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**UNIVERSITÀ
DI TORINO**

Country Report - Spain



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Introduction

Spain is a country primarily located in southwestern Europe with parts of territory in the Atlantic Ocean and across the Mediterranean Sea. It shares a boarder with France in the North, with Portugal in the West and with Gibraltar, a British oversea territory, in the South. Spain includes in its territories the Canary Islands, the Balearic Islands and the autonomous cities of Ceuta and Melilla in Africa. Its capital and largest city is Madrid and its official language is Spanish, alongside territorial dialects such as Catalan and Euskara.

Spain is the second-largest country in the European Union and the fourth-most populous EU member state, it's also a member of the Eurozone, the Council of Europe, of the United Nations and of NATO, coupled with many other international organizations.

Spain is known for its long tradition of colonization, with a large empire that started in 1492 by will of the monarchs Isabella I and Ferdinand II. From then on the empire grew massively, spreading Spanish colonies among the majority of the American mainland.

Thanks to its proximity to the two autonomous cities and to the Spanish peninsula, the largest number of migrants comes from Morocco. Another big connection, such as the same language, allows a high number of migrants coming from Colombia, Venezuela and Ecuador.

Our aim in this report is to analyze the trends of migration in Spain. In the first part, we provided some information about the Spanish's context, while in the following sections we went more deeply in examining migration stock and flows and the level of social inclusion of migrants. In order to analyze the demographic and economic situation of the country, first of all we considered the total population in the last ten years, between 2012 and 2021.

1. Stock of total population

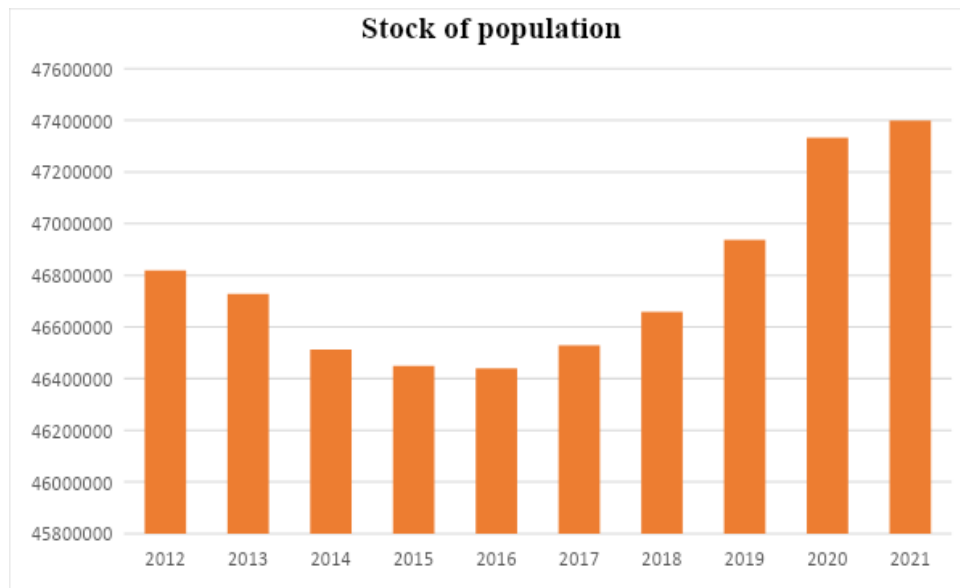


Figure 1, source EUROSTAT, Population on 1 January by age and sex [demo_pjan], accessed on 12th April 2023

As shown by Figure 1, the highest population amount was counted in 2021 with 47 398 695 people in the country. In the last ten years the stock of population increased significantly, especially if compared to 2016, the year in which Spain reached the minimum population with 46 440 099 people.

2. Stock of migrants in the last 10 years

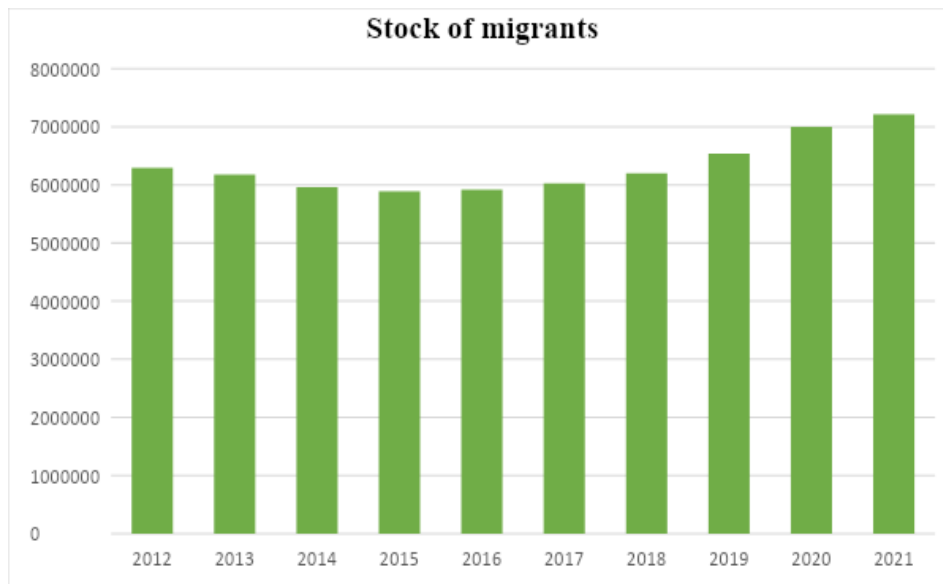


Figure 2, source EUROSTAT, Population on 1 January by age group, sex and country of birth [migr_pop3ctb], accessed on 12th April 2023

In 2021 the total population of the country was 47 398 695 million and among them 7 214 879 were migrants. From Figure 2 we can see that the number of migrants residing in the country tended to remain quite the same until 2017, from which we witnessed an increase, along with the growth of population.

3. Immigrants stock by category: country of birth, sex and age

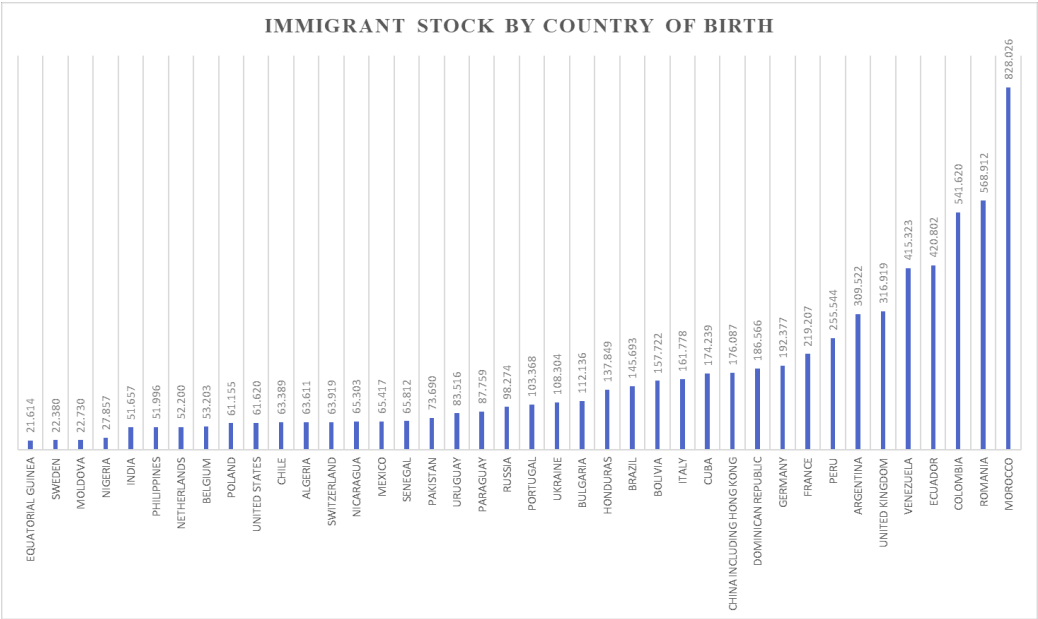


Figure 3, source EUROSTAT, Immigrant stock by country of birth on 1st January 2021 [migr_pop3ctb], accessed on 15th April 2023.

According to EUROSTAT, the total number of immigrants in Spain on 1st January 2021 is 7 214 879. The graph considers only countries of birth with a figure higher than 21,000.

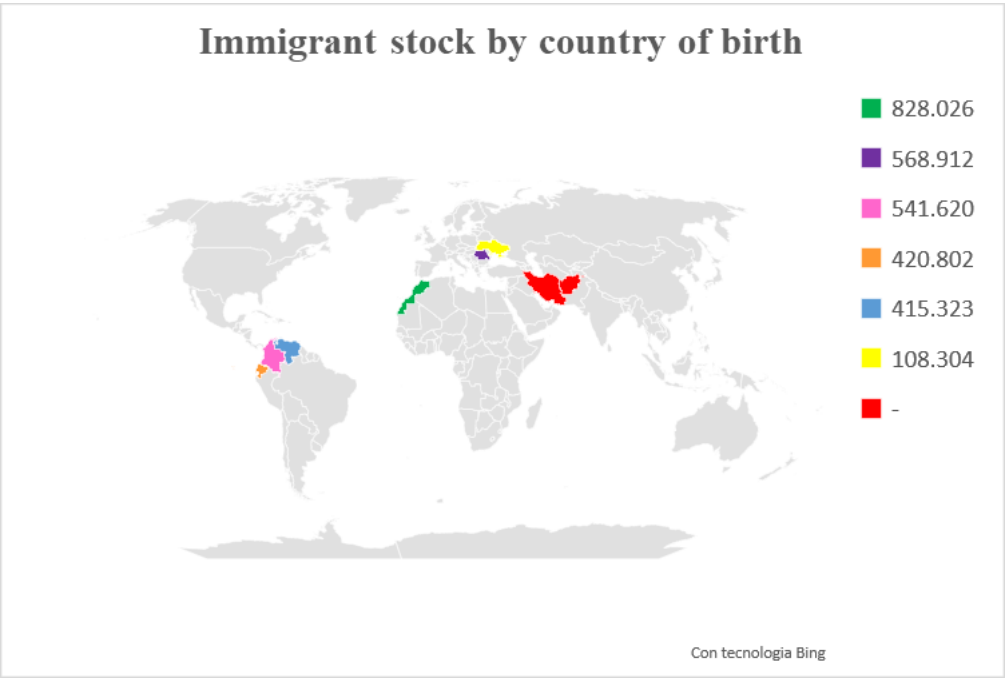


Figure 4, source EUROSTAT, Immigrant stock by country of birth on 1st January 2021 [migr_pop3ctb], accessed on 15th April 2023.

The majority of those migrants come mainly from 5 countries, in order: Morocco (828.026), Romania (568.912), Colombia (541.620), Ecuador (420.802) and Venezuela (415.323). Furthermore, we also consider immigrants from Ukraine (108.304); while, for what concerns Afghanistan and Iran, there's not available data on EUROSTAT.

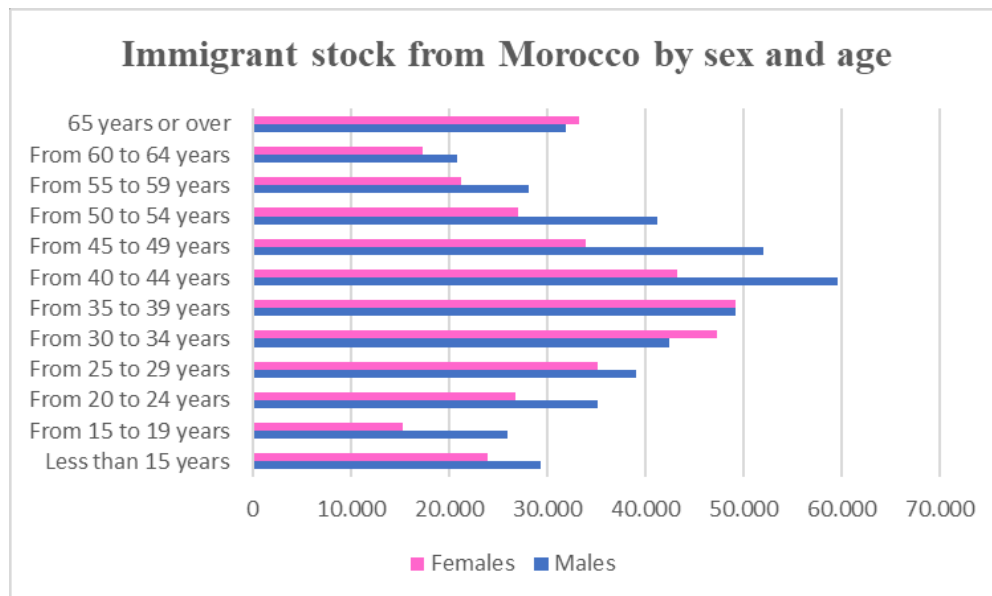


Figure 5, source EUROSTAT, Immigrant stock from Morocco by sex and age on 1st January 2021 [migr_pop3ctb], accessed on 15th April 2023.

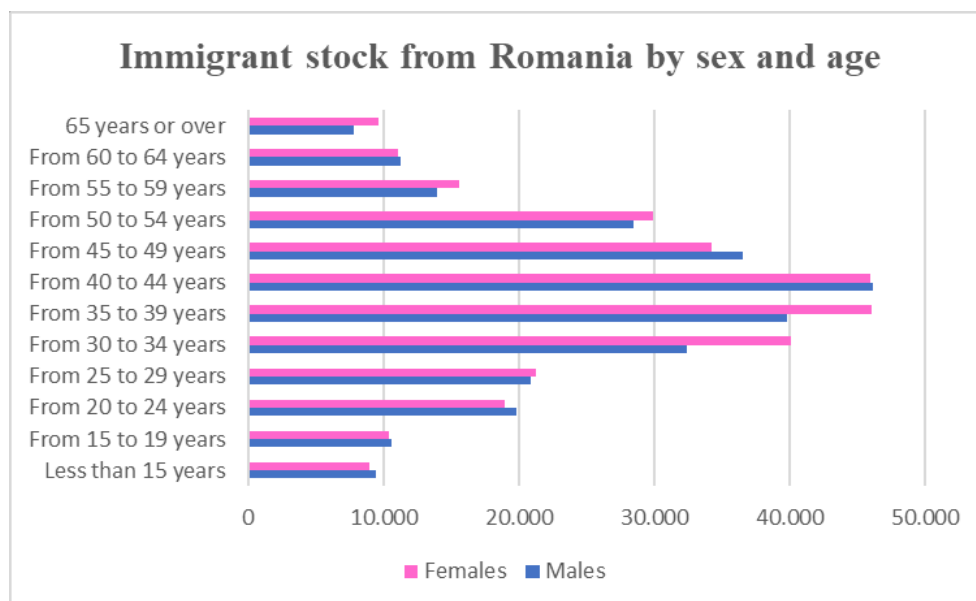


Figure 6, source EUROSTAT, Immigrant stock from Romania by sex and age on 1st January 2021 [migr_pop3ctb], accessed on 15th April 2023.

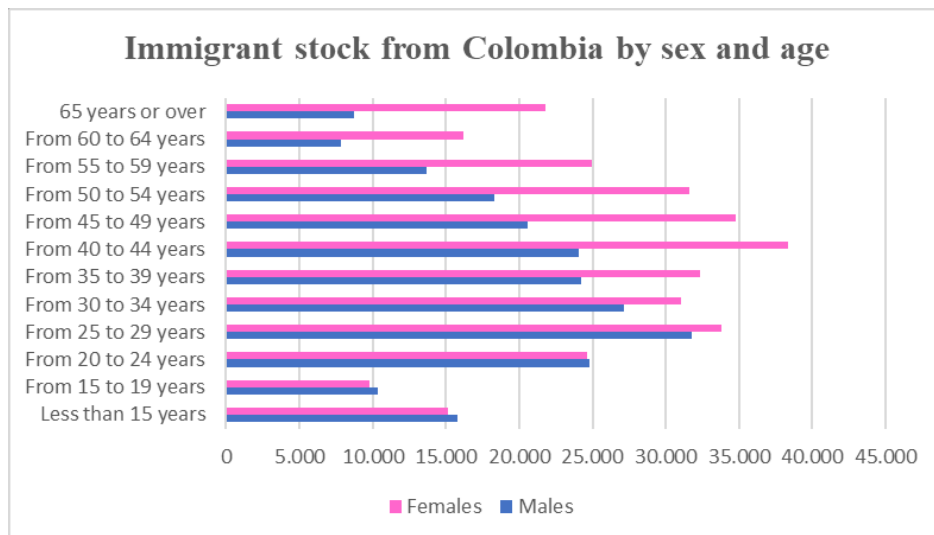


Figure 7, source EUROSTAT, Immigrant stock from Colombia by sex and age on 1st January 2021 [migr_pop3ctb], accessed on 15th April 2023.

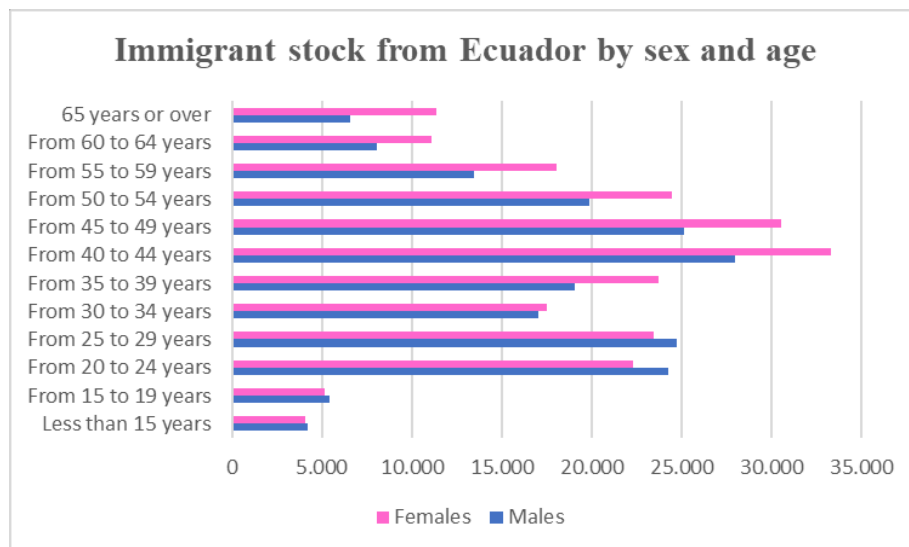


Figure 8, source EUROSTAT, Immigrant stock from Ecuador by sex and age on 1st January 2021 [migr_pop3ctb], accessed on 15th April 2023.

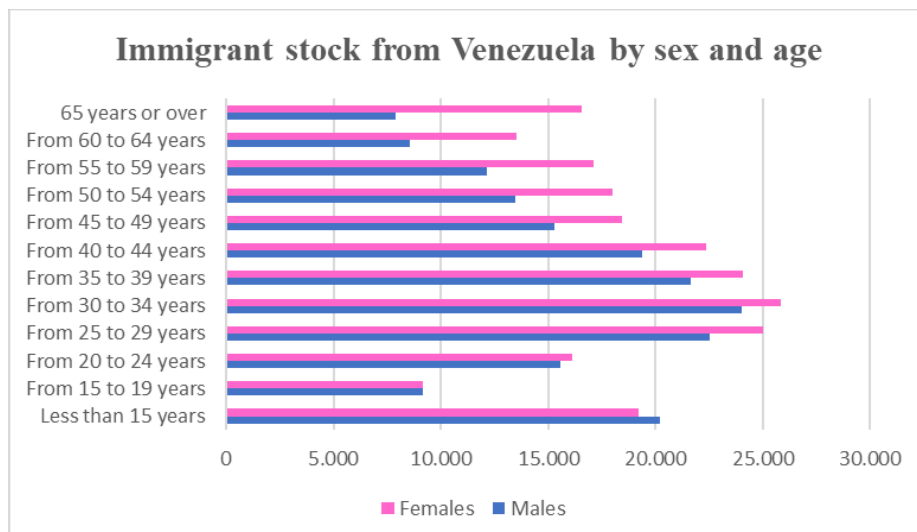


Figure 9, source EUROSTAT, Immigrant stock from Venezuela by sex and age on 1st January 2021 [migr_pop3ctb], accessed on 15th April 2023.

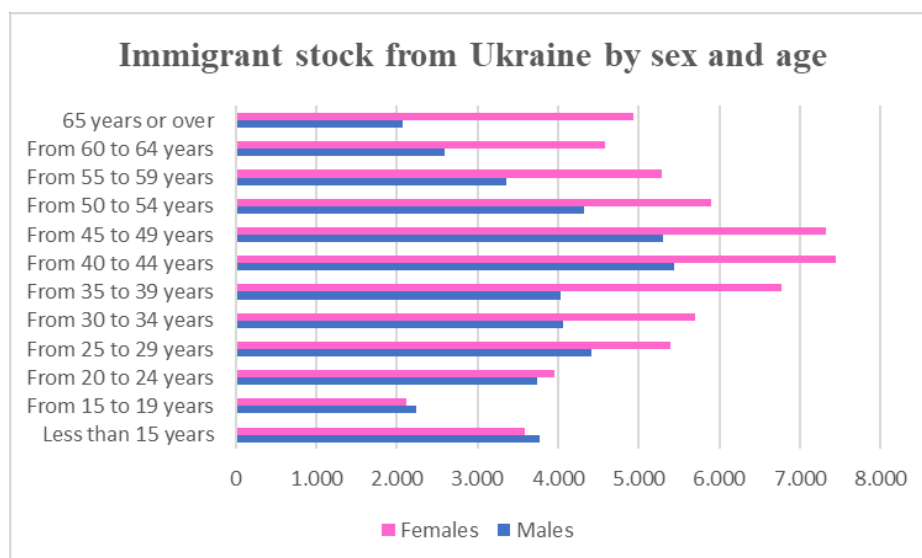


Figure 10, Source EUROSTAT, Immigrant stock from Ukraine by sex and age on 1st January 2021 [migr_pop3ctb], accessed on 15th April 2023.

Considering the five major countries of origin of immigrants (analysed above), to which are added data on immigration from Ukraine, these graphs analyse their composition with reference to two variables: age and sex.

As can be seen, the immigrant component is diversified within and each country has specific characteristics.

The immigrant component from Morocco is characterised by a greater male presence in all age groups, with the exception of the "65 years or over" and "from 30 to 34" age groups in which women appear to be present in greater numbers than men, although the difference is not particularly significant. In the case of adults between 35 and 39, there does not seem to be any gender differences.

As shown in the second graph, the Romanian component tends to have no significant gender differences. The number of women is particularly higher than the countrymen for the ages between 30 and 39 years and is slightly higher for the over 50, except for the range "from 60 to 64 years". In other cases the male and female components tend to be present in very similar quantities.

The case of immigrants of Colombian origin is different: there is immediately a clear prevalence of the female component at the expense of the male one. All age groups over the age of 25 are characterised by a strong presence of women, sometimes even more than half than men. As regards, however, young people under 24 years of age there is no significant difference between the two sexes and there is a slight prevalence of the male component for the youngest up to 19 years of age.

Then, the case of Ecuadorian immigration is similar to the Colombian one. Again, women in Spain are higher than men at the age of 30, although in this case the difference is not as marked as in the previous case but is more balanced. The number of men exceeds that of women under 29, with a small difference.

Also in the case of immigrants from Venezuela it is noted that women are greater in number than men, especially from the age of 60. In the age groups of adults and young adults, the number of men

is very close to that of women, although it does not reach it; while it exceeds it in the case of children. From 15 to 19 years men and women tend to be present in a similar way.

After analysing the major countries of origin, the last graph focuses on the particular case of Ukrainian immigration, despite the data seeing Ukraine at the nineteenth place by country of origin. The internal composition sees a predominance of the female component. The male component is present in lower quantities, especially with regard to older population groups. While the number of children of both sexes is very similar, with a slight predominance of the male component.

From the point of view of numerical prevalence based on age groups, in each of these situations the most abundant group is 25-50, which suggests that most of them are entering the Spanish labour market. Moreover, except for Ecuador and Romania, the number of minors under 15 is also relevant. This data is consistent if we think that registered minor migrants do not enter a country unaccompanied, but rather follow their parents' move, who go to Spain to have higher earnings or greater security. All this is also informative of the intentions of these migrants, who intend to assimilate and raise their children as Spanish citizens.

3.1 Reasons for migration

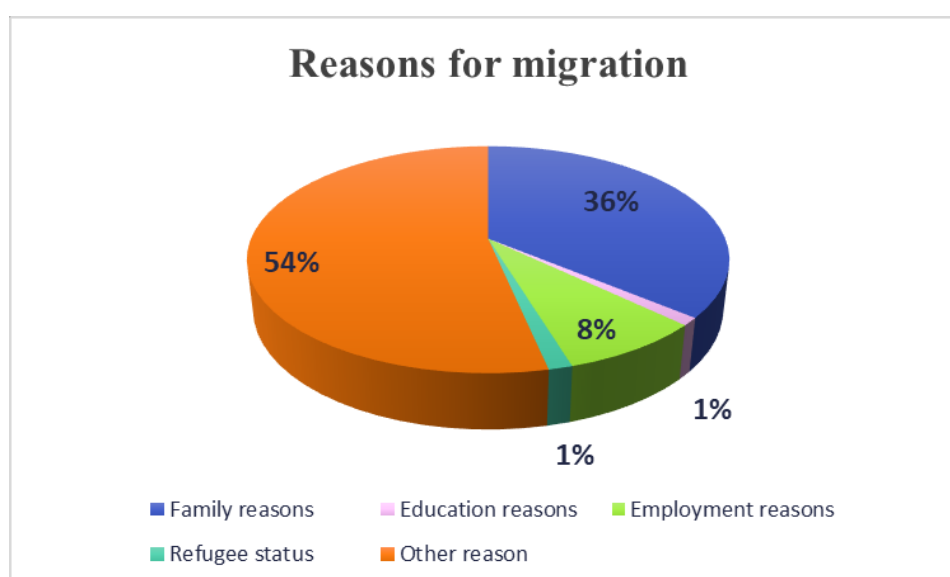


Figure 11, source EUROSTAT, All valid permits by reason, length of validity and citizenship on 31 December of each year[migr_resvalid], accessed on 15th April 2023.

All the variables taken into consideration by now are useful and significant but they still do not tell us something which is crucial when talking about migration: what are the channels through which people enter into the country. The technical term used here is “reason” but, as we know, the declared reason does not always match the actual one and that is why we talk about channels. This element, “reason”, becomes a mere justification and migrants often declare the one which is most convenient in relation to legislation and other barriers to migration (which change over time).

So, with data collected from EUROSTAT we tried to understand the main reasons that caused immigration in Spain in 2021, considering all valid permits by reason on 31 December. We can see in Figure 9 a division of all permits by reason: the main reason for all valid permits during 2021 was the ‘other reason’ one (54%). The second main reason was the family reunification one (36%) followed by a smaller share of employment (8%). Education (1%) and refugees status (1%) represent minor immigration causes.

The item “other reasons” often includes asylum seekers and humanitarian protection.

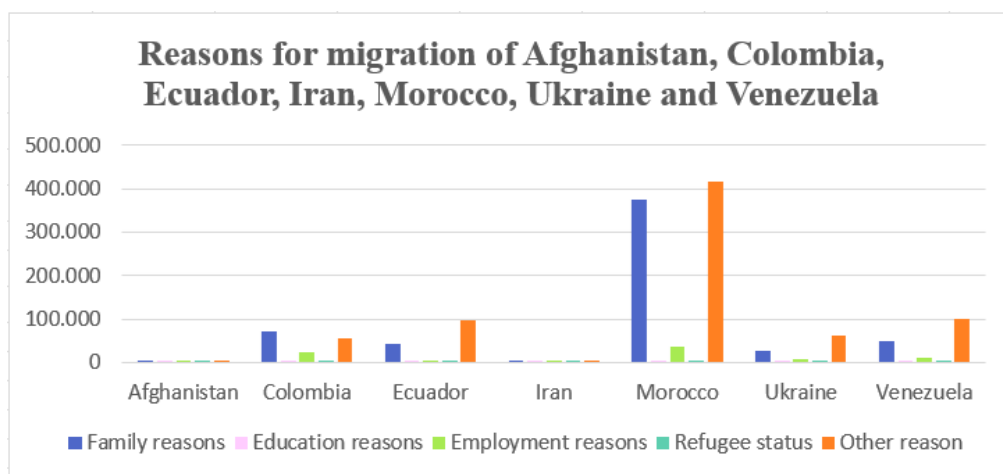


Figure 12, source EUROSTAT, All valid permits by reason, length of validity and citizenship on 31 December 2021 [migr_resvalid], accessed on 15th April 2023.

In this graph, only the countries previously analysed that are not part of the European Union were taken into account. In fact it allows us to focus on the migrants from Afghanistan, Colombia, Ecuador, Iran, Morocco, Ukraine and Venezuela. Moroccans arrive in Spain mainly for “other reasons” and family reunification. Venezuela and Ecuador are in a similar situation, most people come for other reasons firstly and secondly for family reunification, but in much smaller numbers. For what concerns Colombia instead, most people arrive in Spain for family reasons.

4. Population growth in the last 10 years

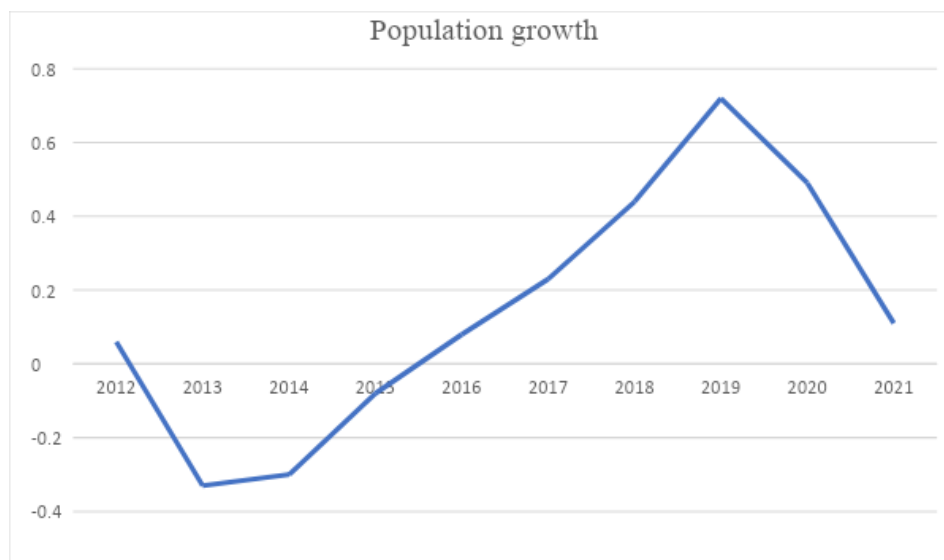


Figure 13, <https://databank.worldbank.org/source/world-development-indicators#>, accessed on 12th April 2023

This graphic shows us Spanish population growth in the period of time from 2012 to 2021. As we can see, the blue line represents a non-constant trend: Spain’s population, in fact, slightly decreased from 2012; then we can notice that the graphic shows a significant increase of population growth from 2014 to 2019, which is the latest highest peak with a percentage of 0,72. After 2019 the population has decreased again, reaching a share of 0,11% in 2021.

4.1 Total population growth projection from 2022 to 2050

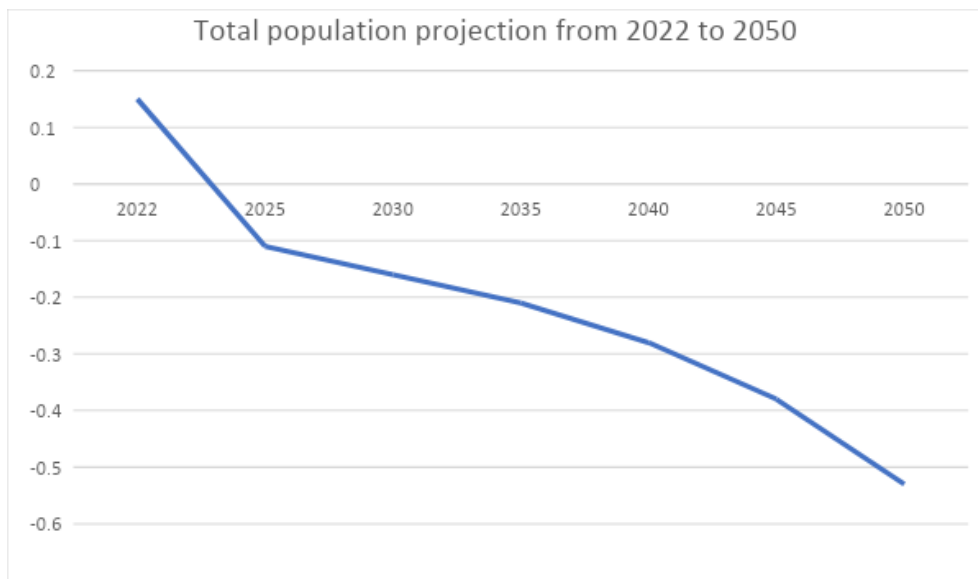


Figure 14, [Spain Population Growth Rate 1950-2023 | MacroTrends](#) accessed on 12th April 2023

The second graphic shows us the total population projection from 2022 to 2050. As we can notice, Spanish population seems to face a very significant decrease in 25 years, reaching a rate of -0,53% in 2050. The blue line represents a drastic decline starting from 2022 and reaching a share of -0,11% in 2025. After that, the graphic shows a constant and negative trend. We can assume that this scenario could be in part the result of a decreased maternity rate, however the results could change in a positive way thanks to migration.

5. Migration Flow

In this section we aim to analyze the flows of migrants in the last 10 years for which the data is available (which is from 2012 to 2021) in Spain. Although it surely is important to have data regarding who enters and who leaves a country, these data alone are not enough as they do not give us a complete and satisfying Quadro of the situation. Considering migration flows is a good way of overcoming this issue as, by combining these two pieces of information, we have a better understating of the actual number of people who left the country and those who entered in it during a fixed period of time (in this case the unit of time is one year), thus enabling us to make some considerations.

Before proceeding with the presentation and the analysis of the graphs, we should point out that, as the collection of data is not always easy, and as its importance has increased over the years, some data is missing for some years (but it will be reported in due course). Another fundamental clarification is to be made about Eurostat criteria in considering the countries. What we are referring to, in particular, is that the data on the country of birth of people coming to Spain, for example, is split into member countries of the European Union and Non-members. The important historical element to pay attention to is that if until 2019 the number of member states taken into account was 28, from 2020 it is 27. That is due to the fact that starting from the 31th of January 2020, the United Kingdom is no longer a member of the European Union.

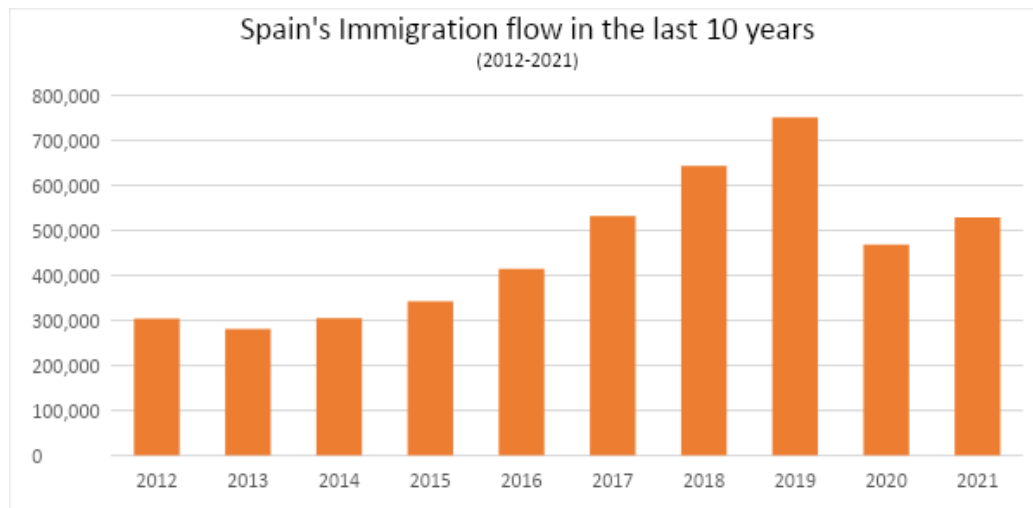


Figure 15, source EUROSTAT, Immigration by age group, sex and citizenship [migr_imm1ctz], accessed on 13th April 2023.

In this first section, we will consider the flow of migrants, as a general category, in the last 10 years in Spain (not taking into account sex, age and other variables which we will later consider). This first graph shows us a positive trend of migration from 2014 to 2019, expressed by the increasing growth rates. The major fall of migration flow that we find in 2020 and 2021 has clearly been caused by the breakout of the Covid-19 pandemic. This phenomenon has strongly affected people's freedom to move and, consequentially, migration.

5.1 Immigration flow by sex, age and country of birth

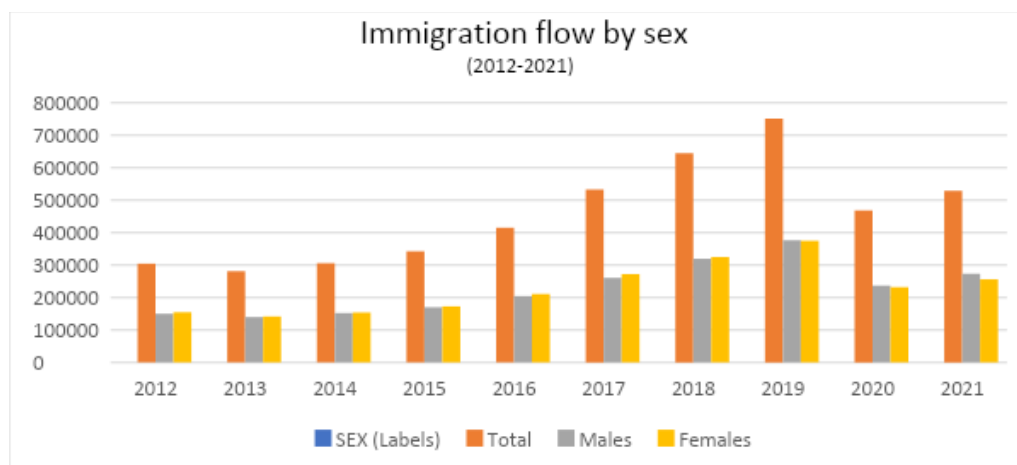


Figure 16, source EUROSTAT, Immigration by age group, sex and country of birth [migr_imm3ctb], accessed on 13th April 2023.

Here we have the same data but divided by sex. In fact, we have the total of migrants, which corresponds to the one of the previous graph, and two other columns: the grey one representing males and the yellow one, females. We notice a very slight difference between the quantity of males and females coming to the country. From 2012 to 2018 the number of women exceeds that of men (some years more, some others less but, all in all, the difference is minimal). From 2019 to 2021 we observe a trend reversal: the number of men is increasingly outnumbering that of women. Anyways, in both cases the difference between the two categories is not significant, they are nearly equal.

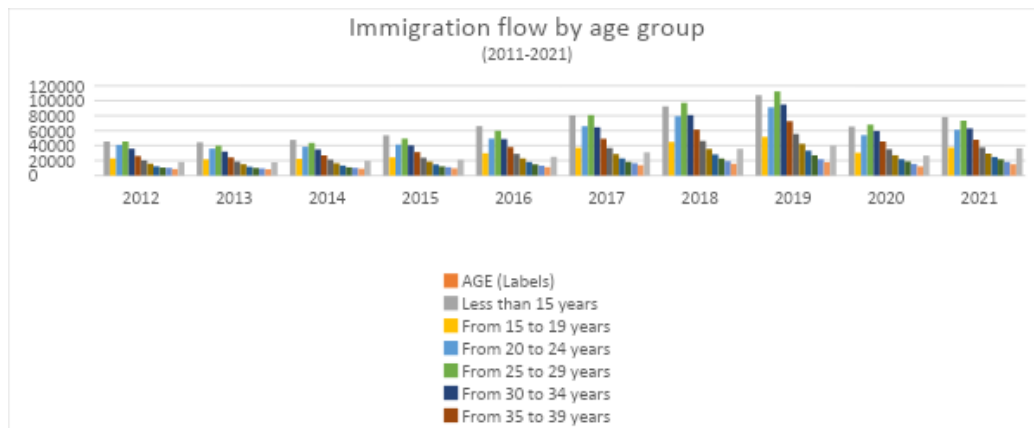


Figure 17, source EUROSTAT, Immigration by age group, sex and country of birth [migr_imm3ctb], accessed on 13th April 2023.

Considering the immigration flow by looking at the different age groups of migrants is also quite meaningful. As we can clearly see, the two most numerous categories are “less than 15 years” and “from 25 to 29”. If we want to consider the categories in an even more general sense, we can also state that the majority of people coming to Spain are under 40 years old.

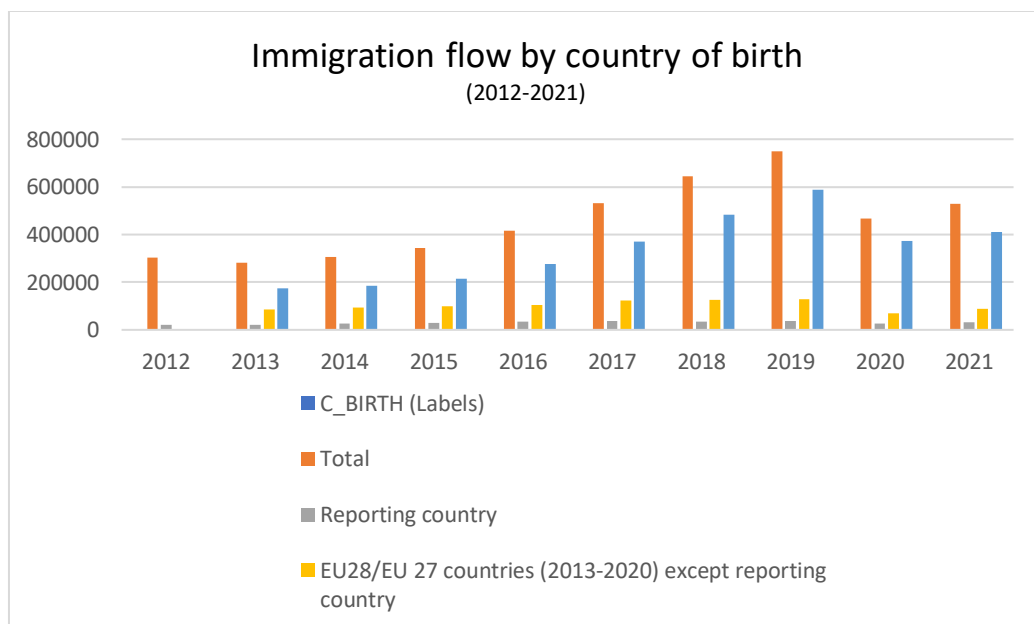


Figure 18, source EUROSTAT, Immigration by age group, sex and country of birth [migr_imm3ctb], accessed on 13th April 2023.

In this case we are accounting for immigration by looking at the country of birth of the migrants. In particular, we have three categories: reporting country, EU28/EU27 countries except the reporting one and non-EU28/27 countries except the reporting one. As mentioned before, here it is the case in which some data is missing: the last two categories only account for data from 2013 forward. Leaving alone 2012 and focusing on data from 2013 forward, we can see that immigrants were mainly coming from non-EU countries and that this trend has been increasing with sustained growth rates and the difference between the two values remains remarkable even in those years in which the total number of migrants has decreased due to the Covid-19 pandemic (2020 and 2021).

5. 2 Immigration flow by reasons for migration

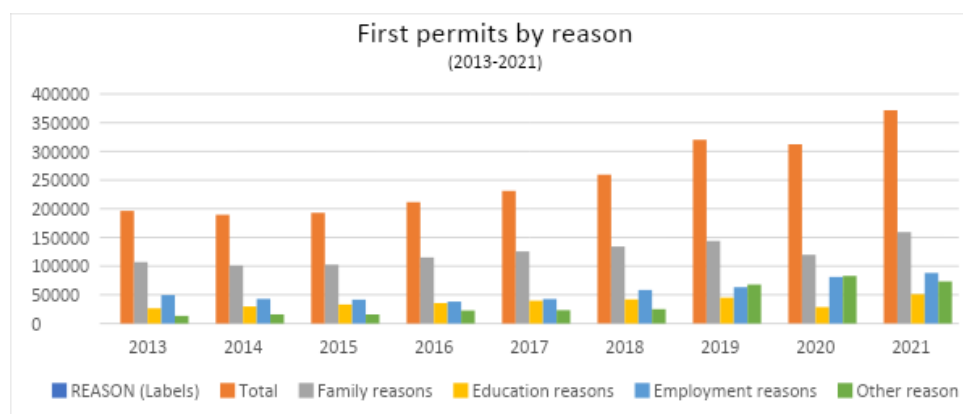


Figure 19, First permits by reason, length of validity and citizenship [migr_resfirst], accessed on 13th April 2023.

It is here important to stress, as previously pointed out, that the “reasons” for migration do not always reflect the actual motive that drives people to move, therefore they are to be looked at as “channels of entrance”. The greater turnout towards some entry channels rather than others is due to various reasons, for example, legislative barriers. As anticipated, this is one of those cases in which data is missing for the period of time we wanted to account for. In fact, we don’t have data related to 2012 but just from 2013 forward.

What we are specifically considering are the residence permits, which Eurostat defines as “any authorisation valid for at least 3 months issued by the authorities of a Member State allowing a third-country national to stay legally on its territory”. And, in particular, the focus is on residence permits issued to a person for the first time. A residence permit is considered as a first permit also if the time gap between the expiry of the old permit and the start of validity of the new permit issued for the same reason is at least 6 months, irrespective of the year of issuance of the permit.

So, after the necessary premises, we can say that we are accounting for the residence permits issued in a fixed time (in this case one year), divided according to the reason that would have prompted the migrants to arrive in the country taken in consideration (therefore, Spain). There are 4 major categories, namely: reasons related to family formation and reunification; reasons related to education and study; reasons related to remunerated activities and other reasons. Various cases fall into the “other reason” category outlined by Eurostat, such as: diplomats, consular officers treated as exempted from control; retired persons of independent means; all other passengers given limited leave to enter who are not included in any other category and other asylum discretionary permissions.

Giving a glance at the data, we immediately notice a “constant”: the majority of cases fall, each year, into the “family reasons” category. The volume of the other categories varies over time and this is due to the country’s legislation and its willingness to put more or less barriers on one channel rather than on another. For what concerns the total, instead, it seems like there was a slight reduction from 2013 to 2014 but from 2014 to 2019 the total number of first permits has been increasing more and more. In 2020 a reduction has been registered but that was the year of the pandemic, which is something that we have to keep in mind. Anyways, already in 2021, the number has started to grow again.

6. Asylum seekers by sex, age, country of birth and reason for migration

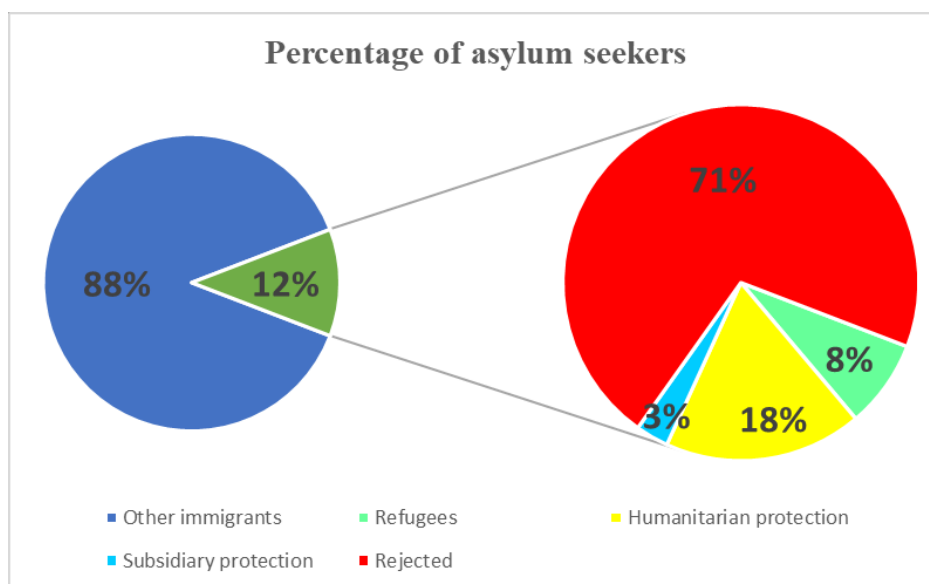


Figure 20, sources EUROSTAT (migr_imm8) and CEAR, Percentage of asylum seekers and refugees on total migration in 2021, accessed on 13th April 2023.

EUROSTAT reports the presence of 528.856 migrants who entered Spain in 2021, of which 12% are asylum seekers: a total of 65.404, 26% less than the previous year (88.762). This decline is largely due to the impact of movement restrictions imposed during the pandemic, the scarcity of appointments and delays in the reception system, or disparate criteria in the protection procedure. However, if we also take into account the still pending requests, according to CEAR the total amounts to 69.891. Of these, 49.537 were rejected. Refugee status was granted to 5.354 people, humanitarian protection to 12.983 and subsidiary protection to 2.017. The share of refugees on total immigration is a little bit over 1%.

According to the Spanish Interior Ministry, people from Venezuela topped the list of asylum applications (15.995), followed by those from Colombia (11.567) and Morocco (6.536).

Although 71.830 cases have been resolved (37% less than the previous year), Spain has improved the rate of recognition of international protection and has resolved favourably 10.5% of resolutions. Unfortunately, it is still very far from the European average of 35%.

In addition, 104.010 people were still awaiting resolution at the end of 2021, pending a life-changing decision.

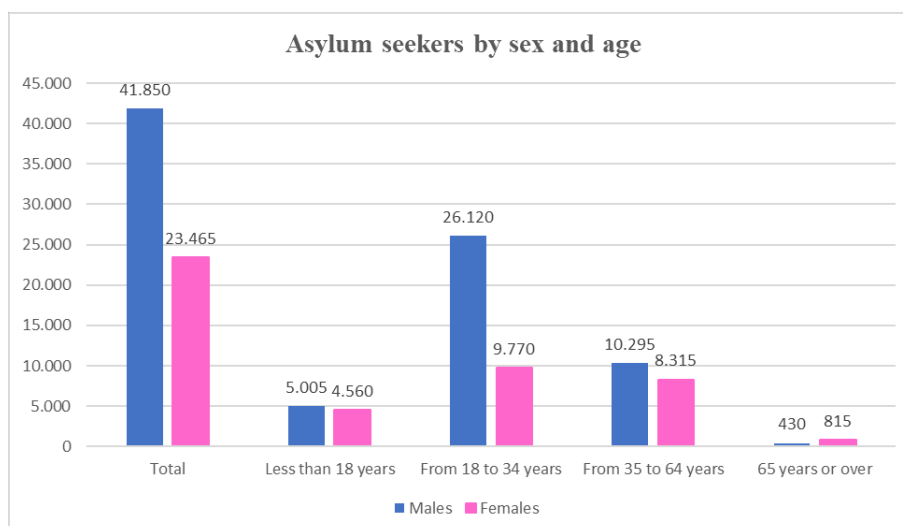


Figure 21, source EUROSTAT, Asylum seekers by sex and age, [migr_asyappctza], accessed on 13th April 2023.

Here it is the classification of asylum seekers by sex and age. Males between the ages of 18 and 34 represent the majority (26.120), while the age group that is present in the least amount is 65 years and over (tot. 1.245).

Generally, men accounted for 64% of asylum-seekers, compared with 36% of women. In addition, other data of interest on the profile were that 55% were between 18 and 34 years old, while minors accounted for 15%.

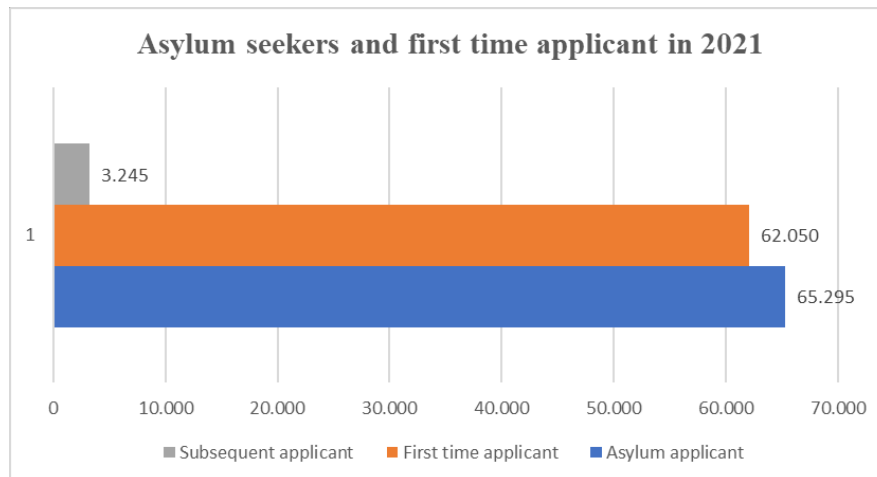


Figure 22, source EUROSTAT, Asylum applicants by type of applicant, citizenship, age and sex - annual aggregated data, [migr_asyappctza], accessed on 13th April 2023.

This particular chart compares and separates the number of asylum applicants (65.295) and subsequent applicants (3.245) from that of first time asylum applicants (62.050).

In 2021, the total number of asylum applications and first time applicants has gradually decreased compared to previous years due to the global pandemic.

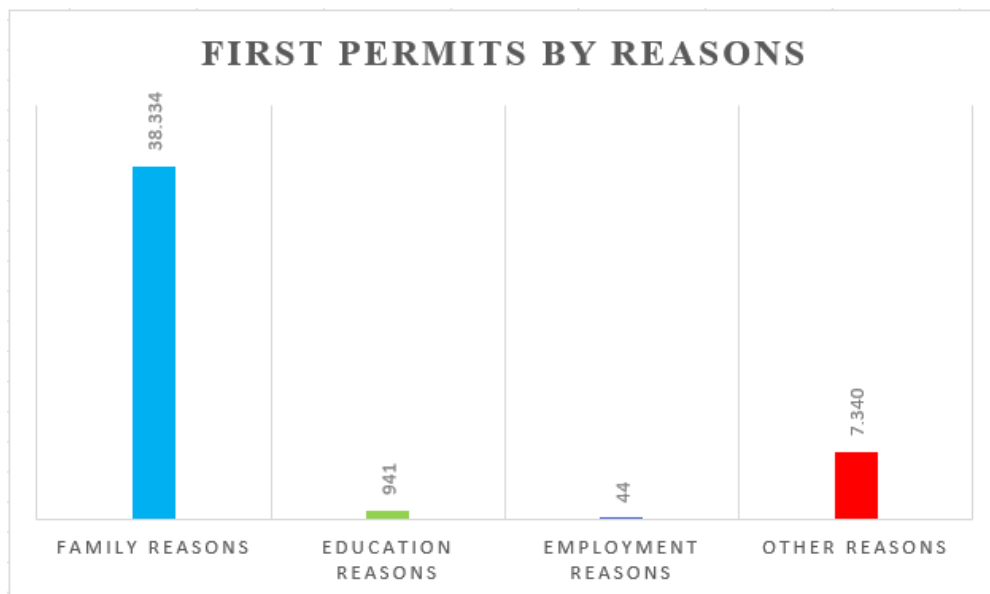


Figure 23, source EUROSTAT, First permits by reason, age, sex and citizenship, [migr_resfas], accessed on 16th April 2023.

The graph of first permits by reasons shows that the two main reasons for issuing residence permits are the “family reasons” one (38.334), and the “other reasons” one (7.340). These two are followed by the categories “education reasons” (941) and “employment reasons” (44), which have considerably lower figures.

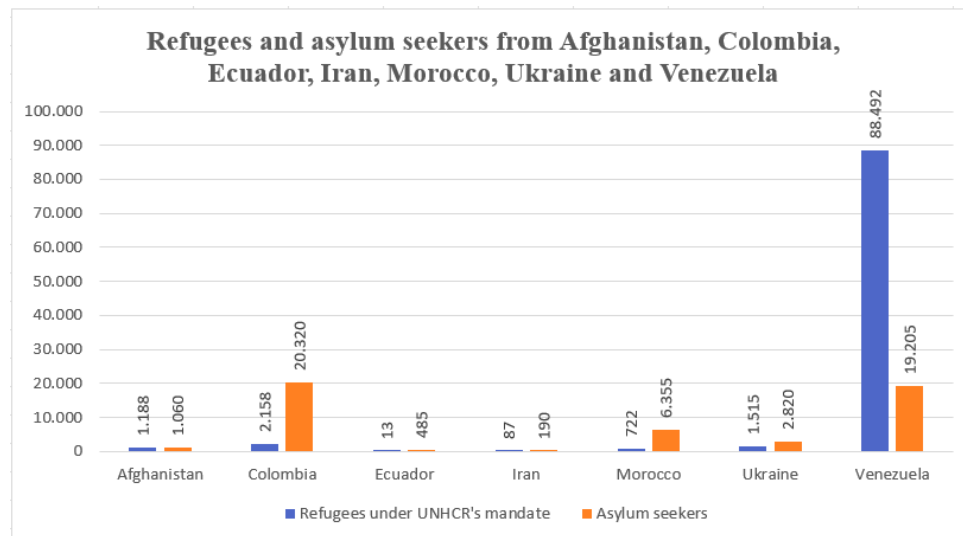


Figure 24, source UNHCR, Refugees and asylum seekers from Afghanistan, Colombia, Ecuador, Iran, Morocco, Ukraine and Venezuela, accessed on 13th April 2023 (<https://www.unhcr.org/refugee-statistics/download/?url=Eg93TQ>)

Available data on Afghanistan and Iraq concern refugees. The graph, extracted from the UNHCR website, shows the number of refugees under UNHCR's mandate and the number of asylum seekers from these two countries: the Afghanistan refugees are 1.188 and the asylum seekers are 1.060; while the Iranian refugees are 87 and the asylum seekers are 190.

Moreover we took into consideration the other countries analyzed above and their situation. The refugees from Ukraine, considering its war situation, are 1.515 and the asylum seekers are 2.820. The most significant figures are those of Venezuela, especially with regard to refugees, who are 88.492, and 19.205 asylum seekers.

By way of contrast, Colombia has a much lower number of refugees, only 2.158, but slightly more asylum seekers, 20.320.

For what concerns Morocco, the number of refugees is 722, while the number of asylum seekers is much higher, with the value of 6.355.

Ecuador is the country (among those analyzed) with the lowest number of refugees, only 13, and with a low number of asylum seekers too, 485.

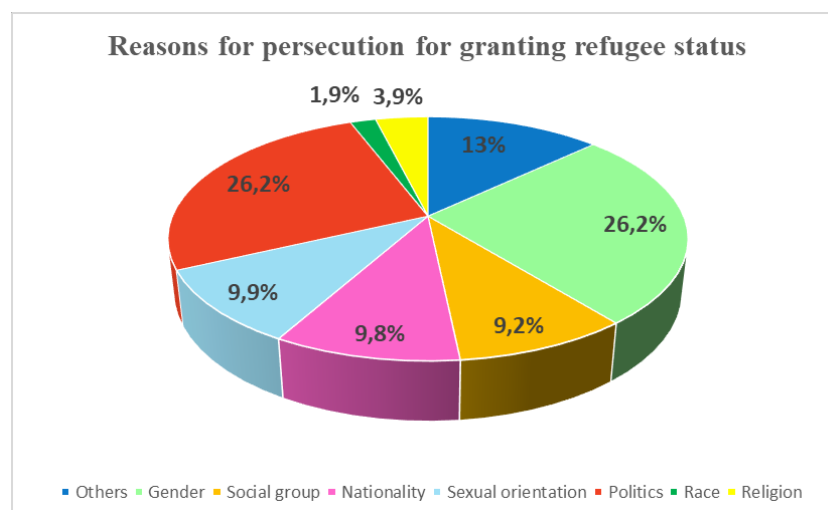


Figure 25, source Spanish Interior Ministry, *Informe de actividad 2021. Oficina de Asilo y refugio*, accessed on 16th April 2023, (https://www.interior.gob.es/opencms/pdf/servicios-al-ciudadano/oficina-de-asilo-y-refugio/datos-e-informacion-estadistica/Informe_actividad_OAR_2021.pdf).

In addition, we thought it was important to mention the grounds for persecution on which refugee status was recognized. In 2021 the main grounds were political opinions (26,2%) and gender (26,2%). Along with these two main reasons we find others such as sexual orientation (9,9%) and membership of a particular social group (9.2%). Finally, in 2021 nationality reached 9.8% of the total number of recognized statutes.

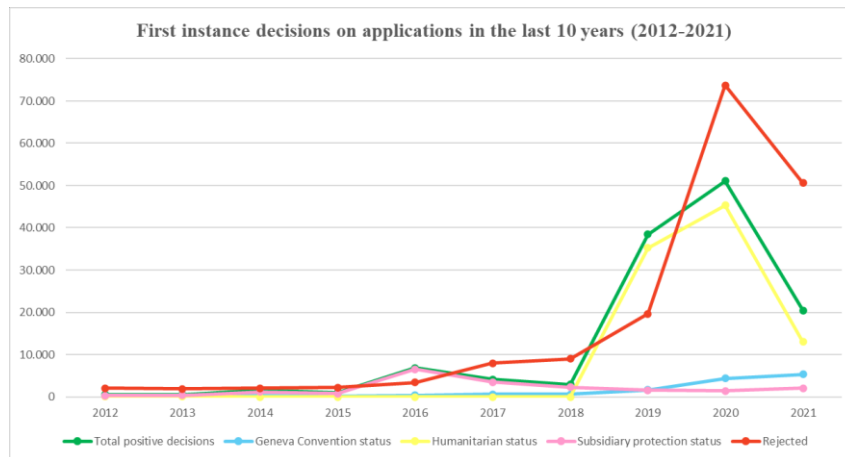


Figure 26, source EUROSTAT, *First instance decisions on applications: by citizenship, age and sex - annual aggregated data (2012-2022)*, [migr_asydcfsta], accessed on 13th April 2023.

This graph takes into consideration five different variables in the last 10 years (2012-2021): total positive decisions, Geneva Convention status, humanitarian status, subsidiary protection status and rejected.

For what concerns the number of people who were granted refugee status, the result of this chart shows a growing trend. The number of the figures of humanitarian status, subsidiary protection status and Geneva Convention status has in fact increased dramatically since 2018.

Despite this, the highest figures are represented by the rejected. Data from 2020 are falling due to the global pandemic.

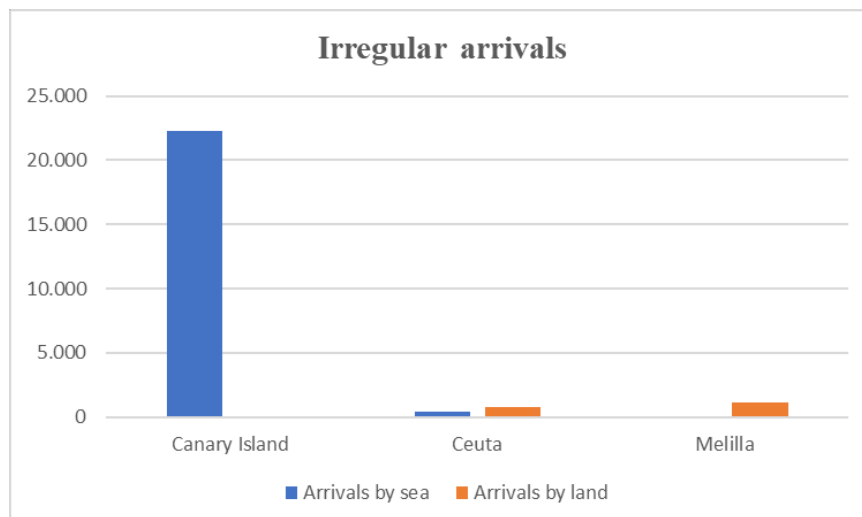


Figure 27, source Spanish Interior Ministry, *Informe Quincenal. Ministerio del Interior. Inmigración irregular 2021*, accessed on 13th April 2023, (https://www.interior.gob.es/opencms/pdf/prensa/balances-e-informes/2021/24_informe_quincenal_acumulado_01-01_al_31-12-2021.pdf).

In our analysis, irregular migrants are not taken into consideration, but they represent significant data that should not be underestimated.

Let's take as an example the three key places of Spanish illegal immigration: Canary Islands, Ceuta and Melilla. The year 2021 was marked by the closure of the land border with Morocco since March 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. However, arrivals of migrants to Ceuta increased in 2021: 753 persons arrived by land and 404 persons by sea (tot. 1.157). The arrival of migrants to Melilla, instead, decreased by 23.27% in 2021 compared to the previous year: 1.092 persons arrived by land and 39 persons by sea (tot. 1.131). When the border was closed, all arrivals by land were made by jumps to the fence.

The arrival of migrants to the Canary Islands in 2021 by sea was 22.316.

According to the Spanish Interior Ministry, irregular migrants arrive consistently in Spain.

7. Migrants integration indicators

As we have seen in the previous paragraphs work represents an important reason for migration, to better understand the integration of those who enter the country we will analyze their educational level and the opportunities of employment they have based on their sex and age.

7.1 Educational level

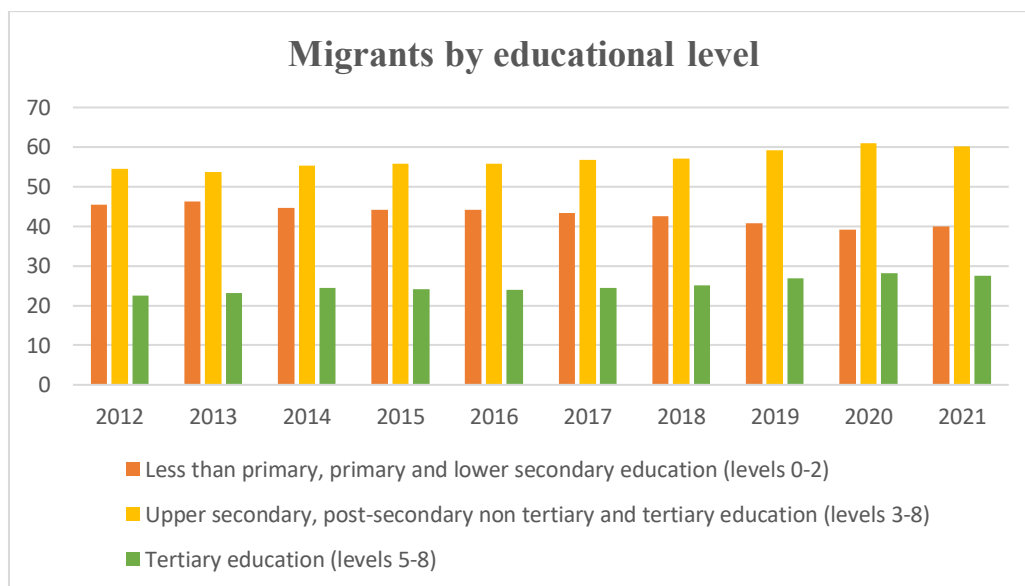


Figure 28, source EUROSTAT, *Population by educational attainment level, sex, age and country of birth (%)* [edat_lfs_9912], accessed on 13th April 2023.

Figure 20 represents the educational level of Spain's migrants during the decade 2012-2021.

As the graphic shows, most of the people living in this country have an upper secondary educational level, immediately below we can find people with primary or less than primary educational level and lastly we see an encouraging growing percentile of people with tertiary education across the years, with only a little drop during Covid pandemic's years. This means that the majority of them has not access to high salary jobs that require a tertiary level of education, maybe in the future this will change.

7.2 Population by labour status

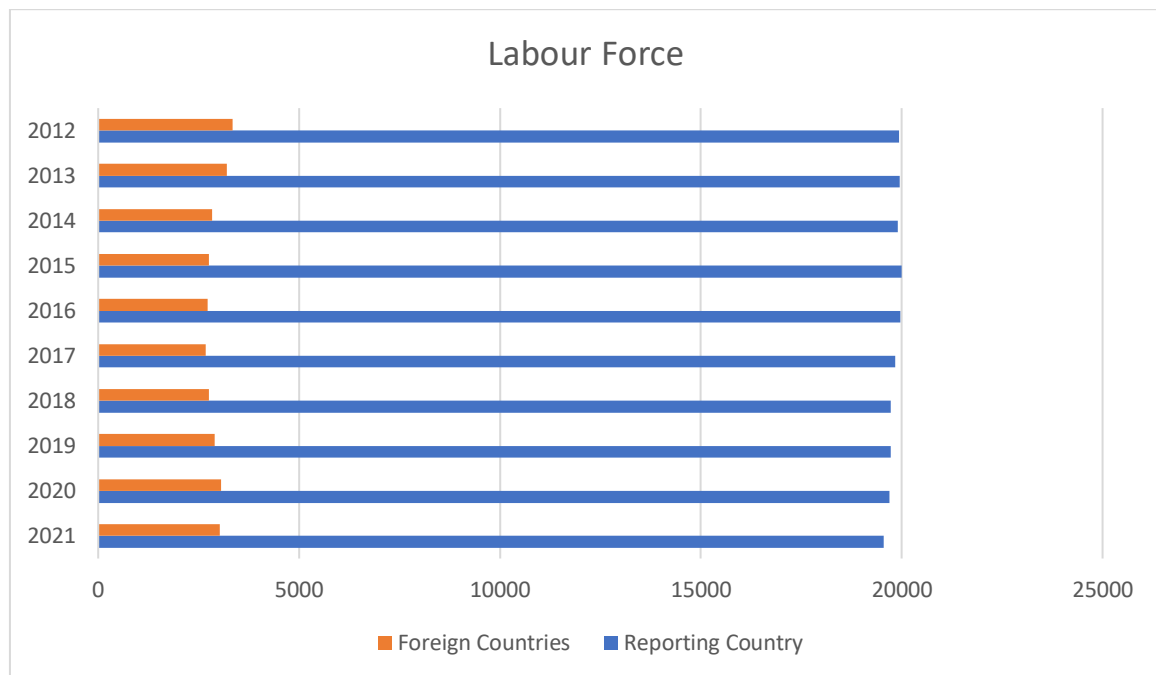


Figure 29, source EUROSTAT, Population by sex, age, citizenship and labour status (1 000) [lfsq_pganws], accessed on 16th May 2023.

This graph represents the total workforce resident in the country across the years, comparing native borns and foreign borns. As the image shows after the year 2012 the foreign born labour force decreased due to a drop in the number of migrants entering the country, in 2018 the percentile raised again, increasing Spain's workforce and favoring its own economy.

7.3 Employed population by sex, age and citizenship

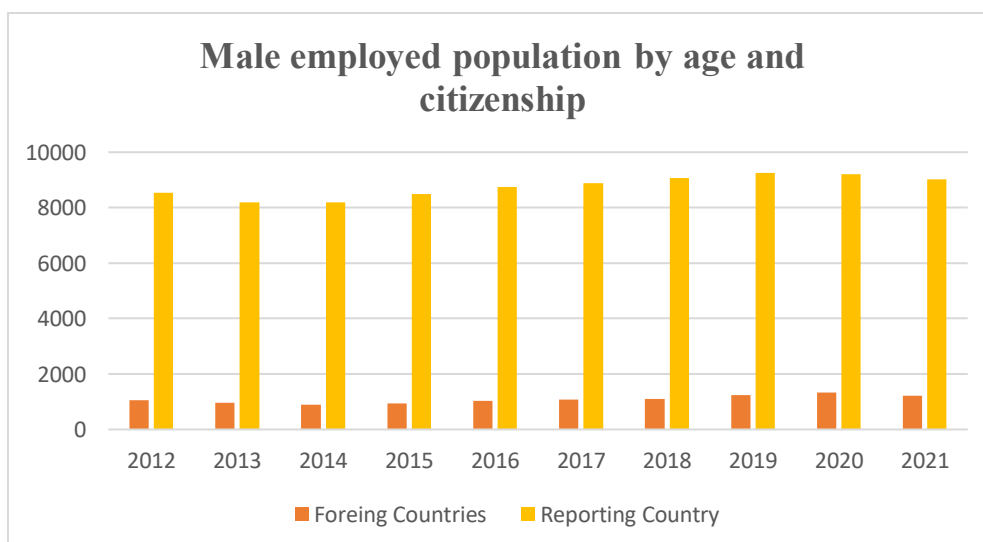


Figure 30, source EUROSTAT, Population by sex, age, citizenship and labour status (1 000) [lfsq_pganws], accessed on 16th May 2023.

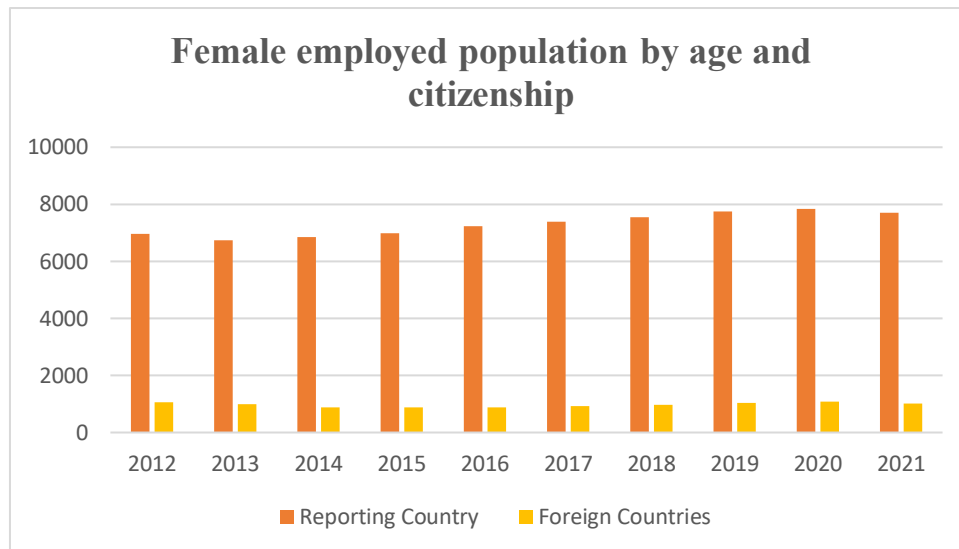


Figure 30, source EUROSTAT, Population by sex, age, citizenship and labour status (1 000) [lfsq_pganws], accessed on 16th May 2023.

The variables considered in this graph are sex (males and females), age (from 15 to 64) and citizenship (foreign people in Spain and Spanish citizens). As it is shown in the images we can observe that after the year 2016 the employment rate has increased, that's because between 2010 and 2015 the Spanish government implemented many labour market reforms which have helped the economic and labour market recovery.

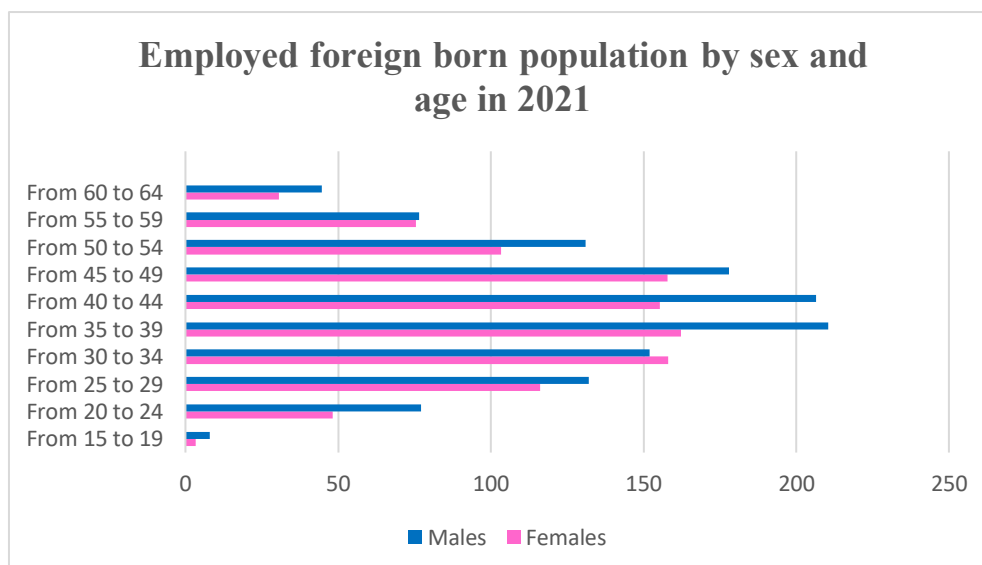


Figure 31, source EUROSTAT, Population by sex, age, citizenship and labour status (1 000) [lfsq_pganws], accessed on 13th April 2023.

As it is to be expected the majority of the immigrant workforce is composed of people between the age of 35 and 44, this being related both to the lower educational level that requires strong workforce for handiworks and especially to the fact that mostly young people migrate in search of employment.

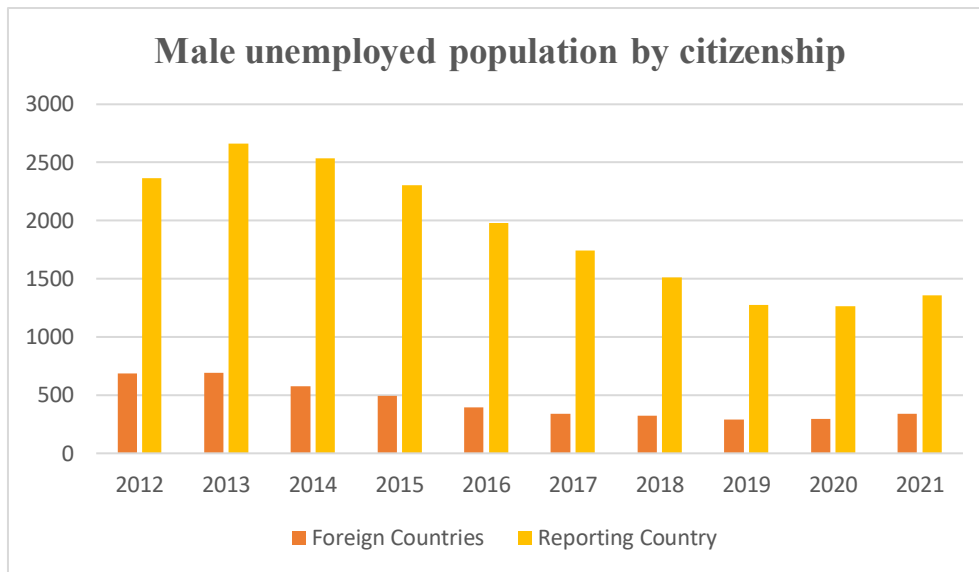


Figure 32, source EUROSTAT, Population by sex, age, citizenship and labour status (1 000) [lfsq_pganws], accessed on 16th May 2023.

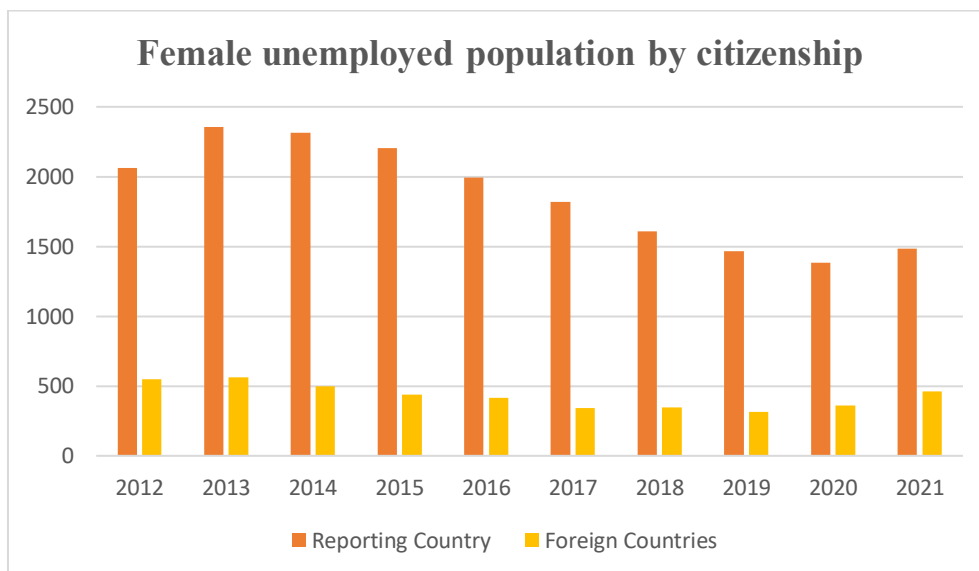


Figure 32, source EUROSTAT, Population by sex, age, citizenship and labour status (1 000) [lfsq_pganws], accessed on 16th May 2023.

The variables considered in this graphics are sex (males and females), age (total from 15 to 64) and citizenship (reporting country and foreign countries). During the crisis, unemployment in Spain increased rapidly. In the past years, employment has substantially recovered due to strong economic growth and labour market reforms. That said, the unemployment rate is still high and significant challenges remain. However around the world finding a job is much tougher for women than it is for men. When women are employed, they tend to work in low-quality jobs in vulnerable conditions, and there is little improvement forecast in the near future.

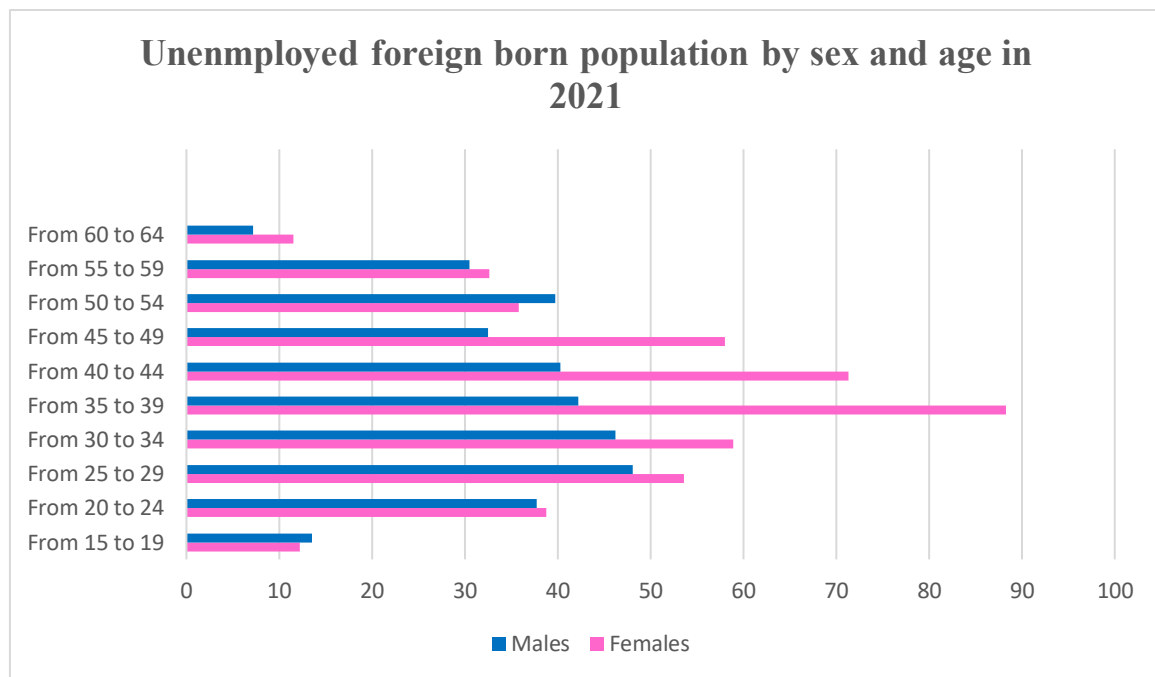


Figure 33, source EUROSTAT, Population by sex, age, citizenship and labour status (1 000) [lfsq_pganws], accessed on 13th April 2023.

This tendency could be the consequence of various factors: first of all it could be caused by the fact that a lower educational level offers less opportunities at higher paying jobs, so most of migrants are employed in handiworks (from which women are usually excluded); it can also be tied to a cultural factor: since family reunification is a major reason for migration, many women could be travelling to Spain just to reunite with their families thus being considered as work force but not being actually a part of it; finally EUROSTAT doesn't consider shadow economy, so we don't fully know if women are really less employed than men or we just lack some datas.

Conclusion

To conclude, we found out that Spain, despite being mainly an emigration country for such a long period, has recently started to receive more immigrants who turned the net migration into positive values. Referring to the 2012-2021 time period, we noticed that while the total population is decreasing, the number of residing migrants is constantly increasing. The main non-UE countries of origin are Morocco, Colombia, Venezuela, Romania, Ecuador and Ukraine and the majority of immigrants are women.

Looking at flows, we may state that inflows are increasing, while outflows are slightly decreasing. Immigration flows are composed mainly by people aged from 15 to 64 and, if we consider non-EU migrant flows, they come mostly through family reunification and work channels.

The total amount of refugees has increased during the last years, especially those coming from Ukraine, due to the ongoing conflicts.

About labor market and migrants' integration, we discovered that the overall unemployment rate is gradually decreasing from 2014, but the youth one is still high. Also, the female one is higher if compared to the male one. However, from 2014 there is a positive trend if we look at education: immigrant population is increasingly high-educated and has more chances of having a better life.

