The Peruvian community in Italy

ANNUAL REPORT

20
25

THE PERUVIAN COMMUNITY IN ITALY

106,409
legal residents
at 31 December 2024

+11.3%
compared to the previous year

42.2%

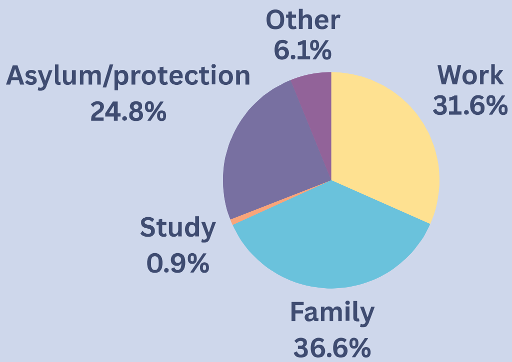
57.8%

17.1%
minors

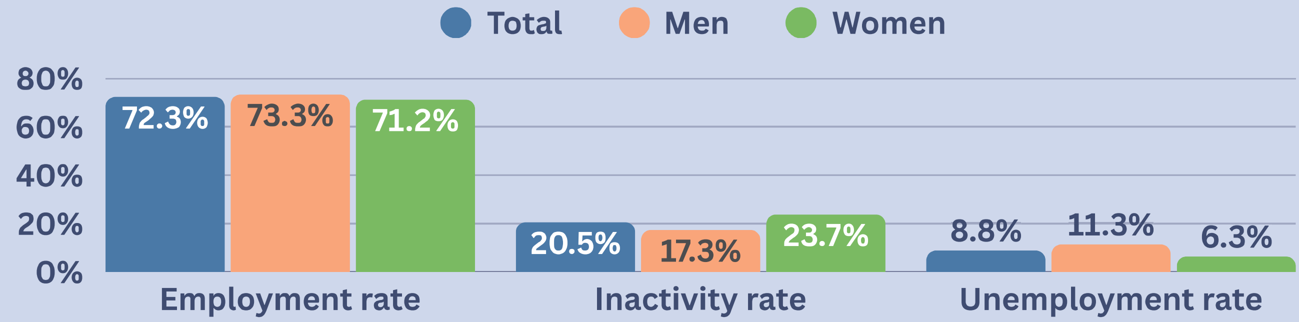
14,298
Entries in 2024

55.3%
for asylum/ asylum seekers and other forms of protection

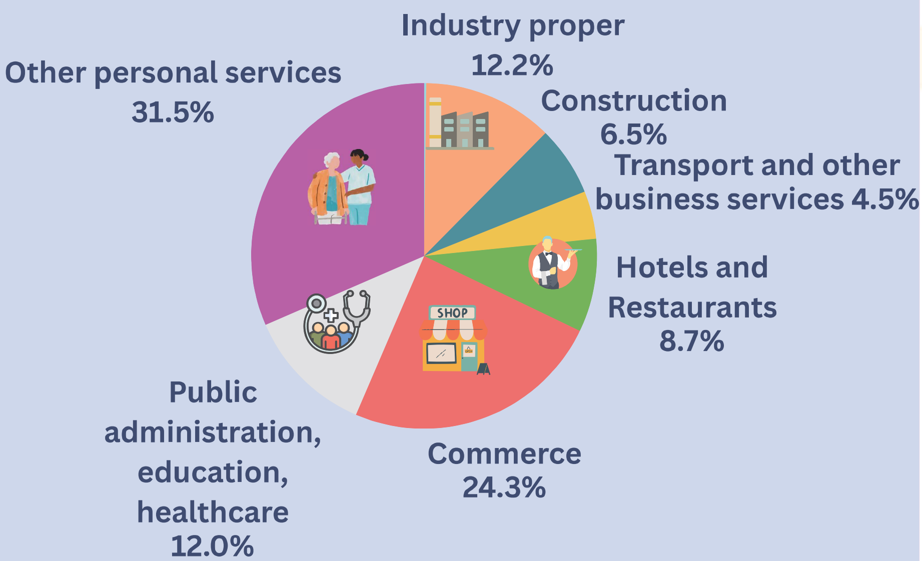
SHORT-TERM RESIDENCE PERMITS



49.6%
Long-term residents



EMPLOYMENT SECTORS



4,347
sole proprietorships

1.1%
of all non-EU businesses

23.7%
of Peruvian businesses in Construction

The context of origin

Edited by World Bank

Macroeconomic Framework

Since 2015, Peru's economy has maintained a moderate pace of growth, with a 1.1%. average annual increase in the GDP per capita. In keeping with this trend, in the same period, employment also increased by 1.2%, with the number of people employed rising by over 1 million.

Demographics and the labour market

Located in western South America, Peru has a population of over 34.5 million people. About two-thirds of the population is of working age (15-64 years), while young people between 15 and 24 years of age account for 17% of the total. The population is expected to increase by 19% by 2050, resulting in an additional 6 million people. This demographic growth is leading to an expansion of the working-age population; however, it is not accompanied by an adequate strengthening of the labour market. Over the last ten years, the labour force participation rate has decreased, reflecting employment levels which, despite showing growth, have not kept pace with the demographic expansion. Consequently, the unemployment rate has increased by 1.6%, indicating the labour market's limited capacity to absorb new entries. Over the same period, the employment-to-population ratio declined by 5.4% (from 74.6% in 2014 to 69.2% in 2024). Concurrently, the inactivity rate rose by 4.4%, suggesting that the deterioration of the labour market stems from the Peruvians economy's difficulty in generating jobs at a pace consistent with the growth of the working-age population.

Social characteristics

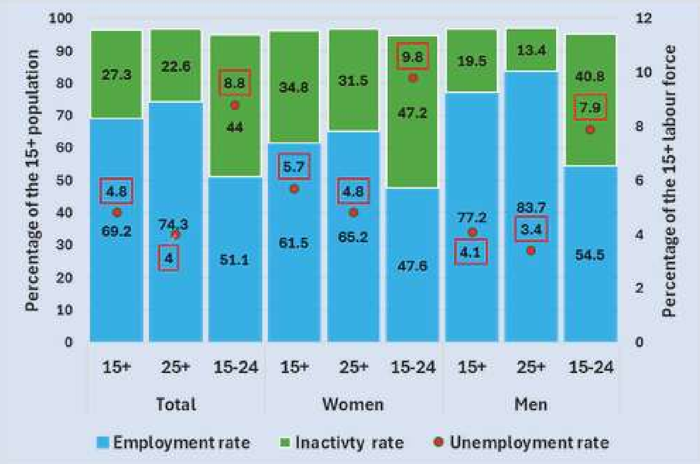
Peru has a predominantly Catholic population, with a minority of Evangelical Christians. Spanish is the most widely spoken official language, whereas Quechua and Aymara are recognized as official indigenous languages which are spoken by specific ethnic groups. According to the latest available data, education and literacy levels are high: in 2020 the literacy rate was 94% and tertiary education participation[1] reached 71% in 2017, with higher rates for women (74%) than men (69%). This progress, partially due to investments in education and health, contributes to bolstering human capital, although not yet fully established. According to the World Bank, Peru's Human Capital Index[2] was 60% in 2020, meaning that a child born today will be able to reach 60% of their productive potential in their best health and education conditions.

Quality of Employment and gender and generational inequalities

Beyond the contraction of the employment-to-working-age population ratio, Peru's quality of employment remains structurally critical. About seven out of ten workers are employed in the informal sector, while half of the workforce operates in low-productivity sectors with high-informality, particularly agriculture (24%), construction (6%) and trade (19%). Additionally, nearly one worker out of two is self-employed or a family worker, categories which are typically more exposed to economic vulnerability and less social protection.

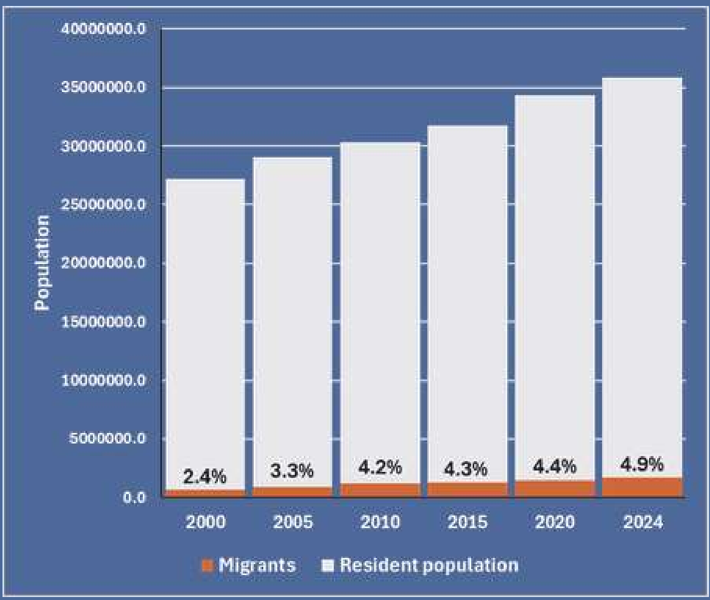
[1] Calculated as the ratio of the total number of students enrolled to the population of university age
[2] The human capital index is a composite indicator obtained from the product of three indicators: child survival (up to age 5), education and health.

Figure 1 – Overview of the labour market in Peru: key indicators



Source: World Bank elaboration based on ILOSTAT data https://ilostat.ilo.org/data/

Figure 2- Peruvian migrant stock (% oftotal population)



Source: World Bank elaboration based on UNDESA data: https://www.un.org/development/desa/pd/global-migration-database

Pressure on the labour market and generations

Youth unemployment, at 9% in 2024, is more than twice the adult unemployment rate, highlighting the difficulties faced by young people in entering the labour market. Gender disparities are even more significant, with women facing a much higher risk of inactivity. The female inactivity rate amounts to 35%, compared to 19.5% among men.

Migration trends

The slowdown of the labour market, which reduces the Peruvian economy's capacity to create new jobs, is also reflected in migration dynamics, which have now become a structural element of the country's socio-economic context.

In the last twenty years, the number of Peruvian citizens residing abroad has increased by 82%, from just over 900 thousand in 2005 to over 1.6 million in 2024, representing about 5% of the national population. Most immigrants move to the United States (31%) and Spain (21%), followed by Chile (19%). Italy is in fifth place, after Argentina, hosting approximately 8% of Peruvian migrants in 2024.

The intensification of migrant flows reflects both the existence of well-established migrant networks that continue to facilitate mobility and the persistent difficulties of the domestic labour market in providing adequate employment opportunities, especially for young people and less qualified workers.

Trends in migrant presence

Table 1 – Legally resident non-EU citizens. Key indicators (Data at 31 December 2024)

Country	Incidence of women %	Incidence of minors %	Total a.v.	2024/2023 % variation	Incidence of long-term residents %	New permits in 2024 %
Ukraine	75.00%	17.70%	392,389	1.70%	43.20%	13,505
Morocco	44.80%	21.70%	377,554	1.50%	61.50%	25,776
Albania	49.20%	21.10%	360,965	0.40%	54.20%	24,430
China	50.60%	19.30%	288,661	8.10%	65.00%	7,965
Bangladesh	23.30%	14.50%	195,523	16.90%	41.70%	28,045
Egypt	28.80%	24.60%	175,236	9.40%	48.30%	20,217
India	40.60%	16.30%	159,618	4.30%	51.50%	16,907
Philippines	57.80%	14.70%	145,694	-0.40%	71.60%	2,334
Pakistan	22.80%	14.60%	159,680	13.20%	40.60%	17,217
Tunisia	36.70%	20.80%	112,486	12.80%	53.90%	15,016
Nigeria	43.30%	26.30%	107,738	12.10%	32.00%	7,288
Peru	**57.80%**	**17.10%**	**106,409**	**11.30%**	**49.60%**	**14,298**
Sri Lanka	46.90%	18.50%	104,423	6.30%	66.80%	5,969
Senegal	26.20%	15.50%	103,818	7.00%	58.90%	6,033
Moldova	68.00%	14.30%	89,693	-6.80%	83.20%	2,178
Ecuador	56.20%	16.50%	53,337	-3.80%	73.40%	2,221
Total of non-EU citizens	**48.00%**	**17.30%**	**3,810,741**	**5.60%**	**52.80%**	**290,119**

Source: Sviluppo Lavoro Italia elaboration based on Istat data

At 31 December 2024, there were **106,409 legally residing Peruvian citizens in Italy,** showing a significant growth over the past twenty years: from 47,679 in 2005 to 106,409 (+123.2%). An increase of 11.3% was recorded in 2024 compared to the previous year, a figure higher than the overall growth rate of non-EU citizens (+5.6%).

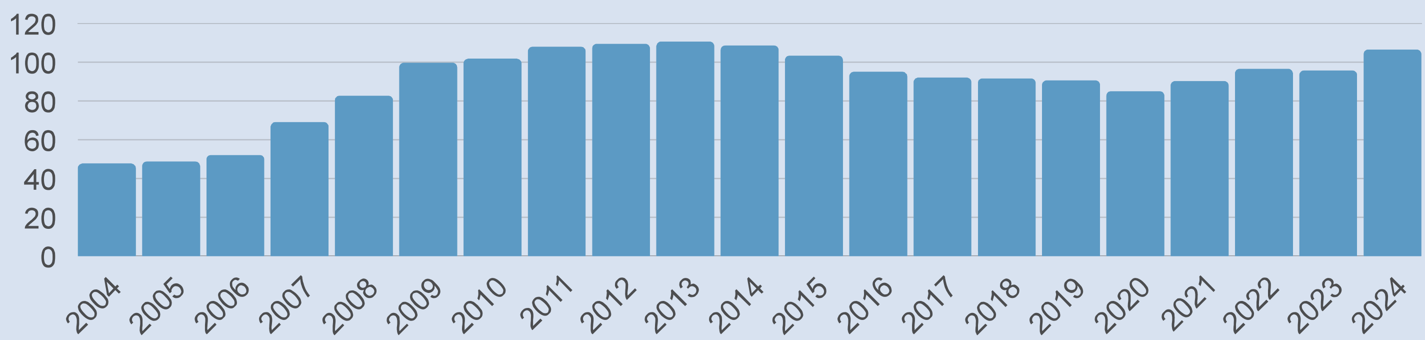
In 2024 the community rose from fifteenth to twelfth place in the ranking of the principal non-EU communities, representing 2.8% of the non-EU population in the country.

106,409
legal residents

2.8%
non-EU citizens

+11.3%
compared to 31 December 2023

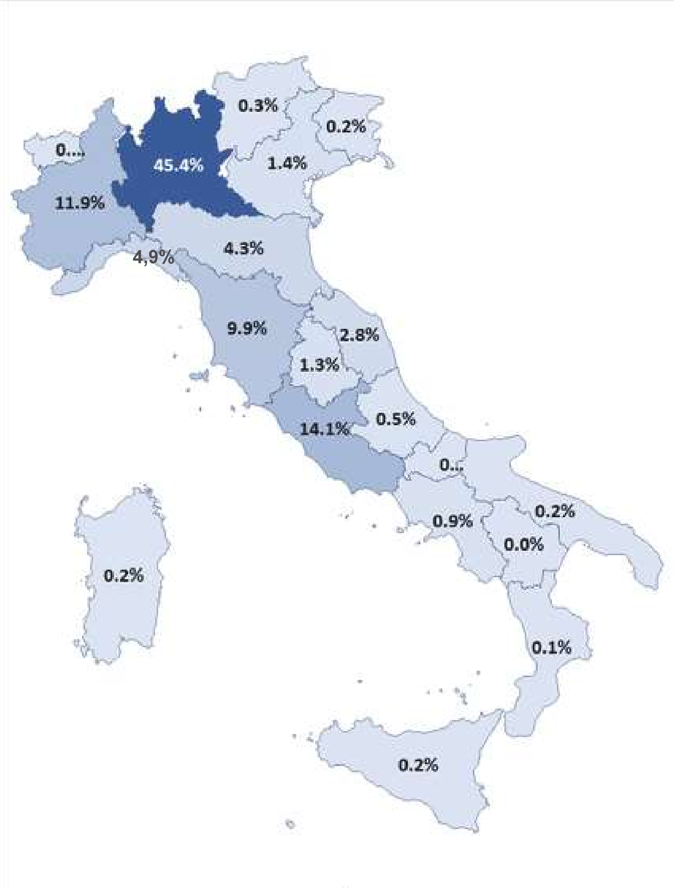
Figure 3 – Legal residents (absolute value in thousands). Time series 2004-2024



Source: Sviluppo Lavoro Italia elaboration based on Istat data

Territorial distribution

Map 1 – The regional distribution of the community (%). Data at 31 December 2024



Source: Sviluppo Lavoro Italia elaboration based on ISTAT data

The territorial distribution of Peruvian citizens shows a **strong concentration in Northern Italy (69.7%** compared to 59.8% for the non-EU average), followed by a significant presence in Central Italy (28.1% compared to 23.1%).

A very limited presence stands out in Southern Italy: only 2.2% of Peruvians in Italy reside in this area, compared to 17.1% of the overall non-EU population.

Lombardy remains the leading region for Peruvian residents, hosting **45.4%** of the community. **Lazio** ranks second, with **14,1%** of legal Peruvian residents, while **Piedmont** hosts approximately **12%** of the Latin American community.

69.7% North	28.1% Centre	2.1% South and Islands

Gender composition

42.2% **57.8%**

The Peruvian community shows a **gender imbalance that favors women: 57.8%** of members are women, while 42.2% are men, ranking third among the main foreign communities with the highest female presence (alongside the Filipino community), following the Ukrainian and Moldavian communities. This figure should be linked to the features of Peruvian migration, mainly characterized by predominantly female movements: since the 1980s, women have been the first to migrate, driven by labour demand in the home and care sector. Only afterwards, with greater economic stability, did family reunification begin, which led to a growing male presence.

Breakdown by Age Groups and Minors

Average age 38.8 years

18,150 minors

17.1% of the community

The Peruvian community in Italy ranks among those with a larger working-age population with an average age of 38.8. It is the sixth community in terms of highest average age after Ukraine, the Philippines, Moldova, Ecuador and Sri Lanka. This figure is higher than the overall average for non-EU citizens (37,2 years of age) but lower than that of the Italian population (47 years of age). **The most represented age group within the community is 40-49 years of age**, accounting for about **one fifth** of the population. **The presence of people over 60 years old is noteworthy**, representing 12.8% of the community and reaching 14.5% among women. Minors account for 17.1%, in line with the overall non-EU figure (17.3%). Despite high female presence, the relatively low number of minors is not only influenced by the **low birth rate** [3] recorded within the community (**9‰)** and the strong female involvement in care services, but also by the age structure of this community: more than half of the women is over 40, a condition which physiologically reduces the inclination for motherhood. In 2024, 945 Peruvian children were born in Italy, accounting for 2.2% of non-EU citizen births. A phenomenon that has only marginally affected the community over the years is that of unaccompanied minors (UAMs). As of 30 June 2025, there are **25 Peruvian UAMs,** a decrease compared to the previous year (-3.8%). The demographic characteristics of Peruvian UAMs differ from those of the overall group of unaccompanied minors, showing a greater gender balance (girls account for 40% compared to 12.5% overall) and a higher share of children under the age of 16 (48% compared to 23.7%).

[3]The Birth rate is the ratio between the number of births in a community or population over a period of time and the average population of the same period per thousand

Mixed marriages

When analyzing family presence, it is worth noting that the community is highly engaged in mixed marriages: in 2023[4], 627 mixed marriages were recorded between Peruvian and Italian citizens with over 491 cases involving an Italian groom. This figure increased by 14.6% compared to the previous year, placing the community in fourth position..

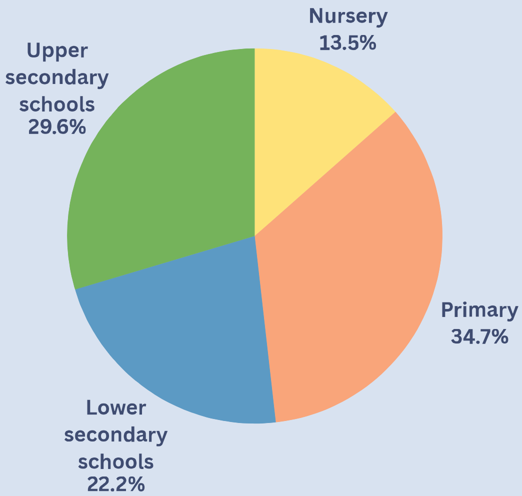
[4] Last year for which data is available.

Youths and education

27,223

Peruvian students

Figure 4- Percentage distribution by school level of the community's students. School year 2023/24



Source: Sviluppo Lavoro Italia elaboration based on MIM data

During the 2023/2024 school year, there were **27,223 Peruvian students** enrolled in Italian schools, accounting for 3.6% of the non-EU school population, with an increase of 14.6% compared to the previous year, significantly higher than the average growth rate (+2.3%). The community shows a lower presence in nursery school (13.5% compared to 17% among non-EU students), while the concentration in primary (34.7%) and upper secondary schools (29.6% compared to 24.3%) was above average.

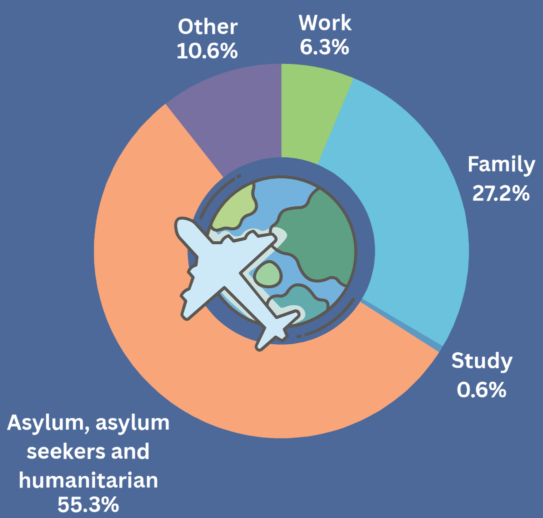
Female incidence was higher than average (50.3% vs 48.3%), with a progressive increase: from 48.2% in nursery school to 52.8% in upper secondary schools.

As for university, a significant growth was also recorded with **2,659 Peruvian students enrolled in the 2023/24 academic year:** a 2.1% increase compared to the previous year, accounting for 2.5% of non-EU university students.

The percentage of young people Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) among Peruvians aged 18-24 was among the lowest: 14.7%, compared to 24.9% for overall non-EU young people and 14.8% for the Italian average. The Peruvian NEET average also decreased by 1.5% compared to 2023. This figure indicates a greater capacity among Peruvian youth to integrate into the Italian socio-economic fabric compared to other communities.

Entries

Figure 5 – New residence permits issued in 2024 by reason for issue (%). Data at 31 December 2024

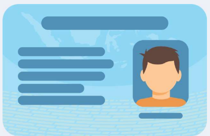


Source: Sviluppo Lavoro Italia elaboration based on ISTAT data

In 2024, **14,298 new residence permits** were issued to Peruvian citizens, showing a considerable increase compared to the previous year (+25.7% against an overall -12.3%), placing the Peruvian community in eighth place by number of new entries in the country.

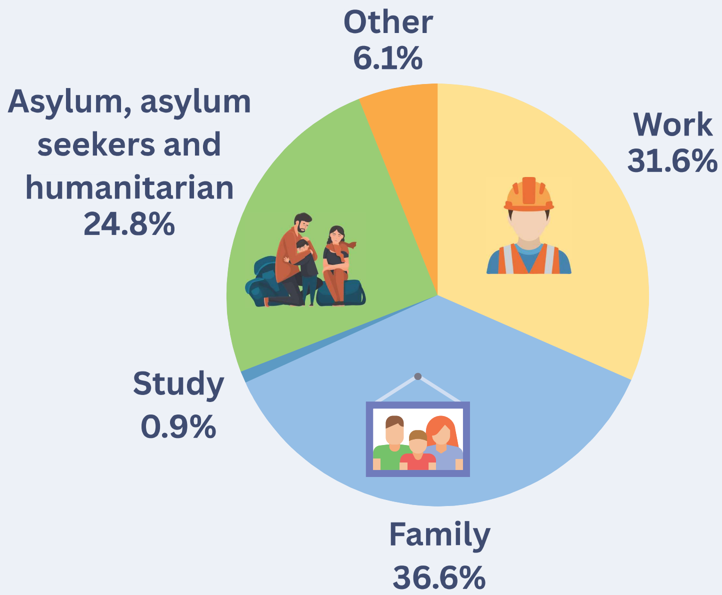
New permits issued to Peruvian citizens originated mainly from **applications requesting the asylum/refugee status or other forms of protection**, which accounted for more than half of all arrivals (55.3%). The number of arrivals linked to these reasons increased significantly by 86.5%. The Peruvian community ranks fourth after the Ukrainian, Bangladeshi, and Pakistani communities, in terms of prevalence of applications for obtaining protection as the main reason of entry. Another reason to issue new residence permits was family reunification, accounting for 27.2%, down by 8.8% compared to the previous year. There was also a marked decrease in permits issued for work reasons (-43.5%), accounting for 6.3% of new arrivals in 2024.

Types and reasons for issuing residence permits



49.6%
long-term residents

Figure 6 – Residence permits subject to renewal by reason for issue (%). Data at 31 December 2024



Source: Sviluppo Lavoro Italia elaboration based on Istat data

An analysis of long-term permits highlights a deceleration in the stabilization process of the Peruvian community over the last two years, after a steady decade-long growth. The proportion of long-term residents fell by 11% compared to 2023, going 60.3% to 49.6%, and that was mainly due to an increase in both new arrivals and temporary permits. This is more than 3 percentage points lower than the percentage recorded for the overall non-EU population (52.8).

With regard to **permits subject to renewal, 36.6%** of permits held by members of the community are linked to **family reasons**, representing the main reason to stay in Italy, which shows a slightly lower incidence than that recorded for non-EU citizens (37%) as a whole. This is followed by work, accounting for 31.6%, compared to 27.4% recorded for the overall non-EU population.

5,372
Acquisitions of citizenship

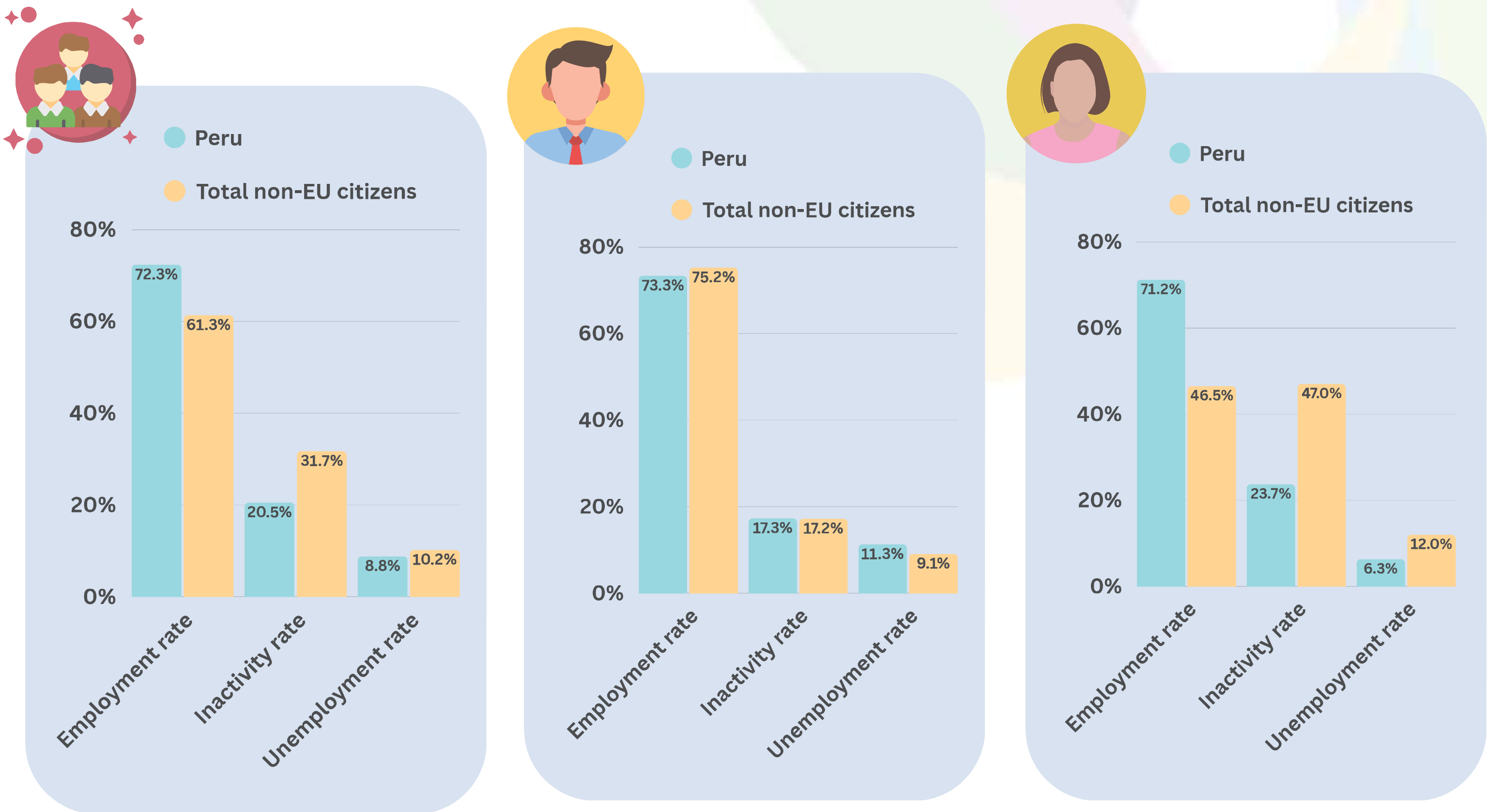
In 2024, **5,372 Peruvian citizens were granted citizenship** (4.8% of total third-country nationals), **mainly on the grounds of naturalization**, accounting for three-fifths of the cases (**58.6%**). Transmission from parents, acquisition at age 18, and ius sanguinis accounted for 32.4% of cases, while 9% were linked to marriages to Italian citizens.

Key indicators

The Peruvian community in Italy is well integrated into the country's labour market. In 2024, the **employment rate** was significantly higher than that of the overall non-EU population (**72.3%** against 61.3%), and the unemployment and inactivity rates were lower: respectively 8.8% and 20.5% against 10.2% and 31,7%. Among the main non-EU communities, the Peruvian community ranks fifth for the highest employment rate and third for the lowest inactivity rate.
These positive performances are also determined by **strong female contribution and participation in the labour market.** Peruvian women's employment rate is considerably higher than that of overall non-EU women (71.2% versus 46.5%), and inactivity and unemployment rates are significantly lower (respectively 23.7% and 6.3% against 47% and 12%). There is a very limited gap between male and female employment rates within the community (73.3% versus 71.2%).

The Peruvian community ranked tenth among the main non-EU communities in terms of membership to key trade unions in 2023 (2.3% of non-EU member), mainly CISL (50.1%). Out of an estimated 74 thousand Peruvian workers, 18,394 are union members, i.e. approximately one quarter of the community.

Figure 7 – Key labour market indicators by gender and citizenship. Year 2024

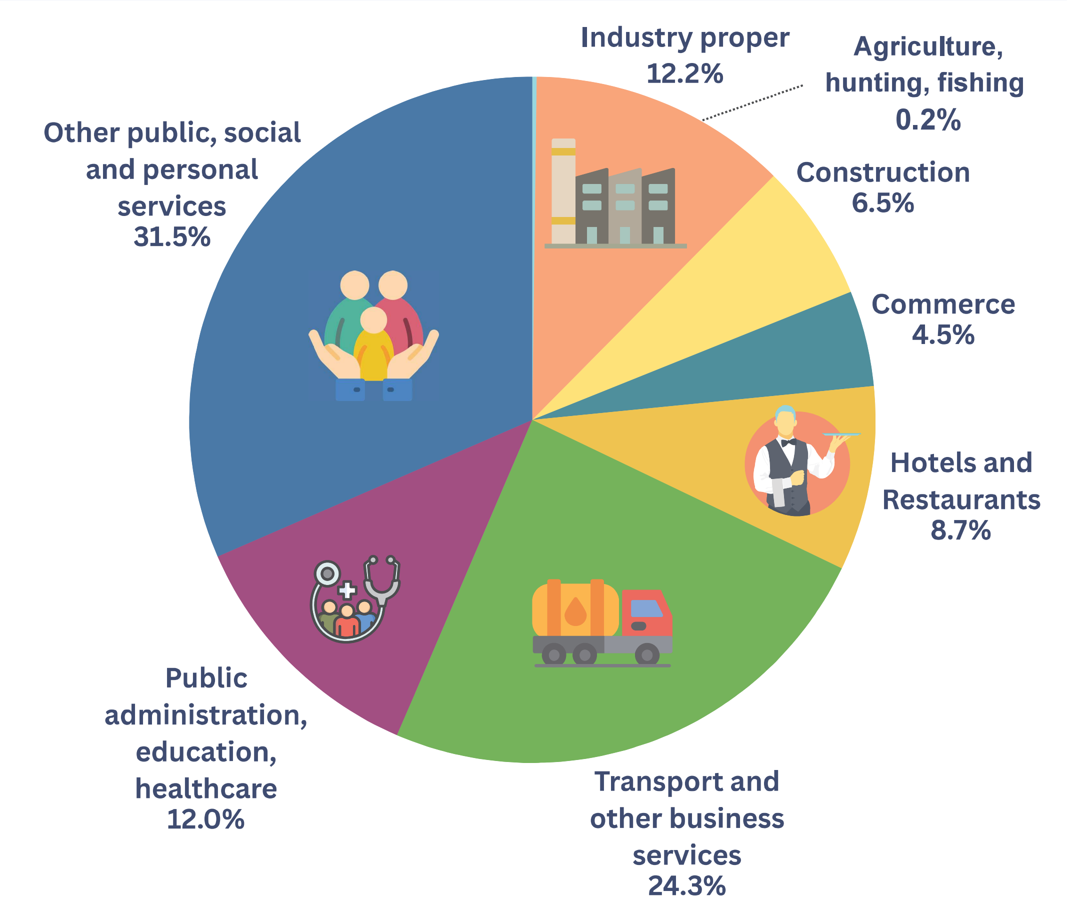


Source: Sviluppo Lavoro Italia elaboration based on Istat RCFL data

Sectors of employment

As regards the distribution of Peruvian workers across economic sectors, the community is mostly **funneled in the *Other public, social and personal services* sector.** More specifically, 31.5% of Peruvians employed in Italy work in this sector, followed by other two sectors, i.e.*Transport and business services* (24.3%) and *Industry proper* (12.2%). The community presence in the *Public Administration, education and healthcare* sector is also significant (12%).

Figure 8 - Employed persons (over 15) by sector of employment (%). Year 2024



Source: Sviluppo Lavoro Italia elaboration based on Istat RCFL data

In terms of job types, 38% of Peruvian workers are mainly employed as clerks, sales clerks, and personal service providers. Unskilled manual labour accounts for 36.8% of Peruvian workers, skilled manual labour for 18.8% while managers and professionals in intellectual and technical fields account for 6.4%.

38%

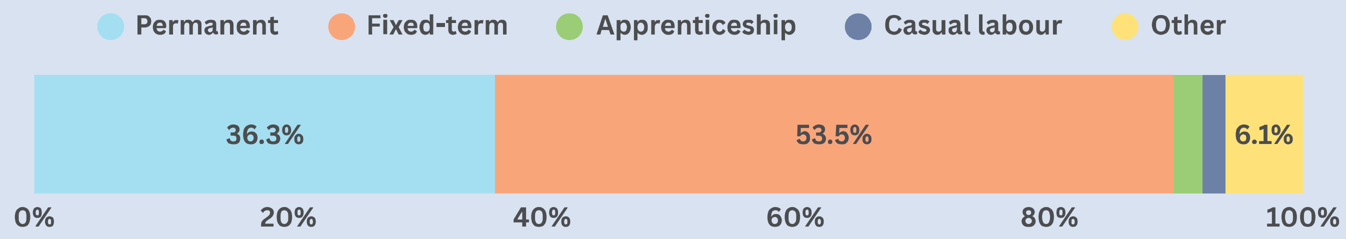
Clerks, salesclerks and personal services providers

Employment Trends

Regarding new entries into the labour market, in 2024, **61,307 Peruvian citizens were hired** , representing 2.9% of new employment contracts for non-EU citizens. More than half of the recruitments were on the basis of fixed-term contracts (53.5% compared with 71.8% for the overall non-EU population); while the share of permanent contracts was higher than that recorded for all third-country nationals (36.3% versus 19.5%), indicating greater job stability.

Data from the Mandatory Employment Communications confirm the importance of the Tertiary Sector for the community surveyed: **the service sector accounted for the majority of jobs**, with an incidence significantly higher than that of the overall non-EU population: 86.4% against 50.8%. In particular, the community's most common job category is ***Skilled professions in cultural, security and personal services***, which covers 25.6% of contracts.

Figure 9– Initiation of employment relationships with Peruvian citizens by type of contract (in %).Year 2024



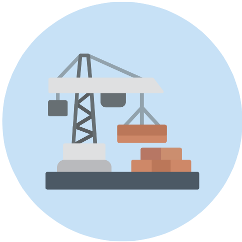
Source: Sviluppo lavoro Italia elaboration based on SISCO data

Confirming the positive integration of Peruvian women into the labour market, 56.1% of the recruitment of Peruvian citizens are women, a figure that is significantly higher than that for all non-EU citizens (28.7%).

Conversely, in 2024 **52,470 employment relationships involving Peruvian citizens were terminated**, due mainly to the expiry of the contract or the cessation of activities (44.5%), dismissals (24%), resignation (23.6%), and other reasons 8%.

Businesses

The Peruvian community lags behind in terms of its role in the entrepreneurial sector,ranking among the lowest in terms of the number of **sole proprietors (4,347** units in numbers or 1.1% of the total).
The geographical distribution of businesses run by Peruvian-born citizens shows a strong concentration in Lombardy, which accounts for 43.5% of Peruvian businesses. It is followed by Piedmont (13%), Lazio (12%), Tuscany (9.8%) and Liguria (8.1%). The other regions stay well below 5%.
The largest investment sector for Peruvian businesses is the construction sector (23.7%), in line with the average value for non-EU citizens (24.6%).
This is followed by the Commerce and Transport sector, which, though representing the largest sector for the overall non-EU businesses (39%), accounts for only 23% among Peruvian entrepreneurs.



23.7%
of Peruvian businesses in the construction sector

Particularly noteworthy is the community's presence in the business services sector, accounting for 19.2%, a share three times higher than the overall average (6.2%), indicating a significant specialization.
In terms of gender composition, the Peruvian community shows a higher share of women than the overall non-EU average: 31.1% compared with 22.7%. This indicates a stronger female presence in entrepreneurship among Peruvians relative to other nationalities.

Welfare

Data on the number of recipients of wage subsidies in the community[5] shows a rather good level of integration of the Peruvian community in the Italian socio-professional fabric: 1.3% of non-EU recipients of wage subsidies are Peruvian, a figure that rises to 2.4% in the case of the Extraordinary Redundancy Fund.
In terms of family care measures, the data show an ongoing stabilization of the community. As regards maternity allowance[6], 4.6% of non-EU beneficiaries are Peruvian citizens, a figure mainly connected to the strong female participation in the Italian labour market. The share of parental leave beneficiaries is also higher than the demographic weight of the community[7] (4.5%).

[5] These include the extraordinary redundancy fund, the exceptional redundancy fund (a measure adopted during the Covid-19 pandemic to support employees of companies not covered by other income support measures), and the ordinary redundancy fund.
[6]Also known as "compulsory leave allowance"), this is a form of income support that replaces wages and is paid to female workers who need to take leave from work because of pregnancy or puerperium for up to five months.
[7]A form of income support for parents who are employees and who are entitled to take leave from work during the first 12 years of their child's life for a maximum of 6 consecutive months or fractions thereof for the mother and a maximum of 7 consecutive months or fractions thereof for the father.

Table 2 - Beneficiaries of social buffers, old age, invalidity and survivors' pensions and welfare pensions, cash transfers to the families of the community surveyed and to the overall non-EU population – Year 2024

Allowance	Peru	Incidence of the Community on non-EU total	Total non-EU beneficiaries	Incidence of non-EU workers on total
Wage subsidies				
Ordinary Redundancy Fund	1,056	1.20%	87,491	15.50%
Extraordinary Redundancy Fund	125	2.40%	5,187	3.20%
Exceptional Redundancy Fund	0	0.00%	16	0.70%
Total	**1,181**	**1.30%**	**92,694**	**12.70%**
Unemployment benefits				
NASpI (New social insurance for employees)	14,575	3.20%	456,263	16.70%
Old age, invalidity and survivors' pensions				
Old age	2,103	3.30%	62,837	0.50%
Invalidity	392	2.50%	15,694	1.80%
Survivors	1,044	2.80%	37,766	0.90%
Total	3,539	3.00%	116,297	0.70%
Welfare pensions				
Pensions and social allowances	1,686	3.30%	51,272	6.10%
Civil disability pensions	1,134	2.70%	41,299	4.00%
Caregivers' allowance and the like	1,637	3.50%	46,645	2.10%
Total	**4,457**	**3.20%**	**139,216**	**3.40%**
Family Care				
Maternity	1,360	4.60%	29,271	10.20%
Parental leave	1,525	4.50%	34,140	9.50%
Family allowance [8]	60	1.10%	5,225	8.30%

Source: Sviluppo LavoroItalia elaboration based on INPS data -Coordinamento generale statistico attuariale

[8] As of March 1, 2022, Legislative Decree 230/2021 introduced the Universal Child Allowance, a measure to support families with dependent minors, or children of age but not yet 21 who are students or unemployed, as well as disabled children of any age. Family allowance remains in place as a measure to support families without children.

Remittances and financial inclusion

Edited by D. Frigeri - CeSPI

Remittances

The financial behaviour and decisions of foreign citizens are influenced by subjective and objective factors in a space-time dimension. In percentage terms, three-quarters (76%) of savings are allocated in Italy, and the remaining 24% are sent to the country of origin in the form of remittances.
This transfer of money, which has taken on significant dimensions at the international level (over $900 billion in 2024, according to the World Bank), has a significant impact on the contexts of origin. Remittances sent by foreign citizens residing in Italy reached €8.29 billion in 2024 (Bank of Italy), with very modest growth of 1.3% after years of significant increases.

According to World Bank data, in 2024, remittances to Peru accounted for 1.7% of the national GDP. The country ranks eighth in terms of remittance flows from Italy, accounting for 4% of the total in 2024, with an increase of 9% compared with 2023. Lombardy and Lazio are the two regions from which a total of 56% of remittances to Peru originate (concentrated between Milan, 31%, and Rome, 15%), followed by Piedmont (14%) and Tuscany (12%). With regard to cross-border transfers sent by Peruvian citizens to their country of origin, data collected from Italian banks show a 35% increase in volume and 6% in the average amount remitted between 2023 and 2024.

Table 3 – Remittances to Peru

Volume of 2024 remittances from Italy	359,029 (milioni di €)
Incidence on total remittances from Italy	4.3%
2023-2024 % variation	+8.7%
Average cost of remitting €150 from Italy (September 2025)[9]	4.86%
Average amount of cross-border transfers from Italian banks	5,498 €

Source: CeSPI analysis of data from the Bank of Italy, www.mandasoldiacasa.it, Observatory on the Financial Inclusion of Migrants

The process of financial inclusion and financial well-being

Financial inclusion, defined as access to and proper use of a variety of financial instruments, is an enabling factor to initiate and consolidate the socioeconomic integration process of an individual and his/her family. At the heart of this evolutionary process is access to a current account and the payment system, in addition to increasingly complex needs that correspond to an equal number of financial instruments, including access to credit, investments, forms of accumulation, and the protection of savings. The traditional notion of financial inclusion has gradually been combined with the term financial well-being, a multidimensional concept that reflects an individual's or a family's ability to manage their economic resources in the present and in the future, thus ensuring stability and resilience.

[9] *The average cost, calculated according to the methodology adopted and certified by the World Bank, includes the sum of commissions and the markup on the exchange rate.*

In literature, it is associated with four dimensions [10]: the ability to manage current expenditure in a sustainable way (having control over one's finance), the ability to absorb unexpected shocks with no serious difficulties (having a financial "buffer"), the ability to save for medium/long-term goals, and the ability to confidently plan one's financial future (freedom to make choices for one's own well-being). These dimensions envisage the availability of a wide range of financial products, but also to adequate financial education, which is a necessary precondition.

The National Observatory on Financial Inclusion, created by CeSPI in 2010, is capable of observing several variables closely related to the mentioned dimensions. The first two indicators concern financial and digital education. Both show low levels for non-European citizens: the financial education index stands at 3.8 on a 0-10 scale, while only 46% deem their digital skills to be sufficient. A second key indicator concerns the Bancarization Index, namely the percentage of adults who are current account holders, the first step in the process. While the index stands at 97%[11] for Italians, it reached 90% for non-EU foreign citizens in 2023, a continuing significant gap. The Peruvian community's index reaches full financial inclusion (99%). A second set of variables allows for the representation of an individual's ability to plan his/her long-term goals and manage their expenses in a sustainable way.

Table 4 – Financial Inclusion Indicators - Peru

	2023	2022	2020	Delta 2020-2023	Non-EU countries' data
Bancarization index	99%	99%	99%		90%
Incidence on the number of bank account holders					
Passbooks	53.70%	55.70%	57.40%	(-)	60%
Payment services	263.80%	217.30%	229.00%	(+)	303%
Financing services	61.80%	51.70%	65.10%	(-)	54%
Mortgages	14.90%	14.30%	15.60%	(-)	12%
Savings/investment products	40.10%	36.70%	47.90%	(-)	25%
Insurance products (Non-Life)	30.50%	24.50%	31.70%	(-)	33%
Internet banking	70.60%	58.90%	62.50%	(+)	83%

Source: CeSPI– National Observatory on the Financial Inclusion of Migrants

[10] A system of indicators was developed in 2015 by the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. See: Measuring financial well-being - A guide to using the CFPB Financial Well-Being Scale
[11] World Bank – Global Financial Index 2022.

A cross-sectional reading of the indicators between 2020 and 2023 provides a better understanding of a phenomenon that is dynamic by definition and that includes, in the 2020-2022 two-year period, the impact of significant shocks generated by the pandemic and inflation. From the perspective of the bancarization index, the Peruvian community does not show signs of exclusion from formal financial circuits. Quite the opposite – all indicators recorded a drop during the 2020-2023 two-year period, only partially recovered in 2023, indicating a lasting impact on individuals' financial well-being. Passbooks were the only product category to decline throughout the three-year period. This was due both to their buffer function, which likely led to the depletion of deposited resources, and to a reallocation of resources towards more profitable products, given the effects of inflation.

A comparison with the average data for non-EU citizens highlights three elements that characterize the Peruvian community. On the one hand, the community has a higher incidence when it comes to credit instruments(both short- and long-term, i.e. mortgages) as well as for savings/investment instruments (mostly medium/long term). Passbooks and insurance products are below average. On the other hand, there is a lower incidence of payment instruments, which is matched by a limited use of internet banking, revealing some difficulty in adapting to the digitization of financial services.

Overall, the community's financial well-being reflects clear elements of stability. While not entirely immune to external shocks, the Peruvian community demonstrates resilience and the capacity to manage medium- to long-term plans with a forward-looking perspective. However, progress is still needed in strengthening digital financial education

Methodological note

Subject of the survey and reference period

The Annual Reports on Migrant Communities (ed. 2025) analyse the specific characteristics of the 16 largest non-EU communities in the country, considering socio-demographic characteristics, types and modes of residence, presence in the school and university system, as well as integration in the labour market and access to welfare. The editorial line consists of 16 reports dedicated to individual nationalities.

The period analysed is the year 2024, although for some areas the latest available data date back to the previous year, 2023, while for Unaccompanied Foreign Minors (UAMs), the data are updated to June 30, 2025. The reference period is always specified both in the text and in the titles of the table or figure presenting the data.

Presentations and data sources

The analysis used administrative and sample data from various sources. Where possible, the analysis took gender into account. Data relating to communities were compared with overall data for non-EU citizens and, where appropriate, with data on the Italian population.

Each community report consists of two main chapters (Socio-demographic Characteristics and the World of Employment) and two in-depth analyses, one at the beginning on the situation in the country of origin (by the World Bank) and one at the end on Financial Inclusion and Remittances (by Daniele Frigeri of CeSPI).

1. Socio-demographic characteristics. The first chapter analyses the socio-demographic aspects of communities, age structure, the presence of minors (and their integration into the school system), newborns, and unaccompanied foreign minors, as well as the reasons for and conditions of non-EU citizens' stay in Italy, with particular attention to new arrivals in 2024. The sources used are: ISTAT-Ministry of the Interior on residence permits[12] (at December 31, 2024), ISTAT on acquisitions of citizenship (2024) and marriages (2023); ISTAT (2024 estimate) on foreign births broken down by citizenship; Ministry of Labour and Social Policies (MLPS) - Directorate-General for Migration Policies and the Social and Labour Integration of Migrants (UAMs, at June 30, 2025, limitedly to communities with more than 15 minors); Ministry of Education and Merit (MIM) (school year 2023/2024) and Ministry of University and Research (academic year 2023/2024).

2. The labour market. The second chapter is dedicated to the theme of work and welfare. The data used in this chapter are taken from various sources: ISTAT, RCFL - Continuous Labour Force Survey[13] (2024 average); MLPS, Mandatory Employment Communications Information System (SISCO[14] , at December 31, 2024); INPS, General Actuarial Statistics Coordination (at December 31, 2023); Unioncamere – InfoCamere, Movimprese[15](at December 31, 2024, for foreign-owned companies); data from the main trade unions (CGIL, CISL, UIL, UGL) on members with foreign citizenship (2023).

[12] Data on legally resident non-EU citizens include all foreigners from countries outside the European Union who hold a valid residence permit (residence permit or EU long-term residence permit).

[13] ISTAT's RCFL is a survey conducted on a quarterly sample of individuals registered in municipal registers, and for this reason does not collect information on non-resident foreigners, even if they hold a residence permit. This means that the scope of observation only concerns the legally resident foreign population listed in municipal registries, as the ISTAT survey cannot include citizens who are present illegally or who, although regular, do not reside in Italy. Due to the sample-basis of the survey, the gender variable was not used to analyse samples not in line with statistical representativeness criteria (less than 1,000 units).

[14] SISCO collects data on employment flows relating to subordinate employment, associated employment, internships, and other professional experiences provided under current legislation. The sphere of reference excludes employment relationships in the armed forces concerning senior figures and involving individuals registered in the Seafarers' Register. Finally, employment relationships for socially useful activities (LSU) were not considered among the employment relationships that were started and terminated.

[15] Unioncamere data consider the country of birth of entrepreneurs and not their citizenship.

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