

Health and well-being of the adult population with a foreign background – MoniSuomi 2022

One in three immigrants do not receive a sufficient amount of doctor’s services

MAIN FINDINGS

- One in three immigrants felt that they had not received sufficient doctor’s appointment services in relation to their needs during the past year.
- The experience of insufficient doctor’s appointment services clearly increased between 2018 and 2022.
- Experiences of the sufficiency of doctor’s reception services varied greatly by wellbeing services county and by the immigrant’s background country group.
- Psychological distress was significantly more common in the immigrant population than in the entire population.
- The share of the immigrant population, who was psychologically distressed increased between 2018 and 2022. Psychological distress was most common among those who had moved to Finland from the Middle East and North Africa and young adults.

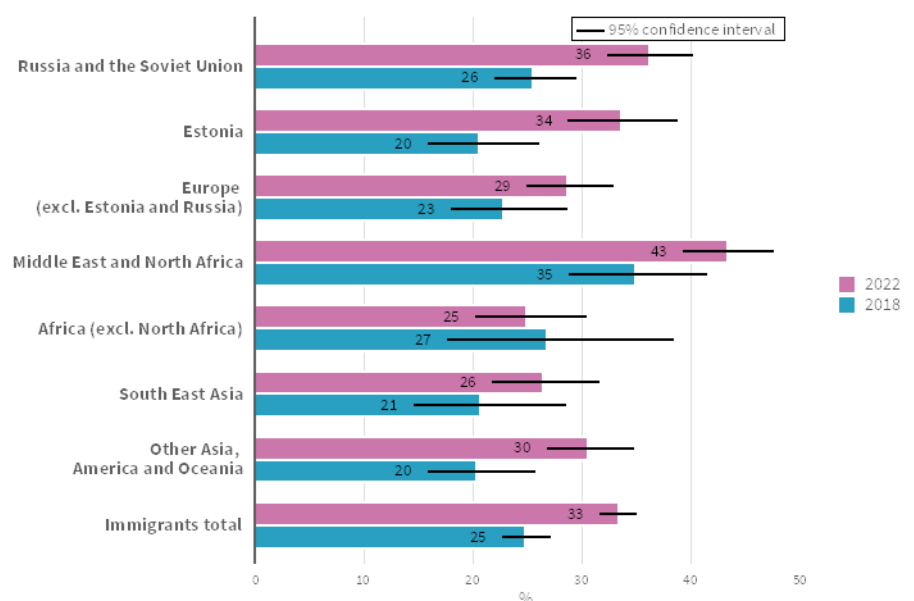
The data in these statistics are from the MoniSuomi 2022 study, which examined the perceived well-being and health of the population with a foreign background who had been born abroad (hereafter immigrant) and their service experiences.

The study revealed that one in three immigrants did not receive sufficient doctor’s appointment services to meet their needs. The share increased significantly when the 2022 data was compared to the situation in 2018 (25% vs. 33%). The share of those who had received insufficient doctor’s reception service in relation to their need for the service was clearly higher among immigrants than among the general population (33% vs. 25%).

Of immigrants, 22% reported psychological distress, compared with 18% of the entire population. The share of psychologically distressed immigrants increased between 2018 and 2022 (17% vs. 23%). There were differences between country groups, but men who moved from the Middle East and North Africa to Finland were most commonly experiencing psychological distress (29%).

The comparison data used for the MoniSuomi study are 1) the Healthy Finland 2022 study (20-74-year-olds) and 2) the FinMonik 2018-2019 study (20-64-year-olds). When examining the change over time, the analyses are limited to the 20-64 age group. Information is widely available on different areas, and this report examines two key health themes: the availability of doctor’s appointment services and psychological distress in the immigrant population in Finland. Statistics are also published on THL’s website as indicators.

Figure 1. Share of persons who have needed, but received insufficient doctor’s appointment services in 2018 and 2022, by country group, those aged 20–64, model-standardised share, %



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