



**Monthly statistics February 2023:  
Forced returns from Norway**

**The police forcibly returned 237 persons in February 2023, 58 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 refusal of entry or stay, while the NPIS is responsible for returning persons who have had their asylum applications rejected 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.

**Comparison 2022–2023:**

	<b>Forced returns</b>
As at 28 February 2022	465
As at 28 February 2023	447
Change in percent	<b>-4</b>

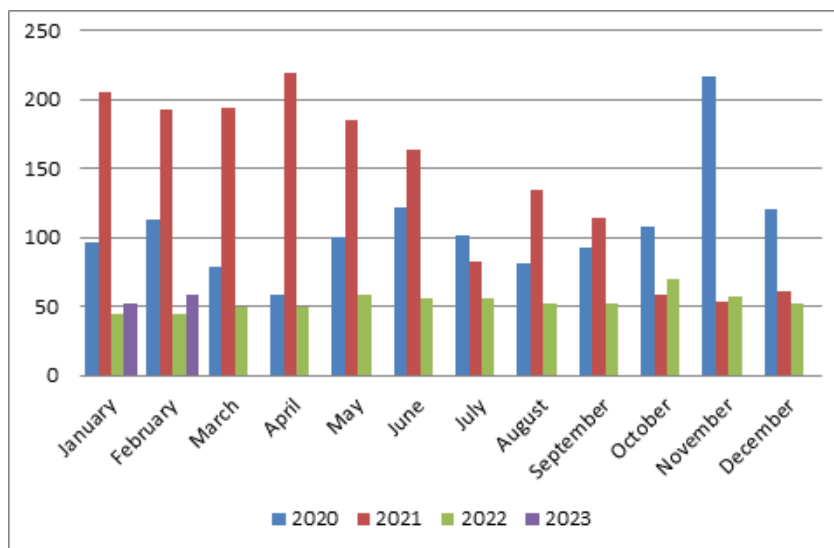
*These figures may change due to delays in the registration process.*

**Convicted offenders**

In February, the police returned 58 convicted offenders, 24% of all returnees that month. In comparison, 44 convicted offenders, or 21% of all returnees that month, were returned in February 2022.

So far in 2023, 110 convicted offenders have been returned, compared with 88 in the same period in last year. The most common nationalities among convicted offenders were Romanian (11%), Polish (11%) and Lithuanian and British (6%).

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



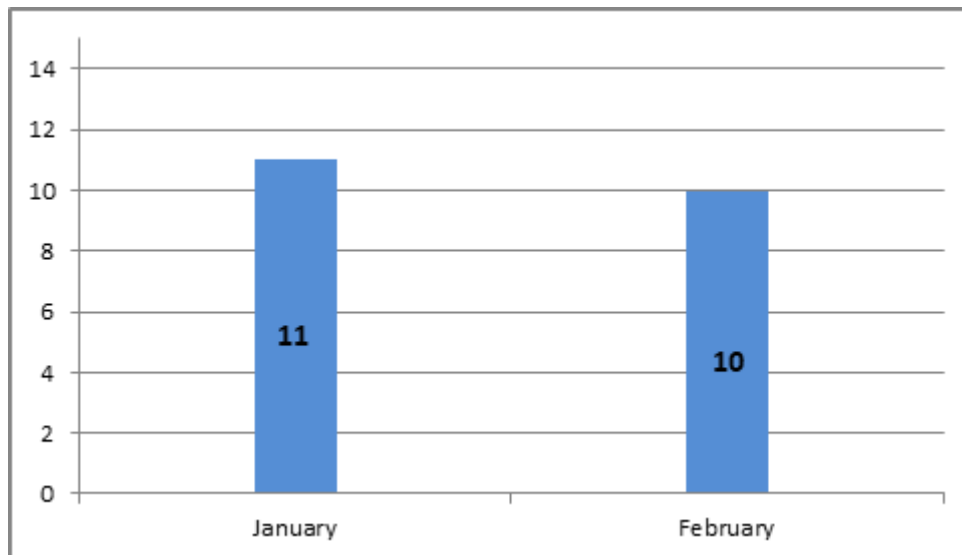
*Convicted offenders returned over the last four years*

## Minors

11 minors were returned in February, all of them along with 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 so far in 2023*

## Forced returns on chartered flights

No chartered return flights have taken place so far this year.

## 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. This also includes persons subject to an expulsion order. The Dublin Regulation applies in the EU, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Switzerland and Norway. 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 stay** – persons who have been refused entry or stay as they are not permitted to stay here. This may be for various reasons, but persons who are

refused entry or stay 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>Returnees so far in 2023 by nationality</b>					
	<b>Asylum</b>	<b>Refused stay or entry</b>	<b>Dublin</b>	<b>Expulsion</b>	<b>Total</b>
Afghanistan		12	13	5	<b>30</b>
Albania	1	8		7	<b>16</b>
Algeria			2	1	<b>3</b>
Argentina		1			<b>1</b>
Azerbaijan		1	1	1	<b>3</b>
Belarus				2	<b>2</b>
Belgium		1			<b>1</b>
Bosnia-Herzegovina				1	<b>1</b>
Brazil		2		1	<b>3</b>
Canada		1			<b>1</b>
Chile				2	<b>2</b>
Colombia	4			2	<b>6</b>
Denmark				2	<b>2</b>
Dominican Republic		2		1	<b>3</b>
El Salvador	1				<b>1</b>
Eritrea	1	4	3		<b>8</b>
Ethiopia		2	2	1	<b>5</b>
The Philippines		8		2	<b>10</b>
Finland		2			<b>2</b>
France		1		1	<b>2</b>
The Gambia		1			<b>1</b>
Georgia	3	6	1	5	<b>15</b>
Ghana		1		3	<b>4</b>
India		2			<b>2</b>
Iraq		4	3	3	<b>10</b>
Iran		5			<b>5</b>
Israel				1	<b>1</b>
Italy				1	<b>1</b>
Kazakhstan			4	2	<b>6</b>
Kenya				1	<b>1</b>
China		11		2	<b>13</b>
Republic of the Congo	2	3			<b>5</b>

<b>Returnees so far in 2023 by nationality</b>					
	<b>Asylum</b>	<b>Refused stay or entry</b>	<b>Dublin</b>	<b>Expulsion</b>	<b>Total</b>
Kosovo	3			3	6
Latvia		2			2
Libya	1	1	1		3
Lithuania		2		6	8
Morocco		2	5	1	8
Mexico				2	2
Moldova	1			5	6
Mozambique				1	1
Nederland				2	2
Nigeria		2		5	7
North Macedonia				2	2
Pakistan		1	1	2	4
Peru	8	1		1	10
Poland		12		5	17
Romania		5		10	15
Russia		28	15	4	47
Saudi Arabia		3			3
Serbia				2	2
Slovakia		1			1
Somalia		1	2	4	7
Sri Lanka		1		1	2
Stateless		2	1	7	10
United Kingdom		6		10	16
Switzerland		1			1
Sweden				1	1
Syria	1	3	11	1	16
South Africa	1				1
Tajikistan		1			1
Tanzania	3				3
Thailand		1		2	3
Trinidad and Tobago	1				1
Chad			2		2
Czech Republic		1			1
Tunisia			2	1	3
Türkiye		10	1	1	12
Germany		2		1	3
Uganda		1		1	2
Ukraine		14	18	3	35
Hungary		1			1
USA		6			6
Uzbekistan		1		3	4

<b>Returns so far in 2023 by nationality</b>					
	<b>Asylum</b>	<b>Refused stay or entry</b>	<b>Dublin</b>	<b>Expulsion</b>	<b>Total</b>
Venezuela		1			1
Vietnam		1		2	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>447</b>

<b>Returns so far in 2023 by destination</b>					
	<b>Asylum</b>	<b>Refused stay or entry</b>	<b>Dublin</b>	<b>Expulsion</b>	<b>Total</b>
Afghanistan				1	1
Albania	1	4		6	11
Azerbaijan		1		1	2
Belgium			2		2
Bosnia-Herzegovina				1	1
Brazil		1		1	2
Bulgaria		1	2	1	4
Burundi	1				1
Canada		1			1
Chile				1	1
Colombia	4			1	5
Denmark		5	7	5	17
Dominican Republic		1			1
El Salvador	1				1
Estonia				1	1
The Philippines		7		1	8
Finland		3	8		11
France	1	3	5	2	11
Georgia	3	5		4	12
Ghana				2	2
Greece		1	3		4
Hong Kong		1			1
India		1			1
Iceland			1		1
Israel		1		1	2
Italy	1	3	1	10	15
Kenya				1	1
China		1		1	2
Republic of the Congo	1				1
Kosovo	3			4	7
Latvia		2		2	4
Libya	1	1			2
Lithuania		2	2	7	11

<b>Returns so far in 2023 by destination</b>					
	<b>Asylum</b>	<b>Refused stay or entry</b>	<b>Dublin</b>	<b>Expulsion</b>	<b>Total</b>
Mexico				1	1
Moldova	1	2		5	8
The Netherlands			3	3	6
North Macedonia				2	2
Pakistan				2	2
Palestine		1			1
Peru	8			1	9
Poland		17	13	12	42
Portugal				2	2
Qatar		1			1
Romania		5		10	15
Russia		25		2	27
Saudi Arabia		3			3
Slovenia			4		4
Somalia				3	3
Spain		7	7	7	21
The United Kingdom		11		12	23
Switzerland		2	2	2	6
Sweden		45	6	9	60
South Africa	1				1
Tanzania	3				3
Thailand				1	1
Trinidad and Tobago	1				1
Czech Republic		1	2		3
Türkiye		9			9
Germany		9	11	5	25
Hungary		1	2		3
USA		6			6
Uzbekistan		1		1	2
Vietnam		1		2	3
Austria			7		7
<b>Total</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>447</b>

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