

Foreigners in Albania

Year 2021

Tirana, on 22 August 2022: At the end of 2021 the number of foreigners with residence permits in Albania resulted 14,921 inhabitants, by increasing with 9.6 % compared to 2020.

The number of resident foreigners, in 2021 is dominated by males with 63.0 % versus females with 37.0 %.

The number of applications for residence permits in Albania, in 2021 was 9,106 applications, by increasing with 18.9 % compared with 2020.

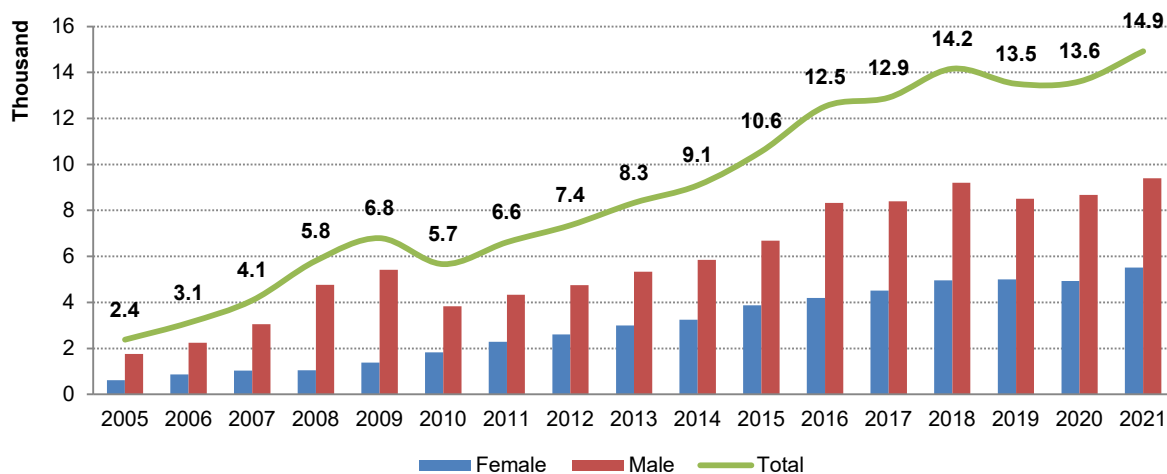
Resident foreigners originating from Iran, Italy and Kosovo constitute the largest number of foreigners with residence permits in Albania in 2021, respectively with 2,586, 2,324 and 1,869 inhabitants.

Foreigners originating from Europe, in 2021 result in 8,812 inhabitants and constitute 59.1 % of the total number of foreigners compared to 56.8 % that constituted in 2020.

The reason for employment is the main reason for the residence permits of foreigners in Albania in 2021, with 47.7 %.

In 2021 there were identified 10,062 irregular foreigners, in the territory of the country, where most of them, are foreigners originating from Syria and Afghanistan with 67.0 %.

Fig. 1: Foreigners with residence permits by sex



Source: Department for Border and Migration, General Directorate of State Police, INSTAT calculations

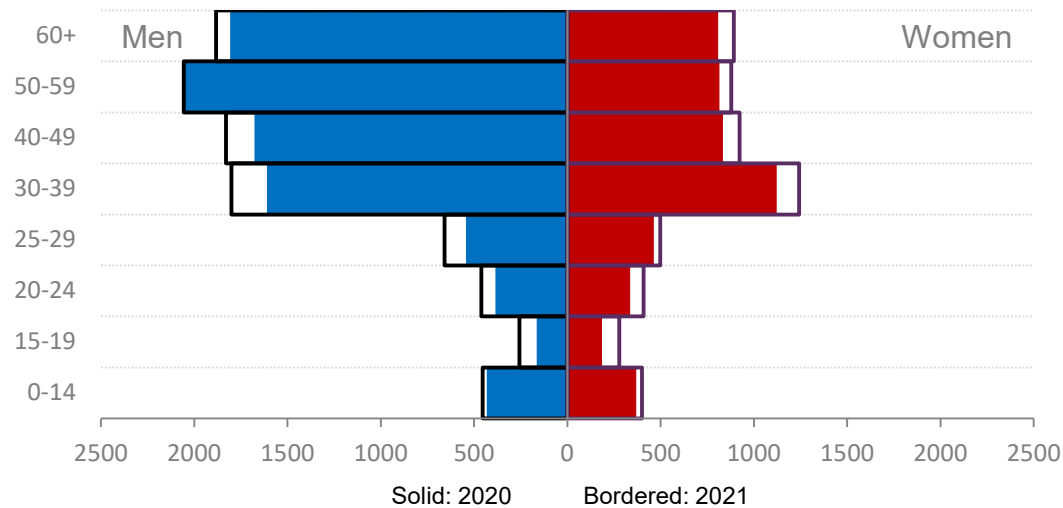
For publication on 22 August 2022

Continues

Foreigners in Albania

During 2021 the number of resident foreigners consists of 9,400 males and 5,521 females. Men account for 63.0 % of the number of foreigners with a residence permit in Albania.

Fig. 2: Population pyramid of resident permit foreigners in Albania



Source: Department for Border and Migration, General Directorate of State Police, INSTAT calculations

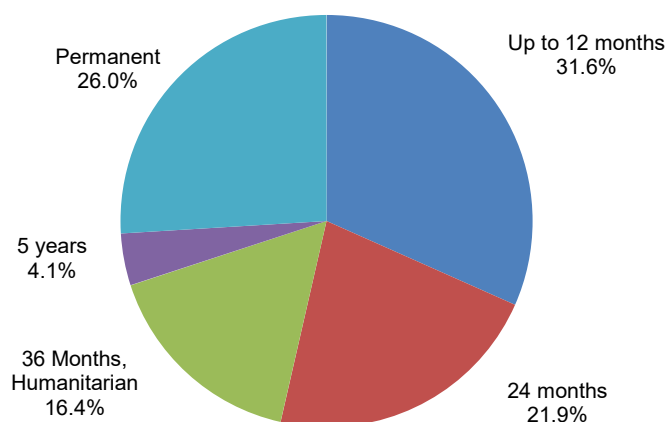
The number of applications for residence permit in Albania, in 2021 is 9,106, by marking a increase by 18.9 % compared to 2020. The applications by country of origin from Iran and Italy occupy 42.2 % of total applications, in 2021.

Tab. 1: Applications for Residence Permit in Albania by country of origin

Country of origin	2019	2020
Iran	2,324	2,454
Italy	1,119	1,393
Kosovo	916	1,087
Turkey	742	919
USA	193	231
Egypt	210	220
Philippine	80	166
Macedonia	120	161
Bangladesh	28	154
Syria	177	152
Other	1,752	2,169
Total	7,661	9,106

Source: Department for Border and Migration, General Directorate of State Police, INSTAT calculations

Fig. 3: Applications for Residence Permit in Albania by length of validity, 2021

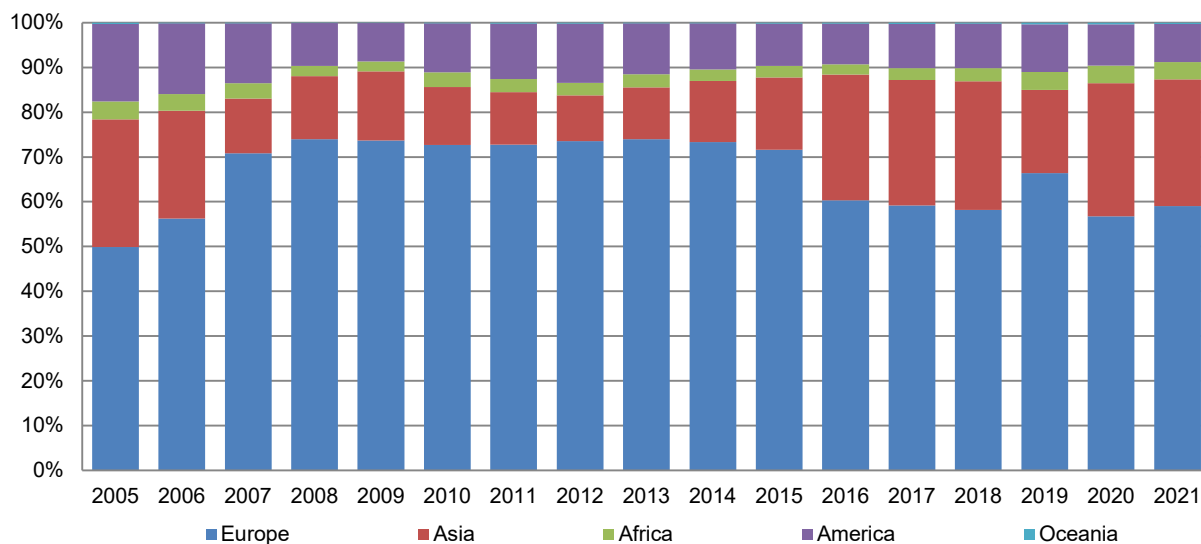


Source: Department for Border and Migration, General Directorate of State Police, INSTAT calculations

Foreigners in Albania by continents

Foreigners with residence permits in Albania, according to the country of origin, in 2021 are headed by European countries, accounting for 59.1 % of total resident foreigners. Foreigners originating from Europe are 8,812, by increasing with 14.1 % compared to 2020. Foreigners originating from Asia are 4,222, by increasing with 4.3 % compared to 2020. Foreigners originating from America, Africa and Oceania are 1,887, by increasing with 2.7% compared to 2020.

Fig. 4: Foreigners with residence permits by continents

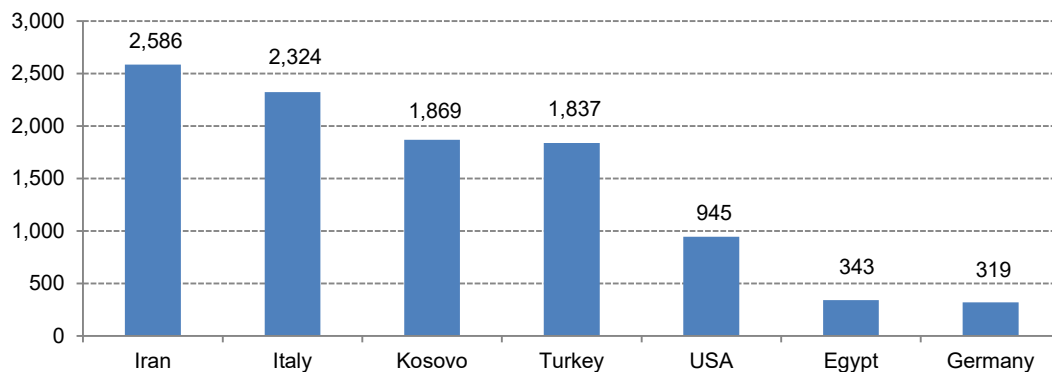


Source: Department for Border and Migration, General Directorate of State Police, INSTAT calculations

Foreigners in Albania by country of origin

In 2021, resident foreigners in Albania originating from Iran are 2,586 inhabitants, by decreasing with 0.9 % compared to 2020. Foreigners originating from Italy are 2,324 inhabitants, by increasing with 12.4 % compared to 2020. Foreigners originating from Kosovo are 1,869 inhabitants, by increasing with 21.2 % compared to 2020.

Fig. 5 Foreigners in Albania by countries of origin, 2021

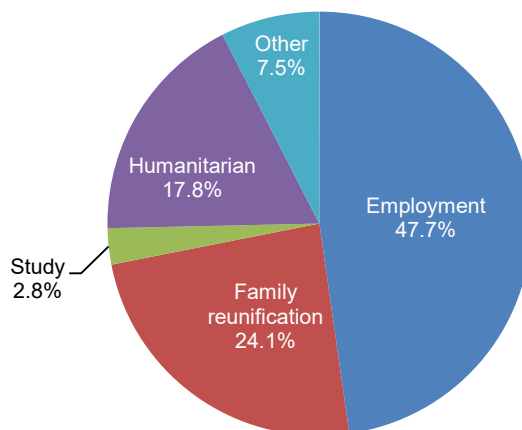


Source: Department for Border and Migration, General Directorate of State Police, INSTAT calculations

Foreigners in Albania according to reason

In 2021, resident foreigners for employment reasons accounted for 47.7 % of the total number of foreigners, followed by reasons for family reunification with 24.1 %, reasons for humanitarian purposes with 17.8 %, reasons for studies with 2.8 % and other reasons by 7.5 %.

Fig. 6: Foreigners with residence permits according to reason, 2021



Source: Department for Border and Migration, General Directorate of State Police, INSTAT calculations

Foreigners of Iranian origin are mainly dominated by humanitarian reasons to obtain a residence permit in Albania (99.3 %).

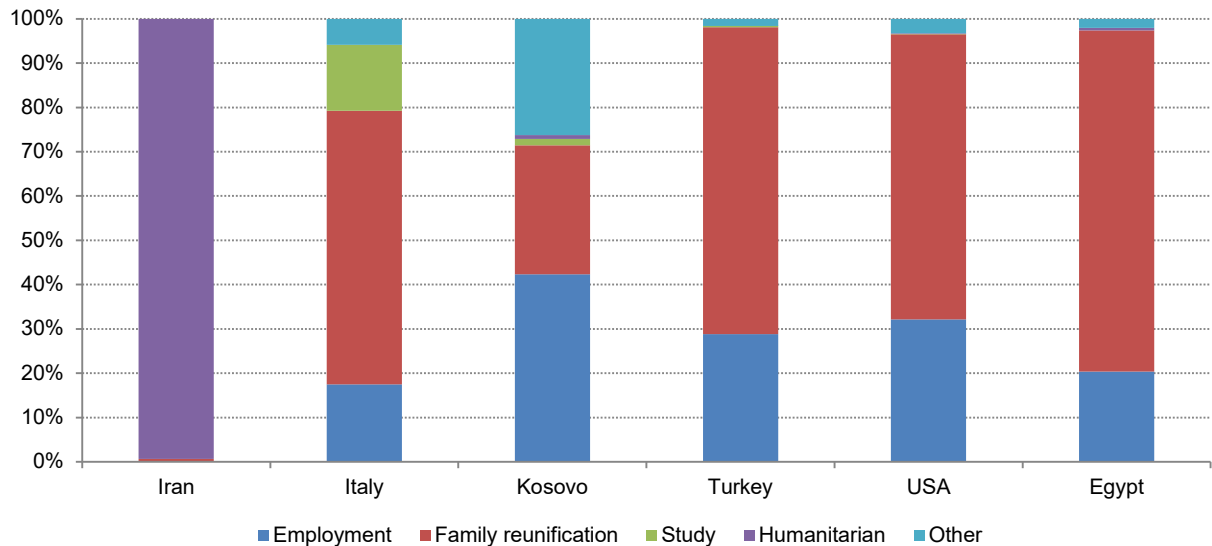
Foreigner's resident in Albania originating from Italy, in addition to the family reunification (61.7 %) there is a predominance of reason for employment (17.5 %).

Foreigners originating from Kosovo are dominated by reasons for employment (42.3 %) and reasons for family reunification (29.1 %).

Foreigners originating from Turkey are dominated by reasons for family reunification (69.2 %) and reasons for employment (28.9 %).

Foreigners originating from the US and Egypt are mainly dominated by family reunification (64.3 % and 77.0 %, respectively).

Fig. 7: Foreigners with residence permits according the country of origin and reason of staying, 2021

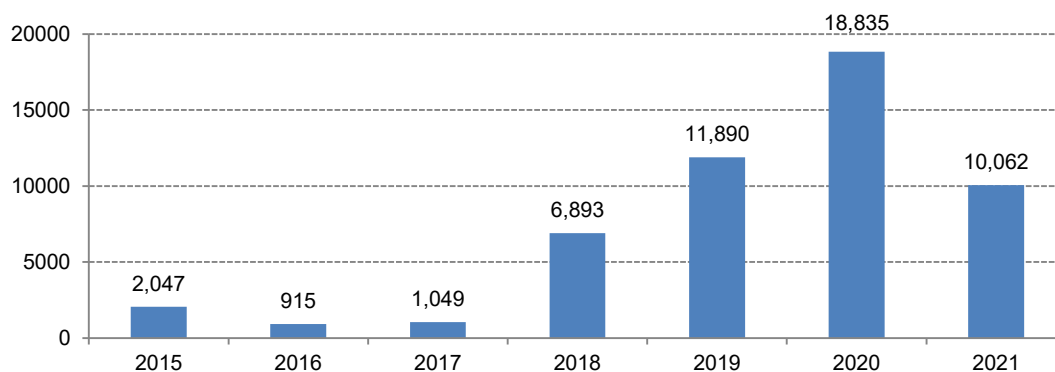


Source: Department for Border and Migration, General Directorate of State Police, INSTAT calculations

Irregular foreigners

Irregular foreigners evidenced in the territory of Albania or in the border, without the necessary documentation, result 10,062 persons in 2021, compared with 18,835 persons in 2020

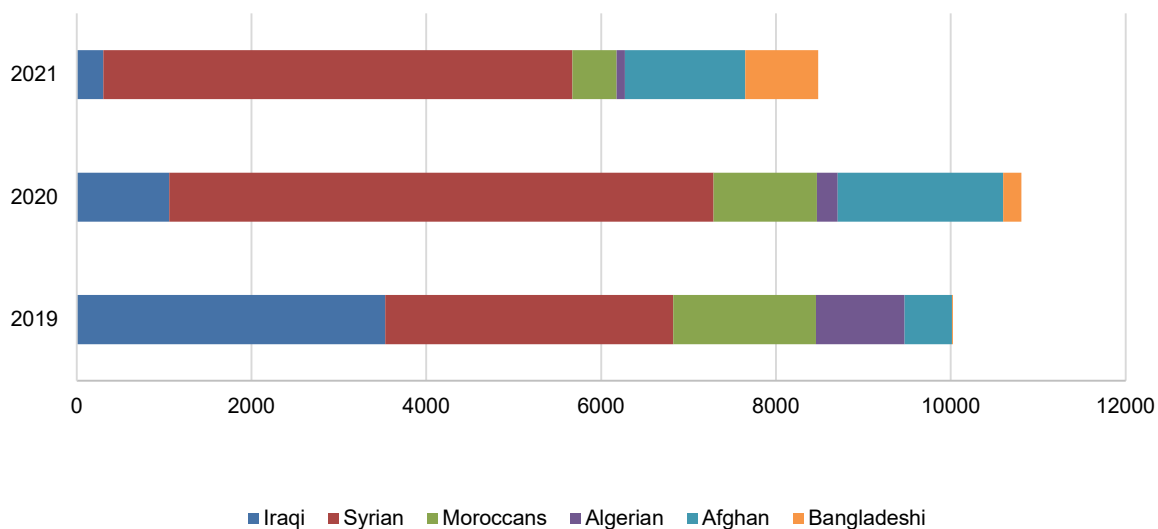
Fig. 8: Irregular foreigners



Source: Department for Border and Migration, General Directorate of State Police, INSTAT calculations

Irregular foreigners for first time, by country of origin in 2021 are headed by countries like Syria with 5,366 people, Afghanistan with 1,377 people, Bangladesh with 832 people and Morocco with 505 people.

Fig. 9: Irregular foreigners by country of origin



Source: Department for Border and Migration, General Directorate of State Police, INSTAT calculations

To consult with other publications, visit the INSTAT webpage: <http://www.instat.gov.al/>

Methodology

The purpose of the annual publication of foreigners in Albania is to present the results and indicators on foreigners with residence permits in Albania, by age group and sex, reason for application, countries of origin and the annual number of applications for residence permits. The publication also features irregular foreigners.

Data on foreigners with residence permits in Albania as well as irregular foreigners are provided by the Department of Border and Migration, General Directorate of State Police, Ministry of Interior.

Definitions

Foreigner is any person, with or without citizenship, who, according to the Albanian legislation, is not an Albanian citizen.

Residence Permit is a document issued by the competent authorities which authorizes and permits a foreigner to stay in the Republic of Albania for more than 90 days within 180 days.

Stateless person is the person who does not have the nationality of any state.

Work permit is the authorization issued by the responsible state authority to a foreigner, for business purposes, to be employed, self-employed or for professional training.

Family reunification is the entry and stay in the Republic of Albania of family members of an Albanian citizen, who do not have Albanian citizenship or a foreigner or a refugee resident in the Republic of Albania, with the purpose of maintaining the family, regardless of whether the family relationship is established before or after the entry of a foreigner into the Republic of Albania, in cases of family reunification of the foreigner's family.

Family members of a foreigner, asylum seeker, refugee or person under subsidiary protection are their spouse, cohabitant, whose cohabitation has a stable and proven character; minors, unmarried children, part of the family composition including those deprived of custody and who are in custody of him or her or adopted by a court decision or a decision that is enforced directly, according to the international obligations of the Republic of Albania or to be recognized, in accordance with international obligations, as well as unmarried adult children when they cannot objectively meet their needs due to their health status; first-line ancestors in the right line, when they are in charge of him or his / her spouse, according to the legislation of origin and do not enjoy the proper family support in the country of origin.

Volunteer's service is a program of solidarity activities, based on activities recognized in the Republic of Albania, in pursuit of objectives of general interest.

Researchers and specialists are foreigners with specialized knowledge, essential, for service, research equipment and a high level of qualification for the activity exercised by the enterprise or research institution.

Irregular stay is the presence in the territory of the Republic of Albania of a foreigner who does not meet or no longer meets the conditions for entry, stay or residence in the territory of the Republic of Albania.

State or place of origin is the state whose citizenship is held by asylum seekers or refugees and, in the case of stateless persons, the country in which the refugee or asylum seeker has his habitual residence.