

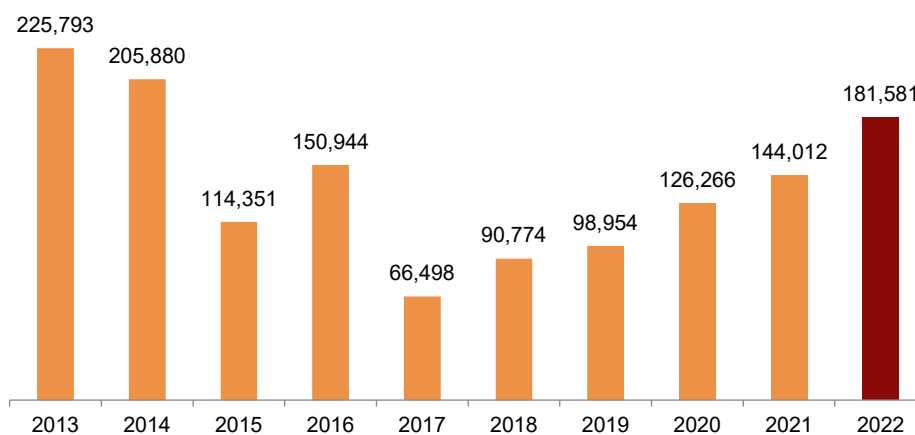
**Statistics on Acquisition of Spanish Citizenship of Residents
Year 2022**

The number of foreign residents who acquired Spanish nationality increased by 26.1%, to 181,581

The most frequent nationalities of origin were Morocco (55,463), Colombia (11,125) and Ecuador (10,845)

In 2022, a total of 181,581 foreign nationals resident in Spain acquired Spanish citizenship. This figure represented a 26.1% increase with respect to the previous year.

Number of acquisitions of Spanish nationality by residents



47.0% of foreign nationals who acquired Spanish nationality in 2022 were men and 53.0% were women.

By age, people under 10 years of age constituted the largest group in terms of acquisition of Spanish nationality, followed closely by the 30 to 39-year old age group.

Acquisition of Spanish nationality by age group. 2022

	Both sexes	Men	Women
TOTAL	181,581	85,419	96,162
0-9	44,689	23,162	21,527
10-19	24,524	12,732	11,792
20-29	22,878	10,122	12,756
30-39	34,100	13,927	20,173
40-49	33,389	15,870	17,519
50-59	15,605	7,086	8,519
60 and more	6,396	2,520	3,876

Methods of acquiring Spanish nationality

Regarding the methods of acquiring Spanish nationality¹, 157,415 cases were by *residency* and 23,558 by *choice*. This last modality occurred especially in those under 20 years of age (95.7% of total acquisitions were by choice).

Methods of acquiring Spanish nationality. 2022

	Both sexes	Men	Women
TOTAL	181,581	85,419	96,162
Residence	157,415	72,963	84,452
Choice	23,558	12,167	11,391
Other	608	289	319

Nationalities of origin

The most frequent nationality of origin among persons who acquired Spanish citizenship in 2022 was that of Morocco, with 55,463 cases.

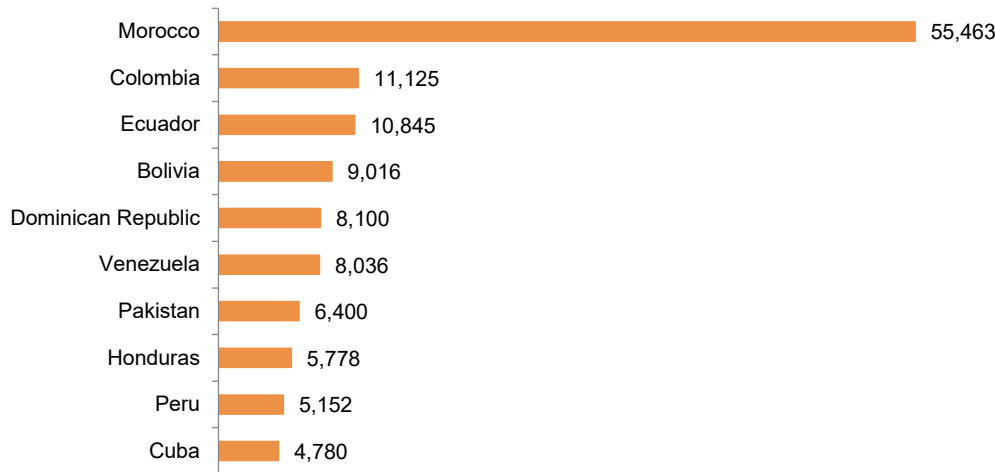
This was followed by nationalities from South American, Central American and Caribbean countries (eight of the ten most frequent were countries of these regions). Meanwhile, Pakistan stood out among the Asian countries (6,400 people).

¹**Nationality on the basis of *residence*:** the person needs to be legally resident in Spain for 10 years on a continuous basis and immediately before applying.

Nationality on the basis of *choice*: this is a right that the law offers foreign nationals who are in particular circumstances that entitle them to acquire Spanish nationality. Persons who are or have been under the parental authority of a Spanish citizen, or persons whose father or mother is/was a Spanish citizen or was born in Spain have the right to acquire Spanish nationality in this way.

Other ways: Nationality on the basis of naturalisation (this is discretionary and is not subject to the general rules of the administrative procedure) and unknown (cases that are left blank in the original case file and it decided not to assign them to any category).

Most frequent nationalities of origin. 2022

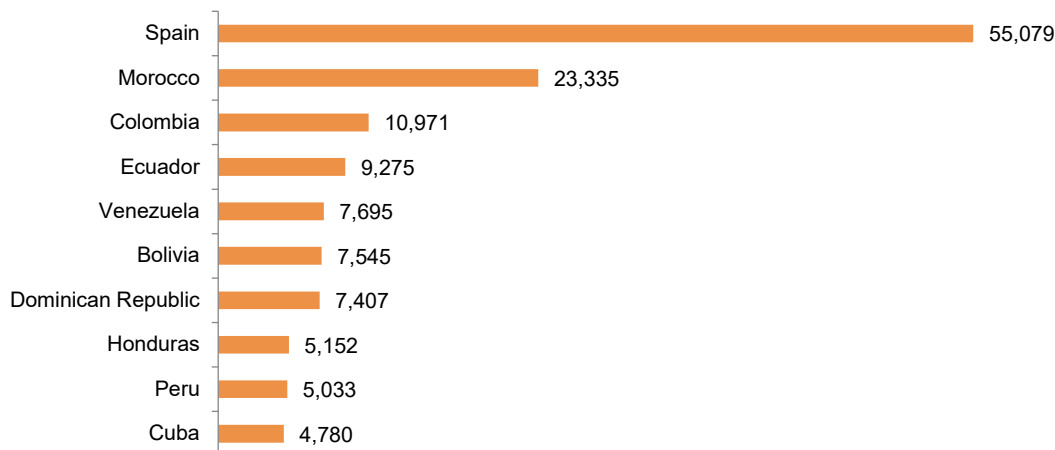


Countries of birth

The most frequent country of birth in the acquisition of Spanish nationality was Spain, with 55,079 cases. The majority were children (76.2% under 10 years of age).

Among those born outside Spain, the most frequent country of birth was Morocco, with 23,335 acquisitions of Spanish nationality.

Most frequent countries of birth. 2022

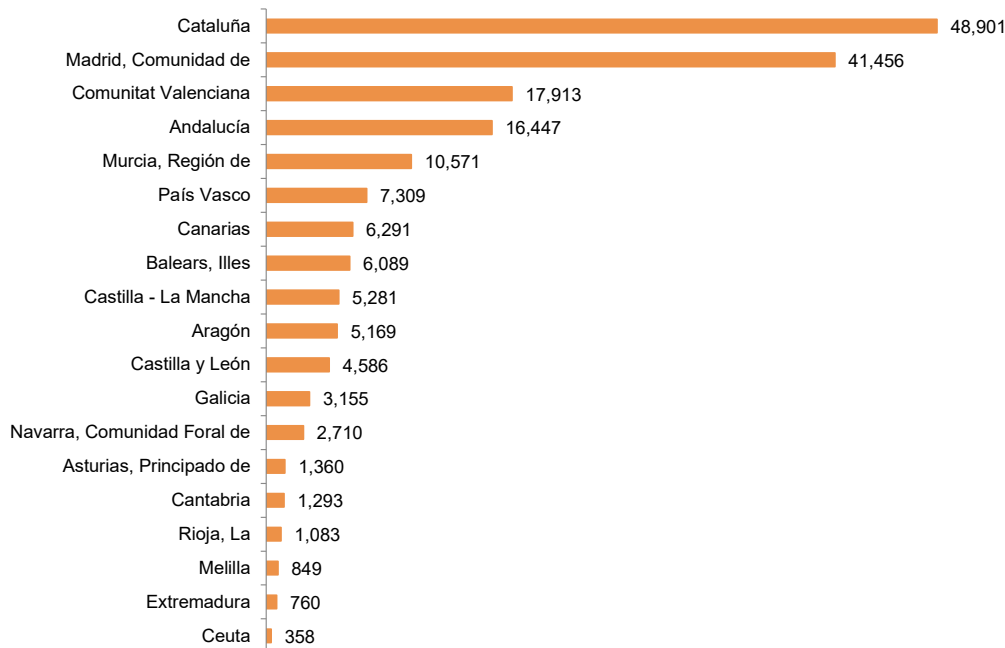


Results by autonomous communities

Cataluña (with 48,901 cases) and Comunidad de Madrid (with 41,456 cases) accounted for 49.8% of acquisitions of Spanish nationality in 2022.

On the other hand, Extremadura (760) and La Rioja (1,083) were the Autonomous Communities with the lowest number of acquisitions of nationality among their residents.

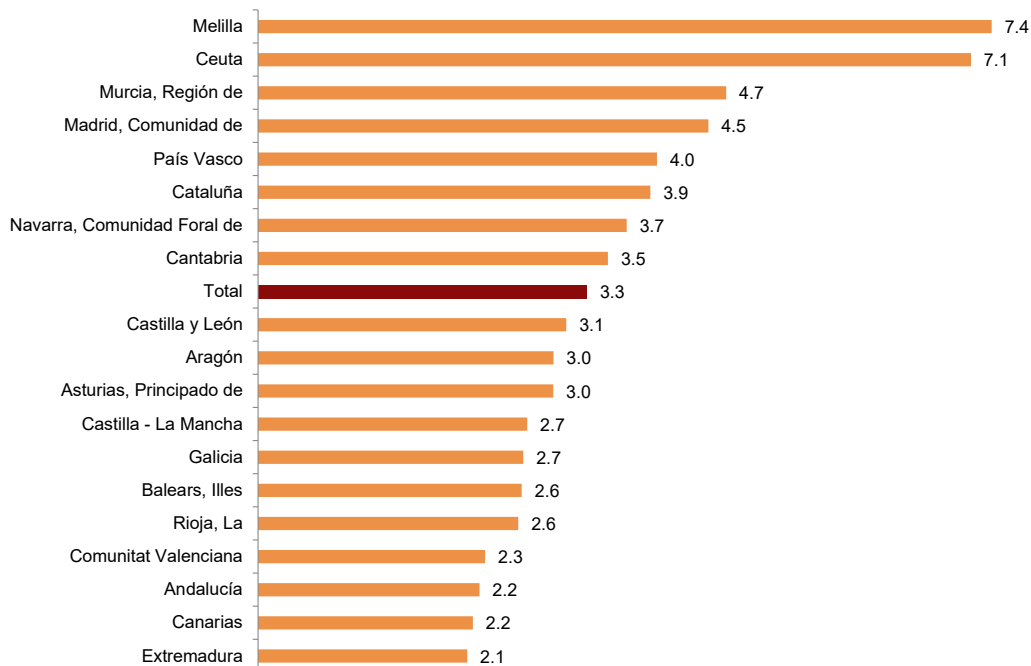
Acquisitions of Spanish citizenship by Autonomous Community of residence 2022



Comparing with the foreign resident population at the beginning of 2022, the highest intensities of the phenomenon of acquisition of nationality occurred in the Murcia Region (4.7% of foreign nationals acquired Spanish nationality), Comunidad de Madrid (4.5%) and País Vasco (4.0%).

On the other hand, the lowest percentages occurred in Extremadura (2.1%), Canarias (2.2%) and Andalucía (2.2%).

Foreign population that acquired Spanish nationality during 2022, by Autonomous Community. Percentage



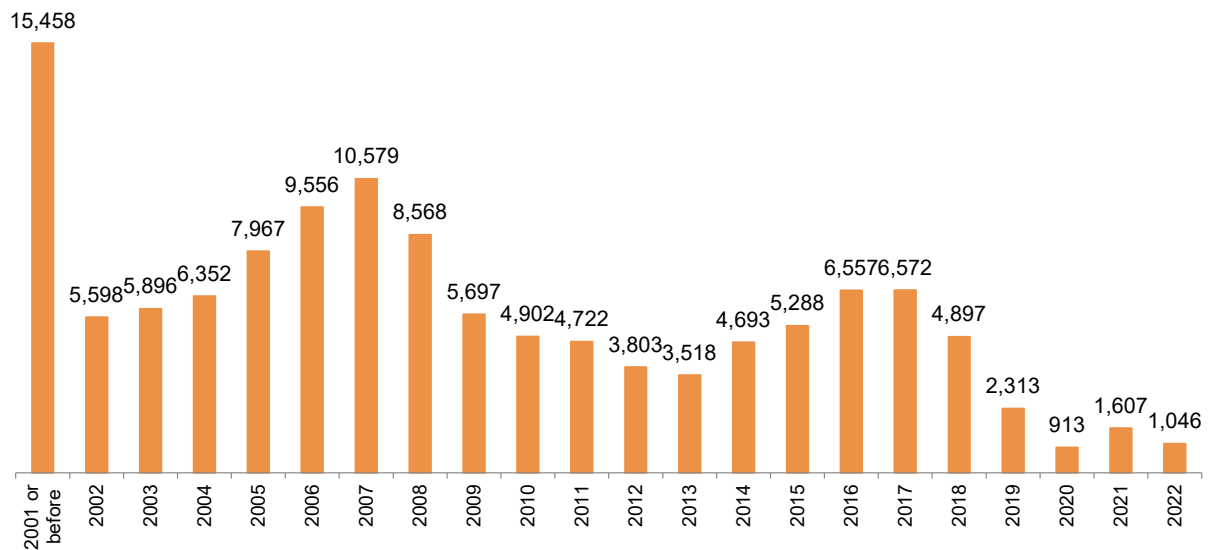
Year of arrival in Spain

Of the 181,581 people residing in Spain who acquired Spanish nationality in 2022, 30.3% had always resided in Spain. The remaining 69.7% had previously been resident abroad.

Since 2002, the most frequent year of arrival for people who acquired Spanish nationality in 2022 was 2007. That is, it took about 15 years to acquire Spanish nationality.

Acquisitions of Spanish nationality during 2022 by year of arrival in Spain

Residents who had previously immigrated to Spain



Data review and update

Since 2022, the Statistics on Acquisitions of Spanish Nationality by Residents has been published once a year, in June, and is definitive in nature. Previously, provisional results were published in June and final results appeared in November. All results are available on INEBase.

Methodological note

Since 2015 INE has published statistics on Acquisition of Spanish Citizenship of Residents, with data from 2013 onwards. 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.

Acquisitions of nationality by persons residing in the different regions of Spain are published, according to sex, age, previous nationality, country of birth and mode of acquisition. In addition, starting in 2022 four new disaggregation variables have been included for data with a reference year from 2019 onwards: year of arrival in Spain, level of education, relationship with economic activity and occupation.

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 since 2022 (previously biannual).

For more information, you can access the methodology at:

http://www.ine.es/inebaseDYN/anes30279/docs/meto_anes.pdf

And the standardised methodological report at:

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

INE statistics are produced in accordance with the Code of Good Practice for European Statistics, which is the basis for the institution's quality policy and strategy. For more information, see the section [Quality at the INE and Code of Best Practices](#) on the INE's website.

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