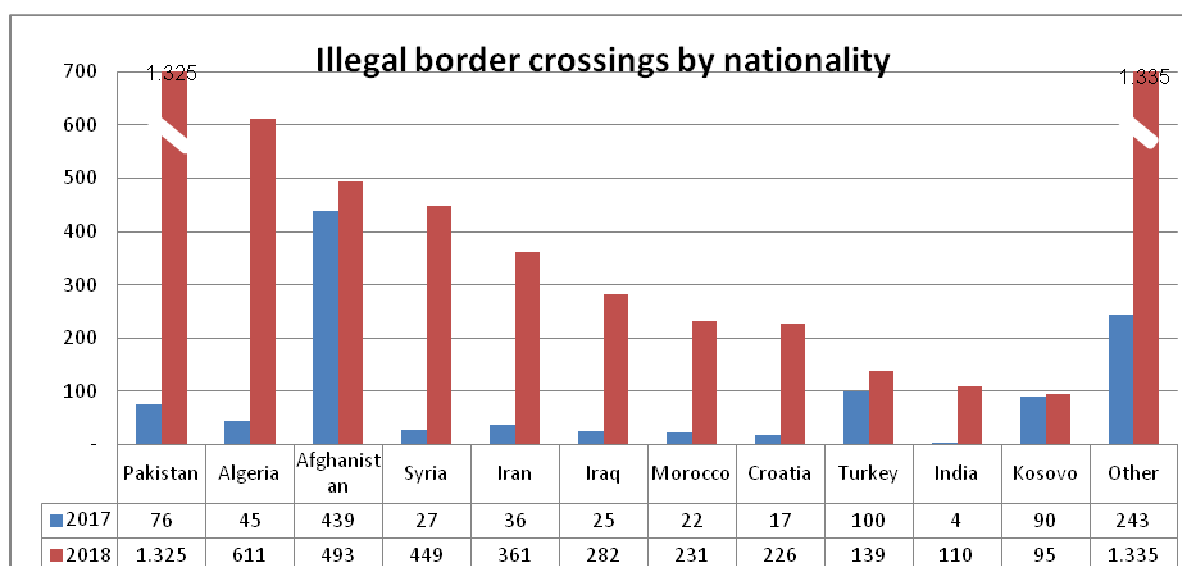


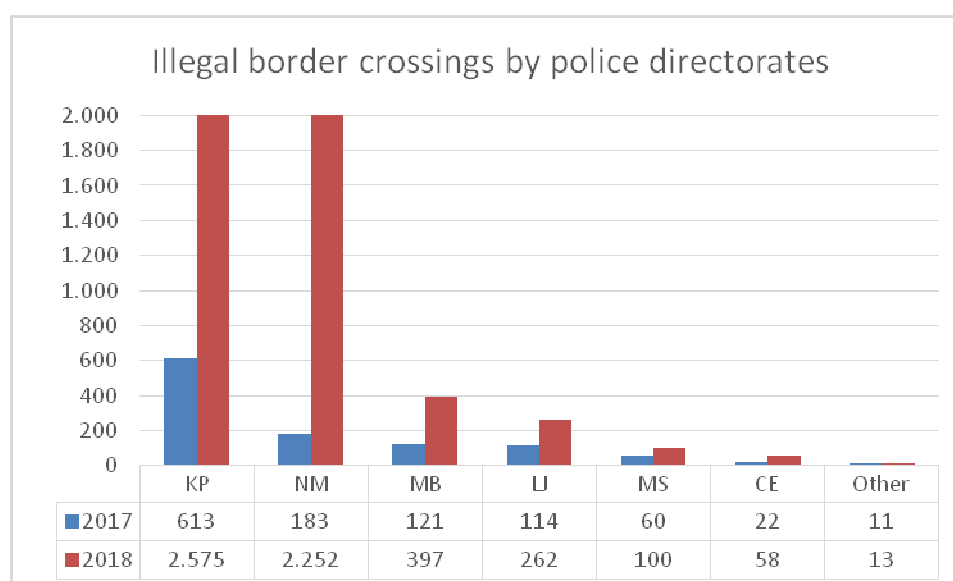
ILLEGAL MIGRATION IN THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA

From 1 January to 31 August 2018 the police recorded a total of 5,657 illegal crossings of the state border of the Republic of Slovenia. Last year's comparative figure stood at 1,124. The current figure represents a 403.3 per cent increase on the number reported during the same period in 2017.

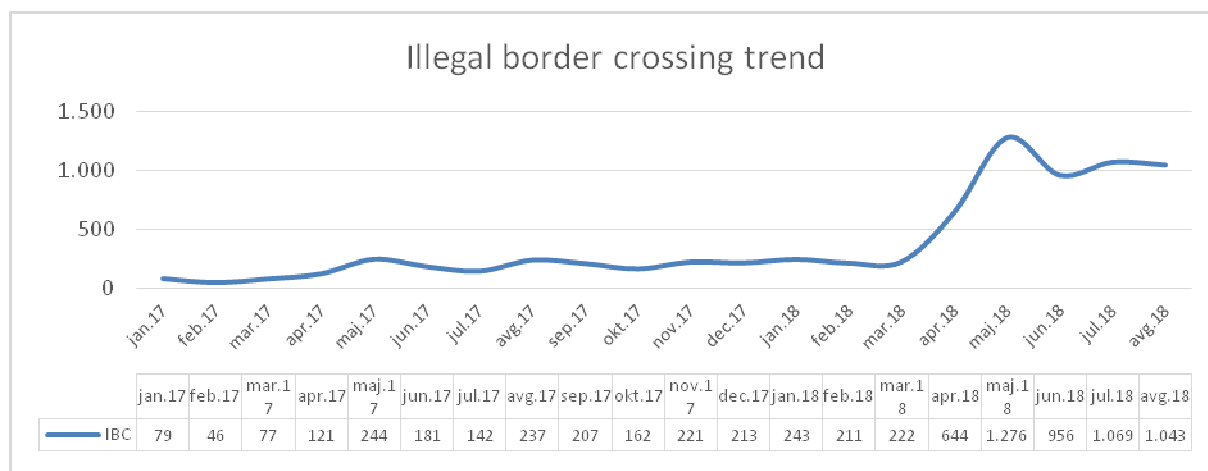
Pakistani, Algerian and Afghan nationals continue to constitute the three largest nationality groups reported this year. Their numbers continue to rise significantly. The number of citizens coming from other countries posing a migration risk is also increasing. The data are shown on the chart below.



The largest number of unauthorised border crossings, i.e. 45 per cent of the total figure, was reported by Koper (KP) Police Directorate. The second most burdened area was the area of Novo mesto (NM) Police Directorate (40 per cent of the total figure). The data are shown on the chart below.



We have observed an overall upward trend in illegal crossings of the border since the beginning of 2017, with some fluctuations. The first significant increase in April was followed by the another one in May. Then the numbers took a slight downward trend. But the number of illegal crossings still remained high and unstable.



Illegal entries on the internal borders

While patrolling inland or performing border checks at the external border, the police detected 641 violations committed by foreigners who had illegally entered Slovenia on its internal border without possessing a proper travel document or permit (e.g. residence permit or visa). The corresponding figure last year was 667. This represents a 3.9 per cent decrease in comparison with the same period last year.

Border	Austria		Italy		Hungary		Air borders		Total	
	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018
China	2	4	39	44		1			41	49
Bosnia and Herzegovina	43	37	20	8					63	45
Albania	5	5	61	33		4			66	42
Pakistan	3	9	19	26	2	3			24	38
Other	156	185	301	252	13	28	3	2	473	467
Total	209	240	440	363	15	36	3	2	667	641

Entry refusals at Slovenia's border crossing points

A total of 2,591 third-country nationals were refused entry at the state border on the grounds of non-compliance with the requirements to enter Slovenia or another Member State of the European Union, based on the Schengen Borders Code. The majority of these were banned from entering Slovenia on the land border with Croatia. Last year, the number of entry refusals stood at 2,539. The number of refusals increased by 2 per cent.

Nationality / Border	Land borders		Air borders		Sea borders		Total	
	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018
Albania	542	520	222	158			764	678
Bosnia and Herzegovina	536	515	5	9			541	524
Serbia	435	452	10	5			445	457
Macedonia	240	242	14	4			254	246
Kosovo	76	111	3	1			79	112
Turkey	43	46	46	49			89	95
Other	350	455	17	23		1	367	479
Total	2.222	2.341	317	249	0	1	2.539	2.591

Illegal residence

The police dealt with 3,048 foreign nationals on account of their unauthorised stay in the Republic of Slovenia or another Member State of the European Union. The figure for the corresponding period in 2017 was 2,766. This represents a 10.1 per cent increase.

Nationality	2017	2018
Albania	710	700
Macedonia	369	535
Bosna and Herzegovina	589	524
Serbia	414	515
Moldova	212	399
Turkey	134	158
Ukraine	67	30
Montenegro	38	29
Other	233	158
Total	2.766	3.048

Implementation of interstate readmission agreements

a) Returning persons to foreign law enforcement agencies

Based on international agreements, Slovenia's police handed over (returned) 2,405 foreigners to foreign law enforcement authorities. The corresponding figure with regard to the same period last year was 605. A great majority of these, i.e. 2,304 persons, were returned on the border with Croatia. The number of returned persons in the corresponding period of 2017 was 482. Nationals of Pakistan represent the largest group (896) of persons returned at the border with Croatia. In the same period last year, 22 Pakistani nationals were returned to the Croatian law enforcement authorities.

Taking charge of persons handed over by other law enforcement authorities

Based on international agreements, 371 persons were handed over to Slovenia by foreign law enforcement authorities. The figure for the comparative period in 2017 was 232 persons. Of these, 20 of the persons returned were Slovenian nationals.

Country	Admission from		Readmission to	
	2017	2018	2017	2018
Italy	49	226	76	41
Austria	26	18	8	10
Croatia	9	6	482	2.326
Hungary	19	17	5	4
Air borders	129	104	34	24
Total	232	371	605	2.405

Overview of the situation

In 2017 and at the beginning of 2018, irregular migration was unstable but on the rise. As expected, there was a significant rise in the number of illegal migrants in April and May 2018. This trend was driven by elements such as good weather, the new alternative route across Bosnia and Herzegovina and large numbers of migrants building up in the Western Balkan area. The June 2018 decrease in illegal border crossings is the result of additional measures undertaken to stem illegal migration in the Western Balkans, however, the overall figures have continued to increase.

The overall number of persons that Slovenia takes back from foreign law enforcement, especially at the border with Italy, is growing. Many of the migrants leave the accommodation centres intended for applicants for international protection and continue their journey towards destination countries. The number of persons handed over has also gone up, which can be attributed to improved cooperation with the Croatian law enforcement authorities. Nevertheless, these numbers are still significantly lower than those of illegal crossings.

The number of foreigners dealt with by the police on account of unauthorised stay has continued to grow. The main reason for foreigners' illegal stay in Slovenia is their overstay of permitted residence. This is especially the case with foreigners of the broader region. This issue is mainly related to traffic flows within the European area.

The majority of foreigners who illegally enter Slovenia on the Schengen internal borders come from Italy, but their numbers have declined. The number of illegal entries into Slovenia on the border with Austria continues to grow. These are mainly persons from the countries that pose less risk in terms of migration. However, a few Pakistani nationals were also reported.

The number of refused entries related to third-country nationals has increased slightly. The overstaying nationals mainly come from the states of the Western Balkan region; the distribution by nationality has not changed significantly. The number of entry refusals is directly related to traveller trends recorded at border crossing points.

Note: The statistics show the information on 14/09/2018. Subsequent data entries or updates may affect the interpretation of the above statistical data.