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Regional foreign trade grew strongly in 2022

All federal provinces with double-digit growth, Upper Austria with the largest trade balance surplus

Vienna, 2023-07-17 – In 2022, all Austrian federal states recorded strong growth in their trade of goods, as shown by preliminary data of Statistics Austria. Compared to 2021, Upper Austria recorded the highest relative growth rate on the export side (+22.5%). On the import side, Vienna showed the strongest increase (+23.3%).

“The significant growth in Austria's foreign trade in 2022 of +19.8% in imports and +17.2% in exports is also reflected in regional foreign trade: All federal provinces achieved double-digit growth rates in the value of both imported and exported goods. Exports increased particularly strongly in Upper Austria and imports in Vienna. In contrast to this rise in value, however, the volumes imported and exported declined significantly in some cases. This was mainly due to the sharp price increases in 2022,” says Statistics Austria Director General Tobias Thomas.

In 2022, Austria's overall trade of goods increased by +19.8% in imports and by +17.2% in exports. All nine federal provinces recorded significant increases in **exports** compared to 2021. The largest relative increase in this respect was found in Upper Austria (+22.5% or +€9.63 bn), followed by Burgenland (+21.8% or +€0.55 bn) and Salzburg (+19.3% or +€2.22 bn). The smallest relative increase was recorded by Vorarlberg (+10.4% or +€1.31 bn). All nine Austrian federal provinces also achieved double-digit growth on the **import** side: Vienna (+23.3% or +€10.58 bn), Lower Austria (+22.9% or +€6.83 bn) and Upper Austria (+21.1% or +€7.35 bn) posted the strongest relative increases on the import side (see table 1).

Upper Austria with more than 27% of all exports and the highest trade surplus

Five federal provinces recorded a trade surplus in 2022, i.e. more goods were exported than imported by these federal provinces. Upper Austria accounted for the highest assets with €10.29 bn, followed by Styria with €6.12 bn and Vorarlberg with €3.09 bn. Vienna recorded the highest deficit at €29.28 bn.

Exports of goods from Austria totaled €194.13 bn in 2022. More than a quarter of this amount (€52.42 bn or 27.0%) was attributable to Upper Austria. With €29.34 bn or 15.1%, Lower Austria was the federal province with the second highest export values, followed by Styria (€28.91 bn or 14.9%) and Vienna (€26.71 bn or 13.8%). Total Austrian imports of goods amounted to €213.72 bn. With a value of €56.00 bn, Vienna had the highest share on the import side (26.2%), followed by Upper Austria (€42.13 bn or 19.7%) and Lower Austria (€36.70 bn or 17.2%). Measured by trade intensity – thus, the sum of imports and exports –, Upper Austria, Vienna and Lower Austria were the federal provinces with the highest trade of goods values.

Most important goods: machinery and products of the chemical industry

In most of the federal provinces, trade of goods with machinery (chapters 84, 85 and 87 of the Combined Nomenclature) dominated both on the import and export side. Mineral fuels (chapter 27) were the most important goods on the import side in Lower Austria and Vienna. In Tyrol, imports of organic chemicals (chapter 29) predominated with a share of 15.6%, and exports of pharmaceutical products (chapter 30) with a share of 17.3% of the federal province's total imports and exports. The most important chapter on the export side in Vienna were pharmaceutical products as well with a share of 22.1% (see table 2).

Germany remains the most important trading partner

As in 2021, Germany was by far the most important trading partner for all Austrian federal states, both in terms of imports and exports. All federal states recorded increases with this neighboring country. The strongest relative increases were recorded in Lower Austria (+25.3%) on the import side and in Tyrol (+20.0%) on the export side. In 2022, more than 43% of all imports to Salzburg came from Germany. With a share of almost 36%, Germany was by far the most important export partner for Upper Austria.

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

Table 1: Trade of goods by federal provinces 2022

Federal province	Import	Export	Share (in %)		In- (+) or decrease (-) compared to previous year (in %)	
			Import	Export	Import	Export
Burgenland	3 589 260 505	3 054 748 314	1.7	1.6	17.2	21.8
Carinthia	9 170 592 796	9 410 094 018	4.3	4.8	19.5	16.7
Lower Austria	36 702 049 809	29 339 483 999	17.2	15.1	22.9	18.6
Upper Austria	42 132 347 289	52 421 755 526	19.7	27.0	21.1	22.5
Salzburg	16 342 931 992	13 716 162 500	7.6	7.1	16.3	19.3
Styria	22 788 536 620	28 907 467 568	10.7	14.9	13.5	12.6
Tyrol	16 172 389 480	16 648 130 711	7.6	8.6	13.0	13.5
Vorarlberg	10 822 926 663	13 914 836 053	5.1	7.2	17.9	10.4
Vienna	55 996 177 695	26 713 147 922	26.2	13.8	23.3	16.0
Austria	213 717 212 849	194 125 826 611	100.0	100.0	19.8	17.2

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Trade of goods by federal provinces. – Financed by the nine federal provinces and the Austrian Chamber of Commerce. – Values are not calculated from the individual values in the table. – Preliminary results.

Table 2: Trade of goods by federal province 2022 and largest CN2¹ chapter

Federal province	Largest CN2-chapter per federal province	Value in Euro	Share ²
Import			
Burgenland	85, Electrical machinery and equipment and parts thereof	629 730 521	17.5%
Carinthia	84, Nuclear reactors, boilers, machinery and mech. appliances	1 751 490 704	19.1%
Lower Austria	27, Mineral fuels/oils/distillation; mineral waxes et al.	8 847 475 410	24.1%
Upper Austria	84, Nuclear reactors, boilers, machinery and mech. appliances	7 834 656 793	18.6%
Salzburg	87, Vehicles other than railway and parts thereof	5 667 599 578	34.7%
Styria	87, Vehicles other than railway and parts thereof	2 820 364 822	12.4%
Tyrol	29, Organic chemicals	2 527 331 649	15.6%
Vorarlberg	84, Nuclear reactors, boilers, machinery and mech. appliances	1 474 701 779	13.6%
Vienna	27, Mineral fuels/oils/distillation; mineral waxes et al.	8 955 002 326	16.0%
Export			
Burgenland	85, Electrical machinery and equipment and parts thereof	566 508 993	18.5%
Carinthia	84, Nuclear reactors, boilers, machinery and mech. appliances	2 373 881 224	25.2%
Lower Austria	84, Nuclear reactors, boilers, machinery and mech. appliances	3 311 998 011	11.3%
Upper Austria	84, Nuclear reactors, boilers, machinery and mech. appliances	13 302 558 612	25.4%
Salzburg	84, Nuclear reactors, boilers, machinery and mech. appliances	2 291 761 125	16.7%
Styria	87, Vehicles other than railway and parts thereof	6 731 442 725	23.3%
Tyrol	30, Pharmaceutical products	2 887 658 119	17.3%
Vorarlberg	84, Nuclear reactors, boilers, machinery and mech. appliances	2 472 315 630	17.8%
Vienna	30, Pharmaceutical products	5 894 323 153	22.1%

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1)CN2: Combined Nomenclature. – 2) Share of a CN2 chapter per federal province and in the respective trade flow.

Information on methodology, definitions: On behalf of the Austrian Federal Economic Chamber and the nine Austrian provincial governments, Statistics Austria has been conducting an analysis of the regionalisation of Austria's trade by province since the reporting year 2010. In this process, existing statistical data sources are used to obtain statistically reliable regional trade of goods data that comply with the principles of official statistics by linking and reclassifying them at the detailed record level.

The present result of international trade of goods statistics (ITGS) contains data from the statistics on trade in goods with non-EU countries (EXTRASTAT), which are linked to the customs declaration, and from the primary statistics on trade in goods with EU member states (INTRASTAT), as well as estimates of the INTRASTAT data collected, which cover the non-response of the survey and values not collected due to flooding. Trade of goods statistics generally cover the physical movement of goods that cross the Austrian border.

The regionalisation of trade of goods data by province is achieved by linking them with other statistical data sources (e.g. short-term statistics, performance and structural statistics) and by including register information (e.g. register of statistical units) at the detailed record level.

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

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