

ANNUAL REPORT 2010

Facts and figures

THE UDI'S ANNUAL REPORT 2010 • Facts and figures



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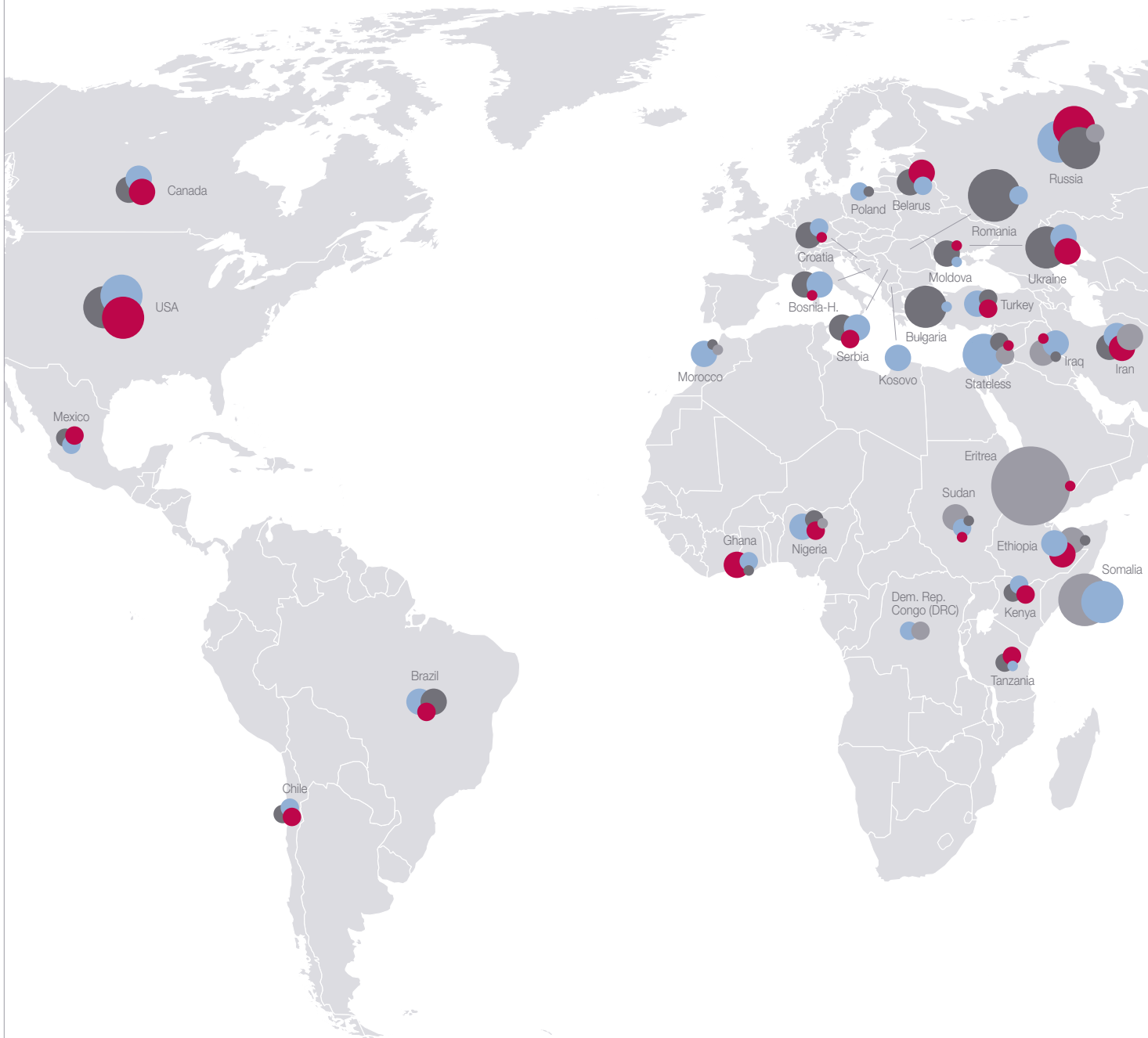
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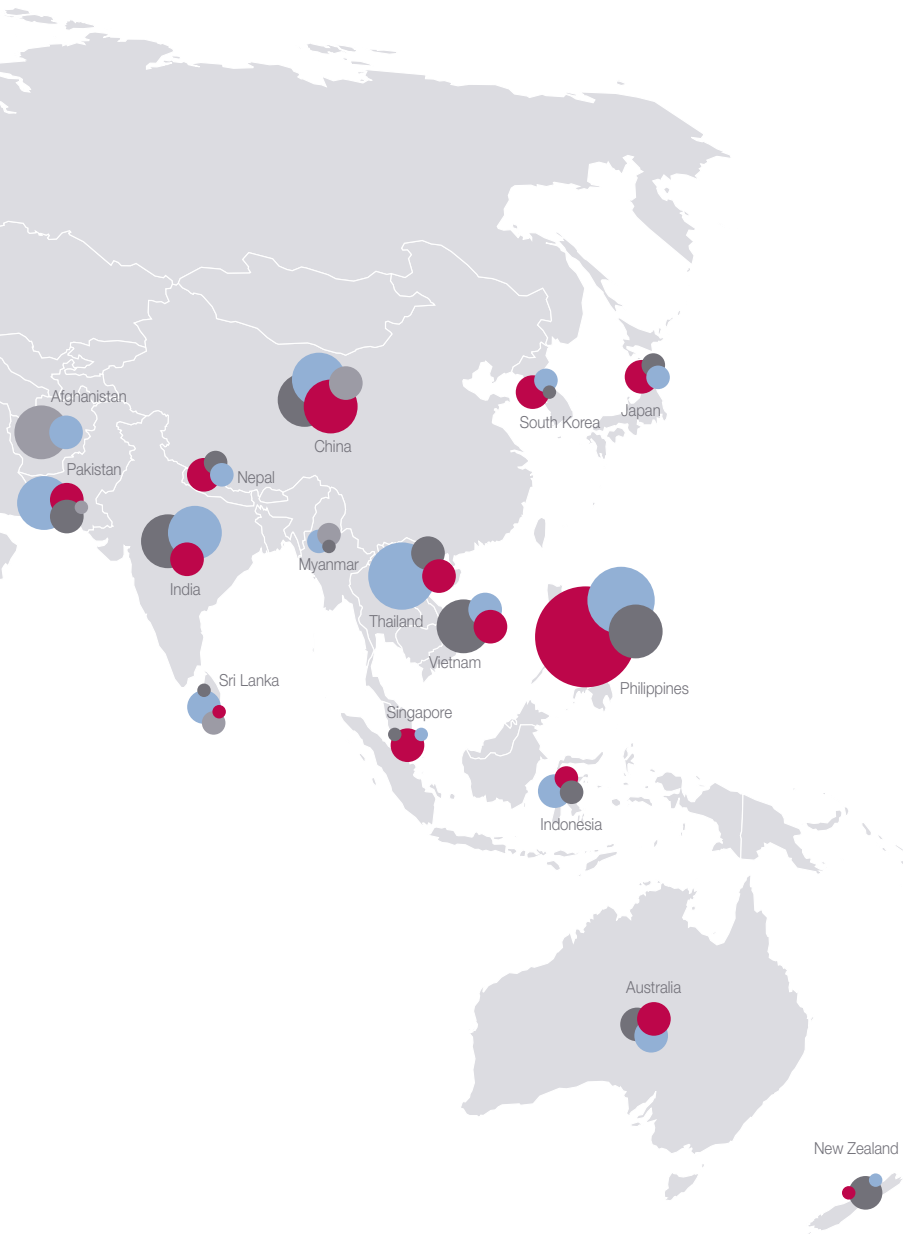
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Regulated immigration to Norway



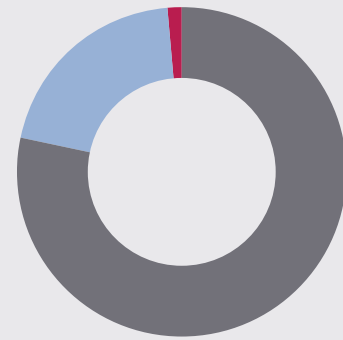
The map shows which nationalities topped the statistics in 2010 of granted applications for protection (asylum) and granted first-time applications for family immigration, work and study permits. We granted most family immigration permits to nationals of Thailand and the Philippines, most work permits to Romanians and Indians, and most study permits to people from Russia and China. Among those who were granted protection in Norway, most came from Eritrea and Somalia.

- Work
- Family
- Study
- Protection



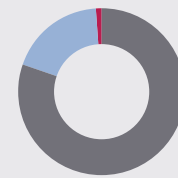
EEA nationals registered in Norway

Nordic nationals have long been entitled to settle freely in Norway. Now, most other EEA nationals can also stay here without a permit. In the course of the year, 58,900 EEA nationals registered to study, work or live together with family in Norway. Nationals of Romania and Bulgaria are not yet covered by the new registration system, which means that they still have to apply for a residence permit. Read more about the registration system on page 9.



Poland

● 17 840 ● 4 610 ● 300



Lithuania

● 9 270 ● 2 130 ● 130



Germany

● 2 840 ● 1 140 ● 1 160



Latvia

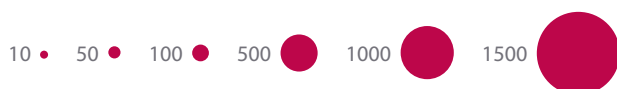
● 2680 ● 680 ● 130



United Kingdom

● 1780 ● 380 ● 110

Number of persons:





The UDI is tasked with facilitating lawful and desirable immigration and ensuring that those who meet the requirements are given an opportunity to come to Norway. At the same time, however, we have a control function and must prevent abuse of the system.

We process applications for asylum, family immigration, work and study permits, visas, citizenship, permanent residence permits and travel documents. We also make decisions on rejection and expulsion. In addition, we are responsible for ensuring that all asylum seekers are offered somewhere to live while they wait for us to process their applications, and for finding good solutions for those who wish to return to their home countries.

OUR AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY:

KEY FIGURES FOR 2010:

PROTECTION (ASYLUM)	We made 16,500 decisions in asylum cases, nearly 800 more than the year before. We received 10,100 asylum applications, a decrease of 42 per cent.
RECEPTION	We closed down or decided to close down 48 reception centres and 4,205 places in reception centres. We carried out 170 inspections of reception centres to check that they complied with our guidelines and were of adequate quality.
RETURN	A total of 1,450 asylum seekers returned voluntarily to their home countries with assistance from the Norwegian authorities after receiving a rejection of their asylum application, an increase of 42 per cent on the year before. In addition, more than 4,620 persons were forcibly returned by the police to their home countries or another country that participates in the cooperation under the Dublin Regulation. This represents an increase of 38 per cent from 2009.
FAMILY IMMIGRATION	We made 17,900 decisions relating to applications for family immigration permits and appeals against such decisions. A total of 11,540 EEA nationals registered in Norway for the purpose of living with family members already staying in the country.
RESIDENCE PERMIT (WORK)	The UDI processed 8,800 applications for residence permits that entitle the holder to work in Norway. In addition, 42,650 EEA nationals registered as job seekers, employees, service providers or self-employed persons.
STUDY PERMITS	The UDI processed 6,970 applications for study permits and appeals against such decisions. In addition, 4,290 EEA nationals registered to study in Norway.
VISAS	The immigration administration processed 140,600 visa applications. Most of the visa applications were processed by the foreign service missions. The UDI dealt with nearly 5,600 cases and appeals.
PERMANENT RESIDENCE	The UDI processed 3,200 applications for permanent residence permits (previously called settlement permits).
CITIZENSHIP	We made 16,900 decisions in citizenship cases.
EXPULSION AND REJECTION	The immigration authorities expelled 3,430 persons, an increase of 29 per cent on the year before. A total of 690 persons were rejected on entry.

An average week

Many people are affected by the UDI's work, and applicants, employers, journalists and others contact us for information about the regulations or individual cases. An average week in the UDI in 2010 was as follows:

1 760 decisions were made	81 places in reception centres were closed down or decided to be close down	6 490 enquiries were made to the Information Service (5,130 phone calls and 1,360 emails)	770 visited the Service Centre	45 390 visits to our website www.udi.no and 4,030 to www.udiregelverk.no	25 media enquiries received
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CHANGE AND RENEWAL



Except for asylum seekers, all our users can now register their applications online.

The beginning of 2010 was challenging for the UDI. The new Immigration Act, which entered into force on 1 January, led to many changes. The changes represent an important modernisation of immigration legislation, but in some areas, they necessitate more control and more stringent requirements for documentation from applicants. This applies in particular to family immigration, where we see that the requirements for the income level of persons who wish to bring their spouse to Norway are too stringent in some cases. As with most major reforms, certain adjustments will probably also be required in this context.

Collaboration with the EU

Cooperation between European countries on migration is becoming increasingly close. The work on achieving good coordination of Europe's asylum policy is challenging, but it is progressing. The decision to establish a joint European asylum support office is one example of this. There is nonetheless a long way to go before we achieve a uniform European practice, and different countries also interpret the common regulations differently.

One of the most important European areas of collaboration is the Dublin Regulation, which regulates which country is responsible for asylum seekers who come to Europe. The division of responsibility between the countries is an important precondition if this cooperation is to work over time. However, the crisis in Greece has put the Dublin cooperation to the test, and many countries, including Norway, have temporarily stopped sending asylum seekers back to Greece.

The crisis also shows that Europe wishes to make a concerted effort to deal with the challenges and help countries that are experiencing problems. Norway is planning to help Greece with both expertise and funding in order to help to create a functioning asylum system.

Fewer asylum seekers

Unlike many other European countries, Norway received considerably fewer asylum applications in 2010 than the year before. Part of the explanation is that Norway has introduced a number of restrictive measures in recent years. In addition, we have established return agreements and fast-track processing of asylum applications from people from countries whose nationals' applications are often rejected. The decline relieved some of the pressure on the UDI, which meant that we could allocate more resources to the work of reducing the number of unprocessed asylum cases.

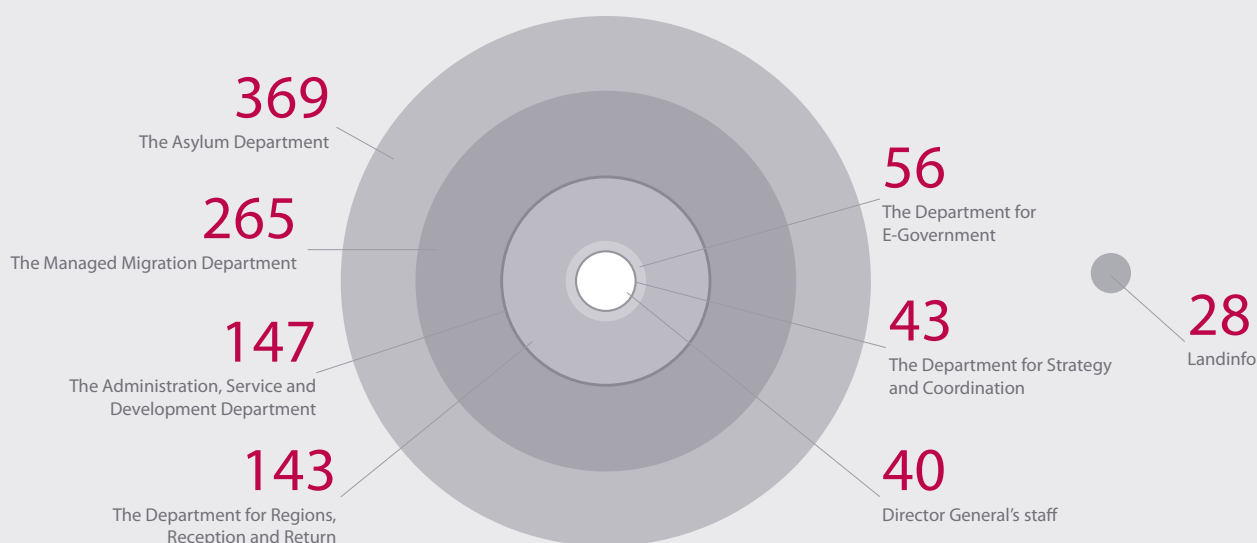
Electronic processing

In 2010, we took a big leap forward from paper-based to electronic case processing. Now, except for asylum seekers, all our users can register their applications online. This represents an improvement that has simplified matters for both the applicants and the UDI.

If you want to know more about what is happening in the UDI, go to www.udi.no or follow me on Twitter: twitter.com/IdaBorresen.

Ida Børresen
Director General

Number of full-time equivalents by department as of 31 December 2010



Change is part of our day-to-day work

The UDI is an organisation in constant change. Changes relating to the migration situation, international commitments, national legislation, political decisions and technology constantly affect the way we are organised, the way we work and the number of employees we have.

Many and varied tasks

Regulating migration to Norway involves more than making decisions. The UDI collaborates with other European countries to develop joint guidelines and with the Ministry of Justice and the Police and other players in the immigration administration to coordinate efforts and develop the Norwegian regulations. We register and analyse who comes to Norway and ensure that the immigration administration has good information on which to base its work. Other important tasks include developing simpler solutions for those who wish to apply for a permit and ensuring that everyone receives clear and good information about rules and regulations, rights and duties. We also cooperate with the municipalities to ensure that the right number of places is available in reception centres.

Our tasks are interesting and varied, which means that we attract capable employees from different educational backgrounds. At the same time, the nature of our tasks requires us to be a flexible organisation with employees who have the ability to adapt quickly to new situations. The year 2010 was characterised by extensive amendments to the regulations, fewer applications, new technical solutions, staff downsizing and new ways of working.

Increased international cooperation

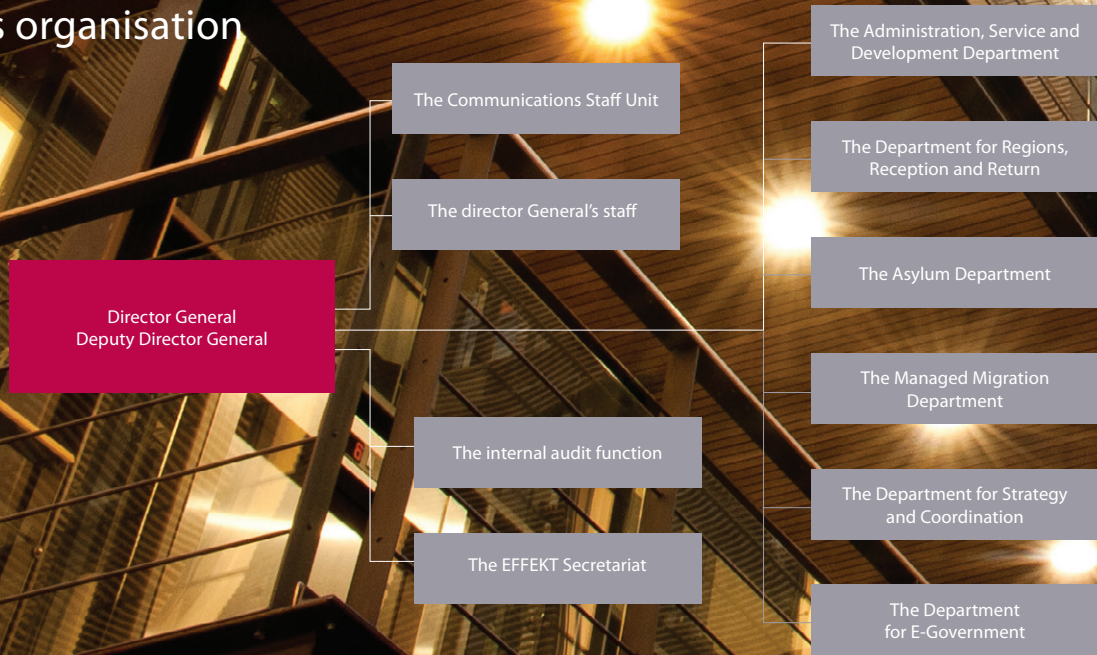
The increased European cooperation on migration means new commitments for Norway, and the UDI is tasked with attending to Norway's interests. Through the Visa Code, which applies in the Schengen states, we have committed ourselves to further developing technological solutions for the processing of visa applications. The Returns

Directive, which entails expelling more people residing illegally in Norway, is another example of how our tasks and priorities are affected by international commitments.

The EU regulations have also influenced the provisions of the new Immigration Act that was introduced in 2010. The decision that EU nationals no longer need a residence permit to stay in other European countries meant that we received far fewer residence applications in 2010 than the year before.

At the same time, decisions of the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR) and the European Court of Justice have implications for how we practise and interpret the regulations. For example, the ECHR urged us not to return asylum seekers to Greece in 2010. As a consequence, we considered

The UDI's organisation



more asylum applications on their merits than we otherwise would have done.

National solutions

The year 2010 was also characterised by some purely Norwegian changes. The Government's restrictive measures in relation to asylum seekers can partly explain why Norway received far fewer asylum applications than the year before. The strong decrease led to downsizing in the UDI, and many executive officers from the Asylum Department were transferred to other departments.

The Government also decided that the UDI will take over the duties of the police in connection with applications for residence permits and citizenship. This entails gradually establishing first-line offices throughout the country in the years ahead.

New technology and new work methods

We are constantly endeavouring to rationalise and improve our work processes. The introduction of the Application Portal Norway and the joint electronic archive for the whole immigration administration meant

that we could offer applicants far more user-friendly services in 2010, at the same time as we spent less time finding and sending paperwork around the system.

We also completed several trial projects in which we managed to cut down the time it takes before an application is processed by organising our work differently. This work will continue in 2011.

Facts and figures about UDI staff as of 31 December 2010

1 090

full-time equivalents and a total of 1,200 employees

64%

had master's degrees or equivalent, mostly in social sciences, law and the humanities

69%

of our employees and 60 per cent of our managers were women

39 years

was the average age in 2010

15%

of our employees had two parents born abroad

The UDI's management

1 **Ida Børresen**
Director General

2 **Frode Forfang**
Deputy Director General

3 **Bente E. Engesland**
Communication Director

4 **Hanne Jendal**
Director of the Asylum Department

5 **Karl Erik Sjøholt**
Director of the Managed
Migration Department

6 **Anne Siri Rustad**
Director of the Department for
Regions, Reception and Return

7 **Gry Aalde**
Director of the Department for
Strategy and Coordination

8 **Odd-Roar Thorsen**
Director of the Administration,
Service and Development Department

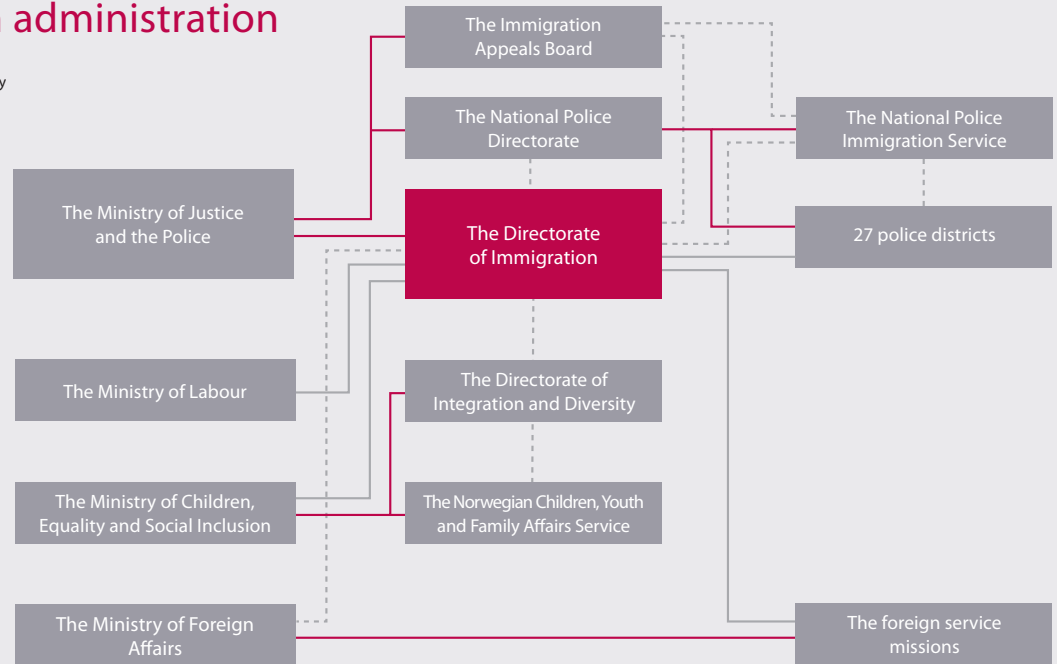
9 **Rebekka Gundhus**
Director of the Department
for E-Government

10 **Stephan Mo**
Head of the Secretariat for
the EFFEKT programme



The immigration administration

- political and administrative responsibility
- sector responsibility
- - - professional collaboration



The UDI's partners

The UDI has overriding responsibility for immigration, and one of our tasks is to coordinate work relating to the field.

The foreign service missions receive several types of applications and process most visa applications. They help the UDI to obtain and check information and documents in residence and asylum cases.

The police districts receive and prepare applications for residence permits, travel documents, permanent residence and citizenship. In some types of cases, the police districts can also grant permits if there is no doubt that the conditions are met.

The National Police Immigration Service (PU) registers asylum seekers and checks their identities and travel route. The PU is also responsible for escorting persons without legal residence in Norway out of the country.

The Immigration Appeals Board (UNE) is an independent, quasi-judicial body that considers appeals against decisions made by the UDI.

Landinfo is the Norwegian Country of Origin Information Centre. Landinfo is an independent expert body, but it is administratively affiliated to the UDI. Landinfo collects and analyses information about social conditions and human rights in countries relevant to the work of the UDI, UNE and the ministry.

The Directorate of Integration and Diversity (IMDi) settles refugees, follows up the Introduction Act and provides financial support, advice and guidance to municipalities, organisations and individuals.

The Children, Youth and Family Affairs Service (Bufetat) is responsible for providing accommodation and care for unaccompanied minor asylum seekers under the age of 15. Bufetat collaborates with IMDi on settling unaccompanied minor asylum seekers who are granted residence in Norway.

The UDI is under the authority of the Ministry of Justice and the Police, which is responsible for Norway's refugee and immigration policy and manages our activities, among other things through the annual allocation letter. The Ministry of Children, Equality and Social Inclusion is responsible for the Nationality Act, while responsibility for labour immigration rests with the Ministry of Labour.



More immigration, less regulation

The population of Norway increased by 62,100 in 2010. The increase was on a par with 2008, and higher than in 2009.

Immigration contributed to a larger population

By the end of 2010, the population of Norway was 4,920,305, according to Statistics Norway (SSB). That is an increase of 1.3 per cent compared with the year before. Net immigration accounted for 68 per cent of this increase, and the rest was due to an excess of births.

According to SSB, just over 11 per cent of Norway's population come from immigrant backgrounds. By immigrant background is meant that the person him/herself or his/her parents have immigrated to Norway. The largest groups of immigrants were originally from Poland, Sweden and Germany.

In all, 73,850 immigrants came to Norway during 2010. As in 2009, Polish nationals

were the biggest group, followed by Swedish and Lithuanian nationals. At the same time, it was also mostly Swedes, Poles and Germans who moved from Norway. The increase in net immigration was greatest for nationals of Poland, Lithuania and Sweden. In total, 9,000 Norwegian nationals moved from Norway, and 8,800 Norwegian nationals moved back.

Future developments in the immigration population

In 2010, SSB produced several projections for how big the population of Norway could be in future, and for its composition. In the scenario that assumes the lowest population growth, the proportion of the population from immigrant backgrounds will be just under 16 per cent in 2025, while the scenario that assumes the biggest growth

indicates that this proportion will be just over 19 per cent.

SSB has also produced projections for what areas most immigrants will come from. It concluded that persons from Asia, Africa, Latin America and non-EU Eastern Europe will probably account for slightly more than 50 per cent of the immigrant population in Norway in 2025, compared with around 60 per cent in 2009. The calculations are based on the current legislation regulating immigration to Norway.

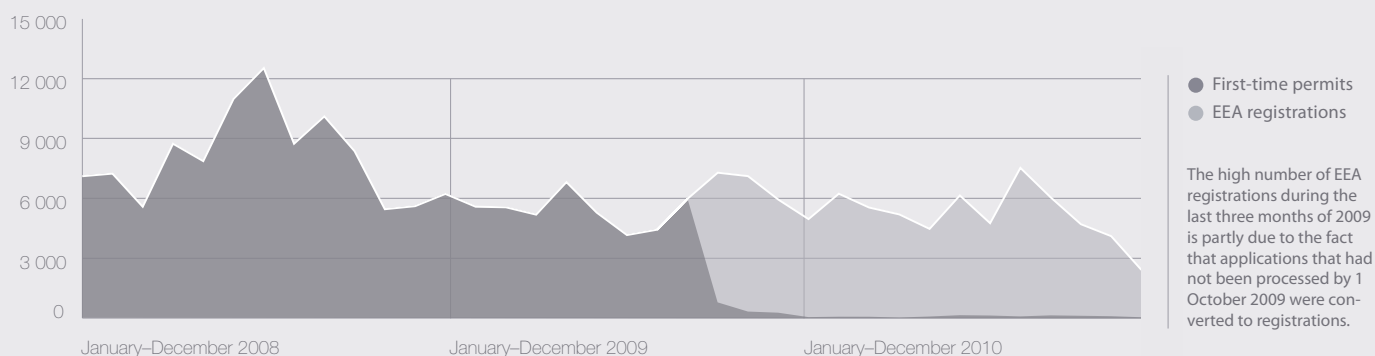
A smaller proportion of immigration is regulated

In 2010, 66,500 persons were granted residence permits in Norway (a first-time permit or a renewal), 54,200 fewer than the year before. Much of this is due to the

Granted permits by type, 2009–2010



Number of registrations and first-time permits granted to EEA nationals, 2008-2010



new registration system, which means that most EU nationals can stay in Norway without applying for a residence permit (see fact box).

The registration system means that we regulate a smaller proportion of immigration to Norway than before. Based on the immigrant population's country background at the start of the year, it appears that we only regulated about 60 per cent of the immi-

gration in 2010, compared with almost 95 per cent in 2009. In reality, however, the regulated proportion of immigration is bigger, as those who can move here without a permit will more often leave Norway again.

The registration system for EU nationals

Since 1954, Nordic nationals have been able to settle freely in Norway. Pursuant to our commitments under the EEA Agreement, it became simpler for non-Nordic EU nationals to reside in Norway from 1 October 2009. The previous arrangement involving residence permits was replaced by a registration requirement for this group. The new rules mean that most EU nationals can freely come to Norway to study, work or live with their family. Nationals of Bulgaria and Romania are still covered by transitional provisions that mean they have to apply for a residence permit the first time they wish to stay in Norway for more than three months.

The registration requirement applies to non-Nordic EU nationals who come to Norway for the first time with the intention of staying more than three months. They must report to the local police, who check their identity documents. They also have to state why they wish to reside in Norway, whether it is to study, work or live with their family. The Population Register normally requires a registration certificate in order to assign someone a personal identity number. EU nationals do not have to re-register when returning to Norway after having spent time in their home country or another country, but everyone must notify

the population register of a change of address in the normal manner.

The figure above shows the number of registrations and first-time permits granted to EU nationals during the last three years. We see that the overall trend for 2010 largely follows the same seasonal variations as the two preceding years. This can indicate that the registration system gives a relatively good picture of the number of EEA nationals who came to Norway for the first time in 2010.



ASYLUM AND RECEPTION CENTRES

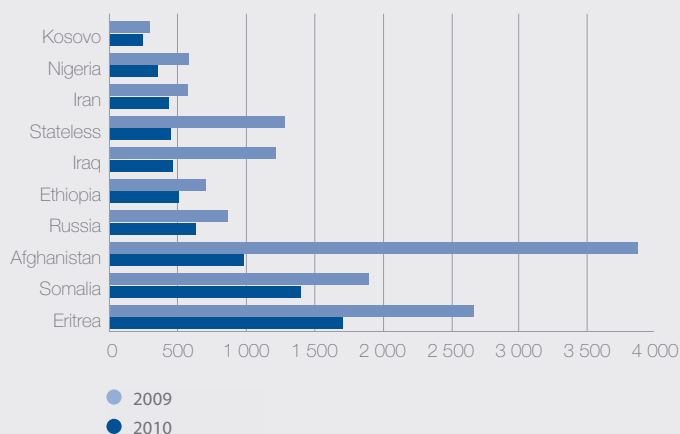
17 200

Asylum applications to Norway in 2009

10 100

Asylum applications to Norway in 2010

Asylum applications to Norway, top ten countries of origin, 2009–2010



Asylum applications to Norway, 2001–2010



Fewer asylum seekers to Norway

A total of 10,100 people applied for protection in Norway last year. This represents a decrease of 42 per cent from 2009.

Who applied for asylum?

Every week in 2010, an average of 190 persons came to Norway to seek protection. They came from 110 different countries, and more than half came from Africa. A good third of the applicants were women, 2,100 were children and young people who came together with family members or other care providers, and 890 persons applied for protection as unaccompanied minors.

Five countries on top

Most asylum seekers came from Eritrea, Somalia, Afghanistan, Russia or Ethiopia. Applicants from these five countries accounted for more than half of all asylum seekers in 2010.

Almost all of the 1,710 asylum seekers from Eritrea applied for protection from the

authorities in their home country. Most of them stated that they had deserted or evaded obligatory national military service.

The majority of the 1,400 applicants from Somalia stated that they came from the south of Somalia, mainly Mogadishu. Many of the applicants said that they were persecuted by the Islamist military organisation al-Shabaab. Others gave the difficult security situation in Mogadishu as their reason for seeking protection in Norway.

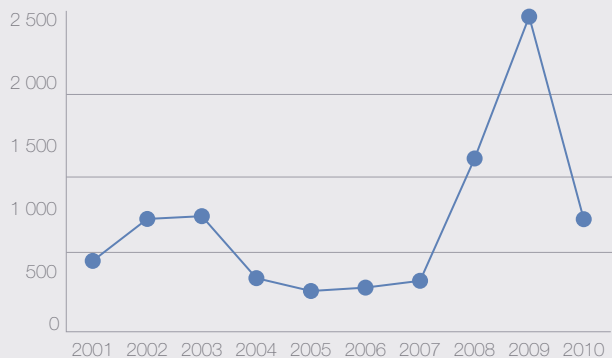
Many unaccompanied young men came from Afghanistan, many of them minors. In all, 980 applicants came from Afghanistan, and many of them stated that they had lived in Iran or Pakistan for a long time before coming to Norway. Many of them

stated that they feared the Taliban for various reasons; some said they had been threatened and some were afraid of forced recruitment.

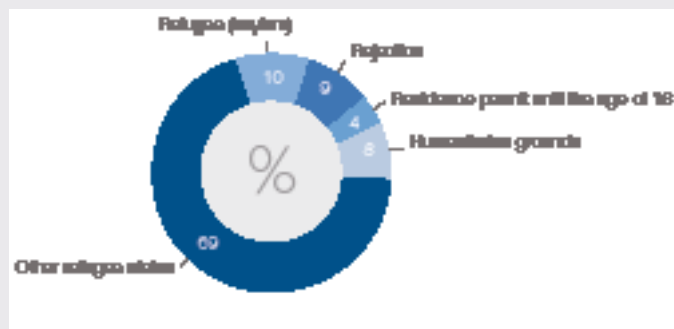
The 630 Russian applicants mainly came from Chechnya and Ingushetia, and many gave the security situation in the area they came from as the most important reason for applying for protection in Norway.

Most of the 510 Ethiopian applicants stated that they sought protection from the authorities in their home country. They were afraid of persecution because they themselves or someone close to them had been opponents of the regime. There were also relatively many female asylum seekers from Ethiopia compared with other countries.

Asylum applications from unaccompanied minors, 2001–2010



Cases considered on their merits where the applicant is deemed to be an unaccompanied minor, by outcome, 2010



Greatest decrease among unaccompanied minor asylum seekers

In 2010, 890 unaccompanied minor asylum seekers came to Norway. This is only a third of the number the year before.

Fewer to Europe

In 2009, all of Europe experienced a marked increase in the number of unaccompanied minor asylum seekers. In 2010, many countries experienced a clear decline. The decline was particularly notable in Norway and the UK, while Sweden experienced an increase.

Still most Afghans to Norway

The number of unaccompanied minors who came from Afghanistan to Norway was 370, compared with more than 1,700 the year before. The decline was greatest from Afghanistan, but four out of ten applicants still came from this country. People from Somalia and Eritrea were other big groups, accounting for 120 and 90 applicants, respectively. This represents a decline of almost 50 per cent from these countries compared with 2009.

The circumstances in these three countries have not changed much, but part of the decline can be explained by changes in the

situation in neighbouring countries or in other European countries. At the same time, Norway has introduced several restrictive measures targeting unaccompanied minor asylum seekers. Two changes may have affected the number of applicants to Norway: firstly, unaccompanied minors are no longer exempt from being returned to other countries that participate in the Dublin cooperation (with the exception of Greece). Secondly, young people over the age of 16 can be granted a limited permit if the only grounds for protection are that we believe that the applicant does not have satisfactory care in his/her home country. Such applicants must leave Norway when they reach the age of 18.

Adults posing as children

Some of the applicants who state that they are unaccompanied minors are in fact above the age of 18. We processed 2,180 applicants from persons stating that they were unaccompanied minors, but 27 per cent were deemed to be adults at the time of

application. In addition, 17 per cent reached the age of 18 before receiving a decision in their case, and both these groups were treated as adults.

Most were allowed to stay

In total, 1,230 applicants were dealt with as unaccompanied minors. Of these, 12 per cent received a Dublin decision, which means that their applications would be considered on their merits in another country. Almost two per cent of the cases were dropped or withdrawn. Of the applications that we considered on their merits, about 1,000 persons were granted some form of residence. Forty unaccompanied minors were granted temporary residence until the age of 18.

We have processed far more applications from unaccompanied minors than we received, and we thus managed to reduce the backlog of such cases.

Status in the applications for those who applied for asylum as unaccompanied minors in 2009

48%
Permanent residence

2%
Residence permit until the age of 18

12%
Dublin decision – processed in another country

2%
Withdrawn/dropped

3%
Pending decision

33%
Rejection

What happened to the kite runners?

In 2009, 2,500 young people applied for asylum in Norway as unaccompanied minors. What was their situation one year after they arrived?

Who came?

The asylum situation in Europe in 2009 was dominated by the high number of unaccompanied minor asylum seekers. As many as 69 per cent of the young people who came to Norway were boys from central and eastern Afghanistan. Many also came from Somalia, Eritrea, Iraq and Ethiopia.

Half allowed to stay

Almost half of those who claimed to be unaccompanied minors were granted residence in Norway. Most were granted a permit that initially entitles them to residence for three years, but that can form the basis for permanent residence in Norway. A total of 54 persons were granted temporary permits, which means that they can stay in Norway until they reach the age of 18.

Most genuine unaccompanied minor

asylum seekers were granted residence. Of the 2,500 applicants, 1,470 were considered to be unaccompanied minors at the time the decision was made. Of these, 77 per cent were granted residence in Norway. That is seven percentage points lower than for all applicants in 2008, but three percentage points higher than for applicants in 2007.

However, 1,030 applicants were not dealt with pursuant to the regulations for unaccompanied minors. For some, this was because we believed them to be older than 18 when they applied, others because they turned 18 while waiting for their case to be processed, and some because they had care providers in Norway. In this group, only 11 per cent were granted residence.

Many had to leave

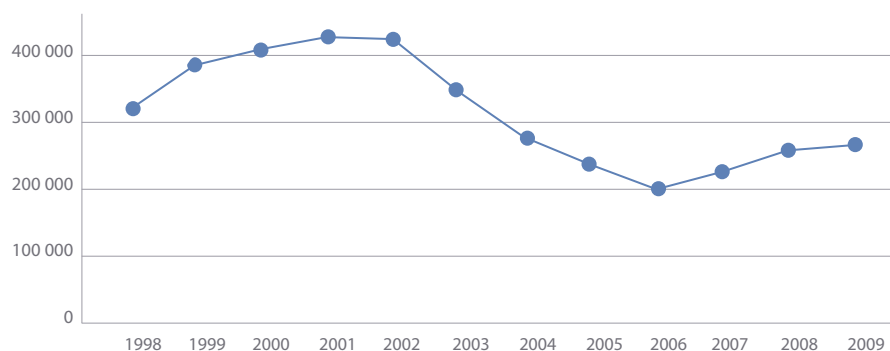
If we look at all the applicants in this group

as a whole, one third had their applications rejected. In addition, 300 applications were considered pursuant to the Dublin Regulation. At the turn of the year, 70 persons were waiting for their case to be processed, while some cases were dropped or withdrawn by the applicant.

Of those who were granted residence, 950 had settled in a municipality by the end of the year. Eleven had relatives who had applied for a family immigration permit. Those who were granted limited residence were not offered settlement and could not apply for family immigration.

Of those who received a rejection, withdrew their application or had their case dropped, 34 persons were returned to their home country. Another 185 persons were returned to other Dublin countries to have their case processed there.

Asylum seekers to Europe, 1998–2009



Source: Eurostat

The asylum situation in Europe

Norway saw a strong decline in the number of asylum seekers in 2010, while many of our neighbouring countries experienced an increase. What is the reason for these differences, and what is the asylum situation in Europe?

Big variations in the number of asylum seekers to European countries

The number of asylum seekers to Europe has varied greatly over time and between countries. Although the trend in Norway has largely been the same as in Europe, the variations have been more marked. While the EU and EFTA countries experienced a decline of four per cent in the number of asylum seekers, Norway saw a decline of 42 per cent from 2009. On the other hand, we experienced a much stronger increase in 2009 than most other European countries.

Where do they come from?

Normally, asylum seekers from more than 150 different countries come to Europe in the course of a year, but some countries predominate. In the last few years, Afghanistan, Russia, Somalia and Iraq have topped of the list of countries of origin. There are big differences between which nationalities are the biggest group of asylum seekers in different European countries. Norway received most asylum seekers from Eritrea, Somalia and Afghanistan. The biggest applicant groups in France were from Russia and Kosovo, while Sweden received most applications from Somalis

and Rom people from Serbia. Denmark received many applications from Syria and Afghanistan, and Finland from Bulgaria, Somalia and Russia. Many Afghans and Iraqis came to Germany, but also significantly more Somalis than in previous years. Switzerland, on its part, received most applicants from Nigeria and Eritrea.

Where do they go?

In 2009, France, Germany, the UK, Sweden and Belgium received most asylum applications. In total, these five countries received more than half of all the applications to European countries that report figures to Eurostat. This situation did not change in 2010. France still received the highest number of asylum seekers, while Germany and Sweden experienced a strong increase. Belgium also experienced an increase, but not as strong. Denmark received significantly more applicants than the year before, but the number was still relatively low.

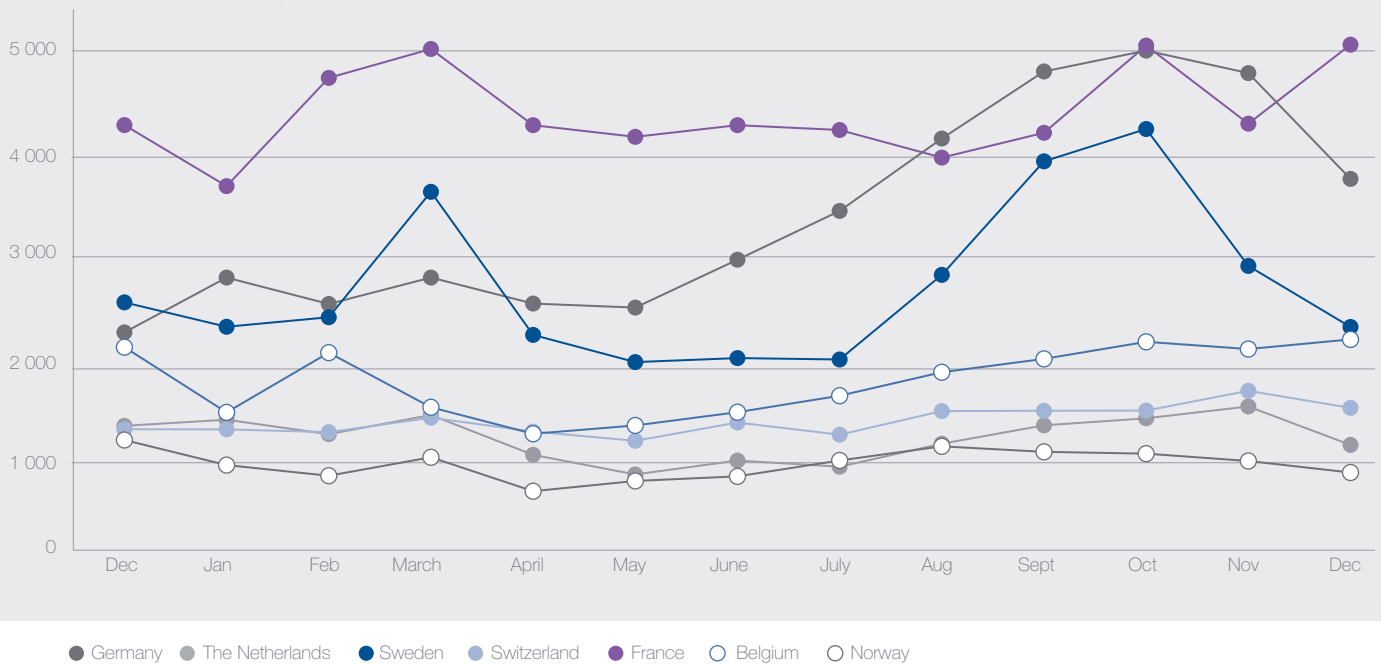
Finland saw a decline and received fewer asylum seekers than Denmark. In addition to Norway, Italy, Greece, Austria and Poland were among the countries that experienced a strong decline in 2010.

What influences where they choose to go?

The EU countries are cooperating more and more closely on developing practice, raising competence and improving country information in order to reduce the differences between the member states. The decisions of the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR) and the European Court of Justice also influence the development of regulations and the different countries' policies. There is nonetheless a long way to go before a uniform European asylum policy is achieved, and different countries also interpret European regulations differently. Such national differences can affect which country asylum seekers choose to go to.

In recent years, Norway has introduced several restrictive asylum policy measures, which may partly explain why Norway experienced a strong decline in the number of asylum seekers in 2010. We have also entered into return agreements with several countries of origin to make it easier to return asylum seekers who have received a final rejection of their application. Ever since nationals of Serbia and Macedonia were allowed to travel freely without a visa in the Schengen area towards the end of

Asylum seekers to selected European countries, 2010



2009, many countries have experienced a significant increase in the number of asylum seekers from these countries. Because they are considered to be safe countries and these applicants very rarely need protection, we introduced fast-track processing of these applications. This may be one of the reasons why we received very few applications from these countries compared with many other European countries. By comparison, Sweden received almost 7,500 applicants from these two countries alone. Correspondingly, Sweden received far fewer

applicants from Somalia after it introduced more stringent identity documentation requirements in family immigration cases.

In general, Northern European countries have more registered asylum seekers than Southern European countries. In the report 'Why Norway?', which, among other things, is based on interviews with asylum seekers about why they chose to come to Norway, security and future prospects are highlighted as the most important reasons for coming to Northern Europe. The countries'

economic situation and the prospects of finding a job are of great importance to the asylum seekers' choice. The same applies to established networks in the form of family, friends or ethnic communities, as well as historical ties between the country of origin and the destination country. Previous asylum seekers' experience in their new home country is also important. If they tell about a country in which they are taken care of and allowed to stay, these experiences are passed on.

Greece – a challenge for the Dublin cooperation

The Dublin Regulation is a collaboration between the EU countries, Switzerland, Iceland and Norway that means that an asylum application shall be dealt with in the country in which the applicant first applied for asylum, was granted a residence permit, issued a visa or was registered for crossing a border illegally.

The financial crisis that hit Greece in spring and summer 2010 again called attention to the situation for refugees in the country. Greece receives a large proportion of the asylum seekers who come to Europe. Pursuant to the Dublin Regulation, it must also consider asylum applications on their merits from those who are returned after having left Greece and

applied for asylum in other European countries.

Voluntary organisations have long been critical of the situation for asylum seekers in Greece. Greece has major shortcomings in its reception capacity and asylum case processing procedures, and the percentage of applicants who are granted permits is lower than in other European countries for several groups. The UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) has requested member states not to return asylum seekers to Greece. As one of only a few countries, Norway stopped returning asylum seekers to Greece in 2008. This may have led to many more people seeking asylum in Norway, and the Government decided that we would

resume the return of most groups of asylum seekers to ensure that our practice was in line with other European countries. Exceptions were still made for certain groups, such as unaccompanied minors, and all cases were considered on an individual basis.

Towards the end of 2010, we again stopped returning people following a request from the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR). This time, Norway was one of many European countries that stopped returning people at the same time, and there are no indications so far that the change has led to a marked increase in the number of asylum applications.



More people were granted protection

A total of 5,290 persons were granted residence in Norway in 2010 after having applied for protection (asylum). This accounted for 41 per cent of all the applications that the UDI considered on their merits. In addition, we received 1,130 resettlement refugees.

More were granted refugee status

Previously, only persons who met the definition of a refugee in the UN Refugee Convention (fear of persecution based on race, religion, nationality, political conviction or membership of a particular social group) were recognised as refugees. Pursuant to the new Immigration Act, refugee status is also granted to persons at real risk of facing the death penalty, torture or other inhumane or degrading treatment or punishment. In 2010, 4,540 persons were granted such status in Norway after having applied for asylum, which is 56 per cent more than in 2009.

If the applicant is not in need of protection, we must nonetheless consider whether the applicant should be granted a residence permit due to a particular connection to Norway or strong humanitarian considerations. Asylum seekers can be granted residence permits on such grounds if, for

example, they have a serious illness that cannot be treated in their home country or if there are social or humanitarian grounds that make return to their home country difficult. In 2010, 750 persons were granted residence on such grounds.

Who was granted residence?

More than a third of those who were granted residence in Norway after having applied for asylum were children and young people under the age of 18. Forty unaccompanied minor asylum seekers between the ages of 16 and 18 were granted temporary residence in Norway until they turn 18.

Almost 2,000 of those who were granted residence were women, and the percentage of permits granted in this group was close to 47. This shows that a large proportion of the women had a genuine need for protection. Among male applicants, 38 per cent were granted residence.

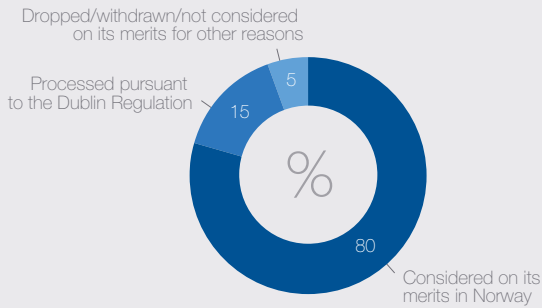
Most permits were granted to people from Eritrea, Somalia, Afghanistan, Iran and Iraq. Many stateless applicants, mainly from the West Bank and Gaza, were also granted residence.

Difference in percentage granted residence from different countries of origin

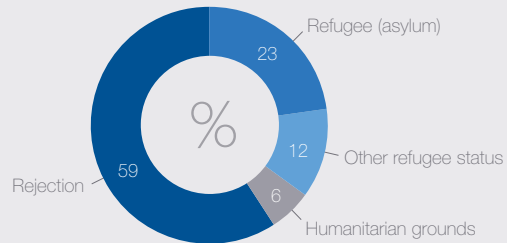
The percentage of applications granted is related to both which groups of persons have their application processed and the conditions in their home countries. More than 83 per cent of Somalis whose applications were processed were granted residence. By comparison, 77 per cent of Eritreans, 41 per cent of Afghans and 37 per cent of Ethiopians were granted residence. The percentage of applications granted was lower for all these countries than in 2009.



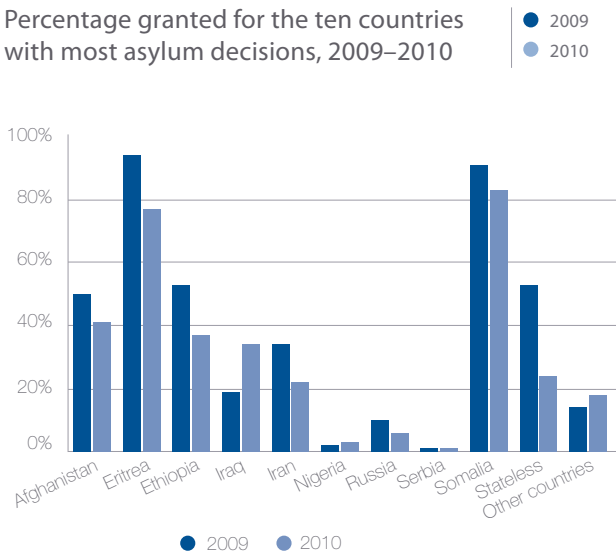
Decisions in asylum cases by type of decision, 2010



Decisions in asylum cases considered on their merits by outcome, 2010



Percentage granted for the ten countries with most asylum decisions, 2009–2010



Many applicants were already registered in another European country

Just over 2,000 of the 10,100 persons who applied for asylum in Norway in 2010 were already registered in another European country in the Dublin cooperation before they came to Norway. In principle, these applicants shall be returned to the country in which they were registered to have their application processed there.

This applied to more than 30 per cent of applicants from some countries, such as Somalia, Russia, Nigeria and Iraq. This is

often related to the travel routes that they use to come to Europe and then Norway.

In 2010, we sent 2,500 requests to other European countries asking whether they could take back or take over the asylum case processing for persons who had applied for asylum in Norway. Most requests were sent to Italy, Sweden, Greece, Germany and Poland. At the same time, we received 2,040 such requests from other countries, mostly from Sweden, Germany, Denmark, France and Finland.

As a result of the difficult situation for asylum seekers in Greece, towards the end of the year, Norway started considering applications on their merits from persons who should have been returned to Greece. This meant that applicants who needed protection would be given it in Norway and that we also took responsibility for returning those who did not meet the requirements for residence to their home countries. In total, we considered 180 applications from persons who should have been returned to Greece.

What does it mean to consider an application on its merits?

Considering an application on its merits means that the UDI considers whether a person is in need of protection. If the applicant is not in need of protection, we consider whether the applicant should be granted residence based on strong humanitarian grounds or a particular connection to Norway. When we consider applications

from persons who are already registered in another Dublin country, we do not consider whether they need protection but whether they should be returned to that country. Some cases are also dropped or withdrawn by the applicant.

In 2010, we processed 16,500 applications for protection, but only 13,000 of these applications were considered on their merits. A total of 2,430 applicants received a Dublin decision, and 910 of the applications were dropped or withdrawn by the applicant.

Resettlement refugees

Norway received 1,130 resettlement refugees in 2010, 58 per cent of whom were women.

Selection of refugees

Resettlement refugees are refugees who cannot return to their home country. The UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) asks other countries to accept these refugees. Almost 80 per cent of the resettlement refugees who came to Norway in 2010 were selected on the basis of an interview with the UDI. Most of the refugees from Sudan and Syria came from refugee camps run by the UNHCR. Many so-called urban refugees, who do not live in refugee camps, came from Iran, Malaysia and Turkey. These refugees often do not receive the same assistance from the UNHCR as refugees in camps and therefore have a strong need for settlement in another country in which they are guaranteed fundamental rights.

Who was granted residence in 2010?

The biggest groups were 220 Eritreans who had fled to Sudan, and 210 Burmese nationals who had stayed in Malaysia. In addition, about 150 persons came from each of the following groups: Palestinians, Iraqis staying in Syria, Afghans staying in Iran and Iranians staying in Turkey. There was also an open quota for refugees from unspecified countries of origin, a medical quota and a quota for cases processed in accordance with procedures for urgent cases.

In addition, we used funds corresponding to 48 quota places to finance the sending of personnel from the Norwegian immigration administration to work in the UNHCR and on other projects relating to resettlement refugees.

More women

In 2010, the requirement for the proportion of women was increased from 55 to 60 per cent, and, in all, 660 female resettlement refugees were granted protection in Norway. Many women who experience human rights violations in their first asylum country are granted residence on grounds of vulnerability. In total, vulnerable women accounted for 13 per cent of all resettlement refugees, many of whom were women with children who had lived as refugees in Iran or Sudan.



Paperless and unreturnable?

In an open society such as Norway, there will always be people who are staying here illegally. But are they 'paperless' and unreturnable?

Difficult to estimate the scope

The number of people who are staying in Norway illegally is highly uncertain. Statistics Norway has estimated that the number in 2006 was approximately 18,000, and that two thirds of them were former asylum seekers.

Not unreturnable

All of those who have received a rejection of their asylum application have had their case thoroughly considered, and all the agencies involved have concluded that they are not in need of protection. The media often refer to them as 'paperless' and 'unreturnable'; but these terms do not accurately describe their situation. True, they do not have Norwegian identity papers, but that is because they are not entitled to reside in Norway.

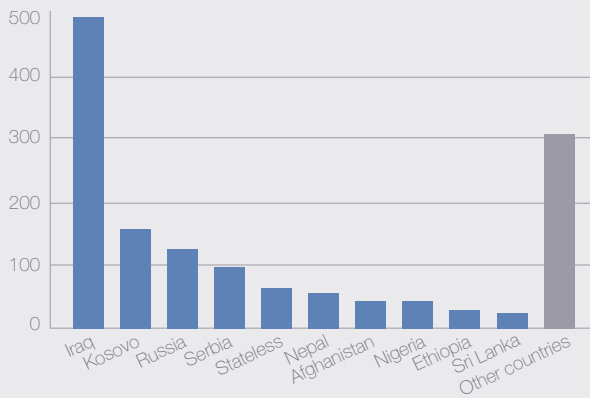
Everyone who receives a final rejection of their residence application has a duty to leave Norway. Voluntary return is an option, and all countries are obliged to accept their own nationals. Some people nonetheless choose to stay in Norway and not cooperate with the authorities on returning to their home country.

The rule is that those who do not return voluntarily will be escorted out of the country by the police. It is difficult, however, to forcibly return people to countries with which Norway does not have a readmission agreement. Forced return is also difficult in cases in which the person has not clarified his/her identity. This makes the expulsion process time-consuming, and the result may be that some people remain in Norway for a long time.

Fewer rights

There is nonetheless no doubt that some of those who are staying here illegally are in a difficult situation with an uncertain future and few rights. The UDI offers food and accommodation to everyone, and they are also entitled to acute medical services. However, persons who have received a final rejection are not allowed to work, and they are not entitled to social security benefits. In order to encourage as few as possible to reside illegally in Norway, we are working on establishing good return arrangements that will result in more people choosing voluntary return with support from the Norwegian authorities. Voluntary assisted return means that the person in question is given free return travel and financial support to resettle in his/her home country.

Voluntary return by nationality, 2010



Voluntary and forced return, 2005–2010



Source: The National Police Immigration Service

Many returned voluntarily

In 2010, almost 1,450 people returned to their home countries with support from the Norwegian authorities. Not since 2003 have so many chosen voluntary assisted return. The increase may be due to the fact that many asylum seekers came to Norway in 2008 and 2009, that we increased our focus on measures relating to return and that more people were forcibly returned.

Help to return

Everyone who has received a final rejection of their application for asylum or is staying illegally in Norway is obliged to leave the country. To obtain help with travel to their home countries, people can apply for assistance for voluntary return. In October, the UDI took over responsibility for processing applications for voluntary assisted return from the National Police Immigration Service. We still cooperate with the police when considering who will be given assistance from the Norwegian authorities to return home voluntarily.

People who return voluntarily will not have to pay the cost of the trip and will not be accompanied by the police. An independent organisation, International Organization for Migration (IOM), offers information and advice. This includes helping immigrants to obtain travel documents, organising the return journey and practical assistance when they arrive in their home country. Since the programme for voluntary return started in 2002, more than 7,950 people have availed themselves of the offer.

Support doubled

The Norwegian authorities would like more people to choose to return home voluntarily. That is why the financial support offered to people from most countries was doubled to up to NOK 20,000. The new, increased support is structured so that those who apply for voluntary return soon after their application has been rejected receive more financial support than those who apply after the deadline for leaving the country has expired. The support is intended to make life easier in the initial period after returning.

One out of three to Iraq

IOM helped people of more than 70 different nationalities to return to their home countries, but more than a third of those who applied for support were Iraqis. A separate return programme has been developed for Iraq, and an increasing number of people choose to avail themselves of this offer. In 2010, 500 Iraqis returned voluntarily, compared with 370 in 2009. Many also decided to return voluntarily to Kosovo (160), Russia (130) and Serbia (100).

Forced return

People who no longer have legal residence in Norway must return voluntarily by the deadline set for leaving. If not, they can be escorted out of the country by the police. Those who are forcibly returned must cover the cost of the trip for both themselves and the police. If they are unable to pay, they will become indebted to the Norwegian authorities. Just over 4,620 persons were forcibly returned in 2010, an increase of 38 per cent on the year before. They were not necessarily returned to their home countries. The biggest group was returned to Italy as a result of the Dublin cooperation. This group also had to cover the travel expenses. The increased focus on forced return may have contributed to more people applying for voluntary assisted return.

More readmission agreements

Readmission agreements are important tools in relation to both forced and voluntary return. In 2010, agreements with Kosovo, Serbia and Armenia entered into force, and we also signed an agreement with Kazakhstan. By the end of the year, we had readmission agreements with 24 countries, 17 of which were countries outside the EEA.



Voluntary assisted return increasingly important

Voluntary return has become an important part of Norway's asylum policy. This is the main conclusion of a historical review of the voluntary return scheme conducted by the Institute for Social Research. The researchers point to two reasons why voluntary return has become so important: Firstly, more people avail themselves of the arrangement than before and,

secondly, voluntary return legitimises the work on forced return.

The arrangement is nonetheless most important for those who return to their home countries. According to the study, more asylum seekers return voluntarily to their home countries than are forcibly returned. Iraqi asylum seekers are one

example. In total, 1,300 Iraqis who have received a rejection have returned to their home country during the past eight years. Of these, 950 returned voluntarily, while the rest were escorted by the police.

Read the report 'Voluntary return from Norway. A historical review' at www.udi.no





Fewer places needed in reception centres

The decline in the number of asylum seekers led to 48 asylum reception centres and 4,205 places in reception centres being closed down or decided to be closed down.

Great variation in the need for places in reception centres

Asylum seekers are entitled to a place to stay while they are waiting for their applications to be decided, and most accept the offer of a place in an asylum reception centre. The need for places in reception centres depends on the number of asylum seekers. During the past decade, the number of applicants varied from just over 5,000 to almost 17,500. The UDI is responsible for enough places being available at all times, but at the same time, we must avoid having too many unoccupied places in reception centres. When fewer asylum seekers come, we must reduce the number of places or close down asylum reception centres. By the end of 2010, we had far more places than the number of asylum seekers. This is because it takes time to process asylum applications, consider appeals from those who receive a rejection and settle those who are granted residence. It also takes time to close down places in reception centres.

Quickly closed down

When the number of asylum seekers has peaked, it is common that the number evens out before it starts to decline. This time, however, the decline came right after the peak. Shortly after we had established new reception centres, we had to close them down, and this meant that many reception centres and units were only in operation for a relatively short period. Some municipalities opposed reception centres being closed down so quickly. The resistance to the closure of these asylum reception centres shows that the centres can be a positive resource for the local community and important sources of income for municipalities. This makes it even more difficult to decide to close them down.

Many reception centres for young asylum seekers closed down

The UDI is responsible for accommodation for applicants between the ages of 15 and 18. They stay in separate units or reception centres adapted to their needs, with more

staff than asylum reception centres for adults. Due to the marked decline in the number of unaccompanied minor asylum seekers, we halved the number of places in reception centres for this group during the year.

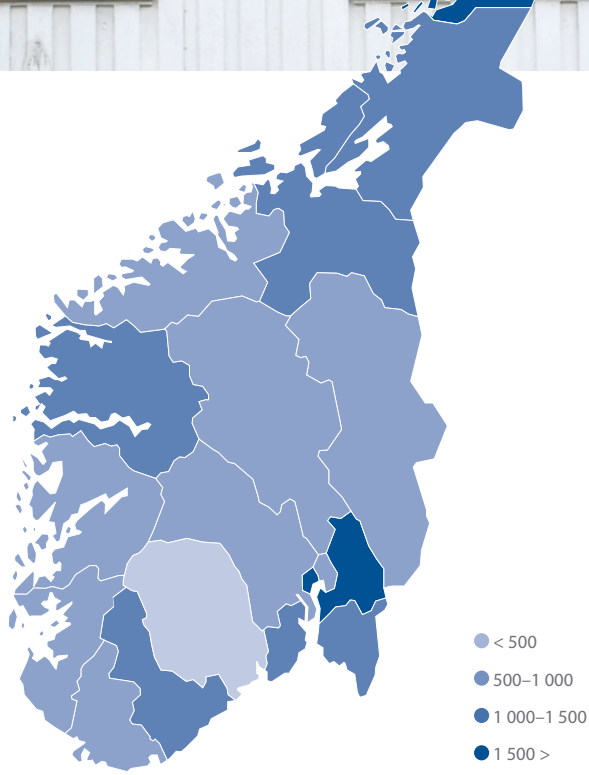
Introduction of return centres

Summer 2010 was characterised by unrest in the two reception centres for asylum seekers waiting to be returned after having received a final rejection. Lier reception centre was burned to the ground, and the Fagerli centre was subjected to extensive vandalism. This meant that we had to find temporary solutions for the residents in these reception centres, which also led to a debate about the arrangement itself: an offer of basic accommodation for adult asylum seekers who had received a final rejection. Because groups such as families with children and sick people were exempted from the arrangement, the residents mainly consisted of single, adult males.



19 750
places in reception centres
in Norway

16 600
residents



Places in reception centres by county at the end of 2010

At the end of 2010, there were 19,750 places in reception centres in Norway, and 16,600 residents. While there were reception centres in all counties, there were big differences in the number of places from one part of the country to another. Nordland county had most places (2,260), while Finnmark had fewest (460).

Of the 129 reception centres, eight were transit reception centres, two were transit reception centres for unaccompanied minor asylum seekers, 15 were ordinary reception centres for unaccompanied minor asylum seekers and 104 were ordinary asylum reception centres. In addition, we had five strengthened units and 18 units for unaccompanied minor asylum seekers.

Based on evaluations of the system of reception centres for people awaiting return conducted by both the UDI and NTNU Social Research, the Government decided in autumn 2010 that the system should be discontinued. Instead, we will establish return centres for those who have a duty to leave the country. The centres will be of an equivalent standard to ordinary reception centres. By the end of 2010, there were more than 4,400 persons in the reception system who had a duty to leave the country. All of them will eventually lose their place in ordinary reception centres and be offered a place in a return centre. Unaccompa-

nied minors are excluded from the target group, and the system does not include persons who have received a Dublin decision.

The return centres will resemble ordinary reception centres in terms of their standard, staffing, activity level and the composition of residents. The difference will be an increased focus on residents returning to their home countries. All the return centres shall organise qualification courses aimed at providing practical help that can increase residents' chances of finding work and becoming reintegrated in their home countries. The idea is that, if everyday life in the cen-

tres consists of activities relating to return, qualification courses and information, it will make more people motivated to return voluntarily.

Where the centres will be located has yet to be decided, but one possible solution is to convert ordinary reception centres into return centres. At the turn of the year, we were still working on the design of the new return centres, and the goal is to get the first centres up and running by summer 2011. This is the biggest reorganisation of the reception centre system ever.

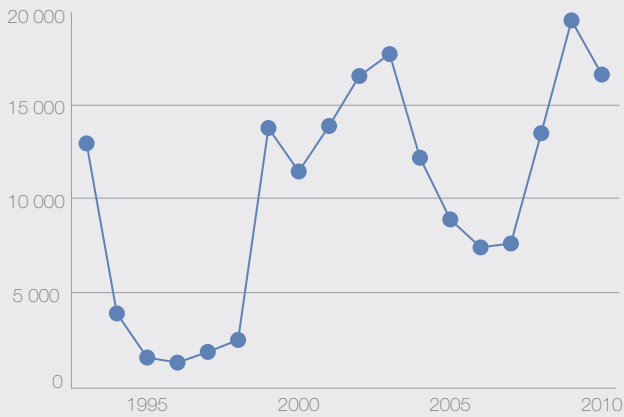
Good relations between reception centres and the local community

The UDI's establishment of a new asylum reception centre is often met by local scepticism and resistance. Once up and running, however, it turns out that most of the recep-

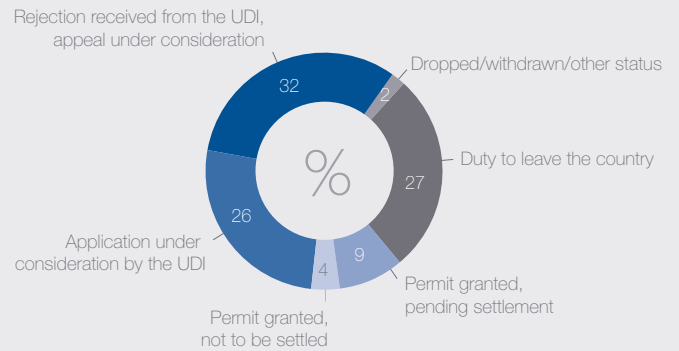
tion centres and municipalities have good relations. This is shown by a research project conducted by Agder Research and the Centre for Urban Ecology in 2010.

Spokespersons for more than 90 per cent of the reception centres and 85 per cent of the municipalities describe their relations as 'good' or 'very good'.

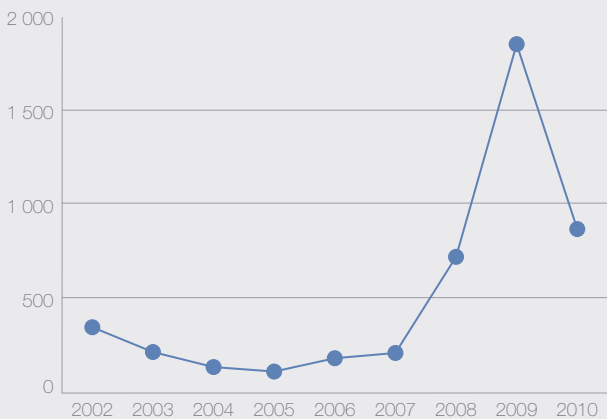
Residents in reception centres at year end, 1993–2010



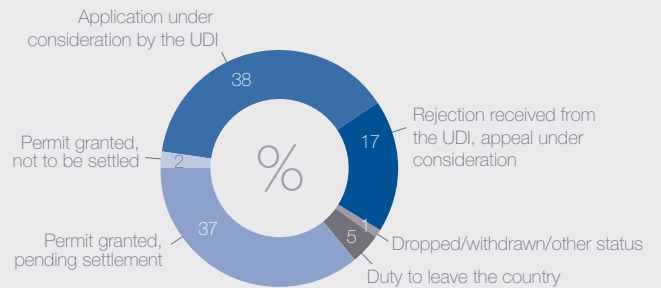
Residents in reception centres by application status at year end, 2010



Residents in reception centres for unaccompanied minors and care centres at year end, 2002–2010



Residents in reception centres for unaccompanied minors by application status at year end, 2010





Living in reception centre is voluntary

The UDI has a duty to offer housing to all asylum seekers, but they are not obliged to stay in the reception centres. Most accept a place in a reception centre, but many choose to leave the centre after a while – either for good or for a shorter or longer period.

Not everyone tells us where they are going

The UDI is not able or entitled to hold back persons who wish to leave, but we ask everyone to notify the reception centre and the UDI about where they are going. However, many people leave the reception centres without giving a new address. At the end of 2010, 3,580 persons had left without us knowing where they were staying. Based on experience, many of them will be registered with a known address at a later date. Some have probably gone back to their home country, some have gone to other European countries without being registered in the Dublin system, and others have found a place to stay in Norway on their own.

Unaccompanied minors

Unaccompanied minor asylum seekers aged between 15 and 18 live in separate reception

centres and units. This is also voluntary. If young asylum seekers leave the reception centre, the standard procedure is to report this to the police and the child welfare service. The UDI takes the disappearance of unaccompanied minors from reception centres very seriously, and we are constantly endeavouring to prevent this happening.

Experience shows that most of the young people who leave reception centres either do so very early in the asylum process or after having received a rejection of their asylum application. Many of those who leave early had been registered in another European country before they came. As a rule, this means that we will not process their asylum application in Norway. Those who have received a rejection are not entitled to protection in the Norwegian authorities' view. They are also often considered to be adults.

Over or around 18 years old

The vast majority of the asylum seekers who come to Norway have no papers or documents that can confirm their age. They are initially registered with the age that they have stated. The result of the age assessment process means that about a quarter of all those who apply for protection as unaccompanied minors are treated as adults when we make a decision in their case.

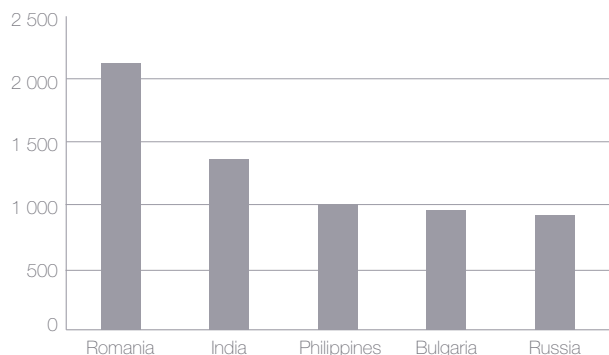
Many of those who leave reception centres for young asylum seekers are either just over or just under 18 years old. A total of 78 of the asylum seekers who left a reception centre for young asylum seekers in 2010 had not yet been registered with a known address by the end of the year.



WORK AND RESIDENCE



Work permit, top five countries of origin, 2010



Far fewer applications, but just as many new labour immigrants

A total of 8,300 persons were granted work permits for the first time in 2010, and 5,160 were granted renewed work permits. This is a marked decrease on previous years, but most of it can be explained by the new registration system for EEA nationals.

EEA nationals do not have to apply

The new registration system means that most non-Nordic EEA nationals no longer need to apply for a permit to work in Norway. They only need to register with the police if they are going to stay in Norway for more than three months. In 2010, 42,650 EEA nationals registered as job seekers, employees, service providers or self-employed persons in Norway. If we look at the number of registrations and the number of work permits together, the number of labour immigrants has not changed much.

More than four out of ten of the registered EEA nationals came from Poland. Many also came from Lithuania. In all, nationals of the Baltic countries accounted for more than a third of the work registrations.

Stable number of applicants from countries outside Europe

Romanians and Bulgarians are covered by transitional rules that mean that they still have to apply for a work permit. In 2010, 1,780 new labour immigrants came from these countries, compared with 2,340 in 2009. The number of work permits granted to non-European nationals has remained relatively stable in recent years.

Almost a quarter of those who had to apply for a work permit came from Romania or India. Other countries with many applicants were Bulgaria, Russia, the Ukraine, the Philippines and the USA.

Many worked in agriculture and fish processing

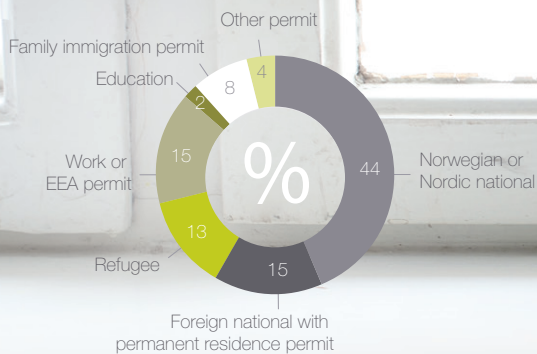
The biggest group of labour immigrants came to work in agriculture and the fish processing industry. There were many Russian, Ukrainian and Vietnamese nationals in this group. Among Indians, most came to work in the IT

industry, while many Romanians came to work in building and construction or in transport and communication, the retail sector or the hotel and restaurant industry. Bulgarians and Romanians were granted EEA permits, Indians and Filipinos were mainly granted permits to work in occupations that require vocational training, higher education or special qualifications (skilled workers), and many of those from the Ukraine and Vietnam were granted seasonal work permits.

Higher rejection percentage

Almost one in five had their work permit application rejected in 2010. In 2009, only one out of twenty received a rejection, but although the rejection percentage increased, we actually rejected 200 fewer applications. This can partly be explained by the fact that EEA nationals no longer have to apply, and that the approval percentage for this group was high. During the summer, we also considered some difficult cases from 2009, many of which ended in a rejection.

Family immigration permits by the main person's grounds for residence, 2010



Family immigration to Norway more difficult

There were fewer applications for family immigration in 2010 and a higher percentage was rejected. The new Immigration Act has led to big changes for people who wish to move to a family member in Norway.

Fewer applications as a result of new rules for EEA nationals

In 2010, UDI received 15,170 applications for family immigration, 11 per cent fewer than the year before. The police process most of the EEA applications, and the decline in the number of applications to the immigration administration as a whole was 20 per cent. The main reason for this decline was that most non-Nordic EEA nationals no longer had to apply for a family immigration permit to live with a family member in Norway. Now, they only have to register with the police. In 2010, a total of 11,540 EEA nationals registered on the grounds of family immigration.

More stringent requirements led to more rejections

Almost 10,000 people were granted family immigration permits in 2010. This is the lowest number for many years and 45 per cent lower than the year before. Fewer applications and the registration system for EEA nationals explain part of this change, but the UDI also rejected a much higher proportion of the applications than previously.

While the regulations are less stringent for EEA nationals, the new Immigration Act has led to stricter rules for other groups. New and more stringent subsistence requirements and fewer opportunities to make exceptions from the requirement have contributed to the sharp increase in the rejection rate. The new subsistence

requirement means that the applicant must document that the family member living in Norway has sufficient income and has not received social security benefits during the past year. The family member must also be guaranteed future income, and benefits such as unemployment benefit, work assessment allowance and own funds can no longer be included. This contributed to an increase in the rejection rate from 22 per cent in 2009 to 28 per cent in 2010.

In many cases, the new act requires that the person living in Norway must have been employed or studied here for four years before a family member can be granted a family immigration permit. So far, the four-year requirement has had only limited effect on the outcome of applications, but it could have affected who chose to apply.

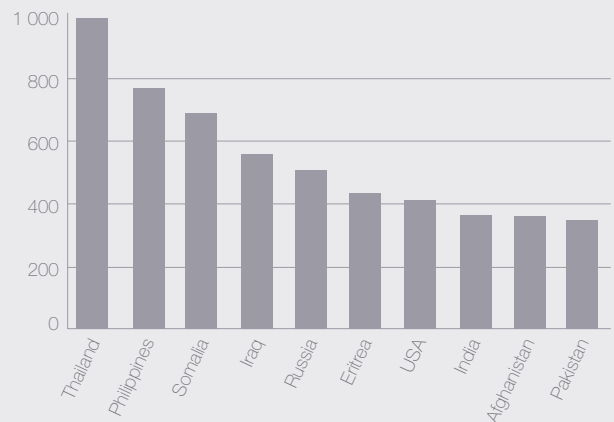


Family immigration permits, 2001–2010



In autumn 2009, the requirement for a residence permit was dropped for most EEA nationals.

Family immigration permits, top ten countries of origin, 2010



The UDI also gave priority to dealing with the oldest cases and the cases expected to be the most difficult in 2010. The rejection rate is higher for these applications than for other cases.

More rejections of children and nationals of certain countries

The rejections were not evenly distributed between the different countries of origin. Over a third of the rejections concerned nationals of Somalia, Afghanistan or Eritrea – three countries that have traditionally had many applicants and a relatively high rejection rate. For nationals of Kosovo, Turkey, Pakistan and Somalia, there was a big increase in the rejection rate compared with the year before. Most rejections concerned persons who applied for family immigration as a spouse, but also many elderly parents and children from Somalia had their applications rejected.

In total, the UDI rejected nearly twice as many applications for children from a former relationship (children with only one parent in Norway) as in the previous year. The new subsistence requirement was the most important explanation for this. In cases where children applied for family immigration together with a parent with a new partner in Norway, several

applications were rejected on the basis of the four-year requirement.

Who were granted family immigration permits?

While EEA nationals previously accounted for a large proportion of regulated family immigration to Norway, the largest groups in 2010 were from Thailand, the Philippines, Somalia, Iraq and Russia. More than a third of all those granted family immigration permits were from these five countries. These countries were also strongly represented in the 2009 statistics. More Filipinos were granted family immigration permits in 2010 than the previous year, while the UDI granted fewer permits to nationals of Thailand, Somalia, Iraq and Russia.

Who were they granted family immigration permits with?

There are clear differences in terms of who family immigration applicants from different countries applied to be reunited with. Four out of ten were granted family immigration permits with a Norwegian or Nordic national. Among these, there were most applicants from Thailand, the Philippines and Russia. Eritreans and Somalis were mostly granted permits to be reunited with a family member who had

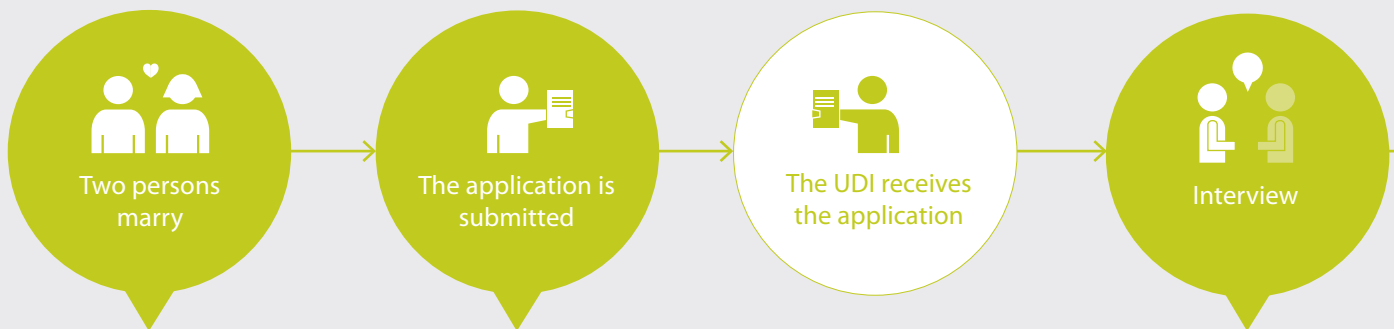
come to Norway as an asylum seeker, and most of the family immigrants from India moved in with a family member working in Norway.

Marriages of convenience lead to rejection
In 2010, the UDI rejected 185 applicants for family immigration because we believed that the marriage had mainly been entered into in order for the applicant to be granted a residence permit, a so-called marriage of convenience. Most of these cases concerned nationals of Turkey, Somalia, Morocco, Kosovo, Vietnam and Pakistan. In 2009, we rejected 198 applications on these grounds. The slight reduction may be linked to the fact that the UDI processed fewer family immigration cases.

In 2010, the UDI was given the right to obtain information from the police about people's police records, and seven applications were rejected on the grounds that the UDI believed that the applicant or the children of the applicant could be abused or grossly exploited.



The procedure when a spouse applies for a family immigration permit



The marriage must be approved in the country in which they marry. The marriage must also qualify for approval by the Norwegian population register. This means that both parties must be over 18 years old and both must be present when they are married. A marriage will not be approved if they are married to someone else at the same time.

If they marry in Norway, both spouses must have legal residence in Norway in order for the marriage to be approved. If it is problematic for them to marry abroad, they can apply for a special residence permit to get married in Norway. Asylum seekers who have had their application rejected cannot marry in Norway.

Usually, the person living abroad must apply him/herself for a residence permit from abroad. In exceptional cases, the applicant may submit the application from Norway. This applies, for example, if the applicant is from a country that is not subject to a visa requirement or if he/she has vocational education. The person living abroad must go to an embassy or consulate to submit the documents and proof of his/her identity.

The UDI is bound by a duty of confidentiality regarding the case, also in relation to the family members in Norway unless they are granted written authorisation.

The person living in Norway will often be interviewed by the police in the district where he/she lives.

Among other things, the interview is intended to ensure that the marriage is genuine (that it is not a marriage of convenience) and that it has been entered into voluntarily, i.e. that it is not a forced marriage.

In some cases, the UDI also requests the embassy or the consulate to interview the applicant abroad.



A family immigration permit is usually valid for one year at a time. The police process most applications for renewals.

It is important to renew the permit within the deadline in order to retain your work permit and other rights in Norway while your case is being processed. It is a condition for the permit to be renewed that the couple live together. Among other things, this means that neither of the spouses can normally commute weekly.

When the person has held a residence permit for three years, he/she can apply for a permanent residence permit. In order to be granted a permanent residence permit, it is a requirement that the applicant has attended a Norwegian language course or learned Norwegian.

The UDI sometimes uncovers marriages of convenience when processing applications for permanent residence permits. In such cases, the residence permit is revoked and the applicant must leave Norway.

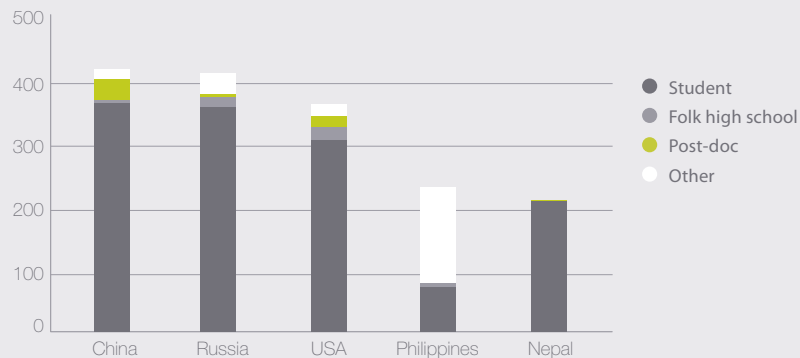
Normally, it is possible to apply for citizenship after seven years, but if a person has been married to a Norwegian national and held a residence permit in Norway, he or she can be granted citizenship already after three and a half years.

A good conduct requirement also applies. If a person has been convicted of a crime or fined, he or she is not entitled to Norwegian citizenship before after a certain period of time, depending on how serious the conviction is.

Once Norwegian citizenship is granted, an application can be submitted to the police for a Norwegian passport.

If the applicant's application is rejected, he/she has the right to appeal. The UDI will first consider whether the decision can be changed before forwarding the case to the Immigration Appeals Board, if applicable. The new subsistence requirements resulted in more applicants having their applications for family immigration rejected in 2010 than in previous years.

Study permits by grounds, top five countries of origin, 2010



Au pair permits are not included in this figure.

More people allowed to study

In 2010, more students came from countries outside the EU area than the year before. New types of study permits resulted in more students coming. The total number of study permits declined, however, since EEA nationals no longer need to apply for a residence permit.

More foreign students

EEA nationals can now study in Norway without applying for a residence permit, and 4,290 EEA nationals registered as students in 2010.

A total of 3,940 students from countries outside the EU area were granted a study permit, and, as in the year before, most applicants were from China, Russia and the USA. Most people who were granted study permits came to study at a university college or university.

Au pair permits are also regarded as a type of study permit. The purpose of this scheme is cultural exchange whereby the au pair lives with a Norwegian family and participates in Norwegian language tuition. In addition to the 3,940 study permits, 1,510 people were granted au pair permits in 2010. Almost 80 per cent of the au pairs come from the Philippines.

In addition, 3,840 students renewed their permits. A total of 9,290 persons had study permits in Norway in 2010.

New possibilities for skilled workers

The new Immigration Act allows two new types of study permits, one permit for skilled workers who wish to study Norwegian and the other for skilled workers who need necessary additional education. Both permits allow part-time work in addition to studies.

The permits are the result of a desire to facilitate labour immigration. Many Norwegian employers reported that it was often difficult to employ otherwise qualified foreign nationals because they lacked Norwegian language skills. Additional education is particularly important in professions that cannot be practised without the employee having a licence or authorisation, for example health professionals and electricians. A total of 220 persons were granted permits to attend Norwegian language courses or

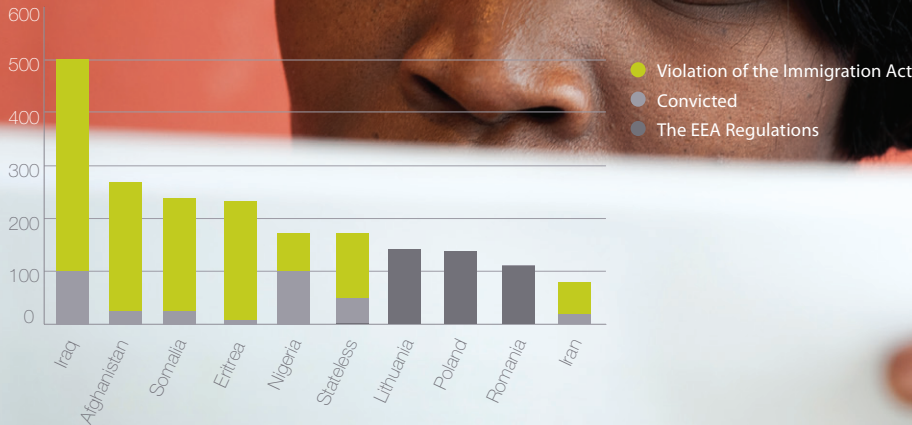
take additional education in 2010, and this number is likely to increase as these options become more known. It is still too early to say whether the new permits will result in the desired increase in applications for work permits in Norway.

New graduates and researchers

In the past, most foreign students financed their stay in Norway through various grant programmes and the stay was often connected to aid. Now, more and more students are financing their studies themselves. Norway wishes to retain the expertise these students acquire. Previously, the main rule was that all students were required to return home after the end of their period of study. Now, new graduates and researchers can be granted a residence permit for six months to apply for a job in Norway. In 2010, 70 persons were granted such permit to apply for a job after finishing their studies or research stay.



Expulsion by grounds, top five countries of origin, 2010



More expulsion decisions

A total of 3,430 persons were expelled in 2010. This is an increase of more than 30 per cent from 2009, and more than 50 per cent from 2008. Much of the increase is due to the fact that we gave high priority to these cases and allocated resources in order to reduce the number of unprocessed cases.

Several reasons for expulsion

There are two main reasons why people are expelled from Norway: violation of the General Civil Penal Code and violation of the Immigration Act. Violation of the Penal Code means that the person has committed a criminal offence, while a typical violation of the Immigration Act could be providing incorrect information in connection with an application or having stayed in Norway without a permit.

The increase in the number of expulsion decisions can, among other things, be explained by the UDI having given high priority to the processing of expulsions cases. In 2009, the UDI also started making expulsion decisions in asylum cases where the applicant has failed to inform Norwegian authorities that he/she had previously applied for asylum in another country, at the same time as we decided that the asylum application was to be processed in that country (a so-called

Dublin decision). This resulted in more expulsion decisions. In addition, the big increase in the number of asylum applications in 2008 and 2009 led to more expulsion cases in 2009 and 2010.

More than 15 per cent of all expelled persons were Iraqis. Other large groups were Afghans, Somalis and Eritreans. These are nationals of countries from which we receive many asylum applications.

EEA nationals have extended protection against expulsion. Nevertheless, almost 500 EEA nationals were expelled in 2010, the majority from Lithuania, Poland or Romania.

The Returns Directive will result in more expulsions

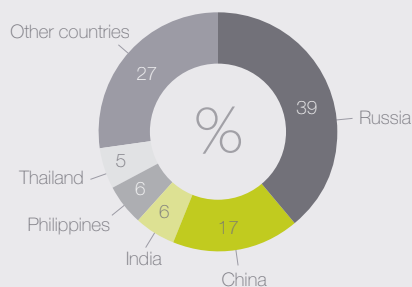
In December 2010, the Norwegian Parliament, the Storting, decided that the EU's Returns Directive will apply in Norway. This means that all foreign nationals who

do not leave Norway within a given deadline for leaving the country shall be expelled. The expulsion decision entails a prohibition against entry, which means that the expelled person cannot enter the Schengen area again before the expulsion period has expired. The expulsion period can be one, two or five years.

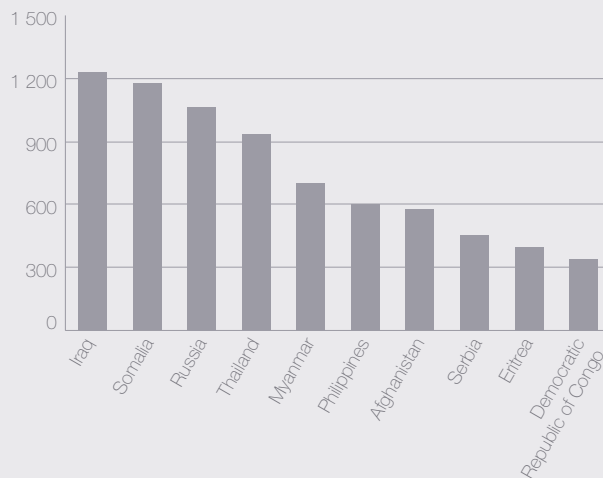
Fewer rejected on entry

A total of 690 persons were rejected on entry in 2010, a little fewer than the previous year. Nigeria and Russia topped the rejection statistics. Most Nigerians were rejected at the Norwegian border because they did not have enough money to support themselves during the stay, while most Russians lacked a residence permit, visa or passport.

Approved visitor's visas by nationality, 2010



Permanent residence by nationality, the ten largest countries, 2010



The tourists are back

Never before have so many people applied for a visitor's visa to Norway as in 2010. The immigration administration processed 126,000 applications, 94 per cent of which were approved. The UDI processed more visa applications than were received and the case processing time was strongly reduced.

A total of 18,000 more persons were granted a visitor's visa in 2010 than the year before. The Chinese accounted for the greatest increase; 20,300 Chinese people were granted a visitor's visa, an increase of 81 per cent. We also received more visitors from many other countries, but the Russians were still the largest group, with four out of ten approved visitor's visas. Other big countries in this connection were India, the Philippines and Thailand.

Easier to be granted a permanent residence permit

The new Immigration Act makes it easier to be granted permanent residence (previously called a 'settlement permit') in Norway. Previously, an applicant had to have resided in Norway for at least three years on the same type of permit (for example a work permit). Applicants can now be granted a permanent residence permit after a total period of legal residence of three years, even if the grounds for residence differ, for instance first as a family immigrant and then as a specialist. This can explain an increase of 13 per cent in 2010 from the previous year both in the number of applications and in the number of approvals. A total of 13,800 people were granted permanent residence.

The UDI processed more old and difficult applications, for example several cases where we decided to revoke a family immigration permit because we found it probable that a marriage was a marriage of convenience. In such cases, we reject the application for permanent residence. We also rejected a relatively large number of applications because the applicant had not documented that the requirement for completed tuition in the Norwegian language and social studies had been met. The UDI rejected a total of 810 applications for permanent residence, but some whose applications were rejected had their previous permit extended.



The new Norwegians: Somalis, Iraqis and Afghans

In 2010, 11,200 persons replaced their old citizenship with Norwegian citizenship, about the same number as the previous year. Former Somali nationals were the biggest group, 1,470 persons in all. In addition, 1,330 Iraqis and 1,050 Afghans were granted Norwegian citizenship. In total, they represent a third of all new Norwegian nationals.

Almost half of those granted Norwegian citizenship originally came to Norway as family immigrants, while four out of ten came as asylum seekers.

Two thirds of those granted new Norwegian citizenship were adults and 53 per cent of them were women. More than eight out of ten new Norwegian nationals from Thailand and the Philippines were women.

This is connected to the fact that many ethnic Norwegian men marry women from these countries.

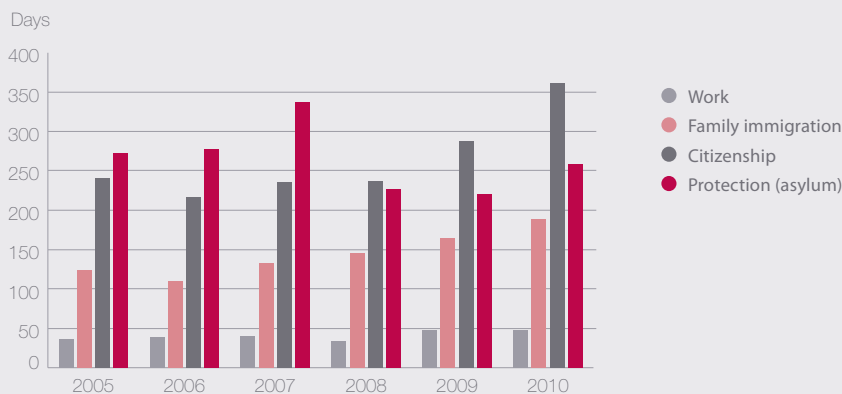
Twenty-seven per cent of the applications processed by the UDI were rejected. That is an increase on the previous year. In 2010, we processed many old, time-consuming cases, and this contributed to raising the rejection rate. The most common reason for rejection was that the applicant had not clarified his/her identity. Many applicants also had their applications rejected because they had not given up their former citizenship, did not enclose documentation of approved tuition in the Norwegian language, or had not resided in Norway for seven out of the last ten years.



FINANCES AND PRIORITIES



Case processing times (median) for work, family, citizenship and asylum cases, 2005–2010



Great variations in case processing times

Fewer asylum seekers came in 2010 than in the previous year, and we received fewer applications for residence permits as a result of the new registration system for EEA nationals. Many nevertheless had to wait a long time for a decision on their application.

Far fewer unprocessed asylum cases

The number of asylum applications was 42 per cent lower than in the previous year. As a result, the UDI was able to reduce the number of asylum cases awaiting processing, from 10,690 at the end of 2009 to 4,930 in 2010. However, since we gave priority to the oldest cases, the case processing time (median) for concluded cases nonetheless increased from 220 to 259 days. Most applicants who applied as unaccompanied minor asylum seekers had their cases processed within six months. Applicants from countries where there is normally no risk of persecution had their cases processed within 48 hours, unless extraordinary circumstances existed in relation to the case.

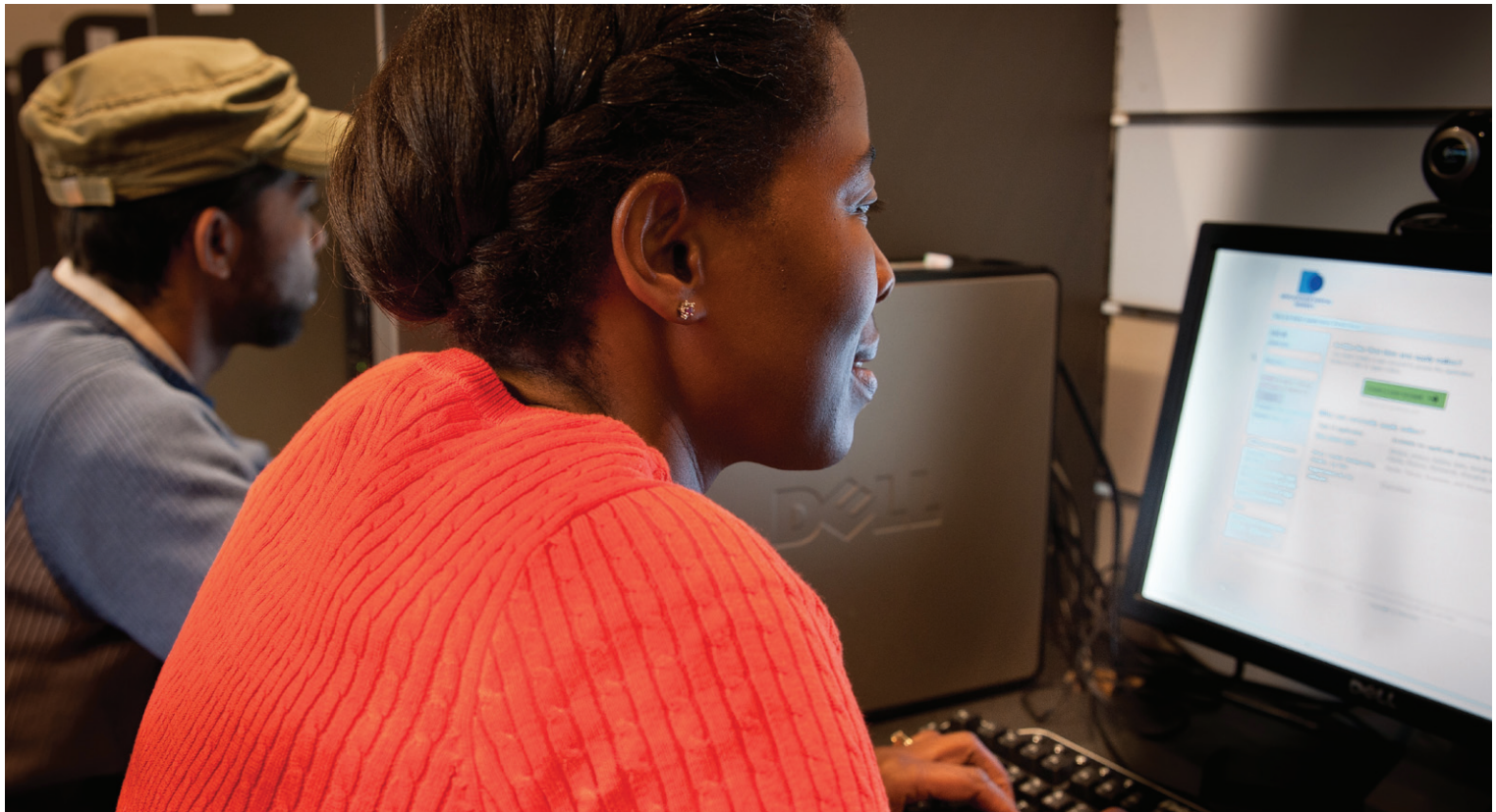
Variations in waiting times in family immigration cases

There were great differences in waiting times for persons who applied for family immigration. Around half the applications were processed within six months, and all applications for family immigration with a labour immigrant were processed within four months.

For nationals of countries where it is difficult to trust documents showing identity or family relations, the time until they received a decision in their case was up to 14 months. This applies to countries such as Afghanistan, India, China, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Vietnam, Algeria, Eritrea, Morocco, Somalia, Turkey, Iraq, Iran, Jordan and Bosnia. In total, the case

processing time for family immigration cases was 188 days, which is 23 days more than in 2009.

The UDI processed fewer family immigration cases in 2010 than in 2009. One reason for this is that the documentation requirements were tightened in the new Immigration Act, so that it took more time to process each individual case. It also took some time for the case officers to adapt to the new regulations, the new case processing system and new work procedures. At the same time, we gave priority to processing older, more complicated cases. This contributed to an increase in case processing times, but also to a strong reduction in the backlog of old cases at the beginning of 2011 compared with the previous year.



At the end of the year, we noted a very positive reduction in case processing times.

Short case processing times for work and visas

In 2010, we introduced a case processing guarantee of eight weeks for visas and, in most cases, we managed to meet this deadline. The case processing time in UDI was 48 days, and all routine cases submitted to the Service Centre for Foreign Workers were processed within five to ten days.

The new visa regulation obliges all Schengen countries to have the same case processing times, and the UDI achieved the target of processing all applications within 30 days, in exceptional cases within 60 days, and all appeals within five months. We processed more visa applications than were received, and the case processing time was

significantly reduced. The foreign service missions are also close to reaching the goal of processing cases within 15 days, while at the same time sending far fewer cases to the UDI. This may be because employees have received better training and have better computerised aids at their disposal.

New nationals had to wait a long time

In 2010, we again gave higher priority to applications from people without permits than to the citizenship cases. People applying for citizenship already have a valid permit to live Norway. The case processing time was 361 days, compared with 288 days the previous year. The increase is partly due to us giving priority to the older cases and partly because there were more applications.

On the way to achieving shorter processing times

Many applicants had to wait a long time for a decision in 2010, but we did a lot of work that will help to reduce case processing times in future. Most importantly, we launched the new online application solution Application portal Norway which will save time both for us and for applicants. At the same time, we reduced the number of unprocessed cases from 38,000 at the start of the year to 30,700 cases at the end of the year. In a successful trial project, we were also able to substantially reduce case processing times in several different case reducing unnecessary stops during case processing. Shorter case processing times are also a main goal in our strategy plan for 2011–2014.

How do we measure case processing times?

To give an idea of how long it normally takes to process a case in the UDI, we use the number of days we take to decide half of the decisions (the median figure). In other words, an equal number of cases took either a shorter or longer time than this to process. This gives a more accurate picture of case processing times than the average case processing time. A few

cases that have taken a very long or a very short time to process can strongly affect the average case processing time, but will not affect the median figure.

At www.udi.no, you can find information about expected case processing times. The published case processing times are based on how much time we spent

processing the majority of applications in the past three months, and they also take into account the composition of the cases and how we prioritise. This figure will normally be a great deal higher than the median figure for the case processing time.



Development controlled by the EFFEKT programme

EFFEKT is the big development programme for the use of information technology in the immigration administration. It is a collaboration between the Norwegian Directorate of Immigration, the police, the Immigration Appeals Board, the Norwegian Directorate of Integration and Diversity and the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The UDI is the programme owner. EFFEKT started in autumn 2007 and will last until the end of 2012.

In the national budget for 2011, the EFFEKT programme was allocated the investment funds applied for for the rest of the programme period. The investment framework is NOK 176 million for 2011 and NOK 57 million for 2012. This means a total budget for EFFEKT of NOK 560 million.

Online with the users

The computer solutions Application Portal Norway and the electronic archive are now in place. After three years of targeted efforts, we are now well on the way to achieving the goal of an efficient, modern and service-oriented immigration administration.

All applications for residence can be registered online

Previously, those who wanted to apply for residence in Norway had to queue at a police station or a foreign service mission in order to submit their application. Now they can register applications online for visas, work permits, au pair permits, study permits, permanent residence permits, family immigration or citizenship. The electronic application solution also makes it possible to pay the fee and make an appointment to submit necessary documentation online.

Application Portal Norway was introduced in all police districts in Norway in 2010. At the same time, the solution was also introduced at the foreign service missions in Manila, Teheran, Kiev, Moscow, Murmansk, St. Petersburg, Baku (Azerbaijan), Astana (Kazakhstan) and London. From February 2011, all foreign service missions will use Application Portal Norway.

Visa Portal Norway is a success

It became possible already in autumn 2008 to apply for a visa online at some foreign service missions, and in 2010, more than 60,000 visa applications were registered online. Almost 16,000 online visa applications were submitted to the embassy in Moscow alone. At the foreign service missions in Teheran, London, Kiev and Bangkok, almost 100 per cent of the applications were submitted via the application portal.

Shorter case processing times with electronic archives

Every year, Norwegian foreign service missions, the UDI and the police receive about 350,000 applications for visas and residence permits. A joint electronic archive for the entire immigration administration now ensures that all applications and other case documents are available to all relevant agencies as soon as the documents are registered. Previously, applications could be 'on the way' for months, from a foreign service mission to the UDI, between the UDI and a police station, or from the UDI to a foreign service mission. Now the documents

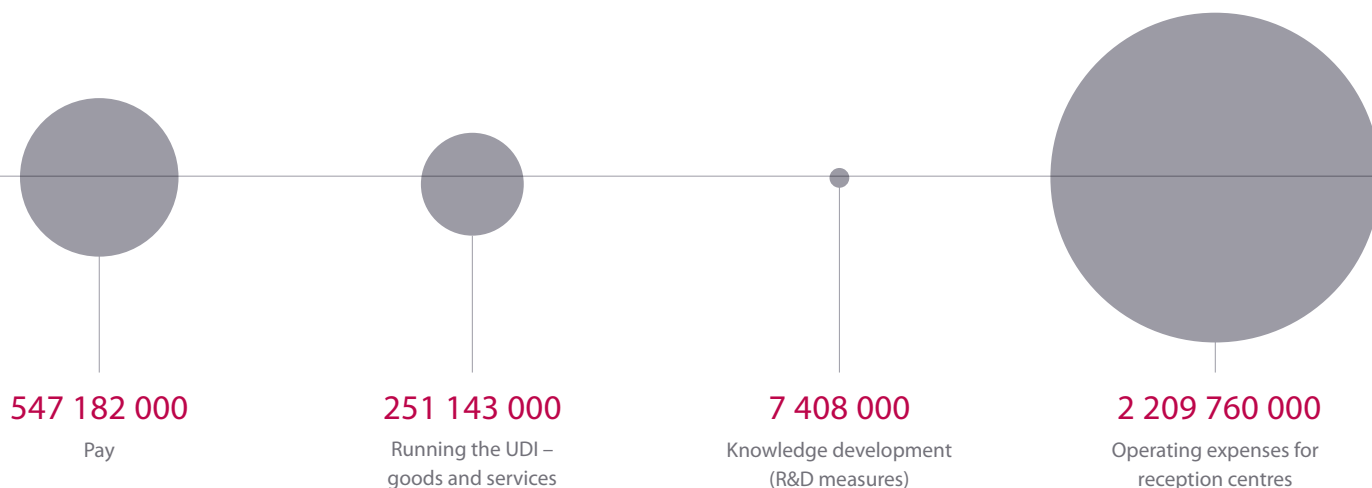
can be retrieved by simply pressing a key, regardless of where the case officer is based.

The archive, which is called eCase, was introduced at the eight police districts with the most immigration cases in November 2010, and, from February 2011, all Norwegian foreign service missions that process immigration cases will start using eCase.

New goals

In the next two years, the EFFEKT programme will develop solutions for the electronic exchange of information with other agencies, primarily the Directorate of Taxes, the Norwegian Labour and Welfare Service (NAV), the Norwegian State Educational Loan Fund and the police. This means that the immigration administration will have quicker access to quality-assured information, and that applicants will not have to send as many enclosures with their applications. The EFFEKT programme will also develop solutions to automate more of the case processing, among other things for routine renewals of residence permits. Such automation will save a lot of time for both the applicants and the UDI.

Costs 2010



Fewer asylum seekers resulted in a reduced budget

In 2010, the UDI had an operating budget of NOK 800 million and a total budget of just over NOK 3.9 billion. Seventy per cent of the funds were used to run the asylum reception centres.

The budget reduced during the year
The allocation in the national budget was based on the expectation that approximately 18,000 asylum seekers would come in 2010, an estimate that was downscaled to 10,000 as the year progressed. This resulted in the original budget being reduced by almost NOK 650 million. However, we retained the operating funds and were thus able to redeploy resources from the asylum field to other fields, for example to the processing of residence cases and to ICT.

Good balance in the accounts
The UDI's accounts are prepared in accordance with the Regulations on Financial Management in Central Government. This means that all expenses are recognised in the accounts the year they are incurred. Except for a small discrepancy in one item, the accounts for 2010 show that all the items are on or below budget.

Political control

The UDI's activities are financed via the national budget, and the political priorities and the tasks we are charged with solving are defined by the Ministry of Justice and the Police. It is our responsibility to prioritise resources and organise our activities

so that we achieve our goals without exceeding the budget. Our tasks and priorities can change markedly from one year to the next, and resource requirements can change during the course of the year.



Financial accounts (figures in NOK 1,000), 2009–2010		2009	2010
Operation of the UDI		760 734	798 325
	Pay	489 932	547 182
	Operations	270 802	251 143
The EFFEKT programme (electronic solutions)			74 433
Running of asylum reception centres		2 512 113	2 743 955
	Financial support for residents	487 903	534 195
	Operating expenses for reception centres etc.	2 024 210	2 209 760
Grants to host municipalities with reception centres		169 628	185 053
Interpreting and translation		73 159	60 813
Knowledge development – migration	R&D projects	5 206	7 408
Return and repatriation of refugees	Project, return programme and individual funding	23 811	52 145
Settlement of resettlement refugees	Support for the UNHCR etc.	5 973	7 090
Travel expenses for resettlement refugees		9 291	11 219
Total		3 559 915	3 940 441

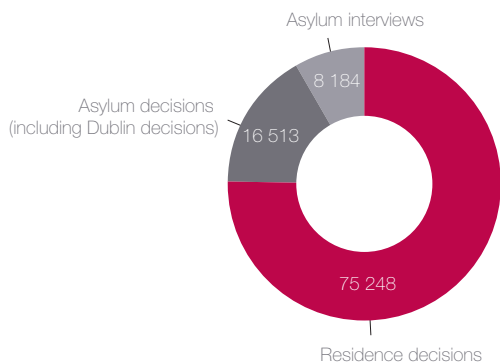
Gave priority to accessibility

In 2010, we handled 280,000 queries from the public. The queries came via e-mail, phone and in person. Even though we received more queries than in the previous year, we managed to reduce the waiting time. Towards the end of 2010, users had to wait for an average of five minutes to speak to us on the phone. By comparison, the average waiting time in 2009 was

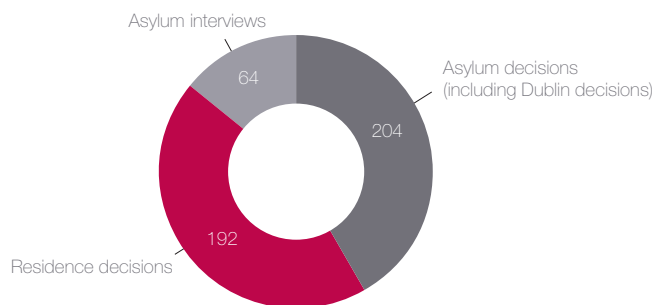
17 minutes. An important reason for the reduction is that, after waiting a few minutes, callers were given the option to have us call them back as soon as we had a free member of staff. Due to the reduced waiting time, users more frequently received an answer the first time they contacted us and did not have to contact us several times through several channels.

In 2010, we also held several open information meetings about the regulations. The offer to speak with a case officer was particularly popular. An important explanation for the many enquiries is probably that we still have long case processing times, and that many people need to speak to us about the status of their application.

The number of decisions



Breakdown of costs (figures in NOK millions)



More expensive to process immigration cases

New regulations in the field of immigration and a more complicated case portfolio resulted in a marked increase in expenses related to processing immigration cases in 2010.

More expensive residence cases

We spent a quarter of the operating budget, NOK 191.7 million, on processing 75,250 residence cases. If we compare these figures with the figures for 2009, it is apparent that we spent more resources on fewer decisions. The reasons for this include the new Immigration Act, the new registration system for EEA nationals and the composition of the cases we processed.

Decisions in family immigration cases increased most

The new Immigration Act led to more complicated regulations in several areas and particularly in the area of family immigration. Applicants now have to meet more documentation requirements and we have to consider more conditions when processing applications. The regulations are also more complicated to some extent. This makes the work of processing these cases more time-consuming. On average, reaching a decision in a family immigration case costs more than NOK 3,500, 35 per cent more than in 2009.

Fewer 'simple' cases

The price per residence decision also increased because many of the 'simple' applications disappeared. Most EEA

nationals can now stay in Norway without applying for a permit. This means that the composition of the incoming applications was completely different - and far more demanding - than in previous years. This applied in particular to applications for family immigration, work permits and study permits.

'Old' cases are more expensive to process

Complicated cases and old cases that require new documentation are more expensive to process than simple and clear-cut cases. In 2010, the UDI processed many demanding applications, many of them applications for family immigration, permanent residence and citizenship. This resulted in an increase in expenses per unit for these types of decisions.

Productivity increased during the year

At the beginning of the year, we spent a lot of time training all our employees in the new Immigration Act and on clarifying how the act should be practiced. At the same time, a new case processing system was established, which also required some adaptation and familiarisation. Productivity increased significantly during the year, and in the last two thirds of the year, production

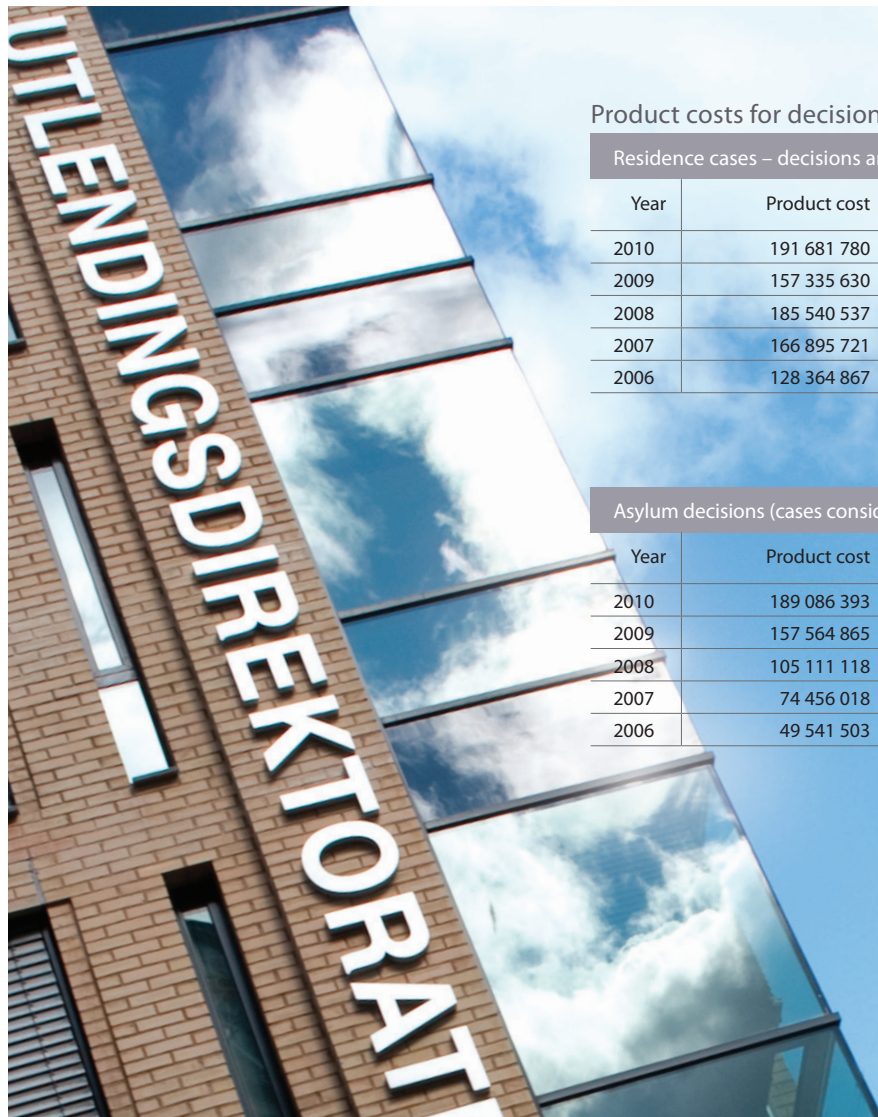
was almost 50 per cent higher than in the first third.

Stable expenses for asylum cases

Forty per cent of our operating budget was spent on processing asylum cases. It costs an average of almost NOK 22,000 to consider an asylum application on its merits, including the resources spent on asylum interviews. This is about the same as the year before. Making a decision in an asylum case is far more demanding in terms of time and money than in other types of cases.

More money spent on administration of the reception centres

In 2010, we spent almost NOK 116 million on return, repatriation and the administration of the reception centres. That is an increase of 26 per cent on the previous year. The increase is due to extra efforts made to improve the quality of the asylum centres, more work in connection with the closing of reception centres and increased expenses as a result of the UDI taking over the police's duties in connection with administering each place in a reception centre. The cost of administering each place in a reception centre was four per cent higher than in 2009.



Product costs for decisions in residence and asylum cases, 2006–2010

Residence cases – decisions and appeals				
Year	Product cost	Number	Unit cost	Change in unit cost
2010	191 681 780	75 248	2 547	38%
2009	157 335 630	84 941	1 852	- 21%
2008	185 540 537	79 535	2 333	18%
2007	166 895 721	84 537	1 974	0%
2006	128 364 867	64 858	1 979	

Asylum decisions (cases considered on their merits, asylum interviews not included)				
Year	Product cost	Number	Unit cost	Change in unit cost
2010	189 086 393	12 932	14 622	3%
2009	157 564 865	11 152	14 129	5%
2008	105 111 118	7 812	13 455	- 3%
2007	74 456 018	5 384	13 829	- 3%
2006	49 541 503	3 470	14 277	

Awards for the UDI

The Plain Language Prize (Klarspråksprisen)

The level of precision must be high, but it is also important to get the message across. We have to make sure that our users understand their obligations and rights, so that they can assess their own case. Everyone should also be able to read and understand our regulations and make an informed judgement about our work. That is why we have worked hard to improve both the language and structure of our texts in the last two years. At the same time, we have developed common guidelines for language and an e-learning course in plain language. Through mini-campaigns and pleasant surprises, we try to keep our employees aware of how important it is to use simple and understandable language.

We won the Government's Plain Language Award for 2010 for this work. This shows that we have come far, but we still have a long way to go before we can claim to use plain, good and user-friendly language in everything we write. We write better, but are still not good enough. Do you have examples of poorly written texts or bad wording from the UDI? Please send your feedback to the e-mail address sprak@udi.no.

The SSØ award

The Norwegian Government Agency for Financial Management (SSØ)'s task is to improve financial management and the utilisation of resources in the public sector. The UDI won the award for its quality measuring system, which makes it easy to check and follow-up whether our case processing is of the correct quality.

We often have to strike a difficult balance between quality and quantity in our work, and the system we have developed helps us to decide what the correct level of quality is. To check that we succeed in this, we carry out risk assessments and spot checks. The results are used to improve processing. The jury praised us for daring to define what constitutes adequate quality in our case processing and for having established a system that is both simple and relevant in the management process.



STATISTICS



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Table 1
Work permits by type of permit. 2001–2010

	Grounds for permanent residence permit		Renewable permits		Non-renewable permits				Total number of first-time permits	Renewals	Total	Change from the previous year	Change from the previous year in %
	Specialist/ skilled worker	Other grounds	Up to 4 years	Up to 2 years	Seasonal	Other	EEA	Other					
2001	817	23	920	76	11 896	2 743	2 518	1	18 994	2 594	21 588	3 295	18%
2002	1 730	28	1 070	247	15 714	2 819	2 549	1	24 158	3 247	27 405	5 817	27%
2003	1 126	16	754	147	17 886	2 473	3 237	11	25 650	3 692	29 342	1 937	7%
2004	747	10	967	125	4 854	2 128	24 180		33 011	6 966	39 977	10 635	36%
2005	1 223	20	895	119	1 816	1 120	22 711	518	28 422	22 047	50 469	10 492	26%
2006	2 011	16	996	142	1 909	1 189	34 237	28	40 528	30 297	70 825	20 356	40%
2007	2 913	93	1 454	170	2 552	948	46 778	5	54 913	42 955	97 868	27 043	38%
2008	3 384	124	945	203	2 245	586	45 080	4	52 571	48 495	101 066	3 198	3%
2009	2 577	111	920	262	2 218	337	16 775	2	23 202	32 849	56 051	-45 015	-45%
2010	2 808	22	955	333	2 335	43	1 793	9	8 298	5 158	13 456	-42 595	-76%

The figures show the total number of first-time permits and renewals granted by all bodies, including the Police and the Immigration Appeals Board. On 1 October 2009, the residence permit requirement ceased to apply for most EEA nationals. This is the main reason for the decline in the number of residence permits granted from 2009. Workers from Bulgaria and Romania still have to apply for a residence permit the first year they are resident in Norway.

Table 2

Work permits by type of permit and nationality, 2010

Nationality	Grounds for permanent residence permit		Renewable permits		Non-renewable permits		Total number of first-time permits	Renewals	Total
	Specialist/ skilled worker	Other grounds	Up to 4 years	Up to 2 years	Seasonal	Other			
Albania	9				22		31	7	38
Argentina	10		6		15		31	13	44
Armenia	7		5		1		13	6	19
Australia	66	1	14	86	14		181	121	302
Azerbaijan	16		3				19	7	26
Bangladesh	15		7		2		24	17	41
Belarus	10			4	224		238	29	267
Bosnia-Herzegovina	29	2	8		27		66	75	141
Brazil	52	1	27		39		119	62	181
Bulgaria	2	591			1		594	355	949
Canada	96		38	47	11		192	111	303
Chile	15		3	1	12		31	10	41
China	280	1	37		22		340	245	585
Colombia	16		2		11		29	14	43
Croatia	105		2		95		202	61	263
Ethiopia	16		6				22	14	36
India	465	1	172	1	86		725	634	1359
Indonesia	26		3		3		32	33	65
Iran	77		4				81	53	134
Iraq	2	6			4		12	25	37
Israel	7		4	1	3		15	7	22
Japan	22		6		6	1	35	29	64
Kazakhstan	11		10			2	23	17	40
Kenya	10		21		7		38	13	51
Macedonia	15	1	2		8		26	7	33
Madagascar			14				14	4	18
Malaysia	30		4				34	21	55
Mexico	23		6	1	22		52	22	74
Moldova	6		1	23	47		77	11	88
Morocco	6		1		6		13	6	19
Nepal	14		9		40		63	19	82
New Zealand	13		8	28	76		125	30	155
Nigeria	30		8		1		39	38	77
Pakistan	77		2	1	3		83	64	147
Peru	4		6		5		15	8	23
Philippines	249		33	58	179		519	480	999
Romania	3	1 185					1 188	934	2 122
Russia	235	1	21	36	227	43	563	353	916
Serbia	109		5		92		206	211	417
Singapore	13		2				15	5	20
South Africa	19		16	2	10		47	17	64
South Korea	14		10				24	25	49
Sri Lanka	14		2		1		17	19	36
Stateless	30		1		26	1	58	26	84
Tanzania	6		19		1		26	13	39
Thailand	7		17	1	87	1	113	22	135
Turkey	30		3	1	21		55	47	102
Uganda	6		15				21	7	28
Ukraine	94	1	82	16	381		574	213	787
USA	243	5	193	19	51		511	293	804
Venezuela	26		7		6		39	53	92
Vietnam	8		3		384		395	22	417
Other countries	120	19	87	7	56	4	293	230	523
Total	2 808	1 815	955	333	2 335	52	8 298	5 158	13 456

On 1 October 2009, the residence permit requirement ceased to apply for most EEA nationals. Workers from Bulgaria and Romania still have to apply for a residence permit the first year they are resident in Norway.

Table 3

Study permits by type of permit and nationality, 2010

NATIONALITY	Student	Folk high school	Post doc	Au pairs	Trainee	Other	Total	Renewals	Total
Albania	13						13	14	27
Australia	67	1	1	1	2	1	73	9	82
Azerbaijan	20					1	21	14	35
Bangladesh	44					1	45	48	93
Belarus	29	1			47	1	78	56	134
Bolivia	7	1		2		2	12	6	18
Brazil	46	1	3	6	3	4	63	18	81
Cameroon	44		1			1	46	52	98
Canada	109	4	7	2	4	3	129	25	154
Chile	24		2	3			29	12	41
China	359	5	33	14	11	4	426	393	819
Colombia	23	1	1	4	1	3	33	16	49
Croatia	14	1	1	2	2	1	21	11	32
Ecuador	13	3	1	1			18	2	20
Ethiopia	110		2	1		4	117	140	257
Georgia	10		1	1			12	6	18
Ghana	72	2	1	1		8	84	102	186
India	96	6	10	1	2	9	124	70	194
Indonesia	41			18		2	61	34	95
Iran	75	1	4		2	2	84	82	166
Japan	50	2	11	2	3		68	24	92
Kazakhstan	11		1		1		13	10	23
Kenya	26	3		9		6	44	45	89
Macedonia	16			1	2	1	20	5	25
Malawi	14						14	14	28
Malaysia	13					2	15	10	25
Mexico	49		1	6	1	1	58	19	77
Moldova	6			2		5	13	12	25
Nepal	205	1	1	10		1	218	155	373
Nigeria	35		1			4	40	40	80
Pakistan	96		2			2	100	141	241
Peru	6	1		22	1	5	35	33	68
Philippines	70	6		1 210		152	1 438	1 061	2 499
Russia	353	17	4	22	20	13	429	323	752
Serbia	50	2		4		4	60	47	107
Singapore	91						91	5	96
South Africa	14		1	1		1	17	14	31
South Korea	99	1				6	106	14	120
Sri Lanka	18	2	1	1	1	3	26	27	53
Sudan	23						23	28	51
Tanzania	49					2	51	79	130
Thailand	40	4		40	1	1	86	41	127
Turkey	31		3	1		2	37	21	58
Uganda	37	2				4	43	53	96
Ukraine	62	2		56	29	9	158	162	320
USA	301	22	17	14	6	12	372	77	449
Venezuela	13	1				2	16	4	20
Vietnam	38	8	1	34	1		82	53	135
Zambia	41			1			42	17	59
Zimbabwe	10		1		1	2	14	10	24
Other countries	177	9	5	16	6	21	234	181	415
Total	3 260	110	118	1 509	147	308	5 452	3 835	9 287

Table 4

Family immigration permits by nationality, 2001–2010

Nationality	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Afghanistan	382	510	387	318	507	471	362	445	391	358
Australia	71	61	58	86	74	108	134	101	105	79
Belarus	30	45	32	52	48	39	41	46	59	33
Bosnia-Herzegovina	165	169	94	147	124	94	120	120	104	98
Brazil	130	129	156	191	234	262	317	311	366	223
Bulgaria	71	73	61	74	63	46	75	98	130	24
Burundi	7	3	6	21	29	38	39	45	67	44
Canada	96	97	56	72	95	89	132	130	135	89
Chile	116	140	101	144	107	105	80	112	87	67
China	134	228	156	226	217	240	279	284	292	273
Cuba	61	68	48	78	48	60	47	61	66	42
Dem. Rep. Congo	19	21	11	3	41	45	42	51	83	51
Eritrea	47	46	26	42	34	49	78	142	237	430
Estonia	60	65	53	67	56	66	90	88	98	14
Ethiopia	152	226	63	157	172	131	157	188	238	220
France	164	158	135	131	156	171	198	182	136	22
Germany	382	426	401	563	558	768	1 456	1 630	835	23
Ghana	83	91	54	77	71	71	69	83	77	61
India	159	161	132	162	176	246	496	478	431	361
Indonesia	29	24	42	49	46	57	72	85	79	81
Iran	288	268	252	260	205	174	152	172	176	158
Iraq	1 696	1 737	940	909	933	626	436	654	762	554
Italy	44	58	47	55	45	66	88	75	69	11
Kenya	26	52	30	56	66	48	76	73	57	58
Kosovo								1	128	112
Latvia	47	65	58	53	60	80	140	154	182	12
Lithuania	82	136	106	162	238	382	643	749	655	22
Macedonia	55	64	37	30	49	46	49	54	67	32
Mexico	34	29	58	34	38	48	43	63	73	50
Morocco	196	204	125	126	119	112	144	119	122	104
Myanmar	1	8	3	41	80	114	104	103	126	59
Netherlands	214	188	171	271	358	424	509	501	246	11
Nigeria	45	36	22	64	51	67	77	73	90	69
Pakistan	566	545	518	496	461	392	431	438	500	344
Philippines	366	457	396	437	433	412	618	580	703	766
Poland	232	289	247	390	748	1 702	3 292	4 423	2 773	58
Romania	96	97	73	98	111	104	162	361	333	41
Russia	637	905	797	742	653	595	658	607	620	506
Serbia*	438	490	283	359	276	258	180	264	181	109
Slovakia	27	24	26	45	38	21	57	97	59	2
Somalia	645	1 707	652	689	929	913	1 003	1 179	1 027	685
Spain	39	60	35	49	53	57	68	52	85	15
Sri Lanka	236	221	148	183	135	121	133	129	93	88
Stateless	57	135	94	109	88	131	205	534	539	317
Thailand	650	918	780	1 099	1 014	943	1 073	1 214	1 248	989
Turkey	490	465	445	418	369	279	246	261	362	237
UK	394	420	330	453	420	437	446	383	286	48
Ukraine	88	153	129	155	133	148	177	245	247	175
USA	437	439	322	423	355	410	453	528	459	410
Vietnam	325	291	171	334	240	154	203	196	114	161
Other countries	1 333	1 405	1 102	1 550	1 481	1 561	1 763	1 804	1 714	1 192
Total	12 142	14 607	10 469	12 750	13 035	13 981	17 913	20 766	18 112	9 988

On 1 October 2009, the residence permit requirement ceased to apply for most EEA nationals.

* Nationals of Montenegro are included for the years 2001–2006. Nationals of Kosovo were included until 2008.

Table 5

Family immigration permits by the applicant's nationality and the person in Norway's grounds for residence, 2010

Nationality	Norwegian or Nordic national	Foreign national with settlement permit	Refugee	Work including EEA	Education	Family immigration permit	Other permits	Total number of granted permits	Rejection	Total
Afghanistan	47	157	122			4	28	358	292	650
Australia	49	1		26		3		79	1	80
Bangladesh	8			28	5			41	6	47
Bosnia-Herzegovina	35	33		26		4		98	13	111
Brazil	158	4		18	1	41	1	223	15	238
Burundi	6	28	2	3		4	1	44	31	75
Canada	34	1		49	2		3	89	9	98
Chile	39	16		5		7		67	9	76
China	97	22	6	117	7	23	1	273	46	319
Colombia	27			4		4		35	6	41
Croatia	13	5		18		2		38	7	45
Cuba	33		1			7	1	42	7	49
Dem. Rep. Congo (DRC)	6	28	17					51	68	119
Egypt	18	1	1	9	4	1	2	36	9	45
Eritrea	17	48	317			3	45	430	215	645
Ethiopia	41	30	101	19	21	4	4	220	172	392
Gambia	19	10				4		33	20	53
Ghana	22	15		7	7	9	1	61	26	87
India	48	22		268	5	11	7	361	24	385
Indonesia	29	6		37	7	2		81	7	88
Iran	74	15	29	30	5	4	1	158	72	230
Iraq	120	199	149	12		16	58	554	206	760
Japan	13	2		26	11	1		53	1	54
Kenya	38	3	1	1	4	11		58	26	84
Kosovo	72	19	3	9		8	1	112	97	209
Mexico	36	1		10		3		50	6	56
Morocco	80	8	1			11	4	104	60	164
Myanmar	5	22	29				3	59	27	86
Nigeria	31	8		18	1	6	5	69	48	117
Pakistan	221	62		39	13	4	5	344	205	549
Peru	32	1		1		7		41	9	50
Philippines	544	37		110	2	71	2	766	136	902
Poland	36	9		5		8		58	3	61
Romania	20	4		16		1		41	3	44
Russia	233	69	30	100	12	52	10	506	86	592
Rwanda	12	17	2	3				34	14	48
Serbia	26	28	2	46		5	2	109	36	145
Somalia	119	268	222			22	54	685	863	1 548
South Korea	5	2		18	9	3		37	4	41
Sri Lanka	50	19	9	3	2	4	1	88	50	138
Stateless	34	6	165	2		1	109	317	79	396
Syria	17	10	5	3		2	3	40	12	52
Thailand	701	49	1	4		234		989	63	1 052
The Dominican Republic	27	1				8	1	37	9	46
Turkey	159	27	2	18	1	21	9	237	209	446
UK	39	3		2		2	2	48	6	54
Ukraine	105	12	4	32	4	18		175	28	203
USA	178	9		183	25	12	3	410	26	436
Venezuela	10			22			1	33	2	35
Vietnam	120	9		12		19	1	161	138	299
Other countries	459	133	41	180	48	79	15	955	397	1 352
Total	4 362	1 479	1 262	1 539	196	766	384	9 988	3 904	13 892

Table 6

Table 6 EEA registration by nationality and purpose, 2010

Country	Work	Family	Education	Other	Total
Austria	157	40	119	6	322
Belgium	105	38	88	4	235
Bulgaria	436	270	55	7	768
Cyprus	8				8
Czech Rep.	339	56	163	6	564
Estonia	1 535	225	41	1	1 802
France	675	236	522	21	1 454
Germany	2 844	1 140	1 159	69	5 212
Greece	133	20	47	4	204
Hungary	476	129	60	9	674
Ireland	148	43	16	5	212
Italy	500	128	308	20	956
Latvia	2 679	677	129	9	3 494
Liechtenstein	1		1		2
Lithuania	9 271	2 132	126	7	11 536
Luxembourg	4	2	3		9
Malta	11	2			13
Netherlands	654	425	215	40	1 334
Poland	17 838	4 612	303	65	22 818
Portugal	339	83	50	9	481
Romania	951	569	183	4	1 707
Slovakia	969	129	69	11	1 178
Slovenia	43	24	35		102
Spain	634	137	434	34	1 239
Switzerland	116	38	60	3	217
UK	1 780	380	105	82	2 347
Total	42 646	11 535	4 291	416	58 888

* In addition, 142 third-country nationals have registered.

Table 7

Visitor's visas processed by the first instance, by nationality and outcome, 2010

Nationality	Granted	Rejected	Total
Afghanistan	133	97	230
Algeria	238	63	301
Angola	307	8	315
Azerbaijan	1 418	95	1 513
Bangladesh	59	42	101
Belarus	241	5	246
Bosnia-Herzegovina	1 056	5	1 061
China	20 348	228	20 576
Colombia	113	32	145
Côte d'Ivoire	188	98	286
Ecuador	173	7	180
Egypt	746	70	816
Eritrea	617	245	862
Ethiopia	102	167	269
Gambia	97	81	178
Ghana	59	78	137
India	6 715	329	7 044
Indonesia	1 469	7	1 476
Iran	1 553	913	2 466
Iraq	200	162	362
Jordan	520	105	625
Kazakhstan	811	9	820
Kenya	704	61	765
Kosovo	499	182	681
Lebanon	938	52	990
Madagascar	121	5	126
Malawi	259	1	260
Moldova	177	5	182
Mongolia	87	12	99
Morocco	209	101	310
Nigeria	585	251	836
Pakistan	1 413	739	2 152
Philippines	6 625	466	7 091
Russia	46 373	339	46 712
Saudi Arabia	209	8	217
South Africa	2 099	10	2 109
Soviet Union (old passports)	162	5	167
Sri Lanka	1 058	221	1 279
Stateless	496	125	621
Sudan	588	62	650
Syria	90	39	129
Taiwan	118		118
Tanzania	480	14	494
Thailand	6 289	572	6 861
Turkey	1 070	256	1 326
Uganda	1 537	189	1 726
Ukraine	6 055	125	6 180
Vietnam	1 126	176	1 302
Zimbabwe	509	9	518
Other countries	1 583	624	2 207
Total	118 622	7 495	126 117

Table 8

Visitor's visas processed by the first instance, by decision-making body and outcome, 2010

Decision-making body	Granted	Rejected	Total
Abidjan	384	205	589
Abu Dhabi	677	102	779
Abuja	429	229	658
Algiers	224	61	285
Amman	489	81	570
Ankara	955	241	1 196
Antananarivo	119	5	124
Asmara	589	193	782
Astana	834	14	848
Baku	1 461	91	1 552
Bangkok	6 233	590	6 823
Beijing	11 682	73	11 755
Beirut	1 130	40	1 170
Bucharest	111		111
Cairo	672	70	742
Canberra	181	14	195
Caracas	182	9	191
Colombo	893	154	1 047
Dar es Salaam	454	9	463
Guangzhou	3 687	76	3 763
Hanoi	1 132	179	1 311
Harare	479	9	488
Houston	317	3	320
Islamabad	1 037	708	1 745
Jakarta	1 272	6	1 278
Kampala	1 659	251	1 910
Khartoum	624	73	697
Kiev	6 221	117	6 338
Lilongwe	256	1	257
London	2 083	3	2 086
Luanda	328	8	336
Manila	6 381	424	6 805
Maputo	116	2	118
Moscow	24 429	225	24 654
Murmansk	16 218	77	16 295
Nairobi	655	55	710
New Delhi	5 540	343	5 883
New York	373	5	378
Pretoria	2 003	27	2 030
Pristina	388	112	500
Rabat	201	101	302
Riyadh	375	79	454
San Francisco	632	18	650
Sarajevo	1 036	4	1 040
Shanghai	4 613	62	4 675
St. Petersburg	5 708	66	5 774
Tehran	1 353	890	2 243
Tel Aviv	285	48	333
Tokyo	59		59
The UDI	1 211	1 327	2 538
Other bodies	252	15	267
Total	118 622	7 495	126 117

Table 9

Permanent residence permits by nationality, 2005–2010

Nationality	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Afghanistan	1 250	1 287	800	995	656	576
Australia	55	39	50	57	46	74
Belarus	42	47	54	36	43	39
Bosnia-Herzegovina	548	253	198	143	117	204
Brazil	118	113	140	160	158	242
Bulgaria	86	65	66	72	55	49
Burundi	63	232	113	196	166	109
Canada	117	87	59	54	50	51
Chile	166	139	120	89	70	108
China	214	196	220	264	236	303
Colombia	51	35	24	42	38	48
Croatia	246	104	72	76	54	78
Cuba	37	55	59	48	37	52
Dem. Rep. Congo	74	200	124	322	258	339
Eritrea	64	97	85	256	284	397
Ethiopia	242	244	162	224	186	254
France	90	65	42	35	45	24
Germany	229	176	153	140	121	127
Ghana	81	56	38	58	47	55
India	229	175	151	164	172	263
Indonesia	39	117	48	49	42	32
Iran	752	639	474	289	246	245
Iraq	3 038	1 558	1 119	1 071	1 151	1 230
Kenya	36	35	48	45	50	48
Liberia	10	210	522	149	63	71
Lithuania	111	116	91	77	60	51
Morocco	182	124	122	102	114	119
Myanmar	25	120	219	372	547	704
Netherlands	152	114	80	74	63	58
Nigeria	40	31	35	41	57	74
Pakistan	706	529	401	383	366	337
Peru	40	44	41	43	38	52
Philippines	459	442	388	399	513	603
Poland	407	367	248	195	155	126
Romania	89	81	80	115	96	116
Russia	1 200	1 626	1 583	1 268	885	1 063
Rwanda	87	83	31	49	73	48
Serbia	1 226	605	528	453	322	456
Somalia	2 251	1 925	1 307	1 046	1 172	1 176
South Korea	79	92	63	99	111	60
Sri Lanka	299	231	183	165	110	152
Stateless	194	181	78	64	84	124
Sudan	116	80	72	74	46	43
Syria	80	51	52	35	50	47
Thailand	846	826	804	858	836	936
Turkey	494	371	415	341	269	274
UK	516	423	308	253	212	173
Ukraine	128	125	151	130	133	186
USA	661	499	368	362	300	274
Vietnam	252	201	163	210	191	188
Other countries	1 531	1 388	1 364	1 271	1 024	1 321
Total	20 048	16 899	14 116	13 513	12 218	13 779

From 2010, settlement permits were replaced by a new permit called a permanent residence permit. The conditions for being granted a permanent residence permit differ somewhat from the conditions for being granted a settlement permit. The table shows the number of settlement permits granted between 2004 and 2009 and the number of permanent resident permits granted in 2010.

Table 10

Citizenship granted, by original citizenship, 2007–2010

Original citizenship	2007	2008	2009	2010
Afghanistan	682	885	864	1 045
Algeria	75	31	42	46
Bosnia-Herzegovina	349	211	143	138
Brazil	73	53	64	63
Bulgaria	52	42	75	17
Chile	108	66	61	59
China	164	80	153	178
Colombia	45	65	40	46
Croatia	229	173	79	94
Cuba	50	38	44	30
Dem. Rep. Congo	66	43	81	162
Denmark	78	103	87	86
Eritrea	93	67	69	241
Ethiopia	306	331	206	215
Gambia	26	32	31	39
Germany	90	106	94	111
Ghana	69	63	39	45
India	211	130	170	138
Indonesia	30	18	49	62
Iran	737	495	789	541
Iraq	2 576	1 042	1 242	1 327
Kenya	42	32	31	33
Kosovo	-	3	85	126
Liberia	5	5	39	175
Libya	10	10	28	21
Macedonia	12	12	31	21
Mexico	26	17	29	20
Morocco	163	152	120	119
Myanmar	4	4	34	103
Netherlands	21	37	39	61
Pakistan	537	763	460	420
Philippines	406	218	425	297
Poland	24	60	63	35
Romania	53	61	33	44
Russia	416	493	601	663
Rwanda	38	51	41	81
Serbia	1 071	228	422	182
Sierra Leone	33	28	32	36
Somalia	2 193	1 267	1 687	1 467
Sri Lanka	357	246	266	194
Stateless	441	171	130	426
Sudan	64	41	41	91
Sweden	101	121	80	118
Syria	71	50	30	44
Thailand	426	242	455	248
Turkey	437	208	139	203
UK	50	32	41	26
Ukraine	103	90	71	65
USA	45	34	27	16
Vietnam	173	231	147	158
Other countries	1 000	856	797	1 016
Total	14 431	9 837	10 846	11 192

Table 11

Rejection decisions by grounds, 2001–2010

Grounds for rejection	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
No passport/visa	345	304	318	319	217	152	199	178	176	206
Previously expelled	52	52	36	50	30	24	51	38	48	5
No permit	722	845	758	372	174	229	154	104	117	55
Insufficient funds	433	580	538	257	138	141	140	111	216	225
Previously convicted	244	204	108	70	41	34	30	9	21	30
Registered in SIS			41	28	28	31	27	11	11	157
Other grounds	42	24	50	53	79	78	27	112	128	12
Total	1 838	2 009	1 849	1 149	707	689	628	563	717	690

Table 12

Expulsions by grounds, 2004–2010

Grounds for expulsion	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Violation of the Immigration Act	758	683	791	683	805	1 559	2 198
Convicted	352	432	386	495	483	635	731
The EEA Regulations	138	138	200	214	328	457	497
Other grounds	12	21	2	6	18	0	0
Total	1 260	1 274	1 379	1 398	1 634	2 651	3 426

Table 13

Expulsions by nationality, 2004–2010

Nationality	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Afghanistan	15	18	36	46	40	94	267
Albania	34	54	43	26	32	36	29
Algeria	34	55	50	30	22	59	72
Chile	49	24	28	37	36	34	26
Eritrea	3	4	13	39	45	214	232
Ethiopia	7	15	14	14	17	44	64
Gambia	6	8	8	5	11	27	24
Ghana	5	11	6	6	12	32	43
Iran	23	30	45	42	28	41	79
Iraq	25	50	121	139	149	334	501
Libya	15	29	17	17	29	31	16
Lithuania	32	29	63	63	87	128	142
Morocco	18	29	34	26	17	41	55
Nepal	3	4	26	25	25	24	26
Nigeria	29	53	35	39	76	123	171
Pakistan	28	29	24	19	22	32	41
Poland	51	51	62	73	87	78	137
Romania	23	33	55	46	82	157	111
Russia	97	81	74	61	81	61	74
Serbia*	39	85	65	68	67	45	78
Somalia	105	59	54	49	50	271	238
Sri Lanka	17	13	19	14	8	25	19
Stateless	30	22	27	27	46	83	172
Turkey	41	41	36	55	50	45	79
Vietnam	18	19	13	11	41	46	43
Other countries	513	428	411	421	474	546	687
Total	1 260	1 274	1 379	1 398	1 634	2 651	3 426

* Nationals of Montenegro are included for the years 2004–2006. Nationals of Kosovo were included until 2008.

Table 14

Asylum applications by nationality, 2001–2010

Nationality	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Afghanistan	603	786	2 032	1 059	466	224	234	1 363	3 871	979
Albania	210	274	239	113	79	43	31	53	29	24
Algeria	346	468	180	104	45	37	27	100	161	133
Armenia	175	163	41	46	7	25	6	15	30	17
Azerbaijan	100	-	142	129	84	40	23	40	60	46
Cameroon	18	86	73	48	37	18	17	39	34	25
China	19	87	117	67	49	51	40	81	71	192
Côte d'Ivoire	-	7	23	11	8	14	10	22	29	22
Dem. Rep. Congo	3	15	75	49	71	83	54	107	107	86
Egypt	16	10	9	9	13	7	10	14	29	21
Eritrea	132	269	198	110	177	316	789	1 799	2 667	1 711
Ethiopia	173	325	287	148	100	143	241	354	706	505
Gambia	2	5	1	4	5	4	17	37	69	55
Georgia	205	284	177	82	15	11	2	19	47	85
Ghana	2	5	10	6	7	9	23	73	54	46
Guinea	5	16	75	30	4	18	16	36	75	59
Hungary	-	41	9	9	4	5	3	2	29	4
India	17	31	15	16	8	32	83	74	36	52
Iran	412	450	608	393	279	218	222	720	574	429
Iraq	1 056	1 624	938	413	671	1 002	1 227	3 137	1 214	460
Jordan	4	20	10	8	5	8	9	22	29	21
Kazakhstan	112	137	49	24	22	5	4	8	29	24
Kosovo	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	312	291	244
Kyrgyzstan	67	152	44	26	24	10	12	9	23	58
Lebanon	34	67	68	33	25	61	58	54	43	30
Liberia	7	13	49	68	41	24	13	27	35	57
Libya	62	123	283	134	23	13	49	81	84	36
Macedonia	190	301	241	66	25	23	10	23	25	93
Mauritania	-	5	12	6	5	7	6	26	45	16
Morocco	19	16	12	22	19	23	16	44	72	95
Myanmar	7	15	18	14	19	8	20	20	31	72
Nepal	97	64	45	91	104	60	46	144	112	17
Nigeria	27	139	235	205	94	54	108	436	582	354
Pakistan	186	216	92	48	33	26	43	38	139	99
Russia	1 318	1 719	1 893	938	545	548	863	1 078	867	628
Senegal	-	6	5	2	1	4	3	19	31	32
Serbia*	928	2 460	2 180	860	468	369	585	363	115	200
Somalia	1 080	1 534	1 601	957	667	632	187	1 293	1 901	1 397
Sri Lanka	164	87	64	58	58	106	238	342	212	71
Stateless	194	391	366	298	209	237	515	940	1 280	448
Sudan	47	94	65	33	45	36	37	118	251	181
Syria	57	80	96	69	79	49	49	115	278	119
Tajikistan	24	42	24	15	6	1	1	3	26	29
Tunisia	6	9	6	7	6	1	4	10	31	39
Turkey	204	257	235	149	111	69	49	82	82	74
Uganda	11	7	8	7	11	19	15	25	32	37
Ukraine	1 027	772	92	44	20	12	6	18	27	9
Uzbekistan	105	206	92	51	42	52	38	148	145	108
Yemen	2	12	22	24	14	11	23	82	113	73
Zimbabwe	-	3	5	4	13	10	9	17	36	36
Other countries	5 309	3 587	2 452	843	539	542	437	449	367	416
Total	14 782	17 480	15 613	7 950	5 402	5 320	6 528	14 431	17 226	10 064

* Nationals of Montenegro are included for the years 2001–2006. Nationals of Kosovo were included until 2008.

Table 15

Unaccompanied minor asylum seekers by nationality, 2001–2010*

Nationality	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Afghanistan	41	144	306	141	46	60	86	579	1719	376
Algeria	9	26	11	9	1	1	-	5	23	33
Angola	1	3	28	7	5	4	2	5	5	1
Dem. Rep. Congo	-	1	3	1	3	5	3	1	5	4
Eritrea	25	37	24	10	7	14	37	68	144	89
Ethiopia	44	59	57	14	9	5	21	21	50	38
Gambia	1	-	-	-	-	1	3	1	8	1
Guinea	2	5	10	2	1	-	1	-	6	8
Iran	4	10	11	8	9	9	8	28	15	13
Iraq	87	190	108	30	46	92	124	364	84	35
Morocco	1	2	-	-	3	4	-	2	10	12
Nigeria	1	12	14	6	4	2	2	11	14	5
Russia	37	21	26	17	18	28	13	33	27	17
Somalia	99	133	117	80	74	61	29	117	246	119
Sri Lanka	60	39	20	15	16	16	34	59	37	19
Stateless	12	12	18	4	11	3	3	9	18	27
Sudan	5	9	4	1	3	2	2	2	8	5
Syria	-	2	2	2	3	1	-	1	13	9
Tajikistan	1	2	5	2	1	-	1	1	7	1
Uzbekistan	-	7	1	4	-	3	1	3	6	3
Other countries	131	180	151	71	62	38	33	64	55	77
Total	561	894	916	424	322	349	403	1 374	2 500	892

*Includes all persons claiming to be unaccompanied minor asylum seekers on application.

Table 16
Protection decisions, 2001–2010

Year		2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
I ASYLUM SEEKERS											
First instance	Refugee (asylum)	292	332	585	457	567	461	1 013	1 077	1 753	2 974
	Other refugee status										1 565
	Residence on humanitarian grounds	4 036	2 958	2 972	3 023	1 913	1 225	1 921	1 975	2 755	751
	Rejected	8 976	12 829	11 834	8 346	4 270	2 025	2 944	5 963	10 251	7 714
	Dublin										
Appeal body	Refugee (asylum)	4	10	21	75	62	60	38	32	44	167
	Other refugee status										71
	Residence on humanitarian grounds	265	326	219	613	513	464	1 523	630	392	173
	Rejected	4 145	7 859	9 429	10 733	6 936	5 745	4 374	3 884	9 385	11 242
II RESETTLEMENT REFUGEES		1 269	1 355	1 149	758	942	992	1 350	910	1 112	1 130
III TOTAL GRANTED RESIDENCE (I+II)											
	Refugee (asylum)	1 565	1 697	1 755	1 290	1 571	1 513	2 401	2 019	2 909	4 271
	Other refugee status										1 636
	Residence on humanitarian grounds	4 301	3 284	3 191	3 636	2 426	1 689	3 444	2 605	3 147	924
TOTAL		5 866	4 981	4 946	4 926	3 997	3 202	5 845	4 624	6 056	6 831

For 2001–2009, residence on humanitarian grounds includes both residence on the grounds of other protection and residence on humanitarian grounds.

For 2001–2009, cases that were not considered on their merits were not included under rejections.

In the new Immigration Act from 2010, both asylum seekers considered to be refugees pursuant to the UN Refugee Convention and those given other refugee status are defined as refugees.

Decision by appeal body (UNE): The overview from UNE shows the number of ordinary appeals considered from the UDI, Dublin cases and reversal requests.

Sources: UDI and UNE.

Table 17

Dublin requests to and from Norway, 2010

Country	Requests to other countries	Requests from other countries
Austria	61	22
Belgium	29	89
Bulgaria	13	0
Cyprus	4	0
Czech Rep.	18	4
Denmark	72	196
Estonia	2	0
Finland	23	147
France	94	169
Germany	183	423
Greece	295	1
Hungary	29	4
Ireland	3	2
Italy	756	131
Latvia	3	0
Lithuania	27	0
Luxembourg	5	0
Malta	100	0
Netherlands	52	120
Poland	141	14
Portugal	5	1
Romania	4	0
Slovakia	1	2
Slovenia	16	1
Spain	116	4
Sweden	382	465
Switzerland	35	88
United Kingdom	29	42
No registration	0	113
Total	2 498	2 038

Table 18

Resettlement refugees by nationality, granted permits and arrivals, 2010

Nationality	Granted permits	Arrivals
Afghanistan	153	24
Azerbaijan		4
Bangladesh	1	1
Bhutan	49	49
Burundi	1	1
Cameroon	2	2
Cuba	3	3
Eritrea	249	308
Ethiopia	14	20
Gambia	1	
Georgia	4	
Iran	143	142
Iraq	14	16
Jordan	2	2
Kyrgyzstan	2	2
Myanmar	222	248
Rwanda	5	5
Somalia	41	73
Sri Lanka	8	8
Stateless	158	151
Sudan	7	3
Syria	2	2
The Dem. Rep. Congo	43	32
Turkey	1	1
Total	1125*	1 097

In addition, five persons are protected.

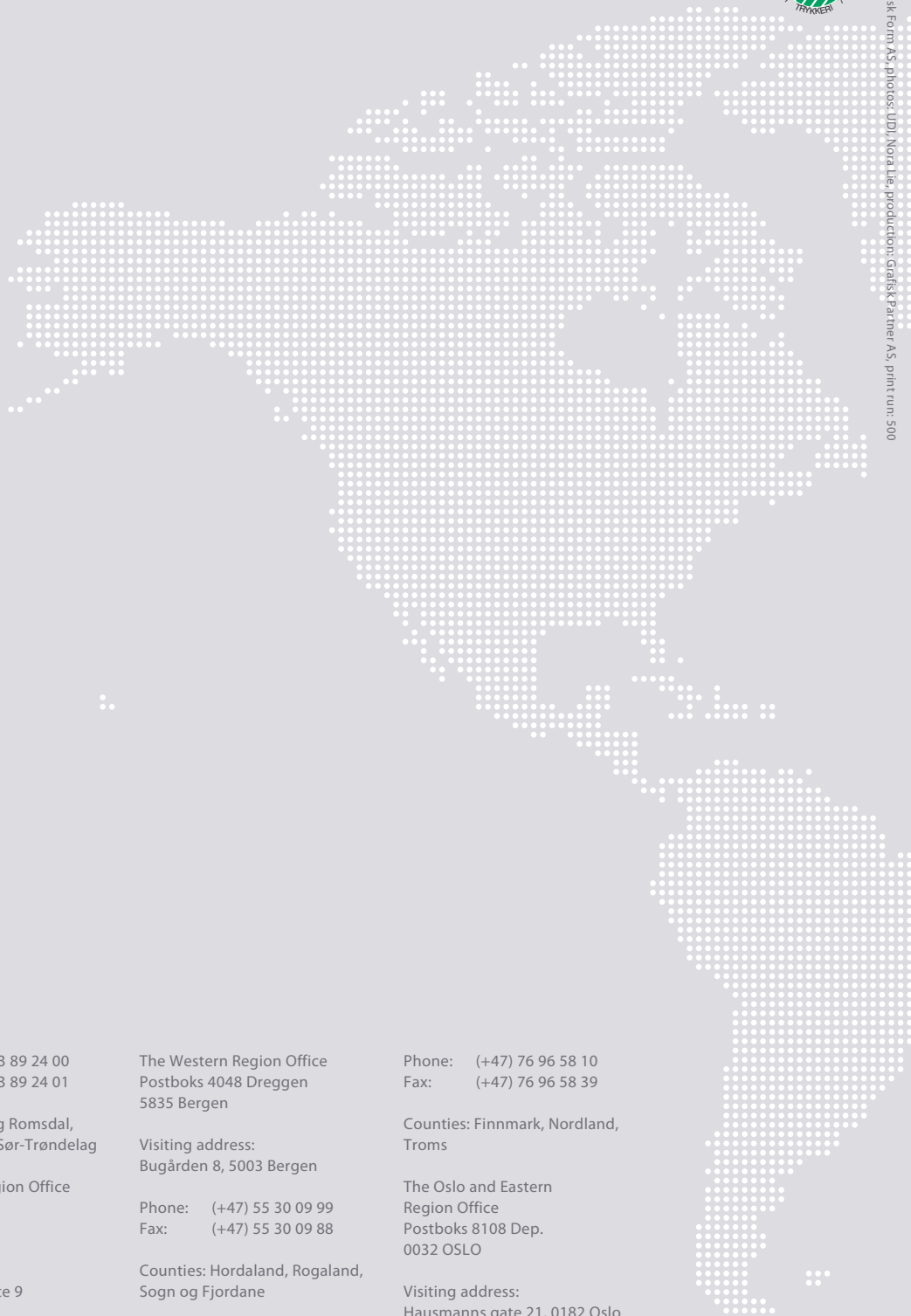
Table 19

Asylum decisions in the UDI by nationality and outcome, 2010

Nationality	Considered on their merits in Norway						Not considered on their merits in Norway			
	Refugee	Other refugee status	Humanitarian grounds	The 15-month rule	UMA Restricted	Rejected	The Dublin II Regulation	Other rejections*	Withdrawn/dropped	Total
Afghanistan	247	733	34	1	17	1 483	305	2	45	2 867
Algeria						85	59		33	177
Armenia						17	5		6	28
Azerbaijan	2		2			37	10		3	54
Belarus						7	13	1	11	32
Burundi	6	1				16	11		5	39
Cameroon	4		4			24	8	1	7	48
China	99					13	8		2	122
Côte d'Ivoire						33	10		2	45
Dem. Rep. Congo (DRC)	26	10	3	1		83	8		4	135
Egypt	3					20	2		5	30
Eritrea	1 100	290	211		2	470	263	35	53	2 424
Ethiopia	150	6	21		4	314	51	2	18	566
Gambia						43	10		11	64
Georgia						37	54		14	105
Ghana						51	22	1	10	84
Guinea			1			43	7		10	61
India						58	13		5	76
Iran	120	1	12		1	466	63	3	26	692
Iraq	137	6	233		6	744	143	8	140	1 417
Jordan	1					28	2		4	35
Kosovo			1			145	97		19	262
Kyrgyzstan						23	6		3	32
Lebanon						32	15		2	49
Liberia	7		1			40	13		4	65
Libya	1		4			29	13		23	70
Macedonia						96	4		3	103
Mauritania						38			5	43
Morocco	7		1		2	48	32		19	109
Myanmar	43	16				8	4		1	72
Nepal						24	3		4	31
Nigeria	2		9			343	137	8	62	561
Pakistan	1	6	1			90	28		26	152
Russia	22		12		2	533	185	10	36	800
Rwanda	11		1	1		16	3		1	33
Senegal						26	9		6	41
Serbia			2			211	6		13	232
Sierra Leone	1					15	11		3	30
Somalia	705	450	89		2	260	422	25	49	2 002
Sri Lanka	5	26				155	10	2	2	200
Stateless	94	12	87		1	600	141	2	83	1 020
Sudan	118					24	45	5	15	207
Syria	23	2	10		2	156	34		17	244
Tajikistan						26	12		5	43
Tunisia						18	9		10	37
Turkey	3		1			53	21		10	88
Uganda	2					21	8		6	37
Uzbekistan			2		1	135	12		2	152
Yemen	19	6	1			74	11		2	113
Zimbabwe			1			43	3		2	49
Other countries	15		4		1	319	68	5	65	477
Total	2 974	1 565	748	3	41	7 673	2 429	110	912	16 455

Persons who have applied from abroad and resettlement refugees are not included.

* Has been granted residence in another safe country.



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