

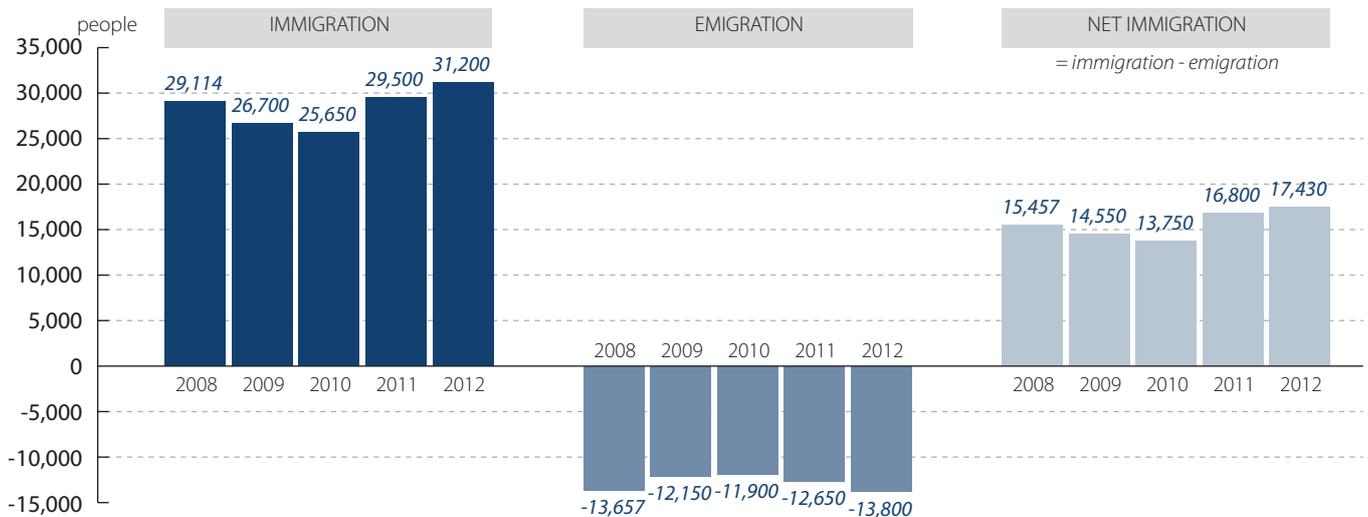


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Immigration and emigration both grew in 2012

Migration in 2008–2012



Source: Statistics Finland

According to figures issued by Statistics Finland, 31,280 people moved to Finland in 2012. This is 1,800 more than in the previous year and the highest figure since Finland gained its independence in 1917. The number leaving Finland also increased slightly, to stand at 13,850. In 2012, net immigration totalled 17,430 people, representing an increase of 610 over the year before. The net immigration of foreign nationals grew by 2,030.

In 2012, the number of people moving from other EU countries totalled 16,340. Immigration from other EU countries increased by 1,420 people on the previous year. The number of people moving to other EU countries grew by 290, taking the total to 8,710. In 2012, Finland saw a net migration gain of 7,630 people from other EU countries. This was a significant increase on the previous year.

In 2012, a total of 3,129 people sought asylum in Finland, which was slightly more than in 2011 (3,088). In 2010, the number was 4,018. The number of unaccompanied minors seeking asylum totalled 167, which was more or less the same as the year before (2011: 150, 2010: 329).

In 2012, the Finnish Immigration Service accepted more asylum applications than ever before. The Asylum Unit granted a total of 1,601 residence permits, accounting for 42% of all asylum decisions. For 2011, the figure was 1,271 residence permits, representing 36% of all decisions.

Did you know?

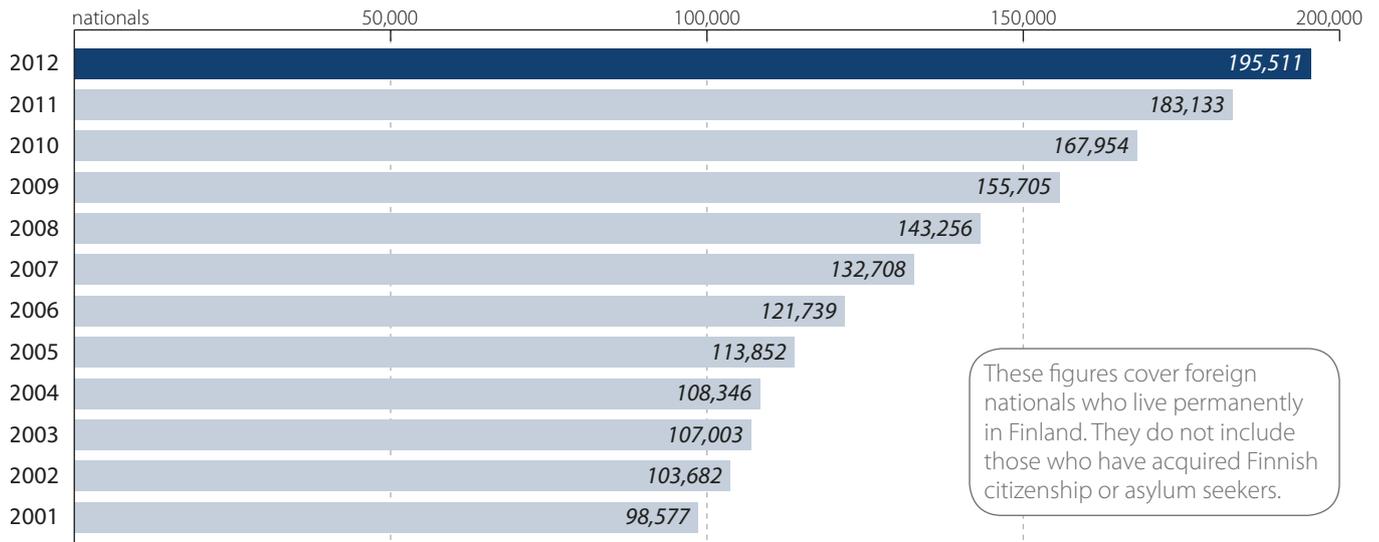
Foreign nationals account for 3.6% of the population.

Most of the people born abroad were born in Europe (64%).

Foreign-language speakers make up 4.9% of the population.

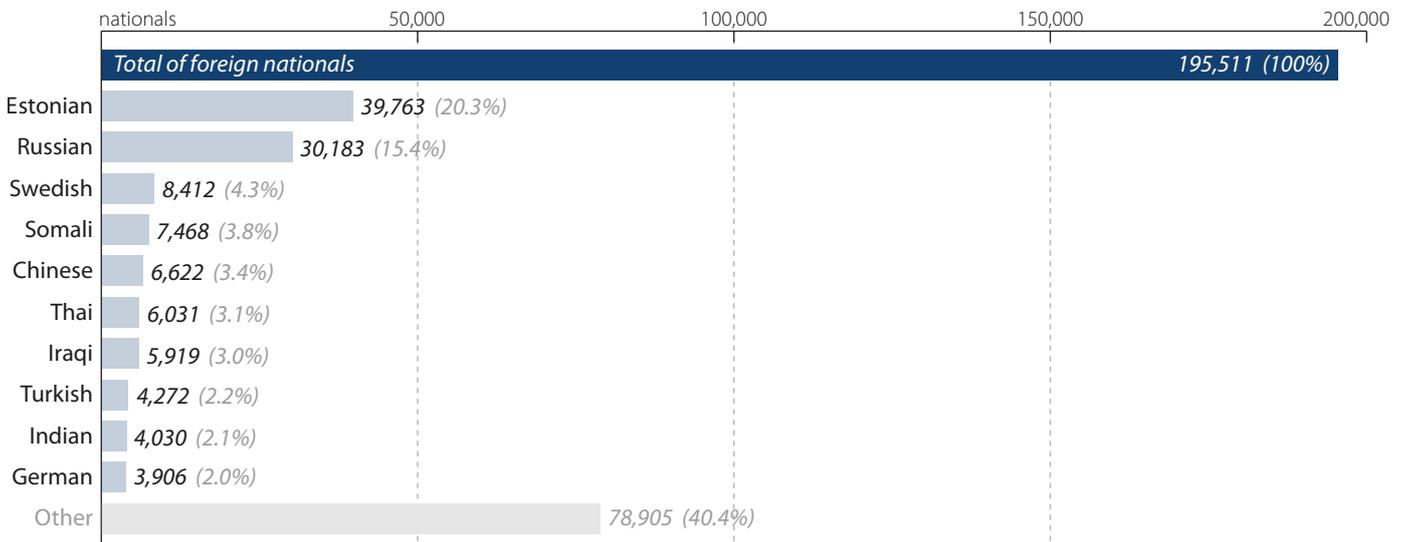
Population and foreign nationals

Number of foreign nationals in 2001–2012



Source: Statistics Finland

Largest groups by citizenship in 2012 (number of foreign nationals and their proportion)



Source: Statistics Finland

Largest groups of people with dual nationality

At the end of 2012, the number of people holding both Finnish and some other nationality totalled 69,529. The largest groups of people with dual nationality are Russian (19,441), Swedish (6,005), US (3,443), Estonian (2,873), Iranian (2,823) and Vietnamese (2,587) citizens. In statistics, these people are classified as Finnish citizens. When foreigners living in Finland have multiple nationalities, they are considered for statistical purposes to be citizens of the country that issued the passport they used to enter Finland.

Did you know?

There are 69,529 people living in Finland who hold dual nationality.

Population by native language

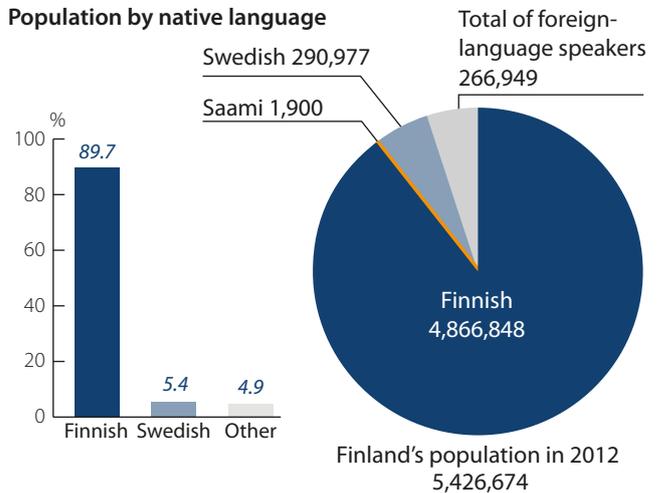
Over a quarter of a million foreign-language speakers in Finland — more than 60,000 of them Russian speakers

By the end of 2012, foreign-language speakers accounted for 4.9% of the population. Those speaking Russian as their native language formed the largest group (62,554 people).

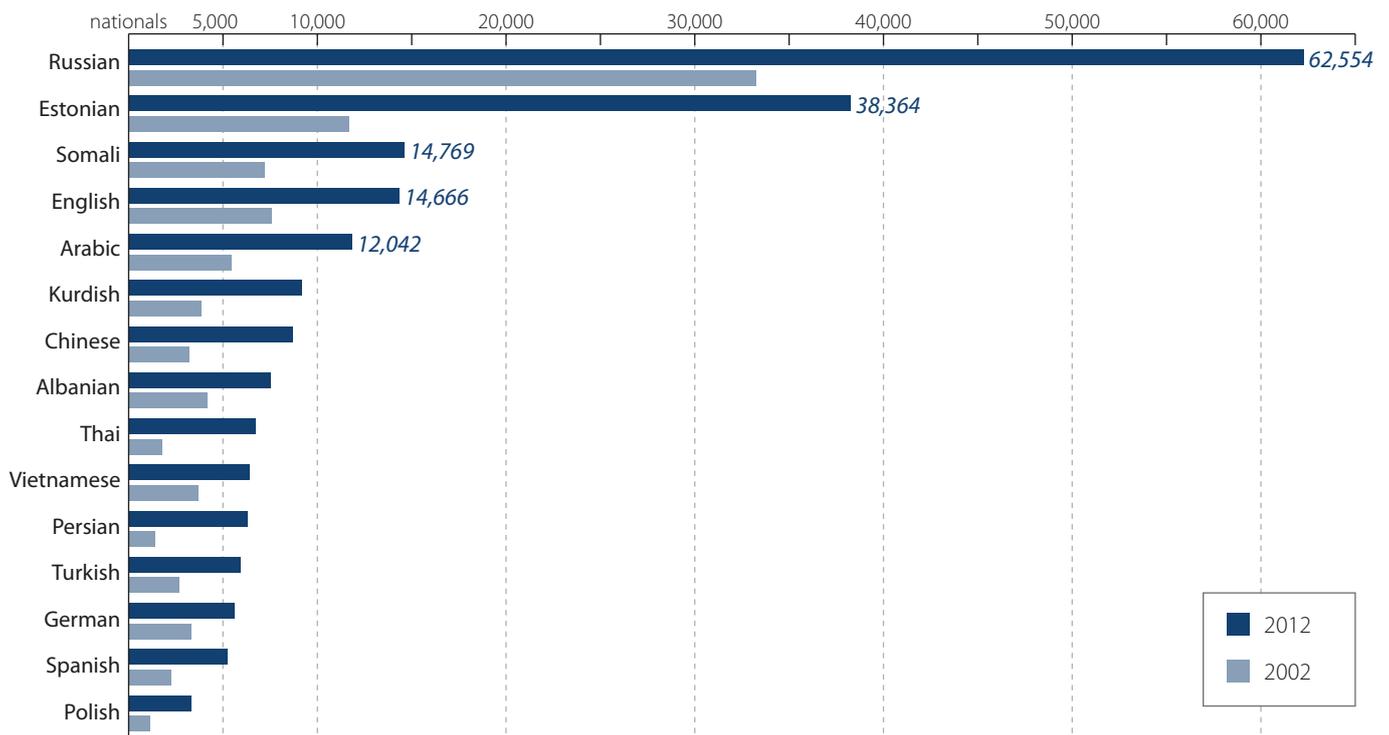
Foreign-language speakers make up 11.8% of people living in the Helsinki capital region

The proportion of foreign-language speakers by region was highest in Uusimaa (9.3%), the Åland Islands (6.1%) and Southwest Finland (5.1%). The percentage, on the other hand, was lowest in South Ostrobothnia (1.6%) and North Ostrobothnia (1.9%). Foreign-language speakers made up 11.8% of people living in the Helsinki capital region.

Population by native language



Largest groups by foreign language in 2002 and 2012



Source: Statistics Finland

Population by native language

(total population 5,426,674 on 31 December 2012)

Finnish citizens 5,231,163

Born in Finland 5,122,578		Born abroad 108,585	
Native language		Native language	
Finnish 4,817,984		Finnish 41,157	
Swedish 278,783	Other 23,978	Swedish 7,268	Other 60,112
Saami 1,833		Saami 48	
Total 5,098,600		Total 48,473	

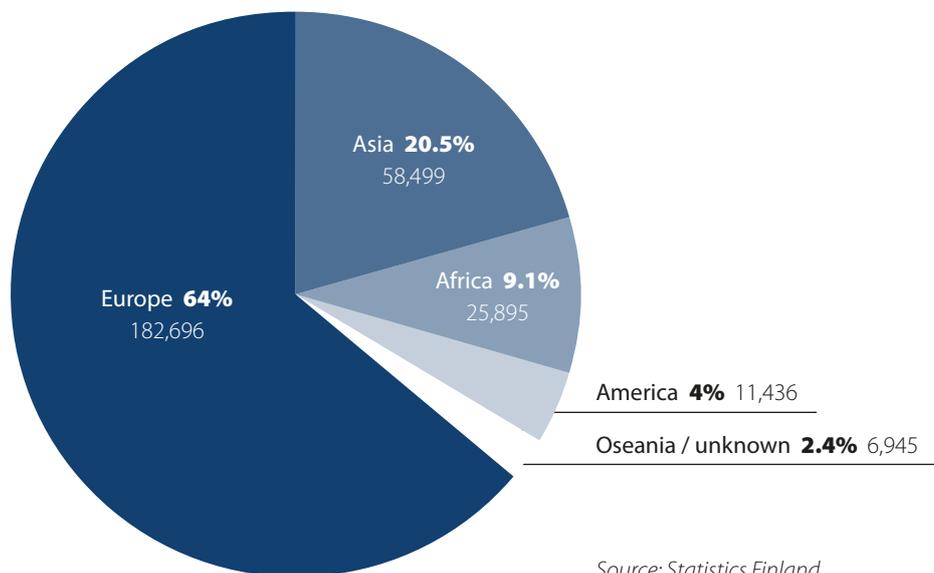
Foreign nationals 195,511

Born in Finland 18,625		Born abroad 176,886	
Native language		Native language	
Finnish 4,628		Finnish 3,079	
Swedish 1,401	Other 12,593	Swedish 3,525	Other 170,266
Saami 3		Saami 16	
Total 6,032		Total 6,620	

Population by country of birth

At the end of 2012, there were 285,471 foreign-born people living in Finland. 38% of them were Finnish citizens born abroad and 62% foreign nationals.

Foreign-born people by continent of birth, 2012



Source: Statistics Finland

Largest groups by country of birth

Country of birth	people
Finland	5,141,203
Total of foreign-born people	285,471

Largest groups

Former Soviet Union	52,339
Estonia	34,984
Sweden	31,601
Russia	10,020
Somalia	9,079
Iraq	8,404
China	8,272
Thailand	8,050
Former Yugoslavia	6,515
Germany	6,219
Other	109,988

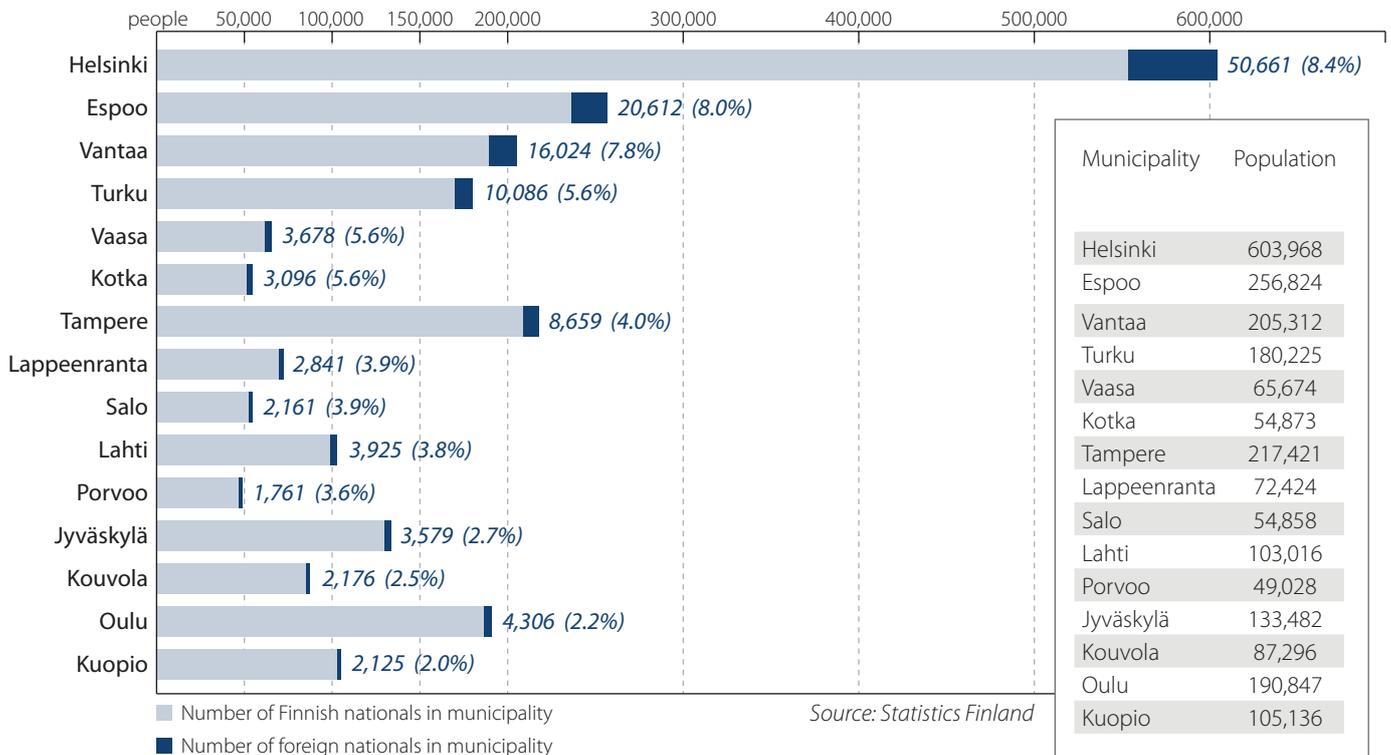
born abroad
5.3%
285,471



Source: Statistics Finland

Number of foreign nationals in Finland by region in 2012

Number of foreign nationals in Finland by region in 2012



Ethnic entrepreneurship in European cities

In 2012, Eurofound published a comparative overview report on ethnic entrepreneurship, drawing together the findings from 28 city case study reports. The study revealed that political decision-makers focus strongly on paid employment as the way to integrate immigrants into the labour market. However, many cities do not take account of support for ethnic entrepreneurship in their policies on immigrant integration.

In Copenhagen, Frankfurt and Zurich, ethnic entrepreneurs represent about 20% of all local businesses. In Amsterdam, Strasbourg and Vienna, the proportion of ethnic businesses is over 35%. In Frankfurt, more than half of all business start-ups are ethnic entrepreneurs. One fifth of all ethnic businesses in Ireland operate in the high-tech ICT sector.

According to the report, local authorities in numerous cities actively promote measures that support entrepreneurship in general and ethnic entrepreneurship in particular. Such measures include: deregulation, urban planning, and involving and empowering ethnic business associations.

The study by Eurofound was conducted within the framework of the Cities for Local Integration Policies for Migrants (CLIP) project. Helsinki was commended for the wide range of cost-effective services targeted at immigrants.

Further information

Promoting ethnic entrepreneurship in European cities (*report*), www.eurofound.europa.eu

Maahanmuuttajien yrittäjyys Suomessa (*Doctoral dissertation on immigrant entrepreneurship in Finland*), 2012, Tuula Joronen



There are over 9,000 immigrant entrepreneurs in Finland, of whom 43% work in Helsinki and the capital region. This percentage includes foreign-language speakers, i.e. those whose native language is other than Finnish, Swedish or Saami.

Residence permits issued by the Finnish Immigration Service in 2012

First residence permits issued

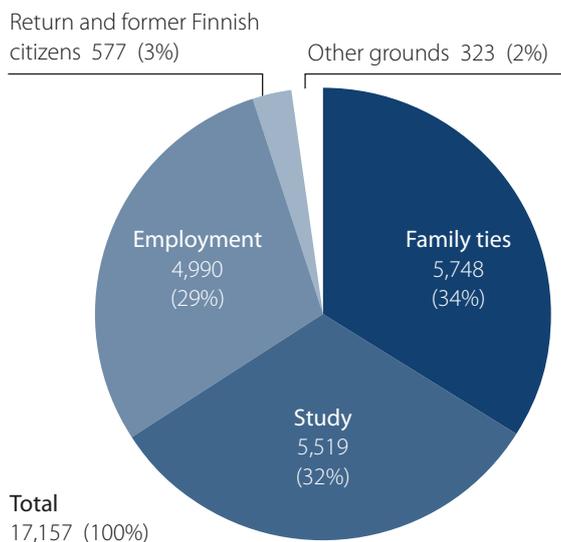
In 2012, the Finnish Immigration Service made a total of 22,620 decisions to either grant or refuse a first residence permit. Of all the applications, 17,157 (76%) were accepted and 5,463 (24%) refused.

The following pie chart gives a breakdown on the basis of first residence permits that the Finnish Immigration Service issued to immigrants coming from outside the EU, the EEA and Switzerland in 2012. The figures do not include residence permits issued by the police.

Who are not included in the residence permit statistics?

Citizens of Nordic countries do not need a residence permit in other Nordic countries. Likewise, citizens of other EU/EEA countries or Switzerland do not need a residence permit, but they must register their right of residence. Statistics are collected separately for asylum seekers.

First residence permits issued in 2012 by grounds



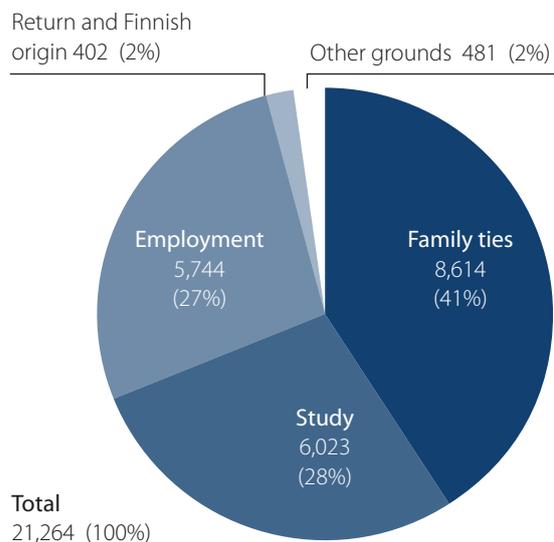
Residence permit applications submitted

In 2012, a total of 21,264 people applied for a residence permit in Finland. This was around 11% fewer than in the previous year (2011: 23,664).

The most common reason for applications was family ties, although the total number submitted on these grounds dropped by 19%. In fact, only the number of applications submitted on the grounds of family ties by beneficiaries of international protection has fallen — a drop of 69% from the year before. For the first time, 'study' was the second most common reason for applying, ahead of 'work'. Only the number of applications for residence permits for studying rose (+4%). The number of applications submitted on the grounds of work fell by about 10% from the year before.

More citizens of Russia (4,731), China (1,566) and India (1,179) applied for residence permits in Finland than those of any other countries. The biggest change in the groups of applicants was the reduction in the number of Somalis. Citizens of Somalia apply for residence permits almost entirely on the basis of family ties; the drop in the number of applications lodged by Somalis therefore meant a reduction in the total number of applications made on that basis.

Residence permit applications submitted in 2012 by grounds



Did you know?

Of those granted permits, about 750 qualified as experts. A total of 220 applicants were granted permits for sports or coaching purposes.

E-services reduced processing times for applications

E-services for foreign students applying for their first residence permits were introduced at the beginning of 2012. About a third of those applying for residence permits for studying submitted their applications online, which reduced processing times by almost half. In October 2012, e-services were extended to include residence permit applications lodged on the basis of work, citizenship applications, and registration of EU citizens' right of residence, this last being handled by the police.

Number of people granted Finnish citizenship

Finnish citizenship may be acquired by application or by declaration. In 2012, Finnish citizenship was granted to a total of 9,518 people. The number of applications increased by over 39% on the previous year (2012: 7,865, 2011: 5,632). The increase in the number of applicants is mainly due to the amendments to the Nationality Act that came into force on 1 September 2011. With the amendments, the period of residence required for acquiring Finnish citizenship was shortened from six to five years.

Since the amendments became effective, the number of declarations has increased. All former Finnish citizens are now able to regain their citizenship by declaration irrespective of their place of residence. In 2012, a total of 889 declarations were made to acquire Finnish citizenship (2011: 706).

Largest groups of applicants for Finnish citizenship in 2011 and 2012

Groups of applicants	2011	2012	Change %
Russian Federation	1,790	2,111	+17.9
Somalia	339	645	+90.3
Iraq	265	528	+99.2
Estonia	359	427	+18.9
Afghanistan	300	374	+24.7
Iran	177	287	+62.1
Turkey	180	261	+45.0
Sudan	114	199	+74.6
Democratic Republic of the Congo	46	153	+232.6
Kosovo	68	150	+120.6

Compared with 2011, Sudanese, Congolese and Kosovans entered the top ten applicant nationalities. The increase in the number of Sudanese and Congolese applicants is probably explained by the fact that nationals of these countries were admitted to Finland under the refugee quota in the 2000s.

Number of applicants who received a decision on their citizenship application in 2011 and 2012

The table below shows a distribution of decisions to grant or refuse Finnish citizenship.

2011	Granted	Refused
By application	4,153	231
By declaration	641	16
Total	4,794	247

2012	Granted	Refused
By application	8,596	737
By declaration	922	31
Total	9,518	768

Did you know?

In 2012, Finnish citizenship was granted to 9,518 people

Asylum seekers and refugees

In 2012, an estimated 479,300 people sought asylum in industrialised countries — up 8% from 441,300 in 2011. In 2010, the figure was 368,000. The figure for 2012 is the second highest in the last ten years; in 2003, the number of asylum seekers hit a record high of 505,000. In the industrialised world, the United States, Germany, France, Sweden and the United Kingdom were the largest recipients of new asylum claims.

The number of asylum seekers continued to rise in the 38 countries of Europe. In 2012, the number of asylum seekers stood at 355,500 — up 8% from 327,600 in 2011. Across Europe as a whole, the numbers of applicants rose the most in the Nordic countries (+38%); these five received a total of 62,900 applications.

A total of 3,129 people sought asylum in Finland in 2012 compared with 3,088 in 2011. Sweden received 43,900 asylum seekers, accounting for 70% of applicants in all Nordic countries. The corresponding figure for Norway was about 9,800, and for Denmark about 6,200.

In 2012, Finland granted residence permits to 1,601 asylum seekers on various grounds. Asylum was granted to a total of 553 people (2011: 169 asylum decisions).

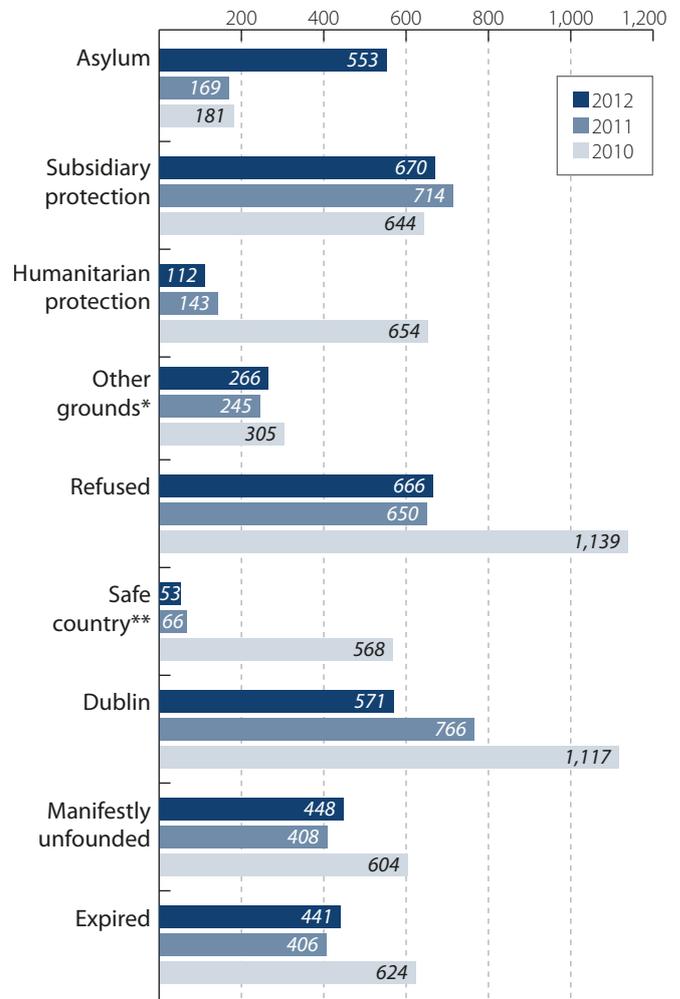
Top 10 source countries of asylum seekers in 2012

1. Iraq	837
2. Russia	226
3. Afghanistan	213
4. Somalia	203
5. Syria	183
6. Iran	129
7. Nigeria	99
8. Bosnia and Herzegovina	91
9. Serbia	86
10. Kosovo	82

(Total of 3,129 of 94 nationalities)

Source: Finnish Immigration Service

Asylum decisions in 2010–2012



* Residence permits granted on other grounds include permits granted on the basis of family ties or on other compassionate grounds.

** The category of 'safe country' comprises safe countries of asylum and origin.

Source: Finnish Immigration Service

TERMS

An asylum seeker is a person who applies for protection and the right of residence in a foreign country. Asylum seekers who are granted asylum are given refugee status. International protection means refugee status, subsidiary protection status, or a residence permit granted on the basis of humanitarian protection. During the asylum procedure, it is also established whether there are any other grounds for issuing a residence permit.

Under the refugee quota, Finland admits for resettlement people considered refugees by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), or other foreigners in need of international protection. The Finnish Parliament sets an annual refugee quota when the budget is approved, and the Government decides on the allocation of the quota. In recent years, this quota has been 750.

NORDIC COUNTRIES

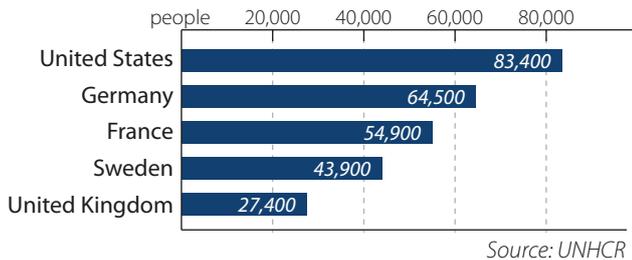
Numbers of asylum seekers in the Nordic countries in 2011–2012

	All asylum seekers 2011	All asylum seekers 2012
SWEDEN	29,648	43,887
unaccompanied minors	2,657	3,578
NORWAY	9,053	9,785
unaccompanied minors	858	964
DENMARK	3,811	6,184
unaccompanied minors	284	355
FINLAND	3,088	3,129
unaccompanied minors	150	167

WORLDWIDE

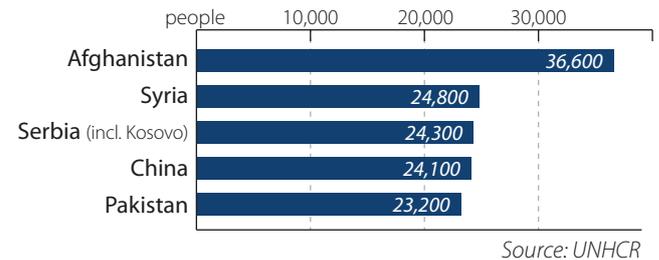
Top receiving countries 2012

- more than half (57%) of all asylum claims lodged in industrialised countries

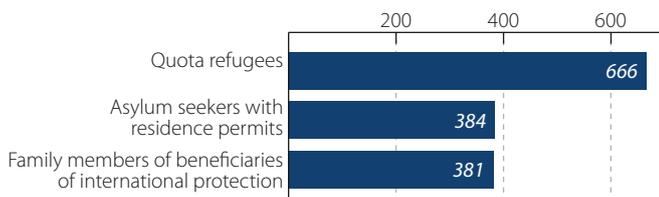


Top source countries of asylum seekers in 2012

- nearly half (46%) of all asylum seekers came from Asia



Resettlement of beneficiaries of international protection in Finnish municipalities in 2012



Asylum procedure

1. An asylum seeker enters Finland
2. An asylum claim is lodged with the Finnish border guards or police
3. The asylum seeker is taken to a reception centre
4. The police or border guards establish the asylum seeker's identity and travel route
5. The Finnish Immigration Service carries out an asylum interview
6. The Finnish Immigration Service issues
7. The asylum seeker may appeal against the decision to the Administrative Court of Helsinki, and after a decision by the Administrative Court, apply to the Supreme Administrative Court for leave to appeal against the Administrative Court's decision



A decision to accept the residence permit application: placement in a municipality, or private accommodation



A decision to refuse the application: refusal of entry



A decision made under the Dublin Regulation: return to another EU Member State applying the Regulation

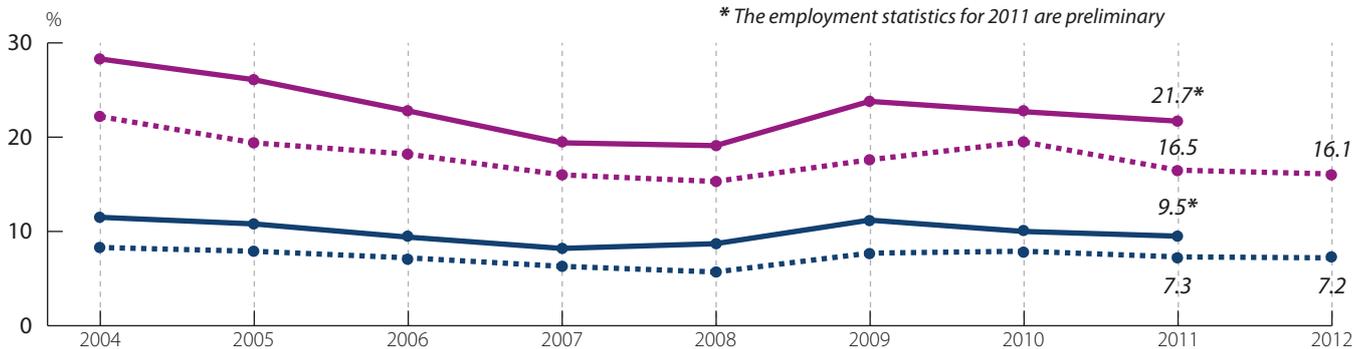
Employment and unemployment

According to the Labour Force Survey by Statistics Finland, the employment and unemployment rates in Finland stayed more or less the same as in 2011.

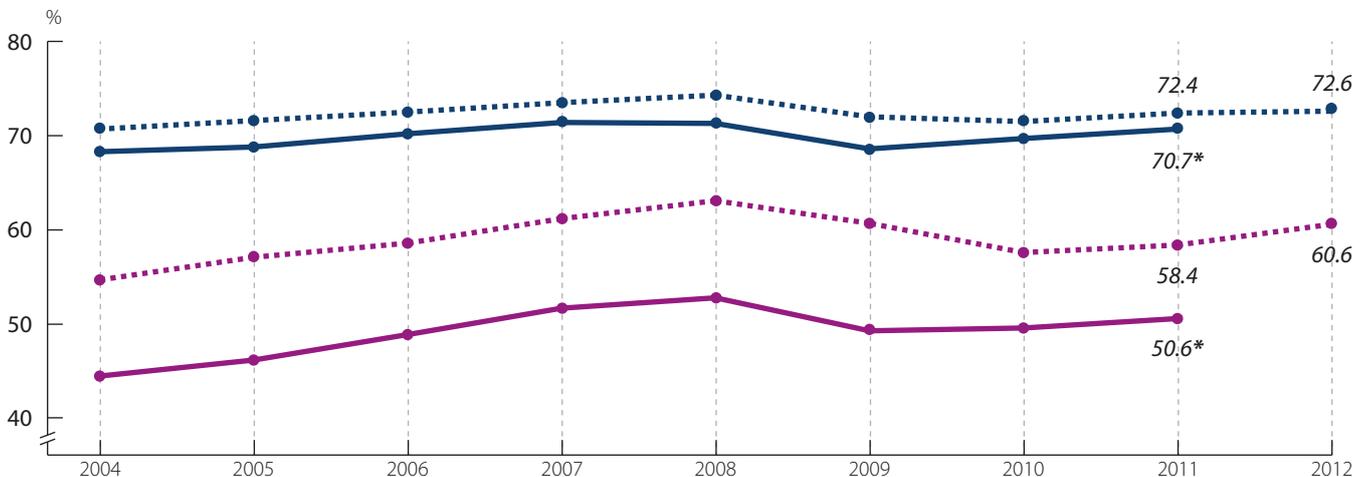
unemployment among foreigners grew sharply, but by 2010, it had started to fall again. In 2011, foreign job seekers accounted for 8% of all job seekers.

The unemployment rate for foreigners fell from the early 2000s up until late 2008 when the recession started. In 2008–2009,

Unemployment rate (among those aged 18–64)



Employment rate (among those aged 18–64)



A note on the differences between the Labour Force Survey and employment statistics

The figures given in the Labour Force Survey and the employment statistics differ slightly from each other, because the terms 'employed' and 'unemployed' are defined differently, data is collected at different times and by using different methods. For example: the figures in the Labour Force Survey are the averages of weekly figures for the whole year, whereas the data in the employment statistics gives a snapshot of the last week of the year. This partly explains why cyclical fluctuations are reflected differently in the two sets of statistics.

In the Labour Force Survey, an unemployed person is expected to actively seek work, while in the employment statistics, those who have registered as job seekers with the employment and economic development offices during the last week of the year are considered unemployed. In the Labour Force Survey, a person is employed if he or she has during the survey week been in gainful employment for at least one hour or has been temporarily absent from work. In the employment statistics, however, the employment data is derived from

different registers, such as those of pension insurance companies; this data on a person's employment describes the last week of the year.

As these employment statistics take a long time to come through, the figures for 2011 are preliminary and may still change. The figures for 2012 are not yet available. The results of the Labour Force Survey are always released monthly, but with regard to the data on foreign nationals, quarterly and annual averages are more reliable than monthly results. The results of the Labour Force Survey are based on about 2,400 interviews conducted annually.

For the definition of 'employed', see: www.stat.fi/meta/kas/tyollinen.html and for the definition of 'unemployed': www.stat.fi/meta/kas/tyoton.html. Read more on the differences between the unemployment figures of Statistics Finland and the Ministry of Employment and the Economy: www.stat.fi/til/tyti/tyti_2012-11-05_men_002.html

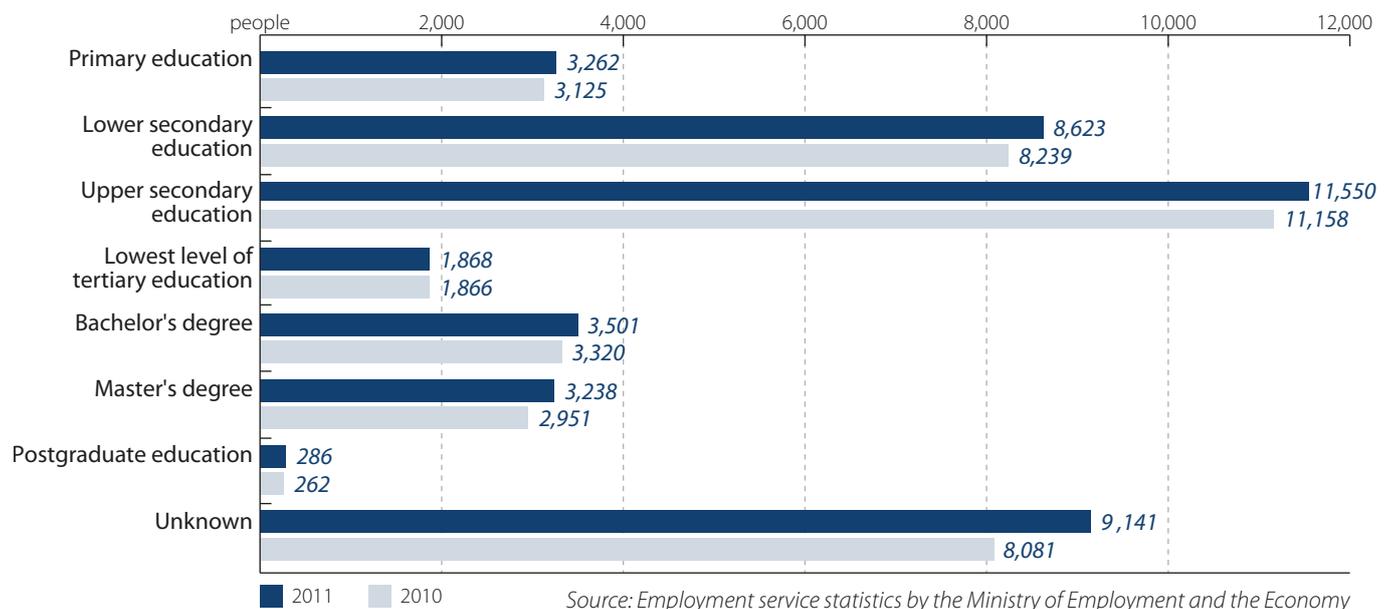
Foreign job seekers

– education, training and professions

In 2011, most foreign job seekers registered with the employment and economic development offices had a lower or upper secondary level qualification. The group 'unknown' was also large; those who had obtained degrees abroad fell into this group. In

relative terms, the number of foreign job seekers rose the most in the groups 'unknown', 'Master's degree' and 'postgraduate education' when compared to 2010.

Foreign job seekers by qualification level in 2011 and 2010 (annual averages)

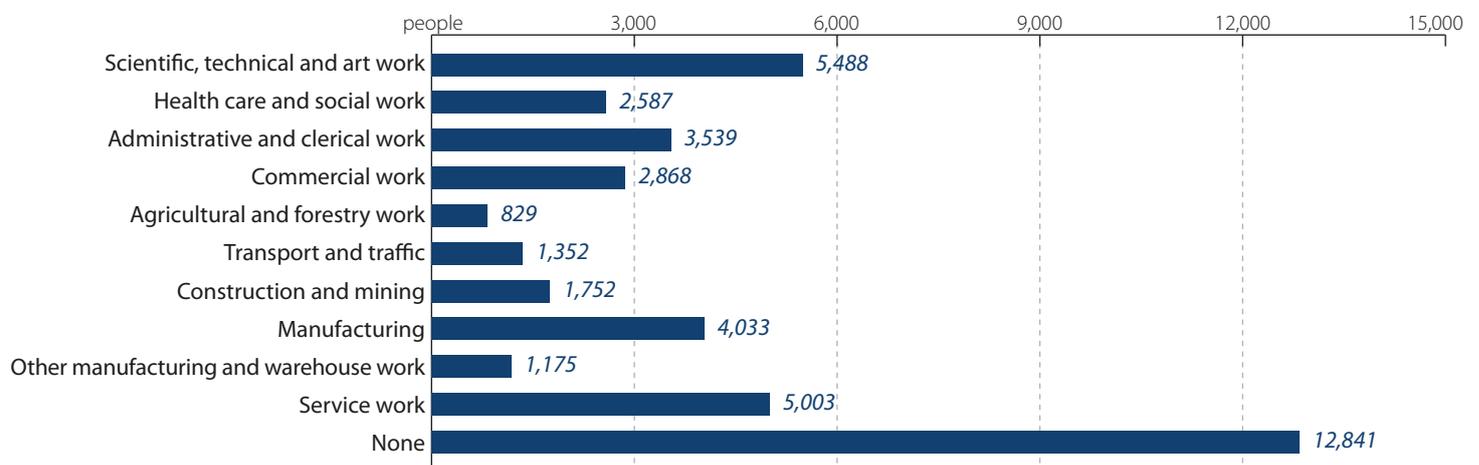


Foreign job seekers by profession

In 2011, the biggest professions among foreign job seekers were scientific and technical, service and manufacturing, administrative and clerical work, and none. If job seekers have no documents

showing their employment histories and their professions cannot therefore be established, the officials at the employment and economic development offices place them into this last category.

Foreign job seekers by profession in 2011



Integration

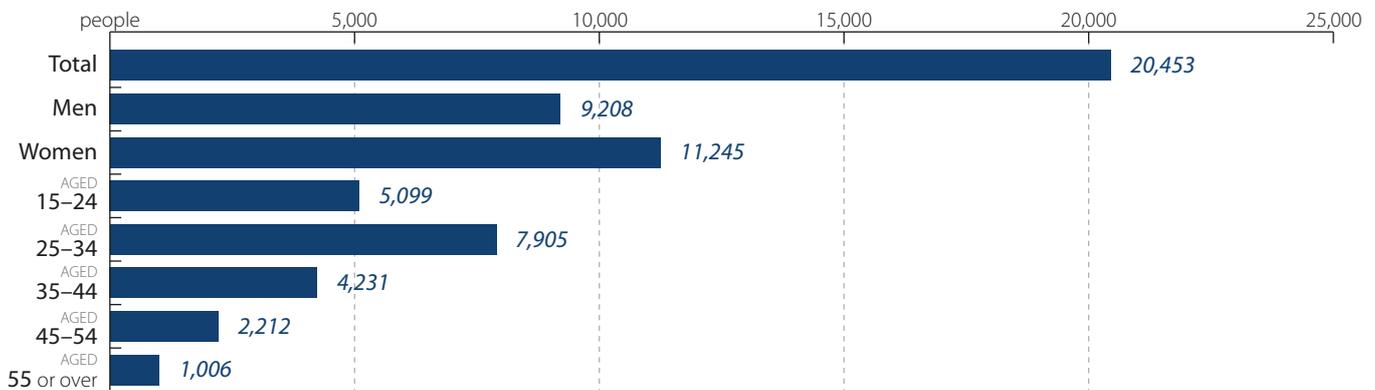
In 2011, integration plans were drawn up for a total of 20,453 immigrants. Of these, 9,208 were made for men and 11,245 for women. The largest single age group was immigrants aged between 25 and 34. The plans are intended to cover a maximum of three years.

In 2011, a total of 15,600 foreigners completed labour force training, up 1,100 on the previous year. The most popular fields were the social and health care, service, cleaning and transport sectors.

In 2011, the work permit units of employment and economic development offices made a total of 9,600 partial decisions on residence permits for employed persons. The biggest occupational groups were lorry and articulated vehicle drivers, cleaners, agricultural and garden workers, chefs and cooks, and welders.

Source: Foreign Jobseekers at Employment and Economic Development Offices in 2011, Statistical Summary 4/2012 by the Ministry of Employment and the Economy

Numbers of integration plans in 2011



Source: Employment service statistics by the Ministry of Employment and the Economy

Research: immigrants enjoy good quality of life but some have experienced depression

Immigrants of Russian, Somali and Kurdish origin are for the most part content with their lives in Finland and, as a rule, consider themselves in good health. However, immigrants of Kurdish origin have experienced many traumatic events and exhibit psychological symptoms. Nearly four out of five immigrants of Kurdish origin and three out of five immigrants of Somali origin experienced considerable trauma in their former home countries. This was established in the Migrant Health and Wellbeing Study (Maamu, 2012).

The study looked at the health, living conditions, lifestyles, social wellbeing, experiences of discrimination and service use of immigrants who were of Russian, Somali, Iranian and Iraqi origin and aged 18-64.

A total of 1,846 people from immigrant backgrounds took part in the study. The participants felt that their functional ability was for the most part good. The study revealed, however, that psychological symptoms were much more common among those from immigrant backgrounds and that they had not received the mental health services they needed to the same extent as the rest of the population.

According to the study, attention should be paid to the accessibility of mental health services and other social and health care services and the promotion of wellbeing and health when supporting integration.

Source: National Institute for Health and Welfare, report 61/2012, www.thl.fi/maamu

Immigrant barometer 2012

- The factors that are considered the most important for integration: work, suitable accommodation, language skills, safety, health care services and access to education for children
- 67% of the respondents felt that they understand spoken Finnish or Swedish very or fairly well
- 22% of the respondents were unaware of their right to vote
- The target group consisted of Estonian, Russian, Somali, Thai, Chinese, Iraqi and Turkish nationals who moved to Finland between 2007 and 2009

Source: Immigrant barometer 2012, Ministry of Employment and the Economy Reports, 11/2013

Who's who?

Actors responsible for migration

MIGRATION ACTIVITIES IN FINLAND	
Activity	Responsibility
Migration administration and policy	Ministry of the Interior
Development of migration legislation	Ministry of the Interior
Performance guidance for the Finnish Immigration Service	Ministry of the Interior
Visa applications abroad	Finnish diplomatic and consular missions
First residence permits	Mainly the Finnish Immigration Service
Residence permits for family members of Finnish citizens	Police
Residence permits for employed persons	Consideration of workforce needs: employment and economic development offices Other conditions and residence permit decisions: Finnish Immigration Service
Asylum applications	Receipt of applications, establishment of identity and travel route to Finland: Police, Finnish Border Guard Asylum interviews and decisions: Finnish Immigration Service Notification of decisions: Police
Reception of asylum seekers	The Finnish Immigration Service guides the reception centre activities
Extended residence permits Permanent residence permits	Police, in special cases the Finnish Immigration Service
Registration of the right of residence of EU citizens or comparable persons	Police
Refusal of entry	Decision: Finnish Border Guard or Finnish Immigration Service Implementation: Police, Finnish Border Guard
Deportation	Proposals: Police, border check authorities Decisions: Finnish Immigration Service Implementation: Police
Citizenship applications and declarations	Finnish Immigration Service
Appeals	Administrative courts (asylum issues: Administrative Court of Helsinki) Supreme Administrative Court
Integration	The Ministry of Employment and the Economy guides integration activities and is responsible for the relevant legislation. Centres for economic development, transport and the environment act as regional authorities. Municipalities and employment and economic development offices carry out activities at local level.
Integration programmes	Municipalities
Individual integration plans for immigrants	Employment and economic development offices (training and employment of adult immigrants) and municipalities (basic education, early childhood education, social and health care services)

Sources of information on the Internet

Finnish Immigration Service | www.migri.fi

Statistics on residence permits
Statistics on asylum and refugees
Statistics on citizenship
Statistics on deportation

Population Register Centre | www.vaestorekisterikeskus.fi

Statistics Finland

Population changes, data by language, nationality and descent www.stat.fi

Association of Finnish Local and Regional Authorities

Statistics on the population structure in municipalities www.kunnat.net

Finnish National Board of Education

Statistics on immigrant education www.oph.fi

Kela – The Social Insurance Institution of Finland

Statistics on special assistance for immigrants www.kela.fi

Institute of Migration

Emigrant register databases | www.migrationinstitute.fi

Eurostat

Statistics on EU Member States <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat>

Ministry of Employment and the Economy

Information on integration www.tem.fi

Centres for economic development, transport and the environment

www.ely-keskus.fi

Monitori web journal

www.monitori-lehti.fi

Info Bank

www.infopankki.fi

Finnish diplomatic and consular missions

www.formin.fi

UN Refugee Agency

UNHCR www.unhcr.org

Information and material on equality

www.yhdenvertaisuus.fi

Cimo, international mobility in universities and polytechnics

<http://www.cimo.fi/services/statistics>

MIPEX – integration policies in different countries

www.mipex.eu