

Press release: 13 335-101/24

63% more naturalisations in Q1 2024

3 320 naturalised citizens residing in Austria, 18% more than in Q1 2023

Vienna, 2024-05-16 – In the first quarter of 2024, Austrian citizenship was granted to 5 377 persons, including 2 057 persons residing abroad (38.3%). According to Statistics Austria, there were 63.3% more naturalisations than in the first quarter of 2023 (3 292 naturalised persons, including 486 persons residing abroad).

“In the first three months of 2024, almost two thirds more people were granted Austrian citizenship than in the first quarter of the previous year. This increase is mainly due to the rise in naturalisations of people persecuted by the Nazi regime and their descendants, most of whom live abroad. However, there was also an increase of 18.9% to 3 340 in the number of people naturalised for other reasons, all but 25 of whom live in Austria,” says Tobias Thomas, Director General of Statistics Austria.

Under the legal title §58c StbG, politically persecuted persons of the Nazi regime and their descendants have had the possibility of naturalisation since September 2020, without having to give up their previous citizenship in return. From January to March 2024, 2 037 persons – of whom 2 032 live abroad – were granted Austrian citizenship under §58c, which corresponds to 37.9% of all naturalisations in these three months. Compared to the first quarter of 2023 (482 persons), naturalisations under this title increased by 322.6%. Persons naturalised under this title were most frequently nationals of the following three states: Israel (1 200 or 22.3% of all naturalised persons in the first quarter of 2024), United States (419 or 7.8%) and United Kingdom (199 or 3.7%).

Naturalised persons for other reasons (a total of 3 340 persons from January to March 2024) previously most frequently held citizenship of Syria (616 or 11.5%), Türkiye (373 or 6.9%) and Afghanistan (287 or 5.3%).

Women accounted for half of the naturalisations in the first quarter of 2024 (2 547 or 47.4%), while around a third were **under 18 years of age** (1 729 or 32.2%). More than one fifth of the newly naturalised persons were **born in Austria** (1 073 or 20.0%).

In eight **federal provinces**, more persons were naturalised in the first quarter of 2024 than in the same period of the previous year. The relative increase in naturalisations was most pronounced in Salzburg (+94.2% to 167 persons), followed by Styria (+66.2% to 334), Upper Austria (+63.2% to 744), Tyrol (+28.9% to 245), Carinthia (+20.2% to 137), Vorarlberg (+16.4% to 163), Lower Austria (+11.8% to 558) and Burgenland (+10.5% to 63). In Vienna, there were fewer naturalisations compared to the first quarter of the previous year (-14.5% to 909).

About three quarters of all naturalisations in the first three months of 2024 took place on the basis of a **legal entitlement** (4 024 persons or 74.8%). Among them, 1 560 persons were naturalised after at least six years of residence in Austria and for reasons particularly worthy of consideration (e.g. proven knowledge of German and sustainable integration or entitled to asylum – §11a, para. 4, para. 6 as well as para. 7), 2 037 politically persecuted persons and their descendants (§58c, para. 1 to para. 6), 187 persons on the basis of marriage to an Austrian (§11a, para. 1 and para. 2) and 128 persons on the basis of residence in Austria for at least 15 years and sustainable integration (§12, para. 1, line 1). A further 314 persons were granted citizenship on a **discretionary basis** (5.8%), including 298 persons after at least ten years of residence (§10, para. 1) and 12 persons on the basis of extraordinary achievements in the interest of the state (§10, para. 6). A total of 1 039 persons, or 19.3%, were naturalised under the title of **extension of naturalisation**, of whom 168 were spouses (§16) and 871 children (§17).

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

Naturalisations in the first quarter of 2024

Place of residence	Q1 2024 total	Change Q1 2023 – Q1 2024 in %	Of which:			Legal ground ¹		
			born in Austria	under 18 years	women	discretion	entitlement	extension
Austria incl. abroad	5 377	63,3	1 073	1 729	2 547	314	4 024	1 039
Burgenland	63	10,5	8	12	34	6	48	9
Carinthia	137	20,2	35	33	78	10	98	29
Lower Austria	558	11,8	174	191	274	55	338	165
Upper Austria	744	63,2	263	312	332	75	366	303
Salzburg	167	94,2	57	58	79	22	85	60
Styria	334	66,2	94	100	155	48	217	69
Tyrol	245	28,9	82	86	117	29	145	71
Vorarlberg	163	16,4	73	63	78	6	94	63
Vienna	909	-14,5	281	296	424	60	583	266
Abroad	2 057	323,3	6	578	976	3	2 050	4

S: STATISTICS 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 effective date of the decision and not the date of receipt of the notification by the authorities. These naturalisations mainly concern persons residing abroad.

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