

MPM TÜRKİYE
Overview of Migrant Situation
Migrant Presence Monitoring

QUARTERLY REPORT
Q1- January, February, March 2024



IOM
UN MIGRATION

GLOBAL DATA INSTITUTE
**DISPLACEMENT
TRACKING MATRIX**

BACKGROUND AND KEY FINDINGS

According to the latest available figures from the Turkish Presidency of Migration Management (PMM), there are more than 4.5 million foreign nationals present in Turkish territory, 3.4 million of whom are seeking international protection. Most are Syrians (3,120,430¹ individuals) who are granted temporary protection status. In addition, international protection applicants from countries including Iraq, Afghanistan and the Islamic Republic of Iran constitute another group of foreign nationals. According to PMM, there were 19,017² international protection applicants present in Türkiye in 2023, published annually. Moreover, according to United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), there were 296,685³ refugees and asylum-seekers in Türkiye as of 2023. Since December 2023 the number of Syrians residing in camps has decreased by 4,085.

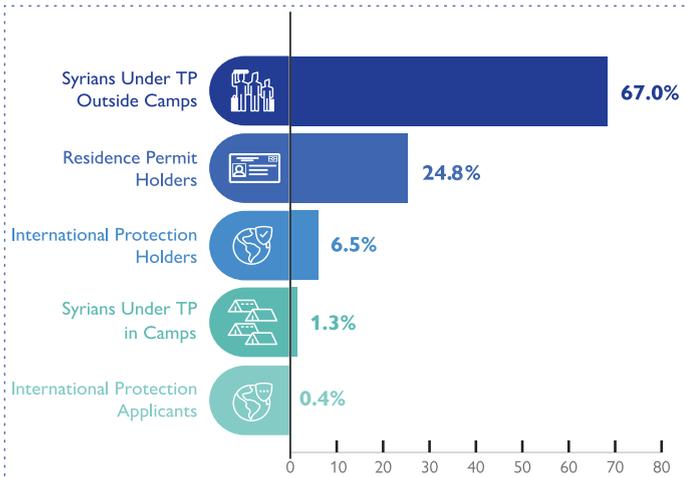


Figure 1. Legal Status of the Foreign Nationals Present in Turkish Territory

In addition, there are 1,129,958⁴ foreign nationals present in Türkiye, holding residence permits. Compared to the fourth quarter of 2023, this is an increase of 22,926 individuals.

According to PMM, 58,760⁵ migrants in irregular situation of different nationalities were apprehended in Türkiye in the first quarter. This figure was 88,437⁶ in the previous reporting period (Q4) of 2023.

CATEGORIES OF FOREIGNERS IN TÜRKİYE

Temporary Protection (TP)

Türkiye's Temporary Protection regime grants the 3,120,430 Syrian nationals the right to legally stay in Türkiye as well as some level of access to basic rights and services. The vast majority (3,060,634 individuals) live outside camps, mainly spread across cities in the Turkish border provinces of Şanlıurfa, Gaziantep, Hatay and Kilis as well as other major cities in Türkiye. There are 59,796 Syrians living in six Temporary Accommodation Centers (TACs) also located in the provinces close to the Syrian border, as well as in other major cities such as Hatay, Osmaniye, Adana, Malatya and Kahramanmaraş.¹

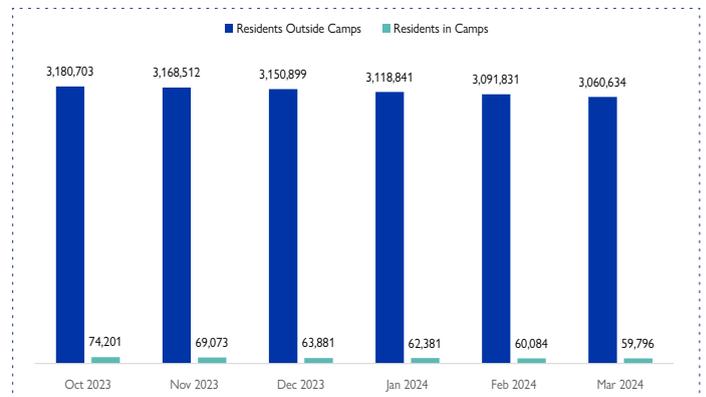


Figure 2. Monthly Population Chart of Syrians Under Temporary Protection

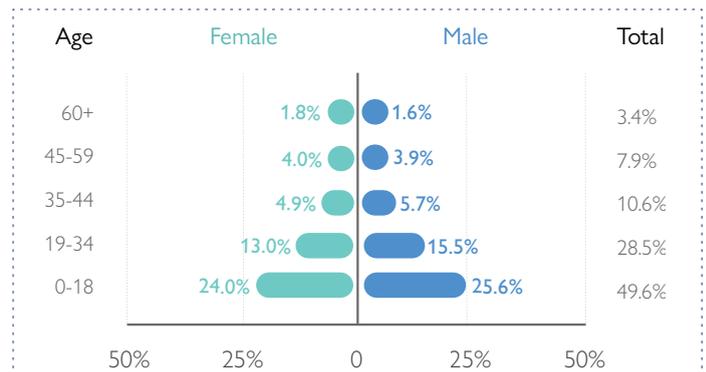


Figure 3. Demographic Breakdown of Biometrically Registered Syrians

Residence Permit (RP)

Foreigners who seek to 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 1,129,958⁴ 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 168,103⁷ foreigners with work permit in Türkiye.

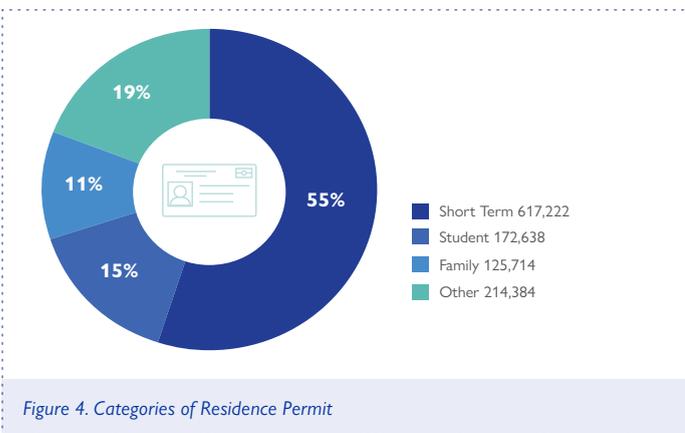


Figure 4. Categories of Residence Permit

There are 617,222 short-term RP holders which compose the majority of all residence permit holders. The short-term RP holders are followed by 172,638 student and 125,714 family residence permit holders. Also 214,384 “other” residence permits were granted.⁴

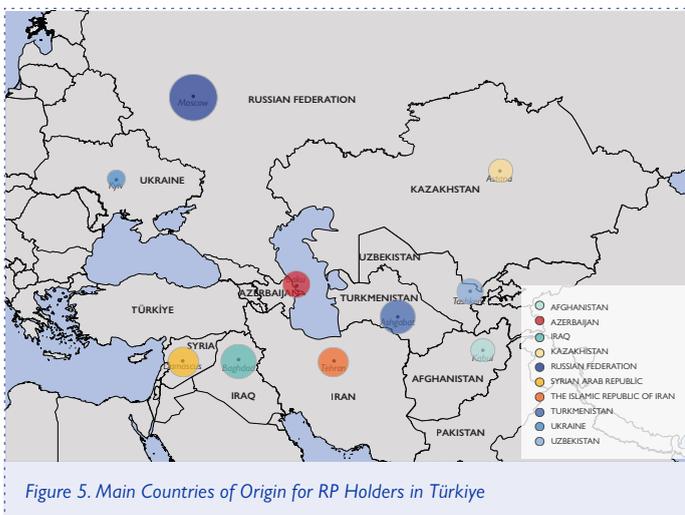


Figure 5. Main Countries of Origin for RP Holders in Türkiye

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.



Figure 6. Top 10 Nationality Groups for Residence Permit Holders

International Protection Applicants and Holders

There are 19,017 international protection applicants in Türkiye of different nationalities, but primarily originating in Afghanistan, Iraq and the Islamic Republic of Iran.²



Figure 7. Nationalities of International Protection Applicants

As of 2023, there are 296,685 refugees and asylum-seekers in Türkiye, most of whom from Iraq, Afghanistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Ukraine.³

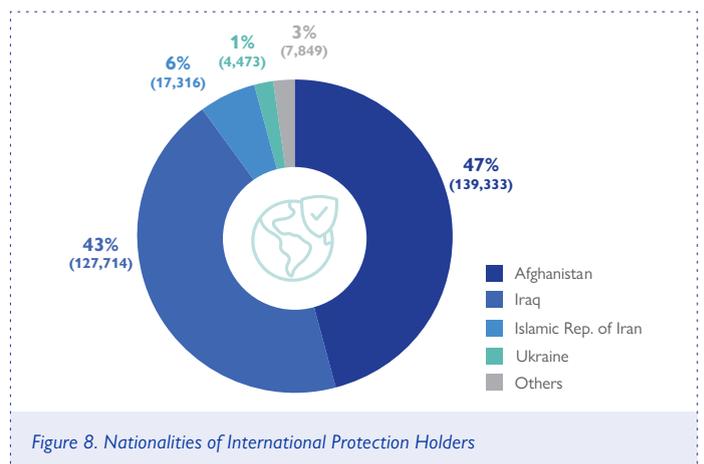
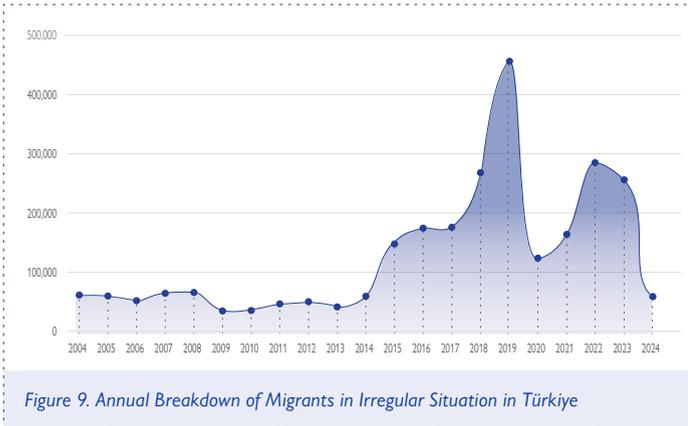


Figure 8. Nationalities of International Protection Holders

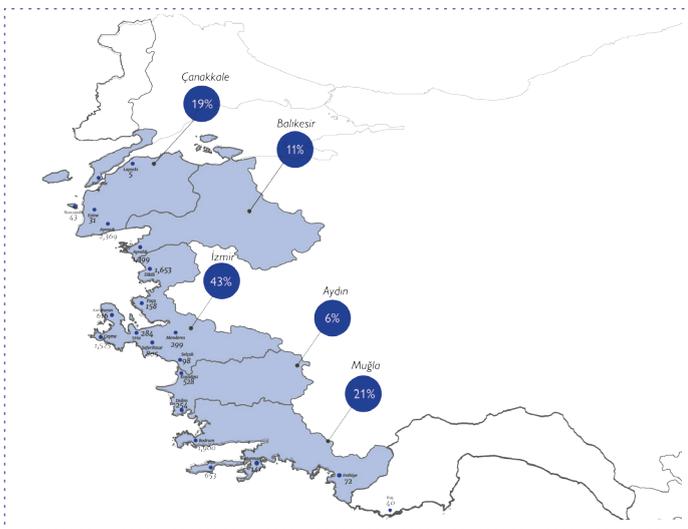
MIGRANTS IN IRREGULAR SITUATION

According to PMM, 58,760 migrants in irregular situation and 3,158 migrant smugglers have been recorded in 2024. Most migrants in irregular situation entered Turkish territory from neighboring countries including Islamic Republic of Iran, Syrian Arab Republic and Iraq, and transited or resided in Türkiye before attempting to cross the Aegean Sea to Europe. The top three nationalities in 2024 are from Afghanistan, the Syrian Arab Republic and Turkmenistan.⁵



Intercepted and Rescued Persons on sea

According to Turkish Coast Guard (TCG) daily reports, TCG recorded 12,811⁸ migrants in irregular situation and 28 deaths in the first quarter of 2024. During the reporting period, there has been a decrease of 10,096 intercepted persons on sea by TCG compared to the previous reporting period. The top ten nationalities of intercepted or rescued persons are Afghan, Syrian, Palestinian, Yemeni, Egyptian, Sudanese, Liberian, Congolese, Iraqi and Iranian.

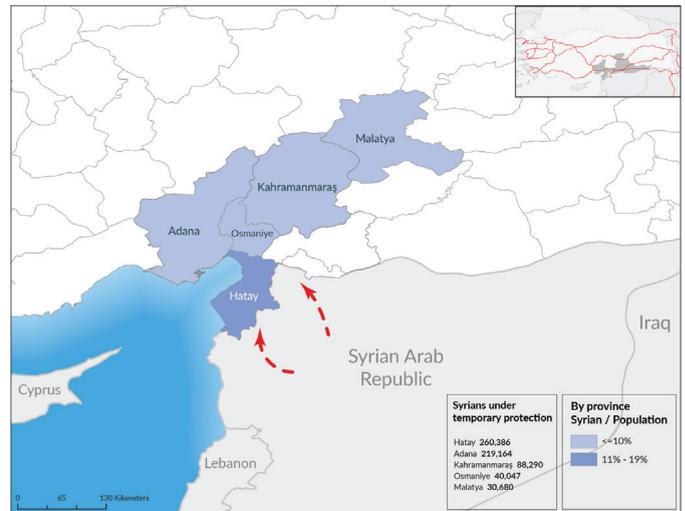


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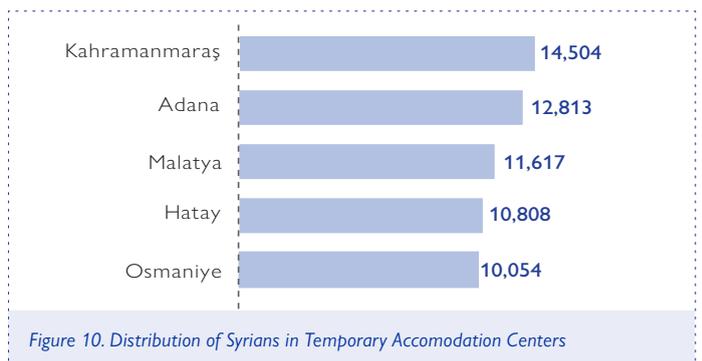
"Interceptions/Rescues by Turkish Coast Guard Statistic for 2024 (1 January - 31 March)"				
Time Period	Number of Cases	Number of Migrants in Irregular Situation	Number of Deaths	Number of Organizers
	All Seas	All Seas	All Seas	All Seas
January	110	3,654	5	10
February	185	6,099	0	19
March	118	3,058	23	17
Total	413	12,811	28	46

ACCOMODATION CAPACITY AND SERVICES FOR HOSTING FOREIGN NATIONALS IN TÜRKİYE

There are six "Temporary Accommodation Centers" for persons under Temporary Protection (mainly for Syrians under TP) dispersed in five cities in Türkiye namely Kahramanmaraş, Hatay, Adana, Osmaniye and Malatya run by the Turkish Presidency of Migration Management, (PMM). According to PMM statistics, a total population of 59,796 are currently residing in the Temporary Accommodation Centers.¹



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Removal centers host and monitor foreigners under administrative detention. 30 removal centers are operating in the provinces of Adana, Ağrı, Ankara, Antalya, Aydın, Balıkesir, Bursa, Çanakkale, Çankırı, Edirne, Erzurum, Gaziantep, İstanbul, İzmir, Kayseri, Kırklareli, Kocaeli, Kütahya, Malatya, Muğla, Niğde, Şanlıurfa, Van and Iğdır. In total, the removal centers can currently hold 20,540 persons.⁹

METHODOLOGY

Data Collection

The data presented in this report is compiled from secondary sources on a quarterly basis. The data is collected between the first and tenth day of each month following the reporting period, depending on the availability of the data from secondary sources. These sources encompass data and statistics provided by government authorities and UN organizations. No primary data collected by the MPM programme is presented in this report. The selection of sources is undertaken with the intent of achieving a comprehensive portrayal of the migration context and flows in Türkiye.

Data Categories

The report focuses on several distinct categories of migration data:

1. Migrants present in Türkiye by migration status: This presents data on the stock of migrants reported to be in Türkiye by their migration status. Distinction is made between individuals with a refugee status, individuals with a temporary protection status, and individuals who hold a residence permit. Data is extracted from PMM and UNHCR statistics.

2. Migrants in an irregular situation by nationality: This category pertains to migrants who find themselves in irregular or undocumented situations. Information is gathered from the PMM statistics.

3. Migrants intercepted or rescued at sea: This is flow data on migrants who are intercepted or rescued while attempting to cross by sea to Europe. It is collected from TCG regular reports. The reports include the number and self-declared nationalities of migrants intercepted or rescued by the TCG whether at sea or land.



Removal Centres
20,540
Current Capacity (Managed by PMM)

VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING (VoTs)

According to PMM, the gradual decline in trafficking victims' numbers between 2010-2013 was replaced by a progressive increase starting from 2013 and continued until 2017. A total of 215 individuals were identified in 2019, 282 in 2020, 402 in 2021, 343 in 2022, 223 in 2023 and 42 as of March 2024.

Two shelters for victims of trafficking are operational with a total capacity of 42 individuals. Both shelters are operated by PMM.¹⁰



Shelters for VOTs in Türkiye
30
Shelter Capacity in Ankara
12
Shelter Capacity in Kırkkale

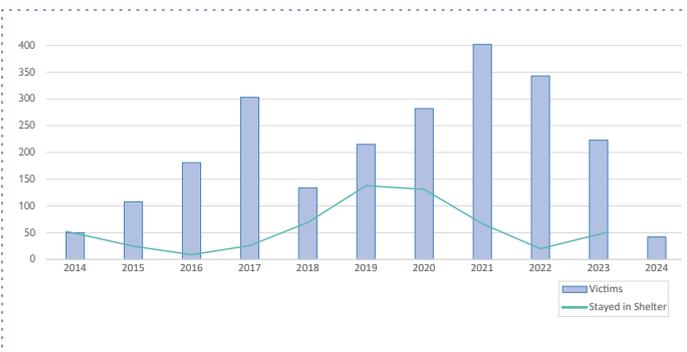


Figure 11. Annual Breakdown for Victims of Trafficking in Türkiye

The number of victims of trafficking in shelters have not been published since 2021.

LIMITATIONS

Source Reliability

While the data sources were chosen for their credibility and authority, inherent limitations of secondary sources exist. Different sources may employ varying methodologies and definitions for data collection, leading to potential variations in the reported figures. For instance, according to IOM's Glossary on Migration (2019), a migrant in an irregular situation is defined as a person who moves or has moved across an international border and is not authorized to enter or to stay in a State pursuant to the law of that State and to international agreements to which that State is a party. Nevertheless, IOM is unable to confirm the criteria used by the PMM in practice to identify migrants in an irregular situation. Additionally, the accuracy of the data relies on the transparency and accuracy of the original reporting entities.

Data Accuracy and Verification

Despite efforts to validate and cross-reference data from various secondary sources, it is important to acknowledge that the accuracy and reliability of the compiled information might not be fully verifiable. Secondary data inherently presents a challenge in terms of traceability to original data collection processes. Therefore, inability to directly verify the accuracy of the data remains a limitation, and it is recommended that users of this report exercise caution and consider the potential margin of error associated with the data.

Data Gaps and Incompleteness

Migration data is often affected by gaps due to the informal nature of some migration movements and the challenges of data collection. The report acknowledges the possibility of underrepresentation or omission of certain migration flows or presence due to factors such as incomplete reporting, differing definitions, and unreported cases.

Generalization and Predictive Limitations

While the data analysis provides insights into the overall migration context in Türkiye, caution should be exercised when generalizing findings to specific cases or predicting future trends.

DISCLAIMERS/ REFERENCES

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Citation: International Organization for Migration (IOM), May 2024. MPM Migrant Presence Monitoring - Quarterly Report (Jan-Feb-Mar 2024). IOM, Türkiye. For more information on terms and conditions of DTM information products, please refer IOM [Terms and Conditions](#).

¹ Data retrieved from

<https://en.goc.gov.tr/temporary-protection27> on 15.04.2024

² Data retrieved from

<https://en.goc.gov.tr/international-protection17> on 15.04.2024

³ Data retrieved from

<https://www.unhcr.org/refugee-statistics/download/?url=s8FnAw> on 15.04.2024

⁴ Data retrieved from

<https://en.goc.gov.tr/residence-permits> on 15.04.2024

⁵ Data retrieved from

<https://en.goc.gov.tr/irregular-migration> on 15.04.2024

⁶ For further information, please see: MPM Migrant Presence Monitoring - Quarterly Report (Oct-Dec 2023)

<https://dtm.iom.int/reports/turkiye-migrant-presence-monitoring-quarterly-migrant-presence-monitoring-oct-dec-2023>

⁷ Data retrieved from

<https://www.csgb.gov.tr/media/90062/yabanciizin2021.pdf> on 15.04.2024

⁸ Data retrieved from

<https://en.sg.gov.tr/irregular-migration-statistics> on 15.04.2024

⁹ Data retrieved from

<https://www.goc.gov.tr/sinir-disi-119817> on 15.04.2024

¹⁰ Data retrieved from

<https://en.goc.gov.tr/victims-of-human-trafficking201> on 15.04.2024