

Fact booklet  
about immigrants  
and integration

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**2011**

## Preface



iFACTS is an annual update of selected key figures, information and terms relating to immigration and integration. The aim of this booklet is to make the facts easily accessible.

What constitutes important and true knowledge is often a matter for debate. The fact booklet is not intended to cover all topics or to provide figures and information that cannot be debated.

IMDi therefore welcomes feedback on the booklet and suggestions for information and data sources that it may be expedient to include in the next edition. Please send any feedback to [post@imdi.no](mailto:post@imdi.no).

We would like to thank all our partners, especially the Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (UDI) and Statistics Norway for their excellent data and efficient service.

Oslo, May 2011

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Geir Barvik'. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Geir Barvik  
Director General  
The Norwegian Directorate of Integration and Diversity  
(IMDi)

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## 1. Actors in the immigration and integration field

### The Storting

The Storting (the Norwegian parliament) lays down the framework for refugee, immigration and integration policy. The Storting also sets the framework for integration work in the municipalities through the Norwegian Introduction Act and by deciding the size of the integration grants that municipalities receive in connection with the settlement of refugees.

### Administration of the immigration and integration field

The Ministry of Justice and the Police has overall responsibility for formulating and coordinating the state's policies on refugees and immigration. It is the sector ministry for the Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (UDI) and is superior to the Norwegian Immigration Appeals Board (UNE) for administrative purposes. The Ministry of Children, Equality and Social Inclusion has overall responsibility for the integration field. It is the sector ministry for the Norwegian Directorate of Integration and Diversity (IMDi). The most important statutes in the immigration and integration field are the Immigration Act, the Norwegian Nationality Act and the Introduction Act.

### The foreign service

The Norwegian foreign service missions play an important role as a first-line service to foreign nationals who wish to

visit or move to Norway. They provide information about the regulations and procedures, process applications for visitor visas and receive and prepare applications for visas and residence permits to be processed by the UDI. Cases that cannot be processed by the foreign service missions are sent to the UDI.

### **The police**

The main tasks of the National Police Immigration Service are to register asylum seekers, investigate the asylum seekers' travel routes, ascertain their identities, prepare and implement final rejections in asylum cases and to coordinate and quality assure all deportations from Norway. The 27 police districts receive and prepare applications for residence and work permits and process a large percentage of the applications they receive. Cases that the police cannot process are sent to the UDI.

### **The Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (UDI)**

The UDI is the central agency in the immigration administration. The UDI implements and helps to develop the government's immigration and refugee policy. The UDI shall ensure controlled immigration through the processing of applications for different types of residence permits and ensure that refugees are given protection by processing asylum applications. The Directorate also has power of decision in relation to applications for Norwegian citizenship.

The UDI is also responsible for the operation of the asylum reception centres and the rest of the asylum reception system. The UDI outsources the running of reception

centres, for example to organisations, municipalities and commercial enterprises.

### **The Norwegian Immigration Appeals Board (UNE)**

UNE is an independent administrative body that considers appeals against the UDI's decisions pursuant to the Immigration Act and the Norwegian Nationality Act. UNE is administered by the Ministry of Justice and the Police. The Norwegian Immigration Appeals Board is superior to the UDI as a body for legal interpretation and its practice forms the basis for the UDI's practice.

### **The Norwegian Directorate of Integration and Diversity (IMDi)**

IMDi is a knowledge-based organisation under the Ministry of Children, Equality and Social Inclusion. It is tasked with implementing and helping to develop the government's integration policy. IMDi cooperates with municipalities, government agencies, the private sector and voluntary organisations, and is a driving force in relation to other sectors' work on integration and diversity.

IMDi's most important task is to strengthen the municipalities' ability to implement a local integration and diversity policy. IMDi's key tasks include providing assistance in settlement of refugees, following up the Introduction Act, contributing to getting immigrants into jobs or studies as quickly as possible, acting as a driving force for equality in the public services, preventing forced marriages, administering grants as well as developing and disseminating knowledge. The Directorate is also the national professional authority for interpreting in the public sector.

IMDi has branch offices in Narvik, Trondheim, Gjøvik, Bergen, Kristiansand and Oslo. In 2011, the Directorate administers funds in excess of NOK 6 billion.

### **The Expert Team for the Prevention of Forced Marriage**

The Expert Team consists of representatives from IMDi, the UDI, the National Police Directorate (POD) and the Norwegian Directorate for Children, Youth and Family Affairs (Bufdir). The Expert Team is a national advisory body for the first-line service dealing with specific cases of forced marriage. The team also works on problems relating to extreme control and honour-related violence when these problems are linked to the issue of forced marriage. The team also aims to raise the first-line service's level of expertise through lectures and by developing instruction material. IMDi took over responsibility for the Expert Team on 1 January 2008.

### **Vox – the Norwegian Agency for Lifelong Learning**

Vox is an agency under the authority of the Ministry of Education and Research. Vox works to raise the level of competence among adults and is responsible for mapping and disseminating new knowledge about adult learning. Vox is responsible for developing Norwegian language and social studies curricula for adult immigrants.

### **Statistics Norway (SSB)**

Statistics Norway is the central Norwegian institution for collecting, processing and disseminating official statistics. It has chief responsibility for meeting Norwegian society's

need for statistics. According to the Statistics Act from 1989, Statistics Norway has the right to decide what statistics should be deemed to be official statistics and it is in charge of coordinating all official statistics in Norway. Statistics Norway collects statistics in many areas, including immigration and integration statistics.

### **The Norwegian Labour and Welfare Administration (NAV)**

All local NAV offices also provide services to immigrants. However, as this group sometimes requires adapted services regarding work related issues and national insurance benefits, four special offices called NAV Intro have been established in Oslo, Bergen, Kristiansand and Trondheim. These offices offer services such as job applicant courses/vocational courses, counselling, follow-up during work placements and preparatory training for job applicants.

### **The municipalities**

The municipalities have an important role in promoting integration and diversity at the local level. The municipalities settle refugees in cooperation with IMDi. Since 1 September 2004, part of the municipalities' integration work has been regulated through the Introduction Act. The municipalities have a duty to ensure that refugees and members of their families who have immigrated to Norway for family reunification purposes receive individual tuition in the Norwegian language and social studies. They also have a duty to ensure that measures are initiated to prepare them for the labour market. The municipalities are also responsible for offering tuition in the Norwegian language and social studies to other groups of immigrants covered by the Introduction Act.

The municipalities must also ensure that their municipal services are adapted to cater to a multicultural population.

### **Norway's Contact Committee for Immigrants and the Authorities (KIM)**

KIM is an advisory committee, whose members are appointed by the Norwegian government every four years. The committee shall facilitate dialogue between minorities and the authorities and provide the authorities with advice and input on issues of fundamental importance to the minority communities.

### **Voluntary organisations**

There are many national and local organisations that organise different immigrant groups, provide meeting places for persons with different ethnic backgrounds and/or work in other ways on projects focusing on integration and inclusion.

## **2. Key terms**

**Asylum:** A place of refuge for persons who have a justifiable fear of persecution based on race, religion, nationality, political conviction or affiliation with a particular group. Among other things, asylum involves protection from being returned to the area in which the asylum seeker justifiably fears persecution. Asylum also confers certain rights during the stay in the asylum country. Foreign nationals granted protection in Norway are given refugee status.

Source: UDI

**Asylum reception centre:** A voluntary residential facility for asylum seekers arriving in Norway. The reception centres have a basic standard and are based on self-catering. The residents receive support to cover their basic food and clothing needs. The UDI is responsible for the operation of the asylum reception centres and the rest of the asylum reception system. It outsources the running of the reception centres, for example to organisations, municipalities or commercial enterprises. The operation of asylum reception centres does not require municipal approval at the political level, but the necessary permits for the use of premises and buildings must be in place.

Source: UDI

**Asylum seeker:** A person who arrives on his/her own initiative without prior notification and asks the authorities for protection and recognition as a refugee. Such persons

are called asylum seekers until their applications have been decided.

Source: UDI

**Settlement/settled:** Resettlement refugees and former asylum seekers who have been granted unlimited residence permits are settled through cooperation between the government, represented by IMDi, and the municipalities. Most refugees in Norway are settled with help from the public authorities, i.e. by IMDi entering into an agreement with a municipality stating that the municipality agrees to receive the individual refugee. This means that a person can only be settled once, in one municipality and on one date. Settling refugees is a voluntary municipal task. When municipalities settle refugees, they receive grants and accept certain obligations in relation to the refugees in accordance with the Introduction Act.

Source: IMDi

**Family immigration:** Residence permits in Norway can be granted to foreign nationals who are family members of Norwegians or foreign nationals who have legal residence in Norway. Family immigration permits are primarily granted to immediate family members such as spouses, registered partners, cohabitants of more than two years and children under the age of 18. As a rule, there is a requirement for guaranteed subsistence in order to be granted a family immigration permit. For applications submitted after 21 July 2008, the income requirement is an amount corresponding to salary grade 8 in the pay scale for Norwegian state employees, which, according to the collective agree-

ment of July 2010, is currently a gross annual salary of NOK 225,400.

Source: UDI

**Refugee:** Resettlement refugees and persons who have been granted asylum/protection in Norway. On 1 January 2010, a new Immigration Act entered into force. In the new Act, the group that has been granted residence pursuant to the UN Refugee Convention is treated on an equal footing with the group that has been granted residence on the basis of other international protection conventions. In Norway, both these groups are given refugee status, with the rights this status confers. In the statistics produced by Statistics Norway, the term 'person with refugee background' is used about persons living in Norway who arrived in Norway to seek refuge, including members of refugees' families, regardless of whether they have been granted refugee status pursuant to the Refugee Convention.

Source: UDI and Statistics Norway

**Non-Western countries:** Statistics Norway previously distinguished between Western and non-Western countries, but these categories were discontinued in 2009. Asia including Turkey, Africa, South and Central America and Eastern Europe previously made up the 'non-Western' countries. 'Western countries' included the Nordic countries, Western Europe (excluding Turkey), North America and Oceania. When there is a need to divide countries into two groups, Statistics Norway now uses the following categories:

*Country group 1:* The EU/EFTA countries, North America, Australia and New Zealand.

*Country group 2:* Europe excluding the EU/EFTA countries, Asia (including Turkey), Africa, South and Central America, Oceania excluding Australia and New Zealand.

Source: Statistics Norway

**Immigrants:** Persons born abroad with two foreign-born parents.

Source: Statistics Norway

**Immigration/emigration:** In order to be included in the statistics of people who have immigrated to or emigrated from Norway, the move must be registered in the Central Population Register. Moves to and from other countries must be reported if the person 'intends' the stay to last for at least six months. However, many persons, and perhaps employees from the new EEA countries and Sweden in particular, are not registered even though they should be, and are therefore included in the statistics of persons on short stays in Norway.

Source: Statistics Norway

**Norwegian-born with immigrant parents:** Persons born in Norway with two immigrant parents. Previously often referred to as 'descendants'.

Source: Statistics Norway

**Residence permit:** Permit to stay in Norway for more than three months. Nationals of non-Nordic member states

of the EU are not required to hold such a permit, except nationals of Bulgaria and Romania. Nationals of countries other than the EU member states will often be issued a work permit together with the residence permit. Nordic nationals do not need a residence permit to work or stay in Norway.

Source: UDI

**Resettlement refugee:** A person who is allowed to come to Norway through a selection process organised by the UDI and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). The annual quota is stipulated by the Storting based on the government's proposal.

Source: UDI

**Foreign-born:** In the OECD's statistics, all persons born abroad are considered foreign-born, regardless of where their parents and grandparents came from. This differs from Statistics Norway's category 'immigrants', which applies to persons born abroad with two foreign-born parents.

Source: OECD/Statistics Norway

You will find more key terms at [www.integrering.no](http://www.integrering.no).

### 3. The immigrant population

The immigrant population includes immigrants and Norwegian-born with immigrant parents.

- ▶ At the start of 2011, there were 600,000 immigrants and Norwegian-born with immigrant parents in Norway.
- ▶ Of these, 500,000 were immigrants, while 100,000 were Norwegian-born with immigrant parents.
- ▶ Together, these two groups made up 12.2 per cent of the population of Norway.
- ▶ About half of the immigrants and Norwegian-born with immigrant parents had a background from Asia, Africa or Latin America.
- ▶ 209,500 persons had a background from Asia, 73,500 had a background from Africa and 19,200 had a background from South and Central America.

Source: Statistics Norway

- ▶ In 2007, 9.5 per cent of the population of Norway was born abroad. The corresponding figures for Sweden and Denmark were 13.4 per cent and 6.9 per cent, respectively.

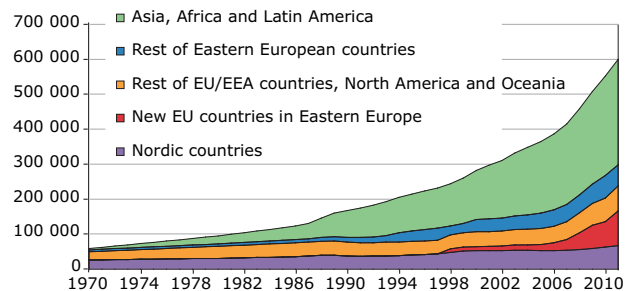
Source: OECD

**Immigrants and Norwegian-born with immigrant parents:  
The ten largest groups as of 1 January 2011.**

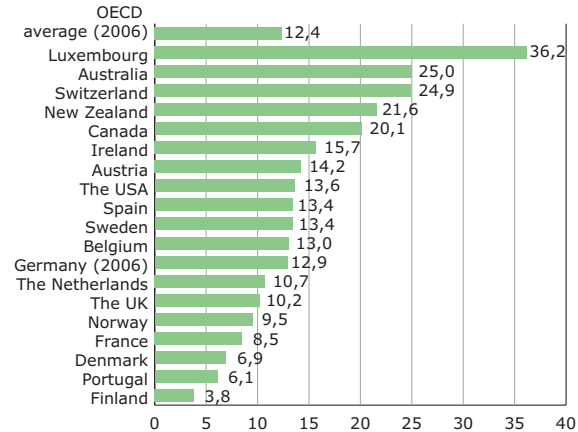
Country	Number	Increase from 2010 to 2011	Percentage of all immigrants and Norwegian-born with immigrant parents
Poland	60 610	8 589	10,1
Sweden	34 108	2 938	5,7
Pakistan	31 884	831	5,3
Iraq	27 827	1 474	4,6
Somalia	27 523	2 115	4,6
Germany	24 394	1 551	4,1
Vietnam	20 452	367	3,4
Denmark	19 522	229	3,2
Iran	16 957	638	2,8
Turkey	16 430	439	2,7

Source: Statistics Norway

**Immigrants and Norwegian-born with immigrant parents  
1970-2011.**



**International comparison: Foreign-born\* as a percentage of the population of selected OECD countries in 2007.**



\* Please note that the OECD's definition of foreign-born is not the same as Statistics Norway's definition of immigrants.  
Source: OECD

**Immigration and emigration in 2010**

- ▶ In 2010, 73,900 immigrants to Norway and 31,500 emigrants from Norway were registered. This means net migration of 42,400 persons.
- ▶ Compared with 2009, net migration has increased by almost 4,000 persons. Polish and Baltic nationals accounted for as much as 38 per cent of net migration. EU nationals accounted for a total of 64 per cent of the immigrants with foreign citizenship who arrived in Norway in 2010.

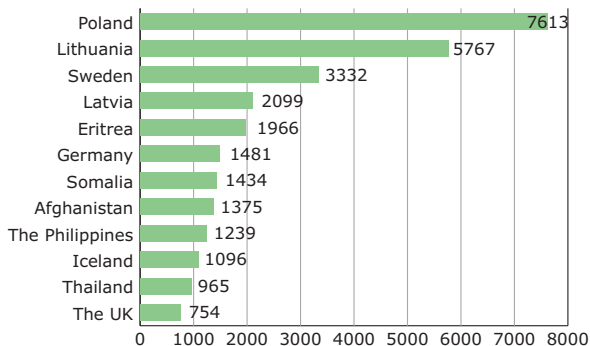
- ▶ Norwegian nationals accounted for 12 per cent of the immigration and made up a significant proportion of the immigration flows from some countries.
- ▶ Of the 31,500 persons who emigrated in 2010, 22,500 were foreign nationals. This is the highest number that has ever been registered. Of the people who emigrated in 2010, Swedish nationals were the largest group, followed by Polish and German nationals.
- ▶ Almost half of the total net immigration to Norway was to Oslo/Akershus and Rogaland/Hordaland.

**Immigration, emigration and net migration of foreign nationals in 2010, the ten largest groups.**

	Immigration	Emigration	Net migration
Total	73 852	31 506	42 346
Poland	11 347	3 734	7 613
Lithuania	6 552	785	5 767
Sweden	7 595	4 263	3 332
Latvia	2 292	193	2 099
Eritrea	1 987	21	1 966
Germany	2 678	1 197	1 481
Somalia	1 641	207	1 434
Afghanistan	1 417	42	1 375
The Philippines	2 126	887	1 239
Iceland	1 678	582	1 096
Thailand	1 171	206	965
The UK	1 462	708	754

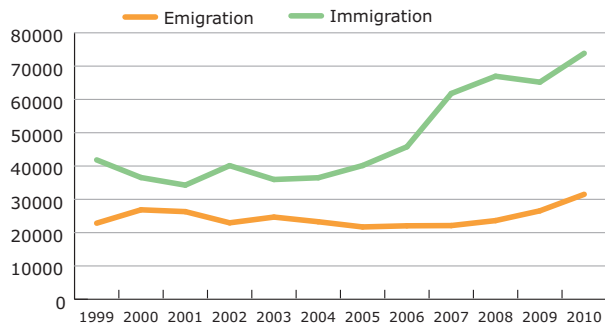
Source: Statistics Norway

### Net migration from abroad. Foreign nationals in 2010.



Source: Statistics Norway

### Immigration and emigration in the period 1999–2010.

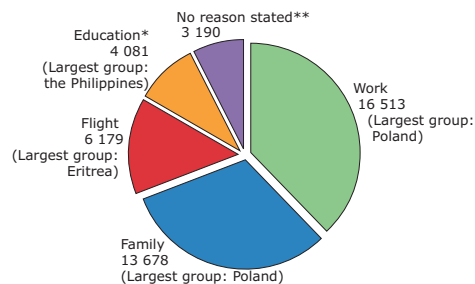


Source: Statistics Norway

### Immigration in 2009 by reason for immigration

Almost 44,000 persons with non-Nordic citizenship were first-time immigrants to Norway in 2009. This is a decrease of almost 5,000 compared with 2008. There was a decrease in labour migration, but, as in the three previous years, work was still the most important reason for immigration in 2009. The number of persons who were granted family immigration permits went slightly lower and now accounts for one third of all immigration. More persons came to seek asylum than in the previous year, and they now make up 14 per cent. Due to the changed registration rules for EEA nationals in 2009, there were 3,190 immigrants from the EEA countries without a reason for immigration. Most of them arrived as labour migrants or to be reunited with family members.

### Number of first-time immigrants with non-Nordic citizenship, by reason for immigration in 2009.

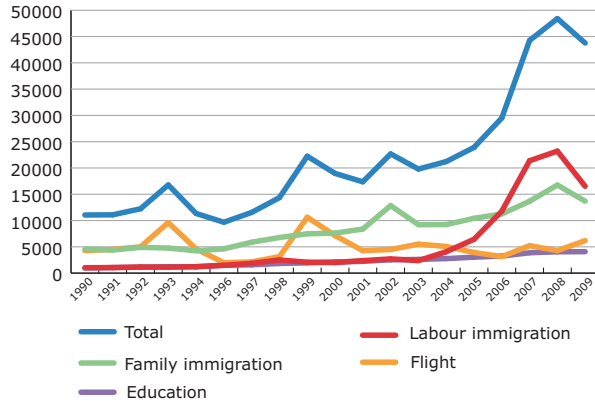


\* Au pairs state education as their reason for immigration.

\*\* In the data basis for 2009, 3,190 persons are registered without a reason for immigration. This is due to the new registration rules for EU/EEA/EFTA nationals, who, from 1 October 2009, no longer need to apply for a residence permit.

Source: Statistics Norway

### Number of first-time immigrants with non-Nordic citizenship, by reason for immigration 1990-2009.



Source: Statistics Norway

### Projections of the number of immigrants and Norwegian-born with immigrant parents

Projections made by Statistics Norway show that the number of immigrants and Norwegian-born with immigrant parents will increase significantly in the period from 2010 to 2060. There is considerable uncertainty attached to these figures, particularly with respect to the immigration figures, which vary greatly over time.

- ▶ In 2060, the population will be somewhere between 5.4 and 8.2 million, an increase from 4.9 million in 2010.
- ▶ The number of immigrants will probably increase from 460,000 to between 1 and 1.8 million in 2060.

- ▶ The number of Norwegian-born with immigrant parents will probably increase from 93,000 to between 300,000 and 500,000 in 2060.
- ▶ Together, these two groups will amount to between 1.3 and 2.3 million, or 22 to 28 per cent of the total population in 2060.

Source: Statistics Norway

## 4. Asylum seekers and refugees

Together with the police, the UDI is responsible for processing applications for different types of residence and work permits in Norway. The UDI is also responsible for the operation of the asylum reception centres and the rest of the asylum reception system. It outsources the running of the reception centres, for example to organisations, municipalities or commercial enterprises. The operation of asylum reception centres does not require municipal approval at the political level, but permits for the use of premises and buildings must be in place.

### Asylum applications in 2010

The number of asylum applications varies somewhat from year to year. In 2010, more than 10,000 persons applied for asylum in Norway, 890 of whom were unaccompanied minors without parents.

### The number\* of asylum seekers in total and the number of unaccompanied minors seeking asylum in Norway 2007–2010.

	2007	2008	2009	2010
Total number of persons	6 500	14 400	17 200	approx. 10 000
Of whom unaccompanied minors	400	1 400	2 500	890

\* The figures are rounded off to the nearest ten.

In 2010, applicants came from 110 different countries, compared with 115 in 2009.

- ▶ Most asylum seekers came from Eritrea, Somalia, Afghanistan, Russia and Ethiopia in 2010. Applicants from these five countries accounted for more than half of all asylum seekers in 2010.
- ▶ More than nine of ten unaccompanied minors seeking asylum were boys, and 65 per cent were boys from Afghanistan, Somalia and Eritrea, which is about the same as in 2009.
- ▶ After the first six months of 2010, the number of asylum seekers was stable throughout the rest of the year. At the start of 2011, there were few signs of any substantial changes despite the dramatic events south of the Mediterranean, which many people expected could lead to a rise in the number of illegal immigrants to Europe and more asylum seekers to Norway.

Source: UDI

### Asylum applications prognosis for 2011

At the time the national budget was presented in October 2010, it was expected that 10,000 asylum seekers would arrive in 2011, including 900 unaccompanied minors. At the end of March 2011, it was expected that 11,000 asylum seekers would arrive in Norway in 2011, including 1,100 unaccompanied minors.

Source: UDI

## Residents in asylum reception centres

At the end of 2010, 16,600 persons were living in 129 reception centres, compared with 19,500 persons in 151 reception centres the previous year.

- ▶ Forty-nine asylum reception centres were closed down or were due to be closed down in 2010, and there were reception centres in operation in 117 municipalities in Norway.
- ▶ At the end of 2010, 59 per cent of the residents in reception centres were from Afghanistan, Eritrea, Somalia, Russia or Iraq.
- ▶ Operating expenses for the asylum reception centres in 2010 amounted to approx. NOK 2.7 billion, compared with NOK 2.5 billion in 2009. Operating expenses amounted to approx. NOK 1.4 billion in 2008, and NOK 835 million in 2007. In Proposition no 1 to the Storting (2010-2011), approx. NOK 2.4 billion was allocated for the operation of asylum reception centres in 2011.
- ▶ Approx. 15,100 residents left reception centres in 2010, either because they were settled, escorted out of the country against their will, returned voluntarily or moved to a known or unknown address.
- ▶ In 2010, almost 5,200 residents left reception centres without providing a new address. They account for 34.1 per cent of all those who left a reception centre. They can either have returned to their home country, travelled to another country to seek asylum or may be staying at an unknown address in Norway. At the end of the year, 33.6 per cent had returned to a reception centre in Norway, or they were staying at another known place of residence.

Source: UDI

## Number of persons granted protection in Norway over the last seven years

The number of persons granted protection in Norway in 2010 increased by 13 per cent compared with 2009.

- ▶ The table below shows the number of persons who have been granted residence in Norway following an asylum application regardless of whether the decision was made by the UDI as the first instance or by UNE as the appeal body. The table also shows how many were permitted to enter Norway as resettlement refugees, normally after a selection process in cooperation with the UNHCR. The decisions that granted asylum are presented by the year of the outcome, regardless of when the application was submitted.

### Persons granted protection in the period 2004–2010.

	Total	UDI	UNE	Resettlement refugees
2010	6 872	5 331	411	1 130
2009	6 056	4 508	436	1 112
2008	4 617	3 045	662	910
2007	5 846	2 935	1 561	1 350
2006	3 198	1 682	524	992
2005	3 997	2 480	575	942
2004	4 926	3 480	688	758

Source: UDI

### **Residence permits granted by the UDI in 2010 following an application for asylum**

Persons who were granted residence following an asylum application largely came from countries affected by war or conflict (residence granted by UNE as a result of the consideration of appeals is not included here).

- ▶ The percentage of asylum cases approved by the UDI was the same in 2010 as in 2008, 41 per cent, compared with 33 per cent in 2009. UNE granted asylum in less than four per cent of the appeals decided in 2010, compared with just over four per cent in 2009.
- ▶ Most permits were granted to persons from Eritrea, Somalia, Afghanistan, Iran and Iraq.
- ▶ Thirty-seven per cent of those who were granted asylum were children.

Source: UDI

### **Residence for resettlement refugees**

In 2010, 1,096 resettlement refugees arrived in Norway, compared with 1,389 in 2009, 770 in 2008 and 1,106 in 2007. The number of resettlement cases approved in 2010 was 1,127, compared with 1,112 in 2009, 910 in 2008 and 1,350 in 2007. A person does not necessarily arrive in Norway in the same year as his/her application for residence is granted.

- ▶ In 2010, most resettlement refugees came from Eritrea, Myanmar (Burma), were stateless (mainly Palestinians), or came from Iran.
- ▶ Children accounted for 46 per cent of the resettlement refugees.
- ▶ Women accounted for 56 per cent of the resettlement refugees.

Source: UDI

### **Persons with a refugee background**

Persons with a refugee background (including family members who have been granted family reunification with refugees) made up 33 per cent of all immigrants in Norway as of 1 January 2010.

- ▶ The number of persons with a refugee background living in Norway was 151,000 (or 3.1 per cent of the total population).
- ▶ Most of them had a background from Iraq (19,800), Somalia (17,700) or Bosnia-Herzegovina (12,200).

Source: Statistics Norway

## 5. Labour migration

The four largest nationality groups that immigrated to Norway in 2010 all came from typical labour migration countries and were Polish (11,300), Swedish (7,600), Lithuanian (6,600) and German (2,700) nationals.

Source: Statistics Norway

In order to be considered an immigrant in the immigration statistics produced by Statistics Norway, the immigrant must be registered in the population register, which requires a minimum residence period of at least six months. Persons with work permits of shorter duration than six months are not registered as settled. This partly explains why the UDI's figures for the number of work permits granted do not tally with the immigration statistics produced by Statistics Norway, even for nationals who are required to hold a work or residence permit because of their nationality.

### Work permits 2010

In 2010, almost 13,500 work permits were granted, including 5,200 renewals.

- ▶ The marked decline from almost 56,000 work permits granted in 2009, and 101,000 work permits granted in 2008 is mainly due to the discontinuation of residence permit requirements for most EEA nationals as of 1 October 2009.

- ▶ Most permits were granted to nationals of Romania, India, the Philippines, Bulgaria and Russia. The only increase was for nationals of the Philippines (23 per cent), nationals of the USA (51 per cent) and China (20 per cent).
- ▶ Seventy per cent of the work permits were granted to men.
- ▶ Seventy-nine per cent of all work permits were granted to persons under the age of 40.
- ▶ Nearly 44 per cent of all family immigration permits were granted to persons who were reunited with a Norwegian or Nordic national.

Source: UDI

### The situation of labour migrants from Poland and the Baltic states in Norway

In 2007, IMDi conducted a telephone-based survey of settled (registered in the population register) labour migrants from Poland and the Baltic states. The findings of the survey included the following:

- ▶ A clear majority perceived their work as appropriate to their education and qualifications.
- ▶ There was a tendency for highly educated women to either remain outside the labour market or to accept jobs in Norway for which they were over-qualified.
- ▶ Very few experienced poor working conditions or gross exploitation at work.
- ▶ The majority had extensive and wide-ranging information needs during their first year in Norway. The main barrier to obtaining information was insufficient mastery of the Norwegian or English language.

- ▶ There was a clear need and wish to acquire better Norwegian language skills.
- ▶ It is not until after they have decided to stay in Norway for a long period of time that Polish labour migrants want to learn the Norwegian language.
- ▶ The labour migrants wished to participate in local recreational activities and social networks with Norwegians.
- ▶ As many as 76 per cent replied that they would definitely or probably be living in Norway in five years' time.

Source: IMDi report 1-2008: Vi blir ... Om arbeidsinnvandring fra Polen og Baltikum. ('We are here to stay... About work immigration from Poland and the Baltic states' – in Norwegian only).

The 2009 follow-up survey among labour migrants from Poland and Lithuania registered in the population register confirmed the main findings from 2007, with one exception: the percentage who replied that they would definitely or probably be living in Norway in five years' time had fallen from 76 per cent to 63 per cent. Furthermore, in 2009, only 28 per cent replied 'Yes, definitely' to the question of whether they thought they would be living in Norway in five years' time, compared with 57 per cent in 2007.

Source: IMDi

## 6. Family immigration and marriage patterns

### Family immigration

In 2010, almost 10,000 persons were granted permits for family immigration. In 2009, this figure was 18,100 and in 2008 it was 20,800 – the highest number of such permits ever granted. Until 1 October 2009, nationals of all non-Nordic EU member states were required to hold such a permit in order to establish a family or be reunited with a Norwegian national or a foreign national with a residence permit in Norway. In 2010, the rules for such permits therefore only apply to non-EU nationals and to nationals of Bulgaria and Romania, which are still covered by a transitional scheme.

### Family immigration permits in 2010:

Citizenship:	Number of permits	Change 2009–2010	Number of females (both children and adults)	Number of children
Total	9988	-8124	6698	4073
Thailand	986	-262	855	273
The Philippines	766	63	643	164
Somalia	685	34	366	544
Russia	506		381	198
Iraq	554	-208	345	329

Source: UDI

- ▶ In 2010, 72 per cent of all family immigration applications were granted.
- ▶ Nearly 25 per cent of those who were granted family immigration permits were nationals of Thailand, the Philippines or Somalia.
- ▶ Forty-seven per cent of all family immigration permits were granted to adult women, while 41 per cent of the permits were granted to children under the age of 18.

Source: UDI

### Marriage patterns

- ▶ Every year, more marriages are entered into between persons without an immigrant background and persons with an immigrant background than between persons who both have immigrant backgrounds.
- ▶ More men than women marry someone who lives outside Norway prior to marriage.
- ▶ In 2007, ten per cent of men and four per cent of women without an immigrant background married a person who did not reside in Norway at the time the marriage was entered into.
- ▶ Thai, Philippine and Russian women generally marry without an immigrant background.
- ▶ Many immigrants with a background from Asian and African countries marry someone who is not resident in Norway at the time the marriage is entered into. This applies in particular to persons from Pakistan, Turkey and Morocco.

- ▶ Few Norwegian-born with immigrant parents are of marriageable age and they generally marry later in life than immigrants with a background from the same country. The percentage who marry someone who lives abroad is declining.

Source: Statistics Norway. Daugstad (2008)

### Marriages entered into by settled women in 2002–2007. Selected country groups.

	Number who married	Percentage who married persons resident abroad at the time of marriage	Percentage who married persons without an immigrant background
Pakistan, immigrants	515	75	3
Pakistan, Norwegian-born with immigrant parents	521	71	2
Turkey, immigrants	337	76	9
Turkey, Norwegian-born with immigrant parents	149	69	4
Vietnam, immigrants	638	31	17
Vietnam, Norwegian-born with immigrant parents	30	20	23
Sri Lanka, immigrants	317	51	7

Source: Statistics Norway. Daugstad (2008)

**Marriages entered into by settled men in 2002–2007.  
Selected country groups.**

	<b>Number who married</b>	<b>Percentage who married persons resident abroad at the time of marriage</b>	<b>Percentage who married persons without an immigrant background</b>
Pakistan, immigrants	711	75	5
Pakistan, Norwegian-born with immigrant parents	515	71	3
Turkey, immigrants	564	76	11
Turkey, Norwegian-born with immigrant parents	107	64	5
Vietnam, immigrants	866	60	2
Vietnam, Norwegian-born with immigrant parents	22	50	5
Sri Lanka, immigrants	467	64	6

Source: Statistics Norway. Daugstad (2008)

## 7. Settlement and qualification of refugees and asylum seekers who have been granted residence permits

### Settlement

Resettlement refugees and former asylum seekers who have been granted unlimited residence permits are settled through a cooperation between the government, represented by the Norwegian Directorate of Integration and Diversity (IMDi), and the municipalities. Most refugees in Norway are settled with help from the public authorities, i.e. by IMDi entering into an agreement with a municipality stating that the municipality will receive the individual refugee. Settling refugees is a voluntary task for the municipalities. When municipalities settle refugees, they receive grants and accept certain obligations in relation to the refugees in accordance with the Introduction Act. The goal is that settlement in a municipality should take place within six months of a decision being made and within three months for unaccompanied minors.

- ▶ The target figure for settlement in 2011 is 5,300 persons, 750 of whom are unaccompanied minors. This target figure was stipulated by the National Committee for Reception and Settlement in May 2010.
- ▶ In 2011, 287 municipalities have been asked to settle a total of 6,587 refugees. Of these municipalities, 183 have been asked to settle unaccompanied minors.

- ▶ As of February 2011, 198 municipalities have agreed to settle refugees in 2011.
- ▶ A total of 1,845 persons in reception centres were waiting to be settled at the end of February 2011. Of these, 1,050 were single men, and 287 were unaccompanied minors under the age of 18.
- ▶ The number of persons settled in 2010 was 5,797, 669 of whom were unaccompanied minors under the age of 18.
- ▶ The six biggest settlement municipalities in 2010 were Oslo (293), Trondheim (271), Bergen (234), Kristiansand (130), Skien (118) and Stavanger (108).
- ▶ The average waiting time from the granting of a residence permit to settlement in a municipality was 5.7 months in 2010.

**The number of settled refugees and the average waiting time 2007–2010**

	2007	2008	2009	2010	Target figure
Settled*	3830	4430	6090	5800	5300
Of whom unaccompanied minors*	150	210	610	670	750
Average waiting time from the granting of a residence permit to settlement in a municipality	4,8 months	5,9 months	5,3 months	5,7 months	

\*The figures are rounded off to the nearest ten.  
Source: IMDi

**Introduction programme**

The Introduction Act entitles and obliges newly arrived immigrants to participate in a full-time introduction programme for up to two years, with the possibility for one year extension. The right and obligation to participate in the introduction programme applies to newly arrived foreign nationals between the ages of 18 and 55 who need to obtain basic qualifications and who

- a) have been granted asylum, or
- b) are resettlement refugees who have been granted an entry permit, or
- c) following an application for asylum, have been granted a residence permit on humanitarian grounds or have been granted collective protection in a mass flight situation, or
- d) are family members who have arrived in Norway to be reunited with persons described under a), b) or c).

- ▶ The goal of the introduction programme is to provide basic Norwegian language skills and basic insight into Norwegian society and to prepare participants for participation in the labour market. The municipalities and NAV cooperate closely on the introduction programme for newly arrived immigrants.
- ▶ Persons who take part in the programme are entitled to introduction benefit. Per year, the introduction benefit is twice the National Insurance basic amount.
- ▶ According to Statistics Norway, the introduction programme had approx. 10,000 participants in 2009. In the period from 2005 to 2009, there were between 8,000 and 9,000 participants each year.

- ▶ Figures reported from the municipalities show that 42 per cent of the participants who finished the introduction programme in 2010 started work or studies. The corresponding figure for 2009 was 44 per cent and in 2008 it was 53 per cent. The decline mainly concerns transition to work.

Source: IMDi

### **Statistics Norway's 'Monitor for the introduction programme'**

Every year, Statistics Norway publishes 'Monitor for introduksjonsordningen' ('Monitor for the introduction programme' – in Norwegian only). The monitor for 2010 describes the participation in the labour market as of November 2009 by those who left the programme in 2008. The monitor's goal is to eventually follow cohorts of people who finish the programme, over a longer period and measure the development in the years ahead. Statistics Norway found that a total of 57 per cent of those who left the introduction programme in 2008 were working or studying in November 2009, 48 per cent of the women and 67 per cent of the men.

Source: Statistics Norway: Enes and Kraakenes (2010)

### **Tuition in the Norwegian language and social studies**

The group of persons who have a right and obligation to participate in tuition in the Norwegian language is wider than the group of persons who have a right and obligation to participate in the introduction programme. The right and obligation to participate in free tuition in the Norwegian

language and social studies applies to newly arrived foreign nationals between the ages of 16 and 55 who a) have been granted asylum, b) are resettlement refugees who have been granted an entry permit, c) following an application for asylum, have been granted a residence permit on humanitarian grounds or have been granted collective protection in a mass flight situation, or d) are family members who have arrived in Norway to be reunited with persons described under a), b) or c). The scheme also applies to family members who have arrived in Norway to be reunited with Norwegian or Nordic nationals. The latter group is the largest.

- ▶ Older persons, i.e. people between the ages of 55 and 67, who fall under the scheme have a right, but not an obligation, to participate in tuition.
- ▶ Completion of 300 hours of tuition or documented good skills in Norwegian is a condition for being granted a permanent residence permit and citizenship for the groups that are covered by the scheme.
- ▶ Everyone covered by the scheme can receive up to 3,000 hours of language training, as required.
- ▶ From 1 September 2007, the opportunity for asylum seekers in ordinary reception centres to participate in up to 250 hours of Norwegian language tuition was reintroduced.
- ▶ From 1 January 2009, asylum seekers under the Dublin procedure lost their right to Norwegian language tuition.

- ▶ As of 20 January 2011, 44,114 persons had the right, or the right and the obligation, to participate in tuition in the Norwegian language, including 938 persons who only had the right to tuition.
- ▶ In the last six months of 2010, around 33,000 persons received tuition in the Norwegian language and social studies.
- ▶ There are two national final Norwegian language tests, Norwegian Test 2 (*Norsksprøve 2*) and Norwegian Test 3 (*Norsksprøve 3*), which are both written and oral tests. Norwegian Test 3 tests language skills at a higher level than Norwegian Test 2. The table below shows how many took the different tests in 2010, and the percentages that passed.

**National tests in the Norwegian language 2010, number of exam candidates and results.**

		<b>Total number of candidates</b>	<b>Percentage of candidates who passed</b>
Written test:	Norwegian Test 2	9680	61 %
	Norwegian Test 3	4830	52 %
Oral test:	Norwegian Test 2	9625	92 %
	Norwegian Test 3	4834	78 %

Source: IMDi og Norsk språktest.

## Second Chance

Second Chance is a qualification programme for immigrants who have not worked for a long time or who are at risk of not finding employment.

- ▶ Second Chance is a pilot project that provides opportunities to qualify for the labour market and become financially independent.
- ▶ Participation in Second Chance entails full-time participation in qualification activities for up to two years.
- ▶ In 2011, almost NOK 27 million was allocated to Second Chance in the national budget. In the period 2005 to 2011, a total of approx. NOK 160 million has been allocated.
- ▶ Target groups for Second Chance:
  - Long-term unemployed immigrants who receive social security benefits.
  - Young people with an immigrant background who receive social security benefits.
  - Stay-at-home immigrant women who are far removed from the labour market and who do not receive public benefits.
- ▶ In 2010, there were a total of 529 Second Chance participants in 30 projects in 26 municipalities/city districts.
- ▶ The participants came from 59 different countries. More than half of them had a background from Somalia or Iraq.
- ▶ In 2010, 77 per cent of the participants in Second Chance were women.

- ▶ During 2010, 279 participants finished the Second Chance programme. Of these, 23 per cent went straight into employment or education (21 per cent of the long-term unemployed immigrants on social security benefits, 43 per cent of the young people and 16 per cent of the stay-at-home women).
- ▶ Based on data from the projects, Econ Pöyry calculated in 2008 that the socio-economic gain from Second Chance could be as much as NOK 450 million for the period 2005 to 2007 as a whole.

Source: IMDi

## 8. Housing and place of residence

Compared with the rest of the population, a higher percentage of immigrants rent their home, live in a block of flats, tenements or similar and live in cramped accommodation.

In 2005/2006, 63 per cent of immigrants owned their home (freeholder, housing cooperative etc.) compared with 76 per cent of the population as a whole. Twenty-five per cent of immigrants lived in detached houses, compared with 46 per cent of the population as a whole. Forty-five per cent of immigrants lived in cramped conditions (households in which there is more than one person per room in the home) compared with 12 per cent of the population as a whole.

However, the differences in housing conditions between immigrants and the population as a whole decreased significantly between 1995 and 2005.

Source: Statistics Norway, Blom and Henriksen 2008

### **Immigrants and Norwegian-born with immigrant parents in the municipalities**

Immigrants live in all the municipalities in Norway, but more than four out of every ten immigrants and Norwegian-born with immigrant parents live in Oslo and Akershus

county (41 per cent). In terms of numbers, most immigrants live in the biggest city municipalities such as Bergen, Stavanger and Trondheim, while the highest percentage of immigrants in relation to the population of the municipality as a whole live in Oslo, Drammen and Lørenskog.

**The ten municipalities with the highest population of immigrants and Norwegian-born with immigrant parents as of 1 January 2011.**

Municipality	Number	Biggest group
Oslo	170 206	Pakistan
Bergen	32 038	Poland
Stavanger	22 245	Poland
Trondheim	18 501	Poland
Bærum	17 825	Poland
Drammen	14 350	Turkey
Kristiansand	11 524	Vietnam
Sandnes	9 767	Poland
Skedsmo	9 426	Vietnam
Fredrikstad	9 288	Iraq

Source: Statistics Norway

**The ten municipalities with the biggest percentage of immigrants and Norwegian-born with immigrant parents in relation to the population of the municipality as a whole as of 1 January 2011.**

Municipality	Number of immigrants and Norwegian-born with immigrant parents	Population of the municipality	Percentage of immigrants and Norwegian-born with immigrant parents
Oslo	17 0206	599 230	28.4
Drammen	14 350	63 582	22.6
Lørenskog	6 672	33 308	20.0
Skedsmo	9 426	48 752	19.3
Stavanger	22 245	12 6021	17.7
Askim	2 532	14 909	17.0
Rælingen	2 651	15 920	16.7
Ås	2 772	16 733	16.6
Træna	81	490	16.5
Hemsedal	347	2 140	16.2

Source: Statistics Norway

Thirty per cent of the refugees who were settled during the period 1999 to 2008 left their initial settlement municipality after five years.

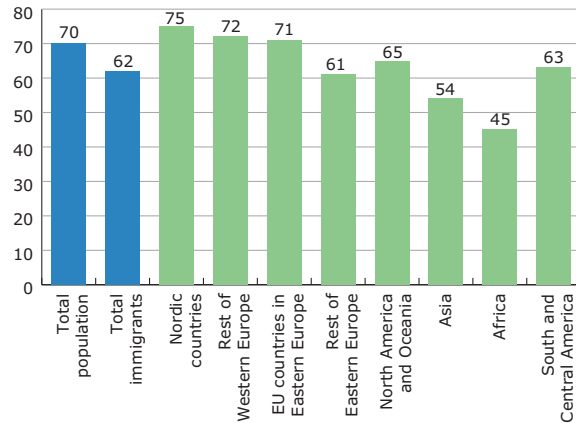
Source: Statistics Norway, Høydahl (2010): Monitor for sekundærflytting ('Monitor for secondary migration' - in Norwegian only)

## 9. Employment and income

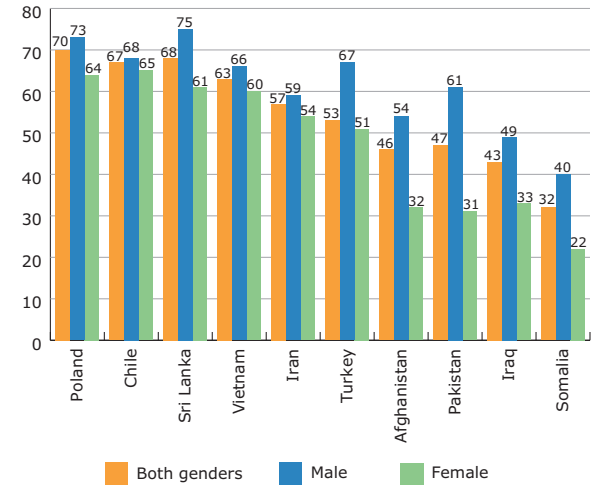
### Employment

- ▶ In total, almost 251,000 immigrants were employed in Norway as of the fourth quarter 2009, just over 10,000 more than in the same quarter in 2008.
- ▶ Sixty-two per cent of all immigrants between the ages of 15 and 74 are employed.
- ▶ There are great differences in the employment rate between women and men, and the level of employment also depends on which country immigrants come from, how long they have been here and the reason they came.

**Percent employment rate for immigrants aged 15–74 years, fourth quarter 2009.**



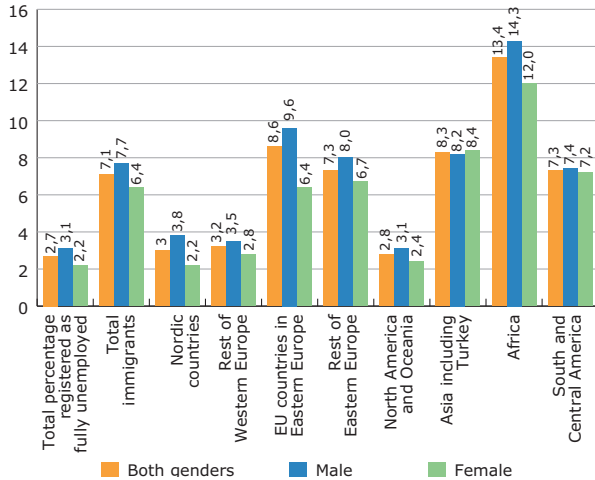
**Percent employment rate for immigrants aged 15–74 years from some selected countries in 2009.**



- ▶ Registered unemployment among settled immigrants fell from 7.8 per cent in February 2010 to 7.7 per cent in February 2011. The rate also fell in the rest of the population, from 2.5 to 2.3 per cent.
- ▶ The difference in the rate of unemployment between immigrants and the rest of the population has remained unchanged over time; unemployment among immigrants is roughly three times higher than the rate for the rest of the population.

Source: Statistics Norway (the figures are based on NAV's register of unemployed persons)

## Percent unemployment, the end of November 2010.



Source: Statistics Norway (the figures are based on NAV's register of unemployed persons)

## International comparisons

The OECD compares the employment rates among foreign-born persons in different OECD countries. The statistics are partly based on labour force surveys conducted in a number of OECD countries, and partly on other sources (applies to the USA and Denmark, among others). In the labour force surveys, a representative sample of the population is interviewed. No special sample is drawn from the foreign-born population. Therefore the number of foreign-born respondents is limited. This, along with a large selective non-re-

sponse, is one of the reasons why employment figures for foreign-born persons are very uncertain and must be interpreted with great caution.

Source: OECD

## Percent employment and unemployment rate for persons aged 15–64 in selected OECD countries in 2009.

Country	Employment rate, native-born	Employment rate, foreign-born	Unemployment rate, native-born	Unemployment rate, foreign-born
Norway	77.1	70.2	2.8	6.8
Sweden	74.2	62.1	7.2	15.4
Denmark	76.6	68.1	5.7	9.9
Germany	72.5	63.5	6.9	12.8
The USA	67.5	68.1	9.3	9.7
The UK	70.5	66.0	7.5	8.9

Source: OECD

## Income

Immigrants generally have a weaker connection to the labour market than the population of Norway as a whole. This means, among other things, that the average immigrant household has lower income than the average household.

- ▶ In 2009, 26 per cent of immigrants or Norwegian-born with immigrant parents lived in a household in which no one had a connection to the labour market. As many as 34 per cent of people with a refugee background lived in households in which no one had a connection to the labour market.

- ▶ The average income<sup>1</sup> of immigrants and Norwegian-born with immigrant parents was NOK 186,000 in 2009. For the sake of comparison, the average income for the population as a whole<sup>2</sup> was NOK 241,000.
- ▶ Twenty per cent of persons in households in which the main provider is an immigrant or Norwegian-born with immigrant parents belong to the low-income group (pursuant to OECD's measurement method), compared with five per cent for the population as a whole (excluding students). The corresponding figure for refugees was 24 per cent. However, the percentage of registered immigrants and Norwegian-born with immigrant parents in the low income group was slightly lower in 2009 than in 2008.
- ▶ In general, income in immigrant households increases with the duration of residence.

#### Percentage labour market indicators for immigrants and Norwegian-born with immigrant parents in 2009.

	Percentage of persons in the household with no connection to the labour market	Percentage of persons in the household where income from employment is the main income in the household
Whole population	23	75
Immigrants and Norwegian-born with immigrant parents	26	73
Persons with refugee background	34	61

Source: Statistics Norway

<sup>1</sup> Average income after tax per consumer unit, OECD standard.

<sup>2</sup> Excluding students.

#### Percentage of persons in households with low income, immigrants and Norwegian-born with immigrant parents in 2009.

	OECD definition, 50 per cent of the average income	EU definition, 60 per cent of the average income
Whole population (excluding students)	5	10
Immigrants and Norwegian-born with immigrant parents	20	29
Persons with refugee background	24	35

Source: Statistics Norway

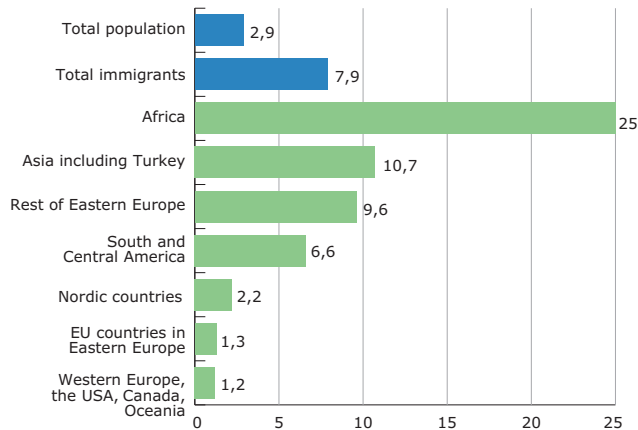
#### Social security benefits

- ▶ In 2008, eight per cent of immigrants over the age of 18 received social security benefits once or several times during the course of the year, compared with three per cent of the population in the same age group.
- ▶ From 2005 to 2008, there was a general decrease in the use of social security benefits, and among immigrants in particular.
- ▶ Norwegian-born between the ages of 18 and 30 with immigrant parents stood out positively in that they were less frequently recipients of social security benefits; four per cent received social security benefits in 2008 compared with five per cent in the same age group in the population as a whole.

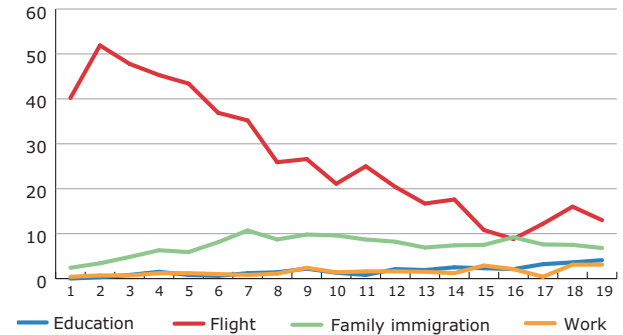
- ▶ The need for social security benefits is related, among other things, to the reason for immigration and the duration of residence.
- ▶ Refugees receive social security benefits more often than labour migrants.
- ▶ The percentage that receives social security benefits is highest among immigrants from Africa. One of four immigrants from Africa received social security benefits in 2008. This mostly concerns refugees with a relatively short duration of residence.

Source: Statistics Norway (Hirsch 2010)

**Percentage of immigrants over the age of 18 who received social security benefits in 2008.**



**Percentage of immigrants over the age of 18 who in 2008 received social security benefits, by duration of residence and reason for immigration.**



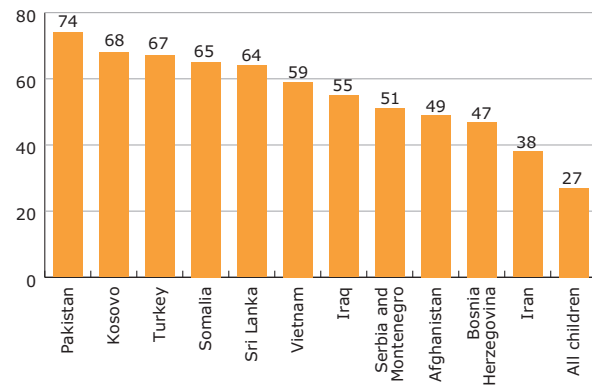
## 10. The cash-for-care benefit and kindergartens

### The cash-for-care benefit

- ▶ It is more common for children with a background from Eastern Europe, Asia, Africa and Latin America to receive the cash-for-care benefit than for children in the population as a whole. As of September 2009, 53 per cent of children aged 1-2 with backgrounds from these areas received such benefits, compared with 27 per cent of all children.
- ▶ It has become less common to receive the cash-for-care benefit in recent years, both among children in general and immigrant children. This may partly be due to the increased provision of places in kindergartens.
- ▶ There are major differences between the groups of countries with respect to how common it is to receive the cash-for-care benefit. While 74 and 68 per cent of children in the relevant age group with a background from Pakistan and Kosovo, respectively, received the cash-for-care benefit in 2009, this only applied to 38 per cent of children with an Iranian background.
- ▶ There are significant differences between counties in terms of how common it is for children with a background from Eastern Europe, Asia, Africa and Latin America to receive the cash-for-care benefit, from 27 per cent in Nordland county to 67 per cent in Østfold county.

Source: Statistics Norway

Percentage of children aged 1-2 who received the cash-for-care benefit in September 2009, by the parents' country background.



### Kindergartens

- ▶ At the end of 2009, 25,100 language-minority children from attended kindergarten, and a total of 270,200 children had kindergarten places.
- ▶ Language-minority children accounted for just over nine per cent of all children attending kindergartens in 2009. Language-minority children are here defined as children whose first language is not Norwegian, Sami, Swedish, Danish or English.
- ▶ Twenty-three per cent of children at kindergartens in Oslo were from language minorities, while the corresponding figure in Nord-Trøndelag was only four per cent.

Source: Statistics Norway

# 11. Education

## Primary and lower secondary school

- ▶ In autumn 2010, 21,800 pupils received mother tongue tuition and/or bilingual instruction. This is 550 less than in the previous school year. Pupils who receive mother tongue tuition and/or bilingual instruction account for 3.6 per cent of all pupils in primary and lower secondary schools.
- ▶ Mother tongue tuition and bilingual instruction were registered for 119 different languages.
- ▶ For those who received mother tongue tuition, Somali and Arabic were the most common languages, with around 2,500 pupils each. More than 2,000 pupils received tuition in Urdu and Polish.
- ▶ Around seven per cent of all pupils in Norway received special Norwegian tuition in autumn 2010. More than 30 per cent of those were pupils in Oslo. This means that one of four pupils in Oslo received special Norwegian tuition in 2010.

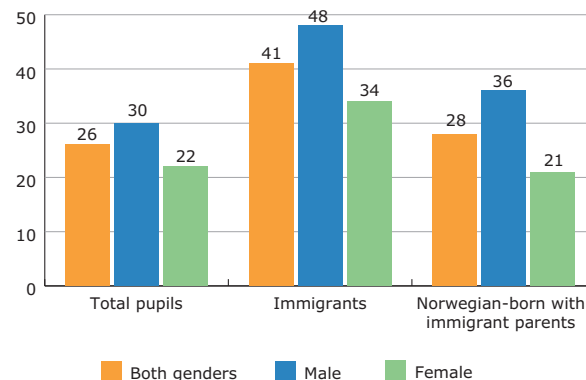
Source: Statistics Norway

## Upper secondary school

Norwegian-born with immigrant parents participate in upper secondary education as much as others, while immigrants participate less extensively. Immigrant pupils drop out of upper secondary school more often and take longer to complete their education, while the percentage of Norwe-

gian-born with immigrant parents who complete and drop out of their education is very similar to the percentage of pupils in general.

## Percentage of pupils who interrupted their studies (or failed their examinations in a five-year period) among all who started upper secondary school in spring 2004.

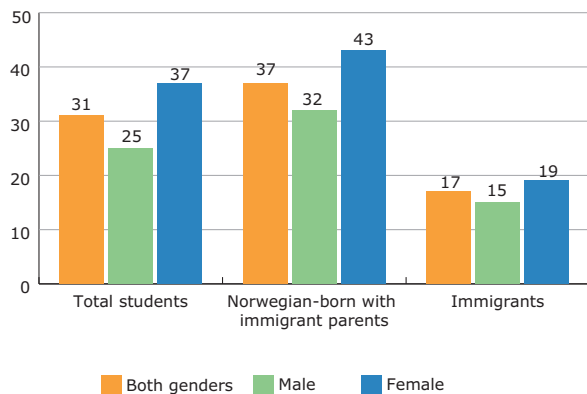


## Participation in higher education in 2009

There has been a strong increase in the number of Norwegian-born with immigrant parents taking higher education. A greater percentage of young people aged between 17 and 24 with immigrant parents participate in higher education than the average for young people as a whole in Norway.

In contrast to Norwegian-born with immigrant parents, the number of immigrants aged between 19 and 24 who take higher education is considerably lower than for the population as a whole. This is primarily due to the fact that many immigrants in this age group are new arrivals who have come here to work.

**Percentage of 19–24 years old in higher education, autumn 2009.**



## 12. Child welfare services

Children who have immigrated to Norway are over-represented in terms of the use of child welfare services.

- ▶ 58 out of 1,000 of children (aged 0-22) who immigrated to Norway received help from the child welfare services in 2004. The corresponding figures for children in the rest of the population and for Norwegian-born children with immigrant parents were 25 and 39 per 1,000 respectively.
- ▶ In 2004, 6.7 per 1,000 immigrants (aged 0-17) were under the care of the child welfare service compared with 3.1 per 1,000 Norwegian-born children with immigrant parents and 5.4 per 1,000 children in the rest of the population.

Source: Statistics Norway: Allertsen and Kalve (2006). An updated version of this report – Innvandrerbarn i barnevernet ('Immigrant children in the child welfare service' – in Norwegian only) – will be published in the third quarter 2011.

## 13. Forced marriages

The right to choose one's own spouse is laid down in international conventions.

- ▶ Forced marriages are illegal pursuant to the Norwegian General Civil Penal Code section 222, and carry a maximum sentence of six years.
- ▶ The Action Plan against Forced Marriage (2008–2011) is aimed at both prevention and ensuring protection for those subjected to forced marriage. The action plan focuses in particular on the role of school, the role of foreign service missions, the need for safe houses and greater cooperation and expertise in the public sector. IMDi is responsible for four of the measures:
  - Minority counsellors in upper secondary schools
  - Integration attachés at foreign service missions
  - The Expert Team for the Prevention of Forced Marriage
  - Supporting the awareness-raising efforts of voluntary organisations

There is no reliable information about how many girls and boys in Norway are subjected to serious pressure and coercion to enter into marriage. No national procedures have yet been developed to register or prepare statistics on the number of such cases that are handled by the support services.

Some of the support services in the public and voluntary sectors keep their own statistics on the number of enquiries they receive concerning forced marriages, and they report an increasing number of cases of forced marriage in Norway.

The Expert Team for the Prevention of Forced Marriage has seen a major increase in the number of cases. The team has received more than 1,500 queries regarding forced marriage and related problems in the period from 2004 to 1 September 2010.

However, the increase in the number of queries relating to forced marriage does not indicate the scope of the problem, although it does imply greater awareness of rights and the opportunities for help.

The extent of forced marriage cases and related problems in some of the support services has previously been mapped in Bredal and Skjerven (2007).

## 14. Female genital mutilation

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), genital mutilation covers all procedures where a girl or woman's external sexual organs are either partly or fully removed, or procedures that involve other damage to the genitals, and which are carried out for cultural or other non-therapeutic reasons.

In Norway, all forms of genital mutilation of girls or women are illegal pursuant to the Norwegian Act Prohibiting Female Genital Mutilation.

- ▶ WHO estimates that 130 to 140 million women and girls have been subjected to genital mutilation worldwide, and that approximately three million girls are subjected to genital mutilation every year. The practice is primarily widespread in a belt across Africa, around the Sahara.
- ▶ Ethnic origin is the main factor that determines whether a child will be subjected to genital mutilation. In some areas, the act is justified on the basis of religion. The custom is practiced among Muslims, Christians and other religious communities, but is most widespread in Muslim countries.
- ▶ The Ministry of Children, Equality and Social Inclusion acts as a driving force and a coordinator of the work on preventing female genital mutilation in Norway.

- ▶ Current action plan: Action Plan for Combating Female Genital Mutilation (2008-2011).
- ▶ There is no exact knowledge about the extent of the female genital mutilation problem in Norway, but the Institute for Social Research has mapped known cases of female genital mutilation in the Child Welfare Service, the health services, schools and kindergartens in 2006 and 2007.

Source: Institute for Social Research: Lidén and Bentzen, 2008 and <http://www.nkvts.no>

## 15. Crime

*Statistics Norway's study of immigrants in the crime statistics was conducted before Statistics Norway stopped using the category 'non-Western'. This definition will therefore be used in this section.*

Non-Western immigrants are over-represented in the crime statistics both as victims and defendants and convicted persons. Young men with a non-Western background are the most over-represented group. It is important to remember that being arrested for criminal offences has a strong statistical correlation with other living condition variables. Living condition-related and other social problems are more common in the non-Western immigrant population, which to a great extent explains the group's over-representation. The probability that a non-Western youth will commit a crime falls sharply when statistics are adjusted for other characteristics and living conditions.

- ▶ Statistics Norway has studied crimes committed in the period 1992–2001 by persons born in 1977 (and who were settled in 1992, i.e. have not immigrated after this year). During the period, 17 per cent of the group with a non-Western background and ten per cent of the group with a Norwegian background had committed criminal offences.

Source: Statistics Norway: Skardhamar (2006)

- ▶ Persons with a non-Western immigrant background are over-represented among convicted criminals.
- ▶ In 2002, 13.5 of every 1,000 inhabitants with a Norwegian background were punished for a crime. The rate was 11.5 for Western immigrants and 30 for non-Western immigrants. The low average age of the immigrant population explains some of the over-representation.

Source: Statistics Norway: Østby (2004)

Statistics Norway's survey of living conditions 2005/2006, in which immigrants with backgrounds from ten different countries were interviewed, showed that immigrants:

- ▶ Are slightly more at risk of being a victim of violence than the population as a whole.
- ▶ Are equally at risk of being subjected to threats.
- ▶ Are less at risk of being a victim of theft and vandalism.

Source: Statistics Norway: Blom and Henriksen 2008

The Statistics Norway report 'Kriminalitet og straff blant innvandrere og øvrige befolkning' ('Crime and punishment among immigrants and the rest of the population' – in Norwegian only) by Skardhamar, Thorsen and Henriksen is published in June 2011.

## 16. Participation in elections

Norwegian nationals who turn 18 in an election year have the right to vote in Storting elections. In local government elections, both at county and municipality level, foreign nationals are entitled to vote as well.

Foreign nationals can vote in the local government elections in 2011 if they have been registered as residents of Norway for three years prior to the election date. Nordic nationals can vote if they have lived in Norway since 30 June 2011.

In the 2011 election, 16 and 17-year-olds will be able to vote in 20 municipalities.

### **How many immigrants have the right to vote in the local government elections in 2011?**

Around 400,000 persons with an immigrant background, i.e. persons with two foreign-born parents, have the right to vote at the 2011 election. This is 100,000 more than in the 2007 election. Almost 120,000 persons with an immigrant background have the right to vote in this year's election in Oslo. That is 25 per cent of those entitled to vote in the capital.

Source: IMDi and [www.ssb.no/stemmerettkomm](http://www.ssb.no/stemmerettkomm)

### **Participation in the 2009 Storting election**

In 2009, voter participation among the immigrant population with the right to vote (i.e. immigrants and Norwegian-born with immigrant parents) was 52 per cent, compared with 77 per cent in the population as a whole. In 2009, the participation rate among voters with an immigrant background was rather stable compared with two previous Storting elections. Election turnout varies considerably between different groups of immigrants. Furthermore, there is no clear connection between integration in different social arenas, for example participation in the labour market, and the election turnout:

- ▶ Immigrants from the USA, India and Sri Lanka have the highest election turnout of those from outside Europe.
- ▶ Immigrants from the Balkans have by far the lowest election turnout, despite a high degree of participation in other social arenas.
- ▶ In 2009, the election turnout was equal among men and women with an immigrant background.
- ▶ Only 51 per cent of Norwegian-born with immigrant parents used their right to vote in 2009. This was a lower participation rate than among young people in the population as a whole.

Source: Statistics Norway: Henriksen (2010)

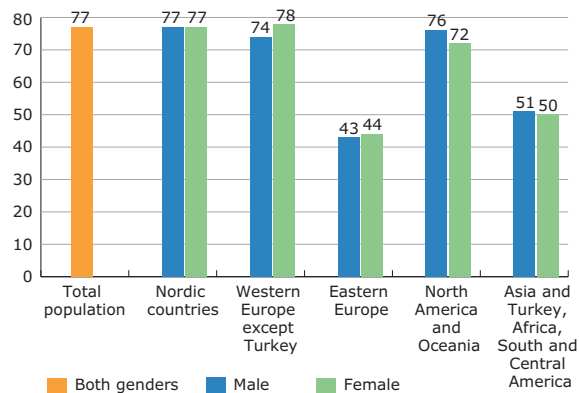
### **Participation in the 2007 local government elections**

In the 2007 local government elections, the election turnout among immigrants was much lower than the average for the population as a whole. The election turnout had changed little compared with 2003 and 1999.

- ▶ In 2007, the election turnout among immigrants with Norwegian citizenship was 40 per cent, and 36 per cent for immigrants who were foreign nationals with a right to vote. The election turnout for the population as a whole was 62 per cent.
- ▶ The election turnout varies according to immigrants' country background. Immigrants from Eastern Europe stood out as a group with a particularly low turnout.
- ▶ Immigrant women participate slightly more than immigrant men, older people participate more than younger people, and persons with the longest periods of residence participate most.

Source: Statistics Norway: Bergh, Bjørklund and Aalandslid (2008)

**Percent turnout at the 2009 Storting election, for the population as a whole and Norwegian nationals with an immigrant background, by country background and gender.**



Source: Statistics Norway.

## 17. The population's attitudes to immigration and integration

IMDi's Integration barometer (*Integreringsbarometer*) measures the population's attitudes to immigration and integration. This survey has been carried out every year since 2005.

The population's attitudes have remained largely stable in the period 2005-2010, a period characterised by increased immigration. To the extent that there has been a change, it has involved growing scepticism with regard to the volume of immigration and integration challenges, but there is also greater acceptance of diversity.

- ▶ In 2010, 53 per cent expressed scepticism about immigration by responding positively to the statement 'we should not let more immigrants into Norway'. In 2005, 45 per cent responded positively.
- ▶ Forty-nine per cent think that Norway should accept more refugees.
- ▶ Forty-nine per cent think that integration generally works rather poorly or very poorly. In the period 2005-2008, the percentage that this critical increased from 37 per cent in 2005 to 53 per cent in 2008. The percentage that believes that integration works very poorly increased from six per cent in 2005 to 12 per cent in 2010.

- ▶ Approximately three out of four believe that immigrants can fit in with Norwegian society while retaining their own values. And approximately six out of ten believe that it is not necessary for them to become as similar to the majority population as possible, a marked increase from 2005.
- ▶ Key integration criteria are deemed to be Norwegian language skills and the ability to provide for oneself.
- ▶ Responsibility for successful integration is deemed to rest with the majority population and the authorities, but in particular with the immigrants themselves. Eight out of ten respondents believe that immigrants are themselves responsible for becoming integrated in society.

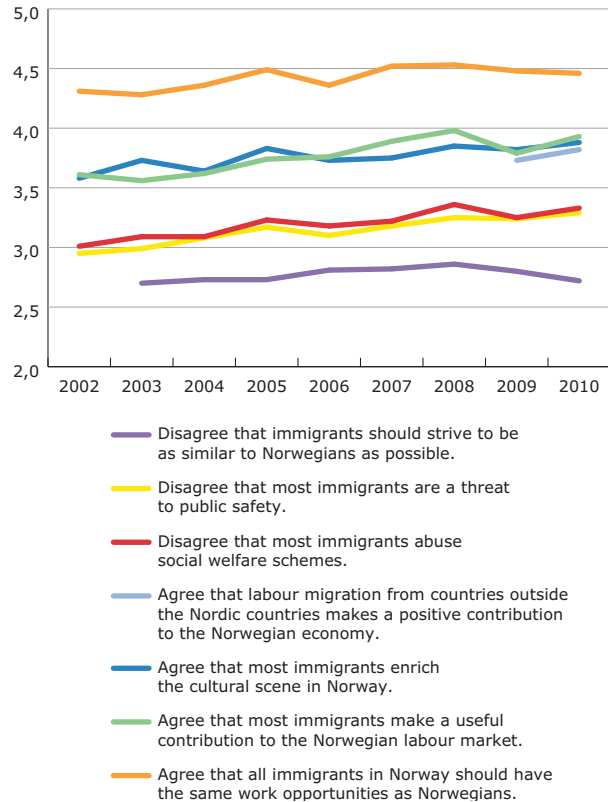
Source: The Integration Barometer 2009 IMDi report 4-2010, The Integration Barometer 2010 is published in the course of 2011.

Statistics Norway's survey of attitudes to immigrants and integration shows that, in several areas, the population was less sceptical towards immigrants in 2009 than in previous years:

- ▶ Seventy-seven per cent completely or partly agree that immigrants make a useful contribution to the Norwegian labour market. This represents an increase of six per cent from 2009.
- ▶ Eighty-eight per cent believe that immigrants should have the same work opportunities as Norwegians.
- ▶ Forty-two per cent think that refugees and asylum seekers' right to residence in Norway should remain unchanged; 46 per cent think it should be more difficult to be granted residence and six per cent think it should be easier.

- ▶ Thirty-one per cent believe that immigrants abuse social welfare schemes. However, half the population disagrees with this statement, which is ten per cent more than in 2002.
- ▶ Seventy-two per cent think that immigrants enrich the country's cultural scene.
- ▶ More than half the population disagrees with the statement that immigrants are a threat to public safety. In 2002, 41 per cent disagreed.
- ▶ Half of the population think that immigrants in Norway should strive to be as like Norwegians as possible.
- ▶ Broad contact with immigrants correlates with more positive attitudes, and factors such as gender, age, education, residential area and part of the country also influence attitudes to immigration.
- ▶ In general, women, highly-educated people, people who live in urban areas and people between the ages of 25 and 44 have the most positive attitudes to immigrants. However, it is also a clear trend that older people are becoming increasingly positive to immigrants.

## Attitudes to seven statements about immigrants and immigration 2002–2010.



Source: Statistics Norway (Blom 2010)

## 18. Oslo

### Population figures

At the beginning of 2011, 170,000 immigrants and Norwegian-born with immigrant parents lived in Oslo, which is 28.4 per cent of the capital's population. Of the biggest groups, 21,600 had a background from Pakistan, 12,200 from Somalia, almost as many from Sweden, and 10,400 had a background from Poland.

- ▶ Sixty-four per cent of Oslo's immigrants and Norwegian-born with immigrant parents come from Asia, Africa, South and Central America and Turkey. Nineteen per cent come from Western Europe, North America and Oceania, while 17 per cent come from Eastern Europe.
- ▶ Immigrants with a background from Africa, Asia or South and Central America represent a large proportion of the population of Oslo's eastern and southern districts such as Søndre Nordstrand, Alna, Stovner, Grorud and Bjerke. Immigrants from the EU, North America and Oceania mainly live in Frogner, Grünerløkka and St. Hanshaugen.
- ▶ As the immigrants in Oslo on average have lived in Norway longer than immigrants in other parts of Norway, as many as 40 per cent of all Norwegian-born with immigrant parents live in Oslo. Most Norwegian-born with immigrant parents live in the districts Alna and Søndre Nordstrand.

Source: Statistics Norway

**Immigrants and Norwegian-born with immigrant parents by district in Oslo\* as of 1 January 2010.**

District	Number of inhabitants	No of immigrants and Norwegian-born with immigrant parents	Percentage of immigrants and Norwegian-born with immigrant parents in the district
Whole of Oslo	599 230	170 206	28,4
Gamle Oslo	43 770	15 803	36,1
Grünerløkka	47 256	14 934	31,6
Sagene	35 115	8 455	24,1
St. Hanshaugen	33 137	7 870	23,7
Frogner	51 120	11 637	22,8
Ullern	30 744	4 719	15,3
Vestre Aker	44 320	6 361	14,4
Nordre Aker	47 433	7 679	16,2
Bjerke	28 226	10 847	38,4
Grorud	26 291	11 123	42,3
Stovner	30 178	13 964	46,3
Alna	47 025	21 498	45,7
Østensjø	46 244	9 678	20,9
Nordstrand	46 888	6 471	13,8
Søndre Nordstrand	35 843	17 085	47,7

\* With the exception of Marka, Sentrum and districts not stated.  
Source: Statistics Norway

**Kindergartens and the cash-for-care benefit:** In 2009, 60 per cent of children (aged 1–2) in Oslo with a background from Eastern Europe, Asia, Africa and Latin America received the cash-for-care benefit. That is more than twice the percentage of children in this age group as a whole living in Oslo (24 per cent). The national average for children with a background from Eastern Europe, Asia, Africa and Latin America is 53 per cent.

Source: Hirsch 2010

**Primary and lower secondary school:** Approximately 4,000 pupils received mother tongue tuition and/or bilingual instruction in Oslo's primary and lower secondary schools in autumn 2010. This corresponds to seven per cent of all pupils in primary and lower secondary education in Oslo.

**Upper secondary school:** In Oslo, 89 per cent of Norwegian-born with immigrant parents aged 16-18 attended upper secondary school in 2010. The percentage was 70 among immigrants in the same age group. The corresponding figure for all pupils attending upper secondary school in this age group in Oslo is 90 per cent.

**Higher education:** In 2010, 37 per cent of Norwegian-born with immigrant parents aged 19-24 from Oslo and Akershus were in higher education. The proportion of immigrants in higher education in the same age group was somewhat lower (18 per cent). Thirty-four per cent of all 19-24 year olds from Oslo and Akershus were in higher education.

**Employment:** In Oslo, 54 per cent of immigrant women were in employment, compared with 64 per cent of immigrant men (fourth quarter 2009). This was slightly below the national level for immigrant women and men (57 and 66 per cent respectively). Among immigrants with a background from Asia, Turkey, Africa, Latin America, Europe excluding EU/EFTA countries, and Oceania excluding Australia and New Zealand, the employment rate in Oslo was 47 and 59 per cent for women and men, respectively.

Source: Statistics Norway

## 19. Finances: accountancy 2010 and budget 2011

Expenditure on integration and immigration	NOK spent in 2010	NOK budgeted in 2011
Chap. 820 Norwegian Directorate of Integration and Diversity (operating expenses)	178 037 758	181 876 000
Chap. 821 Settling and integrating refugees and measures for immigrants (including the integration grant)	4 020 743 900	4 248 347 000
Chap. 821 item 61 Special grant for settling unaccompanied minors seeking asylum and refugees	Old item see below	298 344 000
Chap. 822 item 60 Norwegian language and social studies tuition for adult immigrants	1 454 376 048	1 577 421 000
Chap. 854 item 64 Special grant for settling unaccompanied minors seeking asylum and refugees	251 928 994	Ny post se over
Chap. 823 Norway's Contact Committee for Immigrants and the Authorities	6 186 000	6 312 000
Chap. 490 Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (including operating expenses for the UDI and government reception centres)	3 950 885 413	3 779 178 000
Chap. 491 Norwegian Immigration Appeals Board (operating expenses)	254 966 998	261 219 000
<b>Total</b>	<b>10 117 125 111</b>	<b>10 329 572 000</b>

\* The proposal in the revised national budget for 2011 has been incorporated in the allocation figures.

## 20. National organisations 2011

The following national organisations in the field of immigration received public funding in 2011:

Norwegian Centre against Racism:

[www.antirasistisk-senter.no](http://www.antirasistisk-senter.no)

Immigration Federation of Norway (INLO): [www.inlo.no](http://www.inlo.no)

Human Rights Service (HRS): [www.rights.no](http://www.rights.no)

Christian Intercultural Association (KIA): [www.kianorge.no](http://www.kianorge.no)

Minotenk – a minority policy think tank: [www.minotenk.no](http://www.minotenk.no)

MiRA Resource Centre for Black, Immigrant and Refugee

Women: [www.mirasenteret.no](http://www.mirasenteret.no)

Norwegian Organisation for Asylum Seekers (NOAS):

[www.noas.org](http://www.noas.org)

Institution against Public Discrimination (OMOD):

[www.omod.no](http://www.omod.no)

Selvhjelp for innvandrere og flyktninger ('Self-help for immigrants and refugees') (SEIF): [www.seif.no](http://www.seif.no)

The organisations work nationwide and/or on issues of a national nature. The aim is to develop competence about what promotes and what impedes inclusion and equal opportunities for participation in society, and to pass on information to the authorities and others. Funding is also given for work on securing the rights of asylum seekers and on developing knowledge about asylum seekers' needs.

## 21. Voluntary organisations

Funding is given to immigrant organisations and other voluntary organisations, among other things to provide information and guidance to immigrants, to prevent forced marriages, to create local meeting places and to run local immigrant organisations.

IMDi also has collaboration agreements with the following voluntary organisations:

- ▶ Association of NGOs in Norway [www.frivillighetnorge.no](http://www.frivillighetnorge.no)
- ▶ Football Association of Norway [www.fotball.no](http://www.fotball.no).
- ▶ Norwegian People's Aid [www.folkehjelp.no](http://www.folkehjelp.no)
- ▶ Norwegian Women's Public Health Association [www.sanitetskvinnene.no](http://www.sanitetskvinnene.no)
- ▶ Save the Children Norway [www.reddbarna.no](http://www.reddbarna.no)
- ▶ Norwegian Red Cross [www.rodekors.no](http://www.rodekors.no)

The goal of this collaboration is to strengthen the efforts to settle immigrants and promote participation and inclusion through specific projects that aid the development of local integration work and local meeting places. Knowledge development and recruitment to voluntary organisations are also focus areas.

## 22. Useful websites for further information

IMDi's newsletter *inytt* keeps you up to date about integration, diversity and immigration. You can sign up via [www.inytt.no](http://www.inytt.no). A selection of useful websites where you can find more information about the field is included below.

### Norway

- ▶ The Ministry of Children, Equality and Social Inclusion (BLD) [www.integrering.no](http://www.integrering.no) Tel.: (+47) 22 24 90 90
- ▶ The Norwegian Directorate for Children, Youth and Family Affairs (Bufdir) [www.bufetat.no](http://www.bufetat.no) Tel.: (+47) 466 15 000
- ▶ BAZAR – a website for language minorities [www.bazar.deichman.no](http://www.bazar.deichman.no) Tel.: (+47) 23 43 29 07
- ▶ Norwegian State Housing Bank [www.husbanken.no](http://www.husbanken.no) Tel.: (+47) 815 33 370
- ▶ The Norwegian Directorate of Integration and Diversity (IMDi) [www.imdi.no](http://www.imdi.no) Tel.: (+47) 24 16 88 00
  - Integration portal for children and youth [www.bip.no](http://www.bip.no)
  - Introsidene (introduction pages) [www.introsidene.no](http://www.introsidene.no)
  - Mangfolds- og migrasjonsbiblioteket (diversity and migration library) [www.imdi.no/bibliotek](http://www.imdi.no/bibliotek)
  - Mangfoldsportalen (Diversity portal) [www.mangfoldsportalen.no](http://www.mangfoldsportalen.no)
  - National Register of Interpreters [www.tolkeportalen.no](http://www.tolkeportalen.no)
  - New in Norway [www.nyinorge.no](http://www.nyinorge.no)
- ▶ International Organization for Migration (IOM) Tel.: (+47) 23 10 53 20
- ▶ INVIA – The Norwegian Agency for Quality Assurance in Education's (NOKUT) Information Centre for the Recognition Systems of Foreign Qualifications [www.nokut.no/no/invia/](http://www.nokut.no/no/invia/) Tel.: (+47) 21 02 18 80
- ▶ The Ministry of Justice and the Police (JD) [www.innvandring.no](http://www.innvandring.no) Tel.: (+47) 22 24 90 90
- ▶ Norway's Contact Committee for Immigrants and the Authorities (KIM) [www.kim.no](http://www.kim.no) Tel.: (+47) 24 16 89 90
- ▶ Norwegian Association of Local and Regional Authorities (KS) [www.ks.no](http://www.ks.no) Tel.: (+47) 24 13 26 00
- ▶ Equality and Anti-discrimination Ombud (LDO) [www.ldo.no](http://www.ldo.no) Tel.: (+47) 24 05 59 50
- ▶ Lovdata (collection of Norwegian laws) [www.lovdata.com](http://www.lovdata.com)
- ▶ Norwegian Centre for Minority Health Research (NAKMI) [www.nakmi.no](http://www.nakmi.no) Tel.: (+47) 23 01 60 60
- ▶ National Centre for Multicultural Education (NAFO) <http://www.hio.no/enheter/nafo> Tel.: (+47) 22 45 20 00
- ▶ Norwegian Organisation for Asylum Seekers (NOAS) [www.noas.org](http://www.noas.org) Tel.: (+47) 22 36 56 60
- ▶ Norwegian Centre for Multicultural Value Creation [www.flerkulturell.no](http://www.flerkulturell.no) Tel.: (+47) 32 82 30 00
- ▶ Institution Against Public Discrimination [www.omod.no](http://www.omod.no) Tel.: (+47) 22 20 87 37
- ▶ Statistics Norway [www.ssb.no/innvandring](http://www.ssb.no/innvandring) Tel.: (+47) 21 09 00 00
- ▶ The Norwegian Directorate of Immigration [www.udi.no](http://www.udi.no) Tel.: (+47) 23 35 15 00

- ▶ Norwegian Country of Origin Information Centre  
www.landinfo.no Tel.: (+47) 23 30 94 70
- ▶ Norwegian Immigration Appeals Board  
www.une.no Tel.: (+47) 21 08 50 00
- ▶ Welfare, Working Life and Migration (VAM)  
www.forskningsradet.no/vam Tel.: (+47) 22 03 70 00
- ▶ VOX – Norwegian Agency for Lifelong Learning  
www.vox.no Tel.: (+47) 23 38 13 00

- ▶ OECD – Organisation for Economic Co-Operation and Development  
www.oecd.org/migration
- ▶ UNHCR - United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees  
www.unhcr.org

### **International**

- ▶ EU Commission, Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities: Tackling discrimination  
<http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=423&langId=en>
- ▶ European Commission Against Racism and Intolerance  
www.coe.int/t/dghl/monitoring/ecri
- ▶ European Council on Refugees and Exiles (ECRE)  
www.ecre.org
- ▶ International Centre for Migration Policy Development  
www.icmpd.org
- ▶ International Organization for Migration (IOM)  
www.iom.int
- ▶ Migration Information Source (MPI)  
www.migrationinformation.org
- ▶ Migration Policy Group (MPG)  
www.migpolgroup.com
- ▶ Metropolis  
www.international.metropolis.net

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