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Supporting paper

**SURVEYS ON INTERNAL AND INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION
AND FOREIGN POPULATION**

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I. INTERNAL AND INTERNATIONAL MOBILITY: THE SURVEY ON CHANGES OF RESIDENCE

1. The measurement of internal and international migratory flows is based on the survey of changes of residence between Italian municipalities and between these with other countries; the survey is based on individual data and has been extensively restructured in recent years. The quality of the data produced has been considerably improved, its prompt distribution guaranteed and there are a greater number of ad hoc indicators for analysing residential mobility.

2. The territorial dimension plays an important role in studying trends: internal flows are classified and analysed according to the various typologies (intraprovincial, intraregional and interregional movements) and statistical tables are produced showing the municipalities' demographic pattern and the origin and destination of migratory flows. This is useful for studying the changes in residential mobility triggered by the urban and metropolitan transformation processes underway in our country.

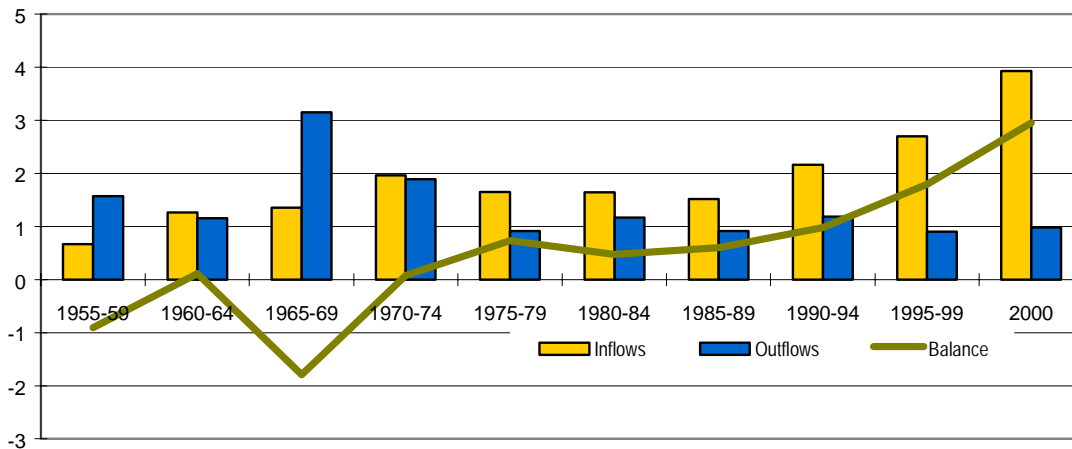
3. Particular attention is also devoted to the analysis of international mobility that has so radically transformed the map of countries of origin and destination of migratory flows over recent years. Finally, there are numerous statistical tables analysing the individual features of migrants, in particular their distribution by age – showing the age brackets in which the residence is most frequently changed - and nationality, currently an extremely interesting variable in international movements, increasingly characterised by the presence of foreign nationals.

II. INTERNATIONAL MOBILITY IN ITALY¹

II.1 An overview during last decades

4. International mobility has undergone profound changes in the last years: the negative migration balance, especially in the second half of the Sixties, became positive at the beginning of the Seventies and in recent years has reached particularly high levels, thanks to the considerable number of registrations. The greatest changes regard not only the quantity and direction of movements but also the features and reasons for migration flows. The weight of foreign nationals is becoming increasingly important and has radically changed the map of countries of origin and destination.

Figure 1 – Inflows, outflows and international migration balance (per 1000). Years 1955-1999 (five-year averages) and 2000¹



¹ Inflows, outflows and balance of the year 2000 are represented as if they were the averages of the five year period 2000-2004.

¹ Data for the year 2000 are provisional.

II.2 International mobility during the last decade

5. In the year 2000 there were over 1,270,000 changes of residence between Italian municipalities, 4.4% more than the previous year. The greatest increase involved movements between different regions (+6.9%). The international migration balance is still particularly high, thanks to the consistent number of inflows, amounting to 2.9 per thousand in the year 2000. The regions where the balance has been most positive are those of the centre-north. The proportion of foreigners is increasing, both in changes of residence inside Italy (6.9% in 1999) and in inflows from outside: foreign nationals comprise over 80% of registrations of those entering the country. The most numerous communities are the Albanians and Moroccans.

6. During the Nineties, international mobility experienced an irregular evolution. In the years 1996-1999, the number of registrations had risen considerably with regards to the previous period, and in 1999 the increase was also substantial (+18.0%); cancellations were maintained at more constant levels over the years, but they also greatly increased during 1999 (+41.4%). International migration balances were thus particularly high during these years, with values of around 2 per thousand.

Table 1 – International changes of residence. Years 1993-2000

Year	International changes of residence				Year	International changes of residence			
	Inflows	Outflows	Balance	Bal. per 1.000		Inflows	Outflows	Balance	Bal. per 1.000
1993	100,401	61,282	39,119	0.7	1997	162,857	46,273	116,584	2.0
1994	99,105	65,548	33,557	0.6	1998	156,885	45,889	110,996	1.9
1995	96,710	43,303	53,407	0.9	1999	185,052	64,873	120,179	2.1
1996	171,967	47,510	124,457	2.2	2000	226,968	56,601	170,367	2.9

7. The provisional data for the year 2000 show that the international balance has also grown in 2000, with a decisive increase in registrations (+22.7%) and a reduction in cancellations (-12.8%).

Table 2 - Inflows and outflows from/for abroad, by country of origin and destination. First 10 countries. Year 2000

Country of origin	Inflows			Country of destination	Outflows		
	Number	%	% Italians		Number	%	% Italians
Albania	32,181	14.2	0.8	Germany	11,413	20.1	93.1
Morocco	20,344	9.0	1.3	Switzerland	7,416	13.1	96.9
Romania	19,710	8.7	1.9	United States	4,156	7.3	90.8
Germany	10,054	4.4	74.5	United Kingdom	3,919	6.9	89.3
China	9,451	4.2	2.8	France	3,394	6.0	86.0
Philippines	7,003	3.1	4.1	Argentina	2,685	4.7	96.3
Switzerland	5,687	2.5	90.5	Belgium	1,822	3.2	93.5
Peru	5,279	2.3	5.5	Brazil	1,168	2.0	85.4
Yugoslavia	5,233	2.3	2.0	Spain	1,084	1.9	78.8
Poland	5,086	2.2	6.1	Venezuela	862	1.5	95.7
Total	226,968	100.0	15.2	Total	56,601	100.0	83.9
<i>first 10 countries</i>	<i>120,028</i>	<i>52.9</i>	<i>12.3</i>	<i>first 10 countries</i>	<i>37,919</i>	<i>67.0</i>	<i>92.2</i>

8. The countries from which immigrants most frequently come are Albania (more than 32,000 registrations in 2000) and Morocco (more than 20,000), followed by Romania (almost 20,000) whose inflows increased considerably in 2000 (+79.4% compared to 1999), Germany with around 10 thousand registrations (of which, however, almost three-quarters are Italian citizens) and, even further behind, China and the Philippines. Instead, the major countries of destination mainly belong to the highly developed areas. Germany leads the table (11,000 deregistered from Italy) and Switzerland (7,000), followed by the United States, United Kingdom and France (around 3/4,000); in general, the majority of emigrants from Italy are of Italian nationality. Since registrations are greater than cancellations, the migration balance, as mentioned above, is clearly positive, although this trend can be overestimated since those leaving Italy often do not inform their local registry of their departure.

III. FOREIGN RESIDENTS IN ITALY: THE SURVEY ON POPULATION REGISTERS

9. The survey on changes of residence has also enabled the new migratory flows from countries outside the European Union into Italy to be highlighted as they began. The launch of the survey on registered foreign citizens, data available since 1993, was the natural consequence of this evolution in migratory trends. This survey is still based on population registers, as is the one on changes of residence; this time, however, data are no longer individual but are aggregated on a municipal level, and they concern not only migratory flows but also "natural" flows of resident foreign citizens, as well as the stocks according to single nationalities.

10. In practice, the registry surveys already carried out for the total population in Italian municipalities have been repeated, but only covering the foreign population. It should be said that the latter is a more detailed survey. First of all, because the survey model is more complex: for example, it indicates the number of minors (the only data available on this subject) and the table is compiled according to nationality. It is, however, evident that the municipal offices have less experience in surveying the foreign population. Despite this, a new electronic survey model has already been introduced in around 1000 municipalities in the second year of experimentation, for the surveys of 2001².

11. The data provided by this survey are very helpful for the nationwide analysis of migratory flows of the foreign population, with those from abroad representing the majority of municipal registrations, and in general for the analysis of the demographic balances of foreign population. Regarding in particular migratory flows, data, even if less analytical, are more up-to-date compared to those from the survey on the changes of residence.

Table 3 – Foreign residents in Italy at 1st January of the years 1996-2001

FOREIGN RESIDENTS	1996		1997		1998		1999		2000		2001	
	Number	%	number	%	number	%	number	%	number	%	number	%
TOTAL RESIDENTS (number and % on Italian population)	737,793	1.3	884,555	1.5	991,678	1.7	1,116,394	1.9	1,270,553	2.2	1,464,589	2.5
of which: MINORS (number and % on foreign population)	125,565	14.2	150,080	15.1	186,890	16.7	229,851	18.1	277,976	19.0

² Because of the Census, which was held on the 21st of October, two surveys were carried out in the year 2001: the first referring to the period before the Census, the second to the period after the Census.

12. Foreign residents have doubled in the last five years; at 1st January 2001 they are almost one and a half million people (but the first results of the Census, as we will see later, yield a lower amount), compared to 738,000 in 1996. The percentage of Italian population is 2.5%; it was 1,3% in 1996. The most significant increase was observed in minor foreigners who, in 2001, are almost one fifth of foreign population, thanks to rising inflows from family reunifications, but also to a sizeable amount of new-borns in Italy.

IV. "LEGAL" FOREIGNERS: THE PROCESSING OF DATA ON RESIDENCE PERMITS

13. The processing of data on foreign citizens' residence permits is part of the plan to make use of administrative data produced also by other bodies, in this case by the Ministry of the Interior. Istat's data processing enables statistically significant information to be produced from the archives, starting with the amount of documents still in course (net of expired and duplicated ones) and thus the number of foreign citizens staying on a regular basis in our country to be calculated.

14. The statistical data obtained in this way also enable the socio-demographic features of the immigrant communities to be analysed: i.e. reason for immigration (work, family reunification), age, civil status, duration of presence.

IV.1 Privacy problems in obtaining the administrative data on residence permits

15. In the last two years it has become increasingly difficult to obtain the data on residence permits because of privacy problems, according to the Interior Ministry. In fact Istat, in order to correctly evaluate the amount of foreigners present in Italy on a regular basis, also requires the names and surnames of the permit holders to be transmitted in the individual records. This is necessary, for example, in order to identify those who, at the date of 1 January, had an expired permit but were granted a renewal in the first months of the year.

16. In the end an agreement was reached with the Interior Ministry and now the data are being transmitted to Istat with the names and surnames of permit holders coded in such a way that the foreign citizen cannot be identified. Yet, they can still be useful for evaluating renewals, eliminating duplicate documents and also for linking the data in successive years for longitudinal studies.

Table 4 - Permits of stay at 1.1.2001 by citizenship, sex and main reasons of stay

CITIZENSHIP	TOTAL		of which:						
	M	F	WORK			FAMILY			
			MF	M	F	MF	M	F	MF
EUROPE	282,784	283,808	566,592	203,654	101,312	304,966	27,638	124,129	151,767
of which:									
Central-Eastern Europe	213,806	183,116	396,922	170,786	66,832	237,618	21,336	94,591	115,927
AFRICA	268,943	120,573	389,516	241,371	48,608	289,979	19,724	65,113	84,837
Northern Africa	187,543	67,851	255,394	169,811	17,027	186,838	15,555	49,903	65,458
of which:									
<i>Morocco</i>	<i>113,489</i>	<i>49,003</i>	<i>162,492</i>	<i>102,006</i>	<i>13,653</i>	<i>115,659</i>	<i>10,456</i>	<i>34,939</i>	<i>45,395</i>
<i>Tunisia</i>	<i>35,389</i>	<i>10,724</i>	<i>46,113</i>	<i>32,085</i>	<i>2,276</i>	<i>34,361</i>	<i>3,017</i>	<i>8,329</i>	<i>11,346</i>
Western Africa	66,982	30,696	97,678	62,903	18,849	81,752	2,649	10,255	12,904
Eastern Africa	9,545	18,210	27,755	6,202	11,599	17,801	1,165	3,864	5,029
Central-Southern Africa	4,873	3,816	8,689	2,455	1,133	3,588	355	1,091	1,446
ASIA	147,130	120,711	267,841	117,002	63,810	180,812	16,394	42,002	58,396
Western Asia	13,699	6,058	19,757	6,387	1,085	7,472	1,481	3,308	4,789
Central-Southern Asia	72,099	33,203	105,302	62,857	9,180	72,037	5,953	18,938	24,891
Eastern Asia	61,332	81,450	142,782	47,758	53,545	101,303	8,960	19,756	28,716
AMERICA	51,404	113,445	164,849	22,150	40,730	62,880	13,857	57,264	71,121
Northern America	17,309	31,953	49,262	4,732	3,223	7,955	5,228	23,663	28,891
Central-Southern America	34,095	81,492	115,587	17,418	37,507	54,925	8,629	33,601	42,230
OCEANIA	1,100	1,376	2,476	273	227	500	179	583	762
Stateless	372	206	578	87	25	112	35	54	89
TOTAL	751,733	640,119	1,391,852	584,537	254,712	839,249	77,827	289,145	366,972

17. Due to the above-mentioned problems, the most recent data available are at 1 January 2001. Data at 1 January 2002 are available at the Ministry of the Interior, but they should be considered as “raw” data since, for example, the number of renewals under way at the beginning of the year is estimated. Permit holders in 2001 are 1,391,852; 60% of them (839,249) are in Italy for work reasons but an increasing number of foreigners, mainly women, come to Italy for family reasons; they are 366,972 in 2001, 26% of the foreign population. During the ‘90s there were high migratory inflows from Eastern European Countries, which constitute the first area in foreign immigration in Italy. Nevertheless, the most represented country is still Morocco (162 thousands immigrants), one of the ancient countries of origin of migratory flows in Italy.

V. LINKAGE BETWEEN RESIDENCE PERMITS AND DATA FROM REGISTERS

18. A linkage has also been foreseen between residence permits and data on foreign residents from the population registers. Actually, the linkage concerns only one variable, i.e. the expiry date of the permit. That should be useful in order to keep the population registers “clean”, that is to say to prevent foreigners who are no longer in Italy from remaining registered by deleting their records once their permit of stay has expired.

Table 5 - Permits of stay and residents 1 January of the years 1993- 2001

SURVEY	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
PERMITS OF STAY									
Number	589,5	649,1	677,8	729,2	986,0	1,022,9	1,090,8	1,340,7	1,391,9
Variation (%)	-	10,1	4,4	7,6	35,2	3,7	6,6	22,9	3,8
RESIDENTS									
Number	573,3	629,2	685,5	737,8	884,6	991,7	1,116,4	1,270,6	1,464,6
Variation (%)	-	9,8	8,9	7,6	19,9	12,1	12,6	13,8	15,3

19. But that isn’t the only difference between the two sources, whose data are reported in Table 5. Differences are also due to the fact that minors are undercounted in the permits archive, that not all regular foreigners (that is to say permit holders) are registered in the “Anagrafe”, and due to regularizations, because of the time lag necessary for registration in the population registers.

VI. THE CENSUS OF THE FOREIGN POPULATION

20. The 14th Census of the Population and Dwellings (21 October 2001) was an important date also for demographic statistics on foreign citizens, since the new system for estimating the resident foreign population will be constructed around the census results.

21. To support the monitoring and checking of census data, especially in the first delicate stage of collecting provisional data, an integrated control system has been prepared. Taking into account the other main statistical sources (survey on resident foreigners and residence permits), the integrated control system enables the most problematic cases to be pinpointed and, possibly, to intervene while work is in progress to ensure the greatest coverage of foreigners.

22. The Census surveyors could not reach many resident foreigners, and therefore the first results confirm the over-numeration of foreign population in the municipal population registers. The provisional data sent by the Communes are in fact significantly lower than those in their population registers.

VII. AN INTEGRATED INFORMATION SYSTEM

23. The sector of statistics on migration and foreign population was one of the first at Istat to be organised around the concepts of information systems. In fact, although the "traditional" statistical sources (registrations and cancellations) are sufficient for the survey of migratory flows, the foreign immigration trend, completely new for our country, has repercussions also on social aspects. This means that multiple statistical sources have to be analysed.

24. Therefore, since the mid 'nineties, it has been possible to exploit pertinent administrative data: for example, data from Social Security on dependent workers, domestic help and agricultural workers, Ministry of Labour data on authorisations, job placement and registrations in employment offices, Ministry of the Interior data on the acquisition of citizenship and requests for political asylum, and Ministry of Foreign Affairs data on entry visas, particularly for family reunification purposes.

25. At the same time, the statistics on foreigners - civil status, births and marriages, education and justice - produced at Istat were organised. The first output was a book in the "Collana Informazioni" containing the processed and "validated" data from all the afore-mentioned statistical sources; at present an Internet site is being set up along the lines of the already running information system on the disabled. This will be more flexible in disseminating the data coming from the various sources as soon as it is made available.
