

ASYLUM SEEKERS IN ALBANIA

2025

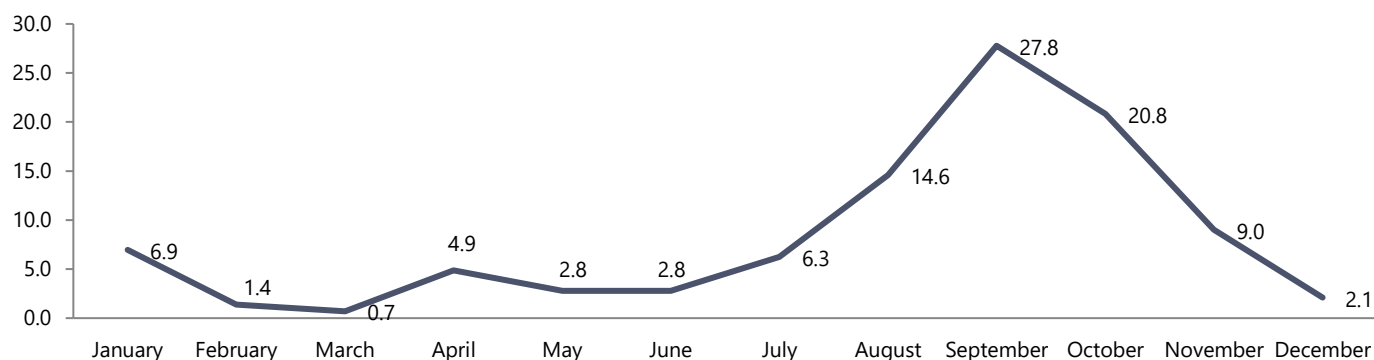
In 2025, in Albania were registered 144 asylum seekers, or 40 persons more, compared to 2024.

Asylum seekers in Albania by main countries of origin:

- Egypt 39.6 %;
- Afghanistan 11.8 %;
- Palestine 9.7 %.

Asylum applications were concentrated mainly during the months of August, September and October, which together accounted 63.2 % of the total number of asylum applications during 2025.

FIG. 1 DISTRIBUTION OF ASYLUM APPLICATIONS BY MONTH, 2025, IN (%)



Source: Directorate of Policies against Organized Crime, Migration and Asylum, Ministry of Internal Affairs

Acquisition and loss of Albanian citizenship¹

During 2025, 495 people obtained Albanian citizenship, of whom 306 resumption it and 189 acquired citizenship. On the other hand, 173 persons have lost Albanian citizenship.

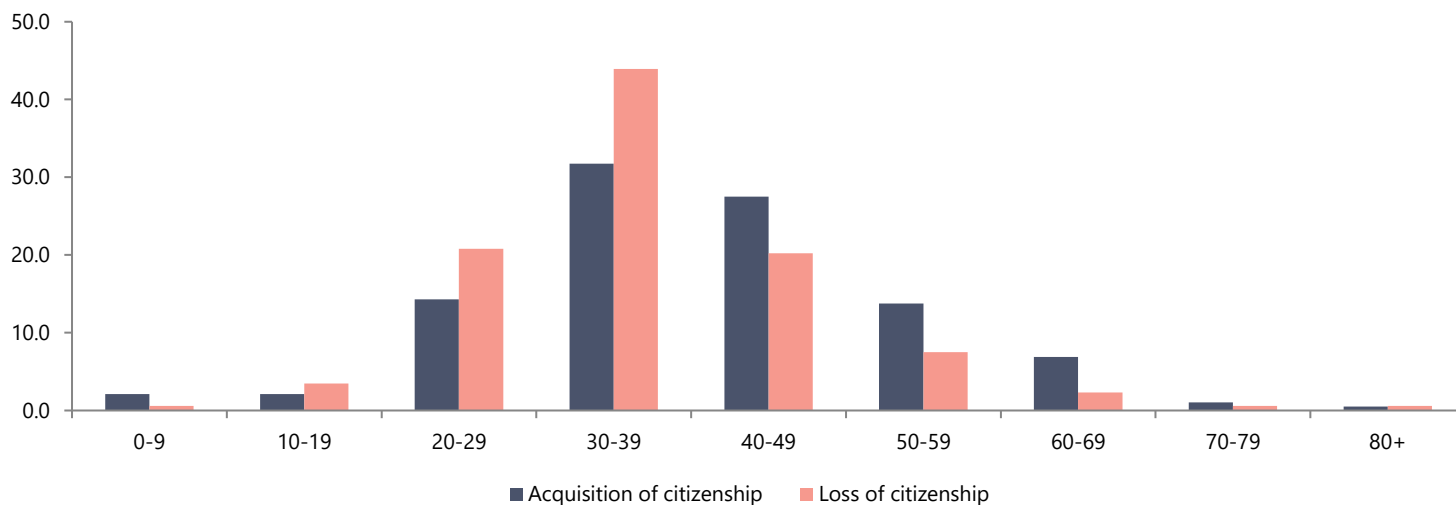
Analysing the main countries of origin of persons who have acquire Albanian citizenship, we understand that:

- 56.1 % are from Kosovo;
- 20.1 % from Turkey;
- 4.8 % from North Macedonia;
- 4.8 % from Italy.

¹ *Methodological note: Since 2025, a new data source has been integrated into the production of statistics on the acquisition and loss of Albanian citizenship. This development has enabled the expansion of coverage and improvement of the completeness of statistical information, increasing quality and harmonization with international standards. The enriched data sources will be used continuously for the production of statistics in the following years.

The 30-39 age group accounted for the largest share of persons who acquired and lost Albanian citizenship. Specifically, 31.7% of persons who acquired Albanian citizenship and 43.9% of those who lost Albanian citizenship belonged to this age group.

FIG. 2 ACQUISITION AND LOSS OF ALBANIAN CITIZENSHIP BY AGE GROUP, 2025, IN %



Source: Directorate of Citizenship Policies at the Ministry of Internal Affairs

Methodology

The purpose of the yearly publication for asylum seekers in Albania is to present the results and indicators by month of application, countries of origin, as well as the annual number of persons that apply to acquire, renounce and regain the Albanian citizenship.

Data on asylum seeker and the acquisition or loss of citizenship in Albania are provided by the Directorate of Policies against Organized Crime, Migration and Asylum and the Directorate of Citizenship Policies at the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

Definitions:

Asylum is the form of international protection that the Republic of Albania grants to refugees and persons under subsidiary protection.

Asylum seeker is any foreigner or stateless person that expresses in any way that he or she does not wish to return to his or her country, as well as any foreigner or stateless person who has applied for asylum in the Republic of Albania for whom no final decision has been made yet.

Asylum application is the official request of a foreigner or stateless person to the responsible authority for asylum and refugees, which is considered as a request for international protection under the UN Geneva Convention on Refugee Status. Any application for international protection is considered as an application for asylum, unless the foreigner clearly requires another type of protection, which applies separately.

Request for asylum is any statement by a foreigner or stateless person, expressed in any way and at any time before the competent authorities at the border crossing points or within the territory of the Republic of Albania, which requires international protection under international conventions and Albanian legislation.

Albanian citizenship is acquired, regained, lost or terminated of in accordance with the provisions of the law, which respects the recognized norms and principles of international law in the field of citizenship accepted by the Republic of Albania.

Albanian citizenship is acquired by: a) birth; b) naturalization; c) adoption

Acquisition of citizenship is taken by a foreigner who has applied for Albanian citizenship, and acquires it if he meets the conditions set forth in the law.

Loss of Albanian citizenship means that the acquisition of Albanian citizenship ends upon the request of the person when he meets the conditions laid down in the law.

Foreign national means a person who is not a national of the Republic of Albania and holds a foreign nationality.

Stateless person means a person who is not a national of any state due to the lack of a durable legal connection between him and a state.

Refugee means a person who, owing to a well-founded fear of persecution for reasons of race, religion, nationality, political opinion or membership of a particular social group, is outside the country of nationality or outside of the country of former habitual residence and is unable or unwilling to avail himself or herself of the protection of that country or to return to it as a result of such circumstances, in accordance with the requirements of Article 1(A) of the Geneva Convention.

State or country of origin means the applicant's state of nationality, or, for stateless persons, the country of their former habitual residence;

Subsidiary protection status means the recognition by the Republic of Albania of a foreign person or a stateless person as eligible for subsidiary protection

Refugee status means the recognition by the Republic of Albania of a foreign national or a stateless person as a refugee.