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Population growth in Austria in 2023 considerably lower than in previous year

Net-migration positive, balance of births/deaths negative, fertility at low point

Vienna, 2024-05-28 – According to final data by Statistics Austria, a total of 9 158 750 people lived in Austria on 1 January 2024, 53 978 persons more (+0.6%) than at the beginning of 2023. In 2022, Austria's population had recorded an increase by 125 843 people or 1.5%.

“In 2023, Austria's population increased by almost 54 000 people to 9.16 million. The increase was therefore significantly lower than in the record year 2022, with an increase of almost 126 000 people. The sole cause of population growth in 2023 was immigration. In total, almost 67 000 more people came from abroad in 2023 than left Austria. The birth balance, however, was strongly negative for the fourth year in a row: in 2023, around 12 000 more people died than were born. This is the highest birth deficit since the end of the Second World War”, says Statistics Austria Director General Tobias Thomas.

Population increase highest in Vienna, lowest in Carinthia

The federal capital Vienna experienced the strongest **population growth** in 2023 with +1.2%, followed by Vorarlberg (+0.9%) in second place. In Tyrol and Salzburg (+0.6% each), the increase of the population was approximately the same as the Austrian average. Below-average increases were recorded in Upper Austria (+0.5%), Styria (+0.4%), Lower Austria (+0.3%) and Burgenland (+0.2%). With an increase of 0.1%, Carinthia recorded the lowest population growth of all federal provinces in 2023 (see table 1).

Large decrease in number of births; fertility at new low point with 1.32 children per woman

In 2023, a total of 77 605 children were born, 6.1% fewer than in 2022 (see table 2). This is the lowest number of live births since 2009, when 76 344 babies were born in Austria. At 1.32 children per woman, the **total fertility rate** in 2023 was considerably lower than the previous year's figure (1.41) and even fell short of the previous all-time-low of 1.33 children per woman in 2001.

Vorarlberg and Upper Austria in 2023 once more had the highest **total fertility rates** with 1.50 and 1.45 children per woman, respectively. Lower Austria, Salzburg, Styria and Carinthia were also above the national average of 1.32 children per woman. Lower total fertility rates 2023 were found in Vienna, Burgenland and Tyrol (between 1.17 and 1.31).

Fewer deaths; life expectancy almost at pre-pandemic level

In 2023, a total of 89 760 people died, 3.8% less than in the previous year. For the first time since 2020, the number of deaths fell below the 90 000 threshold, yet it remained on a considerably higher level than in the years 2015 to 2019. The infant mortality rate was 2.8‰ in 2023 (2022: 2.4‰). **Life expectancy at birth** increased by 0.4 years for both men (79.4 years) and women (84.2 years) compared to the previous year. Thus, life expectancy for women reached its level from before the Corona-pandemic, while men's life expectancy remained only 0.1 years below its value from 2019.

The traditional west-east divide in **life expectancy** by federal provinces remained almost unchanged in 2023 – there were slight shifts in Carinthia and Burgenland. While men in Tyrol, Vorarlberg and Salzburg lived to be over 80.5 years old on average, as in previous years, their life expectancy in Styria, Upper Austria and Burgenland was between 79.4 and 79.8 years. In Vienna, Lower Austria and Carinthia, men only reached an average age of between 78.6 and 79.0 years. Carinthia, Vorarlberg and Tyrol led in terms of life expectancy

for women with 84.7 to 85.3 years. In Styria, Upper Austria and Salzburg, life expectancy for women was between 84.4 and 84.6 years, while the eastern federal provinces Vienna, Lower Austria and Burgenland had values of 83.3 to 84.3 years.

12 155 more deaths than births resulted in a negative balance

With –12 155 in 2023, the **balance of births and deaths** remained negative for the fourth time in a row since 2020 and in addition reached the lowest value since the end of World War II. However, there were notable differences among the federal states: As in previous years, Vienna (+823), Vorarlberg (+565) and Tyrol (+119), achieved birth surpluses. Fewer newborns than deaths were recorded in Lower Austria (–5 598), Styria (–3 160), Carinthia (–2 259), Burgenland (–1 477), Upper Austria (–1 116) and Salzburg (–52).

Net-migration in 2023 just below half of the previous year

In 2023, 194 959 people moved to Austria from abroad and 128 330 emigrated from Austria to other countries. This resulted in an **international net-migration** of +66 629 people. In the previous year, this balance was more than twice as high (2022: +136 979 people), which was mainly due to the strong immigration from Ukraine.

41% of the **net-immigration of persons without Austrian citizenship** (+71 889) consisted in 2023 of citizens of another EU or EFTA state or nationals of the United Kingdom, 59% were other third-country nationals. Among EU and EFTA nationals, Germans (+8 458), Hungarians (+6 745), Croatians and Romanians (+3 875 each) had the highest balances. Among third-country citizens, the highest net-migration was among Syrian (+13 890), Turkish (+5 024) and Afghan (+2 561) nationals.

As usual, more **Austrian citizens** moved from Austria abroad than from abroad to Austria, however, their negative net-migration of –5 260 was slightly lower than in the previous year (2022: –6 257)

On 1 January 2024, a total of 1 800 866 non-Austrian citizens lived in Austria, 71 046 more than on 1 January 2023 (1 729 820 people). **The share of foreign nationals** in the total population rose from 19.0% at the beginning of 2023 to 19.7% at the beginning of 2024. With 35.4%, Vienna had the highest share of non-Austrian nationals, followed by Vorarlberg (20.6%) and Salzburg (20.3%). The share was lowest in Burgenland (11.4%), with Lower Austria (12.2%) and Carinthia (13.2%) coming next.

Vienna leads among immigration from abroad, Lower Austria leads among immigration from other federal provinces

Among the federal provinces, Vienna recorded the largest gain in international migration (see table 4). With +21 959 people, about a third (33%) of Austria's international net-migration 2023 was accounted for by the federal capital. Upper Austria (+9 283) and Styria (+8 989) also saw high net-immigration from abroad, while this value was lowest in Burgenland (+878) and Vorarlberg (+1 659).

In contrast, the **net-migration gain with other federal provinces** in Vienna was only in fourth place with +1 199 people. Lower Austria recorded the largest gain (+4 255), followed by Vorarlberg (+1 367) and Burgenland (+1 301). Tyrol (–332), Upper Austria (–604), Styria (–1 157), Carinthia (–2 761) and Salzburg (–3 268) had more outward migration than inward migration and thus negative balances.

The majority of internal migrations took place over short distances, with people moving within a single municipality in approximately 53.7% of all cases. 16.9% of all internal migrations took place between federal provinces. Overall, the number of internal migrations in Austria in 2023 was 834 797, and thus slightly below the previous year's level (2022: 842 152).

For detailed results and further information on [population stock and changes](#), on [births and deaths](#) and on [migration](#) please refer to our website. Interactive maps on the population structure as well as on migration are available in the web application [STATatlas](#).

Table 1: Austrian population on 1 January 2024 compared to 1 January 2023 by federal province

Federal province	Population		Population change		Foreign nationals on 1 January 2024	
	on 1 January 2023	on 1 January 2024	absolute	in %	absolute	in %
Austria	9 104 772	9 158 750	53 978	0,6	1 800 866	19,7
Burgenland	301 250	301 951	701	0,2	34 390	11,4
Carinthia	568 984	569 744	760	0,1	75 474	13,2
Lower Austria	1 718 373	1 723 723	5 350	0,3	210 754	12,2
Upper Austria	1 522 825	1 530 349	7 524	0,5	244 461	16,0
Salzburg	568 346	571 479	3 133	0,6	116 288	20,3
Styria	1 265 198	1 269 801	4 603	0,4	179 682	14,2
Tyrol	771 304	775 970	4 666	0,6	145 111	18,7
Vorarlberg	406 395	409 973	3 578	0,9	84 287	20,6
Vienna	1 982 097	2 005 760	23 663	1,2	710 419	35,4

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Population statistics.

Table 2: Natural population movement in 2023 by federal province

Federal province	Births ¹		Deaths ¹		Balance of births and deaths ¹	Total fertility rate ²	Life expectancy at birth in years		Infant mortality rate ³
	absolute	change 2022 – 2023 in %	absolute	change 2022 – 2023 in %			Man	Woman	
Austria	77 605	-6,1	89 760	-3,8	-12 155	1,32	79,4	84,2	2,8
Burgenland	1 979	-7,6	3 456	-6,0	-1 477	1,26	79,8	84,3	2,5
Carinthia	4 217	-5,5	6 476	-4,4	-2 259	1,33	79,0	84,7	1,2
Lower Austria	13 523	-6,8	19 121	-1,9	-5 598	1,39	79,0	84,0	2,3
Upper Austria	13 666	-7,6	14 782	-3,0	-1 116	1,45	79,7	84,4	2,8
Salzburg	5 115	-6,2	5 167	-3,1	-52	1,38	80,5	84,6	2,0
Styria	10 375	-3,0	13 535	-4,5	-3 160	1,33	79,4	84,4	2,7
Tyrol	6 766	-8,9	6 647	-4,5	119	1,31	80,9	85,3	1,9
Vorarlberg	3 892	-2,9	3 327	-9,0	565	1,50	80,6	85,3	2,3
Vienna	18 072	-5,6	17 249	-4,4	823	1,17	78,6	83,3	4,5

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Vital Statistics

1) Including 666 births abroad to mothers with main residence in Austria and 1 755 deaths abroad of persons with main residence in Austria. – 2) Number of children per woman. – 3) Per 1 000 live births.

Table 3: International migration 2023 and population stock on 1 January 2024 by citizenship

Citizenship	International migration 2023			Population on 1 January 2024
	immigration	emigration	net-migration	
Total	194 959	128 330	66 629	9 158 750
Austria	13 391	18 651	-5 260	7 357 884
Not Austria	181 568	109 679	71 889	1 800 866
EU-/EFTA-states/UK, including:	94 033	64 446	29 587	923 013
Germany	19 774	11 316	8 458	232 739
Hungary	14 723	7 978	6 745	107 264
Romania	19 252	15 377	3 875	153 427
Croatia	7 917	4 042	3 875	106 679
Italy	4 695	3 237	1 458	39 435
United Kingdom	713	799	-86	10 781
Third-state nationals	87 535	45 233	42 302	877 853
European third-country nationals, including:	41 501	27 409	14 092	528 633
Türkiye	7 595	2 571	5 024	124 068
Bosnia and Herzegovina	4 405	2 196	2 209	99 837
Ukraine	15 739	14 511	1 228	80 665
Serbia	5 362	4 314	1 048	122 204
Africa	5 679	2 608	3 071	43 869
America	5 317	3 631	1 686	27 911
Asia, including:	34 209	11 057	23 152	254 779
Syria	15 246	1 356	13 890	95 180
Afghanistan	3 530	969	2 561	49 818
Oceania	381	238	143	1 897
Stateless/unknown	448	290	158	20 764

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Migration Statistics, Population statistics.

Table 4: Migration 2023 by federal province

Federal province	International migration			Migration within Austria		
	immigration	emigration	net-migration	Immigration from other federal provinces	Emigration to other federal provinces	Net-migration among federal provinces
Austria	194 959	128 330	66 629	-	-	-
Burgenland	3 238	2 360	878	7 697	6 396	1 301
Carinthia	10 883	5 085	5 798	7 306	10 067	-2 761
Lower Austria	22 408	15 738	6 670	34 349	30 094	4 255
Upper Austria	25 747	16 464	9 283	17 251	17 855	-604
Salzburg	15 223	8 730	6 493	7 760	11 028	-3 268
Styria	22 674	13 685	8 989	14 401	15 558	-1 157
Tyrol	16 749	11 849	4 900	6 216	6 548	-332
Vorarlberg	7 968	6 309	1 659	4 097	2 730	1 367
Vienna	70 069	48 110	21 959	41 891	40 692	1 199

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Migration Statistics.

Information on methodology, definitions:

Population statistics are based on the Central Residence Register's data on main residence registrations in Austria, which are processed according to population statistics criteria. The final results presented here consider statistical adjustments based on the population figures that are determined annually for the fiscal equalisation. The resident population includes persons with a length of stay (main residence registration) of at least 90 days (including the reference date).

Migration Statistics are also based on data on registrations and de-registrations of main residences recorded by the Central Residence Register (ZMR) of the Federal Ministry of the Interior (BMI), which records all migration movements (changes of main residence) within Austria and between foreign countries and Austria. In line with the recommendations of the United Nations (1998) on the registration and classification of migrants according to their length of stay, Migration Statistics only consider persons with a stay (main residence registration) of at least 90 days in Austria.

The **statistics of natural population movements on births and deaths** are based on the entries in the Central Civil Status Register (ZPR), with all information submitted by 16 April 2024 being included in the final results for 2023. Events taking place abroad of persons with main residence in Austria are also counted. Births and deaths in Austria of persons residing abroad are not included. The regional assignment of the published data is based on the mother's place of residence in the case of births and on the last place of residence of the deceased in the case of deaths

From a demographic point of view, the population size changes between two reference dates due to the two components birth balance (difference between live births minus deaths) and net-migration (difference between immigration and emigration). However, the administrative data of the Central Residence Register and the Central Civil Status Register on which the population statistics are based cannot explain all changes in the population. For this reason, **statistical corrections** are made. In the calendar year 2023, the necessary statistical corrections caused a slight decrease in the population by 496 persons.

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