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ECE-CES

Expert Meeting on Migration Statistics

BETWEEN EMERGENCY AND INTEGRATION: a longitudinal study of asylum seekers in Italy

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Statistics on asylum seekers and refugees: a new database

ISTAT is working to link relevant information from different administrative datasets in order to produce a **new database** that contains important information on asylum seekers, refugees and related populations.
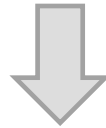
A new database: innovations

This new database allows for **longitudinal analysis** on key topics, such as:

the **stability of the presence** of asylum seekers and refugees in Italy

the **internal mobility** of asylum seekers and refugees in Italy

Statistics on refugees: following the guidelines

The design of the ISTAT initiative employed the definitions of refugees and related populations used by the **European Regulation No 862/200722**

They are aligned to:
- the Refugee Convention;
- the International Recommendations on Refugee Statistics (IRRS).

Statistics on refugees: following the guidelines

o The adoption of the international recommendations had a significant impact on ISTAT's work in this area.

o The **IRRS**' focus on variables and indicators to measure integration prompted a shift in understanding within ISTAT that started exploring opportunities to assess the level of integration of these vulnerable populations.

Administrative data: integration

ISTAT has combined data from **different administrative registers** that include information on relevant populations.

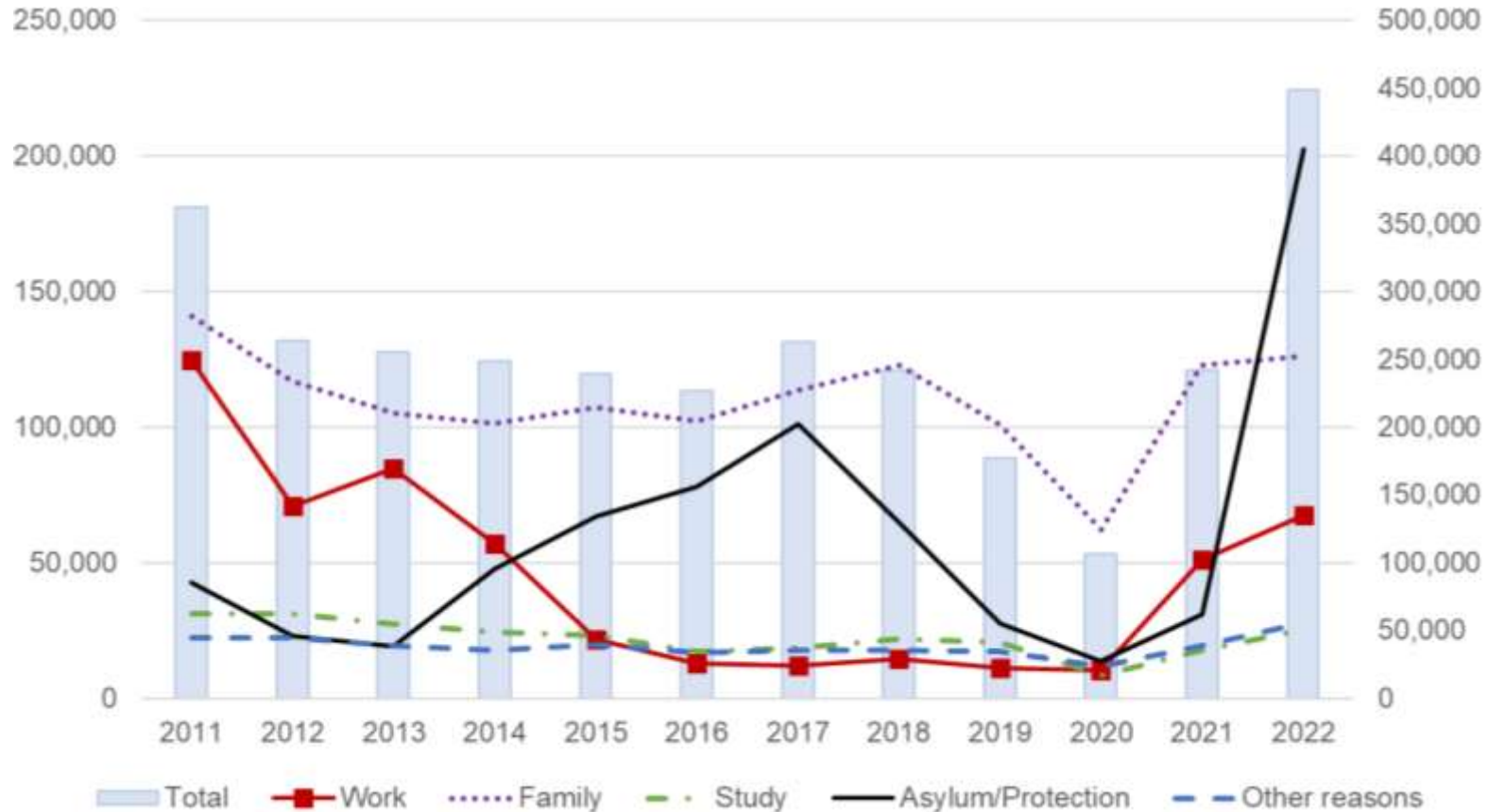|		
Ministry of the Interior	**National population register**	**Ministry of Education**

Longitudinal approach

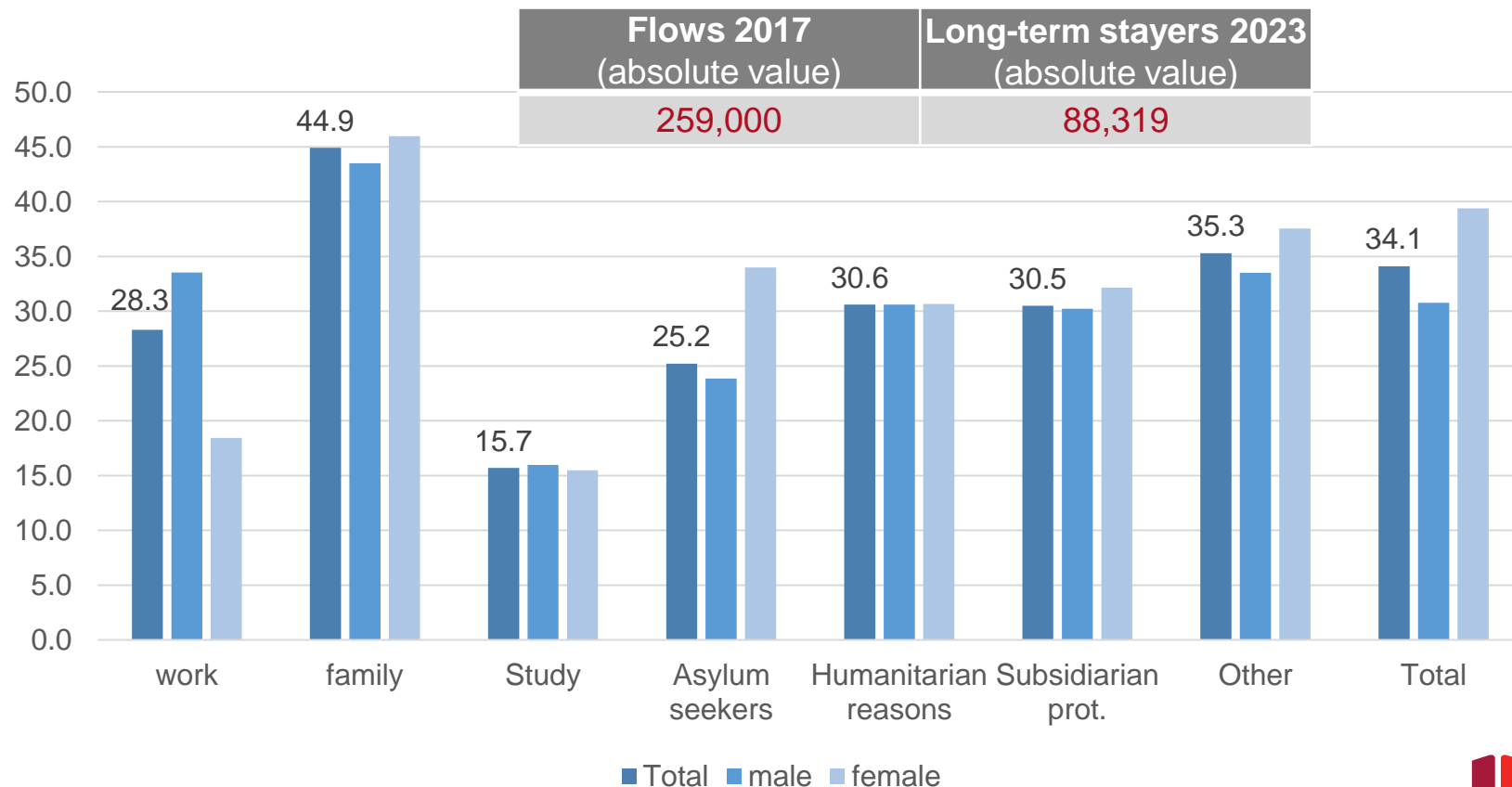Analyses of data on residence permits were carried out using a **longitudinal approach**

o The data referring to the various years are linked through deterministic **record linkage**, employing unique identification codes.

o The linkage allows **for individuals to be followed over time** and to verify the continuity of their regular presence in the country. This integrated approach allows monitoring of **changes in the status** of asylum seekers.

o **Only regular migrants** can be so monitored. If the person loses his residence permit, but remains in Italy, he or she "disappears" from the residence permit dataset.
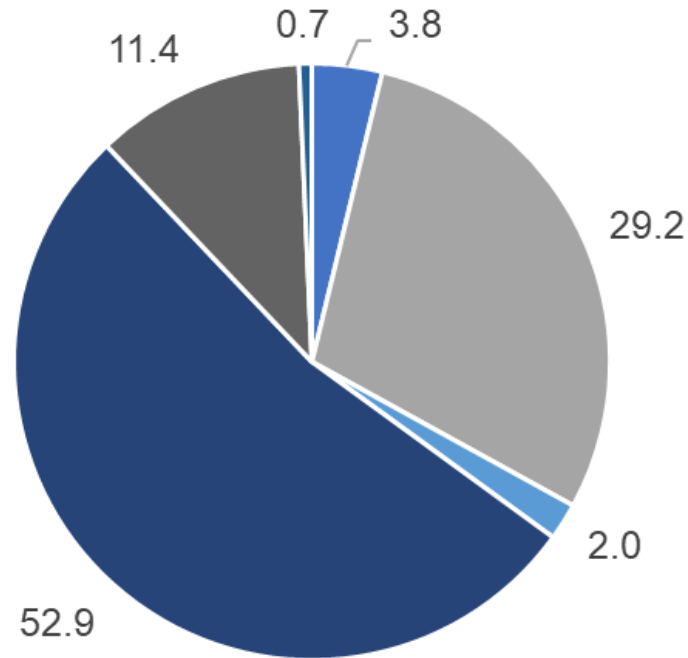
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New permits issued during the reference year by reason, 2011-2022, absolute values

8

Immigrants arrived in Italy in 2017 by presence after 6 years (01-01-2023), by reason of the permit and sex (percentages)

	Flows 2017 (absolute value)	Long-term stayers 2023 (absolute value)
	259,000	88,319

work 28.3
family 44.9
Study 15.7
Asylum seekers 25.2
Humanitarian reasons 30.6
Subsidiarian prot. 30.5
Other 35.3
Total 34.1
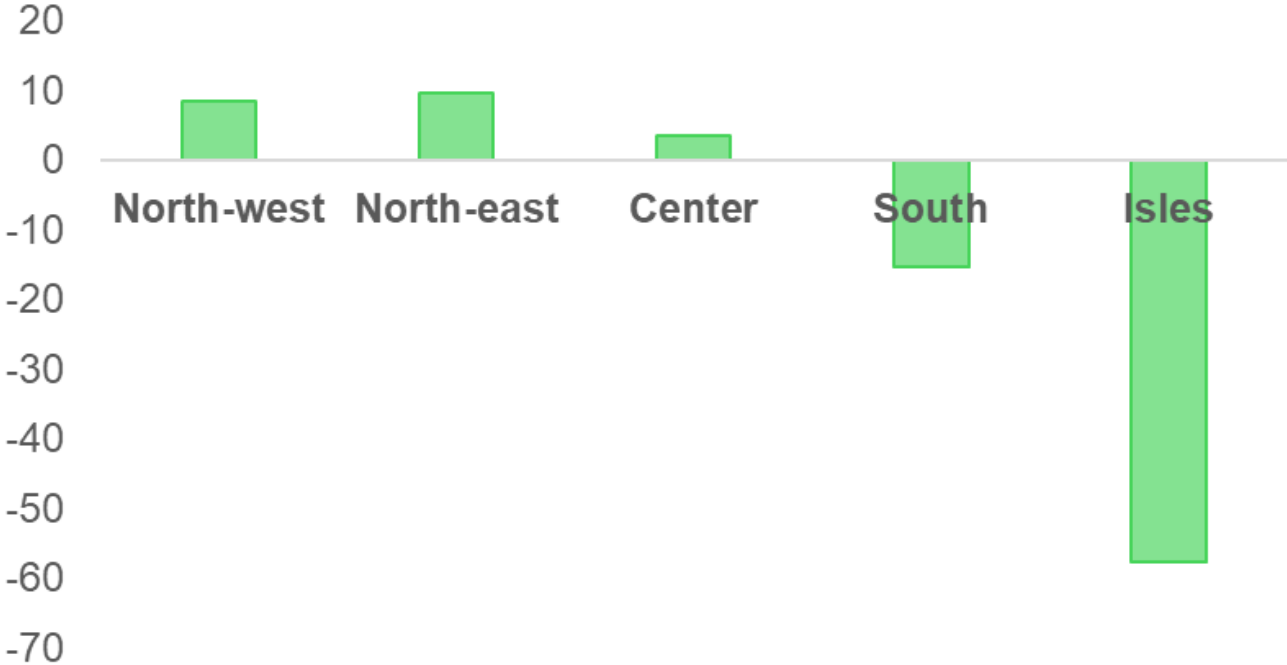
Legend: Total, male, female

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First permits for asylum seekers issued in 2017 for reason of the permit registered at 1st January 2023, Italy, percentages

Legend: Long period · Work · Family · Refugees · Asylum Seekers · Others

Values shown in pie chart: 0.7, 3.8, 11.4, 29.2, 2.0, 52.9

Internal Attractiveness/Repulsion index for asylum seekers entered in Italy in 2017 by different territorial areas (2017-2023)

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Linkages with other source and perspectives

ISTAT is working on an innovative research project
with **Sapienza University** of Rome.

o "*Beyond the emergency: characteristics and behaviour of refugees and asylum seekers in Italy*" published in the **RIEDS** in 2024 (http://www.sieds.it/index.php/2024/02/24/rieds-vol-lxxvii-3-july-september-2023/)

o Another work with updated data will be presented at ***The 52nd Scientific Meeting of the Italian Statistical Society*** at the University of Bari in June 2024.

Cooperation: next steps

o Essential cooperation with the **Italian Ministry of the Interior** – in the next months new data on asylum applications;

o Cooperation with **UNHCR** – Study on socio-economic situation of beneficiaries of international and temporary protection in Italy;

o Cooperation with **Academia** for innovating research projects.

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Thank you!