

Press release: 13 227-255/23

# Desire to travel remained high in summer 2023

## Number of holiday trips by the Austrian resident population rose to 9.31 million in Q3 2023

Vienna, 2023-12-20 – According to preliminary data from Statistics Austria, 63.5% of the population aged 15 and over took a total of 9.31 million holiday trips with at least one overnight stay in the period July to September 2023. This is 2.5% more holiday trips than in the same quarter of the previous year (9.08 million).

“This summer, the desire to travel remained high despite the inflation: 63.5% of the total population aged 15 and over, or 4.88 million people in Austria, took at least one holiday trip between July and September. In summer 2022, this proportion was just below this, at 63.3%. This means that the travel intensity of the Austrian resident population was once again significantly higher than in the pre-pandemic summer of 2019 when it was at 57.6%,” says Statistics Austria Director General Tobias Thomas.

### More than half of summer holidays trips went abroad

Almost half (47.5%) of the Austrian resident population aged 15 and over went on holiday abroad at least once this summer. Of the 9.31 million holiday trips in total, 5.35 million, i.e. more than half (57.5%), were spent abroad. This is 6.0% more holiday trips abroad than in the summer of the previous year (Q3 2022: 5.05 million). The most popular holiday destinations abroad in summer 2023 were Italy (22.2% of all holiday trips abroad), Croatia (17.9%) and Germany (12.8%).

32.7% of the Austrian resident population aged 15 and over spent at least one summer holiday trip in Austria. At 3.95 million, domestic holiday trips decreased by 1.8% compared to the third quarter of 2022. The most popular holiday destinations within Austria were Styria (20.3% of all domestic holidays), Lower Austria (16.1%) and Carinthia (15.7%).

### Two out of three short holidays were spent in Austria

The majority of short holiday trips (one to three nights) were spent within Austria: 65.5% of all short holiday trips were taken in Austria, while just over one in three (34.5%) led abroad. Longer holiday trips with four or more overnight stays, on the other hand, tended to be spent abroad: three out of four (74.6%) main holiday trips were abroad, while a quarter (25.4%) were within Austria.

### Car is most common means of transport; recreation most important reason for travelling

The most frequently used means of transport for travelling to and from a holiday destination was the car for both domestic and international destinations, but in significantly different proportions (78.6% of all domestic holiday trips, 51.6% of all holiday trips abroad). In addition, almost one in three (32.4%) trips abroad were made by plane and 7.5% of holidays abroad were by train. For comparison, in the third quarter of 2022, a higher share (11.1%) of holiday trips abroad was made by train and the share of air travel abroad was at 30.5%. For domestic holidays in Q3 2023, the share of rail holiday trips was 15.3% and thus at a similar level to the same quarter of the previous year (14.9%).

As in previous years, summer holidays were most frequently taken for the purpose of recreation (36.7% of all holiday trips), followed by visits to relatives or friends (20.4%) and active holidays (17.8%). A breakdown of domestic trips and trips abroad shows that recreation as travel reason was more common for travelling abroad (41.9% of all holiday trips abroad) than for domestic trips (29.8%). The second most important reason for a trip abroad was culture, sightseeing, shopping and city breaks (21.0%), followed by active

holidays (24.3%), whereas in trips within Austria it was active holidays (24.3%), closely followed by visiting relatives and friends (24.0%).

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

### Holiday trips in the summer months (July, August and September) 2019 to 2023

	2019	2020	2021	2022 rev. <sup>1</sup>	2023
<b>Share of persons aged 15 and older with at least one holiday trip (in %)</b>					
Domestic trips	30.8	33.8	35.8	35.5	32.7
Trips abroad	39.1	16.5	34.4	44.9	47.5
Total	57.6	43.2	56.1	63.3	63.5
<b>Holiday trips by duration (number of trips in 1 000)</b>					
Short-term trips (1–3 nights)	2 914.4	2 965.9	3 462.8	4 200.5	3 965.7
Longer trips (4 and more nights)	4 129.4	2 643.9	4 508.9	4 875.1	5 339.8
Total	7 043.8	5 609.8	7 971.7	9 075.7	9 305.5
<b>Holiday trips by duration (share in %)</b>					
Short-term trips (1–3 nights)	41.4	52.9	43.4	46.3	42.6
Longer trips (4 and more nights)	58.6	47.1	56.6	53.7	57.4
<b>By month of departure (share in %)</b>					
July	37.7	33.5	34.1	36.5	34.6
August	38.4	42.6	40.9	39.7	38.0
September	23.9	23.9	25.0	23.8	27.4
<b>Organisation of the trips (share in %)</b>					
Privat	72.8	82.3	79.9	70.4	69.8
Travel agency or tour operator	27.2	17.7	20.1	29.6	30.2
<b>Domestic trips and trips abroad (in 1 000)</b>					
Domestic trips	3 204.0	3 933.9	4 093.1	4 025.0	3 953.8
Trips abroad	3 839.8	1 675.9	3 878.5	5 050.7	5 351.7
Total	7 043.8	5 609.8	7 971.6	9 075.7	9 305.5
<b>Domestic trips and trips abroad (share in %)</b>					
Domestic trips	45.5	70.1	51.3	44.3	42.5
Trips abroad	54.5	29.9	48.7	55.7	57.5
<b>Top destinations abroad</b>					
Italy (incl. Vatican, San Marino)	22.2	31.7	32.6	25.9	22.2
Croatia	13.9	8.3	16.2	16.7	17.9
Germany	12.6	25.0	12.7	11.0	12.8
Greece	9.7	4.3	10.0	6.5	5.8
Spain (incl. Andorra, Gibraltar)	4.4	3.1	3.9	5.6	5.0
Türkiye	2.9	1.5	2.3	2.2	3.3
Hungary	2.8	4.3	1.7	3.0	3.0
France (incl. Monaco)	2.8	3.0	2.4	2.9	2.4
Long-distance trips <sup>2</sup>	6.4	0.2	0.7	4.6	4.1
Other destinations	22.3	18.6	17.5	21.6	23.5

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA. Travel habits. – Holiday trips with at least one night spent. – Rounding differences not adjusted. –

1) rev. = revised. Data for 2022 revised in October 2023 due to necessary methodological adjustments. This affects the number of trips and overnight stays as well as all characteristics. – 2) Holiday trips outside Europe and Türkiye.

**Information on methodology:** 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 via web questionnaire (CAWI) and by telephone (CATI). Participation in the survey is voluntary. The sampling frame for the proportionally stratified sample is the Central Population Register (ZMR). The data 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 are available since the reporting year 1969.

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

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