



Increase of the population stock of foreign citizens

- At the beginning of 2018, there were about 1.396 million foreign citizens residing in Austria (15.8% of the population). The increase of around 54,000 foreign citizens compared to the beginning of 2017 is the result of a positive net migration of foreign citizens of +49,800, a birth surplus (over deaths) of +13,800 as well as decreased naturalisations (-9,100).

- On an annual average 2017, approximately 1.97 million people with a migrant background lived in Austria, around 72,400 more than 2016. With regard to the total population living in private households this corresponded to a share of 23%, made up of about 1.47 million foreign-born people forming the "first generation", as they were born abroad and immigrated to Austria. The remaining 501,000 persons were born in Austria as the children of foreign-born parents ("second generation").

- Among the foreign nationals in Austria, Germans remain by far the largest group. On 1 January 2018, around 186,800 German nationals lived in Austria, followed by Serbian (120,200) and Turkish (117,300) nationals. Citizens of Romania (102,300) ranked fourth, those of Bosnia and Herzegovina (95,200) ranked fifth. Nationals from Hungary, Croatia, Poland, Syria, Afghanistan and Slovakia held ranks six to ten. Further large groups of foreign nationals were citizens of Russia, Italy, Bulgaria, Kosovo and Macedonia.

- The average age of the Austrian population on 1 January 2018 was 42.6 years. With an average age of 34.8 years foreign nationals were significantly younger than Austrian nationals (44.1 years). However, the age structure of the population not holding Austrian citizenship was extremely heterogeneous. People from the EU tended to be older than the overall population, while immigrants from third countries were considerably younger.

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Demographic parameters

As part of the National Action Plan for Integration, specific integration indicators have been defined in order to enable the evaluation of the various dimensions of the integration process in Austria and to monitor this process in the long term. There can be changes to the indicators over time, yet these are kept as minor as possible in order to allow for comparability of the results over the years. Based on the 25 specified integration indicators, particularly the five core indicators, and taking account of demographic parameters and subjective views, the current status of immigration and integration in Austria in 2017/2018 and the main changes that occurred since the previous year can be summarised as follows:

Development of the birth rate

- In 2017, 87,600 children were born in Austria, while 83,300 people died. The natural population growth (the difference between live births and deaths) was thus clearly positive with +4,400 persons. There were, however, considerable differences among people of different nationality in Austria due to different age structures and fertility rates. Foreign nationals recorded a birth surplus of +13,800 persons, while Austrian citizens displayed a death surplus (-9,400 persons).

- On average, women living in Austria gave birth to 1.52 children in 2017 (2016: 1.53). Women born in Austria had an average of 1.40 children, while women born abroad had an average of 1.92 children. Women from Afghanistan, Syria and Iraq particularly stand out with 3.91 children. Women who had acquired Austrian citizenship drew closer to the average fertility rate and only had 1.56 children, considerably fewer than women retaining foreign citizenship (1.95).

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Decline of immigration after a record year

- In 2017, about 154,700 people immigrated to Austria while 110,100 people left the country. The result is a net immigration rate of around +44,600 people, was 31% below the previous year's level (2016: +64,700 people). The main cause for this development can once more be seen in strongly decreased immigration of asylum seekers from third countries (compared to the preceding year), while the immigration of EU nationals increased again.

- Of the 154,700 people moving to Austria from other countries, 15,400 were returning Austrian citizens while another 86,600 were citizens of EU and EFTA countries. Romania had the largest share with 17,900 immigrants, followed by Germany (16,200) and Hungary (13,100). Total immigration from third countries (52,800) accounted for 34% of all arrivals. The refugee migration from Syria (6,700), Afghanistan (2,100) and Iran

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(1,800) was far less significant than in the previous years. Compared to 2016 (73,000 arrivals), the number of immigrants from third countries decreased by a good 20,000 (28%). Apart from refugee migration, the immigration of around 14,300 citizens from former Yugoslavia (non-EU) was numerically the most significant.

- With 14,300 persons in 2017, the net migration of third country citizens was the lowest in the last five years – the net migration of EU/EFTA citizens was about twice as high (33,500 persons).

- With around 24,700 cases in 2017, Austria registered similarly as many asylum applications as in 2014 (28,100), but significantly less than 2015 (88,300) and 2016 (42,300). In 2017, most of the asylum seekers originated from Syria (7,400; 2016: 8,800), Afghanistan (3,800; 2016: 11,800) and Pakistan (1,600; 2016: 2,500). Compared to other EU countries in 2017, Austria ranked eighth (after Germany, Italy, Greece and Sweden and others) in terms of absolute numbers of asylum applications in the EU and fifth (after Greece, Cyprus, Luxembourg and Malta) in relation to its population.

02

Fields of action and integration indicators

Language and Education

People with a migrant background living in Austria have a different educational profile compared to people without a migrant background. However, the level of education of the migrant population is improving, partly because of the increasing internal migration within the EU and partly because of the selective immigration policy towards third-country nationals through the Red-White-Red – Card. In addition, the educational behavior and profile of the second generation adapts relatively quickly to that of the host society. The introduction of the compulsory final kindergarten year in combination with German language support for children who do not reach the age-appropriate language level reduces the language deficits during the transition to elementary school. Nevertheless, the proportion of foreign pupils in special needs schools and polytechnic schools

is slightly increasing, not least due to the entry into school of young people of the latest asylum migration who, if they do not speak German, often enter the education system at special needs schools.

01 Education starts in kindergarten. Foreign children under the age of two attend crèches, kindergartens or other childcare facilities a little more often than Austrian children. This ratio reverses in children between the ages of three and four. However, the differences are minor. In 2016, 25% of non-Austrian one-year-old children were looked after outside of their home, while the proportion of Austrian infants added up to 23%. The difference in the care rate for three-year-olds was slightly higher, with 82% of non-Austrian and 86% of Austrian children. In the obligatory final year of kindergarten (five-year-olds) there was hardly any difference, nor was there for school-age children in day-care and similar institutions.

02 The language skills monitoring survey conducted in 2016/17 showed that 65% of the children in the

age range of 3 to 6 years attending a childcare facility had language skills consistent with their age: 17% of the children from German-speaking families and 70% of the children whose first language was not German required language support in German. The need for language support was particularly high among Turkish, Persian and Arabic-speaking children. At the end of the kindergarten year, 52% of the supported children did not need any further language support.

03 In the school year 2016/17, the proportion of foreign students was 14.5%. Partly clearly above the average were elementary schools, new secondary schools, special needs schools and polytechnic schools. Below were schools leading to a university entrance qualification (Matura) and the apprenticeship. With a tendency to increase, special needs schools (Sonderschulen) as well as polytechnic schools continue to have the largest proportion of immigrant children (21.1%), out of which more than two-thirds were third-country nationals.

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04 The number of foreign students attending university in Austria and thus the proportion that these represent in the student body as a whole is still increasing. In winter term 2016/17, nearly 76,000 foreign students were enrolled at universities and about 8,600 at universities of applied sciences. 89% of the foreign students came from other European countries. At the top were students from Germany (27,300 students), Italy (8,800), Bosnia and Herzegovina (3,200) and Turkey (3,000).

05 In recent decades, the educational level of the Austrian and foreign population has continuously increased. Compared to the host society, the population with a migrant background has a bipolar structure. This means that 22% of people aged 25 to 64 years with a migrant background had an academic qualification in 2017, but only 18% of the same-aged ones without a migrant background. In return, however, 26% of the 25- to 64-year-old population with a migrant background had at most a compulsory school leaving certificate compared to 10% of the domestic population of

07 Persons with a migrant background less frequently have a paid occupation. The employment rate among people with a migrant background aged between 15 and 64 years was 64% in 2017, while it stood at 75% for those of the same age without a migrant background. This difference is mainly the effect of the low employment rate among female immigrants (59% in comparison to 71% of women without a migrant background). Women from the European Economic Area have similarly high rates as women without a migrant background. People with Turkish migrant background (55%) and those from the main countries of origin of recent asylum migration (27%) have the lowest levels of employment integration.

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08 The professional position differs considerably between employed persons with and without a migrant background. The former are mainly working in white collar and public service positions (65% in total) – only 21.5% were in blue collar occupations in 2017. In contrast, people

Health and social issues

The topics in the area of "health and social issues" are very heterogeneous. On the one hand, they refer to the income situation, on the other hand to life expectancy and health. In terms of income, the population with a migrant background is in a worse position than the domestic population. They are more often employed in low-wage sectors and women, especially from third countries, are more likely not to work. This increases the poverty risk of households with a migrant background. In addition, there are long-term health problems and people with migrant background less frequently take advantage of early recognition and preventive examinations. Yet, in terms of life expectancy, there is hardly any difference between the population with and without migrant background.

13 In 2016, the net annual income (median) of the employed population throughout the year was 24,900 EUR. Austrians earned 4% more and foreigners on average (median) 19% less. While persons from the EU (before 2004) and EFTA on

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average earned about as much as the Austrians, the net annual income of persons employed from the EU (after 2007) was the lowest at EUR 18,900 (median); slightly higher was the net annual median income of persons from the former Yugoslavia (non-EU) and Turkey. Those born in third countries are employed in low-wage industries particularly often (29%).

14 In 2016, 17% of the population was at risk of sliding into poverty or exclusion. The risk of poverty was nearly three times higher for foreign-born people (35%) than for people born in Austria (13%). Multiple risks of exclusion affected 12% of the people born abroad and 3% of the people born in Austria. In recent years, social benefits have reduced the risk of poverty among Austrian nationals by almost half and among foreigners by a good third.

15 Life expectancy at birth in 2017 hardly differed between persons born in Austria and abroad. For domestic men it was 79.2 years (foreigners

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79.6) and for domestic women 83.9 years (foreigners 83.4). Both men and women from the former Yugoslavia (non-EU) had the lowest life expectancy (77.7 and 81.5 years respectively). The mortality rate of children with a non-Austrian mother is higher than that of mothers born in Austria. The infant mortality rate was highest among mothers from other countries, followed by women from Turkey and the EU accession countries (from 2007).

16 People with a migrant background more often claim that they do not receive sufficient social support. The feeling of being left alone in serious personal problems is highest among people, especially women, from the former Yugoslavia (non-EU) and Turkey. Persons with a migrant background had less vaccination protection, visited less frequently the dentist and made less use of early diagnosis and preventive care services than the population without migrant background.

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17 The assessment of the integration process by immigrants was very positive: 92% of those surveyed claimed to feel completely or rather at home in Austria; 7% claimed to feel less at home and only 2% claimed to feel not at home at all. This optimism about integration is an expression of the feeling of having arrived of the population who migrated from the former guest worker areas. The perceived affiliation of the immigrants even increases over time. Women as well as very young and older respondents feel more at home in Austria, as do respondents with a length of stay of 20 years or more. The socio-economic situation also influences the feeling of belonging to Austria. Migrants from Turkey and Serbia tend to feel somewhat less at home than migrants from Bosnia and Herzegovina and Croatia. The situation of immigrants from the EU or the countries of asylum migration are not available, as they are not included in the sample.

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19 Asked whether living with immigrants had changed for the better or for the worse in recent years, 16% of the Austrians found that there was an improvement, while 42% did not see any change and another 42% assessed living together as worse. This means that the assessment has improved compared to the previous year, the decline in the influx of refugees and the good economic situation may explain this development. Young people and people on higher incomes mainly gave a more positive assessment of the situation. Integration pessimism continues to exist primarily in medium-sized and larger cities.

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20 In 2017, 43% of households in Austria lived in rented housing and 48% in their own home. The proportion of households in which the reference person had a migrant background and lived in rented housing was 72%, compared to 35% for households without a migrant background. The highest proportion of people living in rented housing was led by reference persons with Turkish migrant

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22 The immigrant population in Austria is an urban phenomenon: Thus 63% of those born abroad lived in cities with more than 20,000 inhabitants compared to a third of Austrians. With 40% by far the biggest share of people born abroad lived in Vienna, while it is only 17% of those born in Austria. The situation is opposite in smaller communities with fewer than 5,000 inhabitants, in which 44% of the locals and 19% of migrants live. In January 2018, the proportion of immigrants in the population of 53 municipalities exceeded 25%. A total of 59% of the immigrants and 28% of the locals lived in these communities. The segregation of migrants is relatively weak in Austria – on average, it is lowest among the German and Hungarian population group and highest among persons from Serbia, Macedonia and Poland.

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23 The social dimension of integration consists of personal relationships that range from marriage through friendship to recreational behaviour. Marriages within an ethnical group (endogamy) and outside of it (exogamy) are particularly important in that context. A large number of mixed marriages may serve as an indicator of mutual acceptance whereas a high number of endogamous marriages may point to isolation from the majority society. However, a clear answer based on Austrian statistics is not possible. Although the proportion of marriages with foreign participation is increasing, it is unknown to what extent it takes place within or outside an ethnical group.

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24 In 2017, there were nearly 45,000 marriages in Austria, just as many as in the previous year. Of these, 66.5% were between bridal couples born in Austria, 11.5% between bridal couples born abroad and another 22% in which a foreign partner marries a domestic partner. In an increasing proportion of marriages, at least one partner comes from abroad. This ongoing internationalisation is due to the increasing numbers of marriages between people born in Austria with a migrant background and people from the region of origin.

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25 The number of naturalisations indicates the willingness to renounce the original citizenship to attain the Austrian one, which could indicate the extent to which immigrants identify with Austria. However, one should keep in mind that the share of naturalisations also depends on the number of immigrants from previous periods since naturalisation is only possible after a certain duration of stay.

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26 In 2017, there were 9,100 naturalisations, with a slight upward trend. More than a third were already born in Austria. 83% of the naturalized persons came from third countries, with the majority coming from the former Yugoslavia (non-EU, 31%). Another 9% came from Turkey. Most of the new citizens are young – almost half were under 25 years old.

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27 Asked whether they felt disadvantaged in Austria, almost a quarter of the migrant respondents feels that they are either always, mostly or rather disadvantaged because of their migrant background. However, more than three quarters do not feel disadvantaged or rarely or never feel disadvantaged. These data show a significant reduction in discriminatory experiences. Persons with Turkish migrant background significantly more often report disadvantages.

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28 When asked about the expected adaptation of immigrants, 17% of Austrians strictly or largely rejected all points of questioning that ranged from sceptical to xenophobic, while only 3% necessarily or largely agreed with them. This means that the declared xenophobia is low. However, the majority would like to see a better adaptation, but only about 10% to 16% approved all other options such as return, prohibition of political involvement or restrictions in the choice of a partner.

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29 In order to identify the cultural distance, the migrant respondents were asked whether they approved or disapproved the lifestyle observed in Austria. According to the survey, the vast majority agreed with the Austrian lifestyle: 30% fully approved and 56% largely approved the way most people in Austria lead their lives. Approval is higher among people with low formal qualifications than among better-educated immigrants. The proportion of rejection is significantly higher for persons with a Turkish migrant background than for persons from the former Yugoslavia (non-EU).

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30 Besides the education system, paid employment is the essential vehicle for integration. Due to ever more rapid changes in economic structures and a declining demand for low qualified workers, the integrative effect of gainful employment is less effective for a greater part of the foreign and a smaller part of the native population. In the good economic year 2017, however, employment opportunities for all increased, although the labour force potential continued to rise sharply, employment rates increased as a result and unemployment declined in all qualification groups. However, unemployment continues to affect foreign workers more than Austrian nationals (12.5% compared to 7.5%). This difference is almost entirely due to the difference in the unemployment rate of unskilled workers by citizenship.

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31 Although youth unemployment among Austrian and foreign nationals decreased in 2017, it remains high at 7.7% (national definition) for Austrian terms. The unemployment rate for 15- to 24-year-olds from Afghanistan, Syria and Iraq fell particularly sharply (from 49.4% to 37.2%). This may also be partly due to the significant increase in training. The total number of training courses for foreign nationals increased by 5,800, and more than half of the increase concerned persons from this group of countries of origin.

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32 Disposable incomes as well as access to housing influence the opportunities of households with a migrant background in the housing market. The majority of the population with a migrant background lives in rented apartments, often in buildings from the Gründerzeit-era. Due to structural conditions, the majority is not evenly distributed within the respective municipality – and not within Austria. They live mostly in urban areas, and here mostly in housing complexes in strongly traffic-exposed areas and less prestigious districts with low rents.

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33 In 2017, the average per capita living space was approximately 45m². Households without migrant background had approximately 49m², while households with migrant background possessed only 30m² on average. The lowest per capita living space is available for people from Turkey (23m² per capita), followed by people from the former Yugoslavia (non-EU) with 26m². On the other hand, households whose household refer-

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34 The level of education is the lowest among workers with Turkish and former Yugoslavian (non-EU) citizenship. People from these countries of origin had the highest proportions of people with a maximum of compulsory schooling and the lowest with academic education. In return, employed persons from the EU before 2004 (45%) and from the EU accession states of 2004 (29%) have significantly higher shares of academics than Austrians (20%) employed persons. The group of employed persons from other countries also has a significantly higher proportion of university graduates (46%) than Austrians. Of the 6,615 people who received an evaluation/recognition of their foreign qualifications between 2016 and 2017, 59% were academics. 49% were EU/EFTA nationals and 14% came from Afghanistan, Syria and Iraq.

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35 The share of long-term unemployed (more than 12 months without a job) rose to 17.2% in 2017, indicating the structural nature of a large part of unemployment in Austria. Foreign nationals are less frequent among the long-term unemployed (12.2% compared to 19.3% among Austrian nationals), not least because they often do not fulfil the eligibility requirements for unemployment assistance.

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36 The integration monitoring contains indicators depicting immigrants both as crime victims and as offenders. The occurrence of crime among foreign nationals is analysed with a differentiation between suspects, convictions/convicted people and people newly imprisoned people. In addition, it depicts how often criminal acts regardless of the citizenship were committed against immigrants. In all aspects, there were only minor changes compared to the previous year.

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37 In 2017, 270,600 suspects were recorded by the police, about the same number as in the previous year. The proportion of foreign nationals was 39.1% but only 31.6% of them were also living in Austria. Out of the 28,300 convictions, 42.3% were foreign nationals – without information about their usual place of residence. Among the new prisoners, the proportion of foreigners was 60.4%, not least because the inclusion of peo-

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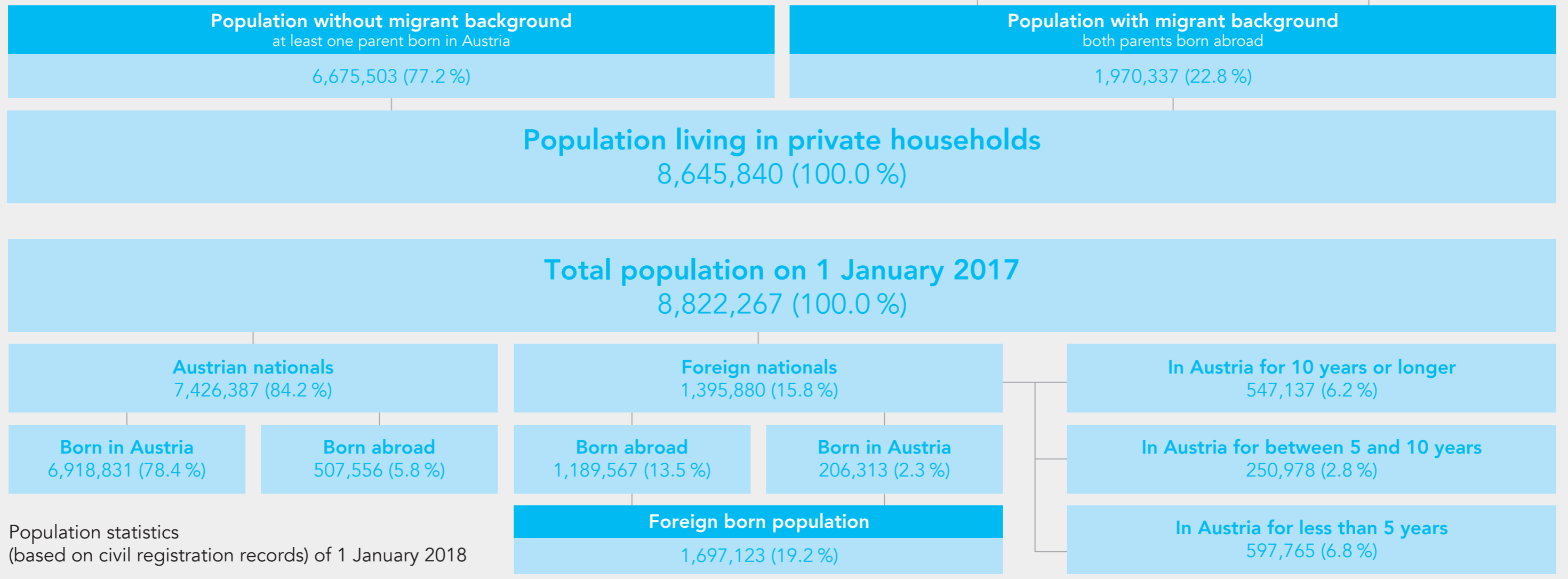
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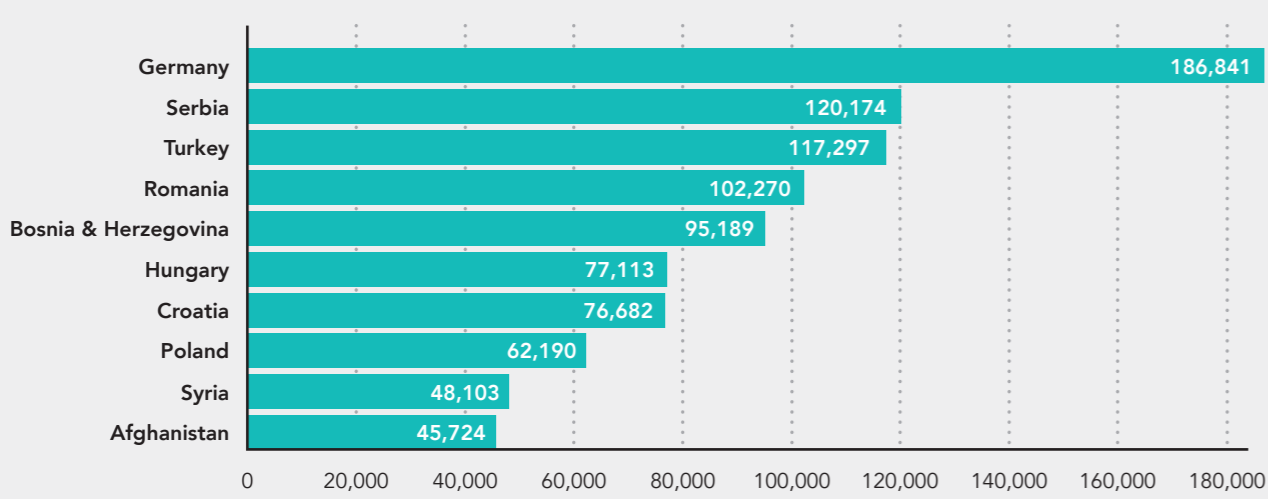
The Austrian population by citizenship and country of birth or migrant background in overview

Microcensus
(survey in private households) Annual average 2017



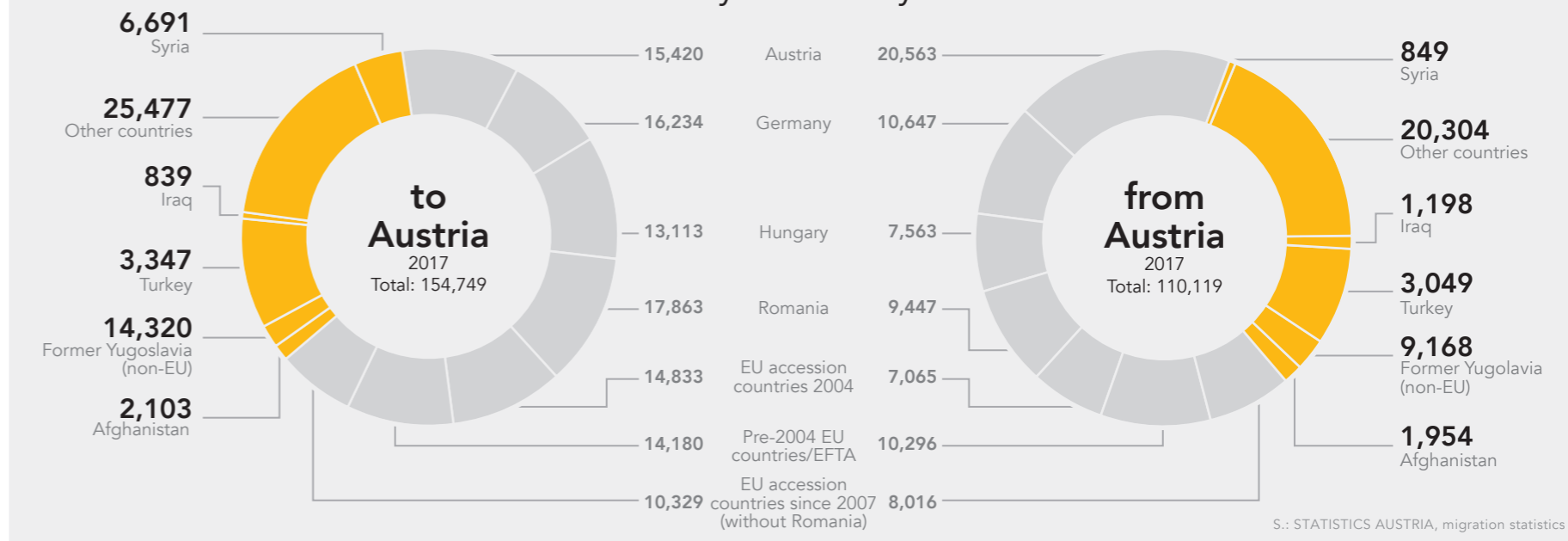
S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, population statistics, 1.1.2018

Foreign nationals Top 10 nationalities on 1 January 2018



S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, population statistics, 1.1.2018

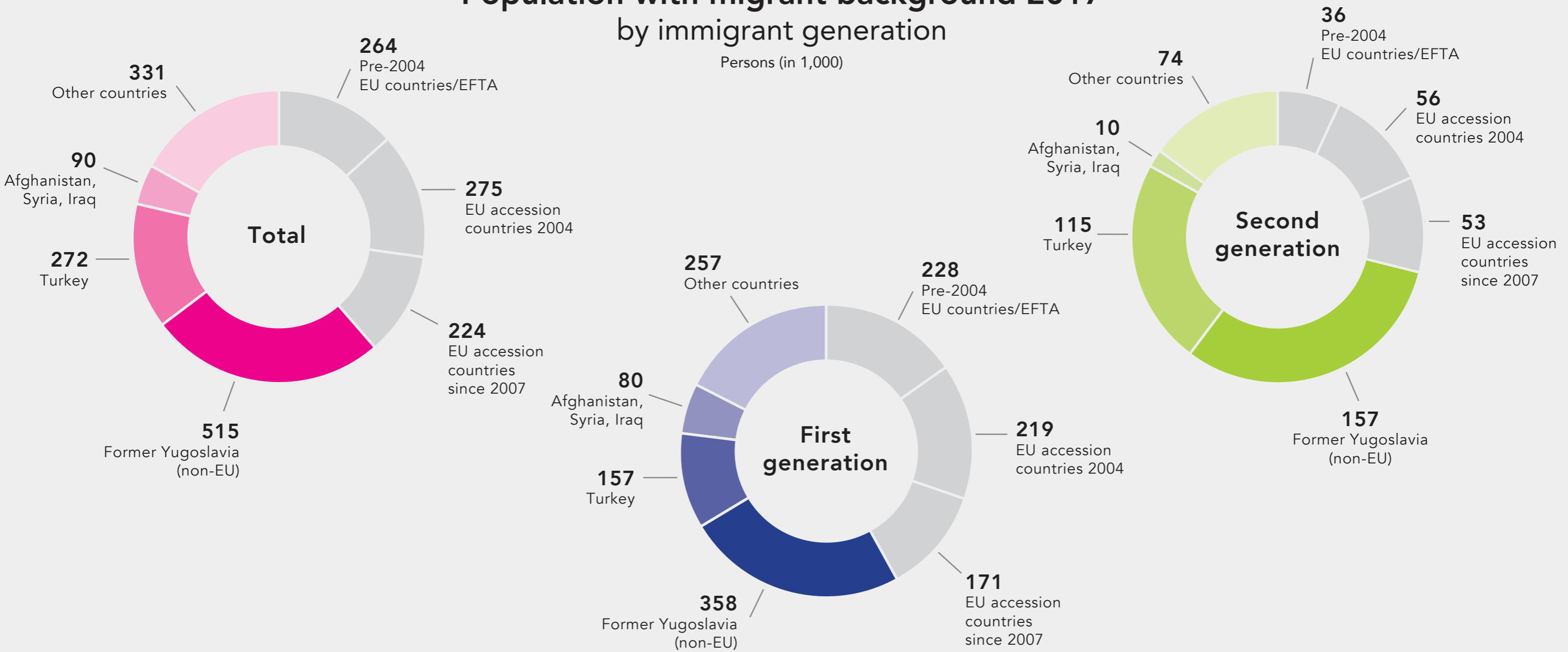
Immigration to and emigration from Austria 2017 by nationality



S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, migration statistics

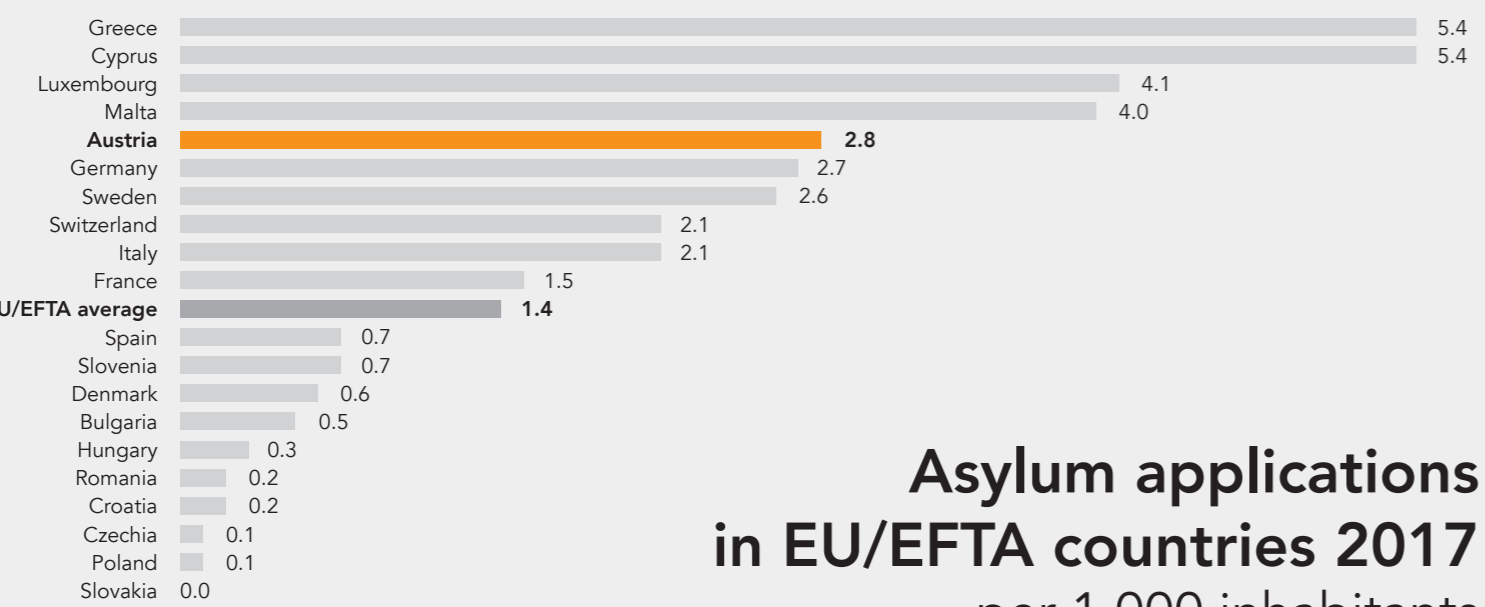
Population with migrant background 2017 by immigrant generation

Persons (in 1,000)



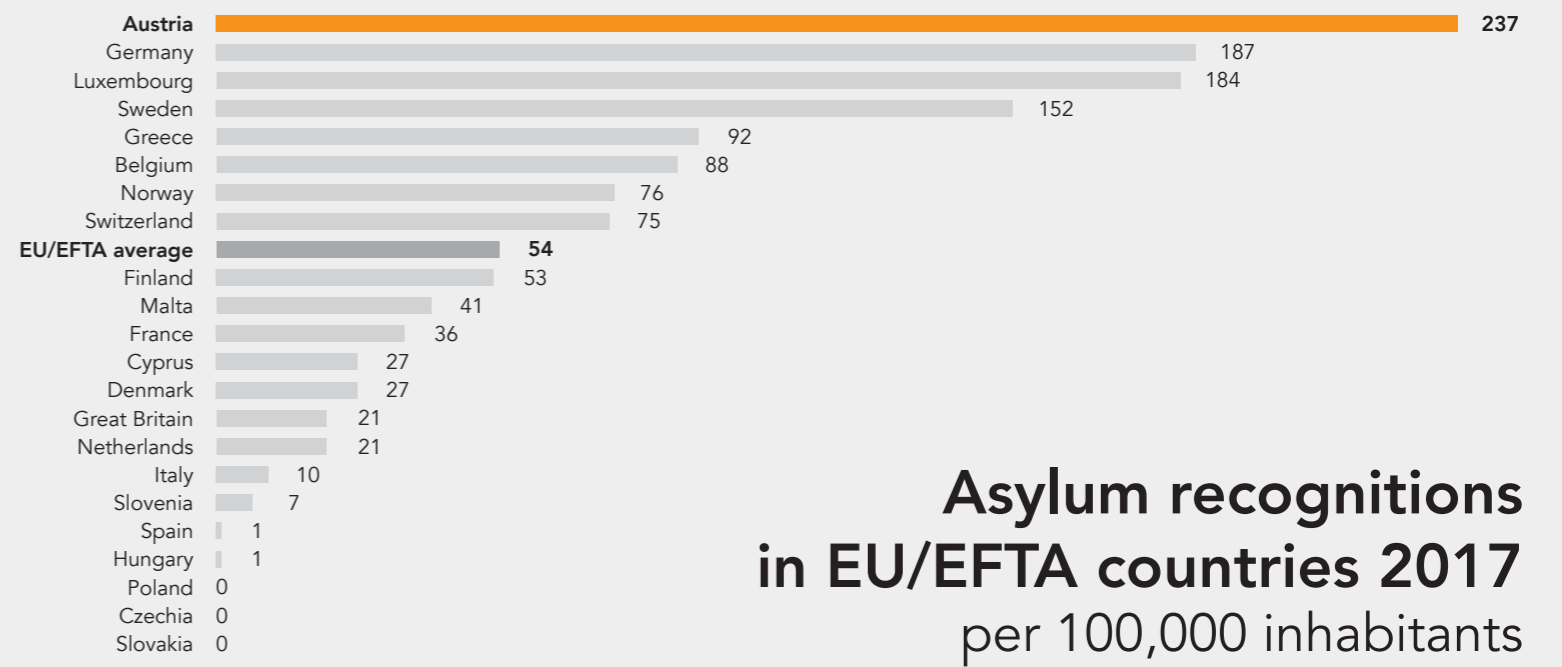
S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, microcensus on workers, annual average over all weeks - Population in private households

Asylum applications in EU/EFTA countries 2017 per 1,000 inhabitants



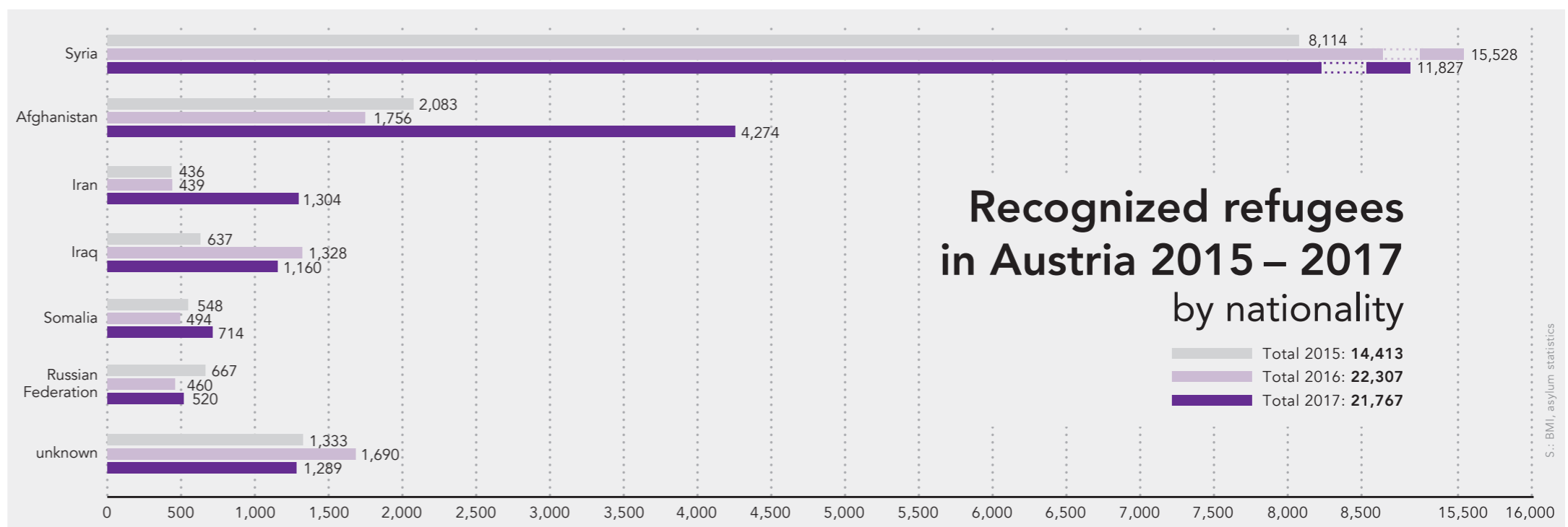
S: EUROSTAT

Asylum recognitions in EU/EFTA countries 2017 per 100,000 inhabitants



S: EUROSTAT

Recognized refugees in Austria 2015 - 2017 by nationality



S: BMI, asylum statistics

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