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2.3% of the population were severely materially and socially deprived in 2022

Number of people in jobless households declines, households cannot afford several expenses more often

Vienna, 2023-04-20 – 201 000 persons (2.3%) in Austria were counted as severely materially and socially deprived in 2022 because their standard of living is not sufficiently secured; women were affected disproportionately. At the same time a decline of the share of persons in jobless households can be reported: According to Statistics Austria in 2022 363 000 persons or 5.7% of the population under 65 years were living in households with low work intensity.

“With the waning of the corona pandemic, the labour market participation of private households has increased again lately, but the inflation crisis was not without social consequences in 2022: In 2022, 2.3% of the population could not afford expenses such as new furniture, a vacation or heating one's dwelling adequately. The year before, the figure was 1.8%. Single-parent households are particularly affected”, says Statistics Austria Director General Tobias Thomas.

2.3% of the population affected by poverty

According to the EU definition, a person is considered to be **severely materially and socially deprived** if he or she cannot afford seven or more out of 13 characteristics and activities of daily living. These range from unexpected expenses of 1 300 euros to one vacation per year and a warm dwelling. In Austria, this applied to 201 000 people (2.3% of the population) in 2022. The year before, in 2021, 160 000 persons (1.8%) were affected by this absolute poverty measure.

Median household income is 40 309 euros

In the context of the European Pillar of Social Rights of the European Commission (Europe-2030-strategy) and its poverty reduction targets Statistics Austria yearly surveys indicators on poverty. A household is considered to be **at risk of poverty or social exclusion** if it is materially and socially deprived, i.e. affected by absolute poverty, or has less than 60% of the median income at its disposal or is only marginally integrated into working life. According to the most recent survey on Income and Living Conditions (EU-SILC), this affected 1 555 000 persons (17.5% of the population in private households) in the first half of 2022, including 353 000 children and young people under 18. However, because of its definition and the fact, that relative and absolute poverty measures are combined, this figure does not indicate how many households are actually getting by on their disposable income. Moreover, if the median income increases, more households may be considered at risk of poverty or exclusion even if their disposable income has not changed.

For detailed results and further information please refer to our [website](#) or to the German version of the press release.

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

E-mail: silc@statistik.gv.at

Media owner, producer and publisher:

STATISTICS AUSTRIA | Federal Institution under Public Law | Guglgasse 13 | 1110 Vienna | www.statistik.at

Press: Phone: +43 1 711 28-7777 | E-mail: presse@statistik.gv.at

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