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For the third successive year, most decisions were issued on applications submitted by Syrians (132,000 decisions) and Afghans (89,000), jointly accounting for one-third of all decisions in the EU+. While decisions for Syrian applicants increased by one-fifth in 2023, decisions for Afghans remained stable.

In addition, notable absolute increases in decisions issued were also seen for nationals of: Türkiye (38,000 first instance decisions), Venezuela (45,000), Morocco (16,000), Georgia (23,000), Russia (10,000), the Democratic Republic of the Congo (11,000), Eritrea (12,000) and Ukraine (10,000).[xxix](#)

Among the citizenships with at least 10,000 decisions issued at first instance in 2023, just five received significantly fewer decisions than a year earlier: Iraqis (21,000), Colombians (21,000), Pakistanis (16,000), Somalis (14,000) and Nigerians (13,000).

- [xxix](#) Only citizenships with at least 10,000 first instance decisions issued in 2023 were considered.