Standard-documentation
Meta information
(Definitions, comments, methods, quality)
on
Asylum Statistics for EUROSTAT

This documentation is valid from the reference period:
2014

Status: 10.12.2018

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Executive Summary

Asylum Statistics for EUROSTAT cover all applications for international protection filed in Austria including withdrawals (resp. cessations) and decisions relating to these applications also comprising exclusion from international protection previously granted. Equally covered are the numbers of pending cases at the end of each reference month.

Asylum Statistics are, besides migration statistics, one of the most fundamental data sources for migration research. The authority responsible for preparing national asylum statistics is the Austrian Federal Ministry of the Interior (BMI). Preparation, transmission and quality management are however in the hands of Statistics Austria as national statistical office according to Paragraph 5 of Regulation EC 223/2009 on European Community Statistics.

Based upon an individual contract with the Federal Ministry of the Interior, Statistics Austria since reference year 2012 compiles the tables for European Asylum Statistics according to the technical guidelines of EUROSTAT. The data provided is based on database extracts of the Central Foreigners Register (IFA), which are transmitted monthly, quarterly or annually by the Federal Ministry of the Interior to Statistics Austria. Monthly data contain all applications for asylum filed in Austria, all withdrawals and all pending asylum cases at the end of the reference month. Quarterly and annual data pertains to decisions of asylum procedures.

* Monthly and quarterly results on asylum applications and asylum decisions may be revised with publication of annual results.
The results of European Asylum Statistics are of high political relevance and support decisions and orientation for European institutions, political decision makers, public bodies and NGOs for planning and implementing their agendas.

Comparability of the Austrian data for European asylum statistics and national data on asylum published by the Federal Ministry of the Interior is only partially: data on asylum applications are fully comparable; however, Eurostat publishes results only rounded for five cases, while national data is published unrounded.

In contrast, national and European statistics on asylum decisions are not directly comparable. National data only covers final decisions, no matter, which instance has taken these. European data disaggregates decisions by the instance having taken the decision, no matter, if these are legally binding or may go in appeal.

This documentation only covers Asylum Statistics for Eurostat compiled by Statistics Austria; but not national data compiled by the Federal Ministry of the Interior.
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