

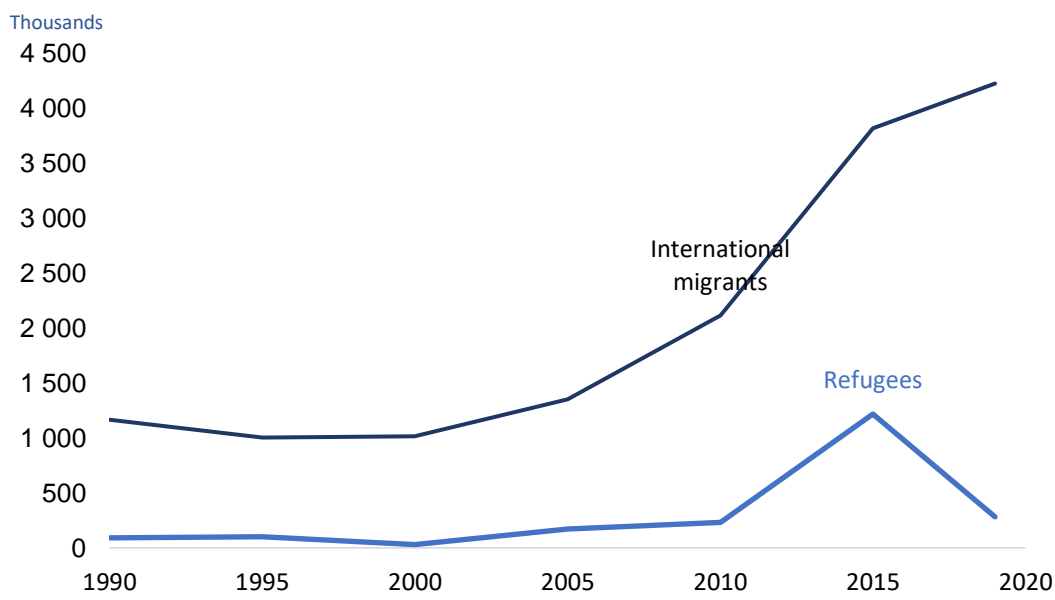
South Africa

	1990	1995	2000	2005	2010	2015	2019
International migrants (thousands)	1 163.9	1 003.8	1 017.0	1 351.0	2 114.8	3 816.7	4 224.3
International migrants as a share of total population (percentage)	3.2	2.4	2.3	2.8	4.1	6.9	7.2
Refugees (thousands)	90.0	101.4	30.2	169.8	229.6	1 217.7	280.0
Refugees as a share of international migrants (percentage)	7.7	10.1	3.0	12.6	10.9	31.9	6.6
Females among international migrants (percentage)	38.4	39.1	40.3	42.1	42.2	44.4	44.4
Median age of international migrants (years)	33.7	36.2	36.4	36.7	36.3	32.6	33.7
International migrants by age group (percentage)							
0-19	15.9	16.0	13.2	13.0	16.6	18.8	17.7
20-64	78.5	76.4	78.3	80.7	76.8	74.3	75.6
65+	5.6	7.6	8.5	6.3	6.6	7.0	6.7
Migrants originating from the same SDG region (percentage)	70.7	72.8	70.9	71.4	76.1	76.1	76.1

Source: UN DESA (2019a, 20019b), UNHCR (2018) and UNWRA (2019)

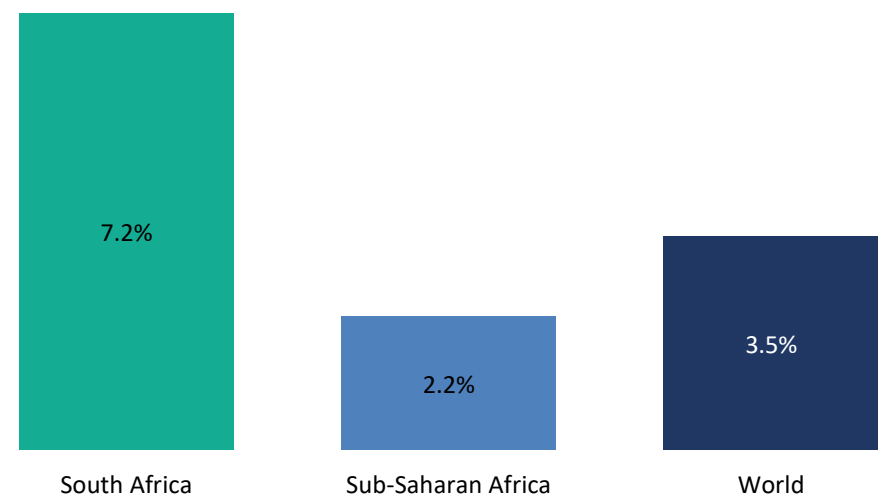
Notes: Estimates of the migrant stock were based on the foreign-born population. Refugees were added to the estimates of international migrants. Data on refugees include asylum-seekers. For migrants originating from the same SDG region, data refer to known origins only.

Number of international migrants and refugees in South Africa, 1990-2019



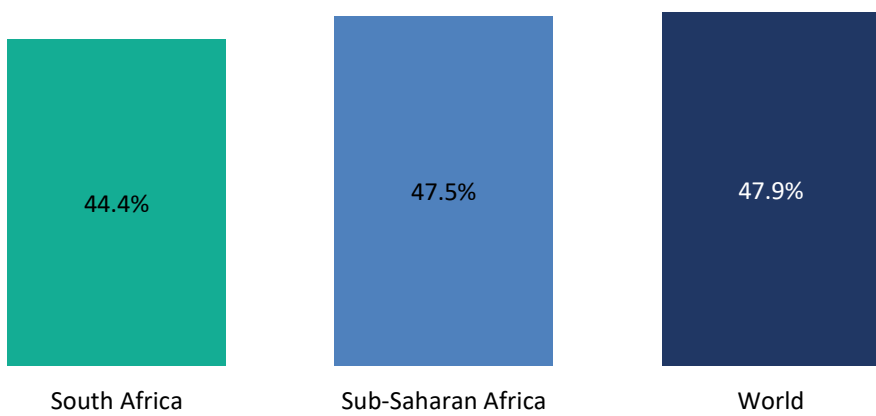
Source: UN DESA (2019a), UNHCR (2018) and UNWRA (2019)

International migrants as a share of total population in South Africa, in Sub-Saharan Africa and in the world, 2019 (percentage)



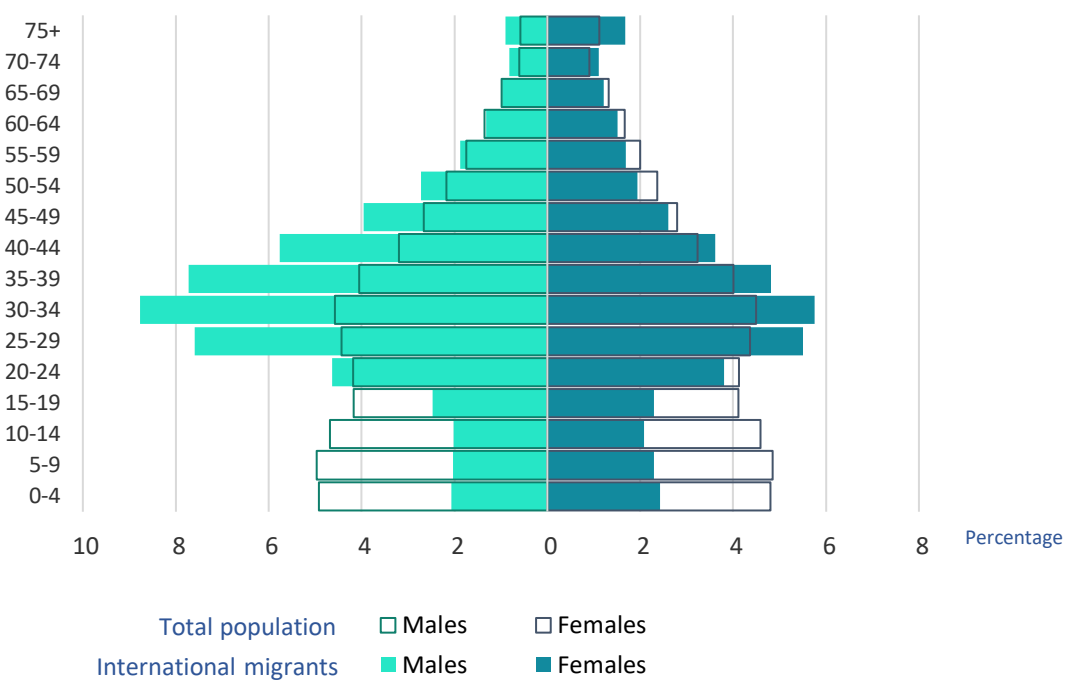
Source: UN DESA (2019a)

Females among international migrants in South Africa, in Sub-Saharan Africa and in the world, 2019 (percentage)



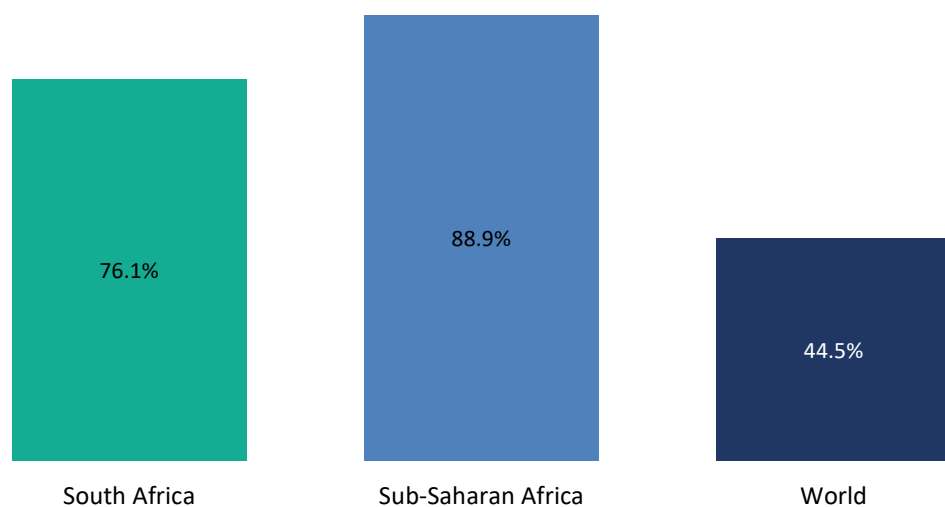
Source: UN DESA (2019a)

Age and sex distribution of international migrants and of the total population in South Africa, 2019 (percentage)



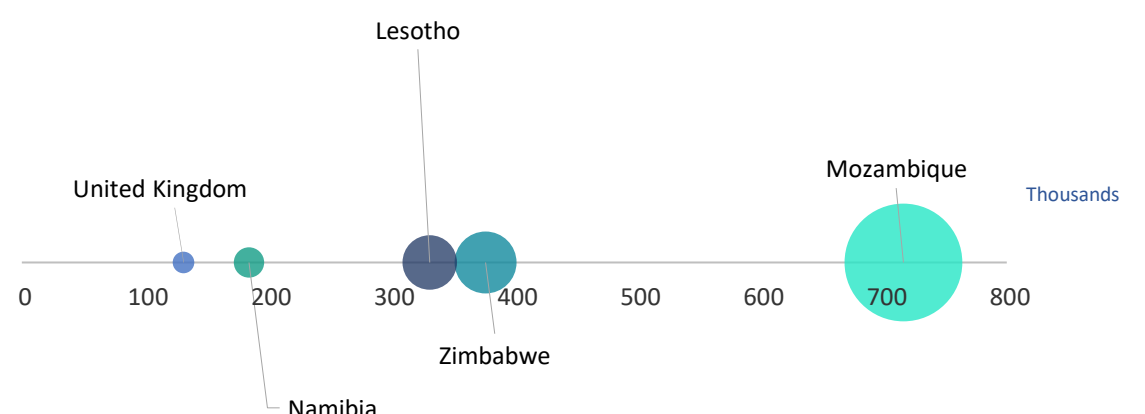
Source: UN DESA (2019a, 2019b)

Share of migrants originating from the same SDG region in South Africa, compared to the share of within-region migration in Sub-Saharan Africa and in the world, 2019 (percentage)



Source: UN DESA (2019a)

Number of international migrants in South Africa by top countries of origin, 2019



Source: UN DESA (2019a)

South Africa

Definitions

International migrants: The midyear (1 July) estimate of the number of people living in a country or area other than that in which they were born. Where the number of foreign-born was not available, the estimate refers to the number of people living in a country other than that of their citizenship. Data are presented in thousands.

International migrants as a share of total population: The number of international migrants divided by the total population. Data are expressed as percentages.

Females among all international migrants: The number of migrant women and girls divided by the total number of international migrants. Data are expressed as percentages.

International migrants by age group in 2019: The number of international migrants in a particular age group divided by the total number of international migrants. The data are shown for three age groups: 0-19, 20-64 and 65 or over. Data are expressed as percentages.

Median age of international migrants: The age that divides the migrant population in two parts of equal size, that is, there are as many persons with ages above the median as there are with ages below the median. Data are presented in years.

Migrants originating from the same SDG region: The number of international migrants born in a country of the same SDG region where they reside divided by the total number of international migrants residing in the country with known origin. Unknown origin residuals were not imputed. SDG sub-regions Europe and Northern America are treated separately. Data are expressed as percentages.

Refugees: The number of people that are recognized as refugees under the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol or under the 1969 Organization of African Unity Convention Governing the Specific Aspects of Refugee Problems in Africa; those granted refugee status in accordance with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Statute; those granted humanitarian status or temporary protection by the State in which they find themselves; those in refugee-like situations; and Palestinian refugees registered with the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA). Data include asylum-seekers and are presented in thousands.

Refugees as a share of international migrants: The number of refugees and asylum-seekers in 2017 divided by the number of international migrants in 2019. Data are expressed as percentages.

Sources

United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (UN DESA) (2019a). International Migrant Stock 2019 (United Nations database, POP/DB/MIG/Stock/Rev.2019). See: www.unmigration.org.

United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (UN DESA) (2019b). World Population Prospects 2019. See: <https://population.un.org/wpp/>.

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) (2018). UNHCR Statistical Online Population Database. See: <http://popstats.unhcr.org>.

United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) (2019). UNRWA in figures. See: www.unrwa.org.

Notes

The designations employed in this publication and the material presented in it do not imply the expression of any opinions whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. The term "country" as used in this publication also refers, as appropriate, to territories or areas.

Countries and areas are grouped into seven Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) regions as defined by the United Nations Statistics Division and used for The Sustainable Development Goals Report (<https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/indicators/regional-groups/>).

Because of the magnitude of migrant stock in the SDG region Europe and Northern America and to maintain continuity with previous revisions of the international migrant stock produced by the Population Division, Europe, combining the four sub-regions Eastern Europe, Northern Europe, Southern Europe and Western Europe, and the subregion Northern America are also presented separately.