



Press release

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Population growth 46 thousand in 2007

On 1 January 2008, the Dutch population totalled 16.4 million. The population growth over 2007 was 46 thousand, about twice the growth over 2006, which was historically low. In 2007, births outnumbered deaths by 48 thousand. The higher population growth in 2007 relative to 2006 is mainly caused by an increase in immigration and a simultaneous decrease in emigration, as the most recent figures published by Statistics Netherlands show.

More births than deaths

In 2007, nearly 181 thousand babies were born in the Netherlands, well over 4 thousand fewer than in 2006. The decline in the number of births tallies with the decline in the number of women around the age of thirty. With 133 thousand, mortality was also down on the previous year, despite the ongoing ageing of the population. The natural increase over 2007 was considerable (48 thousand). Natural increase is a more important factor for population growth than migration.

Immigration from Turkey and Morocco dwindling

Immigration to the Netherlands increased by 15 percent in 2007 to nearly 117 thousand. More than one in five immigrants were born in the Netherlands. Over 10 thousand immigrants from Poland, nearly 7 thousand Germans and nearly 5 thousand Bulgarians came to the Netherlands. Immigration from Poland increased by more than one fifth, the number of immigrants from Bulgaria increased almost tenfold. Immigration from people born in Morocco (nearly 2 thousand) and Turkey (nearly 3 thousand), on the other hand, dwindled.

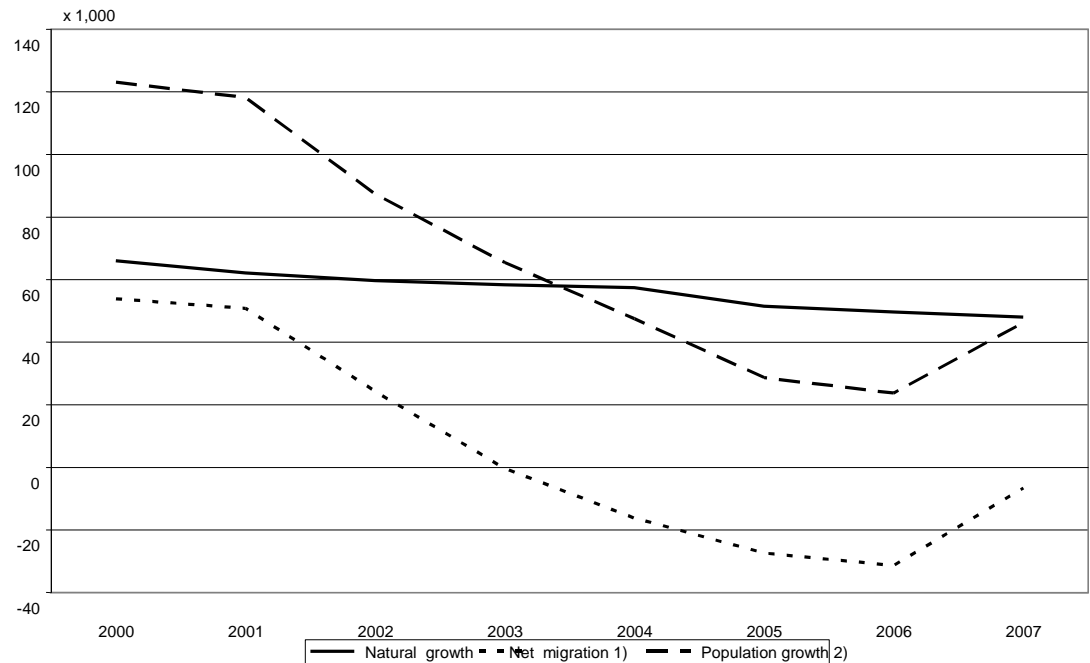
Half of emigrants born in the Netherlands

In 2007, emigration decreased marginally, but the number of emigrants (123 thousand) still easily exceeded emigration in the first few years of the twenty-first century. Nearly half of emigrants were native Dutch, followed at a distance by nearly 5 thousand Germans and more than 3 thousand Poles. The number of people born in Poland who left the Netherlands was slightly higher last year than in 2006. Emigration is declining across almost all other ethnic groups. This applies in particular to Turks and Moroccans.

Polish and Bulgarian immigrants fastest growing group

With nearly 7 thousand, the largest positive net migration figure was recorded for Poles in 2007. Net migration was also positive for Bulgarians (4 thousand) and Romanians (nearly 2 thousand). Both countries joined the European Union on 1 January 2007. There was also a relatively sharp increase in the number of immigrants from China (nearly 2 thousand) and the former Soviet Union (over 1 thousand).

Natural increase, net migration and population growth



Population growth

	Births	Deaths	Immigration	Emigration	Population growth ²⁾	Other corrections
	<i>x 1,000</i>					
2000	206.6	140.5	132.9	79	123.1	3.2
2001	202.6	140.4	133.4	82.6	118.2	5.1
2002	202.1	142.4	121.3	96.9	87.3	3.2
2003	200.3	141.9	104.5	104.8	65.5	7.4
2004	194.0	136.6	94.0	110.2	47.5	6.3
2005	187.9	136.4	92.3	119.7	28.7	4.6
2006	185.1	135.4	101.2	132.5	23.8	5.4
2007	180.9	132.9	116.6	123.2	46.3	5.0
2006						
2 nd quarter	45.4	33.2	21.0	30.6	2.6	
3 rd quarter	48.4	33.0	34.0	37.2	12.2	
1 st quarter	45.3	36.3	22.6	31.8	-0.1	
4 th quarter	46.0	32.8	23.5	32.9	9.1	5.4
2007 ³⁾						
1 st quarter	44.1	35.2	25.7	28.9	5.7	
2 nd quarter	43.7	32.2	23.9	26.5	9.0	
3 rd quarter	48.3	30.8	37.8	36.5	18.9	
4th quarter	44.8	34.8	29.2	31.4	12.7	5.0

1) Including net result administrative corrections

2) Including other corrections

3) Provisional figures