

KEY GLOBAL MIGRATION FIGURES, 2019–2021

Updated with data available as of 5 Oct 2021

Next planned update: 5 Jan 2022

MIGRANT POPULATION (STOCKS)



281 MILLION PEOPLE were estimated to be international migrants – people that were born abroad and/or held foreign citizenship – at mid-year 2020.

Source: UN DESA, 2020.

FEMALE MIGRANTS



An estimated **48 PER CENT** of the international migrant stock in mid-year 2020 were women.

Source: UN DESA, 2020.

LABOUR MIGRANTS



An estimated **169 MILLION MIGRANT WORKERS** made up **62 PER CENT** of the international migrant stock in 2019.

Source: ILO, 2021.

REFUGEES & ASYLUM-SEEKERS



By the end of 2020, there were an estimated total of **26.4 MILLION REFUGEES** and **4.1 MILLION ASYLUM-SEEKERS** worldwide.

Source: UNHCR, 2021.

RESETTLEMENT



According to government statistics, **34,400 REFUGEES** were admitted for resettlement in 21 countries in 2020. This is the lowest figure in nearly two decades.

Source: UNHCR, 2021.

RETURNS



37,043 MIGRANTS who voluntarily decided to return home, but lacked the means to do so, received administrative, logistical or financial support from IOM in 2020 via IOM's Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration programme.

Source: IOM, 2021.

MIGRATION GOVERNANCE



As of 30 September 2021, **84 COUNTRIES** and **30 LOCAL AUTHORITIES** have embarked on the Migration Governance Indicators (MGI) process to assess their migration governance frameworks.

Source: IOM's Global Migration Data Portal, 2021.

CHILDREN MIGRANTS



An estimated **13 PER CENT** of the international migrant stock in 2020 were children below 18 years.

Source: UNICEF, 2021; estimates based on UN DESA data.

REMITTANCES



An estimated **USD 540 BILLION OF REMITTANCES** were sent to low-and middle-income countries (LMICs) in 2020, overtaking Foreign Direct Investments. Defying projections, remittances to LMICs fell by only 2 per cent in 2020.

Source: Ratha et al., 2021.

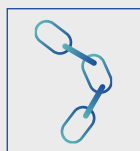
INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT



An estimated **40.5 MILLION PEOPLE** – 9.8 million due to conflict and 30.7 million due to disasters – were **NEWLY DISPLACED** in 2020 within their own countries and territories.

Source: IDMC, 2021.

TRAFFICKING & MODERN SLAVERY



156,330 INDIVIDUAL CASES of trafficking have been identified by or reported to Counter Trafficking Data Collaborative (CTDC) partners between 2002 and 2021.

Source: Counter Trafficking Data Collaborative (CTDC), 2021.

MISSING MIGRANTS



More than **40,189 MIGRANT DEATHS AND DISAPPEARANCES** were recorded globally from 2014 to 2020. As of 30 September, at least **3,480 PEOPLE** have lost their lives while migrating internationally in 2021.

Source: IOM's Missing Migrants Project, 2021.