STATISTIK AUSTRIA
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28% of total population in Austria with a migrant background

Increase of 10 percentage points since 2010

Vienna, 2026-09-11 – In 2025, around 2.55 million people with a migrant background lived in Austria, as Statistics Austria reports. This corresponds to 28% of the total population and an increase of a good million compared to 2010 (1.52 million). These figures are taken from the Statistical Yearbook "Migration & Integration", which summarises data on immigration and integration as well as the results of the 2026 migration survey.

28% of the total population in Austria have a migrant background – that is, both of their parents were born abroad. This proportion has risen steadily since 2010 (19%). Austria's population has grown in recent years solely through immigration, as more people have been dying than being born every year since 2020, as explained during the presentation of the Statistical Yearbook "Migration & Integration".

Strongest absolute growth among Romanian foreign nationals

Among the nearly 1.9 million (1 881 300) foreign nationals living in Austria on 1 January 2026, Germans – as in previous years – make up the largest group (242 300 people). They are followed by people holding Romanian (157 700), Turkish (123 400) and Serbian passports (122 500). Ranks 5 to 10 include nationals from Hungary, Syria, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Ukraine and Poland.

Since 2010, there has been a significant increase in absolute terms, particularly among Romanian (+116 100), Syrian (+112 100), German (+98 200), Hungarian (+89 600) and Ukrainian nationals (+88 200).

Immigrants have increasingly higher educational qualifications

Education plays a key role in social participation. The educational attainment of people with a migrant background has improved significantly since 2010. For instance, the proportion of people with a migrant background who have at most a compulsory school leaving certificate fell from 30% (2010) to 23% (2025), while at the same time the proportion of university graduates rose from 18% (2010) to 27% (2025). In 2025, among the population without a migrant background, 8% have at most a compulsory school leaving certificate and 23% hold a university degree.

Sense of belonging to Austria significantly outweighs that to the country of origin

The Migration survey examines people's subjective perceptions of integration issues. The results for 2026 show that the vast majority of immigrants have a positive connection to Austria. Overall, three-quarters (75%) of those born abroad state that they feel a sense of belonging to Austria. This sense of belonging is particularly strong amongst immigrants from Syria (83%) and Afghanistan (80%), and weakest amongst those born in Ukraine (66%).

At the same time, many immigrants continue to feel strong ties to their countries of origin, albeit on average to a lesser extent than to Austria. Just under half (47%) of respondents born abroad feel connected to their country of origin. This proportion is particularly high amongst immigrants from Ukraine (58%). By contrast,

a quarter (25%) of respondents feel no connection to their country of origin, with this proportion being highest amongst those born in Afghanistan (33%).

Those born in Austria take a critical view of living together, newcomers predominantly positive

Among the population born in Austria, 37% rate coexistence between Austrians and migrants as "rather poor" or "very poor", while around 1 in 4 (27%) – and thus significantly fewer– evaluate it as "very good" or "rather good". There is a clear correlation between the frequency of contact and how coexistence is ranked: people who have more frequent contact with immigrants perceive coexistence significantly more positively than those with less frequent contact.

By contrast, 58% of people born abroad rated coexistence as "very good" or "rather good" in the 2026 migration survey. This assessment was also more favourable in this group for those with more frequent contact with Austrians.

Table 1: Population with a migrant background – annual average for 2025 and 2010

Migrant background, country of birth	2025 absolute	2025 in % of the population	2010 absolute	2010 in % of the population
Population with a migrant background	**2 553 600**	**28.2%**	**1 528 200**	**18.5%**
First generation of migrants (those born abroad)	1 901 200	21.0%	1 123 900	13.6%
Second-generation migrants (people born in Austria with parents born abroad)	652 400	7.2%	404 400	4.9%

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Micro-census labour force survey, annual average across all weeks. – Population in private households.

Table 2: Foreign nationals – Top 15 nationalities 2011–2026

Nationality	1 January 2026 absolute	1 January 2011 absolute	Change 2011–2026 absolute	Change 2011–2026 in %
Foreign nationals in total	**1 881 309**	**913 203**	**968 106**	**+106.0%**
EU and EFTA countries, including the United Kingdom (UK)	954 067	420 249	533 818	+127.0%
Third-country nationals	927 242	492 954	434 288	+88.1%
Individual countries				
Germany	242 272	144 102	98 170	+68.1%
Romania	157 663	41 586	116 077	+279.1%
Türkiye	123 391	112 461	10 930	+9.7%
Serbia	122 527	110 469	12 058	+10.9%
Hungary	115 178	25 627	89 551	+349.4%
Syria	113 705	1 591	112 114	+7 046.8%
Croatia	108 754	58 279	50 475	+86.6%
Bosnia and Herzegovina	102 105	89 575	12 530	+14.0%
Ukraine	94 030	5 850	88 180	+1 507.4%

Poland	66 561	38 577	27 984	+72.5%
Afghanistan	55 116	6 688	48 428	+724.1%
Slovakia	51 079	20 381	30 698	+150.6%
Italy	42 141	15 387	26 754	+173.9%
Russian Federation	41 940	24 233	17 707	+73.1%
Bulgaria	40 622	11 172	29 450	+263.6%

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Population Statistics.

Detailed results and further information can be found on our website. The Statistical Yearbook "Migration & Integration 2026" as well as the presentation for the press conference on 11 September 2026 are available in German only on our website.

Information on methodology and definitions:

The **Statistical Yearbook "Migration & Integration"** has been published since 2008. In addition to up-to-date data and facts on the topics of migration and integration, it also contains 25 indicators defined in the National Action Plan for Integration for assessing integration processes – ranging from demographic aspects and the socio-economic situation to the issue of security. By drawing on various sources and reanalysing specific data, meaningful information on migration is compiled across many statistical fields.

The **figures on migrant background** were extrapolated from a **sample survey** (micro-census). They are therefore subject to a margin of statistical error. For this reason, only **rounded results** are presented.

People are considered to have **a migrant background** if both their parents were born abroad. People who were themselves born abroad are classified as "first generation", while those born in Austria with parents born abroad are classified as "second generation". According to this definition, people with only one parent born in Austria do not have a migrant background. The mother's country of birth is decisive for determining the country of origin.

The **migration survey** is a sample survey (stratified random sample) which was conducted in 2026 as an online questionnaire and subsequently extrapolated to the total population. The results are therefore subject to a margin of error and are consequently presented only in the form of distributions. The survey covered individuals from selected countries of birth. The sample comprises individuals with the following countries of birth: Austria (1 096 individuals), Bosnia and Herzegovina (563), Serbia (465), Türkiye (528), Afghanistan (489), Iran (451), Russian Federation (440), Syria (459), Romania (435) and Ukraine (430). A total of 5 356 people were interviewed for the 2026 migration survey.

Third countries are all countries that are not EU Member States, small states associated with the EU, EFTA states or the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (GB).

Who is Statistics Austria?

Statistics Austria is the central authority for official data and statistics on society, the economy, the state and the environment in Austria. As the national statistical institute, it is bound by the legally enshrined principles of independence, impartiality and objectivity. Statistics Austria is led by Manuela Lenk, Director General Statistics, and Franz Haslauer, Director General Finance.

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