Stock of motor vehicles 2019 increases to nearly 7.00 million; for the first time more than 5 million passenger cars

Vienna, 2020-02-19 – Almost 7.00 million motor vehicles were registered on reference day 31 December 2019, by 1.5% or 100 626 more than the year before, as Statistics Austria reports. Passenger cars, the most important type of vehicle (share: 72.0%), showed an increase of 1.2% to 5.04 million vehicles. Regarding commercial vehicles, 468 078 tractors used for agriculture and forestry (+0.8%), 440 582 lorries category (cat.) N1 (up to 3.5 t gross vehicle weight; +4.2%), 10 509 lorries cat. N2 (over 3.5 t up to 12 t gross vehicle weight; -3.6%), 43 494 lorries cat. N3 (over 12 t gross vehicle weight; +1.9%) and 19 334 articulated lorries (+2.3%) were documented. For two-wheelers, 549 769 motorcycles (+2.8%) and 272 483 scooters (-0.7%) were recorded.

More than one fifth of passenger cars are registered in Lower Austria, highest density in Burgenland

In Lower Austria, 1 102 464 passenger cars (share: 21.9%) were registered, followed by Upper Austria (947 293; share: 18.8%), Styria (767 561; share: 15.2%) and Vienna (714 960; share: 14.2%). With 198 772 registered passenger cars and a market share of 3.9%, the Burgenland reported the lowest stock. Increases occurred in all Austrian Länder, the highest in Upper Austria (+1.5%), the lowest in Vienna (+0.8%).

With 675 passenger cars per 1,000 inhabitants, Burgenland had the highest level of motorisation, followed by Lower Austria (654), Carinthia (648), Upper Austria (636), Styria (616) and Salzburg (567). The Austrian Länder Tyrol and Vorarlberg (each 544) and Vienna (374) were below the Austrian average of 566 passenger cars per 1,000 inhabitants (provisional population stock on 1 January 2020).

Diesel cars remain rather stable; petrol cars +1.9%

The number of passenger cars with a diesel-drive decreased by 0.1% to 2.77 million (2018: +0.2%), petrol-powered cars (including flex-fuel) rose by 1.9% to approximately 2.18 million (2018: +2.8%). Electric passenger cars increased by 41.7% (2018: +42.5%) and reported 29 523 vehicles. Hybrids (petrol/electric: +33.9%; diesel/electric: +150.6%), natural gas drive (+10.0%) and hydrogen-powered passenger cars (fuel cell; +70.8% or +17 vehicles) also recorded increases. Decreases were reported for passenger cars with bivalent engines, such as petrol/natural gas (-1.0%) and petrol liquefied gas (-0.9%).

Related to the total vehicle stock in the respective Austrian Länder, Carinthia (57.0%) as well as Burgenland and Upper Austria (each 56.8%) showed the highest share of diesel-driven passenger cars, while in Vorarlberg the most petrol-driven (46.2%) and electric driven (1.0%) passenger cars were observed. Vienna had the highest share regarding hybrid cars (1.8%) and also ranked first concerning the absolute number (13 114 passenger cars).

Two-thirds of the ten most popular passenger car makes

The following ten passenger car makes recorded the highest stocks: VW (1 026 451; +0.9%), Audi (379 075; +1.2%), BMW (306 030; +4.3%), Ford (295 667; +1.2%), Skoda (294 068; +5.4%), Opel (292 238; -3.1%), Mercedes (274 973; +3.0%), Renault (210 415; -0.9%), Seat (202 868; +5.5%) and Peugeot (186 760; -1.8%).
285 606 of the 5.04 million passenger cars were registered for the first time in 2019, irrespective of the initial registration's origin (Austria or abroad). More than one third of the passenger car stock (40.0% or 2.02 million passenger cars) was registered before 2010, and is thus older than ten years.

For more detailed results and further information concerning statistics of motor vehicles please refer to our website.

Information on methods, definitions: Motor vehicle statistics (registrations of new and used vehicles as well as the stock of vehicles) are secondary statistics, compiled on the basis of daily data files sent to Statistics Austria by Austria’s association of insurance companies (VVO). VVO, in turn, receives data by the insurances’ registrations offices, responsible for registrations, de-registrations and rectifications of motor vehicles and trailers.

Within motor vehicle statistics, all motor vehicles, once nationally or internationally registered, are levied, irrespective of the registration’s duration.