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Number of people living alone rose to 1.6 million

Every third person living alone was over 64 years old in 2024

Vienna, 2025-03-17 – According to calculations by Statistics Austria based on the Microcensus Labor Force Survey, 1.6 million people were living alone in 2024. That is 430 000 more people than 20 years before. A third of people living alone were over 64 years old.

“The trend towards single-person households continues unabated. In 2024, 1.6 million people lived alone, or 17.8% of the population in Austria. 20 years earlier, the proportion of people living alone among all people in private households was 14.6%. In contrast, the proportion of people living with a partner has remained almost stable at just under half of the population over the same period, although marriage has become slightly less important than cohabitation. The largest group of people living alone are still women aged 65 and over,” says Statistics Austria Director General Tobias Thomas.

1.6 million people in Austria lived on their own

While just under 1.2 million people lived alone 20 years ago, by 2024 this figure had risen to more than 1.6 million of the 9 031 000 people in Austria’s private households. This means that the proportion of people living alone among all people in private households rose by 3.2 percentage points during this period.

The largest group of people living alone in 2024 were people over 64 years of age (605 000, or 34.3% of this age group), more than two thirds of whom were women (425 000). 55- to 64-year-olds represented the second largest group among people living alone (318 000 or 23.4% of this age group). Only 2.6% (or 57 000 people) under the age of 25 lived alone in a household, compared with 14.8% among 35- to 44-year-olds and 16,0% among 45- to 54-year-olds.

Almost half of the population lived with a partner, just under a tenth without a marriage certificate

In 2024, 4.4 million people lived with a partner in a household, corresponding to a share of 49%. The proportion of the population living in a partnership has remained fairly constant overall over the last 20 years, but the proportion of people with and without a marriage certificate has shifted: while 41.8% lived with their spouse in 2004, this proportion fell 20 years later slightly to 39.1%. In contrast, the proportion of cohabiting couples rose steadily (from 7.3% to 9.9%).

Between the ages of 35 and 54, more than 70% of the population were living in a partnership. In earlier and later years of life, this proportion drops to around 50%. While cohabitation without a marriage certificate is more common at a young age, this ratio reverses in later years. Of the 1.8 million people over the age of 64, 54.5% lived together with their spouse, but only 3% lived in a consensual union. Of the 2.2 million young people under the age of 25, some 70 000 were already living in a shared household with their partner, around 70% of whom were not married. Among 35 to 44-year-olds, the proportion of married couples and cohabiting couples was almost identical.

The number of partnerships without children in the same household has also increased in the last two decades: In 2024, 2.2 million people were already living in a partnership without children, which represents an increase of 452 000 people compared to 2004. This is primarily a consequence of the advancement of large birth cohorts into older age groups with the children having already moved out of the household.

Living arrangement 2004 to 2024

living arrangement	2004 in thousands	2004 in %	2014 in thousands	2014 in %	2024 in thousands	2024 in %
Persons living in private households	8 065	100.0	8 415	100.0	9 031	100.0
Living as a child in a family	2 368	29.4	2 311	27.5	2 367	26.2
Partners	3 963	49.1	4 144	49.3	4 422	49.0
Partners in a married couple	3 372	41.8	3 408	40.5	3 528	39.1
Partners in a consensual union	591	7.3	736	8.8	893	9.9
Partners without children	1 747	21.7	1 967	23.4	2 199	24.4
Partners with children	2 216	27.5	2 178	25.9	2 223	24.6
Lone parents	299	3.7	300	3.6	296	3.3
Living alone	1 175	14.6	1 395	16.6	1 607	17.8
Other member of household	260	3.2	265	3.1	339	3.7

Q: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Microcensus Labor Force Survey, average of all weeks of a year.

Selected living arrangements 2024 by age - in thousands

living arrangement	under 25	25 to 34	35 to 44	45 to 54	55 to 64	65 and more
Persons living in private households - in thousands	2 238	1 205	1 246	1 215	1 362	1 765
Partners	70	646	896	871	923	1 016
Partners in a married couple	22	344	652	724	823	963
Partners in a consensual union	48	301	244	146	101	53
Living alone	57	247	184	194	318	605
Persons living in private households - in %	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Partners	3.1	53.6	71.9	71.7	67.8	57.6
Partners in a married couple	1.0	28.6	52.3	59.6	60.4	54.5
Partners in a consensual union	2.1	25.0	19.6	12.1	7.4	3.0
Living alone	2.6	20.5	14.8	16.0	23.4	34.3

Q: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Microcensus Labor Force Survey, average of all weeks of a year.

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

Information on methodology, definitions: The living arrangement represents the type of domestic or family cohabitation of the resident population. The persons living in private households are represented according to their family status (partner, child, mother or father in lone-parent families) or as living alone or as another household member.

The results presented here are data from the Microcensus Labor Force Survey. The Microcensus is a sample survey of private households that interviews approximately 1 500 households each week. The population in institutional households is not part of the Microcensus Labour Force Survey.

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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