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Socio-economic characteristics of migrants and people with foreign background

Developing indicators on migrants integration: the Italian case

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Abstract

In the past years, while Italy was experiencing increasing migration inflows, Istat was officially mandated by some Institutions - namely the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Interiors and the Department for Equal opportunities of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers - to provide statistics and indicators on life conditions and social integration of foreign population or nationals with a migration background in Italy.

With this aim a review of existing data sources was made in order to assess the possibility to use existing sample survey to satisfy the growing demand for statistical information on the immigrant population. Outcomes suggested to design a specific sample survey on *Social condition and integration of foreign citizens (SCIF)*, that Istat launched for the first time in 2011-2012. The survey allows to investigate a lot of aspects, some of which also unusual for the Italian statistical system. Moreover the survey makes it possible to relate systematically labour market insertion, sociability, the dynamics of household formation, participation in formal and informal institutions, lifestyles and health outcomes. The survey provides also a limited number of retrospective information, making it possible to explore in detail the major migration systems Italy is involved in and to analyze the social mobility paths of migrants. It also provides to analyze migration in Italy in a comparative framework.

Taking advantage of this important source of data, Istat has recently launched some research projects aimed at providing a wide and systematic analysis of the settlement process of immigrants in Italian society by developing a system of indicators in different area of integration. Projects have been promoted by Istat and are developed in collaboration with national experts on migration belonging to Italian universities and other research bodies or institutions working on different area of integration.

The paper briefly describes the experience gained by Istat in developing statistics on migrants integration and how a multidimensional approach can enhance knowledge about conditions of migrants, the main data sources and indicators which are available in Italy, the target population covered. Finally, some selected key findings of the integration of foreign citizens in Italy are presented.

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I. Introduction

Starting in the 1990s, the phenomenon of immigration in Italy began to take on considerable size. In the last 15 years, the number of immigrants has grown, nearly fourfold. Despite the economic crisis, the foreign population is still growing, albeit at a reduced rate. Nowadays, the country hosts more than 5 million foreign residents, around 8% of the population.

1. The continued growth of the phenomenon has brought changes to Italian society. This has made it necessary to identify measures and policies to integrate immigrants into the host territories, in order to guarantee the coexistence of communities and population groups that differ culturally, ethnically, linguistically, religiously, etc.
2. This process of social also required statistical information to adjust and become increasingly able to grasp the changes dictated by the growth of the migration phenomenon in Italy.
3. Istat was officially mandated by some Institutions - namely the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Interiors and the Department for Equal opportunities of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers - to provide statistics and indicators on life conditions and social integration of foreign population or nationals with a migration background in Italy.
4. This led the Italian National Institute of Statistics (Istat) to carry out the first survey on the Condition and Social Integration of foreign nationals, conducted in Italy in 2011-2012. The survey allows to investigate a lot of aspects on immigrants, some of which also unusual, at least for the Italian statistical system, such as religious beliefs and use of methods of contraception. Moreover the survey makes it possible to relate systematically labour market insertion, sociability, the dynamics of household formation, participation in formal and informal institutions, lifestyles and health outcomes. The survey provides also a limited number of retrospective information, making it possible to explore in detail the major migration systems Italy is involved in and to analyze the social mobility paths of migrants. It also provides to analyze migration in Italy in a comparative framework.
5. Taking advantage of this important source of data, Istat has recently launched some research projects aimed at providing a wide and systematic analysis of the settlement process of immigrants in Italian society by developing a system of indicators in different area of integration. Projects have been promoted by Istat and are developed in collaboration with stakeholders such as national experts on migration belonging to Italian universities and other research bodies or institutions working on different area of migrants integration.
6. The paper briefly describes the experience gained by Istat in developing statistics on migrants integration and how a multidimensional approach can enhance knowledge about conditions of migrants, the main data sources and indicators which are available in Italy, the target population covered. Finally, some selected key findings of the integration of foreign citizens in Italy are presented.

II. Regulatory and conceptual references on migrants integration in Italy

7. The definition of the concept of integration of migrants has long been of interest to and animated international political and academic debate. This key multidimensional and dynamic

concept involves a multiplicity of variables, difficult to isolate in a clear way, and hard to measure, that include a great number of objective factors (whether structural or transitory) such as the social, economic, and cultural configuration of the territories and the social policies adopted, the time of stay within a specific territory; as for subjective factors, what individual approach to the arrival setting, and the choices made in the integration path, the quality of interaction with native citizens, the prior skills - in particular, language and cultural skills, the individual degree of resiliency, the ability to process and capacity for autonomy, family circumstances, and the presence or absence of the family in the host country, expectations of the host society, and the role of the culture of origin and of prior life and work experiences.

8. Despite the difficulty of reaching a unanimous and shared definition regarding integration, most countries recognize the importance of having an adequate immigration information system as the fundamental instrument for implementing and assessing policies in the matter of inclusion of foreign nationals.
9. An information system of this kind, in addition to making available information of use for comprehending the evolution of the migration phenomenon from the standpoint of quantity, structure, and demographic dynamics, must also provide information on the processes of integration of the various foreign communities, through the construction of indicators capable of measuring and monitoring the various aspects that enter into play in the process of integrating immigrants into the host society.
10. As for Italy, in regulatory terms, articles 3 and 4 bis of the Consolidated Law on Immigration of 1998 define the integration process.
11. Art. 3 defines integration as a “process aimed at promoting the coexistence of Italian citizens and foreign nationals, with respect for the values enshrined by the Italian Constitution, with mutual commitment to taking part in the economic, social, and cultural life of society.”
12. Art. 4 states that “integration is understood as a process of non-discrimination and of inclusion of differences, and therefore of cross-pollination and of trying out new forms of relationships and behaviour, in the constant and daily attempt to keep together universal principles and particular traits.”
13. The integration process should therefore prevent situations of alienation, fragmentation, and ghettoization that threaten equilibrium and social cohesion. At the same time, it affirms universal principles: dignity of the person, recognition of freedoms, recognition of human rights, protection of childhood, labour, and health.
14. Universalism and recognition of difference is therefore the heart of the Italian integration model, in which integration is understood as a process deriving from the diverse combination of social, cultural, and economic conditions, and policy actions implemented both nationally and locally.

III. The Italian experience of statistics on the integration of foreign nationals

15. The first measures by official statistics to better grasp the foreign presence in Italy date to the 1990s, and regard above all the surveys of administrative sources (civil registries and residence permits). During these years, some statistical surveys introduced changes that were to make it possible to grasp and quantify this component of the population, at least for the non-clandestine part, with greater accuracy and in greater detail of information.
16. In the early 2000s, the information framework on the foreign presence in Italy was further enriched: the 2001 population census also focused attention on the acquisitions of citizenship; it

began surveying foreign nationals at civil registry offices, by sex and year of birth. Regulation (EC) 862/2007 on Community statistics on migration and international protection, repealing the previous Council Regulation (EEC) no. 311/76 on the compilation of statistics on foreign workers, adjusted civil registry statistics and statistics on residence permits.

17. In parallel, during these years various studies were done on the integration of foreign nationals. On the institutional level, a Commission for immigrant integration policies was set up (2000), supporting the government in the yearly preparation of a Report on the implementation status of integration policies.
18. Nor was there a lack of sample surveys, carried out mostly within research projects conducted by universities, exploring numerous aspects of the integration process. In many cases, these surveys, although having a great level of detail, regard only specific local situations.
19. In the second half of the 2000s, some current sample surveys on individuals and families were also able to offer some information on the foreign component of the resident population – in particular, the Survey on Health condition and use of health services (2005) and the Labour Force Survey (2005), which presented for the first time an ad-hoc form, harmonized on the European level, on some elements of integration. Later, a special edition of the Eu-Silc survey was carried out, dedicated only to the immigrant population (2009).
20. Despite the revised methodologies and sampling designs, these experiences underscore that the use of current surveys is not always enough to satisfy the growing information need on the immigrant component of the population. There are: reliable estimates mostly on the foreign component as a whole, little reliability for estimates on individual nationalities or specific sub-groups of immigrants (second generations, minors, etc.); survey models unsuited to grasp the changes to satisfy additional information needs on foreign nationals, etc.
21. This period has always seen – from experts on migrations from the scientific world as well as on the part of public decision-makers – the need for a coordinated study capable of providing an overview of the living conditions of foreign nationals in a more complete fashion. There is also the need to have a national framework to overcome the fragmentary nature of local studies.
22. The Ministry of Health, the Department for Equal Opportunities of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, and the Ministry of the Interior have expressed interest in carrying out a survey – providing statistical estimations at national and subnational level- that is able to fill information gaps on migrant's behaviours and indicators to support migration policies on integration.
23. In Europe, too, there is lively debate on the need to identify a framework of reference in terms of objectives, indicators, and tools of assessment to guide the policies of the Member States and foster the immigrants' integration processes.
24. In order to achieve better comparability among EU Member States, the 2010 Zaragoza Declaration agreed on a set of common Indicators on immigrant integration. Afterwards, new indicators will be proposed¹and international working groups²will be made up with the objective

¹ Report Using EU Indicators of Immigrant Integration, DG Migration and Home Affairs, 2013.

² TF on *Measurement of socio-economic conditions of migrants* proposed by UNECE-Eurostat, fully supported by the Steering Group on Migration Statistics, which conducted the work within the framework of the activities of the Conference of European Statisticians.

of further developing indicators and their use for monitoring and assessment of situation of migrants, along with the relative outcomes of integration policies.

25. Based on these needs, between 2011 and 2012, Istat carried out for the first time a sample survey on the Condition and social integration of foreign nationals (SCIF Survey) on a nationwide sample of about 10,000 households with at least one resident foreign national (for a total of 25,300 resident individuals, more than 20 thousand of whom are foreign nationals).
26. Moreover, Istat has carried out an extension of the SCIF survey in the three metropolitan cities of Milan, Rome, and Naples, as part of the collaboration with the Ministry of the Interior for a project financed by the European Fund for the Integration of nationals from non-EU third-party countries (FEI). An oversampling of 4,000 households in these three cities has been supported by Istat, in order to examine in depth some specific features of the living conditions of the migrants in specific local contexts.
27. The main objective of the SCIF is to provide information on the living conditions of foreign nationals (including naturalized citizens) that may be of support for migration policies oriented towards assistance, support, and insertion of the foreign population into the country's economic and social life.
28. Taking into account the multidimensional nature of the integration phenomenon, the SCIF survey covers a great many aspects of the life of individuals, some of which documented with information on events experienced even prior to migration, with life stories starting from the country of origin: family, marriages, children, education, language group, migration history, work history, work experiences in Italy, health conditions, the use and accessibility of healthcare services, life styles, religious participation and creed, social relationships, social and cultural participation, experiences of discrimination, victimization, housing conditions, etc.
29. Analysis of the data collected with this survey represents, for the studies on integration in Italy, an innovative and particularly important moment. SCIF offers the possibility of developing a system of summary indices on integration for the various areas and dimensions that may be identified (paragraph IV). Moreover, SCIF permits a reading of the migration dynamics and of the social inclusion of foreign nationals with a level of detail currently unequalled in Europe. The survey's information capacity exceeds 2,000 variables.
30. The strong points of the SCIF survey are: (i) the possibility of comparing immigrants' living conditions with those of the national population for numerous aspects, thanks to the presence in the SCIF survey of indicators similar to those produced by other current surveys conducted by Istat on the whole of the population; (ii) the possibility of carrying out retrospective analyses, offering a reading of the evolution of the integration process over time (by migration generation, duration of stay, entry cohorts, etc); (iii) the opportunity of providing indicators with reference to the top 10 most widespread foreign communities in Italy; (iv) the benefit offered by the "cluster" sampling design: the sampling unit (second stage) is the household and this, in addition to permitting analysis on individuals, makes it possible to reconstruct the composition and type of households with foreigners, the "broken" families, transnational ones, etc.; (v) the acquisition of key information – in particular, place of birth, citizenship at interview, citizenship at birth – not only for the interviewees, but also for their parents and spouses (even if not cohabitating), makes it possible to grasp in detail the more specific situations of each target group of immigrants; (vi) the presence of a single source of so vast an array of information for the first time offers migration scholars a broad and detailed set of data that makes it possible to analyze more deeply, using "explanatory" models, the relationships that exist between a phenomenon (dependent variable) and the factors that determine it (independent or explanatory variables).

31. The weak points of the SCIF survey are: (i) it addresses only the non-clandestine component of the immigrant population (the sampling list are civil registry archives); (ii) information on citizens that have required citizenship is limited only to those living in households with foreign nationals, as those that live in households with Italians are outside the survey's target population; (iii) the great quantity and complexity of information gathered results in burdensome correction and control operations, and longer-than-average processing times.
32. Considering the importance of the second generations of immigrants in the immigrant integration process, also following the suggestions emerging from other Institutions (cf. § VI. 44), Istat, in 2015, carried out a sample survey at secondary schools (middle schools, *liceo*, technical vocational institutions) targeting young people with foreign backgrounds. For a better comprehension of the phenomenon, in addition to the young people, teachers, school officials, and Italian students (control sample) were also interviewed.

IV. The system of indicators on the social integration of migrants: the Italian case

33. Starting from the survey, it is possible to construct micro-individual integration indicators (on each aspect taken into consideration, information at the level of the individual is available), which may be done using the information acquired with the survey, and are capable of grasping even highly specific aspects of the process of the immigrants' integration/adaptation into the host society.
34. This arrangement goes beyond the macro approach in the construction of indicators that was widespread in the past, and instead entails constructing sets of indicators starting from the aggregate data of an administrative nature, usually available from non-sample surveys.
35. The survey above all helps towards the subjective measurement of the phenomena using information that examines the perceptions, attitudes, opinions, and needs of the immigrant population in Italy.
36. The indicators proposed here may be deduced from the data from the SCIF survey which, however, do not exhaust the landscape of sample surveys conducted in Italy by the Italian National Institute of Statistics.
37. Based on the experience of the SCIF survey, of the other sample surveys and those of an administrative source produced by the national statistics system, and following the indications of the national and international literature, a system of indicators, available nationwide and articulated by areas and size, has been put in place, through which the integration of migrants may be studied.
38. Hereunder are the main areas and dimensions identified and, for each of them, by way of example, the relationship that binds the indicator with the integration process has been hypothesized. Some of the chief indicators identified for each area are reported in attachment 1.

A: Family and Demography

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A.1. Demographic structure and reproductive behaviour: structure by gender, structure by age, marital status, and birth rate are fundamental dimensions upon which important factors of demographic dynamics depend; with a balanced structure by gender, a high birth rate, and a pyramid-shaped structure by age, it may be hypothesized that there are conditions positively correlated with the integration processes. • A.2. Social and family structure: it may be hypothesized that the presence of the entire family nucleus in the destination country is an element that fosters integration processes; moreover, within the family nucleus, a high |
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rate of education of its members, as well as the acquisition of destination country citizenship, may be hypothesized as factors that may facilitate integration processes.

- **A.3. Household transnationalism:** it may be hypothesized that the integration process is favoured by the presence of family members (spouse and children) in the country of migration.
- **A.4. Territorial structure:** it may be hypothesized that the incidence of the number of foreign nationals in given territorial areas is at least an indirect indicator of the integration potential expressed by the specific territory.

B: Health

- **B.1. State of health:** it may be hypothesized that the better the health perceived by a person is, the greater are the possibilities and occasions for integrating. It may also be hypothesized that the integration processes are favoured by good conditions of mental and physical health.
- **B.2. Risk behaviour:** it may be hypothesized that the more risk behaviours are widespread, the greater are the difficulties with regard to achieving a positive integration process.
- **B.3. Access to health services:** a positive correlation between access to and enjoyment of the health system and degree of integration of foreign nationals may be hypothesized.
- **B.4. Barriers to accessing health services:** it may be hypothesized that the more widespread the linguistic, administrative, bureaucratic and organizational difficulties in accessing health services are, the harder it is for immigrants to be able to see that their mental and physical well-being is ensured.

C: Language

- **C.1. Knowledge of the Italian language:** it may be hypothesized that knowledge of the Italian language facilitates integration processes.
- **C.2. Sphere of use of the Italian language:** it is possible that a greater use of the Italian language at home and in social context facilitates integration processes.
- **C.3. Difficulty in using the Italian language:** it may be hypothesized that the greater are the difficulties in using the Italian language, the harder it is to achieve a positive integration process.

D: Education and training

- **D.1. School attendance and success:** it may be hypothesized that school attendance and academic success are elements that facilitate the integration process. Dropping out, on the other hand, may be hypothesized to be positively correlated with a scant integration process.
- **D.2. Level of education:** it may be hypothesized that the higher the degree, the greater the integration possibilities are. It may be hypothesized that earning the degree abroad is an element that facilitates the integration process.
- **D.3. Participation and attendance:** it is possible to hypothesize a positive correlation between participation in one's children's school life and the parents' degree of integration.
- **D.4. Professional training:** it may be hypothesized that attending professional training courses is an element that facilitates integration processes.

E: Labour market

- **E.1. Work integration:** it may be hypothesized that a person at an active age who has completed his education is favoured in the integration process if he or she has employment. It may also be hypothesized that carrying out qualified professions is an expression of a positive integration process; it may be hypothesized that having an open-ended employment contract is an element that fosters integration processes; it may be hypothesized that non-correspondence between the degree held and the duties performed is an element that does not foster integration processes; it may be hypothesized that the greater the propensity for active job search is, the greater is the person's integration.
- **E.2. Satisfaction with work:** a positive correlation may be hypothesized between satisfaction with the job held and degree of integration.

F: Mobility

- **F.1 Inter-generational professional mobility:** it may be hypothesized that inter-generational professional mobility is positively correlated with the degree of integration.

- **F.2. Intra-generational professional mobility:** it may be hypothesized that intra-generational professional mobility is positively correlated with the degree of integration.
- **F.3. Intra-generational educational mobility:** it may be hypothesized that intra-generational educational mobility is positively correlated with the degree of integration.

G: Social security and poverty

- **G.1. Economic hardships:** a negative correlation may be hypothesized between poverty risk and integration processes.
- **G.2. Social security:** a positive correlation may be hypothesized between an attitude of trust towards others and towards institutions and the degree of integration

H: Satisfaction and social participation

- **H.1. Satisfaction with one's own experience:** it may be hypothesized that a high degree of trust in interpersonal relationships, and in general a high degree of satisfaction with one's experience, is positively correlated with degree of integration.
- **H.2. Participation:** it may be hypothesized that the more a person enjoys recreational locations/cultural consumption, and the more he or she takes part in public life (associations, political parties), the more integrated into the destination country he or she will be.

I: Discrimination

- **I.1. Discrimination in relations:** it may be hypothesized that the greater the discrimination suffered in one's own relations, the more problematic the integration process will be.
- **I.2. Discrimination in access to services:** it may be hypothesized that the greater the discrimination suffered in access to services, the more problematic the integration process will be.

J: Migration

- **J.1. Migration:** it may be hypothesized that migrations due to economic and family reasons can foster integration processes in the host territory. Moreover, it may be hypothesized that the integration process is facilitated the lower the age at migration is, and is directly correlated with the stay in the country of migration.
- **J. 2. Migration generation:** it may be hypothesized that che ogni successiva generazione registri, nel paese di destinazione, un maggiore grado di integrazione rispetto alla precedente, although there might be settings in which this does not take place (e.g. employment).

K: Sociability and personal relationships

- **K.1. Interpersonal relationships:** it may be hypothesized that the existence of a support network for the person is an element that favours integration processes. In the same manner, it may be hypothesized that the more a person declares that he or she feels alone, the less he or she will be integrated into the host society.
- **K.2. Interpersonal relationships:** it may be hypothesized that the declaration of being happy in Italy or in the city where he or she lives is positively correlated with the integration processes.

L: Housing

- **L.1. Housing characteristics:** it may be hypothesized that home ownership is an expression of a positive integration process; it may be hypothesized that the greater the overcrowding of housing, the greater are the problems for the parties' integration.

39. Beyond the most widespread socio-demographic variables (territory, gender, age, etc.), the indicators available from the survey may also be articulated by migration background, years of stay in Italy, entry cohorts, country of origin/citizenship, religious affiliation, etc.
40. Starting from the individual indicators, summary integration indices may be constructed. Experiences of this kind have been developed in Italy, such as the methodology for constructing the so called "Integrometer" index, developed by Cesareo and Blangiardo (2009).
41. The indicators available from the SCIF enrich the information framework available from sample surveys existing on the foreign population in Italy, and supplement those available from the

administrative source, which all the same maintain some specific features. For example, it is necessary to bear in mind the data from civil and registry sources on demographic dynamics (natural and migration balance, birth and fertility rate, etc), the data on residence permits and on acquisitions of citizenship, in a healthcare environment, the data on voluntary interruptions of pregnancy, mortality data, etc.

V. A reading of certain dimensions of the integration of foreign nationals in Italy, using the system of indicators

By way of example, the following are the main results referring to certain dimensions of integration

B: Health

B.1. State of health

Among foreign nationals, a positive perception of one's own state of health prevails, more than among Italians. For 87.5%, one's own health conditions are good or very good, compared with 83.5% of Italians. Among EU citizens, those who feel they are in good health are above all Poles (88.4%) and, among non-EU nationals, the Chinese (90.2%), Filipinos (90.2%), and Indians (88.8%). Ukrainians (85.8%) and Moroccans (85.2%) are at the bottom of the rankings.

The summary indices of physical and mental health yield average scores of respectively 54.6 and 53.9. On the psychological level, greater well-being is observed among Indians (55.4), while Tunisians (52.5) appear to be the most vulnerable. The mental health index, equal to 78 on average, shows a situation of greater disadvantage for Tunisians and Moroccans.

Gender comparison, ages being equal, among foreign nationals shows higher levels of perceived health among men than among women. On the whole, considering rates standardized by age, 88.8% of foreign men feel they are healthy, against 86.4% of foreign women (in the Italian population, the values equal respectively 85.3% and 81.8%).

If one considers the population of foreign nationals 25 years of age and older, who are presumably for the most part outside the paths of education, it is found that, age class being equal, the share of those who say they feel "very well" or "well" grows with the increase in educational level, with values exceeding the average for those holding at least a secondary-school diploma. More marked differences between classes with different educational levels are found in the group of the foreign population at least 45 years of age, in which the perception of better health grows from 76.9% of those holding at least a secondary-school diploma to 60.3% of those who have completed elementary school, against an average of 72.4% of the entire group. Therefore, the disadvantage determined by age would appear to be associated with the worse social conditions implied by a low level of education.

Most foreigners (over 18 years of age) have an appropriate body weight (57.8%), especially if women (62.9%). Almost one third of foreign nationals are overweight (30.9%) and obesity affects 7.8%. Similar percentages are observed in the Italian population of the same age (58.2% normal weight, 29.8% overweight, 7.8% obese).

B.2. Risk behaviour

Among foreign citizens the percentage of population aged 14 and over who had consumed at least one alcoholic drink during the year is lower than Italian people of the same age. In 2012 the 56.2% of foreign people had consumed at least one alcoholic drink during the year. Higher

than average percentages are observed among Eastern Europe citizens: Romanians (71.8%), Ukrainians (71.4%), the Polish (69.2%), Moldovans (68.3%) and Albanians (68.2%).

13.2% of foreigners aged 14 and over is at risk in alcohol consumption. The incidence between men is higher than women (20.1% and 7.1%).

Non-moderate daily consumption concerns 5.4% of foreign population aged 14 and over, while the percentage of binge drinkers is 9.3%, higher among young foreign citizens aged 18-24 (11.7%), especially young men (17.8%).

In the foreign resident population 14 years of age and older, the share of regular smokers equals 23.2%. This share is lower than that observed, ages being equal, among Italians, corresponding to 25.8%. On average, foreigners smoke 13 cigarettes a day (12 cigarettes for Italians); as is the case with Italians, it is a habit more widespread among men (32.4%) than women (15.1%).

B.3. Access to health services

In the absence of ailments or symptoms, 57.5% of foreign nationals visit a physician, and women more so (59.6%, against 53.9% of men); 62.9% of youths under 14 visit a physician, and the Chinese less so (44.1%).

It is above all Tunisians and Moroccans that visit the emergency room, and the Chinese less so. The on-call medical service is used more by young adults and those living in Southern Italy; counselling centres are visited above all by women between 25 and 34 years of age.

13.8% of foreigners (over 14 years of age) have difficulty explaining their ailments to the physician in Italian, and 14.9% have difficulty understanding what the physician is saying. The disadvantage is greater for women, for those over 54, for those with a low level of education, and for the Chinese, Indian, Filipino, and Moroccan communities.

C: Language

C.1. Knowledge of the Italian language

Foreign citizens who speak Italian since childhood are 4.5%, equivalent to 160 thousand people aged 6 years and over. The 16.8% of Italians mother tongue are Albanians, the 12.1% are Moroccans, and the 11.1% are Romanians. Among people under 18 years, at least one out of four is an Italian native speaker. The 8.1% of foreign citizens (aged 6 years and older) speak Italian from early childhood in addition to another language considered as mother tongue.

C.2. Sphere of use of the Italian language

Italian is the most spoken language at home for 38.5% of the foreigners aged 6 years and over. Among women the percentages reaches 45.7%, compared to 29.7% of men. Mainly among children and teen agers (6-17 years) is very common to speak Italian at home (47.3% versus 36.8% of adults).

C.3. Difficulty in using the Italian language

39.2% of foreign people do not have any difficulty with Italian language neither in reading nor in writing or in understanding nor in speaking, compared to 60.8% who face to some difficulties with Italian language. A most complete Italian language skills is declared among foreign citizens of Serb-Croat-Bosnian-Montenegrin mother tongue (47.6%), among Albanian mother tongue (43.4%) and Romanians (42.7%). On the contrary, lower levels of Italian language skills are declared among the other mother tongue foreign people as the Chinese (18.5%), the Ukrainian (30%) and Arabic mother tongue (32.4%).

63.8% of foreign citizens (aged 6 years and over) do not have any difficulty in understanding Italian language, as well as 62.5% are able to speak Italian. 50.2% are good at writing such as 41.6% in reading.

Among foreign citizens who arrived in Italy before age of 16 years old there are high rates of people who do not have any difficulty in reading (73.3%) and in writing in Italian (71.8%). Otherwise, more than half of foreigners who arrived in Italy at 35 years old and over have difficulties in speaking and in understanding Italian (52.2% and 55%).

Romanian is the most common mother tongue among foreign citizenship in Italy: almost 800 thousand people speak Romanian from early childhood (21.9% of the foreign citizens aged 6 and over). Other prevalent mother tongues are Arabic (spoken by over 475 thousand people, 13.1%), Albanian (380 thousand people) and Spanish (255 thousand people), that is the mother tongue of people from the Andean states of South America.

H: Satisfaction and social participation

H.1. Satisfaction with one's own experience

In general, foreign citizens are more satisfied with their lives than Italians. When asked to rate their general satisfaction with life on a scale from 0 to 10, 60.8% of foreign people (aged 14 years and over) indicates high satisfaction scores (between 8-10) compared to just 37.2% of Italians. Longer satisfied among the foreigners women and young.

58.6% of foreign citizens aged 15 years and over have higher level of satisfaction with the work. Of these, about three foreigners out of ten foreigner declared a satisfaction score of 8, one out ten attributed a score 9 and finally two out of ten gives maximum score (equal to 10). Most satisfied with the work are Filipino citizens and Moldovans, the less satisfied the Chinese and Ukrainian.

G: Social security and poverty

Among both foreigners and Italians there is an attitude of lack of confidence in other people, more strong among Italians. Only 21% of Italians and 27.8% of foreign and believe that most people are trustworthy. of other people.

Italians are more diffident of foreigners respect to the possibility that a lost wallet which contains money might to be returned to its owner. If the lost wallet was found by the police, Italians have more confidence of foreigners to be returned (83.3% versus 75.4%). Same attitude if the wallet is found a neighbour (70.7% of Italians versus 57.4% of foreigners).

I: Discrimination

I.1. Discrimination in relations

29.1% of foreign citizens (aged 15 years and over) are subject to discrimination, due to of their foreign origins, during their permanence in Italy. Mainly among men and people aged 25-44 are recorded the highest shares of discrimination.

Discrimination in the labour market: 19.2% of foreign people sustained unfair treatment while working or looking for work due to the foreign origins. More discrimination while working (16.9%) than during the search of job (9.3%).

In the working environment, women more than men of foreign nationality feel a unfriendly atmosphere by colleagues/superiors/clients (53% versus 46.8%, respectively). Among foreign men is more frequently to have received excessive workloads or unfavourable (31.6% compared to 24% of women).

I.2. Discrimination in access to services

Among foreign citizens subjected to discrimination in employment, 89.5% of them indicating their foreign origin as a cause of discrimination, 22.9% for the poor knowledge of Italian language and 14.6% for the colour of the skin.

12.6% of foreigners to 6 years and over who are studying (or have studied) in Italy claims to have been discriminated against. Groups of foreigners most at risk of education discrimination are most: women (14.2%) and young people (14-19 years) (17.4%). Discriminatory behavior is implemented more frequently by peers with whom you share the path of studies (78.4%), fewer teachers (35%) and non-teaching staff (8.8%).

10.5% of foreigners has suffered discrimination while carrying out actions to search for a home, 8.1% in local/public offices or on public transport, 6.2% by neighbours. Minimize the number of foreigners who experience a climate of hostility against them, far as to move elsewhere (3.7%).

VI. Projects to empower the statistical information on the integration of migrants

42. In recent years, Istat has undertaken several projects in collaboration with institutions, universities, and experts, with the aim of improving the information capacity of the available sources, designing new information bases, and promoting knowledge of the phenomena connected with immigration and with the integration of migrants.
43. Within a broader collaboration with the Ministry of the Interior in migration statistics, in 2012-2013 Istat carried out a project called “System for the assessment of integration policies and interventions.” The project saw the establishment of a technical committee of experts belonging to Universities and government Institutions for defining an information system for supporting public decision-makers in developing measures and policies on migrant integration.
44. The work led to identify priority policy areas for the analysis and monitoring of the integration processes: (i) labour and living conditions; (ii) social relations and linguistic integration; (iii) second generations and educational inclusion; (iv) health and access to health services; (v) active citizenship; (vi) local territory.
45. Within each of the above policy area, the group of experts has made proposals in order to define the reference base for constructing an organic framework for learning about the phenomenon. All the areas were covered by the information made available by the SCIF survey. The project has also identified some information gaps still existing in the official statistics.
46. A following project promoted by the Ministry of the Interior and carried out by Istat in collaboration with other institutions³ was aimed at identifying the framework and the technical architecture making it possible to put together the statistical information produced by various institutional subjects in the matter of immigration, in the perspective of an “integrated” information system.

³ Ministry of Labour and Social Policy, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education, National Institute for Social Security, Regions.

47. This approach would make it possible to overcome the partial vision of the process of immigrant integration connected with the individual areas of intervention (health, labour, education, etc).
48. For the thematic areas of labour, school, and health, the available indicators were reviewed by indicating for each of them the statistical source, the local level of detail, and the time reference.
49. Another important aspect of the project was promoting statistical culture among public decision-makers and those operating on the territory to receive and integrate the migrant communities. Activities were carried out by training seminar held at local level with public and private administrations working at the same local levels. The aim was to learn how to use statistical sources, data and indicators that can help to have a better comprehension of phenomenon and support measures and policies on migrants.
50. Other projects are aimed to improve the usability of the available statistical information produced by Istat and other Institutions aimed at the development of information sharing tools: a) "Data Sharing" and b) the information system called "Immigrants and new citizens". The latter is accessible from the homepage of the Istat website (www.istat.it) and resume all the information produced by Istat in the matter of immigrants.
51. As for the scientific research, in 2015 Istat has signed a research agreement with 12 partners (universities and other research bodies) to develop statistical indicators able to better investigate life conditions of migrants, examine in depth specific aspects of immigrant integration processes, analyse topics previously never investigated by official statistics.
52. By exploiting the information potential of the SCIF survey, the studies have led to identifying and examining the interrelationships that exist between the various dimensions of integration of migrants and their determinants.
53. A further path of research on SCIF outcomes has been undertaken by Istat in the field of health of migrants and inequalities in access to care and health services. Many studies in this filed have been done thanks to the collaboration between Istat researchers and personnel from INMP (National Institute for promotion of health of migrant populations and for the fight against poverty diseases), specialized in health reception and care of the most vulnerable targets of the population (both Italian and foreign citizens).

VII. Conclusions & future developments

54. The Italian experience gives evidence of the importance of sample surveys on individuals and families for a better comprehension of the migrant integration processes. Therefore it's important that investment of governments and national statistics bodies in providing information able to support migrants' policies remain high.
55. However rich the administrative sources on may be, they cannot provide information on motivations, aspirations, needs, and assessments of migrant population. All these aspects are necessary for understanding and interpreting social behaviour of which the migrant's integration is an important piece in the puzzle in many European countries.
56. Moreover, the production of statistics on immigration and on integration processes by statistics institutes should be able to count on the constant involvement of institutional players and the authorities competent for immigration in order to improve, integrate, and streamline the information present in the archives for administrative purposes to become statistically useful information, and to identify, in the most detailed and shared way possible, the information gaps to be covered with specific surveys.

57. Time plays a role of primary importance in the process of the social integration of immigrant nationals. Consequently a longitudinal vision of the integration processes would very useful. For this purpose it could be made:
 - a. construction of indicators for incoming cohorts of migrants in each segment of the identified areas;
 - b. analysis focusing the integration processes of the second -and subsequent- generation of migrants, through the inter-generational comparison of indicators, both on overall dimensions and at level of a singular dimension
58. Further developments of statistics to empower information on migrant population may regard the integrated use of different sources, such as the linkage between administrative and sampling data sources.

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Attachment 1- Integration indicators available from SCIF survey by topic area, dimension and typology.

Area	Dimension	Indicator	Typology
A: Family and Demography	A.1. Demographic structure and reproductive behaviour	A.1.1. Structure by age	Objective
		A.1.2. Structure by sex	Objective
		A.1.3. Structure by marital status	Objective
		A.1.4. Birth/fertility rate	Objective
		A.1.5. Marital status	Objective
	A.2. Social and family structure	A.2.1. Level of education	Objective
		A.2.2. Country of birth	Objective
		A.2.3. Country of citizenship	Objective
		A.2.4. Family Status	Objective
		A.2.5. Household type	Objective
	A.3. Family transnationalism	A.2.6. Family/Household composition (cohabitants or not)	Objective
		A.3.1. Percentage of family nuclei in which one of the spouses is not cohabitating	Objective
	A.3. Family transnationalism	A.3.2. Percentage of family nuclei in which the children are not cohabitating	Objective
		A.4. Territorial structure	A.4. 1. Distribution of population on the territory
B: Health	B.1. Health	B.1.1. Indicator of perceived health	Subjective
		B.1.2. Index of state of physical health	Subjective
		B.1.3. Index of mental health	Subjective
		B.1.4. Index of psychological state	Subjective
		B.1.5. Body Mass Index	Objective
		B.1.6. Percentage of patients with chronic pathologies	Objective
		B.1.7. Chronic pathologies most present on the territory	Objective
	B.2. Risk behaviours	B.2.1. Percentage of persons who are overweight	Objective
		B.2.2. Percentage of persons who are underweight	Objective
		B.2.3. Percentage of persons who smoke regularly	Objective
		B.2.4. Percentage of persons with a daily non-moderate consumption of alcohol	Objective
	B.3. Access to health services	B.3.1. Percentage of persons that have had at least one medical check-up or assessment over the past four weeks	Objective
		B.3.2. Percentage of persons that have used the emergency room service or have been hospitalized in the past three months	Objective
	B.4. Barriers to accessing health services	B.4.1. Percentage of persons who, in accessing health services, have language difficulties with medical personnel	Subjective
		B.4.2. Percentage of persons who, in accessing health services, have organizational difficulties (incompatible schedules)	Subjective
		B.4.3. Percentage of persons who, in accessing health services, have administrative/bureaucratic difficulties	Subjective
C: Language	C.1. Knowledge of the Italian language	C.1.1. Percentage of persons who indicate Italian as their mother tongue	Objective
		C.1.2. Percentage of persons who declare they have been speaking Italian since pre-school age, as well as another language	Objective
		C.1.3. Percentage of persons attending Italian language courses	Objective
	C.2. Sphere of use of the Italian language	C.2.1 Percentage of persons who use Italian at home	Objective
		C.2.2 Percentage of persons who use Italian at work	Objective

	C.3. Difficulty in using the Italian language	C.2.3 Percentage of persons who use Italian among friends	Objective
		C.3.1. Percentage of foreign nationals who declare having difficulty reading and writing in Italian	Subjective
		C.3.2. Percentage of foreign nationals who declare having difficulty relating with an Italian using the Italian language	Subjective
		C.3.3. Percentage of foreign nationals who encounter language difficulties with Italian at work	Subjective
		C.3.4. Percentage of foreign nationals who encounter language difficulties with Italian in public offices	Subjective
		C.3.5. Percentage of foreign nationals who encounter language difficulties with Italian in relating with medical personnel	Subjective
D: Education and training	D.1. School attendance and success	D.1.1. Rate of attendance by level of education	Objective
		D.1.2. Drop-out rate	Subjective
		D.1.3. Rate of educational failure	Subjective
	D.2. Level of education	D.2.1. Percentage of foreign nationals who have earned their degree in Italy	Objective
		D.2.2. Percentage of foreign nationals who have requested recognition of a foreign degree in Italy	Objective
	D.3. Participation and attendance	D.3.1. Percentage of foreign nationals who frequent classmates outside school hours	Subjective
		D.3.2. Percentage of foreign nationals whose parents take an active part in school life	Subjective
	D.4. Professional training	D.4.1. Percentage of foreign nationals WHO TAKE PART IN professional training courses	Subjective
E: Labour market	E.1. Work integration	E.1.1. Employment rate	Objective
		E.1.2. Unemployment rate	Objective
		E.1.3. Rate of non-participation	Objective
		E.1.4. Percentage of employed by type of employment (employed/independent)	Objective
		E.1.5. Percentage of employed by type of profession	Objective
		E.1.6. Percentage of employed by type of contract	Objective
		E.1.8 Percentage of employed whose level of qualification/education does not correspond with the theoretical one required for the work performed	Objective
		E.1.9. Percentage of foreign nationals actively looking for work	Objective
	E.2. Satisfaction with work	E.2.1. Index of satisfaction of employed with respect to the work performed (from 1 to 10)	Subjective
		E.2.2. Perception of the working situation in Italy (duties/activities/compensation)	Subjective
F: Mobility	F.1 Inter-generational professional mobility	F.1.1. Professional mobility (rising/falling) compared to one's parents	Objective
		F.1.2. Professional immobility compared to one's parents	Objective
	F.2. Intra-generational professional mobility	F.2.1. Professional mobility (rising/falling) compared to one's previous employment (first job in Italy or last job in one's state of origin)	Objective
		F.2.3. Professional immobility compared to one's previous employment (first job in Italy or last job in one's state of origin)	Objective
	F.3. Intra-generational educational mobility	F.3.1. Educational mobility (rising/falling) compared to one's parents	Objective

G: Social security and poverty	G.1. Economic hardships	G.1.1. Percentage of persons who express economic hardships	Subjective
		G.1.2. Poverty risk at family level	Objective
	G.2. Social security	G.2.1. Percentage of persons who express trust in interpersonal relationships	Subjective
H: Satisfaction and social participation	H.1. Satisfaction with one's own experience	H.1.1. Percentage of persons who express satisfaction in life on the whole	Subjective
		H.1.2. Percentage of persons who express satisfaction with work	Subjective
	H.2. Participation	H.2.1. Percentage of persons who use recreational locations (cinema, theatre, music and sporting events, places of assembly, etc.)	Subjective
		H.2.2. Percentage of persons who declare they take part in the public life of associations/NGOs/volunteer work	Subjective
		H.2.3. Percentage of persons who declare they practise religion	Subjective
		H.2.4. Percentage of persons who declare they take part in political events (debates/demonstrations etc.)	Subjective
I: Discrimination	I.1. Discrimination in relations	I.1.1 Percentage of persons who declare they have suffered discrimination at work	Subjective
		I.1.2 Percentage of persons who declare they have suffered discrimination in their educational paths	Subjective
		I.1.2 Percentage of persons who declare they have suffered discrimination in neighbourhood relations	Subjective
	I.2. Discrimination in access to services	I.1.2 Percentage of persons who declare they have suffered discrimination during their search for a home to rent or purchase	Subjective
		I.1.2 Percentage of persons who declare they have suffered discrimination in accessing credit (loans/financing/etc.)	Subjective
		I.1.2 Percentage of persons who declare they have suffered discrimination in accessing medical care	Subjective
		I.1.2 Percentage of persons who declare they have suffered discrimination in public settings (offices/shops/etc.)	Subjective
J: Migrations	J.1. Migration	J.1.1 Percentage of persons by reason for migration	Objective
		J.1.2 Age at entry into Italy	Objective
		J.1.3 Duration of stay in Italy	Objective
	J.2. Generations	J.2.1. Migration generation (1; 2; 1.75;1.50;1.25)	Objective
K: Socializing and relationships	K.1. Interpersonal relationships	K.1.1. Percentage of persons who have a network of persons to count on in Italy	Subjective
		K.1.2. Percentage of persons who feel alone in Italy	Subjective
	K.2. Relationship with host country	K.2.1. Percentage of persons who say they are happy in Italy	Subjective
		K.2.1. Percentage of persons who say they are happy in the city where they live in Italy	Subjective
L: Housing	L.1. Housing characteristics	L.1.2. Households by type of housing arrangement	Objective
		L.1.3. Households by residence type (rental/ownership)	Objective
		L.1.4. Overcrowding rate	Objective

Source: Istat, SCIF Survey (2011-2012).