Migration and migrant population statistics

From Statistics Explained

Data from October 2011, most recent data: Further Eurostat information, Main tables and Database.

This article presents European Union (EU) statistics on international migration, population stocks of national and foreign (non-national) citizens, and the acquisition of citizenship. Migration is influenced by a combination of economic, political and social factors, either in a migrant's country of origin (push factors) or in the country of destination (pull factors); historically, the relative economic prosperity and political stability of the EU are thought to have exerted a considerable pull effect on immigrants.

In destination countries, international migration may be used as a tool to solve specific labour market shortages. However, international migration alone will almost certainly not reverse the ongoing trend of population ageing experienced in many parts of the EU.

Contents

| | Total immigrants (1 000) | Nationals | | Non-nationals | | | | | |
| | | | | Total | | Citizens of other EU Member States | | Citizens of non-member countries | |
		(1 000)	(%)	(1 000)	(%)	(1 000)	(%)	(1 000)	(%)
EU-27	3,000	600	18	2,500	81	1,000	31	1,500	50
Belgium	:								
Bulgaria	:								
Czech Republic	75.6	21.7	28.8	53.9	71.2	15.5	20.5	38.4	50.7
Denmark	51.8	19.3	37.2	32.5	62.8	16.2	31.3	16.3	31.4
Germany	347.3	79.2	22.8	267.2	76.9	126.8	36.5	140.4	40.4
Estonia	3.9	1.7	42.6	2.2	57.4	1.0	26.8	1.2	30.5
Ireland	37.4	14.7	39.4	22.5	60.1	16.0	42.7	6.5	17.4
Greece				84.2		29.5		54.6	
Spain	499.0	29.6	5.9	469.3	94.1	144.9	29.0	324.5	65.0
France	:								
Italy	442.9	36.2	8.2	406.7	91.8	136.1	30.7	270.6	61.1
Cyprus	11.7								
Latvia	2.7	0.5	19.4	2.2	80.6	1.1	40.2	1.1	40.4
Lithuania	6.5	4.8	74.3	1.7	25.7	0.3	4.0	1.4	21.7
Luxembourg	15.8	1.1	7.1	14.6	92.7	11.9	75.7	2.7	16.9
Hungary	27.9	2.3	8.3	25.6	91.7	14.2	51.1	11.3	40.6
Malta	7.2	1.2	17.0	6.0	83.0	4.0	54.7	2.0	28.3
Netherlands	128.8	36.9	28.7	81.9	63.6	47.3	36.7	34.6	26.8
Austria	73.3	9.5	13.0	63.6	86.9	39.1	53.3	24.6	33.5
Poland	:								
Portugal	32.3	18.0	55.9	14.3	44.1	4.0	12.4	10.3	31.8
Romania	:								
Slovenia	30.3	2.9	9.6	27.4	90.3	1.9	6.2	25.5	84.1
Slovakia	15.6	1.2	7.7	14.4	92.3	6.9	43.9	7.6	48.4
Finland	26.7	8.6	32.3	17.8	66.7	6.5	24.2	11.3	42.4
Sweden	102.3	18.5	18.1	83.5	81.6	26.9	26.3	56.6	55.4
United Kingdom	566.5	96.0	16.9	470.5	83.1	167.4	29.6	303.1	53.5
Iceland	3.9	1.4	36.0	2.5	64.0	2.0	51.3	0.5	12.6
Liechtenstein	:								
Norway	56.0	7.3	13.1	48.6	86.9	26.9	48.0	21.8	38.9
Switzerland	160.6	22.4	13.9	138.3	86.1	91.1	56.7	47.1	29.3

(1) EU-27 rounded totals are based on estimates; the individual values do not add up to the total due to rounding and the exclusion of the 'unknown' citizenship group from the table.
Source: Eurostat (online data code: migr_imm1ctz)

Table 1: Immigration by main citizenship group, 2009 (1) - Source: Eurostat (migr_imm1ctz) (http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/product?code=migr_imm1ctz&language=en&mode=view)

Main statistical findings

Migration flows

During 2009, about 3.0 million people immigrated into one of the EU Member States (see Table 1), while at least 1.9 million emigrants were reported to have left an EU Member State. The latest figures available reveal

a substantial decline in immigration in 2009 as compared with 2008. However, it is difficult to quantify exactly the magnitude of this decline as some countries (including Germany, Austria and the Netherlands) have modified the underlying definitions of migration (for example, immigration into Germany in 2009 was 347 000, but the level would have been more than double under the earlier definition).

It should be noted that these figures do not represent the migration flows to/from the EU as a whole, since they also include flows between different EU Member States. However, more than half of the immigrants into the EU Member States, an estimated 1.6 million people in 2009, were previously residing outside the EU.

The United Kingdom reported the largest number of immigrants (566 500) in 2009, followed by Spain (499 000) and Italy (442 900); just over half (50.3 %) of all immigrants into EU Member States were recorded in these three countries.

The United Kingdom also reported the highest number of emigrants in 2009 (368 000), followed by Spain with 324 000 and Germany with 287 000. Most EU Member States reported more immigration than emigration in 2009, but in Ireland, Malta and the three Baltic Member States emigrants outnumbered immigrants.

Relative to the size of the resident population (see Figure 1), Luxembourg recorded the highest number of immigrants in 2009 (31 immigrants per 1 000 inhabitants), followed by Malta (17), Slovenia and Cyprus (both 15); immigration was also high in the EFTA countries, greatly exceeding the EU average of 6.1 immigrants per 1 000 inhabitants.

Among EU Member States, Luxembourg (20 emigrants per 1 000 inhabitants) and Malta (16) reported the highest rate of emigration in 2009; these levels were surpassed in Iceland, where almost 29 residents per 1 000 inhabitants left the country.

Immigrants include both nationals (former emigrants returning 'home' and citizens born abroad who are immigrating for the first time)
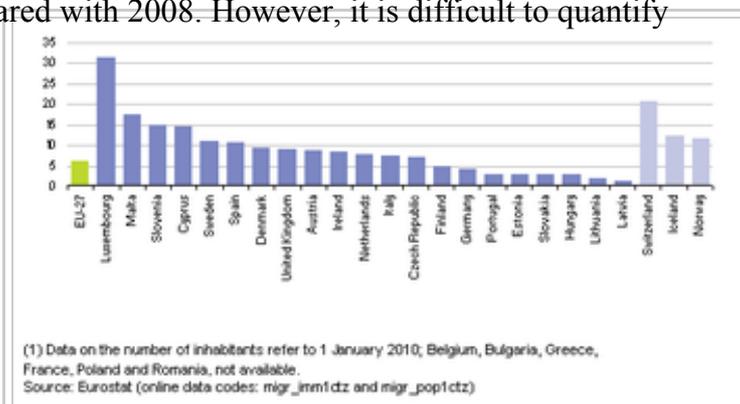

(1) Data on the number of inhabitants refer to 1 January 2010; Belgium, Bulgaria, Greece, France, Poland and Romania, not available.
Source: Eurostat (online data codes: migr_imm1ctz and migr_pop1ctz)

Figure 1: Immigrants, 2009 (1)
(per 1 000 inhabitants) - Source: Eurostat
(migr_imm1ctz) (http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/product?
code=migr_imm1ctz&language=en&mode=view) and
(migr_pop1ctz) (http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/product?
code=migr_pop1ctz&language=en&mode=view)

(1) Candidate countries as of 1 January 2009: Croatia, former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Turkey.
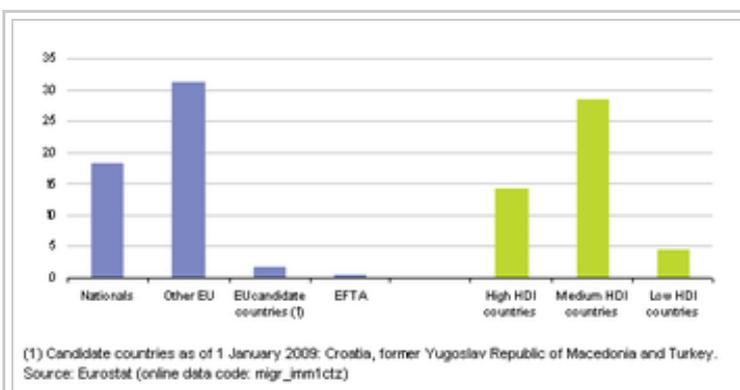Source: Eurostat (online data code: migr_imm1ctz)

Figure 2: Share of immigrants by citizenship group, EU-27, 2009
(%) - Source: Eurostat (migr_imm1ctz)
(http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/product?
code=migr_imm1ctz&language=en&mode=view)

(1) Data for Belgium, Bulgaria, Greece, Cyprus, France, Poland and Romania, not available.
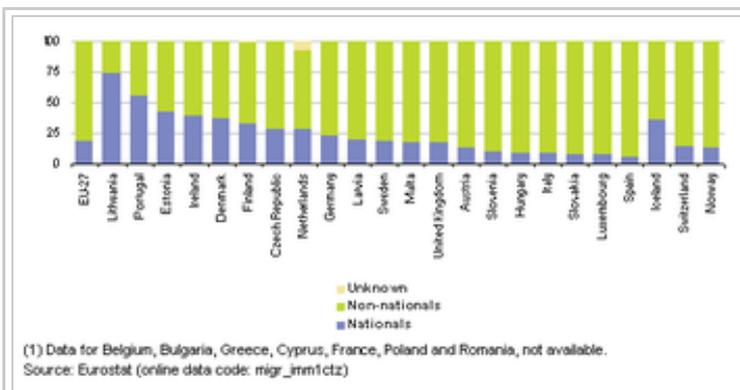Source: Eurostat (online data code: migr_imm1ctz)

Figure 3: Share of nationals and non-nationals among immigrants, 2009 (1)
(%) - Source: Eurostat (migr_imm1ctz)
(http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/product?
code=migr_imm1ctz&language=en&mode=view)

and non-nationals (people who are not citizens of the destination country). Among all immigrants into EU Member States in 2009, 18 % were nationals (see Figure 2), 31 % were citizens of other EU Member States, and 51 % were third country nationals, that is citizens of non-member countries. These third country nationals can be differentiated according to the level of development of their country of citizenship, based on the human development index (HDI) calculated by the United Nations (UN) under the UN Development Programme (http://www.undp.org/) . According to this analysis, the largest share (28 %) of immigrants into the EU came from medium-HDI countries, while relatively low shares came from low-HDI countries (5 %), candidate countries (2 %) or EFTA countries (1 %).

The relative importance of nationals within the total number of immigrants was highest in Lithuania (74 %) and Portugal (56 %) in 2009. In contrast, Spain, Luxembourg, Slovakia, Italy, Hungary and Slovenia reported relatively low shares, with nationals accounting for less than 10 % of all immigrants.

Regarding the gender distribution of immigrants in 2009, there was a slight prevalence for more men than women to immigrate into the EU as a whole (52 % compared with 48 %). The country reporting the highest share of male immigrants was Slovenia (76 %); in contrast, the highest share of female immigrants was reported by Cyprus (58 %).

Immigrants into EU Member States in 2009 were, on average, much younger than the population already resident in their country of destination. On 1 January 2010, the median age of the EU-27 population was 40.9 years. The median age of immigrants in 2009 ranged from 24.9 years (in Portugal) to 33.7 years (in Latvia).
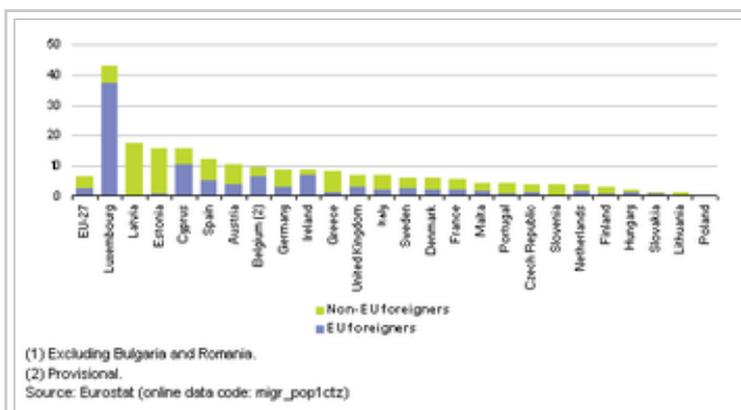
- ■ **Non-national population**

The total number of non-nationals (people who are not citizens of their country of residence) living on the territory of an EU Member State on 1 January 2010 was 32.5 million persons,

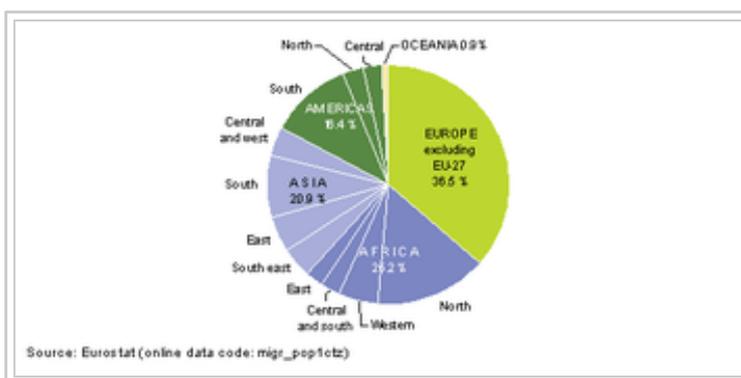|	Total population (1 000)	Non-nationals					
		Total		Citizens of other EU Member States		Citizens of non-member countries	
		(1 000)	(%)	(1 000)	(%)	(1 000)	(%)
EU-27	501,100	32,500	6.5	12,300	2.5	20,200	4.0
Belgium	10,839.9	1,052.8	9.7	715.1	6.6	337.7	3.1
Bulgaria	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Czech Republic	10,506.8	424.4	4.0	137.0	1.3	287.4	2.7
Denmark	5,534.7	329.8	6.0	115.5	2.1	214.3	3.9
Germany	81,802.3	7,130.9	8.7	2,546.3	3.1	4,584.7	5.6
Estonia	1,340.1	212.7	15.9	11.0	0.8	201.7	15.1
Ireland	4,467.9	384.4	8.6	309.4	6.9	75.0	1.7
Greece	11,305.1	954.8	8.4	163.1	1.4	791.7	7.0
Spain	45,989.0	5,663.5	12.3	2,327.8	5.1	3,335.7	7.3
France	64,716.3	3,769.0	5.8	1,317.6	2.0	2,451.4	3.8
Italy	60,340.3	4,235.1	7.0	1,241.3	2.1	2,993.7	5.0
Cyprus	803.1	127.3	15.9	83.5	10.4	43.8	5.5
Latvia	2,248.4	392.2	17.4	9.7	0.4	382.4	17.0
Lithuania	3,329.0	37.0	1.1	2.4	0.1	34.6	1.0
Luxembourg	502.1	215.7	43.0	186.2	37.1	29.5	5.9
Hungary	10,014.3	200.0	2.0	118.9	1.2	81.1	0.8
Malta	414.4	18.1	4.4	7.3	1.8	10.8	2.6
Netherlands	16,575.0	652.2	3.9	310.9	1.9	341.3	2.1
Austria	8,367.7	876.4	10.5	328.3	3.9	548.0	6.5
Poland	38,167.3	45.5	0.1	14.8	0.0	30.7	0.1
Portugal	10,637.7	457.3	4.3	94.2	0.9	363.1	3.4
Romania	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Slovenia	2,047.0	82.2	4.0	4.6	0.2	77.6	3.8
Slovakia	5,424.9	62.9	1.2	38.7	0.7	24.2	0.4
Finland	5,351.4	154.6	2.9	56.1	1.0	98.5	1.8
Sweden	9,340.7	590.5	6.3	265.8	2.8	324.7	3.5
United Kingdom	62,027.0	4,362.0	7.0	1,919.9	3.1	2,442.1	3.9
Iceland	317.6	21.7	6.8	17.2	5.4	4.5	1.4
Liechtenstein	35.9	:	:	:	:	:	:
Norway	4,854.5	331.6	6.8	185.6	3.8	146.0	3.0
Switzerland	7,785.8	1,714.0	22.0	1,073.7	13.8	640.3	8.2

(1) EU-27 rounded totals are based on estimates; the individual values do not add up to the total due to rounding.
Source: Eurostat (online data code: migr_pop1ctz)

Table 2: Total population and resident non-national population by group of citizenship, 2010 - Source: Eurostat (migr_pop1ctz) (http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/product?code=migr_pop1ctz&language=en&mode=view)

(1) Excluding Bulgaria and Romania.
(2) Provisional.
Source: Eurostat (online data code: migr_pop1ctz)

Figure 4: Share of non-nationals in the resident population, 2010 (1) (%) - Source: Eurostat (migr_imm1ctz) (http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/product?code=migr_imm1ctz&language=en&mode=view)

Source: Eurostat (online data code: migr_pop1ctz)

representing 6.5 % of the EU-27 population (see Table 2). More than one third (a total of 12.3 million persons) of all non-nationals living in the EU-27 on 1 January 2010 were citizens of another EU Member State.

In absolute terms, the largest numbers of non-nationals living in the EU were found in Germany (7.1 million persons on 1 January 2010), Spain (5.7 million), the United Kingdom (4.4 million), Italy (4.2 million) and France (3.8 million). Non-nationals in these five Member States collectively represented 77.4 % of the total number of non-nationals living in the EU-27, while the same five Member States had a 62.8 % share of the whole of the EU-27 population. In relative terms, the EU Member State with the highest share of non-nationals was Luxembourg, as they accounted for 43.0 % of the total population at the beginning of 2010. The vast majority (86.3 %) of non-nationals living in Luxembourg were citizens of other EU Member States. As of 1 January 2010, a high proportion of non-nationals (10 % or more of the resident population) was also observed in Latvia, Cyprus, Estonia, Spain and Austria.

In most Member States the majority of non-nationals are citizens of non-member countries (third-country nationals). At the beginning of 2010 citizens of other EU Member States represented the majority of non-nationals living in Luxembourg, Ireland, Belgium, Slovakia, Cyprus and Hungary. In the case of Latvia and Estonia, the proportion of citizens from non-member countries is particularly large due to the high number of recognised non-citizens; these are mainly former Soviet Union citizens, who are permanently resident in these countries but have not acquired Latvian/Estonian citizenship or any other citizenship.

Looking at the distribution by continent of origin of third country nationals living in the EU, the largest proportion (36.5 %) were citizens of a European country outside the EU-27 (see Figure 5), a total of 7.2 million people; among these more than half were citizens of Turkey, Albania or Ukraine. The second biggest group was from Africa (25.2 %), followed by Asia (20.9 %), the Americas (16.4 %) and Oceania (0.9 %). More

Figure 5: Citizens of non-member countries resident in the EU-27 by continent of origin, 2010 (%) - Source: Eurostat (migr_pop1ctz) (http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/product?code=migr_pop1ctz&language=en&mode=view)
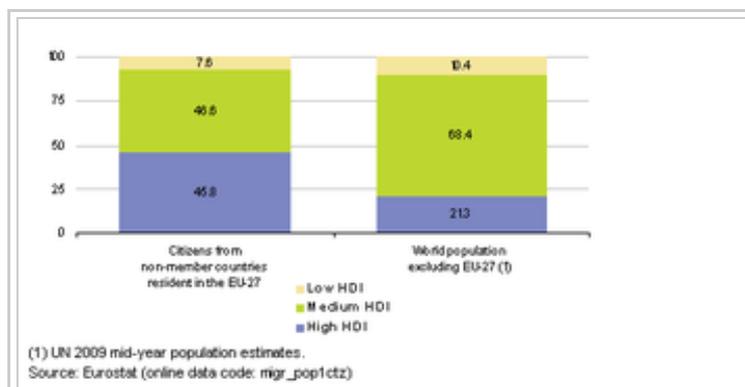

Figure 6: Non-EU citizens analysed by level of human development index (HDI), 2010 (%) - Source: Eurostat (migr_pop1ctz) (http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/product?code=migr_pop1ctz&language=en&mode=view)
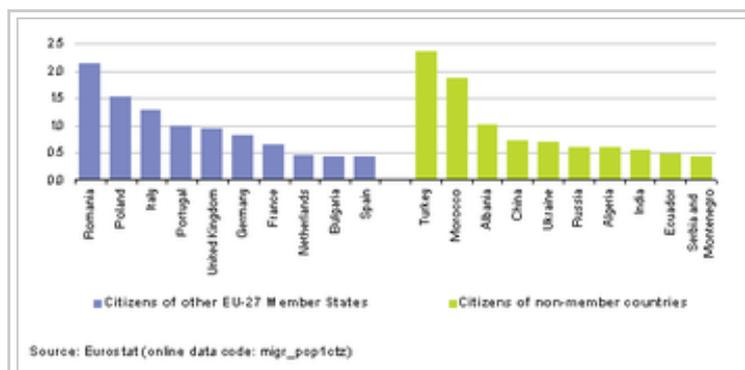

Figure 7: Main countries of origin of non-nationals, EU-27, 2010 (million) - Source: Eurostat (migr_pop1ctz) (http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/product?code=migr_pop1ctz&language=en&mode=view)
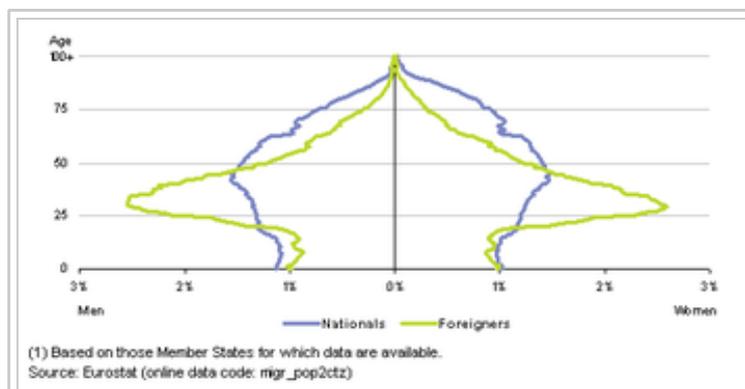

Figure 8: Age structure of the national and non-national populations, EU, 2010 (1)

than half of the citizens of African countries that were living in the EU were from North Africa, often from Morocco or Algeria. Many Asian non-nationals living in the EU came from southern or eastern Asia, in particular from India or China. Citizens of Ecuador, Brazil and Colombia made up the largest share of non-nationals from the Americas living in the EU.

Among the nationals from non-member countries living in the EU-27 in 2010, some 45.8 % possessed the citizenship of a high-HDI country (with Turkey, Albania and Russia accounting for almost half of these), while a slightly higher share (46.6 %) came from medium-HDI countries (one fifth of whom were citizens of Morocco, with nationals of China and Ukraine the next largest groups), the remaining 7.6 % of nationals of non-member countries living in the EU were from low-HDI countries (30 % of whom had Nigerian or Iraqi citizenship). In order to give some perspective, a breakdown of the world's population (outside of the EU) shows that the medium-HDI group accounted for by far the largest share (68.4 %) of global inhabitants, followed by those living in the high-HDI group (21.3 %) and the low-HDI group (10.4 %).

The citizenship structure of the population of non-nationals living in the EU varies greatly between Member States; it is influenced by factors such as labour migration, historical links between origin and destination countries, and established networks in destination countries. Turkish citizens made up the biggest group of non-nationals (see Figure 7) living in the EU in 2010, comprising 2.4 million people, or 7.2 % of all non-nationals. The second largest group was Romanians living in another EU Member State (6.6 % of the non-national population), followed by Moroccans (5.7 %). The group of non-nationals living in the EU with the most significant increase over the period from 2001 to 2010 was Romanians, their numbers increasing seven-fold from 0.3 million in 2001 to 2.1 million by 2010. The number of Polish and Chinese citizens also increased significantly during this period, and citizens from both of these countries figured among the ten largest non-national groups in 2010.

An analysis of the age structure of the resident population shows that, for the EU-27 as a whole, the non-national population was younger than the national population. The distribution by age of non-nationals shows, with respect to nationals, a greater representation of adults aged between 20 and 47; this feature is evident when looking at the corresponding population pyramids (see Figure 8). In 2010, the median age of

(%) - Source: Eurostat (migr_pop2ctz) (http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/product? code=migr_pop2ctz&language=en&mode=view)
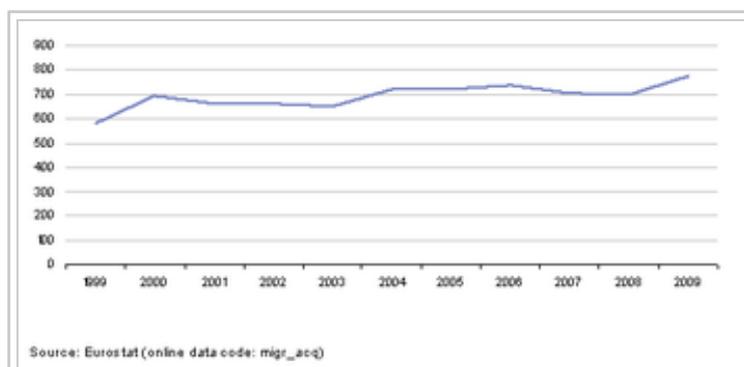

Source: Eurostat (online data code: migr_acq)

Figure 9: Number of persons having acquired the citizenship of an EU Member State, 1999-2009 (1 000) - Source: Eurostat (migr_acq) (http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/product? code=migr_acq&language=en&mode=view)

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
EU-27	579.7	693.9	663.3	662.5	651.9	719.1	723.6	735.9	707.1	698.7	776.1
Belgium	24.2	62.0	62.2	46.4	33.7	34.8	31.5	31.9	36.1	37.7	32.8
Bulgaria			4.4	3.5	4.4	5.8	5.9	6.7	6.0	7.1	9.2
Czech Republic	7.3	6.4	6.3	3.3	2.2	5.0	2.6	2.3	2.4	1.2	1.1
Denmark	12.4	18.8	11.9	17.3	6.6	15.0	10.2	8.0	3.6	6.0	6.9
Germany	143.1	186.7	180.3	154.5	140.7	127.2	117.2	124.6	113.0	94.5	96.1
Estonia	4.5	3.4	3.1	4.1	3.7	6.5	7.1	4.8	4.2	2.1	1.7
Ireland	1.4	1.1	2.8	3.4	4.0	3.8	4.1	5.8	4.6	3.2	4.5
Greece			1.5	1.7	1.9	1.4	1.7	2.0	3.9	16.9	17.0
Spain	16.4	16.7	16.7	21.8	26.5	38.2	42.9	62.4	71.9	84.2	79.6
France	147.5	150.0	127.5	128.1	144.6	168.8	154.8	147.9	132.0	137.5	135.8
Italy	11.3	9.6	10.4	10.7	13.4	19.1	28.7	35.3	45.5	53.7	59.4
Cyprus	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.2	4.5	4.0	2.9	2.8	3.2	4.1
Latvia	12.9	13.5	9.9	9.4	10.0	17.2	20.1	19.0	8.3	4.2	3.2
Lithuania	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.3	0.2
Luxembourg	0.5	0.7	0.5	0.8	0.8	0.8	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.2	4.0
Hungary	6.1	5.4	8.6	3.4	5.3	5.4	9.9	6.1	8.4	8.1	5.8
Malta	0.1		0.6	1.2	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.8	0.5	0.6	0.9
Netherlands	62.1	50.0	46.7	45.3	28.8	26.2	28.5	29.1	30.7	28.2	29.8
Austria		24.3	31.7	36.0	44.7	41.6	34.9	25.7	14.0	10.3	8.0
Poland		1.4	1.1	1.2	1.7	1.9	2.9	1.1	1.5	1.8	2.5
Portugal	1.2	1.6	2.2	2.7	2.4	2.9	3.0	4.4	9.8	22.4	25.6
Romania	0.2		0.4	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.6	9.4
Slovenia	2.3	2.1	1.3	2.8	3.3	3.3	2.7	3.2	1.6	1.7	1.8
Slovakia	1.3	4.5	2.9	3.5	3.5	4.0	1.4	1.1	1.5	0.5	0.3
Finland	4.7	3.0	2.7	3.0	4.5	6.9	5.7	4.4	4.8	6.7	3.4
Sweden	37.8	43.5	36.4	37.8	33.2	28.9	39.6	51.2	33.6	30.5	29.5
United Kingdom	54.9	82.2	89.8	120.1	130.5	148.3	161.8	154.0	164.5	129.3	203.6
Iceland	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.4					0.6	0.9	0.7
Liechtenstein	0.6			0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.1
Norway	8.0	9.5	10.8	9.0	7.9	8.2	12.7	12.0	14.9	10.3	11.4
Switzerland	20.4	28.7	27.6	36.5	35.4	35.7	38.4	46.7	43.9	44.4	43.4
Croatia					12.7	8.9		12.3	13.2	7.6	5.3
FYR of Macedonia		2.0	1.7	1.9		2.6	2.7	2.1	1.7	1.1	0.8
Turkey					24.8	8.2	6.9	5.1	4.4	6.0	8.1

Source: Eurostat (online data code: migr_acq)

Table 3: Number of persons having acquired the citizenship of the reporting country, 2001-2009 (1 000) - Source: Eurostat (migr_acq) (http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/product? code=migr_acq&language=en&mode=view)

the EU-27 total population was 40.9 years, while the median age of non-nationals living in the EU was 34.4 years.

■ Acquisition of citizenship

The number of people acquiring the citizenship of an EU Member State was 776 000 in 2009, corresponding to an 11.1 % increase with respect to 2008 (see Figure 9). The main contribution to this increase came from the United Kingdom, where acquisitions rose from 129 000 in 2008 to 204 000 in 2009 (see Table 3); this was largely due to a relatively low number of acquisitions in the United Kingdom in 2008, which was a consequence of changes in staff allocation within the responsible national authority.

Several other EU Member States recorded an increase in the number of acquisitions of citizenship between 2008 and 2009. In absolute
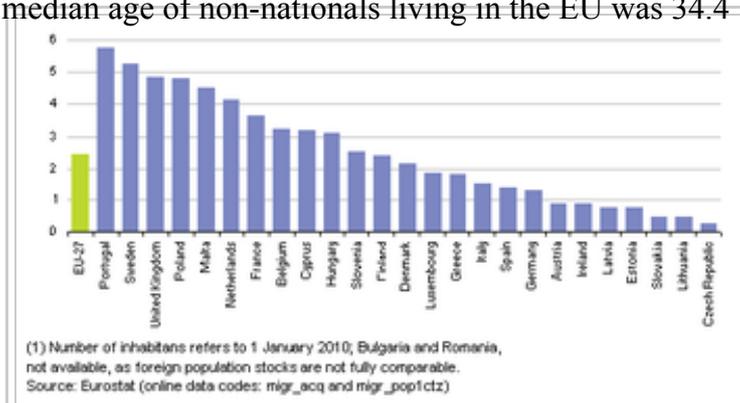

Figure 10: Naturalisation rate - number of persons having acquired the citizenship of an EU Member State, 2009 (1)
(per 100 non-nationals) - Source: Eurostat (migr_acq) (http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/product?
code=migr_acq&language=en&mode=view) and (migr_pop1ctz) (http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/product?
code=migr_pop1ctz&language=en&mode=view)

terms, the highest increases, after the United Kingdom, were observed in Italy (5 700 more), Romania (3 800), Portugal (3 200) and Luxembourg (2 800). In some cases (such as Luxembourg, Portugal and Romania) these increases are due to recent reforms of the respective nationality laws, which had the effect of boosting the number of applications.

Relative to the size of the resident population, Luxembourg granted the highest number of citizenships: 8.1 per 1 000 inhabitants, followed by Cyprus (5.1), the United Kingdom (3.3) and Sweden (3.2).

One indicator which is commonly used to measure the effect of national policies concerning citizenship is the 'naturalisation rate', in other words, the ratio between the total number of citizenships granted and the stock of foreign residents in each country at the beginning of the year (see Figure 10). The country with the highest naturalisation rate in the EU-27 in 2009 was Portugal (5.8 acquisitions per 100 foreign residents), followed by Sweden (5.3) and the United Kingdom (4.8). On the other hand, Luxembourg, due to its large share of foreign residents (43.0 % on 1 January 2010) had a naturalisation rate below the EU-27 average, despite being the EU Member State with the highest number of citizenship acquisitions per inhabitant.

More than 90 % of those who acquired the citizenship of an EU Member State in 2009 were previously citizens of a non-member country; this was the case in nearly all of the Member States. However, in Luxembourg and Hungary the majority of new citizenships granted were to citizens of another EU Member State. In the case of Luxembourg, the largest share (almost half of those from EU Member States that were granted citizenship) was that of Portuguese citizens, while in the case of Hungary almost exclusively that of Romanian citizens.

As in previous years, the highest number of new citizens in the EU Member States in 2009 was composed of citizens of Morocco (59 700, corresponding to 8 % of all citizenships granted) and Turkey (51 800, or 7 %). Compared with 2008, the number of citizens from Morocco acquiring citizenship of an EU Member State fell by 6 %, while the number of Turkish citizens rose by 5 %. The largest share of Moroccans acquired their new citizenship in France (43 %), Italy (15 %) or Spain (11 %), while the largest shares of Turkish people acquired their new citizenship in Germany (48 %) or France (18 %).

Data sources and availability

Eurostat produces statistics on a range of issues related to international migration flows, non-national population stocks and acquisition of citizenship. Data are collected on an annual basis and are supplied to Eurostat by the national statistical authorities of the Member States.

Since 2008 the collection of data has been based on Regulation 862/2007 (http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CELEX:32007R0862:EN:NOT) . This defines a core set of statistics on international migration flows, non-national population stocks, acquisition of citizenship, residence permits, asylum and measures against illegal entry and stay. Although Member States are able to continue to use any appropriate data according to national availability and practice, the statistics collected under the Regulation must be based on common definitions and concepts. Most Member States base their statistics on administrative data sources such as population registers, registers of non-nationals, registers of residence or work permits. Some countries use sample surveys or estimation methods to produce migration statistics. The data on the acquisition of citizenship are normally produced from administrative systems. The implementation of the Regulation is expected to result in increased availability and comparability of migration and citizenship statistics.

Previously statistics on migration flows, non-national population stocks and the acquisition of citizenship were sent to Eurostat on a voluntary basis, as part of a joint migration data collection organised by Eurostat in cooperation with a series of international organisations, for example the United Nations Statistical Division (UNSD) (http://unstats.un.org/unsd/default.htm) , the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and the International Labour Organization (ILO). The recent changes in methodology, definitions and data sources used to produce migration and citizenship statistics may result, for some Member States, in a lack of comparability over time for their respective series.

Emigration is particularly difficult to measure; it is harder to count people leaving a country than those arriving. An analysis comparing 2008 immigration and emigration data from the EU Member States (mirror statistics) confirmed that this was true in many countries. As a result, this article focuses mainly on immigration data.

Context

Migration policies within the EU are increasingly concerned with attracting a particular migrant profile, often in an attempt to alleviate specific skills shortages. Selection can be carried out on the basis of language proficiency, work experience, education and age. Alternatively, employers can make the selection so that migrants already have a job upon their arrival.

Besides policies to encourage labour recruitment, immigration policy is often focused on two areas: preventing unauthorised migration and the illegal employment of migrants who are not permitted to work, and promoting the integration of immigrants into society. In the EU, significant resources have been mobilised to fight people smuggling and trafficking networks.

Some of the most important legal texts adopted in the area of immigration include:

- Directive 2003/86/EC (http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CELEX:32003L0086:EN:NOT) on the right to family reunification;
- Directive 2003/109/EC (http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CELEX:32003L0109:EN:NOT) on a long-term resident status for non-member nationals;
- Directive 2004/114/EC (http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CELEX:32004L0114:EN:NOT) on the admission of students;
- Directive 2005/71/EC (http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?

uri=CELEX:32005L0071:EN:NOT) for the facilitation of the admission of researchers into the EU;
- Directive 2008/115/EC (http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?
uri=CELEX:32008L0115:EN:NOT) for returning illegally staying third-country nationals;
- Directive 2009/50/EC (http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?
uri=CELEX:32009L0050:EN:NOT) concerning the admission of highly skilled migrants.

Within the European Commission, the Directorate-General for Home Affairs (http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/home-affairs/index_en.htm) is responsible for immigration policy (http://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/doc_centre/immigration/immigration_intro_en.htm) . In 2005, the European Commission relaunched the debate on the need for a common set of rules for the admission of economic migrants with a Green paper on an EU approach to managing economic migration (http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CELEX:52004DC0811:EN:not) (COM(2004) 811 final) which led to the adoption of a policy plan on legal migration (http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CELEX:52005DC0669:EN:not) (COM(2005) 669 final) at the end of 2005. In July 2006, the European Commission adopted a Communication on policy priorities in the fight against illegal immigration of third-country nationals (http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CELEX:52006DC0402:EN:not) (COM(2006) 402 final), which aims to strike a balance between security and an individuals' basic rights during all stages of the illegal immigration process. In September 2007, the European Commission presented its third annual report on migration and integration (http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CELEX:52007DC0512:EN:not) (COM(2007) 512 final). A European Commission Communication adopted in October 2008 emphasised the importance of strengthening the global approach to migration: increasing coordination, coherence and synergies (http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CELEX:52008DC0611:EN:not) (COM(2008) 611 final) as an aspect of external and development policy. The Stockholm programme (http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CELEX:52010XG0504(01):EN:NOT) , adopted by EU heads of state and government in December 2009, sets a framework and series of principles for the ongoing development of European policies on justice and home affairs for the period 2010 to 2014; migration-related issues are a central part of this programme. In order to bring about the changes agreed upon, the European Commission enacted an action plan implementing the Stockholm programme – delivering an area of freedom, security and justice for Europe's citizens (http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CELEX:52010DC0171:EN:NOT) in 2010 (COM(2010) 171 final). The action plan foresees a number of priority areas, providing measures for:

- evaluating justice, freedom and security policies and mechanisms;
- training legal and security professionals as well as judicial and law enforcement authorities;
- public awareness-raising activities;
- dialogue with civil society;
- new financial programmes.

Further Eurostat information

Publications

- 6.5% of the EU population are foreigners and 9.4% are born abroad (http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/product?code=KS-SF-11-034&language=en) - Statistics in focus 34/2011
- Acquisitions of citizenship on the rise in 2009 (http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/product?code=KS-SF-11-024&language=en) - Statistics in focus 24/2011
- Demographic Outlook (http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/product?code=KS-RA-08-013&language=en) - 2008 edition
- Immigration to EU Member States down by 6% and emigration up by 13% in 2008 (http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/product?code=KS-SF-11-001&language=en) - Statistics in focus 1/2011
- Population grows in twenty EU Member States (http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/product?code=KS-SF-11-

038&language=en) - Statistics in focus 38/2011

- **Main tables**

- Population (t_populat)
  (http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/population/data/main_tables) , see:

    International Migration and Asylum (t_migr)

        Acquisition of citizenship (http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/product?
        code=tps00024&language=en)
        Immigration (tps00176) (http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/product?
        code=tps00176&language=en)
        Emigration (tps00177) (http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/product?
        code=tps00177&language=en)
        Population by citizenship - Foreigners (tps00157) (http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/product?
        code=tps00157&language=en)
        Population by country of birth - Foreign-born (tps00178)
        (http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/product?code=tps00178&language=en)

- **Database**

- Population (populat) (http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/population/data/database) ,
  see:

    Demography (pop)

        International Migration and Asylum (migr)

        International migration flows (migr_flow)

            Immigration (migr_immi)

                Immigration by sex, age group and citizenship (migr_imm1ctz)
                (http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/product?code=migr_imm1ctz&language=en)
                Immigration by sex, age and broad group of citizenship (migr_imm2ctz)
                (http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/product?code=migr_imm2ctz&language=en)
                Immigration by sex, age group and country of birth (migr_imm3ctb)
                (http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/product?code=migr_imm3ctb&language=en)
                Immigration by sex, age and broad group of country of birth (migr_imm4ctb)
                (http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/product?code=migr_imm4ctb&language=en)
                Immigration by sex, age group and country of previous residence
                (migr_imm5prv) (http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/product?
                code=migr_imm5prv&language=en)
                Immigration by sex, citizenship and broad group of country of birth
                (migr_imm6ctz) (http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/product?
                code=migr_imm6ctz&language=en)
                Immigration by sex, country of birth and broad group of citizenship
                (migr_imm7ctb) (http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/product?
                code=migr_imm7ctb&language=en)

            Emigration (migr_emi)

                Emigration by sex and age (migr_emi2) (http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/product?

code=migr_emi2&language=en)
Emigration by sex, age group and citizenship (migr_emi1ctz)
(http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/product?code=migr_emi1ctz&language=en)
Emigration by sex, age group and country of birth (migr_emi4ctb)
(http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/product?code=migr_emi4ctb&language=en)
Emigration by sex, age group and country of next usual residence
(migr_emi3nxt) (http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/product?
code=migr_emi3nxt&language=en)

Population by citizenship and by country of birth (migr_stock)

Population by sex, age group and citizenship (migr_pop1ctz)
(http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/product?code=migr_pop1ctz&language=en)
Population by sex, age and broad group of citizenship (migr_pop2ctz)
(http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/product?code=migr_pop2ctz&language=en)
Population by sex, age group and country of birth (migr_pop3ctb)
(http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/product?code=migr_pop3ctb&language=en)
Population by sex, age and broad group of country of birth (migr_pop4ctb)
(http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/product?code=migr_pop4ctb&language=en)
Population by sex, citizenship and broad group of country of birth (migr_pop5ctz)
(http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/product?code=migr_pop5ctz&language=en)
Population by sex, country of birth and broad group of citizenship (migr_pop6ctb)
(http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/product?code=migr_pop6ctb&language=en)

Acquisition and loss of citizenship (migr_acqn)

Acquisition of citizenship by sex, age group and former citizenship (migr_acq)
(http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/product?code=migr_acq&language=en)
Loss of citizenship by sex and new citizenship (migr_lct)
(http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/product?code=migr_lct&language=en)

- **Dedicated section**

- Population (http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/population/introduction)

- **Methodology/Metadata**

- Acquisition and loss of citizenship
(http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/cache/ITY_SDDS/en/migr_acqn_esms.htm) (ESMS metadata file -
migr_acqn_esms)
- International migration flows
(http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/cache/ITY_SDDS/en/migr_flow_esms.htm) (ESMS metadata file -
migr_flow_esms)
- Population (http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/cache/ITY_SDDS/en/demo_pop_esms.htm) (ESMS
metadata file - demo_pop_esms)
- Population by citizenship and by country of birth
(http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/cache/ITY_SDDS/en/migr_stock_esms.htm) (ESMS metadata file -
migr_stock_esms)

- **Source data for tables and figures (MS Excel)**

- Migration and migrant population statistics: tables and figures

External links

- Bridge-it (http://bridge-it.communicationproject.eu/AimsObjectives.htm)
- Country ranking by Human Development Index (United Nations Population Division) (http://hdr.undp.org/en/statistics/)
- European Commission - Home Affairs - Immigration (http://ec.europa.eu/home-affairs/policies/immigration/immigration_intro_en.htm)
- European Union Democracy Observatory on Citizenship (http://eudo-citizenship.eu/)
- European Web Site on Integration (http://ec.europa.eu/ewsi/en/index.cfm)
- OECD - Migration (http://www.oecd.org/topic/0,3373,en_2649_37415_1_1_1_1_37415,00.html)

    - International Migration Outlook 2011 (http://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/social-issues-migration-health/international-migration-outlook-2011_migr_outlook-2011-en) (also in French)

- The CLANDESTINO project on irregular migration in the EU (http://clandestino.eliamep.gr/)

See also

- Asylum statistics
- Fertility statistics
- Population and population change statistics
- Population structure and ageing

- 6 watching users

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