

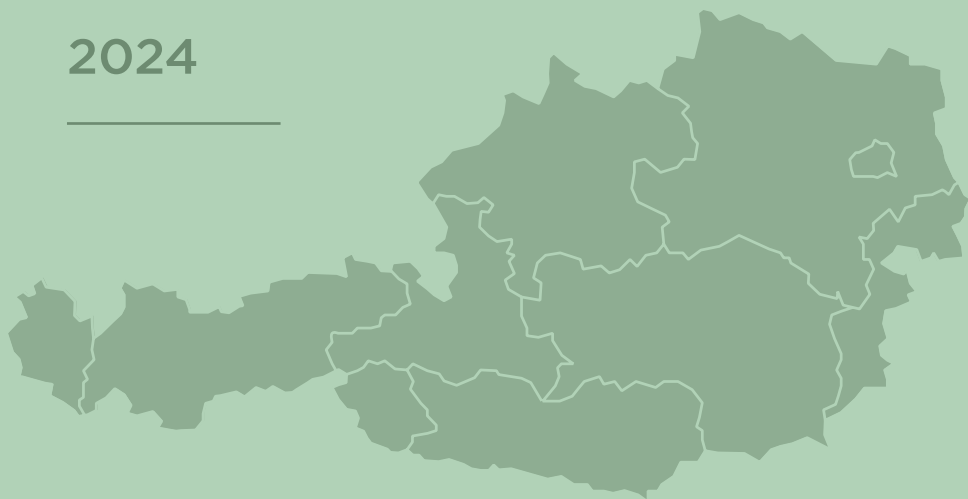
STATISTICAL YEARBOOK



Migration & Integration

SHORT VERSION

2024



Integration at a glance

Demographic situation

Integration indicators were defined as part of the National Action Plan on Integration in order to make the different dimensions of the integration process in Austria measurable and to establish long-term integration monitoring. Changes over time are kept to a minimum so it is easy to compare the results of the different years. Based on the 25 defined integration indicators 1 – 25, in particular the five core indicators, and taking the demographic conditions into account as well as subjective viewpoints, the current status of immigration and integration in Austria for 2022/23 and the main changes compared to previous years, the situation can be summarised as follows:

Fewer immigrants from abroad in 2023, but more emigrants moving to foreign countries

- Following a pandemic-related decline in 2020, migration-related movements with foreign countries in 2021 were back at pre-pandemic levels and rose very sharply in 2022, mainly due to high refugee migration from Ukraine (2022: 261,900 immigrants, 125,000 emigrants, balance of 137,000). Immigration fell again in 2023 (195,000), whereas emigration continued to increase (128,300), which is why the balance with foreign countries fell significantly (66,600).

- Of the total of 195,000 immigrants in 2023, around 13,400 were Austrian nationals returning home and a further 94,000 were nationals of EU or EFTA states or from the United Kingdom (GB). Of these, German (19,800) and Romanian nationals (19,300)

formed the largest groups, followed by Hungarian nationals (14,700). Immigration of third-country nationals (87,500) accounted for less than half (45%) of all immigration. There were 15,700 Ukrainians, along with 15,200 Syrian, 7,600 Turkish, 3,500 Afghan and 2,700 Iranian nationals as well as a total of 13,100 people from countries of the former Yugoslavia (outside the EU) who moved to Austria in 2023.

- With around 59,200 cases, the number of asylum applications lodged in Austria in 2023 was significantly lower than in 2022 (112,300). This is mainly due to the sharp decline in applications from Indian (2023: 1,300; 2022: 20,000), Afghan (2023: 8,600; 2022: 25,000) and Tunisian nationals (2023: 400; 2022: 13,100). By contrast, the number of applications from Turkish (2023: 7,800; 2022: 5,300) and Syrian (2023: 21,400; 2022: 19,700) nationals has risen slightly.

Increase in the foreign resident population

- Around 2,449 million people with a migrant background lived in Austria on average in 2023. This equated to a share of 27.2% in relation to the total population in private households. Around 1,829 million people belong to the so-called “first generation”, as they themselves were born abroad and moved to Austria. The remaining population of approximately 620,000 people with a migrant background are descendants born in Austria of parents who were born abroad (“second generation”).

- The number of foreign nationals in Austria at the beginning of 2024 was approximately 1,801 million people. This equated to a share of 19.7% of the total population.

- Germans continue to be by far the largest group of foreign nationals in Austria. There were around 232,000 Germans living in Austria on 1 January 2024, followed by 153,400 Romanian nationals. These are ahead of Turkish (124,100) and Serbian nationals (122,200). Hungary occupies fifth place (107,300). Places six to ten are occupied by nationals of Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Syria, Ukraine and Poland. People from Afghanistan, Slovakia, Bulgaria, Italy, Russia, Kosovo and North Macedonia are also strongly represented in Austria.

- The average age of Austria's population on 1 January 2024 was 43.4 years. With an average age of 36.0 years, foreign nationals were significantly younger than Austrian nationals (45.2 years). The age structure among foreign nationals, however, was relatively heterogeneous: of the 20 nationalities living in Austria representing the largest numbers, Syrian and Afghan nationals were the youngest, with an average age of 25.7 and 26.8 years respectively, and German nationals the oldest at 41.6 years.

Birth rate trends

- There were 77,600 children born in Austria in 2023 while 89,800 people passed away. The rate of natural increase (the difference between live births and deaths) was therefore clearly negative at 12,200 persons. Foreign nationals registered a surplus of births (11,800 people), Austrian citizens a surplus of deaths (23,700 people).

- Women in Austria gave birth to around 1.32 children on average in 2023. Those born in Austria gave birth to 1.24 children on average, while those born abroad gave birth to 1.56 children. At 1.29 children, the fertility of naturalised women was slightly below the average fertility level in Austria, whereas women with foreign nationality gave birth to significantly more children (1.56).

Fields of action and integration indicators

Language and education

Knowledge of the German language plays an important role in the process of integrating into Austria. It makes it easier to deal with the population, with authorities as well as with care facilities. Education is also a key aspect of integration. The level of education of people with a migrant background (25- to 64-year-olds) has improved significantly over time, with the proportion of people with foreign nationality who had at most a compulsory school leaving certification standing at 23% in 2023 (1981: 70%, 2001: 53%), while the proportion of academics was 29% (1981: 6%, 2001: 10%).

1 2 Learning the German language begins in kindergarten. The proportion of children aged one to five years attending a crèche, kindergarten or other elementary educational institution was higher for Austrian children in 2022/23 at just over 77% than for children who were not of Austrian nationality (71%). This means a slight increase for both groups compared to previous years, including above pre-pandemic levels: the pre-school care rate for children without Austrian nationality was 70% in 2019/20, for children of Austrian nationality it was around 75%. The proportion of non-German-speaking children in elementary child care facilities rose slightly from just under 32% in the 2017/18 kindergarten year to just over 32% in 2022/23, with an increase in language diversity. The proportion was highest in mixed-age care groups (51%) and lowest in crèches (28%). The nationwide language assessment at the beginning of the 2022/23 kindergarten year revealed a need for German-language support for 50,800 children between the ages of 4 and 5 (29%). The proportion had decreased to 23% by the end of the kindergarten year.

3 The proportion of pupils without Austrian citizenship as a percentage of all pupils increased in the 2022/23 school year compared to the previous year (from 17.9% to 19.3%). The proportion of pupils whose first language was not German remained unchanged on the previous year at 26.8%. The highest proportion of pupils with a first language other than German in the 2022/23 school year was found in special needs schools (43%) and polytechnic schools (39%), the lowest in schools that teach for the school leaving exam (Matura) – higher academic secondary schools (just over 20%), higher vocational schools (just below 20%) and pure vocational schools (14%).

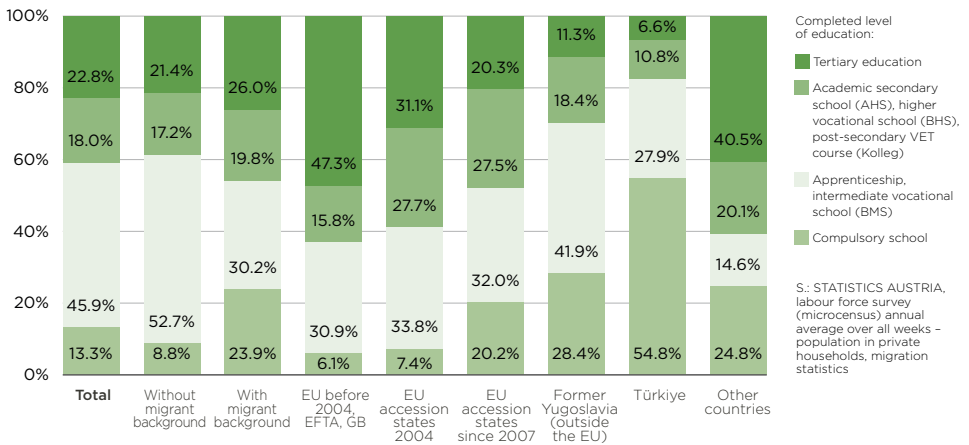
A total of 71% of Turkish youths in the 10th grade attended schools that do not lead to the school leaving exam (Matura). This proportion was slightly higher for young people from Afghanistan, Syria and Iraq at 73%. The figure was just 49% among Austrian youths. A lower proportion of young people born abroad (60%) than of 15- to 19-year-olds born in Austria (80%) attended secondary school following compulsory education in 2022. Both proportions were at the same level in 2012 and fluctuated in between. Early school drop-out is more frequent among young people with a first language other than German (10%) than among German-speaking young people (3%).

4 The number of regular foreign students at Austria's public universities has risen steadily in recent years and reached a share of 32% of all students at public universities in the 2022/23 winter semester (84,100). A total of 73% of foreign students came from EU and EFTA states, primarily from Germany and Italy (South Tyrol). A further 13,100 or so were enrolled at universities of applied sciences (proportion of foreign nationals 22%). Compared to the EU and EFTA states, Austria had the highest proportion of students with foreign nationality in 2022 (19.4%). This value was similar for Switzerland (19.1%).

5 6 The level of education for the population with a migrant background has improved significantly in a longer-term comparison. Less than a quarter (24%) of 25- to 64-year-olds had compulsory education as their highest educational level in 2023, while 50% had a mid-level or higher level of education and 26% had a university degree. The proportion of first-generation immigrants with a compulsory school leaving certification as their maximum level was 25%, while for the second generation this was 20%. On the other hand,

the proportion of the second generation with mid-level qualifications (apprenticeship, intermediate vocational school) increased to 44% compared to 28% in the first generation, thereby approximating the proportion for the population with no migrant background (53%). People from the first generation of immigrants were more likely to have an academic education (27%) than those from the second generation (16%) and those with no migrant background (21%).

15 Level of education of people aged 25 to 64 years 2023 by migrant background



Work and employment

The labour market is a further key driver of integration alongside the education system. The Austrian labour market showed a clear upturn in 2022 following the slump caused by the COVID pandemic, although this stagnated in 2023 due to the economic situation. There was a decline in the employment rate among foreign nationals compared to the previous year (-0.7 percentage points; 2023: 68.7%), while the labour force participation rate among Austrian nationals increased slightly (+0.4 percentage points; 2023: 75.6%). The employment rate was 74.1% overall in 2023. This was almost unchanged from the previous year (2022: 74.0%) and above

the pre-crisis level of 2019 (73.6%).

The unemployment rate (national definition) was 6.4% in 2023 and was thereby slightly higher than in 2022 (6.3%) but lower than before the pandemic (2019: 7.4%). The unemployment rate for foreign nationals rose from 9.1% in 2022 to 9.6% in 2023, which was also below the 2019 level (10.8%). There was a slight decrease in the unemployment rate for Austrian nationals compared to the previous year (2022: 5.4%; 2023: 5.3%), which was also lower than before the pandemic (2019: 6.4%). Long-term unemployment (those unemployed for more than twelve months) fell sharply compared to the previous year by 27% from 2022 to 2023 to around 32,500 people

(2022: 44,300). The proportion of long-term unemployed as a percentage of all unemployed also fell significantly to 12% in 2023 (2022: 17%, 2019: 16%). The sector-specific pattern of gainful employment differed between individuals with and those without a migrant background. Individuals with a migrant background were more frequently employed in the catering and accommodation sector (9.2% compared to 3.9% of the population with no migrant background), the construction industry (9.4% compared to 7.2%) and in transport (6.6% compared to 4.1%). Individuals with a migrant background were also more likely to work in the retail sector (14.7% compared to 13.8%), especially the second generation (18.6% compared to 13.9% of the first generation). Conversely, employees with no migrant background were more likely to work in public administration and defence (8.5% compared to 2.7%), education and teaching (7.4% compared to 5.7%) and in the health and social services sector (11.5% compared to 10.0%) than employees with a migrant background.

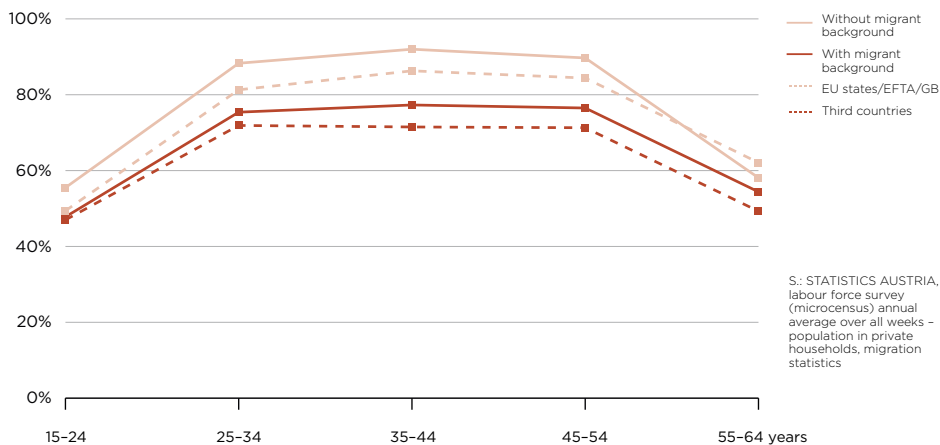
7 The employment rate for individuals with a migrant background was 68.5% in 2023, 8.1

percentage points lower than that for the working-age population who have no migrant background. The rate was lower among people with a migrant background from third countries (63.9%).

Women with a migrant background from third countries showed a significantly lower level of labour market integration than all women able to participate in gainful employment (57.6% compared to 70.3%). This figure was particularly low among women with a migrant background from Afghanistan, Syria or Iraq at 32.2%, followed by women with a Turkish migrant background at 53.6%. Compared to the previous year, the proportion of gainfully employed persons increased most significantly among women with a migrant background from Afghanistan, Syria or Iraq, as well as among women with a Turkish migrant background.

The employment rate for women with no migrant background was higher than that for women with a migrant background until the age of 54. Only women aged 55 to 64 with a migrant background from other EU countries and the United Kingdom (GB) (54.6%) had a higher labour force participation rate than women with no migrant background (50.9%).

i7 Employment rates 2023
by age and migrant background, in % of population of the same age with the same migrant background



8 Almost 35% of people with a migrant background were blue-collar workers in 2023 compared to 17% of people with no migrant background. A total of 67% of the population with no migrant background were white-collar employees, civil servants, contract workers or freelancers compared to 54% of people with a migrant background. The proportion of self-employed persons in the non-agricultural sector differed only slightly between people with (9%) and without a migrant background (10%).

The occupational status of gainfully employed persons in the second generation of immigrants contrasted significantly with that of the first generation and was thereby more similar to that of the population with no migrant background. While 38% of first-generation immigrants were blue-collar workers and 9% were self-employed outside of agriculture, the proportion of blue-collar workers in the second generation fell to 20% and the proportion of self-employed in the non-agricultural sector to 6%; by contrast, the proportion of white-collar employees increased from 52% to 65%.

There were some significant differences when it came to countries of origin. People with a migrant background from the former Yugoslavia (outside the EU) had the lowest self-employment rate (5%), while people with a migrant background from the EU states before 2004, EFTA states and the United Kingdom (GB) had the highest (12%). Men were more likely to be self-employed than women in all groups.

9 Following the pandemic-related slump in employed persons in salaried employment in 2020 and a recovery in 2021 and 2022, the upturn also continued in 2023. Employed persons in salaried employment increased by 42,600 (+1.1%) on the previous year and this figure was also significantly above the pre-crisis level of 2019. Employed persons in salaried employment among Austrian nationals fell by 11,200 (-0.4%) compared to the previous year, while among foreign nationals this

number rose by 53,800 (+5.8%). The average number of unemployed persons in 2023 was 270,800, an increase of 7,700 (+2.9%) compared to the previous year, although this was lower than before the pandemic (2019: 301,300). The number of unemployed Austrian nationals fell by 3,200 (-1.9%), while among foreign nationals the number rose by 10,800 (+11.7%). The unemployment rate (unemployed persons registered with Public Employment Service Austria (AMS) fell by 0.1 percentage points to 5.3% for persons of Austrian nationality and increased by 0.5 percentage points to 9.6% for foreign nationals. The difference between foreign and Austrian nationals thereby increased to 4.2 percentage points following 3.7 in the previous year.

There were barely any gender-specific differences in the change in the unemployment rate, apart from an increase of 0.7 percentage points to 9.2% among men with foreign nationality. Nationals from Afghanistan, Syria and Iraq continued to have the highest unemployment rate at 29.6%, followed by people with Turkish nationality (14.4%) and nationals from other third countries (12.2%).

i9 Unemployment rate 2023
by nationality with change since previous year
in percentage points

Nationality	Total
Total	6,4% (+0,1)
Austria	5,3% (-0,1)
Non-Austria	9,6% (+0,5)
EU states before 2004, EFTA, GB	4,9% (-)
EU accession states 2004	4,9% (+0,1)
EU accession states since 2007	9,9% (+0,4)
Former Yugoslavia (outside the EU)	10,5% (-)
Türkiye	14,4% (+0,3)
Afghanistan, Syria, Iraq	29,6% (+1,7)
Other countries	12,2% (+1,1)

S.: AMS AUSTRIA, employment market survey/stats

10 The educational level among the gainfully employed was highly heterogeneous and dependent on the region of origin. The pro-

portion of gainfully employed persons who had at most completed their compulsory school leaving certification was significantly higher among foreign nationals in 2023 (18%) than among Austrian nationals (7%). This was the case in particular for gainfully employed persons from Türkiye (58%) and from the former Yugoslavia outside the EU (26%). At the same time, foreign gainfully employed persons also had a significantly higher proportion of academics (31%) than Austrian gainfully employed persons (24%). Gainfully employed persons from the EU states before 2004, EFTA states and the United Kingdom (GB) had the highest level of education, with a share of academics amounting to 50%. The proportion of skilled workers with mid-level qualifications was particularly high among gainfully employed persons from the former Yugoslavia (outside the EU) at 44%.

There were 8,300 people in 2022/23 who had an assessment/recognition of qualifications obtained abroad. EU nationals accounted for almost half of the total, while Austrian nationals with qualifications acquired abroad accounted for a further 10%. University qualifications were the main items assessed/recognised (55% of cases), followed by mid-level qualifications (28%).

Among young people aged 15–24, 9% were not in employment, education or training (NEET). The proportion was significantly higher among young people who had a migrant background (13%) than among young people who did not (7%). This impacted the first generation most of all at 14%.

A total of 9% of 14-year-olds in the 2019/20 school year whose everyday language was not German had not completed the compulsory school leaving certification by the end of the 2021/22 school year, which reduces opportunities for further education and makes it more difficult to enter the workforce.

11 The proportion of long-term unemployed as a percentage of all unemployed has fallen significantly compared to the previous year (2023: 12.0%; 2022: 16.8%). Foreign na-

tionals were less likely to be long-term unemployed (unemployed for more than twelve months) than Austrian nationals (long-term unemployment rate in 2023: 7.9% compared to 14.5%), partly because they frequently did not meet the eligibility requirements for unemployment assistance. The long-term unemployment rate among foreign nationals was highest among those from the former Yugoslavia outside the EU (12.8%). The number of those in training increased by 5.6% (+2,000) among foreign nationals in 2023, while it fell by 2.7% (-900) among Austrian nationals.

12 Youth unemployment among 15- to 24-year-olds increased in 2023 compared to the previous year. The youth unemployment rate (national definition) was 5.9% in 2023 (+0.5 percentage points on the previous year). The rate among young people with foreign nationality was 8.4% (+0.9 percentage points) and therefore rose slightly more than among young people with Austrian citizenship (5.1%; +0.3 percentage points). It was highest among young people from the refugee countries of Afghanistan, Syria and Iraq at 22.7% (2022: 20.0%) and lowest among young people from EU states before 2004, EFTA states and the United Kingdom (GB) at 3.5% (2022: 3.3%).

Social affairs and health

Foreign nationals are worse off than Austrians when it comes to income and are more likely to be employed in low-wage sectors; moreover, foreign women are less likely to be in gainful employment than Austrian nationals, especially when these women come from third countries. This increases the risk of poverty in households with a migrant background. In addition to the material burdens, there are also greater psychosocial strains, such as difficult working conditions, above-average levels of unemployment, as well as an uncertain residence status for certain groups, all of which put strains on health.

13 Average net annual income (median) of employed persons throughout the year was €29,600 in 2022, and was therefore €1,600 higher than in 2021 (€28,000). Austrians earned €1,300 more (+4%) in 2022 compared to the average, while foreign nationals earned €4,400 less (-15%). Only people from the EU states before 2004, EFTA states and the United Kingdom (GB) earned a similar amount on average to Austrians. All other groups of origin had a lower average net annual income, with relatively small differences identified between the groups. Only people employed throughout the year from other third countries still experienced a reduction compared to the average of foreign workers of €2,100 (-8%). The proportion of those employed in low-wage industries where the hourly wage is less than two thirds of the median rose by one percentage point to 25% among immigrants between 2017 and 2022. This figure was 30% among those born in third countries.

A total of 190,000 people (2.1% of the population) received minimum benefits or social assistance in 2022, of which 43% (81,200 persons) were Austrians and a further 40% (75,400) were persons entitled to asylum or subsidiary protection. There were 13,400 of these recipients (7%) who were EU citizens and 19,900 (10%) who were third-country nationals (without asylum status).

14 A total of 18% of the population in Austria were at risk of poverty or exclusion in 2022. Those born in third countries were exposed to the highest risk (56%) and those born in Austria the lowest (13%). A total of 4% were at repeated risk of poverty and exclusion, affecting migrants to a greater extent than those born in Austria (9% compared to 3%). Welfare benefits reduced the risk of poverty from 25% to 15% on average in 2022.

Welfare benefits had a particularly significant impact in reducing poverty for people from Türkiye (31% compared to 63%), the former Yugoslavia outside the EU (23% compared

to 42%) and other third countries (49% compared to 66%). The risk of poverty without welfare benefits remained virtually unchanged in 2022 compared to before the pandemic (2019), but increased for people from Türkiye (62% compared to 53%) and other third countries (66% compared to 61%), while it fell from 43% to 42% for people from the former Yugoslavia (outside the EU) and from 21% to 20% for Austrians. There was a slight increase from 35% to 36% among EU citizens.

15 Life expectancy at birth differed in 2023 between those born in Austria and those born abroad. Persons born abroad had a greater life expectancy than the population born in Austria, with this figure 1.1 years higher for men at 80.2 years and 0.8 years higher for women at 84.8 years. By contrast, men and women from the former Yugoslavia (outside the EU) recorded the lowest life expectancy at 78.8 years and 82.6 years respectively.

Stillbirths and infant deaths are slightly more frequent among mothers born abroad than among mothers born in Austria (4.0 stillbirths per 1,000 live births and 3.6 infant deaths per 1,000 live births respectively compared to 3.2 and 2.4‰).

16 According to the 2019 Health Interview Survey, people with a migrant background used early detection and healthcare services less frequently than persons born in Austria; e.g., they were less likely to visit general practitioners (especially people from the EU accession states of 2004) and dentists (especially people from the former Yugoslavia outside the EU and Türkiye). Migrant women were less likely to have a mammogram (68% compared to 75% of women with no migrant background). People with a migrant background were also less likely to be up-to-date with their vaccinations than Austrians. People born abroad are more satisfied with the quality of the Austrian healthcare system. A total of 68% of people with a migrant back-

ground describe the quality of medical care in Austria as excellent or very good, while only 60% of the population with no migrant background are of this opinion. Conversely, 12% of people with no migrant background rate the healthcare system as poor or just adequate compared with 8% of people with a migrant background.

People with a migrant background have fewer inpatient stays in hospital than people with no migrant background (15% compared to 17%) but have more treatments in day clinics (18% compared to 17%).

Safety

Integration monitoring includes indicators that record immigrants both as perpetrators and victims of crime. Immigrants are more likely to be both perpetrators as well as victims of crime. This situation has not changed much over the longer term.

17 A total of 330,000 suspects were recorded by the police in 2023. Of these, 150,500 were foreign suspects (46%), of whom 62% were resident in Austria, 35% abroad, and 3% had illegal residence status. The total number of prisoners at the beginning of 2023 was just over 9,000 with 53% of these being foreign nationals. These come primarily from Serbia, Romania, Slovakia, Afghanistan, Türkiye and Russia. The detention rate among foreign nationals was 0.27% in 2023, while it was 0.06% for Austrians. The proportion of foreign nationals who were newly imprisoned rose to just under 60% in 2023 after 58% in 2022.

18 More than a third (34%) of all victims of criminal offences in 2023 were foreign nationals. Compared with the proportion of foreigners as a percentage of the population in an annual average (19%), the rate of foreign nationals affected was more than twice as high as among Austrian nationals (1.8% compared to 0.8%).

As in the past five years, Africans (3.5%) and people from Afghanistan, Syria and Iraq

(3.4%) were particularly frequent victims of crime. Crimes against foreign nationals were committed by both Austrians and other foreign nationals.

Housing and residential context

Access to housing is important for the integration of migrants. Given the high proportion of immigrants on low incomes, the majority of people with a migrant background live in rented housing (70%), which is often poorly furnished and cramped. In the last ten years, people with a migrant background from the former Yugoslavia outside the EU and Türkiye in particular have increasingly invested in flats.

19 The average living space per capita in Austria in 2023 was 47 m². Households headed by someone with a migrant background had an average of 31 m² per capita at their disposal, while households headed by someone with no migrant background had 53 m². The least available living space per capita was found in Turkish households (25 m²), followed by households from other third countries (27 m²) and the former Yugoslavia (outside the EU) with 29 m². The housing situation improved the longer they resided in the country. Second generation households had an average of 38 m² per capita at their disposal compared with 31 m² for the first generation of immigrants.

20 The share of housing costs relative to income is significantly higher among immigrants. Just under 17% of households headed by individuals born in Austria reported spending more than 25% of household income on housing costs in 2022, however, this figure was 40% for households headed by migrants. As such, this proportion has risen by 1 percentage point for individuals born in Austria since 2017 and by 2 percentage points for migrants. The proportion of people living in dwellings of a very poor standard is also significantly higher among immigrants (3.3%) than among the population with no migrant background (1.8%).

21 A total of 44% of households in Austria lived in rented accommodation in 2023, 48% owned their own homes and 8% lived in other types of accommodation (e.g. company accommodation). In this context, 71% of households with a migrant background lived in rented accommodation compared to 35% of households with no migrant background. The highest proportion of households in rented housing was among households headed by individuals from other third countries (80%) and Türkiye (75%). The proportion of homeowners was 23% for members of the first generation and 36% for the second generation. However, this proportion is still significantly lower than among persons with no migrant background (56%).

22 Immigrants are more likely to live in towns and cities than in rural areas. Almost 40% of persons born abroad lived in Vienna alone at the beginning of 2024, compared to 17% of the population born in Austria. The concentration on Vienna is highest for nationals of Afghanistan, Syria and Iraq, with around 53% of people from these countries in Austria living in the federal capital. Around 43% of all those born in Austria lived in municipalities with fewer than 5,000 inhabitants, compared with just 18% of people born abroad.

The number of municipalities with an immigrant population of more than 25% has increased significantly over the past decade, from 30 in 2014 to 96 in 2024. These are not just larger cities but also important tourist municipalities, towns close to the border or municipalities with large refugee accommodation centres. The proportion of people born abroad living in municipalities where immigrants made up more than 25% of the population was 64% in 2024. According to the segregation index, the spatial segregation of people born abroad is lowest among the Hungarian and German population groups but is relatively high among people from Serbia, Tunisia, Iran, Morocco, North Macedonia, Slovenia and Poland.

Family constellations

Social integration is also reflected in the development of family constellations where approaches to marriage plays a role. A high level of exogamous marriages (marriages outside one's own group) is seen as an indicator of mutual acceptance. Austria has seen a steady increase in the proportion of marriages between Austrians and non-Austrians, rising by around 9 percentage points to 22% of all marriages between 1991 and 2023.

23 A total of around 45,900 marriages took place in Austria in 2023, which was around 1,600 fewer than in the previous year. As in the two previous years, the proportion of couples in which one person came from abroad was 22%. The number of marriages in which both spouses were born in Austria amounted to 31,100 or 68%. The proportion of marriages in which both spouses were born abroad was the same as in the previous year at 10%. The number of same-sex marriages fell slightly from 791 (2022) to 785. With these, one partner is from abroad in 30% of cases and both partners in 11%. The majority of spouses born abroad come from an EU state (5,700), particularly Germany (2,900). A total of 4,500 spouses in 2023 came from third countries, mostly from Türkiye and the successor states of the former Yugoslavia (outside the EU).

The average household size in 2023 for the population with a migrant background was 2.5 persons, slightly larger than that of the population with no migrant background (2.1). Turkish households had the largest number of household members on average (3.2 people), followed by households from Afghanistan, Syria and Iraq (3.1 people). Households headed by someone from the EU accession states until 2004 as well as EFTA states and the United Kingdom (GB) had the lowest number of household members (2.0).

Naturalisations

Naturalisation is seen in Austria to be an important sign of integration and arrival in

Austria. Given the length of time required for legal and uninterrupted residence in Austria (ten years, or six years in some cases), the course for naturalisations follows movements in immigration with an interval of around ten years. There were 10,500 naturalisations that took place in Austria in 2019. There were fewer than 10,000 naturalisations in 2020 and 2021 (due to the pandemic). The number increased slightly to 10,900 in 2022, and in 2023 it rose further to 11,900 domestic naturalisations. More than 393,000 people living in Austria have been naturalised since the turn of the millennium. The naturalisation rate (naturalisations as a percentage of foreign nationals living in Austria) was 0.7% in 2022. Austria has one of the lowest naturalisation rates in Europe, with only Latvia and Estonia having lower rates in 2022.

24 Of the 11,900 people who were naturalised in Austria in 2023, just under 32% had already been born in Austria. Most of these had a legal right to Austrian citizenship (61%), with the rest obtaining Austrian citizenship based on a discretionary decision (8%) or as a result of an extension (31%), e.g. to spouses and/or children. The highest number of naturalisations was for citizens from Syria (1,900), Türkiye (1,100), Bosnia and Herzegovina (800) and Afghanistan (800). The number of naturalisations for people from other EU and EFTA states and the United Kingdom (GB) was low. By contrast, the number was significantly higher for third-country nationals, and highest for citizens of Afghanistan, Syria and Iraq. A total of 5% of this group with a residence of at least ten years in Austria were naturalised in 2023, followed by people from other third countries (3%) as well as from the former Yugoslavia (outside the EU) and Türkiye (1% each). People who had been newly naturalised are predominantly young, with 34% being under 18 years of age and only 6% over the age of 50.

Subjective issues regarding the integration climate

In addition to the statistics which are used as objective indicators of integration, integration monitoring also includes subjective perceptions on the issues of integration and migration, both from the perspective of those born in Austria as well as from the perspective of immigrants. This indicator of sentiment has been recorded since 2010. People with the following countries of birth were interviewed for the 2024 migration survey as part of five random samples: Austria (1,052 people), Bosnia and Herzegovina (442), Serbia (405), Türkiye (456), Afghanistan (386), Iran (395), Russian Federation (395), Syria (434), Romania (449) and Ukraine (445). A total of 4,859 people were interviewed for the 2024 migration survey.

25 Social coexistence between Austrians and migrants is assessed as “very good” or “somewhat good” by 23% of those born in Austria, while 40% view this as “somewhat bad” or “very bad”. The number of voices who are critical of coexistence has increased significantly compared with the previous years (2022: 25%; 2023: 34%). People born in Austria who have frequent contact with immigrants generally rate social coexistence as better than those who rarely or never have any contact. By contrast, immigrants perceive social coexistence with Austrians in a more positive light, with 56% of those born abroad considering this to be “very good” or “somewhat good”. People who have lived in Austria for a longer period of time tend to rate social coexistence with Austrians less positively than immigrants who have lived in the country for shorter periods.

- Just over half of those born in Austria (54%) sense that social coexistence between Austrians and migrants has generally worsened over the past three years. Only 33% felt this way in 2022. Only 11% of those born in Austria believe that coexistence has improved in general. Immigrants rate the development

of social coexistence as significantly better. The highest percentages are found among those born in Syria (66%), Afghanistan (59%) and the Russian Federation (43%). Improvements in social coexistence are perceived more frequently in the workplace or school, apprenticeship location or university than in the residential environment and in public spaces, where changes in the social coexistence are viewed with particular pessimism. Only 7% of those born in Austria believe that coexistence between Austrians and migrants in the public sphere has improved in the last three years. By contrast, around two thirds (64%) see a deterioration in this area.

- The sense of belonging to Austria is strong among immigrants, with 73% feeling they belong to Austria in 2024. The perceived sense of belonging is particularly strong among immigrants from Syria (81%), Iran (80%) and Bosnia and Herzegovina (77%). Just under half (49%) of people born abroad feel they belong to their country of origin (2023: 52%). Immigrants from Ukraine have the strongest ties to their country of origin at 63%, followed by those from Serbia (57%) and Syria (51%). The longer that immigrants stay in the country, the more their sense of belonging to Austria increases, from 56% (stay of one to under five years) to 70% (five to 15 years) to 81% (over 15 years).

- The personal living situation of 38% of those born in Austria has improved in the past three years (2023: 32%), while around one sixth (16%) complain that it has deteriorated. At 42%, immigrants were slightly more likely to see an improvement, especially people born in Afghanistan (71%), Syria (65%) or Romania (53%). It is primarily younger immigrants and people who have spent shorter periods in Austria who feel that their personal living situation has improved in the past three years. However, just under a third (32%) of those born in Türkiye are affected by a deterioration in their living situation.

- Other questions posed included immigrants' experiences of discrimination in the past twelve months. One third of immigrants at least occasionally generally experience discrimination based on their origin. People born in Afghanistan (47%), Türkiye and Iran (43% each) report this most frequently. This is the case for roughly a quarter of people born in Ukraine (24%) or Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina (27% each). When it comes to work and education, 39% of immigrants report fairly often feeling at a disadvantage because of their origin. Those born in Afghanistan (62%) and Iran (50%) were the most likely to report at least occasional experiences of this type of discrimination. Contact with public authorities also gives rise to similar experiences. Immigrants are less likely to experience discrimination due to their origin when visiting doctors or hospitals.

- In order to record attitudes towards minorities and religious communities, both those born in Austria and immigrants were asked if it would bother them if they had someone from a certain group as their neighbour. A total of 11% of those born in Austria and 12% of immigrants would not like Jewish people as neighbours. Just under four in ten people born in Austria (38%; 2023: 32%) would not like asylum seekers or refugees living in their neighbourhood. A total of 30% would be bothered by having Roma and Sinti as neighbours. Reservations about both these groups are also evident among immigrants, with 18% and 17% respectively bothered by asylum seekers or refugees and Roma and Sinti living in their neighbourhood. A total of 16% of immigrants would also not be comfortable having homosexual or bisexual people as neighbours.

- A further set of questions dealt with how people handle and view the Austrian way of life. A total of 68% of immigrants are guided by both the Austrian way of life and the way of life in their country of origin and try

to combine both of these with each other. A further 26% prefer to adhere to the Austrian way of life, while 6% of those born abroad prefer to base their way of life around that of their country of origin. People born in Austria and immigrants were also asked to what extent they agree with the Austrian way of life in general, with 39% of immigrants fully sympathetic to the Austrian way of life and a further 36% somewhat sympathetic.

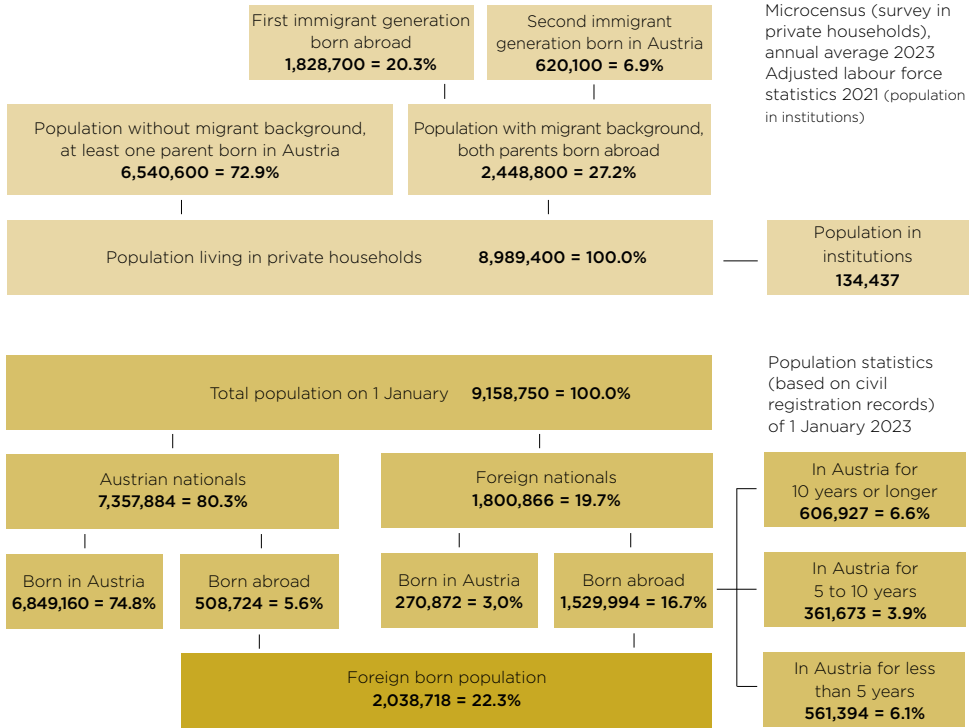
Language usage and language skills

The 2024 migration survey also included questions on language usage and language skills. People born in Bosnia and Herzegovina (72%), Serbia and Afghanistan (68% each) and the Russian Federation (65%) are most likely to rate their current knowledge of the German language as at least good. This proportion is lowest among immigrants from Ukraine (37%), Türkiye (51%) and Syria (58%). A total of 13% of immigrants state that they communicate “exclusively” or “predominantly” in German at home, with half (51%) communicating “exclusively” or “predominantly” in their language of origin. The proportion of those who speak at least predominantly German at home is highest among immigrants from Iran (22%), Romania (18%) and the Russian Federation (16%). Compared to the language used at home, communication with friends is somewhat more often in German. A total of 24% of immigrants state that they speak German “exclusively” or “predominantly” with their friends. This is most frequently the case for immigrants from Afghanistan (46%), the Russian Federation (41%) and Iran (35%).

Media usage

The frequency of usage of different types of media and the language in which the media are used were also surveyed. Social media are used on a daily basis by 59% of those born in Austria; the proportion is significantly higher among immigrants from Ukraine (85%), the Russian Federation (74%) and Iran and Afghanistan (73% each). By contrast, watching television or listening to the radio every day (including streaming) and reading daily newspapers are more common among those born in Austria than among immigrants. The language in which media offerings are consumed varies depending on the country of birth and the type of media involved. The percentage of people who watch television or listen to the radio in German is highest among those born in Afghanistan (63%), Iran (50%) and the Russian Federation (46%). Compared with watching television and reading newspapers, social media are used most frequently in the language of origin. The percentage of people who read German-language newspapers is highest among immigrants from Afghanistan (81%), the Russian Federation (65%) and Syria (64%), and is lowest among those born in Türkiye (47%) and Ukraine (33%).

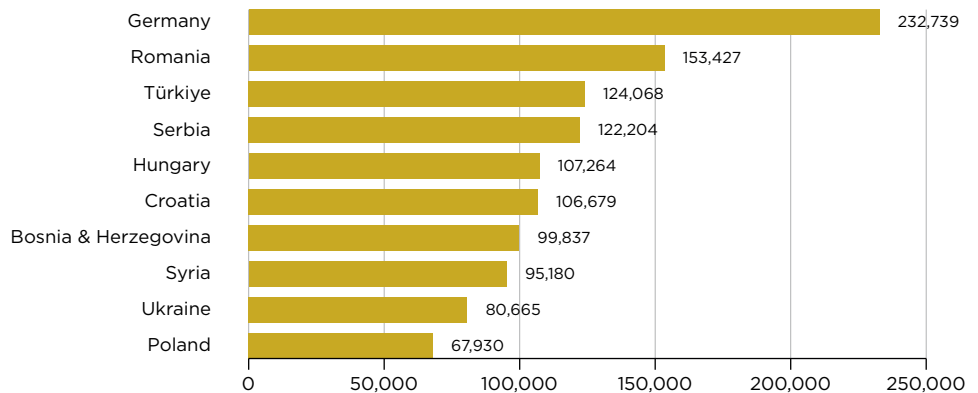
The Austrian population 2023 by citizenship and country of birth or migrant background in overview



S.: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, population statistics, adjusted labour force statistics, microcensus

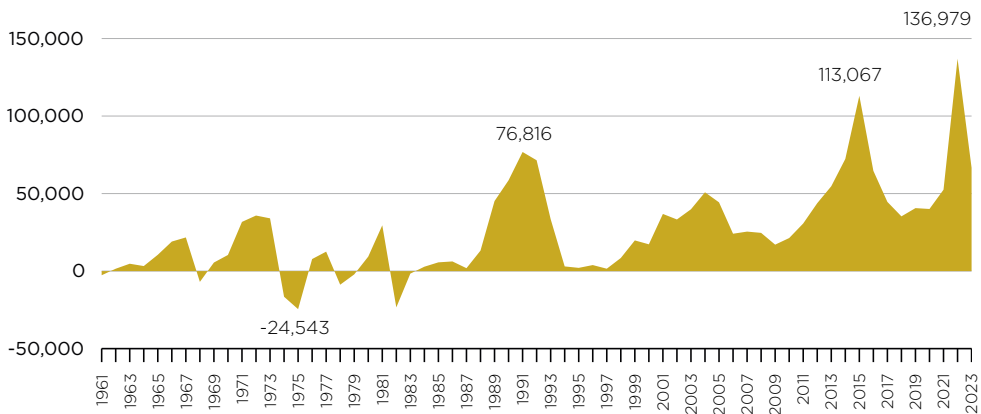
Foreign nationals

Top 10 nationalities on 1 January 2024



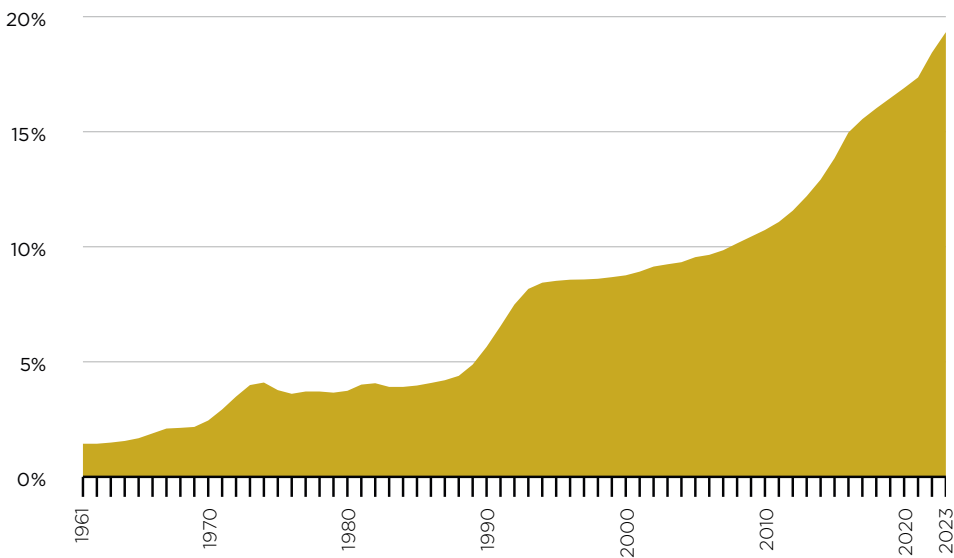
S.: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, population statistics

Net migration in Austria (difference between immigration and emigration 1961–2023)



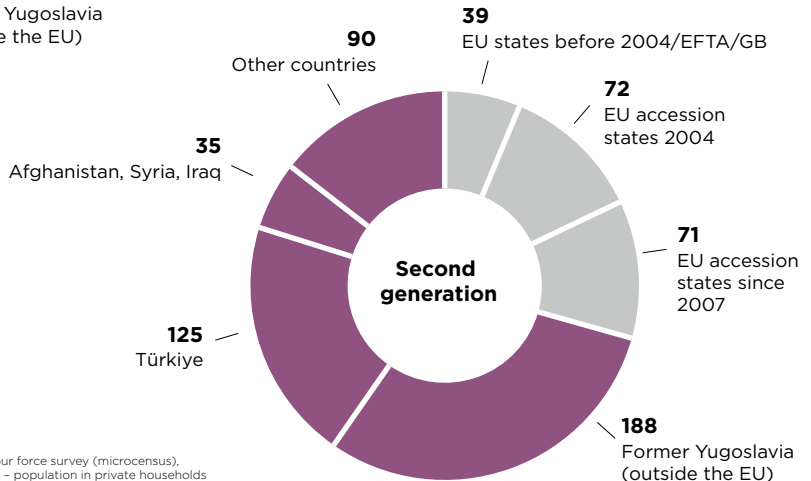
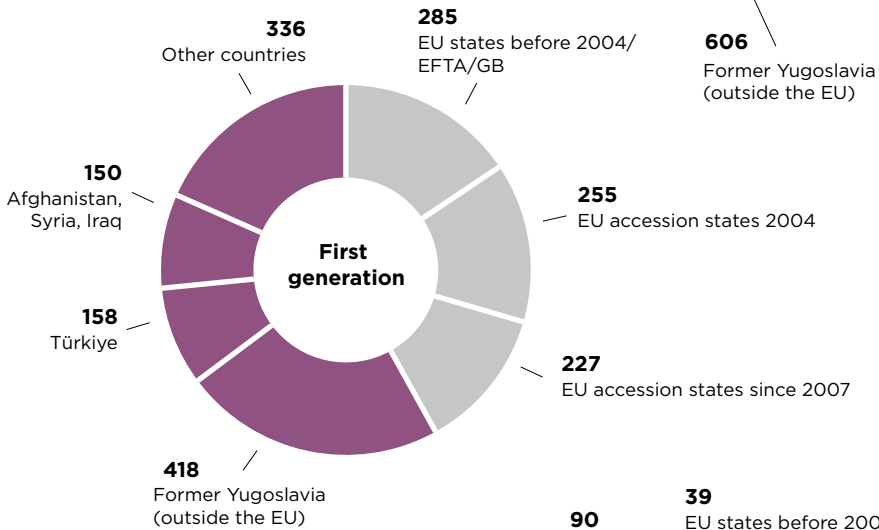
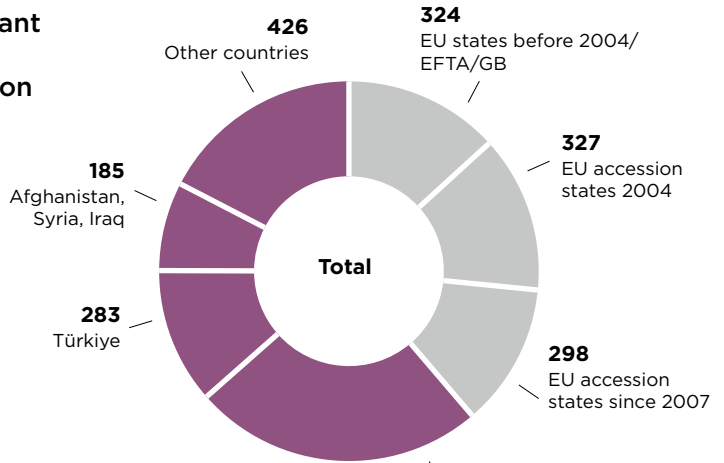
S.: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, migration balance statistics

Development of the proportion of foreign citizens in Austria (1961–2023)



S.: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, population statistics

Population with migrant background 2023 by immigration generation (persons in 1,000)



S.: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, labour force survey (microcensus), annual average over all weeks - population in private households

Immigration to and emigration from Austria 2023

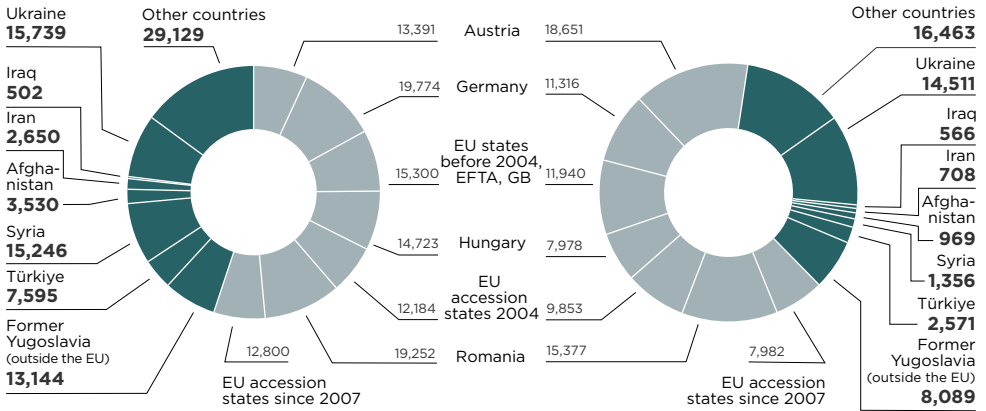
by nationality

To Austria 2023

Total: 194,959

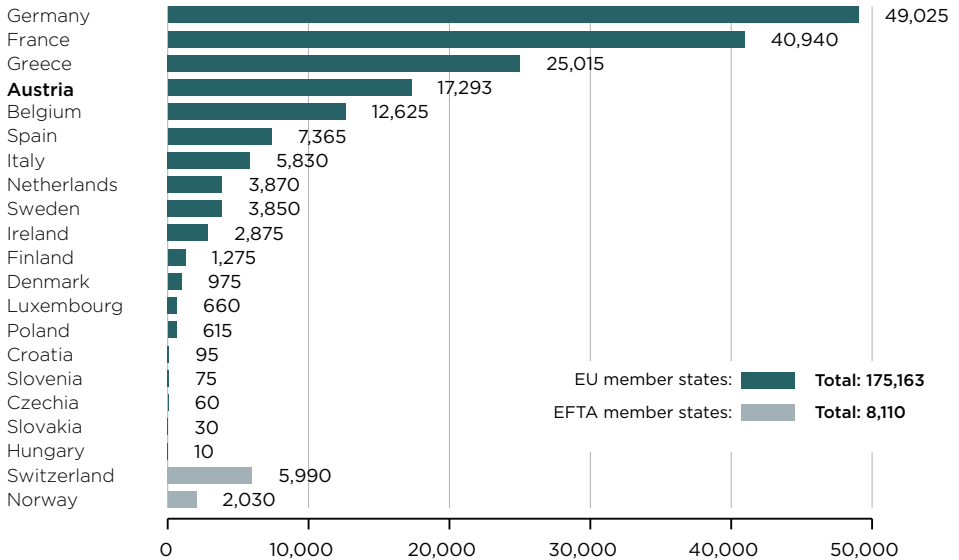
From Austria 2023

Total: 128,330



S.: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, migration statistics

Asylum recognitions in European countries 2023



S.: BMI asylum statistics; EUROSTAT

Appendix

Table 1, i5: Level of education of people aged 25 to 64 years 2023 by migrant background, in percent

Population with a migrant background	Compulsory school	Apprenticeship, intermediate vocational school (BMS)	Academic secondary school (AHS), higher vocational school (BHS), post-secondary VET course (Kolleg)	Tertiary education
Total	13.3 %	45.9 %	18.0 %	22.8 %
Without migrant background	8.8 %	52.7 %	17.2 %	21.4 %
With migrant background	23.9 %	30.2 %	19.8 %	26.0 %
EU before 2004, EFTA, GB	6.1 %	30.9 %	15.8 %	47.3 %
EU accession states 2004	7.4 %	33.8 %	27.7 %	31.1 %
EU accession states since 2007	20.2 %	32.0 %	27.5 %	20.3 %
Former Yugoslavia (outside the EU)	28.4 %	41.9 %	18.4 %	11.3 %
Türkiye	54.8 %	27.9 %	10.8 %	6.6 %
Other countries	24.8 %	14.6 %	20.1 %	40.5 %

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, labour force survey (microcensus) annual average over all weeks - population in private households, migration statistics

Table 2, i7: Employment rates 2023 by age and migrant background, in % of population of the same age with the same migrant background

Migrant background	15 - 24 years	25 - 34 years	35 - 44 years	45 - 54 years	55 - 64 years
Without migrant background	55.5 %	88.3 %	92.0 %	89.7 %	58.1 %
With migrant background	47.8 %	75.4 %	77.3 %	76.5 %	54.4 %
EU states, EFTA, GB	49.4 %	81.3 %	86.3 %	84.4 %	62.1 %
Third countries	47.0 %	71.9 %	71.5 %	71.3 %	49.3 %

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, labour force survey (microcensus) annual average over all weeks - population in private households, migration statistics

Table 3, i9: Unemployment rate 2023 by nationality with change since previous year in percentage points

Nationality	Total	Change
Total	6.4 %	(+0.1)
Austria	5.3 %	(-0.1)
Non-Austria	9.6 %	(+0.5)
EU states before 2004, EFTA, GB	4.9 %	(-)
EU accession states 2004	4.9 %	(+0.1)
EU accession states since 2007	9.9 %	(+0.4)
Former Yugoslavia (outside the EU)	10.5 %	(-)
Türkiye	14.4 %	(+0.3)
Afghanistan, Syria, Iraq	29.6 %	(+1.7)
Other countries	12.2 %	(+1.1)

S: AMS AUSTRIA, employment market survey/stats

Table 4a: The Austrian population by migrant background, in total numbers and in percent

Population	Total	Percent
Population living in private households	8,989,400	100.0 %
Population in institutions	134,437	-
Population with migrant background, both parents born abroad	2,448,800	27.2 %
First immigrant generation born abroad	1,828,700	20.3 %
Second immigrant generation born in Austria	620,100	6.9 %
Population without migrant background, at least one parent born in Austria	6,540,600	72.9 %

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, population statistics, adjusted labour force statistics, microcensus

Table 4b: The Austrian population by citizenship and country of birth, in total numbers and in percent

Population	Total	Percent
Total population on 1 January	9,158,750	100.0 %
Austrian nationals	7,357,884	80.3 %
Austrian nationals: Born in Austria	6,849,160	74.8 %
Austrian nationals: Born abroad	508,724	5.6 %
Foreign nationals	1,800,866	19.7 %
Foreign nationals: Born in Austria	270,872	3.0 %
Foreign nationals: Born abroad	1,529,994	16.7 %
Foreign nationals: Born abroad: In Austria for 10 years or longer	606,927	6.6 %
Foreign nationals: Born abroad: In Austria for 5 to 10 years	361,673	3.9 %
Foreign nationals: Born abroad: In Austria for less than 5 years	561,394	6.1 %
Foreign born population	2,038,718	22.3 %

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, population statistics, adjusted labour force statistics, microcensus

Table 5: Top 10 foreign nationalities on 1 January 2024, in total numbers

Nationality	Total
Germany	232,739
Romania	153,427
Türkiye	124,068
Serbia	122,204
Hungary	107,264
Croatia	106,679
Bosnia and Herzegovina	99,837
Syria	95,180
Ukraine	80,665
Poland	67,930

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, population statistics

Table 6: Net migration in Austria (difference between immigration and emigration 1961–2023), in total numbers

Year	Net migration total	Year	Net migration total
1961	-2,679	1993	33,517
1962	1,521	1994	3,012
1963	4,744	1995	2,080
1964	3,246	1996	3,880
1965	10,518	1997	1,537
1966	19,049	1998	8,451
1967	21,712	1999	19,787
1968	-6,970	2000	17,272
1969	5,512	2001	36,856
1970	10,406	2002	33,294
1971	31,727	2003	39,873
1972	35,826	2004	50,826
1973	34,018	2005	44,332
1974	-16,550	2006	24,103
1975	-24,543	2007	25,470
1976	7,766	2008	24,650
1977	12,545	2009	17,053
1978	-8,774	2010	21,316
1979	-2,146	2011	30,705
1980	9,356	2012	43,797
1981	29,519	2013	54,728
1982	-23,410	2014	72,324
1983	-1,627	2015	113,067
1984	2,830	2016	64,676
1985	5,641	2017	44,630
1986	6,223	2018	35,301
1987	1,871	2019	40,613
1988	13,207	2020	40,064
1989	45,151	2021	52,488
1990	58,562	2022	136,979
1991	76,816	2023	66,629
1992	71,480		

S.: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, migration balance statistics

Table 7: Development of the proportion of foreign citizens in Austria (1961-2023), in percent

Year	Foreign citizens	Year	Foreign citizens
1961	1.44 %	1993	8.17 %
1962	1.44 %	1994	8.44 %
1963	1.49 %	1995	8.52 %
1964	1.56 %	1996	8.57 %
1965	1.68 %	1997	8.58 %
1966	1.89 %	1998	8.61 %
1967	2.10 %	1999	8.68 %
1968	2.13 %	2000	8.76 %
1969	2.17 %	2001	8.92 %
1970	2.45 %	2002	9.14 %
1971	2.93 %	2003	9.24 %
1972	3.49 %	2004	9.33 %
1973	3.99 %	2005	9.55 %
1974	4.10 %	2006	9.65 %
1975	3.77 %	2007	9.85 %
1976	3.61 %	2008	10.15 %
1977	3.71 %	2009	10.44 %
1978	3.71 %	2010	10.73 %
1979	3.66 %	2011	11.08 %
1980	3.74 %	2012	11.57 %
1981	4.01 %	2013	12.20 %
1982	4.07 %	2014	12.92 %
1983	3.91 %	2015	13.85 %
1984	3.91 %	2016	14.97 %
1985	3.97 %	2017	15.55 %
1986	4.08 %	2018	16.02 %
1987	4.20 %	2019	16.46 %
1988	4.39 %	2020	16.90 %
1989	4.88 %	2021	17.36 %
1990	5.65 %	2022	18.44 %
1991	6.55 %	2023	19.33 %
1992	7.49 %		

S.: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, population statistics

Table 8a: Population with migrant background 2023 by immigration generation (persons in 1,000), in total numbers

Nationality	Total
EU states before 2004, EFTA, GB	324
EU accession states 2004	327
EU accession states since 2007	298
Former Yugoslavia (outside the EU)	606
Türkiye	283
Afghanistan, Syria, Iraq	185
Other countries	426

S.: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, labour force survey (microcensus), annual average over all weeks - population in private households

Table 8b: Population with migrant background 2023 by immigration generation (persons in 1,000), first generation

Nationality	Total
EU states before 2004, EFTA, GB	285
EU accession states 2004	255
EU accession states since 2007	227
Former Yugoslavia (outside the EU)	418
Türkiye	158
Afghanistan, Syria, Iraq	150
Other countries	336

S.: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, labour force survey (microcensus), annual average over all weeks - population in private households

Table 8c: Population with migrant background 2023 by immigration generation (persons in 1,000), second generation

Nationality	Total
EU states before 2004, EFTA, GB	39
EU accession states 2004	72
EU accession states since 2007	71
Former Yugoslavia (outside the EU)	188
Türkiye	125
Afghanistan, Syria, Iraq	35
Other countries	90

S.: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, labour force survey (microcensus), annual average over all weeks - population in private households

Table 9: Immigration to and emigration from Austria 2023 by nationality, in total numbers

Citizenship	Immigration to Austria	Emigration from Austria	Total
Total	194,959	128,330	66,629
Other countries	29,129	16,463	12,666
Former Yugoslavia (outside the EU)	13,144	8,089	5,055
EU accession states since 2007	12,800	7,982	4,818
EU states before 2004, EFTA, GB	15,300	11,940	3,360
EU accession states 2004	12,184	9,853	2,331
Syria	15,246	1,356	13,890
Germany	19,774	11,316	8,458
Hungary	14,723	7,978	6,745
Türkiye	7,595	2,571	5,024
Romania	19,252	15,377	3,875
Afghanistan	3,530	969	2,561
Iran	2,650	708	1,942
Ukraine	15,739	14,511	1,228
Iraq	502	566	-64
Austria	13,391	18,651	-5,260

S.: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, migration statistics

Table 10: Asylum recognitions in European countries 2023, in total numbers

European countries	Asylum recognitions	European countries	Asylum recognitions
EU member states total	175,163	Finland	1,275
Germany	49,025	Denmark	975
France	40,940	Luxembourg	660
Greece	25,015	Poland	615
Austria	17,293	Croatia	95
Belgium	12,625	Slovenia	75
Spain	7,365	Czechia	60
Italy	5,830	Slovakia	30
Netherlands	3,870	Hungary	10
Sweden	3,850	EFTA member states total	8,110
Ireland	2,875	EFTA: Switzerland	5,990
		EFTA: Norway	2,030

S.: BMI asylum statistics; EUROSTAT

Media owner:

STATISTICS AUSTRIA –
Bundesanstalt Statistik Österreich,
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Federal Chancellery (BKA)
Ballhausplatz 2, 1010 Vienna

Compiled by:

STATISTICS AUSTRIA –
Bundesanstalt Statistik Österreich,
Guglgasse 13, 1110 Vienna

Place of publication and production:

Vienna 2024

Graphic design:

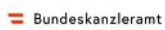
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