

DATA AND STATISTICS

The Numbers of Intercountry Adoption
in 2024 in Italy



Governo Italiano
Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri



Commissione per le Adozioni Internazionali
Autorità Centrale per la Convenzione de L'Aja del 29/05/93

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Index

Introduction

01 Statistics on Intercountry Adoption in Italy

- 1.1. Families who applied for authorisation to bring foreign children into Italy
 - 1.1.1 Profile of families who applied for authorisation to bring foreign children into Italy – Age and educational qualifications
 - 1.1.2 Profile of families requesting authorisation for the entry of foreign children into Italy – Motivations
 - 1.1.3 Timing of the adoption process
- 1.2. Children who were granted authorisation to enter and reside in Italy
 - 1.2.1 Profile of children who were granted authorisation to enter and reside in Italy in 2024
 - 1.2.2 Children with special needs who were granted authorisation to enter and reside in Italy in 2024 – A focus

02 Statistical Appendix

Introduction

This Report presents the 2024 statistical data on intercountry adoptions in our Country. Prepared with a new graphic layout aimed at providing easier reading of data and information of interest - also through the use of infographics - it is a useful tool for anyone wishing to gain deeper insight into the legal framework of intercountry adoptions, governed by Law no. 184 of 4 May 1983.

The Report is divided into three parts: the first introduces the reader to the organisation and functioning of the Commission for Intercountry Adoptions; the second part examines the phenomenon in greater depth, with particular attention to the characteristics of adoptive families and children adopted, the main countries of origin, and the duration of the adoption process; the third and final part contains an appendix on international relations and statistical tables.

While referring readers to the Report for further details, some general considerations are outlined below. The analysis of intercountry adoption flows in the period under review highlights an increase in the number of adoptions carried out compared with 2023. In 2024, in fact, there were 691 foreign minors for whom authorisation to enter and reside in Italy was granted, an 18% increase compared to the previous year.

Similarly, there was an increase of about 12% in adoption procedures.

Some specific areas remain constant.

As in the previous year, the countries of origin accounting for the highest number of adoptions in 2024 are Hungary, with 149 adopted children, followed by Colombia (110) and India (104).

The age of minors at the time of entry continues to show a slow but steady increase over the years: in 2024, the average age of adopted children was 7 years, compared with 6 years and 8 months in 2023. The presence of very young children (aged 0–1) remains marginal.

For the year under review in this Report, the significance of the number of adoptions of minors with special needs remains unchanged: 67% of the total number of adopted children, or about 465 minors, have at least one special condition. The largest category remains that of children over 7 years of age, but the weight of complex situations including the presence of siblings and physical and/or mental disabilities is also significant.

With regard to the timing of the adoption process, the phase between assignment to the Authorised Agency and matching with a child shows the greatest variation, depending on the country chosen by the prospective adoptive parents. This phase is determined by the central authority of the country of origin and is therefore influenced by the geopolitical context in which that country operates. This document seeks to promote up-to-date knowledge of the phenomenon and to contribute to the development of effective, transparent, and child-centred adoption governance. It is intended to serve as a reference for practitioners, policymakers, and adoptive families.

I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to all those - families, Commission members, stakeholders, Authorised Agencies, and collaborators - who, through their dedication and professionalism, made it possible for 691 children to come to Italy, offering them a warm welcome, support, and the opportunity for a new beginning. Further details can be found in the following pages.

Vincenzo Starita
Vice President

01

Statistics on Intercountry Adoption in Italy

1.1

Families who applied for authorisation to bring foreign children into Italy

In 2024, 536 families applied for authorisation for foreign children to enter and reside in Italy, marking a 12% increase compared to the previous year, when there were 478 applications. Over the five-year period 2020–2024, the number of adoptive families remained stable, except for a decline recorded in 2023, with the total staying below 600 each year (Fig. 1).

At the local level, the regions with the highest absolute number of adoptive families were Lombardia and Campania (77 couples each), followed by Puglia (50), Veneto (48), and Lazio (45). However, the relative analysis—which relates the number of adoptive families to the number of resident families—paints a different picture: Basilicata shows the highest incidence (6 adoptive couples per 10,000 resident couples), followed by Calabria (5), and Friuli-Venezia Giulia and Campania (4 each) (Fig. 2).

536
families
2024

478
families
2023

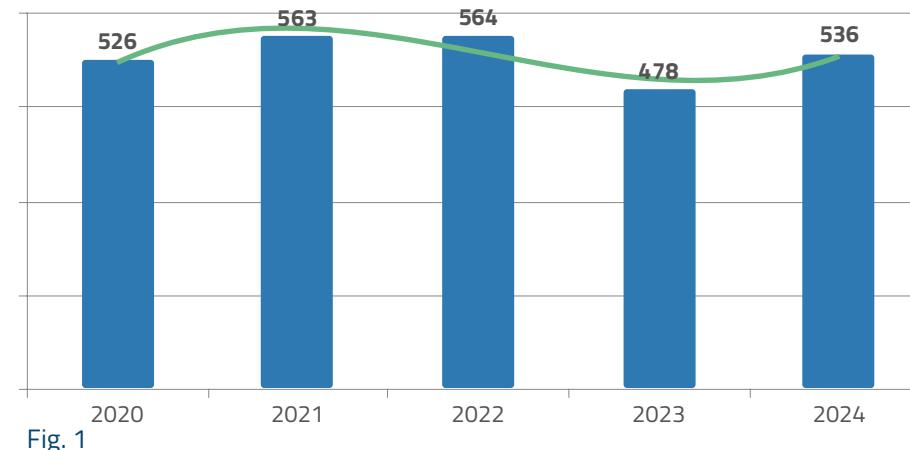


Fig. 1

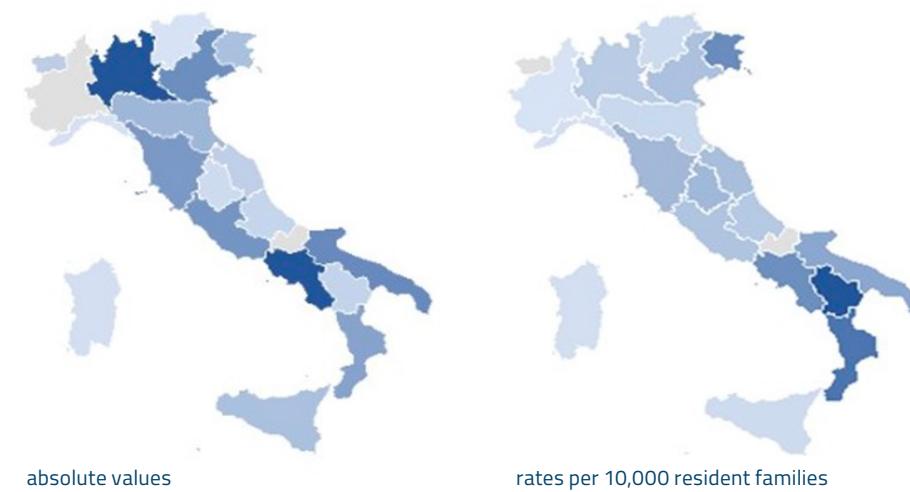


Fig. 2

Fig. 1
Families who applied for authorisation to bring foreign children into Italy, 2020–2024

Fig. 2
Families who applied for authorisation to bring foreign children into Italy by region of residence (absolute values and rates per 10,000 resident families), 2024

1.1.1

Profile of families who applied for authorisation to bring foreign children into Italy – Age and educational qualifications

Regarding the age of prospective adoptive parents at the time of the decree of suitability to adopt, the most represented age group, for both husbands and wives, is between 40 and 44 years. The average age is 45 years for husbands and 43 years for wives (Fig. 3). Given the length of the adoption process, by its conclusion the average age rises to 48 for husbands and 46 for wives (Fig. 4). The profile of adopting couples is characterised by a generally high level of education: over 90% of spouses have at least a secondary school diploma. In particular, 70% of wives and 55% of husbands hold a university degree (Fig. 5).

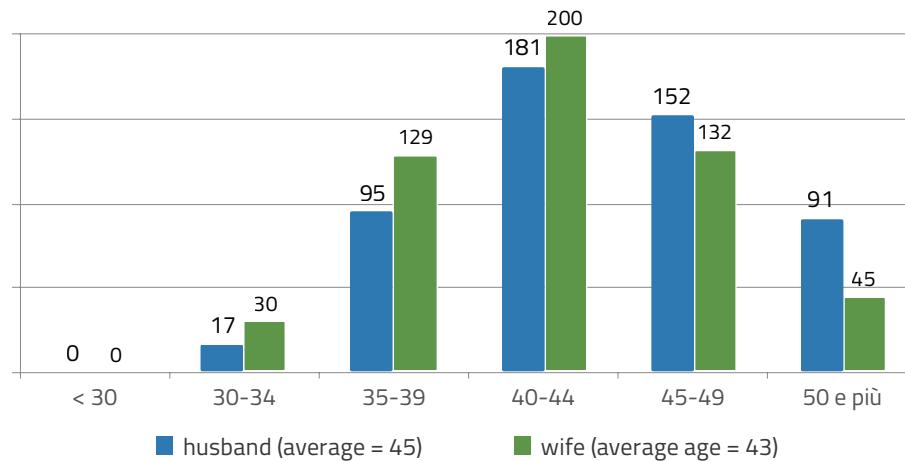


Fig. 3
Age of spouses at the date of the decree of suitability to adopt, 2024

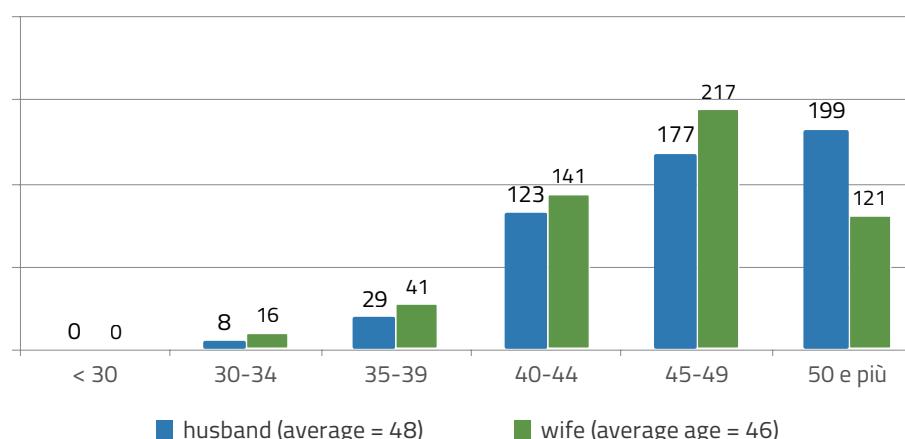


Fig. 4
Age of spouses at the date of authorisation to enter, 2024

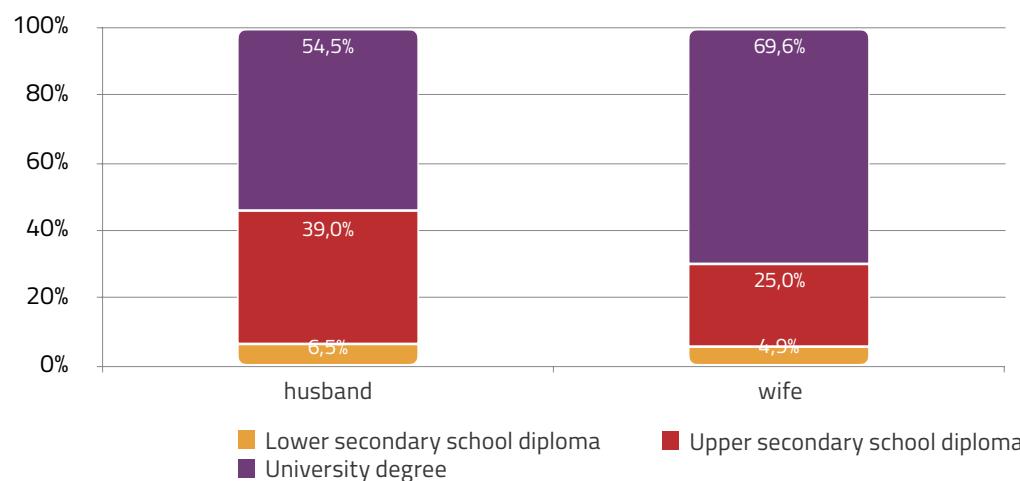


Fig. 5
Spouses' educational qualifications, 2024

1.1.2 Profile of families requesting authorisation for the entry of foreign children into Italy – Motivations

Families clearly stated that their reasons for adopting were related to the impossibility of procreation, which was the most frequent reason (78%), followed by an unspecified reason (12%). Only a small residual percentage of families (6%) reported having pursued adoption out of a genuine desire to adopt (Fig. 6). Among those who reported being unable to have children, about 10% already had at least one child in the family (either adopted or born before the onset of infertility).

The percentage of families with no children is 85%, while 13% of adoptive families in 2024 already had a child—consistent with figures recorded in previous years (Fig. 7).

Approximately 3 out of 4 adoptive families, or 76%, adopted only one child; about 19% adopted two, and a not insignificant 5% adopted three or more (Fig. 8). This is also in line with findings from previous years.

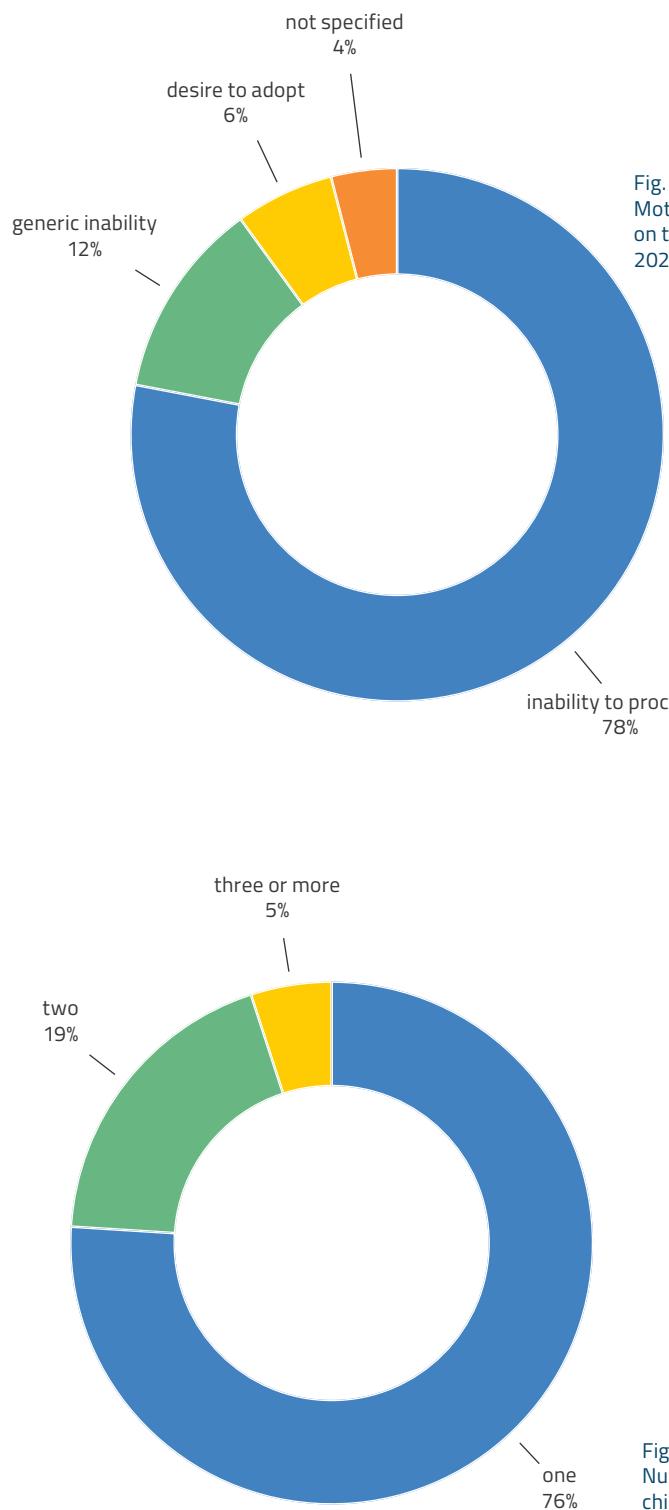


Fig. 6
Motivation to embark on the adoption journey, 2024

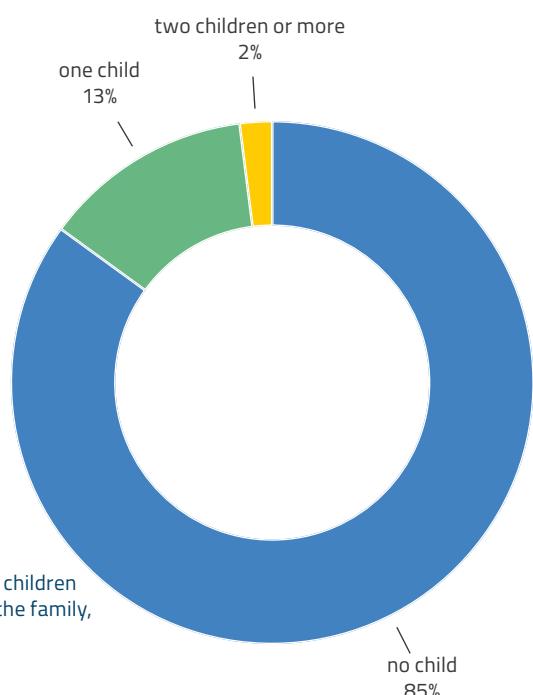


Fig. 7
Number of children already in the family, 2024

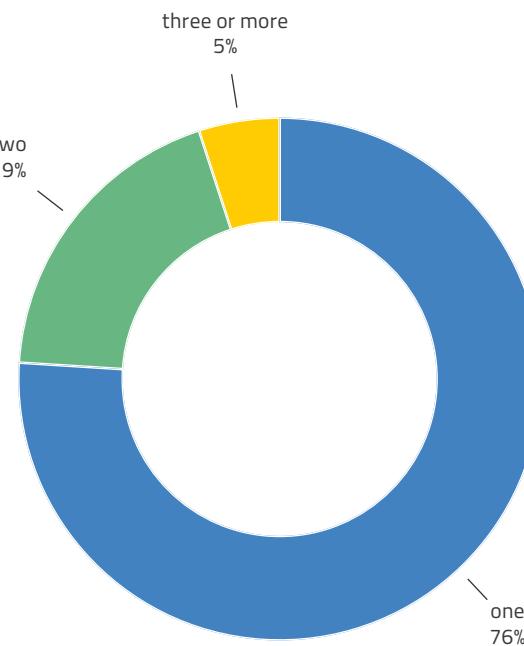


Fig. 8
Number of adopted children, 2024

1.1.3

Timing of the adoption process

The process followed by couples who completed an adoption in 2024—from the submission of the application for adoption suitability to the competent Juvenile Court, up to the authorisation for the child's entry and residence in Italy—had an average duration of 53 months, equivalent to almost four and a half years. This figure is broadly in line with what was recorded in 2023, when the average duration was 52 months.

Among the various stages that mark the adoption process, the one that most affects the overall duration is the period between the assignment of the case to an Authorised Agency and the authorisation for the child's entry and residence in Italy (highlighted in the box), which lasts an average of 31 months (Fig. 9). In the previous year (2023), the average time for this phase had been slightly longer, at 33 months.

The phases preceding the assignment—namely, from the submission of the declaration of availability to adopt until the decree of suitability to adopt—last on average about one year, while the period from the decree to the assignment to an Authorised Agency is slightly shorter, at 10 months. In the previous year, the durations between these stages were both slightly shorter: 11.2 and 8.2 months, respectively.

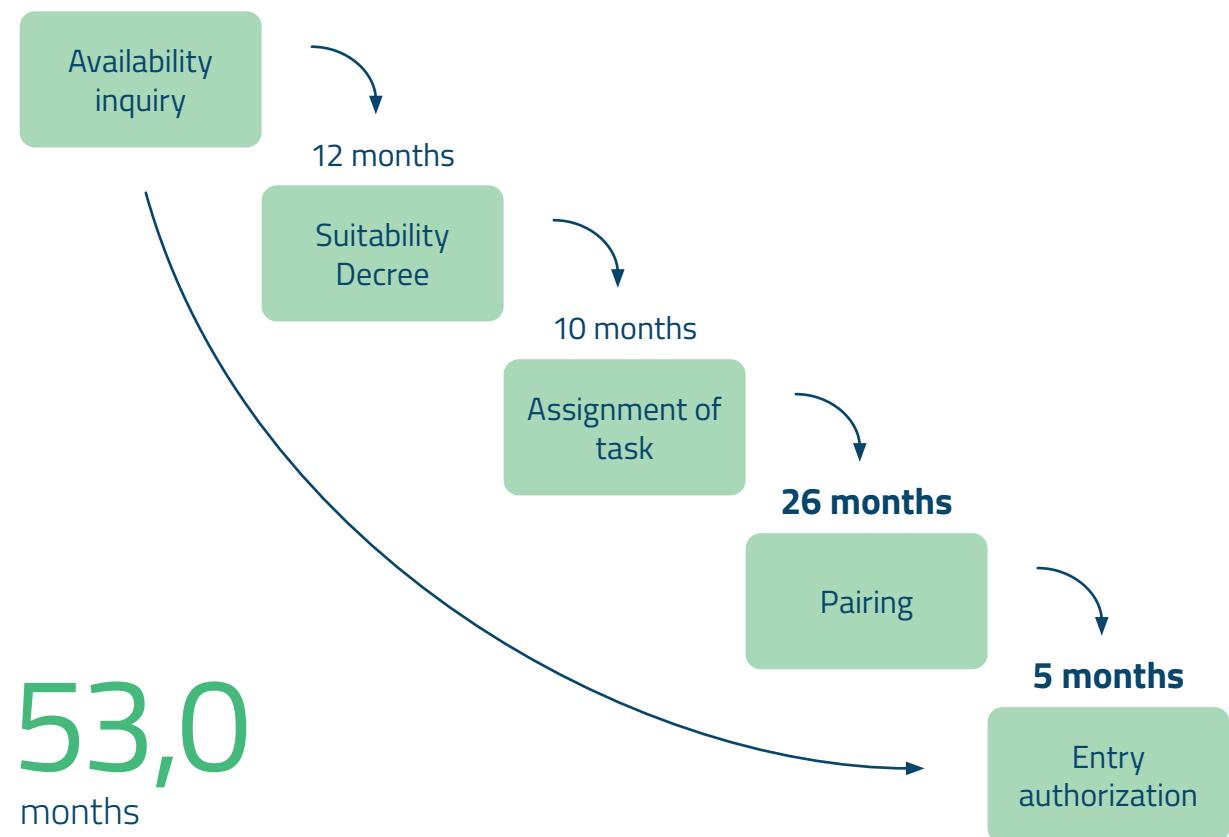


Fig. 9
Average duration (in months) of the adoption process, 2024

The time interval between case assignment to an Authorised Agency and matching with a child shows significant variability, ranging from a minimum of 14.4 months for Hungary to a maximum of 45.8 months for Bulgaria. It is precisely the duration of this stage that has the greatest impact on the overall length of the adoption process, since the time intervals relating to the other stages are, by contrast, considerably more uniform.

With 77.8 months, Haiti is the country with the longest adoption time, followed by the Philippines (70.8) and Bulgaria (66.3). The process is roughly half as long for Brazil (36.8) and Congo (39.4).

The time lapse between the declaration of availability to adopt and the decree of suitability to adopt shows relatively limited variability between countries, with the longest durations recorded for the Philippines (15.4 months), Hungary (13.7), and Sierra Leone (13.6).

The time between the decree of suitability to adopt and the assignment of the case to an Authorised Agency—an average of 10 months—is particularly long for Haiti (17.2) and India (13.8), while for the rest of the countries the interval is close to the average value.

There is considerable variation in the time between case assignment to the Authorised Agency and matching with a child, ranging from 14.7 months in Hungary to 45.8 months in Bulgaria.

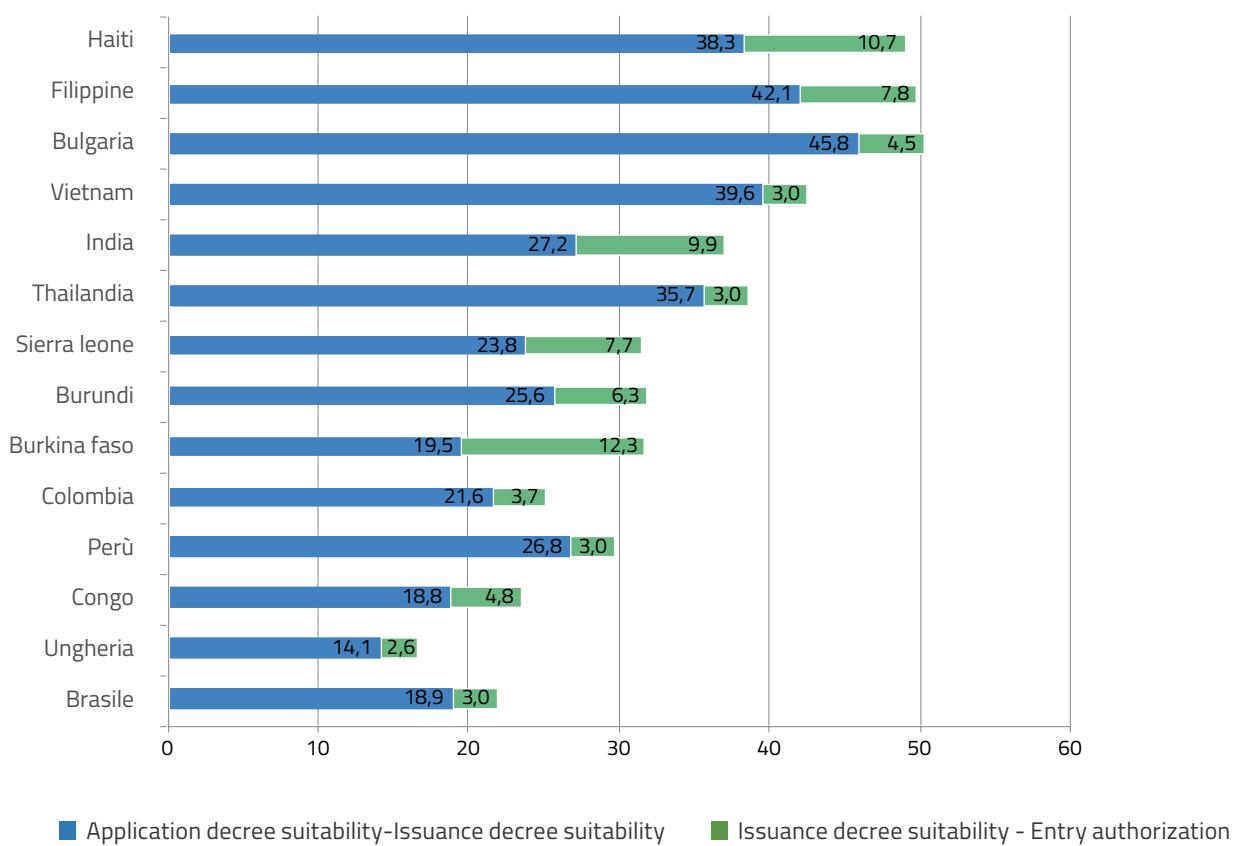
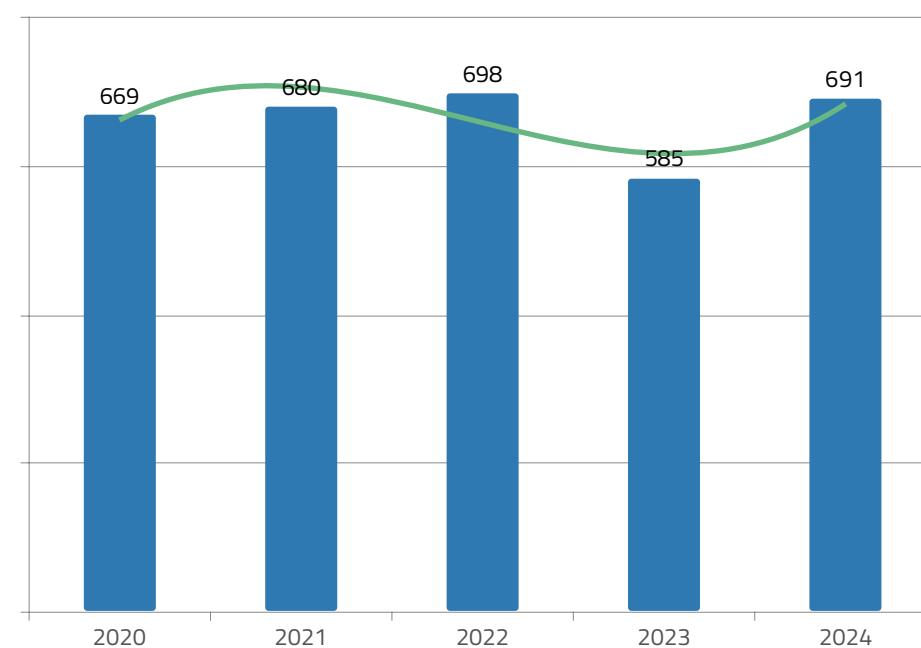


Fig. 10
Average duration (in months) of the entire adoption process according to the timing of intermediate stages, by country of origin, 2024

1.2 Children who were granted authorisation to enter and reside in Italy

In 2024, 691 foreign children were granted authorisation to enter and reside in Italy, up from 585 in the previous year, a positive change of +18%. This indicates a modest recovery, consistent with the positive post-pandemic trend and in contrast to the unexpected decline observed in 2023 (Fig. 11).

Over the five-year period 2020–2024, the total number of children adopted showed a slight increase (+3%), remaining below 700 per year and following a relatively stable trend, except for the decline observed in 2023.



691
Foreign children
2024

585
Foreign children
2023

Fig. 11
Children who were granted authorisation to enter and reside in Italy, 2020–2024

Analysing the geographical origin of children for whom authorisation to enter and reside in Italy was granted during the period 2020–2024, it emerges that the largest share comes from Europe (34%, or 1,131 children), followed by the Americas (32%, or 1,056 children) and Asia (25%, or 842 children). Africa accounts for the smallest share (9%, or 294 children), but it is also the region that recorded the most significant increase during the period, with a +71% change. Substantial growth is also observed for children from Asia (+59%), while adoptions of children from the Americas (-14%) and Europe (-20%) declined.

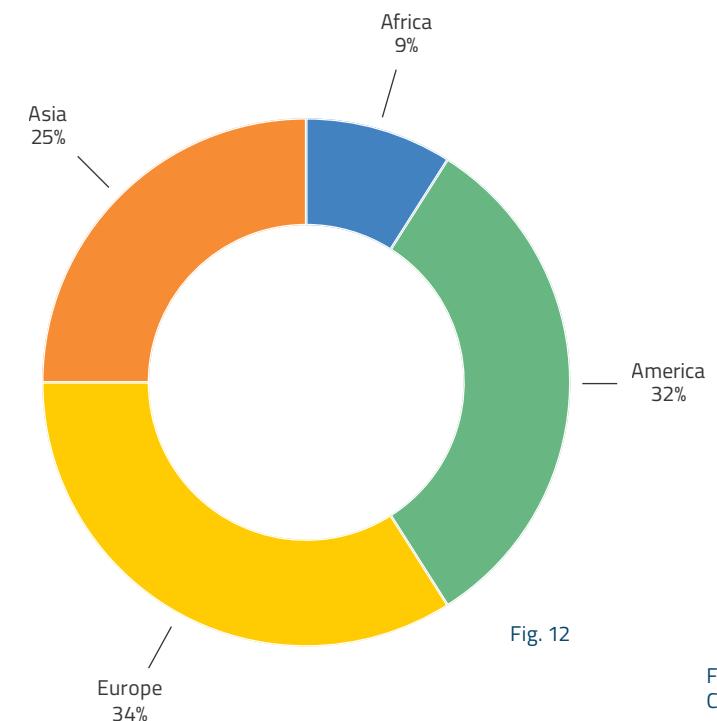


Fig. 12

Fig. 12
Continent of origin by year, 2020–2024

Table 1

Continent	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	Total	% Var 2020-2024
Africa	49	54	46	61	84	294	71%
America	233	226	231	166	200	1.056	-14%
Asia	123	165	164	194	196	842	59%
Europe	264	235	257	164	211	1.131	-20%
Total	669	680	698	585	691	3.323	3%
Yearly % var.	-	2%	3%	-16%	+18%		

Table 1
Continent of origin,
2020–2024

1.2.1 Profile of children who were granted authorisation to enter and reside in Italy in 2024

Among the children granted authorisation to enter and reside in Italy in 2024, there is a slight predominance of males, accounting for 51% (Fig. 13). This trend is confirmed across all continents of origin, with the exception of Asia, where there is a female majority, representing 55% of adopted children (Fig. 14).

In terms of countries of origin, Hungary ranks first with 149 children, followed by Colombia (110) and India (104). These three countries alone account for more than half (52%) of the total number of children adopted in Italy during 2024.

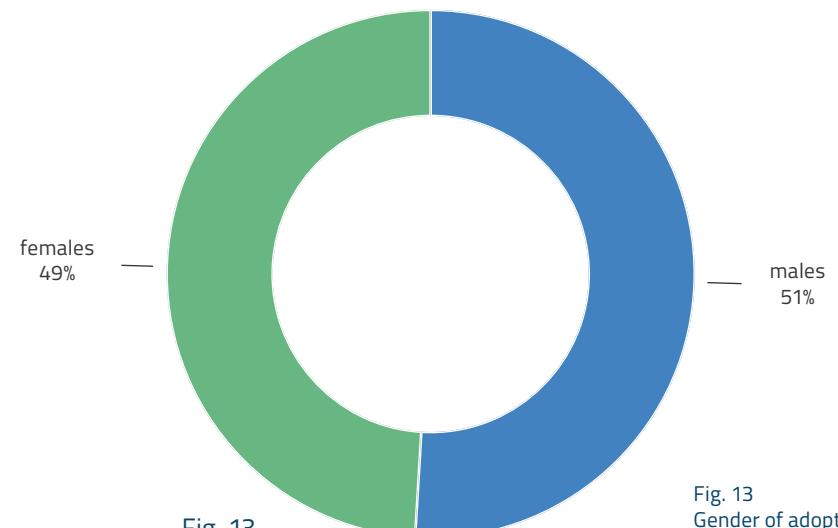


Fig. 13

Fig. 13
Gender of adopted
children (values %)

Table 2

AFRICA	84
Congo	23
Burundi	22
Sierra Leone	18
Burkina Faso	13
Other countries	8
males	45
females	39

AMERICA	200
Colombia	110
Brasile	38
Perù	32
Haiti	10
Other countries	10
males	105
females	95

ASIA	196
India	104
Vietnam	37
Filippine	17
Cina	13
Thailandia	13
Pakistan	8
Other countries	4
males	89
females	107

EUROPE	211
Ungheria	149
Bulgaria	34
Moldavia	7
Polonia	6
Albania	5
Other countries	10
males	123
females	88

Table 2
Continent, gender, and
country of origin (absolute
values)

With regard to the age of adopted children, the average recorded in 2024 is 7 years. This average, slightly higher than in 2023 (6.6 years), nevertheless reflects very heterogeneous situations depending on the country of origin. Limiting the analysis to countries from which at least five children were adopted, the average age varies widely: from a minimum of 3 years for children from Pakistan to a maximum of 10.3 years for those from Moldova. In between, among the countries with the highest number of adoptions, are India with 5.7 years, Hungary with 7.2 years, and Colombia with 8.1 years. Overall, the percentage of children authorised to enter who are over 7 years of age is 47.2% of the total (Fig. 15).



1.2.2

Children with special needs who were granted authorisation to enter and reside in Italy in 2024 – A focus

Over the years, the issue of international adoptions of children with special needs—who present characteristics that make the adoption process more complex or require particular attention and support—has gained increasing importance, especially in light of the rise in authorisations for entry recorded in 2024.

Special needs are classified into four broad categories, which can, in varying combinations, coexist in the same child. Health-related information contained in the documentation for the adopted child is provided by the country of origin. This documentation, in some cases, is affected by partial information and may include:

- Children older than seven years (from 7 years and one day)
- Various physical and mental disabilities
- Children who have experienced severe traumas or present behavioural problems
- Sibling groups (brothers and/or sisters) consisting of three or more children

In 2024, of the 691 children granted authorisation to enter Italy, 465 had at least one of the aforementioned conditions, accounting for 67% of all adoptees. Among these, 45% had special needs solely related to age, while 55% of the children presented diverse situations that included other issues. Children with special needs due to health-related causes made up 26% of the total. In about 1 in 10 cases (9%), the special need was attributable to category 4 (sibling groups of three or more children). According to the Permanent Bureau – Hague Conference on Private International Law (HCCH).

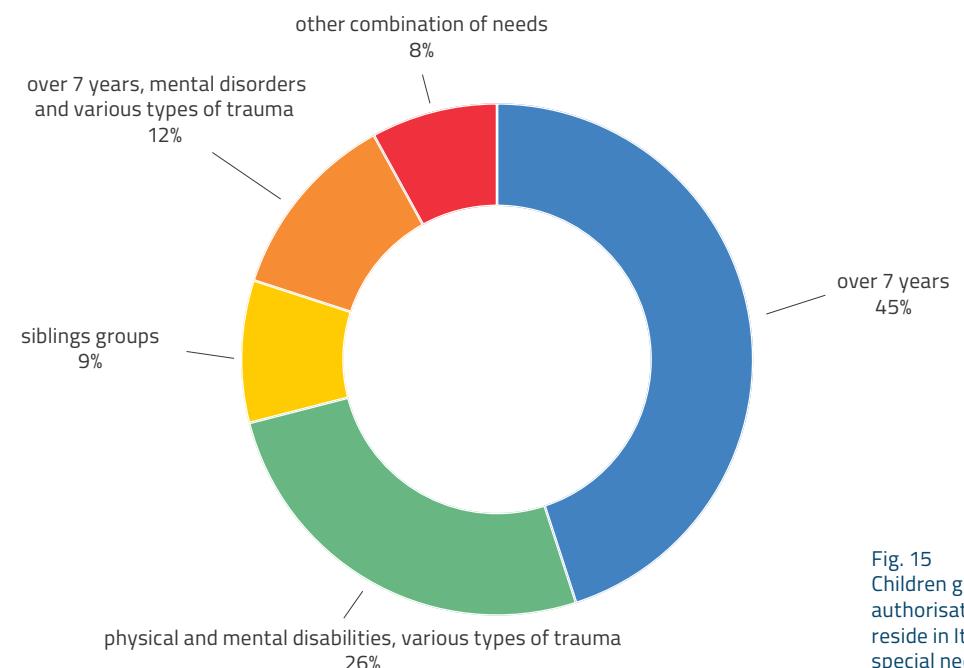


Fig. 15
Children granted authorisation to enter and reside in Italy, by type of special need, 2024

As for the continent of origin of children with special needs, Africa is the only case where the share of children with special needs is a minority, standing at 33% of the total number of children with special needs. For children from the Americas, three out of four (75%) were found to have at least one special need, while for Europe and Asia the percentage was 65%.

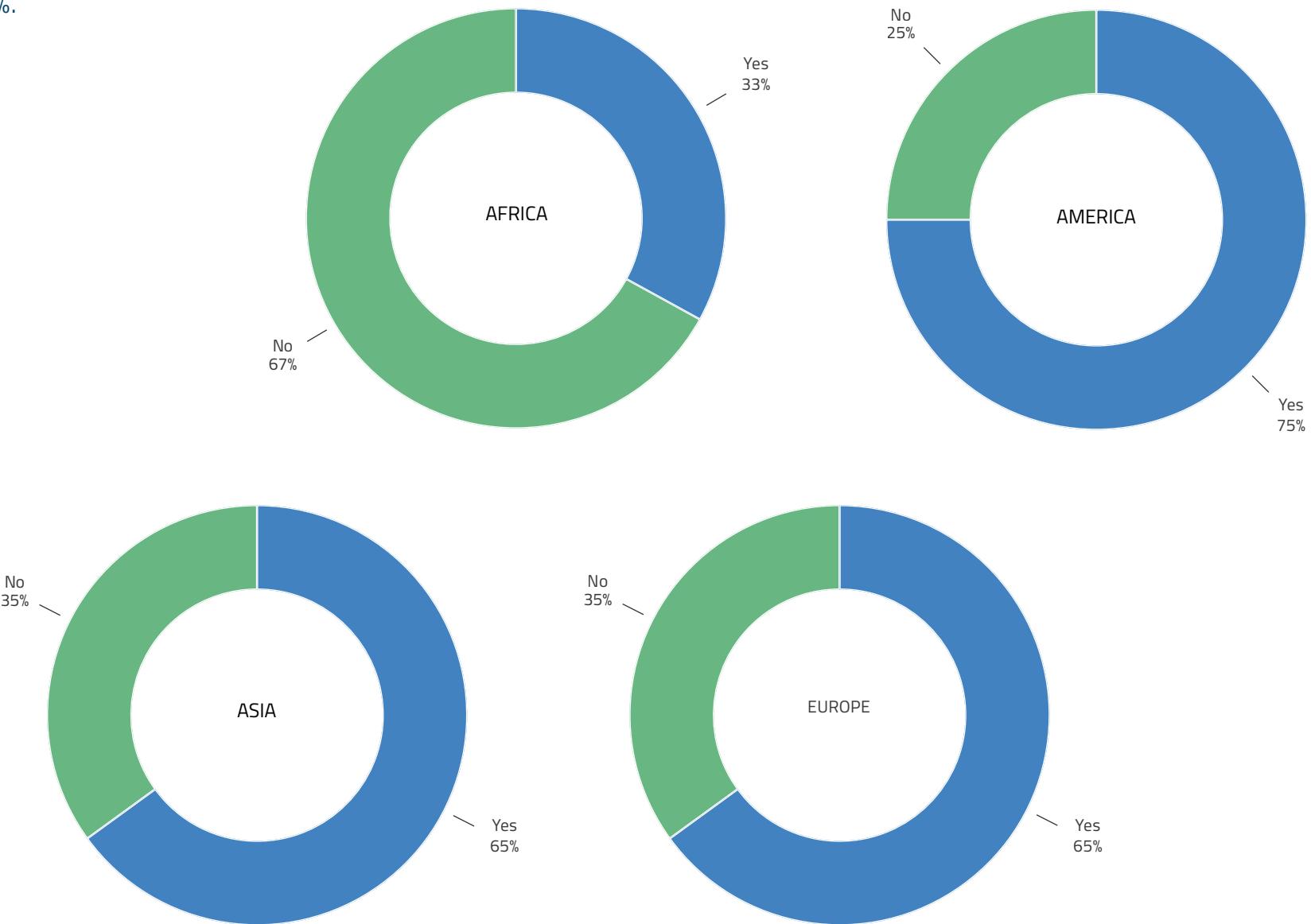


Fig. 16
Percentage of children with special needs by continent of origin, 2024

Regarding the type of special need identified, it emerges that among children, the number of cases where the special need is related to being over 7 years old (including in combination with other needs) is 67% for Europe, 75% for the Americas, and 72% for Africa, while for children from Asia this figure drops to 50%. Among the latter, however, the share of those with physical/mental disabilities or traumas of various kinds stands out (about 1 in 2 children, or 48%).

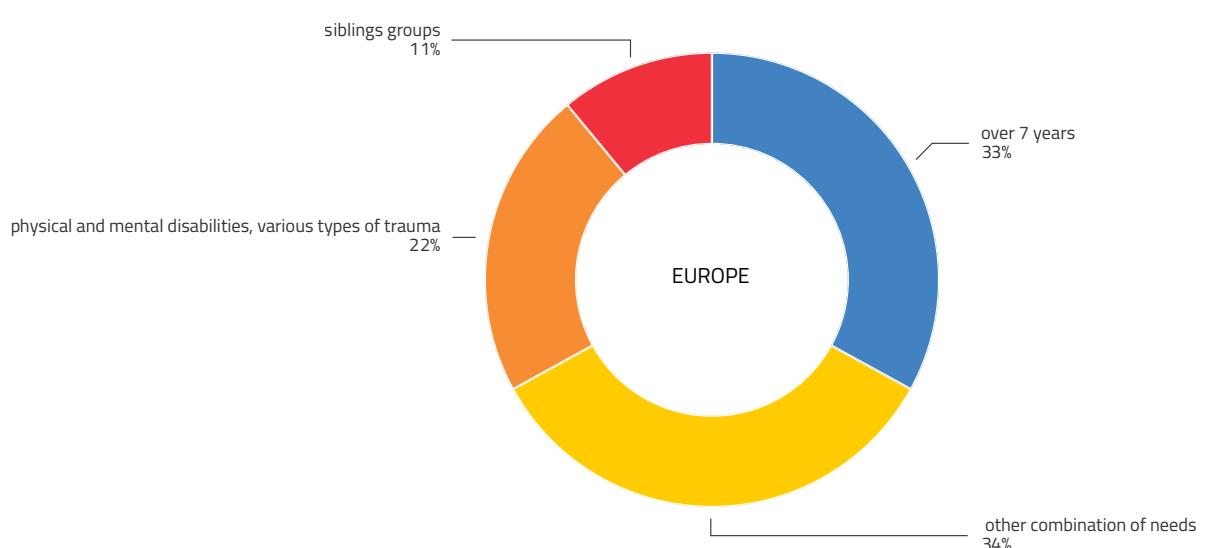
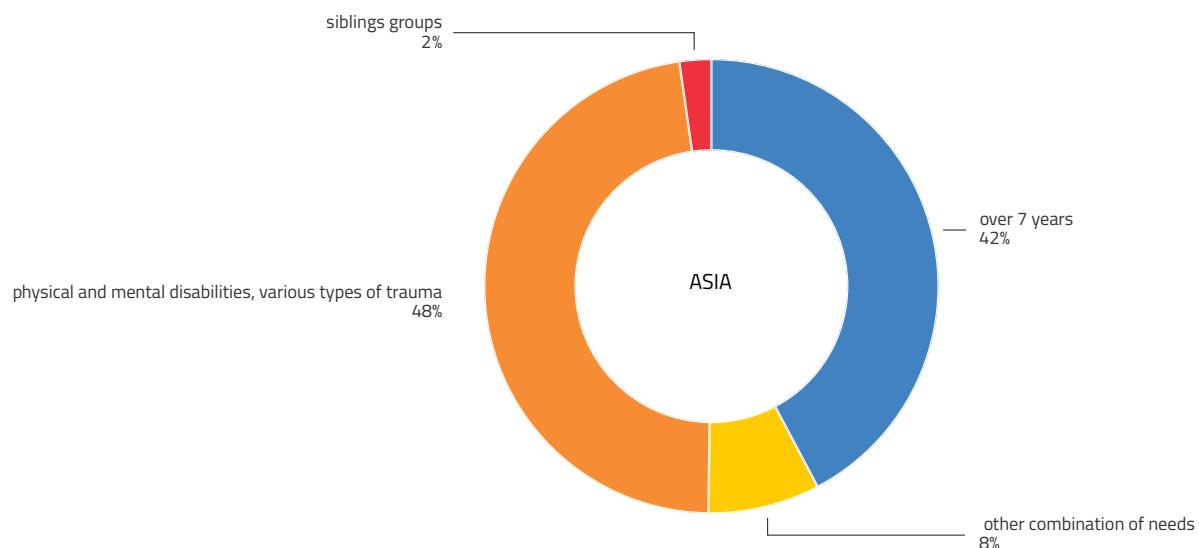
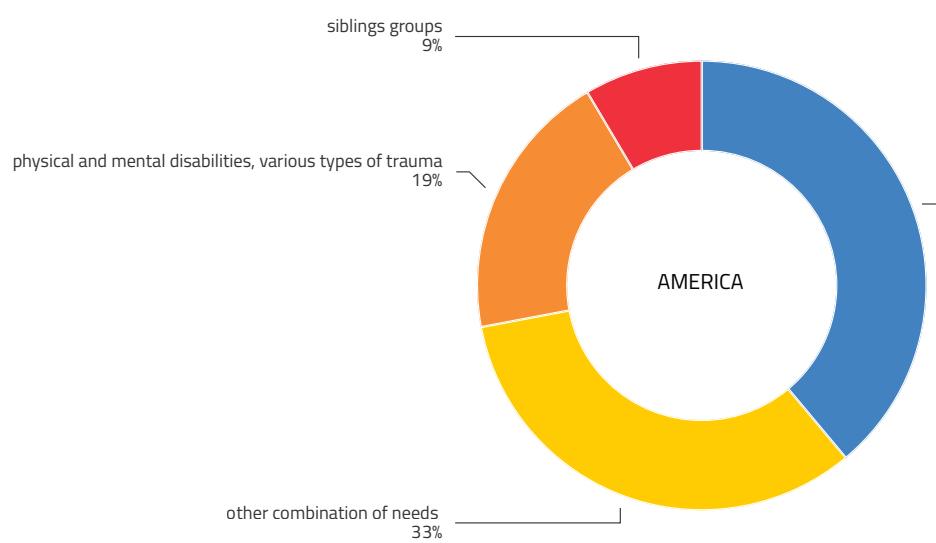
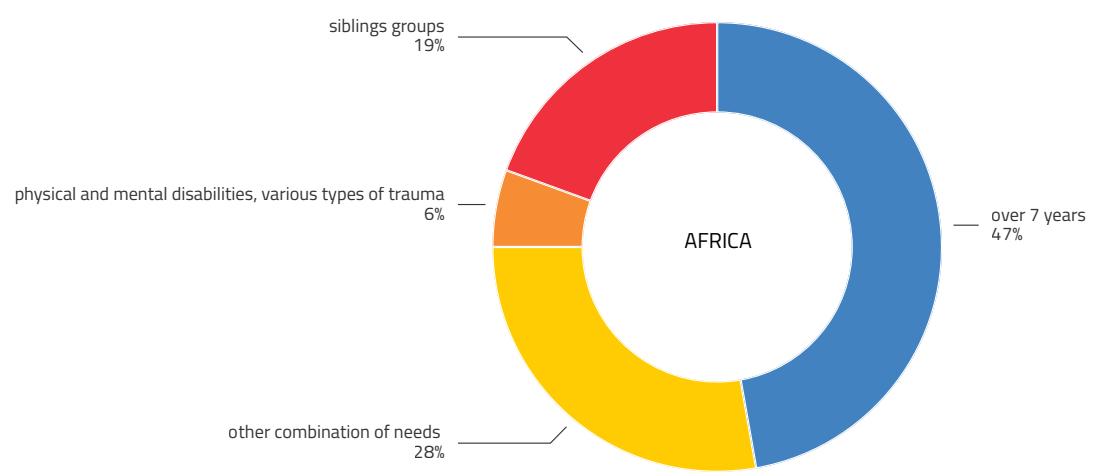


Fig. 17
Children with special needs by continent of origin and type of special need (several special needs may be found for the same child), 2024

Finally, a breakdown of the average duration of the adoption process distinguishes between adoptions of children with special needs and those without. The adoption process was completed on average in 52.6 months for the first group and 56.3 months for the second. The difference is mainly concentrated in the phase between the assignment of the case to the Authorised Agency and the authorisation for the child's entry and residence in Italy. In this phase, 31.4 months elapsed on average for children with special needs, while the interval rose to 36.5 months for those without.

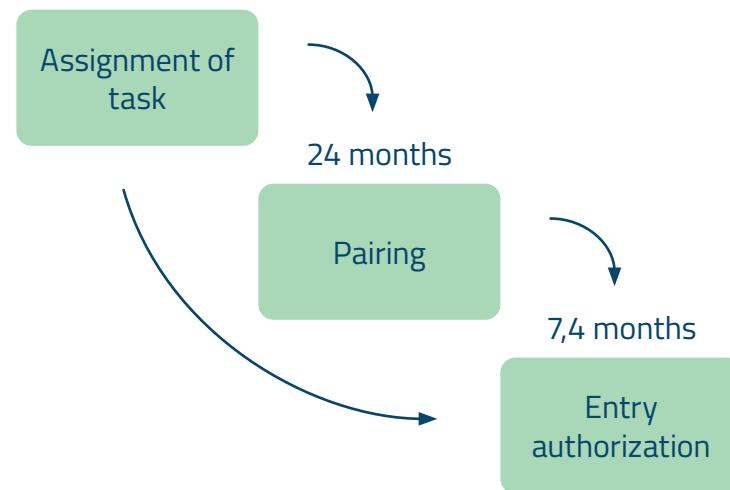


Fig. 18a
Average time (in months) of the adoption process for adoptees with special needs, 2024

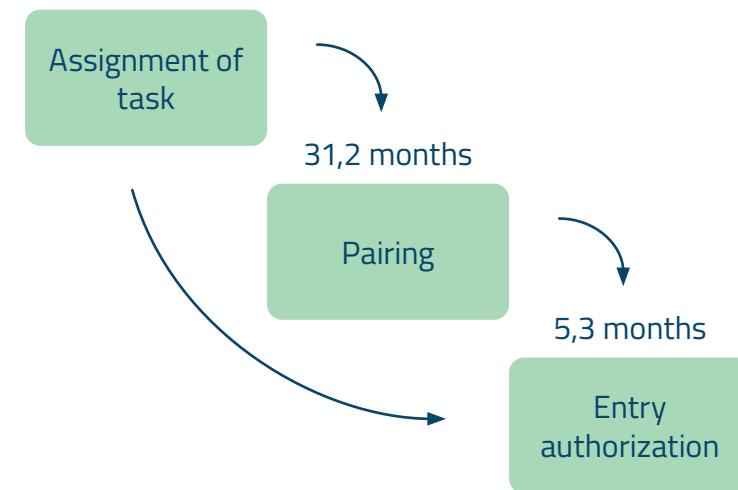


Fig. 18b
Average time (in months) of the adoption process for adoptees without special needs, 2024

02

Statistical Appendix

1

Families requesting authorization for the entry and residence in Italy of foreign children by region of residence and competent Juvenile Court

Region of residence – 2020–2024

Region	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	
					abs. value	as % of total
Piedmont and Aosta Valley	27	38	32	28	16	3.0
Lombardy	73	76	87	83	77	14.4
Liguria	13	19	19	10	6	1.1
Trentino-Alto Adige	7	13	10	15	5	0.9
Veneto	49	49	40	54	48	9.0
Friuli-Venezia Giulia	9	7	13	10	23	4.3
Emilia-Romagna	33	43	43	28	28	5.2
Tuscany	63	55	62	58	43	8.0
Umbria	8	12	19	9	9	1.7
Marche	15	14	19	13	15	2.8
Lazio	55	58	42	29	45	8.4
Abruzzo and Molise	14	17	15	17	12	1.9
Campania	44	46	70	50	77	14.4
Basilicata	11	10	7	5	13	2.4
Puglia	39	51	40	26	50	9.3
Calabria	34	22	27	20	38	7.1
Sicily	26	28	10	20	23	4.3
Sardinia	6	5	9	3	7	1.3
Abroad	0	0	0	0	1	0.2
Total	526	563	564	478	536	100.0

Competent Juvenile Court and year of request. Absolute values and percentages – 2020–2024

Juvenile Court	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	
					abs. value	as % of total
Milan	47	44	59	46	53	9.9
Florence	65	53	62	56	42	7.8
Venice	48	47	38	53	45	8.4
Rome	54	57	40	28	45	8.4
Bologna	33	43	42	27	29	5.4
Naples	29	37	56	35	57	10.6
Turin	27	38	33	28	15	2.8
Brescia	25	33	29	37	22	4.1
Reggio Calabria	13	6	9	17	19	3.5
Bari	23	22	14	14	26	4.9
Genoa	13	21	19	11	7	1.3
Ancona	15	14	20	13	15	2.8
Trieste	10	9	15	12	24	4.5
Salerno	12	9	14	13	20	3.7
L'Aquila and Campobasso	14	17	15	17	12	2.2
Lecce	7	15	11	6	11	2.1
Trento and Bolzano	7	13	10	15	8	1.5
Perugia	8	12	19	10	9	1.7
Taranto	10	14	15	7	13	2.4
Palermo	10	12	7	8	5	0.9
Cagliari and Sassari	6	5	9	3	6	1.1
Messina and Caltanissetta	11	7	3	6	13	2.4
Potenza	13	10	7	6	13	2.4
Catania	5	9	0	6	5	0.9
Catanzaro	21	16	18	4	22	4.1
Total	526	563	564	478	536	100.0

Families requesting authorization for the entry and residence in Italy of foreign children according to the educational qualifications of the spouses and year of registration and assignment of the case to the Accredited Agency – 2024

Spouses' educational qualifications – 2024

Qualification	husband		wife	
	abs. value	%	abs. value	%
No formal education	0	0.0	0	0.0
Primary school diploma	0	0.0	3	0.6
Lower secondary school certificate	35	6.5	26	4.9
High school diploma	209	39.0	134	25.0
Degree	292	54.5	373	69.6
Total	536	100.0	536	100.0

According to the year of registration and assignment to the Accredited Agency

	Year of registration														Total
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	
abs. value	2	1	1	8	1	13	28	33	18	54	92	128	133	24	536
%	0.4	0.2	0.2	1.5	0.2	2.4	5.2	6.2	3.4	10.1	17.2	23.9	24.8	4.5	100.0

	Year of assignment														Total
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024		
abs. value	1	1	4	2	7	17	25	25	50	87	135	158	24	536	
%	0.2	0.2	0.7	0.4	1.3	3.2	4.7	4.7	9.3	16.2	25.2	29.5	4.5	100.0	

Families requesting authorization for the entry and residence in Italy of foreign children according to the age of the spouses at the date of the decree of suitability to adopt and authorization to enter Italy – 2024

Age group of spouses at the date of the decree of suitability to adopt – 2024

Age group at decree of suitability	husband		wife	
	abs. value	%	abs. value	%
< 30	0	0.0	0	0.0
30-34	17	3.2	30	5.6
35-39	95	17.7	129	24.1
40-44	181	33.8	200	37.3
45-49	152	28.4	132	24.6
50 and over	91	17.0	45	8.4
Total	536	100.0	536	100.0
Average age	45		43	

(a) Decree of suitability or order of the Court of Appeal

Age group of spouses at the date of authorization to enter Italy – 2024

Age groups at authorisation for entry	husband		wife	
	abs. value	%	abs. value	%
< 30	0	0.0	0	0.0
30-34	8	1.5	16	3.0
35-39	29	5.4	41	7.6
40-44	123	22.9	141	26.3
45-49	177	33.0	217	40.5
50 and over	199	37.1	121	22.6
Total	536	100.0	536	100.0
Average age	48		46	

Families requesting authorization for the entry and residence in Italy of foreign children

Motivation in the decree of suitability to adopt and year of request – 2020–2024

Motivation	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
absolute values					
Generic	421	403	413	341	384
Targeted	102	160	151	137	116
Specific	3	0	0	0	0
Not chosen	0	0	0	0	36
Total	526	563	564	478	536
percentage values					
Generic	80.0	71.6	73.2	71.3	71.6
Targeted	19.4	28.4	26.8	28.7	21.6
Specific	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Not chosen	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	6.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Number of children already in the family and number of children adopted – 2024

Number of children	Number of adopted children				as % of total
	1	2	3 or more	Total	
No children	336	99	23	458	85.4
One child	64	3	2	69	12.9
Two children and more	7	2	-	9	1.7
Total couples	407	104	25	536	100.0
Percentage values	75.9	19.4	4.7	100.0	

Families requesting authorization for the entry and residence in Italy of foreign children

Motivation for undertaking the adoption process – 2024

Motivation for adoption	abs. value	%
Minor was known	1	0.2
Adoptive desire	34	6.3
Generic impossibility	66	12.3
Impossibility of procreation	417	77.8
Not stated	18	3.4
Total	536	100.0

Number of children requested for adoption and year of application – 2020–2024

Number of adopted children	Year of request				
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
absolute values					
1	406	461	447	382	407
2	99	89	102	85	104
3 or more	21	13	15	11	25
Total	526	563	564	478	536
percentage values					
1	77.2	81.9	79.3	79.9	75.9
2	18.8	15.8	18.1	17.8	19.4
3 or more	4.0	2.3	2.7	2.3	4.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Families requesting authorization for the entry and residence in Italy of foreign children

Average time (in months) between the declaration of availability to adopt and the authorization to enter Italy, by country of origin – 2024

Country	Average time between assignment and matching	Average time between matching and entry clearance	Average time between appointment and authorisation to entry
Hungary	14.1	2.6	16.7
India	27.2	9.9	36.6
Colombia	21.6	3.7	25.2
Bulgaria	45.8	4.5	50.3
Brazil	18.9	3.0	22.0
Vietnam	39.6	3.0	42.6
Peru	26.8	3.0	29.8
Burundi	25.6	6.3	31.9
Congo	18.8	4.8	23.6
Sierra Leone	23.8	7.7	31.5
Thailand	35.7	3.0	38.7
Philippines	42.1	7.8	49.8
Haiti	38.3	10.7	49.0
Burkina faso	19.5	12.3	31.8
Total 39 countries	25.9	5.4	31.3

2

Children who were granted authorization to enter and reside in Italy by region of residence of the parents and competent Juvenile Court

Region of residence of adoptive parents. Absolute values and percentages – 2020–2024

Regions	2024					abs. value	as % of total
	2020	2021	2022	2023			
Lombardy	93	78	94	84	106	15.3	
Campania	70	69	106	73	88	12.7	
Puglia	56	71	62	40	64	9.3	
Veneto	51	54	41	56	63	9.1	
Tuscany	79	65	73	73	60	8.7	
Lazio	62	69	47	34	52	7.5	
Emilia-Romagna	36	46	43	32	41	5.9	
Calabria	51	35	40	31	41	5.9	
Sicily	34	39	13	31	37	5.4	
Marche	23	16	25	19	27	3.9	
Friuli-Venezia Giulia	13	8	16	11	24	3.5	
Piedmont and Aosta Valley	27	38	33	29	20	2.9	
Basilicata	16	14	12	8	17	2.5	
Abruzzo and Molise	20	22	19	21	14	2.0	
Umbria	9	12	23	11	13	1.9	
Sardinia	8	9	15	4	9	1.3	
Liguria	14	20	21	10	8	1.2	
Trentino-Alto Adige	7	15	15	18	6	0.9	
Total residents in Italy	669	680	698	585	690	99.9	
Residents abroad	0	0	0	0	1	0.1	
Total	669	680	698	585	691	100.0	

Children who were granted authorization to enter and reside in Italy

Juvenile Court of the adoptive parents' place of residence. Absolute values – 2020–2024

Courts	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	
					abs. value	as % of total
Milan	62	46	66	47	72	10.4
Naples	49	54	83	51	66	9.6
Venice	50	51	39	55	61	8.8
Florence	82	63	73	70	59	8.5
Rome	61	68	45	33	52	7.5
Bologna	36	46	42	31	42	6.1
Bari	35	32	25	23	37	5.4
Brescia	29	33	29	37	30	4.3
Ancona	23	16	26	19	27	3.9
Catanzaro	28	22	25	25	25	3.6
Trieste	14	11	18	13	25	3.6
Salerno	18	15	23	19	22	3.2
Turin	27	38	34	29	19	2.7
Reggio Calabria	23	13	15	7	19	2.7
Potenza	18	14	12	10	17	2.5
Messina and Caltanissetta	15	12	5	9	16	2.3
L'Aquila and Campobasso	20	22	19	21	14	2.0
Taranto	12	17	20	8	14	2.0
Palermo	14	16	8	12	14	2.0
Lecce	10	22	17	10	13	1.9
Perugia	9	12	23	13	13	1.9
Trento and Bolzano	7	15	15	18	10	1.4
Genoa	14	22	21	11	9	1.3
Cagliari and Sassari	8	9	15	4	8	1.2
Catania	5	11	0	10	7	1.0
Total residents in Italy	669	680	698	585	691	100.0
Residents abroad	0	0	0	0	0	0.0
Total	669	680	698	585	691	100.0

(a) For citizens resident abroad, reference is made to AIRE registration

Children who were granted authorization to enter and reside in Italy

Age group, gender, and year of entry – 2020–2024

Age groups	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
females					
< 1 year	-	0	-	-	4
1-4 years	73	57	83	68	84
5-9 years	156	170	189	140	193
10 years and over	52	52	46	34	58
Total	282	279	320	244	339
males					
< 1 year	0	1	1	5	5
1-4 years	115	106	127	105	89
5-9 years	217	232	203	192	199
10 years and over	55	62	47	39	59
Total	387	401	378	341	352
females and males					
< 1 year	-	-	3	7	9
1-4 years	188	163	210	173	173
5-9 years	373	402	392	332	392
10 years and over	107	114	93	73	117
Total	668	680	698	585	691
% females of total					
< 1 year	100.0	0.0	66.7	28.6	44.4
1-4 years	38.8	35.0	39.5	39.3	48.6
5-9 years	41.8	42.3	48.2	42.2	49.2
10 years and over	48.6	45.6	49.5	46.6	49.6
Total	42.2	41.0	45.8	41.7	49.1

Children who were granted authorization to enter and reside in Italy

Country of origin and year of entry – 2020–2024

Country of origin	Year of entry				
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
absolute values					
Hungary	86	81	103	97	149
Colombia	141	129	146	83	110
India	72	96	80	131	104
Brazil	26	14	18	20	38
Vietnam	15	16	46	32	37
Bulgaria	27	47	34	37	34
Peru	25	18	28	32	32
People's Republic of Congo	6	18	8	18	23
Sierra	0	-	5	13	18
Philippines	15	25	16	14	17
Burkina	18	17	16	14	13
Haiti	23	12	11	13	10
Russian Federation	28	40	44	5	0
Other countries	187	167	143	76	106
Total	669	680	698	585	691

Children who were granted authorization to enter and reside in Italy

Country of origin and gender – 2024

Country of origin	females	males	% females of total
Hungary	56	93	37.6
Colombia	63	47	57.3
India	64	40	61.5
Brazil	20	18	52.6
Vietnam	17	20	45.9
Bulgaria	21	13	61.8
Peru	13	19	40.6
Congo	10	13	43.5
Burundi	10	12	45.5
Sierra Leone	9	9	50.0
Philippines	10	7	58.8
Burkina faso	9	4	69.2
CHINA	5	8	38.5
Thailand	6	7	46.2
Haiti	3	7	30.0
Pakistan	4	4	50.0
Moldova	4	3	57.1
Poland	2	4	33.3
Other 19 countries	13	24	35.1
Total (37 countries)	339	352	49.1

Children who were granted authorization to enter and reside in Italy

Country of origin and average age at entry – 2024

Country of origin	average age at entry		
	females	males	totale
Hungary	7.6	7.0	7.2
Colombia	7.7	8.5	8.1
India	6.0	5.2	5.7
Brazil	9.4	10.0	9.7
Vietnam	5.8	6.7	6.3
Bulgaria	8.8	8.5	8.7
Peru	5.7	6.0	5.9
Congo	6.0	5.0	5.4
Burundi	7.9	6.5	7.1
Sierra Leone	5.6	6.9	6.3
Philippines	8.9	8.6	8.8
Burkina faso	4.7	4.4	4.6
CHINA	7.9	7.8	7.8
Thailand	5.3	3.7	4.4
Haiti	4.4	7.1	6.3
Pakistan	5.1	1.0	3.0
Moldova	9.4	11.4	10.3
Poland	5.6	6.7	6.3
Total (37 countries)	7.1	6.9	7.0

(a) Countries with more than 5 entry authorisations

Children who were granted authorization to enter and reside in Italy

Continent of origin and year of entry – 2020–2024

Continent of origin	Year of entry				
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
absolute values					
Africa	49	54	46	61	84
America	233	226	231	166	200
Asia	123	165	164	194	196
Europe	264	235	257	164	211
Total	669	680	698	585	691
percentage values					
Africa	7.3	7.9	6.6	10.4	12.2
America	34.8	33.2	33.1	28.4	28.9
Asia	18.4	24.3	23.5	33.2	28.4
Europe	39.5	34.6	36.8	28.0	30.5
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

Continent of origin and age group – 2024

Continent of origin	Age group					
	< 1 year	1-4 years	5-9 years	10 years and over	Total	average age
absolute values						
Africa	2	33	43	6	84	5.8
America		32	118	50	200	7.9
Asia	6	72	91	27	196	6.0
Europe	1	36	140	34	211	7.5
Total	9	173	392	117	691	7.0
percentage values						
Africa	2.0	39.0	51.0	7.0	100.0	
America	0.0	16.0	59.0	25.0	100.0	
Asia	3.0	37.0	46.0	14.0	100.0	
Europe	0.0	17.0	66.0	16.0	100.0	
Total	1.0	25.0	57.0	17.0	100.0	

Children who were granted authorization to enter and reside in Italy

Status of Country of origin with respect to the Hague Convention – 2024

Country status	absolute values	as % of total
Ratifying	594	86.0
Party	56	8.1
Signatory	4	0.6
None of the three	37	5.4
Total	691	100.0

Reason for being declared adoptable – 2024

Reason	Continent of origin				
	Africa	America	Asia	Europe	Total
absolute values					
Abandonment	75	142	184	124	525
Loss of parental responsibility	-	45	-	49	94
Relinquished	5	10	9	13	37
Registered in database	-	-	-	16	16
Orphan	1	-	-	4	5
not stated	3	3	3	5	14
Total	84	200	196	211	691
percentage values					
Abandonment	92.6	72.1	95.3	60.2	77.5
Loss of parental responsibility	-	22.8	-	23.8	13.9
Relinquished	6.2	5.1	4.7	6.3	5.5
Registered in database	-	-	-	7.8	2.4
Orphan	1.2	-	-	1.9	0.7
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

2.1

Children with special needs who were granted authorization to enter and reside in Italy

Type of special need identified – 2024

Special needs	abs. value	%
No	226	32.7
Yes	465	67.3
If yes, what		
over 7 years	208	44.7
physical, mental disabilities	70	15.1
groups of siblings	43	9.2
mental disorders, traumas of various nature	51	11.0
over 7 years and mental disorders, traumas of various nature	56	12.0
over 7 years and groups of siblings	23	4.9
other combinations of special needs	17	3.7
Total	691	100.0

Children with special needs who were granted authorization to enter and reside in Italy

Country of origin – 2024

Country of origin	total entries	including those with special needs	incidence of special needs on total entries
Hungary	149	108	72.5
Colombia	110	99	90.0
India	104	83	79.8
Brazil	38	33	86.8
Vietnam	37	14	37.8
Bulgaria	34	25	73.5
Peru	32	14	43.8
Congo	23	8	34.8
Burundi	22	13	59.1
Sierra Leone	18	5	27.8
Philippines	17	15	88.2
China	13	12	92.3
Moldova	7	7	100.0
Poland	6	5	83.3
Other countries	81	24	29.6
Total (37 countries)	691	465	67.3

(a) Countries with at least 5 cases of special needs.

Continent of origin – 2024

Continent of origin	total entries	Including those with special needs	Incidence of special needs on total entries
Africa	84	28	33.3
America	200	155	77.5
Asia	196	129	65.8
Europe	211	153	72.5
Total	691	465	67.3

Children with special needs who were granted authorization to enter and reside in Italy

Continent of origin and gender – 2024

Continent of origin	Females	Males	Total	% females of total
Africa	15	13	28	53.6
America	84	71	155.0	54.2
Asia	72	57	129.0	55.8
Europe	65	88	153.0	42.5
Total	236	229	465	50.8

Continent of origin and type of special need (percentage distribution) – 2024

Type of special need	Continent of origin			
	Africa	America	Asia	Europe
over 7 years	67.9	47.7	43.4	38.6
physical, mental disabilities	7.1	7.7	40.3	2.6
groups of siblings	25.0	10.3	-	11.1
mental disorders, traumas of various nature	0.0	12.9	7.8	13.7
other combinations of special needs	0.0	21.3	8.5	34.0
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

3 Adoptive families and adopted children by Accredited Bodies

Children who were granted authorization to enter and reside in Italy, by Accredited Bodies appointed by adoptive parents – 2024

Authorised Agencies	children	families
A.S.A. Associazione Solidarietà' Adozioni ets	71	50
C.I.F.A. Centro Internazionale per l'Infanzia e la Famiglia ets	62	42
Gruppo di volontariato solidarietà onlus	57	49
Associazione Ernesto Organizzazione di Volontariato ETS	41	32
Il Mantello (Associazione di volontariato per la famiglia e l'adozione)	35	28
A.I.A.U. Associazione In Aiuti Umanitari odv ets	33	24
Servizio Polifunzionale per l'Adozione Internazionale - S.P.A.I. - ets	33	20
Associazione Ariete ets	31	26
Nuova associazione di genitori insieme per l'adozione odv	28	17
Ai.bi. Amici dei bambini fondazione ente del terzo settore	27	19
International action aps	27	25
Centro adozioni la Maloca odv	24	23
N.A.A.A.- Network Aiuto Assistenza Accoglienza - ets - odv	24	20
Lo scoiattolo ets	20	18
Azione per famiglie nuove-onlus	18	15
Fondazione AVSI - ETS	18	13
Nuovi orizzonti per vivere l'adozione - Organizzazione di Volontariato	18	15
Associazione MEHALA- Sostegno Infanzia e Famiglia - ONLUS	12	10
Comunità di s. Egidio - acap associazione di promozione sociale	12	11
Famiglia insieme società cooperativa sociale	10	10
I bambini dell'arcobaleno - Organizzazione di Volontariato	10	9
Senza frontiere - ets	10	10
C.I.A.I. - Centro Italiano Aiuti all'Infanzia - ets	9	6
Servizio Regionale per le Adozioni Internazionali (SRAI) - Regione Piemonte	9	7
Istituto la casa ets	8	5
Associazione per l'Adozione Internazionale 'Brutia' - ets	7	7
Amici Missioni Indiane (AMI) ets	6	3
S.O.S. bambino international adoption - Associazione di Promozione Sociale (APS)	5	4
8 more Agencies	26	18
Total	691	536

(a) In decreasing order by number of adopted children

(b) Agencies with no less than 4 authorisation to enter Italy

Children who were granted authorization to enter and reside in Italy, by Accredited Bodies appointed by adoptive parents – 2024

Authorised Agencies	children	families
A.I.A.U. Associazione In Aiuti Umanitari odv ets	33	24
A.S.A. Associazione Solidarietà' Adozioni ets	71	50
Al.bi. Amici dei bambini fondazione ente del terzo settore	27	19
Amici Missioni Indiane (AMI) ets	6	3
Associazione Ariete ets	31	26
Associazione Ernesto Organizzazione di Volontariato ETS	41	32
Associazione MEHALA- Sostegno Infanzia e Famiglia - ONLUS	12	10
Associazione per l'Adozione Internazionale 'Brutia' - ets	7	7
Azione per famiglie nuove-onlus	18	15
C.I.A.I. - Centro Italiano Aiuti all'Infanzia - ets	9	6
C.I.F.A. Centro Internazionale per l'Infanzia e la Famiglia ets	62	42
Centro adozioni la Maloca odv	24	23
Comunità di s. Egidio - acap associazione di promozione sociale	12	11
Famiglia insieme società cooperativa sociale	10	10
Fondazione AVSI - ETS	18	13
Gruppo di volontariato solidarietà onlus	57	49
I bambini dell'arcobaleno - Organizzazione di Volontariato	10	9
Il Mantello (Associazione di volontariato per la famiglia e l'adozione)	35	28
International action aps	27	25
Istituto La casa ets	8	5
Lo scoiattolo ets	20	18
N.A.A.A.- Network Aiuto Assistenza Accoglienza - ets - odv	24	20
Nuova associazione di genitori insieme per l'adozione odv	28	17
Nuovi orizzonti per vivere l'adozione - Organizzazione di Volontariato	18	15
S.O.S. bambino international adoption - Associazione di Promozione Sociale (APS)	5	4
Senza frontiere - ets	10	10
Servizio Polifunzionale per l'Adozione Internazionale - S.P.A.I. - ets	33	20
Servizio Regionale per le Adozioni Internazionali (SRAI) - Regione Piemonte	9	7
8 more Agencies	26	18
Total	691	536

(a) In alphabetical order

(b) Agencies with no less than 4 entry authorisations

Children who were granted authorization to enter and reside in Italy, by Accredited Bodies appointed by adoptive parents and continent of origin – 2024

AFRICA	84
Gruppo di volontariato solidarietà onlus	45
Nuova associazione di genitori insieme per l'adozione odv	11
Fondazione AVSI - ETS	7
Servizio Regionale per le Adozioni Internazionali (SRAI) - Regione Piemonte	4
9 more Agencies	17

AMERICA	200
Servizio Polifunzionale per l'Adozione Internazionale - S.P.A.I. - ETS	31
Il Mantello (Associazione di volontariato per la famiglia e l'adozione)	25
Centro adozioni la Maloca odv	24
C.I.F.A. Centro Internazionale per l'Infanzia e la Famiglia ets	18
Nuovi orizzonti per vivere l'adozione - Organizzazione di Volontariato	16
Ai.bi. Amici dei bambini fondazione ente del terzo settore	14
Fondazione AVSI - ETS	10
Senza frontiere - ETS	10
Associazione Ariete - ETS	9
Istituto la casa ETS	8
N.a.a.a.- Network Aiuto Assistenza Accoglienza - ETS - odv	5
S.O.S. bambino international adoption - Associazione di Promozione Sociale (APS)	5
Amici Missioni Indiane (AMI) ETS	4
Associazione il Conventino - Onlus	4
Fondazione Patrizia Nidoli ETS	4
6 more Agencies	13

ASIA	196
C.I.F.A. Centro Internazionale per l'Infanzia e la Famiglia ETS	40
International action aps	27
Associazione Ariete - ETS	22
N.a.a.a.- Network Aiuto Assistenza Accoglienza - ETS - odv	17
Azione per famiglie nuove-onlus	15
Lo scoiattolo ETS	15
Associazione MEHALA- Sostegno Infanzia e Famiglia - ONLUS	10
I bambini dell'arcobaleno - Organizzazione di Volontariato	9
Comunità di s. Egidio - acap associazione di promozione sociale	8
Famiglia insieme società cooperativa sociale	8
C.I.A.I. - Centro Italiano Aiuti all'Infanzia - ets	6
Nuova associazione di genitori insieme per l'adozione odv	5
Ai.bi. Amici dei bambini fondazione ente del terzo settore	4
5 more Agencies	10

EUROPE	211
A.S.A. Associazione Solidarietà' Adozioni ets	71
Associazione Ernesto Organizzazione di Volontariato ETS	41
A.I.A.U. Associazione In Aiuti Umanitari odv ets	33
Nuova associazione di genitori insieme per l'adozione odv	12
Gruppo di volontariato solidarietà onlus	9
Il Mantello (Associazione di volontariato per la famiglia e l'adozione)	8
Ai.bi. Amici dei bambini fondazione ente del terzo settore	7
Associazione per l'Adozione Internazionale 'Brutia' - ets	7
I fiori semplici - Onlus	4
9 more Agencies	19

Grand total	691
(a) Agencies with no less than 4 entry authorisations	

