

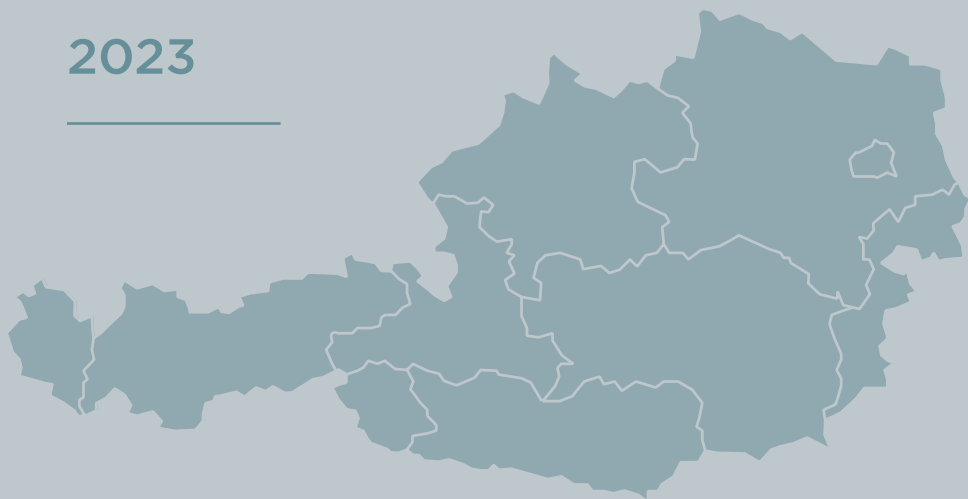
STATISTICAL YEARBOOK



Migration & Integration

SHORT VERSION

2023



Integration at a glance

Demographic situation

Integration indicators were defined as part of the National Action Plan for 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 2021/22 and the main changes compared to previous years can be summarised as follows:

Refugee migration from Ukraine caused the number of incoming and outgoing migrants to rise in 2022

- After the number of immigrants entering and emigrants leaving Austria decreased in 2020 due to the pandemic, these figures returned to pre-pandemic levels in 2021 (154,200 immigrants, 101,700 emigrants). Both immigration and emigration increased significantly in 2022, mainly due to the significant refugee migration of persons from Ukraine (261,900 immigrants, 125,000 emigrants, positive net migration of 137,000).

- Of the total of 261,900 immigrants in 2022, 15,700 were Austrian nationals returning home and a further 100,700 were nationals of EU, EFTA states or the United Kingdom (GB). Of these, German and Romanian nationals (around 21,700 each) formed the largest groups, followed by Hungarian nation-

nals (12,500). Immigrants from third countries (145,600), including 78,400 Ukrainians, accounted for 56% of all immigrants. These also included 15,100 Syrians, 3,300 Afghans, 2,000 Iranians and 12,800 nationals from countries of the former Yugoslavia outside the EU.

- With around 112,300 cases, significantly more asylum applications were lodged in Austria in 2022 than in 2021 (39,900) and in the previous years. The number of asylum applications was also higher than in 2015 which saw a high number of migration cases (88,300 asylum applications). The significant increase in asylum applications is mainly due to applications by Indians (2022: 20,000; 2021: 900) and Tunisians (2022: 13,100; 2021: 500), who had lodged comparatively few applications in the previous year. Yet also applications from people from Afghanistan (2022: 25,000; 2021: 8,700) almost tripled in 2022. Around 13,800 persons were granted asylum in Austria in 2022, which was slightly more than in the previous year (12,000). These recognitions were offset by around 31,100 decisions where asylum was denied, which was 128% more than in 2021 (13,600).

Increase in the foreign resident population

- Around 2.352 million people with a migrant background lived in Austria on average of the year 2022. This equated to a share of 26.4% in relation to the total population in private households. Around 1.731 million people belong to the so-called “first generation”, as they themselves were born abroad and moved to Austria. The remaining population of approximately 621,000 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 2023 was approximately 1.730 million people. This equated to a share of 19% of the total population.

- Germans continue to be by far the largest group of foreign nationals in Austria. There were around 225,000 Germans living in Austria on 1 January 2023, followed by 147,500 Romanian nationals. These are ahead of Serbian (121,900) and Turkish nationals (119,700). Croatia occupies fifth place (101,800). Places six to ten are taken by nationals of Hungary, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Syria, Ukraine and Poland. In terms of countries with significant numbers of nationals, Austria is also home to people from Slovakia, Afghanistan, Bulgaria, Italy, Russia, Kosovo and North Macedonia.

- The average age of Austria's population on 1 January 2023 was 43.2 years. With an average age of 35.9 years, foreign nationals were significantly younger than Austrian nationals (45.0 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 26.3 and 26.4 years respectively, and German nationals the oldest at 41.2 years.

Birth rate trends

- There were 82,600 children born in Austria in 2022 while 93,300 people passed away. The rate of natural increase (the difference between live births and deaths) was therefore clearly negative at 10,700 persons. Foreign nationals registered a surplus of births (11,900 people), Austrian citizens a surplus of deaths (22,600 people).

- Women in Austria gave birth to around 1.41 children on average in 2022. Those born in Austria gave birth to 1.34 children on average, while those born abroad gave birth to 1.63 children. At 1.42 children, the fertility of naturalised women was slightly above the average fertility level in Austria, whereas women with foreign citizenship gave birth to significantly more children (1.64).

Fields of action and integration indicators

Language and Education

Knowledge of the German language plays an important role in the integration process. It makes it easier to deal with the host population, with authorities as well as with care facilities. Education is also a key aspect of integration. The level of education among the foreign population (25–64-year olds) has improved significantly over time. The proportion of foreign nationals with compulsory school leaving certification as their highest level was 23% in 2022 (1981: 70%, 2001: 53%), while the proportion of university graduates was 28% (1981: 6%, 2001: 10%). This is due on the one hand to significant internal migration within the EU, and on the other hand to more restrictive immigration policies towards third-country nationals. Even the refugee migration of recent years has not changed this trend significantly.

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 (just over 76%) than for children who were not of Austrian nationality (70%). This meant a slight increase on the previous year for both groups: the pre-school care rate for children without Austrian nationality was 67% in 2021, a year which was even more affected by the pandemic, for children of Austrian nationality it was around 75%. The proportion of non-German speaking children in elementary childcare facilities increased slightly from 31.5% to 32.0% in the 2021/22 kindergarten year compared to 2016/17, with an increase in language diversity. The proportion was highest in mixed-age care groups (48%) and lowest in kindergartens (28%). The nationwide language assessment at the beginning of the 2021/22 kindergarten year revealed a need for German language

support for 48,100 children aged 4 and 5 (28%). The proportion had decreased to 21% by the end of the kindergarten year.

3 The proportion of pupils without Austrian citizenship as a percentage of all pupils hardly changed in the 2021/22 school year compared to the previous year (from 17.4% to 17.9%). The proportion of pupils whose first language was not German fell slightly from 27.2% to 26.8%. The highest proportion of non-Austrian nationals or pupils with a first language other than German in the 2021/22 school year was found in special needs schools (43%) and polytechnic schools (37%), the lowest in schools focused on the school leaving examination (Matura) – academic secondary schools, upper cycle (20%), higher vocational schools (22%) and pure vocational schools (14%). A total of 68% of Turkish youths in the 10th grade attended schools that do not lead to the school leaving examination (Matura). This proportion was slightly higher for young people from Afghanistan, Syria and Iraq at 74%. In 2021, a significantly lower proportion of pupils born abroad attended a secondary school following compulsory school (15–19-year olds) (65%) than was the case for young people born in Austria (81%). These figures were 56% and 76%, respectively, 10 years earlier (2011). Leaving school at an early stage 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 reached a share of 31% of all students at public universities in the 2021/22 winter semester (81,600; this figure was 78,015 in the 2020/21 winter semester). A total of 74% of foreign students came from EU and EFTA states, primarily from Germany and Italy (South Tyrol). A further approximately 12,200 were enrolled at universities of applied sciences (proportion of foreign nationals 21%). Compared to the

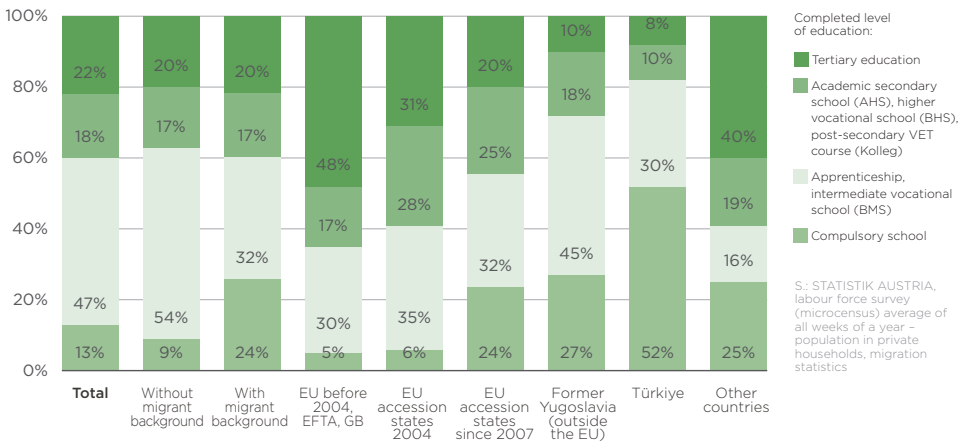
EU and EFTA states, Austria had the highest proportion of students with foreign citizenship in 2021 (19%). This value was similar for Switzerland (18%).

5 **6** The level of education for the population with a migrant background has improved significantly in longer-term comparisons. Less than a quarter (24%) of 25–64-year olds had compulsory education as their highest educational level in 2022, but 51% had a mid-level or higher level of education and 25% had a university degree. The proportion of first generation immigrants with a compulsory school leaving certification as their maximum level was 24%, while the figure for the second generation was only 19%. On the other hand, the proportion of the second generation with mid-level qualifications (apprenticeship, intermediate vocational school) increased to 47% compared to 30% in the first generation, thereby approximating the proportion for the core population (54%). First-generation immigrants are more likely to have an academic education than the second generation (27% compared to 17%) and also than the population with no immigrant background (20%).

Work and Employment

The labour market is a further key driver of integration alongside the education system. The labour market recovered in 2022 from the significant impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. Labour force participation among foreign nationals increased by 4.5 percentage points in 2022 compared to the previous year. Labour force participation among Austrians increased by 1.9 percentage points in 2021 compared to the previous year. The employment rate of the 15–64-year old foreign population in 2022 was thereby 69% (in 2019 before the pandemic: 67%), while that of Austrians of the same age was 75% (2019: 75%). The unemployment rate (national definition) fell to an average of 6.3% in 2022, which was even lower than in the pre-crisis year of 2019 (7.4%). This means the unemployment rate decreased by 1.7 percentage points on the previous year (2021: 8.0%). Unemployment rates declined for both foreign workers with a rate of 9.1% (2021: 11.9%), and Austrians with a rate of 5.4% (2021: 6.8%). Structural long-term unemployment (those unemployed for more than twelve months) also decreased significantly compared to the previous year, falling by 45% from 2021

i5 Level of education of people aged 25 to 64 years 2022 by migrant background



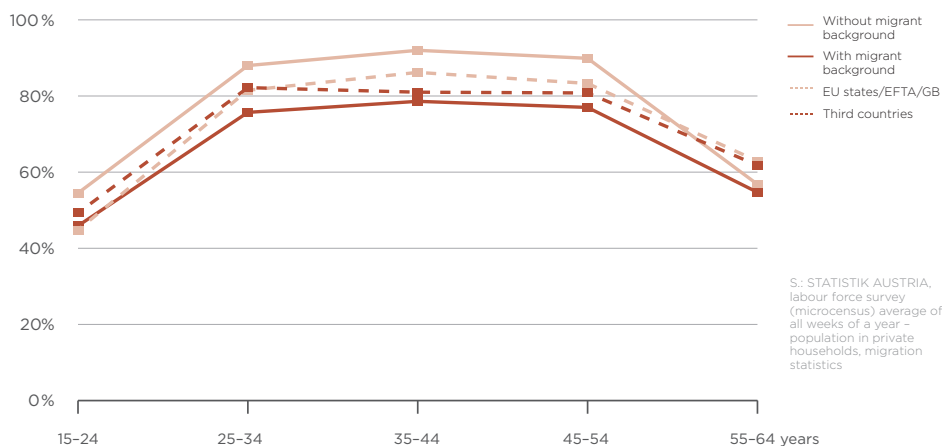
to 2022 to around 44,300 people (2021: 80,100). The proportion of long-term unemployed as a percentage of all unemployed fell sharply to 17% in 2022 (2021: 24%, 2019: 16%). The sector-specific pattern of employment differs between persons with and without a migrant background. Individuals with a migrant background are more frequently employed in the catering and accommodation sector (10.1% compared to 4.0% of the population with no migrant background), the construction industry (9.4% compared to 7.8%) and in transport (5.9% compared to 4.2%). Individuals with a migrant background are also more likely to work in the retail sector (14.6% compared to 13.2%), especially the second generation (18.9% compared to 13.8% of the first generation). Conversely, employees with no migrant background are more likely to be employed in health and social work (11.6% compared to 10.0%), public administration and defence (8.3% compared to 2.3%) and education (7.1% compared to 5.4%).

7 The employment rate for individuals with a migrant background was 69% in 2022, 7 percentage points lower than that for the population capable of working who have no

migrant background. The rate is particularly low among third-country nationals. Women from third countries experience significantly lower levels of labour market integration compared to the overall female average of 70%. This figure was especially low among women from Afghanistan, Syria and Iraq at 25%, followed by Turkish women at 51%. The employment rate for women with no migrant background is higher than that for women with a migrant background until their mid-50s. The only group where women from other EU states have a higher labour force participation rate (58%) than women with no migrant background (50%) is in the 55-64 age group.

8 Almost 37% of people with a migrant background were blue-collar workers in 2022, while this figure was just 18% of the population with no migrant background. Conversely, 66% of Austrian natives but just 52% of people with a migrant background were white-collar employees, civil servants, contract employees or freelancers. On the other hand, the proportion of the self-employed in the non-agricultural sector differed only slightly between Austrian natives (10%) and people with a migrant background (8%).

17 Employment rates 2022 by age and migrant background, in % of population of the same age with the same migrant background



The occupational status changes rapidly between the generations. While 40% 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 21% and the proportion of self-employed in the non-agricultural sector to 5%; by contrast, the proportion of white-collar employees increased from 49% to 66%. However, there are clear differences depending on origin.

People from the former Yugoslavia outside the EU and from the EU states that joined from 2007 onwards had the lowest proportions of self-employed persons (around 6% each) while people from the EU states before 2004, EFTA and GB had the highest (14%). Men are consistently more likely to be self-employed than women.

9 The supply of labour of employed Austrians decreased slightly as an annual average for 2022 (by 26,200 persons or 1%), while for foreign workers this figure increased significantly, including more strongly than in previous years due to the pandemic-related slump (+66,300, +7%). The upturn continued in 2022 following a dramatic slump in salaried employment in 2020 and a recovery in 2021. Salaried employment in-

19 **Unemployment rate 2022**
by nationality with change since previous year
in percentage points

Nationality	Total
Total	6,3% (-1,7)
Austrian	5,4% (-1,4)
Non-Austrian	9,1% (-2,8)
EU states before 2004, EFTA, GB	4,9% (-2,1)
EU accession states 2004	4,8% (-2,1)
EU accession states since 2007	9,5% (-2,9)
Former Yugoslavia (outside the EU)	10,5% (-2,5)
Türkiye	14,1% (-3,7)
Afghanistan, Syria, Iraq	27,9% (-6,1)
Other countries	11,1% (-4,7)

S.: AMS AUSTRIA, employment market survey/stats

creased by 108,700 (3%) on the previous year and was also significantly above the pre-crisis level of 2019. Among Austrians, salaried employment has increased by 21,300 (1%) since 2021. In the case of foreign nationals, salaried employment has increased by 87,400 (10%). The number of unemployed Austrian nationals decreased by 22% (-47,600 people) compared to the previous year. The decline among foreign nationals in 2022 was 19% (-21,100 people). The unemployment rate (unemployed registered with the Public Employment Service) among Austrians fell by 1.4 percentage points to 5.4% and that of foreign nationals by 2.8 percentage points to 9.1% as a result. The difference between foreign and Austrian nationals thereby decreased to 3.7 percentage points following 5.1 in the previous year.

The unemployment rate among foreign women showed the highest fall (-3.7 percentage points to 9.9%), followed by foreign men (-2.3 percentage points to 8.5%), while that of Austrian women showed smaller decreases of -1.5 percentage points to 4.9% and that of Austrian men -1.4 percentage points to 5.8%. The highest unemployment rates continued to be among people from Afghanistan, Syria and Iraq (27.9%), followed by Turkish and other third-country nationals (14.1% and 11.1%)

10 The educational level among the employed is highly heterogeneous and depends on the region of origin. The highest level of education is held by workers from EU states before 2004, EFTA states and GB, with 51% of these having a university degree in 2022, compared to 23% of Austrian nationals. Only 5% had compulsory schooling as their highest educational level compared to 7% of Austrians. The opposite is true for employed persons from Türkiye, with a share of compulsory school leavers of 52%. The proportion of skilled workers with mid-level qualifications was particularly high among workers from the former Yugoslavia outside the EU (46%) as well as Bulgaria, Romania and Croatia (39%). There were 7,100 people

in 2021/22 who had an assessment/recognition of qualifications obtained abroad. Almost half were EU nationals, while a further 11% were Austrians. University qualifications were the main items assessed/recognised (54%), followed by mid-level qualifications (28%). Among young people aged 15–24, 8% were not in employment, education or training (NEET). The proportion was significantly higher among young people who had a migrant background (12%) than among young people who did not (6%). This impacted the first generation most of all, at 14%. A total of 10% of 14-year olds in the 2018/19 school year whose everyday language was not German had not completed the compulsory school leaving certification by the end of the 2020/21 school year, which reduces opportunities for further education and makes it more difficult to enter the workforce.

11 Foreign nationals are less likely to be long-term unemployed (without a job for more than twelve months) than Austrians (2022: 11.5% compared to 19.7%), also because they frequently do not meet the eligibility criteria for unemployment assistance. The highest proportion was among nationals from the former Yugoslavia outside the EU (17.3%) and other third countries (12.4%). The number of training participants increased by 8.0% (2,600) among foreign nationals in 2022, while this number decreased slightly among Austrians (-3,400).

12 Youth unemployment among 15–24-year olds also continued to decrease significantly in 2022 compared to the previous year. The unemployment rate fell for instance by 1.1 percentage points, with a heavier drop recorded for young foreign people (-1.7 percentage points) than for young Austrian people (-1.0). This put the youth unemployment rate (national definition) at 5.4% in 2022, 7.4% among young foreign people and 4.8% among young Austrian people. It was highest among young people from the refugee countries of Afghanistan, Syria and Iraq

at 20.0% (2021: 21.9%) and lowest among young people from EU states before 2004, EFTA states and the United Kingdom (GB) (3.3% compared to 5.2% the year before).

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 women, 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 people employed throughout the year was €28,059 in 2021, and was therefore €463 higher than in 2020 (€27,596), despite the pandemic. Austrians earned €1,196 more (+4%) in 2021 compared to the average, while foreign nationals earned €4,303 less (-15%). Only people from the EU states before 2004, EFTA states and the United Kingdom (GB) earned roughly the same on average as 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 €2,131 (-9%). The proportion of those employed in low-wage industries where the hourly wage is less than two-thirds of the median fell by one percentage point to 24% among immigrants between 2016 and 2021. This figure was 29% among those born in third countries. A total of 199,200 people (2.2% of the population) received minimum benefits or social assistance in 2021. 45% (89,100 persons) of these were Austrians and a further 38%

(75,700) asylum seekers or individuals entitled to subsidiary protection. There were 14,000 EU citizens (7%) and 20,400 (10%) third-country nationals (without asylum status).

14 A total of 17% of the population in Austria were at risk of poverty or exclusion in 2021. Those born in third countries were exposed to the highest risk (54%) 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 2%). Welfare benefits reduced the risk of poverty to almost half of people on average in 2021. Welfare benefits had a particularly significant impact in reducing poverty for people from Türkiye (29% compared to 61%), the former Yugoslavia outside the EU (24% compared to 41%) and other third countries (48% compared to 66%). The risk of poverty without welfare benefits increased in 2021 compared to 2020 for people from Türkiye (61% compared to 58%) and other third countries (66% compared to 65%) and decreased from 44% to 41% for people from the former Yugoslavia outside the EU, whereas it remained almost unchanged for Austrians and EU citizens.

15 Life expectancy at birth differed slightly in 2022 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 0.9 years higher for men at 79.7 years and 0.2 years higher for women at 83.9 years. By contrast, men and women from the former Yugoslavia outside the EU recorded the lowest life expectancy at 78.3 years and 80.8 years. Stillbirths and infant deaths were slightly more frequent among mothers born abroad than among mothers born in Austria (3.9 stillbirths per 1,000 live births and 3.3 infant deaths per 1,000 live births respectively compared to 3.1 and 2.0‰).

16 According to the 2019 Health Interview Survey, people with a migrant background used early detection and health care 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. Instances of pain as well as depression are more common among people with a migrant background than among those born in Austria. People from the former Yugoslavia outside the EU are particularly affected by this, with 33% of men and 44% of women reporting moderate to severe pain in the last four weeks and 10% of men and 18% of women complaining of depression.

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 302,500 suspects were registered by the police in 2022. Of these, 128,600 were foreign suspects (43%), of whom 65% were resident in Austria, 31% abroad, and 3% had illegal residence status. The total number of prisoners at the beginning of 2023 was 9,000 with 52% of these being foreign nationals. These come primarily from Serbia, Romania, Slovakia, Afghanistan, Türkiye and Russia. The detention rate among foreign nationals increased in 2022 from 0.26% (2021) to 0.27% (2022), while this remained unchanged among Austrians at 0.06%. The proportion of foreign nationals who were newly imprisoned rose to 58% in 2022 compared with 56% in 2021.

18 Almost one third (33%) of the victims of crime were foreign nationals in 2022. Compared with the proportion of foreigners as a percentage of the population in an annual average (18%), the rate of foreign nationals affected was more than twice as high as among Austrian nationals (1.8% to 0.8%). As in the past five years, Africans and people from Afghanistan, Syria and Iraq were particularly frequent victims of crime (3.2% each). Crimes against foreign nationals were committed by both Austrians and foreign nationals.

Housing and residential context

Access to housing is important for the integration 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 2022 was 47 m². Households headed by someone with a migrant background had an average of 32 m² per capita at their disposal, while households headed by someone with no migrant background had 52 m². The least available living space per capita was found in Turkish households (25 m²), followed by households from other third countries (28 m²) and the former Yugoslavia outside the EU (non-EU) with 29 m². The housing situation for immigrants improved the longer they resided in the country. Second generation households had an average of 39 m² per capita compared with 31 m² for the first generation.

20 The share of housing costs relative to income is significantly higher among immigrants. Just under 16% of households headed by individuals born in Austria reported spending more than 25% of household income on

housing costs in 2021, however, this figure was 40% for households headed by migrants. As such, this proportion has fallen by 0.1 percentage points for individuals born in Austria since 2016, while it has risen by 2.5 percentage points since then for migrants. The proportion of people living in dwellings with a very poor standard of living is also more than twice as high among immigrants at 3.7%.

21 A total of 43% of households in Austria lived in rented accommodation in 2022, 48% owned their own homes and 9% lived in other types of accommodation (e.g. company accommodation). In this context, 70% 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 (81%) and Türkiye (75%). The proportion of homeowners was 25% for members of the first generation and 34% for the second generation. However, this proportion is still significantly lower than among persons with no migrant background (55%).

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 2023, compared to 17% of the population born in Austria. The concentration on Vienna is highest for third-country nationals: a total of 41% of people from Türkiye and the former Yugoslavia outside the EU lived in Vienna, with 51% of people from Afghanistan, Syria and Iraq and at least 52% of people from other third countries also living there. Around 43% of all those born in Austria lived in municipalities with fewer than 5,000 inhabitants, compared with just 19% of people born abroad. The number of municipalities with an immigrant population of more than 25% has increased significantly over the past decade, from 28 in 2012 to 88 in 2022. The proportion of people

born abroad living in municipalities where immigrants made up more than 25% of the population was 62% in 2022.

Bad Gastein, Kitzbühel and Seefeld in Tyrol, as well as some border towns such as Kittsee and Braunau am Inn and districts with larger refugee accommodation facilities are among the municipalities where the foreign-born population is particularly high. According to the segregation index, the spatial segregation of those born abroad is lowest among the Hungarian and German population groups and highest among people from Algeria, Tunisia, Serbia and Morocco.

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 saw a steady increase of approximately 13 percentage points in the proportion of marriages with foreign participation between 1991 and 2022, rising to 32% of all marriages.

23 Around 47,500 marriages took place in Austria overall in 2022, i.e. approximately 5,600 more than in the previous year, which was marked by the pandemic. The proportion of couples where one person came from abroad was again 22%, as was the case in 2021. The number of marriages in which both spouses were born in Austria was 31,800, with the share of these thereby increasing by approximately one percentage point to 68% on the previous year. The proportion of marriages in which both spouses were born abroad fell from 11% to 10%. The number of same-sex marriages increased from 632 (2021) to 791. With these, one partner is from abroad in 28% of cases and both partners in 10%. The majority of spouses born abroad come from an EU state (5,900), particularly Germany (3,100). A total of 4,600 spouses in 2022 came from third countries, mostly from Türkiye and the successor states of the for-

mer Yugoslavia outside the EU. The average household size in 2022 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 highest number of household members (3.2 people), followed by households from Afghanistan, Syria or 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 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. A drop in 2020 caused by the pandemic (8,800) was followed by a slight increase again with 9,700 domestic naturalisations in 2021 and 10,900 in 2022. More than 381,000 people have been granted Austrian citizenship since the turn of the millennium. The naturalisation rate (naturalisations as a percentage of foreign nationals living in Austria) was 0.7% in 2021. Austria has one of the lowest naturalisation rates in Europe, only Slovenia, Slovakia, Croatia, Czechia and the Baltic states have lower rates.

24 Of the 10,900 people who were naturalised in Austria in 2022, just under 33% had already been born in Austria. Most of these had a legal right to Austrian citizenship (62%), with the rest obtaining Austrian citizenship based on a discretionary decision (8%) or as a result of an extension (30%), e.g. to spouses and/or children. The highest number of naturalisations was for citizens from Syria (1,200), Türkiye (1,100), Bosnia and Herzegovina (800) and Afghanistan (700). The number of naturalisations for

people from other EU and EFTA states and the United Kingdom 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 6% of this group with a residence of at least ten years in Austria were naturalised in 2022, 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 33% being under 18 years of age.

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 of integration, 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 2023 survey within the framework of five random samples: Austria (1,166 people), Bosnia and Herzegovina (422), Serbia (389), Türkiye (380), Afghanistan (542), the Maghreb states (i.e. Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia; 521), Russian Federation (452), Syria (594), Romania (373) and Ukraine (494). A total of 5,333 people were interviewed for the 2023 migration survey.

25 Social coexistence with immigrants is assessed as “very good” or “somewhat good” by 28% of Austrians, while more than a third (34%) view this as “somewhat bad” or “very bad”. Austrians who have frequent contact with immigrants tend as a rule to rate social coexistence as better than those who have less frequent or no contact. The number of voices among Austrians who are critical of coexistence has increased significantly compared with the previous year. By contrast, immigrants perceive social coexistence with Austrians in a more positive light, with 61% of

migrants 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 those who have lived in the country for shorter periods.

- Almost half of the Austrians (47%) describe social coexistence with immigrants in general in the past three years to be changing for the worse. Younger Austrians between the ages of 16 and 29 (31%) are the most likely to rate developments as “improved significantly” or “improved somewhat”; a worsening in the situation is most frequently described by individuals aged 60 or over (52%) and who have an apprenticeship or technical or commercial school as their highest educational level (52%). 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 social coexistence are viewed with particular pessimism.

- Immigrants have a strong sense of belonging in Austria, with 74% agreeing that they feel they belong there. The perceived sense of belonging is particularly strong among immigrants from Afghanistan (77%), Bosnia and Herzegovina (80%), Syria (80%) and the Maghreb states (81%). The strongest perceived affiliation to the country of origin is felt by people born in Ukraine (73%). The longer immigrants stay in the country the more they agree that they feel part of Austria, with increases from 52% (stay of one to less than five years) to 73% (five to 15 years) to 78% (over 15 years).

- The perceived personal life situation of 32% of Austrians has improved in the past three years, while one fifth (20%) complain that it has deteriorated. Compared to Austrians, overall more immigrants see the change in their personal life situation as an improvement. Those born in Afghanistan (68%) or

Syria (69%) are particularly likely to sense this improvement. One third (33%) of migrants from Türkiye are, however, affected by a deterioration in their living situation. Younger immigrants and people who have spent shorter periods in Austria in particular feel that their personal life situation has improved in the past three years.

- Other questions posed included immigrants' experiences of discrimination in the past twelve months. Around two out of five immigrants from Türkiye (44%) and Afghanistan (43%) experience discrimination in general at least on an occasional basis. This is the case for roughly a quarter of people born in Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina (25% and 26% respectively). When it comes to work and education, immigrants fairly often feel at a disadvantage because of their origin. Immigrants from Türkiye (50%) and Afghanistan (49%) are the most likely to report experiencing discrimination at least occasionally in this context. Contact with public authorities also gives rise to similar experiences. Immigrants are less likely to feel discriminated against due to their origin in the healthcare sector, i.e. when visiting doctors or hospitals.

- In order to record attitudes towards minorities and religious communities, both Austrians and immigrants were asked if it would bother them to have someone from a certain group as their neighbour. Almost one third (32%) of Austrians would not like asylum seekers or refugees living in their neighbourhood. Almost one third (32%) of Austrians would not like asylum seekers or refugees living in their neighbourhood. A total of 26% would be bothered by having Roma and Sinti as neighbours. Immigrants in turn also have reservations about both groups. However, the immigrants' strongest aversion is directed against people who are homosexual or bisexual. A total of 18% of migrants would not be comfortable having people with these sexual orientations as neighbours.

- A further set of questions dealt with how people handle and view the Austrian way of life. A total of 72% 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 24% prefer to adhere to the Austrian way of life, while 5% of immigrants prefer their way of life to be more in line with that of their country of origin. Participants in the study were also asked to what extent they agree with the Austrian way of life in general. The results show that people born in Austria are more critical of the way of life in Austria than is the case with immigrants.

Language usage and knowledge

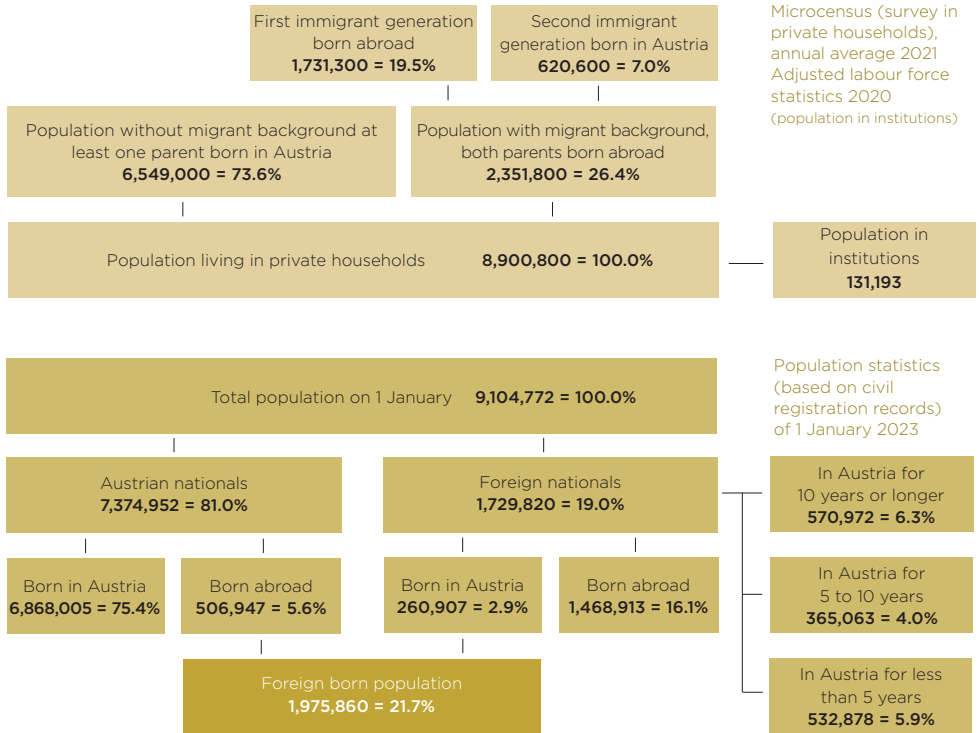
The 2023 migration survey for the first time included questions on language usage and knowledge. People who were born in the Maghreb countries (76%) or Bosnia and Herzegovina (70%) are the most likely to rate their knowledge of German as at least good. This proportion is lowest among immigrants from Ukraine (28%) and Türkiye (46%). A total of 13% of migrants 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 in German at home is highest among immigrants from the Russian Federation (21%), Romania (23%) and in particular the Maghreb states (40%). Compared to the language used at home, communication with friends is somewhat more often in German. A total of 23% of immigrants state that they speak German "exclusively" or "predominantly" with their friends.

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 by 57% of Austrians on a daily basis, whereas the proportion is 74% and 83% respectively among immigrants from Syria

and Ukraine. By contrast, watching television, or listening to the radio on a daily basis (including streaming) and reading daily newspapers are more common among Austrians than among immigrants. Those born in Afghanistan and the Maghreb states watch 16% and 18% of their television respectively in their language of origin, while 57% and 65% of immigrants from Türkiye and Ukraine respectively watch television in their language of origin. Compared with watching television and reading newspapers, social media are used least in German and most frequently in the language of origin. With the exception of immigrants from Ukraine (32%), newspapers on the other hand are read in German by the majority of all groups, including by 59% of people from Türkiye and over 70% of all other groups.

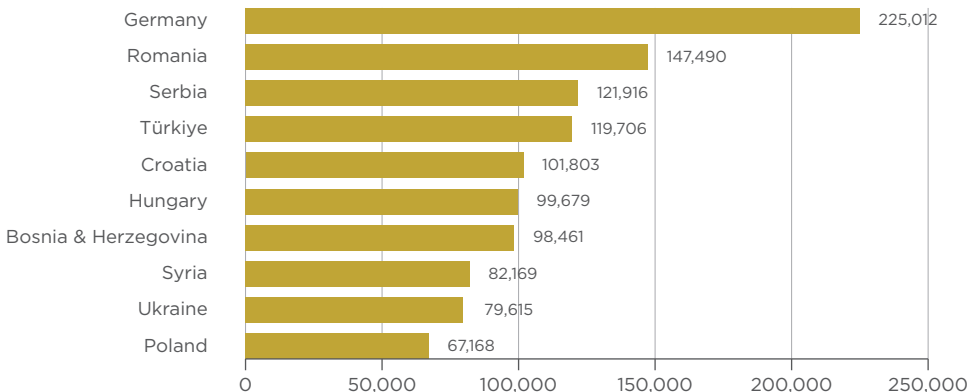
The Austrian population by citizenship and country of birth or migrant background in overview



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

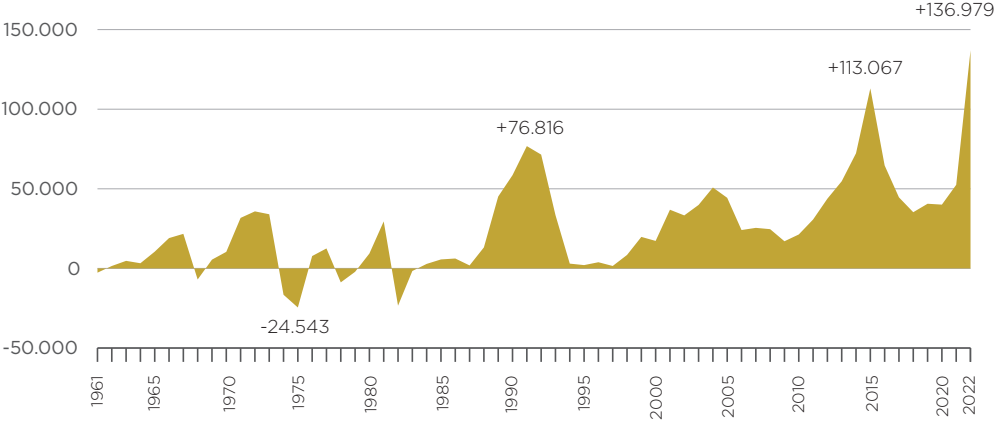
Foreign nationals

Top 10 nationalities on 1 January 2023



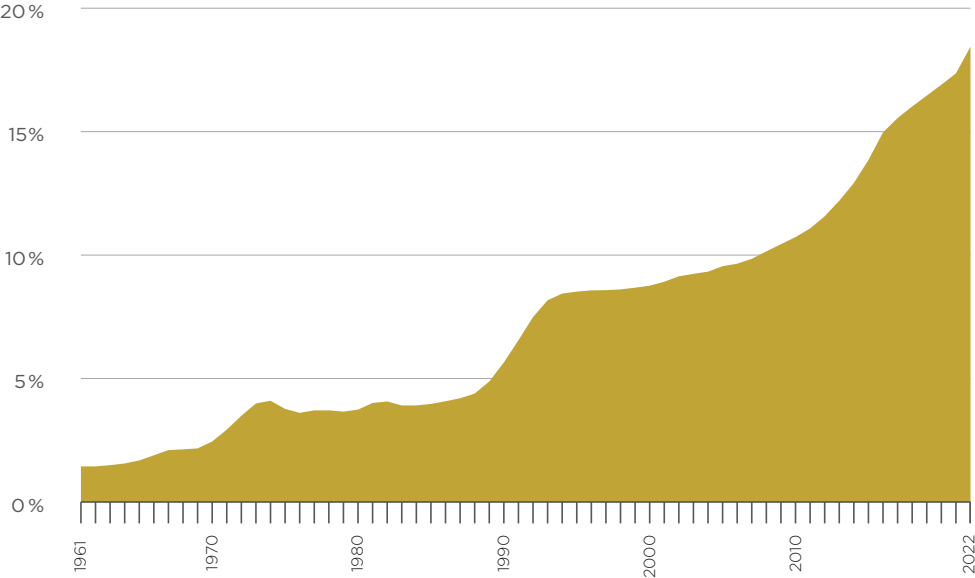
S.: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, population statistics

Net migration in Austria (difference between immigration and emigration (1961-2021))



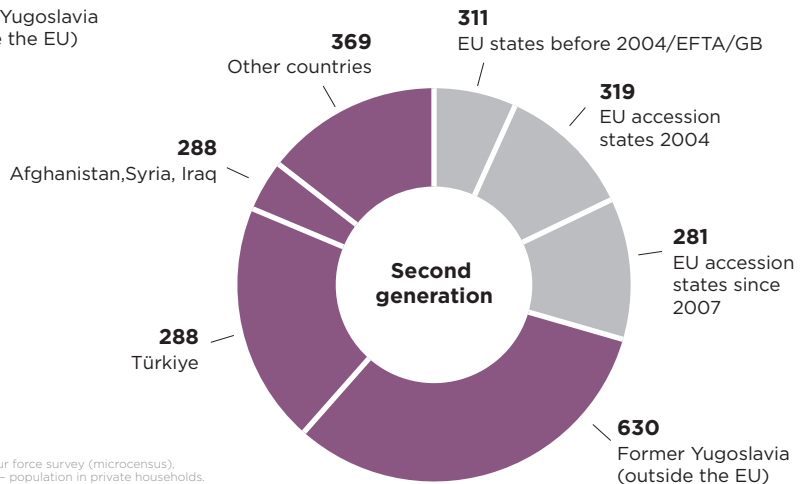
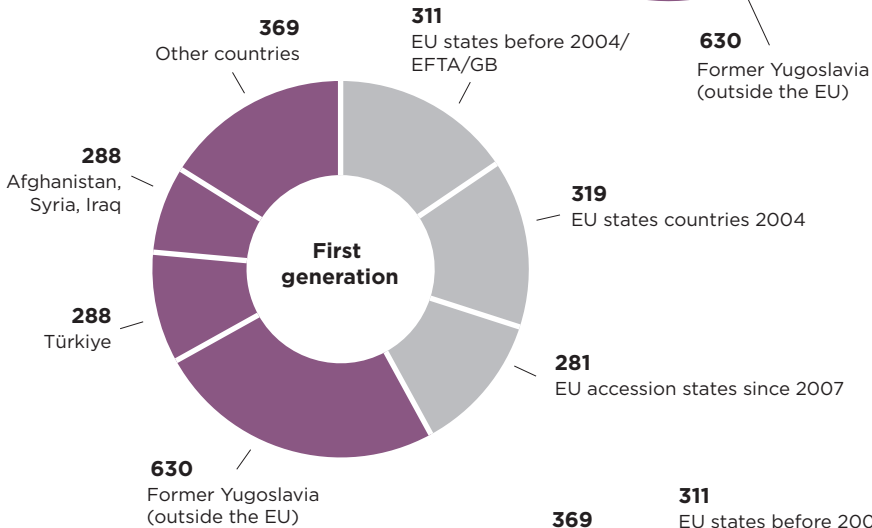
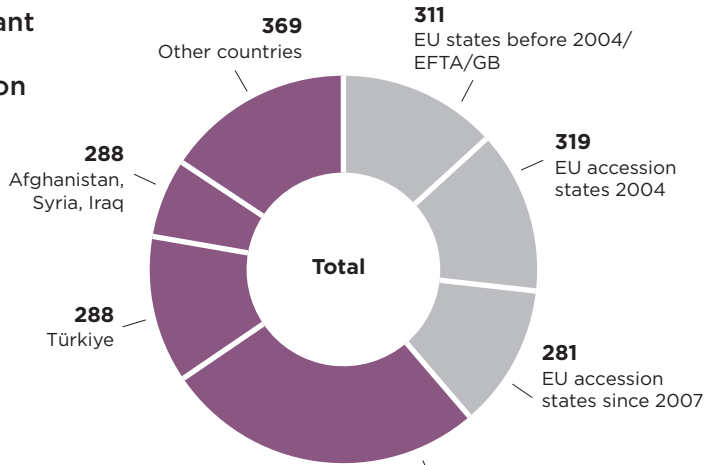
S.: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, migratoin balance statistics

Development of the proportion of foreign citizens in Austria (1961-2022)



S.: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, population statistics

Population with migrant background 2022 by immigration generation (persons in 1,000)



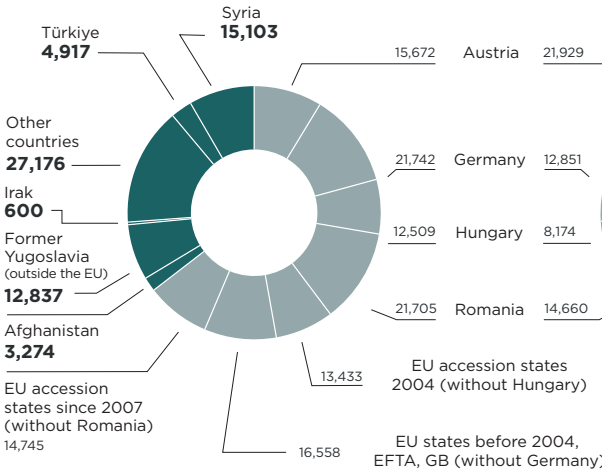
S.: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, labour force survey (microcensus), annual average over all weeks – population in private households.

Immigration to and emigration from Austria 2022

by nationality

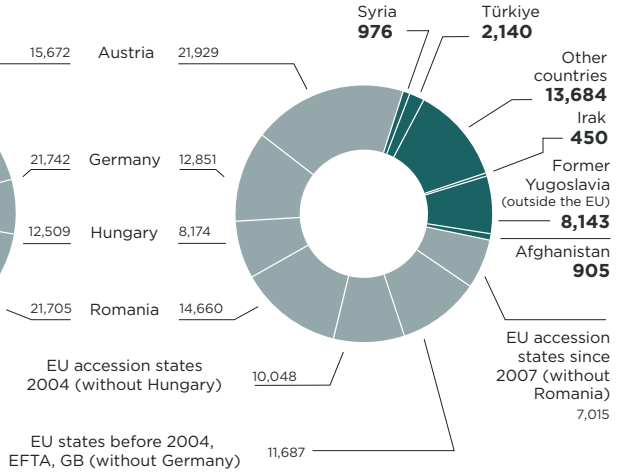
To Austria 2022

Total: 261,937



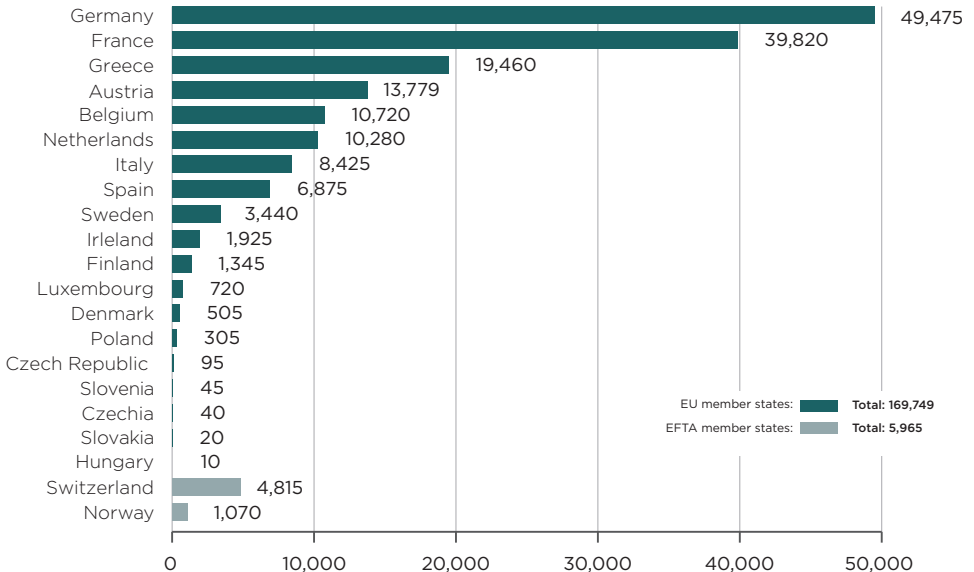
From Austria 2022

Total: 124,958



S.: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, migration statistics.

Asylum recognitions in European countries 2022



S.: BMI asylum statistics; EUROSTAT