

**04 December 2018
(Updated 10-01-2019)**

**Statistics on Acquisition of Spanish Citizenship of Residents
Year 2017**

A total of 66,498 foreign residents acquired Spanish nationality in 2017, 55.9% less than the previous year

The most frequent nationalities of origin were Morocco (17,082), Ecuador (7,301) and Bolivia (6,124)

In 2017 a total of 66,498 foreign nationals residents in Spain acquired Spanish citizenship. This figure represents a decrease of 55.9% with respect to the previous year.

By gender, 49.2% of foreign nationals who acquired Spanish nationality in 2017 were men and 50.8% were women.

By age group, persons between zero and nine years old constituted the largest group in terms of acquisition of Spanish citizenship.

Acquisition of Spanish citizenship by age group Year 2017

	Both sexes	Men	Women
TOTAL	66,498	32,748	33,750
0-9	15,120	7,923	7,197
10-19	14,164	7,513	6,651
20-29	5,910	2,814	3,096
30-39	12,187	5,151	7,036
40-49	11,933	5,976	5,957
50-59	5,318	2,581	2,737
60 and more	1,866	790	1,076

Methods of acquiring Spanish nationality

Regarding the methods of acquiring Spanish nationality, 41,180 cases were by *residency* and 25,200 by *choice*. This last modality occurred mainly in minors under 20 years of age (95.6% of the total of that age).

Modalities of acquisition of Spanish citizenship. Year 2017

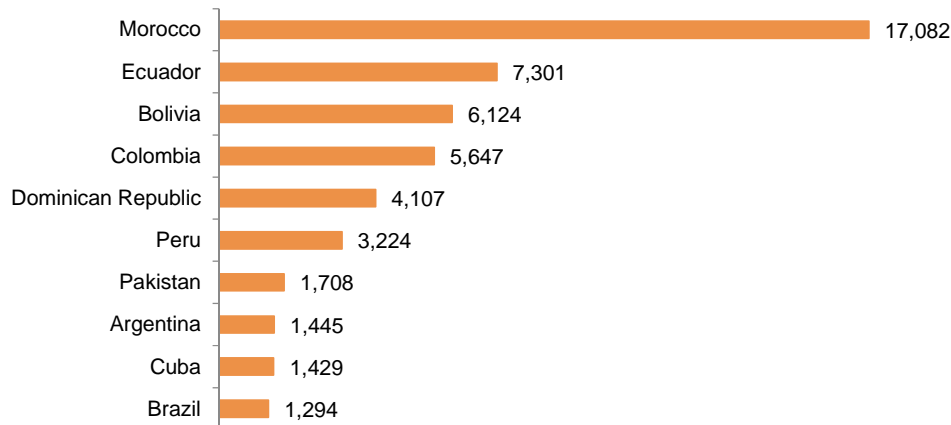
	Both genders	Men	Women
TOTAL	66,498	32,748	33,750
Residence	41,180	19,461	21,719
Option	25,200	13,217	11,983
Other	118	70	48

Nationalities of origin

The most frequent nationality of origin among persons who acquired Spanish citizenship in 2017 was that of Morocco, with 17,082 cases.

This was followed by nationalities from South American, Central American and Caribbean countries (nine of the ten most frequent corresponded to countries of these regions). On the other hand, Pakistan stood out among the Asian countries (1,708 people).

Most frequent nationalities of origin. Year 2017

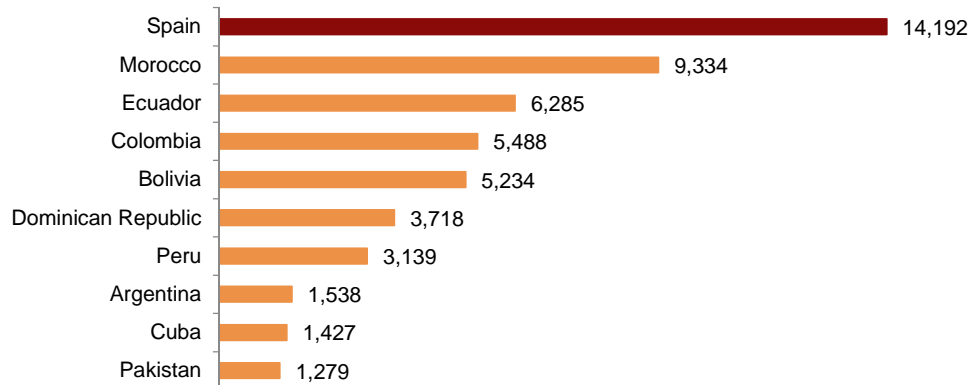


Countries of birth

The most frequent country of birth in the acquisition of Spanish nationality was Spain, with 14,192 cases. The majority were children (89.9%, under 10 years of age).

Among those born outside Spain, the most frequent country of birth was Morocco, with 9,334 acquisitions of Spanish nationality.

Most frequent countries of birth Year 2017

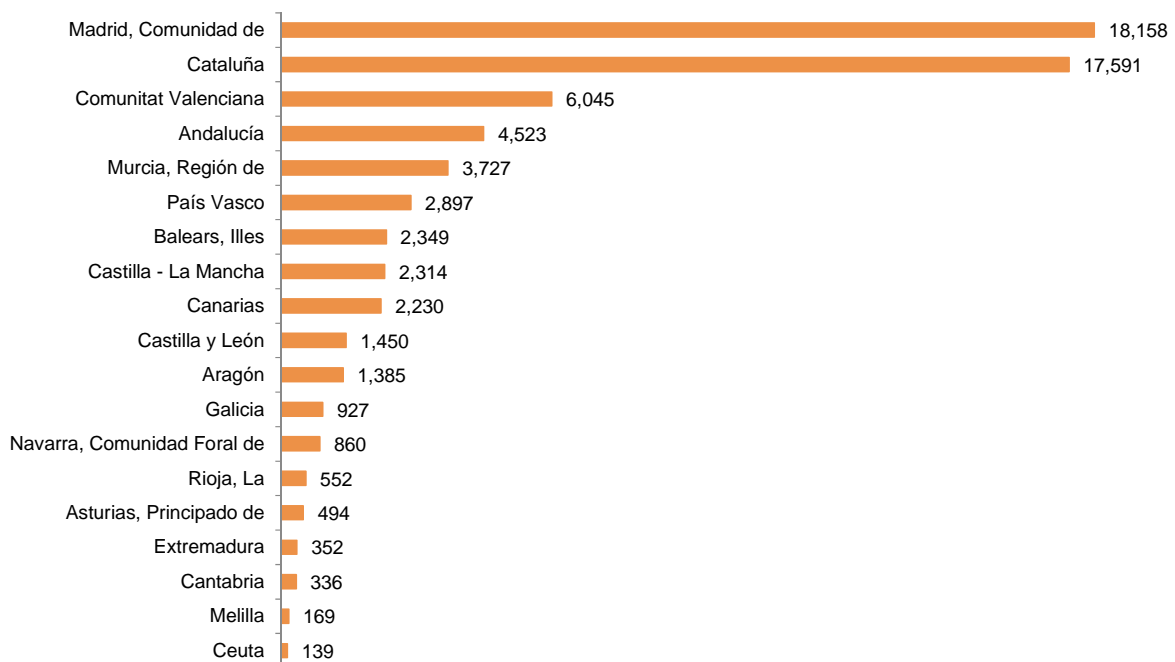


Results by Autonomous Community

Comunidad de Madrid (with 18,158 cases) and Cataluña (with 17,591 cases) accounted for 53.8% of the acquisitions of Spanish nationality in 2017.

On the other hand, Cantabria (336) and Extremadura (352) were the Autonomous Communities with the lowest number of y acquisitions of nationalities among their residents.

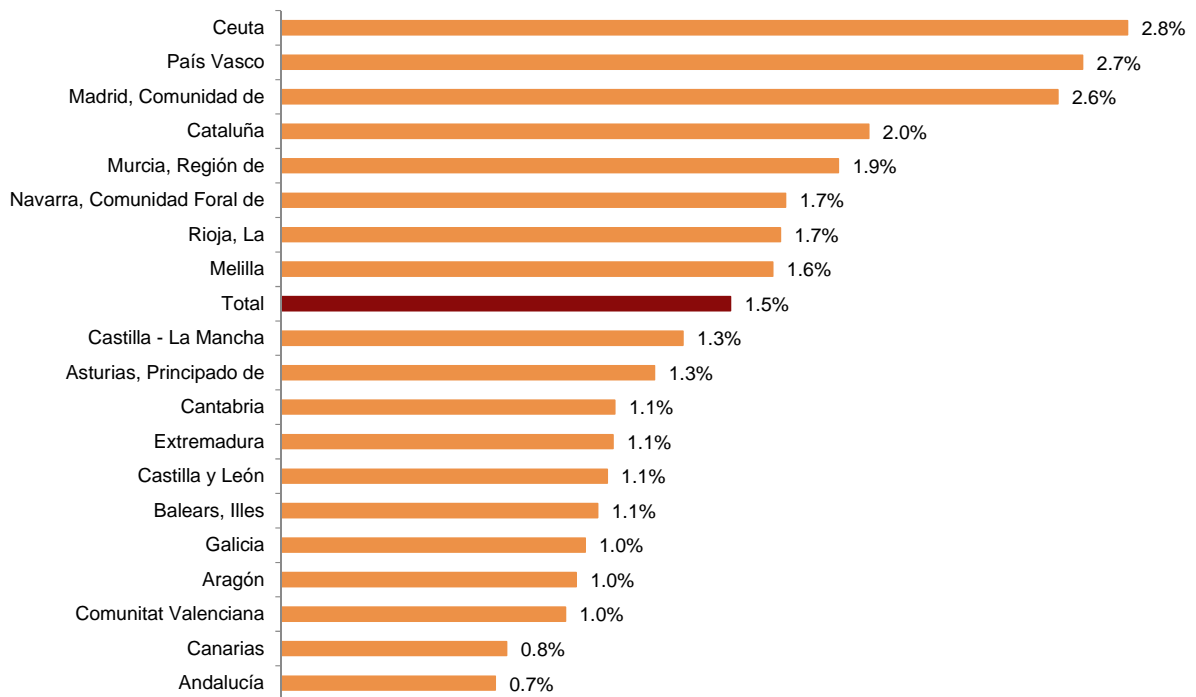
Acquisitions of Spanish citizenship by Autonomous Community of residence Year 2017



Comparing with the resident foreign population at the beginning of 2017, the highest intensities of the phenomenon of acquisition of nationality occurred in the Autonomous Communities of País Vasco (2.7% of foreign nationals acquired Spanish nationality), Comunidad de Madrid (2.6%) and Cataluña (2.0%).

On the other hand, the lowest percentages of acquisition of Spanish nationality among resident foreign nationals occurred in Andalucía (0.7%) and Canarias (0.8%).

Percentage of the foreign population that acquired Spanish nationality during 2017, by Autonomous Community



Review and update of data

The data published today are final and are not subject to further revision. All results are available on INEBase.

Methodological note

Since 2015 INE has published statistics on Acquisition of Spanish Citizenship of Residents. Its main purpose is to provide the number of persons who, having their habitual residence in Spain, acquire Spanish nationality during the reference year, having previously had the nationality of another country or the condition of statelessness. Therefore, persons who have acquired Spanish nationality while residing in other countries are excluded as well as those processes in which Spanish nationality is obtained by reason of origin (by simple presumption or adoption) or by consolidation (possession of status of those who already act as Spaniards).

This operation is based on the statistical treatment of the registration of nationality files in the Civil Registry and completes the set of demographic information that guarantees total consistency between population figures and demographic events (births, deaths, migrations and nationalisations).

Type of operation: statistics compiled from administrative records.

Population scope: persons who habitually reside in Spain and have acquired Spanish nationality during the reference year of the data, having previously had the nationality of another country or the condition of statelessness.

Geographical scope: national, Autonomous Communities and Cities and provinces.

Reference period of the results: the calendar year.

Frequency of dissemination: annual.

For more information you can access the methodology at:

http://www.ine.es/en/inebaseDYN/anes30279/docs/meto_anes_en.pdf

And the standardised methodological report at:

<http://www.ine.es/dynt3/metadatos/en/RespuestaDatos.html?oe=30279>

For further information see **INEbase:** www.ine.es/en/ Twitter: [@es_ine](https://twitter.com/es_ine)

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