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Fewer births, more deaths in 2022

Birth balance in 2022 with – 9,909 again negative

Vienna, 2023-02-20 – According to preliminary results from Statistics Austria, a total of 82 198 children were born in 2022, 4.5 % fewer than in 2021. In the same period, a total of 92 107 people died, 0.2 % more than in the previous year. This corresponds to nine births and ten deaths per 1 000 inhabitants. Thus, the preliminary balance of births and deaths is negative in 2022 at 9 909 (2021: – 5 884).

"The further decline in births and the renewed increase in deaths in Austria in 2022 led to a negative birth balance for the third year in a row: 82 198 newborns faced 92 107 deaths, which makes a birth deficit of 9 909," explains Tobias Thomas, Director General of Statistics Austria.

In 2022 there was a 4.5 % drop in births in Austria compared to 2021. Also compared to the pre-Corona year 2019, 3.2 % fewer children were born.

The **preliminary** number of **deaths** in 2022 was 11.1 % higher than the five-year average before the start of the COVID-19 pandemic (2015–2019). However, taking into account the increased population and changes in the age structure, slightly more deaths would have been expected in 2022 than in the years 2015 to 2019, even without the pandemic. In the main variant of the population forecast prepared by Statistics Austria in the fall of 2019 – i.e., before the start of the pandemic – a total of 85 427 deaths were projected for 2022. This figure has now been exceeded by 7.8 %.

The preliminary number of deaths in the first year of life in 2022 was 191, and the resulting **preliminary infant mortality rate** was 2.3 ‰.

The **preliminary balance** of the number of live births and deaths in 2022 was positive in four federal provinces, most strongly in Vienna with 1 536. Tyrol (+494), Vorarlberg (+402) and Salzburg (+171) also registered more births than deaths. In five provinces, however, there were fewer newborns than deaths in 2022, led by Lower Austria (–4 888) and Styria (–3 455).

The **preliminary birth rate** was higher than the national average in Vorarlberg, Upper Austria, Vienna, Tyrol and Salzburg, while the **preliminary death rate** was above the Austrian average in Burgenland, Carinthia, Lower Austria and Styria.

Detailed results and further information on [births](#) and [deaths](#) can be found on our website.

Preliminary results of natural population movement by federal state in 2022

Federal province	Births			Deaths			Balance of births and deaths	Crude birth rate in ‰	Crude death rate in ‰	Infant deaths	Infant mortality rate ²
	total ¹	change in %		total ¹	change in %						
		2019–2022	2021–2022		2019–2022	2021–2022					
Austria	82 198	-3,2	-4,5	92 107	10,5	0,2	-9 909	9,1	10,2	191	2,3
Burgenland	2 138	-4,2	-4,6	3 663	8,0	1,8	-1 525	7,1	12,2	5	2,3
Carinthia	4 448	-0,8	-3,9	6 738	11,7	3,7	-2 290	7,8	11,9	11	2,5
Lower Austria	14 455	-1,3	-5,3	19 343	10,9	-1,9	-4 888	8,5	11,3	35	2,4
Upper Austria	14 736	-2,1	-3,4	15 090	10,6	-0,7	-354	9,7	10,0	29	2,0

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	total ¹	change in %		total ¹	change in %						
		2019–2022	2021–2022		2019–2022	2021–2022					
Salzburg	5 423	-6,2	-5,8	5 252	11,0	-1,5	171	9,6	9,3	9	1,7
Styria	10 635	-3,1	-6,4	14 090	11,0	4,1	-3 455	8,4	11,2	15	1,4
Tyrol	7 386	-1,8	-6,9	6 892	10,5	4,0	494	9,6	9,0	16	2,2
Vorarlberg	3 990	-7,6	-7,1	3 588	17,2	6,1	402	9,9	8,9	10	2,5
Vienna	18 987	-4,8	-1,9	17 451	8,1	-3,5	1 536	9,7	8,9	61	3,2

Q: STATISTIK AUSTRIA. – 1) Including 441 births abroad to mothers with main residence in Austria and 714 deaths of persons with main residence in Austria. – 2) Per 1 000 live births

Information on methodology, definitions: Births and deaths also include events taking place abroad of persons with their main residence in Austria. Births and deaths in Austria of persons residing abroad are not included.

The regional assignment of the published data is based on the place of residence of the mother in the case of births and on the last place of residence in the case of deaths.

The infant mortality rate refers to those who died in the first year of life per 1 000 live births.

Preliminary results for 2022 include all information submitted by 31 January 2023. The preliminary figure of 91 765 deaths published on 26 January 2023, included death reports submitted through 23 January 2023.

Birth and death rates refer to a preliminary population averaged over the year 2022, formed from the final population on 1 January 2022, and the preliminary population on 1 January 2023.

If you have any questions on this topic, please contact:

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