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Preface



Norbert Totschnig,
Federal Minister

With the reunification of the agricultural and environmental agendas in spring 2025, what belongs together has come together. By integrating the issues of the environment, climate, circular economy and nature conservation, we have brought together all areas relevant to life in Austria in one strong ministry.

The BMLUK now brings together important future issues: It strengthens farms and regional food production, protects forests and coordinates measures against natural hazards, it promotes environmental, climate and water protection and ensures balanced regional development. These topics are interlinked and together form the foundation for a sustainable and liveable Austria.

In the first few months, we have already been able to set important milestones: Stable funding for agriculture, targeted support for the climate and energy transition as well as new impetus for flood protection and the basis for a modern, holistic climate law that combines climate protection, climate change adaptation and the circular economy. My goal remains to work together towards a sustainable future and to create a home that is fit for our grandchildren, where we can work, do business and live healthily, and thus enjoy a good quality of life in the long term.

Norbert Totschnig, MSc
Federal Minister of Agriculture and Forestry, Climate and
Environmental Protection, Regions and Water Management

Regions–Space for living

Spatial development policy and spatial planning coordinate the different, often competing social, economic, ecological and cultural demands of society in the common living space. The goal is the sustainable and balanced development of the Austrian national territory.

The Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Climate and Environmental Protection, Regions and Water Management (BMLUK) provides impetus in the area of national spatial development and spatial planning. This relates above all to the implementation of the Austrian Spatial Development Concept (ÖREK) 2030.

Regional policy aims at permanently increasing the quality of life in all regions and at adapting it for the long term.

The BMLUK is in charge of the coordination in the fields of regional policies and spatial planning. For this purpose the Federal Ministry takes appropriate measures and coordinates EU funding programmes. This is intended to address current challenges such as climate change, demographic change, digitalisation and increased international competition between locations.

The coordination takes place in close cooperation with all Federal Ministries as well as with the Federal Provinces. The office of the Austrian Conference on Spatial Planning (ÖROK), a joint organisation of the Federal Government, the Provinces, the Association of Austrian Cities and Towns, the Association of Austrian Municipalities and the economic and social partners, is an important partner of the BMLUK with its task of coordination.

The BMLUK coordinates, in cooperation with ÖROK, the EU cohesion policy in Austria. This relates in particular to the use of the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) within the framework of the ERDF regional programme Austria and the regional cooperation programmes with other EU Member States (INTERREG).

Furthermore, the BMLUK is the lead organisation representing Austrian interests in legal matters for the EU funding period 2021–2027.

1. Population and demographic change

Austria's population is permanently growing. Around the year 1900, the population within today's federal territory totalled around 6 million persons. At the end of the 1950s, Austria had 7 million, in 2000 already 8 million inhabitants, and as of 1 January 2025 the population of Austria was almost 9.2 million.

And Austria's population is still growing. For 2030, Statistics Austria forecasts a population of about 9.35 million, for 2050 around 9.82 million, and for 2080 around 10.18 million, respectively, as an annual average.

For 2050, the proportion of the population aged under 20 is expected to decrease slightly, to 1.8 million (from 19.1 % in 2025 to 18.3 % of the total population in 2050), that of the population aged 20–65 to 5.27 million (53.7 % of the total population in 2050). The proportion of the population aged over 65 is expected to increase to 2.74 million (from 20.5 % in 2025 to 28.0 % in 2050). Furthermore, an increase in private households to 4.6 million is forecast for 2050, with the proportion of single-person households in particular rising to 42.6 %. The average household size is expected to decline to 2.07 persons in 2050, compared to 2.17 persons in 2025.

1. Population in Austria

Population figures and structure	2000	2024	2050 ¹⁾
Population on annual average	8,011,566	9,187,379	9,825,200
Share 0 to 19 years (in percent)	23.1	19.1	18.3
Share 20 to 64 years (in percent)	61.5	60.4	53.7
Share 65 years and more years (in percent)	15.4	20.5	28.0
Population movements			
Live births	78,268	77,238	
Deaths	76,780	88,486	
Migration balance ²⁾	17,272	50,105	
Private households and families			
Private households total (in 1,000)	3,237	4,158	
of which single households (in 1,000)	977	1,606	
Families total (in 1,000)	2,265	2,510	
of which families with children (in 1,000)	1,423	1,408	

1) Main variant of the population forecast.
2) Difference to international immigration and emigration.
Source: © STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Population statistics.

2. Permanent settlement area in Austria

Permanent settlement area means the potentially habitable area where humans live, work, manage their natural resources and recreate. As a result of the high share of mountainous area the delimitation of a permanent settlement area is essential for spatial planning in Austria. Permanent settlement area is the area which remains after the deduction of forests, Alpine grassland, wasteland and waters. It comprises the area which is available for agriculture, settlements and traffic areas.

In 2024, Austria has, with a national territory of 83,884 km², a permanent settlement area of 32,706 km², which are 39 % of the federal territory. In Tyrol, it makes up almost 13 % of the provincial territory, whereas it comprises 80 % of the territory of the city in Vienna. Austria-wide, the population density in the permanent settlement area averages 280 persons/m².

The settlement area, thus the currently populated area, covers 11.555 km², which are almost 14 % of the federal territory. In Tyrol, it corresponds to 7 % of the provincial area and in Vienna to 62 % of the area of the city. In 2024, the population density in Austrian settlement areas averaged around 793 persons/km².

Due to the high proportion of mountainous terrain, the population density in Alpine valleys is above average. Figuratively speaking one could say: "It is narrow in the valley, whereas there is a lot of space on the mountain."

2. Permanent settlement area of the Federal Provinces

Territorial status 2024, in Austria

Federal Provinces	Area in km ²	Permanent settlement area		Settlement area	
		in km ²	in %	in km ²	in %
Burgenland	3,965	2,489	63	505	13
Carinthia	9,537	2,468	26	1,082	11
Lower Austria	19,180	11,592	60	2,661	14
Upper Austria	11,983	6,844	57	2,681	22
Salzburg	7,154	1,555	22	734	10
Styria	16,400	5,212	32	2,403	15
Tyrol	12,648	1,631	13	881	7
Vorarlberg	2,602	583	22	350	13
Vienna	415	333	80	257	62
Austria	83,884	32,706	39	11,555	14

Rounded values.
Source: © STATISTICS AUSTRIA, as of: 14 May 2024.

3. Urban and rural areas

Politically-administratively speaking Austria is subdivided into nine Federal Provinces, which are, in turn, subdivided into 94 political districts with 15 statutory cities and 79 rural districts and 23 Viennese municipal districts, as well as 2,092 communities (as of 1 January 2025). 1,116 municipalities have fewer than 2,500 inhabitants. The majority are small municipalities in rural areas.

Cities with more than 100,000 inhabitants are the federal capital Vienna with slightly above 2 million, Graz with 306,068, Linz with 214,102, Salzburg with 157,652, Innsbruck with 132,471, and Klagenfurt am Wörthersee with 105,442.

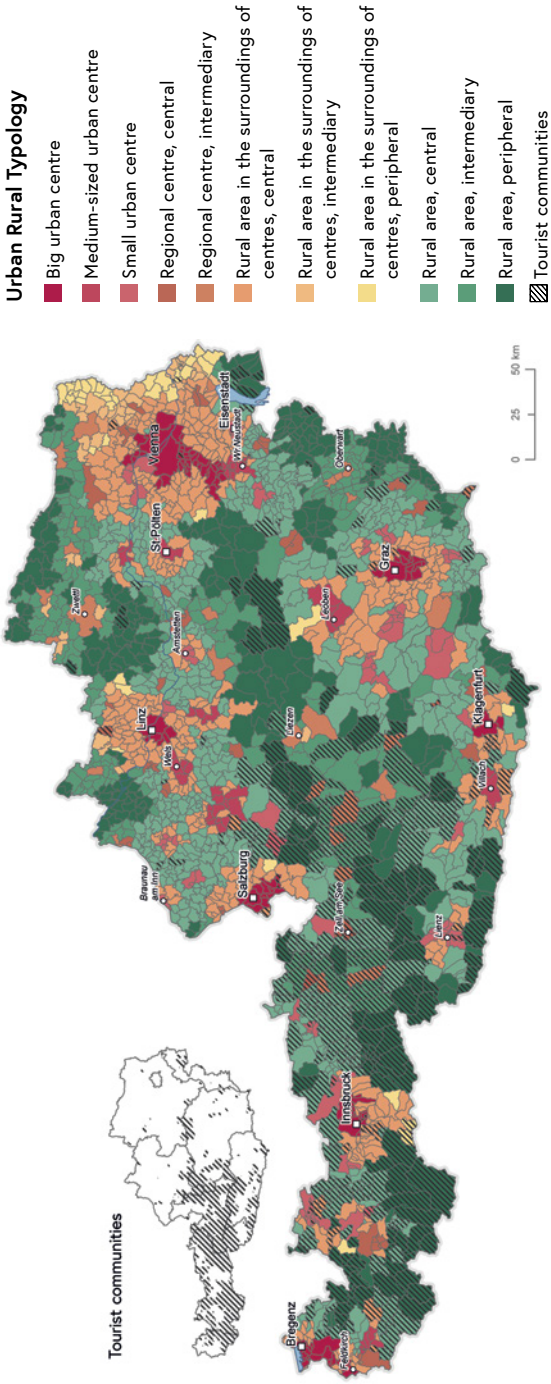
When categorising urban and rural areas, it should be stated that presently there is no standard definition of “rural areas”.

The allocation to rather “urban” or rather “rural” takes place according to the space typology. An Austrian space typology is the Urban-Rural Typology of Statistics Austria with the four main classes “Urban centres (urban regions)/ regional centres/ rural areas in the surroundings of centres (external zone)/rural areas”. On the basis of the number of inhabitants and accessibility in central/intermediate/peripheral areas, the subdivision into further 11 classes takes place. In addition, municipalities with above-average tourism have been identified.

Rural/urban space typologies of the European Commission are the “Urban-Rural Typology” and the “Degree of Urbanisation”. The “Urban-Rural Typology” is based on the NUTS-3 level (corresponds to districts and independent cities, so called “kreisfreie Städte”), which, in Austria, comprises 35 NUTS-3 regions. On the basis of the Urban-Rural Typology, which is based on 1 km² cell analyses of the population density, a subdivision into three categories takes place: “predominantly urban”, “intermediate” and “rural”. The “Degree of Urbanisation” classifies territorial units as “Local Administrative Units”, which corresponds to the municipalities’ level in Austria. The municipal areas are subsequently categorised into the three spatial types “cities/smaller towns and suburbs/rural areas”.

In spatial planning, a “region” means a territorial unit which is, as far as its size is concerned, between a municipality and a Federal Province. In the priority “My Region–Home. Future. Living Environment.” (meine-regionen.at), the BMLUK deals with the regions and focuses on strengthening the regional economy, securing regional services of general interest and reducing land use and sealing.

3. Urban Rural Typology including tourism criterion according to municipalities in Austria



Source: © STATISTICS AUSTRIA, as of: 2 September 2021.

4. Soil consumption and land use

Soils constitute the basis of food production, clean drinking water, natural areas and settlement development. Due to a great number of different claims of utilisation, our environment is under enormous pressure. Population growth, prosperity, mobility and economic activities: All that is related to increasing soil consumption. Apartments, business settlements and infrastructural facilities, such as shopping centres, are often built outside or at the border of existing settlements “on greenfield sites”.

Negative effects, such as the desolation of town centres, urban sprawl, vacant flats and vacant industrial premises in town centres are increasing. Dispersed settlements increase the infrastructure costs of the communities, as longer distances raise the costs of maintenance and further development. Especially in conurbation areas and in regions with a low supply of permanent settlement area building land is rapidly becoming more expensive due to the great demand.

The rising soil consumption is predominantly to the detriment of agricultural areas. Due to the conversion of agricultural land and the associated sealing of soils with asphalt or concrete, there is an irretrievable loss of naturally grown soils for food, animal feed, and seed production. These uses frequently take place on favourable agricultural areas, which, on the long run, threatens the self-supply with local food.

The protection of the finite resource of soil constitutes thus the basic framework for the sustainable development of regions and at the same time offers the opportunity of safeguarding crisis-proof living environments worth living in.

The task of soil protection requires a large number of actors at federal, provincial, regional, municipal and city levels and can only be successful by means of the support of all, and with a coordinated and integrated approach. The Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Climate and Environmental Protection, Regions and Water Management (BMLUK) takes care of this coordinating task within the framework of the priority issue “Reduction of land consumption/soil protection” and implements spatially effective measures within its own sphere of influence. Examples include the activities to implement the “Soil Strategy for Austria” in the areas of reducing excess building land, agricultural priority zones and compensation for land use.

The soil strategy for Austria, which was developed in the Austrian Conference on Spatial Planning (ÖROK), builds on this and presents a strategy for a joint and implementation-orientated approach.

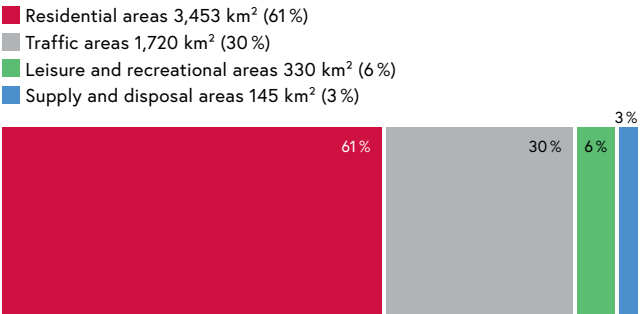
As of 2022, a total of 5,648 km² of land was utilised in Austria. This corresponds to 6.7 % of the federal territory amounting to 83,884 square kilometres and 17.3 % of the permanent settlement area. Around 30 % of this utilised share is made up of traffic areas, 61 % of settlement areas, 6 % of leisure and recreational areas and 3 % of supply and disposal areas.

These areas have been altered and/or built on as a result of human intervention for settlement, transport, leisure, supply and disposal purposes and are therefore no longer available for agricultural and/or forestry production or as a natural habitat.

2,964 km² of the land used, or around 52 %, have been sealed. Sealed means that the surfaces are covered with a layer that is completely impermeable to water and air. The sealing is around 47 % for residential areas within building land zoning and around 45 % for those outside zoning. Around 74 % of the traffic areas are sealed, 17 % of leisure and recreational areas, and 12 % of the supply and disposal areas.

4. Land use in Austria¹⁾

Total: 5,648 km² = 100 %, shares in %



¹⁾ The 5,648 km² of land use by the reference year 2022 correspond to 6.7 % of Austria's federal territory of 83,884 km².
Source: Austrian Conference on Spatial Planning (Österreichische Raumordnungskonferenz-ÖROK), land use and sealing in Austria, reference year 2022.

5. The ERDF/IGJ Programme Austria

The European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) supports the “Investments in Growth and Jobs 2014–2020 (IGJ)” objective. Within the framework of this goal, a total of 694 million euros is available for the Austria-wide “ERDF/IGJ Programme 2014–2020” for the co-financing of projects. This amount includes also the ERDF funds to the amount of 158 million euros additionally provided by the EU to combat the consequences of the COVID-19 crisis (REACT-EU).

The ERDF/IGJ supports are granted in combination with both private and national public funding of the Federal Government and the Federal Provinces. The total investment volume approved to date amounts to around 3.1 billion euros. By the middle of July 2024 a total of 1,740 projects with an ERDF volume of 644 million euros were approved. The ERDF/IGJ funds are used for the programme priorities and fields of measures listed in the table.

For the purposes of thematic concentration the ERDF/IGJ Programme in Austria focuses its investments on the promotion of research, technological development and innovation, SMEs, and the reduction of CO₂ emissions in all areas of the economy. Particular attention has to be paid to the promotion of sustainable urban development and the support of the urban-rural development as well as to local development strategies. National and regional strategies have been considered in preparation and programming processes, among them the Austrian FTI Strategy 2020 (strategy for research, technology and innovation), “Der Weg zum Innovation Leader” (The path towards becoming an innovation leader), or the regional innovation strategies of the Federal Provinces.

For more detailed information, see [2014–2020.efre.gv.at](https://www.efre.gv.at).

5. ERDF¹⁾/IGJ²⁾ Programme Austria 2014–2020

Planned data and authorisations in million €

Programme priorities and/or measures	Financial plan	Authorisations			
	EU funds in million €	EU co-financed costs in million €	EU funds in million €	EU funds in % of the plan	National public financing in million €
1 ERDF¹⁾/IGJ²⁾ Austria 2014–2020	694.0	3,113.6	644.0	93	220.7
1A P1–Strengthening the regional competitiveness by means of research, technological development and innovation	194.5	700.2	186.1	96	82.7
1B P2–Strengthening the regional competitiveness of small and medium-sized enterprises	174.5	1,295.1	168.0	96	47.4
1C P3–Promotion of the reduction of CO ₂ emissions in all branches of the economy	98.1	227.3	72.7	74	11.1
1D P4–Sustainable urban development	34.9	61.5	34.3	98	27.1
1E P5–Urban-Surrounding-Development & Local Development Strategies / CLLD ³⁾	16.8	33.2	14.8	88	15.0
1F P6–Technical assistance	17.6	35.2	17.6	100	17.6
1G P7–REACT-EU ⁴⁾	157.7	761.1	150.6	96	19.9

1) ERDF = European Regional Development Fund

2) IGJ = Investment in Growth and Jobs

3) CLLD = Community-Led Local Development

4) REACT-EU = ERDF funds of the EU to combat the consequences of the Covid-19 crisis

Source: ATMOS II Monitoring System, as of: 3 May 2025.

6. The IGJ/ERDF & JTF Programme Austria 2021–2027

The programme “Investments in employment, growth, and the transition to a low-carbon economy in Austria 2021–2027” was officially launched in October 2022. The EU funds to the amount of 565 euros are available from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and from the Just Transition Fund (JTF). By the middle of June 2025 a total of 260 projects with an ERDF volume of 845 million euros were approved. The programme aims at supporting sustainable growth of the economy, pursuing the two goals of productivity increase as well as resource saving and decarbonisation at the same time. The improvement of the quality of life of people is another objective of the programme.

Priorities and allocation of funds for the programme priorities

- **P1: Innovation** by further development of research, technology and innovation capacities, and competitiveness of the SMEs. 292 million euros (52 % of the IGJ programme budget) are available for this purpose.
- **P2: Sustainability** by means of subsidising energy efficiency and GHG reduction. 148 million euros (26 % of the IGJ budget) from the ERDF are available for this purpose.
- **P3: Territorial development** by means of integrated sustainable urban and rural development. 52 million euros (9 % of the IGJ budget) are earmarked for this priority.
- **P4: Transition to a climate-neutral economy:** 73 million euros (13 % of the IGJ budget) are earmarked for this purpose from the Just Transition Fund (JTF) for those regions that are most severely affected by the impacts of the transition to a climate-neutral economy.
- Cross-cutting issues which can be subsidised within the framework of all priorities: **Digitalisation** and the **circular economy**.

The programme contains four priority axes and, at the level below, ten measures addressing the political goals aimed at by the EU–“a smarter Europe”, “a greener Europe” and “a Europe closer to the citizens”.

More at efre.gv.at.

6. IGJ¹⁾-ERDF²⁾/JTF³⁾ Programme Austria 2021–2027

Planned data in million €

Programme priorities	Financial plan	Authorisations			
	EU funds in million €	EU co-financed costs in million €	EU funds in million €	EU funds in % of the plan	National public financing in million €
1 IGJ ¹⁾ -ERDF ²⁾ /JTF ³⁾ Austria 2021–2027	565.0	844.9	207.4	36.7	74.5
P1–Innovation (ERDF ²⁾)	291.8	708.7	145.8	50.0	44.2
P2–Sustainability (ERDF ²⁾)	147.8	17.7	13.5	9.2	3.2
P3–Territorial Development (ERDF ²⁾)	52.3	28.9	11.5	21.9	16.6
P4–Transition (JTF ³⁾)	73.1	89.5	36.5	50.0	10.5

1) IGJ = Investment for Growth and Jobs
2) ERDF = European Regional Development Fund
3) JTF = Just Transition Fund
Source: Financial table programme from ATEs, as of 11 June 2025.

7./8. The ETC programmes Austria

European Territorial Cooperation (ETC) (also called: INTER-REG), is an ERDF goal or a goal of the EU Cohesion Policy 2014–2020. The ETC provides a framework for the implementation of joint projects between national, regional and local actors from various Member States.

In the programme periods of the European Structural and Investment Funds 2014–2020 and 2021–2027, Austria has participated within the framework of the objective “European Territorial Cooperation” in a total of seven “transboundary, bilateral” programmes (see Table No. 7), three “transnational” programmes as well as in EU-wide network programmes (see Table No. 8).

7. ETC¹⁾ Programmes Austria 2014–2020 and 2021–2027–transboundary, bilateral cooperation

Planned data and authorisations in million €

ETC ¹⁾ Programme		Period 2014–2020					Period 2021–2027				
		Financial plan		Authorisations ³⁾			Financial plan		Authorisations ³⁾		
		Austrian Federal Provinces	Programme funds total	ERDF ⁴⁾ funds total	ERDF ⁴⁾ funds in % of the plan ³⁾	Projects Number	Programme funds total	ERDF ⁴⁾ funds total (excl. 7% TA)	ERDF ⁴⁾ funds in % of the plan ³⁾	Projects Number	Projects Number
Alpenrhein-Boden-see-Hochrhein (ABH)	V		56.6	39.6	37.5	95	103	68.0	29.1	66	30
Austria-Bavaria (AT-BAY)	UA, S, T, V		64.3	54.5	60.2	111	87	76.9	45.8	80	190
Austria-Czech Republic (AT-CZ)	UA, LA, VIE		115.1	97.8	103.4	106	100	108.5	81.1	65	49
Austria-Hungary (AT-HU)	B, LA, VIE, ST		95.9	78.8	78.7	100	65	62.0	45.8	42	32
Slovak Republic-Austria (SK-AT)	B, UA, VIE		89.3	75.9	80.7	106	58	69.4	51.9	68	21
Slovenia-Austria (SI-AT)	B, CA, ST		57.2	48.0	50.1	104	59	57.3	42.3	81	53
Italy-Austria (IT-AT)	CA, S, T		96.8	82.2	87.5	106	189	91.3	68.3	64	72

1) ETC = European Territorial Cooperation; 2) The absorption of funds of more than 100 % is due to the fact that there were overbookings in the course of the last project authorisations as the planned funds of most of the projects are not fully exploited and these financial refunds can be used for the new projects; 3) Including small projects; 4) ERDF = European Regional Development Fund; Source: Information from regional coordination offices, as of: May 2025.

8. ETC¹⁾ Programmes Austria 2014–2020 and 2021–2027–transnational and networks

		Financial plan				Authorisations				Participations from Austria							
		Programme funds total		ERDF ²⁾ funds for projects		ERDF ²⁾ funds for projects improved				Projects with Austrian participation		Project partners (including multiple participation)		of which: Lead Partners			
Programme	Participating countries	in million €		in million €		in % of the plan ⁵⁾				Number		Number		Number			
Programming period ³⁾		21–27	14–20	21–27	14–20	21–27	14–20	21–27	14–20	21–27	14–20	21–27	14–20	21–27	14–20		
INTERREG Alpine Space	AT, FR, DE, IT, LI, SI, CH	143	140	99.1	109.6	66	113	67	103	44	64	86	137	5	10		
INTERREG Central Europe	AT, DE, CZ, SK, PL, HU, SI, IT, HR	281	299	208.0	232.0	175	236	84	102	73	89	104	141	3	14		
INTERREG Danube Region ⁶⁾	AT, DE, CZ, SK, SI, HU, HR, RO, BG, BA, RS, ME, MD, UA	281	275	208.0	190.0	181	197	87	104	73	106	99	183	13	34		
INTERREG Europe	21–27: EU-27, NO, CH 14–20: EU-28 + NO + CH	481	426	356.4	337.8	374	345	105	102	19	22	19	24	4	4		
URBACT III + IV	21–27: EU-27, NO, CH, AL, BA, ME, RS, MK 14–20: EU-28 + NO + CH	110	96	80.3	69.8	54	73	67	105	0	2	0	2	0	0		
Total		1,296	1,236	951.8	939.2	850	964	89	519	209	283	308	487	25	62		

n. a. = not available
1) ETC = European Territorial Cooperation; 2) ERDF = European Regional Development Fund; 3) Programming period 2021–2027 respectively 2014–2020; 4) In million euros excluding technical assistance; 5) The absorption of funds of more than 100 % is due to the fact that there were overbookings in the course of the last project authorisations as the planned funds of most of the projects are not fully exploited and these financial refunds can be used for the new projects; 6) Danube Region Programme 2021–2027; Danube transnational Programme 2014–2020; Source: Programme Monitoring Systems, Survey National Contact Point, as of: July 2025.

9./10. LEADER in Austria

The LEADER programme is funded by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) and is part of the Austrian CAP Strategic Plan 2023–2027. LEADER aims at supporting the regions in their independent development by involving the local population.

In Austria, 83 LEADER regions were recognised as of July 2023, including 77 existing and 6 new regions. Each LEADER region has drawn up a comprehensive Local Development Strategy (LDS). The implementation of the LDS falls within the responsibility of the Local Action Group (LAG), which is made up of representatives of local public organisations, private groups, and private individuals. Each LEADER region has its own management team to support the implementation of the LDS. The local population is actively involved in both the creation of the LDS and its implementation in accordance with the bottom-up approach.

Around 1,200 project descriptions from the RD 14–20 period and the first projects from the RD 23–27 period can be found in the project database of the Zukunftsraum Land network at [Projekte-Netzwerk Zukunftsraum Land](#). Details on the implementation of LEADER can be found on the [BMLUK-website](#).

9. LEADER in Austria

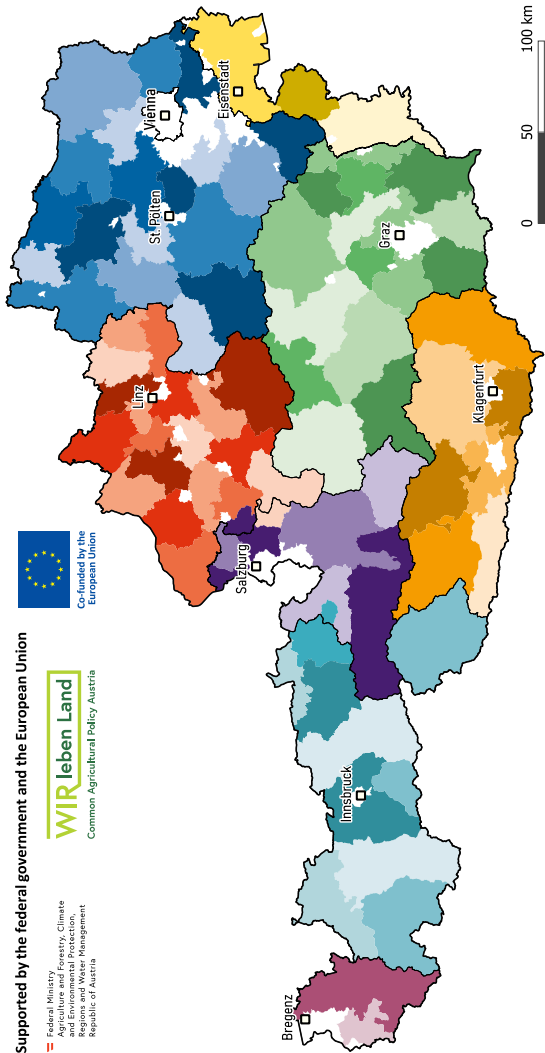
Programme LE 2014–2020 ¹⁾ and CAP Strategic Plans 2023–2027	
Funds earmarked in the CAP Strategic Plans 2023–2027 (62 % EAFRD ²⁾ /38 % national Federal Government/Federal Provinces)	€ 210 million
Local Action Groups (LAG) (number)	83
Area covered	80,175 km ²
Share of rural areas ³⁾	97 %
Population covered	5.2 million
Share of the population in rural areas ³⁾	88 %

LEADER in the period from June 2015–May 2025

Programme LE 2014–2020 ¹⁾ , in Austria	
Authorised projects (number)	6,558
Authorised amount of funding	€ 389 million
Paid subsidies	€ 310 million

1) LE 14-20 = Austrian Rural Development Programme 2014-2020. The programming period was extended until 2022 within the framework of the Common Agricultural Policy of the EU with a respective increase in funds.
2) EAFRD = European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development
3) Definition of "Rural Area" according to Austrian Rural Development Programme LE 14-20
Source: BMLUK, as of: 26 May 2025.

10. LEADER Regions in Austria



Source of basic data: © BEV, 2019; Statistics Austria–data statistics.gv.at, 2025. Source technical data: BMLUK, Layout and design of the base map: LFRZ GmbH, 2019; BMLUK, Dir. III/7, 2025. Data evaluation & design of technical data: BMLUK, Dir. III/7, 2025; As of: May 2025.

High-quality agriculture

Family farms care for Austria's unique cultivated landscape, supply people with high-quality food and are committed to climate change mitigation. Dynamic rural areas ensure quality of life and guarantee food security.

30 years ago, on 1 January 1995, Austria joined the EU. Structural change in agriculture has slowed down since EU accession.

Austria's agriculture has developed very well in recent years. Nevertheless, many holdings face specific challenges. All of Austria benefits from support granted to farmers. Regionality and diversity prepare the ground for premium-quality and resource-efficient production.

One focus of agricultural policy is already on the programme period of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) for 2023–2027. With the so-called Strategic Plans the European Commission pursues a new, innovative approach. Each EU Member State has drawn up an individual plan covering all areas: Direct payments, rural development and measures for individual branches (e.g. wine, bees). This allows EU Member States greater flexibility to design their tailor-made national agricultural policies. Only fundamental parameters, like the objectives of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP), general areas of support or the basic requirements, are to be determined on EU level. Instead of verifying compliance with requirements as before, the European Commission will give priority to results and performance.

In close cooperation with a large number of stakeholders, intensive work has been carried out since 2019 on the national design and implementation of the CAP. The CAP Strategic Plan for 2023–2027, which was approved by the European Commission in September 2022, endeavours to ensure stable, reliable framework conditions for family farms and provides a clear framework for meeting the challenges facing agriculture, forestry and rural areas. The focus is on climate measures, on sustainable, diverse agricultural and forestry practices, and on vital rural areas.

1. Farm Structure Survey 2023

Once in ten years all EU Member States have to conduct a complete farm structure survey (census)—the last census took place in 2020. As of 1 April 2023, an Austria-wide farm structure survey (FSS) was carried out as a sample survey. The results are now available.

Key results of the Farm Structure Survey 2023

- **Land use:** Austria is a country of forests. According to the Forest Inventory, the forest area accounts for around 49 % of the federal territory. The 2023 FSS shows a forest area share of 42 % and a 31 % share of utilised agricultural area.
- **Agricultural and forestry holdings:** Compared to other EU countries, holdings are small-structured in Austria.
 - In 2023, Austria featured 152,660 (2020: 154,953) holdings (including pure forestry holdings).
- **Agricultural holdings:** In 2023, there were 101,036 agricultural holdings (–8.8 % compared to 2020); a total of 304,974 persons worked there. The average utilised agricultural area with arable land, permanent crops and permanent grassland per farm was 25.6 ha (2020: 23.6 ha, 2010: 18.8 ha). Of the 101,036 agricultural holdings:
 - 50 % undertook agricultural activities as their primary and 46 % as their secondary gainful activity.
 - 93 % were family farms: 78.6 % of the persons working on farms are family members.
- **Organic farms:** 24,052 holdings, or 23.8 % of the agricultural holdings, are managed according to organic farming principles (2020: 22.4 %).
- **Animal husbandry:** Animal husbandry is small-structured in comparison to the international level, the trend towards larger holdings continues. 75,559 holdings held farmed animals. On average, 36 head of cattle, 119 pigs, 35 sheep and 14 goats were kept per holding.

Detailed results are available at statistik.at.

2. Factor income of the agricultural industry

The real agricultural factor income describes the net value added at factor cost. The latter is calculated from the value of the agricultural production at producer prices, less all intermediate inputs, depreciation and other production levies. Other subsidies are added.

In 2024, the real agricultural factor income per worker increased by 5.2 % in Austria, after a marked decrease by 14.9 % in the year before. The income growth was partly due to the continued decrease in the agriculture labour input (–2.3 %).

With approximately 9,98 billion euros, the total output of Austria's agricultural industry was presumably 2.1 % below the level of the previous year, which is mainly due to the sharp drop in the value of plant production (–5.8 %). The output of almost all groups of plant products decreased, with the exception of fruit growing (+2.6 %) and vegetable growing and horticulture (+3.7 %). Viticulture in particular suffered a drop of almost a fifth (–19.3 %) due to extreme weather events.

The value of animal production decreased only moderately (–0.1 %). Livestock production (961 million euros) increased by +3.8 % only, the production of pig farming declined by –4.7 % and amounted to 977 million euros.

The expenditure of domestic agriculture for intermediate inputs was estimated to amount to approximately 5.6 billion euros (–3.6 %) for 2024 and the depreciation for fixed assets to around 2.73 billion euros (+2.8 %). According to preliminary calculations the public funds to be considered in the determination of the agricultural income (according to the EAA terminology “subsidies on products” and “other subsidies”) amounted to approximately 1.62 billion euros (+8.9 %).

2. Factor income of the agricultural industry 2023–2024¹⁾

in Austria			
Results of the Economic Accounts for Agriculture (EAA)	2023 in mio. €	2024 in mio. €	Change 2024/23 in %
Crop output at basic prices	4,408	4,151	–5.8
Cereals ²⁾	961	940	–2.2
Oilseeds and industrial crops ³⁾	451	393	–12.8
Products from vegetable growing and horticulture ⁴⁾	978	1,008	3.1
Fruit incl. grapes	370	380	2.6
Wine	688	555	–19.3
Other plant products ⁵⁾	894	816	–8.7
Animal output at basic prices	4,745	4,739	–0.1
Animals	2,290	2,293	0.1
Cattle	926	961	3.8
Pigs	1,025	977	–4.7
Poultry	262	277	5.6
Other animals ⁶⁾	77	78	1.9
Animal products	2,455	2,445	–0.4
Milk	1,986	1,960	–1.3
Eggs	417	413	–0.9
Other animal products ⁷⁾	52	72	38.1
Production of agricultural goods	9,154	8,890	–2.9
Agricultural services and inseparable non-agricultural secondary activities	1,040	1,092	5.1
Agricultural services	416	427	2.7
Inseparable non-agricultural secondary activities	624	665	6.5
Value of agricultural production at basic prices	10,193	9,982	–2.1
less intermediate inputs	5,861	5,647	–3.6
Gross value added at basic prices	4,332	4,334	0.1
less depreciations	2,658	2,731	2.8
Net value added at basic prices	1,674	1,603	–4.2
less other levies on production	1,485	1,617	8.9
plus other subsidies	171	151	–11.2
Factor income of the agricultural industry	2,988	3,069	2.7

1) At basic prices (in million €), i.e. incl. subsidies on products and excl. taxes on goods.

2) Cereals incl. grain maize

3) Oilseeds, protein crops, sugar beet, other industrial crops

4) Vegetables, nursery plants, flowers and ornamental plants, plantations

5) Fodder plants, potatoes, other plant products

6) Sheep and goats, equidae, hunting

7) Honey, raw wool

Source: © STATISTICS AUSTRIA, as of: July 2025, reporting year 2024.

Federal Institute of Agricultural Economics, Rural and Mountain Research, calculation of subsidies and taxes on products.

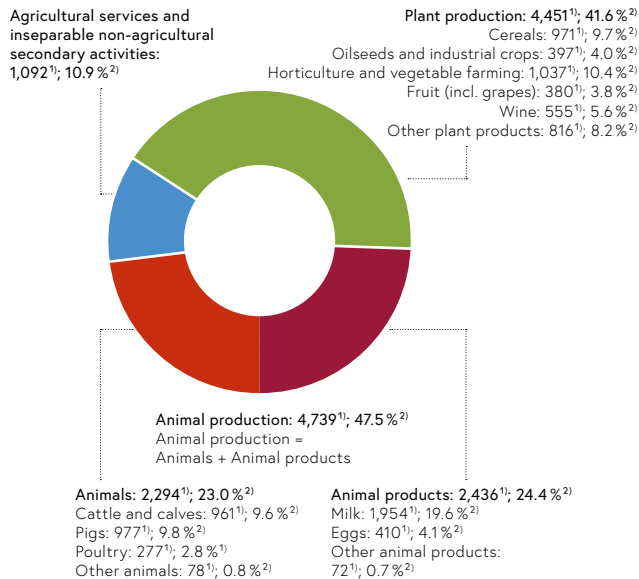
3. Output of agricultural activity

Due to the sharp decline in the output of plant production the total output of Austria's agricultural industry amounted to only around 9.98 billion euros in 2024 and was thus 2.1 % lower than in 2023. The output of almost all groups of plants fell by –5.0 %, with the sharpest decline in viticulture (–19.3 %), followed by oilseeds and protein crops (–12.9 %). There were also losses in sugar beet (–35.9 %) and fodder plants (–12.1 %). Only potatoes recorded an increase in output of 3.7 %.

The output of animal production decreased only slightly (–0.1 %). Cattle production grew by 3.8 %, while in pig farming, the production value fell by –4.7 %. There was an increase of 5.6 % in poultry farming, while a slight decrease of –1.3 % was recorded for the other animals (sheep and goats, solipeds).

3. Output of agricultural activity in 2024

at basic prices (total: 9,982 million € = 100 %), in Austria



1) in million €

2) in % of the total output

Source: © STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Economic Accounts for Agriculture, as of: July 2025.

4. Agricultural and forestry holdings

According to the Farm Structure Survey (FSS) 152,660 agricultural and forestry holdings were registered in Austria in 2023—about 1.5 % less than in 2020. 51,624 holdings, or 34 %, manage exclusively forest area. At 25.6 ha per holding, the utilised agricultural area (UAA) has more than doubled since 1951 (9.6 ha). Nevertheless, Austria's agriculture continues to be small-structured: 46.5 ha per holding total area, 25.6 ha UAA per holding and 19.3 ha arable land per holding. 72 % of the agricultural and forestry holdings are located in less-favoured areas.

In 2023, Austrian holdings managed 2.57 million ha of utilised agricultural area—about one third of the federal territory, and 3.5 million hectares of woodland, which corresponds to 42 % of the federal territory. 1.0 million ha (12 %) account for other areas. Compared to 1960, the proportion reversed. At that time, 38 % of the cultivated area were still woodland and 49 % were utilised agricultural area. The share of forest area increased. Marginal land was afforested or turned into forests and land close to residential areas was sealed.

4. Agricultural and forestry holdings 1951–2023¹⁾

in Austria

Year	Holdings (number)	Holdings with UAA (number)	Total area of the holdings (mio. ha)	Average size of holdings in terms of				
				CA ²⁾ (mio. ha)	UAA ³⁾ (mio. ha)	TA ⁴⁾ (ha)	CA ²⁾ (ha)	UAA ³⁾ (ha)
1951	432,848	427,113	8.13	7.07	4.08	18.8	16.3	9.6
1960	402,286	388,934	8.30	7.19	4.05	20.6	17.9	10.4
1970	367,738	353,607	7.73	6.76	3.70	21.0	18.4	10.5
1980	318,085	293,552	7.65	6.55	3.51	24.1	21.2	12.0
1990	281,910	261,660	7.55	6.76	3.52	26.8	24.3	12.6
1995	239,099	223,692	7.53	6.69	3.43	31.5	28.2	15.3
1999	217,508	201,500	7.52	6.65	3.39	34.9	30.9	16.8
2010	173,317	153,519	7.35	6.28	2.88	42.6	36.4	18.8
2020	154,953	110,239	6.94	6.02	2.60	44.9	38.9	23.6
2023	152,660	101,036	7.10	6.08	2.57	46.5	39.9	25.6

1) Minimum farm size considered: Up to 1970: 0.5 ha total area; from 1971 to 1990: 1 ha total area; since 1995: 1 ha UAA or 3 ha of forest area; as from 2020: 3 ha of UAA (excl. special crops) or 3 ha of forest. As from 2023, the minimum farm size considered was, for holdings practicing exclusively forestry, lowered from 3 hectares to 2 hectares of forest.

2) CA = Cultivated area

3) UAA = Utilised agricultural area

4) TA = Total area of holding

Source: © STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Farm Structure Surveys.

5. Agricultural holdings by type of gainful activity

In 2023, 93 % of the 152,660 agricultural and forestry holdings were family farms; only 2.7 % had the legal status of “group farms” and 4.2 % were held by legal entities. 50 % of the farms with utilised agricultural area were managed on a full-time basis and 46 % were operated by part-time farmers.

Around 56,000, or about one quarter, of the 245,000 full-time farms recorded in 1960 were still managed as full-time farms in 2023. In the course of that period, many of the then full-time farmers took the opportunity to practice also non-agricultural activities and shifted to part-time farming.

Especially in periods of volatile agricultural prices and markets, small-structured holdings benefit from being able to rely on several different sources of income. Targeted diversification, such as “Green Care” offers on farms with health-promoting, pedagogical or social objectives, enhances competitiveness and allows future-oriented, resilient development. Austria’s farmers and farm women take a leading role in this development.

5. Agricultural holdings by type of gainful activity 1990–2023

Agriculturally utilised area in Austria

Year	Full-time farms ¹⁾	Part-time farms	Group farms	Holdings held by legal entities	Total number of holdings
1990	105,781	149,090		6,683	261,554
1995	81,018	137,631		5,043	223,692
1999	79,901	116,757		4,842	201,500
2010	66,493	78,109	4,792	4,125	153,519
2020	55,479	50,723	2,474	1,563	110,239
2023	53,573	44,043	1,655	1,765	101,036

1) Figures for 1990 include the 23,019 farms carrying out additional gainful activities.
Source: © STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Farm Structure Surveys.

6. Management of the agricultural and forestry holdings

According to the 2023 Farm Structure Survey (FSS), 304,974 persons practiced agricultural and forestry activities. On average, the labour force amounted to 2.0 persons per agricultural and forestry holding in Austria. Of these, 239,816 were family workers and 65,159 were non-family workers.

The majority of the agricultural and forestry holdings are still managed by men. However, 53,632 (34.6 %) agricultural and forestry holdings already had female farm managers. In a comparison of the Federal Provinces, Upper Austria led with a 40 % share of women, ahead of Styria (38 %) and Salzburg (37 %). The share of women was lowest in the west of Austria, in Tyrol with 20 % and in Vorarlberg with 25 %.

In 2024, the gender ratio among IACS holdings was 36 % female farm managers and 64 % male farm managers.

6. IACS holdings by legal form and by sex 2020–2024¹⁾

in Austria

Year	Holdings					Holdings, total		
	of natural persons	of spouses	of group farms	of partner-ships	held by legal entities	Total number	M ²⁾ in %	W ²⁾ in %
2020	84,804	13,518	5,826	866	1,200	106,214	67 %	33 %
2021	83,661	13,037	5,972	963	1,311	104,944	67 %	33 %
2022	83,134	12,799	6,129	1,027	1,368	104,457	67 %	33 %
2023	81,850	12,416	6,133	1,124	1,464	102,987	67 %	33 %
2024	80,376	11,964	6,098	1,179	1,504	101,121	64 %	36 %
2024 (in %)	79	12	6	1	1	100		

1) Not including farms with alpine pasturing and shepharding only and farms having their place of business abroad.
2) Distribution of holdings managed by men (M) or women (W).
Compiled by BMLUK, Directorate II/1.
Source: BMLUK, AMA, IACS Data. As of: July 2025.

7. Farm takeover by young farmers

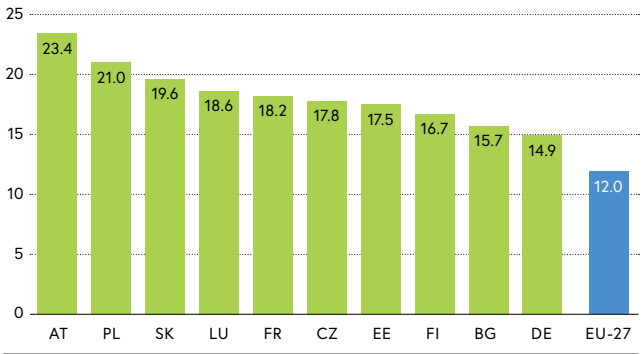
Austria has the youngest agricultural sector in the EU. In 2020, 23.4 % of Austria’s farm managers were less than 40 years old. As compared to this, the EU average was 12.0 %. Austria’s young farmers are well trained. 72.2 % of them have completed a skilled workers’ or master craftsman training, a relevant “Matura” (national school-leaving exam entitling to university studies), or have a university degree. The goals are sustainable and comprehensive management and security of supply for the country.

There are targeted support programmes for young farmers up to the age of 40 who take over farms in Austria. This is achieved through a broad mix of measures based on the CAP Strategic Plan with the possibility of responding to farm differences and individual needs. The basis of the financial support upon farm takeover is the complementary income support, which is available during the first five years of farm management. Building on this, there is the setting-up premium (“Niederlassungsprämie”), which supports young farmers who are setting up an agricultural holding as head of the holding for the first time. In addition, there are tailor-made educational offers, such as skilled workers’ courses in second-chance education and master courses as well as advisory services concerning farm takeover.

For more details, see landwirtschaft.at/hofuebernahme.

7. Farm managers less than 40 years old in agricultural holdings

Top 10 of EU countries (EU-27) in %, in 2020



Source: European Commission, DG Agri, Context indicators 2023 “Age structure of farm managers”.

8. Holdings facing natural constraints

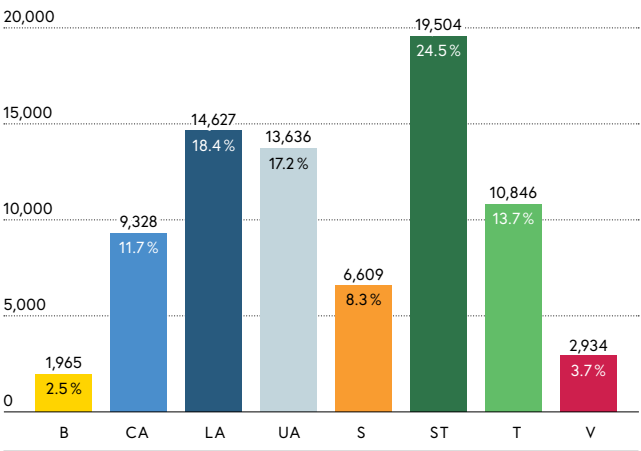
In 2024, 79,449 farms received compensatory allowances (CA) for areas facing natural constraints within the framework of “Rural Development” (2nd Pillar of the CAP), a total amount of 289.23 million euros. The number of CA holdings was highest in Styria (19,504, 24.5 %), followed by Lower Austria (14,627, 18.4 %) and Upper Austria (13,636, 17.2 %).

In the context of the reorientation of the EU’s Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) for the 2021–2027 period, the compensatory allowance will be a targeted and simple intervention also in the future. It is a key measure to maintain area-wide agricultural management and contributes to the preservation of Austria’s cultivated landscape.

The concept of Austria’s CA with its identification of handicaps for the individual farm is to be continued to ensure a suitable compensation for the efforts undertaken by farmers. The high level of support provided to mountain farms in most extreme locations will be continued, but some adaptations are required because farm sizes increase also in less-favoured areas. An adaptation to this development is to be implemented by means of an additional degression level. Generally, the CA is a proven tool and enjoys a high level of acceptance also in areas other than agriculture.

8. CA farms by Federal Provinces in 2024

in Austria: 79,449 CA¹⁾ farms = 100 %



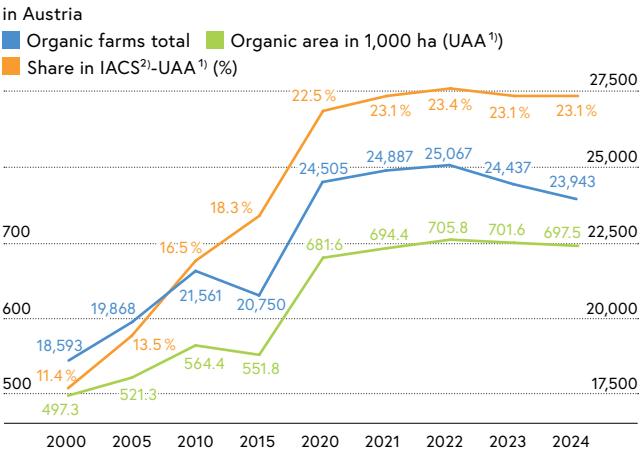
1) CA = Compensatory allowance for areas facing natural constraints
Source: BMLUK, as of: June 2025.

9. Organic farms in Austria

An encouraging trend has been observed in organic farming in Austria: Both the number of holdings and the areas under organic farming were constantly rising until 2024. In 2024, 23,942 holdings were managed according to organic farming principles. They cultivated already 697,500 ha of organic area.

Since the year 2000, the area under organic farming has increased by about one third in Austria. The share of area under organic farming accounts for more than a quarter of the agriculturally utilised area already. This means that Austria ranks first among the EU countries in terms of the percentage of organically farmed utilised agricultural area.

9. Subsidised organic farms 2000–2024



1) UAA = Utilised agricultural area
2) IACS = Integrated Administration and Control System
Source: BMLUK, Dir. II/1, as of: June 2025.

10. Organic farms in the European Union

In the EU-27, organic farming was practised on around 17.7 million hectares in 2023. In 2023, Austria was the EU country with the highest share (27.5%) of organically farmed utilised agricultural area. In Austria, one in four hectares of land is managed according to organic farming principles.

10. Organic farms and their area in the EU in 2023

EU country	Organic area (total) ¹⁾ in 1,000 ha	Share of organic area in UAA ²⁾ in %	Organic farms Number	Sales through organic food 2022 in retail trade ³⁾ in mio. €
Austria	701.6	27.5	24,437	2,496
Estonia	225.3	22.8	1,968	98
Sweden	549.9	18.4	4,878	2,607
Portugal	860.9	22.5	16,028	21
Italy	2,455.6	18.8	84,191	3,660
Greece	924.9	17.2	58,691	66
Czech Republic	572.6	16.2	5,347	233
Latvia	297.1	15.1	3,379	51
Finland	306.3	13.5	4,332	375
Slovakia	261.1	14.3	1,189	n.a.
Denmark	298.9	11.4	4,186	2,167
Slovenia	53.2	11.1	3,718	49
Spain	2,991.9	10.8	57,799	2,532
France	2,767.4	9.7	61,167	12,076
Germany	1,850.3	11.2	36,486	15,310
Lithuania	256.3	8.9	2,596	51
Croatia	119.9	8.1	6,274	99
Belgium	102.3	7.6	2,639	955
Cyprus	10.5	8.6	1,515	30
Hungary	320.2	6.3	5,983	n.a.
Luxembourg	8.3	6.2	161	64
Romania	694.0	5.5	13,413	41
Netherlands	87.9	4.9	2,073	1,435
Poland	636.0	4.4	22,354	310
Bulgaria	147.8	3.0	4,438	38
Ireland	178.7	4.3	4,076	235
Malta	0.1	0.8	34	n.a.
EU-27, total	17,678.9	11.4	433,352	45,099

1) Completely converted and in the process of conversion in 2023.
2) UAA = Utilised Agricultural Area
3) n.a. = not available. Sales in retail trade not available for all countries. EU total calculated.
Source: EUROSTAT; acc. to FiBL & IFOAM 2025: The World of Organic Agriculture 2025, data extract of: 20 June 2024; FiBL-AMI survey 2025.

11. Alpine pastures and mountain grazing

Alpine pastures are traditional economic areas of alpine farming and mountain farming in Austria. The species-rich alpine pastures are the result of centuries of hard work by alpine farmers. They maintain these beautiful cultivated landscapes and, with the herding of grazing livestock on mountain pastures, preserve a centuries-old tradition. Alpine farming is still a particularly labour-intensive form of agriculture. It currently faces major challenges such as climate change, clashes between grazing livestock and recreationists and the return of large predators such as the wolf. Support for alpine pasturing is a central pillar of the national CAP Strategic Plan for the funding period 2023–2027.

In 2024, 7,985 alpine pastures with a forage area of roughly 323,382 ha were managed in Austria. 7,585 shepherds guarded alpine livestock on 4,861 shepherd pastures in 2024. The number of shepherd pastures increased slightly, by 9, compared to 2023. Shepherding is most commonly practised in the Provinces of Tyrol and Salzburg.

261,386 LU from 23,261 farms were brought to alpine pastures. With 301,843 head of cattle, 50,644 dairy cows and 13,279 goats, livestock numbers on alpine pastures changed only slightly compared to 2023. After a decline in the year before, the number of horses and small horses increased again to 10,502 head (+5.2 %). Following a decline in the previous year, the number of sheep kept on alpine pastures rose to 103,105 head, an increase of 2,251 head (+2.2 %) compared to the previous year.

With almost 25 %, the share of livestock kept on alpine pastures was highest among sheep in Austria; 16.5 % of the cattle and 9.7 % of the dairy cows were brought to alpine pastures. Of the horses and small horses recorded in IACS, 13.2 % spent the summer on alpine pastures, for goats it was 14.1 %. The three Federal Provinces with the highest shares of animals brought to alpine pastures were Tyrol, Vorarlberg and Salzburg.

To ensure that Austria’s unique cultivated landscape remains freely accessible in the future, we count on good cooperation on alpine pastures and meadows. The information website “Miteinander sicher auf Österreichs Almen” (meaning: “Safe together on Austria’s alpine pastures”) at sichere-almen.at aims to prevent conflicts of tourism and recreational sports with grazing livestock and shows ten rules for the proper handling of grazing livestock.

11. Alpine pastures and mountain grazing in Austria in 2024

Federal Province, total	Carinthia	Lower Austria	Upper Austria	Salzburg	Styria	Tyrol	Vorarlberg	Austria
Holdings with mountain-grazing, alpine pastures and shepherding (number)								
Holdings with mountain-grazing ¹⁾	3,538	562	605	4,215	3,418	8,895	2,238	23,261
Managed alpine pastures	1,771	72	182	1,742	1,610	2,082	526	7,985
Alpine pastures with shepherds	595	50	93	1,088	786	1,754	495	4,861
Staff for shepherding	716	78	117	1,532	956	3,131	1,065	7,595
Alpine forage areas on alpine pastures (in ha)								
Alpine forage areas	51,743	3,771	4,527	65,991	38,548	126,876	31,925	323,382
Animals kept on alpine pastures (in LU ²⁾ and head)								
Livestock units (LU) kept on alpine pastures	37,073	3,585	3,591	58,093	32,349	97,707	28,987	261,386
Horses and small horses	1,812	25	72	3,172	932	3,468	1,021	10,502
Cattle, total	42,147	4,685	4,562	66,332	40,898	108,031	35,188	301,843
of which dairy cows	1,116	22	16	8,500	766	31,643	8,581	50,644
Sheep	12,567	–	702	18,219	5,238	61,447	4,932	103,105
Goats	1,303	–	61	2,739	350	7,047	1,779	13,279

1) Burgenland had seven holdings with mountain-grazing, Vienna one. There are therefore a total of 23,261 holdings in Austria. 2) Livestock units
Source: BMLUK, AMA, IACS data. As of: June 2025.

12. Payments for agriculture and forestry by year of measures

The payments to agricultural and forestry holdings contribute substantially to their yield and remuneration. They ensure stability and planning security for family farms and thereby guarantee supply with high-quality food and maintenance of intact rural areas.

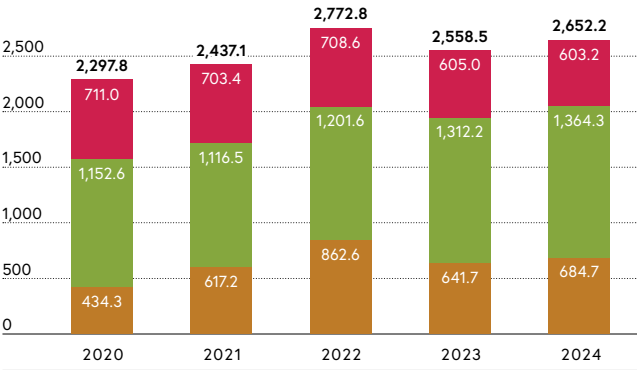
The budget includes three sectors: Market organisation expenses, Rural Development and the other measures. In 2024, financial support totalled approximately 2,652.2 million euros. Of the payments for agriculture and forestry in the measure year 2024, the market organisation measures (1st Pillar of the Common Agricultural Policy–CAP) amounted to 603.2 million euros, thus accounting for around 22.7 % of the payments. The largest share related to Rural Development (2nd Pillar of the CAP) with 1,364.3 million euros or 51.5 %. The other measures amounted to 684.7 million euros or 25.8 %.

Taking everything into account, the funding pot was increased by almost 88.1 million euros (3.4 %) compared to the previous year.

12. Payments for agriculture and forestry by year of measures 2020–2024

in million €, in Austria

■ Market organisation expenditure–1st Pillar of the CAP¹⁾
■ Rural development–2nd Pillar of the CAP¹⁾ ■ Other measures



1) CAP = Common Agricultural Policy
Source: BMLUK, IACS data and statements of accounts of the Federal Government and the Provinces. As of: June 2025.

13. Payments for agriculture and forestry–Rural development

Payments for rural development are financed from EU, federal and provincial funds. In 2024, a total of almost 1,364 million euros, of which 703 million of EU funds, were granted to about 101,900 holdings and agricultural communities and about 1,900 other enterprises, institutes or persons. The expenses for rural development account for about 51 % of the 2024 agricultural budget (of a total of 2,652 million euros of EU, federal and provincial funds for agriculture and forestry).

Of this, about 584.7 million euros (42.8 %) accounted for the Agri-environmental Programme (ÖPUL), 289.2 million euros (21.2 %) for the compensatory allowance for areas facing natural constraints, 135.8 million euros (9.9 %) for material investments support, and 145.0 million euros (10.6 %) for basic services and village renewal.

13. Payments for agriculture and forestry–Rural development 2021–2024

2 nd Pillar of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP); in million €, in Austria				
Selected support measures	2021	2022	2023	2024
Knowledge transfer and information	11.42	10.71	12.78	20.11
Advisory services	6.07	5.39	3.63	4.81
Quality scheme	24.38	24.77	25.84	25.76
Material investments	135.44	175.11	205.78	135.76
Development of farms and enterprises	28.46	34.87	32.49	21.24
Basic services and village renewal	103.06	104.12	115.52	144.97
Investments for forests	27.37	21.17	16.77	18.36
Agri-environment and climate services (ÖPUL)	273.79	312.04	338.55	382.63
Organic farming (ÖPUL)	125.88	129.87	128.29	140.45
Natura 2000 and Water Framework Directive (ÖPUL)	1.21	1.20	1.29	1.66
Compensatory allowance for areas facing natural constraints	255.24	252.26	263.93	289.23
Animal welfare (ÖPUL)	35.60	34.95	56.94	59.94
Forest-environment and climate services	0.10	-	-	0.00
Cooperation	16.22	13.72	16.19	17.77
LEADER	32.86	33.55	35.43	49.40
Technical aid and national network	39.39	47.93	58.08	52.25
RD 14–20 ¹⁾ und RD 23–27 ¹⁾	1,114.9	1,200.9	1,311.5	1,364.3

1) Austrian Rural Development Programmes 2014–2020 and 2021–2027.
Source: BMLUK; Green Report, as of: July 2025.

14. Austrian Agri-environmental Programme ÖPUL

The Agri-environmental Programme (ÖPUL), Austria’s programme for the promotion of an agriculture which is appropriate to the environment, extensive and protective of natural habitats, advocates the environmentally sound management of agricultural areas. The goal of ÖPUL is to achieve as comprehensive a participation of Austria’s agricultural holdings as possible. ÖPUL’s primary focus is the protection of water, air and soil resources as well as biodiversity, climate change mitigation, animal welfare, the tending of the cultivated landscape and the promotion of regional development.

ÖPUL 2023 is part of the implementation of the EU’s Common Agricultural Policy in Austria. The basis is the Austrian CAP Strategic Plan 2023–2027. The latter was approved by the European Commission and is financed by the European Agricultural Guarantee Fund (EAGF) and the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD). ÖPUL 2023 (excluding eco-schemes) is approx. 50 % financed from EU funds (eco-schemes are 100 % EU-funded) and around 50 % from national funds. The national tranche is divided between the Federal Government and the Provinces in a proportion of 60/40. ÖPUL 2023 is the 6th Agri-environmental Programme since Austria’s accession to the EU in 1995.

ÖPUL 2023 offers 27 measures, most of them in all Federal Provinces. Participation of the holdings is voluntary. In-depth information on the individual sub-measures is available on the BMLUK and AMA websites.

In 2024, ÖPUL paid 584.87 million euros (2023: 526.66 million euros) to 89,032 holdings (2023: 88,343 holdings). This corresponds to around 86 % (2023: 84 %) of all IACS holdings. The average payment per holding amounted to around 6,570 euros (2023: 5,900 euros). On average, holdings participated in three ÖPUL measures. In 2024, 1,843,500 ha (2023: 1,803,400 ha) or 82 % (2023: 80 %) of Austria’s utilised agricultural area (not including alpine pastures) were subsidised in ÖPUL. On account of the high share of participating holdings and the high proportion of land included in the Agri-environmental Programme, Austria ranks among the EU’s top Member States. In addition to the area-related measures in RD 2014–2020, ten project measures are offered for which an overall amount of 490 million euros was paid in 2024 (2023: 522 million).

14. Austrian Agri-environmental Programme (ÖPUL¹⁾)–by measures in 2024

Areas, holdings and remunerations, in Austria			
Sub-measures	Areas in hectares	Holdings participating Number	Remuneration in mio. €
1.) Environmentally sound management	998,447	46,352	104
2.) Limitation of inputs	253,394	22,922	18
3.) Hay farming	123,986	12,033	20
4.) Management of mountain meadows	2,422	1,583	1
5.) Preservation of endangered livestock breeds	46,685	5,337	9
6.) Greening–catch crop cultivation	251,491	21,938	37
7.) Greening–“Evergreen” system	225,014	13,943	18
8.) Erosion control arable land	173,395	14,342	11
9.) Near-ground slurry spreading	9,918,654	8,791	14
10.) Erosion control in vineyards, fruit and hops	37,747	4,989	10
11.) Non-use of herbicides in vineyards, fruit and hops	11,876	1,504	3
12.) Non-use of insecticides in vineyards, fruit and hops	21,295	2,271	6
13.) Use of beneficial organisms in greenhouses	302	173	1
14.) Site-adapted alpine pasture management	319,045	6,948	11
15.) Animal welfare–herding	208,383	4,611	19
16.) Preventive groundwater protection–arable land	228,511	4,614	18
17.) Humus preservation and soil protection on grassland eligible for conversion	143,207	12,279	11
18.) Nature conservation	95,416	21,807	69
19.) Results-oriented management	4,124	411	4
20.) Animal welfare–pasture	661,082	37,839	34
21.) Animal welfare–cattle housing	96,836	6,647	17
22.) Animal welfare–pig housing	57,963	1,304	9
23.) Natura 2000–agriculture	1,934	824	1
24.) Water Framework Directive–agriculture	14,569	600	1
25.) Organic farming	514,269	22,518	140
114.) OF top-up–Management of mountain meadows	1,087	2,178	0.05
115.) OF top-up–alpine grazing and herding	4,565	299	0.18
ÖPUL¹⁾ area, holdings, payments	1,834,203	89,032	584.69
ÖPUL¹⁾ area with alpine pastures for animal feed	2,153,248		

1) ÖPUL = Agri-environmental Programme (ÖPUL), Austria’s programme for the promotion of an agriculture which is appropriate to the environment, extensive and protective of natural habitats.
Source: BMLUK, Agrarmarkt Austria (AMA), as of 30 June 2025.

15. Crops on arable land

According to Statistics Austria, Austria featured around 1.320 million ha of arable farmland in 2024. This is a decline of arable land by 18 % compared to 1960. Compared to the preceding year, 2023, the cultivation of bread grain was reduced, as was the cultivation of oilseed crops, which fell slightly by around 850 ha. The cultivation of root crops declined by around 8,600 ha (–15.2 %). Set-aside areas increased sharply by around 27,200 ha (+55 %).

The intensified cultivation of protein crops contributes a lot to making Europe more independent of soy imports. Regional cultivation saves resources, cuts transport distances and improves soil fertility. Austria is playing a leading role in this context: Over the past few years soy cultivation has doubled in Austria.

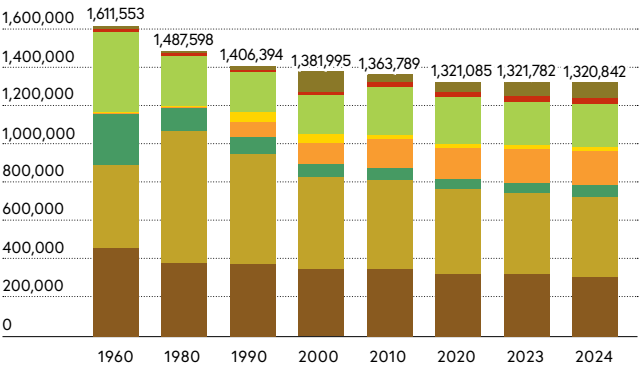
In the fight against climate change and its impacts adapted varieties that allow stable and high-quality yields in spite of the growing number of extreme weather events play an important role. For this reason, the Ministry of Agriculture and Saatgut Austria launched the research project “Klimafit”.

15. Crops on arable land 1960–2024

Areas in hectare, total arable land in 2024 = 1,320,842 ha (100 %), in Austria

Crops (2024):

- Fallow land (6.44 %) Other arable crops¹⁾ (2.14 %)
- Field fodder crops²⁾ (16.80 %) Grain legumes³⁾ (1.77 %)
- Oilseeds (13.08 %) Root crops (4.92 %)
- Feed grains (31.57 %) Bread cereals (23.29 %)



1) Not incl. fallow land
2) Green forage
3) Protein crops
Sources: © STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Agrarmarkt Austria, BMLUK, as of: June 2025.

16. Agricultural production

The cereal harvest (including maize grains) amounted to 4.86 million tonnes in 2024 and decreased by 6.4 % compared to the previous year. One of the reasons for this development was the mixed vegetation period, which led to diminished grain filling and smaller grain sizes of the stocks that were already depleted on account of the cold, dry winter. For root crops, there was a slight trend reversal after the cultivation low of the past years—a result of the strong expansion of the sugar beet cultivation area by almost 7,200 ha (+5.0 %). The sugar beet harvest increased by 25.1 % to 2.68 million tonnes. The potato harvest increased by 16.8 % to 0.69 million tonnes.

The quantity of milk delivered to dairies increased by 1.4 % in 2024. The gross indigenous production of beef decreased by 1.6 % and the gross indigenous production of pork decreased slightly, by 0.6 %.

However, Austria’s family farms are doing well in international competition not for quantity but for their top quality. Regionality and obligatory designations of origin are therefore important priorities of agricultural policies.

16. Agricultural production 2022–2024

in 1.000 tonnes, in Austria

Agricultural production	2022	2023	2024	Change 2023/24 in %
Wheat	1,685	1,721	1,565	–9.0%
Rye	168	175	128	–26.8%
Bread cereals, total	1,865	1,907	1,703	–10.7%
Barley	758	763	716	–6.2%
Oats	84	60	68	13.3%
Grain maize (incl. corn-cob-mix)	2,114	2,105	2,059	–2.2%
Feed grains, total	3,306	3,293	3,162	–4.0%
Cereals, total (incl. maize)	5,170	5,200	4,864	–6.4%
Winter rape	91	86	71	–17.5%
Soybean	246	270	246	–8.9%
Potatoes	686	594	694	16.8%
Sugar beet	2,710	2,676	3,346	25.1%
Total cow's milk production	3,943	3,982	4,021	1.0%
Dairy performance (in kg/cow and year)	7,250	7,287	7,454	2.3%
Quantity of milk delivered to dairies	3,499	3,535	3,583	1.4%
Cattle ¹⁾ , gross domestic production	203	206	202	–1.6%
Pigs, gross domestic production	456	434	432	–0.6%

1) Including calves.
Source: © STATISTICS AUSTRIA; Austrian Federal Institute of Agricultural Economics, Rural and Mountain Research, Agrarmarkt Austria (AMA); ZAR Annual Report.

17. Wine, fruit and vegetable production

1.87 million hectolitres of wine were produced in 2024. One third of the vineyards is stocked with red-wine varieties. For red wine, the quantity harvested decreased by 13.5%. The three most important varieties–Zweigelt (42 %), Blaufränkisch (19 %) and Blauer Portugieser (8 %)–account for 70 % of the area under red-wine varieties. The white wine harvest also fell (–22.3 %) compared to the previous year, to 1.29 million hectolitres. Grüner Veltliner is with almost 50 % of the white-wine area the most common white-wine variety, followed by the Weißburgunder varieties (11%), Welschriesling (11%), Rheinriesling (7 %), and Müller-Thurgau (6 %).

With 145,000 tonnes (–23.9 %) fruit production was particularly poor in 2024. The pome fruit harvest fell by almost a third (–29.4 %) to 114,900 tonnes, while the stone fruit harvest rose sharply to 11,500 tonnes (+41.7 %). The soft fruit harvest totalled 18,600 tonnes (–3.3 %).

The total harvest volume of field and garden vegetables amounted to 667,700 tonnes (+2.5 %) in 2024, an increase of 16,300 tonnes compared to 2023. The area under vegetables increased slightly (+0.4 %) and amounted 19,000 ha in 2024.

17. Wine, fruit and vegetable production 2023–2024

in Austria			
	2023	2024	Change 2023/24 in %
Wine production¹⁾			
Wine production in total (1,000 hl)	2,331	1,871	–19.7
Yield (hl/ha) ²⁾	54.7	43.9	–19.8
White wine production (1,000 hl)	1,662	1,292	–22.3
Red wine and rosé wine production (1,000 hl)	669	579	–13.5
Wine stock (1,000 hl)	3,049	3,044	–0.2
Commercial fruit production			
Commercial fruit production in total ³⁾ (1,000 t)	190.5	145.0	–23.9
Pome fruit production (1,000 t)	162.9	114.9	–29.4
Stone fruit production (1,000 t)	8.1	11.5	41.7
Soft fruit production (1,000 t)	19.3	18.6	–3.3
Vegetable production			
Vegetable production (1,000 t)	651.5	667.7	2.5
Area under vegetables (1,000 ha)	18.9	19.0	0.4

1) Wine production as per November 30 each year.
2) Due to changes in the data basis for the wine areas, these are not comparable with the years before.
As from 2021: IACS (evaluation of the multiple applications of Agrarmarkt Austria).
3) Total amount always without aronia and elderberry.
Source: © STATISTICS AUSTRIA, as of: June 2025.

18. Food fish production

Within the framework of the EU’s Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) Austria’s fisheries policy concentrates on strengthening aquaculture with the sustainable production of high-quality fish products. Aquaculture means the breeding or keeping of water organisms like fish, crayfish or prawns, with the objective of increasing production beyond the degree possible under natural conditions by means of suitable techniques.

In 2023, 566 aquaculture enterprises produced 5,170 tonnes of food fish in Austria (+5.6 % compared to 2022).

The Ministry of Agriculture takes numerous measures to enhance production and the degree of self-sufficiency. The Aquaculture Strategy 2020 fosters sustainable fishery and quality production in Austria. At the international level, too, Austria vehemently advocates sustainable fishery and environmentally compatible catch quotas.

18. Food fish production 2022–2023¹⁾

in Austria				
Fish species	Total production in kg live weight		Change 2022/23	
	2022	2023	absolute	in %
Rainbow trout, salmon trout	1,691,319	1,919,764	228,445	13.5
Brown trout, lake trout	511,106	554,228	43,122	8.4
Brook trout	660,941	678,957	18,016	2.7
Arctic char	280,156	263,581	–16,575	–5.9
Alsatian char	414,024	486,010	71,986	17.4
Danube salmon	5,584	10,290	4,706	84.3
Common carp	559,824	557,323	–2,501	–0.4
Tench	4,687	5,133	446	9.5
Grass carp	32,936	42,499	9,563	29.0
Silver carp	10,078	9,006	–1,072	–10.6
Pike-perch	19,951	24,957	5,006	25.1
European catfish	39,858	36,502	–3,356	–8.4
African catfish	430,880	494,309	63,429	14.7
Northern pike	4,849	6,139	1,290	26.6
Sturgeons	15,271	16,727	1,456	9.5
Other fish species ²⁾	37,274	34,742	–2,532	–6.8
Total production	4,718,738	5,170,229		
Number of fish farms	568	566		

1) Meaning of “ready-to-eat”, under market conditions, irrespective of their actual, further use.
2) Including crayfish and shrimps.
Source: © STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Aquaculture production, as of: June 2025.

19. Animal husbandry

According to the Farm Structure Survey 2020 about 82,000 (53%) of the 154,953 holdings were engaged in livestock farming. In a year-on-year comparison, the number of cattle farms was down to 50,400, the number of pig farms declined to 16,600. The average stock density was 36 head of cattle, 153 pigs, 24 sheep and 10 goats per holding.

As per 1 December 2024, 1.82 million head of cattle were kept in Austria (−0.8 % compared to the preceding year). The number of dairy cows dropped to 535,800 head, a decline by 1.3 %. By contrast, the total number of pigs rose by 0.7 % to 2.53 million. In a detailed comparison, the number of piglets increased by 1.5 % to 614,500, the number of young pigs fell by 2.3 % to 627,600. Compared to 2023, the number of fattening pigs in the weight class 50 to under 80 kg increased (+1.5 % to 512,700) as did the number of those weighing 80 to under 110 kg (+2.5 % to 441,700) and those weighing at least 110 kg (+5.9 % to 133,400). Among the breeding sows, the number of gilts increased by 0.3 % to 50,000, while the number of older sows declined by 1.4 % to 160,400. The total number of older sows covered was 119,900 (−3.3 %).

Meadows, pastures and alpine pastures in mountain areas provide the fodder for animal husbandry. This area-wide management deserves strong support, as it protects areas for living and maintains the cultivated area. The well-tended landscape is vital for people seeking recreation and for tourism.

19. Animal husbandry 2022–2024

in Austria

Animals	Animals in 1,000 ¹⁾			Agricultural hold-ings with livestock in 1,000 ¹⁾		
	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024
Cattle	1,861	1,835	1,820	52.5	51.4	50.4
of which dairy cows	551	543	536	27.0	25.8	24.8
Pigs	2,650	2,516	2,534	19.2	17.8	16.6
Sheep	401	392	391	16.2	16.3	16.1
Goats	99	97	96	10.3	10.2	10.1

1) Stocks according to livestock survey, as of December 1st each year.
Source: Livestock Survey (Viehbestandshebung), Central Cattle Database, Statistics Austria, AMA.
Calculations: Austrian Federal Institute of Agricultural Economics, Rural and Mountain Research - BAB; as of: June 2025.

20. Dairy products and cheese production

The production of fresh milk in Austria amounted to 778,600 tonnes in 2024 (+0.1 %). The production of butter decreased again compared to the previous year and amounted to 32,800 tonnes (−3.8 %). Fewer cows produced more milk with the average annual milk yield per animal increasing slightly to 7,454 kilogrammes. For sheep milk, the quantity of raw milk produced dropped by 1.7 %, thus amounting to 11,300 tonnes, for goat milk it declined slightly as well, by 0.7 %, to 26,400 tonnes.

Austrian cheese production (including curd cheese) rose to a total of 235,300 tonnes in 2024 (2023: 227,800 tonnes).

The Ministry of Agriculture is committed to strengthen the position of dairy farmers in the value-added chain—for example by promoting quality labels and designations of origin. The model project of hay milk has proved effective also economically. With the sheep and goat hay milk, two Austrian “traditional specialties guaranteed” are being protected.

20. Dairy products and cheese production 1990–2024

in Austria

Dairy products production in 1,000 t

Year	Drinking milk ¹⁾	UHT milk	Sweet cream ²⁾	Sour cream ²⁾	Butter
1990	562.9	25.2	n.v.	n.v.	35.3
2000	518.6	134.1	n.v.	n.v.	35.9
2010	694.1	334.3	41.2	20.4	33.2
2020	753.3	429.2	45.0	25.7	38.4
2023	743.0	370.0	48.5	24.7	34.1
2024	778.6	355.2	47.3	25.3	32.8

Cheese production by ripe weight in 1,000 t

Year	Hard cheese	Semi-hard cheese	Soft cheese	Cream cheese	Curd ³⁾
1990	31.5	41.1	5.5	6.3	23.0
2000	24.4	51.4	6.1	10.3	26.4
2010	34.6	58.3	10.4	22.0	28.9
2020	46.5	68.6	30.4	30.5	30.1
2023	48.5	82.0	29.5	40.2	27.6
2024	50.3	85.0	26.5	45.0	28.4

1) Drinking milk incl. “Mischtrunk”, not incl. UHT milk
2) including UHT milk
3) Farmer’s curd cheese and industrial curds
n.a. = no figures available
Source: Agrarmarkt Austria (AMA), as of: June 2025.

21. Supply balance sheet for major plant products

The supply balance sheets provide an overview of quantitative and qualitative information about agriculture and the food sector. To cover a product in its entirety the supply balance of an agricultural commodity, such as wheat and sugar, takes into account also the most important processed products, such as flour, starch and sugary products, provided that they are not the subject of separate balance sheets. This is the only way of getting an overall view of foreign trade and the supply with a product.

The supply balance sheets are calculated for the most important foods and animal feeds taking into account the national circumstances (production and marketing structure of agriculture and the food and sector, differentiated data situation and data availability, establishment and use of technical coefficients in detailed balance sheets, foreign trade provisions etc.). They are published in detailed, product-specific supply-use calculations.

In a long-term average, Austria is self-sufficient in the case of bread grain, potatoes, pulses, apples, onions, wine and beer.

However, many fruit and vegetable species cannot—or not in sufficient quantities—be produced in Austria. We therefore need to supplement the domestic harvest by imports.

In 2023/2024, Austria's self-supply rate for fruit was 33 %, that of vegetables was 55 %. In terms of per capita consumption, apples (15.5 kg) are the most popular fruit, closely followed by bananas (14.9 kg). The most popular vegetable varieties are tomatoes (32.1 kg), followed by carrots (11.7 kg) and onions (9.5 kg).

Increasingly unpredictable weather conditions confront the agricultural industry with great challenges.

21. Supply balance sheet for major plant products in 2023/24

in Austria

Plant products	Production in 1,000 tonnes	Domestic consumption in 1,000 tonnes	Food consumption in 1,000 tonnes	Human consumption per head in kg or litre	Degree of self-sufficiency in %
Cereals, total	5,200	5,763	827	90.3	90
Sugar ¹⁾	414	¹⁾	263	28.7	¹⁾
Potatoes ²⁾	594	763	452	3.7	255
Oilseeds	443	884	67	7.4	50
Vegetable oils	241	382	121	13.2	33
Legumes	45	58	13	1.4	78
Honey	6	-	11	1.2	48
Wine (1,000 hl)	2,331	2,464	2,378	26.0	95
Beer (1,000 hl)	10,110	-	9,446	103.2	107
Fruit, total	317	946	700	76.5	33
Apples	220	291	141	15.4	76
Bananas	-	144	137	14.9	-
Pears	42	69	26	2.9	61
Plums, prunes	11	21	16	1.7	53
Peaches, nectarines	2	34	32	3.5	5
Oranges	-	55	53	5.8	-
Strawberries	15	37	32	3.5	39
Cherries, mahaleb	8	22	16	1.8	35
Vegetables, total	721	1,322	1,122	122.5	55
Tomatoes	57	325	294	32.1	17
Onions	160	123	87	9.5	129
Carrots	121	134	107	11.7	90
Lettuce (head lettuce, iceberg lettuce)	43	48	41	4.5	89
Salad (other)	11	47	41	4.5	23
Cabbage (white and red)	39	48	43	4.7	80
Bell pepper, hot peppers	13	51	47	5.1	4
Brassica, Chinese cabbage and the like	18	28	24	2.7	62
Cucumbers (salad)	35	57	55	6.0	62
Melons	2	56	47	5.1	4
Mushrooms	3	20	19	2.1	16

¹⁾ Domestic consumption and degree of self-sufficiency are subject to statistical confidentiality.

²⁾ Per capita consumption without potato starch in potato equivalent.

Source: © STATISTICS AUSTRIA, as of: May 2025.

22. Supply balance sheet for major animal products

In 2023, 57.6 kg of meat were consumed per capita and year in Austria. For beef and veal, pork and, in particular, offal, the rate of self-supply by far exceeds 100 %. The self-sufficiency rate for pork is exactly 100 %, while 27 % of the poultry meat required in Austria has to be imported.

Per person and year, 7.8 kg fish are consumed. Being a landlocked country, the degree of self-sufficiency for fish amounts to only 7 % in Austria.

The annual per capita consumption of drinking milk amounts to 66.9 litres with a degree of self-sufficiency of 182 %. Cheese is popular as well. On average, 23.6 kg are consumed per capita per year with a self-sufficiency rate of 100 %. For eggs, the per capita consumption is 15.4 kg per year and the degree of self-sufficiency amounts to 90 %.

22. Supply balance sheet for major animal products in 2023

in Austria

Animal products	Gross domestic production in 1,000 t	Domestic consumption in 1,000 t	For human consumption in 1,000 t	Human consumption per head in kg	Degree of self-sufficiency in %
Beef and veal	200	135	90	9.9	148
Pork	425	424	299	32.7	100
Mutton and goat's meat	8	9	6	0.7	79
Offals	63	9	2	1.0	696
Poultry meat	149	204	121	13.3	73
Miscellaneous	8	10	7	0.8	76
Meat, total	853	791	526	57.6	108
Eggs	146	162	140	15.4	90
Fish	5.2	71.2	71.2	7.8	7
Consumers milk	1,113	611	611	66.9	182
Cheese	235	236	216	23.6	100
Butter	35	52	49	5.3	67
Animal fats	120	125	51	5.5	97

Source: © STATISTICS AUSTRIA, supply balance sheets, as of: June 2025.

23. Farm holidays

In 2024, a total of 8,081 agricultural holdings across Austria offered “farm holidays”, providing a total of 60,214 guest beds. In 2023/2024 the number of overnight stays on farms in the category “Private accommodations on farms” decreased by –5.4 %, with a reduction of beds by –12.3 %. In the category “Holiday apartments and homes on farms”, a slight decrease of –0.2 % was recorded in the number of overnight stays as well; the number of beds in holiday apartments increased by +1.9 %.

The federal association ‘Urlaub am Bauernhof’ offers extensive information on the host farms at urlaubambauernhof.at.

23. Overnight stays on farms in 2024¹⁾

in Austria				
Federal Provinces	Overnight stays		Beds ²⁾	Holdings
	in 1,000	Changes 2024/2023 in %	Number	Number
Category “Private accommodations on farms” ³⁾				
B	42.5	–1.6	658	79
CA	79.2	–1.0	1,879	289
LA	136.2	–10.6	2,077	270
UA	102.6	–6.4	1,927	248
S	313.7	–2.0	4,419	567
ST	258.7	–7.7	4,406	549
T	379.0	–6.3	5,458	762
V	31.8	4.8	398	52
A, total	1,343.6	–5.4	21,222	2,816
Category “Holiday apartments and homes on farms”				
B	17.8	–13.6	326	50
CA	247.5	–1.8	4,152	578
LA	81.7	–3.9	1,553	249
UA	166.9	–0.7	2,580	326
S	1,065.8	–0.3	11,131	1,327
ST	266.6	0.2	4,334	656
T	1,320.4	0.8	12,851	1,782
V	197.2	–1.1	2,065	279
A, total	3,364.0	–0.2	38,992	5,150
Total			60,214	8,081

1) including extra beds

2) Basis: Overnight stays.

3) Category “Private accommodations on farms” includes 10 guest beds per farm, but not farm-based commercial enterprises and providers of holiday apartments or houses.

Source: © STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Tourism in Austria 2024, Bundesverband Urlaub am Bauernhof.

24. Direct marketing

Whether at farmers’ markets or regional events: Farm products are in vogue. Direct marketing means the marketing of mainly own primary products or processed products in one’s own name, for one’s own account and on one’s own responsibility. Each direct marketing farm is a food business operator and is responsible for the safety of the foods marketed by him/her.

Marketing channels include farm-gate sale, farmers’ markets and other markets, farmers’ shops and shop in shop, delivery services and shipping, DIY harvests, supply of restaurateurs, traditional wine taverns (“Buschenschank”), alpine buffets, online shops and many more.

Direct marketing is essential for the continuation of many agricultural holdings which increase the added value on the farm by shortening the supply chain. Around 30,000 farms market part of their produce themselves: On average, they generate 33 % of their agricultural income from direct marketing.

The demand for farm produce is greater than the supply. 10 % of the farmers are planning to start direct marketing. Detailed information on direct marketing on farms is available on the information platform chance-direktvermarktung.at of the Austrian Rural Further Education Institute (LFI).

24. Direct marketing shares in 2024

Quantitative shares in %, in Austria

Food	Direct marketing ¹⁾	Food retail trade	Other purchasing sources
Drinking milk	13.7	82.0	4.3
Cheese	0.6	97.5	2.0
Butter, margarine	0.2	98.5	1.3
Fresh fruits	1.9	96.7	1.4
Fresh vegetables	2.5	95.6	1.9
Potatoes	6.1	92.1	1.8
Eggs	11.5	86.6	1.9
Meat incl. poultry	3.2	89.1	7.7
Sausages and ham	1.9	91.3	6.8

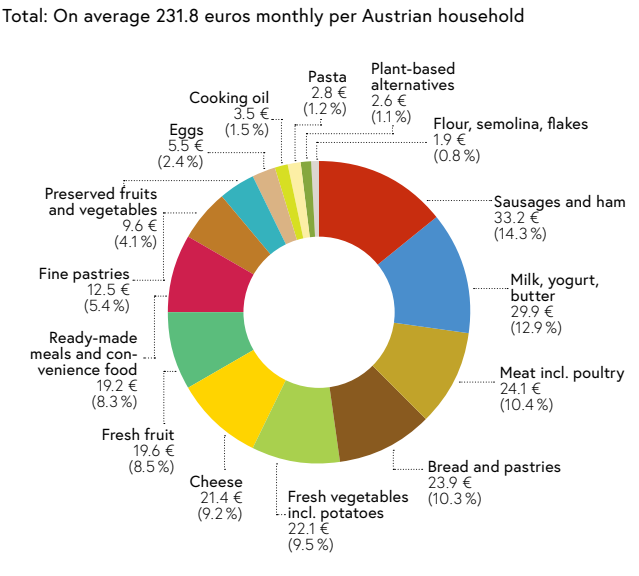
Rounded values
1) Farm-gate sale, farmers' market, weekly market, market, delivery services.
Source: © Roll AMA/AMA-marketing, n = 2,800 Austrian households. As of: June 2025.

25. Monthly expenses for fresh foods and ready-made meals

On average, an Austrian household spent 231.8 euros per month for fresh food and ready-made meals in 2024 (2023: 220.6 euros). Compared to the preceding year, Austrian household spending on fresh foods and ready-made products saw a significant, by +5.1 %, increase in value. With 33.2 euros (14.3 %), the highest monthly amount was spent on sausage and ham, followed by 29.9 euros (12.9 %) on milk, yoghurt and butter and 24.1 euros (10.4 %) on meat including poultry.

Recent years have shown that growing numbers of consumers deliberately pay attention to the quality and origin of foods. This positive trend emphasises that the hard work of family farms is acknowledged and highly appreciated by the entire population.

25. Monthly expenses for fresh foods and ready-made meals in 2024



Source: RollAMA/AMA Marketing; field work: Consumer Panel Austria GfK; evaluation: KeyQuest Marktforschung.

26. Consumer and producer prices for meat

The chart shows the development of animal prices at the level of agriculture as well as that of meat prices for consumers since 2020. Producer prices—that’s what farmers get for their animals—fluctuate substantially over time. Downward movements of producer prices were only to a minor extent passed on to consumers.

Farms, processing companies and trade at all levels as well as consumers are all parts of the food supply chain. Smaller operators in this chain are more prone to fall victim to unfair commercial practices. Farmers are particularly affected.

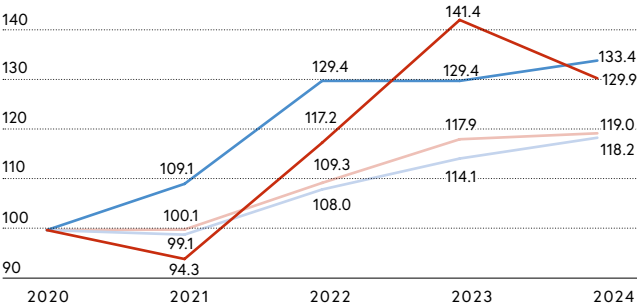
In 2018, during the Austrian Council Presidency, an EU Directive was negotiated which is to better protect agricultural producers against “unfair commercial practices”. A few concrete measures to strengthen family farms have already been taken. The Ministry of Agriculture presented a fairness catalogue for enterprises and an anonymous online tool of the Federal Competition Authority for complaints.

Further information is available at fairness-buero.gv.at.

26. Development of consumer and producer prices for meat 2020–2024

Year 2020 = Index 100, in Austria

- Producer price for fattening pigs (class S-P)¹⁾
- Producer price for young bulls (class E-P)¹⁾
- CPI²⁾ beef and veal
- CPI²⁾ pork



1) Free ramp slaughterhouse, in €/kg excl. VAT

2) CPI = Consumer Price Index

Source: © STATISTICS AUSTRIA, as of: June 2025.

27. Consumer and producer prices for milk

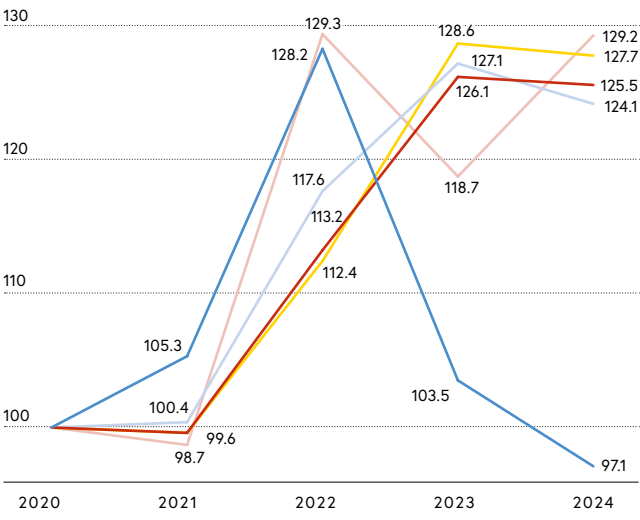
The chart shows the development of milk prices at the level of agriculture as well as for consumers since 2020.

Following the 2014 to 2016 dairy market crisis, the producer milk price recovered to some extent. At the end of 2023, it was 3.5 points above the 2020 level and fell to 97.1 percentage points (–2.9 %) on average in 2024, while consumer prices for dairy products were on average 26.6 % above the 2020 price level.

27. Development of consumer and producer prices for milk 2020–2024

CPI¹⁾ from 2020 = Index 100, in Austria

- Producer price of cow's milk²⁾
- CPI¹⁾ milk, cheese and eggs
- CPI¹⁾ milk
- CPI¹⁾ cheese, curd
- CPI¹⁾ Butter



1) CPI = Consumer Price Index

2) Cow's milk with 3.7% fat and 3.4% protein.

Source: © STATISTICS AUSTRIA, as of: June 2025.

28. Producer price indices for agricultural and forestry production

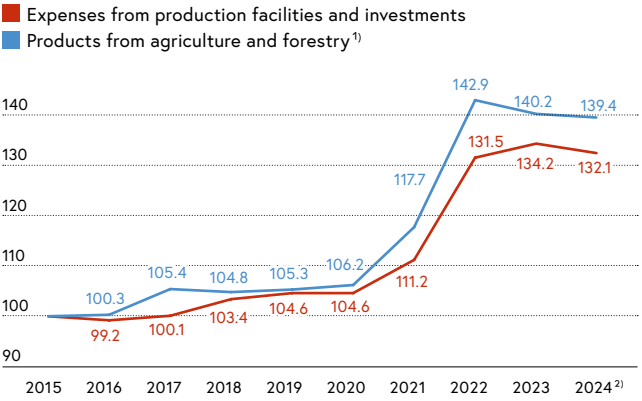
When compared to 2015, 2024 saw a 39.4 % increase in the preliminary prices that farmers received for their agricultural products.

Given the impacts of climate change, rapid technological developments and volatile international markets, agricultural holdings face major challenges. The prices of equipment and investment goods purchased for farm management increased by 32.1 % in the same period.

Therefore, the Ministry of Agriculture provides targeted support and a stable agricultural policy framework to ensure the continued existence of eco-social and small-structured agriculture. A key challenge for the future will be to offer small- and medium-sized holdings opportunities to take advantage of the progressing digitisation.

28. Producer price indices for agricultural and forestry production 2015–2024

Year 2015 = Index 100, in Austria



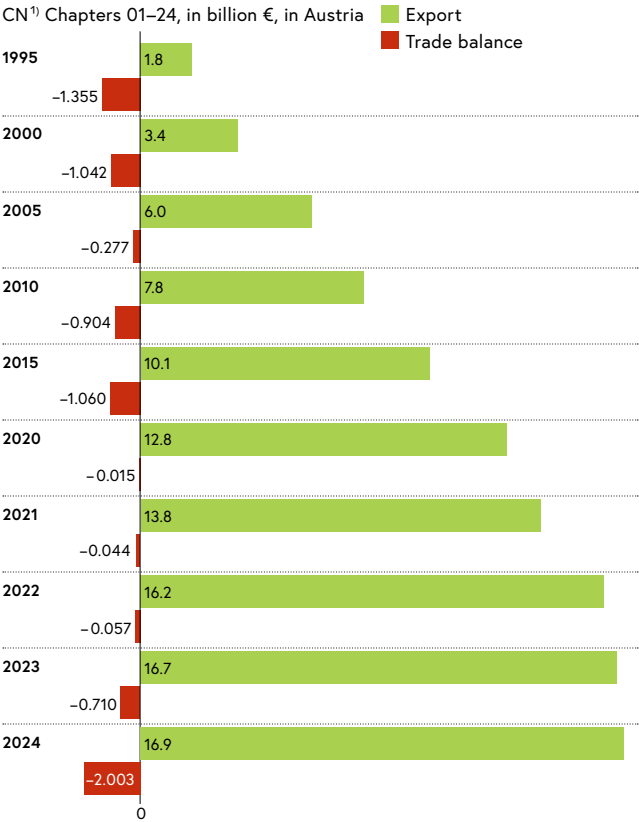
1) Including public funds.
2) Preliminary figures.
Source: © STATISTICS AUSTRIA, as of: June 2025.

29. Development of agricultural exports and trade balance

Austria's agricultural exports amounted to around 16.9 billions euros in 2024. This clearly shows that the longstanding quality strategy of Austria's agricultural sector is bearing fruit. The targeted specialisation on high-quality niche products, obligatory designations of origin and the general trend towards regional products support this positive development.

In 2024, however, imports of agricultural products and foods rose more strongly than exports—consequently a trade deficit of 2.003 billion euros appeared again in the agricultural trade balance of 2024.

29. Development of agricultural exports and trade balance 1995–2024



1) CN = Combined Nomenclature
Source: © STATISTICS AUSTRIA.

30. Foreign trade in agricultural products and foods

In 2024, Austria's agricultural exports amounted to 16.88 billion euros (2023: 16.65 billion euros). However, agricultural imports increased as well, amounting to 18.89 billion euros. As a result, an agricultural trade deficit of –2 billion euros was recorded. Beverages, milk and dairy products and cereal preparations are among the major export products. The biggest export surplus was achieved for beverages. The biggest import surplus was observed for fruit and vegetables.

30. Foreign trade in agricultural products and food in 1995 and 2024

in million €, in Austria					
According to Combined Nomenclature (CN)	Exports		Imports		Bal- ance
Product Group	1995	2024	1995	2024	2024
1) Live animals	69	149	32	274	-124
2) Meat and meat products	205	1,458	213	1,316	142
3) Fish	2	69	73	436	-367
4) Milk, dairy products, eggs and honey	186	1,826	164	1,287	539
5) Other products of animal origin	15	65	46	99	-35
6) Live plants	5	55	175	480	-425
7) Vegetables	39	225	246	901	-676
8) Fruit	63	366	377	1,632	-1,266
9) Coffee, tea, spices	44	215	207	636	-421
10) Cereals	100	621	44	742	-122
11) Flour	17	367	20	198	169
12) Oilseeds and seed	49	415	61	635	-221
13) Vegetal saps	2	12	13	70	-58
14) Plaiting materials	1	3	1	8	-5
15) Fats and oils	44	331	97	732	-401
16) Meat preparations	49	813	104	612	201
17) Sugar and sugar products	77	477	116	504	-27
18) Cocoa and cocoa preparations	108	814	188	989	-175
19) Cereal preparations	119	1,698	227	1,779	-80
20) Vegetable and fruit preparations	151	1,161	185	1,359	-198
21) Other edible preparations	75	1,318	206	1,363	-46
22) Beverages	248	3,157	149	1,248	1,909
23) Animal fodder	90	1,241	152	1,126	115
24) Tobacco	41	26	56	458	-432
Total	1,799	16,882	3,152	18,885	-2,003

Source: © STATISTICS AUSTRIA.

31. Major export destinations of Austrian agricultural products and foods

Three quarters of the exports of Austrian agricultural produce and foodstuffs go to other EU Member States. Austria's most important export destinations in 2024 were Germany (6.563 billion euros) and Italy (1.783 billion euros). Since Austria joined the EU in 1995 especially the exports to Germany, Italy and Hungary have increased, but exports to non-EU countries, like Switzerland, have also risen.

31. Export of agricultural products and food in 2023/24

Exports of Austrian agricultural goods and food according to CN 01–24¹⁾, in million €

Rank/Export destination	2023	2024	2024/23 in %
1.) Germany	6,401	6,563	2.5
2.) Italy	1,792	1,783	-0.5
3.) Hungary	660	638	-3.3
4.) Switzerland	620	627	1.1
5.) Netherlands	561	562	0.1
6.) Czech Republic	502	486	-3.2
7.) Poland	405	443	9.3
8.) France	436	411	-5.6
9.) Romania	323	383	18.6
10.) Slovenia	374	368	-1.6
11.) U.S.A.	451	343	-23.9
12.) Croatia	255	301	18.2
13.) Spain	220	276	25.7
14.) United Kingdom	239	258	7.7
15.) Slovakia	255	252	-1.1
16.) Belgium	187	217	16.1
17.) Turkey	199	204	2.5
18.) Russian Federation	244	187	-23.3
19.) Brazil	193	171	-11.4
20.) Greece	147	139	-5.2
21.) Sweden	148	135	-8.6
22.) Bulgaria	103	122	19.0
23.) Korea, Republic (South Korea)	120	101	-16.1
24.) Denmark	92	97	5.4
25.) Serbia	84	96	14.4
26.) Australia	100	94	-5.9
27.) China, People's Republic	87	80	-8.1
28.) Japan	69	77	12.3
29.) Ukraine	110	68	-38.4
30.) Finland	69	53	-23.0
Total Exports from Austria	16,658	16,882	1.3

1) CN = Combined Nomenclature
Source: © STATISTICS AUSTRIA.

Austria—country of forests

Austria's forests are multi-talents and represent an important economic factor. They provide us with wood, a renewable raw material, and safeguard more than 440,000 jobs along the wood value chain. Both rural regions and urban centres profit of this. As wood is a climate-friendly building material, resource and energy source, forests also contribute substantially to climate change mitigation and to the energy transition. Moreover, forests provide habitats for two thirds of the domestic species and offer recreational areas for humans. They protect against natural hazards, are unique suppliers of pure drinking water and represent an unparalleled drinking water reservoir.

This makes their sustainable management all the more important. The concept of sustainable forest management has been practised in Austria for generations. It is firmly established in the Austrian Forestry Act, which, apart from the economic effect, also provides for the maintenance of the protective, beneficial and recreational effects of forests. Austria takes great efforts to promote sustainable forest management also on international level, for example through know-how and technology transfer. Furthermore, international delegations are regularly received in Austria to exchange views and expertise on topics like sustainable forest management, innovative wood use and many more, and to present best-practice examples.

The action programme “Wald schützt uns!” (meaning “Forests protect us!”) is to ensure and extend the protective functions of forests in the future. 42 % of the forests or 1.6 million hectares have a protective effect and protect infrastructure and habitats. Without intact protective forests, many parts of Austria would not be available for settlement. In addition, huge investments in technical control systems would be necessary without them. Through targeted research and education also the know-how for necessary adaptations in protective forests is to be developed. The action programme “Klima. Sicherheit. Lebensraum” (meaning: “climate.security. living space”) provides the basis for the implementation of concrete measures for natural hazard management.

With the Austrian Forest Fund, one of the largest packages of measures for domestic forests was adopted in 2020: 430 million euros for 10 measures that benefit forest managers, the entire value-added chain “forest-wood-paper”, climate, and the general public. The objectives are to maintain healthy and climate-fit forests and to ensure the services that forests provide for the long term.

Forests and timber as economic factors

The forestry and timber industry is an important economic factor for Austria and is of great significance for our regions. As a whole, the forest-wood-paper value chain, with over 440,000 employees, generates a gross value added of around 43 billion euros. In 2023, the forestry and timber industry generated a foreign trade surplus of 4.25 billion euros.

The Austrian Forest Inventory

Since 1961 the Austrian Research Centre for Forests has conducted the Austrian Forest Inventory. With more than 11,000 sample plots it is the largest investigation and status quo analysis of Austria's forests. Despite the challenges of climate change, the inventory shows positive results. For more information, see [waldinventur.at](https://www.waldinventur.at).

Key results of the Austrian Forest Inventory 2018–2023

- Austria's forest area totals over 4 million hectares and, with a 47.9 % share of forest in the national territory, is well above the EU average. The Federal Province with the largest share of woodland is Styria (62 %), followed by Carinthia (61 %) and Salzburg (52 %).
- Broadleaved forests and mixed forests as well as biodiversity are increasing. Pure coniferous stands decreased by 10 % over the past two decades. Mixed broadleaved stands increased by 17 %.
- Between 2018 and 2023 the standing deadwood increased by 7.3 % compared to the 2016–2021 period. Deadwood is an indicator of enhanced biodiversity in forests and serves animals, plants and fungi as a nesting, development, food or overwintering habitat.
- Due to climate-change-related negative natural influences such as damage caused by storm and bark beetle, the growing stock decreased slightly compared to the preceding period and amounted to 1.17 billion cubic metres in the total forest.
- Currently, 96.8 % of the increment is harvested.
- The populations of cloven-hoofed game are partly too high, which can impair the healthy development of forest regeneration. On 420,000 hectares of Austria's forest, the existing regeneration has been affected by browsing.

1. Measures of the Austrian Forest Fund

The Austrian Ministry of Forestry ensures that forests and the services they provide are maintained for the long term. The measures of the Austrian Forest Fund (“Österreichischer Waldfonds”), which was established in 2020 and comprises an investment volume of 430 million euros, aim at the development of climate-fit forests, the promotion of biodiversity in forests, and the increased use of the resource of wood as an active contribution to climate change mitigation.

In order to reduce further infestation of forests with bark beetles, re-forestation, tending measures, the establishment of wet and dry deposits for damaged wood as well as mechanical debarking are supported as forest protection measures. The Forest Fund also includes measures to prevent forest fire and research measures.

The Austrian Wood Initiative, which is implemented in the context of the Austrian Forest Fund, comprises multifarious measures to intensify the material and energetic use of the domestic and renewable raw material wood. It encompasses specific measures and activities that use the raw material wood efficiently and innovatively as a material, especially as a building material, and as a source of energy.

Detailed information on the Austrian Forest Fund and the Austrian Wood Initiative, with information on subsidisation, is available at waldfonds.at.

1. Measures of the Forest Fund

in Austria

Measures

1. Re-afforestation and tending measures after damage events
2. Measures to regulate the tree species composition for the development of climate-fit forests
3. Compensation for loss in value caused by bark beetle damage
4. Establishment of wet and dry deposits of damaged wood
5. Mechanical debarking as a forest protection measure
6. Measures to prevent forest fire
7. Research activities on the issue of “Wood gas and organic fuels” and research facilities for the production of organic fuels
8. Research activities on the issue of “Climate-fit forests”
9. Measures to intensify the use of wood as a raw material
10. Measures to promote biodiversity in forests

Source: BMLUK, as of: July 2025.

2. Timber in Austria

Growing stock in Austrian forests totals 1.17 billion solid cubic metres over bark. The sustainable raw material has big potential as a building material, energy source and for use in the bioeconomy. Presently 96.8 % of the increment are utilised.

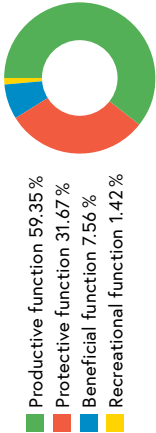
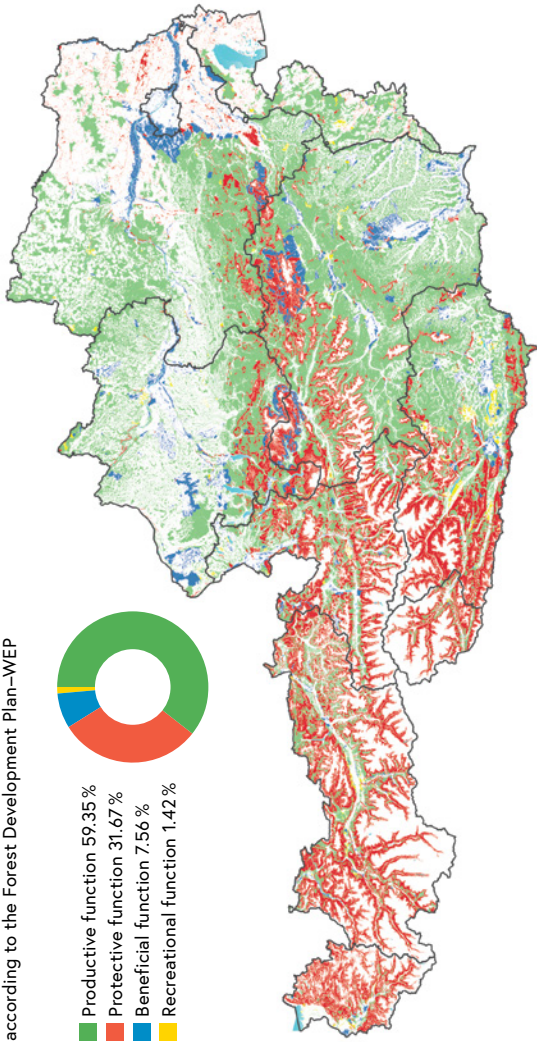
Especially in view of climate change it is good to use more wood. If wood is used for building, other building materials, whose production is very energy-intensive and thus emits large amounts of CO₂, can be substituted (e.g. steel and concrete). The carbon dioxide which has been absorbed during growth and is stored in the wood will, over the long term, be removed from the cycle. Furthermore, the coupled products accruing in processing are suited both for material and for energetic use.

2. Timber in Austria

in million solid cubic metres over bark (m³ o.b.) ¹⁾²⁾



according to the Forest Development Plan–WEP



3. Key functions of Austrian forests

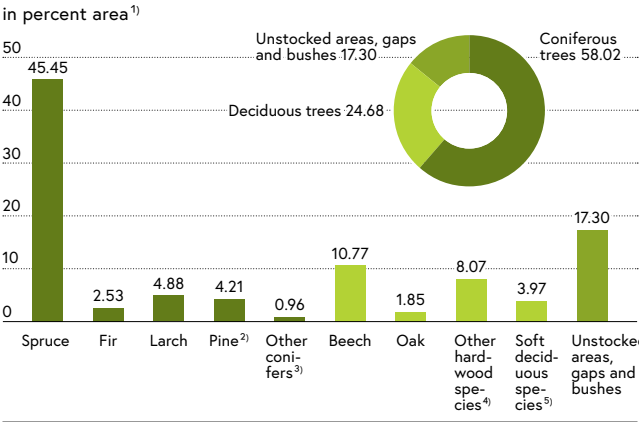
The key function of a forested area is the one that is most important for the public. Austria-wide 59.35 % account for the productive function (sustainable production of wood), 31.67 % for the protective function (protection against natural hazards), 7.56 % for the beneficial function (impact on the environment) and 1.42 % for the recreational function (forest as a recreational area for persons visiting the forest). Information on the key functions is available in the Forest Development Plan at waldentwicklungsplan.at.

4. Distribution of tree species in Austria

The most common tree species in Austria is spruce (45.45 % of the area), followed by beech (10.77 %). Spruce is the all-rounder among the different types of wood and is for example used as structural timber. Beech is preferably used for interior construction and as a raw material in fibre production.

The share of coniferous wood is decreasing in Austria (58.02 %). The trend towards more broadleaved trees (24.68 %) continues, which improves both the climate-fitness and the biodiversity in forests. Climate change leads to a change in the distribution of tree species.

4. Distribution of tree species in Austria



1) The data on the tree species distribution relate to the total Austrian forest.
2) White pine and black pine.
3) Swiss pine, Douglas fir, Weymouth pine, etc.
4) Common hornbeam, ash, maple, elm, Spanish chestnut, black locust, etc.
5) Birch, common alder, grey alder, linden, aspen, white, grey, black and hybrid poplar, willow, etc.
Source: Federal Research and Training Centre for Forests, Natural Hazards and Landscape 2025, Austrian Forest Inventory 2018/23.

5. Forest areas and growing stock of the Federal Provinces

With more than 1 million hectares of forest land, Styria–called the “Green Heart of Austria”–is the Province having the largest forest area and the biggest growing stock. Urban Vienna depends largely on the other Provinces as regards its supply with the sustainable raw material of wood. The growing stock decreased slightly compared to the preceding period, in particular due to the amount of damaged wood caused by climate change, and amounted to 1.17 billion cubic metres in the total forest.

Since 1961, the growing stock has risen from 0.78 billion solid cubic metres to 1.17 billion cubic metres in the total forest, which corresponds to an increase of 51.2 %. In the same period, the stock per hectare rose from 241 cubic metres per hectare to 350 cubic metres per hectare, an increase of 45.2 %.

The forest area has increased by around 330,000 ha since the first Austrian Forest Inventory in 1961. This is more than the combined area of Vorarlberg and Vienna. As the development of growing stock is also subject to ecological mechanisms, it can't be increased indefinitely.

5. Forest areas¹⁾ and growing stock of the Federal Provinces

Federal Province	Total forests ²⁾ in 1,000 ha	Percentage of forest cover	Forest in yield in 1,000 ha	Growing stock ³⁾ in 1,000 m³ o.b.	Growing stock ³⁾ per ha in m³ o.b.
Burgenland	135	34	130	35,858	276
Carinthia	585	61	499	182,922	367
Lower Austria	774	40	735	231,827	315
Upper Austria	502	42	444	163,286	368
Salzburg	373	52	271	99,226	366
Styria	1,014	62	860	314,736	366
Tyrol	529	42	347	117,842	339
Vorarlberg	99	38	62	25,975	419
Vienna	9	22	9	3,405	377
Austria	4,018	48	3,356	1,174,437	350

1) In the form of samples, the Austrian Forest Inventory systematically covers the entire federal territory. Therefore, the determined forest area is the forest-area reference value. The results are based on the interim evaluation of the surveying period 2018/23.

2) Incl. protection forest without yield and forest land without yield.

3) The data on growing stock relate to the forests in yield.

Source: Federal Research and Training Centre for Forests, Natural Hazards and Landscape 2025, Austrian Forest Inventory 2018/23.

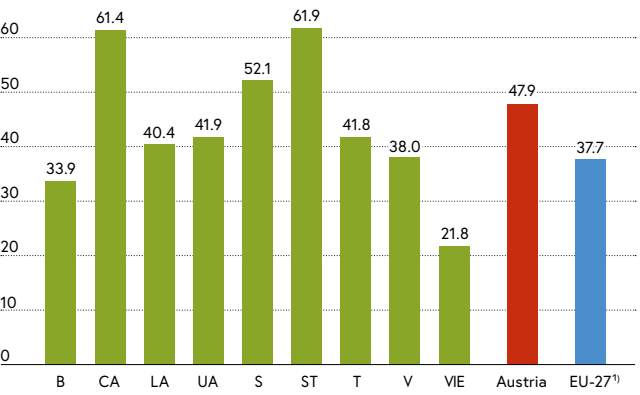
6. Distribution of forest area in the Federal Provinces

Austria is a country of forests and wood: Almost half of its national territory (47.9 %) is covered with forests. Austria's forest area totals more than 4 million hectares. The Federal Province having the largest share of woodland is Styria with 62 %, followed by Carinthia with 61 %, Salzburg with 52 % and Upper Austria and Tyrol with 42 % each. Austria's forests sequester about 985 million tonnes of carbon.

The forests in the European Union cover an area of more than 158 million ha (37.7 %). Unlike many other areas of the world, where deforestation continues to be a severe problem, the European Union's forest area is increasing: From 1990 to 2020 it increased by approximately 14 million hectares, which is in particular due to natural forest expansion and afforestation measures.

6. Distribution of forest area in the Federal Provinces

Forest area in percent of the total area, in Austria and in the EU-27



1) Source: European Parliament 2022.
Source: Federal Research and Training Centre for Forests, Natural Hazards and Landscape 2025, Austrian Forest Inventory 2018/23.

7. Forest areas and ownership structure

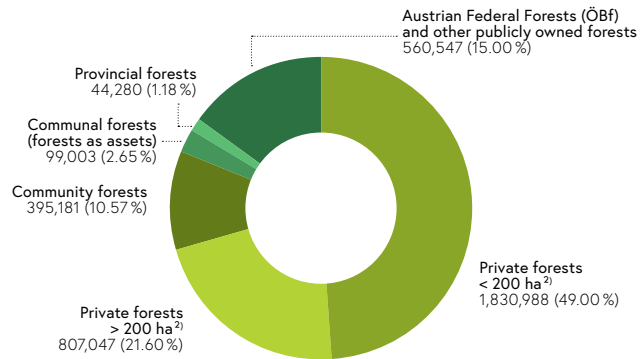
Austria’s forests are predominantly privately owned. About 140,000 owners share 81 % of the forest area. Almost 19 % are publicly owned, for example by Österreichische Bundesforste AG. In Austria, the most frequent type of ownership is the so-called “Kleinwald”, defined as a privately owned forest covering less than 200 ha. In an international comparison, this structure is rather rare. In many countries, especially in Eastern Europe, the share of the national forest exceeds that of private forests.

Forests are often managed sustainably by families for many generations. But also the number of so-called “new” or “off-farm” forest owners who, for example, inherit a forest but no longer manage it themselves, is growing. Quite often they lack experience and expertise on forests.

At klimafitterwald.at, you will find comprehensive information and useful guidelines concerning forest management. This offer is particularly recommendable for new owners. Advisory institutions such as forestry associations, authorities, service providers and training centres are available in the regions. Cooperations and groups, like forest owner cooperatives and forest associations, often work together to organise marketing and management.

7. Forest areas and ownership structure 2024

Types of ownership according to cadastral map in ha¹⁾, in Austria
Total: 3,737,046 ha (100 %)



1) Due to different surveying methods the forest areas identified in the cadastral map differ from those of the Farm Structure Survey (FSS) and of the Austrian Forest Inventory.
2) Incl. church-owned forests.
Source: BMLUK, as of: June 2025.

8. Forest enterprises–Types of management and ownership structure

Austria’s total forest area covers more than 4 million hectares of land, of which 3.4 million hectares are commercial forest.

More than half of this area is for private forests covering less than 200 hectares. This shows that there are many, many small forest enterprises. They benefit from jointly organised activities that enable them to take advantage of synergy effects. Only about 1 % of all forest enterprises are larger than 200 hectares; they manage about 1.3 million hectares.

About 600,000 hectares are managed by the Austrian Federal Forests (Österreichische Bundesforste AG–ÖBf). In 1997, the Federal Forests were disincorporated from the federal budget and established as Österreichische Bundesforste AG. Its sole shareholder is the Republic of Austria. The activities of the Austrian Federal Forests are subject to the provisions of the Federal Forestry Act of 1996. This Act regulates the management of the areas of the Federal Forests (for example no sale of strategically important areas, like glaciers or national park areas), provides for rules applicable to nature conservation and environmental protection (e.g. preservation of drinking and industrial water resources, conservation of forests as protective areas and recreational areas), and requires sustainable, profitable forest management.

8. Forest enterprises–Types of management and ownership structure

in 1,000 hectares, in Austria

	Forest enterprises total	Private forests up to 200 ha ("Kleinwald")	Forest enterprises over 200 ha	Austrian Federal Forests (Österreichische Bundesforste AG–ÖBf)
Types of management				
Forests in yield	3,356	1,902	1,021	433
Production forests	2,942	1,741	849	352
Coppice forests	77	40	35	2
Protective forests in yield; high forests	337	121	137	80
Forests without yield	662	241	261	162
Total forest area	4,018	2,142	1,282	595

Source: Federal Research and Training Centre for Forests, Natural Hazards and Landscape 2024, Austrian Forest Inventory 2018/23.

9. Removal

In 2024, removals totalled 20.03 million m³ of timber harvested under bark. Of the total removal 10.02 million m³ accounted for sawlog > 20 cm (50.00 %) and 1.18 million m³ for small sawlog (5.89 %), which are processed by sawmills. The 3.25 million m³ of industrial wood (16.22 %) are used in the panel and paper industry. 5.58 million m³ of raw timber are used for energy generation (27.88 %).

The volume of damaged wood (11.01 mio. m³) was 22.15 % higher than in 2023. Major harmful factors were bark beetle (3.28 mio. m³) and storms (5.78 mio. m³).

9. Removal 2022–2024

in 1,000 cubic metres of timber harvested under bark, in Austria			
Removal	2022	2023	2024
Total removal	19,358	19,018	20,031
Coniferous wood	16,205	15,840	17,007
Broadleaved wood	3,153	3,177	3,023
Raw timber–material use	13,934	13,346	14,446
Coniferous raw timber	12,957	12,389	13,527
Broadleaved raw timber	977	957	919
Sawlogs	10,711	10,037	11,196
Sawlogs MDM > 20 cm ¹⁾	9,650	9,068	10,016
Coniferous wood	9,344	8,790	9,732
of which spruce/fir	8,374	7,949	8,758
of which pine	453	422	413
of which larch	315	265	327
Broadleaved wood	307	277	283
of which beech	144	125	126
of which oak	78	65	70
Small sawlogs	1,060	968	1,180
Coniferous wood	1,038	962	1,172
Broadleaved wood	22	6	8
Industrial roundwood	3,223	3,309	3,250
Coniferous wood	2,576	2,637	2,622
Broadleaved wood	647	672	627
Raw timber - energetic use	5,424	5,671	5,584
Coniferous wood	3,248	3,451	3,480
Broadleaved wood	2,176	2,220	2,104
Intermediate felling	4,540	4,068	4,198
Coniferous wood	3,751	3,267	3,451
Broadleaved wood	789	800	747
Damaged wood	7,260	9,016	11,014

1) MDM = mid-diameter
Source: BMLUK, as of: June 2025.

10. Timber price development

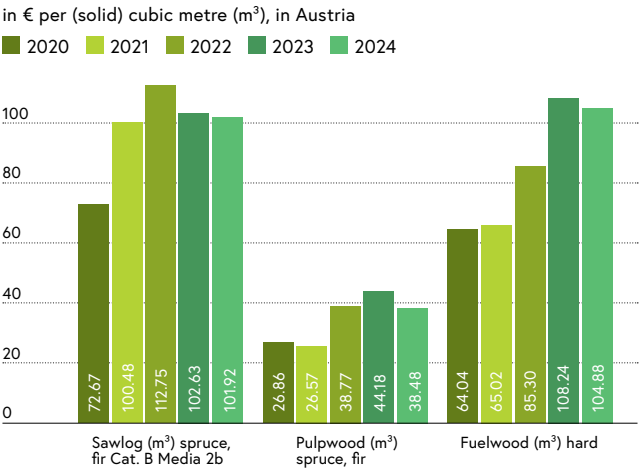
In 2024, sawmills paid an annual average price of 101.92 euros per cubic metre of sawlog spruce/fir, Cat. B Media 2b, which was 0.70 % less than in 2023.

The mixed price of spruce/fir pulpwood/mechanical pulpwood was with 41.38 euros per cubic metre 10.74 % below the average price of the preceding year. The price of pulpwood (spruce/fir) was with 38.48 euros per cubic metre 12.9 % below the price of the year before, and the price of mechanical pulpwood was with 46.11 euros per cubic metre 12.3 % below that of the previous year.

The price of fuelwood hard amounted to 104.88 euros, a decrease by 3.1 %, that of fuelwood soft was 76.23 euros per solid cubic metre, a decrease by 0.1 %.

Forest stands were severely damaged by windthrow in particular in the previous year. The Austrian Forest Fund helps forestry cope with climate-related damage. The package of measures is to make it easier for affected forest owners to cope with the damage. For the long term we need to apply management strategies that make forests climate-fit so they will be able to withstand extreme conditions.

10. Timber price development 2020–2024



Source: © STATISTICS AUSTRIA, as of: June 2025.

11. Foreign trade in wood and articles of wood

In wood processing, Austria is very successful also at the international level. The export of timber products is constantly generating foreign trade surpluses.

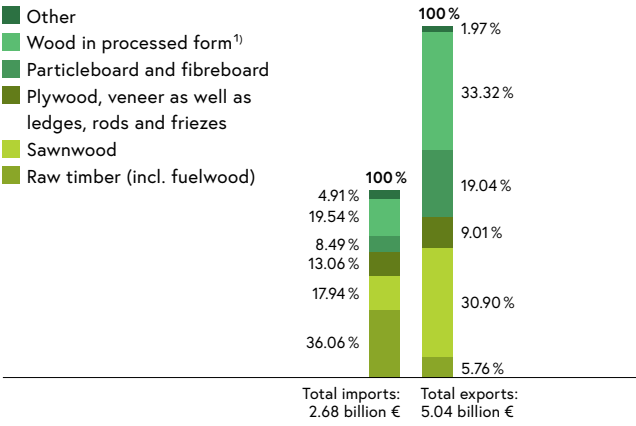
In 2024, the foreign trade surplus in the foreign trade in wood and articles of wood (acc. to Combined Nomenclature (CN), Chapter 44) amounted to around 2.36 billion euros.

Exports totalled 5.04 billion euros, which means that Austria ranked eighth in an international comparison. Total imports amounted to 2.68 billion euros.

The most important export categories were sawn timber and wood in processed form such as windows, doors, parquet panels, planking, joinery and carpentry etc.

11. Foreign trade in wood and articles of wood in 2024

According to Foreign Trade Chapter 44, in Austria



1) Windows, doors, parquet panels, planking, joinery and carpentry, pallets, ornamental objects and others.
Source: © STATISTICS AUSTRIA, as of: June 2025.

12. Forest area and growing stock in the EU

With a forest area of over 40,000 km², Austria ranked eleventh on a list of the EU countries and, with a total growing stock of 345 m³/ha, ranked second in terms of growing stock in the EU in 2020.

Since 1990, the European Union's forests have grown by 14 million hectares, meaning that the forest area increased from 145 to 159 million hectares (37.3 % of the total area).

12. Forest area and growing stock in the EU in 2020

EU country	Land area ¹⁾ in 1,000 ha	Forest ²⁾ in 1,000 ha	Forest areas available for wood supply		
			in 1,000 ha	Growing stock in mio. m ³	Growing stock in m ³ /ha
Belgium	3,028	722	664	168	253
Bulgaria	10,856	3,917	2,039	-	-
Denmark	4,199	665	614	129	210
Germany	34,866	11,419	9,942	3,505	353
Estonia	4,347	2,533	2,106	422	200
Finland	30,391	23,155	19,719	2,203	112
France	54,756	18,096	16,493	2,921	177
Greece	12,890	6,539	3,595	-	-
Ireland	6,889	848	607	102	168
Italy	29,414	11,432	8,454	-	-
Croatia	5,596	2,557	1,743	402	231
Latvia	6,218	3,519	3,199	618	193
Lithuania	6,295	2,263	1,936	474	245
Luxembourg	243	91	86	-	-
Malta	32	0	0	-	-
Netherlands	3,369	370	299	67	224
Austria	8,252	4,029	3,305	1,141	345
Poland	30,619	9,483	8,331	2,366	284
Portugal	9,161	4,855	2,199	-	-
Romania	23,008	6,947	5,586	1,865	334
Sweden	40,731	30,344	19,556	2,719	139
Slovakia	4,808	1,946	1,796	501	279
Slovenia	2,014	1,265	1,139	384	337
Spain	49,966	27,954	17,079	979	57
Czech Republic	7,721	2,677	2,304	682	296
Hungary	9,053	2,253	1,871	357	191
Cyprus	924	386	41	-	-
EU-27 total	399,646	180,265	134,703		

1) Land areas not including water.
2) Forest and other forested areas.
Source: FOREST EUROPE, State of Europe's Forests 2020.

13. Use of wood for energy in Austria

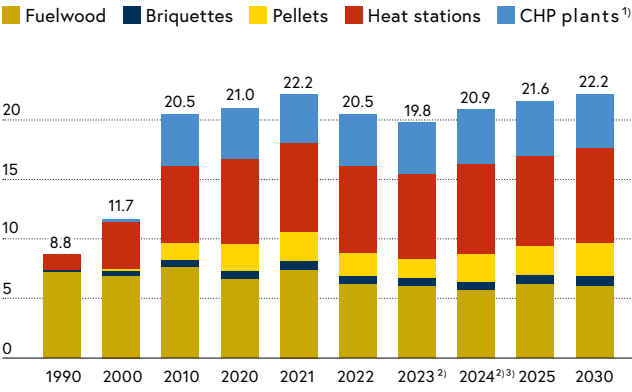
Biomass is Austria's major domestic renewable energy source and can support the transformation of the energy and economic system. It makes a significant contribution to achieving the climate goals. It can be used to replace fossil fuels, increase the security of supply and reduce the dependence on imports.

Innovative heating plants and CHP (combined heat and power) plants supply local and district heating networks with renewable energy.

Due to environmental, economic and geopolitical developments the consumption of wood fuels having a higher energy density, like briquettes and pellets, is expected to remain stable or to continue to rise. The use of fuelwood is stagnating or declining slightly.

13. Use of wood for energy in Austria

in million solid cubic metres per year, not including black liquor



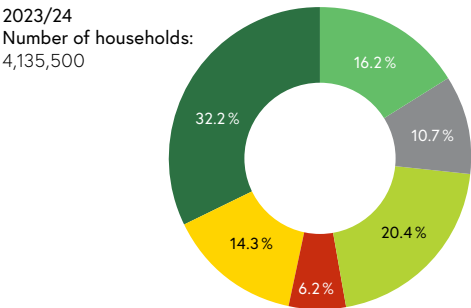
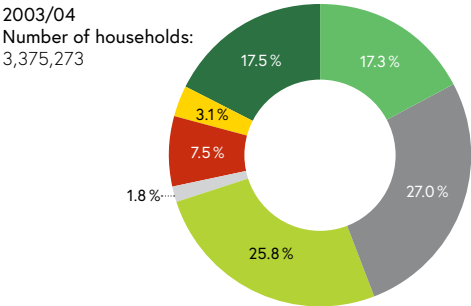
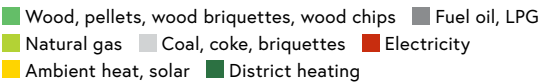
1) CHP plants = Combined heat and power generation plants, not including black liquor.
2) Preliminary figures for 2023-2024.
3) As from 2024 extrapolated trend. No responsibility is taken for the data.
Source: Austrian Energy Agency (AEA); own calculations based on data from STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Austrian Chamber of Agriculture, AEA. As of: June 2025.

14. Heating technologies used in Austrian households

The share of households with heating technologies based on wood, pellets, wood briquettes and wood chips remained almost the same in the period from 2003/04 to 2023/24, although there has been a significant increase in absolute figures due to the rise in the number of households. District heating connections more than doubled, with over 1.3 million households supplied.

In the same period, there was a strong decline in fossil heating systems (~30%). For example, the share of households with fuel oil and liquid gas fell particularly sharply from 27.0 % (2003/04) to 10.7 % (2023/24).

14. Heating technologies used in Austrian households¹⁾²⁾



1) Energy consumption for space heating
2) The survey year lasts from July of the previous year until June of the current year.
Source: © STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Energy consumption of households 2023/24.

15. Gross domestic consumption of renewable sources of energy

Of the gross domestic consumption of renewable energy sources, bioenergy was with a share of 48.0 % and around 239.1 PJ the most important one in 2024.

The remaining part of the renewable energy sources was shared by hydroelectricity, ambient heat (including geothermal energy), wind power and photovoltaics. Due to varying weather conditions hydroelectricity, which is the second-most important renewable source of energy, is subject to annual fluctuations and amounted to around 33.0 % in 2024. Bioenergy is capable of bearing a constant load, which makes it particularly important for the security of supply.

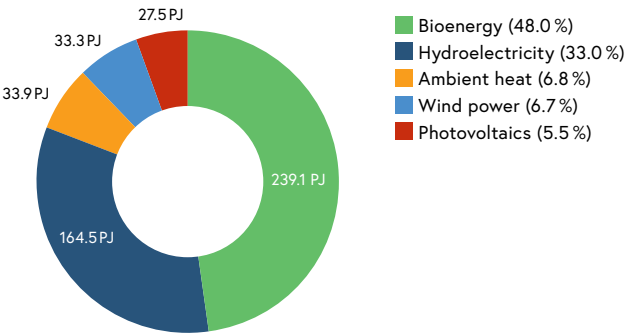
Wood and woody biomass (e.g. sawmill by-products, bark, etc.) represented by far the largest share of bioenergy.

In addition, energy in the form of bioenergy can be stored and used when other renewable energy sources are not available to a sufficient extent. This makes it possible to compensate for seasonal and short-term fluctuations.

Heat pumps and photovoltaics have seen significant growth in recent years. Further increases are expected in these areas in the future.

15. Gross domestic consumption of renewable sources of energy in 2024

by sources of energy, in petajoule (PJ) (Total: 239.1 PJ = 100 %), in Austria



Source: Austrian Biomass Association, © STATISTICS AUSTRIA, preliminary energy balance Austria 2024.

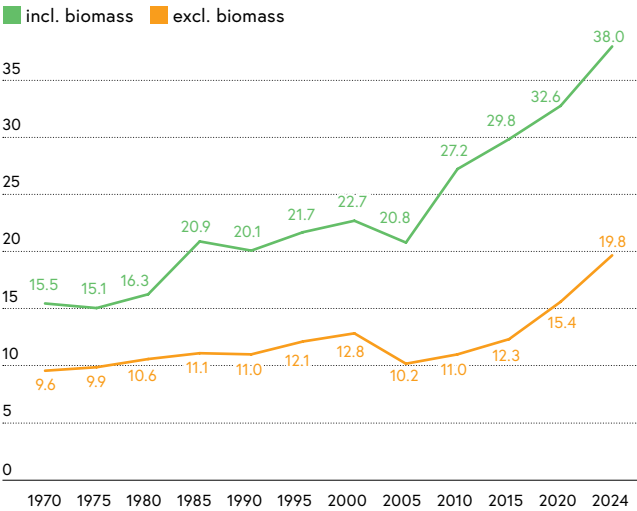
16. Renewable share in gross domestic energy consumption

The renewable share in gross domestic energy consumption has more than doubled since the 1970s and amounted to about 38 % in 2024. This development is above all due to the increase in energy from biomass.

The share of renewable energy sources excluding biomass did not significantly change over several years and only increased to around 20 % last year. Without biomass utilisation, Austria would not be able to meet its targets under the Renewable Energy Directive (RED).

16. Renewable share in gross domestic energy consumption 1970–2024

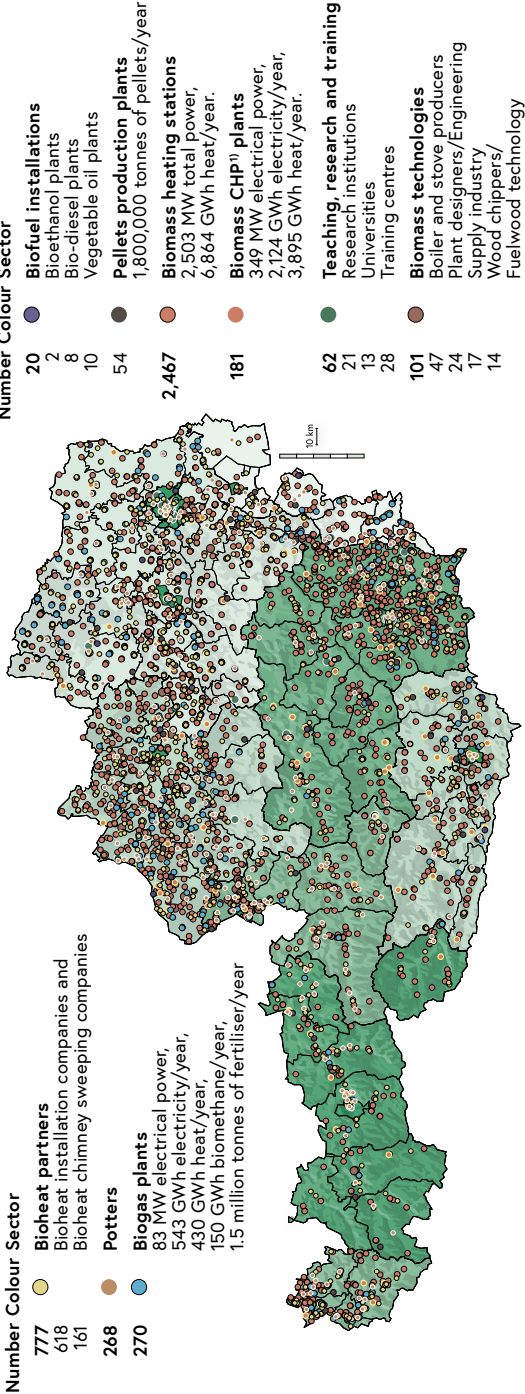
Renewable sources of energy in %, in Austria



Source: Austrian Biomass Association, © STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Energy balances 1970/2023, preliminary energy balance 2024.

17. Biomass Map Austria 2024

Bioenergy industry in Austria, data basis 2024



1) CHP plants = Combined heat and power generation plants

Source: Österreichischer Biomasse-Verband, as of: June 2025.

17. Biomass Map Austria 2024

In order to ensure a sustainable and regional energy supply it is of particular importance to enhance the infrastructure of Austria's bioenergy industry. In Austria, there are around 2,500 biomass heating stations and around 180 biomass CHP (combined heat and power) plants. In addition, 270 biogas and 20 biofuel plants make an important contribution to reduce the dependency from fossil fuels. The exit from fossil raw materials will also lead to an increase in the capacity of domestic pellets production and to investments in new facilities.

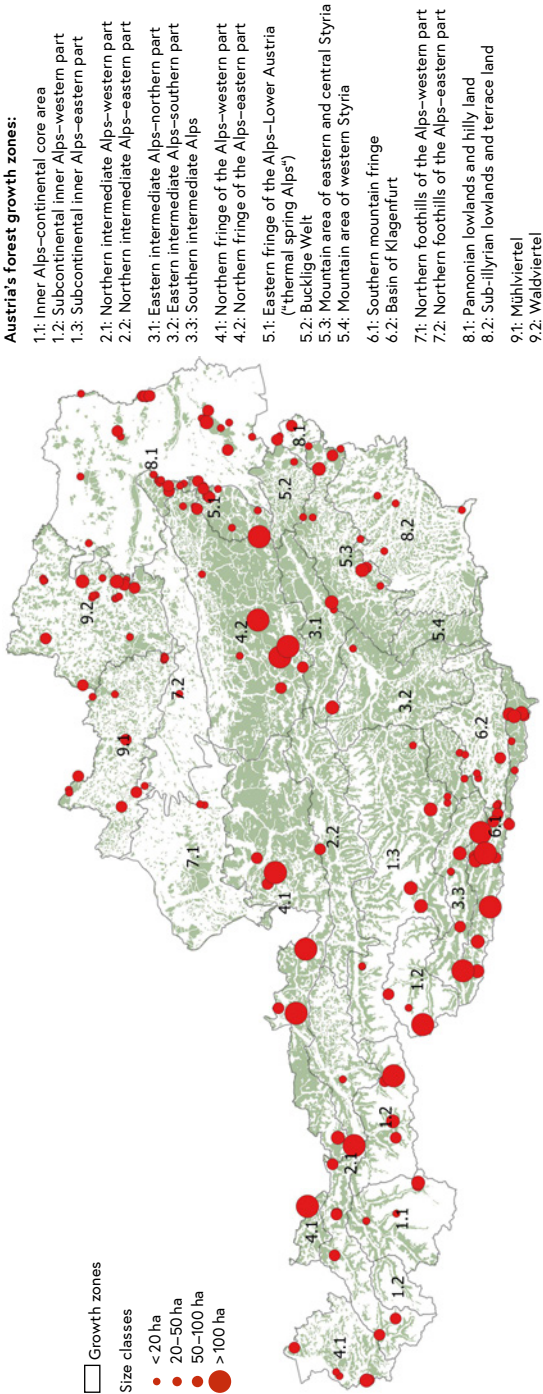
18. Natural forest reserves in Austria

Natural forest reserves (NFR) are forest areas in which the forest ecosystem develops naturally. Forest utilisation, the processing of deadwood or the introduction of trees are not permitted. NFRs are a contribution to the preservation of the natural development of biological diversity. They serve research, teaching and education. The selection of the NFRs depends first and foremost on the existence of the potential natural forest communities.

Natural forest reserves in Austria

- In 1995, the Natural Forest Reserves (NFR) Programme was launched.
- 116 forest communities are of relevance to the NFR Programme. Each of these is to be represented by at least one reserve.
- Two thirds of the forest communities are presently part of the NFR Programme.
- Presently, the NFR Programme covers around 9,150 hectares, divided into 200 natural forest reserves.
- 7 modules are analysed: General features of the land, fixed-radius plot, deadwood, habitats, stability, regeneration, and vegetation.
- 2,200 surveys document the natural development of the forests.

More information at naturwaldreservate.at.



Source: © Austrian Research Centre for Forests, as of: June 2025.

19. Forests, game and hunting in Austria

The hunting industry is regulated by provincial laws in Austria. Tasks and goals of hunting law focus in particular on the care and protection of game, hunting and biotope protection, and the sustainable utilisation of wildlife. The goal is to improve the habitats and the living conditions of the wildlife species.

In the 2023/24 hunting season, there were 137,400 valid annual hunting permits (+2 %) and 13,500 guest hunting permits (+28.7 %). The total number of game shot rose to 760,560 (+2.7 %) compared to the previous year.

By means of sustainable hunting, excessive game populations, respectively the annual growth, are to be reduced. Game may suffer losses due to road traffic, unfavourable weather conditions or diseases. For the hunting year 2023/24 122,930 game losses of all kinds were reported (+3.1%), among them 73,012 roe deer (+2.1%), 25,271 hares (+2.3 %), 3,450 foxes (+6.3 %), and 8,038 pheasants (+3.6 %).

Every year, the BMLUK prepares the annual report on damage by game ("Wildschadensbericht"). The results of the Austrian Forest Inventory 2017–2022 continue to show a tense damage situation as regards damage due to game browsing and damage caused by bark-peeling.

Close co-operation between forestry, hunting and natural hazard management is important. With the "Mariazell Declaration" the Austrian "Forest & Hunting Dialogue" set itself the goal of promoting balanced forest and wildlife ecology. More at [Der Forst & Jagd Dialog](#).

19. Game shootings and game losses by hunting years¹⁾

	2022/23	2023/24	Change in %
Game shootings and game losses			
Game shootings			
Thereof furred game ²⁾	636,187	653,995	2.8
Thereof feathered game ³⁾	104,624	106,565	1.9
Game shootings in total	740,811	760,560	2.7
Game losses			
Thereof furred game ²⁾	109,533	112,825	3.0
Thereof feathered game ³⁾	9,665	10,105	4.6
Game losses in total	119,198	122,930	3.1
Total	860,009	883,490	2.7

1) The "hunting year" is defined by the provincial laws. In Carinthia, Lower Austria, Salzburg, Burgenland and Vienna it corresponds to the calendar year, while the hunting year in Styria, Upper Austria, Tyrol and Vorarlberg lasts from 1 April to 31 March.

2) Furred game = red deer, roe deer, chamois, wild boar, hares, badgers, foxes, martens and others.

3) Feathered game = pheasants, wild ducks, wild pigeons and others.

Source: © STATISTICS AUSTRIA, hunting statistics, offices of the Provincial Governments, as of: June 2025.

Natural hazard management

Numerous natural hazards threaten the living and economic environment in Austria, especially along waterways and in mountainous regions. Climate change causes additional hazards, such as storms, extreme precipitation, droughts, the explosive proliferation of harmful insects and forest fires.

Floods, mudslides, avalanches, rock fall, and landslides can severely damage or even destroy buildings, infrastructure and economic assets. In extreme cases they even pose a threat to human life and health. Protection against the impacts of natural hazards is therefore one of the most important security tasks of the state. Ongoing public investment in the prevention and protection infrastructure is part of public services and guarantees social and economic well-being.

Austria has a well-developed and fully operational system of protection against natural disasters. Natural hazard management is a constitutional task of the Federal Government and is carried out within the competence of the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Climate and Environmental Protection, Regions and Water Management (BMLUK) by the Hydraulic Engineering Service (formerly Federal Water Engineering Authority–BWV) and the Service for Torrent and Avalanche Control (WLV). The main local actors are municipalities, water associations and water cooperatives, but also the major infrastructure providers such as the highway and motorway financing company (ASFINAG) or the Austrian Federal Railways (ÖBB).

Measures include in particular protective technical infrastructure, protective forests and the Hazard Zone Plans. These plans inform the population about the areas threatened by natural hazards that cannot, or only to a limited extent, be used as residential or economic areas.

Due to the impacts of climate change the number of natural disasters tends to rise in Austria. The growing vulnerability of human living space can, in terms of risk management, only be countered by sustainable development of, and investments in the protective infrastructure and by the tending of our protective forests.

1. Key figures of hydraulic engineering

The Hydraulic Engineering Service emerged as an operational force from the Federal Hydraulic Engineering Service. It is responsible for structural flood protection measures in the assigned areas throughout Austria.

In 2024, the Hydraulic Engineering Service supervised 820 projects throughout Austria and provided 46.06 % of the investment costs from federal funds, amounting to 93.99 million euros. By means of these funds emergency measures, planning, construction and maintenance measures were financed.

The new construction measures will provide even better protection against flooding for around 8,800 people in future and have created or secured around 3,300 jobs.

1. Key figures of hydraulic engineering 2023 and 2024

in Austria		
	2023	2024
Projects (number)	773	820
Investment costs financed	210.53 million €	206.79 million €
Federal share	102.64 million €	93.99 million €
Average funding–Federal Government	48.75 %	46.06 %
Average funding–Federal Province	29.66 %	33.52 %
Persons protected by protective measures (number)	10,298	8,755
Objects protected by protective measures (number)	2,747	2,233
Jobs (created/secured)	3,492 jobs	3,261 jobs
New area of waters	8.5 ha	3.47 ha
New retention volume	1.06 million m³	1.59 million m³

Source: BMLUK, calculations: Settlement agency of the Hydraulic Engineering Service, as of: June 2025.

2. Natural hazard management–Federal funds

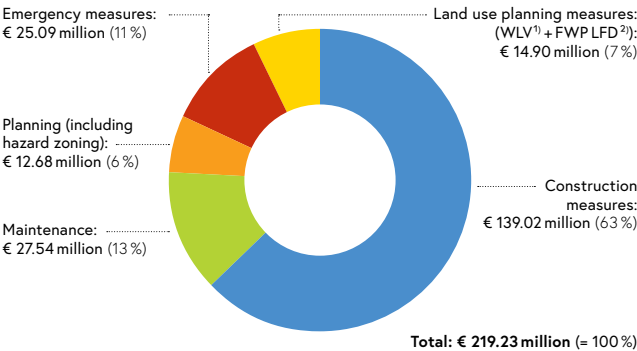
In Austria, measures to maintain the existing protective infrastructure and immediate disaster relief measures (emergency measures) are of great importance.

As a result of climate change, both surface run-off and the sediment masses transported by water bodies are increasing. The frequency of mudflows, rock falls and landslides, which require innovative protection concepts, is rising. Therefore, we not only take measures but also invest in the further development of the protection technology.

Moreover, the “Action Programme Protective Forest” was adopted on the basis of the Austrian Forest Strategy 2020+ and implemented on an ongoing basis. The great need for action results from the increasing threat by extreme events with a destructive effect on protective forests. An urgent battle is being fought against the massive bark beetle infestations resulting from storms and snow breakage, which are threatening object-protecting forests. For more detailed information, see schutzwald.at.

2. Natural hazard management–Federal funds 2024

Federal funds (Hydraulic Engineering Service + WLVL¹⁾ , in Austria



1) WLVL = Forsttechnischer Dienst für Wildbach- und Lawinenverbauung (Forest Engineering Service for Torrent and Avalanche Control)
2) FWP LFD = Land use planning projects (Flächenwirtschaftliche Projekte - FWP) with the Provincial Forestry Directorates (Landesforstdirektionen - LFD) being the lead agencies
Source: BMLUK, as of: June 2025.

3. Natural hazard management–Federal investments

In 2024, the Federal Government invested more than 209 million euros in natural hazard management in Austria. The federal funds are distributed among the Federal Provinces, as required. In this way the implementation of over 1,800 projects protecting settlements and important infrastructure has been rendered possible.

In 2024, most of the financial resources for flood control and flood retention were spent on projects in Lower Austria, Styria and Carinthia.

The Forest Engineering Service for Torrent and Avalanche Control invested the highest shares in projects in Tyrol, Salzburg and Carinthia.

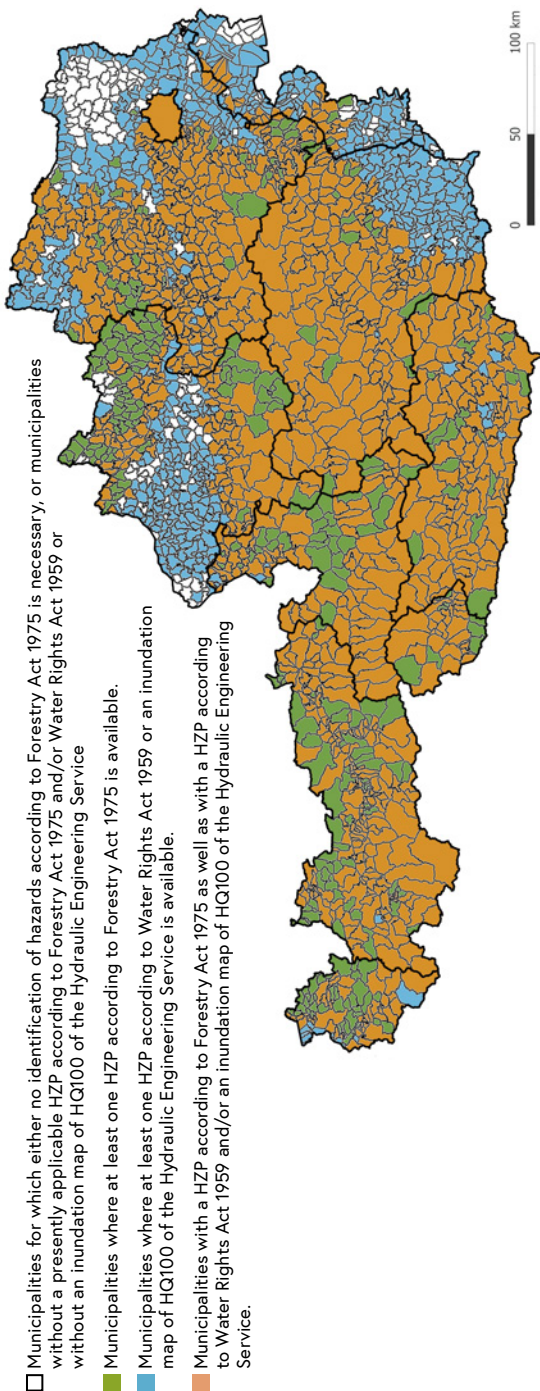
3. Natural hazard management–Federal investments 2024

in Austria

Federal Province	Flood control Hydraulic Engineering Service in million €	Torrent and avalanche control WLVL ¹⁾	Flood control Hydraulic Engineering Service Projects/construction sites	Torrent and avalanche control WLVL ¹⁾
Burgenland	7.298	1.582	115	6
Carinthia	10.369	17.963	66	161
Lower Austria	25.163	9.541	220	138
Upper Austria	8.720	8.708	71	88
Salzburg	2.858	23.460	68	104
Styria	19.816	13.973	134	118
Tyrol	8.206	27.746	34	197
Vorarlberg	5.061	12.132	98	175
Vienna	6.505	0.659	14	3
Austria	93.996	115.765	820	990
Austria total	209.761 million €		1,810 projects	

1) WLVL = Forsttechnischer Dienst für Wildbach- und Lawinenverbauung (Forest Engineering Service for Torrent and Avalanche Control)
Source: BMLUK, as of: June 2025.

4. Hazard zoning in Austria's municipalities



Abbreviation: HZP – Hazard Zone Plan (Gefahrenzonenplan), HQ100 once-in-a-century flood
Source: basic data: BMLUK, Service for Torrent and Avalanche Control – WLV 2025. Technical data: BMLUK, Hydraulic Engineering Service (BWV), WLV. Data evaluation and design of the technical data: BMLUK, WLV, as of: June 2025.

4. Hazard zoning in Austria's municipalities

The Hazard Zone Plan (HZP, in German “Gefahrenzonenplan”, GZP) is an area-based expert opinion on the risks due to floods, torrents and avalanches. It serves as a basis for protective measures, spatial planning and the construction and security sectors.

Austria Map No 4. provides an overview of the municipalities in which large-scale hazard zone plans are available for inspection. The maps can be retrieved on the internet at waldatlas.at, hora.gv.at and on the GIS pages of the Federal Provinces.

5. The digital torrent and avalanche cadastre of Austria

The digital torrent and avalanche cadastre constitutes a service for citizens as well as for municipalities which is offered online by the Service for Torrent and Avalanche Control. A total of around 12,500 torrent catchment areas, 7,200 avalanche catchment areas and around 1,400 hazard zone plans are already available. The system serves as a guide to immediate natural hazards at the places of residence and work and forms the basis for spatial planning in each municipality.

5. The digital torrent and avalanche cadastre of Austria



The cadastre contains:

Approx. 12,500
torrent catchment areas



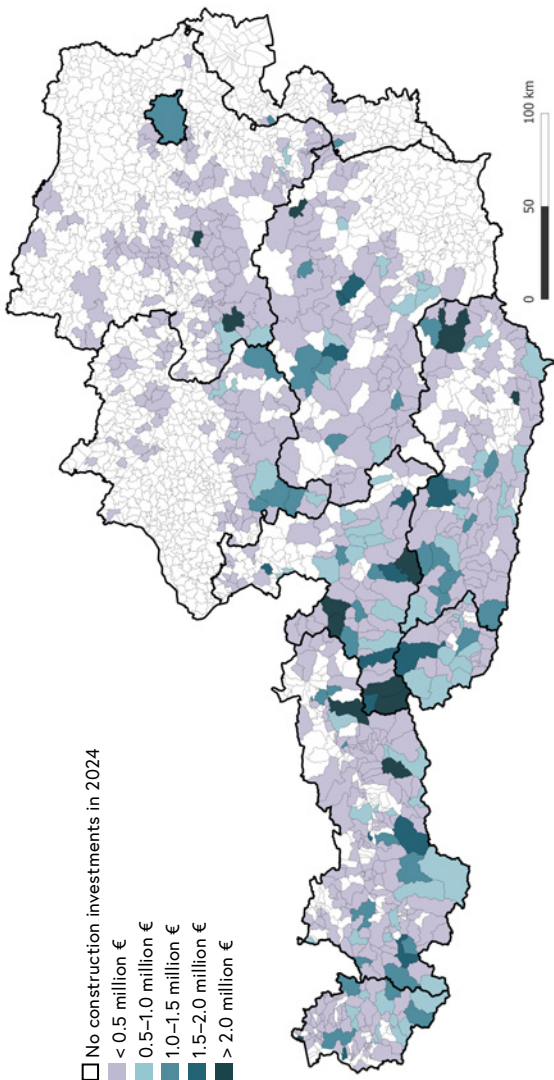
Approx. 7,200
avalanche catchment areas



1.418
hazard zone maps

Requests for citizens at naturgefahren.at/service/karten.html or at waldatlas.at
Requests for municipalities at the online municipal portal of the Service for Torrent and Avalanche Control at gemeindeportal.die-wildbach.at

Source: BMLUK, Service for Torrent and Avalanche Control–WLV, as of: May 2025.



Source basic data: Federal Office of Metrology and Surveying, 2024. Source technical data: BMLUK, WLV. Source: evaluation and design of technical data: BMLUK, WLV, 2025

6. Construction expenses of the Service for Torrent and Avalanche Control in Austria's municipalities

In 2024, the Service for Torrent and Avalanche Control spent approximately 215 million euros to improve the protection of human lives, settlements and major infrastructure against natural hazards, such as torrents, avalanches, rock fall and landslides in around 700 municipalities by means of targeted measures. Austria Map No. 6 shows the municipalities in which investments were made in protection projects in 2024.

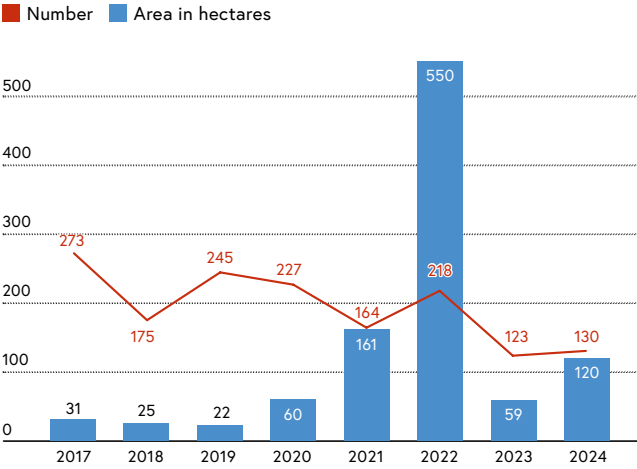
Ybbsitz, Saalfelden am Steinernen Meer and Hofstetten-Grünau were the three municipalities with the highest investments in 2024.

7. Forest fires in Austria

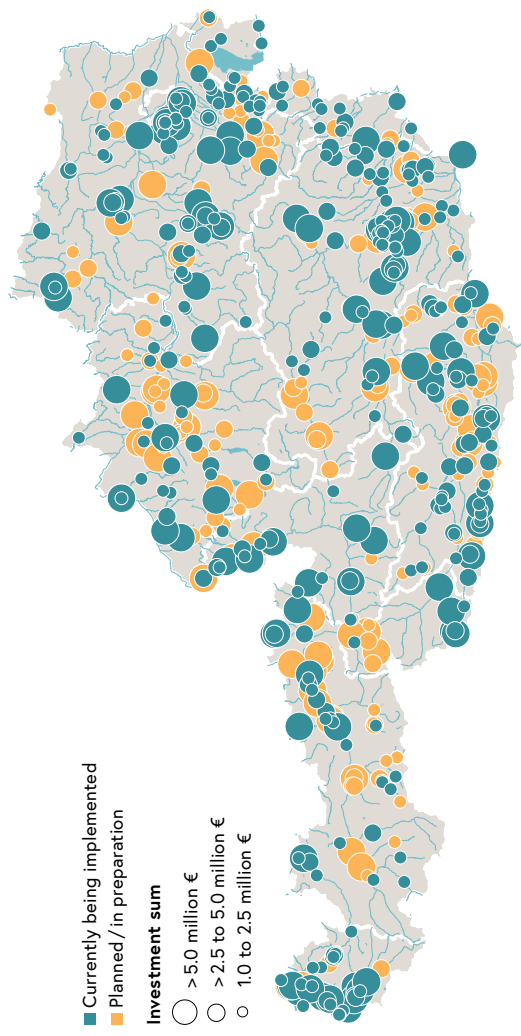
Due to climate change-induced heat and drought the risk of forest fires has steadily increased in Austria. About 85 % of the forest fires are related to human activities. On average, 220 forest fires occur each year, causing damage to a total area of approximately 50 hectares.

As part of the newly created Forest Fund, the Austrian Federal Government is providing a total of 11 million euros for forest fire prevention and forest fire fighting.

7. Forest fires in Austria 2017–2024



Source: Vienna University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences - Institute of Silviculture, as of: May 2025.



Source: BMLUK, as of: June 2025.

8. Current and planned projects in the field of flood risk management

Our rivers and brooks are important habitats for many animals and plants, but they also pose a threat to settlements and infrastructure facilities in the case of floods.

To ensure that we will be well protected against floods also in future, the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Climate and Environmental Protection, Regions and Water Management (BMLUK) promotes the further development and extension of flood prevention and protection facilities all over Austria.

Austria Map No. 8 “Ongoing and planned hydraulic engineering projects in Austria” provides an overview of the flood protection projects currently being implemented or planned with an investment volume of over one million euros.

In 2024, 8,755 additional persons were better protected against floods.

More detailed information is available on bmluk.gv.at/wasser.

9. Newly created flood retention areas in Austria

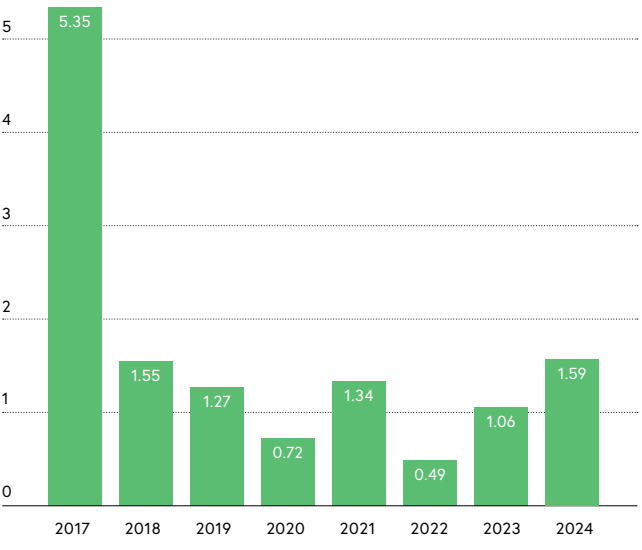
In Austria, many flood protection measures currently aim to improve water retention along rivers, to secure inundation areas and reconnect oxbow lakes and separated side arms to rivers.

In order to also improve water quality and aquatic habitats, ecological measures are always included in the planning and, where possible, implemented. In many cases, not only improved protection against floods but also new near-natural river habitats and attractive places for local recreation and leisure activities are created for the population.

The graph below shows the total annual retention volumes of the flood retention areas created in Austria. In 2024, they amounted to 1.59 million cubic metres.

9. Newly created flood retention areas 2017–2024

Retention volume in million m³, in Austria



Source: BMLUK, as of: June 2025.

10. Securing natural flood retention areas in Austria

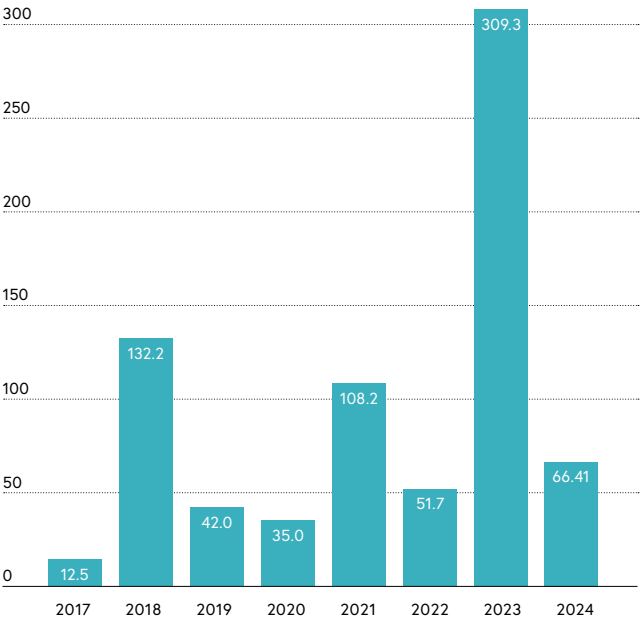
Proactive flood risk management aims at keeping important retention areas free from high-quality utilisations. By securing retention areas this goal can be achieved.

This also contributes to flood control for our settlement areas.

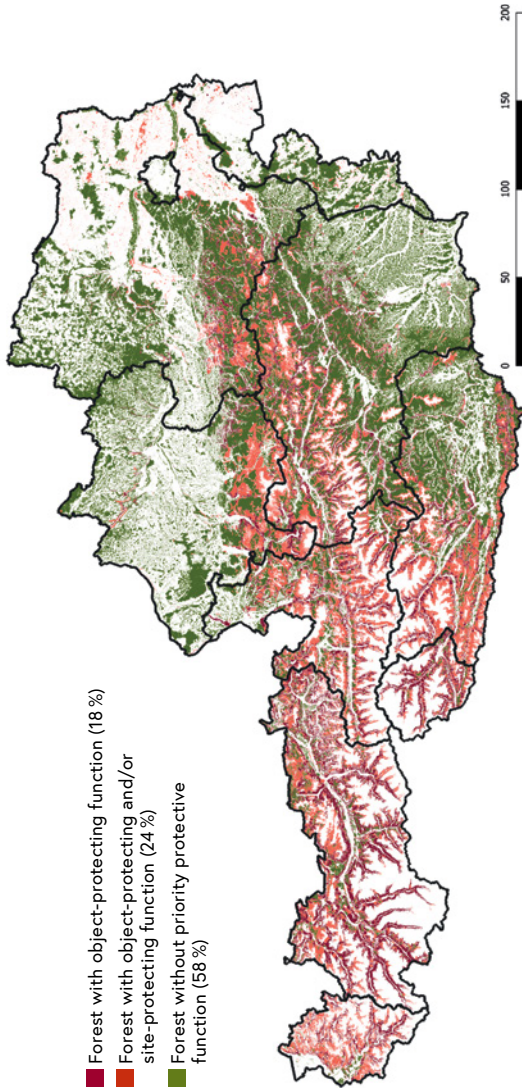
The graphic representation below shows the total flood retention areas secured in Austria per year. In 2024, they amounted to 66.4 hectares.

10. Securing natural flood retention areas 2017–2024

Flood retention areas in hectares, in Austria



Source: BMLUK, as of: June 2025.



Source: BMLUK, Dir. III/4, as of: May 2025.
Source of the technical data: BMLUK, WLV, Analysis and design of the technical data: BFW, LFD, BMLUK, WLV, as of: 2025.

11. Reference map of protective forests in Austria

As part of the “Protective Forest” digitalisation initiative, the nationwide expert opinion represents a major milestone in the “Forest Protects Us!” action programme.

Based on several preliminary scientific projects of the Federal Research Centre for Forests and an evaluation by the local forestry authorities (district forestry inspectorates, Forest Engineering Service for Torrent and Avalanche Control), the protective forest reference map shows the potential forest areas with a protective function.

Cartographic visualisation is an essential basis for impact-oriented use in investment and funding management. Special treatment in accordance with the Forestry Act is not shown. It is therefore not legally binding, but it raises awareness of the importance of protective forests in Austria. The protective forest reference map serves as an important planning tool for integrated natural hazard management and is intended to draw attention to the public interest in the protective function, particularly in forest management.

For more extensive information and the free online access, see schutzwald.at/karten and waldatlas.at.

Water—the basis of life

Water is an indispensable asset for both nature and humans. It is a unique living environment and is used for almost all areas of life. Ensuring the supply of water as a valuable resource in the long term is one of the key tasks of the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Climate and Environmental Protection, Regions and Water Management (BMLUK). The Federal Ministry creates the framework conditions for the protection of water, in particular in view of drinking water supply from groundwater and spring water, for a resource-saving utilisation and for the protection against floods.

Water is the number one foodstuff. Austria currently has sufficient drinking water of excellent quality. Compared to other countries, the daily per capita consumption of drinking water is relatively low in Austria, averaging around 130 litres. Currently, approximately 93 % of the population already benefit from one of over 5,500 central drinking water suppliers. The entire demand for drinking water is covered from groundwater, thus from wells and springs. For decades, Austria has also made great efforts to raise awareness among the population and the sectors of industry to encourage them to use this precious resource carefully, while at the same time investing heavily in water infrastructure to the tune of 16.8 billion euros. The “Plan for the Safeguarding of Drinking Water” was drawn up to ensure a secure drinking water supply.

Apart from its excellent drinking water supply, Austria has a great wealth of beautiful rivers, brooks and lakes. These water landscapes are unique living environments for numerous animals and plants and are also very valuable recreational areas for humans. Therefore, these living environments are continuously being improved ecologically. Austria’s bathing water quality ranks highly in the EU every year, with Austria currently in fourth place.

However, water has also a different face, a menacing face: It is an unpredictable force of nature, which brings about high tides and floods. In order to minimise damage as far as possible, the BMLUK implements flood control projects throughout Austria together with the Provinces and municipalities and makes the population aware of the dangers. Most recently, the information campaign “Hochwasser–ich schütze mich” (meaning “Floods–I’ll protect myself”) was launched.

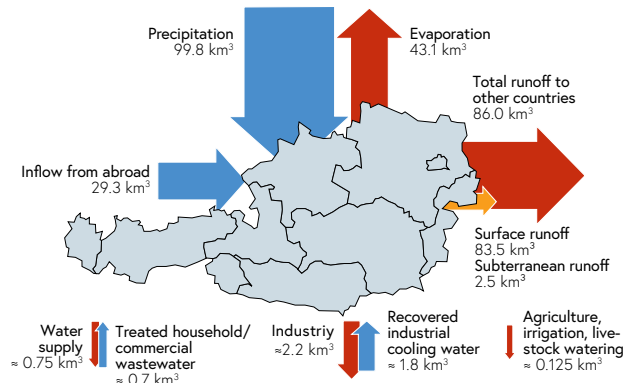
1. Austria’s water balance

The most important basis for the sustainable use of water by any society is the exact knowledge of the water cycle. Every second, around 18 billion litres of water evaporate on our planet. Only 0.4 % of the total water volume participate in the water cycle. The major part of it remains bound in reservoirs, such as oceans or ice caps.

Austria receives around 1,190 mm of precipitation annually, with areas along the main Alpine ridge characterised by high volumes of rainfall. In parts of western Austria, average annual precipitation of more than 2,500 mm a year can be expected, while in the north-east of the country only 600 mm or less are recorded each year. Domestic water resources are therefore stored and available in most different ways. Not a single drop is lost, as precipitation and evaporation are in a constant cycle.

1. Austrian water balance

Medium values 1986–2015 in km³/year



Source: BMLRT, study “Austria’s Water Treasure” 2022.

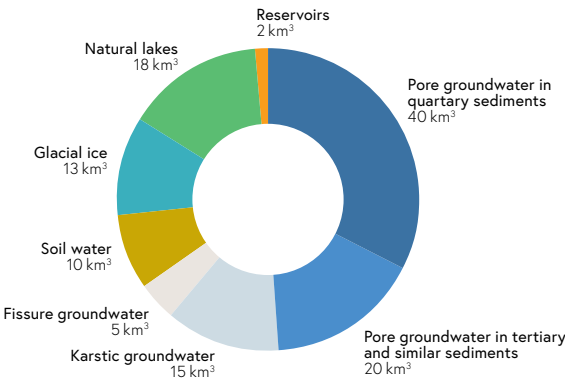
2. Water reservoirs and water resources in Austria

While the supply of high-quality water is an ever-growing problem in many regions of the world, Austria is one of the most water-abundant countries on Earth. The water resources available subterraneanly in groundwater and soil water, in natural lakes, in glacier ice, and in reservoirs, total around 123 km³. If all the country’s water resources were brought together, the result would be a water pillar covering the entire country with a height of 1.5 metres.

The term “pore groundwater” refers to groundwater in unconsolidated rock and bedrock, whose voids (effective porosity) are predominantly formed by pores. It is first and foremost generated from wells. The term “crevice groundwater” refers to groundwater in crevices and non-karstic rock, the extraction takes place from springs or wells. Typical karstic aquifers in Austria are the extensive Northern and Southern Limestone Alps, with their limestone and dolomite rocks, the carbonate rocks.

2. Water reservoirs and water resources in Austria

Reservoirs and resources, total: 123 km³



Source: BMLRT, as of: June 2022.

3. Dams and reservoirs in Austria

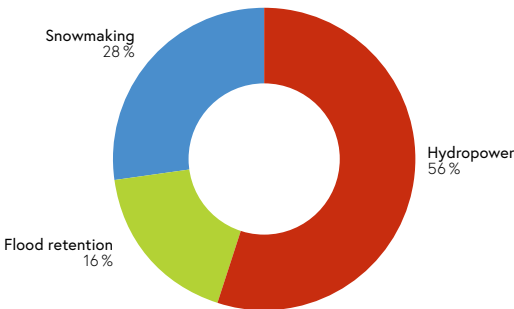
In Austria, water is stored by a total of 194 “large” dams (dam height H > 15 m or storage volume V > 500,000 m³) with a total usable volume of 1.6 km³. The major part of this water is used for electricity generation: Dams and reservoirs play a crucial role in the generation of renewable energy from hydropower and in storing surplus energy from wind and photovoltaic plants (power plant storage and pumped storage). This can currently be achieved by means of 109 dams.

Moreover, climate change contributes, in combination with an ever-denser settlement, to a decisive aggravation of the flood risk situation in Austria. 31 large flood retention basins, in which 0.033 km³ water can be retained, make an indispensable contribution to the protection of settlement areas and their population.

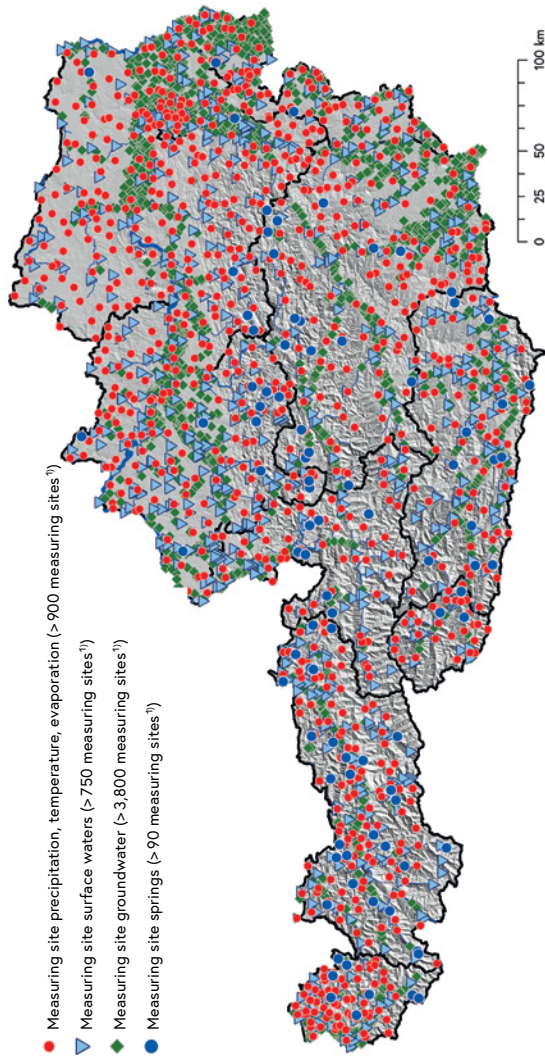
Another adverse effect of climate change is the increasing tendency towards warm and low-precipitation winters, which requires the establishment of facilities for snow production in the interest of winter tourism, which is so important for Austria. For the generation of artificial snow, 55 large snow-making reservoirs with a storage volume of about 0.006 km³ are available—this corresponds to about 0.3 % of the total available usable volume.

3. Purpose of use of big dams and reservoirs

in Austria



Source: BMLUK, as of: June 2025.



¹⁾ Number of measuring sites with data available at ehyd.gv.at.
Source: BMLUK, Dir. IV/3 - Water Management, as of: June 2025.

4. The hydrographical monitoring network in Austria

The hydrographical monitoring network in Austria is operated under the responsibility of the BMLUK's Directorate for Water Balance, jointly with the hydrographical services of the Federal Provinces, the Austrian waterways operator viadonau as well as more than 1,800 observers.

On several thousand measuring sites numerous parameters, such as precipitation, flow rate at surface waters or groundwater level, are continuously recorded. The data collection is laid down by law within the framework of the Water Rights Act as well as within the framework of the Water Cycle Survey Ordinance.

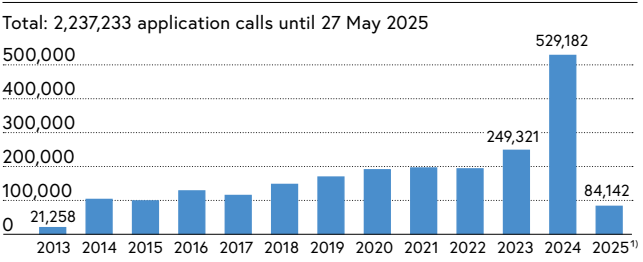
The hydrographical data collected are indispensable parameters for high and low tide forecasts. They are applied in water and energy supply, in agriculture and forestry, in civil engineering offices, in the insurance industry and in science and research, as for example in climate impact research. Thanks to this reliable database, planning instruments of water management, such as hazard zoning and flood risk management, can be used in a standardised and uniform way.

The hydrographical monitoring network and the hydrographical data constitute, as bases for planning and decisions, important elements of the Austrian water management. They make an important contribution to the overall national economy.

5. WebGIS portal eHYD

A major part of this hydrographical data treasure, consisting of monitoring time series over many years, and data transferred via remote data transmission, is available free of charge on the BMLUK's WebGIS portal eHYD (ehyd.gv.at).

5. Application calls of eHYD per year



¹⁾ As of: 27 May 2025.
Source: Computing and Technology Centre for Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management (LFRZ).

6. Water demand from groundwater and surface water

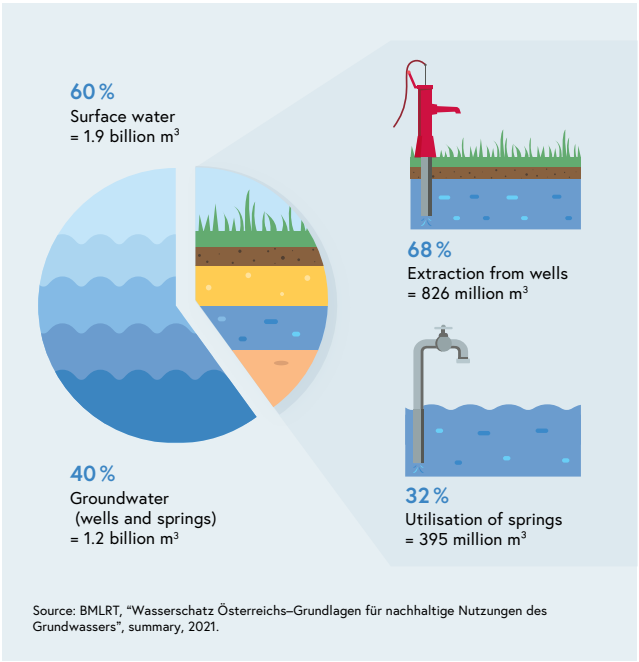
The total annual water demand in Austria amounts to about 3.1 billion m³. About 60 %, which are about 1.9 billion m³, are withdrawn from surface waters.

The major part of it is used as cooling water for trade and industry, a smaller part is used by agriculture and services (snowmaking).

About 40 % of the total water demand, which are about 1.2 billion m³, are covered by groundwater, from wells (68 %) and springs (32 %). Most of it is used for water supply, with a smaller proportion going to industry and commerce, agriculture and services.

6. Water demand from groundwater and surface water

Total: 3.1 billion m³/year (100 %), in Austria



7. Utilisation of groundwater by branch of industry

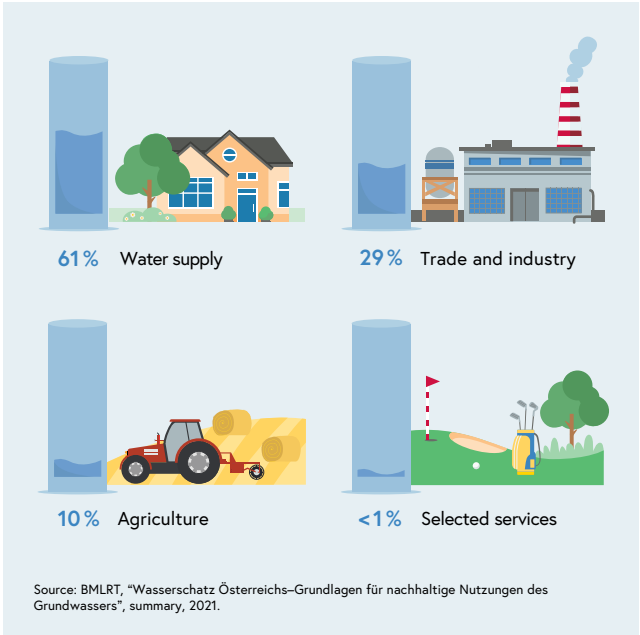
The water required for Austria's water supply is met entirely from groundwater, from wells and springs. The current water demand for water supply amounts to 753 million m³ per year and constitutes thus 61 % of the groundwater utilisations.

The total water extraction by the producing sector (trade and industry) amounts to about 2,210 million m³ per year, of which only 15 % are withdrawn from wells and 1 % from springs. With 353 million m³ per year, the producing sector has a share of about 29 % in the groundwater utilisations.

Currently, an average of 69 million m³ of water are used for irrigation in agriculture, of which approximately 64 million m³ are withdrawn from groundwater. The water demand for animal husbandry differs considerably regionally and, amounting to 55 million m³ per year, makes up a low share in the total water demand. With a total demand of 118 million m³ per year, agriculture has a share of 10 % in groundwater utilisations.

7. Groundwater use by branch of industry

In Austria





Source: BMLRT, "Wasserschatz Österreichs–Grundlagen für nachhaltige Nutzungen des Grundwassers", 2021.

8. Intensity of groundwater utilisation

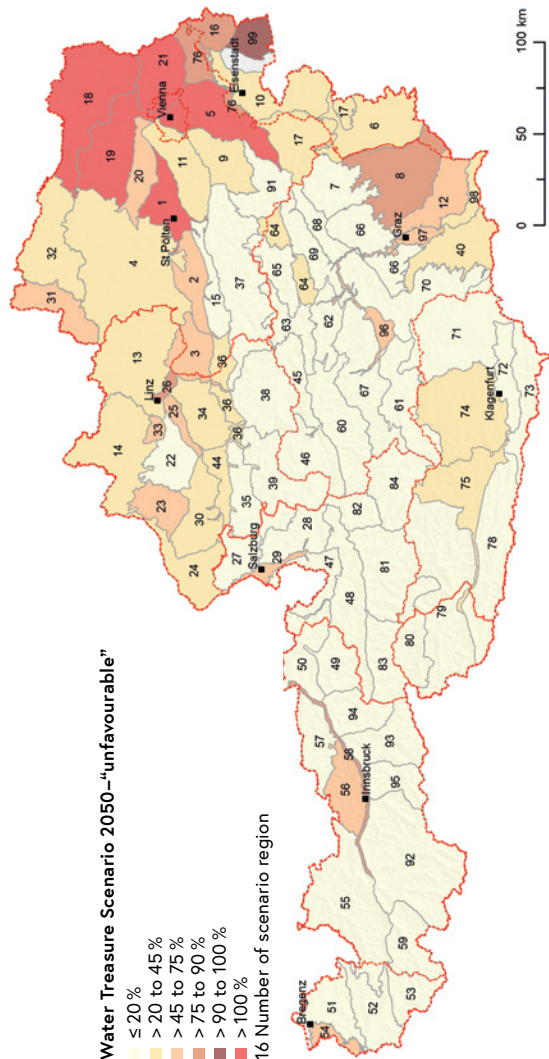
The intensity of the utilisation of groundwater is defined by comparing the long-term average of withdrawals of groundwater from wells and the available groundwater resources.

The current intensity of groundwater utilisation at regional level shows that the present water demand is sufficiently covered by groundwater. In the north-east, east and south-east of Austria there are higher utilisation intensities. However, none of the regions exceeds the 100 % mark.

9. Intensity of groundwater utilisation through withdrawals from wells–Water Treasure Scenario 2050

How high will our groundwater demand be in future? In the study “Austria’s Water Treasure” various scenarios for the future groundwater utilisation–so-called Water Treasure Scenarios 2050–have been calculated.

The Water Treasure Scenario 2050 “unfavourable” proceeds on the assumption that utilisation intensities will considerably increase in some regions. In some cases the 100 percent mark is expected to be exceeded. This means that, without countermeasures, the available groundwater resources in these regions could no longer meet the water demand from wells. Regions in eastern Austria are particularly affected by this.



Source: BMLRT, “Wasserschatz Österreichs–Grundlagen für nachhaltige Nutzungen des Grundwassers”, 2021

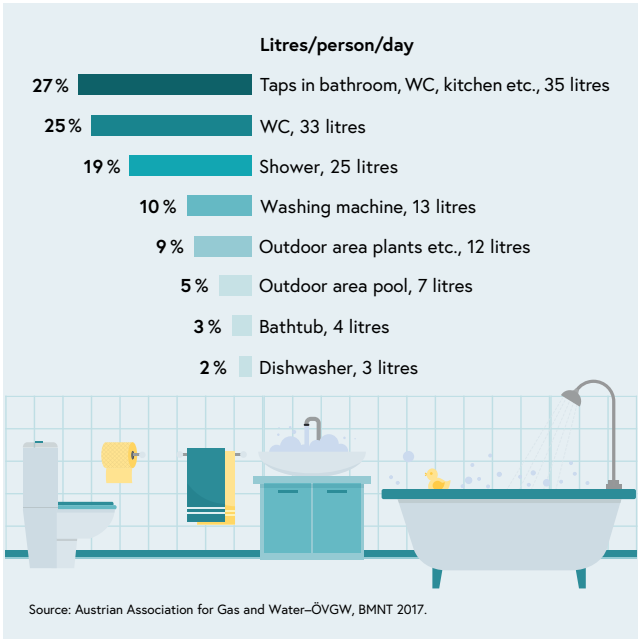
10. Per capita water consumption in Austrian households

In Austria, the daily water consumption amounts to an average of around 130 litres per capita. This means that domestic households use roughly the same amount of water each year as the volume of Lake Wolfgang, with the majority of this being used for toilet flushing, daily personal hygiene and cooking.

However, the virtual water consumption required for the production of food, clothing and industrial goods that we purchase is considerably higher than direct water consumption, averaging 4,700 litres per capita per day. In particular, also in view of climate change careful use and protection of water are indispensable.

10. Average per capita water consumption in Austrian households

Total: 130 litres per inhabitant per day (100 %)



11. Virtual water–Water footprint of a person in Austria

In Austria, every person uses on average about 130 litres of water per day for drinking, cooking, washing or in household and garden. Moreover, we use, due to our daily consumption of food and other goods, water which is required for the production of these goods. When referring to this hidden quantity of water we are talking about our “virtual” water. The more “virtual” water we use, the bigger is our so-called “water footprint”.

The invisible or hidden use accounts for many times the direct use of water. It is estimated that in Austria about 4,700 litres of virtual water per day and person are used.

11. Virtual water–Water footprint of a person in Austria

Total: approx. 4,700 litres per person per day (100 %)



12. Virtual water and water footprint of selected agricultural products

The examples show how much virtual water is contained in agricultural products and what proportion of a person’s daily water footprint in Austria is accounted for by their consumption. How much water is needed for the production of an agricultural product depends very much on production and environmental factors and varies depending on its origin. Moreover, it makes a difference under which climatic conditions a crop is grown and whether the natural quantities of rain are sufficient or artificial irrigation is required.

As an effect of climate change with all its challenges for water supply, water will become a more and more important resource globally. And this is where, apart from other factors, our consumption behaviour comes into play.

A significant reduction in the water footprint is possible through demand-oriented purchasing behaviour that is as regional and seasonal as possible and by avoiding food waste. It is estimated that around 280 litres of virtual water per person per day can be saved simply by avoiding food waste in the household.

12. Virtual water and water footprint of selected agricultural products

Products	Virtual water content on Ø for globally produced goods in litres/kg	Virtual water content on Ø for goods produced in Austria in litres/kg	Water footprint ¹⁾ in litres/capita/day
Wheat	1,800	800	405
Potatoes	287	150	38
Tomatoes	214	33	5
Coffee	16,000		224
Beef ²⁾	15,400	8,300	484
Cheese	5,060	2,350	175
Cotton ³⁾			221

1) On the basis of the quantity available in Austria for consumption per person and day.
2) Beef (boneless, fresh)
3) Cotton for textiles and clothing
Source: BMLRT 2021, "Virtuelles Wasser 2021, Wasserfußabdruck–der Wasserverbrauch für Güter des täglichen Bedarfs".

13. Degree of connection to wastewater disposal

Untreated wastewater constitutes a significant burden for waters. Therefore, wastewater is collected via the sewerage system, and treated and purified in municipal and industrial wastewater treatment plants. The purified water can subsequently be channelled back into the natural water cycle. Thus, wastewater treatment serves the sustainable use and resource-saving way of dealing with water as a resource.

In order to meet these requirements the collection and the treatment of municipal wastewater are permanently improved in Austria and a high quality level is reached–also compared to international standards. The connection rate to municipal wastewater treatment plants is around 96 % in Austria.

Today's main challenges for treatment plants are substances that are not easily degradable, such as residues from pharmaceuticals or care products, which can pollute our water bodies in the form of micro-pollutants. Careful handling of wastewater also plays an important role in avoiding high costs for wastewater treatment plants. The toilet should never be used to dispose of oil, used fats, medicines or hazardous substances such as paints or varnishes. These products must be disposed of at an appropriate collection point.

13. Development of the degree of connection to wastewater disposal

in Austria, based on Austria's total population								
Degree of connection/ Year	1971	1981	1991	2001	2016	2020	2022	
PE ¹⁾ (in million)	7.49	7.53	7.81	8.06	8.77	8.92	9.05	
Connected to the public sewerage network and municipal wastewater treatment plants > 50 PE ₆₀ (%) ²⁾	47.9	57.9	71.0	86.0	95.2	96.0	96.2	
Connected to small and domestic wastewater treatment plants (%)	16.4	16.1	9.8	14.0 ³⁾	4.8 ³⁾	4.0 ³⁾	3.8 ³⁾	
Connected to cesspits (%)	28.5	20.3	17.8					
With other types of disposal (%)	7.2	5.7	1.5					

1) PE = Population equivalent, rounded to two decimal places. Source: © STATISTICS AUSTRIA.
2) Degree of connection according to feedback by the Federal Provinces. PE60 = Organic population equivalent
3) The data collected by STATISTICS AUSTRIA have not permitted a breakdown into domestic wastewater treatment plants, cesspits and other types of disposal since the year 2000.
Source: BML publication "Kommunales Abwasser–Lagebericht 2024".

14. Subsidisation of water management in residential areas

Subsidisation measures for water management in residential areas include the construction and the rehabilitation of the required infrastructure for a sufficient drinking water supply and a well-organised wastewater disposal.

Investments in the water infrastructure have high significance in terms of environmental policy, but also in terms of the national economy. These subsidies, provided by the Federal Government, trigger off investments amounting to multiple times the sum originally spent. This increases the value added in Austria and creates important jobs, especially in rural areas.

14. Subsidisation of water management in residential areas in 2024¹⁾

in Austria			
Type of plant	Projects	Investment costs in €	Cash value of subsidies in €
Wastewater treatment plants (WWTPs)	885	409,443,856	78,062,740
thereof with pipeline information system ²⁾	329	35,851,971	9,434,465
Small-scale wastewater treatment plants	12	1,582,400	474,720
Small-scale sewage disposal plants subsidised on a flat-rate basis	223	3,902,483	452,419
Sewage disposal, total	1,120	414,928,739	78,989,879
Water supply facilities (WSF)	765	447,153,587	69,022,514
thereof with pipeline information system ²⁾	206	6,722,931	3,214,764
Individual water supply facilities	5	502,700	150,810
Individual water supply facilities subsidised on a flat-rate basis	43	1,226,546	124,158
Water supply, total	813	448,882,833	69,297,482
Research on water management in residential areas	2	558,857	468,688
Total	1,935	864,370,429	148,756,049

1) Investments and federal subsidies
2) not included in total
Source: BMLUK, Kommunalkredit Public Consulting (KPC), publication "Umweltinvestitionen des Bundes–Maßnahmen der Wasserwirtschaft 2024", June 2025.

15. Effects of the projects in the field of water supply facilities

Subsidies for Austrian drinking water facilities ensure that the Austrian population is supplied with hygienically perfect drinking water for all at affordable rates. These investments thus contribute to a high quality of life and to prosperity in all regions of Austria.

Important objectives are to ensure the security of supply with high-quality drinking water and to adapt the drinking water supply to the longer and more severe dry periods caused by climate change.

Maintenance measures for ageing infrastructure are also particularly important, as around one third of the public drinking water pipes are more than 50 years old. In addition, facilities for the exploration of water resources, water tanks, containers and treatment plants must be renewed over time. Measures to prevent blackouts in critical infrastructure are also becoming increasingly relevant.

15. Effects of the projects in the field of water supply facilities in 2024

in Austria	
Projects	Effects
km of pipelines constructed	418
km of pipelines renovated	435
Water treatment facilities, number	37
Storage volume created in m ³	11,660
Exploration of water resources (including individual systems)	53
Number of persons newly connected to the water supply system (including individual systems)	46,000
Economic effects	
Investments in drinking water supply triggered off by subsidies in €	448,882,833
Jobs created and/or safeguarded by investments–“green jobs”	8,215

Source: BMLUK, Kommunalkredit Public Consulting–KPC, as of: April 2025.

16. Effects of the projects in the field of wastewater management

Subsidies for the Austrian wastewater treatment sector ensure that the wastewater generated is collected and purified properly at reasonable rates for everyone. Thus, these investments contribute to the protection of groundwater and surface waters. Future challenges for the coming years include measures to adapt to climate change. For example, the increase in local heavy rainfall events requires adapted precipitation water management with more rainwater infiltration and seepage in the area.

Important goals in this context are the improvement of wastewater and rainwater treatment, also for micropollutants, the maintenance of the existing pipeline network, and the further development of the use of renewable energy in the field of wastewater purification. In addition, measures for nutrient recovery in line with the circular economy are becoming increasingly relevant.

16. Effects of the projects in the field of wastewater management in 2024

in Austria	
Sewer conduits	Effects
km of sewers constructed	270
km of sewers renovated	290
Objects disposed of	5,680
Persons newly connected	39,630
Population equivalents (PE) newly connected	43,900
Wastewater treatment plants	
Newly created capacity of sewage treatment plants in population equivalents (PE), incl. small plants	42,210
Tonnes of BOD ₅ ¹⁾ additionally removed per year	608
Tonnes of nitrogen additionally nitrified per year	148
Tonnes of nitrogen additionally removed per year	99
Tonnes of phosphorus additionally removed per year	23
Economic effects	
Investments in sewage disposal triggered off by subsidies in €	414,928,739
Jobs created and/or safeguarded by investments–“green jobs”	7,593

1) Biochemical oxygen demand after 5 days.
Source: BMLUK, Kommunalkredit Public Consulting–KPC, as of: April 2025.

17. Public water pipes and sewerage systems

A large part of the fixed assets in urban water management is underground. In Austria, around 80,950 km of public water pipes and 94,200 km of public sewers in the form of wastewater sewers (58,900 km), rainwater sewers (11,100 km) and combined wastewater sewers 24,200 km) were built by the end of 2024. The length of Austria's public water pipes corresponds to twice the circumference of the Earth and Austria's public sewerage system is 2.3 times the circumference of the Earth at the equator.

In the period from 1959 to 2024, investments totalling 69.916 billion euros (valorised on the basis of the construction price index for civil engineering, other civil engineering in 1986, as of 31 December 2024) were made. Of this amount, 16.760 billion euros accounted for drinking water supply and 53.156 billion euros for wastewater disposal.

The table provides an overview of the lengths of public water pipes and sewer pipes in Austria.

17. Public water pipes and sewerage systems

in km length, in Austria						
Number	2010	2015	2020	2022	2023	2024
Water pipes total	76,200	78,000	79,440	80,060	80,590	80,950
Sewers total	88,200	91,600	93,300	93,700	93,800	94,200
Wastewater sewers	54,200	57,100	58,300	58,600	58,700	58,900
Rainwater sewers	10,100	10,500	10,900	11,000	11,000	11,100
Combined wastewater sewers	23,900	24,000	24,100	24,100	24,100	24,200

Source: BMLUK, Kommunalkredit Public Consulting–KPC. As of: June 2025.

18. Subsidisation of aquatic ecology

The subsidisation of measures to improve the ecological status of Austrian running waters constitutes an important financing instruments to reach the goals of the European Water Framework Directive.

The supreme goal of the subsidies for aquatic ecology (“Förderung Gewässerökologie“) is to improve and create networks of water habitats. Particular importance is attached to measures to restore the passability for aquatic organisms and to morphological measures, such as renaturations or river widenings.

In 2024, 105 transverse structures were made passable for fish by means of the “aquatic ecology subsidies“, thereby overcoming a total height difference of 160 metres. Furthermore, a total of about 92 river kilometres were hydromorphologically improved and restored to a natural state in 2024.

18. Subsidisation of aquatic ecology projects in 2024

in Austria			
Project type	Projects	Investment costs in €	Cash value of subsidies in €
Austrian government	22	33,002,771	25,270,346
Enterprises	16	5,603,384	1,147,872
Municipal projects (municipality and associations)	53	61,442,435	36,444,261
Research projects			
of which continuity ¹⁾		20,575,996	10,432,119
of which revitalisation ²⁾		79,472,594	52,430,360
Total result	91	100,048,590	62,862,479
Economic effects			
Investments in aquatic ecology triggered off by subsidies in €			100,048,590
Jobs created and/or safeguarded by investments–“green jobs”			1,862

1) Continuity = passability for fish
2) Revitalisation: Close-to-nature design of a river course
Source: BMLUK, Kommunalkredit Public Consulting–KPC. As of June 2025.

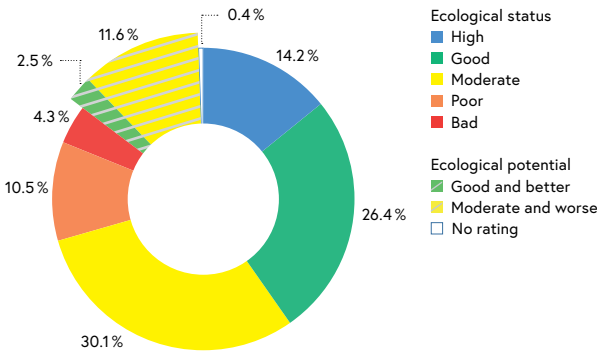
19. Ecological status and ecological potential—running waters

Austria’s network of rivers and brooks comprises over 100,000 kilometres, which is enough to circle the Earth almost 2.5 times. In order to assess the status of water bodies, physical-chemical and biological indicators are recorded in addition to water structures and water volume. For example, the composition of species and their frequency can indicate both positive and negative changes.

Austria has a network of running waters which is more than 32,101 km long, with catchment areas >10 km2. As far as the ecological status is concerned, 40.6 % are assessed as being “very good” and “good”, 30.1 % percent as “moderate”, 10.5 % percent as “poor” and 4.3 % as “bad”. In total, 2.5 % of the running waters show a “good and better” and 11.6 % a “moderate or poor” potential. These waters have been identified as “artificial or considerably modified”.

19. Ecological status and ecological potential—running waters

Length of the waterbody network of running waters > 10km²: 32,101 km in Austria



Source: BMLUK, as of: June 2025 (database National Water Management Plan NGP 2021).

20. Ecological status and ecological potential—lakes

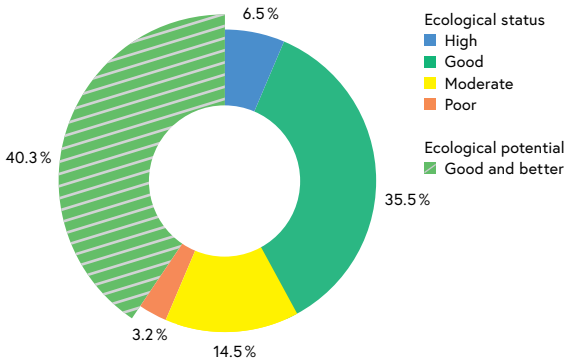
In Austria, there are more than 25,000 stagnant water bodies with a size exceeding 250 m². The 62 lakes larger than 50 hectares include 37 natural lakes, 6 significantly modified lakes, and 19 artificial lakes. The ecological status of these lakes is rated as “high” for 6.5 %, as “good” for 35.5 %, as “moderate” for 14.5 %, and as “poor” for 14.5 %. All artificial or considerably modified lakes are in the status of a “good” ecological potential.

Eleven Austrian lakes fail to meet the “good status” target. This is due to nutrient pollution (Ossiacher See, Alte Donau), disturbance of the chemical-hydrological balance and the water balance (Lange Lacke, St. Andräer Zicksee, Il-Imitzer Zicklacke), impacts of fisheries management (Walchsee, Traunsee, Irrsee, Weißensee), a combination of invasive fish species, climate change, nutrient inputs (Lunzer See), and nutrient and hydromorphological load (Wörthersee).

A few lakes, especially shallow ones, already show first serious consequences of climate change. However, the latest measurements show that, thanks to measures to reduce nutrient input, Lake Mondsee is once again in good condition in terms of its biological components. Appropriate measures are also continued to be carried out for the other lakes.

20. Ecological status and ecological potential—lakes

62 lakes > 50 ha, in Austria



Source: BMLUK, as of: June 2025 (database National Water Management Plan NGP 2021).



Source: National Water Management Plan (Nationaler Gewässerbewirtschaftungsplan NGP) 2021. BM/LUK, Dir. National and International Water Management. Graphics: Environment Agency Austria 2023.

21. Austria's running waters and large lakes—
ecological status and ecological potential

The map of Austria shows the ecological status and/or the ecological potential of running waters with a catchment area of more than 100 km². Lakes larger than 50 ha were also recorded on the map.

The fundamental goal of water protection is to ensure a good ecological status and/or, in the case of artificial or considerably modified water bodies, the good ecological potential.

Sustainable environmental protection

Protecting our environment is one of the key challenges of our time. It is not only the efficient and sustainable use of natural resources and the circulation of (secondary) raw materials that play an important role here. Reducing the input of pollutants into the environment and protecting against harmful chemicals and ionising radiation are also essential elements in safeguarding the basis of life.

At the same time, it is clear that ecological responsibility must also be practised in business. The environmental industry is a dynamic sector that makes significant contributions to climate protection, resource conservation and innovation. Future-oriented jobs and new economic opportunities are being created in areas such as renewable energies, sustainable construction or the circular economy.

Instruments such as the EU environmental management system EMAS and the Austrian Ecolabel promote sustainable management and set important standards for environmental and quality management in companies and public institutions. Austria has achieved significant progress in recent years. This chapter summarises the most important figures and data.

1. Survey of the environmental industry (green jobs) 2008–2023

including public transport, in Austria

Green production and services (consistent with Eurostat methodology) ¹⁾									
Green production value in % of the production value (nominally)	in million €	31,511	32,596	35,537	41,466	46,341	55,205	59,913	
	in %	5.8	6.0	5.6	5.9	6.0	6.0	6.3	
Green gross value added in % of the GDP (nominally)	in million €	13,460	13,399	14,618	17,052	18,223	20,718	22,857	
	in %	4.6	4.6	4.3	4.5	4.5	4.6	4.8	
Environmental exports in % of the exports (nominally)	in million €	7986	8,703	10,493	14,160	15,893	18,956	19,882	
	in %	5.1	5.7	5.7	7.2	7.0	6.8	7.1	
Persons in green jobs, total Share of the persons in green jobs in the working population	in persons	176,145	185,531	188,692	199,895	209,312	218,161	230,239	
	in %	4.3	4.5	4.4	4.5	4.6	4.7	4.9	
Persons in green jobs, total Share of the persons in green jobs in the full-time equivalents	in FTE ⁴⁾	164,233	171,080	172,824	189,455	197,190	206,685	218,919	
	in %	4.5	4.8	4.7	4.9	5.0	5.1	5.4	
Persons in green jobs–incl. public transport (estimation) ²⁾									
Employees in public transport ³⁾ Persons in green jobs including public transport	in persons	29,592	29,886	25,535	30,285	30,544	24,830	24,830	
	in persons	205,737	215,417	214,227	230,180	239,856	242,991	255,069	

1) The Eurostat definition of the environmental industry comprises the production of goods, technologies and services, but explicitly excludes public transport.

2) Public transport comprises interurban passenger transport, freight railway transport and the relevant shares of other passenger land transport.

3) As the figures for 2023 are not yet available, those of 2022 have been extrapolated.

4) FTE = Full-time equivalents

Source: © STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Environmental Accounts, Environmental Goods and Services Sector (EGSS), 2023, commissioned by BMILUK. Compiled on 27 May 2025.

1. Survey of the environmental industry

The Austrian environmental sector is growing faster and more steadily than other sectors. The environment-related production value amounted to approximately 59.913 billion euros, or 6.3%, of the production value (nominally) in 2023. Environmental exports totalled 19.882 billion euros, or 7.1%, of exports (in nominal terms).

“Green jobs” are jobs in the manufacture of products, technologies and services that prevent environmental damage and preserve natural resources. “Green jobs” build a future-proof bridge between economy and ecology and offer especially young people important perspectives on the labour market. They can be found in a wide variety of branches, such as renewable energies or sustainable construction and renovation. In 2023, 230,239 persons were employed in the environmental sector, representing 4.9% of the total workforce. If the estimated 24,830 employees in public transport are also taken into account, the total number of persons employed in the environmental sector was 255,069.

2. Environmental industry by environmental sectors

Environmental technology aims to reduce or prevent environmental pressure or to restore impaired systems. The table shows the shares by environmental sectors of the environmental industry. The major share of it is the “management of energy resources”.

In 2023, the environmental industry achieved a turnover of 59.913 billion euros. The environmental industry is a growing industry: From 2008 to 2023, the environmental turnover increased by 90.13%.

2. Environmental industry according to environmental sectors 2008–2023

Environment-related production value in million €, in Austria

Environmental sectors	2008	2010	2015	2020	2022	2023 ¹⁾
Clean air and climate protection	1,534	1,405	2,458	4,053	4,299	4,525
Water protection	2,561	2,282	2,699	3,020	3,481	3,568
Waste management	3,592	3,899	4,387	5,022	6,348	6,210
Protection and remediation of soil, groundwater and surface water	2,332	2,277	2,510	3,226	4,153	4,082
Noise and vibration abatement, radiation protection	740	709	756	814	1,030	1,001
Species and landscape protection	247	274	336	522	563	648
Environmental protection R&D²⁾	314	354	476	660	774	843
Other environmental protection activities	364	357	303	376	447	462
Water management	567	499	511	609	686	725
Forest management	613	565	818	604	1,166	1,045
of which: management of natural forest resources	591	541	790	573	1,127	1,006
of which: minimisation of forest utilisation	23	25	27	31	39	38
Management of energy resources	16,832	17,769	17,767	19,484	28,318	32,766
Green production value	9,028	10,064	9,085	9,847	16,240	20,897
of which: heat/energy saving and management	7,442	7,328	8,203	8,899	11,077	10,889
of which: minimisation of non-energetic use	362	377	479	737	1,001	979
Management of mineral resources	1,118	1,350	1,471	1,674	2,114	2,129
Resource management R&D²⁾	396	554	805	1,136	1,492	1,562
Other resource management activities	300	301	238	267	335	347
Total	31,511	32,596	35,537	41,466	55,205	59,913

1) The results of the year 2023 are preliminary.

2) R&D = Research and Development

Source: © STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Environmental Accounts, Environmental Goods and Services Sector (EGSS), 2023, commissioned by the BMLUK. As of 27 May 2025.

3. EMAS organisations and eco-labelled enterprises

The table shows the current number of EMAS organisations and Ecolabel enterprises in Austria. The Eco-Management and Audit Scheme, briefly “EMAS”, is a voluntary environmental management system of the EU for the economy and administration. The BMLUK supports and promotes EMAS organisations. As of today, 284 EMAS organisations on more than 1,500 locations are registered in Austria.

The central unit of the BMLUK was also the first ministry in the EU to be EMAS-certified. Also several agencies of the BMLUK or associated enterprises such as the Environment Agency Austria are EMAS-certified. More on this at emas.gv.at.

The Austrian Ecolabel was created in 1990 on the initiative of the then Environment Minister Marilies Flemming. It is awarded to products and services, tourism and cultural organisations as well as to educational institutions. The Ecolabel combines high environmental standards with quality and product safety. Further information can be found at umweltzeichen.at.

3. EMAS organisations and Ecolabel enterprises

in Austria	
EMAS	Number
EMAS organisations ¹⁾	284
EMAS locations ¹⁾	1,513
Jobs in EMAS organisations ¹⁾	209,993
Ecolabel	
Ecolabel licensee	1,747
of which material goods production and services	506
of which tourist industry including green meetings	835
of which cultural enterprises	112
of which kindergartens, schools and educational institutions	290
Awarded products	4,861

1) As of: March 2025
Source: BMLUK, as of: March 2025

4. Environmental taxes

Environmentally oriented taxation constitutes an important steering instrument of sustainable development. The revenue from environmental taxes totalled approximately 10 billion euros in 2023. Energy taxes, such as mineral oil taxes, accounted for the largest share of this amount (54.8 % of the environmental taxes), followed by transport taxes (36.6 %), such as the standardised consumption tax or the motor vehicle tax. Resource taxes (8.0 %) and environmental pollution taxes (0.6 %) are of lesser importance in Austria.

The share of environmental taxes in the total tax revenue was 8.8 % in 1995, reached a temporary peak of 10.2 % in each of the years 2003 to 2005, and levelled off between 9.8 % and just under 8.4 % in subsequent years. In 2023, it amounted to 7.5 %.

4. Development of environmental taxes compared to the taxes in total

in million €, in Austria						
Taxes	1995	2000	2010	2021	2022	2023
Taxes in total	47,470	60,404	80,192	114,124	126,766	132,366
Environmental taxes in total	4,182	5,608	7,505	9,526	9,265	9,969
Energy taxes	2,479	3,288	4,585	5,311	4,918	5,466
Transport taxes	1,300	1,795	2,265	3,379	3,491	3,646
Environmental pollution taxes	21	72	51	66	66	61
Resource taxes	382	453	603	770	791	797
Share of environmental taxes in total taxes in %	8.8	9.3	9.4	8.3	7.3	7.5

Source: © STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Environmental Accounts, as of: June 2025.

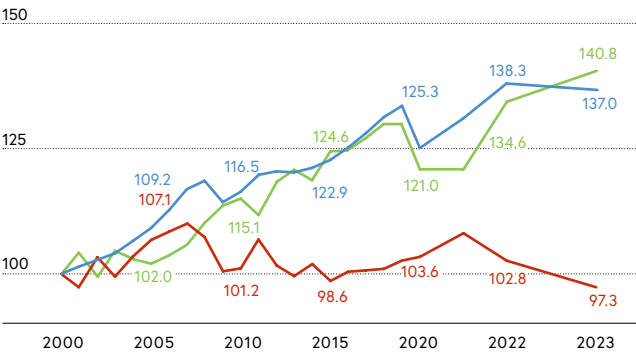
5. Material consumption and economic growth

In 2023, total domestic material consumption compared to 2000 was slightly reduced (–2.7 %) for the first time since 2015. Since 2000 resource efficiency in Austria has recorded an increase by 40.8 %. This means that a significantly higher economic output was achieved with one tonne of material. With an increase of 37 percent, the growth rate of the economy was below the growth rate of resource efficiency. This shows that material consumption has been successfully decoupled from economic growth, at least in relative terms. If we compare 2023 with the reference year 2000, we can even speak of absolute decoupling.

One of the reasons why absolute decoupling is so difficult to achieve is the so-called rebound effect. Savings through higher material efficiency are offset by increased economic growth and, as a result, greater material consumption.

5. Economic growth, material consumption and resource efficiency 2000–2023

in Austria; index 100 = year 2000
■ Gross Domestic Product real (GDP)
■ Domestic Material Consumption (DMC)
■ Resource efficiency (GDP/DMC)



Source: © STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Environmental Accounts, as of: June 2025.

6. Material footprint

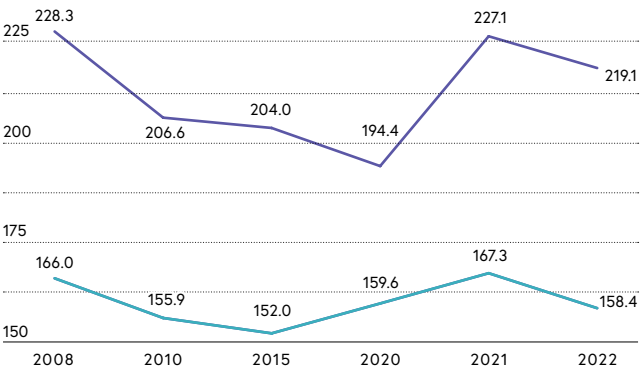
The growing internationalisation of production processes and the associated greater spatial distribution of the individual production steps mean that materials are increasingly not being used where they were extracted. The material and energy inputs of the production processes must therefore also be taken into account when analysing resource consumption.

The material footprint, also known as Raw Material Consumption (RMC), is an important addition to the domestic resource consumption and includes all raw materials that are extracted and consumed within and outside Austria's borders in order to produce the products that meet Austrian final demand.

The Austrian material footprint (RMC) was about 219.1 million tonnes in 2022, thereby exceeding Domestic Material Consumption (DMC) by 60.7 million tonnes. This clearly shows that more material is used in the production of the goods imported by Austria than material is used in Austria for the production of goods for export.

6. Material footprint in Austria

in comparison to DMC²⁾, in million tonnes
■ Material footprint (RMC¹⁾)
■ Direct domestic resource consumption (DMC²⁾)



1) RMC = Raw Material Consumption

2) DMC = Domestic Material Consumption

Source: © STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Environmental Accounts, as of: June 2025.

7. National parks in Austria

Donau-Auen, Gesäuse, Hohe Tauern, Kalkalpen, Neusiedler See–Seewinkel, and Thayatal: These unique major protected areas have been established by the Federal Government and the Federal Provinces in line with the criteria of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and, pursuant to the IUCN guidelines, are managed mainly for ecosystem protection and recreation. The tasks of national parks include scientific research, education, experience of nature, natural area management, and the preservation of biodiversity. This is mainly done by abstaining from economic use on at least 75 % of the area. In these areas nature can to a large extent develop undisturbed by man.

The six national parks cover about three percent of the Austrian national territory and offer everything that is needed for a truly relaxing and unforgettable experience of nature: Outstanding landscapes with untouched habitats that house numerous fascinating organisms.

Under the umbrella brand “Nationalparks Austria” the six national parks cooperate efficiently and sustainably and in this way have developed into outstanding regional pilot projects that offer a unique range of tourist facilities. The trans-border cooperation of the two international parks, Thaya Valley (CZ-AT) and Lake Neusiedl (HU, AT), is exemplary, too. This is particularly the case for joint research projects and the international cooperation in education with multilingual offers for visitors. For these efforts both national parks have been awarded a diploma by EUROPARC–the network of European protected areas.

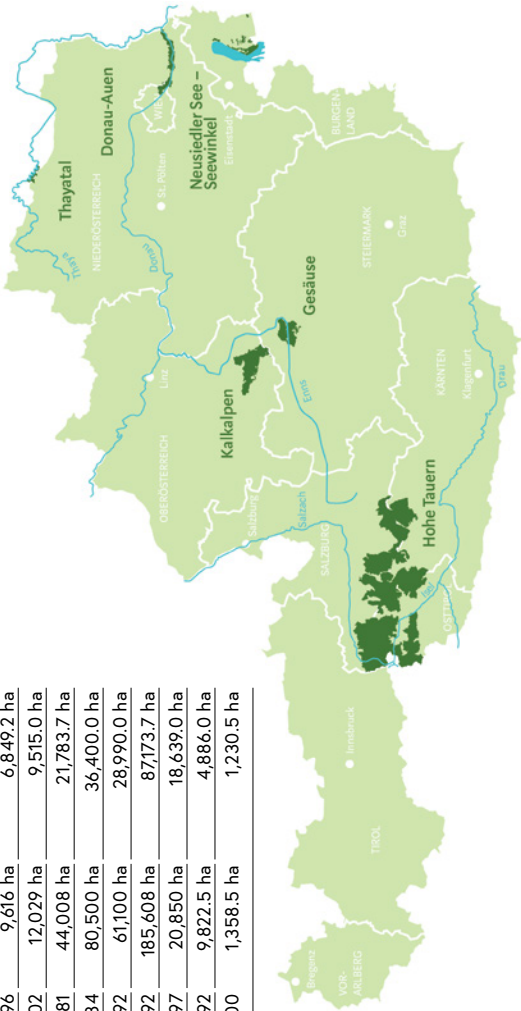
Other successful initiatives include Danubeparks, a cooperation platform of all protected areas along the Danube River which was initiated by the Donau-Auen National Park, or the Water School of the National Park Hohe Tauern, an education programme at schools which is guided by national park rangers. It has been attended by more than 100,000 children aged between 8 and 13 years and sets a global example.

More information can be found at nationalparksaustria.at.

7. National parks in Austria

National parks	Foundation	Total area	IUCN ¹⁾ nature zone
Donau-Auen	1996	9,616 ha	6,849.2 ha
Gesäuse	2002	12,029 ha	9,515.0 ha
Hohe Tauern Carinthia	1981	44,008 ha	21,783.7 ha
Hohe Tauern Salzburg	1984	80,500 ha	36,400.0 ha
Hohe Tauern Tyrol	1992	61,100 ha	28,990.0 ha
Hohe Tauern	1981, 1984, 1992	185,608 ha	87,173.7 ha
Kalkalpen	1997	20,850 ha	18,639.0 ha
Neusiedler See–Seewinkel	1992	9,822.5 ha	4,886.0 ha
Thayatal	2000	1,358.5 ha	1,230.5 ha

1) IUCN = International Union for Conservation of Nature
Source: National Parks Austria, as of 1 January 2025.



Source: National Parks Austria, as of June 2023.

8. Radon areas in Austria

Radon is a radioactive noble gas. It forms as a result of the radioactive decay of natural uranium and is present in all soils and in the ground. Under unfavourable conditions, it can accumulate in buildings, where it is constantly inhaled. Radon and its progeny harm the lung tissue and, in the long-term, increase the risk of lung cancer. In some areas of Austria, due to the nature of the ground, there is an increased likelihood of high radon concentrations in buildings.

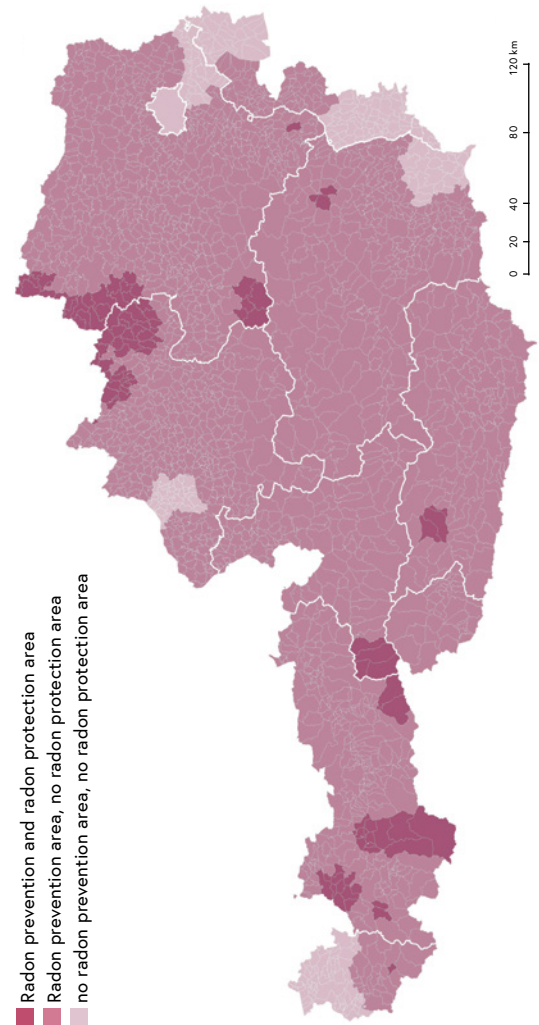
In order to enable efficient and sustainable protection against radon, the radon map shows radon protection areas and radon prevention areas, which were defined on the basis of radon measurements in homes throughout Austria.

In radon protection areas, measures to protect the health of employees are mandatory.

In radon prevention areas, preventive measures to protect against radon must be implemented for all new buildings, depending on the regulations of the respective Province.

Further information at radon.gv.at.

8. Radon areas in Austria



Source: © radon.gv.at. Austrian Radon Competence Centre, municipal boundaries: BEV 2020.
URL: https://geogis.ages.at/GEOGIS_RADON.html. As of 31 June 2023.

9. Radiation exposure in Austria

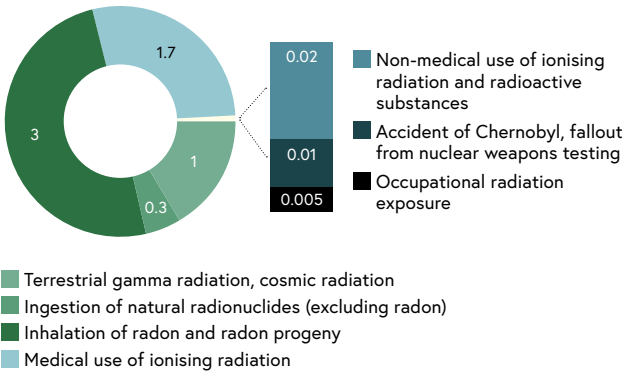
In Austria, the average radiation exposure of the population is around six millisieverts (mSv) effective dose per person and year. The sievert is the unit of the effective dose which measures radiation in terms of potential harm. As this is a mean value for the whole of Austria, individual values may deviate significantly.

The major part of exposure is attributable to natural sources of radiation (4.3 mSv) and medical use of ionising radiation (1.7 mSv). Contributions from other sources, such as the consequences of the Chernobyl reactor accident or the use of radioactivity in industry and research, are low. More than two thirds of the dose from natural radiation sources result from the inhalation of the radioactive noble gas radon and its progeny. Cosmic and terrestrial radiation account for around a quarter of the natural radiation exposure.

The exposure caused by the medical use of ionising radiation is largely due to X-ray diagnostics, especially computer tomography.

9. Average annual radiation exposure of the Austrian population ¹⁾

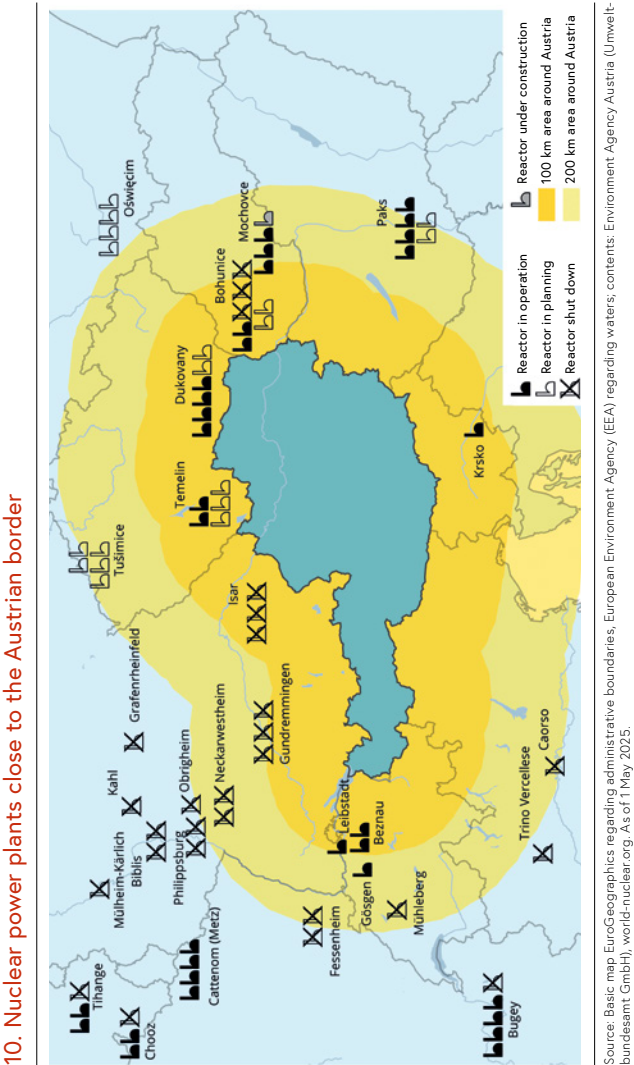
Effective dose in mSv²⁾ per person and year, total: about 6 mSv²⁾ (100 %)



1) The numerical values referred to the year 2022
2) mSv = millisievert
Source: BMLUK, as of June 2025.

10. Nuclear power plants close to the Austrian border

The map shows the nuclear power plants in Austria's neighbouring countries as of May 2025. Austria itself does not operate any nuclear power plants. The Austrian nuclear energy policy is marked by the conviction that nuclear energy is neither sustainable nor an option to combat climate change.



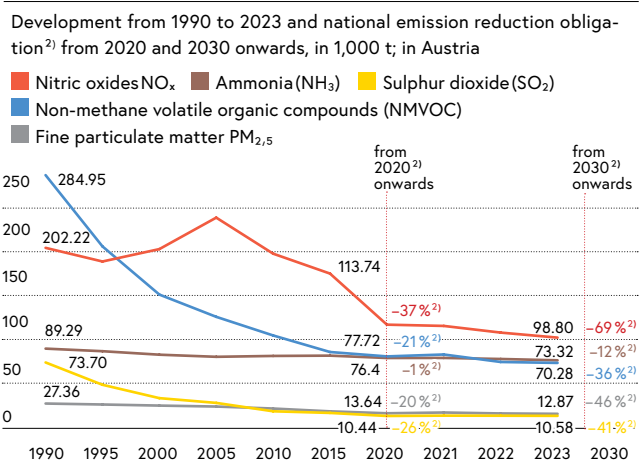
11. Air pollutant emissions SO₂, NO_x, NH₃, NMVOC and PM_{2,5}

National emissions of sulphur dioxide (SO₂), non-methane volatile organic compounds (NMVOC), nitrogen oxides (NO_x) and fine particulate matter PM_{2,5} have decreased significantly since 1990. The sharpest decline in emissions, a reduction by 86 %, was observed for sulphur dioxide. Exhaust gas purification in power plants and industrial plants as well as sulphur-free fuels contributed significantly to this development. The emissions of NMVOCs declined by three quarters, those of NO_x by half. This is, among other things, due to the improved combustion technology for power plants and domestic heating systems, the purification of exhaust gas in industry and motor vehicles and, in the case of NMVOCs, a reduced solvent content in paints and varnishes. Improved combustion technologies and filters have also led to a reduction in fine particulate matter PM_{2,5} by slightly more than half since 1990.

Ammonia emissions depend in particular on livestock numbers and fertiliser use and decreased between 1990 and 2005. The increase in cattle farming in free-range barns to improve animal welfare led to a reduction of emissions after stagnation – in 2023, they were around a fifth lower than in 1990.

The reduction obligations in force since 2020 are met for all pollutants.

11. Air pollutant emission¹⁾ SO₂, NO_x, NH₃, NMVOC and PM_{2,5}



1) Total emissions on the basis of the quantity of the fuel sold in Austria.
2) National emission reduction obligations compared to 2005 according to Directive (EU) No 2016/2284 and Air Emission Act 2018
Source: Environment Agency Austria, as of June 2025.

12. Fine particulate matter pollution

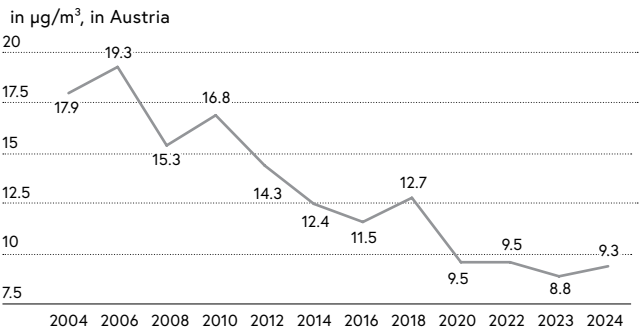
As an air pollutant, fine particulate matter has severe adverse impacts on health and, among other things, affects the respiratory tract and causes cardiovascular diseases. It is the air pollutant that causes the most premature deaths in Europe.

Depending on their size, a distinction is made between different fractions of fine particulate matter, one of which is PM_{2,5}. Particles of this size can reach the alveoli. Due to the small size of the particles of fine particulate matter, the resulting long residence time in the atmosphere (days to weeks) and the atmospheric transport distance of up to 1,000 km, PM_{2,5} is of high national and international relevance. Major sources are heating systems, engine and abrasion emissions in transport, and industrial plants. The local load depends on the local emissions, the weather conditions that determine the dispersion conditions in the atmosphere, and the load of incoming air masses.

Umweltbundesamt.at/luft offers current air quality data and forecasts of short-term PM_{2,5} pollution are available from the EU Earth Observation Programme COPERNICUS atmosphere.copernicus.eu.

In Austria, the annual mean values of PM_{2,5} (population-weighted averages across all measuring sites) have fallen to approximately half since the beginning of the 2000s.

12. Time series of the annual mean values of fine particulate matter pollution^{1) 2)}



1) PM_{2,5} = The dust fraction called fine particulate matter contains 50 % of the particles with a diameter of 2.5 µm, a higher share of smaller particles and a smaller share of larger particles.
2) PM_{2,5}-annual mean values (population-weighted averages across all measuring sites)
Source: Environment Agency Austria (Umweltbundesamt GmbH), Austria's Annual Air Emission Inventory, as of: June 2025.

Avoiding waste

Austria's waste management industry is committed to ensuring that valuable resources and energy are used as efficiently as possible. Proper waste separation saves energy, reduces environmental pollution and protects the climate. Properly separated waste is the raw material of tomorrow.

The primary aim of waste management is to prevent unnecessary waste being generated in the first place because reducing waste protects the environment, people and resources. Where this is not possible, Austria relies on the circular economy—that is, targeted reuse and continued use.

The concept of the circular economy is based on making responsible use of valuable resources and using and recovering them efficiently. Products should be designed from the outset in a way that makes them easier to repair, reuse or recycle later on. This is not only reasonable for environmental purposes, but for economic ones, too: Consumers benefit from durable and repairable products.

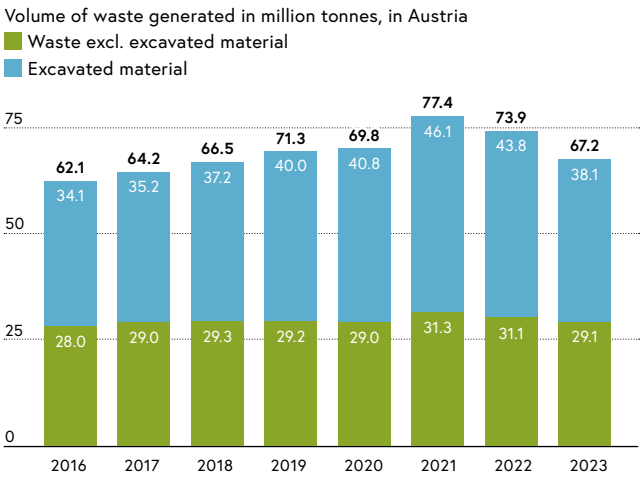
Investments in the circular economy offer many economic advantages: They create jobs and boost competitiveness.

1. Waste generation

In 2023, around 67.2 million tonnes of waste were generated in total. This consisted of 63.8 million tonnes of primary waste and 3.4 million tonnes of secondary waste. While waste excluding excavated materials remained relatively stable compared to 1990 (+0.3 %), there was a significant increase in excavated materials (approx. 152 %). This increase is due to an increase in construction activity and improved statistical re-cording of excavated materials.

Following the economic crisis of 2008/09, the total volume of waste generated increased steadily, rising from approximately 48.7 million tonnes in 2011 to around 71.3 million tonnes in 2019. However, in 2020, the total volume of waste decreased compared to the previous year due to the reduction in economic activity caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. As the economy recovered significantly in 2021, waste volumes increased. In particular, the resumption of activities in the construction industry led to a surge in excavated materials (+13.1% compared to 2020). However, in both 2022 and 2023 the quantities of excavated material decreased significantly (–4.9% and –13.2% respectively compared to the previous year). These renewed declines are primarily due to the recession-induced downturn in construction activity.

1. Waste generation 2016–2023



Rounded figures.
Source: Umweltbundesamt GmbH (Environment Agency Austria), "Statusbericht zur Abfallwirtschaft", as of: September 2024.

2. Waste generation by group

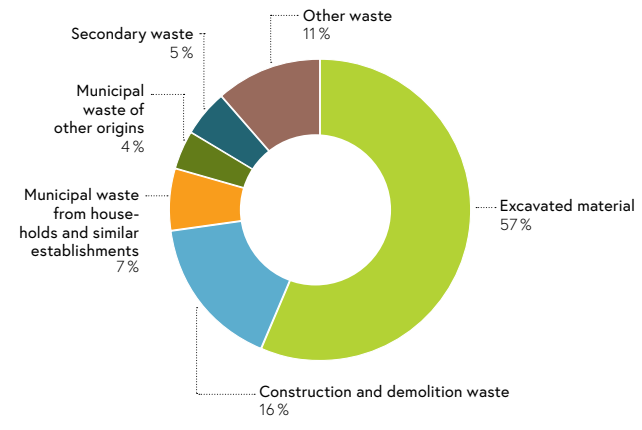
In 2023, the total volume of waste generated was around 67.22 million tonnes. The largest share was accounted for by excavated materials (57%), followed by construction and demolition waste (around 16%). Together, these two waste streams accounted for almost three quarters of the total volume of waste generated.

Municipal waste from households and similar establishments, including shares from other origins, accounted for around 11%, while secondary waste accounted for around 5%.

The most significant types of other waste (around 11%) in terms of volume were metal waste, waste of mineral origin (slags) and waste from water treatment, wastewater treatment and water use.

2. Waste generation by waste group in 2023

in Austria, 100 % = approx. 67.22 million tonnes



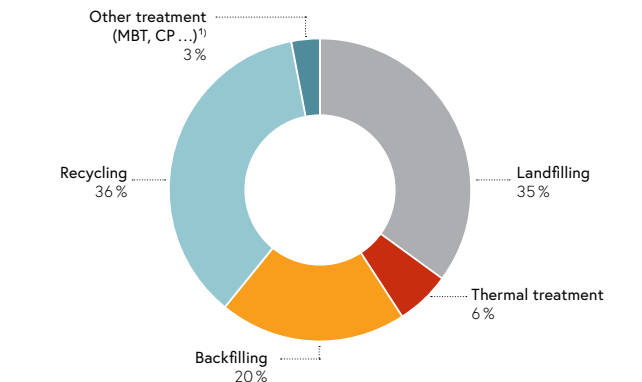
Source: Umweltbundesamt GmbH (Environment Agency Austria), as of: September 2024.

3./4. Waste recovery and disposal

The percentage shares for the treatment of Austrian waste in 2023 were as follows: 56 % of the waste generated were recovered as materials, of which 36 % were recycled and 20 % back-filled. 6 % were thermally treated, 35 % were landfilled (with a high proportion of excavated materials), and 3 % were treated in other ways (MBT, CP, etc.). See Fig. 4 for more information.

3. Waste recovery and disposal in 2023

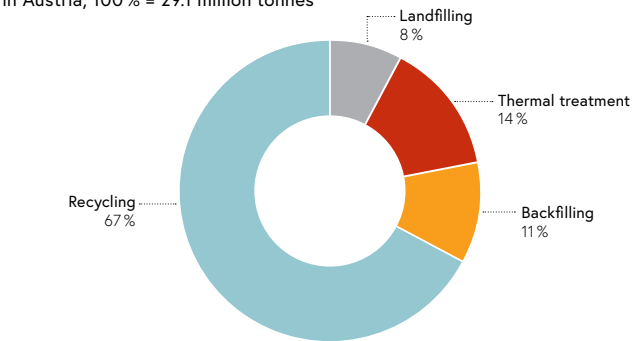
in Austria, 100 % = 67.2 million tonnes



1) MBT = Mechanical-biological treatment, CP = chemical-physical
Source: Umweltbundesamt GmbH (Environment Agency Austria), as of: September 2024.

4. Waste recovery and disposal (excluding excavated material) in 2023

in Austria, 100 % = 29.1 million tonnes



1) MBT = Mechanical-biological treatment, CP = chemical-physical
Source: Umweltbundesamt GmbH (Environment Agency Austria), as of: September 2024.

5. Avoiding food waste

In 2023, around 1.2 million tonnes of food waste were generated in Austria, 52.3 % of which could have been avoided. The food waste was distributed across the stages of the food chain as follows: Primary production (0.4 %), processing and manufacturing (17.2 %), retail (6 %), restaurants and food services (22.5 %), and households (53.9 %). (In the primary production stage, only harvested food is counted).

Avoiding food waste is an important way of reducing the burden on the environment and the climate, conserving resources, and strengthening the food system. Food donations also have added social value, which is why the BMLUK is currently working on setting up a digital platform to pass them on to charitable, non-profit organisations. The pilot phase of the “Kostbar Markt” (meaning “valuable market”) project will begin in 2025.

The BMLUK is also working to raise awareness of how to prevent food waste. More information on this can be found at: [Lebensmittel sind kostbar!](#) (“Food items are precious!”), [Bewusstkaufen.at](#) and [Bewusst nachhaltig leben.](#)

5. Volume of food waste generated in 2023

in Austria

Stages of the food supply chain	Volume generated in tonnes	Volume generated in %
Primary production	4,600	0.4
Processing and manufacturing	203,840	17.2
Retail and other distribution of food	71,403	6.0
Restaurants and food services	266,564	22.5
Households (incl. home composting)	638,305	53.9
Total volume of food waste	1,184,712	100

Source: Lebensmittelabfallaufkommen in Österreich Berichtsjahr 2023 gemäß Methodik des delegierten Beschlusses (EU) 2019/1597 (Food waste generated in Austria, reporting year 2023, according to the methodology set out in Commission Delegated Decision (EU) 2019/1597), Vienna.

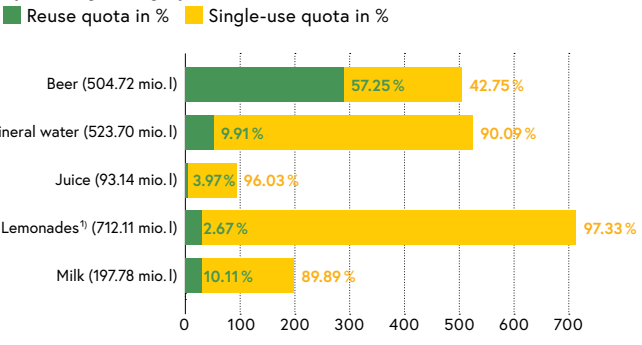
6. Reuse and single-use in Austria

Since 2024, food retailers have had to comply with a reuse quota for beverage packaging. In the first year, 35 % of sales outlets over 400 m² must offer reusable packaging in all beverage categories; from 2025, this rises to 90 %, and from 2026, all sales outlets over 400 m² must comply. This measure is an important step towards actively preventing plastic waste in Austria. In 2024, the reuse quota was 18.88 %. There is significant scope for reuse within the soft drinks category.

The deposit system for single-use plastic drinks bottles and cans has been in force since 1 January 2025. Its aim is to keep valuable materials in circulation and reduce careless disposal. Currently, between seven and nine million deposit containers are returned to retailers every day. 98 % of these are returned to retailers via automatic return machines. Austria has a particularly dense network of over 6,200 reverse vending machines compared to the rest of the EU. All signs point to the 80 percent collection target being achieved by the end of 2025 (the target for 2027 is 90 %).

6. Reuse and single-use in food retail trade 2024

by beverage category, in million litres, in Austria



1) Soft drinks
Source: BMLUK, “Mehrweg im Lebensmitteleinzelhandel”, Annual Report 2024.

7. Waste treatment plants

In 2023, a total of 3,423 waste treatment plants were in operation in Austria. Of these, 82 plants/facilities preparing waste from the three waste groups under consideration (used textiles, WEEE and household items/furniture) for reuse were identified in the Federal Government’s electronic data management (EDM) system.

Furthermore, Austria had a total of 324 sorting and processing plants with an annual capacity of around 8.6 million tonnes, as well as 194 recycling plants and other material recovery facilities with a waste utilisation capacity of around 12 million tonnes in operation in 2023.

In addition, a total of 12 plants with a total capacity of around 2.9 million tonnes were operated in Austria in 2023 for the thermal treatment of municipal waste, as well as 49 other thermal treatment plants (excluding those for municipal waste).

By the end of 2023, Austria had 13 mechanical-biological waste treatment plants in operation, with an approved MBT capacity of 661,800 t/a.

In addition, 174 biogas plants—including 45 plants at sewage treatment plants that also treat biogenic waste—with a capacity of around 1.27 million tonnes, as well as 422 aerobic biological treatment plants (composting plants) with a processing capacity of at least 1.79 million tonnes, were in operation in Austria in 2023.

In 2023, a total of 48 chemical-physical treatment plants with a combined treatment capacity of approximately 1.1 million tonnes were operational in Austria.

Additionally, 965 stationary and mobile treatment plants for mineral construction and demolition waste, as well as 14 stationary treatment plants for soils contaminated with pollutants, with a reported capacity of at least 848,000 tonnes per year, were operating in Austria in 2023.

Furthermore, 1,126 landfill sites with a total free residual capacity of 179 million cubic metres were available for waste disposal in Austria in 2023.

7. Waste treatment plants in 2023

in Austria	
Types of plants	Number
Plants/Facilities for the preparation for reuse	82
Pre-treatment facilities (sorting and processing plants) for metal waste (including WEEE and end-of-life vehicles), plastic waste, glass waste, wood waste, paper waste, used textiles and mixed and special waste	324
Recycling and other material recovery plants	194
Thermal treatment plants for municipal waste	12
Thermal treatment plants (excl. treatment plants for municipal waste)	49
Mechanical-biological treatment plants (MBT)	13
Anaerobic biological treatment plants (biogas plants)	174
Aerobic biological treatment plants (composting plants)	422
Chemical-physical treatment plants	48
Treatment plants for mineral construction and demolition waste	965
Treatment plants for soils contaminated with pollutants	14
Landfill sites	1,126
Total	3,423

Source: Umweltbundesamt GmbH (Environment Agency Austria), data basis EDM ZAREg, as of: September 2024.

8. Waste electrical and electronic equipment

In 2023, a total of 320,024 tonnes of electrical and electronic appliances were placed on the Austrian market. Compared to the previous year, there was a significant decline of around 27,000 tonnes (11.4 %) in the amount of electrical and electronic equipment placed on the market for private households. The total volume of electrical and electronic equipment placed on the market decreased by approximately 5,000 tonnes.

In 2023, a total of around 144,941 tonnes of waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) were collected. This included 68,757 tonnes of large appliances (> 50 cm), 62 tonnes of photovoltaic modules, 16,820 tonnes of heat exchangers, 7,485 tonnes of display screen equipment (including CRTs), 40,261 tonnes of small appliances (< 50 cm), 10,702 tonnes of small IT and telecommunications equipment, and 854 tonnes of lamps.

The aim of treating waste electrical and electronic equipment is to recover recyclable materials and separate components that contain harmful substances. Materials are primarily separated using automated shredding and sorting techniques. Around 36 facilities (including shredder facilities) were available for the treatment of WEEE in Austria in 2023.

8. Recovery, recycling and reuse of waste electrical and electronic equipment in 2023

in %, in Austria				
Appliance category ¹⁾	Recovery rate	Recovery target	Reuse and recycling rate	Reuse and recycling target
Heat exchanger	97	85	83	80
Screens	96	80	79	70
Lamps	93	n. a. ²⁾	87	80
Large appliances (> 50 cm)	93	85	87	80
Photovoltaic modules	89	85	83	80
Small appliances (< 50 cm)	96	75	79	55
Small IT and telecommunications equipment	96	75	79	55

1) Appliance category according to Annex 1a, (Austrian) Waste Electrical Equipment Ordinance ("EAG-Verordnung"), applicable since 2018.
2) n.a. = No figures available.

Source: Elektroaltgeräte Koordinierungsstelle Austria GmbH. As of: July 2025.

9. Status of contaminated sites management

As of 1 January 2025, a total of 353 sites, for which significant environmental hazards had been identified, were listed as contaminated sites requiring securing or remediation in the Ordinance on the Atlas of Contaminated Sites ("Altlastenatlasverordnung"). Of these, 194 contaminated sites have already been secured or remediated.

Remediation and securing measures are currently underway or being planned for an additional 87 contaminated sites.

Further detailed data and figures can be found on the "Altlastenportal" website: altlasten.gv.at.

9. Status of contaminated sites management in Austria

as of 1 January 2025

Types of sites	Number of sites
Registered sites (suspected contaminated sites reports + recording projects)	70,580
Register of suspected contaminated sites ¹⁾	1,247
Register of suspected contaminated sites–deleted after evaluation	3,199
Deposits/abandoned industrial sites–research projects	797
Contaminated sites in the Ordinance on the Atlas of Contaminated Sites	353
Contaminated sites reported as secured or remediated	194
Contaminated sites–monitoring, securing and remediation in progress or under consideration	87

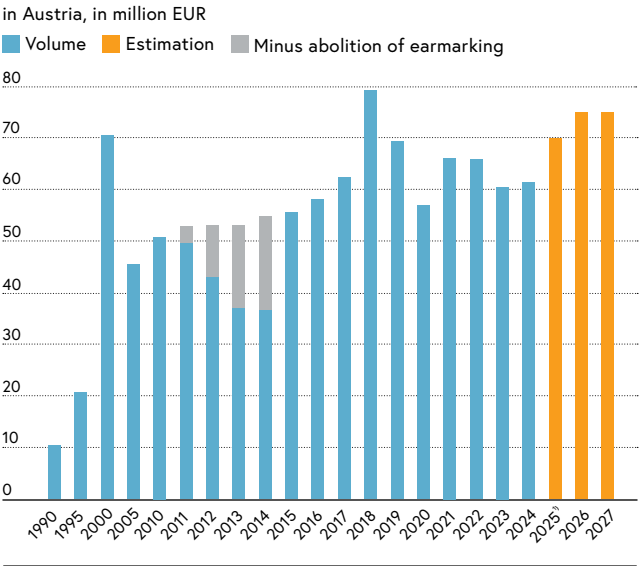
1) According to the ALSAG amendment, there is no longer a register of suspected contaminated sites ("Verdachtsflächenkataster") as of 1 January 2025, see "altlasten.gv.at".
Source: Contaminated sites portal "altlasten.gv.at".

10. Development of the contribution from contaminated sites

In Austria, an earmarked levy is charged on contaminated sites to finance the measures necessary for the comprehensive management programme for these sites. The graphic shows how this contribution's revenue has developed from 1990 to 2024.

In 2024, revenue amounted to 61.5 million euros. The contaminated site contribution is estimated at a total of 70.0 million euros for 2025, and at 75.0 million euros for 2026 and 2027.

10. Revenue development of the contribution from contaminated sites



1) On January 2025, contribution rates were increased due to an index adjustment.
Source: BMLUK, as of: June 2025.

Climate change mitigation and adaptation in Austria

The climate crisis hits Austria particularly hard: Since 1900, the country's average temperature has increased by around 3.1 °C—more than twice as much as the global average. As global warming progresses, the risks and impacts on people, nature and the economy are becoming increasingly apparent. Austria has therefore joined all other EU Member States in setting binding climate targets. The EU as a whole aims to achieve climate neutrality by 2050 at the latest.

In 2023, Austria's greenhouse gas emissions were again dominated by the industry and energy sectors as well as by transport. Together, these sectors accounted for around 60 percent of total emissions. The Federal Government and the Provinces are working to reduce these greenhouse gas emissions through a comprehensive set of measures. These include ambitious activities in the areas of climate change mitigation and sustainable transformation, as well as the development of climate change adaptation strategies that strengthen the resilience to the impacts of climate change. The Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Climate and Environmental Protection, Regions and Water Management (BMLUK) supports climate change mitigation measures such as the shift towards renewable energy in businesses, municipalities and private households.

Overall, substantial investments are required to achieve our national climate and environmental targets. Public funds alone will not be sufficient; private capital must also be mobilised for this purpose. The BMLUK accompanies this development with initiatives and activities designed to channel private capital flows more strongly towards environmentally sustainable economic activities.

Climate change mitigation is a great opportunity. Not only for the people in Austria but also for its economy. Investments in this area have positive effects on employment, income and prosperity, while also helping to reduce dependence on energy imports and mitigate the high costs of inaction. It is also crucial to take socioeconomic aspects into account and to ensure that no one is left behind on our path to climate neutrality.

1. Greenhouse gas emission targets in Austria

Climate change mitigation and sustainable environmental protection are among the most significant challenges of our times. The years to come will decide whether we will manage to curb the man-made greenhouse effect to an acceptable level. According to the Paris Agreement, the EU has committed to reducing its greenhouse gas emissions by at least 55 % by 2030 compared to 1990 levels. For the implementation of the Agreement, the EU has set binding targets for the EU-wide emissions trading system (EU ETS) and national targets for non-ETS sectors.

From 2005 to 2023 Austria's greenhouse gas emissions of the sectors outside the EU ETS declined from 57.5 to 44.3 million tonnes of CO₂ equivalent. The exceedance of the target path in 2021 was overcompensated by the undershooting in the two subsequent years.

1. Greenhouse gas emission targets by 2030¹⁾ in Austria

Trend and target values²⁾; in million tonnes of CO₂ equivalent



1) Sectors outside EU emission trading.
2) Regulation (EU) 2023/857, Implementing Decision (EU) no 2023/1319
Source: Environment Agency Austria 2025

2. Greenhouse gas emissions in Austria

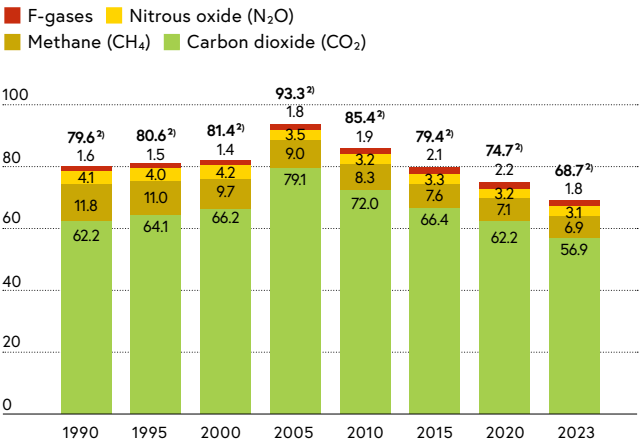
Austrian greenhouse gas emissions had reached a peak of 93.3 million tonnes of CO₂ equivalent in 2005.

In 2023, they amounted to 68.7 million tonnes and were thus roughly 10 million tonnes below the 1990 level and almost 25 million tonnes below the level of 2005. Emissions in 2023 were dominated by carbon dioxide, which accounted for more than four fifths of total emissions. Most of them originate from the combustion of fossil fuels. Of the remainder, more than half is attributable to methane, which originates primarily from agricultural livestock husbandry as well as from waste treatment and landfilling.

The shares of nitrous oxide, which is mainly generated in fertilised soils, and of fluorinated gases, which are, for the most part, used in the buildings sector, for example in refrigerating or cooling systems, are comparatively low. The shares of methane and nitrous oxide have declined since 1990.

2. Greenhouse gas emissions in Austria

in million tonnes of CO₂ equivalent¹⁾



1) Figures rounded to one decimal place.
2) Total
Source: Environment Agency Austria 2025

3. Greenhouse gas emissions by sector in Austria

In 2023, the main sources of Austria's greenhouse gas emissions were the industry sector (23.3 million tonnes of CO₂ equivalent) and the transport sector (19.8 million tonnes). Together, these two sectors produced around 60 % of total emissions. Production growth and an increase in vehicle kilometres are the most significant reasons for the development.

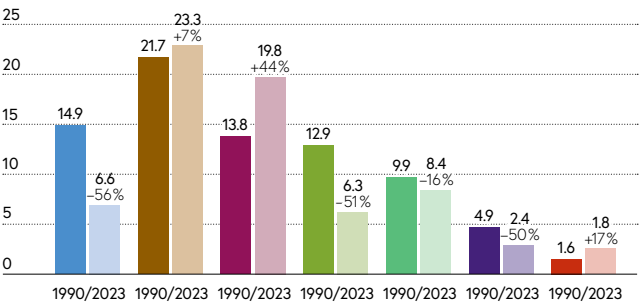
The shares of emissions from the energy sector (approx. 10 % in 2023), the buildings sector and the agriculture sector as well as the waste management and the fluorinated gas sectors are significantly lower. In the energy sector, coal-fired power stations were replaced by renewable energy (wind energy, PV and biomass). In buildings, the replacement of fossil (especially oil and gas) heating systems by climate-friendly systems as well as their improved thermal quality and the increasing use of district heating have contributed to the reduction in emissions.

In the agriculture sector, the development in this field depends strongly on livestock numbers.

3. Greenhouse gas emissions by sector in Austria¹⁾

in million tonnes CO₂ equivalent²⁾. Total: 1990: 79.6; 2023: 68.7

■ Energy ■ Industry ■ Transport ■ Buildings ■ Agriculture
■ Waste management ■ F-gases



1) Sector classification based on the Climate Change Act.

2) Figures rounded to the first decimal place.

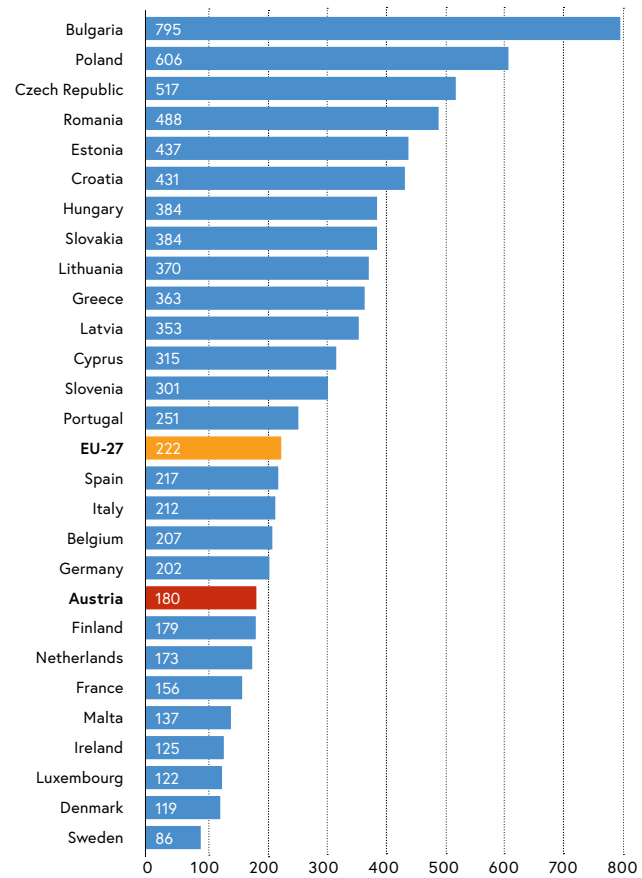
Source: Environment Agency Austria 2025

4. Greenhouse gas emissions in the EU

The ratio of greenhouse gas emissions vs. the economic performance differs widely across EU Member States. In 2023, Bulgaria, where the GHG/GDP ratio was highest, produced more than 9 times as many emissions per million euros gross domestic product as Sweden, which has the lowest emissions. The EU average amounts to 222 tonnes of CO₂ equivalent per million euros.

4. Greenhouse gas emissions in the EU in 2023

in tonnes of CO₂ equivalent per million € GDP



Source: European Environment Agency 2025

5. BMLUK projects in the fields of climate change mitigation and adaptation

The BMLUK’s various instruments of climate change mitigation are well coordinated and thus help reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The initiative “klimaaktiv” with its partner network encourages participation and sets the course by means of its quality standards. Households, communities, companies, experts and climate communicators get specific information, opportunities for action and useful tools to take effective action for climate change mitigation.

The programme “Umweltförderung im Inland” (domestic environmental subsidisation) promotes investment in the energy transition on a broad basis. Thousands of projects prove that more and more Austrians are actively participating in climate change mitigation.

With the cooperation programmes “Climate and Energy Model Regions (KEM)”, “Climate Change Adaptation Model Regions (KLARI)” and the advisory services from the “Regional Programmes”, the Climate and Energy Fund supports regions and companies in local implementation.

5. Projects in the fields of climate change mitigation and adaptation

by the Federal Government, in Austria			
Projects	2022	2023	2024
klimaaktiv partner projects ¹⁾	1,900	2,000	2,100
klimaaktiv e5 communities ²⁾	274	284	292
klimaaktiv pakt2020 partners ³⁾	11	12	12
Climate and Energy Fund innovative projects ⁴⁾	215,000	260,000	315,000
Climate Change Adaptation Model Regions for Austria (KLARI) ⁵⁾	81	86	93
Climate and Energy Model Regions ⁶⁾	119	124	130
Domestic company-based environmental subsidies (UFI) ¹⁾	4,064	4,590	3,550
Renovation campaign for private households ¹⁾	46,773	45,357	79,392
Renovation campaign for companies ¹⁾	434	493	349
Consulting in regional programmes ⁷⁾	2,252	2,523	2,476

1) Number of projects
2) Number of communities
3) Number of enterprises
4) From funds of the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Climate and Environmental Protection, Regions and Water Management (BMLUK), accumulated number of projects.
5) Number of regions. KLAR comprises 93 Austrian regions with 743 communities and almost 2.2 million inhabitants.
6) From funds of the Climate and Energy Fund; number of regions.
7) From funds of the Climate and Energy Fund; number of projects.
Effects without taking into consideration economic growth, population growth and other rebound effects.
Source. BMLUK, as of June 2025.

6. Environmental subsidisation has a sustainable effect

The programme “Umweltförderung im Inland” (UFI) refers to financial incentives provided in the company-based and municipal sectors and for private individuals. Technical and organisational measures are to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve energy and resource efficiency, and promote the use of renewable energy sources.

Specifically, energy-saving measures such as efficiency improvements in industrial processes and facilities or the provision of heat based on renewable energy sources are subsidised. The environmental subsidies also contribute to sustainable economic growth and create and secure jobs.

6. Environmental subsidisation has a sustainable effect

in 2024; in Austria	
Environmental subsidies	Projects
1.736 billion € funding	85,181 implemented projects
Renewable sources of energy	2,300,000 MWh energy generated/year
Energy efficiency	1,412,000 MWh energy saved/year
Climate change mitigation	1 billion t CO ₂ reduction/year
Economic effects	
Economic growth	4.85 billion € invested ¹⁾
Jobs	about 28,000 created and/or secured

1) Triggered investment volume.
Source: Federal Ministry for Climate Action, Environment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation and Technology (BMK) 2024

7. Green Finance: Mobilising private capital for the ecological transformation

Significant investments are required to achieve national and European climate and environmental objectives. Public funds alone are insufficient, therefore the targeted mobilisation of private capital is needed. Green Finance provides key instruments for this purpose: Transparency with regard to climate-related risks and opportunities is created, sustainability aspects are given greater consideration in financial decision-making, and the transition to a climate-neutral future is supported. The BMLUK accompanies this development with initiatives aimed at directing private capital flows more strongly towards environmentally sustainable economic activities.

The Green Finance Alliance (GFA) is a voluntary climate protection initiative aimed at establishing a more sustainable financial market. It addresses financial companies headquartered in Austria. The eleven members of the GFA are committed to aligning their core business portfolios and their operational ecology with defined climate targets. They are accompanied step by step in their transition to Paris-compatible business models.

7. Green Finance Alliance–Survey of members

Green Finance Alliance	2023
Number of members	11
Share in the financial market in Austria	approx. 13 % ¹⁾
Total assets (in €)	177 billion ²⁾
Staff members	23,000 ³⁾

1) Source: Own calculations based on publically available sources. (The share is measured on the basis of the total assets in the fields of banks, insurances, pension funds and occupational provision funds.)
2) Source: Publications of the Green Finance Alliance members.
3) Source: Publications of the Green Finance Alliance members and own calculations on the basis of publically available sources (share measured on the basis of the total assets in the fields of banks, insurances, pension funds and occupational provision funds).
Sources: As of 31 December 2023.

8. Climate analysis for the Austrian fund market

The analysis aims to assess the extent to which funds of the Austrian financial market are exposed to climate-related risks. The amount of greenhouse gas emissions financed serves as an indicator of the risks associated with the transition to a climate-friendly economy. Consequently, this risk is also transferred to the assets invested in such companies. Two indicators are central in this context: the CO₂e footprint and the CO₂e emission intensity. Although the Austrian fund market has made progress over the past five years, there is still need to catch up on the way to a consistently climate-friendly orientation.

8. Climate analysis for the Austrian fund market

Indicators of the Austrian funds	t CO ₂ e / mio. euros	2018	2023	Change 2018/2023
CO ₂ e footprint ¹⁾	t CO ₂ e / mio. euros invested	438	362	-76.0 (-17.4 %)
CO ₂ e emission intensity ²⁾	t CO ₂ e / mio. euros turnover	913	826	-87.0 (-9.5 %)

1) The CO₂e footprint measures the greenhouse gas emissions financed by a financial portfolio per invested million €.
2) The CO₂e emission intensity indicates which quantity of greenhouse gases is emitted in relation to the turnover of an enterprise in the portfolio.
Source: BMLUK, Environment Agency Austria (UBA GmbH). On the basis of the data of The Value Group. The presented average values are based on an evaluation of five samples of Austrian mutual funds, which include the largest equity funds and bond funds in Austria. See: [Klimaanalyse des österreichischen Finanzmarkts](#)

9. Green Bond: Austria's Green Government Bond

With its Green Bond the Republic of Austria has established a key financing instrument to refinance environmentally and climate-related expenditures within the federal budget. The objective is to attract, in particular, institutional investors to the financing of environmentally sustainable projects and to promote the greening of the economy as well as the transition to net-zero emissions. Project selection focuses on climate and environmental impact.

Green Bonds are issued by the Austrian Treasury (Österreichische Bundesfinanzierungsagentur, OeBFA). The Green Investor Report is prepared annually by the Green Bond Board Management.

In 2024, the Republic of Austria issued new green financing instruments amounting to 6.2 euros (compared to 5.5 billion euros in 2023 and 4.8 billion euros in 2022). The financed projects lead to a total reduction/avoidance of around 3.4 million tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions per years over their useful life (compared to 4.4 million tonnes in 2023, 3.2 million tonnes in 2022). These impacts underline the effectiveness of green sovereign funding. For more detailed information on the Green Government Bonds, see oebfa.at.

9. Green Government Bonds 2022–2024

in Austria				
Green Government Bonds—overview	Unit	2022	2023	2024
Green funding volume ¹⁾	billion €	4.8	5.5	6.2
Annual GHG emissions avoidance/reduction ²⁾	million t CO ₂ e/year	3.2	4.4	3.4

1) The funding volume is primarily based on Green Government Bonds. In addition, depending on the year, short-term green financing instruments as well as new savings products for retail investors were also used (e.g. Green Bundesschatz).
2) The figures represent the estimated average annual avoidance / reduction of greenhouse gas emissions (in CO₂e) over the respective lifetime of the financed projects (depending on allocation and data availability).
Source: Austrian Treasury (OeBFA), Green Investor Reports 2022–2024.

10. EU Taxonomy: Making sustainability in the real economy measurable

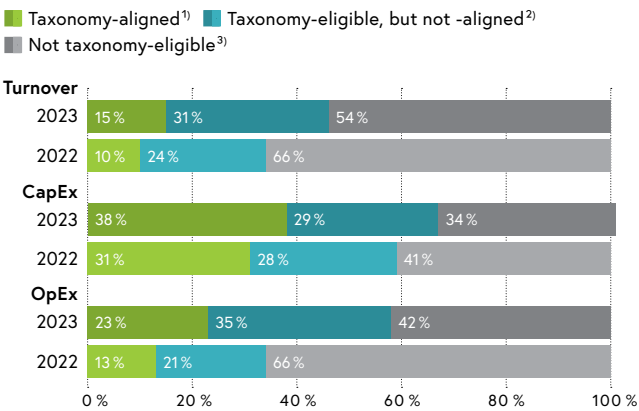
The EU Taxonomy Regulation establishes a common framework for classifying environmentally sustainable economic activities. As a key transparency instrument, it aims to channel capital flows towards environmentally sustainable economic activities. The BMLUK collects and analyses the climate-related key performance indicators (KPIs) of Austrian non-financial companies, based on the framework set out in the Regulation. This allows the progress of the ecological transformation of the Austrian economy to be tracked.

Turnover and operating expenditures illustrate the extent to which sustainability has already been integrated into existing business models, while capital expenditures provide insights into the strategic alignment with climate and environmental goals.

The analyses for 2022 and 2023 indicate an increase in taxonomy-aligned economic activities. The trend is positive: Austrian companies are contributing to the green transition. However, continued adaptation across a range of economic activities is necessary to remain on track towards climate neutrality.

10. Taxonomy key performance indicators for the reporting years 2022 and 2023

Shares of environmentally sustainable economic activities in the Austrian real economy (sample size ⁴⁾: year 2022: 42; year 2023: 44)



1) Taxonomy-aligned means that the economic activity meets the technical assessment criteria of the EU Taxonomy Regulation. 2) Taxonomy-eligible, but not -aligned includes economic activities that fall within the scope of the EU taxonomy, but do not meet all the technical assessment criteria. 3) Not taxonomy-eligible refers to economic activities that are outside the scope of the EU Taxonomy or for which no technical assessment criteria have (yet) been defined. 4) The extent and composition of the sample are subject to variation on an annual basis. Therefore, it is only possible to establish a limited degree of comparability of key performance indicators between the reporting years. Source: BMLUK, own calculations. As of June 2025.

BMLUK research in focus

The research activities conducted by the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Climate and Environmental Protection, Regions and Water Management (BMLUK) form a central element of the application-oriented research landscape in Austria and are an important component of the Austrian science system. At the interface between science, politics and society, they provide new insights that are directly applied in practice and serve as a basis for political decisions.

The research priorities are defined in the 2020–2025 research programme. They aim to give the BMLUK’s research activities a sustainable focus. The emphasis is on applied research for practice and society in the Ministry’s fields of competence. The research activities take place along cross-cutting issues such as “future-fit natural and living environments”, “climate change”, “resource management and circular economy”, “food supply and security”, “digitalisation” or “political impact assessment”.

In line with current developments specific research priorities are set every year—such as “Renewable resources and climate protection” in 2023 or “Future-fit natural and living environments” in 2024. There are specific calls for research projects on these priority topics.

Research at the BMLUK is conducted at the BMLUK’s research agencies, its outsourced research institutions and through research contracts awarded to external project applicants. International networking takes place through participation in European research initiatives.

Details of all research activities can be found on the research platform dafne.at (database for research on sustainable development. Dafne.at serves to provide information on, manage and record research projects carried out at the research agencies, the federal institutions or offices or via research contracts awarded to external research organisations. Within the framework of the Cooperation between Federal Government and Federal Provinces Research (BBK) projects are financed jointly with other Federal Ministries or provincial governments.

CED Directorate 5—Research and Development, Corporate Services—is the research coordination and service unit at the BMLUK. An overview is provided by the “Annual Report on Research Activities”, which is published annually.

1. Overview of the Ministry’s research activities

The research activities conducted by the BMLUK are based on three pillars: Research institutions of the Ministry, research contracts awarded to external project applicants, and participation in international and European research programmes. Participation in international programmes and research bodies complements the Ministry’s own expertise and ensures that Austria’s interests are represented in the European research landscape.

1. Overview of the Ministry’s research activities

at the Austrian Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Climate and Environmental Protection, Regions and Water Management (BMLUK)

Research activities of the Ministry	2023	2024
Research agencies of the Ministry	Number	Number
Research agencies	9	9
External research organisations	34	35
Research projects	Number	Number
Current internal projects	311	301
Current external projects	149	138
Expenditure for research contract assignments ¹⁾	in mio. €	in mio. €
Research-effective share of the research units of the Ministry	26.32	29.35
Current transfer to related enterprises	12.97	19.02
Research and other measures ²⁾	49.30	18.98
Total	88.59	67.35
Transfer of knowledge	Number	Number
Relevant specialised/scientific publications ³⁾	543	608
of which peer-reviewed ³⁾	79	94
of which not peer-reviewed ³⁾	464	514
Participants in further training events ³⁾	8,284	16,649
Users of dafne.at	4,229	9,464

1) Finalised only after determination of the 2024 performance figures in Appendix T.

2) Increase due to additional research funds from the Forest Fund.

3) At research agencies of the BMLUK.

Source: BMLUK, Annual Report Research Activities 2024, BFG, research database dafne.at. As of: June 2025.

2. The research year

The research activities of the BMLUK make an important contribution to improving the quality of life in Austria. The aim of the Ministry's research activities is to put new knowledge and modern technologies into practice as quickly as possible. The research projects carried out by the BMLUK or on behalf of the BMLUK have continued to be at a consistently high standard in 2024.

2. The research year at the Ministry

at the Austrian Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Climate and Environmental Protection, Regions and Water Management (BMLUK)

Research year at the Ministry	2021	2022	2023	2024
New research projects				
Internal projects ¹⁾	64	70	54	66
External projects ²⁾	45	39	39	27
Total	109	109	93	93
Project completions				
Internal projects ¹⁾	37	67	78	60
External projects ²⁾	27	38	40	25
Total	64	105	118	85
Current research projects				
Internal projects ¹⁾	271	318	311	301
External projects ²⁾	134	144	149	138
of which EU projects (i.a. ERA-NET ³⁾)	29	17	11	2
of which cooperation with BBK ⁴⁾ participation	24	22	24	24
Total	405	462	460	439

1) At research agencies of the BMLUK

2) BMLUK projects awarded to external research organisations.

3) ERA-NET = European Research Area Network

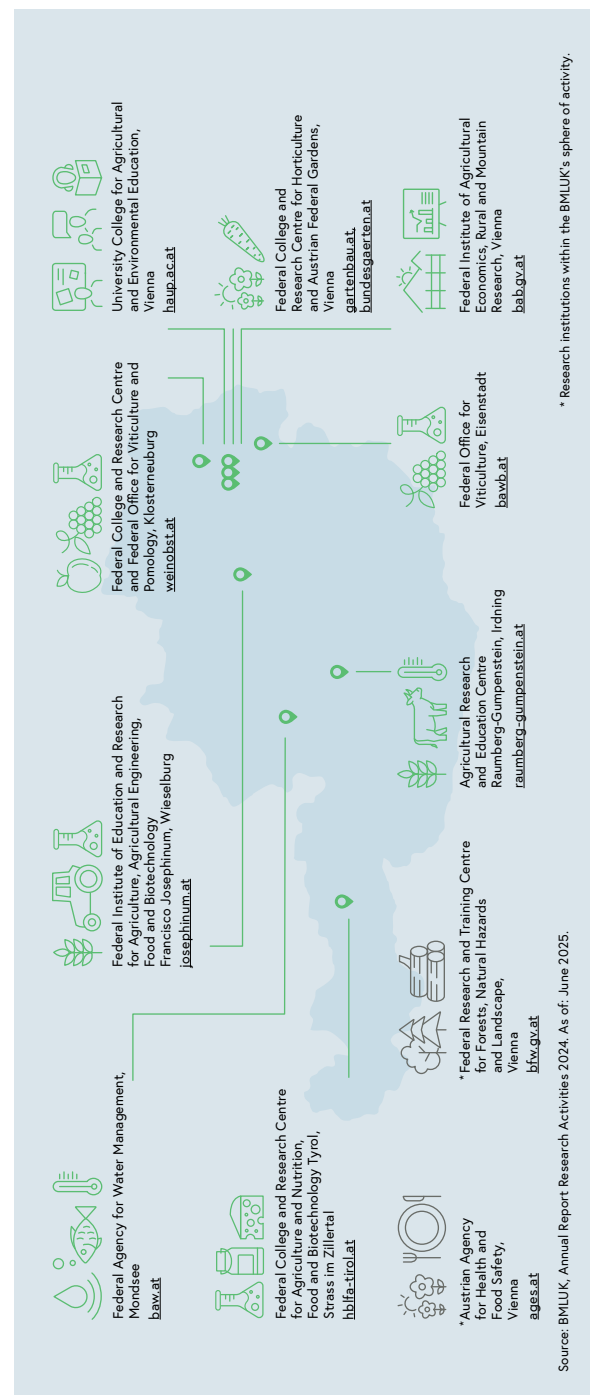
4) BBK = Cooperation between the Federal Government and the Federal Provinces in the field of research

Source: BMLUK. Annual Report Research Activities 2024. BFG. research database dafne.at. As of: June 2025.

3./4. Research agencies and outsourced institutions of the BMLUK

The focus is on the nine research agencies of the BMLUK and the two outsourced institutions. They constitute a particularity in the Austrian research landscape due to their practical orientation. Five research agencies are combined with secondary agricultural colleges to form secondary research and education centres (HBLFA), which is a unique combination of research and education.

3. Research agencies and outsourced institutions of the BMLUK



4. Current projects at the research agencies of the Ministry

at the Austrian Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Climate and Environmental Protection, Regions and Water Management (BMLUK)					
Research agencies	2023		2024		
	Projects ¹⁾ Number	Staff FTE ³⁾	Costs ²⁾ in mio €	Projects ¹⁾ Number	Staff FTE ³⁾
Agricultural Research and Education Centre Raumberg-Gumpenstein, Irdning	65	87.57	12.35	58	89.26
Federal College and Research Centre and Federal Office for Viticulture and Pomology, Klosterneuburg	72	49.69	6.02	58	47.98
Federal Institute of Agricultural Economics, Rural and Mountain Research, Vienna	47	11.01	2.66	43	10.79
Federal College and Research Centre for Horticulture and Austrian Federal Gardens	50	19.36	2.01	42	19.85
Federal Institute of Education and Research Francisco Josephinum, Wieselburg	21	23.68	4.80	17	26.78
University College for Agricultural and Environmental Education, Vienna	12	3.51	0.58	12	3.81
Federal Office for Viticulture, Eisenstadt	5	5.04	0.60	5	5.16
Federal Agency for Water Management, Mondsee	47	17.42	2.98	36	20.26
Federal College and Research Centre for Agriculture and Nutrition, Food and Biotechnology Tyrol	1	1.14	0.24	3	0.35
					0.12

1) Data according to RGP plans of the research agencies of the BMLUK.
2) Costs of the core service of research according to RGP Plan of the BMLUK, rounded figures.
3) FTE = Full-time equivalent according to Resource, Goal and Performance Plan (RGP Plan) of the BMLUK.
Source: BMLUK, Annual Report Research Activities 2024, BFG, RGP Plan. As of: June 2025.

5. External research projects

Research contracts awarded to external research organisations play an important role in the BMLUK’s research. In 2024, contracts worth a total of 17.1 million euros were awarded. Additional funds from the Forest Fund have contributed to a significant increase in research spending in recent years. Even though annual spending varies, there has been a noticeable increase in overall commitment to research-related projects.

Projects are managed via the research platform dafne.at, a web database with access to current research topics and research project content as well as practice-orientated research results.

5. Current external research projects of the Ministry

at the Austrian Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Climate and Environmental Protection, Regions and Water Management (BMLUK)

External research projects	2021	2022	2023	2024
Selected research institutions	Research projects (number)			
Vienna University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences (BOKU)	32	53	52	49
Austrian Agency for Health and Food Safety (AGES)	21	14	17	14
Federal Research and Training Centre for Forests, Natural Hazards and Landscape (BFW)	23	19	19	18
Vienna University of Veterinary Medicine (VetMed)	10	10	14	15
Environment Agency Austria (UBA)	5	5	2	1

Fields of research	Research-relevant expenses in 1,000 € (rounded figures)			
Agriculture	3,097	3,792	4,437	5,209
Forestry	964	538	390	263
Forestry funded by the Austrian Forest Fund	4,007	8,213	10,769	2,026
Settlement of forest funds via FFG ¹⁾ and KPC ²⁾		4,236	31,693	8,741
Water management	270	325	515	830
Total	8,338	17,104	47,804	17,069

1) FFG = Österreichische Forschungsförderungsgesellschaft mbH (Austrian Research Promotion Agency)
2) KPC = Kommunalkredit Public Consulting GmbH
Source: BMLUK, Annual Report Research Activities 2024, BFG, research database dafne.at. As of: June 2025.

Agricultural education in Austria

In a country where around half of the land is used for agriculture and forestry, well-trained farmers are essential for the future of domestic agriculture. The education system offers young people a wide range of opportunities to prepare for a career in the agricultural sector in a practical and theoretically sound manner. Agricultural education in Austria therefore plays a central role in the sustainable development of rural areas. Austria's agriculture and forestry have been the backbone of a rural area worth living in for centuries.

The basis of agricultural education are the vocational schools and secondary colleges. Different specialisations and focus areas are ideally suited to the regional conditions and range from traditional agriculture and forestry, horticulture and viticulture to innovative areas such as environmental and resource management or agricultural technology.

A special feature of the Austrian agricultural education system is the close link between theory and practice. In addition to professional qualifications, education and training place great emphasis on personal development, business knowledge and digitalisation. The latter in particular is becoming increasingly important due to the growing significance of "smart farming" and climate-adapted production methods.

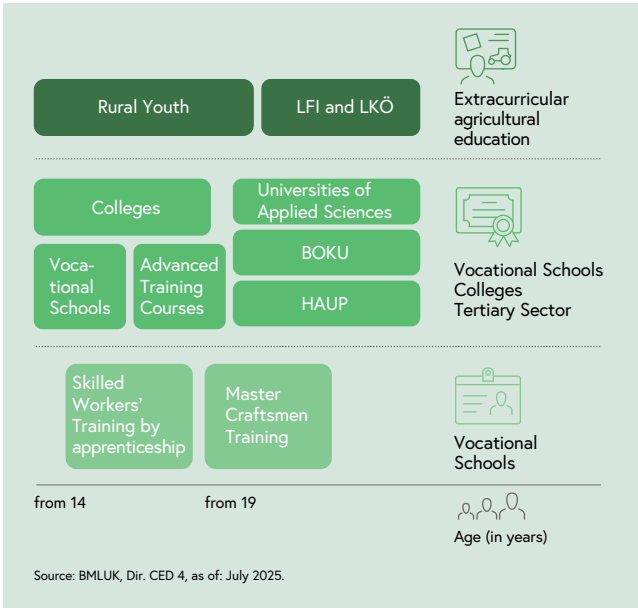
Austria's agricultural education system is an international role model and is based on innovation, competence, sustainability and tradition. The focus of agricultural education is on questions related to business management, production technology, sustainable development, but also diversification and social affairs.

The goal is to have efficient, sustainable farms in rural regions worth living in. They produce high-quality food in an environmentally benign and species-appropriate way, thereby meeting the growing demands of the society, the economy and the environment. Life-long, and also true-to life learning have become reality due to the connection between teaching, research and practice.

1. Agricultural education and extension

Agricultural education and extension in Austria are characterised by a unique nationwide network of training, further education and advisory services with a high degree of permeability. The wide range of training opportunities from the 9th grade onwards also has a strong appeal for non-agriculturalists. In addition to training as a skilled worker, the master craftsman qualification is the highest qualification at a practical level. The vocational schools and colleges, the universities of applied sciences, the University College of Agricultural and Environmental Education (HAUP) and the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences (BOKU) impart the latest scientific knowledge. In the field of extracurricular agricultural education, the Austrian Chambers of Agriculture (LKÖ), the Austrian Rural Further Education Institute (LFI) as well as the Austrian Rural Youth ("Landjugend") are available as central contact points. Agricultural education and extension in Austria is thus a future-oriented educational system with the potential of coping with current and future societal, economic, ecological and social tasks.

1. Agricultural education and extension in Austria



2. Agricultural and forestry education system

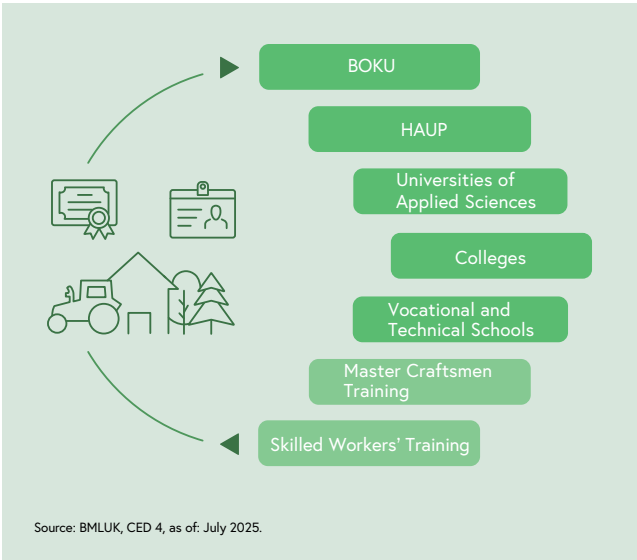
The 16 agricultural apprenticeships cover all areas of agriculture and forestry and, with a training period of three years, offer the qualification as a skilled worker. In addition to the technical school (“Fachschule”), the apprenticeship can also be completed as a second-chance course or as a dual practice-orientated apprenticeship. The subsequent master craftsmen training lasts, as a rule, for three years. See lehrlingsstelle.at.

The focus in the 91 agricultural schools is on acquiring skills for the sustainable use of the basic resources of soil, water and air and for safeguarding biodiversity. For more information, see agrarschulen.at.

In addition to the University College of Agricultural and Environmental Education (HAUP) in Vienna, Ober St. Veit, there are also universities of applied sciences with an agricultural and environmental focus, such as agricultural technology or agricultural management and innovation. More on this at haup.ac.at and fachhochschulen.ac.at.

The University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences (BOKU) is one of the best life sciences universities in Europe, characterised by its holistic approach to research and teaching. See boku.ac.at.

2. Agriculture and forestry education system in Austria



3. Agricultural and forestry schools

At the 70 agricultural and forestry technical schools, training lasts for up to four years. The schools offer in-depth theoretical and practical training to become skilled workers. Learn more at agrarschulen.at.

The agricultural and forestry colleges offer ten different specialisations. The training period is five years, or three years for the advanced course. The vocational and general education at a college is completed with the school-leaving and diploma examination which entitles to university studies. For more detailed information, see bmluk.gv.at/schulen.

3. Agricultural and forestry schools and university colleges

in Austria		
Types of schools and number	School year 2023/24	School year 2024/25
University College of Agricultural and Environmental Education (HAUP) ¹⁾	1	1
Students in the public sector	929	1,147
Agricultural and forestry schools		
Agricultural colleges for teaching and research ¹⁾	10	10
Students	3,306	3,404
Teaching staff ²⁾	603	386
Private secondary schools	2	2
Students	263	271
Teaching staff ²⁾	76	76
Forestry colleges for teaching and research ¹⁾	1	1
Students	359	406
Teaching staff ²⁾	84	43
Technical schools for agriculture and forestry (“Fachschulen”)	70	70
Students	12,678	12,759
Teaching staff ²⁾	1,605	1,736
Federal Forest Vocational School ¹⁾	1	1
Students	91	86
Vocational schools for agriculture and forestry	6	6
Students	651	640
Total schools	91	91
Total students of all school types	17,348	17,566
Total teaching staff of all schools types ²⁾	2,368	2,241

1) University College and schools of the BMLUK
2) in full-time equivalents
Source: BMLUK, as of: July 2025.

4. University College of Agricultural and Environmental Education (HAUP)

The University College of Agricultural and Environmental Education (HAUP) is the leading institution in the field of agricultural and environmental education. The degree programmes are scientifically based, practice-oriented and teach key pedagogical, professional and personal skills. Innovative education and extension concepts enable people to take on the challenges of the future and actively shape solutions. This promotes sustainable agriculture and forestry and the responsible use of natural resources.

Apart from being the centre of further training and advanced training for professional fields in agricultural and environmental pedagogics, the University College, HAUP, is also the scientific Competence Centre for Green Pedagogy.

Degree programmes offered:

- Bachelor's degree in Agricultural Education and Extension
- Master degree in Agricultural Education and Extension
- Bachelor's degree in Agricultural Education and Extension for experienced professionals (masters)
- Bachelor's degree in Agricultural Education and Extension for experienced professionals (HBLA graduates)
- Bachelor Green Transformation–The study programme for Environmental Education and Extension
- Master degree in Environmental Education and Extension
- Bachelor of Agricultural/Environmental Education for Academics
- Post-graduate studies after teacher training studies
- Master's programmes in continuing and further education

4. The University College (HAUP)

- ▶ 1,147 students at the university sector
- ▶ 369 further training seminars with 7,200 participants annually
- ▶ 6 Bachelor studies and 2 Master studies
- ▶ Master courses and university courses

For more information see: haup.ac.at.



Source: BMLUK, CED 4, as of: July 2025.

5. Extracurricular agricultural education

Along with the Austrian Chambers of Agriculture (LKÖ) and the Austrian Rural Further Education Institute (LFI), the Austrian Rural Youth ("Landjugend") is one of the largest educational organisations for extracurricular agricultural education in Austria.

With over 100,000 members, it is the most important organisation for extracurricular youth education and the largest of its kind in Austria. The main activities are further training, competitions and internship placements abroad. Important key qualifications are acquired in a wide range of educational programmes. For more information, see landjugend.at.

The Austrian Chambers of Agriculture (LKÖs) are responsible for supporting and representing their members, as well as participating in government projects aimed at achieving higher incomes and product prices. The LKÖs offer attractive advisory services for farmers. The comprehensive and cost-effective advisory network supports farmers in their efforts to take responsibility for their own business management and promote successful business development. Advice is provided on issues related to food production, the environment and energy, as well as legal and social aspects. For more information, see lko.at.

With over 8,800 courses and events and more than 220,000 participants, the Rural Further Education Institute (LFI) is one of the leading educational institutions specialising in the professional and personal development of farmers and people in rural areas. With a wide range of courses, workshops and seminars, the LFI promotes practical knowledge in the areas of agriculture, the environment, health, digitalisation and quality of life. In addition to the tried-and-tested classroom courses, there are additional online programmes. Further information at lfi.at.

5. Extracurricular agricultural education in Austria



Rural Youth

LKÖ

LFI

Source: BMLUK, Extracurricular agricultural education in Austria, as of: July 2025.

Further information

Websites

BMLUK

Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Climate and Environmental Protection, Regions and Water Management (BMLUK)

bmluk.gv.at

Press

bmluk.gv.at/service/presse.html

Photo service

bmluk.gv.at/service/fotoservice.html

Publications

bmluk.gv.at/service/publikationen.html

Facts and Figures

bmluk.gv.at/service/zahlen-fakten-neu.html

Common Agricultural Policy and subsidies

bmluk.gv.at/gap-foerderungen

Agricultural and forestry schools, University College and agencies of the BMLUK

BMLUK platform “Unsere Schulen” (Our schools)

bmluk.gv.at/schulen

University College of Agricultural and Environmental Education (HAUP)

haup.ac.at

Federal College for Horticulture and Austrian Federal Gardens

gartenbau.at, bundesgaerten.at

Agricultural Research and Education Centre

Raumberg-Gumpenstein

raumberg-gumpenstein.at

Federal Institute of Education and Research “Francisco Josephinum” Wieselburg

josephinum.at

Federal College and Research Centre for Agriculture and Nutrition, Food and Biotechnology Tyrol

hblfa-tirol.at

Federal Secondary College for Agriculture and Nutrition Sitzenberg

hbla-sitzenberg.at

Federal Secondary College for Agriculture, Environmental and Resource Management Ursprung

ursprung.at

Federal College and Research Centre and Federal Office for Viticulture and Pomology at Klosterneuburg

weinobst.at

Federal Secondary College for Agriculture and Nutrition Elmberg

elmberg.at

Federal Secondary College for Agriculture and Nutrition Pitzelstätten

pitzelstaetten.at

Federal Secondary College for Forestry Bruck an der Mur

hblba-florian.at

HBLA für Forstwirtschaft Bruck an der Mur

forstschule.at

Forestry School Traunkirchen

forstfachschule.at

Federal Agency for Water Management (BAW)

baw.at

Fairness Office—initial point of contact for complaints concerning trade practices in connection with the sale of agricultural products and food products

fairness-buero.gv.at

Federal Institute of Agricultural Economics, Rural and Mountain Research (BAB)

bab.gv.at

Federal Wine Control Board

bundeskellereiinspektion.at

Federal Office for Food Safety (BAES)

baes.gv.at

Federal Office for Viticulture (BAWB)

bawb.at

Federal Forest Office

bundesamt-wald.at

Forest Engineering Service for Torrent and Avalanche Control (WLV)

die-wildbach.at

Corporations, organisations and funds

Agrarmarkt Austria (AMA)

ama.at

Austrian Agency for Health and Food Safety (AGES)

ages.at

Spanish Riding School and Federal Stud Farm Piber

srs.at

Federal Agricultural Experimental Station

bv.w.at

Federal Research and Training Centre for Forests, Natural Hazards and Landscape (BFW)

bfw.gv.at

Austrian Federal Forests

bundesforste.at

Austrian Conference on Spatial Planning (ÖROK)

oerok.gv.at

European Regional Development Fund in Austria (ERDF)

efre.gv.at

Environment Agency Austria

umweltbundesamt.at

Climate and Energy Fund

klimafonds.gv.at

Initiatives, campaigns and priorities of the BMLUK

Sustainability

Bewusst nachhaltig leben

(Consciously living in a sustainable way)

nachhaltigkeit.at

Aktionsplan nachhaltige öffentliche Beschaffung (naBe)

(Action plan for sustainable public procurement)

nabe.gv.at

Urban Gardening

nachhaltigkeit.at/urban-gardening

Regions

Meine Region–Heimat. Zukunft. Lebensraum.

meine-regionen.at

“Zukunftsraum Land” network

zukunftsraumland.at

Municipal database GeDaBa

gedaba.agrarforschung.at

RESY-Dashboard

(Regional Information and Monitoring System)

resy-dashboard.at

Food

Das isst Österreich (This is what Austria eats)

das-isst-österreich.at

Initiative “Lebensmittel sind kostbar” (Food is precious!)

bmluk.gv.at/viktualia-award

Action plan for sustainable public procurement (naBe)–

Project “Österreich isst regional” (Austria eats regionally)

nabe.gv.at/forum-oesterreich-isst-regional

Traditional food in Austria

traditionelle-lebensmittel.at

Agriculture

Austrian Agri-environmental Programme (ÖPUL)

bmluk.gv.at/oepul.html

Green Report

gruenerbericht.at

Land- und ForstWIRtschaft (Farming and Forestry)

landwirtschaft.at

VISION 2028+ –Zukunftsbild für Österreichs Landwirtschaft und den ländlichen Raum (Vision 2028+ for the future of Austria’s agriculture and rural areas)

landwirtschaft.at/vision2028

Hofübernahme im Fokus–die Zukunft unserer Landwirtschaft (Focus on farm takeover–the future of our agriculture)

landwirtschaft.at/hofuebernahme

Innovation Farm–Farming for Future

innovationfarm.at

Miteinander sicher auf Österreichs Almen

(Safely together on Austria’s alpine pastures)

sichere-almen.at

Forestry

ForstWIRtschaft.at (Forestry in Austria)

forstwirtschaft.at

The Austrian Forest Dialogue

walddialog.at

The Forest Fund–the future package for our forests

waldfonds.at

Natural hazard management

Der Schutzwald in Österreich (Protective forests in Austria)

schutzwald.at

Living with natural hazards

naturgefahren.at

“Hochwasser–ich schütze mich” (Floods–I protect myself!)

wasseraktiv.at/ich-schuetze-mich

Water management

Wasseraktiv

wasseraktiv.at

gen blue

generationblue.at

Neptun State Award for Water

neptun-staatspreis.at

Danube Day Austria
danubeday.at
LIFE IRIS–Integrated River Solutions in Austria
life.iris.at
LIFE AMooRe–Austrian Moor Restoration
life-amoore.at

Environmental and climate protection

Environmental accounts
umweltgesamtrechnung.at
Austrian Ecolabel
umweltzeichen.at
Bewusstkaufen.at–klimafreundlich leben
(Conscious purchasing–climate-friendly living)
bewusstkaufen.at
Topprodukte.at (Top products)
topprodukte.at
Richtigheizen.at (Heating correctly)
richtigheizen.at
Raumluft.org (Indoor air)
raumluft.org
Ecotechnology Austria
ecotechnology.at
EMAS–Eco-Management and Audit Scheme
emas.gv.at
Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)
strategischeumweltpruefung.at
Global Goals Check
globalgoals-check.at
Nationalparks Austria
nationalparksaustria.at
Neobiota in Österreich (Neobiota in Austria)
neobiota-austria.at
Biologische Vielfalt (Biological diversity)
biologischevielfalt.at
Biodiversity Fund
biodiversitaetsfonds.com
Brachflächen-Dialog (Fallow-land dialogue)
brachflaechen-dialog.at
Grüne Chemie in Österreich (Green chemistry in Austria)
gruenechemieoesterreich.at
Lärminfo.at (Noise information)
laerminfo.at
Strahlenschutz.gv.at (Radiation protection)
strahlenschutz.gv.at

Emergency protection–Emergency website of the BMLUK
notfallschutz.gv.at
Radon Centre
radon.gv.at
klimaaktiv.at
klimaaktiv.at
The Austrian Climate Research Programme (ACRP)
acrp.gv.at
Alpine Convention–Alpine Climate Council
alpconv.org
Green Finance
bmluk.gv.at/green-finance
Green Finance Alliance
bmluk.gv.at/green-finance-alliance
Carbon Management
bmluk.gv.at/carbon-management
Tips for adapting to climate change
bmluk.gv.at/tipps-klimawandelanpassung

Waste management and circular economy

Altlastenportal (contaminated sites portal)
altlasten.gv.at
Entsorgungsbeirat.at (Waste disposal advisory board)
entsorgungsbeirat.gv.at
VIKTUALIA Award
bmluk.gv.at/viktualia-award

Research activities of the Ministry, agricultural education and youth pages

DaFNE–Database for research on sustainable development
dafne.at
“Landwissen–Wissen übers Land” (educational materials on
agriculture, food, forests, climate and water)
landwissen.at
Landwirtschaft mit Klasse–Agrarbildung studieren und
durchstarten! (Study agriculture and get started!)
landwirtschaft-mit-klasse.at
Landwirtschaft und du (Agriculture and you)
landwirtschaft-und-du.at
Biber Berti
biberberti.com
gen blue
genblue.at

WebGIS applications

Geoportal Österreich

INSPIRE Geoportal Austria
geometadatensuche.inspire.gv.at

Regional policy and spatial planning

Atlas of the Austrian Conference on Spatial Planning
oerok-atlas.at

Agriculture

INSPIRE Agraratlas
agraratlas.inspire.gv.at
eBOD–Digital Soil Map
bodenkarte.at

Forestry, water management and natural hazard management

WEP–Forest Development Plan
waldentwicklungsplan.at
Österreichischer Waldatlas (geodata platform on forests, natural hazards and biodiversity)
waldatlas.at
Austrian Forest Inventory (BFW)
waldinventur.at
Bark Beetle Monitoring (BFW)
borkenkaefer.at
Water WebGIS applications
maps.wisa.bmluk.gv.at
WISA water dashboards
wasseraktiv.at/unser-service/wasserdashboards

- [Dashboard water status monitoring](#)
- [Dashboard status of running waters](#)
- [Dashboard wastewater](#)
- [Dashboard large dams](#)

Municipal portal of the WLW (for municipalities via login)
gemeindeportal.die-wildbach.at

Environmental protection, waste management and circular economy

Lärminfo.at (Noise information)
laerminfo.at/laermkarten.html
GBIF–Austria–Global Diversity Information Facility
gbif.at
Geodata catalogue habitat connectivity
lebensraumvernetzung.at/de/geodata

Air pollution control

- [Dashboard air pollutant emissions](#)
- [Dashboard ammonia](#)

GIS Contaminated sites
altlasten.gv.at/atlas/altlasten-gis.html

The BMLUK on Social Media

Facebook

BMLUK
facebook.com/BMLUK.gv.at
Unser Wald (Our forests)
facebook.com/unserwald
Wasseraktiv
facebook.com/wasseraktiv
gen blue
facebook.com/genblue.at
klimaaktiv
facebook.com/klimaaktiv
Conscious purchasing–climate-friendly living
facebook.com/bewusstkaufen

X

BMLUK
x.com/BMLUK_gv_at
Unser Wald (Our forests)
x.com/unser_Wald

Instagram

BMLUK
instagram.com/bmluk.at
gen blue
instagram.com/genblue
Wasseraktiv
instagram.com/wasseraktiv.at
Unser Wald (Our forests)
instagram.com/unserwald
klimaaktiv
instagram.com/klimaaktiv.at
bewusstkaufen (Conscious purchasing)
instagram.com/bewusstkaufen

LinkedIn

BMLUK
linkedin.com/company/bmluk

klimaaktiv
[linkedin.com/company/klimaaktiv.at](https://www.linkedin.com/company/klimaaktiv.at)

Blue sky
BMLUK
bsky.app/profile/bmluk.gv.at

TikTok
gen blue
tiktok.com/@genblue_at
klimaaktiv
tiktok.com/@klimaaktiv.at

YouTube
BMLUK
youtube.com/@BMLUK_gv_at
Wasseraktiv
youtube.com/@wasseraktiv6661
genblue
youtube.com/@genblue_at
klimaaktiv
youtube.com/user/klimaaktiv

eGovernment service agencies

eAMA–The internet service portal of Agrarmarkt Austria
eama.at
Wein-online.at
wein-online.bmluk.gv.at
EDM–Electronic Data Management–Environment
edm.gv.at
IPPC Austria (IPPC plants in Austria)
ippc.gv.at
Central Radiation Protection Register
strahlenregister.gv.at
Austrian REACH Helpdesk (guide across chemicals legislation)
reachhelpdesk.at
Austrian Biocide Helpdesk
biozide.at
Austrian Emissions Trading Registry
emissionshandelsregister.at
aufschiene
aufschiene.gv.at

Abbreviations

Abbreviations of the Austrian Federal Provinces

B Burgenland
CA Kärnten (Carinthia)
LA Niederösterreich (Lower Austria)
UA Oberösterreich (Upper Austria)
S Salzburg
ST Steiermark (Styria)
T Tirol (Tyrol)
V Vorarlberg
VIE Wien (Vienna)

Further abbreviations

BMLUK Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry,
Climate and Environmental Protection, Regions
and Water Management
BMK Federal Ministry of Climate Action, Envi-
ronment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation and
Technology
BMLRT Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Regions and
Tourism
BMNT Federal Ministry for Sustainability and Tourism
BMLFUW.... Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Envi-
ronment and Water Management
BMLF Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry
EU European Union
CAP..... Common Agricultural Policy
IACS..... Integrated Administration and Control System
SMEs..... Small and medium-sized enterprises
NUTS Nomenclature des Unités Territoriales
Statistiques
A, AT Austria
ÖPUL Austrian Agri-environmental Programme
ÖROK Austrian Conference on Spatial Planning

ISO country codes

AL=Albania, BA=Bosnia and Herzegovina, BG=Bulgaria,
CH=Switzerland, CZ=Czech Republic, DE=Germany, EE=Esto-
nia, FI=Finland, FR=France, HR=Croatia, HU=Hungary, IT=Italy,
LI=Liechtenstein, LU=Luxembourg, MD=Moldova, ME=Monte-
negro, MK=North Macedonia, NO=Norway, PL=Poland, RO=Ro-
mania, RS=Serbia, SI=Slovenia, SK=Slovakia, UA=Ukraine.

Service units

Fairness-Office

The Fairness Office is an initial point of contact for Austrian farmers, producer groups, and commercial and industrial producers regarding trade practices in connection with the sale of agricultural and food products. Its aim is to establish greater fairness in the food chain for small producers vis-à-vis their larger buyers.

It offers quick and unbureaucratic assistance, provides advice, and gives a neutral assessment of complaints. All concerns are handled free of charge, anonymously, confidentially, and objectively.

Parkring 12, 1010 Vienna

Email: office@fairness-buero.gv.at

Ombudsperson's Office and Citizens' Service Unit

The Ombudsperson's Office with its citizens' service team gladly receives your concerns and questions concerning agriculture and forestry, climate and environmental protection, regions and water management.

BMLUK, Stubenring 1, 1010 Vienna, Austria

Email: service@bmluk.gv.at

Service telephone: Mon–Fri, 08:00–14:00 under phone no: 0800500198 (for calls from Austria). Detailed information at: bmluk.gv.at/service/servicestelle/buergerservice.html.

Contact

Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Climate and Environmental Protection, Regions and Water Management (BMLUK), Stubenring 1, 1010 Vienna, Austria

Phone: +43 1 71100-0 (Central office telephone exchange)

Fax: +43 51316792525

office@bmluk.gv.at, bmluk.gv.at

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