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# More than a quarter of household expenditure is spent on housing and energy

## Average monthly household expenditure at €4 170

Vienna, 2026-03-04 – According to the Household Budget Survey 2024/25 conducted by Statistics Austria, the average monthly consumption expenditure of private households in Austria amounts to €4 170. Equivalent expenditure, i.e. the needs-weighted per capita expenditure of a household, amounts to around €2 760 per month.

“At more than a quarter, housing and energy account for the largest share of monthly consumer expenditures in Austrian private households. Transport comes in second place with 13.6%. Almost neck and neck are food and non-alcoholic beverages with 11.6% and leisure, sport and culture with 11.4%,” says Manuela Lenk, Director General Statistics at Statistics Austria.

Below the 10% mark are expenditure shares for dining out (6.6%), furnishings, household equipment (6.2%), health (4.8%), insurance and financial services (4.7%), other goods and services (4.5%), as well as clothing and footwear (4.2%). The smallest shares of total spending are accounted for by communication and information (2.8%), alcoholic beverages, tobacco (2.2%) and education (1.1%).

### The larger the household, the lower the per-capita expenditure

The more people live in a household, the higher the monthly household expenditure. However, per capita expenditure and equivalent expenditure decrease as the size of the household increases. Larger households with 4 or more people have around 11% lower equivalent expenditure than single-person households. However, other factors also have a significant influence on the level of expenditure.

#### Single-person households: greatest expenditure differences among employed and unemployed persons

The level of expenditure in single-person households depends primarily on employment status. Employed single-person households spend about 27% more per month, averaging €3 080, compared with non-employed single-person households, who spend €2 430. Employed singles show significantly higher shares of spending on transport (14.7%), leisure (11.2%) and eating out (8.0%), but substantially lower shares on housing and food than non-employed single-person households.

Differences in spending levels between male and female single-person households are small. Male single-person households spend about 3% more, averaging €2 740 per month, compared with €2 660 for female single-person households. Differences appear in the expenditure distribution, particularly in the areas of transport and eating out. Men living alone spend 15.2% of their expenditure on transport and 8% on eating out, while women living alone spend only 9% on transport and 5.2% on eating out.

### Per-capita expenditure in urban and rural areas nearly identical

Households in rural areas, which on average tend to be larger, have the highest household expenditures. At around €4 460 per month, they spend about 7% more than the Austrian average and 16% more than households in large municipalities (with more than 20 000 inhabitants) or Vienna.

In contrast, the weighted per-capita expenditures vary only slightly: monthly equivalised expenditures of households in Vienna are 2.4% below the Austrian average, while those of households in municipalities with 5 000 to 20 000 inhabitants are about 2.7% above it.

**Transport expenditure highest in rural areas**

Within the expenditure structure, the most pronounced differences between urban and rural households appear in the category transport. Due in part to the higher number of vehicles per household, households in rural regions spend €761 per month on the purchase, maintenance, and insurance of their vehicles. This is more than twice as much as households in Vienna, which spend €354 monthly.

The opposite is true – albeit at a different level – for public transport expenditure. Households in Vienna spend an average of €100 per month, which is 4 times as much as households in rural areas.

## Monthly consumption expenditure of private households 2024/25

| Selected expenditure groups | | Expenditure per household | | Expenditure per adult equivalent[1] | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | in Euro | in % | in Euro | in % |
| **Total consumption expenditure** | | **4 170** | **100.0** | **2 760** | **100.0** |
| 01 | Food and non-alcoholic beverages | 484 | 11.6 | 315 | 11.4 |
| 02 | Alcoholic beverages, tobacco | 91.9 | 2.2 | 63.3 | 2.3 |
| 03 | Clothing and footwear | 173 | 4.2 | 110 | 4.0 |
| 04 | Housing, energy | 1 100 | 26.4 | 754 | 27.3 |
| | Energy | 175 | 4.2 | 120 | 4.3 |
| 05 | Furnishings, household equipment | 256 | 6.2 | 170 | 6.2 |
| 06 | Health | 198 | 4.8 | 133 | 4.8 |
| 07 | Transport | 567 | 13.6 | 368 | 13.3 |
| | Operation of personal transport equipment | 310 | 7.4 | 201 | 7.3 |
| 08 | Information and communication | 115 | 2.8 | 77.5 | 2.8 |
| 09 | Recreation, sport and culture | 475 | 11.4 | 308 | 11.2 |
| | Package holidays | 212 | 5.1 | 138 | 5.0 |
| 10 | Education | 43.7 | 1.1 | 24.9 | 0.9 |
| 11 | Restaurants and accommodation services | 276 | 6.6 | 182 | 6.6 |
| 12 | Insurance and financial services | 197 | 4.7 | 128 | 4.6 |
| 13 | Miscellaneous goods and services | 189 | 4.5 | 129 | 4.7 |
| | Personal care | 94.0 | 2.3 | 62.9 | 2.3 |

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Household Budget Survey 2024/25.
1) The weighting of equivalent expenditure is based on the EU scale (modified OECD scale): first adult person in the household equals 1.0; every other person aged 14 or above equals 0.5; each child under 14 years equals 0.3.

For detailed results and further information please refer to our website.

**Information on methodology and definitions:** The Household Budget Survey 2024/25 was conducted as a sample survey from April 2024 to May 2025. A total of 6 689 randomly selected households recorded their expenses in a household diary for two weeks each and additionally answered questions.

**Expenditure groups:** For the breakdown of expenditures into different expenditure groups, the international expenditure classification COICOP 2018 is used.

**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 Manuela Lenk, Director General Statistics, and Franz Haslauer, Director General Finance.

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