

NETHERLANDS

EMN COUNTRY FACTSHEET

2019

MAIN DEVELOPMENTS IN MIGRATION AND INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION, INCLUDING LATEST STATISTICS


In the Netherlands, the Minister for Migration had the authority to grant a residence permit to persons in distressing situations where that person did not qualify for any other regular residence permits. This discretionary power was abolished on 1 May 2019. Instead, (together with another set of measures) the Managing Director of the Immigration and Naturalisation Service (IND) was granted competence to assess the existence of a distressing situation during the initial asylum or regular residence permit application procedure.

The Dutch Minister for Migration resigned on 21 May 2019, following certain issues related to publishing incident figures of asylum seekers. The new Minister was appointed on 11 June 2019.

In March and October 2019 UK nationals living in the Netherlands received a temporary residence permit from the IND. This was only needed in the event of a no-deal Brexit to ensure that UK nationals and their family members retain their rights as an EU citizen to live, work and study in the Netherlands.

The UK ultimately left the EU on 31 January 2020, after which a transitional period started for British citizens in the Netherlands. From 1 January 2021, UK nationals and their family members will require a residence document to continue to live in the Netherlands. During the transition period, the IND will invite UK nationals to submit an application.

KEY POINTS



The discretionary power of the Minister for Migration was abolished on 1 May 2019. The Managing Director of the Immigration and Naturalisation Service (IND) was granted competence to assess the presence of a distressing situation in the initial asylum or regular residence permit application procedure.



The Regulation for Long-term Resident Children (DRLVK) was terminated on 29 January 2019.



The 'Children subject to a Child Protection Order Policy Framework' came into effect, formally regulating the situations in which a (temporary) residence permit may be issued relating to a child protection order.



LEGAL MIGRATION AND MOBILITY

WORK-RELATED MIGRATION

Development began on a new residence permit for essential personnel of start-ups, as young companies may not be in a position to pay the salaries of highly skilled migrants. The existing scheme for chefs working in the Asian hospitality sector was converted into a structural scheme.

On 1 January 2019, the Netherlands and Hong Kong launched an international, cultural exchange programme. The Hong Kong participants in the Working Holiday Program (WHP) may join a short course and carry out paid work on an occasional basis.

STUDENTS AND RESEARCHERS

In 2019, supervision of students and researchers was tightened in specific sensitive areas of education and research where they may have a suspected link to the Iranian ballistic missile programme. An assessment framework was drawn up, which provides for screening by a Task Force.



INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION INCLUDING ASYLUM

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COMMON EUROPEAN ASYLUM SYSTEM

As of 1 July 2019, subsequent asylum applications must be submitted in person at the application centre in *Ter Apel*. An initial notification is no longer required.

The IND implemented measures to shorten the processing times of asylum applications and eliminate backlogs.

In December 2019, measures were taken in response to the sudden influx of substantial numbers of Moldovan asylum applicants. The majority had previously applied unsuccessfully for asylum in other Member States. Measures included prioritising the handling of these applications by a special team within the IND. Measures were also taken against a relatively small group of asylum seekers regularly causing nuisance through disruptive and transgressive behaviour.

The list of safe countries of origin remained unchanged. After reassessment, Serbia remained a safe country of origin, with the exception of journalists and those likely to be placed in criminal detention. In addition, special attention was to be paid to LGBTI persons. Another reassessment concluded that Moldova cannot be classified a safe country of origin.



UNACCOMPANIED MINORS AND OTHER VULNERABLE GROUPS

Together with the abolishment of the discretionary power of the Minister for Migration and other measures, the Definitive Regulation for Long-term Resident Children (DRLVK) was terminated on 29 January 2019. The DRLVK was intended for cases in which children without a right of residence had already resided in the Netherlands for a long time. Under this regulation, these children could in some cases still obtain a residence permit under certain conditions. The termination was followed by a transition period in which applications submitted under the DRLVK and rejected solely on the basis of the cooperation criterion were reassessed. Also, the 'Children subject to a child protection order policy framework' came into effect on 1 October 2019, regulating the situations in which a (temporary) residence permit may be issued related to a child protection order. Before, the Minister for Migration could use his discretionary powers in these cases.



INTEGRATION

INTEGRATION OF THIRD-COUNTRY NATIONALS

A new civic integration system is expected to come into effect in 2021. In 2019, pilot programmes in 97 municipalities sought to use practical lessons and experiences in the development of the new system.

Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment (SZW) inspections of educational institutions' civil integration courses were further strengthened. Various measures and initiatives were also taken to improve the position of newcomers on the labour market.



CITIZENSHIP AND STATELESSNESS

STATELESSNESS

There were no major policy developments in 2019 in respect of acquisition of Dutch citizenship and the determination of statelessness. However, pending a

legislative proposal on the determination of statelessness, several municipalities decided to start with initiatives within their own powers to support stateless persons.



BORDERS, SCHENGEN AND VISAS

VISA POLICY

There were no major policy developments in border security or Schengen in 2019. In the area of visa policy, however, an action plan was drawn up to implement the new Visa Code.



IRREGULAR MIGRATION INCLUDING MIGRANT SMUGGLING

MISUSE OF LEGAL MIGRATION CHANNELS

Efforts were made to prevent irregular migration through awareness-raising campaigns and the expansion and strengthening of the Dutch network of embassies and consulates.

MIGRANT SMUGGLING AND PREVENTION OF IRREGULAR STAY

March 2019 saw the start of a pilot of five national immigration facilities (LVVs), in which third-country nationals who had exhausted all legal means, with no right of residence and who had not left the Netherlands, are given temporary shelter and receive counselling for a sustainable solution.



TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS

Development continued on the 'Together against Human Trafficking' programme that started in 2018. These related to the provision of information and the protection of victims of human trafficking, as well as providing training and information materials to identify victims, and international cooperation.



RETURN AND READMISSION

RETURN MIGRATION MANAGEMENT

Moldovan applicants for international protection under the Dublin III Regulation could again make use of the REAN (Return and Emigration Assistance from the Netherlands) programme, implemented by the International Organization of Migration (IOM).

A change in policy made it possible to detain unaccompanied minors who were detected for the first time, and whose departure could, in principle, be completed within four weeks, in order to prevent them from disappearing into illegality.



MIGRATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The Dutch government contributed to combating the root causes of irregular migration by entering into international partnerships and financing international projects. The 'reception in the region policy' became a regular part of the Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation policy. Its deployment focuses on giving perspective to refugees and displaced persons in particular in eight focus countries (Egypt, Ethiopia, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Kenya, Uganda and Sudan), as well as (vulnerable) host communities, stimulating employment and improving education. An instrument for this aim, is the Prospects Partnership with the International Finance Corporation, International Labour Organization, UNHCR, UNICEF and the World Bank.

STATISTICAL ANNEX

The Statistical Annex was prepared by the European Commission's Knowledge Centre on Migration and Demography (KCMD). It provides an overview of the latest available statistics for the Netherlands on aspects of migration and international protection (2016-2019), 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'.

A How to Read guide, describing each chart and reporting the sources, is available [here](#).



GENERAL NOTES

This four-page statistical annex complements the Country Factsheet with relevant migration-related data organised in nine thematic sections. The dashboard-like layout of the annex allows comparability across countries as well as simultaneous visualisation of different indicators.

Whenever data is not available, the relative chart is left blank or indicated with 'N/A'. Data are provided for the latest available year or the latest available four-year period.

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.

A How to Read guide, describing each chart and reporting the sources, is available on the EMN website.

COLOUR LEGEND

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

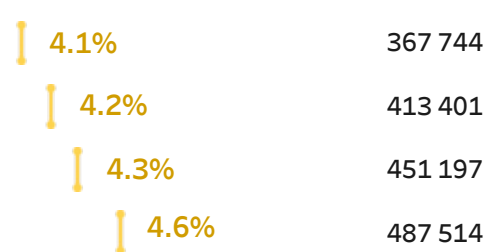
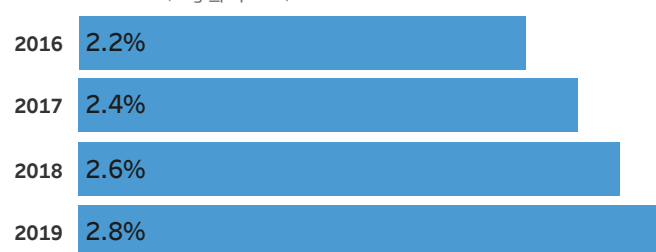
■ data relative to Netherlands

■ data relative to EU

LEGAL MIGRATION AND MOBILITY

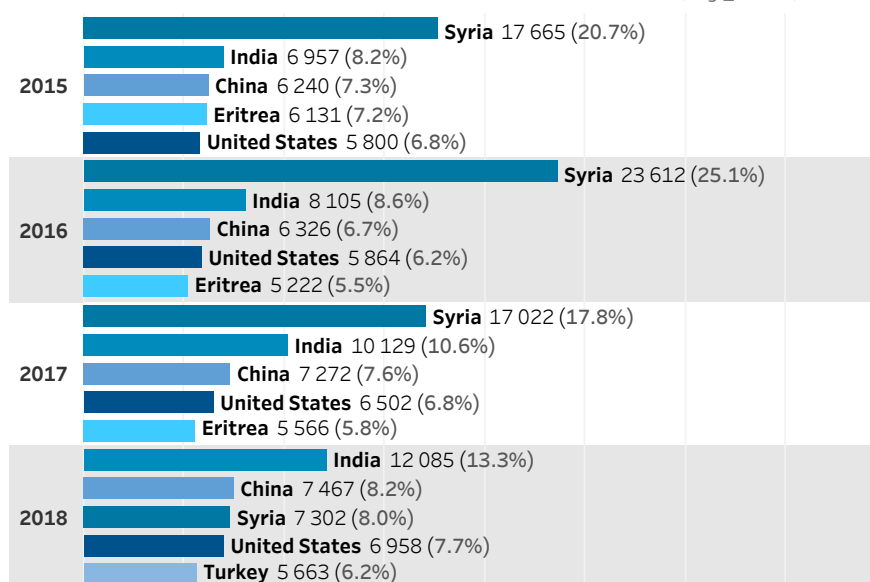
Third-Country Nationals (TCNs) as % of total population (in the country and in the EU)

SOURCE: Eurostat (migr_pop1ctz)



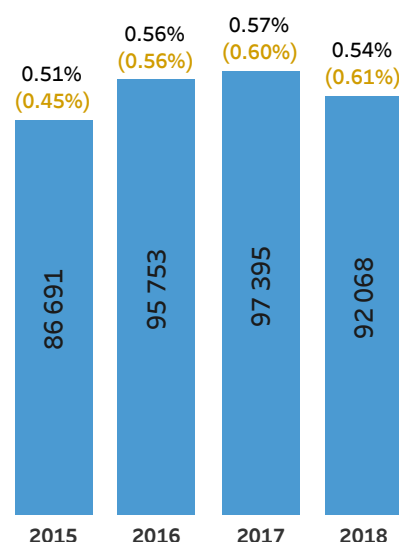
Top 5 nationalities of number of first residence permits annually issued: number of permits and % of total annual permits

SOURCE: Eurostat (migr_resfirst)



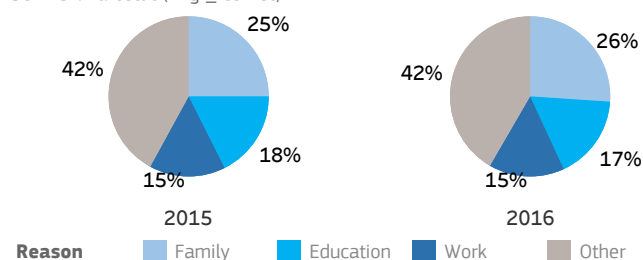
First residence permits annually issued: tot. num. and % of tot. pop. in the country (and EU)

SOURCE: Eurostat (migr_resfirst)



First residence permits annually issued by reason

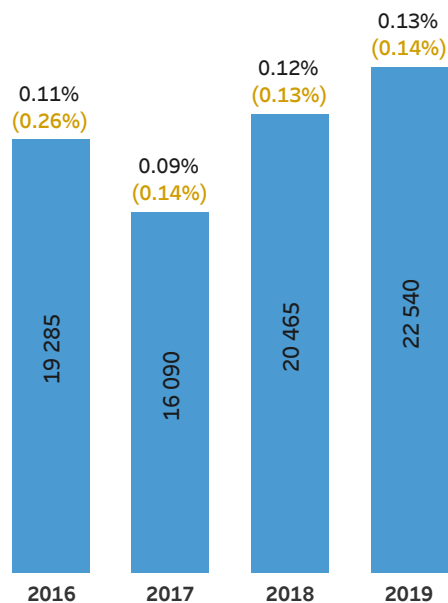
SOURCE: Eurostat (migr_resfirst)



INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION INCLUDING ASYLUM

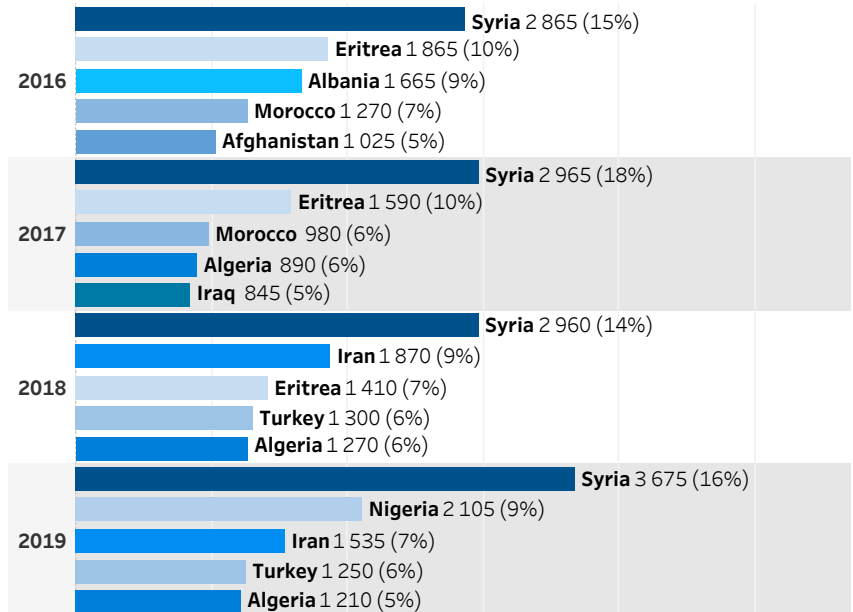
First-time asylum applications: total num. and as % of population in the country (and in EU)

SOURCE: Eurostat (migr_asyappctza, migr_pop1ctz)



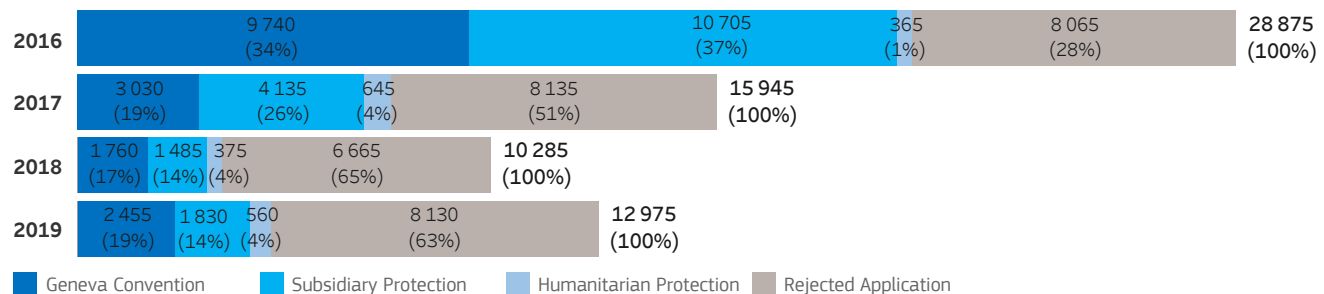
Top 5 nationalities of annual number of first-time asylum applications: number of applications and % of total first-time annual applications

SOURCE: Eurostat (migr_asyappctza)



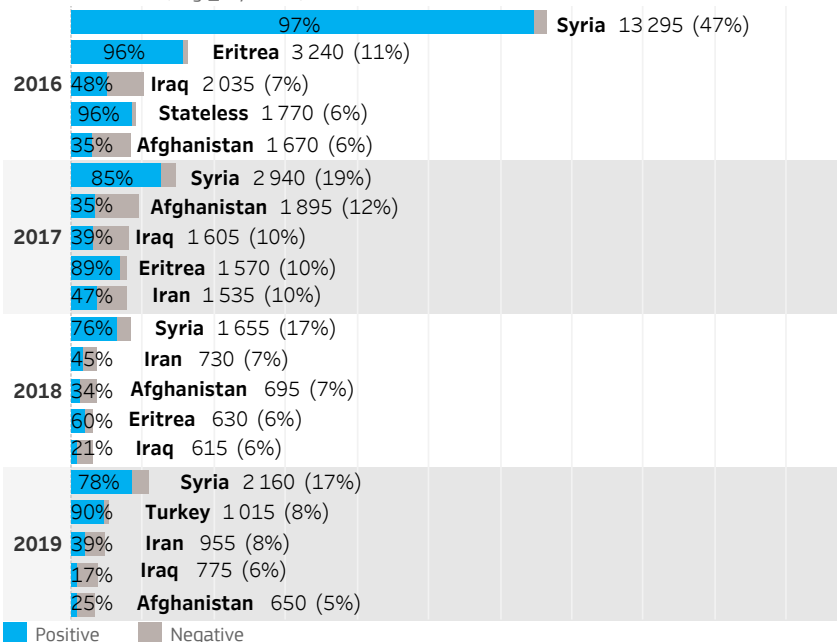
Number of first-instance asylum decisions by outcome (% of total decisions)

SOURCE: Eurostat (migr_asydcfsta)



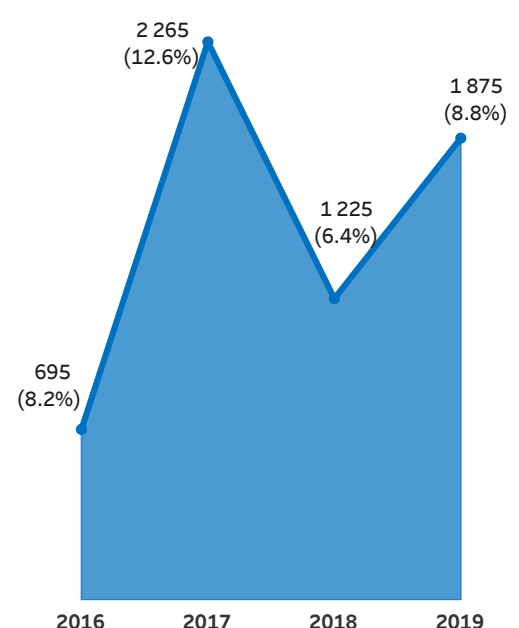
Top 5 nationalities of annual number of first-instance decisions: number of decisions (% of total decisions in the country) and % of positive outcome

SOURCE: Eurostat (migr_asydcfsta)



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

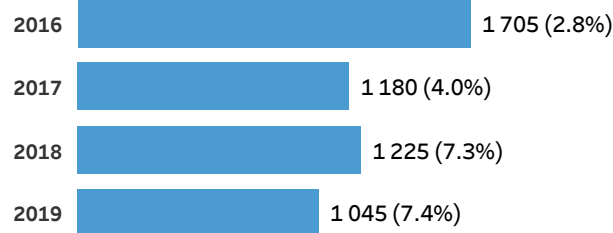
SOURCE: Eurostat (migr_asyresa)



UNACCOMPANIED MINORS

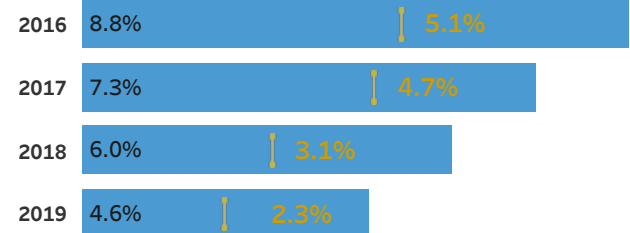
Unaccompanied Minors applying for asylum in the country (and % of total applications from Unaccompanied Minors in EU)

SOURCE: Eurostat (migr_asyunaa)



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

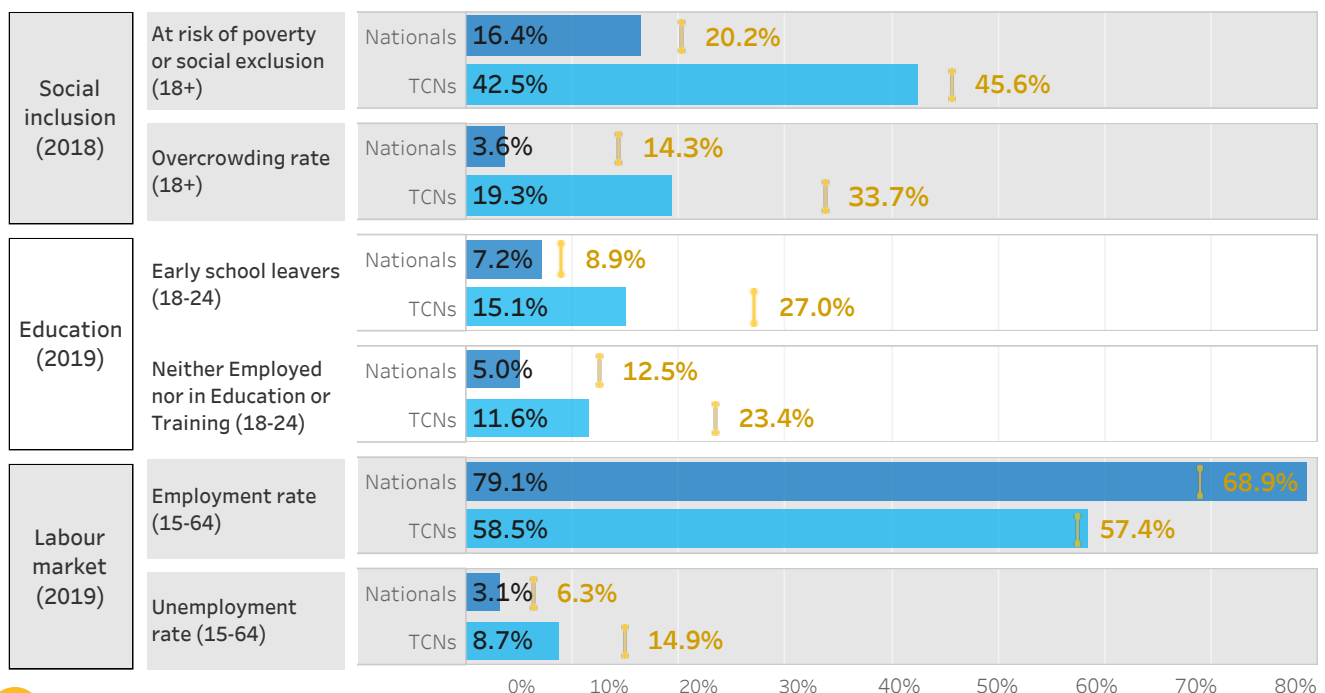
SOURCE: Eurostat (migr_asyunaa)



INTEGRATION

Integration indicators for nationals of the country (blue) and Third-Country Nationals (TCNs - light blue) in the country (when available). The same indicator is provided in yellow for EU. Data are relative to the last year available.

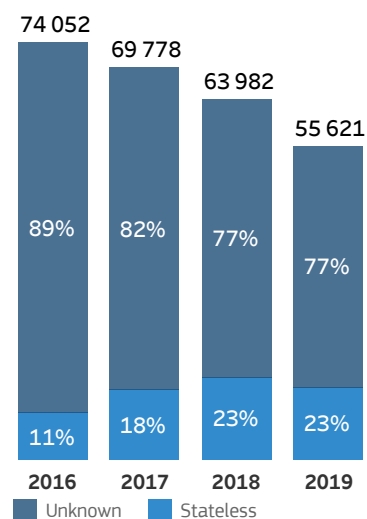
SOURCE: Eurostat (ilc_peps05, ilc_lvho15, edat_lfse_01, edat_lfse_23, lfse_ergan, lfse_urgan)



CITIZENSHIP AND STATELESSNESS

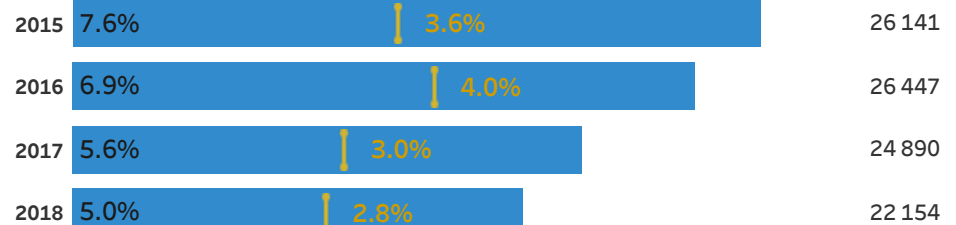
Stateless, Recogn. Non-Citizens (RNC) and Unknown Citizens

SOURCE: Eurostat (migr_pop1ctza)



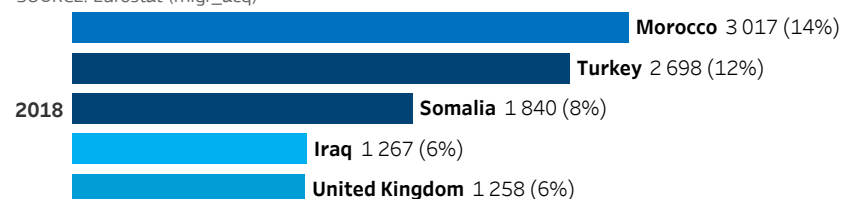
Third-Country Nationals who have acquired citizenship as a share of total Third-Country Nationals (in the country and in the EU) and in absolute number

SOURCE: Eurostat (migr_acqs, migr_acq)



Top 5 nationalities by number of citizenship acquisition in 2018: absolute number and % of total acquisitions in the country by Third-Country Nationals

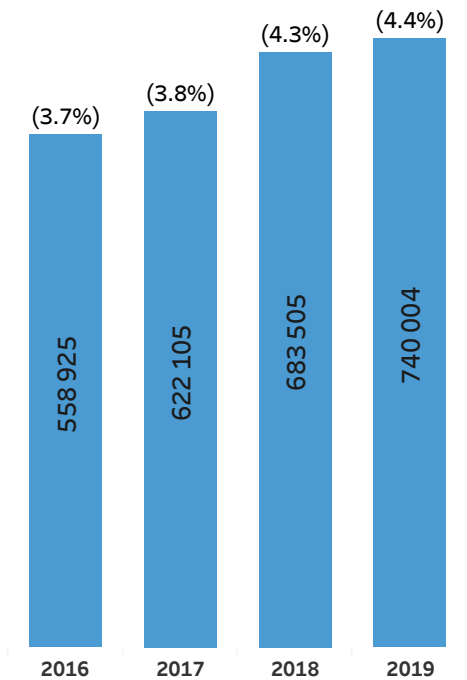
SOURCE: Eurostat (migr_acq)



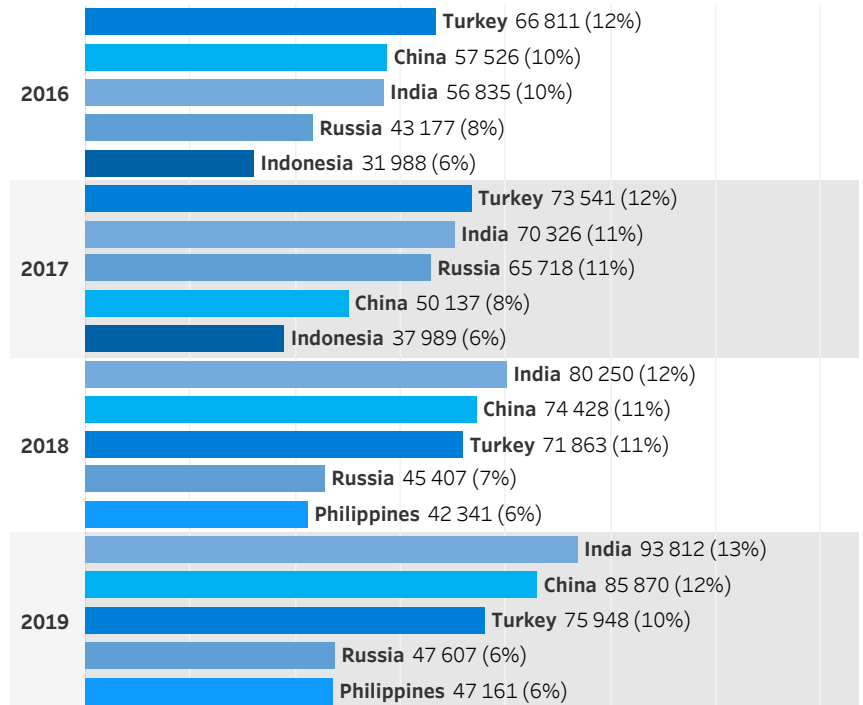
BORDERS, SCHENGEN AND VISAS

SOURCE: DG Migration and Home Affairs (complete statistics on short-stay visas applications to Schengen States)

Lodged short-term Visa app. (% of Schengen)

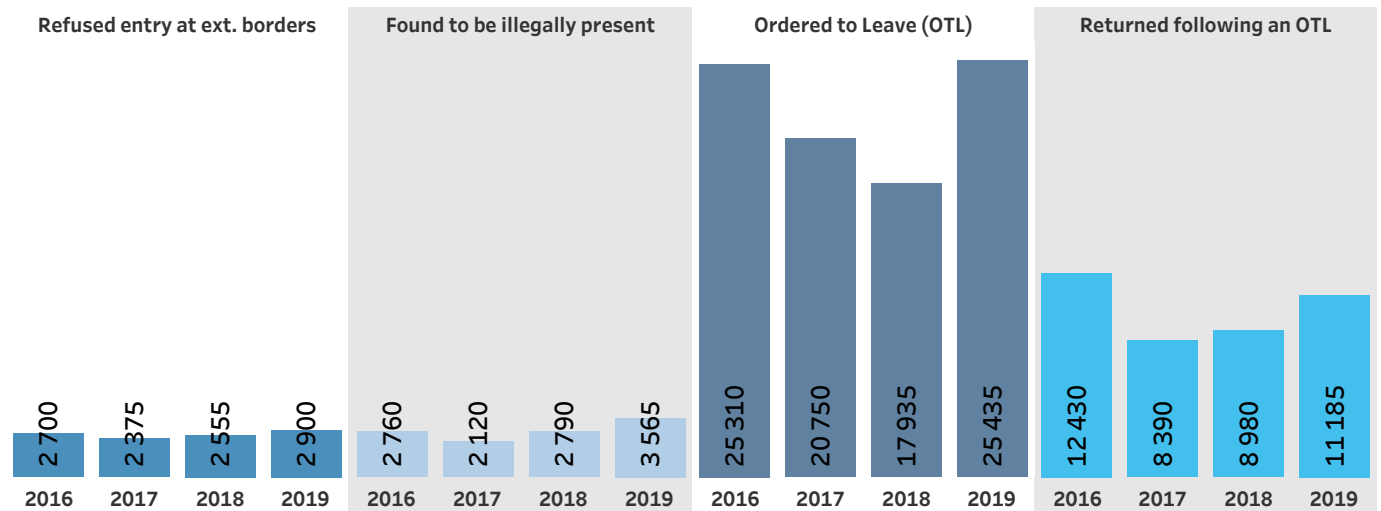


Lodged short-term Visa applications in top 5 consulate countries (% of total app.s)



IRREGULAR MIGRATION

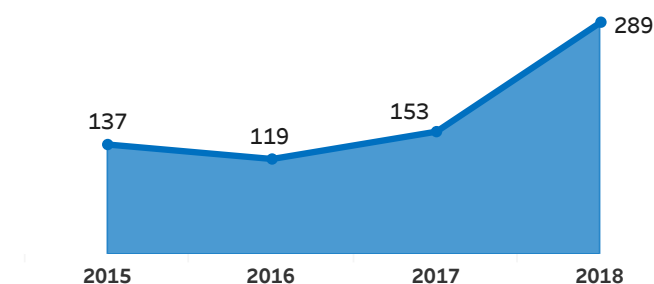
SOURCE: Eurostat (migr_eirfs, migr_eipre, migr_eiord, migr_eirtn)



TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS

Number of residence permits issued to victims of Trafficking in Human Beings

SOURCE: Eurostat (migr_resoth)



RETURN AND READMISSION

Number of Third-Country Nationals who left the territory by type of return

SOURCE: Eurostat (migr_eirt_vol)

0 or not available