

Romania



Romania's accession to the European Union on 1 January 2007 was accompanied by a significant increase in migration movements, which continue to be strongly dominated by outflows.

According to the statistics available, the number of Romanian citizens in EU member states is estimated to be between 2.5 and 2.7 million.

According to the National Employment Agency and the Labour Inspectorate, about 61 400 persons emigrated from Romania in 2008 under mediated temporary employment contracts. This represents an 11% increase over the previous year. Of these contracts, only 9 000 were concluded through private employment agencies, half as many as in 2007. Most workers with mediated contracts went to Germany (47 000) and Spain (5 400). Romania joined the EURES European job search system as soon as it acceded to the EU, and about 10 000 job seekers contacted an advisor in 2008. However, official figures from Romania sharply underestimate actual emigration since most emigrants do not use official channels (mediated contracts) and do not report their departure to the authorities.

According to immigration statistics from the main destination countries (Italy and Spain), the number of migrants from Romania rose again in 2008. The number of Romanians residing in Italy stood at 796 000 persons, double the 2006 figures. This makes them the largest foreign resident community. In Spain too, the numbers of Romanian nationals holding permits continued to increase in 2007. As of January 2009, 797 000 Romanians were registered in Spanish municipal registers, a 9% increase over the previous year, and a 50% increase since January 2007. However, in both Spain and Italy, some people who registered as immigrants in 2008 were already in the country prior to January 2008.

According to the World Bank, remittances to Romania sent by emigrant workers rose until 2008, when they totalled USD 9.4 billion, but then fell sharply during 2009.

Inflows to Romania remain modest. According to official figures, the number of immigrants to Romania rose slightly in 2008 (+5%, to 10 000). The number of foreign nationals holding valid permits stood at a total of 76 700, up 30% over 2007. Of these, nearly one in three is from an EU country (24% from Italy and 18% from Germany). However, the main country of origin remains Moldova. The number of persons with a permanent permit increased slightly, by 2%, between 2007 and 2008 (to 6 900).

Official figures record 15 000 work permits issued to non-EU nationals in 2008. They mainly consisted of Turkish (32%), Chinese (32%) and Moldovan workers (8%). About 66% of work permits granted in 2008 were issued to permanent workers, and 30 % to seconded workers.

After several years at a relatively low level, the number of asylum seekers nearly doubled in 2008, rising to 1 170. This trend reflects greater interest in Romania on the part of asylum seekers, as a result of its entry into the European Union.

For further information:

www.insse.ro/cms/rw/pages/index.ro.do

www.mai.gov.ro/engleza/english.htm

<http://ori.mai.gov.ro>

Recent trends in migrants' flows and stocks

ROMANIA

Migration flows (foreigners) National definition	1995	2000	2007	2008	Average		Level ('000)			
					1997-2002	2003-2008	2008			
<i>Per 1 000 inhabitants</i>										
Inflows	0.2	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.3	10.0			
Outflows	1.1	0.7	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.5	8.7			
Migration inflows (foreigners) by type Permit based statistics (standardised)	Thousands		% distribution		Inflows of top 10 nationalities as a % of total inflows of foreigners					
	2007	2008	2007	2008						
Work	..	..	..	..		
Family (incl. accompanying family)	..	..	..	..		
Humanitarian	..	..	..	..		
Free movements	..	..	..	..		
Others	..	..	..	..		
Total	..	..	..	..		
Temporary migration	2000	2007	2008	Annual average 2003-2008						
<i>Thousands</i>										
International students	..	14.6	7.8	..						
Trainees	..	..	..	..		
Working holiday makers	..	..	..	..		
Seasonal workers	..	..	..	..		
Intra-company transfers	..	..	..	..		
Other temporary workers	..	..	..	..		
Inflows of asylum seekers	1995	2000	2007	2008	Average		Level			
					1997-2002	2003-2008	2008			
<i>Per 1 000 inhabitants</i>	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0	1 172			
Components of population growth	1995	2000	2007	2008	Average		Level ('000)			
					1997-2002	2003-2008	2008			
<i>Per 1 000 inhabitants</i>										
Total	..	-1.1	-1.7	-1.4	-1.8	-2.1	-30			
Natural increase	-1.6	-0.9	-1.7	-1.5	-1.7	-1.9	-31			
Net migration	..	-0.2	0.0	0.1	-0.1	-0.2	1			
Stocks of immigrants	1995	2000	2007	2008	Average		Level ('000)			
					1997-2002	2003-2008	2008			
<i>(Annual growth %)</i>										
Foreign-born population	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Foreign population	..	0.3	0.3	0.4	..	0.3	77			
Naturalisations	1995	2000	2007	2008	Average		Level			
					1997-2002	2003-2008	2008			
<i>Percentage of the foreign population</i>	..	0.6	0.1	..	0.6	..	31			
Labour market outcomes	1995	2000	2007	2008	Average					
					1997-2002	2003-2008				
Employment/population ratio										
Native-born men	..	..	..	..	..	..
Foreign-born men	..	..	..	..	..	..
Native-born women	..	..	..	..	..	..
Foreign-born women	..	..	..	..	..	..
Unemployment rate										
Native-born men	..	..	..	..	..	..
Foreign-born men	..	..	..	..	..	..
Native-born women	..	..	..	..	..	..
Foreign-born women	..	..	..	..	..	..
Macroeconomic indicators	1995	2000	2007	2008	Average		Level			
					1997-2002	2003-2008	2008			
<i>Annual growth in %</i>										
Real GDP	..	2.4	6.3	7.3	..	..		
GDP/capita (level in US dollars)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Employment (level in thousands)	..	-0.8	0.7	0.2	..	0.4	9 369			
<i>Percentage of the labour force</i>										
Unemployment	..	7.3	6.4	5.8	7.5	7.3				

Notes and sources are at the end of the chapter.

StatLink <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/884136847675>