

# Migrant integration statistics

2018 edition



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# Migrant integration

Member States of the EU have traditionally been a destination for migrants, whether from elsewhere within the EU or from elsewhere in the world. The flow of migrants has led to a range of skills and talents introduced into local economies, while also generally increasing cultural diversity.

The integration of migrants has increasingly become a key area for policy focus, with measures to help immigrants and their descendants to overcome various integration barriers so they may be more active participants in society.

The [Zaragoza declaration](#) adopted in 2010 by the European Ministerial Conference on Integration identified a number of policy areas relevant to migrant integration and agreed on a set of common indicators for monitoring the situation of migrants and the outcome of integration policies.

Four areas of integration have been currently identified as priority areas, building on national experiences and key for the common basic principles. **Employment** is a vital part of the integration process, and efforts in **education** are essential in helping immigrants to become successful and more active participants in society. **Social inclusion** is important not only for access to the labour market, but also for entry into society more generally. The participation of immigrants in the democratic process as **active citizens** supports their integration and enhances their sense of belonging.

Apart from the Zaragoza indicators, Eurostat also publishes additional indicators on health and housing, as well as regional employment and indicators related to second-generation migrants.

To respond to policy and the user needs, data analyses are performed by country of birth and by country of citizenship, based on data availability and reliability. The target population can then be divided into the following groups:

## By country of birth:

- Native-born
- Foreign-born, of which:
  - EU-born
  - Non-EU-born

## By country of citizenship:

- Nationals
- Foreign citizens, of which:
  - EU citizens
  - Non-EU citizens

# Employment

As a vital part of the integration process, the employment of migrants is measured through a series of indicators which are:

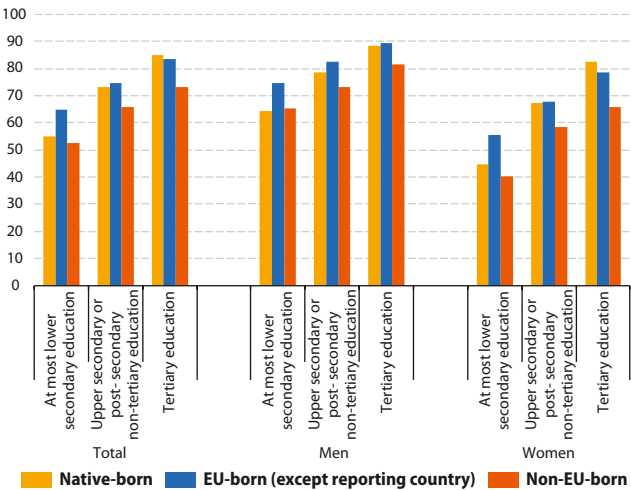
- unemployment rate;
- employment rate;
- activity rate;
- self-employment;
- temporary employees;
- part-time employment;
- long-term unemployment;
- newly employed persons.

## DID YOU KNOW THAT IN 2017

- EU citizens living abroad in another EU country had a higher employment rate (76.1 %) than those residing in the country of which they were citizens (72.1 %)?
- The unemployment rate for migrants born outside the EU was 6.4 percentage points higher than the rate for the native-born population?
- In the EU, almost one in five migrants born outside the EU was a temporary employee, compared to one in eight for native-born employees?

## Employment rates for the population aged 20-64, by sex, education level and country of birth, EU-28, 2017

(%)



Source: Eurostat (online data code: [lfsa\\_ergaedcob](#))

# Education

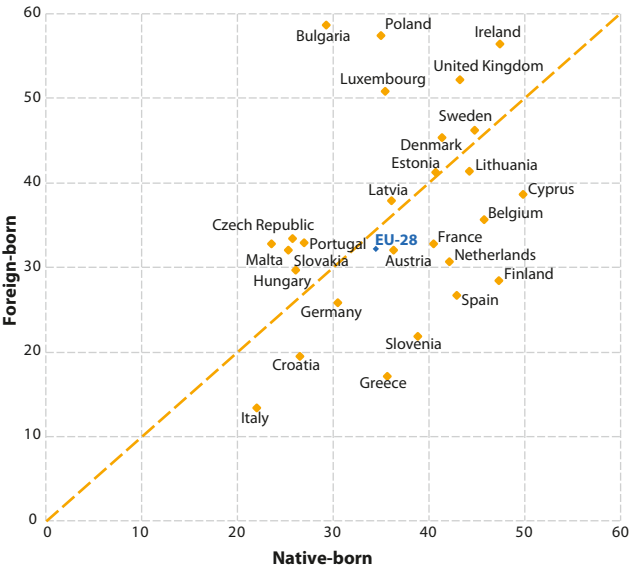
Education is essential in helping immigrants to become successful and more active participants in society. Education, as a measure of migrant integration, is currently evaluated using the following indicators:

- highest educational attainment;
- share of 30–34-year-olds with tertiary educational attainment;
- share of early leavers from education and training;
- adult participation in learning;
- people not in employment, education or training (NEETs).

## DID YOU KNOW THAT IN 2017

- In around half of the EU Member States a higher percentage of the foreign-born working-age population had a tertiary level of education compared to the native-born population?
- Compared to the native-born, the young non-EU-born persons were at twice greater risk of leaving education and training early?
- In 26 EU Member States the share of young foreign-born people who were not in employment, education or training was higher than for their native-born peers?

Share of the population aged 25-54 with a tertiary level of educational attainment, by country of birth, 2017 (%)



Note: Only available data is shown.  
Source: Eurostat (online data code: [edat\\_ifs\\_9912](#))

# Social inclusion

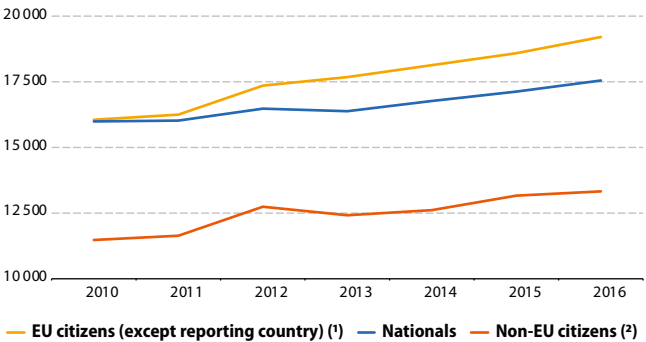
Social inclusion is important not only for access to the labour market, but also for entry into society more generally. The main indicators assessing the social inclusion of migrants are:

- mean and median income;
- at-risk-of-poverty;
- in-work at-risk-of-poverty;
- people at-risk-of-poverty or social exclusion;
- at-risk-of-poverty rate for children;
- income distribution and monetary poverty.

## DID YOU KNOW THAT IN 2016

- Almost 4 out of 10 foreign citizens in the EU Member States faced the risk of being in poverty or socially excluded?
- The median equivalised income of EU citizens living in another EU Member State was 9.6 % higher than that recorded for nationals; whereas the median income of non-EU citizens was 24.2 % lower than the one for nationals?
- The risk of poverty for children in the EU who had at least one parent with foreign citizenship stood at 35.8 %, almost twice as high than it was for children whose both parents were nationals (18.8 %)?

Median equivalised income of the population aged 20-64, by country of citizenship, EU-28, 2010-2016 (EUR)



(¹) 2010 and 2013-2016: low reliability. 2011 and 2012: estimates.

(²) 2010: low reliability. 2011-2016: estimates.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: [ilc\\_di15](#))

# Living conditions and material deprivation

Alongside income-related measures of poverty, a broader perspective of social inclusion can be obtained by studying other measures, for example, those relating to housing and material deprivation. These measures are considered important elements for the well-being of individuals:

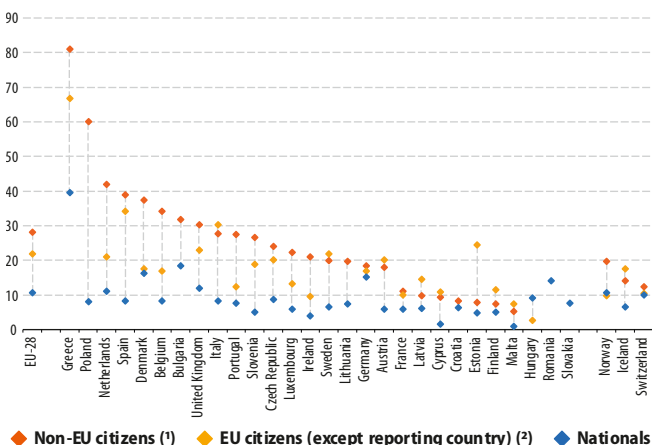
- home ownership;
- overcrowding rate;
- housing cost overburden rate;
- material and social deprivation;
- severe material deprivation;
- people living in households with very low work intensity.

## DID YOU KNOW THAT IN 2016

- In the EU Member States, 7 out of 10 nationals owned their home, compared to only 3 in 10 foreign citizens?
- On average, 1 in 4 foreign citizens living in the EU Member States was considered to be overburdened by housing costs, compared with 1 in 10 for nationals?
- Across the EU Member States, foreign citizens were more likely to live in an overcrowded household than nationals and the highest overcrowding rates were usually recorded among non-EU citizens?

## Housing cost overburden rate among the population aged 20-64, by country of citizenship, 2016

(%)



Note: Only available data is shown.

(<sup>1</sup>) Data not reliable for: EU-28, Bulgaria, Estonia, Croatia, Latvia, Lithuania, Hungary, Poland, Romania and Slovakia.

(<sup>2</sup>) Data not reliable for: Bulgaria, Croatia, Lithuania, Hungary, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Iceland.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: [ilc\\_lvh025](#))

# Health

Health status and healthcare of migrants are part of the social inclusion area identified in the Zaragoza Declaration. The collected data focuses on self-perceived health and well-being and self-reported unmet needs for medical examination:

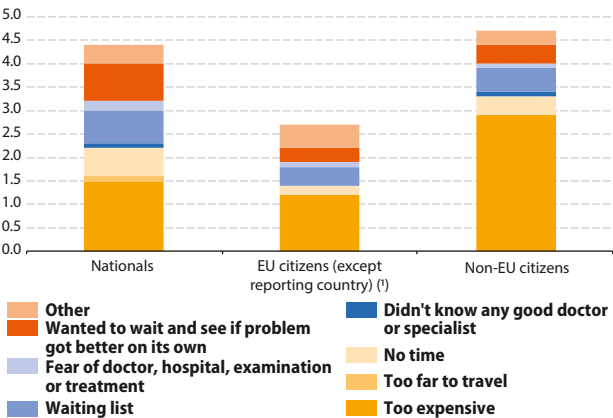
- self-perceived health;
- people having a long-standing illness or health problem;
- self-perceived long-standing limitations in usual activities due to health problem;
- self-reported unmet needs for medical examination;
- self-reported unmet needs for dental examination.

## DID YOU KNOW THAT IN 2016

- In the EU Member States, the share of foreign citizens who perceived their health as good or very good was 4.5 percentage points higher than that of the nationals?
- The share of non-EU citizens who perceived their health as very good or good ranged from as high as 94.4 % in Cyprus to only 41.3 % in Estonia?
- For the EU, more nationals reported some or severe long-standing limitations compared to foreign citizens (18.3 % of nationals vs. 13.1 % of foreign citizens)?

## Self-reported unmet needs for medical examination by main reason declared and country of citizenship (population aged 20-64), EU-28, 2016

(%)



(\*) Data not reliable for all categories.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: hlth\_silc\_30)

# Active citizenship

The participation of immigrants in the democratic process as active citizens supports their integration and enhances their sense of belonging. The key indicators in the area of active citizenship, which covers civic and political participation by migrants and the acquisition of equal rights and responsibilities by migrants, are:

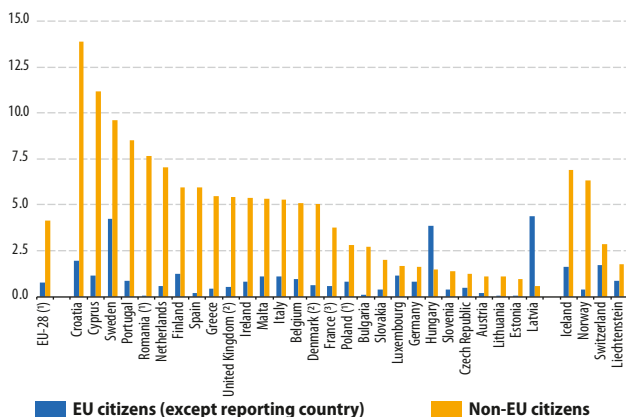
- naturalisation rate;
- the share of non-EU citizens having long-term residency status;
- long-term residents among all non-EU citizens holding residence permits;
- residents who acquired citizenship as a share of resident non-citizens.

## DID YOU KNOW THAT IN 2016

- EU Member States granted citizenship to almost 1 million persons, around 3 % of all foreign citizens in the EU Member States?
- Across the age groups, the highest naturalisation rate in the EU for people who were formerly non-EU citizens was recorded for children aged 10-14 years (5.7 %)?
- 56.2 % of non-EU citizens living in the EU held long-term resident status?

## Naturalisation rate, by broad group of former citizenship, 2016

(%)



<sup>(1)</sup> Estimates.

<sup>(2)</sup> Acquisitions of citizenship include some persons not living in the country, although the impact is thought to be negligible.

<sup>(3)</sup> Provisional.

Source: Eurostat (online data codes: [migr\\_acq](#) and [migr\\_pop1ctz](#))



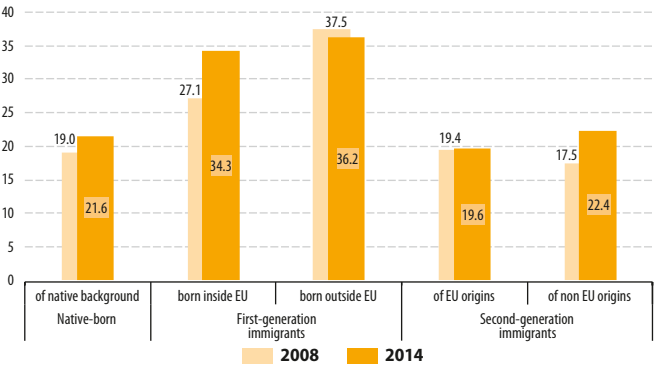
# Second-generation migrants

Apart from general migrant population, Eurostat also collects data specifically on second-generation immigrants using Labour Force Survey (LFS) ad hoc modules that run every eight years. They allow for the collection of data on the second-generation immigrants who are defined as native-born persons with at least one foreign-born parent. The latest ad-hoc module ‘Migration and labour market’ was conducted in 2014. The proposed changes to the LFS foresee to include the information on the country of birth of parents in the core LFS list of variables.

## DID YOU KNOW THAT IN 2014

- 52.4 % of ‘second-generation immigrants’ in the EU worked in a highly skilled white-collar job, compared with 42.0 % of ‘the native born with native background’ and 32.0 % of the ‘first-generation immigrants’?
- Employment rate of ‘second-generation immigrants’ in the EU (78.7 %) was similar to ‘native-born with a native background’ (78.6 %)?
- In the EU, ‘second-generation immigrants’ aged 25-54 with EU-born and non-EU-born parents had higher tertiary educational attainment rates (38.5 % and 36.2 % respectively) than their peers with a native background (30.9 %)?

Objective over-qualification<sup>(1)</sup> by migration status and background, 25-54 age group, EU-28, 2014 and 2008 (%)



<sup>(1)</sup> Objective over-qualification: the proportion of tertiary graduates working in jobs for which a degree is not required, ISCO level 4-9.

Source: Eurostat, LFS 2014 ad hoc module

# Regional data

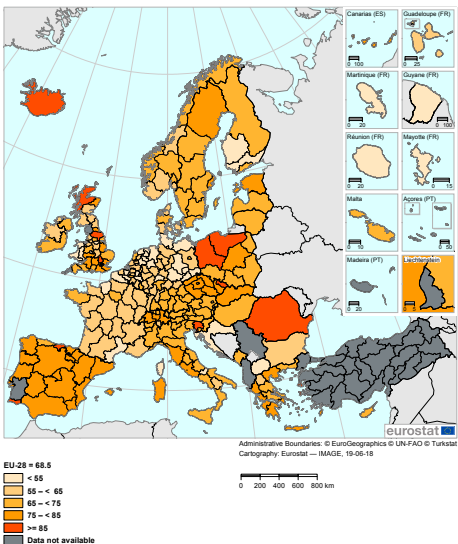
An influx of migrants has the potential to provide a range of skills and talents into local/regional labour markets. Recognising migrants' educational attainment and understanding regionally specific migrants' labour market situation are core aspects of the integration process. Eurostat compiles and publishes education and labour market statistics by migration background for EU regions and by degree of urbanisation for the following indicators:

- highest educational attainment;
- people not in employment, education or training (NEETs);
- activity rates;
- employment rates;
- unemployment rates;
- part-time employment;
- self-employment;
- temporary employees.

## DID YOU KNOW THAT IN 2017

- The highest employment rates in the EU for non-EU citizens were recorded in several regions of the Czech Republic and the United Kingdom?
- In the EU cities, male employment rates for citizens from other EU Member States were higher than female rates except French cities?

## Activity rate for non-EU citizens, by NUTS 2 regions, 2017 (% share of population aged 20-64)



### Notes:

- Only available data is shown. BG, HR, HU, RO and SK: national data, Poland: NUTS 1.
  - Data not reliable for selected regions of: BE, BG, CZ, EL, ES, FR, HR, LT, NL, PL, R O, SK, UK, MK.
- For more details please consult the database.


Source: Eurostat (online data code: [lfst\\_r\\_lfp2actrtn](#))

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MIGRANT INTEGRATION

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OVERVIEW

Policy background

The continued development and integration of the European migration policy remains a key priority of the European Commission in order to meet the challenges and harness the opportunities which migration represents globally. The integration of third-country nationals legally living in the EU Member States has gained increasing importance on the European agenda in recent years.

1999

The origins of the [European policy on migrant integration](#) can be traced back to the Tampere Programme (1999) focusing, among other issues, on the closely related topic of asylum and migration.

2002-2003

In 2002, following a request from the Justice and Home Affairs (JHA) Council to establish National Contact Points on Integration, the European Council of June 2003 invited the European Commission to publish annual reports on migration and integration.

2003-2004

The Brussels European Council conclusions of November 2004 on The Hague Programme and the Thessaloniki European Council conclusions of June 2003 called upon the importance to establish 'Common basic principles' for the immigrant integration policy.

2005

The European Commission adopted the Communication 'A common agenda for integration — Framework for the integration of third-country nationals in the European Union' (COM(2005) 389 final) with the aim of providing its first response to the European Council's request of establishing a coherent European Framework for integration. The cornerstones of the framework are proposals for concrete measures with a view of putting in place the 'Common basic principles' through a series of supportive EU mechanisms.

2010

The Commission Communication of 3 March 2010 entitled 'Europe 2020, a strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth' emphasised the need for establishing a new agenda for migrant integration in order to enable them to take full advantage of their potential.

In July 2011, the Commission proposed a 'European agenda for the integration

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