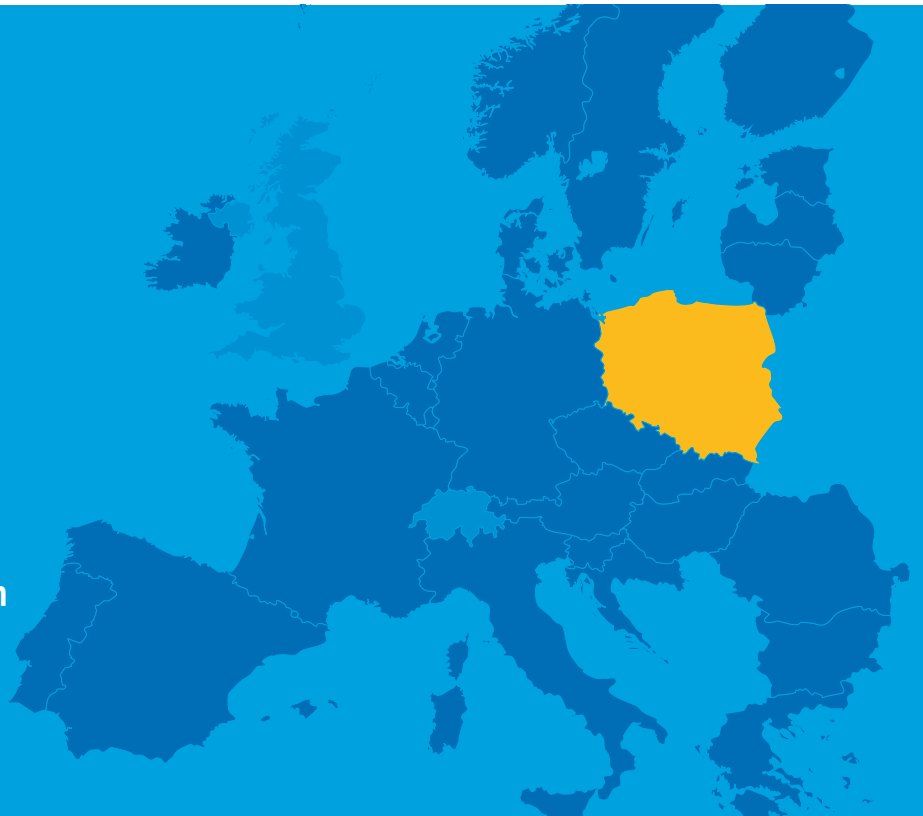


# POLAND

## EMN COUNTRY FACTSHEET 2022

Main developments in migration  
and international protection,  
including latest statistics

August 2023



### OVERARCHING CHANGES

In mid-December 2022, the Office for Foreigners launched a [new website](#) - case handling module (Moduł Obsługi Spraw - MOS). Targeting foreigners interested in applying for a residence permit, the website contains [information on temporary protection and migration procedures](#), including a [questionnaire](#) enabling Ukrainian citizens to determine their residence status in Poland (in Polish, Ukrainian and Russian). The website is intended to eventually allow for online submissions of residence applications.






### LEGAL MIGRATION AND MOBILITY

#### Work-related migration

An [amendment to the Regulation of the Minister of Family and Social Policy](#), on the countries to which certain provisions on seasonal work permits and provisions on the declaration of entrusting work to a foreigner apply, entered into force on 26 October 2022. Citizens of the Russian Federation are excluded from taking up employment in a simplified procedure – they are not allowed to work on a basis of the declaration of entrusting work to a foreigner. Citizens of the Russian Federation may undertake work on a basis of the work permit. Labour market test is required in the procedure of obtaining work permit.

### KEY POINTS

-  The Act on assistance to Ukrainian citizens in connection with an armed conflict on the territory of that state was adopted to manage migration from the war zone and address protection issues.
-  An electronic document was made available to Ukrainian citizens and their family members benefiting from temporary protection as a residence permit confirming their legal stay on the territory of Poland and allowing short-term travel within the Schengen area with a valid travel document, as well as crossing the external border (including with Ukraine).
-  Regulation of the Minister of Foreign Affairs introduced national visas that could also be issued to citizens of Ukraine and Belarus residing on the territory of the Republic of Poland. Those visas could be issued by the Visa Decision Centre within the Consular Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.



### TEMPORARY PROTECTION

#### Main national developments in relation to temporary protection

The [Act on assistance to Ukrainian citizens](#) in connection with an armed conflict on the territory of that

state of 12 March 2022 (with further amendments) was adopted. This was the major act executing the Council's implementing Decision (EU) 2022/382 of 4 March 2022 establishing the existence of a mass influx of displaced persons from Ukraine within the meaning of Article 5 of Directive 2001/55/EC and having the effect of introducing temporary protection. The Act set out specific rules legalising the stay of Ukrainian citizens (and their spouses from third countries) and of Ukrainian citizens holding a Card of the Pole and their families, who came to Poland from Ukraine as a result of the military operations on their territory. The Act also defined specific rules for: entrusting work to citizens of Ukraine legally residing in Poland; assistance provided by provincial governors, local government units and other entities to citizens of Ukraine; certain rights for citizens of Ukraine whose residence in Poland is recognised as legal; specific principles of prolonging the periods of legal residence of citizens of Ukraine; and documents issued by the Republic of Poland.

On 12 July 2022, Poland notified the European Commission and the EU Member States of the [electronic document available to Ukrainian](#) citizens and their family members benefiting from temporary protection (under the Act of assistance to Ukrainian citizens in connection with an armed conflict on the territory of that state) as a residence permit, confirming their legal stay on the territory of Poland and allowing short-term travel within the Schengen area, with a valid travel document, as well as allowing border crossing.

Foreigners who are not covered by the Act on assistance to Ukrainian citizens in connection with the armed conflict on the territory of that state, but who belong to the category of displaced persons mentioned in Article 2(1) and (2) of the Council Implementing Decision stating the existence of a mass influx of displaced persons from Ukraine, are issued certificates under the Act of 13 June 2013 on granting protection to foreigners in the territory of the Republic of Poland (existing provisions – no changes needed).

A national register was created of beneficiaries of temporary protection who fled the war in Ukraine.

Poland integrated with the EU Temporary Protection Platform to exchange information on beneficiaries of temporary protection and adequate protection between Member States.

The procedure for dealing with unaccompanied minors when crossing the border in connection with armed conflict on the territory of Ukraine was developed.

### **Main measures taken outside of the legal framework of the Temporary Protection Directive**

An [amendment to the Regulation of the Minister of the Interior and Administration of 13 March 2020](#), on temporary suspension or limitation of the border traffic on certain border crossing points, entered into force on 30 April 2022.

The execution of return decisions to Ukraine were suspended as a result of the armed conflict on its territory.



## **INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION**

### **Legislative and policy developments related to international protection**

An [amendment to the Regulation of the Minister of the Interior and Administration of 19 February 2016](#), on the amount of aid for foreigners applying for international protection, entered into force on 1 November 2022. It increased the daily food allowance for foreigners in reception centres from PLN 9 to PLN 11.

[Article 15z8 of the Act of 2 March 2020](#), on special solutions related to the prevention, counteracting and combating COVID-19, other infectious diseases and crisis situations caused by them, was repealed on 15 April 2022. According to this article the time limit for providing social assistance and medical care was extended, despite the termination of the procedure for granting international protection with a final decision.



## **BORDERS, SCHENGEN AND VISAS**

### **Border management**

An [amendment to the Regulation of the Minister of the Interior and Administration of 13 March 2020](#), on temporary suspension or limitation of the border traffic on certain border crossing points, came into effect for road, rail and river routes on 19 September 2022 and for air and sea from 26 September 2022. It tightened the entry restrictions on Russian citizens under a regulation of the Minister of the Interior and Administration, as a result of agreements between the prime ministers of Poland, Estonia, Lithuania and Latvia.

The [Regulation of the Minister of the Interior and Administration of 28 February 2022](#), on the introduction of a temporary ban on staying in a specific area in the border zone adjacent to the State border with the Republic of Belarus, entered into force on 2 March 2022 and remained in place until 20 June 2022.

Regulations [3/2022](#), [4/2022](#), [9/2022](#) were introduced by the Voivode of Podlasie (regional authority), on temporary bans on staying within 200 m of the State border.

An [amendment to the Regulation of the Minister of the Interior and Administration of 13 March 2020](#), on temporary suspension or limitation of the border traffic on certain border crossing points, entered into force on 30 April 2022, suspending the imposed limitations of movement at the maritime border.

### **Visa policy**

A [Regulation of the Minister of Foreign Affairs entered into force on 30 August 2022](#), introducing national visas that could also be issued to citizens of Ukraine and

Belarus residing on the territory of the Republic of Poland. Those visas could be issued by the Visa Decision Centre within the Consular Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.



## IRREGULAR MIGRATION INCLUDING MIGRANT SMUGGLING

### Preventing facilitation of irregular migration ('smuggling') and preventing irregular stay

A [barrier was constructed](#) between the Polish and Belarusian border, due to the hybrid war started by the Belarusian regime.



## RETURN AND READMISSION

### Main national developments

An [amendment to the Act on Foreigners entered into force on 15 April 2022](#), entrusting the Border Guard Commander-in-Chief with the authority to provide reintegration assistance to foreigners returning to their country of origin, both voluntarily and involuntarily.



## STATISTICAL ANNEX

The statistical annex available on the next pages complements the Country Factsheet and provides an overview of the latest available statistics for Poland 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](#).

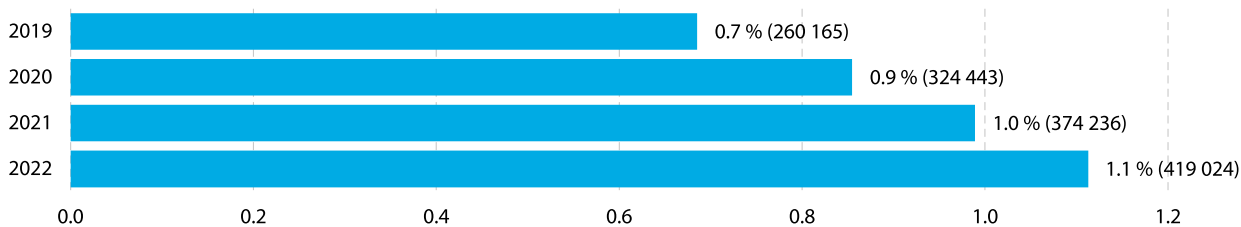
An online data code available under each table/figure can be used to directly access to the most recent data on [Eurostat's website](#).



## LEGAL MIGRATION AND MOBILITY

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

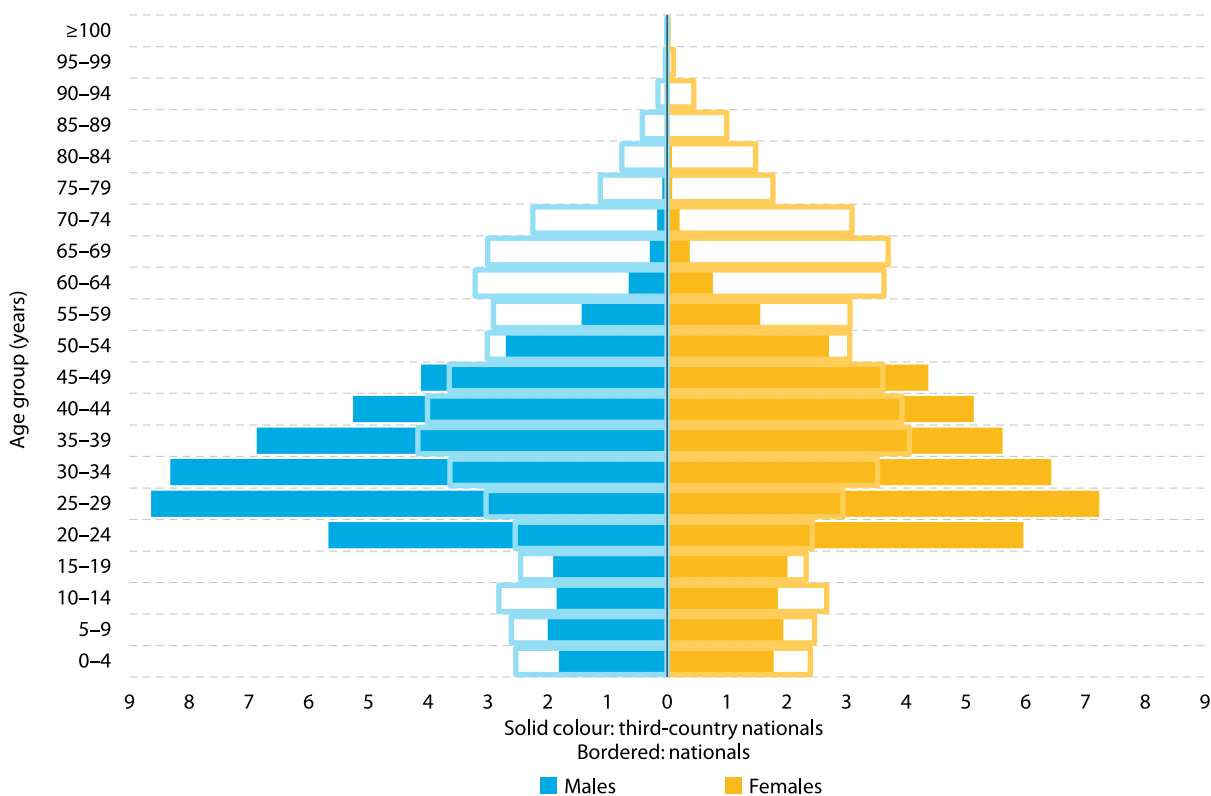
Share of the total population in % (and the absolute number)



Source: Eurostat (migr\_pop1ctz)

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

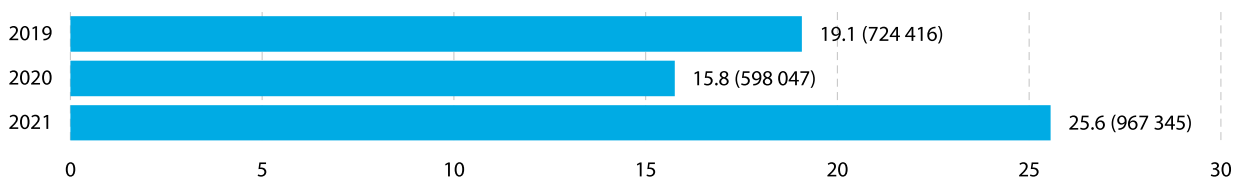
%



Source: Eurostat (migr\_pop1ctz)

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

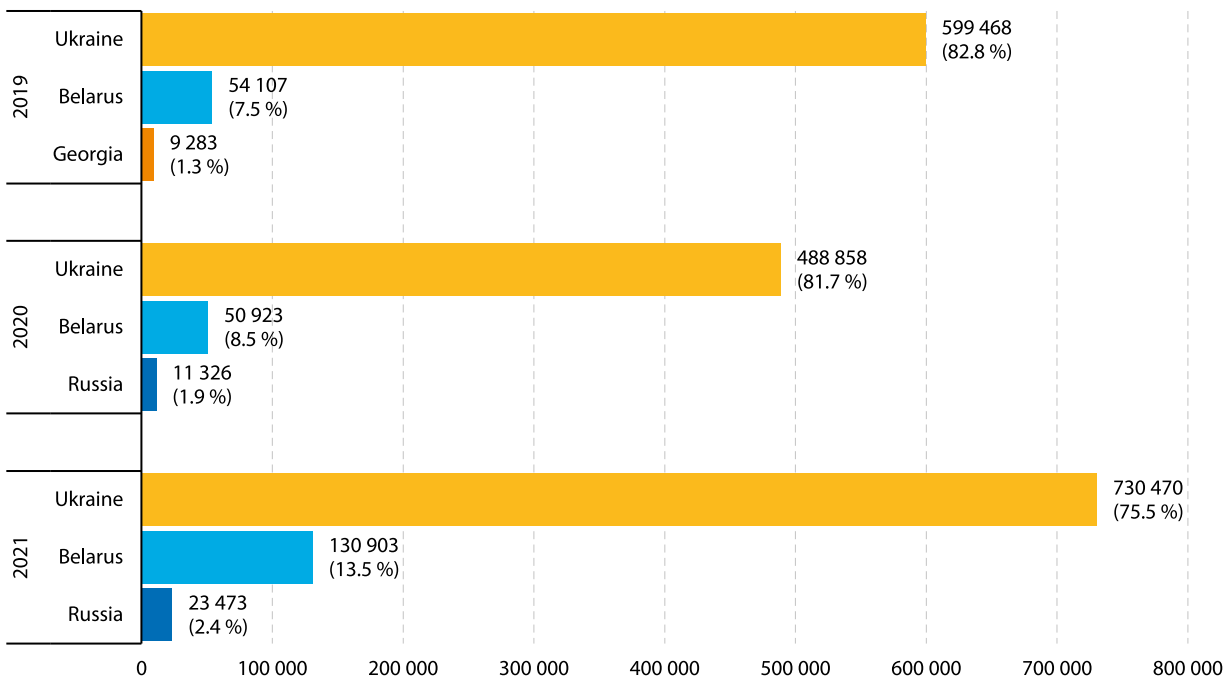
Number per 1 000 people (and the absolute number)



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)

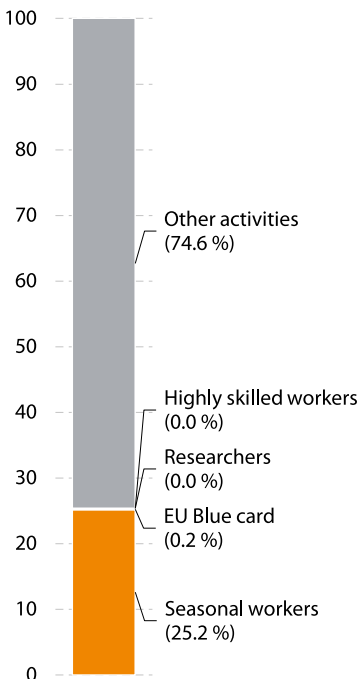


Source: Eurostat (migr\_resfirst)

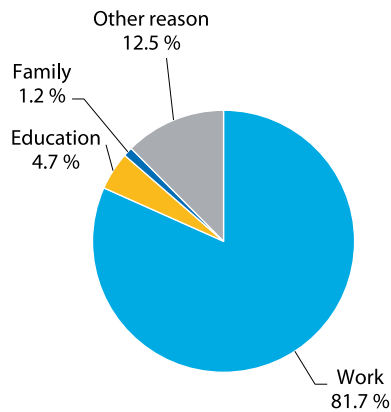
### First residence permits issued, distribution by reason or type, 2021

%

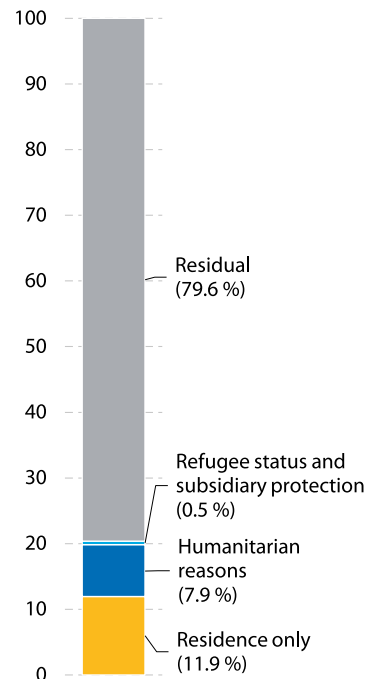
#### Work reason, by type



#### All permits, by reason



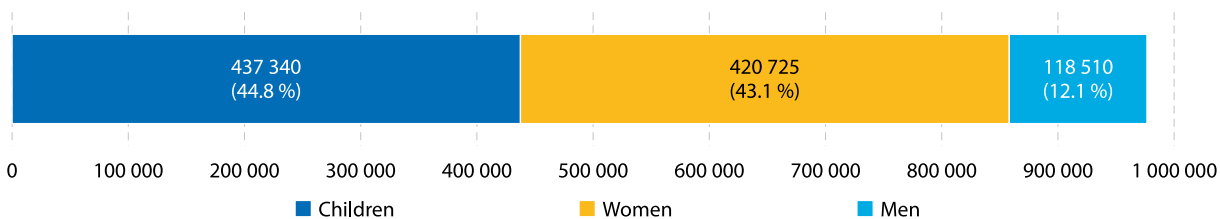
#### Other reason, by detailed reason



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

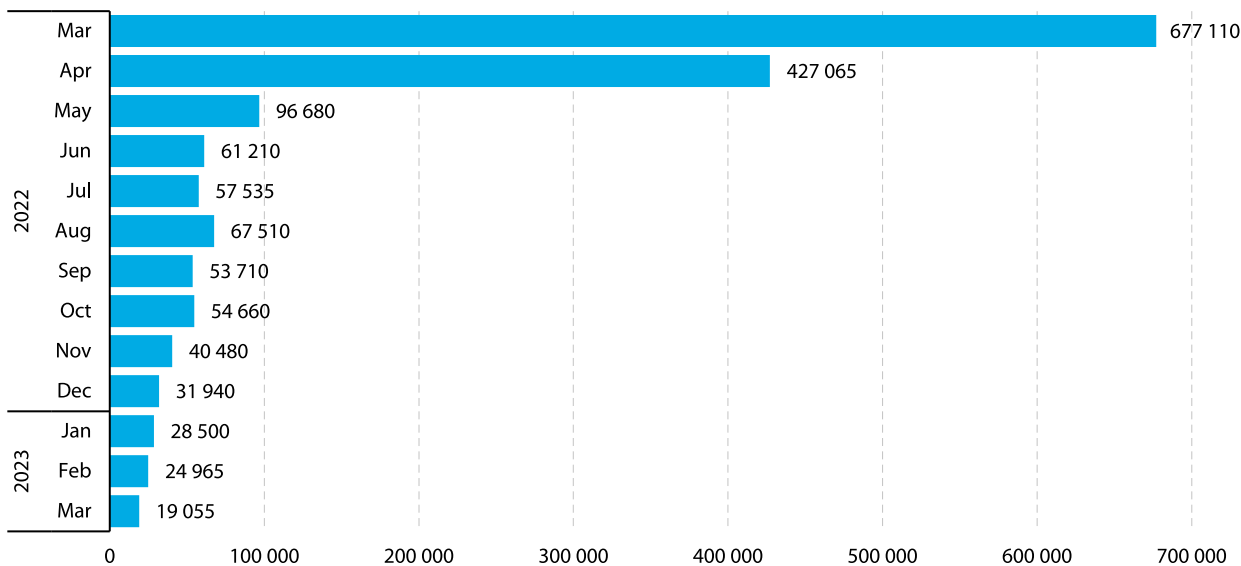
## TEMPORARY PROTECTION

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)



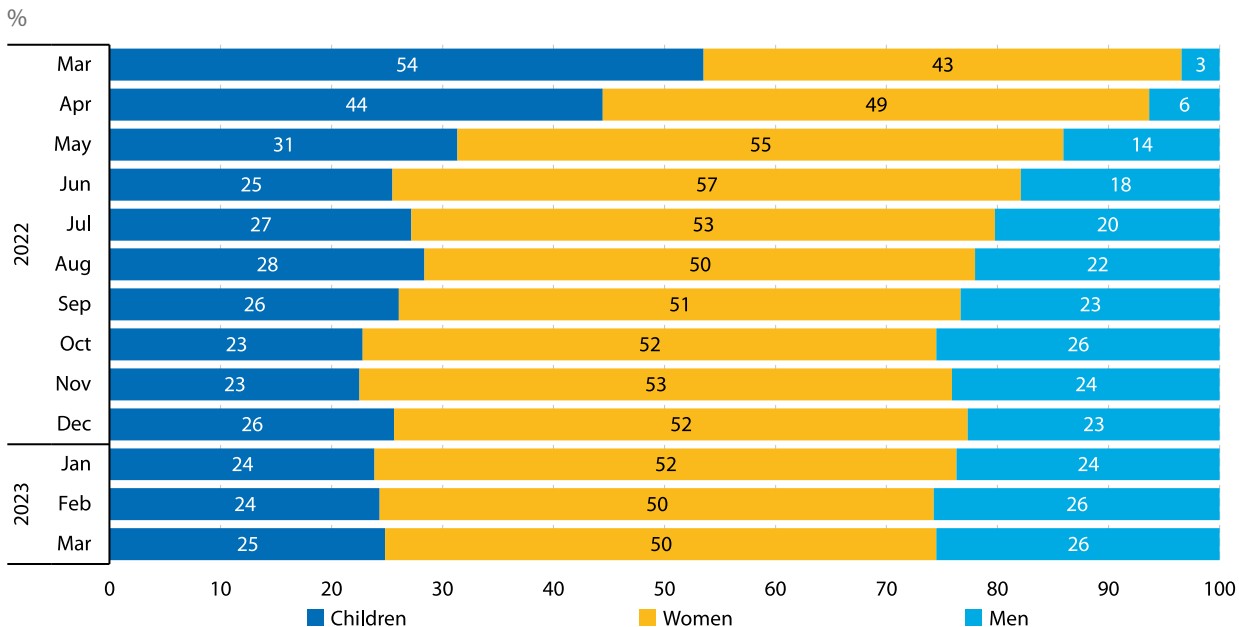
Source: Eurostat (migr\_asytpsm)

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



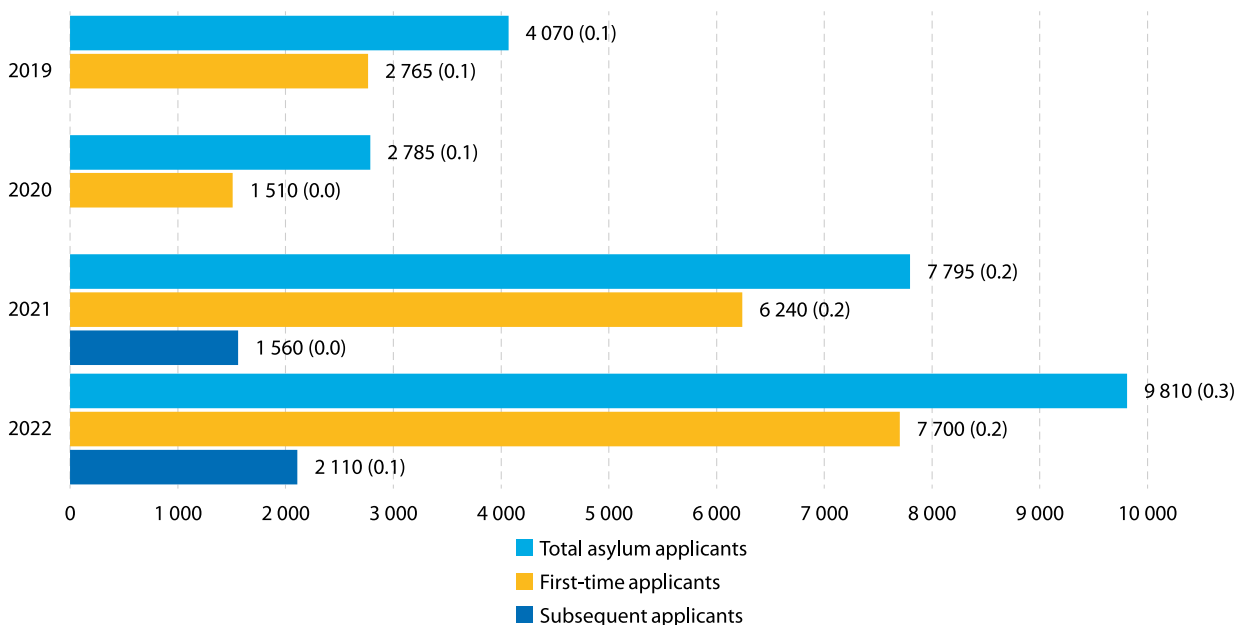
Source: Eurostat (migr\_asytpfm)



## INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION INCLUDING ASYLUM

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

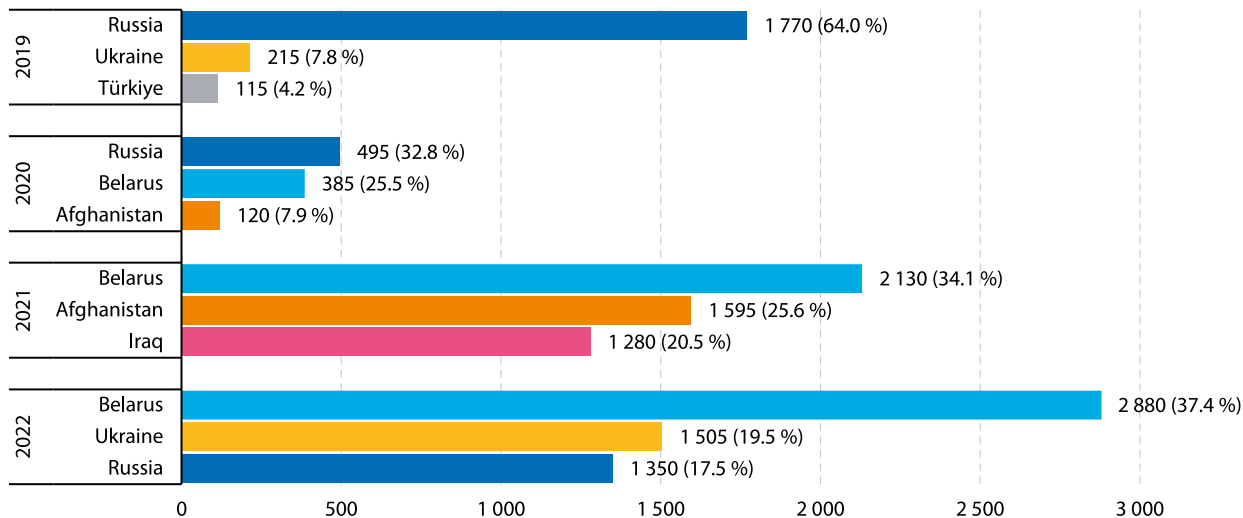
Absolute number (and the number per 1 000 people)



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

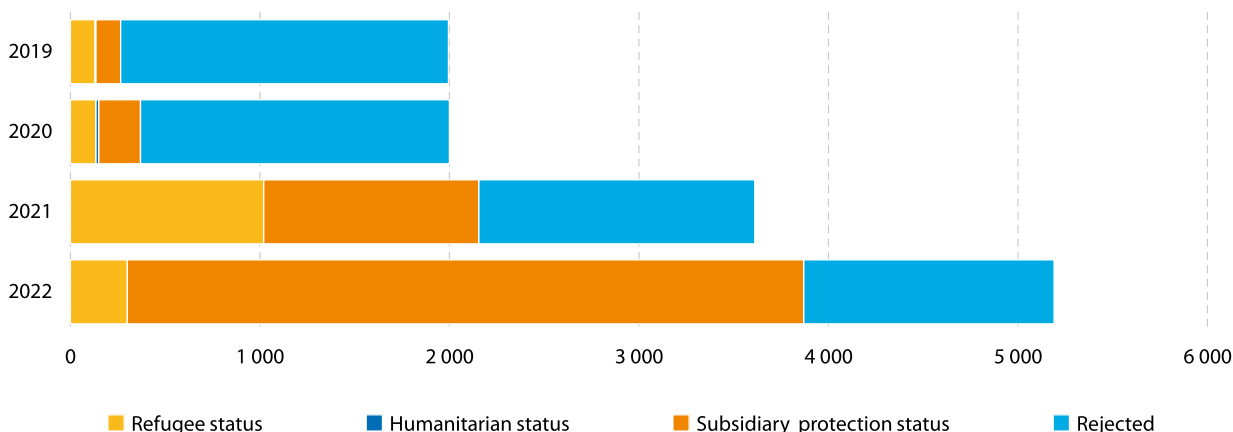
### Top 3 countries of citizenship – first-time asylum applicants, 2019–2022

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



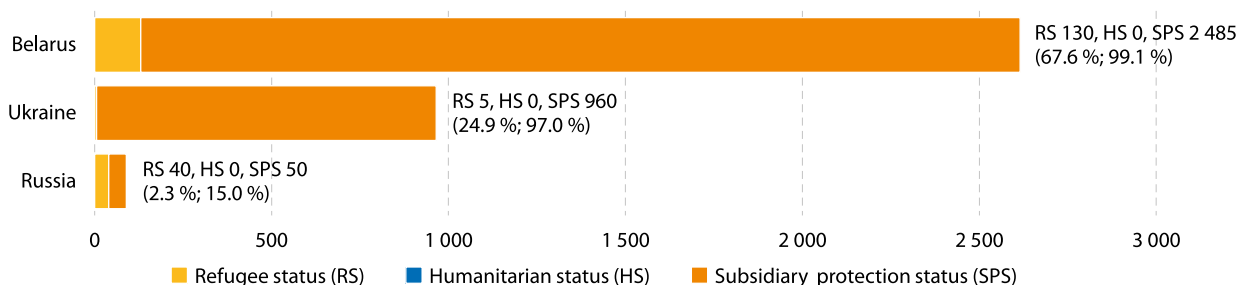
	Refugee status		Humanitarian status		Subsidiary protection status		Rejected	
	Number	Share in total (%)	Number	Share in total (%)	Number	Share in total (%)	Number	Share in total (%)
<b>2019</b>	130	6.5	5	0.3	130	6.5	1 730	86.7
<b>2020</b>	135	6.8	15	0.8	220	11.0	1 630	81.5
<b>2021</b>	1 020	28.3	0	0.0	1 135	31.4	1 455	40.3
<b>2022</b>	300	5.8	0	0.0	3 570	68.8	1 320	25.4

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

Source: Eurostat (migr\_asydcfst)

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

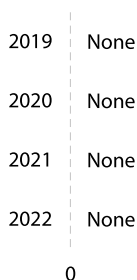
Absolute number (and share in total positive decisions; and the recognition rate)



Source: Eurostat (migr\_asyres)

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

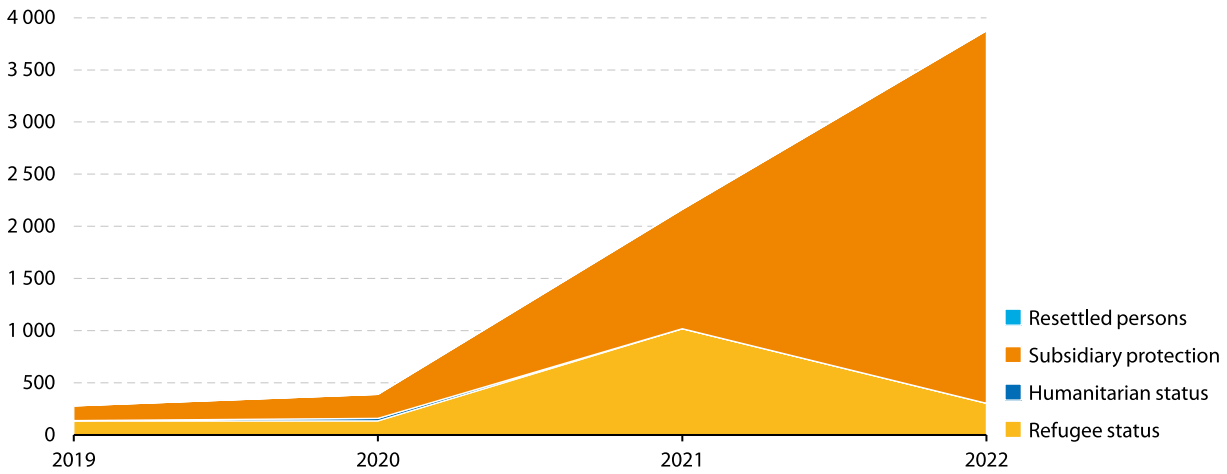
Absolute number (and the share of the total resettled within the EU)



Source: Eurostat (migr\_asyresa)



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

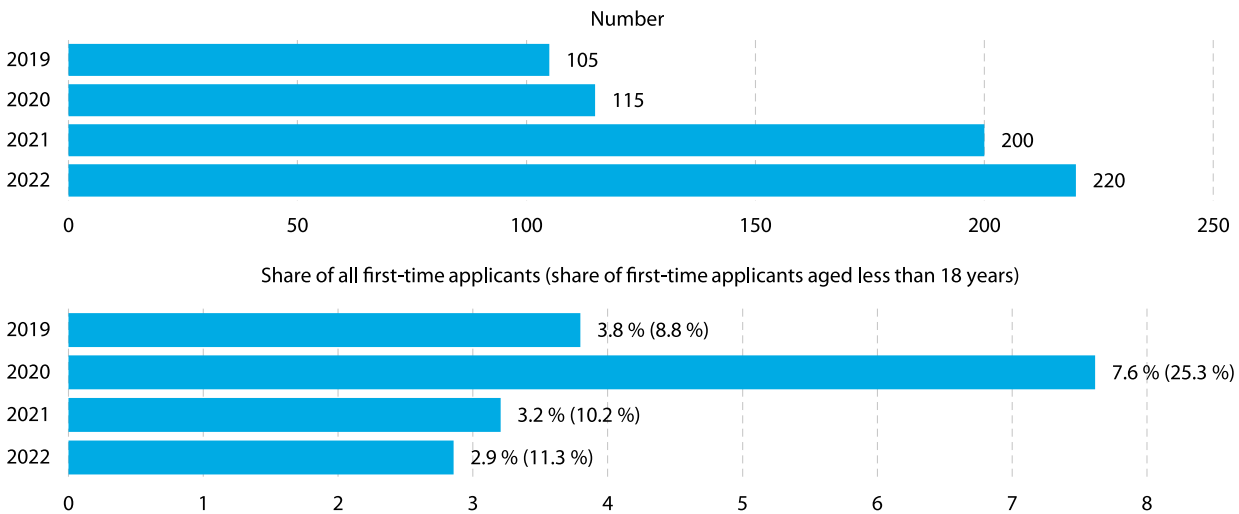


Source: Eurostat (migr\_asydcfst, migr\_asydcfina and migr\_asyresa)



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

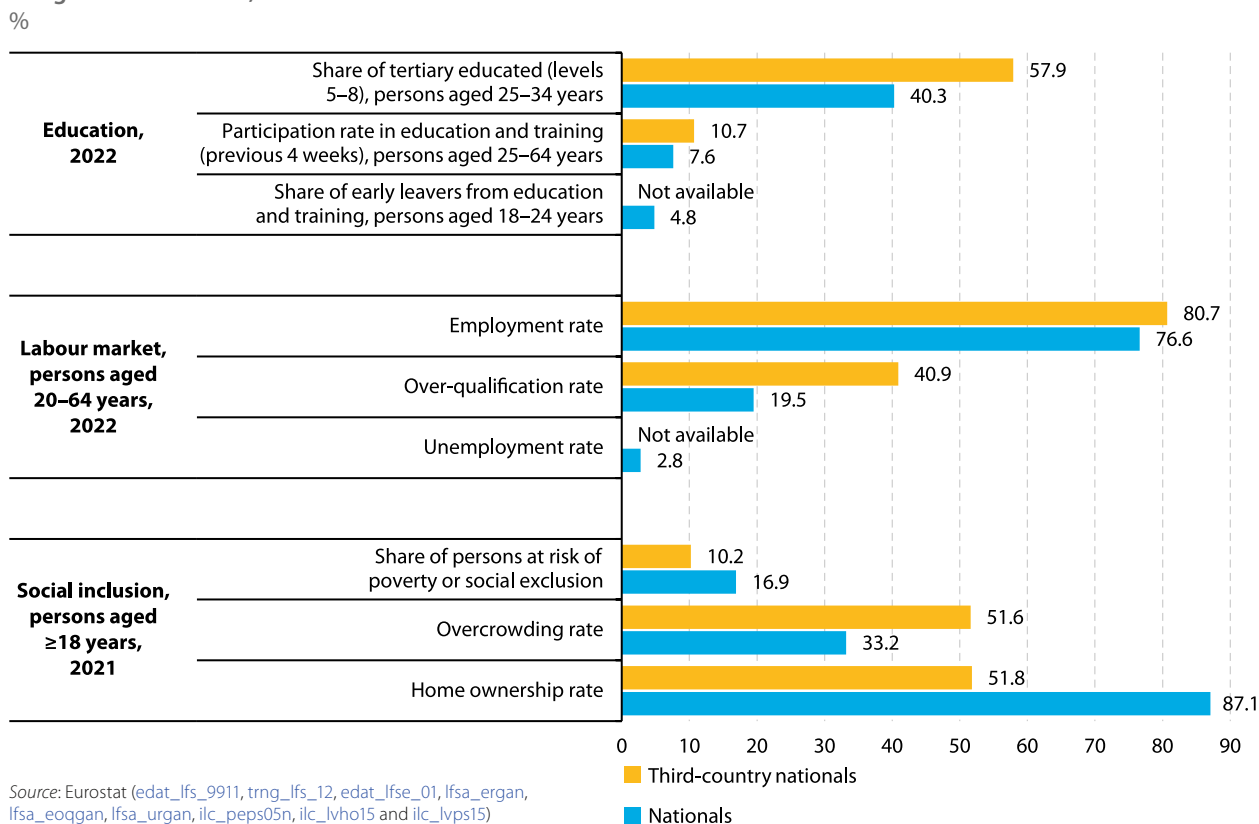
Absolute number (and the share in the total)

Not available

Source: Eurostat (migr\_asyumdcfq)

## INTEGRATION

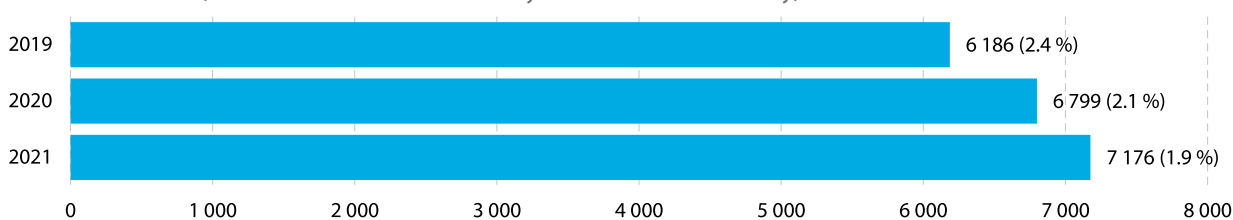
### Integration indicators, 2021 or 2022



## CITIZENSHIP AND STATELESSNESS

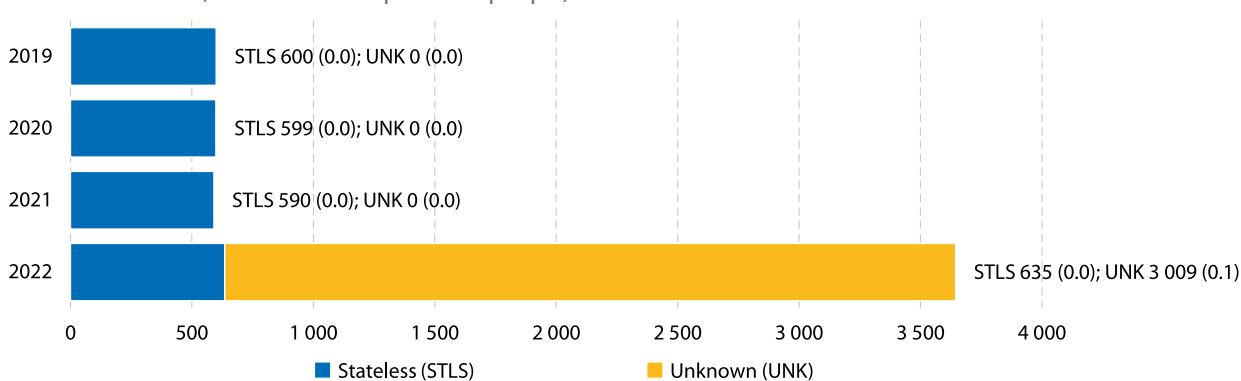
### Third-country nationals who acquired citizenship, 2019–2021

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



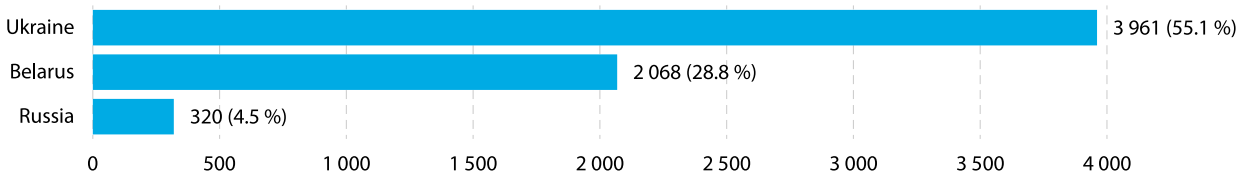
### Stateless persons, persons with unknown citizenship and recognised non-citizens, 2019–2022

Absolute number (and the number per 1 000 people)



### 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)



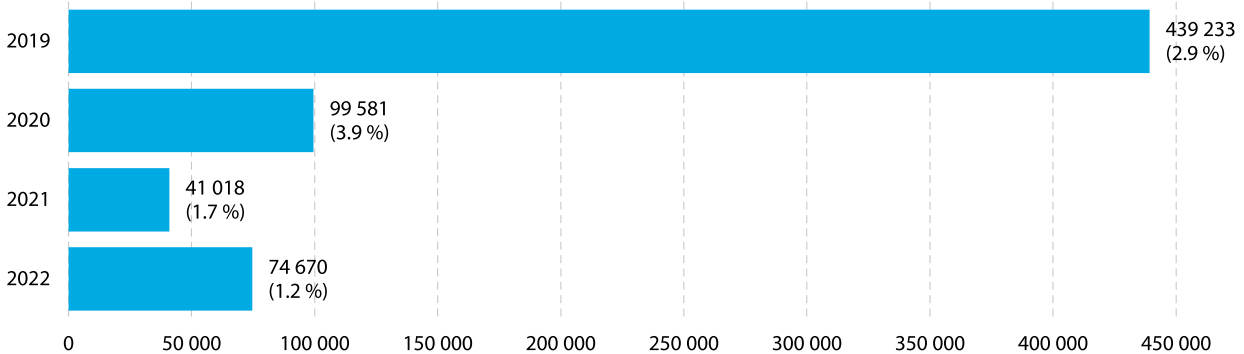
Source: Eurostat (migr\_acq)



## 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)

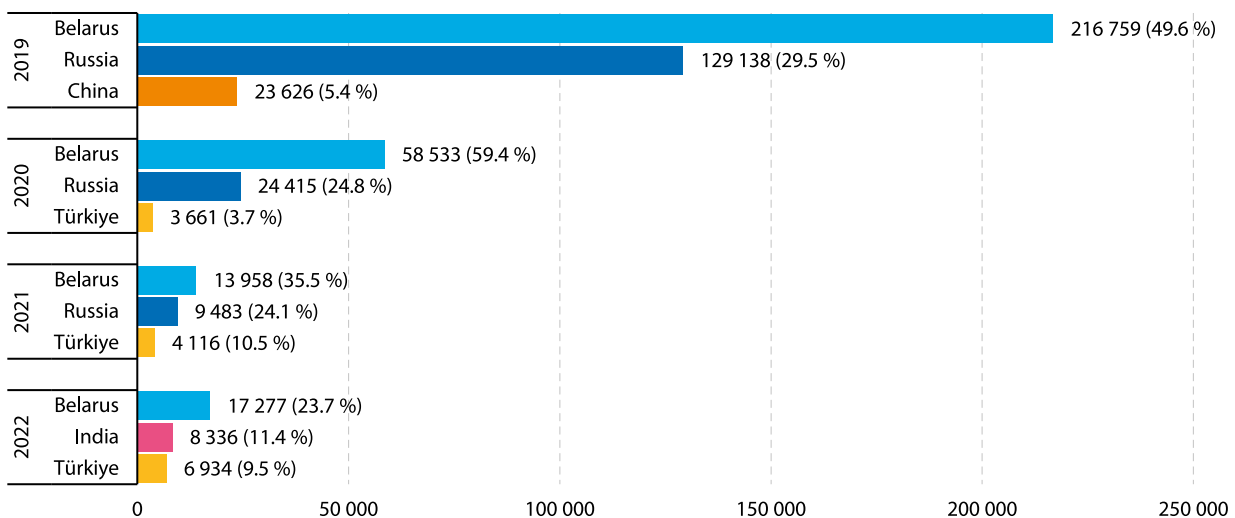


Note: Bulgaria, Ireland, Croatia, Cyprus and Romania were not part of the Schengen Area. Uniform short-stay visas (C visas) entitle the holder to stay in the territories of all Schengen States for up to 90 days within a 180-day period. Such visas may be issued for the purpose of a single entry or multiple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

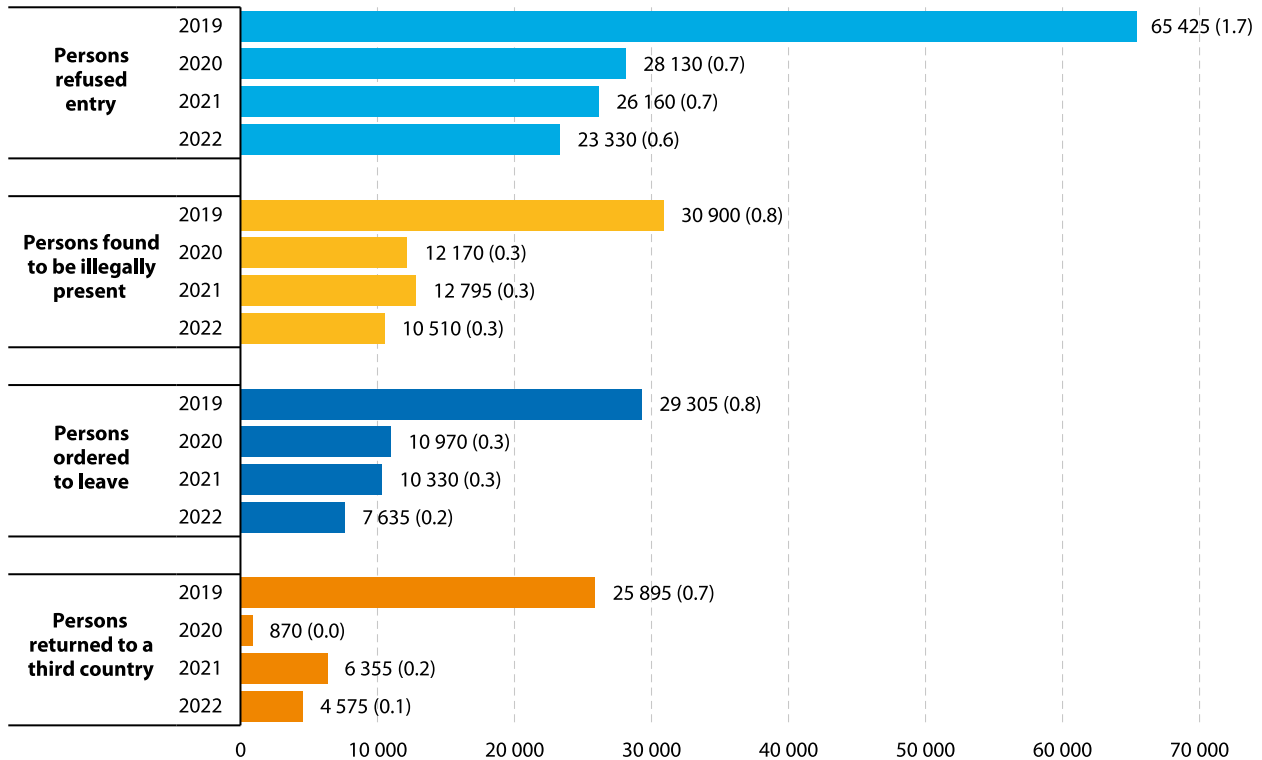
Source: Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs



## IRREGULAR MIGRATION

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

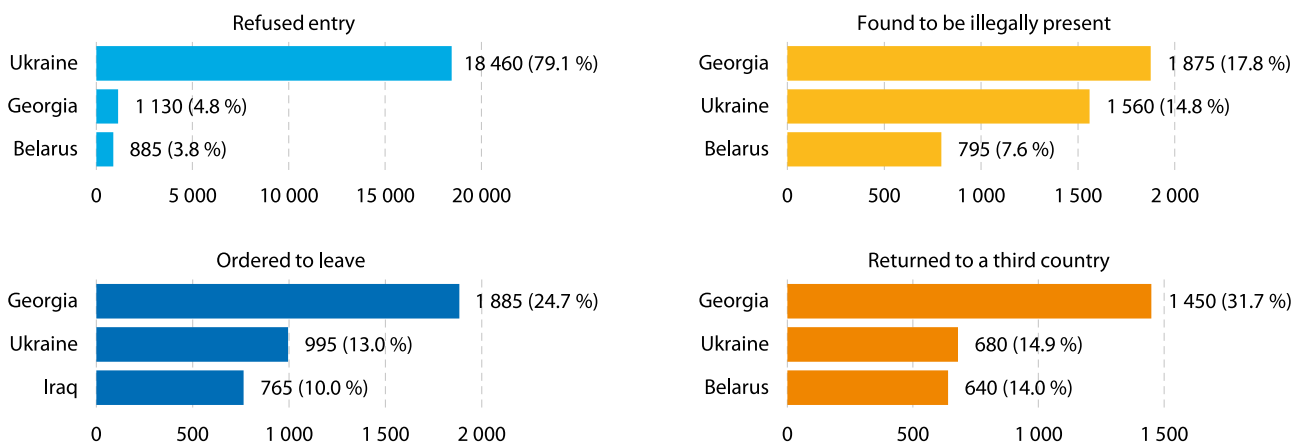
Absolute number (and the number per 1 000 people)



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)



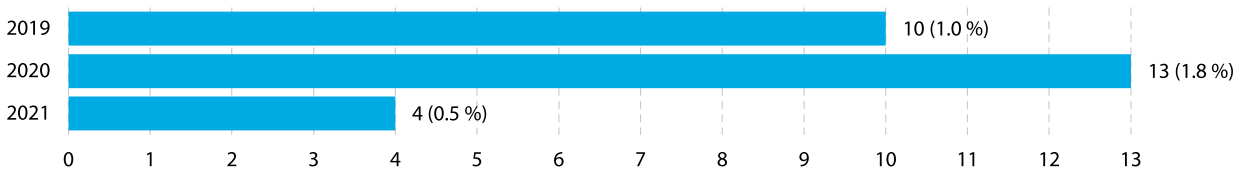
Source: Eurostat (migr\_eirfs, migr\_eipre, migr\_eiord and migr\_eirtn)



## 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)



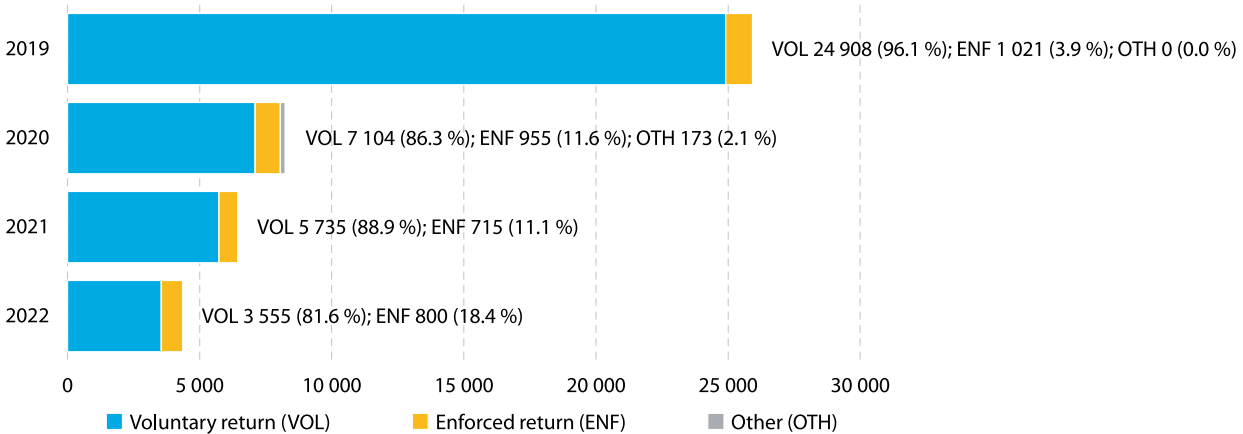
Source: Eurostat (migr\_resoth)



## RETURN AND READMISSION

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

Absolute number (and the share within the total)

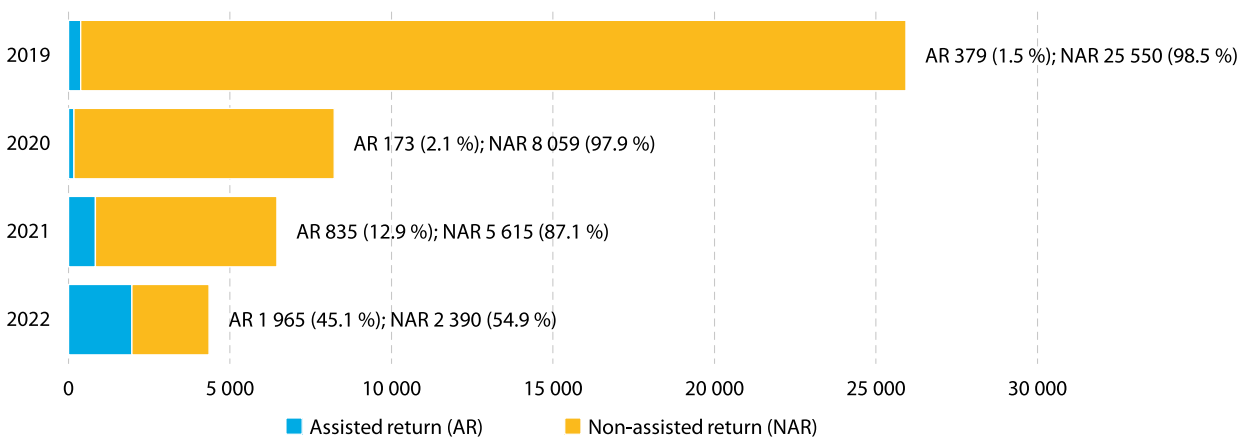


Note: data for 2019 and 2020 are from migr\_eirt\_vol. Data for 2021 and 2022 are from migr\_eirtn1.

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)



## GETTING IN TOUCH WITH THE EU

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### On the phone or in writing

Europe Direct is a service that answers your questions about the European Union. You can contact this service:

- by freephone: 00 800 6 7 8 9 10 11 (certain operators may charge for these calls),
- 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).

## FINDING INFORMATION ABOUT THE EU

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### EU publications

You can view or order EU publications at [op.europa.eu/en/publications](https://op.europa.eu/en/publications). Multiple copies of free publications can be obtained by contacting Europe Direct or your local documentation centre ([european-union.europa.eu/contact-eu/meet-us\\_en](https://european-union.europa.eu/contact-eu/meet-us_en)).

### 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>