# THAILAND MIGRATION REPORT 2019

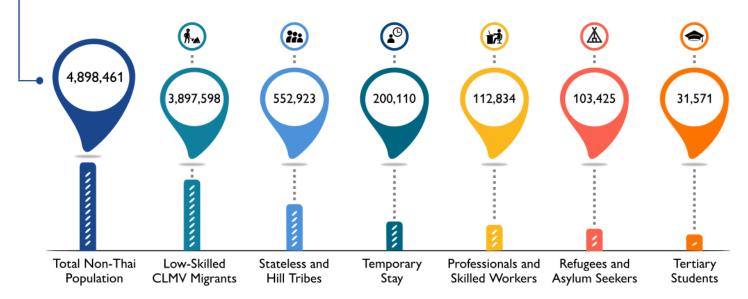


# **Migration Profile**

The number of non-Thai residents within the country has increased from an estimated 3.7 million in 2014 to 4.9 million in 2018, which includes approximately 3.9 million migrant workers from Cambodia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar and Vietnam.



The majority work in low skilled occupations, though there are more than 110,000 skilled professionals in Thailand and other major groups.



Many women are the main breadwinners for their families through their employment in Thailand.

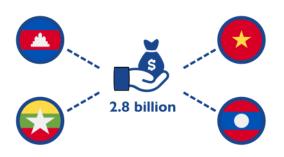
Official data shows that about half of the migrant workers in Thailand are women.



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# **Migration and Development**



Each year, migrant workers in Thailand send USD 2.8 billion in remittances through formal channels to Cambodia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar and Vietnam.

# Over 10% of Total Labour Force 4.3% to 6.6% GDP

Migrants constitute over 10 per cent of Thailand's labour force and contribute between 4.3 to 6.6 per cent of gross domestic product.

## Access to Services for Migrants



**Health Insurance Coverage** 

An estimated 64 per cent of regular migrants (1.97 million) are enrolled in a public health insurance scheme but share drops to 51 per cent if irregular migrants are also included.



#### **Education**

More than 164,000 migrant children are enrolled in school within Thailand. At the same time, about 200,000 are not receiving any form of education.

### **Exploitation of Migrants**



A total of 455 individuals in Thailand were officially identified as trafficked persons in 2017, however, the real scale of the problem is difficult to ascertain.

## **Working Conditions for Migrants**



Survey results suggest the average monthly wages in agriculture (THB 6,000) and fishing (THB 7,730) are significantly below the minimum wage in Thailand.

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More trends, analysis and recommendations

in the Thailand Migration Report 2019

#### Recommendations Ensure fair and ethical recruitment Allow migrant workers greater agency to change employment of migrant workers Establish regular migration channels Extend responsibility of employers to protect the occupational safety that are cheaper, faster and easier and health of all agricultural workers to access Provide coverage by labour and Expand complaint access to social protection laws to migrants in mechanisms and enforce stricter all sectors of work penalties for labour violations understanding Increase of the Decriminalize sex work and increase contribution of migrants among the protection of sex workers' rights news media Strengthen the multi-disciplinary End the detention of migrant approach to anti-trafficking children Provide government funding for Ensure that migrant workers are NGO service providers to deliver able to make practical use of their health services to irregular migrants entitlements to health coverage Build capacity to implement and Expand skills recognitions for the independently monitor ethical codes sectors of work in which women of conduct for the private sector migrants are employed Develop bilateral recognitions for Improve the capacity of the labour educational credentials enforce the of inspectorate to migrant children and provide provisions of relevant acts and accreditation for migrant learning ministrial regulations in the fishing and agricultural sectors centres Review anti-trafficking responses