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Deaths in the first 41 calendar weeks of 2020 only slightly above the average for 2015 to 2019

Vienna, 2020-10-22 – In the first 41 calendar weeks of 2020 (up to October 11), 65 633 people died in Austria according to preliminary results from Statistics Austria. The number of deaths was 2.9% above the average for the same period from 2015 to 2019. The increase in deaths affected men (+5.3%) more than women (+0.8%).

Compared to the weekly average for the years 2015 to 2019, there were more deaths in 2020 than in previous years, especially during the first half of April (14th and 15th calendar week). Also in mid-September (37th and 38th calendar week), the number of deaths was slightly above the range of the past five years.

The increase in the absolute number of deaths is no longer visible in the age-standardized death rates, where deaths were adjusted for the age and population structure. The current results of the age-standardized death rates for 2020 are available up to calendar week 39 and lie within the range of the years 2015 to 2019. Due to the increase in life expectancy and the associated decline in age-standardized death rates, comparisons with years further in the past are only of limited significance.

New: Interactive map and graphic tools for weekly death statistics

In order to provide up-to-date information in the current COVID-19 situation, Statistics Austria has been publishing weekly death rates since mid-April. From now on, these are not only available as [Excel tables](#) or [open data files](#), also as [interactive web graphs](#). First, a graphic tool shows the evolution of the weekly deaths and the age-standardized death rates in comparison to previous years. Secondly, regional differences in mortality levels by calendar week are displayed on an interactive map.

For more detailed information please refer to the [German version](#).