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1.1% fewer naturalisations in the first three quarters of 2023

Plus 3.5% for naturalised citizens residing in Austria

Vienna, 2023-11-16 – In the first three quarters of 2023, Austrian citizenship was granted to 11 033 persons, including 2 614 (23.7%) persons living abroad. According to preliminary data by Statistics Austria, there were 1.1% fewer naturalisations than in the same period last year (11 151 naturalisations).

“This year, 11 033 people received a red-white-red passport by the end of September, 1.1% fewer than in the first nine months of the previous year. This interrupted the trend of rising naturalisation figures observed from 2021 onwards. The decline is mainly due to the fact that naturalisations of victims of National Socialism and their descendants fell by 15.1% to 2 566,” says Tobias Thomas, Director General of Statistics Austria.

2 566 people were naturalised as politically persecuted persons and their descendants (§58c StbG) in the first three quarters of 2023. Of these 2 555 people or 99.6% live abroad. Compared to the first three quarters of 2022, naturalisations of persons **residing in Austria** saw an increase of 3.5% to 8 419 persons. Almost a quarter of the people naturalised in the first three quarters of 2023 were **born in Austria** (2 710 or 24.6%). Half were **women** (50.6%) and around a third were **minors** under 18 years of age (32.6%).

3 187 people or 37.9% of naturalised citizens residing in Austria were previously citizens of one of the following four countries: Syria (1 322 or 15.7% of all naturalised persons residing in Austria in the first three quarters of 2023), Türkiye (791), Bosnia and Herzegovina (542) and Afghanistan (532). The list of persons naturalised under §58c StbG between January to September 2023 was headed by nationals of the following three countries: Israel (1 199 or 10.9% of all naturalised persons to date in 2023), the United States (594) and the United Kingdom (441).

In six **federal provinces**, more people were naturalised between January and September 2023 than in the same period of the previous year. The relative increases were highest in Lower Austria (+28.1 % to 1 457 naturalisations), followed by Upper Austria (+25.3% to 1 244), Styria (+22.3% to 905), Burgenland (+21.5% to 147), Vorarlberg (+14.3% to 487) and Tyrol (+1.9% to 644). Fewer naturalisations compared to the first three quarters of 2022 were reported in Carinthia (-24.8% to 315), Vienna (-13.0% to 2 859) and Salzburg (-5.0% to 361).

Almost three quarters of all naturalisations in the first three quarters of 2023 were based on a **legal entitlement** (7 729 people or 70.1%). Of these, 4 097 people were naturalised after at least six years of residence in Austria and for reasons worthy of particular consideration (e.g. proven knowledge of German and sustainable integration, birth in Austria, EEA citizenship or entitlement to asylum – §11a, para. 4, para. 6 and para. 7), 2 566 politically persecuted persons and their descendants (§58c, para. 1 to para. 6), 467 persons on the basis of marriage to an Austrian citizen (§11a, para. 1 and para. 2) and 313 persons on the basis of at least 15 years of residence in Austria and sustainable integration (§12, para. 1, line 1). Another 690 persons were granted citizenship on a **discretionary** basis (6.3%), including 644 persons after at least ten years of residence (Art. 10, para. 1). Under the title of **extension of conferral**, a total of 2 614 persons or 23.7% were naturalised, of whom 369 spouses (§16) and 2 245 children (§17).

For detailed results and further information please refer to our [website](#).

Naturalisations in the first three quarters of 2023

Place of residence	Q1–Q3 2023	Change Q1–Q3 2022 – Q1–Q3 2023 in %	Of which:			Legal ground ¹			Q3 2023	Change Q3 2022 – Q3 2023 in %
			born in Austria	under 18 years	women	discretion	entitlement	extension		
Austria incl. abroad	11 033	-1.1	2 710	3 599	5 585	690	7 729	2 614	4 375	46.0
Austria	8 419	3.5	2 689	2 898	4 309	680	5 126	2 613	2 594	8.2
Burgenland	147	21.5	30	48	88	10	93	44	6	-33.3
Carinthia	315	-24.8	108	102	160	28	206	81	60	-61.0
Lower Austria	1 457	28.1	430	509	752	134	860	463	448	45.5
Upper Austria	1 244	25.3	420	469	632	118	728	398	375	58.9
Salzburg	361	-5.0	145	133	182	32	196	133	122	19.6
Styria	905	22.3	272	307	467	101	550	254	310	22.5
Tyrol	644	1.9	261	255	297	71	350	223	184	-6.6
Vorarlberg	487	14.3	176	167	243	22	307	158	157	38.9
Vienna	2 859	-13.0	847	908	1 488	164	1 836	859	932	-9.1
Abroad	2 614	-13.4	21	701	1 276	10	2 603	1	1 781	196.8

S: STATISTIK AUSTRIA, Statistics on Naturalisations. Preliminary results.

1) Paragraph of the StbG 1985 as amended; discretion: §10 – entitlement: §§ 11a, 12-14, 25, 57, 58c, 64a – extension: §§ 16, 17. All paragraphs are only applied if all other requirements for naturalisation are met.

Information on methodology, definitions: The statistics on naturalisations are based on the information from the legally binding decisions of the offices of the provincial governments of Austria on the granting of citizenship and are carried out on behalf of the Federal Ministry of the Interior. The statistics on naturalisations document all types of acquisition of citizenship under the Naturalisation Act 1985, as amended (sections 10 to 17, 25, 57, 58c and 64a), which are effected by a declaration of intent by the acquirer and a subsequent official act, but not automatic types of acquisition such as birth or legitimation of an illegitimate child. The naturalisation statistics include both naturalisations of persons residing in Austria and of persons residing abroad.

In the case of naturalisations pursuant to 58c (politically persecuted persons and their descendants), the statistical effective date of naturalisation is the date of issuance of the decision and not the date of receipt of the notification by the authorities. These naturalisations mainly concern persons residing abroad. According to the responsible authority, numerous notifications are still expected for the 2023 reporting year, as it takes some time to process the notifications.

If you have any questions on this topic, please contact:

Anita MIKULASEK, phone: +43 1 711 28-7275 | e-mail: demographie@statistik.gv.at

Media owner, producer and publisher:

STATISTICS AUSTRIA | Federal Institution under Public Law | Guglgasse 13 | 1110 Vienna | www.statistik.at

Press: Phone: +43 1 711 28-7777 | E-mail: presse@statistik.gv.at

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