UDI reported a 47% drop in Ukrainian asylum applications and expanded 'safe areas' from 6 to 14 counties

Since the war began on 24 February 2022, 92,000 Ukrainians have arrived in Norway, with 87,400 receiving collective protection. However, asylum applications from Ukrainians dropped by 47% from 2023 to 2024, with 19,222 applications in 2024 compared to 36,492 in 2023. Monthly applications remain above 1,500 but have declined, partly due to stricter collective protection regulations introduced in September 2024.

These changes exclude individuals from designated "safe areas" in Ukraine, now expanded from 6 to 14 counties as of 13 January 2025. Applications from these areas require individual assessments under higher thresholds.

Norway continues to host the largest share of Ukrainians in the Nordic region, with 33% of permits as of November 2024. The number of unaccompanied minors from Ukraine increased to 1,306 in 2024, mainly boys aged 16–17. Syrians were the largest group of non-Ukrainian asylum seekers, with 2,127 applications in 2024. At the end of 2024, 10,000 individuals, including 600 unaccompanied minors, were living in 101 asylum reception centres across Norway, significantly fewer than during the 2015 asylum crisis. Automation and quicker settlement processes have contributed to this reduction.

Source(s)

- Norwegian Directorate of Immigration | Utlendingsdirektoratet (15 January, 2025), Har ankommet 92 000 ukrainere [92,000 Ukrainians have arrived], https://www.udi.no/aktuelt/har-ankommet-92-000-ukrainere/

Date of development
15.01.2025
Country
Norway
Thematic area(s)
Temporary Protection
Development type
Policy

© European Union Agency for Asylum, 2026. Reproduction is authorised, provided the source is acknowledged.