



## **Migration in Finland**



**Bleta Beina – Scienze Internazionali**  
**Karppanen Sanni – Scienze Internazionali**

## INDEX

### Introduction

1. How many migrants?
2. Why people move to Finland?
3. Immigrants' employment and unemployment rates
4. Immigrants' integration

### Conclusion

## INTRODUCTION

The purpose of the present work is to analyze migration dynamics in Finland. Before starting, a brief introduction about the definition of migration is needed. A migration is a movement of people to a new area or country in order to find work or better living conditions.

The migration phenomenon is here analyzed following four main topics: firstly, the quantity of immigrants in Finland; secondly the kind of migrants moving to Finland; then the comparison between the employment and unemployment rates of migrants and natives in the country; finally, the integration of migrants in the Finnish society after their arrival.

All the data used to produce this work come from Eurostat, which provides high quality statistics on issues related to international migration in Europe. We adopted a time frame of ten years, from 2009 to the last years' data available according to Eurostat.

## 1. HOW MANY MIGRANTS?

**Immigration by age group** - Source: Eurostat [migr\_imm1ctz]

Immigration by age group

Last update 09.04.18

Extracted on 26.04.18

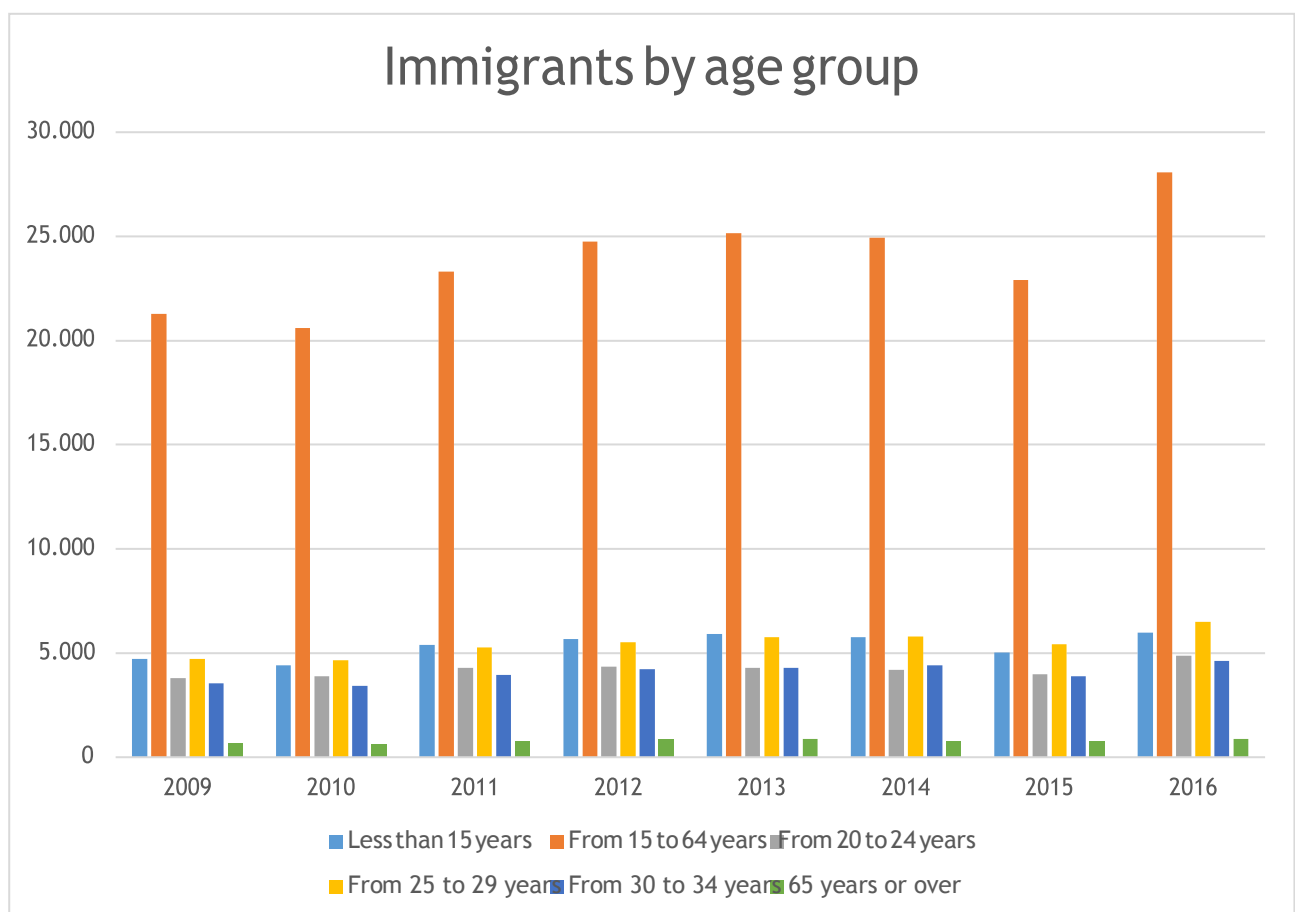
Citizen Total

Unit Number

Geo Finland

Sex Total

| AGE/TIME            | 2009   | 2010   | 2011   | 2012   | 2013   | 2014   | 2015   | 2016   |
|---------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Total               | 26.699 | 25.636 | 29.481 | 31.278 | 31.941 | 31.507 | 28.746 | 34.905 |
| Less than 15 years  | 4.723  | 4.416  | 5.392  | 5.676  | 5.923  | 5.772  | 5.040  | 5.967  |
| From 15 to 64 years | 21.274 | 20.597 | 23.296 | 24.769 | 25.139 | 24.952 | 22.921 | 28.070 |
| From 20 to 24 years | 3.803  | 3.892  | 4.288  | 4.360  | 4.297  | 4.200  | 3.995  | 4.863  |
| From 25 to 29 years | 4.729  | 4.658  | 5.286  | 5.502  | 5.759  | 5.791  | 5.411  | 6.514  |
| From 30 to 34 years | 3.537  | 3.419  | 3.946  | 4.218  | 4.284  | 4.410  | 3.898  | 4.636  |
| 65 years or over    | 702    | 623    | 793    | 833    | 879    | 783    | 785    | 868    |



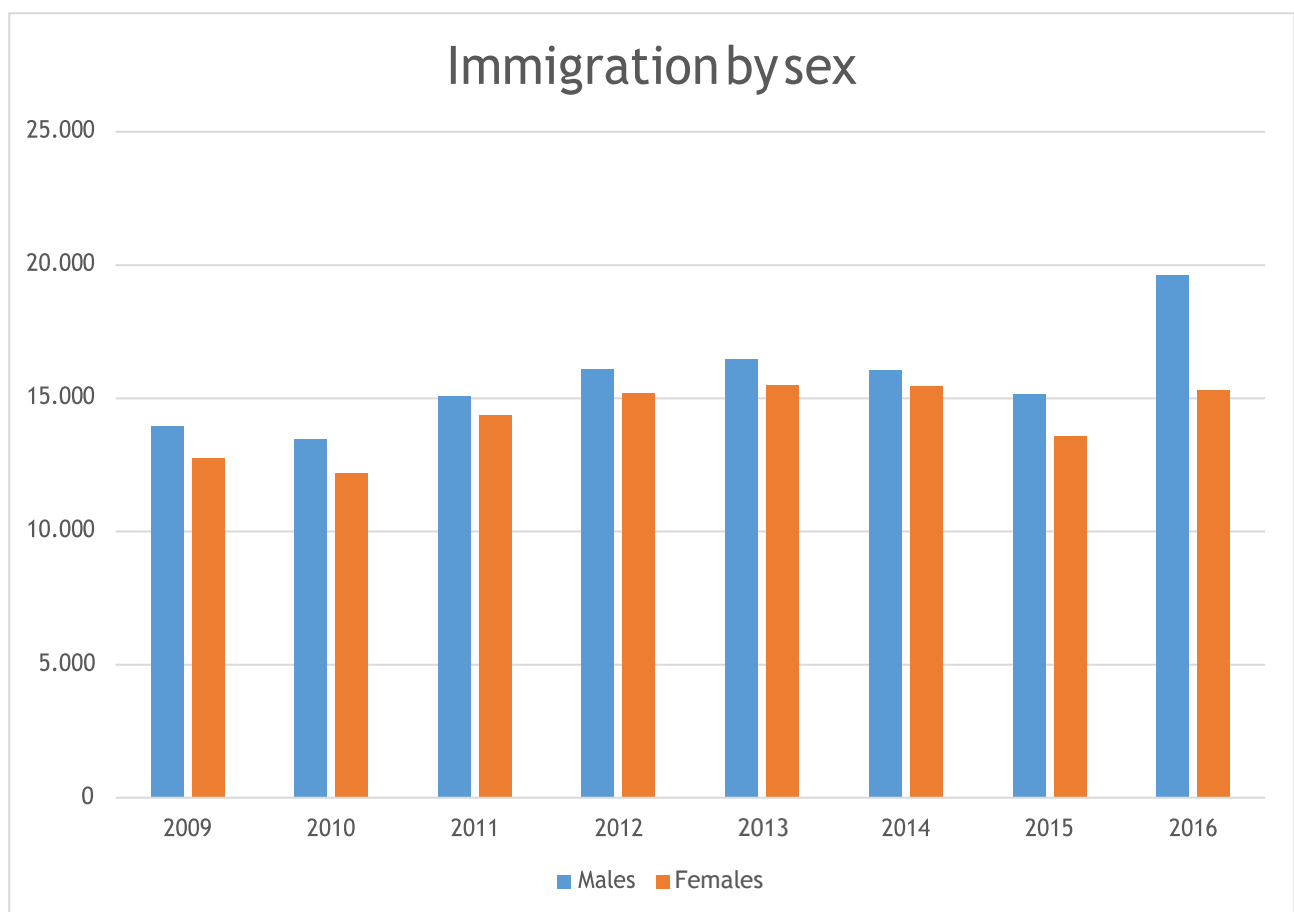
In Finland, people in working age (15-64) have the highest rate of migration compared with other age groups. We can see that the sum of young adults (20-34) represent almost the half of the total number of migrants per each year. This can be explained considering that this age group is marked by various life transformations such as getting a job, going to college, getting married or having children.

#### Immigration by sex - Source: Eurostat [migr\_imm1ctz]

Immigration by sex Last update 09.04.18 Extracted on 26.04.18

Citizen Total Unit Number Geo Finland Age Total

| SEX/TIME | 2009   | 2010   | 2011   | 2012   | 2013   | 2014   | 2015   | 2016   |
|----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Total    | 26.699 | 25.636 | 29.481 | 31.278 | 31.941 | 31.507 | 28.746 | 34.905 |
| Males    | 13.946 | 13.459 | 15.101 | 16.100 | 16.456 | 16.061 | 15.160 | 19.605 |
| Females  | 12.753 | 12.177 | 14.380 | 15.178 | 15.485 | 15.446 | 13.586 | 15.300 |



In Finland, the number of migrants from both sexes is similar except in 2016, where we see a higher number of males. The shifting gender ratio in migration patterns is affected by various factors, including large scale economic changes, new labor demands, communication and technological innovations, modifications of national migration laws and new ideas about woman and manhood.

#### Immigration by citizenship - Source: Eurostat [migr\_imm1ctz]

Immigration by citizenship

Last updated 09.04.18

Extracted on 26.04.18

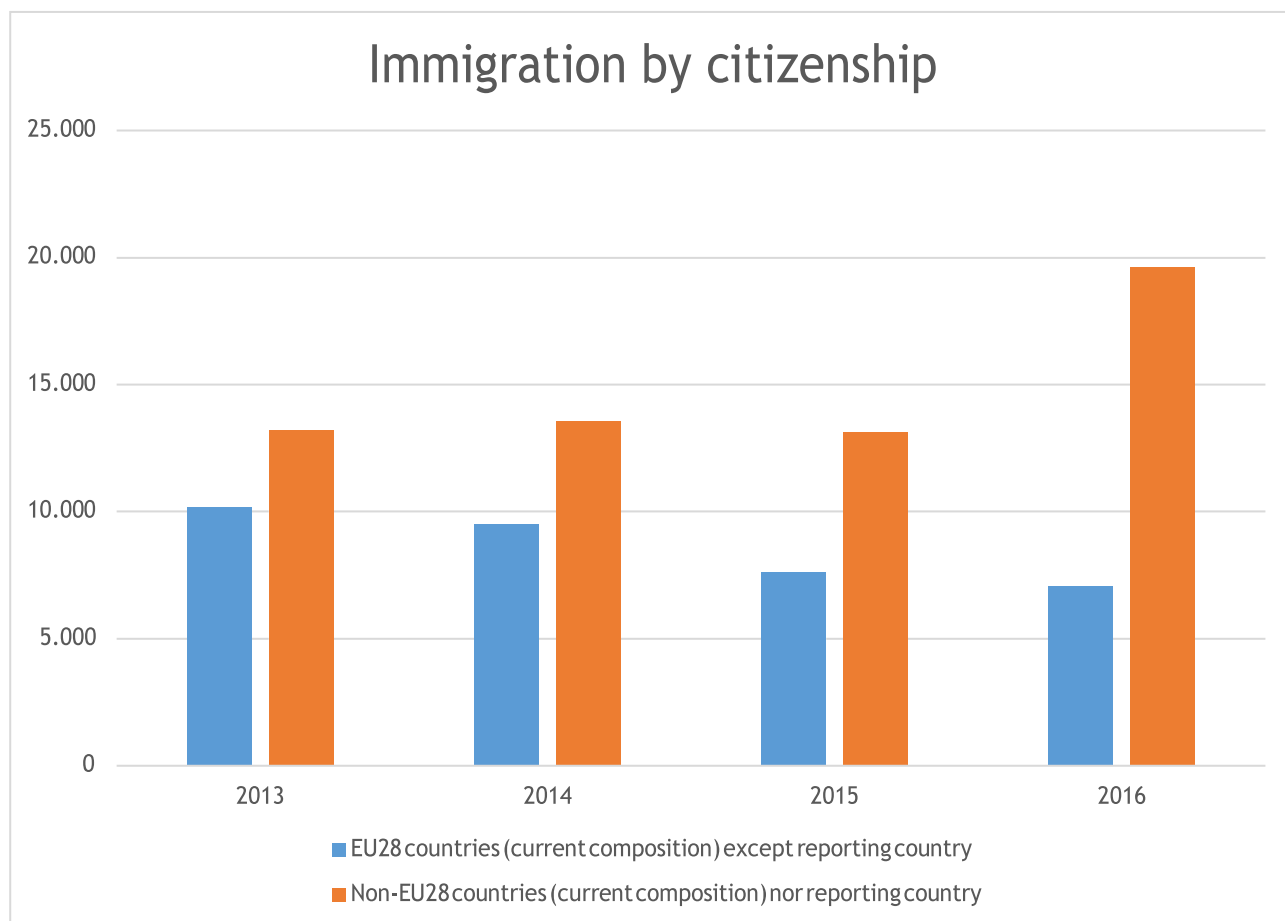
Age Total

Unit Number

Sex Total

Geo Finland

| CITIZEN/TIME   | 2009   | 2010   | 2011   | 2012   | 2013   | 2014   | 2015   | 2016   |
|--|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Total  | 26.699 | 25.636 | 29.481 | 31.278 | 31.941 | 31.507 | 28.746 | 34.905 |
| EU28 countries (current composition) except reporting country  | :      | :      | :      | :      | 10.161 | 9.493  | 7.624  | 7.072  |
| Non-EU28 countries (current composition) nor reporting country | :      | :      | :      | :      | 13.183 | 13.568 | 13.108 | 19.638 |



In this last graph we can see that there has been an important differentiation in the countries of origins of migrants. From 2013 to 2016 the proportion of third countries migrants has widely increase in comparison with migrants from European Union countries.

## 2. WHY PEOPLE MOVE TO FINLAND?

Source: Eurostat [migr\_resfirst]

First permits by reason

Last updated 16.02.18

Extracted on 26.04.18

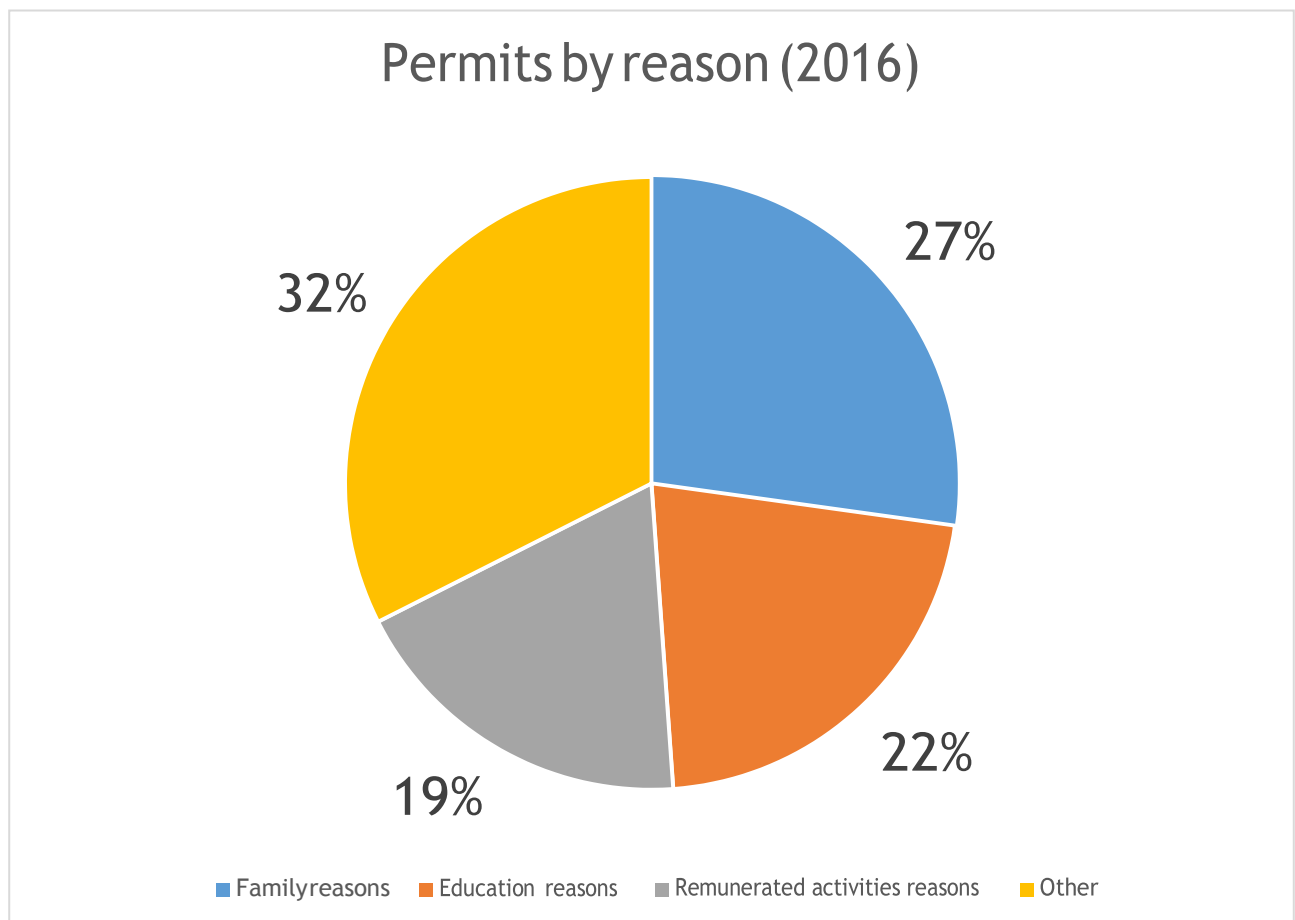
Citizen Total

Duration Total

Unit Person

Geo Finland

| REASON/TIME                    | 2009   | 2010   | 2011   | 2012   | 2013   | 2014   | 2015   | 2016   |
|--------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Total                          | 18.034 | 19.210 | 20.230 | 20.263 | 21.122 | 21.552 | 21.797 | 28.792 |
| Family reasons                 | 6.643  | 6.706  | 7.397  | 7.180  | 7.909  | 8.043  | 7.682  | 7.833  |
| Education reasons              | 3.949  | 4.433  | 5.370  | 5.405  | 5.314  | 5.528  | 5.756  | 6.235  |
| Remunerated activities reasons | 2.754  | 2.936  | 5.024  | 4.648  | 4.719  | 4.786  | 5.026  | 5.381  |
| Other                          | 4.688  | 5.135  | 2.439  | 3.030  | 3.180  | 3.195  | 3.333  | 9.343  |



Taking as example 2016, as we can see in this graph, the most common reasons for moving is family (27%), followed by education (22%) and remunerated activities (19%) which surprisingly are just at the bottom. In addition to the channel of entrance previously list, we have the voice “other reasons” which includes tourism, research, health care, recreational activities or humanitarian permits, and represents the highest percentage of migrants.

### 3. IMMIGRANTS' EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

**Employment rates by citizenship and sex** - Source: Eurostat [lfsa\_ergan]

Employment rates by citizenship and sex      Last updated 20.04.18      Extracted on 26.04.18

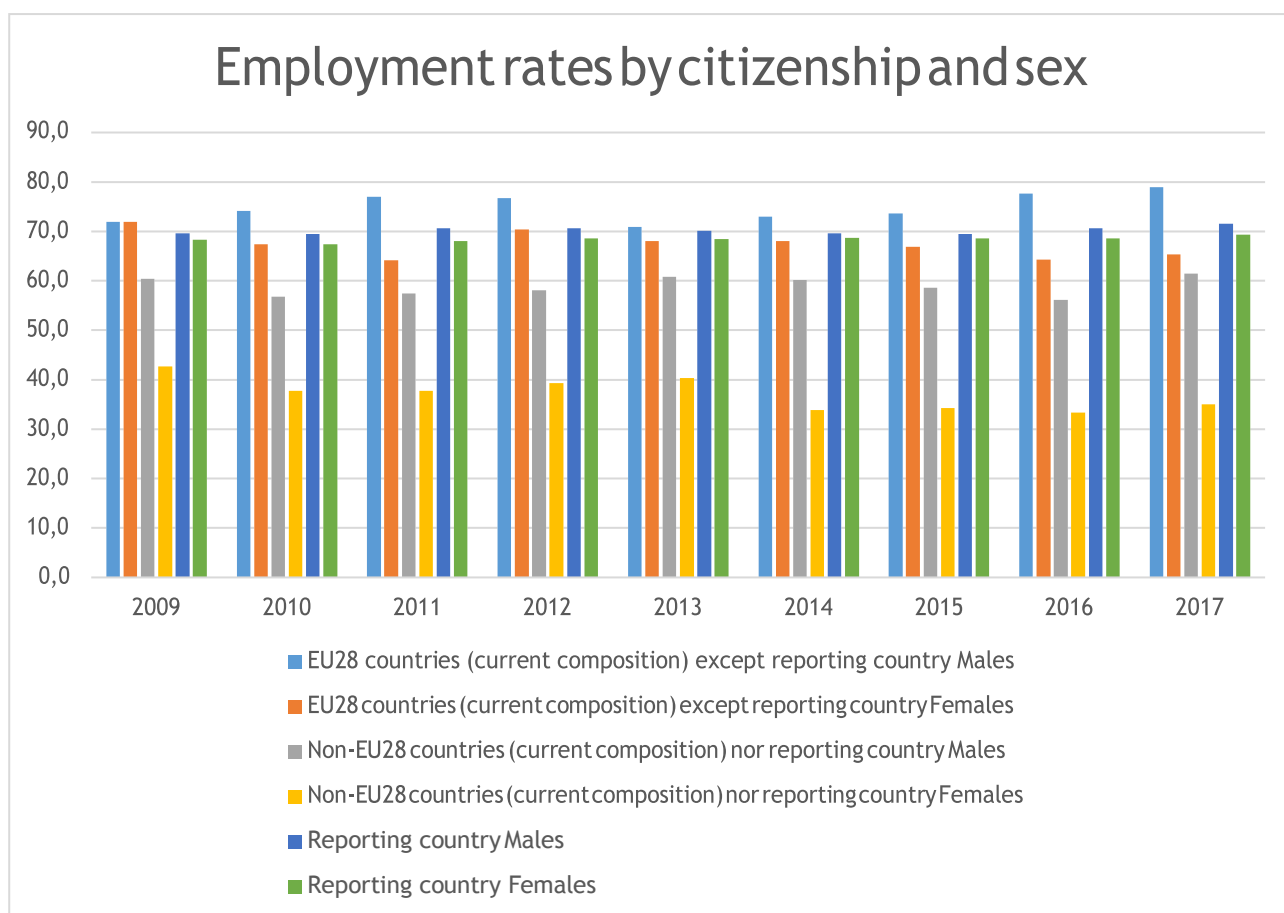
Age from 15 to 64

Unit Percentage

Geo Finland

| CITIZEN  | SEX/TIME | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 |
|--|----------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| EU28 countries (current composition) except reporting country  | Total    | 72,0 | 70,7 | 70,8 | 73,8 | 69,5 | 70,7 | 70,4 | 71,3 | 72,8 |
| EU28 countries (current composition) except reporting country  | Males    | 72,0 | 74,1 | 77,0 | 76,8 | 70,9 | 73,0 | 73,6 | 77,7 | 79,0 |
| EU28 countries (current composition) except reporting country  | Females  | 71,9 | 67,4 | 64,2 | 70,4 | 68,0 | 68,1 | 66,9 | 64,3 | 65,4 |
| Non-EU28 countries (current composition) nor reporting country | Total    | 51,5 | 46,9 | 47,4 | 48,8 | 50,9 | 47,6 | 45,9 | 44,1 | 48,0 |
| Non-EU28 countries (current composition)                       | Males    | 60,4 | 56,8 | 57,5 | 58,1 | 60,8 | 60,1 | 58,6 | 56,1 | 61,5 |

|  |         |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
|--|---------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| nor reporting country  |         |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
| Non-EU28 countries (current composition) nor reporting country | Females | 42,7 | 37,7 | 37,8 | 39,3 | 40,4 | 33,9 | 34,3 | 33,3 | 35,0 |
| Reporting country  | Total   | 68,9 | 68,5 | 69,4 | 69,7 | 69,2 | 69,2 | 69,0 | 69,7 | 70,5 |
| Reporting country  | Males   | 69,6 | 69,5 | 70,7 | 70,7 | 70,1 | 69,6 | 69,5 | 70,7 | 71,5 |
| Reporting country  | Females | 68,3 | 67,4 | 68,0 | 68,6 | 68,4 | 68,7 | 68,6 | 68,6 | 69,4 |
| Total  | Total   | 68,7 | 68,1 | 69,0 | 69,4 | 68,9 | 68,7 | 68,5 | 69,1 | 70,0 |
| Total  | Males   | 69,5 | 69,4 | 70,6 | 70,5 | 69,9 | 69,5 | 69,3 | 70,5 | 71,4 |
| Total  | Females | 67,9 | 66,9 | 67,4 | 68,2 | 67,8 | 68,0 | 67,7 | 67,6 | 68,5 |



To summarize this table, we can say that in Finland we can assist to some strange and interesting phenomena. Firstly, the higher employment rate is among EU migrants and not among natives as we can expect. Non-EU females citizens have the lowest employment rates, maybe because most of them are in Finland thanks to family reunifications and they usually stay at home taking care of the children.



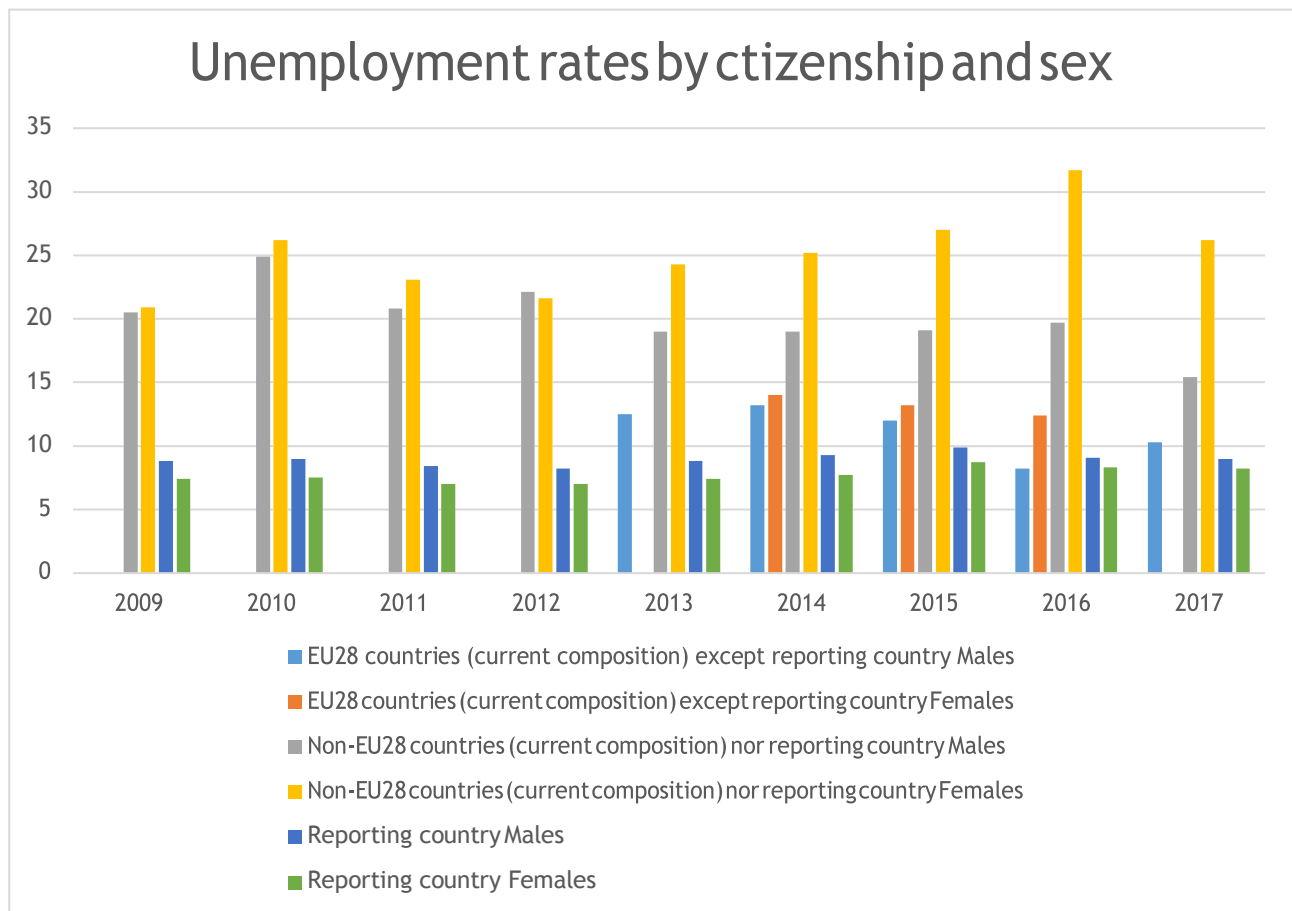
**Unemployment rates by citizenship and sex** - Source: Eurostat [Ifsa\_urgan]

Unemployment rates by citizenship and sex Last update 20.04.18 Extracted on 26.04.18

Age from 15 to 64 years      Unit Percentage      Geo Finland

| CITIZEN  | SEX/TIME | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 |
|--|----------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| EU28 countries (current composition) except reporting country  | Total    | 14,3 | 11,8 | 10,5 | 9,8  | 11,1 | 13,5 | 12,6 | 10,0 | 10,5 |
| EU28 countries (current composition) except reporting country  | Males    | :    | :    | :    | :    | 12,5 | 13,2 | 12,0 | 8,2  | 10,3 |
| EU28 countries (current composition) except reporting country  | Females  | :    | :    | :    | :    | :    | 14,0 | 13,2 | 12,4 | :    |
| Non-EU28 countries (current composition) nor reporting country | Total    | 20,6 | 25,5 | 21,8 | 21,9 | 21,1 | 21,2 | 22,4 | 24,9 | 19,8 |
| Non-EU28 countries (current composition) nor reporting country | Males    | 20,5 | 24,9 | 20,8 | 22,1 | 19,0 | 19,0 | 19,1 | 19,7 | 15,4 |
| Non-EU28 countries (current composition) nor reporting country | Females  | 20,9 | 26,2 | 23,1 | 21,6 | 24,3 | 25,2 | 27,0 | 31,7 | 26,2 |

|                   |         |     |     |     |     |     |     |      |     |     |
|-------------------|---------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|
| Reporting country | Total   | 8,1 | 8,2 | 7,7 | 7,6 | 8,1 | 8,5 | 9,3  | 8,7 | 8,6 |
| Reporting country | Males   | 8,8 | 9,0 | 8,4 | 8,2 | 8,8 | 9,3 | 9,9  | 9,1 | 9,0 |
| Reporting country | Females | 7,4 | 7,5 | 7,0 | 7,0 | 7,4 | 7,7 | 8,7  | 8,3 | 8,2 |
| Total             | Total   | 8,4 | 8,5 | 7,9 | 7,8 | 8,3 | 8,8 | 9,6  | 9,0 | 8,8 |
| Total             | Males   | 9,0 | 9,3 | 8,6 | 8,5 | 9,0 | 9,6 | 10,2 | 9,3 | 9,1 |
| Total             | Females | 7,6 | 7,7 | 7,2 | 7,1 | 7,6 | 8,1 | 9,0  | 8,7 | 8,5 |



Unfortunately for what concerns unemployment rates there are many data missing, in particular in the 2009-2013 frame analysis. However, we can find some general trends. Per each year natives have lower unemployment rates comparing with migrants. Surprisingly native males have higher unemployment rates than native females. The highest unemployment rate is the one of non-EU females citizens. As we can see from the table, the gap between males and females unemployment rates for non-EU citizens has increased specially from 2013 to our days. EU migrants have similar or little higher unemployment rates than those of natives.

#### 4. IMMIGRANTS' INTEGRATION

Source: Eurostat [edat\_lfse\_23]

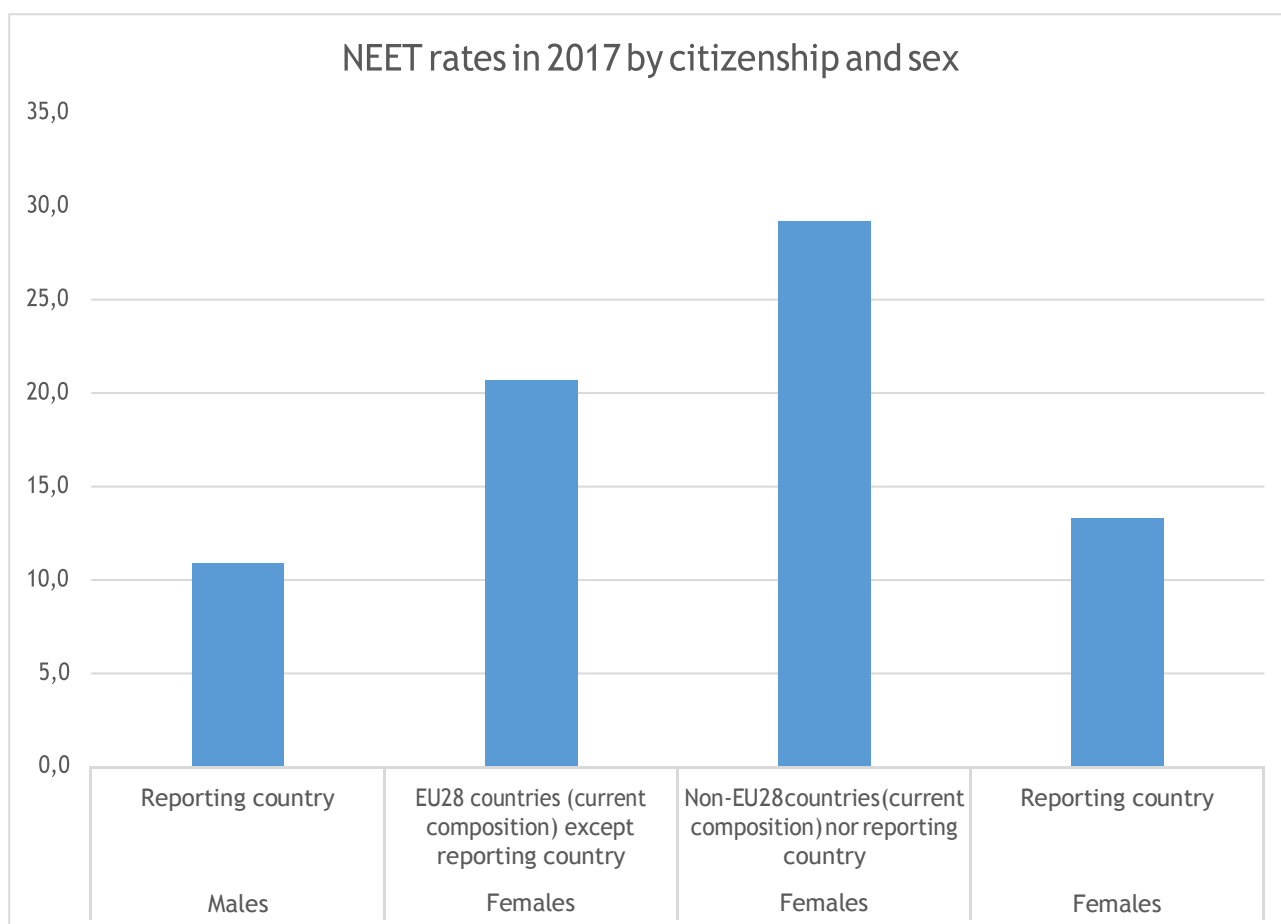
Young people neither in employment nor in education and training by citizenship and sex (NEET rates) Last update 20.04.18 Extracted on 26.04.18

Age from 15 to 34 years

Unit Percentage

Geo Finland

| SEX     | CITIZEN/TIME   | 2017 |
|---------|--|------|
| Total   | EU28 countries (current composition) except reporting country  | 14,2 |
| Total   | Non-EU28 countries (current composition) nor reporting country | 19,4 |
| Total   | Reporting country  | 12,1 |
| Total   | Total  | 12,4 |
| Males   | EU28 countries (current composition) except reporting country  | :    |
| Males   | Non-EU28 countries (current composition) nor reporting country | :    |
| Males   | Reporting country  | 10,9 |
| Males   | Total  | 10,8 |
| Females | EU28 countries (current composition) except reporting country  | 20,7 |
| Females | Non-EU28 countries (current composition) nor reporting country | 29,2 |
| Females | Reporting country  | 13,3 |
| Females | Total  | 14,0 |



From this graph we can see the rate of young people neither in employment nor in education (NEET). Unfortunately we do not have the data for males migrants, but we can compare females migrants and natives and these ones with native males. Again we see that non-EU females citizens have the highest rate (29,2%). This means that almost 3 young women on 10 do not do anything.

### CONCLUSION

Finland remains a country with slightly favorable policies on equal opportunities for immigrants, ranking 4th in Europe. So far, Finland has maintained its investment in integration and its traditionally inclusive democracy as in other Nordic countries. Finnish population and immigrant volunteers are also actively promoting integration in many areas of life through NGO actions, often government-funded. These policies seem to reach many of the concerned immigrant adults and children who are able to benefit, for example, from family reunion, training and citizenship. A culture of piloting and evaluations has developed effective integration support in several areas, including employment.