



# AUSTRIA: A COUNTRY RICH IN WATER

## FACTS AND FIGURES

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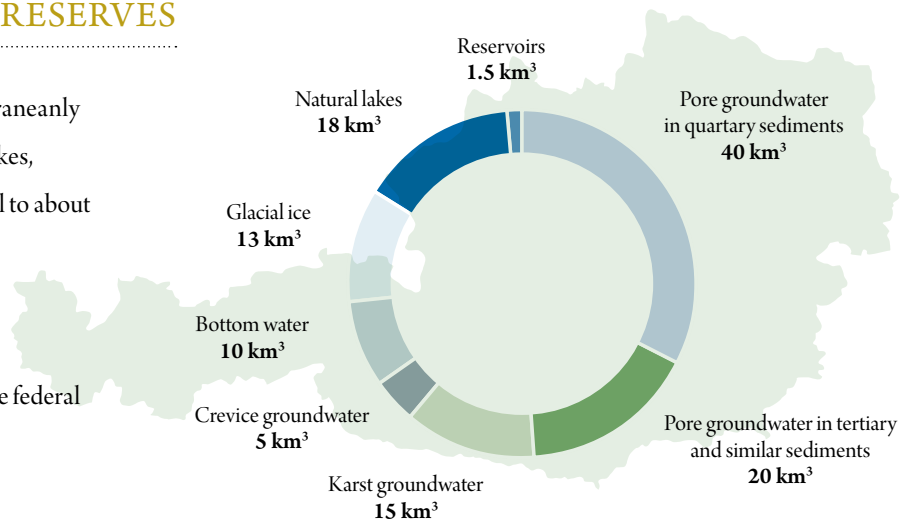
AUSTRIAN WATER  
is **clean, safe** and **healthy**

## WATER RESERVOIRS AND RESERVES

The water reserves which are available subterraneanly in groundwater and in soil water, in natural lakes, in glacier ice, and in reservoirs amount in total to about **122.5 km<sup>3</sup>**.

This water volume results in a water column which is **1.5 m** high and covers the whole federal territory of Austria.

Source: BMNT 2017



Annual precipitation in Austria is around **1,190 mm**.

About **86 km<sup>3</sup>** of water are available per year, of which only about 3% (2.5 km<sup>3</sup>) is used.

### Percentage of water used:

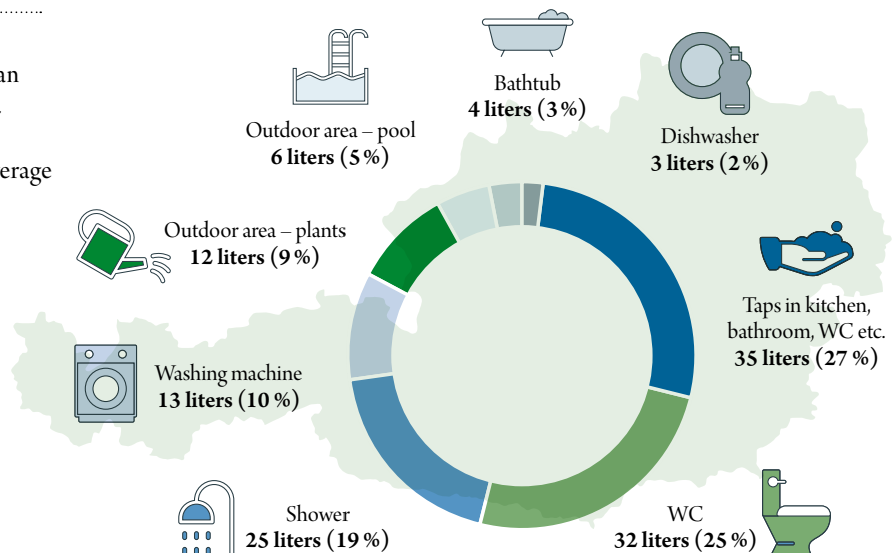
- 2/3 Industry
- 1/3 Households
- 5% Agriculture



## AVERAGE PER CAPITA WATER CONSUMPTION IN AUSTRIAN HOUSEHOLDS

The volume of water used each year by Austrian households is equivalent to the total volume of water in Lake Wolfgang. This equates to an average of **130 litres** per person per day.

Most of it is used for toilet flushing and daily personal hygiene.



Source: ÖVGW 2017, Studie WAVE



## FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT



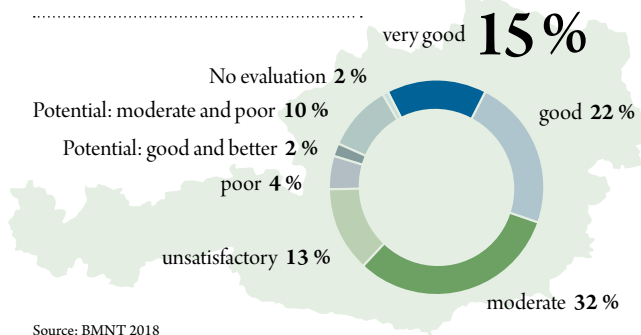
Every year, **1,400** projects for protection against natural hazards are implemented in Austria.

The Federal Ministry for Sustainability and Tourism invests **200** million euros per year for this purpose.

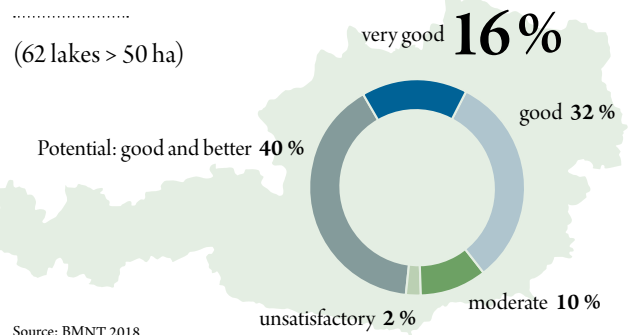
Currently there are **416** designated risk areas in Austria.

< Flood protection measures Almbach Adnet-Seidenau, Salzburg

## ECOLOGICAL STATUS AND ECOLOGICAL POTENTIAL – RUNNING WATERS



## ECOLOGICAL STATUS AND ECOLOGICAL POTENTIAL – LAKES



## USING WATER

Austria's network of rivers and streams amounts to a total length of over **100,000** km (almost 2.5 times around the world).

**95%** of the country's bathing water classified as »excellent«.

About **2/3** of the electricity in Austria is generated from hydropower (about 40,000 GWh).



»As the water shapes itself to the vessel that contains it, so a wise man adapts himself to circumstances.«

CONFUCIUS



## APPRECIATE WATER



The water footprint in Austria is **4,377** litres per capita and day.

**2** billion people worldwide are currently affected by water stress

The right to safe drinking water and sanitation is a universal human right.

Since **2009**, Austria's largest water platform »Wasseraktiv« has regularly provided up-to-date information for water related issues.

A detailed description of the entire water management in Austria can be found in the long version of the brochure

»Austria: A country rich in Water«:

[www.bmnt.gv.at/service/publikationen](http://www.bmnt.gv.at/service/publikationen)



### IMPRINT:

Text and editing: Mag.<sup>a</sup> Susanne Brandstetter, DI<sup>m</sup> Vanessa Payerl / Directorate General I – Environment and Water Management. Photo credits: Cover: Pexels; P. 2: Getty Images; P. 3 at the top: Flood Protection Almbach Adnet Seidenau: Federal Water Engineering Administration / State of Salzburg; P. 3 at the bottom: Tirol Advertising / Jens Schwarz; P. 4 at the top: Getty Images; P. 4 at the bottom: Wachau: Alexander Haiden. Graphics: Barbara Jaumann, Art Direction & Graphic Design. Printing / Cradle to Cradle™: gugler GmbH. Vienna, November 2018.

## DRINKING WATER & WASTEWATER

Austria obtains **100%** of its drinking water from groundwater and spring water.



There are 5,500 water supply companies, which supply almost **92%** of the population with drinking water.

The length of the drinking water and wastewater network is about **171,000** km (4 times around the world).

**95.2%** of the population are connected to sewer systems and urban wastewater treatment plants

Throughout Austria, **2,000** groundwater monitoring sites are continuously monitored for 129 parameters.

## THE DANUBE

is **2.857** km long and flows through 10 countries on its way. The Danube River Basin extends over 19 countries, making it the most international river basin in the world.



»Water is the best of all things.«

PINDAR