



Quick Facts	
Immigration detainees (2018)	Not Available
Detained asylum seekers (2018)	Not Available
Detained minors (2018)	Not Available
Immigration detention capacity (2018)	Not Available
Persons expelled (2018)	Not Available
International migrants (2019)	1,069,395
New asylum applications (2019)	687
Number of immigration detainees on a given day (2018)	Not Available

NOTES ON USING THIS PROFILE

- Sources for the data provided in this report are available online at: <https://www.globaldetentionproject.org/countries/europe/belarus>
- "Observation Dates" indicate the timeframe statistical data correspond to or other data were last validated. More than one statistical entry for a year indicates contrasting reports.

STATISTICS

Detention, expulsion, and incarceration statistics

		Observation Date			Observation Date
Total number of immigration detainees by year	Not Available	2018	Number of immigration detainees on a given day	Not Available	2018
Top nationalities of detainees	Not Available	2018	Number of persons granted alternatives to immigration detention	Not Available	2018
Number of detained asylum seekers	Not Available	2018	Total number of detained minors	Not Available	2018
				Not Available	2017
Number of detained unaccompanied minors	Not Available	2018	Number of detained accompanied minors	Not Available	2018
Number of detained stateless persons	Not Available	2018	Immigration detainees as a percentage of total international migrant population	Not Available	2018
Estimated total immigration detention capacity	Not Available	2018	Number of immigration offices	Not Available	2018
Number of transit facilities	Not Available	2018	Number of criminal facilities	66	2018
Number of persons removed/returned (voluntary returns and deportations)	Not Available	2018	Number of deportations/forced returns only	Not Available	2018
Percentage of persons removed in relation to total number of people placed in removal procedures	Not Available	2018	Criminal prison population	33,300	2017
				29,776	2014
				31,700	2012
Percentage of foreign prisoners	3.1	2015	Prison population rate (per 100,000 of national population)	314	2014
				335	2012

Demographics and immigration-related statistics

		Observation Date			Observation Date
Population	9,400,000	2020	International migrants	1,069,395	2019
	9,496,000	2015		1,082,900	2015
International migrants as a percentage of the population	11.4	2015	Estimated number of undocumented migrants	Not Available	2018
Refugees	2,725	2019	Ratio of refugees per 1000 inhabitants	0.17	2016
	2,234	2018		0.1	2014
	2,160	2017			
	1,632	2016			
	1,809	2015			
	925	2014			

Total number of new asylum applications	687	2019	Refugee recognition rate	5.5	2014
	762	2016			
	867	2014			
Stateless persons	6,025	2018			
	6,007	2017			
	6,182	2016			
	6,302	2015			

DOMESTIC LAW					
LEGAL TRADITION					
Legal tradition	Name		Observation Date		
	Civil law		2017		
LAWS AND REGULATIONS					
	Yes/No	Constitution and Articles		Year Adopted	Last Year Amended
Constitutional guarantees?	Yes	Art.11 Foreign nationals and stateless persons on the territory of Belarus shall enjoy rights and liberties and execute duties on equal terms with the citizens of the Republic of Belarus, unless otherwise specified in the Constitution, the laws and international treaties. Art 25. The State shall safeguard personal liberty, inviolability and dignity. The restriction or denial of personal liberty is possible in the instances and under the procedure specified in law. A person who has been taken into custody shall be entitled to a judicial investigation into the legality of his detention or arrest. No one shall be subjected to torture or cruel, inhuman or undignified treatment or punishment, or be subjected to medical or other experiments without one's consent.		1994	2004
LAWS AND REGULATIONS					
	Name			Year Adopted	Last Year Amended
Core pieces of national legislation	Law N 105-3 on Legal status of foreigners and stateless persons in the Republic of Belarus			2010	2016
	Code of the Republic of Belarus on Administrative Offences (#194-3)			2003	2018
LAWS AND REGULATIONS					
	Name			Year Adopted	Last Year Amended
Additional legislation	Law of the Republic of Belarus N 354-3 "On Granting Refugee Status, Additional Protection, Asylum and Temporary Protection in the Republic of Belarus to Foreign Citizens and Stateless Persons"			2008	2016
	The procedural Code of the Republic of Belarus on Administrative Offences, N 194-3			2006	2018

LAWS AND REGULATIONS			
Regulations, standards, guidelines	Name		Year Published
	Resolution of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus N 333 "On approval of the Regulations on the procedure for deportation of foreign citizens and stateless persons"		2007
	Resolution of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus of 03.02.2006 N 146 "On approval of the Regulation on the procedure for the expulsion of foreign citizens and stateless persons from the Republic of Belarus and recognition as not valid of certain decisions of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus on the deportation of such persons"		2006
GROUNDS FOR ADMINISTRATIVE IMMIGRATION-RELATED DETENTION			
Immigration-status-related grounds	Name		Observation Date
	Detention to establish/verify identity and nationality		2006
	Detention to prevent unauthorised entry at the border		2006
	Detention to effect removal		2006
	Detention for failing to respect a voluntary removal order		2006
GROUNDS FOR ADMINISTRATIVE IMMIGRATION-RELATED DETENTION			
Non-immigration-status-related grounds providing for administrative detention in immigration legislation.	Name		Observation Date
	None		
CRIMINALIZATION OF IMMIGRATION-RELATED OFFENCES			
Does the country provide specific criminal penalties for immigration-related violations?	Fines	Incarceration	Observation Date
	No	No	2018
LENGTH OF DETENTION			
Maximum length for administrative immigration detention in law.	Number of Days		Observation Date
	No Limit		2018
LENGTH OF DETENTION			
Maximum length of time in custody prior to issuance of a detention order	Number of Days		Observation Date
	3		2006

PROCEDURAL STANDARDS					
Provision of basic procedural standards	Name		In Law	In Practice	Observation Date
	Information to detainees		Yes		2018
	Access to asylum procedures		Yes	Yes	2018
	Complaints mechanism regarding detention conditions		No	No	2018
	Compensation for unlawful detention		No	No	2018
	Right to legal counsel		Yes	infrequently	2018
	Access to free interpretation services		Yes	Yes	2018
	Access to consular assistance		Yes	Yes	2018
	Independent review of detention		No	No	2018
Right to appeal the lawfulness of detention		Yes	No	2018	
NON-CUSTODIAL MEASURES (ALTERNATIVES TO DETENTION)					
Types of non-custodial measures	Name		In Law	In Practice	Observation Date
	Registration (deposit of documents)		No	No	2018
	Designated regional residence		No	No	2018
	Designated non-secure housing		No	No	2018
NON-CUSTODIAL MEASURES (ALTERNATIVES TO DETENTION)					
Impact of alternatives	Name		Impact of Nature		Observation Date
	Not applicable				2018
VULNERABLE PERSONS					
Is the detention of vulnerable persons provided in law? Are they detained in practice?	Name		In Law	In Practice	Observation Date
	Pregnant women		Provided	Yes	2018
	Survivors of torture		Not mentioned	Yes	2018
	Refugees		Not mentioned	Yes	2018
	Victims of trafficking		Not mentioned	Yes	2018
	Elderly		Not mentioned	Yes	2018
	Asylum seekers		Provided	Yes	2008
MANDATORY DETENTION					
Mandatory detention	Filter	Name			Observation Date
	Yes	All apprehended non-citizens who do not have proper documentation			2018
	Yes	Non-citizens who have violated a re-entry ban			2018
	Yes	Undocumented non-citizens with criminal records			2018
EXPEDITED REMOVAL AND RE-ENTRY BAN					
Expedited/fast track removal	Name			Observation Date	
	No			2018	

EXPEDITED REMOVAL AND RE-ENTRY BAN

Re-entry ban	Name	Observation Date
	Yes	2007

COVID-19 UPDATES

	Update Status	Observation Date
Latest Update	<p>In response to an information request submitted by the Global Detention Project and the NGO Human Constanta, Belarus Deputy Minister of the Interior Ministry Aleksandr Barsukov confirmed that during the pandemic non-nationals who violate the country’s legislation may continue to face detention and deportation. He wrote, “For foreigners violating the legislation of the Republic of Belarus on the plight of foreign citizens and persons who have taken citizenship, measures are applied in accordance with the requirements of the Code of Administrative Offenses, including deportation.” However, he specified that foreigners stuck in the country for reasons outside their control will be granted stay extensions: “Foreigners who cannot leave the Republic of Belarus for reasons beyond their control, the length of stay is extended.” Belarus has attracted significant criticism for its slow and limited response to the pandemic, and few official containment measures have been adopted. With President Lukashenko publicly downplaying the pandemic--which he has dismissed as a “psychosis”-- authorities have refused to cancel large public events such as football matches or the country’s Victory Day military parade. Several small measures were, however, adopted with regards to prisons, with authorities suspending visits on 16 March and issuing new guidance on supplies to be delivered to inmates. Reportedly, every 30 days prisoners may receive food packages weighing up to 10kg, but they may only contain items authorities deem necessary for the prevention of respiratory illnesses (specifically: citrus fruits, garlic, onions, and apples). To date, however, no steps have been taken to release prisoners - or foreign detainees - prompting the United Civic Party to launch a petition in April calling for prisoners to be released. It warned that if measures were not taken, prisons will “turn into mass graves.” Family members of inmates sent an open letter to the president requesting an amnesty bill which will permit the release or reduced sentencing of vulnerable people and those sentenced for non-violent crimes. On 7 May, the UN Special Rapporteur on the Situation of Human Rights in Belarus and the UN Working Group on Arbitrary Detention urged the government to release all children and young people imprisoned for drug-related offences. They called on authorities “to avoid by all means the detention of children, to release those who do not pose a threat to society ... which is especially necessary in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.”</p>	2020

INTERNATIONAL LAW

Relevant international treaties and date of ratification			
International treaties	Name		Ratification Year
	VCCR, Vienna Convention on Consular Relations		1989
	ICERD, International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination		1969
	ICESCR, International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights		1973
	ICCPR, International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights		1973
	CEDAW, Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women		1981
	CAT, Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment		1987
	CRC, Convention on the Rights of the Child		1990
	CRSR, Geneva Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees		2001
	CTOCTP, Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children		2003
	CTOCSP, Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime		2003
	CRPD, Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities		2016
PCRSR, Protocol to the Geneva Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees		2001	
Ratio of relevant international treaties ratified	12/19		
Relevant international treaties and date of ratification			
Individual complaints procedure	Name		Acceptance Year
	ICCPR, First Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, 1966		1992
	CEDAW, Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, 1999		2004
Relevant international treaties and date of ratification			
Ratio of complaints procedures accepted	Number		Observation Date
	2/6		2017
Relevant international treaties and date of ratification			
Relevant recommendations issued by treaty bodies	Name	Recommendation Excerpt	Recommendation Year
	Committee against Torture	Para 53b Refrain from detaining migrants, including minors who may be detained with their relatives, in regular pretrial or temporary detention facilities and provide them with access to a lawyer and other fundamental legal safeguards;	2018
Non treaty-based international human rights mechanisms			
Relevant recommendations of the UN Universal Periodic Review	Recommendation Issued	Year Issued	Observation Date
	No	2010	2017
	No	2015	2017

INSTITUTIONAL INDICATORS

Governing structures				
Federal or centralized governing system	Federal or centralized governing system			Observation Date
		Centralized system		
Governing structures				
Centralized or decentralized immigration authority	Centralized or decentralized immigration authority			Observation Date
		Centralized immigration authority		
Institutions responsible for immigration detention				
Custodial authority	Agency	Ministry	Ministry Typology	Observation Date
	Departments of State Border Control	State Border Control	Defence	2018
	Departments of internal affairs	Ministry of Internal Affairs	Interior or Home Affairs	2018
	Departments of the Committee of State Security	Committee of State Security	Interior or Home Affairs	2018
Institutions responsible for immigration detention				
Apprehending authorities	Name	Agency	Ministry	Observation Date
	Departments of the Committee of State Security	Law enforcement, border control and national security	Ministry of Justice	2018
	Departments of Internal Affairs	Law enforcement, border control and national security	Ministry of Justice	2018
	Departments of State Border Control	Law enforcement, border control and national security	Ministry of Justice	2018
Institutions responsible for immigration detention				
Detention Facility Management	Entity Name	Entity Type	Observation Date	
	Ministry of Internal Affairs	Governmental	2018	
Institutions responsible for immigration detention				
Formally designated detention estate?	Formally designated immigration detention estate?	Types of officially designated detention centres		Observation Date
	No			2018
Detention monitoring institutions				
Authorized monitoring institutions	Institution	Institution Type	Observation Date	
	n/a		2018	
Detention monitoring institutions				
Do parliamentary organs carry out visits?	Do parliamentary organs carry out visits?			Observation Date
	No			2018
Foreign sources of funding for detention operations				
Does the country receive external sources of funding?	Benefitted from non-state funding sources?			Observation Date
	Yes			2018

Foreign sources of funding for detention operations

	Description of non-state assistance	Observation Date
Description of foreign assistance	The project " Assistance to Belarus to handle increased irregular migration" was registered in August 2018. The project is funded by the European Union and is implemented by the International Organization for Migration Office in Belarus in cooperation with the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the State Border Committee. The budget of the project is €7 million. The project seeks to enable voluntary return of migrants to their homeland without deportation. The border guard service will also receive vehicles to transport migrants. The project provides for the construction of new centers and also renovation of the existing ones.	2018

More information about immigration detention in Belarus is available at the website of the Global Detention Project (www.globaldetentionproject.org)