

15 July 2009

**Economically Active Population Survey (EAPS)  
Module on the employment situation of immigrants  
and their closest descendents. Year 2008**

**61.7% of immigrants<sup>1</sup> have resided in Spain  
longer than five years**

**44.0% of foreign nationals<sup>2</sup> who come to Spain have not previously  
found employment in our country**

**One in four<sup>3</sup> need to improve their knowledge of the Spanish  
language in order to secure a suitable job**

61.7% of persons 16 to 74 years of age, not born in Spain, or born in Spain with foreign nationalities, had resided in our country longer than five years, according to the results of the module of the EAPS from the year 2008 regarding the employment situation of immigrants and their children in the labour market.

**Persons 16 to 74 years of age, not born in Spain, or born in Spain with  
foreign nationality, by number of years resident in this country, by sex and  
nationality**

Percentage

Sex and nationality	One year or less	Longer than 1 and less than 5 years	Longer than 5 and less than 10 years	Longer than 10 years	Does not know
<b>Both sexes</b>	5.77	31.92	34.38	27.28	0.64
Spanish nationality	0.51	3.02	8.83	86.48	1.16
Dual nationality	1.03	9.31	37.52	51.11	1.04
Foreign nationality	6.74	36.98	37.17	18.56	0.55
European Union (EU-27)	6.51	34.79	31.64	26.50	0.56
Rest of Europe	1.67	33.61	38.33	25.32	1.08
Latin America	7.65	42.74	43.04	6.03	0.54
Rest of the world and stateless	6.19	28.31	32.40	32.68	0.42
<b>Men</b>	4.81	30.89	35.40	28.27	0.63
<b>Women</b>	6.70	32.91	33.41	26.34	0.64

<sup>1</sup> This group includes those persons with foreign nationalities who were born in Spain.

<sup>2</sup> Persons not born in Spain, or born in Spain with foreign nationality, who were 16 years old and over when they last arrived in Spain.

<sup>3</sup> Persons not born in Spain, or born in Spain with foreign nationality, who are employed or wish to be employed.

31.9% had spent more than one year but less than five residing in Spain, and 5.8% had spent less than one year.

By nationality, persons from Latin America presented the highest percentages in the category of less than five years residing in Spain.

### Reasons for immigrating to Spain

44.0% of persons 16 to 74 years of age, not born in Spain, or born in Spain with foreign nationality, who were 16 years or over when they last arrived, came to work, without previously having employment in our country. By sex, this was the situation for 52.5% of men and 36.0% of women.

In turn, 9.5% came to work in the employment found before arriving.

Worth noting was that one in four came for reasons related to family regrouping (either with a relative who was already living in Spain, or accompanying a relative who was coming for employment or educational reasons).

### Persons 16 to 74 years of age, not born in Spain, or born in Spain with foreign nationality, who were 16 years old and over when they last arrived in our country, by the main reason for coming to live in Spain, by sex and nationality

Percentages

Sex and nationality	Came to work in the job found before coming	Came to work, without having found employment	Family regrouping	Marriage	Other reasons
<b>Both sexes</b>	9.49	43.95	25.12	5.06	16.38
Men	11.84	52.49	15.90	3.09	16.68
Women	7.31	35.98	33.71	6.90	16.10

### Education and studies

88.1% of persons<sup>4</sup> 16 to 74 years of age did not achieve their highest level of studies in Spain, whereas the remaining 11.9% did do so. 6.1% of them had had their studies recognised within the levels of Spanish education, and 7.6% were in the process of doing so.

On the other hand, 23.8% needed to improve their knowledge of the Spanish language in order to secure a suitable job. By sex, representative differences were not observed. Nonetheless, of note was that this percentage decreased as age increased, ranging between 18.2% for the group 55 years old and over, and 28.4% for young persons 16 to 24 years of age.

### Restrictions in accessing the labour market

Among Rumanians, Bulgarians and persons not from the European Union, who were 16 to 74 years of age, with employment or seeking employment, 9 in 10 claimed that they did not

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<sup>4</sup> Persons not born in Spain, or born in Spain with foreign nationalities, who are employed or wish to be employed.

have restrictions in accessing the Spanish labour market. Rumanians and Bulgarians were the persons who, at a higher percentage, claimed to have experienced restrictions (12.2%).

The main obstacles noted for accessing the labour market were geographical restrictions, having access only to work for others, and the fact that this work could only be for certain sectors or occupations, or as employers.

**Persons 16 to 74 years of age, with Rumanian or Bulgarian nationality, or who are not EU citizens, with restrictions in accessing the labour market, by type of restriction**

Percentages

Type of restriction and nationality	Both sexes	Men	Women
<b>Total</b>	100.00	100.00	100.00
Only has access to self-employment	15.19	13.35	16.69
Only has access to work for others	19.93	25.50	15.42
Only has access to self-employment for certain sectors/occupations/employers	3.75	2.92	4.41
Only has access to work for others for certain sectors/occupations/employers	18.16	19.87	16.77
Only has legal access to certain sectors/occupations/employers, for both self-employment and work for others	11.52	11.38	11.64
Other types of restriction (for example, geographical)	31.45	26.99	35.07

\* Citizens of the European Union, with the exception of Rumanians and Bulgarians, are not considered in this table, because there are no restrictions to them in accessing the labour market.

**Assistance with finding employment**

14.7% of employed immigrants received assistance from relatives and friends in order to find their current employment. Those from European countries other than the EU, and those from Latin America, found assistance in greater proportions (29.1% and 27.7%, respectively).

Eight out of 10 employed persons 16 to 74 years of age expressed that they had not received any type of assistance in order to find their current employment or to create their own company.

The highest percentage of assistance from the public employment office was observed among persons with nationalities from European countries not belonging to the EU (3.3%), and the lowest percentage was among citizens (not Spaniards) of EU countries (1%).

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