

## 5.12 Migration coefficient

***The migration coefficient<sup>1</sup> in Slovenia was 1.0 in 2011, and again close to zero in the first half of 2012.***

After reaching the highest level on record in pre-crisis 2008 as a result of economic growth after Slovenia's accession to the EU and the Schengen Agreement, the migration coefficient started to fall in 2009 (to 5.6 per 1,000 population, which was still among the highest coefficients in the EU) and was negative in 2010 (-0.3; for the first time since 1998 more people emigrated from Slovenia than immigrated to it). In the 2007–2009 period around 30,000 people immigrated to Slovenia every year, while in 2010 immigration was cut in half. The reasons for the decline in net migration, which began in the second quarter of 2009 and accelerated in 2010, were the deteriorated labour market situation and stricter conditions for obtaining residence permits for foreign nationals in Slovenia. The migration coefficient increased slightly to 1.0 in 2011. The reason for population growth related to migration is the lower decline in immigration to Slovenia than emigration from Slovenia. According to SURS data, 14,083 people immigrated to Slovenia (down 8.6% on the previous year) and 12,024 people emigrated from Slovenia (down 24.6% on the previous year) in 2011. In the first half of 2012 the number of immigrants and emigrants was almost the same.

***The number of foreign nationals immigrating to Slovenia has been decreasing since 2009; most immigrants still come from the former Yugoslav republics.***

The greatest number of foreign nationals immigrated to Slovenia between 2007 and 2009, on average more than 27,000 per year. In 2010 the number of foreign immigrants dropped to just over 12,000 and in 2011 to just over 10,000, which is the lowest number since 2004. The highest share of foreign nationals who immigrated to Slovenia in 2011 was from Bosnia and Herzegovina (31.5%), followed by citizens of Serbia, Macedonia and Croatia (together 29.1%). In total almost 3.6-times fewer immigrants came from these countries than in 2007, when the largest number was recorded (23,410). Their net migration was again positive in 2011; a year before more of them emigrated than immigrated. Immigration from other EU Member states is still low; most of the immigrants came from Bulgaria (6.8% of all foreign immigrants) and Italy (3.0%). Most foreign nationals immigrated to Slovenia in 2011 to find employment (48.2%, but this is the lowest share after

2006) and to reunite with families (40.0%, twice as many as in the past). The mean age of foreign immigrants was 31.9 years. The number of foreign emigrants increased the most in 2009, when as many as 15,000 emigrated, twice as many as a year before. With the onset of the crisis, loss of employment and fewer opportunities to find work they probably emigrated elsewhere or returned home. Still, their net migration was 12,000. In 2010 the number of foreign immigrants and emigrants was almost the same, while in 2011 net migration was again positive (3,000). Among foreign nationals aged 15 or more who emigrated from Slovenia<sup>2</sup>, 57.7% were aged 20–39, and most of them had basic (45.4%) or upper secondary (48.3%) education. Three out of four foreign emigrants aged 15 or more emigrated to the former Yugoslav republics, half of them to Bosnia and Herzegovina. More than half of foreign nationals who emigrated from Slovenia worked in construction (38.3%) and manufacturing (14.3%). The mean age of foreign emigrants was 37 years.

***Migration flows of Slovenian citizens have been relatively high since 2009.***

In the 2005–2007 period on average around 1,700 Slovenian citizens immigrated from abroad every year; and in the 2008–2011 period almost 2,900. In the 2005–2007 period on average 2,600 Slovenian citizens emigrated abroad every year; in the 2008–2011 period almost 4,300. Net migration of Slovenian citizens has been slightly negative since 2000<sup>3</sup>. Immigration and emigration flows of Slovenian citizens were the highest at the start of the crisis and in 2011, when 3,318 Slovenian citizens immigrated to Slovenia, 22.4% more than in the previous year and the most since 1995. In 2011, 4,679 Slovenian citizens emigrated from Slovenia, 19.8% more than in the previous year and the most since 2008. Almost half of the Slovenian citizens who emigrated in 2011 moved to the former Yugoslav republics and Germany. Among Slovenian emigrants aged 15 or more, 38.5% were aged 25–39 years; most of them had upper secondary (50.1%) or higher (35.1%) education. In the structure of emigrants with tertiary education, there is a high share of those aged 25–39 years, the share of young people who are willing to go to work abroad, so that we can expect larger emigration of this population group given the possibilities (see also Framework 6). A total of 40.3% of employed Slovenian emigrants worked in manufacturing, trade and construction. The mean age of Slovenian emigrants was 40.2 years and of Slovenian immigrants 38.5 years.

<sup>1</sup> The ratio of net migration to average population in a calendar year multiplied by 1,000 (net migration per 1,000 population); net migration is the difference between the number of immigrants and the number of emigrants in a calendar year.

<sup>2</sup> For the first time, this year SURS obtained data on socio-economic characteristics of emigrants by linking databases of regular annual statistics with data collected with the 2011 population census (see [http://www.stat.si/eng/novica\\_prikazi.aspx?id=5226](http://www.stat.si/eng/novica_prikazi.aspx?id=5226)).

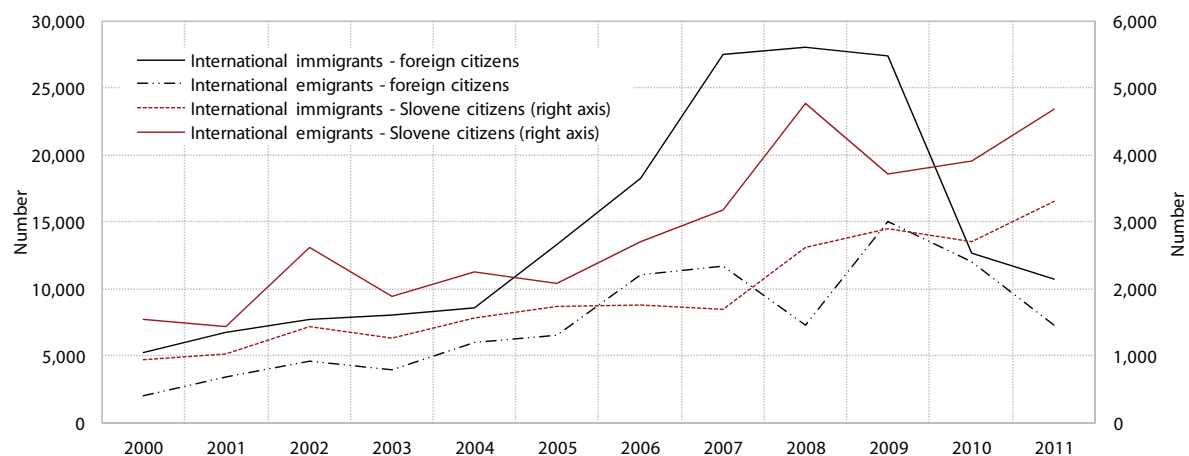
<sup>3</sup> The average migration coefficient of Slovenian citizens in the 2000–2011 period was -0.5 per 1,000 population.

Table: Net migration (with statistical corrections), per 1,000 population, 1995–2011

	1995	2000	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
<b>EU-27</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>1.7</b>
Austria	0.3	2.2	6.1	3	4.1	4.1	2.5	3.3	4.4
Belgium	0.2	1.3	4.7	4.9	5.5	5.9	5.9	8.2	1.4
Bulgaria	0	0	0	0	-0.2	-0.1	-2.1	-3.2	-0.7
Cyprus	9.2	5.7	19	11.2	9.4	4.5	2.3	19.2	21.3
Czech Republic	1	0.6	3.5	3.4	8.1	6.9	2.7	1.5	1.6
Denmark	5.5	1.9	1.2	1.9	3.7	4.6	2.8	3	2.4
Estonia	-10.8	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0	0	0
Finland	0.8	0.5	1.7	2	2.6	2.9	2.7	2.6	3.1
France	N/A	2.7	3	1.8	1.2	0.9	1	1.1	1.2
Greece	7.3	2.7	3.6	3.6	3.6	3.2	3.1	-0.1	-1.3
Ireland	1.6	8.4	15	15.6	10.6	0.7	-6.2	-7.5	-7.2
Italy	0.5	0.9	5.2	6.4	8.4	7.1	5.2	5.2	4
Latvia	-5.5	-2.3	-0.2	-1.1	-0.3	-1.1	-2.1	-3.5	-11.2
Lithuania	-6.5	-5.8	-2.6	-1.4	-1.6	-2.3	-4.6	-23.7	-12.6
Luxembourg	10.6	7.9	13.1	11.3	12.5	15.8	13.2	15.1	21.2
Hungary	1.7	1.6	1.7	2.1	1.4	1.6	1.7	1.2	1.3
Malta	0.2	2.3	4	5.3	4.2	5.9	-0.4	5.4	-0.3
Germany	4.9	2	1	0.3	0.5	-0.7	-0.1	1.6	3.4
Netherlands	1	3.6	-1.4	-1.6	-0.1	1.9	2.3	2	1.8
Poland	-0.5	-0.5	-0.3	-0.9	-0.5	-0.4	0	-0.1	-0.1
Portugal	2.2	4.6	3.6	2.5	1.8	0.9	1.4	0.4	-2.3
Romania	-0.9	-0.2	-0.3	-0.3	0	0.1	-0.1	0	-0.1
Slovakia	0.5	-4.1	0.6	0.7	1.3	1.3	0.8	0.6	0.5
<b>Slovenia</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>3.1</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>9.2</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>-0.3</b>	<b>1.0</b>
Spain	1.8	9.7	14.8	13.7	15.6	9	1.1	1.3	-0.9
Sweden	1.3	2.7	3	5.6	5.9	6	6.7	5.3	4.8
United Kingdom	1.1	2.4	3.8	3.2	3.5	3.1	3.3	3.6	3.8

Source: Eurostat Portal Page - Population and social conditions – Demography, 2012.

Figure: International migrants by citizenship, Slovenia



Source: SURS, 2012.