

Estimations of the number of illegal immigrants in the Netherlands during the period January 2009 - December 2009

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Summary

This report presents an estimate of the number of illegal immigrants in the Netherlands during the period January 2009 – December 2009. The data used for estimation are obtained from the illegal immigration registers PSH-V en VBS of the police and the Royal Netherlands Marechaussee (Koninklijke Marechaussee), respectively. To ensure comparability with the population size estimates for the years 1997-2003 en 2005, the same estimation method was used as was used in the former estimation studies.

The population of illegal immigrants in the Netherlands in 2009 is estimated to be 97.145, with a 95% confidence interval of 60.667 to 133.624.

Due to potential violations of the model assumptions, the obtained result is likely to be an overestimate of the true population size. Since the population size estimates for the years 1997-2003 and 2005 were obtained under similar model violations as in 2009, it is possible to interpret a trend. A comparison shows that – especially since 2002 - the estimated number of illegal immigrants in the Netherlands steadily reduces. This reduction can in large part be explained by the extension of the number of countries that joined the European Union (EU).