

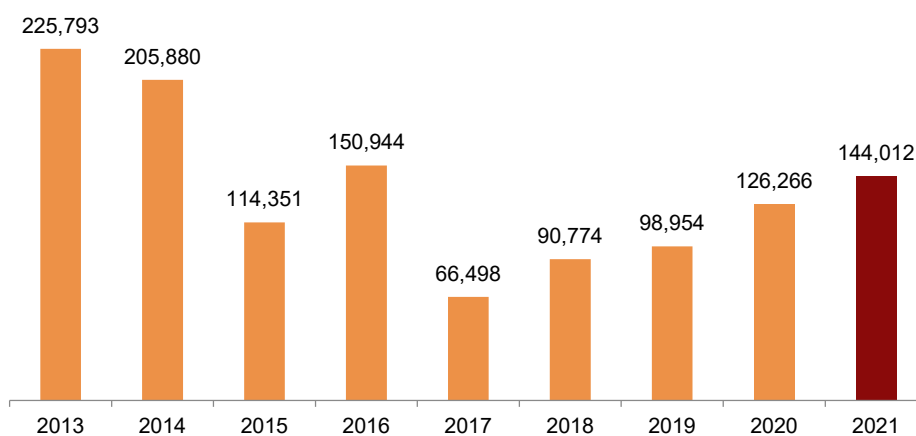
**Statistics on Acquisition of Spanish Citizenship of Residents
Year 2021**

The number of foreign residents who acquired Spanish nationality increased by 14.1%, to 144,012

The most frequent nationalities of origin were Morocco (42,000), Colombia (8,328) and Ecuador (8,325)

In 2021 a total of 144,012 foreign nationals residents in Spain acquired Spanish citizenship. This figure represented a 14.1% increase with respect to the previous year.

Number of acquisitions of Spanish nationality by residents



Of foreign nationals who acquired Spanish nationality in 2021, 47.8% were women and 52.2% were men.

By age, people between 40 and 49 years of age constituted the largest group in terms of acquisitions of Spanish nationality, followed closely by the 30 to 39 year old age group.

Acquisition of Spanish nationality by age group Year 2021

	Both sexes	Men	Women
TOTAL	144,012	68,879	75,133
0-9	29,058	15,105	13,953
10-19	16,196	8,433	7,763
20-29	17,388	7,989	9,399
30-39	30,320	12,748	17,572
40-49	31,124	15,674	15,450
50-59	14,334	6,767	7,567
60 and more	5,592	2,163	3,429

Methods of acquiring Spanish nationality

Regarding the methods of acquiring Spanish nationality, 121,760 cases were by *residency* and 21,712 by *choice*. This last modality occurred especially in those under 20 years of age (96.2% of total acquisitions by choice).

Modalities of acquisition of Spanish citizenship. Year 2021

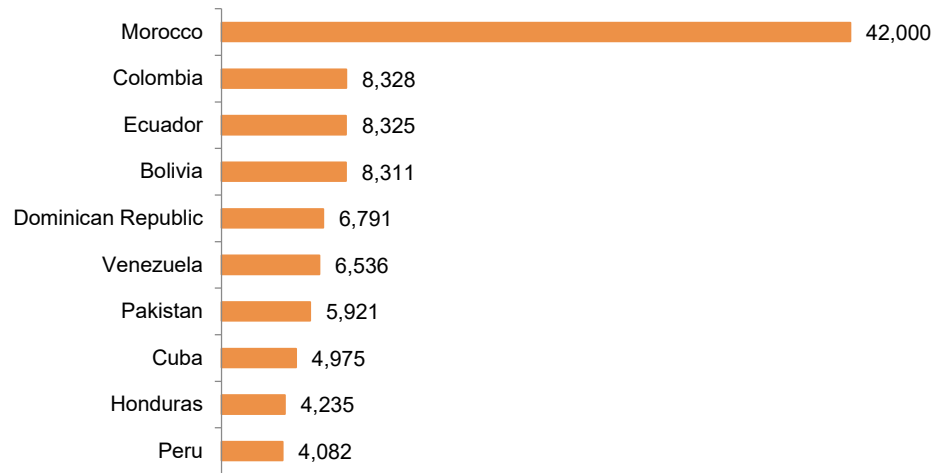
	Both sexes	Men	Women
TOTAL	144,012	68,879	75,133
Residence	121,760	57,399	64,361
Choice	21,712	11,227	10,485
Other	540	253	287

Nationalities of origin

The most frequent nationality of origin among persons who acquired Spanish citizenship in 2021 was that of Morocco, with 42,000 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 (5,921 people).

Most frequent nationalities of origin. Year 2021

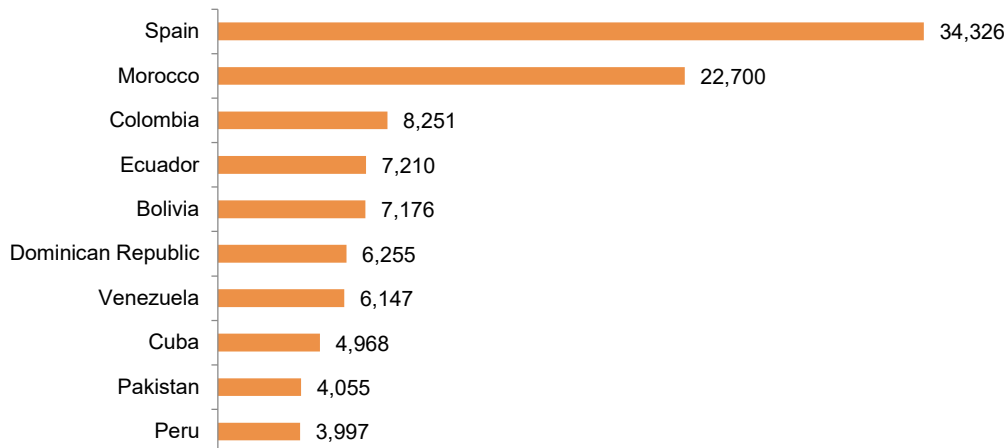


Countries of birth

The most frequent country of birth in the acquisition of Spanish nationality was Spain, with 34,326 cases. The majority were children (78.0%, under 10 years of age).

Among those born outside Spain, the most frequent country of birth was Morocco, with 22,700 acquisitions of Spanish nationality.

Most frequent countries of birth Year 2021

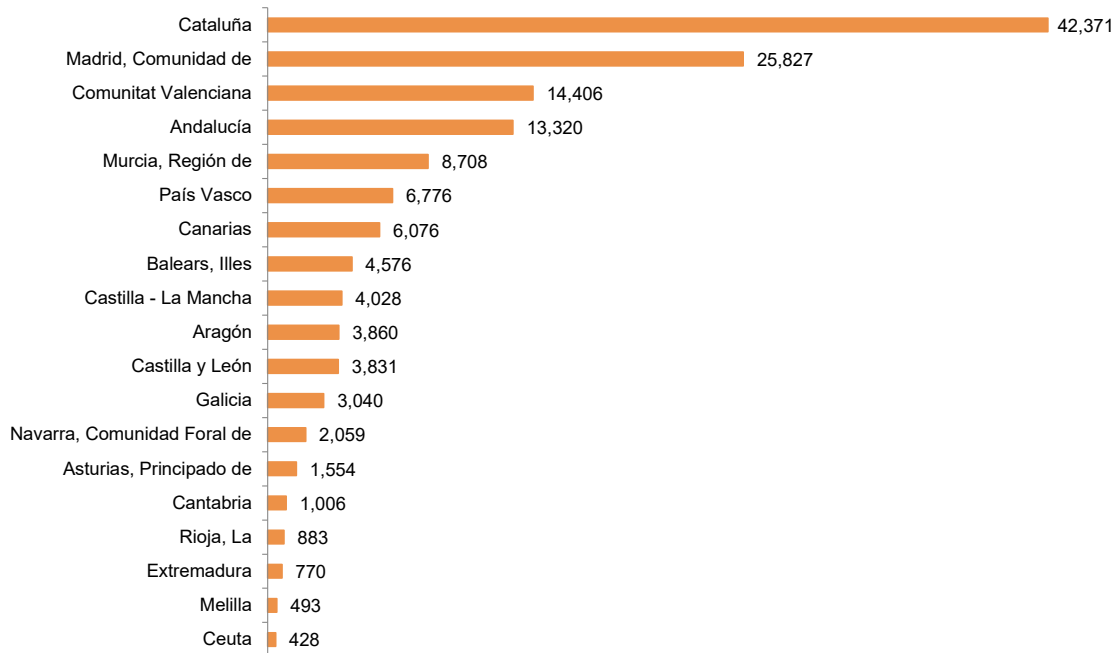


Results by Autonomous Communities

Cataluña (with 42,371 cases) and Comunidad de Madrid (with 25,827 cases) accounted for 47.4% of acquisitions of Spanish nationality in 2021.

On the other hand, Extremadura (770) and La Rioja (883) were the Autonomous Communities with the lowest number of y acquisitions of nationalities among their residents.

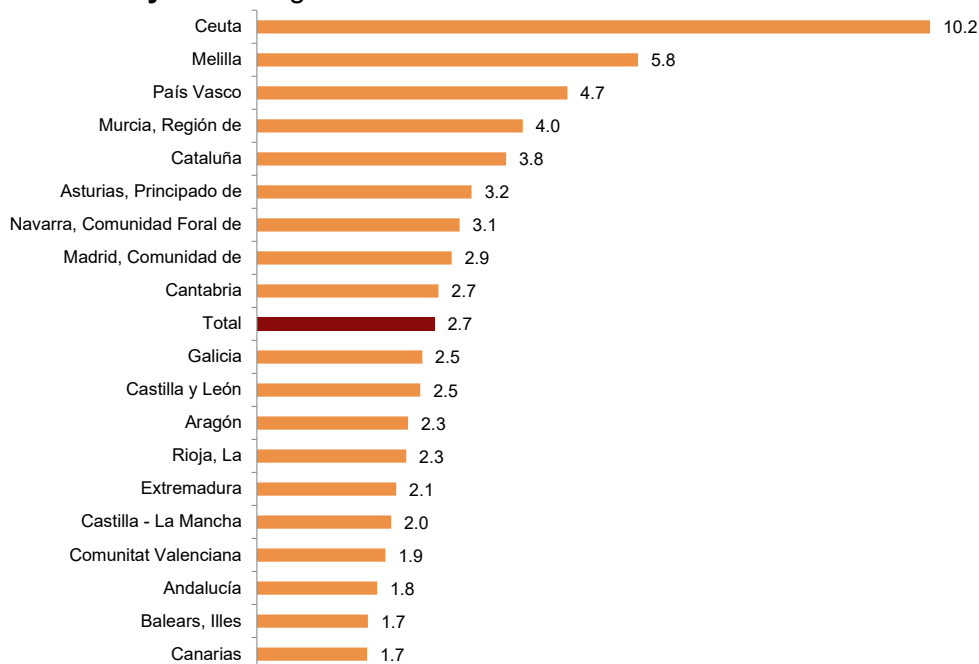
Acquisitions of Spanish citizenship by Autonomous Community of residence Year 2021



Comparing with the resident foreign population at the beginning of 2021, the highest intensities of the phenomenon of acquisition of nationality occurred in the Autonomous Communities of País Vasco (4.7% of foreign nationals acquired Spanish nationality), Región de Murcia (4.0%) and Cataluña (3.8%).

On the other hand, the lowest percentages occurred in Canarias (1.7%), Illes Balears (1.7%) and Andalucía (1.8%).

Foreign population that acquired Spanish nationality during 2021, by Autonomous Community Percentage



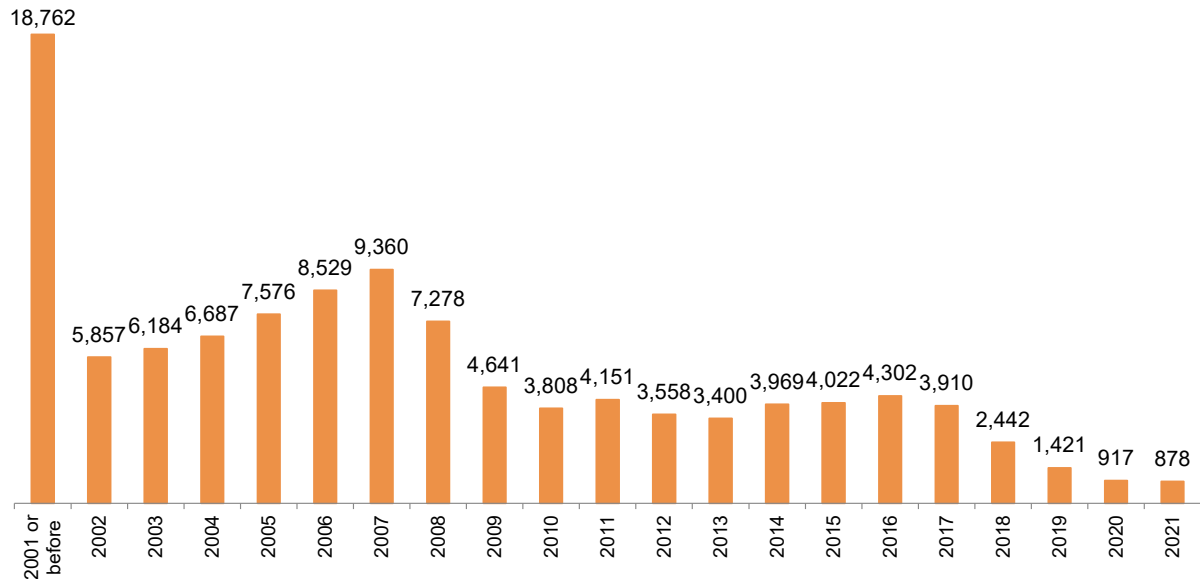
Year of arrival to Spain

Of the 144,012 people residing in Spain who acquired Spanish nationality in 2021, 22.5% had always resided in Spain. The remaining 77.5% had previously resided abroad.

Since 2002, the most frequent year of arrival for people who acquired Spanish nationality in 2021 was 2007. That is, it took about 14 years to acquire Spanish nationality.

Acquisitions of Spanish nationality during 2021 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. Provisional results were previously published in June and final results appearing in November. All results are available on INEBase.

New developments in the press release

The Statistics on Acquisitions of Spanish Nationality by Residents is now publishing a new variable: *the year of arrival in Spain* of persons who acquire Spanish nationality, beginning the series with acquisitions in 2019.

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 and completes the set of demographic information that guarantees total consistency between population figures and demographic events (births, deaths, migrations and nationalisations).

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/en/inebaseDYN/anes30279/docs/meto_anes_en.pdf

And the standardized methodological report in:

<http://www.ine.es/dynt3/metadatos/en/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. Para más información, véase la sección de [Calidad en el INE y Código de Buenas Prácticas](#) en la página web del INE.

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

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