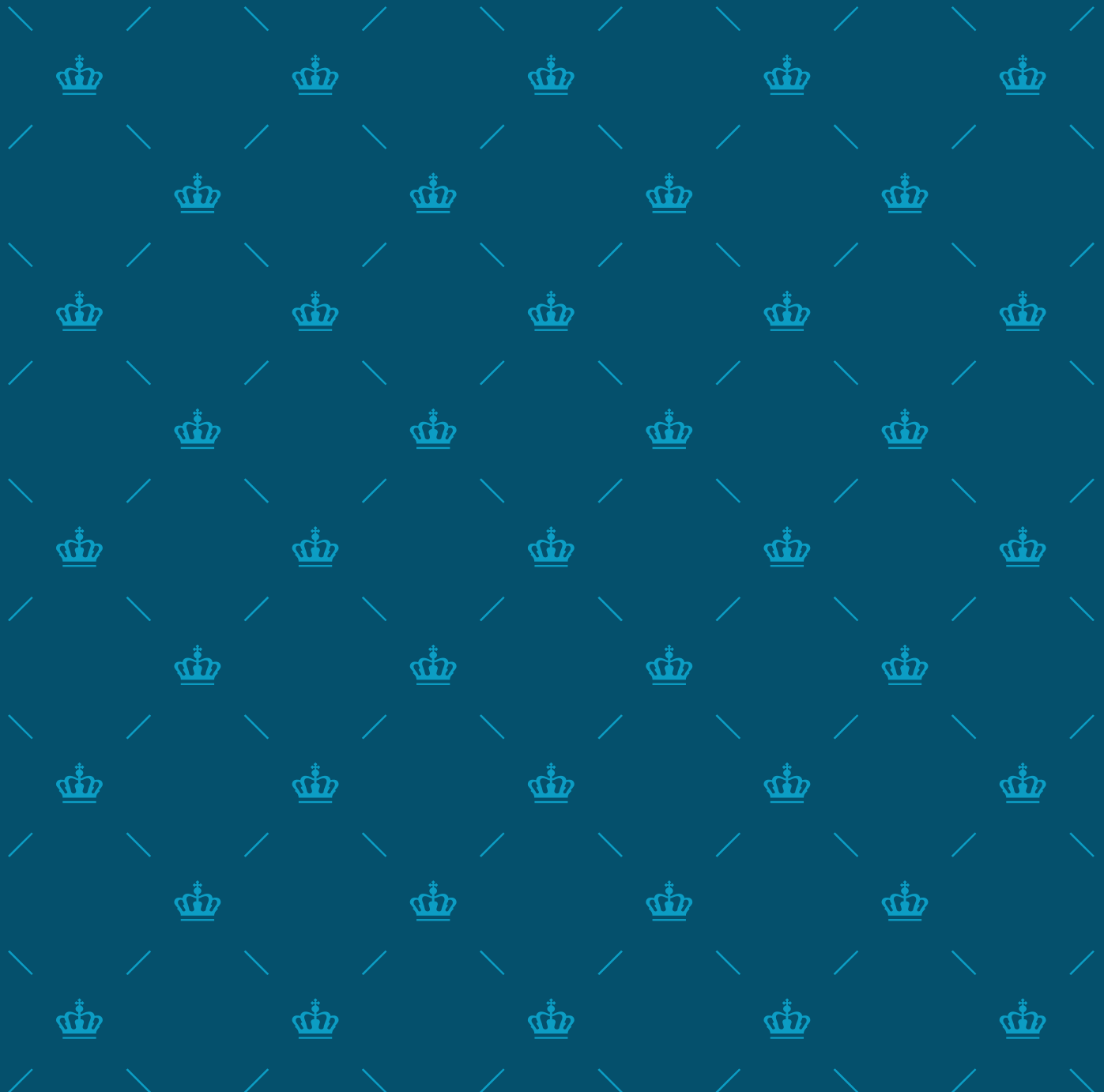




Udlændinge- og
Integrationsministeriet

INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION – DENMARK

REPORT TO OECD, OCTOBER 2019



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1.0 LONG-TERM MIGRATION

1.1 Definition of long-term migration

By definition, long-term migration represents the movement of a person to a country other than that of his or her usual residence for a period of at least one year (12 months), so that the country of destination effectively becomes his or her new country of residence. Long-term migration includes both long-term emigration and long-term immigration.

As long-term migration is based on a subsequent residence period of at least 12 months, the availability of the statistics is delayed by one year. Therefore the latest Danish statistics from a full year are based on immigrants and emigrants entering and leaving Denmark in 2017.

Asylum seekers are not included in the statistics even though they may have resided in Denmark for more than a year. This is due to the fact that asylum seekers per definition do not have a residence permit.

1.2 Migration in Denmark

Table 1.1 shows the long-term migration to and from Denmark in the period 1998-2017. The data displayed shows immigration, emigration and net migration for men and women.

Table 1.1: Long-term migration to and from Denmark, 1998-2017 (persons, percentage)

	Immigration		Emigration		Net migration		
	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	Net
1998	19,925	20,499	15,285	13,589	4,640	6,910	11,550
1999	19,182	20,166	15,817	14,374	3,365	5,792	9,157
2000	20,693	21,303	16,284	14,675	4,409	6,628	11,037
2001	21,781	22,242	16,956	15,064	4,825	7,178	12,003
2002	20,134	20,667	16,725	14,944	3,409	5,723	9,132
2003	18,899	18,655	17,138	15,282	1,761	3,373	5,134
2004	18,924	18,860	17,451	15,496	1,473	3,364	4,837
2005	19,909	19,785	17,949	15,944	1,960	3,841	5,801
2006	22,398	20,999	18,949	16,651	3,449	4,348	7,797
2007	26,456	24,318	19,746	17,173	6,710	7,145	13,855
2008	29,674	27,148	21,123	18,231	8,551	8,917	17,468
2009	25,918	25,451	22,237	19,025	3,681	6,426	10,107
2010	26,210	25,734	21,714	20,045	4,496	5,689	10,185
2011	27,199	25,634	21,543	20,074	5,656	5,560	11,216
2012	27,741	26,357	22,347	21,492	5,394	4,866	10,260
2013	31,371	28,941	22,022	21,288	9,349	7,653	17,002
2014	36,739	31,649	22,658	21,768	14,081	9,881	23,962
2015	42,546	35,946	22,768	21,857	19,778	14,089	33,867
2016	39,286	35,097	27,517	25,137	11,769	9,960	21,729
2017	35,722	32,857	29,849	26,554	5,873	6,303	12,176

Source: Statistics Denmark (Eurostat, Unified Demographic Data Collection 2019).

The table shows that Denmark had a positive net migration from 1998 to 2017. The net migration was substantially lower in the years 2003-2005 than in previous years due to a decrease in immigration. This decrease may partly be a consequence of changes in the Danish immigration policy, where more restrictive conditions for acquiring residence permit were imposed. The net migration level, however, increased significantly in 2007 and 2008, mostly as a consequence of new legislation regarding residence permits to work or study in Denmark. In the following years the net migration level decreased again from 17,468 in 2008 to 10,260 in 2012. This decrease in net migration from 2009 and onwards is due to a lower number of work permits for foreign nationals. In 2015 the net migration increased to 33,867 due to an overall increase in immigration of foreign nationals. Net migration decreased again in 2016 and 2017 due to both an increase in emigration and lower immigration numbers.

1.3 Long-term migration movements of Danish nationals

Table 1.2 shows the long-term migration movements by Danish nationals in the period 1998-2017. The table displays figures for long-term immigration and emigration as well as the percentages of total long-term migration movements. There was a positive, but decreasing long-term net migration of Danish nationals in the period 1998-2006. However, between 2007 and 2009 the net migration more than tripled itself caused by the fact that the emigration flow decreased while the immigration flow was fairly constant. After a decrease in 2010 the long-term net migration remained around this level until 2013. Between 2013 and 2015 the net migration was over 5,000 persons. In 2016 it decreased again and in 2017 it was 4,662 persons.

Table 1.2: Long-term migration flows of Danish nationals, 1998-2017 (persons, percentage)

	Immigration			Pct. of total immigration	Emigration			Pct. of total emigration	Net migration
	Men	Women	Total	Pct.	Men	Women	Total	Pct.	Net
1998	9,452	9,796	19,248	48 %	8,250	7,369	15,619	54 %	3,629
1999	9,445	9,638	19,083	48 %	8,450	7,606	16,056	53 %	3,027
2000	9,507	9,723	19,230	46 %	9,095	7,876	16,971	55 %	2,259
2001	9,699	9,682	19,381	44 %	9,394	7,828	17,222	54 %	2,159
2002	9,812	9,504	19,316	47 %	9,076	7,706	16,782	53 %	2,534
2003	9,712	9,457	19,169	51 %	9,145	7,518	16,663	51 %	2,506
2004	9,862	9,216	19,078	50 %	9,507	7,679	17,186	52 %	1,892
2005	9,943	9,605	19,548	49 %	9,658	7,940	17,598	52 %	1,950
2006	9,943	9,475	19,418	45 %	10,117	8,214	18,331	51 %	1,087
2007	9,910	9,434	19,344	38 %	9,902	8,022	17,924	49 %	1,420
2008	10,289	9,515	19,804	35 %	8,874	7,139	16,013	41 %	3,791
2009	10,275	9,137	19,412	38 %	8,050	6,616	14,666	36 %	4,746
2010	9,628	8,874	18,502	36 %	7,954	6,721	14,675	35 %	3,827
2011	9,502	8,759	18,261	35 %	8,218	6,818	15,036	36 %	3,225
2012	9,623	8,985	18,608	34 %	8,010	6,731	14,741	34 %	3,867
2013	9,841	9,129	18,970	31 %	7,423	6,149	13,572	31 %	5,398
2014	9,997	9,352	19,349	28 %	7,541	6,458	13,999	32 %	5,350
2015	10,211	9,586	19,797	25 %	7,413	6,607	14,020	31 %	5,777
2016	10,315	9,427	19,742	27 %	8,179	7,097	15,273	29 %	4,469
2017	10,180	9,353	19,533	28 %	7,929	6,942	14,871	26 %	4,662

Note: Foreign-born persons can also be Danish nationals.

Source: Statistics Denmark (Eurostat, Unified Demographic Data Collection 2019).

1.4 Long-term migration movements of foreign nationals

Table 1.3 shows the long-term migration movements of foreign nationals in the period 1998-2017.

As can be seen, there is a positive net migration of foreign nationals throughout the period. The net migration fairly follows the pattern we saw for the overall net migration in table 1.1, with lower net migration levels in the period 2003-2005, followed by the higher net migration levels in 2007 and 2008.

The substantial increase in long-term immigration in 2008 is due to an increase in foreign workers - particularly workers from the EU countries. In 2009 the number of foreign workers decreased. Combined with a higher emigration level the net migration fell by 60.8 per cent. In 2013-2015 there was an increase in the net migration of foreign nationals. From 2015 to 2017 the net migration has been substantially reduced from 28,090 to 7,514 persons.

Table 1.3: Long-term migration flows of foreign nationals, 1998-2017 (persons, percentage)

	Immigration			Emigration			Net migration		
	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total	Men	Women	Total
1998	10,473	10,703	21,176	7,035	6,220	13,255	3,438	4,483	7,921
1999	9,737	10,528	20,265	7,367	6,768	14,135	2,370	3,760	6,130
2000	11,186	11,580	22,766	7,189	6,799	13,988	3,997	4,781	8,778
2001	12,082	12,560	24,642	7,562	7,236	14,798	4,520	5,324	9,844
2002	10,322	11,163	21,485	7,649	7,238	14,887	2,673	3,925	6,598
2003	9,187	9,198	18,385	7,993	7,764	15,757	1,194	1,434	2,628
2004	9,062	9,644	18,706	7,944	7,817	15,761	1,118	1,827	2,945
2005	9,966	10,180	20,146	8,291	8,004	16,295	1,675	2,176	3,851
2006	12,455	11,524	23,979	8,832	8,437	17,269	3,623	3,087	6,710
2007	16,546	14,884	31,430	9,844	9,151	18,995	6,702	5,733	12,435
2008	19,385	17,633	37,018	12,249	11,092	23,341	7,136	6,541	13,677
2009	15,643	16,314	31,957	14,187	12,409	26,596	1,456	3,905	5,361
2010	16,582	16,860	33,442	13,760	13,324	27,084	2,822	3,536	6,358
2011	17,697	16,875	34,572	13,325	13,256	26,581	4,372	3,619	7,991
2012	18,118	17,372	35,490	14,337	14,761	29,098	3,781	2,612	6,393
2013	21,530	19,812	41,342	14,599	15,139	29,738	6,931	4,673	11,604
2014	26,742	22,297	49,039	15,117	15,310	30,427	11,625	6,987	18,612
2015	32,335	26,360	58,695	15,355	15,250	30,605	16,980	11,110	28,090
2016	28,971	25,670	54,641	19,338	18,043	37,381	9,633	7,627	17,260
2017	25,542	25,504	49,046	21,920	19,612	41,532	3,622	3,892	7,514

Source: Statistics Denmark (Eurostat, Unified Demographic Data Collection 2019).

2.0 THE FLOW OF REFUGEES AND IMMIGRANTS

2.1 Types of residence permits in Denmark

Denmark has the following different types of residence permits:

- Convention status, protection status and temporary protection status.
- Quota refugees (resettled refugees).
- Family reunification.
- Employment (includes specialists, researchers and other knowledge workers, green cards).
- Residence on humanitarian grounds.
- Residence permits to rejected asylum seekers in certain situations.
- Unaccompanied minors (special reasons).
- Students.
- Au pairs.
- EU/EEA permits (includes the European Union, the EEA countries and Switzerland).
- Others (former Danish nationals, religious preachers etc.).

Chapter 6 describes some of the different types of residence permits and the Danish immigration policy in detail.

2.2 Asylum seekers and refugees in Denmark

Table 2.1 shows the number of asylum applications lodged in Denmark from 2014 to 2019. The number of applicants increased from 2014 to 2015 by approximately 44 per cent and decreased from 2015 to 2017 by approximately 84 per cent. From 2017 to 2018 the number of applicants remained more or less constant. Nationals of Syria, Eritrea and Afghanistan have been the largest groups to lodge asylum applications.

Table 2.1: Asylum applications lodged in Denmark by country of origin, 2014–2019 (Persons)

Nationality	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019*
Afghanistan	313	2,331	1,127	189	115	49
Algeria	124	103	164	88	73	25
Eritrea	2,285	1,740	274	370	680	274
Georgia	11	100	73	76	402	44
Iraq	151	1,537	452	146	119	90
Iran	284	2,787	300	149	195	82
Kosovo	76	122	54	40	13	2
Morocco	228	187	353	326	181	97
Nigeria	98	114	121	71	28	10
Russia	522	177	81	49	89	39
Somalia	683	257	258	106	106	91
Stateless	1,362	1,734	491	137	149	135
Syria	1,087	8,608	1,253	863	604	314
Others	1,466	1,396	716	890	805	427
Total	14,792	21,316	5,717	3,500	3,559	1,679

* 1 January-31 August 2019

Source: The Danish Immigration Service.

Table 2.2 shows the total number of persons granted refugee status and ‘other status’ (‘other’ referring to residence permits granted after refusal of asylum, e.g., residence permits granted on humanitarian grounds) from 2013 to 2019.

Table 2.2: Number of persons granted refugee or other status in Denmark, 2013-2019

Category	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019*
Refugee status (A)	3,806	6,031	10,783	7,444	2,706	1,621	1,048
- Protection status	1,872	3,913	7,810	4,478	1,525	1,028	496
- B-status/ de facto status	1,419	1,774	1,325	406	392	187	368
- Temporary protected status	-	-	1,068	2,475	789	406	184
- Quota refugees	515	344	580	85	0	0	0
- Applications lodged abroad **	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other status (B)	83	73	66	49	44	31	21
- Humanitarian residence permit	65	46	25	3	3	8	7
- Exceptional reasons	18	27	41	46	41	23	14
- of which return not possible	0	7	0	0	0	2	0
Total (A+B)	3,889	6,104	10,849	7,493	2,750	1,652	1,069

* 1 January-31 August 2019

** Geneva Convention status or de facto status permits granted to asylum seekers applying for asylum at the Danish diplomatic missions. Since 1st of July 2002 it is no longer possible to seek asylum in Denmark from outside the country's borders via a Danish diplomatic mission (embassy or consulate general).

Source: The Danish Immigration Service.

The number of persons granted refugee or other status in Denmark has followed the same development as the number of lodged asylum applicants – an increase from 2014 to 2015 and a decrease from 2015 to 2017.

In 2013 3.889 persons were granted refugee or other status, and in 2018 the number was 1.652.

From 2016 to 2017 there has been a 63 per cent decrease in the total of persons granted refugee or other status in Denmark.

The increase from 2014 to 2015 can be explained by an overall higher number of persons granted refugee status (A). The number of persons granted residence permit for other reasons (B) has decreased from 2013 to 2018.

2.3 Granting of residence permits

Besides the residence permits granted to refugees, the main types of residence permits in Denmark are based on family reunification and special reasons for staying in Denmark for a limited period (occupation/business, education, traineeship, au pair position, etc.).

Table 2.3 shows the trend in the total number of residence permits granted in Denmark during the period from 2014 to 2019.

The total number of residence permits granted in Denmark has followed the same development as seen in the two previous tables – an increase from 2014 to 2015 and a decrease from 2015 to 2017. From 2017 to 2018 the number of resident permits granted remained more or less constant. The decrease from 2016 to 2017 is mainly caused by the decrease in the number of asylum permits granted.

Throughout the period from 2014 to 2019 EU/EAA nationals have been by far the largest group of people which has been granted residence permits. In 2017, 38,237 residence permits were granted to EU/EAA nationals, which constitute approximately 50 per cent of the total number of residence permits granted in Denmark.

It should be noted that this overview does not directly reflect the level of immigration to Denmark. This is primarily due to the facts that (1) Nordic nationals may enter and stay in Denmark without a residence permit, (2) foreign nationals may subsequently apply for a different type of residence permit (e.g. a person granted family reunification may also be granted asylum), and (3) some residence permits are never used (e.g. the person never enters Denmark). The only accurate data is thus registry data on immigration (see e.g. chapter 1 on long-term migration).

However, the number of residence permits does give an approximate indication of the level of immigration to Denmark.

Table 2.3: Overview of all residence permits, etc. granted in Denmark, 2014-2019 (persons, percentage)

Category	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019*	Share of total residence permits
							2019
Asylum, etc. (A)	6,104	10,849	7,493	2,750	1,652	1,069	2%
Refugee status	6,031	10,783	7,444	2,706	1,621	1,048	2%
- of which Geneva Convention status	3,913	7,810	4,478	1,525	1,028	496	1%
- of which protection status	1,774	1,325	406	392	187	368	1%
- of which Temporary protected status	-	1,068	2,475	789	406	184	<1%
- of which quota refugees	344	580	85	0	0	0	0%
Other status	73	66	49	44	31	21	<1%
- of which humanitarian residence permit	46	25	3	3	8	7	<1%
Family reunification, etc. ** (B)	6,243	12,138	8,149	7,790	5,234	2,233	5%
Family reunification	5,727	11,645	7,679	7,015	4,601	1,926	4%
- of which spouses and cohabitants	3,410	5,233	3,826	4,127	3,225	1,284	3%
- of which minor children	2,317	6,411	3,852	2,887	1,373	640	1%
Other residence cases (incl. adoption)	516	493	470	775	633	307	1%
Work (C)	12,436	11,682	12,903	12,749	14,355	9,474	20%
- of which The Pay Limit scheme	3,173	3,295	3,118	2,586	2,571	1,615	3%
- of which Greencard and The Establishment Card	2,250	1,469	1,145	567	412	212	<1%
- of which family ties to a person granted residence permit in the work area	4,190	3,821	4,345	4,640	5,191	3,201	7%
Study, etc. (D)	12,144	12,658	14,291	15,302	15,836	10,842	23%
- of which education	7,425	8,246	9,194	8,949	8,861	5,436	12%
- of which au pair	1,908	1,624	1,349	1,423	1,311	680	1%
- of which interns	1,542	1,058	1,272	1,899	2,251	1,532	3%
- of which family ties to a person granted a residence permit to study	446	555	912	991	981	495	1%
- of which volunteers and working holiday, etc.	710	982	1,422	1,874	2,213	2,579	6%
- of which religious preachers, etc.	68	124	75	90	109	74	<1%
EU/EEA (E)	35,415	37,336	37,166	38,237	39,079	22,886	49%
- of which wage-earners	16,944	18,066	18,013	19,283	20,225	12,268	26%
- of which education	9,616	10,121	9,921	9,692	9,150	4,559	10%
- of which to family members of an EU/EEA national	4,410	4,493	4,510	4,475	4,789	2,814	6%
- of which to persons with sufficient means	4,372	4,611	4,659	4,739	4,867	3,223	7%
Total (A+B+C+D+E)	72,342	84,693	80,002	76,828	76,156	46,504	100%

*1 January-31 August 2019

** Including positive decisions on family reunification according to EU-rules with reference to Danish nationals.

Source: The Danish Immigration Service.

Table 2.4 shows a trend in the number of residence permits granted for family reunification in Denmark during the period from 2013 to 2019.

It should be noted that the number of permits granted in cases, where the reference was a beneficiary of international protection, increased significantly from 2014 to 2015.

Table 2.4: Number of positive decisions on family reunification 2013-2019

Category	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019*
Spouses and cohabitants (A)	3,415	3,195	4,996	3,624	3,927	2,959	1,133
- of refugees in Denmark	557	908	2,575	1,425	1,156	493	195
- of other immigrants in Denmark	237	230	228	201	256	268	143
- of which Danish/Nordic nationals in Denmark	2,621	2,057	2,193	1,998	2,515	2,198	795
Family reunification according to the EU rules (B)	346	230	246	218	209	289	165
- of which spouses and cohabitants (b)	315	215	237	201	200	266	151
- of which children	30	15	8	16	9	21	12
- of which parents/other family	1	0	1	1	0	2	2
Spouses and cohabitants (A+b)	3,730	3,410	5,233	3,826	4,127	3,225	1,218
Minors (C)	1,351	2,302	6,403	3,836	2,878	1,352	628
- children to refugees in Denmark	636	1,493	5,517	2,887	2,109	643	291
- children to other than refugees in Denmark	715	809	886	949	769	709	337
Total (A+B+C)	5,112	5,727	11,645	7,679	7,015	4,601	1,926

*1 January-31 August 2019

Source: The Danish Immigration Service.

It should be mentioned that some Danish nationals have a foreign country of origin, because they have obtained Danish nationality by naturalisation. This implies that some of the persons reunified with a 'Danish national' are in fact reunified with a person who was previously a foreign national.

2.4 Statistics on Repatriation

The total number of persons who choose to repatriate differs year by year as do the nationalities of the repatriated persons. According to the Danish Repatriation Act immigrants who choose to return to their country of origin are eligible for assistance for this purpose. Chapter 6 elaborates on the Danish repatriation policy.

Table 2.5 shows the number of repatriated persons who received assistance to repatriate by country of origin in the period 2011-2018.

In the period under review, the largest total number of repatriations occurred in 2011, when 613 persons received financial assistance to repatriate. In 2018 the number of repatriations was 360, which is the highest level since 2013. In 2018 the repatriated persons most frequently came from Turkey, Somalia and Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Table 2.5: Number of repatriations from Denmark by country of origin, 2011-2018

Country	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Turkey	112	109	76	70	75	64	57	60
Somalia	8	13	23	13	14	21	43	48
Bosnia-Herzegovina	122	86	60	73	59	34	35	41
Russia	1	21	9	25	12	23	29	33
Myanmar	0	0	0	3	2	5	9	24
Serbia	84	37	31	26	20	28	19	19
Thailand	12	17	8	19	15	13	14	18
D.R. Congo	4	0	1	1	12	10	6	13
Iraq	98	53	60	18	12	4	7	12
Sudan	7	0	5	0	4	5	0	12
Other countries	163	139	120	72	98	92	122	80
Total	613	476	393	320	323	301	341	360

Source: Danish Refugee Council.

3.0 THE STOCK OF IMMIGRANTS AND DESCENDANTS

This section elaborates on population figures, including immigrants and descendants by population category, country of origin and age as well as the development in the number of immigrants and descendants.

3.1 Immigrants and descendants in Denmark

Definition of immigrants, descendants and persons of Danish origin

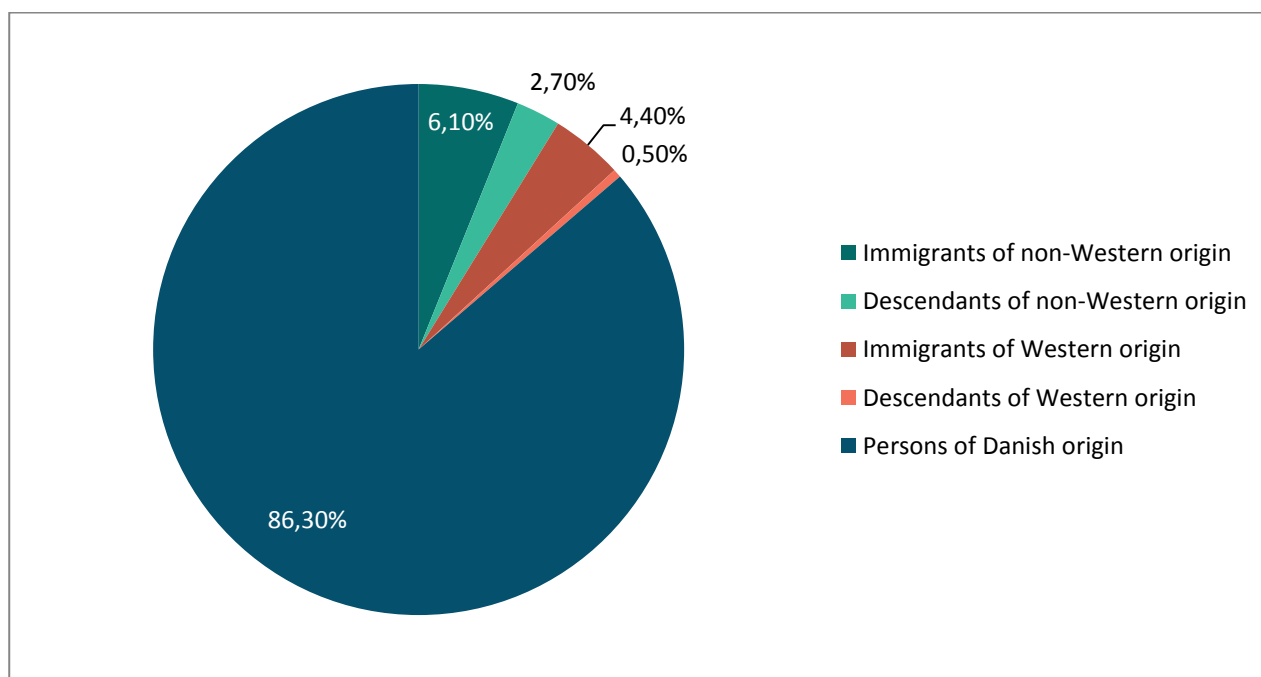
An immigrant is defined as a person born abroad whose parents are both (or one of them if there is no available information on the other parent) foreign citizens or were both born abroad. If there is no available information on either of the parents and the person was born abroad, the person is also defined as an immigrant.

A descendant is defined as a person born in Denmark whose parents (or one of them if there is no information on the other parent) are either immigrants or descendants with foreign citizenship. If there is no available information on either of the parents and the person in question is a foreign citizen, the person is also defined as a descendant.

A person of Danish origin is defined as a person who, regardless of his/hers place of birth, has at least one parent who is born in Denmark and has Danish nationality.

As of January 1st 2019, immigrants and descendants in Denmark numbered 793,601 or 13.7 per cent of the entire population (see Figure 3.1).

Figure 3.1: The Danish population by category, at 1 January 2019 (percentage)



Source: StatBank Denmark (Folk1), managed by Statistics Denmark.

An 8.7 per cent proportion of the Danish population were immigrants and descendants of non-Western origin, while 4.9 per cent of the population were immigrants and descendants of Western origin (see Table 3.1).

Table 3.1: The population in Denmark by origin and population category, at 1 January 2019 (persons, percentage)

	Persons	Proportion of total population
Non-Western origin		
Immigrants	351,424	6.1 %
Descendants	155,146	2.7 %
Total	506,570	8.7 %
Western origin		
Immigrants	256,198	4.4 %
Descendants	30,833	0.5 %
Total	287,031	4.9 %
All immigrants and descendants	793,601	13.7 %
Danish origin	5,012,480	86.3 %
Total population	5,806,081	100 %

Source: StatBank Denmark (Folk 1), managed by Statistics Denmark.

3.2 Country of origin

60 per cent of all immigrants and descendants living in Denmark originate in 17 countries (see Table 3.2). As of January 1st 2019, persons of Turkish origin constituted the largest group. 8% of all immigrants and descendants in Denmark belonged to this group. The three largest groups of immigrants and descendants following the Turkish group were persons originating from Poland (6.1 per cent), Syria (5.4 per cent) and Germany (4.3 per cent)..

Table 3.2: Immigrants and descendants by countries of origin, at 1 January 2019 (count, percentage)

	Immigrants	Descendants	Total	Proportion of all immigrants and descendants in Denmark
Tyrkey	33,083	30,736	63,819	8.0 %
Poland	41,497	6,651	48,148	6.1 %
Syria	35,862	6,605	42,467	5.4 %
Germany	30,321	3,716	34,037	4.3 %
Iraq	21,859	11,230	33,089	4.2 %
Rumania	28,543	3,506	32,049	4.0 %
Lebanon	12,935	14,141	27,076	3.4 %
Pakistan	14,379	11,282	25,661	3.2 %
Bosnia & Herzegovina	16,956	6,269	23,225	2.9 %
Iran	17,075	4,357	21,432	2.7 %
Somalia	11,585	9,642	21,227	2.7 %
Afghanistan	13,771	5,317	19,088	2.4 %
Norway	15,697	1,640	17,337	2.2 %
United Kingdom	15,263	1,608	16,871	2.1 %
Sweden	14,279	2,170	16,449	2.1 %
Vietnam	9,562	6,044	15,606	2.0 %
Lithuania	13,209	1,730	14,939	1.9 %
Other countries	261,746	59,335	321,081	40.5 %

Note: Due to rounding the numbers in the table does not sum to the total.

Source: StatBank Denmark (Folk 1), managed by Statistics Denmark.

3.3 Migration

As shown in Table 3.3, 50,747 immigrants and descendants left Denmark in 2018. In the same year the country received 68,271 new immigrants and descendants. Accordingly, there was a net inflow of 17,524 immigrants and descendant in 2018. Descendants of Western and Non-Western origin were the only groups showing a net out-flow of persons (-336 and -700 persons).

Table 3.3: Migration by origin and population category, 2018 (persons)

	Immigration	Emigration	Net migration
Non-Western origin			
Immigrants	25,236	16,585	8,651
Descendants	1,440	1,776	-336
Total	26,676	18,361	8,315
Western origin			
Immigrants	41,262	31,353	9,909
Descendants	333	1,033	-700
Total	41,595	32,386	9,209
All immigrants and descendants	68,271	50,747	17,524
Danish origin	19,058	17,898	1,160
Total population	87,329	68,645	18,684

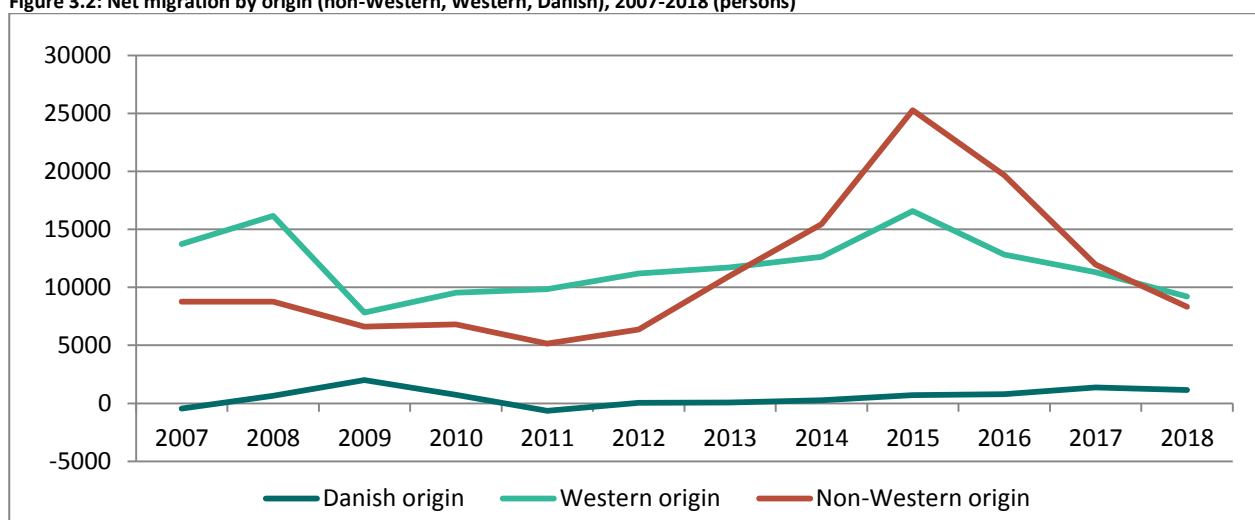
Note: Please note that there is a significant difference between net migration and population growth. This is particularly due to births and deaths and the fact that the calculation of net migration does not take into account persons who have left the country without notifying the authorities.

Source: The Immigration Database of The Ministry of Immigration and Integration (IMVAN1A), managed by Statistics Denmark.

Figure 3.2 illustrates the development in net migration to Denmark broken down by origin in the time period from 2007 to 2018. The net inflow of persons with a Western background increased from 2007 to 2008. In 2008 the net inflow of persons with a Western background first decreased, but has slowly increased again from 2009 and up until 2015.

The net inflow of immigrants and descendants of non-Western origin decreased until 2012. The net inflow of persons with a non-Western background remained steady in the period 2008-2012 but has increased with almost 19,000 persons between 2012 and 2015. From 2015 until 2018 there has been a decrease in net inflow from both Western and non-Western countries to Denmark.

Figure 3.2: Net migration by origin (non-Western, Western, Danish), 2007-2018 (persons)

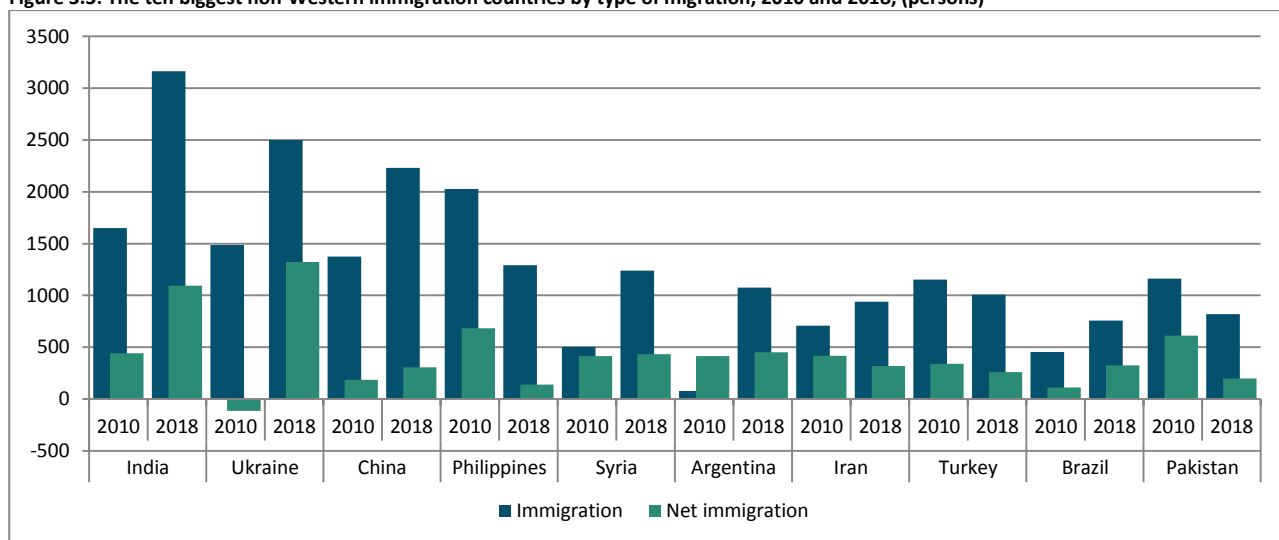


Note: Please note that there is a significant difference between net migration to Denmark and population growth. This is particularly due to births and deaths and the fact that the calculation of net migration does not take into account persons who have left the country without notifying the authorities.

Source: The Immigration Database of The Ministry of Immigration and Integration (IMVAN1), managed by Statistics Denmark.

Figure 3.3 and 3.4 give an overview of immigration and net migration in 2010 and 2018 for the ten countries with the highest number of immigrants with both non-Western and Western origin in 2018. Figure 3.3 shows that India, Ukraine and China have the largest number of immigrants arriving in Denmark in 2018. Ukraine closely followed by India has the largest net migration.

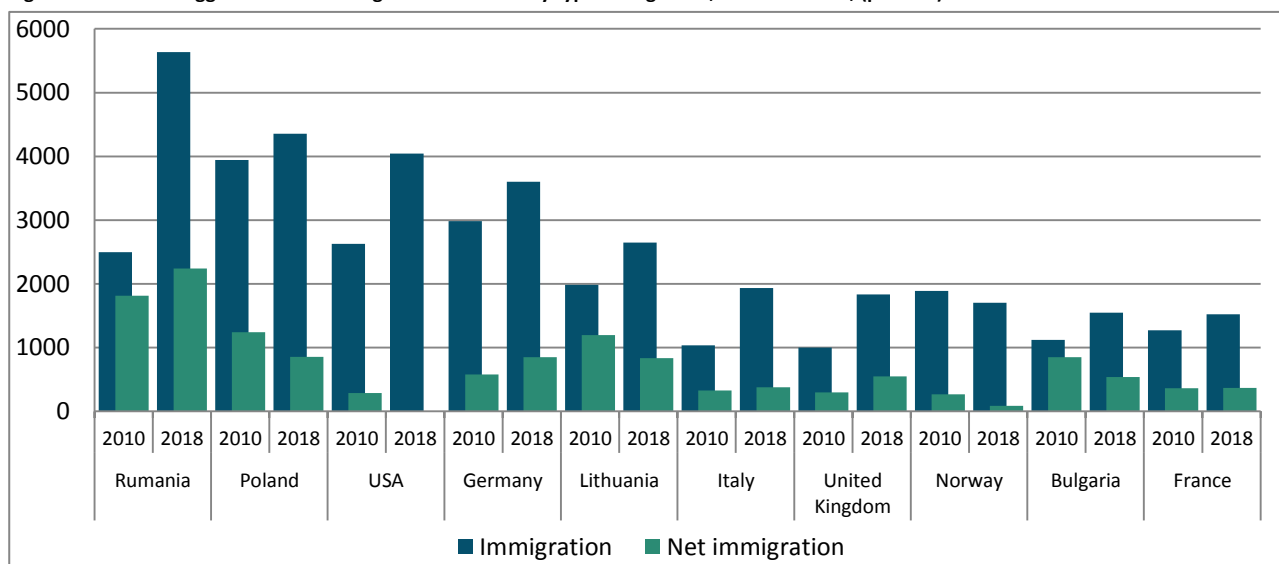
Figure 3.3: The ten biggest non-Western immigration countries by type of migration, 2010 and 2018, (persons)



Note: The 10 countries with the highest number of immigrants and descendants who immigrated to Denmark in 2018 are included in the figure.
Source: The Immigration Database of The Ministry of Immigration and Integration (IMVAN1), managed by Statistics Denmark.

The groups with Romanian and Polish background had the highest immigration and net migration among the Western countries in 2018. Norway was the only country among the top 10 immigration countries to have had a decrease in immigration from 2010 to 2018.

Figure 3.4: The ten biggest Western immigration countries by type of migration, 2010 and 2018, (persons)

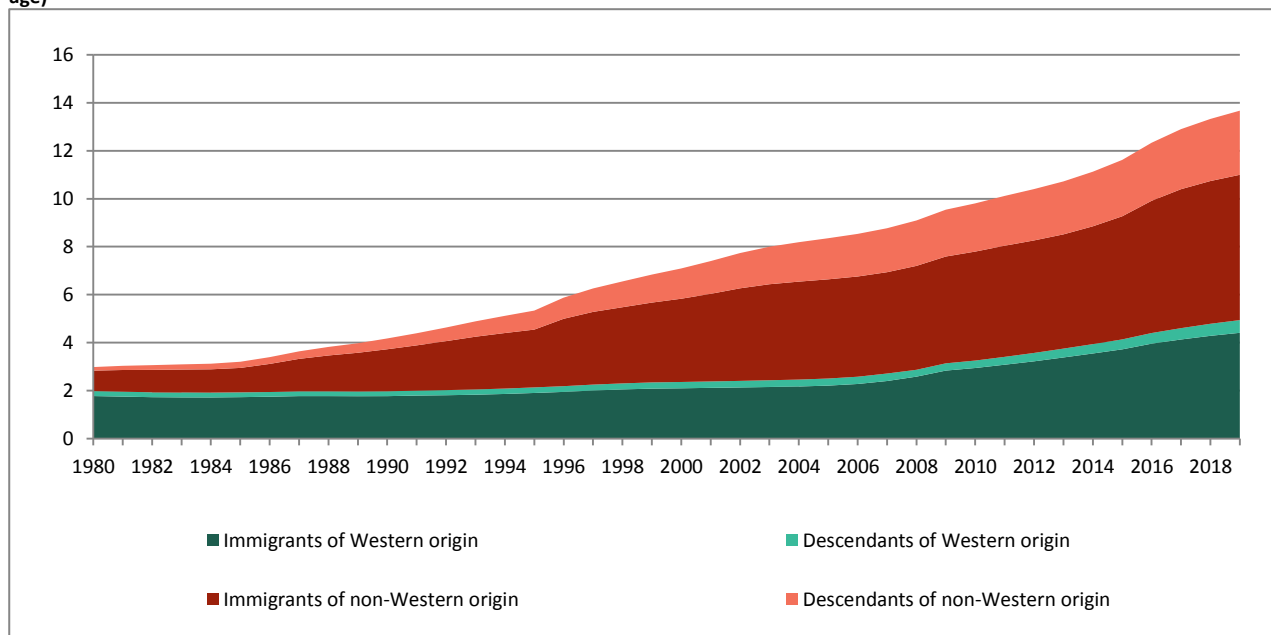


Note: The 10 countries with the highest number of immigrants and descendants who immigrated to Denmark in 2018 are included in the figure.
Source: The Immigration Database of The Ministry of Immigration and Integration (IMVAN1), managed by Statistics Denmark.

3.4 Development in the number of immigrants and descendants in Denmark

The total number of immigrants and descendants increased with roughly 640.500 persons from 1980 to 2019. The proportion of immigrants and descendants within the total population has accordingly increased by more than 10 percentage points since 1980; from 2.99 per cent in 1980 to 13.7 per cent in 2019 (see Figure 3.5).

Figure 3.5: Proportion of immigrants and descendants of the total Danish population by origin, from 1 January 1980 to 1 January 2019 (percentage)



Source: StatBank Denmark (FOLK2), provided by Statistics Denmark.

The proportion of immigrants and descendants of non-Western origin has increased continuously since 1980. Opposed to this the proportion of immigrants of Western origin was more or less constant until the mid-zeroes (the period 1980 to 2004 saw an increase of 0.4 percentage point). However, the proportion of immigrants of Western origin has increased since then.

The ten population groups in Denmark experiencing the highest proportion of growth from 2018 to 2019 are listed in Table 3.4. The group of persons of Romanian origin has had the highest proportion of the total population growth (11.2 per cent) followed by the group of Ukrainian origin, which constituted 6.6 per cent of the total population growth.

Generally, almost all of the total population growth of 24,891 people from 2018 to 2019 attributed to immigrants and their descendants. In the same time the population with Danish origin has seen an increase of 1,687 persons.

Table 3.4: Development of population by country of origin of the population groups that constituted the largest proportion of the total population growth in Denmark, at 1st of January 2018 and 1st of January 2019 (persons, percentage)

	2018	2019	Growth, persons	Growth, percentage	Proportion of total population growth
Romania	29,257	32,049	2,792	9.5 %	11.2 %
Ukraine	11,654	13,286	1,632	14 %	6.6 %
Syria	40,978	42,467	1,489	3.6 %	6.0 %
India	12,658	13,923	1,265	10 %	5.1 %
Poland	46,900	48,148	1,248	2.7 %	5.0 %
Lithuania	13,894	14,939	1,045	7.5 %	4.2 %
Eritrea	5,887	6,563	676	11.5 %	2.7 %
Bulgaria	9,955	10,585	630	6.3 %	2.5 %
Germany	33,416	34,037	621	1.9 %	2.5 %
Iraq	32,494	33,089	595	1.8 %	2.4 %
All immigrants and descendants	770,397	793,601	23,204	3 %	93.2 %
Danish origin	5,010,793	5,012,480	1,687	0.0 %	6.8 %
Total population	5,781,190	5,806,081	24,891	0.4 %	100 %

Source: Calculations by the Ministry of Immigration and Integration, based on register data from Statistics Denmark (FOLK2).

3.5 Age distribution

The age profiles are quite different for the various cohorts of immigrants, descendants and persons of Danish origin.

Table 3.5: Age distribution by population category and origin, at January 1st 2019 (percentage)

	0-15 years	16-24 years	25-39 years	40-64 years	65+ years
Non-Western origin					
Immigrants	7.7 %	8.7 %	35.6 %	40.8 %	7.3 %
Descendants	50.1 %	28.0 %	18.7 %	3.1 %	0.1 %
Total	20.7 %	14.6 %	30.4 %	29.2 %	5.1 %
Western origin					
Immigrants	4.8 %	13.5 %	39.4 %	30.1 %	12.2 %
Descendants	61.5 %	10.5 %	11.4 %	12.0 %	4.5 %
Total	10.9 %	13.2 %	36.4 %	28.2 %	11.3 %
All immigrants and descendants	17.1 %	14.1 %	32.6 %	28.8 %	7.3 %
Danish origin	17.7 %	11.0 %	16.3 %	33.4 %	21.5 %
Total population	17.7 %	11.5 %	18.5 %	32.8 %	19.6 %

Source: StatBank Denmark (IMBEF02), provided by Statistics Denmark.

It appears from Table 3.5 that the average age of descendants was considerably lower compared to immigrants and persons of Danish origin in January 1st 2019. This trend applies in particular to descendants of Western origin as 61.5 per cent were younger than 16 years.

Most immigrants, both of Western and non-Western origin, belonged to the economically active age group, that is, they are between 16 and 64 years of age. Around 83 per cent of immigrants of Western origin and 85 per cent of immigrants of non-Western origin belonged to this group.

The proportion of persons above the age of 64 years was highest among persons of Danish origin (21.5 per cent), followed by immigrants of Western origin (12.2 per cent).

3.6 Geographical distribution

Immigrants and descendants are not situated evenly across the country. Almost half of all 793,601 immigrants and descendants are clustered in ten of the 98 municipalities in Denmark.

Table 3.6 shows that, on January 1st 2019, 27.3 per cent of all immigrants and descendants in Denmark lived in the country's two largest municipalities: Copenhagen and Aarhus.

Table 3.6: The ten municipalities with most immigrants and descendants, at January 1st 2019 (persons, percentage)

	Persons	Per centage
Copenhagen	157,780	19.9 %
Aarhus	58,757	7.4 %
Odense	34,388	4.3 %
Aalborg	23,697	3.0 %
Frederiksberg	19,413	2.4 %
Gladsaxe	15,127	1.9 %
Høje-Taastrup	14,973	1.9 %
Vejle	14,843	1.9 %
Horsens	12,928	1.6 %
Esbjerg	12,625	1.6 %
Other municipalities	429,070	54.1 %
Total	793,601	100 %

Source: The Immigration Database of The Ministry of Immigration and Integration (IMBEF13), managed by Statistics Denmark.

4.0 PERSONS ENROLLED IN EDUCATION

This section elaborates on key figures on immigrants and descendants enrolled in upper secondary or higher education in the academic year of 2018/2019.

'Upper secondary education' refers to general upper secondary education, vocational upper secondary education and vocational training. 'Higher education' comprises short-cycle, medium-cycle and long-cycle higher education and bachelor's programs.

It should be emphasized that the data on enrolment in education does not reflect the proportion of students who actually complete such education.

Immigrants with less than two years' residence in Denmark are not included in the analyses in this section. This makes it possible to leave out those who have come to Denmark for a short period to study.

4.1 Immigrants and descendants aged 16-19 years

Table 4.1 shows the proportions of immigrants and descendants and persons of Danish origin aged 16-19 years who were enrolled in education in the academic year of 2018/2019 and their current educational level.

Table 4.1: Immigrants, descendants and persons of Danish origin aged 16-19 years who were enrolled in education in the academic year of 2018/2019 by origin and educational level (percentage)

	Primary and lower secondary education	Upper secondary education	Higher education	Not enrolled in education/No data available	Total
Non-Western origin					
Immigrants	32.2 %	38.0 %	2.0 %	27.9 %	100 %
Descendants	15.9 %	62.7 %	3.5 %	18.0 %	100 %
Total	19.9 %	56.5 %	3.1 %	20.4 %	100 %
Western origin					
Immigrants	23.0 %	50.1 %	1.8 %	25.0 %	100 %
Descendants	14.5 %	64.3 %	1.9 %	19.2 %	100 %
Total	20.2 %	54.8 %	1.9 %	23.1 %	100 %
All immigrants and descendants	20.0 %	56.3 %	2.9 %	21.8 %	100 %
Persons of Danish origin	18.8 %	63.2 %	0.9 %	17.1 %	100 %
Total population	19.0 %	62.3 %	1.1 %	17.6 %	100 %

Note: These statistics only include immigrants who have stayed in Denmark for at least two years.

Source: The Immigration Database of The Ministry of Immigration and Integration (IMUDD320), managed by Statistics Denmark.

The table above shows that 78.2 per cent of all immigrants and descendants aged 16-19 years were enrolled in education in the academic year of 2018/2019. This proportion is 4.7 percentage points lower compared to the group of persons with Danish origin.

In regards to upper secondary education, 56.3 per cent of all immigrants and descendants aged 16-19 years were enrolled in such education or training. This is 6.9 percentage points lower than for the corresponding group of persons of Danish origin.

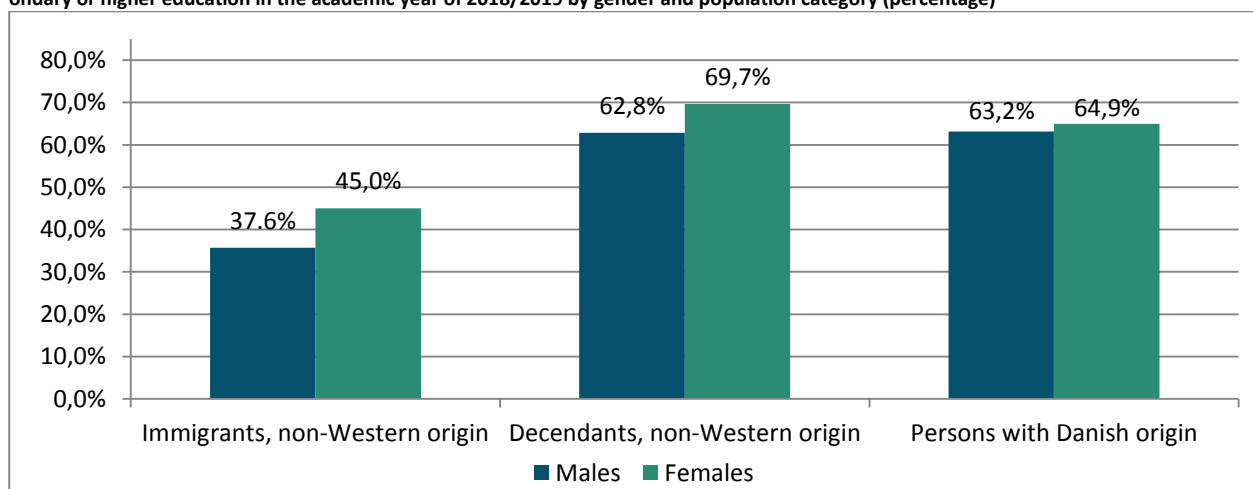
For immigrants and descendants aged 16-19 years of both non-Western and Western origin, more descendants than immigrants were enrolled in upper secondary education.

Figure 4.1 shows the proportions of males and females of non-Western origin and persons of Danish origin aged 16-19 years who were enrolled in upper secondary or higher education in the academic year of 2018/2019.

In general, the proportion of females enrolled in upper secondary or higher education in the academic year of 2018/2019 was higher than the corresponding figure for males.

The status of female descendants of non-Western origin aged 16-19 years is worth noticing. Of this group, 69.7 per cent were enrolled in one of the above mentioned educational programs, which exceeded the figure by females of Danish origin with a difference of 4.8 percentage point.

Figure 4.1: Immigrants and descendants of non-Western origin and persons of Danish origin aged 16-19 years who were enrolled in upper secondary or higher education in the academic year of 2018/2019 by gender and population category (percentage)



Note: These statistics only include immigrants who have stayed in Denmark for at least two years.

Source: The Immigration Database of The Ministry of Immigration and Integration (IMUDD320), managed by Statistics Denmark.

4.2 Immigrants and descendants aged 20-24 years

It appears from Table 4.2 that 46.3 per cent of all immigrants and descendants aged 20-24 years were enrolled in education in the academic year of 2018/2019. This proportion is 4.3 percentage points lower than among persons of Danish origin of the corresponding age group.

Table 4.2: Immigrants and descendants and persons of Danish origin aged 20-24 years who were enrolled in education in the academic year of 2018/2019 by origin and educational level (percentage)

	Higher education	Other education	Not enrolled in education/ No data available	Total
Non-Western origin				
Immigrants	24.0 %	11.7 %	64.3 %	100%
Descendants	43.2 %	10.5 %	46.3 %	100%
Total	35.3 %	11.0 %	53.7 %	100%
Western origin				
Immigrants	41.5 %	4.2 %	54.3 %	100%
Descendants	40.4 %	11.3 %	48.3 %	100%
Total	41.4 %	5.0 %	53.6 %	100%
All immigrants and descendants	37.0 %	9.3 %	53.7 %	100%
Persons of Danish origin	36.5 %	14.1 %	49.4 %	100%
Total population	36.6 %	13.4 %	50.0 %	100%

Note 1: These statistics only include immigrants who have stayed in Denmark for at least two years.

Note 2: 'Higher education' refers to short-cycle, medium-cycle, bachelor and long-cycle higher education programs.

Note 3: 'Other education' refers to primary and secondary education.

Source: The Immigration Database of The Ministry of Immigration and Integration (IMUDD320), managed by Statistics Denmark.

Regarding persons aged 20-24 years, the proportion of immigrants and descendants of Western origin and descendants of non-Western origin enrolled in higher education in the academic year of 2018/2019 were higher than that of persons of Danish origin. The opposite was seen for immigrants of non-Western origin.

The proportion of persons not enrolled in education is rather high for all groups. It is therefore essential to emphasize that some of these persons may have completed an upper secondary or higher educational program and may have a job.

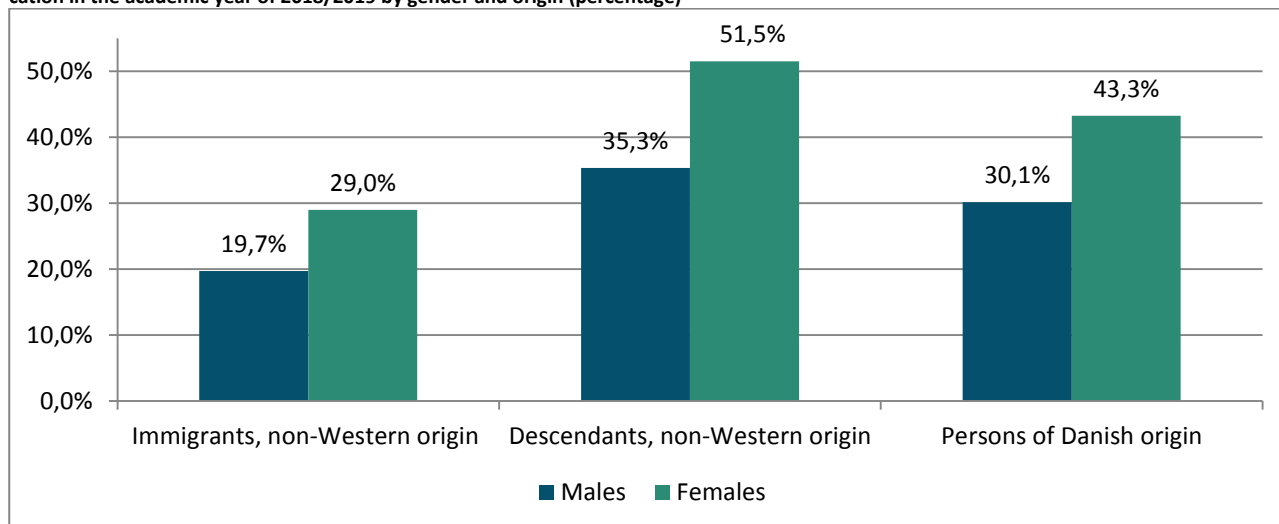
Among immigrants and descendants of non-Western origin and persons of Danish origin aged 20-24 years, female descendants were the ones taking the lead. Figure 4.2 show that 50.0 per cent of the females of this group were enrolled in higher education, which is 7.2 percentage points more than compared to the group of persons of Danish origin.

Figure 4.2 also show that the proportion of males aged 20-24 years who were enrolled in higher education in the academic year of 2018/2019 is considerably lower than the proportion of females. This applies to both immigrants and descendants and to persons of Danish origin.

The proportion of male descendants of non-Western origin enrolled in higher education in the academic year of 2018/2019 was 5.2 percentage points higher than that of males of Danish origin enrolled in higher education.. The group of male immigrants of non-Western origin had the lowest proportion of persons enrolled in higher education in the academic year of 2018/2019 (20 per cent).

The difference between the group of female descendants of non-Western origin (that is, the group with the highest proportion of persons aged 20-24 years enrolled in higher education) and the group of male immigrants of non-Western origin (that is, the group with the lowest proportion of persons aged 20-24 years enrolled in higher education) was more than 30 percentage points.

Figure 4.2: Immigrants and descendants of non-Western origin and persons of Danish origin aged 20-24 years who were enrolled in higher education in the academic year of 2018/2019 by gender and origin (percentage)



Note: These statistics only include immigrants who have stayed in Denmark for at least two years.

Source: The Immigration Database of The Ministry of Immigration and Integration (IMUDD320), managed by Statistics Denmark.

5.0 EMPLOYMENT

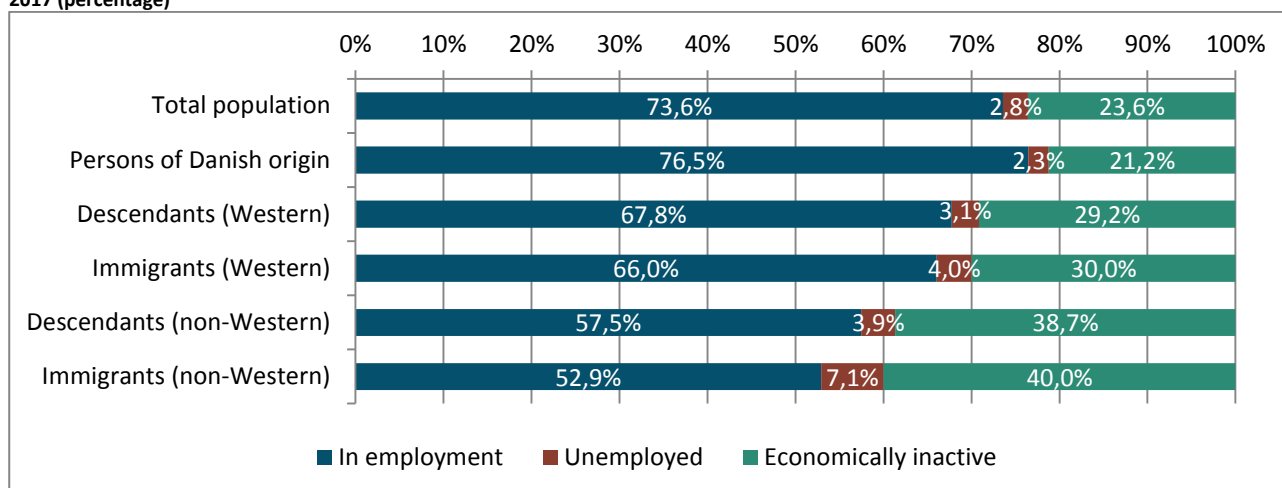
This section examines key figures on the employment situation of immigrants and descendants relative to their population category, gender, age and country of origin.

5.1 Persons of the economically active age group

In November 2017, around 3,633,885 persons of the total population in Denmark were in the economically active age group, that is, between 16 and 64 year olds. On average, seven out of ten persons (73.6 per cent) were employed. This corresponds to 2,674,120 persons, and around 336,748 of them were immigrants and descendants.

Figure 5.1 shows that 52.9 per cent of immigrants of non-Western origin of the economically active age group was in employment in November 2017. This was the lowest employment rate among immigrants and descendants of Western and non-Western origin and of persons of Danish origin.

Figure 5.1: Persons of the economically active age group (16-64 years) by origin, population category and labour market participation, November 2017 (percentage)



Source: The Immigration Database of the Ministry of Immigration and Integration (IMRAS17), managed by Statistics Denmark.

In general, the employment rates of immigrants and descendants of Western origin in the economically active age group were higher than those of immigrants and descendants of non-Western origin. Persons of Danish origin ranked at the top with the highest employment rate (76.5 per cent).

5.2 Employment rate of persons in the age bracket of 25-64 years

This subsection examines the employment situation of persons aged 25-64 years. Persons aged 16-24 years have been omitted from the employment analyses as a large proportion of the members of this group are enrolled in education. Moreover, the age profile of the group of descendants is younger than that of the members of other groups, which implies a relatively high proportion of persons enrolled in education. The inclusion of persons aged 16-24 years in the analysis of employment figures may therefore give a misleading picture when looking in detail at the various population groups.

Table 5.1: Employment rates and persons in employment in the age bracket of 25-64 years by origin, population category and gender, at November 2017 (persons and percentage)

	Employment rate			Persons in employment		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
Non-Western origin						
Immigrants	60.5 %	48.8 %	54.4 %	76,595	65,474	141,070
Descendants	69.2 %	65.7 %	67.5 %	10,580	9,394	19,974
Total	61.4 %	50.4 %	55.7 %	86,176	74,868	161,044
Western origin						
Immigrants	74.4 %	66.6 %	70.7 %	66,659	52,195	118,854
Descendants	74.5 %	73.3 %	73.9 %	2,770	2,454	5,224
Total	74.4 %	66.8 %	70.8 %	69,429	54,649	124,078
All immigrants and descendants	66.6 %	56.2 %	61.4 %	155,605	129,517	285,122
Persons of Danish origin	82.4 %	77.6 %	80 %	1,036,690	962,796	1,999,486
Total	79.9 %	74.3 %	77.1 %	1,192,295	1,092,313	2,284,608

Source: The Immigration Database of the Ministry of Immigration and Integration (IMRAS17), managed by Statistics Denmark.

Among immigrants and descendants aged 25-64 years, a group of 285,122 persons were in employment in November 2017 (see Table 5.1).

The employment rate of immigrants and descendants of non-Western origin (55.7 per cent) was lower than that of immigrants and descendants of Western origin (70.8 per cent).

The table also shows that descendants had a higher employment rate than immigrants of the same origin. This applies for the group of both non-Western and western origin. Moreover, the employment rate among males is in general higher than it is among females of the same origin.

The lowest total employment rate (54.4 per cent) was found among immigrants of non-Western origin. Among the females of non-Western origin the employment rate was 48.8 per cent. The difference between the employment rates of males and females in this group was 11.7 percentage points. The gender difference in the employment rates of immigrants of Western origin was 7.8 percentage points.

It also appears from Table 5.1 that the employment rate of immigrants and descendants of Western origin was 9.2 percentage points below the employment rate of persons of Danish origin. As opposed to this, the corresponding difference between immigrants and descendants of non-Western background and persons of Danish origin came to 24.3 percentage points.

The highest total employment rate among all immigrants and descendants was found among descendants of Western origin. Within this group 73.9 per cent were in employment which makes a difference of 6.1 percentage point compared to the group of persons with Danish origin.

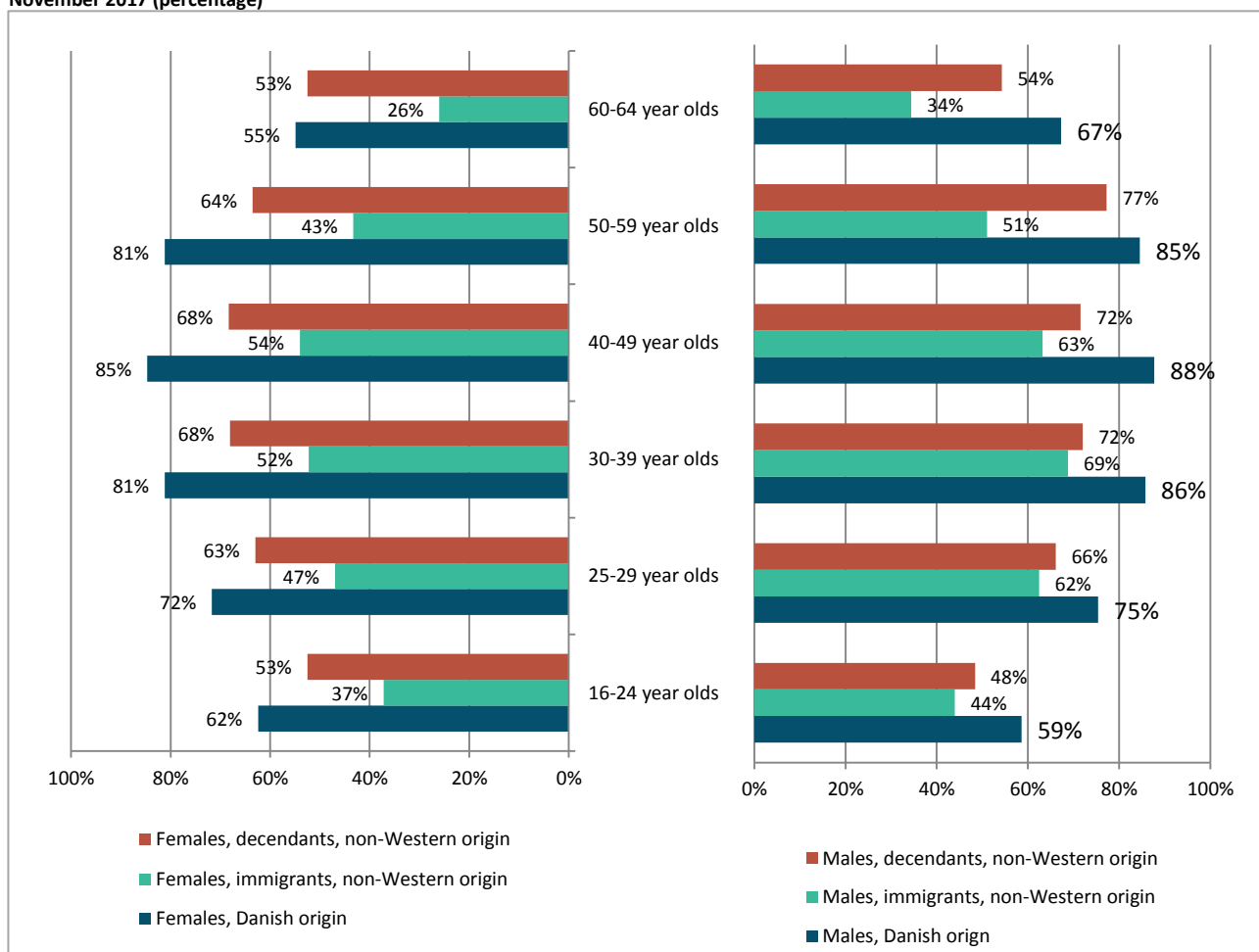
The employment rates of immigrants of non-Western origin and persons of Danish origin of the same age group differed considerably in November 2017 (see Figure 5.2).

The smallest employment rate gap between immigrants and descendants of non-Western origin and persons of Danish origin is found among persons aged 16-24 years.

The most pronounced employment rate difference between immigrants and descendants is seen in the age bracket of females aged 60-64 years, in which the difference between female descendants of non-Western

origin and female immigrants of non-Western origin was 27 percentage points. The corresponding difference between immigrant males of non-Western origin and descendant males of non-Western origin aged 60-64 years was 20 percentage points.

Figure 5.2: Employment rates of immigrants and descendants of non-Western origin and of persons of Danish origin by age group and gender, at November 2017 (percentage)



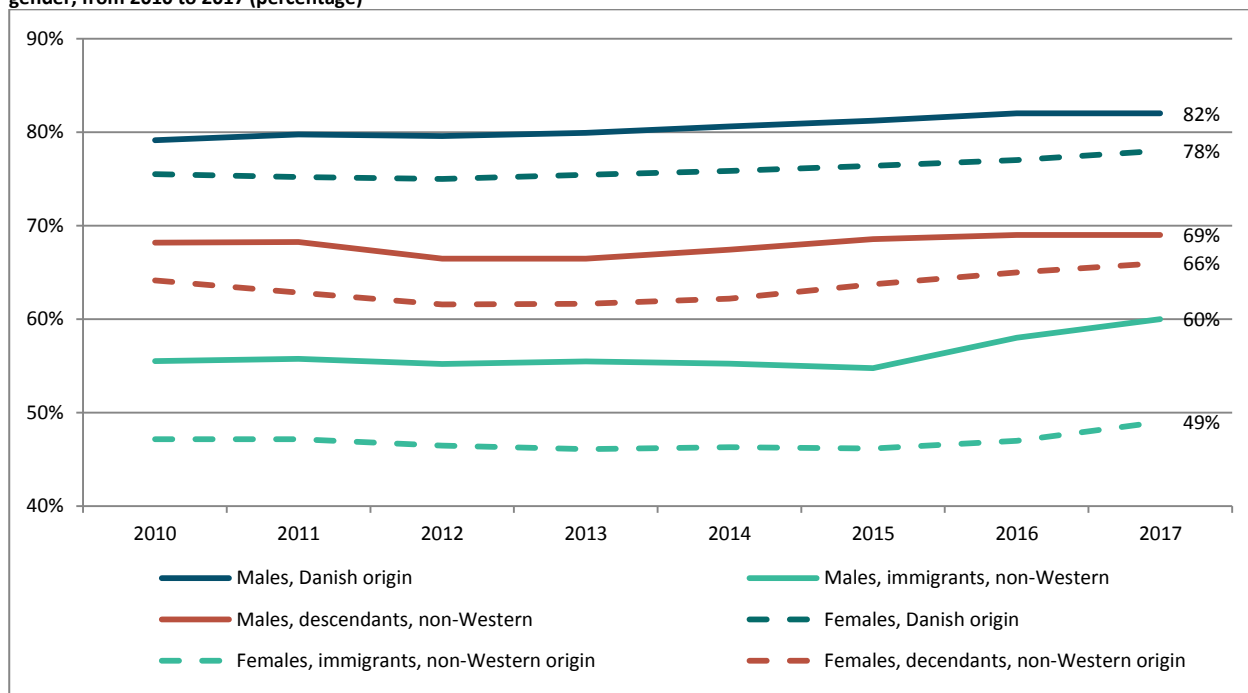
Source: The Immigration Database of the Ministry of Immigration and Integration (IMRAS17), managed by Statistics Denmark.

5.3 Development in employment rate

The development in the employment rate of persons aged 25-64 years broken down by gender and origin from 2010 to 2017 is shown in Figure 5.3.

Since 2010, the ranking of the groups relative to their individual employment rates has not changed. Males of Danish origin ranked at the top with the highest employment rate followed by females of Danish origin. The lowest employment rate is found among the group of female immigrants of non-Western origin.

Figure 5.3: Figure 5.3: Employment rates of immigrants and descendants of non-Western origin and persons of Danish origin aged 25-64 years by gender, from 2010 to 2017 (percentage)

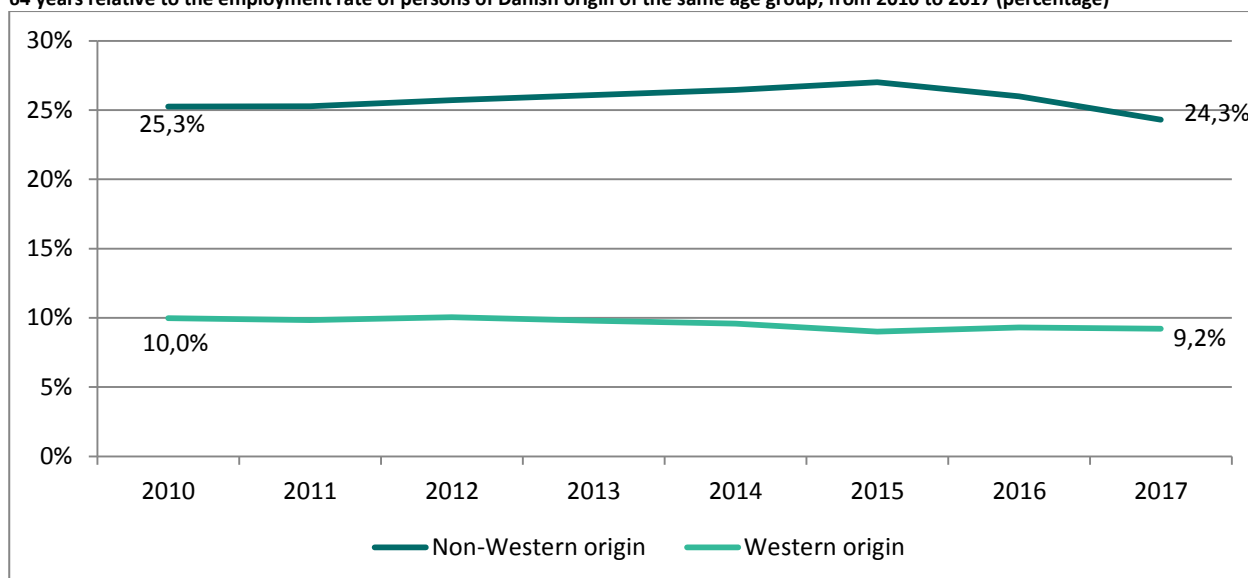


Source: The Immigration Database the Ministry of Immigration and Integration (IMRAS17), managed by Statistics Denmark.

Figure 5.4 shows the development in the gap between the employment rates of immigrants and descendants of Western and non-Western backgrounds relative to the employment rate of persons of Danish origin.

The gap between employment rates of immigrants and descendants of Western and non-Western origin, aged 25-64 years, relative to the employment rate of persons of Danish origin of the same age group, have been more or less stable throughout the period from 2010 to 2017.

Figure 5.4: Gap between employment rates of both male and female immigrants and descendants of Western and non-Western origin aged 25-64 years relative to the employment rate of persons of Danish origin of the same age group, from 2010 to 2017 (percentage)

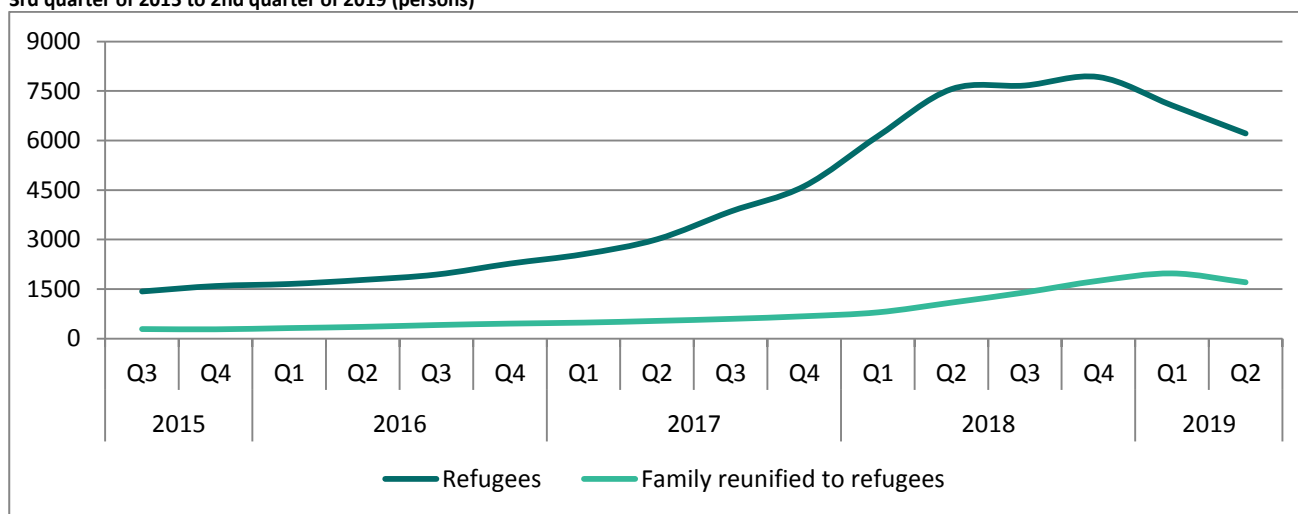


Note: The employment gap is calculated as the difference between the employment rates of immigrants/descendants and persons of Danish origin aged 25-64 years. Source: The Immigration Database of the Ministry of Immigration and Integration (IMRAS17), managed by Statistics Denmark.

5.4 Development in employment among refugees and family reunified persons to refugees with in their first three years of stay in Denmark

From the 3rd quarter of 2015 until the 4th quarter of 2018 there has been an increase in the number refugees and family reunified persons to refugees (aged between 21-64) having stayed three years in Denmark. In 2019 the numbers for both groups are decreasing. Figure 5.5 below illustrates that the number of refugees has been growing from 1,427 persons in 3rd quarter of 2015 to 7,922 persons in 4th quarter of 2018, while the number of family reunified persons to refugees has increased from 287 to 1,750 in the mentioned period. In the first two quarters of 2019 there has been a reduction in the number of refugees from 7,922 to 6,213.

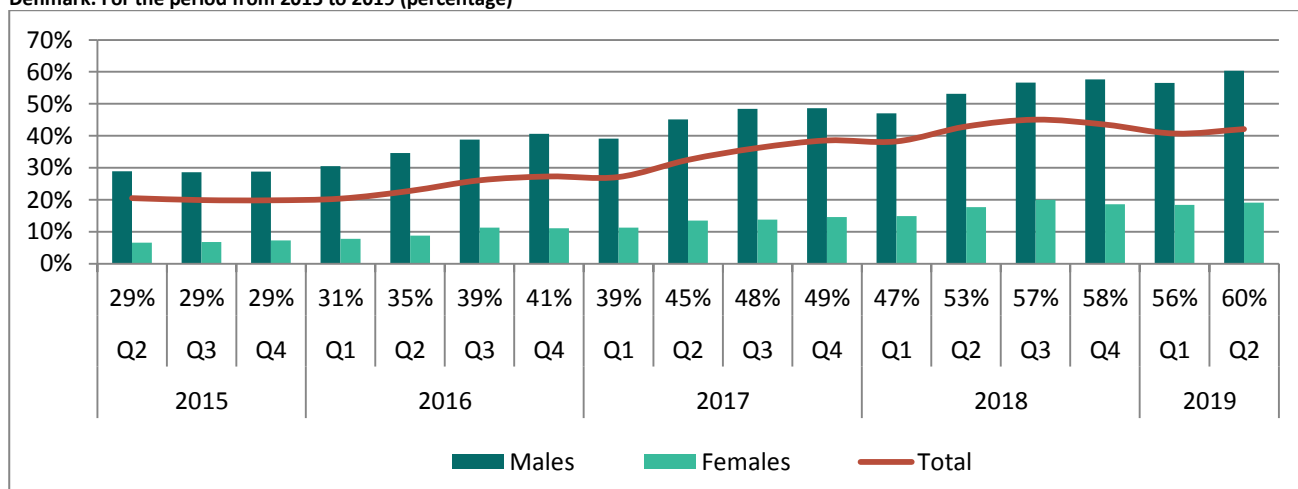
Figure 5.5: Refugees and family reunified persons to refugees (aged between 21-64) having stayed three years in Denmark. For the period from 3rd quarter of 2015 to 2nd quarter of 2019 (persons)



Source: Calculations by the Ministry of Immigration and Integration, based on register data from Statistics Denmark.

Noticeable is that there has been an increase in the employment rate among the refugees and family reunified persons to refugees that have been staying in Denmark within a time period of three years. The figure below illustrates that the employment rate has increased from 21 to 42 per cent from 2nd quarter 2015 to 2nd quarter of 2019. For females there has been an increase of 12 percentage points, from 7 per cent to 19 per cent. The correspondent numbers for males are 31 percentage points, from 29 per cent to 60 per cent.

Figure 5.6: Employment rate by gender for refugees and family reunified persons to refugees (aged between 21-64) having stayed 3 years in Denmark. For the period from 2015 to 2019 (percentage)



Note: The employment rate is based on the number of employees. Self-employed and assisting spouses are not included.

Source: Ministry of Immigration and Integration, managed by Statistics Denmark.

6.0 IMMIGRATION POLICY

Chapter 6 describes the Danish immigration policy. The chapter contains descriptions of regulations concerning asylum and refugees, family reunification, work and study, Danish nationality, repatriation and return. It is worth noting that after the election in June 2019 the Social Democratic Party (Socialdemokratiet) formed a new government. Prior to the election the Liberal Party of Denmark (Venstre), the Conservative People's Party (Det Konservative Folkeparti) and Liberal Alliance formed a three-party government.

6.1 Asylum and refugees

In Denmark residence permits are issued to the following four groups of refugees:

- *Convention refugees*: According to the United Nations Refugee Convention, a refugee is a person who is currently outside his or her country of origin 'owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group, or political opinion'.
- *Refugees with protection status*: In addition, Denmark grants protection in cases where, as a state, it is obliged to do so in order to comply with the international conventions ratified by Denmark. As an example, residence permits will be granted to asylum seekers who risk the death penalty, torture, inhumane or degrading treatment or punishment if they return to their country of origin.
- *Refugees with temporary subsidiary protection status*: Refugees who are entitled to asylum due to a general situation in the home country is granted residence permit for an initial period of one year, which may be extended twice for one year each. After three years, further extensions can be granted for two years each.
- *Quota refugees*: Foreigners who are resettled in Denmark in cooperation with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) or a similar international organisation. Residence permit as a quota refugee is granted to individuals, who may be assumed to comply with the basic principles for obtaining a residence permit under one of the provisions of the Danish Immigration Act if they had entered Denmark as asylum seekers.

The individual refugees who are to be resettled to Denmark are, as a general rule, chosen from among the UNHCR refugees. In each instance, the Danish Immigration Service (*Udlændingestyrelsen*) assesses whether the applicant would have been granted a residence permit if he or she had entered Denmark as an asylum seeker. Thus, it is possible to resettle both individuals who would have been granted convention or protection status as well as other types of residence permits, e.g. individuals, who would have been eligible for a residence permit on humanitarian grounds if they had entered Denmark as spontaneous asylum seekers¹.

Due to the continuing pressure on Danish authorities as a result of the number of irregular migrants and asylum seekers entering Denmark in 2015 and 2016, the Danish Government announced in August 2016 that resettlement to Denmark would not take place in 2016. Furthermore, in 2017 and 2018 the Danish Government decided not to receive any refugees via resettlement. In 2017 the Danish Parliament adopted a bill with a new, more flexible resettlement scheme. According to the new scheme future annual quotas will inter alia be determined based on the number of spontaneous asylum seekers in Denmark and how well the overall integration is progressing. The Danish Government have decided that Denmark in 2019 will receive a smaller group of resettled refugees who – due to critical illnesses – requires immediate treatment.

¹ An asylum seeker who enters Denmark and subsequently applies for asylum is called a 'spontaneous asylum seeker'.

Residence permits to refugees and family members of refugees will – due to an amendment to the Aliens Act passed by the Danish Parliament on 21 February 2019 – be granted with a view to a temporary stay (the so-called “paradigm shift”), which also implies that residence permits to refugees and family members of refugees will be revoked if the need for protection no longer exists, unless revocation will be contrary to Denmark’s international obligations. In cases concerning revocation of a temporary residence permit, the authorities will assess whether or not the foreigner risk persecution if returned to the home country, and if that is not the case the residence permit will be revoked unless it is contrary to Denmark’s international obligations. The case law of The European Court of Human Rights will be included in this assessment.

The Ministry of Immigration and Integration can grant a temporary residence permit on humanitarian grounds to any asylum seeker who has been registered as such by the Danish Immigration Service. Residence permits on humanitarian grounds are only issued very rarely and only upon a specific assessment of the circumstances in the individual case. A main area for humanitarian residence permits are permits issued due to physical or mental illnesses of a very serious nature if the person in question is not able to receive necessary treatment in the country of origin.

Prior to examination of asylum applications

When a spontaneous asylum seeker enters Denmark, he or she must contact the Danish police. The police will take fingerprints and photograph the asylum seeker as well as register the asylum seeker’s name, date of birth and nationality based on the information or documents provided by the asylum seeker. It is the responsibility of the Danish Immigration Service to establish the nationality and identity of the asylum seeker. By royal decree of 12 September 2019 it has been decided that the responsibility regarding registration of an asylum seeker will be transferred from the police to the Danish Immigration Service from 16 September 2019.

With the aim to strengthen control and security efforts, the Danish Parliament in June 2017 adopted a bill, which gives the authorities better opportunities for recording, storing and processing fingerprints and photographs (biometric data) for identification and identity verification purposes. In addition, an alien’s items may on the basis of a court order be seized by authorities if rendered relevant as information regarding the case.

In January 2018, the newly established Danish National ID Centre initiated its work to strengthen the security and control efforts within the area of immigration. The primary task of the Danish National ID Centre is to advise and assist Danish authorities regarding questions of identity determination and ID control of foreign nationals.

The European Union has adopted a Regulation which establishes the criteria and mechanisms for determining which Member State is responsible for examining an asylum application lodged in one of the Member States (Dublin Regulation). Denmark has entered into a parallel agreement with the Member States of the Regulation effective from 1 April 2006. According to the Regulation, an asylum application will be examined in one EU Member State only. If an asylum seeker is registered by the authorities in another EU Member State, his or her asylum application will normally not be examined in Denmark. Instead, the asylum seeker will be sent to the country of first registration for an examination of his or her asylum application. The Regulation was revised effective 1 January 2014. Alternatively, the asylum seeker may be referred to a ‘safe third country’ to have his or her application examined there. An asylum seeker may be sent on to such a country if he or she has resided there prior to arriving in Denmark. Safe third countries include the United States and Canada.

Furthermore, applications for asylum may be rejected as inadmissible if the alien already has obtained protection in another country, which is part of the Dublin Regulation.

During the examination phase, the asylum seeker is usually assigned to an accommodation centre. Accommodation centres are spread throughout Denmark. Most are operated by the Danish Red Cross and/or the local municipalities. Asylum seekers may in some cases be permitted to live in private homes.

Examination of asylum applications

If the Danish Immigration Service determines that an asylum application is to be examined in Denmark, the Danish Immigration Service will then decide whether or not the asylum seeker will be granted asylum. The asylum seeker will be given the opportunity to make a written statement in which he or she can explain in detail why he or she is seeking asylum in Denmark. The Danish Immigration Service will conduct thorough interviews with the asylum seeker, assisted by an interpreter. During these interviews, the asylum seeker has the opportunity to clarify why he or she is applying for asylum in Denmark.

Following the interview, the Danish Immigration Service will decide upon the merits of the case. The Immigration Service will consider all information provided by the asylum seeker as well as information on the conditions in the asylum seeker's country of origin. In most cases, the Immigration Service will be able to reach a decision based on these grounds alone. There may be instances where the Immigration Service requires additional information to reach a decision, e.g., if there is uncertainty regarding the conditions in a specific country.

Most cases are decided according to the so-called normal procedure. When a case is examined according to the normal procedure, a rejection is automatically forwarded to the Refugee Appeals Board (*Flygtningenævnet*). This means that the Danish Immigration Service will send the case to the Refugee Appeals Board at the same time as the asylum seeker receives a written rejection of his or her application. The case will be re-considered by the Refugee Appeals Board. The asylum seeker has the right to remain in Denmark until the Refugee Appeals Board has determined the outcome of the case.

A small number of cases are considered manifestly unfounded. This occurs when the Danish Immigration Service assesses that the applicant clearly cannot be granted asylum in Denmark. These cases are sent to the Danish Refugee Council (*Dansk Flygtningehjælp*) (an NGO), which will deliver an opinion about the case. If the Danish Refugee Council agrees with the Immigration Service that the application is manifestly unfounded, the application will be rejected without any possibility of appeal. On the other hand, if the Danish Refugee Council disagrees, the Immigration Service will generally reject the application and refer the matter to the Refugee Appeals Board for a final decision.

In certain cases, asylum applications are processed according to an expedited version of the manifestly unfounded procedure. This is when the asylum seeker originates from a country where, according to information available to the Danish Immigration Service, it is unlikely that the applicant would risk persecution on return. In these cases, the asylum seeker does not fill in a written asylum application form and is quickly scheduled for an interview with the Immigration Service. Following the interview, the Danish Refugee Council will have a meeting with the asylum seeker and deliver an opinion about the case. If the opinion is in accordance with the findings of the Immigration Service, the application will be rejected as soon as possible. This decision cannot be appealed. These cases are decided within a few days.

The Danish Refugee Appeals Board is the final avenue for appeal in asylum cases where the decision of the Danish Immigration Service can be contested. The Refugee Appeals Board is an independent, quasi-judicial body currently consisting of three members. The chairman must be an appointed judge. The other two members are appointed by the Executive Committee of the Refugee Appeals Board after nomination by the Minister for Immigration and Integration and the Danish Bar and Law Society (*Advokatrådet*).

When the Refugee Appeals Board holds an oral hearing in a case, the asylum seeker will normally be present at the hearing. An attorney will be appointed to represent the asylum seeker's interests. The attorney is appointed by the Refugee Appeals Board or chosen by the asylum seeker. The Treasury will pay the attorney's fees. The Refugee Appeals Board may also handle cases on a written basis.

Activation during the asylum phase

Within one week from the submission of an application for asylum, an asylum seeker over the age of 18 years must enter into a personalized contract with the accommodation centre. The contract determines the extent and content of the necessary daily tasks in connection with the operation of the accommodation centre that the asylum seeker is required to contribute to. The contract also determines the education and other activities, which the asylum seeker has to take part in. If no agreement can be reached, the extent and content of the contract is determined by the accommodation centre.

Asylum seekers who reside in an accommodation centre are obliged to assist in the performance of necessary daily tasks in connection with the operation of the centre, incl. cleaning their own room, public areas, kitchens and bathrooms. Asylum seekers over the age of 17 years can also participate in internal activation activities, incl. minor maintenance tasks and the maintenance of outdoor areas.

In addition to the necessary daily tasks, the asylum seekers are permitted to help with other tasks at the centre ('in-house activities'), such as helping staff with routine office work and the upkeep and repair of buildings, furnishings and common areas etc.

If the asylum seekers are still awaiting a decision about whether the application will be processed in Denmark, the asylum seekers may only help with in-house activities. The same applies if the application has been rejected and the asylum seekers are refusing to assist with their departure from Denmark.

If the application is to be processed in Denmark, the asylum seekers will be permitted to participate in in-house activities as well as unpaid job-training programmes at a company not affiliated with the asylum centre ('out-of-house activities'). The asylum seekers will also be permitted to participate in unpaid humanitarian work or any other form of voluntary work.

All newly-entered asylum seekers must complete an introduction course including basic Danish language as well as lessons on Danish cultural and social conditions. Asylum seekers who have been in Denmark for more than three months from the date of their application must participate in English language lessons or other educational courses aimed at preparing the asylum seeker for a future in his or her country of origin.

Rejected asylum seekers who are to return to their country of origin must participate in education and activation activities on the same level as registered asylum seekers if they co-operate with the police on voluntary return to their country of origin. If they do not co-operate with the police on voluntary return they only retain the right to take part in internal activation and educational activities but are not able to take part in Danish language education.

Asylum seekers above the age of 17 may opt to participate in the same education and other activities as adult asylum seekers.

Asylum seekers are able to take up employment and residence outside of the accommodation centres after six months if certain conditions are met.

Cash allowance in the asylum phase

The cash allowance is divided into basic allowance, supplementary allowance, and maintenance supplement for asylum seekers with children and reduced caregiver allowance.

The basic allowance is granted if the asylum seeker is above the age of 18 or is an unaccompanied minor and does not receive free meals (catering) at the asylum centre.

If the asylum seeker is above the age of 18 he/she is required to enter into an agreement – a contract – with his/her asylum centre. The contract specifies the tasks the asylum seeker is required to carry out at the asylum centre and the asylum seekers participation in education and other activities.

The supplementary allowance is granted if the asylum seeker complies with the contract with the asylum centre.

The maintenance supplement is granted if the asylum seeker has dependent children under the age of 18 accommodated together with the asylum seeker. The full maintenance supplement is paid for a maximum of two children while the reduced maintenance supplement is granted to families with a third and fourth child. If asylum seekers receive free meals (catering) at the asylum centre the reduced caregiver allowance is not granted.

Rejected asylum seekers who do not cooperate with the police on voluntary return to their country of origin will be moved to a departure centre. The basic allowance, supplementary allowance and maintenance supplement is revoked and thus they only receive a reduced maintenance supplement if they have custody of underage children.

Asylum seekers who are in the initial asylum phase receive a lower supplementary allowance than registered asylum seekers (whose applications by definition are being processed). Asylum seekers of nationalities whose applications for asylum as a rule are considered to be manifestly unfounded will in general be accommodated in asylum centres with free meals (catering) and will not receive any cash allowances.

Asylum seekers whose applications are being processed and rejected asylum seekers who cooperate on their departure may, if certain conditions are met, take up ordinary employment in which case the salary will be deducted in the allowances.

Danish lessons

When the initial phase is completed and it has been decided that the application is to be processed in Denmark, the asylum seeker will be required to take courses in e.g. Danish. If the application for asylum has been rejected and the asylum seeker is refusing to assist with his/her departure from Denmark he/she does not have access to courses in Danish language.

If an asylum seeker is granted a Danish residence permit, he or she will be offered intensive Danish language courses until being relocated to the municipality where he or she is to live.

When asylum seekers are rejected

If an asylum seeker receives a final rejection, as a rule, he or she must leave Denmark within seven days. The authorities will take into consideration if an asylum seeker is suffering from an acute illness, is in an advanced stage of pregnancy or has given birth shortly before the final decision. A final rejection means that an asylum seeker does not have any more avenues of appeal available. Rejections delivered by the Refugee Board or by the Danish Immigration Service in so-called 'manifestly unfounded' cases are regarded as final. If a rejected asylum seeker refuses to leave Denmark voluntarily, it is the responsibility of the police to enforce the departure of the asylum seeker. See chapter 6.6 on forced and voluntary return.

Aliens whose applications for a residence permit under section 7 (asylum) of the Aliens Act have been rejected due to inter alia serious crimes committed by the foreigner, but who cannot be returned to their country of origin because they risk being subjected to torture, etc., will be ordered to reside at departure centre Kærshovedgård, unless particular reasons apply. Moreover, they have to report to the police on a daily basis, unless particular reasons apply. The Danish Immigration Service and the Danish Police will monitor whether the measures are complied with by the alien.

See Chapter 2 for data on asylum applications and residence permits for refugees.

6.2 Permanent residence permits

New rules regarding permanent residence permits entered into force on May 9th 2017. With the new rules, some of the requirements were modified and stricter requirements came into force. According to the current rules, the following basic requirements must be met:

- The applicant must be over the age of 18.
- The applicant must still fulfill the requirements for the time-limited residence permit he is holding.
- The applicant must have resided legally in Denmark for at least eight years. However, if the applicant meets all of the four supplementary requirements (see below), four years of legal residence in Denmark will be sufficient.
- The applicant must not have committed certain types of crime.
- The applicant must not have any overdue public debts unless an extension of the repayment of the debt has been granted and the debt does not exceed DKK 100,000.
- The applicant must not have received any public assistance under the Act on an Active Social Policy or the Integration Act within the last four years prior to the submission of the application for a permanent residence permit and until a permanent residence permit is granted.
- The applicant must sign a residence and self-sufficiency declaration.
- The applicant must pass the Danish language test 2 or a Danish language test of a corresponding or higher level.
- The applicant must have had ordinary employment or have been self-employed for at least three years and six months within the past four years before permanent residence permit is granted.
- The applicant must participate actively in the labour market at the time, when a permanent residence permit is granted.

In addition to the basic requirements, two out of the following four supplementary requirements must be met in addition to the basic requirements:

- The applicant must have passed an active citizen exam or have exhibited active citizenship in Denmark.
- The applicant must have had ordinary employment or have been self-employed for at least four years within the last four years and six months.
- The applicant must have had a yearly taxable income of DKK 275.400 (2017 level) or above on average during the past two years.
- The applicant must pass the Danish language test 3 or a Danish language test of an equivalent or higher level.

If all four supplementary requirements are met, a permanent residence permit may be granted to an applicant who has resided in Denmark for four years or more.

There are special requirements if:

- The applicant is between the ages of 18 and 19, and have worked or studied continuously since completing primary school.
- The applicant has strong ties to Denmark.
- The applicant is a pensioner or early age pensioner.

One or more of the above-mentioned requirements are not imposed if Denmark's international obligations – e.g., the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities – require that exemptions should be made. In compliance with the Convention, applicants who are unable to fulfil one or more of the conditions due to a disability will thus not be required to fulfil these requirements.

If the foreigner cannot obtain a permanent residence permit, he or she can instead apply for an extension of the time-limited residence permit and re-apply for a permanent residence permit at a later date.

In December 2017 the Danish parliament passed a bill which means that persons applying for permanent residence permit will get a refusal, if they have worked deliberately against the immigration authorities' establishment of their identity.

The bill applies to all first time applications for residence permit in Denmark that has been submitted from January 1st 2018 and onwards.

During the case processing the applicants must speak the truth and contribute to the establishment of their identity and background. If the applicants refuse to give an explanation, or if the applicants give untrustworthy or obvious untrue explanations, it can be considered as a deliberate act that works against the establishment of the identity.

The applicants who have worked against the establishment of their identity cannot be granted a permanent residence permit in the future, unless very special reasons apply.

Termination of residence permits

A foreigner in possession of a Danish residence permit may lose the permit in several ways. The residence permit may lapse, or the Danish Immigration Service or the Danish Agency for International Recruitment and Integration may revoke or refuse to extend it. In addition, a residence permit will be forfeited in the event of expulsion – e.g., as a result of criminal activity. The Danish Immigration Service handles cases regarding asylum and family reunification, while the Danish Agency for International Recruitment and Integration handles cases regarding study or work.

A residence permit may lapse if the foreigner in question forfeits his or her residence in Denmark by moving to another country.

A residence permit also lapses if the foreigner in question has resided outside Denmark for more than six months. If the foreigner has lived in Denmark for more than two years, the residence permit lapses after 12 months outside Denmark. Residence abroad due to military service, or civil service undertaken instead of military service, is not considered in this regard.

A refugee will not lose his or her residence permit for Denmark until he or she voluntarily has taken up residence in his or her country of origin or has been granted protection in a third country. Moreover, for refugees and foreigners with a residence permit on humanitarian grounds or similar, the automatic lapse of the residence permit does not occur until the foreigner has stayed outside Denmark for more than 12 consecutive months with the purpose of taking up permanent residence in the foreigner's country of origin or a former habitual residence.

When a residence permit lapses, the lapse occurs automatically. It is not necessary for the Danish Immigration Service or the Danish Agency for International Recruitment and Integration to reach a decision on the lapse of a residence permit.

The Danish Immigration Service or the Danish Agency for International Recruitment and Integration may withdraw or refuse to extend a time-limited residence permit if the basis for the permit no longer exists. In cases regarding refugees, the Immigration Service, following a concrete and individual assessment, can determine that the foreigner no longer risks persecution if he or she returns to his or her country of origin. This may be the case if general conditions in the country of origin have changed appreciably, e.g., due to a shift in political power.

A time-limited or permanent residence permit may be revoked if a refugee travels to his country of origin on holiday or other short term stay, and the circumstances that justified the residence permit have changed in such a way that the foreigner no longer risks persecution - the permit can be revoked until ten years after it was granted the first time.

In cases regarding foreigners with a permit on the basis of study or work, the Danish Agency for International Recruitment and Integration can revoke or refuse to extend a residence permit if the grounds on which it was granted no longer apply, or if the foreigner no longer meet some of the conditions attached to the residence permit, e.g. if the foreigner can no longer support himself.

A time-limited or permanent residence permit may be revoked if the foreigner in question has obtained the permit on fraudulent grounds, that is to say, by providing false information to the authorities. In addition, a residence permit will always be revoked if the foreigner in question is considered a threat to national security or a serious threat to public order, safety or health. A residence permit may also be revoked if the foreigner in question is a war criminal, or has committed a serious non-political crime outside of Denmark. Finally, a residence permit can always be revoked if the foreigner in question has been found guilty of a serious crime, if the foreigner has committed a crime outside of Denmark, before entering the country, which would warrant expulsion and deportation if committed in Denmark, or if the foreigner is reported undesirable in the Schengen Information System due to certain circumstances which could lead to expulsion.

When the Danish Immigration Service or the Danish Agency for International Recruitment and Integration make a decision about revocation of a residence permit, it is considered whether the revocation must be assumed to be particularly burdensome. This is the case for temporary as well as permanent residence permits. In light of these considerations, the Danish Immigration Service or the Danish Agency for International Recruitment and Integration may, on certain occasions, ultimately decide not to revoke a residence permit.

If the Danish Immigration Service has revoked or refused to extend a residence permit to a refugee, the refugee may appeal the decision to the Refugee Board. The foreigner then has the right to remain in Denmark until the Refugee Board has determined the outcome of the appeal. An attorney will be appointed to assist the foreigner during the Refugee Board's examination of the appeal.

If the Danish Agency for International Recruitment and Integration has revoked or refused to extend a residence permit, the foreigner may appeal the decision to the Immigration Appeals Board. If certain circumstances allow it, the foreigner can be given the right to remain in Denmark until the Immigration Appeals Board has determined the outcome of the appeal. It is the Immigration Appeals Board that decides, whether the foreigner can stay in Denmark until a decision is made in the case.

Change of status

In most cases, the Danish Aliens Act does not preclude a person with a valid residence permit from seeking and obtaining a residence permit on different grounds if he or she fulfils the relevant conditions for the (second) residence permit.

To give an example: A person who holds a valid residence permit based on family reunification may apply for asylum and will be granted refugee status if he or she fulfils the conditions for being granted asylum.

6.3 Family reunification

Provided that certain requirements are met, family reunification can be granted to:

- Spouses, cohabitants or registered same-sex partners.
- Children under 15 years of age.
- Other family members.

Residence permits will initially be issued for a limited period of time with a possibility of extension, provided that the mandatory requirements are still met. After a number of years, applicants may apply for conversion of a time-limited permit into a permanent one.

As a general rule, a residence permit carries with it the right to work in Denmark.

Foreigners who are EU/EEA nationals and reside in Denmark under the EU regulations on freedom of movement may be subject to special rules on family reunification. Special rules also apply to accompanying family members to foreigners who reside in Denmark to work or study according to the rules described in section 6.4.

General rules on reunification of spouses, cohabitants and registered same-sex partners

Foreign nationals may obtain a residence permit for Denmark if they have a spouse, cohabitant or registered partner already resident in Denmark. However, the applicant and the applicant's spouse or partner as well as the marriage or partnership must meet certain requirements.

Below, those requirements are outlined. It should be noted that exceptions can be made under certain circumstances, including where Denmark's international obligations so require.

Requirements relating to the applicant and the applicant's spouse or partner:

- Both the applicant and the spouse or partner in Denmark must be at least 24 years old.
- The couple must together meet four out of six conditions relevant for integration (language skills, professional experience and education). One of the conditions is fixed and requires that the resident spouse or partner must pass a Danish language test (level 3) or a test equivalent to or higher than this. This means that the couple must fulfill at least three of the remaining five conditions.

Requirements relating to the applicant:

- The applicant must pass a Danish language test within 6 months (at A1-level) and 9 months (at A2-level) after being granted a residence permit.
- The applicant must have had at least one legal visit in Denmark.

Requirements relating to the applicant's spouse or partner in Denmark:

- The applicant's spouse or partner in Denmark must be able to support himself or herself and the applicant. In most cases, this requirement will be met if the applicant's spouse or partner has not received public assistance under the terms of the Active Social Policy Act (*Lov om aktiv socialpolitik*) or the Integration Act (*Integrationsloven*) for the past three years prior to the application being processed by the Immigration Service.
- The applicant's spouse or partner must have a separate residence of an adequate size at his or her disposal. The residence must not be placed in an area mentioned on the housing requirement list.
- The applicant's spouse or partner must provide a bank guarantee or similar security of DKK 100.000 to cover any future public assistance paid to the applicant by his or her municipality.

Further requirements if the applicant's spouse or partner in Denmark is not a Danish/Nordic citizen:

The applicant's spouse or partner must a) hold a Danish residence permit granted on the grounds of asylum or protected status, b) have held a Danish residence permit granted on the grounds of temporary protected status for the past three years or more or c) have held a permanent Danish residence permit for the past three years or more. If family reunification is granted on the basis of (c), the applicant's spouse or partner must meet some of the current conditions for being granted a permanent residence permit in Denmark.

One or more requirements may be suspended if particular reasons apply. This could be the case if:

- The spouses or partners are otherwise referred to exercise their right to family life in a country, in which the spouse residing in Denmark – because he or she is a refugee or has protected status and still risks persecution in his or her country of origin – is not able to enter and reside.
- It would be irresponsible due to humanitarian reasons to refer the spouse or partner residing in Denmark to take up residence in another country, where he and she cannot be offered treatment.
- The spouse or partner residing in Denmark has custody over or visitation rights in regard to a minor child residing in Denmark.

Other requirements:

- The marriage or registered partnership must be valid under Danish law. If the applicant and the applicant's partner are not legally married or registered partners, their relationship must be of a permanent and lasting nature. Normally, the couple must be able to document that they have shared an address for at least 18 months.
- If the couple is not legally married or registered partners, the partner in Denmark must assume full responsibility for supporting the partner.
- The marriage or registered partnership must have been entered into voluntarily, i.e., there must be no doubt that it was entered into according to the wishes of both parties.
- The marriage or registered partnership must not have been entered into solely for the purpose of obtaining a residence permit for the applicant.
- The applicant's spouse or partner must reside permanently in Denmark.
- The applicant's spouse or partner may not have been convicted of violence against a former spouse or partner within a period of ten years prior to the application being processed.
- A simultaneously application from an applicant's child must not have been turned down because the applicant's spouse or partner have been convicted of abuse of a child within a period of ten years prior to the application being processed and the child cannot reside with other family members in his or hers country of origin.
- The couple must always sign a declaration that to the best of their ability they will both contribute actively towards the applicant (and any accompanying children) learning Danish and integrating into Danish society.

In certain cases, a Danish citizen can invoke EU regulations governing the free movement to obtain a residence permit for his or her family members. The Danish national must have exercised his or her right of free movement in another EU/EEA Member State or Switzerland.

There is no minimum requirement for the length of the Danish national's residence in the other EU/EEA Member State or Switzerland, but it is a precondition that he or she has genuinely exercised the right of residence on the basis of the EU rules.

A valid marriage, registered partnership or regular cohabitation must exist between the Danish national and the family member. It is also a requirement that the Danish national and the family member have genuinely cohab-

ited in the EU/EEA Member State or Switzerland in which the Danish national has exercised his or her right of free movement.

General rules on reunification with children under 15 years of age

Foreigners under 15 years of age who has a parent (or parents) living in Denmark are also eligible for a residence permit for Denmark, provided that certain requirements are met.

Requirements relating to the parent in Denmark:

- The child's parent residing in Denmark (or the parent's spouse) must either be a) a Danish or Nordic citizen, b) hold a Danish residence permit granted on the grounds of asylum or protected status, c) have held a Danish residence permit granted on the grounds of temporary protected status for the past three years or more, or d) have a permanent residence permit for Denmark or have a residence permit with a possibility of future permanent residence.
- The child's parent in Denmark must have full or partial custody of the child.
- The parent living in Denmark, or his or her spouse or partner, may not have been convicted of abuse of a child under 18 years of age within a period of ten years prior to the application being processed.

Requirements relating to the child:

- The child must be under 15 years of age when the application is submitted.
- The child may not have started his or her own family, e.g., through marriage or regular cohabitation.
- After the family reunification is granted, the child must live with the parent(s).
- A residence permit may not be granted if it is manifestly contrary to the best interests of the child.

In certain cases, it will be required that:

- The parent living in Denmark can document that he or she has a separate residence of an adequate size at his or her disposal.
- The parent living in Denmark is self-supporting.

If one parent lives with the child abroad and the other parent lives in Denmark and the child is above the age of eight years, a supplementary requirement applies. In that case, the child must be deemed to have the potential for successful integration into the Danish society.

The assessment of the child's potential for successful integration into the Danish society includes several factors such as the age of the child, if the child has resided in Denmark before, in which country the child has had the main part of her or his upbringing and if the child speaks Danish. Where such an assessment is carried out, also the integration of the parent residing in Denmark is given added weight.

The integration requirement aims to prevent parents from placing their child in the home country until the child is almost an adult in order to achieve that the child gets an upbringing in conformity with the culture and norms of the home country and is not influenced by Danish norms and values. Exception to the requirement can be made under certain circumstances, including where Denmark's international obligations so require.

Following a political agreement on new rules, the Government is preparing a bill that will repeal this supplementary integration requirement. Instead, an application deadline for children is envisioned.

The envisioned application deadline will apply to all children regardless of age, when the child lives abroad with one parent and the other parent lives in Denmark. Exceptions can be made under certain circumstances, including where Denmark's international obligations so require.

General rules on reunification of other family members

Other family members of persons residing in Denmark can obtain a Danish residence permit, if Denmark's international obligations or exceptional reasons so require. These rules apply to e.g. children between 15 and 18 years of age.

Avenues for appeal

The Danish Immigration Service makes decisions regarding applications for family reunification according to the national rules on family reunification in the Aliens Act in the first instance. If an applicant is dissatisfied with the decision of the Danish Immigration Service, he or she can appeal the decision to the Immigration Appeals Board.

If the applicant is currently staying in Denmark, he or she will normally be required to leave the country while the Immigration Appeals Board examines the appeal.

However, if the appeal concerns revocation or refused extension of an existing residence permit, the applicant might be permitted to remain in Denmark during the examination of the appeal, if the appeal is filed within a time limit after the applicant has been notified of the decision by the Danish Immigration Service. In some cases the permission to remain is granted ex lege and in other cases decision on whether the applicant can remain in Denmark during the examination of the appeal are made by the Immigration Appeals Board.

Cases regarding family reunification under the EU-rules are handled by the State Administration in the first instance. These cases can be appealed to the Danish Immigration Service.

From April 1st 2019, cases regarding family reunification under the EU-rules will be handled by the Danish Agency for International Recruitment and Integration (SIRI) in the first instance. First instance decisions can be appealed to the Immigration Appeals Board.

Extension of residence permits

When spouses, cohabitants or registered same-sex partners are granted family reunification, the first residence permit will be granted for not more than two years. Spouses, cohabitants and registered same-sex partners are eligible for a first extension of their residence permit for a period of four years. The second time the foreign national applies for an extension the permit may be extended by not more than six years. When the foreign national has held a time-limited residence permit for six years, the residence permit may be extended for periods for up to six years each time. However, the extension will not be granted for a period exceeding the time of expiry of the residence permit of the spouse/partner residing in Denmark. Also the length of the residence permit can be reduced depending on the validity period of the applicant's passport

In case of children, the following criteria apply: If the parent living in Denmark has a time-limited residence permit, the child's residence permit will be extended until the date when the parent's residence permit expires. If the child resides in Denmark and if the parent residing in Denmark has a permanent residence permit, the child will be granted a residence permit valid until he or she reaches the age of 18.

The length of the residence permit can be reduced depending on the validity period of the applicant's passport.

Permanent residence permits

New rules regarding permanent residence permits entered into force on May 9, 2017. With the new rules, some of the requirements were modified and stricter requirements came into force.

According to the current rules, the following basic requirements must be met:

- The applicant must be over the age of 18.
- The applicant must still fulfil the requirements for the time-limited residence permit he is holding.

- The applicant must have resided legally in Denmark for at least 8 years. However, if the applicant meets all of the 4 supplementary requirements (see below) 4 years of legal residence in Denmark will be sufficient.
- The applicant must not have committed certain types of crime.
- The applicant must not have any overdue public debts unless an extension of the repayment of the debt has been granted and the debt does not exceed DKK 100,000.
- The applicant must not have received any public assistance under the Act on an Active Social Policy or the Integration Act within the last 4 years prior to the submission of the application for a permanent residence permit and until a permanent residence permit is granted.
- The applicant must sign a residence and self-sufficiency declaration.
- The applicant must pass the Danish language test 2 or a Danish language test of a corresponding or higher level.
- The applicant must have had ordinary employment or have been self-employed for at least 3 years and 6 months within the past 4 years before permanent residence permit is granted.
- The applicant must participate actively in the labour market at the time, when a permanent residence permit is granted.

In addition to the basic requirements, 2 out of the following 4 supplementary requirements must be met in addition to the basic requirements:

- The applicant must have passed an active citizen exam or have exhibited active citizenship in Denmark.
- The applicant must have had ordinary employment or have been self-employed for at least 4 years within the last 4 years and 6 months.
- The applicant must have had a yearly taxable income of DKK 275.400 (2017 level) or above on average during the past 2 years.
- The applicant must pass the Danish language test 3 or a Danish language test of an equivalent or higher level.

If all four supplementary requirements are met, a permanent residence permit may be granted to an applicant who has resided in Denmark for four years or more.

There are special requirements if:

- The applicant is between the ages of 18 and 19, and have worked or studied continuously since completing primary school.
- The applicant has strong ties to Denmark.
- The applicant is a pensioners or early age pensioner.

One or more of the above-mentioned requirements are not imposed if Denmark's international obligations – e.g., the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities – require that exemptions should be made. In compliance with the Convention, applicants who are unable to fulfil one or more of the conditions due to a disability will thus not be required to fulfil these requirements.

If the foreigner cannot obtain a permanent residence permit, he or she can instead apply for an extension of the time-limited residence permit and re-apply for a permanent residence permit at a later date.

In December 2017 the Danish parliament passed a bill which means that persons applying for permanent residence permit will get a refusal, if they have worked deliberately against the immigration authorities' establishment of their identity.

The bill applies to all first time applications for residence permit in Denmark that has been submitted from 1 January 2018 and onwards.

During the case processing the applicants must speak the truth and contribute to the establishment of their identity and background. If the applicants refuse to give an explanation, or if the applicants give untrustworthy or obvious untrue explanations, it can be considered as a deliberate act that works against the establishment of the identity.

The applicants who have worked against the establishment of their identity cannot be granted a permanent residence permit in the future, unless very special reasons apply.

Termination of residence permits

A foreigner who has been granted a residence permit for Denmark according to the rules on family reunification may lose the right to reside in Denmark.

This will occur if his or her residence permit is revoked or extension is denied, e.g., if the basis for granting the permit no longer exists or if the Danish language test is not passed, see above. This will also occur if the residence permit lapses, e.g., because the foreigner moves abroad or lives abroad for a long period.

It is possible to apply for dispensation to prevent the residency permit from lapsing. It is a requirement that the foreigner intends to stay outside of Denmark only temporarily and that the stay is reasonably justified (e.g. work, education, foreign posting for a Danish authority, institution, organisation or foreign posting for an international institution, organisation or company headquartered in Denmark).

A residence permit will also lapse in the event of expulsion – e.g., as a result of criminal activity.

The Danish Immigration Service may always revoke or refuse to extend a residence permit if a foreigner has received the permit fraudulently, e.g. by giving false information to the authorities. The Danish Immigration Service has this right no matter whether the foreign national has a time-limited or a permanent residence permit.

The Danish Immigration Service may also revoke or refuse to extend a time-limited residence permit if the basis for the permit was inaccurate or no longer exists. This may be the case e.g.:

- If a foreigner has received a residence permit on the grounds of marriage and the spouses no longer live together.
- If the original residence permit was issued subject to the condition of housing and this is no longer satisfied. The same applies if the condition of housing was waived due to special circumstances, and these circumstances no longer exist and the condition of housing is not satisfied.
- If the original residence permit was issued subject to the condition of self-support and this is no longer being satisfied. The same applies if the condition of self-support was waived due to special circumstances, and these circumstances no longer exist, and the condition of self-support is not satisfied.

When deciding on expulsion, revoking or refusing to extend a residence permit the personal situation of the foreigner will be taken into consideration. Among other things the foreigner's connection with Danish society and the consequences to close family members living in Denmark will be considered.

Cessation of cohabitation due to domestic violence or death of the spouse

A time-limited residence permit obtained on the basis of marriage will – in general – be revoked if the spouses no longer live together. However, the foreigner's ties with the Danish society will be taken into consideration. In case of cessation of cohabitation due to domestic violence special rules apply. The rules aims to ensure that no

foreigner feels forced to stay with a violent spouse out of fear of losing his/her residence permit. In such circumstances it will be taken into consideration whether the marriage has been dissolved because of domestic violence, notwithstanding the length of the foreign national spouse's stay in Denmark.

Also special rules apply in case of death of the spouse. The rules aim to ensure that a foreign national spouse living in Denmark does not lose his or her residence permit if the spouse or partner residing in Denmark dies. In order to be allowed to stay in Denmark, the foreign national spouse must have made an effort to integrate into Danish society. The rules also apply to the children of such a foreign national spouse.

Participation in armed conflicts

Since 2015 the Immigration Service may decide that an alien's right of residence or residence permit has lapsed, if the alien is staying or has stayed outside of the country, and there is reason to believe that the alien during the stay participates or has participated in activities that may involve or increase a danger to national security, public order or other states' security. Exception is made for cases, where Denmark's international obligations so require.

6.4 Work and study in Denmark

Foreigners may be eligible for a residence permit to work or study in Denmark according to the rules specified in the Aliens Act.

Residence and work permits may be granted to individuals intending to take paid or unpaid (voluntary) work, as well as to self-employed persons. In addition, residence permits will be granted to students, au pairs, interns, trainees, working holiday makers etc.

Special rules apply to Nordic nationals, that is, nationals of Norway, Sweden, Finland and Iceland. The EU rules on freedom of movement apply to nationals of EU countries and third-country nationals seconded to Denmark for the purpose of providing a service on behalf of a service provider established in the European Union.

Work in Denmark

Some foreigners do not need a residence and work permit to take up employment in Denmark. This applies to Nordic nationals and to individuals comprised by the existing rules on freedom of movement within the European Union. If a foreigner already has a humanitarian residence permit or a residence permit obtained according to the rules on asylum or family reunification, he or she does not need a work permit.

Other foreigners must obtain a residence and work permit for Denmark in order to take employment here. It is important to note that the responsibility to acquire a work permit rests with the applicant. If a foreign national works illegally in Denmark, he or she may be deported from the country. Both the employee and his or her employer also risk being punished with fines or imprisonment.

Residence and work permits

A foreign national is normally required to have a residence and work permit as a prerequisite for working in Denmark (including unpaid work). However, foreign nationals with a residence and work permit based on the right to work are since June 2018 allowed to carry out unpaid, voluntary work without applying for a work permit.

In May 2019 the Danish Parliament passed a bill which introduced a number of changes to the Danish Aliens Act regarding the Fast Track Scheme, certification of companies for the Fast Track Scheme, the Pay Limit scheme, Special Individual qualifications (artists and athletes), Establishment card, PhD students, researchers, authorisation and accompanying family members to researchers and PhD students. The bill entered into force on 1 June 2019.

The accesses for third country nationals to work in Denmark are hereafter as follows:

The Fast-track scheme

The reform of international recruitment from 2014 introduced a new scheme for international recruitment called the fast-track scheme. The fast-track scheme facilitates a quick and flexible jobstart for high qualified foreign labour and makes it easier for certified companies to recruit employees with special competences or qualifications to Denmark.

The fast-track scheme can be used by foreigners who have been offered employment in a certified company and where the employment lives up to one of the following conditions:

- 1) The foreigner is employed on the conditions of the pay limit scheme.
- 2) The foreigner is employed as researcher.
- 3) The employment involves education at a high level.
- 4) The employment corresponds to no more than 90 days per year.

If the foreign national wishes to make use of the Fast-track scheme's possibility for quick job start, he or she must in principle arrange for legal entry into Denmark by him- or herself. Before the foreign national starts working, he or she must appear in person at the Danish Agency for International Recruitment and Integration and be subjected to a number of checks, and have his or her biometric features recorded. If all the conditions have been fulfilled, a temporary permit allowing the foreign national to start working will be granted. The permit is valid until a decision has been made regarding the application for a residence and work permit.

After the changes to the Danish Aliens Act, which entered into force on 1 June 2019, it is possible to change job position internally within the company without applying for a new permit. This applies to all the four tracks of the Fast track scheme.

The Positive List

Foreign nationals hired within professional fields with a lack of well-qualified manpower have access to a residence and work permit. These professions are listed on the positive list.

The positive list is comprised of professional fields currently experiencing a shortage of well qualified manpower, e.g., the scientific, medical and technological sectors. The positive list is revised twice a year in January and July based on surveys showing sectors with a structural lack of work force.

In order to obtain a residence permit the applicant must be listed on the positive List. Furthermore, he or she must have a written job contract or job offer which specifies salary and employment conditions. Salary and employment conditions must correspond to Danish standards. An educational level equivalent to the job position is also required. The minimum educational level required to be eligible for a residence permit under the positive list is a Professional Bachelor's degree.

In certain cases, applicants may be required to submit appropriate professional credentials or similar documents, e.g., foreign-trained doctors, who must have an authorization from the Danish National Board of Health. Foreign nationals with a job on the positive list can be granted residence and work permit for up to four years with a possibility of extension. However, a permit is never granted for longer than the period specified in the employment contracts.

The Pay Limit scheme

From 10 June 2016, foreign nationals must receive a salary of at least DKK 400,000 (DKK 426,985.06 in 2019 level) in order to be granted a residence and work permit under the Pay Limit scheme. This level is regulated each year on the 1st of January.

In June 2017 a majority outside the then government again passed a bill to change the Pay Limit Scheme. The bill entered into force on 1 July 2017. The passing of the bill means that it is now a requirement that the payment up to and including the minimum amount must be paid to a Danish Bank account. Also the payment can only consist of basic salary, payments to labour market pension schemes (both the part paid by employer and the part paid by you as the employee) and paid holiday allowance. Additional salary components cannot count as part of the payment. If the applicant meets the criteria, the Danish Agency for International Recruitment and Integration will grant a permit on the condition that the applicant has a specific job offer and that the proposed salary and employment conditions correspond to Danish standards.

Foreign nationals covered by this scheme are eligible for an initial residence permit for up to four years with a possibility of extension. However, a permit is never granted for longer than the period specified in the employment contracts.

After the changes to the Danish Aliens Act, which entered into force on 1 June 2019, it is possible to change job position internally within the company without applying for a new permit. Permits for employment for a minimum of 30 hours/week is also now possible.

The ESS scheme

In December 2016 the Danish Parliament passed a bill implementing the agreement made with several political parties concerning improved terms of recruitment of highly qualified employees to the European Spallation Source (ESS) in Sweden. The changes took effect on 1 January 2017.

The changes allow that foreign nationals who are participating in PhD studies or are employed or has been offered employment at the research facility ESS in Sweden to be granted a residence permit in Denmark, if the participation in PhD studies or the employment at ESS is related to ESS's research activities. In order to be granted a residence permit, it is a requirement that equivalent participation or employment in Denmark could form the basis for a residence permit if ESS was located in Denmark. It is also a requirement that the foreign national holds a Swedish work permit.

Researchers

Foreign nationals who have been offered a job as a researcher have particularly easy access to the Danish labour market. The foreign national must have a written job contract or a job offer which specifies salary and employment conditions, which must correspond to Danish standards.

With the reform that entered into force on January 1, 2015, researchers have been given even better conditions with new rules ensuring flexibility regarding their residence in Denmark. Researchers can now reside outside of Denmark for more than 6 months without losing their residence and work permit. It is also important to note that researchers who are invited to teach or give lectures in Denmark may do so without a residence and work permit, provided that the stay does not exceed three consecutive months, calculated from the day of arrival in Denmark.

After the changes to the Danish Aliens Act, which entered into force on 1 June 2019, researchers are granted a permit for 6 months of job seeking after the work permit has expired.

Guest researchers

Foreign nationals with a Master's degree can be granted a residence and work permit if he or she needs to conduct research as part of his or her further education or career development and need to do so at a Danish research institute or company, which makes facilities available, but does not hire him or her. As the foreigner will not normally be receiving a salary from the Danish organisation, it is required the foreigner has sufficient finan-

cial means to support him- or herself. Therefore, the foreigner must be able to document to have means or income which equals the Danish level of social benefits for single non-providers over 30.

Trainees

Foreign nationals can be granted a residence and work permit as a trainee for the purpose of working in a company in Denmark for a limited period of time for educational purposes.

The trainee position must be held with a Danish company and a documented strategic partnership must exist between the company in Denmark and a company/organisation in the home country of the foreign national. A residence and work permit as a trainee is given for a maximum of one year with the possibility of extension. The total trainee period must not exceed 24 months.

Special individual qualifications

A residence and work permit can be granted to foreigners with employment linked so close to their individual qualifications, that only they can be assumed to be able to perform the job. This applies for instance to artists, entertainers and professional athletes.

Upon application, a written job contract which specifies salary and employment conditions equal to Danish standards must be presented. Normally, a residence and work permit is granted for one year at a time for the first two years. However, a permit is never granted for longer than the period specified in the employment contracts.

After the changes to the Danish Aliens Act, which entered into force on 1 June 2019, artists and athletes holding a residence and work permit based on special individual qualifications are allowed to seek sideline employment without needing to apply for a separate permit, if the job is related to the main occupation.

Employees on moveable oil rigs, drill ships, etc.

Foreigners who are to work on oil rig, drillship or other comparable movable workstations temporarily situated on Danish territory can be granted a residence and work permit. This includes foreign nationals employed on pipe laying ships or wind turbine installation vessels or similar.

A permit is given for the limited period of the work task and can never be granted for longer than six months.

Herdsman and farm managers

Foreigners can be granted a residence and work permit in Denmark as a herdsman or farm manager in agriculture. It is a condition that the foreigner possesses the professional qualification needed to carry out the offered job.

Establishment Card

Foreign nationals who have completed a Danish master's degree or PhD degree can be granted a residence permit with the aim of establishment in Denmark after finishing their Danish educational program.

A foreigner who has been granted a residence permit under the Establishment card scheme does not need to obtain a work permit. A residence permit under the Establishment scheme also gives a foreigner the right to take up employment without it being necessary to apply for a new work permit when changing jobs. In addition, a residence permit under the Establishment card scheme gives a foreigner the right to work as an entrepreneur (self-employment).

It is a condition that the application for a residence permit under the establishment scheme is submitted before the residence permit for job seeking (valid for 6 months) expires. If a foreigner completes a Danish master's degree or a PhD degree, but is not entitled to a residence permit for job seeking, e.g. if the residence permit has been granted under previously applicable rules, the foreigner is still able to apply for an establishment card, as long as the application is submitted no more than 6 months after the completion of the educational program

A residence permit is given only once and granted for a period of maximum 2 years, and it cannot be extended. After residing 2 years in Denmark, the foreigner must apply for a new residence permit using one of the other schemes.

After the changes to the Danish Aliens Act, which entered into force on 1 June 2019, it is now possible to apply for more than one establishment card (for each finished master's or PhD degree). Furthermore holders of an establishment card are encompassed by the job change rule. This means that a holder of an establishment card who has applied for a new residence permit based on work are granted the right to work until a decision has been reached regarding the new permit. Students and PhD students who have applied for an establishment card are granted the right to work until a decision has been reached regarding the establishment card.

Start-up Denmark (self-employment)

After the reform of international recruitment, which entered into force on 1 January 2015, the rules for self-employment have been specified and are now contained in the Aliens Act. The reform introduced a 3-year experiment with a new scheme called Start-up Denmark. A majority in Parliament passed a bill in December 2017 to let the scheme continue. The scheme is used by self-employed persons when applying for a residence and work permit. The scheme can also be used by three persons who want to establish a company together.

Using this scheme, an entrepreneur with an innovative business idea can be granted a residence and work permit in order to operate an independent company in Denmark. Before applying for the residence and work permit at the Danish Agency for International Recruitment and Integration, the business idea must be approved by a panel of experts appointed by the Danish Business Authority. There must be particular Danish professional or labour market interests in the establishment of the company in Denmark. Normally, it is not possible to be granted a residence and work permit in order to establish a restaurant, retail shop, small business, import or export enterprise or similar.

A maximum of 75 residence and work permits will be granted under the Start-up Denmark scheme per year, that is, from 1 January to 31 December.

A residence and work permit under the Start-up Denmark scheme is granted for a maximum of two years with the possibility of extension for three years at a time.

The Green Card scheme

The Green Card scheme has been abolished. The abolishment entered into force on 10 June 2016. It is therefore no longer possible to apply for a residence and work permit under the Green Card scheme.

The abolishment of the Green Card scheme does not have consequences for third country nationals who are already holding a Green Card, and they are eligible for an extension of their permit if they meet the regular criteria.

Until the abolishment of the Green Card scheme entered into force, a first-time residence permit under the Green Card Scheme was issued for up to two years.

After one year, the greencard-holder must document an income of at least DKK 50,000 to keep the residence permit. After two years, the residence permit under the Green Card scheme can be extended if the applicant is permanently employed and has earned at least the income corresponding to the level of newly educated bachelors in the last 12 months. In 2019, the required amount is DKK 344.456 including pensions. If the criteria for an extension are met, there can be given a residence permit for 3 years each time

Studying in Denmark

Foreign nationals may be granted a residence permit for the purpose of studying in Denmark. Access to Denmark for international students is set out in the Executive Order 588 on the Issue of Residence and Work Permits for Students from 2019.

Student residence permits can be granted for:

- Students pursuing higher educational programs.
- Students pursuing a youth education program or primary or lower secondary education.
- Students attending folk high schools (folkehøjskoler).

A student residence permit is granted for the prescribed duration of the program or course. However, for exchange students at higher educational programs the maximum period for a residence permit is 2 years, for students pursuing a youth education program or a primary or lower secondary education the maximum is one year, whereas for folk high school students the maximum is 18 months.

If the foreign student is to complete a higher educational program in Denmark, the residence permit will include six months after the prescribed graduation date of the program. This is to allow the student to look for work in Denmark upon graduation.

Students pursuing higher educational programs are allowed to work part time (maximum of 20 hours a week – and full time during June, July and August) besides their studies.

Special rules apply to Nordic nationals and nationals comprised by the EU rules on freedom of movement.

In March 2017 the Danish Parliament passed a bill to smooth the rules in relation to revoking of student permits when the foreigner has worked illegally. Depending on the extent of the offense, the residence permit may be revoked immediately or a warning may be issued. Students who have committed a minor violation will receive a warning. A warning will be valid for 2 years, and a new violation of the work permit in this period may result in a revocation of the residence permit.

The permit may be revoked if you have been convicted of, been issued a court warning for or accepted a fine for working illegally. The permit may also be revoked if you have admitted to the Danish Agency for International Recruitment and Integration that you have worked illegally.

Au pairs

In 1969, the Council of Europe adopted rules to regulate young people's stays as au pairs in foreign countries. These rules remain in force and form the basis of the Danish Agency for International Recruitment and Integration standard examination of applications from foreigners who wish to reside in Denmark as au pairs.

The term 'au pair' roughly translates as 'on equal conditions'. The purpose of becoming an au pair is to improve language and/ or professional skills as well as broaden his/her cultural horizon by becoming more acquainted with Denmark. In return, the au pair participates in the host family's domestic chores (e.g. cleaning, washing clothes, cooking, babysitting) for a minimum of three and a maximum of five hours per day, and no more than six days per week.

An au pair is eligible for a residence permit, but not a work permit, as the tasks that an au pair undertakes for a host family are not regarded as work. An au pair may not undertake paid work in addition to those tasks set by the host family. However, an au pair is allowed to carry out voluntary, unpaid work when not carrying out chores for the host family. The work must be voluntary and unpaid and be carried out for a formally organized organization or association.

Interns

A foreign national can be granted a residence and work permit to work as an intern.

The applicant must be between 18-35 years old (except interns in the agricultural, veterinary, forestry or horticultural fields who must be between 18-29 years old) at the time of the application. The internship must have a relation to the on-going education of the applicant, which means that the internship must be professionally relevant.

The application must include an approval of the place of internship, documentation of the on-going education, and salary and employment conditions must correspond to Danish standards.

Working holiday

Denmark has reciprocal working holiday arrangements with New Zealand, Australia, Canada, Chile, Japan, South Korea and Argentina.

The working holiday program allows young people from those countries to have an extended holiday in Denmark, and it allows young people from Denmark to have an extended holiday in those countries.

The program is arranged in order to give working holiday makers an opportunity to experience closer contact with another culture. The purpose of the exchanges is therefore to further mutual understanding between the people of each country.

Applicants will be granted a residence permit for a maximum period of one year. The main reason for a visit should be to have a holiday; any work they do should be done to support themselves while they are on holiday. Working holiday makers may not work for more than six or nine months, depending on the arrangement with the relevant country. The holiday maker may not take any permanent employment. Holiday makers are permitted to do work of a temporary or casual nature.

In addition, working holiday makers are allowed to study or train for a limited period of time.

6.5 Danish nationality

Pursuant to the Danish Constitution, no foreigner can obtain Danish nationality other than by an Act of the Parliament. Pursuant to law, Danish nationality can be obtained in three ways; (i) by naturalisation, (ii) automatically and (iii) by declaration.

Naturalisation

Due to the Danish Constitution, naturalisation is the exclusive prerogative of the Legislature.

The Minister for Immigration and Integration submits bills on naturalisation twice a year. In order to be eligible for Danish nationality, the applicant must satisfy certain criteria established by the Danish Parliament.

The guidelines and the criteria, which the applicant must satisfy in order to be eligible for Danish Nationality by naturalisation, are set out in the Circular Letter No. 9779 of September 14th 2018 on Naturalisation.

According to the guidelines, applicants will have to pass the Danish 3 Examination from the language centres, or one of the examinations listed in Schedule 3.a of the guidelines, which are on a level with the Danish 3 Examination. Yet, if an applicant has been self-supportive for a period of eight years and six months within the past nine years prior to the submission of the bill on naturalisation before the Parliament, certificate of a passed Danish 2 Examination from the language centres, or one of the examinations listed in Schedule 3.b of the guidelines will suffice.

Furthermore, the applicant must take and pass a nationality test (Indfødsretsprøven af 2015), which documents the applicants' knowledge on Danish society, culture and history. The nationality test is held twice a year.

The nationality test is based on teaching material published by the Ministry of Immigration and Integration.

The examination time is 45 minutes. The test is a multiple choice test with 40 questions, including five questions relating to current conditions and events in the Danish Society. The applicants need at least 32 correct answers in order to pass the test.

Furthermore, all applicants must sign a declaration to the effect that they will promise fidelity and loyalty to Denmark and Danish society and agree to comply with Danish law, including the Danish Constitution, and respect fundamental Danish values and legal principles, including Danish democracy.

Also each applicant must sign a declaration stating that he or she has not committed any offence compromised by Chapters 12 and 13 of the Criminal Code (offences against the State's independence and security, and offences against the constitution and the supreme State's authority and terrorism). A person making a false declaration on this point may be deprived of the nationality.

A foreign national must also meet certain requirements concerning the duration of his or her stay in Denmark. Basically, he or she must have a permanent residence permit as well as he or she must have been a continuous resident in Denmark for at least nine years. For stateless persons and refugees, the required period of residence is only 8 years. For spouses of Danish nationals, the required period of residence is only six to eight years, depending on how long the marriage has lasted. For nationals of the other Nordic countries (Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden) the residence period is two years.

An applicant who has been convicted of a criminal offence may face a waiting period from obtaining Danish nationality depending on the type of criminal offence and punishment. If the applicant for instance has been imprisoned for one year or more for a criminal offence, three months or more for assault etc. or has been sentenced for gang-related crimes or for violation of provisions of Chapters 12 and 13 of the Criminal Code (offences against the State's independence and security, and offences against the constitution and the supreme State's authority and terrorism), he or she can never become a Danish national.

A foreign national can furthermore not become a Danish national if he or she has certain types of defaulted debts to the public, e.g., overdue (re)payment of certain public benefits, loans, taxes and duties.

Applicants must be self-supportive, which means that the applicant must not have received social benefits under the Active Social Policy Act or the Integration Act within the past two years prior to the submission of a bill on naturalisation, as well as the applicant must not – in the past five years prior to the submission of the bill – have received social benefits under the Active Social Policy Act or the Integration Act for a total period of more than four months.

Furthermore, the applicant must participate in a ceremony, at which the applicant must sign that he or she agrees to comply with the Danish Constitution, in order to obtain Danish nationality.

Finally, as a general rule, applicants must be at least 18 years of age before they can apply for Danish nationality. However the criteria for obtaining Danish nationality established by the Parliament include a number of specific possibilities for children under the age of 18 to apply for Danish nationality.

In accordance with the UN Convention of 30 August 1961 on the Reduction of Statelessness and the UN Convention of 20 November 1989 on the Rights of the Child, persons born stateless in Denmark can acquire Danish nationality by naturalisation, cf. Section 17 and Chapter 9 of the Circular Letter.

Automatic acquisition of Danish nationality

Danish nationality can also be acquired automatically by birth, by legitimation (subsequent marriage of the parents) and by adoption.

From July 1st 2014, a child acquires Danish nationality by birth if born to a Danish mother, a Danish father or a Danish co-mother, regardless where the child is born and whether the child is born in or out of wedlock.

Before July 1st 2014, the rules stated that if the parents were unmarried at the time of birth, and if only the father was a Danish national, a child could only acquire Danish nationality if born in Denmark.

If a child born of a Danish father and a foreign mother has not acquired Danish nationality by birth, the child will acquire Danish nationality if the parents enter into marriage. It is a condition that the child is under the age of 18 and unmarried at the time of the parents' marriage.

A child (of a Danish father and a foreign mother) that has not obtained Danish nationality automatically by birth can furthermore acquire Danish nationality by naturalisation without fulfilling the ordinary conditions. This rule applies for persons born on 12 October 1993 and later.

A foreign child under 12 years of age, adopted by a Danish adoption order, acquires Danish nationality by the adoption whether adopted by a married couple, cohabitating couple or a single parent if at least one of the parents is a Danish national.

Declaration

Danish-born nationals, who have lived in Denmark until the age of 18, and thereafter lost their Danish nationality and nationals of the other Nordic countries, may be granted Danish nationality by declaration Pursuant to Sections 3-4 of the Danish Nationality Act. Among other things, it is required that the person has legal residence in Denmark.

On September 1st 2015, two temporary arrangements to obtain Danish citizenship by declaration were introduced as a consequence of the Act on Multiple Nationalities, which have amended the Danish Nationality Act to allow for full access to multiple nationalities as from September 1st 2015. Firstly, former Danish citizens, who have lost their Danish nationality by acquiring a foreign nationality, will be able to reacquire their nationality by making a declaration to the Ministry of Immigration and Integration (before April 1st 2019 The State Administration), provided they fulfil certain requirements. The declaration must be made between September 1st 2015 and August 31st 2020. Secondly, foreign citizens, including their children, who had been included in an act on naturalisation passed in December 2012 or later with a condition of obtaining renunciation, would be able to become Danish citizens without obtaining renunciation of their previous nationality by making a declaration to The State Administration. The declaration was possible between September 1st 2015 and August 31st 2017.

Deprivation etc.

Pursuant to Section 8 A of the Danish Nationality Act, any person who has acquired Danish nationality by fraudulent conduct, including by intentionally giving incorrect or misleading information or suppressing relevant information, may be deprived of his or her nationality by court order if the conduct exhibited was decisive to the acquisition. The person will be deprived of his or her nationality regardless of whether the deprivation will make the person concerned stateless.

Pursuant to Section 8 B of the Danish Nationality Act, any person convicted of a violation of one or more provisions of Chapters 12 and 13 of the Danish Criminal Code may be deprived of his or her Danish nationality by court order unless this will make the person concerned stateless. If a person has been punished abroad for an act which may, according to Danish legislation, lead to deprivation of Danish nationality, such person can be deprived of his or her nationality pursuant to Section 11 of the Danish Criminal Code.

Among many things, Danish nationality entitles a person to hold a Danish passport, and to vote at and be nominated for national elections.

6.6 Repatriation

Residents in Denmark who voluntarily wish to repatriate to their country of origin or former country of residence may be eligible for financial assistance, the so-called repatriation benefit. The purpose of the repatriation benefit is to secure the future of individuals who repatriate by enabling them to resettle in their country of origin and begin building a sustainable future. The repatriation scheme applies to refugees, foreigners with a residence permit based on family reunification, foreigners who came to Denmark as guest workers and received a residence permit prior to the Danish Aliens Act of 1983 and Danish citizens with dual citizenship, who renounce their Danish citizenship in connection with repatriation. A refugee can return to Denmark with his or her family, if he or she regrets the decision to repatriate within 12 months of having left Denmark. In that case, the refugee must repay the repatriation benefit.

As of the 1st of July 2018, municipalities are obliged to inform individuals participating in the self-support and return program or introduction program or the ordinary employment program about the access to apply for repatriation allowance. The information must be adjusted to the specific circumstances of the individual person. Residents who are considering repatriation will be referred to the Danish Refugee Council for more detailed counselling on the individual's repatriation opportunities.

The specific requirements to be met and the different types of financial support each person can be granted are laid down in the Repatriation Act. Based on an assessment of the individual foreigner's financial situation, the local authorities will determine the financial assistance to which the applicant is entitled. The repatriation grant covers travelling expenses as well as re-establishment costs of up to DKK 139,274 for each adult and DKK 42,476 for each child below the age of 18 in 2019. Part of the re-establishment costs (40 per cent) are paid when the foreigner has returned to his or her country of origin, and the rest (60 per cent) will be paid after a 12 months period has expired. Furthermore, residents who wish to repatriate are granted a maximum of DKK 30,600 that cover either freight costs of personal belongings or purchase of new household effects in his or her country of origin, and a maximum of DKK 10,000 to the acquisition of a new passport valid in his or her country of origin. Finally, foreigners who wish to repatriate may upon individual assessment obtain financial assistance for purchasing and transporting business equipment, financial assistance to cover a trip to his or her country of origin in order to prepare for the return, financial assistance to cover school expenses for minor children and for expenses for health insurance and prescribed medical products that they intend to bring with them.

The repatriation benefit can be granted once only.

If the resident is at least 55 years of age, he or she is entitled to a disability pension. If the resident is at least 50 years of age and is unable to work due to his or her health or other similar conditions, the foreigner is furthermore entitled to reintegration benefit if he or she has resided continuously in Denmark for at least five years prior to repatriation.

The monthly amount of the reintegration allowances depends on the country of repatriation, i.e. on average living expenses. Residents entitled to the reintegration allowance may choose to receive a monthly amount for five years or lifelong monthly payments. The lifelong monthly payment is equivalent to 80 per cent of the amount otherwise limited for five years. The monthly amount of the five-year reintegration allowance is between DKK 3,500 and DKK 4,500 and the monthly amount of the lifelong reintegration allowance is between DKK 2,800 and DKK 3,600.

Moreover, a foreigner who is entitled to reintegration allowance and has obtained a residence permit in Denmark before 1 July 2002 can be granted an extra reintegration allowance of DKK 1,000 each month for five years or DKK 800 as a life-long monthly allowance.

Municipal expenditure for repatriation grants and reintegration allowances is fully funded by state subsidies.

In 2018, 360 residents repatriated with financial support under the repatriation scheme.

6.7 Forced and voluntary return

An alien who does not have the right to reside in Denmark must leave the country. If the alien does not leave Denmark voluntarily, the Danish Police will make the arrangements for his/her departure.

In general the person will be asked to leave voluntarily as voluntary returns benefit the returnee as well as Denmark and the country of origin. Thus, the Danish Government in general encourages and supports voluntary return. However, in some cases forced return may be necessary.

Rejected asylum seekers who wish to return voluntarily to their country of origin or the country in which they formerly resided are offered practical assistance and can obtain financial aid from the Danish Government. It is a condition that the rejected asylum seeker returns voluntarily and without undue delay after the final rejection of asylum. The Danish Government has, in cooperation with other European countries, established reintegration programs in a number of countries, including Iraq and Afghanistan. As regards Iran, the Danish Government established a specific and temporary subsidy scheme which allowed Iranians, who left Denmark voluntarily, to receive subsidy in cash. This scheme was in place from 9 May 2018 to 31 December 2018.

The support for voluntary return also includes counselling services for the rejected asylum seekers about return. The counselling service is handled by the Danish Refugee Counsel as of April 2018. The service aims to inform the rejected asylum seeker on the return procedure and on questions concerning reintegration and reestablishment in his or her country of origin. The service also includes information on the financial support schemes.

If return does not happen voluntarily, the Danish authorities will carefully plan a forced return operation.

Forced return is handled by the Danish National Police. The return procedure is carefully planned in corporation with the receiving country. In this way, the forced return can be managed in a dignified and proper manner. On 16 September 2019 some of the administrative responsibilities in the area of return have been transferred from the Danish National Police, under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Justice, to the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Immigration and Integration. Among other things this means that foreigners' voluntary departure and processing of return cases, which do not involve the use of coercion or use of force (forced return), is now under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Immigration and Integration. There will be a transition period where the Danish National Police are handling all cases. The extent of this transition period has not yet been decided.

The cooperation with the home countries includes identification of the alien and issuing travel documents. The costs of forced returns are in general covered by the Danish Government, or if the alien has sufficient funds, by the alien him- or herself.

If the alien does not leave the country within the time limit for voluntary departure, the alien will first be required to take residence at return center Avnstrup. If then the alien does not cooperate on the return, the alien will then be obliged to take residence at one of two departure centres –Kærshovedgård or Sjølsmark – depending on their status (single/in families). When accommodated at a departure center, the aliens must also report to the police three times a week. The Danish Immigration Service and the Danish Police will monitor whether the accommodation and reporting measures are complied with by the alien.

7.0 INTEGRATION POLICY

7.1 Government strategies on integration

Due to a national election in June 2019 the Social Democratic Party constituted a new Government.

The main focus of the Government is to strengthen the integration process with respect to newly arrived foreigners as well as foreigners who - despite having lived in Denmark for a long time - are still not self-supported.

More specifically, the Government aims at reducing tendencies towards societal segregation and increasing active participation of foreigners – at the labour market and in society in general.

Employment opportunities are still a key consideration when individuals are allocated to a municipality. Distribution of refugees throughout the 98 municipalities is based on an allocation scheme ensuring that refugees are widely settled. The allocation focuses on matching of individual competences and local demands for labour.

Another key measure – which came into force in 2016 - is an efficient job and training program (Integrationsgrunduddannelse (IGU)) by which new arrivals are brought into regular employment for a period of two years on special wage-conditions, because they initially may not possess the skills and productivity required to qualify for a job on regular Danish wage levels and working conditions. This model includes a so-called apprentice pay and ensures that working is combined with training in Danish language labour market courses. On February 25, 2019, the (former) Government and the social partners agreed to extend the scheme for a further 3 years until the end of June 2022.

Danish language training should be organized in a flexible manner with respect for successful labour market integration (can take place directly at the workplace or outside working hours and be more labour market-oriented).

In the spring 2018, a number of political agreements were concluded to address the problems with residential areas (so-called ghettos) that have major challenges related to a disproportionate share of residents unemployed, with low income or education, criminal records and foreign (non-Western) background.

These agreements involve a wide range of initiatives aiming at turning underprivileged areas into entirely regular neighbourhoods and to combat the isolation of the residents living in the areas. The overall target is that there will be no ghettos by 2030. Above all, DKK 10 billion has been granted to demolish and regenerate residential areas between 2019 and 2026).

7.2 The Integration Act

The Integration Act entered into force on January 1st 1999 and has been amended several times since. The Act implies that the responsibility of integration lies with the municipalities

The Integration Act sets out the legal framework for integration in Denmark and regulates in main features how newly arrived immigrants are integrated in Denmark, which rights they are entitled to and which duties they must observe.

Once an asylum seeker has been granted residence permit, the Danish Immigration Service will assign him or her to a municipality by an allocation scheme (see section 7.3 for the housing of refugees). The municipalities are responsible for the integration effort and must offer newly arrived refugees and foreigners reunited with a refugee a 'residence and self-support program' or an 'introduction program' for foreigners reunited with a family member (see section 7.4 for a more detailed description of the programs).

The contents of the programs are specified in a contract which runs until the foreigner obtains a permanent residence permit. The contract is concluded by the local municipality and the individual immigrant or refugee. Moreover, the foreigner must sign a 'residence and self-sufficiency declaration' which aims to underline the responsibility of the individual foreigner for his or her integration into Danish society.

The municipality must if it is deemed relevant offer a medical screening to newly arrived refugees and their family members to expose severe health problems at an early stage so adequate health treatment or social measures can be activated as early as possible preventing health problems from becoming a barrier for successful integration. The assessment is made by the local authority and must be based on already available information, including the medical screening performed during the asylum phase.

Refugees and foreigners holding a residence permit based on family reunification are covered by the Danish national health insurance on an equal footing with Danish citizens implying that they will – from the time they are allocated to a municipality/move to Denmark will be assigned a local family doctor and have access to free medical treatment on the same terms as all other citizens in Denmark.

The Integration Act and the Act on Danish Courses for Adult Aliens and Others are designed to obtain better integration into the labour market by a combination of better opportunities for newcomers to the labour market and financial incentives directed at local authorities, language course providers and individual immigrants.

Moreover, the Integration Act contains economic intensities, the so-called performance subsidies, for local authorities. The subsidies are designed to afford the appropriate incentives for the local authorities to provide intensive integration efforts. A fixed monthly subsidy is payable under the system for each newcomer to the municipality regardless of whether that person is self-employed or not. This means that the local authority will not lose its subsidy, if it helps the immigrant gain employment which is a strong incentive for welcoming and integrating new immigrants.

7.3 Housing of refugees

When granted asylum, the applicant will be assigned housing by the Danish Immigration Service.

In contrast to foreigners who come to Denmark for the purpose of family reunification and thus by definition already have a place to live newly arrived refugees most often lack housing. The objective of the Integration Act in the field of housing of refugees is to ensure that all newly arrived refugees receive housing that the local authorities share the responsibility for receiving refugees and providing them with housing, and that segregation is avoided.

The housing of refugees is based on an allocation scheme according to which the number of refugees to be received by each municipality must be agreed upon among the local authorities. Alternatively, if they fail to agree, the number will be fixed by the Danish Immigration Service.

When a residence permit is granted to a refugee, the immigration authorities decide in which municipality the relevant refugee is to take up his or her abode. As of July 1st 2016, the primary consideration of all the aspects taken into account must be the refugee's chances of obtaining ordinary employment. Has the refugee been given a genuine job offer the refugee should be allocated to the municipality where the workplace is located or in a neighbouring municipality.

A refugee may, on the basis of personal circumstances such as close family ties be assigned housing in a particular municipality that does not have an open quota allowing for the housing of additional refugees. If a refugee requests housing only in municipalities with no open quota and if no special personal circumstances apply, the refugee will be allocated to a municipality with an open quota.

As of March 1st 2019 the municipalities are no longer obliged to assign permanent housing, but can choose to do so. Instead, the municipality must offer a temporary housing solution such as an apartment with a time limited lease. In order to strengthen the integration of each individual while combating residential segregation tendencies in certain local areas, housing cannot be assigned in deprived neighbourhoods.

Once allocated to a municipality, the refugee can choose freely to take up residence elsewhere within the same municipality. A refugee is also free to settle in a different municipality. But in order for the refugee to continue his or her self-support and return program in the new municipality, this municipality must accept to take over responsibility for the integration effort, including the program. If the new municipality refuses to assume responsibility for the integration effort and the refugee decides to move nonetheless, this may have consequences for the refugee's access to cash or integration benefit (from January 1st 2020 renamed to 'self-sufficiency and return benefit' or 'transition benefit'. However, under certain circumstances the new municipality is obliged to assume responsibility for the continuation of the program, e.g. if the refugee has been offered employment in the new municipality and no reasonable transportation facilities exist from the municipality of residence to the municipality of employment. The refugee continues having access to the labour market, educational facilities and other social and health services regardless of whether or not the new municipality assumes responsibility of the integration effort and self-support and return program.

The self-support and return program or introduction program has a maximum length of five years and a refugee can always settle in any municipality without consequences for his or her social allowances upon completion of the program.

7.4 The self-support and return program or introduction program and the introduction course

Under the Integration Act, the responsible municipality has to offer a self-support and return program or introduction program to newly arrived refugees and newly arrived foreigners reunited with a family member 18 years of age or more and covered by the Integration Act²³.

As of July 1st 2019 the former integration program changed name to self-support and return program or introduction program. Refugees and foreigners reunited with refugees are offered a self-support and return program whereas foreigners reunited with other than refugees, for example a Danish citizen, are offered an introduction program.

The program lasts one year. The aim of the program is to bring the foreigner into regular employment. The program can be extended up to five years or until the foreigner gains regular employment. The foreigner is obliged to participate in the program offered. If the foreigner receives any social benefit, the benefit may be reduced in case of non-participation without a legitimate reason.

The scope and content of the program for the individual foreigner are fixed in a *contract concluded by the municipality and foreigner concerned*. The contract is to be worked out by the municipality in cooperation with the immigrant or refugee in question within a month after his/her arrival in the municipality on the basis of an assessment of the individual's abilities and background.

The contract is in force until the foreigner obtains a permanent residence permit. During the first five years the content of contract is set out under the Integration Act, and hereafter by the rules in common acts of employment applicable to any unemployed resident regardless of origin.

² Since August 2010, the target group of the Integration Act covers all foreigners with a residence permit as well as nationals of the other Nordic countries and nationals of EU and EEA countries benefiting from the rules on free movement of persons in the EU.

³ As of July 1st 2019 the Integration Act distinguish between refugees, foreigners reunited with refugees, foreigners reunited with other than refugees and immigrants such as labour immigrants and EU nationals.

As a general rule, foreigners must be offered a *full* program if they receive integration or cash benefit.

The program consists of a Danish language course and ‘offers of active involvement’, aimed at labour market involvement such as:

- Guidance and upgrading.
- Job training and internship.
- Employment with a wage subsidy.

The offer of guidance and upgrading consists of short counselling and educational activities, specially arranged projects or training/educational courses, ordinary training/educational courses and special qualifying courses aimed at participation in the labour market.

A job training offer consists of job training with a private or public employer. In the period of training, the foreigner must carry out ordinary work. Foreigners under the Integration Act who have no other challenges than unemployment will be offered a traineeship for a limited period or a work with wage subsidies.

As mentioned above, the self-support and return program and introduction program is aimed at refugees and foreigners reunited with a refugee or another family member. The local authorities are also obliged to offer an introduction course for other newly arrived immigrants, i.e., labour immigrants and EU nationals. The introduction course is not mandatory. It contains the same elements as the two programs but in a lighter version. However, the scope and contents of the introduction course are not fixed in a contract.

The local authorities are obliged, upon inquiry, to offer all the existing kinds of ‘active labour market involvement’ also to foreigners, who do not receive cash benefit.

The Act on Danish Courses for Adult Aliens and Others

The Act on Danish Courses for Adult Aliens and Others regulates the access of newly arrived foreigners to Danish courses. The Act aims at providing a flexible and efficient language education which can easily be combined with employment and ensures a high progression rate allowing foreigners to quickly enter into the labour market.

In November 17th 2016, a wide range of parties in the Danish Parliament agreed on a reform of Danish language courses tailoring the courses to the labour market and at the same time ensuring cost effectiveness and reducing absences and drop-outs among students.

The amendments came into force on July 1st 2017 and on January 1st, 2018, respectively. The major changes are:

- Introduction of a “beginner’s language course” offered to all newly arrived foreigners with a special focus on spoken language and conversations at work places.
- Introduction of a system whereby Danish courses offered to foreign workers and students are time fixed and set up in a way that allows slow performance or absence to be sanctioned with reduced study time. The aim is to encourage students to attend and finish the language course.
- Introduction of a deposit to be paid by foreign workers and students before accessing Danish courses. Introduction of a two year pilot scheme whereby larger companies can offer language courses under less strict conditions / exemption from some of the rules stated by law.
- Changed financial incentives for the municipalities in order to make the Danish language courses more efficient.
- Introduction of mandatory regional frameworks on Danish language course every fourth year in the regions (a collective of municipalities) with the purpose of promoting transparency and possible synergies between municipalities.

An amendment to the Danish Education Act came into force July 1st 2018 stating that foreign workers, EU citizens, students and other self-supporting foreigners have to pay a partial tuition fee on DKK 2,000 per module for Danish education. A full course in Danish language consists of up to six modules. The purpose of this amendment is to further support the goal of reducing student absence and dropout in Danish language course and to ensure that only the motivated students start the language course. The Danish language training is still free of charge for refugees and foreigners with a residence permit based on family reunification. The

According to the Act, the local authority is obliged to offer Danish language courses within a month from taking over the integration responsibility for the person in question. The tuition is free of charge for the participants if they are refugees and foreigners with a residence permit based on family reunification. The duration and the organizational set-up of the course offered depend on the type of residence permit held by the individual concerned.

Newly arrived refugees and their family members have access to up to five years of Danish courses. This group of students are obliged to participate in the program as part of mandatory residence and self-support program. In 2018, 38 per cent of the students participating in the mentioned Danish course were refugees and their family members.

Newly arrived foreign workers and students have access to up to 42 months of Danish tuition within a five year framework. This group of students are not obliged to participate in the Danish courses offered to them as part of the introduction program. In 2018, 54 per cent of the students participating in Danish language courses were migrant workers and foreign students.

The offer of Danish education comprises one of the following three Danish courses:

- Danish course 1 is intended for students who have no or a poor educational background and who have not learned to read or write in their mother tongue.
- Danish course 2 is intended for students who normally have a short educational background from their country of origin and who are expected to learn Danish as a second language rather slowly.
- Danish course 3 is intended for students who normally have a lower or upper secondary or higher educational background from their country of origin and who are expected to learn Danish as a second language rather rapidly.

The language courses are divided into modules with specific targets. Advancement from one module to the next requires that the targets of the current module have been achieved.

In each module of the three courses, the focus of the language teaching is integration into the labour market but other topics are also handled as part of the teaching, such as democratic structures, the educational system etc.

Each Danish course ends up with a final language exam: Danish course 1 with Exam in Danish 1 (written at A2 and oral B1), Danish course 2 with Exam in Danish 2 (written at B1 and oral B1+), Danish course 3 with Exam in Danish 3 after module 5 (written and oral at B2) and “Studieprøven” after module 6 (written and oral at C1). The three Danish exams test general language skills. “Studieprøven” is required for foreigners wishing to access education at university level.

Danish language exams are a prerequisite for among others Danish citizenship, permanent residence and family reunification.

Newly arrived refugees and foreigners reunited with a family member are entitled to receive cash assistance if unemployed if they meet the requirements.

Refugees, immigrants and other persons who have resided in Denmark for less than nine out of the preceding ten years and who has been fully employed for the last two years and six months are given an integration benefit instead of ordinary cash benefit aiming at giving newly arrived refugees and immigrants a greater incentive to work and become integrated in Danish society. According to the amendments, a single person without children will receive DKK 6,072 (approx. EUR 814) (2019) in integration benefit per month compared to DKK 11,423 (EUR 1,529) in cash benefit per month, whereas a married couple with children will receive DKK 16,996 (EUR 2,275) per month per household in integration benefit in total compared to DKK 30,360 (EUR 4,064) in cash benefit. The amendments also entail the possibility of a six month limited language bonus of DKK 1,580 (EUR 212) per month per person. For some people the integration benefit is significantly lower than the ordinary social assistance, but the total public benefits level remains higher than in most of the other countries in the world.

As to supplementary benefits, the rules that apply to newly arrived foreigners are the same as apply to everyone else that receive cash assistance. Such assistance may be granted as assistance for expenses for participation in residence and self-support programs, such as school fees, tools, transport, work clothing and education materials, certain reasonable non-recurrent expenses, medical treatment and special assistance concerning children.

Social assistance recipients are obliged to be available for the labour market, and assistance is if a participant fails to attend activation or Danish language courses without a valid excuse. This applies only to persons who do not have serious problems other than unemployment. Furthermore, the local authorities will cut cash assistance if a participant refuses to attend or if his or her attendance record reflects a will to refuse

7.5 .Language education and employment initiatives besides the integration program

As mentioned above, the local authorities must offer Danish language courses for newly arrived adult foreigners who have a residence permit in Denmark. Also other types of Danish education for foreigners are available.

If a foreigner is (still) unemployed and receives cash assistance after five years of residence in Denmark, the local authorities must in accordance with the Active Employment Act provide a training scheme to increase his or her employability. These training schemes are almost identical with the schemes given to persons (newly arrived refugees) under the Integration Act. Participation in the schemes and active job seeking and utilization of working and abilities is a condition for receiving cash assistance. The local authorities may offer activation to foreigners and other citizens, who are self-provided.

7.6 Assessment of foreign qualifications

Under the Assessment of Foreign Qualifications Act holders of foreign qualifications as well as authorities responsible for the integration of foreigners can obtain an assessment free of charge from the Danish Agency for Science and Higher Education – an agency of the Danish Ministry of Higher Education and Science. This applies to qualifications at all levels.

In most cases, the assessment is a brief statement comparing a foreign certificate, diploma or degree with a level of the Danish educational and training system and pointing out any similar Danish field of education. In the labour market, the assessment can be used as a guideline for an employer who needs to consider foreign qualifications, and the Agency offers a fast track service to employers to help them interpret the qualifications of foreign applicants. For purposes of continuing education, the assessment can document that a foreign qualification has the overall level required for access to a Danish programme of education. Hence, authorities responsible for integration can use the assessments when examining a foreigner's job and education opportunities.

In 2016, the Government, following an agreement with Local Government Denmark, took steps to ensure systematic identification and recognition of newly arrived refugees' qualifications and competences. Accommodation centres interview refugees about their educational background and transmit this information to the municipality if asylum is granted. Refugees who have formal qualifications are informed about the possibility of qualifi-

cation assessment even before their transfer to a municipality. When initiating an integration programme, the responsible local authority informs the refugee about the possibility of qualification assessment, if an assessment has not already taken place. The Danish Agency for Science and Higher Education operates a hotline to assist accommodation centres and local authorities with fast-track assessments and other advice on foreign qualifications recognition.

For access to professions that are regulated by law in Denmark, e.g., a number of health care professions, foreign qualifications must be approved by the public authority that is responsible for the profession in question. The Danish Agency for Science and Higher Education provides information and advice about all types of recognition of foreign qualifications: www.ufm.dk/recognition.

7.7 Language stimulation and teaching in Danish as a second language and mother-tongue tuition

From July 2010, local authorities are obliged to perform a language assessment of all children in day care at the age of three if there are indications that they are in need of language stimulation. In addition, all children at the age of three who do not attend a day care centers undergo a language assessment to discover the child's linguistic challenges before school age. Local authorities are obliged to offer language stimulation to all children living in Denmark who are in need of such training, and the parents are required to accept the offer.

Furthermore, local authorities are obliged to perform a language assessment of all children between the age of three and school start for those children, who were not language assessed at the age of three, thus ensuring that all newly arrived immigrant children are language assessed.

Primary and lower secondary school

The general approach is to strengthen the language development of bilingual pupils primarily through the general teaching environment.

The curriculum for the primary and lower secondary school ("Fælles Mål") has been revised as part of the recent school reform. The revision includes integration of language development in all subjects. For every subject there have been outlined competence objectives for language skills and literacy.

At school all bilingual children with a need for language support are given training in 'Danish as a second language'. Whether the child is in need of support is determined by the headmaster at the individual school, with due involvement of expert assistance and in cooperation with the family of the child.

Basic education in Danish as a second language for newcomers is an independent subject and can be organized in different ways: In special reception classes, where students have all or part of their lessons, or as single student instruction. Within two years the basis education ceases. Hereafter the student must participate fully in the general education while receiving supplementary teaching in Danish as a second language according to the need of the child. Danish as a second language supplementary is given as long as the child is in need of it. The two-year basis limitation does not apply to bilingual children admitted in primary school without having previously received tuition in reading and writing (genuine illiteracy). Typically the bilingual children here are enrolled in school after the start of 3rd or 4th grade.

For students, who upon arrival in Denmark are 14 years or older, the two year basis education limitation does not apply. These students can instead enter an extended reception period that aims to prepare students for further youth education. Also, the two year limitation does not apply for students, who upon arrival are not literate despite their age, where they in Denmark are expected to be literate.

Furthermore, bilingual children in primary and lower secondary schools whose parents are citizens in a state that is a member of the European Union and in countries, which are included in the agreement of the European Economic Area, together with the Faeroe Islands and Greenland are offered mother-tongue tuition. In addition, some municipalities chose to offer mother-tongue tuition for bilingual children whose parents are not citizens in EU or EEA countries. The expenses for mother-tongue tuition for bilingual children are defrayed by the local authorities.

National tests in Danish as a second language

The Ministry offers national tests in Danish as a second language aimed at mapping the linguistic competences and potential of bilingual children in order to help the teachers support the language development of the child. The tests are voluntary.

Language assessment in grade 0

Furthermore the Ministry offers and supports a language assessment instrument for use in grade 0 in the Danish public schools. The language assessment in grade 0 is mandatory for all children irrespective of language background.

The purpose of the language test is to strengthen the students' language skills so that they can benefit from their schooling. This is done through continuous testing of students' language skills combined with a targeted language-stimulating effort in both the classroom and at home for those students who are not assessed language readiness.

Students have up to three compulsory exams and a fourth voluntary attempt to be assessed language proficiency before commencing 1st grade. If a student is assessed for language readiness, the student's language skills are sufficient to start participating in the first class after the summer break, and the student no longer has to participate in language tests or language stimulation courses.

Language assessment in grade 1-9

In order to be allowed to stop receiving Danish as a second language, students in grade 1-9 have to pass a compulsory language test. This is to ensure that they can follow Danish at academic level beyond grade 9. Students in grades 1-9 have four attempts to be assessed for language proficiency in the language test.

If the student is not assessed for language proficiency in the language test after four attempts, the student must be taught at the relevant grade level for two years and continue to receive instruction in Danish as a second language.

Municipal special offers for elementary education for certain foreign children and young people

The law on municipal special offers for primary school education for certain foreign children and young people gives the municipalities the opportunity to create special offers for primary school education outside the framework of the primary school law. The special offers of elementary school education are an alternative or supplement to the elementary school's teaching in reception classes.

The purpose of the reference to special offers is that the students obtain the personal, social and professional competences required for them to become part of primary school, a secondary education or a similar offer as quickly as possible. Students can participate in the offer for a maximum of two years.

7.8 Special integration initiatives aimed at the integration of women

Studies have identified a number of circumstances that can challenge the participation of ethnic women in the labour market. Among these are lack of general and professional qualifications among the women, a lack of personal network to help and support them when searching for a job, and the fact that some women have no interest in entering the labour market, due to culture and family traditions.

The Danish Government wishes to increase the employment rate among refugee and immigrant women. This does not only benefit these persons themselves, but also their families and Danish society in general.

The Danish Government will increase efforts to help women to improve their ability to empower themselves.

The initiatives generally build on the resources of women with an ethnic minority background and generally seek to enhance their capacities to be active citizens in the Danish society. In 2019 16.0 million DKK was allocated to the integration initiative "Venner Viser Vej" ("Friends leading the way") that is administered by the Danish Red Cross.

The purpose of the initiative is to offer all refugees, including women, who are granted asylum in Denmark, a voluntary Danish friend from the local area where the refugee is assigned housing. Refugees who arrive in Denmark often find themselves in a vulnerable situation and know very little about the Danish language, society and labour market. By having a local friend the newly arrived refugee can become acquainted with the local community and introduced to the existing social norms and values of Danish society. The local friend can furthermore assist the refugee when it comes to becoming accustomed to a Danish every-day life, e.g. by providing information about local schools or local workplaces. The initiative is an example of how one can support the refugee in becoming a participating fellow citizen through an active civil society effort.

Furthermore, in 2019 the Government launched two new projects with the aim of improving the integration of minority women in Danish society and in the Danish labour market. One project focuses on supporting women who are getting divorced. The women are advised on the divorce process as well as on seeking and obtaining employment. The second project focuses on improving the job prospects for minority women on maternity leave. Recent mothers enter a community of like-minded with whom they share experiences, receive language training and participate in company visits. Both projects are carried out by civil society groups and focus on the challenges that prevent minority women from entering the labour market.

In 2016 the Danish Government launched an action plan for prevention of honour related conflicts and negative social control. The national effort is anchored in the Ministry of Immigration and Integration and coordinated with other ministries. The action plan consists of four focus areas:

- Better help for victims
- Strengthened prevention
- Mobilisation of showdown regarding oppression and negative social control
- Systematic knowledge- and documentation effort

The action plan consists among other things of the following initiatives:

- A national task force that advises municipalities on prevention and handling of honour related conflicts and negative social control.
- A team of security advisors that advises municipalities in cases about honour related conflicts and negative social control.
- Strengthening of a corps of youngsters and parents that facilitate dialogues in Denmark about subjects such as equal rights between sexes, honour, reputation, forced marriages etc. The corps uses their own experiences with negative social control and honour related conflicts as a starting point for the dialogues.

- Up-skilling courses for employees working with honour related conflicts and negative social control in municipalities, shelters and safehouses, student counselors etc.
- An information effort targeted professionals working with people exposed to honour related conflicts and negative social control. The information effort has as an objective to hinder a professional's fear of initiating the relevant action for a child/youngster exposed to an honour related conflict due to misunderstood cultural considerations.

7.9 Combating residential segregation

Residential segregation is a significant barrier for integration into social life, the educational system and the labour market. All citizens should have a life characterized by opportunities and free choice. Residential segregation is not the result of free choice and is a severe barrier to integration.

In Denmark the social Housing Sector is in general successful in order to prevent residential segregation. The Danish social housing model guarantees low income families, people with minority background, people with mental illness etc. a decent place to live. In order to prevent residential segregation there is no minimal income threshold and the social housing is open to the entire population irrespective of education, age, nationality, ethnical background and income etc. As a main rule, social housing is let to tenants through a seniority based waiting list and every individual is entitled to put his or her name on the waiting list. The local authorities have an unconditioned right to dispose of 25 per cent of all vacant dwellings in social housing to solve a range of social housing problems for the most vulnerable citizens. In some cases the local authorities can dispose of up to 100 per cent of all vacant dwellings.

Rent in social housing family dwellings is kept relatively low due to public subsidy. Furthermore, low income families are entitled to individual housing benefits. In 2016, approximately 60,000 households with children living in social housing units received housing benefits. These households had 37 per cent of the rent covered by housing benefits.

The social housing sector is administered by non-profit housing associations, which are under inspection by the local authorities. The local authorities grant subsidy to the building of new social housing and in doing so decide the amount of new dwellings to be constructed. This amount is set according to the local needs and structures.

The total number of social housing units in Denmark is approximately 616,000, which amounts to approximately 22 per cent of the total number of dwellings. Approximately 495,000 of them are family dwellings. The majority of the social housing units provide popular dwellings of high quality with a strong community and a well-developed neighbourhood democracy, which gives residents an influence on their neighbourhood.

Deprived areas

A few of the social housing residences are caught in vicious circles of bad image, social problems and a high rate of unemployment etc. During the past years a social, ethnic and geographical division of some parts of the housing market has developed, and it has become a challenge to establish a mixed group of citizens in social housing in some socially deprived areas. None the less, it is a political goal to obtain such a mix since it is considered an important condition for a positive development in challenged social housing areas.

The deprived areas are characterized by a concentration of low-income families with social problems. Employment rates and educational attainment are low and some of the areas face problems with crime and insecurity. Approximately 3/5 of the tenants in the deprived areas have immigrant background.

Housing initiatives against parallel societies

In 2018 the previous Danish government presented at national action plan; “One Denmark without Parallel Societies: No Ghettoes in 2030”. This led to 22 agreed initiatives which are accepted by the present government and the Danish parliament.

The overall objective of the housing initiatives is to generate open, non-isolated residential areas, with mixed housing and different functions that reflect the surrounding community. Housing areas with deep rooted social and integrational challenges will have to initiate a “development plan” to reduce social family dwellings to 40 per cent through sales, construction of private housing, demolition, new business areas, local government jobs etc.

If a development plan is not presented to the Ministry or if it is deemed insufficient the Minister of Housing may, with the support of the parties to the agreement, decide to liquidate one or more areas.

In the summer of 2019, the Danish government received the requested 15 “development plans” for housing areas with deep rooted social and integrational challenges. All plans were accepted by the Minister. 5 out of 15 housing areas got an exemption from the requirement of reducing family dwellings to 40 percent. This was due to weak housing markets.

The National Construction Fund will support the transformation with social and physical initiatives on a large scale with DKK 10 billion to be used in the coming years (2018-2026). The National Construction Fund is regulated in the national legislation by the Government, but the National Construction Fund is the authority of the physical development and social program and the administrator of the funding. The local social housing association together with the local authority applies the National Construction Fund for support.

7.10 Anti-discrimination policies

Denmark has had legislative protection against ethnic discrimination for many years, both within and outside the labour market.

After the adoption of the EU equal treatment directives (dir. 2000/43/EC and 2000/78/EC) Danish anti-discrimination law was considerably strengthened. The Act on Ethnic Equal Treatment was adopted in 2003 and the Act on Prohibition of Unequal Treatment within the Labour Market was amended in 2004. In 2003 the Danish Institute for Human Rights furthermore became the National Equality Body and established the Complaints Committee for Ethnic Equal Treatment to review individual complaints on discrimination because of racial or ethnic origin.

By January 2009, a new and stronger Complaints Board on Equal Treatment came into being. The Complaints Board is competent within all discrimination strands in the Danish anti-discrimination legislation (racial, social, national or ethnic origin, gender, colour of skin, religion or faith, political observation, sexual inclination, age or disability) and is able to award victims of discrimination compensation for non-pecuniary damages. In 2017 the Complaints Board handled 36 complaints of discrimination on the grounds of race or ethnic origin.

7.11 Cohesion and prevention of radicalisation

The Danish approach to preventing extremism (including left-wing extremism, right-wing extremism, militant Islamism etc.) is based on solid inter-agency cooperative structures on both local and national level. The approach includes different types of intervention depending on the target group, and thereby addresses the diversity of the challenges in relation to radicalisation. There are interventions aimed at both the security and social dimensions of radicalisation.

Radicalisation is considered as risk behaviour on par with other types of risk behaviour leading to the commission of crimes. The task of preventing extremism and radicalisation among children and young people is primarily undertaken in collaboration between the Danish municipalities and the police districts, under the auspices of the crime-preventive SSP partnership between schools, the social services and the police. Municipalities and police districts receive guidance from national authorities on how to develop local strategies and frameworks to ensure the effective handling and follow-up of concerns received from frontline personnel. Frontline staff, such as educators, social workers etc. receive training and guidance on signs of concern and where to go.

In October 2016, the former Danish Government, represented by the Minister of Justice, the Minister of Children, Education and Gender Equality, and the Minister of Immigration, Integration and Housing presented a new national action plan to prevent and fight extremism and radicalisation.

The action plan includes an introduction to the Danish model to prevent extremism and radicalisation, an overview of current initiatives and a comprehensive catalogue of 41 proposed new initiatives, in nine different policy areas. Those areas are:

1. More coordinated and knowledge-based efforts
2. Strengthened prevention in police districts and municipalities
3. Combating extremist propaganda and preventing online-radicalisation
4. Tough approach on foreign fighters
5. Targeted efforts in criminal environments
6. Strengthened effort to prevent radicalisation in prisons
7. Systematic early prevention in day care and primary and secondary school
8. Activation and incorporation of civil society in prevention
9. Strengthened international efforts

DKK 154 million has been allocated for implementation of the action plan in 2017-2020. The aim is to continue, strengthen and develop the Danish model for prevention of extremism to ensure that the prevention effort is able to withstand current challenges. A national knowledge and advisory centre, *Danish Centre for Prevention of Extremism*, has been established under the Ministry of Immigration and Integration to support this target.