

JEAN MONNET CHAIR EUROPEAN MIGRATION STUDIES

ECONOMICS OF MIGRATION IN EUROPE (ECMEU)

REPORTS PRESENTATION

COUNTRY: GERMANY

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Introduction

The concept of migration refers to the action of someone leaving their home country, changing their residence, and moving to another country. There are internal and external migrations, the former refers to someone moving inside his/her own country, while the latter refers to moving from one country to another.

Germany is an important destination country, according to data it is the country with the highest number of foreign-born population in Europe.¹ Moreover it is the fifth country in the world for hosting the highest number of refugees.²

In this report we will provide some data about the stock of population in the past 10 years in Germany, and the population growth. Moreover, we will analyze the distribution of immigrants base on various category, such as citizenship. Finally, we will analyze the number of asylum seekers and refugees in the country.

¹ International Organization Migration Report, 2022

² Ibid.

Stock of Population

Germany reported the largest total number of immigrants flow (874 400) in 2021, followed by Spain (528 900), France (336 400) and Italy (318 400). Germany also reported the highest number of emigrants in 2021 (543 200), followed by Spain (380 800), Romania (216 900) according to EUROSTAT. In 2022 there were 1.1 million more people living in Germany than in the previous year. The arrival of immigrants of working age compensated for the ageing of the population. While the overall proportion of Germans of working age (15 to 63 years) was 61.6% in 2022, it was 75.9% among people coming from abroad.

Germany reported the largest total number of immigrants (1 544 000 people or 33% of the EU total) in 2015, followed by the United Kingdom (631 000 or 14%), France (364 000 or 8%), Spain (342 000 or 7%) and Italy (280 000 or 6%). 2015 was a peak of immigration to Germany, though from 2022 the immigration flow to Germany is growing after 6 years of reduction.

Germany hosted the second largest number of migrants worldwide, at around 16 million, followed by Saudi Arabia (13 million), the Russian Federation (12 million) and the United Kingdom (9 million). According to January 15, 2021, Report of UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs Report

Share of non-EU immigrants in Germany equals to (63%).³

If we are talking about the main population indicators in Germany we should mention the total population stock, demographic balance, population change, stock of population by a country of birth, fertility rates and mortality rates.

³ OECD Migration Outlook 2022 :

<https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/sites/30fe16d2-en/1/2/4/index.html?itemId=/content/publication/30fe16d2-en&csp=97175d429ae5e4e04cd3ccbbfc84945&itemIGO=oecd&itemContentType=book>

<https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/sites/30fe16d2-en/1/3/8/15/index.html?itemId=/content/publication/30fe16d2-en&csp=97175d429ae5e4e04cd3ccbbfc84945&itemIGO=oecd&itemContentType=book>

Germany including former GDR										
	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Total stock of population ⁴	80523746	80767463	81187537	82175684	82521653	82792351	83019213	83166711	83155031	83237124
Foreign- born population ⁵	9456225	9 807 877	10 220 418	10 908 255	12 105 436	13 745 84304	14 879 635	15 040 708	15162 728	15 287 650
Fertility rates ⁶	1.41871	1.47486	1.50232	1.59662	1.56944	1.56558	1.54091	1.53148	1.57669	
mortality rates ⁷	893582	893825	868356	925200	910902	932272	954874	939520	985572	1 023 687
stock of immigrants ⁸			10 220 418				13 132 146	15 762 457		
stock of immigrants males ⁶			5 037 961				6 881 990	7 891 635		
stock of immigrants females ⁶			5 182 457				6 250 156	7 870 822		
International migrant stock % of total population ⁹			12,5				19,1	22,6		
flow of immigrants ¹⁰	692713	884893	1571047	1029852	917109	893886	886341	728606	874367	

⁴ EUROSTAT, Table Population on 1 January by age and sex,, Germany:

https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/demo_pjan/default/table?lang=en

⁵EUROSTAT, Foreign-born population, Germany: <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/tps00178/default/table?lang=en>

⁶ EUROSTAT, Fertility rates by age data: https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/demo_frate/default/table?lang=en

⁷ EUROSTAT, Mortality rates by age data: https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/demo_magec/default/table?lang=en

⁸ UN Population Division Department of Economic and Social Affairs (International migrant stock by sex and major area 1990-2019) :

<https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.un.org%2Fdevelopment%2Fdesa%2Ffpd%2Fsites%2Fwww.un.org.dev eloquent.desa.pd%2Ffiles%2Fundes a pd 2019 migrant stock total dataset.xlsx&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK>

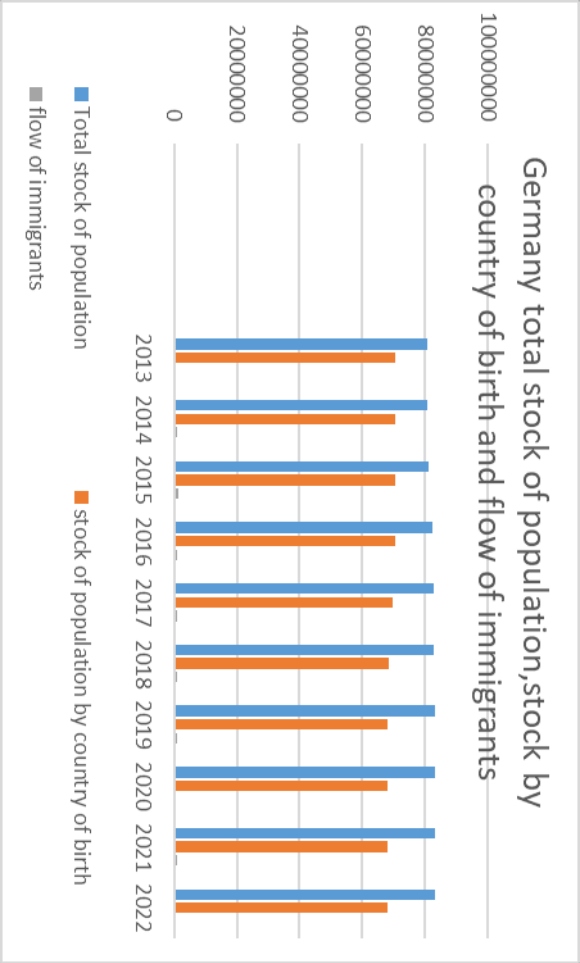
⁹ UN Population Division, International migrant stock 2020, % of migrants of total population:

<https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.un.org%2Fdevelopment%2Fdesa%2Ffpd%2Fsites%2Fwww.un.org.dev eloquent.desa.pd%2Ffiles%2Fundes a pd 2020 ims stock by sex and destination.xlsx&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK>

¹⁰ EUROSTAT Total number of long-term immigrants, immigrants flow:

<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/tps00176/default/table?lang=en>

population change,rates of natural change,net migration ¹¹	3	5.3	12.0	4.2	3.3.	2.7	1.8	-0,1	1.0	
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¹¹ EUROSTAT, Population change - crude rates of total change, natural change and net migration plus adjustment:
https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/TPS00019/default/table?lang=en&category=demo.demo_ind

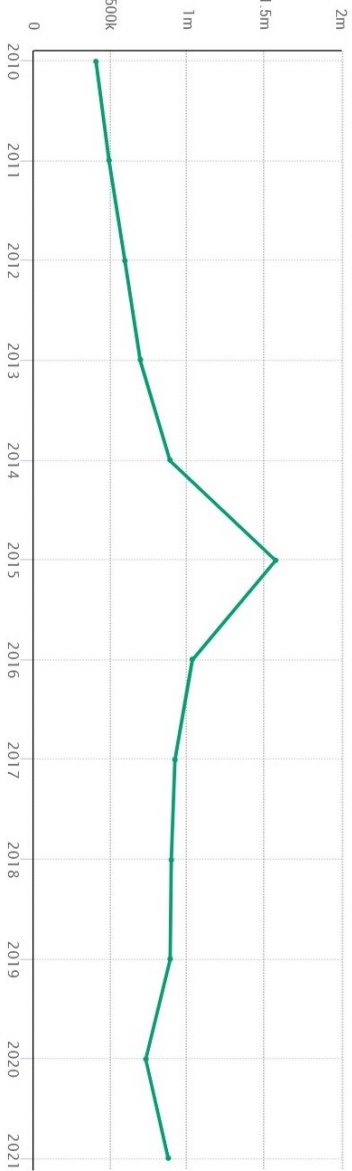
Immigration (online data code: TPS00176)
Source of data: Eurostat

Settings: Default presentation

TableLineBarMap

DownloadPrintFullscreenHelp

Y axis zoom level: 1 x



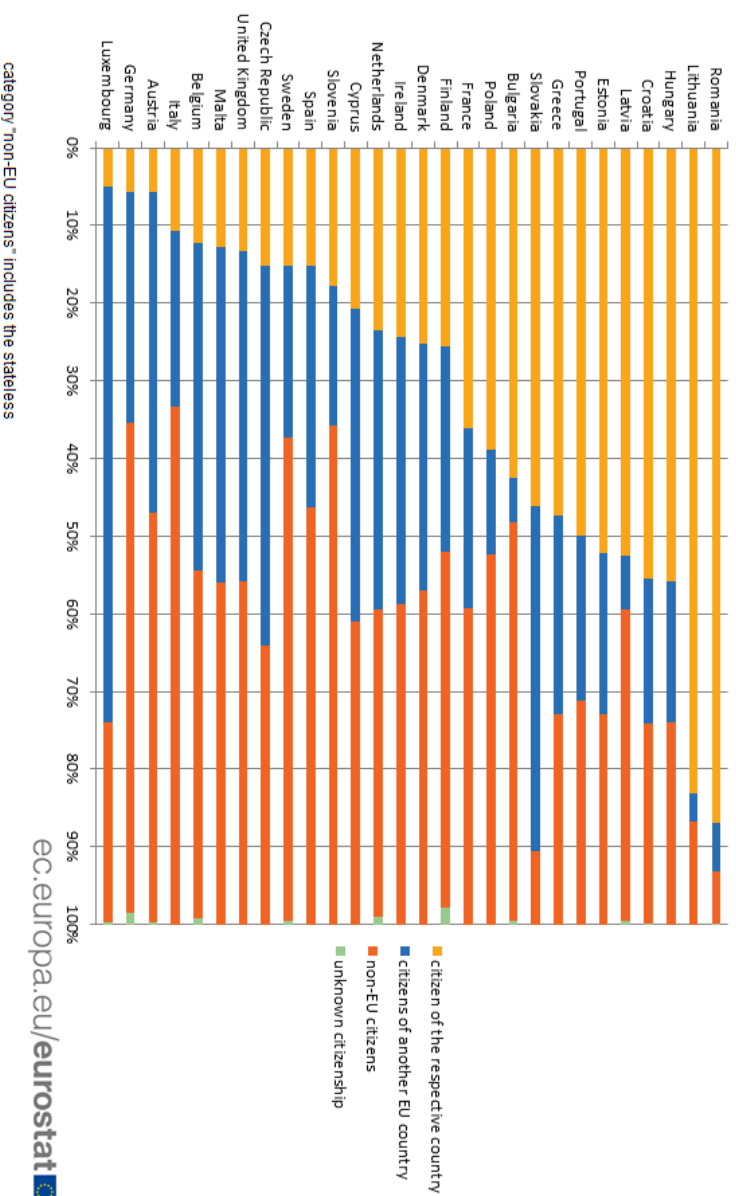
[EUROSTAT https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/tps00176/default/line?lang=en](https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/tps00176/default/line?lang=en)



EUROSTAT

<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/tps00176/default/bar?lang=en>

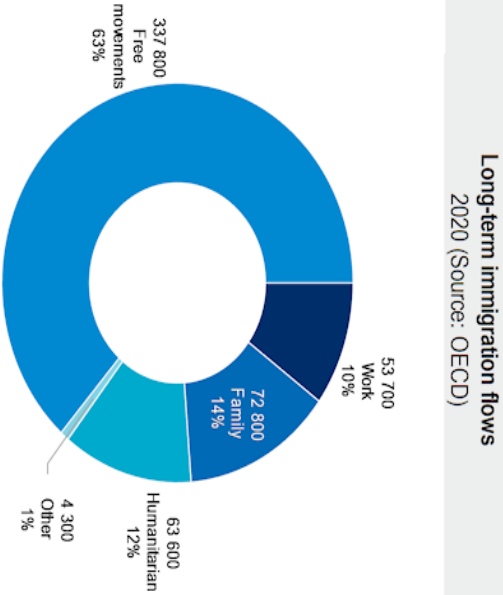
Distribution of immigrants by citizenship, 2015, %



The largest number of immigrants in Germany were from Romania, as of 2021. The top three origin countries were rounded up by Poland and Bulgaria. Immigrants are defined as having left a country, which may be their home country, to permanently reside in another. Upon arriving, immigrants do not hold the citizenship of the country they move to.

In 2020, Germany received 532 000 new immigrants on a long-term or permanent basis (including changes of status and free mobility), -17.3% compared to 2019. This figure comprises 63.5% immigrants benefiting from free mobility, 10.1% labour migrants, 13.7% family members (including accompanying family) and 12% humanitarian migrants. Around 12 000 permits were issued to tertiary-level international students and 6 100 to temporary and seasonal labour migrants (excluding intra-EU migration). In addition, 411 000 intra-EU postings were recorded in 2020, a

decrease of -19% compared to 2019. These posted workers are generally on short-term contracts. Foreign-born population – 2021 equals to 16.2% of the population.¹²



OECD

https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/sites/30fe16d2-en/1/3/8/15/index.html?itemId=/content/publication/30fe16d2-en&csp_=97175d429ae5e4e04cd3cccbfc84945&itemGO=oecd&itemContentType=book

¹² OECD migration outlook 2022 :

https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/sites/30fe16d2-en/1/2/4/index.html?itemId=/content/publication/30fe16d2-en&csp_=97175d429ae5e4e04cd3cccbfc84945&itemGO=oecd&itemContentType=book

Stock of migrants in the last 10 years

The stock of Male Immigrants

Age	Morocco	Iran	Iraq	Turkey	Ukraine	Afghanistan
15-24 yrs	0	0	7630	36530	1098	7080
25-64 yrs	29360	40880	31370	523840	4546	13940
65+	0	0	0	52260	1334	0
Total	29360	40880	39000	612630	6978	21020



Source: <https://stats.oecd.org/#> (alternative to no values given on Eurostat)¹³

Comments:

Many male immigrants are within the working age range i.e., between 25-64 years. This explains why Morocco and Iran have no provided values for the 15-24 and over 65. Turkish-born immigrants dwarf the rest of the immigrants of working age with a figure above half a million. Moreover, this can be explained by the relationship between the Germans and Turkey since the “*gastarbeiter*” days which sees a significant Turkish population already settled in the host state and facilitated the inflow of Turkish immigrants. The Ukrainian value can probably be attributed to fleeing war since the Russian invasion. The Afghan value also reflects similar sentiments even though they tend to go to closer destinations or are displaced internally.

¹³ <https://stats.oecd.org/>

Age	Morocco	Iran	Iraq	Turkey	Ukraine	Afghanistan
15-24 yrs	0	0	0	42980	1069	0
25-64 yrs	23410	28310	8830	491570	4614	8920
65+	0	0	0	31920	1870	0
Total	23410	28310	8830	566470	7553	8920



Source: <https://stats.oecd.org/#>¹⁴

Comments:

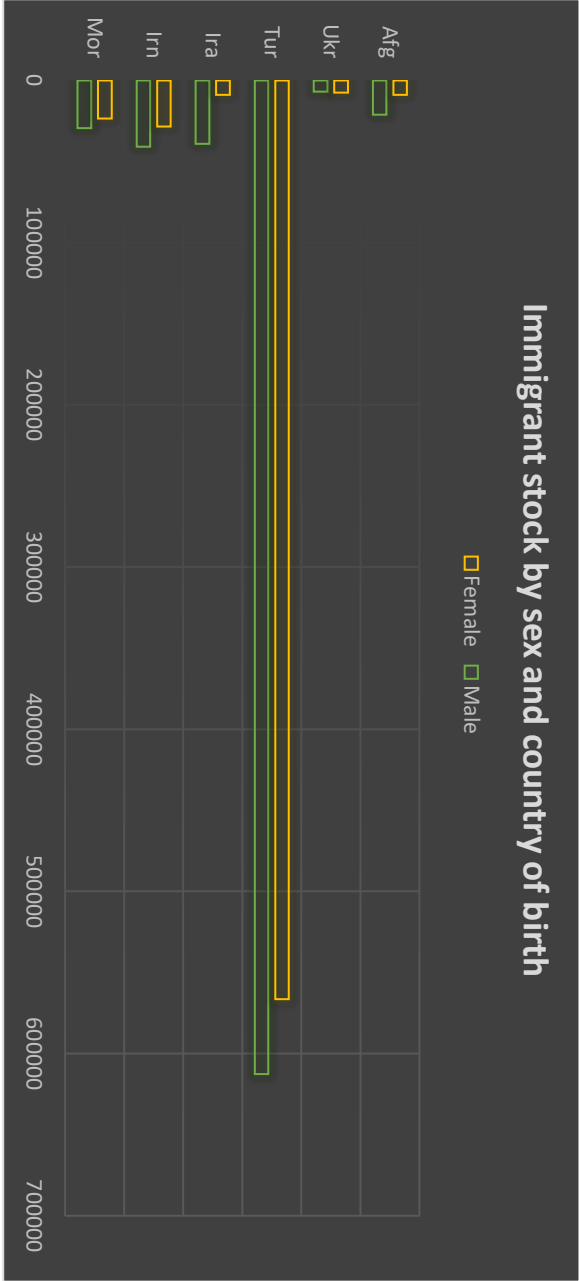
The stock of female immigrants, while slightly less in comparison to the males, reflects the same trends among the sending countries, with zero values for those below or above the working age for Morocco and the Asian countries.

The Total Stock of Immigrants

Morocco Iran Iraq Turkey Ukraine Afghanistan

¹⁴ <https://stats.oecd.org/>

Male	29,360	40,880	39,000	612,630	6,978	21,020
Female	23,410	28,310	8,830	566,470	7,553	8,920
Total	52,770	69,190	47,830	1179,100	14,531	29,940



Source: <https://stats.oecd.org/#>

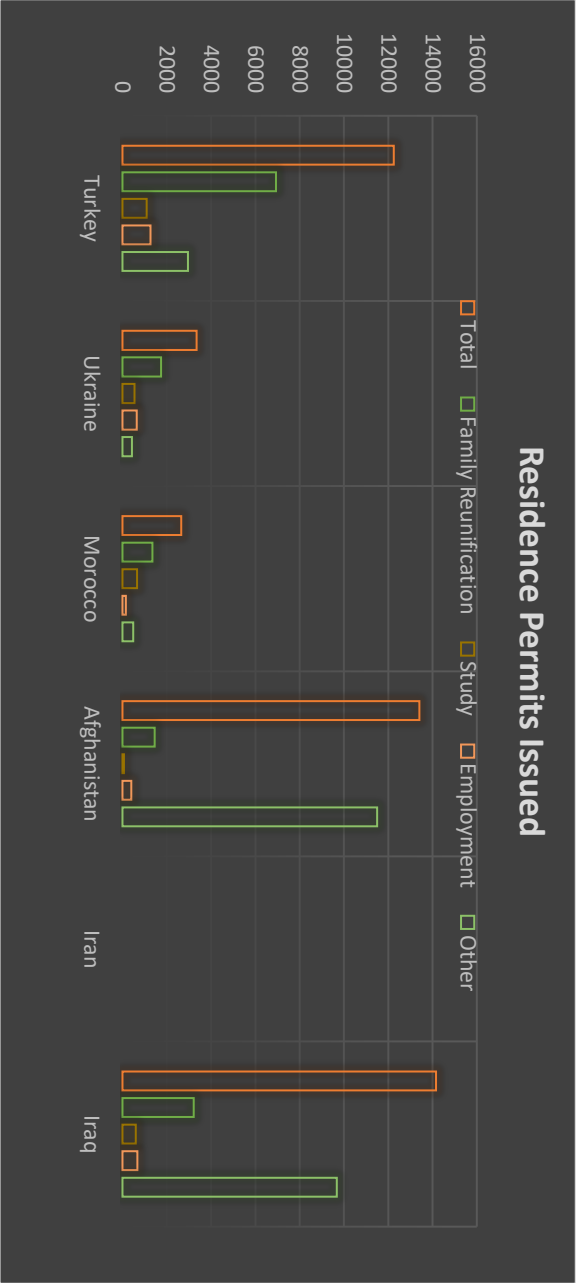
Comments:

¹⁵ <https://stats.oecd.org/#>

The above diagram illustrates the combined values of all migrants without breaking them into various age groups. It still demonstrates a larger stock of male than female immigrants. Ukraine however presents an exception with more females than male immigrants. A simple explanation relates to the males remaining for army conscription while females have migrated.

Residence Permits Issued by Reason

	Total	FR	EDU	EMP	OTHER
Turkey	12248	6929	1096	1272	2951
Ukraine	3352	1742	548	637	425
Morocco	2656	1350	655	159	492
Afghanistan	13400	1449	60	394	11497
Iran	0	0	0	0	0
Iraq	14161	3219	602	668	9672
Total	185675	70812	22710	18724	73429



Source: https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/migr_resfas/default/table ¹⁶

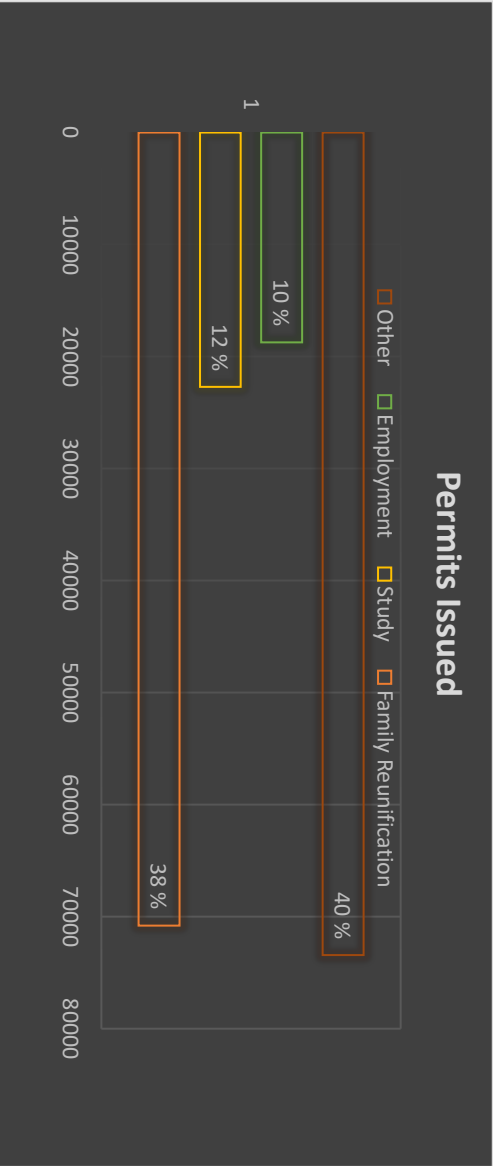
Comments:

The largest number of residence permits issued were given to Iraqis with a value of just over 14, 000 whilst Morocco has the least.

*Iran value not shown

Total Permits Issued by Reason

¹⁶ https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/migr_resfas/default/table



Source¹⁷

Comments:

The most used channel for migration is usually family reunification but for the year in question, this was eclipsed by the residual category of “others” which includes refugees seeking protection. The number was spiked by the crisis in Afghanistan. Employment was the least used channel, while 12% of the permits issued were for study purposes.

¹⁷ https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/migr_resfas/default/table

Population growth

Using data from Eurostat, it is possible to determine the growth trend of the German population from 2013 to 2021. This table demonstrates the number of persons having their usual residence in a country on 1 January of the respective year. As can be seen, although there is population growth, the total growth has declined significantly in recent years.

Year	Population, 1 January*	Total growth
2013	80 523 746	<u>243 717</u>
2014	80 767 463	430 074
2015	81 197 537	978 147
2016	82 175 684	345 969
2017	82 521 653	270 698
2018	82 792 351	226 862
2019	83 019 213	147 498
2020	83 166 711	11 680
2021	83 155 031	82 093

Source¹⁸

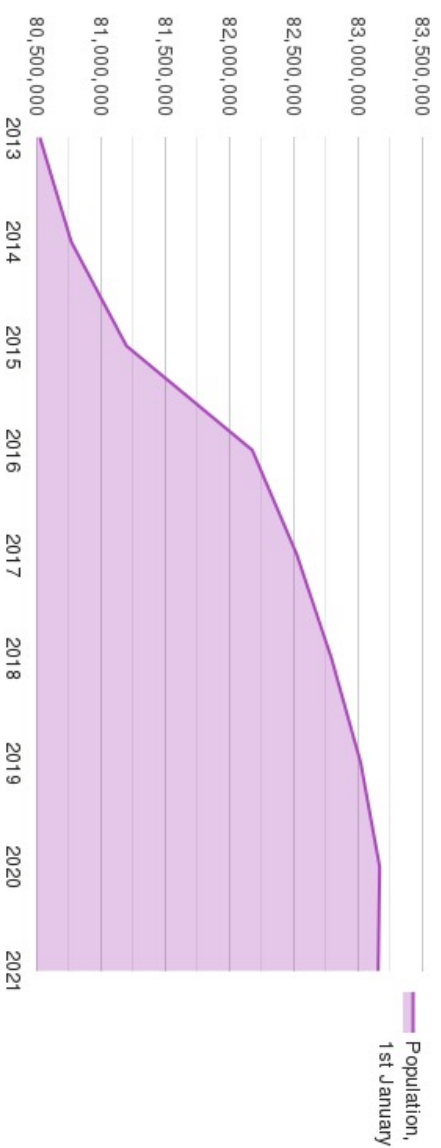
This formula calculates the total growth:

Total growth in 2013 = Population in 2014 – Population in 2013 = (80 767 463) - (80 523 746) = 243 717

* <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/tps00001/default/table?lang=en>

Table 1

¹⁸ <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/tps00001/default/table?lang=en>



Source¹⁹

Table 2

Year	Live births*	Deaths**	Natural change
2013	682 069	893 825	<u>-211 756</u>
2014	714 927	868 356	-153 429
2015	737 575	925 200	-187 625
2016	792 141	910 902	-118 761
2017	784 901	932 272	-147 371

¹⁹ <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/tps00001/default/table?lang=en>

2018	787 523	954 874	-167 351
2019	778 090	939 520	-161 430
2020	773 144	985 572	-212 428
2021	795 492	1 023 687	-228 195

Source²⁰²¹

*https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/demo_fagec/default/table?lang=en

**https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/demo_gind/default/table?lang=en

Natural change in 2013: Live births (682 069) – Deaths (893 825) = -211 756

It should be noted that the increase in the number of births is insignificant. Also, the death rate every year is higher than the birth rate. Thus, the natural change is negative since there are more dead people than born. The question then arises as to why the population in Table 1 is increasing.

²⁰ *https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/demo_fagec/default/table?lang=en

²¹ **https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/demo_gind/default/table?lang=en

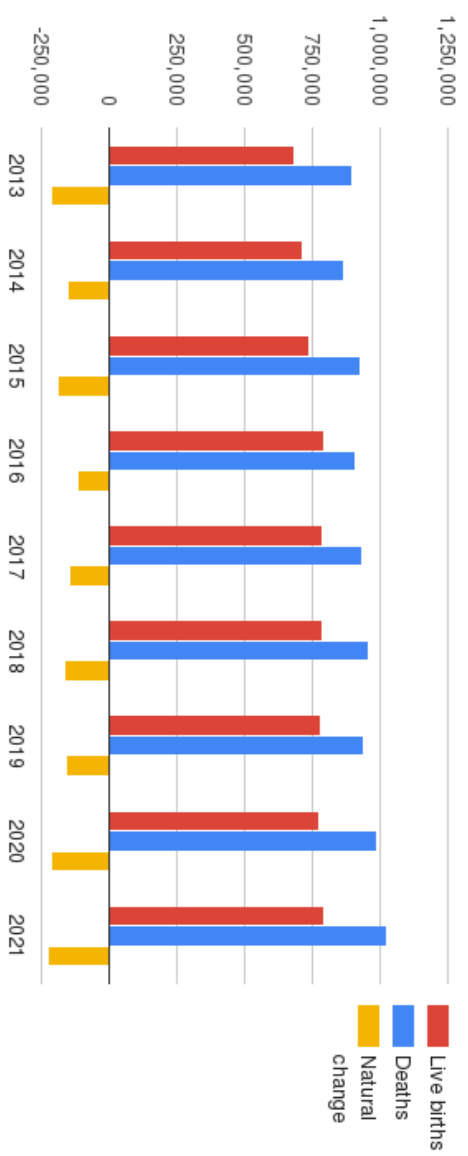


Table 3

Year	Natural change	Net migration plus statistical adjustment*	Total growth
2013	-211 756	455 473	<u>243 717</u>
2014	-153 429	583 503	430 074
2015	-187 625	1 165 772	978 147
2016	-118 761	464 730	345 969
2017	-147 371	418 069	270 698
2018	-167 351	394 213	226 862
2019	-161 430	308 928	147 498

2020	-212 428	200 748	11 680
2021	-228 195	310 288	82 093

Source²²

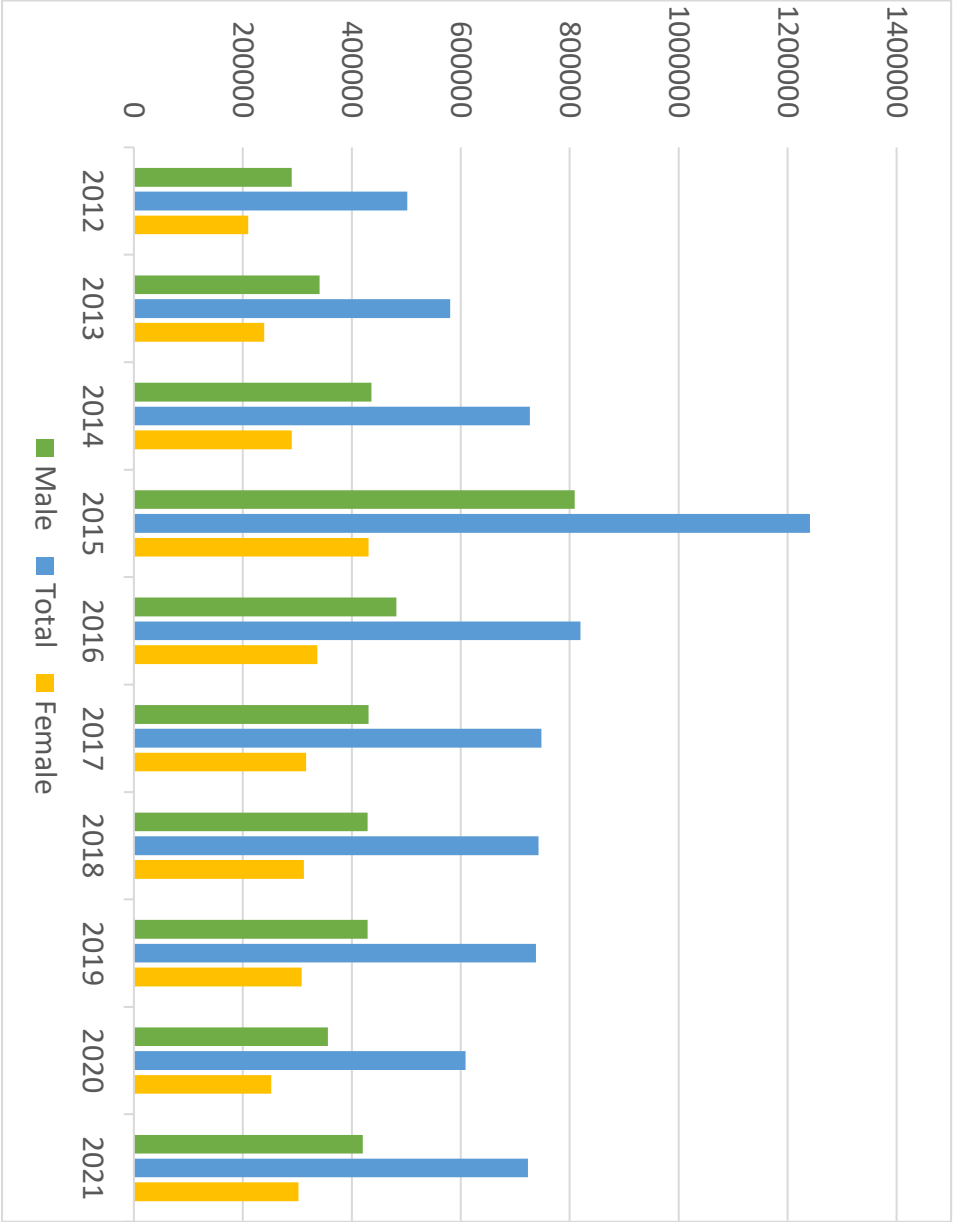
*https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/demo_gind/default/table?lang=en

Total growth in 2013 = Natural change (– 211 756) + Net migration (455 473) = 243 717

The difference between the early identified natural change and the net migration data taken from Eurostat shows a total increase that is consistent with the data in Table 1. Thus, it was revealed that the population of Germany grew due to the growth of migration.

²² *https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/demo_gind/default/table?lang=en

Flows of migrants in the last 10 years



Source: Eurostat Online data code: MIGR_IMM3CTB

Comments:

* In the 10-years period from 2012 to 2021, we notice that the number of female immigrants is always less than male.

* The graph of immigration to Germany is like a mountain, that is, from 2012 to 2015, we see an increase and then a decrease until 2021, and immigration is increasing again.

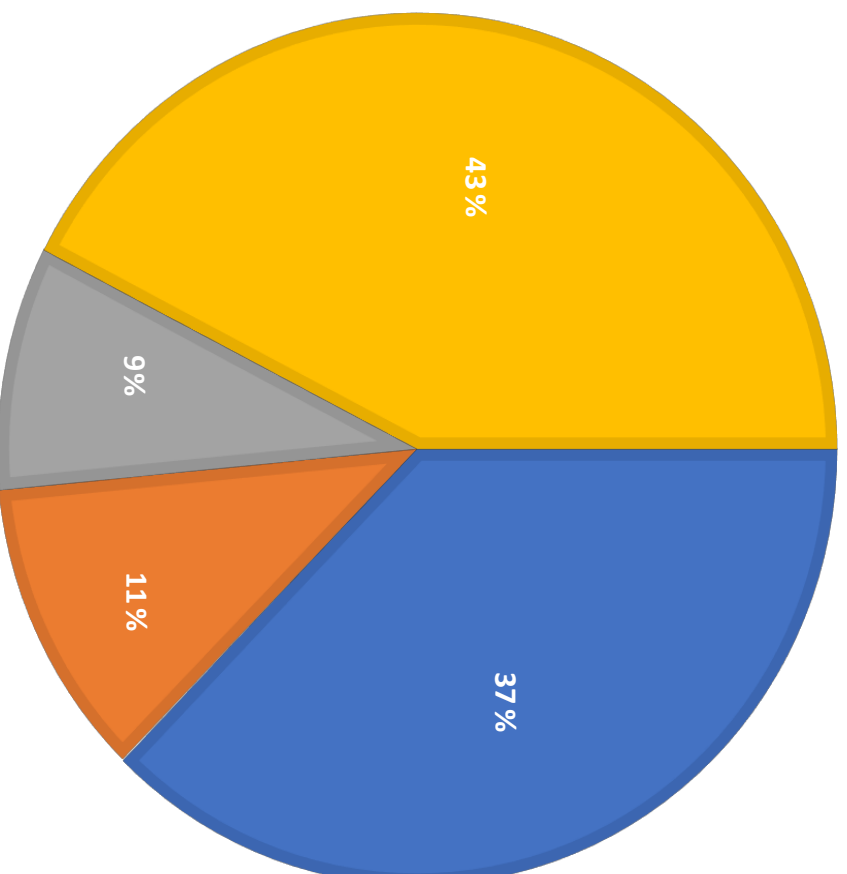
* The reason for the highest migration rate in 2015 was the Syrian Civil War and the presence of ISIS in this country. (Year of migration crisis in Europe).

* The reason for the increase in immigration in 2021, after a 5-year period of immigration reduction, is the start of vaccination against the corona virus.

- ✓ Age: 15-64
- ✓ Country of birth: T otal

YEAR: 2021

Reasons: ■ Family ■ Education ■ Employment ■ Other



Source: Eurostat Online data code: MIGR_RESEAS

Comments:

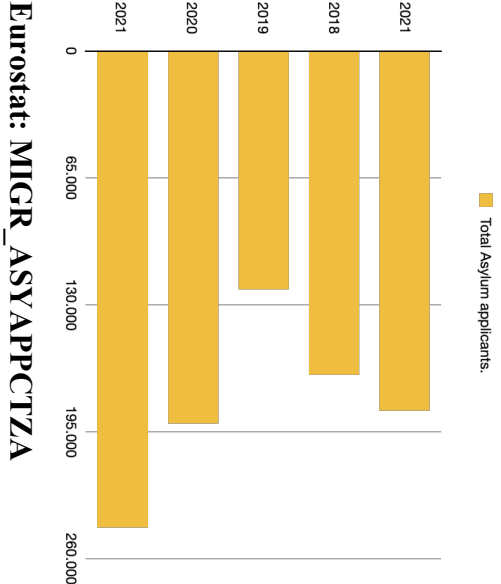
- * The most common reason for migration is the “Other”, which means that the majority of immigrants are non-specialists (educational and work).
- * Contrary to popular belief, the number of educational immigrants has been more than the number of employment immigrants to Germany.

Total number of refugees (asylum seekers, sex, age).

The UNCH consider refugees as “someone who is unable or unwilling to return to their country of origin owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group, or political opinion.”²³ When we think of immigration, we consider refugees as one of the main channels of entrance to a country by an immigrant. On the other hand, an asylum seeker is another different situation, for a person to be recognized as a refugee it is necessary to apply and receive legal protection and material assistance known as the “Asylum”.

For this reason, asylum seekers are not included in population counts in many member states unlike refugees like in the case of Germany. The reason is that the condition of Asylum can be denied and only the positive decisions on Asylum are considered refugees.

So far, the total number of refugees that we can see on the table below is the compilation of asylum applications in Germany and the final decisions on asylum application.



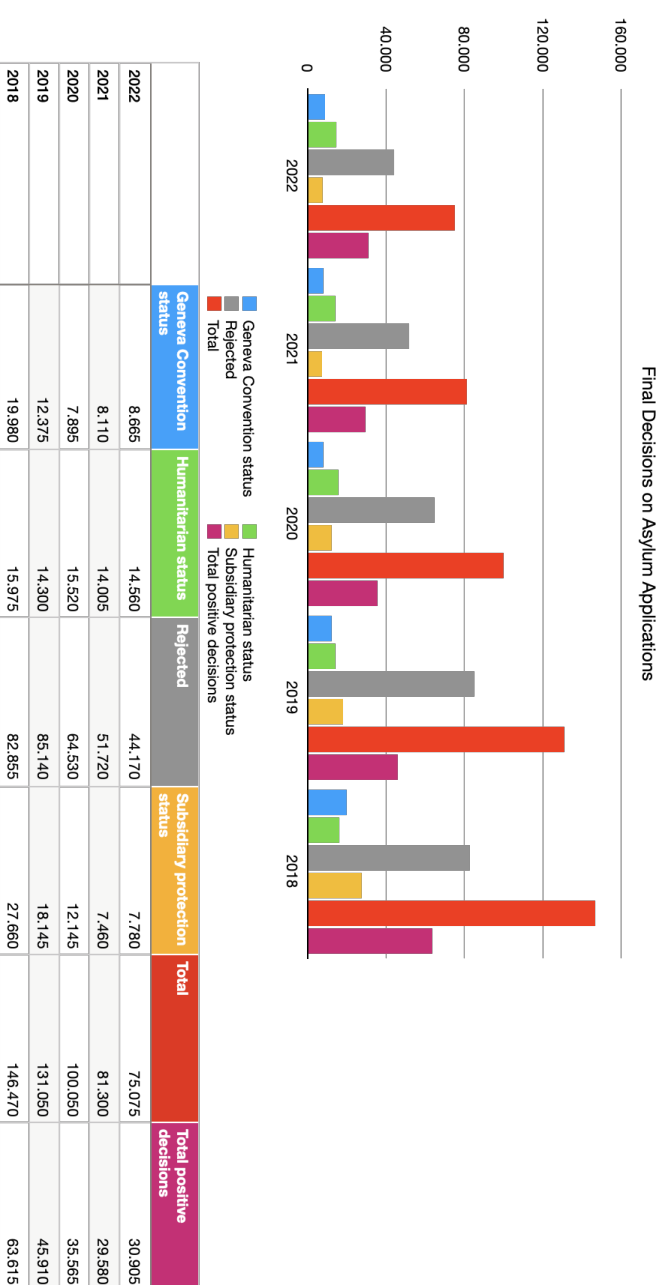
Eurostat: MIGR_ASYAPPCTZA

²³ UN General Assembly, *Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees*, 28 July 1951, United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 189, p. 137, available at UNTS.

Germany	Total Asylum applicants.
2018	184.180
2019	165.615
2020	121.955
2021	190.545
2022	243.835

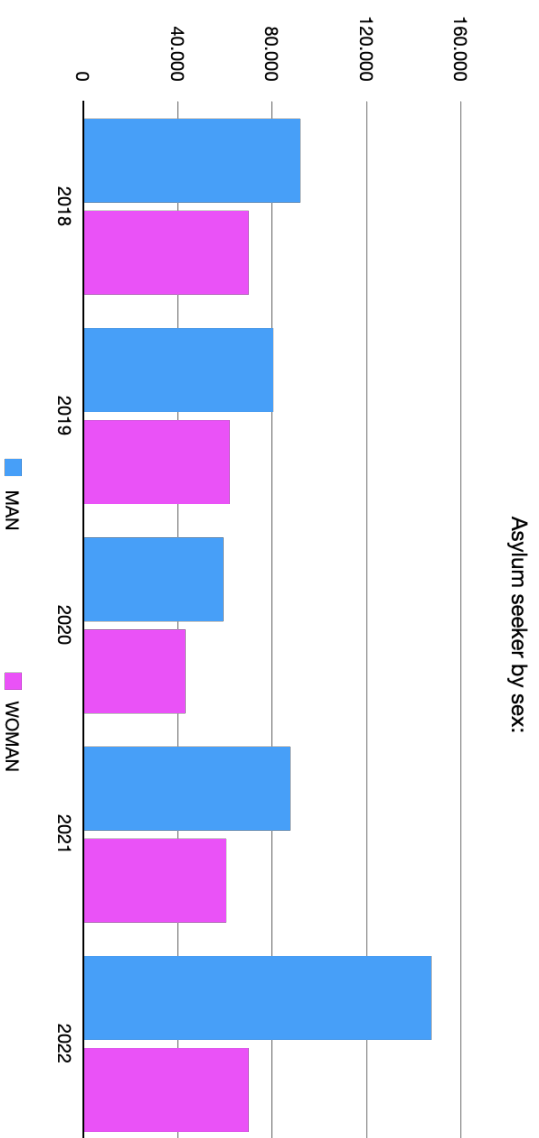
The total sum of asylums applicants will be far superior of the total number of refugees recognized in a year in Germany by the fact that some asylum applications will be denied or not given.

In the following graph we have the amount of “refugees” in Germany in the las 5 years in color magenta with the total of positive decisions in contrast the color red indicates the total we have the number of asylums seekers, other conditions including the rejected applications.



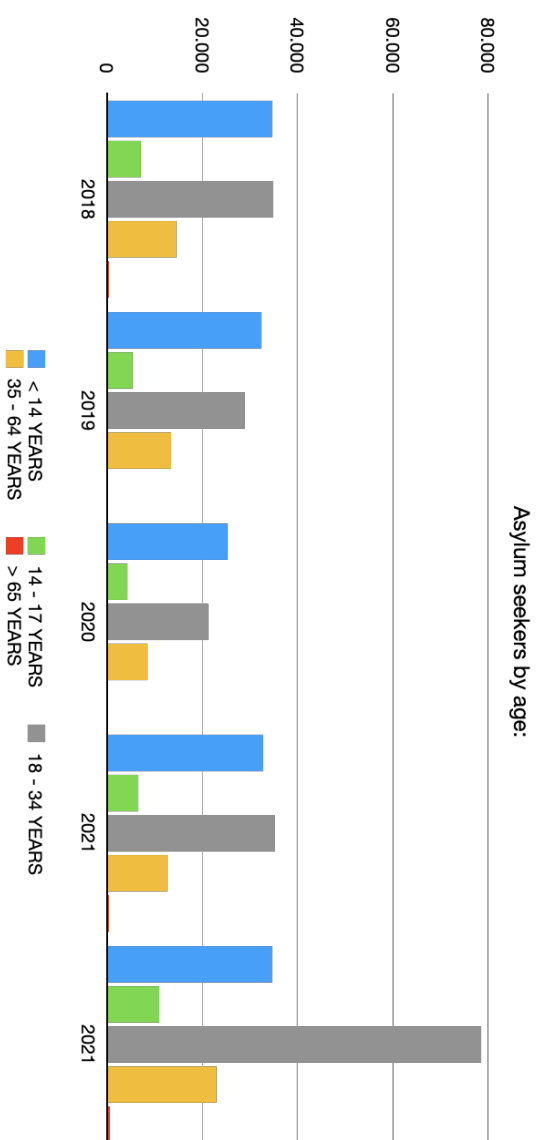
Eurostat: [MIGR_ASYDCFNA](#)

Asylum seeker by sex: With no doubt we can agree that the portion of male immigrant asylum seeker going to Germany is large that its female counterpart. It is very evident on last year the proportion of asylum seeker to Germany was close to the double than the woman immigrating.



Eurostat: MIGR_ASYAPPCTZA

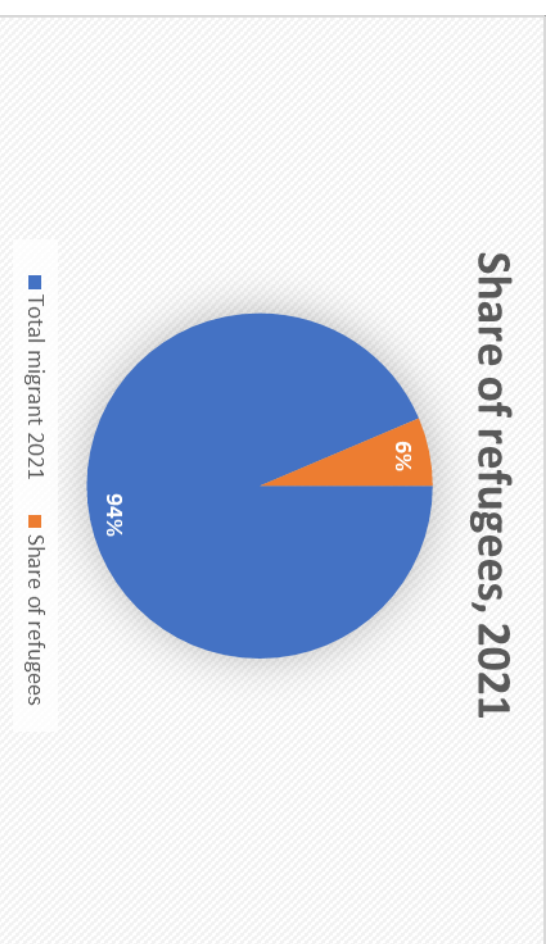
Asylum seekers by age: We can appreciate in the graph below that the tendency of asylum seeker in Germany are in the age span between eighteen and thirty-four years followed by children of less than fourteen. As a result, we can conclude that families' asylums seekers are predominant meanwhile seniors are the ones who seek less asylum.



Eurostat: MIGR_ASYAPPCTZA

Share of refugees on total migration, 2021

To understand the share of refugees on total migration, firstly one must calculate the number of migrants during the selected year. In 2021, there were 874 367 in Germany.²⁴ The next step is to consider the “total positive decision” of asylum seekers in that year because those people whose asylum seeker application has been accepted are then given the status of refugees. No specific country of citizenship was chosen, but just the “total”, and what has been specifically selected is the “first instance total positive decisions”. According to data coming from Eurostat, in 2021, the number of refugees was 59850. Therefore, the share of refugees on total migration is $(59850/874367) * 100 = 6.8\%$.



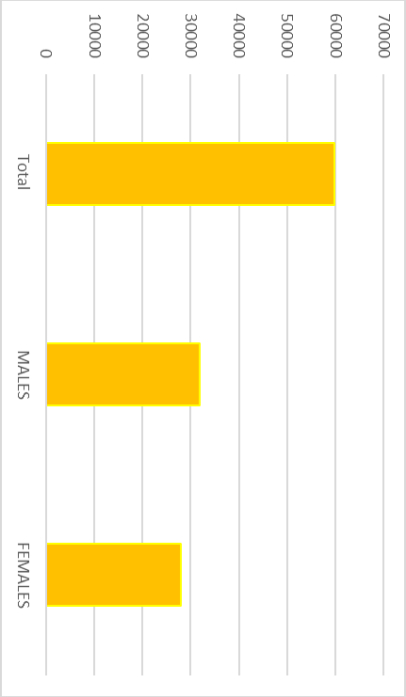
Eurostat (online data code: MIGR_ASYDCFSTA)²⁵

Among the 59 850 refugees there were 31 865 males and 27 975 females.²⁶

²⁴ <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/bookmark/03e5fb3f-8706-4d85-840a-883a9a839187?lang=en>

²⁵ <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/bookmark/9c266e26-7670-459d-bd8d-f84cbc40483a?lang=en>

²⁶ <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/bookmark/2ebad615-c2d2-48df-92fa-40be2cb25dd6?lang=en>



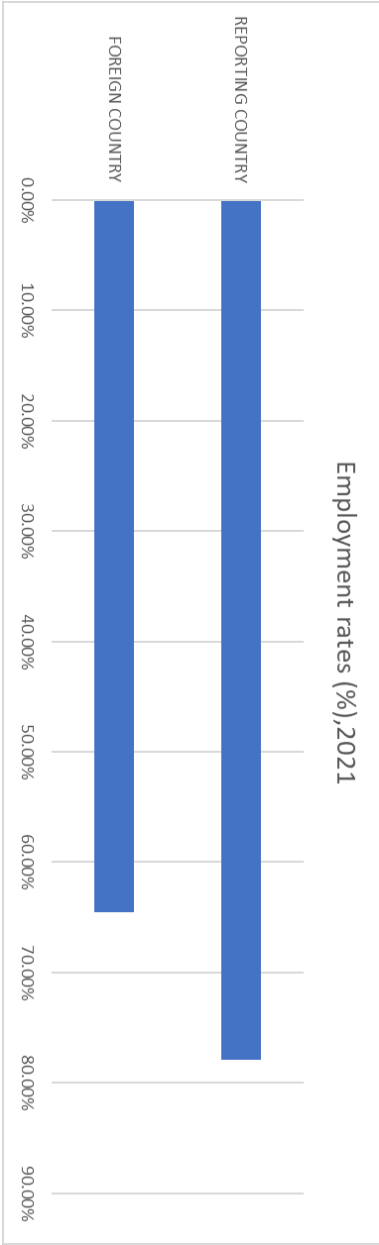
Eurostat (online data code: MIGR_ASYDCFSTA)²⁷

²⁷ <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/bookmark/2ebad615-c2d2-48df-92fa-40be2cb25dd6?lang=en>

Migrant's Integration Indicators: Employment & Unemployment

Another important aspect that has been considered is migration's integration, whether the migrants are employed or unemployed.

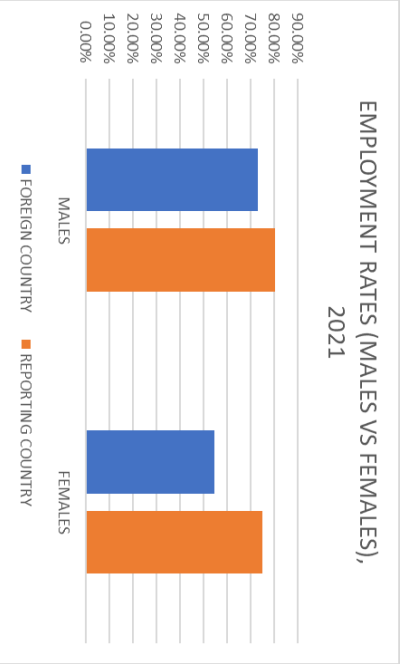
Employment rates by sex, age, and citizenship (%)



Source: Eurostat (online data code: LFSA_ERGAN)²⁸

The above graph represents the employment rates of immigrants and natives in 2021. The employment rate for German was 77.9%, while that for immigrants was 64.5%, so, the employment rate was higher for the natives than for the immigrants.

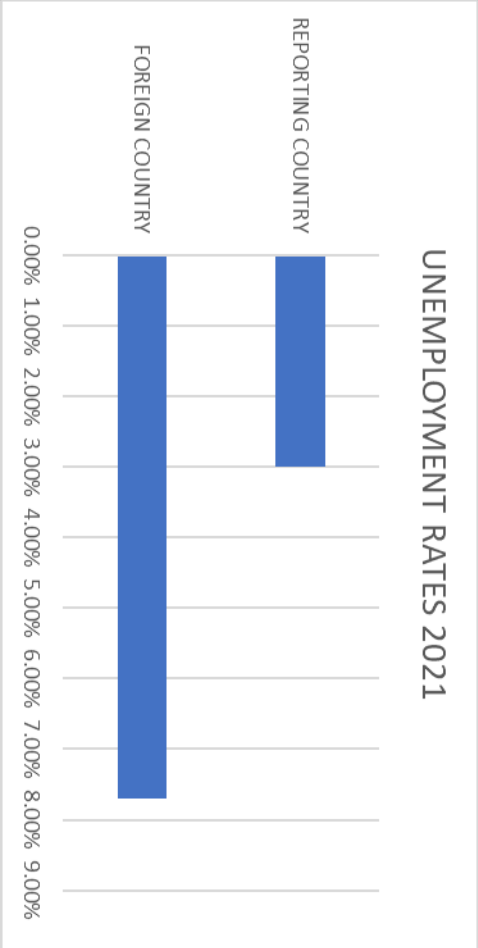
²⁸ <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/bookmark/cee8f878-0e66-4702-a8e5-d859b38a9083?lang=en>



Source: Eurostat (online data code: LFSA_ERGAN)²⁹

The graph put into comparison the employment rates by sex. The employment rates, both for native and immigrants males, were higher than that of females. The employment rate for native males was 80.5%, while that for immigrant males was 73.4%. The employment rates for native females was 75.2%, while that for immigrant females was 54.7.

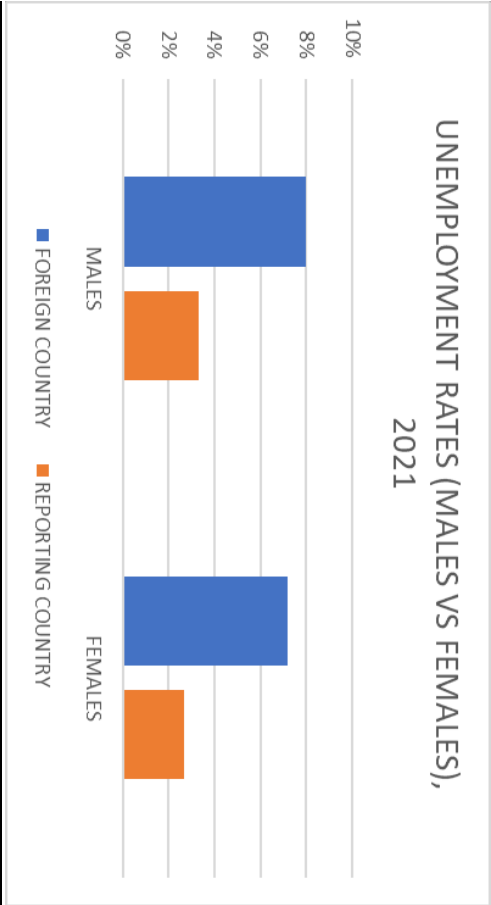
Unemployment rates by sex, age, and citizenship (%)



²⁹ <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/bookmark/cee8f878-0e66-4702-a8e5-d859b38a9083?lang=en>

Source: Eurostat (online data code: LFSA_URGAN)³⁰

The graph compares the unemployment rates of natives and immigrants in 2021. In 2021, the unemployment rate for the natives was 3.3% while for the immigrants was 7.7%.



Source: Eurostat online data code: LFSA_URGAN³¹

In 2021 the unemployment rates for immigrant males was 8%, while that for native males was 3.3%. while for immigrant females the unemployment rate was 7.2%, and for the natives was 2.7. For the unemployment rates, we see that in 2021 they were higher for the males, in comparison with the females.

³⁰ <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/bookmark/09fe6075-3773-4ebf-99f4-e389c116348c?lang=en>

³¹ Ibid.

Conclusion

Germany is the European country with the highest number of foreign born, according to data from the International Migration Organization. In the past few years Germany has saw a peak of immigrants, both from Eu and non-EU countries. Moreover, the country hosts the highest number of asylum seekers and refugees, indeed it is the fifth country in the world.³²

Germany, as many other European country, has been facing the issue of ageing of the native population. In addition, from 2013 till 2021 the country had experienced a negative natural change, meaning that the number of death was higher than birth. However, as above demonstrated (under section population growth), if one compare natural change with net migration, it can be seen that the population has increased due to migration. One can conclude that the increased number of migration may, in the short term, solve the issue of ageing of population and of the negative natural change.

Germany is not only an important country when it comes to migration, but also for asylum seekers and refugees. The country has experienced a peak in the number of asylum seekers in 2015, the majority of asylum seekers were coming from Syria, due to the civil war.

Finally, a last aspect which has been covered in the report is the migration's indicators, in particular the employment and unemployment of the immigrants in 2021. From the data, it was shown that the majority of foreigners they were employed.

³² International Organization Migration Report, 2022