



Migration in Sweden



Boero Michela
Iamandi Ioana Iuliana
Fattori Valeria
Bikuma Ngandu Greta

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I. Introduction

Sweden has been a country of immigration since 1950's. As of 2017, Statistic Sweden reported that around 2,439,007 or 24.1% of the inhabitants of Sweden were from a foreign background and there are 75,000 – 100,000 newcomers every year. In the last years the number of family migrants and humanitarian migrants has increased (especially migrants coming from Syria). There has been a small increase in the numbers of migrant workers since 2008 and 50% decline in number of international students since 2011. For what concerns the employment, Sweden has one of the highest rate in developed world which is 80%. Like other Nordic countries, Swedish people believe it is right to give immigrants equal rights as Swedish citizens.

The data we have analysed is based on a period which includes years from 2013 to 2016, the countries of birth of migrants are Syria, Eritrea, Somalia, China, Iraq, Romania and Serbia and the age of migrants goes from 0 to 65.

II. Immigration in Sweden

Table 1: this table shows the inflows to Sweden from 7 countries of origin: Romania, Serbia, Eritrea, Somalia, China, Iraq and Syria. The country from which have arrived more immigrants (total age, total sex) is Syria, especially in 2016, while from Somalia have arrived more immigrants in 2013. From the other countries has arrived a lower number of migrants.

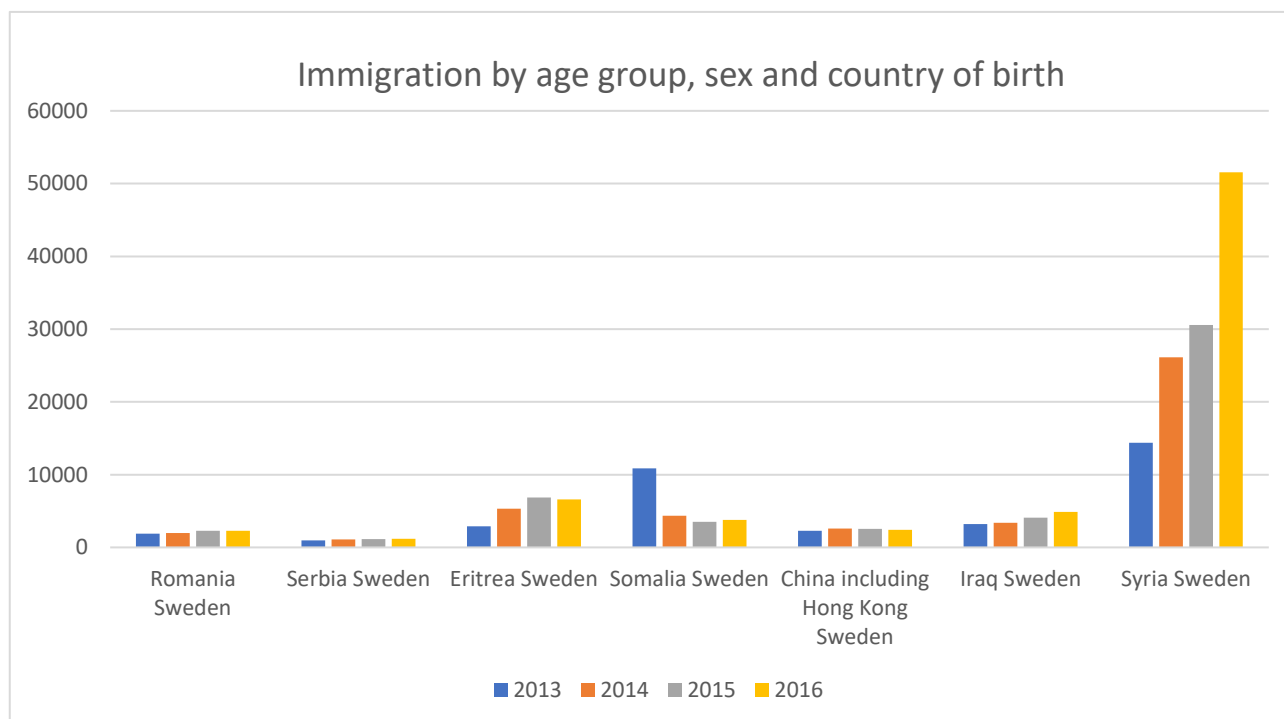


Table 2: the country from which have arrived more migrants which are less than 5 years old is Syria, especially in 2016.

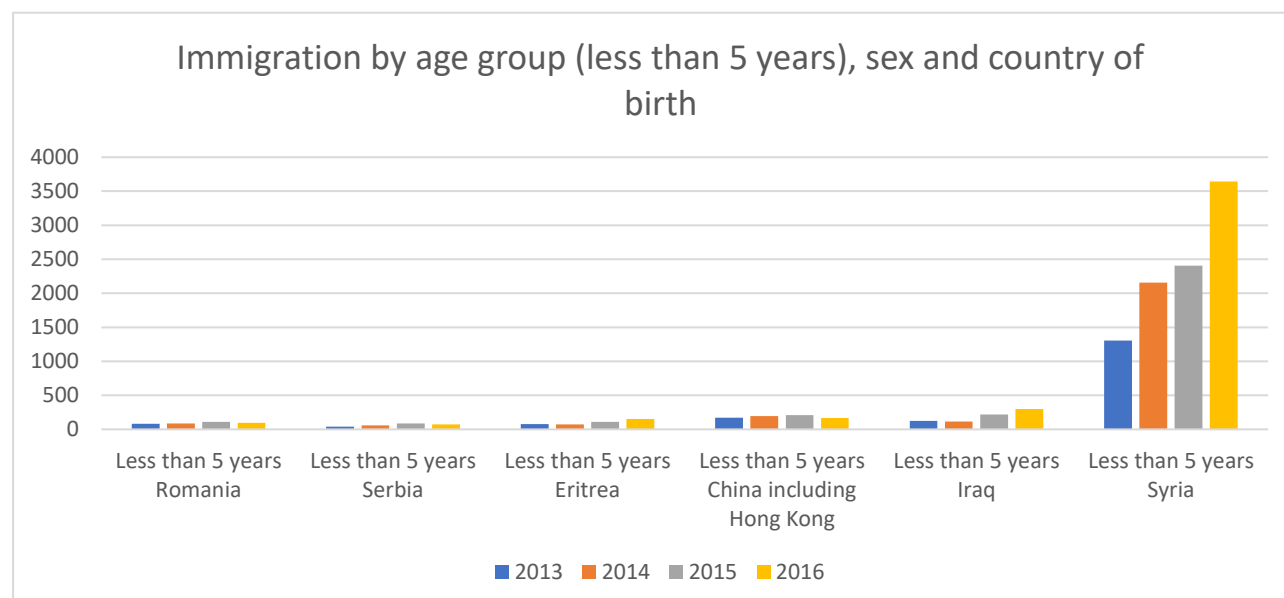


Table 3: the country from which have arrived more migrants which are less than 15 years old is Syria. But in 2013 have arrived more immigrants which are less than 15 years old from Somalia.

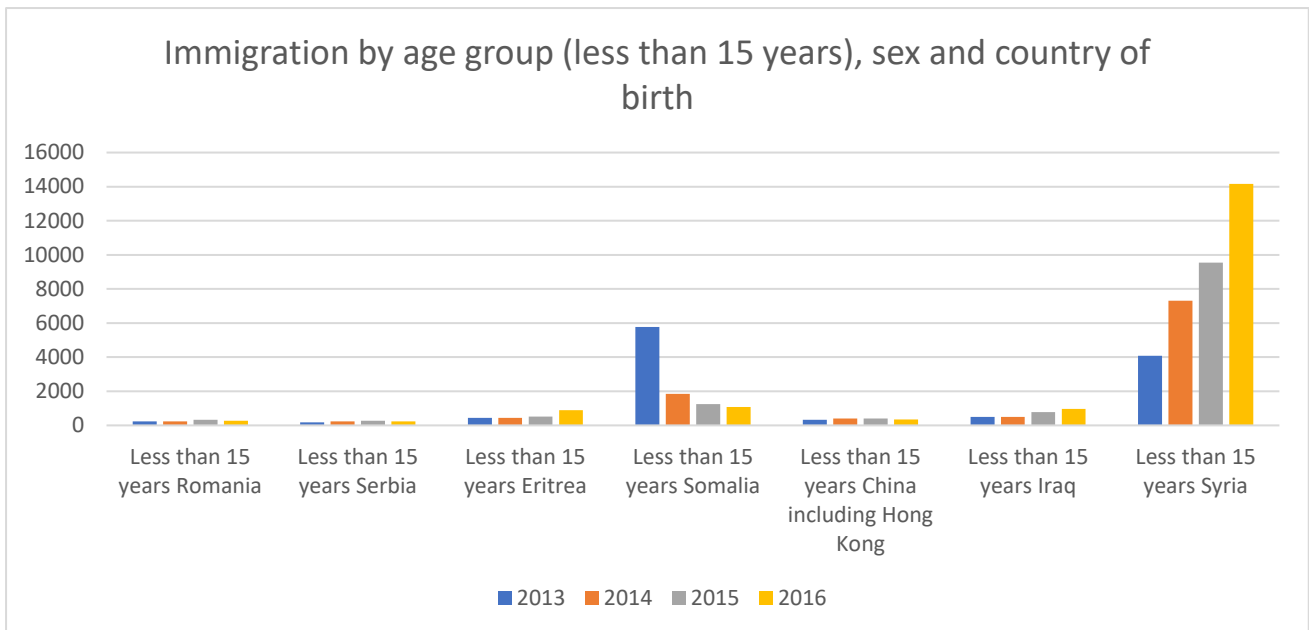


Table 4: the country from which have arrived more immigrants from 15 to 64 years is Syria. But, in this case also Eritrea shows outflows of migrants of this age, especially in 2015.

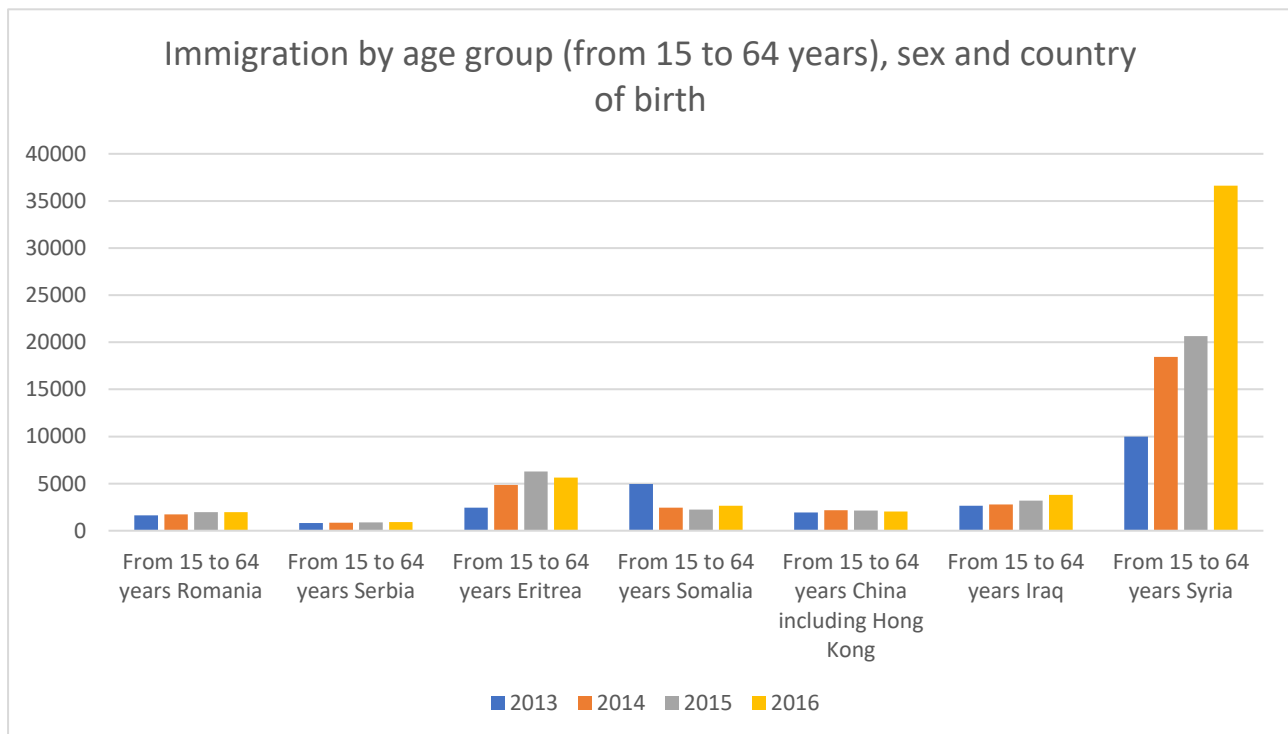


Table 5: the most important factor is that nobody of 65 years or over has migrated from Serbia to Sweden, and almost nobody from China.

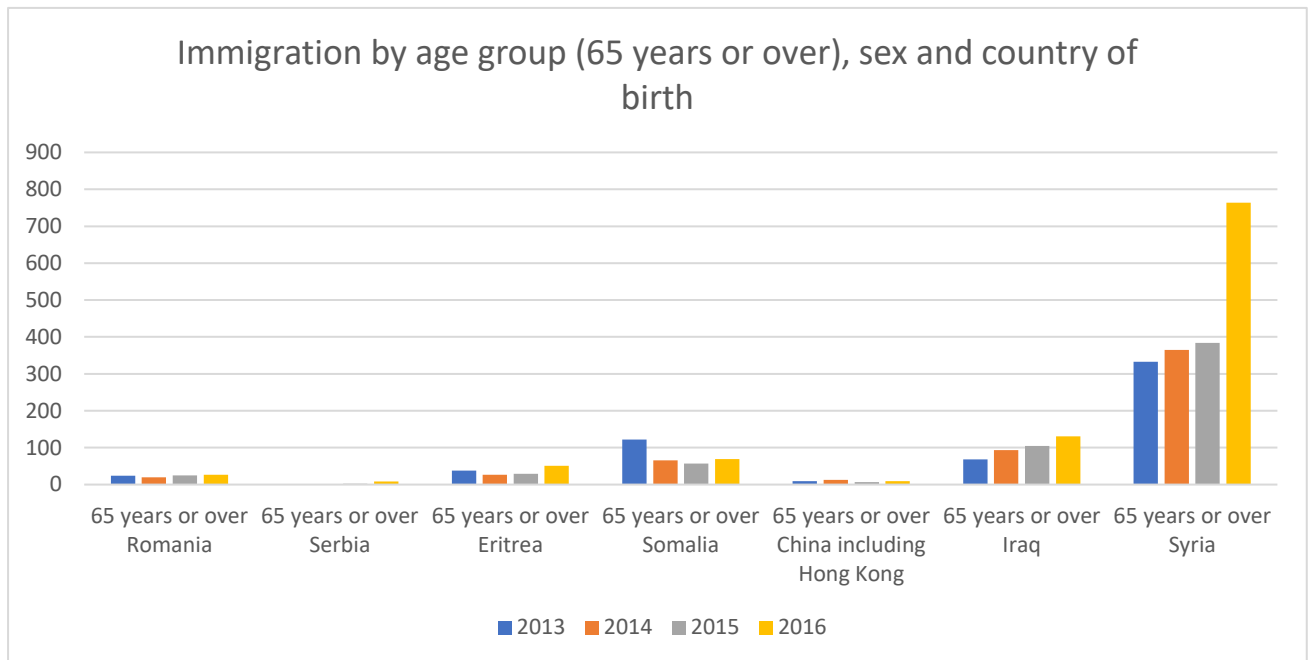


Table 6: the major outflow of female immigrants comes from Syria, but also from Somalia in 2013.

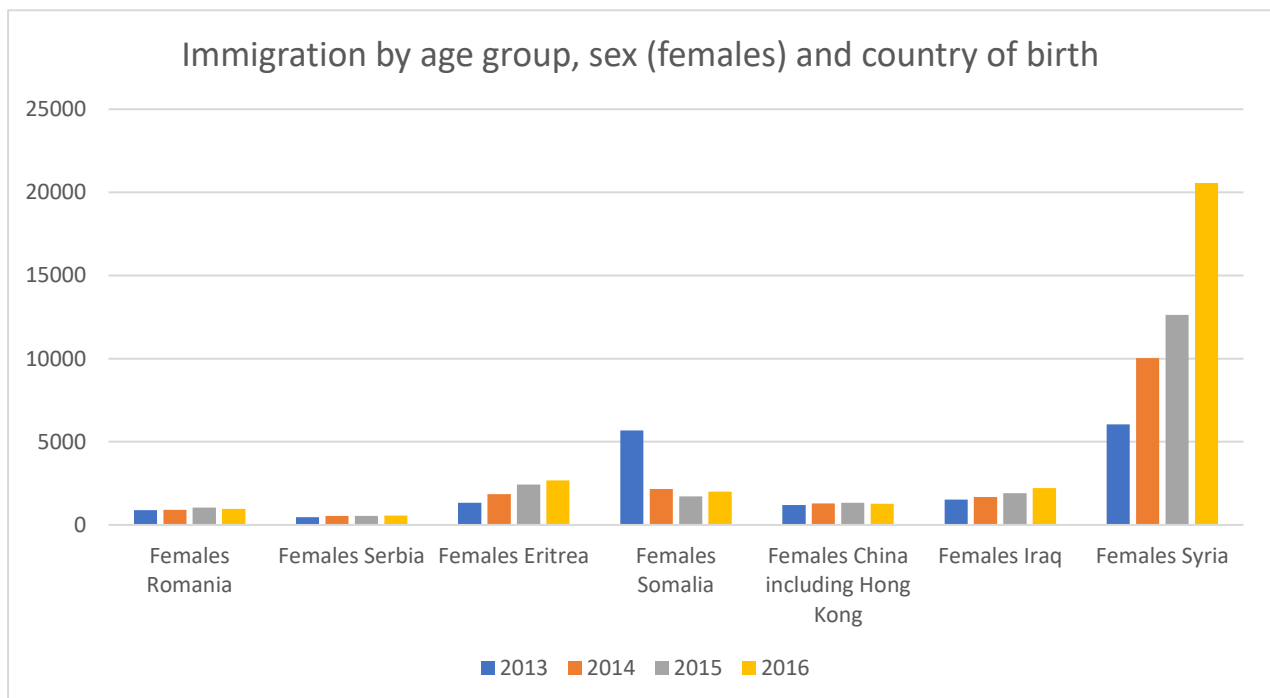


Table 7: the only country which shows a large number of female migrants which are less than 5 years is Syria.

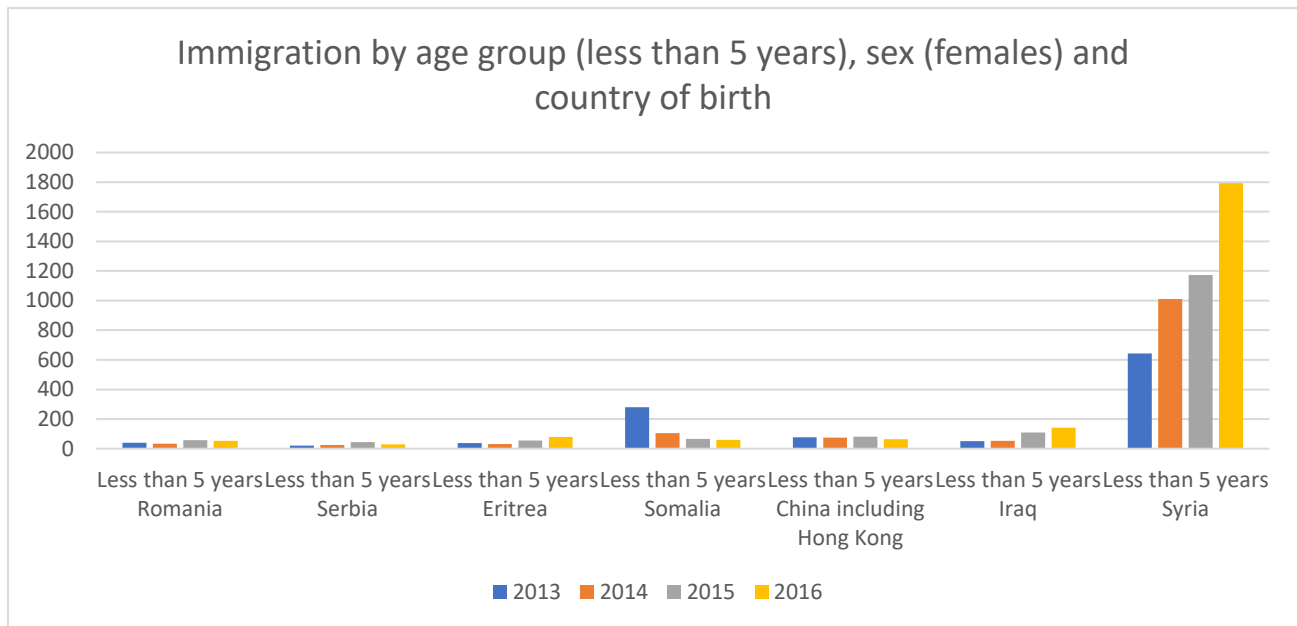


Table 8: in Syria there has been an increase of female migrants which are less than 15 years. Somalia shows a large number of this type of migrants especially in 2013.

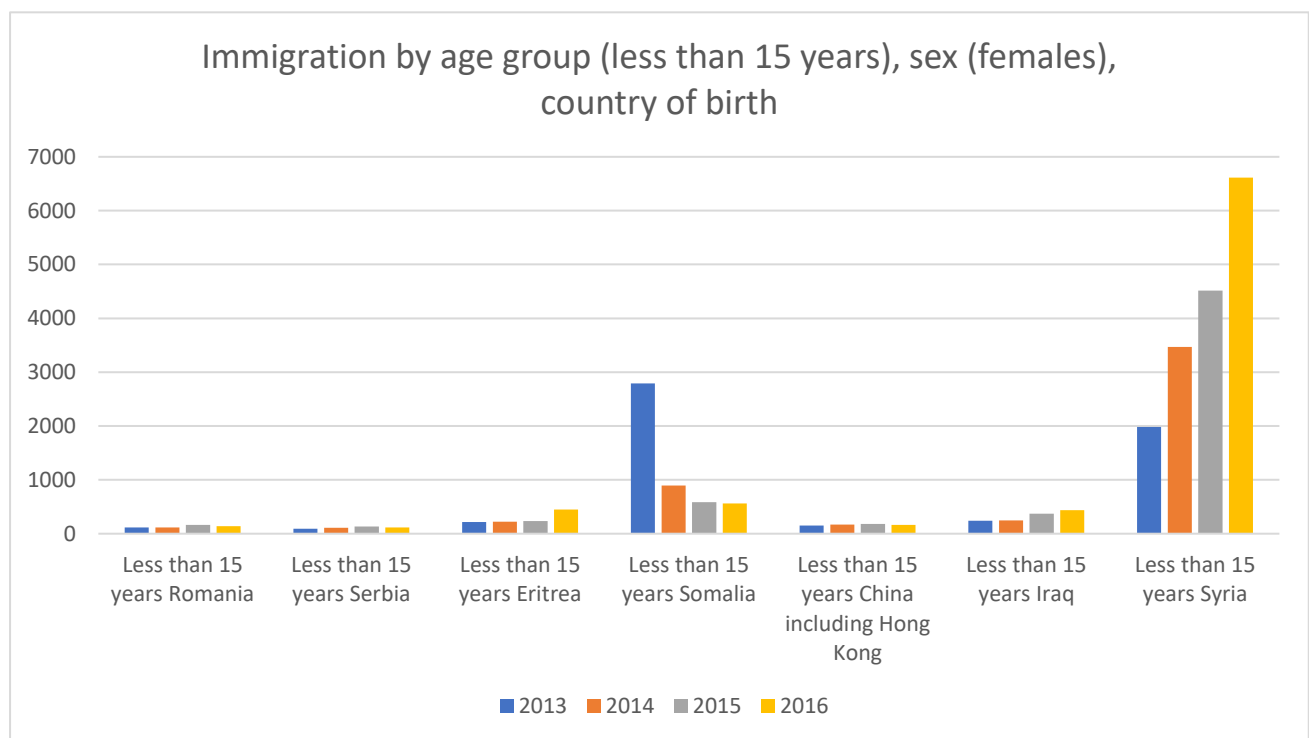


Table 9: Syria shows an increase of outflows of female migrants from 15 to 64 years. Also Eritrea shows an increase, but with less intensity. Somalia shows an increase only in 2013.

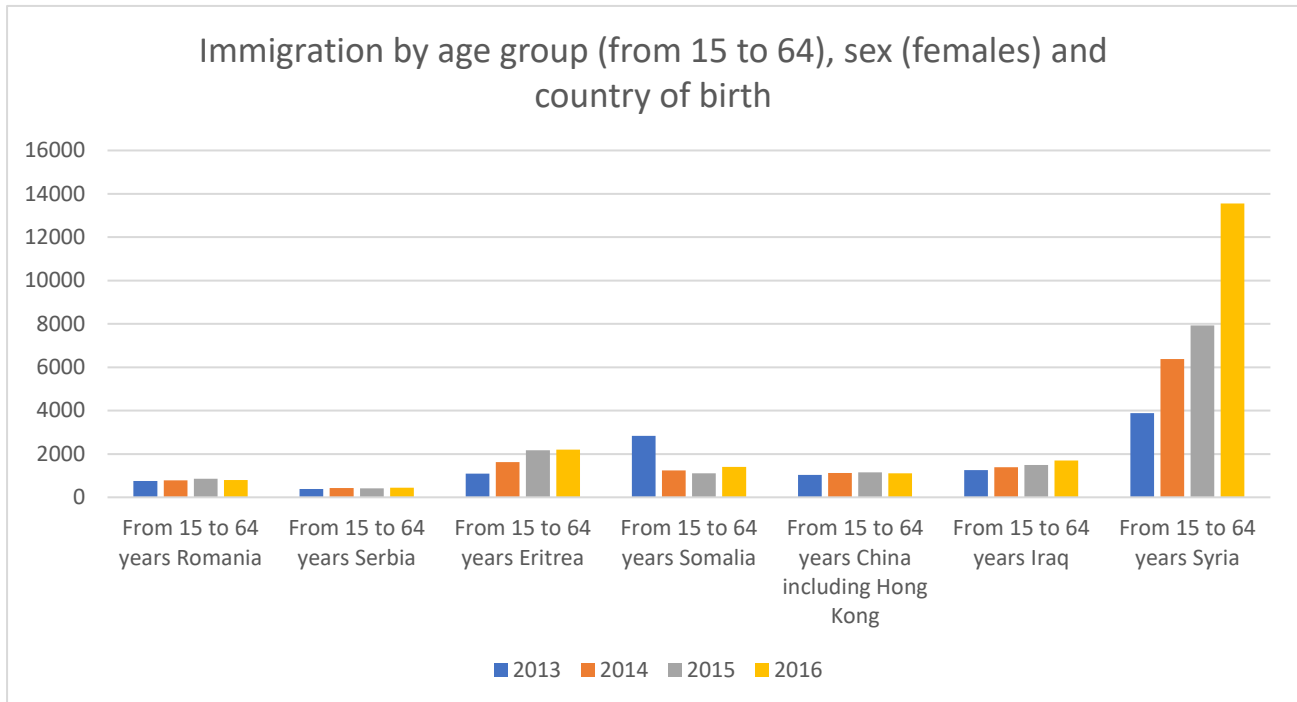


Table 10: the country with more female immigrants which are 65 years old or over is Syria. Somalia shows an increase in 2013 and Iraq in 2016.

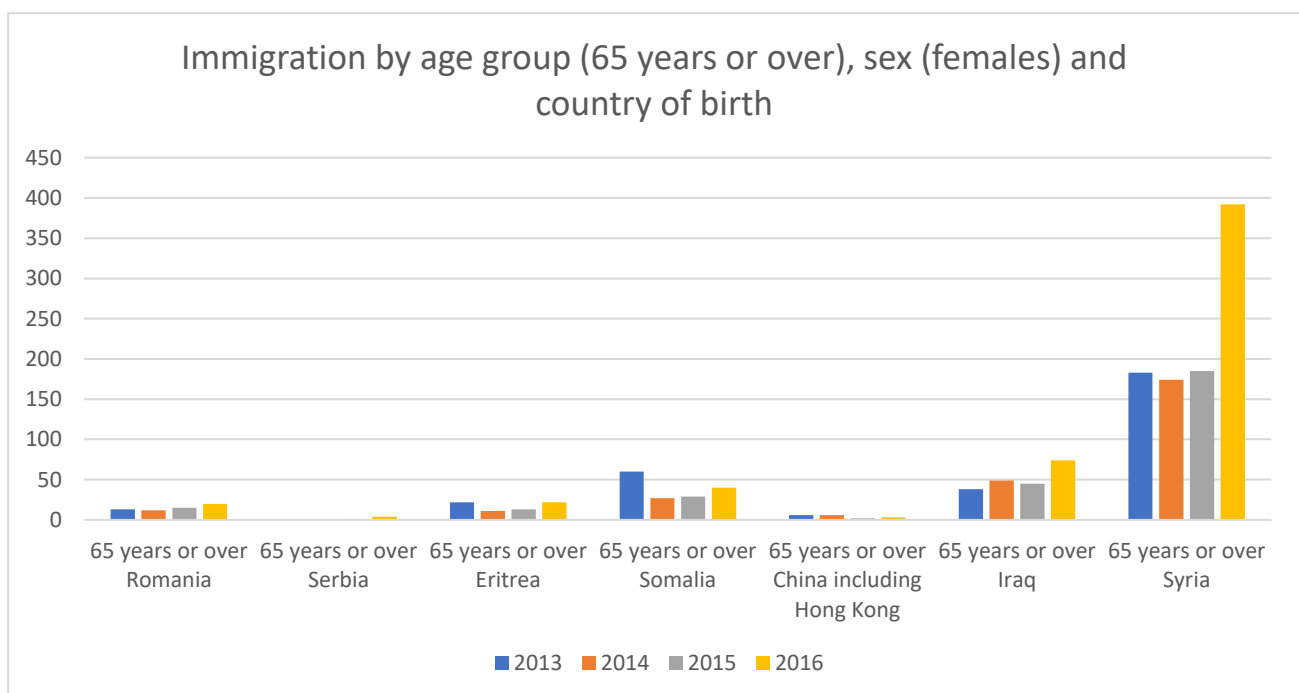


Table 11: the major outflow of male immigrants come from Syria. In Somalia we can see an increase of them in 2013 and in Eritrea in 2015.

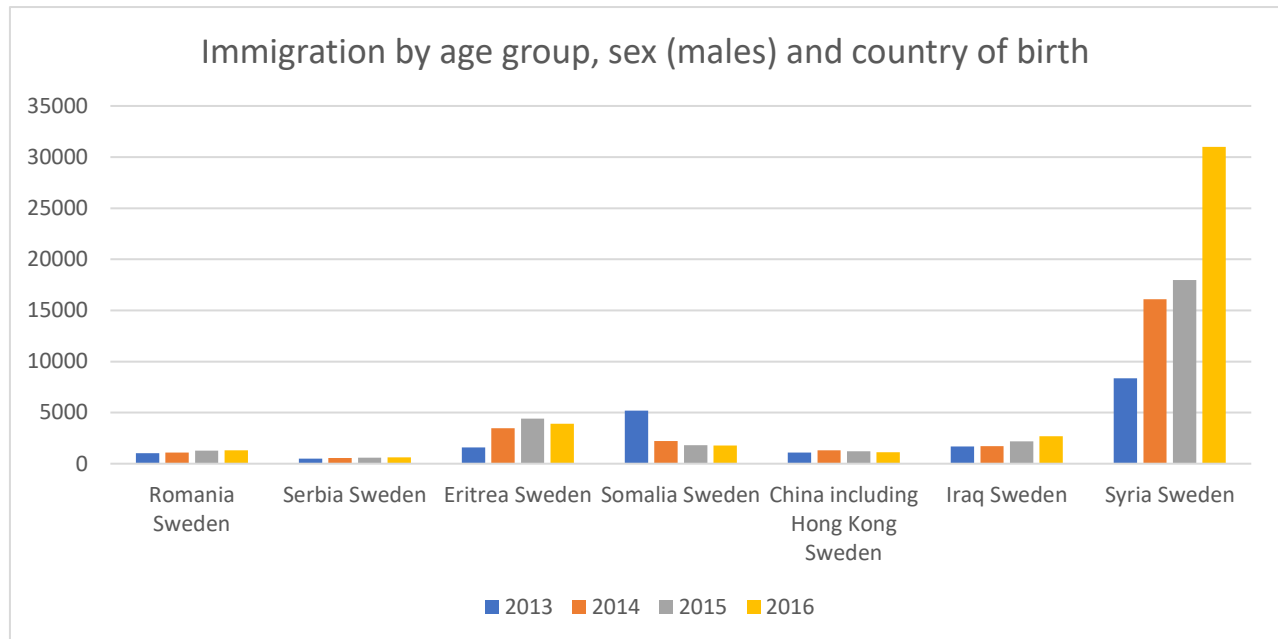


Table 12: Somalia is the country from which have arrived more male immigrants from 10 to 14 years in 2013. Syria is the major country from which they have arrived in 2016.

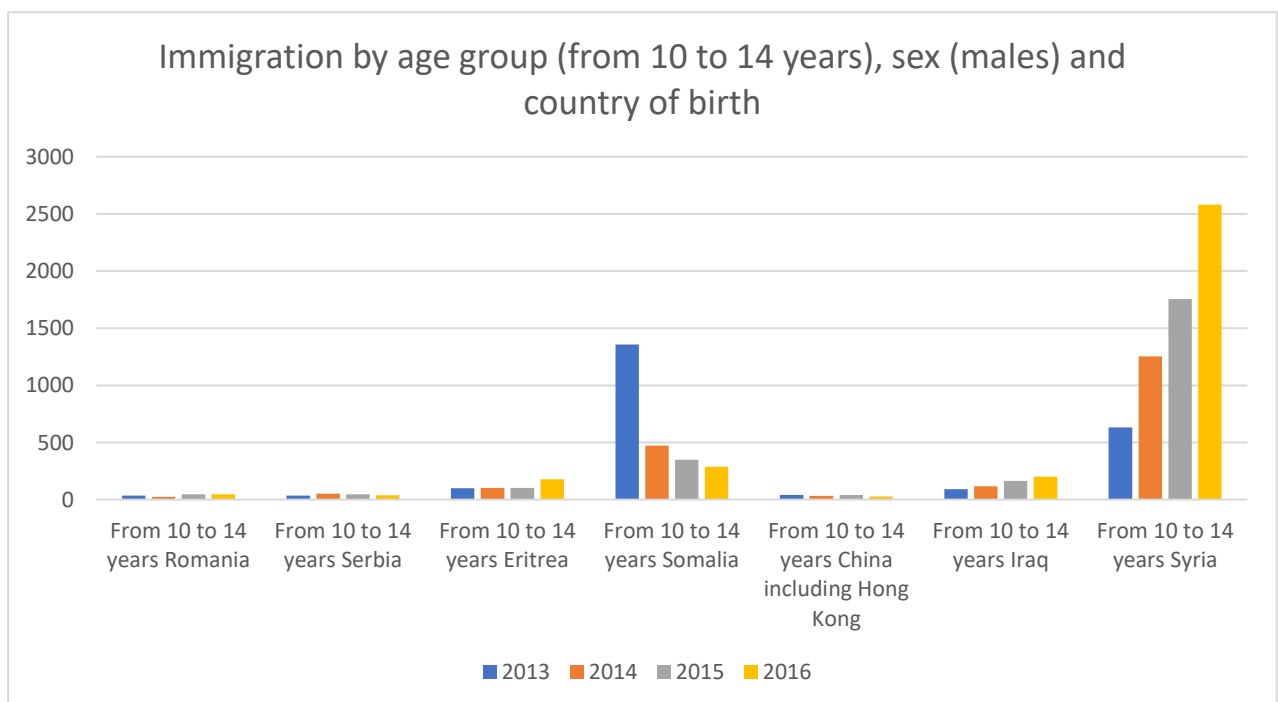


Table 13: Syria and Eritrea are the countries from which have arrived more male immigrants from 15 to 64 years. In Syria, especially in 2016. In Eritrea, in 2013.

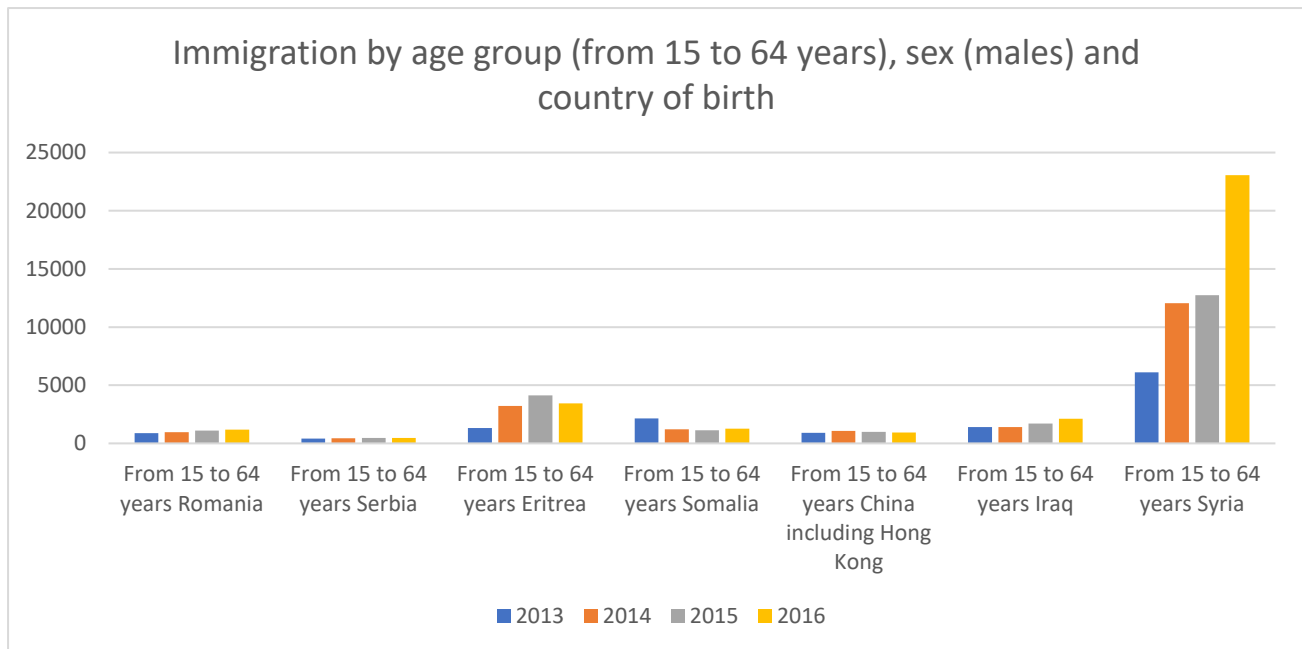
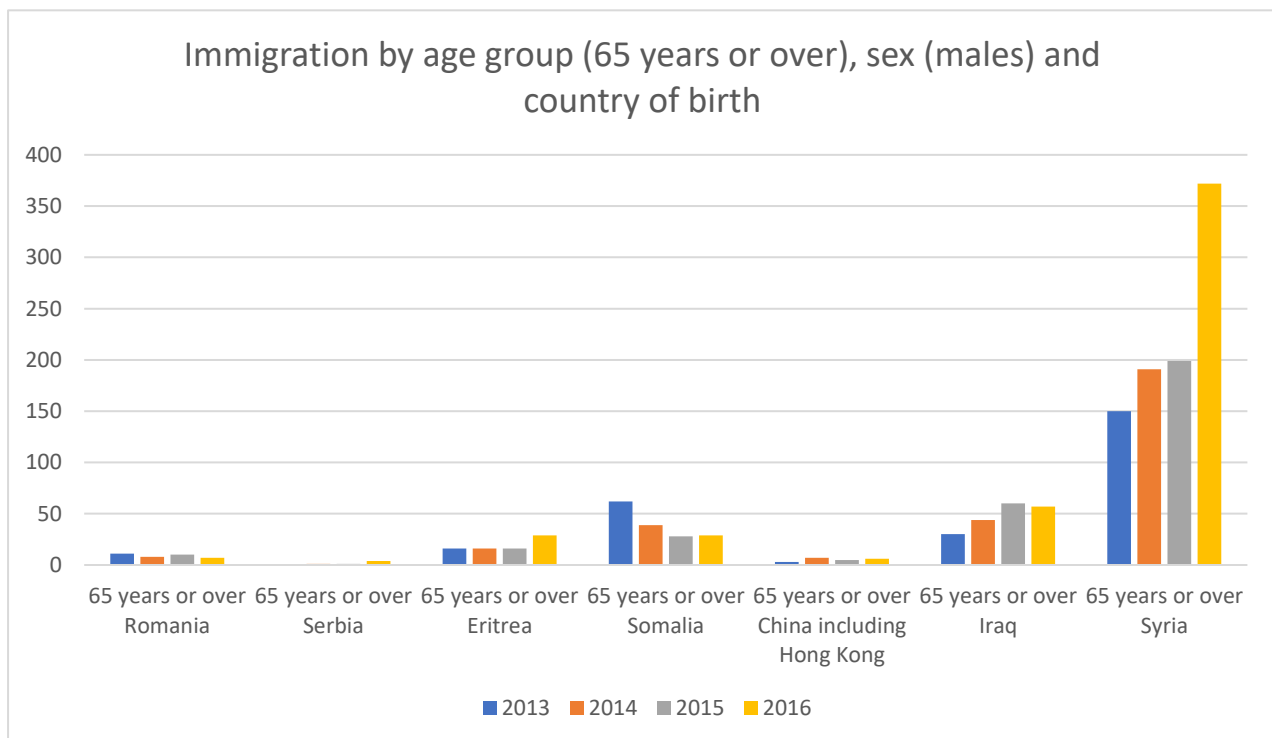
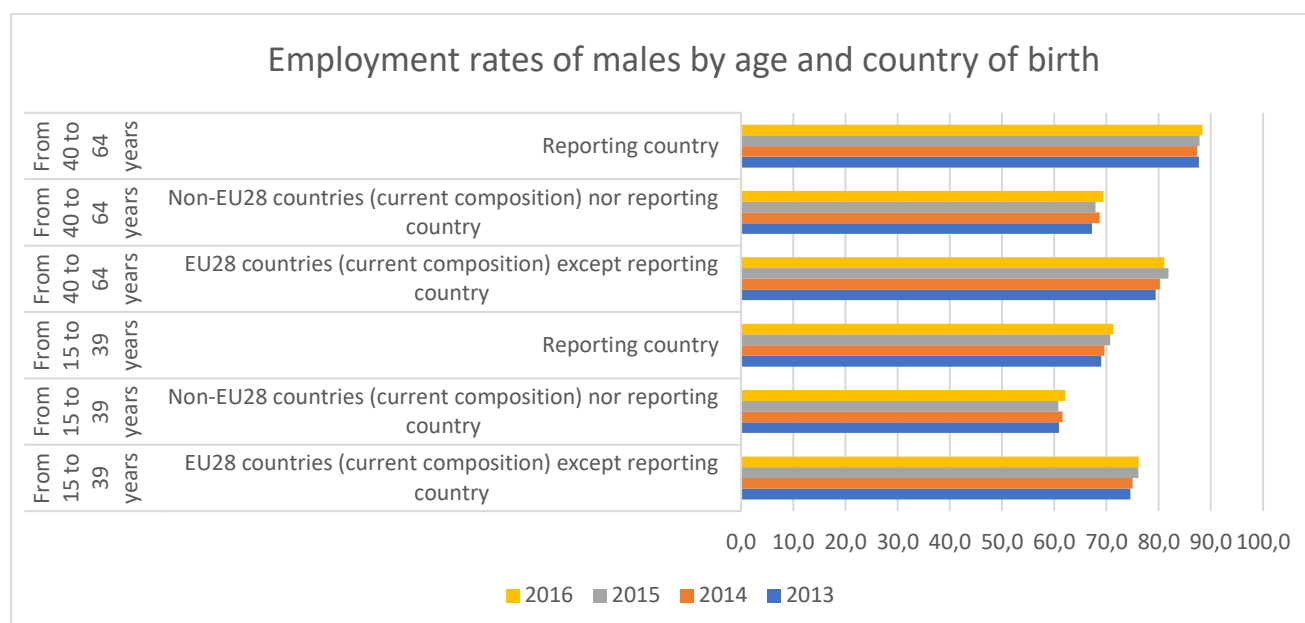


Table 14: Syria is the country from which have arrived more male immigrants which are 65 years or over. No one of them has been arrived from Serbia.

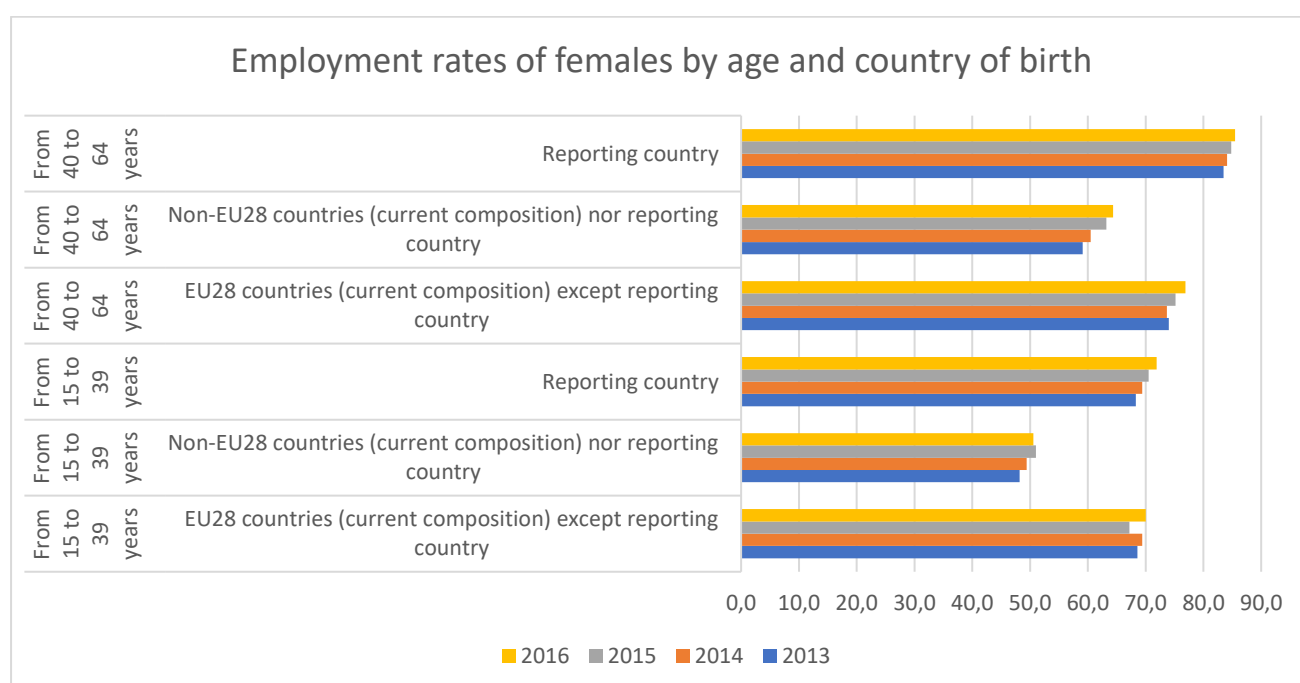


III. Labour market in Sweden

Source: <http://appsso.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/nui/submitViewTableAction.do>

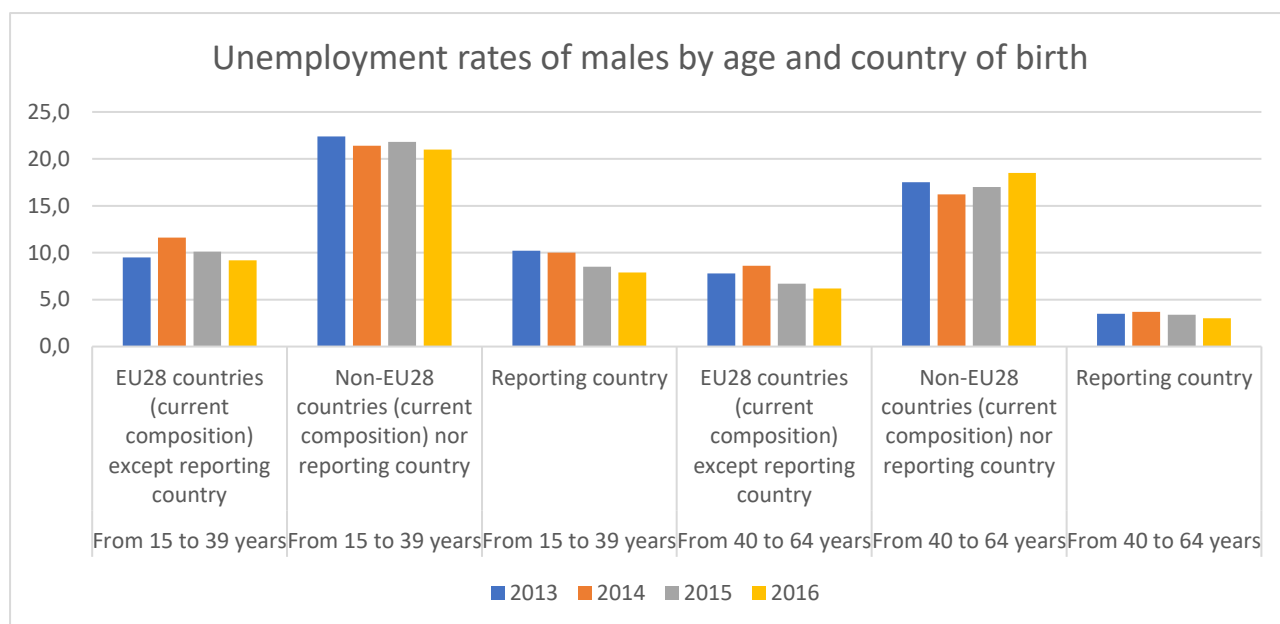


Graphic 1 shows the employment rates of male population by age and country of birth. The percentage of employed migrants coming from EU 28 countries and reporting country Sweden seems to be similar, meanwhile migrants coming from Non-EU 28 countries are less employed than the other 2 categories.

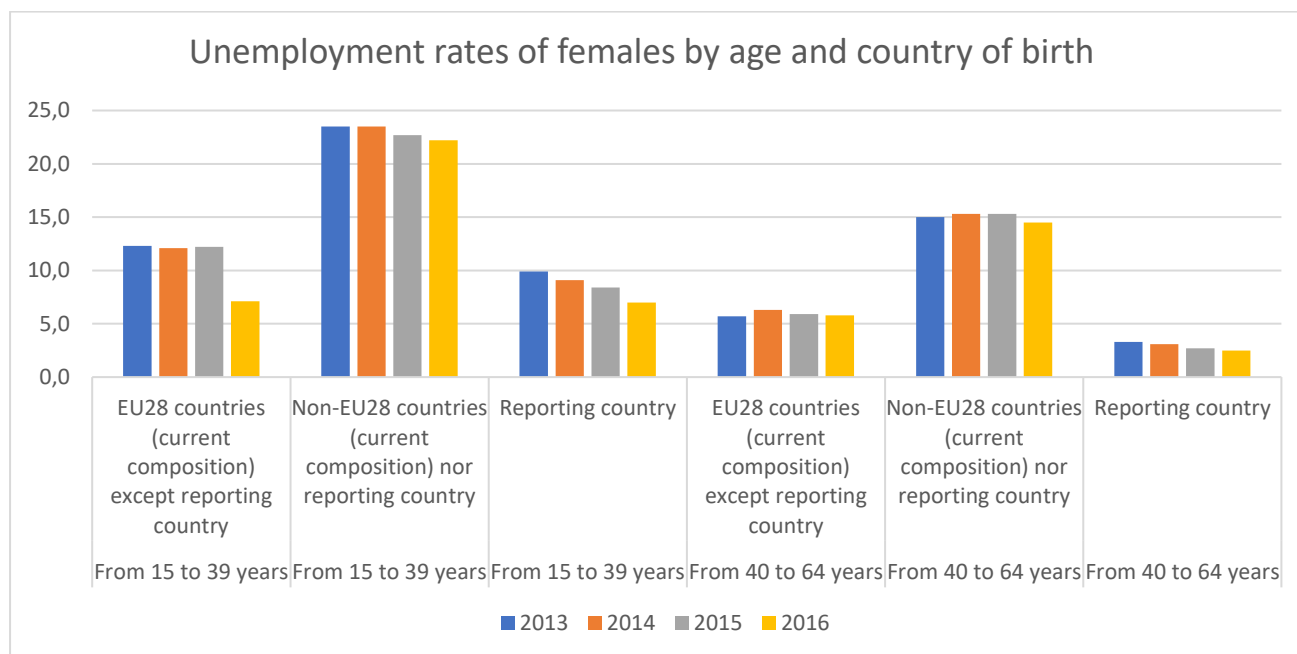


Graphic 2 shows the employment rates of female population by age and country of birth. As it happened in the male case the more employed females are coming from EU 28 countries and Sweden meanwhile migrants coming from Non-EU 28 countries are less employed.

Source: <http://appsso.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/nui/submitViewTableAction.do>

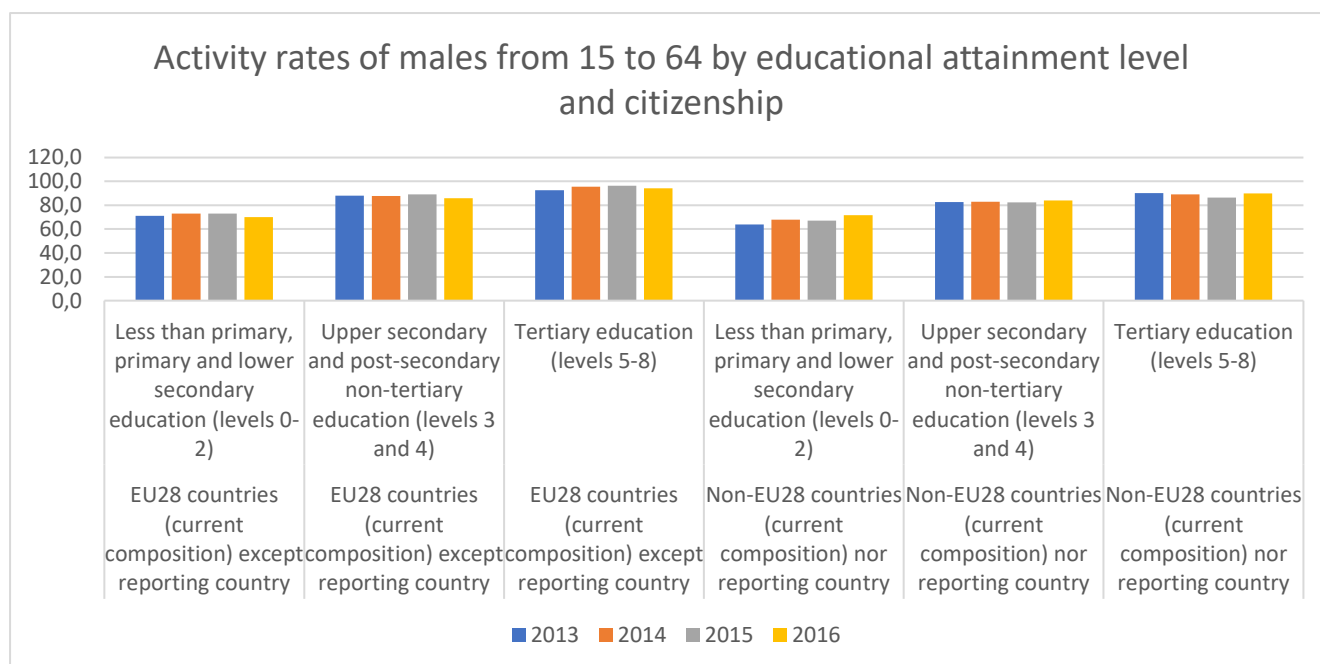


Graphic 3 shows the unemployment rates of males by age and country of birth. The highest percentage of male unemployment belongs to people coming from Non-EU 28 countries, followed by EU 28 countries and then by Sweden. People from 15 to 39 years are more unemployed than people from 40 to 64 years.

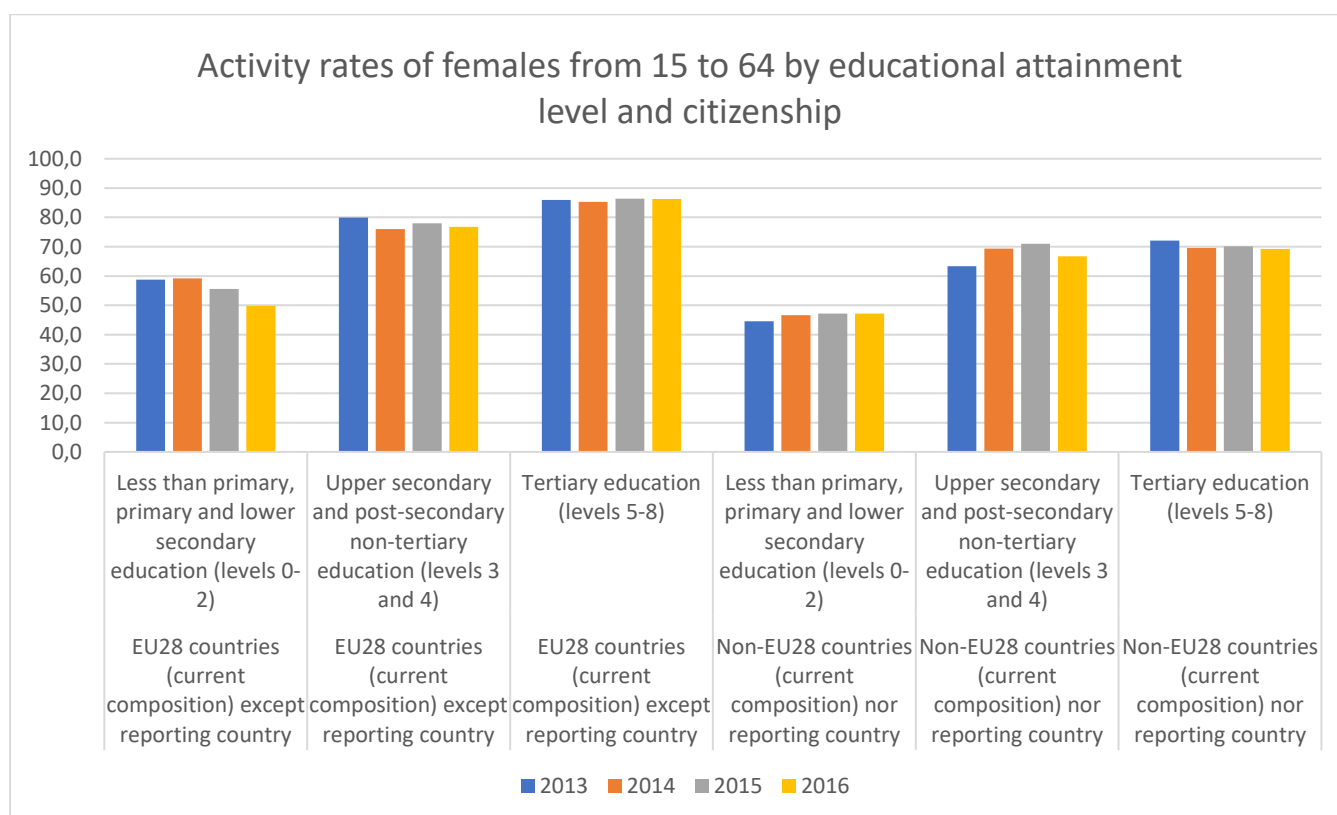


Graphic 4 shows the unemployment rates of females by age and country of birth. The highest percentage of unemployment of females belong to migrants coming from Non-EU 28 countries, followed by migrants coming from Eu 28 countries and Swedish people.

Source: <http://appsso.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/nui/submitViewTableAction.do>

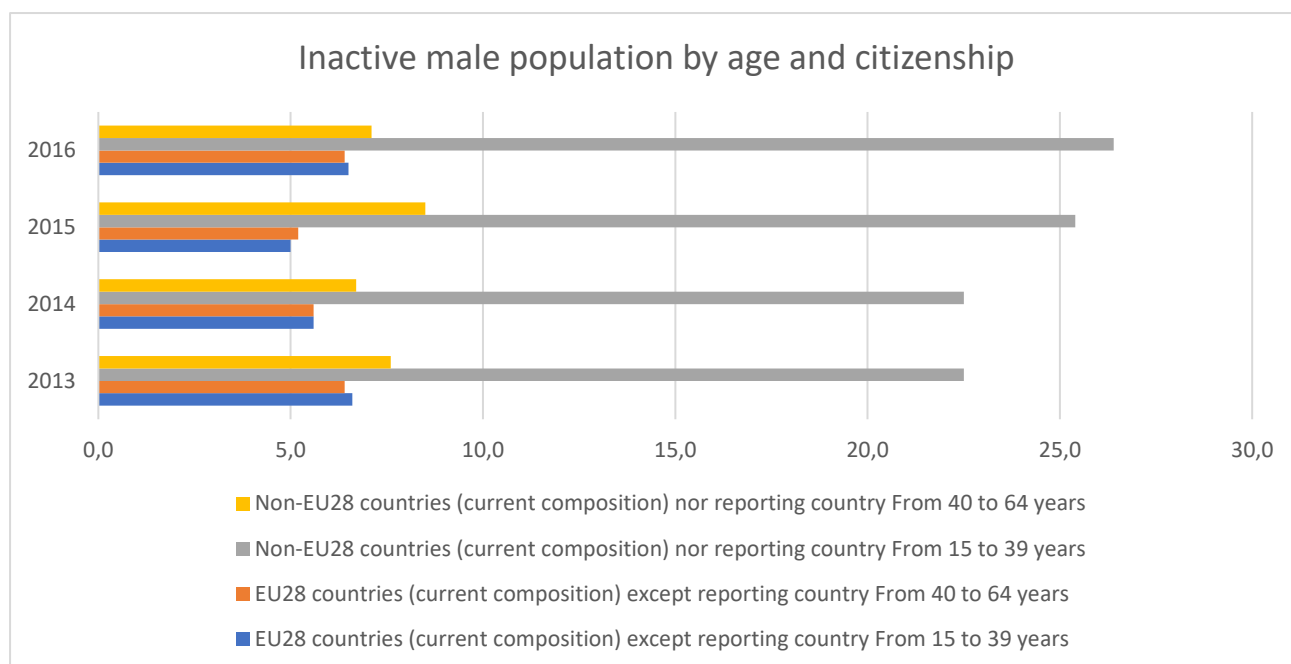


Graphic 5 shows the activity rates of male population by age, educational attainment level and citizenship. There is no significant difference between migrants coming from EU 28 countries and Non-EU 28 countries, but it is visible that both types of migrants with tertiary education are more active.

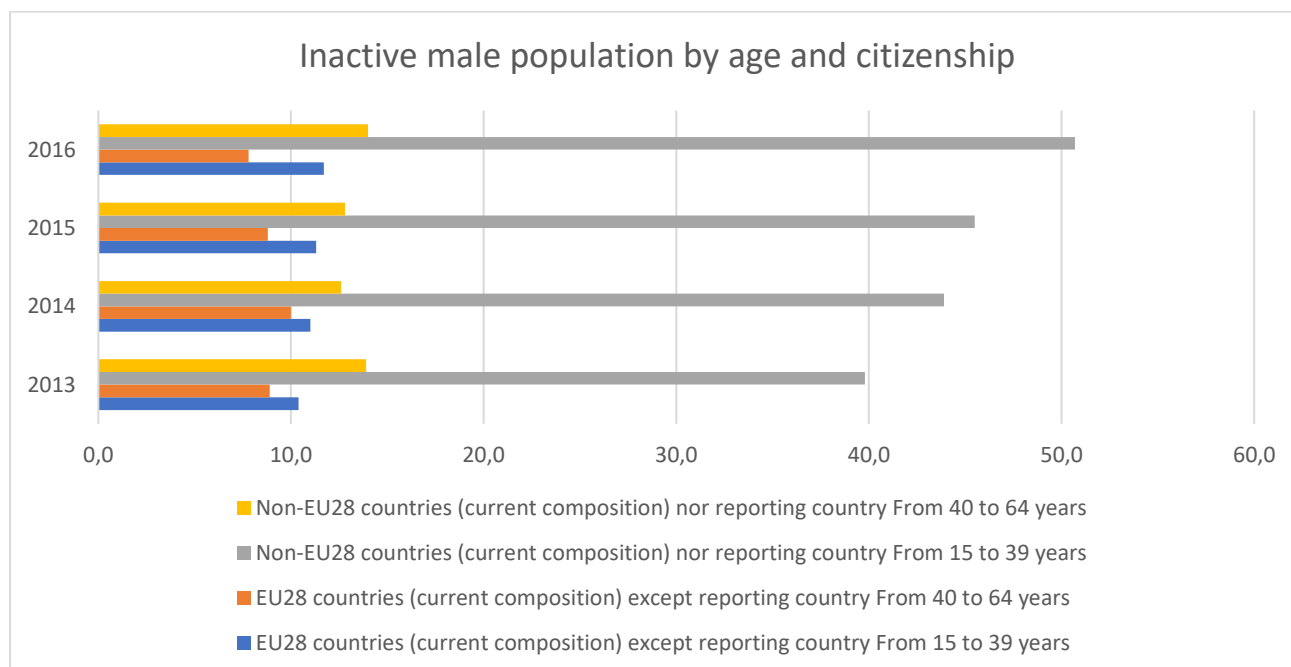


Graphic 6 shows the activity rates of female population by age, educational attainment level and citizenship. Females from EU 28 countries are slightly more active than females coming from Non-EU 28 countries and the tertiary education level is the one in which females are more active.

Source: <http://appsso.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/nui/submitViewTableAction.do>

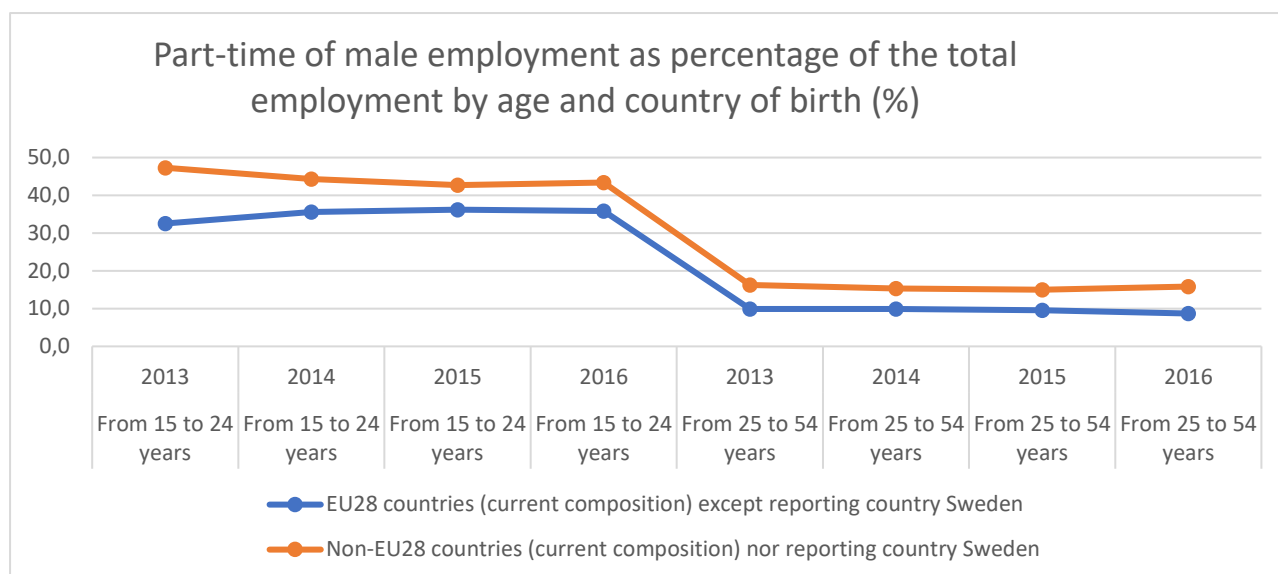


Graphic 9 shows the inactivity of Sweden's population based on sex, age and citizenship. Male migrants from 15 to 39 years coming from Non-EU 28 countries are the most inactive part of the Swedish population. Meanwhile males from 40 to 64 coming from Non-EU 28 countries have similar percentage as migrants coming from EU 28 countries.

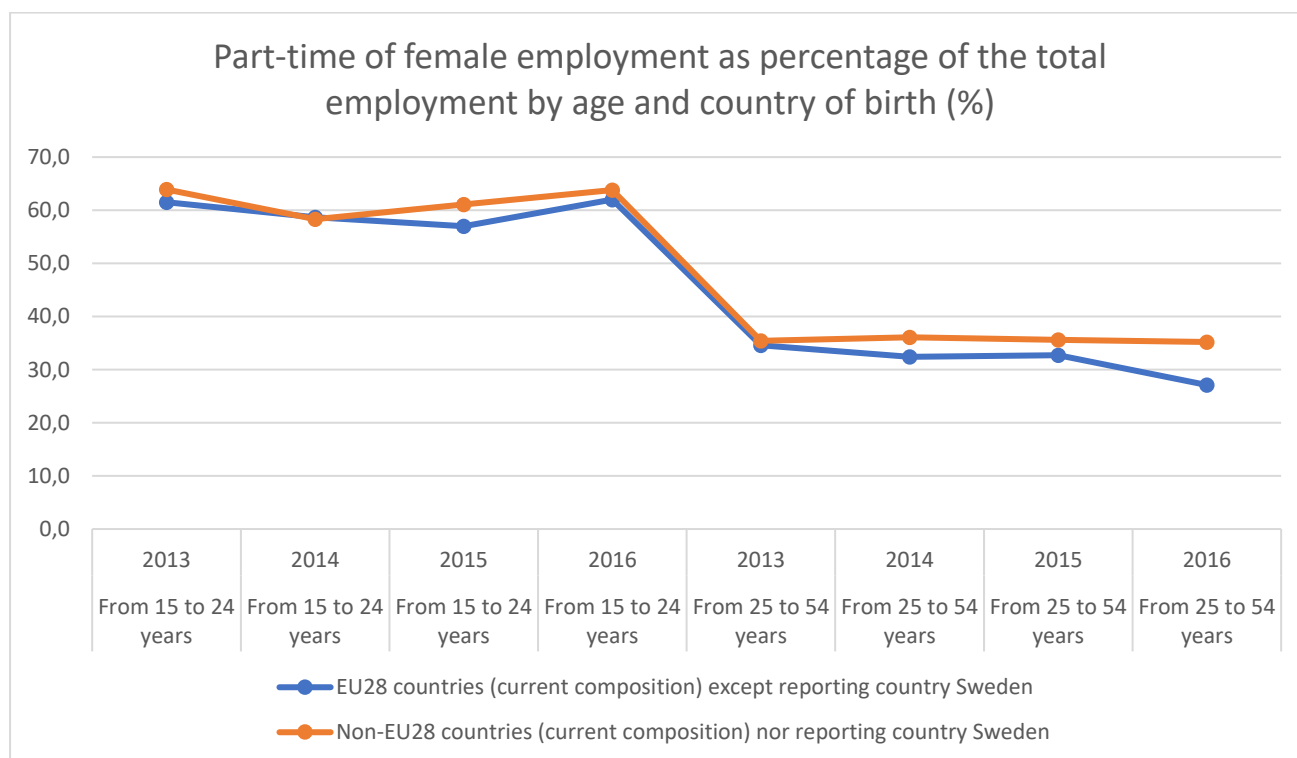


Graphic 10 shows the inactivity of Sweden's population based on sex, age and citizenship. Females migrants from 15 to 39 years coming from Non-EU countries are the most inactive part of the population in Sweden. Meanwhile Non-EU 29 female migrants from 40 to 64 have a similar percentage as EU 28 female migrants.

Source: <http://appsso.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/nui/submitViewTableAction.do>

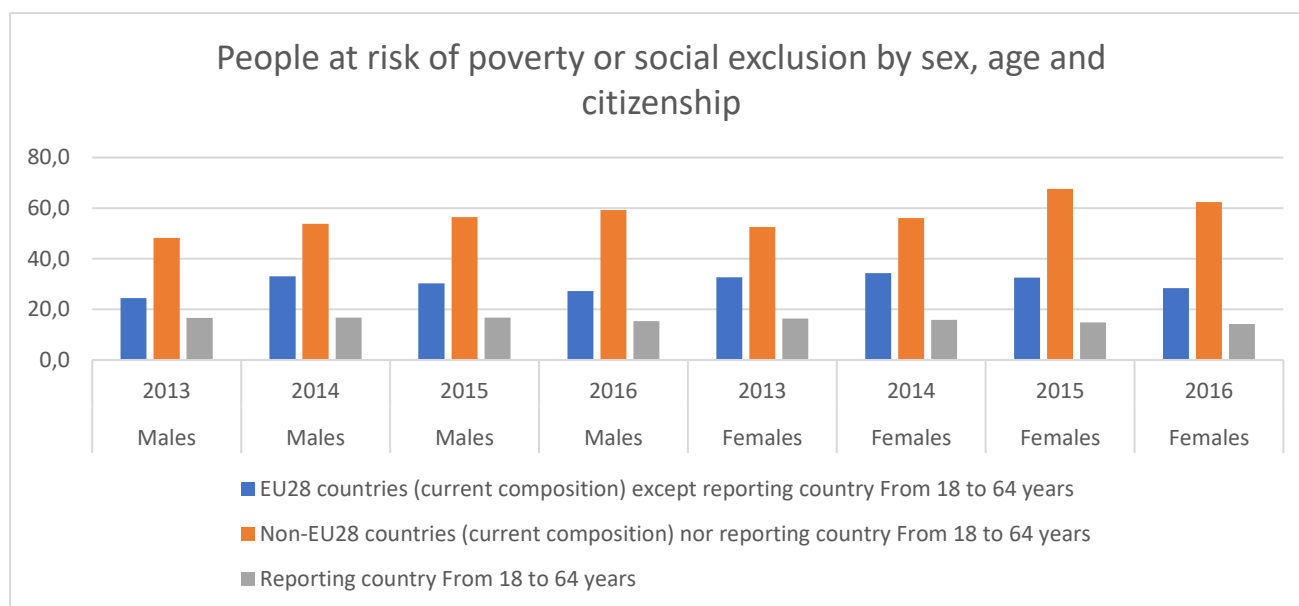


Graphic 7 shows data about part-time employment as percentage of the total employment of males by age and country of birth. Migrants coming from Non-EU 28 countries are more involved in this type of jobs than migrants coming from EU 28 countries. The percentage of people from 15 to 24 years is more than double in some cases then the percentage of people from 25 to 54 years.



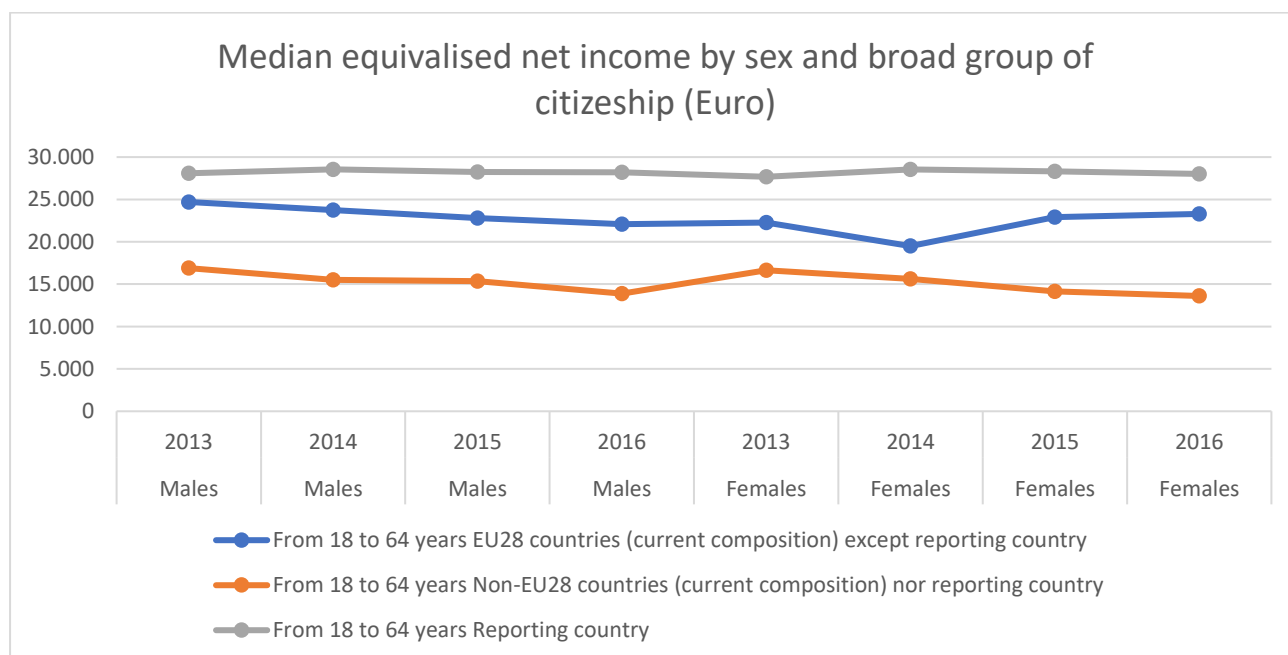
Graphic 8 shows data about part-time employment as percentage of the total employment of females by age and country of birth. There is no a significant difference between EU 28 countries and Non-EU 28 countries even if migrants coming from Non-EU seem to be a little more involved in this type of jobs. However, the difference is visible if we take into consideration the age: the percentage of people from 15 to 24 years is higher and almost double than the percentage of people from 25 to 54 years.

Source: <http://appsso.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/nui/submitViewTableAction.do>



Graphic 11 shows that people who are more likely to risk poverty and social exclusion are the ones coming from Non-EU 28 countries and more specifically the females. Migrants coming from EU 28 countries are the second (with a higher % on females) meanwhile in the third position we find Swedish people with the lower risk of poverty.

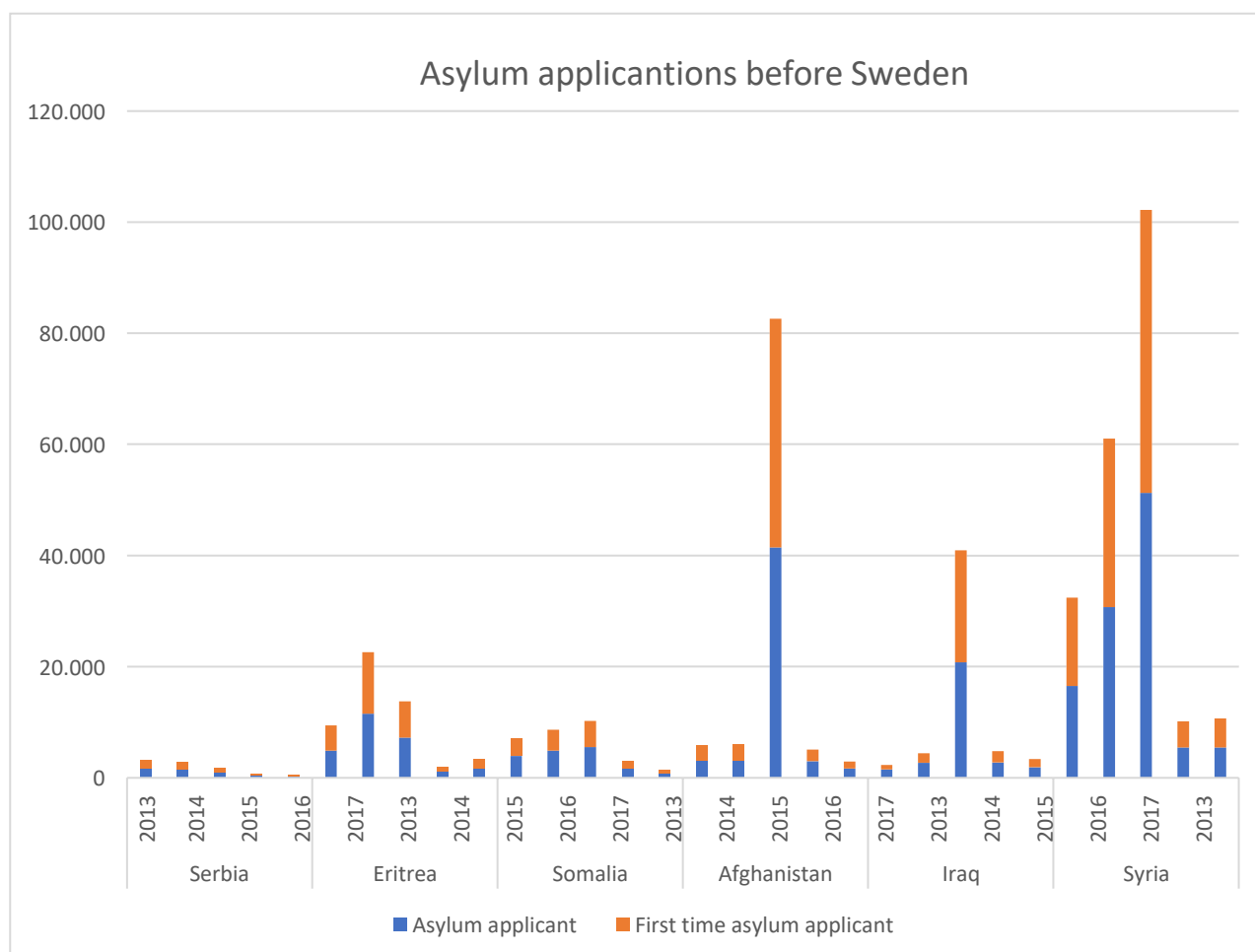
Source: <http://appsso.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/nui/submitViewTableAction.do>



Graphic 12 shows the difference in net income among migrants from Non-EU 28 countries, migrants from EU28 countries and citizens of the reporting country Sweden. The lower income belongs to Non EU28 meanwhile the highest belong to Swedish people. Between them is placed the median net income of EU 28 migrants. There is no significant difference between the income of males and females for reporting country meanwhile there are some differences for EU and Non-Eu males and females.

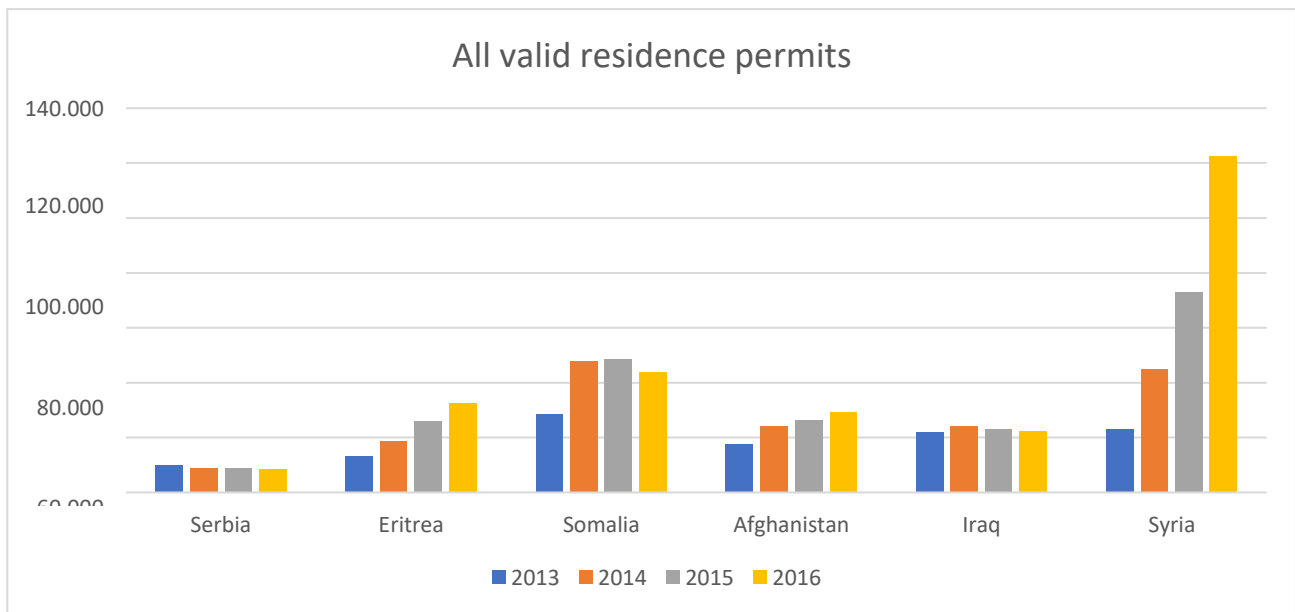
IV. Asylum seekers, migrant children and related residence permits

Asylum seekers in Sweden (<http://appsso.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/nui/submitViewTableAction.do>)

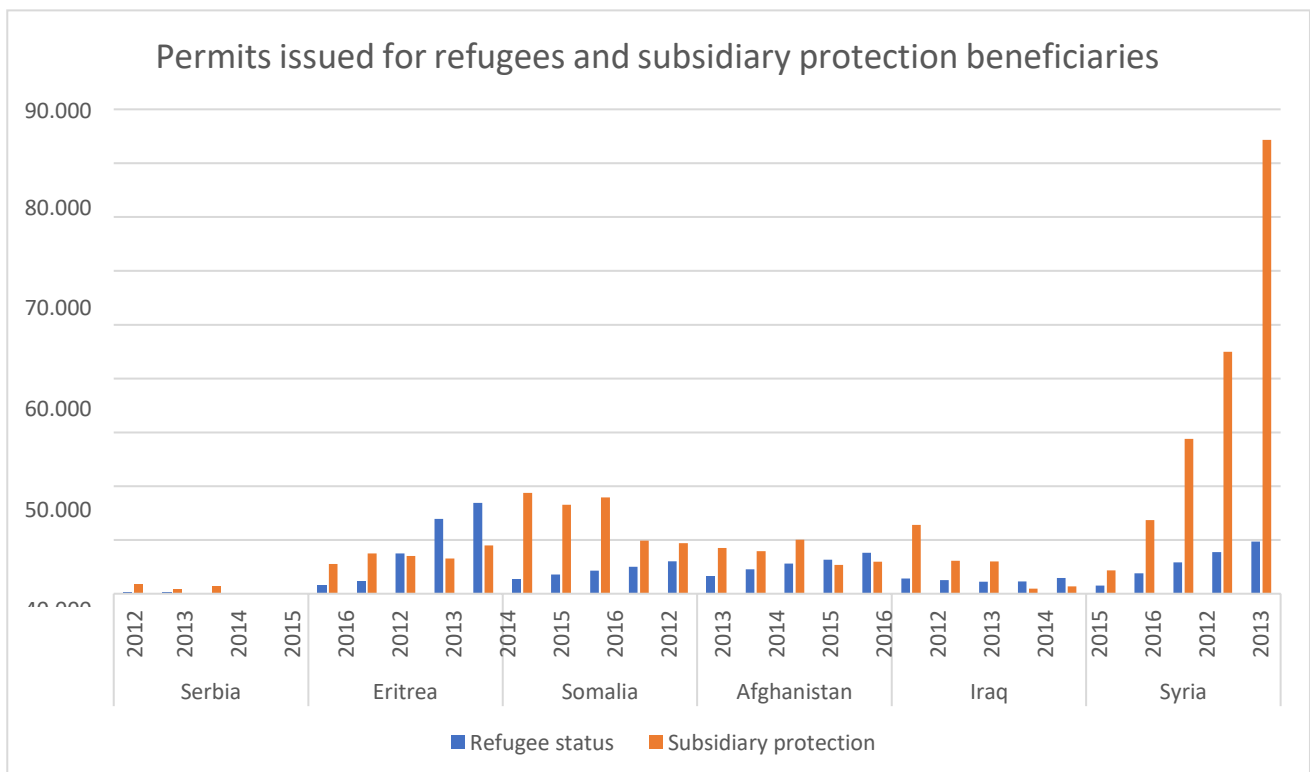


The graphic 1 shows the total number of asylum seekers' applications before Swedish Immigration authorities submitted by Serbians, Syrians, Somali, Eritreans, Iraqis and Afghans. For African and Mid-West countries such as Syria, Afghanistan and Iraq, the outflow increased during 2014 and 2015 due to wars and related problems. 2014 saw the beginning of the Civil war in Iraq, consequently numbers increased in 2015. The same applies to Afghan asylum seekers. The same applies to Syria, whose 2015 asylum seekers were around 35 thousand more than 2013 ones due to the civil war and the fighting against ISIS.

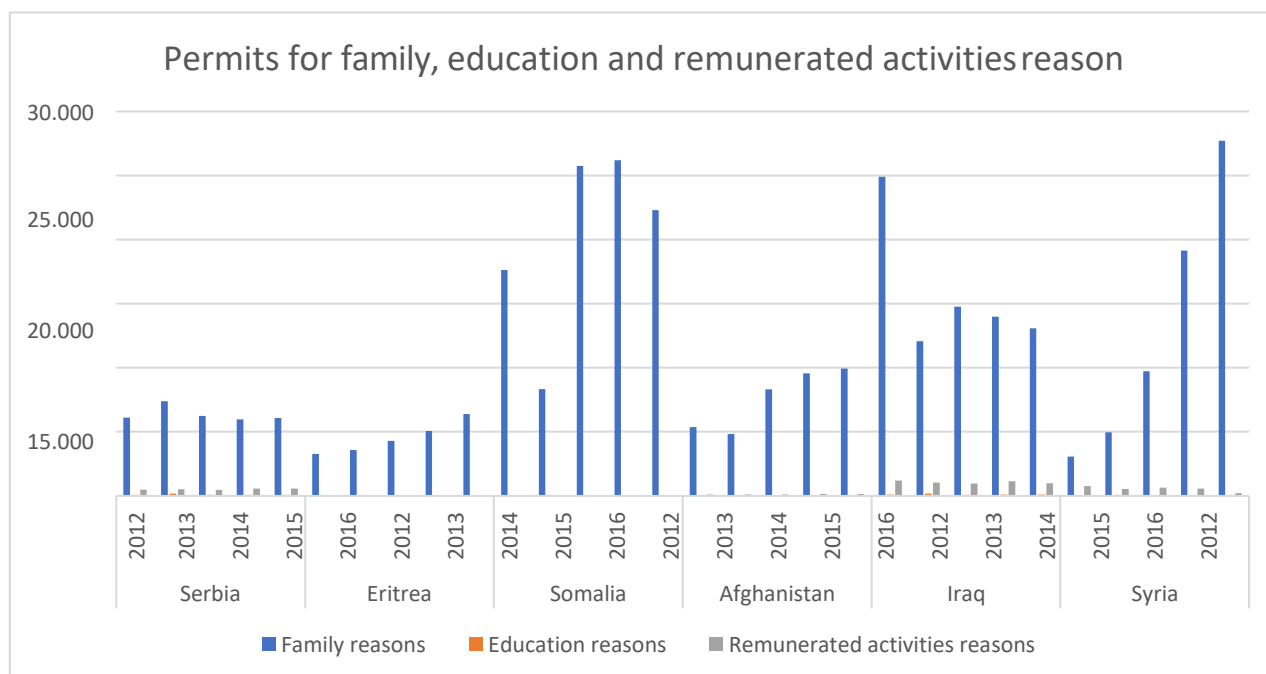
Residence permits (<http://appsso.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/nui/submitViewTableAction.do>)



Graphic 2 Data related to the whole number of residence permits issued have been split into residence permits' specific reasons, such as family, education, remunerated activities, refugee status and subsidiary protection.



Graphic 3 <http://appsso.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/nui/submitViewTableAction.do>

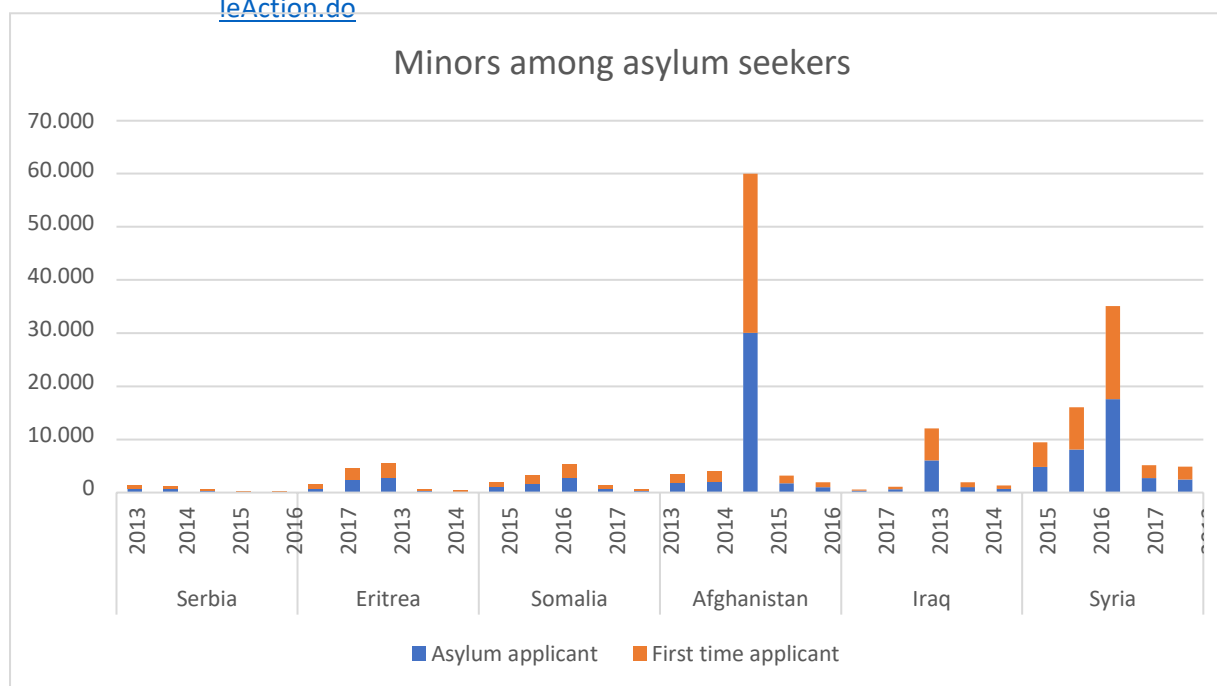


Graphic 4 <http://appsso.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/nui/submitViewTableAction.do>

What can be easily assumed is that beneficiaries of subsidiary protection are far more that refugees. Syrians beneficiaries grew exponentially from 2012 to 2016 and reached the highest level in 2016. Also, family reunification is the main reason according to which permits are granted.

MIGRANT CHILDREN

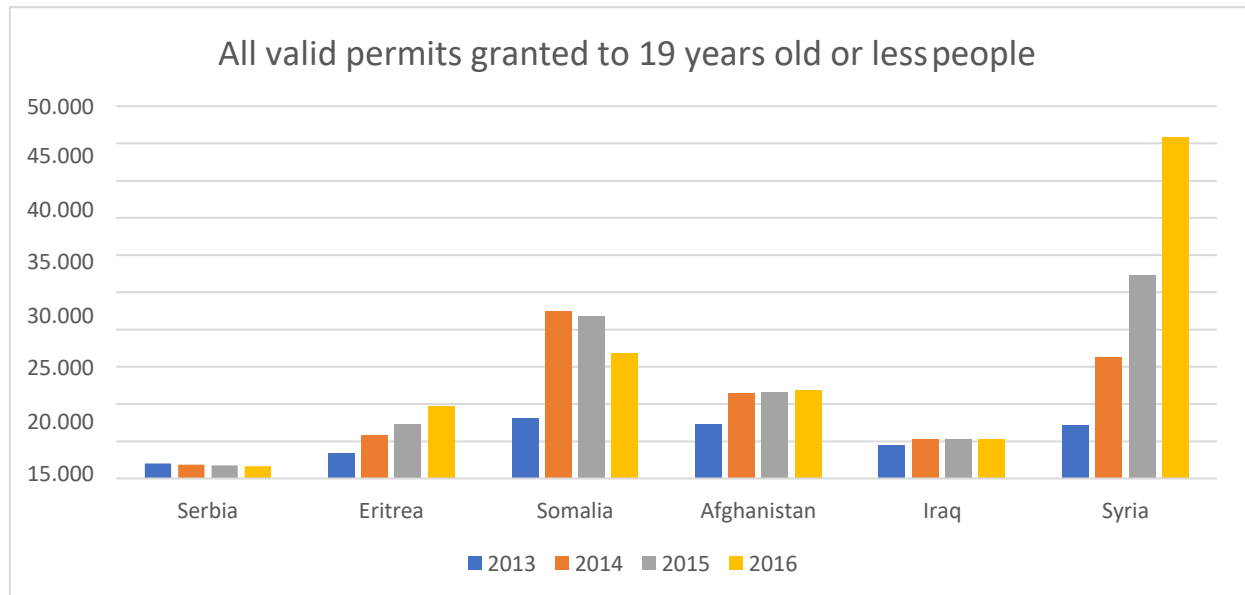
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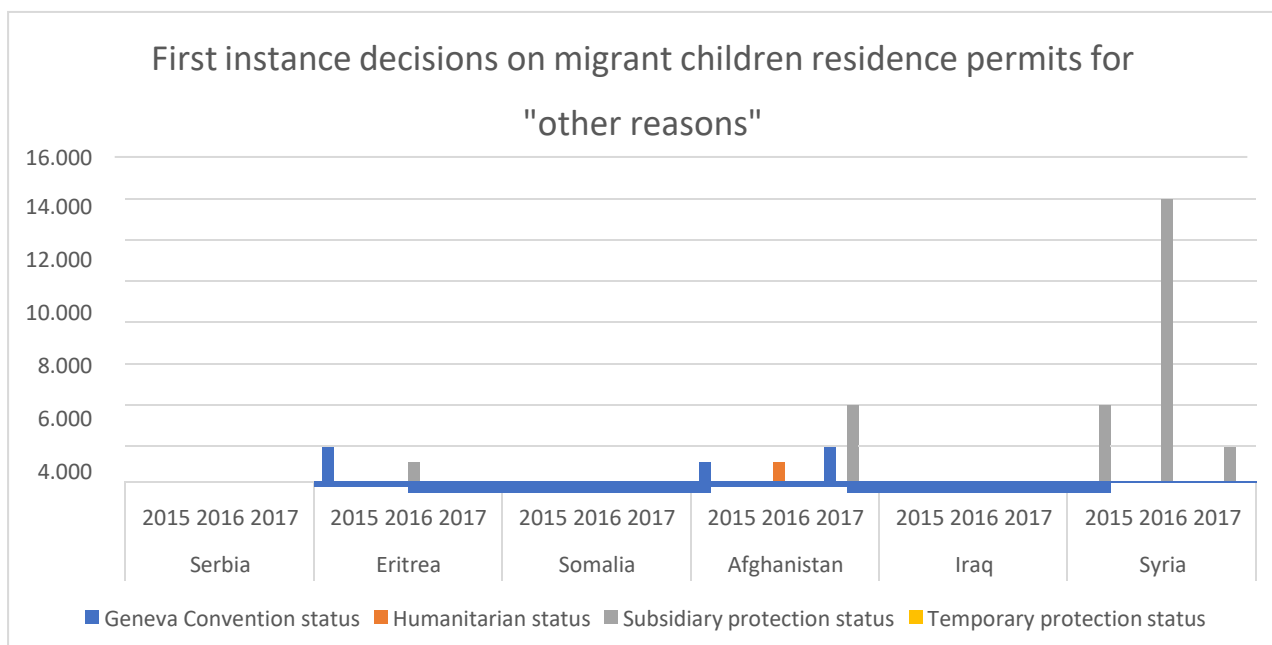
Graphic 4 The target of this graphic is minor applicants seeking for protection in Sweden (generically “less than 18 years old people”). Afghan and Syrian children are the most numerous. Syrians are around half of the Afghans.

The following graphic (5) shows the number of “All valid permits” by age. It includes also 18- and 19-year- old seekers. “All valid permits” includes permits for family, education, remunerative activities and “other” reasons. No 2017 data was found.

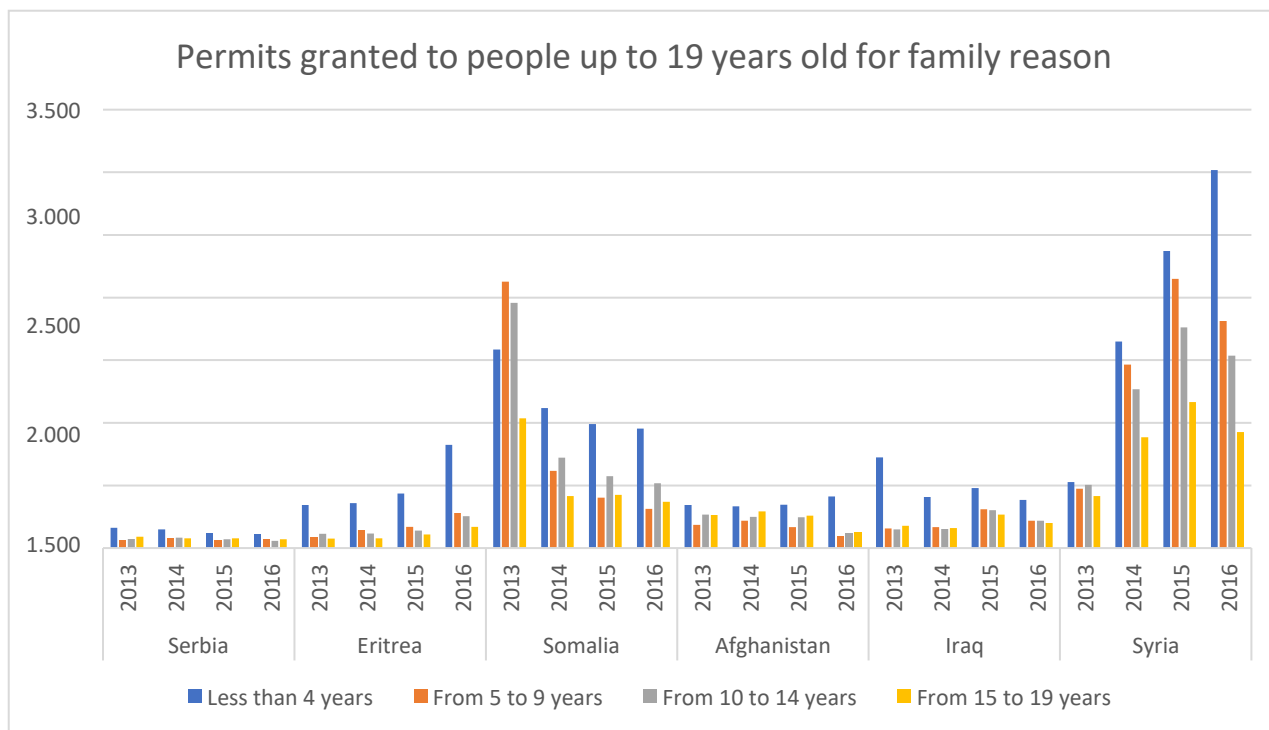
(<http://appsso.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/nui/submitViewTableAction.do>).



Graphics 6 and 7 shows that previously data have been split once again into decisions concerning permits for “other reasons” and for “family reason” granted to maximum-19-year-old people.



What we can see from graphic 6 is that it is more likely to grant subsidiary protection rather than the refugee status under the Geneva Convention. This is particularly evident among Syrians. Less evident for Afghans, for example. No data of 2013 and 2014 decisions were founded.

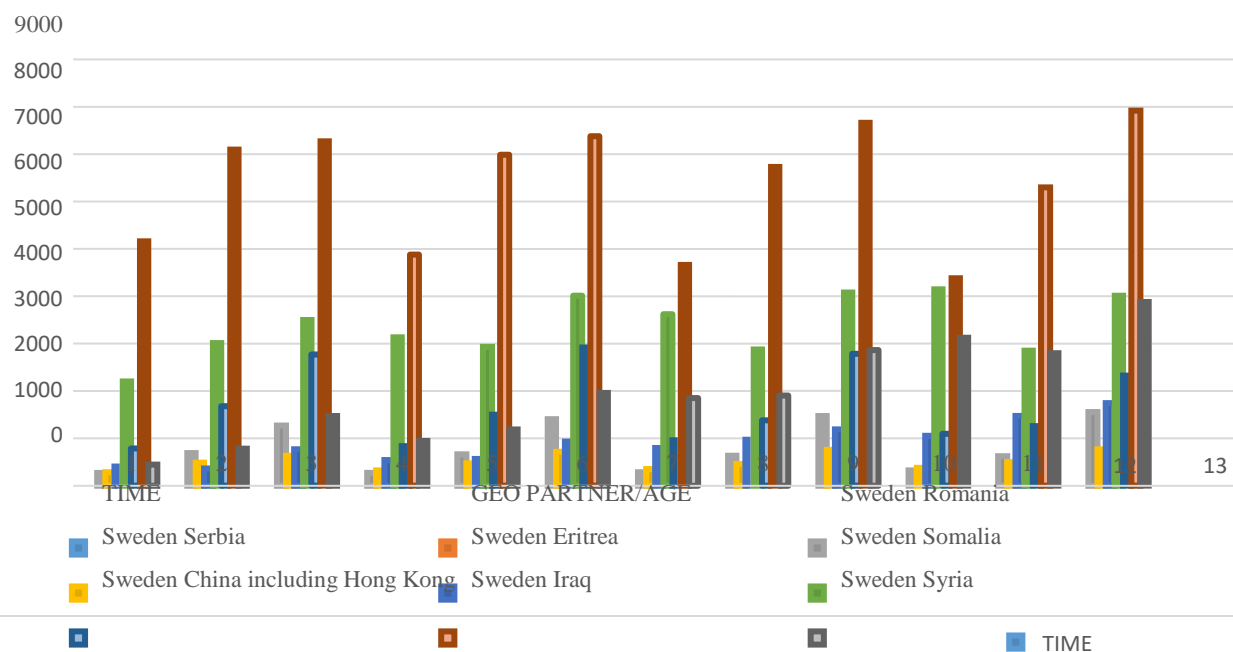


Graphic 7 (<http://appsso.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/nui/submitViewTableAction.do>) deals only with family reason since Eurostat data shows minors and very young adults are likely to be granted permits for family reasons rather than for remunerated activities or even education. Syrians were once again relevantly numerous in 2015 and 2016, while Somali reached an important level in 2013.

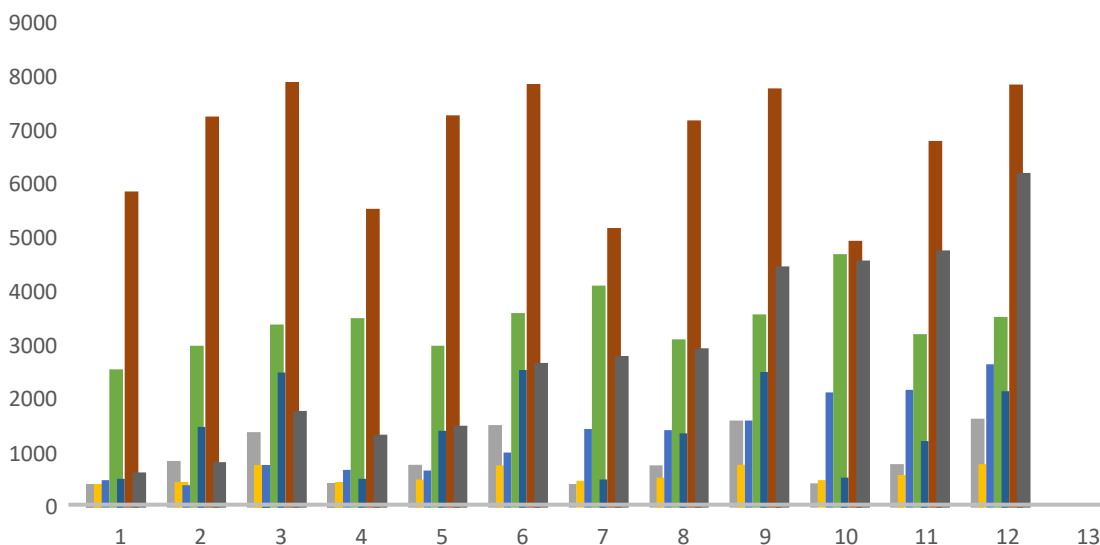
V. YOUTH – Males and Females from 15 to 29 years

1. Origin country

Youth female population on 1 January by sex, age and country of birth



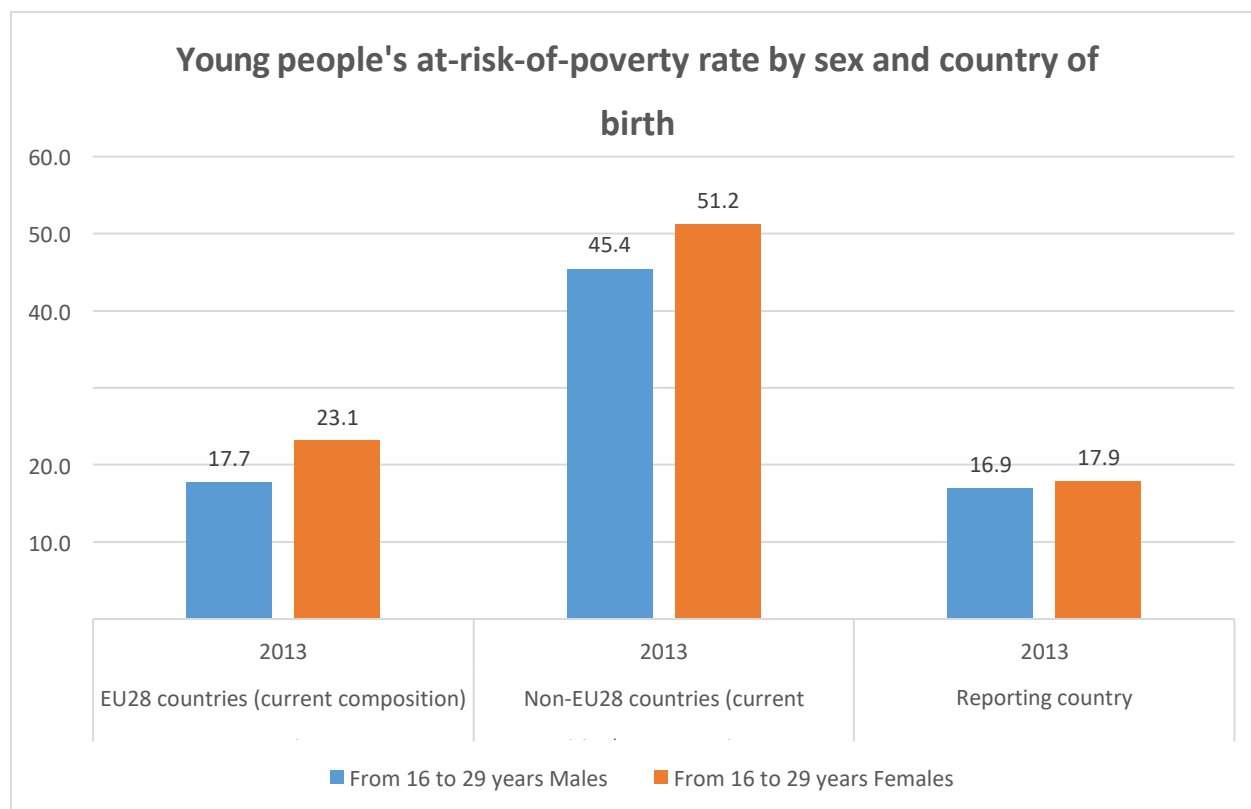
Youth male population on 1 January by sex, age and country of birth



Source: <http://appsso.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/nui/submitViewTableAction.do>

These graphics represents the number of youth females' and males' population coming from Serbia, Romania, Somalia, Iraq, Eritrea, China (including Hong Kong) and Syria from 2013 to 2016. We can see that the principle origin country during this time period is Iraq.

2. Risk of poverty



Source: <http://appsso.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/nui/submitViewTableAction.do>

Young females are principally subject to poverty than young males. The rate of Non-EU28 countries is higher than the other two variables.

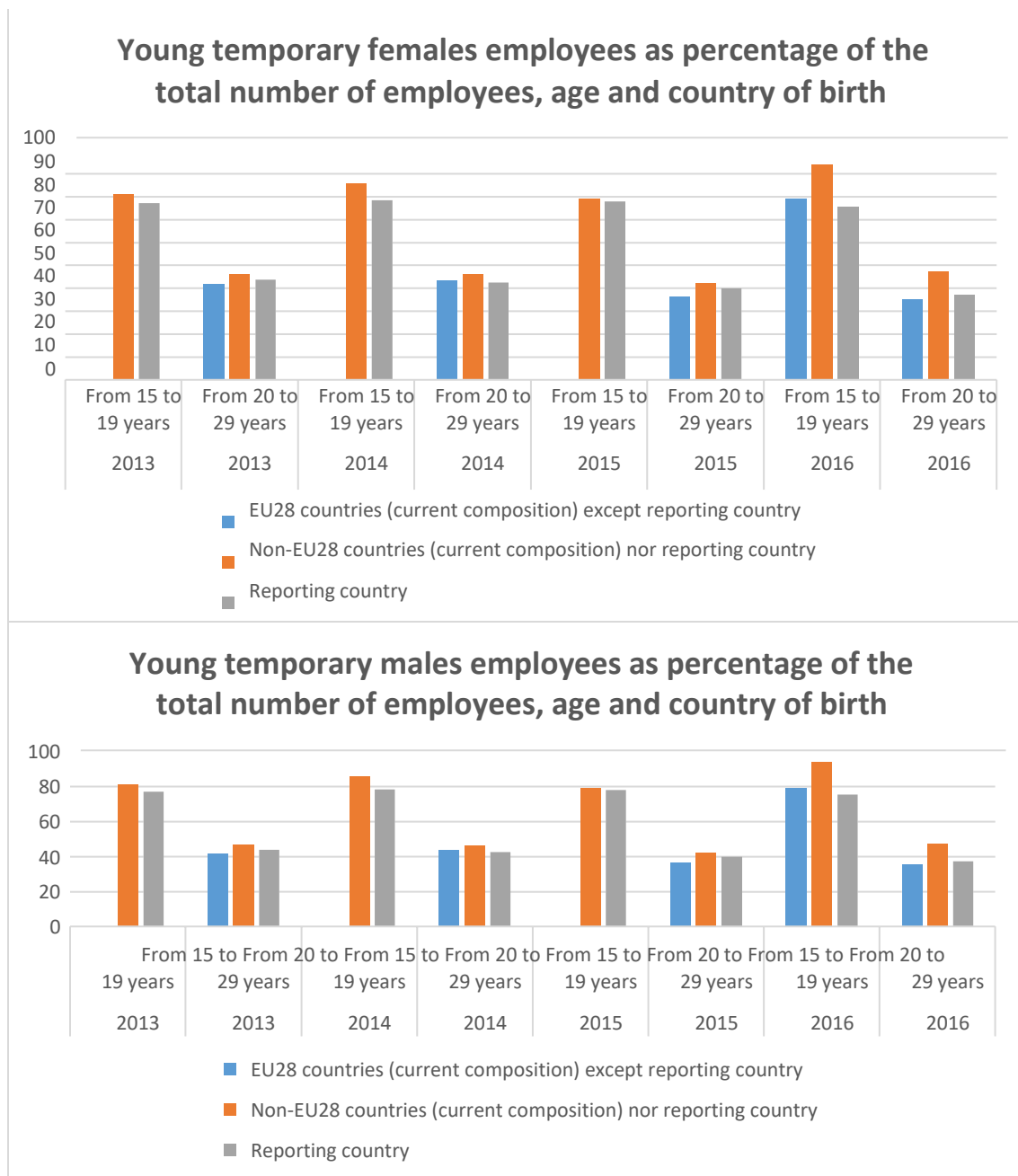
3. Employment Rate



Source: <http://appsso.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/nui/submitViewTableAction.do>

For young people under 25 years the employment rate is less than 50% but for those from 25 to 29 years the situation is clearly different because more than 70 % of Eu 28 countries are employed; for females Non-EU 28 countries only 55% are employed versus 75 % for males.

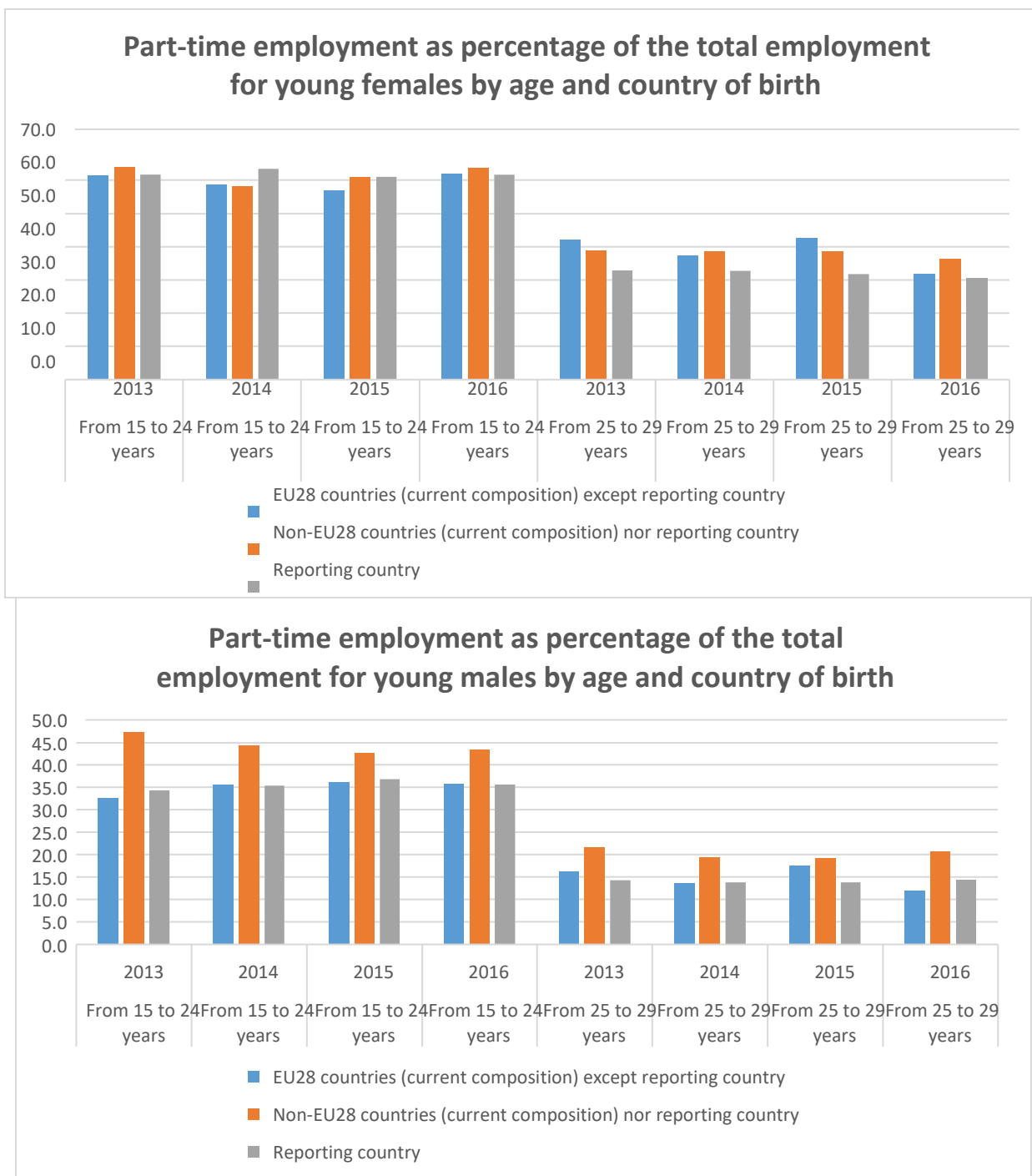
4. Temporary Employment



Source: <http://appsso.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/nui/show.do>

Young EU-28 countries under 20 years do not have a temporary employment. Generally, the rate of males and females Non-EU 28 countries is higher than the other two variables.

5. Part-time employment



In term of percentage of the total employment for young females and males, more than 55% of females under 25 years have a part-time employment against 45% of young males. For those under 30 years the percentage do not pass 20% for males and for females the rate is around 40.

VI. Conclusions

Sweden's policies tend to be responsive to the specific needs of non-EU newcomers by offering them solutions and allowing them to be able to use their rights and invest in their human capital to have equal opportunities as the natives. However, as it has been recommended from the Swedish Red Cross, more effective integration programs for vulnerable groups have to be implemented and have to be adapted to individual needs according to their level of education, health and social situation. Another recommendation is to expand access to procedures to recognize skills and foreign qualification, as well as to expand Swedish language courses and work placements, safeguard the right to family reunification and ensure access to health care for all migrants, including special care for trauma linked to conflicts and migration routes. However, data from 2014 shows that Sweden is ranked 1st out of 38 in the MIPEX classification with a score of 78 which means that its policies are ambitious and efficient.