

Overview of Migrant Situation in Turkey

According to the latest available figures from the Turkish Directorate General of Migration Management (DGMM), there are more than 4.8* million foreign nationals present in Turkish territory, 3.7* million of whom are seeking international protection.

Most of those seeking international protection are Syrians (3,675,485* individuals) who are granted the temporary protection status in Turkey. In addition, international protection applicants are most frequently nationals of Afghanistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Iraq constitute another group of foreign nationals. According to DGMM, there were 31,334* international protection applicants present in Turkey in 2020¹, published annually. Moreover, according to UNHCR**, there are close to 320,000 international protection status holders and asylum-seekers.

In addition, there are 1,119,326* foreign nationals under residence permit holder status; this number includes humanitarian residence holders.

*Data Source DGMM, 02.06.2021

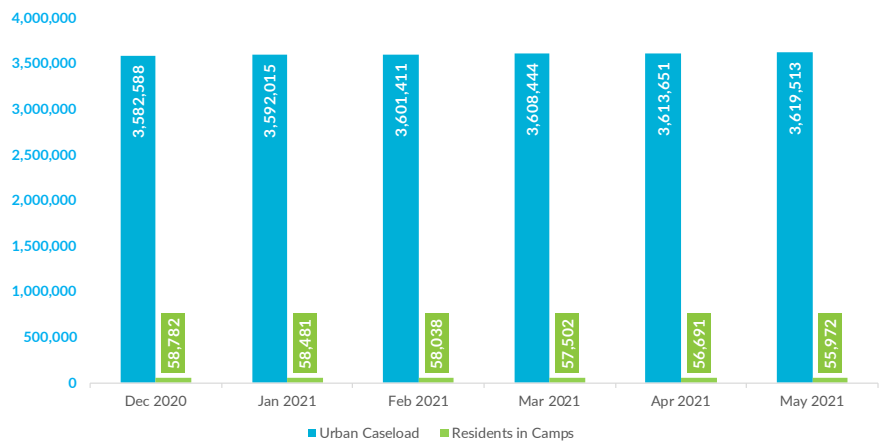
**Data source UNHCR, April 2021

Temporary Protection

Turkey's temporary protection regime grants 3,675,485* Syrian nationals the right to legally stay in Turkey as well as obtain some level of access to basic services. The vast majority --namely 3,619,513* individuals, live outside of formal camps and instead are spread across many of the Turkish provinces. As such, only 55,972* Syrians live in seven formal camps, the majority of which are located close to the Syrian border.

*Data Source DGMM, 02.06.2021

Monthly Population Chart of Persons Under Temporary Protection

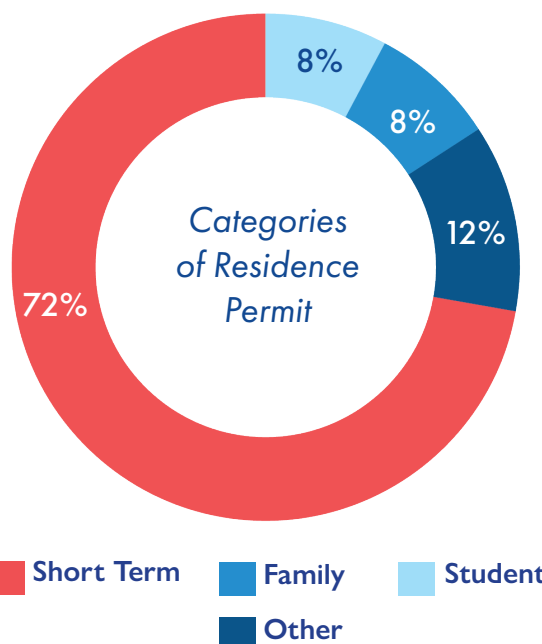


International Protection Applicants

There are 31,334* international protection applicants in Turkey of different nationalities, but primarily originating in Afghanistan, Iraq and Islamic Republic of Iran. DGMM publishes the number of international protection applicants by years.

*Data source DGMM, end of 2020¹

Nationality	Percentage#
Afghanistan	72%
Iraq	19%
Islamic Republic of Iran	4%
Others	5%



Residence Permit Holders

Foreigners who seek stay in Turkey beyond the duration of a visa or a visa exemption or, longer than 90 days, should obtain a residence permit. There are 1,119,326* residence permit holders in Turkey within various categories. According to DGMM, the "other" residence permit category includes humanitarian residence permit holders, and while the exact number is unknown, it is believed that the vast majority in this category are Iraqis. The breakdown of the residence permit categories is shown in the graph (left). The category breakdown of residence permits and the total number of residence permit holders are monthly published.

*Data Source DGMM, 02.06.2021

¹ UNHCR ended registration process in Turkey on 10 September 2018. The registration process will continue with the procedure carried out by the Turkish authorities (UNHCR). The number of international protection holders is not publicly available as of the date above.

Readmitted Migrants and Refugees to Turkey Under EU-Turkey Agreement

Pakistan	748
Syrian Arab Republic	412
Algeria	204
Afghanistan	151
Iraq	134
Bangladesh	105
Morocco	56
Islamic Republic of Iran	56
Egypt	33
Others	240

Between 4 April 2016 and 31 March 2020, 2,139* migrants were readmitted to Turkey from Greece. Main points of return from Greece include Lesbos, Chios, Kos and Samos, while the main readmission points to Turkey include Dikili, Çeşme, Bodrum and Adana airport. However, since March 2020, no migrants or refugees have been readmitted from Greece to Turkey according to DGMM as the EU-Turkey Agreement remains suspended.

*Data Source DGMM, 02.06.2021

Interceptions by Turkish Land Forces (1 - 31 May 2021)			
Entry		Exit	
Syrian Arab Republic	6,718	Greece	116
Greece	139	Syrian Arab Republic	75
Islamic Republic of Iran	13	Iraq	2
Iraq	2	Georgia	1
Georgia	-	Bulgaria	1
Bulgaria	-	Islamic Republic of Iran	-
Total	6,872	Total	195

Intercepted Persons on Land

According to the Turkish Armed Forces (TAF) sources, in May 2021, a total number of 7,067* individuals were intercepted by TAF and handed over to Turkish law enforcement forces. The source doesn't present the breakdown of the intercepted nationalities. According to TAF, out of this number 6,872* individuals were recorded as attempting to enter Turkey from the Syrian Arab Republic, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Greece and Iraq. TAF also registered 195* individuals attempting to enter from Turkey into the Syrian Arab Republic, Greece, Iraq, Bulgaria and Georgia. (See table on the left for details).

*Data Source TAF, 31.05.2021

Resettlement of Syrians from Turkey

Since 4 April 2016, when EU-Turkey Statement on the readmission of migrants to Turkey arriving in Greece after 20 March 2016 entered into force, a total of 28,847* Syrians were resettled to a number of European countries (see graph below) according to One-to-One mechanism with the assistance of IOM.

*Data Source DGMM, 02.06.2021



*Disclaimer: This map is for illustration purposes only. The depiction and use of boundaries, geographic names, and related data shown on maps and included in this report are not warranted to be free of error nor do they imply judgment on the legal status of any territory, or any endorsement or acceptance of such boundaries by IOM.

Apprehended/Rescued Persons on Sea

According to Turkish Coast Guard (TCG) reports, the TCG apprehended 862* irregular migrants and no fatalities were recorded in May 2021. The top ten nationalities of apprehended/rescued migrants are Afghan, Syrian, Somali, Congolese, Palestinian, Yemeni, Liberian, Eritrean**, Central African and Pakistani.

*Data source TCG, 31.05.2021.

**The information on nationality provided in this report is based on the nationality declared by migrants as reported by the Turkish authorities.

