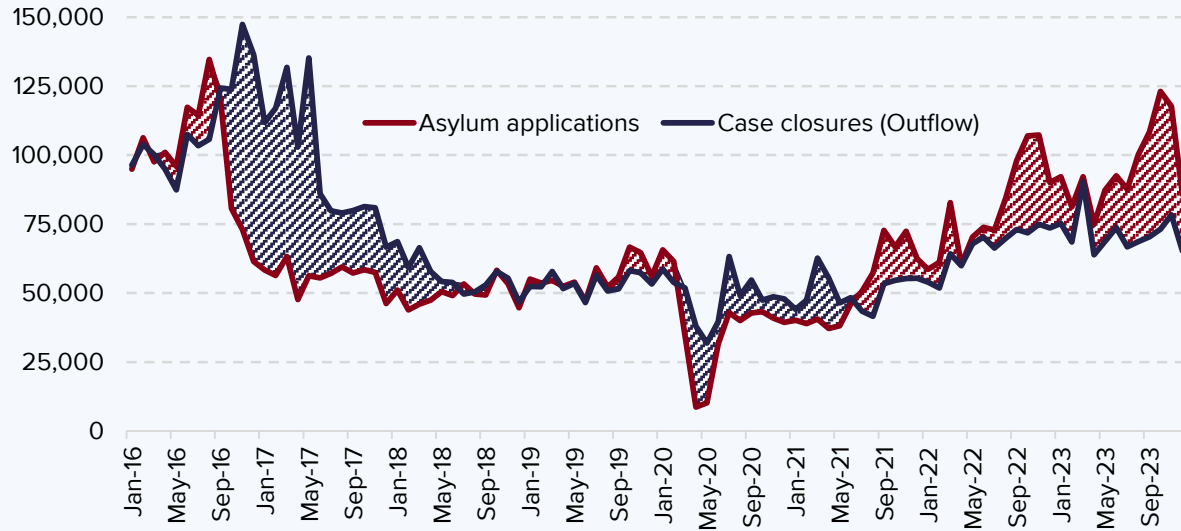


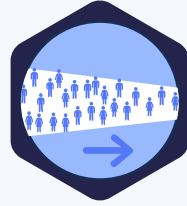
Growing gap between asylum applications received and case closures indicates additional pressure on asylum and reception systems



The caseload across the EU+ increased by **66%** compared to the end of 2022



677,000 decisions issued on first instance asylum applications in 2023



Italy and Spain had the largest gaps between the inflow and outflow of cases



1/3 of all decisions were issued to **Syrian** and **Afghan** applicants