

Press release: 13 380-146/24

15% more traffic accidents on hot days

Most traffic fatalities in June and August 2023

Vienna, 2024-07-10 – According to Statistics Austria, there were substantially more road traffic accidents with personal injury on hot days in Austria in summer 2023 (June to August) than on days with maximum temperatures below 30 degrees Celsius. With 139 fatalities in the period from June to August, 2023 saw the second-highest number of road deaths since summer 2016, with the months of June and August 2023 being particularly notable with 47 fatalities each.

“In 2023, the summer months were again particularly dangerous for road traffic. Especially on hot days, the number of road accidents was substantially higher. This is shown by an analysis by Statistics Austria of accident statistics from the previous year in combination with data from GeoSphere Austria. On days with a daily maximum temperature of 30 degrees Celsius or above, 15% more accidents with personal injury occurred in 2023 than on less hot days”, says Tobias Thomas, Director General of Statistics Austria.

Between June and August 2023, 12 097 traffic accidents with personal injury occurred in Austria. This corresponds to an average of 131 accidents per day, with substantial differences between hot days and non-hot days. On a hot day with 30 or more degrees Celsius, an average of 145 accidents per day occurred, while on a less hot day 125 accidents took place, which corresponds to an increase of 15%.

More accidents on hot days in all federal provinces

In all nine federal provinces, higher accident numbers were registered on hot days than on non-hot days. The highest numbers of hot days were recorded in Vienna (2023: 37 hot days) and Innsbruck (35), the fewest in Bregenz and Graz with 20 each. The figures from Tyrol were particularly remarkable: an average of 15 accidents per day occurred on non-hot days, but 20 on hot days (+33%). However, the largest percentage increase was recorded in Burgenland (+35%) with an average of four accidents per hot day, which is low in absolute terms (see table 1).

Second highest number of road deaths since 2016 in summer of 2023

As in previous years, **June 2023** was the month with the most traffic accidents with personal injury. One in eight accidents of the year 2023 took place in June, more than two and a half times as many as in February, the month with the fewest accidents.

The number of people killed in road traffic accidents was also high during the summer of 2023 (139 fatalities), reaching the second highest level since 2016. The months of June and August 2023 recorded the highest figures of fatalities during the year (47 fatalities each, see table 2).

As in previous years, accidents involving **motorised two-wheelers** (motorcycles and mopeds) made a substantial contribution to the number of accidents in the summer of 2023. During the summer months, 40% of all fatalities were motorcycle or moped riders (55). In comparison, in the remaining months (January to May and September to December), 14% of all fatalities occurred on motorised two-wheelers.

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

Table1: Accidents on hot days per federal province, June to August 2023

Federal province	Hot days	Accidents/day	Accidents/hot day	Accidents/non-hot day	Increase of accidents on hot days in %
Burgenland	30	3.1	3.8	2.8	34.6
Carinthia	21	10.4	12.1	9.9	22.0
Lower Austria	29	24.2	26.7	23.1	15.3
Upper Austria	30	23.5	24.9	22.8	9.0
Salzburg	25	10.7	12.2	10.1	20.2
Styria	20	18.8	20.5	18.4	11.5
Tyrol	35	16.5	19.5	14.6	33.4
Vorarlberg	20	7.7	7.9	7.7	2.6
Vienna	37	16.5	17.2	16.0	7.4
Austria	.	131.5	144.7	125.5	15.3

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Road traffic accidents.

Table 2: Fatally injured 2019–2023 by month

Month	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
January	20	17	12	20	29
February	20	27	15	27	23
March	24	25	21	30	24
April	40	28	34	33	23
May	37	22	24	41	33
June	56	34	45	40	47
July	39	33	39	40	45
August	54	39	40	49	47
September	33	41	46	24	45
October	36	35	34	31	27
November	30	23	29	18	36
December	27	20	23	17	23
Total	416	344	362	370	402

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Road traffic accidents.

Information on methodology, definitions: Statistics Austria has been compiling and publishing statistics on road traffic accidents with personal injury since 1961. The traffic accidents are recorded electronically by the police authorities and transmitted to Statistics Austria via a web service.

Injury accident: Any accident involving at least one road vehicle in motion on a public road, resulting in at least one injured or killed person.

Person killed: Any person killed immediately or dying within 30 days as a result of an injury accident.

Hot days are days on which 30 degrees Celsius and more are reached. In the analysis, the maximum temperature of the regional capital was compared to the total number of accidents per day for each federal province. The weather data was obtained from the Open Data Hub of GeoSphere Austria.

Further enquiries:

For information on results and methodology, please contact:

Brigitte Alex, Phone: +43 1 711 28-7553, E-mail: brigitte.alex@statistik.gv.at

Stefan Ortner, Phone: +43 1 711 28-8037, E-mail: stefan.ortner@statistik.gv.at

For interview requests, please contact the press office: presse@statistik.gv.at

Media owner, producer and publisher:

STATISTICS AUSTRIA | Federal Institution under Public Law | Guglgasse 13 | 1110 Vienna | www.statistik.at

Press: Phone: +43 1 711 28-7777 | E-mail: presse@statistik.gv.at

© STATISTICS AUSTRIA