

## Supporting city openness

### Script

Madrid has a vibrant service and tourism as well as a modest industrial and construction sector. Like London and Dublin it has a rapidly growing young population much of which is attracted from outside the EU. This is something that is considered to be very important to maintaining Madrid's international status.

Integrating immigrants into the city has been treated as an opportunity rather than a challenge and the city has tried to invest in projects that will help deal with issues including the arrival of new groups of migrants, family reunification and the birth of children whose parents are from foreign countries.

Many of the immigrants to Spain come from other Spanish speaking countries in South America, such as Ecuador, Colombia, Bolivia and Peru. These four countries alone make up around 40% of Madrid's immigrant population, though many also come from Eastern European countries such as Romania, Moldova and Bulgaria.

Many of the immigrants who go to Madrid find work in domestic services, construction work, catering, commerce and agriculture.

The city has a strategic plan to help with the process of integration called the Madrid Plan for Intercultural Coexistence. This includes an information centre, help with access to housing, multi-lingual information services and language training.