

# 2017

31 December 2017

**873**  
EMPLOYEES

**88**  
OF WHOM WERE NEW  
EMPLOYEES



EXPENDITURE  
**€ 353.3** MILLION  
REVENUE  
**19.0** MILLION

**122,957**  
MATTERS BECAME PENDING

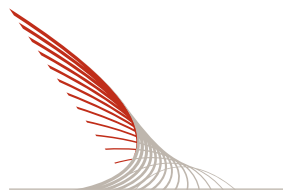
**124,770\***  
DECISIONS

**85,623**  
CUSTOMER CALLS  
ANSWERED

MORE THAN **350**  
COUNTRY INFORMATION  
REQUESTS ANSWERED

**5**  
STUDIES BY THE EUROPEAN  
MIGRATION NETWORK

\*Several decisions can be made on a single submitted application.



# 2017

The Finnish Immigration Service made a total of **124,770** decisions in 2017.


THE NUMBER OF DECISIONS ROSE FROM 2016

**+35 %**

**85,218**   
RESIDENCE PERMIT DECISIONS

 **9,418**  
ASYLUM DECISIONS

**56**  
RECEPTION CENTRES  
ON 31 DECEMBER 2017

  
**14,849**  
CITIZENSHIP DECISIONS

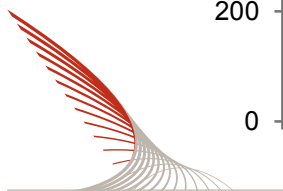
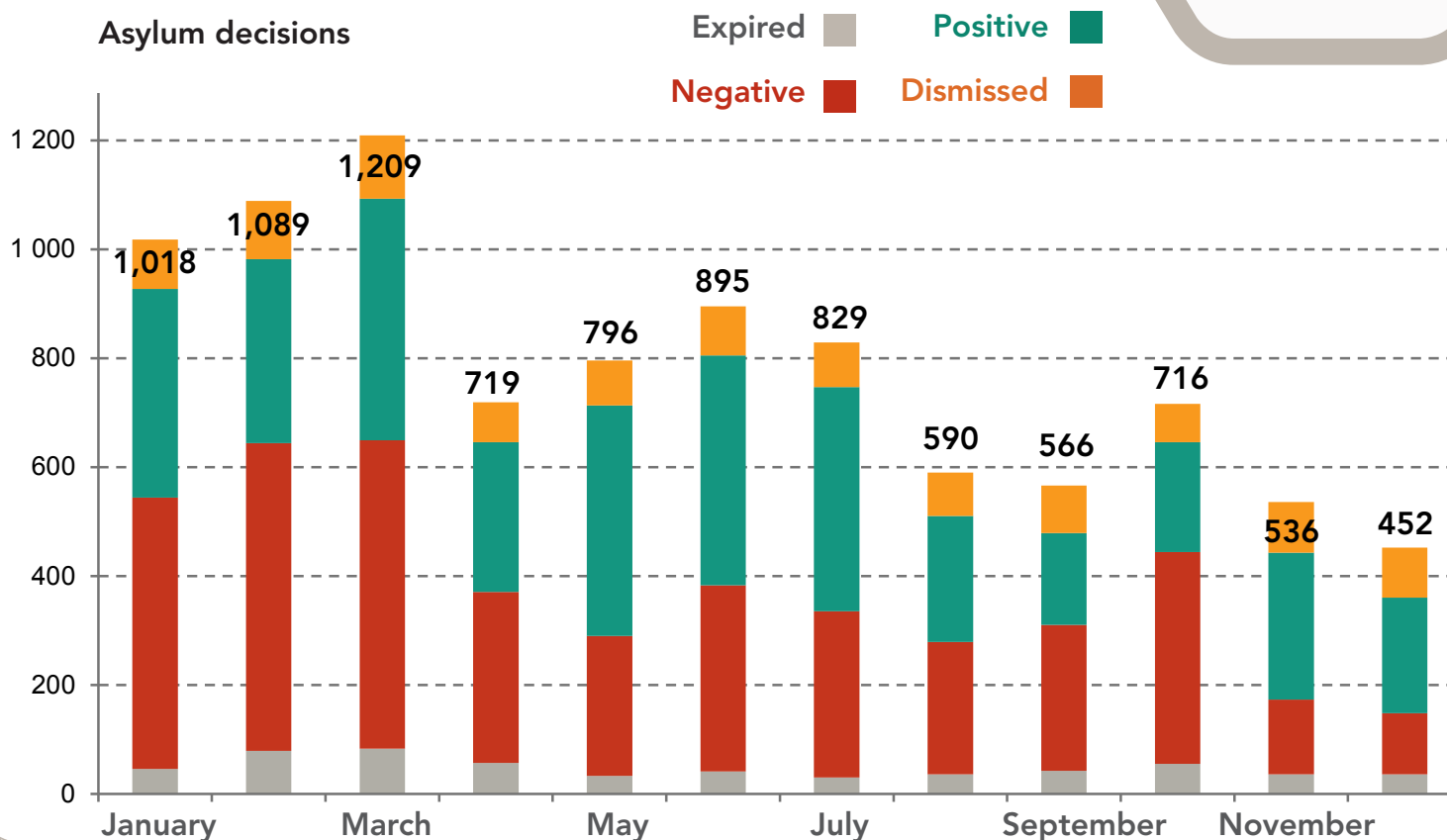
**10,991**  
OTHER DECISIONS



# About 9,459 asylum decisions were made

Asylum means refugee status or subsidiary protection. Humanitarian protection was removed from the Aliens Act in May 2016.

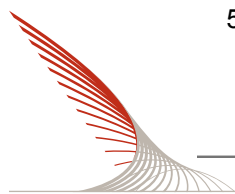
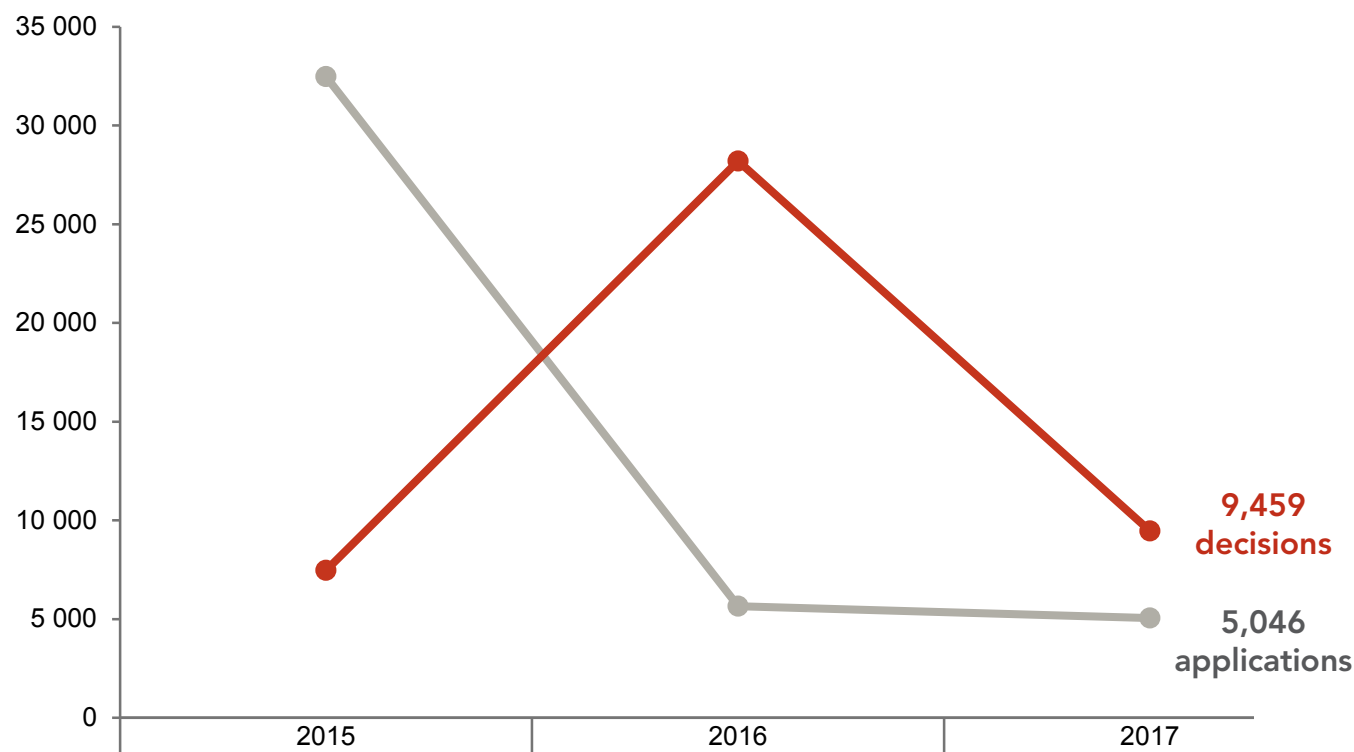
In 2017, the number of new asylum applications was historically low, while the number of subsequent applications was higher than before.



# More than 18,790 fewer asylum decisions than in the previous year

The number of applications and decisions associated with international protection declined in comparison to the years 2015 and 2016. However, the asylum application situation of 2015 could still be seen in the number of pending matters.

**In 2017, a total of 5,046 persons applied for asylum, which is approximately 10 % less than in the previous year (2016: 5,646).**

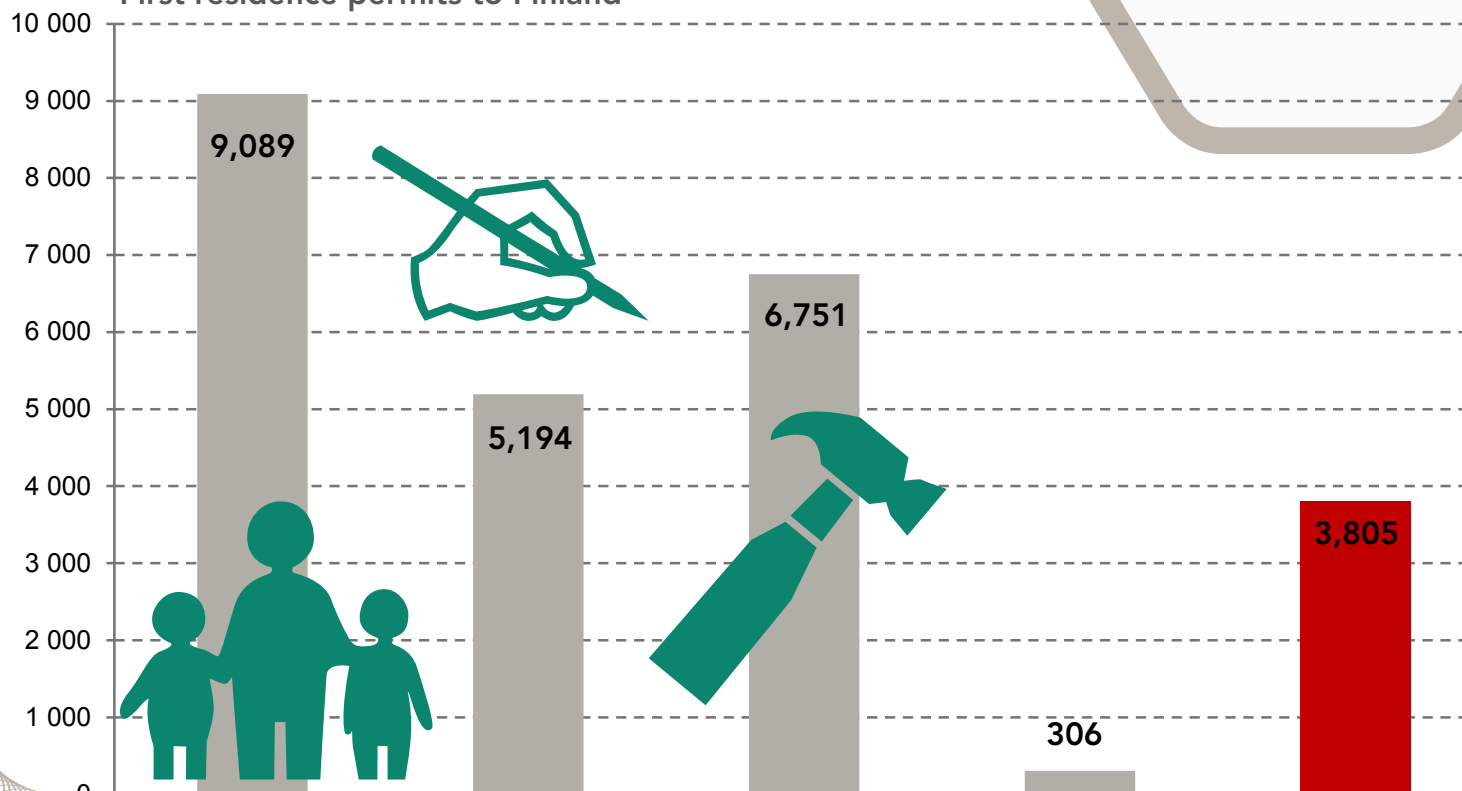


# Family, studies and work are reasons for coming to Finland

26,349 first residence permit applications were submitted in total.  
**21,340** permits were granted.


91 % of residence permit decisions were positive.

First residence permits to Finland



# 11,687 persons became Finnish citizens on application

**913** persons became Finnish citizens by declaration. The Finnish Immigration Service made **13,910** decisions on citizenship applications, of which **84 %** were positive. A total of **13,016** citizenship applications and declarations became pending in 2017.

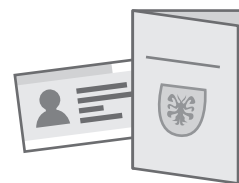


The number of decisions rose by 22 % from 2016.

## The requirements for acquiring citizenship on application:



Language skills



Established identity



Period of residence



Integrity



Means of support

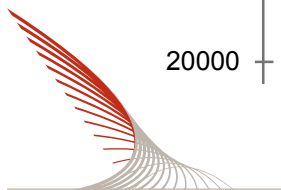
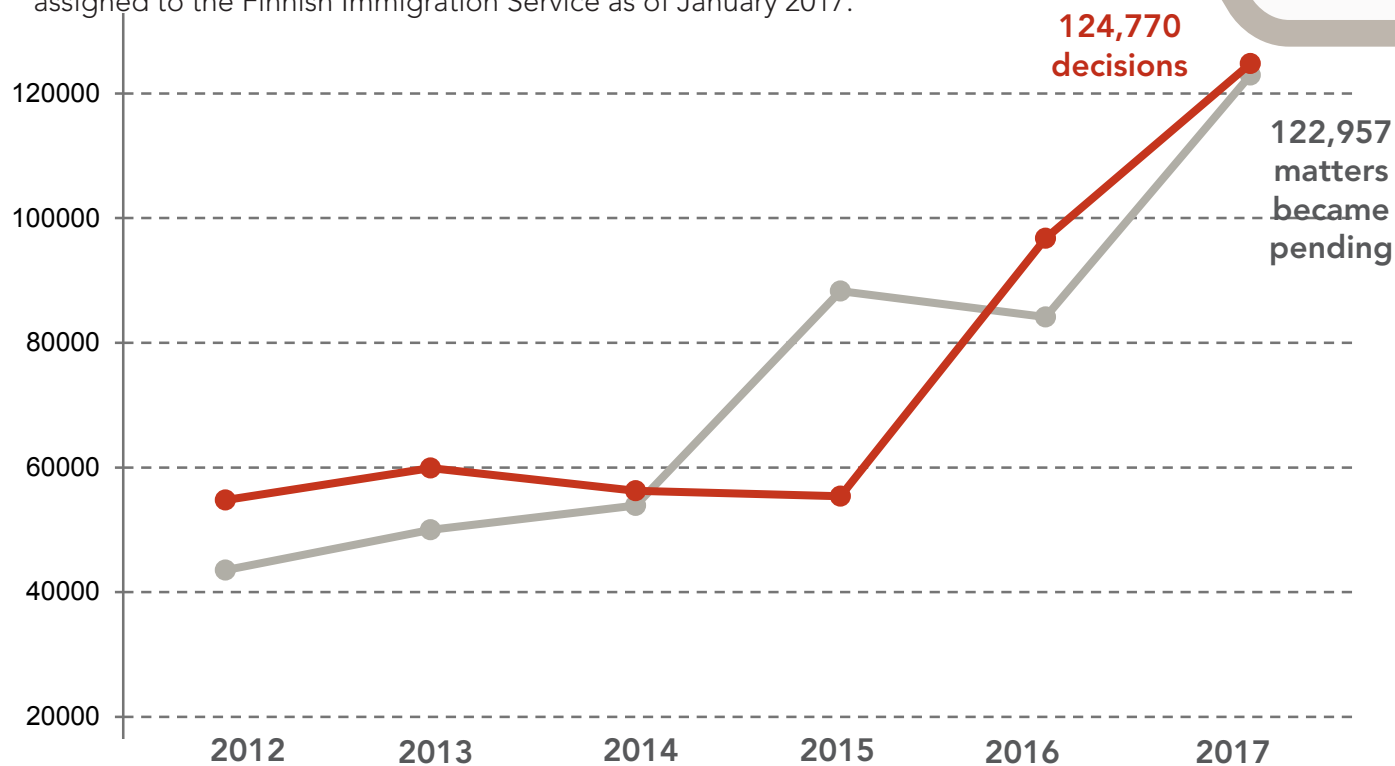


Fulfilled payment obligations

# Over 28,031 decisions more than in the previous year

A total of **122,957** matters became pending at the Finnish Immigration Service in 2017, while the corresponding number in the previous year 2016 was **86,686**. The number of matters that became pending increased because of the processing of extended residence permits and the registration of EU citizens. These matters were previously handled by the police, but were assigned to the Finnish Immigration Service as of January 2017.

The number of decisions (excluding travel documents) grew 35 % from the previous year.



# Registration of EU citizens assigned to the Finnish Immigration Service



As of the beginning of 2017, the reception of applications regarding the registration of EU citizens as well as the registration of EU citizens were assigned from the police to the Finnish Immigration Service. The total number of EU registrations was **7,800**. A citizen of an EU member state, Liechtenstein or Switzerland does not need a residence permit to stay in Finland. If the stay lasts over three months, the right of residence has to be registered. A family member of an EU citizen who is not an EU citizen himself or herself needs a residence card.

