# Asylum quarterly report | Statistics Explained

Data extracted on 15 June 2017. Most recent data: Further Eurostat information, Main tables and Database . Planned update of the article: September 2017.

First time asylum applicants and first instance decisions on asylum applications: first quarter 2017

This article describes recent developments in relation to numbers of asylum applicants and first instance decisions on asylum applications in the European Union (EU) . Asylum is a form of international protection given by a state on its territory. It is granted to a person who is unable to seek protection in his/her country of citizenship and/or residence, in particular for fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group, or political opinion.
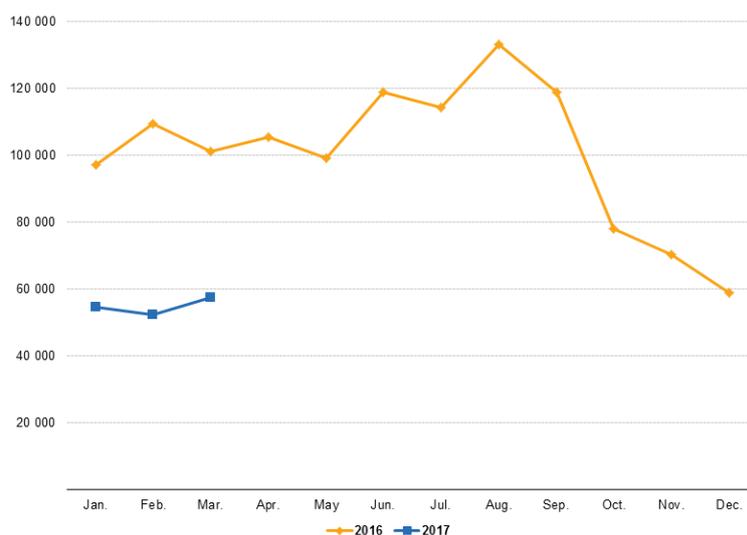
EU total, excluding March 2017 data for Austria which are not available

Figure 1: First time asylum applicants, EU-28, January 2016 – March 2017 - Source: Eurostat (migrasyappctzm)

Main statistical findings

### Main trends in the numbers of asylum applicants

The number of first time asylum applicants [1] in the EU-28 decreased by -47 % in the first quarter of 2017 compared with the same quarter of 2016 and by -21 % compared with the fourth quarter of 2016. Overall, the number of persons seeking asylum from non-EU countries in the EU-28 during the first quarter of 2017 reached 164 500. This was 143 000 less than in the same quarter of 2016 (Table 1,Table 2). Out of the 178 000 total asylum applicants (i.e. including repeat applicants), 164 500 (92 %) were first time applicants (Table 2, Table 3).

---

[1] First time applicant for international protection is a person who lodged an application for asylum for the **first time** in a given Member State. The indicator 'First time asylum applicants' excludes repeat applicants i.e. persons applying for asylum more than once in one country and therefore more accurately presents the number of persons applying for international protection in the EU Member States. The use of this indicator is possible as all Member States are able to provide it to Eurostat since 2014.
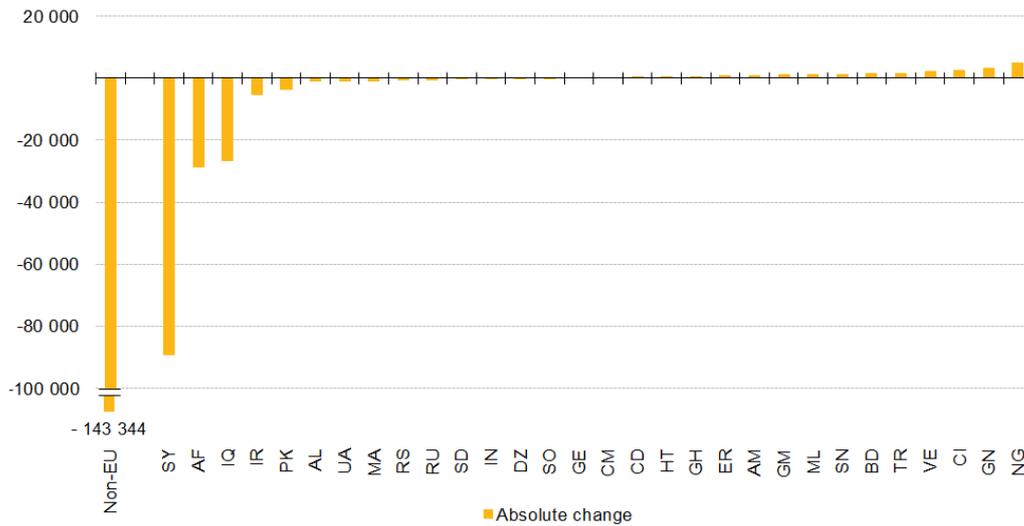
Data for Austria are not available for March 2017

Figure 2: First time asylum applicants by citizenship, EU-28, absolute change between Q1 2016 and Q1 2017 - Source: Eurostat (migrasyappctzm), see country codes
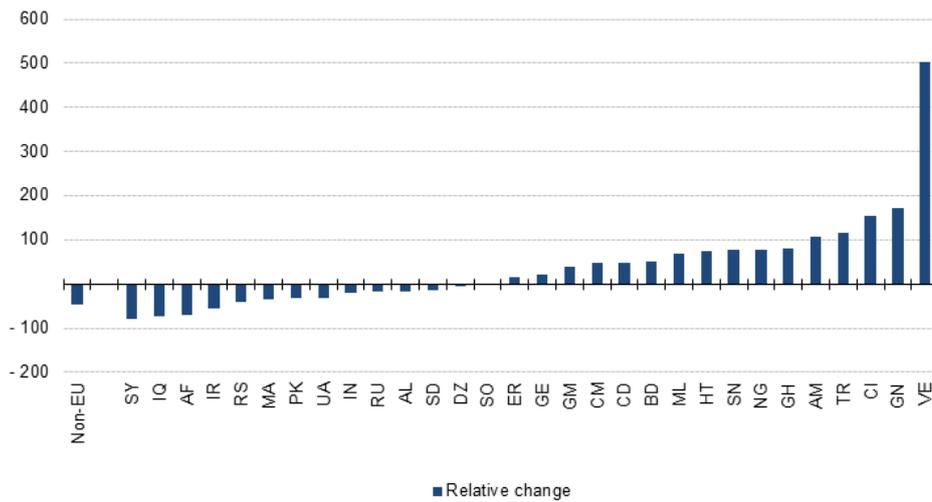
Data for Austria are not available for March 2017

Figure 3: First time asylum applicants by citizenship, EU-28, relative change between Q1 2016 and Q1 2017 - Source: Eurostat (migrasyappctzm), see country codes

Where do they come from?

Citizens of 143 countries sought asylum for the first time in the EU in the first quarter of 2017. Syrians, Afghans and Nigerians were the top 3 citizenships of asylum seekers, lodging 22 500, 12 500 and 11 500 applications respectively (Table 1).

	Q1 2016			Q2 2016			Q3 2016			Q4 2016			Q1 2017			Q1 2017	Change in %		Last 12 months
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.		between Q4 2016 and Q1 2017	between Q1 2016 and Q1 2017	
Non-EU (¹)	97 145	109 550	101 205	105 355	99 100	118 960	114 480	133 200	118 825	78 140	70 230	58 900	54 655	52 335	57 565	164 555	-21	-47	1 061 750
Syria - (SY)	35 740	41 085	34 990	34 325	29 930	32 830	29 670	32 570	28 905	13 540	11 695	9 550	7 345	7 430	7 740	22 515	-35	-80	245 530
Afghanistan - (AF)	13 430	13 905	13 775	16 500	17 090	22 295	20 865	24 535	18 490	10 065	7 020	4 990	4 510	3 640	4 330	12 475	-43	-70	154 325
Nigeria - (NG)	2 105	2 140	2 175	2 685	2 895	4 070	4 475	5 725	5 530	5 040	5 300	4 040	4 065	3 795	3 610	11 470	-20	79	51 230
Iraq - (IQ)	10 935	13 685	12 595	12 695	10 830	13 005	11 530	14 120	12 110	6 350	5 045	4 100	3 355	3 545	3 535	10 435	-33	-72	100 225
Pakistan - (PK)	3 500	3 965	4 305	4 140	4 170	4 760	4 175	5 330	4 545	2 980	3 145	2 565	2 425	2 500	2 965	7 895	-9	-33	43 705
Eritrea - (ER)	1 485	1 965	1 640	2 075	2 245	3 635	3 745	3 640	3 400	3 390	3 410	2 750	2 115	2 030	1 805	5 955	-38	17	34 245
Albania - (AL)	2 255	2 250	1 995	2 210	1 910	2 410	2 585	2 865	3 560	2 305	2 495	2 170	1 775	1 515	2 150	5 440	-22	-16	27 955
Guinea - (GN)	590	675	660	755	925	1 085	1 200	1 525	1 535	1 565	1 520	1 425	1 620	1 585	2 040	5 245	16	173	16 785
Bangladesh - (BD)	1 120	1 085	960	965	940	1 020	1 205	1 690	2 085	1 665	1 860	1 420	1 380	1 495	1 860	4 735	-4	50	17 580
Iran - (IR)	3 075	3 250	3 515	3 435	3 250	3 945	4 490	4 705	4 220	2 655	1 950	1 665	1 645	1 320	1 465	4 430	-29	-55	34 740
Gambia - (GM)	890	1 015	1 140	1 225	1 245	1 515	1 910	1 515	1 360	1 145	1 485	1 260	1 285	1 360	1 550	4 195	8	38	16 860
Ivory Coast - (CI)	515	530	560	715	855	1 050	1 000	1 365	1 260	1 240	1 090	1 020	1 160	1 345	1 595	4 100	22	155	13 695
Senegal - (SN)	505	600	720	730	765	785	775	930	930	910	970	890	1 025	1 015	1 190	3 230	17	77	10 920
Somalia - (SO)	985	1 070	1 180	1 710	1 500	1 980	1 990	2 095	2 110	1 800	1 385	1 160	1 080	1 030	1 050	3 160	-27	-2	18 885
Russia - (RU)	955	1 245	1 565	2 070	2 530	3 295	2 745	2 705	2 105	1 445	1 200	1 195	1 035	1 035	1 035	3 105	-19	-18	22 385
Turkey - (TR)	385	510	475	590	615	785	805	1 180	1 155	1 265	1 260	1 070	1 020	950	980	2 945	-18	115	11 675
Venezuela - (VE)	150	155	170	290	295	440	370	390	455	600	810	585	880	985	1 040	2 905	45	504	7 140
Mali - (ML)	490	580	645	685	780	795	875	1 030	980	990	860	745	895	950	1 055	2 905	12	70	10 640
Algeria - (DZ)	655	1 140	820	825	670	675	750	1 065	1 275	1 145	1 145	1 005	865	800	780	2 445	-26	-7	10 995
Ukraine - (UA)	1 100	1 080	1 210	1 230	850	945	755	760	760	820	885	700	740	800	800	2 340	-3	-31	10 045
Sudan - (SD)	735	795	970	835	650	780	750	1 075	1 120	1 195	835	1 340	660	700	800	2 165	-36	-13	10 750
Armenia - (AM)	340	315	325	355	405	685	750	1 110	1 185	985	680	610	850	585	585	2 020	-11	106	8 785
Morocco - (MA)	820	1 125	955	935	740	720	800	1 235	1 185	985	910	780	630	645	640	1 920	-28	-34	10 210
Congo (²) - (CD)	425	475	385	355	395	425	430	400	500	490	445	415	490	645	785	1 915	42	49	5 775
Georgia - (GE)	470	545	530	495	495	605	805	775	705	710	615	535	590	600	675	1 865	0	21	7 610
Ghana - (GH)	305	315	330	375	405	550	755	1 215	1 205	880	725	700	610	540	575	1 725	-25	81	8 535
Unknown - (UNK)	2 835	3 135	2 145	1 785	1 515	1 620	1 525	1 890	1 505	730	730	630	430	430	655	1 510	-28	-81	13 440
Haiti - (HT)	285	255	325	390	435	645	645	1 185	720	85	100	250	600	485	420	1 505	244	74	5 965
Serbia - (RS)	775	805	710	710	520	640	925	1 010	1 015	545	665	570	420	400	570	1 390	-22	-39	7 990
Cameroon - (CM)	265	305	330	300	375	485	470	460	480	500	475	430	435	435	455	1 325	-6	47	5 310
Other (non-EU)	9 030	9 530	9 105	8 955	8 875	10 495	10 710	13 095	12 450	10 105	9 515	8 325	8 720	7 750	8 820	25 295	-10	-9	117 815

(¹) Data for Austria are not available for March 2017; aggregates and other indicators are based on available data
Countries selected here are those with the highest number of asylum applicants registered during Q1 2017
(²) CD – Congo, the Democratic Republic of the

Table 1: First time asylum applicants in the EU-28 by citizenship, Q1 2016 – Q1 2017 - Source: Eurostat (migrasyappctzm)

	Q1 2016			Q2 2016			Q3 2016			Q4 2016			Q1 2017			Q1 2017	Change in %		Applicants per million population (²) Q1 2017	Last 12 months
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.		between Q4 2016 and Q1 2017	between Q1 2016 and Q1 2017		
EU-28	97 145	109 550	101 205	105 355	99 100	118 960	114 480	133 200	118 825	78 140	70 230	58 900	54 655	52 335	57 565	164 555	-21	-47	322	1 061 750
Belgium	2 395	1 310	1 015	925	830	775	1 035	1 250	1 100	1 290	1 170	1 155	1 150	1 080	1 210	3 440	-5	-27	304	12 975
Bulgaria	1 910	1 155	990	1 045	1 080	1 385	1 505	2 790	2 065	2 550	1 730	795	375	355	505	1 235	-76	-70	173	16 175
Czech Republic	100	150	110	115	75	90	85	90	115	120	80	75	110	90	95	295	8	-17	28	1 140
Denmark	1 625	900	460	395	360	465	395	285	295	340	275	255	220	205	245	670	-23	-78	118	3 740
Germany	57 215	72 830	65 270	66 250	59 695	78 625	76 540	92 105	76 500	32 385	25 890	18 965	16 055	14 950	18 075	49 080	-36	-75	597	576 025
Estonia	0	0	10	15	25	10	10	10	20	20	25	5	25	15	20	55	24	367	43	195
Ireland	210	190	140	155	140	155	160	195	220	185	225	260	165	225	215	600	-10	11	127	2 300
Greece	1 050	1 320	2 820	3 615	4 215	4 185	3 940	3 450	5 040	6 160	7 470	6 615	6 260	5 525	4 755	16 540	-18	219	1 534	61 225
Spain	1 095	925	885	1 155	1 315	1 500	1 005	1 220	1 305	1 705	1 905	1 555	2 080	2 270	2 365	6 715	30	131	145	19 380
France	5 900	6 380	6 220	5 950	5 945	6 075	6 075	7 120	6 910	6 980	6 150	7 080	7 000	6 975	7 985	21 955	9	19	329	80 245
Croatia	40	50	160	190	100	90	90	230	360	395	260	175	45	45	55	145	-83	-42	35	2 040
Italy	7 395	7 595	7 295	7 785	9 080	9 815	10 870	11 290	12 295	13 315	13 435	11 020	11 570	11 820	13 510	36 905	-2	66	608	135 805
Cyprus	220	230	185	185	170	160	225	215	265	340	405	250	255	355	505	1 110	12	75	1 308	3 320
Latvia	10	15	10	40	5	45	25	30	25	55	60	30	55	45	55	155	11	391	80	470
Lithuania	10	10	20	10	15	45	35	65	40	100	50	15	60	10	30	100	-39	148	34	475
Luxembourg	260	135	105	125	115	170	120	195	195	275	165	200	230	225	225	675	6	35	1 175	2 240
Hungary	335	2 065	4 430	5 685	4 625	4 605	1 750	1 260	1 055	1 155	675	580	460	355	265	1 080	-55	-84	110	22 465
Malta	105	135	145	105	120	170	130	175	165	220	145	110	120	105	160	385	-19	-1	884	1 730
Netherlands	2 565	1 785	1 215	980	980	1 110	1 530	1 755	1 875	2 035	1 920	1 540	1 245	1 160	1 220	3 620	-34	-35	213	17 345
Austria (¹)	5 665	4 875	3 160	3 970	3 740	3 070	2 945	3 110	2 470	2 455	2 190	2 230	2 030	1 845	:	3 880	-44	-72	446	30 060
Poland	535	785	1 010	1 095	1 330	1 425	1 045	765	620	395	390	395	345	300	320	965	-18	-58	25	8 420
Portugal	60	35	50	50	50	60	70	60	70	80	65	60	65	70	115	250	24	70	24	815
Romania	40	80	95	85	50	80	115	140	190	415	275	290	90	125	410	630	-36	193	32	2 265
Slovenia	15	270	200	30	55	30	35	120	110	85	185	130	30	30	130	185	-54	-62	90	965
Slovakia	5	0	10	0	5	5	0	20	15	5	20	15	25	20	15	60	57	263	11	140
Finland	980	825	340	360	315	335	335	460	470	310	275	270	235	355	425	1 020	20	-52	186	4 145
Sweden	3 740	2 240	1 730	1 540	1 460	1 435	1 525	1 700	1 790	1 880	1 720	1 570	1 545	1 305	1 525	4 380	-15	-43	444	18 995
United Kingdom	3 675	3 260	3 130	3 505	3 210	3 055	2 870	3 100	3 235	2 900	3 080	3 275	2 815	2 470	3 140	8 420	-9	-16	129	36 650
Iceland	45	40	45	40	55	40	40	65	175	200	255	105	65	70	80	215	-61	71	650	1 190
Liechtenstein	0	5	5	10	10	5	10	0	10	10	5	10	25	25	15	65	171	713	1 728	135
Norway	380	235	270	225	195	245	255	290	260	255	225	410	465	305	395	1 165	31	32	224	3 520
Switzerland	3 510	2 540	1 890	1 620	1 785	2 215	2 360	2 310	2 085	2 005	1 840	1 660	1 490	1 380	1 485	4 355	-21	-45	523	22 230

(¹) Data for Austria are not available for March 2017; EU aggregates and other indicators are based on available data
(²) Relative to population as of 1st of January 2016
: data are not available

Table 2: First time asylum applicants, Q1 2016 – Q1 2017 - Source: Eurostat (migrasyappctzm)

Syrians (89 300 less applicants compared with the first quarter of 2016) contributed most to the overall decrease in first time asylum applicants in absolute terms, followed by Afghans (28 600 less) and Iraqis (26 600 less). In contrast, the number of asylum applicants increased most in absolute terms for citizens of Nigeria (5 000 more), Guinea (3 300 more) and Ivory Coast (2 500 more) (Figure 2, Table 1).

Asylum applicants from Venezuela (5 times more) recorded the most substantial relative increase in the EU in the first quarter of 2017 compared with the same quarter of 2016, followed by applicants from Guinea (nearly 170 % more), Ivory Coast (nearly 150 % more) and Turkey (nearly 100 % more), while applicants from Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan and Iran have each dropped by more than -50 %. Significant drops were also recorded for applicants from Serbia, Morocco, Pakistan and Ukraine (more than -30 % less each) (Figure 3, Table 1).

Of the 22 500 Syrians who applied for the first time for asylum in the EU in the first quarter of 2017 more than 40 % were registered in Germany (9 800) and about 24 % in Greece (5 400). Similarly, around 40 % of Afghans (5 000) applied for asylum in Germany while about 70 % of Nigerians (8 000) applied for asylum in Italy. Syrians were the main citizenship of asylum seekers in 13 EU Member States (Table 4, Table 5).

| | Q1 2016 | | | Q2 2016 | | | Q3 2016 | | | Q4 2016 | | | Q1 2017 | | | Q1 2017 | Change in % | | Applicants per million population (²) Q1 2017 | Last 12 months |
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.		between Q4 2016 and Q1 2017	between Q1 2016 and Q1 2017		
EU-28 (¹)	101 305	114 105	106 210	109 725	103 480	124 075	119 060	138 200	123 365	82 675	74 750	63 000	59 000	56 750	62 265	178 010	-19	-45	349	1 116 340
Belgium	2 840	1 515	1 370	1 190	1 185	1 075	1 275	1 665	1 420	1 665	1 525	1 555	1 455	1 415	1 615	4 485	-5	-22	397	17 040
Bulgaria	1 965	1 195	1 040	1 105	1 115	1 425	1 545	2 815	2 075	2 570	1 755	815	420	385	530	1 335	-74	-68	187	16 555
Czech Republic	110	180	130	150	95	105	110	125	130	145	100	105	130	105	120	355	2	-14	34	1 415
Denmark	1 650	910	470	405	370	470	400	295	305	350	285	260	225	215	250	695	-22	-77	122	3 840
Germany	59 070	74 865	67 300	67 865	61 295	80 750	78 665	94 350	78 425	34 270	27 745	20 550	17 940	16 550	20 110	54 600	-34	-73	664	598 515
Estonia	0	5	10	20	35	15	15	10	20	25	25	5	25	20	20	60	15	336	46	225
Ireland	215	195	140	155	140	155	165	195	220	185	225	260	165	225	215	600	-10	10	127	2 300
Greece	1 170	1 470	2 955	3 700	4 280	4 255	4 010	3 530	5 125	6 270	7 625	6 715	6 345	5 640	4 880	16 865	-18	201	1 564	62 380
Spain	1 105	935	890	1 165	1 325	1 510	1 025	1 225	1 320	1 760	1 935	1 565	2 125	2 325	2 415	6 865	30	135	148	19 690
France	6 325	7 085	7 095	6 740	6 610	6 935	6 625	7 690	7 485	7 445	6 680	7 550	7 510	7 550	8 725	23 785	10	16	356	87 550
Croatia	45	60	165	195	105	100	95	230	365	400	265	190	45	65	60	170	-80	-37	41	2 120
Italy	7 495	7 680	7 395	7 980	9 220	9 910	11 060	11 455	12 460	13 495	13 615	11 195	11 715	12 020	13 700	37 435	-2	66	617	137 825
Cyprus	225	240	200	185	180	165	230	220	275	355	405	260	260	360	515	1 130	11	70	1 333	3 405
Latvia	10	15	10	40	5	45	25	30	25	55	60	30	60	45	55	160	9	368	81	475
Lithuania	10	15	25	10	15	45	40	65	40	100	55	15	15	15	30	55	-67	24	19	445
Luxembourg	270	135	110	130	125	175	140	200	205	285	175	205	240	245	235	715	8	38	1 243	2 360
Hungary	435	2 175	4 575	5 810	4 750	4 745	1 865	1 400	1 120	1 200	730	630	535	435	320	1 290	-50	-82	131	23 540
Malta	110	140	180	115	140	185	155	190	175	240	165	125	135	150	175	460	-13	6	1 064	1 955
Netherlands	2 680	1 920	1 330	1 110	1 115	1 260	1 690	1 905	1 995	2 170	2 070	1 700	1 420	1 320	1 405	4 145	-30	-30	244	19 155
Austria (¹)	5 910	5 125	3 355	4 160	3 855	3 240	3 125	3 315	2 640	2 635	2 415	2 470	2 215	2 080	:	4 295	-43	-70	494	32 160
Poland	680	965	1 230	1 315	1 550	1 655	1 185	940	850	680	635	615	555	570	540	1 665	-14	-42	44	11 090
Portugal	60	55	180	75	190	175	95	60	175	165	115	120	225	220	210	655	63	125	63	1 825
Romania	40	90	100	85	50	80	115	140	195	420	280	290	95	135	415	645	-35	182	33	2 295
Slovenia	15	270	205	30	55	35	40	120	115	90	190	140	35	30	130	190	-54	-61	93	1 010
Slovakia	5	5	10	15	15	5	5	20	15	10	20	20	25	20	15	60	31	181	11	185
Finland	1 010	855	360	385	340	350	360	475	510	335	315	310	260	380	470	1 110	16	-50	203	4 490
Sweden	4 155	2 715	2 235	2 035	2 050	2 105	2 105	2 365	2 395	2 425	2 220	1 985	1 975	1 740	1 930	5 645	-15	-38	573	25 330
United Kingdom	3 705	3 295	3 150	3 550	3 255	3 110	2 905	3 160	3 280	2 935	3 120	3 325	2 840	2 510	3 180	8 530	-9	-16	130	37 165
Iceland	50	40	45	45	55	40	40	70	175	200	255	115	65	70	85	220	-61	67	662	1 210
Liechtenstein	0	5	5	10	10	5	10	0	10	10	5	10	25	25	15	65	175	500	1 754	135
Norway	415	255	300	245	215	265	265	305	280	280	235	420	480	320	410	1 210	29	25	232	3 725
Switzerland	3 620	2 700	1 990	1 740	1 880	2 325	2 470	2 435	2 175	2 090	1 960	1 760	1 585	1 500	1 625	4 715	-19	-43	566	23 545

(¹) Data for Austria are not available for March 2017; EU aggregates and other indicators are based on available data
(²) Relative to population as of 1st of January 2016
: data are not available

Table 3: Asylum applicants (including first time asylum applicants), Q1 2016 – Q1 2017 - Source: Eurostat (migrasyappctzm)

EU-28	#	(%)
Syria	22 515	14
Afghanistan	12 475	8
Nigeria	11 470	7
Iraq	10 435	6
Pakistan	7 895	5
Other	99 765	61

BELGIUM	#	(%)
Syria	705	20
Afghanistan	235	7
Guinea	210	6
Eritrea	190	6
Palestine	185	5
Other	1 920	56

BULGARIA	#	(%)
Afghanistan	605	49
Syria	285	23
Iraq	110	9
Pakistan	95	8
Sri Lanka	40	3
Other	100	8

CZECH REPUBLIC	#	(%)
Ukraine	105	36
Azerbaijan	20	7
Syria	20	7
Armenia	20	7
Cuba	20	7
Other	110	37

DENMARK	#	(%)
Syria	160	24
Morocco	80	12
Afghanistan	40	6
Stateless	40	6
Eritrea	30	4
Other	325	48

GERMANY	#	(%)
Syria	9 790	20
Afghanistan	5 025	10
Iraq	4 325	9
Eritrea	3 070	6
Iran	2 375	5
Other	24 485	50

ESTONIA	#	(%)
Syria	35	64
Sri Lanka	5	9
Georgia	5	9
Other	10	18

IRELAND	#	(%)
Syria	135	23
Albania	75	13
Nigeria	55	9
Zimbabwe	55	9
South Africa	30	5
Other	250	42

GREECE	#	(%)
Syria	5 370	32
Afghanistan	2 375	14
Iraq	2 175	13
Pakistan	2 065	12
Palestine	635	4
Other	3 915	24

SPAIN	#	(%)
Venezuela	2 650	39
Ukraine	760	11
Syria	565	8
Colombia	430	6
El Salvador	275	4
Other	2 030	30

FRANCE	#	(%)
Albania	2 960	13
Haiti	1 480	7
Afghanistan	1 475	7
Sudan	1 385	6
CD	1 040	5
Other	13 615	62

CROATIA	#	(%)
Syria	50	33
Afghanistan	30	20
Turkey	10	7
Iran	10	7
Pakistan	10	7
Other	40	27

ITALY	#	(%)
Nigeria	8 005	22
Gambia	3 030	8
Bangladesh	2 935	8
Senegal	2 775	8
Pakistan	2 695	7
Other	17 460	47

CYPRUS	#	(%)
Syria	480	43
India	100	9
Vietnam	80	7
Bangladesh	70	6
Pakistan	45	4
Other	335	30

LATVIA	#	(%)
Syria	90	58
Eritrea	20	13
Georgia	5	3
Tajikistan	5	3
Bangladesh	5	3
Other	30	19

LITHUANIA	#	(%)
Syria	40	42
Turkey	10	11
Eritrea	10	11
Armenia	5	5
Russia	5	5
Other	25	26

LUXEMBOURG	#	(%)
Syria	140	21
Serbia	90	13
Morocco	70	10
Algeria	50	7
Albania	40	6
Other	285	42

HUNGARY	#	(%)
Afghanistan	480	44
Iraq	245	23
Syria	190	18
Pakistan	65	6
Algeria	25	2
Other	75	7

MALTA	#	(%)
Libya	105	27
Syria	95	25
Somalia	55	14
Eritrea	40	10
Ukraine	15	4
Other	75	19

NETHERLANDS	#	(%)
Syria	465	13
Eritrea	365	10
Algeria	300	8
Morocco	275	8
Georgia	230	6
Other	1 980	55

AUSTRIA	#	(%)
Syria	1 170	30
Afghanistan	740	19
Pakistan	290	7
Nigeria	255	7
Iraq	205	5
Other	1 215	31

POLAND	#	(%)
Russia	680	70
Ukraine	100	10
Tajikistan	40	4
Armenia	30	3
Syria	20	2
Other	100	10

PORTUGAL	#	(%)
Angola	40	16
Ukraine	30	12
CD	30	12
Congo	20	8
Iraq	15	6
Other	115	46

ROMANIA	#	(%)
Iraq	230	36
Syria	185	29
Pakistan	75	12
Afghanistan	40	6
Iran	25	4
Other	80	13

SLOVENIA	#	(%)
Afghanistan	40	22
Syria	35	19
Algeria	20	11
Pakistan	20	11
Turkey	15	8
Other	55	30

SLOVAKIA	#	(%)
Afghanistan	15	25
Iraq	10	17
Syria	5	8
Libya	5	8
Iran	5	8
Other	20	33

FINLAND	#	(%)
Syria	190	19
Iraq	170	17
Eritrea	150	15
Afghanistan	90	9
Russia	65	6
Other	350	34

SWEDEN	#	(%)
Syria	595	14
Afghanistan	400	9
Iraq	375	9
Turkey	285	7
Stateless	215	5
Other	2 510	57

UNITED KINGDOM	#	(%)
Iraq	875	10
Pakistan	845	10
Iran	775	9
India	585	7
Bangladesh	560	7
Other	4 780	57

ICELAND	#	(%)
Albania	85	30
MK	75	27
Iraq	25	9
Georgia	15	5
Algeria	10	4
Other	70	25

LIECHTENSTEIN	#	(%)
Albania	5	20
Ukraine	5	20
Serbia	5	20
Other	10	40

NORWAY	#	(%)
Syria	165	20
Eritrea	95	12
Afghanistan	85	11
Stateless	50	6
Iran	40	5
Other	370	46

SWITZERLAND	#	(%)
Eritrea	2 105	31
Afghanistan	465	7
Ethiopia	435	6
Syria	375	6
Somalia	375	6
Other	3 000	44

Citizenships selected here are those with the highest number of asylum applicants registered during Q3 2015 in the EU-28;

\# Absolute number of asylum applications

% Percentage shares are calculated on rounded figures and may not add up to totals

CD – Congo, the Democratic Republic of the; Kosovo – see methodological notes; MK – The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

Table 4 : Five main citizenships of first time asylum applicants, 1st quarter 2017 - Source: Eurostat (migrasyappctzm)

NON-EU	#	(%)
Germany	49 080	30
Italy	36 905	22
France	21 955	13
Greece	16 540	10
United Kingdom	8 420	5
Other	31 655	19

SYRIA - (SY)	#	(%)
Germany	9 790	43
Greece	5 370	24
Austria	1 170	5
France	1 015	5
Belgium	705	3
Other	4 460	20

IRAQ - (IQ)	#	(%)
Germany	4 325	41
Greece	2 175	21
United Kingdom	875	8
France	595	6
Italy	585	6
Other	1 875	18

ALBANIA - (AL)	#	(%)
France	2 960	54
Germany	1 035	19
United Kingdom	425	8
Greece	325	6
Belgium	170	3
Other	520	10

IRAN	#	(%)
Germany	2 375	54
United Kingdom	775	17
Greece	430	10
Sweden	165	4
Austria	155	3
Other	535	12

SENEGAL - (SN)	#	(%)
Italy	2 775	86
France	235	7
Germany	95	3
Belgium	40	1
Netherlands	15	0
Other	65	2

TURKEY - (TR)	#	(%)
Germany	1 550	53
France	300	10
Sweden	285	10
Greece	175	6
Belgium	130	4
Other	510	17

ALGERIA - (DZ)	#	(%)
France	710	29
Germany	605	25
Greece	305	13
Netherlands	300	12
Spain	135	6
Other	380	16

ARMENIA - (AM)	#	(%)
Germany	1 220	60
France	550	27
Netherlands	35	2
Sweden	35	2
Italy	35	2
Other	145	7

GEORGIA - (GE)	#	(%)
Germany	570	31
France	260	14
Netherlands	230	12
Sweden	205	11
Greece	205	11
Other	395	21

SERBIA - (RS)	#	(%)
Germany	770	56
France	270	19
Luxembourg	90	6
Sweden	65	5
Italy	55	4
Other	135	10

AFGHANISTAN - (AF)	#	(%)
Germany	5 025	40
Greece	2 375	19
France	1 475	12
Austria	740	6
Bulgaria	605	5
Other	2 255	18

PAKISTAN - (PK)	#	(%)
Italy	2 695	34
Greece	2 065	26
Germany	1 075	14
United Kingdom	845	11
France	405	5
Other	810	10

GUINEA - (GN)	#	(%)
Italy	2 610	50
Germany	1 205	23
France	980	19
Belgium	210	4
Spain	110	2
Other	130	2

GAMBIA - (GM)	#	(%)
Italy	3 030	72
Germany	830	20
Spain	120	3
Netherlands	40	1
France	40	1
Other	135	3

SOMALIA - (SO)	#	(%)
Germany	1 730	55
Italy	695	22
France	155	5
Sweden	140	4
United Kingdom	80	3
Other	360	11

VENEZUELA - (VE)	#	(%)
Spain	2 650	91
Italy	90	3
France	60	2
Germany	30	1
Netherlands	15	1
Other	60	2

UKRAINE - (UA)	#	(%)
Spain	760	33
Italy	665	28
Germany	240	10
Sweden	120	5
France	115	5
Other	435	19

MOROCCO - (MA)	#	(%)
Germany	540	28
Italy	405	21
Netherlands	275	14
Greece	130	7
France	120	6
Other	450	23

GHANA - (GH)	#	(%)
Italy	1 295	75
Germany	235	14
United Kingdom	85	5
Greece	20	1
Spain	15	1
Other	70	4

CAMEROON - (CM)	#	(%)
Italy	495	37
Germany	285	22
France	135	10
Greece	100	8
Belgium	90	7
Other	220	17

NIGERIA - (NG)	#	(%)
Italy	8 005	70
Germany	1 805	16
France	465	4
United Kingdom	455	4
Austria	255	2
Other	490	4

ERITREA - (ER)	#	(%)
Germany	3 070	52
Italy	1 165	20
Netherlands	365	6
France	255	4
United Kingdom	215	4
Other	880	15

BANGLADESH - (BD)	#	(%)
Italy	2 935	62
France	635	13
United Kingdom	560	12
Greece	280	6
Germany	110	2
Other	215	5

IVORY COAST - (CI)	#	(%)
Italy	2 670	65
France	785	19
Germany	465	11
Spain	80	2
Belgium	25	1
Other	75	2

RUSSIA - (RU)	#	(%)
Germany	1 230	40
Poland	680	22
France	520	17
Austria	205	7
Belgium	105	3
Other	365	12

MALI - (ML)	#	(%)
Italy	2 215	76
France	350	12
Germany	180	6
Spain	75	3
Greece	35	1
Other	45	2

SUDAN - (SD)	#	(%)
France	1 385	64
United Kingdom	325	15
Germany	210	10
Italy	90	4
Netherlands	50	2
Other	105	5

CD - (CD)	#	(%)
France	1 040	50
Greece	440	21
Belgium	135	7
Germany	100	5
Spain	45	2
Other	300	15

HAITI - (HT)	#	(%)
France	1 480	99
Greece	20	1
Other	0	0

INDIA - (IN)	#	(%)
United Kingdom	585	44
Germany	350	27
Italy	110	8
Cyprus	100	8
France	45	3
Other	125	10

Citizenships selected here are those with the highest number of asylum applicants registered during Q1 2017 in the EU-28
Absolute number of asylum applications
% Percentage shares are calculated on rounded figures and may not add up to totals
CD – Congo, the Democratic Republic of the

Table 5 : Thirty main citizenships of first time asylum applicants by destination country in the EU 28, 1st quarter 2017 - Source: Eurostat (migrasyappctzm)

Main destination countries

The highest number of first time asylum applicants in the first quarter of 2017 was registered in Germany (with over 49 000 first time applicants, or 30 % of all applicants in the EU Member States), followed by Italy (36 900, or 22%), France (22 000, or 13%), Greece (16 500, or 10%), and the United Kingdom (8 400, or 5%). These 5 Member States together account for 80 % of all first time applicants in the EU-28 (Table 2).

Trends in number of asylum applicants vary from country to country in the first quarter of 2017. Italy (with 14 600 more applicants) was the country with the largest absolute increase in the number of first time applicants, followed by Greece (11 400 more). In contrast, in Germany the number of asylum seekers has dropped significantly by more than 146 200 less applicants, in the first quarter of 2017 compared with the same quarter of 2016 (Figures 4 and 5).

Greece has recorded the forth largest relative increase of first time asylum seekers, nearly 2 times more (or 11 400 applicants more) in the first quarter of 2017 compared with the same quarter of 2016. Latvia, despite the small number of first time applicants (180), has recorded the largest relative increase of 4 times more (or 125 more) in the first quarter of 2017 compared with the same quarter of 2016.
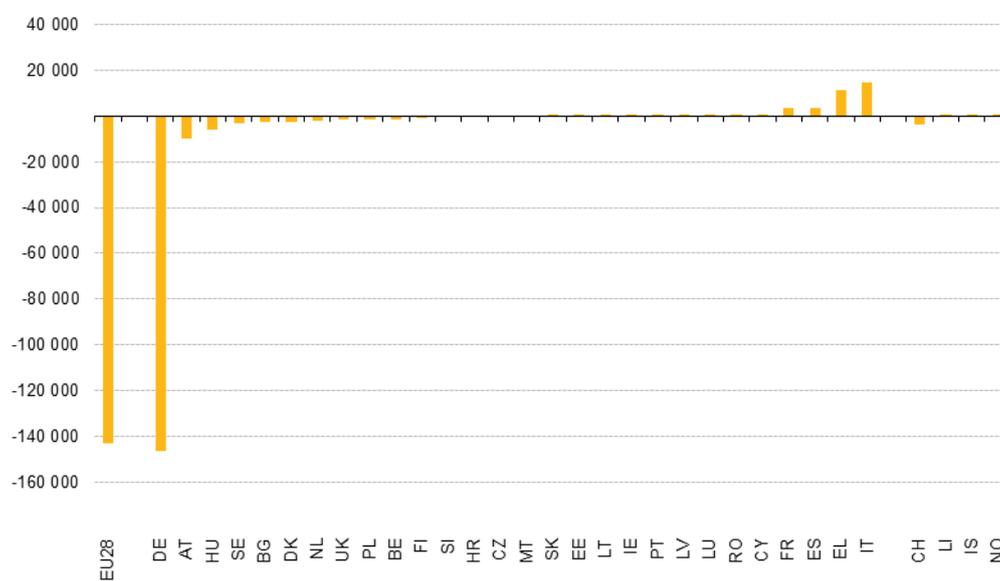
Data for Austria are not available for March 2017

Figure 4: First time asylum applicants, absolute change between Q1 2016 and Q1 2017 - Source: Eurostat (migrasyappctzm), see country codes
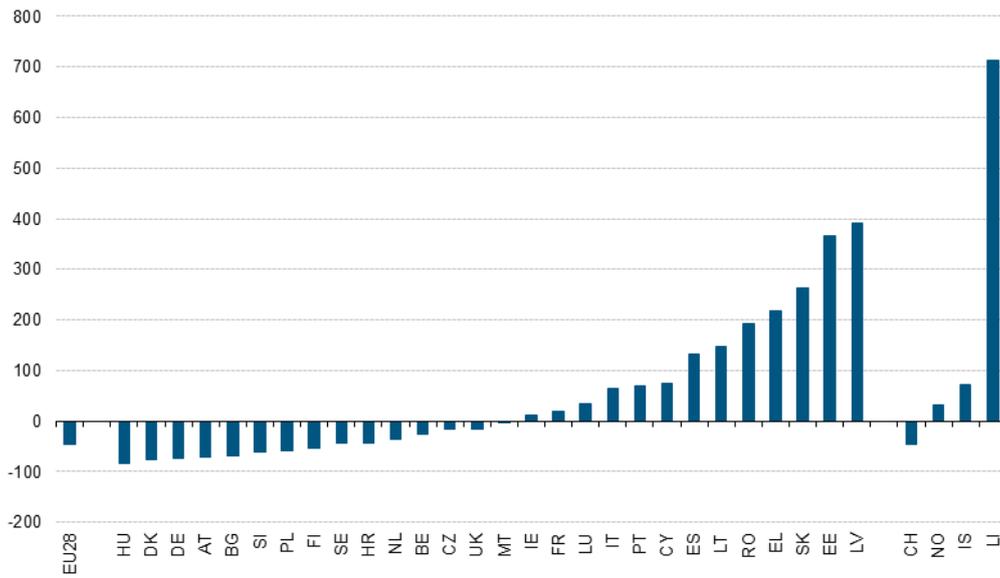
Data for Austria are not available for March 2017

Figure 5: First time asylumapplicants, relative change between Q1 2016 and Q1 2017 - Source: Eurostat (migrasyappctzm), see country codes

Compared with the population of each Member State, the highest rate of registered first time applicants during the first quarter 2017 was recorded in Greece (1 534 first time applicants per million inhabitants), followed by Cyprus (1 308), Luxembourg (1 175) and Malta (884). In contrast, the lowest rates were observed in Slovakia (11 applicants per million inhabitants), Portugal (24), Poland (25) and the Czech Republic (28). In the first quarter 2017, there were in total 322 first time asylum applicants per million inhabitants in the EU as a whole (Table 2).

Decisions on asylum applications

284 750 first instance decisions[2]were made by the national authorities of EU Member States during the first quarter of 2017. Among them, 50 % were positive (i.e. granting a type of protection status) (Table 6).

Germany issued by far the most total first instance decisions[3]during the first quarter of 2017 (192 400 decisions), followed by France (23 200), Italy (18 900), Sweden (11 700), the United Kingdom (7 600) and Belgium (6 200) (Figure 6, Table 6).

Most first instance decisions in the EU-28 were issued to Afghans (56 700), followed by Syrians (51 000) and Iraqis (36 400) (Table 7).

---

[2]Data on first instance decisions relate to decisions on applications granted to all asylum applicants i.e. First time asylum applicants and Repeat asylum applicants.

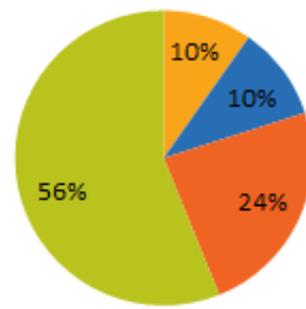[3]Total decisions equal to positive decisions plus negative decisions.
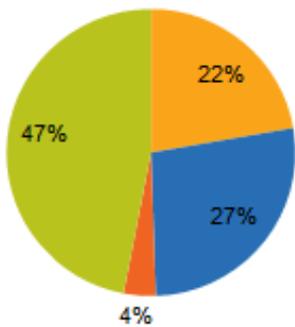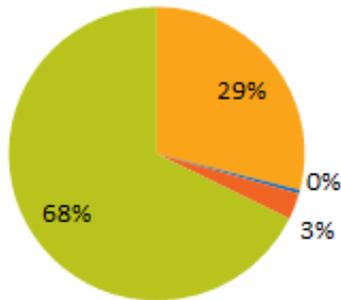
Germany (192 360 decisions)
- 25%
- 22%
- 7%
- 46%
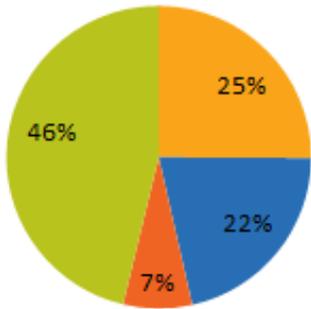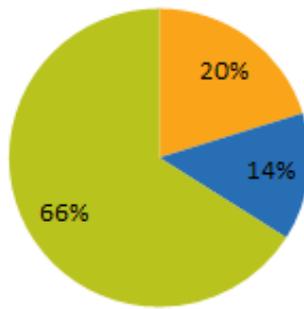
France (23 245 decisions)
- 20%
- 14%
- 66%

Italy (18 910 decisions)
- 10%
- 10%
- 24%
- 56%

Sweden (11 725 decisions)
- 22%
- 27%
- 4%
- 47%

UK (7 643 decisions)
- 29%
- 0%
- 3%
- 68%

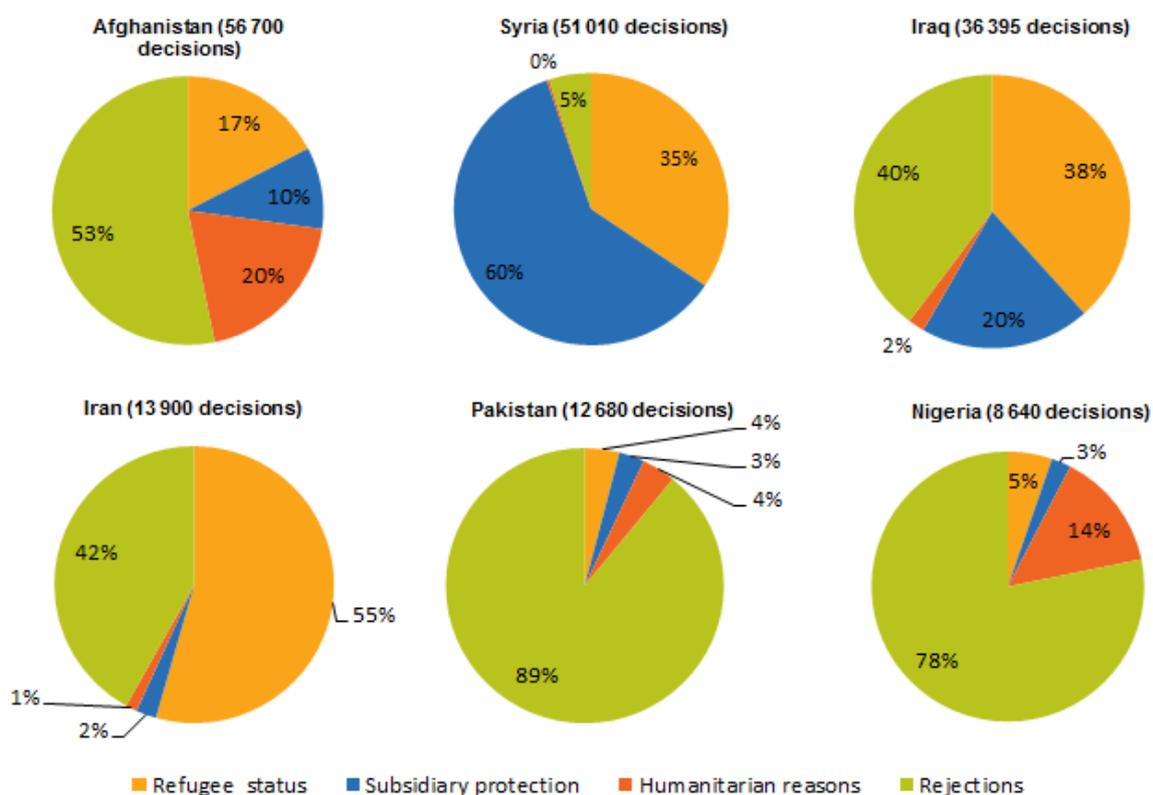**Belgium (6 185 decisions)**
- 38%
- 13%
- 49%
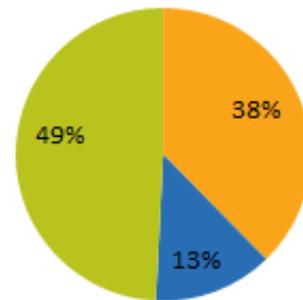
■ Refugee status ■ Subsidiary protection ■ Humanitarian reasons ■ Rejections

Member States selected here are those reporting the highest number of first instance decisions issued during Q1 2017
Humanitarian reasons not applicable for France and Belgium

Figure 6 : First instance decisions by outcome, selected Member States, 1st quarter 2017 - Source: Eurostat (migrasydcfstq)

Afghanistan (56 700 decisions) — 17%, 10%, 20%, 53%

Syria (51 010 decisions) — 0%, 5%, 35%, 60%

Iraq (36 395 decisions) — 40%, 38%, 20%, 2%

Iran (13 900 decisions) — 42%, 1%, 2%, 55%

Pakistan (12 680 decisions) — 4%, 3%, 4%, 89%

Nigeria (8 640 decisions) — 3%, 5%, 14%, 78%

■ Refugee status ■ Subsidiary protection ■ Humanitarian reasons ■ Rejections

Citizenships selected here are those for which the highest number of first instance decisions was issued during Q1 2017
Data for Austria are not available for March 2017; EU aggregates and other indicators are based on available data

Figure 7 : First instance decisions in the EU-28 by outcome, selected citizenships, 1st quarter 2017 - Source: Eurostat (migrasydcfstq)

Syrians received the highest number of decisions granting protection status in the EU Member States, including protection based on national legislations (48 500 positive first instance decisions, or 95% rate of recognition[4]), followed by Afghans (26 500, or 47 %) and Iraqis (21 900, or 60 %).

Of the 7 500 first instance decisions issued to Albanians only 390 were positive (or 5% rate of recognition), while of the 2 900 issued to Serbians and 2 700 issued to Kosovans only 95 and 260 were positive respectively (or 3 % and 10 % respectively) (Figure 7, Table 7).

---

[4]Rate of recognition is the share of (first instance) positive decisions in the total number of decisions at first instance. In this report, the exact number of decisions has been used instead of the presented rounded numbers. Rates of recognition for humanitarian status are not shown, but are part of the 'Total recognition rate'.

	Total decisions	Of which					Rate of recognition, %	
		Positive	of which			Rejected	Total	of which
			Refugee status	Subsidiary protection	Humanitarian reasons			Refugee and subsidiary protection status
EU-28 (¹)	284 755	141 375	66 915	54 890	19 570	143 385	50	43
Belgium	6 185	3 140	2 330	810	-	3 040	51	51
Bulgaria	1 360	615	295	325	-	745	45	45
Czech Republic	300	55	15	40	0	250	18	17
Denmark	2 480	930	580	325	25	1 555	37	36
Germany	192 360	103 430	48 255	41 120	14 055	88 930	54	46
Estonia	55	40	35	5	0	15	70	70
Ireland	115	40	35	5	0	75	35	35
Greece	4 430	1 665	1 580	85	0	2 765	38	38
Spain	3 560	1 570	150	1 425	0	1 990	44	44
France	23 245	7 900	4 690	3 210	-	15 345	34	34
Croatia	135	20	15	5	0	115	16	16
Italy	18 910	8 300	1 840	1 950	4 510	10 615	44	20
Cyprus	475	265	20	250	0	210	56	56
Latvia	130	95	15	80	-	35	74	74
Lithuania	125	100	100	0	0	25	80	80
Luxembourg	380	190	185	5	-	185	51	51
Hungary	2 210	80	20	55	5	2 130	4	3
Malta	395	290	60	230	5	105	74	73
Netherlands	4 475	2 380	880	1 340	160	2 095	53	50
Austria	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Poland	835	115	35	75	5	720	14	13
Portugal	155	60	10	50	-	95	39	39
Romania	430	325	275	50	0	110	75	75
Slovenia	75	40	35	10	-	35	55	55
Slovakia	40	25	0	10	15	15	67	31
Finland	2 530	1 010	645	210	155	1 520	40	34
Sweden	11 725	6 220	2 610	3 190	420	5 505	53	49
United Kingdom	7 645	2 465	2 215	35	220	5 175	32	29
Iceland	95	25	15	5	0	70	26	24
Liechtenstein	10	10	10	0	0	0	100	100
Norway	3 055	2 075	1 615	70	390	980	68	55
Switzerland	5 930	3 930	1 695	275	1 960	2 000	66	33

(¹) Data for Austria are not available for Q1 2017; EU aggregates and other indicators are based on available data

: data are not available

- Not applicable

Rate of recognition is the share of (first instance) positive decisions in the total number of decisions at first instance. In this calculation, the exact number of decisions has been used instead of the rounded numbers presented in this table. Rates of recognition for humanitarian status are not shown in this table, but are part of the total recognition rate.

Table 6 : First instance decisions by outcome and recognition rates, 1st quarter 2017 - Source: Eurostat (migrasydcfstq)

| | | Of which | | | | | Rate of recognition, % | |
| | | Positive | of which | | | Rejected | Total | of which |
	Total decisions		Refugee status	Subsidiary protection	Humanitarian reasons			Refugee and subsidiary protection status
Non-EU	284 755	141 375	66 915	54 890	19 570	143 385	50	43
Afghanistan - (AF)	56 705	26 545	9 845	5 580	11 120	30 155	47	27
Syria - (SY)	51 010	48 485	17 590	30 740	155	2 525	95	95
Iraq - (IQ)	36 395	21 920	13 960	7 260	700	14 475	60	58
Iran - (IR)	13 905	8 080	7 565	325	185	5 825	58	57
Pakistan - (PK)	12 680	1 380	510	375	500	11 295	11	7
Nigeria - (NG)	8 645	1 885	455	200	1 225	6 760	22	8
Eritrea - (ER)	8 130	7 435	4 510	2 720	200	700	91	89
Albania - (AL)	7 500	390	80	235	70	7 115	5	4
Somalia - (SO)	7 375	5 485	2 375	2 175	935	1 890	74	62
Russia - (RU)	5 605	850	565	200	85	4 760	15	14
Ukraine - (UA)	3 625	780	130	330	320	2 845	22	13
Bangladesh - (BD)	3 435	615	225	45	345	2 820	18	8
Serbia - (RS)	2 910	95	60	5	30	2 810	3	2
Armenia - (AM)	2 905	280	80	85	120	2 625	10	6
Gambia - (GM)	2 865	730	120	45	565	2 135	25	6
Guinea - (GN)	2 845	835	450	85	295	2 010	29	19
Sudan - (SD)	2 790	1 695	1 400	270	20	1 090	61	60
Kosovo - (XK)	2 685	260	95	120	45	2 430	10	8
Stateless - (STLS)	2 420	1 870	1 155	680	35	550	77	76
Ethiopia - (ET)	2 415	785	570	80	135	1 625	33	27
MK - (MK)	2 230	25	5	5	15	2 205	1	1
Ghana - (GH)	2 205	340	30	10	300	1 865	15	2
Georgia - (GE)	2 085	110	35	30	40	1 975	5	3
Algeria - (DZ)	2 080	100	55	30	15	1 980	5	4
Mali - (ML)	1 995	640	120	170	350	1 355	32	15
India - (IN)	1 985	60	20	10	30	1 925	3	1
Senegal - (SN)	1 945	405	65	20	320	1 540	21	4
Lebanon - (LB)	1 735	235	60	120	55	1 500	13	10
Ivory Coast - (CI)	1 695	515	140	50	325	1 180	30	11
Azerbaijan - (AZ)	1 690	350	215	85	45	1 340	21	18
Other non-EU	28 270	8 205	4 425	2 805	975	20 065	29	26

Citizenships selected here are those for which the highest number of first instance decisions was issued during Q1 2017.
Rate of recognition is the share of (first instance) positive decisions in the total number of decisions at first instance. In this calculation, the exact number of decisions has been used instead of the rounded numbers presented in this table. Rates of recognition for humanitarian status are not shown in this table, but are part of the total recognition rate.

Table 7 : First instance decisions by outcome and recognition rates, 30 main citizenships of asylum applicants granted decisions in the EU-28, 1st quarter 2017 - Source: Eurostat (migrasydcfstq)

First instance decisions							
Refugee status		Subsidiary protection		Humanitarian reasons		Rejections	
GERMANY (192 360 decisions)							
Syria	12 965	Syria	24 905	Afghanistan	10 640	Afghanistan	25 050
Iraq	11 730	Iraq	6 190	Somalia	890	Iraq	9 865
Afghanistan	8 190	Afghanistan	2 950	Iraq	535	Pakistan	7 150
Other	15 370	Other	7 080	Other	1 985	Other	46 870
ITALY (18 910 decisions)							
Syria	655	Afghanistan	460	Nigeria	805	Nigeria	2 930
Somalia	205	Somalia	335	Gambia	545	Pakistan	1 465
Nigeria	150	Pakistan	325	Pakistan	425	Gambia	895
Other	830	Other	830	Other	2 735	Other	5 320
UNITED KINGDOM (7 645 decisions)							
Eritrea	505	Libya	15	Afghanistan	55	Pakistan	615
Iran	400	Iraq	5	Iraq	35	Iraq	565
Sudan	340	Afghanistan	5	Albania	30	Iran	535
Other	965	Other	10	Other	100	Other	3 465
OTHER (113 620 decisions)							
Syria	2 385	Syria	2 680	Afghanistan	125	Afghanistan	27 545
Iraq	645	Eritrea	430	Iran	20	Iraq	12 030
Iran	625	Afghanistan	355	Nigeria	15	Pakistan	8 675
Other	1 325	Other	1 110	Other	205	Other	55 445

First instance decisions							
Refugee status		Subsidiary protection		Humanitarian reasons		Rejections	
FRANCE (23 245 decisions)							
Sudan	890	Afghanistan	960	-		Albania	2 910
Iraq	490	Syria	835	-		Haiti	1 585
Syria	420	Albania	220	-		Bangladesh	825
Other	2 890	Other	1 195	-		Other	10 025
SWEDEN (11 725 decisions)							
Afghanistan	625	Syria	2 060	Afghanistan	280	Afghanistan	1 515
Iraq	510	Afghanistan	465	Iraq	30	Iraq	1 170
Stateless	410	Iraq	360	Palestine	25	Somalia	235
Other	1 060	Other	310	Other	85	Other	2 585
BELGIUM (6 185 decisions)							
Syria	605	Afghanistan	390	-		Iraq	615
Iraq	460	Syria	255	-		Afghanistan	400
Afghanistan	275	Iraq	70	-		Albania	305
Other	995	Other	95	-		Other	1 725
EU-28 (284 755 decisions)							
Syria	17 590	Syria	30 740	Afghanistan	11 120	Afghanistan	30 155
Iraq	13 960	Iraq	7 260	Nigeria	1 225	Iraq	14 475
Afghanistan	9 845	Afghanistan	5 580	Somalia	935	Pakistan	11 295
Other	25 515	Other	11 310	Other	6 285	Other	87 455

Member States selected here are those reporting the highest number of first instance decisions issued during Q1 2017
Humanitarian reasons are not applicable for FR
CD – Congo, the Democratic Republic of the

Table 8 : First instance decisions by citizenship and outcome, selected Member States, 1st quarter 2017 - Source: Eurostat (migrasydcfstq)

First instance decisions							
Refugee status		Subsidiary protection		Humanitarian reasons		Rejections	
AFGHANISTAN - AF (56 705 decisions)							
Germany	8 190	Germany	2 950	Germany	10 640	Germany	25 050
Sweden	625	France	960	Sweden	280	Sweden	1 515
Belgium	275	Sweden	465	Finland	55	Hungary	940
Other	755	Other	1 205	Other	145	Other	2 655
IRAQ - IQ (36 395 decisions)							
Germany	11 730	Germany	6 190	Germany	535	Germany	9 865
Sweden	510	Sweden	360	Finland	50	Sweden	1 170
France	490	Italy	210	UK	35	Finland	910
Other	1 230	Other	505	Other	85	Other	2 530
PAKISTAN - PK (12 680 decisions)							
Germany	195	Italy	325	Italy	425	Germany	7 150
Italy	120	Germany	30	Germany	60	Italy	1 465
UK	100	France	15	UK	10	Greece	1 190
Other	95	Other	50	Other	5	Other	1 490
OTHER (105 420 decisions)							
Germany	8 675	Germany	6 720	Italy	3 230	Germany	38 555
France	3 440	France	1 240	Germany	2 145	France	14 115
UK	1 230	Italy	835	UK	100	Italy	6 105
Other	3 640	Other	1 620	Other	205	Other	13 565

First instance decisions							
Refugee status		Subsidiary protection		Humanitarian reasons		Rejections	
SYRIA - SY (51 010 decisions)							
Germany	12 965	Germany	24 905	Germany	135	Germany	1 080
Greece	1 140	Sweden	2 060	Sweden	10	Hungary	545
Italy	655	Spain	1 220	Netherlands	5	Greece	270
Other	2 835	Other	2 555	Other	5	Other	635
IRAN - IR (13 905 decisions)							
Germany	6 275	Germany	280	Germany	140	Germany	4 310
UK	400	Netherlands	15	Italy	20	UK	535
Denmark	325	Denmark	10	Netherlands	20	Denmark	355
Other	565	Other	15	Other	10	Other	625
NIGERIA - NG (8 645 decisions)							
Germany	230	Italy	110	Italy	805	Italy	2 930
Italy	150	Germany	45	Germany	400	Germany	2 925
France	35	France	40	Finland	10	France	425
Other	40	Other	45	Other	10	Other	485
NON-EU (284 755 decisions)							
Germany	48 255	Germany	41 120	Germany	14 055	Germany	88 930
France	4 690	France	3 210	Italy	4 510	France	15 345
Sweden	2 610	Sweden	3 190	Sweden	420	Italy	10 615
Other	11 355	Other	7 370	Other	585	Other	28 495

Citizenships selected here are those for which the highest number of first instance decisions was issued during Q1 2017
Data for Austria are not available for March 2017

Table 9 : First instance decisions by destination country and outcome in the EU-28, selected citizenships of asylum applicants, 1st quarter 2017 - Source: Eurostat (migrasydcfstq)

Data sources and availability

The data used for this publication are provided to Eurostat by the Ministries of Interior, Justice or immigration agencies of the Member States and EFTA countries . Data on asylum applications are collected monthly while data on first instance decisions are collected quarterly. Data are based entirely on relevant administrative sources.

Apart from statistics on first asylum applicants, these data are supplied in accordance with the provisions of Article 4 of the Regulation (EC) No 862/2007 of 11 July 2007 on Community statistics on migration and international protection. All data presented in this publication are rounded to the nearest 5, and are provisional (except as otherwise stated) and may be a subject to change.

- Country abbreviations: Belgium (BE), Bulgaria (BG), Czech Republic (CZ), Denmark (DK), Germany (DE), Estonia (EE), Ireland (IE), Greece (EL), Spain (ES), France (FR), Croatia (HR), Italy (IT), Cyprus (CY), Latvia (LV), Lithuania (LT), Luxembourg (LU), Hungary (HU), Malta (MT), the Netherlands (NL), Austria (AT), Poland (PL), Portugal (PT), Romania (RO), Slovenia (SI), Slovakia (SK), Finland (FI), Sweden (SE), the United Kingdom (UK), Iceland (IS), Lichtenstein (LI), Norway (NO) and Switzerland (CH).

Context

The Directorate-General Migration and Home Affairs (DG HOME) is responsible for developing EU policies on asylum.

The 1951 Geneva Convention relating to the status of refugees (as amended by the 1967 New York Protocol) has, for over 60 years, defined who is a refugee, and laid down a common approach towards refugees that has been one of the cornerstones for the development of a common asylum system within the EU.

Since 1999, the EU has worked towards creating a common European asylum regime in accordance with the Geneva Convention and other applicable international instruments. A number of directives in this area have been developed. The four main legal instruments on asylum — all recently recast — are:

- the Qualification Directive 2011/95/EU on standards for the qualification of non-EU nationals and stateless persons as beneficiaries of international protection, for a uniform status for refugees or for persons eligible for subsidiary protection;

- the Asylum Procedures Directive 2013/32/EU on common procedures for granting and withdrawing international protection;

- the Reception Conditions Directive 2013/33/EU laying down standards for the reception of applicants for international protection;
- the Dublin Regulation (EU) No 604/2013 establishing the criteria and mechanisms for determining the Member State responsible for examining an application for international protection lodged in one of the Member States by a third-country national or stateless person.

The Hague programme was adopted by heads of state and government on 5 November 2004. It puts forward the idea of a common European asylum system (CEAS), in particular, it raises the challenge to establish common procedures and uniform status for those granted asylum or subsidiary protection. The European Commission's policy plan on asylum (COM(2008) 360 final) was presented in June 2008 which included three pillars to underpin the development of the CEAS:

- bringing more harmonisation to standards of protection by further aligning the EU Member States' asylum legislation;
- effective and well-supported practical cooperation;
- increased solidarity and sense of responsibility among EU Member States, and between the EU and non-member countries.

With this in mind, in 2009 the European Commission made a proposal to establish a European Asylum Support Office (EASO). The EASO supports EU Member States in their efforts to implement a more consistent and fair asylum policy. It also provides technical and operational support to EU Member States facing particular pressures (in other words, those EU Member States receiving large numbers of asylum applicants). The EASO became fully operational in June 2011 and has worked to increase its capacity, activity and influence, working with the European Commission and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

In May 2010, the European Commission presented an action plan for unaccompanied minors (COM(2010) 213 final), who are regarded as the most exposed and vulnerable victims of migration. This plan aims to set-up a coordinated approach and commits all EU Member States to grant high standards of reception, protection and integration for unaccompanied minors. As a complement to this action plan, the European Migration Network has produced a comprehensive EU study on reception policies, as well as return and integration arrangements for unaccompanied minors .

In December 2011, the European Commission adopted a Communication on ' Enhanced intra-EU solidarity in the field of asylum ' (COM(2011) 835 final). This provided proposals to reinforce practical, technical and financial cooperation, moving towards a better allocation of responsibilities and improved governance of the asylum system in the EU, namely through:

- introducing an evaluation and early warning mechanism to detect and address emerging problems;
- making the supporting role of the EASO more effective;
- increasing the amount of funds available and making these more flexible, taking into account significant fluctuations in the number of asylum seekers;
- developing and encouraging the relocation of beneficiaries of international protection between different EU Member States.

See also

- Asylum statistics
- Dublin statistics on countries responsible for asylum application
- Statistics on enforcement of immigration legislation
- Residence permits statistics

Further Eurostat information

Publications

News releases

- 1.2 million first time asylum seekers registered in 2016

- Number of first time asylum seekers slightly up to almost 306 000 in the second quarter of 2016

- Number of first time asylum seekers down to fewer than 290 000 in the first quarter of 2016

- Record number of over 1.2 million first time asylum seekers registered in 2015

- More than 410 000 first time asylum seekers registered in the third quarter of 2015

- Over 210 000 first time asylum seekers in the EU in the second quarter of 2015

- 185 000 first time asylum seekers in the EU in the first quarter of 2015

Data in focus

- Asylum applicants and first instance decisions on asylum applications: 2014

- Asylum applicants and first instance decisions on asylum applications: third quarter 2014

- Asylum applicants and first instance decisions on asylum applications: second quarter 2014

- Asylum applicants and first instance decisions on asylum applications: first quarter 2014

- Asylum applicants and first instance decisions on asylum applications: 2013

- Asylum applicants and first instance decisions on asylum applications: third quarter 2013

- Asylum applicants and first instance decisions on asylum applications: second quarter 2013

- Asylum applicants and first instance decisions on asylum applications: first quarter 2013

- Asylum applicants and first instance decisions on asylum applications: 2012

- Asylum applicants and first instance decisions on asylum applications: third quarter 2012

- Asylum applicants and first instance decisions on asylum applications: second quarter 2012

- Asylum applicants and first instance decisions on asylum applications: first quarter 2012

Main tables

- Asylum and managed migration , see:

  Asylum and new asylum applicants - monthly data

  >   Persons subject of asylum applications pending at the end of the month - monthly data
  >   Asylum and new asylum applicants - annual aggregated data
  >   First instance decisions on applications by type of decision - annual aggregated data
  >   Final decisions on applications - annual data
  >   Asylum applicants considered to be unaccompanied minors - annual data
  >   Resettled persons - annual data

Database

- Asylum and managed migration , see:

Applications (migrasyapp)
- Asylum applicants by citizenship till 2007 Annual data (rounded) (migrasyctz)
- First time asylum applicants by citizenship till December 2007 Monthly data (rounded) (migrasyctzm)
- Asylum and first time asylum applicants by citizenship, age and sex Annual aggregated data (rounded) (migrasyappctza)
- Asylum and first time asylum applicants by citizenship, age and sex Monthly data (rounded) (migrasyappctzm)
- Persons subject of asylum applications pending at the end of the month by citizenship, age and sex - Monthly data (rounded) (migrasypenctzm)
- Asylum applications withdrawn by citizenship, age and sex Annual aggregated data (rounded) (migrasywitha)
- Asylum applications withdrawn by citizenship, age and sex - Monthly data (rounded) (migrasywithm)
- Asylum applicants considered to be unaccompanied minors by citizenship, age and sex Annual data (rounded) (migrasyunaa)

Decisions on applications and resettlement (migrasydec)
- Decisions on asylum applications by citizenship till 2007 Annual data (rounded) (migrasydctzy)
- Decisions on asylum applications by citizenship till December 2007 Monthly data (rounded) (migrasydctzm)
- First instance decisions on applications by citizenship, age and sex Annual aggregated data (rounded) (migrasydcfsta)
- First instance decisions on applications by citizenship, age and sex Quarterly data (rounded) (migrasydcftq)
- Decisions withdrawing status granted at first instance decision by type of status withdrawn and by citizenship Annual aggregated data (rounded) (migrasywitfsta)
- Decisions withdrawing status granted at first instance decision by type of status withdrawn and by citizenship Quarterly data (rounded) (migrasywitfstq)
- Final decisions on applications by citizenship, age and sex Annual data (rounded) (migrasydcfina)
- Decisions withdrawing status granted as final decision by type of status withdrawn Annual data (rounded) (asywitfina)
- Resettled persons by age, sex and citizenship Annual data (rounded) (migrasyresa)

Dedicated section

- Asylum and managed migration

Methodology / Metadata

- Applications (migrasyapp) (ESMS metadata file — migrasyappesms)

- Decisions on applications and resettlement (migrasydec) (ESMS metadata file — migrasydecesms)

External links

- European Commission - DG Migration and Home Affairs - Asylum

- European Asylum Support Office - EASO

- European Migration Network - EMN

- UNHCR - Statistics