

Spain Country Profile

1. Key Statistics

	2015	2016	2017
Asylum Seekers	14,887	16,544	30,000 aprox.
Refugees	802	369	1,279 aprox.
Migrants (Third Country Nationals) with valid residence permits	154,659	186,918	237,115
Irregular migrants	5,312	12,635	25,976
Relevant Link	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> https://goo.gl/vJWb8Q https://goo.gl/vJWb8Q https://goo.gl/pgz9yh https://goo.gl/EVLoEd 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> https://goo.gl/vJWb8Q https://goo.gl/vJWb8Q https://goo.gl/pgz9yh https://goo.gl/sBRPu3 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> https://goo.gl/5c51P8 https://goo.gl/5c51P8 https://goo.gl/pgz9yh https://goo.gl/sBRPu3

2. Priority Health Conditions

The main challenges in terms of healthcare access and/or health issues of migrants/refugees identified are:

After the approval of the Royal Decree-law 16/2012, migrants, especially undocumented, have faced significant problems to access to health care. Undocumented migrants haven't got the right to access to health care, and they are obligate to pay for themselves if they need any health service, with only a few exceptions such as minors, pregnant women and medical emergencies.

Furthermore, there is a huge lack of national coordination in migrant's health care management. Framed on Decree-Law 16/2012, some regional authorities have developed additional residency requirements, trying to avoid the "health tourism" effect, and this is triggering greater rights inequalities among the regions in Spain. For example, Andalucía and Catalonia are two of the six regions providing universal health care, while Ceuta and Melilla are examples of regions with many restrictions.

The main barriers to guarantee health care access and quality in care for migrant population are the high cost of services, the linguistic and cultural differences, the discrimination against migrants, the administrative and bureaucracy obstacles, and the lack of health literacy.

http://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/EB140/B140_24-sp.pdf

<http://www.mipex.eu/spain#/tab-health>

3. Legislation Description

Brief description of the legislation concerning access to health care for migrants/refugees

The Royal Decree-Law 16/2012, of April 20th, on urgent measures to guarantee the sustainability of the National Health System and improve the quality and safety of its benefits, that amended Law 16/2003, of May 28th, establishes that the National Institute of Social Security and the Social Institute of the Navy are competent to decide on the condition of insured or beneficiary of the National Health System.

Additionally to what Law 16/2003, of May 28th established, the third article of the Royal Decree-Law 16/2012, establishes healthcare in special situations, allowing that non-registered or non-official resident migrants in Spain will receive public assistance in case of pregnancy, childbirth and postpartum, and in case of being under 18 years, with the same rights as people who hold the condition of insured.

Furthermore, in relation to migrants who are neither registered nor authorized as residents in Spain, the third article of Law 16/2003, of May 28th, establishes that they will receive healthcare in emergency situations due to serious illness or accident, whatever its cause, up to the medical discharge situation. In these situations, migrants have guaranteed healthcare, and everyone has to be cared by public health.

Finally, as an example of regional development of migrant's health care legislation, the Royal Decree-Law 3/2015, of July 24th, regulates universal access to health care in the Valencian Community. This Decree-Law responds to the situation of sanitary helplessness in which the groups affected by Royal Decree 16/2012, of April 20th were - mostly migrant population in an irregular and socially disadvantaged administrative situation.