

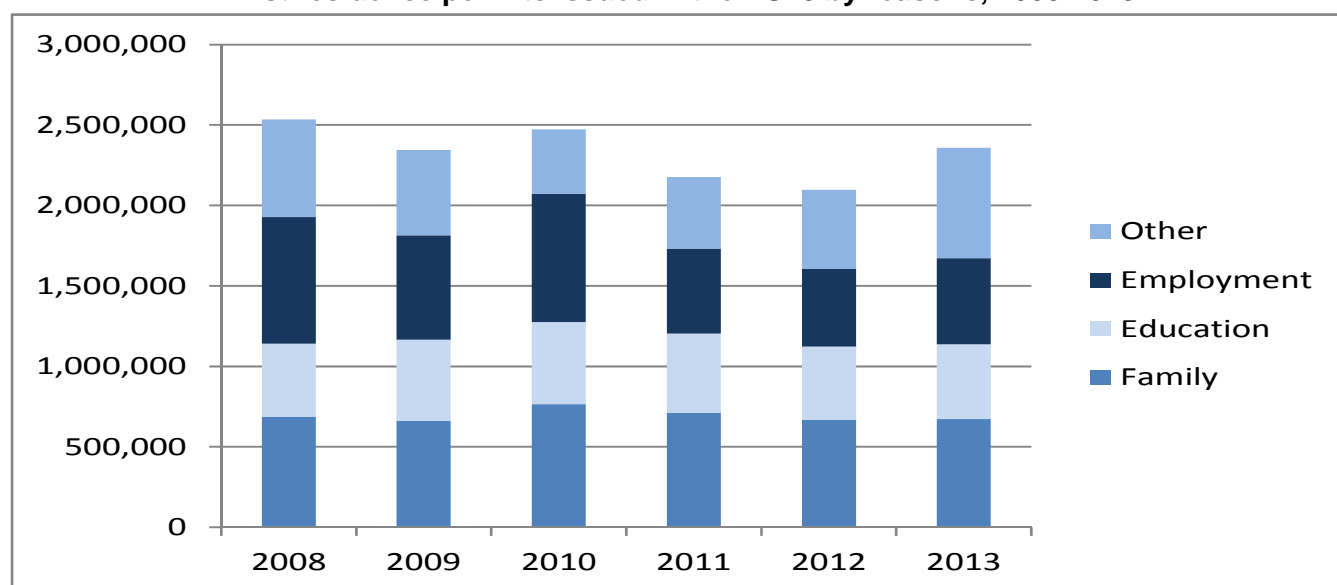
Residence permits for non-EU citizens in the EU28

More than 2.3 million first residence permits issued in the EU28 in 2013

Main beneficiaries from Ukraine

In 2013, 2.36 million first residence permits¹ were issued in the **EU28** to non-EU citizens, up by 12.5% compared with 2012 but down by 7.0% compared with 2008. The decrease recorded from 2008 is mainly due to the fall in the number of first permits issued for employment reasons (from 0.8 million in 2008 to 0.5 mn in 2013). In 2013, 28.5% of first residence permits were issued for family reasons, 19.7% for education, 22.7% for employment reasons and 29.1% for other reasons².

First residence permits issued in the EU28 by reasons, 2008-2013



EU28 aggregate excluding Luxembourg for 2008 and Croatia for the years 2008-2012.

These administrative data³ on residence permits in the **EU28** are published in a [report](#)⁴ issued by **Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union**.

Highest number of permits issued for family reasons in Italy and Spain, for education in the United Kingdom and for employment in Poland

In 2013, the highest number of residence permits was reported by the **United Kingdom**⁵ (724 200 residence permits issued, or 30.7% of total permits issued in the EU28), followed by **Poland** (273 900, or 11.6%), **Italy** (244 000, or 10.3%), **France** (212 100, or 9.0%), **Germany** (199 900, or 8.5%) and **Spain** (196 200, or 8.3%). Together, these six Member States accounted for almost 80% of all residence permits issued in the **EU28** in 2013.

With around 108 000 permits each, **Italy** and **Spain** were the two Member States with the highest number of permits issued for family reasons in 2013. The **United Kingdom**⁵ (183 200) was by far the first destination for education related permits. The highest number of residence permits issued for employment reasons was observed in **Poland** (141 700).

First residence permits issued in the EU28 by reason, 2013

	Total		Of which:							
			Family reasons		Education reasons		Employment reasons		Other reasons	
	#	per thousand inhabitants	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
EU28	2 357 583	4.7	672 914	28.5	464 040	19.7	535 478	22.7	685 151	29.1
Belgium	42 463	3.8	22 266	52.4	5 902	13.9	4 347	10.2	9 948	23.4
Bulgaria	6 436	0.9	2 242	34.8	935	14.5	334	5.2	2 925	45.4
Czech Republic	45 544	4.3	10 311	22.6	6 215	13.6	18 263	40.1	10 755	23.6
Denmark	31 311	5.6	9 068	29.0	7 463	23.8	10 684	34.1	4 096	13.1
Germany	199 925	2.5	82 492	41.3	45 955	23.0	27 788	13.9	43 690	21.9
Estonia	2 496	1.9	1 103	44.2	498	20.0	579	23.2	316	12.7
Ireland	32 780	7.1	2 042	6.2	21 394	65.3	4 018	12.3	5 326	16.2
Greece	18 299	1.7	10 852	59.3	1 074	5.9	1 226	6.7	5 147	28.1
Spain	196 242	4.2	107 620	54.8	26 416	13.5	50 171	25.6	12 035	6.1
France	212 098	3.2	91 232	43.0	62 747	29.6	17 480	8.2	40 639	19.2
Croatia	3 320	0.8	2 154	64.9	185	5.6	599	18.0	382	11.5
Italy	243 954	4.1	108 358	44.4	27 083	11.1	80 726	33.1	27 787	11.4
Cyprus	11 455	13.3	1 230	10.7	1 397	12.2	6 613	57.7	2 215	19.3
Latvia	7 615	3.8	3 521	46.2	808	10.6	793	10.4	2 493	32.7
Lithuania	4 601	1.6	988	21.5	603	13.1	2 822	61.3	188	4.1
Luxembourg	4 169	7.7	2 153	51.6	404	9.7	1 272	30.5	340	8.2
Hungary	16 833	1.7	4 058	24.1	5 515	32.8	3 561	21.2	3 699	22.0
Malta	10 187	24.1	2 762	27.1	2 187	21.5	2 612	25.6	2 626	25.8
Netherlands	64 739	3.9	25 376	39.2	12 878	19.9	12 673	19.6	13 812	21.3
Austria	34 308	4.0	12 652	36.9	5 538	16.1	3 555	10.4	12 563	36.6
Poland	273 886	7.1	2 628	1.0	23 007	8.4	141 668	51.7	106 583	38.9
Portugal	26 593	2.5	12 224	46.0	4 734	17.8	6 394	24.0	3 241	12.2
Romania	11 160	0.6	4 155	37.2	3 692	33.1	1 542	13.8	1 771	15.9
Slovenia	8 271	4.0	3 923	47.4	596	7.2	3 674	44.4	78	0.9
Slovakia	4 416	0.8	1 411	32.0	829	18.8	1 624	36.8	552	12.5
Finland	21 112	3.9	7 909	37.5	5 314	25.2	4 719	22.4	3 170	15.0
Sweden	99 122	10.3	43 156	43.5	7 474	7.5	17 189	17.3	31 303	31.6
United Kingdom⁵	724 248	11.3	95 028	13.1	183 197	25.3	108 552	15.0	337 471	46.6
Norway	27 692	5.5	9 992	36.1	4 193	15.1	7 814	28.2	5 693	20.6
Switzerland	49 238	6.1	20 561	41.8	11 153	22.7	13 384	27.2	4 140	8.4

In 18 Member States, the largest numbers of permits were issued for family reasons, with the highest shares observed in **Croatia** (64.9% of all residence permits issued in the Member State), **Greece** (59.3%), **Spain** (54.8%), **Belgium** (52.4%) and **Luxembourg** (51.6%). Education was the main reason in **Ireland** (65.3% of all residence permits issued in the Member State) and **Hungary** (32.8%). In six Member States, the main reason for issuing residence permits was employment, the highest shares being recorded in **Lithuania** (61.3% of all residence permits issued in the Member State), **Cyprus** (57.7%) and **Poland** (51.7%).

Compared with the population of each Member State, the highest rates of first residence permits issued in 2013 were recorded in **Malta** (24.1 first permits issued per thousand inhabitants), **Cyprus** (13.3), the **United Kingdom⁵** (11.3) and **Sweden** (10.3). Rates below 1 permit per thousand inhabitants were observed in four Member States: **Romania** (0.6), **Croatia** and **Slovakia** (both 0.8) and **Bulgaria** (0.9). In 2013, 4.7 first residence permits were issued per thousand inhabitants in the **EU28**.

Ukraine, India and United States: 3 citizenships granted the most residence permits

In 2013, citizens of **Ukraine** (236 700 beneficiaries, or 10.0% of the total number of new residence permits issued in the EU28) received the highest number of permits, ahead citizens of **India** (200 800, or 8.5%), of the **United States** (171 800, or 7.3%) and of **China** (165 600, or 7.0%). A third of all new residence permits issued in the **EU28** in 2013 was issued to citizens of these four countries.

Main citizenships of persons granted first residence permits in the EU28 by reasons, 2013

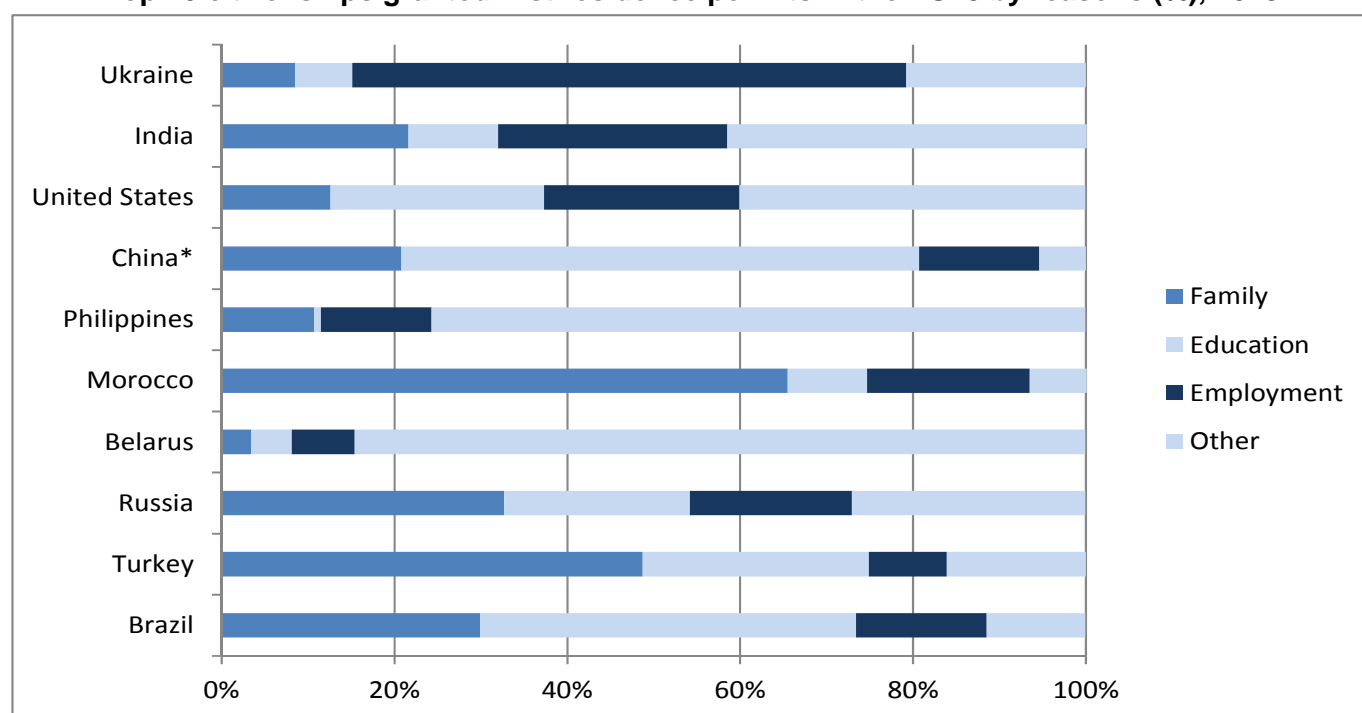
	Total	Of which:							
		Family reasons		Education reasons		Employment reasons		Other reasons	
	#	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
TOTAL	2 357 583	672 914	28.5	464 040	19.7	535 478	22.7	685 151	29.1
Ukraine	236 691	20 006	8.5	15 739	6.6	151 718	64.1	49 228	20.8
India	200 844	43 295	21.6	20 901	10.4	53 175	26.5	83 473	41.6
United States	171 800	21 670	12.6	42 476	24.7	38 881	22.6	68 773	40.0
China*	165 569	34 401	20.8	99 188	59.9	23 027	13.9	8 953	5.4
Philippines	107 848	11 558	10.7	890	0.8	13 825	12.8	81 575	75.6
Morocco	101 970	66 774	65.5	9 345	9.2	19 127	18.8	6 724	6.6
Belarus	76 800	2 611	3.4	3 642	4.7	5 638	7.3	64 909	84.5
Russia	73 107	23 914	32.7	15 750	21.5	13 686	18.7	19 757	27.0
Turkey	59 802	29 104	48.7	15 680	26.2	5 382	9.0	9 636	16.1
Brazil	55 020	16 470	29.9	23957	43.5	8 299	15.1	6 294	11.4

* China, including Hong Kong

Ukrainians for employment, Chinese for education and Moroccans for family reasons

The reasons for residence permits being issued differ between citizenships. Among the top 10 citizenships granted permits in the **EU28** in 2013, **Ukrainians** benefited from residence permits mainly for employment reasons (64.1% of the first residence permits issued to Ukrainians in 2013), **Chinese** (59.9%) and **Brazilians** (43.5%) for education reasons, **Moroccans** (65.5%), **Turks** (48.7%) and **Russians** (32.7%) for family reasons.

Top 10 citizenships granted first residence permits in the EU28 by reasons (%), 2013



* China, including Hong Kong

Ukrainians received permits mainly in Poland, Indians and US citizens in the United Kingdom

Certain citizenships were granted residence permits predominantly by particular Member States. Of the 236 700 **Ukrainians** granted residence permits in the **EU28** in 2013, more than 70% were recorded in **Poland** (171 800). Of the 200 800 **Indians** granted residence permits, almost 70% were registered in the **United Kingdom**⁵, and for **Americans** (171 800) more than 60% were registered in the **United Kingdom** (105 700).

First residence permits issued in the EU28 by citizenship, 2013

	Total	Citizenships of main groups of residence permits beneficiaries								
	#	First group	#	%	Second group	#	%	Third group	#	%
EU28	2 357 583	Ukraine	236 691	10.0	India	200 844	8.5	United States	171 800	7.3
Belgium	42 463	Morocco	5 641	13.3	India	2 325	5.5	United States	2 262	5.3
Bulgaria	6 436	Russia	2 930	45.5	Turkey	1 044	16.2	Ukraine	476	7.4
Czech Republic	45 544	Ukraine	18 622	40.9	Russia	7 146	15.7	Vietnam	4 915	10.8
Denmark	31 311	United States	3 752	12.0	India	3 096	9.9	China*	2 528	8.1
Germany	199 925	Turkey	18 601	9.3	China*	13 654	6.8	United States	11 829	5.9
Estonia	2 496	Russia	842	33.7	Ukraine	440	17.6	Recognised non-citizens**	303	12.1
Ireland	32 780	Brazil	7 263	22.2	United States	4 177	12.7	India	2 506	7.6
Greece	18 299	Albania	10 250	56.0	Russia	1 311	7.2	Ukraine	885	4.8
Spain	196 242	Morocco	37 436	19.1	China*	12 414	6.3	Colombia	10 304	5.3
France	212 098	Algeria	25 007	11.8	Morocco	24 726	11.7	China*	16 409	7.7
Croatia	3 320	Bosnia and Herzegovina	1 284	38.7	Serbia	430	13.0	FYR of Macedonia	229	6.9
Italy	243 954	Morocco	25 165	10.3	China*	19 967	8.2	Albania	15 890	6.5
Cyprus	11 455	Philippines	1 885	16.5	Russia	1 798	15.7	Sri Lanka	1 502	13.1
Latvia	7 615	Russia	3 764	49.4	Ukraine	678	8.9	Uzbekistan	477	6.3
Lithuania	4 601	Russia	1 317	28.6	Belarus	978	21.3	Ukraine	873	19.0
Luxembourg	4 169	United States	643	15.4	China*	472	11.3	Brazil	271	6.5
Hungary	16 833	China*	2 657	15.8	United States	1 614	9.6	Brazil	1 519	9.0
Malta	10 187	Libya	1 795	17.6	Russia	961	9.4	Philippines	706	6.9
Netherlands	64 739	China*	6 161	9.5	India	6 119	9.5	United States	4 801	7.4
Austria	34 308	Serbia	4 120	12.0	Turkey	4 036	11.8	Bosnia and Herzegovina	3 603	10.5
Poland	273 886	Ukraine	171 769	62.7	Belarus	69 958	25.5	Moldova	6 746	2.5
Portugal	26 593	Brazil	8 023	30.2	Cape Verde	3 130	11.8	China*	2 233	8.4
Romania	11 160	Moldova	1 909	17.1	Syria	1 341	12.0	Turkey	1 261	11.3
Slovenia	8 271	Bosnia and Herzegovina	3 064	37.0	Serbia	1 338	16.2	Kosovo***	1 246	15.1
Slovakia	4 416	Ukraine	1 040	23.6	Serbia	603	13.7	South Korea	389	8.8
Finland	21 112	Russia	4 136	19.6	India	1 699	8.0	China*	1 571	7.4
Sweden	99 122	Syria	16 291	16.4	Somalia	10 112	10.2	Thailand	7 618	7.7
United Kingdom ⁵	724 248	India	139 875	19.3	United States	105 718	14.6	Philippines	86 801	12.0
Norway	27 692	Philippines	2 689	9.7	Eritrea	2 685	9.7	Somalia	2 317	8.4
Switzerland	49 238	United States	5 257	10.7	India	4 174	8.5	China*	3 395	6.9

* China including Hong Kong.

** A recognised non-citizen is a person who is neither a citizen of the reporting country nor of any other country, and who has established links to the reporting country which include some but not all rights and obligations of full citizenship. A majority of these persons were citizens of the former Soviet Union.

*** Kosovo under UN Security Council Resolution 1244

1. **First residence permit** means a residence permit issued to a person for the first time. A residence permit is considered as a first permit also if the time gap between the expiry of the previous permit and the start of validity of the new permit is at least 6 months.

Residence permit means any authorisation valid for at least 3 months issued by the authorities of a Member State allowing a non-EU citizen to stay legally on its territory. When national laws and administrative practices of a Member State allow for specific categories of long-term visa or immigration status to be granted instead of residence permits, such visas and grants of statuses are also included in these statistics.

Statistics on first residence permits presented in this report refer to non-EU citizens only and include persons subject to an authorisation to stay with a validity of at least 3 months and consequently these statistics are different than statistics on migration to the reporting countries (according to migration statistics migrant is a person who stays or intends to stay in the country for at least 12 months).

2. **Other reasons** include permits issued for residence only (e.g. pensioners with sufficient financial means), international protection status (including refugee status and subsidiary protection), humanitarian reasons, permits issued to non-asylum related unaccompanied minors, victims of trafficking in human beings and other reasons not specified (e.g. beneficiaries of national regularisation programmes, diplomats).
3. The data in this release are provided to Eurostat by Ministries of the Interior or Justice, or immigration agencies, of the Member States. These administrative data are supplied by Member States according to the provisions of Article 6 of the Regulation (EC) 862/2007 of 11 July 2007 on Community statistics on migration and international protection.
4. **Eurostat**, Statistics Explained article on **residence permits statistics**. Available on the Eurostat website: http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/statistics_explained/index.php/Residence_permits_statistics
5. The statistics for the United Kingdom use different data sources to those used in other Member States. For that reason, statistics for the UK presented in this News Release may not be fully comparable with other statistics presented here. Statistics for the United Kingdom are not based on records of residence permits issued (as the United Kingdom does not operate a system of residence permits), but instead relate to the numbers of arriving non-EU citizens permitted to enter the country under selected immigration categories. According to the United Kingdom authorities, data are estimated from a combination of information due to be published in the Home Office Statistical Bulletin 'Control of Immigration: Statistics, United Kingdom' and unpublished management information. The 'Other reasons' category includes: diplomat, consular officer treated as exempt from control; retired persons of independent means; all other passengers given limited leave to enter who are not included in any other category; non-asylum discretionary permissions.

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