

Migrants' Presence Monitoring
Situation Report

February 2023

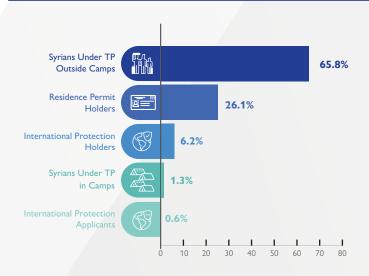


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INFO: mpmturkey@iom.int

Overview of Migrant Presence in Türkiye

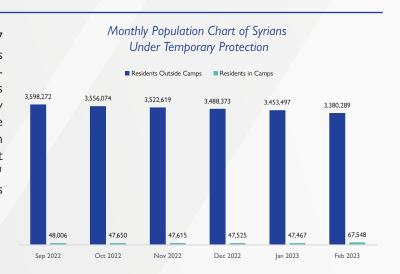


According to the latest available figures from the Turkish Presidency of Migration Management (PMM), there are more than 5.1 million foreign nationals present in Türkiye, 3.8 million of whom are seeking international protection. Most are Syrians (3,447,837¹ individuals) who have been granted temporary protection status. In addition, international protection holders from countries including Iraq, Afghanistan and the Islamic Republic of Iran constitute another group of foreign nationals. According to UNHCR, there were 318,903² refugees and asylum-seekers in Türkiye as of mid of 2022. Moreover in 2022, according to PMM, there were 33,246³ international protection applicants in the country, a figure released by PMM annually.

In addition, there are 1,339,738⁴ foreign nationals present in Türkiye, holding residence permits. Compared to February 2022, this is a decrease of 54,699 individuals.⁵

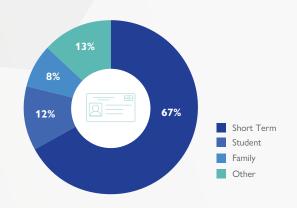
Syrians under Temporary Protection

Türkiye's temporary protection regime grants 3,447,837 Syrian nationals the right to legally stay in Türkiye as well as obtain some level of access to basic services. The vast majority - 3,380,289 individuals – live outside camps, known as temporary accommodation centers. As such, although only 67,548 Syrians live inside camps, the majority of which are located close to the Syrian border, the number of Syrians in camps reached its highest since July 2019. The current number of temporary accommodation centers is seven.¹ 16,352 more Syrians currently reside in the centers compared to previous year.⁵



Residence Permit Holders

Foreigners who seek stay in Türkiye beyond the duration of a visa or visa exemption -i.e. longer than 90 days, must obtain a residence permit. According to PMM, there are 1,339,738 residence permit holders in Türkiye with various categories of the residence permit, including short-term residence permit, family residence permit, student residence permit, long-term residence permit, humanitarian residence permit and residence permit for victims of human trafficking. A valid work permit as well as Work Permit Exemption Confirmation Document are also considered as a residence permit in Türkiye. As of 2021, there were 168,1036 foreigners with work permit in Türkiye.





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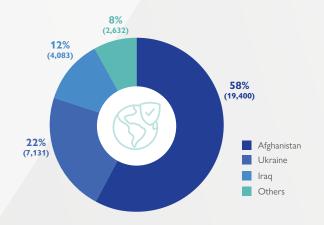
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International Protection Applicants & Holders

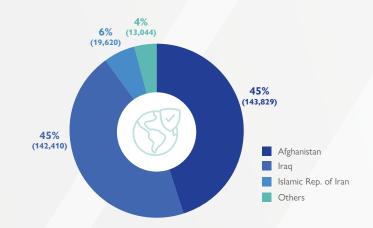
There are 33,246 international protection applicants in Türkiye of different nationalities, but primarily originating from Afghanistan, Ukraine and Iraq.³ PMM releases the number of international protection applicants on an annual basis.

As of mid 2022, there are 318,903 refugees and asylum-seekers in Türkiye, most of whom from Iraq, Afghanistan and the Islamic Republic of Iran.²

Nationalities of International Protection Applicants

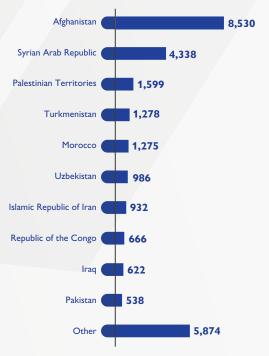


Nationalities of International Protection Holders



Migrants in Irregular Situation

For years, Türkiye has remained under migratory pressure not only because the country is hosting the largest Syrian refugee population in the world, but also it continues to receive migration flows due to, among other factors, forced migration from Afghanistan and labor migration from Central Asia and Africa. Along being a host country and intended destination, due to its location on migration routes from Central Asia, Middle East and even Africa towards Europe, Türkiye is also a transit country. According to PMM figures⁷, the number of migrants in irregular situation apprehended in Türkiye reached a peak in 2019, followed by a sharp decrease due to COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, and has been on the rise ever since. Accordingly, 2022 recorded the second highest yearly number of migrants in irregular situation apprehended by authorities in Türkiye. Top nationalities of migrants in irregular situation do not include only those who enter Türkiye irregularly (e.g., Afghan, Pakistani, Bangladeshi nationals) but also those who enter the country through regular means but overstay their visa or visa-free period and become irregular (e.g., Turkmen, Uzbek, Moroccan nationals).



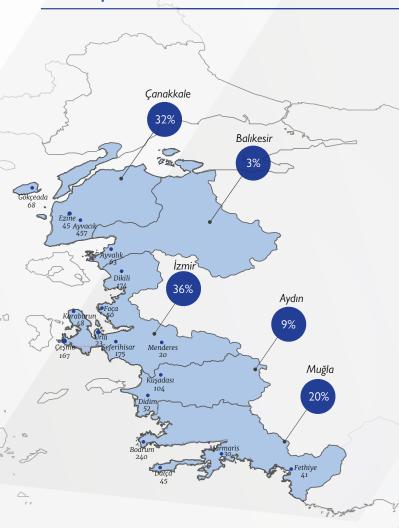
TOTAL: 26,638



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Intercepted and Rescued Persons on Sea



The Turkish Coast Guard (TCG) recorded 1,8028 migrants in irregular situation and no death in February 2023. Comparing to February 2022, there is a decrease of 834 intercepted individuals, when 2,636 migrants in irregular situation were recorded.⁵ These figures only include those intercepted and rescued by the TCG, while the actual number of migrants and refugees who attempt to cross from Türkiye to Europe by sea may be higher. Interceptions/rescues at the so-called 'hotspots' on the Aegean and/or Mediterranean are shown in the map (left).

The top ten nationalities of intercepted/rescued migrants are Afghan, Congolese, Palestinian, Yemeni, Liberian, Malian, Central African, Eritrean, Syrian and Somali.*

**See disclaimer on page 5.

"Interceptions/Rescues by Turkish Coast Guard Statistic for 2023 (1 January - 28 February)"

Time Period	Numer of Cases	Number of Migrants in Irregular Situation	Number of Deaths	Number of Organizers
	All Seas	All Seas	All Seas	All Seas
January	105	3,025	0	3
February	68	1,802	0	4
Total	173	4,827	0	7

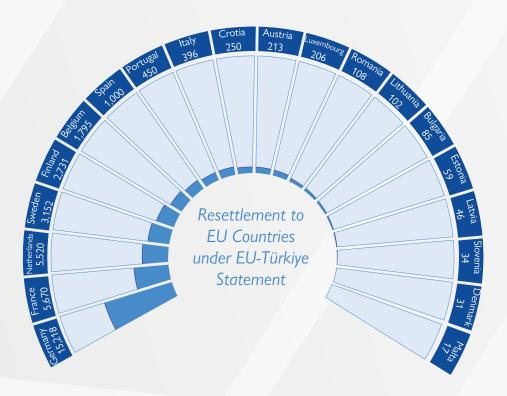


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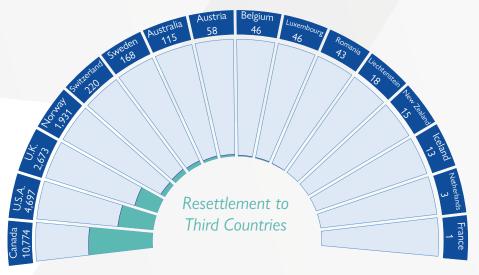
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Resettlement of Syrians from Türkiye

The 18 March 2016 EU-Türkiye Statement aims to replace disorganized and irregular migratory flows by facilitating organized and safe pathways to European countries. Specifically, the statement stipulates that for every Syrian returned to Türkiye from the Greek islands, another Syrian will be resettled directly to EU countries from Türkiye. According to PMM data released on 16 March 2023, there are 37,083 persons that have been resettled under this instrument, with primary resettlement destinations being Germany, France, the Netherlands, and Sweden.¹



There are also Syrians who have been resettled from Türkiye to third countries under different schemes other than the EU-Türkiye Statement. According to PMM, as of 16 March 2023, a total of 20,821 Syrians have been resettled to third countries, mainly Canada, the United States of America (USA), the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (UK) and Norway.¹





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Disclaimers/References

- *The information on nationality of intercepted/rescued migrants at sea is based on the nationality declared by migrants as reported by TCG.
- ** Disclaimer: This map is for illustration purposes only. The depiction and use of boundaries, geographic names, and related data shown on maps and included in this report are not warranted to be free of error nor do they imply judgment on the legal status of any territory, or any endorsement or acceptance of such boundaries by IOM.

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Citation: International Organization for Migration (IOM), Mar 2023. MPM Migrant Presence Monitoring - Situation Report (February 2023). IOM, Türkiye. For more information on terms and conditions of DTM information products, please refer to: https://dtm.iom.int/terms-and-conditions

- ¹ Data retrieved from https://en.goc.gov.tr/temporary-protection27 on 23.03.2023
- ² Data retrieved from https://www.unhcr.org/refugee-statistics/download/?url=s8FnAw on 23.03.2023
- ³ Data retrieved from https://en.goc.gov.tr/international-protection17 on 23.03.2023
- ⁴ Data retrieved from https://en.goc.gov.tr/residence-permits on 23.03.2023
- ⁵ For further information, please see: MPM Migrant Presence Monitoring Situation Report (February 2022) https://dtm.iom.int/reports/turkey-migrant-presence-monitoring-situation-report-february-2022
- Data retrieved from https://www.csgb.gov.tr/media/90062/yabanciizin2021.pdf on 23.03.2023
- ⁷ Data retrieved from https://en.goc.gov.tr/irregular-migration on 23.03.2023
- ⁸ Data retrieved from https://en.sg.gov.tr/irregular-migration-statistics on 03.03.2023