



2020 Integration Report of Hessen

An Empirical Analysis of Integration
Concise Version

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Hessian Ministry for Social Affairs and Integration

2020 Integration Report of Hessen

An Empirical Analysis of Migrant Integration

Concise Version

Part 1 - Migration to Hessen and Migrant Integration

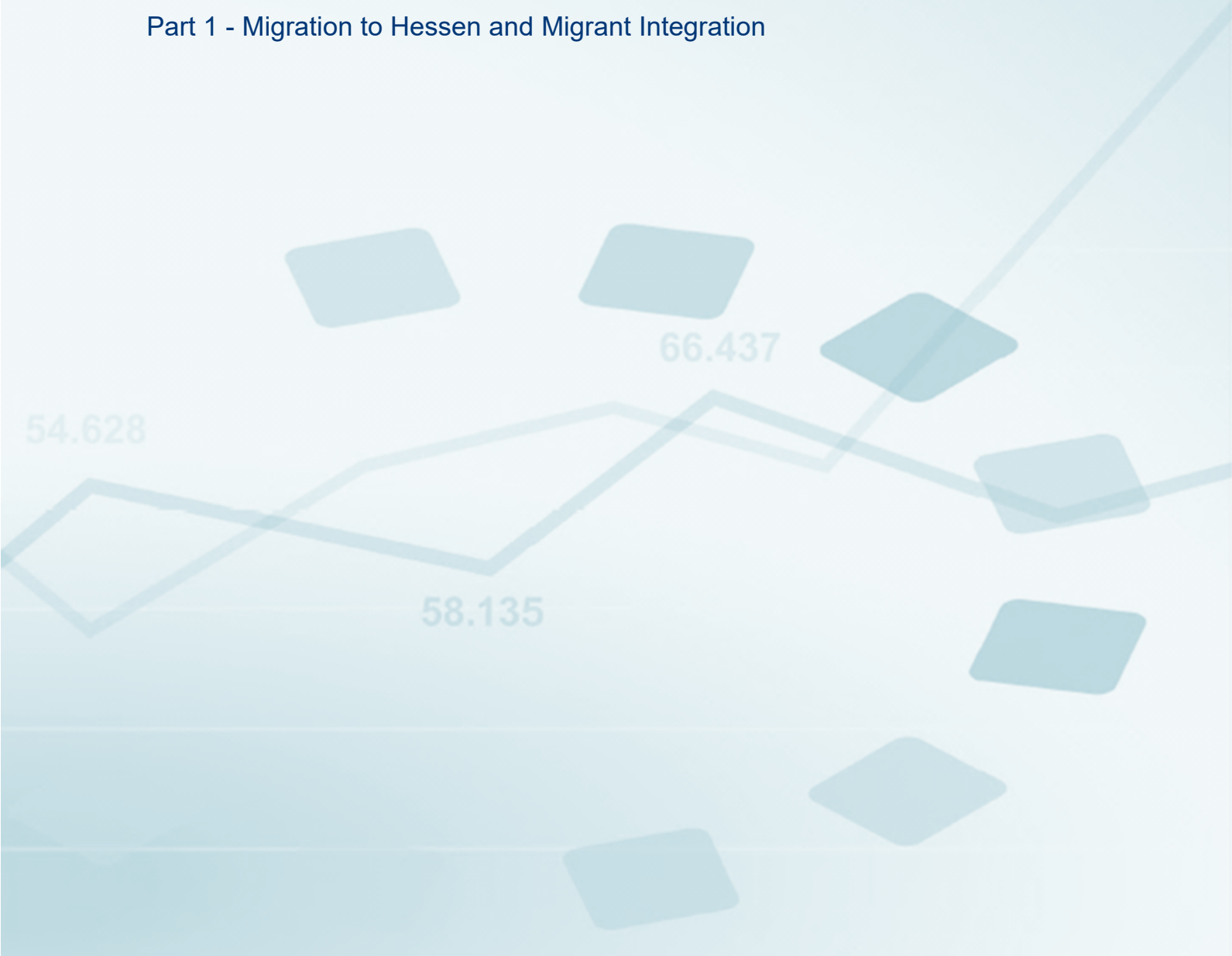


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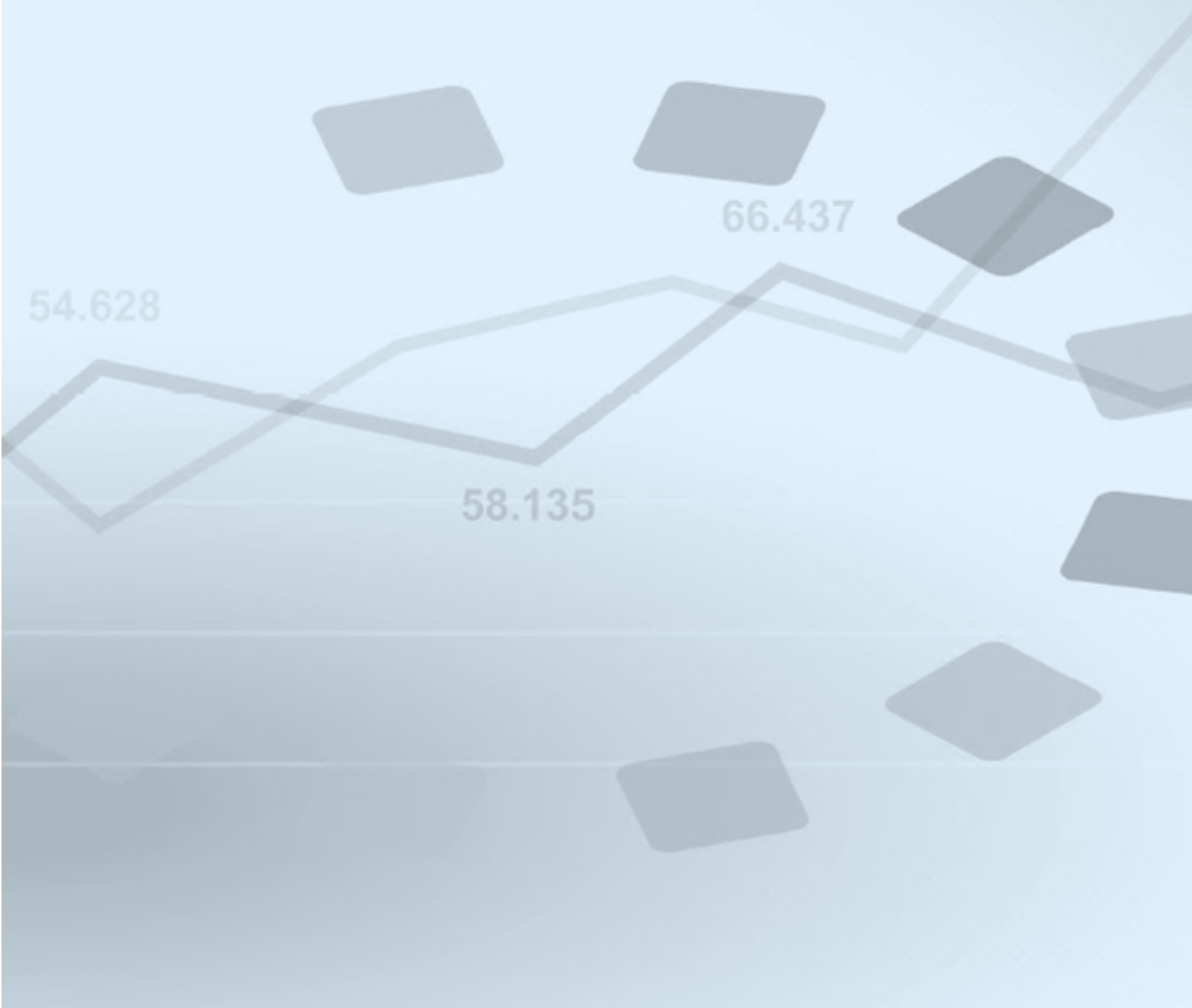
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Publishing Information 38

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1 FUNDAMENTALS



1.1 Introduction

Hessen considers itself a multifaceted, tolerant, and open-minded German federal state. Its public policy strives to facilitate economic growth, honor success, and avoid social marginalisation. With its growing number of immigrants in mind, Hessen has made its integration policies a high priority.

In order to attain these goals, Hessian politicians wish to observe the integration processes. Therefore, the Hessian Ministry for Social Affairs and Integration has compiled data from 2005 to 2019 in a statistical report to show the changes in immigration and migrant integration. This report is the fifth type of its kind to be published. The full version in German comprises three parts: immigration, integration and refugees. In this abbreviated version in English the immigration and integration of refugees has not been taken into consideration for lack of space. (For further details on the immigration and refugee integration, see part 2 of this brochure that is to be published later.)

Current situation

- Today, one in every three inhabitants of Hessen has a migrant background¹. The majority of those with such foreign roots have German citizenship.
- On average, immigrants and their descendants are younger than the total population. One out of two children under the age of six has a migrant background. In the future, this percentage will continue to grow.
- Recently, the number of immigrants has increased in Hessen. In proportion to the population, Hessen is one of the most sought-after destinations for immigrants among the German *Länder* (German federal states).
- On the other hand, there is also a significant emigration, probably mainly of seasonal migrant workers.
- The increase in citizens due to immigration has changed the population demographics of Hessen; without immigrants, the population would have continued to decrease.
- Especially in 2015, there was a huge influx of asylum seekers as well. Hessen received approx. 80,000 refugees (out of 1.1 million who were registered in Germany). Since the beginning of 2016, this number has considerably declined.
- Despite the existing inequalities between people with and without a migrant background in topics such as education and labour market participation, this statistical analysis has shown that differences in other issues have decreased slowly but steadily. In particular, according to our opinion surveys positions of both groups converge. However, the influx of refugees might be an exogenous shock in this process, as the refugees' integration will take many more years.
- Continuing immigration requires sustained efforts to support the integration process.

¹ As defined by the German Federal Statistical Office, "a person has a migrant background if he or she or at least one parent did not acquire German citizenship by birth".

1.2 Monitoring Integration

The state of Hessen government has two main goals regarding integration: one, to provide equal opportunities in education and employment, and two, to increase participation in social and economic life for all inhabitants. In the integration policy guidelines adopted in 2000, the state government set forth that every person living on a permanent and lawful basis in Hessen should have equal access to the labour market, state-owned institutions, and educational institutions.

Both immigrants and citizens of Hessen must work together to ensure that integration succeeds. Integration will not be successful unless it is conceived in terms of diversity. Therefore, it is necessary for the public to establish a firm conviction that cultural diversity is a social asset. Additionally, the ability to observe and measure the progress achieved in integration is vital to ensure a successful long-term integration policy.

The Hessian government bases its empirical methodology on a larger international system that measures integration throughout Europe. The following figure shows the connections between the integration reports of the European Union, the German Federal Government, the Conference of Ministers of Integration of the Federal States (*Integrationsministerkonferenz*), and the municipalities (*Kommunen*) in Hessen (see figure 1).

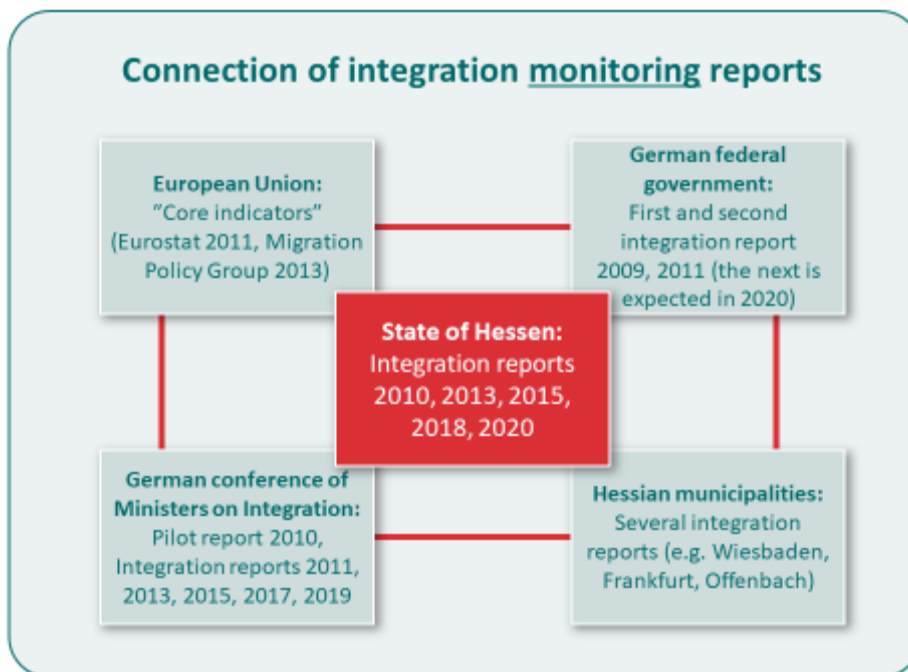


Figure 1: Connection of integration monitoring reports

Since 2003, the European Union has developed methods to measure the integration of non-EU immigrants. The Common Agenda for Integration stated that corresponding indicators had to be developed in order to facilitate the evaluation of integration policies. This objective was accentuated again at the EU Ministerial Conference on Integration held in Vichy in 2008. An explicit reference to "integration monitoring" (in German: *Integrationsmonitoring*) was also

made in the Stockholm Programme (which was adopted by the Council of the European Union) at the end of 2009. The Council stressed the importance of the European Union countries developing a set of “core indicators” that would cover selected themes in integration policies. This would allow each country’s development in integration to be measured and compared.

In April 2010, in Saragossa, Spain, the Fourth European Ministerial Conference for Integration presented the “core indicators” approach. The “core indicators for migrant integration” stated employment, education, social inclusion, and active citizenship as relevant topics for integration policies (see figure 2). In 2011, Eurostat published first results for these indicators using harmonized data. Two years later, the European Commission edited a report prepared by the Migration Policy Group to further develop the EU indicators on immigrant integration.²

Topic	Core indicators
Employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > employment rate > unemployment rate > activity rate
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > highest educational attainment (share of population with tertiary, secondary and primary or less than primary education) > share of low-achieving 15-year-olds in reading, mathematics and science > share of 30- to 34-year-olds with tertiary educational attainment > share of early leavers from education and training
Social inclusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > median net income – the median net income of the immigrant population as a proportion of the median net income of the total population > at risk of poverty rate – share of population with net disposable income of less than 60 per cent of national median > the share of population perceiving their health status as good or poor > ratio of property owners to non-property owners among immigrants and the total population
Active citizenship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> > the share of immigrants that have acquired citizenship > the share of immigrants holding permanent or long-term residence permits > the share of immigrants among elected representatives

Figure 2: Core indicators of the European Union
 Source: http://ec.europa.eu/ewsi/UDRW/images/items/docl_13055_519941744.pdf (pg. 15)

In the summer of 2008, the German federal government resolved to introduce “monitoring” as a new method of reporting integration, which was embedded in the National Integration Plan (NIP), a nationwide integration programme. In 2009, the federal government conducted a trial

² Eurostat (ed.) (2011): Indicators of immigrant integration. A pilot study. Luxembourg.
 European Commission (ed.) (2013): Using EU indicators on immigrant integration. Final report for DG Home Affairs (by European Services Network, ESN, and the Migration Policy Group, MPG). Brussels.

run, called the "First Report on Integration Indicators,"³ to test the applicability of various indicators. As a result, the report recommended 53 indicators for future integration monitoring. In 2011, the federal government published its second national report on integration, which examined the development of integration between 2005 and 2010.⁴

At the annual integration conferences in 2011, 2013, 2015, 2017, and 2019 the sixteen German *Länder* (i.e. federal states) convened with three monitoring reports on integration, which compared integration statistics in each state.⁵ The Hessian integration monitoring system is established not only on the pre-arranged indicators for the *Länder*, but also on additional integration indicators, using auxiliary data sources.

The municipalities within German states also play a significant role for integration policies, and the Hessian Ministry for Social Affairs and Integration openly supports the Hessian communities' efforts with integration. Additionally, some communities within Hessen have developed their own reporting system.⁶

1.3 Categorization of Integration Approach

Integration is an extremely multifaceted process. The objective of integration monitoring is to break this complex process down into different components and to trace these components back to measurable quantities.

A distinction is made between the *structural component* (i.e. access to the core structures of a host society such as education, the labour market, and the housing and health care systems), the *social component* (including a person's social standing, binational marriages and partnerships, and membership of associations), the *cultural component* (including proficiency in the host country's language, religious practices, and moral concepts) and, finally, the *identificatory* concept (i.e. a local, regional, national or bi-national sense of belonging).

However, some components have a stronger statistical base than others do. For example, the structural component is very reliable because the data available are quite good.

³ Beauftragte der Bundesregierung für Migration, Flüchtlinge und Integration (ed.) (2009): Integration in Deutschland: Erster Integrationsindikatorenbericht. Erprobung des Indikatorenansatzes und Bericht zum bundesweiten Integrationsmonitoring. Berlin.

⁴ Beauftragte der Bundesregierung für Migration, Flüchtlinge und Integration (ed.) (2011): Zweiter Integrationsindikatorenbericht. Berlin.

⁵ Konferenz der für Integration zuständigen Ministerinnen und Minister/Senatorinnen und Senatoren der Länder (Hrsg.) (2011): Erster Bericht zum Integrationsmonitoring der Länder 2005 – 2009; Konferenz der für Integration zuständigen Ministerinnen und Minister/Senatorinnen und Senatoren der Länder (ed.) (2013): Zweiter Bericht zum Integrationsmonitoring der Länder 2005 – 2011; Konferenz der für Integration zuständigen Ministerinnen und Minister/Senatorinnen und Senatoren der Länder (ed.) (2015): Dritter Bericht zum Integrationsmonitoring der Länder 2011 – 2013.

The data is available for the public at <http://www.integrationsmonitoring-laender.de/>

⁶ For example: Stadt Frankfurt am Main (2019): Frankfurter Integrations- und Diversitätsmonitoring. Hrsg. vom Magistrat der Stadt Frankfurt am Main. Amt für multikulturelle Angelegenheiten, Frankfurt am Main. Landeshauptstadt Wiesbaden (2020): Monitoring zur Integration von Migranten in Wiesbaden. Amt für Strategische Steuerung, Stadtforschung und Statistik, Wiesbaden.

Social process	Component	Subject areas	Indicators (examples)
Integration	Structural	Access to education	School attendance classified by migration background
		Access to gainful occupation	Labour force participation rate by migration background
		Participation in gainful occupation	Unemployment rate by migration background
	Social	Living arrangements	Number of children with a migration background
		Health	Personal judgement on health by migration background
Cultural	Active citizenship	Membership of associations, etc.	
	Delinquency	Proportion of convicts with an migration background	
Identificatory	Sense of belonging	Feeling comfortable in Hessen	

Figure 3: Components and subject areas of the integration process (examples)

An indicator consists of one or more statistical parameters, and indicators are selected based on their definitions and the corresponding subject areas (see figure 3). Ratios expressed in the form of quotas, i.e. a proportion of persons in a population, play a major role in this context.

1.4 Data Sources Used

The main data base for state-wide integration monitoring is the “Microcensus” which is conducted by the German Federal Statistical Office and the statistical offices of the states (*Statistische Ämter des Bundes und der Länder*). The Microcensus, conducted since 1957, is a representative, multi-purpose sample survey that questions 1 percent of the entire German population each year. This census contains statistical information on the structure of the population, the economic and social situations of the population, families and households, the labour market, occupational classifications of the education and training of the working population, and the housing situation. Since 2005, it has been possible to break down these data about one's migrant background and the region of origin. The Microcensus provides a very good basis of data; as participation in this survey is mandatory, the response rate is very high.

In addition, various other data sources have been found for the Hessian integration monitoring. All in all 30 data sources are being used; among them the

- Unemployment statistics (*Arbeitslosenstatistik*)
- Central register of foreigners (*Ausländerzentralregister*)
- Vocational training statistics (*Berufsbildungsstatistik*)
- Employment statistics established by the German Federal Employment Office (*Beschäftigtenstatistik der Bundesagentur für Arbeit*)
- Naturalization statistics prepared by the German Federal Statistical Office (*Einbürgerungsstatistik des Statistischen Bundesamtes*)
- Higher education statistics collected by the Federal Statistical Office (*Hochschulstatistik*)
- Child and youth welfare statistics prepared by the statistical offices of both the federal and state governments (*Kinder- und Jugendhilfestatistik*)
- Police crime statistics collected by the Federal Office of Criminal Investigation (*Polizeiliche Kriminalstatistik des Bundeskriminalamtes*) or the state offices of criminal investigation (*Landeskriminalämter*)
- School statistics provided by the Statistical Office of Hessen (*Schulstatistik des Hessischen Statistischen Landesamtes*)
- Criminal prosecution statistics (*Strafverfolgungsstatistik*)
- Immigration statistics (*Wanderungsstatistik*)
- IAB-BAMF-SOEP Refugee Survey (*IAB-BAMF-SOEP-Befragung von Geflüchteten*)
- German Socio-Economic Panel Study (*SOEP*).

The last named data source is an annual survey, which was established at the German Institute for Economic Research (DIW). The sample consists of several sub-samples and covers thousands of private households and people. This survey has been held in West Germany since 1984 and in Germany's new federal states⁷ since 1990. In addition to a set of standard questions referring to subject areas such as household composition, career and family biographies, labour market participation and occupational mobility, income history, and health and satisfaction with life, the questionnaires also include areas of specific focuses which change from year to year. In contrast to any other previous data source, the SOEP provides information not only on cultural, social and identificatory integration, but also on diversity in Hessen. However, due to the sample size, the results from the SOEP only allow for conclusions of trends for Hessen.

1.5 Migration Background

The main problem regarding the statistical analysis of integration is that many official data sources differentiate only by nationality, but these statistics do not satisfy the increasing demand for information about the diverse society. Furthermore, they do not document successful integration.

⁷ Formerly: German Democratic Republic

To remedy this flaw in the data, the concept of a "**migration background** or **migrant background**" was developed.⁸ Thus, in Germany the discussion usually is not about "migrants" but on "people with a migration background".⁹ Generally, a person has a migration background if he or she or at least one parent did not acquire German citizenship by birth. This definition is used by the Microcensus. It presents a problem that other data sources use divergent definitions of the "migration background":

For example, the child and youth welfare statistics collects data on migrant backgrounds with the question of whether a parent of a child in childcare is foreign born ("parents' immigration experience") and additionally about the "language mainly spoken at home" (German / not German). As defined by the school statistics, a migration background covers three features: nationality, common language mainly spoken at home, and country of birth. The immigration characteristics of the parents are irrelevant for this definition.

As a result, some indicators are still based on the nationality concept, while others use the migration background concept. For consistent reporting, this difference decreases the usefulness of analyses. Therefore, it would be more useful for statistical analyses if the immigrant background concept was uniformly defined and the basis for all statistics relevant to integration.

The varying definitions should be kept in mind when interpreting the data used in this brochure.

⁸ The terms „migration background“, „migrant background“ and „immigrant background“ are all common and are being used synonymously in this report.

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2 SELECTED INDICATORS



2.1 Preliminary Remarks

The 2020 Integration Report for Hessen contains approx. 120 indicators. For this concise version, 22 indicators were selected (marked by an 'X' on the right-hand side in figure 4).

To see all indicators, please refer to the unabridged edition in German. In the German version the indicators are described in more detail. Furthermore, extensive bibliographical references are given to support these explanations.

Also note that the indicators have different levels of significance due to the varying data they are based on (see also chapter 2.4). The following table provides an overall view of all indicators:

Figure 4: Classification of the Indicators of the Hessian Integration Report 2020

Population		
A1	Population of Hessen by migration background and age	X
A2	Population of Hessen by citizenship and migration status	X
A3	Foreign population in Hessen	
A4	Foreign population in Hessen by nationalities	
A5	Foreign population according to residency permits	
Immigration		
Z1	Immigration and emigration	X
Z2	Regions of origin	X
Z3	Citizenship of immigrants	
Z4	Immigrants from the European Union	
Z5	Age distribution	
Z6	Professional qualifications of new immigrants	
Z7	Reasons for immigration	X
Z8	Residency permits for non-EU-Citizens	
Z9	Immigration for working reasons	
Z10	Immigration for family reasons	
Z11	Asylum seekers	X
Z12	Worries about immigration	
Z13	Emigration, listed by citizenship	
Structural components		
	Early childhood education	
B1	Proportion of children attending day-care centres	X
B2	Children with a non-German family language attending day-care centres	
	Education in schools	
B3	Students in 8th grade by type of school	
B4	Student skills in reading and maths	X
B5	Graduation rate	X

	Tertiary education	
B6	Transitional status after completing school	
B7	Percentage of students with a non-university tertiary education	
B8	Different categories of non-university tertiary education	
B9	Students in universities	
B10	First-year students	
B11	Study success rate	
B12	Participation in professional development	
	Human Capital	
B13	School-leaving qualification	
B14	Highest vocational degree	X
	Employment	
C1	Labour force participation rate	
C2	Gainful occupation rate	X
C3	Employment rate of new immigrants	
C4	Atypical occupation	
C5	Marginal employment	
C6	Temporary work	
C7	Working poor	
C8	Concerns about job security	
C9	Classification of employment	
C10	Employment in public service	
	Unemployment	
C11	Inactive labour force rate (ILO concept)	
C12	Unemployment rate	X
	Income, poverty, and welfare	
C13	Net income of families	
C14	Predominant source of income	X
C15	At-risk-of-poverty rate	X
C16	Dependance on minimum social welfare	
C17	Dependance on social assistance for jobseekers	
C18	Evaluation of the personal economic situation	
Social components		
	Living arrangements and habitation	
D1	Number of children per woman	X
D2	Living arrangements in private households	X
D3	Living space per family member	
D4	Home ownership	
D5	Rental burden	X
D6	Personal contacts	

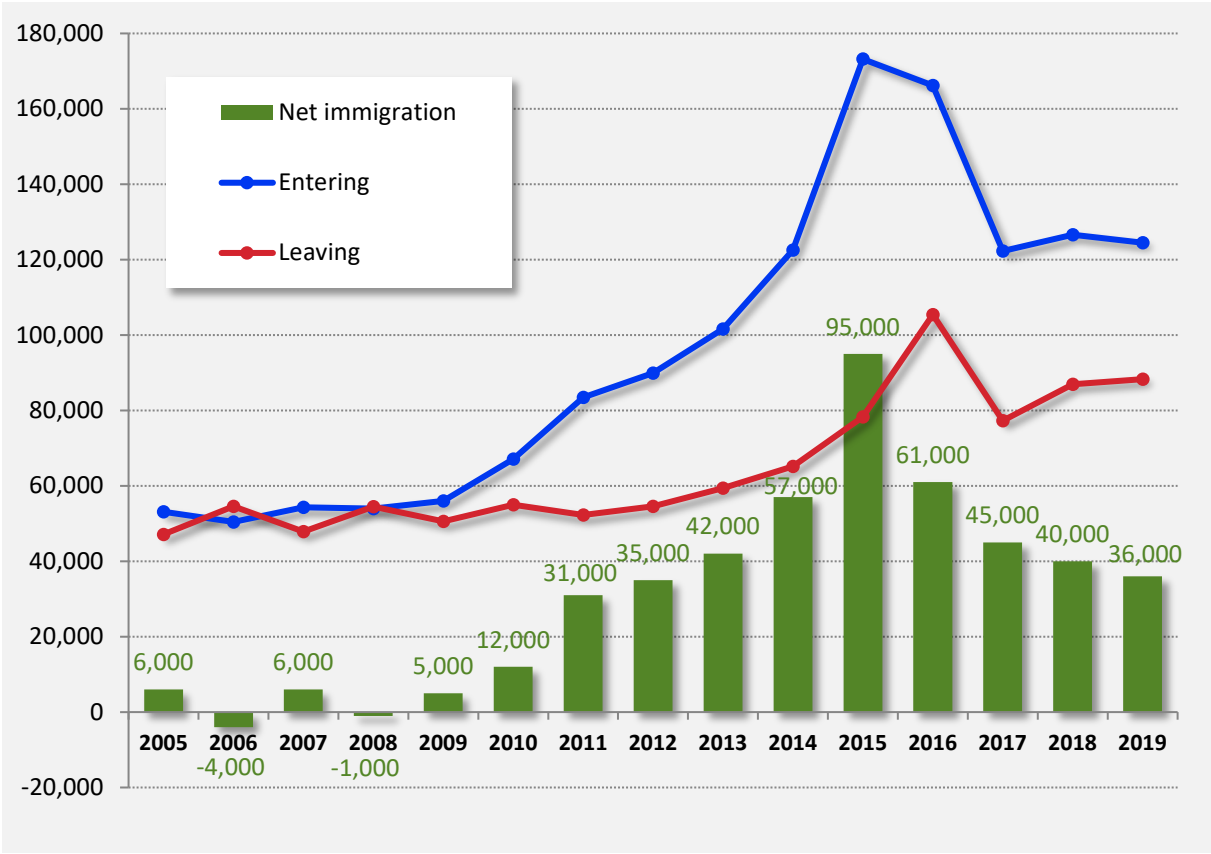
	Health	
D7	Infant mortality rate	
D8	Body Mass Index of children	
D9	Subjective health feeling	X
D11	Persons with disabilities	
D10	Sickness rate	
D13	Behaviour conducive to good health	
	Commitment within the community and political participation	
D14	Voluntary service	
D15	Interest in politics	
D16	Citizens from a migration background who are eligible to vote	
D17	Political commitment	
	Crime	
D18	Criminal suspects	
D19	Convicts	
D20	Prisoners	
Cultural components		
	Language skills in German	
E1	Proficiency in the German language (children)	
E2	Proficiency in the German language (adults)	
E3	Use of the German language at home	X
E4	Participation in integration courses	
E5	Language tests in integration courses	
	Religion	
E6	Religious affiliation	X
E7	Religiosity	
E8	Attitude towards religious diversity	
Identificatory components		
	Feeling of belonging	
F1	Attitude to life in Hessen	X
F2	Feeling of belonging to country of origin and Germany	
	Feeling of exclusion	
F3	Perceived discrimination because of one's origin	X
F4	Concerns about xenophobia	
	Naturalization and overall satisfaction	
F5	Naturalization	
F6	Overall contentedness with life	

The part on refugees contains 37 indicators, such as immigration, sociodemographic data, participation in education, schooling and employment, state transfers, living arrangements, health, religion, identification with Germany and the country of origin.

2.2 Selected Indicators on Immigration

Z1 Immigration and emigration

Definition Number of foreigners that enter and leave Hessen each year	Data Source Immigration Statistics 2005 - 2019
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Today, Hessen faces challenges such as an ageing population and a declining birth rate. Immigration helps to address these issues by contributing to the population and labour force maintenance.

The graph shows that the number of foreigners who immigrate to Hessen from abroad has significantly increased in this millennium (from approx. 53,000 in 2005 to more than 170,000 in 2015). It can be seen, however, that the number of those who leave Hessen each year has grown, too, but is considerably lower than the number of immigrants.

In 2009, net immigration started to increase with a peak in 2015 due to a strong influx of refugees. Since then, the net immigration rate has been falling.¹⁰ However, overall migration remains high compared to former years.

On average, immigrants are younger than the total population (see A1) but less educated.

¹⁰ The numbers here do not include immigration across the borders of Hessen into other states.

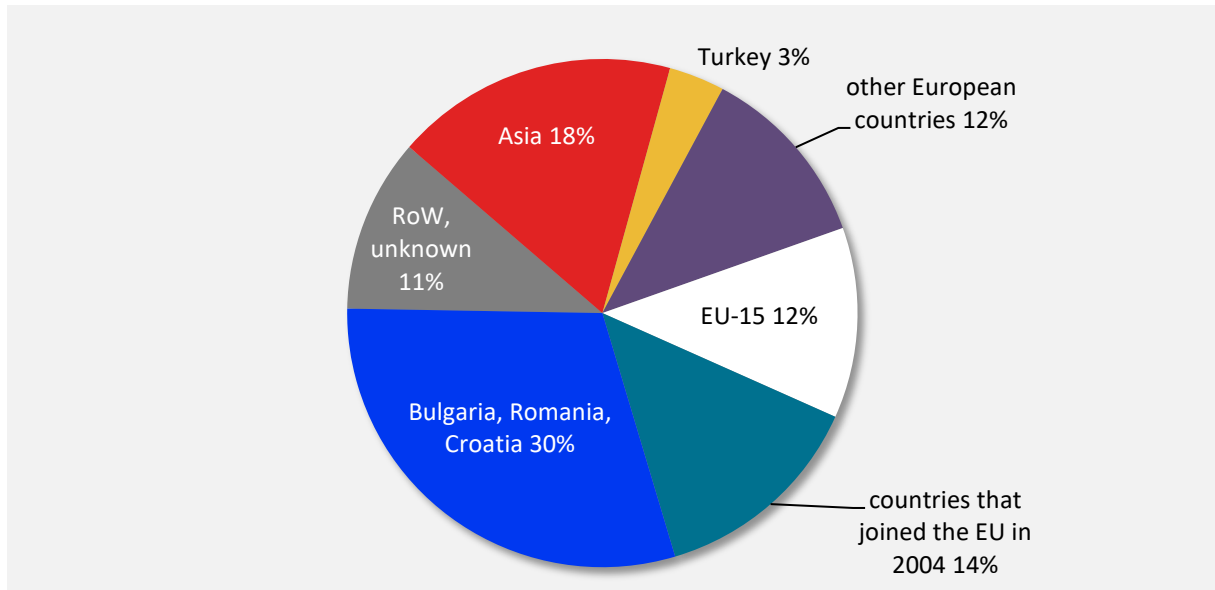
Z2 Regions of origin

Definition

Regions of origin of immigrants (only arrivals)

Data Source

Immigration Statistics 2018



The change in the immigrants' countries of origin is noteworthy: Prior to the 1970s, most immigrants came for occupational reasons from Southern Europe and Turkey. In the 1980s and 1990s many so-called "*Spätaussiedler*" arrived to Hessen – ethnic German resettlers from East European states (mostly Poland) and the former Soviet Union. In the recent decade, EU internal migration was of particular significance, especially from Eastern European countries.

In 2018, too, most immigrants arrived in the context of EU internal migration, in particular from Bulgaria, Romania and Croatia (30 percent), from the EU-accession countries 2004 (e.g. Poland, the Baltic countries; 14 percent) and from the EU-15 countries (12 percent).

18 percent were from Asia (including refugees from Iran, Syria and Iraq) and 3 percent from Turkey – which years before had been one of the former leading countries of origin of immigrants.

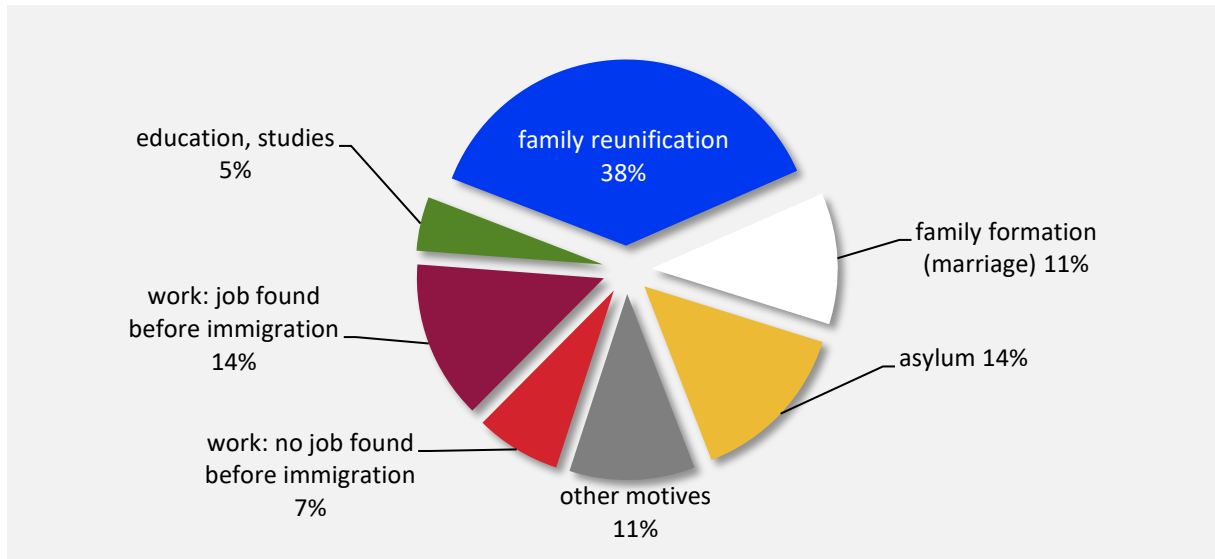
Z7 Reasons for immigration

Definition

Motives for immigration to Germany

Data Source

Microcensus 2018

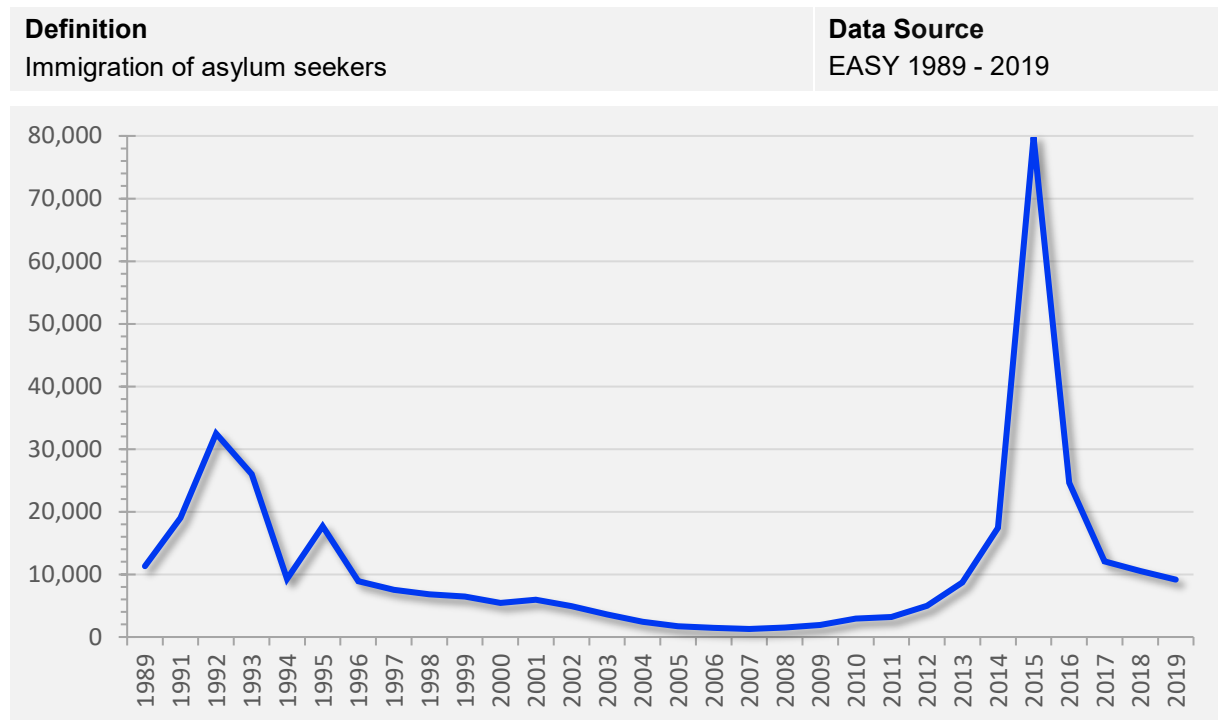


Today, Germany is the second most popular migration destination in the world (OECD-countries) – after the United States. The huge numbers of asylum seekers might indicate that most migrants come to Germany to apply for asylum. However, immigrants are motivated to leave their home countries for a variety of reasons. The Microcensus supplies data on reasons for immigration in Germany, regardless of the year of immigration.

For Hessen it can be shown that the majority arrived to join family members already present here (38 percent); about 11 percent came to start a family. 21 percent immigrated for work reasons; two thirds of them had found a job before arrival. 14 percent sought asylum, 5 percent came for education or studies and 11 percent indicated other motives.

Thus, in the past, the main reason for immigrating in Germany was family reunification, and it still is today.

Z11 Asylum seekers



Since the 1990s, the influx of asylum seekers has risen significantly. In 2015, almost 80,000 refugees came to Hessen to apply for asylum. In 2016, the number fell to 24,615 and decreased further in subsequent years.

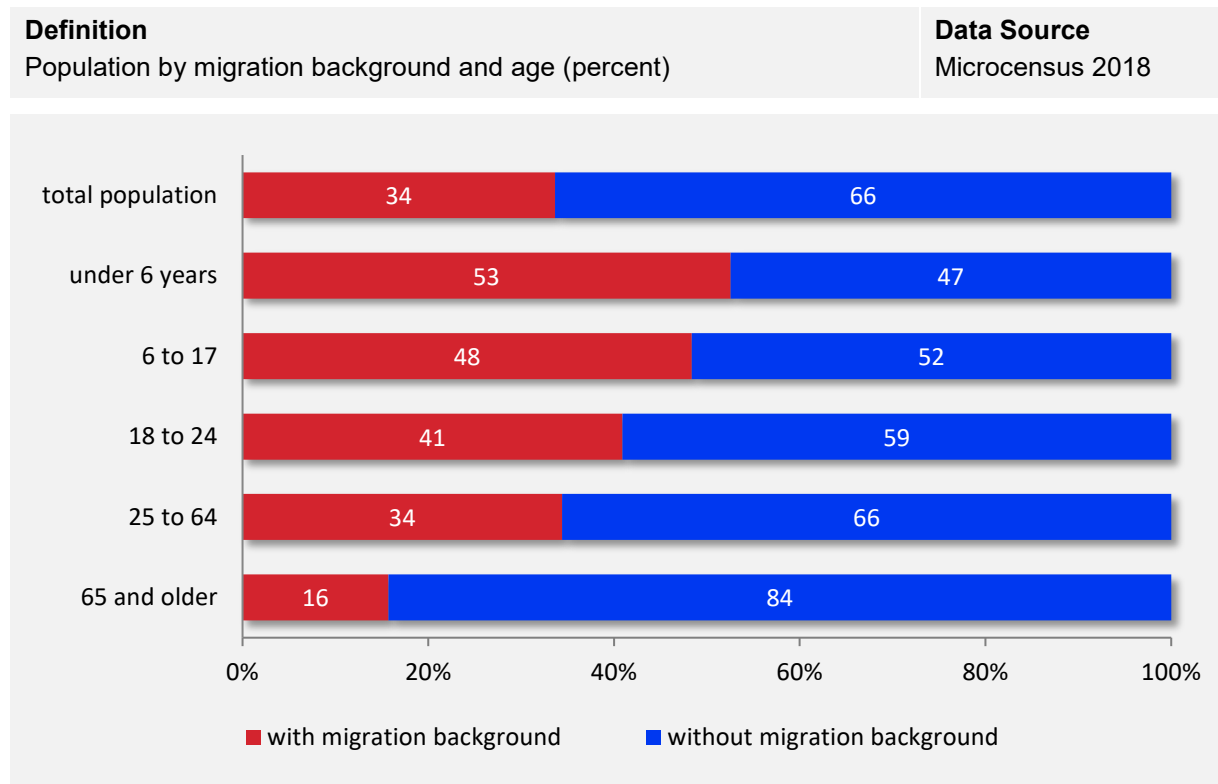
In 2019, the government reported the following main countries of origin of asylum seekers: Turkey, Afghanistan, Iran, Syria, Iraq, and Nigeria.

Asylum seekers tend to be younger than the native population and other migrant groups: 27 percent are less than 20 years old. Two thirds of the refugees are male.

Over the last five years, numerous projects were created in order to provide opportunities for refugees to better become acquainted with Germany, to learn German and to improve their vocational skills, since generally their qualification level is not sufficient to meet German labour market demands.

2.3 Selected Indicators on Population

A1 Population of Hessen



Roughly, 6.2 million people live in Hessen¹¹. From 2005 to 2009, the population slightly decreased, but since 2009, increases have again been recorded. During this time, the demographic structure has changed: The percentage of people with no migration background has slightly decreased, while the share of people with a migration background has increased (to nearly 34 percent in 2018).

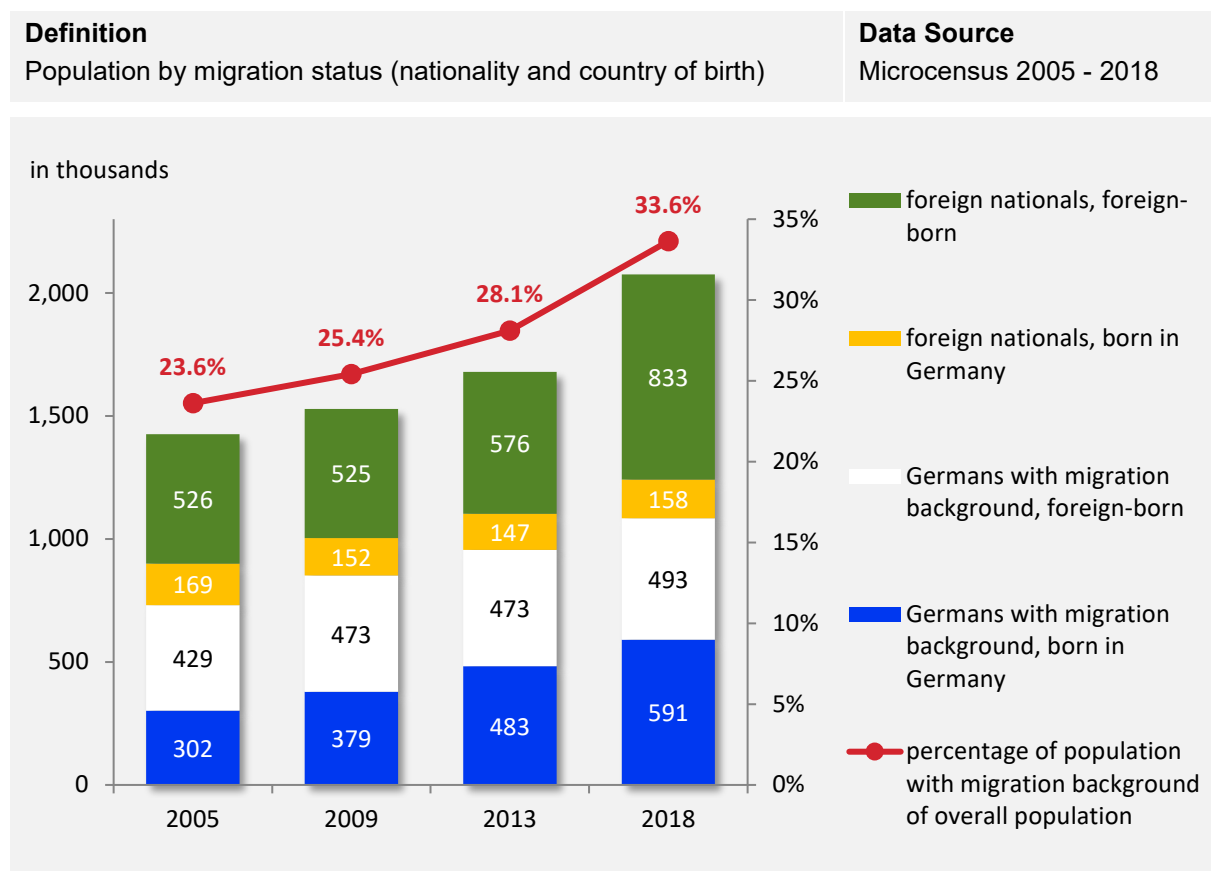
About one-third of all people with an immigrant background in Hessen were born in Germany (second generation); the other two-thirds immigrated themselves (first generation).

As the figure shows, the population with a migration background is, on average, younger than the population without this background. In the age group 65 and older, only 16 percent have an immigrant background. In contrast, children and teenagers with a migration background represent about half of their age group.

Overall, it can be expected that the share of people with an immigrant background will increase in the future – due to immigration, age and different reproductive behavior.

¹¹ Data for Germany is presented in the following press release: https://www.destatis.de/EN/Press/2019/08/PE19_314_12511.html

A2 Population of Hessen by migration status



The population with migration background is very diverse. This suggests a closer look on the composition of the migrant population as a whole.

In this figure, a distinction is made between Germans and foreign nationals and the countries of birth (German-born vs. foreign-born). Thus, four groups of people with a migration background can be identified.

The green segments of the columns in the diagram show a huge influx of foreigners after 2009 who were born abroad. The white segments represent a large number of German immigrants: This group includes mainly “*Spätaussiedler*” – ethnic German resettlers from East European states (mostly Poland and the former Soviet Union; white segments). The third major group comprises Germans with a migration background who were born in Germany by migrant parents (blue segment). They are an important and rapidly growing sub-group of the so-called “second generation”.

The citizenship reform in the year 2000 introduced the birthright citizenship for children born in Germany to parents of non-German citizenship. Thus, today German citizenship is acquired automatically by virtue of a child’s birth within Germany, and consequently the number of foreign nationals born in Germany became small.

2.4 Selected Indicators on Immigrant Integration

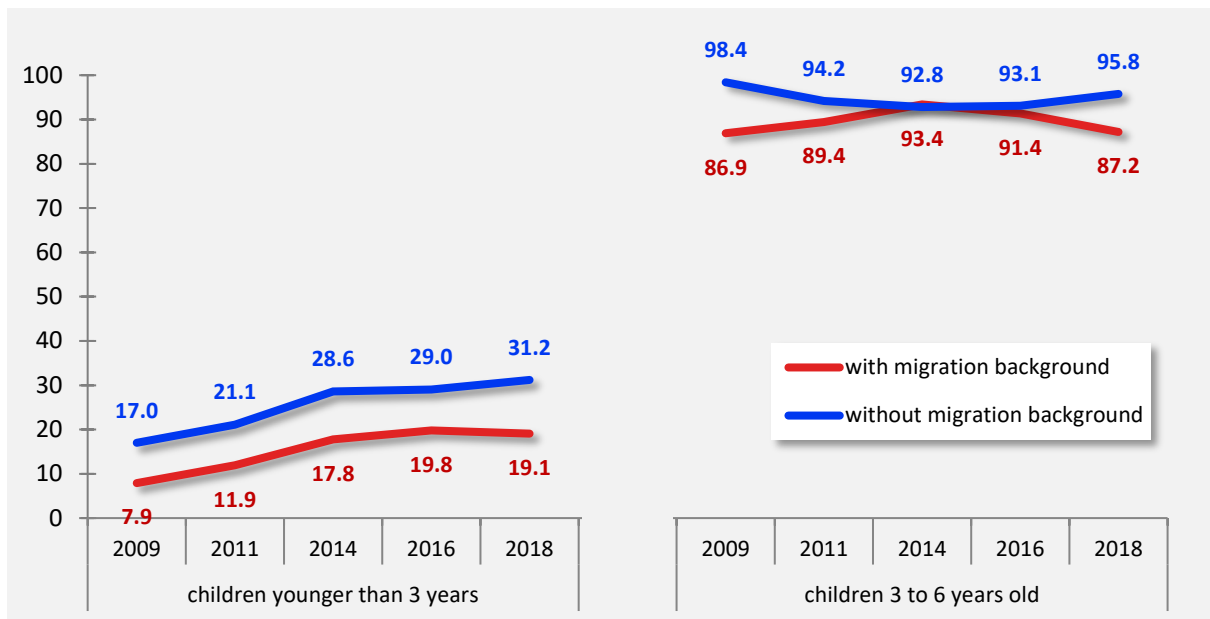
B1 Early childhood education – children attending day-care centres

Definition

Percentage of children from a migration background (in different age brackets) attending daycare centres

Data Source

German Federal Statistical Office 2009 - 2016



Relevant studies show that early childhood development is crucial for later educational achievement, and childcare centres complement the education a child receives at home. The “institutional education time” in daycare can help children from underprivileged families and/or with inadequate language skills to do better. Particularly, the development of language skills at a young age plays a key role in an immigrant’s integration in school and in further education.

In Hessen, the use of daycare centres has risen during recent years and continues to grow. In 2018, 95 percent of children ages 3 to 6 without and 87 percent of children with an immigrant background attend daycare. Thus, the gap between children of this age group with and without a migration background that had narrowed has started to grow again. The reasons are not understood completely.

However, a larger difference exists between children under the age of three: Only 19 percent from an immigrant background attend daycare, while 31 percent out of those without a foreign background do so. One reason might be that mothers with migration background are less frequently employed than other mothers and care for the children themselves.

It must be kept in mind that nearly one third of the children in daycare centres come from a family that does not speak German at home. These children often tend to concentrate in certain kindergarten, where they might tend to interact with children of their own linguistic background. This probably has a negative impact on learning the German language.

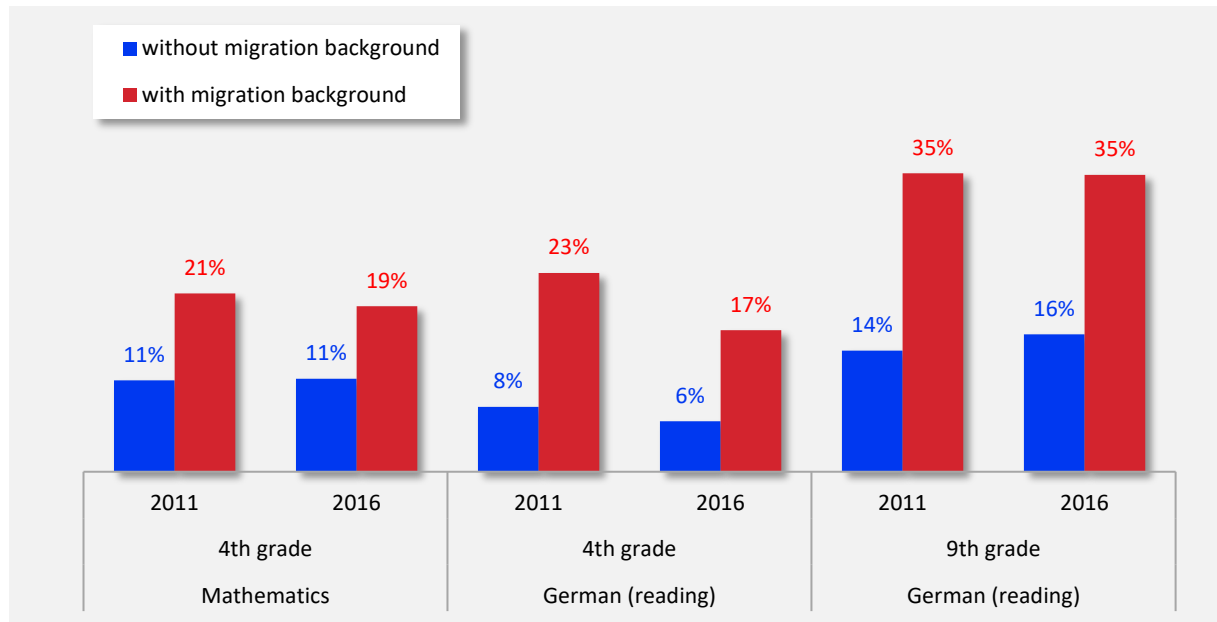
B4 Student skills in reading and maths

Definition

Share of pupils in 4th and 9th grade that miss the minimum standards in reading and maths

Data Source

IQB-Bildungstrend
2011 - 2016



Students need to meet a minimum standard of literacy and numeracy – not only for their later opportunities in the labour market but also for participation in everyday life.

Assessment is an essential element of education. Thus, the Conference of Education Ministers developed standards for pupils in all German *Länder* (federal states). Schools are required to test students in reading and mathematics in grades 4 and 9.

Results show that in 2016 at 4th grade 11 percent of the students without migration background and 16 percent of the students from migrant families missed the minimum standards in mathematics, while 6 percent of the students with no immigrant background and 17 percent with such a background did not master the standards in reading.

Grade 9 examination show even worse results of the reading tests: 16 percent of those with no immigrant background do not succeed as compared to 35 percent of students from an immigrant background. This shows that the gap between students with and without migration background widens between grade 4 and 9.

A lot of research has been carried out on this gap. Weaker cultural, economic, and human capital in the family, i.e. social class differences, is the main approach towards explaining underachievement of students from an immigrant background.

In recent years, at least results at primary schools have improved slightly. However, teachers and their students still deal with a number of important challenges.

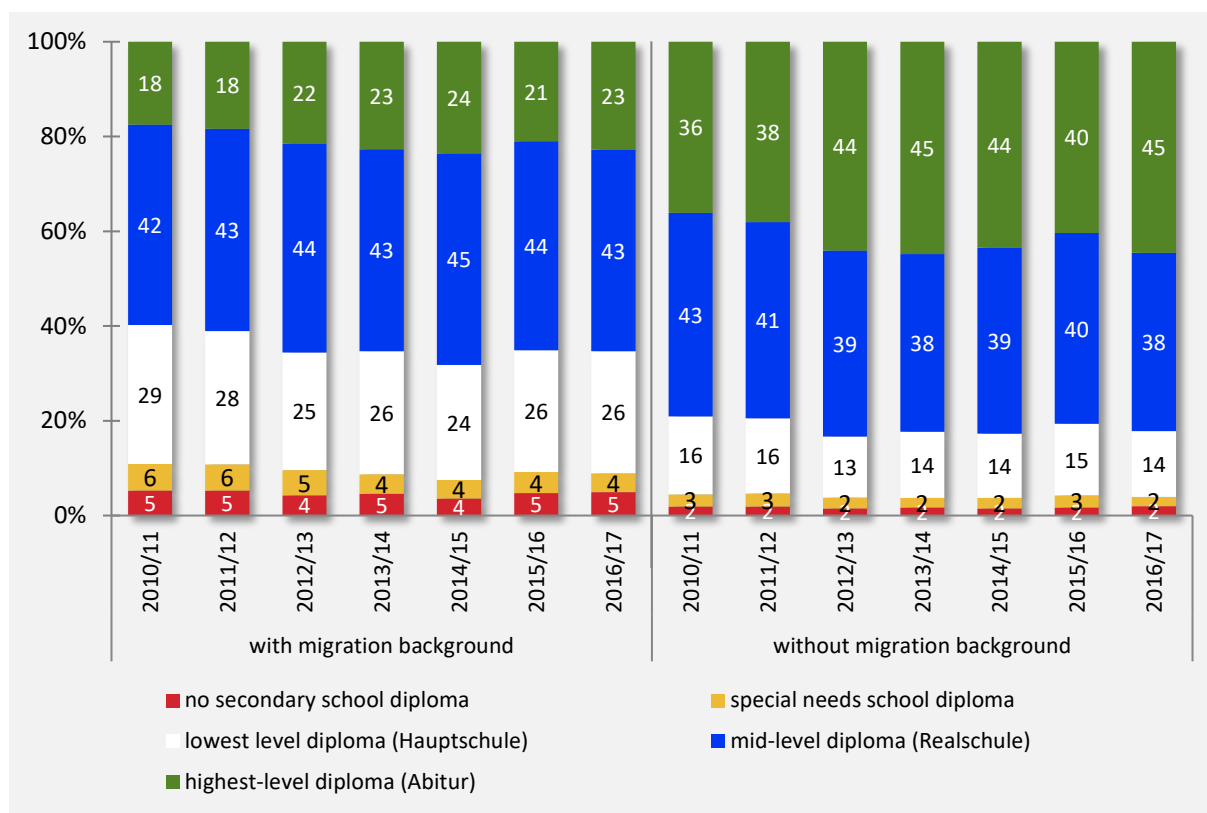
B5 Graduation rate

Definition

Graduation rates of students in different levels of secondary school

Data Source

School statistics
2010 - 2017



This indicator measures the type of diploma students achieve at the end of their secondary school career¹². The type of diploma students receive has a significant influence on their further education and their opportunities in the labour market.

The indicator shows that those from an immigrant background are more likely to have no diploma (5 percent vs. 2 percent) or the lowest level secondary school diploma (*Hauptschulabschluss*) (26 percent vs. 14 percent). This statistic is especially true for male students; the educational difference is smaller, however, between the mid-level high school diploma (*Realschulabschluss*) (43 percent vs. 38 percent). Yet, at the highest level of educational attainment in high school (*Abitur*), the difference between the two groups hovers around 20 percentage points.

Between 2005 and 2017, there has been a trend towards the attainment of higher education degrees both by students with and without a migration background. Regardless, the number of students from an immigration background who complete the highest-level of education (*Abitur*) is still much lower than of students without this background.

¹² Children generally start school at the age of six. Around ten, the children move on to secondary schools. For secondary schools, the German educational system splits into three different levels: the *Gymnasium*, the *Realschule*, and the *Hauptschule*. After graduating from a *Hauptschule* or *Realschule*, students move on to vocational training (*Duale Ausbildung* and *Berufsschule*). After graduating from a *Gymnasium*, students take the *Abitur*. While the *Abitur* is the prerequisite for admission to a university, a course at a university of applied sciences (*Fachhochschulreife*) can be started a year before the completion of the *Abitur*.

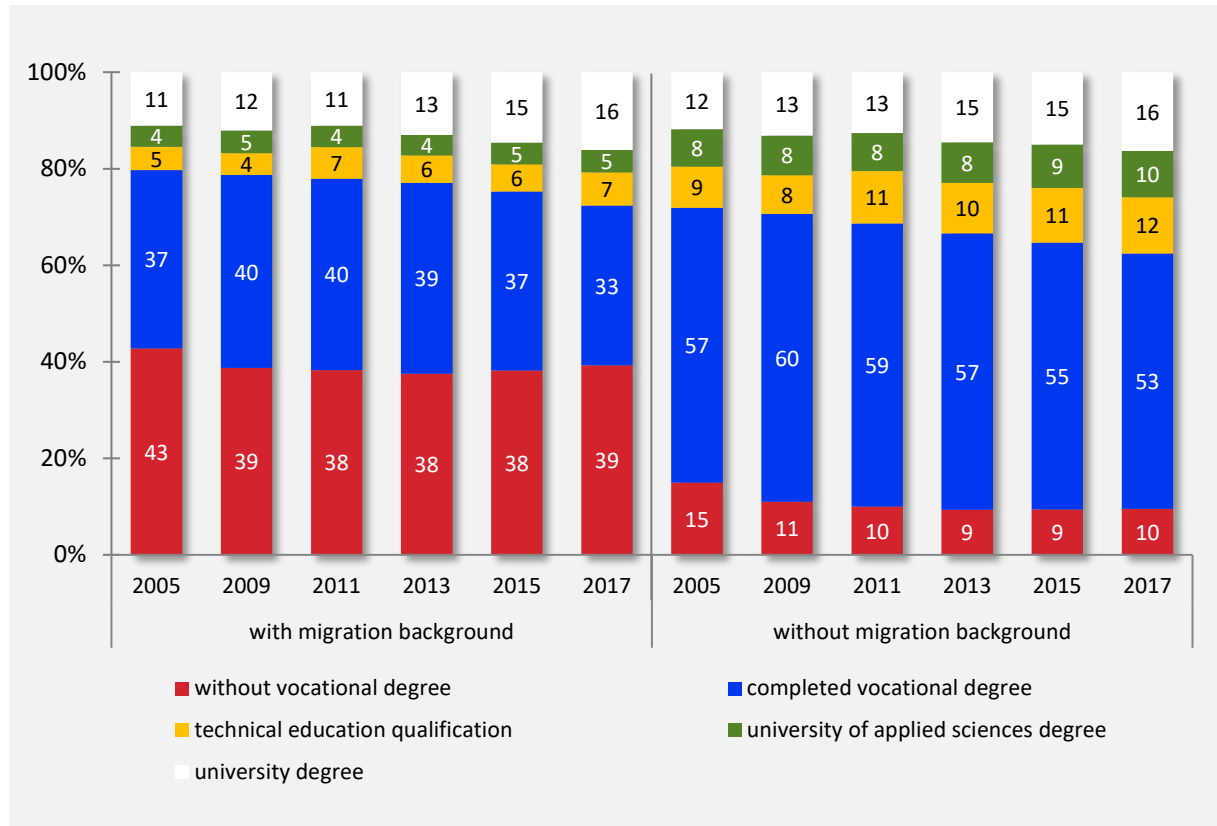
B14 Highest vocational degree

Definition

Proportion of people (ages 15 to 65) with and without migration background who hold a vocational or tertiary degree

Data Source

Microcensus
2005 - 2017



Skills affect access to the labour market, job chances, professional status, income, and thus participation in society. In Germany, a completed vocational training or apprenticeship (*Berufsausbildung*) is a significant requirement for starting a career and preventing unemployment.

The indicator shows that the population of working age with a migration background has attained a significantly lower level of education than people without a migration background. Many received only a low level of schooling and have not completed professional qualifications (38 percent vs. 9 percent of people without a migration background). One of the reasons is the recruitment of low-qualified migrant workers in the 1950s and 1960s and the subsequent arrival of family members to join them. However, the proportion of those holding a university degree is similar in both groups.

Since 2005, the share of low-skilled people decreased while the share of university graduates rose.

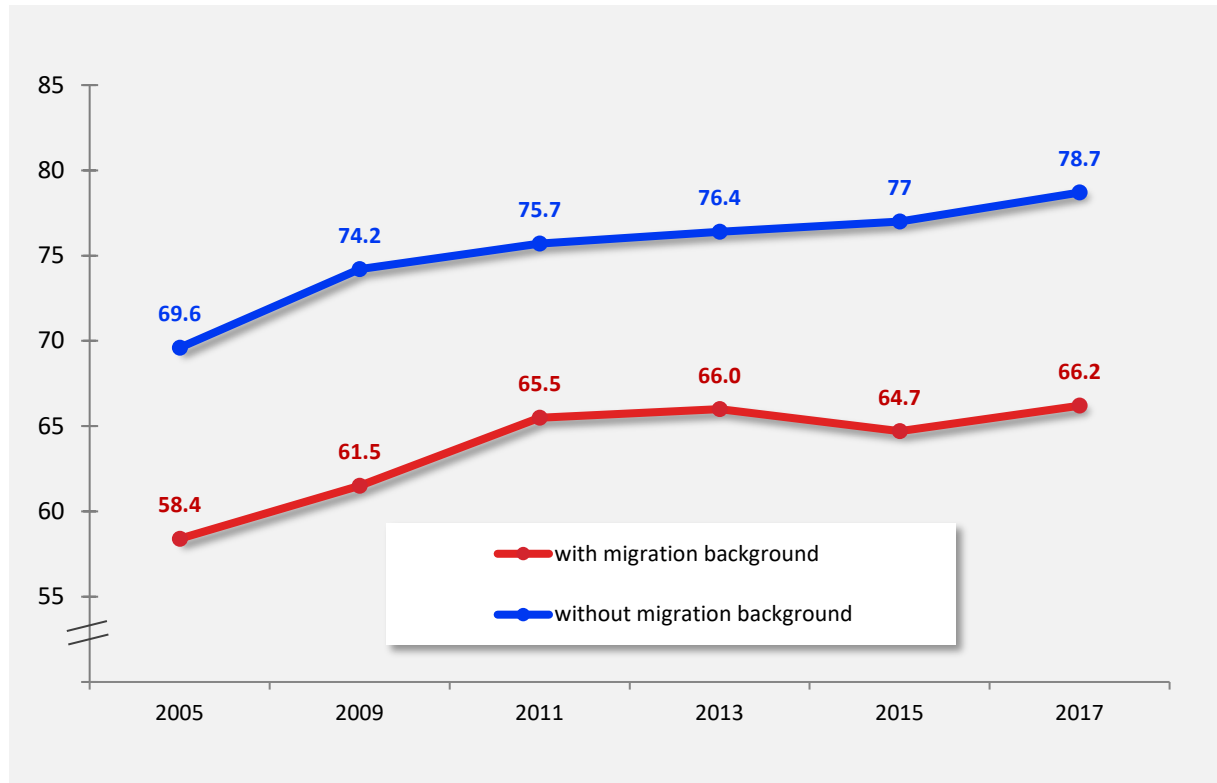
C2 Gainful occupation rate

Definition

Proportion of gainfully employed people (ages 15 to 65) with and without a migration background (percent)

Data Source

Microcensus
2005 - 2017



Participation in working life is considered an important factor in the social integration of migrants. The employment rate describes the percentage of the entire labour force that is gainfully employed and provides important information on integration within the labour market. In Germany, the definition of “working-age” is between 15 and 65.

The employment rate of people with an immigrant background is lower than that of people without that background; for both groups, women have a lower employment rate than men. This is partially because immigrants on average have a lower qualification level (or German authorities do not formally recognize their qualifications).

Between 2005 and 2017, the employment rate increased as a whole. The employment rate for people without a migration background increased from 70 percent to 79 percent, and the employment rate for people from an immigrant background increased from 58 percent to 66 percent. Since 2009, the difference in employment rate between people with and without a migration background has decreased, but an “employment gap” of roughly 13 percent still exists. The difference in employment rates underlines the fact that people with an immigrant background are disproportionately unemployed. Moreover, the difference in employment rates between women with and without an immigrant background is high (59 percent to 76 percent).

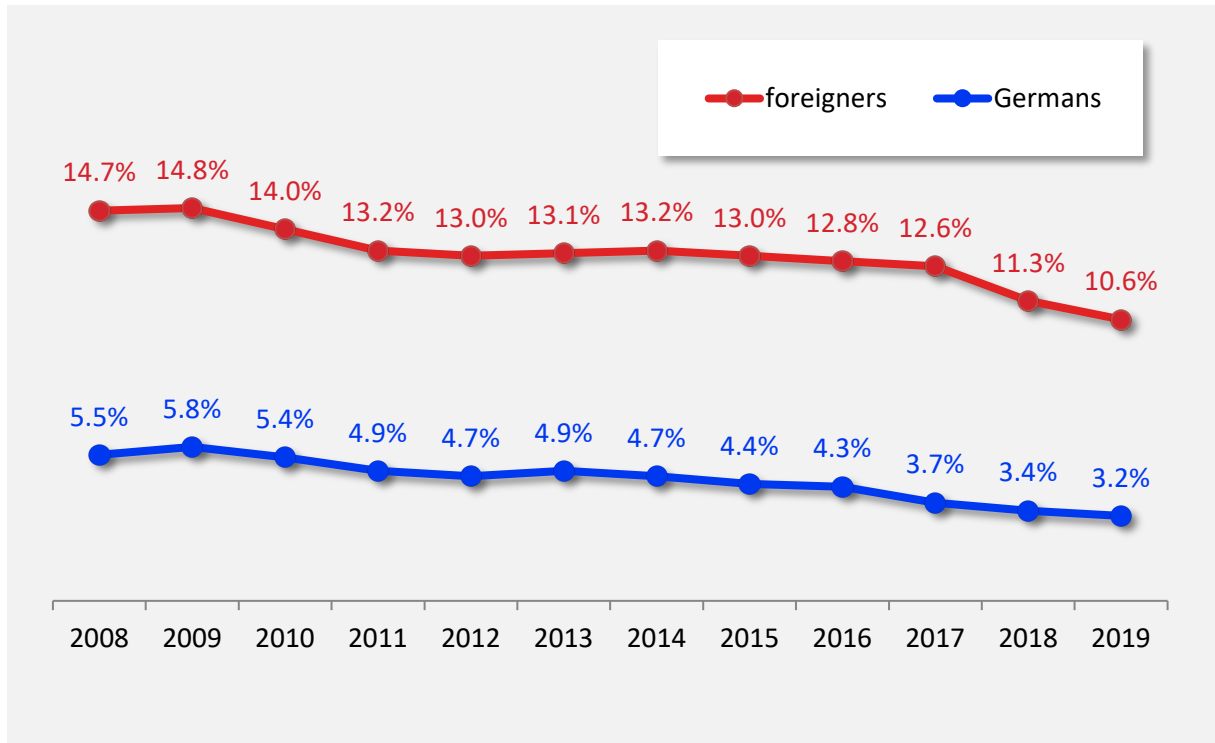
C12 Unemployment rate

Definition

Unemployment rate (percent) of the total labour force

Data Source

Unemployment statistics
2008 - 2019



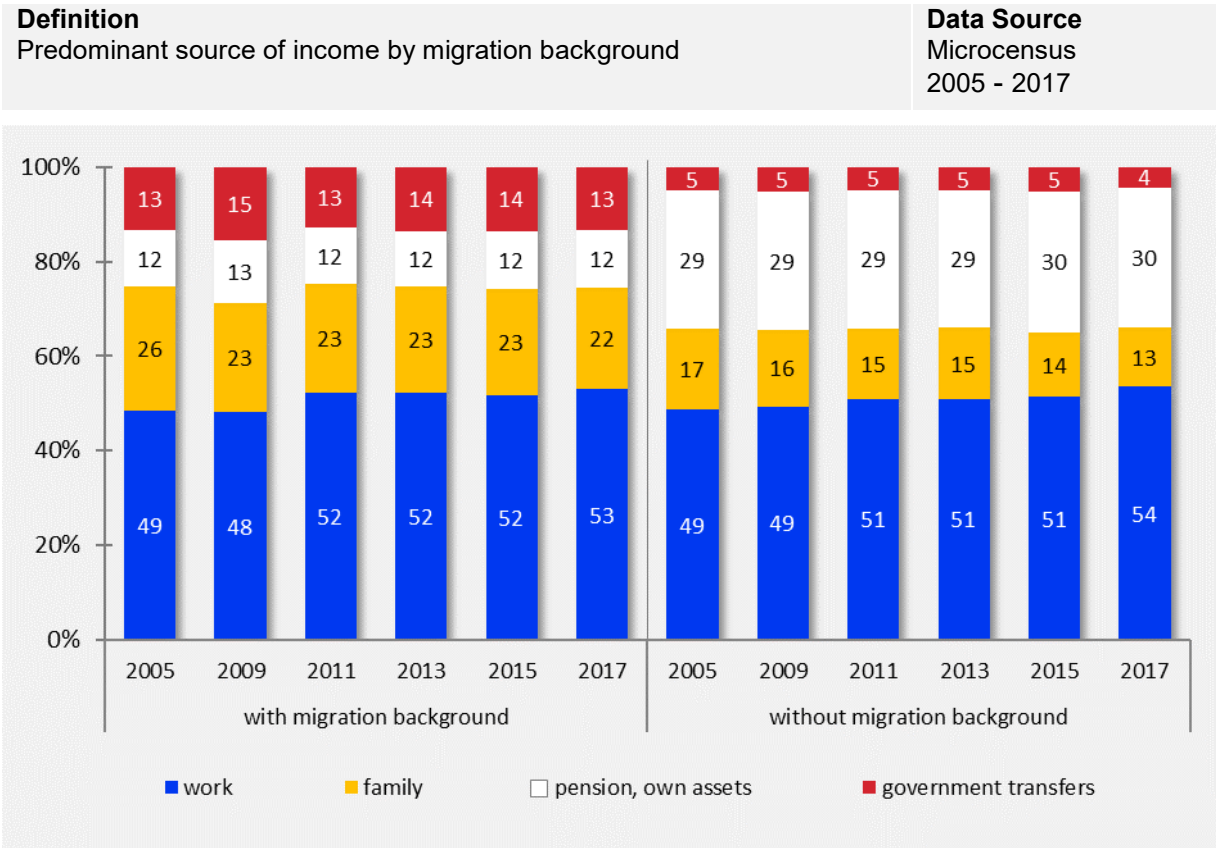
According to § 16 SGB III (*Sozialgesetzbuch – Social Security Code*), a person is legally registered as unemployed if the person (1) is not employed for more than 15 hours/week, (2) is seeking employment and is considered to take a job offer from the Employment Agency, and (3) registers him- or herself as unemployed at an Employment Agency¹³.

The unemployment rate for foreigners remains higher in Hessen than the total unemployment rate for Germans (as is the case throughout Germany). A key reason behind these data is the fact that foreigners are less qualified on the average. However, a positive trend was noticed between 2008 and 2019 for both foreigners and German citizens. The unemployment rate for foreigners dropped from 14.7 percent to 10.6 percent, and the unemployment rate for German citizens decreased from 5.5 percent to 3.2 percent.

It is expected that the Corona crisis will claim thousands of jobs in the near future.

¹³ See also <https://www.destatis.de/EN/FactsFigures/NationalEconomyEnvironment/LabourMarket/Unemployment/Unemployment.html>

C14 Predominant source of income



The level of a household’s income is closely associated with its source of income. For more than half of both migrant and non-migrant households their salary is the predominant source of income.

It is evident that households without members in employment are more dependent on public transfers. Due to the higher unemployment rate of migrants (resp. the lower gainful occupation rate, see the previous indicators C2 and C12) the share of those whose predominant source of income is public transfers is higher within this group while the percentage of those who depend mainly upon pensions (or own assets) is higher within the households without immigrant backgrounds.

It is worth noting that migrant households rely more often on family support than non-migrant households.

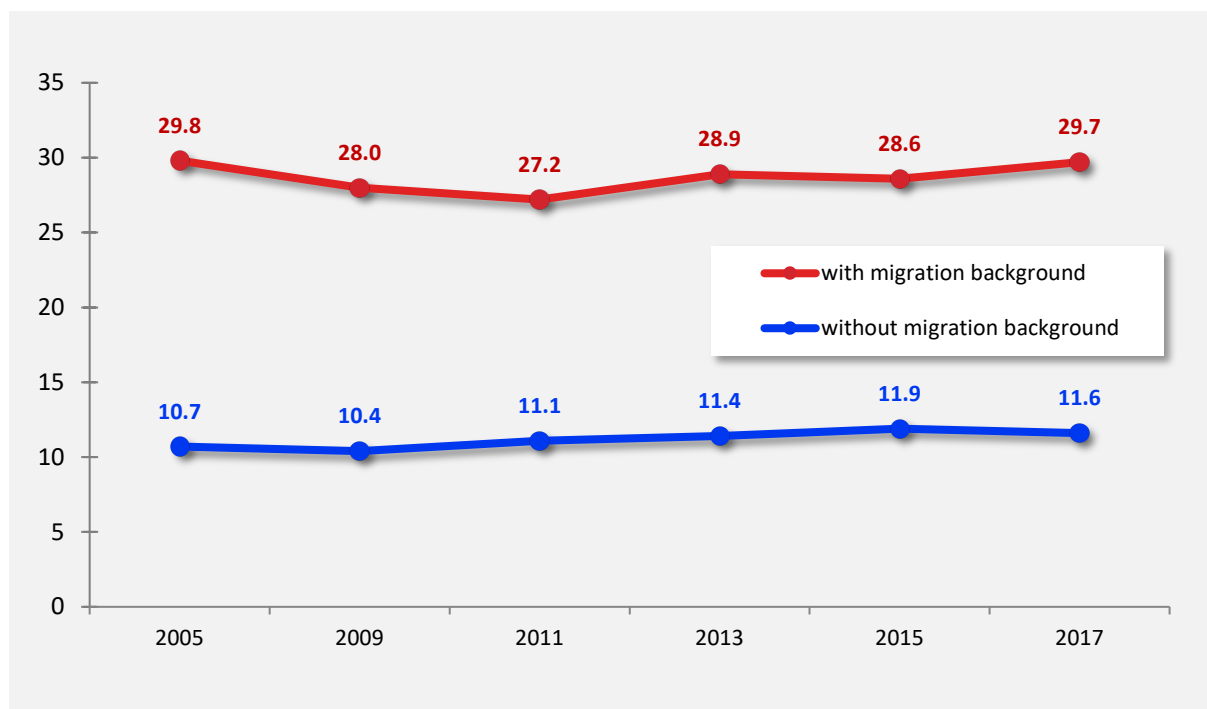
C15 At-risk-of-poverty rate

Definition

Share of people whose equivalised disposable income is less than 60 percent of the population's median¹⁴

Data Source

Microcensus
2005 - 2017



Poverty affects different areas of life. This indicator depicts the at-risk-of-poverty rate, which is defined as living on less than 60 percent of the median income of the Hessian population. Thus, the risk of poverty measured here is a statistical indicator that measures the inequality of income and is always interpreted in relation to total income (meaning one cannot directly compare this indicator to other regions or states).

People with a migration background have a significantly higher risk of poverty than those without this characteristic (30 percent to 12 percent).

People with an immigrant background who hold the German nationality have a much lower risk of poverty than foreigners do. In all population groups, women are more frequently at risk of poverty than men. In addition, the poverty rate of children and young adults with a migration background is significantly higher than the rate of children and young adults without that background. This mismatch applies also to the age group above 65.

¹⁴ See also the Eurostat definition: https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/Glossary:At-risk-of-poverty_rate

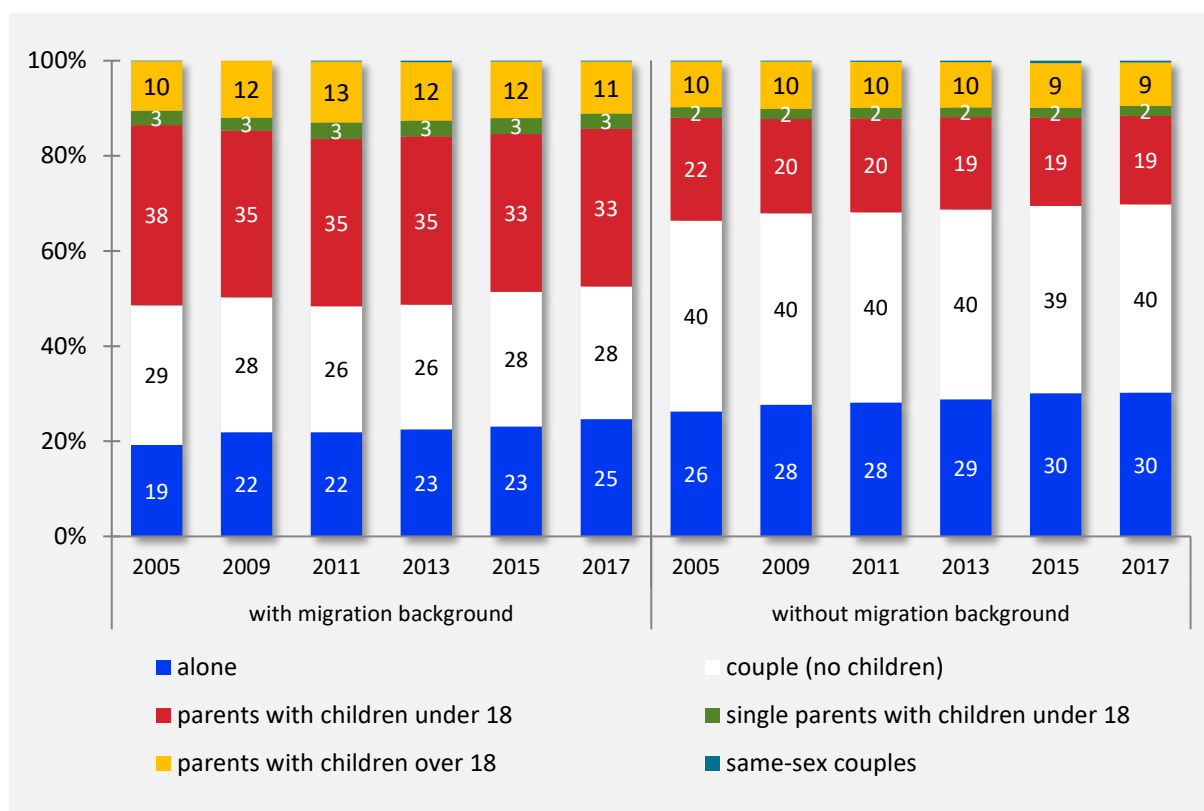
D2 Living arrangements in private households

Definition

Living arrangements in private households

Data Source

Microcensus 2005 - 2017



Despite a declining household size, living with others is the most frequent form of lifestyle in Hessen¹⁵. People from a migration background often live in a family with children (44 percent) compared to people without that background (28 percent). Adults without an immigrant background live more often together as couples without children (40 percent to 28 percent) or alone (30 percent to 25 percent). Roughly one in four adults with a migration background and one in three adults without this background live alone. Only 2 to 3 percent of the population live as a single parent. Same-sex partnerships were not recorded due to the small number of cases found in the population with a migration background.

During this reporting period, it was observed that the living arrangements for the entire population are slowly changing, with a trend towards a declining percentage of families and an increasing proportion of single-person households.

¹⁵ In Hessen, the average household size has decreased from 3.0 in 1950 to 2.31 in 2019. The number of households in this period has risen from 1.4 million to 2.9 million (Statistical Office of Hessen). This change may have occurred because of lower birth rates, increased life expectancy, increase in partnerships with separate financial management, and high professional mobility among the younger and middle-aged population (see <https://statistik.hessen.de/zahlen-fakten/bevoelkerung-gebiet-haushalte-familien/haushalte-familien/tabellen>).

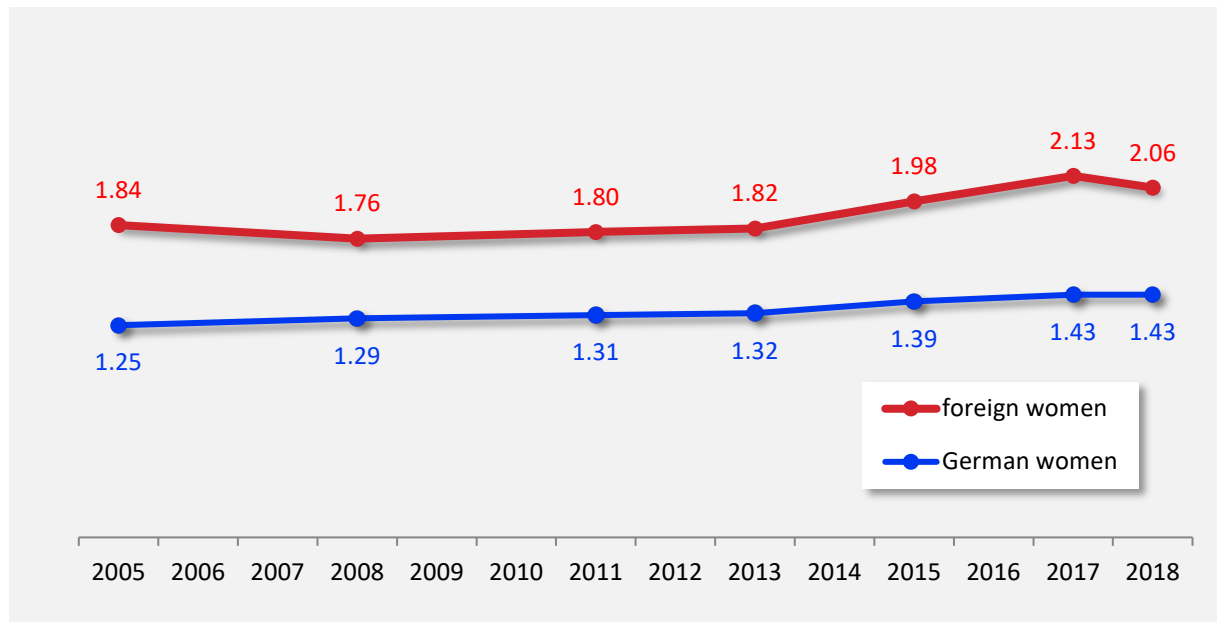
D1 Number of children per woman

Definition

Number of children per woman (ages 15-45), by nationality

Data Source

Statistical Office of Hessen
2005 - 2018



For years, the average number of children per woman in Germany has decreased. Today, women are, on average, older when they give birth to their first child. The reasons discussed in social studies include better education, increased employment, the desire for more financial independence, and the increased monetary and non-monetary costs of children.

The data for Hessen shows that non-German women give birth to more children than German women (2.06 vs. 1.43 in 2018).

Compared to women without an immigrant background, immigrant women are younger at the birth of their first child and have more children. This might be one of the reasons why they are less often employed (see indicator C2). It is also evident that the average birth rate of foreign women has slightly increased since 2005.

Thus, there does not seem to be any evidence to assume that migrant women adapt their family planning and fertility level to that of German women. Unfortunately, there is no data available to analyse the number of children by migration background.

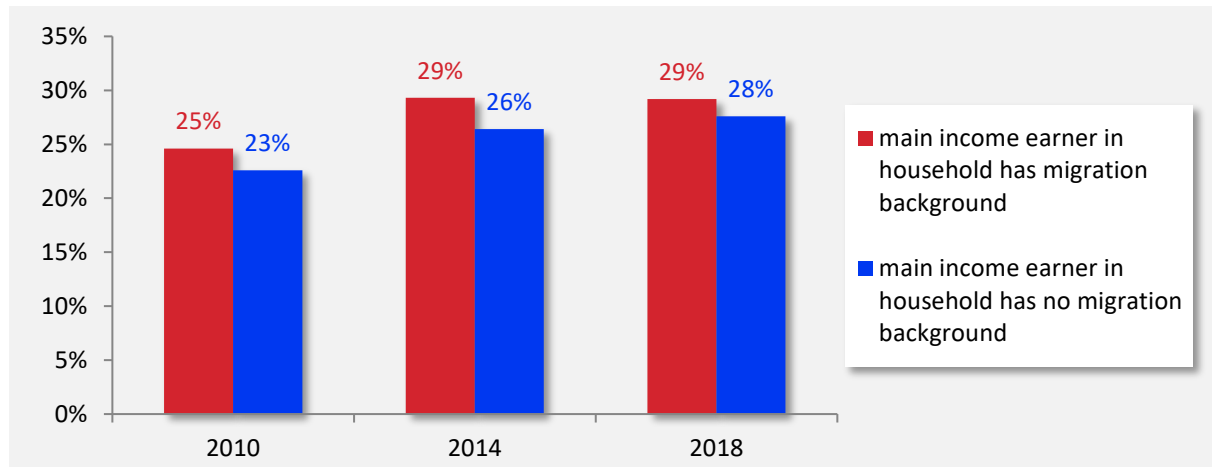
D5 Rental burden

Definition

Rent-to-income ratio: proportion of disposable net household income spent on rent

Data Source

Microcensus
2010 - 2018



Homeownership brings benefits such as belonging to a community. Additionally, the costs of housing might be less and more stable than renting a home. In Germany, home ownership is not as widespread as in many other countries.

Hessen shows large differences between migrant and non-migrant families concerning homeownership; the rate is 24 percent compared to 52 percent.

It is well known that migrant families prefer to live in cities rather than rural areas. However, flats there are smaller and rents are higher. Thus, migrant families with children under 18 on average live on 26 square meters of habitable surface per person, while for non-migrant families the mean surface is 37 square meters.

It is interesting to note that the rent-to-income ratio of migrant households and non-migrant households is similar (29 percent vs. 28 percent) – even though rents have risen considerably in recent years.

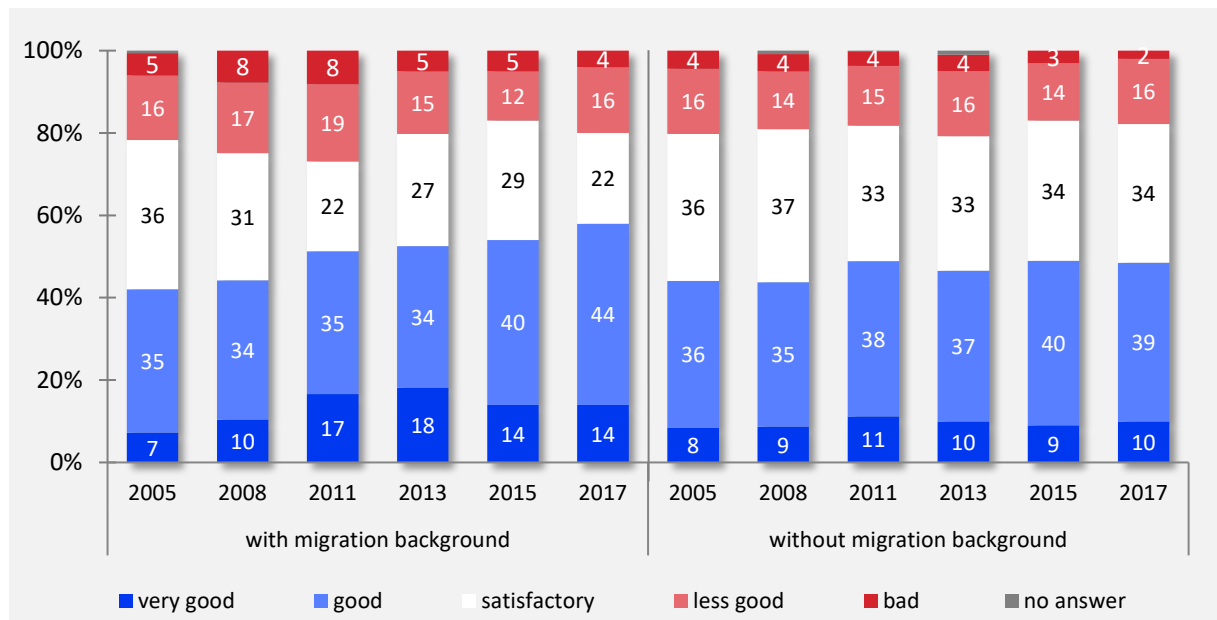
D9 Health

Definition

Self-perceived-health (self-rated)

Data Source

SOEP 2005 - 2017



Health is an important factor of wellbeing. Unfortunately, few data is available on the health situation of immigrants in Hessen. Therefore, this indicator is based on a subjective self-assessment of health, which is ascertained with the question: "How would you describe your current health condition?". This approach is recommended by the WHO and is also used in other integration reports.

The figure displays the shares of respondents in each of the five answer categories (very good to bad) on self-perceived health by migration background. In 2017, 14 percent of migrants feel that they enjoy a very good health condition compared to 10 percent of non-migrants. 44 percent regard themselves as in good health (vs. 39 percent). 22 percent consider their health status as satisfactory (vs. 34 percent). The share of respondents reporting less good and bad health is equal in both groups.

The time comparison indicates that the proportion of migrants who perceive their health as good has increased significantly and has overtaken that of people without a migration background, so in 2017 people from a migration background were a little more content with their health than those without migration background. This might be partially explained by the fact that they are younger on average.

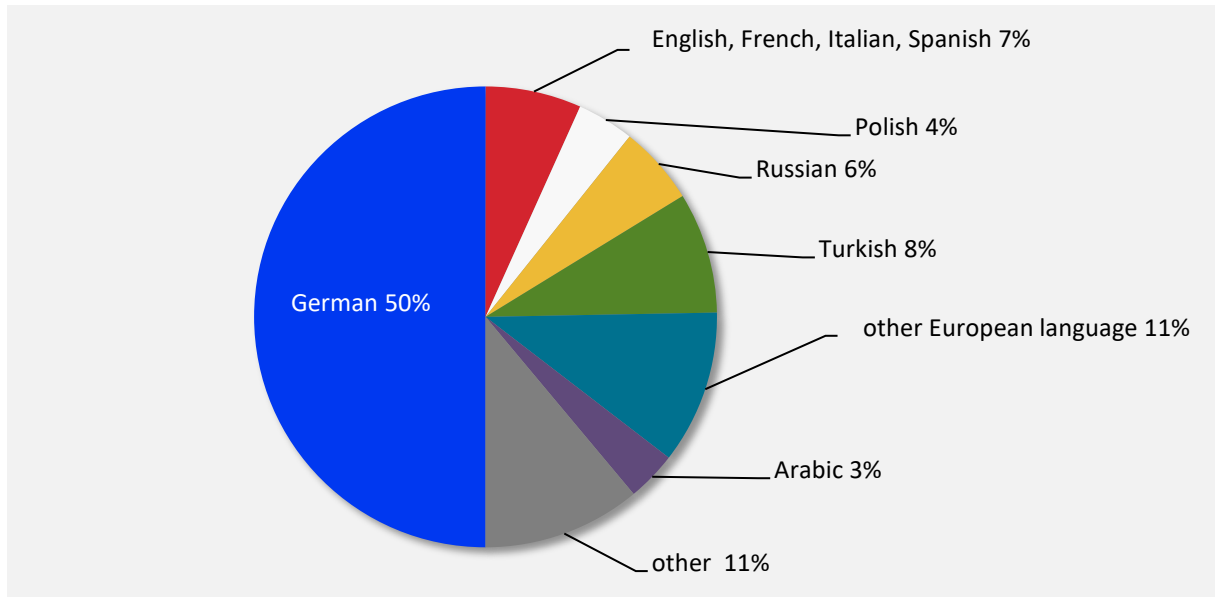
E3 Use of German language at home

Definition

Predominant use of German in private households by people with a migration background

Data Source

Microcensus 2017

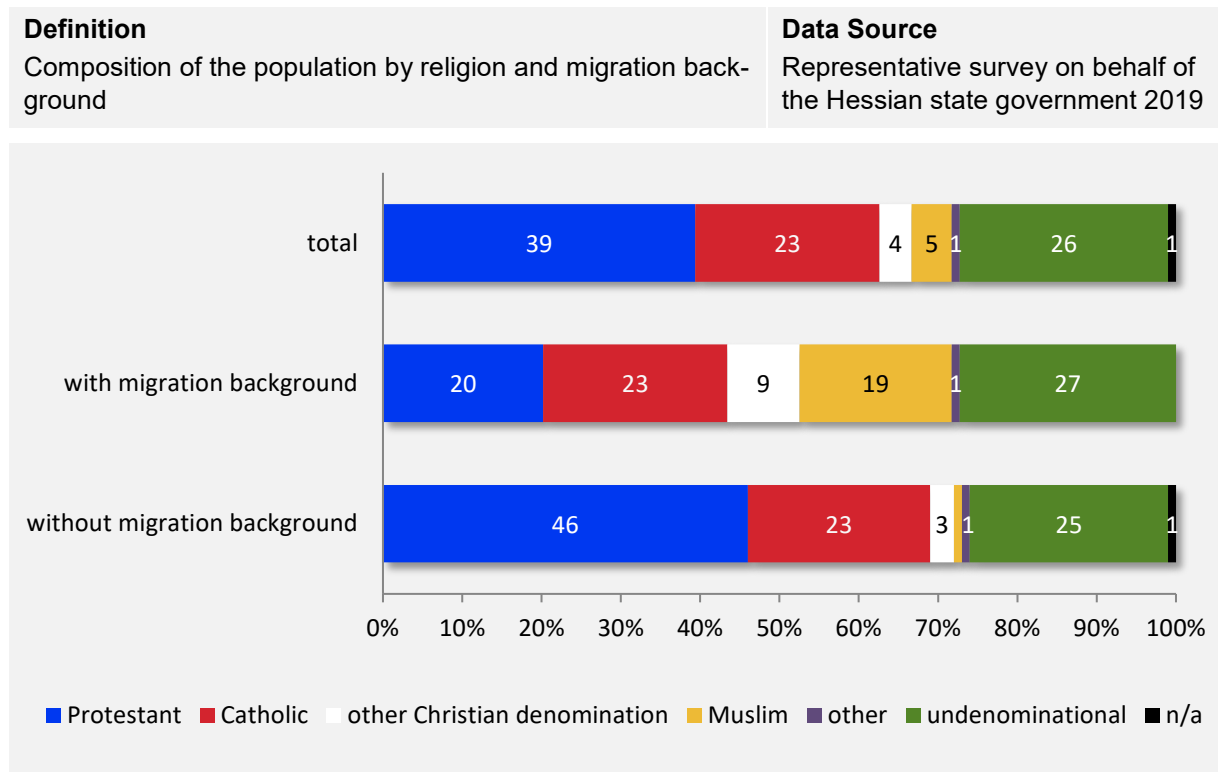


The use of the German language is an important element in the integration of immigrants and their children. Mastering the German language is not only a prerequisite for a successful acquisition of education and an easier integration into working life, but it also allows for social acceptance and recognition.

At home, we use the language we feel most comfortable with; in many families, languages are mixed. Sometimes the language changes depending on the topic. So this indicator rather hints at diversity than at integration.

The indicator shows that half of those from a migration background mainly speak German at home, 28 percent mainly speak another European language such as English, Spanish or Polish. 8 percent mostly use the Turkish language and 3 percent use Arabic.

E6 Religious affiliation



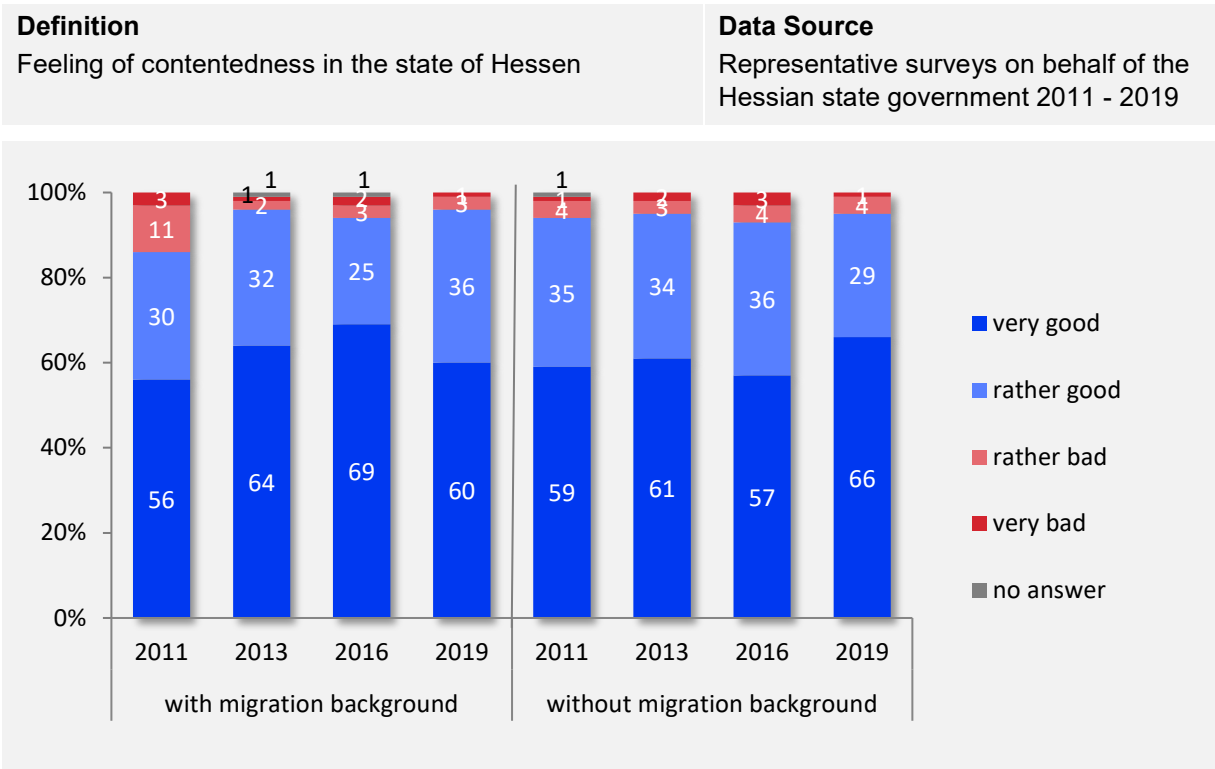
From a historical perspective, Hessen was a predominantly Protestant state. With growing heterogeneity of society through migration, Hessen nowadays is home to many different religions. As public registers collect data only for Protestants and Catholics, the Hessian Government has tried to research the religious affiliation through a specific representative survey.

The figure shows that the largest group of migrants profess no religious belief (27percent vs. 25 percent of non-migrants). 23 percent are Catholics (vs. 23 percent), 20 percent Protestants (compared to 46 percent) and 9 percent belong to smaller Christian denominations (vs. 3 percent). 19 percent consider themselves Muslims (vs. 1 percent). The overall share in Muslims is around 5 percent of the whole population.

It should be kept in mind that the survey results may underestimate the number of Muslims e.g. due to language problems.

Furthermore, segregated communities might be beyond reach in telephone interviews.

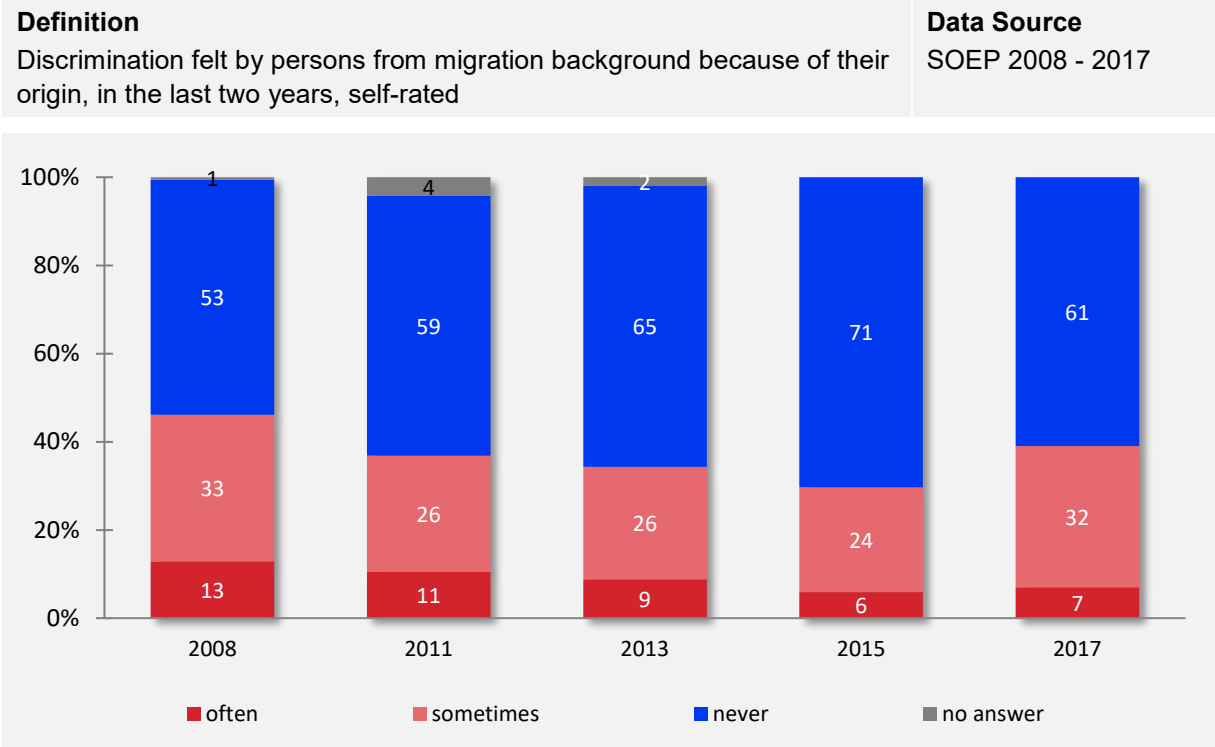
F1 Feeling of contentedness in Hessen



The question “How do you feel in Hessen?” is used regularly by the government to measure how comfortable people feel in this German *Land*. The latest report found that 96 percent of people with and 95 percent of people without an immigrant background in Hessen feel “very good” or “rather good”.

In the time period between 2011 and 2019, the share of people from migration background who stated they were content in Hessen increased. Compared to 2011, people with a migration background who reported that they felt “very good” rose from 56 percent to 60 percent while the percentage of people without this background who gave the same answer rose from 59 to 66 percent.

F3 Perceived discrimination because of one's origin



Patterns of prejudice and discrimination have an adverse effect on integration. However, it is extremely difficult to measure discrimination. Major Fields of discrimination are housing, employment, education and dealing with authorities.

This indicator examines perceived discrimination experiences from people with migration backgrounds. The question asked was, “Within the past two years, how often have you personally experienced discrimination here in Germany because of your origins?” 61 percent of people with migration background reported that they have never felt discriminated in the past two years. 32 percent said they felt discriminated against sometimes, and 7 percent answered they felt discriminated against often.

Between 2008 and 2015, a positive trend emerged: the amount of people with a migration background who reported “never” increased from 53 percent to 71 percent, while the proportion of those who felt discriminated against “sometimes” or “often” dropped by 16 percentage points. However, in 2017 there was a trend reversal.

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