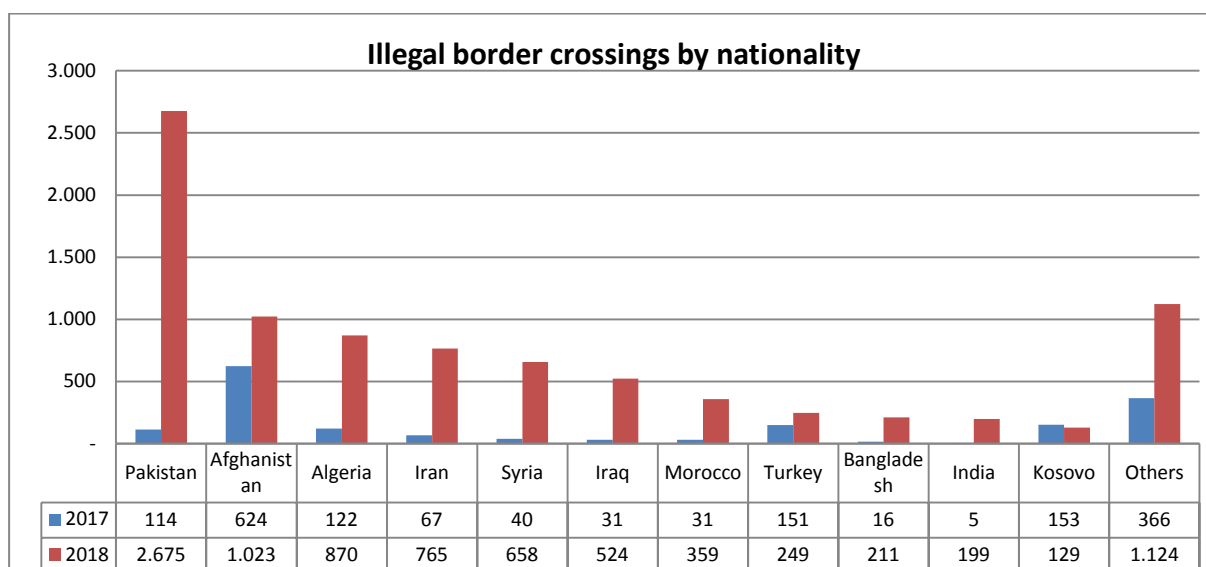


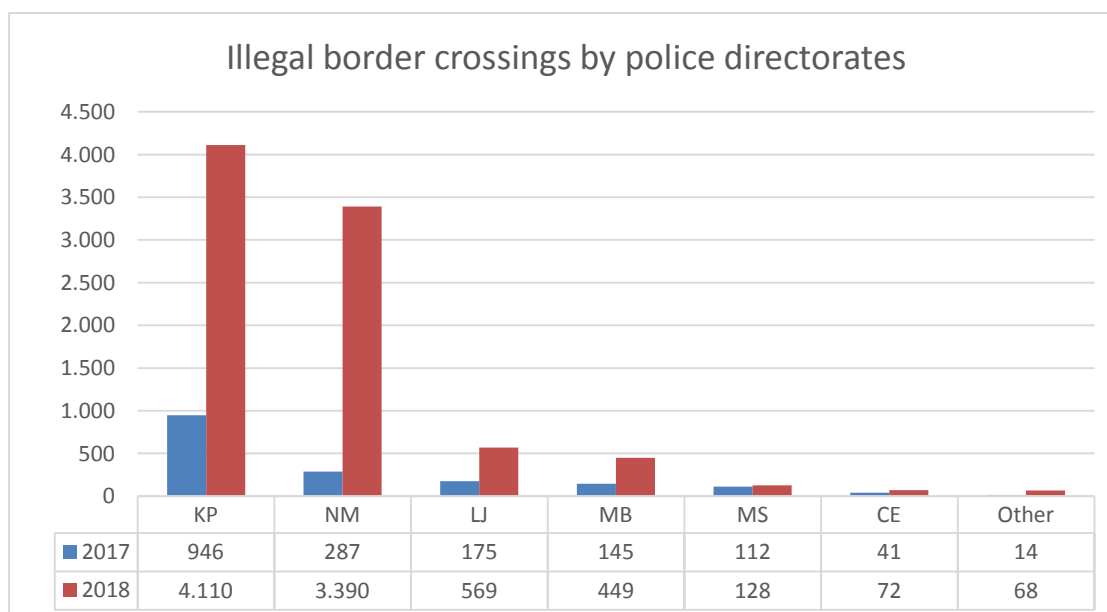
ILLEGAL MIGRATION IN THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA

Between 1 January and 30 November 2018, police officers recorded a total of 8,786 illegal border crossings in the Republic of Slovenia. Last year's comparative figure stood at 1,720. The number increased by 410.8% compared to the same period in 2017.

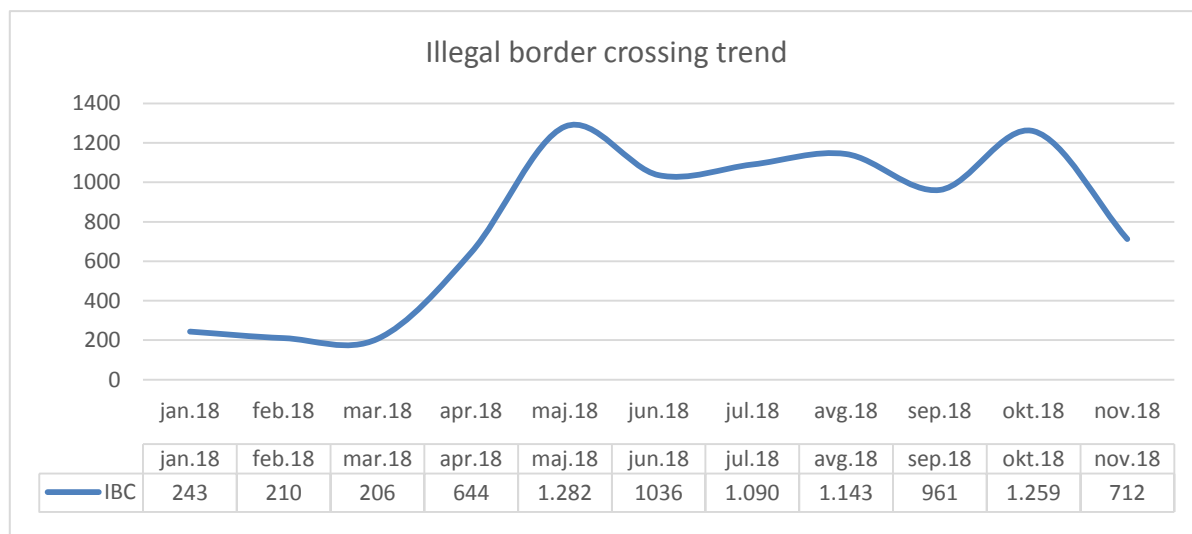
In this context, citizens of Pakistan, Afghanistan and Algeria constitute the three largest groups reported this year. In the structure of illegal migrants by citizenship, the number of Pakistani nationals as well as the number of migrants from other countries posing a migration risk is increasing. The data are shown on the chart below.



The largest number of illegal border crossings, i.e. 47% of the total figure, was reported by Koper Police Directorate (KP). The second most burdened was the area of Novo mesto Police Directorate (NM) which handled 39% of cases. The data are shown on the chart below.



Since reaching its peak in May 2018 the number of illegal crossings has been high and unstable. The numbers dropped significantly in November on account of bad weather.



Unauthorised entry at internal borders

During police checks inland or during performing border checks on the external border, the police detected 766 violations 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 870. This represents a 12 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
Nationality										
China	3	4	52	52	0	1	0	0	55	57
Albania	8	7	70	40	0	6	0	0	78	53
Bosnia and Herzegovina	60	45	24	8	0	0	0	0	84	53
Kosovo	26	25	46	23	0	0	4	2	76	50
Pakistan	3	9	20	34	3	3	0	0	26	46
Others	161	188	365	289	22	30	3	0	551	507
Total	261	278	577	446	25	40	7	2	870	766

Refusals of entry at Slovenia's border crossing points

As a result on non-compliance with the conditions for entry into the Republic of Slovenia or other EU Member State, a total of 3,553 third country nationals were rejected at border crossing points in accordance with the Schengen Borders Code. The majority of these were refused entry into Slovenia on the land border (with Croatia). Last year, the number of entry refusals stood at 3,581. There has been a very slight reduction in the number of rejected cases.

Nationality / Border	Land borders		Air borders		Sea borders		Total	
	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018
Albania	777	736	313	232			1.090	968
Bosnia and Herzegovina	717	668	6	12			723	680
Serbia	644	609	12	6			656	615
Macedonia	386	304	21	5			407	309
Kosovo	101	153	7	6			108	159
Afghanistan	48	136	0	1			48	137
Other	463	585	86	99		1	549	685
Total	3.136	3.191	445	361	0	1	3.581	3.553

Unauthorised residence

Police officers handled a total of 4,037 foreigners on account of unauthorised residence in the territory of the Republic of Slovenia or other EU Member States. The figure for the corresponding period last year was 3,818. The number increased by 5.7 per cent.

Nationality	2017	2018
Albania	920	882
Bosnia and Herzegovina	796	697
Macedonia	560	683
Serbia	595	668
Moldova	318	609
Turkey	170	204
Ukraine	98	41
Kosovo	46	39
Others	315	214
Total	3.818	4.037

Implementation of readmission agreements

a) Return of persons to foreign police authorities

Based on international agreements, Slovenia's police handed over (returned) 4,549 foreigners to foreign police authorities. The corresponding figure with regard to the same period last year was 837. A significant proportion of these, i.e. 4,428 persons, were returned on the border with Croatia. The number of returned persons in the corresponding period of 2017 was 674. Citizens of Pakistan represent the largest group (1,602) of persons returned at the border with Croatia. In the same period last year, 30 Pakistani citizens were returned to Croatian police authorities.

Admission of persons from foreign police authorities

Based on international agreements, 580 persons were handed over to Slovenia by foreign police authorities. The figure for the comparative period in 2017 was 294. Of these, 29 were Slovenian nationals.

Country	Admission from		Readmission to	
	2017	2018	2017	2018
Italy	68	348	101	64
Austria	36	34	13	20
Croatia	12	14	674	4.428
Hungary	23	19	5	5
Air borders	155	165	44	32
Total	294	580	837	4.549

Assessment of the situation

2017 and the beginning of 2018 saw an unstable upward trend in the number of illegal crossings. As expected, there was a significant rise in the number of illegal migrants in April and May 2018, which was mainly due to an improvement of weather conditions, the opening of new alternative irregular migration route through Bosnia and Herzegovina and large numbers of migrants building up in the Western Balkan area. This upward trend was followed by the seasonal downward trend in illegal crossings.

The number of persons admitted from the neighbouring police authorities is increasing, especially at the border with Italy. A significant proportion of the admitted foreigners are those who leave the accommodation centres intended for applicants for international protection and continue their journey towards their destination countries. The number of foreigners handed over has also gone up significantly as a result of the strengthening of cooperation with the Croatian police authorities. The increase was especially notable over the most recent period.

The number of foreigners dealt with by the police on account of unauthorised stay continues to grow slightly. The main reason for foreigners' irregular stay in Slovenia is that they exceed their permitted duration of residence, which is typical of nationals of the countries from the broader region. This issue is mainly related to traffic flows within the European area.

The largest proportion of foreigners who illegally enter Slovenia on the Schengen internal borders comes from Italy, but their numbers have declined. Specifically, they come from countries less prone to migration although Pakistani citizens were also reported among them. The number of illegal entries into Slovenia on the border with Austria continues to grow slightly.

The number of refused entries related to third-country nationals has decreased slightly. The refused overstaying nationals mainly come from the states of the Western Balkan region; the distribution by nationality has not changed significantly. In this structure, nationals of Afghanistan have emerged; in many cases they attempted to evade border checks in cargo vehicles. The number of refused entries is directly related to traveller trends recorded at border crossing points.

Note: The statistical data are reported on 13/12/2018. Subsequent data entries and up-dates affect the above statistics.