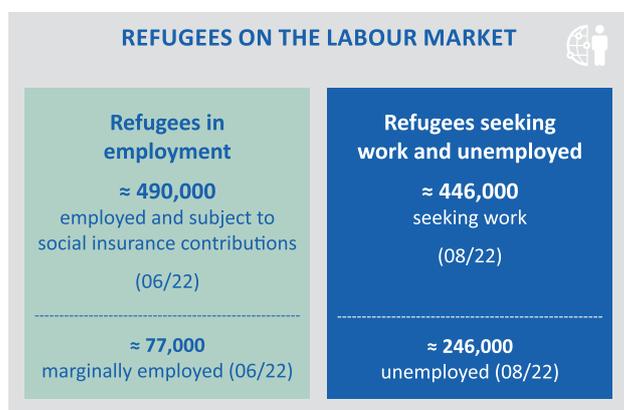


FAIR INTEGRATION OF REFUGEES

June 2022

During 2017 the Network "Integration through Qualification (IQ)" acquired a new programme line entitled "Fair Integration". Advice centres specifically targeted at refugees — and since 2019 also other third country nationals — were established to support Fair Integration in all 16 regional networks for the purpose of providing advice and support to these target groups. Fair Integration is implemented based on the model of the consulting structure Fair Mobility. At the moment, 49 consultants are working for Fair Integration.

LABOUR MARKET INTEGRATION OF REFUGEES



According to the German Federal Employment Agency (BA), the start of the 2022 summer break and in particular the registration of Ukrainian refugees led to the unemployment rate rising further by 0.2 percent from June to July to 5.4 percent (2,470,000), 0.2 percent lower than in July 2021. The number of people in employment in June was 610,000 higher than a year earlier at 45.57 million. Employment subject to social security contributions rose by 681,000 year-on-year to 34.43 million in May. 7.29 million persons had low-wage employment in May, which is 282,000 more than in the same month of the previous year. The use of short-time work continued to decline until May (328,000 workers in May, 429,000 in April).

According to BA statistics, among people from non-European countries of asylum origin, such as Afghanistan, Eritrea, Iraq, Iran, and Syria, the number of unemployed in June 2022 fell by 3.0 percent to about 246,000 compared to the previous year. The number of refugees seeking work decreased by 3.1 percent to around

446,000. In contrast, the number of refugees in employment subject to social insurance contributions rose to around 490,000 in June 2022, which was around 71,000 or 14.6 percent more than the previous year. Overall, employment of persons from non-European countries of asylum origin increased more strongly than for other nationality groups during this period. Marginal employment stood at 77,000 in June 2022, higher than in previous years (06/2021: approx. 70,000, 06/2020: approx. 68,000). However, the unemployment rate of refugees was around 29.0 percent in June 2022 and was significantly higher than that of foreigners as a whole (13.4 %).

IQ: FAIR LABOUR MARKET INTEGRATION OFFERS

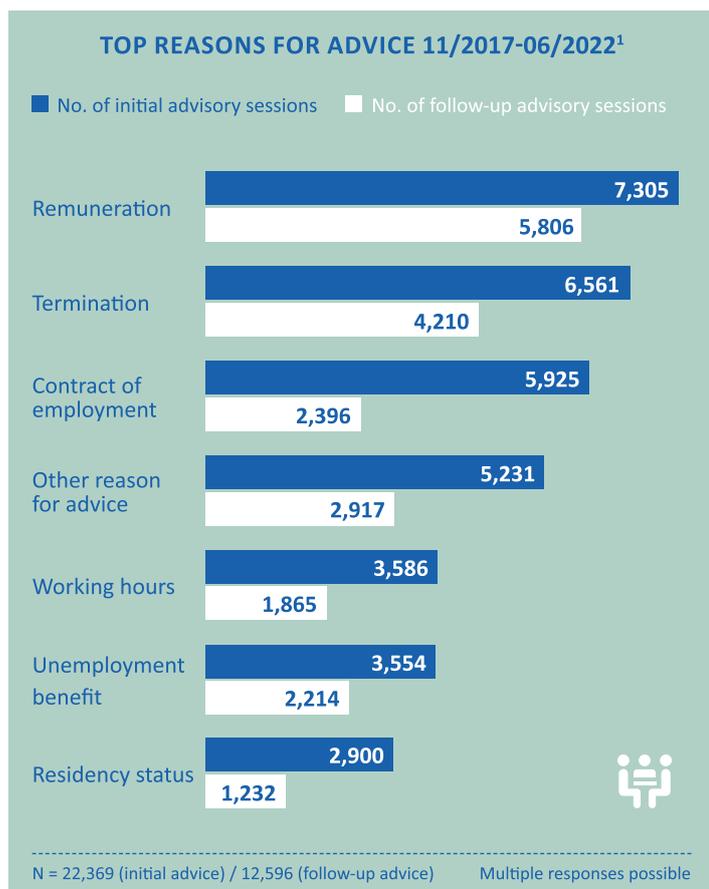
The task of the advice centres, established in all IQ regional networks as part of the Fair Integration programme line, is to advise non-EU refugees and other migrants on issues relating to employment legislation and social law. Fair Integration differentiates between two forms of advice in its approach. On the one hand, specialist advice addresses issues directly related to the employment relationship, such as questions on the contract of employment, remuneration, termination, rights in the event of undocumented work (in placements and training etc.). On the other hand, for questions relating, for example, to residency status/asylum procedure recognition of vocational training, job searching, financial or health-related problems, only general information is provided and clients are referred to specialist advice centres and advisory bodies. For questions relating to the recognition of qualifications obtained abroad, there is close collaboration with the IQ service providing advice on recognition and job training.



Fair Integration is implemented based on the model of the consulting structure Fair Mobility. The "Support Fair Integration" (SFI) project, provided by the National Training Organization of the German Trade Union Federation (DGB), itself offers advice at various locations, provides second level support on behalf of the IQ regional network advice centres for specific advice requests, and supports the work of the advice centres in the development of a manual of standards for advisory work and information materials for use when delivering advice. The SFI is also responsible for creating and maintaining the joint website which offers comprehensive information to those seeking advice. From April 2021, online counselling enquiries and digital counselling via video chat will also be possible via the website. IQ Competence Centre for Immigration (Provider: Minor – Project office for education and research) supports the implementation by organising and conducting training for those providing advice and as well as regular networking meetings as part of which advisers are able to exchange their views and ideas.

IQ: INFORM AND SUPPORT

Advice centres provide advice on specific issues for individuals already in employment, training or doing an internship, and provides information about working conditions for those who wish to be prepared in advance. Advice centres also offer group information events for refugees and foreign employees from non-EU countries, for example for the purposes of integration courses or language courses. The advice centres support refugees and third country nationals in protecting themselves from exploitation and discrimination and in being able to challenge this. One focus lies on the transfer of knowledge relating to individual rights and obligations in the employer-employee relationship so that individuals can act with greater confidence in the labour market and overcome precarious employment conditions.



¹ Please note for these figures that the advice centres started at different times between 1 November 2017 and 1 July 2018.

² Since the beginning of the war in Ukraine, the proportion of Ukrainian people seeking advice has been around 16 percent.

Sources:

IQ DP/ebb GmbH:
Monitoring of advisory sessions in "Faire Integration" (01/11/2017 - 30/06/2022; reference date 17/07/2022)

Statistik der Bundesagentur für Arbeit:

Migrationsmonitor (Monatszahlen), Nürnberg, August 2022: <https://bit.ly/3Fo9sGg>

Berichte: Blickpunkt Arbeitsmarkt – Monatsbericht zum Arbeits- und Ausbildungsmarkt, Nürnberg, Juli 2022: <https://bit.ly/3BAbGTR>

Tabellen, Beschäftigte aus den acht nichteuropäischen Asylherkunftsländern (Monatszahlen), Nürnberg, Juni 2022: <https://bit.ly/3UstK4m>

IAB-Zuwanderungsmonitor August 2022, Herausgeber: Institut für Arbeitsmarkt- und Berufsforschung (IAB) der Bundesagentur für Arbeit: https://doku.iab.de/arbeitsmarktdaten/Zuwanderungsmonitor_2208.pdf

(sources in German, retrieved on 22.09.2022)

Want to know more?

Regina Kahle
Advisor
regina.kahle@ebb-bildung.de
Phone +49 (221) 932981 24
www.ebb-bildung.de

Felix Litschauer
"Support Fair Integration" project manager
felix.litschauer@dgb-bildungswerk.de
Phone +49 (30) 212 40 543
www.faire-integration.de

Information on the latest figures are also available at:
www.netzwerk-iq.de/en/

TOP TYPES OF EMPLOYMENT FOR THOSE SEEKING ADVICE

11/2017-06/2022¹



N = 22,369 (initial advice)

Multiple responses possible

IQ: SUCCESSFUL ADVICE AND SUPPORT

From the end of 2017 to mid-2022, a total of 34,965 advisory sessions were documented in the by now 28 advice centres of the regional networks and the three SFI project advice centres, of which 22,369 were initial and 12,596 were follow-up advisory sessions. The majority of those seeking counselling were male (70.2 %), female counselling accounted for only 27.7 percent. Around 48 percent of all initial advisory sessions took place by telephone. Online counseling accounted for another 28 percent. About 49 percent of all initial counselling sessions were conducted in German and 24 percent in Arabic. Of those seeking advice, around 47 percent were in employment subject to social insurance contributions and a further 11 percent engaged in employee leasing. Around 20 percent were or are unemployed. Those seeking advice come from more than 50 different countries of origin. The distribution largely corresponds to the primary nationality reported in the asylum statistics: advice seekers from Syria (27.6 %), Afghanistan (8.2 %), Iran (5.1 %), Ukraine² (4.5 %) and Eritrea (4.4 %) made use of this offer. In addition, group information events, e.g. at language course providers or in meeting centres, have been held and statistically recorded since 2019. Since then, 20,342 individuals have participated in 1,042 events. 3,681 referral advisory sessions have also taken place and are being recorded statistically as of January 2020.

The Network "Integration through Qualification (IQ)" is a programme funded by the Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (BMAS) and the European Social Fund (ESF).

In cooperation with: