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إحصائيات الهجرة في السويد 2020 باللغة الانجليزية

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SWEDEN 2021

Main developments in migration
and international protection,
including latest statistics

EMN COUNTRY FACTSHEET

August 2022



OVERARCHING CHANGES

Several major changes to the Swedish Aliens Act (and other laws) entered into force in July 2021. These affected legal migration (primarily family reunification and family formation) and the granting of international protection. The changes concerned the granting of temporary residence permits, requirements for converting a temporary into a permanent residence permit, rules for family reunification and family formation, and residence permits on humanitarian grounds, among other issues. All third-country nationals applying for a first residence permit will receive a temporary permit, with certain conditions (e.g. self-sufficiency) to then obtain a permanent residence permit.¹ Following the resignation of Stefan Löfven from the role of Prime Minister of Sweden, a new social-democratic minority government was formed and took office on 30 November 2021, with Magdalena Andersson as Prime Minister.



LEGAL MIGRATION AND MOBILITY

As mentioned above, a number of major changes to the Swedish Aliens Act (and other laws) entered into force in July 2021.

WORK-RELATED MIGRATION

A government-appointed inquiry published two reports proposing a number of changes to the Swedish system

KEY POINTS



Changes to the Swedish Aliens Act (and other laws) entered into force in July 2021. These changes concerned the granting of temporary residence permits, conditions for converting a temporary into a permanent residence permit, rules for family reunification and family formation, and residence permits on humanitarian grounds.



A government-appointed inquiry published two reports on the Swedish system of labour immigration from third countries. They proposed changes to attract international skills and to prevent abuse of the system and/or exploitation of foreign workers.



The Swedish Migration Agency was tasked to resettle 6 400 individuals. In August 2021, the government temporarily removed the eligibility condition that people must be in a third country, allowing approximately 1 300 Afghan nationals to be evacuated directly from Afghanistan and admitted to Sweden.

for labour immigration. The main objectives of these proposals were to improve the possibility of attracting international skills and to prevent misuse of the labour immigration system and exploitation of foreign workers.

¹ Only refugees that are resettled to Sweden will still receive a permanent residence permit immediately

STUDENTS AND RESEARCHERS

Researchers were affected by the changes to the Swedish Aliens Act that entered into force in July 2021. The financial support requirement as a condition for obtaining a permanent residence permit poses a difficulty for researchers, given their short-term employment contracts.

The Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) granted SEK 17 million to Scholars At Risk Sweden (SAR Sweden) for a national support programme for researchers from Afghanistan 2022-2024. It will offer 10 at-risk researchers from Afghanistan temporary academic sanctuary at one of its 22 Swedish university members.

FAMILY REUNIFICATION

Under the amended Swedish Aliens Act, third-country nationals moving to Sweden for family reunification or family formation purposes are granted temporary residence permits. These can later be converted into permanent permits if certain requirements are fulfilled. A general financial support requirement applies to the granting of residence permits for family reasons, with certain exceptions.



INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION

Under the amended Swedish Aliens Act, people granted refugee status in Sweden receive an initial residence permit for three years, while those granted subsidiary protection receive an initial residence permit for 13 months.² According to the new law, only those given protection in the framework of the Swedish resettlement programme are granted permanent permits immediately.

A new law gave the Swedish Migration Agency the competence to establish and administer a safe country of origin list. The list was published on 25 May 2021 and included Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Chile, Georgia, Kosovo, Mongolia, North Macedonia and Serbia.

The Swedish Government initiated a new inquiry into the organisation of the Swedish reception system for asylum applicants. It proposed a system where asylum seekers would be required to stay in collective reception centres managed by the Swedish Migration Agency for a certain period after their arrival and to participate in the Agency's information sessions on Swedish society. The government expressed its intention to further limit the option for asylum seekers to arrange their own accommodation.

In October 2021, compulsory introduction to Swedish society was launched for asylum seekers, with all asylum applicants over the age of 15 years required to participate. The sessions will initially be provided orally to asylum seekers on-site at the Swedish Migration Agency's premises, but may be combined with distance learning, digital self-study and group discussions.

RELOCATION AND RESETTLEMENT³

The Swedish Migration Agency aimed to resettle 5 000 refugees to Sweden during 2021, together with an additional 1 400 individuals who could not be transferred in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

In August 2021, the government temporarily removed the requirement to be in a third country in order to be resettled to Sweden, allowing Afghans to be evacuated directly from Afghanistan and resettled to Sweden. Sweden received approximately 1 300 evacuated Afghan nationals.

In addition, SIDA granted SEK 17 million to SAR Sweden to provide academic sanctuary to 10 at-risk researchers from Afghanistan 2022-2024.



MINORS AND OTHER VULNERABLE GROUPS

OTHER VULNERABLE GROUPS

A Government Ordinance on state grants to organisations supporting the most vulnerable addressed the need for support during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Swedish Agency for Youth and Civil Society distributed the grants to homeless people, migrants in vulnerable positions, etc.



INTEGRATION

NATIONAL INTEGRATION STRATEGY

The Swedish Government undertook measures to mitigate the negative impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Several labour market policy changes were adopted in 2020 and 2021, and increased resources were given to the Public Employment Service. Additional funds targeted labour market training in sectors with labour shortages. Resources for newly arrived immigrants and for subsidised introductory jobs were increased in order to improve opportunities. The Government also extended an earmarked grant to those municipalities with high refugee intakes, facilitating their effective reception of newly arrived immigrants and improving the likelihood of successful integration in work and community life.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING OF ADULTS/ LABOUR MARKET AND SKILLS

An intensive introduction year for newly arrived immigrants was introduced in April 2021. Intensive language tuition and vocational measures are provided simultaneously or within a short timeframe. Municipalities are obliged to provide coherent education within the municipal adult education for individuals participating in the 'introduction programme' on labour market integration.

Shorter labour market training measures were increased to meet the demand in shortage occupations and strengthen jobseekers' skills. The Public Employment

² These lengths of protection-based residence permits were already applied under a temporary law of 2016 (previously granted permanent permits).

³ Includes Humanitarian Admission Programmes

service was tasked with directing more people to education to facilitate upskilling to meet labour market needs.

ACTIVE PARTICIPATION OF MIGRANTS AND RECEIVING SOCIETIES IN INTEGRATION

The Delegation Against Segregation (Delmos) and Statistics Sweden were commissioned to develop new tools to measure socioeconomic segregation at national and local level. Delmos and Statistics Sweden developed a nationwide index of socioeconomic status of different areas.



CITIZENSHIP AND STATELESSNESS

STATELESSNESS

To avoid statelessness among persons born in Sweden, legislation was introduced to grant Swedish citizenship to a stateless person holding certain types of a temporary residence permit. (Previously, a permanent residence permit was required). The person must have been born in Sweden, stateless since birth, resided in Sweden for the past five years/resided in Sweden for a total of 10 years (or have a permanent resident permit), and not yet turned 21 years of age.



BORDERS, SCHENGEN AND VISAS

BORDER MANAGEMENT

COVID-19 restrictions on non-essential travel to Sweden remained in place in 2021, with exceptions modified as necessary. The restrictions strongly impacted international travel and mobility to and from Sweden. Since 2015, Sweden has controlled its internal (intra-Schengen) borders. In 2021, a decision was made to continue those controls, with the Swedish Police deciding when and where they were carried out.

VISA POLICY

The Swedish Migration Agency developed a harmonised tool for analysing the risk of visa misuse in cases processed by Sweden's diplomatic missions. It provided consulates with monthly updates on recent Visa Information System (VIS)-hits/visa defections, including recommendations for further analysis of certain categories of applicants.

Sweden planned to regionalise the processing of visa applications to improve effectiveness. The Swedish Migration Agency focused on establishing a regional hub in Nairobi as a pilot project for regionalisation. During the first half of 2021, a visa application centre was established in Dar Es Salaam and the processing of visas was moved to Nairobi. In June and July 2021, the visa processing operations in Lusaka and Pretoria were also transferred to Nairobi.

SCHENGEN GOVERNANCE

In November 2021, the Swedish Parliament adopted new legislation on adaptations of Swedish law to the Schengen Information System (SIS) regulations. The Government decided on new and amended ordinances to enter into force on the same date as the SIS regulations.



IRREGULAR MIGRATION INCLUDING MIGRANT SMUGGLING

PREVENTING AND TACKLING IRREGULAR MIGRATION IN LEGAL MIGRATION CHANNELS

New legislation from May 2021 allowed the Swedish Migration Agency to set up a list of safe countries of origin. Asylum seekers from listed countries were not considered to be in need of protection and subject to accelerated procedures, unless there was evidence otherwise.

PREVENTING FACILITATION OF IRREGULAR MIGRATION ('SMUGGLING') AND PREVENTING IRREGULAR STAY

New legislation entered into force in July 2021 to identify people staying in Sweden without a residence permit. As part of internal checks on foreign nationals, the police were granted the authority to take photographs and fingerprints.



TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS

NATIONAL STRATEGIC POLICY DEVELOPMENTS

An inquiry proposed that municipal social welfare committees should be able to apply for a recovery and reflection period for victims of trafficking and exploitation. Current regulations only allow the person in charge of a preliminary investigation to apply for such a period for a foreign witness or victim.

IDENTIFICATION AND INFORMATION TO VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS

The Swedish Migration Agency launched a new internal manual to improve staff ability to identify victims of trafficking within the framework of the work permit process. The Agency also launched an 'FAQ' section on its internal website to improve employees' detection of suspected trafficking.



RETURN AND READMISSION

MAIN NATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

The Swedish Government announced several measures to improve the efficiency of the return process and work towards more sustainable return and reintegration. It instructed the Swedish Migration Agency and the Police Authority to intensify their work to increase returns. The Police Authority shall give priority to those sentenced to deportation because they have committed a crime, or who for other reasons are not authorised to stay in the country, and enforce their return. The government also commissioned SIDA to map Sweden's work on return and sustainable reintegration.

The Swedish Migration Agency updated the list of countries whose citizens are eligible for reintegration assistance (in cash) when returning to their countries of origin. This type of financial support is intended to facilitate the reintegration of third-country nationals returning to countries where reintegration is considered difficult.



MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Migration-related goals continued to be included in bilateral and regional development cooperation strategies adopted (e.g. for Asia, Latin America, the Western Balkans and Turkey). SIDA continued its engagement in remittances. It also undertook to support the International Organization for Migration (IOM) project 'Facilitating safe return and reintegration of stranded vulnerable Ethiopian Migrants in the East and Horn of Africa'.



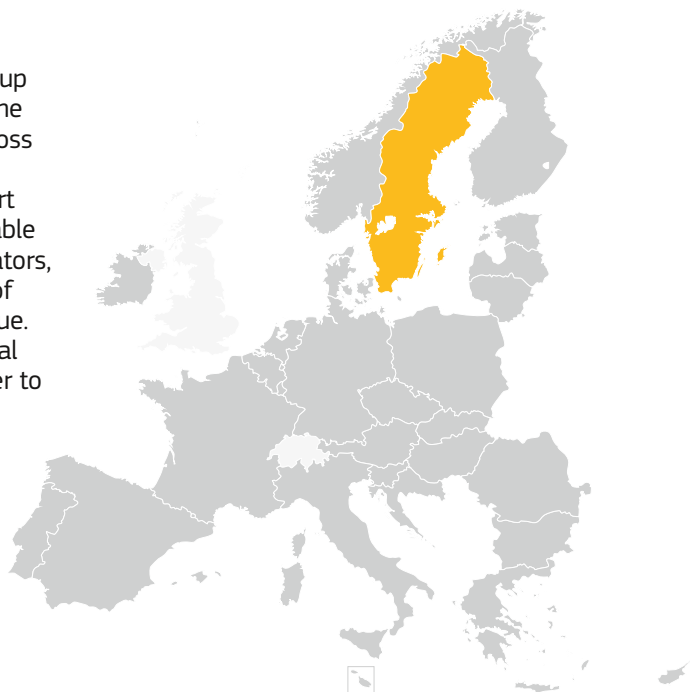
STATISTICAL ANNEX

The Statistical Annex was prepared by ICF, the European Migration Network Service Provider, with statistics provided by Eurostat. It provides an overview of the latest available statistics for Sweden on aspects of migration and international protection (2018-2021), including legal residence, asylum, unaccompanied minors, integration, irregular migration, return and visas. Where statistics were not available at the time of publication, this is indicated in the Annex as "N/A".

STATISTICAL ANNEX

! GENERAL NOTES

This statistical annex complements the Country Factsheet with relevant migration-related data organised in up to nine thematic sections – depending on data availability. The dashboard-like layout of the annex allows comparability across countries as well as simultaneous visualisation of different indicators. Whenever data are not available, the relative chart is indicated with 'N/A'. Data are provided for the latest available year or the latest available four-year period. For some indicators, data are rounded in the source. The sum of percentages or of individual values might not add up to 100 or to the total value. This is due to rounding and confidence intervals in the original data. For this edition, figures for Third Country Nationals refer to 'non-EU27 nor reporting country' across all indicators and years. The How to Read Guide is available [here](#).



COLOUR LEGEND

Whenever not specified, the following colour legend is adopted. Colours for multiple nationalities are randomly chosen.

Data relative to Sweden

Data relative to EU

LEGAL MIGRATION AND MOBILITY

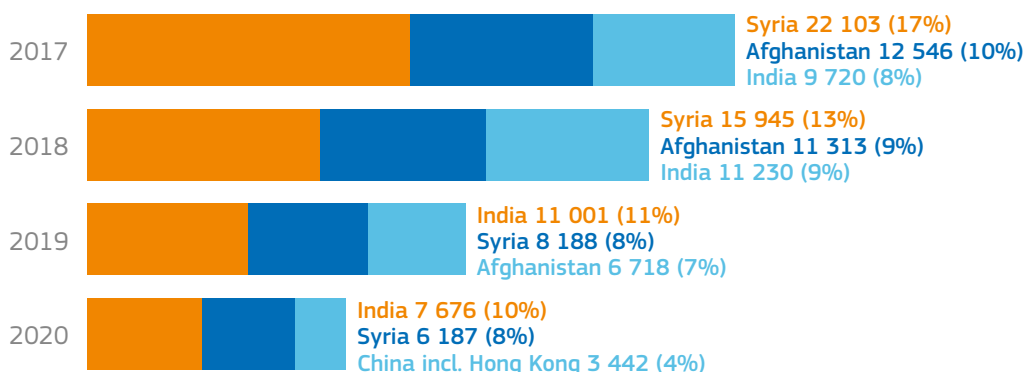
Third-Country Nationals (TCNs) as % of total population in the country (and in the EU) and in absolute numbers

SOURCE: Eurostat (migr_pop1ctz)



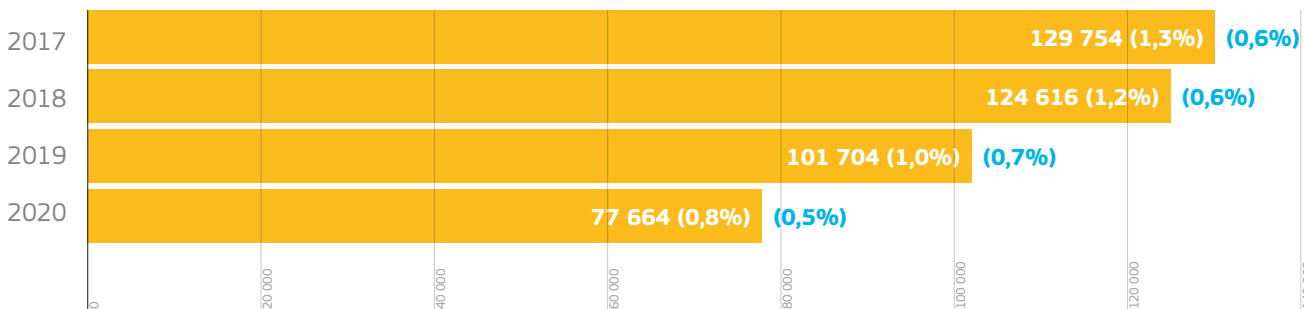
Top 3 nationalities of number of first residence permits annually issued: number of permits and % of total annual permits

SOURCE: Eurostat (migr_resfirst)



First residence permits annually issued: total number and % of total population in the country (and in the EU)

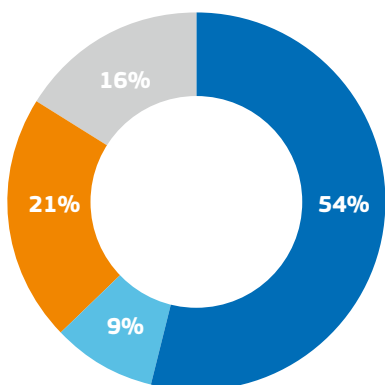
SOURCE: Eurostat (migr_resfirst, migr_pop1ctz)



First residence permits annually issued by reason in 2020

SOURCE: Eurostat (migr_resfirst)

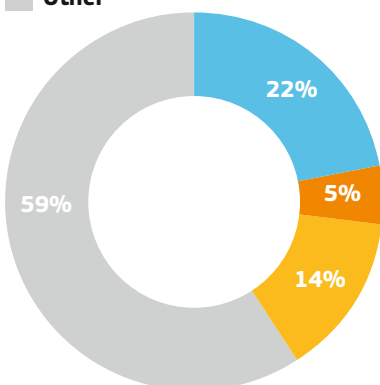
- Family
- Education
- Work
- Other



First residence permits annually issued for work reasons in 2020

SOURCE: Eurostat (migr_resocc)

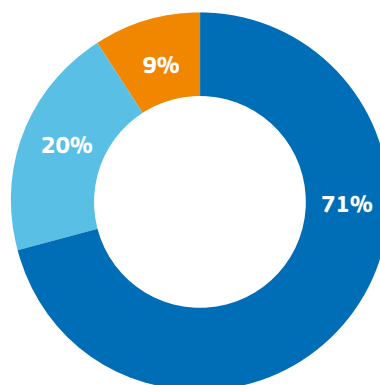
- EU Blue card
- Highly skilled
- Researchers
- Seasonal workers
- Other



First residence permits annually issued for 'other reasons' in 2020

SOURCE: Eurostat (migr_resoth)

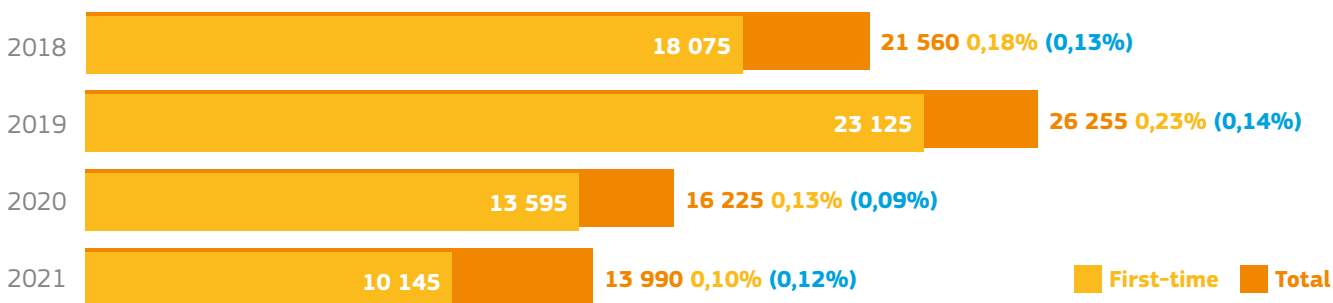
- Refugee/sub prot.
- Residence only
- Humanitarian
- Not specified



INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION INCLUDING ASYLUM

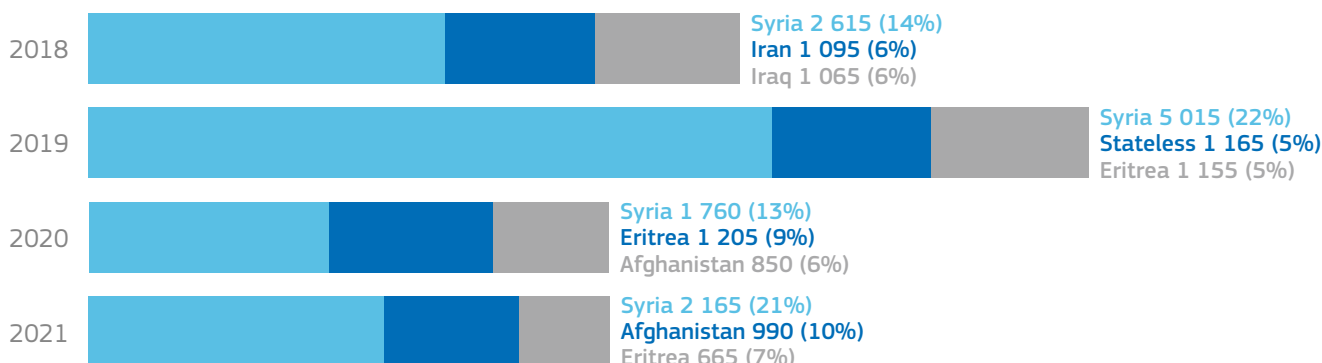
Total/first-time asylum applications; first-time asylum applications as % of population in the country (and in the EU)

SOURCE: eurostat (migr_asyappctza, migr_pop1ctz)



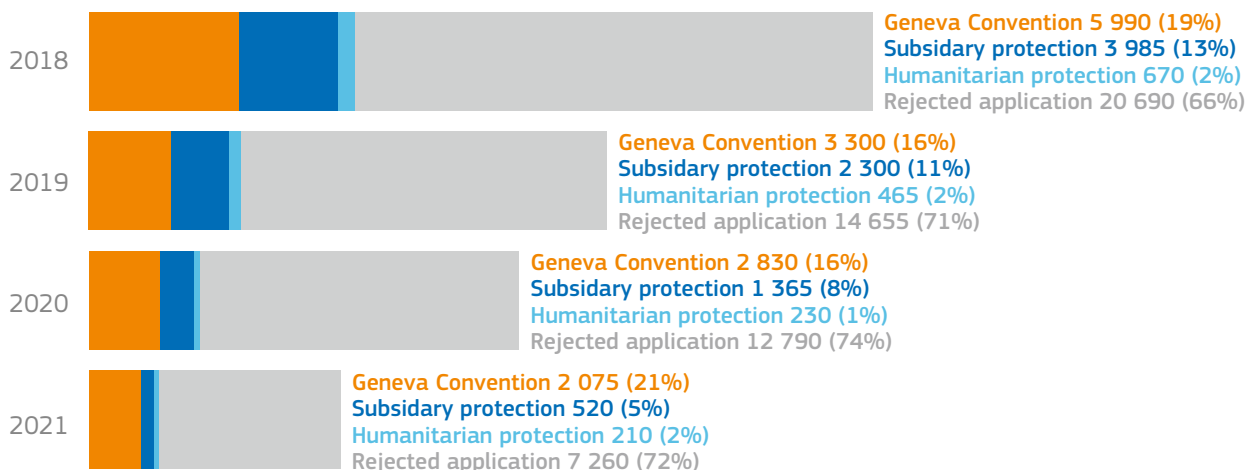
Top 3 nationalities of annual number of first-time asylum applications: number of applications and % of total first-time annual applications

SOURCE: Eurostat (migr_asyappctza)



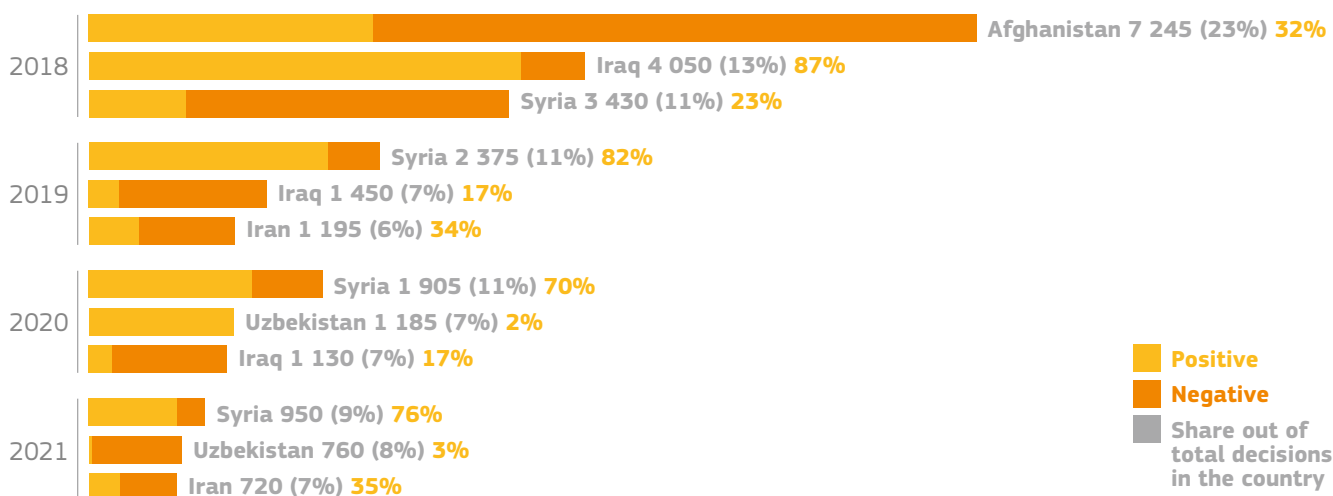
Number of first-instance asylum decisions by outcome (% of total decisions)

SOURCE: Eurostat (migr_asydcfsta)



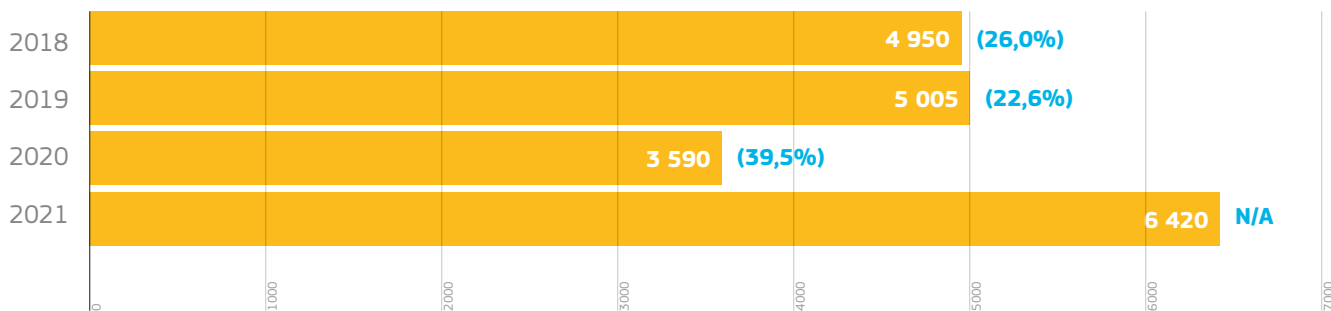
Top 3 nationalities of annual number of first-instance decisions: number of decisions (% of total decisions in the country) and % of positive outcomes

SOURCE: Eurostat (migr_asydcfsta)



Third-Country Nationals resettled: absolute number and as % of total resettled in the EU

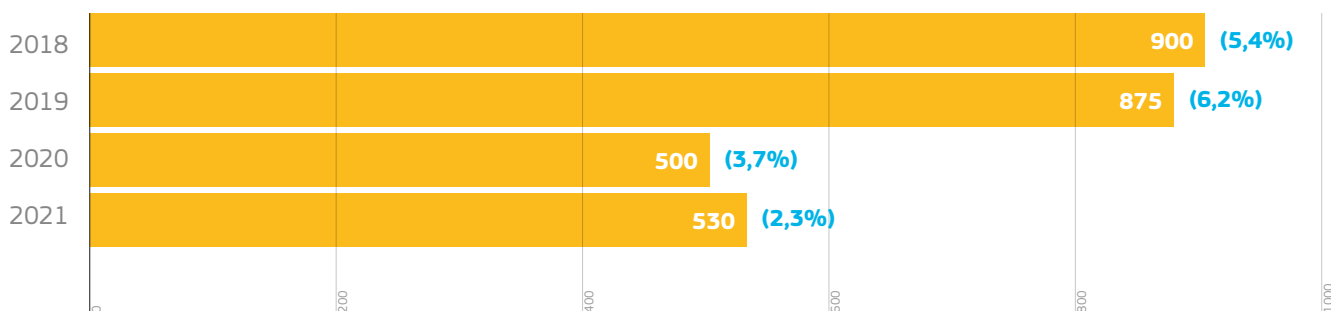
SOURCE: Eurostat (migr_asyresa)



UNACCOMPANIED MINORS

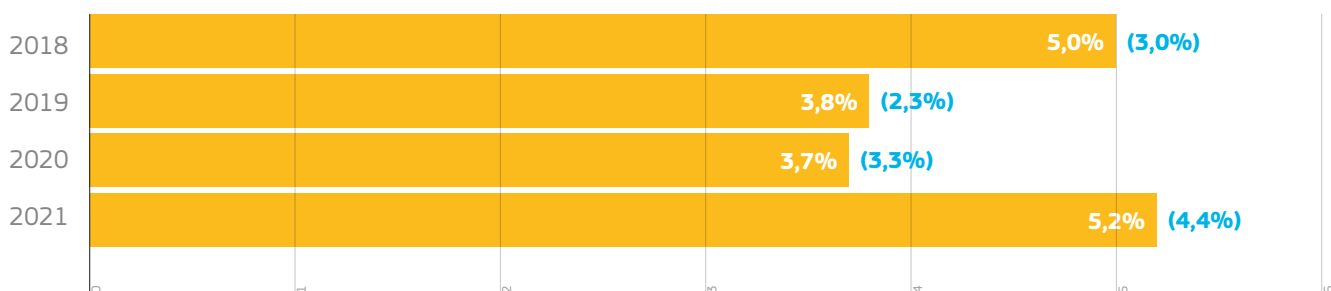
Unaccompanied minors applying for asylum in the country (and % of total applications from unaccompanied minors in the EU)

SOURCE: Eurostat (migr_asyunaa)



Unaccompanied minors as % of first asylum applications in the country (and in the EU)

SOURCE: Eurostat (migr_asyunaa, migr_asyappctza)

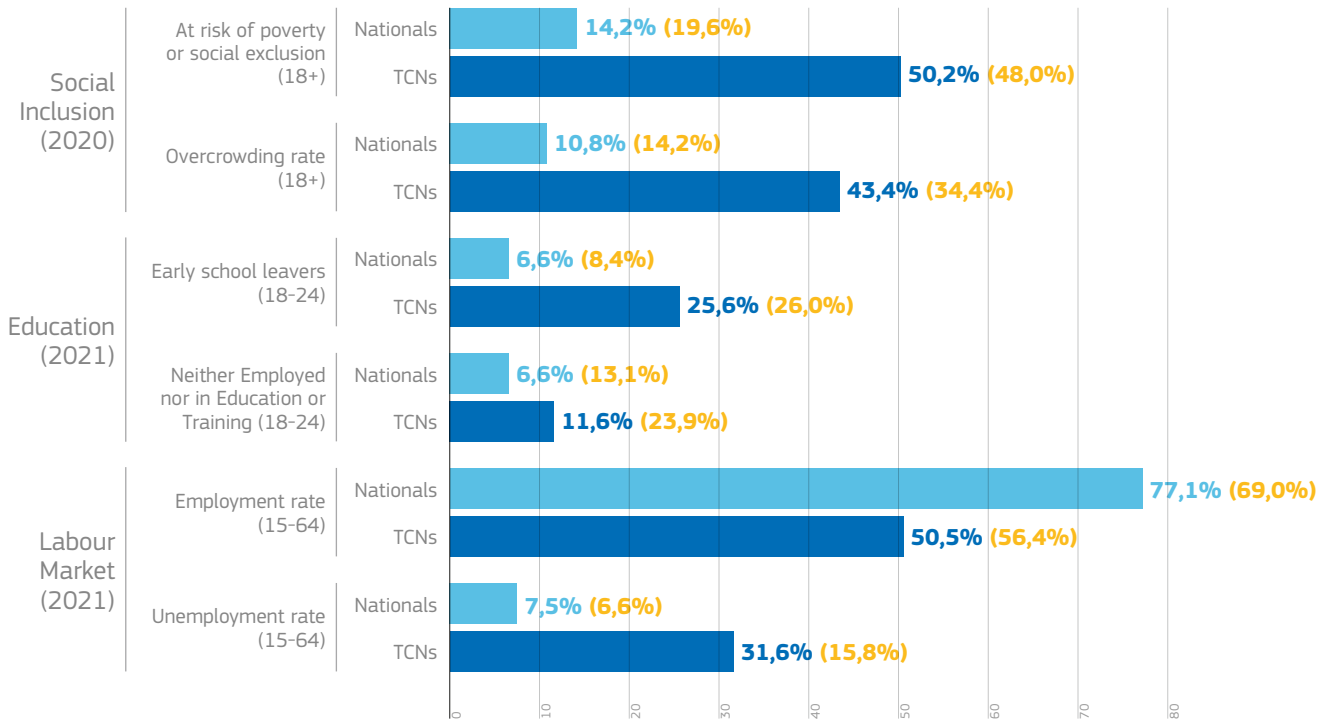




INTEGRATION

Integration indicators for nationals (light blue) and Third-Country Nationals (dark blue) in the country (when available). The same indicator is provided in yellow for the EU.

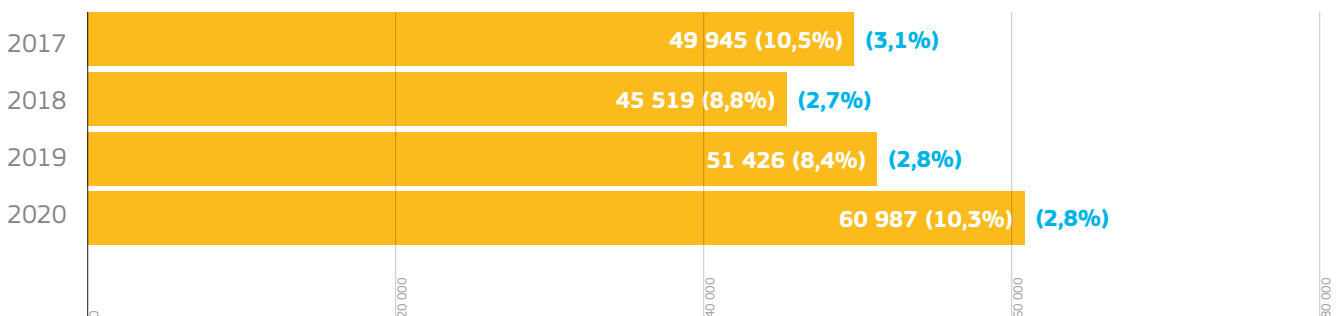
SOURCE: Eurostat (ilc_peps05, ilc_lvho15, edat_lfse_01, edat_lfse_23, lfsa_ergan, lfsa_urgan)



CITIZENSHIP AND STATELESSNESS

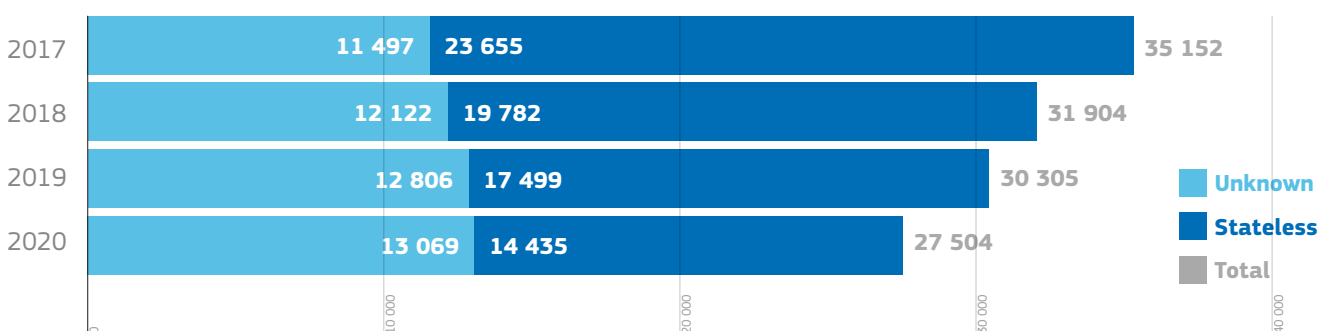
Third-Country Nationals who have acquired citizenship as a share of total Third-Country Nationals (in the country and in the EU) and in absolute numbers

SOURCE: Eurostat (migr_acqs, migr_acq)



Stateless, unknown citizens and recognised non-citizens (RNC) - where present

SOURCE: Eurostat (migr_pop1ctz)



Top 3 nationalities by number of citizenship acquisition in 2020: absolute number and % of total acquisitions in the country by Third-Country Nationals

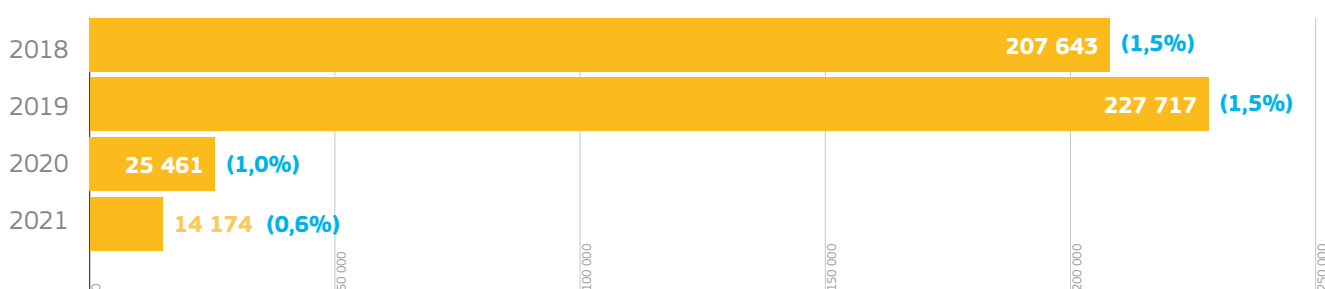
SOURCE: Eurostat (migr_acq)



BORDERS, SCHENGEN AND VISAS

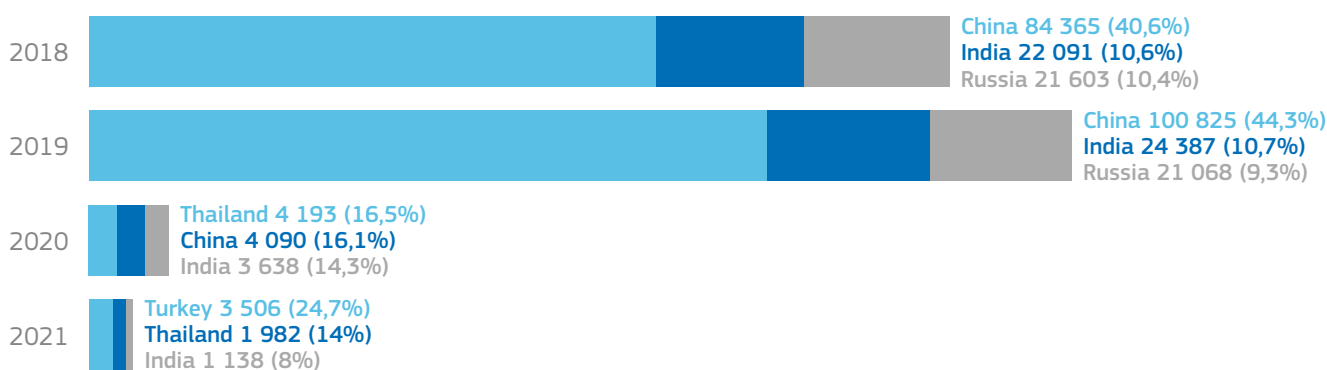
Short-term visa issued (% of Schengen)

SOURCE: DG Migration and Home Affairs



Short-term visa issued in top 3 consulate countries (and % of total issued)

SOURCE: DG Migration and Home Affairs



IRREGULAR MIGRATION

Top 3 nationalities ordered to leave the country in 2021, in absolute number and as a share of all nationalities ordered to leave the country

SOURCE: Eurostat (migr_eirtn)

N/A

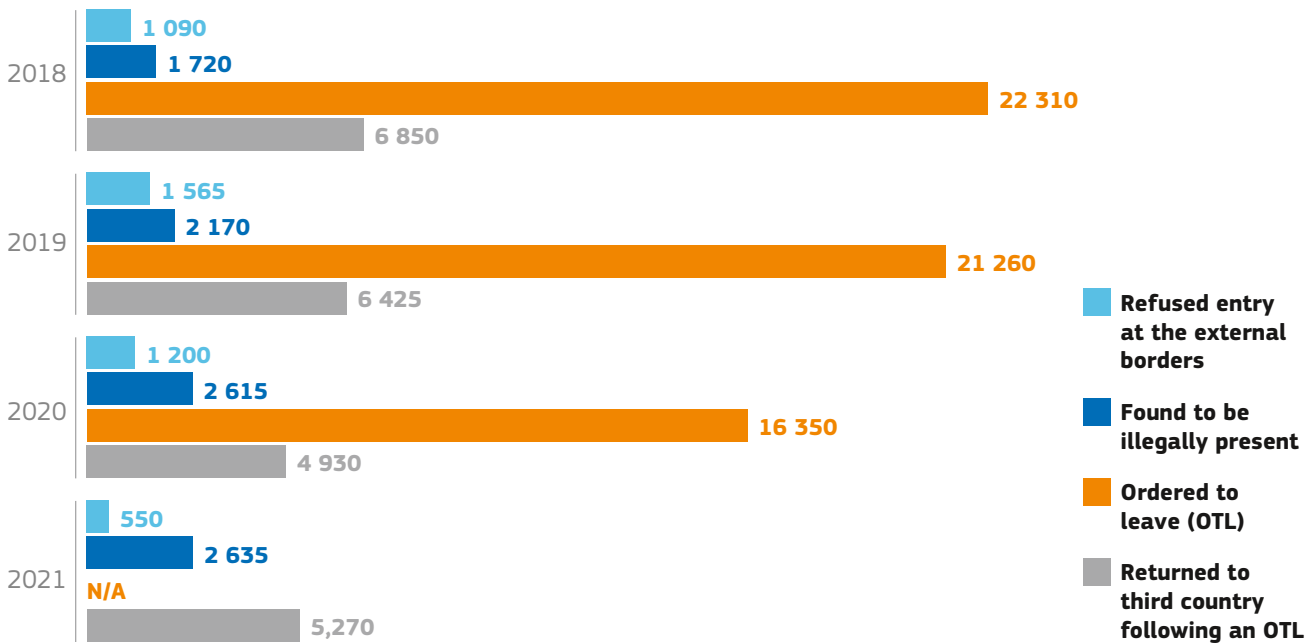
Top 3 nationalities returned to third country in 2021, in absolute number and as a share of all nationalities ordered to leave the country

SOURCE: Eurostat (migr_eirtn)



General statistics on irregular migration

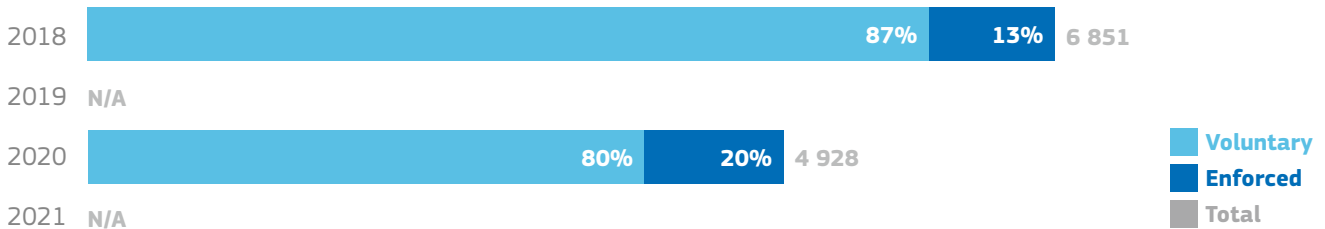
SOURCE: Eurostat (migr_eirfs, migr_eipre, migr_eiord, migr_eirtn)



RETURN AND READMISSION

Number of Third-Country Nationals who left the territory by type of return (in %) and total returns

SOURCE: Eurostat (migr_eirt_vol)



TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS

Number of first residence permits issued to victims of trafficking in human beings

SOURCE: Eurostat (migr_resoth)

