



**12.01.2016 - The number of international migrants\* (persons living in a country other than where they were born) reached 244 million in 2015 for the world as a whole, a 41% increase since 2000, according to new data presented by the United Nations today. This figure includes almost 20 million refugees\*\*.**

The new UN dataset, “Trends in International Migrant Stock: The 2015 Revision,” shows that the number of international migrants has grown faster than the world’s population. As a result, the share of migrants in the global population reached 3.3% in 2015, up from 2.8% in 2000. There are, however, considerable differences between large regions of the world.

- In Europe, Northern America and Oceania, international migrants account for at least 10% of the total population.
- By contrast, in Africa, Asia, and Latin America and the Caribbean, fewer than 2% of the population are international migrants.
- In 2015, two out of three international migrants lived in Europe or Asia.

- Nearly half of all international migrants worldwide were born in Asia.
- Among major regions of the world, Northern America hosts the third largest number of international migrants, followed by Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Oceania.
- Between 2000 and 2015, Asia added more international migrants than any other major region, or a total of 26 million additional migrants.

## 2015 International Migrant Stock



- Where do international migrants live (by region)?
  - o Two thirds of international migrants live in Europe (76 million) or Asia (75 million)
  - o 54 million live in North America;
  - o 21 million in Africa;

- o 9 million in Latin America and the Caribbean;
  
- o 8 million in Oceania
  
- Where do international migrants live (by country)?

In 2015, two thirds of all international migrants were living in only 20 countries.

- o USA - 47 million;
  
- o Germany – 12 million;
  
- o Russia – 12 million;
  
- o Saudi Arabia - 10 million;
  
- o UK – 9 million;
  
- o UAE – 8 million
  
- Where are international migrants from (by region)?

In many parts of the world, migration occurs primarily between countries located within the same geographic zone. However, a substantial majority of international migrants living in Northern America (98 %) and Oceania (87%) were born in a major region other than the one where they currently reside.

- o 104 million (43%) of international migrants were born in Asia;

- o 62 million (25%) in Europe;

- o 37 million (15%) in Latin America and the Caribbean;

- o 4 million (2%) in North America;

- o 2 million (1%) in Oceania

- Where are international migrants from (by country)?

- o India - 16 million;

- o Mexico - 12 million;

- o Russia - 11 million;

- o China – 10 million;

- o Bangladesh - 7 million;
  
- o Pakistan - 6 million;
  
- o Ukraine - 6 million
  
- Who are international migrants?
  - o 48% are women;
  
  - o 43% were born in Asia;
  
  - o 25% were born in Europe;
  
  - o median age is 39 years old;
  
  - o 15% are below 20 years old

## **2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**



[World Migration Report 2015](#) [Reaches Definition by UNHCR](#) [UNHCR](#) [Giacomo Pirozzi](#)