This does not include persons under 16 years of age, or foreign nationals who were born in Spain, or Spaniards born abroad who upon their arrival in Spain were not yet two years of age.

Persons in households with immigrants: Those persons who reside in main family dwellings that have among their residents at least one person born abroad.

Households or dwellings with immigrants: Those main family dwellings that have among their residents at least one person born abroad. Given that we use the household-bedroom concept, households and dwellings are considered to be equivalent for all purposes of the NIS. We speak of households when the characteristics studied refer to persons, and in the tables we speak of dwellings when the characteristics refer to the residential premises in which the persons live.

Detailed results

The results presented today are a preview of the data from the NIS. Shortly, the INE will publish additional detailed information on the NIS, with a higher breakdown level, and will make available an anonymous microdata file of the survey and a Basic Report in approximation to the first results by the team of researchers who have participated in the project.

Institutional partnership

The National Immigrant Survey has been developed with a Partnership Agreement with the Ministry for Labour and Social Affairs and the Universidad Complutense de Madrid.