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Agriculture, Forestry, Regions
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Preface



Norbert Totschnig,
Federal Minister

As the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Water Management, our responsibilities and efforts relate to the basic needs of life. One farmer in Austria feeds nowadays around 100 people. Moreover, agricultural holdings take care of the development of climate-fit forests, tend our cultivated landscapes, cultivate Alpine pastures, and host guests. Diversified offers, such as farm holidays or direct marketing, provide additional opportunities for future-oriented further development in the regions—especially in times of unstable agricultural prices and markets!

It is a matter of special concern to me to support our farmers in coping with the current challenges in the best possible way—and the challenges are manifold! Climatic changes are putting many arable crops under pressure, and increased pest infestation is causing the numbers of damaged wood to rise. On Alpine pastures, the temperatures are rising particularly fast, here the vegetation starts two weeks earlier in spring than 25 years ago, and this can affect the forage quality. In order to be able to successfully face these changes, a combination of tradition and innovation is needed. This is the only way we can preserve our small-scale agriculture and continue to produce food at the highest quality, animal welfare, and environmental standards.

Since the diverse services provided by our farms cannot be taken for granted, they need the support of the society as a whole. This includes fair trade practices: Since March 2022, the Fairness Office has been helping anonymously and free of charge affected people, who are pressured by large traders when selling agricultural products. Mandatory origin labelling in mass catering will also make an important contribution. We all have a voice: Those who choose regional products strengthen our family farms and protect the environment by means of shorter transport routes. In this way the value-added remains the country!

Norbert Totschnig, MSc
Federal Minister for Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Water
Management

Annual priorities of the BML

In 2023 the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Water Management is devoting itself to new priority topics in the facts and figures presented.

The focus is for example on the approximately 8,000 managed alpine pastures in Austria. They are the result of centuries of hard peasant work. The preservation of traditional mountain and alpine farming is a matter of central concern.

At the interface between agriculture and tourism, the offer of farm holidays has gained in significance. Throughout Austria, around 10,000 holdings offer overnight accommodation, thus creating jobs and stimulating the regional economy. The popularity of farm products also offers opportunities in direct marketing. It is an important source of income for about 18,000 farms and keeps the value added in the country.

Since direct marketing is not an option everywhere, many producers are dependent on trade. Another focus is therefore on the Fairness Office created in 2022: As an independent ombudsman's office it supports anonymously and free of charge those affected who are put under pressure by large corporations when selling agricultural or food products.

Agricultural and forestry apprenticeships are also a focus. In the course of reforming the Agricultural and Forestry Vocational Training Act (LFBAG), professional hunters are to be legally anchored as a separate apprenticeship profession.

The horse industry is also in focus this year. The breeding of the horse breeds Noriker, Haflinger, Warmblood, Shagya-Arabian and the Lipizzaner is traditionally rooted in Austria. The endangered Noriker breed is also promoted within the framework of the Agri-environmental Programme ÖPUL. Horses are an important tourism and cultural factor, a leading enterprise being for example the Spanish Riding School in Vienna with the Federal Stud Piber.

On the following pages, the brochure "Facts and Figures 2023" presents the most important areas of responsibility of the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Water Management and provides an insight into statistics relating to agriculture, forests and logging, regional policy and spatial planning, water management, protection against natural hazards and more.

Living Space Regions

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

In the field of the national spatial development and spatial planning the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Water Management (BML) sets technical impulses. They refer first and foremost 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 adjusting them on the long run.

The Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Water Management (BML) is in charge of the coordination in the fields of regional policy and spatial planning. For this purpose, the Ministry takes appropriate measures and coordinates EU funding programmes.

In this way the current challenges, such as post corona, climate change, demographic change, digitalisation, and increased international competition for business locations, shall be taken account of.

The coordination takes place in close cooperation with all Federal Ministries as well as with the Federal Provinces. The Austrian Conference on Spatial Planning (Österreichische Raumordnungskonferenz ÖROK), a joint organisation of the Federal Government, the Federal Provinces, the Austrian Association of Cities and Towns, and the Austrian Association of Municipalities supports the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Water Management with its task of coordination.

The Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Water Management coordinates, in cooperation with the Austrian Conference on Spatial Planning, the EU cohesion policy in Austria. This is in particular 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).

Moreover, the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Water Management is in charge of representing the Austrian interests in legal issues for the EU funding period 2021–2027.

1. Population and demographic change

Austria's population is permanently growing. In 1900, six million people lived in Austria within the present federal territory. By the end of the 1950ies, Austria had 7 million inhabitants, by the year 2000 already 8 million. As of 1 January 2023 the 9.1 million mark has for the first time been slightly exceeded.

And Austria is still growing. For the year 2030 Statistics Austria forecasts a population of about 9.36 million, for 2050 around 9.86 million and for 2080 around 10.26 million. Moreover, an increase in the share of people older than 65 to 2.16 (23.12 percent of the total population) is also predicted for the year 2030, as well as a rise in the number of private households to 4.2 million, and here first and foremost of single households with 1.6 million.

1. Population in Austria

Population figures and structure	2000	2022	2030 ¹⁾
Population on annual average	8,011,566	9,052,856	9,225,271
Share 0 to 19 years (in percent)	23.1	19	19.3
Share 20 to 64 years (in percent)	61.5	61	57.5
Share 65 years and more years (in percent)	15.4	20	23.2
Population movements			
Live births	78,268	82,627	84,964
Deaths	76,780	93,332	89,829
Migration balance ²⁾	17,272	136,979	30,171
Private households and families			
Private households total (in 1,000)	3,237	4,068	4,193
of which single households (in 1,000)	977	1,546	1,650
Families total (in 1,000)	2,265	2,495	
of which families with children (in 1,000)	1,423	1,403	

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 area potentially amendable to settlement, where humans live, work, manage their natural resources and recreate. Due to the high share of mountainous areas in Austria the delimitation of a permanent settlement area is essential for spatial planning. The permanent settlement area is the space, which remains after the deduction of forests, Alpine grassland, wasteland and water bodies. It comprises the area, which is available for agriculture, settlements and transport facilities.

In 2022, Austria had; with a national territory of 83,883 km²; a permanent settlement area of 32,584 km², which are 39 % of the federal territory. In Tyrol it makes up 12 % of the provincial territory, whereas it comprises 77 % of the territory of the city in Vienna. The population in the permanent settlement area amounted all over Austria on average to 278 persons/m².

The settlement area, thus the currently populated area, covers 11.502 km², which are 14 % of the federal territory. In Tyrol it corresponds to 7 % of the provincial area and in Vienna to 60 % of the area of the city. In 2022, the population in the settlement area in Austria amounted on average to 787 persons/km². As a result of the high share of mountainous area the population density in Alpine valleys has an above-average level. Metaphorically speaking: "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 2022, in Austria

Federal Province	Area in km ²	Permanent settlement area		Settlement area	
		in km ²	in %	in km ²	in %
Burgenland	3,965	2,485	63	483	12
Carinthia	9,537	2,455	26	1,079	11
Lower Austria	19,180	11,616	61	2,618	14
Upper Austria	11,983	6,842	57	2,678	22
Salzburg	7,155	1,496	21	731	10
Styria	16,399	5,230	32	2,452	15
Tyrol	12,648	1,573	12	868	7
Vorarlberg	2,602	567	22	344	13
Vienna	415	321	77	248	60
Austria	83,883	32,584	39	11,502	14

Rounded values

Source: © STATISTICS AUSTRIA, as of: 23 September 2022.

3. Urban and rural area

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 2,093 communities (as of 1 January 2023).

1,352 communities have less than 2,500 inhabitants. The majority are small communities in rural areas.

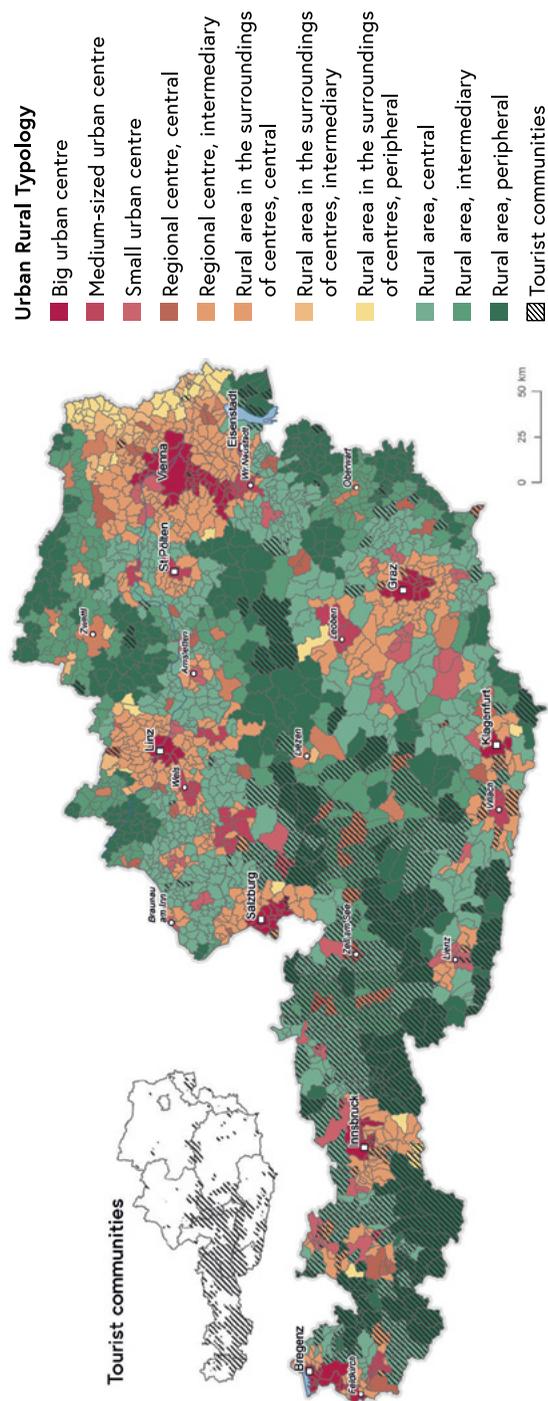
Cities with more than 100,000 inhabitants are the federal capital Vienna with 1,982 million, Graz with 298,479, Linz with 210,118, Salzburg with 156,619, Innsbruck with 131,358 and Klagenfurt on Lake Wörthersee with 104,332.

The space is divided into urban and rural areas. It has to be stated that presently there exists no standard definition for the “rural area”. The allocation to “urban” or “rural” takes place depending on 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)/and rural areas”. On the basis of the number of inhabitants and the accessibility into central/intermediate/peripheral, the subdivision into another 11 classes takes place. In addition to that municipalities with above-average tourism have been identified.

The European Commission’s spatial typologies are the “Urban-Rural-Typology” as well as the “Degree of Urbanisation”. The “Urban-Rural-Typology” is a typology on the basis of the NUTS-3-Level, which comprises in Austria 35 NUTS-3-Regions. On the basis of the Urban-Rural-Typology, which is based on a 1 km² cell analyses of the population density, a subdivision into three categories takes place: “predominantly urban”, “intermediate” and “predominantly rural”. The “Degree of Urbanisation” classifies territorial units into “Local Administrative Units”, which correspond in Austria to the municipalities’ level. Subsequently there is a subdivision of municipal areas into 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” (see meine-regionen.at) the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Water Management deals with the big challenges of regions and sets priorities on strengthening the regional economy and innovative power, safeguarding the regional services of general public interest, as well as on the reduction of land consumption.

3. Urban Rural Typology including tourism criterion 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 the greenfield sites”.

Negative effects, such as the desolation of town centres, urban sprawl, vacant apartments and unexploited business premises in town centres are increasing. Dispersed settlements render the infrastructural costs of communities more expensive, as longer distances increase the costs of maintenance and further development. In particular in conurbation areas and in regions with a low supply of permanent settlement space, building land is soon getting more expensive due to the great demand.

Increasing soil consumption is predominantly to the detriment of agricultural areas. Due to the conversion of agricultural land, which goes at 40 % hand in hand with soil sealing with asphalt or concrete, there will be an irreversible loss of naturally grown soils for food, feed and seeds 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 soil constitutes thus the basic framework for a sustainable development of regions and offers at the same time the opportunity for safeguarding crisis-proof living environments worth living in.

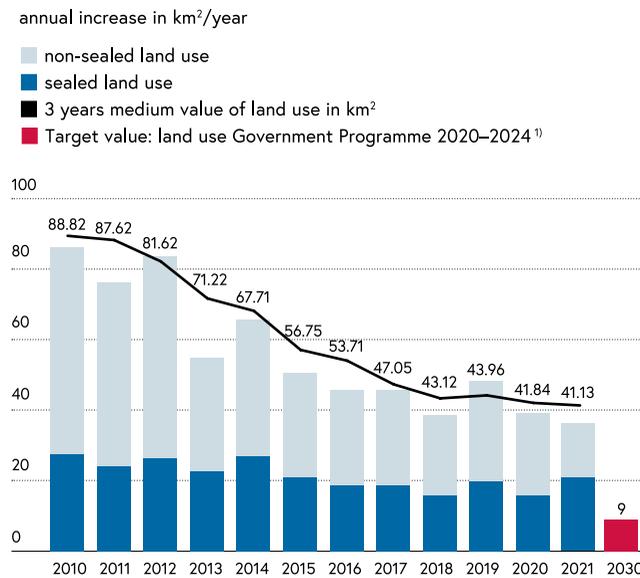
The task of soil protection requires a great number of actors at federal, provincial regional, municipal and city levels, and can only be successful by means of the support of all, and with a coordinated and integrated approach. The Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Water Management (BML) takes care of this coordinating task, within the framework of the priority issue “reduction of land consumption/soil protection”, and implements spatial planning measures within its sphere of competence. Examples for this commitment are the studies commissioned by the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Water Management “Soil consumption in Austria” and “Land consumption by compensatory measures”. The Austrian Soil Protection Strategy, which is currently being worked out, draws on

them and will demonstrate a strategy for a joint and implementation-oriented approach.

In the years 2019–2021 land consumption amounted to 41.84 km² (on an average over three years). The concrete goal is to reduce the annual increase to 2.5 ha net per day and/or 9 km² per year by 2030.

In coordination with the Austrian Conference on Spatial Planning the Environment Agency Austria is currently developing a new method in order to be able to represent the land use in Austria in a more detailed and precise way. The consideration of additional databases will enable a higher level of detailing and topicality of the soil figures.

4. Land use in Austria



1) The goal according to the Government Programme 2020–2024 is to reduce the annual increase to 2.5 ha per day and/or to 9 km² per year by 2030.
Source: © Federal Environment Agency, 2023.

5. The Austrian ERDF/IGJ Programme

The European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) supports the goal “Investments in Growth and Jobs 2014–2020 (IGJ)”. Within the framework of this goal a total of 694 million euros are 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 crisis (REACT-EU).

ERDF/IGJ funding is granted in combination with both private and national public funding of the Federal Government and the Federal Provinces. The total investment volume approved so far amounts to about 3.3 billion euros. By the middle of June 2023 a total of 1,872 projects with an ERDF volume of 635,2 million euros were approved. The ERDF/IGJ funds are allocated to the programme priorities and/or fields of measures mentioned in the table.

For the purposes of thematic concentration the IGJ/ERDF-Programme in Austria focuses its investments on the promotion of research, technological development and innovation, SMEs, and the reduction of CO₂ emissions in all sectors 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” (meaning ‘the path towards becoming an innovation leader’) or the regional innovation strategies of the Federal Provinces.

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

5. EFRD¹⁾/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 % from the plan	national public financing in million €
1 IGJ²⁾ EFRD¹⁾ Austria 2014–2020	694.0	3,299.9	635.2	92	257.9
1A P1–Strengthening the regional competitiveness by means of research, technological development and innovation	195.9	755.3	188.4	96	91.9
1B P2–Strengthening the regional competitiveness of small and medium-sized enterprises	172.3	1,328.6	162.2	94	52.4
1C P3–Promotion of the reduction of CO ₂ emissions in all branches of the economy	99.4	277.8	85.2	86	15.1
1D P4–Sustainable urban development	34.3	72.2	31.2	91	40.6
1E P5–Urban-Surrounding-Development & Local Development Strategies/CLLD ³⁾	16.8	36.3	15.9	95	16.8
1F P6–Technical assistance	17.6	35.2	17.6	100	17.6
1G P7–REACT-EU ⁴⁾	157.7	794.5	134.7	85	23.4

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 crisis

Source: ATMOS II Monitoring System, as of: 20 June 2023.

6. Programme IfJG ERDF/JTF Austria 2021–2027

The Programme “Investments in Jobs, 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 597.4 million euro are available from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and from the Just Transition Fund–JTF.

The Programme aims at supporting a sustainable growth of the economy supporting both goals productivity increase as well as resource saving and decarbonisation at the same time. The improvement of the quality of life of people constitutes another objective of the Programme.

The Programme contains 4 priority axes, including 10 measures addressing the political goals aimed at by the EU “a smarter Europe”, “a greener Europe” and “a Europe closer to the citizens”.

Priorities and allocation of funds to the programme priorities

- P1: **Innovation** by further development of research, technology and innovation capacities, and competitiveness of SMEs. For this purpose, 309 million euro (59 % of the ERDF programme budget) are available.
- P2: **Sustainability**: by means of subsidising energy efficiency and GHG reduction. For this purpose 157 million euro (30 %) from the ERDF are available.
- P3: **Territorial development** by means of integrated, sustainable urban and rural development. 55 million euro (11 % of the ERDF budget) are earmarked for this priority.
- P4 **Transition to a climate-neutral economy**: 6 million euro are earmarked for this purpose from the Just Transition Fund (JTF) for those regions, which are most severely affected by the effects of the transition to a climate-neutral economy.
- Cross-cutting issues which can be subsidised within the framework of all priorities: **Digitisation** and **circular economy**.

For more detailed information, see www.efre.gv.at.

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

Planned data in million €

Programme priorities	Financial plan				
	EU funds in million €	Fund	National public funds in million €	Own funds, project manager in million €	Total in million €
1 IGJ ¹⁾ -ERDF ²⁾ /JTF ³⁾ Austria 2021–2027	597.4		277.7	921.6	1,796.7
P1–Innovation	309.3	EFRE	136.8	560.7	1,006.8
P2–Sustainability	156.6	EFRE	68.9	260.7	486.2
P3–Territorial Development	55.5	EFRE	61.3	22.0	138.7
P4–Transition	76.0	JTF	10.8	78.1	165.0

1) IGJ = Investment for Growth and Jobs

2) ERDF = European Regional Development Fund

3) JTF = Just Transition Fund

Source: Financial table Programme, as of: 28 June 2023.

7./8. The Austrian ETC Programme

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

In the period of the European Structural and Investment Fund 2014–2020 Austria was participating within the framework of the objective ETC in a total of seven “cross-border” programmes, three “trans-national” programmes as well as in EU-wide network programmes.

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

Planned data and authorisations in million €²⁾

ETC Programme Programming Period	Financial plan										Authorisations ²⁾			
	Austrian Federal Provinces		Programme funds total in million €		ERDF ³⁾ funds total in million €		ERDF ³⁾ funds in million €		ERDF ³⁾ funds in % of the plan		Projects Number			
	21–27 ⁴⁾	14–20 ⁴⁾	21–27	14–20	21–27	14–20	21–27	14–20	21–27	14–20	21–27	14–20	21–27	
Austria-Bavaria (AT-BAY)	76,9	64,3	61,5	54,5	60,2	15,0	111	111	111	25	87	47		
Alpenrhein-Bodensee-Hochrhein (ABH)	68,0	56,6	47,6	39,6	38,4	18,4	97	97	97	48	103	23		
Austria-Czech Republic (AT-CZ)	108,5	115,1	86,8	97,8	96,8	-	99	99	99	-	100	-		
Austria-Hungary (AT-HU)	62,0	95,9	49,6	78,8	80,2	-	102	102	102	-	65	-		
Slovak Republic-Austria (SK-AT)	69,4	89,3	55,5	75,9	78,1	-	103	103	103	-	53	-		
Italy-Austria (IT-AT)	91,3	96,8	73,1	82,2	87,4	-	106	106	106	-	189	-		
Slovenia-Austria (SI-AT)	57,3	57,2	45,8	48,0	50,0	-	104	104	104	-	59	-		

1) ETC = European Territorial Cooperation

2) Including small projects. 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 that these financial inflows can be used for the new projects.

3) ERDF = European Regional Development Fund

4) 2021–2027 respectively 2014–2020

Source: Programme Monitoring Systems, as of: 31 May 2023.

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

Programme Programming Period	Financial plan										Participations from Austria			
	Programme funds total in million €		ERDF ²⁾ funds total in million €		ERDF ²⁾ funds for projects approved in % of the plan ⁴⁾		Number of projects with Austrian participation ⁵⁾		Number of Austrian project partners ⁵⁾		of which: number of Lead Partners			
	21–27 ³⁾	14–20 ³⁾	21–27	14–20	21–27	14–20	21–27	14–20	21–27	14–20	21–27	14–20	21–27	
Alpine region	143	140	99	110	30,6	113	31	103	21	64	39	137	2	10
Central Europe	281	299	208	232	99,5	236	48	102	41	89	60	141	0	14
Danube transnational	269	275	199	190	13	197	6	104	4	106	6	183	4	34
Interreg Europe	474	426	351	338	104	345	30	102	4	22	4	24	1	4
URBACT III + IV	108	96	79	70	n.a.	73	n.a.	105	0	2	0	2	0	0
Total	1,275	1,236	936	939	247,1	964	115	519	70	283	109	487	7	62

1) ETC = European Territorial Cooperation

2) ERDF = European Regional Development Fund

3) 2021–2027 respectively 2014–2020

4) 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 the financial inflows can be used for the new projects.

5) Including multiple participation.

n.a. = currently not available

Sources: Programme Monitoring Systems; Survey National Contact Point, as of: July 2023.

9./10. LEADER in Austria

LEADER is a programme of measures of the European Union, which promotes innovative actions in rural areas. The programme is funded by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD). It serves to support the regions in their independent development. The local population is actively involved in this context.

In 2015, 77 regions were recognized as LEADER regions in Austria. For this purpose, every region has worked out a comprehensive Local Development Strategy (LDS). The implementation of the Local Development Strategy falls within the responsibility of the Local Action Group (LAG). It is composed of representatives of local public institutions, private groups as well as of private persons. In every LEADER region a separate management supports the implementation of the LDS. An overview of about 1,000 projects of the period LE 14–20 and a selection of the projects of the period LE 07–13 are available in the project database of the network Zukunftsraum Land at zukunftsraumland.at/projekte.

Outlook: In July 2023 the new period within the framework of the Austrian CAP Strategic Plan 2023–2027 started with then 83 already recognised Local Action Groups (LAGs).

9. LEADER in Austria

Programme LE 2014–2020¹⁾

Funds earmarked in the Programme LE 14–20 (80 % EAFRD²⁾ 20 % national Federal Government/Federal Provinces)	€ 329.4 million
Local Action groups (LAG)	77
Area covered	75,904 km ²
Share of rural areas³⁾	91 %
Population covered	4.7 million
Share of the population in rural areas	81 %

LEADER in the period from June 2015 to June 2023

Programme LE 2014–2020¹⁾, in Austria

Authorised projects	5,415
Authorised amount of funding	€ 300.2 million
Paid subsidies	€ 271.2 million

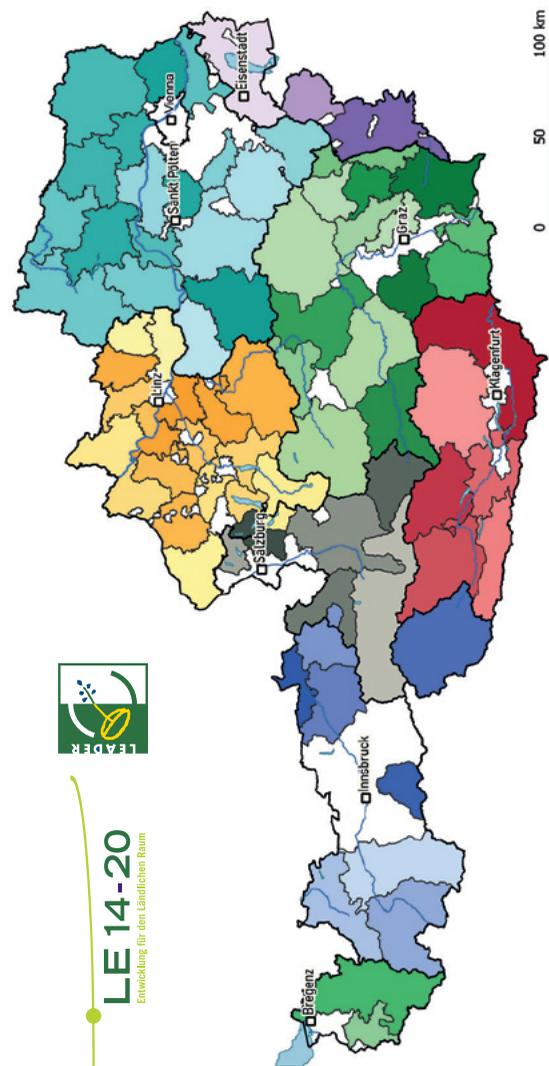
1) LE 14–20 = Austrian Rural Development Programme 2014–2020. The programming period has been extended until 2022 within the framework of the Common Agricultural Policy of the EU with a respective increase in funds.

2) EAFRD = European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development

3) Definition of "Rural Area" according to the Austrian Rural Development Programme LE 14–20

Source: Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Water Management, as of: 9 June 2023.

10. LEADER Regions in Austria



High-quality agriculture

Domestic 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. 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.

An agricultural policy focus already lies on the programming period of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) 2021–2027. With the so-called Strategic Plans, the European Commission pursues a new, innovative approach. Each EU Member State has to draw 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.

The Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Water Management (BML) is presently preparing the national CAP Strategic Plan for the 2023–2027 period and endeavours to ensure stable, reliable framework conditions for family farms. The focus is to be on climate measures as well as on sustainable, diverse agricultural and forestry practices and on vital rural areas.

Farm Structure Survey 2020

Every ten years the EU Member States have to conduct a complete Farm Structure Survey (agricultural census). The results of Austria's 2020 Farm Structure Survey indicate that family farms, which account for 93 % of all farms, remain the backbone of Austria's agriculture and forestry.

Key results of the Farm Structure Survey 2020

- In 2020, Austria featured 154,953 agricultural and forestry holdings. Over the past decade, the number of holdings declined by 11 %.
- In 2020, 420,018 persons worked in the agricultural and forestry holdings.
- Marked plus for organic farming: 24,809 holdings or 22.4 % managed their farms according to organic farming principles. In 2010, 15.1 % did so.
- The number of farms managed by women increased slightly: 35 % of the agricultural and forestry holdings are "female"; in 2010, the share was 34 %.
- 93 % are family farms: 4 out of 5 persons working on farms are family members.
- 35 % were run as full-time farms, 57 % were part-time farms.
- With 49 %, land use is marked by forestry. Agricultural utilisations account for 38 % of Austria's land.
- Agricultural and forestry holdings are small-structured. The trend towards slightly larger holdings continued. The average utilised agricultural area (arable land, permanent crops, permanent grassland) increased from 18.8 ha in 2010 to 23.6 ha in 2020.
- Animal husbandry has a small-scale structure in comparison to the international level. 82,001 holdings held farmed animals. On average, 34 head of cattle, 112 pigs, 33 sheep and 12 goats were kept per holding.

Detailed results of the Austrian Farm Structure Survey 2020 are available at statistik.at, EU-wide results at ec.europa.eu/eurostat.

1. 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 aids are added.

In Austria, the real agricultural factor income per worker increased by a little more than a quarter (+25.5 %) in 2022, after an increase by 6.3 % in the year before. The substantial income plus was mainly due to the continued decrease in the agricultural labour input (-0.6 %). In a comparison with the year before, the factor income generated in the agricultural industry changed (in nominal terms: +31.6 %; in real terms: +25.5 %). The main reason behind the growth of the factor income compared to 2021 was the increase in the output of the agricultural sector.

With approximately 10.4 billion euros, the total output of Austria's agricultural industry is presumably 22.8 % above the level of the previous year, which is mainly due to the significant growth of the value of plant production (+22.0 %). The output of several groups of plant products, such as cereals, oilseeds and protein plants as well as fruit, increased. For potato growing, the output remained the same, however. The value of animal production increased significantly as well (+19.6 %). In livestock production (916 million euros), a plus of +10.8 % was recorded and in pig keeping, the increase in the production value amounted to +15.1 % or 117 million euros.

The expenditure of domestic agriculture for intermediate inputs was estimated to amount to approximately 6.1 billion euros (+23,2 %), the depreciation for fixed assets to about 2.3 billion euros (+13.4 %). 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 1.7 billion euros (+14.3 %).

1. Factor income of the agricultural industry in 2022 ¹⁾

in Austria			
Results of the Economic Accounts for Agriculture (EEA)	2021 in mio. €	2022 in mio. €	Change 2022/21 in %
Crop output at basic prices	4,051	5,102	22.0
Cereals ²⁾	1,148	1,583	37.9
Oilseeds and industrial crops ³⁾	435	562	29.3
Products from vegetable growing and horticulture ⁴⁾	807	878	8.8
Fruit incl. grapes	335	415	23.9
Wine	636	687	8.0
Other plant products ⁵⁾	690	977	48.3
Animal output at basic prices	3,718	4,447	19.6
Animals	1,888	2,094	10.9
Cattle	826	916	10.8
Pigs	774	891	15.1
Poultry	222	217	-2.2
Other animals ⁶⁾	66	71	6.2
Animal products	1,829	2,353	28.6
Milk	1,470	1,904	29.5
Eggs	313	399	27.5
Other animal products ⁷⁾	46	50	7.9
Agricultural services and inseparable non-agricultural secondary activities	846	866	17.7
Agricultural services	348	415	19.4
Inseparable non-agricultural secondary activities	498	580	16.5
Value of agricultural production at basic prices	8,086	10,545	22.8
less intermediate inputs	4,933	6,078	23.2
Gross value added at basic prices	3,651	4,467	22.3
less depreciations	2,070	2,352	13.6
Net value added at basic prices	1,581	2,114	33.7
less other levies on production	291	203	-30.1
plus other subsidies	1,507	1,723	14.4
Factor income of the agricultural industry	2,797	3,634	29.9

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: June 2023, Reporting year 2022 according to the second preliminary estimate. Federal Institute of Agricultural Economics, Rural and Mountain Research, calculation of subsidies and taxes on products.

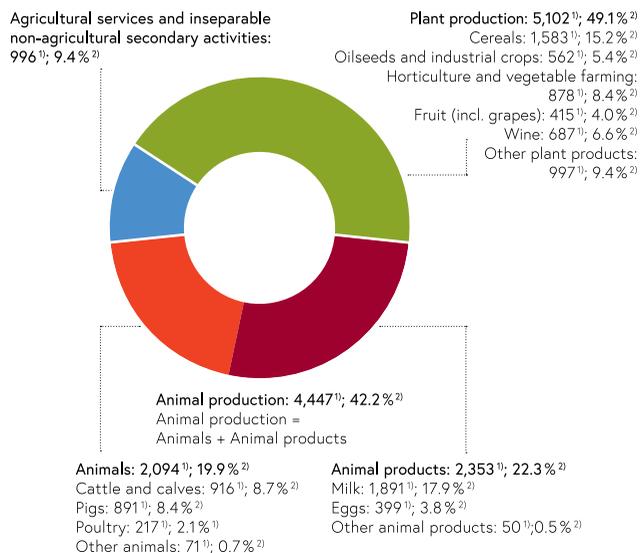
2. Output of agricultural activity

With roughly 10.5 billion euros, the total output of Austria's agricultural industry is 22.8 % above the level of 2021, which is mainly due to the extremely strong growth of the value of plant production (+22,0 %). The output of all groups of plant products, incl. cereals, oilseeds and protein plants, but also vegetables and fruit, increased. A marked increase in the output was recorded for sugar beat (+75.1 %), fodder plants (+53.7 %) and potatoes (17.1 %). The output of animal production increased substantially as well (+19.6 %): Cattle production showed a plus of +10.9 %; for pig keeping the output reached 891 million euros (+15.1 %).

The expenditure for intermediate inputs was estimated to amount to approximately 6.1 bn euros (+23.2 %), the depreciation for fixed assets to about 2.4 bn euros (+13.6 %). According to first, 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 1.7 bn euros (+14.3 %).

2. Output of agricultural activity in 2022

in million €, at basic prices, in Austria (total: 10,545 mio. € = 100 %)



1) in million €
2) in % of the total output
Source: © STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Economic Accounts for Agriculture, as of: June 2023.

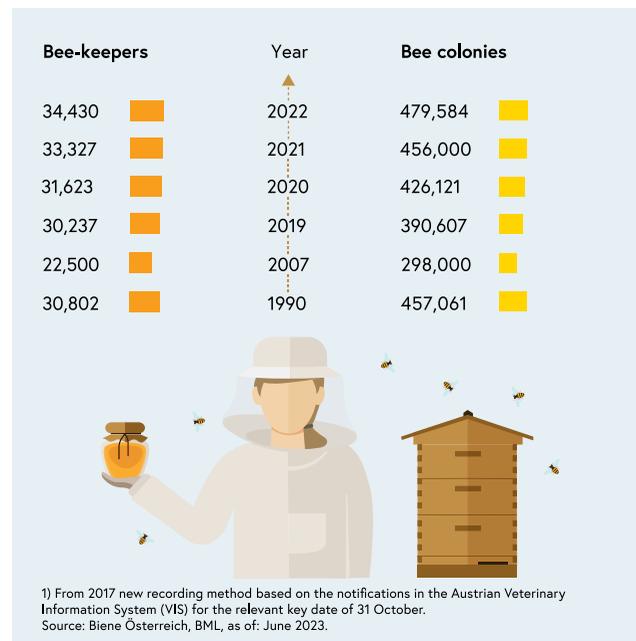
3. Beekeeping in Austria

The number of apiaries and bee colonies continued to rise in Austria in 2022. According to notifications to the Austrian Veterinary Information System (VIS) 34,430 bee-keepers with roughly 480,000 bee colonies ensured the pollination of agricultural crops and wild plants in Austria. About 30 % of the entire human nutrition is derived from plants that are pollinated by bees. Without bees and other pollinating insects, the range of foods available to us would be severely limited.

With an average number of 14 bee colonies per establishment, the beekeeping sector is small-structured in Austria. Only few professional apiarists keep more than 150 bee colonies. About 99 % of all bee-keepers are part-time and spare-time apiarists. Their umbrella organisation is the association "Biene Österreich".

A bee colony consists of 20,000 to 50,000 bees and produces 20 to 25 kg honey per year. The domestic honey production covers approx. 44 % of Austria's demand. The annual per capita consumption amounts to 1 kg.

3. Beekeeping in Austria¹⁾



4. Agricultural and forestry holdings

According to the Farm Structure Survey (FSS) exactly 154,953 agricultural and forestry holdings were registered in Austria in 2020—about 11 % less than in 2010. 44,444 holdings, or 29 %, manage exclusively forest area. The utilised agricultural area (UAA) per holding has doubled in the course of the past 60 years, but Austria's agriculture continues to be small-structured (FSS 2020): 44.9 ha per holding total area, 23.6 ha UAA per holding and 19.3 ha arable land per holding.

In 2020, Austrian farms managed 2.7 million ha (–36 %) of utilised agricultural area—about one third of the federal territory—as well as 3.4 million hectares of woodland, which corresponds to 47 % of the federal territory. 1.2 million ha (16 % of the federal territory) accounted 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. Marginal land was afforested or turned into forests and land close to residential areas was sealed. 78 % of the agricultural and forestry holdings are located in less-favoured areas.

4. Agricultural and forestry holdings in Austria 1951–2020¹⁾

CA = Cultivated area, UAA = Utilised agricultural area, TA = Total area of holding

Year	Number of holdings	Total area (ha)	Average size of farms in terms of				
			CA (ha)	UAA (ha)	TA (ha)	CA (ha)	UAA (ha)
1951	432,848	8,135,744	7,068,862	4,080,266	18.8	16.3	9.6
1960	402,286	8,305,565	7,193,636	4,051,911	20.6	17.9	10.4
1970	367,738	7,727,379	6,757,443	3,696,453	21.0	18.4	10.5
1980	318,085	7,650,959	6,546,245	3,509,987	24.1	21.2	12.0
1990	281,910	7,554,815	6,761,005	3,521,570	26.8	24.3	12.6
1995	239,099	7,531,205	6,686,268	3,426,873	31.5	28.2	15.3
1999	217,508	7,518,615	6,650,206	3,389,905	34.9	30.9	16.8
2010	173,317	7,347,536	6,285,645	2,879,895	42.6	36.4	18.8
2020	154,593	6,940,893	6,016,272	2,602,666	44.9	38.9	23.6

1) Minimum farm size considered: Up to 1970: 0.5 ha total area, from 1971 to 1990 minimum farm size 1 ha total area; since 1995 minimum farm size 1 ha UAA or 3 ha of forest area.
Source: © STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Farm Structure Surveys.

5. Agricultural holdings by type of gainful activity

In 2020, 93 % of the 154,953 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. 36 % of the soleholder farms were managed on a full-time basis, 57 % of the holdings were operated by part-time farmers.

56,000, or about one quarter, of the 245,000 full-time farms recorded in 1960 were still active in 2020. Many of the then full-time farmers took the opportunity to practice also non-agricultural activities and shifted to part-time farming in the course of that period.

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

5. Agricultural holdings by type of gainful activity 1960–2020

in Austria

Year	Full-time farms	Part-time farms	Group farms	Holdings	Total
				held by legal entities	number of holdings
1960	245,327	144,884		12,075	402,286
1970	214,844	141,177		11,717	367,738
1980	133,787	173,870		10,428	318,085
1990	106,511	166,206		9,193	281,910
1999	80,215	129,495		7,798	217,508
2010	66,802	93,895	5,570	7,050	173,317
2020	55,875	88,433	4,135	6,510	154,953

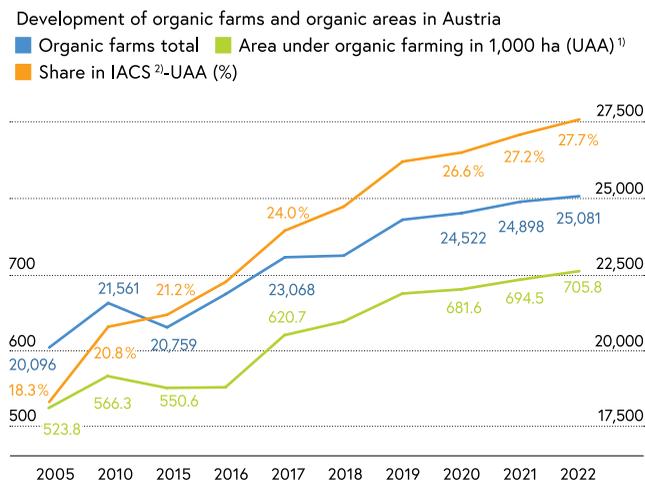
Source: © STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Farm Structure Surveys.

6. Organic farms

An encouraging trend has been observed in organic farming in Austria: Both the number of holdings and the areas under organic farming are constantly rising. A little more than 25,100 holdings are run according to the principles of organic farming. They cultivate already more than about 706,000 ha.

Since 2005, the area under organic farming has increased by about one third. The share of area under organic farming accounts for more than a quarter of the total agricultural area already. This makes Austria Europe's organic farming country number 1.

6. Subsidised organic farms in Austria 2005–2022



1) UAA = Utilised agricultural area
2) IACS = Integrated Administration and Control System
Source: BML, Dir. II/1, as of: June 2023.

7. Holdings facing natural constraints

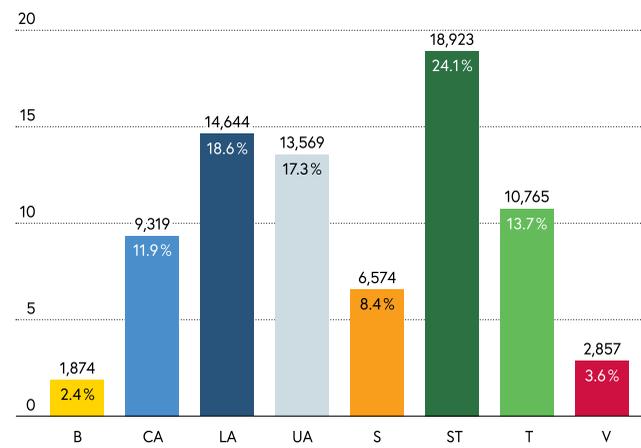
In 2022, 78,525 farms received compensatory allowances (CA) for nature-related handicaps within the framework of rural development, a total amount of 252.14 million euros. The number of CA holdings was highest in Styria (18,923), followed by Lower Austria (14,644), Upper Austria (13,569), Tyrol (10,765) and Carinthia (9,319).

In the context of the reorientation of the EU's Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) for the 2021–2027 period, the CA 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.

7. CA farms by Federal Provinces 2022

in Austria: 78,525 CA farms = 100 %



1) CA = Compensatory allowance for areas facing natural constraints
Source: BML, as of: July 2023.

8. Alpine pastures and mountain grazing in Austria

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 the alpine farmers. Even today, alpine farming is a particularly labour-intensive form of agriculture. It is currently facing major challenges such as climate change, clashes between grazing livestock and recreationists, and the return of large predators. Support for alpine pasturing is a central pillar of the national CAP Strategic Plan for the funding period 2023–2027.

In 2022, 7,998 alpine pastures with an alpine forage area of roughly 305,600 ha were managed. The number of shepherd pastures remained about the same compared to 2021. In 2022, 7,195 shepherds guarded the alpine cattle on 4,807 shepherd pastures. Shepherding is most commonly practised in Vorarlberg and Tyrol.

About 259,400 LU from 24,060 farms were brought to alpine pastures. With 300,038 head of cattle, 50,088 head of dairy cows and 13,658 head of goats, the numbers of animals kept on alpine pastures remained the same compared to 2021. Horses and small horses showed a positive development with 10,447 head (+2.9 %). In contrast, the number of sheep brought to alpine pastures has, with 107,169 head, decreased by 1.9 % compared to 2021.

With 27 % the share of animals kept on alpine pastures was highest among sheep in Austria; 16 % of the cattle and 9 % of the dairy cows were brought to alpine pastures. Of the horses and small horses recorded in IACS, 16 % spent the summer on alpine pastures; for goats it was almost 14 %. The three Federal Provinces with the highest shares of animals brought to alpine pastures were Tyrol, Vorarlberg and Salzburg.

The information website “Miteinander sicher auf Österreichs Almen” (meaning: “Safe together on Austria’s alpine pastures”) at sichere-almen.at aims to avoid conflicts of tourism and recreational sports with grazing livestock and shows 10 rules for the proper handling of grazing livestock.

8. Alpine pastures and mountain-grazing in Austria 2022

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⁾	3,678	574	624	4,282	3,540	9,111	2,246	24,060
Managed alpine pastures	1,790	74	183	1,736	1,636	2,060	519	7,998
Alpine pastures with shepherds	533	49	99	1,033	793	1,794	506	4,807
Staff for shepherding	643	68	123	1,428	922	3,020	991	7,195
Alpine forage areas on alpine pastures (in ha)								
Alpine forage areas	49,362	3,418	3,900	64,452	34,355	118,607	31,504	305,599
Animals kept on alpine pastures (in LU and head)								
Livestock units (LU) kept on alpine pastures	37,629	3,667	3,665	57,092	32,544	96,511	28,271	259,379
Horses and small horses	1,725	19	82	3,264	963	3,432	962	10,447
Cattle (total)	42,920	4,804	4,669	65,453	41,222	106,300	34,670	300,038
of which dairy cows	1,095	5	29	8,536	750	31,400	8,273	50,088
Sheep	14,210		906	17,971	5,886	63,228	4,968	107,169
Goats	1,362		81	2,832	395	7,206	1,782	13,658

1) Burgenland had four holdings with mountain-grazing, Vienna one. Sources: BM/LRT, BML, ANMA, IACS data. As of: June 2023.

9. 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.

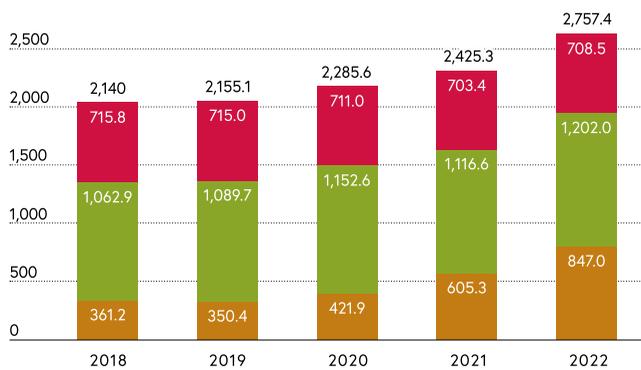
The budget includes three sectors: Market organisation expenses, rural development and other measures. In 2022, financial support totalled approximately 2,757.4 million euros. Of the payments for agriculture and forestry in the measure year 2022, the market organisation measures (Pillar 1 of the CAP) accounted for around a quarter of the payments (708.5 million euros); the largest share related to Rural Development (Pillar 2 of the CAP) with 1,202.0 million euros or 44 %. The remaining measures increased by 40 %, thus reaching 847 million euros. Taking everything into account, the funding pot increased by almost 14 %.

9. Payments for agriculture and forestry by year of measures 2018–2022

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: BML, IACS data and statements of accounts of the Federal Government and the Provinces. As of: June 2023.

10. Payments for agriculture and forestry–Rural development

Payments for rural development are financed from EU, federal and provincial funds. In 2022 almost 1,202 million € (of which 639 million € of EU funds) were granted to about 102,300 holdings and about 2,050 other enterprises, institutes or persons. The expenses for rural development account for about 44 % of the 2022 agricultural budget.

Of this, about 478.5 million € (40 %) accounted for the agri-environmental measures (ÖPUL), 252 million € (21 %) for the compensatory allowance for areas facing natural constraints, 175 million € (15 %) for investment support, 104 million € (8.7 %) for basic services and village renewal, and 192 million € (16 %) for other RD 2014–2020 measures (Austrian Rural Development Programme 2014–2020), the technical assistance and the national network.

10. Payments for agriculture and forestry–Rural development 2019–2022

2nd Pillar of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP); in million €, in Austria

Important selected support measures	2019	2020	2021	2022
Knowledge transfer and information	11.49	12.39	11.42	10.71
Advisory services	5.04	3.54	6.07	5.39
Quality scheme	19.74	24.18	24.38	24.77
Material investments	141.71	165.29	135.44	175.11
Development of farms and enterprises	29.24	28.83	28.46	34.87
Basic services and village renewal	73.11	101.67	101.36	104.12
Investments for forests	13.99	20.89	27.37	21.17
Agri-environment and climate services (ÖPUL)	284.86	281.31	273.85	312.53
Organic farming (ÖPUL)	128.63	127.37	125.90	129.78
Natura 2000 and Water Framework Directive (ÖPUL)	1.18	1.21	1.20	1.19
Compensatory allowance for areas facing natural constraints	258.95	257.28	255.30	252.14
Animal welfare (ÖPUL)	35.30	35.95	35.61	34.98
Forest-environment and climate services	0.104	0.06	0.10	-
Cooperation	13.19	11.99	16.22	13.72
LEADER	32.47	39.51	32.86	33.55
Technical aid and national network	40.71	41.16	39.39	47.93
RD 14–20 Total	1,089.74	1,152.62	1,114.93	1,201.96

Source: BML; Green Report, as of: June 2023.

11. Agricultural production

The cereal harvest (incl. maize grains) amounted to 5.3 million tonnes in 2022 and decreased by 2.4 % 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 clear trend reversal after the cultivation low of the past years—a result of the massive expansion of the sugar beet cultivation area. The potato harvest declined by 10.8 %, however. The beet harvest declined by 10.2 %. The quantity of milk delivered to dairies increased by 2.9 % in 2022. The gross indigenous production of beef decreased by 2.0 % and the gross indigenous production of pork decreased by 4.7 %.

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.

11. Agricultural production 2020–2022

in 1,000 tonnes, in Austria

	2020	2021	2022	Change 2021/22 in %
Wheat and spelt	1,660	1,529	1,685	10.2
Rye	219	152	168	10.6
Bread cereals total	1,892	1,692	1,865	10.2
Barley	870	738	758	2.7
Oats	84	89	84	-5.3
Grain maize (incl. corn-cob-mix)	2,412	2,435	2,114	-13.2
Feed grains total	3,776	3,607	3,306	-8.4
Cereals total (incl. maize)	5,668	5,300	5,170	-2.4
Winter rape	100	86	91	5.9
Soybean	203	235	246	4.5
Potatoes	886	770	686	-10.8
Sugar beet ¹⁾	2,119	3,043	2,710	-10.2
Total cow's milk production	3,815	3,830	3,943	2.9
Dairy performance (in kg/cow and year)	7,286	7,249	7,250	0.0
Quantity of milk delivered to dairies	3,137	3,403	3,500	2.9
Cattle, gross domestic production¹⁾	205	200	196.4	-2.0
Pigs, gross domestic production¹⁾	477	481	458.1	-4.7

1) Final figures for 2022.

Source: © STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Bundesanstalt für Agrarwirtschaft und Bergbauernfragen (BAB), Agrarmarkt Austria (AMA), ZAR Annual Report, as of: May 2023.

12. Crops on arable land

In 2022, Austria featured around 1.321 million ha of arable farmland. This is a decline of arable land by 18 % compared to 1960. Compared to the previous year, 2022, the cultivation of bread grain was increased; the cultivation of oilseeds saw a plus of about 15,000 ha, which is above all due to the extension of soy cultivation, while the cultivation of root crops declined by about 5,000 ha. Set-aside areas remained about the same (roughly 49,100 ha).

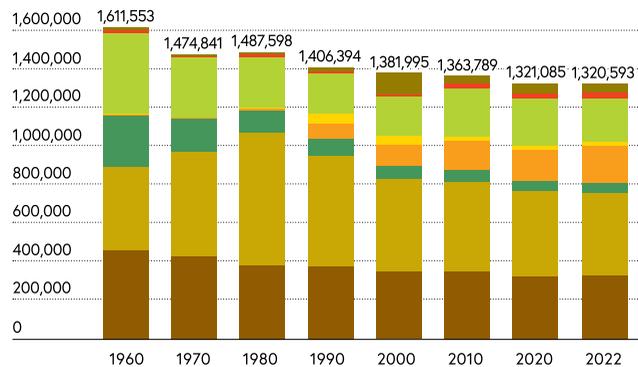
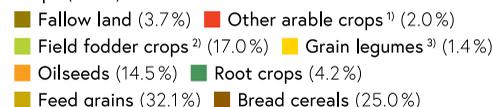
The intensified cultivation of protein crops contributes greatly to making Europe more independent of soy imports. Regional cultivation saves resources, cuts transport distances and improves soil fertility. Austria is playing a leading role in this context: Over the past few years, soybean cultivation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

12. Crops on arable land 1960–2022

Areas in hectare; 2022: Total arable land = 1,320,593 ha (100 %), in Austria

Crops (2022):



1) Not incl. fallow land.

2) Green forage

3) Protein crops

Source: © STATISTICS AUSTRIA, AMA, BML, as of: June 2023.

13. Seed production industry in Austria

Seed and planting material must meet strict requirements. In Austria, around 6,000 farmers propagate seeds of the different crops for Austrian seed companies or cooperatives on 39,427 hectares (2022). On about 21 % of the reproductive areas, certified organic seeds are grown. Austria is 100 % self-sufficient in cereal seed. The diversity of varieties is guaranteed: According to the Austrian list of varieties of 2023 about 1,246 varieties are approved in Austria.

In 2022, the seed production industry employed approx. 700 persons in around 25 companies active in plant breeding, seed production and the direct sale of seed. Plant breeding and seed production are a central sector of Austrian agriculture.

Seed is subject to stringent national and international regulations. The Federal Office for Food Safety (baes.gv.at) in AGES implements the laws concerning seed quality assurance. Variety approval is subject to testing.

Saatgut Austria is the representation of interest of the seed industry. The BML and the Federal Provinces promote a project of Saatgut Austria and AGES which aims at healthy and climate-fit varieties.

13. Seed production—Field certification areas of major crops 2019–2022

in hectares, in Austria					
Crops	2019	2020	2021	2022	Change 2022/21 in %
Cereals (incl. maize)	28,619	28,156	27,054	26,517	-2.0
Root crops	1,987	1,970	1,963	1,878	-4.3
Grasses	578	789	879	819	-6.8
Small-seeded legumes	660	773	609	473	-22.3
Medium-/ Large-seeded legumes	5,904	6,057	6,426	7,680	19.5
Oil and fibre crops	1,541	2,305	2,164	1,984	-8.3
Other forage crops	37	10	189	76	-59.8
Field certification areas	39,326	40,060	39,284	39,427	0.4

Source: Federal Office for Food Safety (Bundesamt für Ernährungssicherheit, BAES). Green Report 2022. As of: July 2023.

14. Cereal supply in Austria

In the business year 2021/22, Austria's agricultural industry produced around 5.3 million tonnes of cereals (including grain maize). About 6.06 million tonnes thereof were used domestically, of which 2.90 million tonnes as animal feed, 0.10 million tonnes as seed and 1.80 million tonnes in the industry. The per capita consumption amounted to 93 kg.

The degree of self-sufficiency for cereals reached 87 %. For rye, the degree of self-sufficiency was 90 %, for durum wheat and common wheat 101 %. The total area under cereals was 754,000 hectares in 2022.

14. Supply balance sheet for cereals 2021/22

in tonnes, in Austria

Balance sheet item	Durum wheat and common wheat	Rye	Barley, oats, grain maize	Other cereals	Cereals total ³⁾
Production	1,528,989	151,562	1,680,551	73,377	5,299,593
Opening stocks	276,540	55,536	332,076	3,584	823,239
Final stocks	345,535	33,670	379,205	2,930	873,974
Import ¹⁾	1,575,891	18,862	1,594,753	26,275	3,273,820
Export ¹⁾	1,258,696	23,945	1,282,642	24,170	2,461,743
Domestic use	1,777,189	168,344	1,945,534	76,137	6,060,935
Feed	466,537	58,847	525,384	56,013	2,898,451
Seed	53,181	5,165	58,345	226	102,676
Industrial use	497,594	2,382	499,975	-	1,805,402
Losses	39,354	4,427	43,781	2,667	156,860
Food consumption (gross)	720,524	97,524	818,048	17,230	1,097,546
Food consumption (net) ²⁾	580,235	76,068	656,304	12,923	836,462
Per capita in kg	64.52	8.5	72.98	1.4	93.0
Degree of self-sufficiency in %	101	90	89	96	87

1) Including processed products (in cereal equivalent).

2) Flour meal equivalent or nutrient.

3) Including triticale and mixed grain.

Source: © STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Supply balance sheets. As of: June 2023.

15. Wine, fruit and vegetable production

In 2022, 2.77 million hl of wine were produced –4.7 % less than in 2021. For red wine, the quantity harvested increased by 7.2 %. White wine saw a decrease of 1.6 %, thus reaching 1.7 hl. 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 %). One third of the vineyards is stocked with red-wine varieties. The top three are Zweigelt (42 %), Blaufränkisch (19 %) and Blauer Portugieser (8 %).

With 237,200 t—slightly more than a quarter above the preceding year (188,200 t)—the fruit production of 2022 was particularly good. Pome fruit production increased to 202,500 t (+26.5 %), stone fruit production saw an enormous increase as well and reached 11,100 t (+27.5 %); furthermore, soft fruit production increased extraordinarily—by one fifth—and reached 23,100 t. The total production of field and garden vegetables amounted to 674,300 t in 2022 (–0.1 %) and remained almost unchanged compared to 2021. The area planted with vegetables was 18,482 ha in 2022, a small reduction by 260 ha (–1.4 %).

15. Wine, fruit and vegetable production 2021–2022

in Austria	2021	2022	Change 2021/22 in %
Wine production ¹⁾			
Wine production in total (1,000 hl)	2,460	2,484	1.0
Yield (hl/ha) ²⁾	57.4	59.0	2.8
White wine production (1,000 hl)	1,730	1,702	-1.62
Red wine and rosé wine production (1,000 hl)	730	782	7.2
Wine stock (1,000 hl)	2,904	2,769	-4.7
Fruit production of commercial fruit plantations			
Total fruit production of commercial fruit plantations ³⁾ (1,000 t)	188.2	237.2	26.1
Pome fruit production (1,000 t)	159.9	202.5	26.6
Stone fruit production (1,000 t)	8.7	11.1	27.5
Soft fruit production (1,000 t)	19.4	23.1	19.2
Production of vegetables			
Vegetable production (1,000 t)	675.0	674.3	-0.1
Area under vegetables (1,000 ha)	18.7	18.5	-1.4

1) Wine production as per 30 November.

2) Due to changes in the data basis for the wine areas, these are not comparable with the years before. Until 2020: Wine production reports of the BMLRT; as from 2021: IACS (evaluation of the multiple applications of Agrarmarkt Austria).

3) Total amount always without aronia and elderberry.
Source: © STATISTICS AUSTRIA, June 2023.

16. Production of food fish

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, such as fish, crayfish or prawns, with the objective of increasing production beyond the degree possible under natural conditions by means of suitable techniques. In 2021, 542 aquaculture enterprises produced 4,920 tonnes of food fish in Austria (+8.7 % compared to 2020).

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

16. Production of food fish 2020–2021

Fish species	Total production in kg live weight		Change 2020/21	
	2020	2021	absolute	in %
Rainbow trout, salmon trout	1,523,542	1,735,662	212,120	13.9
Brown trout, lake trout	484,134	503,397	19,263	4.0
Brook trout	617,286	685,393	68,107	11.0
Arctic char	268,713	280,732	12,019	4.5
Alsatian char	365,233	394,340	29,107	8.0
Danube salmon	9,310	8,243	-1,067	-11.5
Common carp	620,555	616,703	-3,852	-0.6
Tench	6,239	5,334	-905	-14.5
Grass carp	31,894	37,654	5,760	18.1
Silver carp	14,568	11,741	-2,827	-19.4
Pike-perch	16,598	22,755	6,157	37.1
European catfish	12,355	45,869	33,514	271.3
African catfish	498,887	494,378	-4,509	-0.9
Northern pike	5,386	5,495	109	2.0
Sturgeons	12,153	13,382	1,229	10.1
Other fish species ²⁾	40,062	104,716	19,263	48.1
Total production	4,526,915	4,920,413	348,107	7.7
Number of fish farms	526	542	12	2.2

1) Meaning "ready-to-eat", under market conditions, irrespective of the actual, further use.

2) Including crayfish (456 kg) and shrimp (44,925 kg).

Source: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Aquaculture production. As of: June 2023.

17. Animal husbandry

As per 1 December 2022, 1.86 million cattle were kept in Austria. Compared to the previous year this was a reduction by 0.5 %. The number of dairy cows rose to 551,000, a plus by 4.6 %. As opposed to this, the total number of pigs fell by almost 5.0 % to 2.65 million.

In a detailed comparison, the number of piglets decreased by 2.9% to 635,800 and the number of young pigs by 6.5 % to 680,500 animals. Compared to 2021, the number of fattening pigs in the weight class 50 to under 80 kg (-3.4 % to 519,000) decreased as did the number of those weighing 80 to under 110 kg (-5.9 % to 455,300) and those weighing at least 110 kg (-3.8 % to 147,500). Among the breeding sows, the number of gilts declined by 9.0 % to 41,200 and the number of older sows by 6.5 % to 167,200. The total number of sows covered was 146,500 (-7.2 %).

In a year-on-year comparison, the number of cattle farms was down to 52,600, the number of pig farms declined to 19,200. The average stock density was 35 head of cattle, 138 pigs, 25 sheep or 10 goats per holding.

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

17. Animal husbandry 2020–2022

Animals and livestock holders, in Austria

Year	Animals (in 1,000) ¹⁾			Agricultural holdings with livestock in 1,000 ¹⁾		
	2020	2021	2022	2020	2021	2022
Cattle	1,855	1,870	1,861	55.0	53.7	52.5
of which dairy cows	525	526	551	27.1	26.2	27.0
Pigs	2,806	2,786	2,650	21.0	19.6	19.2
Sheep	394	402	401	16.0	16.4	16.2
Goats	93	101	99	10.0	10.3	10.3

1) Stocks according to livestock survey, as of 1 December each year.
Source: © STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Austrian Federal Institute of Agricultural Economics, Rural and Mountain Research, May 2023.

18. Horse husbandry in Austria

The horse industry is traditionally rooted in Austria. Horses are an important tourism and cultural factor. Equestrian sports, show jumping and trotting, are also traditionally based in Austria.

With an estimated horse population of 130,000 horses (Pferd Austria, IWI, 2019) and an overall economic effect of 2.24 billion to 2.33 billion euros, horses secure up to 24,800 jobs (19,200 FTEs). The supply of horses requires approximately 110,000 ha of land, 170,000 t of feed grain and 200,000 t of hay. These farms generate their added value through breeding, the hiring of horses and the production of special feed for the horse industry.

Agricultural horse husbandry is characterised by tradition and husbandry motives and represents an important business sector within agriculture. In 2020, 13,788 farms kept 72,798 horses. Most farms kept other farm animals in addition to horses.

Austria is a very traditional horse breeding country with the horse breeds Noriker, Haflinger, Warmblood, Shagya-Arabian and Lipizzaner. The Haflingers, which are sure-footed and can be used well in alpine terrain, are popular. The endangered Noriker breed is promoted within the framework of the agri-environmental measure ÖPUL.

The Lipizzaner breed enjoys international renown with the leading farm of the Spanish Riding School in Vienna ([srs.at](https://www.srs.at)) and the Federal Stud Piber in Styria. The classical horsemanship of the Spanish Riding School and the knowledge of Lipizzaner breeding have been included in the UNESCO list as Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

18. Horse husbandry in agricultural and forestry enterprises in 2022

in Austria

Classes	Holdings		Horses ¹⁾	
	Number	in %	Number	in %
1 to 3 horses	8,024	58.1	16,044	20.8
4 to 6 horses	2,739	19.8	12,937	16.8
7 to 20 horses	2,422	17.5	26,752	34.6
> 20 horses	637	4.6	21,436	27.8
Total	13,822	100.0	77,170	100.0

1) Including ponies and donkeys.
Sources: Green Report 2023, IACS, as of: June 2023.

19. Bovine livestock

According to the Farm Structure Survey 2020 about 82,000 (53 %) of the 154,953 holdings were engaged in livestock farming, compared to 63 % in 2010. As per 1 December 2022, around 1.86 million head of bovine animals were held in Austria. The highest numbers were recorded in Upper Austria, followed by Lower Austria and Styria. The same goes for dairy cows. The average Austrian dairy cattle farm keeps 20 dairy cows. The smallest dairy farms, with an average number of 12 dairy cows, are found in Tyrol, the biggest ones, with an average number of 36 dairy cows per farm, in Burgenland.

A comparison with the reporting date of 2021 shows: In 2022, bovine livestock declined slightly, by about 9,000 head (-0.3 %). The largest increase was recorded in Upper Austria with about 3,400 head (+0.6 %), followed by Tyrol with 402 head (+0.23 %), Lower Austria with only 122 head (+0.03 %), and Salzburg with 41 head (+0.03 %). A minus of 6,900 head was recorded for Carinthia (-4.0 %), for Styria a reduction of 5,300 head was recorded (-1.7 %), followed by Vorarlberg with a reduction by 440 head (-0.7 %). With declining cattle numbers also the number of agricultural holdings with livestock went down in all Provinces: In absolute terms by almost 300 in Upper Austria, in relative terms in Vienna with -37.5 %. On national average, the decline amounted to 2.1 %.

19. Bovine livestock in 2022

Animals and agricultural holdings with livestock by Federal Provinces as of 1 December 2022, in Austria

	Cattle (total)		Cows (total)		Suckler cows		Dairy cows	
	Animals	Keepers	Animals	Keepers	Animals	Keepers ¹⁾	Animals	Keepers
B	16,937	335	5,754	243	2,370	173	3,384	94
CA	168,876	6,230	73,137	5,647	38,367	4,496	34,770	2,033
LA	418,454	9,152	133,912	6,863	29,019	3,732	104,893	4,119
UA	553,872	11,631	196,158	8,837	24,986	4,642	171,172	6,125
S	160,983	5,650	76,126	5,048	13,912	2,777	62,214	3,567
ST	299,158	9,515	117,395	7,808	35,660	5,075	81,735	3,994
T	178,054	7,886	76,378	6,917	10,147	2,370	66,231	5,665
V	64,666	2,141	29,478	1,875	3,327	701	26,151	1,358
VIE	71	5	27	²⁾	23	²⁾	4	²⁾
A³⁾	1,861,071	52,545	708,365	43,238	157,811	23,967	550,554	26,955

1) Agricultural holdings keeping suckler cows acc. to IACS data.

2) Subject to statistical confidentiality.

3) Austria, total

Source: AMA, Rinderdatenbank 2022; Austrian Federal Institute of Agricultural Economics, Rural and Mountain Research (BAB).

20. Production of dairy products

The production of fresh milk in Austria amounted to 742,200 tonnes in 2022 (-1 %). The production of butter, which had experienced a low of 30,500 tonnes in 2005, rose to 34,400 tonnes again. Fewer cows produced more milk; with 7,250 kg the average annual dairy performance per animal remained practically unchanged. For sheep milk, the quantity of raw milk produced rose by 8.1 %, thus amounting to 11,700 t, for goat milk it declined slightly, by 1.6 %, thus reaching 26,100 t.

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 proved effective also economically. With the sheep and goats hay milk, two more Austrian “traditional specialities guaranteed” are being protected.

20. Production of dairy products 1990–2022

in 1,000 tonnes, in Austria

	Drinking milk ¹⁾	UHT milk	Sweet cream ²⁾	Sour cream ²⁾	Butter
1990	562.9	25.2	n.a.	n.a.	35.3
2000	518.6	134.1	n.a.	n.a.	35.9
2005	604.1	218.1	39.6	19.4	30.5
2010	694.1	334.3	41.2	20.4	33.2
2015	674.4	386.0	50.0	23.2	33.9
2020	753.3	429.2	45.0	25.7	38.4
2021	745.4	373.3	45.1	25.0	36.9
2022	742.2	385.1	46.9	24.5	34.4

1) Drinking milk incl. “Mischtrunk”, not incl. UHT milk.

2) Including UHT milk.

n.a. = no figures available

Source: Agrarmarkt Austria (AMA), as of: June 2023.

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 (e.g. wheat and sugar) takes into account also the most important processed products (e.g. 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 structures of agriculture and the food 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.

The self-supply rate for fruit is 41 % in Austria, that for vegetables 57 %. Measured by the per-capita consumption, the most popular fruit are apples, followed by bananas and oranges. Increasingly unpredictable weather conditions confront the agricultural industry with great challenges.

21. Supply balance sheet for major plant products, 2021/22

in Austria

	Production in 1,000 t	Domestic consumption in 1,000 t	Food consumption in 1,000 t	Human consumption per head in kg or litre	Degree of self-sufficiency in %
Cereals, total	5,300	6,061	1,098	93.0	87
Sugar ¹⁾	466		292	29.1	
Potatoes ²⁾	770	898	475	52.8	86
Oilseeds	430	862	68	7.6	50
Vegetable oils	237	385	118	13.1	33
Legumes	45	56	9	0.9	81
Honey	4.3		9.8	1.1	44
Wine (1,000 hl)	2.5		2.5	26.4	100
Beer (1,000 hl)	10.3		9.9	109.6	104
Fruit, total	366	890	669	74.3	41
Apples	241	267	140	15.6	90
Bananas	-	131	139	14.7	-
Pears	53	68	26	2.9	78
Plums	22	29	23	2.6	76
Peaches, nectarines	2	26	25	2.8	9
Oranges	-	50	48	5.4	-
Berries ³⁾	14	47	37	4.1	30
Cherries, mahaleb	12	19	14	1.6	61
Vegetables, total⁴⁾	749	1,316	1,114	123.9	57
Tomatoes	60	339	314	34.9	18
Onions	169	131	94	11	129
Carrots	118	118	88	9.8	100
Lettuces	41	46	37	4.1	90
Salad (other)	10	40	35	3.9	24
Cabbage (white and red)	41	46	41	4.6	89
Bell pepper, hot peppers	15	50	45	5.0	31
Brassica, Chinese cabbage and the like	23	33	28	3.1	69
Cucumbers (salad)	38	56	52	5.8	68
Melons	2	47	40	4.4	4
Mushrooms	3	19	18	2.0	17

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

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

3) Not including strawberries.

4) Including domestic gardens and small gardens.

Source: © STATISTICS AUSTRIA, as of: June 2023.

22. Supply balance sheet for major animal products

Austrians consume 58.9 kg of meat per year. For beef and veal as well as offal, the rate of self-supply by far exceeds 100 %. Pig meat, too, ranges with 108 % slightly above this level, whereas roughly 22 % of the poultry meat needed in Austria has to be imported.

The annual per capita consumption of drinking milk amounts to 70.1 litres with a degree of self-sufficiency of 178 %. Cheese is popular as well. On average, 22.5 kg are consumed per person and year. The degree of self-sufficiency for cheese is 100 %. For eggs, the per capita consumption is 14.6 kg eggs per year and the degree of self-sufficiency amounts to 92 %.

Per person and year, 8.0 kg fish are consumed. Being a landlocked country, the degree of self-sufficiency for fish amounts to only 7 % in Austria.

22. Supply balance sheet for major animal products in 2021

in Austria					
	Gross domestic production in 1,000 t	Domestic consumption in 1,000 t	For human consumption in 1,000 t	Human consumption per capita in kg	Degree of self-sufficiency in %
Beef and veal	204	139	93	10.4	147
Pork	471	435	306	34.2	108
Mutton and goat's meat	7	9	6	0.6	85
Horsemeat	-	-	-	-	-
Offals	66	10	3	0.3	629
Poultry meat	150	192	114	12.8	78
Miscellaneous	7	8	5	0.6	85
Meat, total	905	793	528	58.9	114
Eggs	143.8	155.7	134.6	15.0	92
Fish	5.0	71.3	71.3	8.0	7
Consumers milk	11,118.2	628.0	628.0	70.1	178
Cheese	222.4	222.1	201.7	22.5	100
Butter	37.6	52.3	48.3	5.4	72
Animal fats	130.9	132.1	55.9	6.2	99

Source: © STATISTICS AUSTRIA, supply balance sheets, as of: June 2023.

23. Farm holidays in Austria

In 2020, 9,895 agricultural enterprises offered “farm holidays” with 113,764 guest beds (approx. 11 % of the total number of tourist beds) throughout Austria. In 2020, there was a 35 % decline in overnight stays in Austrian tourism due to the COVID 19 pandemic (2019: +19 %).

In 2022, the number of overnight stays on farms in the category “Private accommodations on farms” increased by 28.5 % while the number of beds remained almost unchanged. In the category “Holiday dwellings” on farms, the number of overnight stays increased by +59.9 % with a slight decrease in the number of beds. 17.7 % of these establishments offered breakfast. 82.3 % were self-catering holiday homes.

23. Overnight stays on farms in 2022 ¹⁾

in Austria					
Federal Provinces	Overnight stays		Beds ²⁾	Holdings	
	in 1.000	Changes 2022/21 in %	Number	Number	
Category “Private accommodations on farms” ³⁾					
B	51.7	+0.2	718	83	
CA	80.1	+10.2	2,114	312	
LA	148.6	+7.7	2,415	292	
UA	111.9	+7.9	2,176	249	
S	325.7	+44.4	5,463	632	
ST	285.7	+11.8	5,172	596	
T	392.7	+59.2	6,800	845	
V	29.5	+86.2	418	53	
A total	1,425.9	+28.5	25,276	3,062	
Category “Holiday dwellings on farms”					
B	22.8	+1.5	452	58	
CA	243.3	+18.1	4,754	561	
LA	81.2	+16.8	1,791	245	
UA	165.0	+25.9	2,796	311	
S	966.8	+69.7	12,495	1,262	
ST	255.0	+34.4	4,533	597	
T	1,210.0	+74.4	14,724	1,722	
V	191.0	+64.7	2,255	276	
A total	3,135.0	+56.9	43,800	69,076	8,094

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 dwellings or houses.

Source: © STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Tourism in Austria 2022.

24. Food–Protected geographical indications and traditional speciality guaranteed

The protection of origin and of specialities for food is important. More and more people want to know where the food on their plates comes from and how it was produced. All the more important is it to offer customers clear guidance. At present, 16 Austrian products are protected by the EU quality labels “protected designation of origin” or “protected geographical indication” and three products as “traditional speciality guaranteed”.

Moreover, the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) has developed a register of the traditional foods. The objective is to identify and maintain the traditional knowledge about Austria’s culinary heritage. For more information, see traditionelle-lebensmittel.at.

24. Food–Protected Austrian designations

Product	Ind. ⁴⁾	Region
Wachauer Marille (Wachau apricot)	PDO	Wachau, LA
Tiroler Graukäse (Tyrolean grey cheese)	PDO	Tyrol
Gailtaler Almkäse (Gailtal Alpine pasture cheese)	PDO	Gail Valley, CA
Tiroler Bergkäse (Tyrolean mountain cheese)	PDO	Tyrol
Vorarlberger Alpkäse (Vorarlberg alp cheese)	PDO	Vorarlberg
Vorarlberger Bergkäse (Vorarlberg mountain cheese)	PDO	Vorarlberg
Waldviertler Graumohn (Waldviertel grey poppy seeds)	PDO	Waldviertel, LA
Tiroler Almkäse/Tiroler Alpkäse (Tyrolean Alpine pasture cheese/alp cheese)	PDO	Tyrol
Pöllauer Hirschi (Pöllauer Hirschi pear)	PDO	Pöllau Valley, ST
Steirische Käferbohne (Styrian runner bean)	PDO	Styria
Ennstaler Steirerkas (Ennstaler Steirerkas cheese)	PDO	Enns Valley, ST
Steirisches Kürbiskernöl (Styrian pumpkin seed oil)	PGI	Styria
Marchfeldspargel (Marchfeld asparagus)	PGI	Marchfeld, LA
Tiroler Speck (Tyrolean bacon)	PGI	Tyrol
Gailtaler Speck (Gailtal bacon)	PGI	Gail Valley, CA
Steirischer Kren (Styrian horseradish)	PGI	Styria
Heumilch (Hay milk)	TSG	Austria
Schaf-Heumilch (Sheep hay milk)	TSG	Austria
Ziegen-Heumilch (Goat hay milk)	TSG	Austria

1) PDO = Protected designation of origin

2) PGI = Protected geographical indication

3) TSG = Traditional speciality guaranteed

4) Indication

Source: BML, as of: 9 June 2023.

25. 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 and for one’s own account. 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 the farm-gate sale, farmers’ markets and other markets, farmers’ shops and shop in shop, delivery service and shipping, DIY harvests, supply of restaurateurs, traditional wine taverns, alpine buffets, online shops and many more.

For around 18,000 holdings, direct marketing is an important line of business. Many farms are organised in direct marketing associations. Moreover, products are sold under joint umbrella brands, such as “Gutes vom Bauernhof” (meaning: good products from farms).

25. Direct marketing shares in 2022

Quantitative shares in %, in Austria			
	Other purchasing sources	Food retail trade	Direct marketing ¹⁾
Drinking milk	3.7	80.4	15.9
Cheese	2.2	97.2	0.7
Butter, margarine	1.9	97.8	0.3
Fresh fruits	1.8	95.9	2.4
Fresh vegetables	2.3	95.0	2.8
Potatoes	2.4	90.2	7.4
Eggs	2.5	84.2	13.2
Meat incl. poultry	8.9	87.8	3.4
Sausages and ham	7.1	91.0	1.9

Rounded figures.

1) Farm-gate sale, farmers’ market, weekly market, market, delivery services.

Source: © RollAMA/ AMA Marketing, n = 2,800 Austrian households. As of: June 2023.

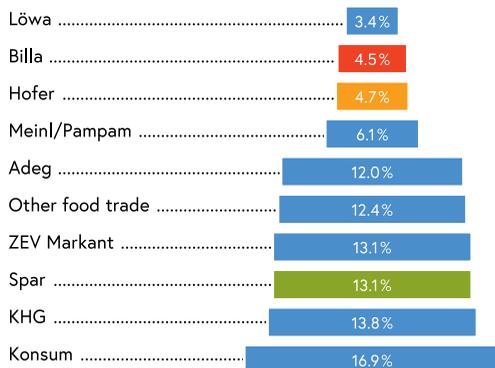
26. Market concentration of the food retail trade in Austria

The number of different food retailers has declined sharply since 1976. There are now three large retail chains in Austria, which together have a market share of almost 90% of the total food retail trade in 2021. In parallel with the market concentration of a few food retailers, the share of trademarks which are also referred to as “private brands” is increasing and, as a result, manufacturers’ brands are being displaced.

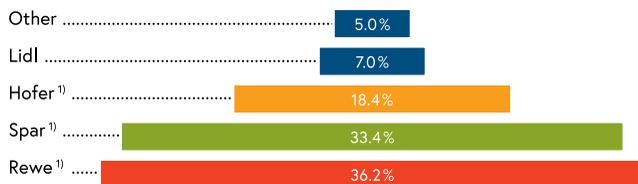
26. Market concentration of the food retail trade in Austria

in Austria

1976



2021



1) Top 3: 88.0%
Sources: RollAMA (2021), Regal (1976).

27. The Fairness Office

The initial point of contact for complaints concerning trade practices in connection with the sale of agricultural products and food products, briefly called “Fairness Office”, was established by the Fair Competition Act (“Faire-Wettbewerbsbedingungen Gesetz”–FWBG–Federal Law Gazette No. 239/2021) with effect from 1 March 2022. The required human and material resources in the Fairness Office are provided by the Ministry of Agriculture.

The Fairness Office is an impartial body which is not bound by any instructions and which carries out its work confidentially preserving the anonymity of each complainant.

Tasks of the Fairness Office

- General consulting activities and analysis of cases of complaints concerning trade practices in the sale of agricultural and food products;
- Confronting the respondent with the subject of the complaint;
- Referral of the matter to a conciliation body.

The highest level of confidentiality to which the Fairness Office is committed in the handling of the complaints and the actual practices of trade chains and major buyers gives the “smaller ones” caught in the bargaining power trap the courage to talk openly about everything at the Fairness Office. This means that, in addition to counselling, the analysis of complaint cases and thus the crystallisation of clusters of sectors, behaviour and contract partners is a focal point of activity.

To curb abuse by large business partners and ensure more economic balance between smaller producers, processors and their larger buyers along the entire value chain: This is what the Fairness Office stands for. This became necessary due to the growing market concentration of the food retail trade (FRT) and thus the strong negotiating power of few large negotiating partners, which can be described as an oligopoly situation.

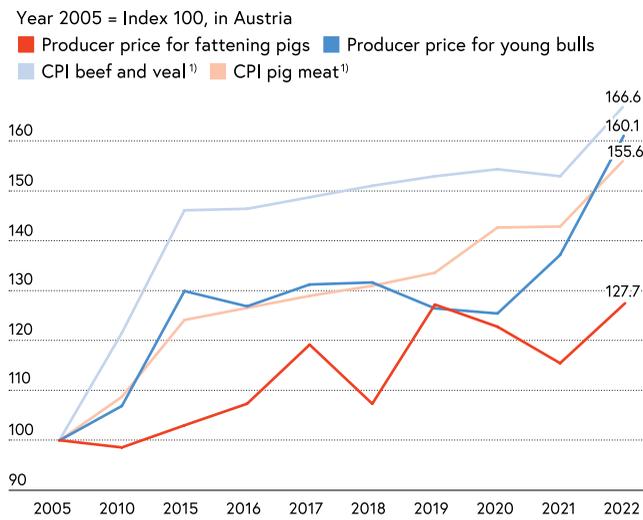
Further information can be found at fairness-buero.gv.at.

28. 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 2005. 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, a new 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.

28. Development of consumer and producer prices for meat 2005–2022

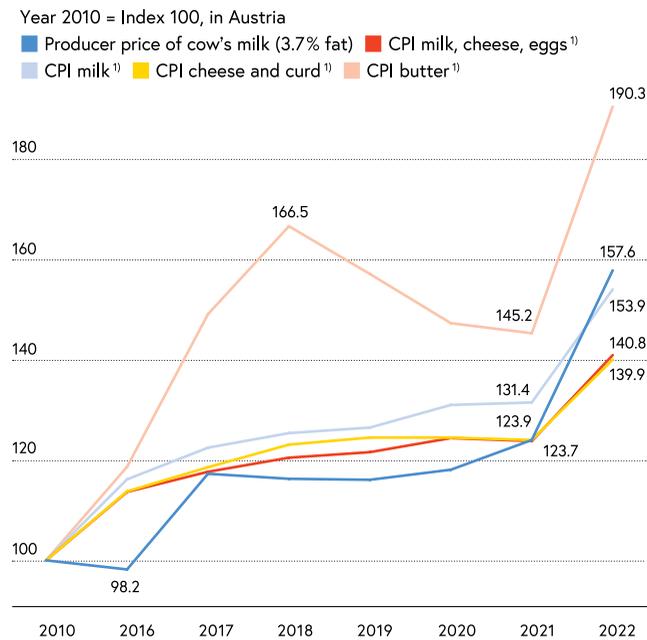


¹⁾ CPI = Consumer Price Index
Source: © STATISTICS AUSTRIA, as of: June 2023.

29. Consumer and producer prices for milk

The chart shows the development of milk prices at the level of agriculture and for consumers since 2010. Following the 2014 to 2016 dairy market crisis, the producer milk price recovered to some extent. At the end of 2022, it ranged 48.5 % above 2010 levels, whilst the consumer prices of dairy produce were 40.8 % above the 2010 price level.

29. Development of consumer and producer prices for milk 2010–2022



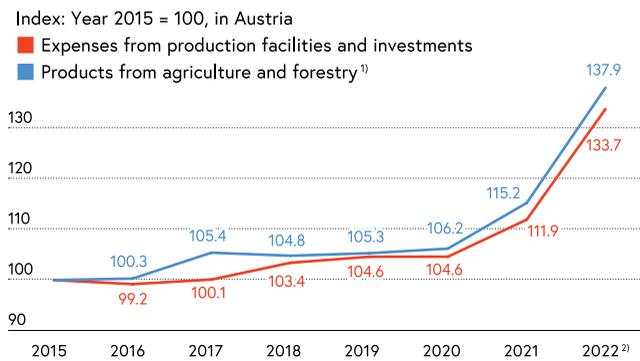
¹⁾ CPI = Consumer Price Index
Source: © STATISTICS AUSTRIA, as of: June 2023.

30. Producer price indices for agricultural and forestry production

When compared to 2015, 2022 saw an increase by 37.9 % 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 33.7 % 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.

30. Producer price indices for agricultural and forestry production 2015–2022



1) Not including public funds.

2) Preliminary figures.

Source: © STATISTICS AUSTRIA, as of: June 2023.

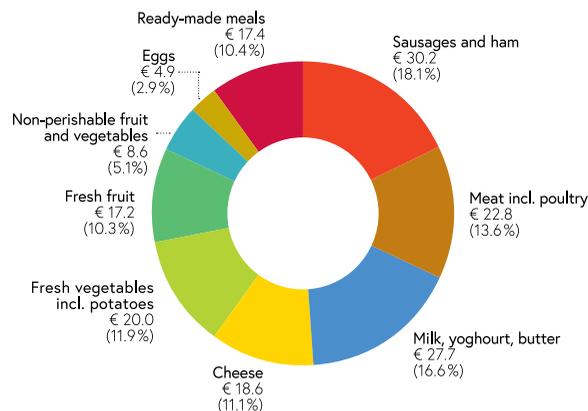
31. Monthly expenses for fresh foods and ready-made meals

On average, an Austrian household spent a monthly sum of 167.4 euros for fresh food and ready-made meals in 2022. Compared to the preceding year, Austrian household spending on fresh foods and ready-made products saw a very slight increase of 0.4 % in value. With 30.2 euros, the highest monthly amount was spent on sausages and ham (18,0 %), followed by 27.2 euros for milk, yoghurt and butter (16.6 %) and 22.8 euros for meat including poultry (13.6 %).

However, recent years have also 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 recognised and highly appreciated by the entire population.

31. Monthly expenses for fresh foods and ready-made meals in 2022¹⁾

Total amount: On average 167.40 euros monthly per Austrian household



1) Not including bread and pastries.

Source: RollAMA/AMA Marketing, n=2,800 households in Austria, as of: June 2023.

32. Foreign trade in agricultural products and foods

In 2022, Austria's agricultural exports amounted to 16.16 billion euros, an increase of 2.32 billion euros compared to the year before. Nevertheless, an agricultural trade deficit of -57.0 million euros was recorded. Beverages, milk and dairy products as well as meat and meat products are among the major export products. The biggest export surplus was achieved for beverages. The biggest import surplus was observed for fruit and vegetables.

32. Foreign trade in agricultural products and foodstuffs in 1995 and 2022

in million €, in Austria

According to Combined Nomenclature (CN)					
Product group	Exports		Imports		Balance
	1995	2022	1995	2022	2022
1) Live animals	69	129	32	270	-141
2) Meat and meat products	205	1,440	213	1,172	268
3) Fish	2	82	73	389	-306
4) Milk, dairy products, eggs and honey	186	1,760	164	1,169	591
5) Other products of animal origin	15	79	46	133	-54
6) Live plants	5	47	175	442	-395
7) Vegetables	39	185	246	670	-485
8) Fruit	63	267	377	1,252	-985
9) Coffee, tea, spices	44	210	207	585	-376
10) Cereals	100	673	44	979	-306
11) Flour	17	386	20	186	200
12) Oilseeds and seed	49	487	61	740	-254
13) Vegetal saps	2	11	13	81	-70
14) Plaiting materials	1	4	1	6	-2
15) Fats and oils	44	462	97	935	-473
16) Meat preparations	49	681	104	552	128
17) Sugar and sugar products	77	380	116	396	-16
18) Cocoa and cocoa preparations	108	524	188	582	-58
19) Cereal preparations	119	1,409	227	1,329	80
20) Vegetable and fruit preparations	151	889	185	1,042	-154
21) Other edible preparations	75	1,107	206	1,005	103
22) Beverages	248	3,823	149	982	2,841
23) Animal fodder	90	1,119	152	947	172
24) Tobacco	41	4	56	369	-366
Total	1,799	16,158	3,152	16,215	-57

Source: © STATISTICS AUSTRIA, June 2023.

33. 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. Germany was Austria's most important export destination in 2022, followed by Italy, the U.S.A. and Switzerland. Since Austria joined the EU especially the shipments to Germany, Italy and Hungary have increased, but also exports to non-EU countries, like the U.S.A. or Switzerland, have grown outstandingly.

33. Export of agricultural products and foods 2021/22

CN 01-24 ¹⁾, in million €

(Rank) Country	2021	2022	2022/21 in %
Austria	13,840	16,158	16.7
1.) Germany	5,133	5,859	14.1
2.) Italy	1,344	1,726	28.4
3.) U.S.A.	910	772	-15.2
4.) Switzerland	534	610	14.2
5.) Netherlands	503	605	20.1
6.) Hungary	479	616	28.7
7.) Czech Republic	361	470	30.3
8.) France	334	405	21.2
9.) Poland	321	389	21.2
10.) Slovenia	288	336	16.6
11.) Romania	272	321	18.1
12.) Russian Federation	254	328	29.2
13.) Slovakia	219	258	18.0
14.) United Kingdom	196	205	4.6
15.) Spain	173	203	17.5
16.) Croatia	176	204	15.8
17.) China, People's Republic	167	120	-28.1
18.) Korea, Republic (South Korea)	154	133	-13.5
19.) Belgium	133	156	17.0
20.) Brazil	114	228	99.8
21.) Sweden	106	140	31.8
22.) Australia	102	115	13.0
23.) Turkey	100	158	58.2
24.) Denmark	90	100	11.2
25.) Greece	88	124	41.3
26.) Ukraine	79	78	-1.3
27.) Japan	73	80	9.5
28.) Bulgaria	68	100	48.0
29.) Serbia	57	77	35.1
30.) Chile	44	73	65.9

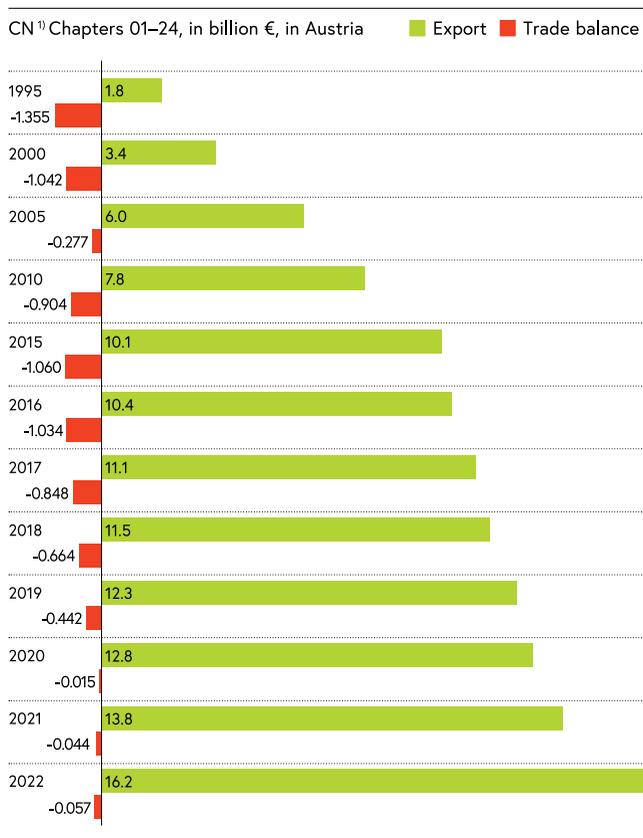
1) CN = Combined Nomenclature

Source: © STATISTICS AUSTRIA, as of: June 2023.

34. Development of agricultural exports and trade balance

Since 1995, Austria's agricultural exports have increased seven-fold. In 2021, however, imports of agricultural products and foods rose more strongly than exports—consequently, a trade deficit of 57.1 million euros appeared again in the agricultural trade balance of 2022. This clearly shows that the consistent, longstanding quality policy 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.

34. Development of agricultural exports and trade balance 1995–2022

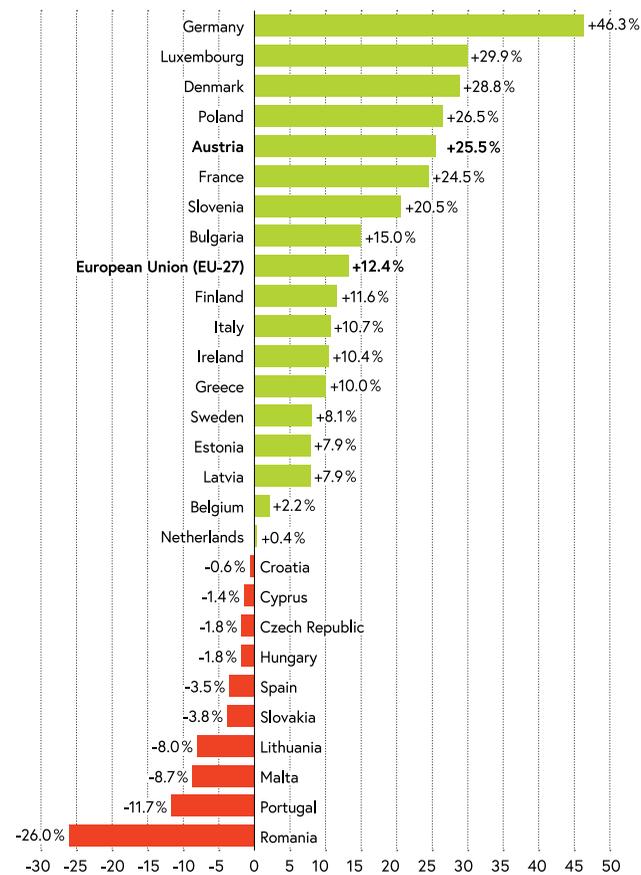


35. Agricultural factor income in EU comparison

The agricultural factor income is a productivity measure of the agricultural sector. It measures the value generated by the production factors—land, capital as well as labour—and accounted for about 184.3 billion euros in the EU-27 in 2021. The real factor income per annual work unit of the EU-27 is 36.7 % above the 2010 level in 2021 and increased by 1.5 % compared to the previous year in 2021.

35. Agricultural factor income 2022/21 in EU comparison

Index of the real agricultural factor income per annual work unit, in %¹⁾



1) Comparison of the indices of 2021 and 2022 in percent.
Source: EUROSTAT, preliminary figures, as of: June 2023.

36. Agricultural structure in the European Union

In 2020, around 9.1 million farms were registered in the EU-27. They managed 157 million ha of utilised agricultural area, which corresponds to 17.4 ha per holding. In Austria, 86 % of all farms are family-run and small-structured. Merely 18 % of the agricultural areas are managed by holdings with more than 100 ha. 57 % of the areas are managed by farms with 20 to 100 ha.

36. Agricultural structure in the European Union in 2020

	Number of agricultural holdings in 1,000	Utilised agricultural area (UAA), in mio. ha	ha/holding	Live cattle 1,000 LU ¹⁾	Standard output million €
EU-27	9,071.0	157,415.70	17.4	55,388	359,767
France	393.03	27,364.63	69.6	12,511	64,325
Spain	914.87	23,913.68	26.1	4,501	45,132
Germany	262.78	16,595.02	63.2	8,203	46,612
Poland	1,302.33	14,874.12	11.4	4,650	26,842
Romania	2,887.07	12,762.83	4.4	1,526	12,094
Italy	1,133.02	12,523.54	11.1	4,509	56,615
Hungary	232.06	4,921.74	21.2	676	7,069
Ireland	130.22	4,920.27	37.8	5,227	6,851
Bulgaria	132.74	4,564.15	34.4	506	4,091
Portugal	290.23	3,963.94	13.7	1,116	7,001
Greece	530.75	3,916.64	7.4	449	7,744
Czech Republic	28.91	3,492.57	120.8	1,007	5,536
Sweden	58.79	3,005.81	51.1	1,008	5,645
Lithuania	132.08	2,914.55	22.1	493	2,299
Denmark	37.09	2,629.93	70.9	1,090	10,100
Austria	110.78	2,602.67	23.5	1,315	6,626
Finland	45.63	2,281.71	50.0	594	3,256
Latvia	68.98	1,968.96	28.5	306	1,356
Slovakia	19.63	1,862.65	94.9	329	1,992
Netherlands	52.64	1,817.90	34.5	2,695	24,874
Croatia	143.93	1,505.43	10.5	295	2,016
Belgium	36.00	1,368.12	38.0	1,650	8,407
Estonia	11.37	975.32	85.8	192	843
Slovenia	72.47	483.44	6.7	323	1,154
Cyprus	34.05	134.14	3.9	64	877
Luxembourg	1.88	132.14	70.3	141	324
Malta	7.65	9.80	1.3	11	86

1)) LU = Livestock unit

Source: EUROSTAT, database extract of: 19 June 2023.

37. Organic farms in the European Union

In Austria, one in four hectares of land is managed according to organic farming principles. In 2022, Austria was the EU country with the highest share of organically farmed utilised agricultural area.

37. Organic farms and their areas in the EU in 2022

	Area under organic farming (total) ¹⁾ 1,000 ha	Share of organic area in UAA ²⁾ in %	Organic farms ³⁾ Number	Sales through organic food 2021 in retail trade in million €
EU-27	15,950	9.09	326,070	46,671
Austria	706	25.69	25,081	2,397
Belgium	102	7.48	2,394	978
Bulgaria	86	1.71	5,942	33
Czech Republic	548	15.55	4,669	226
Denmark	303	11.58	4,186	2,240
Germany	1,601	9.65	35,262	15,870
Estonia	227	22.97	2,050	93
Ireland	87	1.96	1,725	235
Greece	535	10.15	30,124	66
Spain	2,635	10.79	44,493	2,528
France	2,776	8.71	29,869	12,659
Croatia	122	8.26	4,374	99
Italy	2,186	16.83	71,590	3,943
Cyprus	8	6.27	1,223	1
Latvia	302	15.34	4,171	51
Lithuania	265	8.91	2,230	51
Luxembourg	7	5.19	114	197
Hungary	294	5.81	5,128	30
Malta	0.07	0.61	25	n.a.
Netherlands	76	4.22	1,937	1,374
Poland	549	3.78	18,655	314
Portugal	769	19.31	5,945	21
Romania	579	4.42	9,647	41
Slovenia	52	10.81	3,685	49
Slovakia	163	8.76	716	4
Finland	365	16.11	5,102	407
Sweden	607	20.20	5,730	2,764

n.a. = not available

1) Completely converted and in the process of conversion in 2021/22.

2) UAA = Utilised Agricultural Area

3) Partly estimates and figures of earlier years. EU total calculated.

Source: EUROSTAT; acc. to FiBL & IFOAM 2020: The World of Organic Agriculture 2022, data extract of: 28 June 2023.

Austria—country of forests

Austria's forests protect and benefit our country. They are versatile multi-talents and an important economic factor. Forests provide us with wood, a renewable raw material, and they safeguard jobs, many of them “green jobs”. Both rural regions and urban centres profit of this. As wood is a climate-friendly raw material, forests, among other things, also provide the energy of the future—and thereby contribute substantially to climate change mitigation and to the energy transition. The share of wood used to generate energy has risen over the past two decades. More than half of the wood used for the generation of energy accrues in the course of wood processing.

Forests are also unique suppliers of pure drinking water and represent an unparalleled drinking water reservoir. This makes sustainable forest management even more important. The concept of sustainable forest management has been practised in Austria for generations. It is laid down in the Austrian Forestry Act, which, apart from wood utilisation, 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 knowhow and technology transfer. Furthermore, international delegations are regularly received in Austria to exchange views and expertise on sustainable forest management on site and to present best-practice examples.

The action programme “Wald schützt uns!” (meaning: “Forests protect us!”) is to ensure and enhance the protective functions of forests in the future. Forests 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. Through targeted research and education, also the knowhow for necessary adaptations in protective forests is to be developed.

With the Austrian Forest Fund, one of the largest packages of measures for domestic forests was adopted in 2020: 350 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.

Austrian Forest Inventory 2017–2022

Since 1961 the Austrian Research Centre for Forests (BFW) has conducted the Austrian Forest Inventory, the largest investigation and status quo analysis of Austria's forests with more than 11,000 sample plots as well as satellite and digital aerial images. Despite the challenges of climate change, the inventory shows positive results.

Key results of the Austrian Forest Inventory 2017–2022

- Austria's forest area increased to over 4 million hectares. Over the past decade, the forest area increased by six hectares every day. 47.9 % of Austria's federal territory is covered with forests—this is far above the EU average. The Federal Province with the largest share of woodland is Styria with 62 %, followed by Carinthia (61 %), Salzburg (52 %) and Upper Austria (42 %).
- Broadleaved forests and mixed forests as well as biodiversity are increasing. Pure coniferous stands have decreased by 6 % over the past decade and mixed broadleaved stands have increased by the same percentage.
- Between 2017 and 2022 deadwood increased by 4.2 % compared to the 2016–2021 period. It is an indicator of enhanced biodiversity in forests. Deadwood serves animals, plants and fungi as a nesting, development, food or overwintering habitat.
- The growing stock declines slightly. Due to bad natural impacts—such as damage caused by storm and bark beetle—the growing stock decreased. It amounted to 1.17 billion cubic metres in the total forest.
- In Austria, increment exceeds consumption. Currently, 94 % of the increment is harvested.
- The populations of cloven-hoofed game are presently too high to allow a healthy development of forest regeneration. On 420,000 hectares of Austria's forest land the existing regeneration is affected by browsing.

Further results and details of the Austrian Forest Inventory are available at waldinventur.at.

1. Measures of the Austrian Forest Fund

The 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 350 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. Moreover, forest owners receive a compensation for the loss of value caused by bark beetle. 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 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 Forest Fund, with information on subsidisation, is available at waldfonds.at.

1. Measures of the Austrian Forest Fund

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 facility 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: Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Regions and Tourism (BMLRT). As of July 2021.

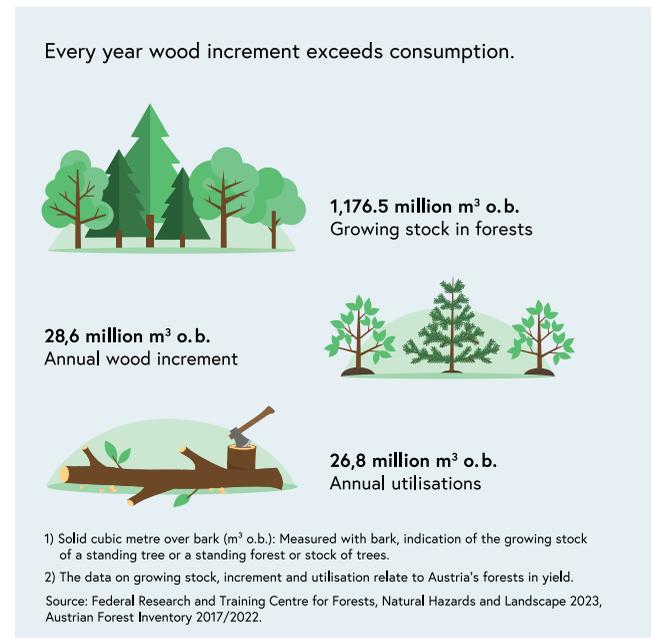
2. Timber in Austria

Growing stock in Austrian forests totals 1.18 billion solid cubic metres over bark. As wood increment exceeds consumption, the sustainable raw material has big potential as a building material, energy source and for use in the bioeconomy. Presently, only 94 % of the increment are utilised. This means that the growing stock increases and the volume of timber in Austria’s forests continues to rise.

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 generates large amounts of CO₂ (e. g. steel and concrete) can be substituted. In the long term, the carbon dioxide that has been absorbed during growth and is stored in the wood will be removed from the cycle. Furthermore, the coupled products accruing in processing are suited both for material and for energetic use.

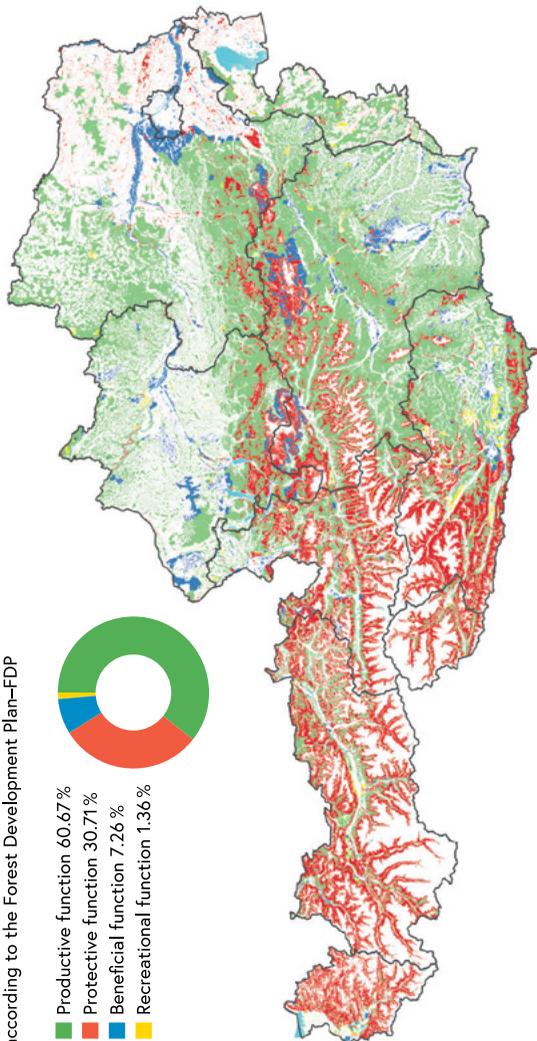
2. Timber in Austria

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



3. Key functions of Austrian forests

according to the Forest Development Plan–FDP



Source: BML, evaluation GIS & database WEP-AUSTRIA-DIGITAL 2023 (% of Austria's forest area), June 2023.

3. Key functions of Austrian forests

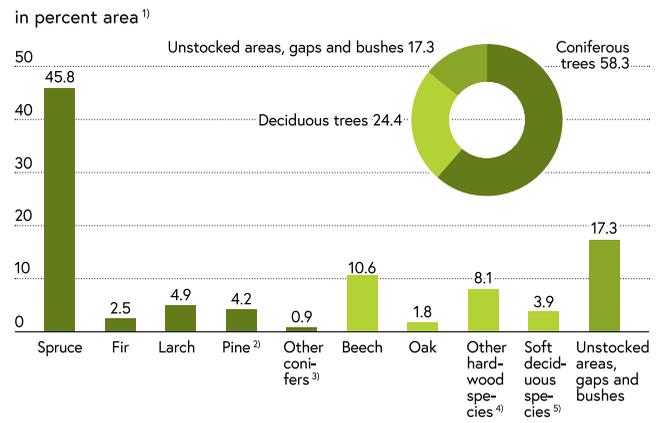
The key function of a forest is the one that is most important for the public on the relevant forest area. Austria-wide 60.67 % account for the productive function (sustainable production of wood), 30.71 % for the protective function (protection against natural hazards), 7.26 % for the beneficial function (impact on the environment) and 1.36 % 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 (45.8 % of the area), followed by beech (10.6 %). 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 (58.3 %). The trend towards more broadleaved trees (24.4 %) 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 2023, Austrian Forest Inventory 2017/22.

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 has stagnated at a level of 1.18 billion solid cubic metres over bark in the total forest area.

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

	Total forests ²⁾ in 1,000 ha	Percentage of forest cover	Forest in yield in 1,000 ha	Growing stock ³⁾ in 1,000 m ³ o.b.	Growing stock ³⁾ per ha in m ³ o.b.
Burgenland	135	34	130	36,048	276
Carinthia	585	61	499	182,774	366
Lower Austria	774	40	737	233,660	317
Upper Austria	502	42	444	163,265	368
Salzburg	374	52	272	100,314	368
Styria	1,014	62	861	314,519	365
Tyrol	528	42	347	117,045	338
Vorarlberg	98	38	62	26,119	419
Vienna	9	22	9	3,363	373
Austria	4,018	48	3,359	1,176,456	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 2016/21.

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 2023, Austrian Forest Inventory 2017/22.

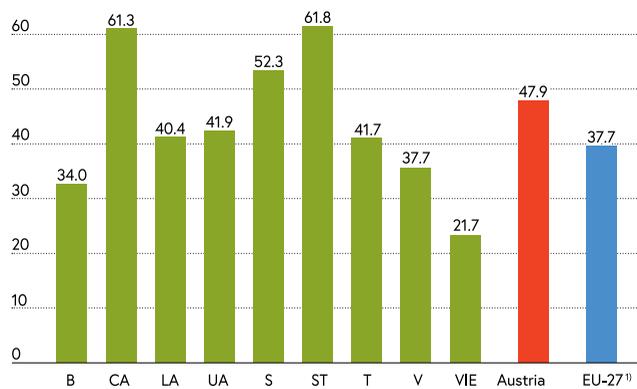
6. Distribution of forest area in the Federal Provinces

Austria is a country of forests and wood: Almost half of its national territory (48 %) is covered with forests. Over the past decade Austria's forest area has increased by more than 6 hectares per day and covers more than 4 million ha. The Federal Province having the largest share of woodland is Styria with 62 %, followed by Carinthia with 61 %, Salzburg with 52 % as well as Upper Austria and Tyrol with 42 % each. Austria's forests sequester about 800 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 2023, Austrian Forest Inventory 2017/22.

7. Forest areas and ownership structure

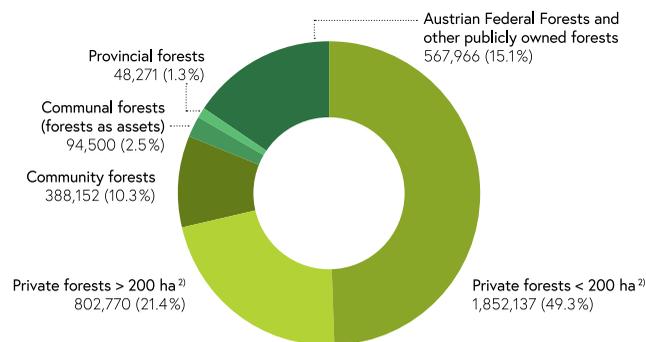
Austria's forests are mainly privately owned. About 140,000 owners share approximately 81 % of the forest area. Almost 19 % is publicly owned, for example by Österreichische Bundesforste AG. In Austria, the most frequent type of ownership is the so-called "private forest" ("Kleinwald"), defined as a 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.

In many cases, forests have been managed 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 management. This offer is particularly recommendable for new owners. They have the opportunity to ask concrete questions which will be answered by experts from the Austrian Research Centre for Forests (BFW). Cooperations and groups, like forest owner cooperatives and forest associations, often work together to organise marketing and management.

7. Forest areas and ownership structure in 2022

Types of ownership according to cadastral map in ha¹⁾, in Austria
Total: 3,753,796 ha (100 %)



1) Due to different surveying methods the forest areas identified in the cadastral map differ from those of the Farm Structure Survey and of the Austrian Forest Inventory.

2) Incl. church-owned forests.
Source: BML. As of: June 2023.

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 ha. 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 Österreichische Bundesforste AG. 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 Forest 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

	Total	Private forests (up to 200 ha)	Forest enterprises (over 200 ha)	Austrian Federal Forests
Forests in yield	3,359	1,907	1,017	436
Production forests	2,943	1,745	845	354
Coppice forests	77	40	35	2
Protective forests in yield; high forests	339	122	137	80
Forests without yield	659	239	258	161
Total forest area	4,018	2,146	1,275	597

Source: Federal Research and Training Centre for Forests, Natural Hazards and Landscape 2023, Austrian Forest Inventory 2017/22.

9. Removal

In 2022, removals totalled 19.36 million cubic metres of timber harvested under bark. Of the total removal, 9.65 million cubic metres accounted for sawlog > 20 cm (49.85 %) and 1.06 million cubic metres for small sawlog (5.48 %), which are processed by sawmills. The 3.22 million m³ of industrial wood (16.65 %) are used in the panel and paper industry. 5.42 million m³ of raw timber are used for energy generation (28.02 %). With a total of 7.26 million m³ (37.50 %) the volume of damaged wood was 20.11 % higher than it was in 2021. The main harmful factors were bark beetle with 3.50 million m³ and storms with 2.30 million m³.

9. Removal 2020–2022

in 1,000 cubic metres of timber harvested, without bark, in Austria

	2020	2021	2022
Total removal	16,789	18,420	19,358
Coniferous wood	13,946	15,663	16,205
Broadleaved wood	2,843	2,757	3,153
Raw timber–material use	11,462	13,521	13,934
Coniferous raw timber	10,587	12,670	12,957
Broadleaved raw timber	875	850	977
Sawlogs	8,504	10,419	10,711
Sawlogs MDM > 20 cm ¹⁾	7,656	9,337	9,650
Coniferous wood	7,388	9,066	9,344
of which spruce/fir	6,644	8,185	8,374
of which pine	300	392	453
of which larch	269	329	315
Broadleaved wood	268	271	307
of which beech	122	122	144
of which oak	69	70	78
Small sawlogs	848	1,082	1,060
Coniferous wood	841	1,073	1,038
Broadleaved wood	7	9	22
Industrial roundwood	2,958	3,101	3,223
Coniferous wood	2,358	2,531	2,576
Broadleaved wood	600	570	647
Raw timber–energetic use	5,327	4,899	5,424
Coniferous wood	3,359	2,993	3,248
Broadleaved wood	1,968	1,907	2,176
Intermediate felling	4,192	4,744	4,540
Coniferous wood	3,457	4,044	3,751
Broadleaved wood	736	700	789
Damaged wood	8,910	6,044	7,260

1) MDM = mid-diameter
Source: BML, as of: June 2023.

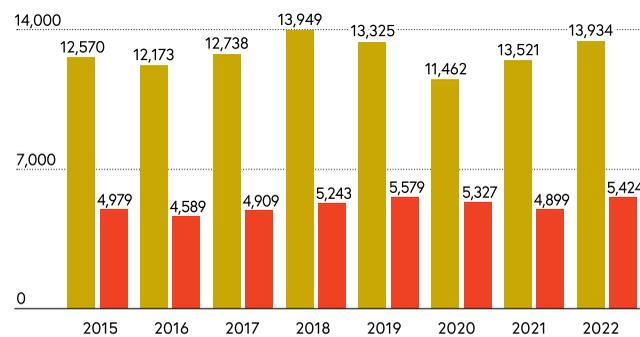
10. Removal–raw timber by material and energetic use

In 2022, about 13.93 million cubic metres of timber harvested were removed for material use (e.g. as construction timber or material), and 5.42 million cubic metres of timber harvested for energetic use. During each of the past seven years more than twice as much wood was used for material purposes than for energy. According to the Austrian Forest Inventory only about 94 % of the increment in commercial forests is utilised, meaning that exhaustible wood resources are available.

10. Removal–raw timber by material and energetic use 2015–2022

in 1,000 cubic metres of timber harvested, without bark, in Austria

■ Raw timber–material use ■ Raw timber–energetic use



Source: BML, as of: June 2023.

11. Timber price development

In 2022, sawmills paid an annual average price of 112.75 euros per cubic metre of sawlog spruce/fir, Cat. B Media 2b, which was 12.2 % more than in 2021.

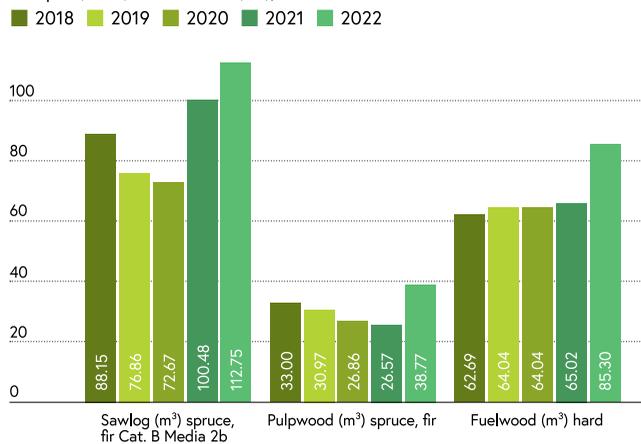
The mixed price of spruce/fir pulpwood/mechanical pulpwood was with 41.34 €/m³ 40.7 % above the average price of the preceding year. The price of pulpwood (spruce/fir) was with 38.77 €/m³ 45.9 % above the price of the year before, and the price of mechanical pulpwood was with 48.17 €/m³ 29.3 % above that of the previous year.

The price of fuelwood hard amounted to 85.30 euros, an increase by 31.2 %, that of fuelwood soft was 59.32 €/solid cubic metre, an increase by 35.7 %.

All over Austria, forest stands were severely damaged by bark beetle due to the lack of rain. The Forest Fund helps agriculture and 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, however, we need to apply management strategies that make forests climate-fit so they will better withstand extreme conditions.

11. Timber price development 2018–2022

in € per (solid) cubic metre (m³), in Austria



Source: © STATISTICS AUSTRIA. As of: June 2023.

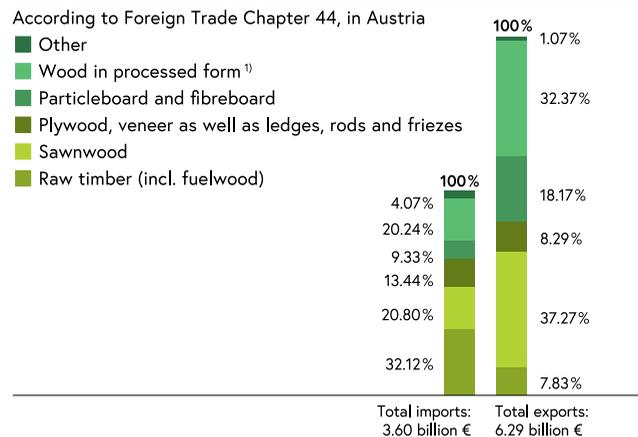
12. Foreign trade in wood and wood products

The most important export category was sawnwood and wood in processed form (windows, doors, parquet panels, planking, joinery and carpentry, etc.).

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

In 2022, the foreign trade surplus in the foreign trade in wood and wood products amounted to about 2.69 billion euros (acc. to Combined Nomenclature (CN, Chapter 44).

12. Foreign trade in wood and wood products in 2022



¹⁾ Windows, doors, parquet panels, planking, joinery and carpentry, pallets, ornamental objects and others.
Source: © STATISTICS AUSTRIA, as of: June 2023.

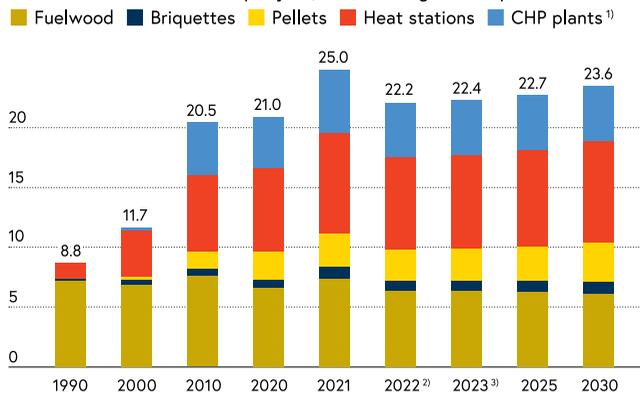
13. Use of wood for energy in Austria

The use of wood for energetic purposes has seen a very dynamic development over the past 15 years. This is above all due to the steeply increasing use of wood in heating plants and combined heat and power generation plants (CHP). In addition to the increased performance of the large-scale wood-fired heating systems, also the energetic use of pellets has been increasing since the turn of the millennium—above all in the field of space heat. 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.

Using wood therefore enables us to replace fossil fuels and to make a positive contribution to climate change mitigation.

13. Use of wood for energy in Austria

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



1) Combined (heat and power generation) plants, not including black liquor.

2) Preliminary figures for 2022.

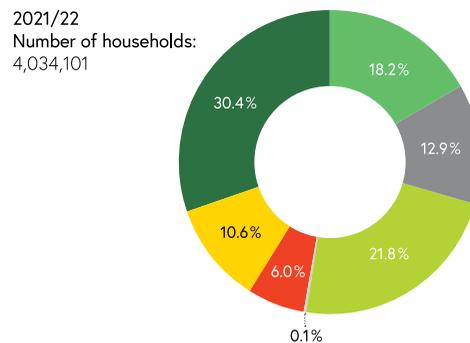
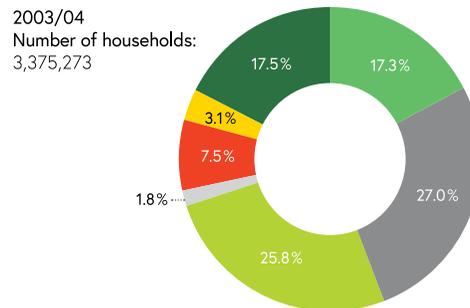
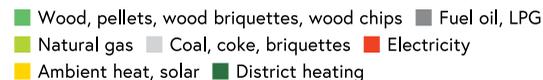
3) As from 2023 extrapolated trend. No responsibility is taken for the data.

Source: Austrian Energy Agency (AEA); own calculations based on data from STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Austrian Chamber of Agriculture, AEA. As of: June 2023.

14. Heating technologies used in Austrian households

The share of households with heating technologies based on wood, pellets, wood briquettes and wood chips has increased to 18.2 % in the period from 2003/04 to 2021/22. District heating connections also more than doubled, with over 1.2 million households supplied. In the same period, there was a strong decline in fossil heating systems (43 %). For example, the share of households with heating oil and liquid gas fell particularly sharply from 27.0 % (2003/04) to 12.9 % (2021/22).

14. Heating technologies used in Austrian households^{1) 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.

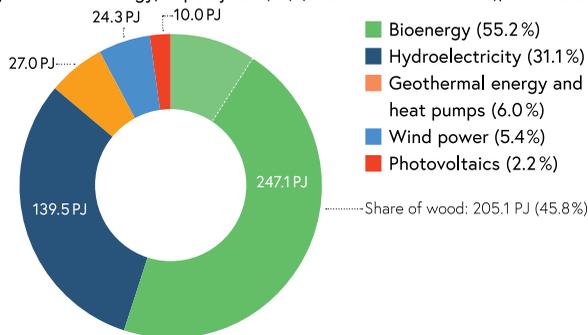
15. Gross domestic consumption of renewable sources of energy

Of the gross domestic consumption of renewable energy sources, bioenergy was with a share of 55.2 % and about 247 PJ the most important one in 2021.

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 31.1 % in 2021. Bioenergy, on the other hand, is capable of bearing a constant load, which makes it particularly important for the security of supply. The share of wood and woody biomass (e.g. saw-mill by-products, bark etc.) in bioenergy amounts to 83.0 %. In addition, energy in the form of biomass 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 2021

by sources of energy, in petajoule (PJ) (Total: 447.9 PJ = 100 %), in Austria



Source: Austrian Biomass Association, © STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Energy balance Austria 2021.

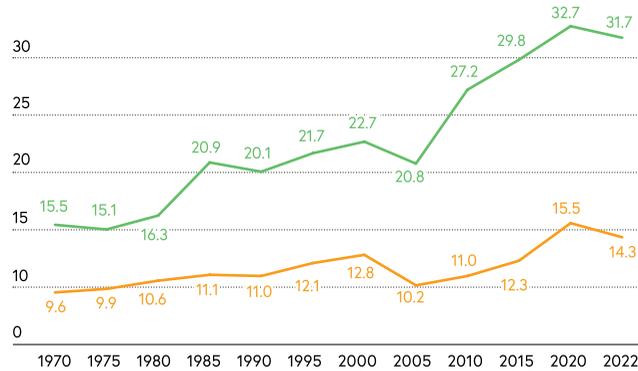
16. Renewable share in gross domestic energy consumption

The renewable share in gross domestic energy consumption has more than doubled since the 1970s and amounted to about 32 % in 2022. This development is above all due to the increase in energy from biomass. Without biomass, the share of the renewables did not significantly change for several years and fluctuated between 10 % and 13 %. As of 2019, the 14 % level has been exceeded.

16. Renewable share in gross domestic energy consumption 1970–2022

Renewable sources of energy in %, in Austria

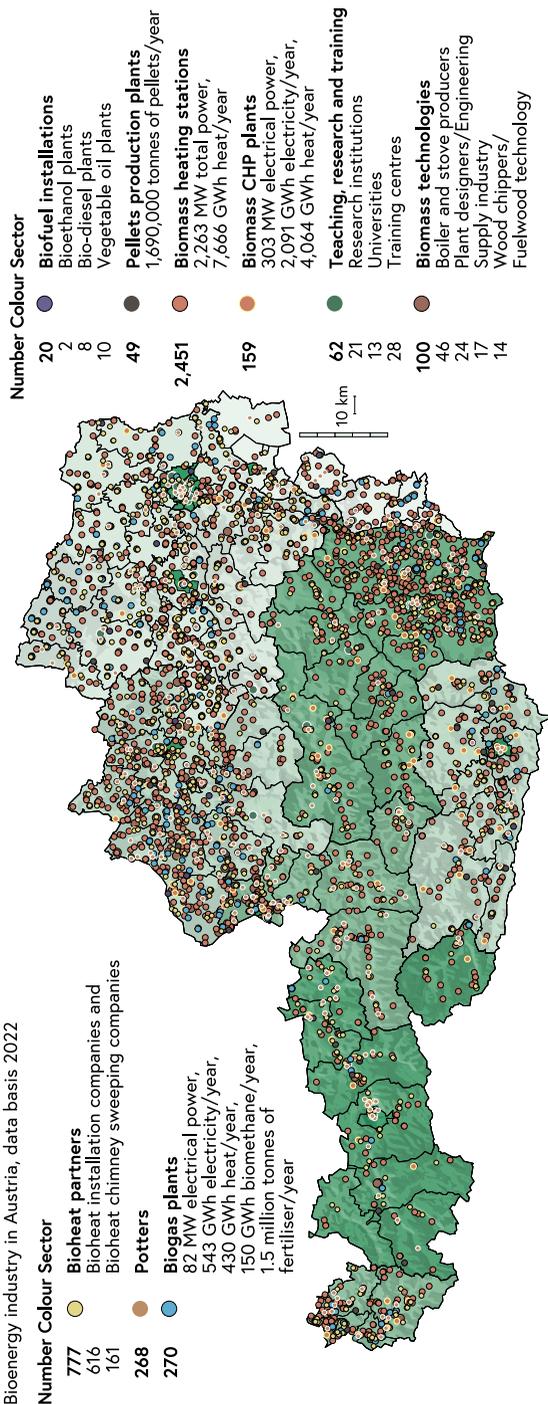
■ incl. biomass ■ excl. biomass



Source: Austrian Biomass Association, © STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Energy balances 1970–2022.

17. Biomass Map Austria 2022

Bioenergy industry in Austria, data basis 2022



Source: Österreichischer Biomasse-Verband, as of: June 2023.

17. Biomass Map Austria 2022

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 over 2,450 biomass heating stations and almost 160 biomass CHP 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.

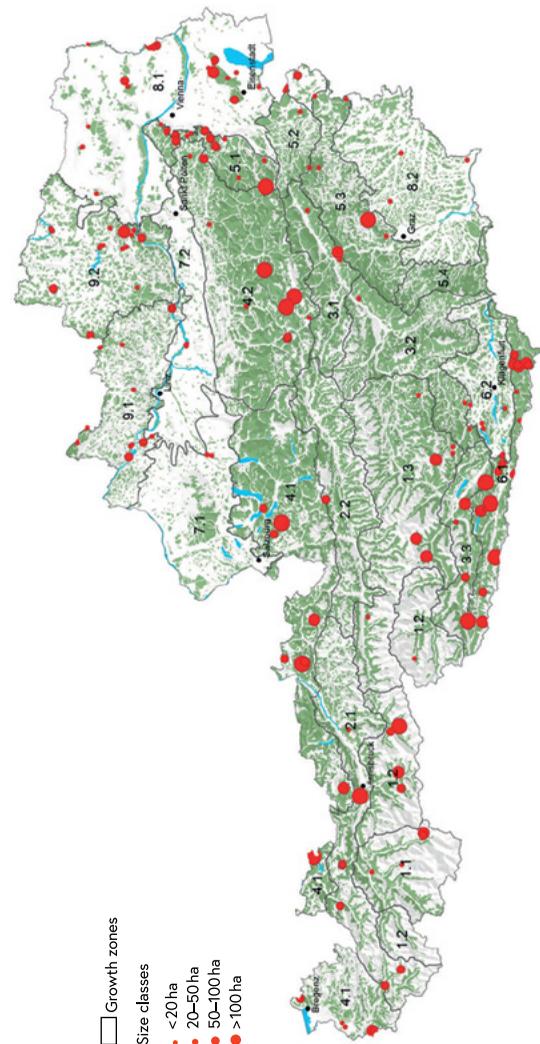
18. Natural forest reserves in Austria

Natural forest reserves (NFR) are destined for the natural development of forest ecosystems. Forestry use, 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.

- In 1995, the Natural Forest Reserves (NFR) Programme was launched.
- 118 forest communities are of relevance to the NFR Programme. Each of them is to be represented by at least one reserve.
- Two thirds of the forest communities are presently part of the programme.
- Austria's Natural Forest Reserves Programme comprises 192 natural forest reserves with a total area of 8,355 hectares.
- 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.

For more detailed information, see naturwaldreservate.at.

18. Natural Forest Reserves in Austria



Source: © Austrian Research Centre for Forests. As of: June 2023.

19. 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.

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

	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	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.

Natural hazard management

Especially along rivers, torrents and in mountain areas numerous natural hazards threaten living environments and economic areas in Austria.

Floods, mudflows, avalanches, rock fall, and slides can severely damage or even destroy buildings, infrastructure and assets. In extreme cases they even pose a threat to human life and health. The management of natural hazards is therefore one of the most important security tasks of the state. Public investments in prevention and protection measures are a service of general public interest.

Austria has an extensive and fully operational system of protection against natural hazards. Natural hazard management is a constitutional task of the Federal Government and is, within the competence of the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Water Management (BML), implemented by the Federal Water Engineering Authority (Wasserbau) and the Service for Torrent and Avalanche Control (WLV). The main local actors are municipalities, water associations and water cooperatives.

The measures include in particular technical protective infrastructures, retention basins, 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 settlement or economic areas.

Due to the impacts of climate change the number of natural disasters tends to rise in Austria. In particular, heavy local precipitation may cause extreme events that are difficult to predict. Drought, storms, forest fires or bark beetle calamities, in particular in protective forest areas, create new risks and the need for adaptation, especially as regards protective forests.

The growing vulnerability of human living space can, in terms of risk management, only be addressed by sustainable development of, and investment in a risk management measures, protection infrastructure, and by the tending of our protective forests.

1. Key figures of hydraulic engineering

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

In 2022 the Hydraulic Engineering Service supervised 579 projects all over Austria, and, with an amount of 79.05 million euros, it made available 46.25 % of the investment costs from federal funds. By means of these funds emergency measures, planning, construction and maintenance measures were financed.

The new construction measures will better protect in future another 8,200 persons against floods and have created or secured around 2,800 jobs.

1. Key figures of hydraulic engineering in 2022

in Austria	
Projects	579 number
Investment costs financed	170.91 million €
Federal share	79.05 million €
Average funding–Federal Government	46.25 %
Average funding–Federal Province	31.74 %
Persons protected by protective measures	8,213 number
Objects protected by protective measures	2,082 number
Jobs (created/secured)	2,769 jobs
New area of waters	7.57 ha
New retention volume	0.495 million m ³

Source: BML, calculations, settlement agency of the Federal Hydraulic Engineering Administration, as of: June 2023.

2. Natural hazard management–Federal funds

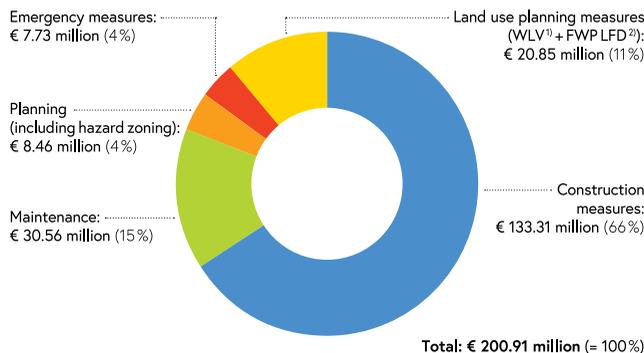
In Austria the construction of protective infrastructure, measures to maintain the existing protective infrastructure and immediate disaster relief measures (emergency measures) are of major significance.

As a result of climate change both surface run-off and sediment transport by waters are increasing. The frequency of mudflows and slides, which require innovative protection concepts, is rising. Therefore, we do not only take measures, but also invest in the development of the protection technology.

Moreover, the “Action Programme Protective Forest” was adopted on the basis of the Austrian Forest Strategy 2020+, which is being gradually implemented. The great need for action results from the increasing threat by extreme events with a destructive effect on protective forests. Currently measures to fight against the massive bark beetle calamities as a consequence of storm and snow breakage events, which threaten the object-protecting forest, are taking place. For more information see: schutzwald.at.

2. Natural hazard management–Federal funds in 2022

Federal funds (Hydraulic Engineering Service + WLV¹⁾), in Austria



1) WLV = Forsttechnischer Dienst für Wildbach- und Lawinenverbauung (Forest Engineering Service in Torrent and Avalanche Control)

2) FWPLFD = Land use planning projects with the Federal Forest Directorates being the lead agencies
Source: BML, as of: June 2023.

3. Natural hazard management–Federal investments

In 2022, the Federal Government invested more than 180 million € in natural hazard management in Austria. The federal funds are distributed among the Federal Provinces, as required. In this way the implementation of more than 1,300 projects, which sustainably protect settlements and important infrastructure, has been rendered possible.

Most of the financial resources for flood protection and retention in 2022 were spent on projects in Lower Austria, Carinthia and Vorarlberg. 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 in 2022

in Austria

Federal Province	Flood control Hydraulic engineering	Torrent and avalanche control WLV ¹⁾	Flood control Hydraulic engineering	Torrent and avalanche control WLV ¹⁾
	in million €		Projects/construction sites	
Burgenland	4.575	0.654	77	3
Carinthia	15.856	14.263	73	123
Lower Austria	17.091	5.573	106	101
Upper Austria	4.158	8.300	58	76
Salzburg	2.708	22.208	21	92
Styria	11.969	13.282	88	84
Tyrol	6.927	26.147	38	172
Vorarlberg	15.683	11.007	117	161
Vienna	0.085	0.036	1	1
Austria	79.052	101.470	579	813
Austria total	€ 180.522 million		1,392 projects	

1) WLV = Forsttechnischer Dienst für Wildbach- und Lawinenverbauung (Forest Engineering Service in Torrent and Avalanche Control)
Source: BML, June 2023.

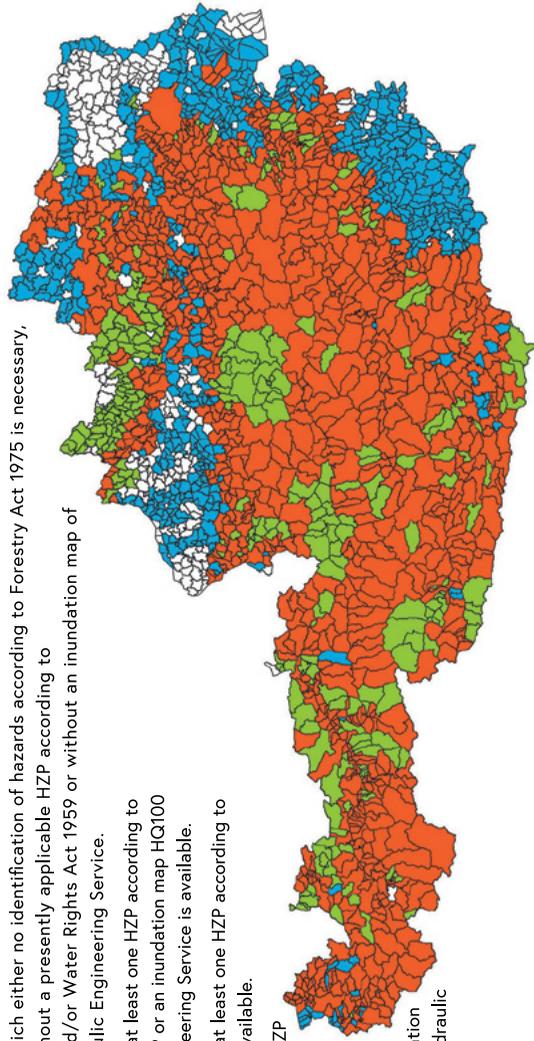
4. Hazard zoning in Austria's municipalities

□ Municipalities, for which either no identification of hazards according to Forestry Act 1975 is necessary, or municipalities without a presently applicable HZP according to Forestry Act 1975 and/or Water Rights Act 1959 or without an inundation map of HQ100 of the Hydraulic Engineering Service.

■ Municipalities, where at least one HZP according to Water Rights Act 1959 or an inundation map HQ100 of the Hydraulic Engineering Service is available.

■ Municipalities, where at least one HZP according to Forestry Act 1975 is available.

■ Municipalities with a HZP according to Forestry Act 1975 as well as with a HZP according to Water Rights Act 1959 and/or an inundation map HQ100 of the Hydraulic Engineering Service.



Abbreviations: HZP = Hazard Zone Plan (Gefahrenzonenplan GZP), WRG = Water Rights Act (Wasserrechtsgesetz), ForstG = Forestry Act (Forstgesetz), HQ100 once-in-a-century flood. Source: BML, as of: June 2023.

4. Hazard zoning in Austria's municipalities

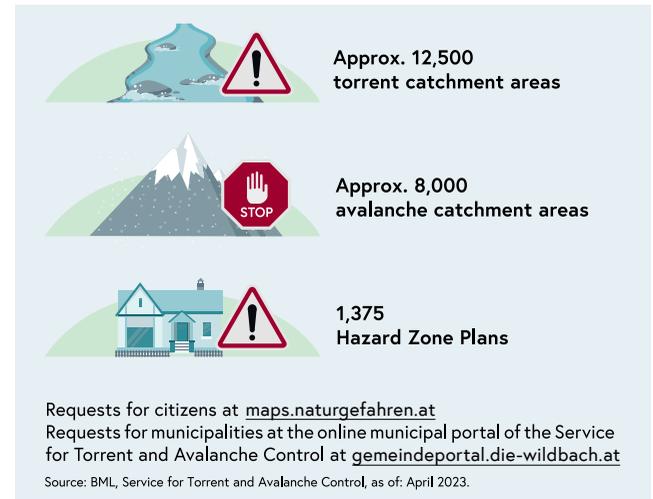
The Hazard Zone Plan (HZP) is an area-based expert opinion on the risks due to floods, torrents and avalanches. It serves as a basis for protection and retention measures, spatial planning and the construction and emergency management sectors.

The map of Austria in the graphical representation shows, in which municipalities large-scale hazard zone plans are available for inspection. The maps can be retrieved on the internet at waldatlas.at, hora.gv.at as well as on the webGIS of the Federal Provinces.

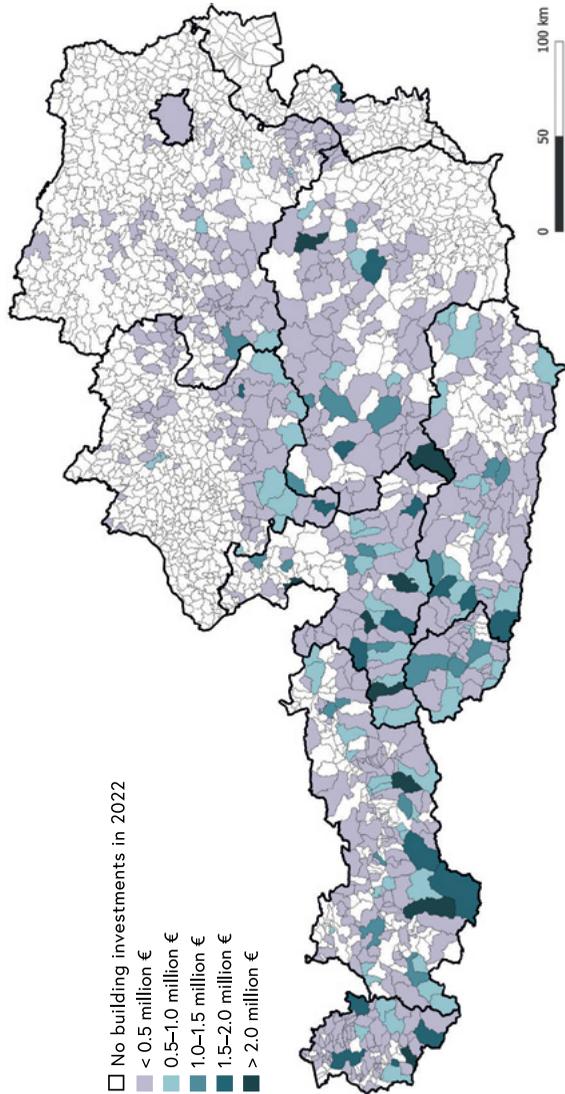
5. The digital torrent and avalanche cadastre of Austria

The digital torrent and avalanche cadastre constitutes a service for citizens as well as for municipalities, which is made available online by the Service for Torrent and Avalanche Control. In total 12,500 torrent catchment areas, 8,000 avalanche catchment areas and approx. 1,375 hazard zone maps are already available. The service aims at the orientation of immediate natural hazards at places of residence and work and constitutes the basis of the land-use planning of every municipality.

5. Digital torrent and avalanche cadastre of Austria



6. Investments of the Service for Torrent and Avalanche Control in Austria's municipalities in 2022

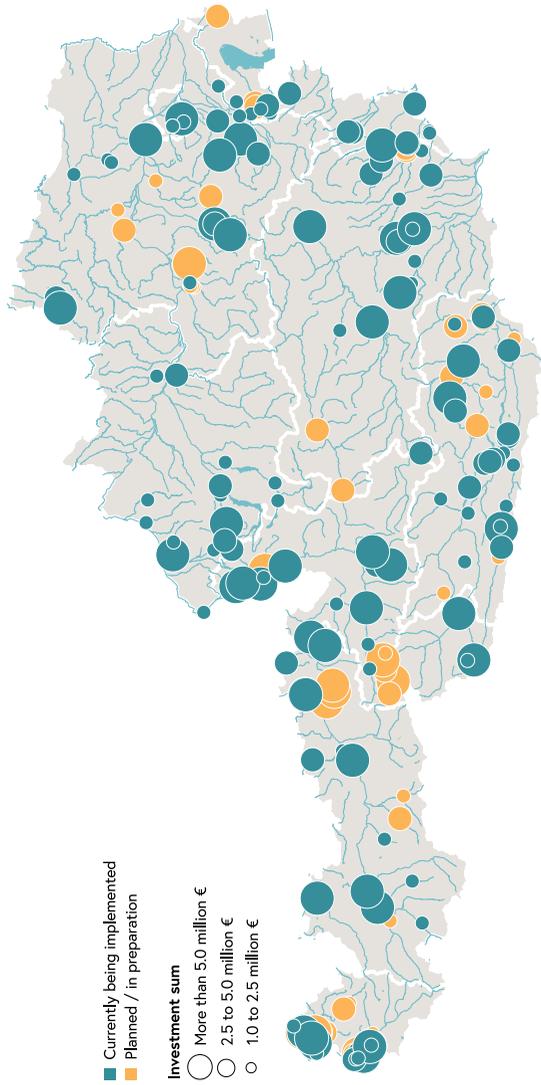


Source: basic data © BEV, 2022; Source: technical data: BML, Service for Torrent and Avalanche Control–WLV; Data evaluation and design of the technical data: BML, Service for Torrent and Avalanche Control–WLV, 2023.

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

In the year 2022 the Austrian Service for Torrent and Avalanche Control considerably enhanced the protection of human lives, settlements and major infrastructure against natural hazards, such as torrents, avalanches, rock fall and landslides in 626 municipalities by means of targeted measures.

Zell am See and Hallein in Salzburg and Sankt Barbara im Mürztal in Styria were the three municipalities with the highest investments in 2022.



Source: BML, as of: June 2023.

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

Our rivers and torrents are important habitats for many animals and plants, however, they also constitute a risk for settlements and infrastructure in case of floods.

In order to ensure that we will be well protected against floods also in future, the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Water Management (BML) promotes the further development and the extension of flood prevention and protection measures in Austria.

The Austria map provides a survey of flood risk management projects, which are in the stage of implementation or in the planning stage, with an investment sum of more than 1 million euros.

In the year 2022, 8,200 additional persons were better protected against floods. For more information, please see bml.gv.at/wasser.

8. Newly created flood retention areas in Austria

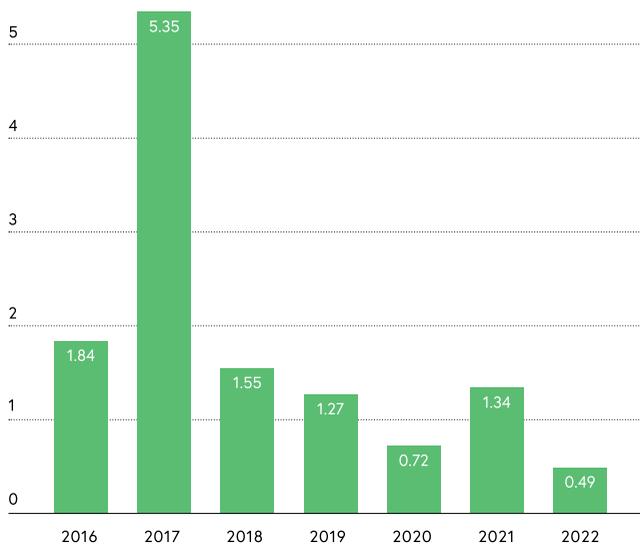
Nowadays flood risk management measures in Austria aim at improving the water retention on rivers and at safeguarding the inundation areas as well as at reconnecting oxbow lakes and separated side arms to rivers.

In order to be able to improve also the water quality and water habitats, more and more ecological measures are planned as well at the same time and are, if possible, implemented. In many cases new near-natural river habitats as well as attractive places for local recreation and places, which can be used for leisure-time activities, are developed in addition to the improved flood-related measures.

In the graphs the annual sums of the retention volumes of flood retention areas, created in Austria, are represented.

8. Newly created flood retention areas 2016–2022

Retention volume in million m³, in Austria



Source: BML, as of: June 2023.

9. Safeguarding of natural flood retention areas in Austria

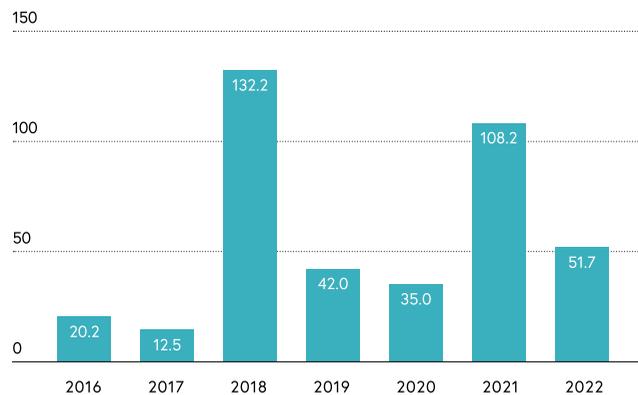
Proactive flood risk management aims at keeping important retention areas free from high-quality utilisations. By means of safeguarding retention areas this goal can be reached.

At the same time, a contribution to flood protection for our settlement areas is made.

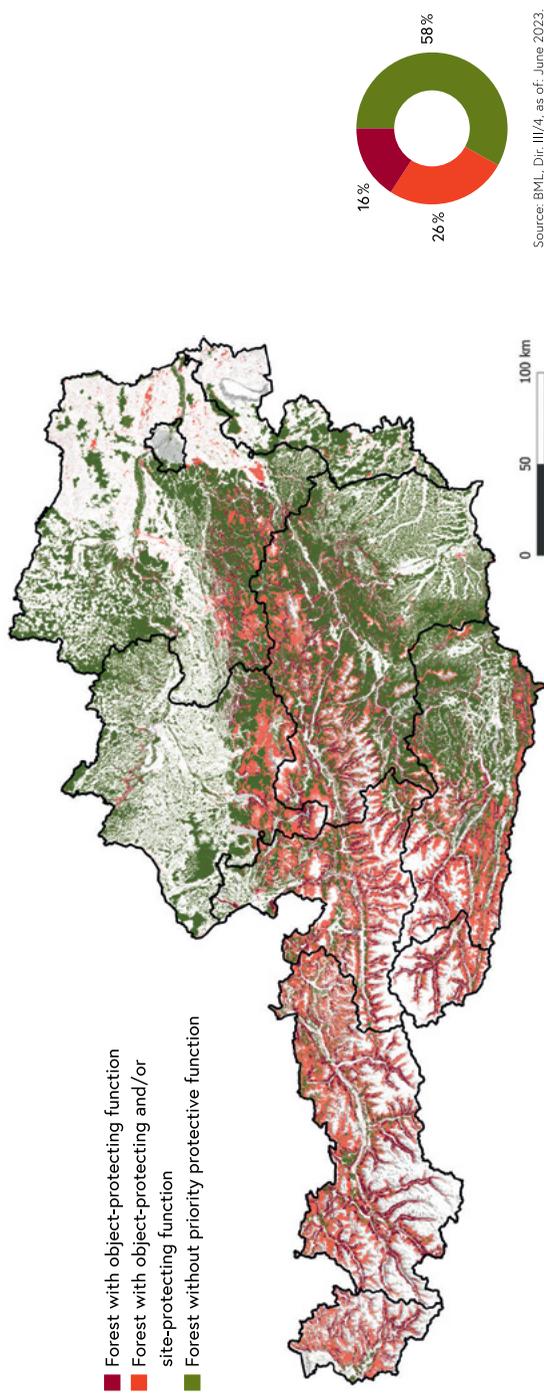
In the graphs the annual sums of the retention volumes of flood retention areas, safeguarded in Austria, are represented.

9. Safeguarding of natural flood retention areas 2016–2022

in hectares, in Austria



Source: BML, as of: June 2023.



Source: BML, Dir. III/4, as of: June 2023.
 Source basic data: © BEV Federal Office of Metrology and Surveying, 2023. STATISTICS AUSTRIA - data.gov.at; Layout and design of the basic data: FRZ GmbH, 2023; Source technical data: BML, Service for Torrent and Avalanche Control-WLV. Analysis and design of the technical data: Austrian Research Centre for Forests-BFW, Provincial Forestry Directorates -LFD, BML, Service for Torrent and Avalanche Control -WLV, as of: June 2023.

10. Reference map of protective forests in Austria

With the completion of the modern geodata mapping tool an essential milestone in the action programme Protective forest-“Forests protect us” could be finalised. On the basis of several scientific pilot projects of the Austrian Research Centre for Forests and an evaluation by the local forest authorities (District Forest Inspectorates, Austrian Service for Torrent and Avalanche Control) the map identifies potential areas having a protective function.

At the moment this form of presentation does not show the possibility of funding and/or special treatment. It is not legally binding The next revision is planned in the year 2024.

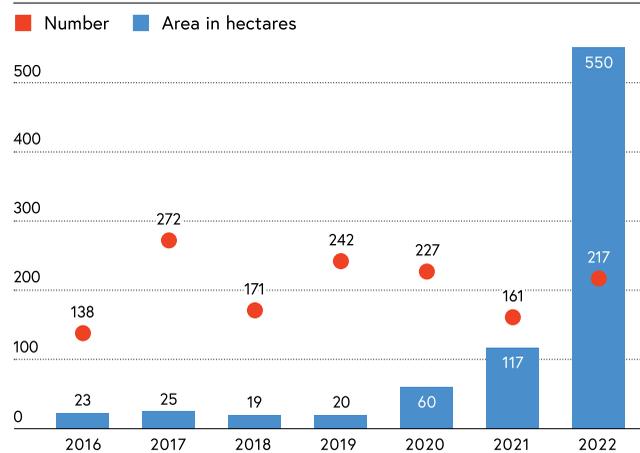
Further information and free of charge online access at schutzwald.at/karten.

11. Forest fires in Austria

The risk of forest fires in Austria has increased steadily due to heat and drought caused by climate change. About 85 % of forest fires are related to human activities. Every year on average 220 forest fires with a total damage area of approx. 50 ha occur.

Within the framework of a newly created Forest Fund, the Federal Government makes available a total of 11 million euros for forest fire prevention.

11. Forest fires in Austria 2016–2022



Source: University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences-Institute of Silviculture, Vienna, as of: 20 June 2023.

Basis of life water

Water is an indispensable asset for both nature and humans. It is a unique living environment and is used for almost all spheres of life. Austrian waters are lifelines for the regions. The sustainable safeguarding of the valuable resource of water is one of the core tasks of the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Water Management (BML). 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 most important foodstuff. Austria disposes presently of sufficient drinking water of excellent quality. In our country, the daily per capita consumption of drinking water is relatively low, compared to other states, amounting to a little bit less than 130 litres. Currently already about 93 % of the population profit from one of the more than 5.500 central drinking water suppliers. The total demand for drinking water is covered from groundwater, thus from wells and springs. However, Austria has also taken enormous efforts for decades in order to encourage the population and the branches of industry, by means of awareness raising, to use this precious resource carefully and has invested at the same time considerably, with an amount of 15.6 billion euros, in the water infrastructure. To ensure future drinking water supply, even with changing water resource availability due to climate change, the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Water Management (BML) has worked out the “Plan for Prevention of Drinking Water Scarcity and Safeguarding of Drinking Water”.

Apart from the excellent drinking water supply, Austria has also 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 as recreational areas for us humans. Therefore these living environments are permanently ecologically further improved. Even today, Austria's bathing water quality is in a top position in Europe.

However, water has also a different face, a menacing face: as an unpredictable force of nature, which brings about high tides and floods. In order to mitigate potential damage in the best possible way all over Austria the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Water Management (BML) is implementing together with the Federal Provinces and the municipalities flood control projects and conveys the people the respective awareness of danger.

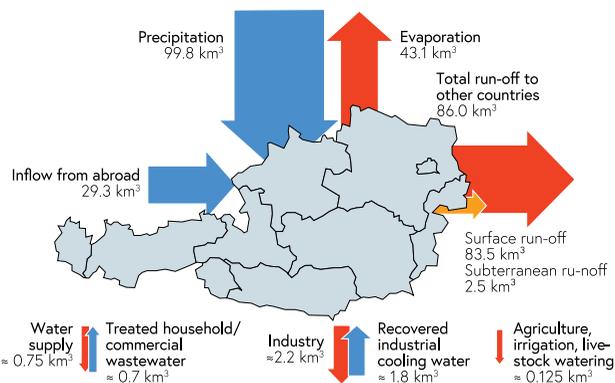
1. Austrian water balance

The most important basis for the sustainable use of water by any society is an 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 participates in the water cycle. The major part of it remains bound in reservoirs, such as oceans or ice caps.

Annual rainfall in Austria is around 1,190 mm, with areas along the main Alpine ridge characterised by high precipitation. In parts of western Austria, an 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 is recorded each year. Our water resources are stored and made available in most different ways. Precipitation and evaporation are always part of an everlasting cycle, meaning that not a single drop of water is wasted.

1. Austrian Water Balance

Medium values 1986–2015 in km³/year



Source: BMLRT, from the study Austrian Water Treasure 2022.

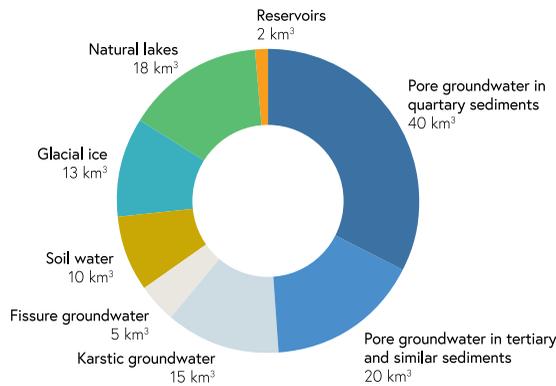
2. Water reservoirs and water reserves in Austria

Whereas the supply of high-quality water is becoming an ever-increasing problem in many regions of the world, Austria is one of the most water-abundant countries of the world. The reserves, which are available subterraneanly in the groundwater and in the soil water, in natural lakes, in glacier ice, and in the reservoirs amount in total to about 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 Limestone Alps, with their limestone and dolomite rocks and the carbonate rocks.

2. Water reservoirs and water resources in Austria

Reservoirs and resources, total: 123 km³



Source: BMLRT, June 2022.

3. Dams and reservoirs in Austria

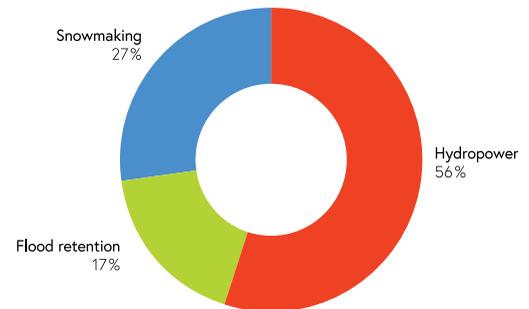
In Austria, water is stored by a total of 193 large dams (dam height $H > 15$ m or storage volume $V > 500,000$ m³) with a total usable volume of 1.6 km³. The major part of this water is used for electricity generation: Dams and reservoirs play a crucial role in the generation of renewable energy from hydropower and in storing surplus energy from wind and photovoltaic plants (power plant storage and pumped storage)—which can presently be made 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. 32 large flood retention basins, in which 0.032 km³ of 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 comparably warm and low-precipitation winters, which requires the establishment of facilities for artificial snow generation in the interest of winter tourism, which is so important for Austria. For the generation of artificial snow, 52 large snow-making reservoirs with a storage volume of about 0.005 km³ are available—this corresponds to about 0.3 % of the total available usable volume.

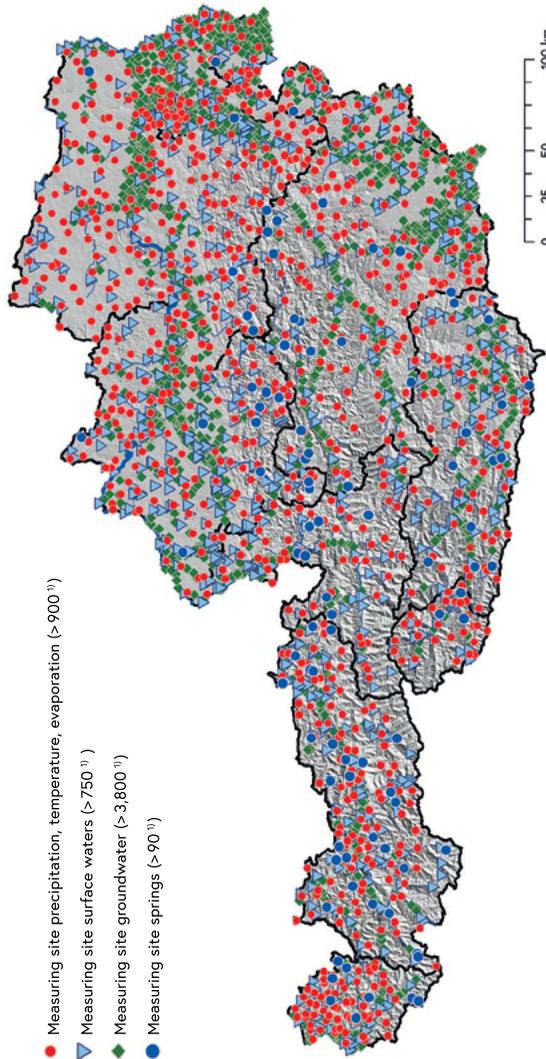
3. Purpose of use of big dams and reservoirs

in Austria



Source: BML, as of: June 2023.

4. Austrian Hydrographical Monitoring Network



1) Number of measuring sites with data available at ehyd.gv.at. Source: Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Water Management, BML, Dir. 1/3, as of: June 2023.

4. The hydrographical monitoring network in Austria

The hydrographical monitoring network in Austria is operated under the responsibility of Directorate 1/3 (Water Balance) at the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Water Management (BML), jointly with the hydrographical services of the Federal Provinces, the Austrian waterways operator viadonau as well as more than 2,500 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. Furthermore, they are applied in water and energy supply, in agriculture and forestry, in civil engineering offices, in the insurance industry as well as in science and research, as for example in climate impact research. Thanks to this reliable data basis, planning instruments of water management, such as hazard zoning and flood risk management are standardised and can be implemented for Austria in a standardised way.

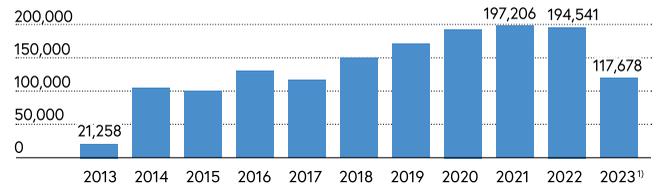
The hydrographical monitoring network and the hydrographical data constitute, as bases for planning and decisions, important elements of the Austrian water management. They make an important contribution to the overall national economy.

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 at the WebGIS-Portal eHYD (ehyd.gv.at) free of charge.

5. Application calls of eHYD

Total: 1,492,266 application calls until 2022



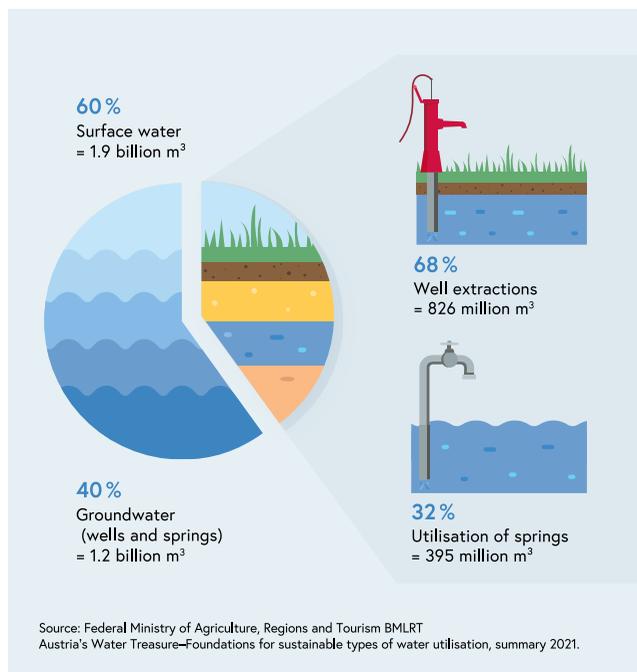
1) Figure for the first half of the year 2023; Source: Computing and Technology Centre for Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management (LFRZ) as of: 1 July 2023.

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 (68 % wells, 32 % springs). The highest share is used for water supply, a smaller share is assigned to trade and industry as well as to agriculture and services.

6. Water demand from groundwater and surface water



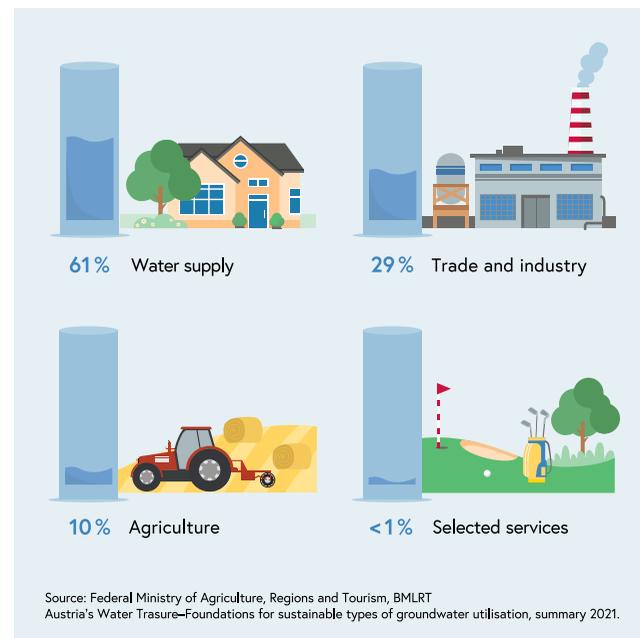
7. Utilisation of groundwater according to branches of industry

The water demand of the Austrian water supply is completely covered by groundwater from wells and springs. The current water demand of the public 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 in total 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 agriculture uses on average 69 million m³ of water for irrigation, of which around 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. Utilisation of groundwater according to branches of industry



8. Intensity of groundwater utilisation by water extraction from wells—current situation



Source: Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Regions and Tourism, BMLRT, Austria's Water Treasure—Foundations for sustainable types of water utilisation, 2021.

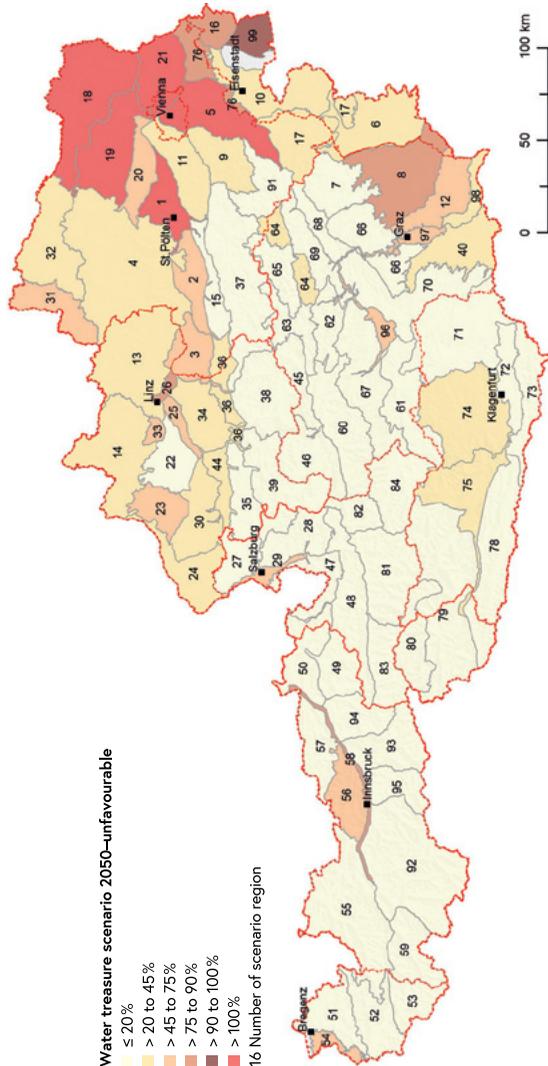
8. Intensity of groundwater utilisation

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 resource.

The current intensity of groundwater utilisation at regional level has shown that the current water demand is sufficiently covered by groundwater. In the North East, the East and in the South East of Austria there are higher utilisation intensities, however, none of the regions exceeds the 100 % mark.

9. Intensity of groundwater utilisation by 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 the utilisation intensities will considerably increase in some regions. Partly an exceedance of the 100 % mark is expected. This means that in future in these regions the available groundwater resources might not meet the water demand from wells any more without countermeasures. Particularly affected are the regions in the East of Austria.



Source: Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Regions and Tourism; BMLRT, Austria's Water Treasure—Foundations for sustainable types of water utilisation, 2021.

10. Per capita water consumption in Austrian households

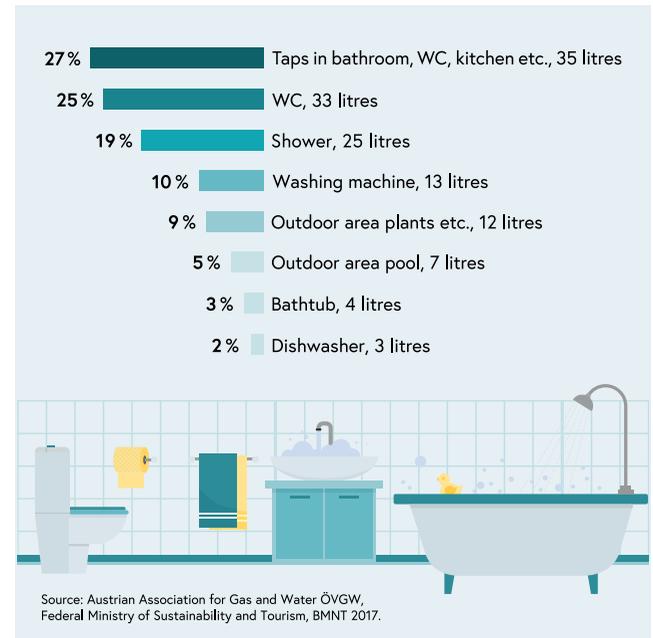
In Austria the daily water consumption amounts to about 130 litres per capita. Thus annually approximately the volume of water of Lake Wolfgang is used by domestic households, the major part of it is used for WC flushing, daily personal hygiene and the kitchen.

In spite of the slightly downward trend in water consumption per capita the demand of the society as a whole will, according to forecasts, in particular due to the population growth, rise by 11 to 15 percent until 2050, particularly due to population growth.

However, the virtual water consumption, which describes the water demand for the production of food, clothes and industrial goods, which we are buying, amounting on average to 4,700 litres per capita and day, is considerably higher than the direct water consumption. In particular also in view of climate change a careful use and the 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 each and every of us 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 makes thus up many times of the direct consumption 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 products

The examples show how much “virtual water” products contain and which share of the water footprint of a person in Austria per day their consumption has. How much water is needed for the production of a good depends very much on production and environmental factors and varies depending on the origin. Moreover, it makes a difference under which climatic conditions a crop is grown and whether the natural quantities of rain are sufficient or whether artificial irrigation is required.

As an effect of climate change with all its challenges for water supply, water will become an increasingly important resource globally. And this is where, apart from other factors, our consumption behaviour comes into play. With a demand-oriented purchasing behaviour, which is as regional and seasonal as possible, and the avoidance of food waste, a significant reduction of the water footprint is possible. It is estimated that only by means of the avoidance of food waste in households about 280 litres per person and day could be saved.

12. Virtual water and water footprint of selected 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: Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Regions and Tourism, Virtual Water 2021, Water Footprint for Convenience Goods. All data are mean values of the years 2014-2018.

13. The wastewater disposal system

Untreated wastewater constitutes a significant burden for water bodies. Therefore wastewater is collected via the sewerage system and treated and purified in municipal and industrial wastewater treatment plants. The treated water can subsequently be returned to the natural water cycle. Thus, wastewater treatment serves the sustainable 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 and a high quality level is reached—also compared to international standards. The rate of connection to municipal wastewater treatment plants in Austria amounts to 96 %.

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. The toilet should by no means be used to dispose of oil, used fats, medicines or hazardous substances, such as paints or varnishes. These products should always be disposed of at an appropriate collection point.

13. Rate of connection to the municipal wastewater collection and treatment system

in Austria, based on the total population of Austria

Disposal/year	1971	1981	1991	2001	2016	2018	2020
PE ¹⁾ (in million)	7.49	7.53	7.81	8.06	8.77	8.84	8.92
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	95.9	96.0
connected to small and domestic wastewater treatment plants (%)	16.4	16.1	9.8	14.0 ³⁾	4.8 ³⁾	4.1 ³⁾	4.0 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, in million, rounded to the second decimal point. Source: © STATISTICS AUSTRIA.

2) Rate of connection according to feedback by the Federal Provinces

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: Publication of the BML "Municipal Wastewater Report 2022".

14. Subsidies for water management in residential areas

Subsidies for water management in residential areas comprise the construction and the rehabilitation of the required infrastructure in order to provide for a sufficient drinking water supply and a well-organised wastewater management.

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. Subsidies for water management in residential areas in 2022¹⁾

in Austria			
Type of plant	Projects	Investment costs in €	Cash value of subsidies in €
Wastewater treatment plants (WWTPs)	674	240,538,229	48,133,689
thereof with pipeline information system ²⁾	287	31,456,806	8,460,214
Small-scale wastewater treatment plants	15	2,047,688	614,307
Small-scale sewage disposal plants subsidised on a flat-rate basis	218	3,227,320	428,234
Sewage disposal, total	907	245,813,237	49,176,230
Water supply facilities (WSF)	554	256,949,628	40,664,123
thereof with pipeline information system ²⁾	173	7,979,828	3,887,862
Individual water supply facilities	6	614,175	184,252
Individual water supply facilities subsidised on a flat-rate basis	37	1,056,753	109,597
Water supply, total	597	258,620,556	40,957,972
Research on water management in residential areas	1	533,226	442,830
Total	1,505	504,967,019	90,577,032

1) Investments and federal subsidies

2) not included in total

Source: BML, Kommunalkredit Public Consulting (KPC), publication "Umweltinvestitionen des Bundes—Maßnahmen der Wasserwirtschaft 2022" (Environmental investments of the Federal Government—Measures of Water Management 2022), April 2023.

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

Subsidies for Austrian drinking water facilities ensure that the Austrian population is supplied with hygienically safe drinking water. Thus, these investments contribute to a high quality of life and to welfare in all Austrian regions.

Important goals are ensuring the security of supply with high quality drinking water and adapting the drinking water supply to the longer lasting and more severe dry periods caused by climate change. Moreover, the maintenance measures of the aging infrastructure are of special importance, because about one third of the public drinking water pipelines are older than 50 years. Also facilities for the exploration of water resources, water tanks containers and treatment plants must be renewed over time.

15. Effects of projects in the field of water supply facilities in 2022

in Austria

Projects

Number of persons newly connected to the water supply system ¹⁾	16,340
km of pipelines renovated	302
Number of water treatment facilities built	231
Storage volume created in m ³	8,800
Exploration of water resources ¹⁾	85

Economic effects

Investments in drinking water supply triggered off by subsidies in €	258,620,556
Jobs created and/or safeguarded by investments—"green jobs"	4,733

¹⁾ including individual systems

Source: BML, Kommunalkredit Public Consulting (KPC), 2023.

16. Effects of projects in the field of wastewater management

By means of subsidising the Austrian wastewater treatment sector it is ensured that the wastewater generated is collected and purified properly. Thus these investments contribute to the protection of groundwater and surface waters. Future challenges for the years to come are, among other things, measures for the adaptation to climate change, for example the increase in local severe rainfall events requires an adapted rainwater treatment with more local rainwater infiltration and retention. Important goals in this context are the improvement of wastewater and rainwater treatment, also for micro-pollutants, the maintenance of the existing pipeline network and the further development of the use of renewable energy in the field of wastewater purification. Increasingly relevant are, moreover, measures for the nutrient recovery to facilitate a circular economy and for blackout prevention in the field of critical infrastructure.

16. Effects of projects in the field of wastewater management in 2022

in Austria

Sewer conduits

km of sewers constructed	205
km of sewers rehabilitated	208
Objects disposed of	3,630
Persons newly connected to sewerage system ¹⁾	38,200
Population equivalents connected to sewerage system	22,600

Wastewater treatment plants

Population equivalents	35,200
Tonnes of BOD5 removed	540
Tonnes of nitrogen nitrified	131
Tonnes of nitrogen additionally removed per year	99
Tonnes of phosphorous additionally removed per year	21

Economic effects

Investments in sewage disposal triggered off by subsidies in €	245,813,237
Jobs created and/or safeguarded by investments—"green jobs"	4,498

¹⁾ including individual systems

Source: BML, Kommunalkredit Public Consulting (KPC) 2023.

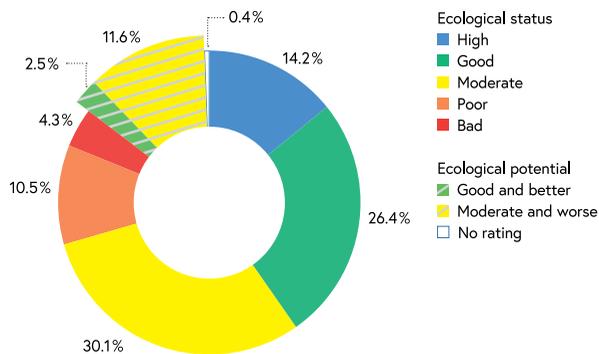
17. Ecological status and ecological potential—running waters

Austria's network of rivers and brooks amounts to a total length of over 100,000 kilometres, which is enough to circle the earth almost 2.5 times. In addition to its structure and volume of water, physical-chemical and biological characteristics are also measured when assessing the condition of water bodies. 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 32,101 km long with catchment areas >10 km. 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 running waters show a “good and better” and 11.6 % a “moderate or poor” potential. These waters have been identified as “artificial or considerably moderated”.

17. Ecological status and ecological potential—running waters

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



Source: BML 2023 (database National Water Management Plan NGP 2021).

18. Ecological status and ecological potential—lakes

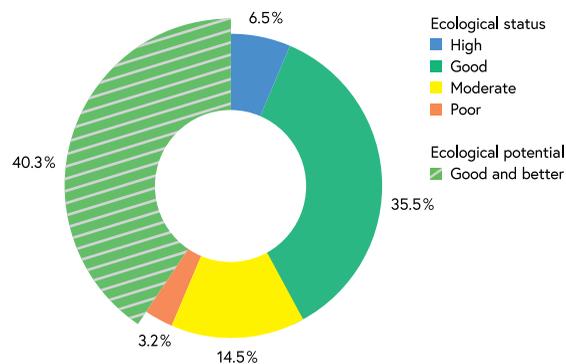
In Austria there are more than 25,000 stagnant water bodies with a size exceeding 250 m². The 62 lakes, which are bigger than 50 ha, comprise 37 natural, 6 considerably moderated and 19 artificial lakes. As far as the ecological status is concerned 6.5 % are assessed as being “high”, 35.5 % as “good”, 14.5 % as “moderate” and 3.2 % as “poor”. All artificial or considerably moderated lakes are in the status of a “good” ecological potential.

Regarding eleven Austrian lakes the goal of the “good status” is missed. The causes of it are nutrient load (Lake Ossiach, Old Danube), disturbance of the chemical-hydrological balance and the water balance (Lake Lange Lacke, Lake St. Andäer Zicksee, Lake Illmitzer Zicklacke) or influences of fisheries management (Lake Walchsee, Lake Traunsee, Lake Irrsee, Lake Weissensee), a combination of invasive fish species, climate change, nutrient load (Lake Lunzersee) and nutrient and hydro-morphological load (Lake Wörthersee).

With some lakes, in particular shallow lakes, first severe consequences of climate change have become evident. However, most recent measurements have also shown that, due to improvement measures with the general biological components, Lake Mondsee shows a good status again. Appropriate measures are also continued to be carried out for the other lakes.

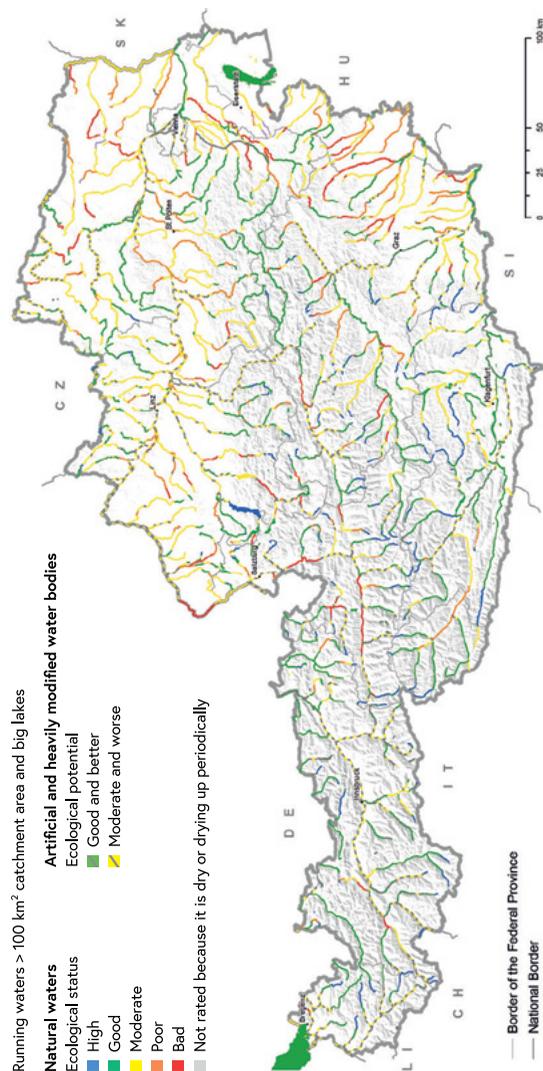
18. Ecological status and ecological potential—lakes

62 lakes > 50 ha, in Austria



Source: BML 2023 (database National Water Management Plan NGP 2021).

19. Austria's running waters and big lakes—Ecological status and ecological potential



Source: National Water Management Plan (Nationaler Gewässerbewirtschaftungsplan NGP) 2021. BML, Dir. I/2, National and International Water Management. Graphics: Environment Agency Austria 2023.

19. Austria's running waters and big lakes—Ecological status and ecological potential

On the map of Austria the ecological status and/or the ecological potential of running waters with a catchment area of more than 100 km² is represented. In the same way all lakes which are bigger than 50 ha have been represented. The fundamental goal of water protection is to ensure a good ecological status” and/or, in the case of artificial or considerably moderated bodies of water, a good ecological potential.

20. Subsidisation of Aquatic Ecology

Subsidies for ecological measures on Austrian running waters constitute an important financing instrument in order to reach the goals of the European Water Framework Directive. The supreme goal of the “Subsidies for Aquatic Ecology” is the improvement and the establishing of networks of water habitats. In this context the focus is on the restoration of continuity for aquatic organisms as well as on morphological measures, such as for example renaturation or river widening. In the year 2022, 21 transverse structures have been modified to enable fish passage by means of the “Subsidies for Aquatic Ecology” and thus allowing them to surmount in total an altitude of 54 metres. Furthermore, a total of 8 river kilometres were hydro-morphologically improved and restored to a natural state in the year 2022.

20. Subsidies for aquatic ecology projects in 2022

in Austria	Projects	Investment costs in €	Cash value of subsidies in €
Austrian government	23	6,094,940	5,316,100
Enterprises	11	3,434,332	697,705
Municipalities	6	1,742,805	1,045,683
Research projects	3	1,018,444	978,106
of which continuity ¹⁾		5,579,015	2,270,964
of which revitalisation ²⁾		6,711,506	5,766,630
Total result	43	12,290,521	8,037,594
Economic effects			
Investments in aquatic ecology triggered off by subsidies in €			11,272,077
Jobs created and/or safeguarded by investments—“green jobs”			210

1) Continuity = passability for fish

2) Revitalisation: Close-to-nature design of a river course

Source: BML / Kommunalkredit Public Consulting (KPC) 2023.

Focus on research activities of the BML

The research at the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Water Management (BML) is the core element of the applied research landscape and an important element of the Austrian system of science. At the interface of science, politics and the society, it provides new insights, which are directly incorporated into practice and serve as a basis for political decisions.

The research priorities are defined in the research programme 2020–2025. They aim at orienting the research activities in a sustainable way. Applied research for practice and the society falls within the technical competences of the Ministry: Agriculture, forestry, water management, regional policy and spatial planning. However, 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”, “digitalization”, or “political impact assessment”.

According to the current developments every year the focus is on concrete research priorities, such as the topics “digitalization” in 2021 and “food supply and security” in 2022 and people are encouraged in a targeted way to submit research projects.

Research at the BML is carried out at the research agencies of the BML, its outsourced research institutions, as well as by means of research contracts awarded to external project applicants. International networking takes place by means of the participation in European research initiatives.

At the research platform dafne.at (database for research on sustainable development) you will find details on all research projects. Dafne.at serves the information about, as well as the administration and the recording of research projects, which are carried out at the research agencies, the federal institutions or agencies or are, via research contracts, awarded to external research institutions. 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.

The Directorate Präs. 8–Research Development and Corporate Services- is the research coordination and service unit at the BML. A survey is provided by the “Annual Report on Research Activities”, which is published annually.

1. Survey of research activities at the Ministry

The research at the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Water Management is based on three pillars: Research institutions of the Ministry, research contracts awarded to external project applicants and cooperation in international and European research programmes. The participation in international programmes and research bodies supplements the expert knowledge within the Ministry and ensures that Austria’s interests are represented in the European research landscape.

1. Survey of research activities at the Ministry

At the Austrian Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Water Management (BML).

Year	2021	2022
Research agencies of the Ministry	Number	Number
Research agencies	9	9
External research organisations	24	31
Research projects	Number	Number
Current internal projects	271	318
Current external projects	134	144
Expenditures for research contract assignments	in mio. €	in mio. €
Research-effective share of the research units of the Ministry	23.65	24.25 ¹⁾
Current transfer to related enterprises	12.31	12.31 ¹⁾
Research and other measures ²⁾	8.34	24.83 ¹⁾
Total	44.3	61.39¹⁾
Transfer of knowledge	Number	Number
Relevant specialised/scientific publications ³⁾	596	465
of which peer-reviewed ³⁾	100	80
of which non peer-reviewed ³⁾	496	385
Participants in further training events ³⁾	10,692	14,670
Users of dafne.at	2,254 ⁴⁾	3,108

1) Final only after determination of the success figures for 2022 in Enclosure T

2) including additional research funds from the forest fund.

3) at research agencies of the BML excluding the Austrian Federal Institute of Agricultural Economics, Rural and Mountain Research (BAB).

4) As a consequence of a technical conversion of dafne.at data are only available from October 2021 onwards.

Source: BML, Annual Report Research Activities 2022, BFG, research database dafne.at, as of: June 2023.

2. The research year

The research activities of the BML make an important contribution to the improvement of the quality of life in Austria. The goal of the research of the Ministry is to put new knowledge and modern technologies into practice as soon as possible. The research projects carried out and/or commissioned by the BML were at a constantly high level also in 2022.

2. The research year at the Ministry

at the Austrian Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Water Management (BML).

Year	2019	2020	2021	2022
New research projects				
Internal projects ¹⁾	16	40	64	70
External projects ²⁾	26	18	45	39
Total	42	58	109	109
Project completions				
Internal projects ¹⁾	22	50	37	67
External projects ²⁾	16	19	27	38
Total	38	69	64	105
Current research projects				
Internal projects ¹⁾		277	271	318
External projects ²⁾		94	134	144
of which EU projects (ERA-NET ³⁾)		24	29	17
of which with BBK ⁴⁾ -participation		17	24	22
Total		371	405	462

1) in research agencies of the BML (BMLRT).

2) Projects of the BML (BMLRT), which are commissioned to external research institutions

3) ERA-NET = Networking the European Research Area

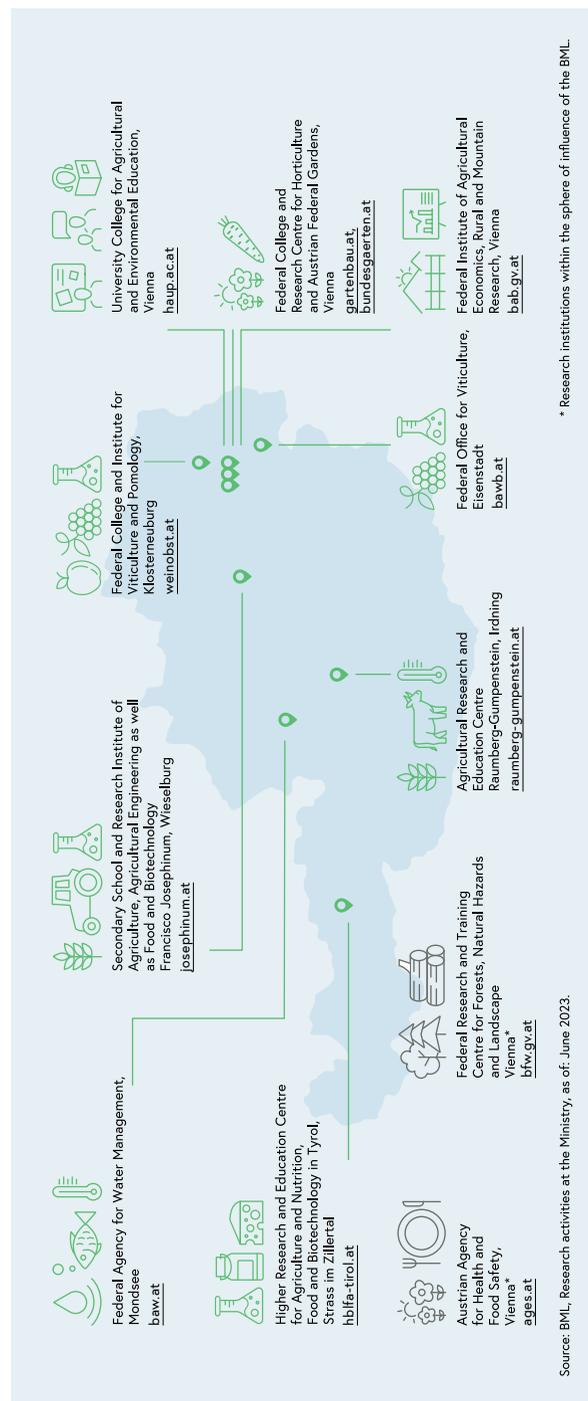
4) BBK = Cooperation between the Federal Government and the Federal Provinces in the field of research

Source: BML, Annual Report Research Activities 2022, BFG, research database dafne.at, as of: June 2023.

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

The focus is on the nine research agencies of the BML responsible for research activities as well as on two outsourced institutions. They constitute a particularity in the Austrian research landscape due to their strong focus on applied research. Five research agencies are combined with secondary agricultural colleges to form secondary research and education centres (HBLFA), which constitutes a unique combination between research and education.

3. Research agencies and outsourced institutions of the BML



Source: BML, Research activities at the Ministry, as of: June 2023.

* Research institutions within the sphere of influence of the BML.

4. Current projects at the research agencies of the Ministry

at the Austrian Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Water Management (BML)

Research agencies	2021		2021		2021	
	Projects Number	Staff FTE ¹⁾	Costs ²⁾ in mio. €	Projects ³⁾ Number	Staff FTE ¹⁾	Costs ²⁾ in mio. €
Agricultural Research and Education Centre HBLFA Raumberg-Gumpenstein	121	86.78	9.50	96	87.51	10.27
Federal College and Institute for Pomology and Viticulture	34	53.5	4.16	86	56.37	5.66
Federal Institute of Agricultural Economics, Rural and Mountain Research	48	12.24	2.60	47	10.51	2.33
Federal College and Research Centre for Horticulture and Austrian Federal Gardens	42	12.58	1.49	51	17.19	1.58
Federal Secondary School and Research Institute for Agriculture, Agricultural Engineering and Food Technology HBLFA Francisco-Josephinum	24	25.25	3.57	22	22.13	3.61
University College for Agricultural and Environmental Education	11	3.81	0.44	8	4.08	0.48
Federal Office for Viticulture, Eisenstadt	5	4.8	0.47	2	4.52	0.66
Federal Agency for Water Management ³⁾	44	23.46	3.48	38	18.32	3.05
Federal College and Research Centre HBLFA Tirol	1	0.05	0.006	2	⁴⁾	0.03

1) FTE = Full Time Equivalent according to Resource, Goal and Performance P (RGP Plan) of the BML.

2) Costs of the core service research according to the RGP Plan of the BML, rounded figures.

3) Data according to Resource, Goal and Performance Plan (RGP Plan) of the research-active units of the BML.4) No research data available. Source: BML, Annual Report Research Activities 2022, BFG, research platform dafne.at, as of: June 2023.

5. External research projects

The external research organisations of the BML play an important role in the research activities of the Ministry. In the year 2022 contracts amounting in total to 17.2 million € have been awarded. Due to the research measures within the framework of the Forest Fund an increase to around 13 million € was recorded with research-related expenses.

The process administration takes place via the research platform dafne.at, which was relaunched in 2021, a web database with access to current research topics and project contents, as well as practice-oriented research results.

5. Current external research projects at the Ministry

at the Austrian Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Water Management (BML)

Year	2019	2020 ¹⁾²⁾	2021	2022
Selected research institutions	Research projects (number)			
Vienna University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences (BOKU)	38	35	32	53
Austrian Agency for Health and Food Safety (AGES)	10	13	21	14
Federal Research and Training Centre for Forests, Natural Hazards and Landscape	8	8	23	19
Vienna University of Veterinary Medicine	7	7	10	10
Environment Agency Austria	2	4	5	5
Fields of research	Research-relevant expenses (in 1,000 €, rounded figures)			
Agriculture	2,165	2,610	3,097	3,792
Forestry	768	853	964	246
Forestry funded by the Austrian Forest Fund			4,007	12,795
Water management	198	277	270	325
Total	3,577	3,741	8,338	17,158

1) without KIRAS and FORTE (KIRAS = Austrian Security Research Programme /civil security research funding programme, FORTE = Defence Research Programme/defense research funding programme.)

2) Since 2020 the Federal Ministry of Climate Action, Environment, Energy, Mobility, Innovation and Technology (BMK) has been in charge of environmental affairs.

Source: BML, Annual Report Research Activities 2022, BFG, research database dafne.at, as of: June 2023.

Agricultural education in Austria

Austria's agriculture and forestry have been the backbone of a rural area worth living in for centuries. In order to be able to meet the growing demands of the society, the economy and the environment a successful agricultural education is required. It is based on innovation, competence, sustainability and tradition and safeguards in this way the quality of life by means of the multifarious services rendered by our farmers for the society as a whole.

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 productive, sustainably managed holdings in rural regions worth living in, which produce high-quality foodstuffs in an environmentally benign and species-appropriate way. Moreover, national strategies are transported and specific conditions of the Federal Provinces are dealt with. In this way regional links are created.

Agricultural education in Austria is characterised by a nation-wide unique educational, training, further training and extension network with high permeability. The agricultural educational system has a high level of attractiveness for non-agrarians, due to its wide range of imparting knowledge.

Life-long, and also true-to life learning have become reality due to the connection between teaching, research and practice. People are educated, no matter whether they are young or old, towards independent entrepreneurially thinking, competent personalities oriented according to the community.

Education must always be oriented according to social, economic and in particular climatic changes. By means of integrating research results in the learning contents, the direct implementation into practice takes place.

The agricultural educational sector faces its great responsibility. Knowledge in the agricultural industry is not only the prerequisite for a secure nutrition and for the preservation of the organic base of raw material; it also serves to safeguard the base of life of the total population.

Agricultural education is thus a future-oriented educational system with the potential of coping with current and future, societal, economic, ecological and social tasks.

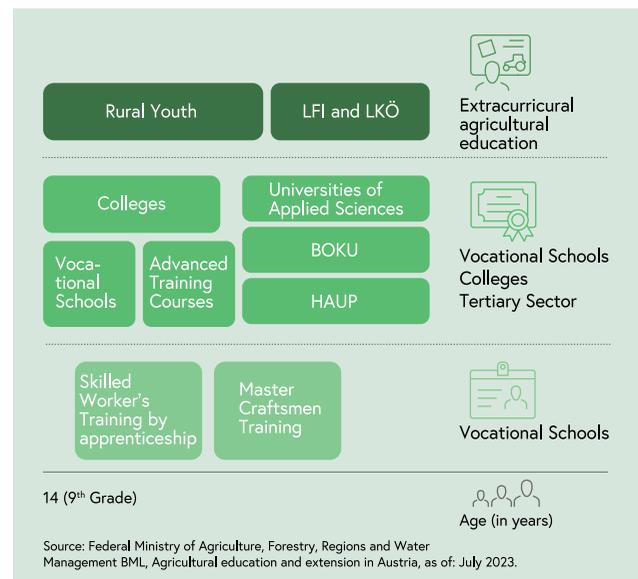
1. Agricultural education and extension

Agricultural education and extension make an important contribution to the preservation of rural areas. From the 9th grade onwards pupils can select from an educational programme with a wide range of offers.

The agricultural educational system consists of a network, which comprises skilled worker's training, master craftsmen training, but also education at vocational schools and Colleges for Agriculture and Forestry, and later at the Universities of Applied Sciences, the University College for Agricultural and Environmental Education (HAUP) and the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences (BOKU).

In the field of extra-curricular agricultural education, among other things, the Chambers of Agriculture (LKÖ), the Rural Institute for Further Training (LFI) as well as the Rural Youth are available as central contact points. The attractive offer of extension services supports responsible self-reliant farm management and successful business development. These multifarious, comprehensive and high-quality training and further training offers provide a valuable contribution to a resource-conscious and responsible way of acting.

1. Agricultural education and extension



2. Agriculture and forestry educational system

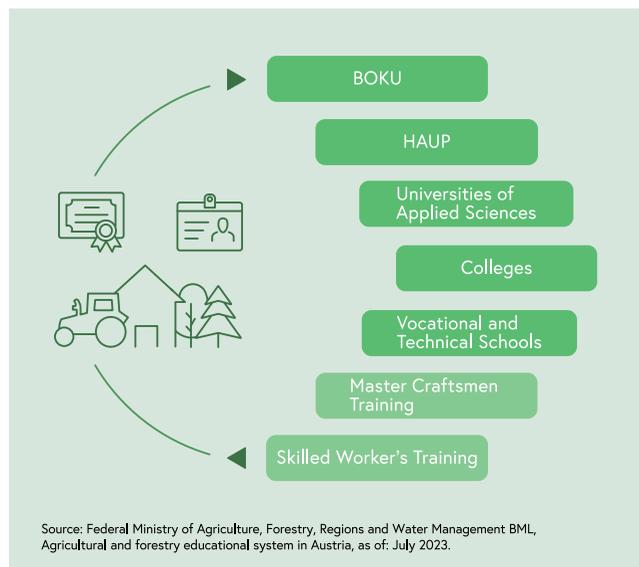
There are 15 different agricultural and forestry occupations, e.g.: Agriculture, horticulture, forestry, ... The duration of a training for a skilled worker qualification is regularly 3 years, however, apart from the technical school it can also be made within the framework of second-chance education or as a dual practice-oriented training. The subsequent master craftsmen training lasts, as a rule, for three years. For more detailed information see: lehrlingsstelle.at.

The 93 agricultural schools offer sound training programmes via different educational paths and priorities. They are competence centres within and for vital regions. For more detailed information see: agrarschulen.at.

Apart from the HAUP there exist Universities of Applied Sciences with an agricultural and environmental focus in Austria, such as for example the branch of study agricultural technology. For more detailed information see: haup.ac.at and fachhochschulen.ac.at

The BOKU is the central teaching and research institution for sustainability. It combines topics of natural sciences, technological and socio-economic topics. There exist seven bachelor, 30 master and 13 doctoral studies. For more detailed information see: boku.ac.at.

2. Agriculture and forestry educational system



3. Agricultural and forestry schools

The duration of training at the more than 70 agricultural and forestry vocational schools is usually 3 years. After the graduation you will become a skilled worker. Many further qualifications can be acquired in this context. For more detailed information see: agrarschulen.at.

The Colleges for Agriculture and Forestry offer ten different branches with another 11 regional specialisations and priorities. The duration of training is five years and/or three years in the advanced training course. The vocational and general education at a College ends with a school-leaving exam entitling to universities studies called Matura and a diploma exam. For more detailed information see: bml.gv.at/schulen.

3. Agricultural and forestry schools and university colleges

in Austria		
Types of schools and number	School year 2021/22	School year 2022/23
University College for Agricultural and Environmental Education (HAUP)¹⁾	1	1
Students in the federally funded sector	871	925
Agricultural and forestry schools		
Agricultural colleges for teaching and research¹⁾	10	10
Students	3,271	3,225
Teaching staff ²⁾	478	472
Private secondary schools	2	2
Students	237	252
Teaching staff ²⁾	23	23
Forestry colleges for teaching and research¹⁾	1	1
Students	359	344
Teaching staff ²⁾	50	44
Technical schools for agriculture and forestry ("Fachschulen")	74	74
Students	12,398	12,869
Teaching staff ²⁾	1,602	1,543
Federal Forest Vocational School¹⁾	1	1
Students	63	69
Vocational schools for agriculture and forestry	4	4
Students	694	610
Total schools	92	93
Total students of all school types	17,022	18,294
Total teachers of all schools types²⁾	2,171	2,082

1) University college and schools of the BML (BMLRT)

2) FTE = Full-Time Equivalents

Source: BML, as of: June 2023.

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

The HAUP is the only teacher training college for the fields of agriculture and environment in Austria. It is the centre for further training and advanced training for professional fields in agricultural and environmental pedagogics and the scientific centre of competence for Green Pedagogics.

Fields of study

- Bachelor and Master studies agricultural/environmental education.
- Bachelor studies after or during relevant study programmes.
- Bachelor and master studies in agricultural education for Master Craftsmen as well as for graduates of the Federal Secondary College and Institute with at least three years of vocational experience.

Master study courses

- Master study course Green Care;
- Master study course Management & Environment.

University courses at the Institute for Further Training and Continuing Education: UC Managing schools in a professional way; UC Learning Environment Nature; UC Mentoring–accompanying the career start in a professional way; UC Sommelier/Sommelière at schools; UC Cheese Sommelier/Sommelière at schools; UC Teaching Ethics—from theory to practice; UC Social Media Management at schools; UC Garden Pedagogy; UC Teaching Home Economics 4.0; UC Digital & Creative; UC Coaching at schools and at boarding schools; UC CLIL—Content and Language Integrated Learning; UC Agricultural Communication; Nature and Landscape Mediation; UC Lateral entry (for the compulsory school sector—subject Biology and Environmental Science).

University courses at the Institute for Further Training and Third-party funded Projects: University Course Garden Therapy UC HIPS Hippotherapy; UC Professionalization for Consultants and Trainers; UC Animal Assisted Interventions; UC LIFE Food Knowledge; UC Agricultural Journalism; UC Organic Cycle Management.

5. Extracurricular agricultural education

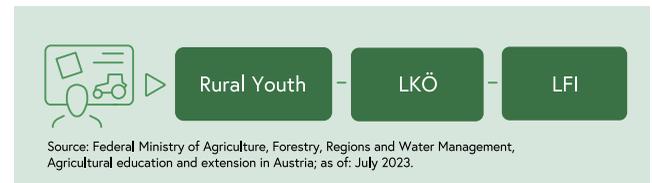
Along with the Austrian Chambers of Agriculture (LKÖ) and the Rural Further Education Institute (LFI), the Rural Youth is one of the largest educational organisations for extracurricular agricultural education in Austria.

The Rural Youth is the most important organisation for extracurricular youth education, and with 90,000 members also the largest association of that kind in Austria. In addition to internship placements abroad and competitions, the most important activities include continuing education. Important key qualifications are acquired in a wide range of educational programmes. They contribute to the development of one's own personality and support young people in their activities in public functions. For more detailed information see: landjugend.at.

The Chambers of Agriculture offer an attractive range of advisory services for farmers. The cheap extension network covering the whole territory supports responsible self-reliant action in farm management and successful business development. Farmers are advised on issues related to food production, the environment, energy, but also on legal and social aspects. This assistance with all farm-related problem-solving and change processes takes the form of individual, group, project and working group consultations. For more detailed information see: lko.at.

The Rural Further Education Institute (LFI) is one of the largest educational institutions in rural areas. In addition to the traditional and well-established technical training, courses in personal development, health and environmental protection are also offered. Demand is particularly high for the topics: Business management, EDP, pluriactivity, direct marketing and farm holidays. For more detailed information see: lfi.at.

5. Extracurricular agricultural education



6. Skilled workers' training in agriculture and forestry

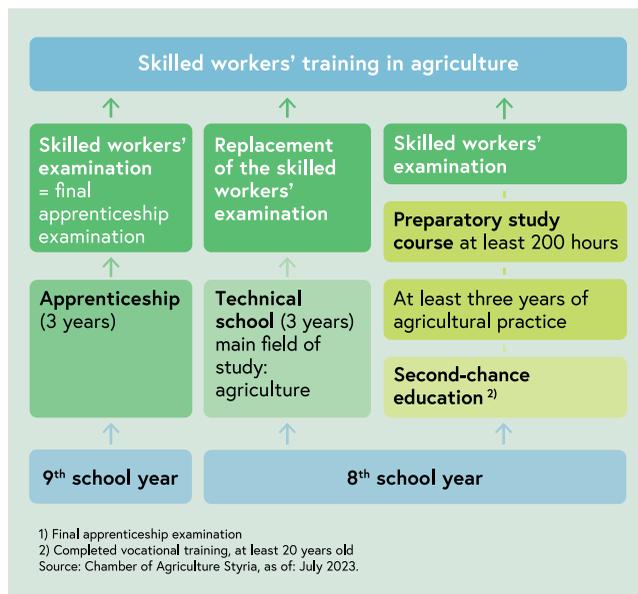
A tailor-made training is important for those taking over a farm and for managers in the field of agriculture and forestry. The practical vocational training is divided into two levels:

Skilled worker training is the first stage. The master craftsman training is based on the skilled worker training.

The acquisition of the skilled worker qualification is possible in three different ways:

- As training at the three-year technical schools to become skilled workers.
- In the second-chance education persons with non-agricultural training can catch up on the skilled worker qualification. Prerequisites for this are the completion of the 20th year of life, as well as at least two years of full-time practical work or at least four years of part-time practical work in agriculture and forestry.
- In the third variant, an apprenticeship can take the form of dual practice-oriented training at two learning locations, a qualified training company and a vocational school for agriculture and forestry.

6. Skilled workers' training in agriculture and forestry



7. Occupations requiring an apprenticeship in agriculture and forestry

In Austria, there are currently 15 agricultural and forestry apprenticeships that qualify apprentices to become skilled workers and, building on this, to become master craftsmen. The competent point of contact is the apprenticeship and technical training office of the Chamber of Agriculture. For more detailed information see: lehrlingsstelle.at.

7. The 15 agricultural and forestry apprenticeships in Austria:



Further information

Websites

BML

Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Water Management

bml.gv.at/en

Press

info.bml.gv.at/service/presse.html

Photo service

info.bml.gv.at/fotoservice.html

Publications

info.bml.gv.at/service/publikationen.html

Facts & Figures

info.bml.gv.at/service/zahlen-fakten-neu.html

Agricultural and forestry schools and University College and agencies of the BML

BML platform “Unsere Schulen” (Our schools)

bml.gv.at/schulen

Hochschule für Agrar- und Umweltpädagogik (HAUP) (University College for Agricultural and Environmental Education)

haup.ac.at

HBLFA für Gartenbau und Österreichische Bundesgärten (Federal College and Research Centre for Horticulture and Austrian Federal Gardens)

gartenbau.at

bundesgaerten.at

HBLFA für Landwirtschaft Raumberg-Gumpenstein (Agricultural Research and Education Centre Raumberg-Gumpenstein)

raumberg-gumpenstein.at

HBLFA Francisco-Josephinum Wieselburg (Federal Institute of Education and Research Francisco Josephinum, Wieselburg)

josephinum.at

HBLFA für Landwirtschaft und Ernährung, Lebensmittel- und Biotechnologie Tirol (Higher Research and Education Centre for Agriculture and Nutrition, Food and Biotechnology Tyrol)

hblfa-tirol.at

HBLA für Landwirtschaft und Ernährung Sitzenberg (Federal Secondary College for Agriculture and Nutrition Sitzenberg)

hbla-sitzenberg.at

HBLA für Landwirtschaft, Umwelt- und Ressourcenmanagement Ursprung (Federal Secondary College for Agriculture, Environmental and Resource Management Ursprung)

ursprung.at

HBLA und Bundesamt für Wein- und Obstbau Klosterneuburg (Federal College and Federal Office for Viticulture and Pomology Klosterneuburg)

weinobst.at

HBLA für Landwirtschaft und Ernährung Elmberg (Federal Secondary College for Agriculture and Nutrition Elmberg)

elmberg.at

HBLA für Landwirtschaft und Ernährung Pitzelstätten (Federal Secondary College for Agriculture and Nutrition Pitzelstätten)

pitzelstaetten.at

HLBLA für Landwirtschaft St. Florian (Federal Secondary College for Agriculture St. Florian)

hbla-florian.at

HBLA für Forstwirtschaft Bruck an der Mur (Federal Secondary College for Forestry Bruck an der Mur)

forstschule.at

Forstfachschnle Traunkirchen (Forestry School Traunkirchen)

forstfachschnle.at

Bundesamt für Wasserwirtschaft (BAW) (Federal Agency for Water Management)

baw.at

Fairness Office

fairness-buero.gv.at

Bundesanstalt für Agrarwirtschaft und Bergbauernfragen (Federal Institute of Agricultural Economics, Rural and Mountain Research)

bab.gv.at

Bundesstellereiinspektion (Federal Wine Control Board)

bundesstellereiinspektion.at

Bundesamt für Ernährungssicherheit (Federal Office for Food Safety)

baes.gv.at

Bundesamt für Weinbau (BAWB) (Federal Office for Viticulture)

bawb.at

Bundesamt für Wald (Federal Forest Research Centre)

bundesamt-wald.at

Forsttechnischer Dienst für Wildbach- und Lawinenverbauung (Forest Engineering Service in Torrent and Avalanche Control)

die-wildbach.at

Corporations, organisations and funds

Spanische Hofreitschule und Bundesgestüt Piber GesÖR
(Spanish Riding School and Federal Stud Farm Piber)

srs.at

Agrarmarkt Austria (AMA)

ama.at

Österreichische Agentur für Gesundheit und Ernährungssicherheit GmbH (AGES) (Austrian Agency for Health and Food Safety)

ages.at

Landwirtschaftliche Bundesversuchswirtschaften GmbH
(Federal Agricultural Experimental Station)

bvw.at

Bundesforschungs- und Ausbildungszentrum für Wald,
Naturgefahren und Landschaft (Federal Research and Training
Centre for Forests, Natural Hazards and Landscape)

bfw.gv.at

Österreichische Bundesforste AG (Austrian Federal
Forests)

bundesforste.at

Österreichische Raumordnungskonferenz (Austrian Confer-
ence on Spatial Planning)

oerok.gv.at

European Regional Development Fund in Austria (ERDF)

efre.gv.at

Initiatives, campaigns and priorities of the BML

DaFNE–Datenbank für Forschung zur Nachhaltigen Ent-
wicklung (Sustainable Development Research Database)

dafne.at

Das isst Österreich (This is what Austria eats)

das-isst-österreich.at

Grüner Bericht (Green Report)

gruenerbericht.at

Innovation Farm–Farming for Future

innovationfarm.at

Wir Land- und Forstwirte (We, being farmers and foresters)

landwirtschaft.at

Landwirtschaft mit Klasse–Agrarbildung studieren und
durchstarten! (Study agriculture and get started!)

landwirtschaft-mit-klasse.at

Meine Region–Heimat. Zukunft. Lebensraum.

meine-regionen.at

Bewusst nachhaltig leben (Consciously living in a
sustainable way)

nachhaltigkeit.at

Leben mit Naturgefahren (Living with natural hazards)

naturgefahren.at

Miteinander sicher auf Österreichs Almen (Safely together
on Austria's alpine pastures)

sichere-almen.at

Traditionelle Lebensmittel in Österreich (Traditional food in
Austria)

traditionelle-lebensmittel.at

netzwerk zukunftsraum land LE 14–20 (Austrian Rural
Network)

zukunftsraumland.at

Der österreichische Walddialog (The Austrian Forest
Dialogue)

walddialog.at

Der Waldfonds–Das Zukunftspaket für unsere Wälder
(The Forest Fund–The future package for our forests)

waldfonds.at

Der Schutzwald in Österreich (Protective forests in Austria)

schutzwald.at

Agricultural education and extension

Skilled worker and master training

lehrlingsstelle.at

Austrian agricultural schools

agrarschulen.at

Secondary Agriculture and Forestry Colleges

bml.gv.at/schulen

Universities of Applied Sciences

fachhochschulen.ac.at

Hochschule für Agrar- und Umweltpädagogik (HAUP)
(University College for Agricultural and Environmental
Education)

haup.ac.at

Universität für Bodenkultur (BOKU) (Vienna University of
Natural Resources and Life Sciences)

boku.ac.at

Landwirtschaft mit Klasse–Agrarbildung studieren und
durchstarten! (Study agriculture and get started!)

landwirtschaft-mit-klasse.at

Rural Further Education Institute (LFI)

lfi.at

Landwirtschaftskammern Österreichs (LKÖ)
(Austrian Chambers of Agriculture)

lko.at

Österreichische Landjugend (Austrian Rural Youth)

landjugend.at

WebGIS applications

General

INSPIRE Austria

inspire.gv.at

INSPIRE Geportal Austria

geoportal.inspire.gv.at

Regional policy and spatial planning

ÖROK-Atlas (Atlas of the Austrian Conference on Spatial Planning)

oerok-atlas.at

Agriculture

Digital Soil Map eBOD

bodenkarte.at

- Soils with sampling sites

Forestry

Forest Development Plan (WEP)

waldentwicklungsplan.at

Bark Beetle Monitoring

borckenkaefer.at

Austrian Forest Inventory

waldinventur.at

Österreichischer Waldatlas (Austrian atlas of forests)

waldatlas.at

Water management and protection against natural hazards

Water WebGIS applications

maps.wisa.bml.gv.at

- NGP–National Water Management Plan
- GKRR–Flood hazard and risk maps
- eHYD–Austria’s Hydrography
ehyd.gv.at
- HORA–Natural Hazard Overview and Risk Assessment
Austria–Natural Hazards
hora.gv.at
- EMREG-OW–Emissionsregister Oberflächenwasserkörper
(Emission register for surface water bodies)

Municipal portal of the Service for Torrent and Avalanche Control

gemeindeportal.die-wildbach.at

Naturgefahren.at (Natural Hazards)

maps.naturgefahren.at

- Floods/Torrents

- Avalanches
- Erosion/Rock fall
- Historical events

The BML in Social Media

Facebook

BML

facebook.com/BML.gv.at

Lebensmittel sind wertvoll (Food is precious)

facebook.com/lebensmittel.sind.wertvoll.at

Unser Wald (Our Forest)

facebook.com/unserwald

Wasseraktiv

facebook.com/wasseraktiv

Generation Blue

facebook.com/GenerationBlue

X

BML

twitter.com/BML_gv_at

Unser Wald (Our Forest)

twitter.com/Unser_Wald

Instagram

BML

instagram.com/bml.gv.at

Generation Blue

instagram.com/generation_blue_gb

Wasseraktiv

instagram.com/wasseraktiv.at

Unser Wald (Our Forest)

instagram.com/unserwald

LinkedIn

BML

linkedin.com/company/bmlat

YouTube

BML video portal

info.bml.gv.at/service/video.html

Wasseraktiv

youtube.com/@wasseraktiv6661

Generation Blue

youtube.com/user/generationblu

Fairness Office

Fairness Office

The Fairness Office is an initial point of contact concerning trade practices in connection with the sale of agricultural products and food products for Austrian farmers, producer groups and suppliers, which is independent and not bound by any instructions. It offers speedy and unbureaucratic assistance and advice and provides an unbiased assessment of the complaint. In this context all concerns are dealt with free-of-charge, anonymously, confidentially and impartially.

Power gap between producers and purchasers

All persons (except for final consumers) who are confronted, within the framework of their business relations, with unfair practices can contact the Fairness Office. The Federal Act on Fair Competitive Conditions (“FWBG Faire-Wettbewerbsbedingungen-Gesetz”), which is to be applied, proceeds on the assumption of a power gap between purchaser (e.g. trade chain) and supplier (e.g. farmers as producers).

The Fairness Office has the following tasks:

- General consulting activities and analysis of cases of complaint;
- Confronting the respondent with the subject of the complaint, in agreement with the complainant;
- Upon request by the complainant and the appellee referral of the matter to a conciliation body.

A differentiation is made between “black list” trade practices, which are absolutely prohibited, and “grey list” trade practices, which are prohibited unless they have been clearly and unequivocally agreed before between the supplier and the purchaser. For more detailed information, please see fairness-buero.gv.at.

Please contact us:

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

Head: Johannes Abentung

Phone: 01 928 16 54 (telephone number for calls from Austria)

Email: beschwerde@fairness-buero.gv.at

Parking 12, 1010 Vienna, Austria

Ombudspersons' Office and Citizens' Service Unit

Ombudspersons' Office and Citizens' Service Unit

The Austrian Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Water Management has established an Ombudspersons' Office with a Citizens' Service Unit. The Ombudspersons' Office with its citizens' service team gladly receives your concerns and questions concerning agriculture, forestry, regions and water management and responds to them, in close cooperation with the experts of the Federal Ministry.

The Ombudspersons' Office can be reached by email at service@bml.gv.at and by telephone from Monday to Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 2. p.m. on the service telephone number 0800 500 198 (telephone number for calls from Austria). For further information, please see info.bml.gv.at/service/servicestelle/buergerservice.html.

Ombudspersons' Office

Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Water Management (BML)

Stubenring 1

1010 Vienna

Austria

Email: service@bml.gv.at

Contact and mail address of the BML

Contact

Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and
Water Management (BML)
Phone: +43 1 71100-0 (Central office–telephone exchange)
Fax: +43 1 513 16 79 25 25
office@bml.gv.at
bml.gv.at

Mail address

Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and
Water Management (BML)
Stubenring 1
1010 Vienna
Austria

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

BML Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Re-
gions and Water Management
BMLRT Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Regions and
Tourism
BMNT Federal Ministry for Sustainability and Tourism
BMLFUW ... Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry,
Environment and Water Management
A, AT Austria
CAP Common Agricultural Policy
EU European Union
GHG Greenhouse gas
NUTS Nomenclature des Unités Territoriales
Statistiques
SMEs Small and medium-sized enterprises

Ordering information

Order of the brochure “Facts and Figures 2023”

On the internet:

This brochure is available as pdf download or as printed brochure (subject to availability) at info.bml.gv.at/service/publikationen/allgemeine-themen.html.

Per email and by phone:

The printed version can also be ordered (subject to availability) at service@bml.gv.at or by telephone at 0800 500 198 (telephone number for calls from Austria) from the Citizens' Service of the Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Water Management.

