MINISTERO del LAVORO
e delle POLITICHE SOCIALI

THE FILIPINO COMMUNITY IN ITALY

Annual Report on the Presence of Migrants

Executive Summary

2019

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For nearly a decade, the *Direzione Generale dell'immigrazione e delle politiche di integrazione* (general immigration and integration policies directorate) has aimed to provide a detailed and balanced account of the complex phenomenon of the presence of foreigners in Italy and to do so by setting forth the various distinct aspects of the question while analysing the characteristics noted and also anticipating today's trends. The directorate does so by means of its *Rapporto nazionale sui migranti nel Mercato del lavoro italiano* (national reports on migrants in the Italian labour market) (ninth edition), the *Rapporti nazionali sulla presenza in Italia delle principali Comunità straniere* (national reports on the main foreign communities in Italy) (eighth edition) and the *Rapporti sulla presenza dei migranti non comunitari nelle 14 città metropolitane italiane* (reports on the presence of non-EU migrants in the 14 metropolitan cities of Italy) (fourth edition).

The series of national reports on the presence of the main foreign communities aims to investigate and study in depth the presence on Italian soil of the more numerically significant non-EU nationals: Moroccans, Albanians, the Chinese, Ukrainians, Indians, Filipinos, Bangladeshis, Egyptians, Pakistanis, Moldovans, Nigerians, the Senegalese, Sri Lankans, Tunisians, Peruvians and Ecuadorians.

For each grouping, the main features from the socio-demographic and employment angles are considered, alongside presence of minors and their education, occupational integration, welfare policies and processes of integration. Each report starts with comparison among the various communities.

Again, this year we duly acknowledge the contributions of institutions and bodies that have provided information in their possession. These entities include the Italian National Institute of Statistics; the general statistical and actuarial coordination body of INPS (National Social Security Institute); the Ministry of Education, University and Research; the Italian Union of Chambers of Commerce, Industry, Crafts and Agriculture; the international political studies organisation, CeSPI; the trade unions CGIL, CISL, UIL and UGL; and the Divisione Studi e Ricerca (study and research division) of ANPAL Servizi. We are also most grateful to dottor Daniele Frigeri, the Director of the *Osservatorio Nazionale sull'Inclusione Finanziaria dei Migranti* (national observatory on financial inclusion of migrants) who drew up the focus reports on remittances and access to credit.

The full series of *Rapporti Comunità* (community reports), editions 2012 - 2019, can be accessed – in Italian and in the main foreign languages – in the areas *Paesi di origine e comunità* (countries of origin and communities) and *Rapporti di ricerca sull'immigrazione* (immigration research reports) on the institutional portal, www.integrazionemigranti.gov.it. This portal also provides access to a statistical annex providing information that supplements the reports or that, within a comparative framework among the main national communities considered, enables in-depth study of the data analysed.

Within the ambit of the project, *Supporto nelle politiche per l'immigrazione e di cooperazione bilaterale con i Paesi di origin*e (support for immigration and bilateral cooperation with countries of origin) ANPAL Servizi has drawn up and translated the 2019 edition of its *Rapporti nazionali sulle principali Comunità straniere* (national reports on the main foreign communities) – analytic reports provided in summary form.

Version of 30/06/2020

Executive Summary

161.829

legally residing Filipino citizens

ranking sixth for number of presences

57,1%

women

42,9%

men

30,6% over the age of 50

32.343

minors below the age of 18

26.792 filipino students (**-1%**)

698 enrolled for degree courses

present in:

34,3% Lombardia

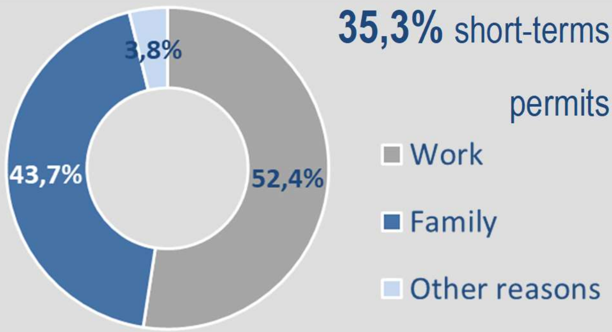
28,2% Lazio

8,3% Emilia-Romagna

64,7%

long-term

residents



35,3% short-terms

permits

Demographic characteristics

The Filipino community, one of the first to reach Italy, has a longstanding migration history, mainly thanks to the bridges created between Italy and the Philippines, through the factor of religion. As on 1 January 2019, Filipinos made up the sixth largest community by number of legal residents: 161,829 Filipino citizens held a valid residence permit (4.4% of legally residing non-EU citizens in Italy as a whole, overtaken in the ranking for the first time after years by the Indian community).

The migratory model of the Filipino community has seen women as the trailblazers, who, having arrived in Italy, met the growing demand for labour in the sphere of home and family help services. This dynamic meant that the community would be characterized by a prevalence of females. Although gradual stabilization here has led, over the years, to a gradual rebalancing of the genders − in 1996 the quotient of Filipino women was approx. 70% − there is still a more marked gender bias among Filipino citizens legally residing in Italy than is noted among non-EU citizens as a whole. Filipino women stand at 57.1% of citizens legally residing in Italy (men at 42.9%), as opposed to non-EU residents as a whole (among whom we note a basic equilibrium between these components, with men at 51.7% and women at 48.3%).

The Filipino community's members are older than non-EU citizens as a whole, present in Italy. The mean age of Filipino citizens is 38, vs 34 for the non-EU population as a whole. Distribution by age group shows a prevalence within the Filipino community of the more adult age brackets (approx. 42% of Filipino citizens are aged over 40 vs approx. 27% for non-EU citizens as a whole). Despite the fact that the prevalent age group within this community is that of minors, their incidence remains significantly lower than that noted for non-EU citizens as a whole (20% vs 21.8%). This datum is probably largely owing to the fact that many of the workerspermit from this community are oriented toward home help and family services, which are jobs not conducive to satisfactory family life. Indeed, few marriages took place with a Filipino national over the last year examined: Weddings taking place in which at least one spouse was Filipino in 2017 came to 194 (a mere 1.1% of weddings in which at least one spouse was a non-EU citizen).

Geographic distribution of Filipino citizens sees them converge upon the two metropolitan cities of Rome and Milan in particular, which alone host approx. 50% of the migrants from the Philippines. This development is related to the marked sectoralization of Filipino employment, with the focus on home helpers, for whom there is a greater demand in large urban centres. Lombardia is the main region in which the community has settled (more than 1/3 of legally residing Filipino citizens), followed by Lazio (28.2%) and Emilia Romagna (8.3%).

Analysis of residence permits also points to the process gradually underway of stabilization of the Filipino community in Italy. The quotient of long-term residents in this community was 64.7% as on 1 January 2019, with an overall increase of more than 2% vs the previous year. The incidence of EU residence permit holders in the Filipino community as on 1 January 2019 was slightly higher than that for legally residing migrants as a whole (62.3%).

Work prevails as reason for issuance among Filipino citizens holding a permit subject to renewal, as seen in more than ½ of the permits subject to renewal of migrants belonging to this community (52.4%, vs 31% of non-EU citizens as a whole). The permits issued for family reasons, on the other hand, amount to approx. 25,000 (43.7%).

Current trends

Compared to 1 January 2018, the number of non-EU citizens in Italy is basically stable (+2,472 units). This apparent stability is in any case the result of the algebraic sum of opposing variations in the diverse communities. Indeed, the geography of origins of migrants sees significant changes taking place. For the first time, changes are noted also in the top 5 in the ranking for number of presences. The key increases are noted in the communities from the Indian subcontinent: namely, the Pakistani community (+4.9%), the Bangladeshi community (+4.5%) and the Indian community (+3.5%). The rise of the Nigerian community is also significant (+2.7%), ranking eleventh in terms of number's presences, having risen from fourteenth the year before.

The most significant downturns regard the Tunisians (-4.6%), Moroccans (-2%) and Moldavans (-1.8%).

Two main factors are noted with respect to trends displayed by number of presences: on the one hand, the new permits issued attesting to an inflow impacting the stock of legally residing foreigners, and, on the other, the granting of citizenship (which latter practice of course removes those who become Italian citizens from the stock of foreign citizens).

Regarding admissions, in 2018, 242,009 new residence permits were issued (approx. 21,000 less than in 2017). Despite the downturn, the growth trend of recent years was ongoing in regard to admissions for family reunification (+8.2% vs 2017), this being the main reason for issuance of residence permits (50.7%), while the new permits that were issued following an application for, or entitlement to, a form of protection saw a downturn (-35.9% vs the previous year). Only in 6% of cases were new residence permits issued for work reasons.

3,720 Filipino citizens entered Italy in 2018 (a 7.6% downturn vs the previous year), Most such admissions were for family reasons (approx. 85%), and slightly less than 5% regarded work permits.

The number of Filipino citizens residing in Italy remained stable (+0.1%), also owing to the fact that few community members acquired Italian citizenship.

Minors and educational paths

As noted above, the number of Filipino minors is low. As on 1 January 2019, the number of **Filipino minors** stood at **32,343** (4% of non-EU minors as a whole). 1,609 Filipinos were born in Italy in 2017 (3.1% of non-EU children born in Italy that year). Between 2010 and 2017, approx. 13,500 Filipino children were born in Italy).

Italian schooling circuit attendance on the part of Filipinos remains highly significant; the Philippines rank fifth as country of origin of non-EU students. 26,792 students of Filipino origin enrolled for academic year 2018/2019 (i.e. 4% of the non-EU school population as a whole). Compared to the previous year, the students of this community fell off in number by 1%, vs growth for non-EU students as a whole (+2.6%). The number of enrolled students decreased above all in primary schools (-4.4%), but increased in senior secondary schools (+3.2%). Compared with the total for non-EU students, the numbers of Filipino students were higher in senior secondary schools (5.7% of enrolled students) but lower in preschool institutions (3%).

Among the main non-EU communities, Filipinos rank second for their quotient of NEETs (i.e. persons aged between 15 and 29 years not in employment, education or training). There are approx. 4,000 young NEETs of Filipino citizenship accounting for 1/6 of the Filipinos of this age bracket (among non-EU citizens as a whole, the NEET rate is 34.6%).

Work and employment

As noted above, historically speaking, Filipino migration to Italy was characterized by its female component, meeting the demand for labour in the sector of home help and care. Analysis of the sphere of employment indicates that this community still greatly converges on this area. The sector of *Other public*, *social and personal services* absorbs 60% of Filipino workers (vs 27.6% of non-EU workers as a whole). Overall, the *Tertiary sector* absorbs more than 91% of Filipino labour. The acquisition of skills shielded these workers to a certain extent from the rigours of the recent economic crisis in Italy. On analysis of the main labour market indicators, it is noted that this community's employment conditions are decidedly more encouraging than for the non-EU population as a whole, with a higher employment rate and lower levels of inactivity and unemployment: 82.2% of the Filipino population residing in Italy, in the 15-64 age range, are employed (vs 60.1% of the non-EU population as a whole), The unemployment rate stands at 4.1% (vs 14.3%) and the inactivity rate at 14.5% (vs 29.8% for the non-EU population as a whole).

Among the main non-EU communities, the Filipinos are second only to the Chinese for their high employment rate and low unemployment rate.

A further element contributes to such high employment indices, namely the high level of participation in the labour market of the community's female component. Among the main non-EU communities, the Filipinos present with the highest levels of female inclusion in the labour market and employment (82.3% vs 46.9% among non-EU communities as a whole), and the lowest rates of unemployment (3.1% vs 17.1%) and of inactivity (15.4% vs 43,1%).

During 2018, the employment relationships activated for Filipino citizens totalled 48,364 (+7.7% vs the previous year). Unlike the situation for non-EU citizens as a whole, in regard to employment relationships activated for Filipino citizens, open-ended contracts prevail (48.9% of new employment relationships activated in 2018). Slightly more than 45% of hirings of Filipino workers were governed by fixed term contracts. Practically all the new subordinate and para-subordinate jobs that began during 2018 for Filipino workers were in the *Services* sector (a quotient approaching 95%), this sector ranking first for non-EU citizens as a whole. However, the incidence is less high in this community (58.1%). On analysis of qualifications on the basis of which the hirings took place, the Filipinos' commitment to family care and assistance service was clearly noted, The first qualification is *unskilled home helpers* (accounting for more than 1/3 of hirings). The hirings of Filipino citizens within this ambit account for 1/5 of the new contracts for non-EU residents.

With reference to the types of jobs, Filipinos are employed prevalently as *unskilled manual workers*, with an incidence of 2/3 of workers within this community compared to 37% among non-EU citizens as a whole. In descending order, Filipino workers are employed in the *Office workers, sales staff and in personal services* ambit (25%); and a mere 1% of this community are *managers and professionals in intellectual and technical fields*.

Economic conditions

While home help and care provision jobs shielded these workers from the rigours of the economic crisis, earnings suffered a setback. The data concerning home helpers – prevalent among employees in this community – indicated **monthly salaries** that were lower than those of employees (both within this community and vs non-EU workers as a whole, monthly wages for home helpers on average amounted to nearly half of those earned by employees). However, in regard to Filipino home helpers, it is noted that their pay as higher than that of non-EU workers as a whole: 656 euros vs 627. Conversely, within the ambit of jobs for employees, Filipino workers earned 63 euros less than non-EU workers as a whole. The gender pay gap within this community is fairly large; on average, the monthly salary of male employees exceeds that of female employees by more than 320 euros. However, female Filipino home helpers earn 46 euros more than their male Filipino colleagues.

Among employed Filipino citizens in Italy, a medium-high level of education prevails. More than half of the workers belonging to this community received at least a diploma (51%, a value 12% higher than that for non-EU citizens as a whole). The quotient of diploma holders is notable (39.2% vs 27.8% among non-EU citizens as a whole). The number of degree-holders is closer to the non-EU mean: 11.6% vs 10.8%. Educationally, within this community – as is also the case among non-EU individuals as a whole – women are more highly qualified than men, with 13.7% of female employees as holders of a higher education certificate vs 10% among the men. In any case, the value is lower than that for non-EU women as a whole (16.1%).

The quotient of **IVS (disability, old-age and survivors') pensions** that are made over to non-EU citizens has always been rather small. In 2018, this quotient stood at 0.4% of the total (out of almost 14 million pensions, 56,071 regard non-EU citizens). Non-EU citizens receive old-age pensions (in 42% of such cases), followed by survivors' pensions (36.3%); 21.6% are in receipt of IVS pensions, provided for migrants with non-EU citizenship during 2018, and linked to disability. In the Filipino community, old-age pensions prevail, with an incidence of 66.4%, As noted above, this community presents with a high incidence of older age groups, Indeed, Filipinos account for 13% of the old-age pensions made over to non-EU individuals. The incidence of survivors' pensions follows (21%); and disability pensions stand at approx. 12.6%. In all, with its 4,692 IVS pensions, the Filipino community accounts for 8.4% of non-EU citizens in receipt of such benefits.

3,449 **social assistance pensions** were made over in 2018 to Filipinos (3.7% of those made over to non-EU migrants). 47.7% were social benefits; 28% were disability pensions; and approx. ¼ constant attendance supplements.

With reference to **monetary transfers to families** (maternity benefits, parental leave and family allowances provided by INPS), in 2018 a total of 321,157 women received maternity benefits, 8.8% of whom were non-EU citizens (28,414) (7.6% less than the year before) . During the same period, the beneficiaries of maternity allowances with Filipino citizenship totalled 1,629, or 5.7% of non-EU female beneficiaries. Among the Filipinos, the beneficiaries of maternity allowances fell in number by 10.1% vs 2017.

As to parental leave, in 2018 there were a total of 344,529 such beneficiaries, denoting a 6.2% increase vs 2017, 6.8% of whom were of non-EU origin (23,445). A total of 618 Filipino citizens benefited from this measure in 2018 (2.6% of non-EU beneficiaries). For this community a 13.8% increase is noted vs the previous year. The benefit that is most frequently received consists in family allowances. During 2018, as many as 2,836,868 beneficiaries were in receipt of family allowances (a value that was basically stable vs the year before). 12.4% of the beneficiaries were non-EU citizens (approx. 353,000) denoting a 3.7% increase on 2017. Within this community, there were 11,358 members in receipt of family allowances in 2018 (3.2% of non-EU beneficiaries), with a 1.3% increase in numbers on 2017. The incidence of Filipino beneficiaries of all forms of family assistance is fairly low, attesting to, in mean value terms, a lower number of families than that noted for non-EU populations as a whole.

As to transfers made by the Filipinos in Italy to their country of origin, the Philippines rank third as nation of destination of **remittances** sent from Italy in 2018 (approx. 439 million euros), accounting for 9% of the total outgoing remittances (+113 million vs 2017).

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