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### Despite high death rate in 2021, population increase due to immigration

**Vienna**, 2022-05-31 – According to final results by Statistics Austria, 8 978 929 people lived in Austria on 1 January 2022. Compared to the beginning of 2021, this represents an increase of 46 265 inhabitants (+0.52%). Population growth thus was higher than in the year before (2020: +31 600 people or +0.36%) and resulted exclusively from net immigration from abroad of +52 488 people. In contrast, due to the high number of deaths in the second year of the Corona pandemic, the birth balance was negative (-5 884 persons), which dampened the overall population growth.

"Austria's population grew significantly more in 2021 than in the previous year, entirely due to international immigration: In 2021, 52 488 more people immigrated from abroad than left. The birth balance, on the other hand, was also negative in the second year of the Corona pandemic, with a minus of 5 884 persons, dampening population growth. In the meantime, Austria has already cracked the nine-million mark in mid-March 2022, and the population has grown faster than expected due to refugee migration from Ukraine," says Statistics Austria Director General Tobias Thomas.

The number of live births amounted to 86 078 in 2021. This was 3.0% more than in 2020 and 1.3% more than in 2019, before the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. During the same period, 91 962 people died, which was 0.4% more than in the previous year and 10.3% more than in 2019. This resulted in a natural population decrease for 2021 of 5 884 (after -7 996 in 2020 and +1 566 in 2019) and corresponded to a birth rate of 9.6‰ and a death rate of 10.3‰.

In 2021, 154 202 immigrations to and 101 714 emigrations from Austria resulted in an international net migration gain of 52 488 inhabitants. International Migration thus reached a similar level again in 2021 as before the pandemic (2019: 150 419 inflows, 109 806 outflows) and was significantly higher than in 2020 (136 343 inflows, 96 279 outflows), when it had declined due to the pandemic. Half of Austria's net migration gain of foreign citizens originated from other countries within the European Union, EFTA-States or the United Kingdom (+27 460). The other half was generated by third country nationals (+27 509), of whom 24% came from other European countries (6 694 people).

For more detailed information please refer to the [German version](#).