

Demographic situation

As part of the National Action Plan for Integration, integration indicators were defined to render measurable the various dimensions of the integration process in Austria and establish long-term integration monitoring. Using the 25 defined integration indicators, especially the five core indicators, and taking into account the demographic situation and the subjective points of view, the current state of immigration and integration in Austria for 2020/21 and the significant changes from the previous years can be summarised as follows:

Number of people moving in and away back to the pre-pandemic level

- After the number of people migrating to and from Austria had decreased in 2020 due to the pandemic, in 2021 these figures were back to pre-pandemic levels (154,200 immigrations, 101,700 emigrations). This resulted in net immigration of around 52,500 people.

- Among the people moving to Austria in 2021 were

14,700 returning Austrian citizens and 85,600 other citizens from EU or EFTA states or the United Kingdom (GB). The largest group was from Germany with 19,400, followed by Romania (17,900) and Hungary (9,600). Immigrants from third countries (53,900) represented 35% of all immigrants. Refugee migration from Syria (13,400) accounted for a quarter of this figure. There were 2,300 people moving in from Afghanistan, 1,200 from Iran. Immigrants from countries of the former Yugoslavia (non-EU) accounted for an influx of 11,500 in total.

- At 39,930 asylum applications, significantly more people sought asylum in Austria in 2021 than in 2020 (14,775) or 2019 (12,886). The last time the number of asylum applications was higher was in 2016 (42,285). Of the applications made in 2021, 37,920 were first-time asylum applications, and 2010 were so-called follow-up applications (2020: 1,359). In 2021, most asylum seekers in Austria came from Syria (16,281), followed by Afghanistan (8,739) and Morocco (1,920). Other important countries of origin included Somalia

(1,695), Pakistan (1,362), Iraq (1,052) and Bangladesh (1,027). In comparison to the previous year, the number of asylum applications for all the nationalities mentioned increased; for the largest groups of Syrian and Afghan citizens it rose to about three times the 2020 figure.

Increase in the foreign resident population

- The foreign resident population in Austria was around 1.587 million persons at the start of 2022. This represents 18% of the total population.

- On a yearly average, in 2021 some 2.240 million people with a migrant background lived in Austria. In relation to the total population in private households, this represents 25%. Around 1.635 million people belong to the so-called "first generation" as they were born abroad and moved to Austria. The remaining 605,000 persons with a migrant background are persons born in Austria to parents born abroad ("second generation").

- Germans continue to make up by far the largest group of foreign nationals living in Austria. On

1 January 2022, almost 217,000 Germans lived in Austria, followed by 138,000 Romanians. These come right before the Serbian (122,000) and Turkish (118,000) nationals. Bosnia and Herzegovina occupied fifth place (97,000). Next followed citizens from Croatia, Hungary, Syria, Poland and Slovakia on places six to ten.

Birth rate

- In 2021, 86,078 children were born in Austria, while 91,962 people died. The rate of natural increase (the difference between live births and deaths) was therefore clearly negative, with 5,884 persons. Foreign nationals had a birth surplus (11,356 persons), Austrian citizens a death surplus (17,240 persons).

- On average, in 2021 women in Austria had 1.48 children. Those born here gave birth on average to 1.41 children, those born abroad in contrast to 1.73. The fertility of naturalised women, at 1.45 children, was almost exactly the average fertility rate in Austria, while women with a foreign nationality had significantly more children (1.75).

Fields of action and integration indicators

Language and education

German language proficiency is an important contributor to the integration process. It eases interactions with the host society, with the authorities and with care institutions. Education is also a central aspect of integration. The educational level of the foreign population (25 to 64-year-olds) has increased significantly over time. The proportion of foreigners with only compulsory education dropped to 25% (1981: 70%; 2001: 53%) in 2021, while the proportion of academics stood at 29% (1981: 6%, 2001: 10%).

01 02 Learning German starts in kindergarten. However, the corona pandemic caused the proportion of 1- to 5-year-olds with foreign nationality in childcare outside the home to decrease from 70% in 2019 to 67% in 2020. The proportion of Austrian children of the same age group in childcare remained largely stable (74.9% in 2019; 74.5% 2020). The decline mainly affected younger children, among which foreign children are more

often cared for in their own households. The proportion of children with a first language other than German in elementary childcare centres increased slightly to 32% in the 2020/21 kindergarten year compared to 2015/16, with the language diversity increasing. According to the language ability test conducted for entire Austria, 41,500 4- and 5-year-olds (24%) were in need of German-language support at the start of the 2020/21 kindergarten year. By the end of the kindergarten year, the proportion had dropped by almost a fifth to 19%.

03 In the 2020/21 school year, the proportion of foreigners among all pupils hardly changed from the previous year (17%). This was also true for the proportion of pupils with a first language other than German, although their proportion was significantly higher at 27%. The highest proportion of foreigners, or the proportion of pupils with a first language other than German, was found in special needs schools (28% and 42%) and polytech-

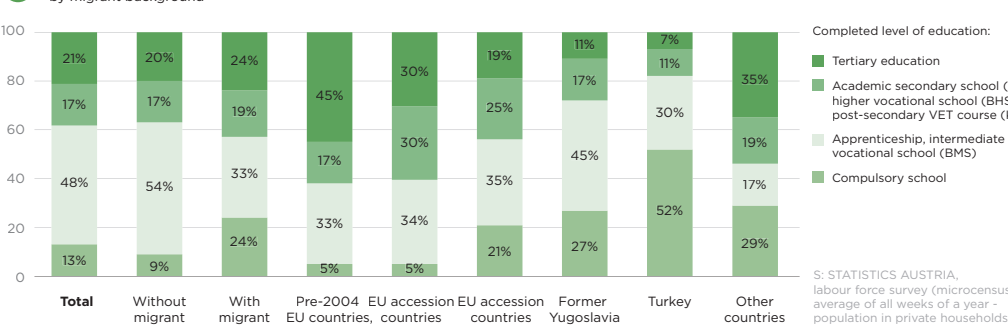
nic schools (24% and 36%), the lowest in advanced secondary schools – academic secondary schools (13% and 20%), higher vocational schools (12% and 22%, respectively) and vocational schools (15% and 19%). Especially Turkish adolescents and adolescents from Afghanistan, Syria and Iraq in 10th grade attended schools that do not lead to a university entrance qualification exam (73% or 76%). The gap between school types in the proportion of foreigners or of pupils with a first language other than German increased in the past ten years. As a result, a smaller proportion of pupils born abroad (66%) attended an advanced secondary school after compulsory school (15- to 19-year-olds) in the 2019/20 school year than that of adolescents born in Austria (82%). However, the difference in the rate of further education did not increase further since the introduction of compulsory education or training to the age of 18 (2017 law). Leaving school early is more common among adolescents with a first language that is not German (11% than among adolescents with German as first language (3%).

04 The number of regular foreign students at Austrian public universities reached a proportion of 29% of all students at public universities in the 2020/21 winter semester (78,000; compared to 76,300 in the 2019/20 winter semester). 74% of the foreign students came from EU and EFTA states, led by Germany and Italy (South Tyrol). Another 12,000 were registered at universities of applied sciences (proportion of foreigners: 20%; 84% of these came from European states, again mainly from Germany and Italy, but also with a high share of students from central, eastern and southern Europe). In terms of the proportion of foreign students in higher education, Austria is one of the top European countries after Switzerland.

05 06 In a long-term comparison, the level of education of the population with a migrant background has significantly improved. In 2021, a quarter (24%) of 25- to 64-year-olds had compulsory school as their highest qualification, while 53% had an intermediate or higher level of education and 24% had a university qualification. Among first-generation immigrants, the share of

persons with at most a compulsory school degree was 24%, while this dropped to 17% in the second generation. In the second generation, the proportion of intermediate qualifications (apprenticeship, intermediate vocational school) increased to 46% – compared to 31% in the first generation – and thus came closer to the proportion in the general population (54%).

Level of education of people aged 25 to 64 years in 2021 by migrant background



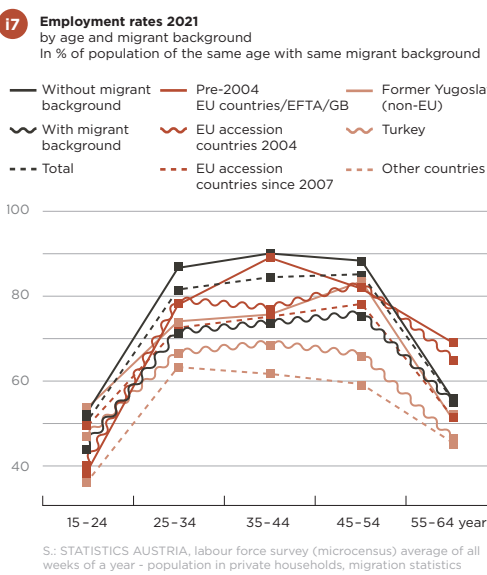
Work and employment

Besides the education system, the labour market is the major engine of integration. The coronavirus pandemic had severe effects on the labour market. Among foreigners, the labour market participation rate fell by -1.7 percentage points in 2020, only to rise again by +1.3 percentage points in 2021. In contrast, among natives there was a decrease in both 2020 (-0.9 percentage points) and 2021 (-0.3 percentage points). In 2021, the employment-to-population ratio of the 15- to 64-year-old foreign population dropped to 66% (2019, before the pandemic: 67%), that of Austrians of the same age to 74% (2019: 75%). The unemployment rate (national definition) decreased to an average of 8% in the second year of the pandemic (2020: 10%), but was still higher than the 2019 figure (7%). This applied equally to foreign workers at 12% (2019: 11%) and nationals at 6.8% (2019: 6.4%). The proportion of long-term unemployed among all unemployed rose significantly and amounted to 24% in 2021 (2019: 16%). The industry-specific patterns of employment are different for people with and without a migrant

background, which explains the higher number of migrants who lost their jobs in the pandemic. More immigrants work in the hospitality industry (9.2%, compared to 3.6% of the general population), in construction (8.9%, compared to 7.1%) and in transport (6.3%, compared to 4.6%). Migrants also work more frequently in trade (15.8 % compared to 13.7%), especially the second generation (21.9% compared to 14.7%). In contrast, workers without a migrant background work more frequently in health and social care (11.5% compared to 10%), in public administration and defence (8.6% compared to 2.7%) and in education (7.4% compared to 5.3%).

07 In 2021, the employment rate of people with a migrant background was at 66%, 8 percentage points lower than that of people without a migrant background. The rate among third-country nationals is particularly low, and has also declined somewhat among people from EU states since 2004. Women from third countries have attained a significantly lower labour market participation rate than the overall average of 68% for women. The rate was

particularly low for women from Afghanistan, Syria and Iraq at 13%, followed by Turkish women at 47%.



Austrians. The opposite is true for Turkish workers, with a proportion of persons who only completed compulsory education of 49%. Among the working population, the share of skilled labourers with intermediate qualifications from the former Yugoslavia (non-EU) was especially high at 44%, as was that from Bulgaria, Romania and Croatia (41%). In 2020/21, 6,600 persons had their foreign qualifications evaluated/recognised. Half were citizens of EU states, another 12% were Austrians. Evaluated/recognised qualifications included especially university degrees (52%) followed by intermediate qualifications (27%). Among the youths aged 15 to 24, 8% were not in education, employment or training (NEET). In youths with a migrant background, the share was much higher at 13% than in youths without a migrant background (7%).

08 Foreign citizens are less likely to be long-term unemployed (longer than twelve months without a job) than Austrians (2021: 18.6% compared to 27%), in part because they frequently do not fulfil the requirements for receiving unemployment assis-

tance. The share was highest among nationals of the states of the former Yugoslavia excluding EU states (25.6%) and Turkey (21.6%). The number of training participants increased by 23.2% (+13,200 in 2021 after decreasing by 7.8% (-4,900) in 2020 due to the pandemic.

09 Young people (15-24 years) showed - after a considerable increase in unemployment in 2020 - a significant decrease in the number of unemployed in 2021 (<30% compared to 2020), which was slightly lower for foreign young people (-28% than for Austrians (-32%). Consequently, the youth unemployment rate (national definition) dropped to 6.5% in 2021, to 9.1% for foreign youths and 5.8% for Austrians. At 21.9%, it is highest for youths from the refugee countries of Afghanistan, Syria and Iraq (28.4% in 2020), while it is lowest for youths from pre-2004 EU states, EFTA states or the United Kingdom (5.2%, compared to 8.1% in the previous year).

Social and health issues

The topics under the rubric "social and health issues" are very heterogeneous. On the one hand, they refer to income and risk of poverty; on the other, to life expectancy and health.

10 The average net annual income (median) of employees who were employed all year round was € 27,596 in 2020, and thus € 835 higher than in 2019 (€ 26,761), despite the pandemic. In this group, Austrians earned € 1,112 more (+4%), foreigners € 4,413 less (-16%). Only persons from pre-2004 EU states, EFTA states and the United Kingdom earned as much as Austrians on average. Groups of all other origins had a lower median net annual income, with the differences between the groups being relatively slight. The proportion of workers in low-wage industries, where hourly wages are less than two-thirds of the median, fell by three percentage points among immigrants to 23% between 2015 and 2020. For those born in third countries it was 27%. 207,000 people (2.3% of the population) received minimum benefits or social assistance in 2020.

Housing and residential context

Access to housing is important for the integration of migrants. Income and wealth, as well as the planned duration of their stay in Austria, determine whether people are able to invest in property or rent. In view of the high proportion of migrants with a low income, the majority live in rented homes (70%) that are often poorly equipped and constrained in space. Over the past ten years, especially migrants from the former Yugoslavia (non-EU) and Turkey have invested more in home ownership. This brought them closer to the home ownership rate of migrants from the EU. Because the demand for foreign labour is greater in cities than in rural areas, migrants tend to live in agglomeration centres, and then often in residential areas with heavy traffic and in less prestigious neighbourhoods.

11 In 2021, the average living area per capita in Austria was 46 m². Households with a migrant reference person on average had 31 m² per capita available, households with a non-migrant reference person had 52 m². The lowest available space per

capita was in Turkish households (24 m²), followed by households from other third countries (27 m²) and the former Yugoslavia (non-EU) at 28 m². The housing situation of immigrants improved with the length of their stay. Second-generation households on average had 37 m² per capita available, compared to 31 m² for the first generation.

12 The ratio of housing costs to income is significantly higher among immigrants. In 2020, around 16% of households in the general population stated that they spend more than 25% of household income on housing costs, compared to 40% of households headed by immigrants. That means that since 2015, this proportion has dropped by 0.7 percentage points for those born in Austria, while it has increased by 1.6 percentage points for migrants since then. At 3.5%, the proportion of people that live in housing with a very poor standard of living is also almost twice as high among immigrants.

13 In 2021, the annual average supply of native employees decreased slightly (-25,600 or -1%), but for foreign workers, as in previous years, it increased significantly (+35,500, +4%). After a dramatic slump in salary employment by 80,100 people (-5%) in 2020, employment recovered again in 2021 by +87,800 people (+2%) and was thus slightly above the 2019 level. In 2021, the number of unemployed nationals decreased by -51,000 (-19%) after an increase of +64,000 (+31%) in 2020. Among for-

14 In Austria, 18% of the population was at risk of poverty or marginalisation in 2020. People born in third states were most at risk (43%), people born in Austria the least (14%). A total of 4% were at multiple risk of poverty and exclusion, migrants to a greater extent than people born in Austria (10% versus 3%). In 2020, social benefits reduced the poverty risk on average to almost half the persons. Social benefits were especially effective at reducing poverty among persons from Turkey (29% compared to 58%), the former Yugoslavia excluding EU states (24% compared to 44%) and from other third countries (46% compared to 65%). In comparison with 2019, the risk of poverty without welfare benefits increased in 2020 among people from Turkey (58% compared to 52%) and other third countries (65% compared to 61%), while it remained almost unchanged among Austrians and EU citizens.

15 According to the 2019 health survey, 23% of men and 18% of women older than 15 smoked daily. Among the population with a migrant background, the proportion of daily smokers was higher among both sexes (men: 29%, women: 21%) than in the population without a migrant background

16 The education level of the employed is very heterogeneous and depends on the area of origin. The highest levels of education are found among employed people from pre-2004 EU states, EFTA states or the United Kingdom: in 2021, 50% had a university degree, compared to 22% of Austrians, and only 4% had compulsory education as their highest educational attainment, compared to 8% of

17 In 2021, the annual average supply of native employees decreased slightly (-25,600 or -1%), but for foreign workers, as in previous years, it increased significantly (+35,500, +4%). After a dramatic slump in salary employment by 80,100 people (-5%) in 2020, employment recovered again in 2021 by +87,800 people (+2%) and was thus slightly above the 2019 level. In 2021, the number of unemployed nationals decreased by -51,000 (-19%) after an increase of +64,000 (+31%) in 2020. Among for-

18 In 2021, 43% of households in Austria lived in rented apartments, 48% in their own homes and 9% in other forms of housing (e.g. company housing). Of the households with a migrant background, 70% lived in rented homes, compared to 35% of households without a migrant background. The proportion of households in rental apartments was highest for reference persons from other states (82%) and Turkey (78%). As the length of stay increases, the share of homeowners also increases, from 24% among first-generation immigrants to 33% in the second generation. However, the proportion remains significantly lower than for those without a migrant background (55%).

19 Immigrants are more likely to live in cities than in rural areas. At the beginning of 2022, around 39% of people born in a foreign country lived in Vienna alone, compared to 17% of the Austrian-born population. The concentration in Vienna's highest for third-country nationals: 41% of people from Turkey and the former Yugoslavia (non-EU) lived in Vienna, followed by those from Afghanistan at 49% and

20 those from other third countries at a good 52%. 44% of all people born in Austria live in municipalities with fewer than 5,000 inhabitants, in contrast to just 19% of first-generation immigrants. In the last ten years, the number of municipalities that had a proportion of more than 25% of immigrants rose significantly, from 27 in 2012 to 72 in 2022. The proportion of people born abroad that live in municipalities with an immigrant population of more than 25% was at 61% in 2022. In 2012, it was only 47%.

21 Apart from larger cities, some tourism communities and some border towns and localities with larger refugee accommodation facilities are among the municipalities with a particularly high proportion of immigrants.

22 With regard to the spatial segregation of foreigners, the segregation index shows that it is lowest for the Hungarian and German populations and highest for people from Serbia, Iran, North Macedonia and Poland.

23 Integration Monitoring contains indicators that record migrants both as perpetrators and as victims of criminal acts. Migrants are not only more frequently perpetrators, but also victims of criminal acts. In the longer term, this has not changed much.

24 In 2021, the police recorded 267,000 suspects. Of these, 104,100 were foreign suspects (39%), of which 70% in turn were resident in Austria: 10% abroad and 1.5% had an illegal residency status. At the beginning of 2022, the total number of prisoners was 8,428. Of these, 51% were foreign citizens. These came primarily from Serbia, Romania, Turkey, Afghanistan, Russia and Slovakia. As a result of the pandemic, the incarceration rate of foreign citizens decreased in 2021 to 0.26% of the foreign population from 0.28% in the previous year; the incarceration rate of Austrians stayed at the previous year's level of 0.06%. The decline comprised almost all foreign nationalities. With regard to the incarceration rate, at 92 prisoners per 100,000 inhabitants, Austria lies in the European

25 middle field, equivalent to Belgium and Italy. The proportion of newly incarcerated foreign citizens increased slightly to 56% in 2021 from 55% in 2020.

26 In 2021, with a slight upward trend in the last five years, around one third (32%) of the victims of criminal acts were foreign citizens. If one uses the annual average of foreigners in the population to put the figures in perspective (17%), the percentage of persons affected is more than double as high among foreign nationalities as among Austrian citizens (1.5% versus 0.7%). Like in the past five years, Africans (3.4%) were especially likely to be victims of criminal acts, followed by persons from Afghanistan, Syria and Iraq (2.7%). Crimes against foreign citizens were committed by both Austrians and foreigners. More than one third of all victims of criminal acts were adolescents and young adults between 15 and 25.

Family structures

Family structures are one of the factors that reflect social identification with the host society. Here, marriage relationships play a special role. A high rate of marriages outside one's ethno-cultural group (exogamy) is often regarded as an indicator of mutual acceptance.

27 One sees that as the length of stay increases, so does the likelihood of selecting a partner in Austria. Between 1991 and 2021, there was a constant increase in marriages with a foreign partner in Austria - by approximately 14 percentage points to 33% of all opposite-sex marriages.

28 A total of more than 40,400 opposite-sex marriages were concluded in Austria in 2021, around 1,000 more than in the previous year, but still significantly fewer than before the pandemic (2019: 45,000). The proportion of couples in which one person came from abroad was 22%. Although the number of marriages in which both spouses were born in Austria remained stable (27,200),

29 their proportion dropped by approx. 3 percentage points to 67%. The share of marriages in which both spouses were born abroad increased to 11% (9.5% in 2020). The number of same-sex marriages also increased slightly from the previous year, by 612 cases to 632. For these marriages, one person comes from abroad in 31% of the cases, while both bride and groom come from abroad in 9% of the cases. The tendency towards a greater internationalisation of marriages thus continued. This is a result of the increased immigration, which is also a family migration. The majority of spouses born abroad came from an EU state (4,700), mainly Germany. In 2021, 4,100 spouses came from third countries, for the most part from Turkey and from the former Yugoslavia (excluding EU states). The average household size in 2021 was slightly higher in the population with a migrant background (2.6) than in that without a migrant background (2.1). Turkish households had the highest number of household members (3.3 persons), followed by households from Afghanistan, Syria and Iraq (3.2 persons).

Naturalisations

In Austria, naturalisation is regarded as a sign of full integration and final arrival in Austrian society. In light of the length of the required legal and continuous residency in Austria (ten years, reduced to six years in exceptional cases), the naturalisation trends follow the immigration waves by around ten years. In 2019, 10,500 people became naturalised Austrian citizens. After a pandemic-related slump in 2020 (8,800), there were slightly more naturalisations again in 2021 with 9,700. Since the turn of the millennium, more than 370,000 people have been granted the Austrian citizenship. The naturalisation rate (naturalisations as a percentage of foreigners living in Austria) was 0.6% in 2021. Compared to other EU countries, Austria has one of the lowest naturalisation rates; only some Central and Eastern European countries as well as Denmark have lower rates.

30 Of the 9,700 foreigners who chose to be naturalised in Austria in 2021, 34% were born here. The majority had a legal claim to the Austrian nationality (64%), while the rest obtained it due to a discretionary decision (9%) or an extension (27%), e.g. to spouses and/or children. The largest numbers of naturalisations were among citizens of Turkey (1,100), Bosnia and Herzegovina (921) as well as Serbia (782). The naturalisation rate for persons from other EU and EFTA states and the United Kingdom (UK) was lower. On the other hand, it was significantly higher for third-country nationals, and highest for nationals of Afghanistan, Syria and Iraq: 5% of this group with a residency of at least ten years in Austria was naturalised in 2021, followed by persons from other third countries (3%) and by persons from the former Yugoslavia (excluding the EU states) and Turkey (1% each). The new citizens are largely young - 32% were under the age of 18.

Subjective views on the integration climate

In addition to the statistics, which are used as objective indicators of integration, Integration Monitoring also includes subjective perceptions of integration, on the one hand from the perspective of those born in Austria, and on the other hand from the perspective of the immigrants. The survey was conducted as an online survey, could be answered in German, Arabic, Bosnian/Croatian/Serbian, Dari/Farsi, Pashto, Russian or Turkish, and comprised three samples: one from the population born in Austria (1,143 persons), another one from the population whose country of birth was Bosnia and Herzegovina (373), Serbia (274) and Turkey (334), and a third one from the population that fled to Austria from the most frequent countries of birth of refugee immigration between 2012 and 2021 (385 from Afghanistan, 408 from Syria, 314 from the Russian Federation).

31 About one-third (34%) of the Austrians rated the coexistence with migrants as "very good" or "rather good", while one quarter (25%) held the view that it worked "rather badly" or "very badly". However, the frequency of contact with immigrants plays a role in this assessment: The number of Austrians who rarely or never have any contact with migrants and who responded that they rate coexistence as "very good" or "rather good" was significantly lower than for those who have more frequent contact. People born in Bosnia and Herzegovina or Serbia rated coexistence significantly more favourably than people born in Austria: 60% and 59% respectively described it as "very good" or "rather good". However, this proportion is lower among those born in Turkey at 43%. Coexistence is rated best by immigrants from Afghanistan, Syria and the Russian Federation. Also, in the immigrant groups, people who rarely or never have contact with Austrians rate the coexistence worse than those who have more frequent contact.

32 Among the immigrant groups with a long migration history, an overwhelming majority felt that they belonged to Austria: 80% of those born in Bosnia and Herzegovina, 76% of those born in Serbia and 70% of those born in Turkey agreed. Moreover, the longer the stay, the higher the agreement, ranging from 59% (stay of one to less than five years) to 65% (five to 15 years) to 79% (more than 15 years).

33 Immigrants with a recent migration history also have high approval rates: 81% of those born in Afghanistan, 79% of those born in Syria and 75% of those born in the Russian Federation feel they belong to Austria. In this case, however, there is a decreasing trend with longer length of stay.

34 When asked whether they felt more a sense of belonging to Austria or to their country of origin, 75% of those born in Bosnia and Herzegovina, 68% of those born in Serbia and 73% of those born in Turkey declared themselves to belong to Austria. 86% of persons from Afghanistan, 79%

35 of those from Syria and 82% of those from the Russian Federation chose Austria. However, this question increasingly led to missing answers and should therefore be interpreted with caution.

36 On the question of whether and how coexistence with immigrants had changed in the past three years, around one fifth of Austrians stated that it had improved (21%) and around one third that it had worsened (33%). For just under half (46%), coexistence has not changed in the past three years. The perception is similar in the immigrant groups with longer migration histories, but the immigrant groups with more recent migration histories generally rate the change in coexistence as significantly better.

37 When asked whether their personal living situation had improved in the past three years, 30% of Austrians answered in the affirmative. Immigrants from Bosnia and Herzegovina saw an improvement in 35%, those from Serbia in 31% and those from Turkey in 25%.

38 People from Afghanistan (73%), Syria (71%) and the Russian Federation (54%) saw an improvement in their living situation much more often.

39 Another block of questions dealt with experiences of discrimination of immigrants. About every fourth person born in Bosnia and Herzegovina (27%) or Serbia (24%) had at least occasionally the feeling of being discriminated against because of their origin in the last twelve months. Such experiences were even more common for persons born in Turkey: 44% felt disadvantaged at least occasionally in the last twelve months, and only 28% stated that this was never the case. In the immigrant groups with a recent migration history, the proportions are similarly high: 45% of immigrants from Afghanistan and 40% each of immigrants from Syria and the Russian Federation felt at least occasionally that they were disadvantaged because of their origin.

40 In order to record attitudes towards minorities and religious communities, both Austrians and

41 immigrants were asked whether it would bother them if a person from a certain group were their neighbour. It turned out that a quarter of the Austrians would not like to have asylum applicants or refugees as neighbours. Immigrants have a more positive attitude towards asylum applicants and refugees, but their scepticism is still comparatively high: the percentage of people who would be bothered by having asylum applicants or refugees as neighbours is 14% (immigrant groups with a longer migration history) and 16% (immigrant groups with a more recent migration history).

42 Apart from asylum applicants and refugees, Austrians are also rather sceptical towards Muslims: Just under one fifth (18%) would find it inconvenient to have a Muslim as a neighbour. The proportions are significantly lower with regard to Christians and Jews (7% each). Among immigrants, the proportions hardly vary between the individual religious communities. The rejection is lowest in the immigrant groups with a longer history of migration (Christians: 6%, Muslims: 9%,

43 Jews: 7%). In the immigrant groups with a recent migration history, it is comparatively high for all groups (Christians: 15%, Muslims: 16%, Jews: 14%).

44 Within the immigrant groups with a longer migration history, the scepticism towards homosexual and bisexual persons is greatest: 15% would find it inconvenient to have persons from this group as neighbours. Among Austrians, scepticism is lowest (8%).

45 The Integration Survey 2022 also included questions on the topic of lifestyle in order to measure subjectively perceived cultural distances from the perspective of the foreign-born population. Almost three out of four immigrants stated that they orientated their lives towards both the Austrian way of life and the way of life in their country of origin and tried to combine them. Around 23% (immigrant groups with a longer migration history) and 22% (immigrant groups with a more recent migration history) were more oriented towards the Austrian way of life.

46 In addition, the Integration Survey 2022 for the first time surveyed the frequency of use of different types of media as well as the language in which the media were used. Social media play a much greater role for the foreign-born population than for those born in Austria. In contrast, daily television consumption was significantly more common among Austrians and immigrants from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia or Turkey than among those born in Afghanistan, Syria or the Russian Federation. Around one third of immigrants from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia and Syria watched television media in the language of their countries of origin daily. Among those born in Turkey, the figure was significantly higher (58%), while among those born in Afghanistan and the Russian Federation, it was considerably lower (around 15% each). Similar patterns emerged with social media.

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

