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Number of air passengers up by more than a quarter in 2023

Number of passengers reached over 90% of the pre-corona level

Vienna, 2024-02-23 – According to Statistics Austria, 33.2 million passengers were counted at the six Austrian airports in 2023. Compared to the previous year, the passenger volume rose by 25.3%. Air cargo increased by 1.7% to 218 522 tonnes, air mail fell by 6.8% to 6 205 tonnes.

“Following the pandemic-related restrictions, aviation has recovered steadily since 2021 and is now flying high again. 33.2 million passengers were counted at the six Austrian airports in 2023, a quarter more than in the previous year – and at almost 92% of the passenger volume of the record year 2019, the second-highest figure since records began in 1955,” says Tobias Thomas, Director General of Statistics Austria.

With a total of 33.2 million passengers transported (transit included), the **passenger volume** at the six Austrian airports in 2023 increased by 25.3% or 6.7 million passengers compared to the previous year. After commercial aviation fell to 9.3 million passengers in the first Corona year 2020, the upward trend observed since 2021 continued in 2023. The number of passengers in 2023 reached 91.6% of the pre-pandemic level and is now 3.0 million passengers below the value of the record year 2019.

In 2023, the airports of Vienna, Graz, Innsbruck, Klagenfurt, Linz and Salzburg handled 259 000 **aircraft movements** in scheduled and non-scheduled traffic, 16.8% more take-offs and landings than in the previous year. Compared to 2019 – with 319 945 take-offs and landings – 19.0% fewer aircraft movements were registered. An average of 128.1 persons were transported per flight, which means a growth by 7.2% compared to the previous year (2022: 119.5 persons). In comparison to 2019 (113.2 persons), the average number of passengers carried increased by 13.2%.

All Austrian airports with a significant increase in passenger numbers

Increases of the number of passengers were reported for all six Austrian airports in 2023 (see table). At **Vienna** airport, the number of passengers carried rose by 24.7% to 29.5 million compared to 2022. At **Salzburg** airport, it grew by 31.3% to 1.6 million and at **Innsbruck** airport by 25.7% to 0.9 million persons. The airport **Graz** showed a rise by 30.6% to 0.7 million passengers and the airport **Linz** reported an increase by 12.1% to 232 911 passengers. **Klagenfurt** recorded the largest relative growth in the number of passengers with +85.5% to an amount of 153 536 people.

In comparison to the pre-pandemic level, at the Salzburg airport the number of passengers in 2023 achieved 94% of the passenger number counted in 2019, in Vienna it was at 93%, in Innsbruck around 79% and in Graz almost 71%. At the two airports with the lowest passenger volumes, Klagenfurt and Linz, the number of people arriving and departing was 73% and 53% of the 2019 figures.

Cargo up year-on-year, mail down

The six Austrian airports handled 218 522 tonnes of **air cargo** in 2023, an increase of 1.7% compared to the previous year. The volume transported was thus 11.6% lower than in 2019. Vienna airport accounted for by far the largest tonnage with a share of 94.3% or 206 062 tonnes (+2.0% compared to 2022).

The total volume of **air mail** 2023 fell by 6.8% to 6 205 tonnes compared to 2022 and was thus 62.4% below the value of the pre-pandemic year 2019.

Transport performance of airports in Austria 2019, 2022 and 2023

Airport	Year	Flights	Passengers	Freight in tonnes	Mail in tonnes
Vienna	2023	221 095	29 533 040	206 062.4	6 204.7
	2022	188 412	23 682 133	202 054.4	6 658.6
	2019	266 802	31 661 727	238 836.6	16 521.0
Graz	2023	9 655	733 146	150,9	-
	2022	8 603	561 375	41.2	-
	2019	14 721	1 036 925	137.5	-
Innsbruck	2023	8 740	906 655	-	-
	2022	7 450	721 412	-	-
	2019	12 106	1 144 541	4.9	-
Klagenfurt	2023	1 848	153 536	-	-
	2022	1 328	82 760	-	-
	2019	3 198	209 434	-	-
Linz	2023	3 746	232 911	12 167.2	-
	2022	3 884	207 766	12 648.1	-
	2019	6 492	436 024	8 119.2	0
Salzburg	2023	13 916	1 614 601	141.2	0
	2022	12 031	1 229 495	98.2	-
	2019	16 626	1 717 991	102.3	-
Total	2023	259 000	33 173 889	218 521.8	6 204.7
	2022	221 708	26 484 941	214 841.9	6 658.6
	2019	319 945	36 206 642	247 200.4	16 521.0

Q: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Civil aviation. – Rounding differences may occur.

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

Information on methodology, definitions: Commercial Air transport refers to civil air transport of national and foreign aircrafts, which take off and land on the six Austrian airports Vienna, Graz, Innsbruck, Klagenfurt, Linz and Salzburg. Flight movements with passenger, freight and mail transport as well as empty flights in national and international traffic are recorded. Domestic flights are recorded several times, since both take-off and landing at the individual airports are counted. The figures for passenger, air freight and air mail volume include arriving, departing and transit passengers, freight and mail. The information on transit passengers (through traffic without change of the flight number) does not include transfer passengers (through traffic with change of the flight number). Information on air freight refers to goods that were actually transported by aircraft. Air freight replacement service (transport by goods vehicles between airports) is not included in the calculations.

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

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