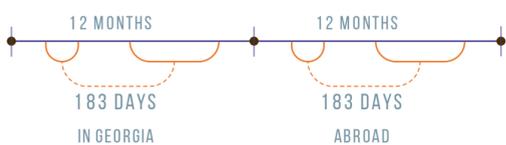


# IMMIGRATION IN GEORGIA

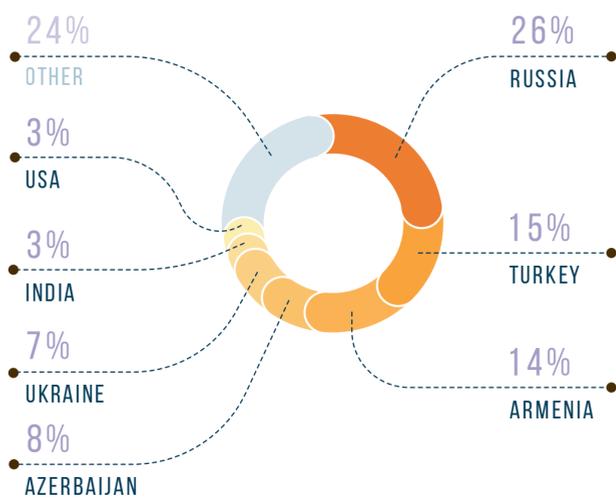
## WHO COUNTS AS AN IMMIGRANT AND HOW MANY IMMIGRANTS ARE THERE IN GEORGIA?

According to **Geostat's methodology**, any person is considered an immigrant if s/he has crossed a Georgian state border and stayed on the territory of Georgia for at least **183 days** in the past **12 months** and at the same time s/he spent at least **183 days** abroad in the previous **12 months**.

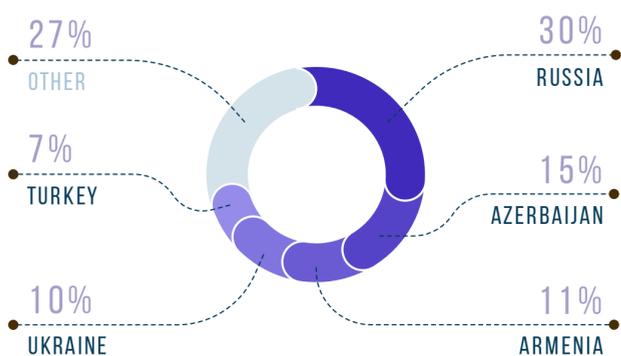
Using this definition, there were **90,228** immigrants in Georgia in 2016.



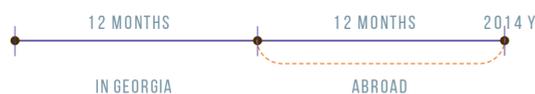
**42,925** of them are citizens of foreign countries.



The number of foreign citizen immigrants is **11,751**

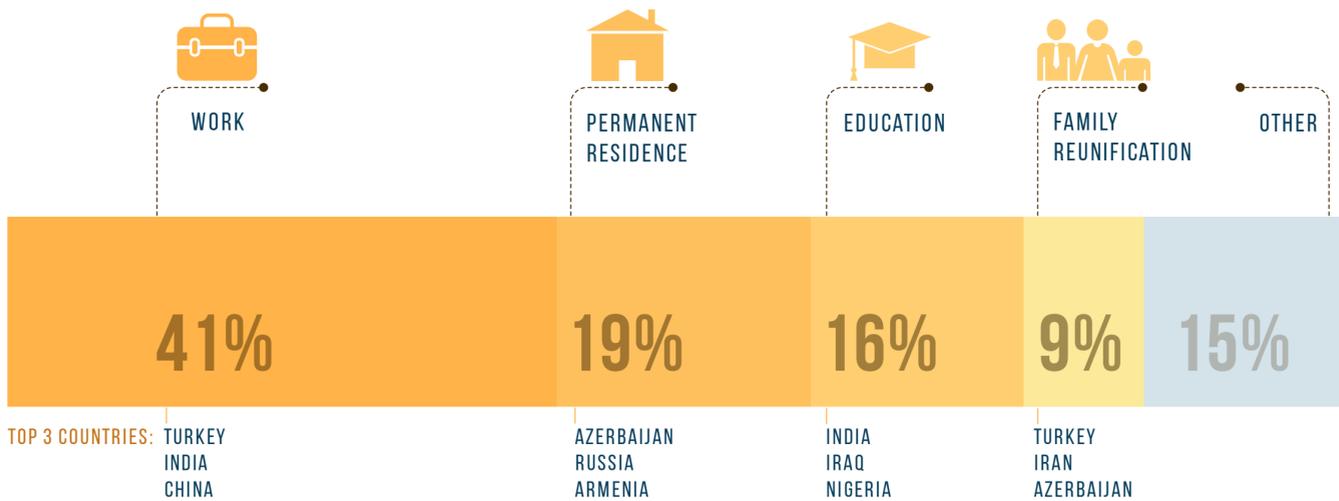


According to the **2014 population census** methodology, any person who has ever lived abroad for over 12 months is considered an immigrant. Using this definition, there were **184,629** immigrants living in Georgia in 2014. 91% of them had only Georgian citizenship, 3% had dual citizenship and majority out of remaining 6%, who had only citizenship of a foreign country, were Russian citizens.



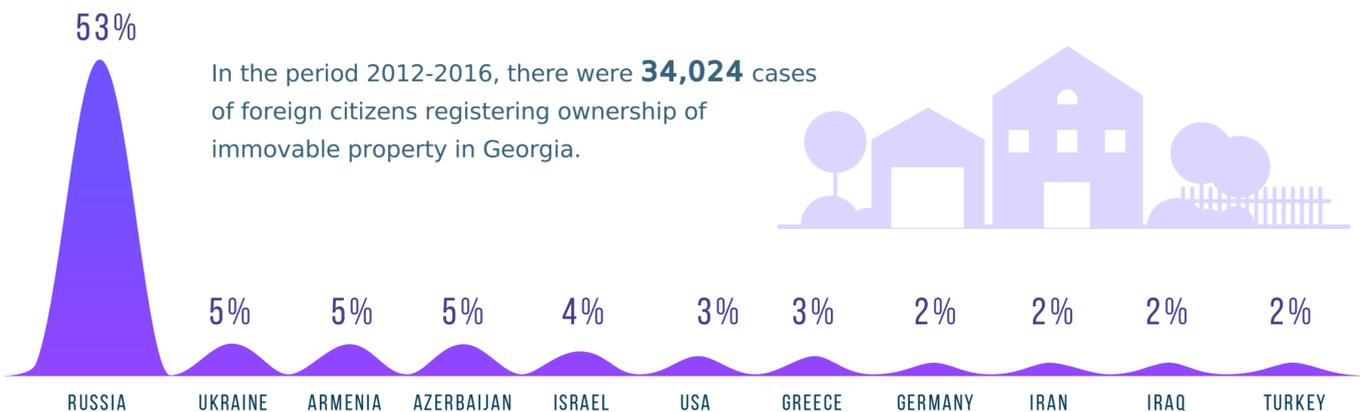
## WHERE DO IMMIGRANTS COME FROM AND WHY?

In 2015-2016, Georgia has granted over **46,581** residence permits to foreign citizens. The largest share of them are **work residence permits**.



According to labor market study, employers named the low qualification level of the labor force available on the domestic job market as the primary reason for employing foreign workers.

## WHO BUYS IMMOVABLE PROPERTY IN GEORGIA?



In the period 2012-2016, there were **34,024** cases of foreign citizens registering ownership of immovable property in Georgia.



## IMPACT OF IMMIGRATION



Foreign students spend more than **195 million GEL** annually, which consists **6%** of service export in Georgia.

In 2015-2016, the companies founded by the foreigners paid more than **69 million GEL** as taxes in the Georgian state budget.

