

Press release: 13 235-001/24

The federal provinces' foreign trade increased in the first half of 2023, in some cases sharply

Double-digit growth in exports in Vienna and imports in Salzburg

Vienna, 2024-01-02 – According to preliminary data by Statistics Austria, seven of Austria's nine federal provinces achieved growth in exports in the first half of 2023. Vienna recorded the strongest growth in exports compared to the first half of 2022 (+11.3%). Salzburg recorded the most significant increase in imports (+15.6%).

“In the first half of 2023, seven out of nine federal provinces achieved partly strong growth rates in their exports. Imports fell moderately to sharply in five federal provinces and increased to varying degrees in four federal provinces. While Salzburg and Vienna achieved above-average growth in both directions of transport compared to the first half of 2022, falling energy prices in particular led to significantly lower import and export values in Burgenland than in the previous year,” says Statistics Austria Director General Tobias Thomas.

In the first six months of 2023, Austria's overall trade of goods increased by +0.9% in imports and by +6.6% in exports. Seven out of nine federal provinces recorded increases in **exports** compared to the first half of 2022. The largest relative increase in exports had Vienna (+11.3% or +€1.51 bn), followed by Upper Austria (+9.3% or +€2.38 bn) and Salzburg (+9.0% or +€0.59 bn). Burgenland (–11.5% or –€0.20 bn) and Vorarlberg (–1.8% or –€0.12 bn) recorded declines. Four federal provinces achieved growth in **imports**: Salzburg (+15.6% or +€1.24 bn), Vienna (+3.7% or +€1.01 bn), Lower Austria (+1.1% or +€0.20 bn) and Styria (+0.6% or +€0.06 bn). Compared to the previous period, imports fell primarily in Burgenland (–14.6% or –€0.27 bn), Vorarlberg (–7.8% or –€0.42 bn) and Carinthia (–6.0% or –€0.28 bn; see table 1).

Upper Austria with more than 25% of all exports and the highest trade surplus

Five federal provinces recorded a trade surplus in the first half year 2023, i.e. more goods were exported than imported by these federal provinces. Upper Austria accounted for the highest surplus with €7.57 bn, followed by Styria with €3.95 bn and Vorarlberg with €1.79 bn. Vienna recorded the highest deficit at €13.24 bn.

Exports of goods from Austria totaled €102.17 bn in the first six months of 2023. More than a quarter of this amount (€27.88 bn or 27.3%) was attributable to Upper Austria. With €15.40 bn or 15.1%, Lower Austria was the federal province with the second highest export values, followed by Styria (€15.28 bn or 15.0%) and Vienna (€14.88 bn or 14.6%). Total Austrian imports of goods amounted to €105.59 bn. With a value of €28.11 bn, Vienna had the highest share on the import side (26.6%), followed by Upper Austria (€20.30 bn or 19.2%) and Lower Austria (€17.63 bn or 16.7%).

Most important goods: machinery and products of the chemical industry

In most of the federal provinces, trade of goods with machinery dominated both on the import and export side. In Tyrol, imports of organic chemicals predominated with a share of 19.7%, and exports of pharmaceutical products with a share of 15.9% of the federal province's total imports and exports. Mineral fuels were the most important imported goods in Lower Austria (share: 21.0%). In Vienna, pharmaceutical products were also the most important imports (share: 14.4%) and exports (share: 28.7%; see table 2).

Germany remains the most important trading partner for all federal provinces

As in the previous year, Germany was by far the most important trading partner for all Austrian federal provinces in terms of import and export values in the first half of 2023. Salzburg recorded the strongest percentage growth in imports (+8.9%) with this neighboring country. Burgenland (-18.7%) and Vorarlberg (-8.3%) were among those to record declines in imports from Germany. Vienna (+15.0%), Tyrol (+13.3%) and Carinthia (+9.6%) in particular achieved strong increases in exports to Germany.

In the first half of 2023, more than 40% of all imports to Salzburg came from Germany. With a share of approximately 35%, 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 first half year 2023

Federal province	Import	Export	Share (in %)		In- (+) or decrease (-) compared to previous year (in %)	
			Import	Export	Import	Export
Burgenland	1 590 942 327	1 517 713 161	1.5	1.5	-14.6	-11.5
Carinthia	4 360 655 687	4 959 199 356	4.1	4.9	-6.0	6.5
Lower Austria	17 632 382 170	15 402 653 299	16.7	15.1	1.1	5.4
Upper Austria	20 303 493 827	27 877 898 400	19.2	27.3	-2.0	9.3
Salzburg	9 190 425 057	7 120 494 850	8.7	7.0	15.6	9.0
Styria	11 334 673 733	15 281 693 459	10.7	15.0	0.6	6.2
Tyrol	8 091 638 452	8 361 128 938	7.7	8.2	-2.1	2.2
Vorarlberg	4 977 382 865	6 772 268 286	4.7	6.6	-7.8	-1.8
Vienna	28 111 495 564	14 876 133 916	26.6	14.6	3.7	11.3
Austria	105 593 089 682	102 169 183 665	100.0	100.0	0.9	6.6

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 first half year 2023 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	304 395 424	19.1%
Carinthia	84, Nuclear reactors, boilers, machinery and mech. appliances	810 944 839	18.6%
Lower Austria	27, Mineral fuels/oils/distillation; mineral waxes et al.	3 701 869 156	21.0%
Upper Austria	84, Nuclear reactors, boilers, machinery and mech. appliances	4 107 872 288	20.2%
Salzburg	87, Vehicles other than railway and parts thereof	3 827 051 338	41.6%
Styria	87, Vehicles other than railway and parts thereof	1 596 323 888	14.1%
Tyrol	29, Organic chemicals	1 595 280 200	19.7%
Vorarlberg	84, Nuclear reactors, boilers, machinery and mech. appliances	694 995 577	14.0%
Vienna	30, Pharmaceutical products	4 058 791 310	14.4%
Export			
Burgenland	85, Electrical machinery and equipment and parts thereof	338 960 302	22.3%
Carinthia	84, Nuclear reactors, boilers, machinery and mech. appliances	1 336 353 636	26.9%
Lower Austria	84, Nuclear reactors, boilers, machinery and mech. appliances	1 955 910 175	12.7%
Upper Austria	84, Nuclear reactors, boilers, machinery and mech. appliances	7 507 610 077	26.9%
Salzburg	84, Nuclear reactors, boilers, machinery and mech. appliances	1 334 855 592	18.7%
Styria	87, Vehicles other than railway and parts thereof	3 700 722 950	24.2%
Tyrol	30, Pharmaceutical products	1 333 149 212	15.9%
Vorarlberg	84, Nuclear reactors, boilers, machinery and mech. appliances	1 322 426 614	19.5%
Vienna	30, Pharmaceutical products	4 264 060 696	28.7%

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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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