



Denmark

National developments in 2024



The number of applications decreased slightly in 2024, but due to the steady arrival of displaced persons from Ukraine, there was a rising demand for reception places and a new accommodation centre was opened in December 2024. Within the reception system, new operational agreements were signed and a booklet for staff was updated on the core responsibilities and services in accommodation centres.¹ The Danish Immigration Service published a guidance document on addressing the specific needs of LGBTIQ applicants in reception.² The Danish Refugee Council observed through its legal counselling services that more applicants had to wait longer for a decision on their case, which also extended their stay in reception.³

In line with the initiatives of some other EU+ countries, the Danish Immigration Service (DIS) started to process asylum cases lodged by Ukrainian citizens who do not fall under the country's Special Act. While no other major developments were highlighted in relation to the first instance asylum procedure, the COI Unit was active in 2024 and published several reports, for example on Ukraine,⁴ Syria,⁵ Ethiopia,⁶ the readmission of Palestinians into Algeria,⁷ and the security and human rights situation in the West Bank.⁸

The Refugee Appeals Board issued landmark rulings related to countries of origin, for example stating that not every person in the province of Homs in Syria can be assumed to be at a real risk of treatment in violation of Article 3 of the ECHR.⁹ However, once the Assad regime fell, the processing of cases by Syrians was suspended due to the uncertain situation.¹⁰ In addition, the departure date for returns and decisions on extensions of residence permits were suspended for Syrians.

The Refugee Appeals Board also delivered two important rulings on Dublin transfers to Italy, noting that under the current circumstances it is unlikely that DIS can obtain individual guarantees from the Italian authorities.¹¹

Amendments to the Aliens Act were adopted to better protect minors.¹² This includes assigning a representative to a minor (both unaccompanied and accompanied) who is in a forced (religious or informal) marriage. The amendments also facilitate the allocation of a suitable reception place in specialised facilities for children requiring special support.

In preparation for implementing the EU Pact on Migration and Asylum, a parliamentary resolution endorsed Denmark's accession to certain legislative instruments, including the Eurodac Regulation, provisions of the AMMR and the Crisis and Force Majeure Regulation in June 2024,¹³ and the Screening Regulation and the Return Border Procedure Regulation in November 2024.¹⁴ However, decisions on accession to these pieces of legislation and implementation of certain measures were still pending. The government introduced a new strategy to strengthen external border management by deploying advanced IT systems, reducing border-crossing points and implementing the Screening Regulation.¹⁵

More input from civil society:

- [Danish Refugee Council](#)

Denmark

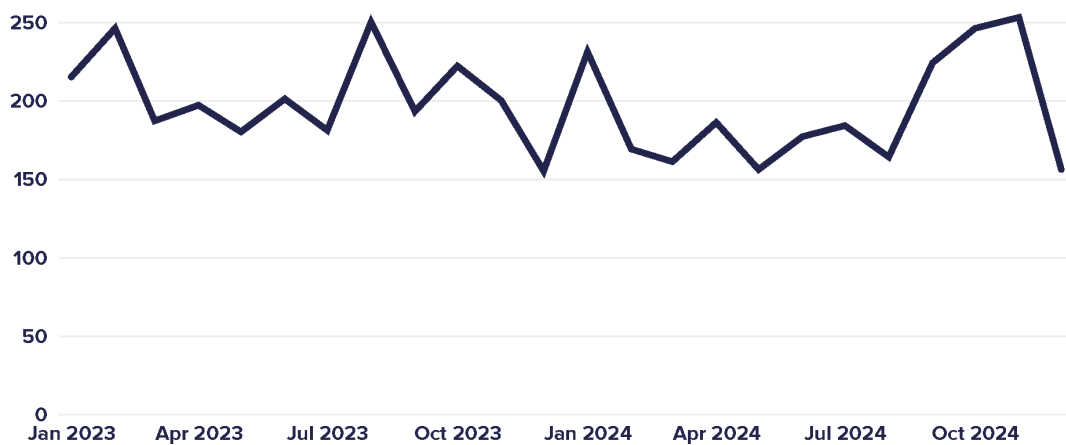
Key indicators for 2024



Rank by number of asylum applications 20	Rank per capita (applications per 1M inhabitants) 22	Share of applications in EU+ 0.2%	Recognition rate 43%
--	--	---	--------------------------------

Indicator	2024	2023	% change	Top 3 countries of origin
Asylum applications	2,307	2,427 →	-5%	Syria (20%), Türkiye (11%), Eritrea (10%)
Pending cases (Dec '24)	2,155	2,119 →	2%	Ukraine (29%), Syria (16%), Türkiye (10%)
First instance decisions	1,110	1,360 ↓	-18%	Syria (30%), Eritrea (12%), Afghanistan (10%)
Refugee status	461	855 ↓	-46%	Syria (30%), Eritrea (25%), Afghanistan (19%)
Subsidiary protection	18	14 ↑	29%	Syria (50%), Eritrea (28%), Iran (11%)
Negative	631	491 ↑	29%	Syria (30%), Iran (8%), Russia (4%)

Evolution of asylum applications, 2023-2024



For more developments, please consult the [Asylum Report 2025](#) and the [National Asylum Developments Database](#).





Sources

- ¹ Danish Immigration Service | Udlændingestyrelsen. (2024). [Pixi Operatørkontrakt for Opholdscentre 2024: Indkvartering og underhold af asylansøgere i Danmark](#) [Booklet summarising operating contracts for accommodation centres 2024: Accommodation and support of asylum seekers in Denmark].
- ² Danish Immigration Service | Udlændingestyrelsen. (2024, November 15). [Vejledning om indkvartering af LGBT+ personer](#) [Guidance on accommodation for LGBT+ people].
- ³ Danish Refugee Council. (2024). [Input to the Asylum Report 2025](#).
- ⁴ Danish Immigration Service | Udlændingestyrelsen. (2024, April 24). [Udgivelse af rapport om mobilisering i Ukraine](#) [Publication of report on mobilisation in Ukraine].
- ⁵ Danish Immigration Service | Udlændingestyrelsen, (2024, September 2). [Syria – Documents and freedom of movement in North and East Syria \(NES\)](#). Danish Immigration Service | Udlændingestyrelsen (2024, July 7). [Syria – Military Recruitment in North and East Syria](#).
- ⁶ Danish Immigration Service | Udlændingestyrelsen. (2024, October). [Ethiopia – Security situation in Amhara, Oromia and Tigray regions and return](#).
- ⁷ Danish Immigration Service | Udlændingestyrelsen. (2024 March 15) [Algeria: Entry, residence and readmission for Palestinians](#).
- ⁸ Danish Immigration Service | Udlændingestyrelsen, & Danish Refugee Council. (January 2025). [The West Bank - Security and human rights situation](#).
- ⁹ Denmark, Refugee Appeals Board [Flygtningenævnet], [Applicants v Danish Immigration Service \(Udlændingestyrelsen, DIS\)](#), 22 October 2024. Link redirects to the English summary in the EUAA Case Law Database.
- ¹⁰ Refugee Appeals Board | Flygtningenævnet. (2025, January 20). [Flygtningenævnet opretholder berostillelsen af sager vedrørende personer fra Syrien](#) [The Refugee Board maintains the suspension of cases concerning persons from Syria].
- ¹¹ Danish Refugee Appeals Board | Flygtningenævnet. (2024, December 3). [Flygtningenævnet har truffet afgørelse i klagesager efter Dublinforordningen vedrørende de generelle forhold for asylansøgere i Italien](#) [The Refugee Board has made decisions in appeal cases under the Dublin Regulation regarding the general conditions for asylum seekers in Italy].
- ¹² [Lov nr 1699 af 30/12/2024 om ændring af udlændingeloven, lov om socialtilsyn, lov om social service og barnets lov](#) [Law No 1699 of 30/12/2024 amending the Aliens Act, the Social Supervision Act, the Social Services Act and the Children's Act], 30 December 2024.
- ¹³ Danish Parliament | Folketinget. (2024, June 4). [Folketingsbeslutning om Danmarks tilslutning på mellemstatsligt grundlag til dele af Europa-Parlamentets og Rådets forordninger vedrørende asylforvaltning og migrationsstyring, håndtering af krisesituationer og force majeure på migrations- og asylområdet og om Eurodac](#) [Parliamentary resolution on Denmark's adherence on an intergovernmental basis to parts of European Parliament and Council regulations concerning asylum and migration management, management of crisis situations and force majeure in the field of migration and asylum, and on Eurodac].
- ¹⁴ Danish Parliament | Folketinget. (2024, November 7). [Folketingsbeslutning om Danmarks tilslutning på mellemstatsligt grundlag til Europa-Parlamentets og Rådets forordning \(EU\) 2024/1356 af 14. maj 2024 om indførelse af screening af tredjelandstatsborgere ved de ydre grænser og om ændring af forordning \(EF\) nr. 767/2008, \(EU\) 2017/2226, \(EU\) 2018/1240 og \(EU\) 2019/817 og Europa-Parlamentets og Rådets forordning \(EU\) 2024/1349 af 14. maj 2024 om indførelse af en grænseprocedure for tilbagesendelse og om ændring af forordning \(EU\) 2021/1148](#) [Parliamentary resolution on Denmark's alignment on an intergovernmental basis with Regulation (EU) 2024/1356 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 May 2024 introducing the screening of third-country nationals at the external borders and amending Regulations (EC) No 767/2008, (EU) 2017/2226, (EU) 2018/1240 and (EU) 2019/817 and with Regulation (EU) 2024/1349 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 May 2024 establishing a return border procedure, and amending Regulation (EU) 2021/1148].
- ¹⁵ Ministry of Immigration and Integration | Udlændinge- og Integrationsministeriet. (2024, November 8). [Regeringen præsenterer ny strategi for Danmarks ydre grænser](#) [The government presents a new strategy for Denmark's external borders].