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Strong population growth in Austria in 2022 due to immigration from Ukraine

Balance of births and deaths negative with approximately 10 700 more deaths than births

Vienna, 2023-06-01 – According to the final results of Statistics Austria’s population statistics, 9 104 772 people lived in Austria on 1 January 2023, that is 125 843 (+1.4%) more than at the beginning of 2022. In 2021, Austria’s population had recorded an increase by 46 265 persons or 0.5%.

“On 1 January 2023, almost 126 000 more people lived in Austria than in the previous year. This is the largest increase within a single year since the Second Republic came into existence. The population increased primarily as a result of international immigration, which was particularly marked by refugee migration from Ukraine. In 2022, about 67 000 more people immigrated from Ukraine than left Austria. The second-largest net increase was among people from Syria, with a plus of around 14 000, followed by German nationals, with almost 9 000 more people. In 2022, a total of just under 137 000 more people migrated from abroad than left. The balance of birth was strongly negative for the third year in a row, dampening population growth slightly”, says Statistics Austria Director General Tobias Thomas.

Population increase highest in Vienna, lowest in Carinthia

In 2022, the federal capital Vienna experienced the strongest population growth with +2.6%, while the increase in all other provinces was at least slightly below the Austrian national average of 1.4%. In Burgenland as well as in Lower Austria, Upper Austria and Vorarlberg, the population rose by 1.2% each, in Salzburg and Styria by 1.0% each and in Tyrol by 0.9%. With an increase of 0.8%, Carinthia recorded the smallest population growth in 2022 (see table 1).

Balance of births and deaths in 2022: around 10 700 more deaths than births

In 2022, a total of 82 627 children were born, 4.0% fewer than in 2021 (see table 2). In the same period, a total of 93 332 people died, 1.5% more than in the previous year. Taking the population size into consideration, this amounts to a birth rate of 9.1‰ and a death rate of 10.3‰. Consequently, the balance of births and deaths in 2022 remained negative at –10 705 (after –5 884 in 2021 and –7 996 in 2020). The number of deaths in the first year of life was 202 in 2022, and the resulting infant mortality rate was 2.4‰.

All federal provinces recorded a lower number of births in 2022 compared to the previous year: the most significant declines were in Vorarlberg (–6.7%), Tyrol (–6.4%), Styria (–5.9%), Salzburg (–5.2%), Lower Austria (–5.0%), and Burgenland (–4.4%). Smaller declines than the national average occurred in Carinthia (–3.6%), Upper Austria (–3.0%) and Vienna (–1.1%).

The number of deaths in 2022 rose in six federal provinces in comparison to last year, most significantly in Vorarlberg (+8.1%), Tyrol (+5.0%), Styria (+4.8%) as well as in Carinthia (+4.3%) and Burgenland (+2.1%). Increases below the national average or fewer deaths than in the previous year were registered in Upper Austria (+0.2%), Salzburg (+0.04%), Lower Austria (–1.1%) and Vienna (–0.2%).

The balance of births and deaths in 2022 differed among the federal provinces: As in previous years, Vienna (+1 101), Tyrol (+469), Vorarlberg (+353) and Salzburg (+120) achieved birth surpluses. Fewer newborns than deaths were recorded in Lower Austria (–4 983), Styria (–3 485), Carinthia (–2 310), Burgenland

(-1 534) and Upper Austria (-436). With the exception of Upper Austria, this was also the case in previous years.

Migration from Ukraine causes international net migration to increase in 2022

In 2022, Austria's balance of immigration from and emigration to foreign countries (net migration) amounted to +136 979 persons. 261 937 persons had moved to Austria from abroad, 124 958 persons moved from Austria to another country. Compared to the previous year (2021: 154 202 immigrants, 101 714 emigrants, net migration +52 488 persons), this was a remarkable increase: net migration rose by 161%. It was also higher than in 2015 (net migration: +113 067). Half of the net migration in 2022 was due to migration from Ukraine (net migration of Ukrainian citizens: +67 353). Net migration was second highest among Syrian citizens (+14 127), followed by German nationals (+8 891). As in the last decades, the net migration of Austrian citizens was negative, but at -6 257 persons it was significantly larger than in previous years (2021: -2 481 persons, 2020: -1 837, 2019: -4 343).

On 1 January 2023, a total of 1 729 820 people with non-Austrian nationality lived in Austria, 143 111 more than on 1 January 2022 (1 586 709 people). The share of foreign nationals in the total population increased from 17.7% at the beginning of 2022 to 19.0% at the beginning of 2023 (see table 3).

Vienna leads among immigration from abroad, Lower Austria leads among immigration from other federal provinces

Among all nine federal provinces, Vienna recorded the largest net migration from abroad (see table 4). With +49 097 persons, more than one third (35.8%) of the net migration from abroad concentrated on the federal capital in 2022. International net migration was also high in Lower Austria (+19 816), Upper Austria (+17 897) and Styria (+16 983). It was lowest in Burgenland (+3 318) and Vorarlberg (+3 308).

In contrast, net migration gain from other federal provinces was rather low in Vienna (+550). Lower Austria (+4 751) was the frontrunner here, followed by Burgenland (+1 896) and Vorarlberg (+1 031). Upper Austria also had 266 more in-migrants from other federal states than out-migrants to other federal states. Tyrol (-1 156), Styria (-1 216), Carinthia (-2 078) and Salzburg (-4 044) had more out-migrations than in-migrations and thus a negative balance.

Overall, the number of migrations within in Austria in 2022 was 842 152 and thus 7.6% higher than in the previous year (2021: 782 995). The majority of internal migrations took place over short distances, with people moving within a single municipality in approximately 52.8% of all cases. 17.1% of all internal migrations took place between federal provinces.

For detailed results and further information on [population stock and changes](#), on [deaths](#) and on [migration](#) please refer to our website. Interactive maps on the population structure as well as on migration are available in the web application [STATatlas](#). The [Annals of the Austrian Geographical Society](#) published a detailed analysis by Statistics Austria of the impact of the Corona pandemic on the demographic structure of Austria.

Table 1: Austrian population on 1 January 2023 compared to 1 January 2022 by federal provinces

Federal province	Population		Population change		Foreign nationals on 1 January 2023	
	on 1 January 2022	on 1 January 2023	absolute	in %	absolute	in %
Austria	8 978 929	9 104 772	125 843	1,4	1 729 820	19,0
Burgenland	297 583	301 250	3 667	1,2	33 620	11,2
Carinthia	564 513	568 984	4 471	0,8	72 968	12,8
Lower Austria	1 698 796	1 718 373	19 577	1,2	205 081	11,9
Upper Austria	1 505 140	1 522 825	17 685	1,2	234 517	15,4
Salzburg	562 606	568 346	5 740	1,0	111 993	19,7
Styria	1 252 922	1 265 198	12 276	1,0	172 055	13,6
Tyrol	764 102	771 304	7 202	0,9	139 723	18,1
Vorarlberg	401 674	406 395	4 721	1,2	80 997	19,9
Vienna	1 931 593	1 982 097	50 504	2,6	678 866	34,2

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Population statistics.

Table 2: Natural population movement by federal state in 2022

Federal province	Births ¹		Deaths ¹		Balance of births and deaths ¹	Birth rate in ‰ ²	Death rate in ‰ ²	Infant deaths ¹	Infant mortality rate ³
	absolute	change 2021 – 2022 in %	absolute	change 2021 – 2022 in %					
Austria	82 627	-4,0	93 332	1,5	-10 705	9,1	10,3	202	2,4
Burgenland	2 141	-4,4	3 675	2,1	-1 534	7,1	12,3	7	3,3
Carinthia	4 463	-3,6	6 773	4,3	-2 310	7,9	11,9	12	2,7
Lower Austria	14 503	-5,0	19 486	-1,1	-4 983	8,5	11,4	36	2,5
Upper Austria	14 797	-3,0	15 233	0,2	-436	9,8	10,0	31	2,1
Salzburg	5 453	-5,2	5 333	0,0	120	9,6	9,4	9	1,7
Styria	10 691	-5,9	14 176	4,8	-3 485	8,5	11,3	15	1,4
Tyrol	7 428	-6,4	6 959	5,0	469	9,7	9,1	19	2,6
Vorarlberg	4 009	-6,7	3 656	8,1	353	9,9	9,0	10	2,5
Vienna	19 142	-1,1	18 041	-0,2	1 101	9,8	9,2	63	3,3

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Vital Statistics

1) Including 735 births abroad to mothers with main residence in Austria and 1 883 deaths abroad of persons with main residence in Austria. – 2) Live births or deaths per 1 000 of the population. – 3) Per 1 000 live births.

Table 3: International migration 2022 and population stock on 1 January 2023 by citizenship

Citizenship	International migration 2022			Population on 1 January 2023
	immigration	emigration	net migration	
Total	261 937	124 958	136 979	9 104 772
Austria	15 672	21 929	-6 257	7 374 952
Not Austria	246 265	103 029	143 236	1 729 820
EU-/EFTA-states/UK, including:	100 692	64 435	36 257	888 745
Germany	21 742	12 851	8 891	225 012
Romania	21 705	14 660	7 045	147 490
Croatia	9 194	3 651	5 543	101 803
Hungary	1 619	1 337	282	99 679
Italy	4 838	3 083	1 755	37 718
Third-state nationals	145 573	38 594	106 979	841 075
European third-country nationals, including:	101 196	23 539	77 657	517 719
Bosnia and Herzegovina	4 120	2 178	1 942	98 461
Serbia	5 648	4 517	1 131	121 916
Turkey	4 917	2 140	2 777	119 706
Ukraine	78 439	11 086	67 353	79 615
Africa	5 666	2 433	3 233	41 150
America	5 228	3 164	2 064	26 641
Asia, including:	32 594	8 986	23 608	233 936
Syria	15 103	976	14 127	47 373
Afghanistan	3 274	905	2 369	82 169
Oceania	334	210	124	1 766
Stateless/unknown	555	262	293	19 863

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Migration Statistics, Population statistics.

Table 4: Migration 2022 by federal provinces

Federal province	International migration			Migration within Austria		
	immigration	emigration	net migration	Immigration from other federal provinces	Emigration to other federal provinces	Net migration among federal provinces
Austria	261 937	124 958	136 979	-	-	-
Burgenland	5 769	2 451	3 318	8 177	6 281	1 896
Carinthia	14 219	5 328	8 891	8 054	10 132	-2 078
Lower Austria	35 692	15 876	19 816	35 568	30 817	4 751
Upper Austria	34 288	16 391	17 897	17 282	17 016	266
Salzburg	18 670	8 924	9 746	7 033	11 077	-4 044
Styria	30 383	13 400	16 983	14 947	16 163	-1 216
Tyrol	20 780	12 857	7 923	6 075	7 231	-1 156
Vorarlberg	9 868	6 560	3 308	3 940	2 909	1 031
Vienna	92 268	43 171	49 097	42 571	42 021	550

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Migration Statistics.

Information on methodology, definitions:

Population statistics for 1 January 2023 are based on the Central Residence Register's data on main residence registrations in Austria, which are processed according to population statistics criteria. The final results presented here consider statistical adjustments based on the population figures that are determined annually for the fiscal equalisation. The resident population includes persons with a length of stay (main residence registration) of at least 90 days (including the reference date).

Migration Statistics are also based on data on registrations and de-registrations of main residences recorded by the Central Residence Register (ZMR) of the Federal Ministry of the Interior (BMI), which records all migration movements (changes of main residence) within Austria and between foreign countries and Austria. In line with the recommendations of the United Nations (1998) on the registration and classification of migrants according to their length of stay, Migration Statistics only consider persons with a stay (main residence registration) of at least 90 days in Austria.

The **statistics of natural population movements on births and deaths** are based on the entries in the Central Civil Status Register (ZPR), with all information submitted by 19 April 2023 being included in the final results for 2022. Events taking place abroad of persons with main residence in Austria are also counted. Births and deaths in Austria of persons residing abroad are not included. The regional assignment of the published data is based on the mother's place of residence in the case of births and on the last place of residence of the deceased in the case of deaths

From a demographic point of view, the population size changes between two reference dates due to the two components birth balance (difference between live births minus deaths) and net migration (difference between immigration and emigration). However, the administrative data of the Central Residence Register and the Central Civil Status Register on which the population statistics are based cannot explain all changes in the population. For this reason, **statistical corrections** are made. In the calendar year 2022, the necessary statistical corrections caused a slight decrease in the population by 431 persons.

Birth and death rates refer to the final population as an annual average in 2022.

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

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