



# The IND Annual Statistics for 2003

*Conference 'Immigration Services Together  
in the New Europe' on July 5 and 6 2004*

IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION

Justitie



Ministerie van Justitie  
Immigratie- en Naturalisatiedienst

July 2004

## Managed Migration

During 2003, responsibility for certain tasks formerly carried out by the Aliens Police was transferred to IND. Since 1 April 2004, IND has had responsibility for the “MVV” application procedure. The second transfer took place on 1 September when the IND took over responsibility for granting initial (one-year duration) “VVRs”(Residence Permits). On 1 December, IND became responsible for Residence Permit and visa extensions, »

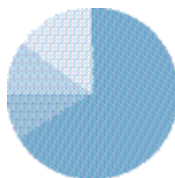
<b>MVV Data</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2002</b>
<i>Number of Applications</i>	65,000	64,700
<i>Number of accelerated MVV applications</i>	11,500	12,400
<i>1st Application</i>	62,200	60,800
<i>Appeal</i>	8,800	7,700
<i>Granted (1st Application and Appeal)</i>	60%	62%

### Top 10 Countries Applying for MVVs in 2003

1. Turkey	15%	6. Indonesia	3%
2. Morocco	12%	7. Thailand	2%
3. China	8%	8. Russia	2%
4. Surinam	8%	9. Romania	2%
5. Poland	5%	10. Afghanistan	2%

### Top 3 Reasons for MVV Applications

Family (66%)
Study (15%)
Work (10%)
Other (9%)



» including urgent and return visas. The IND has set up dedicated helpdesks in Rijswijk and Zwolle where foreign nationals can make appointments by telephone. As of 13 April 2004, foreign nationals wishing to stay in the Netherlands for more than 3 months must apply for a Residence Permits via their local council. The IND is then responsible for the processing and assessment of these applications and for all related correspondence.

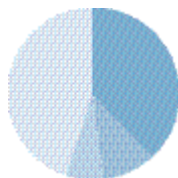
<b>Residence Permit (VVR) Data (IND only)</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2002</b>
<i>Number of Applications</i>	18,000	15,500
<i>1st Application</i>	12,800	16,100
<i>Appeal</i>	15,200	16,500
<i>Granted (1st Application and Appeal)</i>	17%	15%

### **Top 10 countries Applying for Residence Permits (VVR) in 2003**

1. Turkey	10%	6. Surinam	3%
2. Morocco	8%	7. Azerbaijan	3%
3. Serbia and Montenegro	5%	8. Angola	3%
4. Iraq	4%	9. America	3%
5. Afghanistan	4%	10. Nigeria	2%

### **Top 3 Reasons for Applying for Residence Permits**

Family (38%)
Study (10%)
Work (7%)
Other (45%)



**Asylum** The number of applications for asylum fell once more in 2003. Compared with 2002 figures, this drop was almost 30%. As a result of this decrease, the Application Centre in Zevenaar became a Processing Centre in autumn 2003. The number of Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (AMAs in Dutch) fell by 62% to 1,216 (9% of the total influx). Following age tests in 642 cases, a large proportion of these claimed AMAs turned out to be adults (37% of all 642 tested).

Asylum Caseworkers at the Processing Centres carried out the 2003 so-called "Once-Only Scheme" (Eenmalige Regeling). This applied to all asylum seekers whose first application for asylum had been pending for five years or more. The IND undertook to investigate a total of 5,800 files. 2,097 asylum seekers were granted a residence permit in 2004 as a result of this scheme.

Besides the "Once-Only Scheme", the IND processed more than 9,800 so-called "14-1 letters". This refers to the date (14/01/03) when the Dutch Immigration and Integration Minister announced that failed asylum seekers, who believed they had compelling or compassionate reasons why they should be allowed to stay in the Netherlands, should put this in writing to the Minister. These representations would then be considered. 220 of these cases were granted Residence Permits. 3,108 (whose cases were still under consideration) were told that the contents of their letters would be taken into consideration during further consideration of their applications. The others were rejected.

<b>Short Stay Visa Data</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2002</b>
<i>Number of Applications</i>	18,400	22,400
<i>1st Application</i>	18,400	23,600
<i>Appeal</i>	6,900	6,700
<i>Granted (1st Application and Appeal)</i>	42%	46%

<b>Asylum Data</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2002</b>
<i>Number of Applications</i>	13,400	18,700
<i>Application Centre (AC)</i>	11,600	17,000
<i>% Applications decided at the AC</i>	40%	45%
<i>% Dublin Cases</i>	13%	9%

### **Top 10 Influx Nationalities in 2003**

1. Iraq	26%	6. Turkey	3%
2. Iran	4%	7. Nigeria	3%
3. Afghanistan	4%	8. Burundi	3%
4. Somalia	3%	9. Serbia and Montenegro	3%
5. Liberia	3%	10. Angola	3%

**Asylum Follow-Up Procedure** In the Netherlands only straightforward applications are dealt with at the AC (Application Centre). In 2003, 6,988 applications for asylum were referred from the AC to a Processing Centre. In more than 500 cases the IND investigated the applicant to verify whether the asylum seeker had committed crimes against peace, war crimes or crimes against humanity in their countries of origin, as described in article 1F of the Geneva Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees. This proved to be the case in 270 applications and their requests for asylum were consequently rejected.

<b>Asylum Follow-Up Data</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2002</b>
<i>1st Application</i>	28,100	35,300
<i>Appeal</i>	12,100	35,000
<i>Granted Asylum (1st application and appeal)</i>	22%	13%
<i>Total Score 1st Application</i>	12,400	10,000
<i>Total Score Appeal</i>	3,900	7,100

## Legal Affairs and Litigation

The processing capacity of Legal Affairs and Litigation was expanded in 2003 in line with the increased processing capacity of the nineteen Foreign Nationals Divisions and the Administrative Law Section of the Council of State. The work process was adapted for more efficiency, speed and clarity. In addition, a Professional Statute for members of Legal Affairs and Litigation was developed, aimed at improving contacts between the IND, the judicial authorities, the legal profession and foreign nationals. The Statute was introduced at the Court and with the legal profession at the beginning of 2004.

<b>Asylum-Related Procedures Data</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2002</b>
<i>Appeal</i>	30,500	20,500
<i>Request to have Appeal Heard Suspendively (Vovo)</i>	15,000	14,500
<i>Appeal to a Higher court</i>	3,000	700
<i>Habeas Corpus</i>	4,000	2,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>52,500</b>	<b>38,200</b>
<i>Request to have Appeal Heard Suspendively (Vovo)</i>	6%	10%
<i>Appeals Upheld by the court</i>	13%	16%
<b>Regular Procedures Data</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2002</b>
<i>Appeal</i>	9,900	7,500
<i>Request to have Appeal Heard Suspendively (Vovo)</i>	8,900	7,500
<i>Appeal to a Higher court</i>	500	200
<i>Habeas Corpus</i>	20,000	12,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>39,300</b>	<b>27,700</b>
<b>Total Asylum and Regular Procedures</b>	<b>91,800</b>	<b>65,900</b>
<i>Request to have Appeal Heard Suspendively (Vovo)</i>	10%	10%
<i>Appeals Upheld by the court</i>	22%	23%

**Removals** One of the key principles of the immigration policy is that foreign nationals are personally responsible for leaving the Netherlands once they no longer legally reside here. But in 2003 the IND stepped up its enforced removals procedure, particularly targeting foreign nationals (non-asylum seekers) illegally in the Netherlands. 18 Flights were organised in 2003, removing a total of 868 foreign nationals. Since November 2003 the detention capacity for foreign nationals awaiting removal has increased with the opening of the Removal Centres in Zestienhoven and Schiphol. There will be further developments in the removals policy in 2004.

<b>Asylum Removals Data</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2002</b>
<i>Removals</i>	2,200	1,500
<i>Enforced Removals</i>	1,700	2,300
<b>Subtotal</b>	3,900	3,800
<i>Not Found at Last Known Address</i>	17,600	16,900
<i>Other (including removal following release from detention and Mobile Supervision of Foreign Nationals (MTV) (ie handing illegals across Schenghen borders)</i>	400	600
<b>Total</b>	21,900	21,300
<b>Regular Removals Data</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2002</b>
<i>Removals</i>	8,800	7,500
<i>Enforced Removals</i>	9,700	9,700
<b>Subtotal</b>	18,500	17,200
<i>Not Found at Last Known Address</i>	8,600	5,300
<i>Other (including removal following release from detention and Mobile Supervision of Foreign Nationals (MTV))</i>	6,700	6,600
<b>Total</b>	33,800	29,100

**Naturalization** The Statute Law on Dutch Citizenship was reviewed on 1 April 2003 and made the procedure to become a Dutch citizen more complicated. Many applicants must take a naturalization test to demonstrate they have integrated sufficiently. Stricter stipulations and requirements to obtain residence permits also apply. It has become easier, however, to obtain Dutch nationality by way of a parental application. Because many people submitted applications for naturalisation before 1 April, most of the applications processed in 2003 were still covered by the old Statute Law. The drop in applications in 2003 was consequently very small.

<b>Naturalization Data</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2002</b>
<i>Number of Applications</i>	37,000	38,700
<i>1st Application</i>	26,900	31,800
<i>Appeal</i>	800	800
<i>Granted (1st Application and Appeal)</i>	88%	90%

Of the 26,900 applications processed in 2003, 1,228 applications were submitted at diplomatic posts abroad and on the Netherlands Antilles and Aruba. 62 % of these applications were granted.

**Complaints** The number of complaints increased by 58% in 2003. This increase was caused partly by the transfer of certain tasks formerly carried out by the Aliens Police to IND.

These kinds of tasks often lead to complaints. Most of the complaints relate to regular procedures and mostly concern the time taken to process regular applications (81%).

<b>Complaints per Process Data</b>	<b>2003</b>	<b>2002</b>
<i>Regular</i>	6,055	3,617
<i>Asylum</i>	1,200	1,016
<i>Visa</i>	438	656
<i>Naturalization</i>	359	99
<i>Other</i>	146	77
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,198</b>	<b>5,465</b>
<i>complaints Upheld by IND</i>	89%	87%
<i>Complaints Concerning the time Taken to Process an Application</i>	81%	79%
<i>Complaints Submitted through the National Ombudsman</i>	5%	12%

**Personnel** The flexibility of IND employees was put to the test in 2003, following the drop in influx of asylum seekers and the transfer of certain tasks formerly carried out by the Aliens Police. The number of full-time employees in the IND was increased following the transfer of certain tasks formerly carried out by Aliens Police. The rate of absenteeism in 2003 was down slightly compared with 2002.

<b>Full-Time Employees (average)</b>	3,398	3,537
<b>Absenteeism</b>	7,5%	8%

## Regular Permits

*MVV*: An MVV is an entry clearance issued to a foreign (non-EEA national) overseas, authorising the holder to enter the territory of The Netherlands in order to make a long-stay application

*MVV Verkort (Accelerated MVV)*: An MVV Verkort is an MVV obtained via an accelerated procedure. MVVs for businesses or educational establishments who make more than 10 applications a year on behalf of foreign employees or students can benefit from this process.

*VVR*: A VVR is a residence permit issued to foreign nationals who entered the Netherlands as holders of MVVs. Foreign nationals must apply for a VVR once they arrive in the Netherlands.

*Visas*: Many nationalities require a visa to stay in the Netherlands for more than 3 months

## Dublin claims

These are applications made by asylum seekers who entered the European Union via another country where they should have applied for asylum or who already applied for asylum in another EU country is signatory to the Dublin agreement.

## Legal Affairs and Litigation deals with the following cases

*Appeal*: if a foreign national's application for admission to the Netherlands is rejected, he may appeal to the Foreign Nationals Division of the Court.

*Request to have appeal heard suspensively*: a foreign national applies to the Court for permission to have their appeal heard suspensively in the Netherlands (All asylum appeals in NL are otherwise non-suspensive)

*Appeal to a Higher Court*: if an asylum seeker does not agree with the court's decision (at appeal), he can take his case to the Council of State. The IND can also appeal against a Court's decision.

*Habeas Corpus (detention)*: foreign nationals who are in the Netherlands illegally or foreign nationals who are refused entry at the border can be detained. They have a hearing at the Foreign Nationals Division of the Court within ten days of detention.

## Categories of Removals

*Removal*: the foreign national is required to hand over his passport (or other travel documents) until he has crossed the border.

*Enforced Removal*: the foreign national is taken abroad under supervision.

*Not Found at Last Known Address*: the police checks if the foreign national has left his last-known address.

*Mobile Supervision of Foreign Nationals (MTV)*: the Royal Military Constabulary takes the foreign national to the border where he/she is handed over to the Aliens Police.

*Removal following Release from Detention*: the foreign national is told that he/she has to leave the Netherlands following a period of detention.