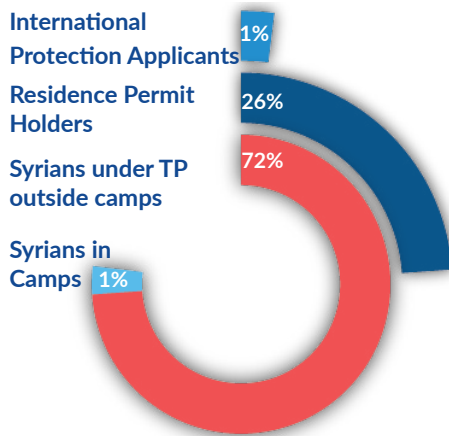


Background and Latest Figures



According to the latest available figures from the Turkish Directorate General of Migration Management (DGMM), there are more than 5* million foreign nationals present in Turkish territory, 3.7* million of whom are seeking international protection. Most are Syrians (3,736,799* individuals) who are granted temporary protection status. In addition, international protection applicants from countries including Afghanistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Iraq constitute another group of foreign nationals. According to DGMM, there were 31,334* international protection applicants present in Turkey in 2020¹, published annually. Moreover, according to UNHCR**, there are close to 330,000 international protection status holders and asylum-seekers. The number of foreign nationals has increased by 70,346 in comparison to December 2020 (3.6 million foreign nationals).

In addition, there are 1,311,633* foreign nationals present in Turkey holding residency permits, including humanitarian residency holders. Compared to December 2020, this is an increase of 424,980 individuals. The exact number of humanitarian residency holders is unknown, but it is estimated that there are more than several thousand humanitarian residency permit holders.

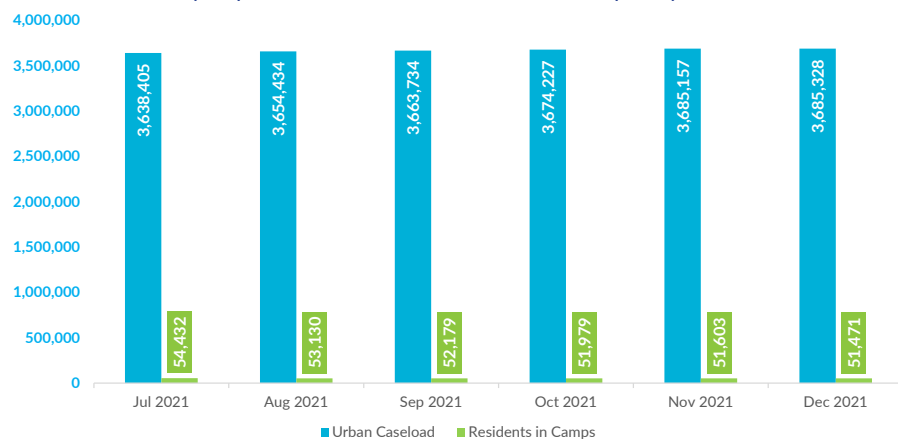
*Data source DGMM, 30.12.2021

**Data source UNHCR, October 2021

Syrians under Temporary Protection

Turkey's temporary protection regime grants the 3,736,799* Syrian nationals the right to legally stay in Turkey as well as obtain some level of access to basic services. The vast majority - 3,685,328* individuals - live outside of formal camps, known as temporary accommodation centers, thus primarily residing across the Turkish border provinces of Hatay, Adana and Kilis. As such, only 51,471* Syrians live in formal camps, the majority of which are located close to the Syrian border. The number of temporary accommodation centers in December 2021 (7 centers) are the same as December 2020 hosting migrants in Turkey. However, 7,311 fewer Syrians currently reside in the centers compared to previous year.

Monthly Population Chart of Persons Under Temporary Protection



*Data source DGMM, 30.12.2021

International Protection Applicants

There are 31,334* international protection applicants in Turkey of different nationalities, but primarily originating in Afghanistan, Iraq and Islamic Republic of Iran. DGMM publishes the number of international protection applicants by years.

*Data source DGMM, end of 2020¹

Nationality	Percentage#
Afghanistan	72%
Iraq	19%
Islamic Republic of Iran	4%
Others	5%

Residence Permit Holders

Foreigners who seek stay in Turkey beyond the duration of a visa or visa exemption -i.e. longer than 90 days, must obtain a residence permit. According to DGMM, there are 1,311,633* residence permit holders in Turkey with various categories of the residence permit, including "other". The latter category includes humanitarian residence permit holders, and while the exact number is unknown, it is believed that the vast majority of foreign nationals in this category are Iraqis.

*Data source DGMM, 30.12.2021

¹ UNHCR ended registration process in Turkey on 10 September 2018. The registration process will continue with the procedure carried out by the Turkish authorities (UNHCR). The number of international protection holders is not publicly available as of the date above.

Apprehended/Rescued Persons on Sea



The Turkish Coast Guard (TCG) recorded 2,570* irregular migrants and four fatalities in December 2021. Comparing to December 2020, there is an increase of 1,320 apprehended individuals, when 1,250 irregular migrants were recorded. These figures only include those apprehended and rescued by the TCG, while the actual number of migrants and refugees departing Turkey by sea may be higher. Apprehensions at the so-called 'hotspots' on the Aegean Sea are shown in the map (left).

**Apprehensions/Rescues by Turkish Coast Guard Statistics for 2021
(1 January - 31 December 2021)**

Time period	Number of cases	Number of irregular migrants	Number of deaths	Number of organizers
	All Seas	All Seas	All Seas	All Seas
January	20	391	1	5
February	26	723	-	-
March	43	1,251	3	5
April	62	2,104	-	5
May	35	862	-	6
June	61	1,651	-	19
July	61	1,729	-	13
August	84	2,444	-	12
September	115	3,681	4	11
October	113	2,670	-	2
November	127	3,592	3	18
December	99	2,570	4	18
Total	846	23,668	15	114

Upon identification of the apprehended persons, the latter are referred to removal centers by the Turkish Gendarmerie or are issued a deportation letter, unless they claim asylum. However, apprehended individuals have the right to claim asylum after being referred to a removal center or issued deportation letters. The top ten nationalities of apprehended/rescued migrants are Syrian, Somali, Afghan, Haitian, Central African, Congolese, Palestinian, Eritrean**, Yemeni and Senegalese.

*Data source TCG, 31.12.2021

**The information on nationality provided in this report is based on the nationality declared by migrants as reported by the Turkish authorities.

Intercepted Persons on Land

Interceptions by Turkish Land Forces (1 - 31 December 2021)			
Entry		Exit	
Syrian Arab Republic	110	Greece	59
Iraq	25	Syrian Arab Republic	51
Islamic Republic of Iran	13	Islamic Republic of Iran	27
Greece	7	Iraq	8
Georgia	0	Georgia	5
Total	155	Total	150

According to the Turkish Armed Forces (TAF) daily figures during December 2021 at Turkey's border lines with the Syrian Arab Republic, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Greece, Iraq and Georgia, 305* persons were intercepted and handed over to Turkish law enforcement forces. The figures presented by TAF doesn't refer to nationalities of the intercepted persons at the border lines. Irregular exits were higher at Turkey's western borders, and the borders with the Syrian Arab Republic is the main entry points into Turkey. In comparison, the total number of intercepted persons on land was higher in December 2020, when 7,483 persons were intercepted. Meanwhile, the number of intercepted persons during attempted exit out of Turkey were highest at the border with Greece. (See table on the left for details).

During December 2021, the highest number of interceptions by TAF at entry and exit took place at the border with the Syrian Arab Republic, with a total number of 161* intercepted persons. In comparison to previous month there is a decrease in the interceptions from Syrian Arab Republic to Turkey (54). In November 2021, 164 interceptions of individuals were recorded at this border.

*Data Source TAF, 31.12.2021,



*see disclaimer on page 4

Known Entry and Exit Points

The following are known entry points by land: Hatay, Kilis, Şanlıurfa (from the Syrian Arab Republic), Silopi, Çukurca (from Iraq), Şemdinli, Yüksekova, Başkale, Ağrı, Doğubeyazıt (from Islamic Republic of Iran)

Known entry points by air: İstanbul, İstanbul Sabiha Gökçen, Antalya, Esenboğa Ankara (from third countries)

Known exit points by sea: Çeşme, Ayvalık, Didim, Bodrum, Küçukkuyu (Locations close to Lesbos, Samos, Chios, Symi, Kos and Rodos)

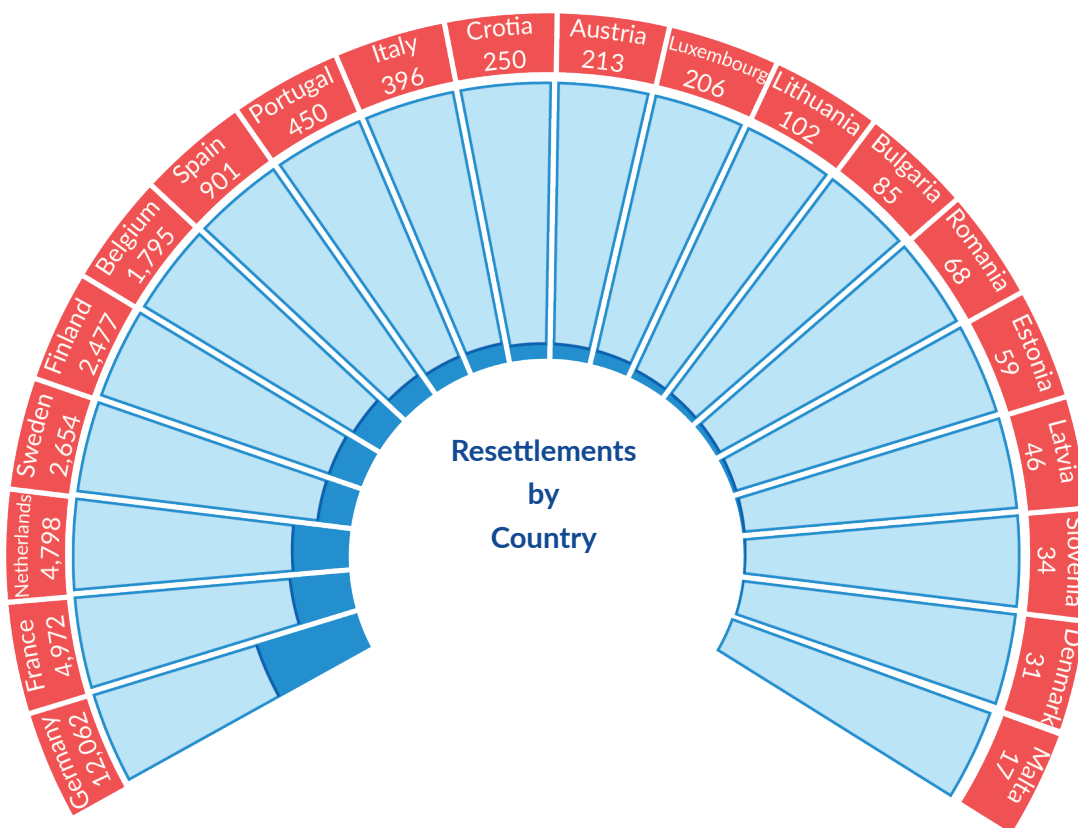
Known exit points by land: Edirne (to Greece and Bulgaria), Kırklareli (to Bulgaria)

Known exit points by air: İstanbul, İstanbul Sabiha Gökçen (to certain EU MS)

Resettlement of Syrians from Turkey

The 18 March 2016 EU-Turkey 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 Turkey from the Greek islands, another Syrian will be resettled directly to Europe from Turkey. According to DGMM data released on 30 December 2021, there are 31,616 persons that have been resettled under this instrument, with primary resettlement destinations being Germany, France, the Netherlands and Sweden.

*Data Source DGMM, 30.12.2021



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*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.