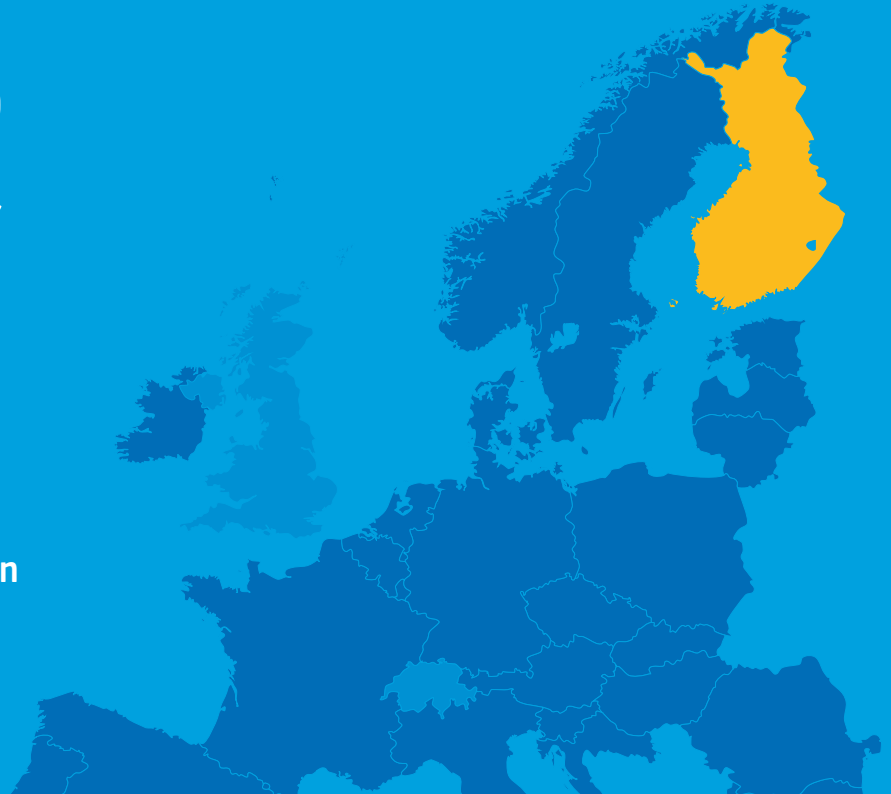


# FINLAND

## EMN COUNTRY FACTSHEET 2022

Main developments in migration  
and international protection,  
including latest statistics

August 2023



### LEGAL MIGRATION AND MOBILITY

In 2022, a multitude of developments promoted labour-based and education-based migration and streamlined entry procedures in Finland. The developments relating to specific migration processes form part of the overarching aim to double work-based immigration and triple the number of new foreign degree students by 2030, as stated in [the government's Roadmap](#) for education-based and work-based immigration 2035.

#### Work-related migration

A number of developments sought to speed up and smooth the residence permit process for work-related migration. A [fast-track service](#) was launched to enable highly qualified workers and their family members to obtain a residence permit within 14 days. A long-term visa (D visa) was also introduced, allowing the same categories of migrants to travel to Finland immediately after receiving their residence permit, without having to wait for a residence permit card abroad. This facilitates the recruitment of experts and enhances Finland's attractiveness. The long-term visa became applicable gradually: from June 2022 for [specialists, start-up entrepreneurs and their family members](#), and from December 2022 for [managers, students and researchers](#). The residence permit process was streamlined at the Finnish Immigration

### KEY POINTS



Over 45 000 people fleeing Ukraine were granted temporary protection under the EU Temporary Protection Directive in Finland in 2022.



A multitude of developments to promote labour-based and education-based migration and streamline entry procedures in Finland. Actions included legislative, practical and technical developments.



Legislative amendments to prepare for hybrid influence activities that exploit migration.

Service to process applications in a faster, smoother and more transparent manner. This was particularly necessary for fast-track residence permits which are to be processed within 14 days. Other employment-based permits are to be issued within 30 days of application.<sup>1</sup>

The 'Work in Finland' function brought together state-level actors and measures supporting international recruitment and work-based immigration. [Workinfinland.com](#) is Finland's official website for talent attraction, simplifying recruitment, job search and relocation. It offers Finnish companies a platform to advertise jobs to find

<sup>1</sup> Finnish Immigration Service, Permit and Nationality Unit, Employment and Student Section, email of 19 January 2023.

international talent and provides job seekers with information on working in Finland.<sup>2</sup>

These developments all feed into the same goal of increasing labour-based migration in Finland.

### Students and researchers

Facilitated immigration rules for students entered into force in April 2022. According to a [legislative amendment](#), students will now be granted a residence permit for the entire duration of their studies. In addition, their right to work during their studies was increased from 25 to 30 hours a week. The so-called jobseeker's permit – granted to students who have completed a degree and to researchers who have completed their research – was extended from one year to two years. A [long-term \(D\) visa](#) was introduced for students, researchers and their family members to streamline their entry procedures.

These changes aim to make Finland more attractive for international students, streamline the processing of their applications, and improve their chances of finding employment after graduation, in line with the government's strategy.

### Family reunification

A [legislative amendment](#) of 20 December 2022 removed the requirement of sufficient financial resources for granting a residence permit to the family member of a minor who is a beneficiary of international protection in Finland. In addition, the definition of a minor was specified in matters concerning residence permits on the basis of family ties: the status of being a minor is now determined according to the date on which the family reunification application is submitted, rather than the date on which the decision is made, i.e. it no longer depends on the length of the application processing period. The amendment is based on a [Court of Justice of the European Union \(CJEU\) judgment](#). The legislative amendment will formally enter into force in February 2023, albeit it was in practice already in 2022.

### Other measures

The [long-term \(D\) visa was extended](#) to residence permit holders residing abroad whose residence permit card was lost, stolen or had expired.



## TEMPORARY PROTECTION

### Main national developments in relation to temporary protection

On 7 March 2022, the [Finnish government adopted a decision](#) to grant temporary protection to a more extensive group than that defined in the EU-wide decision.

The well-being and livelihood of beneficiaries of temporary protection is secured with reception services until the person is entitled to residence in Finland. To ensure that beneficiaries of temporary protection have access to services in all situations, amendments were made to the

[Integration Act](#) and the [Reception Act](#) on 20 December 2022. The amendments will clarify the end of the reception services where a person with a temporary protection permit receives residence, at which time they have the same right to municipal services as any permanent Finnish resident. The amendments will enter into force on 1 March 2023.<sup>3</sup>

On 29 December 2022, Finland made a [temporary amendment to the Aliens Act](#) to ensure the validity of residence permits for beneficiaries of temporary protection for as long as the temporary protection is in effect in the EU. This temporary amendment entered into force on 19 January 2023 and is valid until 4 March 2025.



## INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION

### Legislative and policy developments related to international protection

From 15 September 2022, [legislative amendments](#) enabled Finland to make use of the [support from the European Union Agency for Asylum \(EUAA\)](#) as smoothly as possible in the event of a mass influx of migrants. On 15 July 2022, [amendments](#) to the Border Guard Act [prepared for hybrid influence activities](#) that exploit migration. In future, the reception of asylum applications can be centralised at separately designated border crossing points at Finland's national border. A [legislative proposal](#) introducing the [border procedure](#) was submitted to the parliament in June 2022. The border procedure could be introduced by a decision of the government, if an exceptionally large number of people were to arrive in Finland over a short period of time or if hybrid influence activities that exploit migration were directed against Finland.

### Relocation and resettlement<sup>4</sup>

People determined to be refugees by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and suggested for resettlement in Finland can be admitted to Finland as quota refugees. Finland increased its refugee quota from 1 050 to 1 500, in response to the situation in Afghanistan. This is the highest level of resettlements to date and includes an additional quota for 450 Afghan refugees.



## MINORS AND OTHER VULNERABLE GROUPS

### Minors

Based on a [CJEU judgment](#), a [legislative amendment](#) adopted on 20 December 2022 specified the definition of a minor in matters concerning residence permits on the basis of family ties. The status of being a minor is now determined according to the date on which

<sup>2</sup> Ministry of Employment and Economy, email of 20 January 2023.

<sup>3</sup> Ministry of the Interior, Department of Immigration, email of 30 January 2023; Government Proposal 135/2022.

<sup>4</sup> Includes Humanitarian Admission Programmes

the family reunification application is submitted, rather than the date on which the decision is made, i.e. it does not depend on the length of the application processing period. The same legislative amendment removed the requirement for sufficient financial resources for granting a residence permit to the family member of a minor who is a beneficiary of international protection in Finland. The legislative amendments will enter into force in February 2023, but were applied from 2022.

If one family member is deported, the reasons for deportation are given to the family member (spouse or child) in a separate document, guaranteeing those family members the right to appeal the decision. This stems from a [judgment of the Supreme Administrative Court](#) founded on the principle of family unity and best interests of the child.



## INTEGRATION

### National integration strategy

Integration legislation is being reformed. In October 2022, the government proposed a [new Act on the Promotion of Immigrant Integration](#) (Integration Act), which would enter into force in 2025. The reform aims to strengthen the inclusion of immigrants in society and promote integration more efficiently. Another goal is to increase equality and well-being and advance good relations between population groups, including facilitating the pathway towards employment and improving immigrant women's – and others outside the labour force – access to services.

Education and training of adults/labour market and skills

[New principles of the curriculum for integration training](#) were published in February 2022. The providers of integration training use this core curriculum to draw up more detailed plans on teaching and guidance.<sup>5</sup>



## CITIZENSHIP AND STATELESSNESS

### Acquisition of citizenship

In spring 2022, a [government proposal](#) to amend the Nationality Act was submitted to parliament. It seeks to clarify the current provisions and technical amendments without easing or restricting the acquisition of citizenship. For example, a child would always acquire Finnish citizenship directly by virtue of the Act at the time of birth if the child's mother or father was a Finnish citizen, while a child adopted by a Finnish citizen would also always directly acquire Finnish citizenship. The proposal is still under consideration.

### Statelessness

According to the same government proposal, the [definition of a stateless person in the Nationality Act](#) would be amended from the current two definitions

– 'involuntarily stateless' and 'voluntarily stateless' – to a single definition.



## BORDERS, SCHENGEN AND VISAS

### Border management

COVID-19 restrictions were removed from [internal Schengen borders](#) in January 2022 and from [external borders](#) in July 2022.

In July 2022, [legislative amendments](#) to the Border Guard Act sought to prepare for [incidents](#) such as hybrid influence activities that exploit migration by clarifying when a border crossing point can be closed or border traffic limited. The amendments enable the centralisation of asylum applications to one or more border crossing points where necessary to prevent a serious threat to public order, national security or public health. Such situations may include an exceptionally high number of immigrants in a short period of time or instrumentalisation of migration by a state or some other party. Supplementary provisions were added on building barriers in the border zone and temporarily transferring property to the Border Guard in return for compensation.

A [government Resolution](#) sought to strongly [restrict the entry](#) of Russian tourists into Finland from 30 September 2022. It aimed to end tourism and related transit from Russia entirely. The Finnish government deemed that in light of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine, Russian mobilisation and the rapidly increasing volume of tourists arriving in Finland and transiting via Finland endangered its international position and international relations. The Resolution affected border management by creating new guidelines to assess where Russian citizens fulfil the entry conditions.

### Visa policy

The [government Resolution](#) to strongly [restrict entry](#) of Russian tourists into Finland from 30 September 2022 affected visa policy by severely limiting the reception of visa applications in Russia and creating new guidelines to assess the validity of visas of Russian citizens.

### Schengen governance

[National legislation](#) was adopted to complement Schengen Information System (SIS) regulations. The legislative amendments will enter into force by government decree once the European Commission adopts a decision setting the start date for SIS operations.



## TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS

### National strategic policy developments

The implementation of the national [Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings](#), adopted in May 2021, will continue until 2023. Overall, the implementation of the Action Plan has gone as planned. Only a small number of actions are late or will not be carried out.

### Identification and information to victims of trafficking in human beings

In December 2022, [legislative amendments](#) were approved, improving the status of victims of trafficking in human beings. The [help provided through the assistance system](#) no longer depends on the progress of the criminal proceedings related to human trafficking. This is expected to have a particular impact on vulnerable victims who were previously afraid to seek help from the authorities. The legislative amendments entered into force on 1 January 2023.



## STATISTICAL ANNEX

The statistical annex available on the next pages complements the Country Factsheet and provides an overview of the latest available statistics for Finland on aspects of migration and international protection. It was prepared by Eurostat and it is organised in ten thematic sections, including legal residence, temporary protection, asylum, unaccompanied minors, integration, irregular migration, return and visas. The dashboard-like layout of the annex allows comparability across countries as well as simultaneous visualisation of different indicators.

The data presented in the annex were extracted on 8 May 2023, with the exception of data on first-time applicants extracted on 7 June 2023. They cover the period 2019-2022. Since 2022 data were not available at the time of publication for certain datasets, in these cases the period 2019-2021 is covered.

For some indicators, data are rounded at the source. Due to this, in some cases, the sum of percentages or of individual values might not add up to 100 or to the total value.

A 'How to read the statistical annex' guide, describing each individual chart and providing links to the data sources, is available [here](#).

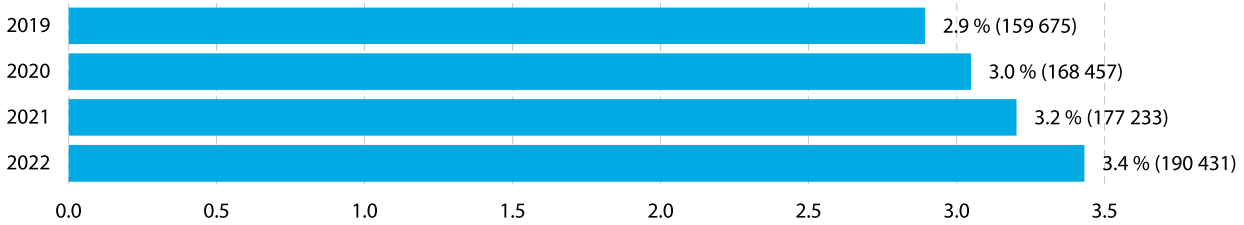
An online data code available under each table/figure can be used to directly access to the most recent data on [Eurostat's website](#).



## LEGAL MIGRATION AND MOBILITY

### Third-country nationals, 1 January 2019–2022

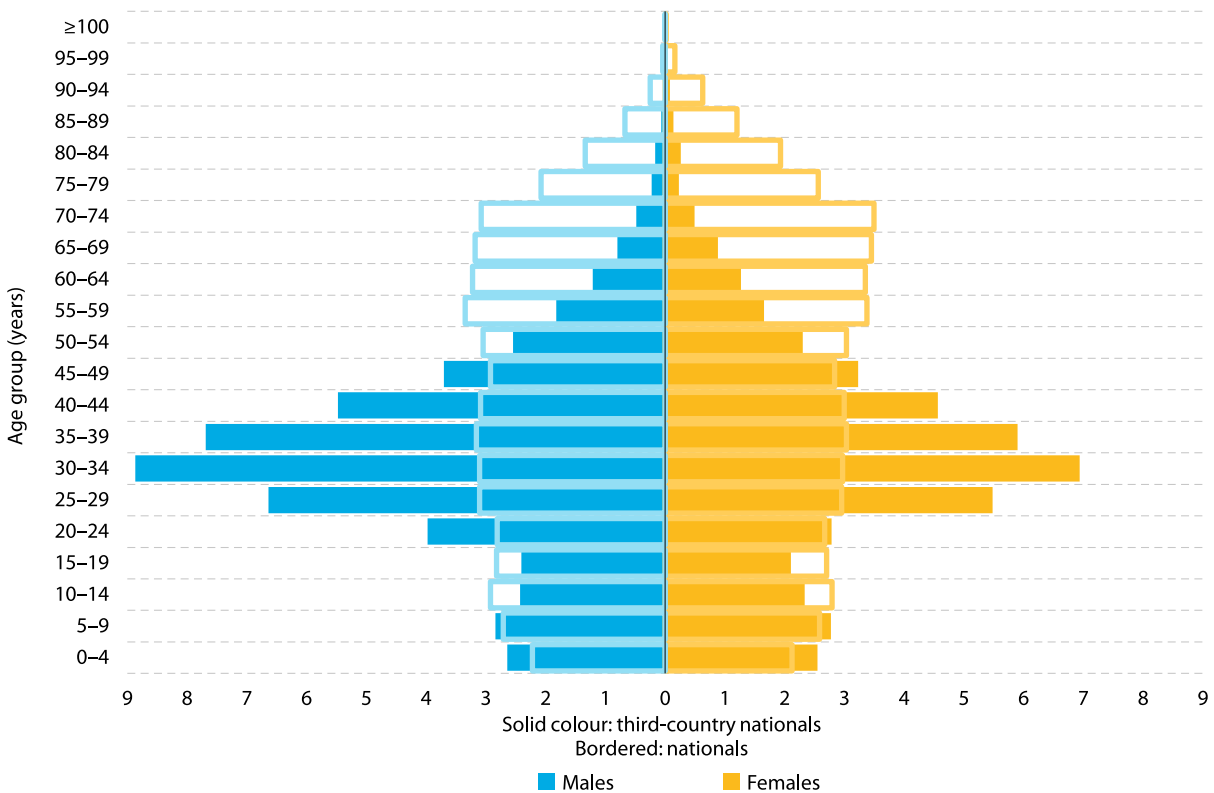
Share of the total population in % (and the absolute number)



Source: Eurostat (migr\_pop1ctz)

### Age structure of nationals and third-country nationals, 1 January 2022

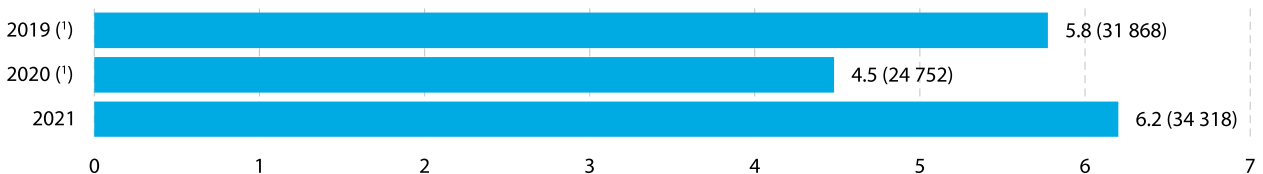
%



Source: Eurostat (migr\_pop1ctz)

### First residence permits issued to third-country nationals, 2019–2021

Number per 1 000 people (and the absolute number)

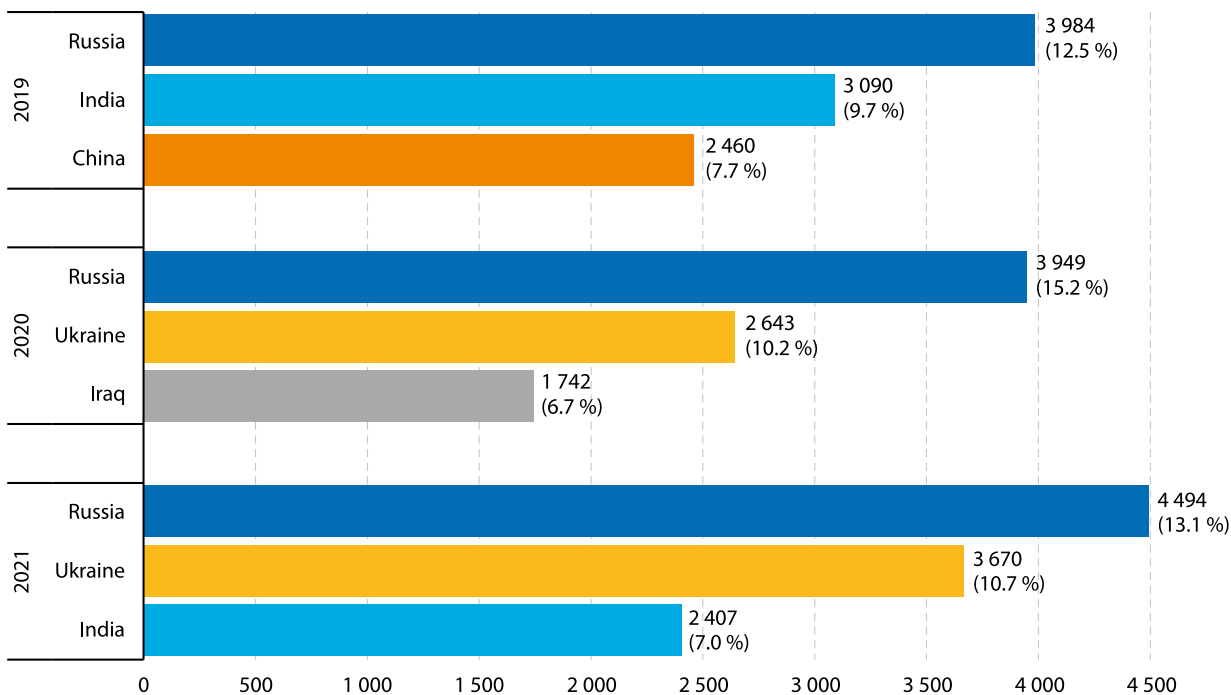


(¹) Subject to revision.

Source: Eurostat (migr\_resfirst and migr\_pop1ctz)

### Top 3 countries whose citizens received first residence permits, 2019–2021

Absolute number (and the share in total number)

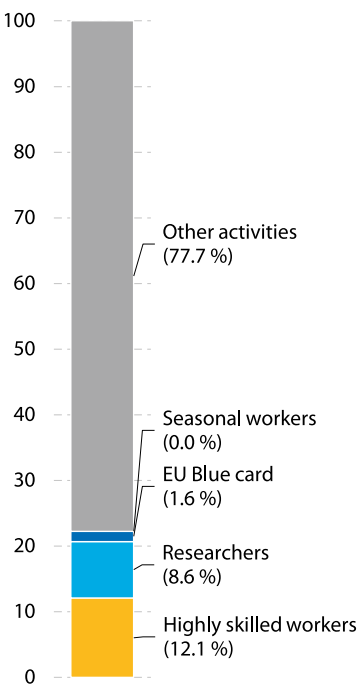


Source: Finnish Immigration Service

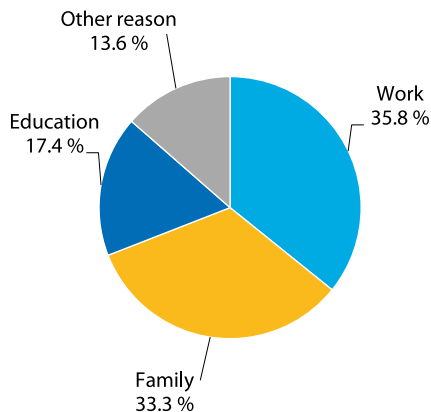
### First residence permits issued, distribution by reason or type, 2021

%

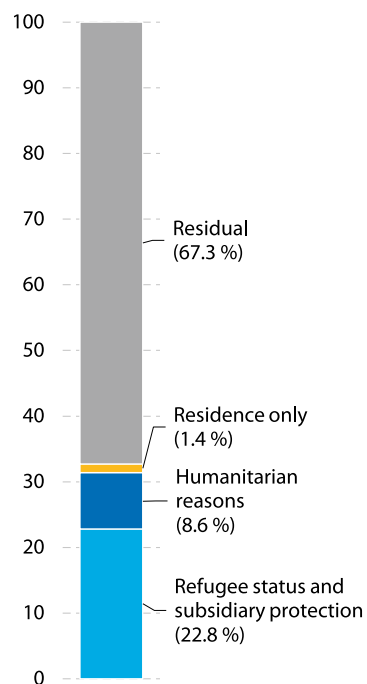
#### Work reason, by type



#### All permits, by reason



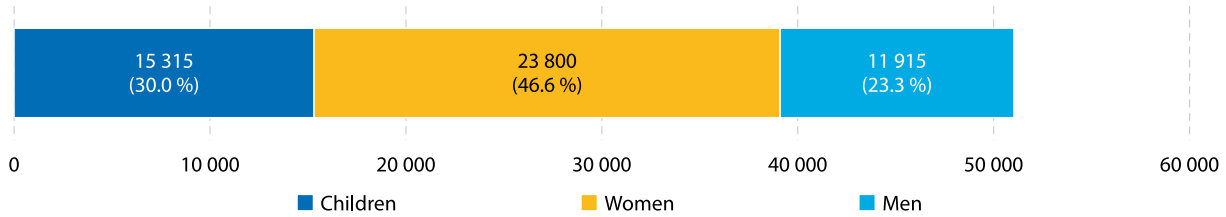
#### Other reason, by detailed reason



Source: Eurostat (migr\_resfirst, migr\_resoccc and migr\_resoth)

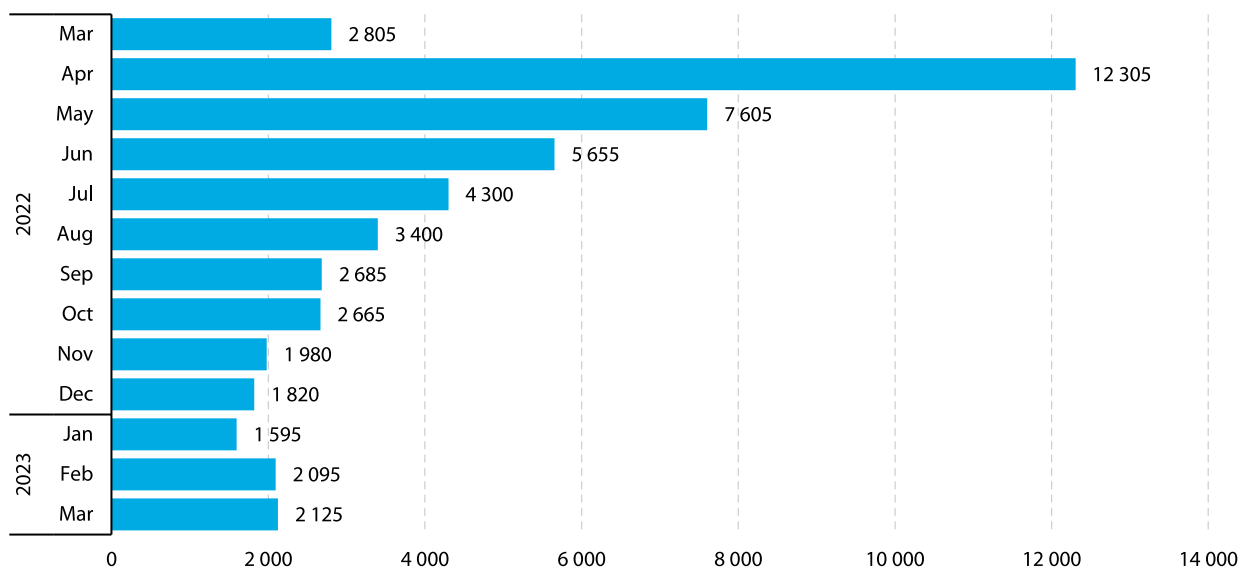
## TEMPORARY PROTECTION

Third-country nationals who fled Ukraine and were benefitting from temporary protection at the end of March 2023  
Absolute number (and the share within the total)



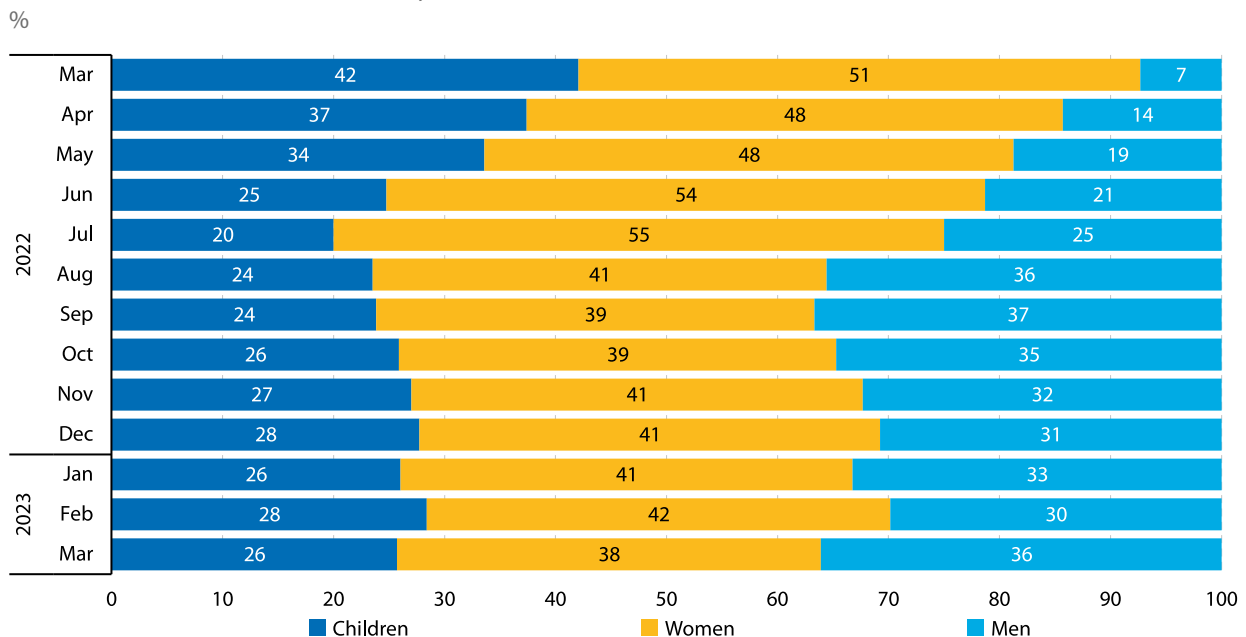
Source: Eurostat (migr\_asytpsm)

Number of decisions granting temporary protection to third-country nationals displaced from Ukraine due to Russia's invasion, March 2022–March 2023



Source: Eurostat (migr\_asytpfm)

Distribution by age and sex of decisions granting temporary protection to third-country nationals displaced from Ukraine due to Russia's invasion, March 2022–March 2023



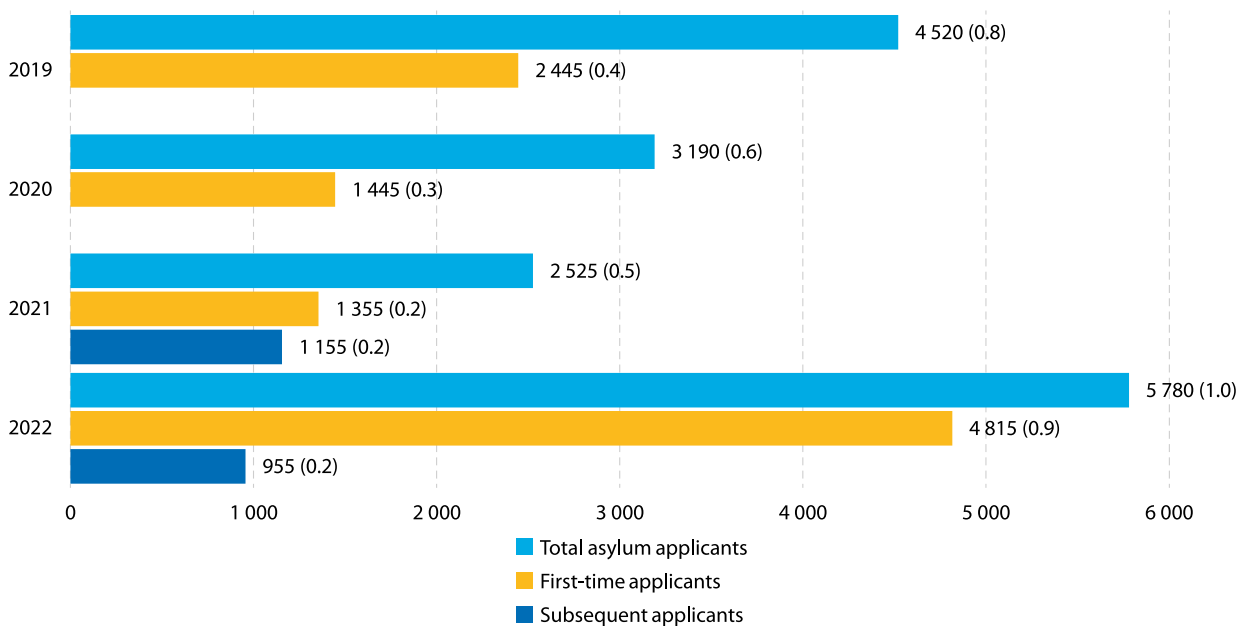
Source: Eurostat (migr\_asytpfm)



## INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION INCLUDING ASYLUM

### Asylum applicants (third-country nationals), by type of application, 2019–2022

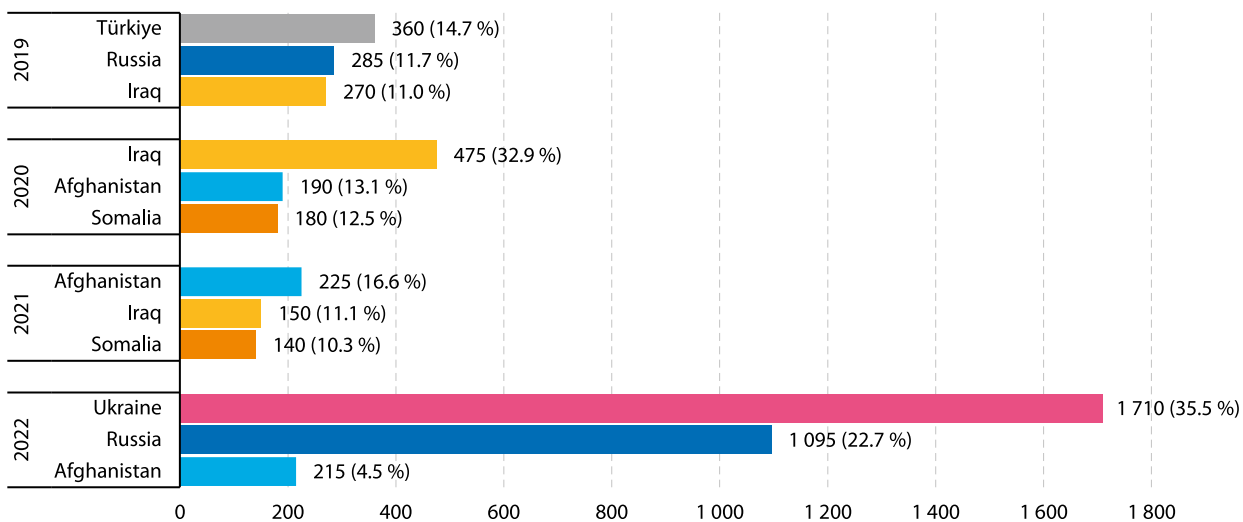
Absolute number (and the number per 1 000 people)



Source: Eurostat (migr\_asyappctza and migr\_pop1ctz)

### Top 3 countries of citizenship – first-time asylum applicants, 2019–2022

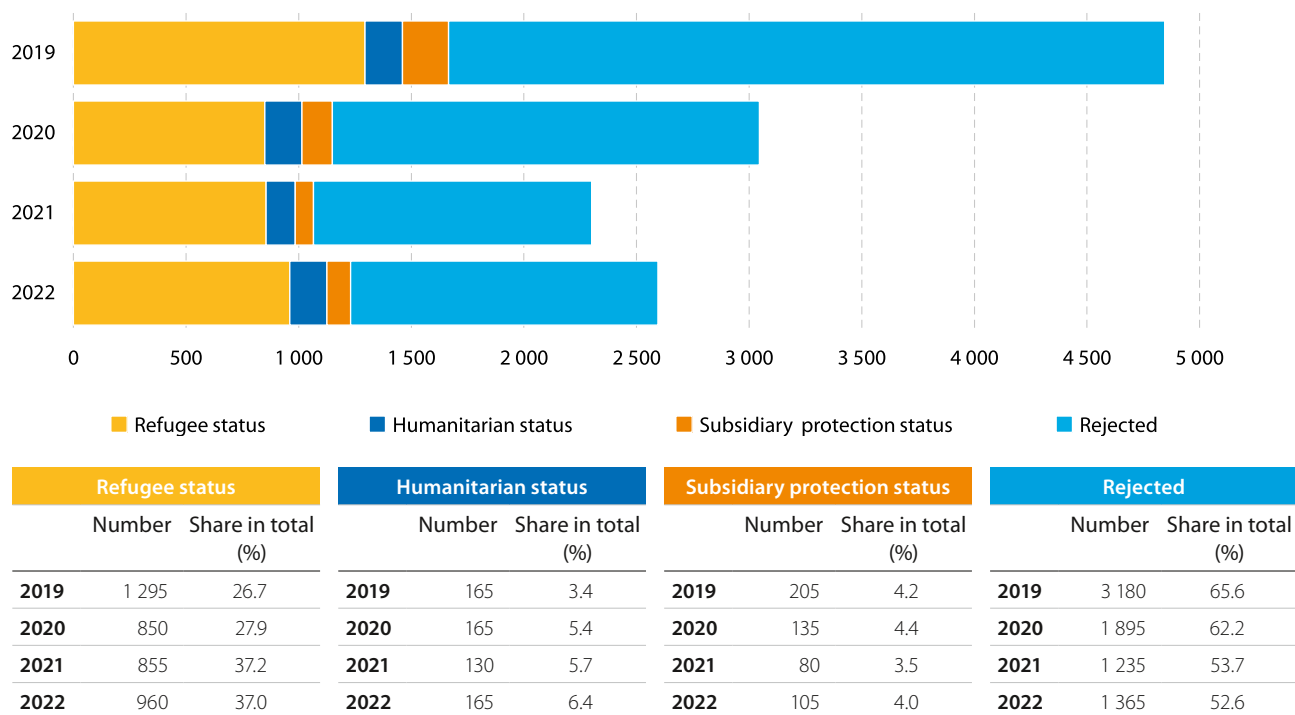
Absolute number (and the share in total number of first-time applicants)



Source: Eurostat (migr\_asyappctza)



### Number of first instance asylum decisions for third-country nationals, by outcome, 2019–2022

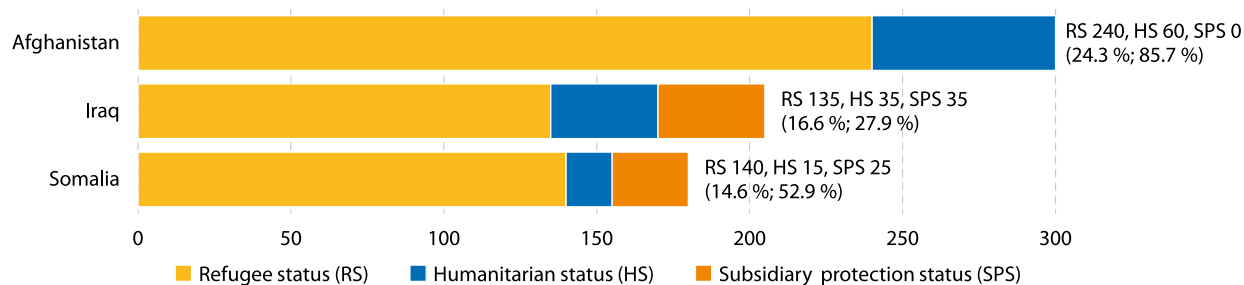


Note: the shares are calculated using the sum of the four outcomes as the denominator.

Source: Eurostat ([migr\\_asydcfsta](#))

### Top 3 countries of citizenship granted positive asylum decisions at first instance, by outcome, 2022

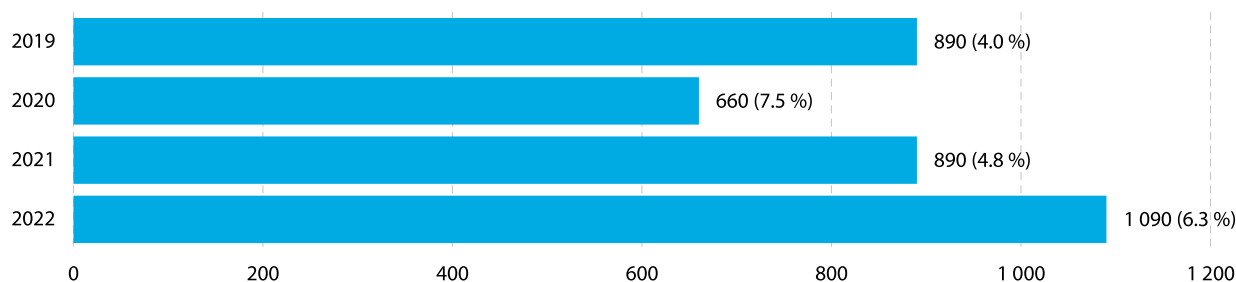
Absolute number (and share in total positive decisions; and the recognition rate)



Source: Eurostat ([migr\\_asydcfsta](#))

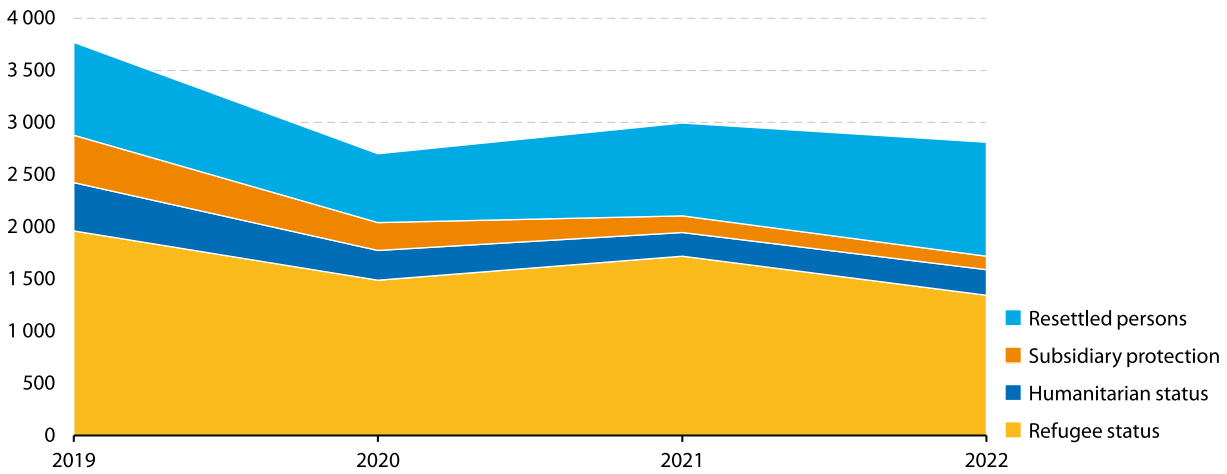
### Resettled third-country nationals, 2019–2022

Absolute number (and the share of the total resettled within the EU)



Source: Eurostat ([migr\\_asyresa](#))

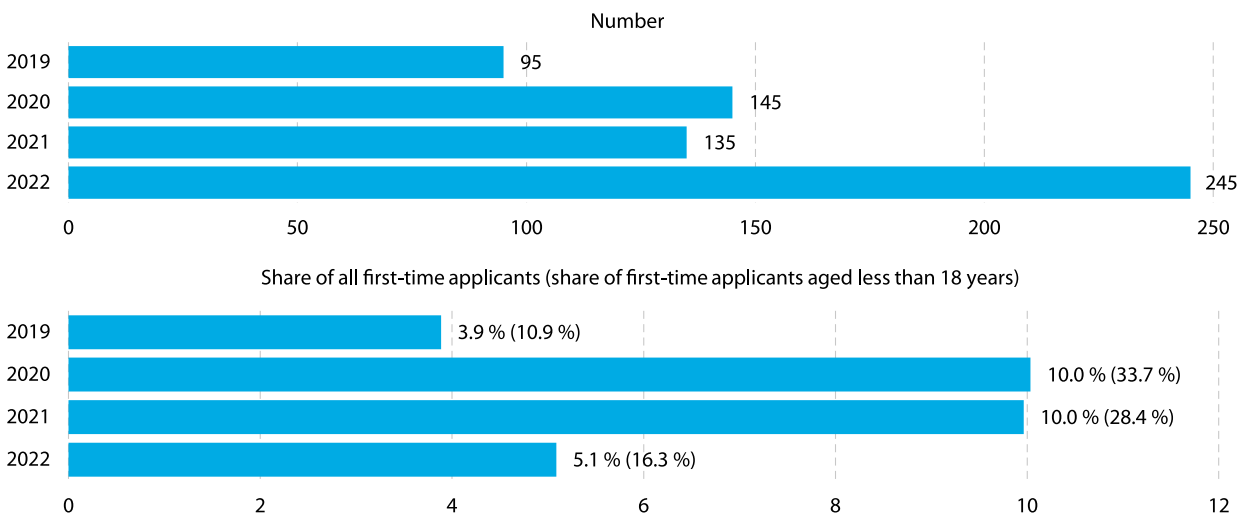
Number of positive decisions for third-country nationals, by outcome, 2019–2022



Source: Eurostat (migr\_asydcfsta, migr\_asydcfina and migr\_asyresa)

## UNACCOMPANIED MINORS

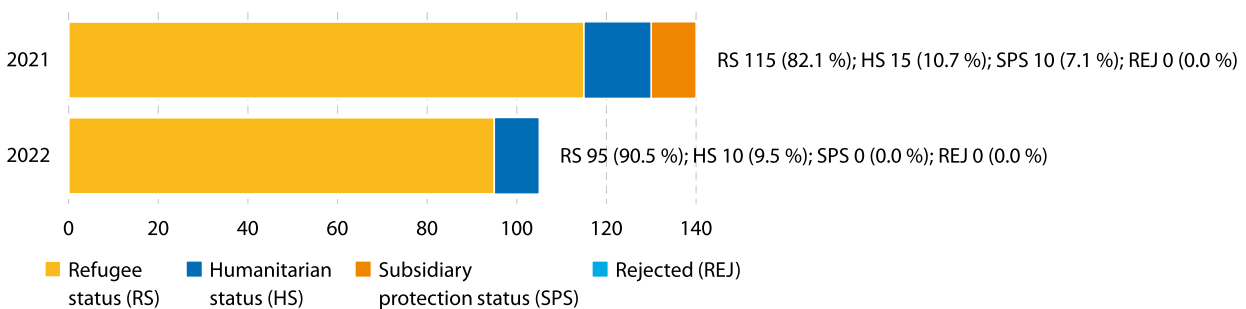
Unaccompanied minors (third-country nationals) applying for asylum, 2019–2022



Source: Eurostat (migr\_asyunaa and migr\_asyappctza)

First instance asylum decisions on applications lodged by unaccompanied minors (third-country nationals), by outcome, 2021 and 2022

Absolute number (and the share in the total)



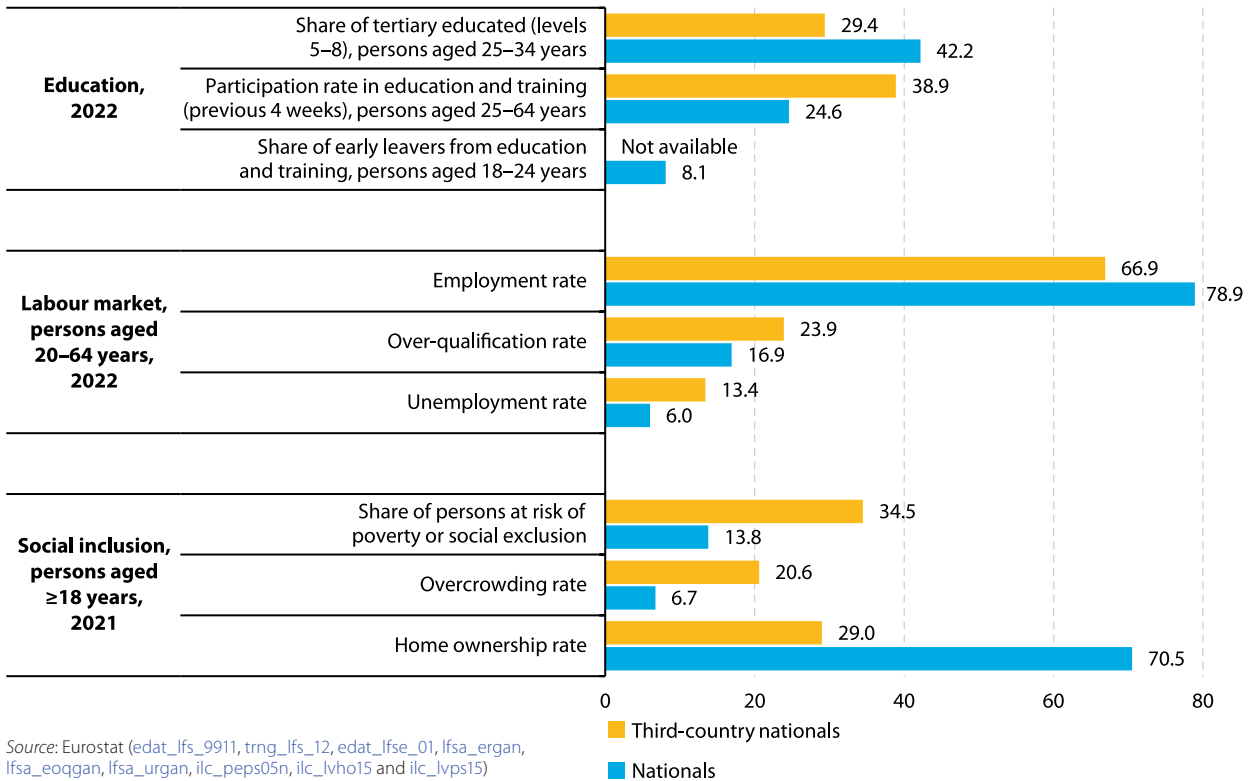
Source: Eurostat (migr\_asyumdcfq)



## INTEGRATION

### Integration indicators, 2021 or 2022

%



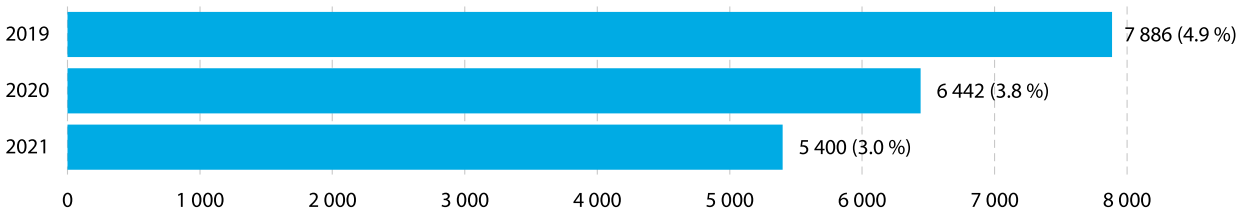
Source: Eurostat (edat\_lfs\_9911, trng\_lfs\_12, edat\_lfse\_01, lfsa\_ergan, lfsa\_eoqgan, lfsa\_urgan, ilc\_peps05n, ilc\_lvho15 and ilc\_lvps15)



## CITIZENSHIP AND STATELESSNESS

### Third-country nationals who acquired citizenship, 2019–2021

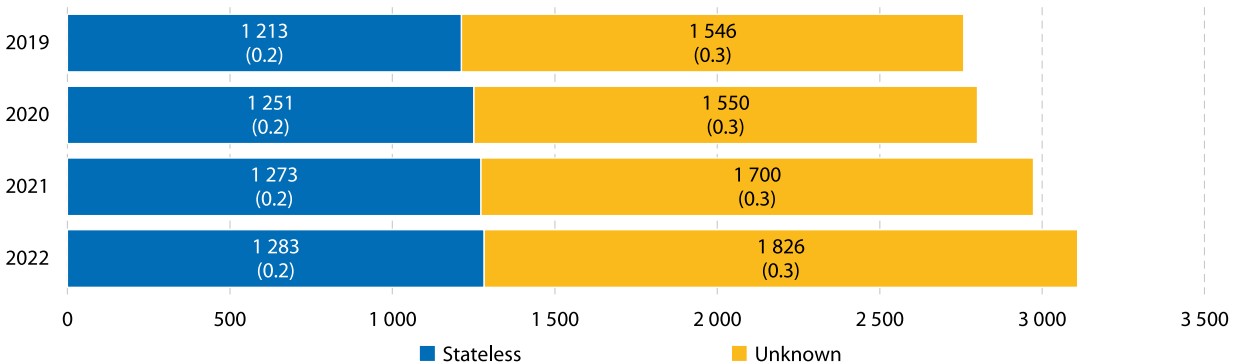
Absolute number (and share of total third-country nationals in the country)



Source: Eurostat (migr\_acq and migr\_pop1ctz)

### Stateless persons, persons with unknown citizenship and recognised non-citizens, 2019–2022

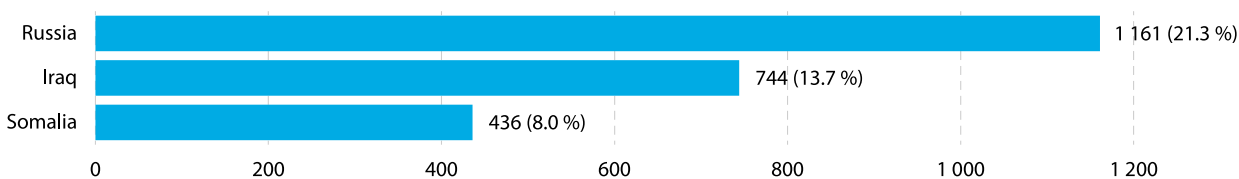
Absolute number (and the number per 1 000 people)



Source: Eurostat (migr\_pop1ctz)

### Top 3 countries of previous non-EU citizenships of persons acquiring citizenship, 2021

Absolute number (and the share of all acquisitions by third-country nationals plus stateless)



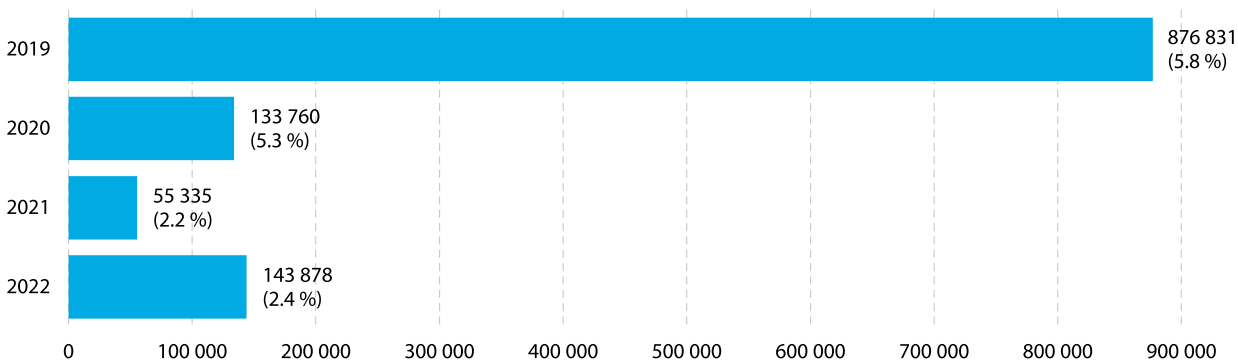
Source: Eurostat (migr\_acq)



## BORDERS, SCHENGEN AND VISAS

### Schengen uniform short-stay visas issued, 2019–2022

Absolute number (and the share of all uniform short-stay visas issued within the Schengen Area)

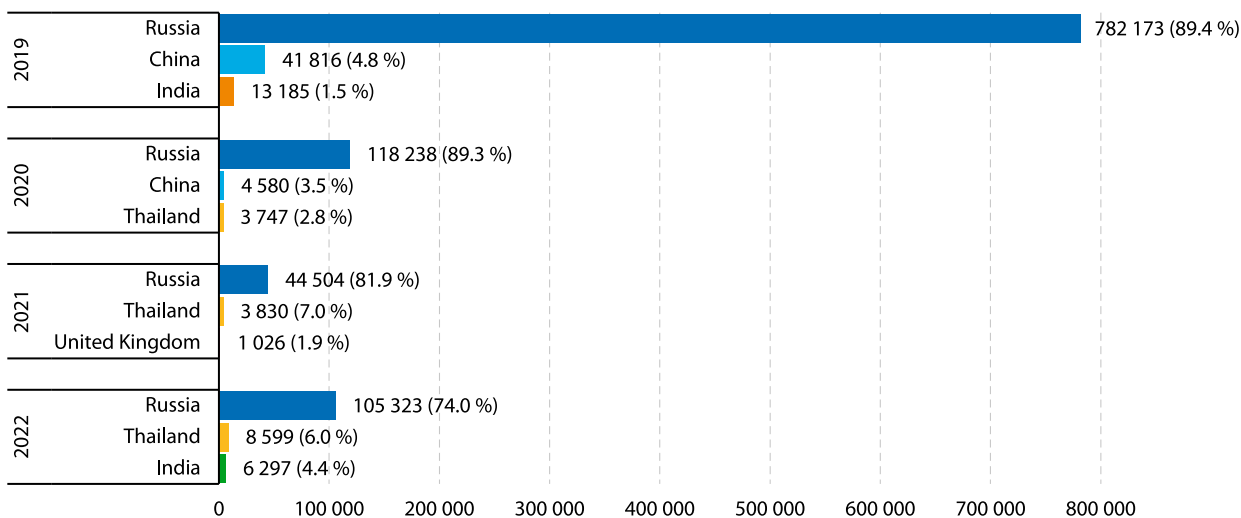


Note: Bulgaria, Ireland, Croatia, Cyprus and Romania were not part of the Schengen Area. Uniform short-stay visas (C visas) entitle the holder to stay in the territories of all Schengen States for up to 90 days within a 180-day period. Such visas may be issued for the purpose of a single entry or multiple entries.

Source: Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs

### Three consulate countries in which the most Schengen uniform short-stay visas were issued, 2019–2022

Number of uniform short-stay visas issued (and the share of all uniform short-stay visas issued in consulate countries)



Note: the consulate country might not be the same as the country of citizenship of the visa applicant.

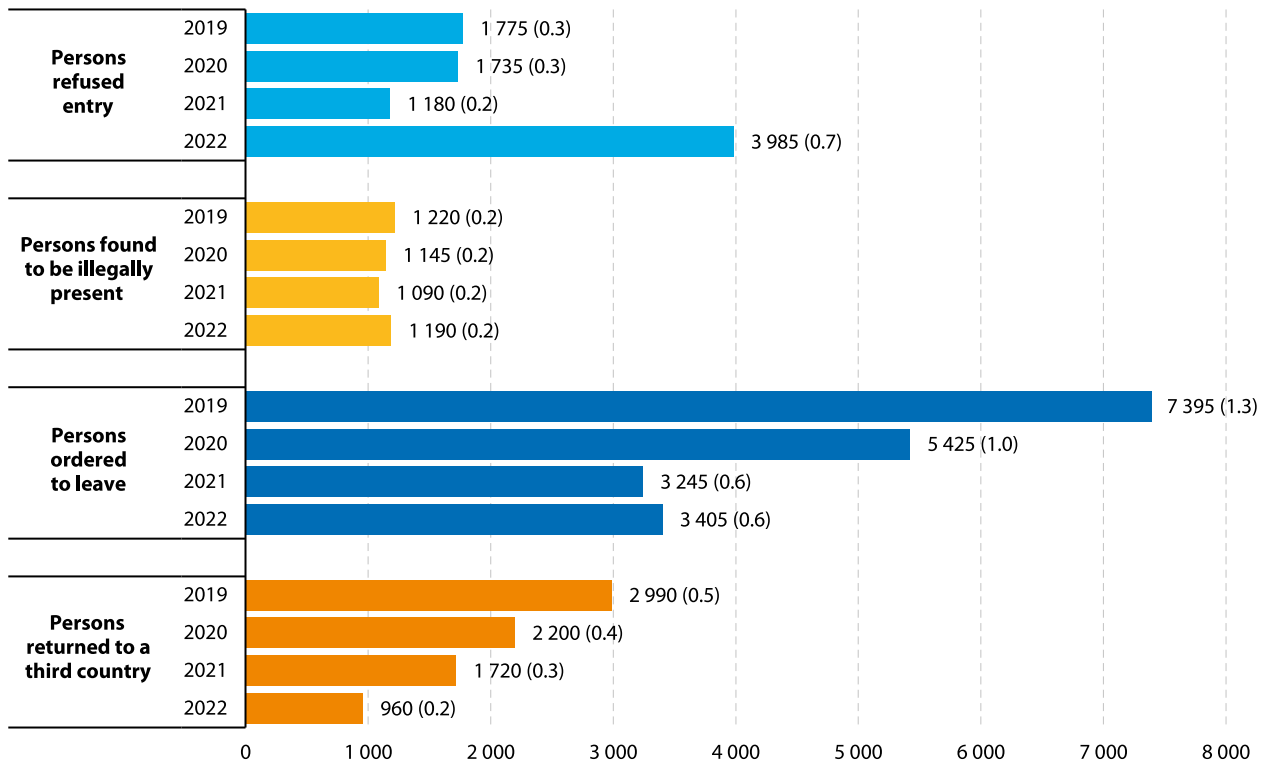
Source: Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs



## IRREGULAR MIGRATION

### Third-country nationals subject to immigration law enforcement, 2019–2022

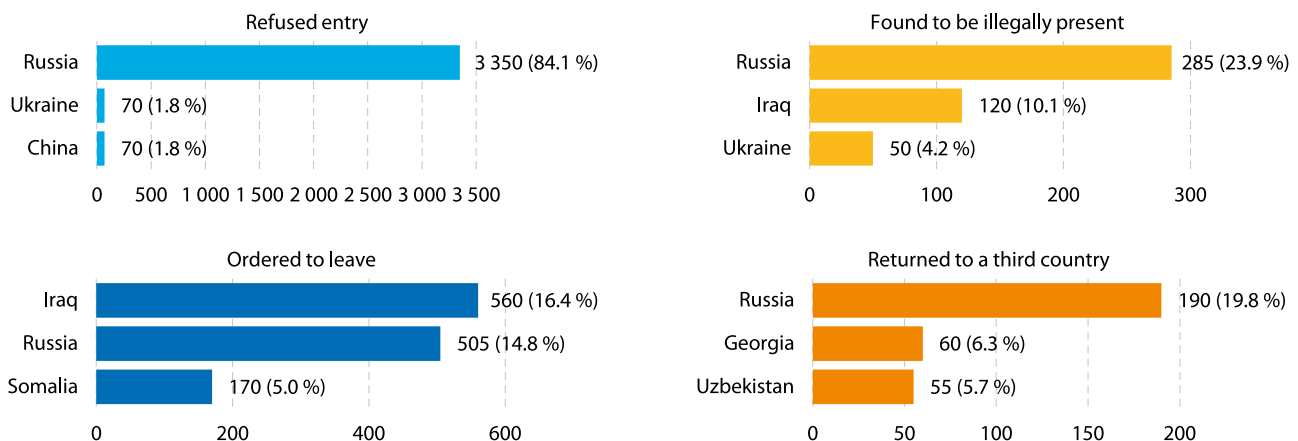
Absolute number (and the number per 1 000 people)



Source: Eurostat ([migr\\_eirfs](#), [migr\\_eipre](#), [migr\\_eiord](#), [migr\\_eirtn](#) and [migr\\_pop1ctz](#))

### Top 3 countries of citizenship of third-country nationals subject to immigration law enforcement, 2022

Absolute numbers (and the shares in the respective totals)



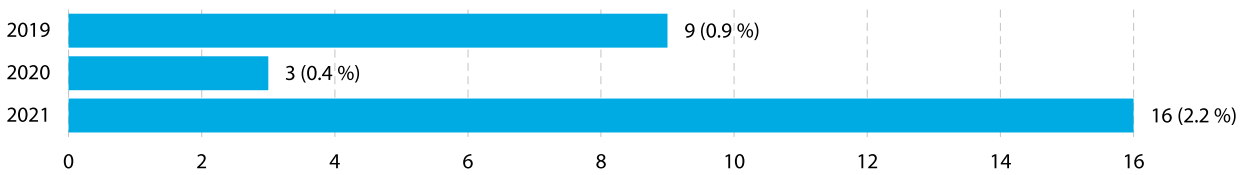
Source: Eurostat ([migr\\_eirfs](#), [migr\\_eipre](#), [migr\\_eiord](#) and [migr\\_eirtn](#))



## TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS

### First residence permits issued to victims of trafficking in human beings, 2019–2021

Absolute number (and the share within the EU)



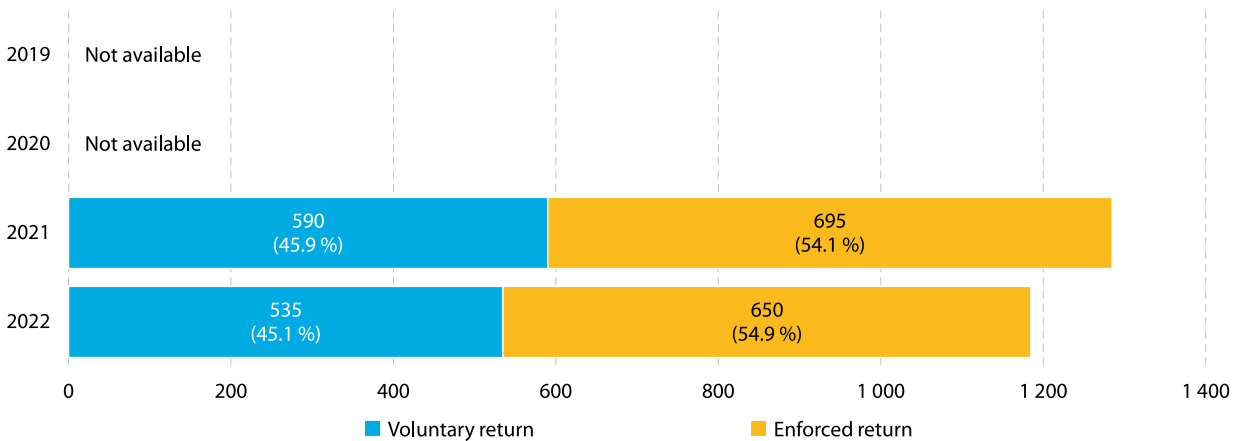
Source: Eurostat (migr\_resoth)



## RETURN AND READMISSION

### Third-country nationals who left the territory, by type of return, 2019–2022

Absolute number (and the share within the total)

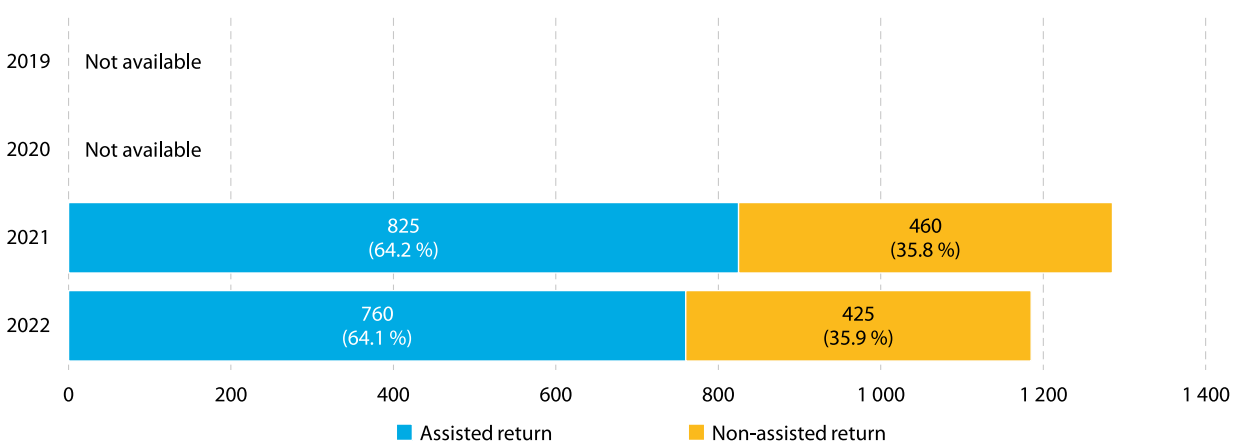


Note: data for 2019 and 2020 are from migr\_eirt\_vol. Data for 2021 and 2022 are from migr\_eirtn1.

Source: Eurostat (migr\_eirt\_vol and migr\_eirtn1)

### Third-country nationals who left the territory, by type of assistance received, 2019–2022

Absolute number (and the share within the total)



Note: data for 2019 and 2020 are from migr\_eirt\_ass. Data for 2021 and 2022 are from migr\_eirtn1.

Source: Eurostat (migr\_eirt\_ass and migr\_eirtn1)

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- at the following standard number: +32 22999696,
- via the following form: [european-union.europa.eu/contact-eu/write-us\\_en](https://european-union.europa.eu/contact-eu/write-us_en).

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### EU law and related documents

For access to legal information from the EU, including all EU law since 1951 in all the official language versions, go to EUR-Lex ([eur-lex.europa.eu](https://eur-lex.europa.eu)).

### EU open data

The portal [data.europa.eu](https://data.europa.eu) provides access to open datasets from the EU institutions, bodies and agencies. These can be downloaded and reused for free, for both commercial and non-commercial purposes. The portal also provides access to a wealth of datasets from European countries.



## For more information

EMN website: <http://ec.europa.eu/emn>

EMN LinkedIn page: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/european-migration-network>

EMN Twitter account: <https://twitter.com/emnmigration>

EMN YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/@EMNMigration>

## EMN National Contact Points

Austria [www.emn.at/en/](http://www.emn.at/en/)

Belgium [www.emnbelgium.be](http://www.emnbelgium.be)

Bulgaria [www.emn-bg.com](http://www.emn-bg.com)

Croatia <https://emn.gov.hr/>

Cyprus [www.moi.gov.cy/moi/crmd/emnncpc.nsf/home/home?opendocument](http://www.moi.gov.cy/moi/crmd/emnncpc.nsf/home/home?opendocument)

Czechia [www.emncz.eu](http://www.emncz.eu)

Denmark [www.justitsministeriet.dk/](http://www.justitsministeriet.dk/)

Estonia [www.emn.ee/](http://www.emn.ee/)

Finland <https://emn.fi/en/>

France [www.immigration.interieur.gouv.fr/Europe-et-International/Le-reseau-europeen-des-migrations-REM3/Le-reseau-europeen-des-migrations-REM2](http://www.immigration.interieur.gouv.fr/Europe-et-International/Le-reseau-europeen-des-migrations-REM3/Le-reseau-europeen-des-migrations-REM2)

Germany <https://www.bamf.de/EN/Themen/EMN/emn-node.html>

Greece <http://emn.immigration.gov.gr/en/>

Hungary [www.emnhungary.hu/en](http://www.emnhungary.hu/en)

Ireland [www.emn.ie/](http://www.emn.ie/)

Italy [www.emnitalyncp.it/](http://www.emnitalyncp.it/)

Latvia [www.emn.lv/en/home/](http://www.emn.lv/en/home/)

Lithuania [www.emn.lt/en/](http://www.emn.lt/en/)

Luxembourg <https://emnluxembourg.uni.lu/>

Malta <https://emn.gov.mt/>

The Netherlands <https://www.emnnetherlands.nl/>

Poland <https://www.gov.pl/web/europejska-siec-migracyjna>

Portugal <https://rem.sef.pt/>

Romania <https://www.mai.gov.ro/>

Spain <https://www.emnspain.gob.es>

Slovak Republic <https://emn.sk/en/>

Slovenia <https://emm.si/en/>

Sweden <http://www.emnsweden.se/>

Norway <https://www.udi.no/en/statistics-and-analysis/european-migration-network---norway>

Georgia [https://migration.commission.ge/index.php?article\\_id=1&clang=1](https://migration.commission.ge/index.php?article_id=1&clang=1)

Republic of Moldova <http://bma.gov.md/en>

Ukraine <https://dmsu.gov.ua/en-home.html>

Montenegro <https://www.gov.me/en/mup>

Armenia <https://migration.am/?lang=en>

Serbia <https://kirs.gov.rs/cir>