

Press release: 13 061-089/23

# More holiday trips than before the pandemic

## Number of holiday trips in 2022 exceed pre-crisis level of 2019

Vienna, 2023-05-04 – In 2022, according to Statistics Austria, the Austrian resident population made 25.29 million trips of one night or more in Austria and abroad. Of these, 22.23 million were holiday trips (incl. visits to relatives and friends) and 3.07 million business trips. The share of holiday trips by rail was 15.1%, which is the highest value since records began in 2006.

“During the pandemic years, many people refrained from travelling or had to cut back considerably. Now, despite inflation, Austrians are once again keen to travel: in 2022, almost 5% more holiday trips were taken than before Corona, more than half of them within Austria,” says Statistics Austria Director General Tobias Thomas.

In 2022, 5.78 million Austrian holiday travellers (aged 15 and over) took 22.23 million holiday trips of one overnight stay or more, which was 37.7% more holiday trips than in the previous year and 4.8% higher than the pre-crisis level of 2019 (2021: 16.14 million holiday trips; 2019: 21.21 million). The holiday travel intensity (= the share of people with at least one holiday trip per year) was thus 75.5% of the Austrian population (aged 15 and over). In comparison, the holiday travel intensity was 65.6% in 2021, 60.3% in 2020 and 77.8% in 2019.

### Highest share of rail holiday travel since record-keeping began

15.1% of all holiday trips in 2022 were made by rail, which means a change of 3.9 percentage points compared to the previous year (share: 11.2%); this is the highest share of holiday trips by rail since records of this characteristic began in 2006. The most frequently used means of transport for holiday trips was the car this year with a share of 64.0%, although this lost share in favour of rail and air (14.2% of holiday trips) compared to the two pandemic years 2021 and 2020 (2020: 77.2%; 2021: 73.3%).

### Half of all holiday trips were spent domestically

Despite an increase of 61.1% in holiday trips abroad compared to the previous year, Austrians spent more than half (52.4%) of their holiday trips in Austria, with 11.65 million holiday trips. Of these, almost three quarters (72.2%) were short holiday trips with one to three overnight stays. The most travelled federal provinces were Styria (19.9% of domestic holiday trips), followed by Salzburg (14.9%) and Lower Austria (13.9%).

A total of 10.58 million holiday trips were made abroad, of which almost two thirds (65.1%) lasted four or more nights. The most popular holiday destinations abroad in 2022 were Italy (23.4%), Germany (14.0%) and Croatia (12.8%). Long-distance travel outside Europe and Turkey also increased again in 2022: their share was still 2.1% in 2021 and has risen to 6.4% in the current reporting year (2019: 8.6%).

### Recreation as the most frequent motive for a holiday trip

In 2022, recreation was the main reason for more than one third (34.2%) of the holiday trips of the Austrian population (15 years and older). Visiting relatives and friends was in second place with 27.6% of all holiday trips, followed by active holidays (17.2%). Compared to the pandemic years 2020 and 2021, holidays for the purpose of culture, sightseeing and shopping, city trips or round trips were also more popular again: their share was 14.4% in 2022, compared to 9.1% in 2021 and 6.8% in 2020.

## Almost a quarter of all Austrians did not take a holiday trip in 2022

In 2022, 24.5% of the Austrian resident population (aged 15 and over) did not take a holiday trip with an overnight stay in Austria or abroad; this corresponds to 1.87 million people. Vorarlberg had the lowest share of non-travellers with 17.0%, the highest share was in Burgenland with 29.9%, closely followed by Carinthia with 29.5%.

More than half (58.1%) of the non-travellers stated that they had no reason for travelling. Almost every third person mentioned "health reasons or limited mobility" (32.2%) as a reason for not travelling. "Financial reasons" was one of the reasons for 28.4% of non-travellers not to go on a holiday trip in 2022. Lack of time due to family commitments was mentioned by 25.4% of respondents; lack of time due to work commitments was mentioned by 25.0% of respondents.

The issue of "safety" (14.5% of non-travellers gave this reason) continued to play a role in 2022; in the pre-pandemic year 2019, the figure was significantly lower (6.6%).

## Increase in business travel compared to previous year but still well below pre-crisis level

In 2022, Austrians travelled 3.06 million times for business purposes, which is 43.5% more than in the previous year, but still 15.6% below the level of the pre-crisis year 2019 (2021: 2.13 million business trips; 2019: 3.63 million). 57.8% of business trips were domestic and one in five domestic business trips was to Salzburg (20.5%). Of the 1.29 million business trips abroad, 41.6% were to Germany.

For detailed results and further information on the travel behaviour of the Austrian population please refer to our [website](#).

## Characteristics of holiday and business trips 2019 to 2022

	2019	2020	2021	2022
<b>Share of persons aged 15 and older with at least one holiday trip (in %)</b>				
Total	77.8	60.3	65.6	75.5
<b>Share of persons aged 15 and older with at least one business trip (in %)</b>				
Total	19.5	10.2	11.7	15.0
<b>Number of holiday and business trips (number of trips in 1 000)</b>				
Holiday trips	21 207.50	12 653.50	16 144.60	22 229.15
Business trips	3 629.90	1 698.40	2 134.60	3 063.11
Total	24 837.40	14 351.90	18 279.20	25 292.26
<b>Holiday trips by domestic and abroad (number of trips in 1 000)</b>				
Domestic holiday trips	11 130.80	9 377.40	9 576.90	11 649.22
Holiday trips abroad	10 076.80	3 276.20	6 567.70	10 579.93
Total	21 207.50	12 653.50	16 144.60	22 229.15
<b>Holiday trips by domestic and abroad (share in %)</b>				
Domestic holiday trips	52.5	74.1	59.3	52.4
Holiday trips abroad	47.5	25.9	40.7	47.6
<b>Holiday trips by duration (number of trips in 1 000)</b>				
Trips with 1-3 nights	11 323.9	7 640.4	8 778.1	12 099.15
Trips with 4 and more nights	9 883.7	5 013.1	7 366.5	10 129.99
Total	21 207.5	12 653.5	16 144.6	22 229.15
<b>Holiday trips by duration (share in %)</b>				
Trips with 1-3 nights	53.4	60.4	54.4	54.4
Trips with 4 and more nights	46.6	39.6	45.6	45.6
<b>Organisation of the trips (share in %)</b>				
Privat	75.1	85.5	84.0	73.8
Travel agency or tour operator	24.9	14.5	16.0	26.2

	2019	2020	2021	2022
<b>Holiday trips by main reason to travel (share in %)</b>				
Recreation	30.1	26.8	31.7	34.2
Being active	18.4	25.1	18.2	17.2
Visiting relatives and friends	26.7	34.9	33.5	27.6
Culture, sightseeing, shopping, city trips or round trips	16.0	6.8	9.1	14.4
Other	8.7	6.5	7.5	6.5
<b>Top destinations abroad</b>				
Italy (incl. Vatican, San Marino)	20.9	21.9	28.2	23.4
Germany	16.6	23.5	17.4	14.0
Croatia	9.6	7.1	12.5	12.8
Greece	5.6	2.7	7.1	5.2
Spain (incl. Andorra, Gibraltar)	5.7	3.6	4.6	4.9
Long-distance trips <sup>1</sup>	8.6	5.6	2.1	6.4
Other destinations	33.0	35.6	28.1	33.3

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Travel behaviour. – Rounding errors were not adjusted.

1) Holiday trips outside of Europe and Turkey.

**Information on methodology, definitions:** Statistics Austria conducts quarterly sample surveys with the aim of mapping the travel behaviour of the population aged 15 and over residing in Austria. Every quarter, around 3 500 persons aged 15 and over (net sample) residing in Austria are interviewed by telephone (CATI) and via web questionnaire (CAWI). Participation in the survey is voluntary. The sampling frame for the proportionally stratified sample is the Central Population Register (ZMR). The data to be collected concern holiday and business trips with at least one overnight stay as well as day trips. Data on the travel behaviour of the Austrian population have been available since the reporting year 1969.

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

Rebecca Daul, Phone: +43 1 711 28-8168, E-mail: [rebecca.daul@statistik.gv.at](mailto:rebecca.daul@statistik.gv.at)

Peter Laimer, Phone: +43 1 711 28-7849, E-mail: [peter.laimer@statistik.gv.at](mailto:peter.laimer@statistik.gv.at)

**Media owner, producer and publisher:**

STATISTICS AUSTRIA | Federal Institution under Public Law | Guglgasse 13 | 1110 Vienna | [www.statistik.at](http://www.statistik.at)

Press: Phone: +43 1 711 28-7777 | E-mail: [presse@statistik.gv.at](mailto:presse@statistik.gv.at)

© STATISTICS AUSTRIA