



## **Migration in Greece**



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# INTRODUCTION

Greece became a full member of the EEC in 1981, representing the first southern enlargement.

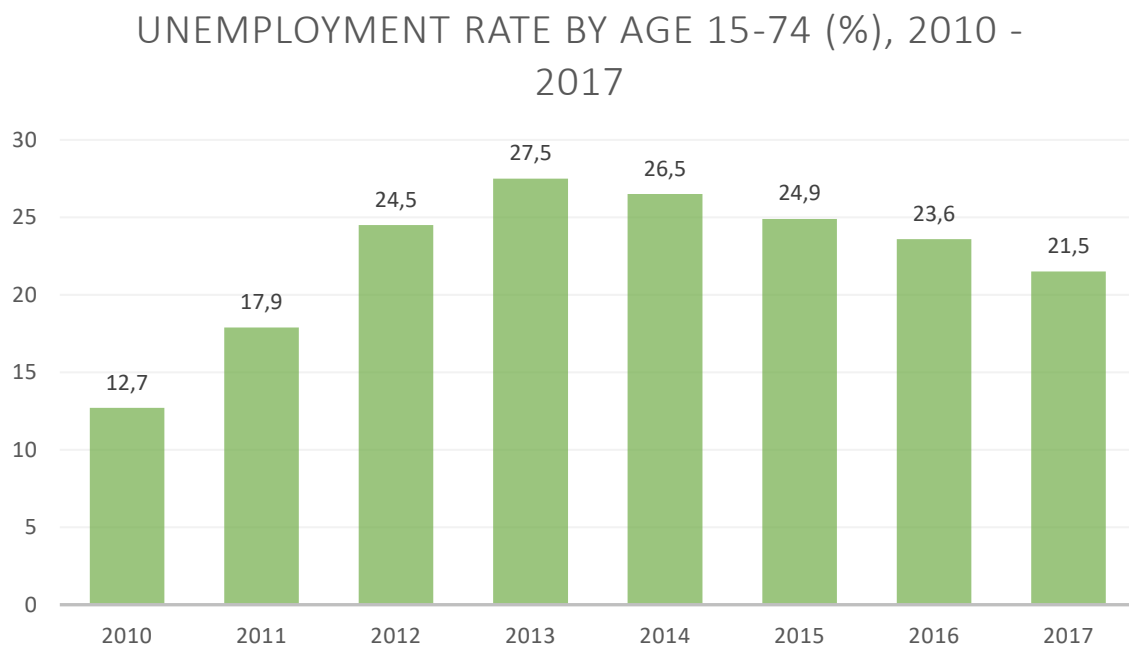
In 1986, legal and unauthorized immigrants were approximately 90,000 and one third of them were from European Union countries.

The 1991 Census registered 167,000 "foreigners" among a total population of 10,259,900.

There are many factors that qualify Greece as a receiving country: the most relevant one is surely its geographic location, which makes Greece the eastern "gate" of the EU. Furthermore, the rapid economic changes that occurred after the 1981 and the improved living standards and higher levels of education as well as the family-based economy have renewed the labour market.

2004/38 EC about the right of citizens of the Union and their family members to move and reside freely within the territory of the EU and EEA member states, integrated into the National Law on June 2007, was implemented by the adoption of the Schengen Visa rules.

The EU-Turkey Declaration, signed in March 2016 and establishing a new system to manage Third Countries National migrants led to massive increasing of via sea arrivals in Greece.



*Unemployment rate by age 15-74, 2010 – 2017 [tepsr\_wc170]*

*Last update: 20/04/2018*

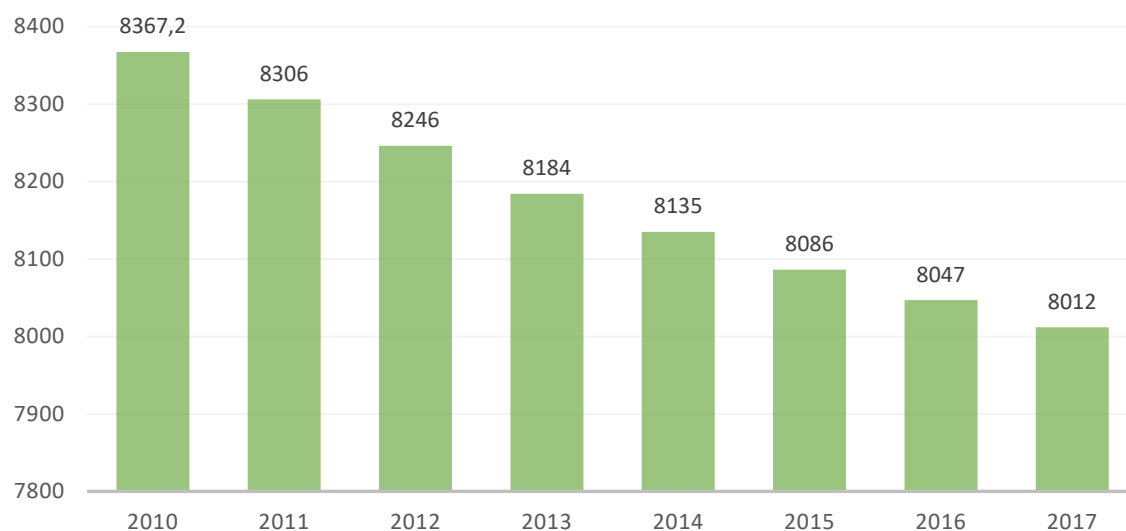
[http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/products-datasets/-/tepsr\\_wc170](http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/products-datasets/-/tepsr_wc170)

In this graph we can see that during 2014 the unemployment rate overcame the 2013 peak and started decreasing: this is the consequence of the slow economic recovery that started after the end of 2013 in Greece.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Greek\\_government-debt\\_crisis](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Greek_government-debt_crisis)

## POPULATION, AGED 15-74 - EU LABOUR FORCE SURVEY, 2010 - 2017



*Population aged 15-74 – EU labor force survey, 2010 – 2017 [tipslm16]*

*Last update: 20/04/2018*

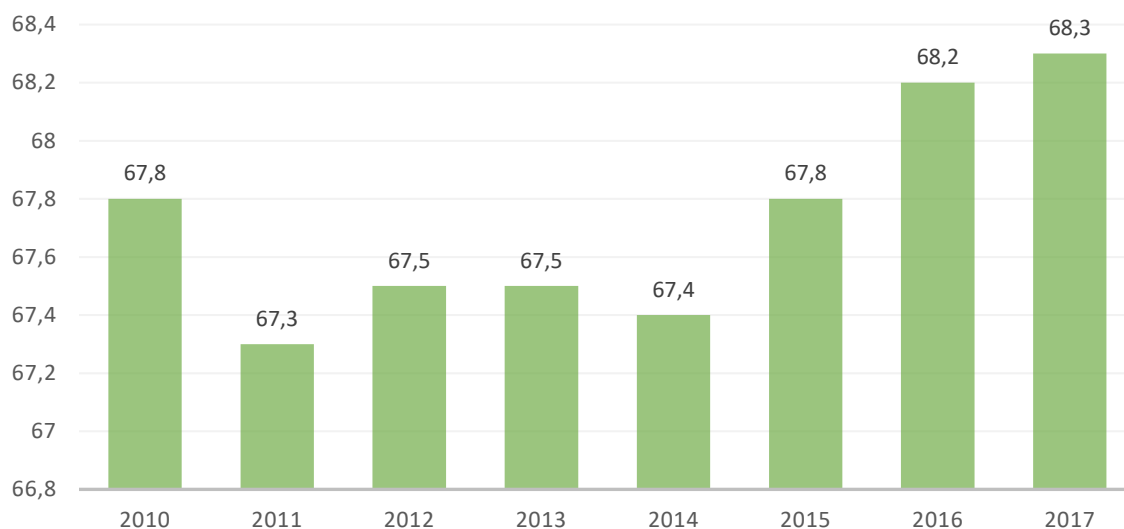
<http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/products-datasets/-/tipslm16>

*“The EU Labour Force Survey is a large household sample survey providing quarterly results on labour participation of people aged 15 and over as well as on persons outside the labour force. All definitions apply to persons aged 15 years and over living in private households. Persons carrying out obligatory military or community service are not included in the target group of the survey, as is also the case for persons in institutions/collective households.”<sup>2</sup>*

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<sup>2</sup> <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/microdata/european-union-labour-force-survey>

## ACTIVITY RATE BY AGE (% OF TOTAL POPULATION AGED 15-64), 2010 - 2017



Activity rate by age (% of total population aged 15-64), 2010 - 2017 [tipslm60]

Last update: 02/05/2018

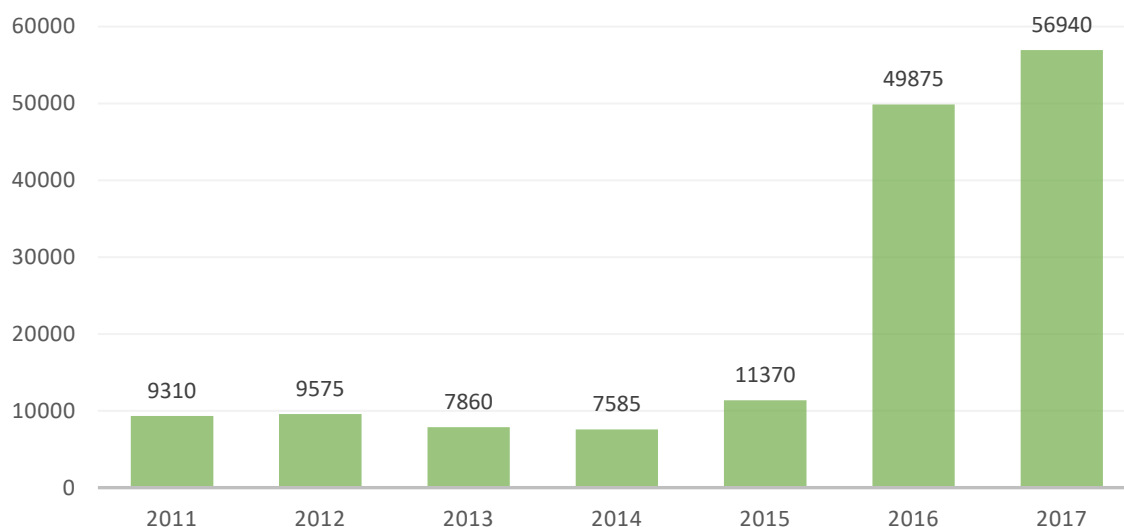
<http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/products-datasets/-/tipslm60>

*“The activity rate is the percentage of economically active population aged 15-64 on the total population of the same age. According to the definitions of the International Labor Organization (ILO) for the purposes of the labor market statistics people are classified as employed, unemployed and economically inactive. The economically active population (also called labor force) is the sum of employed and unemployed persons. Inactive persons are those who, during the reference week, were neither employed nor unemployed.”<sup>3</sup>*

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<sup>3</sup> <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/products-datasets/-/tipslm60>

## FIRST TIME ASYLUM APPLICANTS - ANNUAL AGGREGATED DATA (ROUNDED), 2011 - 2017



*First time asylum applicants – annual aggregated data (rounded), 2011 – 2017 [tps00191]*

*Last update: 11/04/2018*

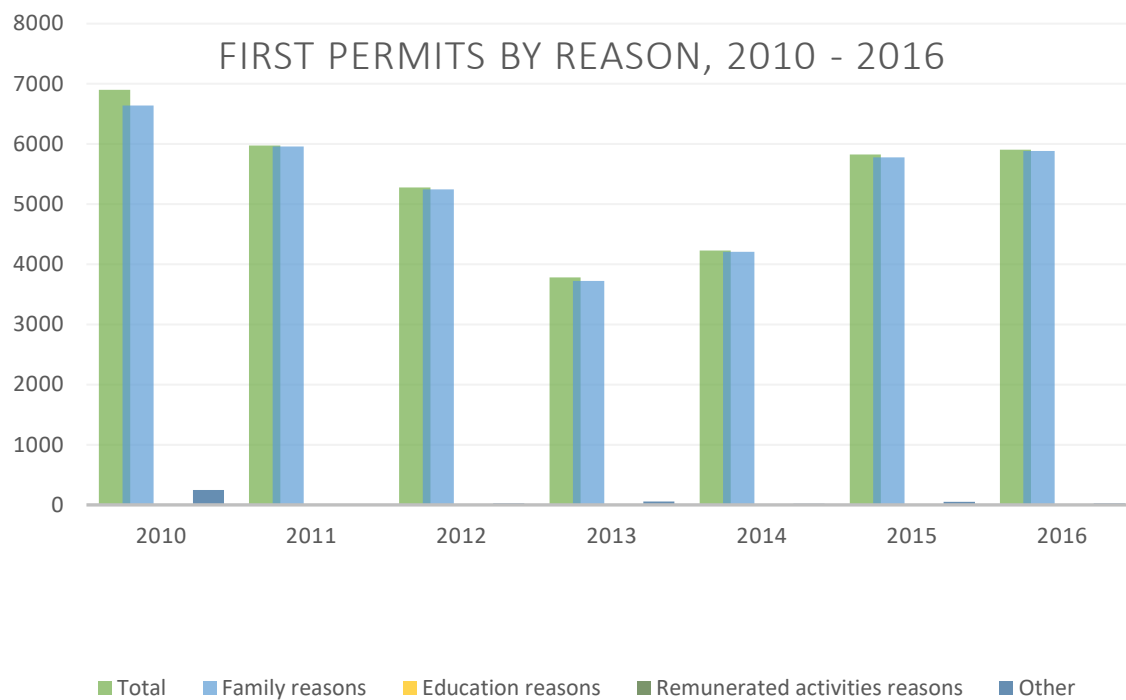
<http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/products-datasets/-/tps00191>

*“The definition of first time asylum applicant describes a person having submitted an application for international protection for the first time.”<sup>4</sup>*

The reasons behind the enormous increase registered in 2016 must be sought in the wars and crisis that are still going on across the Middle East, especially in Syria. The geographic position of Greece makes it the closest and easiest way to reach Europe from the war territories.

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<sup>4</sup> <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/products-datasets/-/tps00191>



*First permits by reason, 2010 – 2016 [tps00170]*

*Last update: 25/04/2018*

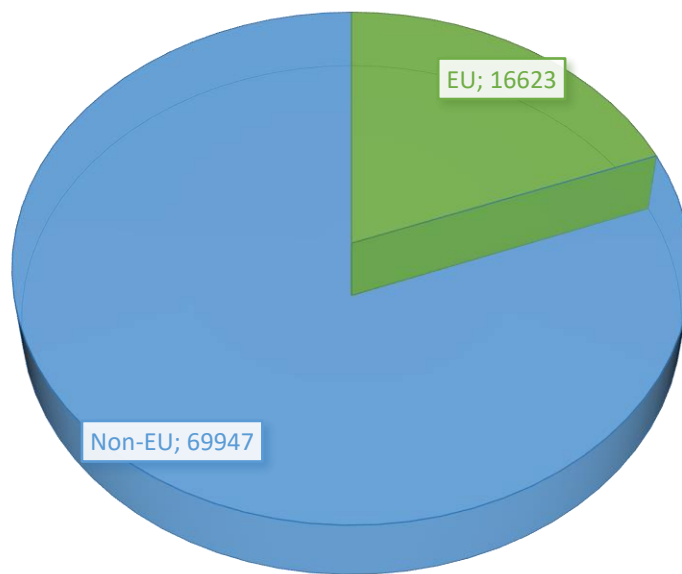
<http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/products-datasets/-/tps00170>

*“Residence permit means any authorization valid for at least 3 months issued by the authorities of a Member State allowing a third country national to stay legally on its territory. First permit means the residence permit issued to a person for the first time. A residence permit is considered as a first permit also if the time gap between expiry of the old permit and the start of validity of the new permit issued for the same reason is at least 6 months, irrespective of the year of issuance of the permit.”<sup>5</sup>*

The graph shows that the large majority of first permits applications are for family reunification reasons.

<sup>5</sup> <http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/products-datasets/-/tps00170>

## IMMIGRATION BY CITIZENSHIP, 2016



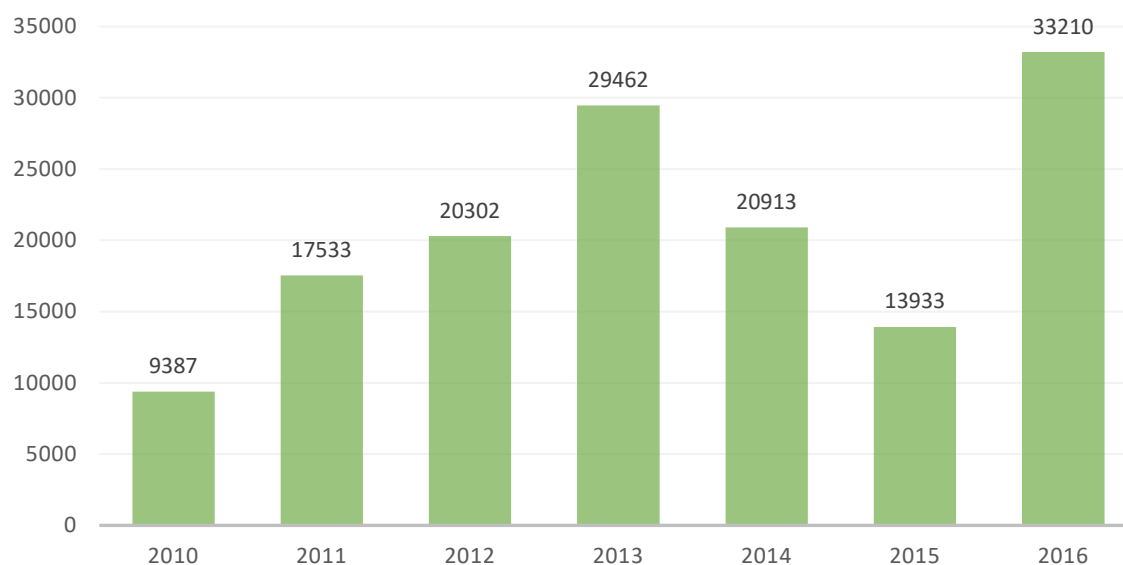
*Immigration by citizenship, 2016 [migr\_imm6ctz]*

*Last update: 20/03/2018*

[http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/products-datasets/-/migr\\_imm6ctz](http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/products-datasets/-/migr_imm6ctz)

In this pie chart we can see how, above all immigrants in Greece in 2016, the majority is from non-EU countries. This tendency can be explained by the refugee “crisis” that forced many people from various parts of the world (i.e. Syria) to leave their home countries for Europe.

## ACQUISITION OF CITIZENSHIP (NUMBER OF ACQUISITIONS), 2010 - 2016



*Acquisition of citizenship (number of acquisitions), 2010 – 2016 [tps00024]*

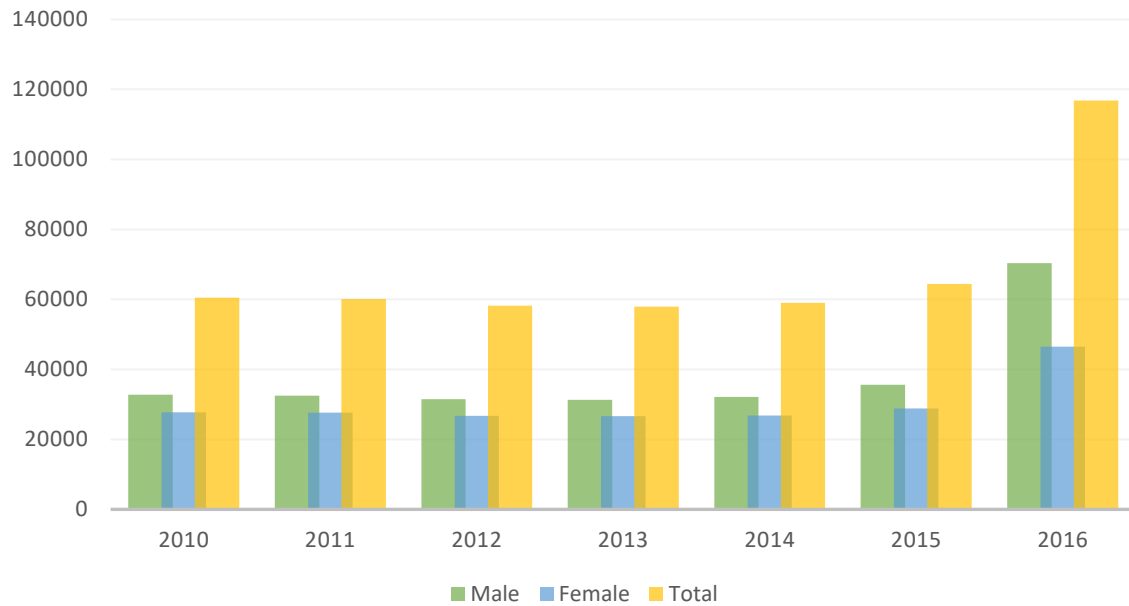
*Last update: 11/04/2018*

<http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/products-datasets/-/tps00024>

This graph shows the number of people who obtained Greek citizenship between 2010 and 2016. The procedures for the acquisition of citizenship apply to everyone who has been previous citizen of another country or previously considered “stateless”.



## IMMIGRATION BY SEX, 2010 - 2016



*Immigration by sex, 2010 – 2016 [migr\_imm11prv]*

*Last update: 16/03/2018*

[http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/products-datasets/-/migr\\_imm11prv](http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/products-datasets/-/migr_imm11prv)

In this graph we can observe that male immigrants are more than female immigrants. This tendency is already noticeable in the first migration flows worldwide, since males migrate first to look for a job and take the family with them only when they are economically stable (this is also connected to the fact that the main reason for permit application is family reunification).