

Press release: 13 515-009/25

Minimum wages adjustment in 2024 higher than previous year's inflation

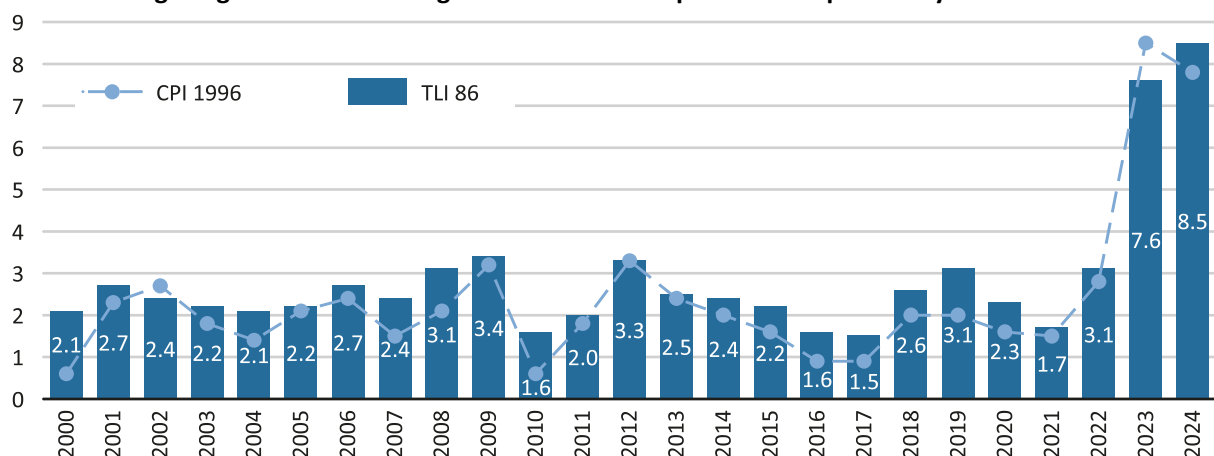
Gross minimum wages increased in 2024 by 8.5% on average

Vienna, 2025-01-15 – In 2024, the Index of Agreed Minimum Wages 16 (Tariflohnindex, TLI 16) reached an average value of 134.4 points in 2024, according to Statistics Austria. This corresponded to an average increase in gross minimum wages of 8.5% compared to the previous year (2023: 123.9 index points). The highest increase of 9.4% was recorded for members of the civil service.

“Since the turn of the millennium, minimum wages in Austria have risen more significantly than the previous year’s inflation every year, with a few exceptions. This means that there has usually been a real wage gain. While the inflation rate for 2023 was 7.8%, gross minimum wages rose by an average of 8.5% in 2024. This is the highest increase in the past 25 years. The strongest increase of 9.4% was recorded for members of the civil service,” says Statistics Austria Director General Tobias Thomas.

An analysis of the annual growth rates since 2000 shows an average increase in gross minimum wages and salaries of 2.9% over the entire period. Until 2022, the agreements were not very volatile and remained constant between the lowest growth rate of 1.5% in 2017 and the highest growth rate to date of 3.4% in 2009. In 2023, however, the inflation crisis was also reflected in the development of the Index of Agreed Minimum Wages, with agreements averaging 7.6%. In 2024, the growth rate rose to 8.5% (see figure).

Rate of change in gross minimum wages and salaries compared to the previous year from 2000 to 2024¹



S: STATISTIK AUSTRIA, Index of Agreed Minimum Wages 86 / Consumer price index 1996. – The CPI value of the previous year is stated. – 1) Preliminary figures.

The development of minimum wages is generally a reaction to economic conditions and inflation. As the level of collective wage agreements in Austria is traditionally roughly determined by a subsequent inflation adjustment and a surcharge for production increases, the figure also compares the inflation rate of the 1996 consumer price index (CPI) of the previous year with the TLI increase of the following year, so that a statement can be made about the real development of minimum wages.

The highest real wage growth was in 2000, when the TLI grew 1.5 percentage points higher than the CPI in the previous year. In 2023, however, the high inflation could not be fully compensated for; here the TLI was

0.9 percentage points below the CPI, which meant a fairly significant loss in real wages. In 2024, however, the TLI was again 0.7 percentage points above the CPI of the previous year and was largely able to compensate for the losses in 2023.

Members of the civil service recorded the highest increase

An analysis of minimum wage development by professional status over the last four years shows that the minimum wages of members of the civil service and wage earners grew the most, at 23.0% each (see table 1). For members of the civil service, this was mainly due to last year's increase of 9.4% compared to the previous year's average, which was significantly higher than that of salaried employees (8.4%) and wage earners (8.3%). The lowest growth in comparison over the four-year period was for salaried employees at 21.7%.

Table 1: Index of Agreed Minimum Wages (TLI 16) growth rates by professional status

Professional status	Annual averages Change on previous year in %				Rate of change 2020–2024 ¹ in %
	2021	2022	2023	2024 ¹	
TLI 16	1.7	3.0	7.6	8.5	22.4
Salaried employees	1.6	3.0	7.3	8.4	21.7
Wage earners	1.9	3.4	7.8	8.3	23.0
Members of the civil service	1.4	3.1	7.6	9.4	23.0

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Index of Agreed Minimum Wages 16. – 1) Preliminary figures.

Strongest growth in the mining and quarrying sector

In the last two years with a very high inflation rate, minimum wages at sector level have risen the most on average in mining and quarrying (18.1), in public administration and defence; compulsory social security and in real estate activities (both 17.8%; see table 2). The lowest rates of increase were in manufacturing (15.5%) and in arts, entertainment and recreation (15.6%).

Table 2: Index of Agreed Minimum Wages (TLI 16) growth rates by classification of economic activities

Selected ÖNACE 2008 ¹ sections		Rate of change 2022–2024 ² in %
B	Mining and Quarrying	18.1
O	Public Administration and Defence; Compulsory Social Security	17.8
L	Real Estate Activities	17.8
N	Administrative and Support Service Activities	17.7
D	Electricity, Gas, Steam and Air Conditioning Supply	17.6
A	Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	17.4
Q	Human Health and Social Work Activities	17.3
K	Financial and Insurance Activities	17.2
P	Education	17.2
S	Other Service Activities	17.1
M	Professional, Scientific and Technical Activities	17.0
G	Wholesale and Retail Trade; Repair of Motor Vehicles and Motorcycles	16.7
F	Construction	16.6
H	Transportation and Storage	16.2
I	Accommodation and Food Service Activities	16.2
E	Water Supply; Sewerage, Waste Management and Remediation Activities	16.1
J	Information and Communication	16.0
R	Arts, Entertainment and Recreation	15.6
C	Manufacturing	15.5

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Index of Agreed Minimum Wages 16. – 1) ÖNACE: Austrian Classification of Economic Activities. – 2) Preliminary figures.

For detailed results and further information please refer to our [website](#). You can find the Index calculator [here](#).

The **Index of Agreed Minimum Wages 16** (TLI 2016; base 2016=100) is a current indicator for the development of minimum wages and salaries in Austria. The index measures the changes in gross minimum wages and salaries, which are defined by collective agreements (CBAs), company agreements equivalent to a CBA, minimum wage tariffs or by law and are therefore **relevant for approx. 95% of salaried employees** in Austria. The development of actual wages (= minimum wage + overpayment) cannot be observed by the TLI. The index values for the 2024 annual averages are preliminary until April 15, 2025.

Statistics Austria is the central organisation for official data and statistics on society, the economy, the state and the environment. As a national statistical institute, it is committed to the statutory principles of independence, impartiality and objectivity. Statistics Austria is headed by Tobias Thomas, Director General Statistics, and Franz Haslauer, Director General Finance.

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Media owner, producer and publisher:

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