

Fact booklet
about immigrants
and integration

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2008

Introduction

The Directorate of Integration and Diversity (IMDi) has gathered selected terms, figures and information relating to immigration and integration in this booklet. Our goal is to make this information easily accessible.

What constitutes important and correct knowledge can often be subject to discussion. The fact booklet is not intended to cover all topics, or to give figures and information that cannot be discussed.

IMDi therefore welcomes feedback about the booklet and proposals for figures, information, data sources and data which it may be expedient to include in the next edition. Please send any feedback to post@imdi.no.

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

Oslo, August 2008.

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1. Players in the immigration field

Stortinget (the Norwegian Parliament)

Stortinget lays down the framework for refugee, immigration and integration policies. Stortinget also lays down the framework for integration work in the municipalities through the Norwegian Introduction Act and by determining the size of the integration grants that municipalities receive in connection with settlement of refugees.

Ministry of Labour and Social Inclusion (AID)

AID has overall responsibility for Norwegian refugee, immigration and integration policies. The Ministry controls UDI, IMDi and the Immigration Appeals Board (UNE) through, among other things, statutes, regulations, budgets and letters of instruction.

Norwegian Directorate of Immigration

The Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (UDI) is the central body of immigration administration. UDI implements and helps develop the government's immigration and refugee policies. UDI also ensures regulated immigration by processing applications for various types of residence and work permits, and ensures that refugees are given protection by processing asylum applications. It is also the directorate's responsibility to run reception

centres and the rest of the reception organisation. UDI buys the operation of reception centres from contractors, which include organisations, municipalities or commercial players.

Immigration Appeals Board (UNE)

UNE is an independent administrative body processing appeals against UDI decisions pursuant to the Immigration Act and Immigration Regulations. The board is administered by the Ministry of Labour and Social Inclusion (AID). The Immigration Appeals Board is superior to UDI as a body for legal interpretation, and its practice guides UDI's practice.

Directorate of Integration and Diversity (IMDi)

IMDi implements integration and diversity policies under the Ministry of Labour and Social Inclusion's (AID) jurisdiction, acts as a centre of expertise for integration and diversity, and encourages municipalities and other players working in the field. IMDi also helps to provide a framework for the development of policies by developing knowledge and summarising experience. Being a centre of expertise, IMDi will gather and disperse knowledge, prepare documentation and work to influence the attitude of the general public. IMDi's primary legal instrument is the Introduction Act. The financial instruments include, among other things, integration grants and research and development grants. In 2008, IMDi manages grants of approximately NOK 4.3 billion.

IMDi's key tasks include: Settling refugees who are granted residence in Norway, help newcomers to start work or studies sooner, increase employment among immigrants and their descendants, ensure equal public services and be the national authority in the field of interpretation. In addition, IMDi is responsible for four of the measures in the government's action plan against forced marriages.

NAV (Norwegian Labour and Welfare Administration)

All local NAV offices also offer services for immigrants. Because this group often face obstacles in the labour market and require adapted social services and labour services, four special offices called NAV Intro have been established in Oslo, Bergen, Kristiansand and Trondheim. These offices offer services such as job applicant courses/ preparatory vocational courses, counselling interviews, follow-up in practice placements and preparatory vocational courses to make it easier for the job applicants to make use of other services offered by NAV on their way to the labour market.

Police

The main tasks of the National Police Immigration Service (PU) are to register asylum seekers, check their travel routes, determine their identities, prepare and implement final rejections in asylum cases and coordinate and carry out quality assurance of all deportations from Norway. The 27 police districts receive and prepare applications

for residence and work permits, and process many of the applications they receive. Cases that the police cannot process itself passes to UDI.

Foreign Service

Norwegian foreign service missions play an important role as the first-line service for foreigners who wish to visit or move to Norway. The foreign service missions provide information on regulations and procedures, process applications for visitor's visa and receive and prepare applications for visa and residence to be processed by UDI. Cases that cannot be processed by the foreign service missions are sent to UDI.

Municipalities

The municipalities are key participants in the work to facilitate local integration and diversity. The municipalities settle refugees in cooperation with IMDi. From 1 September 2004, the municipalities' integration work has been regulated by the Introduction Act. The Introduction Act seeks to ensure that refugees and members of their families who have immigrated to Norway for family reunification receive individual tuition in Norwegian language and social studies, and has measures to prepare them for the labour market. The municipalities must also make sure that their general municipal services are adapted to suit a multicultural population.

Statistics Norway

Statistics Norway (SSB) is the central Norwegian institution for collecting, processing and disseminating official statistics, and it has the main responsibility for covering Norwegian society's requirement for statistics. Pursuant to the Statistics Act of 1989, SSB has the right to decide what statistics are deemed to be official statistics, as well as the responsibility for coordinating all official statistics in Norway. SSB prepares statistics for many areas, including immigration and integration statistics.

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

KIM is an advisory committee, the members of which are appointed by the Norwegian government for a term of four years. The committee facilitates dialogue between minorities and authorities and gives the authorities advice and input on issues of fundamental importance to minority communities.

Vox – Norwegian Institute for Adult Learning

Vox is a national institute under the Norwegian Ministry of Education and Research. Vox works to improve the level of skills in the adult population, and they map and communicate new knowledge about the adult learning process. Vox is responsible for developing Norwegian language and social studies curricula for adult immigrants.

Expert Team for the Prevention of Forced Marriage

The expert team consists of representatives of IMDi, the Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (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 in their work with cases of concrete forced marriage. It also works with adjoining issues related to honour-related control and violence when these issues are connected to the issue of forced marriage. The team also seeks to help raise the level of expertise in the first-line services through lectures and the development of instruction materials. IMDi took over responsibility for the Expert team on 1 January 2008.

Voluntary organisations

There are many national and local organisations that organise various groups of immigrants, provide meeting places for people of different backgrounds and/or work with other integration and inclusion projects. Among other things, the Red Cross offers refugee guides, the organisation Selvhjelp for innvandrere og flyktninger (*"Self-help for immigrants and refugees"*) help persons with immigrant backgrounds in contact with public service organisations, and the Antiracist centre works to prevent racism and discrimination.

2. Key concepts

Asylum: a place of refuge for people who justly fear persecution on grounds of race, religion, nationality, political opinions or membership and/or participation in certain groups. Asylum entails, among other things, protection from being returned to the area in which the asylum seeker has grounds to fear persecution. Asylum also gives certain rights during the stay in the asylum country. Foreign nationals granted asylum in Norway are given refugee status.

Source: UDI

Reception centre: Voluntary residential offer for asylum seekers arriving in Norway. The reception centres have a simple standard and are based on self-catering. The residents receive support to cover their basic food and clothing needs. It is UDI's responsibility to run reception centres and the rest of the reception organisation. UDI buys the operation of reception centres from contractors, which include organisations, municipalities and commercial players. No political approval on a municipal level is required if the required permits for use of areas and buildings are in place.

Source: UDI

Asylum seeker: Person who arrives unannounced on his/her own initiative, requesting protection and recognition

as a refugee from the authorities. The persons are called asylum seekers until their applications have been decided.

Source: UDI

Settlement: Resettlement refugees and former asylum seekers who have been granted residence permits are settled through cooperation between the government, represented by the Directorate of Integration and Diversity (IMDi), and local municipalities. Settling refugees is a voluntary municipal task. Most refugees in Norway are settled with the help of the public authorities.

Source: IMDi

Family immigration: Settlement permits in Norway can be granted to foreign nationals who are related to Norwegians, and to foreign nationals who have legal residence in Norway. Family immigration is primarily given to close family members like spouses, registered partners, cohabitants of more than two years and children under 18 years of age. There is a general subsistence requirement in order to be granted family immigration. For applications submitted after 21 July 2008, this requirement is an income equivalent to civil service pay grade 8, which is currently NOK 215,000 per year.

Source: UDI

Refugee: Resettlement refugees and asylum seekers who have been granted asylum. In Norway, this term is also often used for persons who have been granted protection or residence on humanitarian grounds after having applied for asylum. Statistics Norway uses the term “persons with

refugee background” to cover persons living in Norway who arrived in Norway to seek refuge, including members of refugees’ families, regardless of whether the person has been granted refugee status (pursuant to the Refugee Convention).

Source: UDI and Statistics Norway

Non-Western countries: Asia including Turkey, Africa, South and Latin America and Eastern Europe. By “Western countries” is meant the Nordic Countries, Western Europe (with the exception of Turkey), North America and Oceania. The categories and terms “Western”/“non-Western” are being revised by Statistics Norway and will be replaced.

Immigrant population: Consists of persons with two parents born abroad. They have either immigrated to Norway themselves (immigrant or first-generation immigrant) or are born in Norway to two parents born abroad (descendants). “Persons with immigrant background” is synonymous with “persons belonging to the immigrant population”.

Source: Statistics Norway

Immigration/Emigration: In order to be considered 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. There are, however, many persons, particularly employees from the new EEA countries, who either do not have to report their move because they do not intend to stay in Norway

for that long, or who are not registered even though they should have been.

Source: Statistics Norway

Residence permit: Permit to stay in Norway for more than three months. Such a permit entitles EU citizens to work in Norway. Citizens of other countries will often be granted a work permit along with their residence permit. Nordic citizens do not need a residence permit to reside in Norway.

Source: UDI

Resettlement refugees: Persons allowed to come to Norway through a selection process organised by UDI and the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). The Storting stipulates annual quotas based on the government's proposal.

Source: UDI

Foreign-born: In OECD 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 "first-generation immigrants", which includes persons born abroad with two foreign-born parents and four foreign-born grandparents.

Source: OECD/SSB

See the website of the Ministry of Labour and Social Inclusion for more key concepts:
<http://www.regjeringen.no/en/dep/aid/Topics/Integration-and-diversity/central-concepts.html?id=85923>

3. The immigrant population

In spite of the increasing immigration to Norway, the immigrant population at the beginning of 2008 was still relatively small in relation to the total population, average in OECD context:

- ▶ The immigrant population made up 9.7 per cent of the population as a whole.
- ▶ The immigrant population totalled 460,000 persons.
- ▶ The number of immigrants was 381,000 (83 per cent of the immigrant population).
- ▶ The number of descendants was 79,000 (17 per cent of the immigrant population).
- ▶ The number of persons with immigrant background from Western countries was 113,000 (2.4 per cent of the population as a whole).
- ▶ The number of persons with immigrant background from non-Western countries was 374,000 (7.3 per cent of the population as a whole)

Source: Statistics Norway

- ▶ In 2005, 8.2 per cent of the population of Norway was born abroad. The corresponding figures for Sweden and Denmark were 12.4 and 6.5 per cent, respectively.

Source: OECD

The immigrant population: The 10 largest groups as of 1 January 2008:

Country	Number	Increase from 2007 to 2008	Percentage of the immigrant population
Poland	32 069	13 240	7,0 %
Pakistan	29 134	868	6,3 %
Sweden	26 244	1 740	5,7 %
Iraq	22 881	1 450	5,0 %
Somalia	21 795	2 111	4,7 %
Vietnam	19 226	425	4,2 %
Denmark	19 220	142	4,2 %
Germany	17 472	3 001	3,8 %
Bosnia and Hercegovina	15 649	260	3,4 %
Iran	15 134	476	3,3 %

Source: Statistics Norway

Foreign-born in per cent of the population of selected OECD countries. 2005. Note that the OECD definition of foreign-born is not identical to immigrant population in the above text:

Country	Percentage	Country	Percentage
Luxembourg	33,4 %	The Netherlands	10,6 %
Australia	23,8 %	UK	9,7 %
Switzerland	23,8 %	Norway	8,2 %
New Zealand	19,4 %	France	8,1 %
Canada	19,1 %	Denmark	6,5 %
Austria	13,5 %	Portugal	6,3 %
USA	12,9 %	Czech Republic	5,1 %
Sweden	12,4 %	Finland	3,4 %
Belgium	12,1 %	Hungary	3,3 %
Ireland	11,0 %	Mexico	0,4 %

Source: OECD

Immigration in 2007:

- ▶ In 2007, 62,000 immigrants to Norway and 22,000 emigrants from Norway were registered. This gives a net immigration of 40,000 persons.
- ▶ Net immigration increased by 16,000 persons, or nearly 67 %, from 2006 to 2007.
- ▶ Net immigration has never been higher than in 2007. Immigration to Norway is increasing strongly, primarily as a result of increasing labour immigration. Emigration has been stable at just over 20,000 persons for the last ten years.

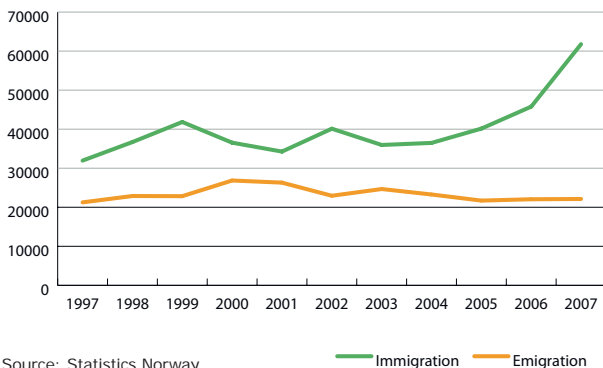
- ▶ Polish nationals were the largest group by far, followed by Germans and Swedes.
- ▶ This year, 573 Pakistani nationals immigrated to Norway, while 179 emigrated, giving a net immigration of 394 persons. Nineteen nationalities had a higher net immigration to Norway.
- ▶ Net immigration from the former Yugoslavia was a little under 700.

Immigration, emigration and net immigration of foreign nationals in 2007. 10 largest groups.

	Immigration	Emigration	Net immigration
Total	61 774	22 122	39 652
Poland	14 160	1 250	12 910
Germany	3 794	741	3 053
Sweden	4 432	2 326	2 106
Lithuania	2 350	305	2 045
Somalia	1 636	135	1 501
The Philippines	1 615	316	1 299
Russia	1 450	234	1 216
Thailand	1 155	153	1 002
Iraq	968	140	828
India	998	210	788

Source: Statistics Norway

Immigration and emigration in the period 1997-2007



Immigration in 2006 divided by reason for immigration:

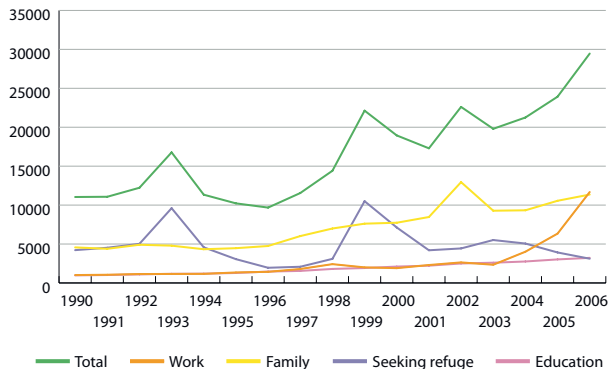
In 2006, work took over from family as the primary reason for immigration for non-Nordic first-time immigrants for the first time. Over the last few years, the percentage of immigrants who come to Norway to work has increased, while the percentage that comes for protection has fallen. In 2007 and 2008, the number of people coming for work has increased further (see UDI figures for work permits in chapter 5), and the number of asylum seekers has also increased (see UDI figures for asylum seekers in chapter 4).

First-time immigration of immigrants with non-Nordic citizenship, by reason for immigration. 2006

Reason for immigration	Number	Percentage
Total	29 462	100 %
Work	11 678	40 %
Family	11 355	39 %
Seeking refuge	3 115	11 %
Education	3 223	11 %
Other	91	0 %

Source: Statistics Norway (figures of immigration in 2007 by reason for immigration will be available on 2 October 2008.)

First-time immigration of immigrants with non-Nordic citizenship, by reason for immigration. 1990-2006.



Source: Statistics Norway (figures of immigration in 2007 by reason for immigration will be available on 2 October 2008.)

The immigrant population in the municipalities:

All Norwegian municipalities have inhabitants with immigrant backgrounds, but nearly half the immigrant population (43 %) live in Oslo and Akershus counties, while less than five per cent live in Northern Norway. Oslo has the highest percentage of immigrants, with 25 % of its inhabitants belonging to the immigrant population.

There are persons with *non-Western* immigrant backgrounds living in all Norwegian municipalities except two (Beiarn and Osen municipalities), but the non-Western immigrant population is highly concentrated in the areas around the big cities and in central parts of Eastern Norway.

Top ten municipalities with the highest immigrant populations (Western and non-Western) as of 1 January

Municipality	Number	Largest nationality group
1. Oslo	139 878	Pakistan
2. Bergen	23 682	Poland
3. Stavanger	16 636	UK
4. Bærum	14 293	Poland
5. Trondheim	14 147	Turkey
6. Drammen	11 624	Turkey
7. Kristiansand	9 237	Vietnam
8. Skedsmo	7 264	Vietnam
9. Fredrikstad	7 204	Iraq
10. Sandnes	6 828	Vietnam

Source: Statistics Norway

Top ten – number of persons with non-Western immigrant background as of 1 January 2008.

Municipality:	Number:
1. Oslo	115 574
2. Bergen	18 235
3. Stavanger	11 453
4. Trondheim	10 702
5. Drammen	10 138
6. Bærum	9 371
7. Kristiansand	7 328
8. Skedsmo	6 091
9. Fredrikstad	5 699
10. Sandnes	5 310
Total – top ten	199 901

Source: Statistics Norway

Top ten – percentage with non-Western immigrant background in relation to the population as a whole as of 1 January 2008.

1. Oslo	20,6 %
2. Drammen	16,9 %
3. Lørenskog	14,1 %
4. Skedsmo	13,2 %
5. Askim	12,2 %
6. Rælingen	11,1 %
7. Moss	10,8 %
8. Ås	9,7 %
9. Stavanger	9,6 %
10. Lier	9,5 %

Source: Statistics Norway

The immigrant population extrapolated:

Extrapolations made by Statistics Norway shows that the immigrant population will probably increase significantly in the period from 2008 to 2060. There is significant uncertainty about these figures, and particularly about immigration figures, which vary greatly over time. For example, 16,000 more persons immigrated in 2007 than in 2006.

- ▶ The immigrant population will probably grow from 460,000 today to somewhere between 1.1 and 2.6 million in 2060. The total population in 2060 will be between 5.3 and 8.5 million, compared with 4.7 million today.
- ▶ The immigrant population is expected to make up between 21 and 31 per cent of the population in 2060.

Source: Statistics Norway

4. Asylum seekers and refugees

The Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (UDI) is responsible for processing applications for various types of residence and work permits in Norway, and it is also UDI's responsibility to run reception centres and the rest of the reception organisation. UDI buys the operation of reception centres from contractors, which include organisations, municipalities and commercial players. No political approval on a municipal level is required if the required permits for use of areas and buildings are in place.

Applications for asylum in 2007:

After several years of falling numbers of applications for asylum, the number of asylum seekers increased again in 2007, particularly from August till the end of the year:

- ▶ Just over 6,500 persons applied for asylum in 2007.
- ▶ The asylum seekers came from 106 different countries.
- ▶ The highest numbers of asylum seekers came from Iraq, Russia and Eritrea.
- ▶ Approximately one in four asylum seekers was a child (1,568).
- ▶ Unaccompanied minor asylum seekers made up 6 per cent of the total number (403).
- ▶ The countries from which the highest number of unaccompanied minor asylum seekers came were Iraq, Afghanistan and Eritrea.

Source: UDI

Applications for asylum in the first six months of 2008:

- ▶ Nearly 5,400 persons applied for asylum, an increase of 120 per cent compared with the first six months of 2007.
- ▶ Unaccompanied minor asylum seekers made up 8 per cent (423) of the total number of applicants.

Source: UDI

Asylum applications prognosis for 2008

- ▶ UDI's prognosis is that 15,000 asylum seekers will arrive in 2008, compared with 6,500 that arrived in 2007.

Source: UDI

Residents of reception centres:

- ▶ At the end of June 2008, nearly 9,300 persons stayed in 66 reception centres. Three in ten of these persons were from Iraq or Eritrea.
- ▶ The number of reception centres was reduced from 75 to 66 in 2006, and further reduced to 61 in 2007. During the first six months of 2008, the number of reception centres was increased back up to 66.
- ▶ Operating expenses for reception centres in 2007 amounted to NOK 835.5 million, down from NOK 930.3 million in 2006. The revised national budget for 2008 budgeted NOK 1,152.4 million for this purpose.
- ▶ At the end of 2007, the reception centres had residents from 94 countries.
- ▶ Approximately 7,500 residents left a reception centre in 2007, either because they were settled or deported or returned voluntarily or moved to a known or unknown address.

- ▶ Just under 2,300 residents left reception centres in 2007 without giving a new address. This makes up 30 per cent of those who left reception centres. They may either have returned to their home countries or gone to a different country to seek asylum, or they may be residing at an unknown address in Norway. Of these persons, 1,300 have later registered a known address.

Source: UDI

The number of persons granted protection in Norway over the last five years:

The number of persons granted protection in Norway has fallen in the period 2003-2006, and then increased significantly in 2007.

The table below includes all persons who have been granted residence in Norway following an asylum application, regardless of whether UDI as first processing body or UNE as appeal body made the decision. The decisions are divided by when the application was granted, regardless of when the application was submitted. Resettlement refugees are also included.

Persons granted protection in the period 2003-2007.

	Total	UDI	UNE	Resettlement refugees
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
2003	4 946	3 557	240	1 149

Source: UDI

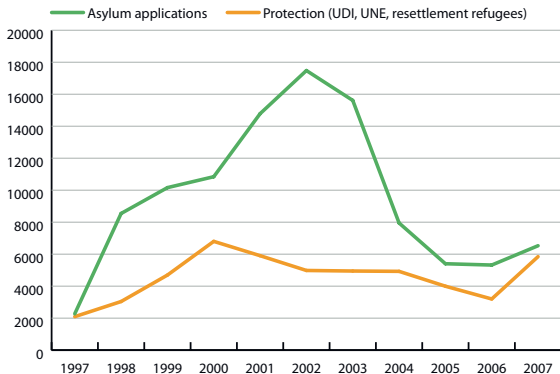
Residence permits granted by UDI in 2007 following an application for asylum:

Persons who were granted residence following an application for asylum mostly came from countries marked by war or conflict (residence granted by UNE as a result of appeals processing are not included here):

- ▶ More than 2,900 persons were granted residence following an application for asylum.
- ▶ The highest numbers of permits were given to persons from Somalia, Iraq, Russia and Eritrea.
- ▶ 860 children were granted residence following an application for asylum.
- ▶ A higher percentage of women than men were granted residence after processing in the first instance (67 per cent of women, compared with 54 per cent of men).

Source: UDI

Number of persons who applied for asylum and number of persons granted protection in the period 1997-2007



Source: UDI

Residence as resettlement refugees:

The number of persons who were granted protection as resettlement refugees in 2007 increased compared with 2006:

- ▶ In 2007, 1,106 resettlement refugees came to Norway, compared with 992 in 2006. The total number of persons to whom residence was granted was 1,350, compared with 924 in 2006. The person does not necessarily come to Norway in the same year as he or she is granted residence.
- ▶ The highest number of refugees came from Myanmar (Burma), the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Iraq.
- ▶ Children made up 43 per cent of the resettlement refugees.
- ▶ There were more men than women among the resettlement refugees.

Source: Statistics Norway (Figures for 1 January 2008 will be available on 15 September 2008).

Persons with refugee backgrounds:

Statistics Norway's statistics of persons with refugee backgrounds (including family members who have been granted family reunification with refugees) shows that they made up 30 per cent of the total immigrant population in Norway at the end of 2007.

- ▶ The number of persons with refugee background living in Norway was 125,100 (or 2.7 per cent of the total population).
- ▶ The highest number had backgrounds from Iraq (16,800), Somalia (14,000) and Bosnia and Herzegovina (12,500).

Source: Statistics Norway (Figures for 1 January 2008 will be available on 15 September 2008).

5. Work immigration

The top three immigrant nationalities in 2007 were all typical work immigration countries: 14,000 Polish nationals, 4,300 Swedes and 3,600 Germans.

Source: Statistics Norway

In order to be considered an immigrant in Statistics Norway's immigration statistics, the immigrant must be registered in the population register, which requires a minimum residence period of six months. Persons with work permits with durations of less than six months are not registered as settled. For this reason, among others, UDI's figures for work permits granted will not be in agreement with Statistics Norway's immigration statistics.

Work permits 2007:

- ▶ Almost 98,000 work permits were granted, including 43,000 renewals.
- ▶ The highest numbers were granted to Polish, Lithuanian, German, Slovakian and Latvian nationals.
- ▶ 80 per cent of work permits were granted to men, 48 per cent of whom were under the age of 30.
- ▶ On average, 70,000 persons held valid work permits in Norway.
- ▶ 85 per cent of all first-time permits were granted pursuant to EEA regulations.

- ▶ A total of 45 per cent of all family immigration permits were granted to members of work immigrants' families.
- ▶ 37 per cent of family members who immigrated to join a work immigrant were from Poland.
- ▶ Approximately 1,800 family immigration permits were granted to Polish children.

Source: UDI

Work permits, first six months of 2008:

- ▶ At the end of June, approximately 50,000 work permits, almost half of which were renewals, had been granted.
- ▶ The highest numbers were granted to Polish, Lithuanian, German, Slovakian and Latvian nationals.
- ▶ There has been a steep increase in the number of permits granted to Romanian nationals, from 711 in the first six months of 2007 to 1,468 in the first six months of 2008.
- ▶ As of 1 July, nearly 101,000 persons held valid work permits in Norway.

Source: UDI

The situation of work immigrants from Poland and the Baltic states in Norway

IMDi has carried out a survey of settled (registered in the Norwegian population register) work immigrants from Poland and the Baltic states (phone-based interview survey, and group interviews with Polish work immigrants).

The findings included among others the following:

- ▶ Few of them experience poor working conditions or gross exploitation at work. A clear majority perceive their work to be appropriate to their education and expertise.
- ▶ It is a challenge that highly educated women remain outside the labour market or accept jobs for which they are over-qualified in Norway.
- ▶ Few of them experience poor working conditions or gross exploitation at work.
- ▶ A majority have a large and broad need for information during their first year in Norway. The most important barrier preventing them from receiving information is not mastering Norwegian or English.
- ▶ There is a clear need and desire to acquire better knowledge of the Norwegian language.
- ▶ It is not until after they have decided to stay in Norway for a long period of time that Polish workers want to learn the Norwegian language.
- ▶ The work immigrants want to participate in local leisure activities and take part in social networks with Norwegians.
- ▶ As many as seven in ten of them say that they will definitely or probably be living in Norway in five years.

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)

6. Family immigration and marriage patterns

Family immigration:

In 2007, more than 17,900 persons were granted family immigration permits. This is the highest number of such permits ever granted, and approximately 3,900 more than in 2006. The increase in family immigration permits from new EU countries like Poland and Lithuania continued in 2007.

Family immigration permits – top ten countries in 2007:

Nationality	No. of permits	Change 2006-2007	No. of women (adults and children)	No. of children
Total	17 913	+ 3 932	11 914	8 066
Poland	3 292	+ 1 590	2 322	1 813
Germany	1 456	688	952	823
Thailand	1 073	130	921	314
Somalia	1 003	90	533	730
Russia	658	63	502	239
Lithuania	643	261	433	392
The Philippines	618	206	490	176
The Netherlands	509	85	305	307
India	496	250	360	190
USA	453	43	275	160

Source: UDI

- ▶ The three countries with the highest increase from 2006 to 2007 are all typical work immigration countries: Poland (+1,590), Germany (+688) and Lithuania (+261).
- ▶ Out of all adults granted family immigration permits in 2007, 81 per cent were women.
- ▶ Children were granted 45 per cent of all family immigration permits in 2007. The top five countries for family immigration of children were: Poland, Germany, Somalia, Lithuania and Thailand. Together, these countries accounted for 50 per cent of all permits granted to children.
- ▶ In 2007, more than 1,800 family immigration permits were granted to Polish children.

Source: UDI

Marriage patterns:

- ▶ Each year, more marriages are entered into between one person with and one person without an immigrant background than between two persons with immigrant backgrounds.
- ▶ More men than women marry a person who lived outside of Norway prior to the marriage. In the period 1996-2004, men and women without immigrant backgrounds entered into 15,000 and 7,500 such marriages, respectively.
- ▶ Many Thai, Philippine and Russian women marry men without immigrant backgrounds.
- ▶ Many people with non-Western backgrounds marry persons who were not residents of Norway at the time

of marriage. This particularly applies to persons from Pakistan, Turkey and Morocco.

- ▶ Few descendants are of a marriageable age, and they generally marry later in life than first-generation immigrants.

Marriages entered into by settled women 1996-2004 Selected national groups

	No. of women who married	Percentage of women who married persons resident abroad at the time of marriage	Percentage of women who married persons without immigrant backgrounds
Pakistan, first-generation	741	74 %	1,9 %
Pakistan, descendant	586	77 %	1,4 %
Turkey, first-generation	557	77 %	7,5 %
Turkey, descendant	172	74 %	2,9 %
Vietnam (first-generation + descendants)	868	30 %	11,3 %
Sri Lanka (first-generation + descendants)	661	30 %	5,4 %

Source: Statistics Norway: Daugstad (2006).

Marriages entered into by settled men 1996-2004 Selected national groups

	No. of men who married	Percentage of men who married persons resident abroad at the time of marriage	Percentage of men who married persons without immigrant backgrounds
Pakistan, first-generation	1 125	76 %	4,1 %
Pakistan, descendant	475	76 %	1,5 %
Turkey, first-generation	838	76 %	11 %
Turkey, descendant	96	70 %	4,2 %
Vietnam (first-generation + descendants)	1 378	63 %	0,1 %
Sri Lanka (first-generation + descendants)	1 197	58 %	4,2 %

Source: Statistics Norway: Daugstad (2006).

7. Settlement and qualification

Settlement:

Most refugees in Norway are settled with the assistance of public authorities. Resettlement refugees and former asylum seekers who have been granted residence permits are settled through cooperation between the government, represented by the Directorate of Integration and Diversity (IMDi), and local municipalities. Settling refugees is a voluntary municipal task.

- ▶ In 2007, 211 municipalities were asked to settle refugees.
- ▶ 193 municipalities agreed.
- ▶ The top six settlement municipalities in 2007 were Oslo (331 persons settled), Bergen (220 persons settled), Trondheim (195 persons settled), Kristiansand (136 persons settled), Bodø (93 persons settled) and Fredrikstad (89 persons settled).

Source: IMDi (Settlement report as of 31 December 2007).

- ▶ The settlement requirement for 2008 is expected to be 5,018 persons. This is 1,192 more than were settled in 2007, when 3,826 persons were settled.
- ▶ During the first six months of 2008, 416 more persons were settled than during the first six months of 2007.
- ▶ The average waiting period from the granting of a residence permit until a person is settled in a municipality has increased from 4.8 months as of 31 December 2007 to 5.3 months as of 30 June 2008.

- ▶ The number of persons who have waited for more than six months has increased from 85 to 499 during the same period. It is a goal that settlement in a municipality should take place within 6 months after an ordinary residence and/or work permit has been granted.
- ▶ As of June 2008, 188 children had waited for more than six months.
- ▶ As of June 2008, a total of 1,404 persons, 536 of them single men, were staying in reception centres while waiting for settlement.

Source: IMDi (Settlement report as of 31 June 2008).

Introduction programme:

The Introduction Act entitles and obligates newly arrived immigrants to participate in a full-time introduction programme for up to two years. The right and obligation to participate in the introduction programme applies to newly arrived foreign nationals between 18 and 55 years of age who need to obtain basic qualifications and who a) have been granted asylum, b) are resettlement refugees who have been granted leave to enter the country, c) have been granted residence on humanitarian grounds based on an application for asylum or collective protection in a situation of mass outflow, or d) are family members arriving for family unification with persons as mentioned under a, b or c. According to Statistics Norway, the introduction scheme had approximately 8,000 participants per year during the period 2005-2007.

- ▶ IMDi has obtained information from the municipalities (city wards) about the status of participants who completed the programme in 2007. The reports show that

half of the participants started work or studies after completing/interrupting the programme.

- ▶ The percentage of participants going on to work or studies is somewhat higher in the small and medium-sized introduction programmes (with up to 100 participants) than in the larger programmes (with more than 100 participants).
- ▶ According to the municipalities' reports, 71 per cent of the persons who completed/ interrupted the programme were not receiving financial benefits at the time at which they left the programme. This could be interpreted to mean that they have become financially self-sufficient through participation in the labour market, or that they are provided for financially by family or others.

Source: IMDi

▶ **FAFO evaluation**

In 2007, Fafo evaluated the introduction programme in collaboration with the Institute for Social Research. An important part of the evaluation was to examine what became of the participants who completed their introduction programmes during the first two years that the Introduction Act was in force, from 1 September 2004 to 1 September 2006. The Fafo evaluation showed that 60 per cent of the participants start work and/or studies.

Source: Fafo: Kavli et. al. (2007)

▶ **Statistics Norway monitor**

Statistics Norway publishes an annual publication called "Monitor for introduksjonsordningen" ("Monitor for the

introduction programme" – in Norwegian only). The monitor for 2007 describes the participation in the labour market of participants who left the programme in 2005 as of November 2006. The goal of the monitor is to eventually follow cohorts of persons who leave the programme over prolonged periods of time and measure the development in the years to come. Statistics Norway found that a total of 58 per cent of the persons who left the introduction programme in 2005 were working or studying in November 2006. Of those who completed the programme, 65 per cent were working or studying.

Source: Statistics Norway: Mathisen (2007)

Norwegian language and social studies education

The right and obligation to participate in free Norwegian language and social studies education for a total of 300 hours applies to foreign nationals between 16 and 55 years of age who a) have been granted a residence or work permit pursuant to the Immigration Act which forms the basis for a settlement permit, or b) collective protection in a situation of mass outflow in accordance with the Immigration Act section 8a. Foreign nationals between 55 and 67 years of age with a basis for residence as mentioned in a or b have a right, but no an obligation, to participate in education. Completion of this education will be a requirement for granting settlement permits and citizenships to this group. The grant scheme for Norwegian language tuition was also changed to a per capita-based grant scheme.

Persons who have been granted such permits before the date 1 September 2005, when the new scheme came into

force, will be given Norwegian language tuition in accordance with a transitional programme. The transitional programme is identical to the grant scheme in force until 1 September 2005, and will apply for five years from that date.

From 1 September 2007, the possibility for up to 250 hours of Norwegian language tuition for asylum seekers in ordinary reception centres was reintroduced.

The circle of persons who have a right and obligation to participate in Norwegian language tuition is wider than the circle of persons who have a right and obligation to participate in the introduction programme. The right and obligation to participate in Norwegian and social studies education includes, among others, family immigrants who come to be reunited with nationals of Norway and the other Nordic countries.

- ▶ As of 30 June 2008, 31,645 persons had a right and obligation to participate in Norwegian language tuition, including 7,422 persons with only obligation.
- ▶ As of 30 June 2008, 17,522 persons with a right and/or obligation participated in Norwegian and social studies education.
- ▶ During the first six months of 2008, 11,300 adult immigrants received Norwegian language tuition under the transitional programme. These persons were granted residence before 1 September 2005.
- ▶ There are two national final Norwegian language examinations, Norskprøve 2 and Norskprøve 3. Of the students who sat the Norskprøve 2 examinations during the first six months of 2008, 93 per cent passed the oral test and

54 per cent the written test. Of the students who sat the Norskprøve 3 examinations, 82 per cent passed the oral test and 47 per cent the written test.

Source: IMDi

New Chance – trial qualification programme for long-term recipients of social security benefits with immigrant backgrounds

New Chance is a trial project that gives long-term recipients of social security benefits with immigrant backgrounds an opportunity to qualify for the labour market and become financially self-sufficient.

- ▶ During the period 2005-2007, a total of NOK 50 million has been granted to New Chance in the national budgets.
- ▶ During the period 2005-2007, approximately 900 persons participated in 25 New Chance projects. Of these 900 participants, 57 per cent were women.
- ▶ The New Chance participants are far from inclusion in the labour market when they join the programme: almost half of them have no work experience from their country of origin. One third of male participants and two thirds of female participants have not been in paid employment in Norway either.
- ▶ Of the 453 participants who had left the programme before the end of 2007, 46 per cent started work or studies.
- ▶ Based on data from the project, Econ Pöyry calculated that the socio-economic gain from New Chance could total as much as NOK 450 million for the period 2005-2007.

Source: IMDi report no. 4 2008

8. Employment, income and unemployment

Employment:

- ▶ A total of almost 146,000 non-Western first-generation immigrants were employed in Norway as of the fourth quarter of 2007. This was 26,000 more than the previous year.
- ▶ 60 per cent of all non-Western immigrants between 15 and 74 years of age are employed, this is an increase from 56 per cent in the fourth quarter of 2006.
- ▶ Employment in the immigrant population rises significantly with the duration of their residence.
- ▶ There are significant differences between Western and non-Western immigrants in terms of percentage employed.

Employment percentages for first-generation immigrants 15-74 years, fourth quarter 2007

	Both sexes	Men	Women
Total population	72 %	75 %	68 %
Total first-generation immigrants	63 %	69 %	57 %
First-generation immigrants from Western countries	73 %	76 %	68 %
First-generation immigrants from non-Western countries	60 %	66 %	53 %

Source: Statistics Norway

Employment percentages for first-generation immigrants 15-74 years, selected nationalities. Fourth quarter 2007

Country	Both sexes	Men	Women
Poland	77 %	83 %	64 %
Chile	71 %	74 %	67 %
Sri Lanka	69 %	76 %	61 %
Vietnam	65 %	68 %	61 %
Iran	58 %	62 %	54 %
Turkey	55 %	65 %	42 %
Afghanistan	51 %	65 %	31 %
Pakistan	48 %	64 %	31 %
Iraq	46 %	55 %	32 %
Somalia	36 %	45 %	24 %

Source: Statistics Norway

Unemployment:

Registered unemployment among immigrants is falling, and it follows the cyclical fluctuations of the general economic situation.

- ▶ The level of unemployment among immigrants is falling, but the difference between it and the level of the rest of the population has remained unchanged over time: the unemployment level in the immigrant population is approximately three times that of the rest of the population.
- ▶ The percentage of unemployed (in per cent of the working population) among first-generation immigrants was 1.4 percentage points lower in February of 2008 than it was at the same time in 2007.

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

Percentage of unemployed persons in per cent of the working population as of the first quarter of 2008.

Group	Both sexes	Men	Women
Registered as fully unemployed	1,7 %	1,8 %	1,6 %
Total first-generation immigrants	4,5 %	4,4 %	4,6 %
Nordic countries	1,8 %	2,0 %	1,6 %
Rest of Western Europe	1,8 %	1,8 %	1,9 %
EU countries in Eastern Europe	2,4 %	2,0 %	3,2 %
Rest of Eastern Europe	5,5 %	5,2 %	5,8 %
North America and Oceania	1,9 %	2,0 %	1,8 %
Asia	5,9 %	5,8 %	6,1 %
Africa	10,6 %	11,2 %	9,4 %
South and Central America	4,5 %	3,9 %	5,0 %

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

International comparisons

OECD compares the employment levels of foreign-born persons in different OECD countries. Statistics are partly based on labour surveys carried out in several OECD countries, partly on other sources (applies e.g. to Canada, the USA, Denmark and Australia). In labour surveys, a representative selection of the population is interviewed. No special selection is drawn from the foreign-born population, and the number of foreign-born subjects will therefore be limited. This is one of the reasons why employment figures for foreign-born persons are uncertain and must be interpreted with caution.

Employment level and unemployment in selected OECD countries. 2005. 15-64 years.

Country	Employment level, native-born	Employment level, foreign-born	Unemployment level, native-born	Unemployment level, foreign-born
Norway	75,6 %	63,3 %	4,2 %	10,6 %
Sweden	74,6 %	60,7 %	7,9 %	14,9 %
Denmark	76,8 %	59,9 %	4,5 %	9,8 %
Germany	67,0 %	57,0 %	10,4 %	17,0 %
USA	69,2 %	69,4 %	5,8 %	5,1 %
UK	72,4 %	63,8 %	4,3 %	7,3 %

Source: OECD

Income:

Immigrant households have lower average incomes than the average household, particularly as a result of the immigrants' weaker connection to the labour market.

- ▶ In households where the main provider is a non-Western immigrant, the total household income was 63 per cent of the average household income in 2005.
- ▶ Of the total income, the percentage of benefits was higher for non-Western immigrants compared with the rest of the population (29 per cent compared with 20 per cent) (in 2005).
- ▶ 26 per cent of the persons in non-Western immigrant households belong to the low income group (by OECD's measurement methods), compared with 5.6 per cent in the population as a whole.
- ▶ Generally speaking, immigrant households' income increases with the duration of residence.

Source: Statistics Norway: Økonomi og levekår for ulike grupper (2007) ("Financial situation and living conditions for different groups" – in Norwegian only)

9. Cash benefit for parents staying at home with children under the age of three (*"kontantstøtte"*) and kindergartens

Cash benefit for parents staying at home with children under the age of three (*"kontantstøtte"*):

- ▶ It is more common to receive *kontantstøtte* for children with non-Western background than for children in the population as a whole. As of September 2006, 69 percent, compared with 46 per cent of all children aged 1-3, received such benefits (no newer statistics are available).
- ▶ It was less common to receive *kontantstøtte* in 2006 than in 1999, both among children in general and immigrant children.
- ▶ There are major differences between national backgrounds in terms of how common it is to receive *kontantstøtte*. While 82 and 81 percent respectively of children in this age group with backgrounds from Pakistan and Sri Lanka received *kontantstøtte* in 2006, only 58 per cent of children with Iranian backgrounds did.
- ▶ There are significant differences between counties in terms of how common it is for children with non-Western background to receive *kontantstøtte*, from 40 per cent in Finnmark County to 76 per cent in Østfold County.

Source: Statistics Norway: Daugstad and Sandnes (2008)

Percentage of children aged 1-3 who received kontantstøtte in September 2006.

All children	46 %
Children with non-Western backgrounds	69 %
Pakistan	82 %
Sri Lanka	81 %
Turkey	79 %
Morocco	78 %
Serbia og Montenegro	78 %
Somalia	78 %
Iraq	76 %
Vietnam	75 %
Bosnia and Herzegovina	73 %
Iran	58 %

Source: Statistics Norway: Daugstad and Sandnes (2008)

Kindergarten:

- ▶ 18,900 children from language minorities attended kindergarten at the end of 2007, and a total of 250,000 children had kindergarten places.
- ▶ Children from language minorities accounted for just under 8 per cent of all children attending kindergartens in 2007. Children from language minorities are defined as children whose first language is not Norwegian, Sami, Swedish, Danish or English.
- ▶ 71 per cent of all children aged 0-5 years had kindergarten places (2007). The percentage of children from language minorities attending kindergarten was 51 per cent of all immigrant children (0-5 years).

- From autumn 2007, free core time in kindergarten was introduced for all 4 and 5-year-olds in the city wards in the Groruddalen area and in Søndre Nordstrand in Oslo. In mid-September 2007, the coverage in the city wards in Groruddalen varied from 82 per cent for 5-year-olds in Alna to 100 per cent for 4 and 5-year-olds in Stovner

Source: the Groruddal project, programme area four. Annual report 2007 and action programme 2008.

Coverage in city wards in Oslo with free core time in kindergartens.

City ward	4-year-olds (coverage)	5-year-olds (coverage)
Alna	87 %	82 %
Bjerke	87 %	91,1 %
Gorud	91 %	93,3 %
Stovner	Approx. 100 %	Approx. 100 %

Source: the Groruddal project, programme area four. Annual report 2007 and action programme 2008.

Language mapping:

Twelve municipalities participate in a project where children's language skills are mapped in public health centres in connection with the 4-year check-up. The goal of this mapping is to discover language stimulation needs and to refer children to further examination or relevant measures at an early stage. This applies both to weak general language development in children and inadequate knowledge of Norwegian in children whose first language

is not Norwegian. The long-term objective is to ensure that the children become better prepared to follow tuition when they start school and to enable them to participate in social activities on equal terms with other children. The project will be evaluated in 2008.

- ▶ IMDi has divided NOK 9.2 million between the 12 municipalities for continuation of the language mapping project in 2008.
- ▶ Half-way through the third year of the project, a total of 32,500 children, 7,600 of whom had multilingual backgrounds, had been mapped.
- ▶ Approximately 10 per cent of Norwegian-speaking children have required further follow-up, as compared with approx. 30 per cent of the multilingual children.

10. Education

Primary and lower secondary education:

- ▶ Almost 22,100 pupils received mother tongue tuition and/or bilingual instruction in autumn 2007. That is 3.6 per cent of all pupils in primary and lower secondary schools, a level similar to the year before.
- ▶ 6.5 per cent of the pupils received special Norwegian language tuition, also a level similar to the year before.
- ▶ Mother tongue tuition and/or bilingual instruction were registered for 117 different languages, not including those registered under "others".
- ▶ Urdu and Somali were the largest languages, with approximately 2,500 pupils each.
- ▶ Nearly 2,000 pupils received Arabic language tuition or tuition in Arabic.

Source: Statistics Norway

Upper secondary education:

Pupils with non-Western backgrounds participate in upper secondary education as much as others, but they take longer to complete it. It is also more common to drop out of upper secondary school than it is among pupils without immigrant background, and this applies to both first-generation and second-generation descendants.

Percentage who interrupted their studies (or failed examinations) within a five-year period, among the total number of pupils who started upper secondary school in spring 2000.

	Total	Men	Women
Pupils without immigrant backgrounds	25 %	30 %	20 %
First-generation immigrants with non-Western backgrounds	42 %	49 %	34 %
Descendants with non-Western backgrounds	30 %	35 %	23 %

Source: Statistics Norway: Aalandslid (2007)

Quick transition from upper secondary education to higher education:

A higher percentage of pupils with non-Western backgrounds that graduated from upper secondary school in spring 2005 entered higher education in autumn 2005 than of pupils without immigrant background from the same year. See the percentages of pupils who went directly from upper secondary school to higher education for various groups below:

- ▶ Pupils without immigrant background: 36 per cent (boys 31 per cent and girls 40 per cent)
- ▶ Pupils with non-Western immigrant background: 49 per cent (boys 45 per cent and girls 52 per cent)

Source: Statistics Norway: Aalandslid (2007)

Participation in higher education in 2006:

Descendants (19-24 years) participate more in higher education than the young population as a whole. In the period 1997-2006, participation increased by 11 and

6 percentage points for female and male descendants respectively, compared with 4 and 1 percentage points for the young population as a whole.

Percentage in higher education (19-24 years old) autumn 2006.

	Total	Men	Women
All pupils	31 %	25 %	37 %
Descendants (most of them with non-Western background)	34 %	29 %	39 %
First-generation immigrants (Western and non-Western)	19 %	17 %	21 %

Source: Statistics Norway: Daugstad and Sandnes (2008)

Reading and arithmetic skills

The Reading Centre at the University of Stavanger has, in collaboration with Statistics Norway, carried out a survey of the reading and arithmetic skills of adult immigrants.

The survey gave the following results:

- ▶ 65 per cent of immigrants with non-Western background fell into the two lowest of five levels of reading skills, compared with 32 per cent in the control group.
- ▶ 73 per cent of immigrants are on the lowest of five levels of everyday arithmetic, compared with 40 per cent in the control group.
- ▶ The discrepancy with the control group is significant also for the youngest age group (16-30 years), which has the largest element of descendants.
- ▶ The duration of residence does not seem to be of significant importance to the immigrants' results.

Source: Statistics Norway: Aalandslid (2007)

11. Child Welfare Services

Children who have immigrated to Norway are overrepresented in terms of use of child welfare services:

- ▶ In 2004, the Child Welfare Services implemented measures relating to 58 of every 1,000 children (0-22 years) who had immigrated to Norway. Of children without immigrant backgrounds 25 of 1,000 received help, and of descendants 39 of 1,000.
- ▶ The figures for children under the Child Welfare Services' care (0-17 years) in 2004 were 6.7 per 1,000 first-generation immigrants, compared with 3.1 per 1,000 descendants and 5.4 per 1,000 children of Norwegian parents.

Source: Statistics Norway: Allertsen and Kalve (2006)

12. 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.
- ▶ Organisations and assisting bodies report an increasing number of cases of forced marriages in Norway. There is no reliable information about how many boys and girls in Norway are subjected to serious pressure and coercion to enter into marriage. The extent of forced marriage cases and related problems in parts of the support system is mapped in Bredal and Skjerven (2007).
- ▶ The Expert Team for the Prevention of Forced Marriage has received 490 queries relating to forced marriage since it was established in 2004.
- ▶ The team received 93 queries during the first six months of 2008 (101 during the first six months of 2007).

13. Female genital mutilation

The Norwegian Act Prohibiting Female Genital Mutilation came into force in 1996, with a maximum sentence of eight years' imprisonment for persons who perform or are accessories to female genital mutilation. In 2004, a provision was included in the act imposing a duty to report or otherwise seek to avert female genital mutilation on professionals and employees of kindergartens, the Child Welfare Service, health and social welfare services, schools, day care facilities for school children and religious communities.

There is no exact knowledge about the extent of the female genital mutilation problem in Norway, but the Institute for Social Research has carried out a mapping study of known cases of female genital mutilation in the Child Welfare Service, health services, schools, and kindergartens in 2006 and 2007:

- ▶ Statistics Norway's statistics show that approximately 3,700 girls are at an age where female circumcision is common in their country of origin.
- ▶ A total of 15 cases of female genital mutilation have been reported in Norway, 5 in 2006 and 10 in 2007.
- ▶ The report concludes that the scope of female genital mutilation is limited in relation to the size of the group in question, and that many have discontinued the practice.

Source: Institute for Social Research, Lidén and Bentzen (2007)

14. Crime

Non-Western immigrants are overrepresented in crime statistics, both as victims, defendants and convicted persons. Young men with non-Western backgrounds are the most overrepresented group. It is important to remember that being arrested for crimes have a strong statistical relation to other living condition variables. Living condition-related and social problems have a higher occurrence in the non-Western immigrant population, which explains a large part of the group's overrepresentation. The probability that non-Western youth will commit crimes falls steeply when statistics are adjusted for other characteristics and living conditions.

- ▶ Statistics Norway has examined crimes committed in the period 1992-2001 by persons born in 1977 (and who were settled in 1992, i.e. have not since emigrated). During the period, 17 per cent of the group with non-Western backgrounds and 10 per cent of the group with Norwegian backgrounds had committed crimes.

Source: Statistics Norway: Skardhamar (2006)

Persons with non-Western immigrant backgrounds are overrepresented among convicted criminals:

- ▶ In 2002, 13.5 of every 1,000 inhabitants with Norwegian backgrounds were punished for a crime. The rate was 11.5 for Western immigrants and 30 for non-Western immigrants. The low average age in the

immigrant population explains some of the overrepresentation.

Source: Statistics Norway: Østby (2006)

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

- ▶ Are slightly more at risk of violence than the average in the population as a whole.
- ▶ Are equally at risk of threats.
- ▶ Are less at risk of theft and vandalism.

Source: Statistics Norway: Blom and Henriksen (2008)

Use of crisis centres by women of foreign origin

- ▶ In 2006, 56 per cent of crisis centre residents were of foreign origin, up from 45 per cent in 2003.
- ▶ Almost one third of the residents of foreign origin were victims of violence committed by Norwegian men (in 2006).
- ▶ 55 per cent of foreign crisis centre residents did not speak Norwegian or had limited knowledge of Norwegian.
- ▶ It was more common for foreign than for Norwegian residents that the police, family, friends or acquaintances contacted the centres on the women's behalf.

Source: Statistics Norway: Kleven and Lien (2007)

15. Participation in elections

Norwegian nationals over the age of 18 have the right to vote in general elections. In local government and county council elections, foreign nationals who have lived in Norway for at least three years also have the right to vote.

Participation in the 2005 general election

In 2005, voter participation in the non-Western immigrant population was 49 per cent, compared with 78 per cent in the population as a whole and 53 per cent in the immigrant population as a whole. Election turnout varies considerably between different groups in the non-Western immigrant population. Also, there is no clear connection between integration in different social arenas, for example the labour market, and the election turnout:

- ▶ Somali youth (18-21 years) have approximately the same participation as youth without immigrant backgrounds (52 and 55 per cent, respectively), in spite of low scores on other living condition variables.
- ▶ A much larger proportion of women from Pakistan than from Vietnam vote, in spite of their much lower participation in the labour market.
- ▶ The election turnout among women from Sri Lanka was 69 per cent, only 9 percentage points lower than for women in the population as a whole.

- ▶ Groups originating in the Balkans have by far the lowest voter participation, in spite of a high degree of participation in other arenas in society.
- ▶ Participation was approximately 2 percentage points higher for non-Western women than for non-Western men.

Source: Statistics Norway: Aalandslid (2006)

Participation in the 2007 local government and county council elections

Election turnout was much lower than the average for the population as a whole among persons with immigrant background in the 2007 local government and county council elections. Election turnout had not changed much compared with 2003 and 1999:

- ▶ The turnout for non-Western immigrants, with and without Norwegian citizenships, was 34 per cent. Election turnout for the population as a whole was 62 per cent.
- ▶ Immigrants from Eastern Europe stood out as a group with particularly low turnout.
- ▶ Immigrant women participate more than immigrant men, older more than younger people, and the persons with the longest periods of residence participate the most.

Source: Statistics Norway

16. The population's attitudes to immigration and integration

The integration barometer report, published by IMDi, maps the population's attitudes to integration and immigration, and it shows, among other things, that:

- ▶ More than 5 in 10 think that Norway should take in more refugees.
- ▶ Nearly 5 in 10 think that Norway needs increased work immigration from non-European countries in future.
- ▶ Nearly 5 in 10 express scepticism in relation to immigration by a positive response to the statement "we should not let more immigrants into Norway".
- ▶ 5 in 10 think that integration on the whole functions badly, and the proportion of people who are critical is increasing.
- ▶ Nearly 9 in 10 think that immigrants are discriminated against.

Source: IMDi, Integreringsbarometeret 2007 ("The Integration barometer 2007" - in Norwegian only) (new barometer to be published in autumn 2008)

Statistics Norway's survey of attitudes to immigrants and integration shows that in some areas, the population was more positive to immigration in 2007 than in 2006:

- ▶ 7 in 10 agree completely or partly that immigrants make a useful contribution to the Norwegian labour market.

- ▶ 9 in 10 think that all immigrants should have the same opportunity to work as Norwegians. Both these questions received more positive replies than in 2006.
- ▶ Half of the population thinks that refugees and asylum seekers' access to Norway should remain unchanged, 4 in 10 think that it should become more difficult to be granted residence, and 1 in 10 thinks that it should become easier.
- ▶ 3 in 10 believe that immigrants abuse social welfare schemes, while nearly half the population rejects this statement.
- ▶ Two thirds of the population think that most immigrants enrich the country's cultural scene, while one third thinks that most immigrants are a source of insecurity in society.
- ▶ Between 4 and 5 in 10 think that immigrants in Norway should strive to become as much like Norwegians as possible.
- ▶ A broad contact interface with immigrants correlates with more positive attitudes, and factors like sex, age, education, region and part of the country also influence the attitude to immigration.

Source: Statistics Norway: Blom (2007)

17. Oslo

Population figures

At the beginning of 2008, nearly 140,000 immigrants lived in Oslo. Almost 116,000 of them had non-Western backgrounds. The non-Western immigrant population makes up 21 per cent of the population of Oslo, and they are distributed very unevenly between the city wards (as of 1 January 2008):

- ▶ Non-Western immigrants make up a large percentage of the population of eastern and south-eastern city wards such as Søndre Nordstrand, Alna, Stovner, Grorud, Bjerke and Gamle Oslo.
- ▶ The proportion of people with non-Western backgrounds is lower in western city wards such as Nordstrand, Vestre Aker, Nordre Aker and Ullern.

Source: Statistics Norway

Immigrant population by city ward in Oslo (except for Marka, Sentrum and "city ward not given"). 1 January 2008.

City ward	Immigrant population in the city ward	Number with non-Western immigrant background	Percentage of people with non-Western background
Whole of Oslo	139 878	115 574	21 %
Gamle Oslo	13 324	11 531	29 %
Grünerløkka	11 478	9 343	22 %
Sagene	6 940	5 571	17 %
St. Hanshaugen	5 875	3 673	12 %
Frogner	9 038	4 701	10 %
Ullern	3 789	2 266	8 %
Vestre Aker	5 222	3 074	7 %
Nordre Aker	5 641	3 814	9 %
Bjerke	8 982	8 179	31 %
Grorud	9 659	9 117	36 %
Stovner	11 926	11 322	39 %
Alna	18 269	17 325	38 %
Østensjø	8 058	6 847	15 %
Nordstrand	5 381	3 832	9 %
Søndre Nordstrand	15 447	14 420	41 %

Kilde: SSB

Kindergarten and *kontantstøtte*

- ▶ In 2007, 48 per cent of children from linguistic and cultural minorities in Oslo aged 0-5 years attended kindergarten. This percentage is somewhat lower than the national average for children from language minorities (51 per cent) and also lower than for all children in Oslo aged 0-5 (65 per cent).

Source: Statistics Norway

- ▶ In 2006, 75 per cent of children (1-2 years) with non-Western background in Oslo received *kontantstøtte*. This is twice as common as for all children of this age in Oslo (37 per cent). The national average for non-Western children is 65 per cent.

Source: Statistics Norway: Daugstad and Sandnes (2008)

Education

Pupils with non-Western backgrounds are more likely to drop out of upper secondary education than pupils without immigrant backgrounds, in Oslo as in the rest of the country:

- ▶ 22 per cent of Oslo pupils without immigrant backgrounds who started a foundation course in autumn 2000 dropped out of upper secondary education in the course of the next five years.
- ▶ During the same period, 44 per cent of Oslo pupils with non-Western background (first-generation) dropped out of upper secondary school, 51 per cent of the boys and 37 per cent of the girls. The percentage of drop-outs

among descendants with non-Western background was lower (32 per cent).

Source: Statistics Norway: Aalandslid (2006)

Employment

- ▶ In Oslo, 50 per cent of first-generation immigrant women were working, compared with 64 per cent of the men (fourth quarter 2007). This was a little below the national average for immigrant women and men with non-Western backgrounds (53 and 66 per cent, respectively).
- ▶ Oslo was tenth of the 12 municipalities with the largest non-Western immigrant populations in terms of employment among non-Western immigrants (as of fourth quarter 2007).

Source: Statistics Norway

18. Finance - key figures from the national budget

Expenses relating to:	Proposal 2008
Chap. 650: Directorate of Integration and Diversity (operating expenses)	153,600,000
Chap. 651: Settling and integrating refugees and measures for immigrants (including the integration grant and grants for Norwegian language and social studies tuition)	4,344,350,000
Chap. 652: Norway's Contact Committee for Immigrants and the Authorities	5,300,000
Chap. 690: The Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (including operating expenses for UDI and government reception centres)	1,810,400,000
Chap. 691: Immigration Appeals Board (operating expenses)	123,238,000
Total	6,436,888,000

Source: Proposition no. 1 to the Storting (2007-2008) for AID/ Budget recommendation to the Storting no. 5 (2007-2008), Proposition no. 59 to the Storting (2007-2008)/ Recommendation to the Storting no. 270 (2007-2008)

19. National organisations 2007

The following national immigrant organisations received public funding in 2007:

- ▶ Norwegian Organisation for Asylum Seekers (NOAS):
www.noas.org
- ▶ Institution Against Public Discrimination (OMOD):
www.omod.no
- ▶ MIRA Resource Centre for immigrant and refugee women: www.mirasenteret.no
- ▶ Immigrant Federation of Norway (INLO):
www.inlo.no
- ▶ Antiracist Center:
www.antirasistisk-senter.no
- ▶ Selvhjelp for innvandrere og flyktninger
(*"Self-help for immigrants and refugees"*) (SEIF):
www.seif.no
- ▶ Christian Intercultural Association (CIA):
www.kianorge.no
- ▶ SOS Rasisme (*"SOS Racism"*):
www.sos-rasisme.no
- ▶ Human Rights Service (HRS):
www.rights.no
- ▶ African Youth in Norway (AYIN):
www.africanyouth.org

20. Voluntary Organisations

IMDi has established a permanent collaboration on secretary general level with the following voluntary organisations:

- ▶ NORWEGIAN REFUGEE COUNCIL
www.flyktninghjelpen.no
- ▶ NORWEGIAN CHURCH AID www.nca.no
- ▶ NORWEGIAN PEOPLE'S AID www.folkehjelp.no
- ▶ SAVE THE CHILDREN NORWAY www.reddbarna.no
- ▶ RED CROSS www.rodekors.no

The goal of this collaboration is, among other things, to exchange experience and contribute to making these organisations active players in inclusion and integration.

21. Useful websites for further information

IMDi's newsletter inytt keeps you up to date on integration, diversity and immigration. You can sign up via www.inytt.no. Below is a selection of useful websites where you can find more information about the field.

Norway

- ▶ The Ministry of Labour and Social Inclusion (AID)
websites www.innvandring.no and www.integrering.no
Tel.: (+47) 22 24 90 90
- ▶ Ministry of Children and Equality
www.tvangsekteskap.no
- ▶ Integration portal for children and youth
www.bip.no
- ▶ Directorate of Integration and Diversity
www.imdi.no Tel.: (+47) 24 16 88 00
- ▶ International migration and ethnic relations:
www.forskningsradet.no/imer Tel.: (+47) 22 03 70 00
- ▶ International Organization for Migration
www.iom.no Tel.: 23 10 53 20
- ▶ Norway's Contact Committee for Immigrants and the Authorities:
www.kim.no Tel.: (+47) 24 16 89 90

- ▶ Norwegian Association of Local and Regional Authorities (KS)
www.ks.no Tel.: (+47) 24 13 26 00
- ▶ Equality and Anti-discrimination Ombud
www.ido.no Tel.: (+47) 24 05 59 50
- ▶ Norwegian Centre for Minority Health Research
www.nakmi.no Tel.: (+47) 23 01 60 60
- ▶ National Register of Interpreters
www.tolkeportalen.no
- ▶ National Centre for Multicultural Education (NAFO)
http://www.hio.no/enheter/nafo
Tel.: (+47) 22 45 20 00
- ▶ Website for language minorities
www.bazar.deichman.no
- ▶ Norwegian Organisation for Asylum Seekers (NOAS)
www.noas.org Tel.: (+47) 22 36 56 60
- ▶ Norwegian Center for Multicultural Value Creation
www.flerkulturell.no Tel.: (+47) 32 82 30 00
- ▶ New in Norway www.nyinorge.no
- ▶ Institution Against Public Discrimination (OMOD)
www.omod.no Tel.: (+47) 22 20 87 37
- ▶ Statistics Norway
www.ssb.no/innvandring Tel.: (+47) 21 09 00 00
- ▶ Norwegian Country of Origin Information Center
www.landinfo.no 23 30 94 70
- ▶ Norwegian Directorate of Immigration
www.udi.no Tel.: (+47) 23 35 15 00
- ▶ Immigration Appeals Board
www.une.no Tel.: (+47) 21 08 50 00
- ▶ VOX – Norwegian Institute for Adult Learning
www.vox.no

International

- ▶ EU Commission
 - Anti-discrimination and relation with civil society

http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/fundamental_rights/index_en.htm
- ▶ European Council on Refugees and Exiles (ECRE)
www.ecre.org
- ▶ European Research Centre on Migration & Ethnic Relations
www.ercomer.org
- ▶ International Centre for Migration Policy Development
www.icmpd.org
- ▶ International Organization for Migration (IOM)
www.iom.ch
- ▶ Metropolis
www.international.metropolis.net
- ▶ Migration Information Source (MPI)
www.migrationinformation.org
- ▶ Migration Policy Group (MPG)
www.migpolgroup.com
- ▶ OECD – Organisation for Economic Co-Operation and Development
www.oecd.org/migration
- ▶ UNHCR www.unhcr.org

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