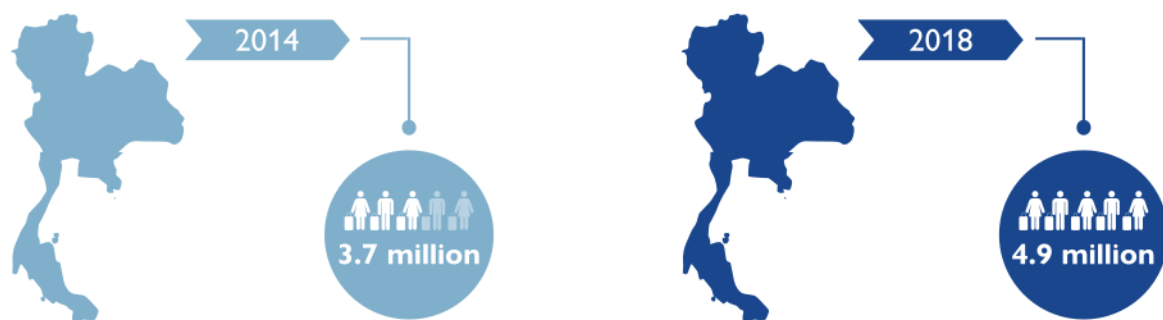


THAILAND MIGRATION REPORT 2019

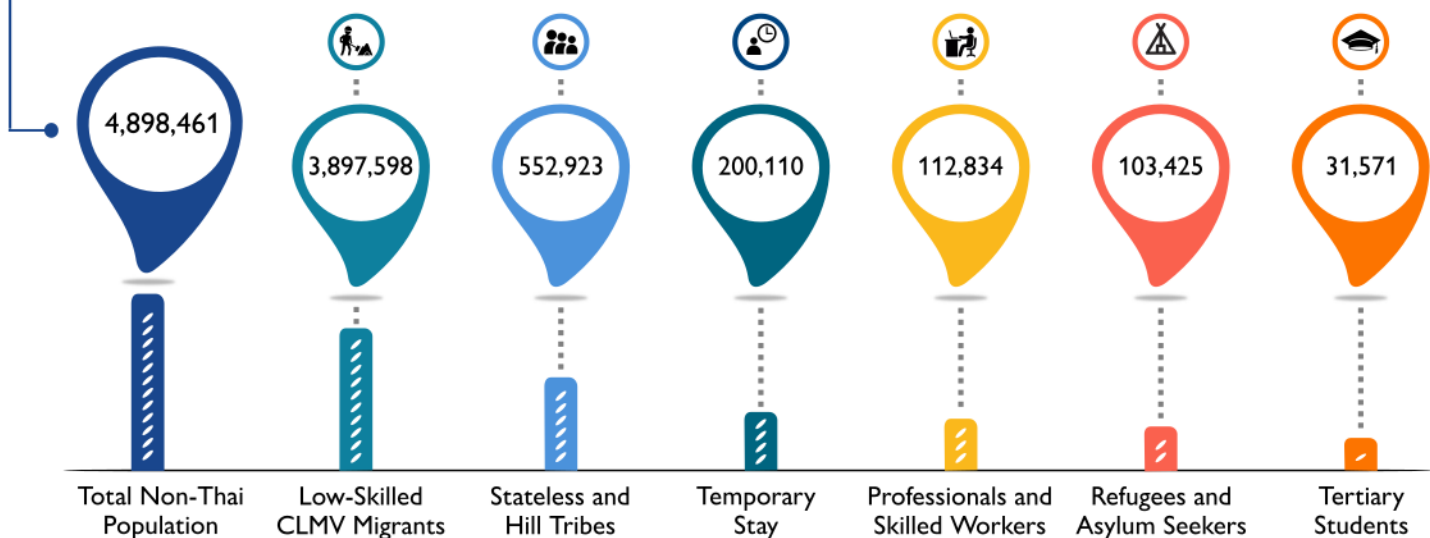


Migration Profile

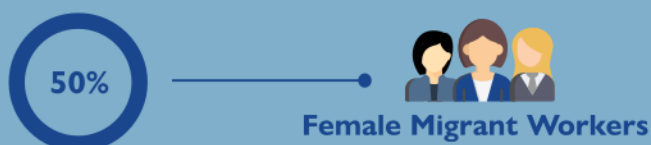
The number of non-Thai residents within the country has increased from an estimated 3.7 million in 2014 to 4.9 million in 2018, which includes approximately 3.9 million migrant workers from Cambodia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar and Vietnam.



The majority work in low skilled occupations, though there are more than 110,000 skilled professionals in Thailand and other major groups.



Many women are the main breadwinners for their families through their employment in Thailand. Official data shows that about half of the migrant workers in Thailand are women.



THAILAND MIGRATION REPORT 2019



Migration and Development



Each year, migrant workers in Thailand send USD 2.8 billion in remittances through formal channels to Cambodia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar and Vietnam.

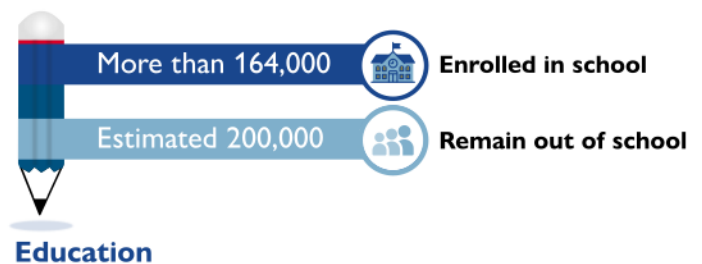


Migrants constitute over 10 per cent of Thailand's labour force and contribute between 4.3 to 6.6 per cent of gross domestic product.

Access to Services for Migrants



An estimated 64 per cent of regular migrants (1.97 million) are enrolled in a public health insurance scheme but share drops to 51 per cent if irregular migrants are also included.



More than 164,000 migrant children are enrolled in school within Thailand. At the same time, about 200,000 are not receiving any form of education.

Exploitation of Migrants



A total of 455 individuals in Thailand were officially identified as trafficked persons in 2017, however, the real scale of the problem is difficult to ascertain.

Working Conditions for Migrants



Survey results suggest the average monthly wages in agriculture (THB 6,000) and fishing (THB 7,730) are significantly below the minimum wage in Thailand.

THAILAND MIGRATION REPORT 2019



Recommendations



Ensure fair and ethical recruitment of migrant workers



Allow migrant workers greater agency to change employment



Establish regular migration channels that are cheaper, faster and easier to access



Extend responsibility of employers to protect the occupational safety and health of all agricultural workers



Expand access to complaint mechanisms and enforce stricter penalties for labour violations



Provide coverage by labour and social protection laws to migrants in all sectors of work



Decriminalize sex work and increase protection of sex workers' rights



Increase understanding of the contribution of migrants among the news media



Strengthen the multi-disciplinary approach to anti-trafficking



End the detention of migrant children



Provide government funding for NGO service providers to deliver health services to irregular migrants



Ensure that migrant workers are able to make practical use of their entitlements to health coverage



Build capacity to implement and independently monitor ethical codes of conduct for the private sector



Expand skills recognitions for the sectors of work in which women migrants are employed



Develop bilateral recognitions for the educational credentials of migrant children and provide accreditation for migrant learning centres



Improve the capacity of the labour inspectorate to enforce the provisions of relevant acts and ministerial regulations in the fishing and agricultural sectors



Review anti-trafficking responses that increase the risk of exploitation and violence for migrant sex workers



More trends, analysis and recommendations in the Thailand Migration Report 2019