

Standard documentation Meta information

(Definitions, comments, methods, quality)

on

Statistics on naturalisations

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STATISTICS AUSTRIA
Bundesanstalt Statistik Österreich
A-1110 Vienna, Guglgasse 13
Phone: +43 1 711 28-0
www.statistik.at

**Population Directorate
Demography and Health Division**

Contact person:
Anita Mikulasek
Phone: +43 1 711 28-7275
E-mail: anita.mikulasek@statistik.gv.at

Executive Summary

The statistics on naturalisations are based on the data from the legally binding notices on the granting of citizenship issued by the offices of the provincial governments of Austria and are carried out on behalf of the Federal Ministry of the Interior. The legal basis is provided by the Ordinance of the Federal Ministry of the Interior ordering statistics on naturalisations (Federal Law Gazette II No. 32/2000). Furthermore, Regulation (EC) No. 862/2007 of the European Parliament and of the Council on Community statistics on migration and international protection obliges the Member States to provide the Commission (Eurostat) with "statistics on...the acquisition of nationality" (Article 3, para. 1, item d).

The statistics on naturalisations are an important source of data for population statistics and are directly used in population and migration reporting as well as in scientific research. Among other things, it provides decision-making aids for political innovations and serves as an orientation aid and decision-making basis for public bodies, political parties and enterprises in the planning and realisation of their tasks. The results are regularly used in various official reports (e.g. social, family, women's and spatial planning reports), for publications issued by the Länder and cities.

The statistics on naturalisations include all types of acquisition of citizenship brought about by the acquirer's declaration of intent and subsequent act by the authorities, but not automatic types of acquisition such as birth or legitimation of a child born out of wedlock.

In somewhat more technical terms, this means: naturalisation is understood to mean the acquisition of Austrian citizenship by bestowal or extension of bestowal pursuant to sections 10 to 25 and by notification pursuant to sections 57, 58c and 64a Citizenship Act 1985, as amended. The acquisition of citizenship by decision of the competent authority is thus to be regarded as naturalisation, but not the (automatic) acquisition of citizenship, as is the case with acquisition by descent and legitimation or by notification pursuant to section 59 (1) Citizenship Act 1985 as amended (retroactive acquisition with the day of birth or legitimation).

Subject of the statistics are all naturalisations of persons residing in Austria and abroad. For the purpose of the analysis, a distinction is made between naturalisations that have an effect in Austria, where the applicant for naturalisation has his or her main place of residence in Austria, and naturalisations of persons residing abroad. The naturalisations that have an effect on the domestic population are relevant for the population statistics.

The reports are of high quality, as they have the character of a deed. Errors in the transmission of data are possible. It is not possible to check the completeness of the transmission of all naturalisations to Statistics Austria. There is therefore the theoretical possibility of under-reporting, but there are no indications of this.

Statistics on naturalisations – Main Key Points

Subject matter	All types of acquisition of citizenship pursuant to sections 10 to 25, 57, 58c and 64a of the Citizenship Act 1985 as amended, effected by a declaration of intent by the acquirer and a subsequent official act.
Population	Naturalisations of persons residing in Austria and abroad
Type of statistics	Secondary statistics (statistics based on administrative data)
Data sources/Survey techniques	Data from naturalisation notifications - enriched with the characteristics of marital status, convention refugee, previous citizenship and gender. These are transmitted electronically by the offices of the Land governments after the end of each quarter.
Reference period or due day	Quarters, calendar years
Periodicity	Preliminary results are usually published on a quarterly basis. Final results are published annually (usually in mid-May of the following year).
Survey participation (in case of a survey)	-
Main legal acts	National legal basis: BGBl. II No. 32/2000 - Ordinance of the Federal Ministry of the Interior ordering statistics on naturalisations. EU legal basis: Regulation (EC) No 862/2007 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 July 2007 on Community statistics on migration and international protection (Article 3, para. 1, item d).
Most detailed regional breakdown	Municipalities
Availability of results	Preliminary results: approx. 55 days after the end of the quarter. Final results: once a year, mid-May
Other	-