

Foreigners in Albania

Year 2022

Tirana, on 21 August 2023: At the end of 2022, the number of foreigners with residence permits in Albania resulted 18,151 inhabitants, increasing by 21.6 % compared to 2021.

The number of resident foreigners in 2022 is dominated by males with 63.0 % versus females with 37.0 %.

The number of applications for residence permits in Albania in 2022 was 10,127 applications, increasing by 11.2 % compared with 2021.

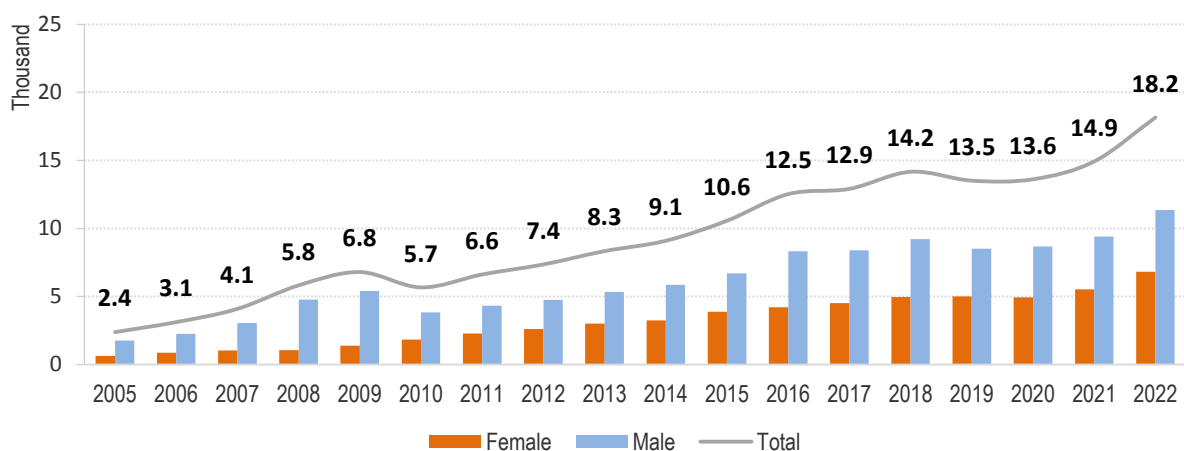
Resident foreigners originating from, Italy, Kosovo and Turkey constitute the largest number of foreigners with residence permits in Albania in 2022, respectively with 2,948, 2,829 and 1,629 inhabitants.

Foreigners originating from Europe in 2022 result in 13,926 inhabitants and constitute 73.3 % of the total number of foreigners, compared to 59.1 % that constituted in 2021.

The reason for employment is the main reason for the residence permits of foreigners in Albania in 2022, with 43.7 %.

In 2022 there were identified 8,335 irregular foreigners, in the territory of the country, where most of them, of 52.3 % are foreigners originating from Syria and Afghanistan.

Fig. 1: Foreigners with residence permits by sex, 2005-2022



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

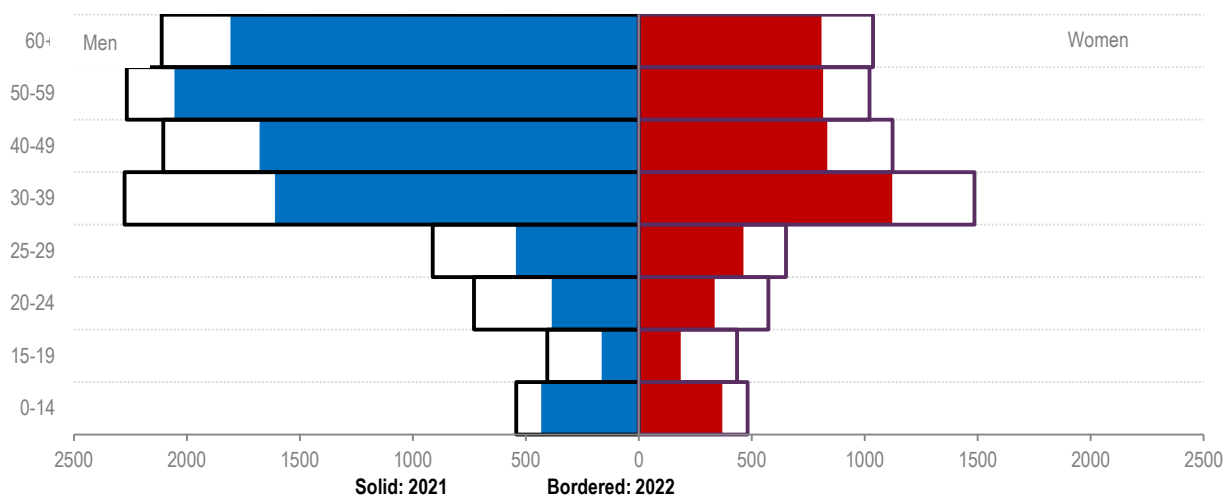
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Foreigners in Albania

During 2022 the number of resident foreigners consists of 11,345 males and 6,806 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

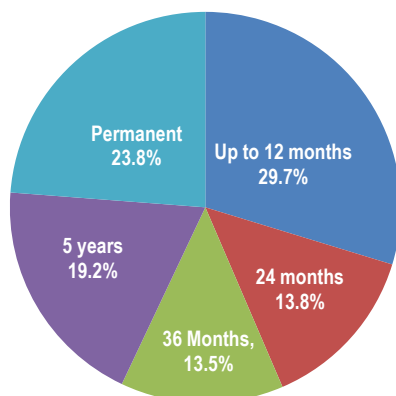
The number of applications for residence permit in Albania, in 2022 is 9,106, by marking a decrease by 18.9 %, compared to 2020. The applications by country of origin from Iran and Italy occupy 42.2 % of total applications, in 2021.

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

Country of origin	2021	2022
Iran	2,454	2,064
Italy	1,393	61
Kosovo	1,087	2,073
Turkey	919	782
USA	231	252
Egypt	220	276
Philippine	166	272
Macedonia	161	171
Bangladesh	154	203
Syria	152	181
Other	2,169	3,792
Total	9,106	10,127

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, 2022

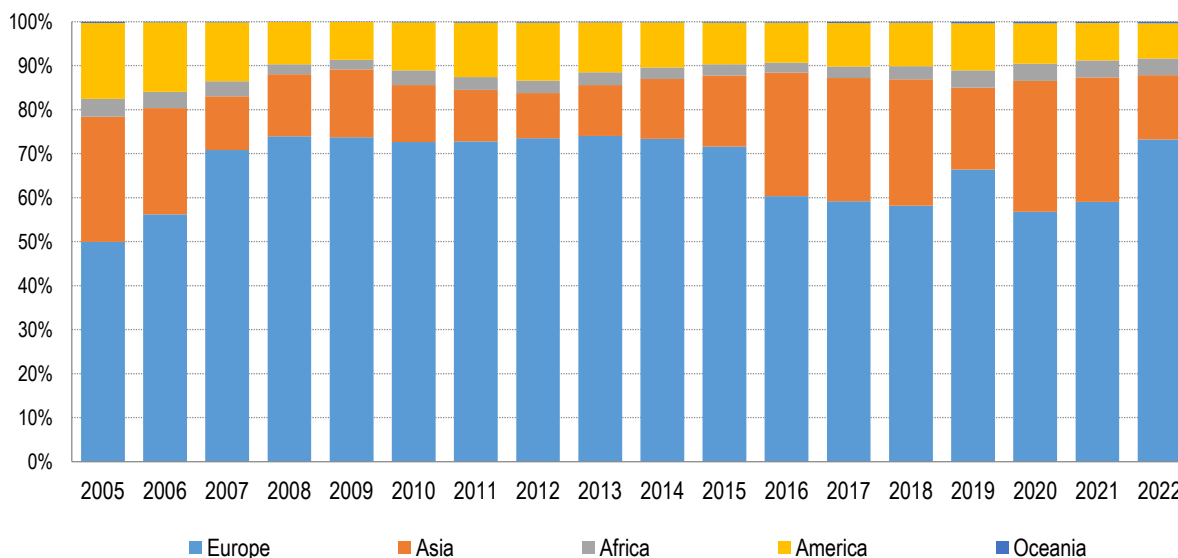


Source: Department for Border and Migration, General Directorate of State Police, INSTAT calculations

Foreigners in Albania by continents

Foreigners with residence permits in Albania, according to the country of origin, in 2022 are headed by European countries, accounting for 73.2 % of total resident foreigners. Foreigners originating from Europe are 13,296 by increasing with 50.9 % compared to 2021. Foreigners originating from Asia are 2,641, by decreasing with 37.4 % compared to 2021. Foreigners originating from America, Africa and Oceania are 2,214, increasing by 17.3 %, compared to 2021.

Fig. 4: Foreigners with residence permits by continents, 2005-2022

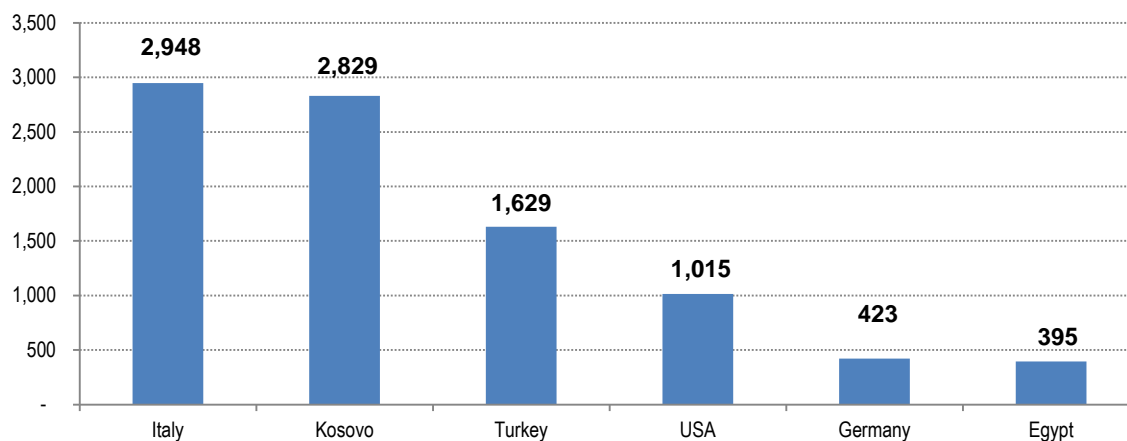


Source: Department for Border and Migration, General Directorate of State Police, INSTAT calculations

Foreigners in Albania by country of origin

In 2022, resident foreigners in Albania originating from Italy are 2,948 inhabitants, increasing by 26.9 %, compared to 2021. Foreigners originating from Kosovo are 2,829 inhabitants, increasing by 51.4 % compared to 2021.

Fig. 5 Foreigners in Albania by countries of origin, 2022

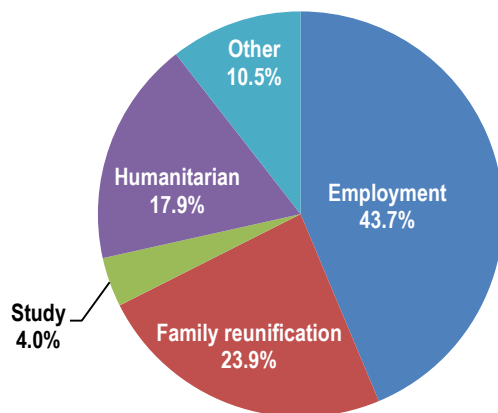


Source: Department for Border and Migration, General Directorate of State Police, INSTAT calculations

Foreigners in Albania according to reason

In 2022, resident foreigners for employment reasons accounted for 43.7 % of the total number of foreigners, followed by reasons for family reunification with 23.9 %, reasons for humanitarian purposes with 17.9 %, reasons for studies with 4.0 % and other reasons by 10.5 %.

Fig. 6: Foreigners with residence permits according to reason, 2022



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

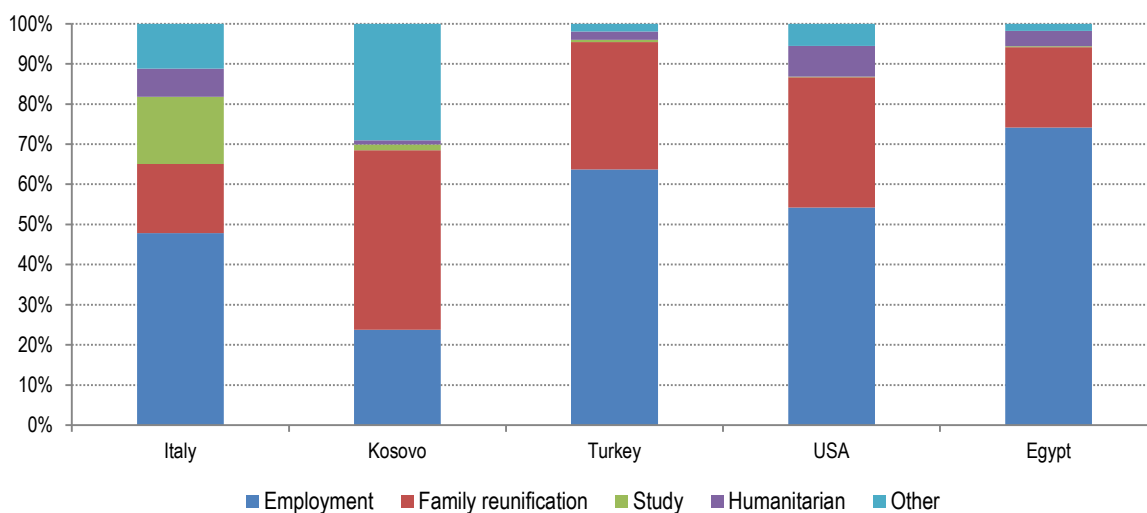
Foreigners in Albania originating from Italy, in addition to the reason for employment (47.8 %) there is a predominance of the reasons for family reunification (17.2 %).

Foreigners originating from Kosovo are dominated by reasons for family reunification (44.7 %) and reasons for employment (23.8 %).

Foreigners originating from Turkey are dominated by reasons for employment (63.7 %) and reasons for family reunification (31.7 %).

Foreigners originating from the US and Egypt are mainly dominated by reasons for employment (54.2 % and 74.2 %, respectively).

Fig. 7: Foreigners with residence permits according the country of origin and reason of staying, 2022

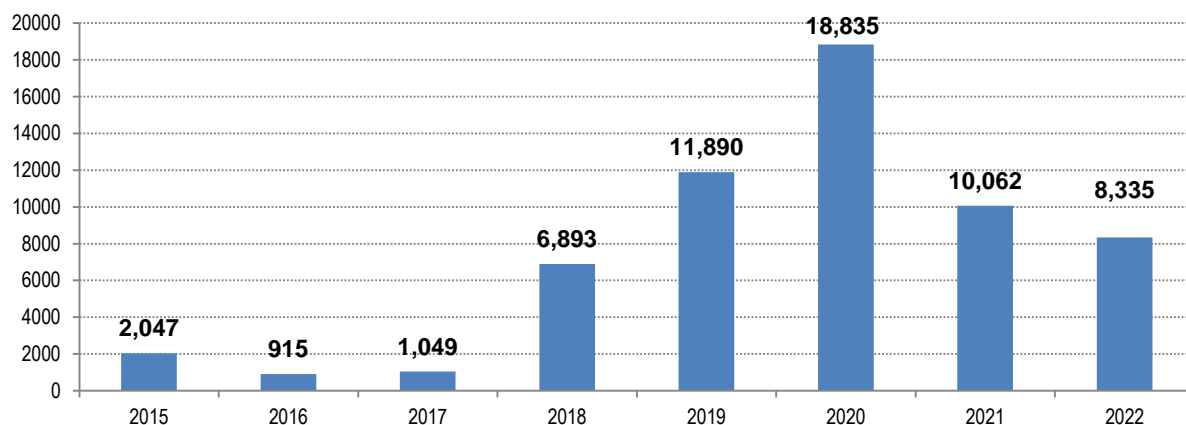


Source: Department for Border and Migration, General Directorate of State Police, INSTAT calculations

Irregular foreigners

Irregular foreigners evidenced in the territory of Albania or in the border, without the necessary documentation, result 8,335 persons in 2022, compared with 10,062 persons in 2021.

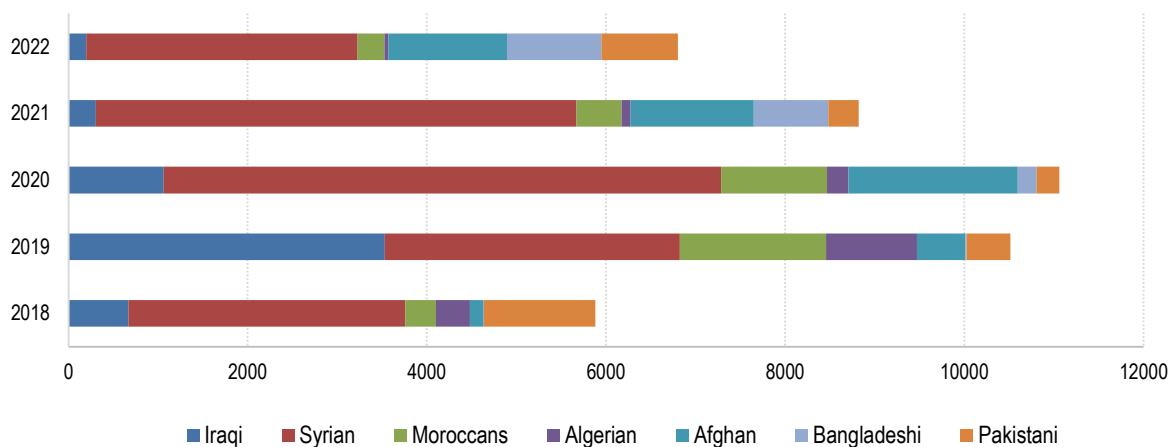
Fig. 8: Irregular foreigners, 2015 – 2022



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

Irregular foreigners for first time, by country of origin in 2022 are headed by countries like Syria with 3,030 people, Afghanistan with 1,324 people, Bangladesh with 1,055 people, Pakistan with 855 people and Morocco with 301 people.

Fig. 8: Irregular foreigners by country of origin, 2018 - 2022



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

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.

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.