



THE SENEGALESE COMMUNITY IN ITALY

Annual Report on the Presence of Migrants
Executive Summary



20
19

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 origine* (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.

Executive Summary



106.256

legally residing Senegalese citizens

ranking twelfth for numbers of presences

2.918 cases of acquisition of citizenship (2018)



26,4%
women

73,6%
men



40% below the age of 30

21.532 minors below the age of 18

296 naccompanied minors



15.972 senegalese students

270 enrolled for degree courses (+9,3%)

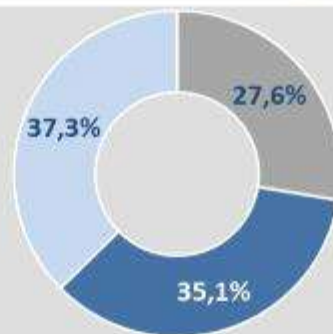
present in:

33,3% Lombardia

11,5% Toscana

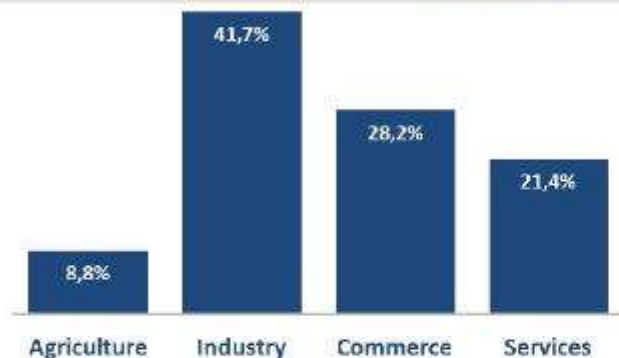
10,6% Emilia-Romagna

60%
long-term
residents



40% short-term
permits

- Work
- Family
- Other reasons



61,7% employment rate

77,3% male 20,8% female

65,1% female inactivity rate



42% employed in **Industry**

42,6% skilled manual workers

ranking fifth for number of sole proprietorships (5%)



19.299 sole proprietors (-1%)

87,3% enterprises
in the **Commerce and Transport** sector

Demographic characteristics

106,256 Senegalese citizens are holders of a residence permit valid as on **1 January 2019**. The Senegalese community ranks twelfth for number of legal residents in Italy, accounting for approx. 3% of the non-EU citizens in Italy and presenting with 1% growth vs the previous year.

Analysis of the main demographic characteristics of the Senegalese community in Italy, as on 1 January 2019, indicates:

- a marked **gender imbalance, with men predominating**. Men make up 73.6% of the Senegalese population, and women 26.4% this latter quotient standing at approx. ½ of the quotient for non-EU citizens as a whole (with women standing at 48.3%);
- **low mean age**, in line with the mean age of non-EU citizens as a whole (34).

As to geographic distribution, for the Senegalese community, Northern Italy prevails (63.7%). Accordingly, two of the three regions with most Senegalese are northern: Lombardia is the major Region of settlement for this community, with 1/3 of the total number of Senegalese citizens (vs ¼ of non-EU citizens as a whole). Emilia-Romagna (ranking third for number of Senegalese citizens) presents an incidence of 10.6% (vs 11.3% for non-EU citizens as a whole). The Region of Tuscany is the second region in terms of Senegalese presences (more than 12,000, or 11.5% of the total, and more than 3% higher than the level for migrants of non-EU origin as a whole). A significant number from this community settled in Southern Italy, where 17.5% of this community obtained or renewed their residence permits (vs 14.6% of non-EU citizens legally residing in Italy). The numbers in Puglia, Campania and Sardinia are largely equivalent, standing at 3.7%, 3.5% and 3.2%, respectively.

The **gradual process of stabilization or entrenchment** of this community in Italy is confirmed by the increase in the quotient of long-term residents, standing at 60% of Senegalese citizens, as on 1 January 2019. This level is significant for the Senegalese, albeit 2.3% lower than the mean for non-EU citizens as a whole. Regarding permits subject to renewal, the quotient among non-EU citizens as a whole stands at 18.7%. Among citizens holding a residence permit issued on the basis of, on the one hand, **application for asylum/humanitarian reasons** and, on the other, **family reasons**, the numbers are largely equivalent – both standing at more than 1/3 of short-term permits –, followed by **work permits** (27.6%).

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 numbers 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 numbers presences, having risen from fourteenth the year before.

The most significant downturns regard the Tunisian, Moroccan and Moldavan communities (-4.6%, -2% and -1.8%, respectively).

Two factors are of greater significance with respect to trends displayed by numbers present. These factors consist in, on the one hand, the new permits issued attesting to an inflow impacting the stock of legally residing foreigners, and, on the other, in the granting of citizenship (which latter practice of course removes those who become Italian citizens from the stock of foreign citizens).

Turning to admissions, in 2018, 242,009 new residence permits were issued (approx. 21,000 less than during 2017). Despite the downturn, the growth trend remains, as noted over the last few years, regarding family reunification (+8.2% vs 2017), which is the reason for issuance of most of the new residence permits (50.7%). There is a downturn in the number of applications for, or entitlements to, a form of protection (-35.9% vs 2017). Only 6% of the new residence permits were issued on the basis of work-related considerations.

Although with 7,447 new residence permits – prevalently linked to applications for, or entitlements to, a form of international or humanitarian protection (53.4% of the total) – there was, or the Senegalese, a downturn vs the previous year (49.5%).

Of the 103,478 citizenships granted to non-EU citizens in 2018, **2,918** went to citizens of Senegalese origin (2.8% of the total). The main reason for **granting Italian citizenship** to Senegalese nationals was transmission, on the parents' newly becoming Italian, or elective on coming of age.

Minors and educational paths

One of the indicators of geographic stabilization or entrenchment of a community is the high presence of families and minors within it. There are indeed many minors in this community. As on 1 January 2019, there were **21,543 Senegalese minors**, i.e. 20.3% of the total for non-EU minors. Many are also the Senegalese children born in Italy: 1,487 in 2017 (2.9% of non-EU children born in 2017). In all, between 2010 and 2017, more than 13,000 Senegalese children were born in Italy.

A significant issue in regard to this community concerns the presence of unaccompanied foreign minors. With 296 minors (-51.1% vs 2017), the Senegalese community presents with 4.4% of all non-EU **UFMs**, practically all of whom are male, and soon to come of age (71% of Senegalese UFMs are aged 17).

In regard to **admission** of Senegalese minors **into the Italian schooling circuit**, we note an incidence of 2.4% of non-EU students as a whole. 15,972 students of Senegalese origin enrolled for academic year 2018/2019. Compared to the previous year, the students of this community increased in number by 3.3%. The growth rate was higher than that displayed by non-EU students as a whole (+2.6%). The number of enrolled students increased in schools of all levels. The greatest increase regards secondary schools: in junior and senior secondary schools, +7.9%. +2.8%, respectively. At primary schools, the quotient rose by 2.5% (at preschool institutions the number of enrolments rose by approx. 1%). While the incidence of Senegalese students vs non-EU students as a whole varies little from grade to grade, we note a slight upswing in primary school enrolments (almost 2.5% of these children), and a downturn to 2.2% in senior secondary schools. The population of Senegalese university students who enrolled for academic year 2018/19 (two-year or three-year degree courses) is indeed small (270, or 0.4% of non-EU university students in Italy). However, growth is noted (+9.3% vs the previous year).

Among Senegalese youths, the number of **NEETs** – i.e. persons aged between 15 and 29 not in employment, education or training – is high (7,758, or 3.3% of the NEETs of non-EU origin).

Work and employment

The Senegalese community is markedly characterised by its engagement in **industry** – which is the prevalent sector for employment, accounting for more than two out of five of the Senegalese employed in Italy (42%), a value more or less doubling that for the workers as a whole from all the communities considered (26%) – and in the **Commerce and Catering** sector (accounting for 28% of the Senegalese workforce).

Despite the low incidence of female Senegalese employees, the overall employment index is higher than that for the non-EU population as a whole. This also has an adverse effect in terms of rate of inactivity within this community. The **employment rate** stands at **61.7%** vs 60.1% for the non-EU population as a whole; the **inactivity rate** is almost 2% lower than the mean value, and stands, for the Senegalese, at **26.7%**, while the **unemployment rate** stands at **15.7%** (vs 14.3% in the non-EU population as a whole). Gender bias in Senegalese workers sees men predominate. The bias is much more marked here than in non-EU migrants as a whole. Females make up a mere 20.8% of the employed Senegalese workforce, vs 46.9% in the non-EU employed workforce as a whole.

Turning to **wage subsidies** made over to workers in Italy by INPS (the National Social Security Institute) in the event of interruptions or reduction of production, only 2.7% of the non-EU beneficiaries are Senegalese. The Senegalese are mainly in receipt of CIGO (ordinary redundancy fund) payments (1,092), but 328 are in receipt of CIGS (extraordinary redundancy fund) payments. 3.4% of non-EU citizens in receipt of unemployment benefits are Senegalese: 15,457 beneficiaries mainly in receipt of NASPI (*Nuova Prestazione di assicurazione sociale per l'impiego*, a social employment insurance scheme) payments (more than 12,000) and agricultural unemployment benefits (*Disoccupazione agricola*) (3,069).

During 2018, 64,799 new employment relationships were activated for citizens of Senegalese origin (23.7% more than the previous year). Indicating that women from this community are not drawn to the labour market to any considerable extent, the data provided by the *Comunicazioni Obbligatorie* (mandatory notices) reveal that only 12% of Senegalese citizens recruited are women (vs 46% for non-EU citizens as a whole). The largest portion of the new subordinate and para-subordinate jobs that began during 2018 for Senegalese workers (47.6%) were in the Services sector, which is the prime sector also for non-EU workers as a whole, in the latter case with a higher incidence than for the community examined here (58%). Agriculture ranked second for this community in terms of numbers of placements during 2018, regarding 42% of activations, which is a decidedly higher level than that noted for non-EU citizens as a whole, 25% of whom were hired within this ambit. The incidence of the Senegalese community stands at 7% for agriculture. Gender analysis reveals that the services sector rate, with 42% of the jobs activated for Senegalese men, rises for the women of his community to more than twice that value (88%). The female Senegalese workforce in agriculture is markedly lower than the rate for men (8.3% vs 46.5%).

We note the prevalence among Senegalese employees of farm labourers, who, alone, account for more than 40% of hirings (this finding attesting to the quotient noted for the agriculture sector), followed by unskilled cleaning staff (13.2%) and porters/removal workers (8.2%). The skills ranking highest for this sector vs non-EU placements as a whole are those of the security sector: more than 1/5 of the skilled placements in the fields of security, vigilance and custody regard Senegalese workers.

Involvement of the community in question in **the world of entrepreneurship** is significant. While twelfth in regard to presences in Italy, this community **ranks fifth** among countries of origin for incidence of sole proprietorships, attesting to a marked level of entrepreneurial initiative. There are 19,299 sole proprietorships of Senegalese origin (5% of non-EU entrepreneurs in Italy). However, compared to the previous year, the number of enterprises fell by 1%. The main sector of investment is commerce and transport, accounting for as many as 87.3% of sole proprietorships owned by the Senegalese, attesting to a marked degree of specialization of this community within the said sector. Ranking second as sector (merely 3.1%), we note business services.

Economic conditions

On analysis of remuneration of non-EU employees, it is noted that workers of Senegalese origin earn more on average than do the members of the control groups. Commitment to industry and the skills base have led to benefits on the earnings front for the Senegalese. Mean levels of monthly **remuneration** are higher than among non-EU workers as a whole: 1,280 euros vs 1,166 euros (i.e. a 114-euro higher salary). Turning to home helpers and agricultural labourers, the difference is here, negative, with mean monthly earnings of 502 and 426 euros, respectively. In these cases, Senegalese workers earn on average 125 and 167 euros less than non-EU workers as a whole.

We note, in any case, that Senegalese women are at a disadvantage in regard to earnings. Indeed, the gender pay gap is fairly wide among employees, with mean monthly salaries for males standing at more than 680 euros more than for females. In the ambits of home help and agricultural work, females receive a mean salary that is higher than that of males (+173 and +202 euros, respectively).

Among employed Senegalese citizens in Italy, a medium-low level of education prevails. More than 80% of Senegalese workers hold at best a junior secondary school leaving certificate (81%), a quotient standing at 19.5% more than for the non-EU population as a whole. Approx. 14% received, at least, a senior secondary school leaving certificate. A mere 6% are also holders of a higher education certificate.

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 linked to disability. As to the Senegalese community, the number of migrants in receipt of IVS pensions is so low that the total has been recorded in disaggregated form in the INPS archives.

The level of social assistance measures provided by INPS to Senegalese citizens (solely welfare services for the most vulnerable, due to age conditions reached or civil disability) is also low: 1,911 (a mere 2% of those for migrant recipients of non-EU origin). 38% consist in constant attendance supplements; 33.5% are civil disability pensions.

The remaining 28% are social pensions and benefits. There is in any case an increase the numbers of those in receipt of social assistance pensions (+10.3% vs the previous year).

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 Senegalese citizenship totalled 465, or 1.6% of non-EU female beneficiaries (-0.9% 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 1,110 Senegalese nationals benefited from this measure in 2018 (4.7% of non-EU beneficiaries). 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. 11,770 members of this community were in receipt of family allowances in 2018 (3.3% of non-EU citizens as a whole; +7.2% on 2017).

As to transfers made by the Senegalese in Italy to their country of origin, Senegal ranks third as nation of destination of **remittances** sent from Italy in 2018 (**358 million euros**), accounting for 6.2% of the total outgoing remittances (+16% vs 2017).

