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A global profile of emigrants to OECD countries: Younger and more skilled migrants from more diverse countries

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A Global Profile of Emigrants to OECD Countries

Younger and More Skilled Migrants from More Diverse Countries

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Abstract

This paper presents new findings on the main characteristics of immigrants living in OECD countries by country of origin, drawing from the updated Database on Immigrants in OECD Countries (DIOC) 2015/16. It describes migrant populations by country of destination and country of origin in 2015/16, as well as the dynamics of international migration to OECD countries since 2000/01. It also presents evidence on overall emigration rates and emigration rates of the highly educated at the regional and country levels. Finally, the paper looks at age patterns in immigrant populations.

Résumé

Ce document présente de nouveaux résultats sur les principales caractéristiques des immigrants vivant dans les pays de l'OCDE par pays d'origine, à partir de la Base de données sur les immigrés dans les pays de l'OCDE (DIOC) 2015/16. Il décrit les populations immigrées par pays de destination et pays d'origine en 2015/16, ainsi que la dynamique des migrations internationales vers les pays de l'OCDE depuis 2000/01. Il présente également des données sur les taux d'émigration globaux et les taux d'émigration des personnes diplômées de l'enseignement supérieur aux niveaux régional et national. Enfin, ce document examine les profils par âge des populations immigrées.

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Introduction

1. International migration has rapidly grown and changed in composition in the last few decades, leading policy-makers to devote greater attention to its determinants and impact. Countries of destination are increasing their efforts to effectively manage migration and integrate migrants while countries of origin put emphasis on protecting their citizens abroad and maintaining their bonds with them. The potential contribution that diasporas can make towards the development of their home countries is now more fully acknowledged. The availability of high quality and internationally comparable data on the size and characteristics of the migrant populations by country of origin is a prerequisite for proper analysis, as well as to the implementation of effective policies by countries on both ends of the migration corridors.

2. High quality, reliable and internationally comparable data on international migration are scarce due to a variety of reasons. In the last decade, substantial efforts were made to fill this void. The compilation of original data on migrant stocks from a large number of destination countries, namely the Database on Immigrants in OECD Countries (DIOC), undertaken by the OECD, represents one of them. It was first released in 2008 based on the 2000/01 census round. It was then updated using data collected in 2005/06 and again in 2010/11. Lastly, the most recent update of DIOC is compiled using data from 35 countries collected in 2015/16.

3. DIOC provides a detailed picture of the main characteristics of immigrants living in OECD countries by country of origin. Taking advantage of the availability of data at four different points in time, the updated database allows addressing various questions such as the following: How did migrant populations change over time? Particularly, what are the key origin countries of migrants in the OECD destinations? To which extent do recent migrants differ from the earlier cohorts? Which countries receive the largest share of highly educated migrants? What do we know about brain drain and its evolution by country of origin?

4. The purpose of this paper is to answer some of these questions and to present the basic findings drawn from the updated DIOC 2015/16. The first section of this paper presents the Database on Immigrants in OECD Countries (DIOC) in detail, its key variables and country coverage. Section 2 describes migrant populations both by country of destination and country of origin in 2015/16, as well as the dynamics of international migration to OECD countries since 2000/01. Section 3 presents the evidence on overall emigration rates and emigration rates of the highly skilled at the regional and country levels. Finally, section 4 looks at age patterns in immigrant populations.

Main findings

- The adult (15+) immigrant population of OECD countries has reached 120 million in 2015/16, up from 78 million in 2000/01. These immigrants account for 54% of the world immigrant population and represent 12% of the total population of OECD countries.
- Europe is the main region of origin of immigrants in OECD countries, with 41.5 million immigrants (about 35% of the total), followed by Asia (31 million, 26% of the total), Latin America (30 million, 25% of the total) and Africa (12 million, 10%

of the total). North America and Oceania account together for only about 3% of immigrants living in OECD countries.

- Since the start of the 21st century, the main origin countries of immigrants living in OECD countries have changed significantly. While Mexico remains the top origin country, with 11.7 million emigrants, several other origin countries dropped significantly down the ranking between 2000/01 and 2015/16, notably the United Kingdom, Germany, Italy and Turkey.
- Several countries experienced a spectacular progression, in terms of both their place in the ranking and their number of emigrants, in particular China, India, Poland, Romania and the Philippines.
- In 2015/16, India and China were the second and third main origin countries of immigrants living in OECD countries, with 4.8 million and 4.6 million migrants respectively, over one quarter of whom arrived since 2010/11.
- Migration from Eastern Europe also increased significantly, against a backdrop of greater opportunities for mobility within the European Union, as reflected in the increase of the number of migrants from Poland (+79% between 2000/01 and 2015/16) and from Romania (+213%), and the significant share of recent migrants in their number.
- The main destination countries for immigrants within the OECD area remained virtually unchanged between 2000/01 and 2015/16. In 2015/16, the United States was still the main destination country, with 46 million immigrants, or 39% of all migrants living in OECD countries. Germany accounted for 10% of the total, while the United Kingdom, Canada and France received 6% to 7% of migrants residing in OECD countries.
- Between 2000/01 and 2015/16, there was a sharp increase in the immigrant population in Italy (+174% between 2000/01 and 2015/16) and in Spain (+175%), due in part to greater mobility within the European Union.
- The largest corridor of migration towards OECD countries is the Mexico – United States corridor, with 11.5 million immigrants, almost 10% of the total number of adult immigrants living in OECD countries. In total, the 20 main corridors account for 30% of all immigration to OECD countries, with only a handful of different destinations (United States, Germany, France, Italy, Australia), illustrating the high concentration of immigrants across destination countries. By contrast, each origin country represented in the 20 main corridors appears only once, reflecting the much more pronounced diversity of origin countries.
- In 2015/16, one-third of all adult immigrants in OECD countries had a tertiary education. This share was much higher in countries with selective migration policies, such as Canada (60%) and Australia (47%), but much lower in some European countries, such as Slovenia (11%), Italy (12%) and Greece (19%).
- Over the last 15 years, there has been a continuous increase in the level of education of immigrants residing in OECD countries, and a simultaneous decline in the proportion of poorly educated immigrants. In total, between 2000/01 and 2015/16, the number of tertiary-educated immigrants increased by around 20 million, while the number of low-educated immigrants increased by only five million.

- In 2000/01, the proportion of high-educated immigrants was virtually identical among recent migrants and long-standing migrants born in OECD countries. However, over the past 15 years, the average level of education of recent immigrants has risen at a faster pace. This difference was not observed for migrants from non-OECD countries, which reflects an increase in the temporary migration of highly educated individuals between OECD countries, a trend likely driven by increasing intra-European mobility.
- Among the countries most affected by emigration, small-size islands in the Pacific region and the Caribbean have a prominent position. The emigration rate to the OECD area of some of these countries can be as high as 30%. In Europe, Balkan countries are among the largest exporters of migrants. In contrast, few countries worldwide have emigration rates to the OECD area of less than 1%, including several G20 countries.
- Overall, the emigration rates of the highly educated are typically higher than the total emigration rates. This distinction is, however, more marked in the poorest origin countries, where the emigration rate of the low educated are extremely low.
- The overall emigration rate of highly educated individuals towards OECD countries was 16% in 2015/16. In comparison, that of the low educated was 5%. Some countries have high-skilled emigration rates of more than 40% (e.g. Guyana, Trinidad and Tobago, Mauritius, Liberia, Jamaica, Haiti, Fiji).
- India has the largest high-skilled diaspora in the OECD area, with over 3 million tertiary-educated migrants, followed by China (2 million) and the Philippines (1.8 million). OECD countries themselves have large numbers of high-skilled emigrants: the United Kingdom has 1.7 million and Germany has 1.4 million.
- Across all education levels, there is little difference in the emigration rate of men and women born in OECD countries. This is not the case for non-OECD countries of birth: while the emigration rates of low-educated men and women are similar, highly-educated women born in non-OECD countries are significantly more likely to emigrate towards the OECD area than their male counterparts.
- In 2015/16, among immigrants aged 15 and older living in OECD countries, about 10% were aged 15-24, 74% were aged 25-64 and 16% were aged 65+. In the last 15 years, this distribution has shifted significantly, with an increasing share of migrants in the intermediary and older age groups, and a declining share of younger migrants.
- The intermediary age group (25-64) represents a much higher share among immigrants than in the total population (10 percentage points more in 2015/16), while both the younger and older groups are smaller among the foreign-born. Overall, immigrants contribute to increase the share of prime-age individuals in the adult population of OECD countries.

1. The Database on Immigrants in OECD Countries: 15 years of data

5. The Database on Immigrants in OECD Countries (DIOC) was constructed with the aim of providing reliable and internationally comparable data on immigrants living in OECD countries by country of origin. In this context, immigrants are defined as individuals living in a country other than their country of birth. DIOC therefore relies on data collected by destination countries with information on country of birth, typically population censuses and administrative registers. Large representative surveys, such as labour force surveys (LFS), are also used as a substitute when data from censuses or registers are unavailable or incomplete. In addition to the number of immigrants living in each OECD country disaggregated by country of origin, DIOC provides detailed information on the demographic and socio-economic characteristics of the immigrant populations, including age, gender, educational attainment, duration of stay, employment status and occupation.

6. Since the first edition, DIOC 2000/01 (OECD, 2008[1]), three updates have been released, describing immigrant populations in OECD countries in 2005/06 (Widmaier and Dumont, 2011[2]), 2010/11 (Arslan et al., 2015[3]) and 2015/16. Based on the most recent and most relevant information available, all those datasets have a similar structure and core variables (see Table 1 for details on the variables included in the different versions of DIOC). They are designed to be comparable over time to the extent possible, in order to capture the dynamics of global migration trends, but also the changes occurring for specific countries of destination, countries of origin and migration corridors.

Table 1. Coverage and content of DIOC over time

	DIOC 2000/01	DIOC extended (DIOC-E) 2000/01	DIOC 2005/06	DIOC 2010/11	DIOC extended (DIOC-E) 2010/11	DIOC 2015/16
Number of countries	28	100	27	33	88	35
Country of residence	x	x	x	x	X	x
Country of birth	x	x(*)	x	x	x(*)	x
Nationality	x	x(*)	x	x	x(*)	x
Gender	x	x	x	x	x	x
Age	x	x	x	x	x	x
Educational attainment	x	x	x	x	x	x
Field of study	x			x		
Duration of stay	x		x	x		x
Labour force status	x	x	x	x	x	x
Occupation	x	x	x	x		x
Sector of activity	x			x		

Note: (*) For DIOC-E 2000/01 and 2010/11, in some countries, immigrants are identified based on nationality and not country of birth. Nationality is not separately available for these datasets.

7. DIOC has data for almost all OECD countries and the coverage has increased over time, accounting for the expanding membership of the Organisation, but also additional efforts to collect data for countries that had not participated in earlier rounds. In terms of origin countries, virtually all countries in the world are captured.

8. In addition to OECD destination countries, extended versions of DIOC (DIOC-E) have been produced in 2000/01 (Dumont, Spielvogel and Widmaier, 2010[4]) and 2010/11 (OECD, 2015[5]) and include many non-OECD destination countries.

9. For DIOC 2015/16, the different combinations of variables available are published and made publicly available online at www.oecd.org/migration/dioc.htm in four different files (see Table 2). Data sources and limitations are discussed in the Appendix. Additional detailed information, such as categories and classifications for the different variables, as well as a detailed exposition of special cases and adjustments, is provided with the data in a methodological document.

Table 2. Variables available in DIOC 2015/16

	File A	File B	File C	File D
Main topic	Nationality and age	Duration of stay	Labour force status	Occupation
Reference population	All persons	Persons aged 15+	Persons aged 15+	Employed persons aged 15+
Variables:	- Country of residence	- Country of residence	- Country of residence	- Country of residence
	- Country of birth	- Country of birth	- Country of birth	- Country of birth
	- Gender	- Gender	- Gender	- Gender
	- Age	- Duration of stay	- Age	- Occupation
	- Education level	- Education level	- Education level	- Education level
	- Nationality		- Labour force status	

2. An overview of immigrant populations in OECD countries in 2015/16

2.1. How many immigrants live in OECD countries?

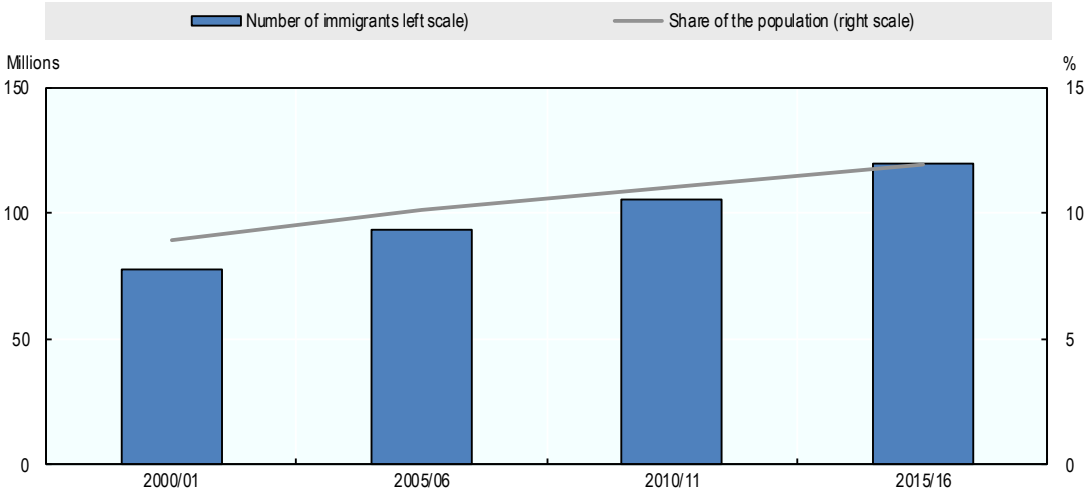
10. The adult (15+) foreign-born population of OECD countries has reached 120 million in 2015/16, compared to 78 million in 2000/01 (population aged 15 and above, Figure 1).[1] In 2015/16, according to UN data, immigrants living in OECD countries represented 54% of the world immigrant population (15+), compared to 52% in 2000/2001. (United Nations, 2017[6]). During the same period 2000-2015, the share of OECD countries in the world population (15+) has decreased from 20% to 18%. Immigrants are therefore increasingly concentrating in OECD countries.

11. The share of immigrants in the population of OECD countries, which averaged 12% in 2015/16 (compared to 9% in 2000/01), is higher than in most non-OECD countries. There are however significant differences across OECD countries: as shown in Figure 2, the share of foreign-born individuals reaches 49% in Luxembourg and is also significantly higher than average in countries such as Australia (33%), Switzerland (32%), New Zealand (29%), Israel (28.5%) and Canada (27%). Several European countries also have a high share of immigrants in their population, for instance Austria, Ireland and Sweden, with 20% each. In the United States, immigrants account for 17.5% of the population. The share of immigrants is also above the OECD average in Germany (17%), the United Kingdom (15.5%), France (14%) and Spain (13.5%). At the other end of the spectrum, several OECD countries have very small immigrant populations: this is for example the case of Mexico, with slightly more than 0.5%, Japan (1.5%), Poland (less than 2%), Turkey (2%) and Chile (3%). East European countries, such as the Slovak Republic (3.5%), the Czech Republic (less than 5%) and Hungary (5.5%) also have low shares of immigrants.

12. The share of immigrants in the population has increased in almost all OECD countries in the last 15 years, with the largest increases recorded in Luxembourg (+12 percentage points), Ireland (+9 pp), Norway and Spain (+8 pp each), Switzerland (+7 pp), New Zealand and Italy (+6.5 pp each).

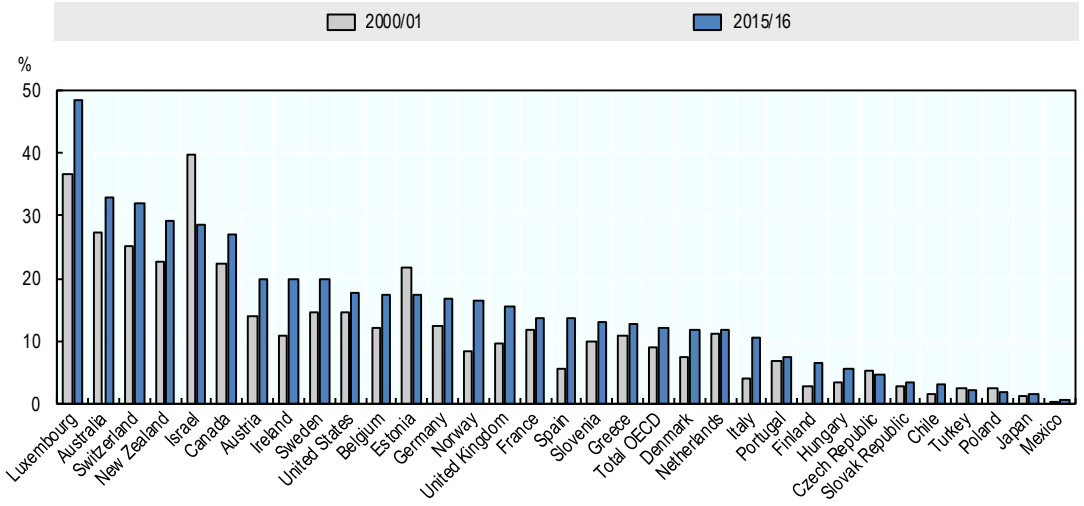
[1] For the 32 OECD countries for which comparable data is available.

Figure 1. Immigrant population (15+) in OECD countries, 2000/01 to 2015/16



Source: Database on Immigrants in OECD Countries (DIOC) 2000/01, 2005/06, 2010/11 and 2015/16.

Figure 2. Share of immigrants in the population (15+) in OECD countries, 2000/01 and 2015/16



Source: Database on Immigrants in OECD Countries (DIOC) 2000/01 and 2015/16.

2.2. Key characteristics of immigrant populations in OECD countries

13. Beyond the number of immigrants and the share of the population they represent, there are significant differences across OECD countries in terms of the main characteristics of the immigrant populations (Table 3). A first notable dimension is the share of immigrants born in other OECD countries, as it indicates whether the immigrant population originates mostly from countries with a similar level of development, or from poorer countries. Among the whole immigrant population living in OECD countries, 38% were born in another OECD country. This share ranges from less than 10% in Slovenia, Chile and Estonia to more than 70% in Ireland, the Slovak Republic or Luxembourg.

Geographical location and historical migration patterns largely explain these differences. For two-thirds of OECD countries, however, this share ranges from 15% to 50%.

14. There is much more homogeneity across countries in the share of women among immigrants: the OECD average is 51.8% and it ranges from 48% to 56% for most countries. For countries with very low or very high shares of immigrant women, this is often due to a skewed age distribution among immigrants. For example, both Estonia and Poland have a share of women among immigrants exceeding 58%, but this is because the share of older immigrants is particularly high in these countries (and because women have higher life expectancy than men).

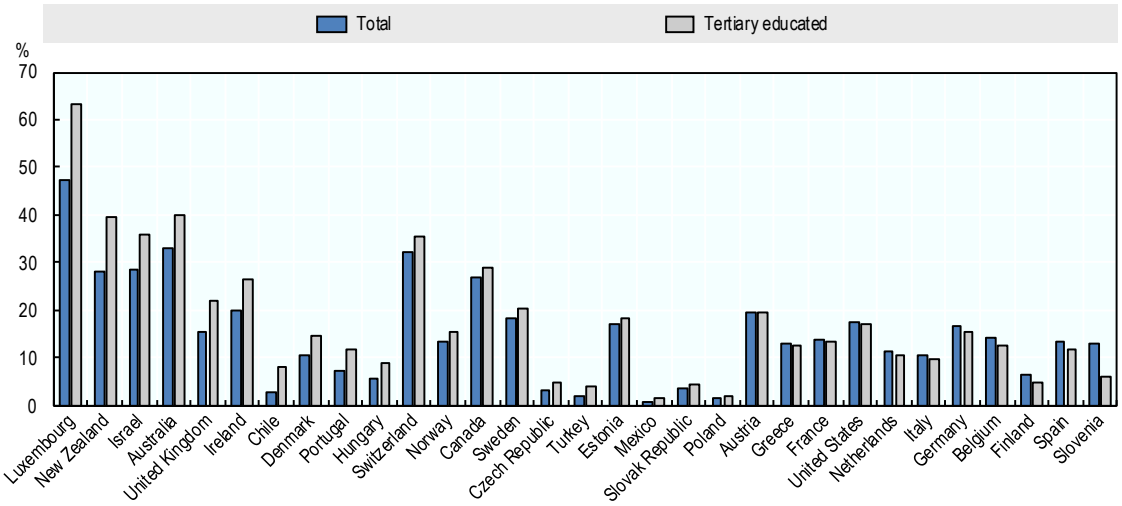
15. Overall, the share of young people (15-24) among adult immigrants in OECD countries is only 10%, while the share of older individuals (65+) is close to 16%. As can be expected, there is a robust positive correlation across countries between the share of younger individuals and the share of recently arrived migrants (duration of stay of five years or less). Countries with a very low share of young immigrants, such as Estonia, Israel, Poland or the Slovak Republic also have very low shares of recent immigrants. On the other hand, countries with high shares of recent immigrants, such as Chile, Norway or Turkey, tend to have relatively high shares of young immigrants. This relationship is not systematic, however, because the share of recent immigrants depends on migration policies and return behaviour.

16. A key dimension captured by DIOC is the educational attainment of immigrants.[2] Overall, in 2015/16, one-third of all adult immigrants in OECD countries had a tertiary education. This share was much higher in countries with selective migration policies, such as Canada (60% of tertiary-educated immigrants) and Australia (47%), but much lower in some European countries, such as Slovenia (11%), Italy (12%) and Greece (19%). This information is essential to better understand the impact of migration policies in destination countries, but also country-specific integration challenges. This highlights an important value added of DIOC: the ability to provide assessment of key characteristics of immigrant populations across OECD countries in a comparable framework.

17. Overall, in many OECD countries, the share of immigrants among the tertiary-educated mirrors their share in the total adult population: for about half of OECD countries, there is a difference of less than two percentage points in absolute value between these two shares (Figure 3). For several key destination countries, the difference is slightly negative: in the United States, the share of foreign-born among the tertiary-educated is 0.5 percentage points lower than their share in the total population. This is also the case in Germany (-1.2 pp), France (-0.4 pp), Italy (-0.9 pp), Spain (-1.8 pp). There are some countries, however, where the share of foreign-born among the tertiary-educated is significantly higher than in the total population: in Luxembourg, 63% of those with tertiary education are foreign-born, 16 percentage points more than in the total population. The difference is also quite large in other countries with relatively large share of immigrants, such as New Zealand (+11.2 pp), Israel (+7.4 pp), Australia (+7 pp), the United Kingdom (+6.7 pp), Ireland (+6.2 pp), and to a lesser extent, Switzerland (+3.4 pp) and Canada (+2 pp).

[2] It should be noted that DIOC does not contain information on where education was acquired, nor the age at which an immigrant first arrived in his/her destination country.

Figure 3. Share of immigrants in the total population and among the tertiary-educated (15+) in OECD countries, 2015/16



Source: Database on Immigrants in OECD Countries (DIOC) 2000/01 and 2015/16.

18. Looking at the characteristics of immigrants by region of origin provides additional insights (Table 4). First, in terms of geographical distribution, Europe is the main region of origin of immigrants in OECD countries, with 41.5 million immigrants (about 35% of the total), followed by Asia (31 million, 26% of the total), Latin America (30 million, 25% of the total) and Africa (12 million, 10% of the total). North America and Oceania account together for only about 3% of immigrants living in OECD countries.

19. There is significant heterogeneity across regions of origin in terms of key socio-demographics characteristics of immigrant populations. For example, immigrants from African countries are on average less likely to be women than those from Europe (48% vs 53%), the share of younger immigrants is the highest among North American immigrants and the lowest among those born in Europe, while the share of older immigrants is lowest among those born in Latin America. Those arrived recently account for more than one-fifth of the total among Asian immigrants, but less than 12% among Latin American immigrants. Finally, in terms of education, the most educated are the immigrants born in North America (54% with tertiary education) and Asia (47%), while those with the lowest share of tertiary-educated are those born in Latin America (20%). Immigrants from Europe and Africa have an intermediary position, with about 30% of them being tertiary-educated. Detailed information on the gender and education distributions of immigrants by country of origin is provided in the Annex (Table A.2.).

Table 3. Characteristics of the immigrant population aged 15+ in OECD countries, 2015/16

Country of residence	Foreign-born population 15+ (thousands)	Born in OECD countries (%)	Women (%)	Persons aged 15-24 (%)	Persons aged 65+ (%)	Duration of stay 0-5 years (%)	Tertiary educated (%)
Australia	5 791	43.6	51.5	10.6	21.2	19.8	47.4
Austria	1 491	47.4	51.2	11.4	14.0	21.1	25.9
Belgium	1 601	51.2	50.7	11.5	14.7	27.8	26.8
Canada	7 738	30.9	52.3	9.8	22.0	13.9	59.5
Switzerland	2 236	63.2	51.0	7.3	14.0	43.2	33.7
Chili	405	9.6	53.4	20.1	4.3	44.8	-
Czech Republic	415	39.1	42.5	9.2	4.9	13.5	29.4
Germany	12 011	43.5	49.5	8.6	15.1	20.0	21.7
Denmark	564	46.7	50.4	14.6	8.8	31.7	41.0
Spain	5 262	20.6	53.4	13.3	7.3	11.8	24.2
Estonia	190	9.7	58.7	3.0	41.1	6.7	35.5
Finland	299	40.1	49.3	12.6	5.6	28.7	22.5
France	7 407	32.1	51.8	8.5	22.8	12.9	26.6
United Kingdom	8 116	40.4	52.5	11.6	11.8	21.1	42.1
Greece	1 184	24.8	54.7	9.7	10.6	18.7	19.0
Hungary	460	22.7	50.1	11.0	18.1	15.3	28.6
Ireland	735	72.2	51.1	14.4	6.6	26.0	43.9
Israel	1 744	17.4	55.1	5.4	37.9	5.3	49.3
Italy	5 532	17.5	54.9	10.7	5.3	8.5	12.1
Japan	1 593	30.6	54.5	17.1	8.2	-	-
Luxembourg	228	83.0	51.0	8.7	10.7	7.0	45.8
Mexico	487	64.1	49.9	33.0	10.2	23.2	30.7
Netherlands	1 625	37.7	54.1	8.0	12.2	11.6	26.1
Norway	702	50.4	47.6	12.7	6.3	36.1	39.0
New Zealand	1 082	40.2	50.9	14.4	16.3	20.2	39.2
Poland	565	33.4	58.3	5.7	67.7	5.3	21.2
Portugal	661	26.9	56.2	11.1	8.1	7.2	27.8
Slovak Republic	160	77.8	49.6	4.7	30.0	6.1	20.9
Slovenia	230	8.7	43.4	6.2	18.0	27.8	10.8
Sweden	1 624	38.5	50.3	12.2	15.4	29.2	32.5
Turkey	1 358	29.5	54.5	13.1	13.7	38.3	24.4
United States	46 151	40.4	51.6	9.7	15.7	13.8	34.0
Total OECD	**119 648**	**37.8**	**51.8**	**10.2**	**15.7**	**16.5**	**33.2**

Source: Database on Immigrants in OECD Countries (DIOC) 2015/16.

Table 4. Characteristics of the immigrant population aged 15+ in OECD countries by region of birth, 2015/16

Region of birth	Foreign-born population 15+ (thousands)	Women (%)	Persons aged 15-24 (%)	Persons aged 65+ (%)	Duration of stay 0-5 years (%)	Tertiary educated (%)
Africa	12 510	48.2	10.3	13.5	15.9	30.8
Asia	31 297	52.3	11.9	12.9	22.2	46.9
Europe	41 572	52.8	8.2	21.2	15.9	32.2
North America	2 533	52.0	15.6	18.4	18.3	53.7
Oceania	1 514	50.2	11.5	12.5	16.6	37.9
Latin America	29 980	51.6	10.7	11.9	11.7	20.1

Source: Database on Immigrants in OECD Countries (DIOC) 2015/16.

2.3. Main destination countries, origin countries and corridors

20. The main destination countries for immigrants within the OECD area remained virtually unchanged between 2000/01 and 2015/16, with the top 10 countries welcoming between 85% and 90% of the total migrant population (Table 5). In 2015/16, the United States was the main destination country, with 46 million immigrants, or 39% of all migrants living in OECD countries, a proportion that has increased regularly since 2000/01. Germany maintained its second place with 10% of the total, while the United Kingdom, Canada and France received 6% to 7% of migrants residing in OECD countries. The most noticeable changes in the list of the main destination countries over this period are the sharp increases in the immigrant population in Italy (+174% between 2000/01 and 2015/16) and in Spain (+175%), due in part to greater mobility within the European Union.

21. During the more recent period, between 2010/11 and 2015/16, different trends emerged in the main destination countries. The number of immigrants in Australia, Germany and Canada increased by over 15% and by almost 25% in Italy, while the pace of growth was slower in the United Kingdom, France and particularly in Spain. These changes only partially reflect the inflow of refugees into some OECD countries in recent years, as the sources of the data used in DIOC do not always incorporate the number of people entering a country immediately. This time lag is potentially significant with regard to refugees, who typically secure their status several months after their arrival in the country as asylum seekers.

Table 5. Number of immigrants (15+) in the top 10 OECD destination countries, 2000/01 to 2015/16 (in millions)

2000/01		2005/06		2010/11		2015/16		Main destination countries 2015/16	Growth 2000/01-2015/16 (%)
United States	31.4	United States	38.6	United States	40.9	United States	46.2	United States	47.0
Germany	7.8	Germany	10.1	Germany	10.4	Germany	12.0	Germany	53.3
France	5.6	France	6.4	United Kingdom	7.4	United Kingdom	8.1	United Kingdom	80.2
Canada	5.4	Canada	6.1	France	6.8	Canada	7.7	Canada	44.5
United Kingdom	4.5	United Kingdom	5.9	Canada	6.7	France	7.4	France	32.3
Australia	3.9	Australia	4.1	Spain	5.1	Australia	5.8	Australia	50.0
Italy	2.0	Spain	3.8	Australia	5.0	Italy	5.5	Italy	173.8
Spain	1.9	Italy	2.8	Italy	4.5	Spain	5.3	Spain	174.8
Israel	1.8	Israel	1.8	Switzerland	1.9	Switzerland	2.2	Switzerland	53.8
Switzerland	1.5	Switzerland	1.5	Israel	1.7	Israel	1.7	Israel	-1.5
Total top 10	65.7	Total top 10	81.2	Total top 10	90.3	Total top 10	102.0	Total top 10	55.2
Total	78.1	Total	91.9	Total	105.7	Total	119.6	Total	53.3

Source: Database on Immigrants in OECD Countries (DIOC) 2000/01, 2005/06, 2010/11 and 2015/16.

22. By contrast, since the start of the 21st century, the main origin countries of immigrants living in OECD countries have changed significantly (Table 6). Even though Mexico remains the top origin country for migrant communities in the OECD area, with 11.7 million people, several other origin countries dropped significantly down the ranking between 2000/01 and 2015/16, notably the United Kingdom and Germany which fell second to fifth and from third to seventh respectively. Italy, which was the fourth-placed origin country in 2000/01, fell to 12th in 2015/16, while Turkey fell from sixth to tenth. At the same time, several countries experienced a spectacular progression, in terms of both

their place in the ranking and their number of emigrants, in particular China, India, Poland, Romania and the Philippines. In 2015/16, India and China were ranked second and third respectively in the list of the main origin countries for immigrants living in OECD countries, with 4.8 million and 4.6 million migrants respectively, over one quarter of whom arrived during the previous five years, which reflects the strong recent surge in immigration from these countries. Migration from Eastern Europe also increased significantly, against a backdrop of greater opportunities for mobility within the European Union, as reflected in the increase of the number of migrants from Poland (+79% between 2000/01 and 2015/16) and from Romania (+213%), and the significant share of recent migrants in their number.

Table 6. Number of immigrants (15+) born in the top 10 origin countries and living in OECD countries, 2000/01 to 2015/16 (in millions)

2000/01		2005/06		2010/11		2015/16		Main origin countries 2015/16	Growth 2000/01-2015/16 (%)
Mexico	8.3	Mexico	10.8	Mexico	11.3	Mexico	11.7	Mexico	40.5
United Kingdom	3.3	United Kingdom	3.4	United Kingdom	3.7	India	4.8	India	144.8
Germany	3.2	Germany	2.9	China	3.6	China	4.6	China	123.0
Italy	2.4	Poland	2.9	India	3.6	Poland	3.9	Poland	79.5
Poland	2.2	India	2.8	Germany	3.5	United Kingdom	3.7	United Kingdom	12.5
Turkey	2.1	China	2.7	Poland	3.3	Philippines	3.5	Philippines	83.1
China	2.1	Turkey	2.6	Philippines	3.0	Germany	3.5	Germany	12.5
Russia	2.0	Philippines	2.5	Romania	2.7	Romania	3.5	Romania	213.2
India	2.0	Russia	2.4	Turkey	2.6	Morocco	3.0	Morocco	77.4
Philippines	1.9	Italy	2.3	Morocco	2.6	Turkey	2.5	Turkey	19.4
Total top 10	29.4	Total top 10	35.4	Total top 10	39.9	Total top 10	44.9	Total top 10	52.8
Total	78.1	Total	91.9	Total	105.7	Total	119.6	Total	53.3

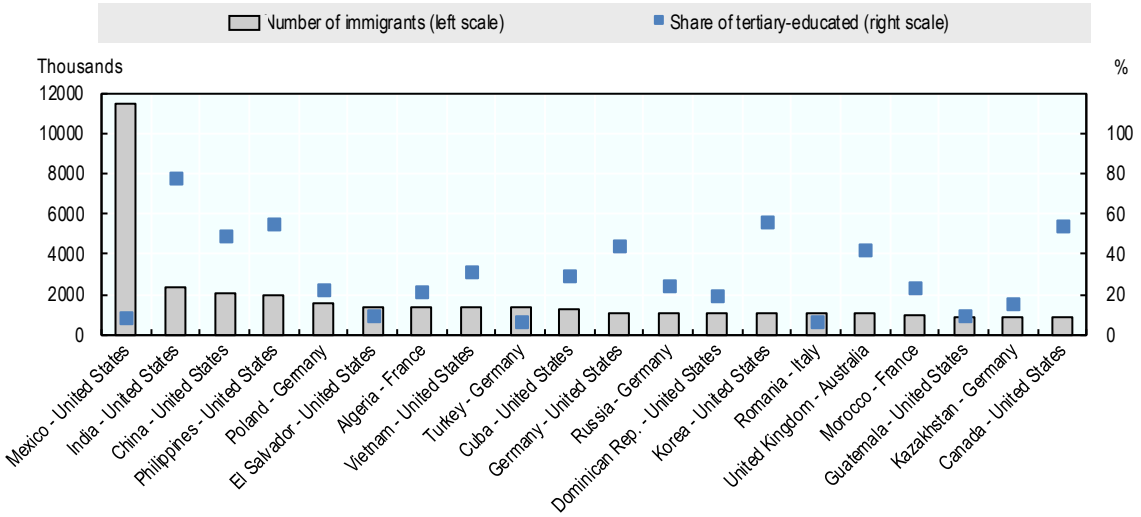
Source: Database on Immigrants in OECD Countries (DIOC) 2000/01, 2005/06, 2010/11 and 2015/16.

23. Combining information on place of residence and place of birth allows the identification of the main migration corridors towards OECD countries (Figure 4). The largest one, by far, is the Mexico – United States corridor, with 11.5 million immigrants, almost 10% of the total number of immigrants (15+) living in OECD countries. The 20 main corridors account for 30% of all immigration to OECD countries (out of about 5 000 bilateral corridors with a recorded number of immigrants). However, none of the other large corridors amounts to more than one-fifth of the Mexican community in the United States. Considering its weight as a destination country, it is not surprising that the United States appears as a destination in 12 out of the 20 main corridors. The other destination countries appearing in the list are Germany (with immigrants coming from Poland, Turkey, Russia and Kazakhstan), France (with Algerian and Moroccan immigrants), Italy (Romanian immigrants) and Australia (British immigrants). Even further down in the rankings, few additional destination countries are represented (mostly Spain, the United Kingdom and Canada), illustrating the high concentration of immigrants across destination countries. By contrast, each origin country represented in the 20 main corridors appears only once, reflecting the much more pronounced diversity of origin countries and the idiosyncratic nature of the main migration corridors, which are mostly shaped by geographical proximity and historical ties between origin and destination countries.

24. There is a striking diversity in the education distribution of immigrants across these top corridors. Some of them indeed exhibit a very low share of tertiary-educated persons;

this is the case for example for Mexico – United States (9%), El Salvador – United States (9%), Turkey – Germany (7%) and Romania – Italy (7%). Other major corridors, by contrast, include a majority of tertiary-educated immigrants: this is the case of some of the large corridors connecting Asian countries (India, China, Philippines, Korea) to the United States, as well as the main intra-OECD corridors (Germany – United States, United Kingdom – Australia, Canada – United States).

Figure 4. Top 20 migration corridors towards OECD countries, 2015/16



Source: Database on Immigrants in OECD Countries (DIOC) 2015/16.

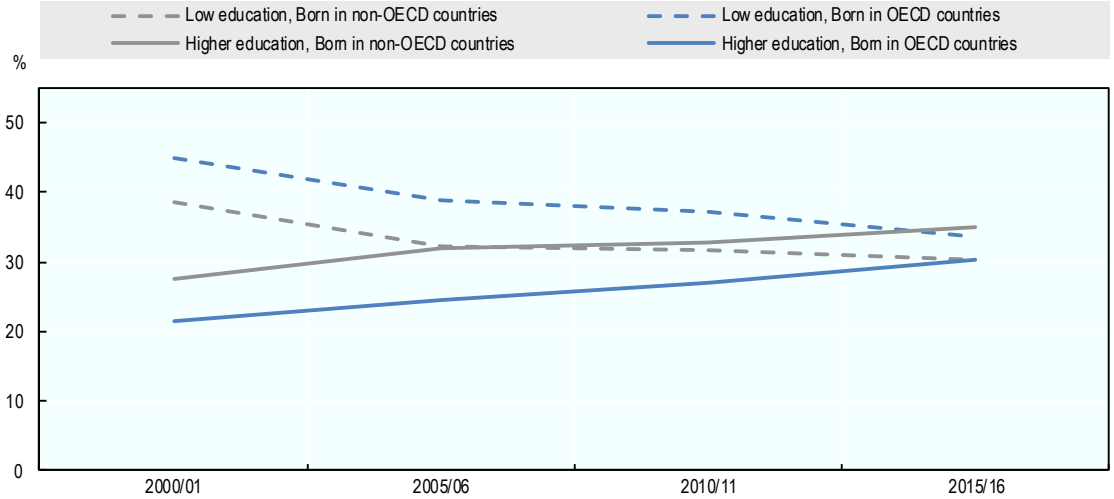
2.4. The educational attainment of immigrants has increased significantly

25. Over the last 15 years, there has been a continuous increase in the level of education of immigrants residing in OECD countries, and a simultaneous decline in the proportion of poorly educated immigrants (Figure 5). In 2000/01, 38% of immigrants from non-OECD countries had a low level of educational attainment, and this share was 45% for immigrants from OECD countries. In 2015/16, this was the case for fewer than 30% of non-OECD immigrants and 34% of immigrants born in OECD countries. At the same time, the share of immigrants with a high level of education rose from 27% to 35% for those born outside of the OECD area, and from 21% to 30% for those born in an OECD country. In 2015/16, there were more tertiary-educated foreign-born than low-educated immigrants in OECD countries, which is a complete reversal of the situation in 2000/01.

26. The high share of tertiary-educated individuals among immigrants from outside the OECD area, compared to immigrants born in OED countries, can be explained in part by the closer geographic proximity to a large number of OECD countries (European countries, North American countries, Australia – New Zealand), and by the existence of free-movement zones, such as the European Union. These two factors make it comparatively easier for the less educated to move. In addition, many OECD countries have selective immigration policies, which have a proportionally greater impact on immigrants from non-OECD countries.

27. In total, between 2000/01 and 2015/16, the number of tertiary-educated immigrants increased by around 20 million, while the number of low-educated immigrants increased by only five million.

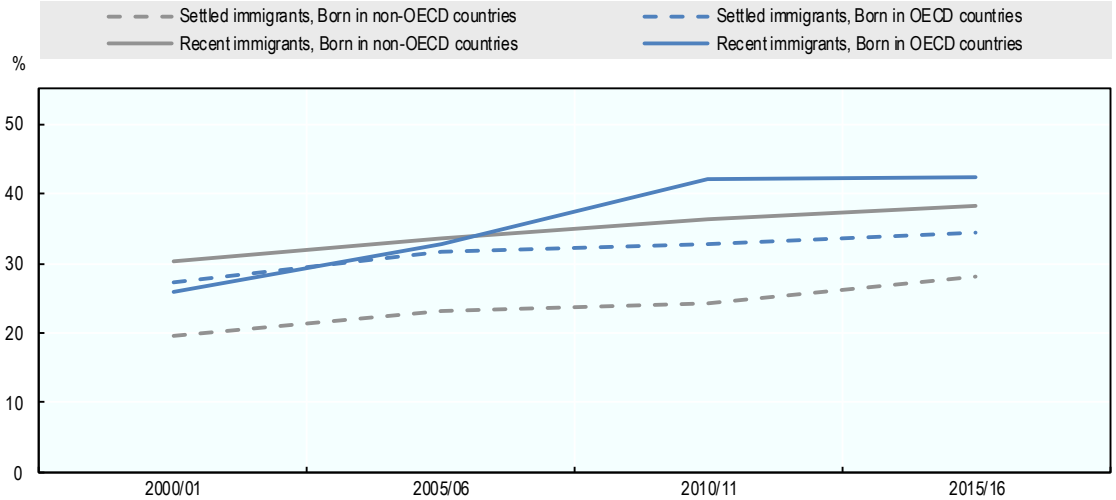
Figure 5. Share of low- and high-educated migrants, by group of countries of birth, 2000/01 to 2015/16



Source: Database on Immigrants in OECD Countries (DIOC) 2000/01, 2005/06, 2010/11 and 2015/16.

28. Accounting for duration of stay reveals a specific trend for tertiary-educated immigrants from OECD countries, compared to immigrants born in non-OECD countries (Figure 6). In 2000/01, the proportion of high-educated immigrants was virtually identical among recent migrants and long-standing migrants born in OECD countries. However, over the past 15 years, the average level of education of recent immigrants has risen at a faster pace. This difference was not observed for migrants from non-OECD countries, which suggests that it mainly reflects an increase in the temporary migration of highly educated individuals from one OECD country to another, with a substantial proportion returning to their origin countries. It is likely that much of this trend is driven by intra-European mobility.

Figure 6. Share of high-educated migrants, by group of countries of birth and duration of stay, 2000/01 to 2015/16



Source: Database on Immigrants in OECD Countries (DIOC) 2000/01, 2005/06, 2010/11 and 2015/16.

3. Emigration rates and "brain drain" estimates

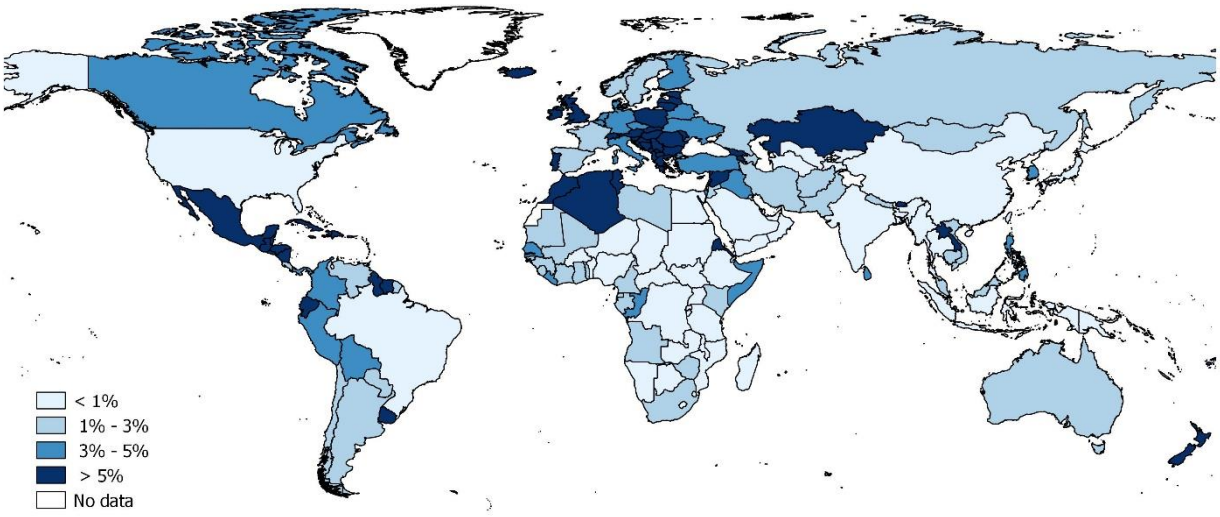
29. Absolute numbers of migration to OECD countries only shed light on one side of the coin, disregarding the origin countries' perspective. Yet, during the past decades of migration research, a large portion of the literature – closely followed by the scrutiny of the media and the public eye – has focused on the extent to which certain origin countries are depleting their population in favour of richer host countries. In particular, the emigration of the "best and brightest", high-skilled individuals has often been at the centre of the debate, under the disputed name of "brain drain" (see also OECD (2016[7])).

30. The Database of Immigrants in OECD Countries (DIOC) allows an estimation of both the total and highly skilled emigration rates, thereby providing a new and updated picture of which countries of origin are affected the most by emigration. Note, however, that only OECD destinations appear in this analysis, hence underestimating the size of phenomenon for some origin countries where most migrants move to non-OECD countries. Total emigration rates for each country of origin, as well as emigration rates for women and the highly-educated, are provided in the Appendix (Table A.2.).

3.1. Total emigration rates to OECD countries

31. Figure 7 presents the 2015/16 total emigration rates, defined as the ratio between the number of emigrants from a specific country living in OECD countries and the total sum of the resident population of this country and emigrants living in OECD countries. Among the countries most affected by emigration, small-size islands have a prominent position. The total emigration rate of Samoa and Tonga reaches as high as 42% in 2015/16, and many other islands across the globe appear among the highest emigration rate countries, such as Jamaica (33%) and Cape Verde (26%). Certain Central and Latin American countries also have substantial emigration rates, including Belize (18%) and Barbados (28%). In Europe, Balkan countries are among the largest sources of migrants. For example, Albania has a total emigration rate of 29%, Bosnia and Herzegovina of 20% and Northern Macedonia of 18%. In contrast, few countries worldwide have emigration rates of less than 1%, including a number of G20 countries (Saudi Arabia, Indonesia, China, Japan, and the United States).

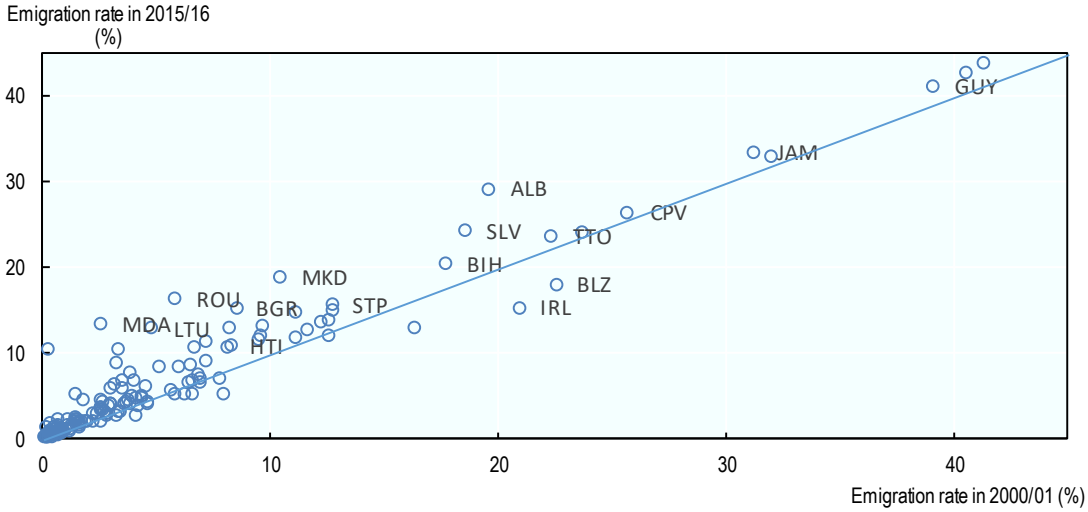
Figure 7. Total emigration rates to OECD countries, 2015/16



Note: The emigration rate is calculated as the ratio between the number of emigrants living in OECD countries and the total sum of the resident population and emigrants living in OECD countries.
Source: Database on Immigrants in OECD Countries (DIOC) 2015/16.

32. On average, emigration rates towards OECD countries have increased from 5.5% in 2000/01 to 6.5% in 2015/16. As shown in Figure 8, some countries have experienced a larger rise. A number of East European countries – in particular, Moldova, Romania and Albania – saw their emigration rates increase by over five percentage points in the last 15 years. Interestingly, several countries lie below the 45 degrees line, meaning that their emigration rates to the OECD area have actually shrunk over time.

Figure 8. Total emigration rates, 2000/01 and 2015/16

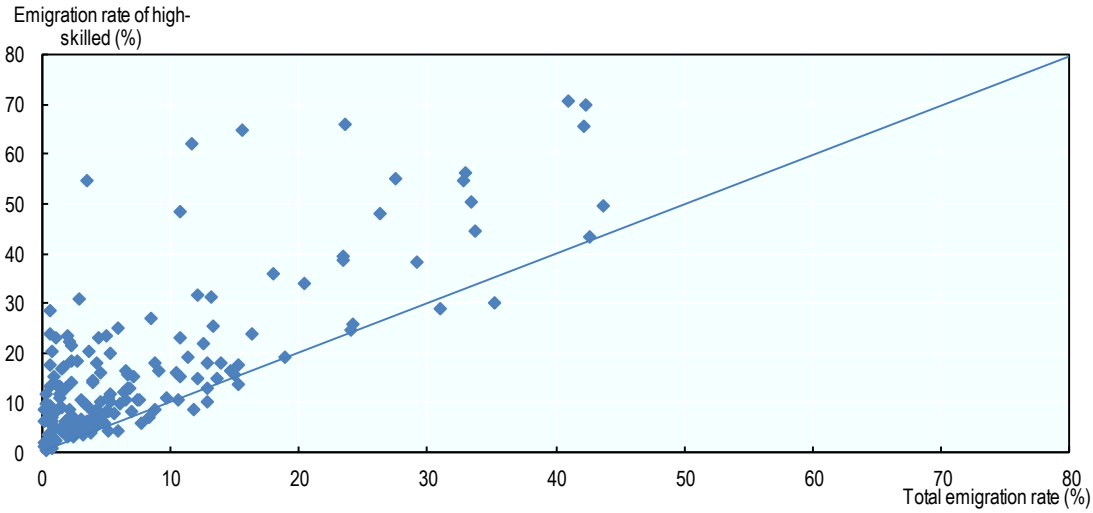


Note: The emigration rate is calculated as the ratio between the number of emigrants living in OECD countries and the total sum of the resident population and emigrants living in OECD countries.
Source: Database on Immigrants in OECD Countries (DIOC) 2000/01 and 2015/16.

3.2. Emigration rates of the highly educated

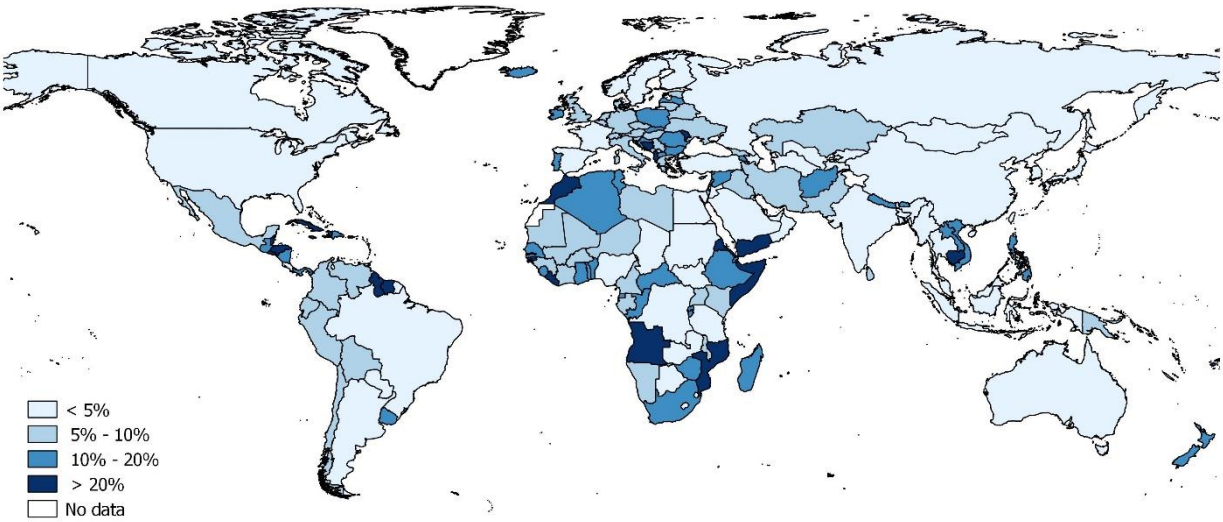
33. Overall, the emigration rates of the highly educated are almost always higher than the total emigration rates (Figure 9). This positive selection of migrants is linked to several factors: not only highly educated individuals typically have lower budget constraints to engage in cross-country migration than lower qualified peers, but also numerous OECD countries have adopted more favourable migration policies for the highly skilled. Figure 10 provides an illustration of this fact: compared to Figure 7, emigration rates of the highly educated are on average higher than total rates, but the geographic distribution is also different, with a pronounced difference for many African countries.

Figure 9. Total emigration rate and emigration rate of the high-skilled, 2015/16



Note: The emigration rate is calculated as the ratio between the number of emigrants living in OECD countries and the total sum of the resident population and emigrants living in OECD countries.
Source: Database on Immigrants in OECD Countries (DIOC) 2015/16.

Figure 10. Emigration rates of the highly educated to OECD countries, 2015/16

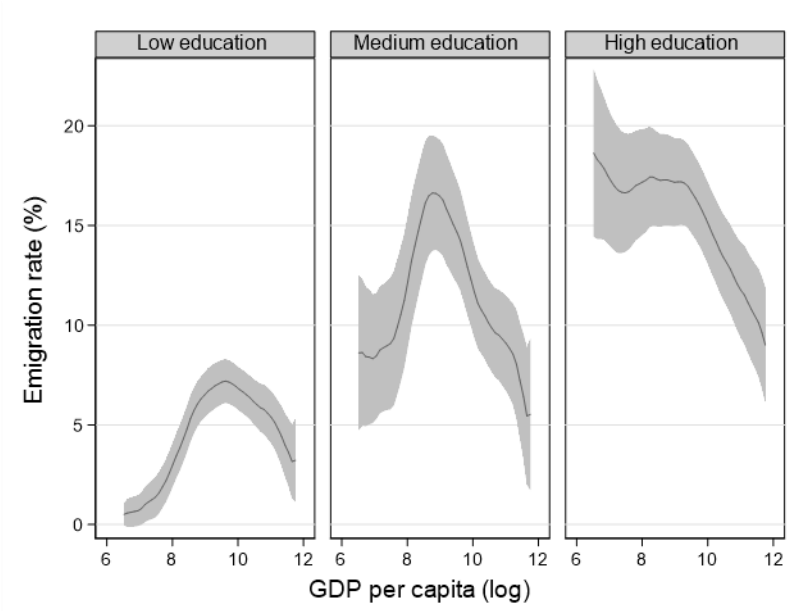


Note: The emigration rate is calculated as the ratio between the number of emigrants living in OECD countries and the total sum of the resident population and emigrants living in OECD countries.
Source: Database on Immigrants in OECD Countries (DIOC) 2015/16.

34. This distinction is however more marked in the poorest origin countries, where the emigration rate of the low skilled are extremely low (Figure 11). As they have poor human capital levels and they are often confronted with significant budget constraints, low educated individuals from poor origin countries are less likely to obtain a job in an OECD country and have little chances of being able to afford such a long-distance migration. In fact, low educated individuals tend to migrate regionally, often to neighbouring countries, especially in developing regions. The emigration rate of the low educated gets higher for those origin countries with a greater GDP per capita, although it drops again for the richest countries, thereby following an inversed U-shape pattern.

35. A similar inversed U-shape pattern is observed for individuals having medium education levels (i.e. secondary education), even though they generally have higher emigration rates. In contrast, tertiary-educated individuals have a monotonous decreasing relationship between their emigration rate and GDP per capita of origin countries. Indeed, highly educated individuals from poor countries have the highest likelihood to reside abroad. This reflects both the relatively low number of highly educated individuals born in these countries and the lack of employment opportunities in certain specialised fields. In addition, many of them actually obtain their education in OECD countries and stay in the host country afterwards.

Figure 11. Emigration rate as a function of GDP per capita by education level, 2015/16



Note: Local regression of the emigration rate on the logarithm of GDP per capita. The grey area corresponds to the 95% confidence interval.
Source: Database on Immigrants in OECD Countries (DIOC) 2015/16 and World Bank.

36. The overall emigration rate of highly educated individuals towards OECD countries is 16% in 2015/16. In comparison, that of the low (medium) educated is 5% (12%). Yet, there is a large heterogeneity across origin countries. For instance, countries such as Mozambique and Somalia have high-skilled emigration rates of roughly 30%, and these double to above 66% in the case of Trinidad and Tobago and Guyana (Table 7). In terms of magnitude of the high-skilled diaspora in the OECD area, India takes the lead, with over 3 million tertiary-educated migrants, followed by China (2 million) and the Philippines (1.8 million). OECD countries themselves have large numbers of high-skilled emigrants: approximately 1.4 and 1.7 million Germans and Britons, respectively, with university degrees reside in other OECD countries. However, the top four countries with the largest increase in emigration rate of highly educated between 2000/01 and 2015/16 are Liberia (+28 percentage point), Bhutan, Moldova and Albania (all roughly +15 percentage points).

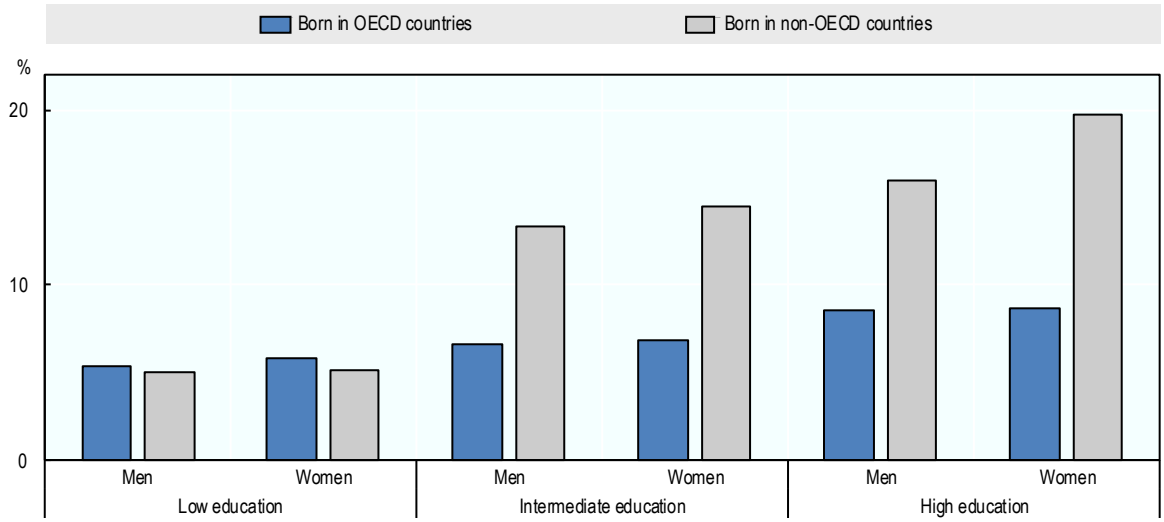
37. There is a significant difference between the emigration rates of tertiary graduates by gender, in particular for graduates from non-OECD countries. As shown in Figure 12, after taking into account educational attainment, there is little difference in the rate of emigration of men and women born in OECD countries. Among the low educated, the emigration rate is 5.4% for men and 5.8% for women. Among the high educated, the rate of emigration of men and women is almost identical at 8.6%. Conversely, in non- OECD countries of birth, while there is little difference in the emigration rate for men and women with low or intermediate attainment, there is a marked contrast among the high educated, with an emigration rate of 19.8% for women and 16% for men.

Table 7. Top 15 countries in terms of emigration rate of high-skilled, number of high-skilled emigrants and difference in rates between 2000/01 and 2015/16

	Emigration rate of high-skilled (%)		High-skilled emigrants (1000)		Increase in emigration rate of high skilled (pp)
Guyana	70.8	India	3 086	Liberia	27.9
Trinidad and Tobago	65.6	China	2 001	Bhutan	15.4
Mauritius	62.5	Philippines	1 794	Moldova	14.6
Liberia	57.0	United Kingdom	1 681	Albania	14.6
Jamaica	50.3	Germany	1 435	Romania	11.8
Haiti	48.7	Poland	1 174	Bosnia and Herzegovina	11.5
Fiji	39.2	Mexico	1 136	Somalia	10.4
Albania	38.1	Russia	1 074	Bulgaria	10.3
Bosnia and Herzegovina	34.0	Ukraine	774	North Macedonia	10.0
Guinea-Bissau	32.4	Romania	773	Nepal	9.6
Cuba	31.1	France	752	Zimbabwe	9.4
Mozambique	29.7	United States	654	Mauritius	8.4
Somalia	29.4	Canada	635	Cuba	6.9
Congo	26.4	Vietnam	633	Armenia	6.6
Rwanda	26.0	Italy	587	Guinea	6.6

Note: The emigration rate is calculated as the ratio between the number of emigrants living in OECD countries and the total sum of the resident population and emigrants living in OECD countries.
Source: Database on Immigrants in OECD Countries (DIOC) 2000/01 and 2015/16.

Figure 12. Emigration rates by level of education, by group of countries of birth and gender, 2015/16



Note: The emigration rate is calculated as the ratio between the number of emigrants living in OECD countries and the total sum of the resident population and emigrants living in OECD countries.
Source: Database on Immigrants in OECD Countries (DIOC) 2015/16.

4. Young and old immigrants in OECD countries

4.1. Population ageing in OECD countries and the role of international migration

38. Most OECD countries are currently undergoing major demographic changes.[3] The median age of the population of the European Union has increased from 34 in 1985 to almost 43 in 2015. Japan has experienced very rapid ageing, with a median age that increased from 35 in 1985 to almost 47 in 2015. Northern American countries are also getting older: in 2015, the median age was 38 in the United States and 41 in Canada, up from 31 in both countries in 1985. A similar trend is observed in Australia and New Zealand. Countries which have started their demographic transition later remain significantly younger, but are also ageing and will reach the same situation as Europe in the coming decades. This is for example the case of Mexico, which had a median age of 27 in 2015, or Turkey, with a median age of 30 in 2015. Because of its numerous social and economic implications, population ageing is one the most significant long-term challenges for many OECD countries.

39. Population ageing in European OECD countries is mostly driven by fertility decline and increasing longevity. In most cases, the latter component is predominant. For these countries as a whole, the population aged 65 and over has increased by about 60% between 1985 and 2015, while the population aged 0-4 has decreased by 15%. While some European OECD countries have not experienced any significant fertility decline in the recent decades, while the increase of longevity is observed everywhere.

40. In some non-European OECD countries, such as the United States, Canada, Australia and New Zealand, fertility remains quite high, but the 65+ population is increasing more and more rapidly. On the other hand, Japan and Korea have experienced especially radical change in their demographic structure: between 1985 and 2015, the population aged 0-4 has declined by 30% in Japan and 40% in Korea, while the 65+ population has increased, respectively, by 170% and 280%. Although the ageing process might start to slow down in the "oldest" countries, it is expected that these trends will continue in the coming decades.

41. While these demographic transformations stem from both economic and social progress they also generate new challenges. A direct implication of the change in the age structure of the population is the increase in public expenditures on pensions, social security and health care, including services dedicated to the elderly population. Ageing also has an impact on the size of the working age population and consequently on the functioning of the labour market, with increasing risks of labour shortages.

42. In this context, the potential contribution of international migration to the mitigation of the economic challenges raised by ageing has been widely discussed (United Nations, 2000[8]; Coleman, 2008[9]). Migration has sometimes been advocated as a "solution" to those problems. Since migrants from less developed countries are on average younger than the population in OECD destination countries, they can help offset issues related to population ageing. In addition, upon arrival, migrants may also tend to have higher fertility norms than host populations, which can slow down the fertility decline. These effects are real, but they are only temporary. The overarching consensus is that international migration cannot offset the negative effects of population and labour force

[3] This sub-section draws on Spielvogel and Meghnagi (2018[11]).

ageing in the long-term. Migrants themselves get old, and additional migration inflows can only have a temporary effect on the age structure. The impact on fertility is also transitory, since migrants progressively change their fertility behaviours as they integrate into more affluent host societies.

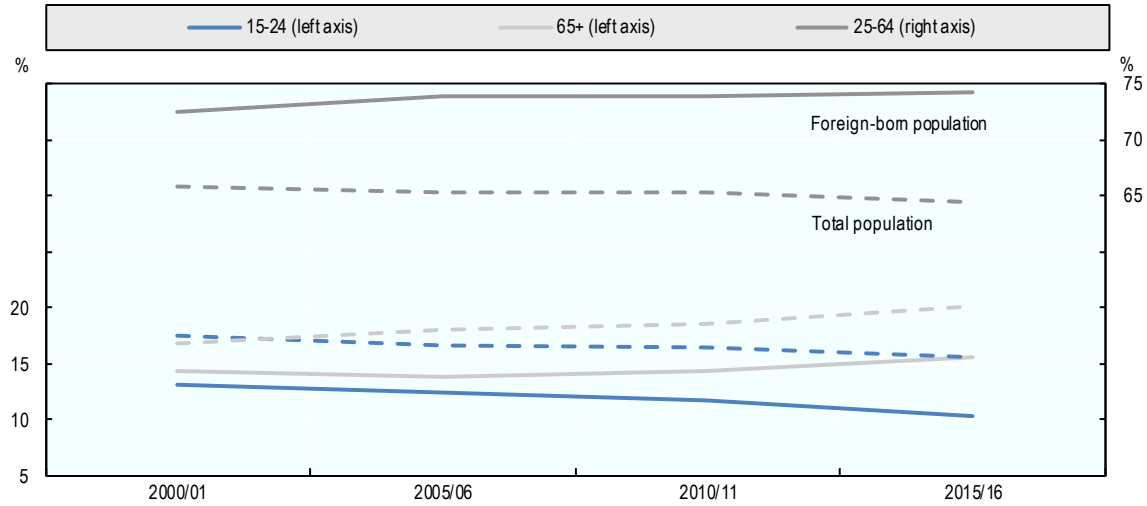
43. It is therefore particularly important to look at the age distribution of immigrants in destination countries, to better understand their current contribution to the different age groups and particularly the working-age population. In addition, emigration also has an impact on the age distribution of origin countries, which are also facing demographic changes. Since most of those who emigrate are usually young adults, this can loosen an excess supply of labour in countries where jobs creation has not been as fast as population growth. On the other hand, this may also increase the dependency ratio and the pressure felt by those who have remained in the country.

4.2. The age distribution of immigrants in OECD countries

44. In addition to the 120 million adult (15+) immigrants, 7.5 million children (aged 0-15) born abroad were also living in OECD countries in 2015/16, accounting for 6% of the total immigrant population. Since most these foreign-born children live with their immigrant parents, their distribution across destination countries is very similar to the distribution of adult immigrants. It should be noted that, in line with the definition based on place of birth, children of immigrants who were born in the destination country are not counted as immigrants in DIOC. The total number of children living in OECD countries with an immigrant parent is therefore much higher than the number of those who were born abroad. For example, in the case of the United States, data from the Census Bureau show that, in 2017, 88% of children under 18 with at least one immigrant parent were actually born in the United States.

45. Among immigrants aged 15 and older living in OECD countries in 2015/16, about 10% were aged 15-24, 74% were aged 25-64 and 16% were aged 65+. In the last 15 years, this distribution has shifted significantly, with an increasing share of migrants in the intermediary and older age groups (respectively 72% and 14% in 2000/01), and a declining share of younger migrants (13% in 2000/01) (Figure 13). This pattern has similarities with the one observed for the total population of OECD countries: the share of younger individuals has decreased while the share of older individuals has increased. However, for the total population, the share of the intermediary age group (25-64) has decreased slightly between 2000/01 and 2015/16, while it has increased among immigrants. In addition, this group represents a much higher share among immigrants than in the total population (10 percentage points more in 2015/16), while both the younger and older groups are smaller among the foreign-born. Overall, immigrants therefore contribute to increase the share of prime-age individuals in the adult population of OECD countries.

Figure 13. Age distribution of the foreign-born and total population (15+) in OECD countries, 2000/01-2015/16 (%)

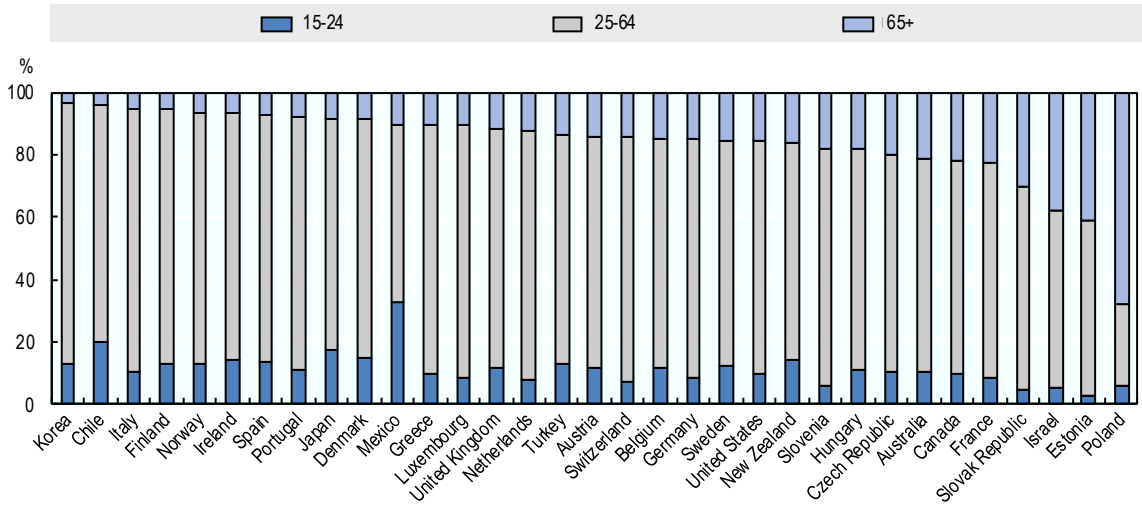


Note: Full lines show the share of each age group for the foreign-born population; dashed lines are for the total population.
Source: Database on Immigrants in OECD Countries (DIOC), 2000/01, 2005/16, 2010/11 and 2015/16.

46. The age distribution of immigrants, however, varied significantly across destination countries (Figure 14). The largest share of older immigrants in 2015/16 was found in Poland, where more than 65% of them were aged 65+, while in Korea and Chile this share was less than 5%. The share of young immigrants was also different across countries, with the largest share in Mexico (33%) and the lowest share in Estonia (3%). Overall, the share of 65+ is higher than the share of 15-24 in two-third of OECD countries.

47. The age distribution of the immigrant population results from several factors: how long they have lived in the host country, age at arrival and patterns of return migration. In turn, these factors have a lot to do with the main motives of migration and the most prevalent origin countries of immigrants in each destination country. In a country where most immigrants come to work for a couple of years before returning home, the immigrant population will likely be relatively young and its age distribution will not change much over time if this migration pattern is stable. On the contrary, in a country where immigrants tend to settle permanently, the foreign-born population will age progressively even if annual inflows are constant.

Figure 14. Age distribution of the foreign-born population (15+) in OECD countries, 2015/16



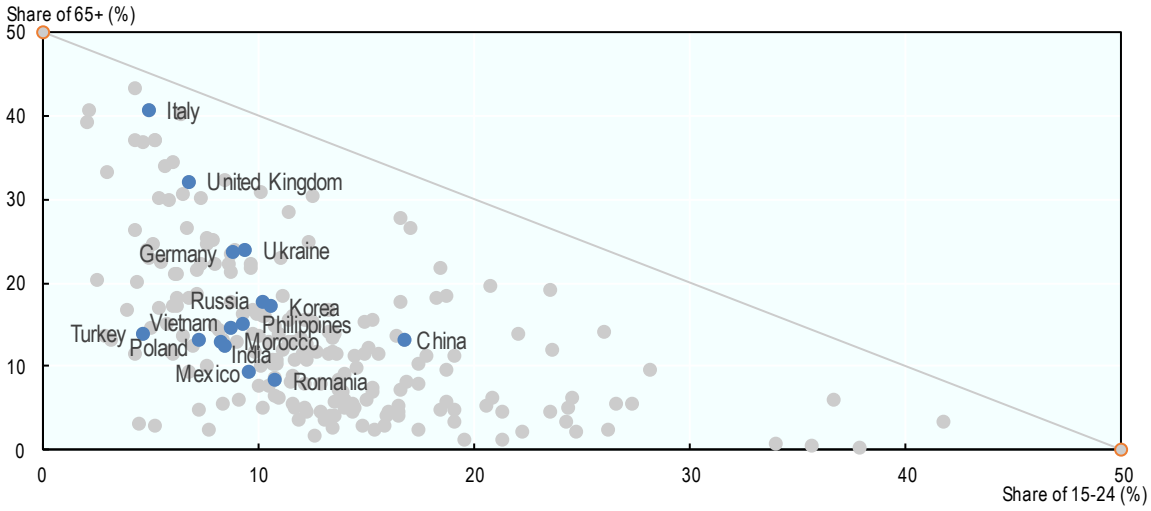
Source: Database on Immigrants in OECD Countries (DIOC), 2015/16.

4.3. How does the age distribution of emigrants compare to that of their origin country?

48. Looking at the country of origin dimension helps to grasp the extent of heterogeneity brought about by very different migration contexts and periods (Figure 15). As discussed in Section 2 the largest emigrant population living in OECD countries originates from Mexico. Eight out of 10 Mexican emigrants (15+) are aged 25-64, while the younger and older groups each represent slightly less than 10%. This is an age distribution very close to the one observed for instance for Romanian emigrants. On the other hand, among Italian emigrants living in OECD countries, the share of older individuals is very high (41%) – and actually one of the highest of all origin countries – while the share of younger people is very low (less than 5%). This reflects the fact that the bulk of Italian emigration towards other OECD countries occurred a long time ago and that those emigrants have now become old.

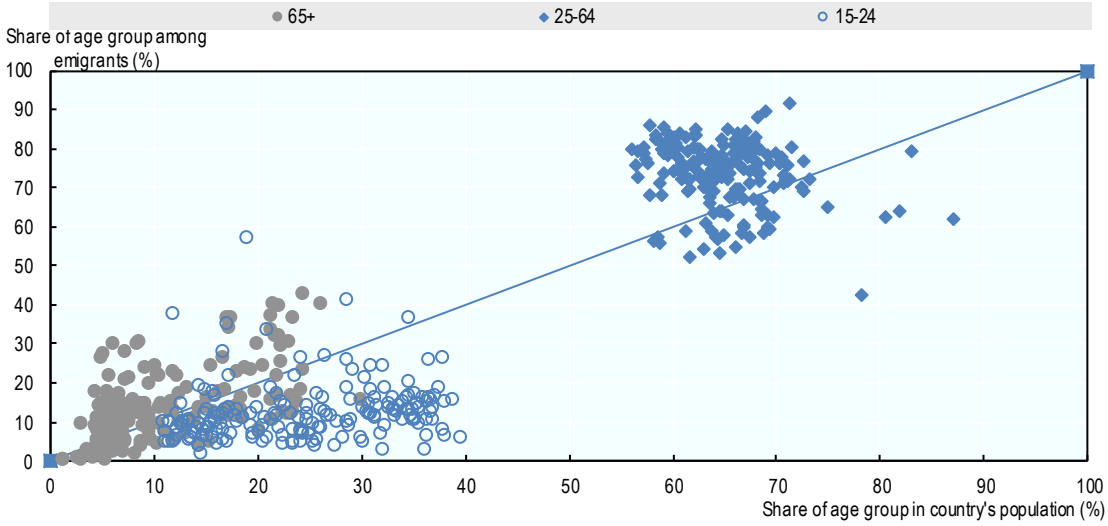
49. Comparing the age distribution of emigrants living in OECD countries and that of the population of their origin country reveals that the share of those aged 25-64 is higher among emigrants for a vast majority of countries, reflecting the fact that most emigrants leave as young adults (Figure 16). For those who settle abroad for a long time, return migration, if it happens, typically occurs upon retirement (Dumont and Spielvogel, 2008[10]). By contrast, the share of the 15-24 age group is lower among emigrants almost everywhere. The picture is more mixed for the 65+. In countries where they are a very small share of the adult population, i.e. countries where the population is still very young, they tend to represent an even smaller share among emigrants.

Figure 15. Age distribution of the foreign-born population (15+) in OECD countries, by origin country, 2015/16 (%)



Note: The chart shows only the shares of the youngest (15-24) and oldest (65+) age groups. The share of the intermediate age group (25-64) can be deduced by looking at the distance from the diagonal full line: the closer a country is from this line, the lower the share of the 25-64 group. The 15 countries of origin with the largest emigrant populations living in OECD countries are highlighted.
Source: Database on Immigrants in OECD Countries (DIOC), 2015/16.

Figure 16. Age distributions among emigrants (15+) living in OECD countries and in their origin country, 2015/16



Source: Database on Immigrants in OECD Countries (DIOC), 2015/16.

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Annex A.

Data sources and limitations

The Database on Immigrants in OECD Countries (DIOC) 2015/16 is an update of DIOC 2000/01, DIOC 2005/06 and DIOC 2010/11. DIOC 2015/16 contains four separate files covering a specific theme: age and nationality, duration of stay, labour force status and occupation. Each file includes a number of core variables (detailed country of birth, education and sex), which makes it possible to generate a great variety of cross-tabulations on the characteristics of the foreign-born populations in OECD countries by country of birth. However, each table is independent and cross-tabulations between tables are not possible. Table A.1. describes the detailed sources used for each country covered in the data. Additional information, such as categories and classifications for the different variables, as well as a detailed exposition of special cases and adjustments, is provided with the data in a methodological document.

The compilation of DIOC relies chiefly upon censuses and population registers, since they are the best data sources available to identify small groups such as migrants in a country. Nonetheless, the data may be subject to limitations. First, persons who were born abroad but have lived in or have the nationality of the country they reside are considered immigrants. This could be an issue for some countries with large repatriate communities. Second, there is a certain degree of uncertainty about the completeness and coverage for some groups such as undocumented migrants, short-term migrants, asylum seekers and refugees in the refugee camps. Furthermore, a number of people do not give information on their place of birth. These persons, a priori, are not covered in the database. Third, DIOC contains information on migrant stocks. Hence, it reflects historical patterns and nature of migration, but not actual migration flows. Moreover, education data do not allow us to identify the country where education or training was obtained.

Comparison across countries should be made with caution. An important issue related to the compilation of various national data sources is the variation resulting from mappings between national and international classifications. This is particularly an issue for education and occupations. Limitations also exist in terms of the availability of specific variables and the level of detail at which the variables are provided by countries. Some of the problems are resolved with providing a more aggregated variable in the data files.

Comparisons across years require caution as well. One of the main issues affecting the comparability of data over the successive rounds arises because data sources change for some countries from one year to another. Due to the periodicity of census data, labour force surveys (LFS) are used for a larger number of countries in DIOC 2005/06 and 2015/16 than in DIOC 2000/01 and 2010/11. LFS data tend to underestimate the total number of persons born abroad relative to census data and hence differences between the two types of sources should be expected. However, it should be noted that the reliability and coverage of the immigrant population in LFS data have improved remarkably over time.

Regardless of the data source utilised, changes in questionnaires and thus in definition of variables may cause variations, especially in questions regarding education, duration of residence and occupations. The time variation which occurs in the number of the "unknown" values for certain variables should also be taken into consideration. In addition, classifications change over time. The International Standard Classification of Occupations

(ISCO) 88 was replaced by ISCO 08 and these two are comparable only for broad occupation groups at the one-digit level. Earlier DIOC editions collect occupation information based on ISCO 88, whereas a number of countries provided occupation data based on ISCO 08 for DIOC 2010/11. For DIOC 2015/16, most countries provided data based on ISCO 08. National classifications or the way data are collected may change over time as well. Limitations also exist in terms of the availability of specific variables and the level of detail at which the variables are provided by countries. Hence, one should be mindful of discrepancies in classifications and differences that may occur over time and which can be general or – most often – country specific.

Table A.1. Detailed sources by country

	File A	File B	File C	File D
Australia	Census 2016	Census 2016	Census 2016	Census 2016
Austria	European Labour Force Survey 2016 (EU LFS), DIOC 2010/11 and Eurostat's Unified Demographic Data Collection 2015-2016 (UNIDEMO)	European Labour Force Survey 2016 (EU LFS), DIOC 2010/11 and Eurostat's Unified Demographic Data Collection 2015-2016 (UNIDEMO)	European Labour Force Survey 2016 (EU LFS), DIOC 2010/11 and Eurostat's Unified Demographic Data Collection 2015-2016 (UNIDEMO)	European Labour Force Survey 2016 (EU LFS), DIOC 2010/11 and Eurostat's Unified Demographic Data Collection 2015-2016 (UNIDEMO)
Belgium	European Labour Force Survey 2016 (EU LFS), DIOC 2010/11 and Eurostat's Unified Demographic Data Collection 2015-2016 (UNIDEMO)	European Labour Force Survey 2016 (EU LFS), DIOC 2010/11 and Eurostat's Unified Demographic Data Collection 2015-2016 (UNIDEMO)	European Labour Force Survey 2016 (EU LFS), DIOC 2010/11 and Eurostat's Unified Demographic Data Collection 2015-2016 (UNIDEMO)	European Labour Force Survey 2016 (EU LFS), DIOC 2010/11 and Eurostat's Unified Demographic Data Collection 2015-2016 (UNIDEMO)
Canada	Census 2016	Census 2016	Census 2016	Census 2016
Switzerland	Structural Survey 2016	Structural Survey 2016	Structural Survey 2016	Structural Survey 2016
Chile	Labour Force Survey 2015/16	Labour Force Survey 2015/16	Labour Force Survey 2015/16	Labour Force Survey 2015/16
Czech Republic	European Labour Force Survey 2016 (EU LFS), DIOC 2010/11 and Eurostat's Unified Demographic Data Collection 2015-2016 (UNIDEMO)	European Labour Force Survey 2016 (EU LFS), DIOC 2010/11 and Eurostat's Unified Demographic Data Collection 2015-2016 (UNIDEMO)	European Labour Force Survey 2016 (EU LFS), DIOC 2010/11 and Eurostat's Unified Demographic Data Collection 2015-2016 (UNIDEMO)	European Labour Force Survey 2016 (EU LFS), DIOC 2010/11 and Eurostat's Unified Demographic Data Collection 2015-2016 (UNIDEMO)
Germany	Microcensus 2016	Microcensus 2016	Microcensus 2016	Microcensus 2016
Denmark	Population register 2016	Population register 2016	Population register 2016	Population register 2016
Spain	Labour Force Survey 2016	Labour Force Survey 2016	Labour Force Survey 2016	Labour Force Survey 2016
Estonia	European Labour Force Survey 2016 (EU LFS), DIOC 2010/11 and Eurostat's Unified Demographic Data Collection 2015-2016 (UNIDEMO)	European Labour Force Survey 2016 (EU LFS), DIOC 2010/11 and Eurostat's Unified Demographic Data Collection 2015-2016 (UNIDEMO)	European Labour Force Survey 2016 (EU LFS), DIOC 2010/11 and Eurostat's Unified Demographic Data Collection 2015-2016 (UNIDEMO)	European Labour Force Survey 2016 (EU LFS), DIOC 2010/11 and Eurostat's Unified Demographic Data Collection 2015-2016 (UNIDEMO)
Finland	Population registers 2015	Population registers 2015	Population registers 2015	Population registers 2015
France	Census 2015	Census 2015	Census 2015	Census 2015
United Kingdom	Labour Force Survey 2016	Labour Force Survey 2016	Labour Force Survey 2016	Labour Force Survey 2016
Greece	DIOC 2010/11 and Eurostat's Unified Demographic Data Collection 2015-2016 (UNIDEMO)	DIOC 2010/11 and Eurostat's Unified Demographic Data Collection 2015-2016 (UNIDEMO)	DIOC 2010/11 and Eurostat's Unified Demographic Data Collection 2015-2016 (UNIDEMO)	DIOC 2010/11 and Eurostat's Unified Demographic Data Collection 2015-2016 (UNIDEMO)
Hungary	DIOC 2010/11 and Eurostat's Unified Demographic Data Collection 2015-2016 (UNIDEMO)	DIOC 2010/11 and Eurostat's Unified Demographic Data Collection 2015-2016 (UNIDEMO)	DIOC 2010/11 and Eurostat's Unified Demographic Data Collection 2015-2016 (UNIDEMO)	DIOC 2010/11 and Eurostat's Unified Demographic Data Collection 2015-2016 (UNIDEMO)
Ireland	Census 2016	Census 2016	Census 2016	Census 2016
Iceland	European Labour Force Survey 2016 (EU LFS), DIOC 2010/11 and Eurostat's Unified Demographic Data Collection 2015-2016 (UNIDEMO)	European Labour Force Survey 2016 (EU LFS), DIOC 2010/11 and Eurostat's Unified Demographic Data Collection 2015-2016 (UNIDEMO)	European Labour Force Survey 2016 (EU LFS), DIOC 2010/11 and Eurostat's Unified Demographic Data Collection 2015-2016 (UNIDEMO)	European Labour Force Survey 2016 (EU LFS), DIOC 2010/11 and Eurostat's Unified Demographic Data Collection 2015-2016 (UNIDEMO)
Israel	Labour Force Survey 2016	Labour Force Survey 2016	Labour Force Survey 2016	Labour Force Survey 2016
Italy	Labour Force Survey 2015/16	Labour Force Survey 2015/16	Labour Force Survey 2015/16	Labour Force Survey 2015/16
Japan	Population Census 2015		Population Census 2015	Population Census 2015
Korea	2015 Population and Housing Census (20% Sample survey)		2015 Population and Housing Census (20% Sample survey)	2015 Population and Housing Census (20% Sample survey)
Luxembourg	Labour Force Survey 2016	Labour Force Survey 2016	Labour Force Survey 2016	Labour Force Survey 2016
Latvia	Labour Force Survey 2016	Labour Force Survey 2016	Labour Force Survey 2016	Labour Force Survey 2016
Mexico	Intercensal Survey 2015	Intercensal Survey 2015	Intercensal Survey 2015	Intercensal Survey 2015
Netherlands	Labour Force Survey 2016	Labour Force Survey 2016	Labour Force Survey 2016	Labour Force Survey 2016
Norway	Population register 2016	Population register 2016	Population register 2016	Population register 2016
New Zealand	Household Labour Force Survey 2016	Household Labour Force Survey 2016	Household Labour Force Survey 2016	Household Labour Force Survey 2016
Poland	DIOC 2010/11 and Eurostat's Unified Demographic Data Collection 2015-2016 (UNIDEMO)	DIOC 2010/11 and Eurostat's Unified Demographic Data Collection 2015-2016 (UNIDEMO)	DIOC 2010/11 and Eurostat's Unified Demographic Data Collection 2015-2016 (UNIDEMO)	DIOC 2010/11 and Eurostat's Unified Demographic Data Collection 2015-2016 (UNIDEMO)
Portugal	Labour Force Survey 2016	Labour Force Survey 2016	Labour Force Survey 2016	Labour Force Survey 2016
Slovak Republic	DIOC 2010/11 and Eurostat's Unified Demographic Data Collection 2015-2016 (UNIDEMO)	DIOC 2010/11 and Eurostat's Unified Demographic Data Collection 2015-2016 (UNIDEMO)	DIOC 2010/11 and Eurostat's Unified Demographic Data Collection 2015-2016 (UNIDEMO)	DIOC 2010/11 and Eurostat's Unified Demographic Data Collection 2015-2016 (UNIDEMO)
Slovenia	European Labour Force Survey 2016 (EU LFS), DIOC 2010/11 and Eurostat's Unified Demographic Data Collection 2015-2016 (UNIDEMO)	European Labour Force Survey 2016 (EU LFS), DIOC 2010/11 and Eurostat's Unified Demographic Data Collection 2015-2016 (UNIDEMO)	European Labour Force Survey 2016 (EU LFS), DIOC 2010/11 and Eurostat's Unified Demographic Data Collection 2015-2016 (UNIDEMO)	European Labour Force Survey 2016 (EU LFS), DIOC 2010/11 and Eurostat's Unified Demographic Data Collection 2015-2016 (UNIDEMO)
Sweden	Population register 2016	Population register 2016	Population register 2016	Population register 2016
Turkey	Labour Force Survey 2015, DIOC 2010/11 and Turkstat's Address Based Population Registration System Statistics 2015 (ABPRSS)	Labour Force Survey 2015, DIOC 2010/11 and Turkstat's Address Based Population Registration System Statistics 2015 (ABPRSS)	Labour Force Survey 2015, DIOC 2010/11 and Turkstat's Address Based Population Registration System Statistics 2015 (ABPRSS)	Labour Force Survey 2015, DIOC 2010/11 and Turkstat's Address Based Population Registration System Statistics 2015 (ABPRSS)
United States	American Community Survey 2016	American Community Survey 2016	American Community Survey 2016	American Community Survey 2016

Additional tables

Table A.2. Emigrants living in OECD countries by country of birth: population, characteristics and emigration rates

	Number of emigrants in OECD countries (000)		Share of women, 2015/16	Distribution by level of education, 2015/16 (%)		Emigration rates to OECD countries, 2015/16 (%)		
Country of birth	2000/01	2015/16	(%)	Low educated	Highly educated	Total	Women	Highly educated
Afghanistan	144	608	39.7	51.6	19.9	3.0	2.5	18.5
Albania	524	1 078	48.8	50.6	12.7	30.9	30.5	30.3
Algeria	1 325	1 568	49.7	43.6	24.6	5.2	5.2	10.6
Angola	196	219	55.3	40.2	26.1	1.4	1.5	57.8
Argentina	389	662	52.9	26.2	38.0	2.0	2.0	4.3
Armenia	82	178	54.2	19.4	43.2	7.0	6.9	12.0
Aruba	6	29	54.7	12.5	44.4	25.5	26.0	40.5
Australia	295	401	50.8	14.5	51.5	2.0	2.0	2.8
Austria	392	437	54.1	18.8	36.8	5.4	5.7	8.1
Azerbaijan	60	116	55.1	26.3	47.0	1.5	1.6	4.9
Bahamas	30	40	58.1	12.4	38.8	11.5	12.8	14.8
Bahrain	7	19	41.4	8.3	53.9	1.7	2.0	4.8
Bangladesh	286	686	43.1	34.4	38.1	0.6	0.5	4.8
Barbados	88	89	54.8	25.3	39.6	27.9	28.6	49.6
Belarus	219	284	62.8	16.2	54.1	3.4	3.9	7.9
Belgium	356	466	53.8	21.9	43.4	4.6	4.8	7.3
Belize	43	51	63.6	22.8	27.5	17.4	20.9	29.9
Benin	14	35	41.9	19.0	53.0	0.6	0.5	11.1
Bhutan	1	67	50.9	58.0	10.5	10.4	11.4	15.5
Bolivia	88	334	58.8	38.4	20.3	4.3	5.0	5.5
Bosnia-Herzegovina	638	826	49.7	32.0	19.1	21.2	20.7	28.1
Botswana	4	11	55.5	11.4	38.5	0.7	0.8	1.7
Brazil	555	1 114	58.7	23.5	39.9	0.6	0.7	2.3
Brunei Darussalam	9	14	56.2	12.0	62.2	4.3	5.0	24.8
Bulgaria	625	1 120	54.2	41.3	25.4	15.1	15.7	15.3
Burkina Faso	8	27	43.3	46.0	30.2	0.3	0.2	5.8
Burundi	11	34	51.2	25.0	44.3	0.6	0.6	12.7
Cambodia	239	292	55.5	44.0	21.0	2.6	2.7	21.0
Cameroon	59	202	54.3	20.9	48.5	1.5	1.6	9.9
Canada	1 071	1 191	53.1	10.3	54.2	3.7	3.9	3.6
Cape Verde	88	131	56.2	58.4	8.4	26.1	28.3	40.2
Central African Republic	10	24	53.3	27.1	35.8	0.9	0.9	15.7
Chad	6	14	44.1	29.5	40.5	0.2	0.2	4.3
Chile	210	302	50.7	20.0	42.5	2.1	2.0	5.7
China	2 072	4 620	55.5	23.7	48.6	0.4	0.4	1.5
Colombia	697	1 330	58.4	23.8	34.3	3.5	3.9	7.0
Comoros	18	44	53.3	51.7	18.9	8.7	9.2	14.4
Congo	69	127	52.9	29.8	30.9	4.2	4.4	17.9
Costa Rica	76	109	51.5	22.3	30.7	2.8	2.9	4.7
Côte d'Ivoire	63	184	49.2	36.1	33.1	1.4	1.4	9.7
Croatia	537	602	51.5	32.9	20.3	14.1	13.9	15.4
Cuba	928	1 444	51.3	24.0	30.9	13.1	13.3	30.4
Cyprus	142	145	50.9	32.3	35.2	12.9	13.0	13.0
Czech Republic	256	382	59.4	24.0	33.5	4.0	4.6	6.7
Dem. Rep. of the Congo	101	280	52.0	24.9	34.0	0.6	0.7	5.0
Denmark	161	200	53.3	20.2	45.6	3.8	4.0	6.0
Djibouti	5	13	55.7	28.0	38.3	1.9	2.1	17.3
Dominican Republic	696	1 288	56.3	37.7	17.8	14.8	16.2	17.0
Ecuador	512	1 011	53.5	40.2	16.8	8.0	8.5	8.5
Egypt	328	517	41.5	17.1	52.0	0.8	0.7	2.1
El Salvador	836	1 438	48.8	51.4	11.0	24.1	22.1	25.6
Equatorial Guinea	12	24	64.7	39.8	20.3	3.0	4.6	11.6
Eritrea	48	186	45.4	50.0	15.1	6.0	5.4	21.0
Estonia	37	108	58.2	32.6	34.0	8.5	9.2	7.0
Ethiopia	166	425	50.0	27.6	31.7	0.7	0.7	14.0
Fiji	119	197	53.1	20.6	33.4	23.0	24.2	36.8

	Number of emigrants in OECD countries (000)		Share of women, 2015/16	Distribution by level of education, 2015/16 (%)		Emigration rates to OECD countries, 2015/16 (%)		
Country of birth	2000/01	2015/16	(%)	Low educated	Highly educated	Total	Women	Highly educated
Finland	259	248	62.8	29.5	34.0	4.9	6.0	5.0
France	1 161	1 557	52.8	19.8	50.5	2.7	2.8	4.8
Gabon	11	26	59.7	21.2	46.2	2.0	2.5	9.2
Gambia	21	47	40.6	52.4	19.3	4.0	3.2	17.8
Georgia	133	222	62.7	26.2	37.8	6.4	7.5	6.0
Germany	3 154	3 548	54.8	18.5	41.3	4.7	5.0	6.3
Ghana	166	409	47.0	27.7	35.2	2.3	2.1	14.1
Greece	690	741	47.8	47.1	25.6	7.0	6.6	6.4
Grenada	46	57	54.0	20.8	31.9	42.0	43.9	58.6
Guam	56	0	92.9	1.8	9.5	0.4	0.7	0.2
Guatemala	486	965	42.7	56.5	10.1	8.5	7.1	14.2
Guinea	21	89	44.9	44.4	28.0	1.2	1.1	6.0
Guinea-Bissau	30	29	41.7	52.6	18.0	2.7	2.2	28.1
Guyana	304	378	54.8	23.3	34.3	41.2	43.4	73.0
Haiti	463	851	54.8	28.6	28.7	10.7	11.4	73.0
Honduras	276	702	51.3	52.0	11.3	10.4	10.5	24.3
Hong Kong	388	625	53.3	14.1	58.3	8.8	8.6	16.9
Hungary	349	607	52.1	19.3	36.2	6.6	6.5	9.6
Iceland	23	37	53.1	15.9	48.0	11.2	12.1	16.3
India	1 971	4 826	47.3	16.3	64.7	0.5	0.5	3.1
Indonesia	340	365	56.2	17.8	46.4	0.2	0.2	1.0
Iran	669	1 100	46.6	15.9	54.0	1.7	1.6	6.1
Iraq	409	919	45.1	40.9	29.8	4.0	3.6	8.6
Ireland	788	677	52.9	31.8	39.3	15.3	15.9	14.1
Israel	163	257	43.6	14.7	52.5	4.2	3.6	6.9
Italy	2 366	2 360	45.4	45.1	25.5	4.3	3.8	7.2
Jamaica	790	1 039	55.9	21.8	33.7	32.1	34.3	50.8
Japan	566	704	62.1	7.3	59.4	0.6	0.7	1.0
Jordan	64	137	45.5	19.1	43.8	2.3	2.1	4.5
Kazakhstan	433	1 044	53.1	29.1	19.4	7.4	7.5	6.6
Kenya	199	300	51.5	18.1	48.0	1.1	1.1	7.0
Korea	1 447	1 787	57.1	9.9	57.0	3.1	3.6	4.8
Kuwait	37	81	39.8	10.9	56.0	2.5	2.4	9.1
Kyrgyzstan	39	40	62.9	12.1	62.7	0.9	1.2	4.2
Laos	264	254	51.8	37.5	23.8	5.3	5.4	11.1
Latvia	67	221	56.9	20.7	33.4	11.0	11.5	13.9
Lebanon	341	496	45.0	29.9	38.9	9.8	9.0	18.5
Lesotho	1	3	50.1	10.0	52.1	0.2	0.2	1.5
Liberia	41	104	53.1	18.6	35.4	3.8	4.0	44.1
Libya	82	114	47.1	32.7	37.2	2.4	2.3	6.3
Lithuania	149	409	55.8	21.8	34.1	13.3	13.7	9.5
Luxembourg	31	68	50.6	22.5	37.0	12.2	12.3	15.0
Madagascar	77	140	59.5	29.6	36.0	1.0	1.1	15.2
Malawi	15	27	46.0	21.9	45.1	0.3	0.2	8.9
Malaysia	214	332	54.0	12.4	60.5	1.3	1.5	5.0
Maldives	0	2	65.3	45.2	34.2	0.5	0.8	2.4
Mali	45	103	36.6	56.5	19.2	1.1	0.8	8.9
Malta	98	115	51.5	40.9	23.2	23.1	23.6	24.2
Mauritania	15	36	26.3	48.5	22.9	1.4	0.7	8.8
Mauritius	91	141	54.6	31.9	38.8	12.0	12.7	48.4
Mexico	8 331	11 708	48.0	53.7	9.7	11.4	10.8	8.3
Micronesia	7	33	54.8	31.5	13.1	32.6	35.0	41.0
Moldova	81	436	61.1	29.6	30.6	11.1	12.8	21.8
Mongolia	4	40	60.6	17.3	50.6	1.4	1.6	2.9
Montenegro	0	56	51.9	36.0	17.0	9.7	9.8	8.9
Morocco	1 675	2 971	47.7	57.3	17.0	10.4	9.7	20.1

	Number of emigrants in OECD countries (000)		Share of women, 2015/16	Distribution by level of education, 2015/16 (%)		Emigration rates to OECD countries, 2015/16 (%)		
Country of birth	2000/01	2015/16	(%)	Low educated	Highly educated	Total	Women	Highly educated
Mozambique	86	96	53.6	28.7	36.7	0.6	0.6	27.0
Myanmar	61	220	51.5	48.2	26.9	0.5	0.5	1.6
Namibia	3	12	59.0	14.4	49.6	0.8	0.9	5.3
Nepal	24	308	44.2	19.8	46.4	1.3	1.1	15.0
Netherlands	587	754	49.1	20.5	45.2	4.8	4.6	7.6
New Zealand	414	582	48.3	16.3	39.2	12.7	12.0	12.8
Nicaragua	221	290	53.4	29.5	26.1	6.4	6.6	15.7
Niger	5	15	44.6	25.2	46.0	0.1	0.1	5.8
Nigeria	261	710	48.3	18.6	55.2	0.7	0.7	3.7
Norway	124	138	55.1	17.8	48.0	2.9	3.2	4.1
Oman	3	12	40.0	12.8	43.0	0.4	0.5	0.8
Pakistan	670	1 427	43.5	32.8	40.9	1.1	1.0	8.0
Panama	140	151	59.4	9.9	41.6	5.0	5.9	10.3
Papua New Guinea	26	43	51.3	17.3	46.3	0.8	0.8	6.2
Paraguay	21	116	67.1	44.1	17.7	2.4	3.2	3.5
Peru	452	983	55.5	31.7	28.8	4.0	4.4	5.2
Philippines	1 939	3 549	62.0	13.1	53.3	4.7	5.6	14.3
Poland	2 186	3 923	53.7	18.8	30.7	10.5	10.8	12.6
Portugal	1 261	1 634	48.9	59.5	13.7	15.2	14.2	12.3
Puerto Rico	1 300	1 625	52.7	29.7	24.0	35.2	35.2	29.9
Qatar	3	14	31.9	12.5	55.8	0.6	1.0	2.1
Republic of North Macedoni	182	404	48.2	55.8	12.1	18.6	18.0	19.0
Romania	1 125	3 524	53.9	30.3	22.2	17.1	17.7	17.9
Russian Federation	1 972	2 501	59.2	20.6	42.5	2.0	2.2	3.2
Rwanda	15	43	57.7	19.2	44.4	0.6	0.6	11.6
Saint Lucia	25	71	50.9	36.8	25.7	33.2	33.0	44.5
Saint Vincent & Grenadines	35	41	59.6	23.8	32.0	33.1	37.3	55.8
Samoa	72	88	50.7	34.7	14.0	40.7	41.8	42.5
Sao Tome and Principe	12	20	59.8	63.2	9.5	15.4	17.7	63.4
Saudi Arabia	34	178	41.3	10.5	49.7	0.7	0.7	1.4
Senegal	133	311	36.3	54.1	21.2	3.5	2.5	19.3
Serbia	0	673	50.8	40.4	20.4	8.2	8.1	8.9
Sierra Leone	40	83	53.3	21.8	37.6	1.9	2.0	19.5
Singapore	107	156	57.5	14.4	56.2	3.1	3.5	3.5
Slovak Republic	362	360	55.7	17.8	33.2	6.8	7.4	10.4
Slovenia	79	115	55.1	29.8	28.4	6.0	6.5	8.1
Solomon Islands	2	3	40.4	21.0	34.9	0.8	0.7	4.9
Somalia	125	357	51.3	50.6	17.2	4.3	4.3	29.7
South Africa	361	635	51.7	11.0	54.9	1.6	1.6	11.3
Spain	770	888	53.2	32.7	39.2	2.1	2.2	2.9
Sri Lanka	317	682	48.2	34.6	33.7	4.0	3.7	7.0
Suriname	7	199	56.3	44.3	17.0	32.1	34.4	56.5
Swaziland	2	7	62.9	10.7	61.7	0.8	0.9	4.7
Sweden	203	270	56.4	13.3	50.3	3.0	3.4	4.5
Switzerland	432	543	54.6	25.5	32.5	7.0	7.5	7.9
Syria	138	833	37.6	50.5	24.8	6.3	4.8	13.3
Tajikistan	18	25	55.3	11.4	52.5	0.4	0.5	1.2
Tanzania	70	94	52.9	25.4	44.4	0.3	0.3	4.7
Thailand	271	610	71.9	34.4	34.1	1.0	1.4	2.2
Timor-Leste	11	15	53.4	47.5	18.2	1.9	2.1	4.6
Togo	18	67	44.8	25.6	40.3	1.5	1.3	13.6
Tonga	41	52	49.8	34.8	16.6	42.5	42.0	50.9
Trinidad and Tobago	274	337	57.5	13.2	39.9	23.8	26.1	35.5
Tunisia	461	626	42.8	44.8	25.1	6.7	5.7	12.8
Turkey	2 113	2 524	48.4	60.4	13.1	4.1	3.8	3.5
Turkmenistan	8	34	65.3	39.5	31.5	0.8	1.1	2.1

	Number of emigrants in OECD countries (000)		Share of women, 2015/16	Distribution by level of education, 2015/16 (%)		Emigration rates to OECD countries, 2015/16 (%)		
Country of birth	2000/01	2015/16	(%)	Low educated	Highly educated	Total	Women	Highly educated
Uganda	82	116	51.2	19.2	49.7	0.5	0.6	8.3
Ukraine	1 048	1 769	60.8	19.6	44.9	4.3	4.8	9.9
United Arab Emirates	14	50	45.7	12.1	60.5	0.6	1.2	1.7
United Kingdom	3 258	3 665	49.5	16.3	47.7	6.1	5.9	8.8
United States	887	1 302	50.9	19.4	52.7	0.5	0.5	0.8
Uruguay	81	181	53.5	35.5	25.4	6.2	6.3	13.5
US Virgin Islands	48	64	49.8	14.6	37.5	43.9	42.2	66.4
Uzbekistan	102	186	57.1	19.8	46.4	0.8	0.9	2.0
Vanuatu	2	2	50.6	20.5	38.4	1.3	1.3	12.8
Venezuela	238	602	55.9	14.9	52.8	2.6	2.9	7.0
Vietnam	1 518	2 196	53.7	33.0	30.5	2.8	3.0	10.4
Yemen	71	120	46.8	51.5	17.8	0.7	0.7	29.5
Zambia	35	49	55.9	10.3	62.1	0.5	0.6	3.4
Zimbabwe	78	191	51.2	12.1	53.9	2.0	1.9	12.2

Source: Database on Immigrants in OECD Countries (DIOC), 2000/01 and 2015/16

Note by Turkey:
The information in this document with reference to "Cyprus" relates to the southern part of the Island. There is no single authority representing both Turkish and Greek Cypriot people on the Island. Turkey recognises the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC). Until a lasting and equitable solution is found within the context of the United Nations, Turkey shall preserve its position concerning the "Cyprus issue".

Note by all the European Union Member States of the OECD and the European Union:
The Republic of Cyprus is recognised by all members of the United Nations with the exception of Turkey. The information in this document relates to the area under the effective control of the Government of the Republic of Cyprus.