

Fact booklet
about immigrants
and integration

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2009

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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 quality data and excellent service.

Oslo, August 2009

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Innhold

▶ 1. Players in the immigration field	5
▶ 2. Key terms	11
▶ 3. Immigrants and Norwegian-born with immigrant parents	15
▶ 4. Asylum seekers and refugees	25
▶ 5. Labour immigration	31
▶ 6. Family immigration and marriage patterns	34
▶ 7. Settlement and qualification	38
▶ 8. Employment, income and unemployment	45
▶ 9. Cash benefit and kindergartens	50
▶ 10. Education	54
▶ 11. Child Welfare Services	58
▶ 12. Forced marriages	59
▶ 13. Female genital mutilation	60
▶ 14. Crime	61
▶ 15. Participation in elections	64
▶ 16. The population's attitudes to immigration and integration	67
▶ 17. Oslo	69
▶ 18. Finance – key figures from the national budget	73
▶ 19. National organisations	74
▶ 20. Voluntary organisations	75
▶ 21. Useful websites for further information	76
▶ 22. References	79

1. Players in the immigration field

Storting (the Norwegian Parliament)

Storting lays down the framework for refugee, immigration and integration policies. Storting 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 the 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 administrated 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 integration grants, grants for studies in Norwegian and social studies, and research and development grants. In 2009, IMDi manages grants of approximately NOK 5 billion.

IMDi's key tasks include: Settling refugees who are granted residence in Norway, helping newcomers to start work or studies sooner, increase employment among immigrants and their descendants, ensure effective studies in the Norwegian language, 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 to varying degrees, 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 are passed to UDI.

Foreign Service

Norwegian foreign service missions play an important role as the first-line service for foreign nationals who wish to visit or move to Norway. The foreign service missions provide information on regulations and procedures, process applications for visitors' visas and receive and prepare applications for visas and residences 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 is the central Norwegian institution for collecting, processing and disseminating official statistics, and has the main responsibility for covering the requirement for statistics on Norwegian society. Pursuant to the Statistics Act of 1989, Statistics Norway 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. Statistics Norway 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 maps and communicates 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 concrete cases of 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, and the organisation Selvhjelp for innvandrere og flyktninger ("Self-help for immigrants and refugees") helps put persons with immigrant backgrounds in contact with public service organisations, and the Antiracist centre works to prevent racism and discrimination.

2. Key terms

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 217,600 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: Statistics Norway has distinguished between western and non-western countries in the past, 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” were defined as the Nordic Countries, Western Europe (excluding Turkey), North America and Oceania. When there is a need for splitting countries into two categories, Statistics Norway now uses the following:

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

Country group 2. Europe excluding 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 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 and Sweden, 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

Norwegian-born with immigrant parents: Persons born in Norway with two immigrant parents. Often referred to previously as “descendants”.

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 “immigrants”, which includes persons born abroad with two foreign-born parents and four foreign-born grandparents.

Source: OECD/Statistics Norway

3. Immigrants and Norwegian-born with immigrant parents

In spite of the increasing immigration to Norway, the immigrant population at the beginning of 2009 was still relatively small in relation to the total population, and average in an OECD context. As of 1 January 2009:

- ▶ 508,000 persons were resident in Norway who have either immigrated or been born in Norway with immigrant parents.
- ▶ The number of immigrants was 423,000.
- ▶ The number of Norwegian-born with immigrant parents was 86,000.
- ▶ In total, these groups made up 10.6 per cent of the population.
- ▶ Around half had backgrounds from Asia, Africa or Latin America.
- ▶ 186,000 persons had a background from Asia, 61,000 had a background from Africa and 17,000 had a background from South and Central America.

Source: Statistics Norway

- ▶ In 2006, 8.7 per cent of the population of Norway was born abroad. The corresponding figures for Sweden and Denmark were 12.9 and 6.6 per cent respectively.

Source: OECD

**Immigrants and Norwegian-born with immigrant parents:
The 10 largest groups as of 1 January 2009:**

Country	Number	Increase from 2008 to 2009	Percentage of all immigrants and Norwegian-born with immigrant parents
Poland	44 482	12 449	8,8 %
Pakistan	30 161	988	5,9 %
Sweden	28 730	2 510	5,7 %
Iraq	24 505	1 667	4,8 %
Somalia	23 633	1 806	4,7 %
Vietnam	19 726	484	3,9 %
Denmark	19 284	78	3,8 %
Germany	20 916	3 444	4,1 %
Bosnia-Herzegovina	15 683	367	3,1 %
Iran	15 666	518	3,1 %

Source: Statistics Norway

Foreign-born as a percentage of the population of selected OECD countries in 2006. Note that the OECD definition of foreign-born is not identical to Statistics Norway's definition of immigrants.

Country	Per cent	Country	Per cent
OECD average	12,4 %	Germany	12,9 %
Luxembourg	34,8 %	Belgium	12,5 %
Switzerland	24,1 %	Spain	11,9 %
Australia	24,1 %	The Netherlands	10,6 %
New Zealand	21,2 %	UK	10,1 %
Canada	19,8 %	Norway	8,7 %
Ireland	14,4 %	France	8,3 %
Austria	14,1 %	Denmark	6,6 %
USA	13,0 %	Portugal	6,1 %
Sweden	12,9 %	Finland	3,6 %

Source: OECD

Immigration in 2008:

- ▶ In 2008, 67,000 immigrants to Norway and 24,000 emigrants from Norway were registered. This gives a net immigration of 43,000 persons.
- ▶ Net immigration increased by almost 20,000 persons from 2006 to 2008.
- ▶ Net immigration has never been higher than in 2008. Immigration to Norway has increased strongly in recent years, primarily as a result of increasing labour immigration. Emigration has been stable at just over 20,000 persons for the last 10 years.

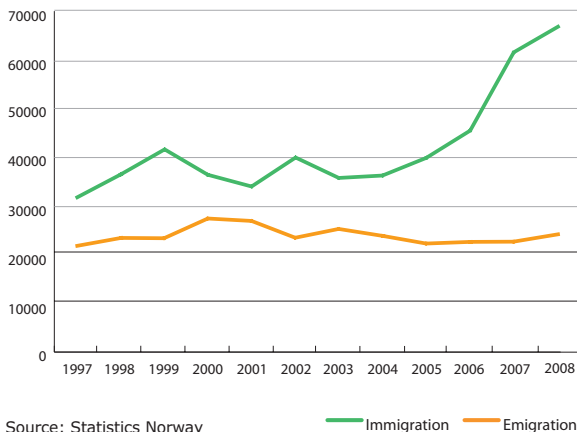
- ▶ Polish nationals were the largest group of immigrants by far in 2008, as in 2007 and 2006, followed by Germans and Swedes.
- ▶ A total of 572 Pakistani nationals immigrated to Norway, while 116 emigrated, giving a net immigration of 456 persons. Nineteen nationality groups had a higher net immigration to Norway.

Immigration, emigration and net immigration of foreign nationals in 2008. 10 largest groups.

	Immigration	Emigration	Net immigration
Total	66 961	23 615	43 346
Poland	14 437	2 486	11 951
Germany	4 325	853	3 472
Sweden	5 692	2 735	2 957
Lithuania	2 851	465	2 386
The Philippines	1 765	384	1 381
Thailand	1 317	140	1 177
Somalia	1 231	113	1 118
Iraq	1 197	126	1 071
Romania	1 104	73	1 031
Russia	1 157	182	975

Source: Statistics Norway

Immigration and emigration in the period 1997-2008



Immigration in 2008 broken down 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. Since 2007, the percentage of immigrants who have been granted a work permit has increased considerably, while the percentage in receipt of protection and family immigration permits has fallen.

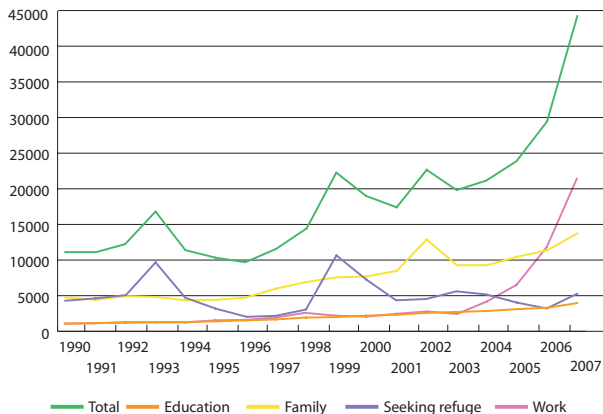
In 2008, the number of new work permits fell for the first time in recent years (see UDI figures for work permits in chapter 5), and the number of asylum seekers also increased dramatically (see UDI figures for asylum seekers in chapter 4).

First-time immigration of immigrants with non-Nordic citizenship, by reason for immigration. 2007

Reason for immigration	Number	Per cent
Total	44 268	100 %
Work	21 374	48 %
Family	13 708	31 %
Seeking refuge	5 222	12 %
Education	3 857	9 %
Other	107	0 %

Source: Statistics Norway (figures on immigration in 2008 by reason for immigration will be available on 24 September 2009.)

First-time immigration of immigrants with non-Nordic citizenship, by reason for immigration. 1990-2007.



Source: Statistics Norway (figures on immigration in 2008 by reason for immigration will be available on 24 September 2009.)

Immigrants and Norwegian-born with immigrant parents in the municipalities:

All Norwegian municipalities have inhabitants with immigrant backgrounds, but more than four out of ten of all immigrants and Norwegian-born with immigrant parents live in Oslo and Akershus (43 per cent), while less than five per cent live in Northern Norway. In Oslo, 25% of the inhabitants are immigrants or Norwegian-born children of immigrants.

Top ten municipalities with the most immigrants and Norwegian-born with immigrant parents – as of 1 January 2009

Municipality	Number	Largest group
1. Oslo	152 149	Pakistan
2. Bergen	26 489	Poland
3. Stavanger	18 434	Poland
4. Bærum	15 589	Poland
5. Trondheim	15 479	Poland
6. Drammen	12 493	Turkey
7. Kristiansand	10 067	Vietnam
8. Fredrikstad	7 900	Vietnam
9. Sandnes	7 872	Poland
10. Skedsmo	7 834	Vietnam

Source: Statistics Norway

Top ten municipalities with the most immigrants and Norwegian-born with immigrant parents with a background from EU/EEA, USA, Canada, Australia, New Zealand as of 1 January 2009.

	Immigrants	Norwegian-born with immigrant parents	Immigrants + Norwegian-born with immigrant parents
1. Oslo	37 366	2 424	39 790
2. Bergen	9 485	466	9 951
3. Stavanger	7 443	447	7 890
4. Bærum	7 022	520	7 542
5. Trondheim	4 982	335	5 317
6. Asker	3 423	229	3 652
7. Sandnes	2 882	160	3 042
8. Kristiansand	2 712	175	2 887
9. Tromsø	2 517	164	2 681
10. Drammen	2 422	186	2 608

Source: Statistics Norway

Top ten municipalities with the most immigrants and Norwegian-born with immigrant parents with a background from Asia, Africa, Latin America, Oceania excluding Australia and New Zealand and Europe excluding the EU/EEA – as of 1 January 2009

	Immigrants	Norwegian-born with immigrant parents	Immigrants + Norwegian-born with immigrant parents
1. Oslo	78 801	33 558	112 359
2. Bergen	13 203	3 335	16 538
3. Stavanger	8 244	2 300	10 544
4. Trondheim	8 457	1 705	10 162
5. Drammen	6 779	3 106	9 885
6. Bærum	6 325	1 722	8 047
7. Kristiansand	5 622	1 558	7 180
8. Skedsmo	4 204	1 723	5 927
9. Fredrikstad	4 315	1 189	5 504
10. Sandnes	3 711	1 119	4 830

Source: SSB

Top ten – percentage of immigrants and Norwegian-born with immigrant parents in relation to the population as a whole. 1 January 2009

1. Oslo	26,4 %
2. Drammen	20,3 %
3. Lørenskog	17,9 %
4. Skedsmo	16,8 %
5. Verran	16,6 %
6. Askim	15,2 %
7. Stavanger	15,2 %
8. Rælingen	14,4 %
9. Moss	14,3 %
10. Ås	14,3 %

Source: SSB

Extrapolation of number of immigrants and Norwegian-born with immigrant parents:

Extrapolations made by Statistics Norway show that the number of immigrants and Norwegian-born with immigrant parents will 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 population in 2060 will be somewhere between 5.4 and 8.5 million; an increase from 4.8 million today.
- ▶ The immigrant population will probably grow from 420,000 today to somewhere between 0.8 and 2.0 million in 2060.
- ▶ The number of Norwegian-born with immigrant parents will probably increase from 86,000 today to between 270,000 and 660,000 in 2060.
- ▶ In total, these two groups will make up between 1.1 and 2.6 million, or between 20 per cent and 31 per cent of the total 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 2008:

The increase in the number of applications for asylum that began in 2007 continued in 2008. From June, and throughout the year, the monthly figure for the number of asylum seekers was more than 1,400:

- ▶ Over 14,400 persons applied for asylum in Norway in 2008, which was 120 per cent more than the previous year.
- ▶ The asylum seekers came from 106 different countries.
- ▶ The highest numbers of asylum seekers came from Iraq, Eritrea and Afghanistan.
- ▶ Approximately 3,500 asylum seekers were children, which is twice as many as in 2007.
- ▶ Unaccompanied minor asylum seekers made up 9 per cent of the total number (1,374); an increase of three percentage points compared with 2007.

- ▶ The countries from which the highest number of unaccompanied minor asylum seekers came were Afghanistan, Iraq and Somalia.

Source: UDI

Applications for asylum in the first six months of 2009:

The high number of asylum seekers has also continued in 2009.

- ▶ Nearly 8,100 persons applied for asylum; a further increase of 50 per cent compared with the first six months of 2008.
- ▶ Unaccompanied minor asylum seekers made up 14 per cent (1,159) of the total number of applicants. This is an increase of 6 percentage points compared with the first six months of 2008.

Source: UDI

Asylum applications prognosis

- ▶ The Ministry of Labour and Social Inclusion's (AID) prognosis for 2009 and 2010 is that 18,500 asylum seekers will arrive in both years.

Source: UDI

Residents of reception centres:

- ▶ At the end of June 2008, nearly 16,800 persons stayed in 129 reception centres. Three in ten of these persons were from Afghanistan or Iraq.
- ▶ The number of reception centres grew from 66 to 129 from June 2008 to June 2009.

- ▶ Operating expenses for reception centres in 2008 amounted to NOK 1,376.7 million, up from NOK 835.5 million in 2007. The revised national budget for 2009 budgeted NOK 2,338.6 million for this purpose.
- ▶ At the end of June 2008, the reception centres had residents from 97 countries.
- ▶ Approximately 9,700 residents left a reception centre in 2008, either because they were settled or deported or returned voluntarily or moved to a known or unknown address.
- ▶ Just under 2,700 residents left reception centres in 2008 without giving a new address. This makes up 28 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 who left without giving an address in 2008, 1,500 have later registered a known address as of 28 August 2009.

Source: UDI

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

The number of persons granted protection in Norway in 2008 has fallen compared with 2007. The reason for this is that the number of decisions on residences in the body of appeal UNE was unusually high in 2007 due to a change in the regulations on children who had been in reception centres for a long period of time.

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 broken down into when the application was granted, regardless of when the application was submitted. Resettlement refugees are also included.

Persons granted protection in the period 2004-2008.

	Total	UDI	UNE	Resettlement refugees
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 UDI in 2008 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):

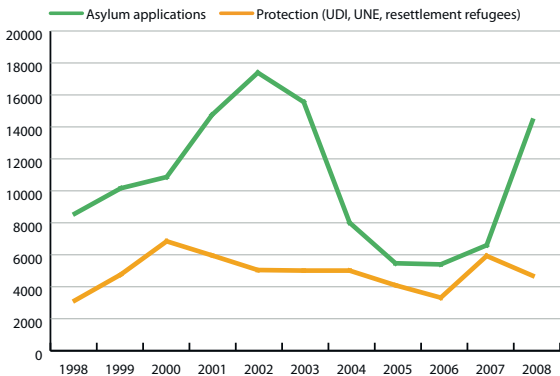
- ▶ More than 3,000 persons were granted residence following an application for asylum.
- ▶ The percentage granted fell from 58 per cent in 2007 to 41 per cent in 2008. The main reason is changes in

practice and procedures for nationals of Serbia, Kosovo and Russia.

- ▶ The highest numbers of permits were given to persons from Eritrea, Iraq and stateless (mainly Palestinians from the West Bank and Gaza).
- ▶ 31 per cent of persons granted asylum were children.

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:

Because the quota for 2007 was surpassed by just under 200, the quota for 2008 was set at 1,000 instead of 1,200:

- ▶ In 2008, 770 resettlement refugees came to Norway, compared with 1,106 in 2007. The total number of persons to whom residence was granted was 910,

compared with 1,350 in 2007. 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), Iraq and stateless Palestinians.
- ▶ Children made up 41 per cent of the resettlement refugees.
- ▶ There were just as many male resettlement refugees as female resettlement refugees.

Source: UDI

Persons with refugee backgrounds:

Statistics Norway's statistics of persons with refugee backgrounds (including family members who have been granted family reunification with refugees) show that they made up 35 per cent of the total immigrant population in Norway at the beginning of 2008.

- ▶ The number of persons with a refugee background living in Norway was 132,400 (or 2.8 per cent of the total population).
- ▶ The highest number had backgrounds from Iraq (17,600), Somalia (15,500) and Bosnia and Herzegovina (12,400).

Source: Statistics Norway (Figures for 1 January 2009 will be available on 15 September 2009.)

5. Labour immigration

The top four immigrant nationalities in 2008 were all typical labour immigration countries: 14,400 Polish nationals, 4,300 Germans, 5,700 Swedes and 2,900 Lithuanians.

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 2008:

- ▶ More than 101,000 work permits were granted, including 48,000 renewals. This is the highest number of work permits granted in any year.
- ▶ There were four per cent fewer new work permits, which is a clear break with the trend in recent years.
- ▶ The highest numbers were granted to Polish, Lithuanian, German and Romanian nationals.
- ▶ 78 per cent of work permits were granted to men, three out of four of whom were under the age of 40.
- ▶ There were more than 94,000 valid permits at the end of 2008, around 17,000 more than at the end of 2007.

- ▶ Nine out of ten work permits were granted based on the EEA agreement.
- ▶ A total of 49 per cent of all family immigration permits were granted to a family member of a labour immigrant.
- ▶ 41 per cent of family members who immigrated to join a labour immigrant were from Poland.
- ▶ Approximately 2,400 family immigration permits were granted to Polish children.

Source: UDI

Work permits, first six months of 2008:

- ▶ At the end of June 2008, approximately 37,000 work permits had been granted, almost half of which were renewals. This is a 35 per cent fall compared with the first six months of 2007.
- ▶ The highest numbers were granted to Polish, Lithuanian, German and Romanian nationals.
- ▶ As of 1 July, nearly 101,000 persons held valid work permits in Norway, the same as a year ago.

Source: UDI

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

IMDi has carried out a survey of settled (registered in the Norwegian population register) labour immigrants from Poland and the Baltic states (phone-based interview survey, and group interviews with Polish labour immigrants). The findings of the survey included 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 labour 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 no. 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) A new IMDi report on the situation of immigrants from Poland and the Baltic States in Norway after the financial crisis is to be published in autumn 2009

6. Family immigration and marriage patterns

Family immigration:

In 2008, slightly less than 20,800 persons were granted family immigration permits. This is the highest number of such permits ever granted, and approximately 2,900 more than in 2007. The increase in family immigration permits from new EU countries like Poland and Lithuania continued in 2008.

Family immigration permits – top ten countries in 2008:

Nationality:	No. of permits	Change 2007–2008	No. of women (adults and children)	No. of children
Total	20 766	+ 2 853	13 838	9 581
Poland	4 423	+ 1 131	3 038	2 430
Germany	1 630	+ 174	1 046	955
Thailand	1 214	+ 141	1 008	365
Somalia	1 179	+ 176	644	805
Lithuania	749	+ 106	504	444
Iraq	654	+ 218	407	337
Russia	609	- 49	471	217
The Philippines	580	- 38	456	155
Stateless	534	+ 329	313	361
USA	528	+ 75	321	159

Source: UDI

- ▶ In 2008, 20,800 persons were granted family immigration permits, which is twice as many as in 2003.
- ▶ The largest increase was in reunifications with a labour immigrant.
- ▶ Four out of five adults who were granted a family immigration permit were women.
- ▶ Children were granted 46 per cent of all family immigration permits in 2008. The top five countries for family immigration of children were: Poland, Germany, Somalia, Lithuania and Thailand. Together, these countries accounted for 52 per cent of all permits granted to children.
- ▶ In 2008, more than 2,400 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 2007, the share of transnational marriages of the marriages that men and women without an immigrant background entered into was 10 and 4 per cent respectively.
- ▶ Many Thai, Philippine and Russian women marry men without immigrant backgrounds.
- ▶ Many immigrants with backgrounds from Asian and African countries marry persons who were not residents

of Norway at the time of marriage. This particularly applies to persons from Pakistan, Turkey and Morocco.

- ▶ Few Norwegian-born with immigrant parents are of a marriageable age, and they generally marry later in life than immigrants with a background from the same country.

Marriages entered into by settled women 2002-2007. Selected country 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, 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 2002-2007. Selected country 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, 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

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 2008, 239 municipalities were asked to settle refugees.
- ▶ 218 municipalities agreed.
- ▶ The top six settlement municipalities in 2008 were Bergen (240 persons settled), Oslo (214 persons settled), Trondheim (201 persons settled), Kristiansand (151 persons settled), Stavanger (85 persons settled) and Tromsø (74 persons settled).

Source: IMDi (Settlement report as of 31 December 2008)

- ▶ The settlement requirement for 2009 is expected to be 8,200 persons. This is 3,773 more than were settled in 2008, when 4,427 persons were settled.
- ▶ During the first six months of 2009, 2,479 persons were settled, i.e. 400 more persons than the first six months of 2008.
- ▶ The average waiting period from the granting of a residence permit until a person is settled in a municipality has fallen from 5.9 months as of 31 December 2008 to 4.8 months as of 30 June 2009.

- ▶ As of June 2009, a total of 2,091 persons, 1,102 of them single men, were staying in reception centres while waiting for settlement.
- ▶ The number of persons who have waited for more than six months has fallen from 499 as of 30 June 2008 to 287 as of 30 June 2009. 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 2009, 96 children had waited for more than six months.

Source: IMDi (Settlement report as of June 2009)

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.

The introduction programme is aimed at providing basic skills in Norwegian, a basic insight into Norwegian society, and preparing participants for participation in the labour force.

Persons who take part in the programme are entitled to an introduction grant. The municipality and NAV work in close collaboration with regard to the programme.

According to Statistics Norway, the introduction programme had between 8,000 participants and 9,000 participants per year during the period 2005-2008.

- ▶ Figures reported by the municipalities show that 53 per cent of the participants that finished the introduction programme in 2008 started work or studies.

Source: IMDi

- ▶ Among those who were job seekers after finishing the programme, 76 per cent had, as of 31 December 2008, started work or studies one year later.

Source: NAV

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 started 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 2008 describes the participation in the labour market of participants who left the programme in 2006 as of November 2007. 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 65 per cent of the persons who left the introduction programme in 2006 were working or studying in November 2007. Of those who completed the programme, 69 per cent were working or studying.

Source: Statistics Norway: Mathisen (2008)

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 have been granted a residence or work permit pursuant to the Immigration Act which forms the basis for a settlement permit. Foreign nationals between 55 and 67 years of age with a prospect of permanent residency have a right, but not an obligation, to participate in education. Foreign nationals with work permit as a skilled worker has an obligation to participate in this education but must pay for it themselves. Completion of this education will be a requirement for granting settlement permits and citizenships to this group. Persons in the target group

can get up to 3,000 hours of studies depending on their needs. The grant scheme for Norwegian language tuition was also changed to a per capita-based grant scheme after 1 September 2005.

Persons who were granted such permits before 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. From 1 January 2009, asylum seekers dealt with in line with the Dublin procedure lost their right to Norwegian language tuition.

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 15 June 2009, 37 838 persons had a right and obligation to participate in Norwegian language tuition, including 496 persons with only a right.

- ▶ As of 30 June 2009, 35,000 persons with a right and/or obligation participated in Norwegian and social studies education.
- ▶ During the first six months of 2009, 9,000 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, both written and oral. Norskprøve 3 tests language skills at a higher level than Norskprøve 2. Of the 5,514 students who sat the oral Norskprøve 2 examinations during the first six months of 2009, 93 per cent passed. The corresponding figures for the written Norskprøve 2 examination were 5,747 and 61 per cent. Of the 3,093 students who sat the oral Norskprøve 3 examinations, 81 per cent passed. The corresponding figures for the written Norskprøve 3 examination were 3,048 and 55 per cent.

Source: IMDi

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

- ▶ Second 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.
- ▶ Participation in Second Chance entails full-time qualification for up to two years.

- ▶ During the period 2005-2009, a total of NOK 70 million has been granted to Second Chance in the national budgets.
- ▶ During the period 2005-2007, approximately 900 persons participated in Second Chance projects. A total of 320 new participants took part in 26 Second Chance projects in 2008.
- ▶ Of the approximately 730 participants who had left the programme before the end of 2008, 45 per cent started work or studies.
- ▶ 65 per cent of participants in 2008 were women, and participants came from 67 different countries.
- ▶ The Second Chance participants are far from inclusion in the labour market when they join the programme: almost half of them from 2005-2007 had no work experience from their country of origin. One third of male participants and two thirds of female participants had not been in paid employment in Norway either.
- ▶ Based on data from the project, Econ Pöyry calculated that the socio-economic gain from Second Chance could total as much as NOK 450 million for the period 2005-2007.

Source: IMDi report 4-2008 and IMDi report 5-2009

8. Employment, income and unemployment

Employment:

- ▶ A total of almost 241,000 immigrants were employed in Norway as of the fourth quarter of 2008. This was almost 28,000 more than the previous year.
- ▶ 64 per cent of all immigrants between 15 and 74 years of age are employed, which is about the same level as a year earlier.
- ▶ There are significant differences in employment depending on what country the immigrants come from, how long they have been in Norway and their reason for immigrating.

Employment percentages for immigrants 15-74 years, fourth quarter 2008

	Total	Men	Women
Total population	71,6 %	74,5 %	68,5 %
Total immigrants	64,2 %	69,3 %	58,7 %
Nordic countries	75,6 %	77,5 %	73,6 %
Rest of Western Europe	73,4 %	78,2 %	66,6 %
EU countries in Eastern Europe	73,5 %	76,4 %	67,8 %
Rest of Eastern Europe	63,2 %	65,9 %	61,1 %
North America and Oceania	65,7 %	72,1 %	59,3 %
Asia	56,8 %	63,2 %	51,1 %
Africa	49,7 %	55,4 %	42,8 %
South and Central America	66,1 %	71,5 %	62,1 %

Source: Statistics Norway

Employment percentages for immigrants 15-74 years, selected country groups. Fourth quarter 2008

Country	Both sexes	Men	Women
Poland	73 %	77 %	65 %
Chile	71 %	74 %	68 %
Sri Lanka	70 %	77 %	61 %
Vietnam	65 %	68 %	62 %
Iran	60 %	63 %	56 %
Turkey	55 %	64 %	43 %
Afghanistan	52 %	64 %	35 %
Pakistan	48 %	63 %	32 %
Iraq	47 %	55 %	36 %
Somalia	36 %	45 %	25 %

Source: Statistics Norway

Unemployment:

Registered unemployment among immigrants has fallen as at autumn 2008, and it follows the cyclical fluctuations of the general economic situation. Since the financial crisis began, unemployment has increased, particularly among immigrants from Eastern Europe.

- ▶ The percentage of unemployed (as a percentage of the working population) among immigrants increased from 4 per cent in May 2008 to 6.8 per cent in May 2009. In the rest of the population, unemployment increased from 1.2 per cent to 2.2 per cent in the same period.
- ▶ The difference between immigrants and the population in general has remained the same over time; unemployment among immigrants is around three times higher than the level in the rest of the population.

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

Percentage of unemployed persons as a percentage of the working population as of the end of May 2009.

Group	Total	Men	Women
Registered as fully unemployed	2,6 %	3,2 %	2,0 %
Total immigrants	6,8 %	7,7 %	5,5 %
Nordic countries	3,0 %	3,7 %	2,2 %
Rest of Western Europe	3,5 %	4,0 %	2,4 %
EU countries in Eastern Europe	8,4 %	9,9 %	5,1 %
Rest of Eastern Europe	7,2 %	8,3 %	6,3 %
North America and Oceania	2,4 %	2,6 %	2,2 %
Asia	7,8 %	8,1 %	7,5 %
Africa	12,1 %	13,4 %	9,8 %
South and Central America	6,4 %	7,4 %	5,5 %

Source: Statistics Norway (figures are 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 force surveys carried out in several OECD countries, partly on other sources (applies for example to Canada, the USA, Denmark and Australia). In labour force 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. 2006. 15-64 years.

Country	Employment level, native-born	Employment level, foreign-born	Unemployment level, native-born	Unemployment level, foreign-born
Norway	76,2 %	66,3 %	3,0 %	8,3 %
Sweden	75,1 %	61,7 %	6,2 %	13,4 %
Denmark	78,4 %	63,8 %	3,7 %	7,5 %
Germany	69,3 %	59,0 %	9,4 %	16,2 %
USA	69,5 %	70,8 %	5,3 %	4,4 %
UK	72,0 %	66,1 %	5,1 %	7,6 %

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 an immigrant or Norwegian-born with immigrant parents, the total household income was 77 per cent of the average household income (excluding students) in 2006. The corresponding figure for refugee households was 67 per cent.
- ▶ Of the total income, the percentage of benefits was higher for immigrants compared with the rest of the population (22 per cent). The corresponding figure for refugees was 32 per cent.
- ▶ 21 per cent of the persons in households where the main provider is an immigrant or Norwegian-born with immigrant parents belong to the low income group (by

OECD's measurement methods), compared with 4 per cent in the population as a whole (excluding students). The corresponding figure for refugees was 26 per cent.

- ▶ Generally speaking, immigrant households' income increases with the duration of residence.

Source: Statistics Norway: Økonomi og levekår for ulike lavinntektsgrupper (2009) ("Financial situation and living conditions for different low-income groups" – in Norwegian only)

9. Cash benefit 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 what Statistics Norway previously called a “non-Western background” than for children in the population as a whole. As of September 2006, 69 per cent, 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 per cent 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 %
Pakistan	82 %
Sri Lanka	81 %
Turkey	79 %
Morocco	78 %
Serbia and 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).

Source: Statistics Norway

- ▶ 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. As of 31 December 2008, the total coverage was 91 per cent for 4-year-olds and 95 per cent for 5-year-olds.

Source: the Groruddal project, programme area four. Annual report 2008 and Action programme 2009

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

City ward	4-year-olds (coverage)	5-year-olds (coverage)
Alna	92 %	94 %
Bjerke	87 %	95 %
Grorud	95 %	100 %
Stovner	90 %	90 %

The percentages are calculated based on reported figures for children in kindergartens as of 31 December 2008 and the number of children in the city ward (Statistics Norway) as of 1 January 2008.

Language mapping:

Twelve municipalities participated in a project from 2006-2008 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 was evaluated in autumn 2008, and is continuing in 2009 with a focus on the dissemination of knowledge and experience, and the mapping and follow-up of children with a lack of Norwegian language skills.

- ▶ IMDi has divided NOK 8.4 million between 7 municipalities for continuation of the language mapping project in 2009.
- ▶ In the first three years of the project, a total of 40,796 children, 9,366 of whom had multilingual backgrounds, had been mapped.
- ▶ Approximately 9 per cent of Norwegian-speaking children required further follow-up in 2008, compared with approx. 25 per cent of the multilingual children.

10. Education

Primary and lower secondary education::

- ▶ Almost 24,200 pupils received mother tongue tuition and/or bilingual instruction in autumn 2008; 2,100 more than the previous year. That is 3.9 per cent of all pupils in primary and lower secondary schools.
- ▶ 6.7 per cent of the pupils received special Norwegian language tuition, at a level similar to the year before.
- ▶ Mother tongue tuition and/or bilingual instruction were registered for 110 different languages, not including those registered under "others".
- ▶ Somali and Urdu were the largest languages, with approximately 2,500 pupils each.
- ▶ Nearly 2,000 pupils received Arabic language tuition or tuition in Arabic.

Source: SSB

Upper secondary education:

Immigrant pupils participate in upper secondary education as much as others, but they take longer to complete it. It is also more common for immigrant pupils to drop out of upper secondary school than pupils without an immigrant background.

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 2002.

	Total	Men	Women
Pupils without immigrant backgrounds	25 %	30 %	21 %
Immigrants	41 %	47 %	35 %
Norwegian-born with immigrant parents	30 %	38 %	22 %

Source: Statistics Norway

Quick transition from upper secondary education to higher education:

A higher percentage of immigrant pupils, and particularly Norwegian-born with immigrant parents, that graduated from upper secondary school in spring 2007 entered higher education in autumn 2007 than pupils without an 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:

- ▶ All pupils: 24 per cent
(boys 19 per cent and girls 29 per cent)
- ▶ Immigrants: 27 per cent
(boys 28 per cent and girls 26 per cent)
- ▶ Norwegian-born with immigrant parents: 46 per cent
(boys 42 per cent and girls 49 per cent)

Source: Statistics Norway: Daugstad 2009

Participation in higher education in 2007:

Norwegian-born with immigrant parents (19-24 years) participate more in higher education than the young population as a whole, and there has been a strong increase

in participation in this group. In the period 1997-2007, participation increased by 11 and 7 percentage points for female and male Norwegian-born with immigrant parents respectively, compared with 3 and 0 percentage points for the young population as a whole.

Percentage in higher education (19-24 years old) autumn 2007.

	Total	Men	Women
All pupils	30 %	24 %	36 %
Norwegian-born with immigrant parents	35 %	30 %	40 %
Immigrants	18 %	16 %	21 %

Source: Statistics Norway: Daugstad 2009

Reading and arithmetic skills

The survey of reading and arithmetic skills was conducted before Statistics Norway stopped using the category "non-Western". This definition will therefore be used in this section.

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 a 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 Norwegian-born with immigrant parents.
- ▶ The duration of residence does not seem to be of significant importance to the immigrants' results.

Source: Source: Gabrielsen and Lagerstrøm (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 Norwegian-born with immigrant parents the corresponding figure was 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 immigrants, compared with 3.1 per 1,000 Norwegian-born with immigrant parents 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).
- ▶ 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.
- ▶ The Expert Team for the Prevention of Forced Marriage has received more than 1,000 queries relating to forced marriage and related problems since it was established in 2004 and up to 1 July 2009.
- ▶ The team received 128 queries during the first six months of 2009 (93 during the first six months of 2008).

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 in 2006 approximately 3,800 girls were at an age where female circumcision is common in their country of origin.
- ▶ 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, 2008

- ▶ Prevailing action plan: Handlingsplan mot kjønnslemlestelse (2008-2011) ("Action plan against female genital mutilation" – in Norwegian only).

14. Crime

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

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 has 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 a non-Western youth will commit a crime 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 (2004)

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

The term "immigrant background" is used in this section since this is used in the source. Immigrant background is defined as a person either born outside Norway or born in Norway with two foreign-born parents.

- ▶ In 2008, 60 per cent of crisis centre residents had an immigrant background. The share has been steadily increasing in recent years, up from 45 per cent in 2003.
- ▶ Fewer residents with an immigrant background (19 per cent) contacted a crisis centre on their own initiative than residents without an immigrant background (33 per

cent). The police were responsible for a slightly higher share of referrals for residents with an immigrant background.

- ▶ Residents with an immigrant background stayed on average in the centres for longer (36 days on average in 2008) than residents without an immigrant background (22 days on average in 2008).
- ▶ 54 per cent of crisis centre residents with an immigrant background could not speak Norwegian or had limited Norwegian language skills. A growing number of residents do not speak Norwegian.
- ▶ Crisis centre residents with an immigrant background are generally younger than residents without an immigrant background. Among residents with an immigrant background, 50 per cent are below the age of 30, and the corresponding figure for those without an immigrant background is 29 per cent.

Source: Sentio: Reporting from the crisis centres 2008

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.

Numbers of immigrants with the right to vote at the general election in 2009, projected figures

- ▶ 164,000 immigrants that are Norwegian citizens and Norwegian-born with immigrant parents have the right to vote at the general election in 2009; 40,000 more than at the election in 2005.
- ▶ Immigrants with a right to vote and Norwegian-born with immigrant parents make up 4.7 per cent of the voters; an increase from 3.6 per cent in 2005.
- ▶ Persons with a background from Asia, Africa, South and Central America and Turkey make up seven out of ten of the immigrants and Norwegian-born with immigrant parents who are eligible to vote.

Source: Statistics Norway

Participation in the 2005 general election

In 2005, voter participation in the immigrant population was 53 per cent, compared with 78 per cent in the population as a whole. Election turnout varies considerably between different groups of immigrants. 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 4 percentage points higher for female immigrants than for male immigrants.

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 an 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 immigrants with Norwegian citizenship was 40 per cent, and 36 per cent for immigrants that

were foreign nationals with a right to vote. Election turnout for the population as a whole was 62 per cent.

- ▶ Turnout varies according to the country background of the immigrant. Immigrants from Eastern Europe stood out as a group with a particularly low turnout.
- ▶ Immigrant women participate more than immigrant men, older more than younger people, and persons with the longest periods of residence participate the most.

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

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 shows, among other things, that:

- ▶ More than 5 in 10 think that Norway should take in more refugees.
- ▶ Nearly 6 in 10 think that Norway needs increased labour 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".
- ▶ More than 5 in 10 think that integration on the whole functions badly, and the proportion of people who are critical is increasing.
- ▶ 8 in 10 think that immigrants are discriminated against.

Source: IMDi: Integreringsbarometeret 2008 ("The Integration barometer 2008" - in Norwegian only) (new barometer to be published in 2009)

Statistics Norway's survey of attitudes to immigrants and integration shows that in some areas, the population was more positive to immigration in 2008 than in previous years:

- ▶ More than 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.
- ▶ 5 in 10 think that refugees and asylum seekers' access to Norway should remain unchanged.
- ▶ 4 in 10 think that it should be more difficult to be granted residence, and almost 1 in 10 thinks that it should be easier.
- ▶ Almost 3 in 10 believe that immigrants abuse social welfare schemes, while nearly half the population rejects this statement.
- ▶ 7 in 10 think that most immigrants enrich the country's cultural scene.
- ▶ More than 3 in 10 think 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: SSB

17. Oslo

Population figures

At the beginning of 2009, 152,000 immigrants and Norwegian-born with immigrant parents lived in Oslo. Around 100,000 of them had backgrounds from Africa, Asia or South and Central America. Twenty-five per cent of the population of Oslo are immigrants or Norwegian-born with immigrant parents, and they are distributed very unevenly between the city wards (as of 1 January 2009):

- ▶ Immigrants with a background from Africa, Asia or South and Central America 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 is lower in western city wards such as Nordstrand, Vestre Aker, Nordre Aker and Ullern.

Source: Statistics Norway

Immigrants and Norwegian-born with immigrant parents by city ward in Oslo (excluding Marka, Sentrum and "city ward not given"). 1 January 2009.

City ward	No. of immigrants and Norwegian-born in city ward	No. of backgrounds from Asia, Africa, South and Central America , Turkey	Percentage with background from Asia, Africa, South and Central America, Turkey
Whole of Oslo	152 149	101 384	18
Gamle Oslo	14 451	10 382	25
Grünerløkka	12 599	7 733	18
Sagene	7 736	4 849	14
St. Hanshaugen	6 666	2 835	9
Frogner	10 192	3 451	7
Ullern	4 185	1 630	6
Vestre Aker	5 763	2 217	5
Nordre Aker	6 551	3 083	7
Bjerke	9 697	7 441	28
Grorud	10 382	8 501	33
Stovner	12 739	11 036	37
Alna	19 546	15 879	35
Østensjø	8 721	5 855	13
Nordstrand	5 866	2 865	6
Søndre Nordstrand	16 072	13 179	37

Source: Statistics Norway

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) in the category previously defined by Statistics Norway as “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 in upper secondary schools in the category previously defined by Statistics Norway as a “non-Western” background are more likely to drop out or fail their exams than pupils without immigrant backgrounds, in Oslo as in the rest of the country:

- ▶ 20 per cent of Oslo pupils without immigrant backgrounds who started a foundation course in autumn 2001 dropped out of upper secondary education in the course of the next five years.
- ▶ During the same period, 47 per cent of immigrants with a “non-Western” background dropped out of upper secondary school in Oslo. A total of 57 per cent of boys

in this group dropped out, compared with 37 per cent of the girls. The percentage of Norwegian-born with immigrant parents with a “non-Western” background that dropped out was somewhat lower (33 per cent). This applied to 43 per cent of the boys and 21 per cent of the girls.

Source: Statistics Norway: Aalandslid (2009)

Employment

- ▶ In Oslo, 56 per cent of female immigrants were working, compared with 66 per cent of the men (fourth quarter 2008). This was slightly below the national average for immigrant women and men (59 and 69 per cent respectively).
- ▶ Among immigrants with a background from Asia, Turkey, Africa, Latin America, Europe excluding the EU/EFTA, Oceania excluding Australia and New Zealand, employment was 51 and 63 per cent respectively among women and men.

Source: Statistics Norway

18. Finance – key figures from the national budget

Expenses relating to:	2009
Chap. 650: Directorate of Integration and Diversity (operating expenses)	168 771 000
Chap. 651: Settling and integrating refugees and measures for immigrants (including the integration grant)	3 475 235 000
Chap. 653: Norwegian language and social studies tuition for adult immigrants	1 531 810 000
Chap. 652: Norway's Contact Committee for Immigrants and the Authorities	5 600 000
Chap. 690: The Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (including operating expenses for UDI and government reception centres)	3 347 474 000
Chap. 691: Immigration Appeals Board (operating expenses)	240 537 000
Total	8 769 427 000

Source: Proposition no. 1 to the Storting (2008-2009) for AID/Budget. Recommendation to the Storting no. 5 (2008-2009), Proposition no. 67 to the Storting (2008-2009)/Recommendation to the Storting no. 355 (2008-2009)

19. National organisations

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.ayin.no

20. Voluntary organisations

IMDi has established collaboration agreements with the following voluntary organisations:

- ▶ THE ASSOCIATION OF NGOS IN NORWAY
www.frivillighetnorge.no
- ▶ NORWEGIAN WOMEN'S PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION
www.sanitetskvinnene.no
- ▶ NORWEGIAN PEOPLE'S AID www.folkehjelp.no
- ▶ SAVE THE CHILDREN NORWAY www.reddbarna.no
- ▶ RED CROSS www.rodekors.no
- ▶ THE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION OF NORWAY
www.fotball.no

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

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.

Norge

- ▶ 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 Organization for Migration
www.iom.no Tel.: (+47) 23 10 53 20
- ▶ International migration and ethnic relations
www.forskningsradet.no/imer Tel.: (+47) 22 03 70 00
- ▶ 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.ldo.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 Tel.: (+47) 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

- ▶ European Commission Against Racism and Intolerance
www.coe.int/t/dghl/monitoring/ecri
- ▶ European Council on Refugees and Exiles (ECRE)
www.ecre.org
- ▶ EU Commission, Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities: Tackling discrimination
<http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=423&langId=en>
- ▶ 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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