

Standard documentation Meta information

(Definitions, comments, methods, quality)

on

Statistics on membership in sports associations

This documentation is valid for the due days:
Q4/2020 and Q1/2021

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STATISTICS AUSTRIA
Bundesanstalt Statistik Österreich
A-1110 Vienna, Guglgasse 13
Phone: +43 1 711 28-0
www.statistik.at

**Directorate Social Statistics
Department Demography and Health**

Contact person:
Jeannette Klimont
Phone: +43 1 711 28-8277
E-mail: jeannette.klimont@statistik.gv.at

Executive Summary

The Federal Ministry of Civil Service and Sports commissioned Statistics Austria to conduct a survey on "Membership in sports associations". The last survey on this topic took place in the 2nd and 3rd quarters of 2017 as an additional module within the framework of the Microcensus Labour Force Survey.

The survey design remained unchanged from the last survey - the survey was newly conducted as an additional module within the Microcensus Labour Force Survey. Originally, the field phase was scheduled for the 3rd and 4th quarters of 2020, but was postponed by one quarter due to corona. Therefore, the survey took place in the 4th quarter of 2020 and 1st quarter of 2021. It should be noted that the field phase fell into the COVID-19 conditional lockdowns, i.e., it was conducted during a time when there were restrictions or prohibitions on playing sports in associations.

The interviews were conducted by means of a personal conversation between the target person and the survey person (face-to-face interview). The question on participation in the additional questions was asked of all persons living in the household (for persons under 15 years of age, the parents answered vicariously). Participation in the survey was voluntary.

A total of 13 302 persons were asked whether they participated in the survey on the topic of "membership in sports clubs." 12 390 persons (5 993 men and 6 397 women) answered the voluntary questions, which corresponds to a utilization rate of 93.1 % (men: 92.8 %, women: 93.4 %). For target persons under 15 years of age, the questions were generally answered by their parents. However, for all other respondents, there was also the possibility of a proxy answer by a household member other than the target person (known as a proxy answer). The proxy rate of respondents aged 15 and older was 22.9 % (men: 27.1 % and women: 18.9 %). Compared to the 2017 survey, the proxy rate remained almost unchanged (2017: 22.5 %).

A separate extrapolation was carried out for the additional questions on membership in sports associations. Due to the survey logic of the Microcensus Labour Force Survey (private households only), the extrapolation was linked to the resident population in private households in the 4th quarter of 2020. Supplemental characteristics of "age," "state," "gender," "citizenship," "education," and "labour force status" were also included.

The 2017 questionnaire was slightly adapted for the 2020 survey, but there were no changes in content, only linguistic improvements in the clarity of the questions. Only the question "In how many sports associations are you a member?" was added.

The questionnaire includes the following topics: membership in sports association yes/no, membership in one or more association (2020 only), frequency of use of the sports offer, free-time and/or competitive sports, activity or function in a sports association (persons aged 16 and over).

The results for the 2020 survey and a comparison with 2017 are published on the Statistics Austria website in the form of tables.

Statistics on membership in sports associations – Main Key Points

Subject matter	Membership in sports association of the Austrian population
Population	Austrian resident population in private households
Type of statistics	Primary statistical survey
Data sources/Survey techniques	Sample survey of 12 390 people CAPI interviews
Reference period or due day	Field phase: Q4/2020 and Q1/2021 Reporting period: Current situation related to the interview date
Periodicity	Irregular; last survey 2017
Survey participation (in case of a survey)	Voluntary
Main legal acts	Contract with the Federal Ministry for Civil Service and Sports for the "Survey on Membership in Sports Associations" within the Framework of the Microcensus
Most detailed regional breakdown	Federal provinces
Availability of results	Final data: t + 6 months
Other	All information collected was self-reported by respondents.