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2. Immigrant population

2.1. Population structure

- At the beginning of 2006, the immigrant population in Norway totalled 387 000; 8.4 per cent of the total population.
- Three out of four persons with immigrant backgrounds had backgrounds from a non-western country. The non-western immigrant population made up 6.1 per cent of the total population.
- The largest groups in the immigrant population were persons with backgrounds from Pakistan, Sweden, Iraq and Denmark.
- Three out of four in the immigrant population are below 20 years of age, while one out of five in the entire population were in this age group. There are large differences within the immigrant population.
- 47 per cent of the immigrant population are Norwegian citizens.
- Every fourth citizen in Oslo has an immigrant background, and one third of the immigrant population lives in Oslo.
- 36 per cent of the non-western immigrant population live in Oslo. If Akershus is included, 46 per cent live in the area.
- First-generation immigrants totalled 318 500; 6.9 per cent of the total population.
- Two out of three first-generation immigrants come from a non-western country.
- The largest groups of first-generation immigrants are Swedes, Vietnamese, Pakistanis and Danes.
- First-generation immigrants from western countries have a generally longer time of residence in Norway than those from non-western countries.
- One third of the first-generation immigrants from non-western countries have lived in Norway less than five years, but there are large differences. For example, 80 per cent of all Afghanis have lived in Norway less than five years, while 31 per cent of those from Pakistan have lived in the country more than 25 years.
- Persons born in Norway of two foreign-born parents (descendants) totalled 68 200; 1.5 per cent of the population.
- Nine out of ten descendants had parents from a non-western country.
- Three out of four descendants are below 15 years of age, and only four per cent are 30 years or older.

- There is a majority of descendants in Norway with parents from Pakistan, Vietnam, Turkey; Sri Lanka and Somalia.
- Where those with other immigrant background are included, such as those with one Norwegian and one foreign-born parent, adopted abroad and persons born abroad of Norwegian-born parents, the figure is 628 700, or almost 14 per cent of the population.

8.3 per cent of Norway’s population have immigrant backgrounds

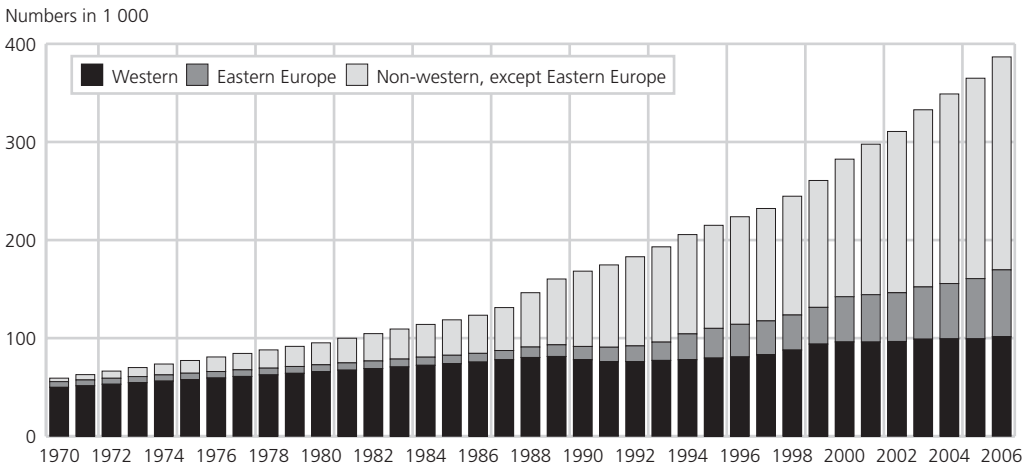
At the beginning of 1970, the immigrant population in Norway totalled 59 000, which was about 1.5 per cent of the population. At the beginning of 2006, the number had increased to 387 000; 8.3 per cent of the population. Persons with non-western immigrant backgrounds made up 6.1 per cent of the population (table 2.1.3 and figure 2.1.1).

The structure of the immigrant population has changed a lot since 1970. The western immigrant population has increa-

sed from about 50 000 in 1970 to 101 000 in 2006, while the non-western immigrant population increased from 9 000 in 1970 to almost 285 000 in 2006. In 1970, people of non-western origin counted for 16 per cent of the immigrant population, while in 2006 the figure was 74 per cent.

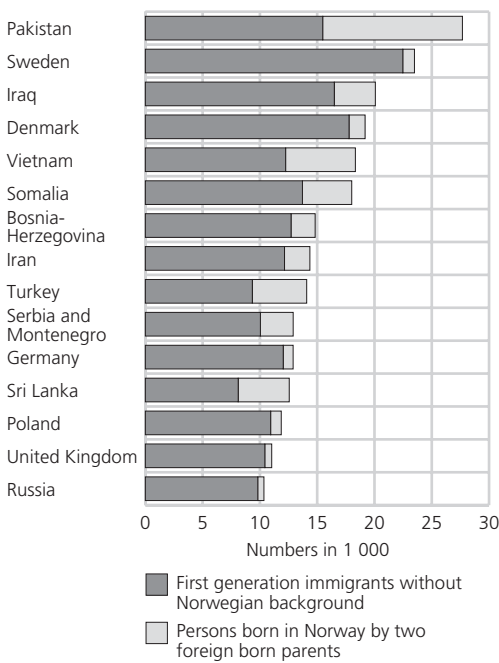
At the beginning of 2006, 40 per cent of the people in the immigrant population had Asian backgrounds, making these the largest group. Then followed persons with backgrounds from Eastern Europe (18 per cent), The Nordic countries (14 per cent), Africa (12 per cent) and Western Europe (10 per cent), see table 2.1.2. A total of 15 single groups consisted of more than 10 000 persons at the beginning of 2006. Persons with Pakistani immigrant backgrounds still make up the largest group with 27 000 persons, followed by persons with backgrounds from Sweden (23 500), Iraq (20 000) and Denmark (19 100), see table 2.1.1 and figure 2.1.2. Danes have for several years made up the third largest immigrant

Figure 2.1.1. The immigrant population, by country background. 1970-2006



Source: Population Statistics, Statistics Norway.

Figure 2.1.2. The 15 largest groups in the immigrant population. 1 January 2006



Source: Population Statistics, Statistics Norway.

group in Norway, but this year Iraqis made up a larger group. There has been a large increase in the number of people with backgrounds from Iraq in recent years.

1 in 6 born in Norway

A total of 318 500 of persons in the immigrant population are first-generation immigrants who have immigrated to Norway, while 68 200 persons are born in Norway of two foreign-born parents (herein referred to as descendants). This means that every sixth person in the immigrant population is born in Norway. Approximately one out of three first-generation immigrants come from a western country. At the beginning of 2006, most first-generation immigrants living in Norway came from Sweden (22 500), Denmark (17 800), Iraq

(16 500) and Pakistan (15 500). The number of Iraqis has increased the most in the past five years.

Persons with parents born in Pakistan formed the largest group of descendants with 12 200, an increase of 800 in two years. Descendants with parents from Vietnam made up the second largest group with 6 100, followed by those with parents from Turkey, Sri Lanka and Somalia. Descendants with parents from Sweden and Denmark totalled 1 000 and 1 400 respectively. There are few descendants with Swedish and Danish parents compared with the other large immigrant groups because Swedes and Danes to a greater extent have children with someone without an immigrant background. Also, when two Swedes or two Danes form a couple and have children together, they more often move back home to their country of origin. At the beginning of 2005, nine out of ten descendants had parents from a non-western country (table 2.1.1, 2.1.2 and figure 2.1.2).

Among the largest immigrant groups, those with backgrounds from Pakistan have the largest proportion of descendants, with 45 per cent. Among those with backgrounds from Morocco, India, Sri Lanka, Turkey and Vietnam, the proportion of descendants is more than 30 per cent. Among persons with backgrounds from Thailand, USA and Sweden, less than five per cent are descendants. These differences are to some extent explained by the time of residence in Norway, but the different group's marital patterns also explain some of these findings (Daugstad 2006).

Half of the immigrant population is aged 20-44 years ...

There are relatively many young adults in the immigrant population compared to the total population (see figure 2.1.3). As at 1 January 2006, almost half of the immigrant population was aged 20-44 years. The corresponding figure for the entire population was 34 per cent. In addition, there is a much higher proportion of elderly people in the entire population compared to the immigrant population. People aged 65 years and older made up 6 per cent of the immigrant population and 15 per cent of the total population. For those younger than 20 years of age, there was only a small difference. The elderly in the immigrant population mainly have western backgrounds, while most of the children have non-western backgrounds (figure 2.1.5).

... and one third of those born in Norway are younger than five years

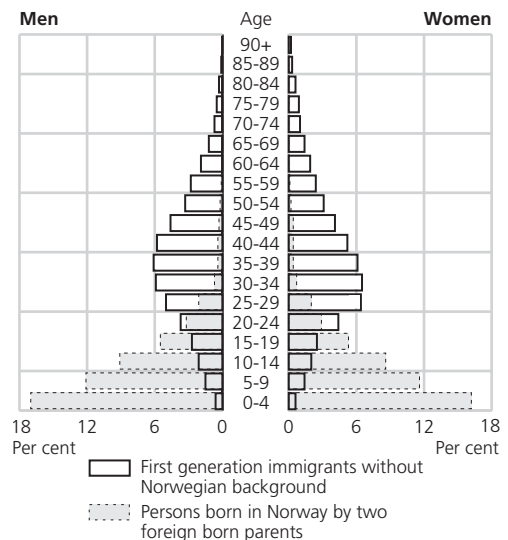
It is not only between the immigrant population and the total population that the difference in age structure is large. The differences are even larger when the first-generation immigrants and the descendants are compared (figure 2.1.4). At the beginning of 2006, 33 per cent of all descendants were younger than five years, and 75 per cent were younger than 15 years. The corresponding figures for first-generation immigrants were 1 and 8 per cent respectively. Thirteen per cent of the descendants were aged 20-44 years, while 55 per cent of the first-generation immigrants were in this age group. Almost none of the descendants are aged 60 years or more. This difference in age structure is because most immigrants are young adults when they come to Norway. There are not many children or elderly that immigrate to Norway. During the

Figure 2.1.3. The immigrant population and the total Norwegian population, by sex and age. 1 January 2006. Per cent



Source: Population Statistics, Statistics Norway.

Figure 2.1.4. First-generation immigrants and persons born in Norway of two foreign-born parents, by sex and age. 1 January 2006. Per cent



Source: Population Statistics, Statistics Norway.

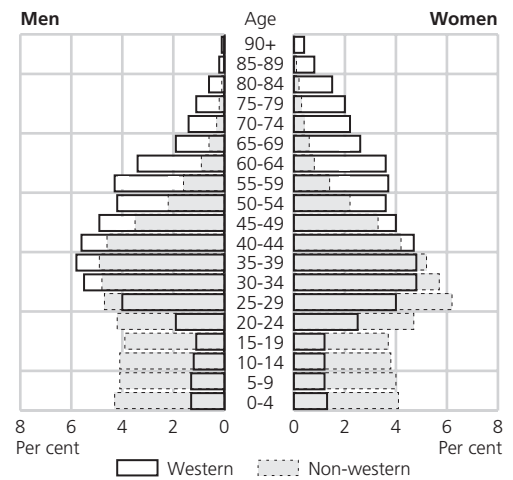
course of a few decades, these differences in age structure will diminish when the descendants grow older.

Every third person with non-western background is younger than 20 years

There are large differences between the western and non-western immigrant population (figure 2.1.5). About ten per cent of the western immigrant population were below 20 years of age, while the corresponding figure for the non-western immigrant population was 33 per cent. This difference in age structure is mainly a result of many descendants in the non-western immigrant population compared to the western population. For the age groups aged more than 44 years, there was a larger proportion in the western immigrant population. Many with western immigrant backgrounds have lived in Norway for a long time, and most of them arrived Norway after school age. The immigration from non-western countries did not really start until 1970, so there are few with non-western backgrounds that have had the time to become 60 years old. In a few years, the differences in age structure between the western and non-western immigrant group will probably decrease somewhat in the older age groups.

In the future, immigration is expected to be higher among people with non-western backgrounds than those with western backgrounds (Brunborg and Texmon, 2006). More children will be born with two parents from non-western countries than from western countries because women from non-western countries have a higher fertility rate, and because persons with western immigrant backgrounds to a larger extent have children with persons without immigrant backgrounds. This pattern is expected to

Figure 2.1.5. The immigrant population, by western and non-western country background, sex and age. 1 January 2006. Per cent



Source: Population Statistics, Statistics Norway.

continue for a few years. Therefore, it is also expected that, on average, the non-western immigrant group will be younger than the western immigrant population in the future.

Variation in the duration of residence

One out of three first-generation immigrants have lived in Norway less than five years, one out of three have lived there 5-14 years and one out of three have lived there 15 years or longer. However, there are large differences among the different groups (table 2.1.4).

Almost half of the first-generation immigrants from Denmark have lived in Norway more than 25 years, and two thirds have lived in the country 15 years or more. Many from Chile have also lived in Norway for a long time. Three out of four have lived there 15 years or more. A military coup took place in Chile on 11 September 1973, and many fled the country. The largest proportions of Chile-

ans arrived in Norway from 1986 to 1990. The highest proportion of first-generation immigrants from non-western countries who have lived in Norway more than 25 years are found among those from Pakistan and India, with about 30 per cent. About 60 per cent of these two groups have lived in Norway 15 years or more. Immigrants from Pakistan and India were the first groups to arrive in Norway as labour immigrants. Many from Vietnam and Turkey have also lived in Norway 15 years or more, but these two groups arrived slightly later than those from Pakistan and India.

On the other end, we find first-generation immigrants from Afghanistan, where 80 per cent have lived in Norway less than five years. Among immigrants from Liberia, Burundi and Lithuania, the proportion is even higher, but these groups are still very small in numbers. Other large immigrant groups where more than half of the first-generation immigrants have lived in Norway less than five years are persons from Poland, Thailand, Ethiopia and Russia. Five out of six first-generation immigrants from Iraq have lived in Norway less than ten years. The corresponding figure for those from Somalia is three out of four.

Many with non-western immigrant backgrounds live near Oslo

There are persons with immigrant backgrounds in all Norwegian municipalities, but two municipalities have none with non-western immigrant backgrounds. In 14 of Norway's municipalities, at least 10 per cent of the population have immigrant backgrounds. Oslo has the highest proportion with 23.0 per cent, followed by Drammen (17.6 per cent) and Lørenskog (14.3 per cent). The same municipalities have the highest proportion of

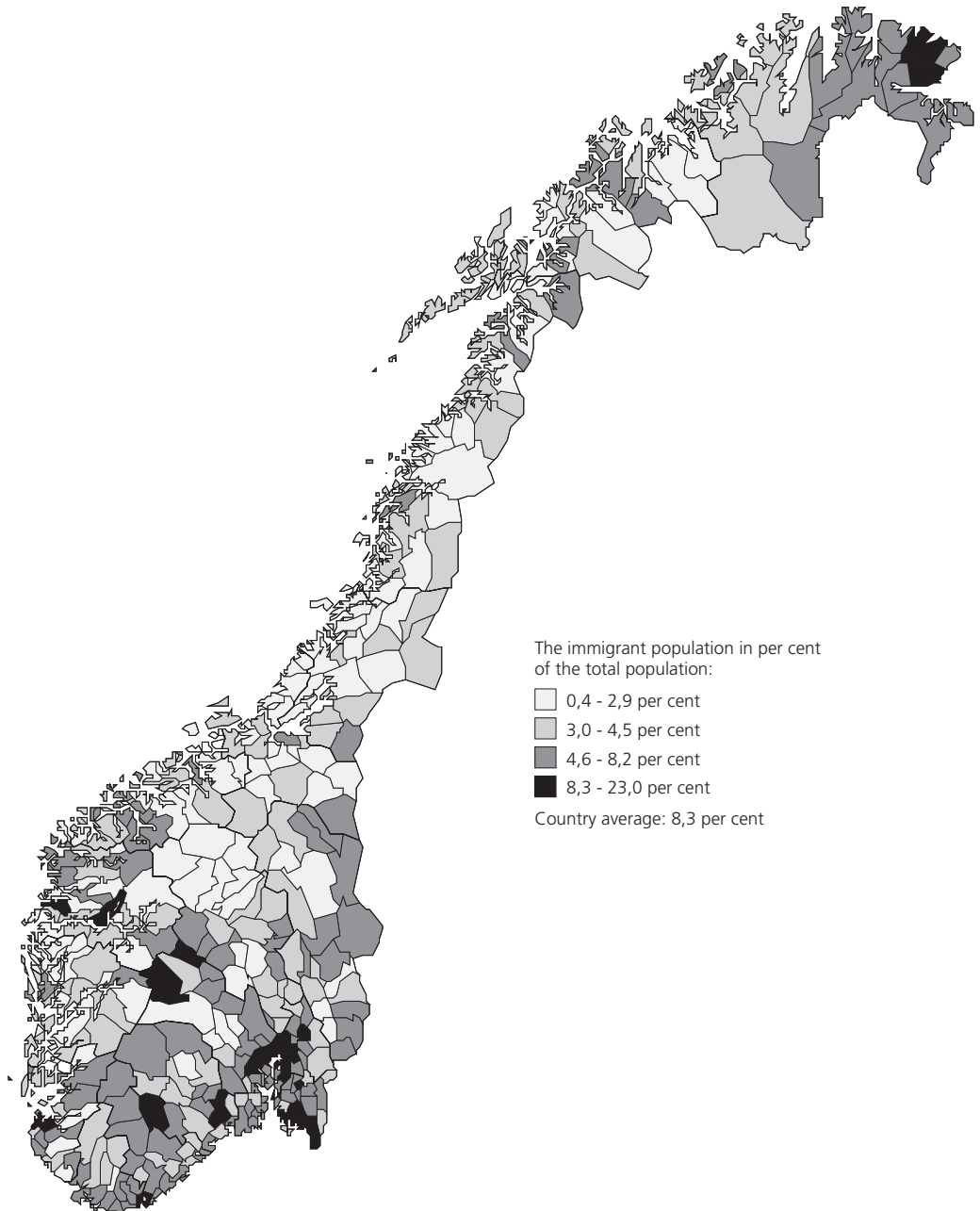
persons with non-western immigrant backgrounds (tables 2.1.6, 2.1.7 and figure 2.1.6).

The immigrant population is clearly centralised in the area around Oslo, and many of those in the non-western immigrant population in particular live there. One third, or 123 000, of persons with immigrant backgrounds lived in Oslo at the beginning of 2006. The proportion is slightly higher for those with non-western immigrant backgrounds, but a lot lower (22 per cent) for those with western immigrant backgrounds, see table 2.1.5.

Around 45 per cent of the whole immigrant population lived in Oslo and Akershus at the beginning of 2006, while only 22 per cent of the total population lived there. The portion of persons with non-western backgrounds is 47 per cent, and for those with western backgrounds it is 31 per cent. Only five per cent of the immigrant population live in Finnmark, compared to 10 per cent of the total population. More than half of the persons with immigrant backgrounds from Asia or Africa live in Oslo and Akershus, while only 33 per cent with backgrounds from East Europe live there. A relatively large proportion of those with backgrounds from a Nordic country live in Finnmark, while a large proportion with backgrounds from Latin America and West Europe live in Rogaland.

Oslo has a much higher number of people with immigrant backgrounds than any other municipality, both in absolute and relative terms. Persons with western immigrant backgrounds made up 4.2 per cent of the population and those with non-western backgrounds 18.9 per cent. Ten years ago, at the beginning of 1996,

**Figure 2.1.6. The immigrant population as a proportion of the total population. Municipalities.
1 January 2006. Per cent**



Source: Population Statistics, Statistics Norway.
Digital map boundaries: Norwegian Mapping Authority.

the corresponding figures were 3.8 and 12.0 per cent respectively.

All the suburbs in Oslo have a higher proportion of persons with immigrant backgrounds than the country average of 8.3 per cent, as well as the average for the western population (2.2 per cent) and the non-western population (6.1 per cent). The Søndre Nordstrand suburb has the highest proportion of persons with non-western immigrant backgrounds with 38.4 per cent, and the Vestre Aker suburb has the lowest with 6.1 per cent (table 2.1.5). Some immigrant groups are strongly concentrated in Oslo. The figures are especially high for those with backgrounds from Morocco and Pakistan, with 75 and 71 per cent respectively.

Equal gender distribution

With regard to the population as a whole, there were almost as many men as women in the immigrant population (table 2.1.9). A few immigrant groups differ from the others. Among Thais, Philipinos and Russians there was a much higher proportion of women compared to men, with 84, 76 and 66 per cent women respectively. Many men without immigrant backgrounds marry women from these countries. Previously, there was also a clear over representation of women with Polish backgrounds, but this has decreased considerably in recent years due to an increase of Polish men coming to Norway looking for employment.

There were no land groups with many more men than women, but there were around 60 per cent men among those with backgrounds from Afghanistan, Iraq and the UK. The proportion of men among Iraqis has decreased by 10 per cent since the beginning of 2001, something that could imply that in recent years

more women have been reunified with an Iraqi man in Norway. Men often move before the women from conflict areas, and are subsequently reunified with their wife and children. There are more men from the UK because many have come to Norway alone to work in the oil industry.

47 per cent of the immigrant population have Norwegian citizenship

Forty-seven per cent of the immigrant population had Norwegian citizenship at the beginning of 2006. There were large differences among the different groups (figure 2.1.7). Ninety per cent of the Vietnamese immigrant population had Norwegian citizenship. Additionally, among those with backgrounds from Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Morocco, India and Turkey, more than 70 per cent had Norwegian citizenship.

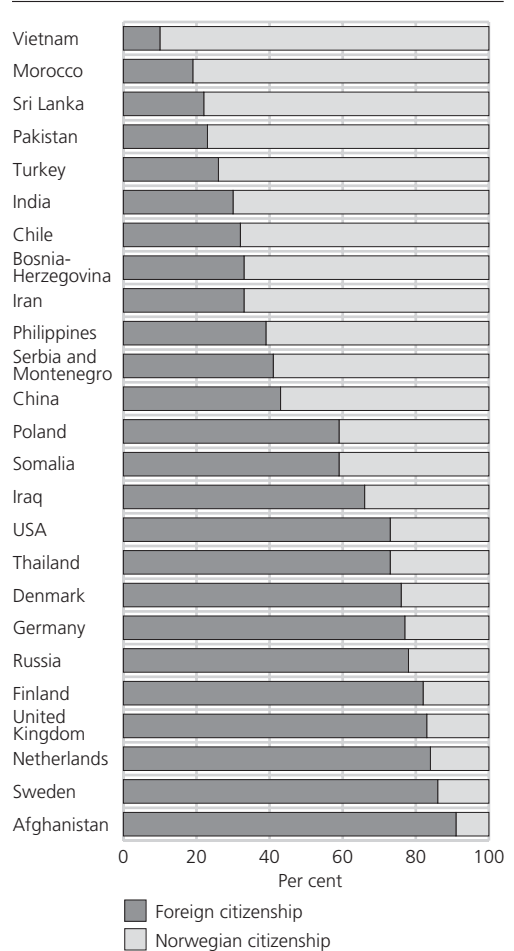
At the other end of the scale, we find people with backgrounds from Afghanistan where only nine per cent had Norwegian citizenship. Other non-western groups with a low percentage of Norwegian citizenship were those with backgrounds from Russia (22 per cent) and Thailand (27 per cent). The difference among the non-western groups is mainly due to different lengths of residence in Norway.

Two years ago, at the beginning of 2004, only 22 per cent with backgrounds from Iraq had Norwegian citizenship. At the beginning of 2006, 34 per cent were Norwegian citizens. Many Iraqis have lived in Norway more than seven years, which entitles them to apply for Norwegian citizenship.

There tends to be a large proportion of people with Norwegian citizenship

among the non-western groups that have been resident in Norway for a long time. There are very few with western backgrounds that have Norwegian citizenship, despite a lengthy residence. Few people with a western citizenship want a Norwegian citizenship because they have almost the same rights, and many do not intend to stay permanently in Norway.

Figure 2.1.7. The immigrant population by Norwegian/foreign citizenship. The 25 largest immigrant groups. 1 January 2006. Per cent



Source: Population Statistics. Statistics Norway.

Table 2.1.1. The 40 largest immigrant groups, by country background. 1 January 2006

The immigrant population		First generation immigrants		Born in Norway of two foreign-born parents	
The immigrant population, total	386 699	First generation immigrants, total	318 514	Born in Norway of two foreign-born parents, total	68 185
Pakistan	27 675	Sverige	22 472	Pakistan	12 193
Total	386 699	Total	318 514	Total	68 185
Pakistan	27 675	Sweden	22 472	Pakistan	12 193
Sweden	23 489	Denmark	17 779	Vietnam	6 088
Iraq	20 076	Iraq	16 494	Turkey	4 747
Denmark	19 179	Pakistan	15 482	Sri Lanka	4 456
Vietnam	18 333	Somalia	13 712	Somalia	4 303
Somalia	18 015	Bosnia-Herzegovina	12 718	Iraq	3 582
Bosnia-Herzegovina	14 822	Vietnam	12 245	Serbia and Montenegro	2 863
Iran	14 362	Iran	12 148	Morocco	2 613
Turkey	14 084	Germany	12 035	India	2 432
Serbia and Montenegro	12 905	Poland	10 938	Iran	2 214
Germany	12 900	United Kingdom	10 429	Bosnia-Herzegovina	2 104
Sri Lanka	12 560	Serbia and Montenegro	10 042	Denmark	1 400
Poland	11 864	Russia	9 813	Chile	1 388
United Kingdom	11 031	Turkey	9 337	Sweden	1 017
Russia	10 351	Sri Lanka	8 104	Philippines	1 005
Philippines	8 561	Philippines	7 556	Poland	926
Thailand	7 788	Thailand	7 553	Germany	865
India	7 154	USA	6 639	China	858
Chile	7 084	Finland	5 982	Macedonia	825
Morocco	7 031	Afghanistan	5 956	Eritrea	706
USA	6 884	Chile	5 696	Lebanon	628
Afghanistan	6 539	India	4 722	United Kingdom	602
Finland	6 434	China	4 478	Afghanistan	583
China	5 336	Morocco	4 418	Netherlands	540
Netherlands	4 823	Netherlands	4 283	Russia	538
Iceland	3 589	Iceland	3 259	Ethiopia	515
Ethiopia	3 185	Ethiopia	2 670	Finland	452
Croatia	3 015	Croatia	2 566	Croatia	449
Macedonia	2 904	France	2 475	Syria	408
Eritrea	2 653	Macedonia	2 079	Ghana	405
France	2 635	Eritrea	1 947	Hungary	381
Lebanon	2 024	Lithuania	1 903	Iceland	330
Lithuania	1 947	Romania	1 628	Gambia	312
Romania	1 753	Brazil	1 486	Algeria	271
Hungary	1 699	Spain	1 405	USA	245
Ghana	1 661	Lebanon	1 396	Thailand	235
Brazil	1 535	Ukraine	1 389	Tunisia	189
Spain	1 506	Hungary	1 318	Nigeria	182
Syria	1 460	Italy	1 284	Bangladesh	178
Ukraine	1 449	Ghana	1 256	Sudan	167

Source: Population statistics, Statistics Norway.

Table 2.1.2. Population, by three categories of country background, country of birth and citizenship. 1 January 2006

Country background/country of birth/citizenship	Country background			Country of birth	Citizenship
	Persons with immigration background ¹	Immigrant population ²	First generation immigrants without Norwegian background ³		
Total	4 640 219	4 640 219	4 640 219	4 640 219	4 640 219
Norway	4 011 560	4 253 520	4 321 705	4 259 852	4 417 942
Abroad, total	628 659	386 699	318 514	380 367	222 277
The Nordic countries	135 331	53 551	50 287	67 139	56 505
Western Europe	93 798	38 635	35 979	47 735	35 272
Eastern Europe	81 746	68 210	59 500	60 404	34 710
Africa	59 234	47 532	36 768	39 307	23 413
Asia included Turkey	191 693	155 264	114 668	128 534	55 515
North-America ⁵	27 731	14 293	12 405	18 574	5 973
South and Central America	36 142	8 117	7 834	17 001	8 904
Oceania	2 984	1 097	1 073	1 673	976
Stateless	-	-	-	-	941
Unknown	-	-	-	-	68
Selected groups					
Western countries ⁴	268 255	101 400	95 173	133 548	101 657
Non-western countries, stateless and unknown	360 404	285 299	223 341	246 819	120 620
EU-25	242 889	104 872	97 880	125 808	97 674
EU15 ⁵	217 553	86 704	81 272	108 659	87 031
EU10 ⁶	25 336	18 168	16 608	17 149	10 643
Former Yugoslavia	36 618	33 764	27 515	27 347	11 865
Former Sovietunion	20 376	17 221	16 374	16 743	13 897

¹ Own, mother's or father's country of birth if it is foreign, otherwise Norway.

² Own, mother's or father's country of birth (if it is foreign) for persons with to foreign-born parents, otherwise Norway.

³ Own, mother's or father's country of birth for foreign born with two foreign born parents, otherwise Norway.

⁴ West- Europe except Turkey, and North America and Oceania.

⁵ EU-members prior to May 1st 2004.

⁶ New EU-members from May 1st 2004.

Source: Population statistics, Statistics Norway.

Table 2.1.3. Population, by country background¹. 1970-2006. Foreign country background refers to immigrant population²

	Total	Norway	Abroad					Asia, Africa, South and Central America, Turkey
			Abroad, total	Nordic countries	West Europe except	East Europe	North America, Oceania	
Real numbers								
1.1.1970	3 874 133	3 814 937	59 196	26 548	15 190	5 806	8 103	3 549
1.1.1980	4 091 132	3 995 930	95 202	31 210	22 686	7 114	11 810	22 382
1.1.1986	4 159 187	4 035 839	123 348	35 766	28 503	8 868	11 332	38 879
1.1.1987	4 175 521	4 044 379	131 142	37 880	28 797	9 374	11 320	43 771
1.1.1988	4 198 289	4 051 992	146 297	39 509	29 420	10 639	11 350	55 379
1.1.1989	4 220 686	4 060 393	160 293	40 037	29 972	11 878	11 292	67 114
1.1.1990	4 233 116	4 064 818	168 298	38 089	29 107	13 551	10 769	76 782
1.1.1991	4 249 830	4 075 162	174 668	37 285	28 208	14 663	10 558	83 954
1.1.1992	4 273 634	4 090 640	182 994	37 589	28 000	15 926	10 552	90 927
1.1.1993	4 299 167	4 106 072	193 095	38 176	28 524	18 647	10 584	97 164
1.1.1994	4 324 815	4 119 217	205 598	39 060	28 581	26 321	10 338	101 298
1.1.1995	4 348 410	4 133 362	215 048	40 608	28 853	30 276	10 211	105 100
1.1.1996	4 369 957	4 146 160	223 797	41 643	29 188	33 200	10 037	109 729
1.1.1997	4 392 714	4 160 522	232 192	43 696	29 491	34 486	9 879	114 640
1.1.1998	4 417 599	4 172 894	244 705	47 886	30 250	35 733	9 694	121 142
1.1.1999	4 445 329	4 184 587	260 742	52 338	31 795	37 430	9 787	129 392
1.1.2000	4 478 497	4 196 010	282 487	53 445	33 097	46 098	9 578	140 269
1.1.2001	4 503 436	4 205 705	297 731	53 480	33 271	48 257	9 272	153 451
1.1.2002	4 524 066	4 213 362	310 704	53 466	33 961	49 677	9 159	164 441
1.1.2003	4 552 252	4 219 459	332 793	54 277	35 243	53 249	9 413	180 611
1.1.2004	4 577 457	4 228 517	348 940	53 940	35 906	56 339	9 456	193 299
1.1.2005	4 606 363	4 241 382	364 981	53 201	36 960	61 342	9 176	204 302
1.1.2006	4 640 219	4 253 520	386 699	53 551	38 635	68 210	9 214	217 089
Per cent of immigrant population								
1.1.1970			100,0	44,8	25,7	9,8	13,7	6,0
1.1.1980			100,0	32,8	23,8	7,5	12,4	23,5
1.1.1986			100,0	29,0	23,1	7,2	9,2	31,5
1.1.1987			100,0	28,9	22,0	7,1	8,6	33,4
1.1.1988			100,0	27,0	20,1	7,3	7,8	37,9
1.1.1989			100,0	25,0	18,7	7,4	7,0	41,9
1.1.1990			100,0	22,6	17,3	8,1	6,4	45,6
1.1.1991			100,0	21,3	16,1	8,4	6,0	48,1
1.1.1992			100,0	20,5	15,3	8,7	5,8	49,7
1.1.1993			100,0	19,8	14,8	9,7	5,5	50,3
1.1.1994			100,0	19,0	13,9	12,8	5,0	49,3
1.1.1995			100,0	18,9	13,4	14,1	4,7	48,9
1.1.1996			100,0	18,6	13,0	14,8	4,5	49,0
1.1.1997			100,0	18,8	12,7	14,9	4,3	49,4
1.1.1998			100,0	19,6	12,4	14,6	4,0	49,5
1.1.1999			100,0	20,1	12,2	14,4	3,8	49,6
1.1.2000			100,0	18,9	11,7	16,3	3,4	49,7
1.1.2001			100,0	18,0	11,2	16,2	3,1	51,5
1.1.2002			100,0	17,2	10,9	16,0	2,9	52,9
1.1.2003			100,0	16,3	10,6	16,0	2,8	54,3
1.1.2004			100,0	15,5	10,3	16,1	2,7	55,4
1.1.2005			100,0	14,6	10,1	16,8	2,5	56,0
1.1.2006			100,0	13,8	10,0	17,6	2,4	56,1

¹ Own, mother's or father's country of birth if it is foreign, otherwise Norway. ² Persons with two foreign born parents.
Source: Population statistics, Statistics Norway.

Table 2.1.4. First generation immigrants¹, by length of stay/first immigrations year and country background². 1 January 2006

Country background	Total	Length of stay, in years. Per cent					
		25+	20-24	15-19	10-14	5-9	0-4
		First year of immigration					
		1980-	1981- 1985	1986- 1990	1991- 1995	1996 - 2000	2001 - 2005
Total	318 514	16	6	13	14	19	32
The Nordic countries, total ...	50 287	32	7	9	10	20	22
Denmark	17 779	47	8	10	7	10	17
Sweden	22 472	22	6	9	11	26	26
Western Europe, total	35 979	33	7	7	8	15	30
France	2 475	22	6	6	8	18	39
Netherlands	4 283	29	7	7	9	16	32
United Kingdom	10 429	39	10	8	9	12	22
Germany	12 035	29	5	5	6	17	38
Eastern Europe, total	59 500	6	3	7	27	20	37
Bosnia-Herzegovina	12 718	1	0	1	75	16	7
Poland	10 938	9	9	13	10	8	51
Russia	9 813	1	0	1	8	24	66
Africa, total	36 768	6	3	12	12	22	44
Marocco	4 418	20	9	20	14	19	17
Somalia	13 712	0	0	8	14	29	49
Asia included Turkey	114 668	10	7	19	12	19	32
Afghanistan	5 956	0	0	4	2	14	81
Philippines	7 556	8	10	20	10	16	36
Iraq	16 494	0	0	4	11	45	40
Iran	12 148	1	2	37	15	22	24
Pakistan	15 482	31	13	18	10	12	17
Sri Lanka	8 067	2	4	35	22	20	17
Thailand	7 553	2	4	9	11	19	55
Turkey	9 337	17	8	22	13	18	23
Vietnam	12 245	14	21	28	20	6	11
North America³, total	7 834	39	7	7	9	13	26
USA	6 639	41	7	7	9	13	24
South and Central America, total	12 405	12	6	33	8	15	27
Chile	5 696	12	6	60	6	7	10
Oceania, total	1 073	21	4	6	8	15	46

¹ Foreign born persons with two foreign born parents.

² Mainly own country of birth, but parents' country of birth if both parents have same country of birth which is different from person's country of birth.

³ USA and Canada.

Source: Population statistics, Statistics Norway.

Table 2.1.5. Immigrant population¹, by two groups of country background². Urban districts of Oslo. 1 January 2006

Urban district	Alle	Back-ground in Asia, Africa, South and Central America, Turkey	Immigrant population in parts of town, per cent		Immigrant population in whole country, per cent		Population of Oslo in per cent of total population	Popu- lation total
			All	Background in Asia, Africa, South and Central America, Turkey	All	Background in Asia, Africa, South and Central America, Turkey		
Whole Oslo	123 891	87 627	23,0	16,3	32,0	41,5	11,6	538 411
01 Gamle Oslo	11 956	9 247	32,7	25,3	3,1	4,4	0,8	36 557
02 Grünerløkka ...	10 230	7 266	26,3	18,7	2,6	3,4	0,8	38 946
03 Sagene	6 120	4 178	20,1	13,7	1,6	2,0	0,7	30 414
04 St. Hanshaugen	4 802	2 300	17,0	8,1	1,2	1,1	0,6	28 287
05 Frogner	7 686	2 682	16,7	5,8	2,0	1,3	1,0	46 047
06 Ullern	3 170	1 239	11,5	4,5	0,8	0,6	0,6	27 599
07 Vestre Aker	4 606	1 806	11,3	4,4	1,2	0,9	0,9	40 878
08 Nordre Aker ...	5 042	2 599	12,1	6,2	1,3	1,2	0,9	41 656
09 Bjerke	7 792	6 171	31,7	25,1	2,0	2,9	0,5	24 606
10 Grorud	8 562	7 258	34,2	29,0	2,2	3,4	0,5	25 032
11 Stovner	10 463	9 156	36,5	32,0	2,7	4,3	0,6	28 656
12 Alna	16 619	13 945	37,4	31,3	4,3	6,6	1,0	44 482
13 Østensjø	7 340	5 171	16,9	11,9	1,9	2,5	0,9	43 547
14 Nordstrand	4 708	2 470	10,7	5,6	1,2	1,2	0,9	43 824
15 Søndre Nordstrand	13 994	11 707	41,3	34,6	3,6	5,6	0,7	33 863
16 Sentrum	261	125	43,3	20,7	0,1	0,1	0,0	603
17 Marka	116	24	6,0	1,2	0,0	0,0	0,0	1 924
Unknown, without permanent adress	424	283	28,5	19,0	0,1	0,1	0,0	1 490

¹ Persons with two foreign born parents.

² Own, mother's or father's country of birth.

Source: Population statistics, Statistics Norway.

Table 2.1.6. Immigrant population¹, by country background² and municipality. Classified by size of immigrant population. 1 January 2006. Absolute numbers and per cent

Municipality	Immigrant population		Immigrant population in per cent of total population		Immigrant population in whole country, per cent		Population, total
	All	Non-western	All	Non-western	All	Non-western	
The whole country	386 699	285 299	8,3	6,1	100,0	100,0	4 640 219
1 0301 Oslo	123 891	101 637	23,0	18,9	32,0	35,6	538 411
2 1201 Bergen	19 504	14 631	8,1	6,0	5,0	5,1	242 158
3 1103 Stavanger	13 020	8 733	11,3	7,6	3,4	3,1	115 157
4 0219 Bærum	12 177	7 507	11,5	7,1	3,1	2,6	105 928
5 1601 Trondheim	11 474	8 495	7,2	5,4	3,0	3,0	158 613
6 0602 Drammen	10 135	8 735	17,5	15,1	2,6	3,1	57 759
7 1001 Kristiansand	8 016	6 295	10,4	8,2	2,1	2,2	76 917
8 0106 Fredrikstad	6 036	4 582	8,5	6,5	1,6	1,6	70 791
9 0231 Skedsmo	5 653	4 587	13,1	10,6	1,5	1,6	43 201
10 0220 Asker	5 531	3 294	10,7	6,4	1,4	1,2	51 484
11 1102 Sandnes	4 974	3 761	8,4	6,4	1,3	1,3	58 947
12 0230 Lørenskog	4 419	3 615	14,3	11,7	1,1	1,3	30 929
13 0105 Sarpsborg	4 375	3 453	8,7	6,9	1,1	1,2	50 115
14 0806 Skien	4 371	3 502	8,6	6,9	1,1	1,2	50 761
15 1902 Tromsø	4 053	2 231	6,4	3,5	1,0	0,8	63 596
16 0104 Moss	3 366	2 661	11,9	9,4	0,9	0,9	28 182
17 0706 Sandefjord	3 269	2 338	7,9	5,6	0,8	0,8	41 555
18 0709 Larvik	2 860	2 118	6,9	5,1	0,7	0,7	41 211
19 0704 Tønsberg	2 594	1 769	7,0	4,8	0,7	0,6	36 919
20 0213 Ski	2 575	1 816	9,5	6,7	0,7	0,6	27 010
21 0906 Arendal	2 558	1 790	6,4	4,5	0,7	0,6	39 826
22 0235 Ullensaker	2 332	1 646	9,2	6,5	0,6	0,6	25 269
23 0101 Halden	2 318	1 514	8,4	5,5	0,6	0,5	27 722
24 1106 Haugesund	2 278	1 698	7,2	5,4	0,6	0,6	31 738
25 0805 Porsgrunn	2 277	1 624	6,8	4,8	0,6	0,6	33 550
26 0217 Oppegård	2 131	1 382	8,9	5,8	0,6	0,5	23 897
27 0625 Nedre Eiker	2 121	1 648	9,8	7,6	0,5	0,6	21 653
28 0626 Lier	2 067	1 548	9,4	7,1	0,5	0,5	21 874
29 0502 Gjøvik	2 004	1 618	7,2	5,8	0,5	0,6	27 819
30 0701 Horten	1 873	1 322	7,5	5,3	0,5	0,5	24 871
31 1504 Ålesund	1 869	1 291	4,6	3,2	0,5	0,5	40 801
32 0124 Askim	1 851	1 561	13,0	11,0	0,5	0,5	14 184
33 1804 Bodø	1 805	1 313	4,0	2,9	0,5	0,5	44 992
34 0214 Ås	1 721	1 198	11,8	8,2	0,4	0,4	14 530
35 0403 Hamar	1 713	1 229	6,2	4,5	0,4	0,4	27 593
36 0228 Rælingen	1 711	1 407	11,5	9,5	0,4	0,5	14 857
37 1124 Sola	1 685	969	8,4	4,8	0,4	0,3	20 138
38 0233 Nittedal	1 649	1 067	8,4	5,4	0,4	0,4	19 722
39 0501 Lillehammer	1 646	1 085	6,5	4,3	0,4	0,4	25 314
40 0605 Ringerike	1 630	1 114	5,8	4,0	0,4	0,4	28 197

¹ Persons with two foreign born parents.² Own, mother's or father's country of birth.

Source: Population statistics, Statistics Norway.

Table 2.1.7. Immigrant population¹, by country background² and municipality. Classified by proportion of inhabitants in the municipality. 1 January 2006. Absolute figures and per cent

Municipality	Population, total	Immigrant population			Immigrant population in per cent of total population		
		All	Western countries	Non-western countries	All	Western countries	Non-western countries
The whole country	4 640 219	386 699	101 400	285 299	8,3	2,2	6,1
1 0301 Oslo	538 411	123 891	22 254	101 637	23,0	4,1	18,9
2 0602 Drammen	57 759	10 135	1 400	8 735	17,5	2,4	15,1
3 0230 Lørenskog	30 929	4 419	804	3 615	14,3	2,6	11,7
4 0231 Skedsmo	43 201	5 653	1 066	4 587	13,1	2,5	10,6
5 0124 Askim	14 184	1 851	290	1 561	13,0	2,0	11,0
6 0104 Moss	28 182	3 366	705	2 661	11,9	2,5	9,4
7 0214 Ås	14 530	1 721	523	1 198	11,8	3,6	8,2
8 2028 Båtsfjord	2 171	252	130	122	11,6	6,0	5,6
9 0228 Rælingen	14 857	1 711	304	1 407	11,5	2,0	9,5
10 0219 Bærum	105 928	12 177	4 670	7 507	11,5	4,4	7,1
11 1103 Stavanger	115 157	13 020	4 287	8 733	11,3	3,7	7,6
12 0220 Asker	51 484	5 531	2 237	3 294	10,7	4,3	6,4
13 0618 Hemsedal	1 947	207	127	80	10,6	6,5	4,1
14 1001 Kristiansand	76 917	8 016	1 721	6 295	10,4	2,2	8,2
15 0625 Nedre Eiker	21 653	2 121	473	1 648	9,8	2,2	7,6
16 0213 Ski	27 010	2 575	759	1 816	9,5	2,8	6,7
17 2003 Vadsø	6 114	582	143	439	9,5	2,3	7,2
18 0626 Lier	21 874	2 067	519	1 548	9,4	2,4	7,1
19 1418 Balestrand	1 406	130	75	55	9,2	5,3	3,9
20 1429 Fjaler	2 881	266	95	171	9,2	3,3	5,9
21 0235 Ullensaker	25 269	2 332	686	1 646	9,2	2,7	6,5
22 0217 Oppegård	23 897	2 131	749	1 382	8,9	3,1	5,8
23 0105 Sarpsborg	50 115	4 375	922	3 453	8,7	1,8	6,9
24 0806 Skien	50 761	4 371	869	3 502	8,6	1,7	6,9
25 0106 Fredrikstad	70 791	6 036	1 454	4 582	8,5	2,1	6,5
26 0831 Fyresdal	1 369	116	92	24	8,5	6,7	1,8
27 0216 Nesodden	16 541	1 396	727	669	8,4	4,4	4,0
28 1102 Sandnes	58 947	4 974	1 213	3 761	8,4	2,1	6,4
29 0620 Hol	4 500	379	221	158	8,4	4,9	3,5
30 1124 Sola	20 138	1 685	716	969	8,4	3,6	4,8
31 0101 Halden	27 722	2 318	804	1 514	8,4	2,9	5,5
32 0233 Nittedal	19 722	1 649	582	1 067	8,4	3,0	5,4
33 0617 Gol	4 404	355	82	273	8,1	1,9	6,2
34 1201 Bergen	242 158	19 504	4 873	14 631	8,1	2,0	6,0
35 0211 Vestby	13 159	1 047	418	629	8,0	3,2	4,8
36 0706 Sandefjord	41 555	3 269	931	2 338	7,9	2,2	5,6
37 0826 Tinn	6 247	489	143	346	7,8	2,3	5,5
38 0941 Bykle	874	68	40	28	7,8	4,6	3,2
39 0402 Kongsvinger	17 224	1 336	348	988	7,8	2,0	5,7
40 1017 Songdalen	5 621	432	111	321	7,7	2,0	5,7

¹ Persons with two foreign born parents.² Own, mother's or father's country of birth.

Source: Population statistics, Statistics Norway.

Table 2.1.8. Immigrant population¹, by five groups of country background. 1 January 2006

	Country background					
	Total	Nordic countries	West Europe except Turkey	East-Europe	North America, and Oceania	Asia, Africa, Central and South America, Turkey
Total	386 699	53 551	38 635	68 210	15 390	210 913
01 Østfold	22 048	3 639	1 513	6 119	466	10 311
02 Akershus	48 364	9 030	5 553	7 875	1 706	24 200
03 Oslo	123 891	12 527	7 713	14 010	4 414	85 227
04 Hedmark	8 671	1 905	879	2 031	233	3 623
05 Oppland	8 262	1 414	994	2 117	196	3 541
06 Buskerud	22 731	3 355	2 076	4 239	805	12 256
07 Vestfold	15 073	2 548	1 736	3 457	433	6 899
08 Telemark	10 665	1 597	1 123	2 308	513	5 124
09 Aust-Agder	6 012	1 022	820	1 405	183	2 582
10 Vest-Agder	12 786	1 408	1 357	3 153	1 074	5 794
11 Rogaland	29 120	3 357	4 575	5 786	1 259	14 143
12 Hordaland	26 804	2 757	3 613	4 573	2 171	13 690
14 Sogn og Fjordane	4 517	606	812	941	326	1 832
15 Møre og Romsdal	9 593	1 261	1 424	2 175	346	4 387
16 Sør-Trøndelag	14 839	1 918	1 821	2 962	711	7 427
17 Nord-Trøndelag	3 848	693	427	728	64	1 936
18 Nordland	8 333	1 490	837	1 848	240	3 918
19 Troms Romsa	7 027	1 628	1 092	1 332	189	2 786
20 Finnmark Finnmarku	4 115	1 396	270	1 151	61	1 237

¹ 1 Persons with two foreign born parents.

² Own, mother's or father's country of birth.

Source: Populations statistics, Statistics Norway.

**Table 2.1.9. Population by marital status, immigrant populations country of birth¹ and sex.
1 January 2006**

Country background	Marital status					
	Total			Unmarried		
	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
The whole population, total	4 640 219	2 301 981	2 338 238	2 290 123	1 224 698	1 065 425
Norway	4 253 520	2 111 302	2 142 218	2 118 821	1 132 064	986 757
Immigrant population, total	386 699	190 679	196 020	171 302	92 634	78 668
Europe, total	160 396	77 767	82 629	64 890	34 646	30 244
Bosnia-Herzegovina	14 822	7 362	7 460	6 535	3 478	3 057
Denmark	19 179	9 537	9 642	5 906	3 417	2 489
Finland	6 434	2 599	3 835	2 696	1 264	1 432
Iceland	3 589	1 751	1 838	1 857	938	919
Netherlands	4 823	2 571	2 252	1 867	994	873
Poland	11 864	5 995	5 869	4 192	2 375	1 817
Russia	10 351	3 486	6 865	4 628	2 302	2 326
Serbia og Montenegro	12 905	6 706	6 199	6 761	3 633	3 128
United Kingdom	11 031	6 491	4 540	2 754	1 833	921
Sweden	23 489	10 948	12 541	11 167	5 656	5 511
Germany	12 900	6 372	6 528	5 262	2 873	2 389
Africa, total	47 532	25 780	21 752	25 861	14 124	11 737
Eritrea	2 653	1 379	1 274	1 585	842	743
Ethiopia	3 185	1 717	1 468	1 817	1 022	795
Morocco	7 031	3 929	3 102	3 221	1 776	1 445
Somalia	18 015	9 681	8 334	11 023	6 052	4 971
Asia, total	155 264	76 431	78 833	72 736	39 642	33 094
Afghanistan	6 539	3 754	2 785	3 983	2 401	1 582
Philippines						
India	7 154	3 638	3 516	2 896	1 547	1 349
Iraq	20 076	11 521	8 555	10 882	6 305	4 577
Iran	14 362	7 943	6 419	6 915	4 138	2 777
Pakistan	27 675	14 314	13 361	13 532	7 194	6 338
Sri Lanka	12 560	6 472	6 088	6 016	3 225	2 791
Thailand	7 788	1 214	6 574	2 159	1 006	1 153
Turkey	14 084	7 749	6 335	5 995	3 288	2 707
Vietnam	18 333	9 080	9 253	9 632	5 080	4 552
North-America, total	8 117	3 615	4 502	1 659	877	782
South and Central America, total .	14 293	6 461	7 832	5 774	3 093	2 681
Chile	7 084	3 765	3 319	3 392	1 880	1 512
Oceania, total	1 097	625	472	382	252	130

**Table 2.1.9 (cont.). Population by marital status, immigrant populations country of birth¹ and sex.
1 January 2006**

Country background	Marital status					
	Married			Other ²		
	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
The whole population, total	1 684 489	844 710	839 779	665 607	232 573	433 034
Norway	1 517 098	765 898	751 200	617 601	213 340	404 261
Immigrant population, total	167 391	78 812	88 579	48 006	19 233	28 773
Europe, total	71 820	33 899	37 921	23 686	9 222	14 464
Bosnia-Herzegovina	6 859	3 432	3 427	1 428	452	976
Danmark	9 262	4 501	4 761	4 011	1 619	2 392
Finland	2 450	832	1 618	1 288	503	785
Iceland	1 248	606	642	484	207	277
Netherlands	2 397	1 282	1 115	559	295	264
Poland	6 025	3 173	2 852	1 647	447	1 200
Russia	4 662	1 049	3 613	1 061	135	926
Serbia og Montenegro	5 229	2 669	2 560	915	404	511
United Kingdom	6 001	3 556	2 445	2 276	1 102	1 174
Sweden	8 659	3 858	4 801	3 663	1 434	2 229
Germany	5 637	2 762	2 875	2 001	737	1 264
Africa, total	15 606	8 714	6 892	6 065	2 942	3 123
Eritrea	771	409	362	297	128	169
Ethiopia	1 001	522	479	367	173	194
Morocco	2 873	1 582	1 291	937	571	366
Somalia	4 983	2 905	2 078	2 009	724	1 285
Asia, total	68 893	31 523	37 370	13 635	5 266	8 369
Afghanistan	2 284	1 289	995	272	64	208
Philippines						
India	3 619	1 833	1 786	639	258	381
Iraq	7 928	4 538	3 390	1 266	678	588
Iran	5 484	2 926	2 558	1 963	879	1 084
Pakistan	12 604	6 514	6 090	1 539	606	933
Sri Lanka	5 962	3 016	2 946	582	231	351
Thailand	4 485	95	4 390	1 144	113	1 031
Turkey	6 694	3 651	3 043	1 395	810	585
Vietnam	6 911	3 310	3 601	1 790	690	1 100
North-Amerika, total	4 651	2 142	2 509	1 807	596	1 211
South and Central America, total ..	5 868	2 227	3 641	2 651	1 141	1 510
Chile	2 443	1 263	1 180	1 249	622	627
Oceania, total	553	307	246	162	66	96

¹ Own, mother's or father's country of birth (if it is foreign) for persons with two foreign born parents, otherwise Norway.

² Registered partner, separated, divorced or surviving partner.

Source: Population statistics, Statistics Norway.

2.2. Population changes

- Between 1 January 2001 and 1 January 2006 the immigrant population increased by 89 000. During the same period, the population as a whole increased by 137 000.
- From 2001-2005, the immigrant population had an excess of births of 18 000 and an immigration surplus of 71 000.
- Since 2001, the number of Iraqis, Somalis and Russians has increased the most in absolute figures.
- In 2005, the immigrant population increased by 22 000, net immigration was 18 000 and the birth excess 4 000.
- Net immigration was largest among persons with Polish backgrounds (2 900), while the birth excess was largest among Iraqis (600).
- 12 700 persons were granted Norwegian citizenship, which is the highest number ever.
- During the year 2005, 23 900 marriages were contracted. Ten per cent of these marriages were contracted between two persons with immigrant backgrounds.
- About 11 600 marriages ended in divorce in 2005. In 1 100 cases, or 9 per cent, both spouses had an immigrant background.
- Total fertility rate (TFR) was 2.28 for women in the immigrant population compared to 1.84 for all women in Norway. Women with African backgrounds had the highest TFR.

The immigrant population made up almost two thirds of the population growth in the last five years

The immigrant population changes by the same factors as the Norwegian population - number of births, deaths, immigrations and emigrations. From 2001-2005, the Norwegian population increased by 136 800. The increase in the immigrant population was about 89 000. The immigrant population made up 65 per cent of the total population growth in Norway during this period. The immigrant population's birth excess was 17 900 and the immigration surplus 70 700. First-generation immigrants accounted for the entire immigration surplus, and the descendants for the excess of births. The descendants had a net emigration of 3 500 during the period. The total immigration surplus for Norway in the same time period was 68 000 (table 2.2.1).

The population growth is measured as the difference between the population 1.1.2000 and 1.1.2004 and births - deaths + immigrations - emigrations is slightly different due to data technique issues. This is also the case for the entire population and single years.

When looking at the changes during the last five years, there has been almost no increase in the numbers of people with Swedish, Danish and British immigrant backgrounds. In the same period, there has been a relatively small increase in the number of those with Pakistani and Vietnamese immigrant backgrounds. On the other hand, the number of Russians has more than doubled, and the number of Iraqis, Somalis and Poles has almost doubled. Among the largest immigrant groups, German immigrants is the only western group that has shown a large growth.

The immigrant population made up one fourth of the birth surplus in 2005

The immigrant population increased by 21 900 in 2005; an increase of 6.0 per cent. In comparison, the total population increased by 34 000, or 0.73 per cent. The birth surplus of the immigrant population was 3 700 and the immigrant surplus 18 200. The immigrant population accounted for one fourth of the total birth surplus and almost the entire immigration surplus (table 2.2.2). People with immigrant backgrounds in Norway are relatively young, so there are few deaths during a year. This is the main reason for the high birth surplus.

The number of people with one foreign-born parent increased by 6 000 in 2005. At the beginning of 2006, there were 180 000 persons living in Norway with one foreign-born parent. These persons are not a part of the immigrant population.

At the beginning of 2006, 74 per cent of the immigrant population had non-western backgrounds. In absolute numbers, people with Asian backgrounds (Turkey

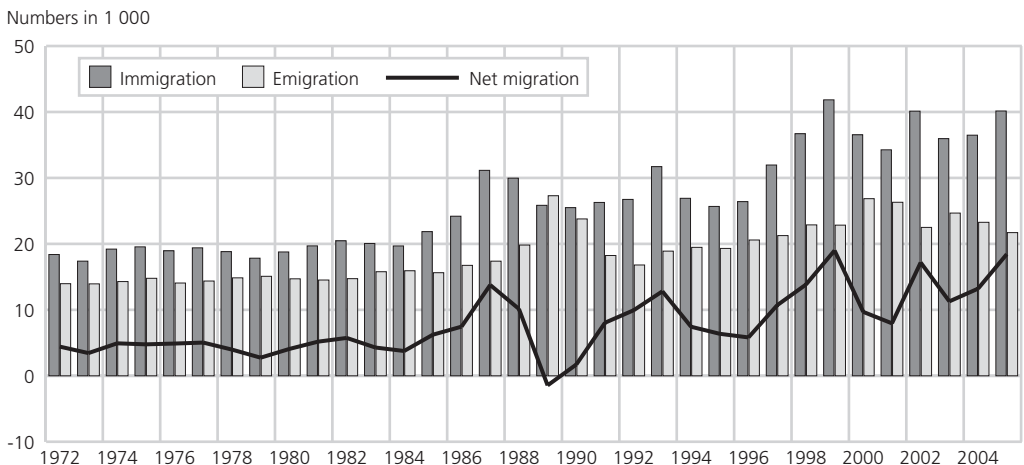
included) had the largest population growth in 2005, with 8 500, followed by eastern Europeans (6 800). As a percentage, the increase was largest among eastern Europeans (11.1 per cent) and Africans (8.4 per cent).

Among single immigrant groups, people with immigrant backgrounds from Poland had the largest population increase in 2005 with 2 900, followed by Iraqis (1 700), Russians (1 350), Somalis (1 200) and Germans (1 000). Among Iraqis and Somalis, both the birth surplus and the immigration surplus were large, while among those with Polish, Russian and German backgrounds the population increase was mainly due to a large immigration surplus. The population growth among people with Polish immigrant backgrounds was 33 per cent last year.

Second largest net immigration ever

In 2005, 40 100 immigrations and 21 700 emigrations were registered, making the net immigration 18 400. Only once before, in 1999, have we seen a higher net immigration to Norway. The number of

Figure 2.2.1. Immigration and emigration. 1972-2005



Source: Population Statistics, Statistics Norway.

emigrations was the lowest since 1997, and only in 1999 was the number of immigrations higher. Since 1971, Norway has had a migration surplus in all years except 1989 (figure 2.2.1 and table 2.2.2).

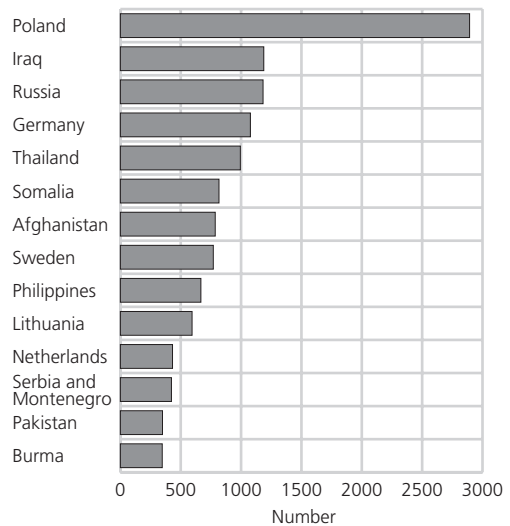
In most years since 1958, there has been a net emigration from Norway among Norwegian citizens. The net emigration was highest in 1989 when 9 300 more Norwegian citizens moved from Norway than to it. The reverse has been true among foreign citizens. In 2005, 9 100 Norwegian citizens moved from Norway while 8 800 moved to the country, giving a net migration of -300. Net migration of Norwegian citizens is thereby a lot lower than in previous years. For several years, there was a large migration loss of Norwegian citizens to Spain, but this has now changed. When a country has a stable and growing economy, as is the case in Norway at the moment, fewer people tend to emigrate. When the economy is good it is easier to get a job. This partly explains the decrease in the number of emigrations in recent years.

Highest net immigration of Polish citizens

Among the foreign citizens, Poles had the highest net migration with 2 900. This is almost double compared with 2004. Since the expansion of the EU in 2004, there has been a large increase in the number of Polish labour immigrants, especially men. There has also been an increase in Polish women coming to Norway to be reunited with their Polish husbands. In 2003, there was a slight decrease in the number of immigrants from Poland compared with 2002. This is probably because they expected immigration to Norway to be easier after the expansion of the EU.

Iraqi and Russian citizens had the second largest net migration to Norway in 2005, with 1 200 each. Net migration of Russians decreased in 2005 compared to the past two years when net migration among Russians was high. Iraqis have shown a high net migration to Norway for many years, except for 2003 and 2004. German citizens also showed a high net migration with 1 000 (figure 2.2.2).

Figure 2.2.2. Net migration of foreign citizens. 2005



Source: Population Statistics, Statistics Norway

Highest number of naturalizations ever

A total of 12 700 persons became Norwegian citizens in 2005; the highest number ever registered. Nine out of ten had previously held citizenship in a non-western country. Former Iraqi citizens made up the largest group with 2 100, followed by Somalis (1 300). These two groups also had the highest increase in the number of naturalizations from 2004 to 2005, with 1 500 and 700 respectively.

Change of citizenship

As a main rule, foreign citizens aged 18 years or older, who have live in Norway more than seven years, can apply for Norwegian citizenship. A few groups may apply for Norwegian citizenship earlier. This includes:

- Persons married to a Norwegian citizen (at least two years of residence in Norway, and marriage and residence in Norway must add up to eight years)
- Persons with Nordic citizenship (two years of residence)
- Persons who have previously been Norwegian citizens (two years of residence)

Many Iraqis and Somalis immigrated to Norway in 1998, meaning their first opportunity to apply for Norwegian citizenship was in 2005. The main rule to qualify for Norwegian citizenship is continuous residence in Norway for the past seven years.

The number of contracted marriages between two persons from immigrant population is stable

The number of contracted marriages between two persons from the immigrant

population has steadily increased during recent years in line with the increase in the immigrant population. In 2005, 23 900 marriages were contracted, 250 fewer than in 2004. A total of 10.2 per cent of these marriages were contracted between two persons with immigrant backgrounds.

The number of persons with immigrant backgrounds marrying a person from the same region is steadily increasing. This is especially noticeable for persons with backgrounds from Asia and East Europe.

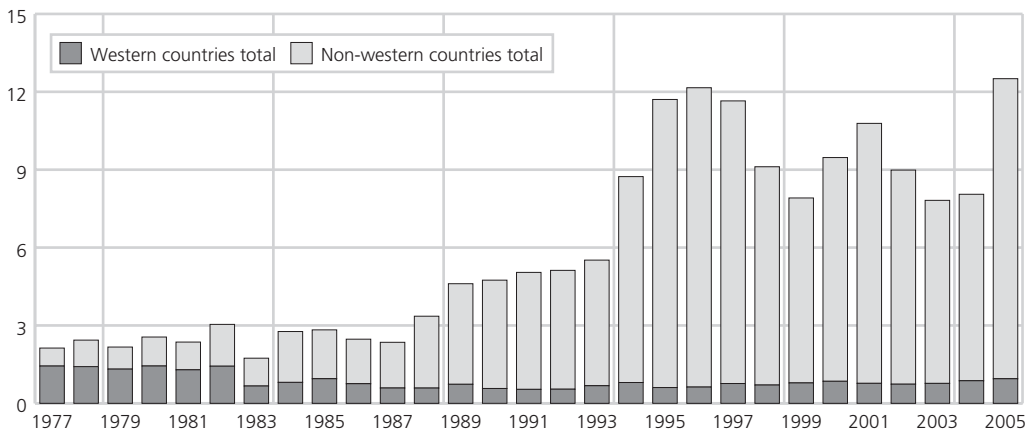
Thai, Russian and Philippine women more likely to marry

The number of people without immigrant backgrounds who get married to persons from the immigrant population has steadily increased during recent years. In 1990, 12 per cent of all contracted marriages were such marriages. In 2005, the percentage was 20.

The increase is especially large for marriages between men without immigrant backgrounds and women with immigrant

Figure 2.2.3. Western and non-western citizens who have received Norwegian citizenship. 1977-2005

Numbers in 1 000



Source: Population Statistics, Statistics Norway.

backgrounds. In 1990, 1 270 such marriages were contracted. In 2005, the number was 3 300.

The number of men without immigrant backgrounds that marry women from Thailand, Russia and Philippines increased substantially in the period 1990-2005. In 2005, 1 300 men without immigrant backgrounds married a woman with a background from one of these three countries.

About 11 600 marriages ended in divorce in 2005. In 1 100 cases, or 9 per cent, both spouses had an immigrant background (table 2.2.8). Marriages among immigrants seem to be stable. Cross-national marriages seem to have a more mixed divorce pattern. Some years ago the divorce rate for marriages between Norwegian women and African men was so high that many suspected that it was related to pro-forma marriages. This pattern is not as evident any more (Østby 2001b).

Highest fertility rate among women with African immigrant backgrounds

Since the mid 1970s, the total fertility rate (TFR) in Norway has been lower than 2.1. 2.1 is the number of children each woman on average needs to give birth to in order to stabilise the population in Norway when immigration and emigration are not taken into account. The TFR was lowest at the beginning of the 1980s; slightly below 1.7, and was between 1.8 and 1.9 in the 1990s. At the turn of the century, the TRF decreased slightly, then increased again. In 2005, The TFR in Norway was 1.84.

Generally speaking, women without immigrant backgrounds have had a lower TFR than average for Norway, while

Definition of Total Fertility Rate (TFR)

Average number of babies born alive per woman in the course of her life, under the provision that the fertility pattern in the period applies to the woman's entire reproductive period (15-49 years) and that deaths do not occur. To prevent a decrease in the population in a long-term perspective, when immigration and emigration are not included, TRF should be around 2,08.

women in the immigrant population have had a higher TFR. This was also the case in 2005. Women without immigrant backgrounds had a TFR of 1.78 and those who belong to the immigrant population had a TFR of 2.28.

There were large differences in the TFR among the various groups in the immigrant population. Women with western backgrounds had a lower TFR rate than those with non-western backgrounds, with 1.88 compared to 2.35 in 2005. African women had the highest TFR with 3.24, followed by Asian women with 2.60. Only these two groups have a considerably higher TFR than that for the whole country. Women from West Europe had the lowest TFR with 1.83, slightly higher than that for all women in Norway. Women from the other Nordic countries, Latin America and East Europe had a TFR just below 2 (table 2.2.9).

The TFR varies somewhat from one year to another, especially in groups where there are few fertile women. A few births can give large variations in the TFR. The TRF among women with African backgrounds has been stable for the past five years, while it has decreased slightly for women with Asian backgrounds. For more information on fertility among women in the immigrant population, see Hurlen Foss (2006) and Lappegård (2004).

Table 2.2.1. Population 1 January 2001 and 2006 and changes for the period 2001-2005, by immigrant category

Country background	Population 1 January 2001	Livebirths	Deaths	Excess of births	Immigrations	Emigrations	Net migrations	Increase in population ¹	Population 1 January 2006
Population, total	4 503 436	282 295	213 356	68 939	186 973	118 909	68 064	136 783	4 640 219
Without immigrant background	3 997 568	228 141	205 035	23 106	28 113	35 305	-7 192	13 992	4 011 560
With immigration background, total	505 868	54 154	8 321	45 833	158 860	83 604	75 256	122 791	628 659
First generation immigrants without Norwegian background	249 904	229	5 942	-5 713	143 215	68 969	74 246	68 610	318 514
Persons born in Norway with two foreign born parents	47 827	24 055	202	23 853	1 863	5 387	-3 524	20 358	68 185
Foreign born with one parent born in Norway	23 143	10	246	-236	5 224	2 315	2 909	4 152	27 295
Born in Norway with one foreign born parent	153 006	30 059	1 736	28 323	3 930	6 106	-2 176	27 101	180 107
Born abroad with both parents born in Norway ²	31 988	1	195	-194	4 628	827	3 801	2 570	34 558
Immigrant population³	297 731	24 084	6 144	17 940	145 078	74 356	70 722	88 968	386 699
Non immigrant population	4 205 705	258 211	207 212	50 999	41 895	44 553	-2 658	47 815	4 253 520

¹ The population increase is different if you take the difference between 1 January 2004 and 1 January 2003, or using births - deaths + immigration - emigration. This is due to data technical issues.

² Foreign adopted persons are included here.

³ Sum of the categories «First generation immigrants» and «Persons born in Norway with two foreign born parents».

Source: Population statistics, Statistics Norway.

Table 2.2.2. Population 1 January 2005 and 2006 and changes in 2005, by immigrant category and country background

Country background	Population 1 January 2005	Live births	Deaths	Excess of births	Immigrations	Emigrations	Net migrations	Increase in population ¹	Population 1 January 2006
Population, total	4 606 363	56 756	41 232	15 524	40 148	21 709	18 439	33 963	4 640 219
Without immigrant background	4 007 543	44 994	39 499	5 495	5 328	6 143	-815	4 680 4	0 011 560
With immigration background, total	598 820	11 762	1 733	10 029	34 820	15 566	19 254	29 283	628 659
First generation immigrants without Norwegian background	301 045	16 ²	1 202	-1 186	31 660	12 847	18 813	17 627	318 514
Persons born in Norway with two foreign born parents	63 936	4 943	35	4 908	382	1 017	-635	4 273	68 185
Foreign born with one parent born in Norway	26 468	5	42	-37	1 224	438	786	749	27 295
Born in Norway with one foreign born parent	173 741	6 798	409	6 389	760	1 129	-369	6 020	180 107
Born abroad with both parents born in Norway ³ ...	33 630	-	45	-45	794	135	659	614	34 558
Immigrant population⁴ ..	364 981	4 959	1 237	3 722	32 042	13 864	18 178	21 900	386 699
Non immigrant population	4 241 382	51 797	39 995	11 802	8 106	7 845	261	12 063	4 253 520
Immigrant population by country background⁵									
Total	364 981	4 959	1 237	3 722	32 042	13 864	18 178	21 900	386 699
Nordic Countries	53 201	217	375	-158	4 584	4 040	544	386	53 551
Eastern Europe	61 342	814	239	575	7 940	1 713	6 227	6 802	68 210
Western Europe	36 960	220	191	29	4 123	2 335	1 788	1 817	38 635
Asia with Turkey	146 851	2 555	208	2 347	9 149	3 014	6 135	8 482	155 264
Afrika	43 794	1 082	57	1 025	4 142	1 493	2 649	3 674	47 532
South and Central America	13 657	12	28	-16	1 078	446	632	616	14 293
North America	8 092	58	134	-76	822	649	173	97	8 117
Oceania	1 084	1	5	-4	204	174	30	26	1 097
Selected groups within the immigrant population									
Pakistan	26 950	431	52	379	755	426	329	708	27 675
Sweden	22 859	88	148	-60	2 408	1 698	710	650	23 489
Denmark	19 197	47	178	-131	1 338	1 215	123	-8	19 179
Iraq	18 369	572	16	556	1 480	308	1 172	1 728	20 076
Vietnam	17 864	268	35	233	355	125	230	463	18 333
Somalia	16 765	553	20	533	1 240	549	691	1 224	18 015
Bosnia-Herzegovina	14 641	154	63	91	208	118	90	181	14 822
Iran	13 983	193	15	178	420	224	196	374	14 362
Turkey	13 504	283	12	271	503	198	305	576	14 084
Serbia and Montenegro	12 455	263	16	247	565	128	437	684	12 905
Sri Lanka	12 288	270	16	254	329	310	19	273	12 560
Germany	11 879	109	83	26	1 695	667	1 028	1 054	12 900
United Kingdom	11 069	30	87	-57	777	735	42	-15	11 031
Russia	8 993	164	4	160	1 423	235	1 188	1 348	10 351
Poland	8 933	87	46	41	3 299	416	2 883	2 924	11 864

¹ The population increase is different if you take the difference between 1.1. 2005 and 1.1.2004, or using births - deaths + immigration - emigration. This is due to data technical issues.² These persons have re-registered. They should only have been birth-registered. ³ Foreign adopted persons are included here.⁴ Sum of the categories «First generation immigrants» and «Persons born in Norway with two foreign born parents».⁵ Due to changes in the variable country background, there can occur deviation for the population growth.

Table 2.2.3. Migrations to and from abroad, by county. 1996-2005

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Immigration	26 407	31 957	36 704	41 841	36 542	34 264	40 122	35 957	36 482	40 148
Emigration	20 590	21 257	22 881	22 842	26 854	26 309	22 498	24 672	23 271	21 709
Net migration	5 817	10 700	13 823	18 999	9 688	7 955	17 174	11 285	13 211	18 439
01 Østfold	226	541	590	554	244	101	315	279	616	797
02 Akershus	652	1 309	1 643	1 703	554	839	1 289	814	1 409	1 857
03 Oslo	1 910	3 106	2 156	2 472	549	688	3 610	863	1 555	3 001
04 Hedmark	191	333	349	880	526	145	575	376	546	589
05 Oppland	95	239	506	893	478	259	672	615	499	767
06 Buskerud	234	552	548	813	484	368	767	622	683	789
07 Vestfold	205	434	505	692	324	261	646	227	542	730
08 Telemark	187	451	530	721	478	405	451	640	522	525
09 Aust-Agder	43	114	241	556	210	141	386	288	394	451
10 Vest-Agder	166	187	390	1 023	451	294	838	693	641	786
11 Rogaland	27	404	1 513	1 453	- 87	671	973	998	1 317	1 761
12 Hordaland	- 170	338	1 142	1 701	1 087	926	1 500	1 169	877	2 005
14 Sogn og Fjordane	263	236	387	294	352	417	541	272	338	376
15 Møre og Romsdal	260	399	618	758	832	454	1 045	665	738	804
16 Sør-Trøndelag	234	507	642	1 001	603	439	1 036	388	800	1 055
17 Nord-Trøndelag	137	153	435	514	389	212	401	408	303	412
18 Nordland	499	708	615	1 453	1 076	739	990	1 025	801	785
19 Troms Romsa	367	319	563	827	460	301	706	639	405	763
20 Finnmark Finnmark	291	370	450	691	678	295	433	304	225	186

Source: Population statistics, Statistics Norway.

Table 2.2.4. Naturalisations by previous citizenship and world region. 1977-2005

	Western countries					Non-western countries			
	Total	Western countries, total	The Nordic countries	Western Europe, else	Noth America and Oceania	Non-western countries total	Eastern Europe	Africa, Asia, Turkey and South and Central America	Stateless and unknown
1977-2003	176 033	24 980	12 287	10 155	2 538	149 141	30 438	118 703	1 912
1977	2 213	1 436	814	491	131	693	168	525	84
1978	2 501	1 414	710	584	120	1 021	230	791	66
1979	2 242	1 318	592	599	127	850	136	714	74
1980	2 680	1 438	553	721	164	1 116	165	951	126
1981	2 441	1 291	541	574	176	1 069	138	931	81
1982	3 095	1 430	534	735	161	1 611	192	1 419	54
1983	1 754	667	374	234	59	1 072	128	944	15
1984	2 798	807	387	361	59	1 959	262	1 697	32
1985	2 851	948	470	397	81	1 882	213	1 669	21
1986	2 486	756	365	318	73	1 715	186	1 529	15
1987	2 370	590	308	229	53	1 761	165	1 596	19
1988	3 364	588	271	255	62	2 768	272	2 496	8
1989	4 622	733	366	302	65	3 875	600	3 275	14
1990	4 757	572	279	248	45	4 173	433	3 740	12
1991	5 055	538	251	227	60	4 506	441	4 065	11
1992	5 132	544	252	236	56	4 578	485	4 093	10
1993	5 538	678	337	266	75	4 839	610	4 229	21
1994	8 778	802	403	316	83	7 932	1 054	6 878	44
1995	11 778	608	283	265	60	11 097	1 343	9 754	73
1996	12 237	627	248	294	85	11 530	1 049	10 481	80
1997	12 037	763	351	322	90	10 887	1 178	9 709	387
1998	9 244	705	351	275	79	8 408	1 111	7 297	131
1999	7 988	786	467	239	80	7 125	1 728	5 397	77
2000	9 517	849	494	274	81	8 619	2 818	5 801	49
2001	10 838	770	473	222	75	10 014	4 724	5 290	54
2002	9 041	737	394	286	57	8 248	2 523	5 725	56
2003	7 867	768	433	249	86	7 051	2 994	4 057	48
2004	8 154	870	453	302	115	7 183	1 925	5 258	101
2005	12 655	947	533	334	80	11 559	3 167	8 392	149

Source: Population statistics, Statistics Norway.

Table 2.2.5. Marriages contracted¹, by immigrant background² of male and female. 2005

Country background of male	Total	Country background of female								
		Norway	The rest of the Nordic countries	Eastern Europe	Western Europe	Asia including Turkey	Africa	North America and Oceania	South and Central America	Stateless and unknown
Total	23 890	18 180	444	1 193	289	2 405	434	149	437	359
Norway	19 918	16 634	366	744	207	1 233	119	138	367	110
The rest of the Nordic countries	425	328	49	13	3	19	2	1	4	6
Eastern Europe	505	114	1	340	4	10	1	1	4	30
Western Europe	429	308	4	19	56	21	9	3	6	3
Asia including Turkey ..	1 468	259	9	31	11	986	16	1	4	151
Africa	517	174	4	8	5	16	249	4	3	54
North America and Oceania	188	159	4	6	1	12	2	1	1	2
South and Central America	157	98	2	6	-	1	-	-	47	3
Stateless and unknown	283	106	5	26	2	107	36	-	1	.

¹ At least one of the spouses resident in Norway.

² If not Norway, then the person has two foreign born parents and four foreign born grandparents. If foreign, own, mother's or father's country of birth is used.

Source: Population statistics, Statistics Norway.

Table 2.2.6. Marriages contracted¹, by immigrant background². 1990

Country background of male	Total	Country background of female								
		Norway	The rest of the Nordic countries	Eastern Europe	Western Europe	Asia including Turkey	Africa	North America and Oceania	South and Central America	Stateless and unknown
Total	21 926	19 736	364	112	142	498	71	60	62	881
Norway	19 635	18 367	302	66	116	147	12	54	39	532
The rest of the Nordic countries	281	222	38	2	3	3	1	-	1	11
Eastern Europe	143	83	4	21	1	3	-	-	-	31
Western Europe	205	170	4	5	11	2	-	2	1	10
Asia including Turkey ..	610	120	4	4	2	245	3	1	3	228
Africa	222	109	4	3	-	3	42	1	-	60
North-America and Oceania	61	54	1	1	3	2	-	-	9	-
South and Central America	56	35	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	9
Stateless and unknown	713	576	6	9	5	93	13	2	9	.

¹ At least one of the spouses resident in Norway.

² If not Norway, then the person has two foreign born parents and four foreign born grandparents. If foreign, own, mother's or father's country of birth is used.

Source: Population statistics, Statistics Norway.

Table 2.2.7. Marriages contracted¹, by immigrant background² of male and female. Selected nationalities. 2005

	Both with same country background	Country background of male is Norwegian and country background of female is foreign	Country background of female is Norwegian and country background of male is foreign
Norway	16 634	16 634	16 634
Denmark	9	84	136
Sweden	23	216	158
Bosnia- Herzegovina	71	13	13
Serbia and Montenegro	71	17	32
Russia	39	339	8
Turkey	124	25	93
Philippines	24	277	4
Iraq	99	6	28
Iran	87	24	24
Pakistan	183	:	17
Sri Lanka	70	7	6
Thailand	5	661	:
Vietnam	144	47	5
Morocco	40	9	28
Somalia	61	:	:

¹ At least one of the spouses resident in Norway.

² If not Norway, then the person has two foreign born parents and four foreign born grandparents. If foreign, own, mother's or father's country of birth is used.

Source: Population statistics, Statistics Norway.

Table 2.2.8. Divorces¹, by country background of male and female². 2005

Country background of male	Country background of female							
	Total	Norway	Europe, except Turkey	Asia include Turkey	Africa	North America and Oceania	South and Central America	Unknown
Total	11 619	9 627	706	743	255	67	136	85
Norway	9 652	8 721	480	255	43	64	84	5
Europe, except Turkey	562	353	164	15	3	.	3	24
Asia, including Turkey	750	232	29	445	6	1	3	34
Africa	344	143	11	5	166	1	1	17
North America and Oceania	83	78	2	.	.	1	.	2
South and Central America	103	52	4	.	.	.	44	3
Unknown	125	48	16	23	37	.	1	.

¹ At least one of the spouses resident in Norway, and at least one of the spouses with two parents born in a foreign country.

² If born in a foreign country, own, mother's or father's country of birth.

Source: Population statistics, Statistics Norway.

Table 2.2.9. Total fertility rate¹. 2001-2005

Country background	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Total population	1,78	1,75	1,80	1,83	1,84
Non immigrant population	1,73	1,69	1,73	1,77	1,78
Immigrant population, total ²	2,33	2,32	2,36	2,35	2,28
Country background of immigrant population					
Nordic countries	1,89	1,85	1,89	1,93	1,95
Western Europe	1,90	2,03	1,75	2,06	1,83
Eastern Europe	1,84	1,83	1,90	1,88	1,91
North America and Oceania	2,05	1,86	2,11	2,07	1,59
South and Central America	2,29	1,91	2,05	2,01	1,97
Asia, including Turkey	2,61	2,58	2,60	2,50	2,36
Africa	3,18	3,13	3,24	3,25	3,23
Western countries	1,90	1,91	1,88	1,98	1,88
Non-western countries	2,47	2,43	2,49	2,42	2,35

¹ Total of one-year-age-specific fertility rates 15-49 years. The average number of live-born children born to a woman passing through the child-bearing period exposed at each age to the existing fertility but not exposed to mortality.

² The fertility of women who have two foreign born-parents and four foreign-born grandparents.

Source: Population Statistics, Statistics Norway.

2.3. Persons with refugee backgrounds

- About 117 000 persons with refugee backgrounds were living in Norway at the beginning of January 2006, thereby making up 2.5 per cent of the total population.
- 89 000 of the refugees were registered as principal applicants, while the remainder (28 000) came to Norway as relatives of refugees.
- 74 per cent of the refugee population came from third world countries, and 25 per cent came from East Europe. The two largest groups were refugees from Iraq and Somalia with 15 900 and 13 000 respectively.
- 50 per cent of the refugees were registered with Norwegian citizenship on 1 January 2006.
- Persons with refugee status aged 20-49 made up 66 per cent of the refugee population, while only 5 per cent were 60 years or older.
- There were approximately 8 700 more male than female refugees.
- 55 per cent of the refugee population has lived in Norway less than ten years.
- Oslo was the county with the highest number of refugees, with 32 500, which represents 28 per cent of all the refugees in Norway and 6 per cent of the capital city's population.
- In 2005, Norway received around 5 400 applications for asylum. A total 102 countries were represented among the persons applying for asylum.
- Around 320 unaccompanied minors applied for asylum in 2005. Compared with 2004, there was a decrease of a little over 100 such applications.

117 000 with refugee backgrounds

During 2005, the number of persons with refugee backgrounds increased by 10 000. At the beginning of January 2006, Norway's refugee population totalled 117 000. With an increase of 1 600 and 1 400 respectively, the Iraqi and Somali refugee population had the strongest growth.

A total of 89 000 persons with refugee backgrounds came to Norway as resettlement refugees or asylum seekers, while the remaining 28 000 came to Norway as relatives of refugees. Children born in Norway to persons with a refugee background are not included in our statistics. A total of 8 900 persons were living in Norwegian reception facilities for asylum seekers, and these are not included in our statistics.

Most from Iraq and Somalia

The term "refugee" or "person with refugee background" refers to first-generation immigrants (family included), who have come to Norway because of flight. Refugees made up 52 per cent of the total non-western population of the first-generation immigrants on 1 January 2006. They are included in statistics on the immigrant population. Around 25 per cent of the refugee population came from East Europe, while the rest came from third world countries (Asia, Africa, South and Central America and Turkey). A total of 158 countries were represented among persons with a refugee background. Refugees from Iraq and Somalia were the two largest groups, with 15 900 and 13 000 respectively (table 2.3.1).

Approximately every second refugee has Norwegian citizenship

As at 1 January 2006, 50 per cent of refugees had Norwegian citizenship

(table 2.3.2). This percentage varies according to country background. Refugees from Iraq made up the largest group of foreign nationals, with 11 300. The largest number of people who have taken out Norwegian citizenship are found among the Vietnamese, with 9 700.

More than half with less than 10 years of residence

At the beginning of 2006, 55 per cent of refugees had lived in Norway for less than ten years. A total of 32 per cent have lived in the country less than five years, while only 7 per cent have had 20 years of residence or more (table 2.3.2.).

Forty per cent of the Vietnamese refugees have more than 20 years of residence. Among those with the shortest stays, i.e. less than five years, are the Russian and Afghani refugees with more than 90 per cent.

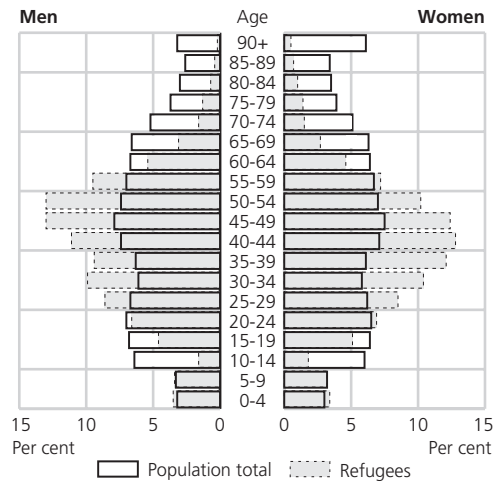
Few old people among the refugees

The refugee population is younger than the Norwegian population: 43 per cent of the refugees were aged 30 or under compared with 37 per cent for the entire population. Only 5 per cent of the refugees belonged to the age group 60 years or older compared with 20 per cent for the entire population (figure 2.3.1).

More men

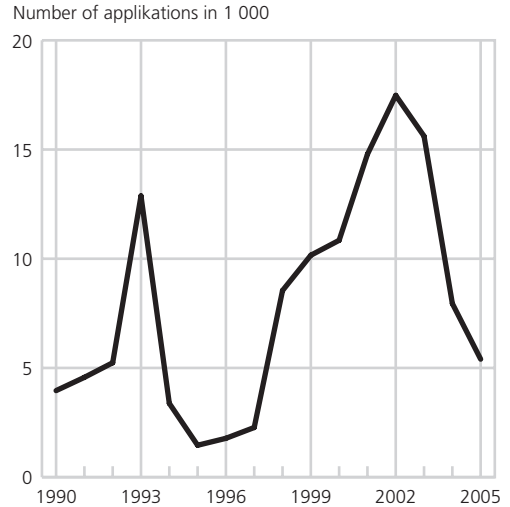
Men were over-represented among the refugees. By 1 January 2006, there were approximately 8 700 more men than women. The male surplus is particularly strong among refugees from third world countries, such as Iraq, Somalia, Iran and Afghanistan, while the gender balance is more equal among the East European refugees, due to the fact that refugees from the Balkans often constitute whole families.

Figure 2.3.1. Population total and refugees by age and sex. 1 January 2006. Per cent



Source: Population Statistics, Statistics Norway.

Figure 2.3.2. Number of asylum applications to Norway, 1990-2005



Source: The Norwegian Directorate of Immigration.

Oslo has the largest refugee population

Oslo is still the county with the largest refugee population. Around 32 500 refugees lived in Oslo, which accounts for 28 per cent of the total number of refugees in Norway and 5.2 per cent of the city's total population. Expressed in absolute figures, most refugees lived in Oslo and Akershus (12 700). The fewest number of refugees are found in Finnmark and Sogn og Fjordane, with 900 and 1 400 respectively (table 2.3.3).

Decline in the number of applications for asylum

In 2005, Norway received around 5 400 applications for asylum. This represented a fall of 32 per cent compared with 2004 (figure 2.3.2). A total of 102 countries were represented among the persons applying for asylum in 2005. The highest number of applications for asylum came from persons with a background from Iraq (671) followed by Somalia (667) and Russia (545).

Decline in the number of unaccompanied minor asylum seekers

Unaccompanied minor asylum seekers are persons who, on arrival in Norway, declare that they are under 18 years of age and are not accompanied by parents or others with parental responsibility. Around 320 unaccompanied minors applied for asylum in 2005 (table 2.3.5). Compared with 2004, there was a decrease of slightly more than 100 such applications. In 2005, as in previous years, the number of unaccompanied minor asylum seekers followed approximately the development of the total number of asylum seekers. The majority of unaccompanied minor asylum seekers came from Somalia, Afghanistan and Iraq.

About the statistics

The statistics are compiled to distinguish persons with a refugee background from other immigrants, and were published for the first time in 1999 (refugees 1 January 1998). These statistics are not intended as a replacement of the Norwegian Directorate of Immigration's statistics on decisions and legal grounds. The figures do not necessarily concur with the Norwegian Directorate of Immigration's statistics on decisions and legal grounds.

For more information:

<http://www.ssb.no/emner/02/01/10/flyktninger/>

Definitions

Refugee. In the legal sense, the term "refugee" applies to resettlement refugees and asylum seekers who have been granted asylum. In connection with refugee assistance in Norway, the term "refugee" is used for resettlement refugees and persons who, following an application for asylum, have been granted asylum, protection or residence on humanitarian grounds.

Asylum seeker is a person who on his or her own initiative, and without prior notification, asks the authorities for protection and recognition as a refugee. The person is called an asylum seeker until a decision has been made on the application.

Resettlement refugees are refugees who are permitted to come to Norway following an organised selection process, normally in cooperation with the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). At the Government's proposal, the Norwegian Parliament (Stortinget) sets a quota for the number of resettlement refugees to be received by Norway each year.

Family immigration permit is a permit that is granted to persons who are or will be close family members of a Norwegian citizen or foreign national with legal residence in Norway.

Source: Norwegian Directorate of Immigration, Facts and figures 2005.

Table 2.3.1. Different definitions of refugees¹, by country background and refugee status. 1 January 2006

Country background	Refugees		
	Total	Principal applicants flykt-	By family connection to refugee ²
Total	117 231	88 891	28 340
Of these from			
Eastern Europe .	29 435	26 174	3 261
Asia, Africa, South and Central America, Turkey	87 247	62 358	24 889
Selected countries			
Iraq	15 917	9 862	6 055
Somalia	12 958	8 675	4 283
Bosnia- Herzegovina	12 006	11 215	791
Iran	11 107	9 235	1 872
Vietnam	10 672	8 224	2 448
Serbia and Montenegro	8 117	7 014	1 103
Sri Lanka	6 033	3 659	2 374
Afghanistan	5 766	4 134	1 632
Chile	4 465	3 579	886
Russia	3 405	3 094	311
Ethiopia	2 122	1 536	586
Croatia	1 776	1 541	235
Eritrea	1 669	1 379	290
Turkey	1 660	855	805
Pakistan	1 410	821	589
Poland	1 157	912	245

¹ The definition «refugee» refers to persons resident in Norway, who have come to Norway because of flight (family included). Children born in Norway to refugees are not included.

² Residence or work permit granted to close family members of a foreign with legal residence in Norway. This also applies to family members of Norwegian citizens. Family reunification mainly applies to spouses and children under 18 years of age. Source: Population Statistics, Statistics Norway.

Table 2.3.2. Refugees¹, by country background, citizenship and duration of residence in Norway. 1 January 2006

Country background	Refugees, total	Refugees with Norwegian citizenship	Refugees with foreign citizenship	Duration of residence. Year. Per Cent			
				0-4	5-9	10-19	20-
Total	117 231	58 143	59 088	32	22	38	7
The Nordic countries	151	112	39	10	14	51	25
Rest of Western Europe, except Turkey	309	71	238	36	8	35	20
Eastern Europe	29 435	16 258	13 177	22	22	52	5
North America, Oceania	89	15	74	33	8	35	25
Asia, Africa, Asia, Africa, South and Central America, Turkey	87 247	41 687	45 560	36	23	34	8
Selected countries							
Iraq	15 917	4 660	11 257	39	46	14	0
Somalia	12 958	4 069	8 889	50	29	22	0
Bosnia-Herzegovina	12 006	7 932	4 074	6	15	79	0
Iran	11 107	7 293	3 814	22	22	54	2
Vietnam	10 672	9 673	999	7	5	47	40
Serbia and Montenegro	8 117	4 288	3 829	21	36	43	0
Sri Lanka	6 033	4 298	1 735	13	21	61	6
Afghanistan	5 766	345	5 421	81	14	5	0
Chile	4 465	3 151	1 314	4	3	73	20
Russia	3 405	165	3 240	93	5	2	0
Ethiopia	2 122	704	1 418	50	25	19	5
Croatia	1 776	734	1 042	18	68	14	0
Eritrea	1 669	1 028	641	34	7	51	8
Turkey	1 660	1 093	567	22	21	55	3
Pakistan	1 410	660	750	36	13	46	5
Poland	1 157	967	190	5	5	50	41
Macedonia	1 052	905	147	10	3	86	1
Lebanon	931	744	187	18	15	67	1

¹ The definition «refugee» refers to persons resident in Norway, who have come to Norway because of flight (family included). Children born in Norway to refugees are not included.

Source: Population Statistics, Statistics Norway.

Table 2.3.3. Refugees¹, by county, 1 January 2006

	Refugees	Per cent of population
Total	117 231	2,5
01 Østfold	8 417	3,2
02 Akershus	12 680	2,5
03 Oslo	32 478	6,0
04 Hedmark	3 162	1,7
05 Oppland	3 270	1,8
06 Buskerud	6 789	2,8
07 Vestfold	5 180	2,3
08 Telemark	4 248	2,6
09 Aust-Agder	2 215	2,1
10 Vest-Agder	5 478	3,4
11 Rogaland	8 687	2,2
12 Hordaland	8 540	1,9
14 Sogn og Fjordane	1 372	1,3
15 Møre og Romsdal	2 843	1,2
16 Sør-Trøndelag	4 954	1,8
17 Nord-Trøndelag	1 422	1,1
18 Nordland	2 895	1,2
19 Troms Romsa	1 721	1,1
20 Finnmark Finnmarku	880	1,2

¹ The definition «refugee» refers to persons resident in Norway, who have come to Norway because of flight (family included). Children born in Norway to refugees are not included.

KildSource: Population Statistics, Statistics Norway.

Table 2.3.4. Asylum applications to Norway, by country background, 1995-2005

Country	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Total	1 460	1 778	2 273	8 543	10 160	10 843	14 782	17 480	15 613	7 950	5 402
Selected countries											
Bosnia-Herzegovina ...	106	73	90	236	161	272	907	810	657	119	52
Bulgaria	6	5	9	14	6	12	950	359	110	28	22
Croatia	29	..	55	2 452	60	16	1 216	139	51	20	18
Romania	10	8	19	77	153	712	203	247	206	33	16
Russia	69	50	39	141	318	471	1 318	1 718	1 893	938	545
Serbia and Montenegro	146	76	343	1 666	1 152	4 188	928	2 460	2 180	860	468
Ukraine	15	8	8	13	34	131	1 027	772	92	44	20
Ethiopia	18	30	48	81	126	96	173	325	287	148	100
Somalia	189	180	552	955	1 340	910	1 080	1 534	1 601	957	667
Afghanistan	10	3	16	45	172	326	603	786	2 032	1 059	466
Iraq	99	113	272	1 317	4 073	766	1 056	1 624	938	413	671
Iran	163	120	138	270	350	327	412	450	608	393	279
Pakistan	31	16	26	146	265	220	186	216	92	48	33
Sri Lanka	90	413	196	173	112	165	164	87	64	58	58
Turkey	35	24	44	131	279	164	204	257	235	149	111
Stateless	59	19	42	85	164	120	194	391	366	298	209

Source: The Norwegian Directorate of Immigration: «Fact and Figures 2005».

Table 2.3.5. Unaccompanied minor asylum seekers arriving in Norway, 1995-2005

Country	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Total	106	107	376	466	386	556	561	894	916	424	322
Afghanistan	1	1	1	3	7	36	41	144	306	141	46
Albania	-	4	1	-	2	3	17	2	10	2	1
Algeria	2	2	4	4	3	7	9	26	11	9	1
Angola	1	-	-	-	1	1	1	3	28	7	5
Bosnia-Herzegovina	3	-	12	11	-	4	4	3	1	0	1
Burundi	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	4	11	6	9
Eritrea	-	1	8	14	13	9	25	37	24	10	7
Ethiopia	1	10	25	24	26	22	44	59	57	14	9
Guinea	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	5	10	2	1
Belarus	-	-	-	1	1	9	5	12	11	1	0
Iraq	3	3	24	36	141	80	87	190	108	30	46
Iran	5	1	10	12	4	9	4	10	11	8	9
Croatia	1	-	2	36	-	-	1	-	-	2	0
Lithuania	2	1	4	1	1	6	5	5	10	3	3
Mongolia	-	-	-	-	-	1	18	10	9	0	0
Nigeria	-	-	2	-	1	4	1	12	14	6	4
Romania	-	-	2	1	2	13	5	6	1	0	0
Russia	1	1	3	13	4	20	37	21	26	17	18
Serbia and Montenegro .	3	5	34	65	22	93	15	29	19	5	3
Sierra Leone	-	-	-	1	3	18	2	2	5	4	2
Slovakia	-	-	-	-	1	16	1	2	-	0	0
Somalia	55	33	139	154	103	114	99	133	117	80	74
Sri Lanka	2	24	66	72	34	58	60	39	20	15	16
Stateless	10	2	5	2	2	2	12	13	18	4	11
Sudan	3	1	4	2	-	3	5	9	4	1	3
Others	13	18	30	13	15	28	59	118	85	57	53

¹ Age stated on arrival.

Source: The Norwegian Directorate: «Fact and Figures 2005».