Demographic situation

As part of the National Action Plan for Integration. integration indicators were defined to render measurable the various dimensions of the integration process in Austria and establish long-term integration monitoring. Using the 25 defined integration indicators, especially the five core indicators the current state of immigration and integration in Austria for 2019/2020 and the significant changes from the previous years can be summarised as follows:

Net immigration almost unchanged, decreases in

immigration and emigration due to the pandemic - Due to the pandemic, in 2020 both immigration to and emigration from Austria decreased. There were some 136,300 immigrations and 96,300 emigrations. The resulting net immigration of around 40,000 persons was only slightly under last year's value (-1.4%). Of the immigrants, some 15,000 were returning Austrians and a further 84,500 were nationals of EU or EFTA states or of the United Kingdom (GB). The largest group was from Germany with 19,000, followed by Romania (17,500) and

01

04

Hungary (10,100). Immigrants from third countries (36,800) represented 27% of all immigrants. The refugee migration from Iran (900) was much lower than in 2015/2016. Around as many people (1.500) came from Afghanistan as in 2019 (1.400). while a bit more came from Syria (3,700). Of the third-country nationals, the immigration of some 9,800 citizens from states of the former Yugoslavia (non-EU) was the largest number.

At 14,775 cases, in 2020 slightly more asylum applications were submitted in Austria than in 2019 (12,886). The last time similar numbers were reached was in 2010 (11,012) and 2011 (14,416), while in 2015 the figure was 88.340 and in 2016 it was 42,285. In 2020, most asylum seekers came from Syria (5,121; 2019: 2,708), followed by Afghanistan (3,137; 2019: 2,979) and Morocco (745: 2019: 164). In an EU comparison of absolute figures of asylum applications, in 2020 Austria was in 9th place (behind Germany, France, Spain, but also Greece and Italy, amongst others); by capita it was in 7th place (behind Cyprus, Malta and Greece, amongst others).

Increase in the foreign resident population

- The foreign resident population in Austria was around 1.531 million persons at the start of 2021. This represents 17.1% of the total population.

- On a yearly average, in 2020 some 2.138 million people with a migrant background lived in Austria. In relation to the total population in private households, this represents 24.4%. Around 1.579 million people belong to the so-called "first generation" as they were born abroad and moved to Austria. The remaining 559,000 persons with a migrant background are persons born in Austria to parents born abroad ("second generation").

- Germans continue to make up by far the largest group of foreign nationals living in Austria. On 1 January 2021, almost 209,000 Germans lived in Austria, followed by 132,000 Romanians, These come right before the Serbian (122,000) and Turkish (118,000) nationals. Fifth place is occupied by Bosnia and Herzegovina (97,000). Places six to ten are filled by nationals from Hungary, Croatia, Poland, Syria and Slovakia.

On 1 January 2021, the average age of the Austrian population was 43.1 years. Foreign nationals were significantly younger (average age 35.7) than Austrian citizens (44.6). Within the foreign nationals group persons from Bosnia-Herzegovina, Serbia and Germany were oldest, with an average age just over 40, while immigrants from Afghanistan (25.4) and Syria (25.7) were the youngest.

Birth rate

In 2020 83,600 children were born in Austria, while 91,600 people died. The rate of natural increase (the difference between live births and deaths) was therefore clearly negative, with 8,000 persons. Foreign nationals had a birth surplus (12,100 person), Austrians a death surplus (20,100 persons).

On average, in 2020 women in Austria had 1.44 children. Those born here gave birth on average to 1.35 children, those born abroad in contrast to 1.73. The fertility of naturalised women, at 1.44 children, was almost exactly the average fertility rate in Austria, while women with a foreign nationality had significantly more children (1.76).

Fields of action and integration indicators

03

Mastery of the German language is an important contributor to the integration process. It eases in-

Language and education

teractions with the host society, with the authorities and with care institutions. Education is also a central aspect of integration. It enables the inclusion of people into various social networks and expands their field of action. The educational level of the foreign population (25 to 64-year-olds) has increased significantly over time. The proportion of people with just compulsory education dropped to 25% (1971: 69%) and the proportion of academics increased to 27% (1971: 4%). This is due in part to the strong level of inner migration within the EU, and also to the increasingly restrictive immigration policy for third-country nationals. The inflow of refugees in recent years did not reverse this trend. The education and integration policy faces the challenge of reducing the number of adolescents with a native language other than German who leave

school early and increasing the rate of education

beyond the compulsory school level. Both factors are important for improving the professional and income prospects of these groups of adolescents.

01 02 Learning German starts in kindergarten. It is therefore a positive development that the proportions of one- to five-year-olds in day care are now very similar for foreign (70%) and Austrian (75%) children. Especially younger foreign children are more frequently cared for at home. For children in the last year of kindergarten and those of compulsory school age, there is almost no difference in the rate of day care. The proportion of non-Germanspeaking children in elementary child care centres increased slightly in kindergarten year 2019/2020 from 2014/2015, to 32%; the diversity of languages has increased over this period. The proportion was highest in mixed-age care groups (45%) and lowest in kindergarten (28%). The determination of language skills is carried out across Austria since

year, it showed that 40,600 four- and five-yearolds (24%) were in need of support in the German language. By the end of the kindergarten year, the proportion had dropped by almost a quarter to 19%.

os In school year 2019/2020, the proportion of foreign pupils hardly changed from the previous year (17%). This was also true for the proportion of pupils with a first language other than German, although their proportion was much higher at 27%. The highest proportion of foreigners, or the proportion of pupils with a first language other than German, was found in special needs schools (26% and 40%) and polytechnic schools (23% and 36%), the lowest in upper secondary schools - academic secondary schools (13% and 20%), higher vocational schools (11% and 22%, respectively) and vocational schools (15% and 18%). Especially Turkish adolescents and adolescents from Afghanistan, Syria and Iraq in 10th grade attended schools that do not lead to a university entrance qualification exam (73% or 80%). The gap between school types in the share of foreigners or of pupils with a first language other

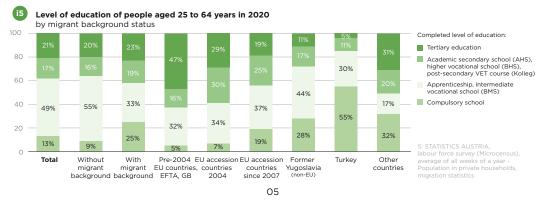
than German increased in the past 10 years. As a result, in school year 2018/2019 a smaller proportion of pupils born abroad (61%) attended an upper secondary school after compulsory school (15to 19-year-olds) than that of adolescents born in Austria (81%). However, the difference in the rate of further education did not increase further since the introduction of the apprenticeship obligation to the age of 18 (2017 law). Leaving school early is more common among adolescents with a first language that is not German (11%) than among Germanspeaking adolescents (3%).

04 The number of regular foreign students at Austrian public universities reached a share of 29% of all students in the winter semester 2019/2020 (76,300). 88% of the foreign students came from European states, especially Germany and Italy (South Tyrol). Another 10.300 were inscribed in universities of applied sciences (share of foreigners: 19%). Austria ranks highly in Europe in the share of foreign students at its universities, together with the United Kingdom (GB) and Switzerland.

05 06 In a long-term comparison, the level of education of the population with a migrant background has significantly improved. In 2020, a quarter of 25- to 64-year-olds had compulsory school as their highest degree, while 52% had an intermediate or higher degree and 23% had a university degree. Among first-generation immigrants, the share of persons with at most a compulsory school degree was 26%, while this dropped to 19% in the second generation.

In the second generation the share of intermediate qualifications (apprenticeship, intermediate vocational school) increased to 50% - compared to 31% in the first generation - and so came closer to the proportion in the general population (55%).

First-generation immigrants more frequently have academic training than second-generation immigrants (24% compared to 15%) and than the population without a migrant background (20%).



02

Besides the education system, the labour market is the major engine of integration. However, in 2020 the Covid-19 pandemic resulted in the strongest collapse in employment since the Second World War. With a drop of 2.6%, foreign workers were more affected than Austrians (-2%). As a consequence, the employment rate of the 15- to 64-year-old foreign population dropped to 65% (2019: 67%), that of Austrians of the same age to 74% (2019: 75%). The unemployment rate (national definition) increased on average to 9.9% (2019: 7.4%) 15.3% for foreign workers (2019: 10.8%) and 8.4% for Austrians (2019: 6.4%) Structural long-term unemployment (longer than 12 months) also increased in 2020 by close to 30% to reach 62.000.

The share of long-term unemployed among all the unemployed dropped slightly as a consequence of the sudden jump in overall unemployment, to 15.1% (2019: 15.9%). The industry-specific patterns of employment are different for people with and without a migrant background, which explains why migrants

more often lost their jobs in the pandemic. Immigrants are more frequently employed in the hospitality industry (9.9%, compared to 3.8% of the general population), in construction (10%, compared to 7.5%), in services - especially in cleaning services and as contract workers (6.7%, compared to 2.4%) - and in transport (6.6%, compared to 4.6%). Migrants also work more frequently in trade, especially the second generation (22.1% compared to 14.1%).

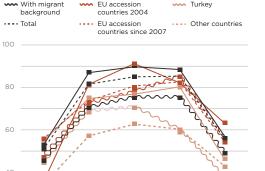
kindergarten year 2019/2020. At the start of the

O7 The employment rate of people with a migrant background is 66% or 9 percentage points lower than that of people without a migrant background. The rate is especially low for third-country nationals, and rather low for nationals of Central Eastern and South Eastern EU states. Especially women from third countries are much less integrated into the labour market than the average rate for women of 68%. The rate was particularly low for women from Afghanistan, Syria and Iraq at 11%, followed by Turkish women at 47%. The employment rate of women without a migrant background is higher than that of migrants in all age groups.

Employment rates 2020 by age and migrant background status In % of population of the same age with same migrant background - Without migrant - Pre-2004 EU countries/EFTA/GB (non-EU)

www With migrant

background



vv Turkey

45-54 55-64 years

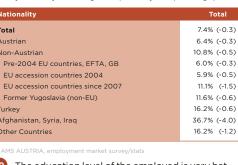
OB Professional status differs clearly between le with and without a migrant background.

In 2020, some 40% of immigrants, but only 19% of Austrians, were workers. In contrast, 67% of Austrians and only 52% of immigrants were employees, civil servants, contract agents or independent contractors. The proportion of self-employed outside agriculture hardly differed between locals (9.5%) and migrants (8.2%). The professional status of the migrants changes quickly between generations. While of the first generation 43% were workers and 9% self-employed (except agriculture), the share of workers in the second generation dropped to 25%, that of the self-employed (except agriculture) to 6%: in contrast, the share of employees grew from 49% to 69%. But there are significant differences based on country of origin. People from the former Yugoslavia (non-EU) and from Turkey had the lowest shares of self-employed (5% and 7.4%, respectively) people from the pre-2004 FU states FETA/ GB the highest (13%). Across groups, men are more

On average in 2020, the supply of labour of nonself-employed Austrians increased slightly (+6,000

likely to be self-employed than women.

+0.2%), while that of foreign labour increased siggroups saw increases in their unemployment rates. nificantly (+22.100, +2.5%), like in previous years. In The worst affected were people with intermedilight of the dramatic collapse of non-self-employed ate qualifications (intermediate vocational school, work across the economy by 80,100 (-4.7%) - Ausapprenticeship) and labourers. trians -57,900 (-1.9%), foreigners -22,200 (-2.8%) Unemployment rate 2020 by nationality with change since previous year in percentage points - the number of unemployed Austrians grew by 64,000 (+31.2%) and that of unemployed foreigners by 44.300 (+46%). As a consequence, the unemployment rate increased by 2 percentage points to reach 8.4% (Austrians) and 4.5 percentage points



The education level of the employed is very heterogeneous and depends on the area of origin. The highest education levels are found in employed people from pre-2004 EU/EFTA/GB: 50% had a university degree in 2020, compared to 22% of Austrians. and only 5% had compulsory education as their high-

est educational attainment, compared to 8% of Austrians. The opposite is true for Turkish workers, with a share of people with only compulsory education of 56%. Among the working population, the share of skilled labourers with intermediate qualifications from the former Yugoslavia (non-EU) was especially high at 44%, as was that from Bulgaria, Romania and Croatia (40%). In 2019/2020, 6,800 persons had their foreign qualifications evaluated/recognised. Half were nationals of EU states, another 12% were Austrians. Evaluated/recognised qualifications included especially university degrees (56%) followed by intermediate qualifications (24.4%). Among the youths aged 15 to 24, 8% had no employment and were also not involved in training or further education (NEET). In youths with a migrant background, the share was much higher at 13% than in youths without a migrant background (6%). The first generation was most affected, with 17%. 11% of youths with another language than German as their first language had no compulsory school degree in school year 2018/2019, reducing their chances for further education and making a transition into professional life more difficult.

11 Foreign nationals are less likely to be longterm unemployed (longer than 12 months without a job) than Austrians (2020: 11.2% compared to 17.2%), in part because they frequently do not fulfil the requirements for receiving unemployment assistance. The share was highest among nationals of the states of the former Yugoslavia excluding EU states (16.1%) and Turkey (13.9%). The number of schoolings dropped by 7.8% (-4,900) in 2020 due

12 Youths (15-24 years) were more affected by the growth in unemployment than other age groups (+43.6%, +13.200 compared to 2019), and foreign youths (+49.5%) more than Austrians (+41%). Consequently, the youth unemployment rate (national definition) increased to 9.3 9.3 - 12.9% for foreign youths and 8.3% for Austrians. At 28.4%, it is highest for youths from the refugee countries of origin Afghanistan, Syria and Iraq (22.4% in 2019), while for youths from pre-2004 EU/EFTA/GB it is lowest (8.1%, compared to 3.8% in the previous year).

Social and health issues

The topics under the rubric "social and health issues" are very heterogeneous. On the one hand, they refer to income and risk of poverty; on the other, to life expectancy and health. With regard to income, the foreign population is worse off than the local. They more frequently work in low-wage sectors, and foreign women, especially from third countries, do not work at a higher rate than Austrian women. This increases the poverty risk of households with a migrant background. The material stress is compounded by stronger psychosocial stress, such as harder working conditions, above-average unemployment and, for some groups, insecure residency situation, which together negatively affect health. To this are added specific behavioural patterns like less frequent early detection and screening examinations, overweight and too little movement, which also contribute to the fact that the subjective feeling of health is lower among migrants than among the general population. Despite this, there is hardly any difference in life expectancy between the populations with and without a migrant background.

13 The median net annual income of people employed year-round was 26,761 euros in 2019, a year of particularly strong economic growth. Austrians earned some € 1.106 more (+4%), foreigners some € 4,372 less (-16.3%). While persons from pre-2004 EU/EFTA/GB on average earned as much as Austrians, groups of all other origins saw a lower median net annual income, with the differences between them being slight. Only year-round employees from other third countries were still worse off at € 2,168 less than the average foreign worker (-10%). The proportion of workers in low-wage sectors in which the hourly rate is less than two thirds of the median dropped between 2014 and 2019 among immigrants by 6 percentage points to 21%, while it increased slightly among workers born in Austria, to 11%. For those born in third countries it was 26%. Only 16% of immigrants were employed in the high-wage sector, where hourly wages are more than double the median, compared to 27% of the labour force born in Austria. The wage differences largely reflect the difference in education between the two groups.

of their proportion in the population (2020 aver-

age: 16.9%), foreign nationals were more than twice

as affected as Austrian nationals (1.6% compared

to 0.7%), Like last year, Africans (3.4%) were espe-

cially likely to be victims of criminal acts, followed

by persons from Afghanistan, Syria and Iraq (2.6%).

Crimes were committed against foreign nationals

both by Austrians and by foreigners. More than one

third of all victims of criminal acts were young peo-

ple aged between 15 and 25

13

14 In Austria, 17% of the population was at risk of poverty or marginalisation in 2019. The risk was highest for persons born in third countries (41%), and lowest for those born in Austria (13%). Overall, 13% were subject to several risks of poverty or marginalisation, with migrants being more at risk than persons born in Austria (24% compared to 11%). In 2019, social benefits reduced the poverty risk on average to almost half the persons. Social benefits were especially effective at reducing poverty in persons from Turkey (26% compared to 52%), the former Yugoslavia excluding EU states (24% compared to 43%) and from other third countries (45% compared to 61%).

to reach 15.3% (foreigners). The difference between

foreign and Austrian nationals thus increased to 6.9

percentage points from 4.4 in the previous year.

The unemployment rate of foreign women grew

most strongly (+5 percentage points, to 16.8%), fol-

lowed by foreign men (+4.3 percentage points, to

14.3%), while that of Austrian women and men on-

ly increased by two percentage points to 8% and

8.8%, respectively. The highest unemployment rate

continued to be among persons from Afghanistan,

Syria and Iraq, at 41.8%, followed by Turks and na-

tionals of other third countries (21.8% and 20.9%

respectively). During the pandemic all qualification

15 In 2020, life expectancy at birth was almost the same for people born in Austria and abroad. Men born in Austrian had a life expectancy of 78.9 years, the same as men born abroad; women born in Austria had a life expectancy of 83.8 years, just marginally longer than immigrant women (83.6). The lowest life expectancy was for men and women from the former Yugoslavia excluding EU states (76.6

and 81.8 years, respectively). The life expectancy of persons from other EU states - with the exception of women from the EU accession states 2004 - was above that of Austrians Persons from other third countries on average also had a higher life expectancy than men and women born in Austria. Stillbirths and infant deaths were more common in mothers who were born abroad than in mothers born in Austria (4.4 stillbirths per 1,000 live births and 3.8 infant deaths per 1,000 live births compared to 3.5 and 2.8%). The stillbirths figure was highest for mothers from Afghanistan, Syria and Iraq, with 8.2 stillbirths per 1,000 live births, followed by mothers from Turkey with 6.8%; babies of Turkish mothers had the highest infant death rates with 4.7 cases per 1,000 live births, followed by mothers from other third countries (4.6%).

16 The subjective perception of health is a good indicator of the general wellbeing of a population. In contrast to clinical findings, it implicitly also gathers psychological and social aspects in addition to physical ones. According to the 2019 health survey,

persons with a migrant background on average are less likely to feel very good or good about their health than the general population (69% compared to 76%). This is mainly due to the worse self-estimates of health of surveyed people from the former Yugoslavia excluding EU states and from Turkey: only 60% of this group said that they felt very good or good. 15% felt poor or very poor, compared to 6% of the general population. Persons with a migrant background made less use of certain early detection and health offerings than the general population; for instance, they went to a GP less frequently (especially people from the EU accession states 2004) and visited the dentist less frequently (especially people from the former Yugoslavia outside the EU and from Turkey). Female migrants underwent a mammography less frequently (68%, compared to 75% of women without a migrant background). However, there is hardly any difference in the prevalence of chronic diseases between people with and without a migrant background. Persons with a migrant background also were less likely to have up-to-date vaccinations than locals.

Integration monitoring also includes indicators recording migrants both as perpetrators and as victims of criminal acts. It looks at the criminality of foreign nationals, broken down into suspects, condemnations or condemned persons, and newly incarcerated. It also shows how frequently migrants are victims of a criminal act, regardless of the perpetrator's nationality. The police crime statistics recorded 433,811 complaints in 2020. The proportion of foreign nationals among the newly incarcerated dropped in 2020 (to 54.8%, from 57.9% in 2019), as did their proportion among the suspects (to 39.5%. from 40.1% in 2019). At the start of 2021, 0.06% of Austrians and 0.28% of foreign nationals were incarcerated, a decrease from the previous year affecting almost all foreign nationals. But migrants are not only more frequently perpetrators, but also victims of criminal acts. In the longer term, this has

In 2020, the police recorded 276,344 suspects. Of these, 109,200 were foreign suspects (39.5%), of which again 79% were resident in Austria. 17% abroad and 4% had an illegal residency status. This means that 21% of foreign suspects were "transiting" or had travelled to Austria for the purpose of committing a criminal act. The total number of incarcerated people decreased by 607 (6.7%) from the previous year to 8.488. Of these, 49% were foreign nationals. The majority were from Romania, the former Yugoslavia (non-EU). Hungary, Nigeria and Turkey. The incarceration rate of foreign nationals decreased in 2020 as a result of the pandemic. to 0.28% of the foreign population, from 0.32% in the previous year: the incarceration rate of Austrians stayed at the previous year's level (0.06%). Austria is in the European middle field, ranked equally with Belgium and France with regard to the incarceration rate, with 95 incarcerated per 100,000 inhabitants. The Nordic countries are far below, with incarceration rates of 53 (Finland) to 68 (Sweden). while the Southern and Central European states and the United Kingdom have higher rates.

18 In 2020, as in the previous three years, around Housing and residential context one third (31.9%) of victims of criminal acts were Access to housing is an important indicator of miforeign nationals. If one places this in the context

grants' integration. Income and wealth, as well as the planned duration of the stay in Austria, determine whether people invest in a home or rent. In light of the high proportion of migrants with a low income, the majority live in rented homes (71%). which are often smaller and less well equipped. Over the past ten years, migrants from the former Yugoslavia (excluding EU states) and Turkey in particular have invested more in home ownership. Because the demand for foreign labour is greater in cities than in rural areas, migrants tend to live in urban centres. and generally in areas with heavy traffic and in low-

19 In 2020 the average living area per capita in Austria was 45 m². Households with a migrant reference person on average had 31 m² per capita available, households with a non-migrant reference person had 50 m². The lowest available space per capita was in Turkish households (23 m²), followed by households from other third countries (26

m²) and the former Yugoslavia (non-EU) at 28 m². The housing situation of immigrants improved with the length of their stay. Second-generation households on average had 36 m² per capita available, compared to 30 m^2 for the first generation.

The share of housing costs relative to income is significantly higher among first-generation immigrants than among people born in Austria. In 2019. around 16% of households in the general population stated that they spend more than 25% of household income on housing costs, compared to 39% of immigrants. The proportion of persons living in homes with a very low living standard is also double among immigrants than that of the general population (4%).

In 2020, 43% of households in Austria lived in a rented apartment, 49% in their own home and 8% in another form of housing (e.g. company housing). Of the households with a migrant background, 71% lived in rented homes, compared to 34% of households without a migrant background. The proportion of households in rental apartments was highest for

reference persons from other countries (82%) and Turkey (78%). As the length of stay increases, the share of homeowners also increases, from 23% for first-generation immigrants to 34% for the second generation. However, the proportion remains significantly lower than for the general population (56%).

22 Migrants are more likely to live in cities than in rural areas. In 2021, around 40% of persons born abroad lived in Vienna, compared to 17% of all inhabitants born in Austria. The concentration in Vienna is highest for people from other third countries (53%), followed by Afghanistan, Syria and Iraq (48%) and Turkey (41%). 44% of all people born in Austria live in municipalities with less than 5,000 inhabitants, in contrast to just 19% of first-generation immigrants. At the start of 2021, 65 municipalities had a proportion of immigrants above 25%. In these lived 60% of all immigrants and 29% of the general population. With regard to the spatial segregation the segregation index shows that it is lowest for the Hungarians and Germans and highest for people from Serbia, North Macedonia, Poland and Iran.

Family structures

Family structures are an indicator of the social and identification dimensions of integration. Social integration consists of going towards the other, which also includes marriages. A high rate of marriages outside one's ethno-cultural group (exogamy) is often seen as an indicator of mutual acceptance, in contrast to marriages within an ethnic group, which are assessed as an indicator of demarcation from others. One sees that as the length of stay increases, so does the likelihood of selecting a partner in Austria. However, some ethno-cultural groups or minorities tend to always seek partners from abroad from the same ethno-cultural group. This means that renewed immigration takes place every generation, making the efforts to integrate families a continuous task. In Austria we see a constant increase in the share of marriages with a foreign partner - between 1991 and 2020 by 12 percentage points to 30% of all marriages

As a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, 2020 saw a clear reduction in the number of marriages. In total, some 39,000 heterosexual marriages were concluded in Austria, some 7.000 (15%) less than in the previous year. As a result, the share of couples with one spouse from abroad dropped from 23% to 21%. The share of marriages in which both spouses were born in Austria stayed stable (27,200, or 70% of cases). The share of marriages in which both spouses were born abroad increased to 9.5% (7.6% in 2019). The number of same-sex marriages also decreased strongly from the previous year, by 523 cases (-46%) to 612. In these, one spouse is foreign in 30% of cases, and both are in 6% of cases. The tendency towards a greater internationalisation of marriages thus continued during the pandemic year. This is a result of the increased immigration, which is also a family migration. The majority of spouses born abroad came from an EU state (4,526). mainly Germany.

In 2020, 3,656 spouses came from third countries, largely from Turkey and from the former Yugoslavia (excluding EU states). There were 3.988 million private households in Austria in 2020. Of these, 844,700, or 21%, had a household reference person with a migrant background. The average household size in 2020 was slightly higher in the population with a migrant background (2.5) than in that without a migrant background (2.1). The highest number of household members was in Turkish households (3.3 persons), followed by households from Afghanistan. Syria and Iraq (3.2). The lowest number of household members was in households with a reference person from the states that acceded to the EU in 2004 and from 2007 onwards.

Naturalisations

prestige neighbourhoods.

In Austria, naturalisation is seen as an indication of full integration and of full participation in Austrian society. In light of the length of the required legal and continuous residency in Austria (ten years, six in exceptional cases), the naturalisation trends follow the immigration waves by around ten years. 2003 for instance saw a record number of 44,700 naturalisations as a result of the strong immigration in the early 1990s (Yugoslavia war). The numbers then decreased, with interruptions, to 8,800 by 2020, even though the net immigration of foreigners continued. As a result, the naturalisation rate (naturalisations as a percentage of foreigners living in Austria) decreased from its height in 2003 of 6% to 0.7% in 2010, where it remained until 2019. In 2020 it decreased a bit further. Compared to other EU countries, Austria has one of the lowest naturalisation rates; only some Central Eastern European countries and Denmark have lower rates. This is an indicator that Austria has one of the most restrictive naturalisation systems in Europe.

Of the 8,800 foreigners who chose to be naturalised in Austria in 2020, 36% were already born here. The majority had a legal claim to the Austrian nationality (63%), while the rest obtained it due to a discretionary decision (11%) or an extension (27%), e.g. to spouses and/or children. The largest number of naturalisations was of nationals of Bosnia-Herzegovina (967), Serbia (943) and Turkey (846). The naturalisation rate was particularly low for persons from other EU/EFTA/GB. In contrast, it was significantly higher for nationals of third countries, and highest for nationals of Afghanistan, Syria and Iraq. 4% of this group with a residency of at least ten years in Austria was naturalised in 2020, followed by persons from other third countries and by persons from the former Yugoslavia (excluding the EU states) with 1%. The new citizens are largely young - 33% were under the age of 18. Persons over 60 rarely take on Austrian citizenship (2%), although they represent more than 10% of the foreign population residing here.

Subjective views on the integration climate

The 2021 survey contained three samples: one of the population born in Austria (1,120 persons), one of the population born in Bosnia-Herzegovina (381), Serbia (306) and Turkey (371), and the third of the main countries of birth for refugees between 2011 and 2020 (430 from Afghanistan, 425 from Syria, 423 from Chechnya).

The assessment of integration from the perspective of those surveyed who were born in Austria is divided: half of those surveyed believed that coexistence between Austrians and migrants is very good or rather good (50%), the other half viewed it as poor (45%) or even very poor (5%). The assessment changes according to age group - while two thirds of 16- to 29-year-olds rated coexistence positively, the assessment worsened with the age of those surveyed. The most positive view of coexistence between Austrians and migrants is held by persons with higher education: 61% answered "very good" or "rather good". The positive view decreases continuously with a decrease in the level

of education. People are somewhat more likely to assess coexistence as very or rather good in larger agglomerations (54% in Vienna) than in smaller municipalities (under 5,000 inhabitants: 50%).

The assessment of the integration process by immigrants from the former Yugoslavia (non-EU) and from Turkey was very positive, with the feeling of belonging in Austria increasing with the length of stay. 89% of migrants who have lived in Austria for more than 15 years feel fully or largely at home in Austria, while this is the case for only 67% of immigrants who have lived in Austria for less than 5 years. To the question of what state they feel more attached to, their place of birth or Austria, 69% answered Austria.

91% of survey participants with recent experience of being refugees stated that they feel fully or somewhat at home in Austria. When asked what country they feel more belonging to, their country of origin or Austria, 79% answered Austria. The length of stay in Austria had an effect here: while 84% of persons who had lived here for more than 15 years felt more

belonging to Austria than to their country of origin, this figure dropped to 70% for survey participants who had lived in Austria for less than five years.

When Austrians were asked whether coexistence with immigrants had improved or worsened in recent years, 22% stated that coexistence had improved a lot or somewhat, but 46% felt that it had worsened a lot or somewhat. 45% of Austrians with more qualifications perceived a worsening of the relations between migrants and Austrians, while 35% of those with at most a compulsory education felt this way. A worsening of the situation was perceived more often by survey participants in agglomerations than in smaller municipalities, and more often by lowincome respondents (54%) than by wealthier ones (43%). The immigrant population with a longer immigration history was asked whether their personal life conditions had improved or worsened in the past five years. 60% replied that their conditions had improved, 33% saw no change and 7% stated that their life conditions had worsened. Younger people (16 to 29 years) and those of a middle age

(30 to 44 years) were more likely to state that their situation had improved (72% and 65%) than other age groups. The question was also posed to the immigrant population with a shorter immigration history. 86% felt that their life conditions in Austria had improved, 10% stated that they had not changed and 4% that they had worsened. Especially migrants with primary to intermediate education levels were more likely to improve their situation (87-89%) than academics (78%).

In another block of questions, Austrians were asked whether they had contacts with immigrants who were treated worse than people without a migrant background due to their origins. 15% of Austrians stated that they have contacts with immigrants who are disadvantaged, another 47% said that they had contacts with migrants but that they did not perceive them to be disadvantaged. Another 38% had no contacts with immigrants. The highest share of people who had no contacts with migrants was among the older population (above 60 years: 46%), followed by the 45- to 59-year-olds (37%)

The immigrant population with a longer migration history was asked whether they feel disadvantaged in Austria. 52% stated that they are never or rarely disadvantaged. However, 7% of those surveyed stated that they are always or often disadvantaged due to their origins, while 31% stated that it happens occasionally. The feeling of discrimination is highest among young migrants and decreases with age. People of Turkish origin reported being disadvantaged much more frequently (66%) than those from Serbia (37%) and Bosnia-Herzegovina (41%).

The same question was posed to the immigrant population with a younger migration history. 55% stated that they were never or rarely disadvantaged due to their origins. 16% said that they were always or frequently disadvantaged, 29% said sometimes. The feeling of being disadvantaged is strongest in young migrants (20% answered "always" or "frequently"). Refugees from Afghanistan and Chechnya feel most frequently discriminated against (19% each answered "always" or "frequently"); those from Syria less frequently (13%).

The survey also included questions to Austrians regarding their mental distance from migrants. 9% of those surveyed rejected xenophobic guestions, 6% agreed, while the large majority (86%) was neutral towards these questions. Older Austrians (above 45) were least likely to reject xenophobic statements, adolescents most likely (21%, compared to 2% of over-60s). Migrants were also asked about their cultural distance to Austria. Migrants with a longer migration history are largely in agreement with the Austrian lifestyle, with the values and goals on which people orient their lives (94%). The share of rejection is higher among persons of Turkish origin (12%) than among persons from the former Yugoslavia excluding the EU states (just over 3%).

The question above was also posed to migrants with a younger migration history. A very low percentage was not, or rather not, in agreement with the Austrian lifestyle (2%). People from Chechnya had the highest rejection rate at 4%, those from Syria the lowest at 1%.

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