



SECTION 3

**INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION DATA  
AND STATISTICS**



## CHAPTER 23

# INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION TRENDS<sup>1</sup>

### INTRODUCTION

**IN 2000**, there were 175 million international migrants<sup>2</sup> in the world, that is, one out of every 35 persons in the world was an international migrant.<sup>3</sup> This total represented more than a twofold increase from 76 million in 1960. By comparison, the world population only doubled from 3 billion in 1960 to 6 billion in 2000. As a result, international migrants represented 2.5 per cent of the world population in 1960 and 2.9 per cent in 2000.

However, a significant part of this increase worldwide was due more to the emergence of newly independent states during the 1990s than to the growing international redistribution of the population. While rising, the total number of international migrants still accounts for a small percentage of the world's population. The most significant changes in recent years have been an increased concentration of migrants in the developed world and in a small number of countries. There have also been significant shifts in the poles of attraction for labour migration, for example to East and Southeast Asia, and a remarkable contribution of international migration to the population growth of receiving countries experiencing low fertility levels.

Although data permitting the estimation of the global number of international migrants for more recent periods are not yet available, extrapolation of past trends indicates that the number of international migrants may reach between 185 million and 192 million in early 2005. That is, the growth of the international migrant stock is not likely to abate in the near future.

This chapter looks at the distribution of international migrants at the country level and in major regions of the world, teasing out recent and current trends in international mobility from United Nations estimates on the size of the migrant stock in each country. It discusses recent changes in the poles of attraction, the participation of women in international migration flows, shifts in the distribution of international migrants between developed and developing countries, labour circulation, and the contribution of international migration to population growth. This chapter provides, therefore, the statistical basis to underpin migration policy.

1. This chapter has been prepared by the Population Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat in New York.

2. International migrants in this particular case are persons living in a country other than that in which they were born.

3. These estimates are based on census data for 210 countries or areas out of a total of 228. The data for 156 among these relate to the number of foreign-born persons. For a further 54, the data concern the number of foreigners. For developing countries, the number of refugees as reported by UNHCR and UNRWA has been added to the number of international migrants derived from census data. In principle, censuses enumerate all persons present or living in a country at a particular time. Consequently, census counts do not necessarily exclude undocumented or unauthorized migrants. Evidence suggests that censuses generally include undocumented migrants in the counts they produce, thus providing a good basis for the estimation of all international migrants.

## GENERAL TRENDS

**BETWEEN** 1970 and 1980, the number of international migrants increased by 18 million, i.e. from 82 million to nearly 100 million (Table 23.1). In the next decade, their number rose to 154 million; but at least half of this rise was caused by the disintegration of the former Soviet Union whose effects, for the sake of comparison, have been “backdated” to 1990 in Table 23.1. In 1991, when the former Soviet Union disintegrated into 15 independent states, the number of international migrants increased dramatically, as people previously considered internal migrants among the Soviet republics became international migrants with the new independence of their respective countries of birth.<sup>4</sup> With such backdating, the stock of international migrants increased by some 21 million during 1990–2000. That is, without the disintegration of the Soviet Union, the number of international migrants worldwide would have risen by 18 million in 1970–1980, 27 million in 1980–1990, and 21 million in 1990–2000.

In addition to the geo-political factors that changed the configuration of major states during the 1990s, international migration was further propelled by the increasing interdependence among countries caused by economic liberalization, continued income disparities among nations, cheaper and more accessible means of transportation, and growing demographic disparities between developed and developing countries. As a result, there was a major shift in the distribution of increments in the stocks of international migrants between developed and developing countries. Excluding the changes involving the former Soviet Union, developed countries gained 9 million international migrants in 1970–1980, nearly 15 million in 1980–1990 and over 21 million in 1990–2000. That is, whereas in the 1970s developed countries without the Soviet Union absorbed only about half of the increase in the stock

of international migrants worldwide, by the 1990s they were absorbing all the increase in international migrants and, consequently, the stock of international migrants in developing countries remained virtually unchanged.

These changes have resulted in a notable shift of international migrants towards the developed world. Whereas in 1970, 43 per cent of all international migrants lived in developed countries other than the Soviet Union, and 53 per cent lived in developing countries, by 2000, 46 per cent of all international migrants lived in the former and just 37 per cent lived in developing countries (Table 23.1). With the inclusion of the Soviet Union among the developed countries, the proportion of international migrants in those countries rose to 47 per cent in 1970 and 63 per cent in 2000. Notwithstanding the fact that some successor states of the former Soviet Union have been classified as developing countries, the proportion of all international migrants in the developed world remained at nearly 60 per cent in 2000.

At the regional level, increases in the share of international migrants occurred mostly in North America (from 16 per cent in 1970 to 23 per cent in 2000), and in the territory of the former Soviet Union (from 4 per cent to 17 per cent between 1970 and 2000). The share of all other regions declined, particularly in Asia, whose share dropped from 35 per cent in 1970 to 25 per cent in 2000, and Latin America and the Caribbean, whose share dropped by half in 1970–2000.

The sharp rise in the number of international migrants in North America is noteworthy, since it more than tripled during 1970–2000, from 13 million to 41 million, rising at an average rate of 3.8 per cent per year. That increase is mostly the result of the increasing foreign-born population in the US, whose numbers rose from 10 million in 1970 to 35 million in 2000. As a result of such changes, the percentage of international migrants among the total population of

4. A similar discontinuity in the evolution of the number of international migrants occurred with the disintegration of Czechoslovakia and the former Yugoslavia, although the numbers involved are smaller. The reverse transformation also took place when, for example, the former German Democratic Republic joined the Federal Republic of Germany in late 1990.

North America more than doubled from 5.6 per cent in 1970 to 12.9 per cent in 2000.

In Europe,<sup>5</sup> the number of international migrants also increased significantly, particularly in the 1990s. Between 1970 and 2000, their numbers rose from 19 million to 33 million, and their share of the total population increased from 4.1 per cent to 6.4 per cent. Thus, whereas in 1970 Europe had nearly double the number of international migrants in the US, by the end of the century, there were more in the US than in Europe. Excluding all former Communist countries from Europe, the migrant stock increased from 10 million in 1970 to 29 million in 2000, a figure still below that for the US in 2000.

In 2000, the 17 million refugees in the world constituted 9.7 per cent of all international migrants, up from 4.5 million or 5.5 per cent in 1970. The majority of these had found asylum in developing countries, particularly in Africa and Asia. In 2000, refugees accounted for 23 per cent of all international migrants in Asia and 22 per cent of those in Africa. The number of refugees under the mandate of UNHCR had risen since the late 1970s, from 2 million in 1975 to 16 million in 1990. During the 1990s, as long-standing conflicts came to an end, particularly in Africa, the repatriation of large numbers of refugees became possible. By 2000, the number reported to UNHCR had dropped to 12 million. The additional 5 million refugees in 2000 were those under the mandate of UNRWA.

Available estimates of the number of international migrants by sex show that the volume of international migration has been nearly equal for men and women. In 2000, females constituted almost 49 per cent of all migrants, up from 47 per cent in 1970 (Table 23.2). The proportion of females has tended to be higher in developed than in developing regions. In 1970, female migrants accounted for 49 per cent of the migrant

stock in developed countries, and 45 per cent in developing countries. By 2000, there were slightly more female than male migrants in developed countries, but their share of the international migrant stock in developing countries had declined to just under 45 per cent.

Thus, although there has been an overall increase in the proportion of female migrants, that increase has not been universal. In particular, in Asia the share of female migrants declined from 46.6 per cent in 1970 to 43.3 per cent in 2000. In addition, the share of female migrants among the stock in North America declined somewhat from 51.1 per cent in 1970 to 50.3 in 2000. But, by the end of the 20th century, women were more numerous than men among international migrants in Latin America and the Caribbean, North America, Oceania, Europe and the former USSR, although they remained under-represented among those in Africa and Asia.

The vast majority of international migrants move in search of better economic opportunities. However, traditionally, a distinction is made between the economically active and those who move for other reasons, usually to accompany economically active migrants or to study abroad. The ILO estimates that about 50 per cent of all international migrants, that is 86 million, were economically active in 2000 (ILO, 2004).

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## DISTRIBUTION OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRANTS AT COUNTRY LEVEL

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**DURING** the 20<sup>th</sup> century, no country remained untouched by international migration. However, in 1970, international migrants accounted for less than 1.1 per cent of the population in a quarter of all countries or areas of the world, a number that

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5. The UN estimates presented in this chapter use the following geographical delineation for the regions of Europe: Eastern Europe – Belarus, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia and Ukraine; Northern Europe – Channel Islands, Denmark, Estonia, Faeroe Islands, Finland, Iceland, Ireland, Isle of Man, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, Sweden, United Kingdom; Southern Europe – Albania, Andorra, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Gibraltar, Greece, Holy See, Italy, Malta, Portugal, San Marino, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovakia, Spain, and the FYROM; Western Europe – Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Monaco, the Netherlands and Switzerland.

remained stable until 2000.<sup>6</sup> But the concentration of international migrants increased in countries with relatively high proportions, which also accounted for a quarter of all countries or areas of the world. In 1970, international migrants constituted at least 8.1 per cent of the population in each of those countries, but by 2000 their share had risen to 13 per cent. In addition, while in 1970 international migrants accounted for over 10 per cent of the population in 48 countries, by 2000 the number of countries affected had risen to 70.

In 2000, there were 7 countries or areas, where international migrants comprised more than 60 per cent of the population: Andorra, Macao Special Administrative Region of China, Guam, the Holy See, Monaco, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates.

Most of the countries or areas with a high proportion of international migrants have fewer than a million inhabitants. Among the 47 countries with more than 10 million inhabitants in 1970, in only three (Australia, Canada and France) did the proportion of international migrants surpass 10 per cent. By 2000, that number had increased to nine out of the 78 countries with 10 million inhabitants or more, namely, Australia, Belarus, Canada, Côte d'Ivoire, France, Kazakhstan, Saudi Arabia, Ukraine and the US.<sup>7</sup> In 1970, the three most populous countries with the largest concentration of international migrants accounted for 10 per cent of the world's migrant stock, whereas in 2000 the nine countries listed accounted for 40 per cent.

In fact, the stock of international migrants remains concentrated in relatively few countries. In 1970, just 23 countries (or 10 per cent of all countries) accounted for over three-quarters of the international migrant stock; and in 2000, 28 (or 12 per cent of all countries) did so (Table 23.3). There has been a marked

concentration of international migrants in the US, whose share rose from 12 per cent in 1970 to 20 per cent in 2000. Other countries, whose share of international migrants increased substantially, include: Australia, Canada, France, Germany and the UK. Several countries that were not major receiving countries in 1970 became prominent in 2000, including Kazakhstan, Pakistan, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia and the Ukraine.

In 1970, the 22 main receiving countries included 9 in the developed world (plus the Soviet Union) and 13 in the developing world (Table 23.3). By 2000, the 28 major receiving countries included 11 developed countries, four successor states of the former Soviet Union and 13 developing countries. But although the distribution of major receiving countries by development group had not changed much, there had been a substantial shift in the share of international migrants in each group. Thus in 2000, the 11 major receivers in the developed world accounted for 41 per cent of all international migrants, up from the 37 per cent share of the nine developed countries listed in 1970. Concomitantly, the share of the 13 developing countries had declined markedly, from 35 per cent in 1970 to 20 per cent in 2000, with most of the gain going to the main receivers among the successor states of the USSR, whose share had risen from four per cent to 14 per cent between 1970 and 2000.

These changes point to the declining importance, in relative terms, of international migration for developing countries of destination. Although sizeable numbers of international migrants exist in a number of developing countries, their weight both as a proportion of the global migrant stock and in relation to the population of developing countries as a whole is declining. Accordingly, international migrants as a proportion of the population of developing countries dropped from 1.6 per cent in

6. To maintain comparability, the set of countries was maintained constant from 1970 to 2000. That is, the Soviet Union was kept as a single unit throughout in these comparisons.

7. Note that for Germany this chapter uses the number of foreigners as a proxy for the number of international migrants. If, as Münz does in the chapter "Migrants in an Enlarged Europe", an estimate of the foreign-born population would be used instead, the number of international migrants in Germany would amount to 9.7 million accounting for 11 per cent of the population in the country. This estimate of foreign-born was obtained by Münz by adding the number of legal foreign residents born outside Germany and the estimated number of foreign-born among both all naturalized persons and ethnic German immigrants (Aussiedler).

1970 to 1.3 per cent in 2000, a trend that contrasts with that in developed countries, where the share of international migrants in the population rose from 3.6 per cent to 8.7 per cent over the same period (Table 23.1).<sup>8</sup>

The significance of international migration in developed countries is also evidenced by the role it plays in population growth. In 1970-1975, the rate of natural increase<sup>9</sup> in the more developed regions as a whole was 6.8 per thousand, whereas the net migration rate was 1.0 per thousand, implying that when net migration was added to the rate of natural increase it yielded a growth rate of 7.8 per thousand (Table 23.4). That is, net migration contributed the equivalent of 15 per cent of natural increase to population growth in the more developed regions. In contrast, in the less developed regions, where the rate of natural increase was 24 per thousand, a net migration rate of -0.4 per thousand helped reduce the rate of natural increase by a meagre 1.7 per cent in the early 1970s. In 1995-2000, the relative impact of migration on the growth of the more developed regions had increased markedly, with net migration nearly doubling the contribution of natural increase (2.2 per thousand vs. 1.2 per thousand). In the less developed regions, net migration was still reducing the rate of natural increase by a small percentage (3.3 per cent).

In other words, although developing countries as a whole have been consistently losing population because of international migration, their overall rate of natural increase is still so high that net emigration has had only a small impact on population growth. In sharp contrast, the rising net inflows of international migrants to the more developed regions will continue to be crucial for population growth or, in some cases, to prevent population reductions. Europe, in particular, would have experienced a population decline of 4.4 million during 1995-2000 had it not

been for migrant inflows: Europe added some 5 million migrants between 1995 and 2000, but increased its population by only 600,000 people. As shown in Table 23.4, the net migration rate of Europe in 1995-2000 (1.4 per thousand)<sup>10</sup> has been barely enough to offset the negative rate of natural increase of -1.2 per thousand experienced during that period.

The contribution of net migration to population growth has also increased in North America from the equivalent of 45 per cent of natural increase in 1970-1975 to 75 per cent in 1995-2000. In contrast, the relative contribution of net migration has declined in Oceania from 45 to 27 per cent of natural increase.

At the country level, Germany's population would have declined since at least 1970, were it not for the net migration gains. In the late 1990s, positive net migration has made major contributions to the population growth of countries like Austria, Denmark, Greece, Italy, Luxembourg, Spain and Switzerland, where it has at least tripled the rate of natural population increase.

In sum, international migrants are increasingly concentrated in developed countries with relatively few countries accounting for the majority of the migrants (28 in 2000). Virtually the entire growth in international migrant stocks during the 1990s has been absorbed by developed countries, in particular the US, Europe and Australia. Although in 2000 the number of countries where international migrants constituted at least 10 per cent of the population had increased markedly to 70, the vast majority of these countries have small overall populations and small numbers of international migrants. The impact of international migration is particularly important for western countries, because they attract more international migrants than the rest of the world and migration contributes significantly to raising their low or negative natural growth rates. Lastly, the

8. As stated in footnote 3, the data used as a basis for these estimates include undocumented migrants, among them at least 7 million migrants in an irregular situation living in the US and no doubt significant numbers in other countries.

9. The rate of natural increase is the difference between births and deaths in the population in relation to the population at risk of experiencing those births and deaths. Natural increase does not take into account the impact of international migration on population growth or decrease.

10. Note that the geographic delimitation of Europe in this chapter is different from that in the chapter on "Migrants in an Enlarged Europe".

primacy of the US as a migrant receiving country has increased markedly. In 2000, one in five international migrants lived in the US.

## INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION IN WESTERN EUROPE<sup>11</sup>

**CHANGES** in the international migration landscape have been particularly dramatic in Europe since 1970. With the onset in 1973 of the recession as a result of the sharp oil price increases, governments that had encouraged the admission of foreign workers in previous decades decided to halt their recruitment, permitting the continued stay of those already on their territory and facilitating their reunification with immediate family members. The oil price shock therefore marked the beginning of a settlement phase of labour migrant populations. The overall migrant population in Europe increased from 18.7 million in 1970 to 22.2 million in 1980 (Table 23.1). Flow statistics for Belgium, Denmark, Germany, the Netherlands and Sweden indicate that the levels of net migration for those countries remained low or even became negative between 1975 and 1984. For most of them, negative net migration was the result of losses from other developed countries, while the gains continued to come from developing countries (Zlotnik, 1998). Family reunification contributed to maintaining positive net migration from developing countries, whereas during 1975-1984, return migration more than counterbalanced the inflows from other European countries.

By the early 1980s, the economic configuration of Europe was changing. The European Community, which had expanded in 1973 to include Denmark, Ireland and the UK, approved the membership of Greece in 1981. Although Greek workers were only

granted the right to free movement in 1988, the admission of Greece into the Community was a sign that the country was no longer considered a supplier of labour. Further enlargement of the European Union in 1986, with the admission of Portugal and Spain, did not trigger an increase in emigration from those countries to other member states. In all three cases, as with Italy in the 1960s, free movement within the Community was granted when they were no longer likely to produce major outflows of workers. In fact, Italy, Spain and to a lesser extent Greece and Portugal, became poles of attraction for citizens from other EU member states and for migrants from developing countries, who often entered and stayed in an irregular situation.<sup>12</sup> In Europe as a whole, the number of international migrants rose by 4.1 million in the 1980s, reaching 26.3 million in 1990 (Table 23.1).<sup>13</sup>

Inflows to Europe increased and diversified in the mid-1980s, when the Communist regimes in some former East European countries<sup>14</sup> began to loosen their grip on travel abroad, or became more lenient towards the emigration of certain ethnic groups (e.g. Jews or ethnic Germans). Germany, in particular, registered major increases in the net intake of migrants from the former Soviet Union, mainly *Aussiedler* or ethnic Germans, who had the right to German citizenship upon entry into Germany. Most *Aussiedler* originated in Kazakhstan, Poland and the Russian Federation. During 1985-1989, Germany added an annual average of 284,000 persons through the return of "ethnic Germans" who obtained citizenship after their return, and migrants from Eastern Europe; by 1990-1994, that number had risen to about half a million (Zlotnik, 1998). By the late 1990s, the net inflow from these countries dropped again to about 280,000 persons annually, as the number of ethnic Germans abroad declined and the government took measures to slow the inflow. Other ethnic flows of relative importance were Greeks from

11. See footnote 5 for a list of the countries covered.

12. In Italy, for instance, the number of foreigners increased from 183,000 in 1980 to 781,000 in 1990, while in Spain the increase in foreigners occurred mostly in the 1990s, rising from 279,000 in 1990 to 1.1 million in 2001.

13. Compare these with the generally higher figures presented in the chapter on "Migrants in an Enlarged Europe", which uses censuses and other sources to estimate the number of international migrants.

14. See footnote 5 for a listing of the countries covered under Eastern Europe.

Albania and the successor states of the former Soviet Union, Hungarians from Romania and Slovakia (some from Serbian Vojvodina) and, above all, ethnic Russians after the republics they lived in became independent.

In addition, between 1990 and 2000, western Europe received more than 2 million asylum applications from citizens of the former Eastern bloc countries. The disintegration of former Yugoslavia – the war in Croatia in 1991 and the confrontation that began in Bosnia and Herzegovina in 1992, in particular – generated outflows of almost half a million persons a year between 1990 and 1994 (UN, 2002). Although refugee status was granted to only a small number of applicants, many were allowed to stay for humanitarian reasons.

But flows of asylum seekers had become controversial as the main armed conflicts subsided and the reasons for admitting large numbers waned. Although most EU member states had tightened their asylum regulations by the mid-1990s, countries like Belgium, France, the Netherlands, Sweden and the UK experienced increases in asylum applications in the late 1990s that continued until the early part of the 21<sup>st</sup> century because of ongoing conflicts in Afghanistan, Western Asia and parts of sub-Saharan Africa. These trends, together with developments in the former Soviet Union, significantly increased the proportion of refugees among international migrants in Europe and the former Soviet Union from 2.3 per cent in 1990 to 3.9 per cent in 2000 (Table 23.5).

As a result of these developments and the improved economic climate in most western European countries in the late 1990s, the number of international migrants on the continent rose by 6.5 million in the 1990s and reached 32.8 million by 2000. Increases occurred not only in terms of the foreign-born population, but also in respect of those who remained foreigners (i.e. non-citizens) in their countries of residence. Increases in the number of foreigners were

particularly marked after 1990, especially in countries that had not been major importers of labour in the 1960s. Between 1990 and 2000 the stock of non-citizens more than doubled in Finland, Ireland, Italy, Portugal and Spain. Increases of at least 50 per cent were observed in Austria, Denmark, Luxembourg and the UK. In contrast, the stock of foreigners remained unchanged or declined in Belgium, France, the Netherlands and Sweden (UN, 2004).

In all these countries, both return migration and naturalization contributed to this trend. In Germany, the country with the largest number of foreigners in Europe, the growth of foreign stock depends not only on international migration but also on natural increase, because persons born in Germany did not have the right to German citizenship before the adoption of a new nationality law in 2000.<sup>15</sup> Between 1995 and 2001, about one million foreigners acquired German citizenship through naturalization, and 1.4 million naturalizations were registered in France between 1990 and 2001. Thus, both the reduction of foreign stock in France and its modest growth in Germany owe much to the large number of naturalizations that took place in the 1990s.

There have also been significant changes in the countries of origin of international migrants in Europe. One way of assessing these is to consider the countries of citizenship of the majority of foreigners in each of the major receiving countries. For example, in the period 1980 to 2001, the number of Poles in 16 major European receiving countries<sup>16</sup> tripled, the Moroccans rose by 74 per cent, and British citizens, Turks and citizens from the successor states of former Yugoslavia increased by about 40 per cent each. In contrast, very small increases or even reductions were evident among the expatriate populations of Greeks, Italians, Portuguese or Spaniards, nationalities that in the 1960s and 1970s accounted for the bulk of migrant workers in other European countries. Little change was also observed in the number of Algerian and US citizens (*ibid*).

15. Under the 2000 law, naturalization is possible after a period of 8 years of continuous legal residence compared to 15 years prior to 1 January 2000.

16. Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, UK.

Also in the period 1980 to 2001, the sum of all the major nationalities of origin accounted for a decreasing proportion of the total foreign population in Western Europe, implying that there is an increasing diversification of the origins of migrants to those countries. More detailed information suggests that the numbers of migrants from Brazil, China, the Dominican Republic, Peru, Senegal, Sri Lanka and Romania have been rising (ibid).

Despite the growing diversification of sources of international migrants, there has not been a comparable diversification of destinations. OECD shows that in 2000 virtually all Algerian migrants were in France, while most Greeks, Poles and Turks were in Germany. There is somewhat greater diversification in the European destinations of migrants from Italy, Morocco, Portugal, Spain, former Yugoslavia or the US. Yet over half of all Portuguese migrants and 45 per cent of all Moroccans were in France, and over 40 per cent of Italians and citizens from the successor states of former Yugoslavia were in Germany. Spaniards were somewhat more evenly distributed between France and Germany, as were citizens of the US between Germany and the UK (OECD, 2004). The tendency for nationalities to cluster in a few destinations reflects the strong migration – often historical – ties between countries and suggests that diversification needs time to evolve.

Although migration to most European countries continues to be restricted, foreign workers remain an important part of the labour force of many of those countries. Foreign workers constituted at least 5 per cent of the labour force in eight of the sixteen major European receiving countries in 2001 (OECD, 2004). Not surprisingly, in small Luxembourg, 61 per cent of the total labour force is foreign (although many of these are commuters from neighbouring countries), but in more populous Switzerland 18 per cent is foreign and in Austria 11 per cent. In virtually all countries with trend data, the proportion of the labour force comprising foreign workers increased between

1990 and 2000. That increase was particularly marked, in relative terms, among the newer countries of destination – Ireland, Italy, Norway, Portugal and Spain.

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## INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION FROM COUNTRIES WITH ECONOMIES IN TRANSITION

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**THE COMBINATION** of political instability, ethnic conflict, economic hardship and the opening of borders following the end of communist rule in the former eastern bloc and Soviet Union prompted a new wave of international migration, both among the affected countries and from there to the West. Emigration from the former had begun to rise in the 1980s, but reached unprecedented levels during 1990–1994, when over one million persons migrated to the “Western bloc” destinations. International migration among the countries of Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union was even higher and estimated at between 1.5 million and 2 million annually (UN, 2002). The disintegration of Czechoslovakia, the USSR and Yugoslavia contributed to this increase, as persons belonging to some of the newly independent states, but residing in others, repatriated. These movements were often fuelled by rising ethnic tensions, especially in former Yugoslavia and some of the successor states of the Soviet Union. The ensuing protracted conflicts, particularly in former Yugoslavia, caused massive population displacements.

Aside from the emigration of ethnic Germans to Germany, Pontian Greeks to Greece and Jews to Israel and the US, most migrants originating in the successor states of the former Soviet Union moved to other countries in that group, particularly to the Russian Federation. Thus, from 1992 to 1998, the Russian Federation received a net inflow of 3.7 million migrants from other members of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS)<sup>17</sup> and the Baltic States. Nearly 80 per cent of the migrants

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17. The Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) includes 12 of the 15 independent states which constituted the former Soviet Union. Western CIS refers to Belarus, Ukraine and Moldova. See also the sub-chapter “Migration in Eastern Europe and Central Asia”.

received by the Russian Federation during this period were ethnic Russians.

In the 1990s, certain countries in Eastern and Central Europe began attracting new types of migrants. For example, the Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland found themselves acting as countries of transit for migrants headed west or as destinations of short-term travellers often engaged in unauthorized economic activities, including trading. While mostly unrecorded, these movements appear to be an important source of income for the inhabitants of neighbouring countries (Okólski, 1998).

The enlargement of the EU through admission of ten new members on 1 May 2004 (Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia) has opened the possibility of freer flows of workers from East to West. Recent studies conclude that enlargement will likely have a moderate impact on migration flows within the EU, with the stronger effects being felt in those regions of Austria and Germany bordering the newly admitted states. Wages and employment are not expected to be much affected by the temporary increase in migration flows.<sup>18</sup> Nevertheless, accession treaties for the new member states include transitional clauses restricting the mobility of workers within the expanded EU; and requirements exacted from new members prior to their accession reduce the migration incentives for their nationals.

## THE TRADITIONAL COUNTRIES OF IMMIGRATION

**AUSTRALIA**, Canada, New Zealand and the US are among the few countries in the world admitting immigrants for permanent settlement. As expected, the number of immigrants in these four countries increased markedly during 1970-2000, rising from 15.9 million to 46.4 million. The US registered the

major increase of over 25 million migrants and a rise in its foreign-born population from 9.7 million to 35 million.<sup>19</sup> Canada registered a net gain of 2.6 million migrants during this period, Australia 2.2 million and New Zealand 0.4 million. By 2000, Canada was hosting 5.8 million foreign-born residents, Australia 4.7 million and New Zealand 0.8 million.

Immigration to these countries has been determined by their respective admission policies. In 1965, the US modified its admission system by eliminating the quotas by region of origin used until then and substituting selection criteria based mainly on family ties with US citizens or permanent US residents. In the 1970s, Australia and Canada followed suit, eliminating their selection systems based on national origins and adopting their respective versions of a "points system" for economic migrants, under which the different attributes of prospective immigrants are graded and weighted for admission. As a result of these changes, all three countries experienced a diversification of immigration flows. Yet, there are significant differences in the admission policies of each (Table 23.6). Although Australia and Canada, together with western Europe, registered fairly low immigration levels in 1975-1984, since 1985 their intake diverged significantly: in 2000-2002, immigration to Canada rose above the previously recorded levels to an annual average of 238,000 (i.e. above the planned range of 200,000 – 225,000, while the annual average intake of immigrants in Australia remained below 100,000 throughout the 1990s.

Trends in the US were different: between 1970 and 1995, the average annual number of immigrants admitted increased steadily. The slight decline recorded in 1995-2000 is due to delays in the processing of applications. During the 1990s, the US admitted an annual average of over 750,000 immigrants, and by the early 21st century that number had grown to nearly a million immigrants per year. The actual number of immigrants processed

18. See the chapter on "Migrants in an Enlarged Europe".

19. These numbers differ from those normally reported in US sources because they include the number of foreign-born persons enumerated in the US who were US citizens by birth (that is, children born abroad to US parents).

during the period 1989-1994 was higher than that listed in Table 23.6, because the table excludes the 2.7 million immigrants whose status was regularized as a result of the Immigration Reform and Control Act (IRCA) of 1986, 75 per cent of whom were Mexican. As a result of that regularization, the number of migrants in an irregular situation in the US declined from an estimated 4 million in 1986 to 2.5 million in 1989. However, irregular immigration appears to have continued unabated during the 1990s, especially as the US economy boomed. The number of unauthorized migrants in the US in January 2000 was estimated at 7 million,<sup>20</sup> 4.8 million of whom were Mexican (US Immigration and Naturalization Service, 2003).

In all three countries, immigrant flows have diversified in terms of origin. The proportion of immigrants from developing countries increased in all of them; especially in Australia, registering an increase from 20 per cent in 1970-1974 to 60 per cent in 1990-1994, and Canada, where a rise from 42 per cent to 78 per cent for the same time period was registered. In the US, migrants from developing countries already accounted for 70 per cent of the immigrant intake in 1970-1974. That proportion rose to 87 per cent in 1985-1989 and has remained close to 80 per cent since 1990. If regularized migrants were included in the statistics for the early 1990s, the proportion originating in developing countries would rise considerably.

There has been a tendency for the proportion of immigrants originating in the former Eastern bloc countries to increase in all three countries, but the rise occurred earlier in Canada (early 1980s) than in Australia or the US (1990s). In addition, in Australia the proportion of immigrants originating in developed countries rose after 1995.

Immigrants from Asia accounted for a growing share of the immigrant intake in all three countries of immigration, but particularly in Canada, where over half of the immigrants admitted since 1995 originated in Asia. In Australia, the highest relative levels of

Asian migration were recorded in 1990-1994, while in the US they occurred in 1980-1984 when important contingents of refugees from Indo-China were being resettled. Immigrants from Latin America and the Caribbean have generally constituted very high proportions of the immigrant admissions to the US. During the 1990s, they surpassed the share of Asian migrants, especially if the admissions resulting from the IRCA regularization are taken into account. Even in the absence of that regularization, Mexico would have been the major source of immigrants to the US since at least 1980.

There is considerable diversity in the countries of origin of immigrants to the countries of destination. However, Canada and the US have tended to have a more diversified immigrant intake than Australia. Among the immigrants admitted during 1990-1994, 26 countries accounted for three-quarters of those admitted by the US, 24 for those admitted by Canada and just 12 for those received by Australia. A major component of immigration to Australia is the free movement of citizens from neighbouring New Zealand and from other countries or areas in Oceania.

A common feature of the traditional countries of immigration is the importance of family ties in the selection of immigrants. Admissions on the basis of family reunification are, therefore, a major component of the immigrant intake in those countries. Nevertheless, as Table 23.7 shows, there are wide differences regarding the importance of family reunification among them. In the US, family reunification accounts for 70 per cent or more of total immigration, while its share in Canada is somewhat higher than 60 per cent and in Australia it is considerably below 50 per cent. Furthermore, a comparison with European countries indicates that Denmark, France and Sweden also admit around 60 per cent of their long-term migrants on the basis of family reunification. Because refugees also represent a high proportion of the migrant intake of those countries, the share of economically motivated

20. Other estimates have put the total number of unauthorized migrants in the US in 2000 at 8.5 million (Passel, 2001 and 2002). Today, that estimate has risen over 9 million (see also the chapter "Economist Costs and Benefits of International Labour Migration").

migration (the admission of workers) is relatively low, ranging from 2 per cent in Sweden to between 20 – 30 per cent in Denmark and France. The pattern of admissions is different in Switzerland and the UK, where the proportions of long-term immigrants admitted for work are high and the share of those admitted for family reunification is generally below 50 per cent. Furthermore, trends in these countries are similar to those in Australia, in that the share of family-based admissions has declined in favour of workers, mostly skilled immigrants. Thus, not only is there considerable variation among the traditional countries of immigration in the types of immigrants admitted, but the variability of circumstances resembles that found among European countries.

The admission of skilled workers is another area of convergence among receiving countries in the developed world. The numbers and percentages of persons formally admitted as skilled immigrants by the traditional countries of immigration have tended to increase between the early and the late 1990s, and similar trends have characterized admissions of skilled personnel in Sweden and the UK. By 2001, skilled immigrants and their family members constituted over half the immigrant intake in Australia, Canada and New Zealand, and nearly one-third of long-term immigrants admitted to the UK (Table 23.8). This trend appears to be continuing, indeed increasing.

Lastly, another means of having recourse to foreign skilled workers is by admitting them under temporary visas or permits. All traditional countries of immigration allow such temporary admission and, as shown in Table 23.9, they have admitted a growing number of skilled workers. Increases in the temporary admission of skilled persons are also evident in France and the UK. However, there are also striking differences among the admissions levels of various countries, with over half a million being reported in the US in 2000, over 100,000 each in Australia and the UK, slightly less than 100,000 in Canada and

nearly 50,000 in New Zealand. France, with less than 10,000, appears as an anomaly.

Although lack of comparability may be the cause of such diversity, it is clear that the temporary migration of skilled workers is very significant and a major contribution to the migration intake of the main receiving countries of the developed world.

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## LABOUR MIGRATION IN ASIA

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In 1970, Asia<sup>21</sup> accounted for 35 per cent of the world's migrant stock (Table 23.1). By 2000, that share had declined to 25 per cent, although Asia experienced a major increase in refugees from 2 million in 1970 to 9.8 million in 2000, and had seen the share of other international migrants increase from 26.1 million in 1970 to 33.9 million in 2000 (Table 23.5). In particular, international labour migration from and within Asia expanded rapidly from 1970 onwards. Following the sharp increase in the oil price in 1973, the oil-producing countries of Western Asia accelerated the intake of foreign workers, initially for the construction of needed infrastructure. The migrant stock in the six member states of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC: Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates) rose from an estimated 1 million in 1970 to 4 million in 1980, and to 9.6 million in 2000, of which 5.3 million resided in Saudi Arabia (Table 23.10). It is estimated that by 2000 international migrants constituted 38 per cent of the population in Bahrain, 49 per cent in Kuwait, 26 per cent in Oman, 70 per cent in Qatar, 24 per cent in Saudi Arabia and 68 per cent in the United Arab Emirates (UN, 2004). As migration increased, workers were recruited from more distant origins. While in the 1970s migrant workers had mostly been imported from other Arab countries, by the late 1970s they were being recruited from Bangladesh, India and Pakistan, and soon also from several East and Southeast Asian countries, especially the Republic of Korea, the

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21. Note that the United Nations uses a geographical delineation of regions of Asia where the Central Asian Republics are part of South-Central Asia; and the Caucasian countries of Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia plus the countries of the Middle East and the Gulf Cooperation Council are part of Western Asia.

Philippines and, later, Thailand, Sri Lanka and Indonesia.

Iraq's invasion of Kuwait in August 1990 had a significant effect on the foreign population in the GCC. During the first four months of the invasion, more than 2 million foreigners are estimated to have left Iraq, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia (Russell, 1992). Soon after the end of the war in 1991, foreign workers began to return to Kuwait and Saudi Arabia. However, changes in political alignments during the crisis led to the repatriation of important groups of foreigners, such as Jordanians, Palestinians and Yemenis, and to the recruitment of workers from Egypt and the main sending countries in East and Southeast Asia to fill the jobs vacated by those departing.

During the past 30 years, labour migration to the GCC countries evolved in terms of occupations and the participation of women. Once the construction of infrastructure was over, migrant workers began to move from the construction to the services sector. As part of the rising demand for service workers, women began to be recruited as migrant workers, mainly as domestic workers. Hence their numbers rose while the foreign labour force in the GCC countries remained primarily male. By the early 1990s, women constituted 25 per cent of the foreign labour force in Kuwait, 10 per cent in Oman and 9 per cent in Qatar (UN, 2003b, Table 23.10).

In the 1980s, sustained economic growth in Japan and the newly industrialized countries of East and Southeast Asia began to attract foreign workers from less prosperous countries in the region. Hong Kong and Singapore, which had long been importers of migrant workers, as well as Japan, Malaysia, the Republic of Korea and Taiwan, provided an alternative destination for unskilled workers from countries such as China, Indonesia, the Philippines or Thailand. As in other settings, migrant workers inserted themselves mostly in construction and certain manufacturing industries, such as the automotive industry in Japan or the electronics sector in the Republic of Korea or Taiwan. Labour migration within East and Southeast Asia involved a high

participation of women, who found employment mainly in the service sector, typically as domestic workers.

Japan deserves special attention because, until the early 1980s, it had achieved rapid economic growth without resorting to foreign workers. However, as Japanese workers became more affluent and shunned certain low-paying jobs, foreign workers flowed in to fill them. Between 1975 and 2001, the number of legally resident foreigners in Japan more than doubled from 750,000 to 1.8 million (OECD, 1990 and 2004). Increases in the number of foreigners of Japanese descent, originating mostly from Brazil and Peru, accounted for almost half the growth of migrant stock in Japan between 1985 and 1995. But a major part of that growth stemmed from the admission of citizens from other Asian countries as trainees or foreign students allowed to work part-time. In addition, by 2001 there were over 250,000 foreigners in an irregular situation in Japan (Japan, Ministry of Justice, 2001).

The Republic of Korea also began to experience labour shortages in certain sectors of the economy during the 1980s, thus becoming a magnet for both legal and undocumented migrant workers. By 1988, there were 45,000 foreigners in the Republic of Korea and the number of employment related visas issued in 1989 reached 162,000. By 2001, the number of foreign residents had more than quadrupled to 230,000, 129,000 of whom were in the labour force (OECD, 2004). In addition, Korean authorities estimated that the number of migrants in an irregular situation had risen from 65,500 in 1992 to 148,000 in 1997 (Uh, 1999) and, despite a reduction following the financial crisis of 1997, had continued to grow after 1999 to reach an estimated 255,000 in 2002. To control undocumented migration, a regularization drive was carried out in 2002, and the government undertook to deport all those who still remained in an irregular situation in 2003 (OECD, 2004).

Taiwan also had to resort to foreign labour to maintain its economic expansion. In 1991, it recruited 3,000 contract workers, all destined for the

construction industry. By 1993, the number of admitted contract workers had risen to 98,000, 74 per cent employed in the manufacturing industry. The number of contract workers admitted annually increased steadily, reaching 316,000 in 2000, with 58 per cent working in manufacturing, 12 per cent in construction and 30 per cent, mostly women, in health and domestic services. In 2000, the major countries of origin of contract workers were Thailand (46%), the Philippines (36%) and Indonesia (17%). Most of the workers in the service sector were Filipino (Tsay, 2000; Tsay and Lin, 2001).

Malaysia has a long history of reliance on foreign workers, mostly from neighbouring Indonesia, to work in the plantations. By 1993, the total foreign workforce in Malaysia was estimated at 1.2 million, constituting about 15 per cent of the total labour force in the country (Lim, 1996). During the 1997 Asian financial crisis, many undocumented Indonesian workers had to return home. Nevertheless, the migrant population in Malaysia is estimated to have reached nearly 1.4 million in 2000. As a result of the financial crisis, several receiving countries in the region introduced measures to restrict the admission of foreign workers; but, as in Malaysia, the constraining effect of the crisis on the flows of workers to these countries was only temporary (UN, 2003b).

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## INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION IN AFRICA

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**DURING** 1970-2000, Africa was host to the second-largest share of all international migrants in the developing world, after Asia; but this has since declined. In 1970, its share of 9.9 million constituted 12 per cent of the world's international migrants, but by 2000 that share had changed to 16.3 million international migrants, or just 9 per cent of the global migrant stock (Table 23.1). One consistent characteristic of international migration in Africa has been the high proportion of refugees. Already in 1970, the one million refugees in Africa accounted for 10 per cent of the continent's total migrant stock (Table 23.5). In 1990, when the number of refugees in Africa

reached a high of 5.4 million, they represented 33 per cent of all international migrants in the region. By 2000, the number and share of refugees had declined to 3.6 million and 22 per cent, respectively, largely as a result of voluntary repatriations made possible during the late 1990s by the resolution of long-standing conflicts. Nevertheless, political instability and conflicts still affect many African countries, and the forces generating refugees and forced migration in general are not expected to subside in the region in the near future.

Although movements of refugees have been an important aspect of international migration in Africa, other types of migration have accounted for the bulk of international migrants in the region but, as Table 23.5 shows, the numbers changed slowly during 1970-1990 from 8.9 million to 10.9 million. A more important increase took place during 1990-2000, when the number of non-refugee international migrants in Africa rose by nearly 2 million to 12.7 million in 2000.

International migration originating in certain parts of Africa has mostly been oriented to other world regions. Thus, migrants from North Africa have tended to go to Europe and the oil-producing countries of the GCC. Within the region, Egyptians and Tunisians have worked, over different periods, in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, but fluctuations in international relations among the countries involved have prompted major return flows at different times.

In West Africa, migration has been largely shaped by agricultural workers, including seasonal workers, moving from the landlocked countries bordering the Sahel to those bordering the coast. A major receiving country, Côte d'Ivoire has attracted migrants from surrounding countries, especially Burkina Faso and Mali, to work in its cocoa and coffee plantations or as domestic workers. According to censuses, the foreign population in Côte d'Ivoire increased from nearly 1.5 million in 1975 to 3 million in 1988 and to 4 million in 1996. However, deteriorating economic conditions in the 1990s caused significant return migration to the countries of origin (CERPOD, 1995). Also in the

late 1990s, the government of Côte d'Ivoire adopted measures to disenfranchise migrants and deport those in an irregular situation. These measures, together with the waves of violence against foreigners in the early 2000s and the political unrest begun in 2002, have led to major return flows. By 2000, Burkina Faso had become a major receiver of international migrants, largely because of the return of its foreign-born citizens.

Other countries in West Africa host substantial numbers of international migrants. Among them, Ghana and Nigeria were poles of attraction in the 1960s and 1970s, respectively, but, as their economic situation deteriorated, both resorted to mass expulsions of international migrants in an irregular situation. Ghana did so in 1969 and Nigeria in 1983 (UN, 1985). Recent information on the number of international migrants in those countries is lacking; however, Ghana is estimated to have had about 600,000 foreign-born persons in 2000 and Nigeria about 750,000 (UN, 2004).

Gabon, a country rich in natural resources, hosted more than 100,000 international migrants in the early 1990s, but stringent laws enacted in 1995 requiring foreigners to pay residence fees led to the expulsion of more than half of those migrants (IOM, 2000).

In South Africa, the mining industry used to rely heavily on migrant workers from neighbouring countries, recruiting an annual average of 308,000 in the early 1970s; but this dropped to around 200,000 in the 1980s and early 1990s (South Africa, Chamber of Mines, 1987 and 1993). This reflected both a decision by South Africa to cut its dependence on migrant workers, and restrictions on emigration imposed by some countries of origin. South Africa also attracted white settlers from a variety of origins; yet, according to census information, its foreign-born population declined from 1.9 million in 1985 to 1.2 million in 1991. Recent evidence suggests that the inflow of migrants may have increased after the end of apartheid in 1994. The strictly regulated migration of workers for specific industries is now accompanied by substantial irregular migration of unskilled

workers, and the authorized inflow of skilled professionals. The number of migrants in an irregular situation is claimed to be very high. A 1997 estimate put the figure at between 3 and 5 million (South Africa, Ministry of Home Affairs, 1999).

Migration among African countries is perhaps the least well documented in the developing world. The rapidity with which some movements start or reverse themselves implies that they are seldom reflected properly in censuses. Furthermore, recent censuses have not been producing as much data on the foreign-born population as earlier ones. Hence, recent trends in the migrant stock of African countries are often only a matter of conjecture. Nevertheless, they suggest that the 1990s witnessed a modest increase in the international mobility of Africans within the continent.

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## INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

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**IN CONTRAST** to Africa, most countries in Latin America and the Caribbean have relatively comprehensive data on the foreign-born population derived from censuses. Hence, the finding that the number of international migrants in the region declined from 7 million to 5.9 million during 1990–2000 bears highlighting (Table 23.2). This drop is largely the result of the successful repatriation of refugees in Central America in the early 1990s. As Table 23.5 indicates, the 1.2 million refugees reported by Latin American countries in 1990 had disappeared by 2000. Excluding refugees, the stock of international migrants in the region has changed minimally since 1980, oscillating between 5.8 million and 6 million.

International migration in the Americas is dominated by flows to the US and, to a lesser extent, Canada. Migration between Latin American countries is low in comparison. Mexico dominates the flows to the US. In 1964, when the *Bracero* programme came to an end, the US admitted about 40,000 Mexican immigrants annually. In the late 1980s, that number had risen to

73,000, even without the Mexicans legalized under IRCA. By the late 1990s, annual legal immigration to the US from Mexico averaged 139,000 persons per year, again excluding IRCA legalizations. In addition, over 2 million Mexicans became legal immigrants as a result of IRCA. According to US censuses, the Mexican-born population in the US increased from 750,000 in 1970 to 4.3 million in 1990, and to nearly 10 million in 2000 (US Census Bureau, 2001). Despite the substantial legal immigration from Mexico, it is estimated that about half the Mexican-born population in the US in 2000 (4.8 million) was in an irregular situation (US Immigration and Naturalization Service, 2003). Despite the hope that the 1994 North American Free Trade Agreement might result in lower emigration from Mexico to the US, the flows have increased.

In Central America the conflicts and other socio-political disruptions affecting several countries during the 1980s led to major outflows of displaced persons and refugees, and a sharp increase in the number of international migrants in the region from 0.6 million in 1980 to 1.9 million in 1990 (UN, 2004). During that decade, the number of international migrants in Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico rose by 1.2 million. The resolution of conflicts in the 1990s prompted the voluntary repatriation of a large number of persons, particularly to El Salvador, Guatemala and Nicaragua. As a result, the migrant stock in the four major receiving countries of the region declined by 0.7 million during 1990-2000. By 2000, Central America had 1.1 million international migrants, with over half a million in Mexico and more than 300,000 in Costa Rica. The main countries of origin in the region remained El Salvador, Guatemala and Nicaragua (Villa and Pizarro, 2001).

In South America, Argentina and Venezuela were important countries of immigration in the early 20th century, and were poles of attraction for migrant workers from neighbouring countries. While Argentina has been the main destination for migrants from the southern cone, particularly from Bolivia and Paraguay, but also from Brazil, Chile and Uruguay, Venezuela attracted migrants from the Andean region,

especially neighbouring Colombia during the 1970s oil boom. However, in the late 1980s and the 1990s, the return to Europe of former European immigrants and their descendants led to a reduction in the foreign-born population in both countries.

In the Caribbean, the small populations of the countries or areas in the region, coupled with long traditions of international mobility, imply that migration has had a considerable impact on their population composition. In half the Caribbean countries or areas, international migrants constitute more than 10 per cent of the population, and more than a third in Aruba, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands and the US Virgin Islands (UN, 2004). The majority of migrants in the Caribbean originate in other Caribbean countries (Villa and Pizarro, 2001). Emigration from the Caribbean is also important, with most of it directed to the US, especially from Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Jamaica and Haiti. In 2000, there were 873,000 Cuban-born persons in the US, 688,000 born in the Dominican Republic, 553,000 from Jamaica and 419,000 from Haiti.

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## CONCLUSION

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**OVER THE COURSE** of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, population mobility increased markedly, and a large part of that increase occurred in the last decades of the century. As this chapter has shown, one measure of international mobility, the stock of international migrants, rose from 82 million in 1970 to 175 million in 2000, more than doubling over the course of thirty years. Yet, a major contributor to that increase was not population mobility per se, but rather the emergence of newly independent states after the disintegration of the Soviet Union. Without this, the number of international migrants in 2000 would have been some 27 million lower, and the rate of increase in their numbers during the latter part of the century would not have been as pronounced.

The data presented also show that the number of international migrants did not grow at the same rate

in every region of the world. Even without the effect of the break-up of the Soviet Union, the growth rate of the stock of international migrants was more rapid in the developed than in the developing regions. In fact, estimates for the 1990s indicate that the number of international migrants in developing countries as a whole hardly changed.

Regarding the participation of women in international migration, current estimates show that 48.6 per cent of all international migrants are female, a slight increase over the 47.2 per cent estimated in 1970. Thus, the participation of women in international migration has been high for a long time, especially when directed to developed countries. In fact, available estimates indicate that the female share of the international migrant stock declined somewhat in the developing world from 45.7 per cent in 1970 to 44.6 per cent in 2000. Increases in the female share of international migration are therefore neither uniform nor universal, and are small compared to the high proportion of females estimated in the 1970s. This perspective belies the claim that international migration is becoming increasingly feminized. While it is true that the participation of women in certain types of flows, and from certain countries, has risen, the main finding is that, already by 1970 overall female migration had nearly reached parity with male migration.

The late 20th century did witness some key changes in international migration trends, though they are not as dramatic as often portrayed. For one, the steady and rapid increase in the number of international migrants in the developed world has led to a greater concentration of international migrants in developed countries. The US, in particular, now accounts for one in every five international migrants in the world. Most of the international migrants remain concentrated in a few countries (28 at last count) and, while that number has been growing, it has done so slowly.

International migrants do represent a high proportion (a quarter or more) of the population of an increasing number of countries or areas, but most of these have small populations (under 8 million in 2000) and have had high proportions of international migrants since

the 1970s. There are, however, some important shifts in the major poles of attraction within some regions. Perhaps the most significant was the transformation of the rapidly industrializing countries of East and Southeast Asia into destinations for migrant workers in the late 1980s and the 1990s. A number of these had themselves been important sources of emigrants just a decade before. In fact, some, for instance Malaysia or the Republic of Korea, experience both significant outflows of citizens and inflows of foreign workers, and in this regard are similar to a number of European countries that since the 1970s, have been registering net losses of citizens and net gains of foreigners.

International migration has never been a one-way street, although the general lack of data on emigration often leads to the false assumption that countries receiving migrants are not themselves also the origin of migrant outflows. Even the US, the major attraction pole in the world, is estimated to lose 200,000 emigrants annually, and there are significant populations of American expatriates in a number of European countries and elsewhere.

The transformation of flows in Europe should also be underscored. During the 1980s, the former labour-sending countries of southern Europe, especially those newly admitted to the EU, became key destinations for international migrants seeking employment. In addition, East-West migration flows increased with the changes in former communist countries, and became a major part of the migrant intake of a number of western countries, especially after the disintegration of the Soviet Union or former Yugoslavia. Family reunification of refugees and migrants became a significant part of migrant inflows to western Europe. Concomitantly, the opening of borders among former “Eastern bloc” countries and the break-up of the Soviet Union caused movements among those countries, driven in part by the “un-mixing” of nationalities as certain ethnic groups sought to return to their republics of origin.

In the 1990s, developed countries either commenced or redoubled efforts to attract temporary skilled

workers from abroad to satisfy the demand in particular sectors of their economies. Consequently, temporary admissions of workers grew in number both in the traditional countries of immigration, such as Australia and the US, and in a number of European countries. This has led to some diversification of major source countries of migrants to the main receiving countries in the developed world.

In the developing world, especially Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean, migration to destinations outside the region is more voluminous than that occurring within the region. The reduction in refugees during the 1990s led to the slow growth in international migrants in Africa and their decline in Latin America. In both regions, some of the earlier important poles of attraction have themselves been experiencing economic or political difficulties, that resulted in sizeable return flows of former migrants or the outright emigration of their citizens.

Clearly, international migration evolves as the economic, social and political situation of countries changes. With more independent states, the possibilities for international migration increase. Furthermore, because there continue to be wide economic disparities among countries, there is ample room for population movements to respond to the opportunities available in the better-off countries, be they in developed or the more prosperous developing countries. Differences in demographic dynamics also play a part, as the better-off countries tend to be those where fertility rates are lower and population ageing is accelerating. International migration is already helping to prevent or slow down the population decline in a number of countries in the developed world, and it is expected to continue to play that role in the future (Tables 23.11 and 23.12).

TABLE 23.1

**EVOLUTION OF THE NUMBER OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRANTS IN THE WORLD AND MAJOR AREAS, AND SELECTED INDICATORS REGARDING THE STOCK OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRANTS, 1970-2000**

Major area	Number of international migrants (millions)				Average annual rate of growth of the number of international migrants (percentage)			International migrants as a percentage of the population		Percentage distribution of international migrants by region	
	1970	1980	1990	2000	1970-1980	1980-1990	1990-2000	1970	2000	1970	2000
World	81,5	99,8	154,0	174,9	2,0	4,3	1,3	2,2	2,9	100,0	100,0
Developed countries	38,3	47,7	89,7	110,3	2,2	6,3	2,1	3,6	8,7	47,0	63,1
Developed countries excluding USSR	35,2	44,5	59,3	80,8	2,3	2,9	3,0	4,3	8,3	43,2	46,2
Developing countries	43,2	52,1	64,3	64,6	1,8	2,1	0,0	1,6	1,3	53,0	36,9
Africa	9,9	14,1	16,2	16,3	3,6	1,4	0,0	2,8	2,0	12,1	9,3
Asia <sup>a</sup>	28,1	32,3	41,8	43,8	1,4	2,6	0,5	1,3	1,2	34,5	25,0
Latin America and the Caribbean	5,8	6,1	7,0	5,9	0,7	1,3	-1,7	2,0	1,1	7,1	3,4
Northern America	13,0	18,1	27,6	40,8	3,3	4,2	3,9	5,6	12,9	15,9	23,3
Oceania	3,0	3,8	4,8	5,8	2,1	2,3	2,1	15,6	18,8	3,7	3,3
Europe <sup>b</sup>	18,7	22,2	26,3	32,8	1,7	1,7	2,2	4,1	6,4	22,9	18,7
USSR (former)	3,1	3,3	30,3	29,5	0,5	22,3	-0,3	1,3	10,2	3,8	16,8

a. Excluding Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

b. Excluding Belarus, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, the Republic of Moldova, the Russian Federation and Ukraine.

Source: United Nations, *Trends in Total Migrant Stock: The 2003 Revision* (POP/DB/MIG/2003/1 and ESA/P/WP.188), data in digital form.

TABLE 23.2

**PROPORTION FEMALE AMONG THE STOCK OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRANTS BY MAJOR AREA, 1970 AND 2000**

Major area	1970	2000
World	47,2	48,6
Developed countries	49,0	51,0
Developed countries excluding USSR	49,0	50,6
Developing countries	45,7	44,6
Africa	42,7	46,7
Asia <sup>a</sup>	46,6	43,3
Latin America and the Caribbean	46,8	50,2
Northern America	51,1	50,3
Oceania	46,5	50,5
Europe <sup>b</sup>	48,0	51,0
USSR (Former)	48,0	52,1

a. Excluding Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

b. Excluding Belarus, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, the Republic of Moldova, the Russian Federation and Ukraine.

Source:

United Nations, *Trends in Total Migrant Stock: The 2003 Revision* (POP/DB/MIG/2003/1 and ESA/P/WP.188), data in digital form.

TABLE 23.3

## COUNTRIES HOSTING THE LARGEST NUMBER OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRANTS, 1970 AND 2000

Rank	Country or area	1970			Rank	Country or area	2000		
		Migrant stock (millions)	Percentage of the world's migrant stock	Cumulated percentage			Migrant stock (millions)	Percentage of the world's migrant stock	Cumulated percentage
1	United States	9,7	11,9	11,9	1	United States	35,0	20,0	20,0
2	India	9,1	11,2	23,1	2	Russian Federation	13,3	7,6	27,6
3	France	5,2	6,4	29,5	3	Germany	7,3	4,2	31,8
4	Pakistan	5,1	6,3	35,8	4	Ukraine	6,9	4,0	35,8
5	Canada	3,3	4,0	39,8	5	France	6,3	3,6	39,4
6	USSR (former)	3,1	3,8	43,6	6	India	6,3	3,6	43,0
7	United Kingdom	2,9	3,6	47,2	7	Canada	5,8	3,3	46,3
8	Germany	2,6	3,2	50,4	8	Saudi Arabia	5,3	3,0	49,3
9	Australia	2,5	3,0	53,4	9	Australia	4,7	2,7	52,0
10	Argentina	2,3	2,8	56,2	10	Pakistan	4,2	2,4	54,4
11	Poland	2,1	2,6	58,8	11	United Kingdom	4,0	2,3	56,7
12	China, Hong Kong SAR	1,7	2,1	60,9	12	Kazakhstan	3,0	1,7	58,4
13	Dem. Rep. of the Congo	1,4	1,7	62,6	13	China, Hong Kong SAR	2,7	1,5	59,9
14	Israel	1,4	1,7	64,3	14	Côte d'Ivoire	2,3	1,3	61,2
15	Brazil	1,3	1,6	65,9	15	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	2,3	1,3	62,5
16	Indonesia	1,2	1,4	67,3	16	Israel	2,3	1,3	63,8
17	Côte d' Ivoire	1,1	1,4	68,7	17	Poland	2,1	1,2	65,0
18	Switzerland	1,1	1,4	70,1	18	Jordan	1,9	1,1	66,1
19	South Africa	1,0	1,2	71,3	19	United Arab Emirates	1,9	1,1	67,2
20	Uganda	1,0	1,2	72,5	20	Switzerland	1,8	1,0	68,2
21	Italy	0,9	1,1	73,6	21	Occupied Palestinian Terr.	1,7	1,0	69,2
22	Occupied Palestinian Terr.	0,9	1,1	74,7	22	Italy	1,6	0,9	70,1
23	Sri Lanka	0,8	1,0	75,7	23	Japan	1,6	0,9	71,0
					24	Netherlands	1,6	0,9	71,9
					25	Turkey	1,5	0,9	72,8
					26	Argentina	1,4	0,8	73,6
					27	Malaysia	1,4	0,8	74,4
					28	Uzbekistan	1,4	0,8	75,2
	<b>World</b>	<b>81,5</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>100,0</b>		<b>World</b>	<b>174,9</b>	<b>100,0</b>	<b>100,0</b>

Source: United Nations, Trends in Total Migrant Stock: The 2003 Revision (POP/DB/MIG/2003/1 and ESA/IMP/189), data in digital form.

TABLE 23.4

## CONTRIBUTION OF NET INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION TO POPULATION GROWTH OR DECREASE, 1970-1975 AND 1995-2000

Major area	1970-1975			1995-2000				
	Net migration rate (per 1,000)	Rate of natural increase (per 1,000)	Population growth rate (per 1,000)	Net migration as percentage of natural increase	Net migration rate (per 1,000)	Rate of natural increase (per 1,000)	Population growth rate (per 1,000)	Net migration as percentage of natural increase
More developed regions	1,0	6,8	7,8	14,7	2,2	1,2	3,4	183,3
Less developed regions	-0,4	24,0	23,6	-1,7	-0,6	16,7	16,1	-3,3
Africa	-1,2	27,8	26,6	-4,3	-0,5	24,0	23,5	-2,1
Asia	-0,1	33,9	33,8	-0,3	-0,4	14,5	14,1	-2,8
Latin America and the Caribbean	-1,1	36,5	35,4	-3,0	-1,2	16,8	15,6	-7,1
Northern America	3,0	6,7	9,7	44,8	4,6	6,1	10,7	75,4
Europe	0,3	5,6	5,9	5,4	1,4	-1,2	0,2	..
Oceania	6,4	14,3	20,7	44,8	3,0	11,1	14,1	27,0

## Source:

World Population Prospects: The 2002 Revision, Volume I: Comprehensive Tables, United Nations publications, Sales No. E.03.XIII.6, 2003.

TABLE 23.5

**ESTIMATES NUMBER OF REFUGEES AND OF OTHER INTERNATIONAL MIGRANTS BY MAJOR AREA, 1970 TO 2000**

Major area of asylum	Number of international migrants excluding refugees (millions)				Number of refugees (millions)				Percentage of refugees			
	1970	1980	1990	2000	1970	1980	1990	2000	1970	1980	1990	2000
World	77,2	90,2	135,0	158,3	4,3	9,5	19,0	16,6	5,3	9,6	12,3	9,5
Developed countries	37,1	46,2	87,6	107,1	1,2	1,5	2,0	3,2	3,1	3,1	2,2	2,9
Developing countries	40,1	44,0	47,4	51,2	3,1	8,1	17,0	13,5	7,3	15,5	26,4	20,8
Africa	8,9	10,5	10,9	12,7	1,0	3,6	5,4	3,6	10,1	25,6	33,0	22,0
Asia	26,1	28,0	31,3	33,9	2,0	4,3	10,4	9,8	7,1	13,3	25,0	22,5
Under UNHCR	..	..	..	..	0,2	2,0	7,4	5,1	0,6	6,1	17,7	11,6
Under UNRWA	..	..	..	..	1,9	2,3	3,1	4,8	6,6	7,2	7,3	10,9
Latin America and the Caribbean	5,6	6,0	5,8	5,9	0,1	0,1	1,2	0,0	1,9	2,4	17,1	0,8
Northern America	12,5	17,4	27,0	40,2	0,5	0,6	0,6	0,6	4,0	3,6	2,1	1,6
Oceania	3,0	3,4	4,6	5,8	0,0	0,3	0,1	0,1	1,5	8,4	2,3	1,1
Europe and former USSR	21,2	24,9	55,4	59,8	0,6	0,5	1,3	2,4	2,9	2,1	2,3	3,9

Source: United Nations, *Trends in Total Migrant Stock: The 2003 Revision* (POP/DB/MIG/2003/1 and ESA/P/WP.188), data in digital form.

TABLE 23.6

**AVERAGE ANNUAL NUMBER OF ADMISSIONS OF IMMIGRANTS TO AUSTRALIA, CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES AND DISTRIBUTION BY REGION OF ORIGIN, 1970-2001**

Receiving country	1970-1974	1975-1979	1980-1984	1985-1989	1990-1994	1995-1999	2000-2002
Average annual number of immigrants (thousands)							
Australia	142	71	95	115	99	87	92
Canada	159	130	114	138	236	204	236
United States	385	462	565	606	770	746	993
Percentage from developing countries							
Australia	20	41	39	53	60	55	53
Canada	42	56	62	71	78	78	78
United States	70	81	85	87	79	82	81
Percentage from economies in transition							
Australia	12	5	7	5	7	9	6
Canada	5	5	9	10	11	12	12
United States	5	3	4	4	11	11	11
Percentage from developed countries							
Australia	69	55	53	42	32	36	41
Canada	52	40	29	19	11	10	10
United States	25	19	11	10	10	7	8
Percentage from Asia							
Australia	12	29	31	41	51	43	40
Canada	22	32	44	40	49	54	54
United States	29	37	45	43	41	33	30
Percentage from Latin America and the Caribbean							
Canada	15	17	13	16	13	8	8
United States	40	41	35	40	35	42	42

Sources: United Nations, *South-to-North International Migration* (POP/1B/MIG/2001/1), data in digital form. OECD, *Trends in International Migration. SOPEMI 2003*. Annual Report. 2003 Edition. Paris: OECD. United States Department of Homeland Security, Office of Immigration Statistics. *2002 Yearbook of Immigration Statistics*.

TABLE 23.7

**COMPARISON OF THE COMPOSITION OF IMMIGRANT OR LONG-TERM MIGRANT ADMISSIONS BY CATEGORY, SELECTED DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, 1991 AND 2001**

Receiving country	Workers		Family reunification		Refugees	
	1991	2001	1991	2001	1991	2001
Australia	45	55	47	33	8	12
Canada	18	26	64	62	18	12
United States	10	19	75	70	15	11
Denmark	20	22	60	53	20	25
France	27	20	58	69	15	11
Sweden	2	2	62	65	36	33
Switzerland	47	55	51	42	2	3
United Kingdom	49	54	42	35	9	11

**Sources:**

OECD, *Trends in International Migration: SOPEMI. Annual Reports 1998 and 2003*, Chart I.2.

TABLE 23.8

**NUMBER OF IMMIGRANTS IN THE SKILLED CATEGORIES OF SELECTED COUNTRIES, 1991, 1999 AND 2001**

Country	Number of immigrants in skilled category (thousands)			As percentage of total immigrants		
	1991	1999	2001 <sup>d</sup>	1991	1999	2001 <sup>d</sup>
Australia <sup>a</sup>	41	35	54	37	42	60
Canada <sup>b</sup>	41	81	137	18	47	55
New Zealand	..	13	36	..	47	68
United States <sup>c</sup>	12	57	175	18	22	17
Sweden	0	3	4	6	8	10
United Kingdom	4	32	40	7	33	32

a. The skilled category includes family members with certain professional qualifications and linguistic aptitudes

b. The skilled-worker category includes assisted relatives who are not point-tested.

c. Employment-based preferences category includes family members of skilled workers.

d. The data for the United States refer to 2002.

**Sources:**

OECD, *Trends in International Migration. SOPEMI. Annual Reports 1992, 2001 and 2004*; OECD, *International Mobility of the Highly-Skilled*. United States Department of Justice, Immigration and Naturalization Service, *Statistical Yearbook of the Immigration and Naturalization Service*, 1991 and 1999. United States Department of Homeland Security, *2002 Yearbook of Immigration Statistics*.

TABLE 23.9

**NUMBER OF TEMPORARY WORKERS ADMITTED UNDER THE SKILLED-BASED CATEGORIES (THOUSANDS)**

Country	1992	1997	1998	1999	2000
Australia	41	82	93	100	116
Canada	70	75	80	85	94
New Zealand	..	27	30	39	48
United States <sup>a</sup>	143	..	343	423	505
France	5	5	4	6	8
United Kingdom	54	80	89	98	124

a. The statistics reflect the number of admissions under H-1B visas, not the number of persons. Double-counting is possible if a person enters the United States more than once during a fiscal year.

**Sources:**

OECD, *Trends in International Migration. SOPEMI. Annual Reports 1992, 2001 and 2004*; OECD, *International Mobility of the Highly-Skilled*. United States Department of Justice, Immigration and Naturalization Service, *Statistical Yearbook of the Immigration and Naturalization Service*, 1991 and 1999. United States Department of Homeland Security, *2002 Yearbook of Immigration Statistics*.

TABLE 23.10

**ESTIMATED NUMBER OF INTERNATIONAL MIGRANTS IN THE MEMBERS OF THE GULF COOPERATION COUNCIL, 1970-2000**

Country	1970	1980	1990	2000
Bahrain	38	103	173	254
Kuwait	468	964	1 560	1 108
Oman	40	180	450	682
Qatar	63	157	345	409
Saudi Arabia	303	1 804	4 220	5 255
United Arab Emirates	62	737	1 556	1 922
<b>Total</b>	<b>974</b>	<b>3 946</b>	<b>8 305</b>	<b>9 630</b>

**Sources:**

United Nations, *Trends in Total Migrant Stock: The 2003 Revision* (POP/DB/MIG/2003/1 and ESA/P/WP.188), data in digital form.

TABLE 23.11

**PROJECTED POPULATION WITH AND WITHOUT INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION BY REGION, 2000 AND 2050.**

Major area	Population in 2000 (millions)		Population in 2050 (millions)		2000-2050		Difference between medium and zero-migration variants	Migration effect as a percentage of natural increase <sup>a</sup>
	2000 (millions)	Medium variant	Zero-migration variant	Medium variant	Zero-migration variant	Zero-migration variant		
More developed regions	1 194	1 220	1 032	26	- 162	187	(116)	
Less developed regions	4 877	7 699	7 837	2 822	2 960	- 138	-5	
Africa	796	1 803	1 817	1 008	1 022	- 14	-1	
Asia	3 680	5 222	5 303	1 542	1 623	- 81	-5	
Latin America and the Caribbean	520	768	806	247	286	- 38	-13	
Northern America	316	448	314	132	- 2	134	(6763)	
Europe	728	632	589	- 96	- 139	43	(30)	
Oceania	31	46	40	15	9	6	67	

a. The figures in parenthesis represent the effect of migration in reducing negative natural increase.

Source: World Population Prospects: The 2002 Revision, Volume I: Comprehensive Tables, United Nations publications, Sales No. E.03.XIII.6, 2003.

TABLE 23.12

**PROJECTED POPULATION TO 2050 WITH AND WITHOUT MIGRATION FOR SELECTED COUNTRIES AND DEPENDENCY RATIOS WITH AND WITHOUT MIGRATION.**

Country or area	Population in 2000 (millions)		Population in 2050 (millions)		Dependency ratio (per 100)		Dependency ratio in 2050 (per 100)		Difference between medium and zero-migration variants	Difference between medium and zero-migration variants
	2000	Medium variant	2050	Zero-migration variant	1950	2000	Medium variant	Zero-migration variant		
United States of America	285	409	287	287	54	52	66	61	122	5
Germany	82	79	64	64	49	47	85	76	16	9
Canada	31	39	27	27	60	46	79	70	12	9
United Kingdom	59	66	54	54	49	54	72	65	12	7
Afghanistan	21	70	62	62	83	86	53	53	7	0
Australia	19	26	19	19	53	49	73	67	7	6
Saudi Arabia	22	55	50	50	83	73	49	47	4	2
Spain	41	37	33	33	52	46	100	93	4	7
Japan	127	110	106	106	68	47	101	98	4	2
France	59	64	61	61	52	53	73	73	4	0
Russian Federation	146	101	98	98	54	44	72	71	4	1
China, Hong Kong SAR	7	9	6	6	49	37	101	79	4	22
Italy	58	45	42	42	53	48	90	90	3	0
Netherlands	16	17	15	15	59	47	72	68	2	4
Kuwait	2	5	3	3	64	39	59	57	2	1

Source: World Population Prospects: The 2002 Revision, Volume I: Comprehensive Tables, United Nations publications, Sales No. E.03.XIII.6, 2003.



# CHAPTER 24

## IOM STATISTICS ON INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION<sup>1</sup>

### INTRODUCTION

IOM routinely collects statistics relating to its operational programmes and projects in over 165 countries. These cover a range of different migratory movements including the **repatriation** and **resettlement** of refugees, and the **returns** of such migrant categories as highly qualified persons, victims of trafficking, stranded transit migrants, internally displaced persons, unsuccessful asylum seekers, and soldiers as part of demobilization programmes.

Operational statistics are essentially collected for project development, evaluation and management purposes. They are useful for research, and also enable the Organization to report on its activities to Member States and donors. More recently, efforts have been made to improve data collection in order to assist IOM in policy analyses and to achieve a better understanding of both regular and irregular migratory flows.

IOM's statistics relate mainly to programmes rather than types of migratory flows. For example, some return programmes include different categories of returnees, such as temporary protected persons, unsuccessful asylum seekers and trafficked migrants, making it difficult to analyse individual types of return movements. Some programmes include both return and resettlement movements. The regular return and resettlement programmes developed by IOM in Western Europe at the end of the 1970s and the

early 1980s were designed to provide both kinds of assistance.

IOM data refer primarily to flows rather than stocks of migrants and refugees. Until recently, relatively little information has been collected on the post-arrival experiences of groups, such as returning migrants, and their ability to reintegrate. However, increased efforts are being undertaken to monitor the experiences of migrants returned by IOM, especially those belonging to vulnerable groups who may require special assistance.

IOM's statistical files cover all operations since the founding of the Organization in 1951 up to the end of 2003. Some 12.3 million people have been helped to move over that period. The electronic database contains statistics for IOM's movements from 1992 to date. During the ten-year period 1994–2003, covered in the overall movement statistics presented below, IOM assisted in moving nearly five million (4,942,255) individuals. More than three million people were assisted in **emergency** situations, and nearly two million under **standard** resettlement operations. Together, these five million represent 40 per cent of the total 12.3 million people assisted.

Emergency operations mainly respond to immediate needs for the rapid, safe and orderly evacuation of people, and relocation of refugees. This type of support is key to the effective implementation of humanitarian responses, either to manmade emergencies or natural disasters, and in instances where it is necessary to respond quickly to the plight

1. This chapter has been prepared by the Research Unit, MPRC Department, IOM Geneva.

of vulnerable populations. Emergency movement assistance is typically provided at embarkation, during movement and upon arrival. IOM and its UN and NGO partners deliver different types of logistical and movement assistance at these points.

Standard operations refer to movements carried out in more stable conditions, where IOM provides reliable transfer of individual migrants for resettlement, employment, studies or any other purposes of orderly migration. Most of IOM's standard operations include selection, processing, language training, orientation, medical examinations and other relevant activities to facilitate reintegration. Movement activities are designed and established on a bilateral basis with the governments, and with the help of migrants and supporting NGOs. Emergency and standard categories refer to the urgency of programmes and not to types of movements that are described in the following sections.

#### I. TYPES OF MOVEMENT COVERED BY IOM STATISTICS

**Resettlement.** IOM assists with the resettlement of persons accepted under regular immigration programmes through the processing of relevant documentation, performing medical screening and arranging safe, reliable and economical means of transportation. Of the 209,000 people assisted by IOM as part of its movement operations during 2003, more than 70,000 were resettled, about half of them to the USA. Other important countries of resettlement during that period were Canada, Australia, Denmark, Norway and Sweden. IOM statistics provide information on the socio-economic profile and the health status of persons being resettled.

#### **Emergency/Post-emergency Movement (Repatriation).**

One of the major programmes implemented by IOM is to organize and facilitate the repatriation of refugees and other groups, such as IDPs, during and after emergencies. IOM statistics relating to this form of assistance fall under two broad headings: "Repatriation of refugees" and "Post-emergency movement assistance". The first category refers to the voluntary repatriation of refugees organized in accordance with UNHCR's protection concerns and

procedures. The second category includes persons who may not be refugees, such as IDPs and soldiers involved in demobilization programmes.

**Assisted Voluntary Return.** IOM statistics distinguish a third major type of return programme, "Return Assistance to Migrants and Governments". IOM's regular ongoing return programmes, such as "Reintegration or Emigration of Asylum Seekers from Germany" (REAG) and "Reintegration or Emigration of Asylum Seekers from Belgium" (REAB) fall under this heading. Persons assisted under these programmes include a high proportion of unsuccessful asylum seekers, but also persons receiving "temporary protection".

**Migration Health.** The Migration Health Services (MHS) department of IOM specializes in the medical assessment and treatment of refugees and migrants. Though personal medical information is strictly confidential, IOM produces analyses of the non-personal health-related data that it collects. The majority of health assessments in the last years were conducted in eastern Europe and Central Asia, followed by south-eastern Europe, Southeast Asia, Africa and South Asia.

**Counter-trafficking.** It is widely accepted that it is extremely difficult to obtain reliable data on the scope and magnitude of migrant trafficking. Governments mainly rely on estimates that can vary widely. In recent years, IOM has expanded its counter-trafficking programmes and these provide a rare source of international data on trafficking based on information obtained directly from victims of trafficking assisted by IOM. IOM collects both qualitative and quantitative data on trafficking, such as the number of victims assisted, their country of origin, age, travel route, and how they were trafficked. Where available, information is also collected on the nationality and the methods used by the traffickers.

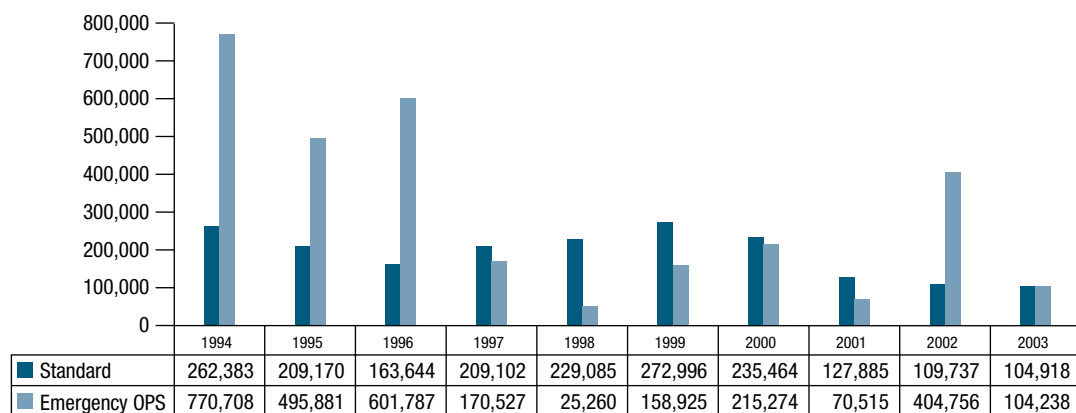
The **Graph 24.1** shows the annual numbers of individuals assisted by IOM under Standard or Emergency Operations during the ten-year period 1994-2003.

The significant peaks in emergency operations in 1994-96, shown best in the graph, relate to IOM's emergency operations in Africa, mainly movement assistance to displaced populations of hundreds of thousands of people following the genocide in Rwanda, and repatriations of large numbers of Mozambican refugees from neighbouring countries, or those displaced inside the country. The large-scale operations continued in Rwanda up to 1996.

After the peak years (and with the exception of the large-scale post-conflict assistance to 160,000 Angolans in 1997) the emergency figures clearly declined in the later 1990s, to surge again in 1999 and 2000 following the displacements caused by conflicts in Kosovo and Timor Leste. Assistance to some 350,000 Afghans (refugees and IDPs) returning after the ousting of the Taliban regime, created the latest peak in 2002.

GRAPH 24.1

## PERSONS MOVED BY IOM UNDER STANDARD OR EMERGENCY OPERATIONS, 1994 – 2003



Source: IOM.

Table 24.2 shows that most of the IOM-operated movements take place within a given region, usually in the neighbourhood of conflict areas. In the standard interregional movement operations during the decade covered, the US continued to figure as the most important resettlement country, followed by Canada and Australia.

After the events of September 11, 2001, new procedures and constraints by governments of resettlement countries have significantly slowed down and reduced IOM's standard resettlement activities, particularly to the US. However, the numbers were expected to pick up in 2004, following the inclusion of security and procedural changes into routine processing.

TABLE 24.2

## MIGRANTS ASSISTED BY IOM BY REGIONS OF DEPARTURE AND DESTINATION, 1994-2003

Region of Departure	Region of Destination	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	Total
Africa	Africa	755,326	394,265	595,273	158,777	386	1,762	7,708	45,135	38,348	30,877	2,027,857
	Americas	5,403	7,730	11,185	9,580	8,555	16,205	22,428	17,937	6,286	18,198	123,507
	Asia	147	12	17	38	400	187	45	86	35	24	991
	Europe	3,159	3,230	3,054	2,756	2,869	2,921	2,834	3,249	4,423	3,942	32,437
	Oceania	1,422	1,342	1,027	1,284	1,663	1,135	1,286	1,916	2,198	4,067	17,340
<b>Africa Total</b>		<b>765,457</b>	<b>406,579</b>	<b>610,556</b>	<b>172,435</b>	<b>13,873</b>	<b>22,210</b>	<b>34,301</b>	<b>68,323</b>	<b>51,290</b>	<b>57,108</b>	<b>2,202,132</b>
Americas	Africa	302	276	272	178	109	126	26	4	14	3	1,310
	Americas	25,470	19,076	13,077	18,846	18,642	14,497	11,710	9,493	7,639	6,802	145,252
	Asia	445	249	102	169	157	100	114	26	78	41	1,481
	Europe	2,444	2,774	2,963	3,691	4,092	7,750	4,343	2,961	4,196	3,589	38,803
	Oceania	752	952	803	520	414	365	305	350	256	135	4,852
<b>Americas Total</b>		<b>29,413</b>	<b>23,327</b>	<b>17,217</b>	<b>23,404</b>	<b>23,414</b>	<b>22,838</b>	<b>16,498</b>	<b>12,834</b>	<b>12,183</b>	<b>10,570</b>	<b>191,698</b>
Asia	Africa	1,623	181	148	82	136	58	56	49	31	4,493	6,857
	Americas	66,198	52,760	28,851	19,518	21,215	16,891	18,943	17,335	15,771	13,441	270,923
	Asia	57,337	102,842	14,398	8,681	24,389	99,671	208,550	18,249	377,853	70,267	982,237
	Europe	5,462	5,041	5,575	9,726	8,020	10,329	7,873	9,706	9,605	6,468	77,805
	Oceania	8,335	7,802	10,764	3,228	1,992	2,226	1,787	1,243	1,645	2,447	41,469
<b>Asia Total</b>		<b>138,955</b>	<b>168,626</b>	<b>59,736</b>	<b>41,235</b>	<b>55,752</b>	<b>129,175</b>	<b>237,209</b>	<b>46,582</b>	<b>404,905</b>	<b>97,116</b>	<b>1,379,291</b>
Europe	Africa	4,421	3,927	2,359	2,175	1,996	1,681	898	678	880	1,438	20,453
	Americas	63,354	53,937	50,135	59,211	59,387	71,706	45,167	32,216	20,517	15,323	470,953
	Asia	5,054	4,827	4,323	5,380	5,588	10,315	4,332	4,177	4,803	7,454	56,253
	Europe	23,881	40,440	15,192	68,599	88,910	162,758	107,728	31,235	16,901	18,630	574,274
	Oceania	2,362	3,297	3,611	2,775	5,377	6,611	3,636	2,178	2,171	1,045	33,063
<b>Europe Total</b>		<b>99,072</b>	<b>106,428</b>	<b>75,620</b>	<b>138,140</b>	<b>161,258</b>	<b>253,071</b>	<b>161,761</b>	<b>70,484</b>	<b>45,272</b>	<b>43,890</b>	<b>1,154,996</b>
Oceania	Africa	10	3	10		9	9	1	2	3		47
	Americas	98	82	2,212	4,375	19	4	1	13	11	2	6,817
	Asia	71		1	1	2	993	719	20	348	243	2,398
	Europe	12	1	59	12	5	3,460	203	1	24	13	3,790
	Oceania	3	5	20	27	13	161	45	141	457	214	1,086
<b>Oceania Total</b>		<b>194</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>2,302</b>	<b>4,415</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>4,627</b>	<b>969</b>	<b>177</b>	<b>843</b>	<b>472</b>	<b>14,138</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>1,033,091</b>	<b>705,051</b>	<b>765,431</b>	<b>379,629</b>	<b>254,345</b>	<b>431,921</b>	<b>450,738</b>	<b>198,400</b>	<b>514,493</b>	<b>209,156</b>	<b>4,942,255</b>

Source: IOM.

## ASSISTED VOLUNTARY RETURN TO KOSOVO AND RETURN OF QUALIFIED AFGHANS

**ASSISTED Voluntary Return (AVR)** has become an indispensable part of contemporary migration management practice. It offers logistical return assistance, counselling and financial support to migrants who cannot, or do not want to, remain in a host country.<sup>2</sup> It is a more humane and cost-effective alternative to forced return, and as such helps to maintain the integrity of regular immigration and asylum processes and foster cooperative forms of migration management among countries of origin, transit and destination. It can also ensure that home communities benefit from the newly acquired or enhanced skills and experience of returning migrants (see chapter on “Enhancing the Benefits of Return Migration for Development”).

IOM has been operating AVR programmes for 25 years, mostly in Europe,<sup>3</sup> and today manages over 100 such projects globally. In the past decade, more than 3.61 million migrants have been assisted in returning home through AVR, over 131,000 of them in 2003. The AVR to Kosovo programme illustrated below, involving over 190,000 returns from 37 countries between June 1999 and June 2004, is one of the most important examples of this kind of programme.

A complementary form of return migration is the *Return of Qualified Nationals (RQN)* programme, which targets expatriate nationals with particular professional skills and knowledge needed in the country of origin, willing to return temporarily or permanently to support reconstruction and socio-economic

2. AVR services also include facilitation of cooperation among countries of origin, transit and destination.

3. The first AVR programme began in Germany in 1979 (REAG programme), and became the model for further such programmes, adjusted to national circumstances, in the Netherlands, Belgium, Switzerland and others, including the EU Member States. IOM today operates over 20 AVR programmes.

4. See UNHCR, 2002 Annual Statistical Report: Serbia and Montenegro.

5. Between January 1998 and June 1999 Germany accounted for about 30 per cent of a total of 221,941 asylum applications lodged in industrialized countries by FRY nationals, while Switzerland accounted for 22 per cent.

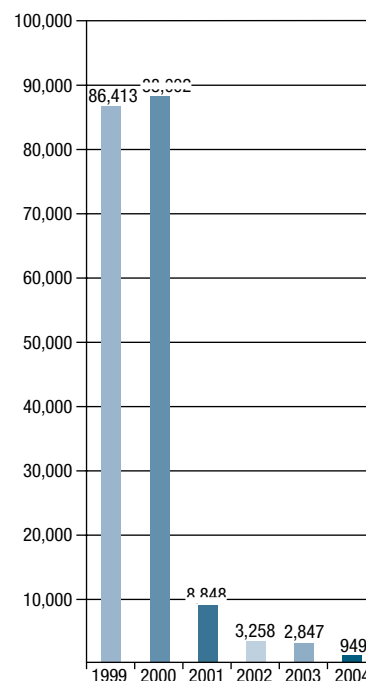
development there. They can also usefully act as a catalyst for further voluntary return. The Afghan RQN programme, presented in this section, is an important example of this.

### ASSISTED VOLUNTARY RETURNS TO KOSOVO, 1999-2004

**SINCE THE END** of the conflict in Kosovo, major asylum destination countries, particularly in Europe, have funded large-scale return programmes to the province, coupled with support to facilitate rehabilitation there. In the post-conflict period, 1998-2000, asylum applications from the then Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (FRY), particularly Kosovo, were among the highest in many industrialized countries.<sup>4</sup> Germany and Switzerland were the largest recipients of these applications during and immediately after the conflict, and as a result also accounted for some of the largest subsequent returns (Graph 24.3).<sup>5</sup> IOM's operational network in Kosovo helped facilitate these returns from neighbouring and other countries in cooperation with local authorities, UNMIK, UNHCR and others.

GRAPH 24.3

**TOTAL ANNUAL IOM ASSISTED RETURNS TO KOSOVO, JULY 1999 - JUNE 2004**



Source: IOM Office in Kosovo.

The majority of Kosovars who fled to neighbouring countries returned of their own volition to the province after conclusion of the peace agreement on 10 June 1999. Similarly, over 90 per cent of IOM's return caseload to date occurred shortly after the end of hostilities. In the first 18 months of operation, between July 1999 and December 2000, IOM assisted almost 175,000 Kosovars to return to the province under the Kosovo Humanitarian Return Assistance Programme (KHRP). 90 per cent of these returns were from non-adjacent countries and the remaining 10 per cent from neighbouring countries. As of 30 June 2004, IOM had assisted a total of 190,317 Kosovars to return to the province (Graph 24.3).

The majority of returns between 1999 and 2004 were from Germany (44%) and Switzerland (17%) (Graph 24.4). Some 55 per cent of returnees were male and 45 per cent female, and about 40 per cent of the total number of returnees were accompanying dependants.

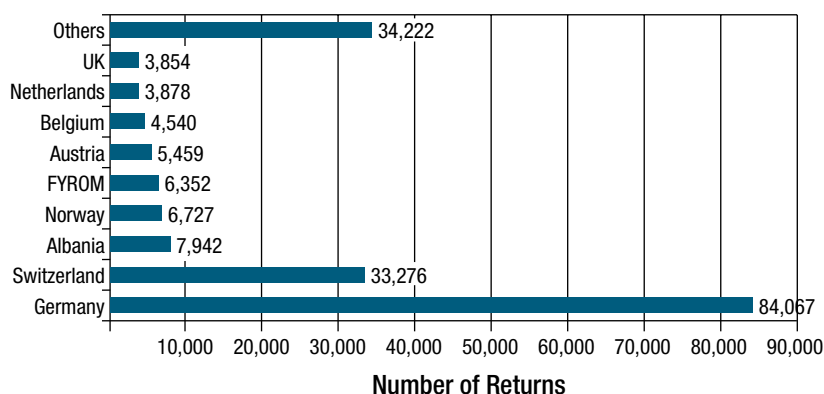
Returns were mainly to the capital Pristina (approx. 40%), followed by Ferizaj and Peja (Graph 24.3). Some violent incidents in 2003 unsettled conditions in certain Serb and other minority communities, and limitations on the freedom of movement of minorities in regions such as Peja and Pristina encouraged returns to areas where conditions were more favourable (Gjilani and Prizreni).

Since the intense mass returns of 1999-2000, the priority has shifted from returns as such towards post-conflict rehabilitation. The return programmes are now more focused on longer-term solutions for an economy in transition, and include such components as reintegration of minorities, processing of property claims, creation of employment opportunities and the development of local infrastructure. The programmes are tailored to better respond to the needs of both returnees and the wider community, and include initiatives with local authorities to create environments conducive to the sustainability of returns. Sustainable return programmes in Kosovo are thus part of a broader reconstruction process.

Though mass returns have now ended, a more modest rate of return has continued steadily in recent years as the slow pace of recovery in the province continued to spur emigration, which in some cases necessitates voluntary return assistance. In the transition from humanitarian to rehabilitation and development assistance, a comprehensive migration management strategy is applied, combining, for example, capacity building with ongoing reintegration and community development assistance, as illustrated above, to facilitate sustainability of returns.

GRAPH 24.4

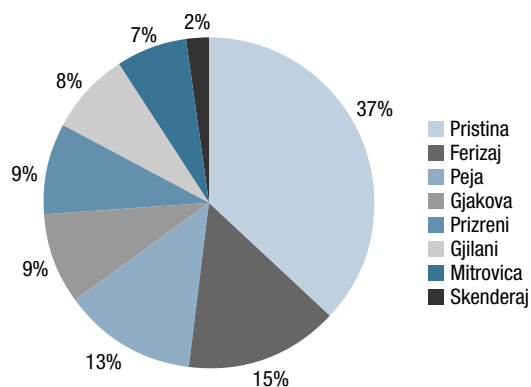
**TOTAL IOM ASSISTED RETURNS TO KOSOVO BY COUNTRY OF RETURN, JULY 1999 - JUNE 2004**



Source: IOM Office in Kosovo.

FIGURE 24.5

### IOM ASSISTED VOLUNTARY RETURNS TO KOSOVO, BY MUNICIPALITY, JULY 1999 - JUNE 2004



Source: IOM Office in Kosovo.

### RETURN OF QUALIFIED AFGHANS (RQA), 2001-2004

IOM's Return of Qualified Nationals (RQN) programmes have a long history, both globally and in Afghanistan.<sup>6</sup> The RQA programme was initiated in December 2001 (following the conflict that toppled the Taliban regime) as a pilot programme to facilitate the progressive transfer of skills from Afghan nationals residing abroad, particularly in Pakistan and Iran. By the end of the pilot phase in March 2002, the programme had placed 170 highly qualified expatriate Afghan nationals, 31 per cent of them women, in key positions within 14 ministries of the Afghan Interim Administration, 22 non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and international and other organizations operating in Afghanistan. 150 of these returns were permanent.

The current RQA programme builds on this initial experience and operates alongside a general AVR

programme. Its objective is to fill local human resource gaps and enhance the reintegration chances of returning migrants through the temporary transfer of highly skilled Afghans. Participants may choose employment for either six or 12 months, and are matched to positions in key public-sector areas, particularly the Afghan Transitional Authority (ATA), or international, non-governmental, and private organizations operating in the country.

A self-employment component has also recently been added to the RQA programme to assist and provide grants to individuals wishing to start small businesses. The recruitment of qualified Afghan women is encouraged through an additional monthly supplement to help redress gender imbalances in employment and salary levels.

In 2002, there were an estimated 400,000 Afghans in Europe,<sup>7</sup> and the EU announced extensive plans to encourage the return of qualified human resources to facilitate reconstruction and capacity building in Afghanistan.<sup>8</sup> One such initiative is the EU-RQA project funded by the European Commission and implemented by IOM since March 2003, and planned to continue until March 2005.

Between December 2001 and July 2004, 4,448 candidates from 42 countries had registered in the global RQA database, 604 of whom had been successfully returned and placed in jobs, representing 14 per cent of the registered candidates. 62 per cent of the returnees came from Pakistan. Included in the global figure were 614 applications under the EU programme, of which 123 had been successfully returned and placed in jobs (Graph 24.6). As of May 2004, 58 had been assigned to positions in the public sector.

6. For more details on the Return of Qualified African Nationals (ROAN) programme, see the chapter "Enhancing the Benefits of Return Migration for Development". IOM's programmes in Afghanistan date back to the 1990s, with the Return and Reintegration of Qualified Afghans (RQAfG) programme. It was implemented simultaneously with humanitarian and return assistance to refugees from neighbouring countries such as Pakistan and Iran in 1990 (e.g. IOM returned some 160,000 refugees from Iran and Pakistan between 1999 and 2000, together with UNHCR).

7. IRIN/OCHA, Afghans React Strongly to EU Repatriation Initiative, 12 October 2002.

8. Council of the European Union, Return Plan for Afghanistan, 28 November 2002.

### Profiles of Applicants and Returnees<sup>9</sup>

The majority of applicants for the RQA programmes are from Pakistan (48%), Iran (16%), the US (7%), Germany (4%) and Tajikistan (4%). These statistics are a fair indication of the distribution of Afghans abroad. UNHCR estimates suggest that there are some 3.5 million Afghans living in Pakistan and Iran, while Germany is reported to have the largest Afghan diaspora community in Europe.<sup>10</sup>

Within the EU-RQA programme, Germany (33%), the Netherlands (19%) and the UK (13%) have the highest number of RQA applicants (Graph 24.7). The majority of returnees are aged between 40 and 60 years, indicating that they belong to the first generation who emigrated after the political turmoil of the late 1970s and have now been living abroad for up to 25 years.

The programme strongly encourages the return of qualified women and as of July 2004, 16 per cent (708) of all those registered in the database were female, compared to 18 per cent (109) of all returnees. Women in the EU-RQA programme accounted for 7 per cent of all returnees.

By July 2004, five returnees had been assisted to establish small enterprises in Afghanistan under the EU-RQA programme, which aims to ultimately assist 30 Afghan nationals in this way.

### Main RQA Trends

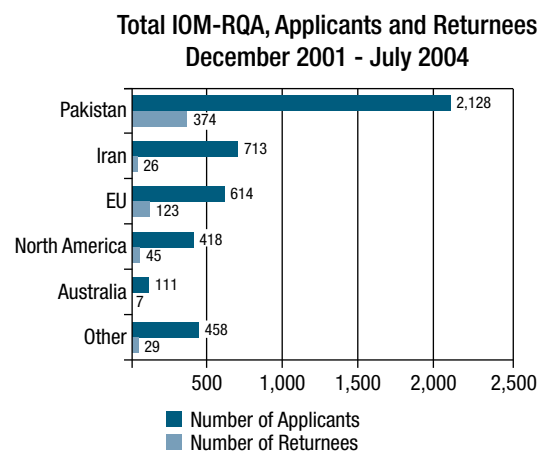
- Neighbouring countries (Pakistan and Iran) yield the majority of applicants and returnees, although there are high numbers also from North America and Europe (Graph 24.6).
- Qualified Afghan returnees have been successfully placed in key positions in public administration,

education, health, public infrastructure sectors (e.g. agriculture, construction, transportation) and international and non-governmental organizations (Figure 24.9).

- Education and training, construction and engineering, and health are among some of the frequently cited areas of expertise of returnees (Table 24.8).
- Approximately 80 per cent of RQA participants remain in Afghanistan after the expiration of their initial contract.<sup>11</sup>

GRAPH 24.6

**IOM'S RETURN OF QUALIFIED AFGHANS (RQA) PROGRAMME: APPLICANTS AND PARTICIPANTS (RETURNEES) BY COUNTRY/REGION OF RESIDENCE, DECEMBER 2001 - JULY 2004**



Source: IOM Mission in Afghanistan.

9. Applicants or candidates refer to those currently registered in the database. Returnees or participants refer to those who have been successfully placed in jobs and have returned to Afghanistan.

10. According to the German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) about 100,000 Afghans live in Germany, making them the largest Afghan diaspora community in Europe.

11. Current estimates are based on the number of requests for assistance to return to the host country. More accurate statistics will become available after the final project assessment.

GRAPH 24.7

**EU APPLICANTS AND PARTICIPANTS (EU-RQA) OF THE IOM RETURN OF QUALIFIED AFGHANS (RQA) PROGRAMME BY COUNTRY OF RETURN, DECEMBER 2001 - JULY 2004**

Source: IOM Mission in Afghanistan.

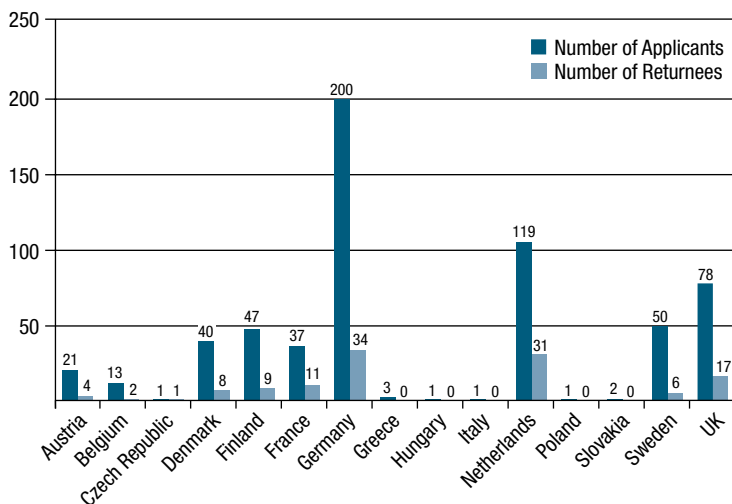


TABLE 24.8

**RETURN OF QUALIFIED AFGHANS (RQA) PROGRAMME - APPLICANT AND PARTICIPANT PROFILES BY TOP 10 FIELDS OF EXPERTISE, DECEMBER 2001 - JULY 2004**

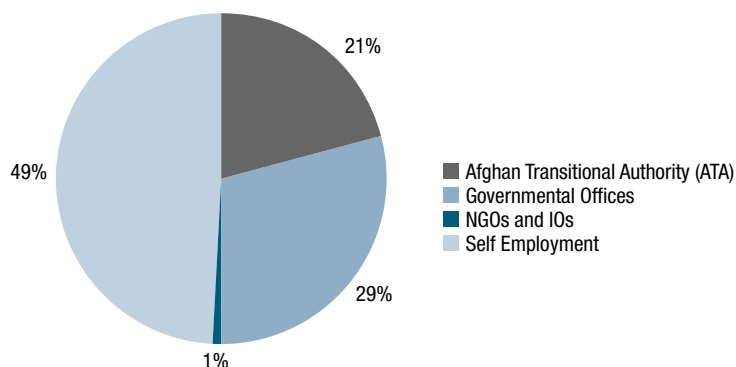
Notes:

- 1) Total number of applicants – 4,448.
- 2) Total number of returnees – 604.
- 3) Figures do not tally as some applicants indicated multiple fields of expertise.

Field of Expertise	Number of Applicants	Percentage	Number of Returnees	Percentage
Education/Training	1,903	43	274	45
Construction/Engineering	992	22	114	19
Health	975	22	130	22
Admin./Managerial	902	20	109	18
Telecomm./Media	421	9	53	9
Finance/Banking	393	9	44	7
Agricultural	386	9	45	7
Manufacturing/Production	221	5	13	2
Law	217	5	49	8
Information Technology	121	3	12	2

FIGURE 24.9

**RETURN OF QUALIFIED AFGHANS (RQA) PROGRAMME: RETURNEE PROFILES BY EMPLOYMENT CATEGORY, DECEMBER 2001 - JULY 2004**



Source: IOM.

## IOM STATISTICS OF KEY MIGRATION HEALTH ACTIVITIES<sup>12</sup>

IOM promotes migrant health and develops migration health related research, policies and projects. It advocates for migrants' physical, mental and social health and directly delivers comprehensive health care services to migrants. A wide variety of migrants benefit from these – including internally displaced persons, refugees, returnees, victims of trafficking, irregular migrants, and labour migrants – at all stages of the migration process, viz. pre-departure, transit, arrival in host community, and return. The key areas of service delivery include migration health assessments, post-emergency migration health assistance, mental and psycho-social health and migration, irregular migration and health, and HIV/AIDS and migration (see also the chapters “Investing in Migration Health” and “Global Mobility and HIV and AIDS”).

## MIGRATION HEALTH ASSESSMENTS

Since 1951 IOM has been conducting large-scale migration health assessments in the context of its migrant resettlement programmes carried out on behalf of mainly traditional immigration countries such as Australia, Canada and the US. These pre-departure health assessments serve to detect conditions that, if left untreated, could have a negative impact on the migrants' health and/or the public health of the host communities. In addition to offering large-scale pre-departure treatment of high prevalence conditions like malaria and intestinal parasites, IOM treats migrants with tuberculosis, and certain treatable sexually transmissible infections (STI), immunizes for preventable conditions and ensures pre and post-test HIV counselling.

Table 24.10 and the related graph illustrate the trend in the number of health assessments provided by IOM since 1990. The sharp decline in Southeast Asia since 1991 reflects the final years of the Comprehensive Plan of Action (CPA),<sup>13</sup> which promoted the orderly

12. Source: Migration Health Department (MHD), IOM Geneva, which is also responsible for policy/programme development and quality service delivery by IOM in this area globally.

13. United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. *The Indo Chinese exodus and the CPA. Special Report*, Geneva, June, 1996.

TABLE 24.10

### HEALTH ASSESSMENT OF MIGRANTS (REFUGEES AND IMMIGRANTS) ASSISTED UNDER IOM'S RESETTLEMENT PROGRAMMES BY REGION OF ORIGIN, 1990-2003

Region	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	...
Southeast Asia	145,709	174,867	151,468	108,237	81,092	46,724	40,292	...
South-Eastern Europe	0	0	0	0	840	2,237	4,559	...
Eastern Europe Central Asia	8,010	83,614	76,638	63,580	49,115	50,174	44,220	...
Africa	0	0	0	3,929	788	458	0	...
<b>Total</b>	<b>153,719</b>	<b>258,481</b>	<b>228,106</b>	<b>175,746</b>	<b>131,835</b>	<b>99,593</b>	<b>89,071</b>	...
Refugees (%)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	...

Region	...	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	Total
Southeast Asia	...	16,796	23,138	14,195	11,980	13,262	12,119	10,935	836,619
South-Eastern Europe	...	8,518	12,598	26,658	13,478	13,694	15,471	12,664	84,059
Eastern Europe Central Asia	...	41,421	36,973	40,513	42,257	40,487	35,143	33,386	605,018
Africa	...	4,000	286	1,644	8,555	8,396	15,706	22,929	65,047
<b>Total</b>	...	<b>70,735</b>	<b>72,995</b>	<b>23,138</b>	<b>76,270</b>	<b>75,839</b>	<b>78,439</b>	<b>79,914</b>	<b>1,590,743</b>
Refugees (%)	...	74	67	62	55	47	45	43	300,914

Source: Migration Health Department (MHD), IOM Geneva.

resettlement of Indo-Chinese refugees under the Orderly Departure Programme, and ended in 1996.<sup>14</sup>

IOM offers health assistance during the process of resettlement to both refugees and immigrants. In 2003, refugees represented 43 per cent of the assisted population. However, there were differences between various country programmes, where refugee groups represented two-thirds of the assisted migrants bound for the US, and 8-15 per cent for other countries.

Table 24.11 presents the IOM-assisted and medically assessed population in 2003, broken down by destination country and gender. The US was the destination for 55.1 per cent in 2003. Overall, with 53.3 per cent women made up the majority in this population.

Certain conditions detected in the pre-departure health assessment can expose an applicant to being excluded pending adequate treatment. While the conditions being tested for vary from country to country, the main conditions liable to lead to exclusion are infectious tuberculosis, STIs, including HIV infection, leprosy, behavioural disorders that pose a risk to self or others, substance abuse, and certain chronic illnesses. However, only a very modest number of migrants (1.0% of all persons examined) had such a “potentially excludable condition” in 2003.

Medical escorts are arranged for those who have received medical clearance to travel (found to be free of “potentially excludable condition”) but who need assistance and care *en route* to ensure their travel proceeds without undue hardship to themselves or

14. In June 1989, 10 years after the first Indochinese refugee conference, 70 governments adopted a new regional approach, known as the Comprehensive Plan of Action (CPA), to resolve the Vietnamese refugee problem in a multilateral way. This included refugee determination and resettlement in third countries as appropriate, and return and reintegration to home countries for those not found to be refugees. In 1991, the CPA finally brought an end to the flow of Vietnamese asylum seekers.

TABLE 24.11

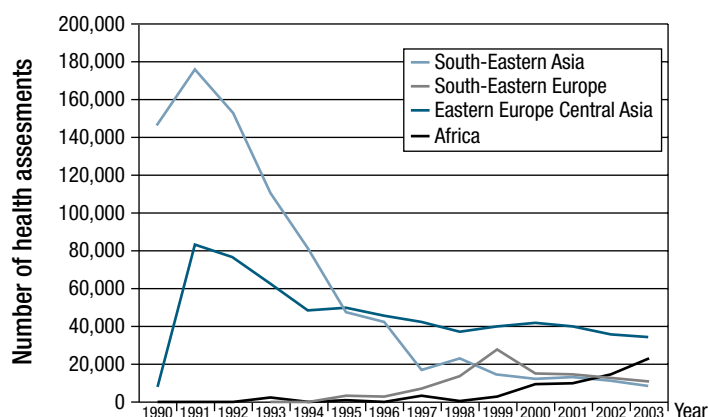
**DISTRIBUTION OF MIGRANTS ASSESSED BY IOM PER COUNTRY OF DESTINATION (YEAR 2003)**

Country of destination	Sex		Total	Dest.country %	Refugees		Immigrants		Total	
	Female	Male			n	%	n	%	n	%
Australia	6,064	5,092	11,156	14.0	916	8.2	10,240	91.8	11,156	100.0
Canada	12,482	10,445	22,927	28.7	3,510	15.3	19,417	84.7	22,927	100.0
New Zealand	707	767	1,474	1.8	168	11.4	1,306	88.6	1,474	100.0
USA	23,153	20,856	44,009	55.1	29,336	66.7	14,673	33.3	44,009	100.0
Other (mainly Norway)	187	161	348	0.4	327	94.0	21	6.0	348	100.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>42,593</b>	<b>37,321</b>	<b>79,914</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>34,257</b>	<b>42.9</b>	<b>45,657</b>	<b>57.1</b>	<b>79,914</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: Migration Health Department (MHD), IOM Geneva.

GRAPH 24.12

**TRENDS IN THE NUMBERS OF IOM HEALTH ASSESSMENTS**



other travellers. In 2001–2003 some 2,807 persons (4.6% of all IOM assisted migrants during the period) were escorted in this way, mainly because of a heart condition, psychiatric, neurological, respiratory or endocrinological disorders, or old age.

### EXAMPLES OF IOM'S SPECIAL PROGRAMMES ON MIGRATION HEALTH

#### Mental and Psychosocial Health and Migration

Example: National Mental Health Programme, Cambodia

Although migration as such does not threaten mental health, it can create vulnerabilities and pressures liable to affect mental health if combined with additional risk factors such as war, famine or human rights violations. The National Mental Health Programme in Cambodia aims at restoring the country's mental health and psychiatric services destroyed during the Khmer Rouge regime, and assisting the population after decades of conflict, sanctions, human rights violations and consequent internal displacement. Since 1994, IOM has assisted the Government of the Kingdom of Cambodia to re-establish mental health training and services, for example by training the first 20 Cambodian psychiatrists after the end of the Pol Pot regime, and an additional 20 psychiatric nurses.

Since its start in 2002, the National Mental Health Programme has provided capacity building to Cambodian psychiatrists and nurses and delivered mental health services at eight outpatient clinics in the country, including seven in the provinces and one in Phnom Penh. In 2002, 11,797 new patients (of whom 70% cent were women) visited the clinics, and 50,779 psychiatric consultations were provided. In addition, six psychiatrists and nine nurses started post-graduate training in psychiatry (three years for doctors and 18 months for nurses). Short-term training was also provided to 40 general practitioners and 57 nurses in the country. In contrast to previous IOM mental health programmes in Cambodia, this

programme is almost entirely managed by IOM-trained Cambodian professionals.<sup>15</sup>

TABLE 24.13

#### CLINICAL DIAGNOSIS AMONG NATIONAL MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAMME, CAMBODIA, 2002-2003

Diagnosis ICD 10*	Frequency	Percentage
Neurotic, stress -related and somatoform disorders	5,163	43.8%
Mood [affective] disorders	3,306	28.0%
Schizophrenia, schizotypal and delusional disorders	2,219	18.8%
Epilepsy	364	3.1%
Mental and behavioural disorders due to psychoactive substance use	334	2.8%
Organic, including symptomatic, mental disorders	191	1.6%
Observation for suspected mental and behavioral disorders	106	0.9%
Behavioural syndromes associated with physiological disturbances and physical factors	30	0.3%
Mental retardation	28	0.2%
Disorders of adult personality and behaviour	28	0.2%
Other diagnosis	28	0.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,797</b>	<b>100%</b>

\* Diagnosis following the WHO International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems, Tenth Revision.

### IRREGULAR MIGRATION AND HEALTH

Migrants in an irregular situation can be at risk of poor health due to poverty, powerlessness, discrimination, vulnerability to labour exploitation, and lack of access to health care and social services. Even if social and health services are available without charge, irregular migrants often hesitate to seek such services for fear of being reported to immigration officials, or deported.

Persons trafficked for sexual and labour exploitation are a particularly vulnerable group that today poses one of the most serious and urgent challenges to migration policymakers around the world. Besides other assistance to trafficked persons, IOM supports

15. The Programme is financed by the Norwegian Agency for Development Co-operation (NORAD).

them through health examinations and diagnostic assistance, treatment for conditions such as STIs, psychological and psychiatric counselling/treatment, HIV pre and post-test counselling, and counselling on reproductive health matters. These services are usually provided in close collaboration with governmental and non-governmental partners at rehabilitation centres and shelters accommodating trafficked victims. A useful example of this is IOM Kyiv's Rehabilitation Centre for Trafficked Persons.

392 trafficked persons were received by the Kyiv centre in the two-year period 2002–2003. All those assisted were women, the vast majority of them between 20 and 30 years of age. Almost 80 per cent of the victims stayed one or more nights in the centre. 95 per cent of all assisted victims accepted and received health assessments by IOM. 50 per cent of the conditions diagnosed among the trafficked population upon arrival concerned reproductive health, and 33 per cent mental health. 4 out of 5 victims were found to be in need of some therapeutic treatment, and 75 per cent of victims received such treatment directly from IOM.

### POST-EMERGENCY MIGRATION HEALTH ASSISTANCE

Emergency and post-emergency migration health programmes are designed to assist countries and communities during and after emergency situations, by managing the safe and rapid mass movement of people, arranging medical evacuations for those requiring locally unavailable treatment, and organizing safe return transport. In addition to travel-related health assistance, post-emergency programmes assist in the reconstruction of damaged, or incomplete, health infrastructures. Initial assistance may include short-term solutions to cover immediate needs, but the long-term goal is to rebuild the country's sustainable health

care capacity through training of national personnel. IOM has run emergency and post-emergency health programmes, for example during and after conflicts in Africa, in the Former Yugoslavia and in Iraq.

## COUNTER TRAFFICKING

### IOM COUNTER-TRAFFICKING DATABASE

Trafficking in persons<sup>16</sup> is a clandestine phenomenon that remains largely unreported.<sup>17</sup> However, such authorities as the police and border guards, and agencies that assist victims of trafficking, increasingly keep statistics of the cases they deal with. While such datasets remain fragmentary and cannot illustrate the full magnitude of the criminal activity at national or global levels, they are often the most solid information available to guide policymakers and counter-trafficking workers.

Since 1999, IOM has been collecting data from persons assisted in the Organization's counter-trafficking programmes. The Counter Trafficking Module Database (CTM) is meant to facilitate management of assistance and voluntary return/reintegration activities for the victims. It also increases understanding about the causes, processes, trends and consequences of trafficking, thereby assisting IOM in its policy and project development, research, monitoring and evaluation. The CTM informs about the victims' background, trafficking experience and need for assistance. It is also a useful tool for coordination between IOM missions on the follow-up of individual cases.

Since the data collection first began with the assistance programmes in the Balkans, its content is still weighted

16. According to the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, Supplementing the United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime, trafficking in persons is defined as "the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation. Exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs."

17. The 2004 Trafficking in Persons Report of the US Department of State estimates that each year 600,000 to 800,000 men, women, and children are trafficked across international borders. Other estimations of international and non-governmental organizations place the number much higher.

towards that region, where Moldova, Ukraine and Romania predominate as countries of origin. It has since been expanded to cover other regions, but, given its IOM programme focus, it is in all likelihood not broadly representative. The total population of trafficked persons in a given country is not known.

Some examples drawn from the database are presented below. The indicators used for such background variables as age, training, employment and general socio-economic conditions support many hypotheses and conclusions that, in the broader research on trafficking to date, have often been based on anecdotal evidence, or at best on survey samples much smaller than the database.

The information in IOM's counter-trafficking database can serve trafficking research and the development of more targeted and effective counter-trafficking measures. IOM is continuing to expand the database and develop new and wider uses for it in the counter-trafficking work globally.

### INFORMATION FROM THE DATABASE

In July 2004, the database contained data on 2,791 victims, representing some 35 nationalities (for 44 victims, or 1.6 per cent of the total, the nationality was unknown). The indicators presented below relate to the six most common countries of origin/nationality in the database. These are Moldova,

Romania, Ukraine, Belarus, Bulgaria and Dominican Republic, which account for 88 per cent of the data. The four most important destination countries or regions where victims were referred to IOM for assistance are the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo and Albania (Table 24.16).

Almost 59 per cent of the victims in the database are in the 18 – 24 year age bracket (72% under 24 years), which would seem to correspond to the educational levels of the victims: relatively young, many completed only the obligatory school education, whereas the largest group had obtained secondary level education.

Given the relative youth of the victims, combined with the high unemployment in many former communist states, as many as 30 per cent had had no work experience at all. 57 per cent had had some work experience, but only 50 per cent of all victims worked at the time of recruitment. Of those that worked, 70 per cent claimed to be a private or public employee, 6.9 per cent were self-employed or employed by their families, 3 per cent were domestic workers, and 1.2 per cent had worked in the sex industry prior to recruitment. 6.4 per cent had had other occupations, while information about the nature of work was not available for 11.7 per cent of those 1,276 persons claiming to have worked at the time of recruitment.

TABLE 24.14

### AGE RANGE OF VICTIMS BY TOP SIX NATIONALITIES

Categories	MOLDOVA	ROMANIA	UKRAINE	BELARUS	BULGARIA	DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	Overall DB Total
Below 14 years	0,09%	0,57%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,97%
14 to 17 years	8,57%	20,57%	0,00%	4,12%	6,54%	1,69%	12,11%
18 to 24 years	62,38%	64,71%	48,50%	58,24%	64,49%	22,03%	58,51%
25 to 30 years	22,19%	11,00%	37,22%	15,88%	12,15%	18,64%	19,20%
Over 30 years	6,00%	2,43%	13,16%	7,65%	14,02%	57,63%	7,35%
N/A	0,77%	0,71%	1,13%	14,12%	2,80%	0,00%	1,86%
Total (by nationality)	100,00%	100,00%	100,00%	100,00%	100,00%	100,00%	100,00%

Source: IOM Counter-Trafficking Database.

But for those who had work, the salaries were extremely low. Income data was not available for 37 per cent of the database, but 45 per cent of all victims said that before being recruited they had earned less than USD50 per month, 12 per cent said USD50-100, 5.25 per cent USD101-500, and only 0.3 per cent earned more than USD500 a month. In spite of the unavailability of much salary information, the data give a strong indication of poverty and under-employment experienced by many victims in their countries of origin. This is confirmed by the fact that for the great majority of the victims of the top six nationalities their income was the sole household income.

The data in Table 24.17 support the observation of earlier research that a relatively large share of trafficked women had children, whom they supported without a spouse. In IOM's database, 815 of all 2,791 victims, or 29.2 per cent, had one or more children. Of the 266 Ukrainian victims, 107 had children, and of these, as many as 86 women, or 80.4 per cent, were sole supporters. In Moldova, 417 of the 1,167 victims had children, and 309 of these (74% of those with children, or 26.5% of all Moldovan victims) were single mothers. In the group of 59 Dominican victims in the database, 54 had children and 43 of them, no less than 72.9 per cent of the whole group, were single

TABLE 24.15

## EDUCATION LEVEL BY TOP SIX NATIONALITIES

Categories	MOLDOVA	ROMANIA	UKRAINE	BELARUS	BULGARIA	DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	Overall DB Total
College/University	5,23%	0,57%	4,51%	20,00%	4,67%	1,69%	4,66%
Highschool	21,51%	24,57%	27,07%	19,41%	28,97%	8,47%	22,04%
Middle/Elementary school	24,42%	23,57%	16,54%	14,12%	22,43%	18,64%	21,28%
N/A	10,45%	12,57%	15,79%	5,88%	1,87%	0,00%	11,25%
None	0,51%	1,00%	0,00%	0,00%	4,67%	6,78%	2,04%
Other	3,43%	0,71%	1,50%	1,18%	0,93%	0,00%	2,11%
Primary school	18,94%	26,43%	7,14%	1,18%	30,84%	61,02%	21,14%
Trade/Technical/Vocational school	15,51%	10,57%	27,44%	38,24%	5,61%	3,39%	15,48%
Total (by nationality)	100,00%	100,00%	100,00%	100,00%	100,00%	100,00%	100,00%

Source: IOM Counter-Trafficking Database.

TABLE 24.16

## MARITAL STATUS OF VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING AMONG THE TOP SIX NATIONALITIES

Categories	MOLDOVA	ROMANIA	UKRAINE	BELARUS	BULGARIA	DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	Overall DB Total
Common law	1,29%	1,86%	1,88%	0,00%	1,87%	6,78%	1,50%
Divorced	12,34%	7,86%	18,80%	10,00%	0,93%	3,39%	10,64%
Married	11,40%	5,43%	10,15%	13,53%	3,74%	11,86%	8,96%
N/A	9,68%	12,29%	13,53%	7,06%	2,80%	0,00%	10,00%
Separated	7,88%	5,29%	8,65%	0,59%	12,15%	10,17%	6,63%
Single	56,13%	66,86%	45,86%	67,65%	75,70%	66,10%	61,13%
Widowed	1,29%	0,43%	1,13%	1,18%	2,80%	1,69%	1,15%
Total (by nationality)	100,00%	100,00%	100,00%	100,00%	100,00%	100,00%	100,00%

79.5 per cent of all victims in the database were either single, separated, divorced or widowed, and only 10.4 per cent were married or in a common-law marriage.

Source: IOM Counter-Trafficking Database.

supporting mothers. This information points out even more concretely than earlier research that women in cumulative poverty, with low education, poor income, if any, underemployment, one or more children (or other family members) to look after alone, should be especially targeted for prevention measures in countries of origin (e.g. information, child support, job creation).

The database confirms that trafficking is not run by male criminals alone, but that women traffickers figure prominently at least at certain stages of the process, and that women act as recruiters almost as often as men. Of the 2,791 trafficking cases in the database, the gender of the recruiter was known in 85 per cent of cases. Of these, 46 per cent were female (1,092 persons). In Moldova, 56.1 per cent of the known recruiters were female; in the Dominican Republic as many as 76.5 per cent, or three out of four, of the known cases were recruited by a female trafficker. Among the six nationalities under review, male recruiters predominated in Romania (77.5% of

the 621 cases) and Bulgaria (65.3% of the 95 recruiters).

Table 24.19 illustrates the relationship of the recruiter to the victims. This is not known in 30 per cent of cases, but among the known cases, the categories “stranger” (60%) and “friend” (30%) predominate, and others such as “relative” and “partner” account for smaller shares.

While the type of exploitation was not known for 481 cases, or 17 per cent of the whole database, 2,094 victims (75% of total caseload) were exploited in sex work and 196 (7%) through other forms of forced labour. Apart from sex work, forced labour and “illegal activities” (20 cases altogether among the Moldovan and Romanian victims), military service (0 cases) and organ removal (0 cases in the database) the type of exploitation was still “other” than those mentioned in no fewer than 481 cases, or 17 per cent of the whole database.

TABLE 24.17

**VICTIMS OF TRAFFICKING WHO ARE MOTHERS OR SINGLE MOTHERS**

Categories	MOLDOVA	ROMANIA	UKRAINE	BELARUS	BULGARIA	DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
Total	1,167	700	266	170	107	59
Victims with children	417	154	107	50	29	54
Single mothers among them	309 (74%)	123 (79.90%)	86 (80.40%)	30 (60%)	24 (82.80%)	42 (79.60%)
Single mothers in total (%)	26.50%	17.60%	32.30%	17.60%	22.40%	72.90%

Single mothers (sole supporters) are either unmarried, divorced, separated or widowed.

Source: IOM Counter-Trafficking Database.

TABLE 24.18

**GENDER OF THE RECRUITERS OF THE TOP SIX NATIONALITIES OF VICTIMS**

Categories	MOLDOVA	ROMANIA	UKRAINE	BELARUS	BULGARIA	DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	Overall DB Total
Female	47,73%	28,71%	43,61%	32,35%	30,84%	66,10%	39,13%
Male	37,28%	60,00%	42,11%	45,88%	57,94%	20,34%	45,90%
Unknown	15,00%	11,29%	14,29%	21,76%	11,21%	13,56%	14,98%
Total (by nationality)	100,00%	100,00%	100,00%	100,00%	100,00%	100,00%	100,00%

Source: IOM Counter-Trafficking Database.

In profiling victims in countries of destination, the database helps to profile potential victims in their countries of origin. This enables IOM to better target its information campaigns in those countries. For example, in Moldova one of the components of a prevention project was a summer mobile information centre/minibus, which travelled to 52 carefully targeted locations over four weeks, stopping at summer camps, villages and major towns. Specially trained IOM interns provided information about legal migration, risks of illegal migration and dangers of trafficking. They also conducted interviews and gathered views about the need for more information on migration. The nationwide media campaign included a 4-minute music video, "Undeva," by the rock band The Snails, and a 30-second advertisement to maximize cross-promotion of the toll free 24-hour

a day hotline (0-800-77777) and website [www.migratie.md](http://www.migratie.md). In the first six weeks of operation, the website received more than 4,900 visitors, averaging over 100 visitors per day. Calls to the toll-free hotline operated by IOM partner La Strada doubled compared to the same period the last year. About 70 per cent of the calls came from rural areas, particularly from young women, a primary target group for traffickers.

TABLE 24.19

## RELATIONSHIP TO RECRUITER BY SIX TOP NATIONALITIES

Categories	MOLDOVA	ROMANIA	UKRAINE	BELARUS	BULGARIA	DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	Overall DB Total
Family	0,26%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,36%
Friend	22,79%	25,57%	22,18%	11,18%	23,36%	33,90%	23,47%
N/A	25,28%	20,00%	21,05%	16,47%	25,23%	35,59%	22,57%
Other	2,40%	1,86%	3,76%	0,59%	0,00%	3,39%	3,62%
Partner	1,37%	2,14%	1,88%	0,00%	3,74%	0,00%	1,86%
Pimp	0,86%	0,00%	0,38%	0,00%	0,93%	0,00%	0,43%
Relative	1,97%	2,86%	0,75%	1,76%	8,41%	0,00%	2,47%
Stranger	45,07%	47,57%	50,00%	70,00%	38,32%	27,12%	45,22%
Total (by nationality)	100,00%	100,00%	100,00%	100,00%	100,00%	100,00%	100,00%

Source: IOM Counter-Trafficking Database.

TABLE 24.20

## TYPE OF EXPLOITATION EXPERIENCED BY THE TOP SIX NATIONALITIES OF VICTIMS

Categories	MOLDOVA	ROMANIA	UKRAINE	BELARUS	BULGARIA	DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	Overall DB Total
Sexual exploitation	77,55%	79,00%	81,95%	78,82%	71,03%	69,49%	75,03%
Forced labour	5,83%	5,71%	3,01%	7,06%	20,56%	22,03%	7,02%
Illegal activities	1,20%	0,14%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,00%	0,72%
Other	15,42%	15,14%	15,04%	14,12%	8,41%	8,47%	17,23%
Total (by nationality)	100,00%	100,00%	100,00%	100,00%	100,00%	100,00%	100,00%

Source: IOM Counter-Trafficking Database.