

MPM TÜRKİYE

Overview of the Situation with Migrants
Migrant Presence Monitoring

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QUARTERLY REPORT

Q4 — October, November, December 2023



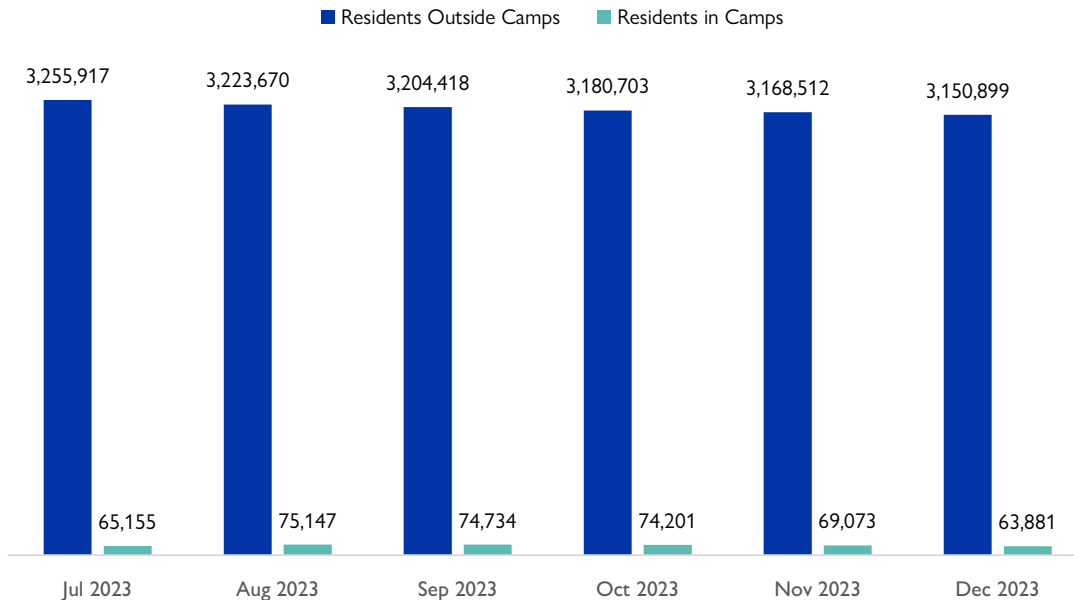
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This report aimed to present an overview of migrant presence in Türkiye on a quarterly basis. For more information, please see Methodology and Limitations section on page 9 and 10.

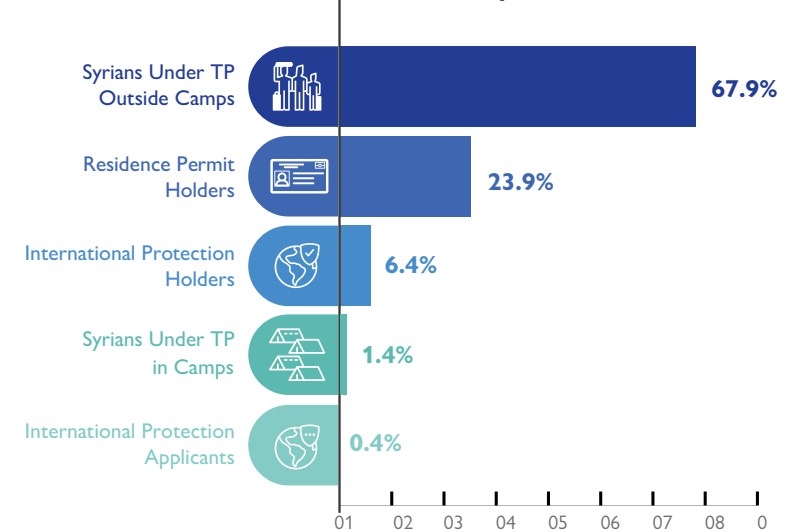
Background and Key Findings

According to the latest available figures from the Turkish Presidency of Migration Management (PMM), there are more than 4.6 million foreign nationals present in Turkish territory, 3.5 million of whom are seeking international protection. Most are Syrians (3,214,780¹ individuals) who are granted temporary protection status. In addition, international protection applicants from countries including Iraq, Afghanistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Ukraine constitute another group of foreign nationals. According to PMM, there were 19,017² international protection applicants present in Türkiye in 2023, published annually. Moreover, according to United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), there were 296,685³ refugees and asylum-seekers in Türkiye as of 2023. Since September 2023 the number of Syrians residing in camps has decreased by 10,853.

Monthly Population Chart of Syrians Under Temporary Protection



Legal Status of the Foreign Nationals Present in Turkish Territory



In addition, there are 1,107,032⁴ foreign nationals present in Türkiye, holding residence permits. Compared to third quarter of 2023, this is a decrease of 66,981 individuals.

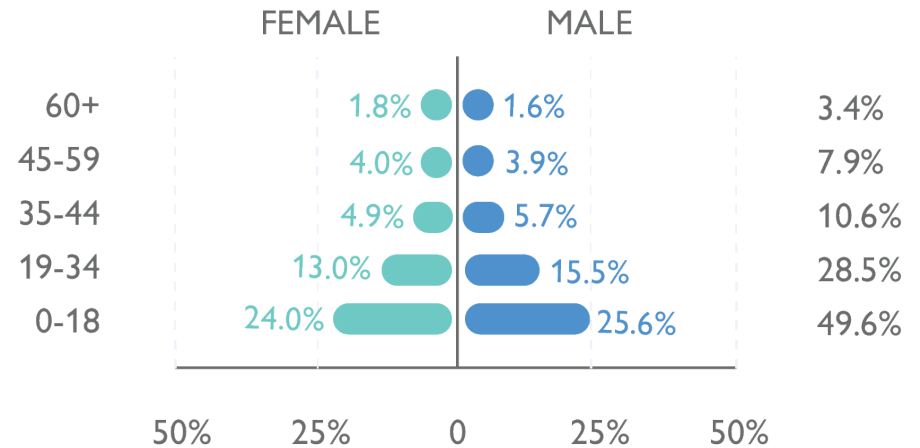
According to PMM, 88,437⁵ migrants in irregular situation of different nationalities were apprehended in Türkiye in the fourth quarter. This figure was 93,791⁶ in the previous reporting period (Q3) of 2023.

Categories of Foreigners in Türkiye

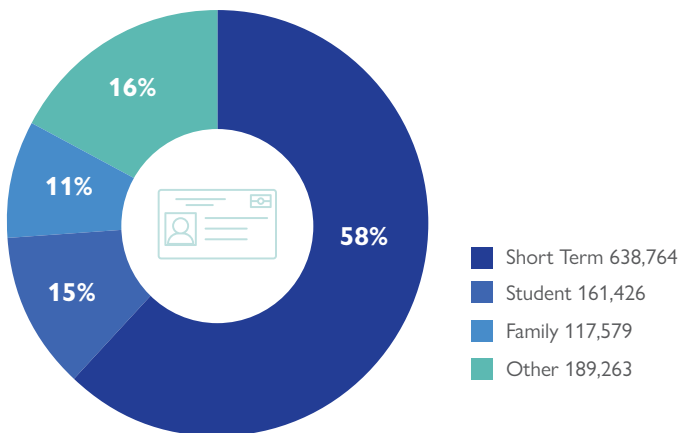
Temporary Protection (TP)

Türkiye's Temporary Protection regime grants the 3,214,780 Syrian nationals the right to legally stay in Türkiye as well as some level of access to basic rights and services. The vast majority of 3,150,899 individuals live outside camps, mainly spread across cities in the Turkish border provinces of Şanlıurfa, Gaziantep, Hatay and Kilis as well as other major cities in Türkiye. 63,881 Syrians live in seven Temporary Accommodation Centers (TACs) that are also located in the provinces close to the Syrian border, as well as in other major cities such as Hatay, Osmaniye, Adana, Malatya and Kahramanmaraş.¹

Demographic Breakdown of Biometrically Registered Syrians



Categories of Residence Permit



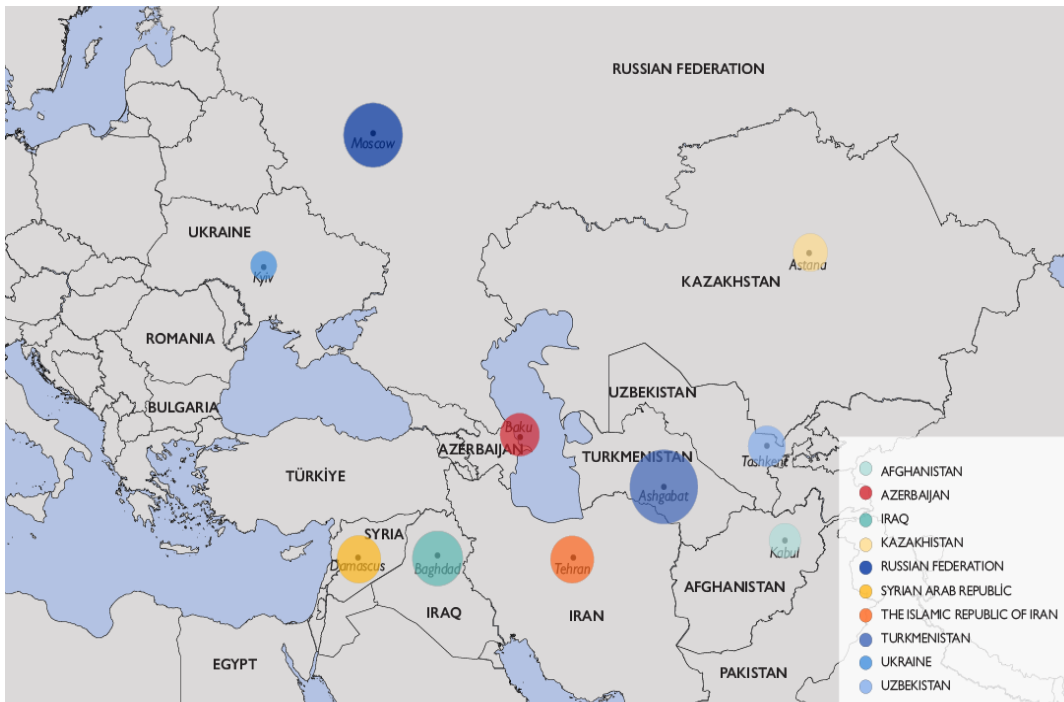
Residence Permit (RP)

Foreigners who seek to stay in Türkiye beyond the duration of a visa or visa exemption - i.e. longer than 90 days -, must obtain a residence permit. According to PMM, there are 1,107,032⁴ residence permit holders in Türkiye with various categories of the residence permit, including short-term residence permit, family residence permit, student residence permit, long-term residence permit, humanitarian residence permit and residence permit for victims of human trafficking. A valid work permit as well as Work Permit Exemption Confirmation Document are also considered as a residence permit in Türkiye. As of 2021, there were 168,103⁷ foreigners with work permit in Türkiye.

Categories of Foreigners in Türkiye

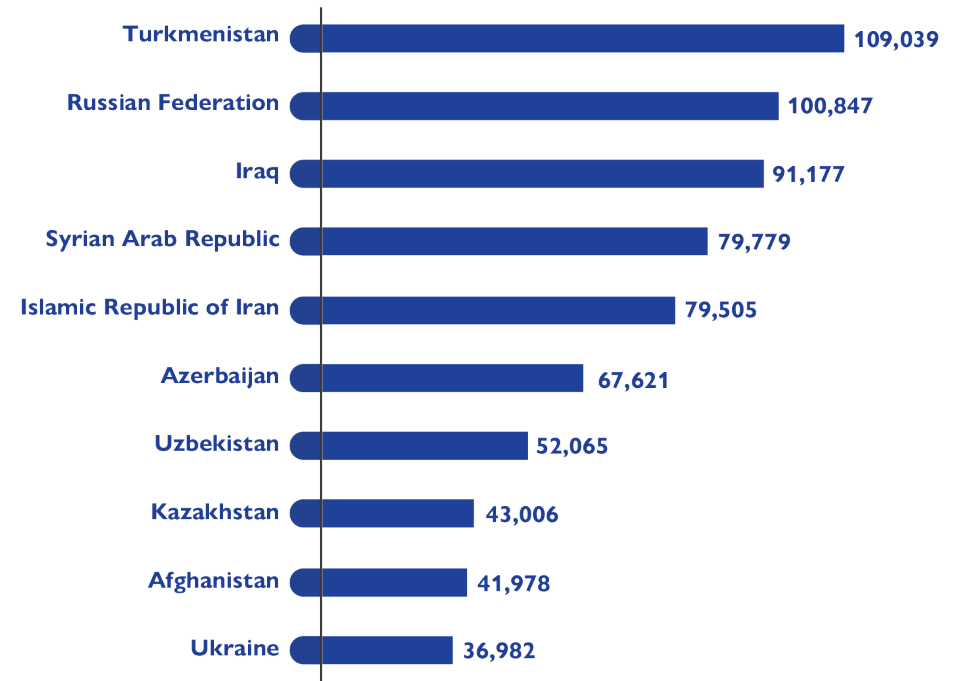
Residence Permit (RP)

638,764 short-term residence holders compose the majority of all residence permit holders. The short-term RP holders are followed by 161,426 student residence permit holders. Additionally, there are 117,579 family residence permits granting the right to residence. Also 189,263 “other” residence permits were also granted.⁴



Map Disclaimer: This map is for illustration purposes only. The depiction and use of boundaries, geographic names, and related data shown on maps and included in this report are not warranted to be free of error nor do they imply judgment on the legal status of any territory, or any endorsement or acceptance of such boundaries by IOM.

Top 10 Nationality Groups for Residence Permit Holders



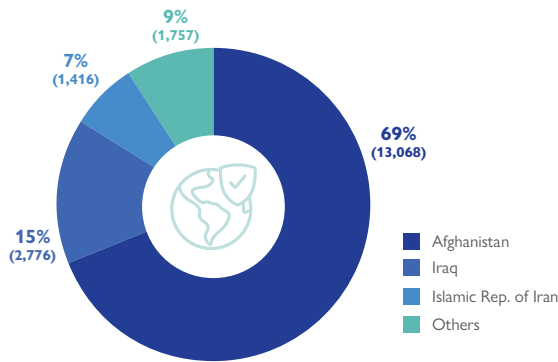
Categories of Foreigners in Türkiye

International Protection Applicants & Holders

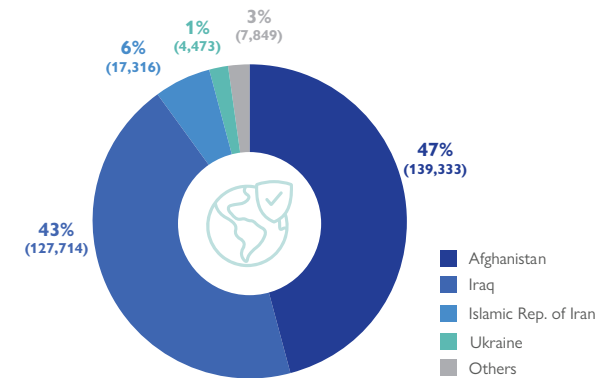
There are 19,017* international protection applicants in Türkiye of different nationalities, but primarily originating in Afghanistan, Iraq and the Islamic Republic of Iran.²

As of 2023, there are 296,685 refugees and asylum-seekers in Türkiye, most of whom from Iraq, Afghanistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Ukraine.³

Nationalities of International Protection Applicants



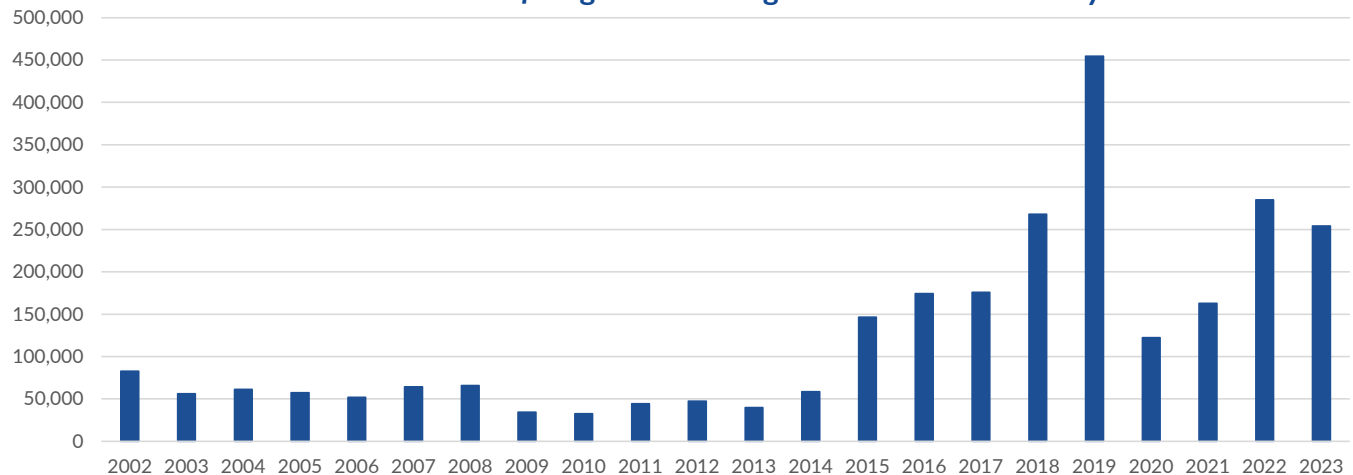
Nationalities of International Protection Holders



Migrants in Irregular Situation

According to PMM, 254,008 migrants in irregular situation and 10,482 migrant smugglers have been recorded in 2023. Most migrants in irregular situation entered Turkish territory from neighboring countries including Islamic Republic of Iran, Syrian Arab Republic and Iraq, and transited or resided in Türkiye before attempting to cross the Aegean Sea to Europe. The top three nationalities in 2023 are from Afghanistan, the Syrian Arab Republic and Palestinian Territories.⁵

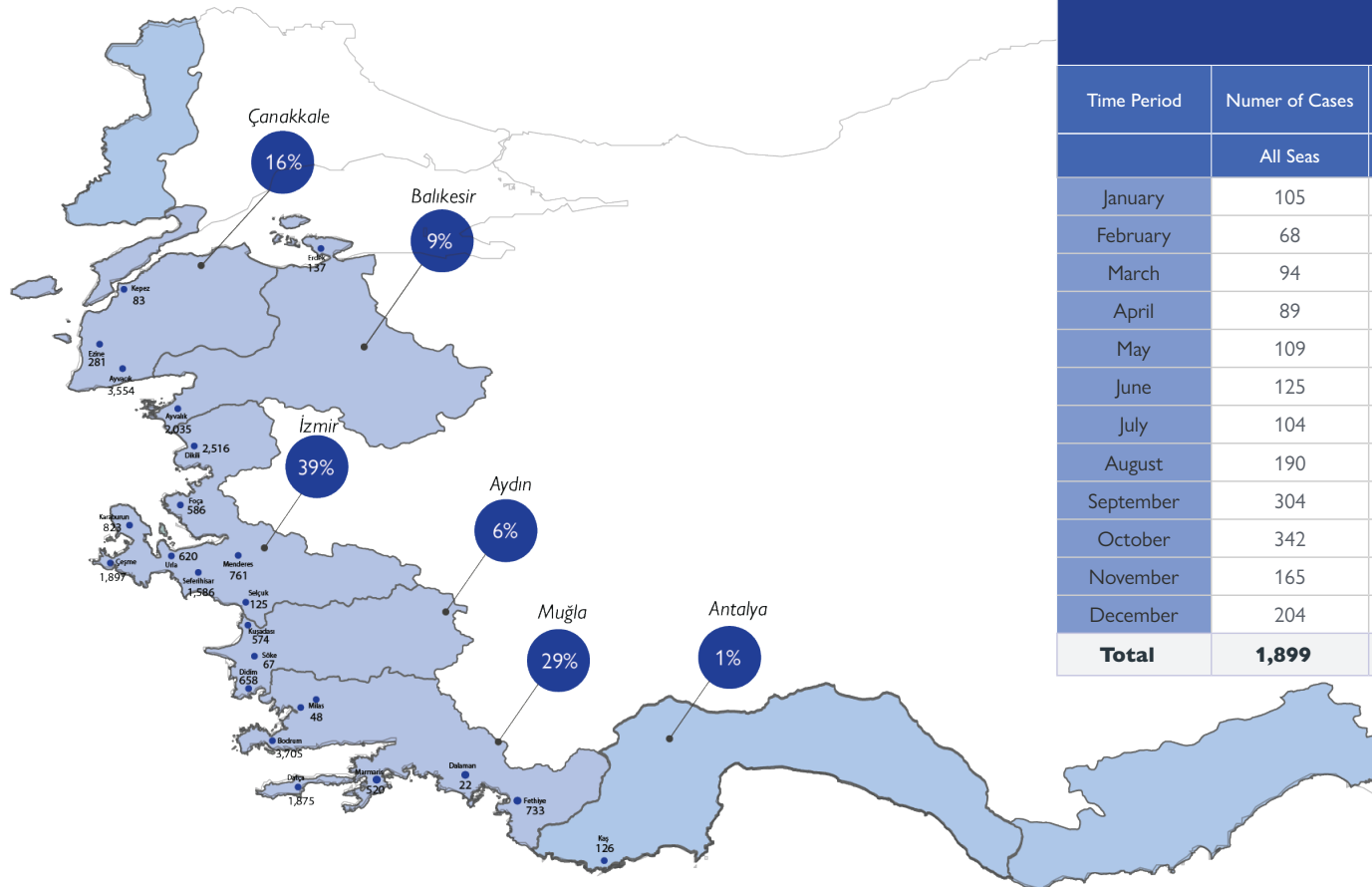
Annual Breakdown of Migrants in Irregular Situation in Türkiye



Migrants in Irregular Situation

Intercepted and Rescued Persons on Sea

According to Turkish Coast Guard (TCG) daily reports, TCG recorded 22,907⁸ migrants in irregular situation and eight deaths in the fourth quarter of 2023. During the reporting period, there has been an increase of 5,370 intercepted persons on sea by TCG compared to previous reporting period. The top ten nationalities of intercepted/rescued persons are Afghan, Syrian, Palestinian, Yemeni, Egyptian, Sudanese, Liberian, Congolese, Iraqi and Iranian.



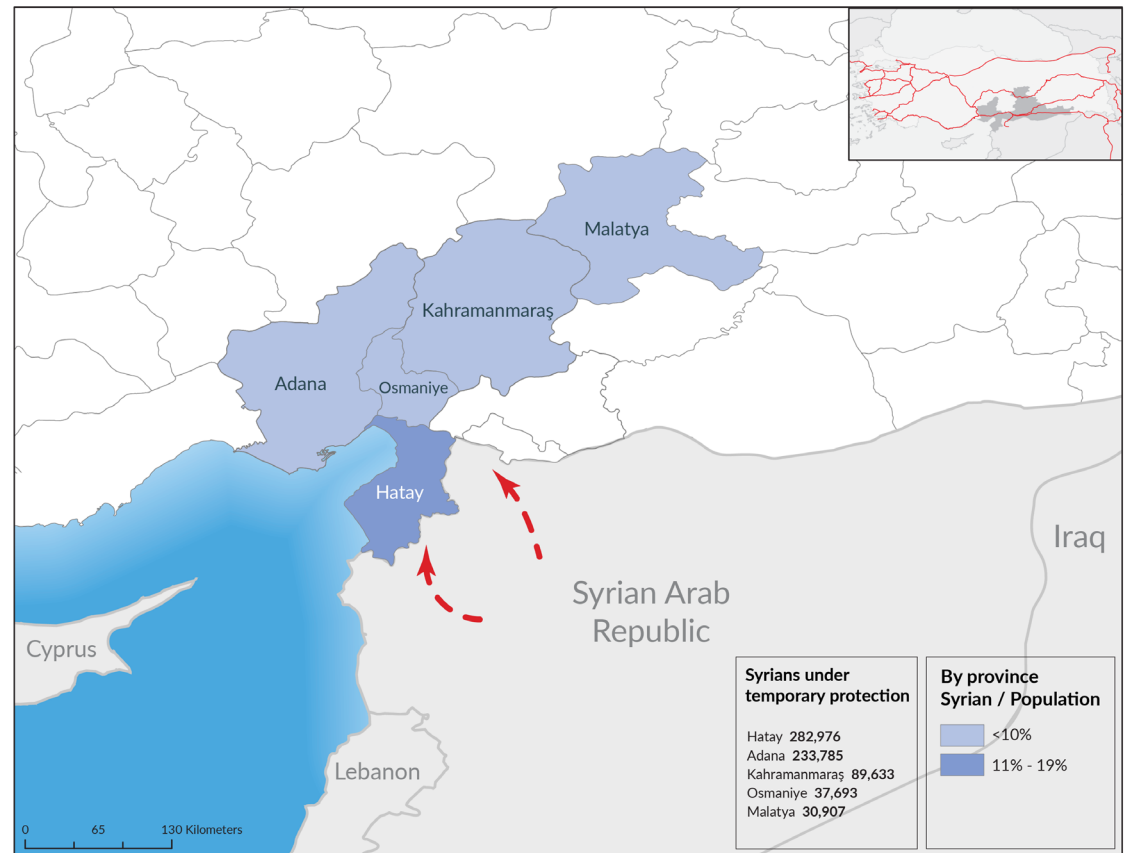
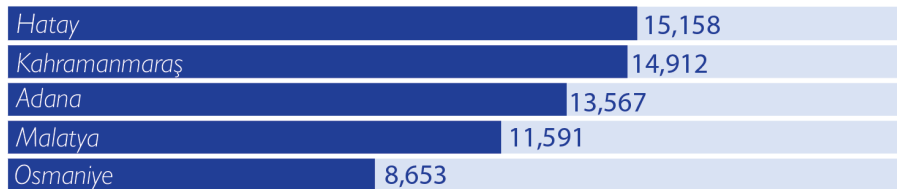
Time Period	Number of Cases	Number of Migrants in Irregular Situation	Number of Deaths	Number of Organizers
	All Seas	All Seas	All Seas	All Seas
January	105	3,025	0	3
February	68	1,802	0	4
March	94	2,614	11	12
April	89	2,806	0	6
May	109	3,161	1	17
June	125	3,102	0	20
July	104	2,909	0	12
August	190	5,005	0	9
September	304	9,623	0	32
October	342	10,736	1	24
November	165	4,830	7	6
December	204	7,341	0	24
Total	1,899	56,954	20	169

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Accommodation Capacity and Services for Hosting Foreign Nationals in Türkiye

There are nine “Temporary Accommodation Centers” for persons under Temporary Protection (mainly for Syrians under TP) dispersed in five cities in Türkiye namely Kahramanmaraş, Hatay, Adana, Osmaniye and Malatya run by the Turkish Presidency of Migration Management, (PMM). According to PMM statistics, a total population of 63,881 are currently residing in the Temporary Accommodation Centers.¹

Distribution of Syrians in Temporary Accomodation Centers



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Accommodation Capacity and Services for Hosting Foreign Nationals in Türkiye

Removal centers host and monitor foreigners under administrative detention. 30 removal centers are operating in the provinces of Adana, Ağrı, Ankara, Antalya, Aydın, Balıkesir, Bursa, Çanakkale, Çankırı, Edirne, Erzurum, Gaziantep, İstanbul, İzmir, Kayseri, Kırklareli, Kocaeli, Kütahya, Malatya, Muğla, Niğde, Şanlıurfa, Van and Iğdır. In total, the removal centers can currently hold 20,540 persons.⁹



20,540
Current Capacity
(Managed by PMM)

Victims of Trafficking (VoTs)

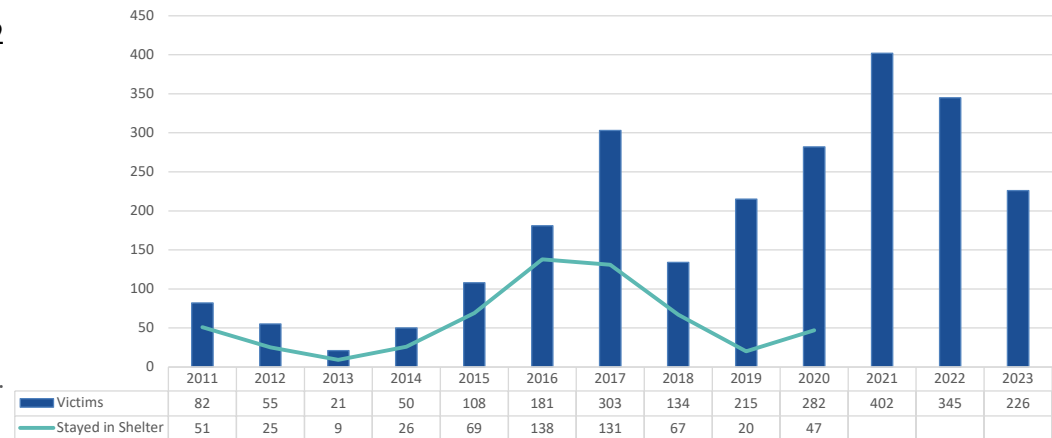
According to PMM, the gradual decline in trafficking victims' numbers between 2010-2013 was replaced by a progressive increase starting from 2013 and continue till 2017. 215 individuals were identified in 2019, 282 in 2020, 402 in 2021, 345 in 2022 and 226 as of December 2023.

Two shelters for victims of trafficking are operational with a total capacity of 42 individuals. Two shelters are operated by PMM.¹⁰

Shelters for VOTs in Türkiye	Shelter Capacity
Shelter in Ankara	30
Shelter in Kırıkkale	12
Total	42

The number of victims of trafficking in shelters have not been published since 2021.

Annual Breakdown of Victims of Trafficking in Türkiye



Methodology

Data Collection

The data presented in this report is compiled from secondary sources on a quarterly basis. The data is collected between the first and tenth days of each month following the reporting period, depending on the availability of the data from secondary sources. These sources encompass data and statistics provided by government authorities and UN organizations. No primary data collected by the MPM programme is presented in this report. The selection of sources is undertaken with the intent of achieving a comprehensive portrayal of the migration context and flows in Türkiye.

Data Categories

The report focuses on several distinct categories of migration data:

- 1. Migrants present in Türkiye by migration status:** This presents data on the stock of migrants reported to be in Türkiye by their migration status. Distinction is made between individuals with a refugee status, individuals with a temporary protection status, and individuals who hold a residence permit. Data is extracted from PMM and UNHCR statistics.
- 2. Migrants in an irregular situation by nationality:** This category pertains to migrants who find themselves in irregular or undocumented situations. Information is gathered from the PMM statistics.
- 3. Migrants intercepted or rescued at sea:** This is flow data on migrants who are intercepted or rescued while attempting to cross by sea to Europe. It is collected from TCG regular reports. The reports include the number and self-declared nationalities of migrants intercepted or rescued by the TCG whether at sea or land.

Limitations

Source Reliability

While the data sources were chosen for their credibility and authority, inherent limitations of secondary sources exist. Different sources may employ varying methodologies and denitions for data collection, leading to potential variations in the reported figures. For instance, according to IOM Glossary on Migration (2019), migrant in an irregular situation is defined as a person who moves or has moved across an international border and is not authorized to enter or to stay in a State pursuant to the law of that State and to international agreements to which that State is a party. Nevertheless, IOM is unable to confirm the criteria used by the PMM in practice to identify migrants in an irregular situation. Additionally, the accuracy of the data relies on the transparency and accuracy of the original reporting entities.

Data Accuracy and Verification

Despite efforts to validate and cross-reference data from various secondary sources, it is important to acknowledge that the accuracy and reliability of the compiled information might not be fully verifiable. Secondary data inherently presents a challenge in terms of traceability to original data collection processes. Therefore, inability to directly verify the accuracy of the data remains a limitation, and it is recommended that users of this report exercise caution and consider the potential margin of error associated with the data.

Data Gaps and Incompleteness

Migration data is often affected by gaps due to the informal nature of some migration movements and the challenges of data collection. The report acknowledges the possibility of underrepresentation or omission of certain migration flows or presence due to factors such as incomplete reporting, differing denitions, and unreported cases.

Generalization and Predictive Limitations

While the data analysis provides insights into overall migration context in Türkiye, caution should be exercised when generalizing findings to specific cases or predicting future trends.

Disclaimers/References

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Citation: International Organization for Migration (IOM), January 2024. MPM Migrant Presence Monitoring - Quarterly Report (Oct-Nov-Dec 2023). IOM, Türkiye. For more information on terms and conditions of DTM information products, please refer to: <https://dtm.iom.int/terms-and-conditions>.

¹ Data retrieved from <https://en.goc.gov.tr/temporary-protection27> on 09.01.2024

² Data retrieved from <https://en.goc.gov.tr/international-protection17> on 09.01.2024

³ Data retrieved from <https://www.unhcr.org/refugee-statistics/download?url=s8FnAw> on 09.01.2024

⁴ Data retrieved from <https://en.goc.gov.tr/residence-permits> on 09.01.2024

⁵ Data retrieved from <https://en.goc.gov.tr/irregular-migration> on 09.01.2024

⁶ For further information, please see: MPM Migrant Presence Monitoring - Quarterly Report (Jul-Sep 2023)

<https://dtm.iom.int/reports/turkiye-migrant-presence-monitoring-quarterly-migrant-presence-monitoring-jul-sep-2023>

⁷ Data retrieved from <https://www.csgeb.gov.tr/media/90062/yabanciizin2021.pdf> on 09.01.2024

⁸ Data retrieved from <https://en.sg.gov.tr/irregular-migration-statistics> on 09.01.2024

⁹ Data retrieved from <https://www.goc.gov.tr/sinir-disi-119817> on 09.01.2024

¹⁰ Data retrieved from <https://en.goc.gov.tr/victims-of-human-trafficking2019> on 09.01.2024