



Migration in Greece

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Introduction

Greece is one of the southern European countries in which most of migrants arrive from the eastern Mediterranean area. Thanks to its geographical position, the country has always had an important role regarding the migration issue. In 1981 Greece became a member state of the EEC starting to strengthen the cooperation with its neighbours in order to manage migration. However the natality rate of the country is declining, Greece population is growing, like the rest of the EU population, thanks to the net migration rate.

Migration flows to the country have already begun in the 1990s thanks to the fall of the communist block and the continuous increase in GDP per capita. Since 2000s the migration flow from Asian and Middle Eastern countries started to rise for asylum application. This trend has been stronger since 2011-2012 because of humanitarian crisis linked to Arab uprising and the Syrian conflict. The 2001 census registered 797,091 (7,3% of the total population) “regular foreigners” among a total population of 10,166,929.

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.

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.

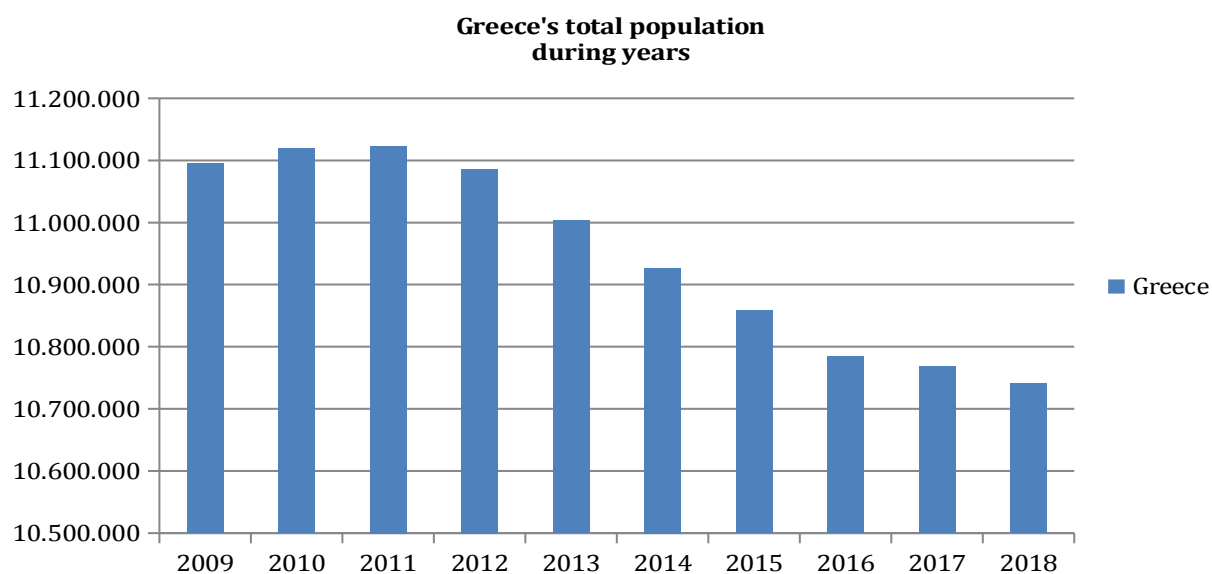
2004/38 EC about the right of citizens of the Union and their family members to move and reside freely within the territory of the EU and EEA member states, integrated into the National Law on June 2007, was implemented by the adoption of the Schengen Visa rules.

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.



1. Background information

1.1 Total population last year



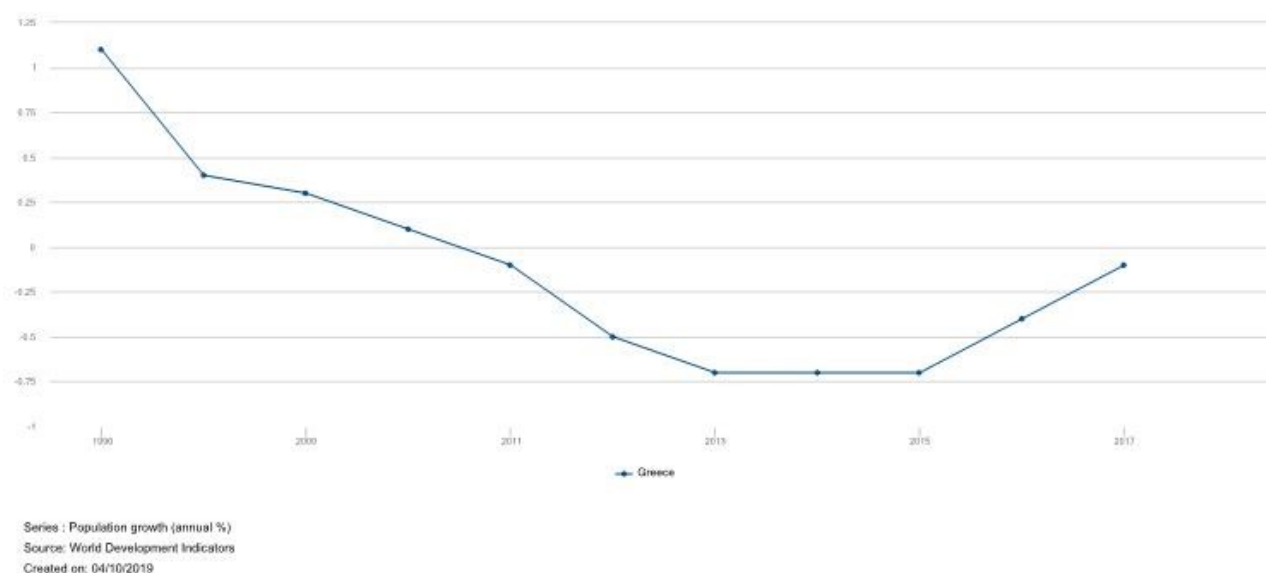
Source: Eurostat, Population change - Demographic balance and crude rates at national level [demo_gind]

The number of persons having their usual residence in a country on 1 January of the respective year. When usually resident population is not available, countries may report legal or registered residents.

Population change - Demographic balance and crude rates at national level

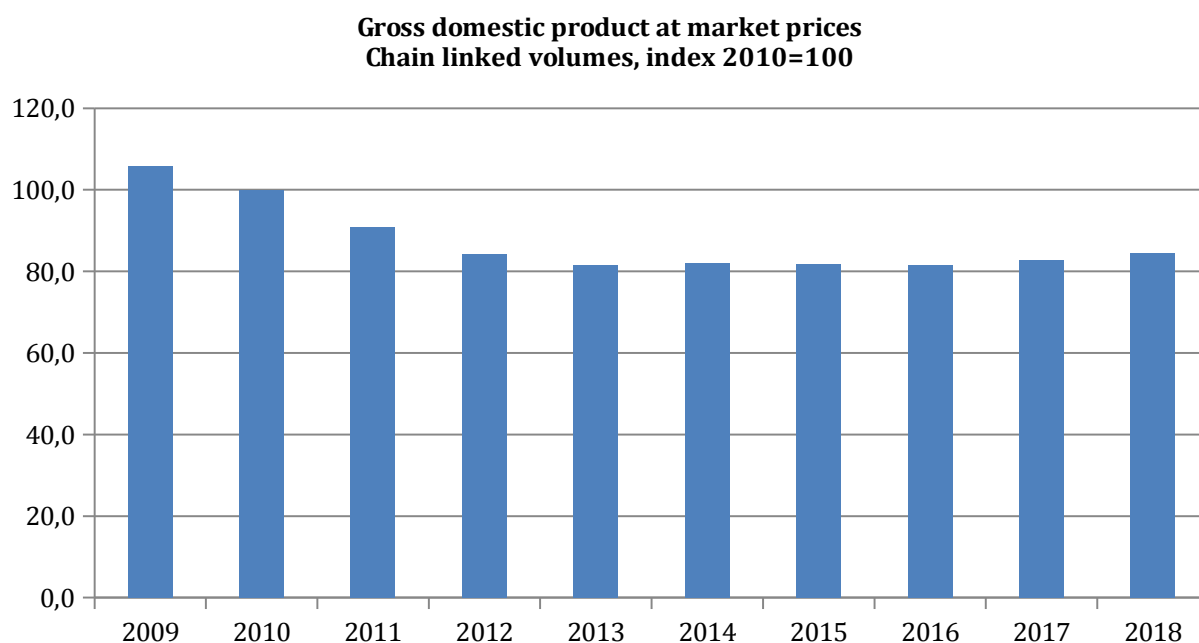


1.2 Population growth (annual % last year)



Source: World development Indicators, Greece, Population growth (annual %)

1.3 GDP per capita last year



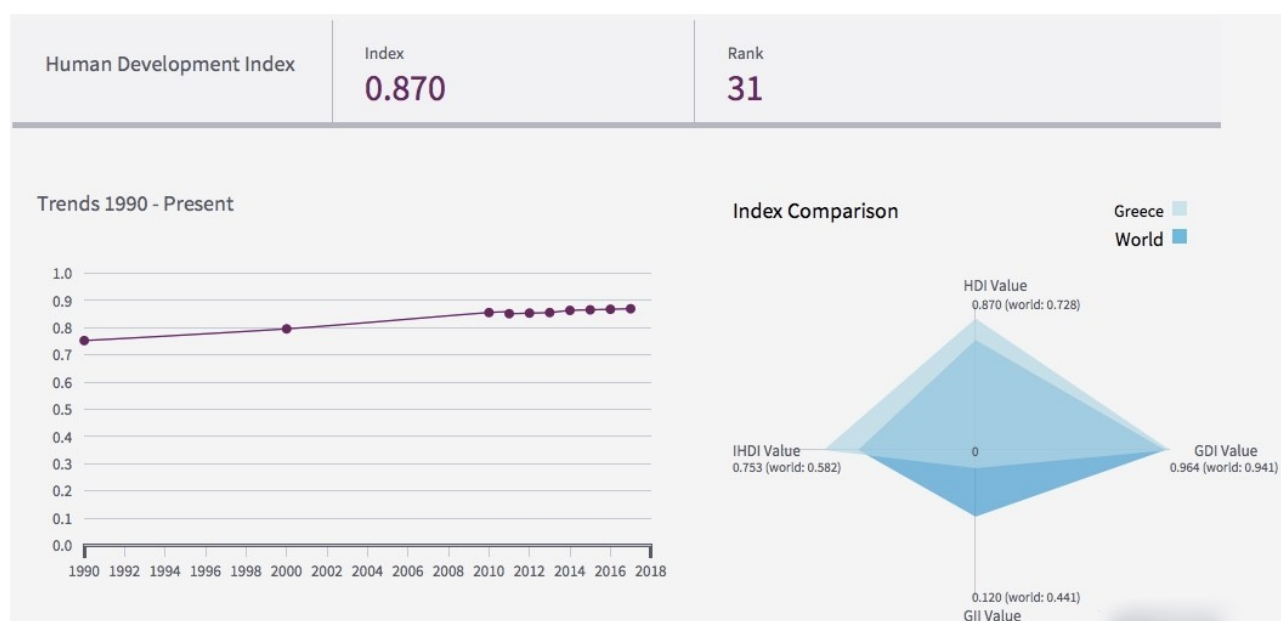
Source: Eurostat, GDP and main components (output, expenditure and income)
[nama_10_gdp]



GDP (gross domestic product) is an indicator for a nation's economic situation. It reflects the total value of all goods and services produced less the value of goods and services used for intermediate consumption in their production. Expressing GDP in PPS (purchasing power standards) eliminates differences in price levels between countries, and calculations on a per head basis allows for the comparison of economies significantly different in absolute size.

1.4 Human Development Index Ranking last year (1 = High - 188 = Low)¹

The HDI is a summary measure for assessing long-term progress in three basic dimensions of human development: a long and healthy life, access to knowledge and a decent standard of living. A long and healthy life is measured by life expectancy. Knowledge level is measured by mean years of education among the adult population, which is the average number of years of education received in a life-time by people aged 25 years and older; and access to learning and knowledge by expected years of schooling for children of school-entry age, which is the total number of years of schooling a child of school-entry age can expect to receive if prevailing patterns of age-specific enrolment rates stay the same throughout the child's life. Standard of living is measured by Gross National Income (GNI) per capita expressed in constant 2011 international dollars converted using purchasing power parity (PPP) conversion rates.



Source: UN Development Programme, Human Development Reports, Greece, Human development indicators, Human Development Index

Greece's HDI value for 2017 is 0.870— which put the country in the very high human development category—positioning it at 31 out of 189 countries and territories. Between 1990 and 2017, Greece's HDI value increased from 0.753 to 0.870, an increase of 15.5 percent. The

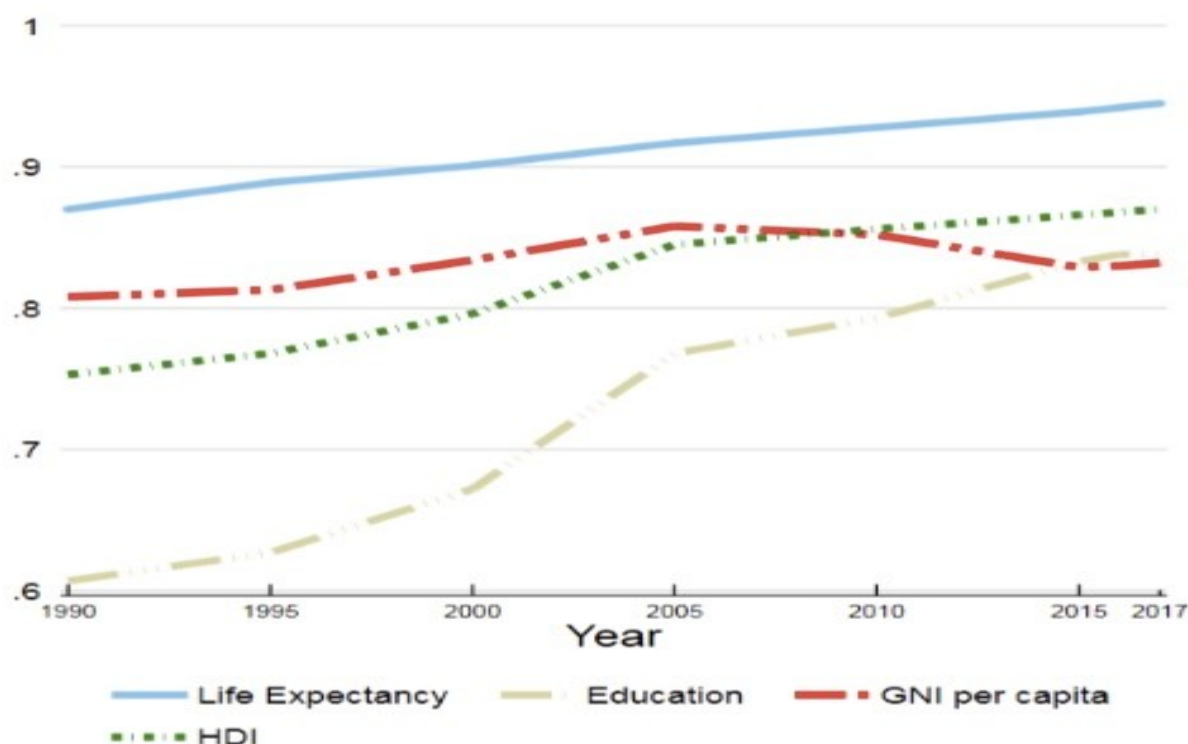
¹ <http://hdr.undp.org/en/countries/profiles/GRC#>



table reviews Greece's progress in each of the HDI indicators. Between 1990 and 2017, Greece's life expectancy at birth increased by 4.8 years, mean years of schooling increased by 2.9 years and expected years of schooling increased by 4.9 years. Greece's GNI per capita increased by about 16.9 percent between 1990 and 2017.

	Life expectancy at birth	Expected years of schooling	Mean years of schooling	GNI per capita (2011 PPP\$)	HDI value
1990	76.6	12.4	7.9	21,080	0.753
1995	77.8	12.7	8.2	21,752	0.768
2000	78.6	13.9	8.6	24,924	0.796
2005	79.6	15.9	9.8	29,203	0.845
2010	80.3	16.2	10.3	28,134	0.856
2015	81.0	17.3	10.6	24,251	0.866
2016	81.2	17.3	10.8	24,284	0.868
2017	81.4	17.3	10.8	24,648	0.870

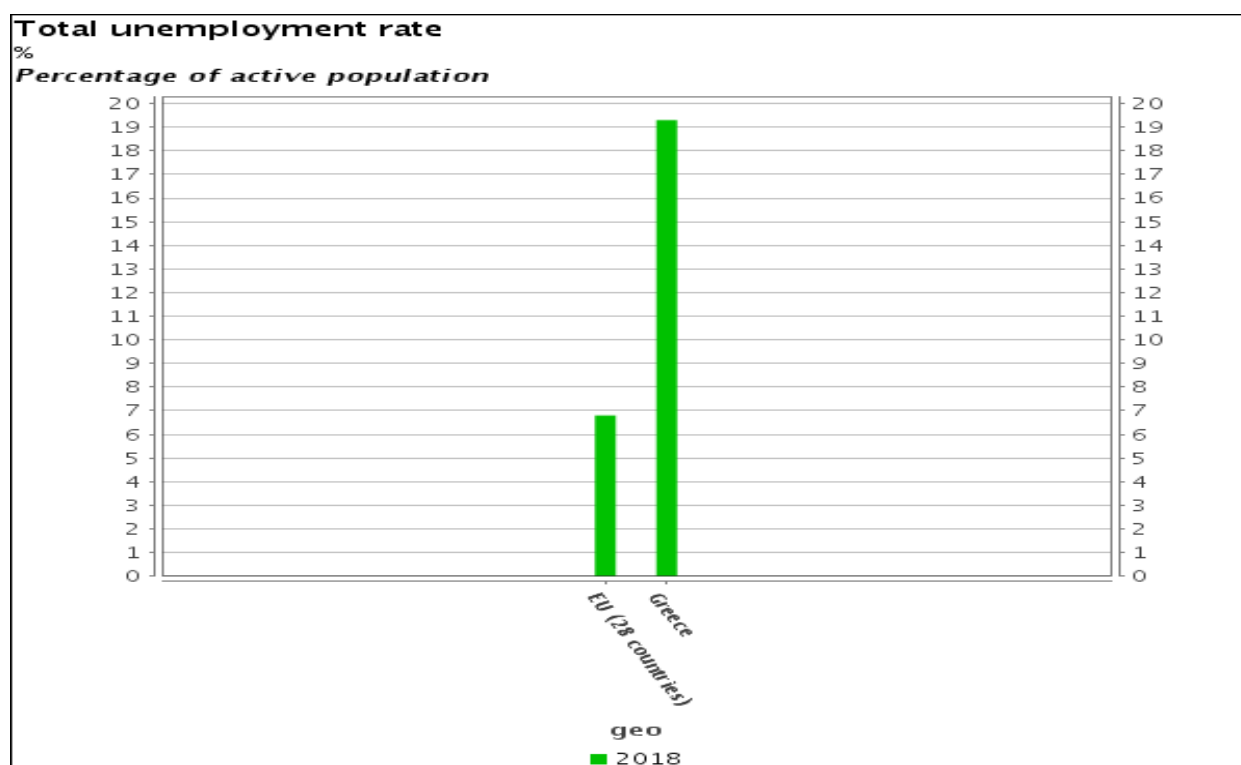
Source: UN Development Programme, Human Development Reports, Greece, Human development indicators, Greece's HDI trends based on consistent time series data and new goalposts



Source: UN Development Programme, Human Development Reports, Greece, Human development indicators, Trends in Greece's HDI component indices 1990-2017



1.5 Unemployment rate of total population last year



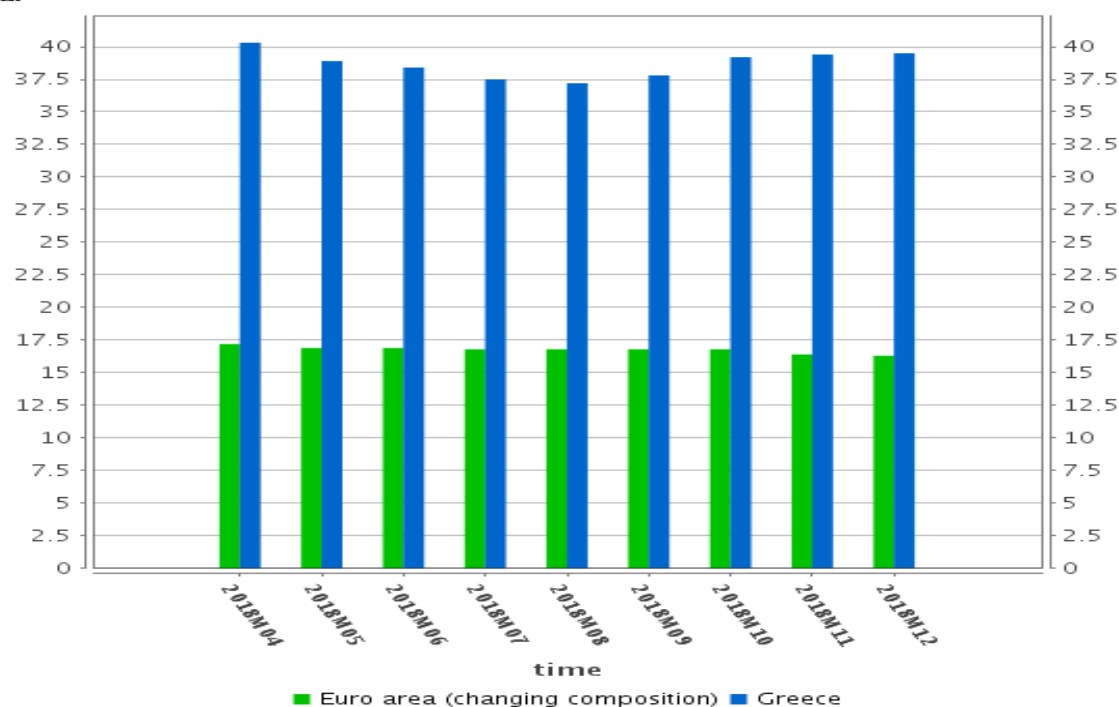
Source: Eurostat, Total unemployment rate
[tps00203]

Unemployment rates represent unemployed persons as a percentage of the labour force. The labour force is the total number of people employed and unemployed. Unemployed persons comprise persons aged 15 to 74 who were: a. without work during the reference week, b. currently available for work, i.e. were available for paid employment or self-employment before the end of the two weeks following the reference week, c. actively seeking work, i.e. had taken specific steps in the four weeks period ending with the reference week to seek paid employment or self-employment or who found a job to start later, i.e. within a period of, at most, three months. This table does not only show unemployment rates but also unemployed in 1000 and as % of the total population.



1.6 Youth unemployment last year

Harmonised unemployment rate by sex – age group 15–24
Total

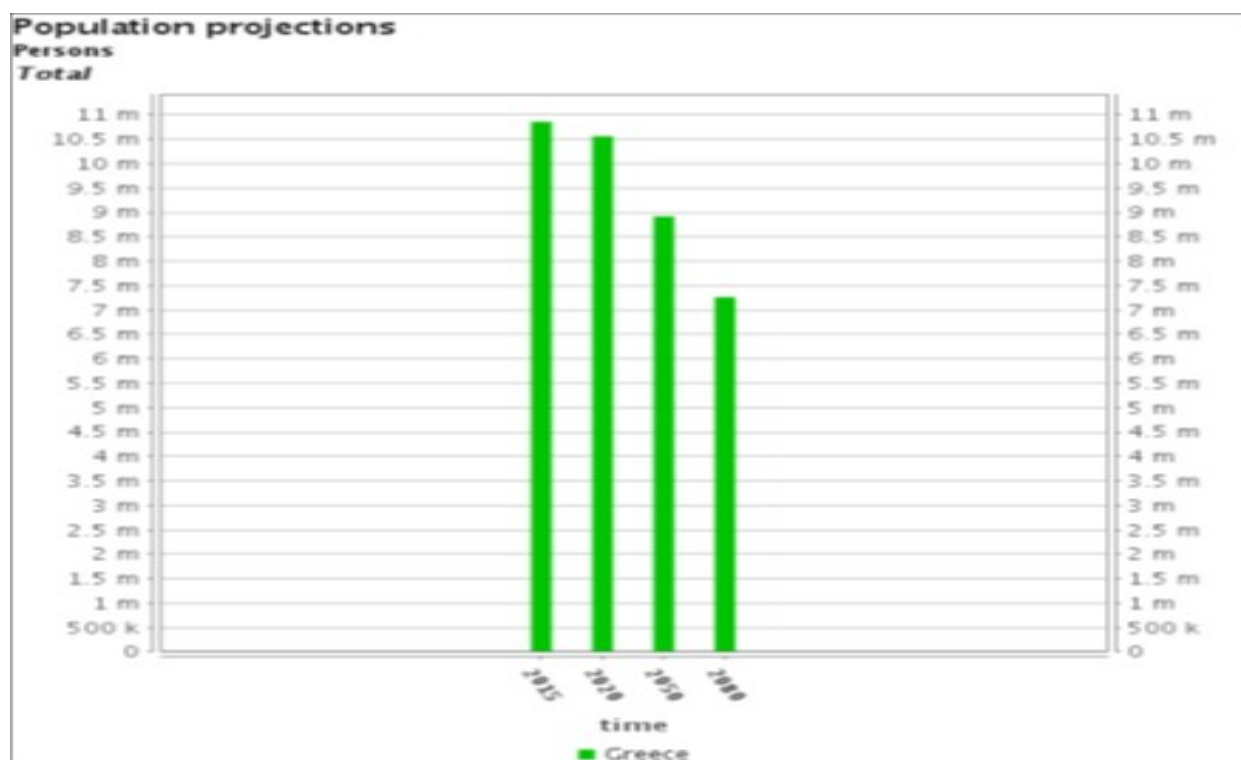


Source: Eurostat, Harmonised unemployment by sex - age group 15-24
[teilm021]

The unemployment rate represents unemployed persons as a percentage of the labour force based on International Labour Office (ILO) definition, which here refers to the total number of employed and unemployed persons aged 15 to 24. Unemployed persons comprise here persons aged 15 to 24 who: - are without work; - are available to start work within the next two weeks; - and have been actively seeking work in the past four weeks or had already found a job to start within the next three months. Data are presented in seasonally adjusted form.



1.7 Total population projection 2050



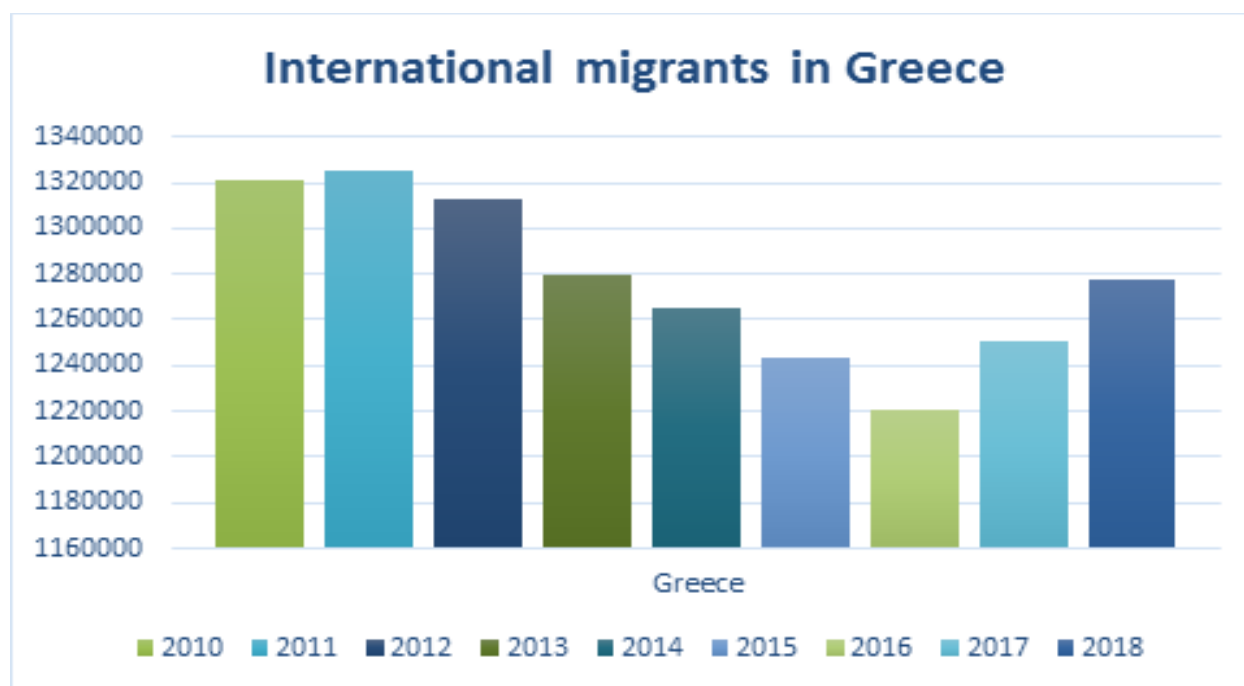
Source: Eurostat, Population projections
[tps00002]

Population projections are what-if scenarios that aim to provide information about the likely future size and structure of the population. Eurostat's population projections is one of several possible population change scenarios based on specific assumptions for fertility, mortality and net migration. The method used for population projections is the "cohortcomponent" method. Population refers to 1st January population for the respective years. The current population projections use 1st January 2015 population as base population and are produced for 29 European countries: all EU-28 Member States and Norway.



2. Migration stock and flows in the last 10 years

2.1 The total number of international migrants residing in the country

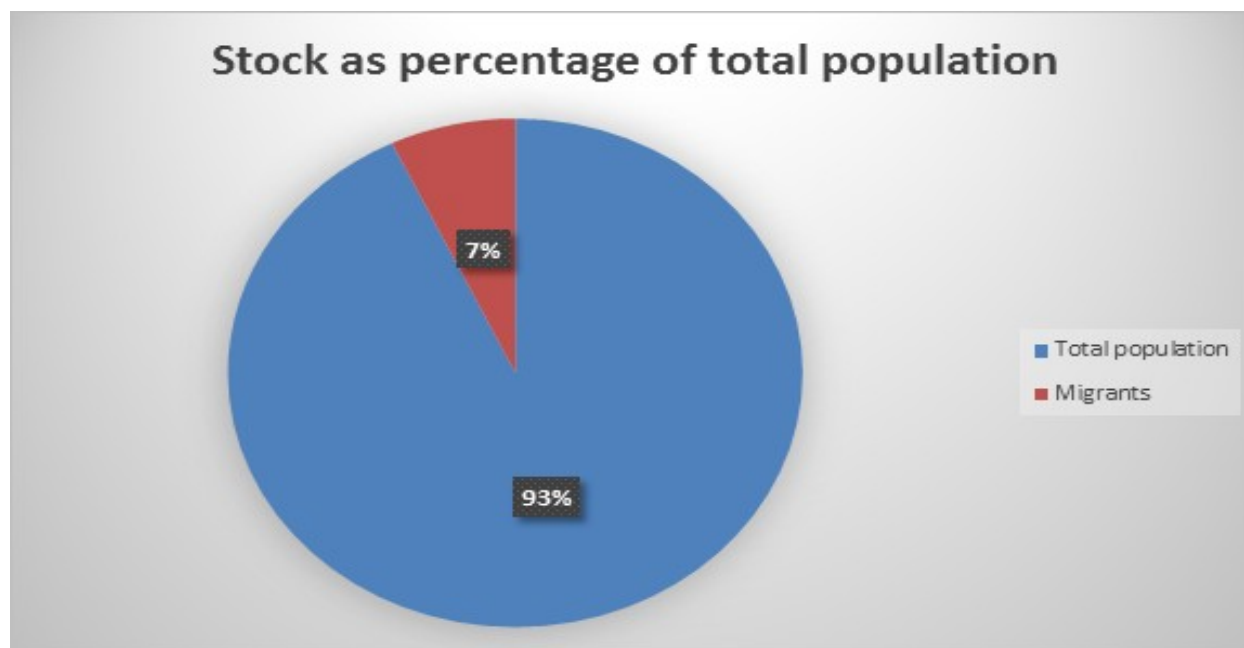


Source: Eurostat, Foreign-born population
[tps00178]

Number of persons born abroad, (according to present time borders), whether in other EU Member States or non-EU countries, who are usually resident in the reporting country on 1 January of the respective year.

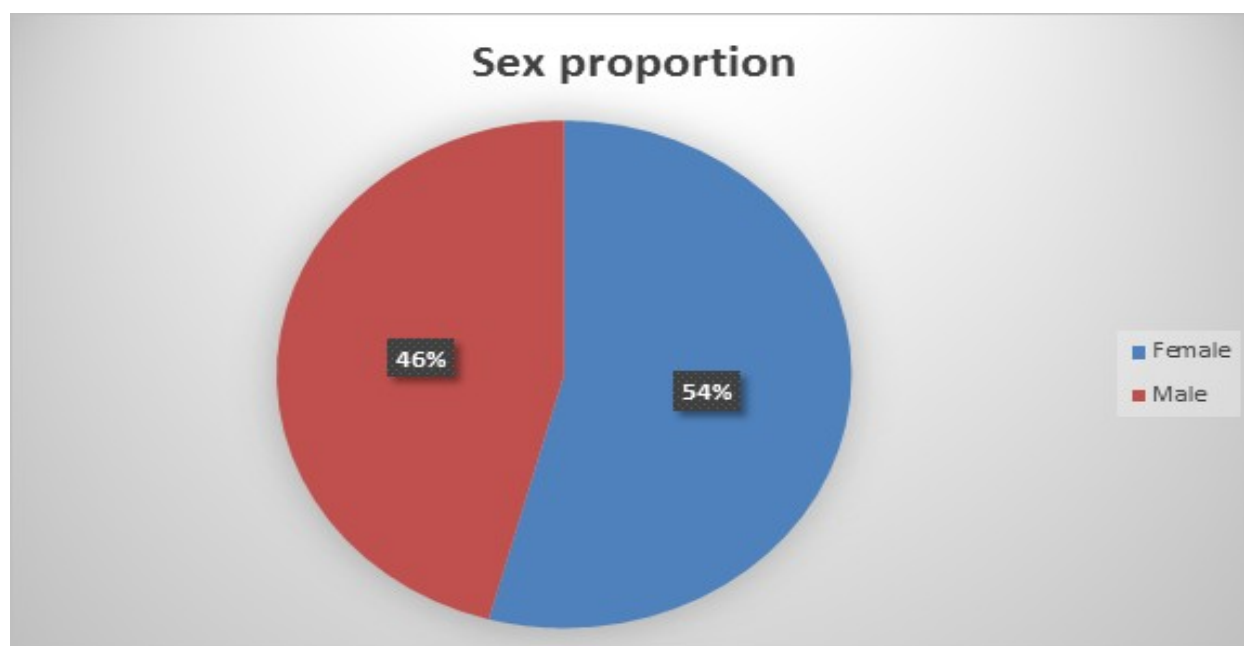


2.2 International migrant stock as a percentage of the total population



Source: Eurostat, Foreign-born population
[tps00178]

2.3 Proportion of female migrants of the international immigrant stock



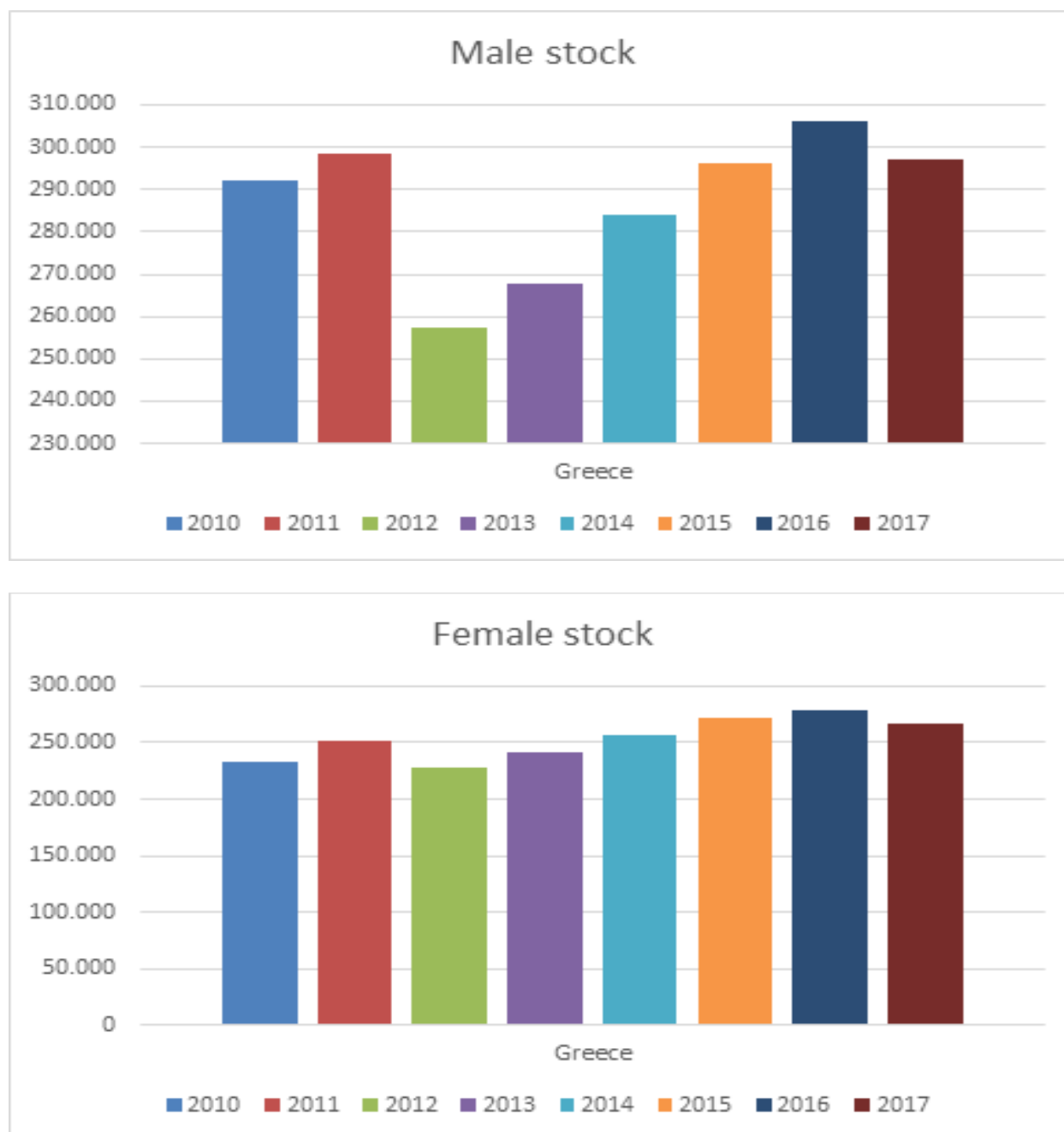
Source: Eurostat, Immigration by age group, sex and citizenship
[migr_imm1ctz]



Female proportion: 422.547 of 816.059, 1/2 total.

2.4 Immigration stock by sex group, age, country of birth and reason for migration

2.4.1 Sex group

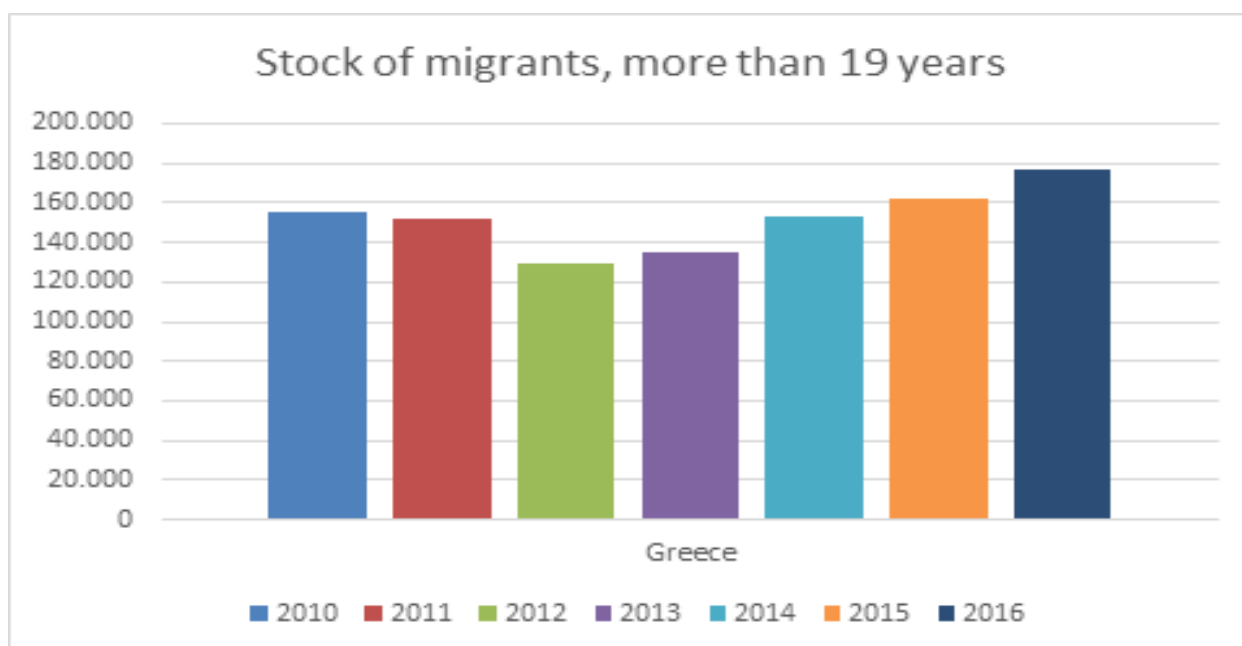
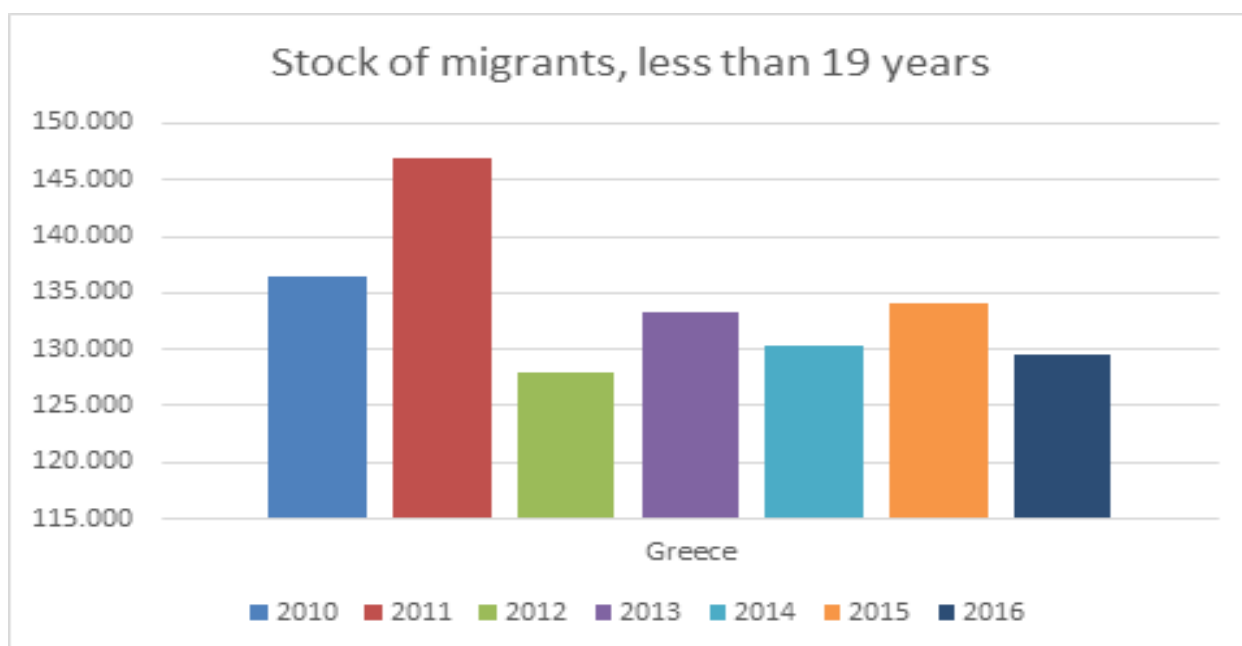


Source: Eurostat, All valid permits by age, sex and citizenship on 31 December of each year [migr_resvas]



Stock of migrant's majority in Greece is composed of male people with a strong increase since 2013 after the decrease in the previous year. The female stock quantity is quite stable.

2.4.2 Age

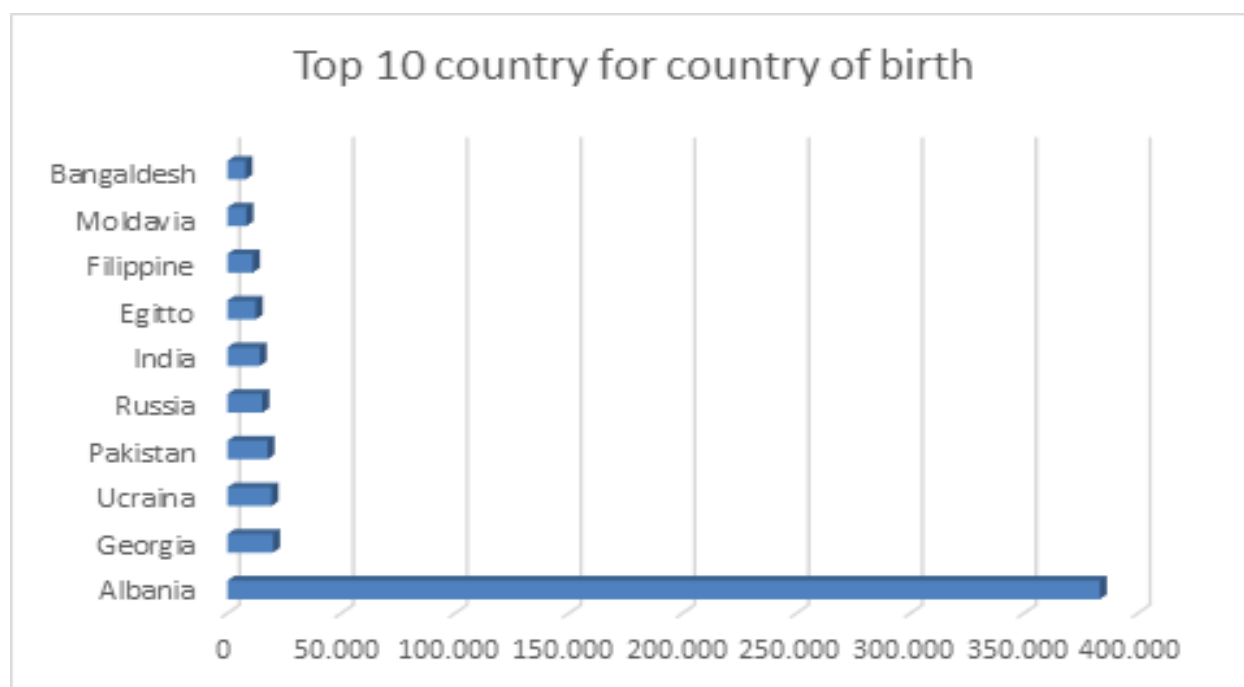


Source: Eurostat, All valid permits by age, sex and citizenship on 31 December of each year [migr_resvas]



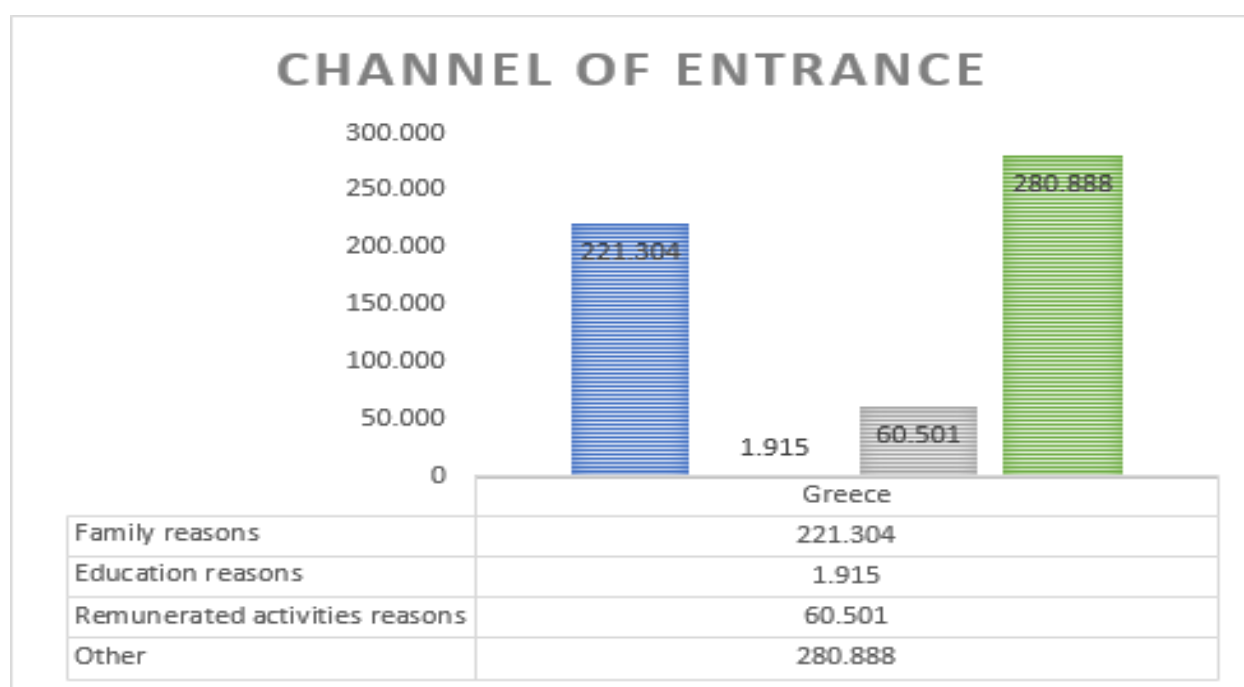
Stock of migrants' majority in Greece is composed of adults with more than 19 years with a peak in 2011. Minor's stock is increasing since 2013.

2.4.3 Country of birth



Source: Eurostat, All valid permits by age, sex and citizenship on 31 December of each year [migr_resvas]

2.4.4 Reason for migration

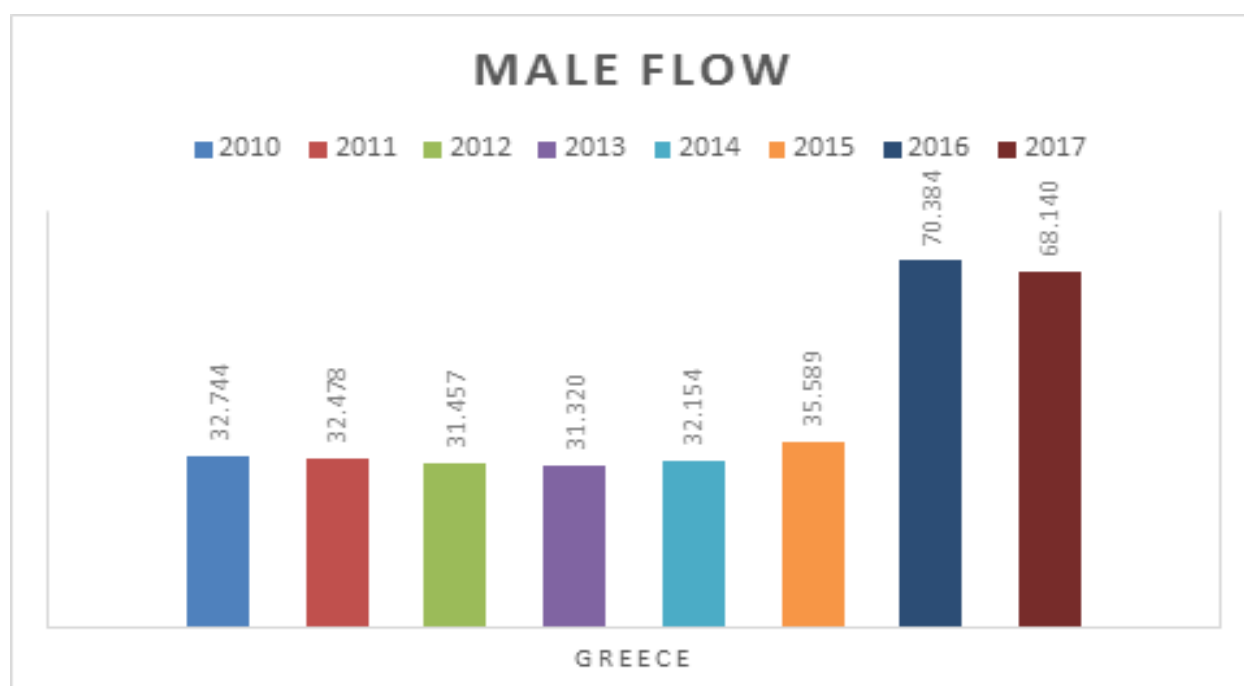


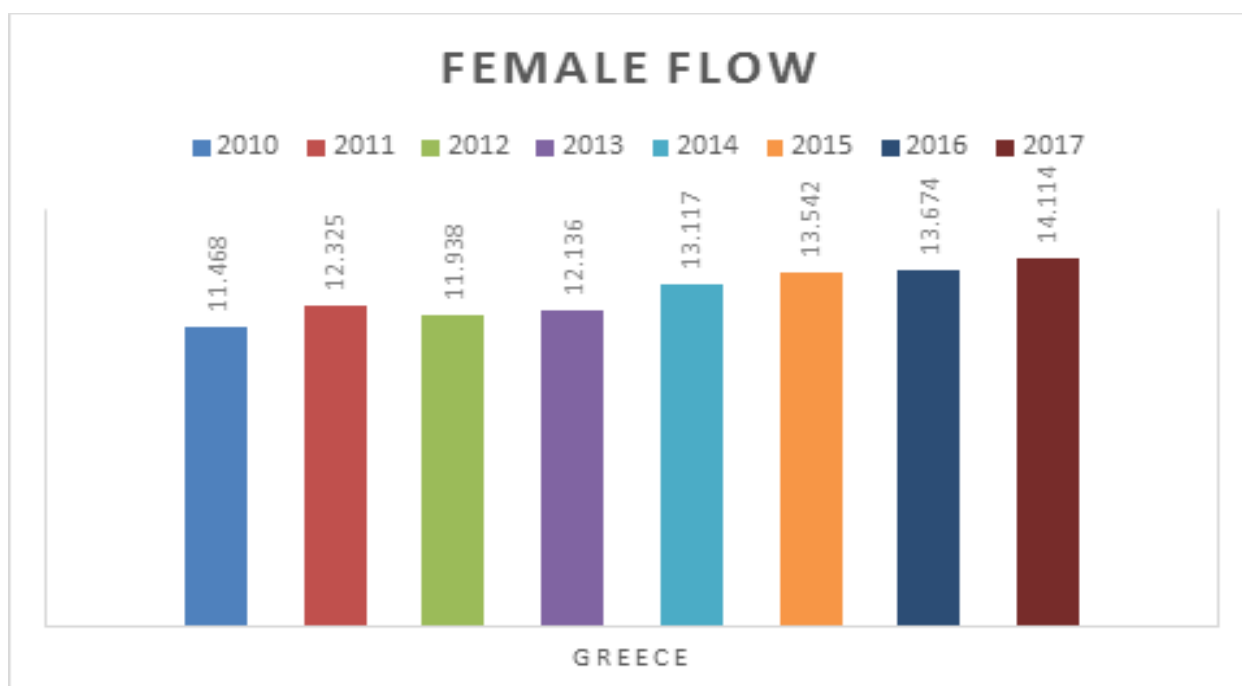
Source: Eurostat, All valid permits by reason, length of validity and citizenship on 31 December of each year
[migr_resvalid]



2.5 Immigration flows by sex group, age, country of birth and reason for migration

2.5.1 Sex group

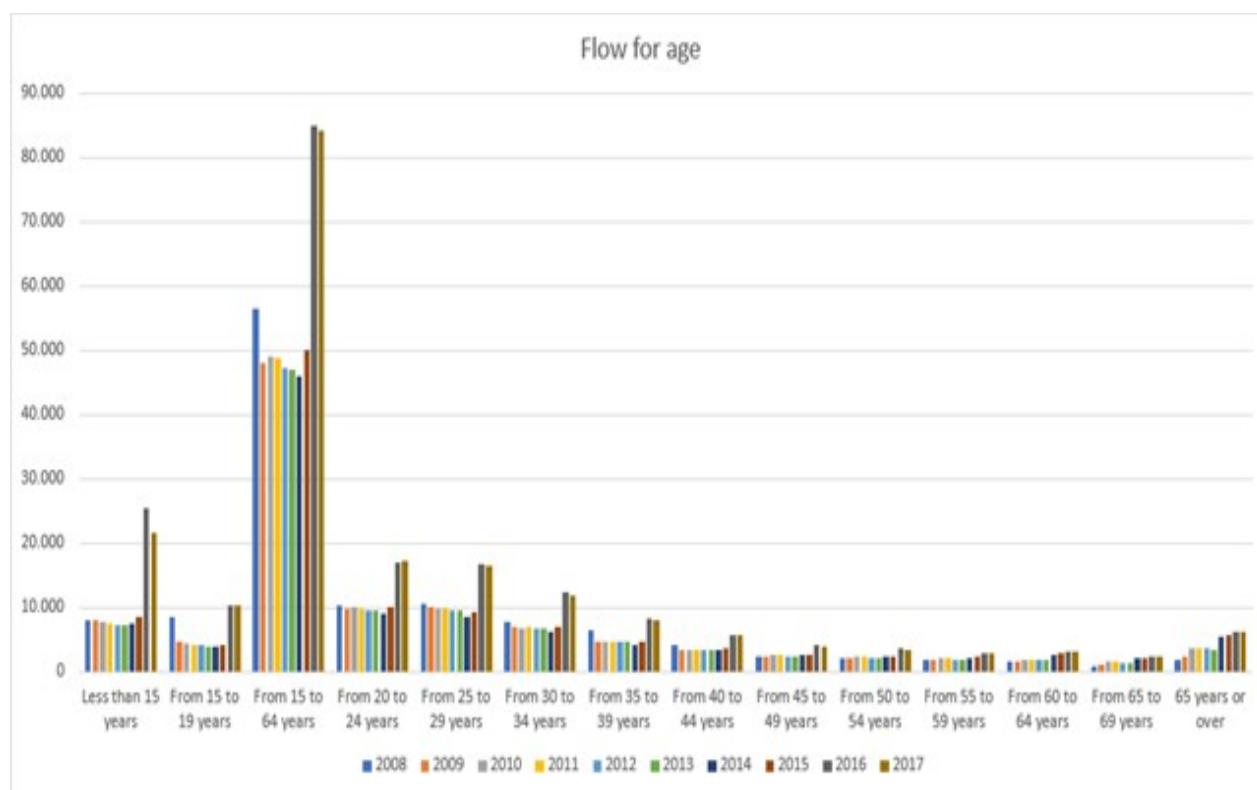




Source: Eurostat, Immigration by age group, sex and citizenship
[migr_imm1ctz]

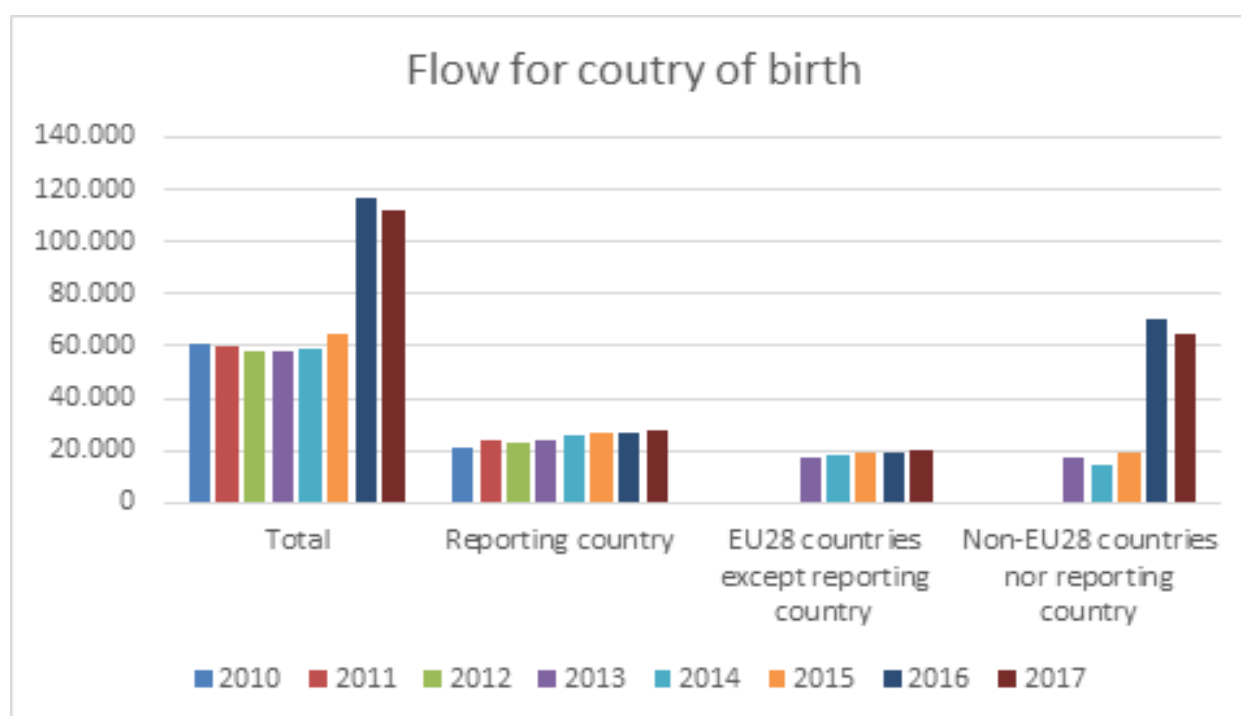
Flow of migrants' majority is composed of male with a strong increase since 2016. Female's flow is slightly increasing since 2013.

2.5.2 Age



Source: Eurostat, Immigration by age group, sex and citizenship
[migr_imm1ctz]

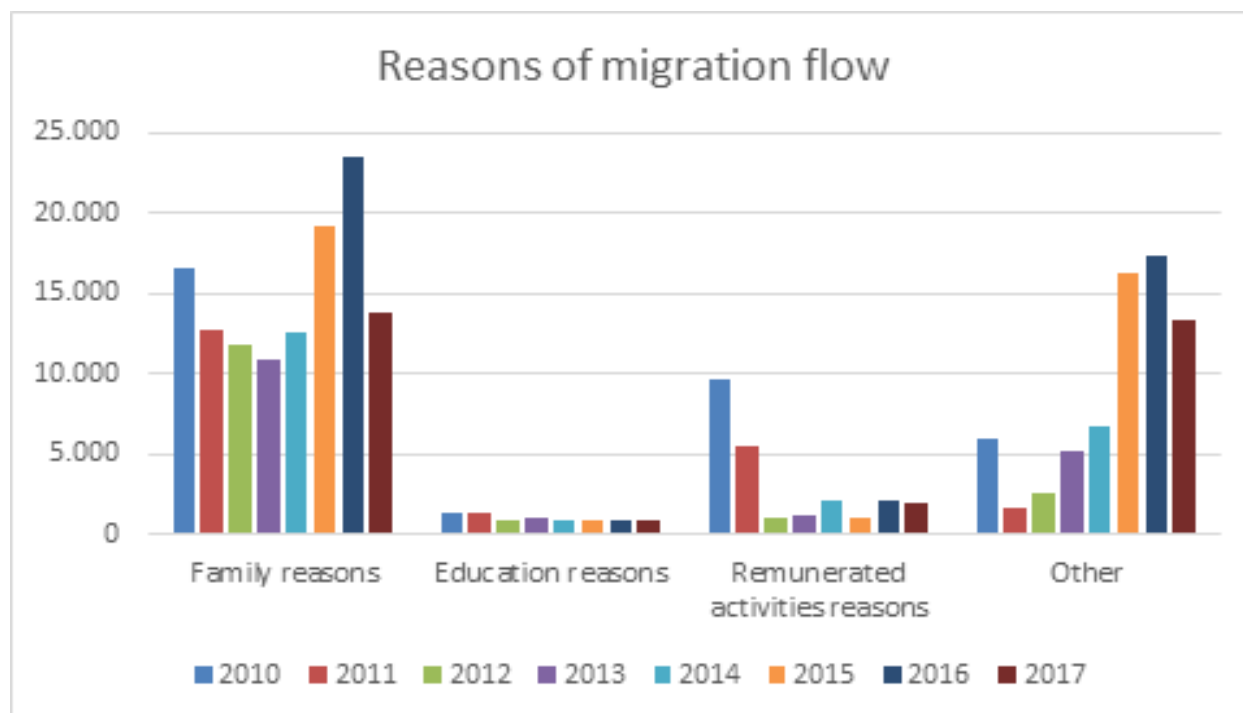
2.5.3 Country of birth



Source: Eurostat, Immigration by age group, sex and country of birth
[migr_imm3ctb]

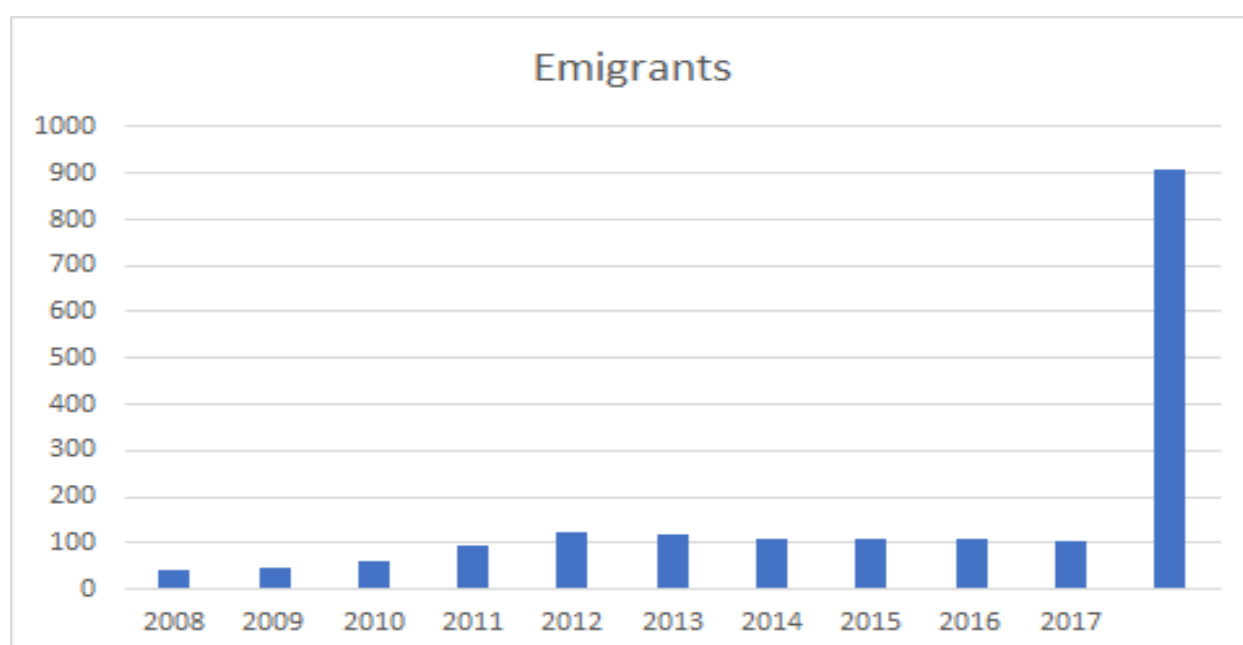


2.5.4 Reason for migration



Source: Eurostat, First permits by reason, length of validity and citizenship [migr_resfirst]

2.6 Total number of emigrants who have left the country





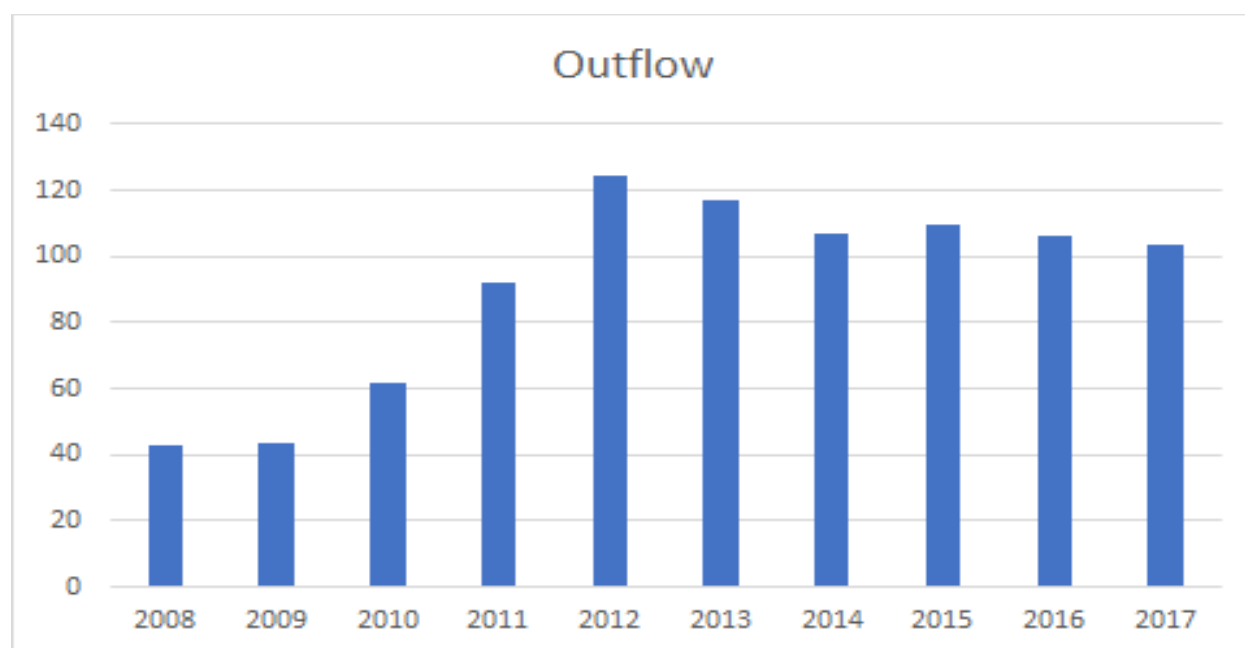
Source: Hellenic Statistical Authority, Press Release, Estimated population and migration flows 2017

[<http://www.statistics.gr/en/statistics/-/publication/SPO15/->]

Emigration means the action by which a person, having previously been usual resident in the territory of the country, ceases to have his or her usual residence in the country for a period that is, or is expected to be, at least 12 months.

The graph shows that emigration rate in the ten last years is quite stable. The number of emigrants who have left Greece reached the peak in 2012.

2.7 Outflows



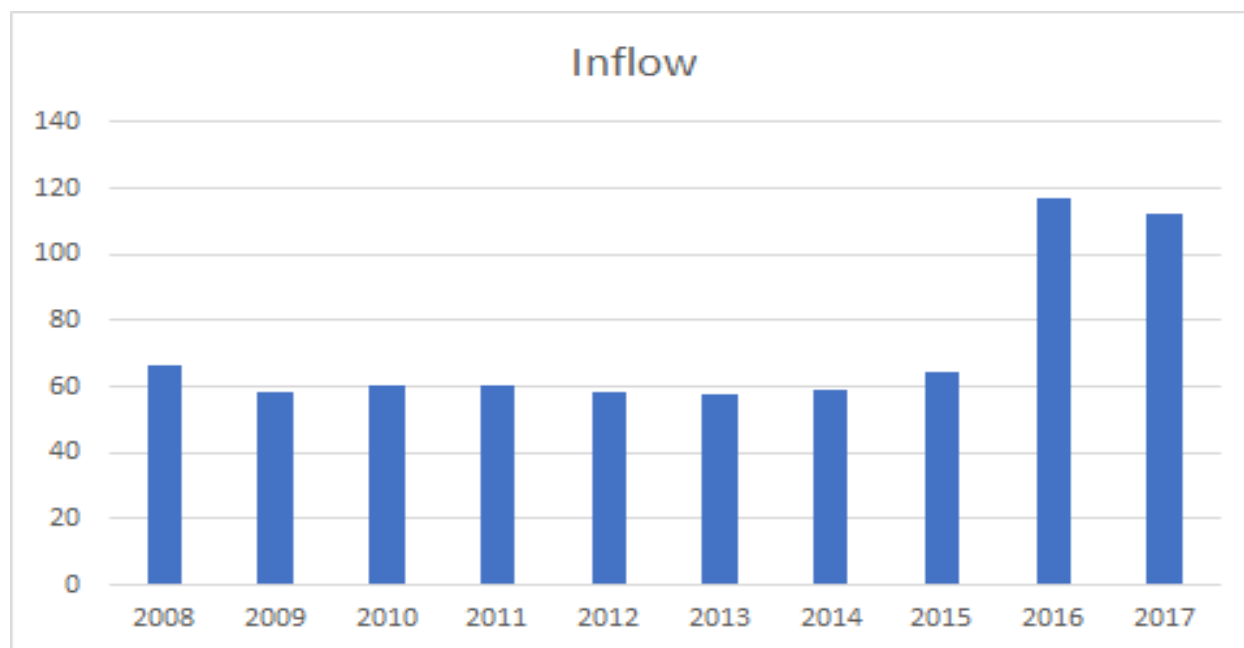
Source: Hellenic Statistical Authority, Press Release, Estimated population and migration flows 2017

[<http://www.statistics.gr/en/statistics/-/publication/SPO15/->]

The migration outflow in Greece started to increase since 2011. The higher outflow level has been registered between 2012 and 2013.



2.8 Inflows



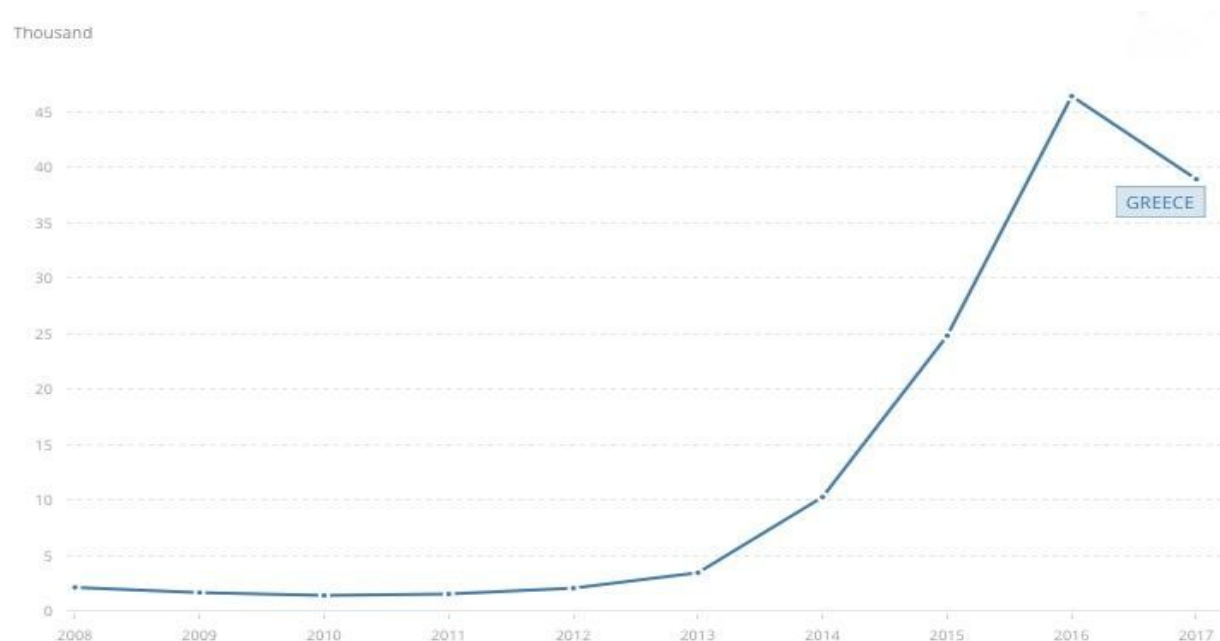
Source: Hellenic Statistical Authority, Press Release, Estimated population and migration flows 2017

[<http://www.statistics.gr/en/statistics/-/publication/SPO15/->]

The migration inflow in Greece has been quite stable from 2008 to 2015. Since 2016 the level has almost doubled due to the migration crisis that Greece and other Mediterranean countries have particularly suffered.



2.9 Total number of refugees by country of destination



Source: The World Bank, Refugee population by country or territory of asylum, Greece

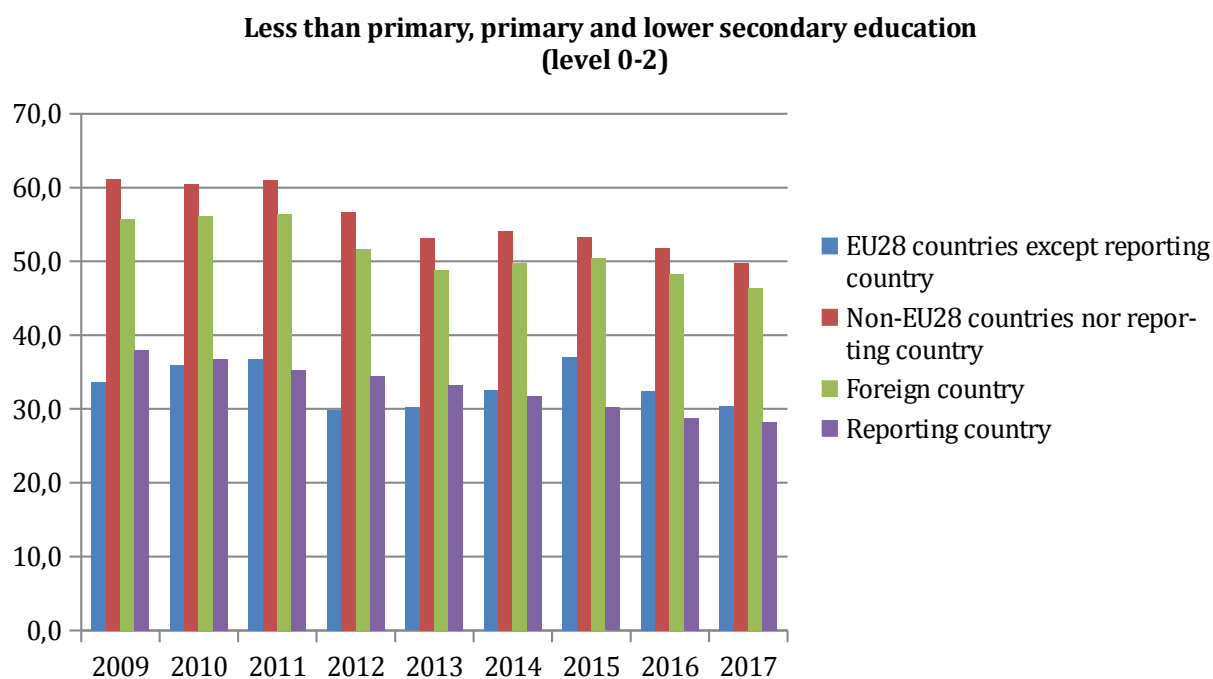
Refugees are people who are recognized as refugees under the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees or its 1967 Protocol, the 1969 Organization of African Unity Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa, people recognized as refugees in accordance with the UNHCR statute, people granted refugee-like humanitarian status, and people provided temporary protection. Asylum seekers--people who have applied for asylum or refugee status and who have not yet received a decision or who are registered as asylum seekers--are excluded. Palestinian refugees are people (and their descendants) whose residence was Palestine between June 1946 and May 1948 and who lost their homes and means of livelihood as a result of the 1948 Arab-Israeli conflict. Country of asylum is the country where an asylum claim was filed and granted.

The graph clearly shows that the number of refugees within the country started to increase since 2013, reaching a peak in 2016. The main reasons of this trend are the Arab uprising, which lead people to leave their country of origin and seek better live condition in Europe, and the outbreak of the Syrian conflict which is producing thousand of asylum seekers around Europe. Of course, thanks to its geographical position, Greece has experienced particularly from these events.



3. Migrants integration indicators

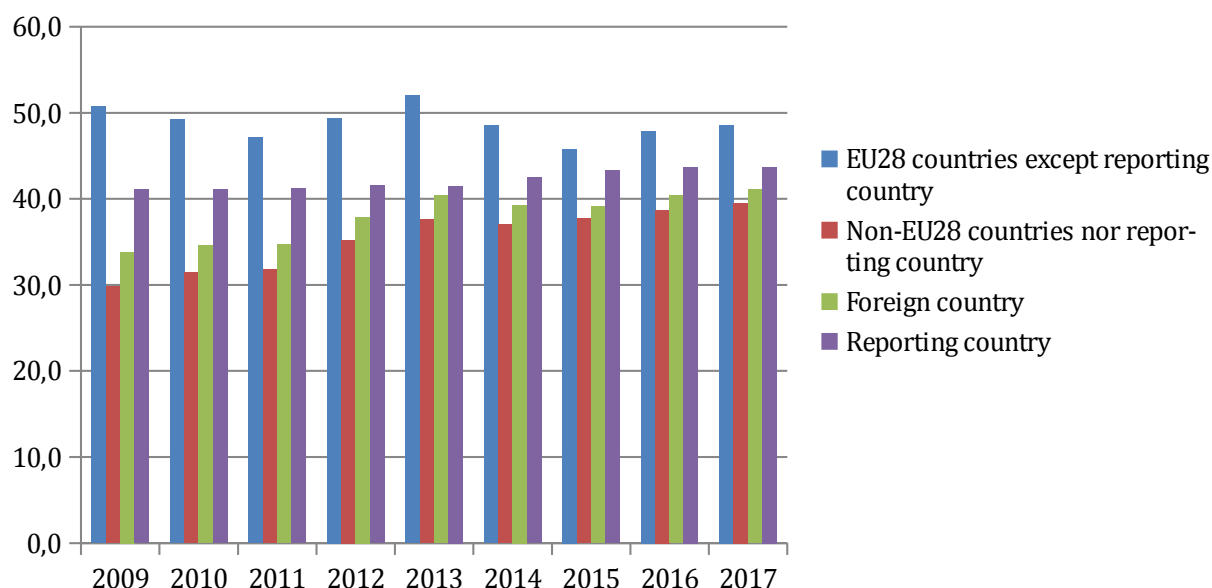
3.1 Migrants by education level



Source: Eurostat, Population by educational attainment level, sex, age and citizenship (%)
 [edat_lfs_9911]

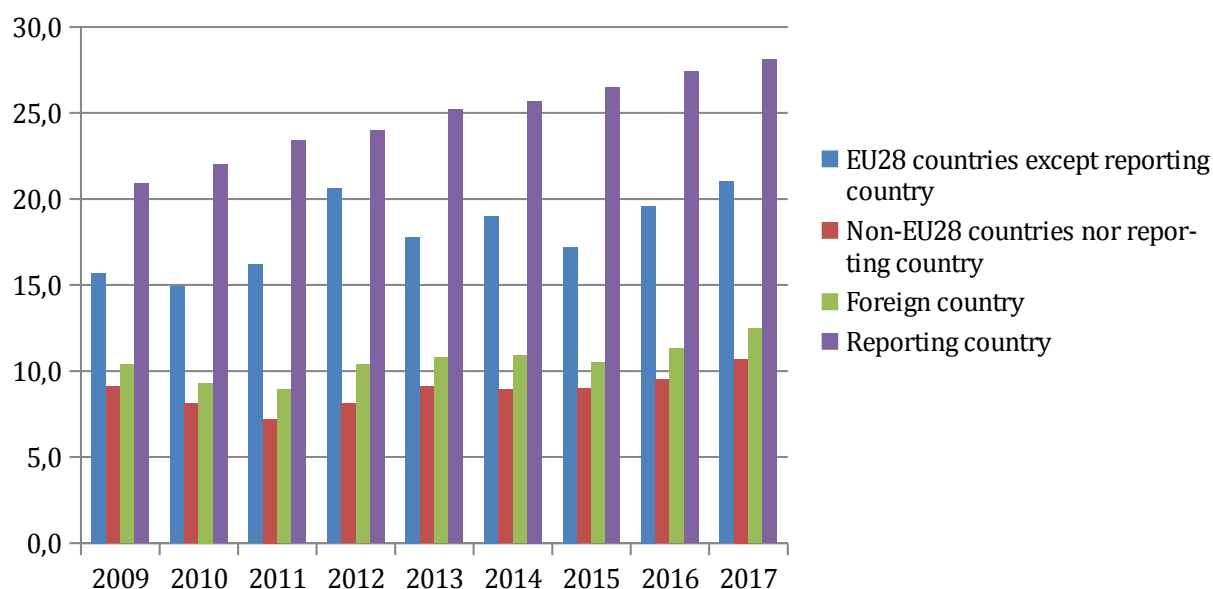


Upper secondary and post-secondary non-tertiary education (levels 3 and 4)



Source: Eurostat, Population by educational attainment level, sex, age and citizenship (%) [edat_lfs_9911]

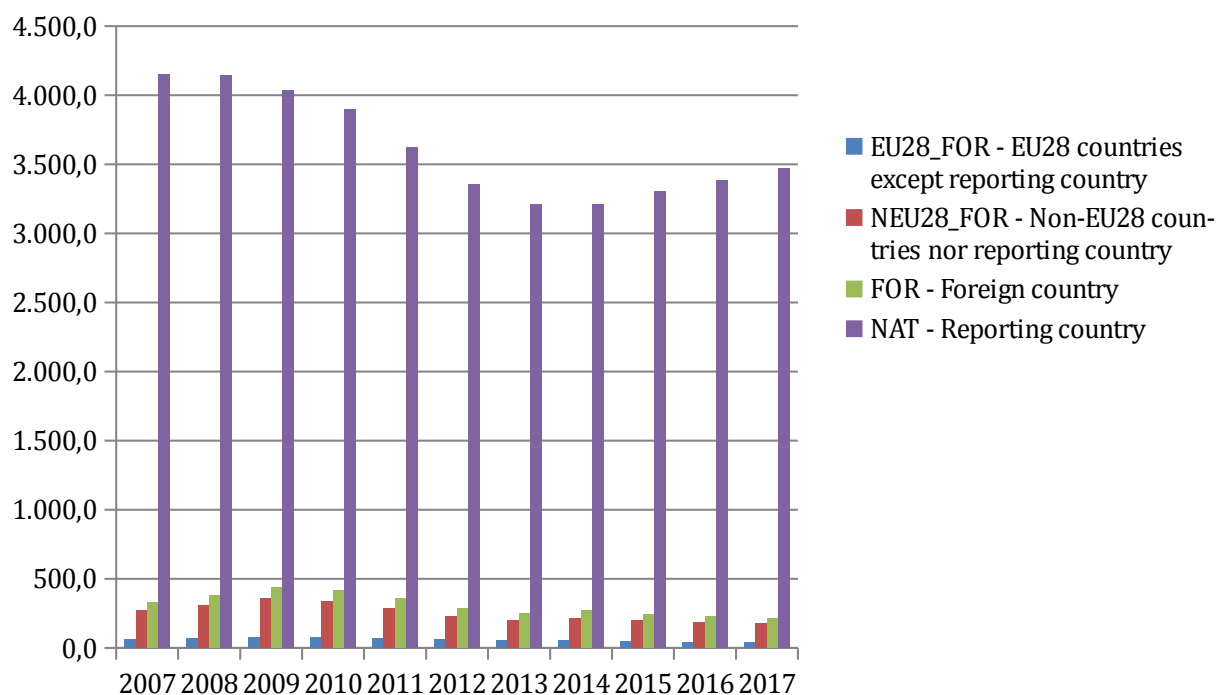
Tertiary education (levels 5-8)



Source: Eurostat, Population by educational attainment level, sex, age and citizenship (%) [edat_lfs_9911]

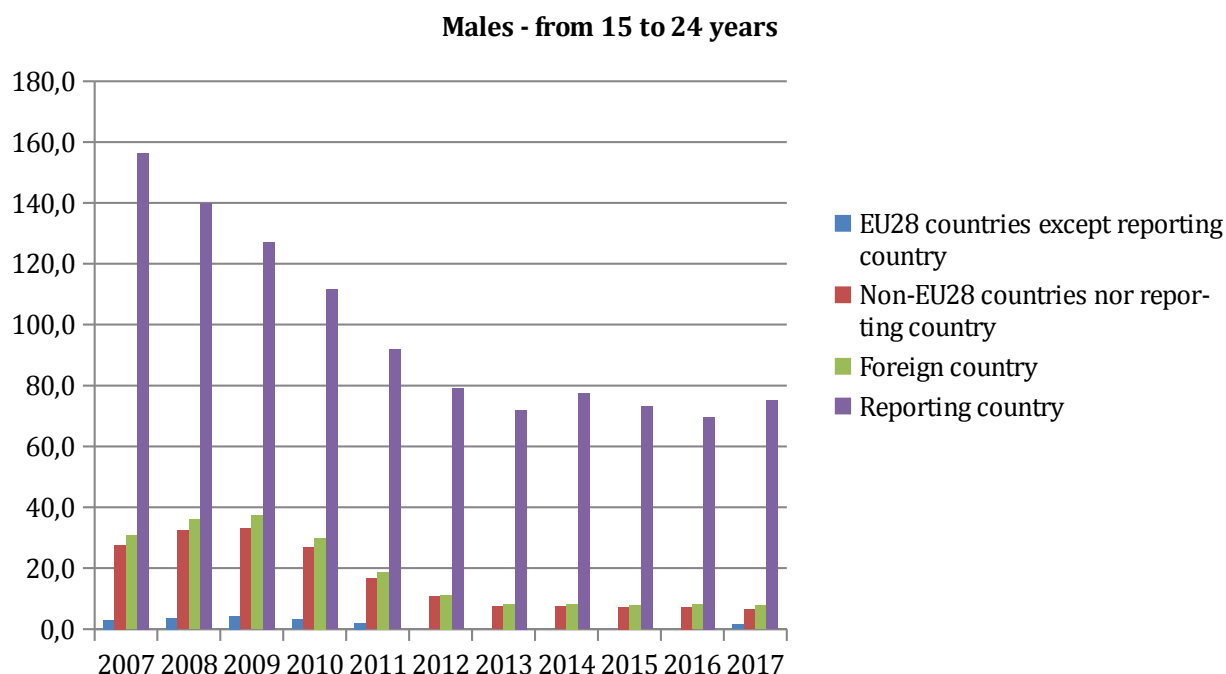


3.2 Labour force participation in the last 10 years.

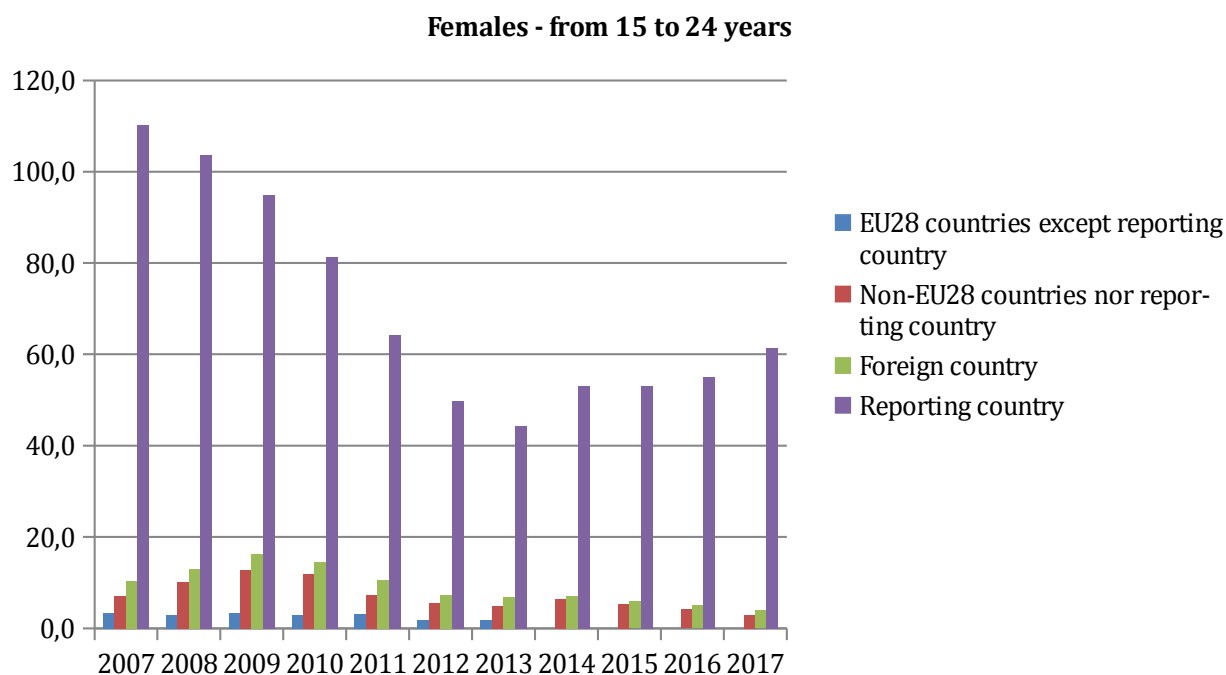


Source: Eurostat, Population by sex, age, citizenship and labour status
[lfsa_pganws]

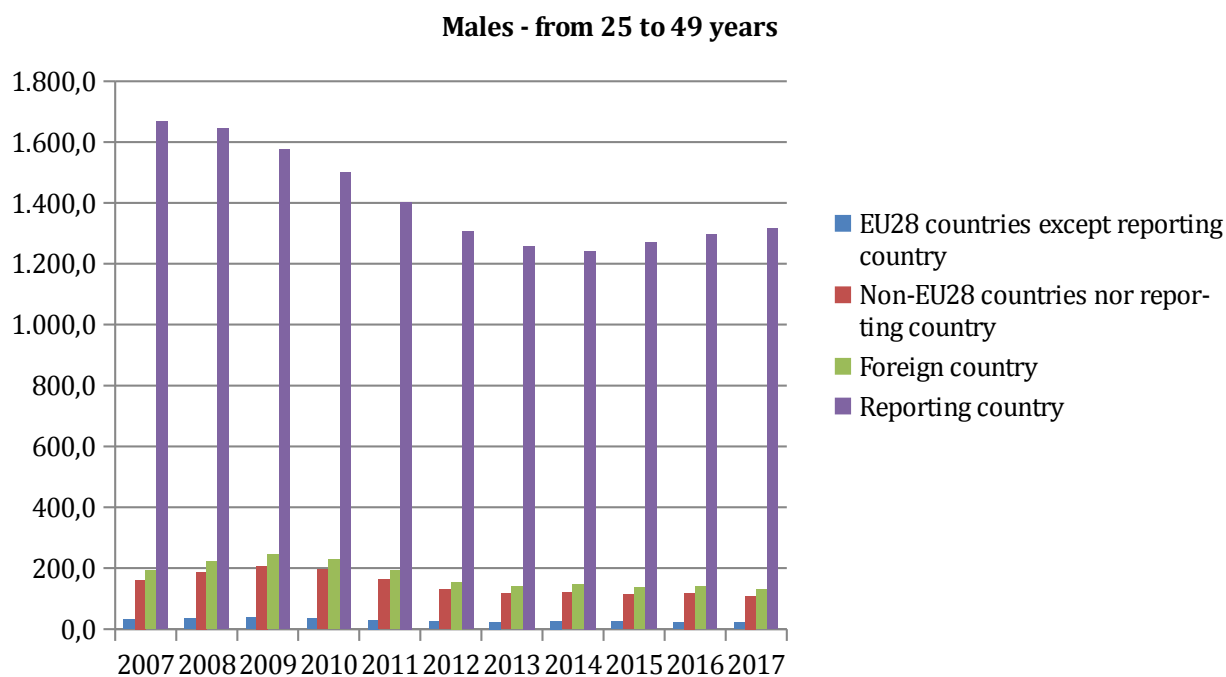
3.3 Employment in the last 10 years by sex group, age, country of birth and reason for migration.



Source: Eurostat, Population by sex, age, country of birth and labour status
[lfsa_pgacws]

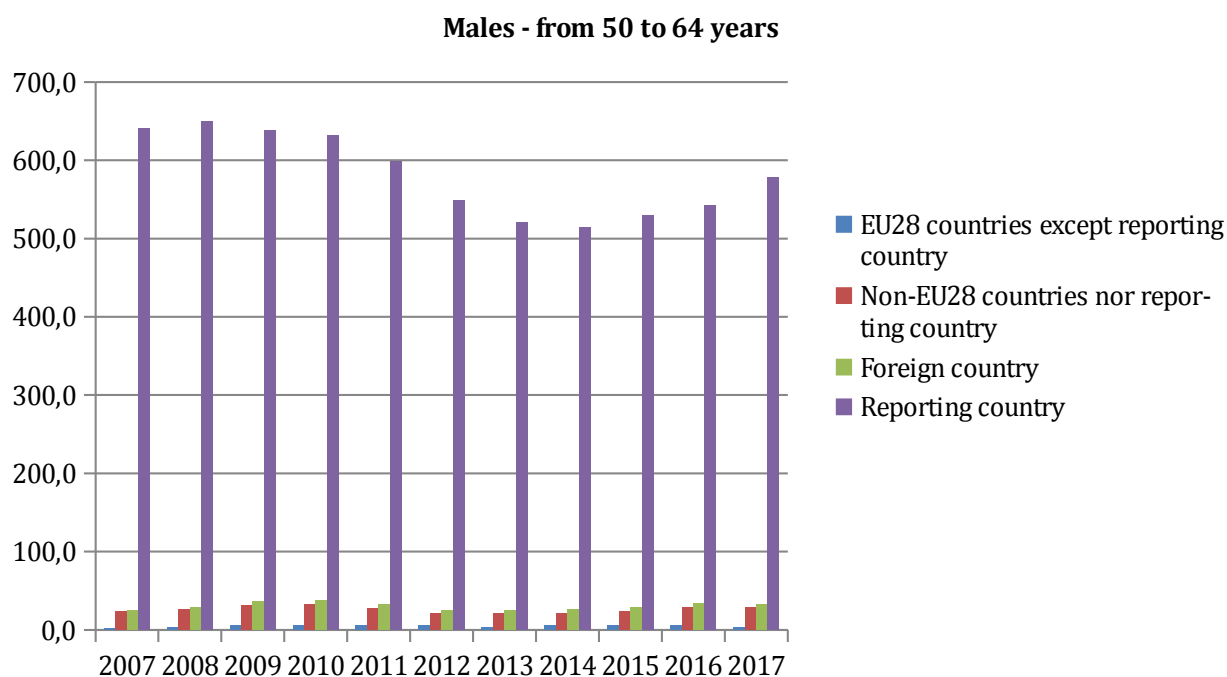


Source: Eurostat, Population by sex, age, country of birth and labour status
[lfsa_pgacws]

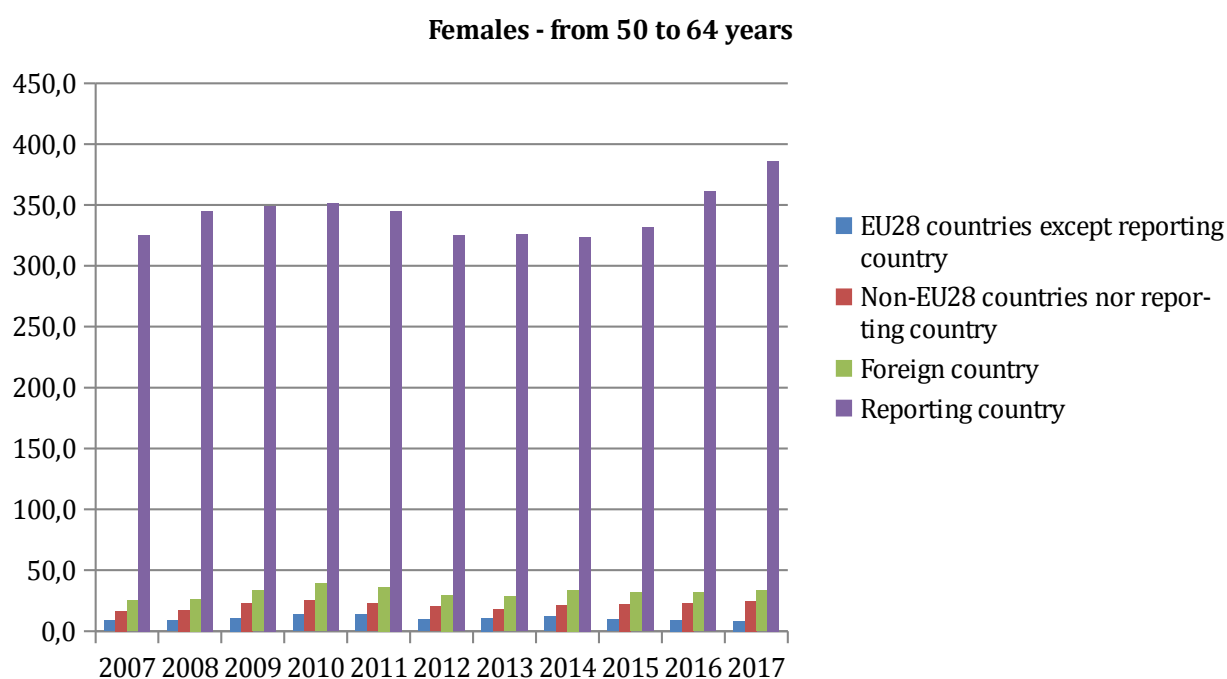


Source: Eurostat, Population by sex, age, country of birth and labour status
[lfsa_pgacws]

Source: Eurostat, Population by sex, age, country of birth and labour status [lfsa_pgacws]



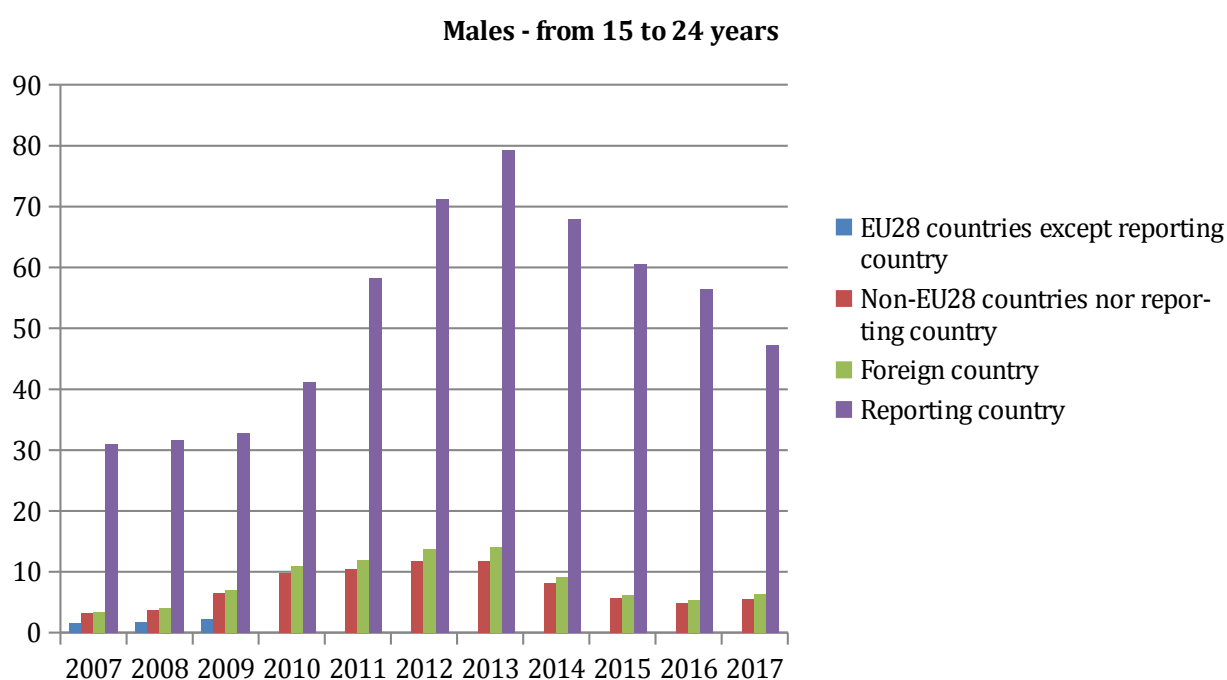
Source: Eurostat, Population by sex, age, country of birth and labour status
[lfsa_pgacws]



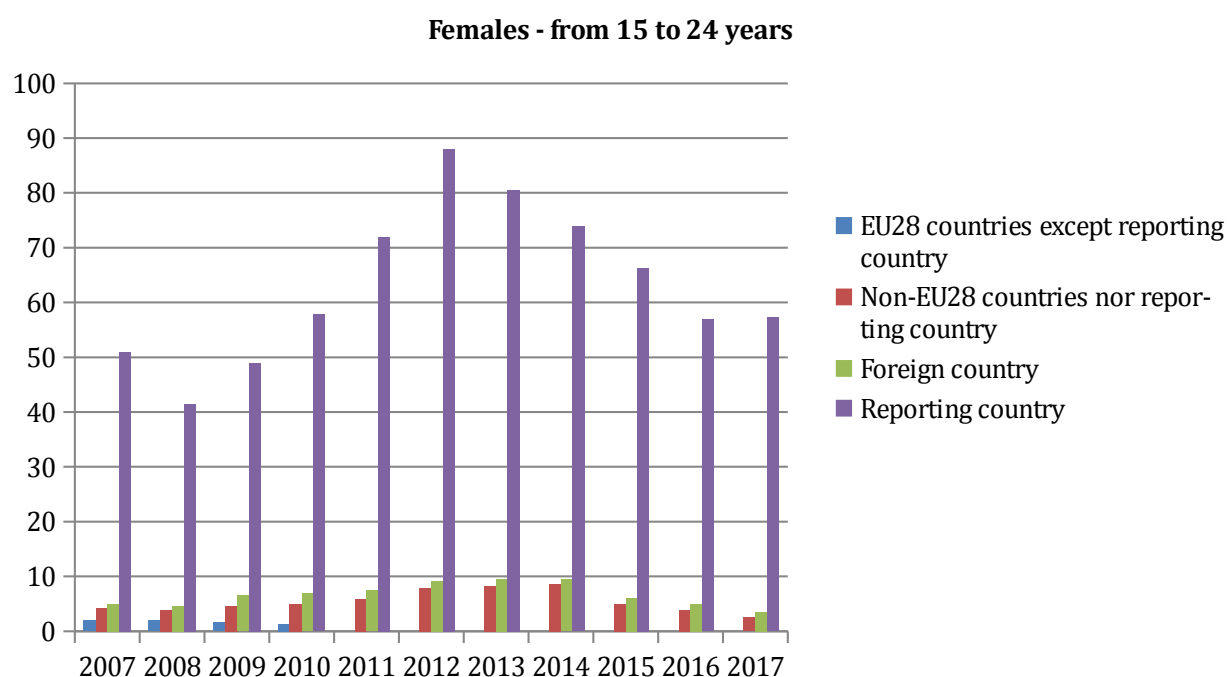
Source: Eurostat, Population by sex, age, country of birth and labour status
[lfsa_pgacws]



3.4 Unemployment in the last 10 years by sex group, age, country of birth and reason for migration.



Source: Eurostat, Unemployment rates by sex, age and country of birth (%) [lfsa_urgacob]



Source: Eurostat, Unemployment rates by sex, age and country of birth (%) [lfsa_urgacob]



Source: Eurostat, Unemployment rates by sex, age and country of birth (%)
[lfsa_urgacob]

Source: Eurostat, Unemployment rates by sex, age and country of birth (%)
[lfsa_urgacob]

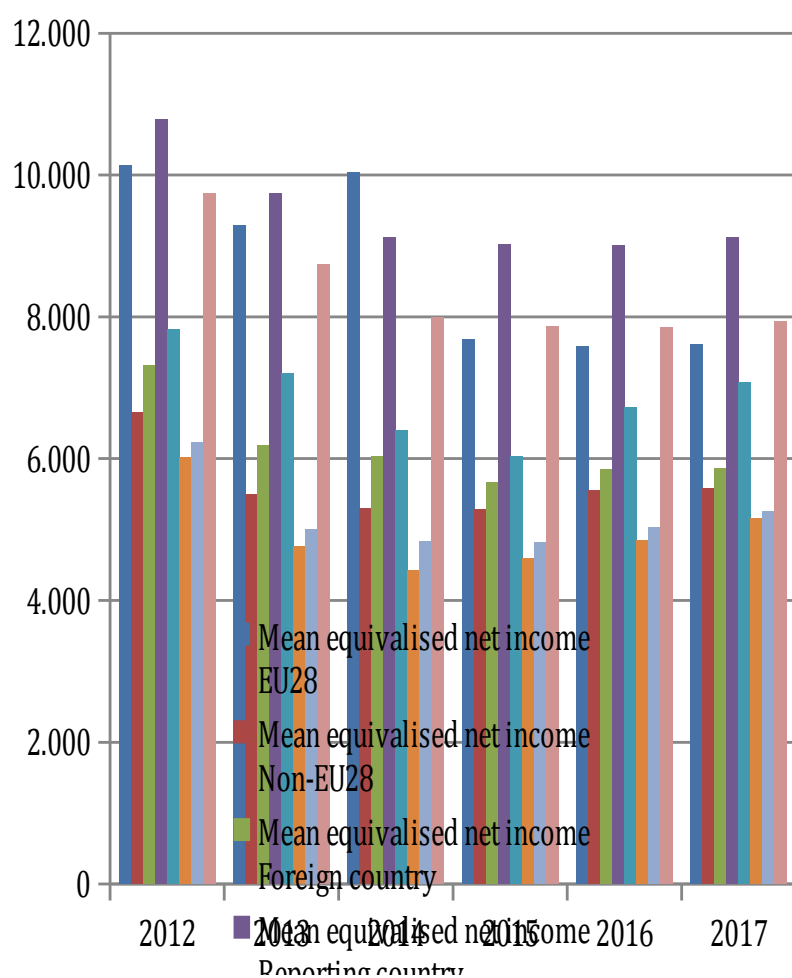


Source: Eurostat, Unemployment rates by sex, age and country of birth (%)
[lfsa_urgacob]

Source: Eurostat, Unemployment rates by sex, age and country of birth (%)
[lfsa_urgacob]

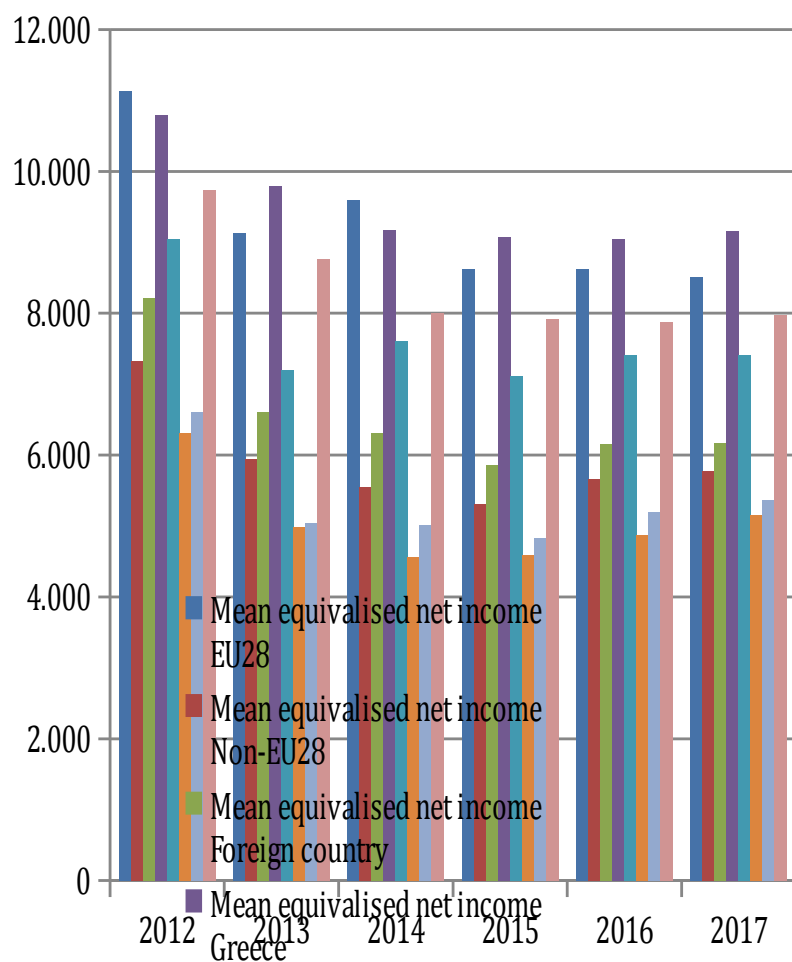


3.5 Social inclusion: income distribution and monetary poverty, risk of poverty.



Source: Eurostat, Mean and median income by broad group of citizenship (population aged 18 and over)

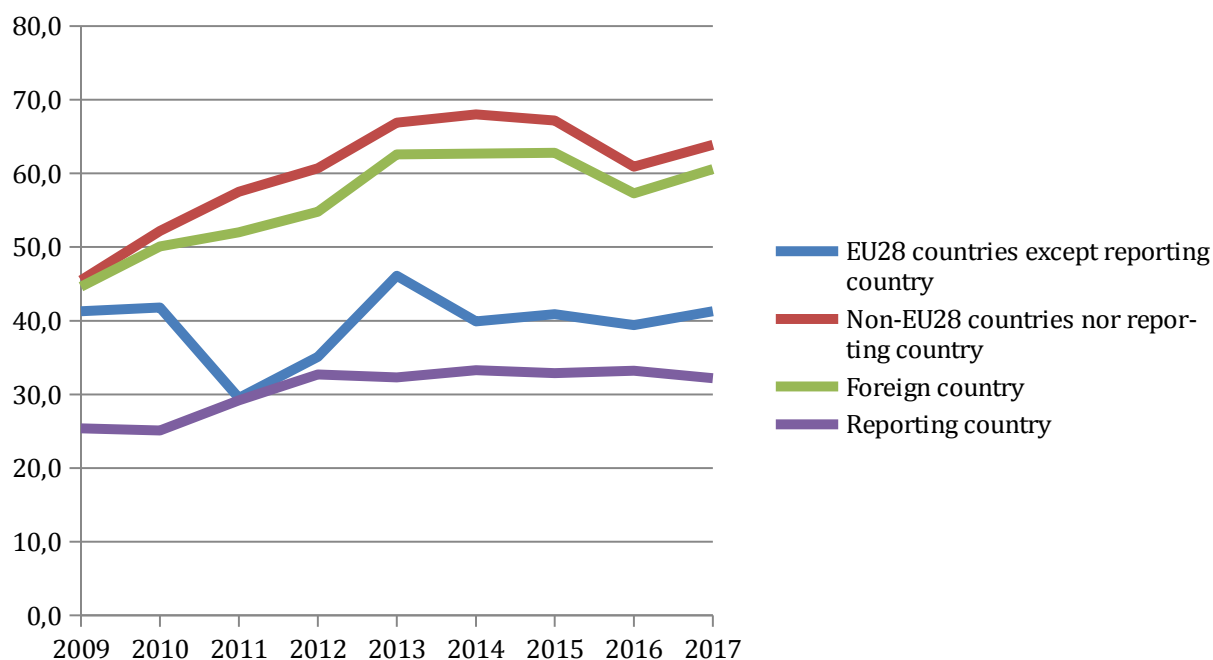
[ilc_di15]



Source: Eurostat, Mean and median income by broad group of country of birth (population aged 18 and over)
[ilc_di16]



Source: Eurostat, People at risk of poverty or social exclusion by broad group of citizenship (population aged 18 and over)
[ilc_peps05]



Source: Eurostat, People at risk of poverty or social exclusion by broad group of country of birth (population aged 18 and over)
[ilc_peps06]



The “At risk of poverty or social exclusion” (AROPE) refers to the situation of people who are either at risk of poverty, or severely materially deprived or living in a household with a very low work intensity. The AROPE rate, the share of the total population at risk of poverty or social exclusion, is the headline indicator monitoring the EU 2020 poverty target. It is defined as the share of people with an equivalised disposable income (after social transfer) below the at-risk-of-poverty threshold, which is set at 60% of the national median equivalised disposable income after social transfers. This indicator does not measure wealth or poverty, but low income in comparison to other residents in that country, which does not necessarily imply a low standard of living.