

Migrant integration statistics - active citizenship

Data extracted in February 2016. Most recent data: Further Eurostat information, Main tables and Database . Planned article update: December 2016.

This article presents two indicators of [European Union \(EU\)](#) statistics in the area of active citizenship¹ of the Zaragoza [migrant](#) integration indicators, on the basis of available [Eurostat](#) data²:

- the [Naturalisation rate](#) (the share of [foreign citizens](#) ³acquiring [citizenship](#) of an [EU Member State](#) in the total resident foreign citizens) as evidence of effective migrant integration and recognition in the hosting countries and
- the Share of long-term residence (the share of long-term residents in the total resident non-EU citizens⁴) as indication of the migrant population with a safer residence status and by extension, nearly the same socio-economic rights and responsibilities as nationals.

Other indicators of active citizenship as specified in the [Zaragoza Declaration](#) e.g., voting, membership in organisations, running for or holding a political office, protesting or volunteering, are not presented in this article due to lack of available official EU wide statistics.

Together with other articles on this topic, this article forms an online [Eurostat](#) publication [Migrant integration statistics](#) .

¹The term active citizenship refers to civic and political participation and to the acquisition and exercise of equal rights and responsibilities for immigrants which are recognised as positive indications of migrant integration.

²Each of these two indicators are computed using two different datasets each with their own quality and data availability issues. Moreover, each of these two indicators in this article have different reference years due to different collection frameworks (2013 for 'Naturalisation rate' and 2014 for 'Share of long-term residence'); different EU aggregates (EU-27 and EU-28 respectively) and different reference population (the naturalisation rate of all foreign citizens covers also the citizens of another EU Member State, while the data on long-term residence refer only to non-EU citizens).

³Foreign citizens refer to persons who are not citizens of the country in which they reside, including stateless persons. Two categories of foreign citizens are considered for data on acquisition of citizenship: 1) Citizens of another EU country (EU citizens) and 2) Citizens of a non-EU country (non-EU citizens).

⁴Citizens of a non-EU country, including stateless persons.

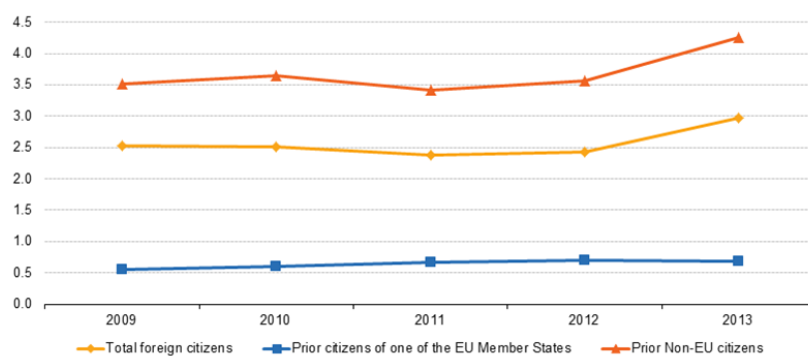
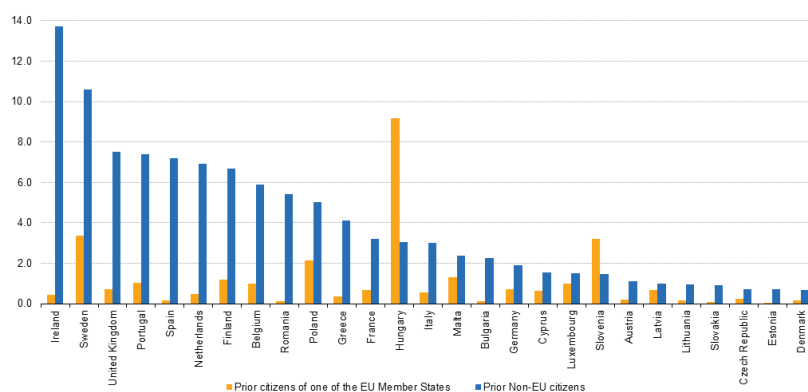


Figure 1: Naturalisation rate by group of citizenship, EU-27, 2009-13(%)Source: Eurostat (migrpop2ctz) and (migracq)

	Total foreign citizens (*)			Citizenship of another EU Member States			Citizenship of Non-EU Member States		
	Residents	Acquisitions of citizenship	Naturalisation Rate (%)	Residents	Acquisitions of citizenship	Naturalisation Rate (%)	Residents	Acquisitions of citizenship	Naturalisation Rate (%)
EU-27 (*)	32 915 071	980 100	3.0	13 679 921	93 349	0.7	20 489 052	873 414	4.3
Belgium	1 253 902	34 801	2.8	806 732	8 519	1.1	447 170	26 406	5.9
Bulgaria	45 201	808	1.8	11 762	16	0.1	33 439	757	2.3
Czech Republic	422 280	2 243	0.5	160 626	390	0.2	261 654	1 824	0.7
Denmark	374 569	1 750	0.5	147 075	226	0.2	227 494	1 516	0.7
Germany	7 696 413	111 910	1.5	3 022 392	20 122	0.7	4 674 021	89 314	1.9
Estonia	197 141	1 330	0.7	7 707	2	0.0	189 434	1 326	0.7
Ireland	543 636	24 263	4.5	379 201	1 295	0.3	164 435	22 558	13.7
Greece	886 450	29 462	3.3	196 114	754	0.4	690 336	28 482	4.1
Spain	5 072 680	225 793	4.5	2 060 653	3 287	0.2	3 012 027	216 588	7.2
France	4 089 867	97 276	2.4	1 407 012	9 281	0.7	2 682 855	85 630	3.2
Croatia	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Italy	4 387 721	100 712	2.3	1 240 157	6 682	0.5	3 147 564	94 030	3.0
Cyprus	170 076	1 580	0.9	112 587	702	0.6	57 489	877	1.5
Latvia	315 414	3 083	1.0	5 590	38	0.7	309 824	3 045	1.0
Lithuania	22 224	185	0.8	3 248	5	0.2	18 976	180	0.9
Luxembourg	238 844	2 564	1.1	206 119	2 078	1.0	32 725	486	1.5
Hungary	141 122	9 178	6.5	79 835	7 311	9.2	61 287	1 867	3.0
Malta	22 466	418	1.9	12 840	226	1.8	9 626	229	2.4
Netherlands	714 552	25 882	3.6	380 540	1 754	0.5	334 012	23 084	6.9
Austria	997 038	7 354	0.7	415 175	830	0.2	581 863	6 521	1.1
Poland	93 265	3 933	4.2	26 162	556	2.1	67 103	3 377	5.0
Portugal	417 042	24 476	5.9	100 930	1 063	1.1	316 112	23 413	7.4
Romania	70 666	2 791	3.9	19 528	23	0.1	51 138	2 768	5.4
Slovenia	91 385	1 470	1.6	6 925	221	3.2	84 460	1 247	1.5
Slovakia	72 925	207	0.3	55 909	49	0.1	17 016	158	0.9
Finland	194 250	8 930	4.6	76 328	906	1.2	117 922	7 901	6.7
Sweden	659 374	50 167	7.6	281 975	9 515	3.4	377 399	39 932	10.6
United Kingdom (*)	4 978 470	207 495	4.2	2 456 799	17 498	0.7	2 521 671	189 896	7.5

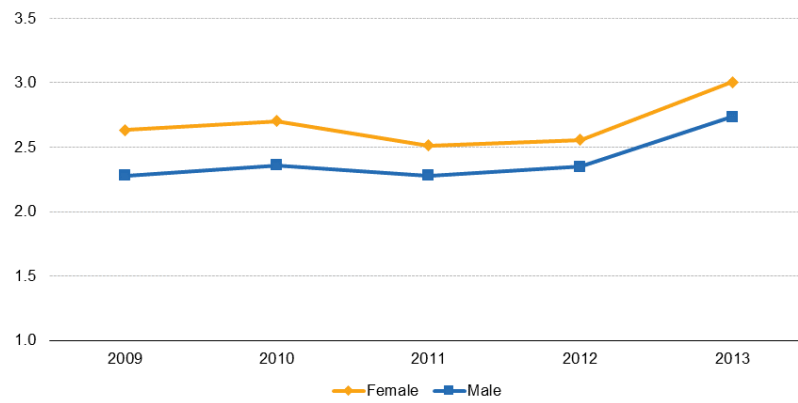
(*) 'Unknown' citizenship category is included in Total foreign citizens (Total = 'EU-27' + 'Non-EU' + 'Unknown')
 (*) Croatia is not included in the EU aggregate, due to the reporting of Croatian citizens in the group 'Foreign citizens' in 2013.
 (*) Definition differs.

Table 1: Acquisition of citizenship and naturalisation rate by broad groups of former citizenships, 2013Source: Eurostat (migracqs), (migrimm2ctz) and (migracq)



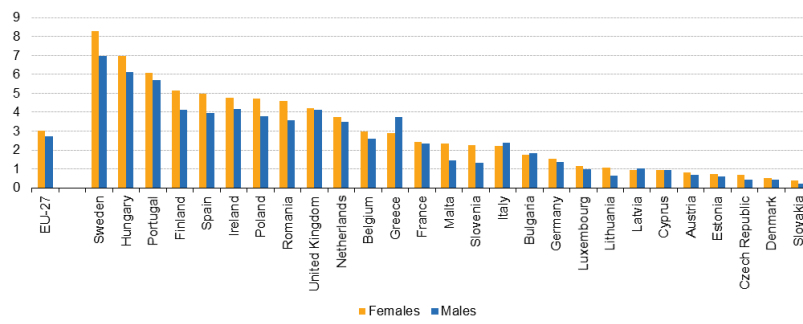
(*) Croatian is considered a Non-EU citizenship until 2014.

Figure 2: Naturalisation rate by broad groups of former citizenships, 2013 ⁽¹⁾ (%)Source: Eurostat (migracqs)



(¹) Estimated. Croatia is considered non-EU citizenship until 2014.

Figure 3: Naturalisation rate by sex, EU-27(¹) , 2013 (%)Source: Eurostat (migracqs) and (migrpop1ctz)



(¹) Only EU Member States with available data are listed. Croatia is considered non-EU citizenship until 2014.

Figure 4: Naturalisation rate by sex, 2013 (¹) (%)Source: Eurostat (migracqs)

	2011		2012		2013		2014	
	Long-term residents	% of all residents	Long-term residents	% of all residents	Long-term residents	% of all residents	Long-term residents	% of all residents
EU-27 ^(*)	4 440 130	26.5	7 152 274	38.7	7 124 350	38.6	6 827 882	38.5
Belgium	113 727	33.2	102 075	30.0	95 768	28.2	98 643	28.1
Bulgaria	164	1.2	222	1.3	150	0.8	971	2.4
Czech Republic	55 295	19.5	149 973	57.3	169 916	61.8	177 551	63.2
Denmark	872	0.4	2 870	1.3	5 302	2.2	4 940	2.0
Germany	4 803	0.1	6 341	0.2	7 796	0.2	8 702	0.2
Estonia	182 696	88.7	178 217	88.3	174 840	88.4	171 176	87.8
Ireland	7 721	6.0	5 771	4.8	3 392	3.2	2 309	2.2
Greece ^(*)	618	0.1	1 039	0.2	105 726	20.7	152 336	...
Spain	1 231 176	44.0	2 157 770	77.1	1 807 690	66.8	1 269 183	48.6
France	12 210	0.5	17 221	0.7	22 898	0.9	31 235	1.2
Croatia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Italy	1 893 735	52.0	2 070 333	54.8	2 191 452	56.4	2 294 083	58.2
Cyprus	314	0.3	451	...	1 439	2.6	4 116	8.7
Latvia	355 311	97.4	339 817	96.5	327 408	95.1	313 491	93.1
Lithuania	19 121	65.1	18 932	63.2	18 579	58.6	18 420	51.5
Luxembourg	4 188	16.3	6 501	23.3	8 912	29.8	3 921	12.3
Hungary	41 143	45.5	28 381	36.8	22 690	34.2	10 239	25.5
Malta	152	2.6	182	2.7	1 090	11.1	1 104	8.0
Netherlands ^(*)	82 134	25.6	98 052	32.7	69 171	19.7	...	...
Austria	321 654	67.4	326 299	66.2	278 779	61.9	261 636	61.1
Poland	45 948	31.7	48 739	21.5	57 730	18.2	64 218	17.6
Portugal	2 669	0.8	2 859	0.9	2 967	1.0	3 088	1.0
Romania	10 403	17.1	10 176	19.0	10 978	19.8	11 961	20.8
Slovenia	41 894	47.4	40 957	50.2	53 570	54.3	51 539	54.8
Slovakia	11 405	48.7	10 375	41.8	10 900	43.8	11 781	41.2
Finland	117	0.1	223	0.2	260	0.4	279	0.3
Sweden	660	0.2	28	0.0	32	0.0	37	0.0
United Kingdom	...	...	1 528 470	...	1 674 915	...	1 860 923	...
Iceland	1 673	47.0	1 799	49.4	1 802	49.3	1 681	47.7
Norway	...	...	...	...	3 759	61.0	3 857	63.3
Liechtenstein	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Switzerland	...	...	420 809	65.4	401 438	64.7	407 623	64.7

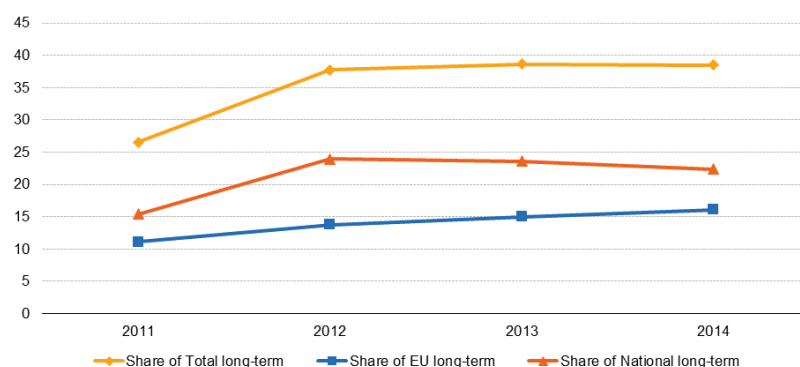
(*) Long-term resident permits issued in the framework of national legislation only included from 2011 onwards. Long-term residents data refer only to non-EU citizens.

(*) EU estimates based on available data. Data not available for Croatia. 2012-2014 include the data for United Kingdom.

(*) Data not available for "% of all resident permits" (value considered as for 2013).

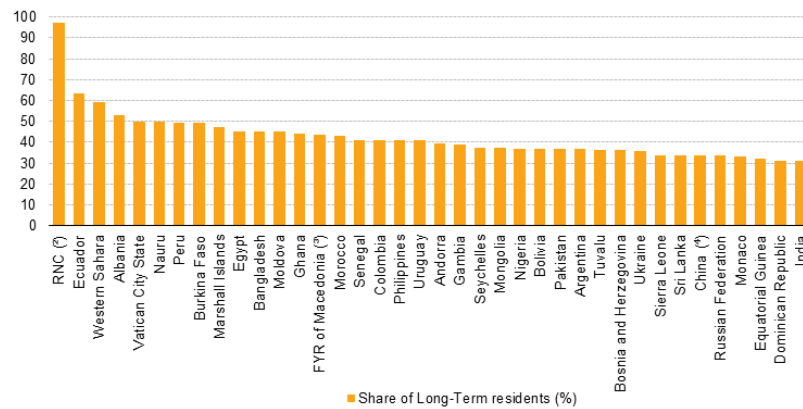
(*) "% of all resident permits" not applicable for United Kingdom (see the metadata information).

Table 2: Long-term residents, and share among all non-EU citizens holding residence permits, 2011–14 ⁽¹⁾Source: Eurostat (migrreslong) and (migrresshare)



(*) Long-term residents data refer only to non-EU citizens. United Kingdom included for 2012, 2013 and 2014. Croatia is considered non-EU citizenship until 2014.

Figure 5: Share of long-term residents among all non-EU citizens holding residence permits by permit type, EU-28, 2011–14 ⁽¹⁾(%)Source: Eurostat (migrresvalid) and (migrreslong)



(*) United Kingdom and Croatia not included; 2013 total residents data used for Greece and Netherlands.

(*) Recognised non-citizens

(*) The name of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia is shown as 'FYR of Macedonia' - this does not prejudice in any way the definitive nomenclature for this country, which is to be agreed following the conclusion of negotiations currently taking place on the subject in the United Nations.

(*) China (including Hong Kong).

Figure 6: Top citizenships with share of long-term residents higher than 30% at EU-28 level⁽¹⁾, 2014 (%)Source: Eurostat (migrresvalid) and (migrreslong)

EU-28		Belgium		Bulgaria		Czech Republic		Denmark	
Citizens of	(%)	Citizens of	(%)	Citizens of	(%)	Citizens of	(%)	Citizens of	(%)
RNC (*)	97.3	San Marino	100.0	Mauritania	50.0	Nauru	100.0	Gabon	25.0
Ecuador	63.2	Barbados	100.0	Saint Kitts and Nevis	33.3	Belize	100.0	United Arab Emirates	25.0
Western Sahara (*)	59.4	East Timor	100.0	Dominica	16.7	San Marino	100.0	Barbados	14.3
Albania	53.2	Switzerland	93.0	South Korea	14.8	Dominica	100.0	Saint Lucia	14.3
Vatican City State	50.0	British overseas (*)	62.5	Zimbabwe	14.3	Maldives	100.0	Seychelles	9.1
Germany		Estonia		Ireland		Greece (*)		Spain	
Citizens of	(%)	Citizens of	(%)	Citizens of	(%)	Citizens of	(%)	Citizens of	(%)
China (*)	2.4	Uruguay	100.0	Philippines	12.1	North Korea	100.0	Nauru	100.0
Mauritania	1.4	Angola	100.0	Ukraine	11.7	Benin	55.6	Monaco	100.0
Indonesia	1.2	Yemen	100.0	Thailand	10.6	Bangladesh	52.1	San Marino	80.0
Malawi	1.1	Congo	100.0	British overseas	9.0	Mali	50.0	Mauritania	69.8
Belarus	1.1	Russia	91.7	Belarus	8.6	Pakistan	49.8	Andorra	68.0
France		Italy		Cyprus		Latvia (*)		Lithuania (*)	
Citizens of	(%)	Citizens of	(%)	Citizens of	(%)	Citizens of	(%)	Citizens of	(%)
Lesotho	14.3	Solomon Islands	100.0	China (*)	100.0(*)	RNC (*)	100.0	Palestine	100.0
Malawi	9.7	Sao Tome and Principe	81.5	Switzerland	100.0(*)	Kosovo / UNSCR 1244 (*)	100.0	Paraguay	100.0
Samoa	7.7	Serbia	75.3	Kuwait	100.0	Mali	100.0	Belize	100.0
Tonga	7.6	FYR of Macedonia (*)	75.0	Yemen	83.3	Antigua and Barbuda	100.0	Togo	100.0
Fiji	7.3	Algeria	74.3	Norway	50.0	Congo	100.0	Eritrea	100.0
Luxembourg		Hungary		Malta		Netherlands		Austria	
Citizens of	(%)	Citizens of	(%)	Citizens of	(%)	Citizens of	(%)	Citizens of	(%)
British overseas (*)	62.5	Egypt	100.0(*)	Dominican Republic	100.0	Mauritania	100.0(*)	Tonga	100.0
Bosnia and Herzegovina	49.5	Cambodia	100.0(*)	Belize	100.0	Azerbaijan	100.0(*)	Sao Tome and Principe	100.0
Chile	42.7	Burkina Faso	100.0	Cuba	86.7	Angola	100.0(*)	Papua New Guinea	80.0
Belarus	40.1	Armenia	100.0	Iran	50.6	Uzbekistan	100.0(*)	Bahrain	80.0
Dominican Republic	40.1	Ukraine	75.8	Seychelles	50.0	Sierra Leone	100.0(*)	Fiji	80.0
Poland		Portugal		Romania		Slovenia		Slovakia	
Citizens of	(%)	Citizens of	(%)	Citizens of	(%)	Citizens of	(%)	Citizens of	(%)
Grenada	100.0	Uzbekistan	14.5	Norway	100.0	Mongolia	100.0	Niger	100.0
Botswana	100.0	Kyrgyzstan	6.1	Stateless	59.2	Turkmenistan	100.0	Guinea-Bissau	100.0
Djibouti	100.0	Ukraine	4.6	China (*)	43.8	Fiji	100.0	Mozambique	100.0
Sao Tome and Principe	100.0	Kazakhstan	3.4	Iran	42.7	United Arab Emirates	100.0	Malawi	100.0
Sierra Leone	90.5	Belarus	3.3	Lebanon	38.0	Bosnia and Herzegovina	61.3	Congo	80.0
Finland		Sweden		Liechtenstein (*)		Switzerland			
Citizens of	(%)	Citizens of	(%)	Citizens of	(%)	Citizens of	(%)		
Cape Verde	16.7	Albania	0.7	Togo	100.0	Venezuela	100.0		
Israel	5.0	Japan	0.1	Taiwan	100.0	New Zealand	100.0		
Jamaica	4.2	Indonesia	0.1	Swaziland	100.0	Switzerland	86.4		
Kazakhstan	2.0	Bolivia	0.1	Russia	100.0	Malaysia	84.5		
India	1.6	South Korea	0.1	RNC (*)	100.0	Liechtenstein	84.3		

(*) Only the Member States with available data are listed here (e.g. Croatia and United Kingdom not listed).

(*) RNC: recognised non-citizen

(*) Western Sahara: territory disputed between Morocco and the Polisario Front. In 1976, the latter proclaimed the Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic (SADR), but this is not officially recognised by the European Union. The United Nations (UN) is currently supervising negotiations.

(*) British Overseas includes: Anguilla, Bermuda, British Indian Ocean Territory, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Falkland Islands, Gibraltar, Montserrat, Pitcairn Islands, Saint Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha, Turks and Caicos Islands.

(*) China, including Hong Kong

(*) The share of long term residence for Greece computed with 2013 data for long-term permits.

(*) The name of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia is shown as 'FYR of Macedonia' - this does not prejudice in any way the definitive nomenclature for this country, which is to be agreed following the conclusion of negotiations currently taking place on the subject in the United Nations.

(*) Bahrain, Barbados, Uganda, Somalia and Rwanda also 100% in Latvia.

(*) Kosovo under UN Security Council Resolution 1244/99.

(*) Madagascar, Switzerland, Somalia, Norway and Iceland also 100% in Lithuania.

(*) Peru, Paraguay, Palestine, Palau, Pakistan, Norway, Monaco, Maldives, Lebanon, Kuwait, Guyana, Gabon, Djibouti, Cape Verde, Azerbaijan and Andorra also 100% in Liechtenstein.

(*) Unreliable data, expected to be revised.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: migr_reslong)

Table 3: Top five citizenships with higher share of long-term permits by Member State, in 2014⁽¹⁾ (%)Source: Eurostat (migrreslong)

Main statistical findings

Naturalisation rate

EU Member States granted citizenship to almost 1 million persons in 2013, representing 3% of all foreign citizens in the EU-27 Member States⁵

⁵Until 2013 Croatia is included in the citizenship groups 'Foreign citizens'/'Non-EU citizens

The acquisition of citizenship represents evidence of effective migrant integration and recognition in the hosting countries, offering them fully active citizenship rights. In 2013 around 980 thousand foreign citizens received citizenship of the hosting country out of 33 million total [foreign citizens](#) ⁶residing in EU-27 Member States (see Table 1). The ratio between these two categories, defined as the [naturalisation rate](#) , was 3.0 % in 2013, slightly higher than the 2.4 % recorded in 2012 (see Figure 1 and Table 1).

The highest naturalisation rate of all foreign citizens at EU level in 2013 was recorded in Sweden with 7.6 %, followed by Hungary with 6.5 % and Portugal with 5.9 % (see Table 1). Rates over 4 % were also recorded in Finland, Ireland, Spain, Poland and the United Kingdom. In contrast, the Czech Republic and Denmark with 0.5 % and Slovakia with 0.3 % recorded the lowest rates in the EU.

Three quarters of citizenship grants at the EU-27 level in 2013 were reported by five Member States: Spain (226 000), the United Kingdom (207 000), Germany (112 000), Italy (101 000) and France (97 000), while five Member States granted fewer than 1000 citizenships each: Croatia, Bulgaria, Malta, Slovakia and Lithuania (see Table 1).

Non-EU citizens recorded a naturalisation rate of 4.3 %, higher than the 0.7 % recorded by foreign EU-citizens

The category of all foreign citizens who acquired citizenship can be divided in two sub-categories depending on the prior citizenship: prior foreign EU-citizens (prior citizens of one of the EU Member States) and prior non-EU citizens. Considering these two subcategories, about nine out of ten of all foreign citizens who acquired citizenship of one of the EU-27 Member States in 2013 were previously non-EU citizens, while the remaining⁷10 % were previously citizens of another EU Member State. This corresponds to a naturalisation rate of 4.3 % for prior non-EU citizens, and 0.7 % for prior foreign EU citizens (see Figure 1).

The naturalisation rate of prior EU citizens increased slightly between 2009 and 2011 by 0.1 percentage points (pp) each year (from 0.5 % in 2009 to 0.7% in 2011), then remained constant until 2013 (see Figure 1). The naturalisation rate of prior non-EU citizens recorded small fluctuations between 2009 and 2012, followed by an increase of 0.7 pp between 2012 and 2013 (from 3.6 % to 4.3 %).

Ireland with 13.7% and Sweden with 10.6% were the two EU Member States which recorded the highest naturalisation rates of prior non-EU citizens, while other three Member States had a naturalisation rate above 7 %: the United Kingdom (7.5%), Portugal (7.4%) and Spain (7.2%). The highest naturalisation rate for prior EU citizens was observed in Hungary (9.2%), followed by Sweden and Slovenia (3.4% and 3.2% respectively).

Only Hungary and Slovenia recorded a higher naturalisation rate for prior EU citizens than for prior non-EU citizens (see Table 1 and Figure 2).

The naturalisation rate of females at EU level is slightly higher than for males

The naturalisation rate of foreign citizens in 2013 at EU-27 level was 0.3 pp higher for females than for males (3.0% and 2.7% respectively). Looking at the evolution between 2009 and 2013 (see Figure 3), the pattern remained the same, with the naturalisation rate of females slightly higher than for males.

In 2013, Sweden recorded the highest naturalisation rate for foreign females with 8.3 %, followed by Hungary with 7.0 % and Portugal with 6.1 %. These three Member States also recorded the highest naturalisation rates for males, with 7.0 %, 6.1 % and 5.7 % respectively (see Figure 4).

The largest gap between the naturalisation rate of females and males was recorded in Sweden with 1.3 pp difference, followed by Romania, Finland, Spain and Slovenia with about 1 pp each. In 2013 , the naturalisation rate of males was higher than for females in five EU Member States: Cyprus, Latvia, Bulgaria, Italy and Greece (see Figure 4).

⁶Please note that only the acquisition of citizenship of foreign citizens residing in the country granting the citizenship are the subject of this article.

⁷Unknown citizenship category is not included

Share of long-term residence of non-EU citizens

At the end of 2014 around 7 million non-EU citizens were long-term residents in the EU, representing more than one third of all non-EU citizens with valid [residence permits](#) .

Non-EU citizens are usually granted a residence permit with a certain length of validity in the hosting country, depending on the national legal framework. A long-term residence permit is understood to have a length of validity of 5 years or more and consequently offers safer residence status to non-EU citizens and by extension, more similar socio-economic rights and responsibilities to nationals (advanced active citizenship rights). Around 6.8 million long-term residence permits were issued to non-EU⁸citizens and were valid in the EU at the end of the year 2014, i.e., 4 % fewer than at the end of 2013 when 7.1 million long-term residence permits were valid (see Table 2).

The ratio between the number of long-term residents⁹and the total of residents at the end of the year i.e. 'the share of long-term residents' was 38.5 % in 2014, almost the same as in 2013 and 2012 (38.6 % and 38.7% respectively).

Most non-EU citizens resident in Latvia and Estonia have long-term residence permits

The situation regarding the share of long-term permits among all valid residence permits differs at Member State level (see Table 2). In 2014, most non-EU citizens resident in Latvia and Estonia¹⁰had a long-term residence permit (more than 87 % in total residence permits for each country). The Czech Republic, Austria, Italy, Slovenia and Lithuania also recorded a share of long-term residence in total residence permits above 50 %.

Spain with 49 % and Slovakia with 41 % were the other two Member States with a significant share of long-term permits, while three EU Member States (Finland, Germany and Sweden) recorded a share under 0.5 % (see Table 2). Based on the available data, EFTA countries also recorded a significant share of long-term permits in total residence permits in 2014: Switzerland (65 %), Liechtenstein (63 %) and Iceland (48 %).

Considering the evolution between 2013 and 2014, Spain and Luxembourg recorded the highest drop in the share of long-term permits with 18 pp less in 2014 than in 2013 (from 67 % to 49 % in Spain and from 30 % to 12 % in Luxembourg), followed by Hungary with a 9 pp drop (from 34 % to 25 %). For the other Member States, the situation was more stable between these two years (see Table 2).

Latvia and Estonia¹¹maintained a share of long-term residence permits greater than 87 % every year between 2011 and 2014, with a significant drop of 4 pp for Latvia and a smaller drop of 1 pp for Estonia in 2014 compared with 2011. Among the five other Member States for which the share of long-term residence was higher than 50 % in 2014, three Member States (Czech Republic, Italy and Slovenia) recorded an increase between 2014 and 2011, while the other two (Austria and Lithuania) recorded a decrease (see Table 2).

Share of EU long-term residents increased between 2011 and 2014 while the share of national long-term residents decreased since 2012

The category of long-term residents¹²can be divided into two sub-categories considering the legal framework on which these permits were issued: EU long-term residents with long-term permits issued under the EU legisla-

⁸Data not available for Croatia.

⁹Residents with valid long-term residence.

¹⁰In the case of these two Member States the long-term residents are mostly ' [recognised non-EU citizens](#) ' category. The recognised non-citizens are a citizenship category introduced by Eurostat to cover persons who are neither citizens of the reporting country nor of any other country, but who have established links to that country including some but not all rights and obligations of full citizenship. Recognised non-citizens are not included in the number of EU citizens. This category is used in Eurostat's population and migration statistics.

¹¹See footnote 10.

¹²EU long-term residence is not applicable in Ireland, Denmark or the United Kingdom.

tion framework (Council Directive 2003/109/EC on long-term permits) and National long-term residents, with long-term permits issued under specific national legislation. Considering these two categories, 'EU' long-term residents represented 42 % of the total of 2.86 million long-term residents at the end of 2014, while the remaining 58% were 'National' long-term residents (see Table 2 and Figure 5).

While the share of EU long-term residents increased slowly by about 1.1 pp each year between 2012 and 2014, the share of National long-term residents fell over this period (with decreases of 0.3 pp between 2012 and 2013 and 1.3 pp between 2013 and 2014).

Almost all recognised non-citizens in the EU at the end of 2014 held long-term residence status (97 %)

Figure 6 presents the share of long-term residence for nearly 40 different citizenships which recorded shares of long-term residence of over 30 % at EU level. Recognised non-citizens represent a special category of non-EU citizens, living mainly in Estonia and Latvia, having similar rights as nationals¹³. This explains a high share of long-term residents (97%) of this category at the EU level. Ecuador was the citizenship with the second highest share of long-term residents at EU28 level with 63 %, followed by other four citizenships with a significant share (with 50 % or greater): Western Sahara, Albania, Vatican City State and Nauru (see Figure 6).

As shown in Table 3, there is diversity among Member States regarding the citizenships recording the highest shares of long-term residence. At national level, almost 100 citizenships are present in the top five citizenships with the highest shares of long-term residence. Table 3 also highlights an interesting pattern. In 17 EU Member States with available data there is at least one citizenship category with 100% share of long-term residents. On the other hand, in Germany and Sweden the rates of long-term residents are smaller with a maximum 2.4 % and 0.7 % respectively. Lower rates were also recorded in Ireland with a maximum share of long-term residents by citizenship of 12.1 % recorded for Philippines, followed by Finland with a maximum 16.7 % recorded for Cap Verdeans, Portugal with a maximum 14.5 % recorded for Uzbekistanis and France with a maximum 14.3 % recorded for Basotho (Lesotho citizens).

Data sources and availability

The data presented in this article is from two main datasets that are collected on an annual basis by Eurostat from administrative records in the reporting countries:

Acquisition of citizenship data for naturalisation rate

Data on acquisition of citizenship are available from 1998 onwards and are collected from EU Member States, EFTA and candidate countries and cover persons who were previously citizens of another country or stateless. From 2008 on, acquisition of citizenship data by sex, age group and previous citizenship are collected under Article 3 of [Regulation 826/2007](#).

The conditions for acquiring citizenship differ between countries. Generally, to acquire citizenship a period of (legally registered) residence is required, combined with other factors such as evidence of social and economic integration and knowledge of national languages. More information and country-specific issues are present in the [metadata](#) file related to this data collection.

The 'naturalisation rate' should be used with caution because the numerator includes all modes of acquisitions and not just naturalisations of eligible residing foreigners and the denominator includes all foreigners and not the relevant population, in other words, those foreigners who are eligible for naturalisation.

Residence permits data for share of long-term residence

Data on residence permits are available from the 2008 reference year from the EU Member States and EFTA countries and refer to third-country nationals who received residence permits in the EU and EFTA countries. These statistics are collected under Article 6 of the [Regulation 826/2007](#), which refers to statistics on residence permits and residence of third-country nationals.

¹³With some exceptions related for instance to the exercise of EU rights like free travel within the Schengen area.

There are some limitations in computing the share of long-term residents in resident non-EU citizens using the available statistics from residence permits statistics. For example this share is not computed for the United Kingdom since their definition differs from the reference definition for the two involved datasets (the comparability with other countries is limited). Some issues appear also in other countries like the Netherlands, Cyprus or Greece for which the data consistency between the two datasets involved might be problematic for certain breakdowns. For more information see the respective [metadata](#) .

Definitions

Long-term resident status refers to permits issued under [Directive 0109/2003](#) . This is based on a total duration of legal residence of 5 years or longer, combined with a series of other conditions that must be met to qualify for this [status](#) .

Context

For the context of data collection and statistical results see policy background and uses of migrant integration indicators [here](#) .

See also

- [Migrant integration statistics](#) - online publication
- [Acquisition of citizenship statistics](#)
- [Residence permits statistics](#)
- [All articles on asylum and migration](#)

Further Eurostat information

Publications

- [Indicators of immigrant integration — a pilot study](#)
- [Migrants in Europe, A statistical portrait of the first and second generation, 2011 edition](#)
- [Statistics in focus 2012: EU Member States granted citizenship to more than 800 000 persons in 2010](#)
- [Statistics in focus 2012: Nearly two-thirds of the foreigners living in EU Member States are citizens of countries outside the EU-27—Issue number 31/2012](#)
- [Statistics in focus 2011, 6.5 % of the EU population are foreigners and 9.4 % are born abroad — Issue number 34/2011](#)
- [EU Member States granted citizenship to almost 1 million persons in 2013](#)

Database

- [Migrant integration](#) , see:

Active citizenship (miiactctz)

- [Populations and social conditions](#) , see :

Asylum and managed migration (mirg)

Residents permits (migres)

Demography and migration

Acquisition and loss of citizenship (migracqn)

Dedicated section

- [Migrant integration](#)

Methodology / Metadata

- [Acquisition and loss of citizenship](#) (ESMS metadata file — migracqnesms)
- [Residence permits](#) (ESMS metadata file — migrresesms)

Source data for tables, figures and maps (MS Excel)

- [Active citizenship tables and figures](#)

Other information

- [Regulation \(EC\) No 1737/2005](#)
- [Directive 86/2003](#)
- [Decision 826/2007](#)
- [Directive 109/2003](#)

External links

- [European Commission, Directorate General for Migration and home affairs – legal migration](#)
- [European website on integration](#)
- [ILO - Migrant Integration Policy Index \(MIPEX\)](#)
- [OECD - Indicators for the Integration of Migrants and their Children \(PDF download\)](#)
- [The 2010 Zaragoza Declaration](#)
- [Using EU Indicators of Immigrant Integration - final report prepared for DG Migration and Home Affairs \(PDF download\)](#)

Notes

View this article online at http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php?title=Migrant_integration_statistics_-_active_citizenship