

Immigration and Immigrants 2004

Kristian Rose Tronstad (red.)

Statistiske analyser

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Preface

The purpose of this publication is to present updated figures on immigrants and immigration to Norway. Time series that illustrate the development within some aspects of living conditions are presented, and updated with the most recent figures where possible. An attempt will be made to update the publication every year; every second year as a paper publication and as a web publication in the intervening years. The previous publication was SA 54 (Lie 2002), updated on the Internet: http://www.ssb.no/emner/02/sa_innvand/sa54/.

Data are mainly gathered from administrative registers at Statistics Norway, but also from sample surveys. This is explained in each chapter. Different divisions in Statistics Norway produce the statistics. The statistics on refugees are partially based on data from the Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (UDI).

Kristian Rose Tronstad, co-ordinator for immigrant-related statistics, was the editor of this publication on immigration and immigrants. Lars Østby provided valuable input throughout the process. Tanja Seland Forgaard and Minja Tea Dzamarija wrote the chapter on the immigrant population, and Trude Fjeldseth the chapter on education. Bjørn Olsen wrote the chapter on immigrants and the labour market, and Mads Ivar Kirkeberg and Laila Kleven the chapter on income. The chapter on electoral turnout was written by Arvid Olav Lysø, and Svein Blom wrote the chapter on attitudes towards immigrants. Some figures have been collected from previously published statistics on immigration and immigrants, and from text that has previously been published on the Internet under Today's statistics. The rest of the publication has been written and/or edited by Kristian Rose Tronstad. Liv G. Hansen has arranged the figures.

Emphasis has been put on presenting key figures, and for the content to be easily accessible with clearly set out tables and figures.

The Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development has sponsored the publication.

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Øystein Olsen

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Kristian Rose Tronstad

1. Introduction

This publication is about immigration to Norway, and some aspects of the life of immigrants in Norway. The immigrant population in Norway is a complex group, consisting of people with background from 206 different states and self-governing regions (Østby 2004a, 2004b). When talking about immigrants and their living conditions, negative aspects are often mentioned first. It is true that among some immigrant groups there are poor living conditions, compared with the population as a whole. It is, however, important to remember that the immigrant population is a less homogenous group than maybe any other part of the population in Norway. In the entire population living conditions vary with age, gender, level of education etc. For immigrants living conditions are further complicated by other dimensions such as duration of residence in Norway, country background and immigration background. It is important to clarify these differences.

Why focus on immigrants? (Østby 2001a)

Statistics on immigrants may give us an idea of whether or not there are differences between immigrants and the rest of the Norwegian population. It may also offer us information about what the immigrants' situation in Norway is, and

how it changes over time. It is important to have knowledge of immigrants' situation in Norway for several reasons: Lack of knowledge may give rise for unfounded opinions and false presumptions in public debates on immigration issues. Better knowledge of the immigrants' background and living conditions may bring about a greater understanding between immigrants and other Norwegians. A solid base of knowledge is important for politicians who have to make important decisions that are of concern to immigrants and on the magnitude of immigration to Norway.

Study immigrants as individuals or as a group?

Some highlights the necessity to focus on immigrants as individuals, and argues that this focus becomes even more important when the immigrants have lived in Norway for a long time. This a reasonable concern, but when it comes to statistics this cannot be the guide. In these analyses we have to categorize into different groups, and these groups should be mutually exclusive. Either if one is categorized as an immigrant, or not as an immigrant, we might be led to think of "them" as differing from "us". But as "us" is not a homogenous group, we should be careful to regard "them" as a more homogenous group. People are seldom only member of

the immigrant category, but are simultaneously member of other categories as mother of young children, car driver, taxpayer, college teacher, pupil, patient, etc.

Is it stigmatising to be focused on?

If you feel hostility, or worse exclusion from the society, it is probably an extra cost to be focused on and analysed, either if it as a group or as an individual. We should therefore always be aware of this when statistical analyses are presented. Misuse of statistics *can* be stigmatising.

The descriptions and analyses in this publication can be perceived as description of misery, although we think that the focus on the diversity and nuances are more important, and that this could hinder a perception of misery that do not exist. A description of negative situations can be crucial, but not sufficient to change the difficult situation.

Immigrants – 580 000 or 200 000?

There are different ways of defining the immigrant population. The delimitation of a group will vary with the purpose of

the definition. There is no ideal definition that suits all purposes. Different definitions and delimitations will give different statistical results. It is important to know the definition in order to understand what the basis for the generalisation is.

In legal terms citizenship is often used as a criterion. By 1 January 2004 there were about 200 000 foreign citizens in Norway. If citizenship is used as a criterion, persons with foreign background who have become Norwegian citizens will not be included.

In other situations it might be useful to look at persons born abroad. By 1 January 2004 there were about 350 000 persons who were born abroad, but more than 32 000 of them were adopted or born abroad of two Norwegian-born parents. In addition, 25 000 of the persons born abroad had one Norwegian-born parent. Statistics Norway has chosen to take the country of birth of the parents into consideration when defining the immigrant population.

Table 1.1. Different delimitations of persons with immigration background/foreign background, by citizenship and immigrant category. 1 January 2004

	Immigrant population	Foreign citizens	Foreign-born
Population total: 4 577 457			
Immigrant population			
First generation immigrants	289 104	177 051	289 104
Born in Norway with two foreign-born parents	59 836	12 225	-
Immigrant population, total	348 940	189 276	289 104
People with other immigrant background			
Born abroad with one Norwegian-born parent	25 729	3 772	25 729
Born in Norway with one foreign-born parent	167 493	9 470	-
Born abroad with two Norwegian-born parents ¹	32 447	547	32 447
Persons with other immigrant background, total	574 609	204 731	347 280

¹ Adopted from abroad included.

Source: Population statistics, Statistics Norway.

Table 1.1 gives an overview of the population according to different delimitations on citizenship and immigration background.

Immigrant population = Persons with two foreign-born parents

At the present Statistics Norway defines the *immigrant population* as persons with two foreign-born parents. The immigrant population can thus analytically be divided into two groups: first generation immigrants and persons born in Norway with two foreign-born parents. First generation immigrants are according to our definition persons born abroad of two foreign-born parents. Persons born in Norway with two foreign-born parents were previously called second-generation immigrants. Adopted persons and persons with one foreign-born parent are not included in the immigrant population. There is, however, a broader definition where also these persons are included. This delimitation is called "people with other immigrant background".

Continuous review of terminology

Society and the composition of the population change over time, as do terminology, signification, and the need for statistics on different groups. Statistics Norway reviews the terminology and categorisations continuously. From time to time more extensive revisions are carried out. A non-biased and neutral description is attempted. A revision took place in 1993, and in 1999 Statistics Norway carried out a hearing on the terminology and categorisations that have been used when describing the immigrant population. As a result of this hearing the use of the term second-generation immigrant was abandoned (Lie 2002). Recently the government presented the white paper *Diversity through inclusion and participation. Free-*

*dom and responsibility*¹: and argued that children of immigrants shall not be named *descendants* and not immigrants. In this publication the term *decendants*, when used, means persons born in Norway with two foreign-born parents.

Should we produce statistics on immigrants' children and include them in the immigrant population?

In many cases it is not relevant to view first generation immigrants and persons born in Norway of two foreign-born parents as one group. It is in fact only first generation immigrants that have immigrated to Norway, and their descendants do not necessarily stand out from other persons born in Norway in any significant way. For many reasons it is interesting to look at these groups separately. Where it has been possible and useful, we have done so in this publication. Persons born in Norway of two foreign-born parents were included in the immigrant population because there was a need to focus particularly on this group with regard to integration, and to see if this group follows the pattern of first generation immigrants or the population at large. Most persons born in Norway of two foreign-born parents are, however, still young and not a relevant group in all regards. By 1 January 2002 60 per cent (34 000) of them were still below 10 years of age.

Country background

In everyday talk we might not think of Swedes and Englishmen when we talk about immigrants. They are not very visible as immigrants in the Norwegian society, and they come from countries with a cultural history and traditions not very different from the Norwegian ones. Statistics Norway does not gather information on ethnicity, race or colour.

Neither do we produce statistics based on such categorisations.

We do, however, make categorisations on the basis of country background. In this publication we have chosen to focus on groups with different country backgrounds. When distinctions between people with different country background are taken into consideration, one often finds significant differences in living conditions between such groups. This has to do with differences in length of stay, the fact that people come from different societies, under different circumstances, and have different preconditions to make a living in the Norwegian society. We have looked at the twenty largest groups of country background and tried to examine these throughout the report. It is necessary, however, to underline that

such categorisations also represent a generalisation. A housewife with Norwegian background in a little village in Norway might have just as much in common with a woman the same age from the US as with a teenage girl from Oslo.

For some purposes country backgrounds are lumped together into larger groups. Immigrants from the Nordic countries are often looked upon as a separate group. Despite political changes Europe is divided into east and west, due to the fact that the distinction still has relevance when it comes to immigration issues. The terms western and non-western are used for geographical and substantial categorisations. Nordic countries, Western Europe (except Turkey), North America and Oceania are considered western countries whereas Eastern Europe, Asia, Africa,

Concepts and definitions

First generation immigrants: persons born abroad with two foreign-born parents. First generation immigrants immigrated to Norway at some point.

Persons born in Norway with two foreign-born parents: persons born in Norway with two parents born abroad, and in addition have four grandparents born abroad.

Immigrant population: the sum of the two preceding groups, and includes persons who have two foreign-born parents, or more precisely persons who neither have parents nor grandparents born in Norway. The immigrant population thus covers first generation immigrants and persons born in Norway with two foreign-born parents.

Persons with immigrant background: covers a larger group than the immigrant population. The following classifications are used for persons with immigrant backgrounds:

- First generation immigrants with no Norwegian background
- Persons born in Norway with two foreign-born parents
- Persons adopted from abroad
- Persons born abroad with one Norwegian-born parent
- Persons born in Norway with one foreign-born parent
- Persons born abroad with Norwegian-born parents

Immigration category: refers to various delimitations of persons without/with an immigrant background. "Persons without immigrant background" is a group in addition to the groups listed under "Persons with immigrant background".

Country of birth: mainly the mother's place of residence at the time of the birth of the child.

National background: the person's own, their mother's or possibly their father's country of birth. Persons without an immigrant background only have Norway as their national background. When both parents are born abroad they are in most cases born in the same country. In cases where the parents have different countries of birth the mother's country of birth is chosen.

South and Central America and Turkey are considered non-western ones. Turkey and Asia are grouped together, as the migration flows between Norway and Turkey do not follow a western pattern in a demographic perspective. The US and Canada form one group and in some cases Oceania, – that basically consists of Australia and New Zealand – is grouped together with North America. The third world includes the same countries as in the group of non-western countries except Eastern Europe. Rough categorisations such as these are not suited if the differences within the group are larger than between the groups.

Refugees

While some immigrants have come to Norway for employment reasons or as family members of such immigrants, others are refugees. Refugees are included in the group of immigrants; they are first generation immigrants. Sometimes it is relevant to look at refugees as a separate group. The refugees seem to have significantly worse living conditions than the rest of the population, especially if they have stayed in Norway for only a short time. This makes it particularly important to follow the development over time.

The definition of refugees varies. Statistics Norway uses the term when we talk about people born in a foreign country, those who have come to Norway and have been granted stay as refugees or on humanitarian grounds. Family members that later have been reunited with refugees in Norway are also included.

Some of the statistics on refugees are collected from the Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (UDI). The figures from Statistics Norway and UDI might be

slightly different, due to methodological reasons. Statistics Norway updates the information by linking it to files from the Central Population Register.

Choice of statistics

In this publication we have emphasised the possibility of comparing information on immigrants from year to year, with regularly produced statistics as a starting point. This is done to be able to follow the development on different aspects of living conditions over time. Some aspects, such as health and living conditions, are analysed through special surveys on living conditions. These are carried out at longer intervals. The results of these surveys are presented in separate reports published by Statistics Norway (see for example Blom 1998).

We have as much as possible used the most recent figures. However, intervals and time of data collection vary. Labour market statistics are produced quarterly, other areas, such as education and income, are updated annually.

In some chapters we have focused on refugees as a separate category, in other chapters we have not. Persons born in Norway with two foreign-born parents are not relevant for analysis in all relations.

For an overview of immigrant-related statistics published by Statistics Norway, see chapter 8.

Note

¹ White paper no. 49 (2003-2004) *Diversity through inclusion and participation. Freedom and responsibility.*

Tanja Seland Forgaard and Minja Tea Dzamarija

2. Immigrant population

This chapter describes the composition and structure of the immigrant population. Under the heading *population structure* (chapter 2.1) we will look at some demographic aspects of groups of immigrants, such as first generation immigrants, persons born in Norway with two foreign-born parents, and refugees. It is important to look at the composition with regard to sex, age, country of origin, length of stay in Norway, reason for immigration, where in the country they live etc. In this chapter we have also included a section on *demographic changes* (chapter 2.2) with special focus on changes in the immigrant population. This part of chapter two includes figures on immigration and emigration, naturalisation and changes in marital status in the immigrant population. The last part of chapter two includes figures on *refugees* (chapter 2.3) and asylum seekers.

2.1. Population structure

- At the beginning of 2004, the immigrant population in Norway totalled 349 000 persons, almost 8 per cent of the total population.
- Almost three out of four persons in the immigrant population had non-western backgrounds. The non-western immigrant population made up almost 6 per cent of the Norwegian population.
- The largest groups in the immigrant population were persons with backgrounds from Pakistan, Sweden, Denmark and Vietnam.
- Almost half of the persons in the immigrant population were aged 20-44 years, whereas the corresponding figure for the total population was 35 per cent.
- 46 per cent of persons in the immigrant population had Norwegian citizenship.
- One fifth of the population in Oslo belong to the immigrant population, and one third of the immigrant population live in Oslo.
- 37 per cent of the non-western immigrant population live in Oslo.
- First generation immigrants totalled 289 000 persons, 6 per cent of the total population.
- Two out of three first generation immigrants come from a non-western country.
- The largest groups of first generation immigrants were Swedes, Danes, Pakistanis and Iraqis.
- There are major differences in the length of stay among first generation immigrants. As an example, 69 per cent of immigrants from Chile have lived in Norway 15 years or longer, while 90 per cent of Afghans have lived in Norway less than 5 years.

- Persons born in Norway with two parents born abroad totalled 60 000, about 1 per cent of the total population.
- Nine out of ten of the persons born in Norway with foreign-born parents had parents born in a non-western country.
- Three out of four persons born in Norway with foreign-born parents were younger than 15 years old, and only 4 per cent were 30 years or older.
- There were most persons born in Norway with two parents born in Pakistan, Vietnam, Turkey or Sri Lanka.

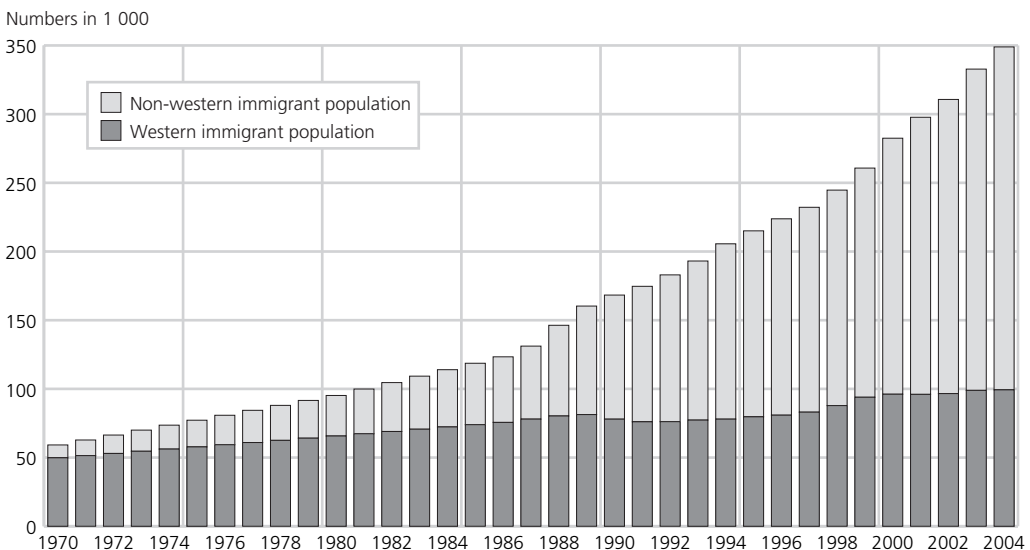
Increasing numbers of people with non-western backgrounds

At the beginning of 1970, the immigrant population in Norway totalled 59 200 persons, which was about 1.5 per cent of the total population. By the beginning of 2004, this figure had increased to 348 900, 7.6 per cent of the Norwegian population (table 2.1.1 and figure 2.1.1.)

The structure of the immigrant population has changed a lot since 1970. The western immigrant population increased from about 49 800 in 1970 to 99 300 in 2004, while the non-western immigrant population increased from 9 400 in 1970 to 249 600 in 2004. In 1970, people with non-western origins accounted for 16 per cent of the immigrant population, while in 2004 the figure was 72 per cent.

Since the beginning of 2000, the number of people with non-western backgrounds in Norway has increased by about 63 000. Most of these, 53 000, have backgrounds from South and Central America, Asia, Turkey and Africa, while 10 000 come from East Europe. The increase is both due to an immigration surplus from abroad and an excess of births. In comparison, the number of people with western backgrounds only increased by 3 000, and people from Western countries except the Nordic countries accounted for almost the whole increase. The number of people

Figure 2.1.1. Immigrant population, by country background. 1 January 1970-2004



Source: Population statistics, Statistics Norway.

from the Nordic countries increased steadily from 1970 until 1999, but the number has been stable since then.

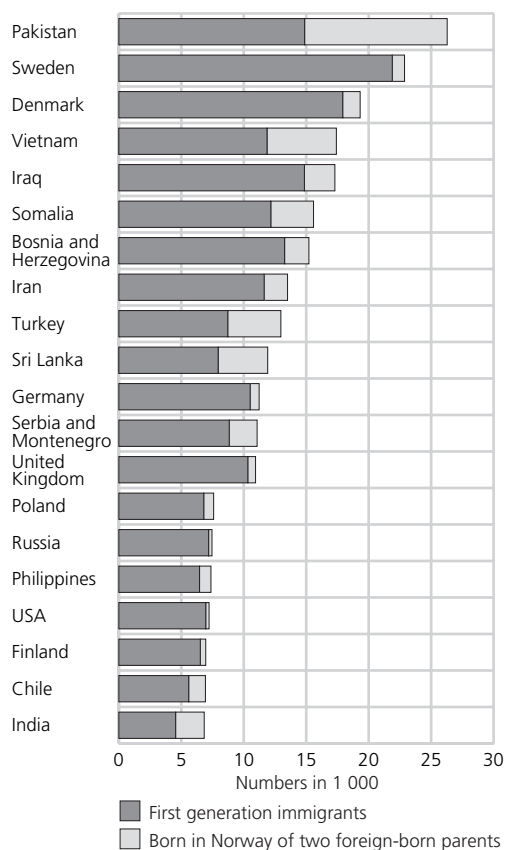
At the beginning of 2004, 40 per cent of the immigrant population had Asian origins, and these were the largest immigrant group in Norway. East Europeans made up 16 per cent of the immigrant population, the Nordic countries 15 per cent, Africans 12 per cent and the West Europeans 10 per cent (table 2.1.2).

In the immigrant population as a whole, most people had backgrounds in Pakistan with 26 300, followed by those with backgrounds from Sweden (22 900), Denmark (19 300), Vietnam (17 400) and Iraq (17 300).

About two out of three first generation immigrants come from non-western countries. Most first generation immigrants come from Sweden (21 900), Denmark (17 900), Pakistan and Iraq (both 14 900) and Bosnia and Herzegovina (13 300). Ninety-five per cent of the persons in the western immigrant population were first generation immigrants, while the corresponding figure for the non-western immigrant population was 78 per cent.

Persons with Pakistani parents made up the largest group of persons born in Norway with two foreign-born parents, with 11 400. Persons born in Norway with Vietnamese parents was the second largest group with 5 600, followed by those with parents from Turkey, Sri Lanka and Somalia. Persons with Swedish and Danish parents only accounted for 1 000 and 1 400 respectively. The reasons why so few people with Swedish or Danish parents are born in Norway compared to other large immigrant groups, may be that Swedes and Danes to a larger extent have children

Figure 2.1.2. The immigrant population by country category and country background. The 20 largest groups. 1 January 2004



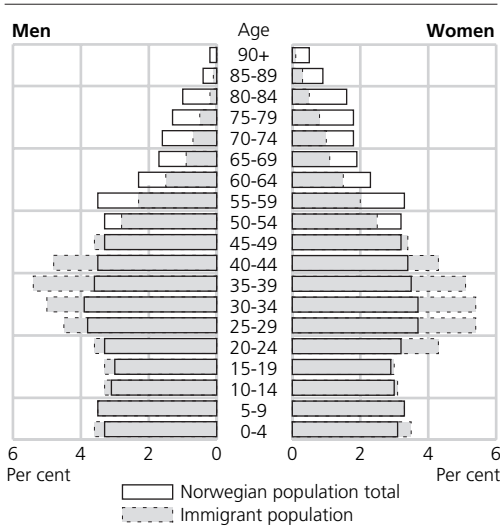
Source: Population statistics, Statistics Norway.

with a person of Norwegian origin, and if two Danes or two Swedes become a couple and have children they are more likely to move back to their country of origin than other groups. Ninety per cent of persons born in Norway with two foreign-born parents have parents born in a non-western country (figure 2.1.2 and tables 2.1.2 and 2.1.3).

Many young adults

The immigrant population is made up of a relatively high number of young adults

Figure 2.1.3. The Norwegian population total and the immigrant population by age and sex. 1 January 2004. Per cent



Source: Population statistics, Statistics Norway.

Figure 2.1.4. First generation immigrants and children born in Norway of two foreign-born parents by age and sex. 1 January 2004. Per cent



Source: Population statistics, Statistics Norway.

Figure 2.1.5. The western and non-western immigrant population by age and sex. 1 January 2004. Per cent



Source: Population statistics, Statistics Norway.

compared with the population as a whole (figure 2.1.3). At 1 January 2004, almost half of the immigrant population was aged 20-44 years, while the corresponding figure for the population as a whole was 35 per cent. At the same time, there was a much higher proportion of elderly in the Norwegian population than in the immigrant population. People aged 65 years and older accounted for 6 per cent of the immigrant population, and 15 per cent of the population as a whole. For people younger than 20 years old, there was only a small difference. The elderly people in the immigrant population are mainly of western origin, while the majority of children have non-western backgrounds (figure 2.1.6).

It is not only when we compare the entire Norwegian population to the immigrant population that we find differences in the age composition. The differences are even larger when we compare first generation

immigrants with persons born in Norway with two foreign-born parents (figure 2.1.4). Thirty-five per cent of the persons born in Norway with two foreign-born parents were younger than 5 years old, and 77 per cent were younger than 15 years old. Thirteen per cent of persons born in Norway with two foreign-born parents were aged 20-44 years, while more than half of the first generation immigrants were in this age group. Almost no one born in Norway with two foreign-born parents was older than 60 years.

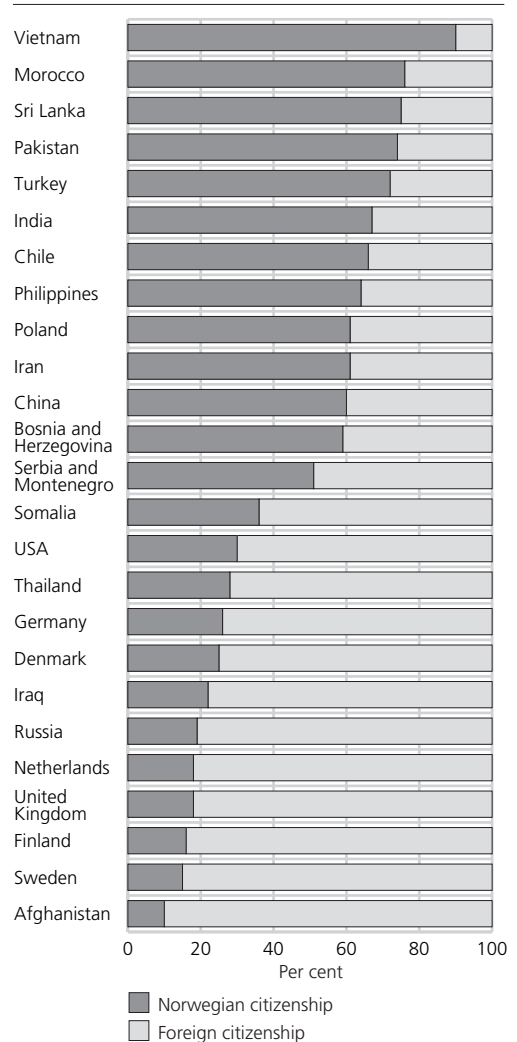
We also find differences in the age composition when we compare the western immigrant population to the non-western immigrant population (figure 2.1.5). About 10 per cent of the western immigrant population was younger than 20 years, while 33 per cent of the non-western population was in this age group. This difference is partly because there are more persons born in Norway with foreign-parents in the non-western population than in the western population. For the age groups older than 44 years, there was a larger proportion among the western immigrant population than the non-western immigrant population. Many western immigrants stay in Norway for a long time and many immigrated to Norway when of a working age. Since non-western immigration only really began in 1970, there are few people in this group who have reached 60 yet. In a few years time, the age structure in the older age groups between the western and the non-western immigrant populations will become more alike.

Almost half of the immigrant population have Norwegian citizenship

At the beginning of 2004, 46 per cent of the persons in the immigrant population

had Norwegian citizenship. There were major differences between the different groups (figure 2.1.6). Ninety per cent of the Vietnamese immigrant population had Norwegian citizenship, and of those from Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Morocco and Turkey,

Figure 2.1.6. Proportion of the immigrant population with Norwegian citizenship, by country background. 1 January 2004



Source: Population statistics, Statistics Norway.

more than 70 per cent had Norwegian citizenship.

At the other end of the scale, we find people with backgrounds from Afghanistan, where only 10 per cent had Norwegian citizenship. Other non-western groups where a low proportion had Norwegian citizenship were Russians with 19 per cent and Iraqis with 22 per cent. The difference among the non-western groups is mainly due to different lengths of stay in Norway.

Three years ago, at the beginning of 2001, only 10 per cent of immigrants from Bosnia and Herzegovina had Norwegian citizenship. At the beginning of 2004, the proportion had increased to 59 per cent. This is due to the fact that many Bosnians have during the past three years lived 7 years in Norway, and thereby fulfilled the requirements to apply for Norwegian citizenship. There have not been any significant changes for the other large immigrant groups.

There tends to be a large proportion of people with Norwegian citizenship among the non-western group that have been resident in Norway for a long time. There are very few with western backgrounds that have Norwegian citizenship, despite a long period of residence. Few immigrants from western countries apply for Norwegian citizenship because they already have the same rights as Norwegians, and many may not intend to stay permanently in Norway.

Variations in the duration of residence

First generation immigrants can be divided into three different groups with regard to duration of residence in Norway. Approximately one third have lived in Norway less than 5 years, another third have resi-

ded in Norway between 5 and 14 years, and the last third have been resident in Norway for at least 15 years (table 2.1.4).

Among the largest immigrant groups, Chileans and Danes have the longest duration of residence in Norway. Sixty-nine per cent and 64 per cent respectively have lived in Norway for 15 years or more. Only 10 per cent of the Chileans have lived in Norway less than 5 years, while the corresponding figure for Danes is 19 per cent. On 11 September 1973, a *coupe d'état* took place in Chile, which was the start of a 17-year dictatorship during which many Chileans fled the country. Many Pakistanis, Brits, Americans and Indians also have a long period of residence in Norway - almost 60 per cent have lived in Norway for at least 15 years.

At the opposite end of the scale, 90 per cent of Afghanis have lived in Norway for less than 5 years. Many Russians, Iraqis and Somalis also have a short period of residence in Norway, where 70, 69 and 60 per cent respectively have lived in Norway less than 5 years.

Immigrants from Bosnia and Herzegovina are slightly different from the other groups. Almost half of this group came to Norway between 1989 and 1993 and 40 per cent came between 1994 and 1998. This shows a clear connection to the war in the Balkans, which started in 1992. Swedes are divided into three groups in the same way as the immigrant population as a whole.

Most live in central areas

One third, or 114 000, of the immigrant population lived in Oslo at the beginning of 2004. By way of comparison, only 11 per cent of the total Norwegian population lived in Oslo. The immigrant population

accounted for 7.6 per cent (the average for Norway) or more of the population in only 32 out of 434 municipalities, and most of these municipalities are found close to Oslo. The towns of Kristiansand, Stavanger and Sandnes also had a higher proportion than the average for Norway. As exceptions to the concentration of the immigrant population in central areas, several municipalities in Finnmark also had a higher portion than the average for Norway. These are mainly immigrants from Sri Lanka and Russia.

Oslo had the highest proportion of the immigrant population with 21.8 per cent, followed by Drammen with 16 per cent and Båtsfjord with 14.4 per cent (table 2.1.5). There are people who belong to the immigrant population in all the municipalities in Norway, but two municipalities have none with non-western backgrounds (figure 2.1.7).

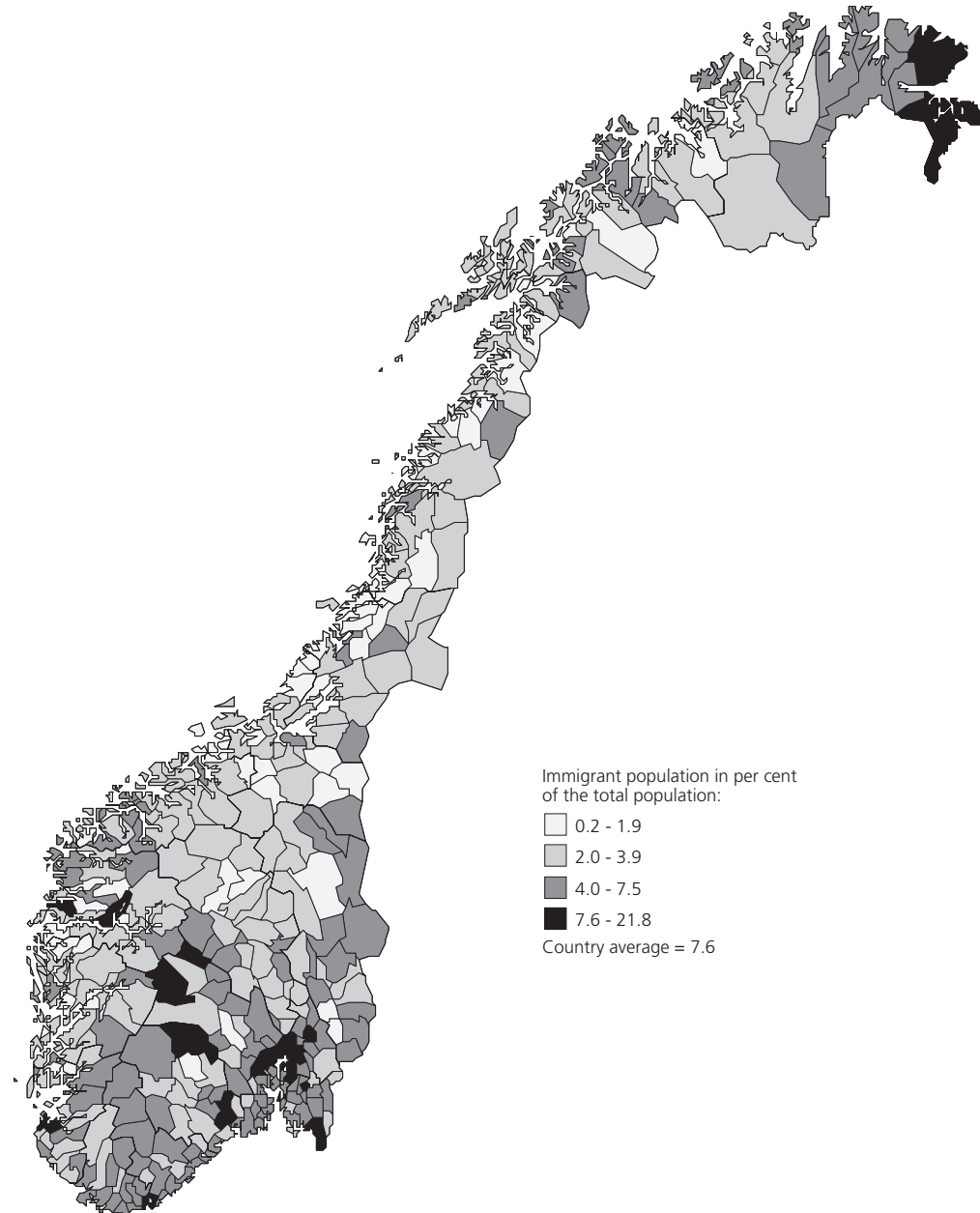
The centralisation in the immigrant population is especially strong among those with non-western backgrounds, and almost half of these live in Oslo and the surrounding areas. When Oslo and Akershus are taken as a whole, 47.5 per cent of all of those with non-western backgrounds live in the area. Thirty-seven per cent of the non-western immigrant population lived in Oslo at the beginning of 2004, compared to 22 per cent of the western. When we exclude the East Europeans from the non-western immigrant population, we are left with people from Asia, Turkey, South and Central America and Africa. Almost 42 per cent of these lived in Oslo. The suburbs Alna and Søndre Nordstrand had 6.5 and 5.6 per cent respectively of all residents in Norway with backgrounds from these regions (table 2.1.7).

The municipalities Bærum and Asker differed slightly from the other municipalities close to Oslo whereby they had a larger proportion of the western immigrant population than the non-western population. This was also the case in Stavanger and Tromsø.

Equal gender distribution

As for the population as a whole, there were almost as many men as women in the immigrant population (table 2.1.9). A few immigrant groups differ from the others. Among immigrants from Thailand, the Philippines, Russia and Poland there was a much higher proportion of women compared to men, with 85, 75, 68 and 64 per cent respectively. Many Norwegian men marry women from these countries, hence the predominance of women. There were no country groups with many more men than women, but there was a slight predominance of men for those with backgrounds from Afghanistan, Iraq, the United Kingdom and Morocco, with 60, 59, 59 and 58 per cent respectively.

The proportion of men among Iraqis has decreased by 3 per cent in the last year and about 8 per cent since the beginning of 2001, which could imply that in recent years more women have been reunified with an Iraqi man in Norway. The men often move from areas of conflict before the women, and are subsequently reunified with their wives and children. There are more men from the United Kingdom because many have come to Norway on their own to work in the oil industry.

Figure 2.1.7. The immigrant population in per cent of the total population. 1 January 2004

Source: Population statistics, Statistics Norway.
Map data: Norwegian Mapping Authority.

Table 2.1.1. Population by country background¹. 1970-2004. Foreign country background refers to immigrant population²

	Total	Norway	Country background					
			Abroad, total	Nordic countries	West-Europe, except Turkey	East-Europe	North America, Oceania	Asia, Africa, South and Central America, Turkey
Real numbers								
1.1.1970	3 874 133	3 814 937	59 196	26 548	15 190	5 806	8 103	3 549
1.1.1980	4 091 132	3 995 930	95 202	31 210	22 686	7 114	11 810	22 382
1.1.1986	4 159 187	4 035 839	123 348	35 766	28 503	8 868	11 332	38 879
1.1.1987	4 175 521	4 044 379	131 142	37 880	28 797	9 374	11 320	43 771
1.1.1988	4 198 289	4 051 992	146 297	39 509	29 420	10 639	11 350	55 379
1.1.1989	4 220 686	4 060 393	160 293	40 037	29 972	11 878	11 292	67 114
1.1.1990	4 233 116	4 064 818	168 298	38 089	29 107	13 551	10 769	76 782
1.1.1991	4 249 830	4 075 162	174 668	37 285	28 208	14 663	10 558	83 954
1.1.1992	4 273 634	4 090 640	182 994	37 589	28 000	15 926	10 552	90 927
1.1.1993	4 299 167	4 106 072	193 095	38 176	28 524	18 647	10 584	97 164
1.1.1994	4 324 815	4 119 217	205 598	39 060	28 581	26 321	10 338	101 298
1.1.1995	4 348 410	4 133 362	215 048	40 608	28 853	30 276	10 211	105 100
1.1.1996	4 369 957	4 146 160	223 797	41 643	29 188	33 200	10 037	109 729
1.1.1997	4 392 714	4 160 522	232 192	43 696	29 491	34 486	9 879	114 640
1.1.1998	4 417 599	4 172 894	244 705	47 886	30 250	35 733	9 694	121 142
1.1.1999	4 445 329	4 184 587	260 742	52 338	31 795	37 430	9 787	129 392
1.1.2000	4 478 497	4 196 010	282 487	53 445	33 097	46 098	9 578	140 269
1.1.2001	4 503 436	4 205 705	297 731	53 480	33 271	48 257	9 272	153 451
1.1.2002	4 524 066	4 213 362	310 704	53 466	33 961	49 677	9 159	164 441
1.1.2003	4 552 252	4 219 459	332 793	54 277	35 243	53 249	9 413	180 611
1.1.2004	4 577 457	4 228 517	348 940	53 940	35 906	56 339	9 456	193 299
Per cent of immigrant population								
1.1.1970			100.0	44.8	25.7	9.8	13.7	6.0
1.1.1980			100.0	32.8	23.8	7.5	12.4	23.5
1.1.1986			100.0	29.0	23.1	7.2	9.2	31.5
1.1.1987			100.0	28.9	22.0	7.1	8.6	33.4
1.1.1988			100.0	27.0	20.1	7.3	7.8	37.9
1.1.1989			100.0	25.0	18.7	7.4	7.0	41.9
1.1.1990			100.0	22.6	17.3	8.1	6.4	45.6
1.1.1991			100.0	21.3	16.1	8.4	6.0	48.1
1.1.1992			100.0	20.5	15.3	8.7	5.8	49.7
1.1.1993			100.0	19.8	14.8	9.7	5.5	50.3
1.1.1994			100.0	19.0	13.9	12.8	5.0	49.3
1.1.1995			100.0	18.9	13.4	14.1	4.7	48.9
1.1.1996			100.0	18.6	13.0	14.8	4.5	49.0
1.1.1997			100.0	18.8	12.7	14.9	4.3	49.4
1.1.1998			100.0	19.6	12.4	14.6	4.0	49.5
1.1.1999			100.0	20.1	12.2	14.4	3.8	49.6
1.1.2000			100.0	18.9	11.7	16.3	3.4	49.7
1.1.2001			100.0	18.0	11.2	16.2	3.1	51.5
1.1.2002			100.0	17.2	10.9	16.0	2.9	52.9
1.1.2003			100.0	16.3	10.6	16.0	2.8	54.3
1.1.2004			100.0	15.5	10.3	16.1	2.7	55.4

¹ Own, mother's or father's country of birth if it is foreign, otherwise Norway.

² Persons with two foreign-born parents.

Source: Population statistics, Statistics Norway.

Table 2.1.2. Population by three categories of country background, country of birth and citizenship. 1 January 2004

Country background/ country of birth/citizenship	Country background			Country of birth	Citizen- ship
	Persons with immigrant background ¹	Immigrant population ²	First generation immigrants with- out Norwegian background ³		
Total	4 577 457	4 577 457	4 577 457	4 577 457	4 577 457
Norway	4 002 848	4 228 517	4 288 353	4 230 177	4 372 726
Abroad, total	574 609	348 940	289 104	347 280	204 731
Nordic countries	131 740	53 940	50 701	67 068	55 884
West-Europe else	88 268	35 906	33 445	44 448	32 188
East-Europe	68 254	56 339	49 107	49 885	28 223
Africa	50 973	40 488	31 575	33 973	20 145
Asia with Turkey	171 529	139 653	103 776	116 280	52 045
North America	35 810	8 426	8 116	16 928	8 911
South and Central America	25 242	13 158	11 384	17 133	5 612
Oceania	2 793	1 030	1 000	1 565	901
Stateless	-	-	-	-	767
Unknown	-	-	-	-	55
Selected groups					
Western countries ⁴	258 611	99 302	93 262	130 009	97 884
Non-western countries, stateless and unknown	315 998	249 638	195 842	217 271	106 847
EU-15 ⁵	208 439	84 046	78 861	105 074	83 058
EU-10 ⁶	19 890	13 109	11 678	12 162	5 601
Ex. Yugoslavia	34 320	31 798	26 484	26 322	13 852
Ex. Soviet Union	14 364	12 044	11 559	11 857	9 870

¹ Own, mother's or father's country of birth if it is foreign, otherwise Norway.

² Own, mother's or father's country of birth (if it is foreign) for persons with two foreign-born parents, otherwise Norway.

³ Own, mother's or father's country of birth for foreign-born with two foreign-born parents, otherwise Norway.

⁴ West-Europe except Turkey, and North America and Oceania.

⁵ EU members before 1 May 2004.

⁶ The new EU members from 1 May 2004.

Source: Population statistics, Statistics Norway.

Table 2.1.3. Immigrant population by country background, and three categories of foreign background/immigrant background. 40 largest nationality groups. 1 January 2004

Immigrant population, by country background	First generation immigrants without Norwegian back- ground, by country background	Born in Norway of two foreign-born parents
Immigrant population, total 348 940	First generation immi- grants, total 289 104	Born in Norway of two foreign-born parents, total 59 836
Pakistan 26 286	Sweden 21 890	Pakistan 11 412
Sweden 22 871	Denmark 17 922	Vietnam 5 552
Denmark 19 318	Pakistan 14 874	Turkey 4 251
Vietnam 17 414	Iraq 14 856	Sri Lanka 3 969
Iraq 17 295	Bosnia and Herzegovina 13 271	Somalia 3 420
Somalia 15 586	Somalia 12 166	Iraq 2 439
Bosnia and Herzegovina 15 216	Vietnam 11 862	Morocco 2 291
Iran 13 506	Iran 11 634	India 2 289
Turkey 12 971	Germany 10 515	Serbia and Montenegro 2 230
Sri Lanka 11 918	United Kingdom 10 325	Bosnia and Herzegovina 1 945
Germany 11 232	Serbia and Montenegro 8 840	Iran 1 872
Serbia and Montenegro . 11 070	Turkey 8 720	Denmark 1 396
United Kingdom 10 945	Sri Lanka 7 949	Chile 1 337
Poland 7 590	Russia 7 189	Sweden 981
Russia 7 457	USA 6 958	Philippines 913
Philippines 7 374	Poland 6 797	Poland 793
USA 7 223	Finland 6 523	China 767
Finland 6 957	Philippines 6 461	Germany 717
Chile 6 931	Thailand 5 718	Macedonia 656
India 6 836	Chile 5 594	Eritrea 625
Morocco 6 566	India 4 547	United Kingdom 620
Thailand 5 910	Afghanistan 4 496	Lebanon 544
Afghanistan 4 851	Morocco 4 275	Netherlands 502
China 4 801	China 4 034	Croatia 451
Netherlands 4 202	Netherlands 3 700	Finland 434
Iceland 3 921	Iceland 3 564	Ethiopia 395
Croatia 2 983	Croatia 2 532	Hungary 368
Ethiopia 2 659	France 2 367	Ghana 368
France 2 510	Ethiopia 2 264	Iceland 357
Macedonia 2 371	Macedonia 1 715	Afghanistan 355
Eritrea 2 191	Eritrea 1 566	Syria 336
Lebanon 1 860	Spain 1 402	Gambia 278
Hungary 1 670	Romania 1 370	Russia 268
Ghana 1 540	Lebanon 1 316	USA 265
Spain 1 503	Hungary 1 302	Algeria 240
Romania 1 466	Italy 1 247	Thailand 192
Italy 1 327	Ghana 1 172	France 143
Syria 1 255	Canada 1 158	Spain 101
Canada 1 203	Brazil 1 139	Romania 96
Brazil 1 180	Bulgaria 1 042	Italy 80

Source: Population statistics, Statistics Norway.

Table 2.1.4. First generation immigrants¹, by length of stay/first immigration year and country of origin². 1 January 2004

Country of origin	Total	Length of stay, in years			
		0-4	5-9	10-14	15+
		First immigration year			
	1999-2003	1994-1998	1989-1993	1982 and before	
First generation immigrants, total	289 104	98 055	47 247	44 237	99 565
Europe, total	133 253	41 139	25 239	18 025	48 850
Denmark	17 922	3 404	1 639	1 407	11 472
Sweden	21 890	6 430	5 309	1 967	8 184
Bosnia and Herzegovina	13 271	1 183	5 316	6 517	255
Serbia and Montenegro	8 840	4 374	1 600	1 708	1 158
Poland	6 797	1 732	879	1 309	2 877
Russia	7 189	5 029	1 555	444	161
United Kingdom	10 325	2 242	1 277	823	5 983
Germany	10 515	3 704	1 486	599	4 726
Africa, total	31 575	14 959	5 206	5 146	6 264
Morocco	4 275	935	649	843	1 848
Somalia	12 166	7 245	2 339	2 072	510
Asia, total	103 776	36 452	14 371	18 875	34 078
Afghanistan	4 496	4 050	132	200	114
Philippines	6 461	2 100	963	1 031	2 367
India	4 547	904	506	556	2 581
Iraq	14 856	10 294	2 651	1 503	408
Iran	11 634	3 428	1 985	2 688	3 533
Pakistan	14 874	2 582	1 802	1 866	8 624
Sri Lanka	7 949	1 520	1 479	2 176	2 774
Thailand	5 718	3 057	1 058	838	765
Turkey	8 720	2 142	1 375	1 644	3 559
Vietnam	11 862	1 206	839	3 917	5 900
North America, total	8 116	1 945	998	618	4 555
Canada	1 158	345	189	81	543
USA	6 958	1 600	809	537	4 012
South and Central America, total	11 384	3 122	1 295	1 501	5 466
Chile	5 594	582	327	827	3 858
Oceania, total	1 000	438	138	72	352

¹ Foreign-born persons with two foreign-born parents.

² Mainly own country of birth, but parents country of birth if both parents have same country of birth which is different from person's country of birth.

Source: Population statistics, Statistics Norway.

Table 2.1.5. Immigrant population¹, by country of origin² and municipality. Classified by proportion of inhabitants in the municipality. 1 January 2004. Absolute numbers and per cent

Municipality	Immigrant population		Population, total	Immigrant population as percentage of total population	
	All	Non-western	Population, total	All	Non-western
The whole country	348 940	249 638	4 577 457	7.6	5.5
1 0301 Oslo	113 942	91 705	521 886	21.8	17.6
2 0602 Drammen	9 059	7 626	56 688	16.0	13.5
3 2028 Båtsfjord	330	150	2 290	14.4	6.6
4 0230 Lørenskog	3 818	2 981	30 496	12.5	9.8
5 0124 Askim	1 621	1 312	13 986	11.6	9.4
6 0231 Skedsmo	4 763	3 706	41 359	11.5	9.0
7 0228 Rælingen	1 637	1 334	14 720	11.1	9.1
8 0104 Moss	2 969	2 249	27 732	10.7	8.1
9 0214 Ås	1 525	1 006	14 323	10.6	7.0
10 0219 Bærum	10 867	6 253	103 313	10.5	6.1
11 1103 Stavanger	11 820	7 705	112 405	10.5	6.9
12 0220 Asker	4 982	2 742	50 651	9.8	5.4
13 1001 Kristiansand	7 268	5 573	75 280	9.7	7.4
14 1429 Fjaler	277	175	2 910	9.5	6.0
15 0625 Nedre Eiker	1 928	1 462	21 377	9.0	6.8
16 1418 Balestrand	130	53	1 462	8.9	3.6
17 0213 Ski	2 299	1 548	26 588	8.6	5.8
18 0626 Lier	1 862	1 346	21 594	8.6	6.2
19 2003 Vadsø	521	380	6 186	8.4	6.1
20 2030 Sør-Varanger	793	525	9 500	8.3	5.5
21 0235 Ullensaker	1 975	1 310	23 784	8.3	5.5
22 0217 Opppegård	1 893	1 177	23 343	8.1	5.0
23 2002 Vardø	192	108	2 396	8.0	4.5
24 0826 Tinn	508	360	6 420	7.9	5.6
25 0618 Hemsedal	148	58	1 876	7.9	3.1
26 0216 Nesodden	1 261	557	16 074	7.8	3.5
27 0806 Skien	3 945	3 012	50 507	7.8	6.0
28 0233 Nittedal	1 492	932	19 440	7.7	4.8
29 0620 Hol	348	147	4 556	7.6	3.2
30 0101 Halden	2 087	1 302	27 464	7.6	4.7
31 1102 Sandnes	4 303	3 184	56 668	7.6	5.6
32 1124 Sola	1 481	819	19 555	7.6	4.2
33 0136 Rygge	1 028	723	13 753	7.5	5.3
34 0402 Kongsvinger	1 297	964	17 380	7.5	5.5
35 1201 Bergen	17 618	12 733	237 430	7.4	5.4
36 0105 Sarpsborg	3 644	2 735	49 423	7.4	5.5
37 0211 Vestby	939	537	12 834	7.3	4.2
38 0106 Fredrikstad	5 103	3 629	69 867	7.3	5.2
39 2022 Lebesby	107	28	1 473	7.3	1.9
40 0706 Sandefjord	2 908	1 961	40 992	7.1	4.8

¹ Persons with two foreign-born parents.

² Own, mother's or father's country of birth.

Source: Population statistics, Statistics Norway.

Table 2.1.6. Immigrant population¹ by country of origin² and municipality. Classified by size of immigrant population. 1 January 2004. Absolute numbers and per cent

Municipality	Immigrant population		Immigrant population as percentage of total population		Immigrant population in whole country, per cent		Population, total
	All	Non-western	All	Non-western	All	Non-western	
The whole country	348 940	249 638	7.6	5.5	100.0	100.0	4 577 457
1 0301 Oslo	113 942	91 705	21.8	17.6	32.7	36.7	521 886
2 1201 Bergen	17 618	12 733	7.4	5.4	5.0	5.1	237 430
3 1103 Stavanger	11 820	7 705	10.5	6.9	3.4	3.1	112 405
4 0219 Bærum	10 867	6 253	10.5	6.1	3.1	2.5	103 313
5 1601 Trondheim	9 973	7 281	6.5	4.7	2.9	2.9	154 351
6 0602 Drammen	9 059	7 626	16.0	13.5	2.6	3.1	56 688
7 1001 Kristiansand	7 268	5 573	9.7	7.4	2.1	2.2	75 280
8 0106 Fredrikstad	5 103	3 629	7.3	5.2	1.5	1.5	69 867
9 0220 Asker	4 982	2 742	9.8	5.4	1.4	1.1	50 651
10 0231 Skedsmo	4 763	3 706	11.5	9.0	1.4	1.5	41 359
11 1102 Sandnes	4 303	3 184	7.6	5.6	1.2	1.3	56 668
12 0806 Skien	3 945	3 012	7.8	6.0	1.1	1.2	50 507
13 0230 Lørenskog	3 818	2 981	12.5	9.8	1.1	1.2	30 496
14 1902 Tromsø	3 714	1 988	6.0	3.2	1.1	0.8	61 897
15 0105 Sarpsborg	3 644	2 735	7.4	5.5	1.0	1.1	49 423
16 0104 Moss	2 969	2 249	10.7	8.1	0.9	0.9	27 732
17 0706 Sandefjord	2 908	1 961	7.1	4.8	0.8	0.8	40 992
18 0709 Larvik	2 561	1 807	6.2	4.4	0.7	0.7	40 990
19 0906 Arendal	2 304	1 522	5.8	3.9	0.7	0.6	39 495
20 0213 Ski	2 299	1 548	8.6	5.8	0.7	0.6	26 588
21 0704 Tønsberg	2 201	1 408	6.1	3.9	0.6	0.6	36 046
22 0805 Porsgrunn	2 156	1 506	6.5	4.5	0.6	0.6	33 323
23 0101 Halden	2 087	1 302	7.6	4.7	0.6	0.5	27 464
24 1106 Haugesund	2 051	1 488	6.5	4.7	0.6	0.6	31 361
25 0235 Ullensaker	1 975	1 310	8.3	5.5	0.6	0.5	23 784
26 0625 Nedre Eiker	1 928	1 462	9.0	6.8	0.6	0.6	21 377
27 0217 Oppegård	1 893	1 177	8.1	5.0	0.5	0.5	23 343
28 0626 Lier	1 862	1 346	8.6	6.2	0.5	0.5	21 594
29 0502 Gjøvik	1 788	1 405	6.5	5.1	0.5	0.6	27 526
30 0701 Borre	1 718	1 139	7.0	4.6	0.5	0.5	24 671
31 0228 Rælingen	1 637	1 334	11.1	9.1	0.5	0.5	14 720
32 1504 Ålesund	1 624	1 061	4.1	2.7	0.5	0.4	40 001
33 0124 Askim	1 621	1 312	11.6	9.4	0.5	0.5	13 986
34 1804 Bodø	1 612	1 137	3.8	2.7	0.5	0.5	42 745
35 0214 Ås	1 525	1 006	10.6	7.0	0.4	0.4	14 323
36 0233 Nittedal	1 492	932	7.7	4.8	0.4	0.4	19 440
37 1124 Sola	1 481	819	7.6	4.2	0.4	0.3	19 555
38 0604 Kongsberg	1 460	827	6.3	3.6	0.4	0.3	23 154
39 0501 Lillehammer	1 445	892	5.8	3.6	0.4	0.4	25 070
40 0605 Ringerike	1 415	936	5.0	3.3	0.4	0.4	28 060

¹ Persons with two foreign-born parents.² Own, mother's or father's country of birth.

Source: Population statistics, Statistics Norway.

Table 2.1.7. Immigrant population¹, by two groups of country of origin². Urban districts of Oslo. 1 January 2004

Urban district	All	Background in Asia, Africa, South and Central America, Turkey	Immigrant population in district, per cent		Immigrant population in whole country, per cent		Popula- tion, of Oslo as per- centage of total popula- tion	Popula- tion, total
			All	Background in Asia, Africa, South and Central America, Turkey	All	Background in Asia, Africa, South and Central America, Turkey		
Whole Oslo	113 942	80 157	21.8	15.4	32.7	41.5	11.4	521 886
01 Gamle Oslo	11 444	8 974	33.1	26.0	3.3	4.6	0.8	34 579
02 Grünerløkka ...	9 628	6 922	26.2	18.8	2.8	3.6	0.8	36 779
03 Sagene	5 842	4 021	20.3	14.0	1.7	2.1	0.6	28 816
04 St. Hanshaugen	4 406	1 988	16.5	7.4	1.3	1.0	0.6	26 728
05 Frogner	7 187	2 398	16.0	5.3	2.1	1.2	1.0	45 042
06 Ullern	3 090	1 204	11.5	4.5	0.9	0.6	0.6	26 977
07 Vestre Aker	4 398	1 629	10.9	4.0	1.3	0.8	0.9	40 424
08 Nordre Aker ...	4 575	2 273	11.4	5.6	1.3	1.2	0.9	40 235
09 Bjerke	6 889	5 528	28.4	22.8	2.0	2.9	0.5	24 256
10 Grorud	7 750	6 559	31.5	26.6	2.2	3.4	0.5	24 617
11 Stovner	9 195	7 964	32.7	28.3	2.6	4.1	0.6	28 109
12 Alna	14 958	12 484	34.3	28.6	4.3	6.5	1.0	43 612
13 Østsjø	6 764	4 803	15.9	11.3	1.9	2.5	0.9	42 484
14 Nordstrand	4 337	2 210	10.1	5.1	1.2	1.1	0.9	42 939
15 Søndre Nordstrand	12 953	10 916	39.1	33.0	3.7	5.6	0.7	33 088
16 Sentrum	194	108	39.2	21.8	0.1	0.1	-	495
17 Marka	72	13	4.5	0.8	-	-	-	1 596
Unknown, without permanent address	260	163	23.4	14.7	0.1	0.1	-	1 110

¹ Persons with two foreign-born parents.

² Own, mother's or father's country of birth (not Norway).

Source: Population statistics, Statistics Norway.

**Table 2.1.8. Population by marital status, immigrant population's country of origin¹ and sex.
1 January 2004**

Country of origin	Marital status					
	Total			Unmarried		
	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
Total population	4 577 457	2 269 049	2 308 408	2 238 361	1 198 766	1 039 595
Norway	4 228 517	2 096 651	2 131 866	2 085 300	1 115 842	969 458
Immigrant population, total .	348 940	172 398	176 542	153 061	82 924	70 137
Europe, total	146 185	69 565	76 620	58 477	30 787	27 690
Bosnia and Herzegovina	15 216	7 624	7 592	6 963	3 716	3 247
Denmark	19 318	9 545	9 773	6 037	3 468	2 569
Finland	6 957	2 886	4 071	3 049	1 426	1 623
Iceland	3 921	1 931	1 990	2 112	1 083	1 029
Netherlands	4 202	2 228	1 974	1 518	800	718
Poland	7 590	2 718	4 872	2 593	1 230	1 363
Russia	7 457	2 389	5 068	3 142	1 567	1 575
Serbia and Montenegro	11 070	5 744	5 326	5 798	3 149	2 649
United Kingdom	10 945	6 404	4 541	2 718	1 815	903
Sweden	22 871	10 506	12 365	10 785	5 390	5 395
Germany	11 232	5 317	5 915	4 208	2 185	2 023
Africa, total	40 488	22 363	18 125	21 325	11 817	9 508
Eritrea	2 191	1 154	1 037	1 289	689	600
Ethiopia	2 659	1 465	1 194	1 522	870	652
Morocco	6 566	3 741	2 825	2 948	1 635	1 313
Somalia	15 586	8 546	7 040	9 225	5 182	4 043
Asia, total	139 653	70 051	69 602	65 753	36 255	29 498
Afghanistan	4 851	2 895	1 956	2 972	1 834	1 138
Philippines	7 374	1 837	5 537	2 235	1 018	1 217
India	6 836	3 489	3 347	2 800	1 501	1 299
Iraq	17 295	10 188	7 107	9 191	5 424	3 767
Iran	13 506	7 535	5 971	6 611	3 988	2 623
Pakistan	26 286	13 695	12 591	13 179	7 042	6 137
Sri Lanka	11 918	6 159	5 759	5 685	3 089	2 596
Thailand	5 910	911	4 999	1 584	740	844
Turkey	12 971	7 140	5 831	5 531	3 002	2 529
Vietnam	17 414	8 752	8 662	9 369	5 001	4 368
North America, total	8 426	3 723	4 703	1 693	897	796
South and Central America, total	13 158	6 141	7 017	5 473	2 950	2 523
Chile	6 931	3 692	3 239	3 370	1 850	1 520
Oceania, total	1 030	555	475	340	218	122

Table 2.1.8. Population by marital status, immigrant population's country of origin¹ and sex.
(cont.) **1 January 2004**

Country of origin	Marital status					
	Married			Other ²		
	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
Total population	1 687 878	845 547	842 331	651 218	224 736	426 482
Norway	1 534 728	773 323	761 405	608 489	207 486	401 003
Immigrant population, total .	153 150	72 224	80 926	42 729	17 250	25 479
Europe, total	65 672	30 158	35 514	22 036	8 620	13 416
Bosnia and Herzegovina	6 920	3 502	3 418	1 333	406	927
Denmark	9 389	4 505	4 884	3 892	1 572	2 320
Finland	2 621	934	1 687	1 287	526	761
Iceland	1 316	637	679	493	211	282
Netherlands	2 155	1 159	996	529	269	260
Poland	3 625	1 171	2 454	1 372	317	1 055
Russia	3 596	728	2 868	719	94	625
Serbia and Montenegro	4 452	2 236	2 216	820	359	461
United Kingdom	5 984	3 508	2 476	2 243	1 081	1 162
Sweden	8 493	3 739	4 754	3 593	1 377	2 216
Germany	5 128	2 468	2 660	1 896	664	1 232
Africa, total	14 162	7 942	6 220	5 001	2 604	2 397
Eritrea	657	356	301	245	109	136
Ethiopia	844	457	387	293	138	155
Morocco	2 818	1 588	1 230	800	518	282
Somalia	4 806	2 758	2 048	1 555	606	949
Asia, total	62 627	29 443	33 184	11 273	4 353	6 920
Afghanistan	1 666	1 011	655	213	50	163
Philippines	4 221	674	3 547	918	145	773
India	3 457	1 752	1 705	579	236	343
Iraq	7 196	4 284	2 912	908	480	428
Iran	5 196	2 782	2 414	1 699	765	934
Pakistan	11 813	6 145	5 668	1 294	508	786
Sri Lanka	5 739	2 889	2 850	494	181	313
Thailand	3 431	83	3 348	895	88	807
Turkey	6 270	3 469	2 801	1 170	669	501
Vietnam	6 593	3 196	3 397	1 452	555	897
North America, total	4 814	2 237	2 577	1 919	589	1 330
South and Central America, total	5 346	2 167	3 179	2 339	1 024	1 315
Chile	2 390	1 258	1 132	1 171	584	587
Oceania, total	529	277	252	161	60	101

¹ Own, mother's or father's country of birth (where foreign) for persons with two foreign-born parents, otherwise Norway.

² Divorced, widow/widower, separated or registered partnership and separated or surviving partner.

Source: Population statistics, Statistics Norway.

Table 2.1.9. Immigrant population¹, by five groups of country of origin² and county. 1 January 2004

	Country of origin					
	Total	Nordic countries	West Europe except Turkey	East Europe	North America and Oceania	Asia, Africa, Central and South America, Turkey
Total	348 940	53 940	35 906	56 339	9 456	193 299
01 Østfold	19 026	3 655	1 493	5 035	326	8 517
02 Akershus	42 584	9 039	5 222	6 250	1 332	20 741
03 Oslo	113 942	12 596	7 608	11 548	2 033	80 157
04 Hedmark	7 805	1 894	792	1 681	168	3 270
05 Oppland	7 527	1 412	836	1 811	173	3 295
06 Buskerud	20 263	3 275	1 932	3 513	352	11 191
07 Vestfold	13 484	2 599	1 659	2 885	437	5 904
08 Telemark	9 710	1 655	1 023	2 080	209	4 743
09 Aust-Agder	5 448	1 006	741	1 214	329	2 158
10 Vest-Agder	11 675	1 421	1 225	2 840	715	5 474
11 Rogaland	25 899	3 339	4 157	4 527	1 275	12 601
12 Hordaland	23 937	2 801	3 436	3 474	912	13 314
14 Sogn og Fjordane	4 313	674	681	834	112	2 012
15 Møre og Romsdal	8 787	1 306	1 197	1 815	257	4 212
16 Sør-Trøndelag	12 927	1 839	1 587	2 277	352	6 872
17 Nord-Trøndelag	3 418	727	382	606	91	1 612
18 Nordland	7 643	1 492	761	1 658	183	3 549
19 Troms	6 489	1 678	956	1 152	175	2 528
20 Finnmark Finnmarku	4 063	1 532	218	1 139	25	1 149

¹ Persons with two foreign-born parents.

² Own, mother's or father's country of birth.

Source: Populations statistics, Statistics Norway.

2.2. Demographic changes

- From 1 January 2000 until 1 January 2004, the immigrant population increased by 66 500 persons. At the same time, the population as a whole increased by 99 000.
- From 2000-2003, the immigrant population had an excess of births of 13 700 and an immigration surplus of 51 400.
- In 2003, the immigrant population increased by 16 100 persons.
- The immigrant population growth in 2003 was due to a net immigration of 12 300.
- Net immigration was largest among Russians with 1 600.
- 7 900 were granted Norwegian citizenship in 2003, which was 1 150 fewer than the previous year.
- The number of contracted marriages between two persons from the immigrant population has increased every year in line with the increase in the immigrant population.
- The highest total fertility rate (TFR) in 2003 was 3.24 for African women, followed by 2.60 for Asian women. The lowest rate was 1.75 for West European women, which is on a par with Norwegian women.

Changes in the immigrant population

The immigrant population changes for the same reasons as the Norwegian population - number of births, deaths, immigrations and emigrations. From 2000-2003, the population in Norway increased by 99 000. The increase in the immigrant population was about 66 500¹ - where 13 700 was due to an excess of births and 51 400 to immigration surplus. First generation immigrants accounted for the

entire immigration surplus, and persons born in Norway with two foreign-born parents for the excess of births (table 2.2.1).

The immigrant population increased by about 16 100 in 2003. The Asian immigrant population accounted for half of the increase. In relative terms however, the African immigrant population increased the most by 11 per cent. The Nordic immigrant population showed a small decrease (table 2.2.3).

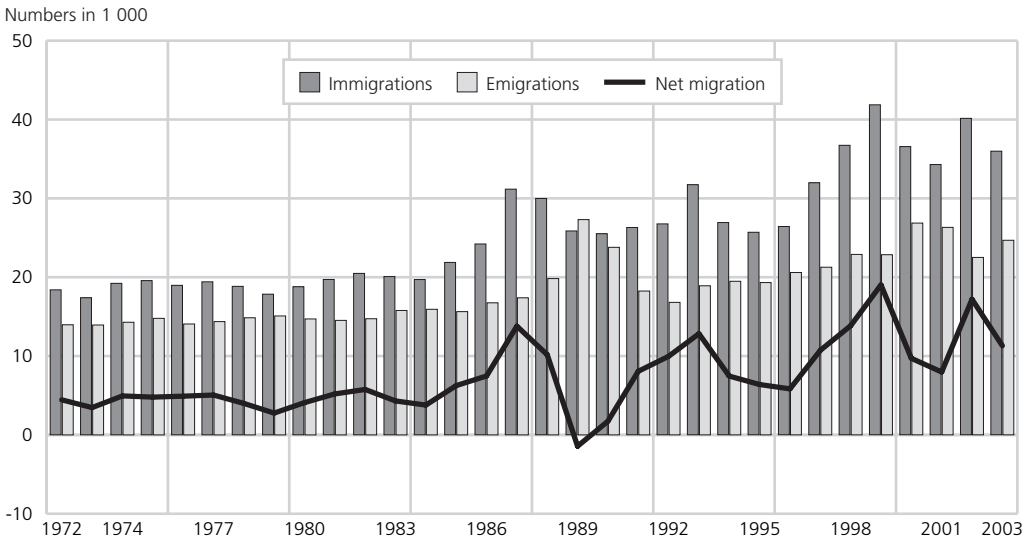
In 2003, the excess of births for the immigrant population was 3 800. It was highest among Africans and Asians, with 2 500 and 1 000 respectively. The Nordic and North-American immigrant population had a small birth loss.

The immigration surplus for the immigrant population was 11 700 in 2003, about 400 more than the total immigration surplus in Norway. Persons from Asia had the largest immigration surplus with 5 600, followed by those from Africa with 2 800 and East Europe with 2 500.

Lower immigration surplus

Norway had a net immigration from abroad of 11 300 in 2003 – almost 6 000 less than in the previous year. Despite the net immigration being much lower than in 2002, it was still higher than the average for the previous ten years.

The decline in net migration is due to 4 200 fewer immigrations and 1 700 more emigrations than in 2002. The increase in emigration is to a large extent caused by persons that are registered as emigrated due to the changes in the registration in the National Population Register².

Figure 2.2.1. Immigration and emigration. 1972-2003

Source: Population statistics, Statistics Norway.

In 2003, there were 36 000 immigrations and 24 700 emigrations. Since 1958, the emigration figure has only been higher in 1989, 2000 and 2001, and only from 1998 to 2000 and in 2002 has there been higher immigration than in 2003. Since 1971, Norway has had an immigration surplus every year except for 1989 (table 2.2.4 and figure 2.2.1).

Almost every year since 1958 has seen a net emigration of Norwegian citizens. The figure peaked in 1989 when 9 300 more Norwegian citizens moved from Norway than to Norway. Many of these moved from a poor labour market in Norway to a good labour market in Sweden. Among foreign citizens there has been a net immigration almost every year since 1958. In 2003, 10 300 Norwegian citizens moved from Norway, while 9 200 moved to Norway.

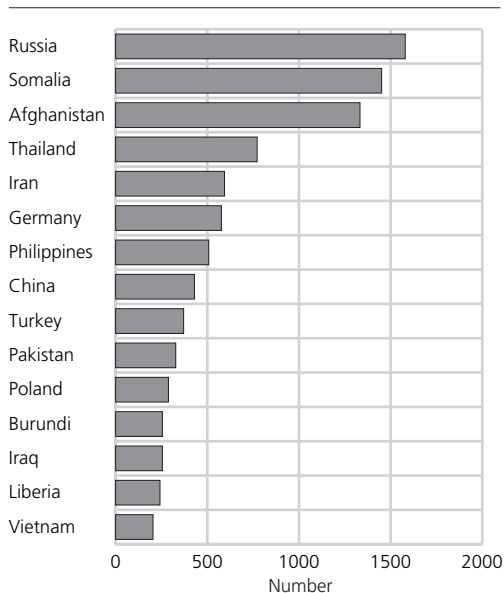
The immigration figure varies slightly from one year to another due to variations

in immigration policies, as well as changing needs for immigration and protection in Norway. With regard to emigration, variations from one year to another are less than for immigration, and are mostly determined by the economic cycles in Norway.

Largest net immigration from Russia

Among foreign citizens, the highest net immigration was for Russians with 1 600, which is an increase of almost 300 from 2002. In recent years, there has been an increase in Russian women who have been granted a residence permit in order to get married. There has also been an increase in the number of refugees with Russian citizenship; some of whom are undoubtedly refugees from the war in Chechnya. There was also a large net immigration by Somalis with 1 500, Afghans with 1 300 and Thais with 800. People from Iraq, who had the largest net immigration in 2002 with 2 400, only had a net immigration of 250 in 2003. The decrease in

Figure 2.2.2. Net immigration of foreign citizens. 2003



Source: Population statistics, Statistics Norway.

numbers is due to both increased emigration and decreased immigration. Citizens from Liberia had for the first time a larger net immigration to Norway with 250. The immigrants from Liberia are refugees from the acts of war there (figure 2.2.2).

With regard to the figures from the new EU members, there has been a larger decline in the net immigration for almost all the countries compared with 2002. This is most likely to be connected with the expansion of the EU. Either fewer people moved from their native country in the hope of better times, or because from 1 May 2004 it will be easier to move to Norway and be granted a work permit and residence permit. Citizens from Poland made up the largest group in both 2002 and 2003, and it was also the group with the largest decline. In 2003, there was a net immigration by Poles of 300 compared to 600 in 2002.

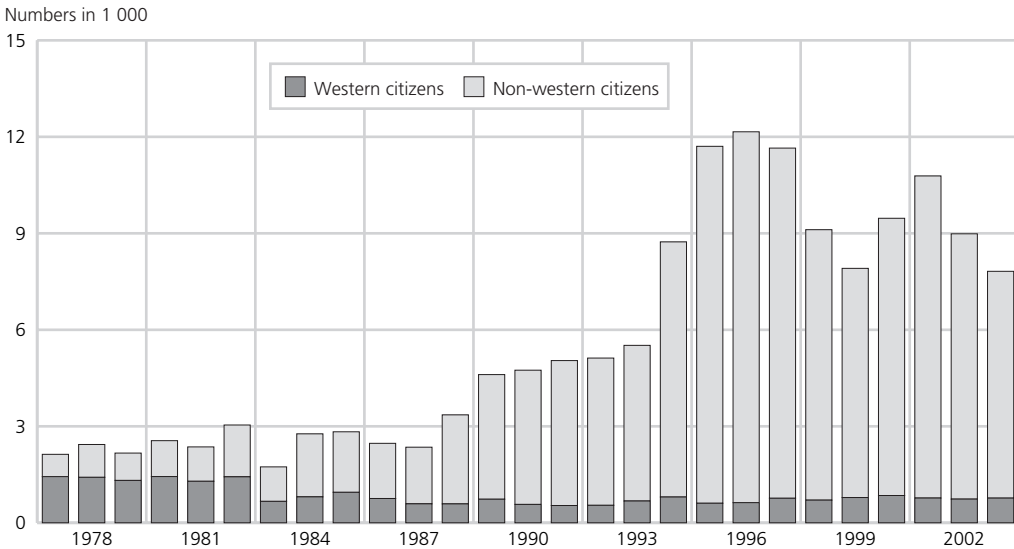
Fewer people became Norwegian citizens

In 2003, about 7 900 persons were granted Norwegian citizenship. This was 1 150 fewer than the year before, and 2 900 fewer than in 2001. Most Norwegian citizenships were granted to Bosnians with 1 950. During the past four years, earlier Bosnians have been granted more than 7 000 Norwegian citizenships. The high number of naturalisations among earlier Bosnians is due to many of them having been resident in Norway for 7 years, thus qualifying to apply for Norwegian citizenship. Many persons who held Pakistani and Iraqi citizenships were also granted Norwegian citizenship with 500 and 400 respectively.

More than 7 000, or about 90 per cent, of those who were granted Norwegian citizenship in 2003 were previously citizens of a non-western country. The total number of naturalisations from 1977 to 2004 is 155 000, and more than 130 000 of these applied to non-western citizens (table 2.2.5 and figure 2.2.3).

Increase in the number of contracted marriages in immigrant population

The number of contracted marriages between two persons from the immigrant population has increased every year in line with the increase of the immigrant population. In 1990, 920 marriages were contracted between two immigrants, or 4.2 per cent of all contracted marriages in this year. In 2003, the figure was 2 330 or 9.7 per cent. The immigrant population has almost doubled from 1990 to 2004, and mainly applies to persons with non-western backgrounds. The increase is closely related to the size of the group and the age structure.

Figure 2.2.3. Western and non-western citizens who have obtained Norwegian citizenship. 1977-2003

Source: Population statistics, Statistics Norway.

Tables 2.2.6 and 2.2.7 show marriages contracted in 1990 and 2003 by country of origin of the spouses. With regard to marriages contracted between two persons with backgrounds from the same region, the figure has increased for all groups. In 1990, 375 marriages were contracted between two persons from the same continent and in 2003 the figure was 1 450. The increase was especially large among those with Asian backgrounds, from 245 in 1990 to 830 in 2003, followed by East Europe from 21 to 290 and Africa from 42 to 166.

Women from Russia, Thailand and Philippines on top

Of the Norwegian men who married women from abroad, 74 per cent married a non-western woman. Eighteen per cent of women came from western countries and in 8 per cent of the cases the information about country of origin was missing.

The number of Norwegian men who married an Asian woman increased in the period 1990-2003. In 1990, 150 such marriages were contracted, and in 2003 the figure was 1 130. Six hundred of these came from Thailand and 270 from the Philippines.

The number of Norwegian men who married an East European woman also increased considerably in the same period. In 1990, only 65 marriages were contracted between an East European woman and Norwegian man. The official figure for 2003 was 850, of which 400 women were from Russia (table 2.2.8).

About 11 300 marriages were dissolved by divorce in 2003. In 880 cases, or 7.8 per cent, both spouses had an immigrant background (table 2.2.9). Marriages among immigrants seem to be stable. Cross-national marriages seem to have a more mixed divorce pattern. Some years

ago, the divorce rate for marriages between Norwegian women and African men was so high that many suspected that it was related to pro-forma marriages. This pattern is no longer so evident (Østby 2001).

Higher fertility among women in the immigrant population

Since the mid 1970s, the total fertility rate (TFR) in Norway has been lower than 2.1. This is the average number of children each woman needs to give birth to in order for the population in Norway to remain stable when immigration is not taken into account. TFR was lowest at the beginning of the 1980s - slightly below 1.7, while in the 1990s the figure was between 1.8 and 1.9. At the turn of the century, TRF decreased slightly, and in 2003 it was 1.80.

Norwegian women have generally had a lower TFR than what is estimated for Norway as a whole, while women in the immigrant population have had a higher TFR. This was also the case in 2003. Norwegian women had a TFR of 1.73 and those who belonged to the immigrant population had a TFR of 2.36. Figures from 2001 and 2002 were slightly lower for both groups than in 2003.

There were major differences in TFR among the different groups in the immigrant population. Women of western origin had a lower TFR than those of non-western origin, with 1.88 and 2.49 respectively. African women had the highest TFR with 3.24, followed by Asian women with 2.60. Women from West Europe had the lowest TFR with 1.75, at the same level as the Norwegian women. Women from the other Nordic countries had a slightly higher TFR than Norwegian women (table 2.2.10).

Table 2.2.1. Population 1 January 2000 and 2004 and changes for the period 2000-2003, by immigrant category

Country of origin	Population 1 January 2000	Live births	Deaths	Excess of births	Immigrations	Emigrations	Net migrations in population ¹	Increase	Population 1 January 2004
Population, total	4 478 497	227 822	174 926	52 896	146 885	100 783	46 102	98 960	4 577 457
Without immigrant background	3 994 227	186 486	168 392	18 094	23 211	31 391	-8 180	8 621	4 002 848
With immigrant background, total ..	484 270	41 336	6 534	34 802	123 674	69 392	54 282	90 339	574 609
First generation immigrants without Norwegian background	238 462	0	4 679	-4 679	111 275	57 056	54 219	50 642	289 104
Persons born in Norway with two foreign-born parents	44 025	18 608	180	18 428	1 474	4 315	-2 841	15 811	59 836
Foreign-born with one parent born in Norway	22 791	3	193	-190	3 802	1 949	1 853	2 938	25 729
Born in Norway with one foreign-born parent	147 805	22 725	1 315	21 410	3 225	5 278	-2 053	19 688	167 493
Foreign born with both parents born in Norway ²	31 187	0	167	-167	3 898	794	3 104	1 260	32 447
Immigrant population³	282 487	18 608	4 859	13 749	112 749	61 371	51 378	66 453	348 940
Non-immigrant population	4 196 010	209 214	170 067	39 147	34 136	39 412	-5 276	32 507	4 228 517

¹ The population increase is different if you take the difference between 1 January 2004 and 1 January 2003, or using births - deaths + immigration - emigration. This is due to data technical issues.

² Foreign adopted persons are included here.

³ Sum of the categories "First generation immigrants without Norwegian background" and "Persons born in Norway with two foreign-born parents".

Source: Populations statistics, Statistics Norway.

Table 2.2.2. Population 1 January 2003 and 2004 and changes in 2003, by immigrant category

Country of origin	Population 1 January 2003	Live births	Deaths	Excess of births	Immigrations	Emigrations	Net migrations	Increase in population ¹	Population 1 January 2004
Population, total	4 552 252	56 458	42 478	13 980	35 957	24 672	11 285	25 205	4 577 457
Without immigrant background	4 000 885	45 585	40 859	4 726	5 777	7 304	-1 527	1 963	4 002 848
With immigrant background, total ..	551 367	10 873	1 619	9 254	30 180	17 368	12 812	23 242	574 609
First generation immigrants without Norwegian background	277 262	0	1 154	-1 154	27 067	14 403	12 664	11 842	289 104
Persons born in Norway with two foreign-born parents	55 531	5 034	49	4 985	345	1 127	-782	4 305	59 836
Foreign born with one parent born in Norway	24 927	2	47	-45	1 097	471	626	802	25 729
Born in Norway with one foreign-born parent	161 981	5 837	325	5 512	806	1 203	-397	5 512	167 493
Foreign born with both parents born in Norway ²	31 666	0	44	-44	865	164	701	781	32 447
Immigrant population³	332 793	5 034	1 203	3 831	27 412	15 530	11 882	16 147	348 940
Non-immigrant population	4 219 459	51 424	41 275	10 149	8 545	9 142	-597	9 058	4 228 517

¹ The population increase is different if you take the difference between 1 January 2004 and 1 January 2003, or using births - deaths + immigration - emigration. This is due to data technical issues.

² Foreign adopted persons are included here.

³ Sum of the categories "First generation immigrants without Norwegian background" and "Persons born in Norway with two foreign-born parents".

Source: Populations statistics, Statistics Norway.

Table 2.2.3. Population 1 January 2003 and 2004 and changes in 2003, by country of origin. Foreign country background applies to immigrant population

Country background	Population 1 January 2003	Live births	Deaths	Excess of births	Immi- gra- tions	Emi- gra- tions	Net mi- gra- tions ²	In- crease in popu- lation	Popu- lation 1 January 2004
Total	4 552 252	56 458	42 478	13 980	35 957	24 672	11 285	25 205	4 577 457
Non-immigrant population	4 219 459	51 424	41 275	10 149	8 545	9 142	-597	9 058	4 228 517
Immigrant population, total	332 793	5 034	1 203	3 831	27 412	15 530	11 882	16 147	348 940
Western countries . Non-western countries	98 933	535	771	-236	8 889	8 535	354	369	99 302
Nordic countries	233 860	4 499	432	4 067	18 523	6 995	11 528	15 778	249 638
Rest of West Europe	54 277	304	402	-98	5 175	5 413	-238	-337	53 940
East Europe	35 243	214	203	11	2 915	2 269	646	663	35 906
North America and Oceania	53 249	705	173	532	4 547	2 020	2 527	3 090	56 339
Africa, Asia, South and Central America, Turkey	9 413	17	166	-149	799	853	-54	43	9 456
	180 611	3 794	259	3 535	13 976	4 975	9 001	12 688	193 299

¹ The population increase is different if you take the difference between 1 January 2004 and 1 January 2003, or using births - deaths + immigration - emigration. This is due to data technical issues.

Source: Population statistics, Statistics Norway.

Table 2.2.4. Migrations to and from abroad, by county. 1996-2003

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Immigration	26 407	31 957	36 704	41 841	36 542	34 264	40 122	35 957
Emigration	20 590	21 257	22 881	22 842	26 854	26 309	22 498	24 672
Net migration	5 817	10 700	13 823	18 999	9 688	7 955	17 174	11 285
01 Østfold	226	541	590	554	244	101	315	279
02 Akershus	652	1 309	1 643	1 703	554	839	1 289	814
03 Oslo	1 910	3 106	2 156	2 472	549	688	3 610	863
04 Hedmark	191	333	349	880	526	145	575	376
05 Oppland	95	239	506	893	478	259	672	615
06 Buskerud	234	552	548	813	484	368	767	622
07 Vestfold	205	434	505	692	324	261	646	227
08 Telemark	187	451	530	721	478	405	451	640
09 Aust-Agder	43	114	241	556	210	141	386	288
10 Vest-Agder	166	187	390	1 023	451	294	838	693
11 Rogaland	27	404	1 513	1 453	- 87	671	973	998
12 Hordaland	- 170	338	1 142	1 701	1 087	926	1 500	1 169
14 Sogn og Fjordane	263	236	387	294	352	417	541	272
15 Møre og Romsdal	260	399	618	758	832	454	1 045	665
16 Sør-Trøndelag	234	507	642	1 001	603	439	1 036	388
17 Nord-Trøndelag	137	153	435	514	389	212	401	408
18 Nordland	499	708	615	1 453	1 076	739	990	1 025
19 Troms	367	319	563	827	460	301	706	639
20 Finnmark Finnmarku	291	370	450	691	678	295	433	304

Source: Populations statistics, Statistics Norway.

Table 2.2.5. Naturalisations by previous citizenship and world region. 1977-2003

	Western countries					Non-western countries			
	Total countries, total	Western countries	The Nordic countries	West Europe, else	North America and Oceania	Non- western countries, total	East Europe	Africa, Asia, Turkey and South and Central America	Stateless and unknown
1977-2003	155 224	23 163	11 301	9 519	2 343	130 399	25 346	105 053	1 662
1977	2 213	1 436	814	491	131	693	168	525	84
1978	2 501	1 414	710	584	120	1 021	230	791	66
1979	2 242	1 318	592	599	127	850	136	714	74
1980	2 680	1 438	553	721	164	1 116	165	951	126
1981	2 441	1 291	541	574	176	1 069	138	931	81
1982	3 095	1 430	534	735	161	1 611	192	1 419	54
1983	1 754	667	374	234	59	1 072	128	944	15
1984	2 798	807	387	361	59	1 959	262	1 697	32
1985	2 851	948	470	397	81	1 882	213	1 669	21
1986	2 486	756	365	318	73	1 715	186	1 529	15
1987	2 370	590	308	229	53	1 761	165	1 596	19
1988	3 364	588	271	255	62	2 768	272	2 496	8
1989	4 622	733	366	302	65	3 875	600	3 275	14
1990	4 757	572	279	248	45	4 173	433	3 740	12
1991	5 055	538	251	227	60	4 506	441	4 065	11
1992	5 132	544	252	236	56	4 578	485	4 093	10
1993	5 538	678	337	266	75	4 839	610	4 229	21
1994	8 778	802	403	316	83	7 932	1 054	6 878	44
1995	11 778	608	283	265	60	11 097	1 343	9 754	73
1996	12 237	627	248	294	85	11 530	1 049	10 481	80
1997	12 037	763	351	322	90	10 887	1 178	9 709	387
1998	9 244	705	351	275	79	8 408	1 111	7 297	131
1999	7 988	786	467	239	80	7 125	1 728	5 397	77
2000	9 517	849	494	274	81	8 619	2 818	5 801	49
2001	10 838	770	473	222	75	10 014	4 724	5 290	54
2002	9 041	737	394	286	57	8 248	2 523	5 725	56
2003	7 867	768	433	249	86	7 051	2 994	4 057	48

Source: Population statistics, Statistics Norway.

Table 2.2.6. Marriages contracted¹, by country of origin² of male and female. 2003

Country of origin of male	Total	Country of origin of female								
		Nor-way	Rest of Nordic countries	East Europe	West Europe	Asia including Turkey	Africa	North America and Oceania	South and Central America	Stateless and unknown
Total	24 119	18 579	398	1 244	259	2 185	338	129	357	630
Norway	20 008	16 797	292	853	178	1 133	100	114	278	263
Rest of Nordic countries	437	321	59	12	6	25	2	1	6	5
East Europe	516	173	5	292	2	3	2	2	1	36
West Europe	439	326	14	11	54	15	3	3	3	10
Asia including Turkey	1 433	309	8	30	9	831	11	6	5	224
Africa	461	186	5	4	4	7	166	3	2	84
North America and Oceania	163	97	2	4	1	3	.	.	48	8
South and Central America	168	147	2	5	2	9	2	.	1	.
Stateless and unknown	494	223	11	33	3	159	52	.	13	.

¹ At least one of the spouses resident in Norway.

² If not Norway, then the person has two foreign-born parents and four foreign-born grandparents. If foreign, own, mother's or father's country of birth is used.

Table 2.2.7. Marriages contracted¹, by country of origin² of male and female. 1990

Country of origin of male	Total	Country of origin of female								
		Nor-way	Rest of Nordic countries	East Europe	West Europe	Asia including Turkey	Africa	North America and Oceania	South and Central America	Stateless and unknown
Total	21 926	19 736	364	112	142	498	71	60	62	881
Norway	19 635	18 367	302	66	116	147	12	54	39	532
Rest of Nordic countries	281	222	38	2	3	3	1	-	1	11
East Europe	143	83	4	21	1	3	-	-	-	31
West Europe	205	170	4	5	11	2	-	2	1	10
Asia including Turkey	610	120	4	4	2	245	3	1	3	228
Africa	222	109	4	3	-	3	42	1	-	60
North America and Oceania	61	54	1	1	3	2	-	-	9	-
South and Central America	56	35	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	9
Stateless and unknown	713	576	6	9	5	93	13	2	9	.

¹ At least one of the spouses resident in Norway.

² If not Norway, then the person has two foreign-born parents and four foreign-born grandparents. If foreign, own, mother's or father's country of birth is used.

Table 2.2.8. Marriages contracted¹, by country of origin of male and female². Selected nationalities. 2003

	Both with same country of origin	Country of origin of male is Norwegian and country of origin of female is foreign	Country of origin of female is Norwegian and country of origin of male is foreign
Norway	16 797	16 797	16 797
Denmark	15	72	111
Sweden	22	150	166
Bosnia and Herzegovina	69	8	13
Serbia and Montenegro	66	13	60
Russia	18	404	7
Turkey	115	21	120
Philippines	12	269	
Iraq	83	4	57
Iran	78	14	29
Pakistan	122	9	13
Sri Lanka	70	10	9
Thailand	12	598	7
Vietnam	121	47	5
Morocco	31	..	30
Somalia	29	16	..

¹ At least one of the spouses resident in Norway.

² If not Norway, then the person has two foreign-born parents and four foreign-born grandparents. If foreign, own, mother's or father's country of birth is used.

Table 2.2.9. Divorces¹, by country of origin of male and female². 2003

Country of origin of male	Country of origin of female							Un- known
	Total	Norway	Europe, except Turkey	Asia, including Turkey	Africa	North America and Oceania	South and Central America	
Total	11 265	9 585	596	622	215	48	109	90
Norway	9 563	8 761	408	234	36	43	66	15
Europe, except Turkey	560	377	142	13	3	1	2	22
Asia, including Turkey	593	186	20	354	5	-	1	27
Africa	282	116	8	3	129	1	-	25
North America and Oceania .	76	71	2	1	-	2	-	-
South and Central America ..	81	40	2	-	1	-	37	1
Unknown	110	34	14	17	41	1	3	-

¹ At least one of the spouses resident in Norway, and at least one of the spouses with two foreign-born parents.

² If born in a foreign country, own, mother's or father's country of birth.

Table 2.2.10. Total fertility rate¹. 2001-2003

Country of origin	2001	2002	2003
Total population	1,78	1,75	1,80
Non-immigrant population	1,73	1,69	1,73
Immigrant population, total²	2,33	2,32	2,36
Nordic countries	1,89	1,85	1,89
West Europe	1,90	2,03	1,75
East Europe	1,84	1,83	1,90
North America and Oceania	2,05	1,86	2,11
South and Central America	2,29	1,91	2,05
Asia, including Turkey	2,61	2,58	2,60
Africa	3,18	3,13	3,24
Western countries	1,90	1,91	1,88
Non-western countries	2,47	2,43	2,49

¹ Total of one-year-age-specific fertility rates 15-49 years. The average number of live-born children born to a woman passing through the child-bearing period exposed at each age to the existing fertility but not exposed to mortality.

² The fertility of women who have two foreign born-parents and four foreign-born grandparents.

Source: Statistics Norway.

2.3. Refugees

- About 100 000 persons with refugee backgrounds were living in Norway at the beginning of January 2004, thereby making up 2.2 per cent of the total population.
- Three quarters of the refugees were registered as principal applicants on 1 January 2004, while the rest came to Norway as relatives of refugees.
- Seventy-four per cent of the refugee population came from third world countries, and 26 per cent came from East Europe.
- Refugees from Iraq and Bosnia and Herzegovina were the two largest groups with 14 000 and 12 600, respectively.
- Refugees aged 20-49 made up 64 per cent of the refugees, while only 5 per cent were aged 60 years or older.
- By 1 January 2004, there were approximately 13 000 more male refugees than female.
- Oslo was the county with the highest number of refugees, 27 000 and 27 per cent of all the refugees in the country.

Refugees represented 5.2 per cent of the population of the Norwegian capital.

- In 2003, nearly 15 600 persons applied for asylum in Norway. Asylum seekers came from 111 different countries.
- Nearly 1 760 persons were granted political asylum in Norway in 2003, and 3 200 persons were granted residence on humanitarian grounds. One thousand and five hundred came through family reunification to persons who had been granted protection.

100 000 with refugee backgrounds

During 2003, the number of persons with a refugee background increased by 5 800. At the beginning of January 2004, Norway's refugee population totalled almost 100 000 people. With an increase of 1 100 in 2003, the Somali refugee population had the strongest growth.

Almost 75 per cent of the refugee population was registered as principal applicants, while 25 per cent came to Norway as dependants (table 2.3.1).

One quarter of the refugees from East Europe

The definition "refugee" refers to first generation immigrants (family included), who have come to Norway to seek protection, and have been granted asylum or residence on humanitarian grounds. Refugees made up 40 per cent of the total non-western immigrant population on 1 January 2004. Children born in Norway by refugees do not count in the statistics of refugees. Around one quarter of the refugee population came from East Europe, while the rest came from third world countries (Asia, Africa, South and Central America and Turkey). Refugees from Iraq and Bosnia and Herzegovina were the two largest groups with 14 000 and 12 600 respectively (table 2.3.1).

Less than half have ten years residence

At the beginning of 2004, 51 per cent of the refugees had lived in Norway for less than ten years. Thirty-five per cent had lived in the country for less than five years, while only 6 per cent had 20 years of residence or more (table 2.3.2).

Thirty-three per cent, or 3 500, of the Vietnamese refugees had more than 20 years of residence. Among those with the shortest durations of stay, i.e. less than five years, are the Russian and Afghani refugees with more than 90 per cent.

Few old people among the refugees

The refugee population is younger than the Norwegian population: 24 per cent of the refugees were younger than 20 and only 5 per cent were 60 years or older. The proportion of persons younger than 20 in the population as a whole was about the same as for refugees, but there are major differences in the older age groups. On 1 January 2004, 19 per cent of the total population was over 60 (figure 2.3.1).

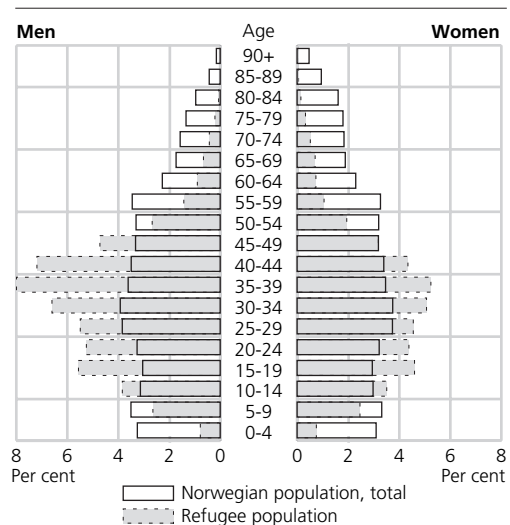
More men

On 1 January 2004, there were approximately 13 000 more male refugees than female. The male surplus is particularly strong among refugees from third world countries, such as Iraq, Iran, Sri Lanka and Somalia, while the gender balance is more equal among the East European refugees, due to the fact that refugees from the Balkans often constitute whole families.

The majority live in Oslo

The refugee population increased in all Norwegian counties in 2003 but Oslo is still the county with the most refugees. Around 27 000 refugees lived in Oslo, which accounts for 27 per cent of the total number of refugees in Norway. Refugees in Oslo made up 5.2 per cent of the city's total population. Most refugees lived in Oslo and Akershus. The fewest refugees are found in Finnmark and Nord-Trøndelag (table 2.3.3).

Figure 2.3.1. Population total and refugees, by age and sex. 1 January 2004. Per cent



Source: Population statistics, Statistics Norway.

About the statistics

Statistics on refugees are produced annually. The data are based on a coordinated effort in 1994 to pool the data from Statistics Norway's population statistics system and the Norwegian Directorate of Immigration's Fremkon register and Refugee Register. The statistics are produced in order to be able to analytically separate people with refugee backgrounds from other immigrants, and are not intended to replace the statistics on applications and legal decisions produced by the Norwegian Directorate of Immigration.

Asylum seekers arriving in 2003

Just over 15 600 persons applied for asylum in Norway in 2003, which is 10 per cent fewer than in 2002, but the second highest number of asylum seekers ever in a single year (figure 2.3.2). Asylum seekers came from 111 different countries. More than 43 per cent came from Europe, 33 per cent from Asia and 22 per cent from Africa. The greatest number of applications came from Serbia and Montenegro (2 180), Afghanistan (2 032), Russia (1 893) and Somalia (1 601). Altogether, persons from these countries accounted for more than half of all asylum seekers in Norway in 2003.

Compared with 2002, there was a marked decrease from 1 600 to less than 1 000 asylum seekers from Iraq. The number of asylum seekers from the Ukraine fell by 90 per cent, from 770 to 90. The greatest increase was in the number of applicants from Afghanistan, which increased from 786 in 2002 to 2 032 in 2003.

Record numbers granted asylum, fewer granted protection

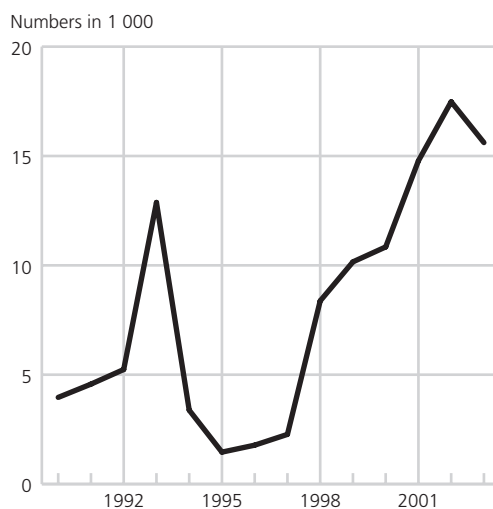
In 2003, 1 758 persons were granted asylum in Norway, which is 60 more than in 2002. Never before have so many people been granted asylum in Norway in

the course of one year. The greatest number of these (65 per cent) was resettlement refugees. Six hundred of those who applied were granted political asylum in Norway and 3 200 were granted residence on humanitarian grounds. One thousand and five hundred came through family reunification. The total number of persons that were granted protection including family members reunited with these principal applicants, was 6 400 in 2003, a reduction of 2 400 persons compared to 2002. The decrease is mainly due to the fewer number of family reunifications permits issued, which has fallen by 27 per cent compared to 2002 (table 2.3.5).

Unaccompanied minor asylum seekers

Unaccompanied minor asylum seekers are persons under eighteen who arrive in Norway and apply for asylum without being accompanied by parents or other persons with parental responsibility. There was a steady increase in the number of unaccompanied minor asylum seekers to

Figure 2.3.2. Number of asylum seekers to Norway, 1990-2003



Source: The Norwegian Directorate of Immigration.

Definitions

Refugee: in the legal sense, the term "refugee" applies to resettlement refugees and asylum seekers who have been granted asylum. This is also a common term applied to a person who is fleeing, for example because of war, unrest, human rights violations or environmental catastrophes. In connection with refugee assistance in Norway, the term "refugee" is used for resettlement refugees and asylum seekers who have been granted asylum or residence on humanitarian grounds.

Asylum seeker: a person who on his or her own initiative, and without prior warning, asks for protection and recognition as a refugee. This person is called an asylum seeker until a decision has been made on the application.

Resettlement refugee: refugees who are permitted to come to Norway following an organised selection, normally in conjunction with the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). In accordance with a proposal from the government, the Parliament (Storting) determines a quota for the number of resettlement refugees to be received by Norway each year. Resettlement refugees were previously referred to as quota refugees.

Family reunification: residence or work permit granted to close family members of a Norwegian national or foreign national with legal residence in Norway. Family reunification mainly applies to spouse and children under 18 years of age.

Source: Norwegian Directorate of Immigration, Facts and figures 2003.

Norway in the 1990s. This figure peaked in 2003 when 916 asylum seekers reported that they were unaccompanied minors when they arrived. Half of these were children from Asia, and a third were from Afghanistan (table 2.3.6).

Table 2.3.1. Refugees¹, by country of origin and refugee status. 1 January 2004

Country of origin	Refugees		
	Total	Principal applicants	By family connection to refugee ²
Total	99 427	73 154	26 273
Of these from			
East Europe	26 006	21 097	4 909
Asia, Africa, South and Central America, Turkey	73 269	51 942	21 327
Selected countries			
Iraq	14 035	8 938	5 097
Bosnia and Herzegovina	12 572	9 295	3 277
Somalia	10 930	6 997	3 933
Vietnam	10 312	6 736	3 576
Iran	10 137	8 891	1 246
Serbia and Montenegro	6 837	5 994	843
Sri Lanka	5 183	3 408	1 775
Chile	4 608	3 502	1 106
Afghanistan	3 830	2 728	1 102
Turkey	1 851	880	971
Croatia	1 832	1 637	195
Ethiopia	1 630	1 282	348
Russia	1 340	1 286	54
Eritrea	1 201	958	243
Pakistan	1 078	757	321

¹ The definition «refugee» refers to persons resident in Norway, who have fled to Norway (family included) irrespective of whether he has received refugee status (Geneva Convention). Children born in Norway to refugees are not included.

² Residence or work permit granted to close family members of foreign citizens with legal residence in Norway. This also applies to family members of Norwegian citizens. Family reunification mainly applies to spouses and children under 18 years of age.

Table 2.3.2. Refugees¹, by country of origin and duration of residence in Norway. 1 January 2004

Country of origin	Refugees, total	Refugees with Nor- wegian citizenship	Refugees with foreign citizenship	Duration of residence. Year			
				0-4	5-9	10-19	20-
Total	99 427	50 541	48 886	35 152	15 814	42 483	5 978
Of these from							
East Europe	26 006	13 599	12 407	7 066	6 914	10 861	1 165
Asia, Africa, South and Central America, Turkey ...	73 269	36 880	36 389	28 061	8 889	31 540	4 779
Selected countries							
Iraq	14 035	2 542	11 493	9 670	2 497	1 856	12
Bosnia and Herzegovina	12 572	7 283	5 289	799	5 238	6 532	3
Somalia	10 930	3 193	7 737	6 251	2 147	2 530	2
Vietnam	10 312	9 959	353	13	512	6 336	3 451
Iran	10 137	6 274	3 863	2 514	1 568	6 040	15
Serbia and Montenegro....	6 837	3 039	3 798	3 395	1 345	2 088	9
Sri Lanka	5 183	4 150	1 033	466	638	3 988	91
Chile	4 608	3 294	1 314	6	63	3 777	762
Afghanistan	3 830	288	3 542	3 418	100	311	1
Turkey	1 851	1 437	414	292	93	1 440	26
Croatia	1 832	386	1 446	1 225	206	397	4
Ethiopia	1 630	538	1 092	958	153	441	78
Russia	1 340	80	1 260	1 237	34	65	4
Eritrea	1 201	983	218	153	70	903	75
Pakistan	1 078	603	475	328	55	665	30

¹ The definition «refugee» refers to persons resident in Norway, who have fled to Norway (family included), irrespective of whether they have received refugee status (Geneva Convention). Children born in Norway to refugees are not included.

Table 2.3.3. Refugees¹ , by county. 1 January 2004

	Refugees	Per cent of population
Total	99 427	2.2
01 Østfold	6 477	2.5
02 Akershus	10 376	2.1
03 Oslo	26 925	5.2
04 Hedmark	2 800	1.5
05 Oppland	2 991	1.6
06 Buskerud	5 704	2.4
07 Vestfold	4 406	2.0
08 Telemark	3 683	2.2
09 Aust-Agder	1 905	1.8
10 Vest-Agder	4 678	2.9
11 Rogaland	7 585	2.0
12 Hordaland	7 429	1.7
14 Sogn og Fjordane	1 283	1.2
15 Møre og Romsdal	2 700	1.1
16 Sør-Trøndelag	4 475	1.7
17 Nord-Trøndelag	1 216	1.0
18 Nordland	2 540	1.1
19 Troms	1 509	1.0
20 Finnmark Finnmarku	745	1.0

¹ The definition "refugee" refers to persons resident in Norway, who have fled to Norway (family included), irrespective of whether they have received refugee status (Geneva Convention). Children born in Norway to refugees are not included.

Table 2.3.4. Asylum seekers, by country. 1988-2003

Country	Annual average														
	1988-1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	
Total	4 999	4 569	5 238	12 876	3 379	1 460	1 778	2 273	8 543	10 160	10 843	14 782	17 480	15 613	
Selected countries															
Bosnia and Herzegovina		390	7 051	201	106	73	90	236	161	272	907	810	657		
Bulgaria	79	42	8	..	6	5	9	14	6	12	950	359	110		
Croatia		44	68	78	29	..	55	2 452	60	16	1 216	139	51		
Romania	54	59	74	46	10	8	19	77	153	712	203	247	206		
Russia .... . . .	..	..	..	..	75	69	50	39	141	318	471	1 318	1 718	1 893
Serbia and Montenegro .. . . .	..	..	..	..	1 561	146	76	343	1 666	1 152	4 188	928	2 460	2 180
Ukraine . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	15	8	8	13	34	131	1 027	772	92
Ethiopia	278	260	42	29	7	18	30	48	81	126	96	173	325	287	
Somalia	408	731	444	259	251	189	180	552	955	1 340	910	1 080	1 534	1 601	
Afghanistan .. . . .	..	..	..	..	9	10	3	16	45	172	326	603	786	2 032
Iraq	112	131	111	137	126	99	113	272	1 317	4 073	766	1 056	1 624	938	
Iran	680	244	130	147	160	163	120	138	270	350	327	412	450	608	
Pakistan 163 14 17			23	26	31	16	26	146	265	220	186	216	92		
Sri Lanka 374 556 403			255	233	90	413	196	173	112	165	164	87	64		
Turkey... 211 46 32			30	30	35	24	44	131	279	164	204	257	235		
Stateless .. 201 49			120	27	59	19	42	85	164	120	194	391	366		

Source: The Norwegian Directorate of Immigration Annual Report 2003.

Table 2.3.5. Persons granted protection. 1990-2003

Permits/consents	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996
Asylum ¹	1 104	1 265	1 536	571	243	359	600
Residence permit on humanitarian grounds	1 473	1 877	1 494	757	5 656	1 909	865
Collective assessments, including resettlement refugees ²			1 172	8 167	1 137	1 973	782
Family reunification	1 290	935	980	952	570	361	661
Total³	3 867	4 077	5 182	10 447	7 606	4 602	2 908
	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Asylum ¹	1 368	1 226	1 661	1 582	1 565	1 697	1 758
Residence permit on humanitarian grounds	726	1 813	3 032	3 199	4 301	3 284	3 180
Collective assessments, including resettlement refugees ²	495	267	8 059	.	.	.	.
Family reunification	882	915	1 542	1 778	1 492	3 804	1 478
Total³	3 471	4 221	14 294	8 578	7 398	8 785	6 416

¹ Includes all that have been granted political asylum, also resettlement refugees.² Until 1 January 1999, decisions following a collective assessment refer to persons from Bosnia and Herzegovina. From 30 April until 6 August 1999, the figures refer to Kosovo refugees.³ In 2000, also including 2 019 asylum seekers from Iraq granted temporary permit to stay by UDI, and 40 persons from Iraq with limited permission to stay in 2001.

Source: The Norwegian Directorate of Immigration. Fremkon/DUF, the UDI's Refugee Register and manual counts of 2nd instance asylum decisions.

Table 2.3.6. Unaccompanied minor asylum seekers, by country of origin. 1995-2003

Country	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
Total	106	107	376	466	386	556	561	894	916
Afghanistan	1	1	1	3	7	36	41	144	306
Albania	-	4	1	-	2	3	17	2	10
Algeria	2	2	4	4	3	7	9	26	11
Angola	1	-	-	-	1	1	1	3	28
Bosnia and Herzegovina ..	3	-	12	11	-	4	4	3	1
Burundi	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	4	11
Eritrea	-	1	8	14	13	9	25	37	24
Ethiopia	1	10	25	24	26	22	44	59	57
Guinea	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	5	10
Belarus	-	-	-	1	1	9	5	12	11
Iraq	3	3	24	36	141	80	87	190	108
Iran	5	1	10	12	4	9	4	10	11
Croatia	1	-	2	36	-	-	1	-	-
Lithuania	2	1	4	1	1	6	5	5	10
Mongolia	-	-	-	-	-	1	18	10	9
Nigeria	-	-	2	-	1	4	1	12	14
Romania	-	-	2	1	2	13	5	6	1
Russia	1	1	3	13	4	20	37	21	26
Serbia and Montenegro ..	3	5	34	65	22	93	15	29	19
Sierra Leone	-	-	-	1	3	18	2	2	5
Slovakia	-	-	-	-	1	16	1	2	-
Somalia	55	33	139	154	103	114	99	133	117
Sri Lanka	2	24	66	72	34	58	60	39	20
Stateless	10	2	5	2	2	2	12	13	18
Sudan	3	1	4	2	-	3	5	9	4
Others	13	18	30	13	15	28	59	118	85

¹ Age stated on arrival.

Source: The Norwegian Directorate of Immigration Annual Report 2003.

Notes

¹ The population growth is measured as the difference between the population on 1 January 2000 and 1 January 2004 and births - deaths + immigrations - emigrations is slightly different due to data technical issues. This is also the case for the population as a whole and individual years.

² For more detailed information: <http://www.ssb.no/innvutv>

Trude Fjeldseth

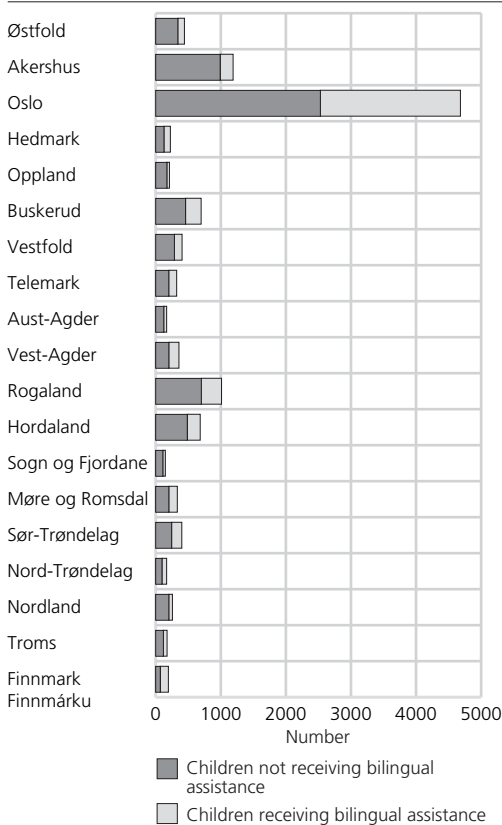
3. Education

- By the end of 2003 there were more than 12 000 children with minority languages registered in kindergartens in Norway, which was 6 per cent of the total number of children attending kindergarten.
- 37 per cent of children from cultural or linguistic minorities received bilingual assistance in 2003. This represents a decrease of 7 per cent compared with the situation in 2000.
- 618 000 pupils were registered in primary and lower secondary schools in Norway. Sixty thousand pupils received mother tongue training and/or additional training in Norwegian. Urdu was by far the most commonly taught language in mother tongue training. Lessons in Somali, Kurdish, Arabic, and Vietnamese were also considerably widespread.
- More than 14 000 pupils with immigrant backgrounds attended upper secondary education in October 2003. Pupils with Pakistan as country of origin were the largest immigrant group.
- 90 per cent of all 16-19 year olds participated in educational activities in 2003. Among first generation immigrants, the percentage was only 73. Among persons born in Norway with two foreign-born parents, the figure was 87 per cent.
- In upper secondary education, students with African and South American backgrounds drop out of school more often and take longer to complete their education than pupils with origins from European and Asian countries.
- More than 35 per cent of pupils with two foreign-born parents that completed secondary education transferred to tertiary education the following term. The percentage for all pupils completing secondary education was only 18.
- On 1 October 2003, 16 per cent of all first generation immigrants between 19 and 24 years were enrolled in tertiary education. In comparison, 25 per cent of all persons in the same age group were registered in tertiary education.
- The largest groups of students with non-Norwegian backgrounds were from Bosnia, Vietnam, Iran and Russia.

One third of minority language children in kindergartens received bilingual assistance

By the end of 2003, 205 000 children attended kindergartens. Twelve thousand (5.9 per cent) had minority backgrounds. This represents an increase, as the proportion in 2000 was 4.7 per cent (table 3.1). Oslo pulls up the country average considerably with a 38 per cent share of minority children in kindergartens.

Figure 3.1. Children in kindergartens from linguistic and cultural minorities¹. Proportion receiving/not receiving bilingual assistance, by county. 2003



¹ Children with another mother tongue than Norwegian, Sami, Swedish, Danish or English.

Source: Education statistics, Statistics Norway.

Bilingual assistance is given to provide children with adequate care in kindergartens. There has been a decline in the number of children getting this kind of assistance, from 44 per cent in 2000 to 37 per cent in 2003 (table 3.1). In public kindergartens, minority children were more likely to receive bilingual assistance. Compared with the total number of children in kindergartens, the proportion attending public kindergartens is larger among minority children (table 3.2).

Minority language children in kindergartens

In the kindergarten statistics, minority language children are defined as children with a mother tongue other than Norwegian, Swedish, Danish or English. Publicly-recognized kindergartens may apply for subsidies for bilingual assistance.

Children with mother tongues in Swedish, Danish or English do not meet the criteria for such subsidies. Kindergartens with Sami-speaking children may apply for bilingual assistance if they are not receiving special subsidies as Sami Kindergartens.

20 per cent of pupils in primary education in Oslo receive additional training in Norwegian

As an overall average, almost 6 per cent of pupils in primary and lower secondary education received additional training in Norwegian in 2003 (table 3.4/3.5). Almost one third of the children who participate in this kind of training are resident in Oslo.

Considerably fewer participated in native tongue training and/or bilingual education. About 2 500 pupils received bilingual training and native tongue training in Urdu. The numbers trained in Somali, Kurdish, Arabic, Vietnamese and Bosnian are also relatively high, with more than 1 000 pupils being trained in each of these languages (table 3.6).

With regard to the pattern of residency of the immigrant population, the number of children receiving special language teaching varies by county. Twenty per cent of all pupils in Oslo received additional training in Norwegian. In Akershus, Hordaland and Rogaland the percentage was between 7 and 9. In Nord-Trøndelag,

Minority language pupils in primary and lower secondary education are persons with a mother tongue other than Norwegian or Sami (the definition includes Scandinavians and other people from West Europe.) Mother tongue is defined as the language used in everyday speech in the person's home. Pupils from linguistic minorities have the same rights to differentiated and individually adjusted education as other children at this level.

The statistics include children that participate in special language training. Mother tongue training is training in the pupil's mother tongue. The municipalities have an obligation under the Education Act to provide mother tongue teaching for minority language pupils. Special training in Norwegian (for minority language pupils) is either organised as additional training in Norwegian or regular training in Norwegian for minority language pupils (Norwegian 2) as a special subject of the curriculum, or a combination of these arrangements.

Troms and Finnmark, it was less than 3 per cent (table 3.4).

73 per cent of first generation immigrants aged 16-18 years enrolled in upper secondary education

Ninety-six per cent of all pupils who completed primary and lower secondary education in 2002 transferred to upper secondary education the following term. The proportion for first generation immigrant pupils was 91 per cent, and for pupils born in Norway with two foreign-born parents the percentage was 95 (table 3.7).

Seventy-eight per cent of immigrant pupils in upper secondary education were first generation immigrants. Pupils with origins in Pakistan represent the largest immigrant group. Of these, 2 out of 3

pupils were born in Norway, and a third were born in Pakistan. The next largest immigrant group had Iranian backgrounds, of which 98 per cent were born in Iran. Other relatively large groups had origins in Vietnam, Iraq, Somalia and Bosnia.

The proportion of 16-18 year-olds in the immigrant population that attended upper secondary education in 2003 was relatively low. The total average for this age group was 90 per cent, but only 73 per cent of the first generation immigrants were enrolled in upper secondary education. The percentage of persons born in Norway with two foreign-born parents was 87 (table 3.9).

Figures of throughput-rates in upper secondary education show that 56 per cent of immigrants that enrolled in 1994 had completed five years later, while 39 per cent dropped out. Similar figures are found in 1997. Immigrant pupils from Africa were least likely to complete upper secondary education in 1994, as 39 per cent completed within five years and 11 per cent were still in upper secondary education five years after they started. This figure had decreased to 6 per cent for pupils who enrolled in 1997. Immigrant girls had lower dropout rates than immigrant boys. While 30 per cent of girls dropped out in 1994 and 1997, the corresponding figure for boys was more than 40 per cent (table 3.11).

Immigrants completing upper secondary education more likely to transfer to tertiary education

In 2002, 26 per cent of the immigrant pupils that completed secondary education transferred to tertiary education the following term. The total average was only 18 per cent (table 3.12). However,

the proportion of 19-24 year-old immigrants participating in tertiary education is still low. Sixteen per cent of the first generation immigrants and 27 per cent of persons born in Norway with two foreign-born parents in the same age group were enrolled. As an overall average, 29 per cent of all 19-24 year-olds in Norway are enrolled in tertiary education.

Of immigrants completing upper secondary education, the proportion that opts to enter tertiary education is very high. Reasons for the relatively low proportion of immigrants in tertiary education may stem from factors earlier in their education; the basis of recruitment for immigrants to tertiary education is small. As shown, this is partly due to a high number of dropouts and slow throughput-rates for immigrants in upper secondary education.

In the immigrant population, participation in tertiary education varies with country of origin. In 2003, the largest group of registered students aged 19-24 years, had Bosnian backgrounds. Many students also had backgrounds from Iran, China, Vietnam and Russia. As a percentage of registered cohorts, Chinese immigrants were best represented, where 46 per cent were enrolled in tertiary education. In the same age group, Russian and Bosnian immigrants had 30 per cent representation (table 3.15).

Varying educational attainment among immigrants

In 2003, few non-western persons age 16 years and above were registered with attained education at tertiary level, only about 16 per cent (table 3.17). The percentage for persons with Norwegian backgrounds was 22.

Attained level of education varies among immigrants. Interpretation of these numbers is problematic. Among other factors, there is a high proportion of persons for whom no education information is available. The number of persons with an "unknown" level of attained education is more than 20 per cent for persons with non-Norwegian backgrounds. For non-western immigrants, the "unknown" percentage is as much as 29 per cent (table 3.17).

About the statistics

Kindergarten statistics comprises all kindergartens approved by law, and includes kindergartens owned by national and local authorities as well as kindergartens with private ownerships.

Information about *primary and lower secondary education* is collected from Primary and lower secondary information system (GSI), and includes all compulsory education under the Education Act and also adult education at this level. Only schools approved by The Ministry of Education and Research by the Education Act are included. Statistics of *upper secondary education* includes pupils attending education with duration of at least 300 hours per year, irrespective of school-approval by law.

Statistics of *tertiary education* includes universities and university colleges that are approved by the Ministry of Education and Research. Information about Population's Highest Level of Education, enrolled students at a specific point of time (1. October) and graduates is assembled and organized in the National Education Database (NUDB). Sources for this information is mainly various administrative registration systems used by the educational institutions and others, such as the State Educational Loan Fund.

Table 3.1. Children in kindergartens from linguistic and cultural minorities¹. 2000-2003. Absolute figures and per cent

	2000	2001	2002	2003
All children ..	189 837	192 649	198 262	205 172
Children from linguistic and cultural minorities	8 992	9 784	10 953	12 069
Children from linguistic and cultural minorities, per cent	4.7	5.1	5.5	5.9
Of which, with bilingual assistance ...	3 931	3 801	4 147	4 400
Of which, with bilingual assistance, per cent	43.7	38.8	37.9	36.5

¹ Children with another mother tongue than Norwegian, Sami, Swedish, Danish or English.

Source: Education statistics, Statistics Norway.

Table 3.2. Children in kindergarten from linguistic and cultural minorities, by ownership structure. 2000-2003

	2000	2001	2002	2003
All children ..	189 837	192 649	198 262	205 172
Children in public kindergartens	112 999	115 427	116 229	118 642
Children from linguistic and cultural minorities ...	7 243	8 058	8 815	9 565
Of which, with bilingual assistance	3 320	3 291	3 571	3 708
Children in private kindergartens	76 838	77 222	82 033	86 530
Children from linguistic and cultural minorities ...	1 749	1 726	2 138	2 504
Of which, with bilingual assistance .	611	510	576	692

¹ Children with a mother tongue other than Norwegian, Sami, Swedish, Danish or English.

Source: Education statistics, Statistics Norway.

Table 3.3. Children in kindergartens from linguistic and cultural minorities¹. Children with bilingual assistance, by county. 2000-2003

	Children from linguistic and cultural minorities without bilingual assistance	Children from linguistic and cultural minorities with bilingual assistance
Østfold	340	101
Akershus	991	198
Oslo	2 531	2 151
Hedmark	127	98
Oppland	172	39
Buskerud	459	239
Vestfold	288	117
Telemark	201	121
Aust-Agder	124	44
Vest-Agder	202	155
Rogaland	702	309
Hordaland	486	198
Sogn og Fjordane	110	38
Møre og Romsdal	202	130
Sør-Trøndelag	245	156
Nord-Trøndelag	97	71
Nordland	202	55
Troms	119	56
Finnmark Finnmarku ...	71	124

¹ Children with another mother tongue than Norwegian, Sami, Swedish, Danish or English.

Source: Education statistics, Statistics Norway.

Table 3.4. Pupils in primary and lower secondary education with native language training, bilingual education and additional training in Norwegian, by county. 1 October 2003¹

County	Total of pupils	Pupils with native language training ¹	Pupils with bilingual additional education ²	Pupils with training in Norwegian ³
Total	617 577	12 711	12 390	35 374
Østfold	33 645	960	1 381	2 118
Akershus	70 930	1 038	1 281	3 344
Oslo	51 552	1 166	3 825	10 661
Hedmark	24 105	472	337	800
Oppland	23 589	465	260	849
Buskerud	31 767	687	870	2 099
Vestfold	30 083	561	559	1 231
Telemark	21 940	570	468	1 060
Aust-Agder	14 431	319	66	571
Vest-Agder	23 664	604	481	1 447
Rogaland	58 223	1 375	500	3 374
Hordaland	62 627	1 728	462	2 315
Sogn og Fjordane	15 628	285	89	580
Møre og Romsdal	34 249	655	479	1 297
Sør-Trøndelag	36 828	711	571	1 509
Nord-Trøndelag	18 527	212	110	388
Nordland	33 825	340	409	889
Troms	21 278	343	116	475
Finnmark Finnmarku	10 496	220	126	367
Svalbard	190	-	-	-

¹ Native language training is additional training in the mother tongue of foreign language pupils.

² Bilingual education is education where the pupil's mother tongue is used in the education.

³ Additional training in Norwegian is additional training in Norwegian or education in the subject «Norwegian» for foreign language pupils.

Source: Education statistics, Statistics Norway.

Table 3.5. Pupils in primary and lower secondary education with native language training and additional training in Norwegian. School years 1992/93-2003/04¹

School year	Total of pupils	Pupils with mother language training and/or bilingual education ²	Pupils with additional training in Norwegian ³
1992/93	463 309	10 045	.
1993/94	466 605	9 933	.
1994/95	470 779	10 204	.
1995/96	477 236	11 276	.
1996/97	487 398	12 770	.
1997/98	558 247	15 810	24 599
1998/99	569 044	17 008	25 311
1999/00	580 261	17 306	28 242
2000/01	590 471	18 176	31 113
2001/02	599 468	18 611	32 855
2002/03	610 297	18 734	33 833
2003/04	617 577	19 695	35 374

¹ Pupils counted by local governments are included in figures of foreign language pupils.

² Native language training is additional training in the mother tongue of foreign language pupils. Bilingual education is education where the pupil's mother tongue is used in the education.

³ Additional training in Norwegian is additional training in Norwegian or education in the subject "Norwegian" for foreign language pupils.

Source: Education statistics, Statistics Norway.

**Table 3.6. Pupils receiving mother language training or bilingual education¹, by mother tongue.
1 October 2003²**

Mother tongue	Number of pupils	Mother tongue	Number of pupils
Total	19 695	Icelandic	116
Urdu	2 517	Dutch	104
Somali	1 891	Portuguese	100
Kurdish	1 859	Swahili	97
Arabic	1 777	Chechenian	69
Vietnamese	1 585	Oromo	65
Albanian	1 405	Croatian	60
Bosnian	1 002	Amharic	59
Turkish	915	Hindi	59
Tamil	740	Tigrinia	54
Russian	606	Berber	52
Spanish	603	Cantonese	50
Persian	541	Bengali	24
English	506	Romanian	24
Dari	343	Kirundi	22
Thai	341	Hebrew	20
Punjabi	238	Kinyarwanda	20
German	223	Hungarian	20
Polish	196	Lithuanian	19
Pashto	183	Bulgarian	17
Phillipine	174	Greek	16
Chinese	152	Armenian	15
Finnish	142	Latvian	15
Serbian	140	Other	383
French	136		

¹ Mother language training is additional training in the mother tongue of foreign language pupils. Bilingual education is education where the pupil's mother tongue is used in the education.

² Pupils counted by local governments are included in figures of foreign language pupils.

Source: Education statistics, Statistics Norway.

Table 3.7. Transition from lower secondary school to folk high schools and upper secondary education, by immigrant background. 2002

	Total	Upper secondary schools	Folk high schools	Other upper secondary schools	Not in education
			Absolute figures		
Total of pupils	56 421	54 241	196	55	1 903
Total of immigrant pupils ..	3 791	3 474	6	28	283
First generation immigrants	2 619	2 363	6	23	227
Persons born in Norway with two foreign-born parents	1 172	1 111		5	56
			Per cent		
Total of pupils	100.0	96.1	0.3	0.1	3.4
Total of immigrant pupils ..	100.0	91.6	0.2	0.7	7.5
First generation immigrants	100.0	90.2	0.2	0.9	8.7
Persons born in Norway with two foreign-born parents	100.0	94.8	-	0.4	4.8

Source: Education statistics, Statistics Norway.

Table 3.8. Students in upper secondary education¹, by immigrant category and country of origin. 1 October 2003

Country of origin	Pupils with immigration background, total	First generation immigrants	Pupils born in Norway with two foreign-born parents
Total	14 092	10 970	3 122
Of these			
Denmark	207	148	59
Iceland	168	138	30
Sweden	252	225	27
Croatia	186	166	20
Serbia and Montenegro	511	488	23
Poland	300	220	80
United Kingdom	109	73	36
Russia	449	446	3
Turkey	596	348	248
Germany	133	119	14
Bosnia and Herzegovina	838	833	5
Macedonia	120	96	24
Eritrea	141	113	28
Ethiopia	208	204	4
Morocco	320	138	182
Somalia	801	794	7
Afghanistan	311	310	1
Sri Lanka	500	434	66
Philippines	281	208	73
India	280	93	187
Iraq	907	906	1
Iran	1 069	1 048	21
China	138	112	26
Pakistan	1 719	557	1 162
Thailand	210	204	6
Vietnam	915	521	394
Chile	465	392	73

¹ Includes pupils under the Upper Secondary Education Act.

Source: Education statistics, Statistics Norway.

Table 3.9. Students in upper secondary education¹, by sex and immigration category in per cent of registered cohorts, 16-18 years. 2000-2003

	Pupils, percentage of population			First generation immigrants, percentage of population			Persons born in Norway with two foreign-born parents, percentage of population		
	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
2000	89.3	88.5	90.1	63.7	61.7	66.0	82.2	81.9	82.4
2001	89.4	88.6	90.2	73.1	72.0	74.4	82.4	83.3	81.5
2002	89.8	89.2	90.5	69.8	68.0	71.7	84.7	85.1	84.3
2003	90.1	89.4	90.9	73.2	71.9	74.7	86.6	85.7	87.7

¹ Pupils and apprentices under the Upper Secondary Education Act.

Source: Education statistics, Statistics Norway.

**Table 3.10. Students in upper secondary education¹, by immigration category, age and sex.
1 October 2003. Per cent**

	Total	Immigration category			
		Without immigrant background	First generation immigrants	Persons born in Norway with two foreign-born parents	Other ²
Men and women. total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
-16 years	30.0	30.6	18.1	34.8	31.7
17 "	28.2	28.7	20.4	29.4	29.1
18 "	21.8	22.0	18.8	22.9	22.1
19 "	4.8	4.4	9.4	6.2	5.2
20 "	2.5	2.3	5.5	2.6	2.4
21 "	1.6	1.5	3.2	1.2	1.5
22-24 years	2.6	2.4	5.1	1.8	2.4
25-29 "	2.2	2.0	5.9	0.6	1.9
30+ years	6.2	6.0	13.7	0.4	3.8
Men	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
-16 years	31.1	31.8	19.2	32.8	32.5
17 "	29.8	30.3	22.2	29.3	29.9
18 "	20.9	20.9	19.2	24.3	21.4
19 "	4.7	4.2	10.1	6.3	5.0
20 "	2.6	2.3	6.2	3.2	2.6
21 "	1.9	1.8	3.1	1.1	1.6
22-24 years	3.0	2.9	4.9	2.2	2.5
25-29 "	2.1	2.0	4.7	0.6	1.9
30+ years	4.1	3.8	10.4	0.2	2.6
Women	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
-16 years	29.0	29.5	17.1	36.9	30.9
17 "	26.8	27.2	18.7	29.5	28.3
18 "	22.8	23.1	18.5	21.6	22.8
19 "	5.0	4.7	8.7	6.1	5.4
20 "	2.3	2.2	4.8	2.1	2.1
21 "	1.4	1.3	3.2	1.2	1.5
22-24 years	2.2	2.0	5.3	1.4	2.2
25-29 "	2.3	2.1	7.0	0.5	1.8
30+ years	8.3	8.1	16.8	0.6	5.0

¹ Apprenticeship and other secondary education not included.

² Includes persons adopted from abroad, persons born abroad with one Norwegian-born parent, persons born in Norway with one foreign-born parent and persons born abroad with two Norwegian-born parents.

Source: Education statistics, Statistics Norway.

Table 3.11. Immigrants who started a basic course for the first time in 1994 and 1997, by completed upper secondary education within five years, gender and country of origin. Per cent

Gender and country of origin	1994					1997				
	Total	Completed according to theoretical duration	Completed beyond theoretical duration	Still in upper secondary education 1999	Dropped out from upper secondary education	Total	Completed according to theoretical duration	Completed beyond theoretical duration	Still in upper secondary education 2002	Dropped out from upper secondary education
Total	2 342	44	12	6	39	2 823	45	13	5	37
Europe except for Turkey	550	55	10	6	30	742	51	13	3	33
Asia, including Turkey and Oceania	1 364	43	12	5	40	1 542	45	14	5	36
Africa	254	25	14	11	49	330	37	12	6	46
South and Central America	149	40	16	5	40	194	40	13	8	38
North America ..	25	36	8	4	52	15	33	-	7	60
Men	1 278	38	10	7	44	1 382	39	13	6	42
Europe except for Turkey	267	48	9	9	33	369	46	15	4	35
Asia, including Turkey and Oceania	776	38	11	5	46	742	38	13	6	43
Africa	152	21	9	15	55	176	29	10	7	53
South and Central America	72	33	17	7	43	90	37	9	11	43
North America ..	11	36	9	-	55	5	20	-	20	60
Women	1 064	51	14	4	32	1 441	51	14	4	31
Europe except for Turkey	283	61	11	2	27	373	56	11	2	31
Asia, including Turkey and Oceania	588	50	13	4	32	800	52	15	4	29
Africa	102	31	23	6	40	154	45	14	4	37
South and Central America	77	45	16	3	36	104	43	17	6	34
North America ..	14	36	7	7	50	10	40	-	-	60

Source: Education statistics, Statistics Norway.

Table 3.12. Students going from upper secondary education, by immigrant background. 2002. Absolute figures and per cent

	In education 1 October 2002									
	Total	Apprenticeship	Folk high schools	Other secondary education ²	Upper secondary schools	Colleges	Universities	Upper secondary education abroad	Higher education abroad	Not in education 1 October 2002
	Absolute figures									
All pupils	58 435	579	2 956	1 332	3 656	6 115	4 136	97	441	39 123
Pupils with immigrant background	3 545	16	30	89	310	510	347	2	55	2 186
First generation immigrants	2 904	13	23	70	257	390	262	2	33	1 854
Persons born in Norway with two foreign-born parents	641	3	7	19	53	120	85	-	22	332
	Per cent									
All pupils	100.0	1.0	5.1	2.3	6.3	10.5	7.1	0.2	0.8	66.9
Pupils with immigrant background	100.0	0.5	0.8	2.5	8.7	14.4	9.8	0.1	1.6	61.7
First generation immigrants	100.0	0.4	0.8	2.4	8.8	13.4	9	0.1	1.1	63.8
Persons born in Norway with two foreign-born parents	100.0	0.5	1.1	3.0	8.3	18.7	13.3	-	3.4	51.8

¹ Includes pupils who have completed three-year upper secondary education and vocational examinations.

² Includes labour market courses and other upper secondary education.

Source: Education statistics, Statistics Norway.

Table 3.13. Students in tertiary education in per cent of registered cohorts (19-24 years), by sex and immigration category. 1997-2003

	Population, total			First generation immigrants			Persons born in Norway with two foreign-born parents		
	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
1997	27.9	23.1	32.9	11.9	11.4	12.2	23.1	20.7	25.8
1998	27.2	22.5	32.0	11.9	11.7	12.1	21.1	19.5	22.8
1999	27.9	23.1	32.9	11.9	11.4	12.2	23.1	20.7	25.8
2000	26.4	21.6	31.4	12.7	11.5	13.7	20.9	18.7	23.3
2001	25.7	20.5	31.1	14.3	12.7	15.6	20.2	17.3	23.3
2002	28.2	22.9	33.7	15.7	14.0	17.3	26.0	22.8	29.3
2003	28.6	23.2	34.1	16.3	14.5	17.8	26.9	23.6	30.3

Source: Education statistics, Statistics Norway.

Table 3.14. Students in tertiary education in per cent of registered cohorts (25-29 years), by sex and immigration category. 1997-2003

	Population, total			First generation immigrants			Persons born in Norway with two foreign-born parents		
	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
1997	12.6	12.1	13.2	7.8	8.6	7.1	13.8	17.1	10.2
1998	13.1	12.4	14.0	8.0	8.9	7.3	15.2	13.8	16.7
1999	13.9	12.7	15.1	8.1	8.4	7.8	16.6	17.4	15.7
2000	13.9	12.6	15.4	9.1	9.1	9.1	13.8	14.0	13.6
2001	14.6	13.1	16.1	9.4	9.0	9.7	16.7	17.2	16.2
2002	15.5	14.0	17.0	10.7	9.9	11.5	18.2	17.2	19.2
2003	15.5	14.4	16.7	10.7	10.1	11.2	14.5	14.3	14.8

Source: Education statistics, Statistics Norway.

Table 3.15. Immigrants undertaking tertiary education, by country of origin, sex and immigration category. 1 October 2003. 19-24 years. Absolute figures and per cent

Country of origin	First generation immigrants			Persons born in Norway with two foreign-born parents		
	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
Total	3 687	1 537	2 150	1 252	561	691
Of these						
Denmark	92	42	50	34	10	24
Finland	50	10	40	15	6	9
Sweden	188	60	128	23	11	12
Poland	131	53	78	32	18	14
United Kingdom	28	14	14	14	8	6
Russia	241	83	158	-	-	-
Turkey	69	28	41	57	18	39
Germany	74	24	50	10	6	4
Bosnia and Herzegovina	507	209	298	3	1	2
Sri Lanka	129	54	75	20	7	13
India	50	26	24	137	58	79
Iraq	68	32	36	-	-	-
Iran	309	141	168	4	1	3
China	134	66	68	14	8	6
Pakistan	191	103	88	423	198	225
Vietnam	311	149	162	187	88	99
USA	25	11	14	7	2	5
Chile	99	35	64	11	5	6
Percentage of persons 19-24 years						
Total	16,3	14,5	17,8	26,9	23,6	30,3
Of these						
Denmark	18.8	18.2	19.4	29.8	16.7	44.4
Finland	21.6	11.8	27.2	31.3	23.1	40.9
Sweden	14.4	12.2	15.7	42.6	42.3	42.9
Poland	24.1	22.7	25.1	34.4	34.6	34.1
United Kingdom	15.2	13.6	17.3	25.9	22.9	31.6
Russia	36.9	32.9	39.3	-	-	-
Turkey	6.5	5.6	7.3	13.5	8.7	18.2
Germany	22.8	20.3	24.2	24.4	27.3	21.1
Bosnia and Herzegovina	33.2	27.4	39.0	23.1	12.5	40.0
Sri Lanka	18.2	15.6	20.8	35.1	21.9	52.0
India	19.8	22.0	17.8	39.0	35.2	42.5
Iraq	4.3	3.2	6.2	-	-	-
Iran	22.6	20.9	24.3	33.3	16.7	50.0
China	46.4	50.8	42.8	43.8	47.1	40.0
Pakistan	12.4	14.7	10.5	24.0	22.2	25.8
Vietnam	23.4	24.1	22.8	41.9	37.1	47.4
USA	12.0	9.7	14.6	30.4	22.2	35.7
Chile	15.1	10.7	19.3	17.5	13.2	24.0

Source: Education statistics, Statistics Norway.

Table 3.16. First generation immigrants undertaking tertiary education, by country of origin, sex and immigration category. 1 October 2003. 25-29 years. Absolute figures and per cent

Country of origin	Total	Men	Women
Absolute figures			
Total	2 980	1 259	1 721
Of these			
Denmark	129	53	76
Finland	57	14	43
Sweden	252	94	158
Poland	79	23	56
United Kingdom	36	16	20
Russia	207	56	151
Turkey	36	18	18
Germany	88	29	59
Bosnia and Herzegovina	177	85	92
Sri Lanka	56	29	27
India	48	23	25
Iraq	59	30	29
Iran	146	82	64
China	99	41	58
Pakistan	90	57	33
Vietnam	229	119	110
USA	35	19	16
Chile	45	14	31
In percentage of registered cohorts 25-29 years			
Total	10.7	10.1	11.2
Of these			
Denmark	13.1	9.4	18.1
Finland	10.0	7.4	11.3
Sweden	10.5	8.8	11.9
Poland	12.7	10.7	13.7
United Kingdom	8.6	6.1	12.9
Russia	27.3	28.6	26.9
Turkey	2.6	2.3	3.0
Germany	15.3	11.7	17.9
Bosnia and Herzegovina	15.0	13.8	16.3
Sri Lanka	7.6	12.4	5.3
India	9.9	10.6	9.3
Iraq	3.3	2.7	4.2
Iran	16.8	20.2	13.8
China	30.6	33.1	29.0
Pakistan	5.4	7.2	3.8
Vietnam	13.6	15.7	11.9
USA	12.5	15.6	10.1
Chile	9.1	5.9	12.2

Source: Education statistics, Statistics Norway.

Table 3.17. Persons 16 years and above, by educational attainment and country of origin, grouped by world region. 2002. Per cent

Country of origin	Total	Unknown	No completed education	Primary and secondary level	Upper secondary level	Short tertiary education ¹	Long tertiary education ²
Total	3 710 125	5.4	0.2	19.2	53.4	17.0	4.7
Norway	3 250 405	3.2	0.2	20.3	54.8	17.1	4.5
Foreign, total	459 720	21.2	0.9	11.6	43.6	16.7	6.0
Nordic countries	127 022	15.9	0.2	12.2	46.7	19.2	5.8
Rest of West Europe, except Turkey	78 472	15.5	0.2	9.6	43.3	22.0	9.4
East Europe	50 114	28.9	0.5	10.2	41.6	12.7	6.0
North America and Oceania	45 576	11.7	0.2	9.7	48.7	21.5	8.2
Asia, Africa, South and Central America, Turkey	158 536	28.6	2.0	13.1	40.5	11.9	3.8

¹ Tertiary education, short, comprises higher education 4 years or shorter.

² Tertiary education, long, comprises higher education more than 4 years.

Source: Education statistics, Statistics Norway.

Bjørn Olsen

4. The labour market

- In total, 138 357 first generation immigrants were registered as employed (employees and self-employed included) at the end of November 2002 (table 4.1). This figure constituted 57.6 per cent of this population group aged 16 to 74 years. In the population as a whole, the employment rate was 70.1 per cent.
- Immigrants from the Nordic countries had the highest employment rate of 72.1 per cent, while African immigrants had the lowest with 43.7 per cent.
- In the population as a whole, men and women had an employment rate of 73.5 and 66.5 per cent respectively. Among first generation immigrants the corresponding figures were 62.5 and 52.7 per cent
- Among the 57.6 per cent employed immigrants in the 4th quarter of 2002, the self-employed accounted for 3.7 percentage points.
- The Nordic and West European first generation immigrants had the highest rates of self-employment, slightly above 5 per cent in each group. Among the non-western immigrants, those from Asia had the highest rate of self-employment at 3.5 per cent.
- Those born in Norway with foreign-born parents had a total employment rate of 61.1 per cent, and this is 3.5 percentage points above the level of the parent generation.
- Non-western immigrants are strongly overrepresented in the hotel and restaurant trade and in industrial cleaning.
- In November 2003, African immigrants had the highest unemployment rate at 17.4 per cent. Next to this group we find the Asian immigrants with a rate of 12.7 per cent, followed by East Europe and South and Central America with about 10 per cent each. The total was 3.7 per cent for the population as a whole.
- A total of 29 299 refugees were registered as employed (both employees and self-employed) in the 4th quarter of 2002. These people constituted 48.2 per cent of the refugee population who settled after 1986. This rate represented a decline of 1.9 percentage points compared to the 4th quarter in the preceding year.
- Refugees from Chile and Sri Lanka had the highest employment rates of 66.6 and 65.2 per cent respectively (figure 4.3). Those from Afghanistan and Somalia had the lowest rates of 26.1 and 30.1 per cent respectively. These differences are often a reflection of

differences in time of residence in Norway.

Lower employment rate among immigrants

In total, 138 357 first generation immigrants were registered as employed (employees and self-employed included) at the end of November 2002 (table 4.1). These people constituted 57.5 per cent of this population group aged 16 to 74 years. In absolute numbers the increase was 4 600 employed people (table 4.1). Despite this growth, the employment rate decreased from 59.3 per cent in November 2001. This was because of an even stronger increase in the total number of first generation immigrants. In the population as a whole, the employment rate decreased from 70.9 per cent to 70.1 per cent.

Immigrants from South and Central America and Africa had the strongest decrease in employment rates, 2.7 and 2.5 percentage points respectively. East European immigrants had the smallest decrease, with only 0.6 percentage points. Among first generation immigrants as a whole, the decline was 1.8 percentage points and in the whole population, 0.8 percentage points. Among immigrants as a whole, the decline was 1.8 percentage points. Men, both in the population as a whole and among immigrants in total, had the strongest decrease in the employment rate, with 1.2 and 2.2 percentage points respectively. Among females, the decrease was 0.5 and 1.3 percentage points respectively.

Immigrants from the Nordic countries had the highest employment rate of 72.1 per cent, while African immigrants had the lowest of 43.7 per cent. Among the non-western immigrants, those from

South and Central America had the highest employment rate of 59.6 per cent. Immigrants from Asia and East Europe had an employment rate of 50.8 and 56.9 per cent respectively. Among the other western immigrants, those from West Europe and North America and Oceania had an employment rate of 66.9 and 54.9 respectively. The latter group have a relatively high portion of pensioners, which has a negative effect on the employment rate.

In the population as a whole, men and women had an employment rate of 73.5 and 66.5 per cent respectively. Among first generation immigrants, the corresponding figures were 62.5 and 52.7 per cent. We find the largest gender differences, perhaps somewhat surprisingly, among western immigrant groups from North America and Oceania and West Europe (except the Nordic countries) with 13.7 and 13.5 percentage points respectively in the men's favour. We also find a difference of 12.9 percentage points among Asian immigrants. Immigrants from the Nordic countries had the smallest gender difference of 4.1 percentage points.

If we consider the employment rate according to selected countries of birth (table 4.2), we find employment rates above 70 per cent among first generation immigrants from the Nordic countries (except Denmark) and the Netherlands. However, we also find some non-western nationalities with a relatively high level of employment. For instance, immigrants from The Philippines and Croatia had an employment rate of 65 per cent, while the rate for immigrants from Denmark, the United Kingdom and Germany was between 66 and 68 per cent. Additionally, immigrants from Chile, Poland, Romania,

India and Sri Lanka had an employment rate of more than 60 per cent, which places them at the same level as immigrants from western countries such as France and Italy. Immigrants from Afghanistan and Somalia had the lowest rates, with 28 and 29 per cent respectively. This low level is however connected with the relatively high proportions of refugees with short time of residence in Norway compared with other non-western nationalities.

Western immigrants had highest rate of self-employed

Statistics Norway has included the self-employed in these statistics since 2001. Of the 57.6 per cent immigrants in employment in 2002, 53.9 per cent were employees and 3.7 per cent were self-employed. The latter equates to 8 829 persons (table 4.3). There were also major differences in this group between those with western and non-western backgrounds. First generation immigrants from the Nordic countries and the rest of West Europe had the highest rates of self-employment, slightly more than 5 per cent in each group. Among the non-western immigrants, those from Asia had the highest rate of self-employment with 3.5 per cent. The other groups had rates of about 2 per cent.

The proportion of self-employed immigrant men stood at 5.1 per cent compared to 2.3 per cent among the immigrant women. However, in the population as a whole, this gender difference was even more pronounced, with 6.9 per cent among men compared to 2.4 per cent among women. The level of self-employment among women is in other words almost the same irrespective of immigrant background.

The hotel and restaurant trade is the most typical non-western immigrant industry among the self-employed (table 4.4). Eleven per cent of all self-employed immigrants are within this industry as opposed to 3 per cent of the total self-employed population. Asian immigrants constitute the main immigrant group within this industry, with 25 per cent of all self-employed Asians in this group. Self-employed first generation immigrants as a whole had 11 per cent within this industry. There was also a high percentage of self-employed Asians within the retail trade - 17 per cent compared to 9 per cent among the entire self-employed population.

Higher employment among Norwegian-born than their parent-generation

Statistics Norway now also publishes employment figures for those born in Norway with two foreign-born parents. The figures for this group show a total employment rate of 61.1 per cent for those born in Norway, which is 3.5 percentage points above the level of the parent generation. In absolute numbers, this amounts to 6 729 persons (tables 4.1 and 4.3). The western groups (based on the mother's country of birth) had the highest employment rate, with 75 per cent for the Nordic countries and 70.2 per cent for the rest of West Europe. However, the group with East European family backgrounds also had a high employment rate, with 69.5 per cent. Persons born in Norway by mothers from Africa and Asia had an employment rate of 56 and 55.2 per cent respectively, which is much higher than their respective parent generations. The gender difference with regard to the employment rate in this generation is far smaller, with 61.7 per cent for men and 60.5 per cent for

women. The difference between the first generation immigrants and their children is particularly marked among women and women with non-western backgrounds. Otherwise, the self-employed group is completely marginal in this generation. Slightly more than 200 persons reported self-employment as their main type of work in the 4th quarter of 2002.

The employed Norwegian-born group is however quite small and totalled 6 729 persons in the 4th quarter of 2002. Almost 60 per cent were between 16 and 24 years old, which means that a large proportion of students work part-time and also many women without family obligations.

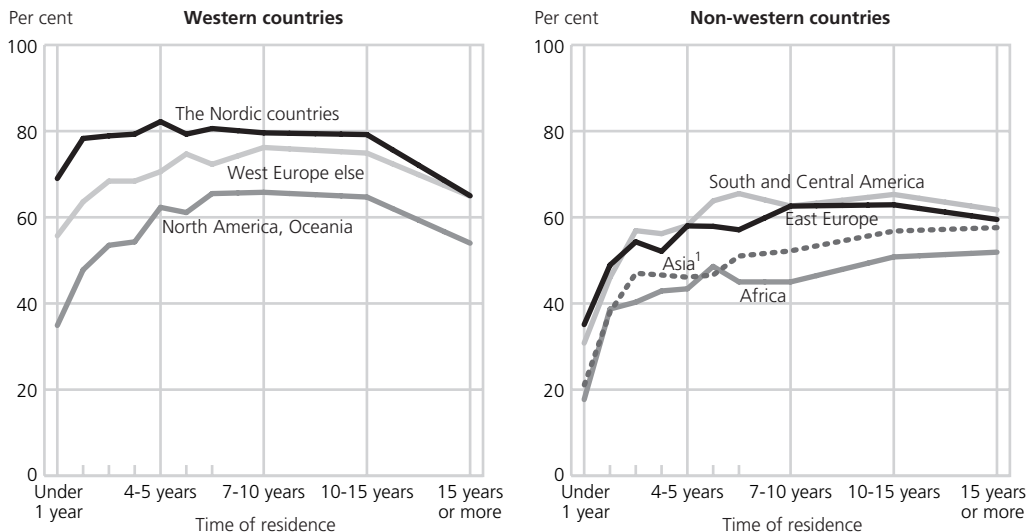
Duration of residence in Norway highly significant

An element of major significance to the immigrants' integration into the labour market is of course the length of time the

immigrant has lived in Norway. However, this affects the level of employment in various ways depending on the country of origin. Figure 4.1 shows that a period of residence of 4 years affects the participation of all groups, but the starting point is far different depending on the immigrant's country of origin. The western immigrants, who mainly include working immigrants, have a significantly higher level of employment among newcomers than the non-westerners, who mainly consist of newly settled refugees.

For western immigrants, however, a period of residence in Norway exceeding four years does not seem to affect the labour force participation notably. After four years in Norway these immigrants have already reached a high level of participation. However, when we look at the groups with 15 years of residence and more, the level of employment declines.

Figure 4.1. First generation immigrants who are employed, by region of birth and duration of residence. 4th quarter 2002



¹Turkey included.

Source: Labour market statistics, Statistics Norway.

This is a result of larger portions of pensioners in these groups than in others.

For non-western immigrants, the rate continues to increase for groups exceeding four years of residence in Norway, but the level stagnates in groups with 10 to 15 years of residence from South and Central America and East Europe. The rate is still increasing among Asian and African immigrants. Among those with 15 years of residence and more, there has been a decline in the employment rate among the first groups mentioned, while there is a slight increase in the other groups. This is probably a result of higher percentages of elderly among groups from South and Central America and East Europe with the longest duration of residence compared to the other non-western groups.

Non-western immigrants overrepresented in hotels and restaurants, and industrial cleaning

Table 4.5 shows how the employed (both employees and self-employed) were distributed according to industry. In the hotel and restaurant industry, the number of immigrants employed was three times as high as the total number employed in this industry, i.e. 10 per cent compared to 3.4 per cent. It is mainly the non-western employees that push the figure up. The group from Asia, for example, had 15.8 per cent in this industry. Employees from Asia and South and Central America also had high numbers, both groups with around 11 per cent.

With regard to the industrial cleaning industry the difference was even greater. The total percentage employed in this line of business was 0.9 per cent. Among employed immigrants from Africa, South

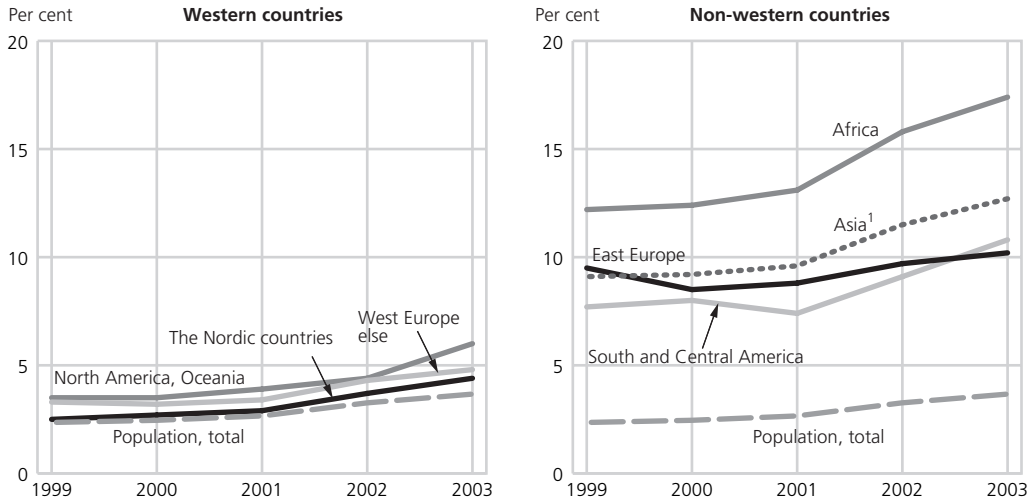
and Central America and Asia the figures were 9.7, 9.3 and 6.9 per cent respectively. Also within some other branches there were different portions of employed between total employed and among first generation immigrants. The differences, however, are smaller compared with those mentioned above. Within the branch "Manufacture of food products, beverages and tobacco products" the portions of employees from Asia and East Europe were 6.1 and 5.5 per cent, while it was 2.5 for all employed.

Also the branch "Health and social work" employed a higher portion of the first generation immigrant than the entire working population as some immigrants groups are concerned. Of employed from the Nordic countries and Africa there was a portion of 24 per cent in each group. The portion of all employed within this branch was 17.7 per cent.

Non-western immigrants' unemployment rate three times as high

Figure 4.2 shows the development in registered unemployment from 1999 to 2003 (using the 4th quarter as a point of reference every year). A sharp distinction between the western and non-western groups can be seen from the figures. The unemployment rates among immigrants from the Nordic countries, the rest of West Europe and North America and Oceania are generally close to the total unemployment level, while the rates for the non-westerners are far in excess of this level. The highest level of registered unemployment during this period was among African immigrants, which in November 2003 culminated at 17.4 per cent. This high level is connected to the relatively large proportion of newcomers in this group. The next highest group was the Asian immigrants with a rate of 12.7

Figure 4.2. Registered unemployed aged 16-74 years, by country of origin. As a percentage of the labour force. End of November 1999-2003



¹Turkey included.

Source: Labour market statistics, Statistics Norway.

per cent. Then came the immigrants from East Europe and South and Central America with about 10 per cent each. Unemployment for the population as a whole was 3.7 per cent.

The figure reveals that all the immigrant groups are affected by the declining economic trends after 2001, westerners as well as non-westerners. In all groups we find an upward trend in registered unemployment that keeps the differences between the groups generally unchanged, but among Africans we find some stronger increases than in other groups. Immigrants from East Europe had the least growth in unemployment among the non-westerners from November 2002 to November 2003.

Refugees and the labour market

A total of 29 299 refugees were registered as employed (both employees and self-employed) in the 4th quarter of

2002. These people constituted 48.2 per cent of the refugee population between 16 and 74 years settled after 1986. This rate represented a decline of 1.9 percentage points compared to the 4th. quarter in the preceding year. Of the 48.2 per cent employed refugees, 1.8 percentage points constituted the self-employed. Iranian refugees had the highest rate of self-employment at 3.6 per cent.

Refugees from Chile and Sri Lanka had the highest employment rates, with 66.6 and 65.2 per cent respectively (figure 4.3). Those from Afghanistan and Somalia had the lowest rates, with 26.1 and 30.1 per cent respectively.

These differences must be seen as a reflection of differences in periods of residence in Norway since the first two groups mentioned are the most established refugees in Norway while the other two consist of many newcomers. Additio-

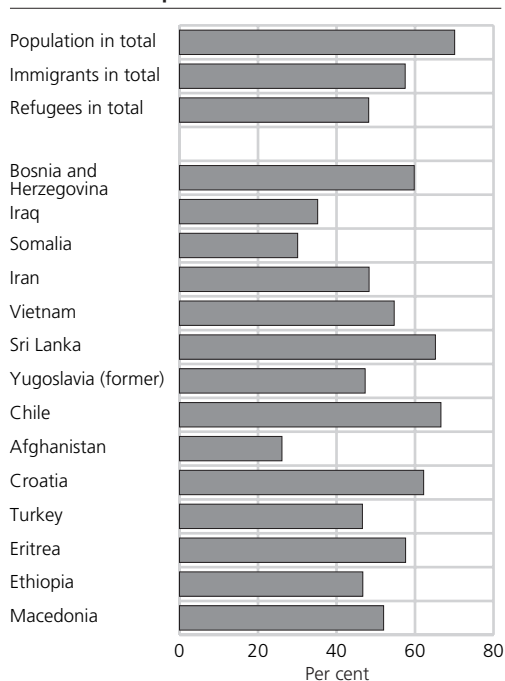
nally, refugees from Iraq, who are newly established, had a low employment rate of 35.2 per cent. But there was one group who contradicted this pattern of employment: the refugees from Croatia, which also consists of many newcomers, had an employment rate of 62.2 per cent.

About 9 per cent of refugees were registered unemployed

In the 4th quarter of 2002, 5 391 refugees were registered as unemployed, which constituted 8.9 percent of the refugee population between 16 and 74 years (table 4.6). In the population as a whole, this unemployment rate was 2.4 per cent. Refugees from Sri Lanka and Somalia had the highest rates, with 12.1 and 11.2 per cent respectively. Afghanistan refugees had the lowest rate, with 4.2 per cent.

These rates may appear inconsistent since refugees from Sri Lanka and Afghanistan are, as we have seen, quite different with regard to employment. The low unemployment rate among the Afghans must be seen in relation to the short period of residence among members in this group, which means that not very many have registered at the labour exchanges yet. In other words, this is a refugee group with a relatively high percentage outside the labour force, and mainly occupied with learning the language and job training. The refugees from Sri Lanka are on the contrary an established group with many employed persons and also many active registered job-seekers. Many of these job-seekers are probably not newcomers to the Norwegian labour market and have previously been employed. They will therefore be entitled to unemployment benefits and will register themselves as unemployed more frequently than first-time job-seekers. With regard to the Somalian refugees, we find a more "con-

Figure 4.3. Employed refugees settled after 1986, by selected countries of birth and employed immigrants in total and employed in total as a percentage of the population 16-74 years. 4th quarter 2002



Source: Labour market statistics, Statistics Norway.

sistent" pattern characterised by a high level of unemployment and a low degree of employment. This group also consists of many newcomers, but many of these have, however, a longer period of residence in Norway than the Afghans. Therefore more people are registered as unemployed, but as first time job-seekers they are less likely than the more established refugees to qualify for unemployment benefit or to get a job.

The registered unemployment rate among the refugees in total increased by 0.9 percentage points from the 4th quarter of 2001 to the 4th quarter of 2002. Among immigrants as a whole, the

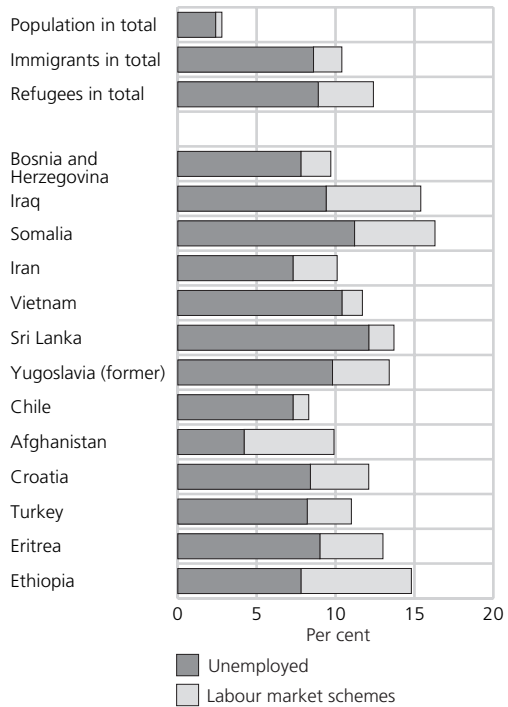
growth was a little stronger, with 1.4 percentage points. The Ethiopian refugees had the strongest growth with 2.1 percentage points. Next were refugees from Sri Lanka and Vietnam, with an increase of 1.7 percentage points each. On the contrary there were also groups that experienced a decline in the unemployment rate. The rate for refugees from Eritrea and Turkey fell slightly below 1 percentage point. When considering the changes for these groups of refugees it should, however, be noted that the basis for the figures is low.

Registered unemployed and participants on labour market schemes (gross unemployment)

In total, 2 099 refugees were registered as participants on labour market schemes in the 4th quarter of 2002. These people constituted 48 per cent of all participants who were first generation immigrants. Measured as a percentage of the population in the respective groups, refugees had a proportion of 3.5 per cent participants compared to 1.8 per cent among first generation immigrants in total. In the population as a whole, the participation rate was 0.4 per cent. Many of the labour market schemes are specially arranged for refugees, hence the higher rate of participants in this group and among newcomers, in particular for instance refugees from Iraq, Somalia and Afghanistan. The most established refugee groups, such as those from Chile and Sri Lanka, had the lowest rates of participants.

Figure 4.4 shows the gross unemployment rate (registered unemployed and participants on labour market schemes) in the 4th quarter of 2002. Refugees as a whole had a somewhat higher rate than immigrants as a whole, with 12.4 and

Figure 4.4. Registered unemployed and participants on labour market schemes who are refugees, by country of birth and unemployed and participants on labour market schemes in total and those who are immigrants. As a percentage of persons in total aged 16-74 years. 4th quarter 2002



Source: Labour market statistics, Statistics Norway.

10.4 per cent respectively. This difference is a result of the higher level of participation on labour market schemes among refugees. In the population as a whole, the gross unemployment rate was 2.8 per cent. Refugees from Somalia and Iraq had the highest rates, with 16.3 and 15.4 per cent respectively, while those from Chile and Bosnia and Herzegovina had the lowest rates, with 8.3 and 9.7 per cent respectively.

About the statistics

Employment statistics for immigrants include all first generation immigrants aged 16-74 years who are registered as active employees or self-employed and settled in Norway. First generation immigrants are born abroad with two foreign-born parents.

An employee is a person aged 16-74 who performs work for pay or profit in the service of another. To be registered in The Register of Employees the employment has to last for at least six days and comprise a minimum of four hours a week (This registration is required). The date of reference is the end of November in the year of the statistics.

The industrial classification is in accordance with the revised Standard Industrial Classification (NOS C182, issued 1994), which is based on the EU standard NACE Rev. 1. The statistics on labour force participation are based on data from the Register of Employees, which the National Insurance Administration is responsible for. Statistics Norway receives weekly files. The self-employed and some smaller employee cases are gathered from the Register of Wages and Deduction of Tax Lists.

Statistics on unemployment are based on data from the AETAT's (the primary centre for labour market issues) register of completely unemployed persons and persons participating in labour market schemes (job training programmes).

Information on immigration category, country of origin, country of birth, period of residence in Norway, sex and age are taken from the National Population register and Statistic Norway's Population statistics.

Table 4.1. Employed by region of birth, sex and generation. Per cent of persons aged 16-74 years and in absolute figures. 4th quarter 2001 and 4th quarter 2002

	4th quarter 2001			4th quarter 2002			Change 2001-2002		
	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females
Per cent									
Total population	70.9	74.7	67.0	70.1	73.5	66.5	-0.8	-1.2	-0.5
First generation immigrants									
Total	59.3	64.6	54.0	57.5	62.4	52.7	-1.8	-2.2	-1.3
The Nordic countries	73.7	75.9	71.7	72.1	74.3	70.2	-1.6	-1.6	-1.5
West Europe else	68.1	75.2	59.1	66.9	72.8	59.3	-1.2	-2.4	0.2
East Europe	57.5	63.1	53.1	56.9	61.5	53.4	-0.6	-1.6	0.3
North America and Oceania	55.0	63.1	47.9	54.9	62.1	48.4	-0.1	-1.0	0.5
Asia ¹	52.5	59.1	45.5	50.8	57.2	44.3	-1.7	-1.9	-1.2
Africa	46.2	51.1	39.3	43.7	48.3	37.4	-2.5	-2.8	-1.9
South and Central America	62.3	68.8	56.5	59.6	65.8	54.4	-2.7	-3.0	-2.1
Norwegian born to foreign-born parents²									
Total	63.5	64.8	62.1	61.1	61.7	60.4	-2.4	-3.1	-1.7
The Nordic countries	77.6	79.9	75.3	74.9	76.3	73.6	-2.7	-3.6	-1.7
West Europe else	69.2	70.9	67.4	70.2	72.6	67.5	1.0	1.7	0.1
East Europe	72.6	73.3	72.0	69.5	70.7	68.2	-3.1	-2.6	-3.8
North America and Oceania	72.4	75.3	69.6	72.3	72.7	72.0	-0.1	-2.6	2.4
Asia ¹	57.2	59.1	55.1	55.2	56.2	54.2	-2.0	-2.9	-0.9
Africa	61.8	57.5	66.8	56.0	49.0	64.0	-5.8	-8.5	-2.8
South and Central America	50.0	51.5	48.1	52.2	56.1	47.3	2.2	4.6	-0.8
Absolute figures									
Total population	2 275 000	1 208 839	1 066 161	2 267 000	1 199 118	1 067 882	-8 000	-9 721	1 1721
First generation immigrants									
Total	133 723	72 947	60 776	138 357	74 667	63 690	4 634	1 720	2 914
The Nordic countries ..	33 013	15 886	17 127	32 709	15 907	16 802	-304	21	-325
West Europe else	19 135	11 738	7 397	19 593	11 919	7 674	458	181	277
East Europe	20 661	9 913	10 748	22 210	10 293	11 917	1 549	380	1 169
North America and Oceania	3 907	2 096	1 811	3 986	2 144	1 842	79	48	31
Asia ¹	41 386	23 966	17 420	43 516	24 738	18 778	2 130	772	1 358
Africa	9 822	6 350	3 472	10 407	6 646	3 761	585	296	289
South and Central America	5 799	2 998	2 801	5 903	2 990	2 913	104	-8	112
Norwegian born to foreign-born parents²									
Total	6 339	3 353	2 986	6 729	3 517	3 212	390	164	226
The Nordic countries ..	1 079	561	518	1 071	550	521	-8	-11	3
West Europe else	713	387	326	741	408	333	28	21	7
East Europe	863	444	419	864	446	418	1	2	-1
North America and Oceania	110	55	55	115	56	59	5	1	4
Asia ¹	3 099	1 661	1 438	3 420	1 802	1 618	321	141	180
Africa	388	195	193	411	191	220	23	-4	27
South and Central America	87	50	37	107	64	43	20	14	6

¹Including Turkey.²By mother's native country.

Table 4.2. Employed first generation immigrants, by selected countries of birth. Absolute figures and in per cent of persons in total 16-74 years. 4th quarter 2002 and 2003

	4th quarter 2002			4th quarter 2003		
	Population	Employed	Employment rate	Population	Employed	Employment rate
The whole population	3 211 032	2 275 000	70.8	3 234 083	2 267 000	70.1
First generation immigrants in total	225 332	133 723	59.4	240 486	138 357	57.5
Of which						
Afghanistan	1 296	350	27.0	1 965	550	28.0
Bosnia and Herzegovina	9 882	5 834	59.0	10 110	5 988	59.2
Chile	5 016	3 351	66.8	5 199	3 329	64.0
Denmark	15 820	10 704	67.7	16 008	10 630	66.4
Ethiopia	2 304	1 231	53.4	2 492	1 328	53.3
The Philippines	5 102	3 349	65.6	5 571	3 651	65.5
Finland	5 892	4 350	73.8	5 995	4 295	71.6
France	1 984	1 282	64.6	2 083	1 307	62.7
India	4 048	2 584	63.8	4 236	2 662	62.8
Iraq	9 304	3 753	40.3	10 845	3 961	36.5
Iran	8 815	4 445	50.4	9 592	4 683	48.8
Iceland	2 780	2 065	74.3	2 954	2 125	71.9
Italy	1 095	675	61.6	1 153	701	60.8
Yugoslavia	8 933	4 782	53.5	9 325	4 787	51.3
China	2 844	1 698	59.7	3 155	1 853	58.7
Croatia	1 402	873	62.3	1 507	978	64.9
Lebanon	1 070	436	40.7	1 135	433	38.1
Morocco	3 764	1 759	46.7	3 947	1 831	46.4
Netherlands	3 056	2 216	72.5	3 143	2 299	73.1
Pakistan	12 837	5 785	45.1	13 442	5 940	44.2
Poland	5 356	3 427	64.0	5 845	3 750	64.2
Romania	1 025	626	61.1	1 148	706	61.5
Russia	3 649	1 942	53.2	4 501	2 343	52.1
Somalia	6 644	2 165	32.6	8 009	2 319	29.0
Spain	1 246	802	64.4	1 327	778	58.6
Sri Lanka	7 040	4 515	64.1	7 294	4 561	62.5
United Kingdom	9 010	6 296	69.9	9 235	6 233	67.5
Sweden	19 621	15 440	78.7	19 753	15 237	77.1
Thailand	3 645	2 095	57.5	4 308	2 398	55.7
Turkey	7 201	3 529	49.0	7 772	3 753	48.3
Germany	8 236	5 565	67.6	8 781	5 938	67.6
USA	5 402	2 902	53.7	5 452	2 916	53.5
Hungary	1 177	623	52.9	1 181	627	53.1
Vietnam	10 723	6 353	59.2	10 998	6 417	58.3

Table 4.3. Employed by sex, labour market status, region of birth and generation. Per cent of persons aged 16-74 years in each group and in absolute figures. 4th quarter 2002

	Total			Males			Females		
	Em- ployees	Self-em- ployed	Em- ployed, total	Em- ployees	Self-em- ployed	Em- ployed, total	Em- ployees	Self-em- ployed	Em- ployed, total
Total population	65.4	4.7	70.1	66.6	6.9	73.5	64.1	2.4	66.5
First generation immigrants									
Total	53.9	3.7	57.6	57.4	5.1	62.5	50.4	2.3	52.7
The Nordic countries	66.8	5.3	72.1	66.6	7.6	74.2	66.9	3.2	70.1
West Europe else .	61.7	5.2	66.9	67.0	5.9	72.9	55.0	4.4	59.4
East Europe	54.9	2.0	56.9	58.5	3.0	61.5	52.2	1.3	53.5
North America and Oceania	50.6	4.3	54.9	56.8	5.3	62.1	45.0	3.4	48.4
Asia ¹	47.3	3.5	50.8	52.2	5.0	57.2	42.3	2.0	44.3
Africa	41.3	2.4	43.7	44.9	3.4	48.3	36.4	1.0	37.4
South and Central America	57.4	2.3	59.7	62.7	3.1	65.8	52.8	1.5	54.3
Norwegian born to foreign-born parents²									
Total	59.2	1.9	61.1	59.1	2.6	61.7	59.3	1.2	60.5
The Nordic countries	71.0	4.0	75.0	70.9	5.4	76.3	71.0	2.5	73.5
West Europe else .	66.7	3.5	70.2	68.1	4.4	72.5	65.1	2.4	67.5
East Europe	66.3	3.1	69.4	66.9	3.8	70.7	65.7	2.4	68.1
North America and Oceania	68.6	3.8	72.4	67.5	5.2	72.7	69.5	2.4	71.9
Asia ¹	54.2	1.0	55.2	54.6	1.6	56.2	53.8	0.5	54.3
Africa	55.4	0.5	55.9	47.9	1.0	48.9	64.0	-	64.0
South and Central America	51.7	0.5	52.2	56.1	-	56.1	46.2	1.1	47.3
	Absolute figures								
Total population	2 115 000	152 000	2 267 000	1 086 391	112 727	1 199 118	1 028 609	39 273	1 067 882
First generation immigrants									
Total	129 528	8 829	138 357	68 615	6 052	74 667	60 913	2 777	63 690
The Nordic countries	30 297	2 412	32 709	14 269	1 638	15 907	16 028	774	16 802
West Europe else ...	18 072	1 521	19 593	10 961	958	11 919	7 111	563	7 674
East Europe	21 415	795	22 210	9 784	509	10 293	11 631	286	11 917
North America and Oceania	3 671	315	3 986	1 960	184	2 144	1 711	131	1 842
Asia ¹	40 518	2 998	43 516	22 581	2 157	24 738	17 937	841	18 778
Africa	9 844	563	10 407	6 182	464	6 646	3 662	99	3 761
South and Central America	5 678	225	5 903	2 848	142	2 990	2 830	83	2 913
Norwegian born by foreign-born parents²									
Total	6 520	209	6 729	3 370	147	3 517	3 150	62	3 212
The Nordic countries	1 014	57	1 071	511	39	550	503	18	521
West Europe else ...	704	37	741	383	25	408	321	12	333
East Europe	825	39	864	422	24	446	403	15	418
North America and Oceania	109	6	115	52	4	56	57	2	59
Asia ¹	3 355	65	3 420	1 751	51	1 802	1 604	14	1 618
Africa	407	4	411	187	4	191	220	-	220
South and Central America	106	1	107	64	-	64	42	1	43

¹ Including Turkey. ² By mothers native country.

Table 4.4. Self-employed immigrants aged 16-74 years, by region of birth and selected industries. 4th quarter 2002. Per cent

No. Industry ²	Self-employed, total	Self-employed by region of birth								
		Total	The Nordic countries	West Europe	East Europe	North America and Oceania	Asia ¹	Africa	South and Central America	
0-9 Total incl. not provided ..	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
11 Extraction of crude petroleum and natural gas	.	.	0	0
10,12-37 Manufacturing and mining	6	4	6	6	5	6	2	2	5	
Of which										
15-16 Manufacture of food, beverages and tobacco .....	.	.	0	0	0	1	0	0	.
27-28 Manufacture of metals and metal products .....	.	.	1	1	1	0	0	.	1
34-35 Manufacture of vehicles and transport equipment .....	.	.	0	1	.	.	0	.	.
40-41 Electricity and water supply .....	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
45 Construction	18	9	22	9	12	5	1	2	7	
50-55 Sale, hotels and restaurants	17	25	11	12	16	13	46	22	17	
Of which										
51 Wholesale and commission trade	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	2	2	
52 Retail trade and repair of personal and household goods	9	10	5	4	7	7	17	10	10	
55 Hotels and restaurants	3	11	2	4	5	2	25	9	3	
60-64 Transport and communication	12	9	3	3	7	2	17	10	5	
65-67 Finance and insurance ....	.	.	0	.	.	.	.	.	.
70-74 Real estate, renting and business activities	16	12	12	19	16	24	6	8	21	
Of which										
74.7 Industrial cleaning	1	2	3	1	5	1	2	2	12	
75-99 Public administration and other service activities	20	20	28	33	26	26	9	8	20	
Of which										
80 Education	1	1	1	1	2	1	0	0	0	
85 Health and social work	11	12	18	22	11	11	5	5	10	
92 Recreational, cultural and sporting activities	3	4	4	6	8	11	1	1	7	
Industry not provided	11	21	17	19	19	24	19	48	25	

¹ Including Turkey.² Primary industries not presented.

Table 4.5. Employed first generation immigrants aged 16-74 years, by region of birth and selected industries. 4th quarter 2002. Per cent

	Em- ployed, total	First generation immigrants									
		Total	The Nordic countries	West Europe else	New EU countries in East Europe	East Europe else	North America and Oceania	Asia ¹	Africa	South and Central America	
0-9 Total incl. not provided	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
01-05 Agriculture, forestry and fishing	3.7	1.3	1.8	1.6	2.3	1.4	1.6	1.0	0.5	0.6	
11 Extraction of crude petroleum and natural gas	1.3	1.3	1.0	4.1	0.8	0.3	5.2	0.5	0.5	1.0	
10,12-37 Manufacturing and mining	13.9	14.2	11.9	16.4	11.6	17.3	15.2	14.4	10.5	15.0	
15-16 Manufacture of food, beverages and tobacco	2.5	4.2	2.8	2.0	2.5	5.5	1.4	6.1	3.7	3.8	
22 Publishing, printing and reproduction of recorded media	1.4	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.2	0.8	1.1	1.3	2.0	0.9	
27-28 Manufacture of metals and metal products	1.5	1.3	1.1	1.2	0.9	2.0	0.7	1.3	0.6	2.4	
34-35 Manufacture of vehicles and transport equipment	1.7	1.8	1.7	2.4	1.0	2.3	1.7	1.3	1.2	3.4	
40-41 Electricity and water supply ..	0.7	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.1	
45 Construction ...	6.7	4.3	8.2	4.1	2.7	5.3	3.0	2.0	2.4	2.9	
50-55 Sale, hotels and restaurants	18.3	21.5	18.9	15.3	15.9	20.6	11.4	28.4	20.4	19.2	
50 Sale and repair of motor vehicles	2.4	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.0	2.2	0.8	1.5	1.1	1.0	
51 Wholesale and commission trade	2.8	2.6	3.0	2.7	2.5	2.3	1.9	2.6	2.2	1.7	
52 Retail trade and repair of personal and household goods	7.8	6.4	6.7	3.6	5.9	7.4	3.3	7.9	4.9	4.9	
55 Hotels and restaurants	3.4	10.0	6.2	5.9	5.2	7.8	4.0	15.8	11.7	11.0	
60-64 Transport and communication	7.2	6.4	5.4	5.0	5.1	4.6	5.1	8.7	8.0	4.9	
65-67 Finance and insurance	2.1	0.8	1.3	1.1	0.9	0.4	1.4	0.4	0.3	0.6	

Table 4.5. Employed first generation immigrants aged 16-74 years, by region of birth and selected industries. 4th quarter 2002. Per cent
(cont.).

	Em- ployed, total	First generation immigrants								
		Total	The Nordic countries	West Europe else	New EU countries in East Europe	East Europe else	North America and Oceania	Asia ¹	Africa	South and Central America
70-74 Real estate, renting and business activities	10.3	13.7	11.7	15.3	11.4	13.2	18.7	13.1	16.4	17.4
70 Real estate activities	1.1	0.8	0.9	0.7	1.2	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.9	1.0
71 Renting of machinery and equipment	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1
72 Computer and related activities	1.5	1.5	1.9	2.5	1.6	0.9	3.9	1.0	0.7	1.0
73 Research and development	0.5	0.9	0.8	1.8	1.5	0.7	2.6	0.5	0.4	0.5
74 Other business activities	7.0	10.3	7.8	9.9	6.9	10.7	11.1	10.7	14.3	14.8
74.5 Labour recruitment and provision of personnel	1.1	1.4	1.7	1.2	1.1	1.2	1.9	1.3	1.9	2.0
74.7 Industrial cleaning	0.9	4.6	1.1	0.9	1.5	5.7	0.7	6.9	9.7	9.3
75-99 Public administration and other service activities	36.4	35.9	39.1	39.1	45.4	35.8	40.8	30.4	38.6	38.0
75 Public administration, defense and compulsory social security	7.1	4.5	3.8	3.6	5.3	5.4	4.2	4.6	5.7	5.1
80 Education	7.8	7.1	6.6	11.4	10.7	7.0	16.0	5.0	5.7	6.8
85 Health and social work	17.7	20.1	23.9	19.0	19.8	18.6	14.2	17.9	24.2	22.5
92 Recreational, cultural and sporting activities	1.5	1.7	2.4	2.5	4.6	1.9	3.6	0.8	1.0	1.6
Industry not provided ..	0.7	1.6	1.3	1.9	4.6	1.1	2.5	1.5	2.8	1.2

¹ Turkey included.

Table 4.6. Registered unemployed refugees, by selected countries of birth. Absolute figures and in per cent of persons 16-74 years. 4th quarter 2000-2002

	Absolute figures			Per cent			Change in per cent 2001-2002
	2000	2001	2002	2000	2001	2002	
Unemployed, total	57 472	64 112	77 706	1,8	2.0	2,4	0,4
Unemployed who are immigrants, total	9 411	10 486	13 114	6.8	7.2	8.6	1.4
Unemployed who are refugees, total	3 956	4 465	5 391	7.6	8.0	8.9	0.9
Of which							
Bosnia and Herzegovina	738	796	805	7.4	7.8	7.8	0.0
Iraq	544	634	855	7.5	8.1	9.4	1.3
Somalia	492	576	770	9.1	9.6	11.2	1.6
Iran	364	408	494	6.3	6.5	7.3	0.8
Vietnam	323	363	441	7.8	8.7	10.4	1.7
Sri Lanka	358	390	466	9.8	10.4	12.1	1.7
Ex. Yugoslavia	227	265	355	7.5	8.2	9.8	1.6
Chile	198	194	224	6.9	6.5	7.3	0.8
Afghanistan	16	46	70	2.6	4.2	4.2	0.0
Croatia	95	107	113	8.3	8.4	8.4	0.0
Turkey	86	112	108	7.2	8.9	8.2	-0.7
Eritrea	91	97	90	9.6	9.9	9.0	-0.9
Ethiopia	31	43	65	5.8	5.7	7.8	2.1

Table 4.7. Registered unemployed 16-74 years, by country of birth. Absolute figures and per cent of the labour force. End of November 1999-2003

Unemployed, total	Registered unemployed immigrants								
	Total	The Nordic countries	West Europe	East Europe else	North America and Oceania	Asia ¹	Africa	South and Central America	
	Absolute figures								
1999	55 761	8 575	870	621	1 796	146	3 553	1 158	429
2000	58 027	9 411	913	617	1 846	138	4 031	1 376	490
2001	64 112	10 486	965	662	2 071	152	4 597	1 560	479
2002	77 706	13 114	1 243	860	2 455	179	5 760	2 006	611
2003	87 349	15 239	1 492	995	2 746	243	6 670	2 344	749
	Per cent								
1999	2.4	6.6	2.5	3.3	9.5	3.5	9.1	12.2	7.7
2000	2.5	6.7	2.7	3.2	8.5	3.5	9.2	12.4	8.0
2001	2.7	7.1	2.9	3.4	8.8	3.9	9.6	13.1	7.4
2002	3.3	8.6	3.7	4.3	9.7	4.4	11.5	15.8	9.1
2003	3.7	9.6	4.4	4.8	10.2	6.0	12.7	17.4	10.8

¹ Turkey included.

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5. Income

- Non-western immigrants are highly over-represented in the low-income group.
- A poor attachment to the labour force is the main reason for low income.
- Non-western immigrants are also highly over-represented in receiving housing benefits and social security, but there are considerable variations according to country of origin.
- Immigrants from Somalia and Iraq are most dependent on social security and have the lowest levels of income.
- Families from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Chile, India and Sri Lanka have relatively high earned incomes and most of them are financially independent.
- Non-western single parents have low earned incomes and are especially dependent on cash transfers.

This chapter mainly deals with the income situation among non-western immigrants in Norway. However, some tables are also included for income figures for western immigrants and the total population in order to show differences in income levels and types.

The household is considered to be the best unit of analysis when describing

economic living conditions. The household is defined as all individuals living in the same dwelling and who have common expenses. Information about the household composition is collected through annual and representative sample surveys where Statistics Norway gathers information via personal interviews. However, these surveys do not usually have large enough sample sizes to give representative income figures for immigrants from various countries. Figures are only given for immigrants from different continents, often hiding large variations between single countries. However, income figures for immigrants from different countries are given at family level by using information from the National Population Register. It is important to bear in mind that the family unit and the household unit may differ among several groups of immigrants. This is especially the case among many non-western immigrants where it is more common for many families to belong to the same household.

We will first look at some economic indicators based on The Income and Property Survey for Households. Indicators are given for non-western immigrants as a whole, and with refugees singled out as one group. The chapter is concluded with register data based on the Income

The Income and Property Survey for Households

The Income and Property Survey for Households is an annual sample survey with a sample size ranging from roughly 10 000 households to 28 000 households for the years 1996-2002. Based on this survey a number of different income indicators are established, including non-western immigrants and refugees. The aim of the indicators is to give information about changes over time. One part of the survey consists of a panel survey, i.e. a survey where the same individuals are followed over several years, making it possible to give figures for long-term low incomes among some groups of the population. The indicators are updated every year.

Statistics for Persons and Families, thus enabling us to examine income levels and types and income for immigrants by some family categories, and by country of origin.

One out of three non-western immigrants belong to the low-income group

Non-western immigrants are highly over-represented in the low-income group

(table 5.1). In 2002, every third non-western immigrant belonged to the low-income group, when using the EU method for measuring poverty. For refugees alone, the proportion was even higher with 36 per cent this year, compared to 11 per cent for the population as a whole. This means that the probability of a non-western immigrant having a low income is three times higher than for a

Definition of low income

Low income can be defined in several ways and the estimated number of individuals belonging to the low-income group may therefore vary depending on the choice of definition. In order to show the robustness of the results, we use two different low income definitions in this chapter: one currently used by the European Union and one developed by the OECD.

One main difference between the two definitions is that the OECD uses 50 per cent of the median equivalent income as the low-income threshold, while the EU definition uses 60 per cent of the median. In addition, there are differences between the two definitions regarding the assumption of the economies of scale within households, e.g. in respect to joint housing costs such as TV, newspapers, telephone, washing machine etc. For more information on low-income thresholds, see chapter 2 of the SSB report *Økonomi og levekår for ulike grupper, 2003*.

In order to compare the economic standard of living of individuals belonging to households of different size and composition it is common practice to divide the household income by an equivalent scale. According to the OECD scale the first adult in the household is allocated a weight of 1.0, a weight of 0.7 to all additional adult members, and a weight of 0.5 for all children. The EU scale is a 'modification' of the OECD scale giving slightly less weight to additional household members (assuming larger economies of scale). According to this scale, the first adult is given the weight 1.0, the next adult a weight of 0.5 and children the weight of 0.3. According to the OECD scale, a household consisting of two adults and two children would thus need an income that is 2.7 times larger than a single-person household ($1.0 + 0.7 + 0.5 + 0.5$) in order to have a comparable economic standard of living. By using the EU scale, the same household would only need an income of 2.1 the size of a single-person household in order to have a similar level of potential consumption.

The median income is the income (value) that splits the distribution into two parts of equal size after the distribution has been ranked according to size. Exactly 50 per cent of the population fall below that value and 50 per cent above it.

person in the general population. The low-income threshold is lower when using the OECD method for measuring poverty. The probability of non-western immigrants belonging to the low-income group is five times higher than for the population in general when this method is applied.

Marginal attachment to the labour force the main reason for low income

During the period 1996 to 2002, the number of non-western immigrants with low incomes fell until 2002, when the number again rose to the same level as in the middle of the 1990s. There are many reasons for this development. One main reason is changing business cycles coupled with a worsening labour market in 2002. For instance, the unemployment rate among immigrants with an African background was 20.5 per cent in 1996, 12.2 per cent in 1999 and rose again to 15.9 per cent in 2002. Several studies conclude (e.g. Andersen et al. 2003, Statistics Norway 2004) that a marginal attachment to the labour market is the single most important reason for people falling below the low-income threshold.

Another reason for the rising number of non-western immigrants with low inco-

mes could be demographic changes in the period 1996 to 2002. In 1996, there were many newcomer refugees from Bosnia and Herzegovina in Norway. By 1999, many of these had entered the labour force. The rising proportion of immigrants with low incomes in 2002 could be explained by the recent arrival of many refugees from Iraq and Somalia.

Table 5.2 also shows the relationship between a marginal attachment to the labour force and having a low income. The percentage of people in households without any attachment to the labour force is high among non-western immigrants and clearly over-represented compared to the working population as a whole. In 2002, every third (33 per cent) non-western immigrant belonged to a household without any attachment to the labour force. The same percentage in the population as a whole (age 25-65 years) was 13 per cent. Among refugees alone the portion is even higher - 39 per cent. Among non-western immigrants below the low-income threshold, the percentage of people in households without any attachment to the labour force is as high as 70 per cent, and once again the corresponding figure for refugees is even higher, at 77 per cent.

Table 5.1. Percentage of people in households with annual net income per consumption unit below different distances to the median income. Two different methods of measuring low income. 1996, 1999 and 2002

	OECD method			EU method		
	1996	1999	2002	1996	1999	2002
Immigrants in total ¹	17	11	18	28	20	27
Immigrants from non-western countries ¹	23	15	23	36	26	33
Refugees ¹	20	17	26	34	29	36
All persons	4	4	5	12	11	11
People aged 25-65 years	3	3	4	7	7	7

¹ People in households where the main breadwinner has this characteristic.
Source: Income and property statistics for households, Statistics Norway.

Another indicator for labour force attachment is the proportion of people belonging to a household in which earned income is the main source of income. In the low-income group, about three out of ten non-western immigrants have earned income as their main source of income. Among non-western immigrants above the low-income threshold, almost eight out of ten belong to a household where earned income is the most important source of income. For the population as a whole (of a working age), the corresponding figures are 46 and 87 per cent respectively.

It is important to be aware that the figures for labour force attachment shown here do not reveal the major differences among different non-western immigrants. Immigrant background, duration of residence in Norway and time of arrival in Norway, are all important factors for determining the degree of attachment to the labour force (Blom 1996, Østby

2001b). Many groups of immigrants do have jobs with relatively high incomes, such as those from Chile, India, Sri Lanka, Vietnam and Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Many receive social security and housing benefits

Non-western immigrants are clearly over-represented in receiving social security and housing benefits compared to the population as a whole (table 5.2). The proportion receiving housing benefit was 19 per cent among non-western immigrants and 29 per cent among refugees in 2002. For those receiving both social security and housing benefit, the corresponding figures were 14 and 22 per cent respectively in 2002. Only 1 per cent of the total population receive both of these two tax-free payments.

Not surprisingly, these payments are most common among immigrants at the bottom of the income distribution. Almost

Table 5.2. Percentage of people in households with different characteristics. 2002

	People aged 25-65 years			Non-western immigrants ¹			Refugees ¹		
	All	Low income	Not low income	All	Low income	Not low income	All	Low income	Not low income
Without any economically actives in the household	13	63	9	33	70	14	39	77	18
Salary as the main household income	84	46	87	62	29	78	54	18	74
Receiving housing benefit	3	11	2	19	31	14	29	43	21
Receiving social security	5	23	4	29	47	20	42	64	29
Receiving housing benefit and social security	1	7	1	14	26	9	22	36	14
Interest paid represents more than 15 per cent of total household income	20	24	19	16	12	19	13	8	16
Debt represents more than three times total household income	8	27	7	10	12	9	7	10	6
Percentage of people	100	7	93	100	33	67	100	36	64
Number of observations	32 713	1 893	30 820	2 953	903	2 050	1 653	567	1 086

¹ People in households where the main breadwinner has this characteristic.
Source: Income and property statistics for households, Statistics Norway.

half of all non-western immigrants in the low-income group belong to a household receiving social security, while 25 per cent receive both social security and housing benefit. Among refugees in the low-income group, the corresponding figures are even higher at 64 and 36 per cent respectively. One important explanation for the high dependence on these payments, especially among refugees, is, as previously discussed, low or no earned income, and large households to support. Another explanation could be that some of the state support received by the municipalities to help them integrate refugees, is registered as social security for the refugee (Østby 2001b).

Debt

Table 5.2 shows two indicators for interest and debt among immigrant households. The indicator for interest burden shows the proportion of people belonging to a household where interest on debt amounts to 15 per cent or more of the household's total income. A smaller proportion of non-western immigrants pay this much interest (16 per cent) compared to the total population in the age group 25-65 years (20 per cent).

If we look at the indicator for debt burden, slightly less than 10 per cent of non-western immigrants belong to a household where the total debt is more than three times the household's total income. For the population as a whole, in the age group 25-65 years, the corresponding figure is 8 per cent.

Among non-western immigrants with low incomes, the number of people with large amounts of debt is higher than among immigrants above the low-income threshold. However, the indicator for a high interest burden shows the opposite to be

the case, and this also applies to refugees. One possible explanation for this contradictory picture could be that immigrants with financial difficulties have worked out new payment terms with their creditors to ease the repayment of debt. Another reason could be students with student loans where the interest has not yet started.

Composition of income

Here we examine the income composition for 2002 in households where the main breadwinner is a non-western immigrant. For immigrants in the low-income group, different state benefits make up more than half (59 per cent) of the household's total income. As can be seen in table 5.3, the single most important form of state support is social security, with a proportion of almost 25 per cent of total income on average. For immigrant households above the low-income threshold, social security is much less prevalent, with a proportion of 4 per cent.

After social security, various other benefits and family allowances are the most common for non-western immigrant households with low incomes, with 11 and 7 per cent of the total income respectively. Housing benefit is also significant to a large proportion.

Many immigrants with long-term low incomes

So far we have looked at the annual low incomes of non-western immigrants, and shown how the various social indicators vary among those above and below the low-income threshold. Thus, we get a picture of the situation at a certain point in time, in 2002. However, the figures don't tell us how long this situation is likely to last, i.e. whether it is short-term

or long-term. Earlier studies (Andersen et al 2003) show that there are significant differences with regard to which groups in society are most likely to have long-term low incomes. Some groups will only have low incomes for short periods of time, while others have greater problems in improving their financial situation. By using panel data, the same individuals can be followed over several years. Table 5.4 shows that immigrants, and especially those with a non-western background, are also highly over-represented among those with long-term low incomes. About every third non-western immigrant had a long-term low income during the 3-year period 2000-2002, according to the EU

definition. In the population as a whole, the corresponding figure was 1 out of 10. The number of immigrants with a long-term low income seems to have risen since the previous 3-year period (1997-1999), i.e. the same development as for annual low income. As already discussed in this chapter, the explanations for this development could be both the economy (changing business cycles) and demography.

Income among immigrant families

So far in this chapter we have described the income situation among the immigrant population by using the household as the measuring unit. In order to produ-

Table 5.3. Income account for households. With main breadwinner aged 25-65 years (total population) or main breadwinner is a non-western immigrant. 2002. NOK and per cent

	Proportion of total household income					
	Main breadwinner aged 25-65 years			Main breadwinner non-western immigrant		
	All	Low income	Not low income	All	Low income	Not low income
Employment income	79	80	50	69	75	40
Property income ¹	8	8	2	3	3	1
Benefits in total	13	12	48	28	22	59
Of which						
Other benefits	6	6	21	8	7	11
Unemployment benefits	1	1	4	4	3	5
Family allowances	2	2	5	4	3	7
Housing benefits	0	0	1	1	1	3
Social security	1	0	8	7	4	24
Cash benefits	0	0	1	1	1	2
Total household income	531 000	572 000	148 000	309 000	422 000	124 000
Total assessed taxes and negative transfers	138 000	150 000	22 000	63 000	93 000	13 000
Total net income for the household	394 000	422 000	126 000	247 000	329 000	111 000
Net income per consumption unit (EU scale)	241 000	258 000	75 000	152 000	203 000	68 000
Net income per consumption unit (OECD scale)	211 000	226 000	70 000	135 000	179 000	61 000
Average number of persons in the household	2.4	2.5	1.8	2.5	2.7	2.1
Number of observations	17 930	16 645	1 285	934	629	305

¹ Negative property income is registered as zero.

Source: Income and property statistics for households, Statistics Norway.

ce household income we have to rely on survey data. Due to small sample sizes, we are only able to distinguish between immigrants with non-western backgrounds (and refugees). Accordingly, we have loose information on variations between immigrants from the different countries. As a consequence, another data source will be applied for the remainder of this chapter: income statistics for persons and families. This data source enables us to study the income for some family types: married couples with and without children, cohabitating couples with common children and single parents (defined as recipients of extra child allowance). In addition, we have defined the families where the main breadwinner is aged 25-55 years¹ and where he/she is either a first generation immigrant or has two foreign-born parents. The reason for this age limitation is to get a closer look at families where the main breadwinner is in his/her most active working age, thereby improving the accuracy of the comparison with the population as a whole. The age composition of the immigrant population differs somewhat, however, compared to the remaining population, whereby a larger proportion of the immigrants are found in the younger age groups. Some distortion will therefore remain even after the age delimitation.

Table 5.4. Percentage of people with long-term low income

	OECD method		EU method	
	1997-1999	2000-2002	1997-1999	2000-2002
Immigrants in total	12	16	23	25
Immigrants from non-western countries	15	21	27	31
All persons	2	3	9	9

Source: Income and property statistics for households, Statistics Norway.

Non-western immigrant families have the lowest incomes ...

Table 5.5 shows that the average net income for couples with children in the total population amounted to NOK 547 000 in 2002. The income level for non-western immigrant families with children lies far below this. East European couples with children have an average income of approximately NOK 400 000 or 73 per cent of the average for the total population. The situation for families with children from Asia, Africa, South and Central America is even less favourable, with an income level that is 69 per cent of the income for all couples with children. The situation for couples without children is quite similar. The income differences among single parents are less striking, but even here, non-western immigrants tend to have lower incomes compared to others. As an example, the average income of single parents from East Europe is 88 per cent of the total for all single parents in Norway.

... and the differences increase after controlling for family size

The income differences between non-western immigrants become even more

Income statistics for persons and families

Income statistics for persons and families are based on information from various administrative registers. The statistics cover most of the cash incomes received by Norwegian families. The entire resident population at the end of the year is included. From this data source, we can obtain a breakdown of different sub-groups of the population, such as immigrants grouped by their country of origin. For more information about this data source, see SSB's publication *Income Statistics for Persons and Families 1990-2001*, which can be downloaded at http://www.ssb.no/english/subjects/05/01/inntpf_en/

Table 5.5. Income account by family type¹ and country of origin². Main breadwinner or single parent³ aged 25-55 years. Average. 2002. NOK

	Total income	Earned income	Pro-perty income	Bene-fits	Family allo-wances	Social security	Net income	Net income per consumption unit (EU scale)	Number of families
All									
Couples without children	615 300	518 200	47 700	49 500	300	1 100	444 500	296 300	83 958
Couples with children	739 200	615 900	54 700	68 600	20 300	1 700	547 000	250 000	516 447
Single parents	343 700	212 600	13 000	118 200	29 400	4 500	284 800	189 000	108 355
Nordic countries									
Couples without children	593 000	533 900	16 400	42 700	100	700	417 600	278 400	1 284
Couples with children	718 600	629 100	30 800	58 700	21 400	700	515 600	240 900	6 309
Single parents	361 900	252 100	5 500	104 300	29 300	3 800	288 200	192 100	1 260
West Europe except Turkey									
Couples without children	625 000	568 000	23 600	33 400	200	300	426 200	284 100	1 058
Couples with children	726 000	654 800	16 400	54 800	20 400	600	504 100	234 100	4 711
Single parents	357 900	243 700	8 000	106 200	29 800	4 000	285 700	185 100	626
East Europe									
Couples without children	414 800	361 200	3 400	50 100	200	6 600	309 400	206 300	1 337
Couples with children	518 700	421 200	7 700	89 800	20 600	15 200	399 100	185 200	6 657
Single parents	291 600	156 700	2 700	132 200	31 100	16 100	250 100	164 900	1 424
North America and Oceania									
Couples without children	696 200	646 400	19 000	30 800	-	1 000	445 100	296 700	273
Couples with children	862 400	763 500	38 700	60 100	21 400	400	569 200	262 300	988
Single parents	395 800	269 800	1 700	124 300	30 500	5 000	308 800	198 500	145
Asia, Africa, Central and South America together with Turkey									
Couples without children	370 900	309 000	4 200	57 700	300	11 800	280 700	187 100	3 954
Couples with children	475 400	344 600	11 900	119 000	25 100	21 400	375 100	168 500	22 953
Single parents	283 500	109 300	3 800	170 400	35 600	24 100	254 700	156 500	5 018
The rest of the population									
Couples without children	631 500	530 400	51 700	49 500	300	400	456 100	304 000	76 052
Couples with children	755 100	630 900	58 100	66 100	20 000	600	558 200	255 100	474 829
Single parents	347 100	217 800	13 700	115 600	29 100	3 400	286 700	191 000	99 882

¹ Couples without children are married couples and registered partnerships without children. Couples with children are married couples and registered partnerships with children together with cohabiting couples with common children.

² Classified by the country of origin for the main breadwinner among married couples, registered partnerships and cohabiting couples with common children. For single parents classified by country of origin for the single parent himself/herself.

³ Single parents are defined as recipients of extra child allowance.

Source: Income statistics for persons and families, Statistics Norway.

pronounced when we take into account differences in family size. The importance of using income per consumption unit can be illustrated by taking a closer look at the number of children in the families. While all immigrant couples with children have 1.6 children aged 0-17 on average, the corresponding figure for couples from Somalia is 3.2.

For the total population, the net income per consumption unit for couples with children is NOK 250 000 in 2002. The income level for couples with children from East Europe is 74 per cent of this amount, while for families from the third world the corresponding figure is 67 per cent.

Net income per consumption unit among all single parents in 2002 is NOK 189 000. Single parents from East Europe have 87 per cent of this, while single parents from the third world receive 83 per cent of the average income.

By examining the different non-western countries we can see considerable variations in the income level. Compared with the general income level, families from Somalia and Iraq distinguish themselves by having an income that is relatively low. While the average equivalent income among Norwegian couples with children is NOK 255 000, couples with children from Somalia and Iraq have an income that is just half of this. However, the picture is much brighter for other non-western couples with children. Among the countries in table 5.6, Indian families with children have the highest equivalent income (EU scale), with an average of NOK 207 000. Families from Chile, Vietnam, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Sri Lanka, the Philippines and Iran have an average income per consumption unit of approxi-

mately NOK 200 000. The reason for large income differences between immigrants from various countries is partly due to variations in periods of residence in Norway. While many of the immigrants from Somalia and Iraq have only arrived in recent years, most immigrants from countries such as Chile, Vietnam and Bosnia and Herzegovina have been in the country much longer and have managed to generate earned income to a greater extent.

The picture for single parents is the same as for the couples, even though the income variations are somewhat smaller compared to Norwegian single parents. Again the families from Somalia and Iraq dominate the bottom end of the scale, but the income level is also low among Turkish single parents. On the other hand, average income among Indian single parents is very much the same as for Norwegian single parents.

Unequal distribution of earned income and benefits

As referred to earlier in this chapter, a marginal attachment to the labour force is the main reason why many non-western immigrants belong to the low-income group. By studying the income composition among different immigrant groups, with the focus on the relationship between the significance of earned income and benefits, we find the variations to be particularly great. Among all couples with children, income from work measured as a proportion of total family income averages 83 per cent in 2002 (table 5.5). The corresponding figure for couples with children from East Europe and third world countries is 81 and 73 per cent respectively.

Table 5.6. Income account for the immigrant population¹, by family type². Selected countries³. Main breadwinner or single parent⁴ aged 25-55 years. Proportion of total income and average. 2002. NOK and per cent

	Total income	Proportion of total income					Net income	Net income per consumption unit (EU scale)	Number of families
		Earned income	Pro-erty income	Bene-fits	Family allo-wances	Social secu-rity			
Denmark									
Couples without children	580 500	89	3	8	0	0	409 500	273 000	469
Couples with children ...	747 100	87	5	8	3	0	534 700	247 200	2 184
Single parents	385 200	68	3	29	7	1	302 700	200 100	371
Finland									
Couples without children	516 100	88	3	9	0	0	371 000	247 300	211
Couples with children ...	618 700	87	2	11	3	0	453 600	213 700	732
Single parents	361 500	71	1	27	8	1	291 900	196 300	201
Sweden									
Couples without children	642 600	92	2	6	0	0	449 000	299 300	520
Couples with children	744 800	87	5	8	3	0	531 600	251 800	2 715
Single parents	358 400	70	1	29	8	1	284 200	190 900	504
Serbia and Montenegro									
Couples without children	365 700	82	3	16	0	4	282 500	188 300	195
Couples with children	427 900	70	1	29	6	9	348 400	153 600	1 386
Single parents	267 300	35	2	63	14	12	243 200	146 300	185
Poland									
Couples without children	478 300	86	4	10	0	0	352 700	235 100	193
Couples with children	639 800	87	2	11	3	0	457 800	217 700	749
Single parents	309 900	60	1	39	9	3	257 600	174 700	338
United Kingdom									
Couples without children	720 400 90	6	4	0	0	4	74 000	316 000	395
Couples with children	780 300	90	3	7	2	0	532 800	247 700	1 603
Single parents	366 300	68	3	29	8	1	292 000	188 500	183
Turkey									
Couples without children	349 800	78	1	21	0	2	269 100	179 400	281
Couples with children	426 100	69	2	28	6	3	339 800	156 300	1 899
Single parents	265 900	28	3	69	14	8	243 100	145 100	243
Germany									
Couples without children	523 300	92	1	7	0	0	366 800	244 500	287
Couples with children	740 900	89	4	7	3	0	514 500	238 300	1 244
Single parents	375 600	73	2	25	8	1	291 100	187 600	186
Bosnia and Herzegovina									
Couples without children	384 500	87	1	12	0	2	294 800	196 500	376
Couples with children	520 900	84	1	15	4	2	405 400	187 600	2 383
Single parents	283 600	51	0	49	11	8	247 400	156 900	317
Morocco									
Couples without children	360 500	79	1	21	0	2	274 700	183 100	174
Couples with children	456 900	65	1	34	6	2	360 500	161 100	829
Single parents	284 800	36	0	63	12	10	257 800	158 800	147
Somalia									
Couples without children	225 000	67	0	32	1	20	187 100	124 700	145
Couples with children	342 500	46	0	54	11	21	300 400	119 100	880
Single parents	281 900	18	0	82	17	14	269 200	144 400	685

Table 5.6. Income account for the immigrant population¹, by family type². Selected countries³. Main breadwinner or single parent⁴ aged 25-55 years. Proportion of total income and average. 2002. NOK and per cent

	Total income	Proportion of total income					Net income	Net income per consumption unit (EU scale)	Number of families
		Earned income	Pro-perty income	Bene-fits	Family allo-wances	Social secu-rity			
Sri Lanka									
Couples without children	434 500	88	1	11	0	1	329 200	219 500	325
Couples with children	527 200	79	1	20	5	1	412 900	194 600	2 180
Single parents	313 300	58	1	41	11	5	267 600	171 100	84
The Philippines									
Couples without children	460 100	82	1	17	0	0	349 600	233 100	180
Couples with children	569 300	83	1	16	3	0	433 800	203 200	775
Single parents	295 700	49	3	48	11	2	255 900	168 500	299
India									
Couples without children	449 400	87	4	10	0	0	328 400	218 900	187
Couples with children	604 000	80	5	15	3	0	446 900	207 200	1 093
Single parents	341 200	53	6	41	9	2	287 800	186 000	81
Iraq									
Couples without children	258 500	69	1	30	0	20	213 100	142 100	338
Couples with children	342 700	44	1	55	9	26	304 000	130 700	2 008
Single parents	258 800	19	1	80	15	23	243 300	142 800	228
Iran									
Couples without children	384 700	82	2	15	0	5	287 000	191 300	326
Couples with children	491 600	72	4	24	4	7	390 300	182 600	1 820
Single parents	286 000	45	0	55	11	10	254 700	162 100	440
Pakistan									
Couples without children	347 200	81	2	16	0	1	266 200	177 500	472
Couples with children	446 500	70	4	27	6	2	355 600	149 100	3 663
Single parents	280 300	32	2	66	13	7	255 600	149 000	278
Vietnam									
Couples without children	389 600	87	0	13	0	1	291 100	194 100	389
Couples with children	542 700	80	2	19	4	1	421 900	186 000	2 321
Single parents	289 100	38	1	60	12	7	258 000	158 200	514
USA									
Couples without children	709 700	92	3	5	0	0	449 400	299 600	202
Couples with children	876 200	89	5	7	2	0	579 100	265 100	738
Single parents	413 000	69	0	31	7	1	319 300	202 700	110
Chile									
Couples without children	423 400	87	0	12	0	1	315 700	210 400	150
Couples with children ...	544 300	85	0	15	4	1	418 700	189 700	862
Single parents	286 000	54	0	46	11	5	248 800	159 100	376

¹ People with both parents of foreign origin.

² Couples without children are married couples and registered partnerships without children. Couples with children are married couples and registered partnerships with children together with cohabiting couples with common children.

³ Classified by the country of origin for the main breadwinner among married couples, registered partnerships and cohabiting couples with common children. For single parents classified by the country of origin for the single parent himself/herself.

⁴ Single parents are defined as recipients of extra child allowance.

Source: Income statistics for persons and families, Statistics Norway.

The lack of earned income is partly compensated by different types of benefits. Among East European couples with children, different types of benefits account for 17 per cent of the family's total income. For third world families with children, the benefits are even more important, with a proportion of 25 per cent of total income. These immigrant families receive an average of NOK 119 000 in benefits. Social security and family allowances are the two most important benefits, each with a proportion of 5 per cent of the family's total income.

Labour participation among single parents is less than among the couples, as shown by the proportion of earned income and benefits compared to total income. For all single parents, 62 per cent of total income is earned income, while benefits make up 34 per cent. On average, single parents receive NOK 118 200 in benefits. Total income among single parents from third world countries has an inverse proportion between earned income and benefits. Thirty-nine per cent of the income is earned income, while 60 per cent is made up of benefits (NOK 170 000). East European single parents have a somewhat stronger attachment to the labour market than other single parents from non-western countries. Within this group, half of the total income is earnings while the other half is benefits. Western immigrant single parents have the highest proportion of earned income compared to total income.

By examining the most common countries of origin for immigrants, it is once more Somalia and Iraq that stand out from the rest. Couples with children from these two countries receive one half of

their income as benefits. More than one fifth of the income is made up of social security among the Somalians, for Iraqis the corresponding figure is one quarter. Single parents from these two countries are also in an exceptional position with regard to receiving different types of benefits. On average, benefits make up 80 per cent of total income for these families. However, the picture is completely different when we look at other non-western countries. Among couples with children from India, Vietnam, Sri Lanka, Chile, the Philippines, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Poland, the total amount of benefits make up less than 20 per cent of the total income. For these families, social security on average constitutes an insignificant proportion of the economy.

Non-western immigrants over-represented in the lowest income group

A slightly different way of showing the income situation among the immigrant population is presented in table 5.7. The immigrant families are here ranked according to the size of the family's total net income. Once again distinctive income differences emerge between immigrants from various parts of the world. While 23 per cent of all couples without children have a net income of more than NOK 500 000, only 8 per cent from East Europe, 6 per cent from Asia and 5 per cent from Africa have such a high family income. The proportion in the lowest income group - below NOK 150 000 - is on the other hand much higher than for the population as a whole.

Nearly half of all couples with children have more than NOK 500 000 in net income. The income distribution among couples with children from East Europe and third world countries is once more

Table 5.7. Percentage of families by intervals of net income, by family type¹ and country of origin². Main breadwinner or single parent³ aged 25-55 years. 2002

	Intervals of net income in NOK 1 000						
	Total	Under 150	150-199	200-299	300-399	400-499	500 and over
Couples without children							
Total	100	3	3	13	30	28	23
Immigrant population⁴							
Nordic countries	100	5	3	14	26	28	23
West Europe except Turkey	100	8	3	14	24	23	28
East Europe	100	10	10	27	30	16	8
North America and Oceania	100	15	5	14	18	16	31
Asia and Turkey	100	15	14	30	25	11	6
Africa	100	16	18	30	22	9	5
South and Central America	100	11	8	24	33	19	5
The rest of the population	100	2	2	12	31	29	24
Couples with children							
Total	100	1	1	5	18	30	46
Immigrant population⁴							
Nordic countries	100	3	1	6	18	28	44
West Europe except Turkey	100	5	1	6	17	25	46
East Europe	100	4	3	16	31	27	20
North America and Oceania	100	8	1	6	17	20	48
Asia and Turkey	100	5	5	22	30	22	16
Africa	100	6	6	25	29	20	14
South and Central America	100	4	3	13	26	32	23
The rest of the population	100	0	0	4	17	31	47
Single parents							
Total	100	4	12	52	24	6	3
Immigrant population⁴							
Nordic countries	100	7	11	46	25	6	5
West Europe except Turkey	100	8	13	40	26	8	5
East Europe	100	9	17	52	16	4	2
North America and Oceania	100	8	10	38	28	9	7
Asia and Turkey	100	9	17	51	18	4	1
Africa	100	8	15	49	22	5	2
South and Central America	100	8	19	52	18	3	1
The rest of the population	100	4	12	52	24	6	3

¹ Couples without children are married couples and registered partnerships without children. Couples with children are married couples and registered partnerships with children together with cohabiting couples with common children.

² Classified by the country of origin for the main breadwinner among married couples, registered partnerships and cohabiting couples with common children. For single parents classified by country of origin for the single parent himself/herself.

³ Single parents are defined as recipients of extra child allowance.

⁴ People with both parents of foreign origin.

Source: Income statistics for persons and families, Statistics Norway.

Table 5.8. Earned income and social security as proportion of total income. Non-western immigrants¹, by family type² and duration of residence in Norway³. Main breadwinner or single parent⁴ aged 25-55 years and of this refugee families⁵. 2002. Per cent

	Total	Duration of residence in Norway									
		10 years or more	9 years	8 years	7 years	6 years	5 years	4 years	3 years	2 years	1 year
Couples without children											
Non-western immigrants											
Earned income	84	83	86	87	84	92	85	84	87	83	87
Social security	3	1	2	2	3	2	2	4	6	7	5
Number of families	5 291	2 639	304	194	150	144	186	270	462	469	311
Of which refugees											
Earned income	83	86	86	86	81	85	74	75	78	71	73
Social security	5	2	3	3	6	6	12	13	13	22	18
Number of families ..	2 441	1 273	237	113	73	46	42	100	225	190	94
Couples with children											
Non-western immigrants											
Earned income	75	77	81	81	74	73	72	68	63	56	59
Social security	4	1	2	2	4	4	6	10	16	24	23
Number of families	29 610	18 409	1 830	1 142	862	692	819	1 104	1 848	1 395	926
Of which refugees											
Earned income	72	78	82	80	71	64	58	51	55	41	38
Social security	7	2	2	2	6	10	14	20	22	36	39
Number of families ..	16 198	8 940	1 527	762	450	293	342	583	1 314	982	594
Single parents											
Non-western immigrants											
Earned income	42	47	43	38	35	36	33	25	30	26	21
Social security	8	5	6	8	7	7	8	13	18	25	34
Number of families	6 442	3 770	409	305	307	238	303	318	327	230	159
Of which refugees											
Earned income	37	44	41	34	24	22	20	14	23	21	16
Social security	11	6	7	10	10	11	13	17	23	30	36
Number of families ..	3 506	1 983	280	170	149	82	121	167	216	161	119

¹ People with both parents of foreign origin from East Europe, Asia, Africa, South and Central America and Turkey.

² Couples without children are married couples and registered partnerships without children. Couples with children are married couples and registered partnerships with children together with cohabiting couples with common children.

³ Classified by duration of residence for the main breadwinner among married couples, registered partnerships and cohabiting couples with common children. For single parents classified by duration of residence for the single parent himself/herself.

⁴ Single parents are defined as recipients of extra child allowance.

⁵ The definition "refugee" refers to persons resident in Norway, who have fled to Norway (family included).

Source: Income statistics for persons and families, Statistics Norway.

strikingly different from the rest. Less than one fifth of couples from Asia and Africa are in this income group. In contrast, western couples with or without children do not distinguish themselves compared to the total population when it comes to income distribution.

Few single parent families have, not surprisingly, a net income higher than NOK 500 000. Of all these families, only 3 per cent were in the highest income group, while at the same time more than half of them have an income between NOK 200 000 and 300 000. Once more, the non-western single parents are the worst off group, but the differences are less than among couples with children. One quarter of the East European and third world families have a net income less than NOK 200 000. Compared to the total population, this is still a clear over-representation, since among the total population, only 16 per cent have such a low income.

Length of residence promotes economic independence

When examining income by country of origin, families from Somalia and Iraq stand out as the groups with the lowest incomes. This is strongly related to the relatively short period of residence in Norway of the main breadwinner in these families. The figures in table 5.8 show a clear connection between the degree of economic independence and period of residence: the earned income's proportion of the family's total income increases in line with the period of residence. Recent research also shows that period of residence is one of the most important factors when considering refugees' success in the labour market (Blom 2004). If we take a closer look at couples with children, where the main breadwin-

ner is a refugee, we see that among those who have resided more than 10 years in Norway, the earned income's proportion of the family's total income is 78 per cent in 2002. Among refugee families with less than 5 years of residence, the earned income's proportion drops to 58 per cent, while for those with only 2 years of residence the corresponding figure is 41 per cent.

We cannot find a similar pattern among single parents. Among single parents that have resided in Norway for more than 10 years, the earning's proportion of the total income is 44 per cent. There is, however, not any significant difference between the earning's portions of total income whether the single parent has resided in Norway for 5 or 2 years. For the latter two groups, earned income makes up only one fifth of the family's total income. This may imply that these immigrant families have a particular difficulty in entering the labour market.

A complete paragraph is missing here, according to the source document. If this is in Norwegian only then this should be indicated in the text.

Note

¹ For some single parent families, it can sometimes be the case that another family member has a higher income than the single parent. This may for instance be grown up children still living at home. In this chapter, however, it is the single parent herself/himself who is aged 25-55 years that is referred to.

Arvid Olav Lysø

6. Participation in elections

- Approximately 41 per cent of the immigrant population participated in the local elections in 2003. This is 18 percentage points less than the electoral turnout for the total population, which was 59.3 per cent.
- The electoral turnout among immigrants with a western background was 64 per cent in 2003, and 36 per cent for those with a non-western background.
- The electoral turnout among foreign citizens was 35 per cent. For foreign citizens with non-western citizenship, the electoral turnout was 25 per cent, and western citizens had 39 per cent.
- The very low electoral turnout among the immigrant population and foreign citizens in general can partly be explained by the fact that very few young people voted at the election.
- Both for the immigrant population and foreign citizens, the electoral turnout increases with age and length of residence in Norway. Immigrants with a long period of residence (30 years and more) had a higher electoral turnout than the population as a whole. All groups of foreign citizens within the length of residence categories, except for those aged 20-29, had a considerably lower electoral turnout than Norwegians with immigrant backgrounds.

Electoral turnout among Norwegians with immigrant backgrounds

Approximately 227 000 persons with immigrant backgrounds were eligible to vote in the 2003 local elections. Of these, 110 000 were Norwegian citizens with an immigrant background. The electoral turnout for Norwegian immigrants with a western background was 64 per cent, and for non-western backgrounds was 36 per cent (table 6.1). The electoral turnout for these two groups was 66 and 43 per cent respectively at the Municipal and County Council elections in 1999¹. Immigrants with non-western backgrounds caused the decline in electoral turnout. To understand this reduction it is necessary to look at the age composition of non-western immigrants and length of residence. It takes time for a group to exercise its right to vote once it has been granted.

The highest turnout was for those with Danish backgrounds, where 73 per cent voted. The lowest was for immigrants from Macedonia, where only 20 per cent voted. Among Pakistanis and Vietnamese, the two biggest groups of immigrants, the turnout was 40 and 30 per cent respectively. Norwegians with an immigrant background from Sri Lanka had the highest turnout among non-westerns immigrants, where 57 per cent voted.

The right to vote in local elections

All Norwegian citizens aged 18 in the year of the election have the right to vote in all elections. In local elections, for the municipality and county, foreign citizens also have the right to vote if they:

-Are citizens of another Nordic country, are aged 18 years in the year of the election, and have been registered as resident in Norway by 31 May in the year of the election.

-Are citizens from outside the Nordic countries, are aged 18 years in the year of the election and registered as having continuously lived in Norway the last three years.

In order to exercise the right to vote, an elector must be included in the municipal census on the day of the local election. (cf. Section 2-2 of the Representation of the People Act (Norway)).

Foreign citizens

Around 118 000 foreign citizens were eligible to vote at the local elections in 2003. Those from Sweden, Denmark and Finland accounted for more than a third (35.7 per cent) of all eligible voters with foreign citizenships.

The electoral turnout for foreign western citizens was 39 per cent, while for non-westerns it was 25 per cent. Compared to the election in 1999, the turnout decreased by 8 percentage points for non-western citizens, while the turnout is the same for western citizens. The highest turnout was for Germans, at 51 per cent, USA citizens at 46 per cent and French citizens at 45 per cent. The lowest turnout was for citizens from Serbia and Montenegro, at 17 per cent.

Age and length of residence in Norway

The decline in the electoral turnout for citizens with immigrant backgrounds is a consequence of the changes in the composition of this group in recent years. In the

electoral survey in 1997, around one third of immigrants entitled to vote had western backgrounds, while in 2001 it fell to one fifth. In 2003, the total figure is 18 per cent. The turnout for immigrants with western backgrounds in all age groups is much higher than for other immigrants.

The age distribution varies considerably in the western and non-western groups (figure 6.5). The age distribution among non-western immigrants is relatively constant in the age groups from 18-49 years, and then declines. The population of western immigrants is strongly over-represented by older electors and electoral participation increases with age. Among those with non-western backgrounds there are few people older than 50 years. Electoral turnout increases with age, and when the group of non-westerners is relatively young this can partly explain the low electoral turnout for the entire Norwegian immigrant group.

Foreign citizens also have an age distribution that differs from the Norwegian population as a whole, with an accumulation of young voters, which traditionally have a low turnout in elections (figure 6.6).

As in earlier elections, the electoral participation increases with the length of residence in Norway for all the groups. Those who have lived in Norway for more than 30 years have a 28 per cent higher participation than those with the shortest period of residence (0-9 years).

The pattern is similar for foreign citizens and length of residence in Norway, with the exception of African citizens. However, regardless of the length of residence, the electoral turnout is significantly lower than for Norwegian citizens with immigrant backgrounds.

No differences among men and women

Electoral turnout is the same for men and women with regard to Norwegian citizens with immigrant backgrounds (table 6.1). At previous elections, the electoral turnout for women was 5 percentage points higher than for men. This can be explained by the length of residence in Norway becoming more equal.

A closer look at the electoral turnout of western immigrants shows major internal differences in many of the country groups. Two out of three Finnish women participated in the election, but only every second man. In Europe, female immigrants with backgrounds from Germany, Poland and Hungary had considerably higher electoral turnouts than their male counterparts. Women with backgrounds from Thailand participate in elections about twice as much as their male counterparts.

There is a difference of less than 2 per cent with regard to the electoral turnout of male and female foreign citizens. It was previously the case that many more women polled their vote than men in local elections. It is still the case for many countries that foreign female citizens have a higher electoral turnout than their male counterparts. Women in the other Nordic countries have about a 10 per cent higher electoral turnout than their male counterparts.

These figures are based on a census conducted in connection with the Municipal and County Council Election in 2003. The total population of Norwegian citizens with immigrant backgrounds who are entitled to vote is approximately 109 000. A sample of around 6 800 persons was used. The population of foreign citizens with immigrant backgrounds who are entitled to vote is around 118 700 persons. A sample of around 6 800 persons was used. The survey was conducted on behalf of the Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development.

Table 6.1. Municipal and County Council Election 2003. Electoral turnout in per cent among the sample of Norwegian citizens with immigrant background¹, by country of origin and sex

Country of origin ²	Electoral turnout in per cent			Persons entitled to vote in the sample			Norwegian citizens with immigrant background ¹		
	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
Total	41	41	41	6 777	3 167	3 610	109 055	54 428	54 627
Europe	49	49	48	2 835	1 245	1 590	42 077	18 939	23 138
Africa	32	33	30	799	484	315	11 497	6 957	4 540
Asia	36	36	36	2 244	1 079	1 165	47 750	25 083	22 667
North and Central America	58	59	57	399	155	244	3 045	1 174	1 871
South America	40	40	39	400	167	233	4 538	2 223	2 315
Oceania	44	46	43	100	37	63	148	52	96
Nordic countries	68	68	67	731	279	452	9 665	3 726	5 939
Rest of West Europe, except									
Turkey	60	65	58	559	203	356	7 536	3 225	4 311
East Europe	36	38	35	1 295	614	681	19 323	8 975	10 348
North America and Oceania	61	62	60	355	130	225	2 493	944	1 549
Asia, Africa, South and									
Central America, Turkey ..	36	36	35	3 837	1 941	1 896	70 038	37 558	32 480
Western countries	64	66	63	1 645	612	1 033	19 694	7 895	11 799
Non-western countries	36	37	35	5 132	2 555	2 577	89 361	46 533	42 828
Selected countries									
Denmark	73	77	71	247	99	148	4 700	1 976	2 724
Finland	61	53	66	199	81	118	1 080	391	689
Sweden	62	60	63	248	78	170	3 326	1 132	2 194
Serbia and Montenegro ..	22	21	23	200	111	89	2 625	1 411	1 214
Poland	39	45	36	247	78	169	3 956	1 346	2 610
United Kingdom	61	52	65	200	67	133	1 861	669	1 192
Turkey	42	46	36	250	149	101	5 553	3 013	2 540
Germany	62	70	58	198	69	129	2 879	1 090	1 789
Hungary	50	55	44	198	101	97	1 244	718	526
Bosnia and Herzegovina ..	41	42	40	250	127	123	5 867	2 932	2 935
Macedonia	20	23	14	200	120	80	1 436	853	583
Eritrea	34	34	34	200	111	89	1 288	747	541
Morocco	28	29	25	199	123	76	2 977	1 883	1 094
Somalia	33	37	26	200	131	69	2 686	1 536	1 150
Sri Lanka	57	55	61	249	151	98	4 858	3 089	1 769
Philippines	36	27	39	248	48	200	3 678	884	2 794
India	36	38	33	200	107	93	2 867	1 563	1 304
Iraq	27	29	23	200	123	77	2 017	1 264	753
Iran	28	28	29	249	151	98	5 981	3 640	2 341
China	28	26	30	200	103	97	1 986	937	1 049
Pakistan	40	42	38	250	139	111	11 106	6 236	4 870
Thailand	29	17	31	199	30	169	1 318	200	1 118
Vietnam	30	29	31	250	133	117	10 262	5 388	4 874
USA	64	65	63	200	76	124	2 042	781	1 261
Chile	38	41	35	200	90	110	3 272	1 725	1 547

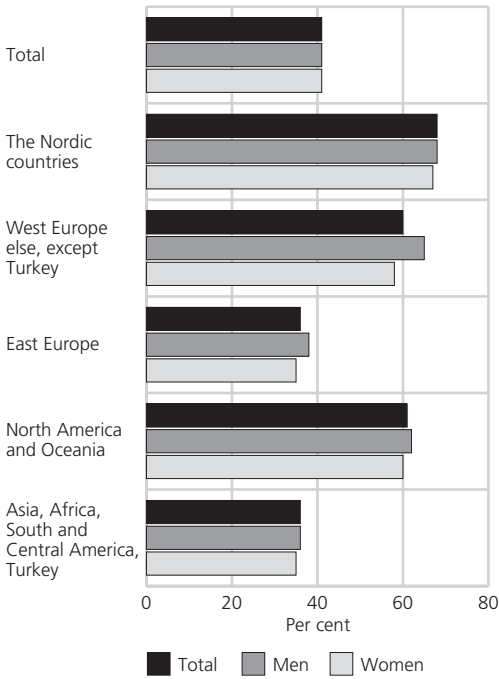
¹ Persons with two foreign-born parents.² Own, mother's or father's country of birth.

Table 6.2. Municipal and County Council Election 2003. Electoral turnout in per cent among the sample of foreign citizens entitled to vote¹, by citizenship and sex

Citizenship	Electoral turnout in per cent			Persons entitled to vote in the sample			Foreign citizens entitled to vote ¹		
	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
Total	34	33	35	6 805	3 244	3 561	118 705	59 056	59 649
Europe	35	35	36	3 670	1 785	1 885	80 966	40 739	40 227
Africa	22	23	20	448	260	188	6 887	3 743	3 144
Asia	28	25	30	1 693	702	991	20 574	9 769	10 805
North and Central America	44	44	44	446	209	237	7 259	3 318	3 941
South America	30	31	28	399	201	198	2 540	1 223	1 317
Oceania	42	39	45	149	87	62	479	264	215
Nordic countries	37	37	36	931	427	504	44 568	22 069	22 499
Rest of West Europe, except Turkey	43	39	49	1 291	741	550	21 392	12 021	9 371
East Europe	21	18	23	1 248	509	739	13 200	5 570	7 630
North America and Oceania	45	44	46	522	275	247	7 222	3 411	3 811
Asia, Africa, South and Central America, Turkey	26	25	27	2 813	1 292	1 521	32 323	15 985	16 338
Western countries	39	39	40	2 744	1 443	1 301	73 182	37 501	35 681
Non-western countries ..	25	23	26	4 061	1 801	2 260	45 523	21 555	23 968
Selected countries									
Denmark	40	37	43	246	135	111	16 468	8 652	7 816
Finland	28	21	32	244	80	164	4 911	1 962	2 949
Iceland	36	31	41	193	91	102	2 786	1 407	1 379
Sweden	36	41	32	248	121	127	20 403	10 048	10 355
France	45	41	51	197	117	80	1 452	818	634
Croatia	20	17	24	200	113	87	1 021	556	465
Serbia and Montenegro	17	23	9	200	103	97	2 586	1 362	1 224
Netherlands	47	42	52	198	108	90	2 535	1 356	1 179
Poland	25	13	30	200	63	137	1 177	349	828
Spain	31	28	37	199	120	79	851	509	342
United Kingdom	40	34	50	249	158	91	8 359	5 090	3 269
Russia	20	15	21	200	41	159	1 778	419	1 359
Turkey	24	25	22	200	108	92	1 806	1 079	727
Germany	51	54	48	250	129	121	5 007	2 451	2 556
Bosnia and Herzegovina	20	18	23	249	125	124	4 815	2 402	2 413
Somalia	23	24	23	250	140	110	2 902	1 568	1 334
Sri Lanka	39	39	40	198	57	141	1 695	485	1 210
Philippines	25	19	26	199	36	163	1 039	161	878
India	31	27	35	199	102	97	1 324	562	762
Iraq	19	18	25	248	199	49	5 690	4 305	1 385
Iran	23	22	24	200	107	93	1 950	1 007	943
Pakistan	40	42	39	250	112	138	4 022	1 781	2 241
Thailand	23	:	23	200	12	188	1 689	152	1 537
USA	46	45	47	248	129	119	5 913	2 752	3 161
Chile	27	31	21	200	112	88	1 564	878	686

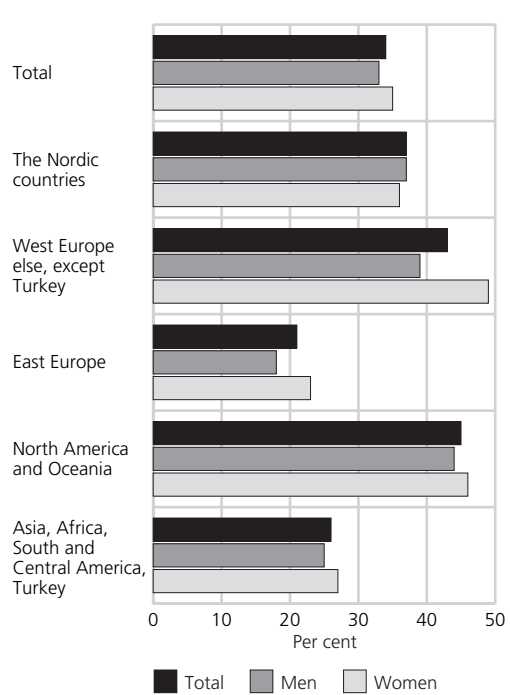
¹ Where they meet the requirements for the right to vote that apply to Norwegian citizens, foreign citizens have the right to vote in municipal and county council elections if they have been continuously residing in the country for the last three years prior to the election day, or are citizens of another Nordic country and registered as residing in Norway on 31 May.

Figure 6.1. Electoral turnout in per cent among the sample of Norwegian citizens with immigrant backgrounds, by country of origin and sex



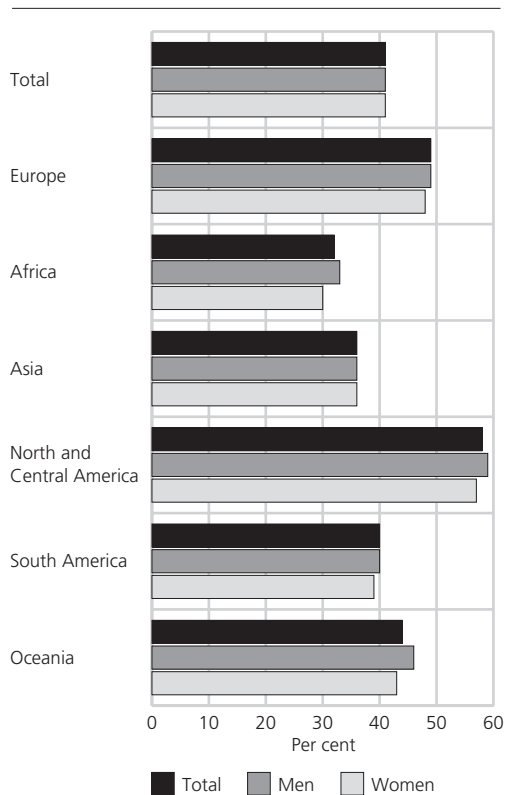
¹ Persons with two foreign-born parents.
Source: Election statistics, Statistics Norway.

Figure 6.2. Electoral turnout in per cent among the sample of foreign citizens entitled to vote, by country of origin and sex. Selected countries



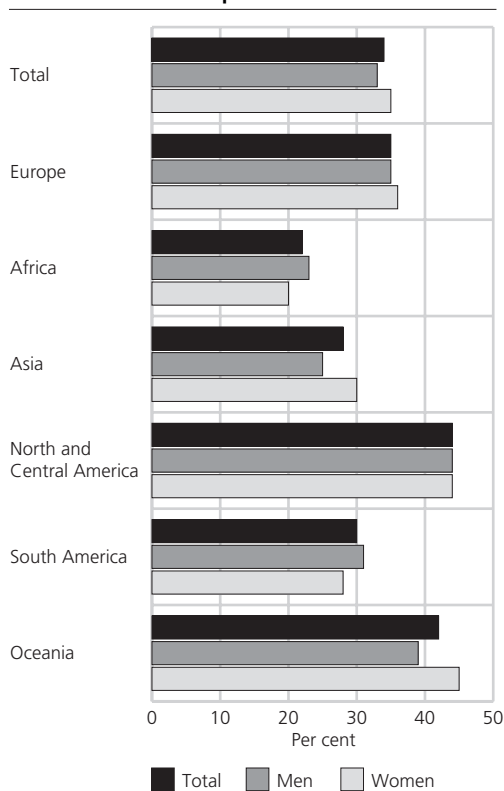
¹ Foreign citizens have, if they fulfil the general rules to the right to vote for Norwegian citizens, entitle to vote at the local election, if they are induced in the CPR as resident for the last three years before electionday, or have citizenship from another Nordic country and are resident in Norway latest 31 May.
Source: Election statistics, Statistics Norway.

Figure 6.3. Municipal and County Council Election. 2003



Source: Election statistics, Statistics Norway.

Figure 6.4. Municipal and County Council Election 2003. Electoral turnout in per cent among the sample of foreign citizens entitled to vote, by citizenship and sex



Source: Election statistics, Statistics Norway.

Table 6.3. Municipal and County Council Election 2003. Electoral turnout in per cent among the sample of Norwegian citizens with immigrant backgrounds¹, by length of residence and sex

Citizenship	Electoral turnout in per cent			Persons entitled to vote in the sample			Foreign citizens entitled to vote ¹		
	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
Total	41	41	41	6 777	3 167	3 610	109 055	54 428	54 627
0- 9 years	36	36	37	988	392	596	16 748	6 746	10 002
10-19 years	32	34	31	2 783	1 409	1 374	48 596	26 126	22 470
20-29 years	40	40	41	1 203	625	578	21 978	11 869	10 109
30 years and more	64	63	64	1 803	741	1 062	21 733	9 687	12 046

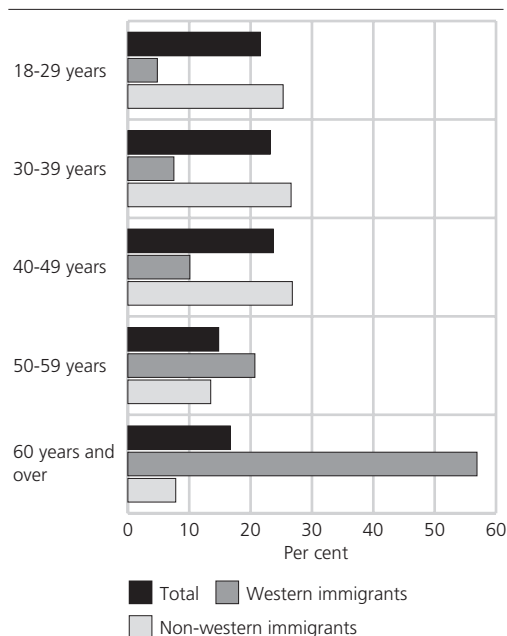
¹ Persons with two foreign-born parents.

Table 6.4. Municipal and County Council Election 2003. Electoral turnout in per cent among the sample of foreign citizens entitled to vote¹, by length of residence and sex

Length of residence	Electoral turnout in per cent			Persons entitled to vote in the sample			Foreign citizens entitled to vote ¹		
	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women
Total	34	33	35	6 805	3 244	3 561	118 705	59 056	59 649
0- 9 years	24	25	23	4 092	1 863	2 229	63 126	31 488	31 638
10-19 years	39	35	43	1 298	634	664	21 255	10 805	10 450
20-29 years	45	41	48	734	405	329	16 039	8 211	7 828
30 years and more	53	52	55	642	320	322	16 640	7 628	9 012
Unknown	13	:	:	39	22	17	1 645	924	721

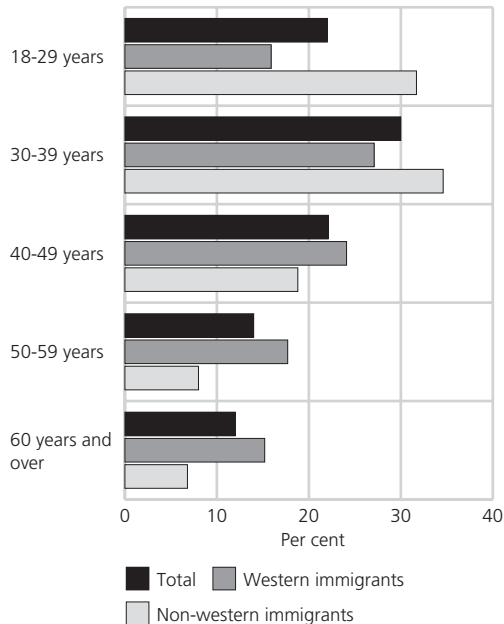
¹ Where they meet the requirements for the right to vote that apply to Norwegian citizens, foreign citizens have the right to vote in municipal and county council elections if they have been continuously residing in the country for the last three years prior to the election day, or are citizens of another Nordic country and registered as residing in Norway on 31 May.

Figure 6.5. Municipal and County Council Election 2003. The distribution of age in per cent among the sample of Norwegian citizens with immigrant backgrounds entitled to vote



Source: Election statistics, Statistics Norway.

Figure 6.6. Municipal and County Council Election 2003. The distribution of age in per cent among the sample of foreign citizens entitled to vote



Source: Election statistics, Statistics Norway.

Note

¹ Bjørklund, Tor and Saglie, Jo; Local elections in 1999 Record low and record high turnout. Report 12:2000, ISF, Oslo.

Svein Blom

7. Attitudes towards immigrants and immigration

- More than 8 out of 10 think that immigrants should have the same job opportunities as Norwegians, and two thirds believe that immigrants make a valuable contribution to Norwegian working life and culture.
- Nine out of 10 have no objections to having contact with immigrants as neighbours or home helps, but 4 out of 10 would not like having an immigrant married into the family.
- More than 4 of 10 also suspect that immigrants abuse the social welfare system and believe that immigrants represent a source of insecurity in society.
- More than 5 out of 10 think that immigrants should endeavour to become as similar to Norwegians as possible.
- Only 1 out of 20 want a liberalisation of the current asylum policy, whereas 5 or 6 out of 10 think that the refugees' access to obtain a residence permit should be made more difficult.
- Compared to attitudes in other European countries (EU members before the last expansion), Norwegian attitudes tend to be in the middle or at the liberal or tolerant end of the scale on most immigrant issues.
- The perception that immigration tends to increase crime is more widespread in Norway, however, than in many other European countries.
- Repeated surveys conducted in the 1990s indicate that goodwill towards immigrants and immigration gradually gained support during the decade.
- Since the turn of the millennium, however, it seems that this tendency has reversed, especially with regard to the will to accept new refugees.
- The changing attitudes over time are probably affected by fluctuations in business cycles, the number of refugees seeking residence permits in Norway, to what extent the official refugee policy appears humane and just in the eyes of the public, and the image created by the refugees themselves as a result of their own conduct (especially with regard to crime).
- The attitudes of the population vary according to demographic and social factors such as education, age, political opinions, urbanisation, geographic area, degree of contact with immigrants and to some extent also by sex.

For a number of years, Statistics Norway has been mapping the attitudes of the Norwegian population towards immigrants and immigration through annual questions in its omnibus surveys on behalf of the Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development. The first interviews were conducted in 1993 and were repeated each year until year 2000. After partially changing the questions, the practice was resumed in 2002.

Attitudes in 2002-2003 in Norway and other West European countries

Positive attitudes regarding labour efforts and cultural contribution ...

There is widespread agreement about the benefit of immigrants' labour contributions. Both in 2002 and 2003, two thirds (66 per cent) of the population agreed strongly or on the whole that *"Most immigrants make an important contribution to Norwegian working life"*. Two out of 10

disagreed, and about 1 in 10 was uncertain.

A similar proportion (70 per cent in 2003, 63 per cent in 2002) agreed that *"Most immigrants enrich the cultural life in Norway"*. This question can be compared to a similar question from the Eurobarometer survey in 2000 (EUMC 2001, Blom and Lie 2002). Among the EU countries, it was only Sweden and Finland that had a higher proportion agreeing that *"most immigrants enrich the cultural life"* in the country. On average, for 15 EU countries, 50 per cent agreed with the statement compared to 63 per cent agreeing in Norway in 2002.

...., but many nevertheless fear abuse of benefits and increased insecurity

On the other hand, there were also many who feared that *"Most immigrants abuse the social welfare system"*. About 4 out of

Table 7.1. Attitudes towards some statements about immigrants and immigration. 2002 and 2003. Per cent

	"Most immigrants make an important contribution to Norwegian working life"					Number of persons that answered
	All	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Don't know	
2002	100	66	12	20	2	1 410
2003	100	66	9	24	1	1 385
	"Most immigrants abuse the social welfare system"					Number of persons that answered
	All	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Don't know	
2002	100	41	14	43	2	1 405
2003	100	40	10	48	2	1 384
	"Most immigrants enrich the cultural life in Norway"					Number of persons that answered
	All	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Don't know	
2002	100	63	12	22	2	1 409
2003	100	70	9	21	2	1 381
	"Most immigrants represent a source of insecurity in society"					Number of persons that answered
	All	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Don't know	
2002	100	45	13	41	1	1 410
2003	100	45	10	44	1	1 385

10 agreed with this statement in 2002, and the same proportion disagreed. In 2003, the proportion disagreeing had grown to nearly 5 out of 10. The perception that "most immigrants abuse the social welfare system" is rejected by a larger share of the population in Norway than in many other European countries. Out of 13 EU countries, it was only in Spain that the statement met less acceptance than in Norway. On average for these countries, 52 per cent agreed to the statement (EUMC 2001) compared to 41 per cent in Norway.

The respondents were also asked to consider the statement "*Most immigrants represent a source of insecurity in society*". Both in 2002 and 2003, 45 per cent agreed strongly or on the whole to this statement, whereas almost as many strongly or on the whole disagreed.

The perception of immigrants as a "source of insecurity in society" is equally widespread in Norway as in the average of the EU countries. The European average was 42 per cent (EUMC 2001). Sweden and Finland once again appear to be more positive towards immigrants than Norway. The proportion perceiving immigrants as a source of insecurity in these countries was 24 and 32 per cent respectively. In Denmark, however, 6 out of 10 consider immigrants as a source of insecurity. The fact that Norway ranks midway regarding this assertion, but not the two previous statements, may have something to do with the different timing of the two surveys. While the EU survey was conducted in spring 2000, i.e. *before* the terrorist attack in the USA on 11 September 2001, the Norwegian survey was conducted *after* this event. Statements referring to security may appear especially sensitive to the effect of such an event.

A large majority support equal job opportunities for immigrants

More than 8 out of 10 agree strongly or on the whole that "*All immigrants in Norway should have the same job opportunities as Norwegians*". The acceptance of this statement is slightly lower in 2003 than at the end of the 1990s when more than 90 per cent agreed. The slight fall since then in the proportion agreeing may have some connection to the economic recession in Norway. Similarly, the increasing support for the statement during the 1990s from 75 per cent in 1993 to 92 per cent in 1998 may have been connected to the continuously rising business cycle in Norway during this period.

The majority want immigrants to assimilate to Norwegians

A new question in 2003 showed that 54 per cent agreed strongly or on the whole that "*Immigrants in Norway should endeavour to become as similar to Norwegians as possible*". A slightly smaller proportion, 4 out of 10, disagreed strongly or on the whole to this statement, whereas 8 per cent answered "neither agree nor disagree" or "don't know". The wish for a complete eradication of all differences between the minority and the majority population (known as "assimilation") is not on a par with the official integration policy. On the contrary, it is the aim of this policy that minorities are able to preserve their cultural and religious characteristics if they so wish and where this does not infringe Norwegian law. With regard to working life and society, however, the aim for integration is full equality and participation for all citizens. Furthermore, it is apparent from the data that those who believe that immigrants should try to become as similar to Norwegians as possible are also more critical towards

Table 7.2. Attitudes towards the statement about immigrants and equal job opportunities. 2002 and 2003. Per cent

	"All immigrants in Norway should have the same job opportunities as Norwegians"					Number of persons that answered
	All	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Don't know	
2002	100	85	4	10	1	1 410
2003	100	83	3	13	1	1 384

immigrants in other respects. A Swedish survey of attitudes towards immigrants revealed that the expectation that immigrants should try to assimilate to the majority is even stronger in Sweden than in Norway (Integrationsverket 2002).

Clear majority for restricting further immigration

On a question concerning refugees' access to the country, a narrow majority (56 per cent in 2003, 53 per cent in 2002) believed that it ought to be more difficult than today to obtain a residence permit. Only 5 per cent thought it should be easier, whereas nearly 4 out of 10 thought that the present admission policy ought to be kept.

The opinion seems to have changed markedly on this question compared to earlier surveys. In spring 2000, 64 per cent believed that "*Norway should give residence to refugees and asylum seekers to at least the same extent as today*". In 2003, this could be compared to the sum of those who believed that it "*should be easier for refugees and asylum seekers to obtain a residence permit*" and those who thought that "*the access to permits (should) remain the same as today*", 42 per cent in

total. The proportion of people wanting a liberalisation or to retain the status quo in the current asylum policy had in other words fallen by more than 20 percentage points in three years. However, the format of the two questions used in the surveys is subject to disparity, thus making the comparability of results not altogether satisfactory.

Comparatively (2002), the Norwegian opinion was roughly on a par with the opinion in Denmark with regard to accepting refugees. Both in Germany and United Kingdom the wish to curtail refugees' access to the country had gained more ground than in Norway. Here 6 and 8 out of ten held that view respectively. In Sweden, 4 out of 10 wanted to restrict refugees' access to the country (Pedersen, Jensen and Viby Mogensen 2002). This is notwithstanding that Sweden has a higher proportion of immigrants and an equally large influx of refugees relative to the population as Norway.

The fact that more people in Norway want a more restrictive asylum policy than before must be viewed in relation to the increasing number of asylum seekers to the country and the number of accep-

Table 7.3. Attitudes towards the statement that immigrants in Norway should endeavour to become as similar to Norwegians as possible. 2003. Per cent

	"Immigrants in Norway should endeavour to become as similar to Norwegians as possible"					Number of persons that answered
	All	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Don't know	
2003	100	54	7	39	1	1 381

Table 7.4. Attitudes towards the statement regarding refugees' access to residence permits in Norway. 2002 and 2003. Per cent

	"Compared to today, should it be easier for refugees and asylum seekers to obtain a residence permit, should it be more difficult, or should access to permits remain the same as today?"					Number of persons that answered
	All	Easier	As today	More difficult	Don't know	
2002	100	5	39	53	2	1 410
2003	100	5	37	56	3	1 381

ted applications for protection. Whereas the number of asylum seekers in 1999 was in excess of 10 000, it had risen to more than 17 000 in 2002. During the last half of the 1990s, when about 7 out of 10 inhabitants wanted refugees and asylum seekers to be given residence "to at least the same extent as today", the number of asylum seekers in 1995-1997 was less than 2 500 each year (SSB 2003: table 88). What actually represents the "extent as today" of course varies from year to year (and from country to country), and people's perception of the number being accepted will most likely affect the reaction to the statement.

Nine out of ten are positive to immigrants as neighbours

Nine out of 10 have no objections to having an immigrant as a *new neighbour*. Furthermore, 9 out of 10 have no objections to having an immigrant as a *home help* for themselves or in the close family. Having an immigrant as a son-in-law or daughter-in-law, however, arouses negative feelings in 4 out of 10.

Moreover, two thirds of the adult population have contact with immigrants. The workplace is the most common arena for contact. Four out of 10 have some kind of contact with immigrants at work. Two out of 10 have contact with immigrants in the neighbourhood, and fewer than 3 out of 10 have such contact through friends and acquaintances. Only 1 in 10

Table 7.5. Attitudes towards some statements on relations to immigrants. 2002 and 2003. Per cent

	"Would you feel uncomfortable if you or someone in your closest family had an immigrant as a home help?"				Number of persons that answered
	All	Yes	No	Don't know	
2002	100	11	88	1	1 410
2003	100	10	89	1	1 385
	"... your new neighbour was an immigrant?"				Number of persons that answered
	All	Yes	No	Don't know	
2002	100	8	90	2	1 410
2003	100	9	89	2	1 384
	"... you had a son or daughter that wanted to marry an immigrant?"				Number of persons that answered
	All	Yes	No	Don't know	
2002	100	40	53	7	1 409
2003	100	37	58	6	1 380

Table 7.6. Attitudes towards some statements on contact and experience with immigrants. 2002 and 2003. Per cent

	"Do you have contact with immigrants who live in Norway for instance at work, in the neighbourhood, among friends, family etc?"							Number of persons that answered		
	All	Yes		No						
2002	100	67		33			1 408			
2003	100	64		36			1 384			
	"In what connection do you have contact with immigrants who live in Norway?"									Number of persons that answered
	All	At work		Among friends/acquaintances		In the neighbourhood		Among close relatives		
		Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	
2002	100	41	59	27	73	22	78	9	91	1 408
2003	100	40	60	29	71	23	77	9	91	1 384
	"How many immigrants do you have contact with?"								Number of persons that answered	
	All	Number of persons						Don't know		
		0	1	2-4	5-10	More than 10				
2003	100	36	6	26	19	14		0	1 382	
2003 ¹	100		9	41	29	22		0	890	
	"How frequent is your contact with immigrants generally?"						Number of persons that answered			
	All	Never	Seldom	Monthly	Weekly	Daily				
	2003	100	36	3	9	23		29	1 382	
2003 ¹	100		5	14	36	45	890			
	"What is your personal experience of this contact?"					Number of persons that answered				
	All	No contact	Basically positive	Positive/negative	Basically negative					
	2003	100	36	44	20		0	1 382		
2003 ¹	100		69	31	1	890				

¹ Only persons with contact with immigrants.
Source: Blom and Lie 2003.

have contact with immigrants among close relatives.

A new question in 2003 concerned the frequency of contact with immigrants and how the contact is perceived. A narrow majority of the population reports to have daily or weekly contact. Of those having contact with immigrants, 7 out of 10 experienced the contact as basically positive. Three out of 10 have had both positive and negative experiences, whereas only 1 per cent found the contact basically negative.

More well disposed attitudes towards immigrants during the 1990s

The first round of questions during the years 1993-2000 showed that attitudes towards immigrants and immigration developed in a positive direction (table 7.7). The largest and most unambiguous change took place between 1995 and 1996 when there was a significant swing towards a more accepting attitude to immigrants for all four indicators.

Table 7.7. Attitudes towards four statements about immigrants and immigrant policy. 1993-2000. Per cent

	"Norway should give residence to refugees and asylum seekers to at least the same extent as today"					Number of persons that answered
	All	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Don't know	
1993	100	49	11	40	1	1 824
1994	100	56	9	33	1	1 843
1995	100	56	7	36	1	1 398
1996	100	70	5	24	1	1 388
1997	100	67	7	25	1	1 373
1998	100	69	7	23	1	1 223
1999	100	71	8	20	1	1 409
2000	100	64	6	29	1	1 382
	"Immigrants have too easy access to social security compared to Norwegians"					Number of persons that answered
	All	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Don't know	
1993	100	67	8	18	7	1 824
1994	100	64	8	22	6	1 843
1995	100	65	6	21	7	1 399
1996	100	54	7	33	6	1 388
1997	100	53	10	31	5	1 372
1998	100	53	9	32	6	1 225
1999	100	51	10	32	8	1 412
2000	100	53	10	33	4	1 383
	"Immigrants should have the same job opportunities as Norwegians"					Number of persons that answered
	All	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Don't know	
1993	100	75	8	15	2	1 823
1994	100	78	6	15	1	1 842
1995	100	80	4	15	0	1 398
1996	100	86	3	11	0	1 388
1997	100	86	5	8	0	1 375
1998	100	92	3	5	0	1 225
1999	100	90	3	6	1	1 414
2000	100	91	3	5	0	1 385
	"Immigrants commit more crime than Norwegians"					Number of persons that answered
	All	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Don't know	
1993	100	41	19	33	7	1 823
1994	100	40	14	38	8	1 843
1995	100	48	11	36	6	1 397
1996	100	44	10	42	4	1 388
1997	100	44	13	39	4	1 374
1998	100	43	13	39	4	1 225
1999	100	48	13	34	5	1 412
2000	100	50	12	35	3	1 385

Source: Blom 1999, Statistics Norway 2000.

The largest change was found in the attitude to granting residence permits to refugees and asylum seekers. The proportion wanting to permit such permits for refugees and asylum seekers "to at least the same extent as today" increased by 14 percentage points from 1995 to 1996. In the years 1996 to 1999, roughly 7 out of ten agreed to this position, compared to 5 out of 10 in 1993. The proportion advocating status quo or a liberalisation of refugees' access to the country has subsequently diminished significantly and is now at a level below that of 1993; 4 out of 10 (ref. table 7.4).

The perception of immigrants' relation to social security also changed considerably from 1995 to 1996. The proportion of people believing that immigrants "have too easy access to social security compared to Norwegians" fell by more than 10 percentage points during that year, and subsequently remained above 50 per cent until 2000. In 1993, the figure was 2 out of 3.

Regarding the statement that "Immigrants are more criminal than Norwegians" there was little long-term change to be seen during the eight years. The population was consistently split in its perception of refugees' level of crime, with a certain predominance of those who believed that immigrants committed more crimes than others. Many had difficulties knowing what to believe, which can be seen from the high proportion of people who answered "don't know" or "neither agree or disagree" (15-25 per cent). Later in the 1990s, Statistics Norway published statistics showing that immigrants were somewhat over-represented in the criminal statistics compared to the rest of the population (Hustad 1999, Gundersen et al. 2000). For the two last years that the

question was asked (1999 and 2000), about half the population agreed with the statement and about 35 per cent disagreed.

Data from the European Social Survey 2002/2003 shows that Norway is one of the European countries where the population on the whole believes that immigration fuels crime. No less than 3 out of 4 in Norway expressed this opinion on an 11-point attitudinal scale in 2003 (response categories 0-3). Of 22 countries, it was only in Greece and the Czech Republic that this opinion had more support than in Norway (NSD 2004). For most other questions regarding immigrants and immigration in the aforementioned survey, Norway tends to place itself in the middle of the scale or on the liberal or tolerant side of the average (NSD 2003).

Attitudinal changes affected by other societal changes and immigration

We have already mentioned some of the factors that appear to affect the attitude towards refugees and immigrants over time. *Improvements in the business cycle* probably encourage a liberalisation of attitudes. During times of economic growth, it becomes easier to find work and housing for newcomers, and the need for labour increases. *The size of the influx of refugees* probably affects the attitudes in the opposite direction. The greater the "supply" of refugees at the borders, the stronger the demands on the authorities to regulate and reduce the influx of refugees. The majority of the population seems to harbour a deep-rooted fear of large scale and uncontrolled immigration.

The official refugee policy has also therefore repercussions on the public opinion. At the same time that immigration should

not appear too overwhelming, neither should the treatment of refugees and asylum seekers appear unreasonably harsh and devoid of "humane considerations". Otherwise it could trigger demands for a more liberal practising of immigration legislation. Something similar probably happened in the middle of the 1990s, when the media abounded with reports of a "heartless" asylum policy, innocent asylum children living in churches, unfathomable decisions on applications, and brutal implementation of deportation orders (Blom 1996).

Conversely, all *crime* committed by immigrants will serve to undermine liberal and tolerant attitudes (Blom 1999). This is especially the case for dramatic acts like gang fights, stabbings, "honour" killings, drug-related crimes, smuggling of persons into the country, or acts of terror conducted by religiously-inspired fundamentalist groups outside the country. Crimes of this nature conducted by individuals with immigrant backgrounds very easily "colours" the public perception of the whole group.

We also believe to have observed that the attitude towards the asylum policy is affected by the knowledge and sympathy held by the population towards groups fleeing from a country. In 1994, there was considerable goodwill to accepting refugees from Bosnia, and this was also the case in 1999 with refugees from Kosovo.¹ Both events, which could be said to happen in our neighbouring region, were thoroughly covered by the media in a way that left no doubt that refugees from these areas were *real refugees of war*. The same could not be said for the Bulgarian "refugees" arriving in buses in the summer of 2001, giving nourishment to the

use of concepts like "asylum tourists" and "supposedly unfounded asylum seekers".

Attitudes vary according to age, residential area and education

The attitudes presented here for a given year represent averages. In different segments of the population the values are different. Factors found to have bearings on attitudes are for instance age, education, residential area and political opinion. *Educational level* is the single factor with the greatest impact. Whereas for instance 58 per cent of the population with education at lower secondary level in 2003 agreed that most immigrants abuse the social welfare system, only 5 per cent of those with long higher education or a university college education were of the same opinion. Similarly, the proportion wanting to restrict the access for obtaining residence permits in Norway was no less than 70 per cent among the least educated and 19 per cent among the highest educated.

Persons in the oldest *age group* (67-79 years) are also systematically more sceptical to immigrants and immigration than those younger. Apart from age, this is also due to educational differences between the age groups and the fact that younger people have more contact with immigrants than the elderly. Persons that have contact with immigrants are generally better disposed to immigrants than persons without such contact. We also find a connection between the *quantity of contact* – in the sense of the number of arenas for contact, frequency of meetings etc. – and positive attitudes towards immigrants.

Sex is generally of secondary importance with regard to attitudes, but in some questions women are more positively

disposed than men. For instance, in 2003 women agreed more than men that immigrants enrich the cultural life in Norway, and they insisted less that immigrants should be as similar to Norwegians as possible.

Persons resident in *densely populated areas*, especially in the region of *Oslo and Akershus*, are also somewhat more positive to immigrants and immigration than persons residing in other parts of the country. The differences are not big, however, and are partly due to a higher education level and more contact with immigrants in urban areas, especially in the capital region.

Note

¹ Both 1994 and 1999 had statistically significant increases in the proportion agreeing strongly or on the whole that "Norway should give residence permits to refugees and asylum seekers to at least the same extent as today" compared to the year before (Blom 1994, 1999).

8. Overview of immigrant-related statistics

According to Statistics Norway's general publication strategy where the Internet is the main channel of distribution, all immigrant-related statistics are released on the Statistics Norway web site. New statistics are released as Today's statistics on the site. Statistics Norway has a particular web page with an overview of immigrant-related statistics, http://www.ssb.no/innvstat_en, where you will find links to the different subject fields and publications.

Below you will find references to the web pages for the different subject areas, and at the end a list of immigrant-related articles and special publications.

Population statistics

The following population statistics are produced annually:

- Population statistics. Immigrant population (http://www.ssb.no/innvbef_en/)
- Population statistics. Naturalisations (http://www.ssb.no/statsborger_en/)
- Population statistics. Foreign citizens (http://www.ssb.no/utlstat_en/)
- Population statistics. Adoptions (http://www.ssb.no/adopsjon_en/)
- Population statistics. Refugees (http://www.ssb.no/flyktninger_en/)
- Population statistics. Migrations (http://www.ssb.no/flytting_en/)
- Population statistics. Marriages and registered partnerships (http://www.ssb.no/ekteskap_en/)
- Population statistics. Divorces and separations (http://www.ssb.no/skilsmisse_en/)

Education statistics

The following education statistics are produced annually (<http://www.ssb.no/english/subjects/04/>):

- Education statistics. Kindergartens (http://www.ssb.no/barnehager_en/)
- Education statistics. Primary and lower secondary schools (http://www.ssb.no/utgrs_en/)
- Education statistics. Adult education (<http://www.ssb.no/english/subjects/04/02/50/>)
- Education statistics. Upper secondary schools (http://www.ssb.no/utvgs_en/)
- Education statistics. Universities and colleges (<http://www.ssb.no/english/subjects/04/02/40/>)
- Education statistics. Population's highest level of education (http://www.ssb.no/utniv_en/)

In 1998, a special survey was conducted on immigrants' levels of education. The findings are published here: Education statistics. Immigrants' levels of education, 1998 (http://www.ssb.no/english/subjects/04/01/utinnv_en/)

Labour market statistics

Unemployment and labour market scheme figures for immigrants are published every quarter. Statistics on employment and ownership by the 4th quarter are produced annually.

- Unemployment among immigrants (http://www.ssb.no/innvarbl_en/)
- Register-based employment statistics for immigrants, 4th quarter (http://www.ssb.no/english/subjects/06/01/innvregsys_en/)
- Employment statistics on immigrants, 4th quarter (http://www.ssb.no/innvarb_en/)

Income statistics

Income statistics on immigrants are published on Statistics Norway's web site.

- Income statistics for immigrants. (http://www.ssb.no/inntinnv_en/)

Statistical analysis

Two reports regarding immigration and immigrants have been published in English among the publication series Statistical analyses.

Lofthus, Eivind (ed) (1998): *Immigrants in Norway. A summary of findings.* Statistical analyses 27, Statistics Norway 1998.

Lie, Benedicte (2002): *Immigration and immigrants 2002.* Statistical analyses 54, Statistics Norway 2002.

Various publications

Blom, Svein (1999): *Residential Concentration Among Immigrants in Oslo,* Reprints 164, Statistics Norway.

Blom, Svein (2002): *Some Aspects of Immigrant Residential Concentration in Oslo. Time Trend and the Importance of Economic Causes.* Reprints 224, Statistics Norway.

Blom, Svein (2004): *Labour Market Integration of Refugees in Norway under Changing Macro-Economic Conditions.* Reprints 284, Statistics Norway.

Byberg, Ingvild Hauge (2002): *Immigrant women in Norway. A summary of findings on demography, education, labour and income.* Reports 2002/23, Statistics Norway.

Hægeland Torbjørn, Lars J. Kirkebøen, Oddbjørn Raaum and Kjell. G. Salvanes (2004): *Marks across lower secondary schools in Norway. What can be explained by the composition of pupils and school resources?* Reports 2004/11, Statistics Norway.

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