

Migrants' Presence Monitoring
Situation Report

March 2023



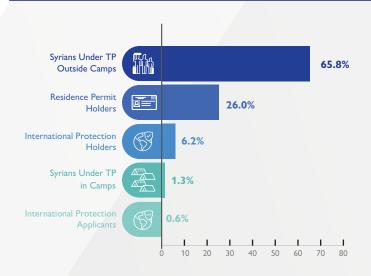


# Situation Report

March 2023

INFO: mpmturkey@iom.int

## Overview of Migrant Presence in Türkiye

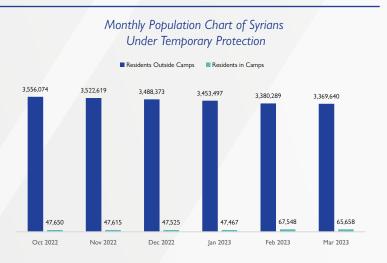


According to the latest available figures from the Turkish Presidency of Migration Management (PMM), there are more than 5.1 million foreign nationals present in Türkiye, 3.8 million of whom are seeking international protection. Most are Syrians (3,435,298¹ individuals) who have been granted temporary 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 1,334,150<sup>4</sup> foreign nationals present in Türkiye, holding residence permits. Compared to March 2022, this is a decrease of 67,699 individuals.<sup>5</sup>

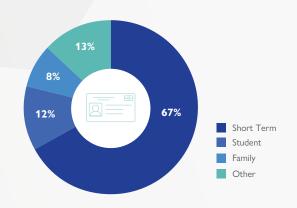
### **Syrians under Temporary Protection**

Türkiye's temporary protection regime grants 3,435,298 Syrian nationals the right to legally stay in Türkiye as well as obtain some level of access to basic services. The vast majority - 3,369,640 individuals – live outside camps, known as temporary accommodation centers. As such, only 65,658 Syrians live inside camps, the majority of which are located close to the Syrian border. The current number of temporary accommodation centers is seven.<sup>1</sup> 14,874 more Syrians currently reside in the centers compared to previous year.<sup>5</sup>



#### **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 1,334,150 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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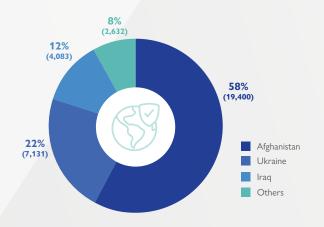
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## **International Protection Applicants & Holders**

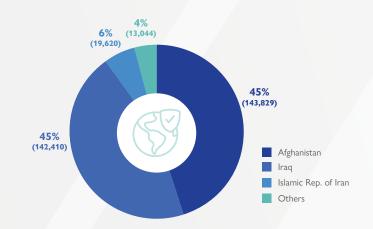
There are 33,246 international protection applicants in Türkiye of different nationalities, but primarily originating from Afghanistan, Ukraine and Iraq.<sup>3</sup> PMM releases the number of international protection applicants on an annual basis.

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.<sup>2</sup>

#### **Nationalities of International Protection Applicants**

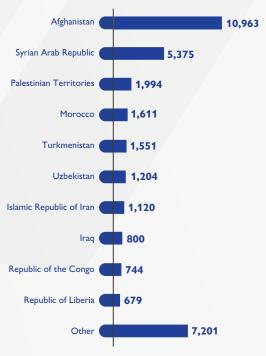


#### Nationalities of International Protection Holders



## 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 figures<sup>7</sup>, 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).



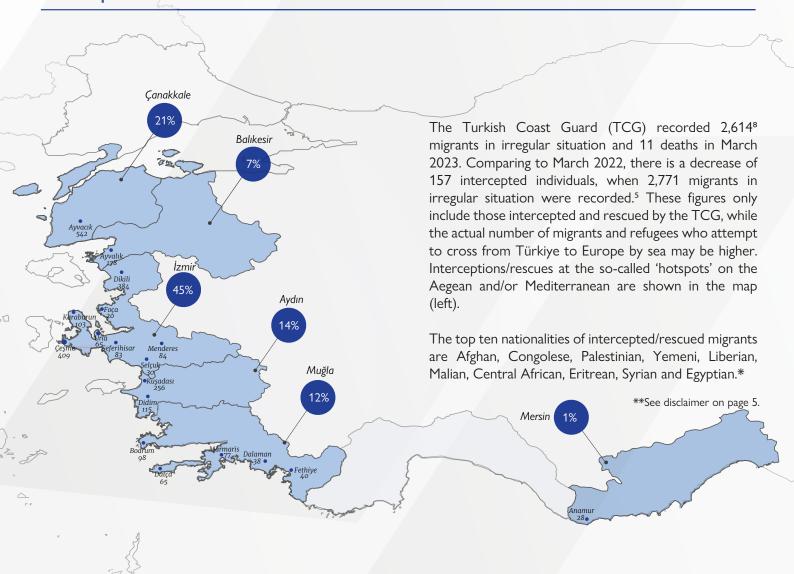
**TOTAL: 33,242** 



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## Intercepted and Rescued Persons on Sea



#### "Interceptions/Rescues by Turkish Coast Guard Statistic for 2023 (1 January - 31 March)" Number of Migrants in Irregular Time Period Numer of Cases Number of Deaths Number of Organizers Situation All Seas All Seas All Seas All Seas 105 0 3 January 3,025 February 1,802 0 4 68 March 94 12 2,614 11 **Total** 267 7,441 11 19

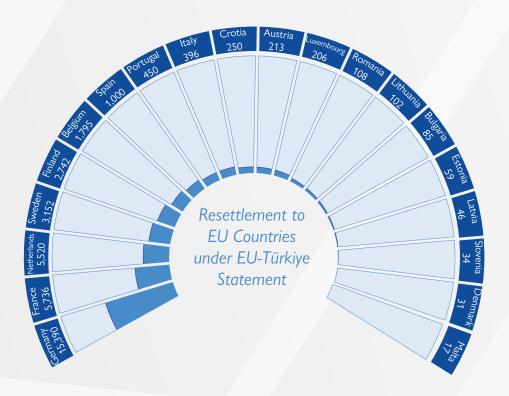


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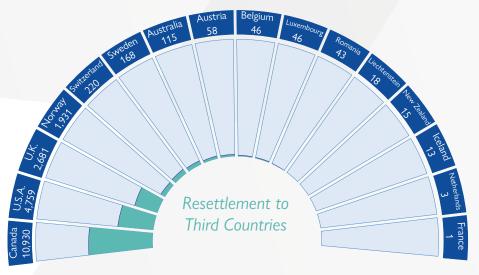
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## Resettlement of Syrians from Türkiye

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 30 March 2023, there are 37,332 persons that have been resettled under this instrument, with primary resettlement destinations being Germany, France, the Netherlands, and Sweden.<sup>1</sup>



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 30 March 2023, a total of 21,047 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.<sup>1</sup>





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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), Apr 2023. MPM Migrant Presence Monitoring - Situation Report (March 2023). IOM, Türkiye. For more information on terms and conditions of DTM information products, please refer to: https://dtm.iom.int/terms-and-conditions

- <sup>1</sup> Data retrieved from https://en.goc.gov.tr/temporary-protection27 on 04.04.2023
- <sup>2</sup> Data retrieved from https://www.unhcr.org/refugee-statistics/download/?url=s8FnAw on 04.04.2023
- <sup>3</sup> Data retrieved from https://en.goc.gov.tr/international-protection17 on 04.04.2023
- <sup>4</sup> Data retrieved from https://en.goc.gov.tr/residence-permits on 04.04.2023
- <sup>5</sup> For further information, please see: MPM Migrant Presence Monitoring Situation Report (March 2022) https://dtm.iom.int/reports/turkey-migrant-presence-monitoring-situation-report-march-2022?close=true
- Data retrieved from https://www.csgb.gov.tr/media/90062/yabanciizin2021.pdf on 04.04.2023
- <sup>7</sup> Data retrieved from https://en.goc.gov.tr/irregular-migration on 04.04.2023
- <sup>8</sup> Data retrieved from https://en.sg.gov.tr/irregular-migration-statistics on 04.04.2023