TRENDS IN MIGRATION

Migration movements include not only entries of persons of foreign nationality, on which public attention tends to be focused, but also include movements of nationals and of emigrants. Net migration summarises the overall effect of these movements. Migration currently represents, in almost all OECD countries, the main source of increases in population.

Definition

Net migration is defined as the total number of immigrant nationals and foreigners minus the total of emigrant foreigners and nationals. Arrivals and departures for purposes such as tourism and business travel are not included in the statistics.

The net migration rate is expressed per 1 000 inhabitants. The three-year averages referred to concern the years 2007 to 2009 (end of period); and 1997 to 1999 (beginning of period).

Comparability

Overview

Spain.

The main sources of information on migration vary across countries. This may pose problems for the comparability of available data on inflows and outflows of migrants. However, since comparability problems generally relate to the extent to which short-term movements are covered, taking the difference between arrivals and departures tends to eliminate the movements that are the main source of non-comparability.

Mexico, Estonia, Japan and Poland are the only countries

rates above 10 per thousand in recent years. Some of the

among those shown here that recorded negative or zero net migration in the three years to 2009. Ireland, Iceland,

Luxembourg and Spain top the league showing net migration

former emigration countries that figure prominently among

shown lower or even negative net migration rates in the last

the economic crisis (e.g. Iceland). With the retirement of baby-

For the second consecutive year, net migration rates have

boomers in the near future and the entry of smaller youth

There are nonetheless a number of countries where net migration rates remain higher than was the case five to ten

cohorts in the labour market, labour supply needs may well require a further rise in net migration in the future.

years ago. These include Switzerland, Australia, Norway and

decreased, to reach the levels of the late 1990s, with the decrease being especially evident in the country's most hit by

those experiencing high net migration in the past decade have

Despite this feature, net migration data should be interpreted with care, because unauthorised movements are not taken into account in the inflows and these unauthorised movements are significant in some OECD countries. In addition, the data on outflows are of uneven quality, with departures being only partially recorded in many countries or having to be estimated in others.

The net migration rate is used to describe the contribution of international migration to population change, the other component being natural increase, defined as the difference between the number of births and the number of deaths in a given year.

Sources

• OECD (2011), Labour Force Statistics, OECD Publishing.

Further information Analytical publications

- OECD (2011), International Migration Outlook, OECD Publishing.
- OECD (2008), A Profile of Immigrant Populations in the 21st Century: Data from OECD Countries, OECD Publishing.
- OECD (2006), From Immigration to Integration: Local Solutions to a Global Challenge, OECD Publishing.
- OECD (2004), Migration for Employment: Bilateral Agreements at a Crossroads, OECD Publishing.
- OECD (2004), Trade and Migration: Building Bridges for Global Labour Mobility, OECD Publishing.
- OECD (2003), Migration and the Labour Market in Asia: Recent Trends and Policies – 2002 Edition, OECD Publishing.
- OECD (2001), Migration Policies and EU Enlargement: The Case of Central and Eastern Europe, OECD Publishing.

Statistical publications

• OECD (2011), OECD Employment Outlook, OECD Publishing.

Methodological publications

 Dumont, J. and G. Lemaître (2005), "Counting Immigrants and Expatriates in OECD Countries: A New Perspective", OECD Social, Employment and Migration Working Papers, No. 25.

Online databases

OECD International Migration Statistics.

42 OECD FACTBOOK 2011 © OECD 2011



TRENDS IN MIGRATION

Net migration rate

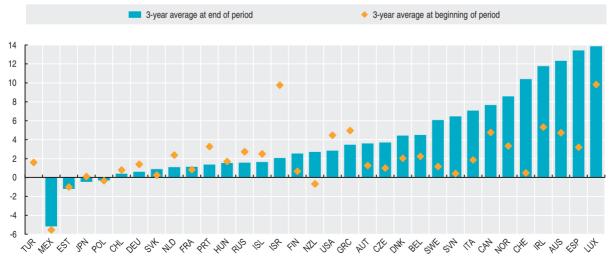
Per 1 000 inhabitants

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Australia	3.9	4.8	5.5	5.8	7.0	5.6	5.5	5.3	6.7	8.8	10.3	14.0	12.7	
Austria	0.2	1.1	2.5	2.2	4.1	4.1	4.9	6.2	5.4	2.9	4.2	4.1	2.5	
Belgium	1.9	2.1	2.7	2.5	3.4	4.0	3.9	4.2	4.5	4.8				
Canada	5.2	3.9	5.2	6.5	8.1	7.0	6.7	6.6	7.0	6.9	7.1	8.1	7.7	7.2
Chile	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4
Czech Republic	1.2	0.9	0.9	0.6	-0.8	1.2	2.5	1.8	3.5	3.4	8.1	6.9	2.7	1.5
Denmark	2.3	2.1	1.7	1.7	2.2	1.7	1.1	0.9	1.2	1.8	4.2	5.3	4.0	4.0
Estonia	-1.8	-0.8	-0.4	-0.7	-1.4	-1.1	-1.6	-1.4	-2.4	-2.5	-0.5	-0.6		
Finland	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.4	1.2	1.0	1.2	1.3	1.7	1.9	2.5	2.6	2.6	2.4
France	0.7	0.8	1.0	1.2	1.4	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.9	1.1	1.2	1.1	
Germany	1.1	0.6	2.5	2.0	3.3	2.7	1.7	1.0	1.0	0.3	0.5			
Greece	5.7	5.1	4.1	2.7	3.5	3.5	3.3	3.7	3.5	3.6	3.6	3.2		
Hungary	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.0	0.4	1.6	1.8	1.7	2.1	1.4	1.7	1.7	1.2
Iceland	0.3	3.2	4.0	6.1	3.4	-1.0	-0.5	1.8	13.0	17.3	16.5	3.6	-15.2	
Ireland	5.1	4.5	6.4	8.4	10.0	8.4	7.8	11.6	15.9					
Israel	9.2	8.2	11.9	9.8	6.2	3.3	1.6	2.0	2.4	2.4	2.1	1.7		
Italy	2.2	1.6	1.8	3.1	2.2	6.1	10.6	9.6	5.2	6.4				
Japan	0.1	0.3	-0.1	0.3	-0.4	0.5	-0.3	-0.4	0.0	0.0	-0.4	-1.0		
Luxembourg	9.0	9.6	10.9	8.2	2.5	5.8	12.0	9.6	13.1	11.4	12.5	15.8	13.3	
Mexico	-5.4	-5.5	-5.7	-6.4	-5.6	-5.5	-5.6	-5.6	-5.6	-5.3	-5.3	-5.2	-5.2	-5.1
Netherlands	1.8	2.7	2.6	3.4	3.2	1.5	-	-1.0	-1.7	-1.9	-0.4	1.6	2.1	
New Zealand	2.0	-1.7	-2.3	-2.9	2.5	9.7	8.7	3.7	1.7	3.6	1.4	0.9	4.9	2.3
Norway	2.5	3.2	4.3	2.0	1.8	3.7	2.4	2.8	3.9	5.1	8.5	9.0	8.1	8.6
Poland	-0.3	-0.3	-0.4	-0.5	-0.4	-0.5	-0.4	-0.2	-0.3	-0.9	-0.5	-0.4	0.0	
Portugal	2.9	3.2	3.7	4.6	6.3	6.8	6.1	4.5	3.6	2.5	1.9	0.8	1.4	
Slovak Republic	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.6	0.7	1.3	1.3	0.8	0.6
Slovenia	1.2	-1.1	1.2	1.3	1.5	0.9	1.7	1.0	3.2	3.1	7.1	9.2		
Spain	1.6	3.1	4.9	8.9	10.1	15.7	14.5	14.7	15.0	14.2	16.0	10.1		
Sweden	0.7	1.2	1.6	2.8	3.3	3.5	3.2	2.8	3.0	5.6	5.9	6.1	6.8	5.3
Switzerland	-1.0	0.2	2.3	2.8	5.8	6.7	5.9	5.4	4.8	5.2	9.9	12.8	8.5	
Turkey	1.6	1.6	1.6	-	-	-	-	-	-					
United States	4.8	4.2	4.4	4.6	3.8	3.7	3.0	3.1	3.3	3.2	2.8	2.9	2.8	
Brazil													-0.2	
China													-0.3	
India													-0.2	
Indonesia													-0.6	
Russian Federation	3.5	2.9	1.8	2.5	1.9	1.6	0.6	0.7	0.9	1.1	1.8	1.8		
South Africa													2.8	

StatLink http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/888932502942

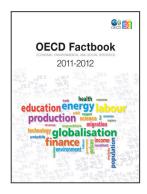
Net migration rate

Per 1 000 inhabitants, annual average



StatLink http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/888932502961

OECD FACTBOOK 2011 © OECD 2011



From:

OECD Factbook 2011-2012

Economic, Environmental and Social Statistics

Access the complete publication at:

https://doi.org/10.1787/factbook-2011-en

Please cite this chapter as:

OECD (2011), "Trends in migration", in *OECD Factbook 2011-2012: Economic, Environmental and Social Statistics*, OECD Publishing, Paris.

DOI: https://doi.org/10.1787/factbook-2011-14-en

This work is published under the responsibility of the Secretary-General of the OECD. The opinions expressed and arguments employed herein do not necessarily reflect the official views of OECD member countries.

This document and any map included herein are without prejudice to the status of or sovereignty over any territory, to the delimitation of international frontiers and boundaries and to the name of any territory, city or area.

You can copy, download or print OECD content for your own use, and you can include excerpts from OECD publications, databases and multimedia products in your own documents, presentations, blogs, websites and teaching materials, provided that suitable acknowledgment of OECD as source and copyright owner is given. All requests for public or commercial use and translation rights should be submitted to rights@oecd.org. Requests for permission to photocopy portions of this material for public or commercial use shall be addressed directly to the Copyright Clearance Center (CCC) at info@copyright.com or the Centre français d'exploitation du droit de copie (CFC) at contact@cfcopies.com.

