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Recensement de la population | Luxembourg



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The territorial distribution of the population

On 8 November 2021, 643,941 inhabitants were enumerated in Luxembourg. The population is distributed very unevenly across Luxembourg. The southern part of the country, which is highly urbanised, is much more populated than the rural regions in the centre and north of the country. At cantonal level, Luxembourg and Esch-sur-Alzette are the most populous cantons, with 197,932 and 186,224 inhabitants respectively. They alone account for approximately 60% of the national population. At municipal level, Luxembourg City has by far the largest population, with 128,097 inhabitants. Its residents represent about one fifth of the total population of Luxembourg.

The population is mainly concentrated in the centre-south, south and south-west of the country

The population of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg is not evenly distributed across the country. The southern part of Luxembourg, including the city of Luxembourg and its surroundings as well as the former mining basin, is much more populated than the more rural regions in the centre and north of the country.

The cantons of Luxembourg and Esch-sur-Alzette are the most populous, with 197,932 and 186,224 inhabitants respectively. They alone account for approximately 60% of the national population. The other cantons have fewer people, with shares of the total population varying between 8.0% in Capellen and 0.9% in Vianden.

TABLE 1: POPULATION BY CANTON AS OF 8 NOVEMBER 2021

Canton	Nombre de résidents	Pourcentage de la population
Canton de Luxembourg	197 932	30.7
Canton d'Esch-sur-Alzette	186 224	28.9
Canton de Capellen	51 523	8.0
Canton de Mersch	34 652	5.4
Canton de Diekirch	34 278	5.3
Canton de Grevenmacher	31 682	4.9
Canton de Remich	23 684	3.7
Canton de Redange	20 279	3.1
Canton de Clervaux	19 944	3.1
Canton d'Echternach	19 679	3.1
Canton de Wiltz	18 562	2.9
Canton de Vianden	5 502	0.9
Grand-Duché de Luxembourg	643 941	100.0

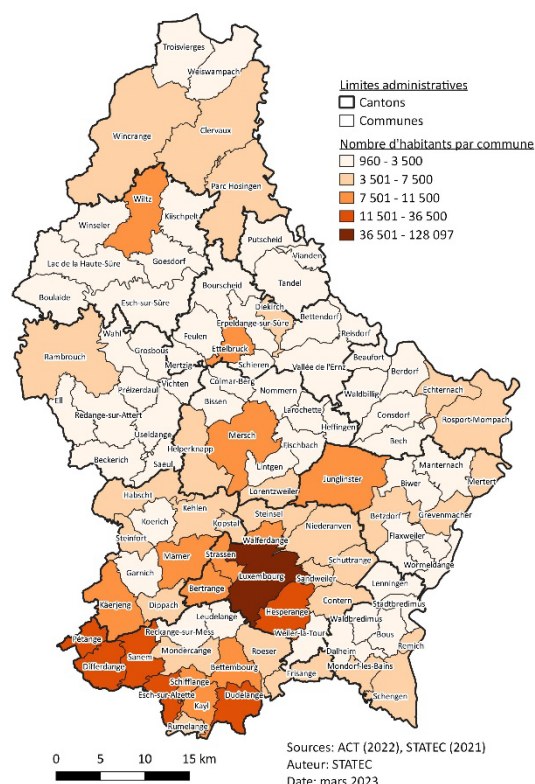
Source: STATEC, RNPP (2021)

Source: STATEC

The most populated municipalities

At the level of the municipalities, the City of Luxembourg is by far the most populous with 128,097 inhabitants. Its population represents approximately 20% of the total population of Luxembourg. Next are several municipalities with more than 15,000 inhabitants, in the south and south-west of the country, and on the outskirts of the capital: Esch-sur-Alzette (36,117), Differdange (28,532), Dudelange (21,568), Pétange (20,385), Sanem (17,964), Hesperange (15,835). Then come Bettembourg (11,406), Schiffflange (11,148) and Käerjeng (10,761).

MAP 1: NUMBER OF INHABITANTS PER MUNICIPALITY ON 08/11/2021



Of the ten most populated communes, seven are located in the agglomeration of Luxembourg City and especially in the former mining basin in the south and south-west of Luxembourg. In the north, or even the centre-north of the country, only the more urban municipalities of Mersch (10,167), Ettelbruck (9,353), Junglinster (8,405), Wiltz (7,697) and Diekirch (7,143) have a population of over 7,000.

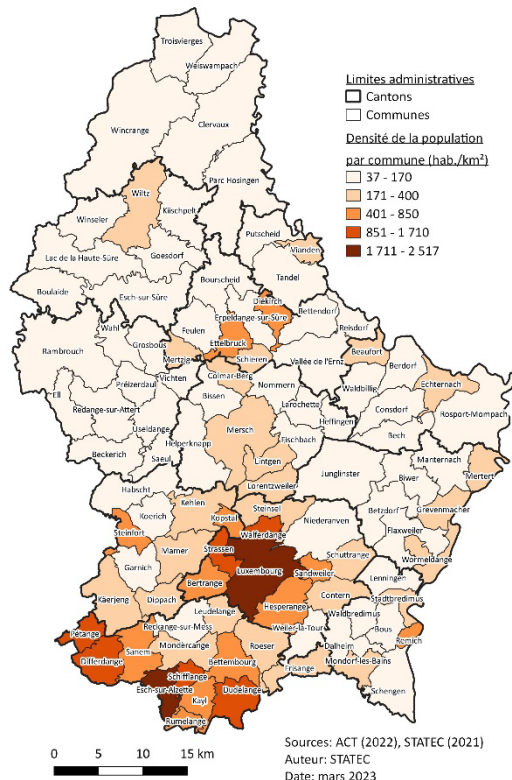
The least populated municipalities

In contrast, the least populated municipalities are located outside the more urban areas of the country. The least populated municipality is Saeul with 960 citizens, followed by Wahl (1,043), Putscheid (1,127), Grosbous (1,130), Kiischpelt (1,226) and Fischbach (1,256).

Map 2 shows that the north-south difference in terms of the spatial distribution of the Luxembourg population is even clearer if we look at the population density. The average number of inhabitants per km²

varies greatly between municipalities, ranging from 36.5 inhabitants per km² in Kiischpelt to 2 517 inhabitants per km² in Esch-sur-Alzette. The majority of the population is concentrated in the central-southern, southern and south-western parts of the country. The northern and central-northern parts of the country, on the other hand, which are largely characterised by rural municipalities, are much less densely populated.

MAP 2: POPULATION DENSITY BY MUNICIPALITY AS OF 08/11/2021



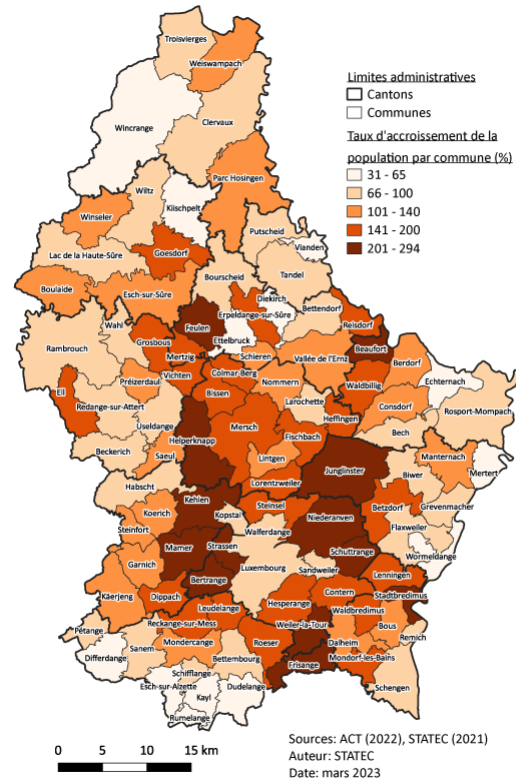
Over the last fifty years, population growth has been highest in Weiler-la-Tour and lowest in Esch-sur-Alzette

Between 1970 and 2021, the population of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg increased by approximately 90%, from 339,846 to 643,941 inhabitants. The population of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg has been growing strongly and steadily since the end of the 1980s.

At the communal level, the population did not develop in the same way everywhere. The growth was most

pronounced in some municipalities on the outskirts of the capital's agglomeration and in several rural municipalities in the centre-north and north-east of the country. The municipalities of Weiler-la-Tour (+295% compared to 1970), Kehlen (+269%), Beaufort (+267%) and Frisange (+255%) experienced the highest growth rates. In Weiler-la Tour, the population has almost quadrupled in 51 years, from 634 to 2,501 inhabitants.

MAP 3: POPULATION GROWTH RATE BETWEEN 1970 AND 2021, IN %.



In contrast, demographic growth has been less significant in the more highly urbanised municipalities, such as certain municipalities in the agglomeration of the City of Luxembourg, the municipalities of the former mining basin and the various municipalities comprising medium-sized towns (Ettelbruck, Diekirch, Echternach, Merttert, Vianden, etc.). Weaker growth can also be observed in rural municipalities, including several along the German and Belgian borders. Demographic growth was least pronounced in Esch-sur-Alzette (+31% compared to 1970), Diekirch (+41%), Vianden (+42%), Rumelange (+44%) and Kayl (+45%).

Demographic growth is therefore a phenomenon that is very unevenly distributed throughout Luxembourg. On the one hand, it appears that the population has

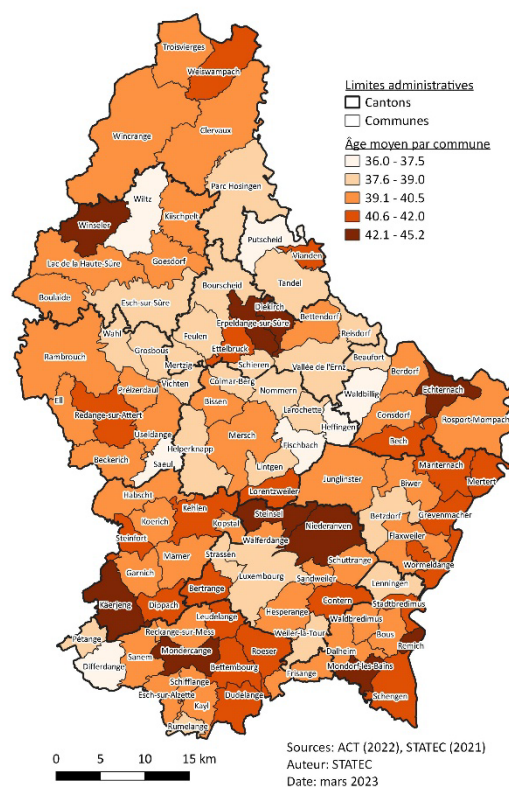
increased least in the urban municipalities since 1970. At the same time, it is mainly the rural municipalities, which are less populated in absolute terms, that have experienced the most pronounced growth. Nevertheless, in absolute numbers, it is in the urban communes of the Luxembourg City agglomeration and those in the south and south-west of the country that the population has grown the most. Thus, the population of Luxembourg City increased by 51,938 inhabitants and those of Differdange, Hesperange, Esch-sur-Alzette and Pétange by 10,568, 9,542, 8,543 and 8,541 people respectively.

Mondorf-les-Bains has the highest average age, Fischbach the lowest

At the country level, the average age of the population is 39.7 years as of 8 November 2021. The average age of women is higher than that of men. Indeed, the average age of the female population is 40.4 years, while the average age of the male population is 39.0 years. This higher average age for women is due to a higher life expectancy.

At the municipal level, the average age varies greatly from one municipality to another, from 36.0 years in Fischbach to 45.2 years in Mondorf-les-Bains. The average age is undoubtedly influenced by the presence or absence of old people's homes in certain municipalities. This presence can significantly increase the average age, especially when large homes are involved, in communes with a small to medium population; this is the case for: Mondorf-les-Bains, Remich, Niederanven, Echternach, Mondercange, Erpeldange-sur-Sûre, etc.

MAP 4: AVERAGE AGE OF THE POPULATION BY MUNICIPALITY AS OF 08/11/2021



With some exceptions (the communes of the Nordstad, Vianden, etc.), it is in the centre-north and north-east of Luxembourg that we find the populations with the lowest average ages, between 36.0 and 39.0 years. Among the ten youngest municipalities, nine are located in the north, north-central or north-eastern part of the country. The only exception in the south is Differdange. The average ages are lowest in Fischbach (36.0 years), Heffingen (36.9) and Waldbillig (37.0).

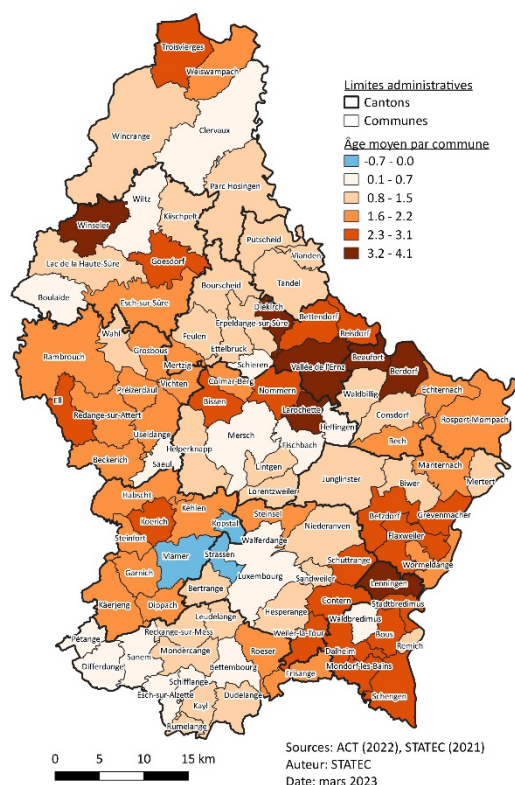
On the other hand, the municipalities in the southern half of the country are characterised by an older population on average, with maximum average ages between 42.1 and 45.2 years.

Between 2011 and 2021, most of the municipalities have seen an ageing of their population. The average age of the inhabitants of Larochette increased the most, by 4.1 years, from 34.5 to 38.6 years. Then come the municipalities of Winseler, Berdorf, Beaufort and Diekirch, whose populations have aged by 4.0, 3.8, 3.5 and 3.4 years respectively. Only the municipalities of Strassen, Kopstal and Mamer saw the average age of their residents decrease by 0.7, 0.4 and 0.4 years respectively.

In general, Map 5 shows that the municipalities in the centre-east (around the Ernzy Valley) and the south-east (along the Moselle) have aged the most. The

municipalities along the Belgian border between Käerjeng and Rambrouch up to Goesdorf also show an ageing of their populations by at least 1.5 years. Conversely, it is the more urban municipalities of the Luxembourg City agglomeration and those in the south-west, but also those in the centre of the country (between Saeul and Consdorf, or even Biwer) and the north (between Schieren and Clervaux), whose residents have aged the least between 2011 and 2021.

MAP 5: EVOLUTION OF THE AVERAGE AGE OF THE POPULATION BY MUNICIPALITY BETWEEN 2011 AND 2021

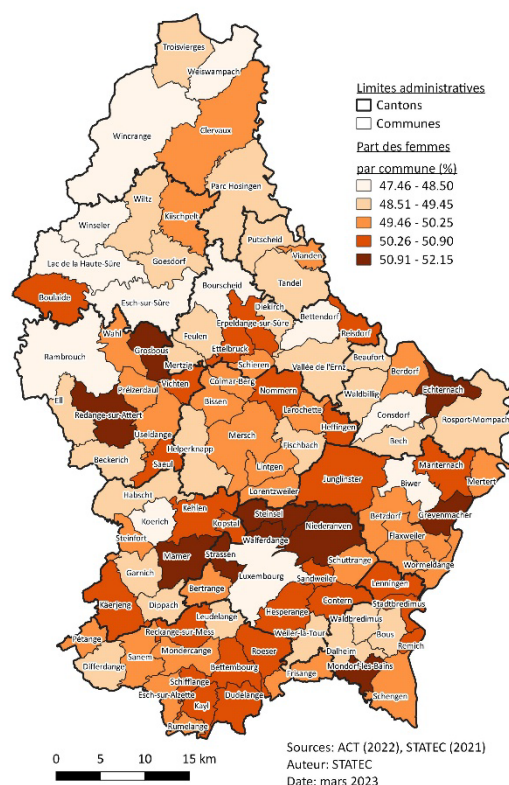


Higher proportion of women in the south than in the north

At national level, the proportion of women (49.6%) is slightly lower than that of men (50.4%). The share of women in the Luxembourg population has long been higher than that of men. In 1981, women still represented 51.2% of the national population, whereas in 2011, this share was only 50.2%. In 2014, the proportion of men exceeded that of women. The share of men has thus been growing continuously for several decades, which can be explained by the surplus of male immigrants.

This slight under-representation of women at national level cannot be generalised to all the municipalities in Luxembourg. The proportion of women varies between 47.5% in Winseler and 52.2% in Walferdange. Of the 102 communes, only 43 have more women than men in their population. In general, it appears that the southern half of the country has a higher proportion of women than the northern half. Indeed, with a few exceptions, the rural municipalities in the northern part of Luxembourg have predominantly male populations, whereas the southern part is characterised by more municipalities with a female majority. At the level of the agglomeration of the City of Luxembourg, most of the communes surrounding the capital have populations with a female majority, whereas in the capital itself women are under-represented (48.1%).

MAP 6: PROPORTION OF WOMEN IN THE POPULATION BY MUNICIPALITY AS OF 08/11/2021, IN %.

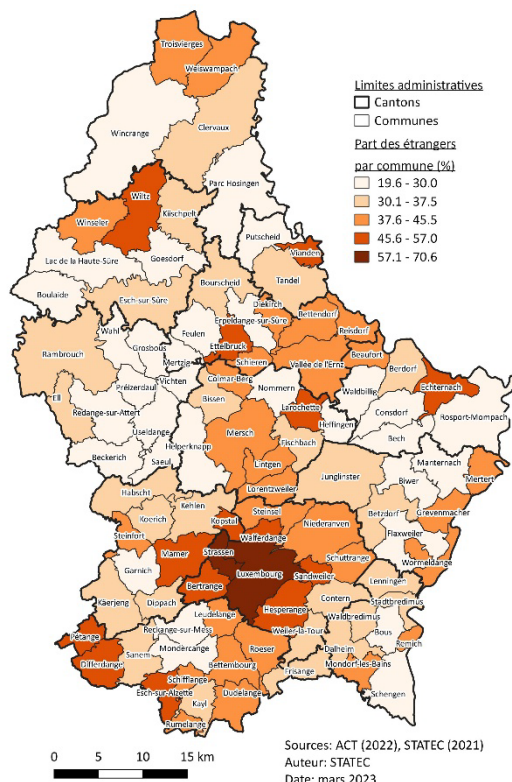


11 municipalities with a majority of foreigners

As at 8 November 2021, 339,890 residents had Luxembourg nationality, while 304,051 residents had another nationality. The population of Luxembourg is therefore composed of 52.8% Luxembourg nationals and 47.2% people with a foreign nationality. The presence of foreign citizens has increased significantly since the end of the Second World War. Since 1961, the foreign population has increased from 13.2% to 47.2%. Following numerous naturalizations, this share has stabilized in recent years.

In most municipalities, Luxembourg nationality is the rule. In 11 municipalities, the opposite is observed. These are the City of Luxembourg (70.6% foreigners), Strassen (61.2%), Esch-sur-Alzette (56.8%), Larochette (55.3%), Hesperange (54.3%), Bertrange (53.6%), Differdange (53.4%), Walferdange (51.6%), Mamer (50.9%), Kopstal (50.7%) and Vianden (50.6%). Apart from Larochette and Vianden, these are municipalities in the agglomeration of the City of Luxembourg or in the former mining basin where Luxembourgers are less represented.

MAP 7: SHARE OF FOREIGNERS PER MUNICIPALITY ON 08/11/2021, IN %.



Thus, people with foreign passports seem to prefer to settle in the country's large and medium-sized cities

and near Luxembourg City, where the main employment centres are also concentrated. The commune of Larochette stands out from the crowd. With 55.3% foreigners, it is the fourth most cosmopolitan commune (in relative terms). This remarkable percentage is essentially due to its large Portuguese community (38.6% of the municipal population).

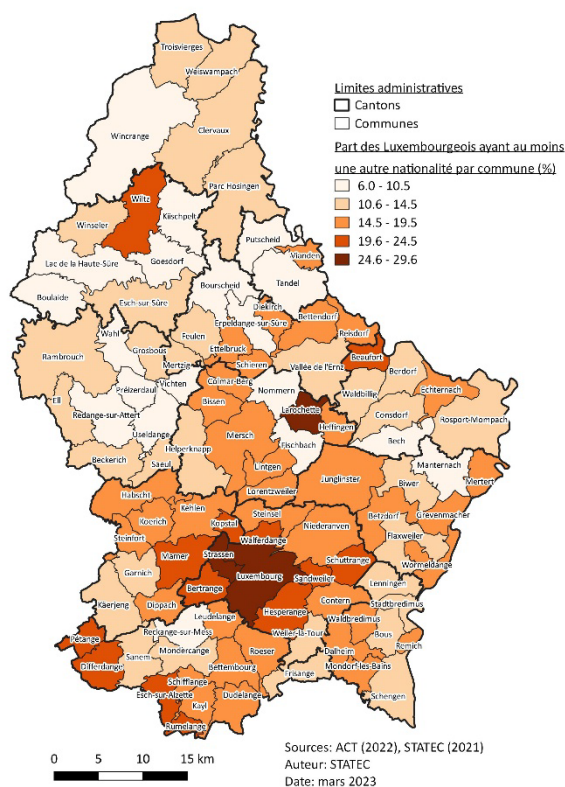
The rural municipalities in the northern half of the country, and particularly those located in the canton of Redange, have low shares of foreign citizens. Foreigners are least represented in Nommern (19.6%), Useldange (20.9%), Reckange-sur-Mess (21.3%), Wahl (22.1%), and Grosbous (22.5%).

In Luxembourg City, Strassen and Larochette, more than a quarter of Luxembourgers also hold another nationality

In the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, there are slightly more residents with Luxembourg nationality than with foreign passports. Persons of Luxembourg nationality who still hold another nationality are always counted as Luxembourg nationals. Of the 339,890 people who are counted as Luxembourg nationals, 82.0% hold only Luxembourg nationality, while 18.0% hold at least a second nationality. The proportion of Luxembourg nationals with more than one nationality varies greatly between municipalities, from 6.0% in Wahl to 29.6% in Strassen.

The highest shares are observed in Luxembourg City (28.9%) and its surroundings, in the municipalities encompassing the large cities of the former mining basin, as well as in Larochette (29.5%), Wiltz (22.0%) and Beaufort (21.0%). The municipalities in the Alzette valley, linking the capital agglomeration to the Nordstad, and several municipalities located on the border with Germany also have fairly high shares. The lowest shares of Luxembourg nationals with at least a second nationality are found in the northern tip of the country, in the west (canton of Redange) and in the east (canton of Echternach) of Luxembourg.

MAP 8: SHARE OF LUXEMBOURG NATIONALS WITH AT LEAST ONE OTHER NATIONALITY BY MUNICIPALITY IN 2021, IN %.



The share of foreign-born is higher in urban municipalities

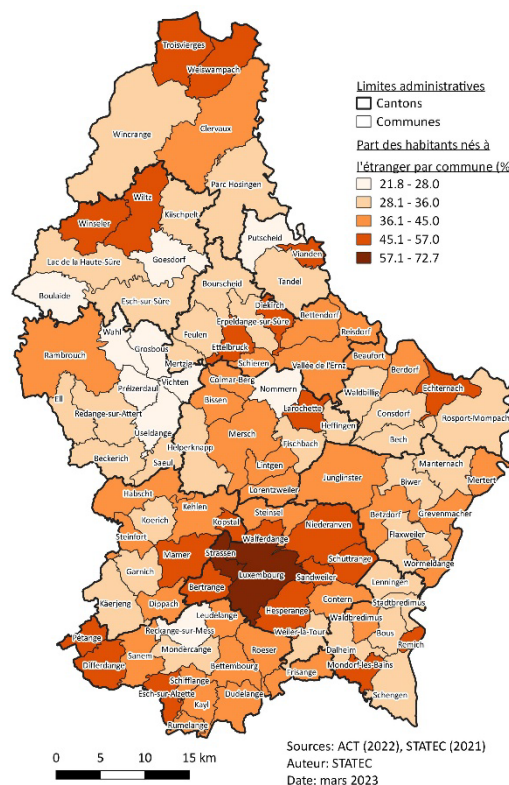
In the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, 47.2% of the population was born outside Luxembourg. The proportion of people born abroad is not the same everywhere in the country. Indeed, it varies from one commune to another, ranging from 19.6% in Nommern to 70.6% in Luxembourg City.

The highest expatriate shares are also found in Strassen (61.2%), Esch-sur-Alzette (56.8%), Larochette (55.3%) and Hesperange (54.3%), while Useldange (20.9%), Reckange-sur-Mess (21.3%) and Goesdorf (23.4%) have some of the smallest shares.

In eleven municipalities, the number of foreign-born residents is higher than that of Luxembourg-born residents: Luxembourg City, Strassen, Bertange, Esch-sur-Alzette, Hesperange, Kopstal, Walferdange, Mamer, Larochette, Differdange and Sandweiler. The municipalities with high shares are largely located in the agglomeration of Luxembourg City or in the urban centres of the south and south-west of the country. The commune of Larochette, with its large Portuguese community, is the only very rural commune with such a result. High shares are also observed in other communes (urban and rural) with high percentages of foreign residents (Echternach, Wiltz, Ettelbruck, Vianden, Weiswampach, etc.).

As for the small shares of foreign-born inhabitants, they appear mainly in the rural municipalities of the central north, west and east of the country.

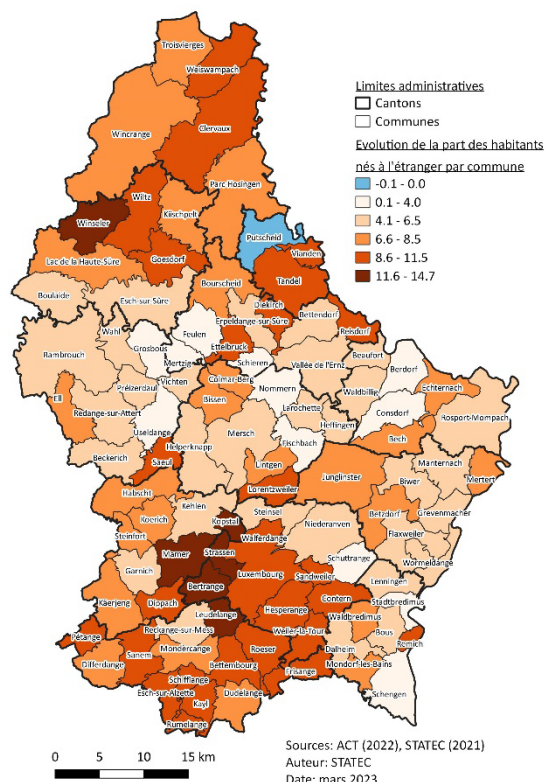
MAP 9: SHARE OF FOREIGN-BORN INHABITANTS PER MUNICIPALITY ON 08/11/2021, IN %.



Between 2011 and 2021, in all municipalities except Putscheid the proportion of expatriates will increase. In Putscheid, this proportion even fell slightly by 0.1 percentage points. In the other municipalities, the growth varies between 0.9 % points in Useldange and 14.7 % points in Winseler.

Map 10 shows that between 2011 and 2021, the shares of foreign-born residents increased the most in the municipalities located in the south and south-west of the country and in those in the north of Luxembourg. Together with Winseler, the peri-urban municipalities to the west of Luxembourg City stand out with increases of between 11.6 and 13.7 percentage points. The smallest increases are noted in the central municipalities of the country, from west to east, as well as in those along the German border, with increases of between 0.1 and 6.5 percentage points.

MAP 10: EVOLUTION OF THE SHARE OF FOREIGN-BORN INHABITANTS PER MUNICIPALITY BETWEEN 2011 AND 2021



FOR MORE INFORMATION

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Population census maps on the national geoportal

STATEC, in collaboration with the Administration du cadastre et de la topographie, makes interactive maps with the results of the population census available on the Luxembourg geoportal at the following address

www.g-o.lu/population

or by scanning the following QR Code:

