

Corrected Press release: 13 101-129/23

## Highest level of care in day care centers

### 29.9% of under three year olds and 94.7% of three- to five-year-olds attended a childcare facility in the kindergarten year 2022/23

Explanation: The following corrections were necessary because a key figure was not taken into account correctly when importing the data. This had an impact on the number of children. The data was corrected on 07 July 2023. The corrected values are shown in parentheses.

Vienna, 2023-07-07 – In the kindergarten year 2022/23, a total number of 76 340 [corr: 76 379] children under the age of three and 253 728 [corr: 253 729] three- to five-year-olds attend a childcare facility. This is a new record, according to the latest figures from Statistics Austria.

“The care rate of children in day care centres shows an increase for children under three years of age in all federal provinces. Thus, every third child under three years of age in Austria is already in childcare in the kindergarten year 2022/23, compared to only every fifth child in 2012/13,” says Statistics Austria Director General Tobias Thomas.

#### Significant increases in care for children under three years in all federal provinces

In a ten-year comparison, all federal provinces recorded large increases in the day care number of children under three years of age. In the reporting year 2012/13, Styria had the lowest childcare rate for children under three years at 11.2%. Despite it increased to 19.9% until 2022/23, Styria still shows the lowest rate of children in day care centers under the age of three among all federal provinces. Vienna, on the other hand, still has a significantly higher childcare rate in this age group compared to the other federal provinces with 42.0%. Apart from Vienna, Burgenland (38.9%), Vorarlberg (34.7%) and Lower Austria (30.1%) are above the Austrian average of 29.9%.

Viewed by single years of age, more than half of the two-year-olds attend a childcare facility throughout Austria (59.4%), for the one-year-olds the childcare rate is 27.1%. Only 2.0% of the children who have not yet reached the age of one are accommodated in day care centers.

#### Combined childcare rate for three- to five-year-olds rose to 94.7%

In the kindergarten year 2022/23, 254 698 [corr: 254 699] children from the age three to five years attend a day care center or, as early entrants, already attend a school. This is a new all-time-high in this age group, which includes all children aged three to under six. Currently, the combined childcare rate for three- to five-year-olds is 94.7% in Austria (2012/13: 91.1%). The highest rates can be found in Lower Austria (98.9%) and Burgenland (97.2%), while Styria (89.3%) and Carinthia (91.7%) are clearly below the Austrian average.

Viewed by single age years, the three-year-olds show the greatest increase in a ten-year comparison with a childcare rate of 88.8% in 2022/23 (2012/13: 81.5%). The childcare rate for children aged four increased to 96.0% until the kindergarten year 2022/23 (2012/13: 94.3%), the rate for five-year-olds rose to 99.1% (2012/13: 97.5%).

For detailed results and further information please refer to our [website](#).

## Care rate of children cared for in day care centres in 2022/23 compared to 2012/13

Federal provinces	Under 3-year-olds in %		3- to 5-year-olds <sup>1</sup> in %	
	2022/23	2012/13	2022/23	2012/13
Austria	<b>29.9</b>	<b>20.8</b>	<b>94.7</b>	<b>91.1</b>
Burgenland	38.9	30.1	97.2	100.0
Carinthia	29.3	18.4	91.7	85.2
Lower Austria	30.1	21.0	98.9	96.5
Upper Austria	20.8 [corr: 20.9]	11.9	94.4	92.5
Salzburg	26.0	16.2	93.5	91.0
Styria	19.9	11.2	89.3	84.9
Tyrol	29.5	19.7	96.3	91.7
Vorarlberg	34.7	19.0	95.6	92.6
Vienna	42.0	34.8	94.6	89.0

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Statistics on day care for children.

1) Children aged three to under six; incl. five-year-olds who enrolled in schools early.

**Information on methodology, definitions:** The day care centre statistics include the following institutional childcare facilities: crèches and infant care facilities (toddler crèches, crèches), kindergartens (general kindergartens, integration kindergartens, special kindergartens and practice kindergartens), after-school care facilities (general after-school care facilities, integration kindergartens, special kindergartens, practice kindergartens and similar school care facilities) and mixed-age care facilities (e. g. day care centres, children's groups etc.). Generally excluded are childminders, playgroups, boarding schools, all-day schools and dormitories.

The term “**institutional childcare**” is defined according to the following criteria: regular and year-round childcare, operated with public funding, by trained staff, without the presence of parents, for at least 30 weeks per year, on at least four days per week and for at least 15 hours per week. The cut-off date for data collection is 15 October of each reporting period.

The **childcare rate** is measured as the proportion of children in day-care facilities (crèches, kindergartens, mixed-age childcare facilities, children's groups, after-school care centres, day-care centres etc.) on the survey date of 15 October with the age in full years as of 1 September in the resident population of the same age according to the statistics on the population stock. In the calculation of the combined childcare rate for three- to five-year-olds (children aged three to under six), data from school statistics concerning five year old children who have started school early are also included – reduced by five-year-olds looked after in after-school care centres, as these are already included in the number of children in day care centres.

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