



Federal Ministry
of the Interior, Building
and Community

Federal Office
for Migration
and Refugees

Migration Report of the Federal Government 2022

Executive Summary



Migration Report 2022:

The most important trends in immigration to and emigration from Germany

Historically high immigration, many refugees from Ukraine

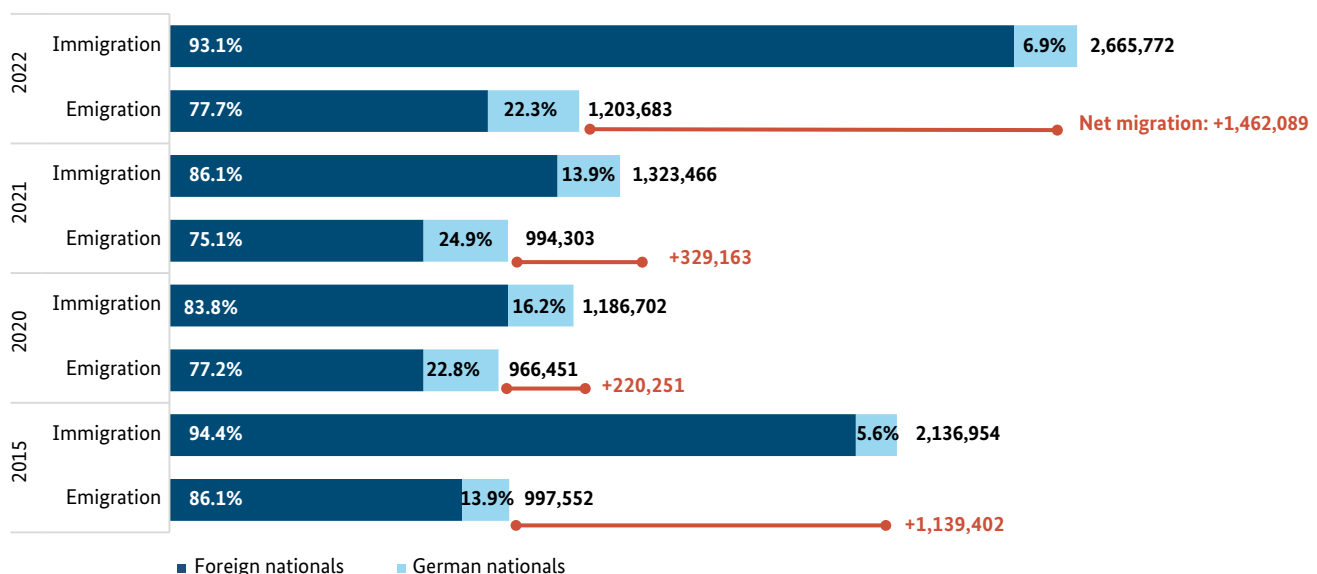
The Russian war against Ukraine starting on February 24, 2022 triggered the largest refugee movement within Europe since the end of the World War II. Since the beginning of the war, more than 1 million people from Ukraine have sought protection in Germany, thus having a significant impact on the overall migration situation in Germany: In 2022, a total of 2,665,772 arrivals and 1,203,683 departures were recorded in the migration statistics. Compared to 2021, immigration to Germany thus roughly doubled, while emigration increased by 21.1%.

The result of these developments is a net migration of +1,462,089 persons. Compared to 2021, net migration has

more than quadrupled (2021: +329,163 people), reaching its highest level since migration records began in 1950. People from Ukraine account for the largest share of total immigration at 41.2%. It was mainly women with children who fled the war. Only 18.6% of those of legal age who came from Ukraine were male.

The increase in outward migration compared to 2021 is therefore primarily dominated by foreign nationals. While the inflow of German nationals only increased by 0.6% from 183,650 to 184,753 in 2022 and the outflow by 8.2% (2021: 247,829, 2022: 268,167), the inflow of foreign nationals increased by 117.7% (2021: 1,139,816, 2022: 2,481,019) and the outflow by 25.3 % (2021: 746,474, 2022: 935,516).

Total migration in Germany 2015 and 2020 to 2022



Note: As part of the measures to contain the COVID-19 pandemic, there may be a time delay in the recording of migration cases in the statistics from mid-March 2020 onwards due to restrictions on public access to registration offices or extended deadlines for registration and deregistration.

Source: Federal Statistical Office, Migration Statistics

Almost two thirds of all immigrants from European countries

In 2022, 76.2% of all immigrants to Germany came from another European country¹, a significant increase compared with 2021 (63.8%). This mainly reflects the high level of immigration from Ukraine, which has significantly reduced the share from EU countries, even though immigration has increased slightly in absolute terms. Specifically, 24.6% of immigrants came from EU countries (2021: 46.7%). 12.4% of immigrants came from an Asian country. Only 2.7% came from African countries and 2.8% from America, Australia and Oceania (combined category).²

The importance of intra-European migration is also reflected in outward migration: Here too, Europe was the main destination. 71.0% of those leaving Germany in 2022 went to another European country (2021: 67.9%), 47.2% to other EU Member States (2021: 54.0%). The share of outward migration to Asia was 6.4% and to America, Australia

and Oceania (combined category) 5.2%. Africa accounted for only 2.4% of total outward migration.

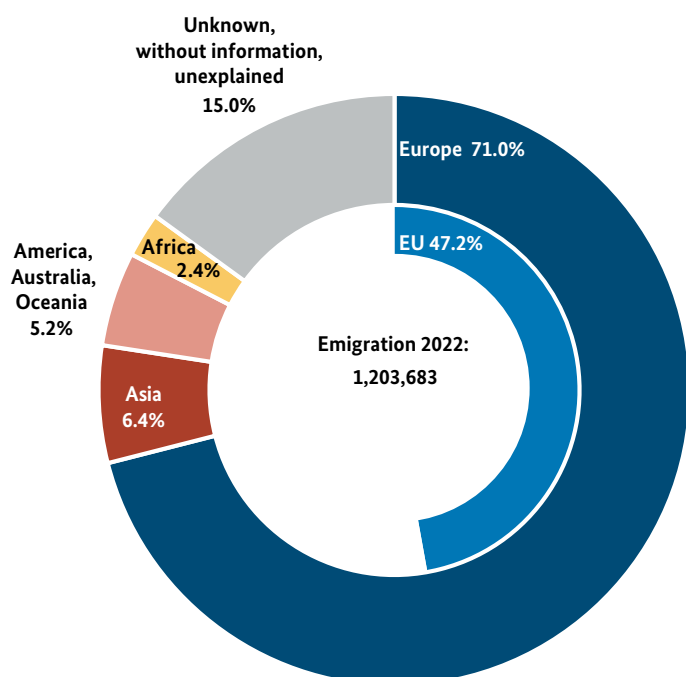
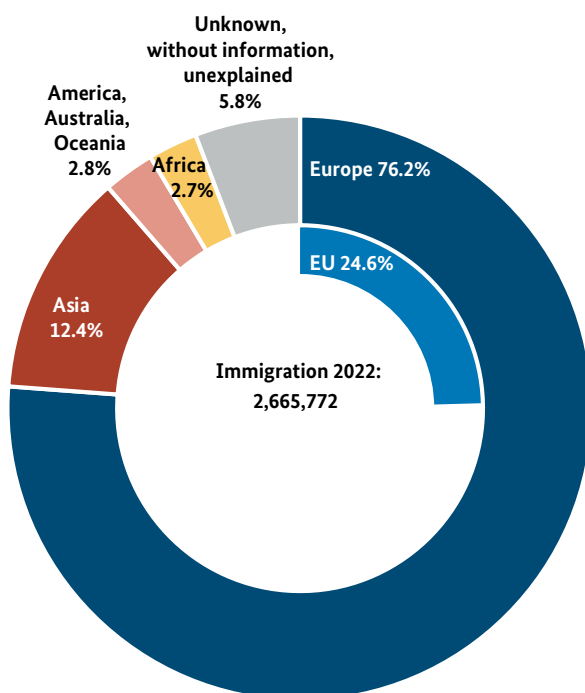
In 2022, Ukraine was the main country of origin with 1,097,882 immigrants, a share of 41.2%. Romania, the main country of origin of immigrants in recent years, was a distant second with 7.7% of all immigrants, followed by Poland (4.0%), Turkey (3.0%) and Bulgaria (2.7%). The other quantitatively important countries of origin in 2022 were Syria, Afghanistan, India, Italy and the Russian Federation. This means that 4 of the top 10 countries of origin of migrants in 2022 are EU countries.

The main destinations for emigration in 2022 were Romania, Ukraine, Poland and Bulgaria. The highest positive net migration in 2022 was recorded for people from Ukraine (+959,527), followed at a considerable distance by people from Syria (+67,569), Afghanistan (+54,717) and Turkey (+49,304).

1 European Union and European third countries including Turkey and the Russian Federation (the official statistics count both as Europe).

2 This section focuses on the migrants' countries of origin and destination, not on their nationality. As a result, for example, immigration from EU countries might also include third-country nationals who moved from EU countries to Germany. See the section on "Internal EU migration" for more about the migration of EU nationals.

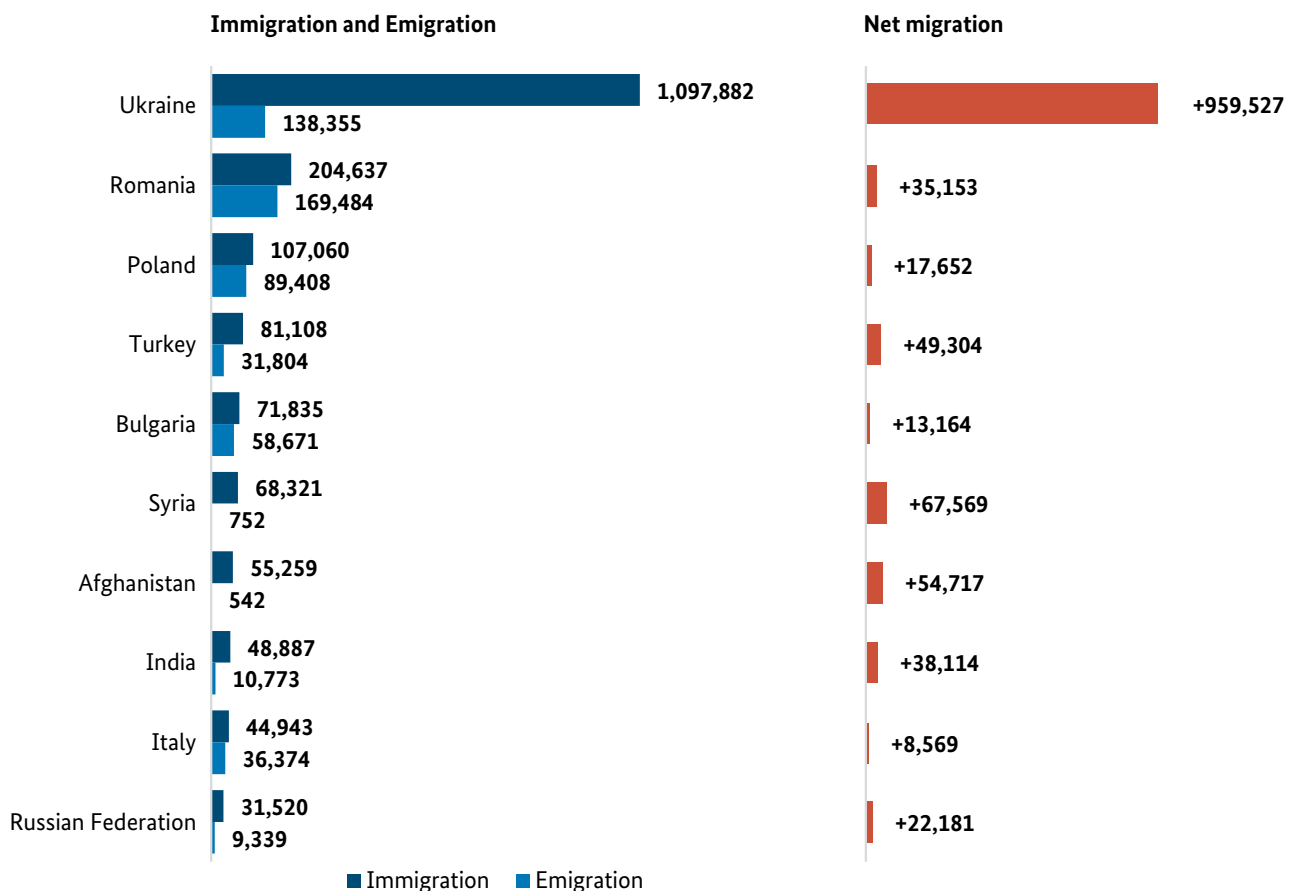
Migration by regions of origin and destination in 2022



Note: Europe incl. Turkey and Russian Federation

Source: Federal Statistical Office, Migration Statistics

Migration by the most common countries of origin and destination in 2022



Source: Federal Statistical Office, Migration Statistics

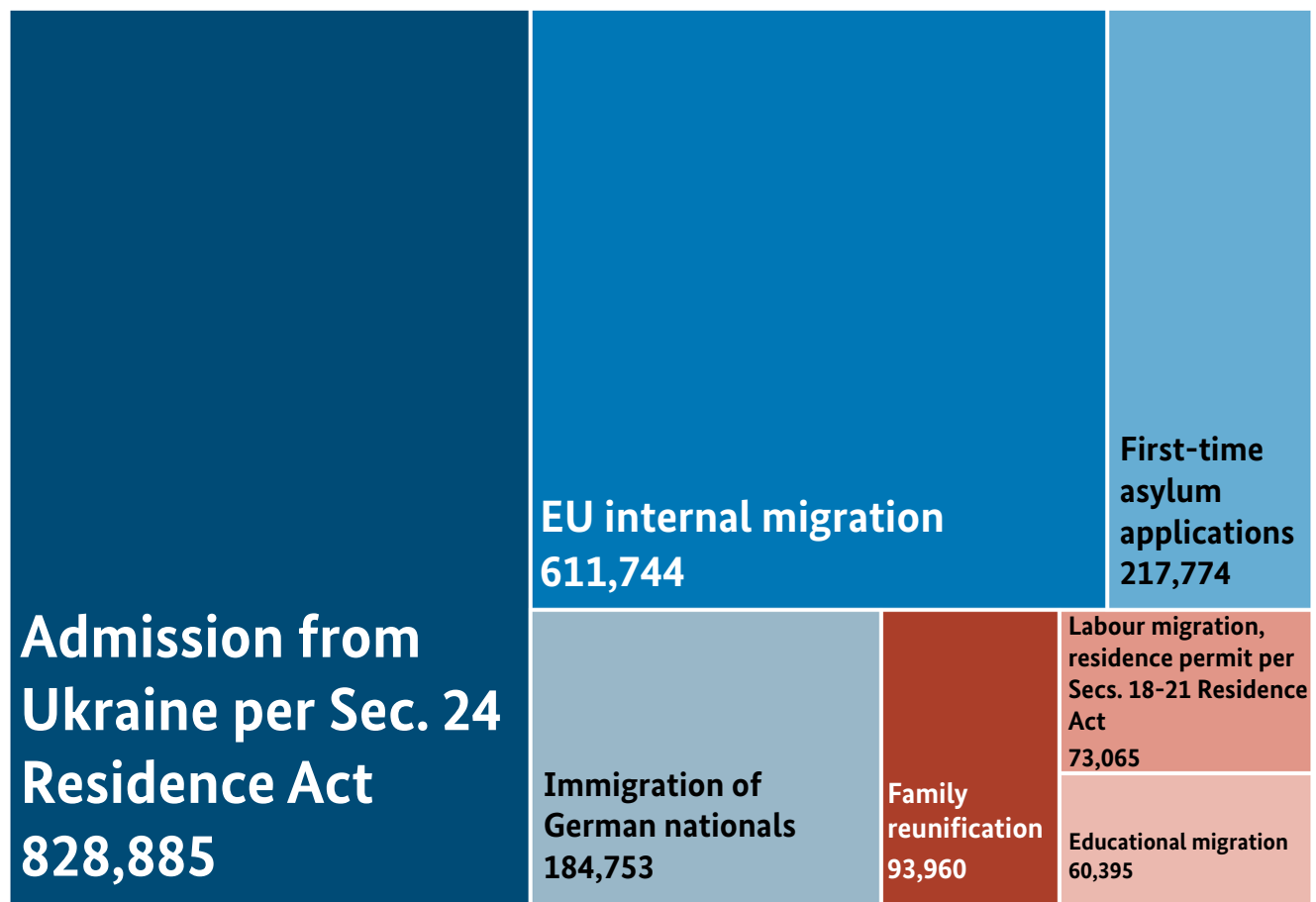
Overview of immigration groups

Refugees from Ukraine do not have to apply for asylum in Germany, but are admitted after entering the country without a visa under Section 24 of the Residence Act (see the relevant section below for details). More than 828,000 people received such a residence title in 2022, thus having a major impact on the overall migration situation in Germany.

EU nationals were the next largest group, accounting for 22.9% of immigration to Germany in 2022 (2021: 44.0%).

Humanitarian migration increased again for the second time since 2016: While 148,233 first-time asylum applications were received in 2021, the figure for 2022 was 217,774 (+46.9%). In the context of family reunification, 93,960 residence titles were granted to third-country nationals in 2022 (2021: 84,095; +11.7%). In 2022, 73,065 third-country nationals were granted a residence title for employment purposes (2021: 41,100; +77.8%) and 60,395 for educational purposes (2021: 47,255; +27.8%). In addition, 184,753 German nationals immigrated to Germany.

Most important migration groups in 2022



Note: Because of different recording criteria (e.g., per-case vs. per-person statistics) and duplicate counts (e.g., EU internal migration and seasonal workers from EU states), the immigrant groups cannot be added up to a meaningful total.

Source: Federal Statistical Office, BAMF, Central Register of Foreigners

EU internal migration

An analysis of the inflows and outflows of EU nationals (excluding German nationals) in 2022 reveals that the number of inflows increased by 5.2% compared to the previous year, reaching 611,744 (2021: 581,699). Similarly, the number of departures of EU nationals from Germany increased in 2022, totalling 504,254 (+3.0%, 2021: 489,403 departures). The share of internal EU migration in total outward migration decreased from 49.2% in 2021 to 41.9% in 2022. Overall, EU nationals had a positive net migration of +107,490, which is an increase of 16.5% compared to the previous year (2021: +92,296).

Migration of third-country nationals

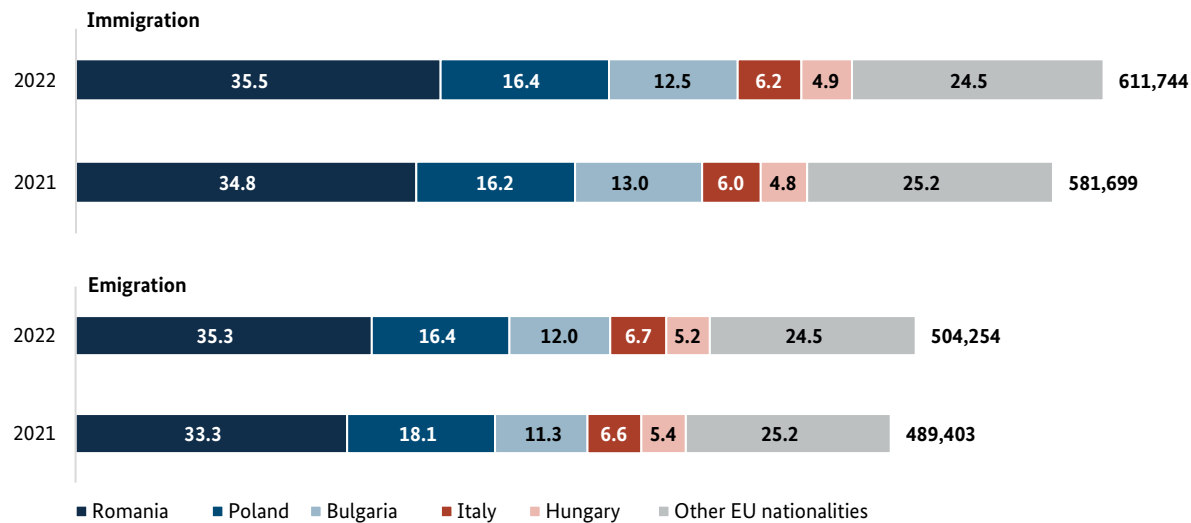
This section analyses the immigration of third-country nationals to Germany using the Central Register of Foreigners as a source, which allows for statements on the purpose of residence. In 2022, immigration of third-country nationals

increased by a total of +264.1% compared to the previous year.

In 2022, 45.4% of third-country nationals who arrived in Germany were granted a title for humanitarian reasons, including numerous refugees from Ukraine who fled the Russian war. This is a significant increase from a share of 4.8% in 2021. Additionally, 10.9% of the persons received a permit to stay while asylum proceedings or a proof of arrival („Ankunftsnachweis“) in 2022 (2021: 20.3%). The permit to stay while asylum proceedings authorises asylum seekers to stay in Germany until their asylum procedure has been completed. Proof of arrival is the certificate of registration as an asylum seeker per Section 63a AsylG. Additionally, 1.6% of third-country nationals who entered the country were granted a temporary suspension of removal (4.3% in 2021).

In 2021, 15.8% of people who immigrated from third countries came to Germany for family reasons, while only 4.8%

Immigration and emigration of EU nationals to and from Germany in 2021 and 2022 (excluding Germans, selected countries)

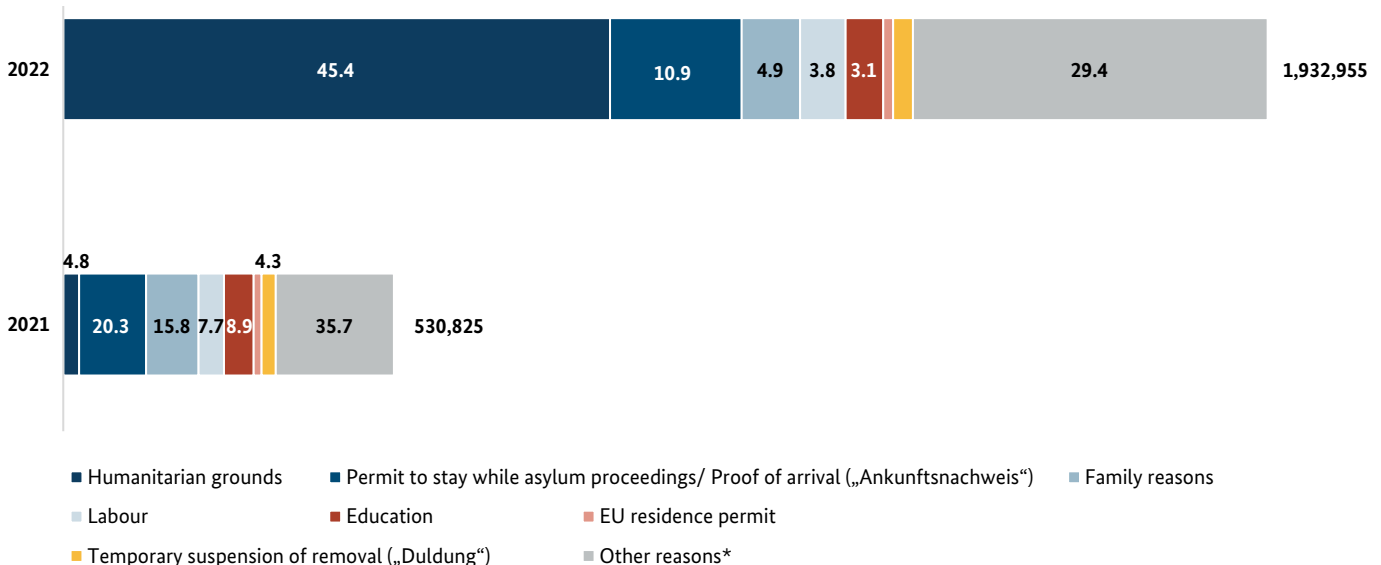


Source: Federal Statistical Office, Migration Statistics

did so in 2022. The share of people who received a title for employment purposes in 2022 was 3.8%, which is lower than the previous year's 7.7%. Although there was a significant increase in the absolute numbers of labour migration,

its share is lower due to the high influx of people seeking protection. The percentage of immigrants from third countries who came to Germany for educational purposes increased from 3.1% in 2021 to 8.9%.

Immigration of third-country nationals by residence title, permit to stay while asylum proceedings and temporary suspension of removal in 2021 and 2022



Notes: Values below 3 % are not shown. Deviations between the values stated for 2021 and those in the Migration Report 2021 are due to a change in statistical categorisation and the application of rounding by five.

* This includes, among others, persons who hold another residence permit, who have applied for a residence permit or who are exempt from residence permit requirement.

Source: Central Register of Foreigners, BAMF's own calculations

Admission of refugees as a result of the war in Ukraine

Since the start of the Russian war, more than 1 million people have migrated from Ukraine to Germany. In order to provide these people rapid protection, the EU Council activated the “Temporary Protection Directive” (2001/55/EC) for the first time on March 4, 2022. Under Section 24 of the Residence Act (“temporary protection”), refugees from Ukraine are granted humanitarian protection status and can enter Germany without a visa. They are not required to go through an asylum procedure.

In 2022, a total of 828,885 admissions were made in accordance with Section 24 of the Residence Act, with 97.2% of these being Ukrainian nationals (805,565 individuals). The data shows a high proportion of female Ukrainian nationals (64.3%). The current visa-free status for Ukrainian refugees allows them to stay in Germany for up to 90 days without requiring a residence title and the respective registration in the Central Register of Foreigners. As a result, the number of admissions under Section 24 AufenthG is lower than the immigration figures and the number of Ukrainian nationals in the Central Register of Residents (end of 2022: 1,164,200 persons).

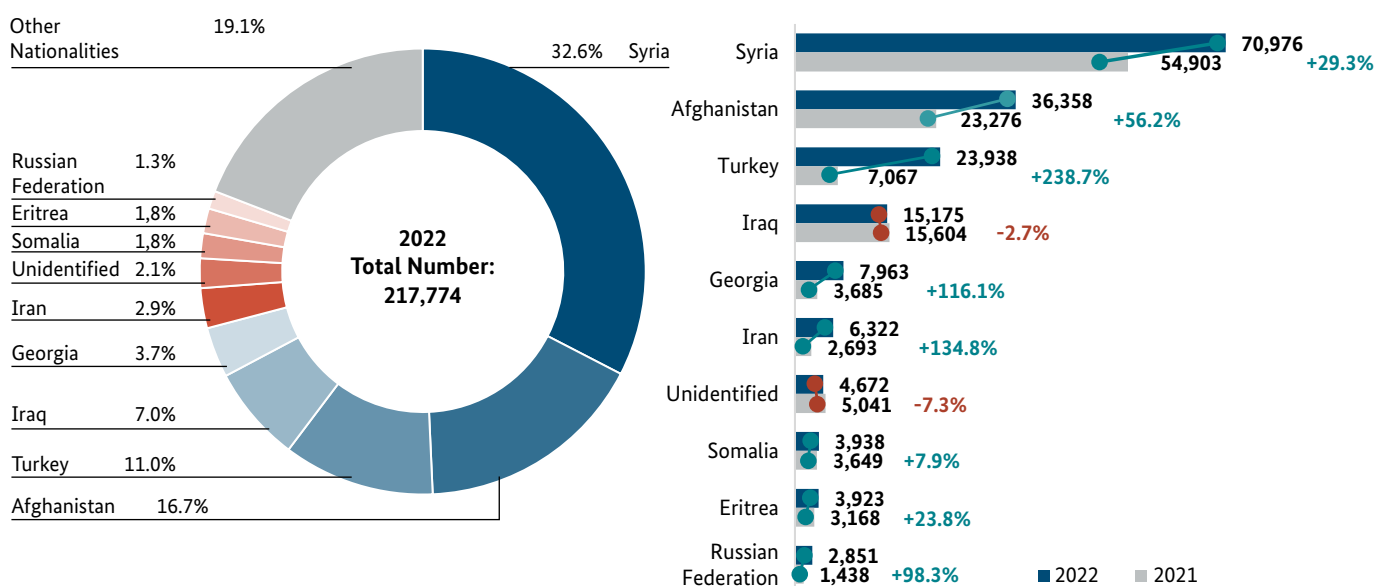
First-time asylum applications

Following a peak in first-time asylum applications in 2016 (722,370), the number decreased significantly in the subsequent years. However, in 2021, there was an increase in the number of applications, which has continued into 2022. In 2022, 217,774 persons applied for asylum in Germany for the first time, which is 46.9% more than in 2021 (148,233). Of the first-time applications in 2022, 11.4% were from children born in Germany under the age of 1 (24,791). The remaining 88.6% (192,983) were cross-border asylum applications.

The development of refugee migration to Germany has historically reflected global crises and conflicts. In terms of numbers, Syrian nationals have been the largest group of origin since 2014, a trend that continued in 2022 with 70,976 first-time asylum applications submitted, representing 32.6% of the total. This marks a 29.3% increase from the previous year's 54,903 first-time applications from Syrian nationals.

In 2022, the number of first-time asylum applications increased by 56.2% for Afghanistan, the second largest country of origin, with 36,358 applications (compared to 23,276 in 2021). Turkey, the third largest country of origin, had 23,938 first-time applications, accounting for 11.0% of the total number of first-time applications. Turkey also recorded the largest percentage increase in first-time asylum applications (+238.7%, 2021: 7,067). These three countries of origin accounted for 60.3% of all asylum applicants in

First-time asylum applications by the 10 most common nationalities in 2022 and in comparison to 2021



Source: BAMF

2022. Of the nationalities with the highest number of applications, only Iraq experienced a decrease, with 2.7% fewer asylum applications than in 2021. All other major nationalities saw an increase compared to the previous year.

Family reunification of third-country nationals

A total of 93,960 residence titles for family reasons were issued to individuals who entered in 2022 (2021: 84,095). Compared to the previous year, the number rose by 11.7%. In 11,060 cases, these were family members of persons entitled to protection³ who came to Germany as part of family reunification. Their share of total family reunification was 11.8%. More than half (57.6%) of all residence titles issued for family reasons concerned the reunification of spouses or partners, while a significant third (32.4%) involved underage children.

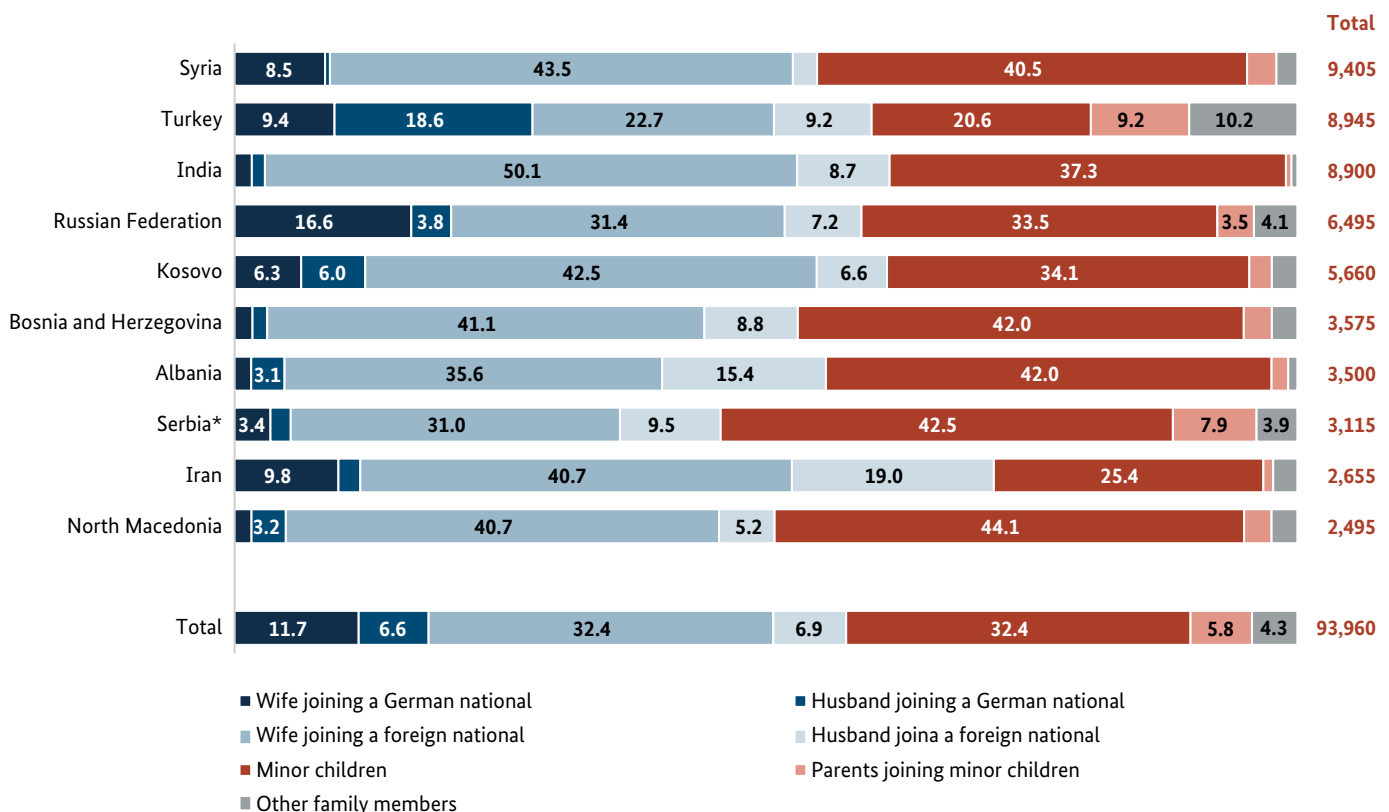
³ Relatives of persons entitled to asylum, recognised refugees and beneficiaries of subsidiary protection status.

Syrian nationals accounted for the largest group of family reunification in 2022, with 9,405 or 10.0% of residence titles issued. Migration for family reasons from this country of origin increased by 50.5% compared to the previous year (2021: 6,250). The second largest group consisted of Turkish nationals, to whom 8,945 residence titles (9.5%) were issued for family reasons in 2022, which is 9.0% more than the previous year (2021: 8,210). In 2022, there was a significant increase of 47.5% in the number of Indian nationals, totalling 8,900 people. This makes them the third-largest group, following last year's 6,035 applicants.

Labour migration

With the Skilled Immigration Act (FEG), a significant legal change for labour migration to Germany came into force on March 1, 2020 with the aim to make Germany more attractive for skilled professionals from third countries. At the same time, however, the spreading COVID-19 pandemic slowed down international mobility and thus the influx of labour migrants. An increase in numbers has been recorded

Migration for family reasons (residence titles granted), 10 most frequent nationalities in 2022

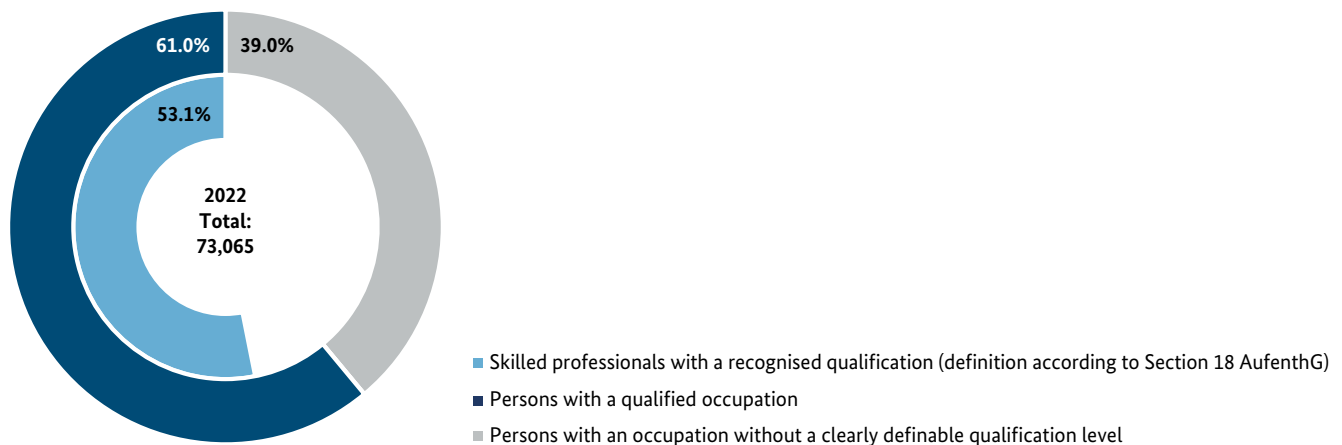


Note: Values below 3 % are not shown. The categories relating to spouses also include civil partners.

* Incl. former Serbia and Montenegro

Source: Central Register of Foreigners, BAMF's own calculations

Labour migration according to Sections 18 to 21 AufenthG in 2022 by qualification level



Source: Central Register of Foreigners, BAMF's own calculations

again since 2021. In 2022, 73,065 people entered Germany and received a residence title for labour migration. This corresponds to an increase of 77.8% compared to 2021.

Analyzing the structure of labour migration to Germany in 2022 reveals that the majority of employees from third countries are skilled professionals with a recognised qualification (definition according to Section 18 AufenthG), a total of 38,820 people or 53.1%. 61.0% or 44,595 of the immigrants are in a broader sense those with a qualified occupation. Accordingly, 39.0% are those with an occupation without a clearly definable qualification level.

Educational migration

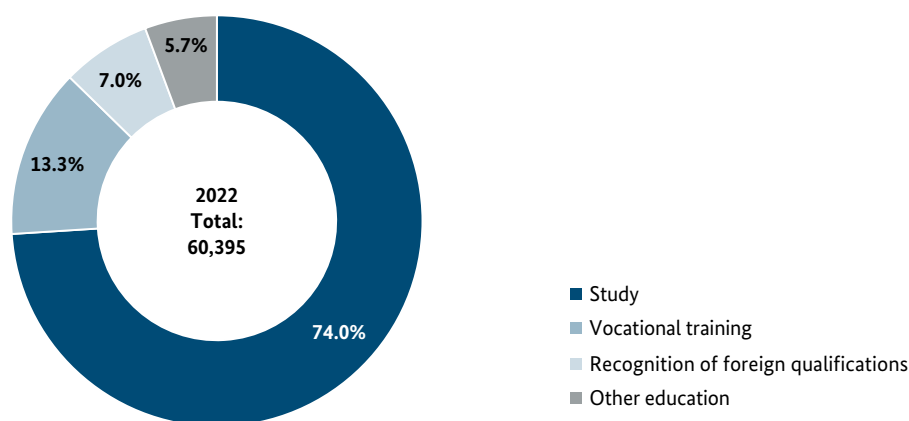
In 2022, a total of 60,395 residence titles for educational purposes were issued to people who entered Germany in

the same year (2021: 47,255). Compared to the previous year, the number rose by 27.8%. In 44,690 cases, these were people who migrated to Germany for the purpose of studying. With a share of 74.0%, this is the largest group in educational migration. Compared to the previous year, this figure rose by 23.8% (2021: 36,100). The second-largest group, with a share of 13.3%, comprises 8,045 people who migrated to Germany from third countries for vocational trainings (2021: 5,420; +48.4%). 4,240 people migrated for measures aimed at the recognition of a foreign qualification (2021: 3,260; +30.1%) and 3,425 for other educational purposes (2021: 2,475; +38.4%).

Immigration of ethnic German resettlers

In the period from 1990 to 2022, over 2.5 million people immigrated to Germany as ethnic German resettlers. The num-

Educational migration according to Sections 16 to 17 AufenthG in 2022 by residence title



Source: Central Register of Foreigners, BAMF's own calculations

ber of people declined continuously from around 98,500 in 2001 to around 1,800 in 2012. However, in the following years, there was a slight increase in the immigration of ethnic German resettlers and their family members, rising to 7,155 people in 2019 due to legal changes that primarily facilitated family reunification. In 2020, the Federal Office of Administration registered only 4,309 immigrants of this category. This decrease can be attributed to restrictions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. However, in 2022, the number of registered ethnic German resettlers returned to the 2019 level of 7,010.

Under the visa-free regime in place since 2017, individuals wishing to come to Germany as ethnic German repatriates from Ukraine may enter the country. An exception has been made for this group due to the war situation, allowing them to apply for admission directly in Germany, provided they meet the requirements for recognition as an ethnic German resettler.

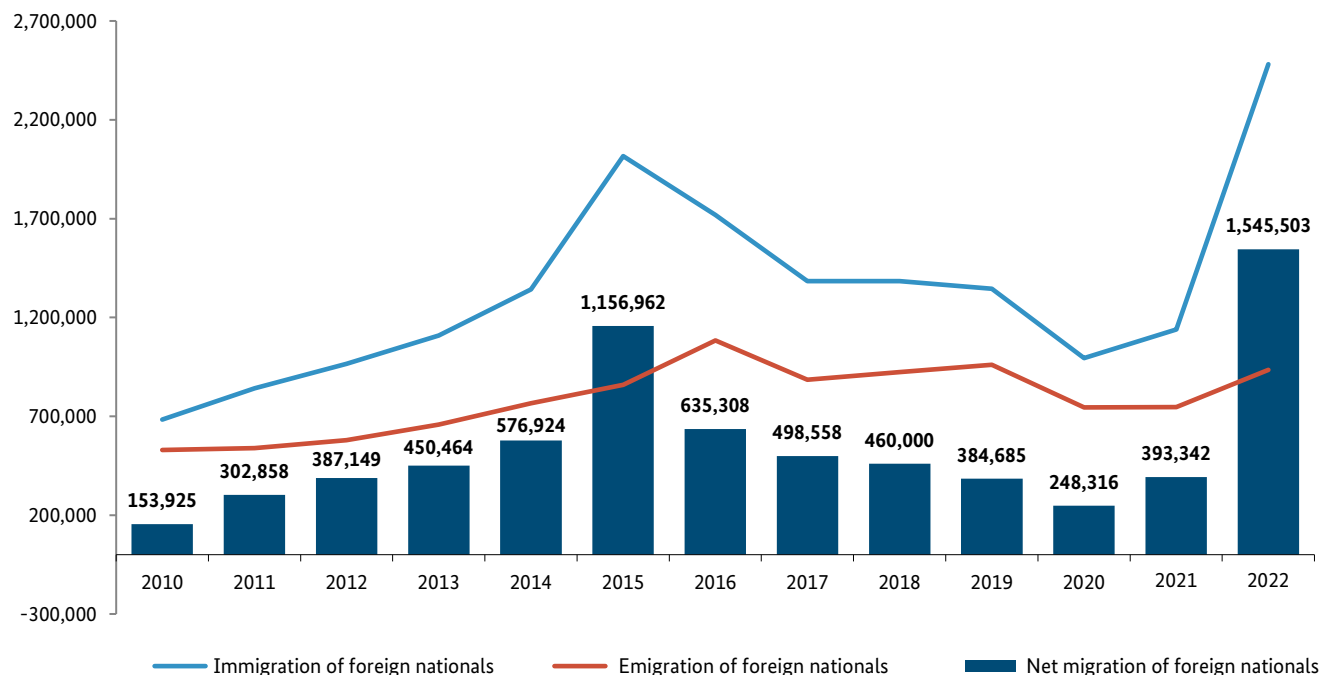
Emigration from Germany

The trend since 2010 shows that as immigration increases, there is a time lag before more foreign nationals leave Germany. The number of departures remained stable until 2012, but then increased until it reached its peak in 2016. Between 2010 and 2022, approximately 17.4 million foreign nationals moved to Germany, but around 10.2 million left the country during the same period.

In 2022, there were 935,516 departures of foreign nationals (compared to 746,474 in 2021) and 2,481,019 inflows of this group. As a result, net migration totalled +1,545,503, which represents a 292.9% increase from 2021 (+393,342).

The outflow of people with German citizenship increased by 8.2% compared to 2021 (268,167, 2021: 247,829 outflows). At the same time, German nationals were the third largest immigration group in 2022 after Ukrainian and Romanian nationals. The migration loss among German nationals was therefore -89,531 (2021: -70,127).

Immigration and emigration of foreign nationals to and from Germany since 2010



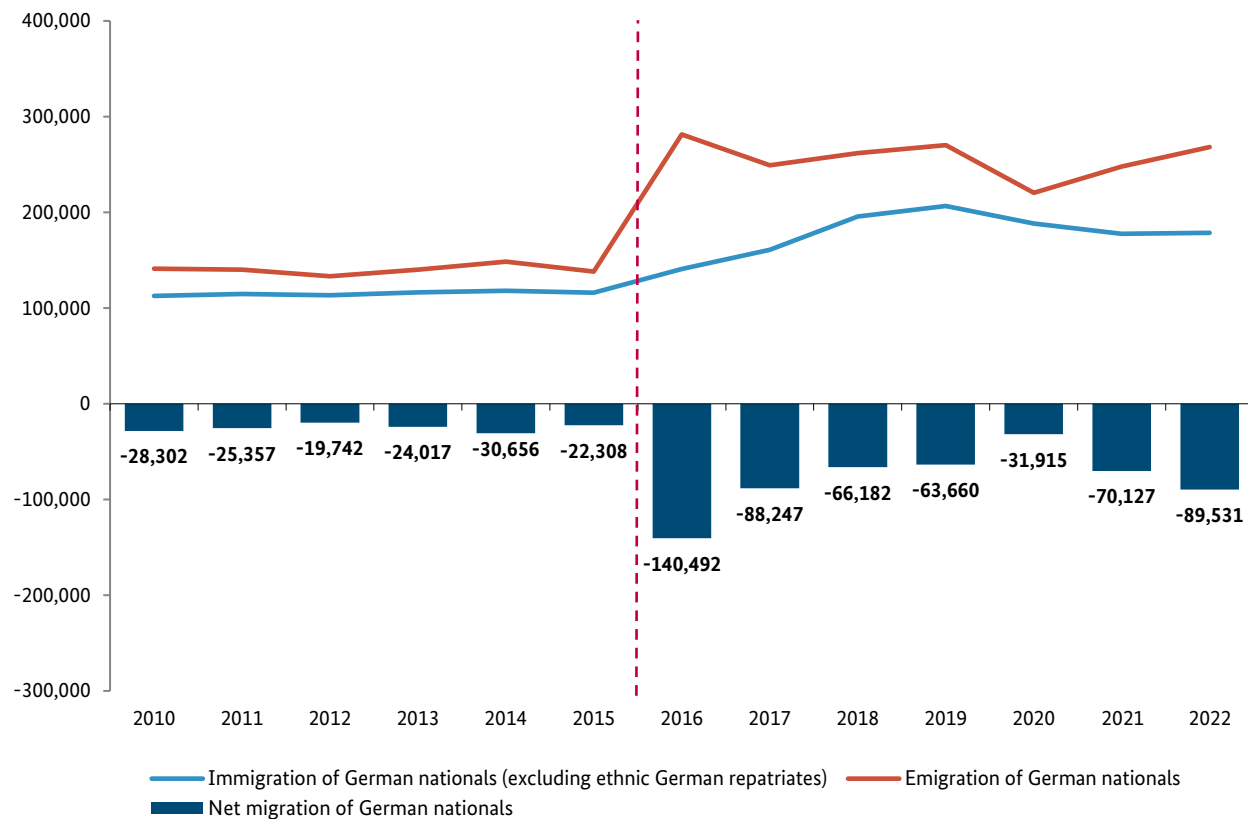
Notes: The accuracy of the results for 2016 is limited due to inconsistencies in connection with the treatment of protection seekers under registration law. Furthermore, from the 2016 reporting year onwards, comparability of results with prior-year figures is limited because of methodological changes and refinements of measuring techniques. Precision of results is limited by inconsistencies associated with the requirements of law for the treatment of persons seeking protection. Detailed information is available on the Federal Statistical Office's website on migration.

The 2019 migration figures include ex officio de-registrations of EU nationals made by registration authorities in the context of the European election. For this reason, the departure figure for 2019 is only comparable to a limited extent with the values before and after it.

As part of the measures to contain the COVID-19 pandemic, there may be a time delay in the recording of migration cases in the statistics from mid-March 2020 onwards due to restrictions in the public access of registration offices or extended deadlines for registration and deregistration.

Source: Federal Statistical Office, Migration Statistics

Immigration and emigration of German nationals (immigration excluding ethnic German repatriates*) to and from Germany since 2010



Notes: Break in the time series from 2016.

As of 1 January 2016, immigration and emigration of Germans nationals from or to „unknown/no information“ are additionally taken into account in the migration statistics, therefore the immigration and emigration figures of Germans are higher as of 2016. The results are only comparable with the previous years' figures to a limited extent. Detailed information is available on the Federal Statistical Office's website on migration.

The 2019 migration figures include ex officio de-registrations of EU nationals made by registration authorities in the context of the European election. For this reason, the departure figure for 2019 is only comparable to a limited extent with the values before and after it.

As part of the measures to contain the COVID-19 pandemic, there may be a time delay in the recording of migration cases in the statistics from mid-March 2020 due to restrictions in the public access of registration offices or extended deadlines for registration and deregistration.

* Persons who received German citizenship with the issuance of the late repatriate certificate. This applies to ethnic German repatriates in their own right (section 4 (1) BVFG) as well as their spouse and their descendants (section 7 (2) BVFG).

Source: Federal Statistical Office, Federal Office of Administration

Immigration in European comparison

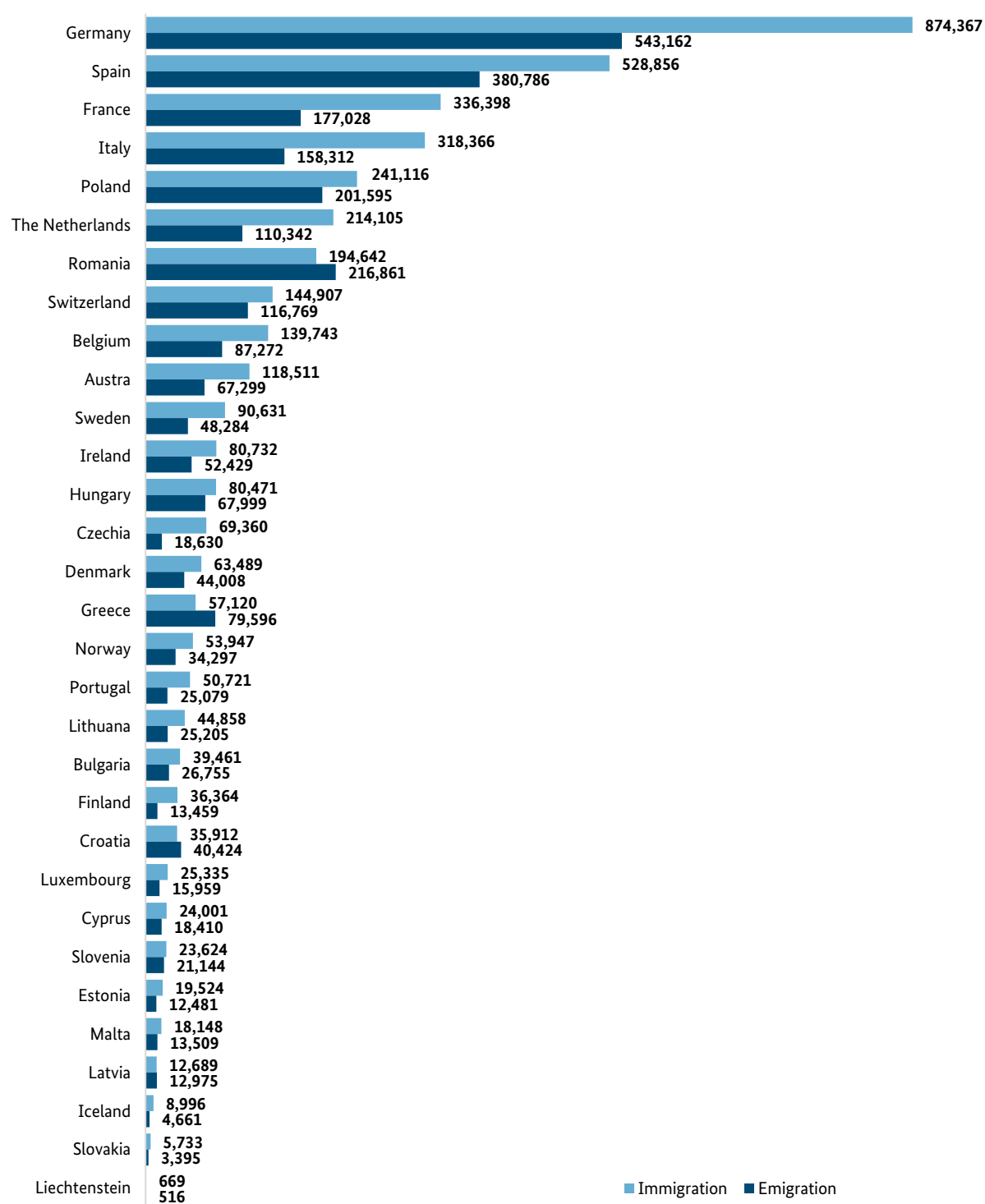
In a comparison of European countries, Germany remains the most popular destination for migration in absolute terms.⁴ Among EU countries, Germany had the highest number of long-term immigrants⁵ in 2021, with 874,367 inflows. With outflows of 543,162 people, Germany also recorded a migration surplus of +331,205 (2020: +240,468).

Spain, France, Italy, and Poland also had high immigration figures.

However, when looking at the ratio of immigration figures to the respective population size, Luxembourg stands out with 39.3 immigrants per 1,000 inhabitants, followed by Malta with 34.8 and Cyprus with 26.5. When comparing EU countries, Germany's immigration rate of 10.5 immigrants per 1,000 inhabitants is in the middle of the pack.

⁴ Comparable figures for the EU only become available after a delay of about two years, therefore only the figures from 2021 can be considered here. No data is available for the United Kingdom as of 2020.

⁵ "Longer-term" means that the (intended) duration of stay of the immigrant is at least one year. This definition results in deviations in the figures from the official migration statistics in Germany.

Immigration and emigration (according to UN definition) in 2021 by the most common destination countries in the EU

Source: Eurostat (migr_imm1ctz/migr_emi1ctz, query status: 15 September 2023)

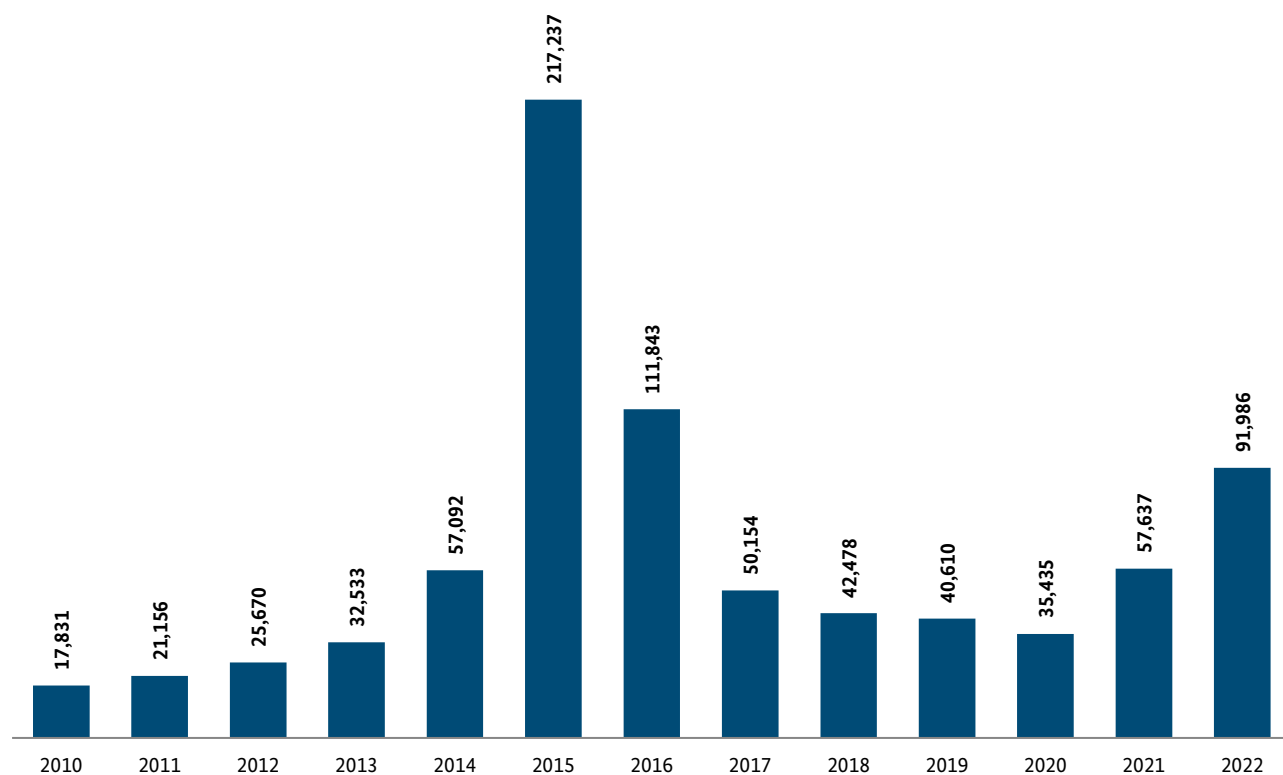
Irregular migration

Foreign nationals who are detected during unauthorised entry by the Federal Police or by other authorities responsible for the police control of cross-border traffic are included in the statistics of the Federal Police. In 2022, there were 91,986 such findings, which is a 59.6% increase compared to the previous year (2021: 57,637).

If foreign nationals do not voluntarily comply with an established, enforceable requirement to leave the country, the

procedure for removal intervenes. In 2022, Germany carried out 12,945 removals, an 8.0% increase from the previous year (2021: 11,982). Out of the total number of removals, 32.1% (4,158) were transfers to other EU or Schengen member states as part of the Dublin procedure. The nationalities with the highest number of removals in 2022 were Georgian (953), Albanian (878), North Macedonian (810), Serbian (795), Afghan (732), and Syrian (707).

Identification at German borders of foreign persons entering the country without permission since 2010



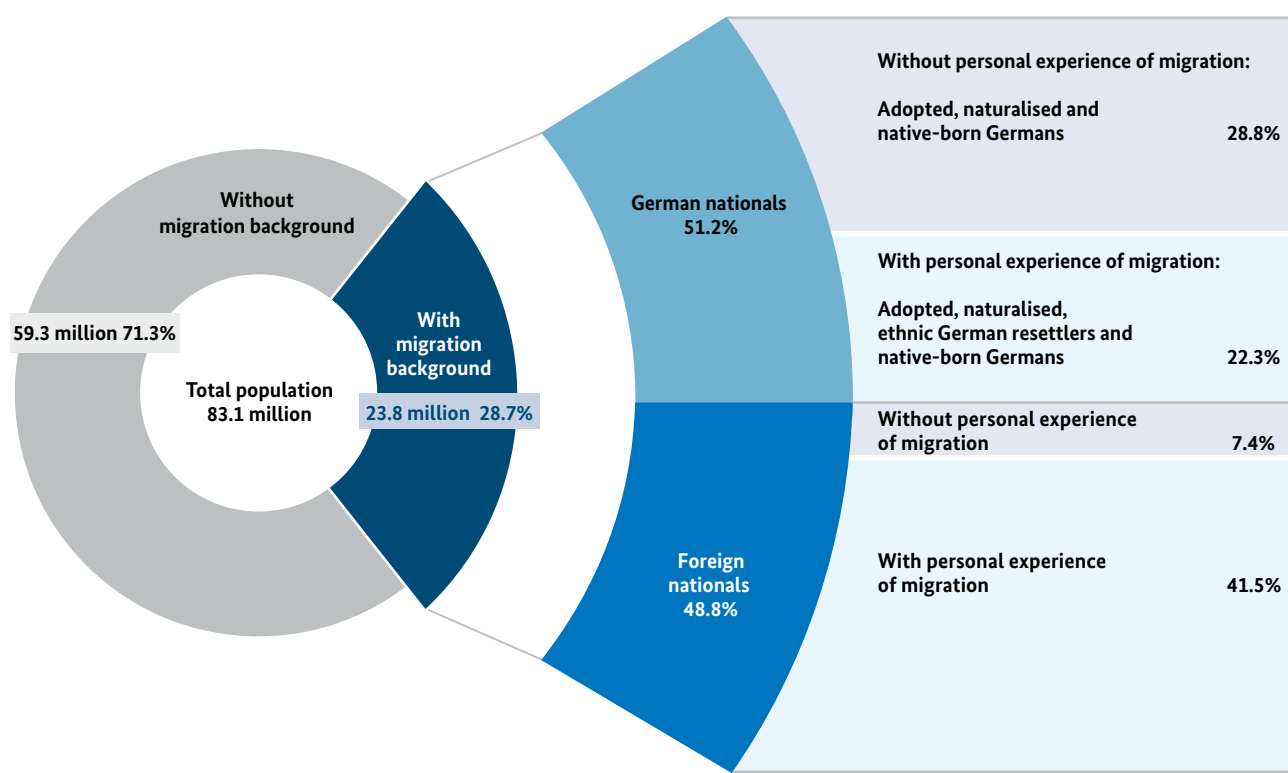
Source: Federal Police

Population with a migration background/
immigration history

In 2022, according to microcensus figures, 23.8 million people in Germany had a migrant background, accounting for 28.7% of the population in private households. The Federal Statistical Office defines this group as people who themselves or at least one parent do not have German citizenship by birth. More than half of people with a migrant background in Germany are German nationals (51.2%), almost two thirds (63.8%) are immigrants themselves, while a good third (36.2%) were born in Germany.

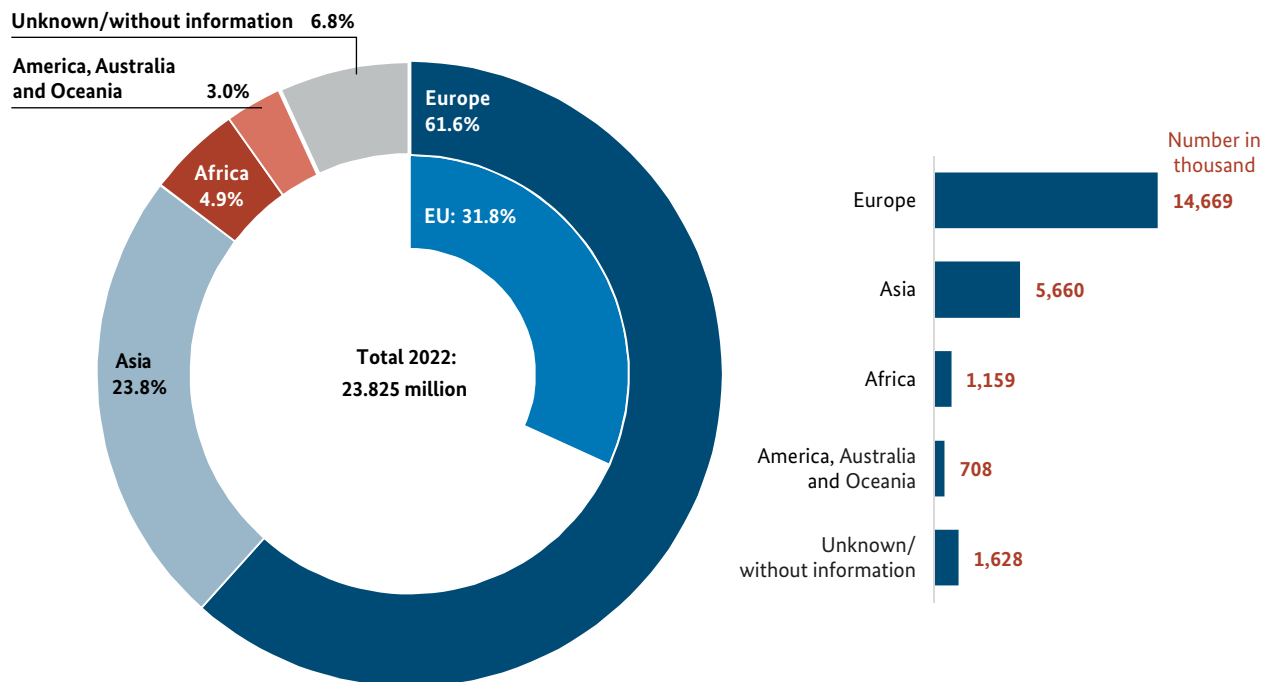
The microcensus determines the origin of the population with a migrant background based on the country of birth of the respondents or their parents if the respondents themselves were born in Germany. According to the 2022 microcensus, just under one-third of people with a migrant background come from EU countries (31.8%) and other European countries (29.8%). The remaining almost 40% are from various countries outside Europe. Regarding the most significant countries of birth, the largest group consists of approximately 2.8 million individuals with a Turkish migration background.

Population with a migration background in Germany in 2022



Source: Federal Statistical Office, Microcensus

Population with a migration background by region of birth in Germany in 2022



The own region of birth is shown or, if born in Germany, the parents' region of birth. Europe incl. Turkey and the Russian Federation.

Source: Federal Statistical Office, Microcensus

On average, persons who immigrated themselves have resided in Germany for 21 years. However, 39.7% of them have lived here for less than a decade. This is largely due to the significant number of refugees who arrived in 2015/2016.

In 2022, the Federal Statistical Office presented figures for the first time using the concept of 'people with immigra-

tion history', as developed by the Expert Commission on the Framework Conditions for Integration Capability. This includes people who themselves or both parents immigrated to what is now Germany after 1950. According to the Microcensus, in 2022 there were approximately 20.2 million people in Germany with an immigration history, 24.3% of the total population.

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