



**Monthly statistics December 2020:  
Forced returns from Norway**

**The police returned 393 persons in December 2020, 68 of whom were convicted offenders.**

The National Police Immigration Service (NPIS) is responsible for executing, coordinating and assuring the quality of all returns of foreigners staying illegally in Norway. The respective police districts are responsible for returns following entry rejections, orders to leave Norway and expulsions, while the NPIS is responsible for returning asylum seekers and returns under the Dublin procedure or to safe third countries. The Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (NDI) is responsible for assisted returns, previously called voluntary returns. Assisted returns are not included in these statistics.

**Compared with 2019:**

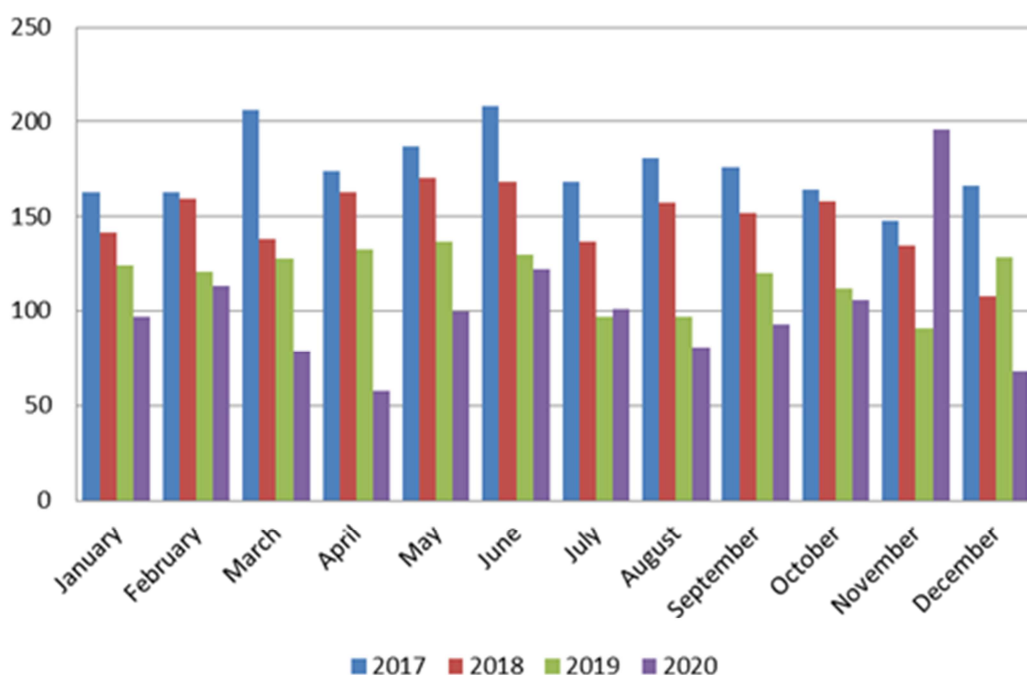
	<b>Forced returns</b>
As at 31.12.2019	4157
As at 31.12.2020	8854
Change in percent	<b>113</b>

*We expect this figure to rise due to delays in the registration process.*

**Convicted offenders**

In December, the police returned 68 convicted offenders, 17% of all returnees that month. For 2020 as a whole, 1214 convicted offenders were returned, compared with a total of 1419 in 2019. The most common nationalities among convicted returnees 2020 were Romanian (28%), Polish (13%) and Lithuanian (11%).

**Convicted offenders returned over the last four years:**



*Convicted offenders returned over the last four years*

## Refusals of entry and orders to leave the country under the Control of Communicable Diseases Act

Norway closed its borders for foreign nationals who do not reside in Norway on 16 March, and the majority of those returned due to being refused entry or ordered to leave the country since then have been returned under the Control of Communicable Diseases Act.

The table shows the number of persons returned after 16 March pursuant to the new regulations.

Legal basis	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total
Temporary Act relating to entry restrictions for foreigners to protect the public health section 2 subs. 3.	3	6	38	489	658	518	490	501	964	214	3881
The Immigration Act of 2008 section 121 subs. 1 c) o	212	348	618	419	281	77	39	15	98	46	2153
The Immigration Act of 2008 section 17 subs. 1 l)	145	104	178	125	153	53	29	9	10	5	811
Total	360	458	834	1033	1092	648	558	525	1072	265	6845

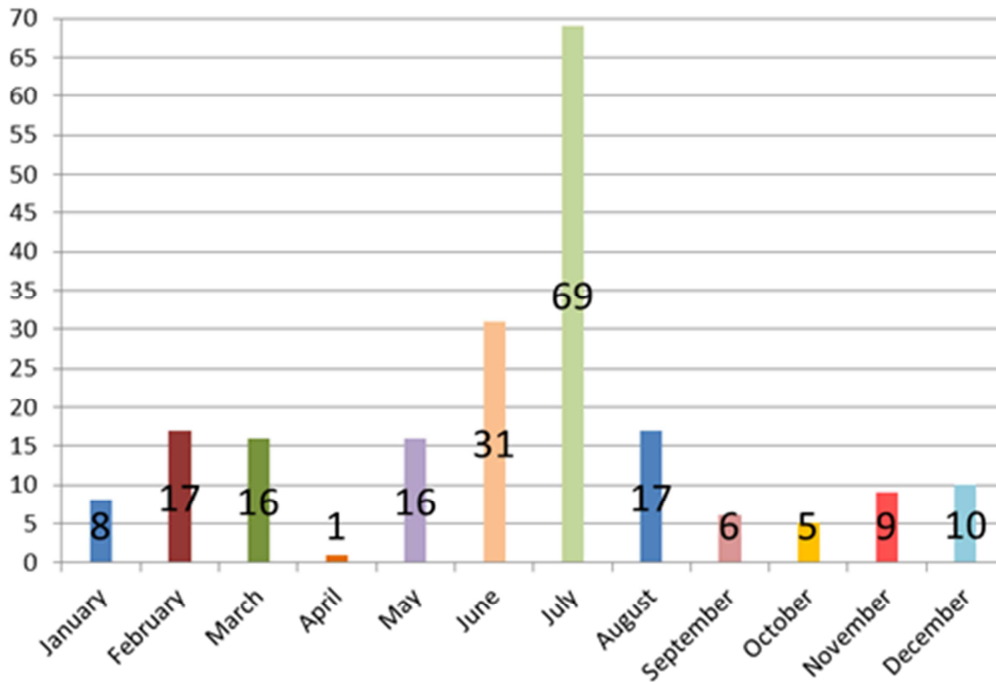
*Refusals of entry and orders to leave the country under the Control of Communicable Diseases Act*

## Minors

10 minors were returned in December. All of them were accompanied by their parents or guardians.

As a rule, Norwegian authorities do not attempt to verify the age of unaccompanied minors when they are to be returned to another European country under the Dublin III Regulation.

All returned unaccompanied minors must be met by either family members or others who will care for them, e.g. representatives of relevant institutions or the child welfare services in the country in question.



*Returned minors in 2020.*

#### **Forced returns on chartered flights**

Five returnee flights were chartered in 2020, none of them in December.

#### **The various returnee categories**

The police return persons who have no legal right to stay in Norway, i.e. not only persons who have had their application for asylum and any appeals rejected.

- 1) **Asylum** – all persons who have applied for protection (asylum) in Norway and who have had their application processed and rejected in Norway and who have exhausted all avenues of appeal. This category also includes persons subject to an expulsion order.
- 2) **Dublin** – anyone returned under the Dublin Regulation, as well as persons subject to an expulsion order. The Dublin Regulation applies in the EU, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Switzerland and Norway. The UK was an EU member from 1.1.20 to 31.1.20, and was subject to the Dublin Regulation from 1.2.20 to 31.12.20 in spite of no longer being an EU member. The Regulation governs, inter alia, which member state will process any given asylum application. The purpose of the Regulation is to prevent asylum seekers from applying in multiple countries, but also to ensure that one of the countries assumes responsibility for the asylum seeker. The statistics include both returns under the Dublin Regulation and returns to "safe third countries". The latter are cases where the asylum applicant already has a residence permit (refugee status or other form of permit) in a country that is considered safe.
- 3) **Refused entry or ordered to leave** – persons who have been refused entry into or ordered to leave Norway as they are not permitted to stay here. This may be for various reasons, but persons who are refused entry or ordered to leave are not banned from Norway after being returned.

- 4) **Expelled** – anyone expelled from Norway who has not applied for protection (asylum) or who is not subject to the Dublin Regulation. Most of those who fall into this category have been expelled due to a criminal conviction and are banned from Norway for a specific period of time. Violation of the re-entry ban is a punishable offence.
- 5) **Other** – persons not covered by any of the other categories.

<b>Forced returns in 2020 by nationality</b>				
	<b>Asylum</b>	<b>Dublin/safe third country</b>	<b>Refused entry, ordered to leave, expelled and other</b>	<b>Total</b>
Afghanistan	3	7	212	<b>222</b>
Albania	4		112	<b>116</b>
Algeria	3	3	12	<b>18</b>
Angola		4	2	<b>6</b>
Argentina			12	<b>12</b>
Armenia	1		4	<b>5</b>
Azerbaijan		1	8	<b>9</b>
Australia			17	<b>17</b>
Bangladesh	1		10	<b>11</b>
Belgium			37	<b>37</b>
Bolivia			12	<b>12</b>
Bosnia-Herzegovina	1		18	<b>19</b>
Brazil		1	43	<b>44</b>
Bulgaria			71	<b>71</b>
Burkina Faso			1	<b>1</b>
Canada			34	<b>34</b>
Chile	1		26	<b>27</b>
Colombia		1	36	<b>37</b>
Costa Rica			2	<b>2</b>
Cuba			4	<b>4</b>
Denmark			133	<b>133</b>
United Arab Emirates			1	<b>1</b>
Dominican Republic			16	<b>16</b>
Djibouti	1			<b>1</b>
Ecuador			2	<b>2</b>
Egypt		1	5	<b>6</b>
El Salvador			1	<b>1</b>
Ivory Coast	1	2	3	<b>6</b>
Eritrea	1	14	113	<b>128</b>

## Forced returns in 2020 by nationality

	Asylum	Dublin/safe third country	Refused entry, ordered to leave, expelled and other	Total
Estonia			67	<b>67</b>
Ethiopia	6	4	15	<b>25</b>
The Philippines			13	<b>13</b>
Finland			37	<b>37</b>
France			118	<b>118</b>
The Gambia	1	2	11	<b>14</b>
Georgia	9		21	<b>30</b>
Ghana	2		13	<b>15</b>
Grenada			6	<b>6</b>
Guinea		3	1	<b>4</b>
Haiti			1	<b>1</b>
Greece			30	<b>30</b>
Belarus		4	29	<b>33</b>
India		3	48	<b>51</b>
Indonesia			2	<b>2</b>
Iraq	6	10	171	<b>187</b>
Iran	3	7	67	<b>77</b>
Ireland			18	<b>18</b>
Iceland			6	<b>6</b>
Israel			4	<b>4</b>
Italy			89	<b>89</b>
Japan			6	<b>6</b>
Yemen		2	11	<b>13</b>
Jordan		1	5	<b>6</b>
Yugoslavia			1	<b>1</b>
Cambodia		1		<b>1</b>
Cameroon		1	8	<b>9</b>
Kazakhstan			12	<b>12</b>
Kenya			10	<b>10</b>
China		5	60	<b>65</b>
Kyrgyzstan		1	2	<b>3</b>
Republic of the Congo			21	<b>21</b>
Kosovo	5		40	<b>45</b>
Croatia:			21	<b>21</b>
Cyprus			1	<b>1</b>
Latvia			120	<b>120</b>
Lebanon		1	4	<b>5</b>
Liberia			1	<b>1</b>
Libya	1	2	7	<b>10</b>
Lithuania			353	<b>353</b>

## Forced returns in 2020 by nationality

	Asylum	Dublin/safe third country	Refused entry, ordered to leave, expelled and other	Total
Malaysia	1		5	6
Mali			1	1
Malta			1	1
Morocco	2	6	40	48
Mauritania			2	2
Mexico	3		16	19
Moldova			30	30
Mongolia			4	4
Montenegro			4	4
Myanmar	1		2	3
The Netherlands			158	158
Nepal			7	7
New Zealand			3	3
Nicaragua	4			4
Nigeria	1	2	55	58
North Macedonia			33	33
Pakistan	5	8	110	123
Panama			1	1
Paraguay			1	1
Peru	3		11	14
Poland			688	688
Portugal			26	26
Romania			1025	1025
Russia	12	4	176	192
Rwanda	1		2	3
Saudi Arabia		1	1	2
Senegal		1	3	4
Serbia	3		58	61
Serbia and Montenegro			2	2
Sierra Leone			7	7
Singapore			1	1
Slovakia			25	25
Slovenia			6	6
Somalia	5	4	154	163
Spain			88	88
Sri Lanka		5	5	10
Stateless	1	7	109	117
UK	1	1	194	196
Sudan	1	1	6	8
Switzerland			36	36

<b>Forced returns in 2020 by nationality</b>				
	<b>Asylum</b>	<b>Dublin/safe third country</b>	<b>Refused entry, ordered to leave, expelled and other</b>	<b>Total</b>
Sweden			1850	<b>1850</b>
Syria		21	313	<b>334</b>
South Africa			3	<b>3</b>
South Korea	2		6	<b>8</b>
Tajikistan			1	<b>1</b>
Tanzania	1		3	<b>4</b>
Thailand			52	<b>52</b>
Togo			1	<b>1</b>
Chad		1	4	<b>5</b>
The Czech Republic			30	<b>30</b>
Tunisia			8	<b>8</b>
Turkmenistan			1	<b>1</b>
Turkey	4	5	44	<b>53</b>
Germany			343	<b>343</b>
Uganda			8	<b>8</b>
Unknown			9	<b>9</b>
Ukraine	9		246	<b>255</b>
Hungary			18	<b>18</b>
Uruguay			2	<b>2</b>
United States			75	<b>75</b>
Uzbekistan	1	1	30	<b>32</b>
Venezuela	1	1	9	<b>11</b>
Vietnam			23	<b>23</b>
Zambia			1	<b>1</b>
Zimbabwe			4	<b>4</b>
Austria			15	<b>15</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>8592</b>	<b>8854</b>

<b>Forced returns in 2020 by destination</b>				
	<b>Asylum</b>	<b>Dublin/safe third country</b>	<b>Refused entry, ordered to leave, expelled and other</b>	<b>Total</b>
Afghanistan	3			<b>3</b>
Albania	4		58	<b>62</b>
Algeria	3			<b>3</b>
Argentina			2	<b>2</b>
Armenia	1			<b>1</b>
Australia			5	<b>5</b>
Bangladesh	1		4	<b>5</b>
Belgium			11	<b>11</b>

## Forced returns in 2020 by destination

	Asylum	Dublin/safe third country	Refused entry, ordered to leave, expelled and other	Total
Bosnia-Herzegovina	1		9	10
Brazil			14	14
Bulgaria	1	2	16	19
Canada			16	16
Chile	1		8	9
Colombia			6	6
Costa Rica			1	1
Denmark		4	179	183
United Arab Emirates			3	3
Dominican Republic			2	2
Djibouti	1			1
Egypt			2	2
Eritrea	1			1
Estonia	1		41	42
Ethiopia	6		3	9
The Philippines			6	6
Finland			53	53
France		10	89	99
The Gambia	1		1	2
Georgia	9		9	18
Ghana	2		2	4
Greece		9	37	46
Hong Kong			3	3
Belarus			8	8
India			11	11
Iraq	5		3	8
Iran	2		2	4
Ireland		1	8	9
Iceland		1	15	16
Israel			4	4
Italy		20	122	142
Japan			1	1
Jordan			1	1
Cameroon			1	1
Kazakhstan			5	5
Kenya			5	5
China			2	2
Kyrgyzstan			1	1
Kosovo	4		13	17



## Forced returns in 2020 by destination

	Asylum	Dublin/safe third country	Refused entry, ordered to leave, expelled and other	Total
Croatia:			6	<b>6</b>
Cyprus			4	<b>4</b>
Latvia		4	110	<b>114</b>
Libya	1			<b>1</b>
Lithuania		1	171	<b>172</b>
Luxembourg			2	<b>2</b>
Malaysia	1		2	<b>3</b>
Malta			4	<b>4</b>
Morocco	2		2	<b>4</b>
Mauritania			1	<b>1</b>
Mexico	3		7	<b>10</b>
Moldova			13	<b>13</b>
Montenegro			1	<b>1</b>
Myanmar	1		2	<b>3</b>
The Netherlands		4	133	<b>137</b>
Nicaragua	4			<b>4</b>
Nigeria	1		6	<b>7</b>
North Macedonia			20	<b>20</b>
Norway			3	<b>3</b>
Pakistan	5		6	<b>11</b>
Panama			1	<b>1</b>
Peru	1		2	<b>3</b>
Poland		8	395	<b>403</b>
Portugal		4	28	<b>32</b>
Qatar			8	<b>8</b>
Romania		5	338	<b>343</b>
Russia	12		117	<b>129</b>
Rwanda	1			<b>1</b>
Saudi Arabia			1	<b>1</b>
Serbia	3		32	<b>35</b>
Slovakia			7	<b>7</b>
Slovenia	1		2	<b>3</b>
Somalia	5		6	<b>11</b>
Spain		6	121	<b>127</b>
UK	3	5	208	<b>216</b>
Sudan	1			<b>1</b>
Switzerland		3	25	<b>28</b>
Sweden	1	36	5597	<b>5634</b>
South Africa			1	<b>1</b>
South Korea	2		1	<b>3</b>
Taiwan			1	<b>1</b>

<b>Forced returns in 2020 by destination</b>				
	<b>Asylum</b>	<b>Dublin/safe third country</b>	<b>Refused entry, ordered to leave, expelled and other</b>	<b>Total</b>
Tanzania	1		1	<b>2</b>
Thailand			23	<b>23</b>
Chad			3	<b>3</b>
The Czech Republic			10	<b>10</b>
Tunisia			1	<b>1</b>
Turkey	5		19	<b>24</b>
Germany		25	185	<b>210</b>
Ukraine	9		95	<b>104</b>
Hungary			15	<b>15</b>
United States			34	<b>34</b>
Uzbekistan	1		3	<b>4</b>
Venezuela	1		1	<b>2</b>
Vietnam			1	<b>1</b>
Zimbabwe			2	<b>2</b>
Austria		2	33	<b>35</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>8592</b>	<b>8854</b>

*By destination* we mean the country the person is returned to, not necessarily the person's country of origin (or country of nationality).