



**Statistics March 2023:
Forced returns from Norway**

The police forcibly returned 198 persons in March 2023, 53 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:

	Forced returns
As at 31 March 2022	614
As at 31 March 2023	647
Change in percent	5

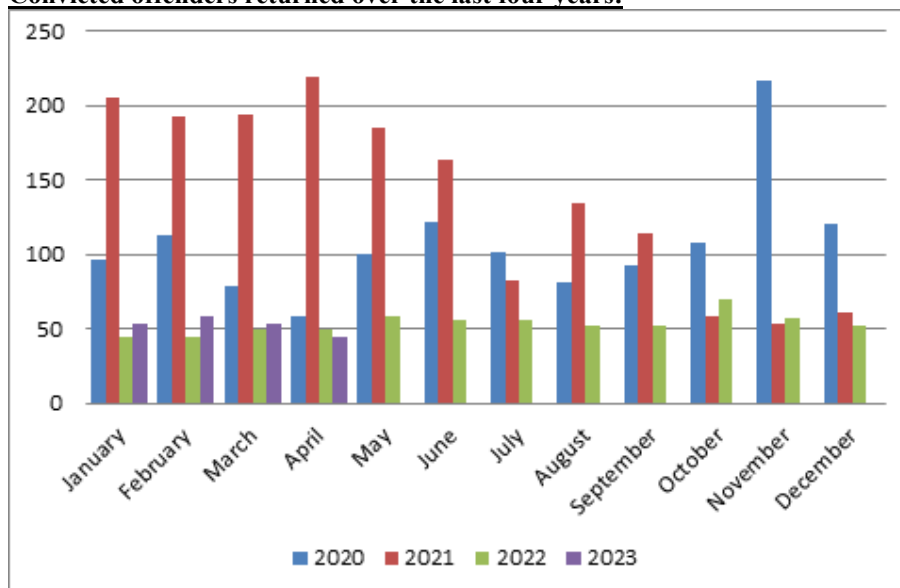
These figures may change due to delays in the registration process.

Convicted offenders

In March, the police returned 53 convicted offenders, 27% of all returnees that month.

So far in 2023, 164 convicted offenders have been returned, compared with 137 in the same period in last year. However, the corresponding period in 2022 included 6 weeks of restricted entry to Norway and problems with effecting returns. The most common nationalities among convicted returnees so far in 2023 are Romanian (13%), Polish (12%) and Lithuanian (7%).

Convicted offenders returned over the last four years:



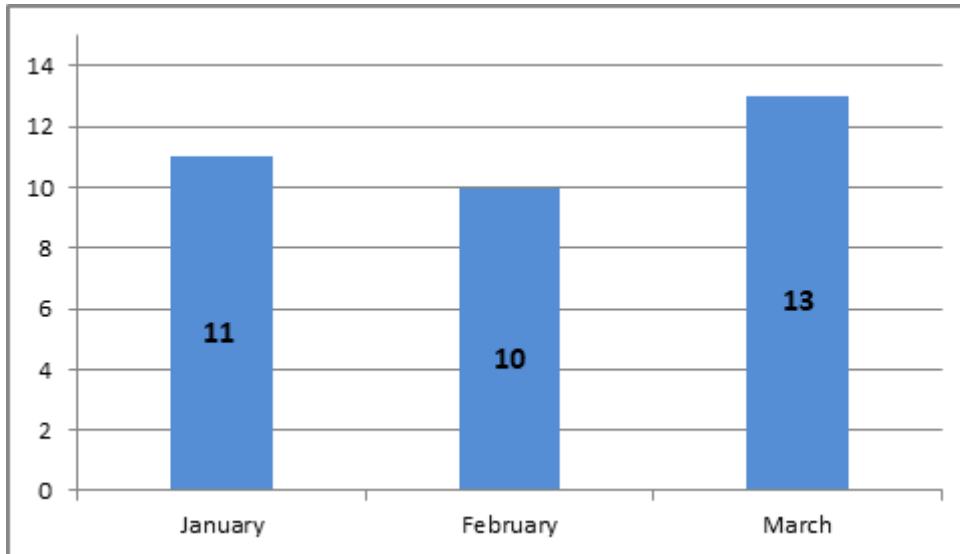
Convicted offenders returned over the last four years

Minors

A total of 13 minors were returned in March, either to their home country or to a safe third country. 12 of them were accompanied by parents or guardians, while one was an unaccompanied minor.

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

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.

Returns so far in 2023 by nationality					
	Asylum	Refused stay or entry	Dublin	Expulsion	Total
Afghanistan		14	13	7	34
Albania	1	9		12	22
Algeria			2	1	3
Argentina		1			1
Armenia	1				1
Azerbaijan	1	1	1	1	4
Australia				1	1
Belarus				2	2
Belgium		1			1
Bosnia-Herzegovina				2	2
Brazil		3		1	4
Canada		1		1	2
Chile				2	2
Colombia	4	1		2	7
Costa Rica		1			1
Denmark				2	2
Dominican Republic		2		1	3
Egypt			1		1
El Salvador	1	2			3
Eritrea	1	6	4		11
Ethiopia		2	2	2	6
The Philippines		10		2	12
Finland		2			2
France		2		1	3
The Gambia		1			1
Georgia	4	6	1	6	17
Ghana		2		3	5
Greece		1			1
Honduras	1				1
India		3			3
Iraq	1	5	5	5	16
Iran		5	6	1	12
Ireland				1	1
Iceland				1	1
Israel				1	1
Italy				2	2

Returns so far in 2023 by nationality					
	Asylum	Refused stay or entry	Dublin	Expulsion	Total
Jordan		1		1	2
Kazakhstan			4	2	6
Kenya				1	1
China		13		3	16
Republic of the Congo	2	3			5
Kosovo	3	2		3	8
Latvia		2			2
Lebanon			1		1
Libya	1	1	1		3
Lithuania		2		10	12
Malawi				1	1
Malaysia				2	2
Morocco		4	6	2	12
Mexico				2	2
Moldova	5	2		5	12
Mozambique				1	1
The Netherlands				6	6
Nigeria		4	4	6	14
North Macedonia		2		2	4
Pakistan		1	1	2	4
Peru	8	1		1	10
Poland		13		12	25
Romania		6		19	25
Russia		33	20	5	58
Saudi Arabia		3			3
Serbia		2		3	5
Slovakia		1			1
Somalia	3	2	2	7	14
Spain		2			2
Sri Lanka		1		1	2
Stateless		2	1	8	11
United Kingdom	1	9		13	23
Sudan		1			1
Switzerland		2			2
Sweden	1		1	2	4
Syria	1	4	27	2	34
South Africa	1				1
South Korea		1			1
Tajikistan		1			1
Tanzania	3				3
Thailand		2		4	6
Trinidad and Tobago	1				1

Returnees so far in 2023 by nationality					
	Asylum	Refused stay or entry	Dublin	Expulsion	Total
Chad			2		2
Czech Republic		1			1
Tunisia			2	2	4
Türkiye		10	5	2	17
Germany		2		1	3
Uganda		1		3	4
Ukraine		25	24	3	52
Hungary		1			1
USA		9		1	10
Uzbekistan		3	1	5	9
Venezuela		1			1
Vietnam		1		4	5
Total	45	258	137	207	647

Returnees so far in 2023 by destination					
	Asylum	Refused stay or entry	Dublin	Expulsion	Total
Afghanistan				1	1
Albania	1	4		11	16
Armenia	1				1
Azerbaijan	1	1		1	3
Australia				1	1
Belgium			2		2
Bosnia-Herzegovina				2	2
Brazil		2		1	3
Bulgaria		1	2	1	4
Burundi	1				1
Canada		1		1	2
Chile				1	1
Colombia	4	1		1	6
Costa Rica		1			1
Denmark		11	8	5	24
Dominican Republic		1			1
El Salvador	1	2			3
Estonia				1	1
The Philippines		9		1	10
Finland		3	11		14
France	1	4	9	2	16
Georgia	4	5		6	15
Ghana				2	2

Returns so far in 2023 by destination					
	Asylum	Refused stay or entry	Dublin	Expulsion	Total
Greece		3	7	1	11
Honduras	1				1
Hong Kong		1			1
India		1			1
Iraq	1			1	2
Iran				1	1
Ireland				1	1
Iceland			1	1	2
Israel		1		1	2
Italy	1	7	1	13	22
Jordan		1		1	2
Kenya				1	1
China		1		1	2
Republic of the Congo	1				1
Kosovo	3	2		4	9
Croatia			1		1
Cyprus			1		1
Latvia		4	1	4	9
Libya	1	1			2
Lithuania		4	2	11	17
Malawi				1	1
Malaysia				2	2
Mexico				1	1
Moldova	5	3		5	13
The Netherlands		1	4	7	12
Nigeria				1	1
North Macedonia		2		2	4
Pakistan				2	2
Palestine		1			1
Peru	8			1	9
Poland		19	23	19	61
Portugal				2	2
Qatar		1			1
Romania		7		19	26
Russia		30		2	32
Saudi Arabia		3			3
Serbia		1		1	2
Slovenia			4		4
Somalia	3			6	9
Spain		12	12	8	32
United Kingdom	1	15		15	31
Svalbard and Jan Mayen		1			1

Returns so far in 2023 by destination					
	Asylum	Refused stay or entry	Dublin	Expulsion	Total
Switzerland		3	3	2	8
Sweden	1	55	15	11	82
South Africa	1				1
Taiwan				1	1
Tanzania	3				3
Thailand				3	3
Trinidad and Tobago	1				1
Czech Republic		1	2		3
Tunisia				1	1
Türkiye		9		1	10
Germany		11	15	5	31
Uganda				2	2
Hungary		1	2		3
USA		7		1	8
Uzbekistan		1		3	4
Vietnam		1		4	5
Austria		1	11		12
Total	45	258	137	207	647

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