

Press release: 13 402-168/24

## 66% more naturalisations in the first half of 2024

### Of the 11 050 newly naturalised citizens, 6 899 are resident in Austria

Vienna, 2024-08-22 – In the first half of 2024, Austrian citizenship was granted to 11 050 persons, including 4 151 persons residing abroad (37.6%). According to Statistics Austria, there were 66.0% more naturalisations than in the first half of 2023 with 6 658 naturalised persons (including 833 persons residing abroad).

“In the first half of this year, two thirds more people received a red-white-red passport than in the first six months of the previous year. This increase is mainly due to the rise in naturalisations of people persecuted by the Nazi regime and their descendants. From January to June 2024, 4 125 of them acquired Austrian citizenship, with all but seven of them living abroad. However, there was also an increase of 18.3% to 6 925 in the number of other naturalised citizens, all but 33 of whom are resident in Austria,” says Statistics Austria Director General Tobias Thomas.

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 June 2024, 4 125 persons – of whom 4 118 live abroad – were granted Austrian citizenship under §58c, which corresponds to 37.3% of all naturalisations in these six months. Compared to the first half of 2023 (806 persons), naturalisations under this title increased by 411.8%. Persons naturalised under this title were most frequently nationals of the following three states: Israel (2 380 or 21.5% of all naturalised persons in the first half of 2024), United States (873 or 7.9%) and United Kingdom (422 or 3.8%).

Naturalised persons for other reasons (a total of 6 925 persons from January to June 2024) previously most frequently held citizenship of Syria (1 223 or 11.1%), Türkiye (695 or 6.3%) and Afghanistan (540 or 4.9%). **Women** accounted for half of the naturalisations in the first half of 2024 (5 374 or 48.6%), while a third were **under 18 years of age** (3 644 or 33.0%). One fifth of the newly naturalised persons were **born in Austria** (2 267 or 20.5%).

In seven **federal provinces**, more persons were naturalised in the first half of 2024 than in the same period of the previous year. The relative increase in naturalisations was most pronounced in Upper Austria (+58.3% to 1 376 persons), followed by Styria (+43.7% to 855), Salzburg (+38.9% to 332), Vorarlberg (+17.6% to 388), Lower Austria (+12.6% to 1 136), Tyrol (+6.1% to 488) and Carinthia (+3.5% to 264). There were fewer naturalisations in Burgenland (-1.4% to 139) and Vienna (-0.3% to 1 921) compared to the first half of 2023.

About three quarters of all naturalisations in the first six months of 2024 took place on the basis of a **legal entitlement** (8 256 persons or 74.7%). Among them, 3 244 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), 4 125 politically persecuted persons and their descendants (§58c, para. 1 to para. 6), 393 persons on the basis of marriage to an Austrian (§11a, para. 1 and para. 2) and 261 persons on the basis of residence in Austria for at least 15 years and sustainable integration (§12, para. 1, line 1). A further 605 persons were granted citizenship on a **discretionary basis** (5.5%), including 584 persons after at least ten years of residence (§10, para. 1) and 16 persons on the basis of extraordinary achievements in the interest of the state (§10, para. 6). A total of 2 189 persons, or 19.8%, were naturalised under the title of **extension of naturalisation**, of whom 347 were spouses (§16) and 1 842 children (§17).

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

## Naturalisations in the first half of 2024

| Place of residence          | H1 2024       | Change H1 2023 – H1 2024 in % | Of which:       |                |              | Legal ground <sup>1</sup> |              |              | Q2 2024      | Change Q2 2023 – Q2 2024 in % |
|-----------------------------|---------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|--------------|---------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------------------|
|                             |               |                               | born in Austria | under 18 years | women        | discretion                | entitlement  | extension    |              |                               |
| <b>Austria incl. abroad</b> | <b>11 050</b> | <b>66,0</b>                   | <b>2 267</b>    | <b>3 644</b>   | <b>5 374</b> | <b>605</b>                | <b>8 256</b> | <b>2 189</b> | <b>5 673</b> | <b>68,5</b>                   |
| <b>Austria</b>              | <b>6 899</b>  | <b>18,4</b>                   | <b>2 256</b>    | <b>2 413</b>   | <b>3 374</b> | <b>602</b>                | <b>4 112</b> | <b>2 185</b> | <b>3 579</b> | <b>18,5</b>                   |
| Burgenland                  | 139           | -1,4                          | 29              | 38             | 69           | 12                        | 90           | 37           | 76           | -9,5                          |
| Carinthia                   | 264           | 3,5                           | 77              | 69             | 143          | 19                        | 184          | 61           | 127          | -9,9                          |
| Lower Austria               | 1 136         | 12,6                          | 334             | 366            | 569          | 105                       | 710          | 321          | 578          | 13,3                          |
| Upper Austria               | 1 376         | 58,3                          | 501             | 561            | 634          | 155                       | 688          | 533          | 632          | 53,0                          |
| Salzburg                    | 332           | 38,9                          | 119             | 117            | 167          | 34                        | 176          | 122          | 165          | 7,8                           |
| Styria                      | 855           | 43,7                          | 284             | 305            | 408          | 111                       | 511          | 233          | 521          | 32,2                          |
| Tyrol                       | 488           | 6,1                           | 164             | 167            | 244          | 46                        | 290          | 152          | 243          | -10,0                         |
| Vorarlberg                  | 388           | 17,6                          | 157             | 151            | 179          | 18                        | 222          | 148          | 225          | 18,4                          |
| Vienna                      | 1 921         | -0,3                          | 591             | 639            | 961          | 102                       | 1 241        | 578          | 1 012        | 17,1                          |
| <b>Abroad</b>               | <b>4 151</b>  | <b>398,3</b>                  | <b>11</b>       | <b>1 231</b>   | <b>2 000</b> | <b>3</b>                  | <b>4 144</b> | <b>4</b>     | <b>2 094</b> | <b>503,5</b>                  |

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.

### Further enquiries:

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