

Asylum seekers in Albania
Reference Metadata in Euro SDMX Metadata Structure
(ESMS)
INSTAT

Reference Metadata

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1. Contact	
1.1. Contact organisation	INSTAT, Institute of Statistics
1.2. Contact organisation unit	Population Statistics and Census Sector, Directorate of Population and Social Statistics
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2. Metadata update	
2.1. Metadata last certified	04.07.2025
2.2. Metadata last posted	04.07.2025
2.3. Metadata last update	04.07.2025
3. Statistical presentation	
3.1. Data description	<p>Statistics on asylum seekers refer to foreign citizens who apply for the forms of international protection that the Republic of Albania provides to refugees and persons in supplementary protection in Albania.</p> <p>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 acquired or lost the Albanian Citizenship. Data on Asylum Seekers and the acquisition or loss of citizenship in Albania are provided by the Department for Border and Migration at the General Directorate of State Police, Directorate of Citizenship Policies and Directorate of Migration, Asylum and Anti-Trafficking Policies at the Ministry of Interior. The data on asylum seekers contain statistical information on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asylum seekers by country of origin;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asylum seekers; • Requests for asylum by months; • Decisions for asylum seekers; • Acquisition of Albanian citizenship by group age and country of origin; • Loss of Albanian citizenship by group age.
3.2. Classification system	<p>The citizenship classification is based on the list of ISO-3166 codes (using alpha-2) with minor changes.</p> <p>These changes consist of small changes that have occurred over time to reflect the creation of new countries or citizenships. In some cases, these categories of citizenship are not universally recognized, but are used recognized by Albania.</p>
3.3. Sector coverage	<p>Statistical information covers data on asylum seekers, decisions, acquisition and loss of citizenship in the Republic of Albania.</p>
3.4. Statistical concepts and definitions	<p>Asylum is the form of international protection that the Republic of Albania grants to refugees and persons under subsidiary protection.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Albanian citizenship is acquired by: a) birth; b) naturalization; c) adoption</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>

	<p>Foreign national means a person who is not a national of the Republic of Albania and holds a foreign nationality.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>State or country of origin means the applicant's state of nationality, or, for stateless persons, the country of their former habitual residence;</p> <p>Subsidiary protection status means the recognition by the Republic of Albania of a foreign person or a stateless person as eligible for subsidiary protection</p> <p>Refugee status means the recognition by the Republic of Albania of a foreign national or a stateless person as a refugee.</p>
3.5. Statistical unit	The statistical unit is individuals.
3.6. Statistical population	Asylum seeker statistics refer to individuals from other countries who have applied for asylum in Albania, persons who have acquisition and loss Albanian citizenship.
3.7. Reference area	Territory of Republic of Albania.
3.8. Time coverage	<p>Since 2017 and onwards, INSTAT has carried out annual publications with aggregated data at the country level.</p> <p>Data are available from 2015 onwards.</p>
3.9. Base period	Not applicable.
4. Unit of measure	Individuals.
5. Reference period	This report refers to 2024.
6. Institutional mandate	
6.1. Legal acts and other agreements	<p>The legal basis for the production of indicators of Asylum Seekers in Albania is part of the legal basis of INSTAT:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Statistical Law No.17/2018;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Official Statistics National Program 2022-2026. <p>The definitions are based on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Law no. 10/2021 “On Asylum in the Republic of Albania”; • Law No.113 / 2020 “On Citizenship”.
6.2. Data sharing	Actually there is no data sharing in European level.
7. Confidentiality	
7.1. Confidentiality - policy	<p>Data collected by statistical units are considered strictly confidential and are used only for statistical and research purposes based on national Statistical Law No.17/2018 “On Official Statistics”, date 10.03.2018 and on Law No.9887, date 10.03.2008 “Personal Data Protection”. Article 31 on Statistics Law reads as follows: Data collected for the production of official statistics shall be treated by INSTAT as confidential and shall be used only in aggregated tables that will not identify the source information unit. Direct identification means when a statistical unit is directly identified from its name or address or any officially allocated and commonly known identification number. When data processing is made in a manner that allows the identification of the data subject, the data should immediately be encrypted in order for the subjects to be no longer identifiable.</p>
7.2. Confidentiality - data treatment	<p>Albanian Institute of Statistics protects and does not disseminate data it has obtained or it has access to, which enable the direct or indirect identification of the statistical units. Albania Institute of Statistics takes all appropriate preventive measures so as to render impossible the identification of individual statistical units by technical or other means that might reasonably be used by a third party. Statistical data that could potentially enable the identification of the statistical unit are disseminated by Albania Institute of Statistics if and only if:</p> <p>a) These data have been treated, as it is specifically set out in the Regulation, in such a way that their dissemination does not prejudice statistical confidentiality or</p> <p>b) The statistical unit has given its consent, without any reservations, for the disclosure of data.</p> <p>The confidential data that are transmitted to Albania Institute of Statistics are used exclusively for statistical purposes and the only persons who have the right to have access to these data are the personnel engaged in this task. Issues referring to the observance of statistical confidentiality are examined by the staff working in Albania Institute of Statistics. The responsibilities of this staff are to recommend and determine: at what level of detail this data can be published and disseminated, so that direct or indirect identification of the statistical unit observed is not possible; anonymity criteria for microdata provided to users; providing researchers with access to confidential data for scientific purposes.</p>

8. Release policy	
8.1. Release calendar	Notifications about the dissemination of statistics are published in the release calendar, which is available on the website. The announcements and delays are per-announced in this calendar. In the case of delays, the date of the next publication and the explanation of the reasons for the delays are specified.
8.2. Release calendar access	The calendar of publications is available on INSTAT website.
8.3. User access	<p>In accordance with article 34 of Law No. 17/2018 "On Official Statistics", official statistics are disseminated so that all users have an immediate and equal right and all possible forms of media are used. INSTAT and statistical agencies, having in the program the responsibilities of dissemination, seek to meet every requirement of any organization or individual for unpublished data or specific analysis. The following dissemination channels are used to release the results:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Website – online release; 2. Written requests; 3. Publications; 4. Data request, section available for external users.
9. Frequency of dissemination	The dissemination of the Asylum Seekers in Albania is done on annual basis.
10. Accessibility and clarity	
10.1. News release	<p>According to the calendar of publications, the data of the Asylum Seekers in Albania, are published annually with a separate publication, on specific dates. The publication is available on the official website of INSTAT, in the statistical database Px-Web, also distributed electronically to users.</p> <p>Public announcements and delays in the publication calendar. In case of delays, other publication data and explanation of the reasons for the delays are specified.</p>
10.2. Publications	<p>Users can find the publications on the INSTAT website organized under the topic:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asylum Seekers in Albania.
10.3. On-line database	Publications with data on Asylum Seekers for the period 2017 - 2024 can be easily consulted in the dedicated section of the website. Also available in this section is the data series on the acquisition and loss of Albanian citizenship.
10.4. Micro – data access	Access in Micro-data is not applicable.
10.5. Other	Users can send other specific requests through a dedicated section for Contacts .

10.6. Documentation on methodology	The data are provided from administrative sources. A brief explanation of the definitions and methodology for asylum seeker statistics can be found in the relevant publication as well as in the quality reports.
10.7. Quality documentation	Population Statistics and Census Sector takes care about all documentation of the whole process of work and procedures of Asylum Seekers in Albania for internal purposes.
11. Quality management	
11.1. Quality assurance	INSTAT is committed to quality assurance in the production of official statistics. Pursuant to the Law On Official Statistics, No. 17/2018 , INSTAT uses statistical methods and processes in accordance with internationally accepted scientific principles and standards and conducts ongoing analyzes in order to improve quality and provide updated statistics. In carrying out its tasks, INSTAT follows the general principles of quality management, in accordance with the European Statistics Code of Practice . INSTAT for Quality Assurance is guided by the following principles: impartiality, quality of processes and statistical products, user orientation, employee orientation, effectiveness of statistical processes and reduction of respondents burden.
11.2. Quality assessments	<p>Quality controls and validation of data are actions carried out throughout the process. The staff is involved in different stages of data compilation are all well trained.</p> <p>The data source for Asylum Seekers in Albania Statistics is administrative. The data are compared with data from previous years to determine if there is data coherence or there have been major changes.</p>
12. Relevance	
12.1. User needs	<p>The publication of data on asylum seekers is widely used by users mainly for evidence-based policy planning, because asylum seeker figures are used to analyze a range of indicators both social and economic, by different users among which the most important are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Central government; • Local government; • Academic field; • Ordinary users. <p>Information on users' needs for, and their perceptions of asylum seekers is measured in several ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Page Views (Hits) on the relevant product on the INSTAT website; • Meetings with different users allowing them to discuss their requirements and needs; • Contacts with users who individually contact the Population Statistics sector on their specific requests, or send to INSTAT their requests

	regarding statistics on asylum seekers.								
12.2. User satisfaction	<p>INSTAT organizes every year User Satisfaction Survey.</p> <p>The survey results show that the overall quality of the topic “Migration and Migrant Integration” is rated 3.72 (74.4%) on a scale of 1 (very poor) to 5 (very good).</p>								
12.3. Completeness	The completeness of the data for Asylum Seekers in Albania statistics for 2023 is judged by comparing the quality and quantity of indicators in the Official Statistics Program (2022-2026). The Completeness rate of Asylum Seekers in Albania Statistics for 2024 is 100%.								
13. Accuracy and reliability									
13.1. Overall accuracy	In general, the data have been checked with previous years to identify any significant changes in the performance of the data. In cases where changes are encountered, INSTAT notifies the relevant data sources to inform about the findings found in order to correct this data if deemed necessary or to be officially confirmed.								
13.2. Sampling error	Not applicable.								
13.3. Non - sampling error	The non-sampling errors are mainly errors of the administrative data sources reported data. Data review occurs only if the relevant institutions review the data sent to INSTAT for the purpose of updating or any potential human error. If the relevant institutions review the data sent to INSTAT, these changes will be reflected in the nearest publication and brief explanatory information will be provided to users.								
14. Timeliness and punctuality									
14.1. Timeliness	<p>Results of Asylum Seekers in Albania are published on INSTAT website 186 days after the end of the reference period (T+ 186 days). The reference period of these results is December 31, 2023.</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Reference period</td><td>12/31/2024</td></tr> <tr> <td>Date of publication</td><td>7/4/2025</td></tr> <tr> <td>Timeliness</td><td>185</td></tr> </table>	Reference period	12/31/2024	Date of publication	7/4/2025	Timeliness	185		
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14.2. Punctuality	<p>The data on Asylum Seekers in Albania are disseminated according to the publication calendar. The publication of Asylum Seekers in Albania Statistics has been punctuality in time in all the publications carried out over the years.</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Reference period</td><td>12/31/2024</td></tr> <tr> <td>Date of announcement</td><td>7/4/2025</td></tr> <tr> <td>Date of publication</td><td>7/4/2025</td></tr> <tr> <td>Time lag</td><td>0</td></tr> </table>	Reference period	12/31/2024	Date of announcement	7/4/2025	Date of publication	7/4/2025	Time lag	0
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15. Coherence and comparability	
15.1. Comparability - geographical	Statistics on Asylum Seekers in Albania are presented at the national level. These statistics are comparable as the institutions that provide us with the data coordinate the data collection process.
15.2. Comparability - over time	<p>Statistics for Asylum Seekers in Albania date back to 2015, providing a long time comparison of 10 years ($CC2 = J_{last} - J_{first} + 1 = 10$).</p> <p>The data are constantly checked to ensure their comparability over time.</p>
15.3. Coherence - cross domain	Not applicable.
15.4. Coherence - internal	The internal consistency of the data is checked before finalizing. The evaluation of time series and their trend are also checked.
16. Cost and burden	<p>Population Statistics and Census Sector is part of the Directory of Population and Social Statistics. The staff involved in the procedure of data collections, data control, update and maintains of statistics, works full time and are as following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Head Office 1 employee 2. Specialist 3 employees <p>The data from administrative sources are free of charge as they are provided through a cooperation agreement between INSTAT and Department for Border and Migration at the General Directorate of State Police, Directorate of Citizenship Policies and Directorate of Migration, Asylum and Anti-Trafficking Policies at the Ministry of Interior create the ability to transmit data at no cost.</p>
17. Data revision	
17.1. Data revision - policy	<p>Revision policy of Asylum Seekers in Albania Statistics is done in accordance with general revision policy and errors treatment policy introduced by INSTAT in the links below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revision Policy; • The Errors treatment Policy.
17.2. Data revision - practise	<p>If the authorities that send information on Asylum Seekers in Albania Statistics to INSTAT will report changes in the information provided through tables, this data will be updated and published in the forthcoming publication accompanied by an explanatory note to the user.</p> <p>No revisions of the data on Asylum Seekers for 2024 have been conducted, subject to this report.</p>

18. Statistical processing	
18.1. Source data	For asylum seekers statistics the data source is only administrative data.
18.2. Frequency of data collection	Frequency of data collection is annual.
18.3. Data collection	Data on Asylum Seekers in Albania are data from an administrative source. The Institute of Statistics organizes the work for the calculation of indicators and statistics on Asylum seekers in Albania for 2024, oriented by the Official Statistics Program and the Law On Official Statistic. Department for Border and Migration at the General Directorate of State Police, Directorate of Citizenship Policies and Directorate of Migration, Asylum and Anti-Trafficking Policies at the Ministry of Interior are the main source of data for all indicators published under this program.
18.4. Data validation	The data were logically and mathematically checked. These controls are performed throughout the data processing process, for all indicators that INSTAT publishes. Among the methods of verifying administrative data we can mention: Check for data completeness, consistency over time, arithmetic corrections (should not be too high), summary checks, time series check if there are large deviations, etc..
18.5. Data compilation	Not applicable.
18.6. Adjustment	Not applicable.
19. Comment	
Annex	