
Hospital discharges in 2020: almost one fifth fewer inpatient stays than in 2019

Vienna, 2021-11-29 – According to Statistics Austria, a total of 2.1 million inpatient hospital stays were documented for the year 2020. This is 17.6% less than the year before. This decline affects all care sectors, all departments and almost without exception the entire inpatient treatment spectrum of surgical interventions, therapies and examinations – both in the full inpatient and day-clinic setting.

"The Corona pandemic has had a significant impact on the number of inpatient treatments, examinations and operations in Austrian hospitals: Hospital stays decreased in 2020 by almost one fifth to 2.1 million compared to the previous year. In 26 500 cases, a COVID-19 disease necessitated a hospital stay," says Statistics Austria Director General Tobias Thomas.

Full inpatient stays (with at least one overnight stay in hospital) have decreased by 16%, day-clinic stays by almost 23%. The number of rehabilitations has fallen by almost a quarter. Surgical interventions (-14.4%) and conservative therapies and examinations (-10.6%) were also performed less frequently compared to 2019. The ratio of patients who died in hospital increased (+6.4%).

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For more detailed information please refer to the German version.