



GEORGIA

EMN COUNTRY FACTSHEET 2022

Main developments in migration
and international protection,
including latest statistics
August 2023



OVERARCHING CHANGES

In 2022, the government of Georgia adopted a comprehensive policy document, *Vision 2030 Development Strategy of Georgia (Ordinance # 517)*. Along with major policy directions, the Strategy includes development goals related to the 2021-2030 Migration Strategy, such as the facilitation of labour migration and strengthening the Georgian diaspora abroad.

The State Commission on Migration Issues (SCMI) adopted the third (2023) Action Plan of the 2021-2030 Migration Strategy of Georgia. It contains 105 activities (with specific performance indicators) derived from the seven sectoral priorities of the Strategy: enhancing migration management; facilitating legal migration; fighting illegal migration; reintegrating returned migrants; engaging the diaspora in the country's development; developing the asylum system; and integrating foreigners.



LEGAL MIGRATION AND MOBILITY

Work-related migration

amendments to the Law on Labour Migration and corresponding legislative acts aimed to improve management of labour migration processes and collect accurate data on migrant workers were elaborated. The complete draft package was approved by the government on 28

KEY POINTS



The comprehensive policy document, 'Vision 2030 Development Strategy of Georgia' was adopted, containing major policy directions, including migration-related goals to contribute to the country's development.



The Law of Georgia on International Protection was amended to improve the asylum procedure, including through digitalisation and minimising the risk of abuse of the asylum system.



A simplified procedure of entry was introduced for people fleeing the war in Ukraine. Temporary housing, rent, monthly financial assistance and access to the universal healthcare system were provided to Ukrainian citizens, while Ukrainian-language sectors were opened at elementary schools.

December 2022 and submitted to the parliament for final adoption. The implementation of the legislative changes is planned for spring 2023.

Information on routes to and conditions of legal migration

The Consular Case Management Electronic System (Geoconsul) underwent a major upgrade, with a new

website and mobile apps for iOS and Android users. The upgrade improved the quality and accessibility of consular services and information on legal migration.



TEMPORARY PROTECTION

Main national developments in relation to temporary protection

The government of Georgia adopted two decrees (#387 of 02.03.2022 and #1254 of 13.07.2022) to provide immediate support to those fleeing the war in Ukraine. They included measures by which relevant State agencies could provide access to basic services, including housing, education and medical assistance, as well as support for social and economic integration.



INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION

Legislative and policy developments related to international protection

The [Law of Georgia on International Protection](#) was amended to introduce a new means of communicating with asylum seekers during the administrative procedure, as well as to assist administrative and judicial authorities to harmonise their interpretations of the procedural outcomes of asylum cases.



MINORS AND OTHER VULNERABLE GROUPS

Minors

The interagency Coordinating Council for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings approved the 2023-2026 Government Strategy on Protection of Homeless Children from Violence, including Trafficking in Human Beings, which was then submitted to the government for final adoption. It aims to prevent children from life on the streets through placement/return to the family environment and to reduce the number of children living and/or working on the street.



INTEGRATION

Education and training of adults/ labour market and skills

A new state language programme was developed and will be piloted in 2023. It is based on modern interactive methodology and uses brand-new learning materials. Along with the language competencies, it will develop digital, civic, and independent learning competencies. The programme aims to reduce language barriers for those (including migrants) who do not speak Georgian, enabling

their integration into society and providing them with access to education and other services.

Fighting racism and discrimination

The government of Georgia approved the [second National Strategy for the Protection of Human Rights - 2022-2030](#) (Decree #1627) and submitted it to the parliament for final adoption. It emphasises the protection of the rights of vulnerable groups such as: people with disabilities, ethnic, sexual and religious minorities, women, children, migrants, internally displaced people, and other minorities. The third priority of the Strategy includes continuous improvement of equality and anti-discrimination legislation, consideration of the needs of minority groups (including ethnic and religious minorities), promotion of teaching the State language, and improvement of victim-oriented response to crimes committed on the grounds of discrimination/intolerance.



CITIZENSHIP AND STATELESSNESS

Statelessness

The Public Service Development Agency of Georgia (PSDA), in close cooperation with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Georgia, implemented the 'Door to Door Campaign'. It aimed to proactively identify and document stateless people in Georgia through field work in the settlements where potential stateless persons were living. Data were collected on 762 people, 35 of whom were subsequently documented (granted Georgian citizenship or determined to have stateless status).



BORDERS, SCHENGEN AND VISAS

Border management

The Border Management and Coordination Division within the Information-Analytical Department of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia (MIA) was set up to improve border management through strengthened intra and inter-agency cooperation, as well as effective risk management and introduction of a unified analysis methodology. It is responsible for developing strategic/policy documents on border management within the MIA, introduction and implementation of Border Integrated Risk Analysis Model, and application of the Advance Passenger Information (API)/ Passenger Name Record (PNR) system.



TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS

National strategic policy developments

An Interagency Coordinating Council for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings approved the [2023-2024 Action Plan on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings](#). Its activities focus on preventing trafficking in human beings, refining detection mechanisms, ensuring effective criminal prosecution, facilitating the reintegration of victims/statutory victims into local society, and providing coordinated action/cooperation against trafficking in human beings.



STATISTICAL ANNEX

The statistical annex available on the next pages complements the Country Factsheet and provides an overview of the latest available statistics for Georgia on aspects of migration and international protection. It was prepared by the EMN and it is organised in ten thematic sections, including legal residence, temporary protection, asylum, unaccompanied minors, integration, irregular migration, return and visas. The dashboard-like layout of the annex allows comparability across countries as well as simultaneous visualisation of different indicators.

The data presented in the annex were provided by the EMN Observer Countries.

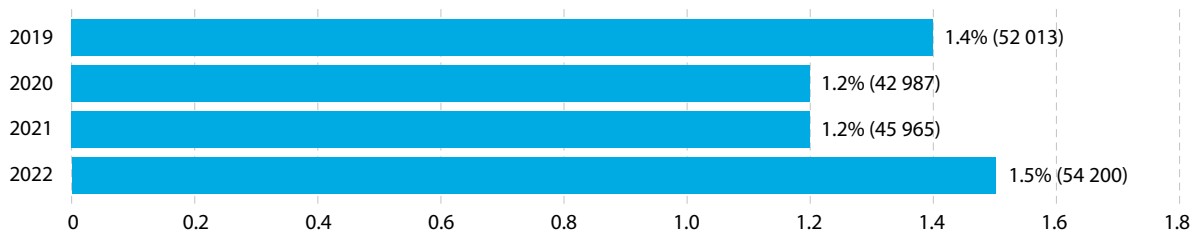
For some indicators, data are rounded at the source. Due to this, in some cases, the sum of percentages or of individual values might not add up to 100 or to the total value.

A 'How to read the statistical annex' guide, describing each individual chart and providing links to the data sources, is available [here](#).



LEGAL MIGRATION AND MOBILITY

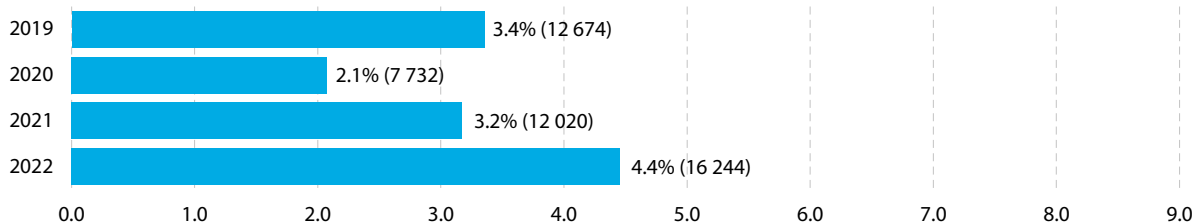
Foreigners holding valid residence cards, 31 December 2019–2022 (number)



Note: the values in brackets is the share of the total population (mid-year population).

Source: Geostat (total population in the country); Public Service Development Agency of Georgia (all valid residence cards).

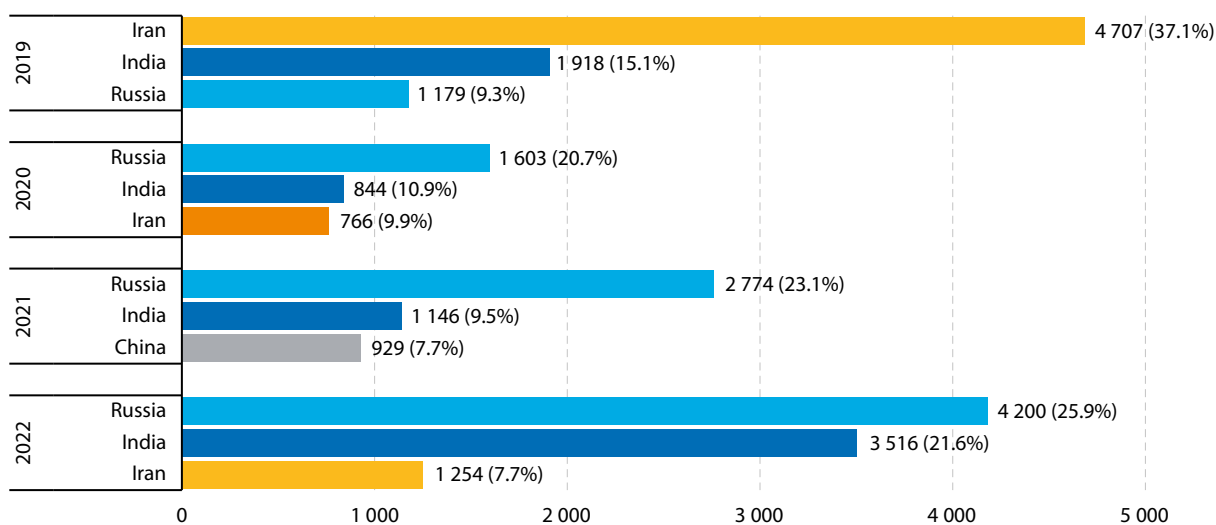
First residence permits issued, 2019–2022 (number)



Note: the value in brackets is the number of first residence permits per 1000 people.

Source: Public Service Development Agency of Georgia.

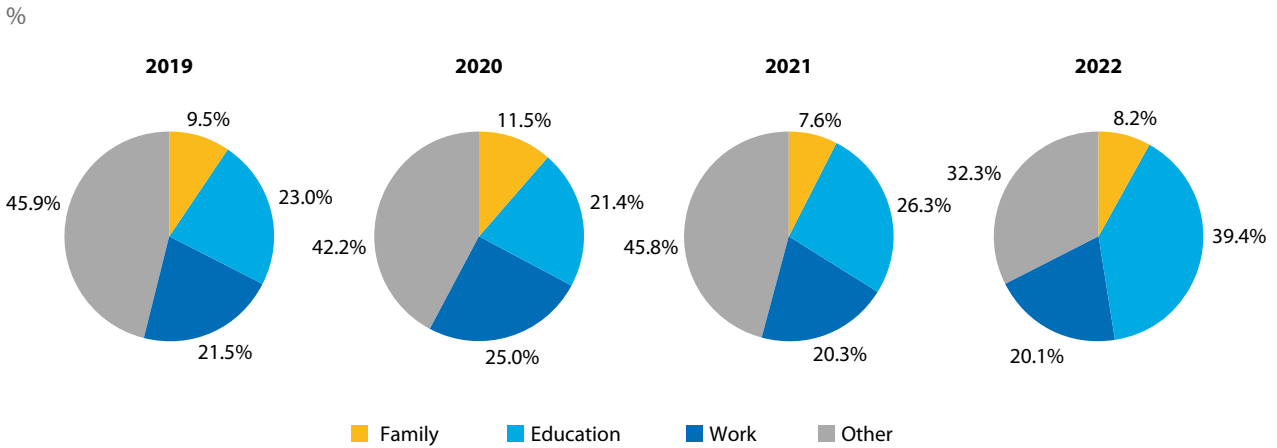
Three countries whose citizens received the most first residence permits, 2019–2022 (number of first residence permits)



Note: the value in brackets is the share of all first residence permits.

Source: Public Service Development Agency of Georgia.

First residence permits issued, distribution by reason, 2019-2022



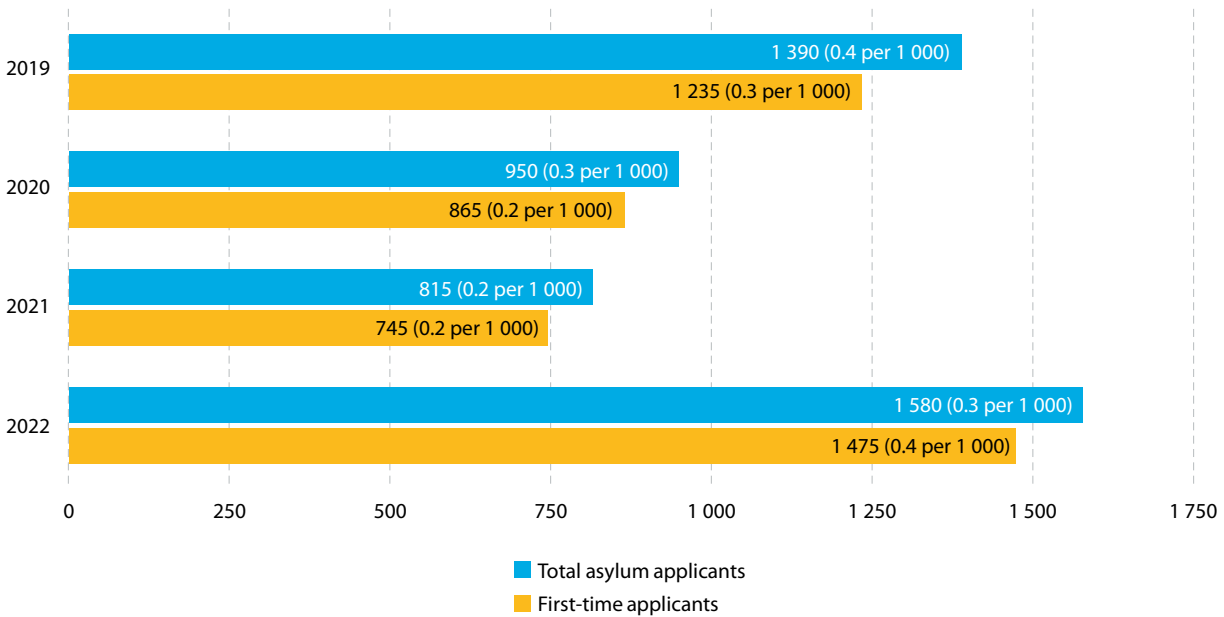
Source: Public Service Development Agency of Georgia.



INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION INCLUDING ASYLUM

Number of asylum applicants by type, 2019–2022

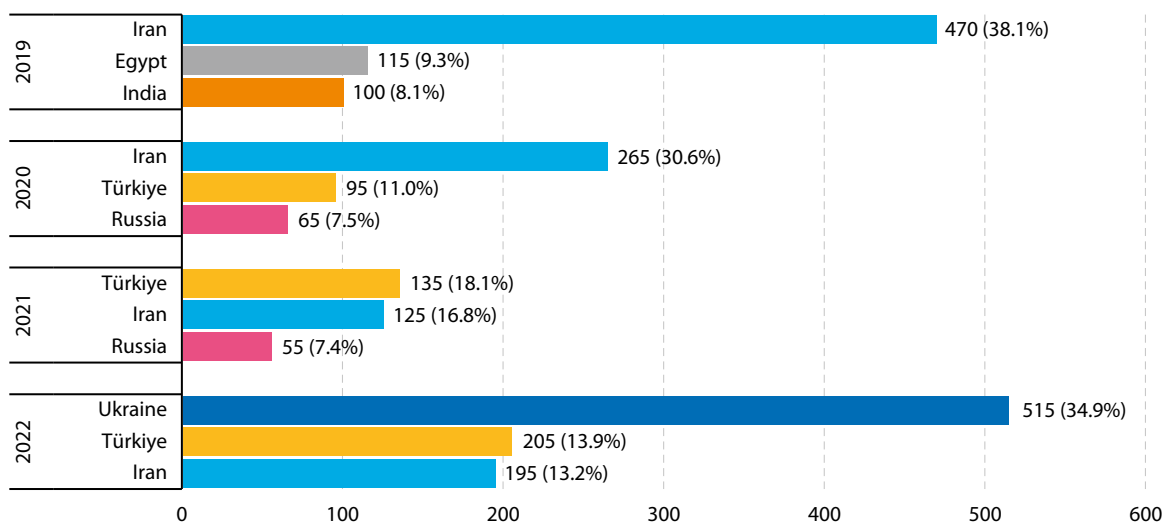
(rounded)



Note: the value in brackets is the number of applicants per 1 000 people.

Source: Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia / Geostat.

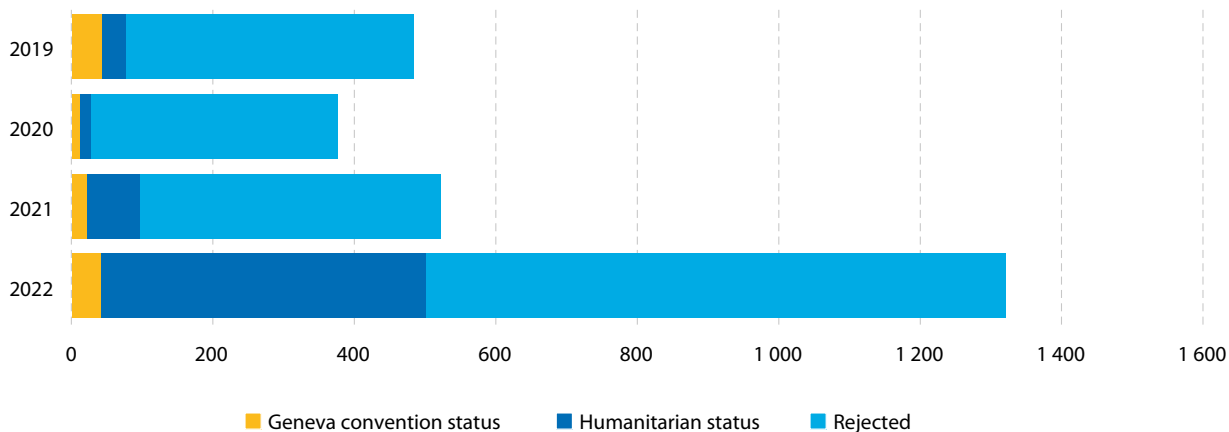
Three countries whose citizens were most often first-time asylum applicants, 2019–2022 (rounded number of applicants)



Note: the value in brackets is the share of all first-time applicants.

Source: Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia.

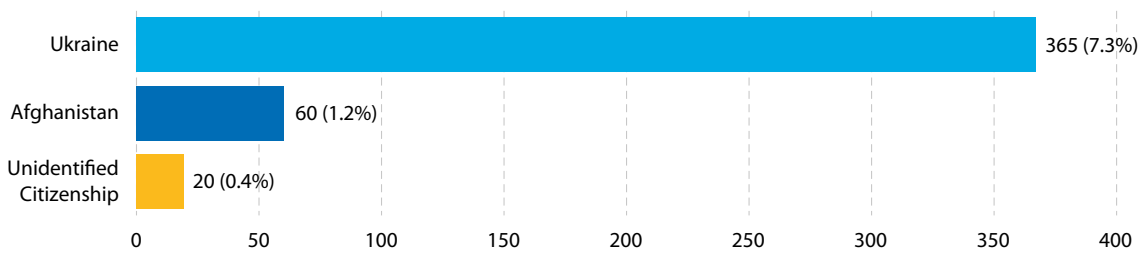
Number of first instance asylum decisions analysed by outcome, 2019–2022 (rounded)



	Geneva convention status		Humanitarian status		Rejected	
	Number	Share in total (%)	Number	Share in total (%)	Number	Share in total (%)
2019	40	8,3	35	7,3	405	84,4
2020	10	2,7	15	4,0	350	93,3
2021	20	3,8	75	14,4	425	81,7
2022	40	3,0	460	34,8	820	62,1

Source: Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia.

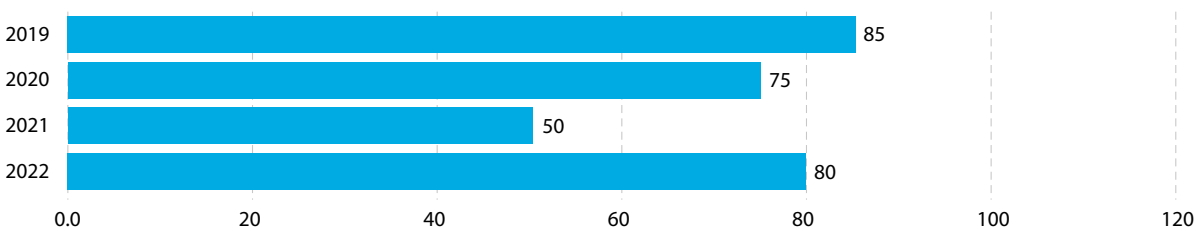
Three countries whose citizens most often received positive first instance asylum decisions, 2022 (rounded number of decisions)



Note: the values in brackets is the share of all positive first instance decisions.

Source: Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia.

Number of asylum-seekers accommodated at the Reception Centre, 2019-2022 (rounded)

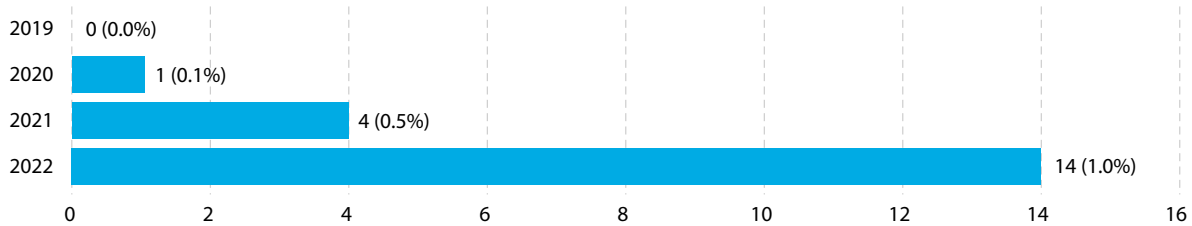


Source: Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia.



UNACCOMPANIED MINORS

Unaccompanied minors applying for asylum, 2019-2022 (number)



Note: the value in brackets is the share of all first time asylum applications.

Source: Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia.



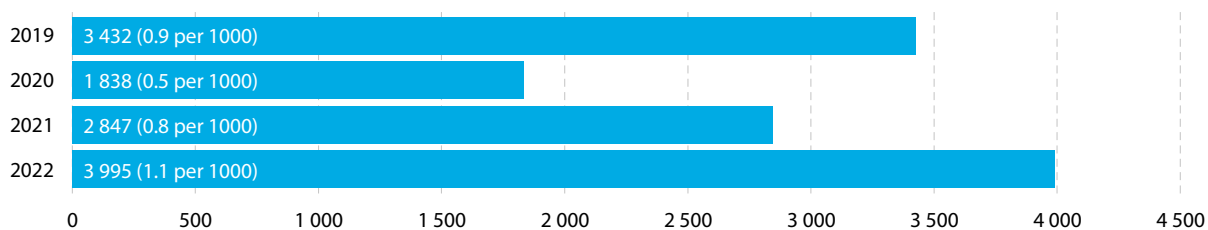
INTEGRATION

N/A



CITIZENSHIP AND STATELESSNESS

Number of foreigners who acquired citizenship, 2019–2022

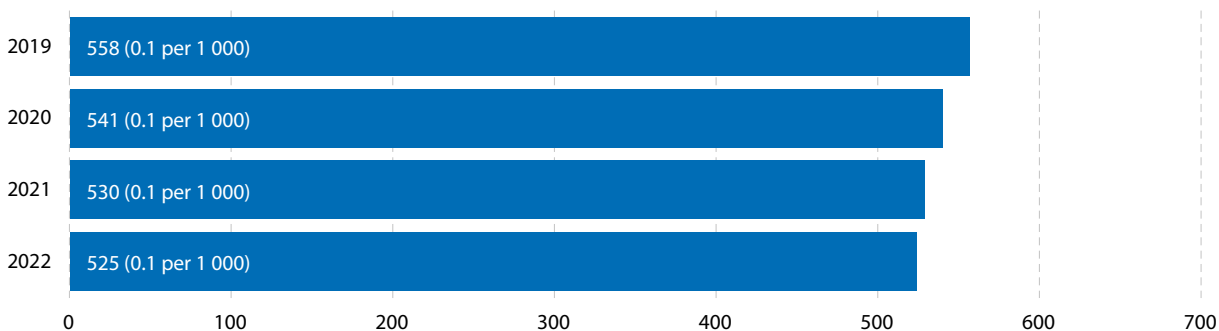


Note: the value in brackets is the number who acquired citizenship per 1 000 people.

Note: A person who has acquired Georgian citizenship is not necessarily a resident of Georgia. Georgian citizenship is mainly granted to either former Georgian citizens or persons originating from Georgia.

Source: Geostat (total population); Public Service Development Agency of Georgia.

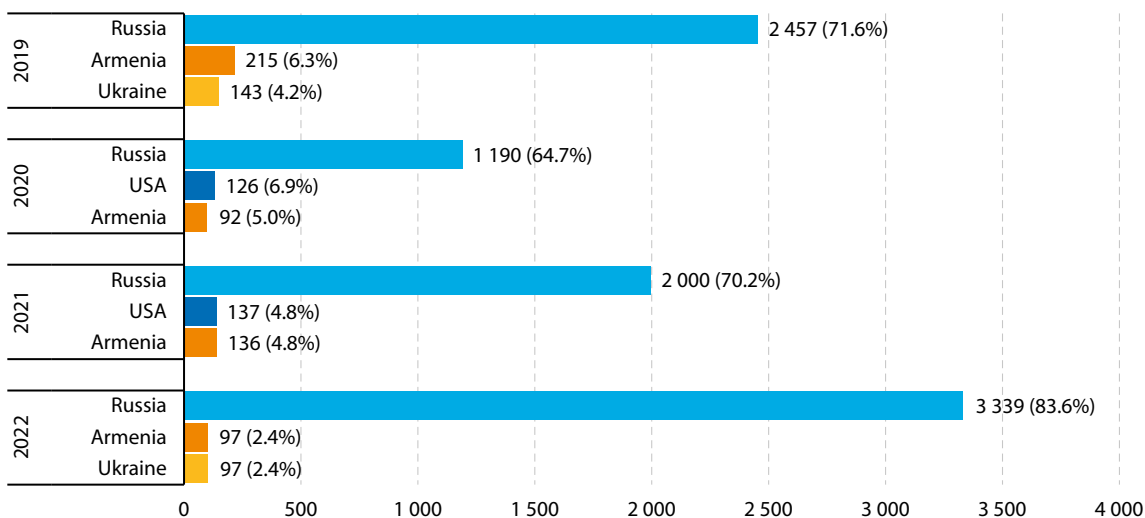
Number of stateless persons, 2019–2022



Note: the value in brackets is the number per 1 000 people.

Source: Geostat (total population); Public Service Development Agency of Georgia.

Three countries whose citizens most often acquired citizenship, 2019–2022 (number of persons who acquired citizenship)

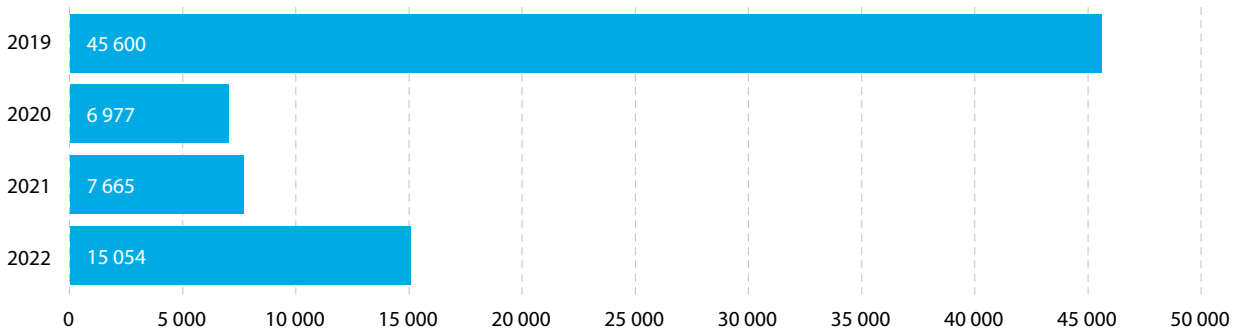


Note: the value in brackets is the share of all acquisitions. A person who has acquired Georgian citizenship is not necessarily a resident of Georgia. Georgian citizenship is mainly granted to either former Georgian citizens or persons originating from Georgia.

Source: Public Service Development Agency of Georgia.

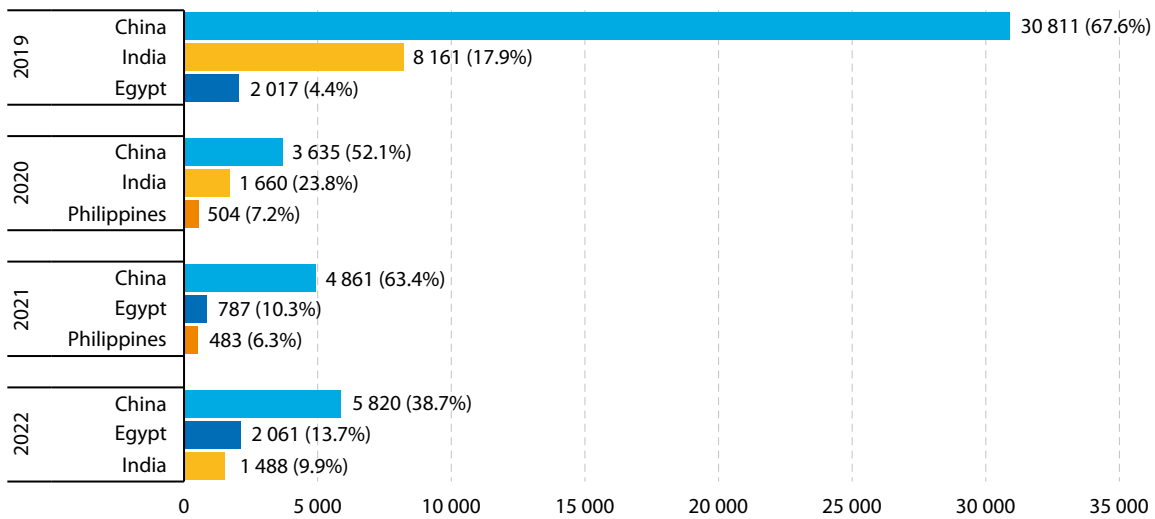
BORDERS AND VISAS

Number of short-stay visas issued, 2019–2022



Source: Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia.

Three countries whose citizens got the most short-stay visas, 2019–2022 (number of short-stay visas issued)



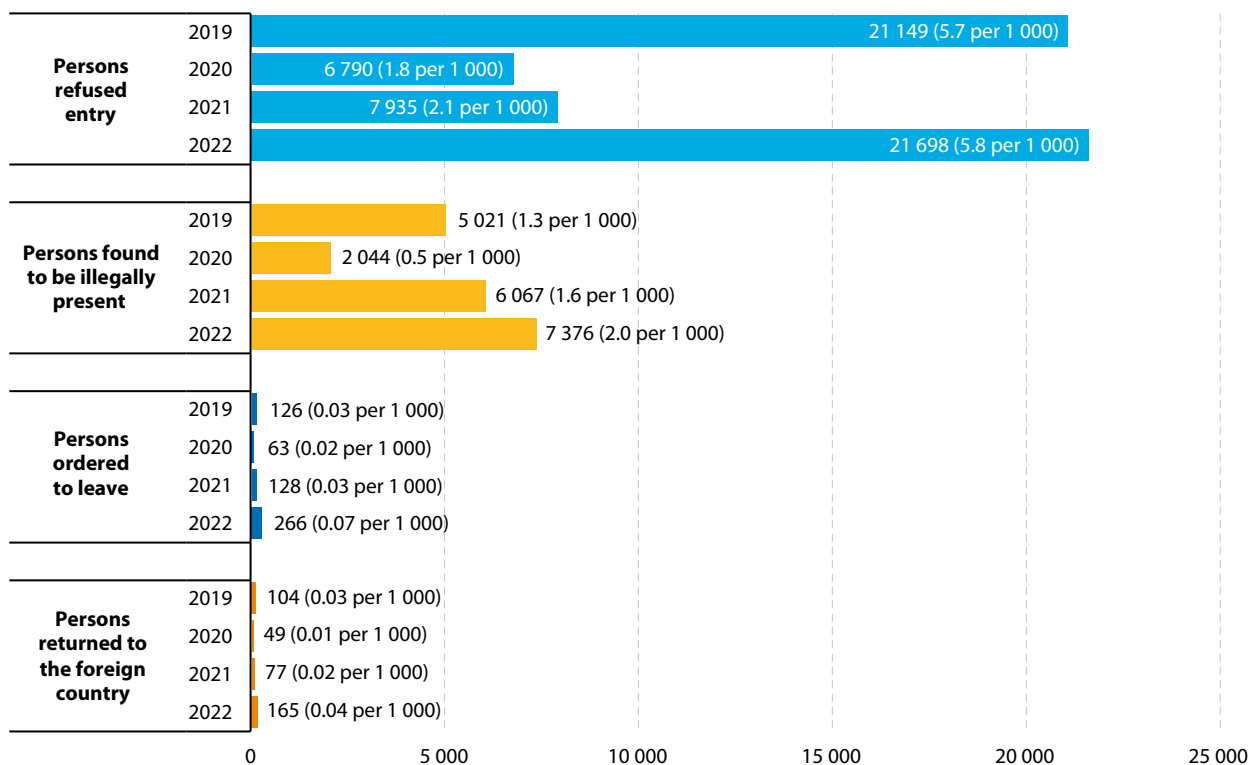
Note: the value in brackets is the share of all short-stay visas issued.

Source: Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia.



IRREGULAR MIGRATION

Number of foreigners subject to immigration law enforcement, 2019–2022



Note: the value in brackets is the number of foreigners subject to immigration law enforcement per 1 000 people.

Source: Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia.

Three countries whose citizens were most often subject to immigration law enforcement, 2022



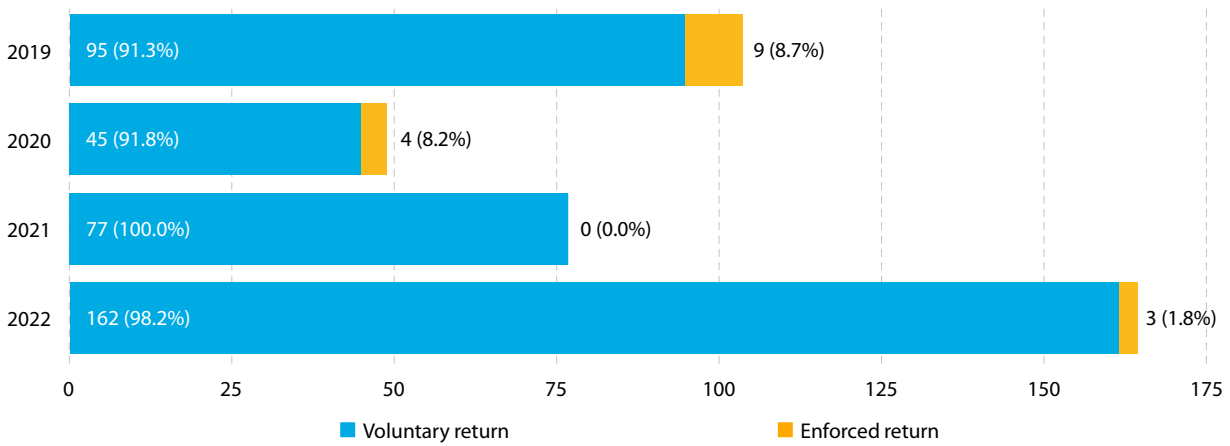
Note: the value in brackets is the share within the total. 'Returned to the foreign country' means 'Returned to the country of origin or the country where foreigner has the right of lawful residence'.

Source: Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia.



RETURN AND READMISSION

Number of foreigners who left the territory by type of return, 2019–2022



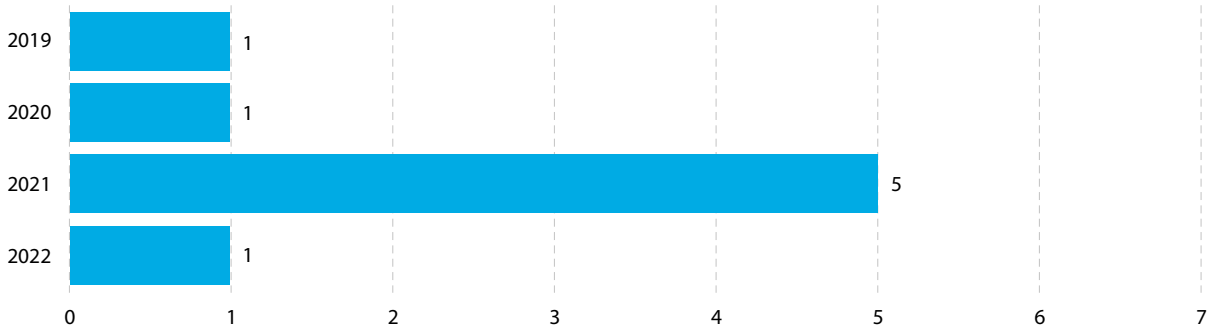
Note: the value in brackets is the share within the total.

Source: Ministry of Internal Affairs of Georgia.



TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS

Number of first residence permits issued to victims of trafficking in human beings, 2019–2022



Source: Public Service Development Agency.

GETTING IN TOUCH WITH THE EU

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FINDING INFORMATION ABOUT THE EU

Online

Information about the European Union in all the official languages of the EU is available on the Europa website (european-union.europa.eu).

EU publications

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EU law and related documents

For access to legal information from the EU, including all EU law since 1951 in all the official language versions, go to EUR-Lex (eur-lex.europa.eu).

EU open data

The portal data.europa.eu provides access to open datasets from the EU institutions, bodies and agencies. These can be downloaded and reused for free, for both commercial and non-commercial purposes. The portal also provides access to a wealth of datasets from European countries.



For more information

EMN website: <http://ec.europa.eu/emn>

EMN LinkedIn page: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/european-migration-network>

EMN Twitter account: <https://twitter.com/emnmigration>

EMN YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/@EMNMigration>

EMN National Contact Points

Austria www.emn.at/en/

Belgium www.emnbelgium.be

Bulgaria www.emn-bg.com

Croatia <https://emn.gov.hr/>

Cyprus www.moi.gov.cy/moi/crmd/emnncpc.nsf/home/home?opendocument

Czechia www.emncz.eu

Denmark www.justitsministeriet.dk/

Estonia www.emn.ee/

Finland <https://emn.fi/en/>

France www.immigration.interieur.gouv.fr/Europe-et-International/Le-reseau-europeen-des-migrations-REM3/Le-reseau-europeen-des-migrations-REM2

Germany <https://www.bamf.de/EN/Themen/EMN/emn-node.html>

Greece <http://emn.immigration.gov.gr/en/>

Hungary www.emnhungary.hu/en

Ireland www.emn.ie/

Italy www.emnitalyncp.it/

Latvia www.emn.lv/en/home/

Lithuania www.emn.lt/en/

Luxembourg <https://emnluxembourg.uni.lu/>

Malta <https://emn.gov.mt/>

The Netherlands <https://www.emnnetherlands.nl/>

Poland <https://www.gov.pl/web/europejska-siec-migracyjna>

Portugal <https://rem.sef.pt/>

Romania <https://www.mai.gov.ro/>

Spain <https://www.emnspain.gob.es>

Slovak Republic <https://emn.sk/en/>

Slovenia <https://emm.si/en/>

Sweden <http://www.emnsweden.se/>

Norway <https://www.udi.no/en/statistics-and-analysis/european-migration-network---norway>

Georgia https://migration.commission.ge/index.php?article_id=1&clang=1

Republic of Moldova <http://bma.gov.md/en>

Ukraine <https://dmsu.gov.ua/en-home.html>

Montenegro <https://www.gov.me/en/mup>

Armenia <https://migration.am/?lang=en>

Serbia <https://kirs.gov.rs/cir>