



Annual Report on Asylum and Migration Statistics 2007

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This EMN Synthesis Report summarises the main findings of National Reports for the year 2007 of the analysis of asylum and migration statistics undertaken by twenty-three EMN NCPs (**Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Ireland, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia, Slovak Republic, Spain, Sweden and United Kingdom**).

Topics covered are Asylum Applications and Decisions, Migration Flows to/from an EU Member State, Population by Citizenship, then Refusals, Apprehensions and Removals.

This EMN Synthesis Report, as well as the National Reports and Data upon which the synthesis is based, is available from [http://emn.sarenet.es/Downloads/prepareShowFiles.do?entryTitle=02 Annual Report on Asylum and Migration Statistics 2007](http://emn.sarenet.es/Downloads/prepareShowFiles.do?entryTitle=02%20Annual%20Report%20on%20Asylum%20and%20Migration%20Statistics%202007).

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Disclaimer

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Explanatory Note

This Synthesis Report is prepared on the basis of the data provided in each EMN NCPs National Report on Asylum and Migration Statistics 2007, their 2007 tables of data and/or communicated by Member State authorities to Eurostat.¹

Twenty-two EMN NCPs from **Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Ireland, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia, Slovak Republic, Spain, Sweden** and **United Kingdom** each submitted a National Annual Report on Asylum and Migrations Statistics 2007. In addition, **Malta** provided comments to the Synthesis Report which were incorporated directly into the report.

Twenty-four EMN NCPs from **Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Ireland, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia, Slovak Republic, Spain, Sweden** and **United Kingdom** have also submitted separate 2007 tables of data.

EMN NCPs from other Member States could not, for various reasons, participate on this occasion, but have done for other EMN activities and later reports.

The Member States mentioned above are given in bold when mentioned in the report and when reference to "Member States" is made, this is specifically for these Member States.

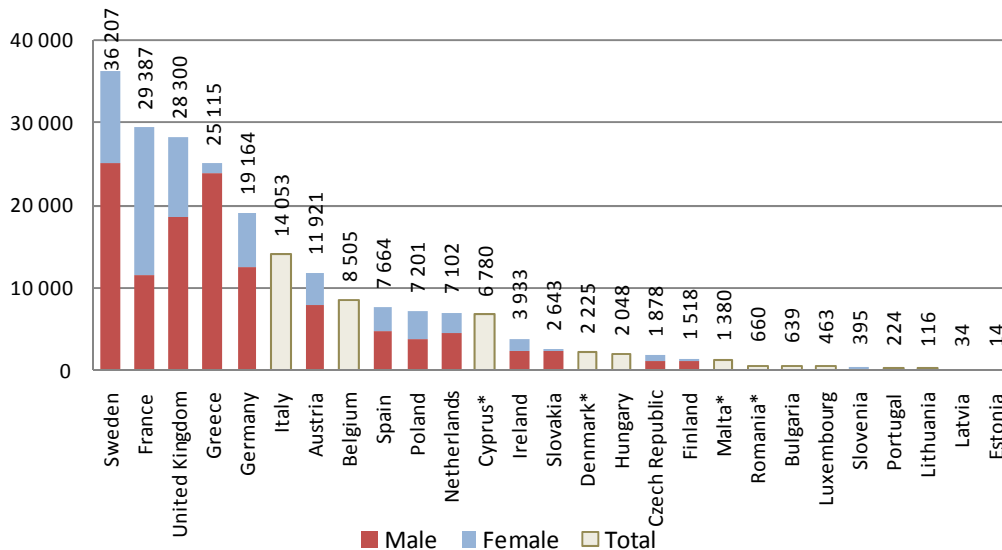
¹Available from <http://emn.sarenet.es/Downloads/prepareShowFiles.do?directoryID=121>.

Executive Summary

This Synthesis Report summarises the main findings for the year 2007 of the analysis of asylum and migration statistics undertaken by 23 EMN NCPs (**Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Germany, Estonia, Italy, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Hungary, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia, Slovak Republic, Finland, Sweden and United Kingdom**).

On first-time asylum applications ([Section 3.1](#)) **Sweden** (36 207), **Malta** (1 379), **Greece** (25 115) and **Austria** (11 921) had the largest proportion of asylum applicants per 1 000 inhabitants (respectively 3.97, 3.38, 2.25 and 1.44), as in 2006, but with an increase for **Sweden, Malta** and **Greece** and a decrease for **Austria**. In terms of development from 2006 to 2007, most Member States experienced a decrease in the number of asylum applicants, whereas **Greece, Italy, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Spain** and **Sweden** experienced an increase. The Member States with the lowest proportion and the lowest absolute number remained **Estonia** (0.01), **Latvia** (0.015) and **Portugal** (0.02). In terms of absolute numbers, those receiving the largest number of asylum applications were **Sweden** (36 207), **France** (29 387) and the **United Kingdom** (28 300). This reflects an increase in number of asylum applications for **Sweden** and a decrease for **France**, whereas the number was stable for the **United Kingdom** when compared to 2006.

New asylum applications submitted in the EU-27 in 2007– by Member State (disaggregation by sex if available)



Source: EMN NCP National Reports. * Report not submitted, Eurostat data used.

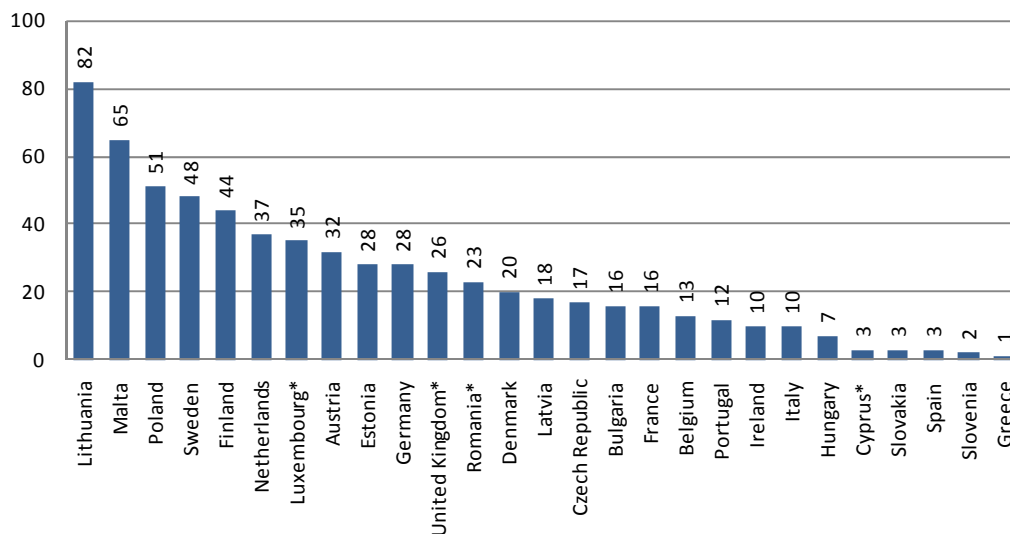
Data for **Austria, Czech Republic, Slovak Republic** and **Spain** includes first and repeated applications.

This figure is included in [Section 3.1.1](#).

For first and final decisions ([Section 3.2](#)), the highest numbers of *positive decisions* made in 2007 occurred in **Sweden** (15 640), **France** (6 810), **Germany** (7 870) and **United Kingdom** (6 810), with the lowest numbers granted by **Estonia** (4), **Latvia** (8), **Slovenia** (9) and **Portugal** (9). The highest number of *negative decisions* occurred in **France** (47 749), **Greece** (20 684), **United Kingdom** (19 850) and **Germany** (12 749), with the lowest numbers in **Estonia** (7), **Latvia** (33), **Lithuania** (51) and **Slovenia** (276). In terms of the proportion of *positive to total decisions* made in 2007, this was highest for **Lithuania** (82.0%), **Malta** (65.4%), **Poland** (51.4%), **Sweden** (48.2%), **Finland** (43.9%), **Hungary** (7.3%), **Slovak Republic** (3.2%), **Spain** (2.9%) and **Slovenia** (1.6%). The proportion of *negative to total decisions* was highest for **Slovenia** (94.8%), **Spain** (92.6%), **Portugal** (84.9%) and **France** (84.1%) and lowest in **Lithuania** (10.4%), **Poland** (29.7%), **Netherlands** (30.5%) and **Sweden** (37.5%). Some Member States (**Austria, Czech Republic, Finland** and **Slovenia**) have observed a great deal of stability in the protection statuses regularly granted to particular citizenship groups ([Section 3.3](#)). Other Member States (**Germany, Hungary,**

Ireland, Latvia, Spain, Sweden and United Kingdom) have seen changes between different types of statuses, but no clear pattern emerges.

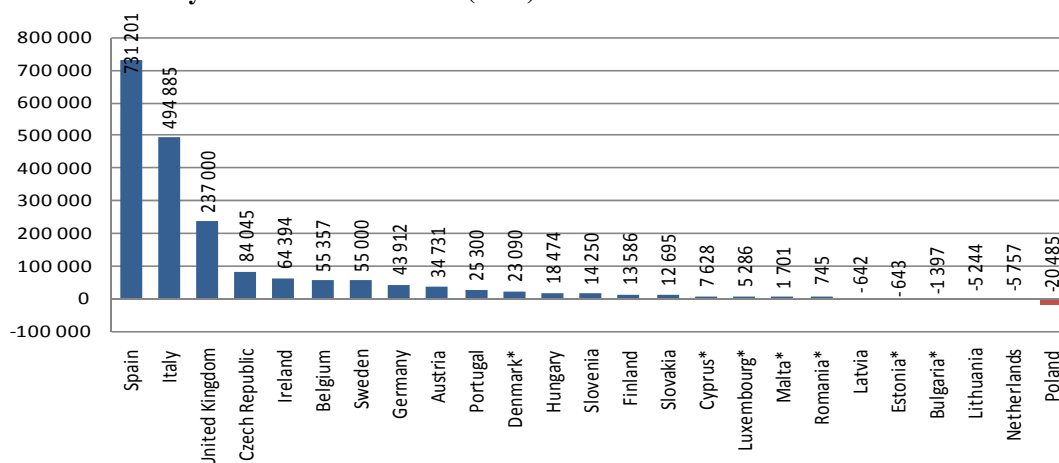
Positive decisions on asylum applications in the EU-27 in 2007 as ratio of total number of decisions (percentage)



Source: EMN NCP National Reports. Ratios * Eurostat data used. This figure is included in [Section 3.2](#).

With regard to Migration flows ([Section 4.1](#)), and in terms of trends from 2006 to 2007, an increase in *Positive Net Migration* is observed for **Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Finland, Germany, Spain, Slovenia, Slovak Republic, Sweden and United Kingdom**, whilst a decrease in *Positive Net Migration* is observed for **Hungary, Ireland, Italy and Malta**. The **Netherlands** is the only EU-15 Member State with *Negative Net Migration* and, amongst EU-10 Member States, **Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland** also have a *Negative Net Migration*. Considering the overall EU-27 migration patterns, there are no dramatic changes in relation to 2006, though an evolution that should be highlighted is the increased inflow of EU-2 nationals of **Bulgaria** and Romania in various EU-25 Member States (in particular **Austria, Greece, Netherlands, Slovak Republic**).

Net migration in the EU by Member State in 2007 (total)



Source: EMN NCP National Reports. Ratios * Eurostat data used. This figure is included in [Section 4.1](#).

The Population by Citizenship ([Section 4.2](#). and [Table 9](#)) shows that EU-15 Member States with the largest proportion of non-nationals, calculated as a percentage of their total population as of 1st January 2007 are (in decreasing order): **Ireland (10.5 %)** **Spain (10.4%)**, **Austria (9.6%)**, **Belgium (8.8%)**, **Germany (8.2%)**, **United Kingdom (6.6%)**, **Italy (4.2 %)**, **Netherlands (4.2%)**, **Portugal**

(4.1%) and **Finland** (2.4%). The available data for EU-10 Member States shows that, also in 2007, Member States with the largest proportion of non-nationals were **Latvia** (19.3%) and **Estonia** (16.34%) while Member States with the smallest share were **Poland** (0.1%), **Slovak Republic** (0.6%) and **Lithuania** (1.2%).

On Residence Permits ([Section 4.3.](#) and [Table 10](#)), family reunification/formation remains the main reason in most EU-27 Member States for which data are available (**Belgium, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Lithuania, Netherlands, Poland** and **Sweden**), followed by employment in **Czech Republic, Hungary, Latvia, Portugal, Slovenia, Slovak Republic** and **Spain**. Study is the main reason in **Bulgaria** and **United Kingdom**. Significant trends since 2006 are an increase in employment permits in various EU-10 Member States (**Czech Republic, Latvia, Lithuania**) - due to the development of the economy and the need for work force - and a downward trend in family permits in various EU-25 Member States (**France, Netherlands, Portugal, Slovenia**), which might be explained by the introduction of new legal requirements.

Generally, Member States that form the EU's external (sea and land) border have experienced an increase in the numbers of refusals ([Section 5.1.](#) and [Table 11](#)), including **Bulgaria, Estonia, Ireland, Latvia, Portugal** and **Spain**. An *increase* in the number of refusals, in some cases continuing a trend started in 2005, was observed for **Estonia, Finland, Ireland, Latvia** and **Spain**, in 2007, while a *decrease* was noted for **Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Italy, Lithuania, France, Germany, Greece, Netherlands, Poland, Slovak Republic, Slovenia** and **United Kingdom**.

The number of apprehensions ([Section 5.2.](#) and [Table 11](#)) by Member States in 2007 ranged from 112 364 in **Greece** to 248 in **Latvia**. Compared to 2006, an *increase* in the number of persons apprehended constituted a continuing trend since 2005 in **Bulgaria, Greece, France, Latvia, Lithuania** and **Sweden**. A continuous *decreasing* trend from 2005 occurred in **Belgium, Czech Republic, Estonia, Poland, Slovenia, Slovak Republic** and **Estonia**. In **Austria, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Netherlands, Portugal** and **Spain**, no clear trend can be established from 2005 to 2007. The number of apprehensions dropped sharply in **Italy** from 2006 to 2007. **Sweden** and **Finland** stand out with strong increases in apprehensions attributed to their national asylum policy and to their respective proximity to Russia.

The number of removals ([Section 5.3.](#) and [Table 11](#)) by the Member States in 2007 ranged from 68 191 in **Greece** to 89 in **Estonia**. An *increasing* trend since 2005 in the number of removals can be observed in **Greece, Netherlands, Poland, Slovak Republic, Slovenia** and **Hungary**. A *decreasing* trend can be observed from 2005 to 2007 in **Germany, Belgium, Austria, Sweden, Italy, Finland, Lithuania, Portugal, Czech Republic** and **Ireland**. In the case of **Bulgaria, United Kingdom, Spain, France, Latvia** and **Estonia** the numbers fluctuated and no clear trend could be established. The overall trend, however, was towards a decrease in the number of removals from the EU.

1. INTRODUCTION

One of the tasks of the European Migration Network (EMN), following Council Decision 2008/381/EC of 14th May 2008 establishing its legal base, is to produce the Annual Reports on Asylum and Migration Statistics. It is not, however, the purpose of the EMN to collect and collate the statistics, as this is done by the Commission's Eurostat working with the relevant official national data providers, who are often from the same entity as the EMN NCPs. Instead, the purpose of the EMN contribution is to analyse the statistical trends on asylum, migration, illegal entry and stay, and removals in the Member States, and thereby facilitate comparisons and interpretations pertaining to migratory trends on the European level, as well as in an international context.

This Synthesis Report summarises the main findings for the year 2007 and is the latest addition to a series of similar Annual Reports on Asylum and Migration Statistics from 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005 and 2006.² For continuity, data from previous years are provided in some of the tables presented in the following sections. Topics covered are Asylum Applications and Decisions, Migration Flows to/from an EU Member State, Population by Nationality, then Refusals, Apprehensions and Removals.

2. METHODOLOGY

The first step was for the participating EMN NCPs³ to ascertain that the data as provided by the European Commission's Eurostat⁴ were indeed consistent with their national data, and, in some cases, to add data. Afterwards, any necessary corrections, additions or modifications would be provided to Eurostat via the official national data providers in the participating Member States. The inputs for preparing the 2007 Synthesis Report are 22 National Annual Reports on Asylum and Migration Statistics 2007,⁵ produced according to common specifications. For those Member States that did not submit an Annual Report, data were

² All of these reports, Synthesis plus National, are available from <http://emn.sarenet.es/Downloads/prepareShowFiles.do?entryTitle=2%2E%20Annual%20Reports%20on%20Asylum%20and%20Migration%20Statistics>.

³ EMN NCPs are often from the same (or have very close links with the) entity that acts as the source of the data eventually provided to EUROSTAT. Their details may be found in the respective National Report or from <http://emn.sarenet.es/Downloads/download.do?fileID=554>.

⁴ See EUROSTAT Population and Social Conditions section, at <http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/population/data>

⁵ Available from [http://emn.sarenet.es/Downloads/prepareShowFiles.do?entryTitle=02 Annual Report on Asylum and Migration Statistics 2007](http://emn.sarenet.es/Downloads/prepareShowFiles.do?entryTitle=02%20Annual%20Report%20on%20Asylum%20and%20Migration%20Statistics%202007).

taken directly from Eurostat. The following migration and asylum data were provided for each Member State:

Asylum

- First time asylum applications
- First and final positive decision
- Changes in status regularly granted in particular nationals groups
- Contextual changes

Migration

- Change in migration flows
- Population by nationality
- Number of residence permits issued for the first time
- Contextual changes

Refusals, Apprehensions and Removal

- Refusals
- Apprehensions of illegally resident third-country nationals
- Removals
- Nationality of refused, apprehended or removed migrants
- Contextual changes

The accession of **Bulgaria** and Romania took place from the beginning of the period covered by this report (on 1st January 2007). Therefore, and in order to reflect the practice of national statistical offices, nationals from **Bulgaria** and Romania EU-2 were considered as third-country nationals up to and including 2006 and EU nationals from 2007 onwards. Similarly, nationals of EU-10 Member States who acceded on 1st May 2004 have been considered as EU-25 nationals from 2004 onwards. The tables in the following sections have been constructed to reflect these different statuses, but give data, to the extent possible, of nationals from EU-10 and/or EU-2 either as a component of the total number of third-country nationals or, following their accession to the EU, as a component of the total number of EU nationals. Any differences from this approach are indicated in the footnotes to each table.

For each of the following sections, a general overview of the data and main trends observed is given first. This is then followed by a summary of the key findings from the Member States. The key findings are divided into analysis and interpretation of statistics and contextual interpretations.

Note that, given the purpose of an EMN Synthesis Report, not all Member States are represented in each of the following sections, instead the approach has been to highlight in this report only those developments which occurred in 2007, were different from those reported in 2006, and are considered to be of relevance to giving an EU perspective. More details on the situation in a particular Member State(s) are given in the available National Report(s)⁶, as well as the corresponding Tables of Data⁷ and the 2006 Synthesis Report.⁸ Similarly, more information on the political and legislative developments may be found in the [EMN Annual Policy Report 2007](#).⁹

⁶ <http://emn.sarenet.es/Downloads/prepareShowFiles.do?directoryID=119>

⁷ <http://emn.saresnet.es/Downloads/prepareShowFiles.do?directoryID=121>

⁸ <http://emn.sarenet.es/Downloads/prepareShowFiles.do?directoryID=110>

⁹ <http://emn.sarenet.es/Downloads/prepareShowFiles.do?directoryID=108>

3. ASYLUM

This section describes the development in asylum applications, primarily from 2006 to 2007. Most Member States, except from **Sweden, Greece, Spain, Poland** and **Portugal**, have experienced a decrease in the number of asylum applicants. This seems to be related to different factors: in **Finland**, for example, the accession of **Bulgaria** to the EU beginning 2007 resulted in a sharp drop of asylum applicants from nationals of **Bulgaria** in 2007 compared to 2005 and 2006. Other contributing factors include certain Member States' entry to the Schengen system (e.g. **Estonia**) and the implementation of the Dublin Convention, political changes in Member States and changing situations in countries of origin, the situations in Iraq and Afghanistan being prominent examples.

3.1 First-time asylum applications

Overall, the number of asylum applications lodged in the EU decreased by 21% between 2004 and 2007, even though the total number of applications increased again from 195 593 in 2006 to 219 568 in 2007. Proportionally, the overall decrease over the period 2004 to 2007 was most marked in **Czech Republic, Luxembourg** and **Slovak Republic**. Some Member States witnessed an increasing trend, which was most marked, in relative terms, in **Greece** and **Portugal**. Table 1 below shows the statistics on the numbers of asylum applications submitted.

Table 1: New asylum applications submitted in the EU-27 – trends 2004 to 2007

Member State	Number of new application received				
	2004	2005	2006	2007	Change from 2004 to 2007 (%)
Belgium	12 400	12 573	9 030	8805	-29%
Bulgaria	985	698	639	639	-35%
Czech Republic	5 459	4 021	3 016	1 878	-66%
Denmark	3 235	2 281	1 960	2 225*	-31%
Germany	35 607	28 914	21 029	19 164	-46%
Estonia	11	11	7	14	:
Ireland	4 265	4 304	4 241	3 933	-8%
Greece	4 469	9 050	11 088	25 115	462%
Spain	5 553	5 257	5 297	7 664	38%
France	58 545	49 733	30 748	29 387	-50%
Italy	9 850	9 377	10 348	14 053	43%
Cyprus	9 675	7 717	4 540*	6 780*	-30%
Latvia	7	20	8	34	:
Lithuania	167	118	147	116	-31%
Luxembourg	1 577	803	523	463	-71%
Hungary	1 600	1 609	2 117	2 048	28%
Malta	995	1 165	1 272	1 379	39%
Netherlands	9 782	12 347	14 465	7 102	-27%
Austria	24 634	22 461	13 349	11 921	-52%
Poland	7 924	5 240	3 813	7 201	-9%
Portugal	113	113	129	224	98%
Romania	544	485	380*	660*	21%
Slovenia	1 173	1 597	518	395	-66%
Slovak Republic	11 395	3 549	2 849	2 643	-77%
Finland	3 861	3 594	2 335	1 518	-61%
Sweden	23 161	17 530	23 785	36 207	56%
United Kingdom	40 625	30 840	28 320	28 300	-30%
EU-15	237 677	209 177	176 647	195 781	-18%
EU-10	38 406	25 047	18 287	22 488	-41%
EU-2	1 529	1 183	1 019	1 299	-15%
EU-27	277 612	235 407	195 953	219 568	-21%

Source: EMN NCP National Reports. Ratios only calculated for Member States for which data was provided.

* Eurostat data used: Ratio not computed due to low base value.

1. Data for **Austria, Czech Republic and Slovak Republic** include first and repeated applications.
2. For the **Netherlands**, for the years 2004-2006 the data include first and repeated applications. Since January 2007 it only includes first applications.

3.1.1 Overview on asylum applications by nationality

Table 2 provides an overview of the 20 most prominent countries of origin for new asylum applications submitted in the EU-27 in 2007, based on data provided by Eurostat. The five most prominent countries of origin were Iraq, Russia, Pakistan, Serbia and Somalia. The total

number of asylum applications from nationals of these five countries amounted to 90 390 applications or 41% of the total number of applications.

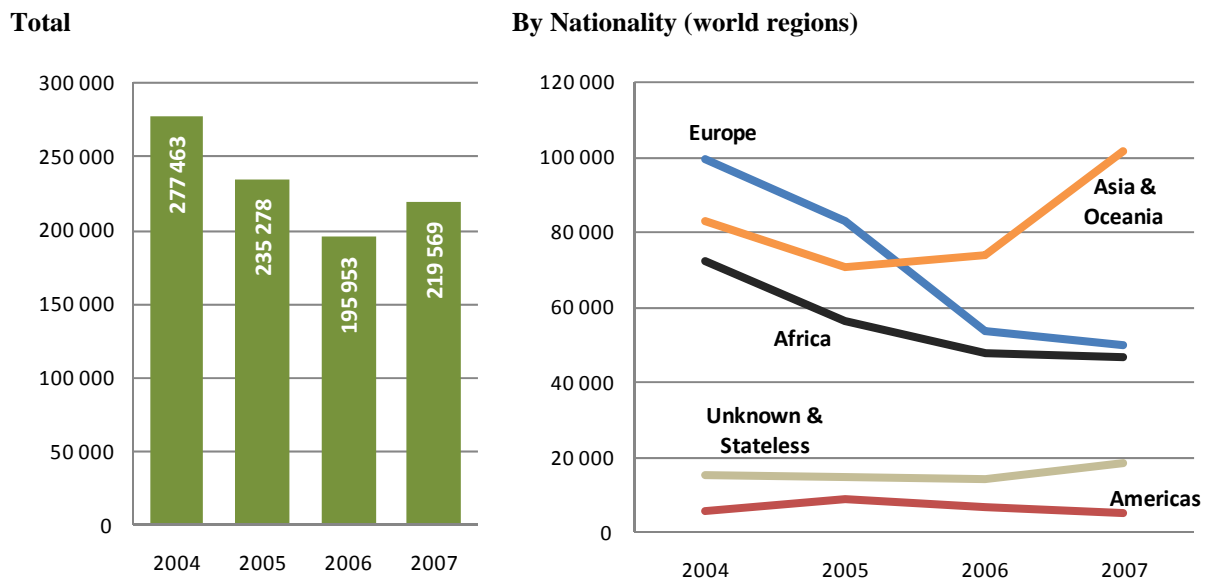
Table 2: New asylum applications submitted in the EU-27 by nationality (2007) – 20 most frequent nationalities

#	Nationality (country)	Applications	#	Nationality (country)	Applications
1	Iraq	38 465	11	Nigeria	5 210
2	Russia	16 865	12	Sri Lanka	5 045
3	Pakistan	13 200	13	Syrian Arab Republic	5 030
4	Serbia	12 525	14	Democratic Republic of the Congo	4 000
5	Somalia	9 335	15	Eritrea	3 930
6	Afghanistan	7 670	16	Georgia	3 635
7	Turkey	5 900	17	Armenia	3 520
8	Iran	5 820	18	India	3 215
9	China	5 610	19	Colombia	2 545
10	Bangladesh	5 350	20	Algeria	2 545

Source: Eurostat, based on aggregation of rounded monthly data and overall total for 2007.

Figure 1 provides an overview of the number of new asylum applications submitted in the EU-27 in the period 2004-2007 (both years included) by world regions as defined in Annex 1. The numbers of new asylum applications submitted by nationals from Asia & Oceania rose in 2007.

Figure 1: New asylum applications submitted in the EU-27 (2007)

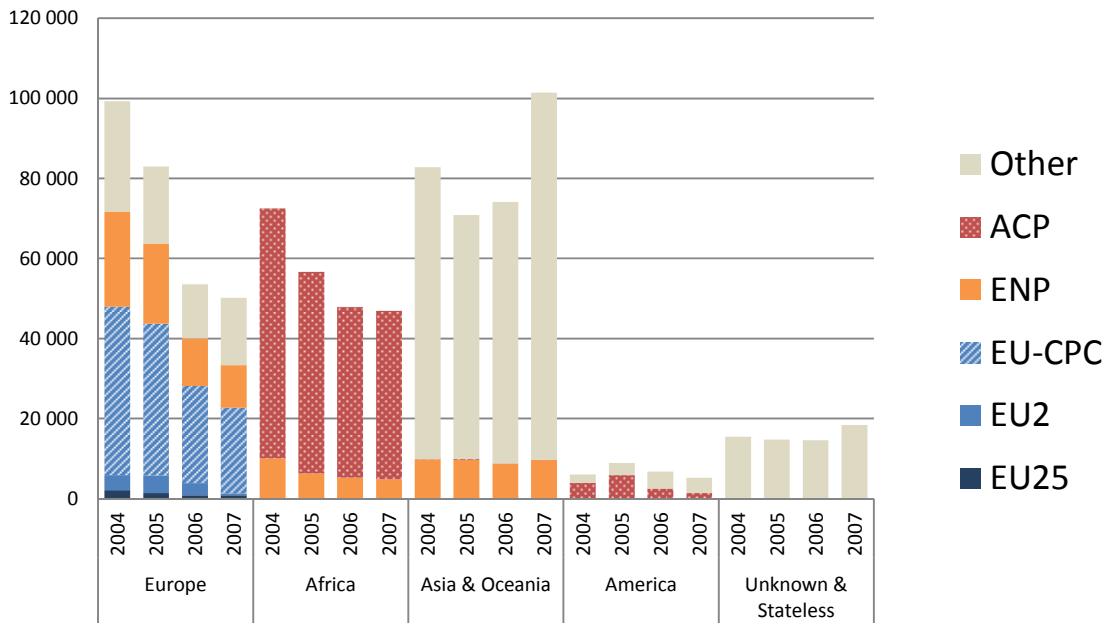


Source: Eurostat, based on aggregation of rounded monthly data

By contrast, applications submitted by nationals from Europe (non-EU) and Africa have fallen in the period 2004-2007. The number of applications submitted by nationals of the Americas and unknown and stateless persons are relatively stable in the period 2004-2007.

Figure 2 provides an overview of new asylum applications submitted in the EU-27 by nationality divided into groups of world regions and country categories (see Annex) for the period of 2004-2007. A major part of the nationals from Europe submitting applications in EU-27 originated from EU-CPC countries. Nationals from European Neighbourhood Policy (ENP) countries also accounted for a major part of the asylum applications in EU-27. From Africa the majority of nationals submitting asylum applications were from the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP). The majority of nationals from Asia and Oceania submitting asylum applications in the EU-27 were from countries not belonging to any specific group of partner countries, and only a minority from ENP countries. The number of applications from ACP countries in America was low compared to the number of applications from African ACP countries.

Figure 2: New asylum applications submitted in the EU-27 by nationality (world regions and country categories)



Source: Eurostat, based on aggregation of rounded monthly data. ACP = African, Caribbean and Pacific group of states; ENP = European Neighbourhood Policy countries; EU-CPC = EU Candidate and Potential Candidate countries; EU2 = Romania and Bulgaria (for list of countries see Annex 1).

Table 3 provides an overview of the largest decrease and increase in numbers of asylum applications submitted in the EU-27 by nationality in 2006 compared to 2007. It is notable that the largest decreases in the number of new asylum applications submitted in decreasing order were from nationals of Turkey, **Bulgaria**, Romania, Haiti and Sudan. The largest increase in the numbers of new asylum applications in decreasing order - in the same period - were from nationals of Iraq, Pakistan, Somalia, Russia and Syria.

Table 3: New asylum applications by nationality submitted in the EU-27 – largest decrease/increase (in absolute figures)

#	Largest decrease				Largest increase			
	Nationality (country)	2006	2007	Diff.	Nationality (country)	2006	2007	Diff.
1	Turkey	7 435	5 900	-1 535	Iraq	19 285	38 465	+19 180
2	Bulgaria	1 485	195	-1 290	Pakistan	6 315	13 200	+6 885
3	Romania	1 500	275	-1 225	Somalia	5 930	9 335	+3 405
4	Haiti	1 855	680	-1 175	Russia	13 530	16 865	+3 335
5	Sudan	2 520	1 550	-970	Syria	3 370	5 030	+1 660
6	Azerbaijan	2 290	1 370	-920	Sri Lanka	3 815	5 045	+1 230
7	Iran	6 655	5 820	-835	Palestine	640	1 245	+605
8	Moldova	2 385	1 555	-830	Georgia	3 080	3 635	+555
9	Serbia/Montenegro*	13 580	12 780	-800	Vietnam	1 825	2 375	+550
10	D.R. Congo	4 675	4 000	-675	Korea (DPR)	90	620	+530

Source: Eurostat, based on aggregation of rounded monthly data. *Counted as one state in 2006 and two separate states in 2007.

Table 4 provides an overview of the relatively largest decrease and increase in numbers (i.e. in %) of asylum applications from third-country nationals submitted in the EU-27 by nationality in 2006 and 2007. The relatively largest decrease is in the number of asylum applications from nationals of **Bulgaria**,¹⁰ Romania,¹¹ Madagascar and Haiti. The relatively largest increase was in the number of asylum applications received from nationals of Korea (DPR), Mali, Pakistan and Senegal.

¹⁰ Considered, for the purpose of this report, as a third country prior to its accession.

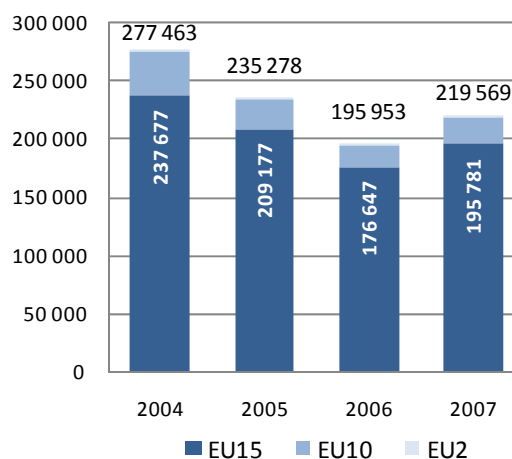
¹¹ Idem.

Table 4: New asylum applications by nationality submitted in the EU-27 – largest decrease/increase (relative, i.e. as a proportion of the numbers in 2007)*

#	Largest decrease				Largest increase			
	Citizenship (country)	2006	2007	Diff.	Citizenship (country)	2006	2007	Diff.
1	Bulgaria	1 485	195	-87%	Korea (DPR)	90	620	589%
2	Romania	1 500	275	-82%	Mali	220	695	216%
3	Madagascar	110	35	-68%	Pakistan	6 315	13 200	109%
4	Haiti	1 855	680	-63%	Senegal	215	430	100%
5	Kazakhstan	510	230	-55%	Iraq	19 285	38 465	99%
6	Tajikistan	65	30	-54%	Palestine (Occupied Territory of)	640	1 245	95%
7	Djibouti	60	30	-50%	Bhutan	70	130	86%
8	Ecuador	85	45	-47%	Burkina Faso	85	140	65%
9	Burundi	940	505	-46%	Somalia	5 930	9 335	57%
10	Turkmenistan	55	30	-45%	Syria	3 370	5 030	49%

Source: Eurostat, based on aggregation of rounded monthly data. *Applications from nationals of EU-25 Member States and nationalities with less than 50 applications in 2006 not considered.

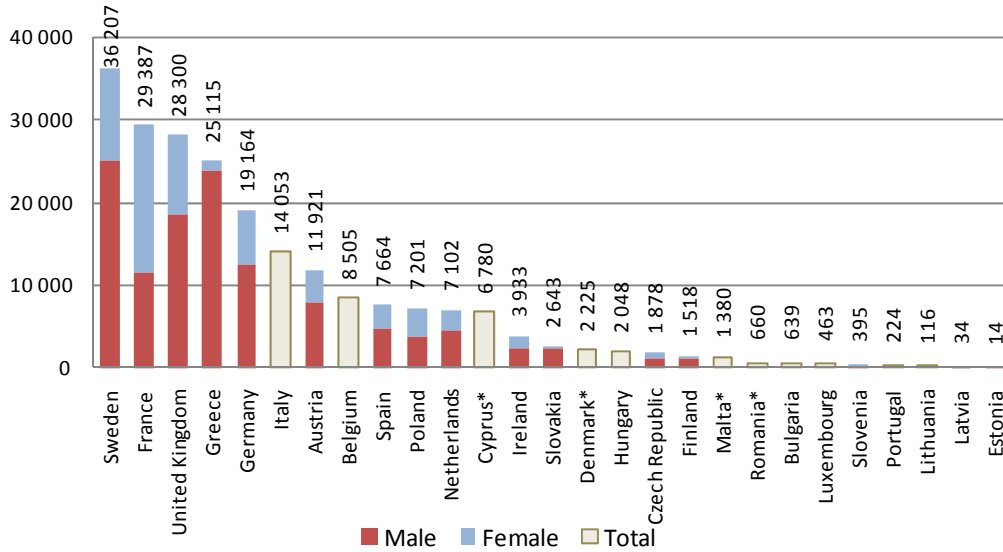
The number of first-time asylum applications lodged in the EU, after a considerable decrease over the last years, started to rise again in 2007, from approximately 196 000 applications in 2006 to about 220 000 in 2007 (see Figure 3). The overwhelming majority of applications are submitted in EU-15 Member States, but EU-10 Member States increased their proportion slightly in 2007 from 19 306 applications in 2006 to 23 788. The share of applications submitted in Romania and **Bulgaria** is negligible.

Figure 3: New asylum applications submitted in the EU-27

Source: EMN NCP National Reports, complemented with Eurostat data

Figure 4 presents respectively the total number of first-time asylum applications by Member State (broken down by gender where available) and the number per 1 000 inhabitants to indicate the relative significance of asylum applications.

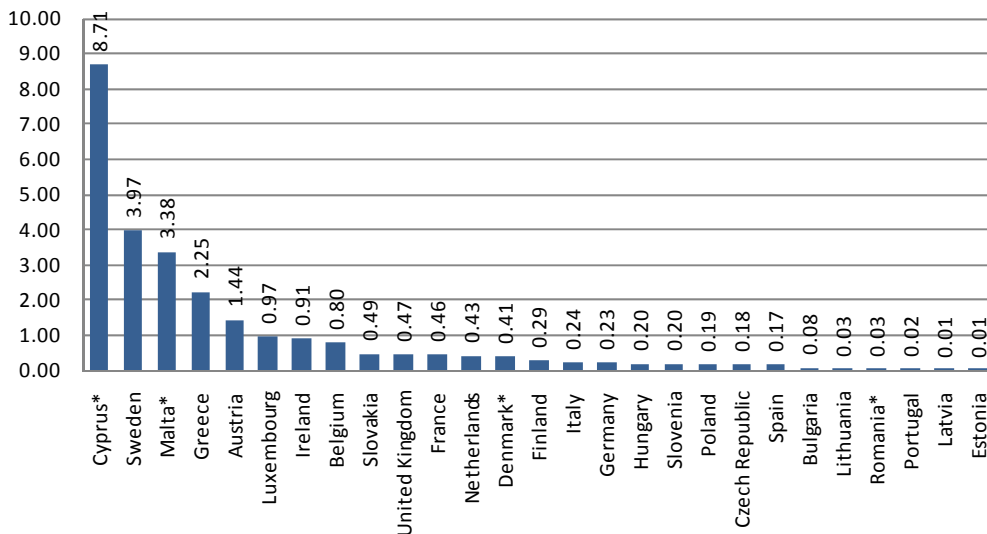
Figure 4: New asylum applications submitted in the EU-27 in 2007 – by Member State (disaggregation by sex if available)



Source: EMN NCP National Reports. * Report not submitted, Eurostat data used

Data for Austria, Czech Republic, Slovak Republic and Spain includes first and repeated applications.

Figure 5: New asylum applications submitted in the EU-27 in 2007 – by Member State (per 1 000 inhabitants)



Source: EMN NCP National Reports. For population data: Eurostat. * Report not submitted, Eurostat data used

1. Data for Austria, Czech Republic, Slovak Republic and Spain includes first and repeated applications.

The Member States receiving the largest number of asylum applications in 2007 were **Sweden** (36 207), **France** (29 387) and **United Kingdom** (28 300). This reflects an increase in number of asylum applications for **Sweden** and a decrease for **France**, whereas the number was stable for **United Kingdom** compared to 2006.

The gender breakdown shows some remarkable differences across receiving Member States. In most Member States, women account for 25-35% of new applications. Their share is, however, higher in **France** (61%) and **Poland** (46%),¹² whilst lower in **Greece** (5%), **Slovak Republic** (9%) and **Slovenia** (19%) and **Estonia** (0% as all 14 new applicants were male).¹³ These proportions have remained the same over time for these Member States, when compared to the gender breakdown in 2004-2006.

In terms of relative numbers, Cyprus (8.71) **Sweden** (3.97), **Malta** (3.38), **Greece** (2.25) and **Austria** (1.44) had the largest proportion of asylum applicants per 1 000 inhabitants.¹⁴ These results are similar to those in 2006, but with an increase for **Greece**, **Sweden** and Cyprus and a decrease for **Austria**. The Member States with the lowest proportion and the lowest absolute number remained **Estonia**, **Latvia** (both 0.01) and **Portugal** (0.02).

3.1.2 Asylum applications submitted by minors

The statistics on first-time asylum applications (Table 5) also include separately (for most Member States) the number of minors (all individuals under the age of 18) and the number of unaccompanied minors. The **United Kingdom** (7 800), **Sweden** (7 605) and **Germany** (7 506) received the largest number of minors. This is an increase compared to 2006 for **Sweden**, but a decrease for both **Germany** and **United Kingdom**. The **United Kingdom** (3 525) received the largest number of asylum applications from unaccompanied minors followed by **Sweden** (1 264) and **Austria** (516). In **Spain**, data from 2007 reflects a continuous increase in the case of minors, to the point that they have practically doubled their number in the past year (1 562 in 2007 compared to 799 in 2006).

¹² In 2006, the ratio of females of all first-time applicants for asylum reached 74%.

¹³ The figures for **Estonia** (0%) and **Latvia** (12%) should be treated with caution due to the very low total number of applications.

¹⁴ The figures for Cyprus and **Malta** are based on Eurostat figures.

Table 5: New asylum applications submitted in the EU-27 (2007) – total and relative number, minors and unaccompanied minors

Member State	Total		Minors		Unaccompanied minors	
	Number	Per 1 000 inhab.	Number	As % of total	Number	As % of total
Belgium	8 805	0.91	:	:	555	7%
Bulgaria	639	0.08	:	:	:	:
Czech Republic	1 878	0.18	281	15%	56	3%
Denmark	2 225*	0.41	:	:	:	:
Germany	19 164	0.23	7 506	39%	180	1%
Estonia	14	0.01	0	0%	0	0%
Ireland	3 933	0.91	:	:	87	2%
Greece	25 115	2.25	:	:	44	0%
Spain	7 664	0.17	1 562	20%	:	:
France	29 387	0.46	5 717	19%	:	:
Italy	14 053	0.24	:	:	:	:
Cyprus	6 780*	8.71	:	:	:	:
Latvia	34	0.01	3	9%	0	0%
Lithuania	116	0.03	:	:	5	4%
Luxembourg	426	0.89	:	:	:	:
Hungary	2 048	0.20	:	:	70	3%
Malta	1 379*	3.38	:	:	173	13%
Netherlands	7 102	0.43	1 760	25%	433	6%
Austria	11 921	1.44	:	:	516	4%
Poland	7 201	0.19	3 243	45%	:	:
Portugal	224	0.02	:	:	7	3%
Romania	660*	0.03	:	:	:	:
Slovenia	395	0.20	:	:	27	7%
Slovak Republic	2 643	0.49	259	10%	157	6%
Finland	1 518	0.29	330	22%	99	7%
Sweden	36 207	3.97	7 605	21%	1 264	3%
United Kingdom	28 300	0.47	7 800	28%	3 525	12%
EU-15	195 708	0.50	32 280	25%	6 776	3%
EU-10	22 488	0.30	3 505	30%	488	2%
EU-2	1 299	0.04	:	:	:	:
EU-27	219 495	0.44	35 785	25%	7 264	3%

Source: EMN NCP National Reports. Ratios only calculated for Member States for which data was provided:

Report not submitted or missing data. * National Report not submitted; Eurostat data used.

1. Data for **Austria, Czech Republic, Hungary, Slovak Republic and Spain** includes first and repeated applications.
2. Data for **Greece** contains discrepancies as to the total number of first-time application. The number appearing in Table 2 in the Greek National Report from 2007 was used.
3. Data for **Slovenia** contains discrepancies as to the total number of first-time applications. The number appearing in Slovenian 2007 tables were used.
4. Data on total population used to calculate new applications per 1 000 inhabitants is based on Eurostat data on population as of 1 January of the given year.

3.1.3 Trends in the Member States

In 2007, a total of 11 921 asylum applications were registered in **Austria** compared to 13 349 applications in 2006.¹⁵ This is a decline by - 10.7% relative to 2006. Applications lodged by unaccompanied minors rose by +24.6%, from 414 (2006) to 516 (2007). In 2007, the major countries of origin of asylum applicants did not change compared to the previous year. The five most prominent countries were Russia (2 676, +9.6% from 2006), Serbia (1 760, -30%), Afghanistan (761, +9%), Turkey (659, -1%), Moldova (545, -40 %) and Iraq (472, +24%). The number of applications from nationals of Somalia (467) rose to such an extent that Somalia was among the ten most prominent source countries for asylum applicants, while the number of applications from nationals of Georgia dropped by - 29% to 400.

The number of first-time applications in **Belgium** amounted to 8 805 in 2007 compared to 9 030 in 2006. The number of applications by unaccompanied minors was 555 compared to 491 in 2006. The top five countries of origin are Russia (Chechnya) (1 392, +1%), Serbia-Montenegro (859, +50%), Iraq (696, +27%), the Democratic Republic of Congo (685, -7%) and Afghanistan (456, +111%). The trend over the past few years has been an increase in the number of multiple asylum applications. The most recurring nationalities introducing an asylum application more than once were Serbia (including Kosovo), Russia and Iran.

A total number of 1 878 applications (including 281 from minors) for asylum was submitted in the **Czech Republic** in 2007.¹⁶ This compares to 3 016 applications (including 408 from minors) in 2006. The number of applications by unaccompanied minors was 56 compared to 81 in 2006. The most frequent country of origin among those seeking international protection in 2007 was Ukraine, which is seen as a traditional source country for applicants. In 2007, 293 new applications by nationals of Ukraine were submitted, meaning a decline of 49%, compared to 2006. The share of nationals of Ukraine on the total number of applications for international protection is also going down. The number of unaccompanied minors was relatively stable in previous years.

¹⁵ Data for **Austria** includes first and repeated applications.

¹⁶ Data for the **Czech Republic** includes first and repeated applications.

The number of asylum applications in **Estonia** remained low with 14 applications in 2007 and 7 in 2006. Seven applications were filed by nationals of Belarus, 4 by Sri Lanka and 3 by Russia. Compared to the previous years, more applicants applied for asylum at the border.

France registered 29 387 first-time applications in 2007 (including 5 717 from minors) compared to 30 748 applications (including 5 066 from minors) in 2006, representing a decrease of - 4.4%. In 2007, the former Serbia and Montenegro was the main country of origin for adult asylum applicants with an increase of +3% compared to 2006. This was attributed to persons originating from Kosovo who became part of the Albanian community upon reaching majority age. Of the ten main countries of origin for first-time adult applications, six show an increase, particularly Bangladesh (+59%), Russia (+29%), and Armenia (+21%). Applications from nationals of Turkey and Algeria, as observed over the last few years, continued to fall. Applications from nationals of Russia represented the largest migration flow in 2007 (including accompanied minors), with a sharp increase in numbers during the last quarter of the year.

The number of first-time applications in **Finland** was 1 505 (including 330 minors) compared to 2 324 (including 359 from minors) in 2006. This corresponds to a drop in applications from 2006 to 2007 by 38%. The asylum applicants in 2007 came from 76 different countries. The most striking difference compared to 2005 and 2006 is a result of the absence of asylum applicants by nationals of **Bulgaria** in 2007, following accession to the European Union. Iraq (327), Russia (172) and Serbia (152) formed the top-three asylum seeking nationalities in 2007. There was a rise in Iraqi asylum applicants by about 27% in 2007 compared to 2006. The number of Serbia and Belorussia asylum applicants decreased by about 50% for each. The number of unaccompanied minor asylum applicants was 96 in 2007 compared to 108 in 2006.

Germany saw an almost historical low level in 2007 with 19 164 asylum applications (including 7 506 from minors). Compared to 2006, with 21 029 asylum applications (including 9 581 from minors), a decline of -8.9% was registered. The number of applications by unaccompanied minors was 180 compared to 186 in 2006. Taking into consideration also the number of repeat applications (11 139), a total of 30 303 persons lodged an asylum application in 2007, i.e. 203 persons more than in 2006. The main countries of origin of asylum applicants in 2007 were Iraq (22.6% of the first-time applicants), Serbia (10.4%),

Turkey (7.5%), Vietnam (5.2%) and Russia (4.0%). The number of applicants from Iraq has more than doubled compared to 2006 (2 117 first-time applications). For Serbia, however, a notable decline was registered (from 3 237 applications in 2006 to 1 996 applications in 2007). The number of applicants from Turkey has been steadily declining since its peak in 2001, where 10 870 first-time applications by nationals of Turkey were registered.

The number of applications for asylum in **Greece** increased significantly in 2007 to 25 115 compared to 11 088 applications (including 499 from minors) in 2006, corresponding to a +105% increase. The number of unaccompanied minors amounted to 44 compared to 165 in 2006. A high increase in the number of first-time asylum applications by people from Pakistan was recorded. This number increased from 174 in 2004 to 9 144 in 2007. In 2007, 36.4% of all first-time asylum applications were from Pakistan and 21.8% from Iraq.

Ireland received 3 933 first-time applications in 2007 compared to 4 241 applications received in 2006 corresponding to a decrease of -7.2%. The number of applications in 2007 was at the lowest level since 1997. In 2007, nationals of Nigeria constituted the largest single grouping and comprised almost a quarter (25.7%) of all first asylum applications during the year. The next largest nationality was Iraq, representing 7.1% of all first-time applications. There was a decrease in applications from unaccompanied minors between 2006 and 2007, from 131 to 87 respectively (a decrease of -33.5% year-on-year).

During 2007, third-country nationals who, once arrived in **Italy**, applied for asylum amounted to 14 053.¹⁷ Between 2004 and 2007, the trend in applications underwent some variations: between 2004 and 2005 applications decreased by -4.8% (from 9 850 to 9 377), but during the subsequent year there was a significant increase by +10.4% to 10 348 applications, which continued between 2006 and 2007 and reached +36%, which means a total of 14 053 asylum applications. Most of those who applied for international protection in 2007 were from African countries, plus from European countries outside the EU and Asia.

Latvia also experienced a proportionally large increase of 34 asylum applications (including 3 from minors) in 2007 compared to 8 applications (including 2 from minors) in 2006. There were no applications by unaccompanied minors in both years. The majority of asylum

¹⁷ No data available on minors.

applicants came from new countries of origin, for instance, Bangladesh, Mongolia, Sierra Leone, Cuba and Ghana. In previous years, the majority of applications were received from nationals of Russia or from the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS).¹⁸

There were 116 first-time asylum applications lodged in **Lithuania** in 2007 compared to 147 first-time applications in 2006. There were 5 applications from unaccompanied minors in 2007 compared to 3 in 2006. As in previous years, the biggest group of first-time asylum applicants remains nationals of Russia, mostly from Chechnya.

The evolution of the number of asylum applications filed in **Luxembourg** since the late 1990s has been multidirectional. From a very high number in 1998 (2 930 applications), the number of new asylum applications dropped subsequently (627 in 2000) until it reached another peak in 2004 (1 575 applications). Since then, their numbers have strongly and continuously decreased. A total of 463 individuals lodged an asylum application in 2007, i.e. 60 persons less than in the previous year.

The number of asylum applications submitted in **Malta** continued to increase in 2007, as has been the trend since 2002, amounting to 1 379 or a + 9% increase over the previous year. The large majority of applicants, more than 42%, were from Somalia reflecting a similar situation since 2004. The number of applicants from Eritrea followed the same patterns as in previous years amounting to 339 in 2007. Other main nationalities were from sub-Saharan countries, particularly Côte d'Ivoire, Sudan and Ethiopia.

A total of 2 048 persons submitted a first application for asylum in **Hungary** in 2007, which compared to the 1 389 first applicants in 2006, equals to an increase of +47%. The number of unaccompanied minors amounted to 70 compared to 61 in 2006. The main nationalities applying for asylum were Serbia and Montenegro (797), Vietnam (215), China (131) and Iraq (123).

The **Netherlands** received 7 102 applications in 2007 compared to 14 465 (first-time and repeated) in 2006. The number of unaccompanied minors amounted to 433 compared to 410 in 2006, the lowest figure in ten years. Considering the nationalities of the asylum applicants

¹⁸ Belarus, Ukraine, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

in 2007, the main five countries of nationalities were Iraq, Somalia, Afghanistan, Iran plus unknown nationality.¹⁹ Somalia was the only country of origin with an increase in applications (+544). In contrast to the trend over the past five years, there has been a slight decrease in the absolute number of unaccompanied minors filing an asylum application. The percentage of applications by unaccompanied minors amounts to 4% of the total influx.

Poland received 7 201 new asylum applications (including 3 243 from minors) compared to 3 813 applications (including 1 729 from minors) in 2006. In the months preceding accession to Schengen in 2007, there was a dramatic growth in the number of nationals of Russia of Chechen origin applying for refugee status. The origin of asylum applicants has not significantly changed over the years. Like in 2006, the main country of origin of applicants was Russia (6 664 applications equal to 93% of all applications). Within this group, the vast majority of applicants were from Chechnya. In 2007, nationals of Russia of Chechen origin accounted for 92% of all asylum applications (90% in 2006, and 91% in 2005). Other prominent nationalities for asylum applicants in 2007 were nationals of Belarus (62), Sri Lanka (55), Viet Nam (40), India (35) and Ukraine (26).

In 2007, 224 requests for asylum were lodged in **Portugal** compared to 129 applications in 2006. This corresponds to an increase of +73.6%. The number of unaccompanied minors amounted to 7 compared to 3 in 2006. The main nationalities involved in these 2007 first-time applications for asylum were of Colombia (86), Somalia (21), Bosnia and Herzegovina (16), Guinea (14), the Democratic Republic of Congo (11), Afghanistan (7), Russia (6) and Sri Lanka (6), Algeria (5) and Angola (5). The residual category of "Others" included 47 applicants. Most of the asylum applicants were from the Americas (Colombia), which was in contrast to the previous year, in which nationals from Africa stood out, especially from the Democratic Republic of Congo.

The number of first-time applications in **Slovenia** amounted in 2007 to 423 compared to 518 applications in 2006, which corresponds to 26% fewer applications on a year-to-year basis. The decreasing trend was a continuation of the development in 2006, where the number of asylum applications dropped by - 65% from 2005, when 1 597 persons lodged their asylum

¹⁹The "unknown" group consists of asylum applicants that are insufficiently documented and therefore registered with nationality "unknown" in the municipal person records database.

applications. In 2007, 27 out of the 96 minors who lodged applications for international protection were unaccompanied minors.

The **Slovak Republic** recorded 2 643 applications²⁰ in 2007 (including 259 from minors) compared to 2 849 applications (including 359 from minors) in 2006 continuing a decrease from 2005. There was a substantial increase in the number of asylum applications by nationals of Pakistan. While in 2006 the applications by nationals of Pakistan represented 6.4% of the total, in 2007 this reached 24.6% of the total, thus being the most prominent country with regard to the number of asylum applications. Other prominent countries of origin in 2007 included India (619), Russia (307), Moldova (208), Georgia (134), Iraq (131), Bangladesh (108) and China (96).

A total of 7 664 asylum applications (including 1 562 from minors) were submitted in **Spain** during 2007 compared to 5 295 applications (including 799 from minors). In percentage terms, there was a +44.7% increase on the previous year. This increase was mainly due to applications filed at Diplomatic or Consular Missions. In terms of nationalities, there was a significant increase in applications from nationals of Iraq, which rose from 42 in 2006 to 1 598 in 2007, of which 1 474 applications were made at the Spanish Embassy in Egypt, becoming the second largest group by nationality. Asylum applications from nationals of Colombia continues to be the largest group with 2 498 applications in 2007 (259 more than in 2006), of which 2 224 were presented at the Barajas Airport in Madrid (354 more than were made in 2006 at this border post). Applications from nationals of Colombia and Iraq were followed by Nigeria (680 applications) and Côte d'Ivoire (336 applications).

The number of first-time applications in **Sweden** in 2007 was 36 207 (including 7 605 minors) compared to 23 785 (including 6 071 from minors) in 2006. This corresponds to an approximate +50% increase from 2006 to 2007. Almost half of the number of asylum applicants was nationals of Iraq, 9% of Somalia and 7% of Serbia. Approximately 70% of all new asylum applications in 2007 were from males, 25 128, compared to 11 079 females. The proportions were similar to those in 2006 (66% and 34% respectively). The majority of the asylum applicants were aged between 18 and 35 years, 55% of males and 45% of females. In 2007, 1 264 asylum applications were made by unaccompanied minors compared to 820 in

²⁰The Migration Office of the **Slovak Republic** does differentiate between first and repeated (subsequent) applications.

2006. A factor behind the influx of asylum applicants from Iraq was the temporary law from 2006, which resulted in many permits and a relatively high recognition rate for asylum applicants from Iraq in 2006 and 2007. The temporary amendments to the 1989 Aliens Act were in force from November 2005 to October 2006 and resulted in a review of 31 000 cases which resulted in 17 000 permits based on humanitarian reasons. The main target groups were families with minor children who had been waiting for a decision from the Migration Board and established themselves in Sweden for a certain period of time, and persons subject to legally binding decisions of removal but for whom there were impediments to enforcement.

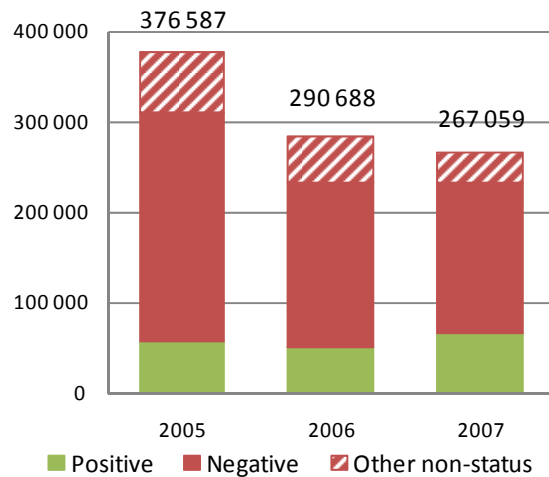
In the **United Kingdom**, the number of first-time applicants for asylum was essentially the same in 2007 as in 2006, with 28 300 applications (including 7 800 from minors) in 2007 compared to 28 320 (including 8 385 from minors) in 2006 (a year-on-year-fall for total applications of -0.1%). Those with the highest number of applications were nationals of Afghanistan (2 840, 10% of all first asylum applications), followed by Iran (2 525, 9% of all first asylum applications). Sri Lanka replaced Sudan in the main ten countries by nationality. The other countries remained in the main ten, but in a slightly different order. Of the countries in the main ten in 2006 and 2007, Afghanistan (+7%), Zimbabwe (+12%), Iraq (+57%) and China (+10%) recorded increases in asylum applications; whilst Iran (-6%), Somalia (-9%), Eritrea (-30%), Pakistan (-3%) and Nigeria (-4%) recorded decreases in asylum applications.

3.2 First and final positive decisions

Figure 6 shows that the total number of decisions taken for the EU-27 as a whole continued to decrease, from ca. 290 000 in 2006 to about 267 000 in 2007. The overall proportion of positive decisions, compared to the total, rose from 17% to 24% in the same period.

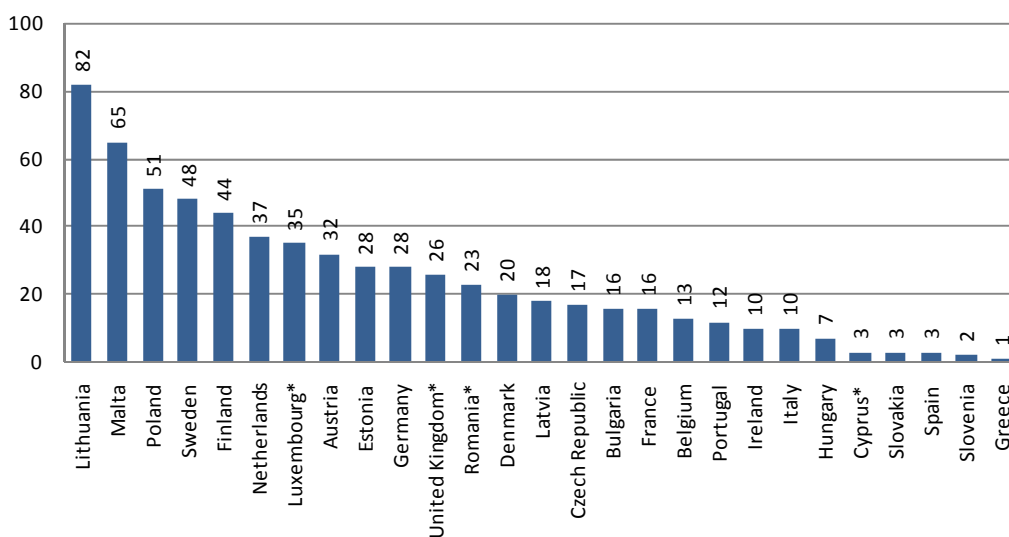
The proportion of positive decisions ranged from 82% in **Lithuania** to 1% in **Greece**, as depicted in Figure 7. It should be noted that this ratio also depends heavily on a number of factors, including the specific mix of applicants arriving into individual Member States and the circumstances of their application.

Figure 6: Decisions on asylum applications submitted in the EU-27



Source: EMN NCP National Reports, complemented with Eurostat data

Figure 7: Positive decisions on asylum applications in the EU-27 as ratio of total number of decisions (percentage)



Source: EMN NCP National Reports. Ratios * Eurostat data used.

Table 6 provides an overview of the number of decisions made in the period 2005 to 2007. Note that the data presented are *calendar-based*, i.e. a particular year represents mainly decisions from applications made in previous years, as well as the current year for which data are given and thus must not be considered as “recognition rates.”

Table 6: Asylum decisions taken by Member State authorities

Member State	2005		2006		2007	
	Number	% positive	Number	% positive	Number	% positive
Belgium	23 268	16%	18 362	13%	16 449	13%
Bulgaria	944	9%	594	16%	594	16%
Czech Republic	4 376	8%	3 021	11%	2 260	17%
Denmark	1 327	17%	1 542	20%	1 542	20%
Germany	48 102	6%	30 759	6%	28 572	28%
Estonia	14	7%	4	0%	14	28%
Ireland	9 263	10%	6 187	10%	5 692	10%
Greece	10 421	1%	13 166	1%	20 990	1%
Spain	8 185	3%	8 398	3%	7 957	3%
France	107 417	12%	67 142	1%	56 778	16%
Italy	10 911	40%	9 260	9%	13 509	10%
Cyprus	5 796	3%	5 585	3%	7 170*	3%
Latvia	22	0%	23	43%	44	18%
Lithuania	384	89%	444	89%	402	82%
Luxembourg	1 482	45%	1 124	14%	1 114	35%
Hungary	1 654	12%	2 018	10%	3 592	7%
Malta	1 160	45%	1 185	46%	955	65%
Netherlands	26 067	38%	19 275	33%	15 385	37%
Austria	18 585	24%	15 488	26%	16 047	32%
Poland	8 841	24%	7 285	34%	5 826	51%
Portugal	89	18%	104	29%	73	12%
Romania	471	11%	365	15%	590	23%
Slovenia	1 848	1%	901	1%	576	2%
Slovak Republic	3 782	1%	2 814	0%	2 966	3%
Finland	3 439	17%	2 386	26%	1 956	44%
Sweden	45 212	15%	45 968	49%	32 472	48%
United Kingdom	33 210*	16%	25 475	20%	26 665	26%
EU-15	347 373	15%	266 447	17%	241 838	25%
EU-10	27 799	14%	23 282	18%	24 037	20%
EU-2	1 415	10%	959	16%	1 184	19%
EU-27	376 587	15%	290 688	17%	267 059	24%

Source: EMN NCP National Reports. Ratios only calculated for Member States for which data was provided.

Notes:

1. For **Austria**, the calculation of recognition rate takes as positive decisions only into account refugee status and excludes subsidiary protection and humanitarian status. In the total number of decisions, also cases completed without a decision are included.
2. For **Belgium**, the figures are for Adults only (dependent minor children are not included). For 2005 and 2006 positive first instance relates to the recognition of refugee status made by the Commissioner General for Refugees and Stateless Persons (CGRS); Positive first appeal relates to the recognition of refugee status by the Permanent Appeals Commission (PCA); Negative first instance comprises (a) negative decisions (on the admissibility) made by the Immigration Office (IO) and for which the person did not lodge an urgent appeal at the CGRS, (b) (final) negative decisions on the admissibility by the CGRS, plus (c) final negative decisions on

the merit of the request made by the CGRS. Other non-status decisions (First instance) comprises the number of files/persons who have been cancelled or declared "without object" (devenu sans objet) as a result of (a) people who desisted voluntarily from their asylum application (at the CGRA); or (b) people who desisted voluntarily from their asylum application, deceases, naturalizations, people who left the country, etc. (at the PCA).

3. For **Czech Republic**, the Total number of decisions refers to the numbers of decisions of the first and second instance. Appeals to the regional court and cessations are not included in the total number of decisions as they are decisions on legality, not decisions on asylum.
4. For **Slovak Republic**, in 2005 the exact percentage of positive decisions was 0.66% and in 2006, 0.28%.
5. For **Spain**, the Total number of decisions refers to the numbers of decisions of the first instance and first appeal. Data on decisions after subsequent appeals is not included.
6. Data for **United Kingdom** includes dependants.

The highest absolute numbers of positive decisions made in 2007 occurred in **Sweden** (15 640), **Germany** (7 870), **France** (6 810) and **United Kingdom** (6 810) with the lowest numbers granted by **Estonia** (4), **Latvia** (8), **Slovenia** (9) and **Portugal** (9). The highest number of negative decisions occurred in **France** (47 749), **Greece** (20 684), **United Kingdom** (19 850) and **Germany** (12 749), with the lowest numbers in **Estonia** (7), **Latvia** (33), **Lithuania** (51) and **Slovenia** (276).

In terms of the proportion of positive to total decisions made in 2007, and this should not in any way be understood as "recognition rates", this was highest for **Lithuania** (82.0%), **Malta** (65%), **Poland** (51.4%), **Sweden** (48.2%) and **Finland** (43.9%). The proportion of positive to total decisions was lowest for **Slovenia** (1.6%), **Spain** (2.9%), **Slovak Republic** (3.2%) and **Hungary** (7.3%). The proportion of negative decisions to total decisions was highest for **Slovenia** (94.8%), **Spain** (92.6%), **Portugal** (84.9%) and **France** (84.1%). The proportion of negative decisions to total decision was lowest for **Lithuania** (10.4%), **Poland** (29.7%), **Netherlands** (30.5%), **Malta** (34.6%), **Italy** (36.3%) and **Sweden** (37.5%).

In **Austria**, the total number of asylum decisions (first instance and appeal) increased slightly from 15 488 in 2006 to 16 047 (+3.6%) in 2007. Of these decisions, 5 197 were positive, 6 646 negative and 4 204 were 'non-status decisions' indicating a cessation of asylum proceedings in cases of absence of the asylum applicant, unknown place of residence or withdrawal of asylum application. Thus, overall, in 2007, 32% of all decisions were positive compared to 26% in 2006 and 41% were negative compared to 38% in 2006. In terms of first instance and first appeal decisions, of the overall final 5 197 positive decisions, 2 500 were granted at first instance and 2 612 were granted at first appeal. Hence, approximately 50% of

decisions were made at first instance and 50% at first appeal. The rate of positive decisions has declined since 2004 and reached 41% in 2007.²¹

On first instance decisions, **Belgium** has recognised 1 839 asylum applicants on a total of 11 562 decisions taken. In total, 2 821 positive decisions granting refugee status (2 198) or subsidiary protection status (623) were made. The number of people having been granted refugee status is more or less the same as in 2006, but no comparison is provided for subsidiary protection, as this status was only introduced in national legislation on 10 October 2006. The major part of recognitions concerned nationals of Russia of Chechen origin (377). The next most prominent nationalities were from Rwanda (211), Serbia-Montenegro (162), Iraq (159) and the Democratic Republic of Congo (120). High recognition rates were also witnessed for nationals of China (50%) and Burundi (35%).

The **Czech Republic** has made decisions in 2 260 cases.²² Out of the total number of decisions, 382 were positive, which represents an increase by +17% in comparison to 2006. The five most prominent nationalities who have obtained international protection status, have remained the same over the last few years. Nationals of Russia, who were the most prominent beneficiaries of international protection in 2005 (119), were replaced by nationals of Belarus (respectively 93 in 2006 and 84 in 2007). In the previous years, the remaining prominent countries were also former Soviet states.

Asylum and subsidiary protection status were granted to four persons in 2007 in **Estonia** compared to zero in 2006. Two were nationals of Sri Lanka, plus Russia (1) and Belarus (1). In total, 7 refusals in international protection were given. These were to nationals of Russia (3), Turkey (2), Nigeria (1) and Ukraine (1).

In **Finland**, the total number of asylum decisions in 2007 amounted to 1 956, of which 860 were positive decisions and 961 negative, the rest (135) were other non-status or annulment decisions. The total number of decisions made decreased compared to the two previous years

²¹ For **Austria**, the calculation of recognition rate takes as positive decisions only into account refugee status and excludes subsidiary protection and humanitarian status. In the total number of decisions, also cases completed without a decision are included.

²² For the **Czech Republic**, the Total number of decisions refers to the numbers of decisions of the first and second instance. Appeals to the regional court and cessations are not included in the total number of decisions as they are decisions on legality, not decisions on asylum.

as a result of fewer applications. Nevertheless, the share of positive decisions is on the rise. In 2005 only about 15% of all decisions were positive; in 2006 it was 26% and in 2007 it was 43%. Nationals of Somalia were the largest with regard to positive decisions.

France admitted 3 401 applicants under its protection in 2007. The share of approvals relative to the total number of applications at first instance was 11.6% in 2007 compared to 7.8% in 2006. The total number of first instance positive decisions was distributed as follows: Sri Lanka (538), Russia (302), Guinea (278), the Democratic Republic of Congo (212), Mali (207) and then others (1 864). Following a marked drop between 2005 and 2006, the flow of statutory refugee status accorded at first instance and on appeal increased somewhat in 2007 (+18.8%). Six countries together account for one half of this flow: Sri Lanka (1 096), Russia (756), Turkey (613), Serbia and Montenegro (594), the Democratic Republic of Congo (489) and Guinea (486). Subsidiary protection was also granted mainly to nationals from Haiti (108 in 2007), Algeria (72), Serbia-Montenegro (51), Russia (48) and Armenia (41).

In **Germany**, the most notable difference between 2006 and 2007 was the considerable increase in the percentage of asylum applicants, who were either fully recognised as persons entitled to asylum, or who were granted refugee status (6.3% in 2006 and 27.5% in 2007). About 74% of the asylum applicants from Iraq were granted asylum or refugee protection (or subsidiary protection) in 2007. In 2006, nearly 92% asylum applicants from Iraq had received a negative decision. The share of positive decisions relative to the total amount of applications rose to 27.7% in 2007 for Afghan asylum applicants. For asylum applicants from Russia and Iran, it was 18.5% and 29.2% respectively. **Germany** has, since mid-May 2007, assumed group persecution of religious minorities (e.g. Christians) in central Iraq, unless the persons concerned could be referred to internal protection alternatives in individual cases. This explains the increased protection rate for nationals of Iraq.

The percentage of positive decisions in **Greece** remains low. In 2007, there were 215 positive decisions and 20 684 negative decisions and in 2006 there were 91 positive decisions and 10 451 negative decisions. More than 30% of asylum applications were lodged by third-country nationals from Georgia (3 750), followed by Pakistan (2 378). Positive decisions concerned primarily people from Iraq (51%).

In 2007, 169 persons were recognised as refugees in **Hungary** following first decisions. These persons were mostly nationals of Iraq and Somalia. Eleven were unaccompanied minors. In 2007, the *Office of Immigration and Nationality* established that 83 persons could not be sent back on the basis of the non-refoulement principle. Three of these 83 were unaccompanied minors. The total "first" positive decisions was 252. In 2007, the *Budapest Metropolitan Court* changed the negative "first" decision of the asylum authority 10 times (according to the refoulement principle and recognition as refugees).²³ The number of positive decisions brought by the *Budapest Metropolitan Court* increased from 7 to 10 from 2006 to 2007.

The overall number of asylum decisions in **Ireland** decreased during 2007 (by -8% from 6 187 to 5 692), as did positive decisions (by -10.3%, from 648 to 581). The proportion of positive decisions to total decisions remained almost the same: 10.4% in 2006 and 10.2% in 2007. The number of non-Geneva Convention status decisions increased on a year-on-year basis in 2007 by +41.7%. The country of origin for third-country nationals receiving positive first instance decisions included: Iraq, Sudan, Somalia, Eritrea and Kuwait.

The number of decisions reached 13 509 in **Italy**. This represents an increase of +46% compared to 2006. A total of 1 408 decisions have been issued during 2007 resulting in the recognition of refugee status. The number of positive decisions is an increase compared to 2006 of +7.1 %. The number of negative decisions amounted to 4 908 for 2007. UNHCR estimates that approximately 50% of asylum applications submitted by migrants in 2007 arrived by sea and that, among the thousands of migrants who enter through the southern shores each year, about half of them need protection, because they flee persecution, violence or war in their countries of origin. Out of the total number of landed persons, about 35% apply for asylum on the spot or later; the recognition rate of some form of protection (refugee status or humanitarian protection) corresponds to approximately 65% of the total. In 2007, landings, which mainly took place in Lampedusa, Sicily and, to a lesser extent, in Calabria and Puglia, involved about 20 000 people, 22% of whom were deemed in need of international protection.

²³ As the *Budapest Metropolitan Court* does not collect specific data on asylum decisions (e.g.: the nationality of the recognised person or the reason for recognition), the following data, which were collected by the *Office of Immigration and Nationality* and the *UNHCR Regional Representation for Central Europe*, are the only ones available concerning 'final' positive asylum decisions.

There were 48 first and final positive decisions made in **Lithuania** in 2007: 8 decisions to grant refugee status and 40 decisions to grant subsidiary protection status. This number includes first-time asylum applications lodged in 2007, as well as those which remained unexamined in 2006 (49 unexamined applications). Refugee status was granted to nationals of Uzbekistan (4), Eritrea (3) and Belarus (1). Subsidiary protection status was granted to nationals of Russia (27), Uzbekistan (4), Ethiopia (3), Iraq (2), Belarus (1), Syria (1), Zimbabwe (1) and Pakistan (1). The total number of positive decisions in 2007 was 402 (refugee status (9), subsidiary protection (393)). In comparison, there were 397 positive decisions made in 2006.

A total of 44 decisions have been issued in **Latvia** during 2007, 35 of these have been at first instance (8 positive decisions) and 9 decisions have been at first appeal (no positive decisions). The positive decisions related to nationals of Iraq, Azerbaijan, Belarus and Cuba.

A total of 391 final positive decisions were made in **Luxembourg** in 2007 compared to 158 in 2006. Recognition of a person entitled to refugee protection was granted to nationals of Kosovo (65 cases), Iran (26 cases), Iraq (13 cases), the Democratic Republic of Congo (10 cases) and Russia (8 cases). The number of negative decisions amounted to 629 in 2007 compared to 779 in 2006. Temporary residence permits were granted in 224 cases in 2007 compared to 121 in 2006. The exceptional leave to remain was granted in 230 cases compared to 155 cases in 2006.

Of the 955 decisions made in **Malta**, 625 were positive at the first instance representing over 65% and an increase of 75 positive decisions over the previous year. This may be attributed to the fact that most persons requesting asylum during that year originated from countries such as Somalia and Eritrea. Of the 625 positive decisions, only 5 applications were granted refugee status.

In the **Netherlands**, a total of 15 385 initial decisions were made on asylum applications in 2007, a decrease from 2006 where it was 19 275. In 2007, the number of positive decisions amounted to a total of 37% of all decisions reached. Positive decisions include refugee statuses granted and residence permits based on subsidiary protection.

In **Poland**, 2 992 positive decisions were issued in 2007; 116 positive decisions granting refugee status and 2 876 granting 'tolerated stay'-status. In 2007, there was a sharp decrease of - 73% in the number of granted refugee status compared to 2006. The status was granted almost exclusively to nationals of Russia (104). The number of 'tolerated stay' statuses granted in 2007 increased by +40% compared to 2006, the most important country of origin was again Russia (2 022).

The total number of positive decisions in **Portugal** during 2007 was 23. This represented a reduction of approximately - 23% in terms of the total number of positive decisions compared to the previous year. In terms of international protection, the government received 4 refugees from India. Similarly during 2007, 10 nationals from Somalia and 2 from Eritrea arrived under the category of reinstatement and recognised as refugees. With regard to positive decisions issued in 2006 and 2007, there were great divergences. In 2006, nationals from the Democratic Republic of Congo, Russia, Ivory Coast and Eritrea were well represented. In 2007, however, they were all insignificant in number and the nationalities which had the largest number were of Colombia and India.

In the **Slovak Republic**, the number of persons granted refugee status in 2007 rose by 6 to a total of 14. The lowest number of positive decisions since the creation of the Republic was granted in 2006 (8), most of which concerning nationals of Iran and Cuba. The number of positive decisions in asylum procedures increased substantially in 2007, with the number of positive decisions moving up to 96 (14 refugee statuses and 82 subsidiary protections). This was the result of the transposition of the Council Directive 2004/83/EC (Qualification Directive) into the *Act on Asylum*, with effect from 1st January 2007, introducing, amongst other issues, subsidiary protection.

In **Slovenia**, no changes in the number of positive decisions were recorded in 2007. The number of positive decisions totalled 9, the same as in 2006. The largest number of positive decisions was made to nationals of Serbia following the trend from 2006.

For **Spain**, 6 640 decisions were made at first instance during 2007, of which 570 were positive and 6 070 were negative. Of the 570 positive decisions, 225 were granted refugee status, 57 more than were granted at first instance in 2006, and 345 were other forms of international protection, 157 more than were granted at first instance in the previous year. The

total number of first instance positive decisions distributed according to nationality was Côte d'Ivoire (193), Iraq (51), Columbia (31), Russia (32), Cuba (28), Others (175), plus stateless (54). A total of 1 317 appeal decisions were pronounced, a considerable reduction compared to 2006, where 4 150 were made. Of these 1 317 judgments, 8 were granted refugee status, 1 297 were dismissals and 12 were granted another type of protection.

In **Sweden** the total number of decisions in 2007 was 32 472, an almost +60% increase from the previous year (18 838). Of the total number of decisions made, 48% were positive (15 640) compared to 42% in 2006. A temporary law resulted in a total of 45 968 decisions in 2006, of which 22 727 were positive. The *Temporary Law (Aliens Act (2005:716))*, presenting temporary amendments to the 1989 Aliens Act, was in force from November 2005 to October 2006. The nationality that received the highest number of positive asylum decisions in the first instance was Iraq, where the decisions made up to 63% (9 841) of all positive decisions.

In the **United Kingdom**, a total of 26 665 initial decisions were made on asylum applications in 2007, a +5% increase from 2006 (25 475). Of the 26 665 decisions, 26% were positive (35% more than in 2006) and 74% were negative (3% decrease compared to 2006). This represents an increase in the overall proportion of initial positive decisions compared to 2006 when 80% were negative. The five countries of nationality to receive the highest number of positive, first instance asylum decisions were Eritrea (1 230, 18%), Somalia (1 100, 16%), Afghanistan (945, 14%), Iran (515, 8%), and Zimbabwe (365, 5%). These were the same groups as in 2006.

3.3 Trends in statuses granted to particular nationalities

Some Member States (**Austria, Czech Republic, Finland, Poland** and **Slovenia**) have observed a great deal of stability in the statuses regularly granted to particular nationalities. Other Member States (**Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Latvia, Spain, Sweden** and **United Kingdom**) have seen changes between different types of statuses, but it is difficult on the basis of existing data to see a clear pattern in these changes. However, nationals of Iraq are identified by **Sweden, Germany** and **Greece** as a group which has been subject to changes in status granted.

In **Austria**, the distribution of positive asylum decisions in terms of nationalities remained more or less the same between 2006 and 2007, 51% (2 633) of all positive decisions were granted to nationals of Russia, 10% (497) of Afghanistan, 6% (318) of Iran and approximately 14% (773) to others. Accordingly, there is no obvious major change in the treatment of cases by nationality.

In the **Czech Republic**, the composition of the nationality of those who were granted international protection statuses is relatively stable over the last years. Nationals of former Soviet states represented the majority, mainly from Belarus, Russia and Ukraine. Following the conflict in Iraq, 50 positive decisions were granted to nationals of Iraq. In six cases, nationals of Iraq were granted statuses defined by the Geneva Convention, with the remainder granted humanitarian statuses, subsidiary protection and statuses for reasons of family reunification.

In 2007, nationals from Iraq and Russia were the largest nationalities granted refugee status in **Finland**. No significant changes were noted compared to 2006. Regarding the category “Humanitarian Status and all other types of subsidiary protection” a large increase in decisions can be seen for nationals of Somalia, Afghanistan and Iraq. The main reason for this is that the *Directorate of Immigration* took over the responsibility from the Police, by an internal decree, to issue continued residence permits based on the need for protection or for humanitarian reasons for applicants from these countries. There was also a new arrangement regarding the issuing of continued residence permits based on the need for protection or for humanitarian reasons for nationals of Afghanistan, Somalia and Iraq. The decisions were based on new assessments of country of origin information and the aim was also to avoid a large number of new asylum applications from the same groups already granted a temporary residence permit on the need for protection, which was about to expire.

Nationals with the highest admission rate for refugee status at first instance in **France** in 2007 came from Mali (78%). With regard to subsidiary protection, this was, for a major part, granted to nationals of Haiti, Iraq and Algeria. The overall rate of positive decisions (29.9% in 2007) also conceals wide disparities relative to the geographic origin of asylum applicants. For example, in 2007, it ranged from 8% for East Asian nationals to 41% for CIS nationals.

In **Germany**, the markedly positive trend with regard to the protection granted to asylum applicants from Iraq is due to the fact that officers from the *Federal Office for Migration and Refugees* have, since mid-May 2007, assumed group persecution of religious minorities (e.g. Christians) in central Iraq, unless the persons concerned could be referred to internal protection alternatives in individual cases. The general increase of the rate of positive decisions in 2007 compared to the years before, is also attributed to gender, as well as other types of persecution by non-state actors, being increasingly taken into consideration when examining the conditions for granting refugee status. This also applies to protection for whole families.

In 2007, most of the positive decisions concerning asylum applications submitted in **Greece** were by nationals of Iraq (119 positive applicants making up 55% of total) and Iran (21 positive applicants making up 10% of total). In 2006, most of the positive decisions were by nationals of Afghanistan (18 applicants) and of the Democratic Republic of Congo (16 applicants).

In 2005, nationals of Serbia and Montenegro in **Hungary** were recognised as refugees mostly on the basis of their belonging to an ethnic minority. In 2007, these nationalities were authorised to stay due to poverty and weak security conditions in their country of origin. Most nationals of Iraq and Somalia were granted refugee status in both years. Nationals of Iran and Afghanistan were to be found among the five most prominent nationalities of persons authorised to stay in 2006, though in 2007, Iran was no longer in the five most prominent countries, while Afghanistan became the third, rather than second, most prominent.

Regarding refugee status recognitions in **Ireland** during 2007, four out of the five main nationalities are present in both 2006 and 2007. There were sharp decreases in the number of Convention Refugee statuses granted to nationals of Somalia (53.3%) and Sudan (44%). Nationals of Kuwait recognised as refugees with Convention Refugee status rose by 46% during 2007 from 2006 as did nationals of Iraq (53.8%).

In **Latvia**, nationals of Belarus have, to a larger extent, been granted some of the protection statuses (i.e. refugee or alternative status). Six out of ten applicants were successful in the period from 1998 to 2007. Four out of four nationals from Azerbaijan were granted Convention Refugee Status in 2007.

A total of 4 450 permits were granted in 2007 in the **Netherlands**. Of these 1 494 permits were granted to nationals of Iraq. This was followed by Somalia (1 069), unknown (195), Afghanistan (185), Burundi (145) and others (1 362).

In **Poland**, 2 992 positive decisions were issued in 2007. For another consecutive year nationals originating from Russia (2 938) constituted the dominant group in terms of positive decisions issued to asylum seekers.

In **Portugal**, 23 positive decisions were recorded in 2007, five were attributed the status of refugee and eighteen attributed the status of subsidiary protection of which the majority were granted to nationals from Columbia (15).

In **Slovenia**, no changes occurred in the statuses granted to nationals of a third-country. Nine positive decisions were granted in 2007, the majority of which were made to nationals of Serbia (5), who were all granted subsidiary protection. A total of two individuals were attributed the status of refugee, both nationals of the Democratic Republic of Congo.

In **Spain**, 570 positive decisions were made in 2007. The most striking change is in the number of stateless persons (54) who obtained one or another type of protection. Indeed, they are the most numerous group among the positive decisions at first instance for Convention Refugee status within the meaning of the Geneva Convention. In total, 225 were granted refugee status while 345 were granted subsidiary protection. Nationals from Côte d'Ivoire (193) were granted subsidiary or other types of protection. Iraq (51), Colombia (37) and Russia (32) continue to be countries whose nationals obtain both types of protection, albeit for Colombia the downward trend in the number of successful applications, especially for refugee status, continues.

In **Sweden**, almost 10 000 of those who were granted permits in 2007 were nationals of Iraq (increase of +17% compared to 2006). Asylum applicants from Iraq during 2007 were considered in need of protection according to the *Aliens Act* on subsidiary protection. The calendar-based recognition rate for decisions in the first instance for nationals of Iraq was 72% in 2007. Rulings by the *Migration Court of Appeal* characterised 2007, which provided guidance to the interpretation of the new *Aliens Act* that entered into force on 31 March 2006.

Compared to the practise that had developed during 2006, these rulings resulted in a stricter practise. In spite of these rulings, and given the improved security situation in Iraq, the recognition rates remained stable (49% in 2006 to 48% in 2007), but a downward trend was witnessed towards the end of 2007 as a consequence of this change.

In the **United Kingdom**, the proportion of positive decisions (at first instance) for refugee status and humanitarian status increased from 2006 to 2007. In 2007, 66% of positive (first instance) decisions were granted refugee status. Between 2005 and 2007, there was an annual increase in the total number of refugee status decisions and a decrease in the number of humanitarian status decisions. In 2007, there was a +71% increase in the number of refugee status decisions compared to 2006. Nationals of Eritrea and Somalia received the highest number of positive grants in 2007, along with Iran and Zimbabwe, who received a higher proportion of refugee status (94%, 90%, 57%, and 93% respectively) than humanitarian status. Nationals of Afghanistan received a greater proportion of humanitarian status (86%). Compared to 2006, the proportion of nationals granted refugee status, compared with the proportion gaining humanitarian status, increased for the most common nationalities, Eritrea, Afghanistan, Zimbabwe, Somalia and Iran. The number of positive initial decisions of refugee status increased for all five of the nationalities with the highest number of positive (first instance) decisions in 2007.

4. MIGRATION

With regard to Migration flows ([Section 4.1.](#)), and 2007 trends, an increase in Positive Net Migration is observed for **Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Finland, Germany, Malta, Slovenia, Slovak Republic, Spain, Sweden** and **United Kingdom**, whilst a decrease in Positive Net Migration is observed for **Hungary** and **Ireland**. **Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Netherlands** and **Poland** remain the only EU Member States with a Negative Net Migration. Considering overall EU-27 migration patterns, no dramatic changes occurred with respect to 2006, even though **Austria, Greece, Netherlands** and **Slovak Republic** observed a significant increase in EU-2 nationals from **Bulgaria** and Romania into their respective Member States.

For a number of Member States, immigration comes predominantly from a third-country or region with whom the Member State has historical ties (e.g. guest worker programmes, from colonial times) and/or geographical proximity. For example, **France**, has most of its third-country nationals coming from the Maghreb countries, **Germany, Netherlands** from Turkey, **Greece** and **Italy** from Albania, **Portugal** from Brazil, **Spain** from Morocco and South America (e.g. Ecuador, Colombia), **United Kingdom** from India and Pakistan, and **Estonia** and **Latvia** from Russia.

The Population by Nationality ([Section 4.2.](#)) shows that the EU-15 Member States with the largest proportion of non-nationals, calculated as a percentage of their total population as of 1st January 2007 are (in decreasing order): **Ireland** (10.5%), **Spain** (10.4%), **Austria** (9.6%), **Belgium** (8.8%), **Germany** (8.2 %), the **United Kingdom** (6.6%), **Italy** (4.2%), **Netherlands** (4.2%), **Portugal** (4.1%) and **Finland** (2.4%).

As far as purposes for Residence Permits ([Section 4.3.](#)) are concerned, family reunification/formation remains the main reason in most EU-27 Member States for which data are available (**Belgium, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Lithuania, Netherlands, Poland** and **Sweden**), followed by employment in **Czech Republic, Hungary, Latvia, Portugal, Slovenia, Slovak Republic** and **Spain**. Study is the main reason in **Bulgaria** and in the **United Kingdom**.

Significant trends noted since 2006 are an increase in employment permits in various EU-10 Member States (**Czech Republic, Latvia, Lithuania**) attributable to the development of the

economy and the need for workers, and a downward trend in family permits in various EU-15 and EU-10 Member States (**France, Netherlands, Portugal, Slovenia**), which could be explained by the introduction of new and often tighter legal requirements.

4.1 Migration flows

Table 7 provides an overview of migration inflows (immigration), total and relative to population, for each Member State for the years 2004 to 2007 inclusive. Data includes both immigrants from third countries and EU nationals. Net migration (Immigration minus Emigration) is then presented in Table 8.

Table 7: Immigration into EU Member States (2004-2007)

Member State	Total number				Per 1 000 inhabitants**			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Belgium	117 236	132 810	137 699	146 409	11.28	12.71	13.10	13.83
Bulgaria	:	:	:	1 561*	:	:	:	0.20
Czech Republic	53 453	60 294	68 183	104 445	5.23	5.90	6.65	10.15
Denmark	49 860	52 458	56 750	64 656*	9.24	9.69	10.46	11.87
Germany	780 175	707 352	661 855	680 766	9.45	8.57	8.03	8.27
Estonia	:	:	:	3 741*	:	:	:	2.79
Ireland	58 875	78 075	102 000	103 260	14.62	19.00	24.23	23.94
Greece	50 101	42 015	83 789	133 185*	4.54	3.79	7.53	11.92
Spain	684 561	719 284	840 844	958 266	16.22	16.71	19.22	21.55
France	191 850	187 134	183 261	171 907	3.08	2.98	2.90	2.70
Italy	394 756	282 780	254 588	515 201	6.82	4.84	4.33	8.71
Cyprus	22 003	24 419	15 545*	19 017*	30.13	32.59	20.28	24.42
Latvia	1 665	1 886	2 801	3 541	0.72	0.82	1.22	1.55
Lithuania	5 553	6 789	7 745	8 609	1.61	1.98	2.28	2.54
Luxembourg	12 495	13 512	14 352	16 675*	27.46	29.30	30.60	35.02
Hungary	22 164	25 582	23 569	22 607	2.19	2.53	2.34	2.25
Malta	1 052	187*	1 829*	6 730*	0.38	0.46	4.52	16.50
Netherlands	94 019	92 297	101 150	116 819	5.78	5.66	6.19	7.14
Austria	122 547	114 465	98 535	106 659	15.05	13.96	11.94	12.88
Poland	9 495	9 364	10 802	14 995	0.25	0.25	0.28	0.39
Portugal	72 400	57 920	49 200	38 000	6.91	5.50	4.65	3.59
Romania	2 987	3 704	7 714*	9 575*	0.14	0.17	0.36	0.44
Slovenia	10 171	15 041	20 016	29 193	5.09	7.53	9.99	14.52
Slovak Republic	10 390	9 410	12 611	16 265	1.93	1.75	2.34	3.02
Finland	20 333	21 355	22 451	26 029	3.90	4.08	4.27	4.93
Sweden	62 028	65 229	95 750	100 000	6.91	7.24	10.58	10.97
United Kingdom	586 000	563 000	591 000	577 000	9.83	9.37	9.78	9.49
EU-15	3 297 236	3 172 579	3 336 276	3 796 345	8.69	8.18	8.56	9.69
EU-10	135 946	152 972	163 101	229 143	1.86	2.10	2.24	3.09
EU-2	2 987	3 704	7 714	11 136	0.14	0.17	0.36	0.38
EU-27	3 436 169	3 329 255	3 507 091	4 036 624	7.27	6.91	7.24	8.15

Source: EMN NCP National Reports. Ratios only calculated for Member States for which data was provided.

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: Report not submitted or missing data. * Eurostat data used. ** Based on Eurostat data on population as of 1 January of the given year.

Notes.

1. Note that the figures also cover immigration of nationals.

2. For **Lithuania**, official emigration and immigration data excludes its own nationals, instead it includes only third-country nationals. In this case, the data for the emigration of third-country nationals is 2004:1423; 2005:1794; 2006:1794; 2007:1948; and for immigration it is 2004:1563; 2005:1649; 2006: 1841; 2007:2148.

In this case, the data for the emigration of third-country nationals is 2004:1423; 2005:1649; 2006:1794; 2007:1948; and for immigration it is 2004:1563; 2005:1794; 2006: 1841; 2007:2148.

Table 8: Net migration in the EU (by Member States)

Member State	Total net migration (number)				Per 1 000 inhabitants**			
	2004	2005	2006	2007	2004	2005	2006	2007
Belgium	33 341	45 911	49 536	55 357	3.21	4.40	4.71	5.23
Bulgaria	:	:	:	-1 397*	:	:	:	-0.18
Czech Republic	18 635	36 229	34 720	84 045	1.82	3.54	3.39	8.17
Denmark	4 843	6 589	9 964	23 090*	0.90	1.22	1.84	4.24
Germany	82 543	78 953	22 791	43 912	1.00	0.96	0.28	0.53
Estonia	:	:	:	-643*	:	:	:	-0.48
Ireland	31 675	49 400	67 650	64 394	7.86	12.02	16.07	14.93
Greece	41 388	39 974	:	:	3.75	3.61	:	:
Spain	629 469	651 273	698 548	731 201	14.92	15.13	15.96	16.44
France	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Italy	380 737	266 829	237 614	494 885	6.58	4.56	4.04	8.37
Cyprus	15 724	14 416	8 671*	7 628*	21.53	19.24	11.31	9.80
Latvia	-1 079	-564	-2 451	-642	-0.47	-0.24	-1.07	-0.28
Lithuania	-9 612	-8 782	-4 857	-5 244	-2.79	-2.56	-1.43	-1.55
Luxembourg	1 584	2 671	5 351	5 286*	3.48	5.79	11.41	11.10
Hungary	18 698	22 262	19 604	18 474	1.85	2.20	1.95	1.84
Malta	982	:	-79*	1 701*	:	:	-0.20	4.17
Netherlands	-16 216	-27 428	-31 320	-5 757	-1.00	-1.68	-1.92	-0.35
Austria	50 826	44 332	24 103	34 731	6.24	5.41	2.92	4.19
Poland	-9 382	-12 878	-36 134	-20 485	-0.25	-0.34	-0.95	-0.54
Portugal	63 500	47 240	38 400	25 300	6.06	4.49	3.63	2.39
Romania	-10 095	:	-6 483*	745*	-0.46	:	-0.30	0.03
Slovenia	1 902	6 436	6 267	14 250	0.95	3.22	3.13	7.09
Slovak Republic	3 865	6 626	9 527	12 695	0.72	1.23	1.77	2.35
Finland	6 677	8 986	10 344	13 586	1.28	1.72	1.97	2.57
Sweden	25 442	27 111	50 842	55 000	2.83	3.01	5.62	6.04
United Kingdom	244 000	204 000	191 000	237 000	4.09	3.40	3.16	3.90
EU-15	1 578 789	1 439 656	1 359 619	1 774 601	4.89	4.43	4.31	4.89
EU-10	38 751	63 745	35 268	111 779	0.54	0.88	0.48	0.54
EU-2	-10 095	0	-6 483	-652	-0.46		-0.30	-0.46
EU-27	1 607 445	1 503 401	1 388 404	1 885 728	3.86	3.78	3.39	3.86

Source: EMN NCP National Reports. Ratios only calculated for Member States for which data was provided.

: Report not submitted or missing data. * Eurostat data used. ** Based on Eurostat data on population as of 1 January of the given year.

Notes:

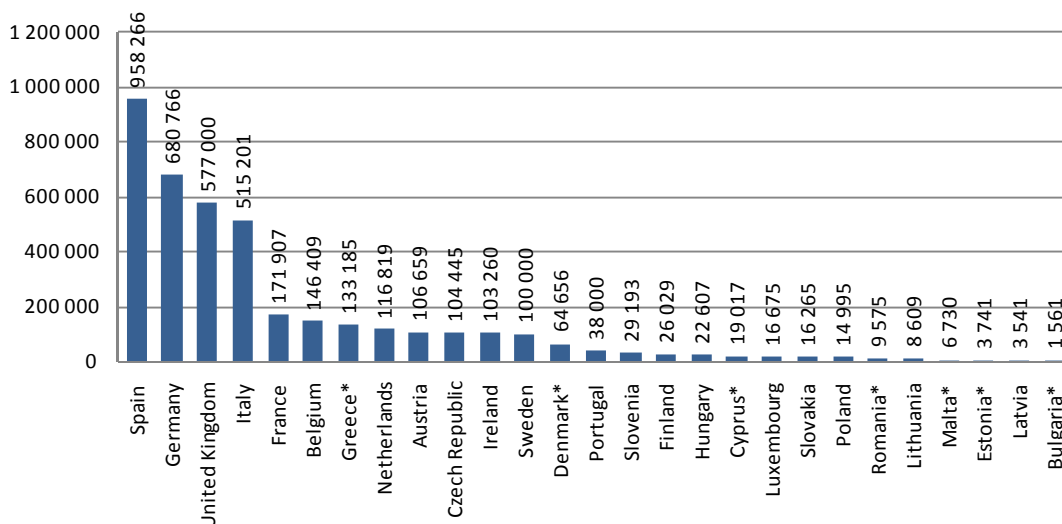
1. Data includes both intra-EU mobility and migration to/from third countries.

2. For **Belgium**, Foreigners are included as well as Belgian citizens. Asylum applicants are not included during the asylum procedure.

3. For **Greece**, immigration data are based on initial residence permits issued, whilst emigration is estimated based on recorded immigration and natural population movement (births-deaths).
4. For **France**, immigration data excludes FR nationals, EU/EEA and Swiss nationals and minors. Emigration data are not available, but the Institut National de la Statistique et des Études Économiques (INSEE) is able to provide an estimation of the Net Migration.
5. Emigration data used for the **Netherlands** are based on the municipal records database and cover data on new migrants, asylum applicants included. Those data include administrative corrections referring to people for whom it has been demonstrated that they left the municipality and/or the country, and people who reappear in municipalities.
6. For **Austria**, immigration data also includes asylum applicants (since 2004).
7. Since in **Portugal** there is no population register or recorded migration flows, data on international migration flows are estimates based on several statistical sources, such as long term visas, resident permits, stay permits, estimates on Portuguese return. In terms of statistical approach, it is important to note that 2007 was a year of transition, since, owing to the new Immigration Law, holders of long-term visas and stay permits benefited from temporary or permanent residence permits when their respective documents came up for renewal.
8. For **Sweden**, data for 2007 are provisional.
9. The data for the **United Kingdom** are rounded to the nearest thousand. Asylum applicants may be included in flow and stock data if they stay more than one year. The Office for National Statistics' Total Migration (TIM) are used. Their estimates are based on three main sources: The International Passenger Survey, Home Office data on Asylum applicants and their dependants, information from the Irish Central Statistics Office on Migration between the UK and the Republic of Ireland. The 1999-2005 estimates were revised following changes to the TIM methodology in November 2005. Therefore they may not agree with estimates published previously.
10. For **Lithuania**, since 2001, foreigners who come to Lithuania for one year or more have been subsumed under immigrants.
11. For **Hungary**, only foreign (i.e. non-Hungarian nationals) are counted.
12. For **Italy** data include also EU nationals.

As indicated [Figure 8 below](#), in 2007, **Spain** received the largest immigration flow (958 266), followed by **Germany** (680 766), the **United Kingdom** (577 000) and **Italy** (515 714).

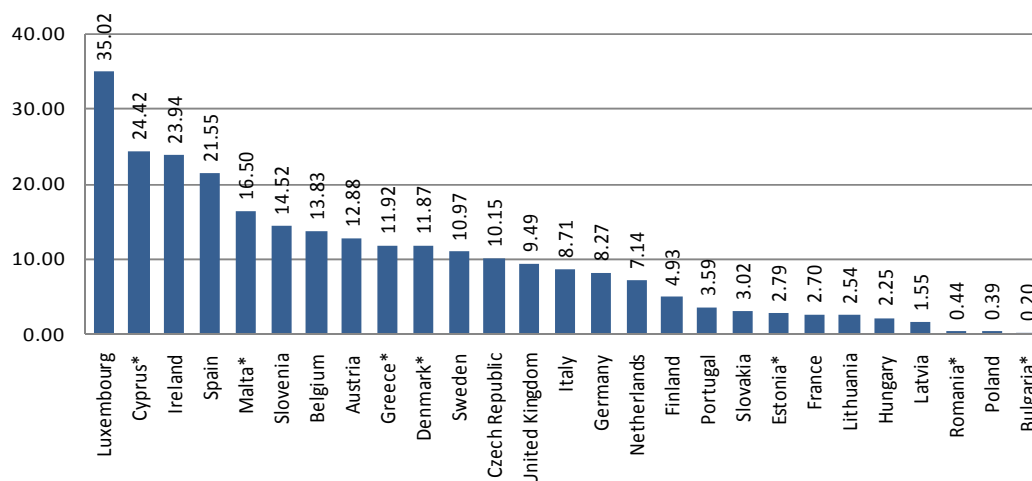
Figure 8: Immigration into the EU by Member State in 2007 (total number)



Source: EMN NCP National Reports. * National Report not submitted; Eurostat data used.

As indicated in [Figure 9](#), in relative terms to the size of the population, **Luxembourg** was the main country for immigration (35.03 per 1 000 inhabitants), followed by **Cyprus** (24.42) and **Ireland** (23.94).²⁴

Figure 9: Immigration into EU Member States in 2007 (per 1 000 inhabitants)



Source: EMN NCP National Reports. * Annual Report not submitted; Eurostat data used.

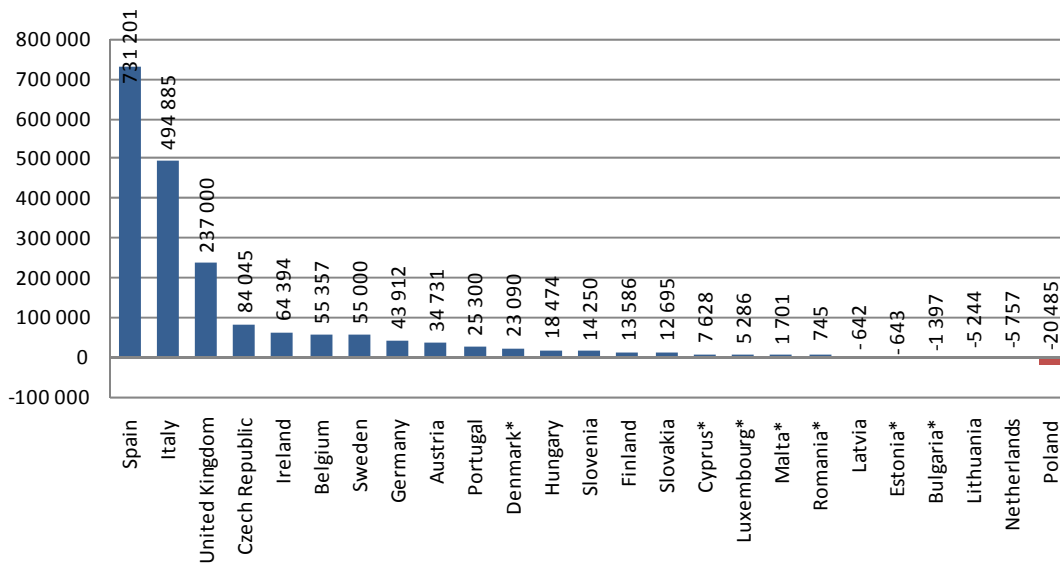
With reference to [Figure 1](#) and [Figure](#), looking at *Positive Net Migration*²⁵, a decrease (as a result of increasing emigration and/or decreasing immigration) can be observed in **Ireland** and **Hungary**, whilst an increase is observed in **Belgium**, **Czech Republic**, **Germany**, **Spain**, **Austria**, **Slovenia**, **Slovak Republic**, **Finland**, **Sweden** and **United Kingdom**.

The **Netherlands** maintains its exception compared to other EU-15 Member States, with a Negative Net Migration of 5 757, though it decreased compared with 2006, due to an increase in recorded immigration, combined with a decrease in recorded emigration. For EU-10 Member States, **Lithuania** experienced an increase in *Negative Net Migration* (from -4 857 in 2006 to -5 244 in 2007), whilst a decrease in Negative Net Migration is observed in **Latvia** (from -2 451 to -642) and **Poland** (-36 134 to -20 485).

²⁴ The figures for **Luxembourg** and Cyprus use data directly from Eurostat.

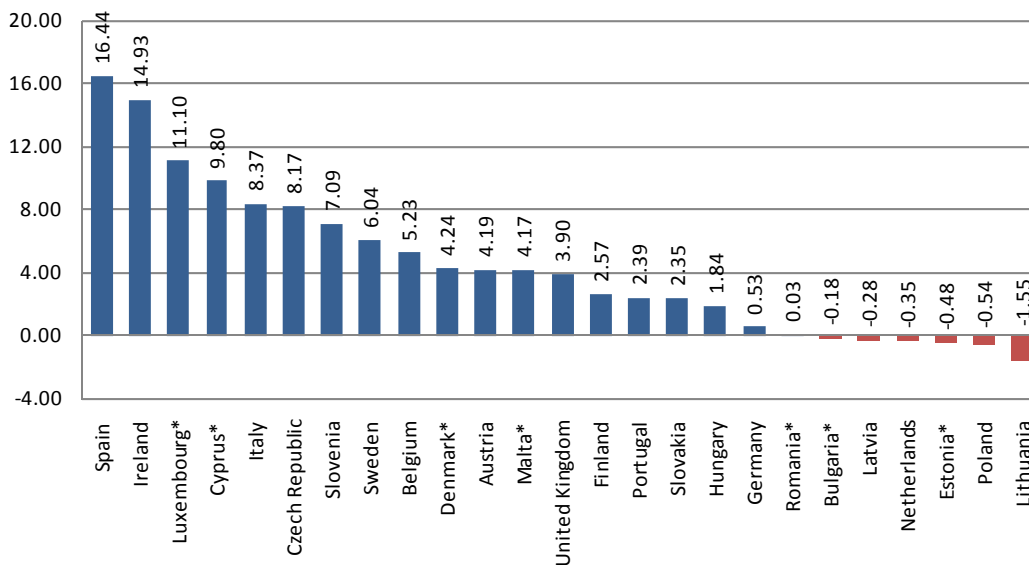
²⁵ Defined as the sum between immigration and emigration.

Figure 10: Net migration in the EU by Member State in 2007 (total)



Source: EMN NCP National Reports. Ratios * Eurostat data used.

Figure 11: Net migration in the EU by Member State in 2007 (per 1 000 inhabitants)



Source: EMN NCP National Reports. Ratios * Eurostat data used.

In **Austria**, immigration rose by +8.2% after a decline in 2005 and 2006 (attributed to more stringent rules for third-country nationals), which is partly due to the accession of **Romania** and **Bulgaria**. Nationals of other EU-15 Member States contributed about one third of immigrants, EU-10+2 another third, 15% from the former region of Yugoslavia, 10% from Asia and 6% from Turkey. From EU-10 Member States, nationals of **Poland** remained the most important group of immigrants in 2007 (5 285 - though experiencing a decrease by 7.3% compared to 2006), followed by **Hungary** (4 492) and **Slovak Republic** (3 637). From EU-2

Member States, immigration shows a sharp increase by +99.4%, with the larger share of the immigrants being from Romania (9 273) and 1 214 from **Bulgaria**. Immigration from third-country nationals stagnated at a relatively high level, 36% of the migration with a rise in immigration from China (1%), India (29%) and Iraq (96%); and a decrease in immigration from former Yugoslav Republic (-9.8%). The emigration decreased marginally by 3.4% since 2006, other EU-27 nationals accounting for 37% of the emigration, third-country nationals for 35% and nationals for 26%.

Belgium recorded an exceptionally high number of immigrants (146 409) and emigrants (91 052) in 2007. Possible explanatory factors are considered to be: medium to long terms consequence of decisions or policy options taken earlier (e.g. family reunification from the former labour migration countries), international agreements and obligations, the humanitarian character of their asylum and migration policy (protection, regularisation), the consequence of Belgium's central geographical position, the consequence of fiscal regulations and the open character of the Belgian economy.

In **Finland**, there was a marginal upward trend in immigration since 2004, whilst emigration remained virtually constant, resulting in an increase of +10 000 Net Migration between 2003 and 2007. Recorded immigration increased from 22 451 in 2006 to 26 029 in 2007. Emigration remained virtually stable with 12 107 emigrants recorded in 2006 and 12 443 in 2007.

Overall **Germany** has a declining immigration pattern over the 2002-2007 period, though 2007 recorded a marginal increase of +2.9% (680 766) in relation to 2006. Emigration remained virtually stable over the same period with 636 854 emigrations in 2007.

Immigration has been slightly decreasing in **Hungary** since 2005, whilst emigration slightly increased. In 2006, 23 569 immigrants were recorded, decreasing to 22 607 in 2007. During that same period, 3 965 emigrants were recorded in 2006 and 4 133 in 2007.

After a declining trend in immigration between 2003 and 2005 in **Italy**, the number of immigrants significantly grew in 2006 and 2007. In 2007, recorded immigration corresponded to the entry quotas of the previous year, initially set at 170 000 and then the quota was raised

to 520 000. The number of emigrants slightly increased, although, compared to the number of immigrants, this number is low (27 023).

In **Ireland**, recorded immigration in 2006 was 102 000. In 2007 it reached a high of 103 260 whilst recorded emigration also increased from 2006 (34 350) by 13.1% to 38 866. The increase in emigration represents a trend starting from 2005, also observed for immigration.

In **Latvia**, the remarkable increase in immigration flows - above all labour immigration - and similar decrease in emigration, accounted for the reduction of the Negative Net Migration. Other EU-27 nationals represented 73.1% of immigration, **United Kingdom** (16.9%), **Ireland** (9.8%) and **Germany** (6.6%). The most represented among third countries were nationals of Russia (11.2%), Ukraine (2.6%) and USA (2.4%). As far as emigration is concerned, most common destinations were Russia (33.8%), Belarus (7.2%) and other third countries (58.8%). Within the EU, **Germany** (10.7%) and **United Kingdom** (9.4%) were the main destinations to which people migrate.

Lithuania has experienced Negative Migration flows since 2002. There was a decrease in both immigration and emigration in 2004 following enlargement, with nationals from **Latvia** and **Poland** representing a significant part of migrations flows. In 2007, both immigration and emigration flows increased. Recorded immigration increased from 7 745 in 2006 to 8 609 in 2007 and recorded emigration increased from 12 602 in 2006 to 13 853 in 2007. The rise in immigration is attributed to the booming economy, increasing demand for a low qualified work force and rising wages. The three most important immigration groups remained nationals of Belarus (746), Russia (416) and Ukraine (422).

Between 1980 and 2007, **Luxembourg** has experienced an increase of 31% of its resident population from 363 500 to 476 200 inhabitants. Of the 16 675 arrivals in 2007, 1 908 arrived from non-European countries, such as Cape Verde and other African countries, with highly-qualified immigrants coming from Japan, Canada and the USA.

In the **Netherlands**, immigration increased by +15% in 2007 to nearly 117 000. The most important groups of immigrants were from **Poland** (over 10 000), **Germany** (nearly 7 000) and **Bulgaria** (almost 5 000). The increase from 2006 was almost tenfold for the latter; it was

also significant for immigrants from China (nearly 2 000) and the former Soviet Union (over 1 000).

In **Poland**, immigration flow has been continually increasing since 2002 (+38% in 2007). Emigration went down by -24% in 2007 (35 480) compared to 2006 (46 936). Most of the immigration (14 995) are nationals of **Poland** who had previously emigrated to, in particular, **Germany** and **United Kingdom**, as well as nationals from Ukraine.

There has been an upward tendency in immigration figures in **Portugal** from 2002 to 2004, followed by a downward trend from 2005 onwards. In contrast, emigration - which was on a downward trend - peaked in 2005 (+20% increase) and then decreased in 2006. In 2007, 38 800 immigrants were recorded, in comparison to 2006 when it was 49 200 and 12 700 emigrants were recorded in comparison to 10 800 in 2006.

In the **Slovak Republic**, of the total number of immigrants (16 265) who obtained permanent residence or were granted a temporary residence permit in 2007, 91% were foreign nationals. Nationals returning from a long-term stay from abroad and obtaining a permanent residence represented 9%. Almost 83% of immigrants were from Europe, including returning nationals; 13% of immigrants had the nationality of Asian countries, 3% of American countries and 1% of African countries. As for the immigrants from European countries, the largest share was made up of nationals from Romania (23%), the **Czech Republic** and Ukraine (9%), **Bulgaria**, **Hungary** (6%), and **Poland** (5%). The largest share of immigrants from Asian countries came from Korea, Vietnam and China. From the Americas, the majority of immigrants were nationals of the USA (67%), Canada (10%) and Brazil (7%).

Immigration to **Slovenia** increased by +50% in 2007, from 20 016 in 2006 to 29 193 in 2007. In 2007, 78% of immigrants came for employment purposes. Among them, 90% were former Yugoslavia nationals.

Spain experienced a steady increase in immigration from 2003 (444 051) to 2007 (731 201) with an increase of more than 100 000 immigrants in 2007, 96.1% of whom were non-nationals, the remainder being returning nationals. Approximately half of the latter were born in Spain and were thus former emigrants. The other half is made up of descendants of Spanish emigrants. With regard to emigration, 227 065 were registered in 2007, 87.6% being non-

nationals (the emigration of foreign population represents 21% of non-national entries). This continues to be an upward trend since 2003 (10 000 foreign national emigrants, 2% of foreign national entries). The departure of nationals of Spain accounted for 12.4% of emigration in 2007. In terms of the most important regional groups for immigration, this was no longer the Americas (34.7%) in 2007, but by other EU-27 nationals, accounting for 42.3% of immigrants versus 18.8% in 2006; a change attributed to the accession of Romania and **Bulgaria**. As far as third countries are concerned, nationals from Morocco rank first with 84 978 nationals, followed by nationals from Bolivia (51 797), Colombia (41 725) and Brazil (36 134).

In **Sweden**, both immigration and emigration numbers reached a peak in 2007, with 99 485 and 45 000 persons respectively, compared to 95 750 and 44 908 in 2006. The increase in immigration is mainly due to family reunifications - in turn a secondary effect of the permits issued under the *Temporary Law* - and to the delivery of a significant number of asylum permits (as outlined in [Section 3.1.3](#)).

The **United Kingdom** has experienced varying immigration patterns over the last four years - since EU enlargement in 2004 - suggesting that the upward trend of the mid-1990s has halted. In 2007, 577 000 immigrants entered, slightly less than in 2006 (- 14 000). Emigration figures have also varied since 2002. In 2007, 340 000 emigrants left. Both immigration and emigration of its nationals were low in relation to the previous six years (75 000 and 171 000). Non-nationals were 87% of immigrants, while non-national and own national emigrants were similar in number. Annual immigration from other EU-27 Member States has grown substantially over the previous six years, mainly from EU-8 Member States. Their immigration is estimated to be 112 000 in 2007, more than twice the 2004 immigration, whilst their emigration has also increased substantially, from 3 000 (2004) to 25 000 (2007). Overall EU-27 nationals accounted for 38% of the total net gain of non-national migrants. The most frequently cited reason for immigrating was work (42%), followed by study and family reunification.

4.2 Population by Nationality on 2007 (1st January)

[Table 9](#) provides an overview of the composition of each Member State's population, in terms of its nationals, other EU (EU-27, EU-15, EU-10, EU-2) and third-country (or non-EU) nationals. From the available data, it can be observed that EU-15 Member States with the

largest proportion of non-nationals are (in decreasing order): **Ireland** (10.5%), **Spain** (10.4%), **Austria** (9.6%), **Belgium** (8.8%), **Germany** (8.2%), **United Kingdom** (6.6%), **Italy** (4.2%), **Netherlands** (4.2%), **Portugal** (4.1%), and **Finland** (2.4). For EU-10+2 Member States, those with the largest proportion of non-nationals are **Latvia** (19.3%),²⁶ and **Estonia** (16.34%),²⁷ whilst EU-10+2 Member States with the smallest proportion of non-nationals are **Poland** (0.1%), **Slovak Republic** (0.6%), **Lithuania** (1.2%).

The most prominent third-country nationalities to be found in EU-27 Member States are nationals of the Former Yugoslavia in **Austria** (Serbia and Montenegro 135 772; Bosnia and Herzegovina 86 162), **Germany** (Serbia and Montenegro 316 823, Croatia 227 510, Bosnia and Herzegovina 157 094), **Italy** (FYR Macedonia 74 162 and Serbia and Montenegro 64 411), **Hungary** (Serbia and Montenegro 12 638), **Slovenia** (Bosnia and Herzegovina 24 441, Serbia 10 319, Croatia 6 289, FYR Macedonia 5 936), **Finland** (Serbia and Montenegro 3 340), **Sweden** (Bosnia and Herzegovina 12 056) and **Slovak Republic** (Serbia and Montenegro 740, FYR Macedonia 580). Nationals of Russia in the EU reside principally in **Germany** (187 514), **Finland** (25 326), **Italy** (20 459), **Czech Republic** (17 216), **Poland** (3 291) and the **Slovak Republic** (1 311).

Nationals of Ukraine are well represented in **Germany** (128 950), **Italy** (120 070), **Czech Republic** (86 739), **Portugal** (42 663), **Hungary** (15 866), **Poland** (5 182) and **Slovak Republic** (3 925). Nationals of China are mostly to be found in **Italy** (144 885), **United Kingdom** (78 000), **Germany** (75 733) and the **Netherlands** (15 266), whilst nationals of Viet Nam are most present in **Germany** (83 076), **Czech Republic** (38 454), **Slovak Republic** (1 060) and **Poland** (1 906). Nationals of Iraq tend to settle in **Germany** (73 561) and **Sweden** (30 257), whilst nationals of Afghanistan are mostly to be found in **Sweden** (7 679).

Certain EU-15 Member States have a remarkable predominance of third-country nationals that can be explained by historic ties (former colonies/former guest worker programmes). For example, in 2007 nationals of Maghreb are predominant in **France** (although exact figure is not available), **Italy** (Morocco 343 228) and **Belgium** (Morocco 80 587, Algeria 7 830);

²⁶ Figures for **Latvia** figures include 17.20% “Non citizens of **Latvia**” These are persons who are citizens of the former USSR, who do not hold citizenship of any country and who permanently reside in **Latvia**.

²⁷ Similarly, figures for **Estonia** include 16.5% of “Non citizens”.

nationals of Turkey in **Germany** (1 738 831), **Austria** (108 189) and **Netherlands** (96 779); nationals of Brazil (73 997) and Angola (33 755) in **Portugal**; nationals of South America (Ecuador 433 032, Colombia 265 878, Bolivia 204 264) and nationals of Morocco (592 274) in **Spain**; nationals of India (296 000) and Pakistan (135 000) in **United Kingdom**, nationals of Albania (401 949) in **Italy**, nationals of Indonesia (11 389) and Surinam (7 561) in **Netherlands**, and finally nationals of the Democratic Republic of Congo in **Belgium** (15 347).

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Table 9: Population by Nationality 2004-2007 (on 1st January)

Member State	2004				2005			
	Nationals	Non-nationals			Nationals	Non-nationals		
		Other EU (EU-15)	Non-EU			Other EU (EU-25)		Non-EU
			Total	Future EU-10		Total	EU-10	
Belgium	9 536 134	569 011	291 276	16 575	9 574 990	571 264	19 780	299 598
Bulgaria*	7 776 113	:	:	:	7 775 700	:	:	:
Czech Republic	10 016 061	13 223	182 171	50 075	10 027 097	65 479	:	128 001
Denmark*	5 126 429	56 363	214 848	10 007	5 143 801	68 220	:	199 384
Germany	75 196 906	1 849 986	5 484 779	481 998	75 212 869	2 108 010	439 948	4 609 105
Estonia	1 099 025	1 652	273 913	:	1 113 675	5 069	:	258 879
Ireland	3 830 087	:	:	:	3 877 636	:	:	:
Greece	10 149 453	5 952	585 091	4 999	10 138 062	11 744	5 399	592 471
Spain	39 425 665	536 357	2 235 843	42 432	39 666 641	700 187	55 933	2 671 207
France	56 477 017	1 186 407	2 237 856	38 175	57 983 175	1 300 000	:	2 200 000
Italy	55 898 086	133 545	1 856 614	56 453	56 060 218	206 649	68 620	2 195 508
Cyprus*	646 900	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Latvia	1 804 237	1 284	513 434	883	1 819 222	4 797	1 050	482 124
Lithuania	:	:	:	:	3 392 997	1 451	:	30 876
Luxembourg	277 200	151 400	26 400	:	277 500	157 800	:	25 900
Hungary	9 986 633	12 143	117 966	5 204	9 955 396	13 360	:	128 793
Malta*	388 867	:	:	:	390 668	8 000	:	4 000
Netherlands	15 555 847	211 009	491 176	13 276	15 606 175	228 141	18 000	471 279
Austria	7 388 357	122 394	631 822	59 730	7 426 958	199 630	67 791	574 771
Poland	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Portugal	10 031 859	69 868	372 958	3 049	10 062 944	74 337	2 776	391 974
Romania	21 671 748	10 128	:	:	21 632 599	:	:	:
Slovenia	1 951 139	1 468	43 826	496	1 953 305	1 235	204	43 050
Slovak Republic	5 350 198	2 811	27 044	9 392	5 362 571	10 876	7 781	11 375
Finland	5 112 729	18 682	88 321	15 876	5 128 265	35 356	16 508	72 990
Sweden	8 499 594	185 691	290 385	21 286	8 530 251	208 958	23 405	272 183
United Kingdom	56 091 000	951 000	2 007 000	143 000	56 229 000	1 198 000	617 000	2 007 000
EU-15	414 257 041	:	:	:	361 075 094	:	:	:
EU-10	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
EU-2	29 447 861	:	:	:	29 408 299	:	:	:
EU-27	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

(for 2006/2007 see next page)

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(Continued)

Member State	2006					2007			
	Nationals	Non-nationals				Nationals	Non-nationals		
		Other EU (EU-25)		Non-EU			Other EU (EU-27)		Non-EU
		Total	EU-10	Total	Future EU-2		Total	EU-10+2	
Belgium	9 610 909	603 383	26 001	297 090	10 814	9 652 373	632 243	57 789	299 918
Bulgaria*	:	:	:	:	:	7 653 800	:	:	:
Czech Republic	9 992 719	87 144	:	171 216	6 787	9 990 953	109 866	85 476	186 370
Denmark*	5 157 408	71 994	:	198 057	:	:	:	:	:
Germany	75 148 846	2 144 648	482 864	4 611 163	112 196	75 058 957	2 295 771	646 098	4 455 231
Estonia	1 076 458	7 067	:	236 729	:	1 136 500	5 937	2 960	219 347
Ireland	3 706 683	275 775	:	145 276	8 665	3 860 220	:	:	:
Greece	10 127 964	3 599	2 797	603 493	79 103	10 284 200	58 144	:	565 560
Spain	39 755 741	835 731	70 815	3 166 778	490 397	39 868 157	1 749 678	767 973	2 856 796
France	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Italy	56 081 197	223 537	59 005	2 446 977	315 316	56 192 365	606 188	442 258	2 332 734
Cyprus*	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Latvia	1 837 832	5 490	1 233	450 996	37	1 848 354	6 264	:	432 674
Lithuania	3 370 422	1 916	:	30 946	:	3 345 192	2 333	:	37 354
Luxembourg	277 800	164 400	:	26 900	:	277 900	177 100	:	28 800:
Hungary	9 922 151	24 879	:	129 551	66 183	9 900 128	101 044	75 650	64 986
Malta*	392 560	:	:	:	:	393 933	:	:	:
Netherlands	15 642 853	233 867	23 347	457 490	5 082	15 676 060	244 918	34 041	437 014
Austria	7 457 632	218 746	75 273	577 920	28 422	7 478 205	263 174	109 141	541 605
Poland	:	:	:	:	:	38 070 596	23 928	3 358	20 319
Portugal	10 138 845	77 789	1 529	352 958	92 142	10 162 156	95 679	:	341 260
Romania	21 584 220	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Slovenia	1 954 390	2 540	659	46 428	208	1 956 822	3 006	998	50 549
Slovak Republic	5 363 617	14 041	9 080	11 522	971	5 361 507	19 218	12 291	12 912
Finland	5 141 728	37 923	18 314	75 929	970	5 155 216	42 462	21 927	79 277
Sweden	8 567 853	213 168	27 026	266 731	:	8 621 261	225 487	37 016	266 509
United Kingdom	56 162 000	1 403 000	422 000	2 216 000	28 000	56 192 000	1 588 000	657 000	2 387 000
EU-15	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
EU-10	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
EU-2	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
EU-27	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:

Source: EMN NCP National Reports

* 2007 data not available.

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Notes:

1. Unless otherwise indicated below, the data from those Member States indicated in italics are as provided by Eurostat and have not been verified by their respective EMN NCP.
2. For the 2004 data given for **EU-15 Member States**, the column heading "Future EU-10" gives the number of nationals of the future EU-10 (as of 1 May 2004).
3. For **Czech Republic**, only foreigners with permit to stay exceeding 1 year are included.
4. For **Denmark**, the data 2004 comes from the 2003 Annual Report on Asylum and Migration Statistics. For 2005, the data are from EUROSTAT.
5. For **Germany**, the numbers for the total population stem from the general population adjustment system. The data on non-nationals are calculated on the basis of the Central Register on Foreign Nationals (Ausländerzentralregister; AZR). These two data sources are not compatible.
6. For **Estonia**, 2004 data corresponds to 2 April 2004, i.e. one month before accession. The number of non EU-15 & EU-25 Nationals includes "non-citizens." Like for **Latvia**, these are persons who are citizens of the former USSR, who do not hold citizenship of any country and who permanently reside in Estonia. According to the Estonian Ministry of the Interior Population Registration Bureau, in 2004, there were 135 337 non-citizens and, in 2005, 138 084 non-citizens.
7. For **Ireland**, stock by nationality exists only for census dates (28th April 2002 & 23rd April 2006). The total non-national population (i.e. including both other EU and third country nationals) was 20 691 (2003); 198 764 (2004) and 234 036 (2005).
8. For **Greece**, data come from the Ministry of Interior, based on initial residence permits issued.
9. For **France**, the data for 2004 comes from the 2003 Annual Report on Asylum and Migration Statistics. For 2005, the number of nationals comes from INSEE, with the remaining data being an estimation provided by G DAP, UCL.
10. For **Cyprus**, the total number of all non-nationals was 74 800 in 2003 and 83 500 in 2004 (data taken from the 2003 Annual Report on Asylum and Migration Statistics).
11. For **Latvia**, the number of non EU-15 & EU-25 Nationals includes "non-citizens of Latvia." Like for **Estonia**, these are persons who are citizens of the former USSR, who do not hold citizenship of any country and who permanently reside in the Republic of Latvia. Whilst the Central Statistical Bureau, which provided these data, officially include these non-citizens of Latvia with the number of nationals of Latvia, for the purpose of comparing with other Member States, they have been considered here as non-EU-15 or EU-10 nationals.
12. For **Luxembourg**, the data for 2004 comes from the 2003 Annual Report on Asylum and Migration Statistics. For 2005 onwards, data is provided from Service du repertoire des Personnes Physiques.
13. For Hungary, The table include the following categories of foreigners: those persons who are in possession of an immigration permit, residence permit or settlement permit on the 1st of January of the given year. The figures were corrected by the Hungarian Statistical Office.
14. For **Malta**, from the 2003 Annual Report on Asylum and Migration Statistics, in 2004 there were a total of 11 000 non-nationals (third country plus other EU-24 nationals).
15. For **Austria**, data as revised and published by Statistics Austria on 17 May 2009.
16. For **Portugal**, data refers to 31st December before the reference year and Non-EU nationals data is based on residence permits stock, consular visas - work, family reunification and study purposes and permanence permits issued.
17. For **Bulgaria**, the total number of all non-nationals was 25 160 in 2004 (data taken from the 2003 Annual Report on Asylum and Migration Statistics) and for 2005 25 600 (data estimation provided by G DAP, UCL).
18. For **Romania**, 2004 data comes from 2003 Annual Report on Asylum and Migration Statistics

In **Austria**, non-nationals accounted for 9.7% of the population on 1st January 2007. Of those, 32.7% were from other EU-27 Member States (19.1% EU-15, 10% EU-10, 3.5% EU-2). The share of EU-27 had thus increased by 6.5% due to EU-15 inflow in 2006 and an increase in EU-2 nationals. Nationals of **Germany** are the most important group of EU-15 migrants, while nationals of **Poland**, **Hungary** and the **Slovak Republic** are the main EU-10 groups. Third-country nationals accounted for 66.3% of all non-nationals. Of those, nationals from the former Republic of Yugoslavia accounted for 55%. Overall nationals of Serbia and Montenegro represent 16.9% of all nationals, followed by nationals of **Germany** (13.6%), Croatia (7.1%) and **Poland** (4.1%). The share of nationals of Turkey decreased by -4.3% compared to 2006.

In **Belgium**, the number of non-nationals reached an unprecedented high of 971 448 on 1st January 2007, with the number of other EU-27 nationals increasing more (4.3%) than that of non-EU (4%), due to a substantial increase in the number of EU-2 nationals (+55.6%). The distribution of nationals from third countries remained similar to that of previous years, with Morocco (80 587) accounting for 25.6% and Turkey for 12.8% (39 882). Nevertheless a clear decrease can be noted for nationals of Morocco (-0.9%), Russia (-1.6%), and marked increases for nationals of India (+7.8%), the Democratic Republic of Congo (+5.1%) and Algeria (+4.5%).

In the **Czech Republic**, nationals formed 97.1% of the population with other EU nationals, accounting for 1.1% and non-EU nationals for 1.8%. Amongst the EU- nationals, nationals of the **Slovak Republic** and **Poland** were most significant represented nationalities. From the 1.8 % of non-EU nationals, nationals of Ukraine accounted for 46.5% (103 405), nationals of Vietnam for 20.6% (42 313) and nationals of Russia for 9.2% (20 062).

In **Estonia**, there were no significant changes in the composition of the migrant population. Of the total migrant population, the biggest group consisted of its so-called "non-citizens" (119 204 / 54.34% of migrant population), followed by nationals of Russia (91 561 / 41.7%), nationals of Ukraine (4 468 / 2.0%) and nationals of Belarus (1 336 / 0.6%). The total number of third-country nationals legally residing in **Estonia**, was 219 347 in 2007, with a total population of 1 342 409.

In **France**, EU nationals account for 35% of the non-nationals, nationals of Maghreb for 31% and nationals of Asia for 13%. With regard to immigration to France from other EU Member States, the numbers of nationals of **Spain** and **Italy** have fallen in the last 10 years – mainly due to natural causes, while nationals of **Portugal** tended to more frequently acquire French citizenship (more than 70 000 over that period). Almost 280 000 nationals of Morocco have also acquired French citizenship since 1999.

In **Finland**, since the beginning of the 1990s, nationals of Russia have formed the largest third-country national group (26 211 in 2007), followed by Somalia (4 852) and China (3 978). Amongst EU-10 Member States, nationals of **Estonia** are well represented with 20 000 persons, while nationals of **Germany** are the most important group of EU-15 (3 300).

In **Germany**, the largest group of third-country nationals were by far Turkey (1 738 831 or 25.8%), although their number was decreasing, partly due to naturalisations and to an increase in Turkish emigration. About one quarter of the non-nationals were from other EU-15 Member States, 14% were from former Yugoslavia and 8% from EU-10. In terms of nationalities, nationals of **Italy** were the second most prominent (534 657 or 7.9%), followed by nationals of Serbia and Montenegro (481 929 or 7.1%) and **Poland** (361 696 or 4.5%). Significant increases in immigration were noted from Brazil (+5%), Korea (+5.2%), Nigeria (+4.1%), India (+3.5%), Australia and Oceania (+6.6%), whilst the share of Afghanistan immigrants decreased by 5.4%, Sri Lanka's by 5.4% and Iran's by 5%.

In **Greece**, nationals of Albania remain the primary group of non-nationals (75.9%). Their number increased by 18.7% to 429 261 compared to 2006, after a similar decrease in 2005 (19.3%). Overall, however, the number of non-EU nationals decreased in 2007 since nationals of Romania and **Bulgaria**, who ranked second and third with 8.2% and 4.9% of non-nationals in 2006, are no longer counted as non-EU. Among smaller population groups (less than 2.2% of the total of non-nationals), nationals of India, Pakistan and Egypt experienced the greatest increase in immigration (+50%, 49.8% and 49.6% respectively).

In **Hungary**, non-nationals represent 1.6% of the total population (64 986), with other EU nationals making up 84% of all non-nationals. Hungarian minorities from neighbouring EU Member States represent a significant number of the EU nationals, as they benefit from simplified visa and naturalisation processes. Amongst the group of third-country nationals,

those from Asia are the most important (12% of 64 986 third-country nationals), with China (8 979) and Vietnam (3 095) as main countries of origin.

The non-national population in **Italy** reached 2.5 million persons, equal to 4.2% of total residents in 2007. Among third-country nationals, those of Albanian represent 16.1% (375 947) of the total, followed by Morocco (343 228 or 14.6%). Then, with a lower percentage, there are nationals from China (144 885 or 6.3%), Ukraine (120 070 or 5.3%) and Philippines (101 337 or 4.2%).

According to STATEC figures,²⁸ the population of **Luxembourg** was 483 800 on 1st January 2008, of which 205 900 were non-nationals. The number of non EU-27 Member States nationals amounts to 28 800. Of these, 7 906 or 30% are nationals of Former Yugoslavia, 11% or 2 939 of Bosnia-Herzegovina and 2 036 or 8% of Cape Verde.

According to estimates currently available, the total population of **Malta** in 2007 amounted to 407 810, of which 13 877 were non-nationals.

In the **Netherlands**, there were no significant changes in the ranking of the most important third-country nationals' groups in 2007. The largest group remained nationals of Turkey and Morocco. India was in the ten most prominent countries. Other EU nationals still form a large group (244 918, 1.5% of total population) and there is a significant increase in the number of EU-10 nationals since 2006 (+5 267, +22.6%).

In **Poland**, third-country nationals represented less than 0.1% of the total population, with 27% (5 182) from Ukraine, 16.6% (3 291) from Russia, 9% (1 906) from Vietnam and 8.2% (1 535) from Belarus.

Non-nationals represented 4.12% of the population of **Portugal** in 2007, with other EU-27 nationals accounting for 22% of these, versus 18% in 2006. This increase is attributed to EU-2 accession. The largest group of third-country nationals remained Brazil (74 000), followed by nationals of Cape Verde (68 000) and Ukraine (42 000).

²⁸ *Luxembourg Statistical office*. Figures from CTIE-RGPP (*Centre for Information Technology and the General Register of Natural Persons*) is also available in the National Report.

The share of third-country nationals in the total population of **Slovenia** rose by 9%. Its composition did not change though, with nationals of the Former Yugoslavia still prevailing: Bosnia and Herzegovina (24 441), Serbia (10 319), Croatia (6 829) and the former Republic of Macedonia (5 936).

In **Spain**, on 1st January 2007, non-nationals represented 10.4% of the total population, 62% of them were third-country nationals, above all from Morocco (592 274), Ecuador (433 032) and Colombia (265 878). However, the largest increases occurred among nationals of **Bulgaria** and Romania, especially the latter. Between 1st January 2005 and 1st January 2008 the number of nationals of these Member States in Spain has increased by more than 500 000.

For **Sweden**, 5.4% of the population were migrants in 2007, more than half were third-country nationals, above all from Iraq (30 257), Thailand (12 495) and Bosnia (12 056). Foreign-born nationals represented 13% of the population reflecting the relatively quick (5 years) naturalisation process. By country of birth - including naturalised immigrants - the largest groups were from nationals of Iraq (97 513), former Yugoslavia (72 939) and Iran (56 516).

In the **United Kingdom**, 6.6% of the population in 2007 consisted of non-nationals (which amounted to 3 953 000). This represented an increase of 359 000 non-nationals as compared to 2006. Nationals of India represented by far the biggest group among non-nationals, with numbers increasing continuously in the last five years (296 000 in 2007 from 263 000 in 2006). Nationals of USA followed, with an increase of +15% from 2006 to 137 000. In addition, three other prominent countries of origin were the three Commonwealth Countries, Pakistan (135 000), Australia (111 000) and South Africa (103 000), with an increase in the share of the former two (+23% and +31% since 2006) and a decrease in the share of the latter (-5%). Immigration from India is due to long-standing ties between the two countries and comprises immigration for work, study and family purposes. For example, India has recently provided the United Kingdom with skilled workers in computer services, many of them through Intra-Corporate Transfers. Nationals of India accounted for 37% of the beneficiaries of the *Highly Skilled Migrants Programme*²⁹ in 2007.

²⁹ <http://www.hsmp-services.co.uk/index.html>

4.3 Residence Permits: annual total of first issuing in 2007

Table 10 gives an overview of residence permits issued over the period 2005 to 2007, including, when available, the purpose of entry.

Table 10: Residence permits issued by EU Member States (2005-2007), disaggregated according to purpose

Country	2005					2006					2007				
	Family formation/reunification	Study	Employment	Other	Total	Family formation/reunification	Study	Employment	Other	Total	Family formation/reunification	Study	Employment	Other	Total
Belgium	:	:	:	:	93 948	:	:	:	:	94 515	:	:	:	:	105 713
Bulgaria	:	:	:	:	:	5 429	3 942	1 020	201	10 592	4 975	6 328	1 263	3 249	15 815
Czech Republic	97 432	6 015	110 076	64 789	278 312	99 541	7 208	127 131	87 576	321 456	109 029	8 488	161 562	113 008	392 087
Denmark	3 599	6 588	2 239	10 757	23 183	3 558	4 638	2 814	8 861	19 871	:	:	:	:	:
Germany	53 213	:	:	:	:	59 640	25 303	32 035	16 580	133 558	46 908	31 447	23 365	6 889	108 609
Estonia	899	494	1 316	:	5 430	1 227	294	1 139	2 406	5 066	1 572	286	736	1 471	4 065
Ireland	:	:	28 909	:	:	:	:	26 611	:	144 090	:	:	23 591	:	155 253
Greece	15 670	1 425	41 431	2 147	60 673	25 579	2 100	28 989	1 745	58 413	23 168	2 126	:	6 616	31 910
Spain	142 700	40 652	661 770	74 453	919 575	150 050	41 639	107 746	71 488	370 923	169 780	38 220	186 426	72 032	466 458
France	92 568	46 294	11 097	37 175	187 134	95 973	44 943	10 713	31 632	183 261	85 998	46 663	11 751	27 495	171 907
Italy	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	150 500
Cyprus	Nil	5 530	25 338	13 688	44 556	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Latvia	2 346	667	2 025	371	5 409	739	405	1 421	363	2 928	887	460	2 968	516	:
Lithuania	2 899	704	1 797	259	5 659	3 576	867	2 440	258	7 141	3 824	972	3 646	273	8 715
Luxembourg	:	:	:	:	:	1 418	4 609	18069	7 173	31 269	1 714	7 394	20 064	8 452	37 624
Hungary	8 030	7 620	44 221	19 817	79 688	9 147	8 680	47 653	17 893	83 373	6 856	8 233	21 727	1 333	:
Malta	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Netherlands	70 059	17 695	11 868	9 570	109 192	69 315	15 850	12 430	22 371	119 966	63 713	17 442	14 824	38 526	:
Austria	29 735	4 375	17 703	1 553	53 366	16 139	3 198	3 192	437	22 966	15 394	2 740	2 871	582	:
Poland	6 221	4 369	9 502	10 399	30 491	7 663	4 298	6 401	Nil	18 362	10 834	5 175	6 734	497	23 240
Portugal	9 002	4 051	10 908	48	24 009	27 592	4 817	51 361	2 356	86 126	19 365	6 029	33 255	876	59 525
Romania	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Slovenia	6 343	1 171	29 546	1 334	38 394	5 637	1 419	27 015	759	34 830	6 642	1 344	42 787	379	51 152
Slovak Republic	742	263	1 135	941	3 081	1121	214	1650	2 596	5 581	1096	235	2027	2591	5949
Finland	5 281	3 107	3 066	2 270	13 724	5 573	3 196	2 929	2 554	14 252	6 528	3 810	5 347	3 084	18 769
Sweden	17 664	14 745	16 067	61	48 537	24 396	6 309	6 093	25 053	61 851	28 001	8 980	7 501	18 414	62 896
United Kingdom	127 000	284 000	183 000	135 000	729 000	145 000	309 000	179 000	136 000	769 000	135 000	343000	153000	144000	774000

: Not available

Notes:

1. For **Belgium**, data corresponds to new residence permits issued to newly-arrived foreigners (both EU +third-country nationals). In 2007, figures on motives of migration for Belgium were based on the motives for delivering a long-term visa abroad (figures from the *Federal Public Service Foreign Affairs*). Motives of migration were not registered in the National Register back then. This changed in the beginning of 2008: specific categories were introduced in the National Register so that the municipalities could start register the reason (motive of migration) for delivering a first residence document.
2. For **Czech Republic**, the classification being slightly different, "business based on trade license" permits have been included in "others" in this table.
3. For **Denmark**, Nordic citizens do not need any permission to reside, therefore immigration from these countries not included in these figures. Data on "Employment" includes permissions valid for less than 12 months, therefore seasonal workers may be included. Data on "other categories" excludes EU citizens.
4. For **Germany**, data are for persons who are non-EU citizens. Data for 2004 and 2005, apart from family reunification/family formation, are not available due to legislative changes and the introduction of new residence titles in 2005. Data include residence permits and settlements permits issued to persons who entered Germany in the respective year. The source is the Central Register of Foreign Nationals (AZR).
5. For **Ireland**, data represent the number of employment permits (work permits, work visas plus work authorisations) issued in the reference year. Renewals are included. Groups work permits are excluded therefore one permit = 1 person.
6. For **Greece**, Data includes EU nationals also.
7. For **Spain**, data reflects initial permits issued during the year. "Employment" does not include the permits granted under the Contingent Procedure, that rose to 70 437 in 2007: 64 716 correspond to fix-term work permits and 5 721 to permits for stable employment. "Others" refers to third country nationals who have been issued a permit to reside in Spain but not to work, and the permits issued for humanitarian reasons and other exceptional circumstances.
8. For **Cyprus**, "Employment" includes permits valid for less than 12 months, therefore may include also data on seasonal workers. No data detailed data on employment sub-categories available for non-EU citizens. Therefore data on self-employed and employed persons only refers to EU-citizens. "Study" category, as well as the "other" category, only includes data for non-EU citizens.
9. For **Latvia**, data includes all temporary residence permits that have been issued, including first issuing of residence permits.
10. For **Hungary**, data refers to visa applications submitted by third-country nationals (i.e. excludes EU nationals) and for residence permits which authorise the holder for a limited, duly defined period of time to stay in the territory of Hungary. Data on "Employment" includes permissions valid for less than 12 months, therefore seasonal workers may be included.
11. For **Italy** and **Malta**, data are not available.
12. For **Netherlands**, data for 2004 or earlier are not available, owing to a change in administration of these applications. Data relates to non-EU nationals only and to decisions (i.e. persons) not cases. Permits allowing long-term (5 years or more) or permanent residence are not included, nor are asylum related figures and visa short stay or visa long stay. no distinction between school pupils and students is made, likewise for Employment there is no distinction made between self-employed, employed and highly skilled persons.
13. For **Austria**, data have been provided by the AT EMN NCP (own calculations based on the statistics published by the Austrian Ministry of Interior) and thus do not represent official data. The data refer to first issued permits only (not renewals) and include settlement permits (within quota and quota-free) as well as residence permits. The category "family formation/family reunification" also includes settlement permits issued to (third country national) dependants of Austrian nationals. The category "employment" includes various categories of work such as employed key professionals, self-employment, temporary employment, commuting or business delegates. The category "other" comprises e.g. permits for humanitarian reasons and permits which do not grant access to the labour market.
14. For **Poland**, data on "Others" excludes EU nationals.
15. For **Slovenia**, data is for third-country nationals only and refers to both new residence permits issued in a particular year, as well as renewals in the same year. The number of permanent residence permits issued in 2004 was 4 019 and in 2005 was 4 710.
16. For **Slovak Republic**, data excludes other EU nationals
17. For **Finland**, data corresponds only to new residence permits issued to newly-arrived foreigners (both EU +third-country nationals) in a particular year. Data on "Employment" includes permissions valid for less than 12 months, therefore seasonal workers may be included. Data on "other categories" excludes EU citizens.
18. For **Sweden**, data includes EU nationals also in 2004 and 2005 but only third-country nationals since 2006. "Employment" includes permits valid for less than 12 months, therefore may include also data on seasonal workers in 2004-05. From 2006, no seasonal workers are included.
19. For **United Kingdom**, data are based on number of grants rather than number of persons. Figures are rounded to the nearest 1 000 and exclude EEA plus CH nationals. Figures also exclude EU-10 nationals from 1st May 2004 onwards. Since the United Kingdom does not publish information on residence permits, the information provided is mainly based on passengers given leave to enter, extension of leave to remain and settlement in the United Kingdom in selected categories. Data are provisional and due to be revised.

Member States where the primary purpose for issuing permits is family reunification/formation were **Belgium** (although exact figure is not available), **Greece** (23 168 or 72% of all permits) **France** (85 998 or 50%), **Netherlands** (63 713 or 47%), **Poland** (10 834 or 46%), **Sweden** (28 001 or 44%), **Germany** (46 908 or 43%), **Lithuania** (3 824 or 43%), **Finland** (6 528 or 34%). Member States where the main purpose was study are **United Kingdom** (343 000 or 44%) and **Bulgaria** (6 328 or 40%). Member States where the main purpose is employment are **Slovenia** (2 027 or 89%), **Latvia** (2 968 or 61%), **Hungary** (21 727 or 57%), **Portugal** (33 255 or 56%), **Czech Republic** (161 562 or 41.2%), **Spain** (417 846 or 40%) and **Slovak Republic** (2 027 or 34%).

In **Austria**, the issuance of residence permits has dropped steadily since 2004 when it was 64 044 with 53 366 in 2005, 22 966 in 2006 and 21 587 in 2007. This is mainly due to accession of EU-10 and EU-2 nationals and to procedural changes (that no longer request work permits but only a visa since 2006) regarding temporary work and residence of less than 6 months. Quotas regulate the immigration of nationals from third countries. The new *Residence and Settlement Act (NAG 2005)* - introducing a minimum income requirement for family reunification - had triggered an abrupt decline in the immigration of third-country nationals in 2006. It stabilised with an immigration flow of 15 900 in 2007 (74% of residence permits). Of those, only a third concern migrants included in the high skilled immigrants' quota scheme (or reunification with a highly-skilled migrant), 67% are thus reunification with an EEA/national family member, or residence under Humanitarian grounds outside the quota system.

In **Belgium**, while family reunification remains the first reason for admission, more than one fourth of the non-EU nationals admitted or authorised to stay are, according to the data available, because of humanitarian reasons. The increase of residence permits issued since 2006 (+17%) is attributed to the immigration of EU-10+2 and to immigration from countries that are prominent with regard to international protection requirements. Subsidiary protection was introduced in October 2006 and followed by family reunifications after protection status was granted (e.g. Serbia and Montenegro, Iraq, Afghanistan).

In the **Czech Republic**, permits for employment purposes increased by +27%, to +41% of the total number of permits in 2007. The second most important purpose remains family formation/reunification (27.8%). An important change in the conditions for obtaining a permanent residence permit was the introduction of a language test, as well as a legal provision on registered partnerships. Another change, made in earlier years, is the suppression of the 10 years continuous stay condition- shortened to five years - to obtain permanent residence permit.

In **Estonia**, the number of residence permits dropped by 20% to 4 065 compared to 5 066 in 2006. Most permits were delivered for family reunification (38.7%), followed by employment (18.0%) and studies (7%). The 35.3% issued under International agreements refer to third-country nationals who settled in Estonia before 1st July 1990 and after that date have not left to live in another country and who have not been refused a residence permit or extension of a residence permit, or whose residence permit has not been declared invalid under the *Aliens Act*.

Issuing of residence permits increased by 30% in 2007 (from 14 252 to 18 769) in **Finland**, due to an increase of almost 55% in number of employment permits and marginal increases in all other categories.

The number of first-time residence permits issued in **France** to nationals of third countries continued its downward trend (-2.1% in 2006, -6.2% in 2007) with 171 907 permits issued in 2007. Whilst the number of permits granted for professional purposes remained virtually stable since 2004, permits for study purposes showed a decrease from 2004 to 2006 (- 5.8% in 2005, - 6.1% in 2006), followed by an increase of +3.8% in 2007. Changes were much more substantial with regard to family reunification, with 2006 marked by an increase of +3.7% due to the exceptional regularisation of parents of school-age minors followed by a sharp fall of -10.4% in 2007. This is partly explained by the downward trends in the number of permissions to reside for spouses of French nationals and for purposes of "Personal and Family ties." The number of permissions to reside for refugees also fell by 6.9% in 2007. The three principal groups of nationals to whom permits were granted were of Algeria, Morocco and China. Morocco ranked first among the countries of first time residence permit holders, partly because of the introduction of the three years *Seasonal Worker Permit*, of which they are the first beneficiaries. Labour immigration from third-countries showed a substantial drop between 2003 and 2007 (-11.8%). The *Act of 20 November 2007 on Immigration, Integration, and Asylum* introduced a residence permit of unlimited duration, which can be issued to any non-national who holds a residence permit which has expired. It also continued to form the framework of family immigration, with the prolongation of both 2006 acts, which had considerably reformed the family reunification procedure. A minimum income to support the applicant is now required.

In **Germany**, family reunification accounted for 46 908 permits in 2007 (43%), followed by educational purposes (31 447, 29%) and employment (23 365, 22%). The remaining 6% of permits issued to third-country nationals falls into the category "others", including humanitarian and

political reasons and instruments under international law. In 2007, legislation was amended in order to facilitate foreign student's employment with the new regulation on access to labour market for foreign graduates. This waived the procedure that first made sure no researcher of German nationality was better suited for certain posts. The family reunification regulation was also amended to provide for a German language exam for spouses prior to entering the country, and the requirement that both spouses were at least 18 years.

Greece experienced a slight decrease in the number of permits issued for family reunification (-9.4%), following the abrupt increase from 2005 to 2006 (+63.2%), which reflected above all the number of incoming minors through family reunification schemes due to the incorporation of relevant EU directives in national law.

Ireland issued 7.7% more Certificates of Registration (new and renewals) in 2007 compared to 2006 (155 253), with an increase of over 80% of EU nationals in 2007 (1 660) from 916 in 2006.³⁰ Since 2003, there has been a continuous decrease in the number of work permits issued (11.3% since 2006). This steady decline is attributed to EU-10 Accession in May 2004, which made a much larger labour force available from these other EU Member States.

Official data regarding the total number of residence permits issued refers to 150 500 permits for **Italy** in 2007. This figure differs substantially from the recorded immigration in that same year, and the progressive release of first residence permit in favour of over 520 000 foreign workers in line with 2006 entry quotas.³¹

In **Latvia**, there was a sharp increase in the number of first time residence permits in 2007 (from 2 928 in 2006 to 4 831), attributed to the positive development of the economy and need for a low qualified work force. This demand was exacerbated by the emigration of their own national low qualified work force, principally to EU-15 Member States following accession.

In **Luxembourg**, a total of 37 624 residence permits, including seasonal workers and intra-corporate migration, were issued in 2007, 6 355 more (or 16.9%) than during the previous year.³²

³⁰ Family members of EU nationals who have exercised their right to move to and live in Ireland. They do not need an employment permit or business permission to work. A Certificate of Registration is not required by an EU citizen.

³¹ According to the National Report of Italy the figure only partially reflects the real situation, due to the long lapse of time required for visas, entries, issues of residence permit and relative administration registration at the registry office.

³² According to the National Report of Luxembourg available data neither allows for a distinction between residence permits issued for the first time and renewals on the one hand and the disaggregation by nationality on the other hand.

Given **Luxembourg's** migration profile, the majority of permits (71.7%) (“carte de séjour”) were issued to EU-nationals, mainly employees (17 591), students, freelancers and retired persons (7 394), but also to third-country national family members of EU-nationals (1 714), nationals of EFTA member states (143), as well as nationals of EU-12 Member States requiring a work permit (121). With regard to non-EU nationals, 8 188 persons were issued a residence permit (“permis de séjour”) in 2007 (1 231 or 15% more than in 2006).

In the **Netherlands**, permits (new and renewals) issued in 2007 were for family reunification and family formation (63 713). This continues a downward trend since 2005 that might be explained by the increase in the minimum age requirement of both the migrant and the spouse and the minimum income requirement. There was a dramatic increase in the category “others” in 2007 (from 22 371 in 2006 to 38 526 in 2007) attributed to a regularisation process³³ of which 20 400 non-EU nationals in 2007 were granted residence permits as they satisfied the basis of a pardon scheme.

Portugal created a single legal residence status for third-country nationals for stays of one or more years in 2007, with 59 525 residence permits issued (31% more than in 2006). Employment remains the main purpose of issuance (51 361). Family purposes permits dropped by 70% in relation to 2006 figures (from 27 596 to 19 365), although it still represents 33% of permits. Study purposes represented 10% versus 6% in 2006.

Slovenia experienced a decrease by -17.1% in first-time residence permits for the purpose of family reunification, due to the amendment of its law to align with EU *acquis*. Family reunification was then only possible after one-year of residence and no longer as soon as the temporary residence permit was granted. Conversely, the number of permits for study purposes rose by 12.1%.

Since 2005, the **Slovak Republic** has observed an upward trend in the issuance of residence permits. In 2006, 5 581 permits were granted and 5 949 in 2007. The main purposes for residence permits were employment (2 027), family formation/reunification (1 096) and studies (235). Residence permits with unspecified purposes were granted to 2 591 individuals in 2007, thus representing the largest share of residence permits (43%).

³³ Settlement of the legacy of the ‘old’ *Aliens Act* scheme, IND (2008).

In **Spain**, an increase in the granting of initial residence permits can be observed from 2003 to 2007, although with important variations from year to year, due to a regularisation programme in 2005 and promotion of recruitment at source. In 2007, 466 458 initial permits were granted, plus 70 437 permits granted under the Contingent procedure, of which 64 716 were fix-term work permits. Initial permits are mainly granted for employment purposes (40% or 186 426 in 2007) and family formation/reunification (36% or 169 780).

Sweden experienced a slight increase in residence permits issued to third-country nationals in 2007 (62 836) due to increases in family reunification/formation (28 001 in 2007 in comparison to 24 396 in 2006), study (8 920 in 2007 in comparison to 6 309 in 2006) and work purposes (7 501 in 2007 in comparison to 6 093 in 2006).

The **United Kingdom** issued an estimated 774 000 authorisations to reside, a slight increase (+1%) compared to 2006. Among the purposes, family reunification/formation fell by -7% to 135 000 and employment fell by -15% to 153 000. Conversely, authorisations for study purposes rose by 11% to 343 000. The ranking of purposes did not change over the recent years. Study remains the first purpose (44%), followed by employment (20%) and family reunification/formation (17%).

5. REFUSALS, APPREHENSIONS AND REMOVALS

The data presented in this Section and in [Table 11](#) below in particular needs to be treated with *caution*, because priorities differ between national law enforcement and the current administrative procedures in the Member States. Moreover, illegal entries and unlawful residence means that registration is often avoided and it is thus not possible to establish an overall idea of the total number of illegally-staying immigrants. Illegal immigration can also be short-term (e.g. seasonal workers) and, therefore, the reasons motivating illegal migration are varied again influencing the reliability of the data. Nevertheless, the data can at least provide an indication of new trends and/or marked changes in illegal immigration.

Generally, the bulk of refusals, apprehensions and removals appear to relate primarily to third-country nationals from countries of origin which are geographically in the proximity of, or with historical, linguistic and cultural ties to, the relevant Member States. Compared to 2006, the major change in third-country national groups is the accession of **Bulgaria** and Romania to the EU.

With regard to the number of refusals, the extent to which a Member State has an external (land or sea) border appears to be linked to a relatively higher number of refusals ([Section 5.1.](#)). **France, Poland, Spain** and **United Kingdom** ranked highest with regard to the number of third-country nationals refused entry.

The number of apprehensions ([Section 5.2.](#)) in 2007 ranged from 112 364 in **Greece** to 248 in **Latvia**. Compared to 2006, an *increase* in the number of persons apprehended constituted a continuing trend since 2005 in **Bulgaria, Greece, France, Sweden, Lithuania** and **Latvia** and a continuous *decreasing* trend in **Belgium, Czech Republic, Italy Slovak Republic, Poland, Slovenia** and **Estonia**. **Spain** shows a decrease with respect to 2006, but a general increasing trend in the last decade. For some Member States, new legislation, which extended the possibility to obtain residence permits, seems to have led to a decrease in the number of apprehensions made. The accession of Romania and **Bulgaria** to the EU can, to a large extent, explain the general decreasing trend. **Sweden** and **Finland** stand out with strong increases in apprehensions, possibly related to their respective proximity to Russia and their national asylum policy.

With regard to the number of removals ([Section 5.3.](#)), the general trend is towards a decrease in the number of removals from the EU. Again, the accession of **Bulgaria** and Romania in 2007 has resulted in a significant decrease in the number of removals.

Table 11: Number of refusals, persons apprehended and removed (2005-2007), in decreasing order of occurrence in 2007

Refusals						Apprehended						Removed					
Member State	2005	2006	2007	Total	2007/2006	Member State	2005	2006	2007	Total	2007/2006	Member State	2005	2006	2007	Total	2007/2006
Spain	628 463	630 305	644 989	1 903 757	2.33%	Greece	66 351	95 239	112 364	273 954	17.98%	Greece	51 079	54 756	68 191	174 026	24.54%
Poland	41 296	40 282	32 188	113 766	-20.09%	Spain	62 812	95 765	72 559	231 136	-24.23%	United Kingdom	58 215	63 865	63 365	185 445	-0.78%
United Kingdom	30 010	29 945	28 140	88 095	-6.03%	France	63 681	67 130	69 879	200 690	4.10%	Spain	25 370	33 235	25 443	84 048	-23.45%
France	35 921	34 127	26 593	96 641	-22.08%	Italy	83 809	92 029	54 140	229 978	-41.17%	France	19 841	23 831	23 196	66 868	-2.66%
Germany	15 043	20 329	11 840	47 212	-41.76%	Sweden	14 528	20 926	32 851	68 305	56.99%	Netherlands	12 386	12 823	13 028	38 237	1.60%
Slovenia	32 521	23 518	11 770	67 809	-49.95%	Portugal	17 223	23 564	22 111	62 898	-6.17%	Germany	19 988	15 407	10 909	46 304	-29.19%
Hungary	20 197	23 015	11 198	54 410	-51.34%	Germany	20 270	21 635	19 454	61 359	-10.08%	Italy	24 001	16 597	8 771	49 369	-47.15%
Italy	19 336	20 267	9 394	48 997	-53.65%	Austria	37 934	38 162	13 594	89 690	-64.38%	Poland	5 141	9 066	9 097	23 304	0.34%
Bulgaria	6 561	5 765	8 528	20 854	47.93%	Belgium	18 400	15 670	11 642	45 712	-25.71%	Belgium	10 302	9 264	4 860	24 426	-47.54%
Ireland	4 807	5 885	6 272	16 964	6.58%	Netherlands	10 803	11 634	8 900	31 337	-23.50%	Austria	5 239	4 904	3 267	13 410	-33.38%
Austria	23 295	29 128	5 636	58 059	-80.65%	Slovak Republic	7 970	7 620	6 110	21 700	-19.82%	Slovak Republic	2 569	2 712	3 087	8 368	13.83%
Portugal	4 146	3 598	3 963	11 707	10.14%	Czech Republic	10 789	7 536	5 088	23 413e	-32.48%	Sweden	8 599	3 793	3 011	15 403	-20.62%
Greece	11 399	10 729	3 441	25 569	-67.93%	Poland	7 045	6 452	4 544	18 041	-29.57%	Bulgaria	1 608	1 501	2 263	5 372	50.77%
Estonia	1 924	2 669	3 091	7 684	15.81%	Hungary	9 780	9 961	3 355	23 096	-66.32%	Slovenia	3 133	3 173	2 064	8 370	-34.95%
Lithuania	3 657	3 151	2 943	9 751	-6.60%	Slovenia	5 890	4 331	2 479	12 700	-42.76%	Finland	1 900	1 410	1 155	4 465	-18.09%
Netherlands	6 622	4 126	2 349	13 097	-43.07%	Bulgaria	1 190	1 238	2 114	4 542	70.76%	Portugal	6 162	1 079	946	8 187	-12.33%
Slovak Republic	7 428	2 955	1 832	12 215	-38.00%	Finland	2 757	1 689	1 966	6 412	16.40%	Hungary	720	741	880	2 341	18.76%
Latvia	783	1 017	1 610	3 410	58.31%	Estonia	2 703	2 069	1 461	6 233	-29.39%	Czech Republic	2 479	1 228	526	4 233	-57.17%
Finland	1 185	1 407	1 424	4 016	1.21%	Lithuania	863	1 227	1 327	3 417	8.15%	Luxembourg	192	224	148	329	-51.35%
Czech Republic	5 553	3 072	1 168	9 793	-61.98%	Latvia	307	247	248	802	0.40%	Latvia	190	139	157	486	12.95%
Belgium	1 661	1 868	918	4 447	-50.86%	Luxembourg	:	308	244	552	-20.78%	Lithuania	189	149	147	485	-1.34%
Sweden	846	668	752	2 266	12.57%	Denmark	1 064	867	:	1 931	:	Ireland	396	302	142	840	-52.98%
Cyprus	2 018	:	:	2 018	:	Cyprus	1 281	:	:	1 281	:	Estonia	60	91	94	245	3.30%
Denmark	333	210	:	543	:	Ireland	:	:	:	:	:	Denmark	2 225	1 986	:	4 211	:
Luxembourg	:	:	:	:	:	Malta	2 416	2 185	2 033	6 634	:	Cyprus	3 015	:	:	3 015	:
Malta	262	264	225	751	:	United Kingdom	:	:	:	:	:	Malta	962	781	338	2 081	:
Romania	51 082	:	:	51 082	:	Romania	4 940	:	:	4 940	:	Romania	616	:	:	616	:

: Not available

Notes:

1. For **Belgium**, apprehended data includes also EU-10 Nationals (particularly from Poland) who were mainly intercepted while working without the necessary labour and/or residence documents. Removals data includes assisted voluntary departures (IOM).
2. For **Netherlands**, the data on Refusals only includes refused aliens at the Schiphol Airport in Amsterdam. Aliens refused at other airports or harbours are not included in the data as these airports and ports do not use centralised systems. The definition used for Removals is as given in Council Regulation 862/2007 ("Migration Statistics Regulation").
3. For **Spain**, data on Refusals includes refusals of entry at the two Spanish cities located on the African continent: Ceuta and Melilla. Data on Apprehensions include: a) number of foreigners found to be illegally present on the territory, plus b) number of foreigners found whilst trying to cross illegally the external borders.

4. Data on Apprehensions are not recorded in **Ireland** and **United Kingdom**.
5. For **Ireland**, data on Removals refers to "Deportation Orders Effectuated", i.e. persons who have been refused refugee status and to persons whose removal would, in the opinion of the Minister, be conducive to the common good.
6. For **United Kingdom**, data are rounded to the nearest five. Removals and voluntary departures includes persons who departed voluntarily after notifying the UK Border Agency of their intention to leave prior to their departure and also those persons who left under Assisted Voluntary Return Programmes run by the IOM, as well as persons who it has been established left the UK without informing the immigration authorities.

5.1 Refusals

The geography of Member States seems to be a determining factor regarding the number of refusals. Generally, Member States that form Europe's external border have experienced an increase in the numbers of refusals (**Bulgaria, Spain, Portugal, Ireland, Estonia, Latvia**). However, this trend is incomplete as data from Cyprus and Malta are not available. For **Greece**, due to its proximity to **Bulgaria** and Romania and following their accession to the EU, there was a significant decrease in the number of refusals. In general, Member States bordering **Bulgaria** and Romania have observed a decrease in the number of refusals given. For **Italy**, for example, there is decrease in the number of refusals since 2005 as a result also of the previous enlargement.

The number of refusals by Member States in 2007 ranged from 644 989 for **Spain** to 752 for **Sweden**. **Poland** refused the second largest number of third-country nationals (32 188). A *increase* in the number of refusals, in some cases continuing a trend started in 2005, was observed for **Estonia, Finland, Ireland, Latvia** and **Spain**, in 2007, while a *decrease* was noted for **Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Italy, Lithuania, France, Germany, Greece, Netherlands, Poland, Slovak Republic, Slovenia** and **United Kingdom**.

A total of 5 636 refusals were recorded by **Austria** in 2007, representing a sharp decrease of -80.7% compared to 2006 (29 128). The reason for this decrease is largely attributed to **Bulgaria** and Romania's accession to the EU. These two Member States had the highest number of nationals (21 384 in total) refused in 2006. In 2007, the majority of nationals who were refused entry originated from Switzerland (1 061 or 18.8% of total), Serbia and Montenegro (884 or 15.7% of total) and Bosnia and Herzegovina (416 or 7.4% of total). With the exception of **Bulgaria** and Romania, the refusals of other nationals were relatively consistent from 2006 to 2007. Among the most important reasons for refusing entry are lack of valid travel documents and possible threat to public security.

Belgium had a significant decrease in the number of refusals from 1 868 in 2006 to 918 in 2007, representing a decrease of -51%. This significant decrease in number of refusals is again partly due to the accession of **Bulgaria** and Romania. The highest number of persons refused entry came from Morocco (108) and Turkey (80). In 2006, the nationality of those refused most often was **Bulgaria** (142) and Romania (192). A relatively high number of nationals from the Democratic Republic of Congo were also refused entry (111 in 2006 and 57 in 2007).

In **Bulgaria**, a total of 8 528 individuals were refused entry in 2007. The number has increased by +48% since 2006. By far the largest national group refused entry was from Turkey (3 829 or 45% of total number of refusals). Thereafter, most refusals were to nationals from the Balkan countries.

The number of third-country nationals refused entry into the **Czech Republic** has decreased steadily from 2005 to 2007. In 2000, there were 48 301 third-country nationals who were refused entry. By the year 2007 this number had dropped significantly to 1 168 persons. The highest annual decreases were recorded over the last three years: by -77% in 2005, by -45% in 2006 and by -62% in 2007, mainly due to accession in May 2004. Also, further EU enlargement in 2007 had an impact. Accession to Schengen in December 2007 has also had a significant impact on the number of refused third-country nationals. Nationals from Turkey (238), Ukraine (197) and Russia (101) were repeatedly recorded on the list of the most prominent nationals refused entry.

In **Estonia**, there is an increase in the number of refusals and this trend has continued from previous years. Compared to 2006 (2 669 persons), the number rose by +16% in 2007 to 3 091. The majority of refusals were issued at harbours (2 616 refusals) where visiting crew-members were refused entry. In 2005 and 2006, the highest numbers of persons refused were from India (1 739), the Philippines (349) and Russia (331).

The total number of persons refused entry to **Finland** in 2007 (1 424) was almost at the same level as for 2006, with nationals of Russia as the majority of those refused entry at the border. This correlates with the fact that the majority of refusals are made at border crossing points on the Finnish/Russian border. The main reasons for refusal of third-country nationals were insufficient valid documentation (visas and/or travel documents) and the belief that criminal activities could be the basis for their stay.

In **France**, the number of persons refused entry has continuously decreased since 1997. In 2007, 26 593 persons were refused entry with nationals of China accounting for the highest number of refusals (2 456 refusals, almost exclusively for non-admission grounds), followed by nationals of Morocco (1 865). There was also a significant increase in the number of refusals of nationals of Iraq (1 681) and of Brazil (1 610). Most noticeable is the significant reduction in the number of refusals of nationals of Romania who had most refusals in 2006, but who may now travel freely following accession to the EU.

The number of persons refused entry at border crossings in **Germany** has steadily decreased since 1997, from 52 257 persons in 2000 to 11 840 in 2007. Most persons who were refused entry in 2007 were nationals of Serbia and Montenegro (21.7% of all refusals), Turkey (11.8%) and Macedonia (7.6%). This decline, observed over several years, can be attributed to the continuing decrease in the number of asylum applicants. Other probable reasons are the accession of, among other Member States, **Poland** and **Czech Republic** to Schengen and the lifting of border control at internal borders; the improvement of border management by Germany's eastern neighbours; and the intensifying of control and monitoring by the Federal Police and by the police forces of neighbouring Member States.

In **Greece**, there was a significant decrease in 2007 compared to 2006 (-67.9%) in the number of persons refused entry, with a decrease from 10 729 in 2006 to 3 441 in 2007. The highest proportion of persons refused were from **Bulgaria** in 2006 (4 423 or 41.2% of all refusals), but in 2007, nationals of Albania constituted the largest proportion (829 or 24% of total).

The number of refusals increased by +13% from 2005 to 2006 (23 015) due to a new border monitoring system that reinforced control in **Hungary**. From 2006 to 2007, however, the numbers of refusals dropped by -51% to 11 198. This is again attributed to Romania's accession. The refusal of entry to nationals of Romania decreased significantly from 9 614 in 2006 to 1 889 in 2007, as a direct result of the latter's accession to the EU. The other main countries of origin for those refused entry in 2007 were Ukraine (3 440 or 28% of total) plus Serbia and Montenegro and Moldova.

In **Ireland**, 6 272 third-country nationals were refused entry in 2007. This represents a 6.6% increase on comparable figures for 2006 and continues the trend of increased refusals since 2005. Nationals of Brazil (1 808) form the largest number of third-country nationals refused entry and represent almost 30% of all refusals. Nationals of China, including nationals of Hong Kong (569), constituted the second largest group, accounting for 9%, with nationals of Nigeria (482) comprising the third largest group of nationals refused entries. In 2006 and 2007 refusal of nationals from Brazil (1 308 to 1 808), China (from 428 to 569) and Nigeria (from 402 to 482) all increased.

Regarding the number of refusals in **Italy**, after the critical phase from 1997 to 2002 (more than 30 000 refusals per year), the total number of refusals has gradually decreased to 20 000 in 2005 and to 9 394 in 2007. This trend is mainly due to visa exemption agreements regarding nationals from applicant Member States whose stay is shorter than three months. In total, 797 nationals of

Serbia-Montenegro were refused entry in 2007, followed by 504 nationals of Paraguay and Albania (499) and then Morocco (439) and Brazil (410).

In 2007, **Latvia** refused entry to 1 610 persons, an increase, compared to 2006 of +58%. The main reason for refusals was the lack of a valid visa or valid travel document. No prominent changes were observed between 2006 and 2007 with regard to the most prominent countries of origin of the refused individuals, with the largest number coming from Russia (701), Belarus (258), Kazakhstan (137) and Ukraine (118). The number of nationals of Kazakhstan refused almost tripled and doubled for nationals of Kirgizstan.

Since 2003, the number of third-country nationals refused entry into **Lithuania** has steadily decreased. Nationals of Russia (1 346 or 44% of total) constitute the largest group refused entry. This includes nationals of Russia transiting from Russia to Kaliningrad. Nationals of Belarus are the second largest group (707 or 23% of total). The most common reason for refused entry is the lack of a valid visa or residence permit (80% of total refusals), insufficient grounds for justifying their stay (5%), lack of valid travel documents (6%) or insufficient funds for a return trip home (5%).

Luxembourg's only Schengen external border is its airport and entry refusals are the competence of the border police at the airport.³⁴

In the **Netherlands**, 2 349 third-country nationals were refused entry in 2007.³⁵ The tendency since 2005 has been a decrease in the number of individuals refused entry. The decrease from 2006 to 2007 was -43%. There is no significant over-representation of one single nationality in the statistics on refusals, with the largest groups being nationals of Nigeria (230), Surinam (229) and Latin American countries. The number of nationals of Iraq refused entry dropped significantly from being the second highest in 2006 (348 refusals), to being counted in the 'other' category in 2007.

In **Poland** there were 32 188 refusals of entry in 2007. Compared to 2006, the number decreased by -20%. In 2005, 2006 and 2007 decisions on refusal of entry were mostly issued to nationals of Ukraine (15 334 in 2007), Belarus (9 630 in 2007) and Russia (4 410 in 2007). Refusals issued to nationals of these three countries (29 374 in total) constituted 91% of the total number of refusals for 2007. Refusals of nationals of Moldova (330) decreased by -70%, probably as a result of the EU

³⁴ The respective enforcement statistics were not available for the purpose of the 2007 National Report.

³⁵ The data stems from the information system PAS, used by the Royal Military Constabulary. This data only includes refused persons at the Schiphol Airport. It is estimated that 95% of all refused migrants are refused in Schiphol Airport.

accession of **Bulgaria** and Romania, which are geographically closer to Moldova than **Poland**. Apprehended nationals of Moldova increasingly used Romanian falsified or counterfeited passports or ID cards. In general, the number of non-Romanian nationals using Romanian travel documents to cross the borders of Poland has increased.

In 2007, 3 963 third-country nationals were refused entry into **Portugal**. This represented an increase of +10% when compared to 2006, in which 3 598 third-country nationals were refused entry. Nationals from South American nations – namely from Brazil and Venezuela – were, in both years, the greatest number of those refused entry. Refusals of entry to nationals from Bolivia fell by 78% compared to 2006, probably a result of the reintroduction of the measure in 2007 making it obligatory for nationals of Bolivia to have an entry visa for the European Union. The main reasons for refusing admission recorded in 2007 were, in descending order: insufficient reason for entry (25%); absence of a visa (24%) or holding an expired visa; falsified documents (21%); and a lack of means of subsistence (18%). The decline in number of refusals due to the absence of a visa or possession of an expired visa is a trend observed over the course of several years, but it was only in 2007 that this ceased to be the main reason for refusing entry. An increase of about 26% in detecting “the use of fake/falsified documents” (the number of cases rising from 670 to 844) could be due to the continuous improvement in equipment used to detect fraud. Of note is the fact that, with regard to refusal of entry due to fake/falsified documents, approximately 50% of the documents detected this year were from nationals of Venezuela.

In **Slovenia**, the number of persons refused entry decreased by 50% in 2007 compared to 2006. In 2007, the total number of third-country nationals refused entry was 11 770. By far the largest groups refused entry come from the Balkan countries. Nationals of Croatia constituted the largest single group (4 241) in 2007 and in 2006 (5 524). The largest decrease occurred for nationals of Serbia (40%) and Turkey (30%). The decrease for nationals of Serbia can be explained by the declared independence of Montenegro and the fact that statistical data regarding nationals of Serbia and Montenegro has now been separated.

For the **Slovak Republic**, entry was refused to 1 832 persons in 2007, which is a decrease of -38% in comparison to 2006. In the majority of cases, entry was refused because of the absence of a valid visa or residence permit (41%), absence of the documents required to justify the purpose and conditions of stay (25%) and lack of subsistence resources for the period and type of stay or resources for the return to the country of origin or transit (18%). The most numerous group refused

entry was constituted by nationals of Ukraine (1 394), Moldova (174) and India (59). There was a substantial decrease in the number of refusals to Turkish nationals (-89%).

In **Spain**, a total of 644 988 individuals were refused entry in 2007. Since 2004, the number of refusals has been almost constant. Virtually all the refusals (97%) were related to nationals of Morocco (624 961). The last remaining 3% are largely made up of South American nationals, mainly from Bolivia, Brazil and Paraguay.

The total number of refusals in **Sweden** were 752 in 2007 compared to 668 in 2006 (an increase of +13%). The largest groups refused entry in 2007 were nationals of Iraq (193), Serbia (117) and Eritrea (38). In 2006, the three largest groups were nationals of Serbia (105), Romania (102) and Iraq (45).

In 2007, 28 140 non-asylum passengers were initially refused leave to enter the **United Kingdom**. This was a fall of -6% from 2006 (29 945). The country of nationality with most refusals in 2007 was Brazil (4 930 or 18% of the total) and USA (2 205 or 8% of the total). Four of the main five countries showed reductions in numbers of refusals compared with the year before: Brazil (4 930), Nigeria (1 795), Malaysia (1 375) and South Africa (1 310). Nigeria (-360 or -20%) and Malaysia (-310 or 19%) had the biggest reductions; China (+30%) and Australia (+19%) had the largest increases.

5.2 Apprehensions

The number of persons apprehended in 2007 ranged from 112 364 in **Greece** to 248 in **Latvia**. Compared to 2006, an *increase* in the number of persons apprehended constituted a continuing trend since 2005 in **Bulgaria, Greece, France, Sweden and Lithuania**. **Sweden** and **Finland** stand out with strong increases in apprehensions related to the tightening of their national asylum policy and to their respective proximity to Russia. A continuous *decreasing* trend from 2005 occurred in **Belgium, Czech Republic, Slovak Republic, Poland, Slovenia and Estonia**. In **Austria, Portugal, Germany, Netherlands, Italy, Hungary, Latvia, Finland and Spain**, there was no clear trend from 2005 to 2007. Again the accessions of **Bulgaria** and Romania to the EU can, to a large extent, explain the general decreasing trend.

In 2007, 13 594 illegally-staying third-country nationals were apprehended in **Austria**. This number represents a decrease of -64.4% compared to 2006, when 38 162 apprehensions were recorded. The decline in apprehensions is mainly due to the exclusion of nationals of **Bulgaria** and Romania

(22 822 apprehension in 2006) in the statistics. The category "other nationalities" for apprehended persons remained similar to that of 2006: Serbia and Montenegro (2 064 or 15% of total) and Russia (1 860 or 14% of total), as well as other East-European countries, such as Moldova and Ukraine. The apprehension of nationals from Russia increased from 2006 to 2007 by +9.7%, whereas for all other nationalities it decreased.

Belgium apprehended fewer persons in 2007 (11 642) than in 2006 (15 670) and the number continues its decrease from 2005, when it was 18 400. The decrease from 2006 to 2007 is -26%. The principal figures for apprehension of illegally-staying third-country nationals were nationals of Morocco (1 690), Algeria (1 648) and India (1 186). They were also the most represented in 2004, 2005, and 2006, accounting for almost 40% of all apprehensions in 2007.

In **Bulgaria**, a total of 2 114 individuals were apprehended in 2007. The number increased by +71% from 2006, continuing a trend from 2005. The largest group of nationals apprehended were from Iraq (578), Moldova (326) and Turkey (225).

In the **Czech Republic**, the number of apprehended third-country nationals has steadily decreased since 2003. From 2006 to 2007 the decline was -32%. The most frequent nationalities apprehended were nationals from Ukraine (2 974), constituting over 58% of all apprehended third-country nationals in 2007. The number of apprehended nationals of Russia (164) has declined significantly in 2007. More nationals of Vietnam (360) and China (242) were apprehended than from Russia. Contrary to the general tendency, the number of nationals of China apprehended increased by +18% and the number of nationals of Mongolia increased by +52%.

In 2007, there were 1 464 illegally resident third-country nationals apprehended in **Estonia**. Compared to 2006 (2 069 apprehensions), the number decreased by almost 30%. The drop was partly due to increased migration control and a residence permit campaign in 2004 and 2005. In 2007, as well as in 2006, the greatest number was composed of those with unspecified nationality (883 in 2007), nationals of Russia (421 in 2007) and nationals of Ukraine (66 in 2007).

In **Finland**, the number of apprehended third-country nationals increased by almost 300 persons in 2007 compared to 2006 (+16% increase). An increasing number of nationals of Russia (from 76 to 363 representing an increase of +378% since 2006) were apprehended in 2007 compared to 2006. Nationals of Iraq (305) were also well represented in the statistics compared to other nationalities. In 2007, the group "Unknown" was the third largest on the list of apprehended third-country

nationals; it is formed by those asylum applicants whose applications are filed only once they are inside the country and whose travel route and nationality cannot be established due to the lack of documentation.

The number of persons apprehended in **France** has risen steadily since 1997. In 2007, the number was 69 879 representing a small increase of +4% from 2006.³⁶ Nationals of Iraq were the most prominent with 8 889 apprehensions - an increase of +122% between 2006 and 2007. Nationals of Eritrea (6 706) and Pakistan (5 342) were the second and third most prominent. The increasing apprehension of illegally-staying migrants was mainly carried out in the North of France (45.5% of the total for Metropolitan France), of which 83% in the Pas-de-Calais department, which is the favoured route for immigrants, heading for the **United Kingdom**.

In **Germany**, the number of persons apprehended has continuously declined since 1990. In 2007, apprehensions decreased again to a value significantly lower than the year before (19 454 in 2007 compared to 21 635). The decrease from 2006 to 2007 was -10%. The nationalities apprehended most often in 2007 were nationals from Turkey (2 167 or 11.1% of all apprehensions), Russia (1 661 or 8.5% of all apprehensions) and China (1 610 or 8.2% of all apprehensions).

The number of third-country nationals apprehended increased by +18% in **Greece** in 2007. In 2006, the number of third-country nationals apprehended was 95 239 and in 2007 the number reached 112 364. However, the number is still significantly lower than previously (in 1997 the number of apprehended persons was 199 500). This is attributed to regularisation programmes, which increased the number of residence permits issued, as well as the accession of **Bulgaria** and Romania to the EU. In 2007, nationals of Albania accounted for 60% (66 818) of all apprehensions with nationals of Afghanistan (11 611) and Iraq (12 549) accounting for 10.3% and 11.2% respectively.

In **Hungary**, 8 696 third-country nationals were apprehended in 2007 - representing a -13% decrease from the previous year, again primarily owing to the accession of **Bulgaria** and Romania.³⁷ The main country of origin of those apprehended was Ukraine (1 616 or 48% of total).

³⁶ The number of apprehensions in Metropolitan **France** should be analysed carefully, as it may conceal double counts (the same foreign national may be apprehended on several occasions).

³⁷ Moreover, there were differences between the data used before 2005 and after 2006. After 2006, the term 'third-country national illegally present' were redefined to include the numbers of third-country nationals illegally apprehended for some contravention of alien policy rules (such as overstayers, etc.). This broader definition included more people yielding the significantly bigger number.

Balkan nationalities were also represented among apprehensions (Serbia & Montenegro: 457; Bosnia Herzegovina: 189; Macedonia: 57), as well as nationals of China (196).

This was a strong decrease of apprehensions to a total of 54 140 apprehensions in **Italy**, although, in the years immediately preceding, pressure had remained significant, despite the fluctuations from year to year (over 90 000 apprehensions in the period 2000-2002 and again in 2006). Apprehensions of illegally resident third-country nationals in 2007 by the five main nationalities were Morocco (9 526 apprehensions), Albania (3 832), Egypt (3 366), China (3 356) and Senegal (3 094).

In 2007, 248 third-country nationals were apprehended in **Latvia**, a figure practically unchanged from 2006. In 2007, the main groups of apprehended third-country nationals were nationals of Moldova (67 or 27% of total), Russia (66 or 27% of total) and Ukraine (45 or 18% of total).

Contrary to the numbers of refusals, the number of persons apprehended in **Lithuania** has continuously increased since 2004. In 2007, the number was 1 327 individuals, mainly from Russia (374), Belarus (443) and Ukraine (127). In 2006, the number of those apprehended was 1 227.

In the **Netherlands**, the number of apprehensions dropped by 24% to 8 900 individuals. Those apprehended were predominantly nationals of China (933), Turkey (750), Morocco (690) and Iraq (549). It is worth noting that the apprehended nationalities are not the same as those refused entry, who come primarily from Latin America and Nigeria.

In 2007, the number of apprehensions in **Poland** also decreased. A total of 4 544 illegally staying third-country nationals were apprehended in 2007 - a -30% decrease since 2006. The overwhelming majority of those apprehended were nationals of Ukraine (2 278) and Belarus (382). In addition, 370 nationals of Vietnam and 365 of Russia were apprehended. The decrease in the number of apprehensions might have been an effect of various actions undertaken by the Polish Border Guard, introduced in previous years in order to improve control of the legality of foreign residents. Additionally, strengthened border control was part of the preparation for the accession to Schengen in December 2007.

Between 2006 and 2007, **Portugal** recorded a 6% decline in the total number of migrants detected to 22 111 in 2007. Brazil (12 591), Ukraine (1 420) and Cape Verde (1 242) are the three main

countries of origin of those apprehended in 2006 and 2007. This continuity is, in all likelihood, related to the fact that these nationalities constitute the largest migrant communities.

In **Slovenia**, 2 479 migrants were apprehended in 2007. A decrease of -43% compared to 2006, and continuing a trend from 2005. Generally, the apprehended persons came from the Balkans (most notably Serbia) or Turkey. The most significant decrease, in terms of number of persons apprehended, was accounted for by nationals of Croatia (from 266 to 119 or a decrease of 55%) and Albania (from 762 to 424 or a decrease of 44%).

A total of 6 110 migrants were apprehended in the **Slovak Republic**, which is a fall of -20% compared to 2006. The strengthening of personnel capacity at borders, as well as the material and technical facilities has made the illegal entry of third-country nationals much harder. No substantial changes occurred in the nationality composition of apprehended migrants, being dominated by nationals from Ukraine (1 213), Moldova (1 157), Pakistan (990), plus other nationalities (2 750).

In 2007, 72 559 immigrants were apprehended in **Spain**. In relation to 2006, this was a decrease of -25%. However, the figures have, within the last four years, pointed towards an increase. Nationals of Morocco continue to be the largest group of nationals apprehended (18 204 or 26% of the total) followed by Latin America, as well as North/West Africa (including Senegal and Gambia).

In **Sweden**, the total number of persons apprehended in 2007 was 32 851 compared to 20 926 in 2006 and 14 528 in 2005. This is equivalent to a 57% increase from 2006 to 2007. The largest groups in 2007 were nationals of Iraq (16 861), Somalia (3 298) and Serbia (2 321). In 2006, nationals of Iraq (8 189), Serbia (1 812) and Somalia (1 031) were the three largest groups apprehended.

5.3 Removals

The number of removals by Member States in 2007 ranged from 68 191 in **Greece** to 89 in **Estonia**. An *increasing* trend since 2005 in the number of removals can be observed in **Greece, Hungary, Netherlands, Poland, Slovenia** and **Slovak Republic**. A *decreasing* trend can be observed from 2005 to 2007 in **Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Portugal** and **Sweden**. The trend is unclear in the case of **Bulgaria, Estonia, France, Latvia, Spain** and **United Kingdom**. The general trend is towards a decrease in the number of removals from the EU. Particularly, the accession of **Bulgaria** and Romania in 2007 decreased the number of removals significantly from the EU.

The number of removals from **Austria** decreased in 2007. In 2006, 4 904 migrants were removed compared to 3 267 in 2007, reflecting a decrease of -33.4%. In 2007, most of the removed migrants were from Serbia and Montenegro (716 or 22% of total), followed by Ukraine (353 or 11% of total). From 2006 to 2007, removals of nationals of Serbia and Montenegro increased by +14.9% and of Iraqi nationals by +54%. However, removals for most other nationalities decreased.

Trends in the number of removals from **Belgium** have shown a steady decrease from 2005 to 2007. In terms of nationalities, these were mainly nationals of Brazil (1 371 or 28% of total), followed by nationals of Ukraine (307%) and Russia (303%). In 2006, nationals of Brazil were the nationality group most often removed together with nationals of **Bulgaria** and Romania, but the latter two are excluded in 2007, since they are now EU nationals.

In **Bulgaria**, a total of 2 263 individuals were removed in 2007. The number has increased by 51% since 2006. The largest national groups removed were nationals of Iraq (550), Turkey (334) and Moldova (327).

In the **Czech Republic**, the number of removed third-country nationals reached its maximum in 2001 (6 375 persons). Since then, it has dropped by -92% to 526 persons in 2007. The most substantial decline was recorded in 2007, when it dropped by -57%. Nationals of Ukraine form the largest group of removed third-country nationals in 2007 (248 persons). Almost 70% of all removals were of nationals from the former Soviet Bloc.

In **Estonia**, the number of removals has remained roughly the same from 2006 (91) to 2007 (89). From 2004, however, the trend has been a slight decrease. The majority of removals were for nationals of Russia (36), Ukraine (11), those with unknown nationality (9) and Moldova (9).

In **Finland**, the number of removals decreased by over -20% compared to 2006 to 1 155 in 2007. Nationals of Russia (318 or 28% of total) form by far the largest single group, whereas the second largest group is nationals of Iraq (71 or 6% of total). The reasons for their removal range from overstaying their visas or otherwise found illegally present without a valid residence permit. Nationals of **Estonia**, whilst nationals of the EU were also notable, as they are removed because of criminal offences or because they are Estonian “non-nationals” of Russian origin issued with a Estonian Aliens passport, which oblige them to apply for a residence permit to stay in Finland.

In 2007, there were 23 196 removals from Metropolitan **France**,³⁸ continuing an increase since 1997. In 2007, nationals of Algeria were the largest group removed (3 194) followed by other nationals from the *Maghreb* and Turkey, all together representing a large share of the total number (around 40%). Nationals of Romania (2 295) were the third nationality most often removed in 2007.

In **Germany**, the number of removals declined steadily between 2000 and 2007. The total number in 2007 (9 617 persons) represents only 27% of the number in 2000 (35 444 persons) and a drop of -38% compared to 2006. The main nationality of those persons removed were from Turkey (1 388 or 14.4% of all removals), Serbia and Montenegro (1 299 or 13.5%) and Vietnam (745 or 7.7% of all removals). Compared to 2006, the number of nationals of Armenia removed increased, contrary to the general trend. While it is impossible to establish clear causal links between legal, political and international developments and the decrease of the number of persons removed, one probable reason is the general decline of migration to Germany. Other likely factors are the enlargement of the European Union, which resulted in nationals of the eastern neighbouring countries of Germany enjoying free movement, improvements in the management of borders and the implementation of new control mechanisms.

Due to the regularisation programmes launched in **Greece** and the increase in the number of residence permits issued, the number of removals has decreased over the years since 1999.³⁹ However, from 2004 (39 842) to 2007 (68 191) the numbers began increasing again. From 2006 to 2007 the increase was +25%. Nationals of Albania accounted for the largest proportion of removals (65 201 or 96% of total removals). In **Greece**, amendments were made to *Law 3386/2005*, the result of which was a decrease in the arrests and forced return of illegally-staying migrants and a decrease in the volume of illegal immigration. Moreover, more residence and work permits were issued as a consequence of the amendment.

³⁸ There are five types of measures for removal from French territory: 1) The Police Order for Escort to the Frontier (APRF) principally penalises illegal residence; 2) The expulsion order is aimed at removing foreign nationals from French territory whose behaviour is likely pose a serious threat to public order; 3) The Obligation to Leave French Territory (OQTF) applies to foreign nationals whose issue or renewal of a residence permit has been refused, or whose permit has been withdrawn; 4) Some foreign nationals, who are the subject of a Police Order for Escort to the Frontier (APRF) or an Obligation to Leave French Territory (OQTF), may benefit from assisted voluntary return or assisted humanitarian return; 5) Readmissions.

³⁹ According to Eurostat the number of removed third nationals was 68 191 in 2007. According to data provided by the Greek Police Authorities, the number of removed migrants was 17 077 in the same year.

In **Hungary**, the number of removals was 880 in 2007. The tendency, since 2004, is towards an increase in number and from 2006 to 2007 the increase was +19%.⁴⁰ In 2007, the main countries of origin of those removed were nationals of Ukraine (377 or 43% of total), Serbia (179 or 20% of total) and Moldova (103 or 12% of total).

Ireland experienced a notable decrease of -53% in the number of Deportation Orders effected during 2007 in comparison to 2006. Nationals of China (from 37 to 42), Nigeria (from 80 to 34) and Moldova (from 20 to 12) were the main groups removed during 2006 and 2007, with nationals of China showing an increase of +13.5% during 2007. There was a decrease in the number of nationals of Nigeria (from 80 to 34) and Moldova (from 20 to 12) removed during 2007 at 57.5% and 40.0% respectively.

In 2007 there was a total of 8 771 removals in **Italy**, a figure which is very close to the numbers recorded in 1998 (8 394). In the elapsed years, however, the amount of removals has experienced a rapid growth until 2002, when almost 33 000 cases occurred; subsequently the trend has gradually fallen over the next few years (2003-2005), until the number of removals was drastically halved between 2006 (over 16 000) and 2007 (8 771). The main nationalities of those removed in 2007 were from Albania (1 940), Egypt (1 217), Morocco (1 201), Ukraine (491) and Tunisia (480).

In 2007, 157 persons were removed from **Latvia**, which is 13% more than in 2006. However, from 2003 (366) the trend has been decreasing. The main reasons for removals are violations to the term of residence provided in the visa, use of forged travel documents or untrue information, illegal border crossing, or residing without a valid visa or residence permit. The main groups of removed nationals remained unchanged in 2007 compared to 2006, being nationals of Moldova (52 or 33% of total), Russia (36 or 23% of total) and Ukraine (21 or 13% of total). In 2007, 81 third-country nationals decided to leave the country voluntarily.

In 2007, 1 045 third-country nationals were removed ('expelled' and 'obliged to depart') from **Lithuania**. This represents a 10% decrease compared to 2006. The main groups of those removed were nationals of Russia (240), Belorussia (176) and Ukraine (154).

⁴⁰ Data provided by Eurostat was modified by the Hungarian Police Headquarters. These data contain only the number of removals by air and by land implemented by the Police Headquarters. The data do not contain the number of refusals, return, obligation to leave the territory of **Hungary**, expulsion, ban of entry and stay and voluntary return.

In 2007, slightly more rejected asylum applicants chose to return to their country of origin voluntarily than those who were subject to forced return in **Luxembourg** (77 in 2007 vis-à-vis 69 in 2006). The number of persons in detention awaiting their removal dropped about 22% from 308 individuals in 2006 to 244 in 2007.⁴¹ Compared to 2006 year, the total number of persons returned in 2007 decreased by -35.5% from 349 to 225 individuals. The disaggregation by nationality shows that, in 2007, the main countries of nationality of returned rejected asylum-seekers were Kosovo (40), Montenegro (33), Bosnia and Herzegovina (20), Nigeria (8) and Russia (7) and those of returned migrants illegally staying in the territory were nationals of **France** (28), **Germany** (6), Cape Verde (6), **Belgium** (5), **Portugal** (4) and Montenegro (4).

In **Netherlands**, the number of removals has increased slightly from 2005 to 13 028. From 2006, the increase was +2%. Nationals of Turkey account for 20% of all those removed (2 614). Together with nationals of Morocco (695) and Nigeria (510), nationals of Turkey were also prominent in the removals of 2007.

In 2007, 9 097 removal orders were issued in **Poland**. There was no significant change in relation to 2006, however, both 2006 and 2007 have seen a marked increase in the number of removals. The main nationalities subject to removal were from Ukraine (6 859 or 75% of total), plus nationals from Belarus (590), Russia (356), Armenia (273) and Moldova (256).

There were 12% fewer removals in 2007 compared to the previous year in **Portugal**. In total, 946 third-country nationals were removed in 2007. The relative size of the most predominant nationalities (Brazil, Ukraine, Cape Verde, Angola and Venezuela) remains unchanged. In 2007, as in 2006, more than 50% of the individuals removed were nationals from Brazil (513) and the Ukraine (91).

There were 2 064 removals from **Slovenia** in 2007, the trend in removals following the general picture for illegal migration. From 2007 to 2006, there was an overall decrease of removals of -35%, following a small rise from 2005 to 2006. The most significant decrease was of nationals of Romania (87.2%), again after accession. Also removals of nationals of Romania decreased from 149 to 19 (a decrease of 87%), as well as removals of nationals of Albania from 760 to 376 (decrease of 51%).

⁴¹ Information on the countries of citizenship of these persons is not available. Likewise, no information on otherwise apprehended illegally resident non-nationals can be provided according to the 2007 National Report.

In 2007, a total of 3 087 third-country nationals were removed from the **Slovak Republic**, which is an increase of +13% compared to 2006. The most numerous group of third-country nationals removed were nationals of Ukraine (1 431), followed by nationals of Moldova (604), Pakistan (256) and India (182). The number of removals of nationals of Pakistan has increased significantly from 2006 (not in the statistics) to 2007 (256).

The number of removals in **Spain** was 25 443 in 2007, and has remained stable at around 25 000 per year since 1998. However, in 2006 an exceptionally high number of removals occurred (33 235). From 2006, the decrease was thus -23% with nationals of Morocco (13 820), Senegal (2 820) and Algeria (1 618) the three most numerous removed in 2007. Different nationalities of Latin America (Brazil, Bolivia, Colombia and Ecuador) were also among the ten most common nationalities in relation to removals.

In **Sweden**, the total number of removals was 3 011 in 2007, compared to 3 793 in 2006 (a decrease of -21%). The largest groups in 2007 were nationals of Serbia (286), Russia (225) and Bolivia (221). The decreasing number of removals reflects the fact that the number of persons in the removal phase was comparably few due to the *Temporary Law* (see [Section 3.1.3](#)), providing permits to rejected asylum applicants.

The number of persons who were removed or departed voluntarily from the **United Kingdom** in 2007 was 63 365, a decrease of -1% on 2006 (63 865). Within the total number of persons removed or departing voluntarily in 2007, 13 705 persons (including dependants) had sought asylum at some stage as principal applicants, 25% less than in 2006 (18 280). There were 21 180 forced removals and notified voluntary departures in 2007, similar to that in 2006 (21 320). In 2007, 4 155 persons left under Assisted Voluntary Return Programmes run by the IOM, 33% less than in 2006 (6 200). With 11% of all removals and voluntary departures, nationals of Brazil account for the highest number of removals and voluntary departures (6 725). This was followed by India (3 965), Pakistan (3 895) and Nigeria (3 500). The greatest percentage increases from the previous year were among nationalities of Afghanistan (up 29%) and India (27%), followed by the United States of America (13%). In contrast, the number of removals of nationals of Iraq fell by 32% and nationals of Turkey by 19%. Most cases of removals were for non-asylum applicants.

ANNEX - LIST OF COUNTRIES BY GROUPS

The country groups ACP, ENP, EU-PCP referred to in [Section 3.1](#) contain the following countries:

ACP (African, Caribbean and Pacific group of countries)

Angola	Antigua and Barbuda	Bahamas
Barbados	Belize	Benin
Botswana	Burkina Faso	Burundi
Cameroon	Cape Verde	Central African Republic
Chad	Comoros	Cook Islands
Côte d'Ivoire	Cuba	Democratic Republic of the Congo
Djibouti	Dominica	Dominican Republic
Equatorial Guinea	Eritrea	Ethiopia
Federated States of Micronesia	Fiji	Gabon
Gambia	Ghana	Grenada
Guinea	Guinea-Bissau	Guyana
Haiti	Jamaica	Kenya
Kiribati	Lesotho	Liberia
Madagascar	Malawi	Mali
Marshall Islands	Mauritania	Mauritius
Mozambique	Namibia	Nauru
Niger	Nigeria	Niue
Palau	Papua New Guinea	Republic of the Congo
Rwanda	Saint Kitts and Nevis	Saint Lucia
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	Samoa	São Tomé and Príncipe
Senegal	Seychelles	Sierra Leone
Solomon Islands	Somalia	South Africa
Sudan	Suriname	Swaziland
Tanzania	Timor-Leste	Togo
Tonga	Trinidad and Tobago	Tuvalu
Uganda	Vanuatu	Zambia
Zimbabwe		

ENP (European Neighbourhood Policy countries)

Algeria	Armenia	Azerbaijan
Belarus	Egypt	Georgia
Israel	Jordan	Lebanon

Libya	Moldova	Morocco
Occupied Palestinian Territory	Syria	Tunisia
Ukraine		

EU-CPC (EU Candidate and Potential Candidate countries)

Albania	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Croatia
Kosovo (UN administered)	Macedonia (FYROM)	Montenegro
Serbia	Turkey	