ANNEX

Factbook
”Children in Austria”

Contents

ANNEX – Factbook ”Children in Austria”

The factbook „Children in Austria“ (ongoing work in progress) contains a systematic compilation of key data reflecting the living conditions of children in Austria in various contexts.

The following list of factsheets constitutes an extract of the database „Factbook – Children in Austria“ containing information and statistical data in line with the Annex.

See also by clicking at www.kinderrechte.gv.at/children-in-austria-factbook

Allocation of resources / Budgeting for children's rights

Resources for children – Share of total public expenditures and economic performance

It is not possible to simply classify public expenditures as benefiting children. However, to obtain a general picture, certain positions of public expenditures according to areas of activity (COFOG) can be classified as directly related to children.

For the following calculation these include:

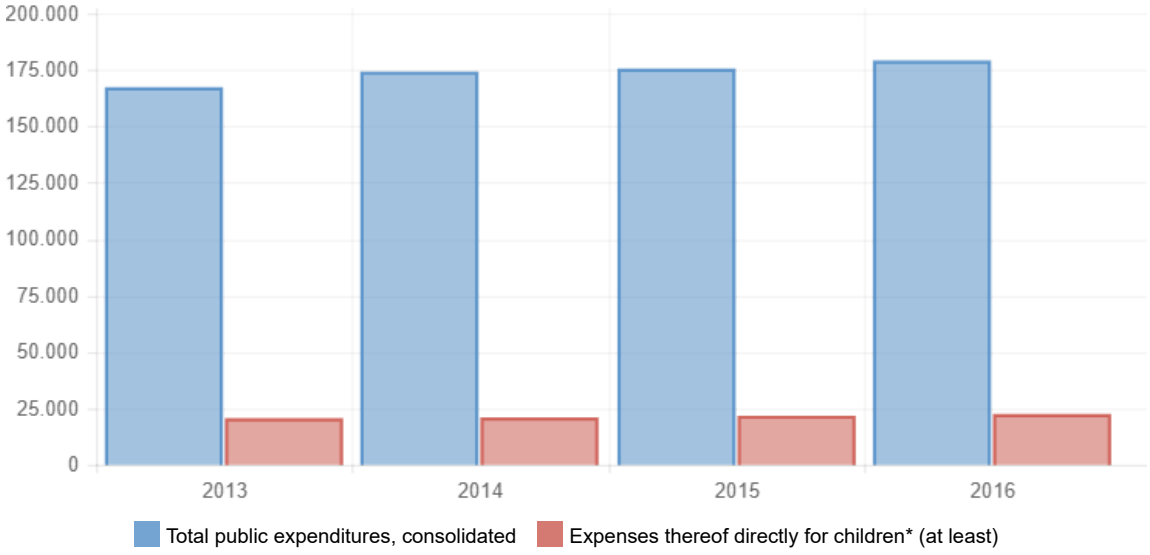
- **07. Public health:** The share of expenditures for children's health are estimated to be at least 6% of the total public health expenditures for 2013-2016 (see expenditures for children's health)
- **09. Education:** The positions 09.1 (Pre-school and primary education) as well as 09.2 (Secondary education) are directly attributed to children
- **10. Social security:** 10.4 (Expenditures for families and children) are directly related to expenditures for children

The expenditures of all public expenditures of the state sector are depicted here. Intergovernmental flows have been removed.

Expenditures for children have been made in other areas of activity as well, but they cannot be directly allocated to children. For this reason, the following data should be understood as the **minimum size**. Further positions in areas 06. (Housing and communal shared services), 07. (Public health) 08. (Leisure, sports, culture and religion), 09. (Education) and 10. (Social security) also directly serve children, but they cannot be reflected in the following calculation since they cannot precisely be quantified.
Expenditures in areas 01. (General public administration), 02. (Defence), 03. (Public order and safety), 04. (Economic affairs) and 05. (Environmental protection) do not directly serve children's well-being and have likewise not been included.

Public expenditures according to areas of activity (COFOG) 2013-2016, ESA 2010, state, consolidated

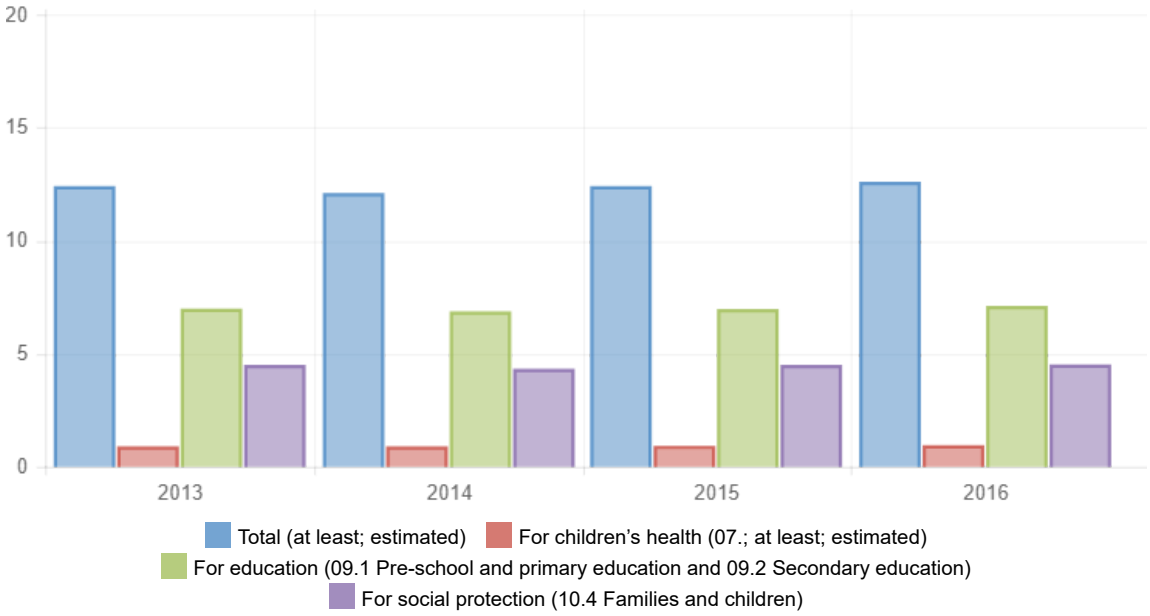
in million euros



* see description above
Source: Statistics Austria, General government expenditure by function (COFOG)

Public expenditures directly related to children* (at least) as % of total expenditures (consolidated)

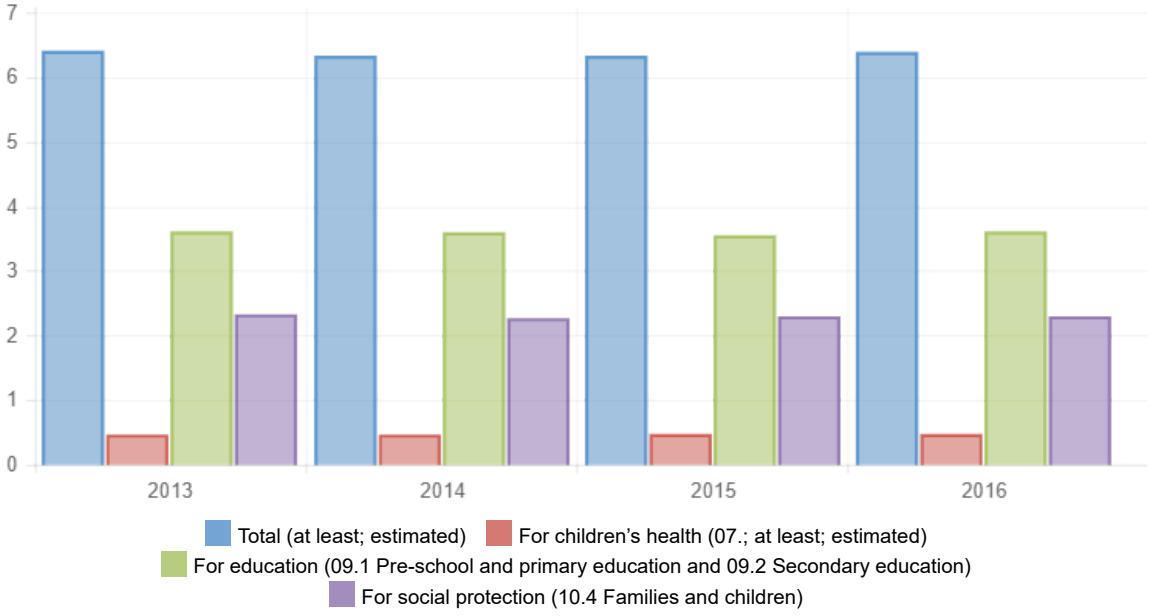
in %



* see description above
Source: Statistics Austria, General government expenditure by function (COFOG)

Public expenditures directly related to children* (at least) as % of economic performance

in %



* see description above
Sources: Statistics Austria, General government expenditure by function (COFOG); Statistics Austria, National accounts – annual data

Resources for children – Share of provincial and municipal expenditures

The budget performance of the provinces and municipalities (including Vienna) is reported in their balance of accounts according to groups or sectors of estimated costs. A detailed list of these groups and sectors can be found for example in table 3.1.6 of the Gebarungsübersichten 2016 published by Statistics Austria.

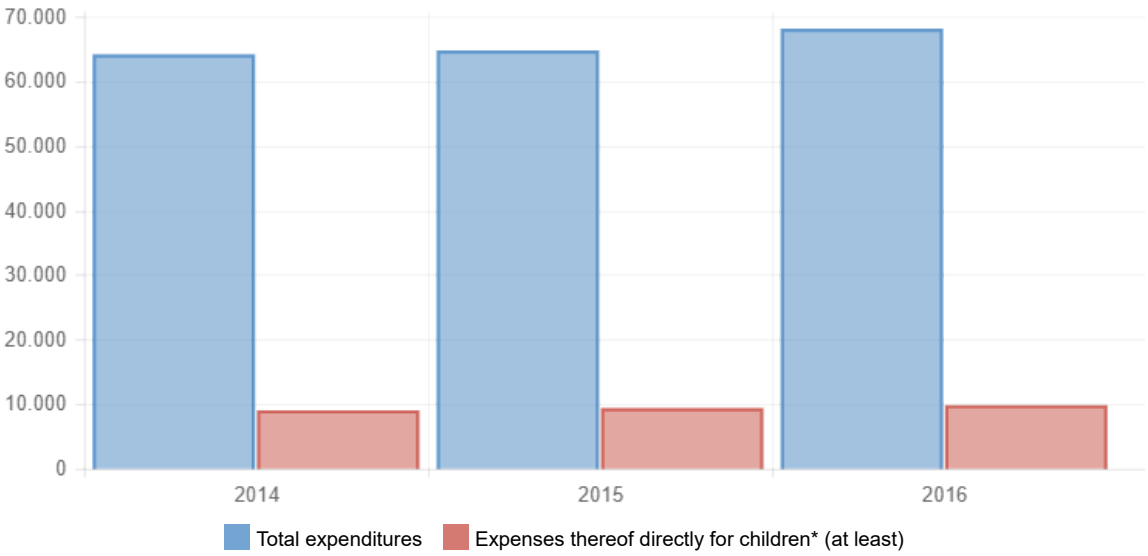
The following sectors have been classified as child-related expenditures for the below calculation:

- **Group 2 – Instruction, education, sports and sciences:**
  21: General education
  23: Support of education
  24: Pre-school education
  25: Extracurricular youth education
- **Group 4 – Social welfare and housing benefits:**
  43: Youth welfare (new denotation: Child and Youth Welfare)
  46: Family-policy measures

Expenditures in this area are also to be understood as **minimum size**, since groups 3 (Art, culture and religious affairs) and 5 (Public health) also include sectors with direct expenditures for children, which cannot be included due to a lack of exact quantification. In the remaining groups, 0 (Representative bodies and general administration), 1 (Public order and safety), 6 (Road and hydraulic engineering), 7 (Economic development), 8 (Services) and 9 (Finance), few or no expenditures are directly related to children's well-being and for this reason they have likewise not been included.

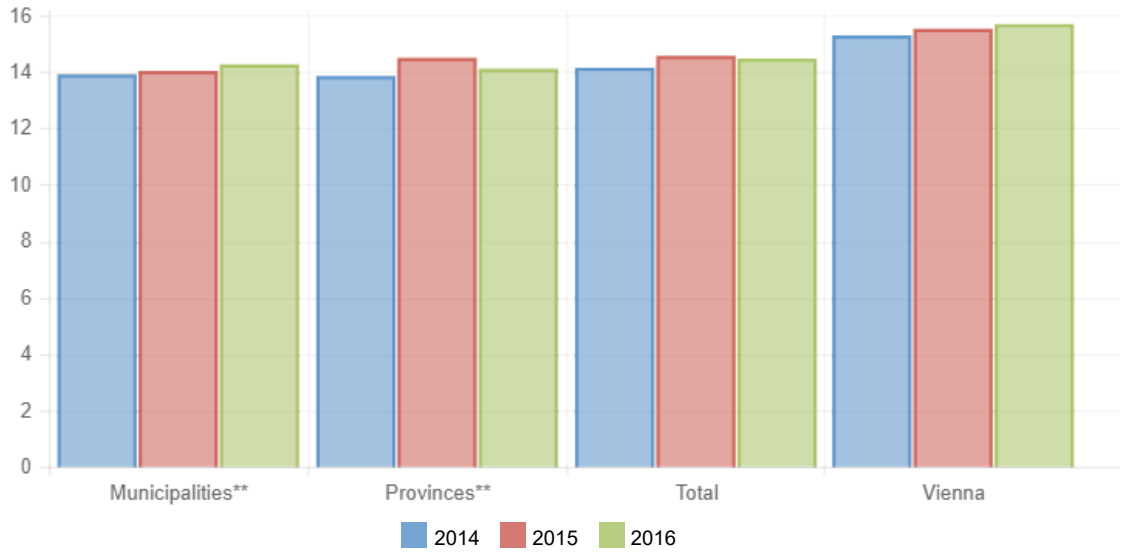
Expenditures of provinces and municipalities (including Vienna) 2014-2016

In million euros



* see description above
Source: Statistics Austria, Public Finances, Gebarungsübersichten 2014-2016

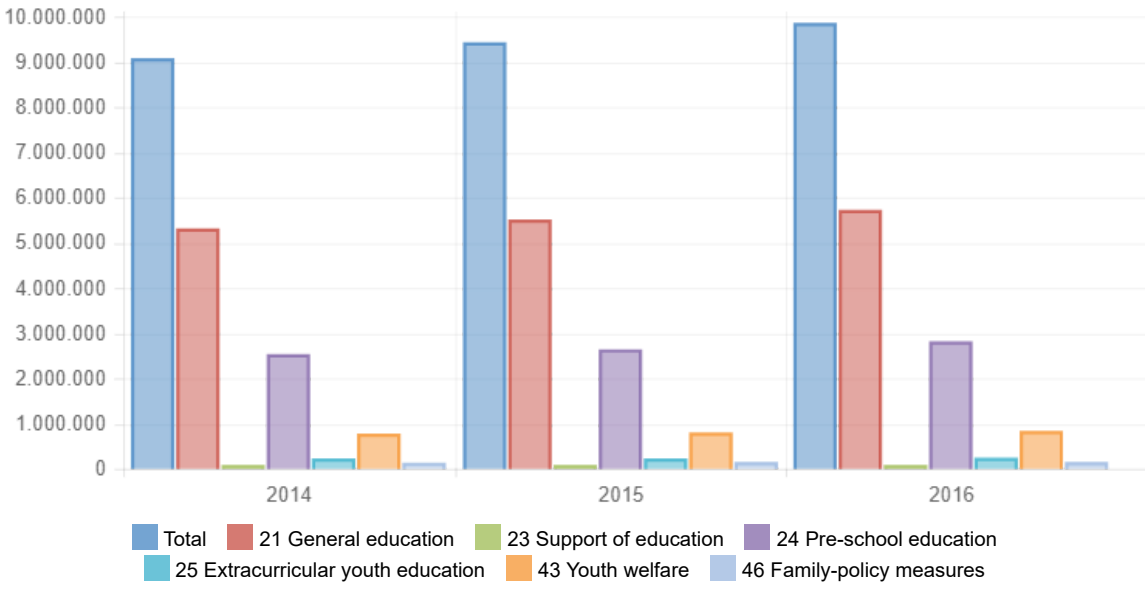
Provincial and municipal expenditures (including Vienna) directly related to children* in % of their respective total expenditures (at least)



* see description above
** without Vienna
Source: Statistics Austria, Public Finances, Gebarungsübersichten 2014-2016

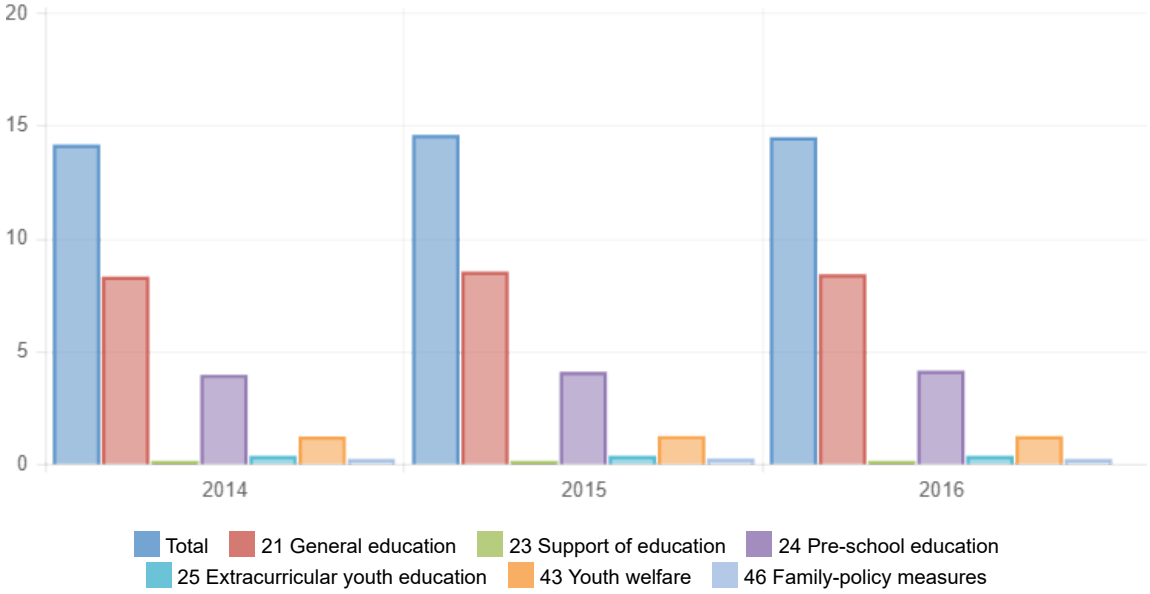
Provincial and municipal expenditures (including Vienna, at least) directly related to children* according to sector

In million euros



* see description above
** without Vienna
Source: Statistics Austria, Public Finances, Gebarungsübersichten 2014-2016

Provincial and municipal expenditures (including Vienna, at least) directly related to children* as % of their respective total expenditures (at least) according to sector



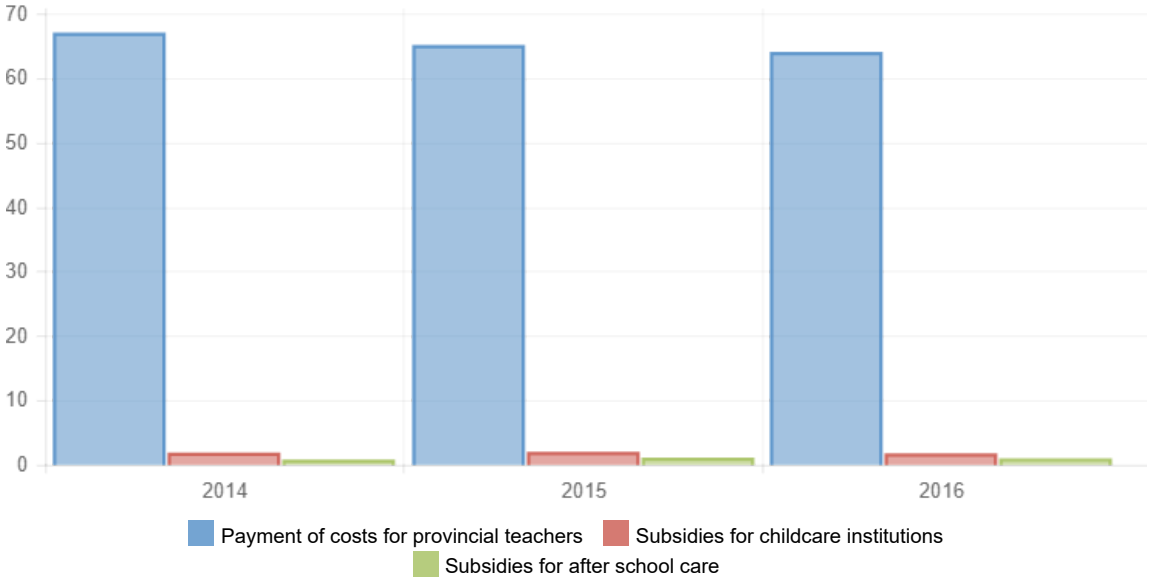
* see description above
Source: Statistics Austria, Public Finances, Gebarungsübersichten 2014-2016

Earmarked transfer payments from the federal government to the provinces (and municipalities) related to children

Beyond the common taxes (profit share), in 2016 the federal government paid approx. € 8.27 billion to the provinces (including Vienna) and approx. € 0.34 billion to the municipalities, amounting to approx. € 8.61 billion. This includes **earmarked subsidies and budget appropriation** as well as **payment of costs**. For the provinces (including Vienna), in the case of the former, the subsidies for childcare institutions (subsidies for expanding childcare services, subsidies for introducing half-day, free-of-charge childcare institutions and subsidies for early language development) as well as subsidies for after school care are relevant to children. A significant portion of the payment of costs are allotted to provincial teachers (for general and vocational schools as well as for pension expenditures and employers' pension contributions), which also overall benefit children's well-being. All other transfer payments, including those to municipalities, do not directly benefit children.

Earmarked subsidies and budget appropriation as well as payment of costs (proportionally) to the provinces (including Vienna) related to children 2014-2016

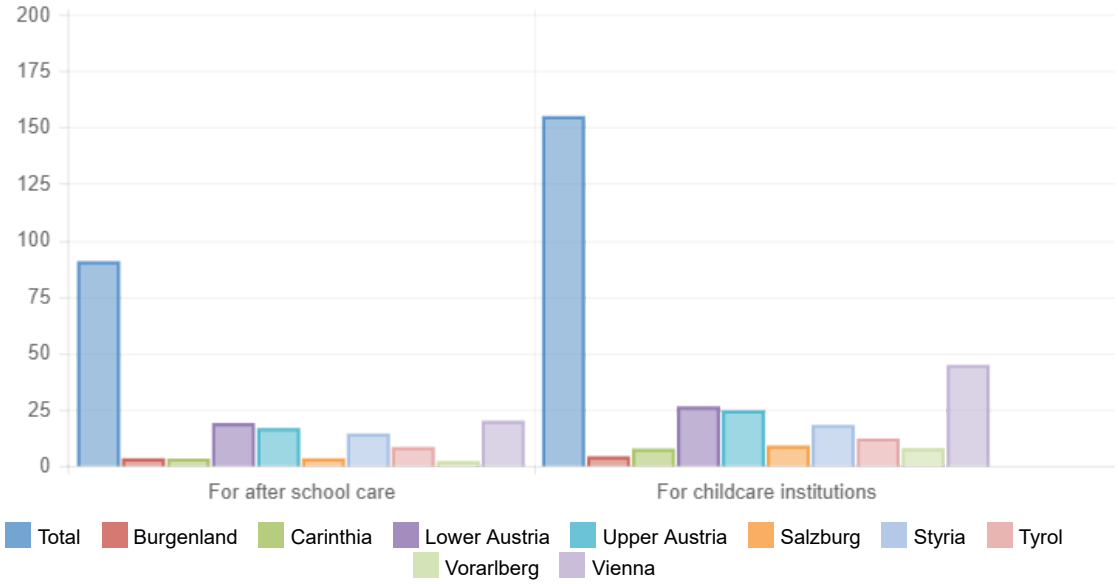
Basis: Earmarked subsidies and budget appropriation as well as payment of costs without profit share in %



Source: Federal Ministry of Finance, Unterlagen zum Finanzausgleich

Earmarked subsidies and budget appropriation to the provinces (including Vienna) related to children 2016

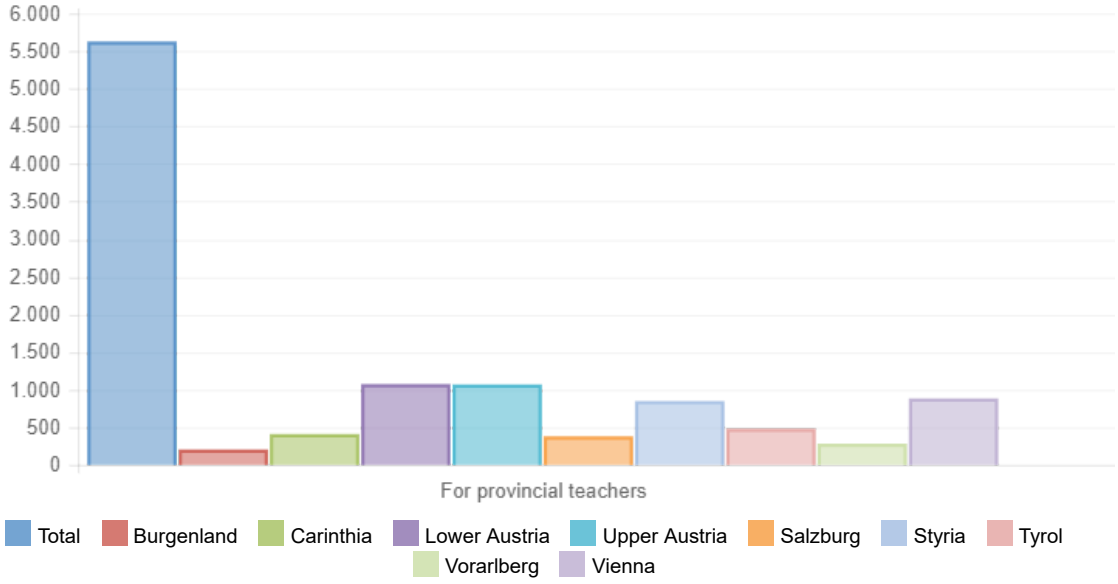
In million euros



Source: Federal Ministry of Finance, Unterlagen zum Finanzausgleich

Payment of costs to the provinces (including Vienna) related to children 2016

in million euros



Source: Federal Ministry of Finance, Unterlagen zum Finanzausgleich

Resources from the Family Burden Equalisation Fund

According to COFOG (Classification of Functions of Government), in 2016 the Austrian state spent a total of 8.119 billion euros on the activity **Families and children** (COFOG group 10.4), i.e. 4.53% of government spending and 2.30% of GDP (source: Statistics Austria).

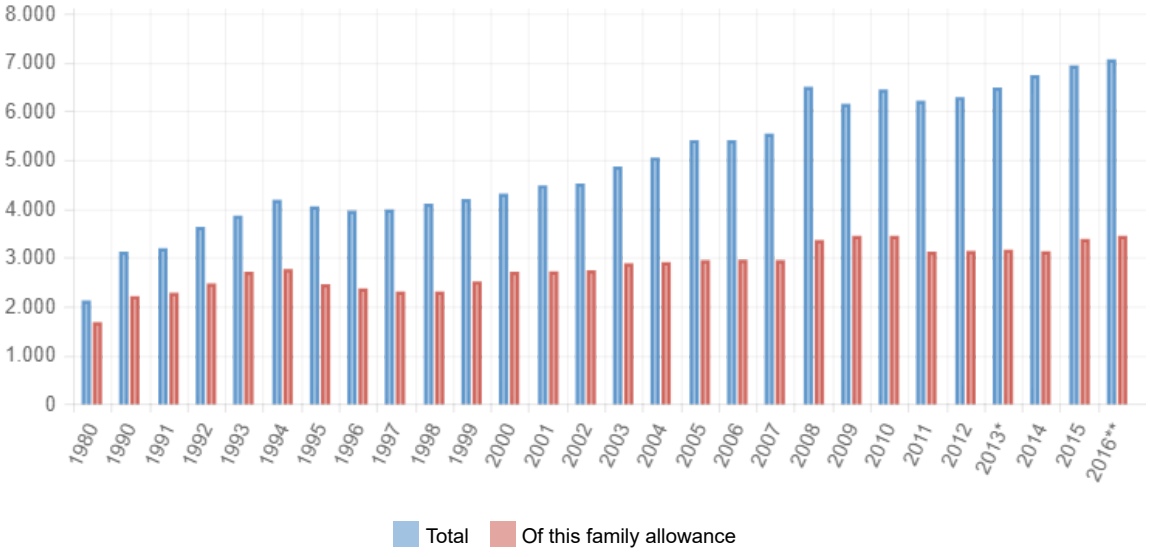
The key instruments of family income support in Austria are the benefits paid out by the **Family Burden Equalisation Fund (FBEF)**. Founded on the basis of Fed. Gaz. No. 376/1967, this fund is managed by the Federal Ministry of Finance (BMF) with the aim of partially compensating for the additional cost of children incurred by families.

In total approx. 7.1 billion euros was spent on the fund in 2016, with almost half (3.4 billion euros or 48.8%) being used to finance family allowance. Around one third (2.4 billion euros or 34.4%) was provided by the FBEF for further cash benefits and benefits in kind such as maintenance payment advances, family counselling, family hardship payments, family hospice hardship payments, travel allowances and free travel for schoolchildren and apprentices, in addition to the school book campaign and remittances. The remaining 1.2 billion euros (16.8%) went on childcare allowance (incl. baby bonus, mother-and-child pass bonus and early childhood benefit).

In addition to child-relevant family benefits from public authority funding in the context of payments from the FBEF, families are also supported by measures based on tax exemptions. In 2015 this resulted in a total of some 550 million euros of indirect support, corresponding to 7.9% of the resources provided by the FBEF. The sole earner deduction accounted for 210 million euros (38.2%) and the single parent deduction for 120 million euros (21.8%). 110 million euros (20.0%) of tax deductions were claimed in each case through child tax credit and tax exemptions for childcare costs (source: figures supplied by BMF).

Spending of the Family Burden Equalisation Fund 1980 to 2016

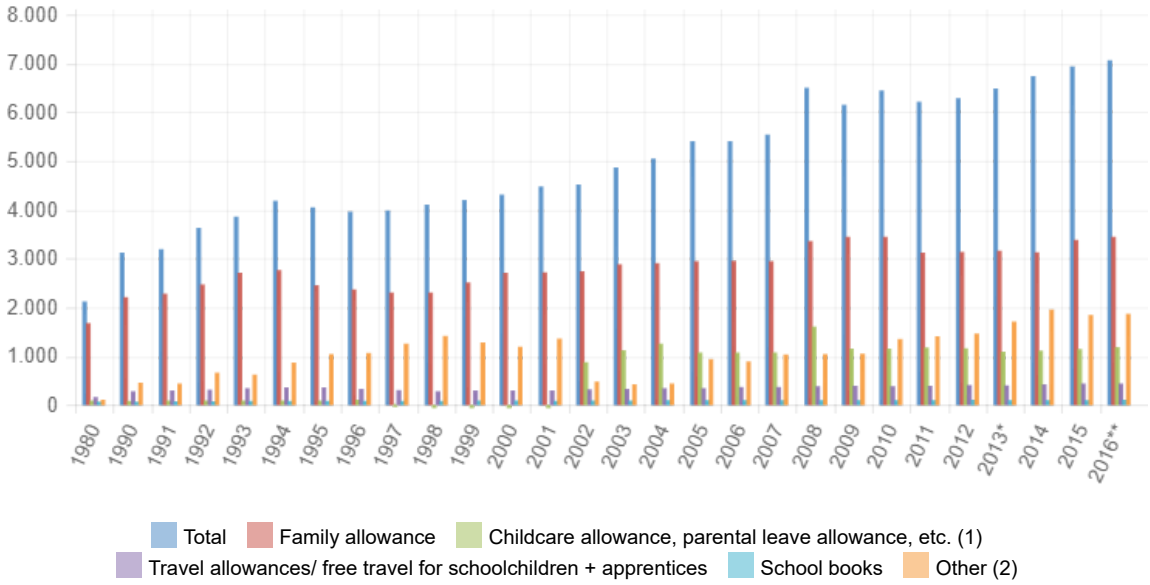
in million euros



* From 2013, a new budget structure with partial re-allocation of budget items, possibly resulting in breaks in time series.
** Provisional federal budget account, as at: February 2017
Sources: Statistics Austria, Statistics for family benefits, dated 8.9.2017 and National Audit Office of Austria, Federal budget accounts

Resources of Family Burden Equalisation Fund by expenditure type

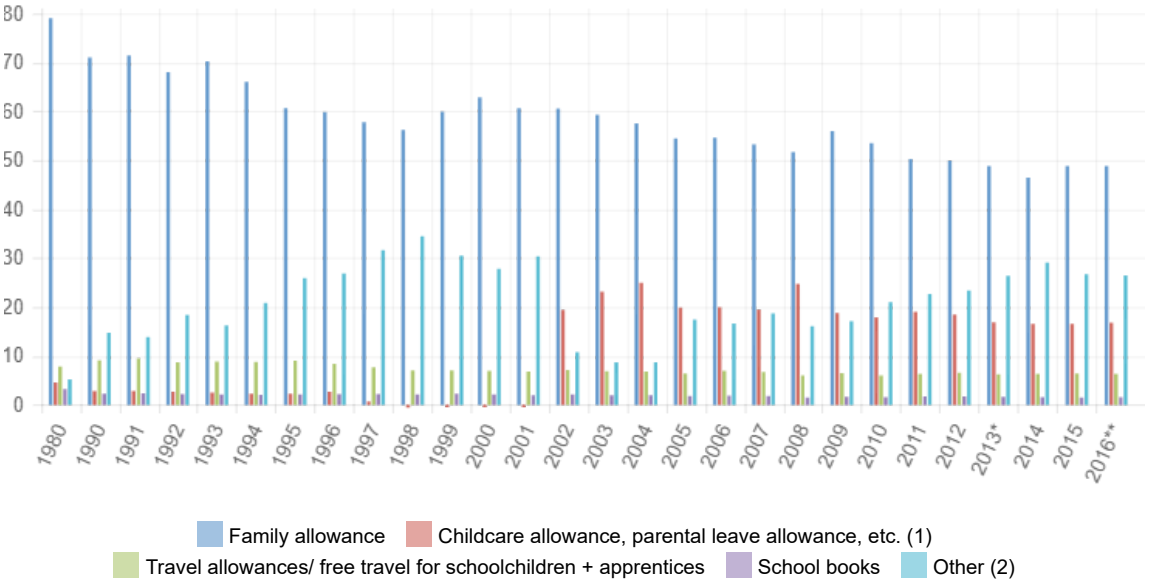
in million euros



* From 2013, a new budget structure with partial re-allocation of budget items, possibly resulting in breaks in time series.
** Provisional federal budget account, as at: February 2017
(1) Incl. baby bonus, mother-and-child pass bonus, early childhood benefit. Childcare allowance: from 2002, parental leave allowance: included in unemployment insurance until 2000, being phased out.
(2) Incl. hardship payments, family counselling centres, maintenance payment advances, remittances.
Sources: Statistics Austria, Statistics for family benefits, dated 8.9.2017 and National Audit Office of Austria, Federal budget accounts

Resources of Family Burden Equalisation Fund pro rata by expenditure type

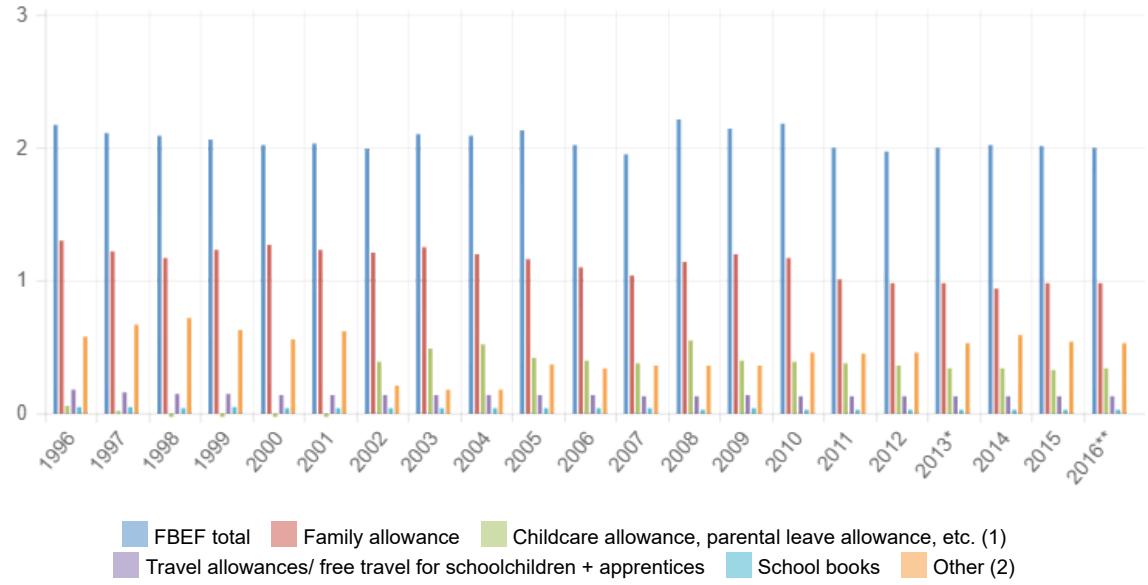
in %



* From 2013, a new budget structure with partial re-allocation of budget items, possibly resulting in breaks in time series.
** Provisional federal budget account, as at: February 2017
(1) Incl. baby bonus, mother-and-child pass bonus, early childhood benefit. Childcare allowance: from 2002, parental leave allowance: included in unemployment insurance until 2000, being phased out.
(2) Incl. hardship payments, family counselling centres, maintenance payment advances, remittances.
Sources: Statistics Austria, Statistics for family benefits, dated 8.9.2017 and National Audit Office of Austria, Federal budget accounts

Resources of Family Burden Equalisation Fund - Share in economic output by type of expenditure

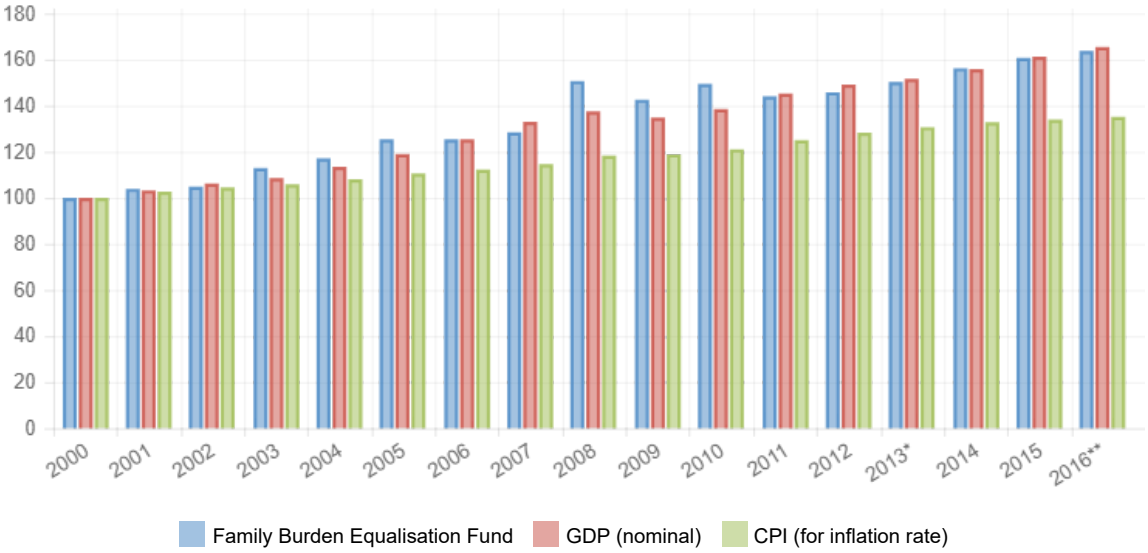
in %



* From 2013, a new budget structure with partial re-allocation of budget items, possibly resulting in breaks in time series.
** Provisional federal budget account, as at: February 2017
(1) Incl. baby bonus, mother-and-child pass bonus, early childhood benefit. Childcare allowance: from 2002, parental leave allowance: included in unemployment insurance until 2000, being phased out.
(2) Incl. hardship payments, family counselling centres, maintenance payment advances, remittances.
Sources: Statistics Austria, Statistics for family benefits, dated 8.9.2017 and National Audit Office of Austria, Federal budget accounts; Statistics Austria, National accounts – annual data

Spending of Family Burden Equalisation Fund indexed since 2000

Index: year 2000 = 100.00



* From 2013, a new budget structure with partial re-allocation of budget items, possibly resulting in breaks in time series.
** Provisional federal budget account, as at: February 2017
Sources: Statistics Austria, Statistics for family benefits, dated 8.9.2017 and National Audit Office of Austria, Federal budget accounts; Statistics Austria, National accounts – annual data; Statistics Austria, Consumer price index 2000

Development

Since 1980 the total budget of the Family Burden Equalisation Fund (FBEF) has more than tripled, rising from the equivalent of 2.1 billion euros to 7.1 billion euros in 2016.
Growth of 63.7% (4.3 billion euros) has been recorded since 2000, a figure that roughly corresponds to the nominal increase in economic output over the same period. This in turn means that the increase in resources for the FBEF was well above the inflation rate: adjusted for inflation, a rise in real terms of around one fifth (21.1%) since 2000.
The jump in the time series seen in 2008 is presumedly due to abolition of the responsibility of local authorities for paying family allowance, and also to the associated corrections (see for example here).

The most important benefit provided by the FBEF is family allowance, which accounts for the largest share of the fund, although levels are declining. In 1980 family allowance accounted for 79.1% of the fund spend, falling to an average of 64.1% in the 1990s before dropping to 57.1% between 2000-2009. It was not until 2012 that the resources of the FBEF spent on family allowance fell to less than half for the first time – totalling 48.8% in 2016. Since 2000 the funding allocated to family allowance increased by 27.1%, rising from 2.7 billion euros to 3.4 billion euros. This increase was however slightly below the inflation rate, mainly due to the reduction in the number of people receiving this benefit (see main article Family allowance).

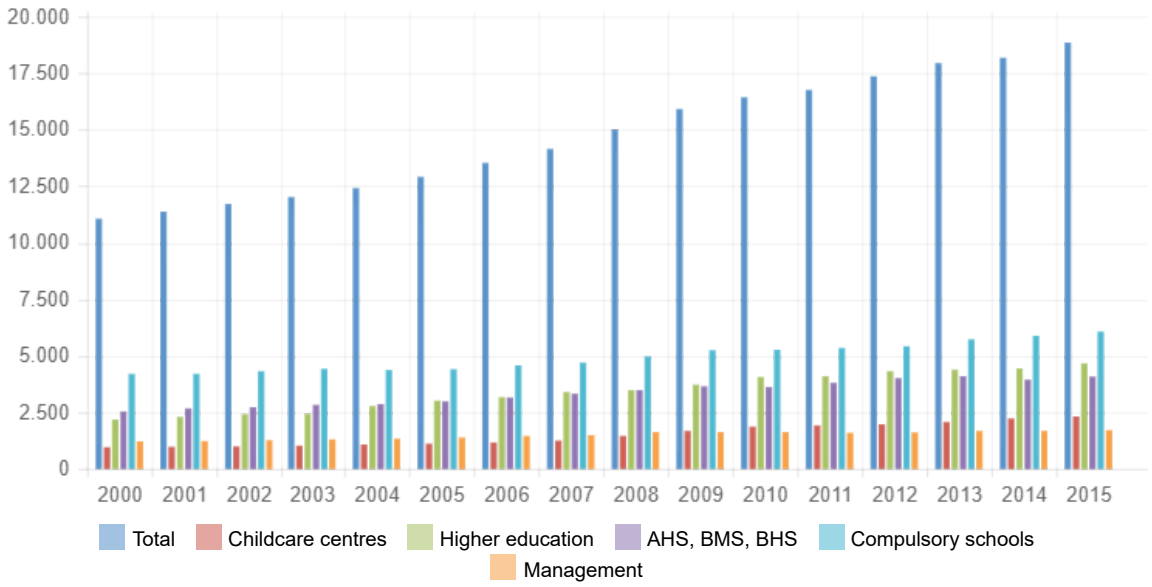
As since 1990 the share of spending on travel allowances and free travel fell from 9.1% to 6.3%, and on school books from 2.3% to 1.5%, there was a sharp rise in the other two types of expenditure over the same period: The item „Other“, which comprises benefits such as hardship payments, family counselling centres, maintenance payment advances and remittances, increased, with major fluctuations, from 14.7% in 1990 to 26.5% in 2016. The most significant change here was the share of the fund allocated to allowances for parental leave (being phased out) and childcare, which averaged 1.9% between 1990-1999. Since then, this has averaged 17.3% of the FBEF (for further details see main article Childcare allowance).

Expenditure on education by educational institution

In 2015 public expenditure on education in Austria was 18.84 billion euros, with the lion's share of 5.50 billion (29.2%) going to **compulsory schooling** (primary, general secondary, special needs and pre-vocational schools and the new secondary schools), followed by expenditure on the universities totalling 4.10 billion euros (21.8%).
2.32 billion euros (12.3%) was spent on all types of **childcare centres** (including nurseries, mixed-age facilities, crèches and day care centres).
The two next largest budget items were the **schools for intermediate vocational education (BMS) and colleges for higher vocational education (BHS)** accounting for approx. 2.26 billion euros (12.0%), and the **academic secondary schools (AHS)** at 1.82 billion euros (9.7%).
Expenditure attributable to educational costs for the ministry and **management** came to 1.71 billion euros (9.1%).
The three lowest expenditure groups were the **part-time vocational schools** at 565 million euros (3.0%), the **universities of applied sciences** at 361 million euros (1.9%) and the **university colleges of teacher education** at 210 million euros (1.1%).

Expenditure on education by educational institution

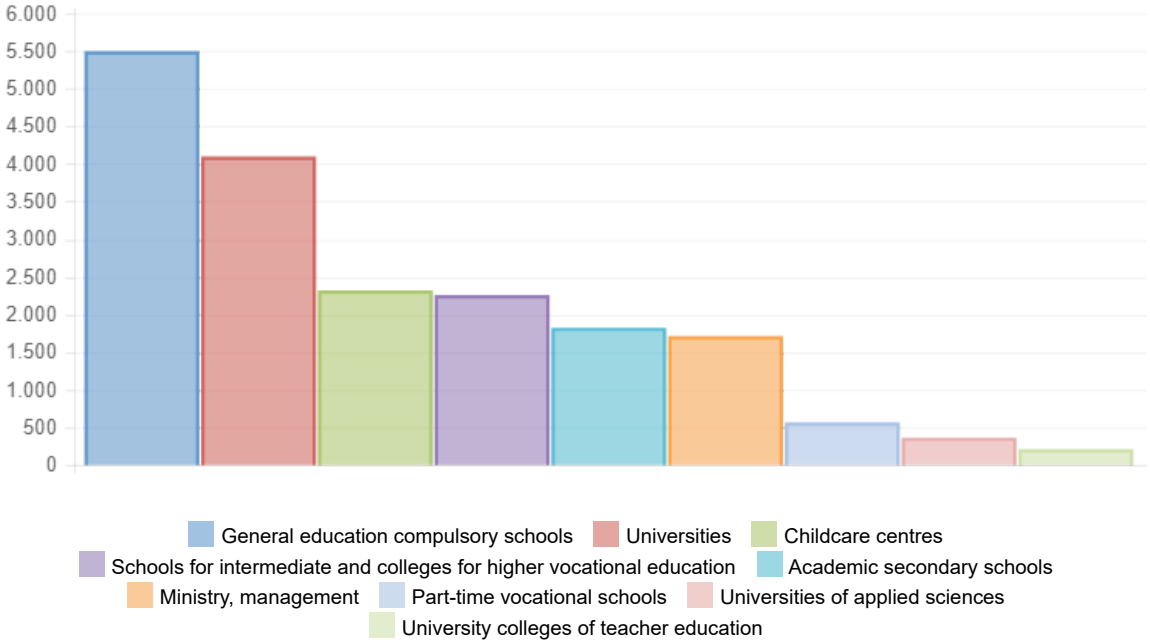
in million euros



Childcare centres: nurseries, mixed-age facilities, crèches and day care centres
Higher education institutions: universities, universities of applied sciences and academies/university colleges of teacher education
AHS, BMS, BHS: academic secondary schools, schools for intermediate vocational education and colleges for higher vocational education
Compulsory schools: primary schools, new secondary schools, general secondary schools, pre-vocational schools and part-time vocational schools
Source: Statistics Austria, Statistics for expenditure on education – next update: March 2018

Expenditure on education by educational institution (more precise breakdown for 2015)

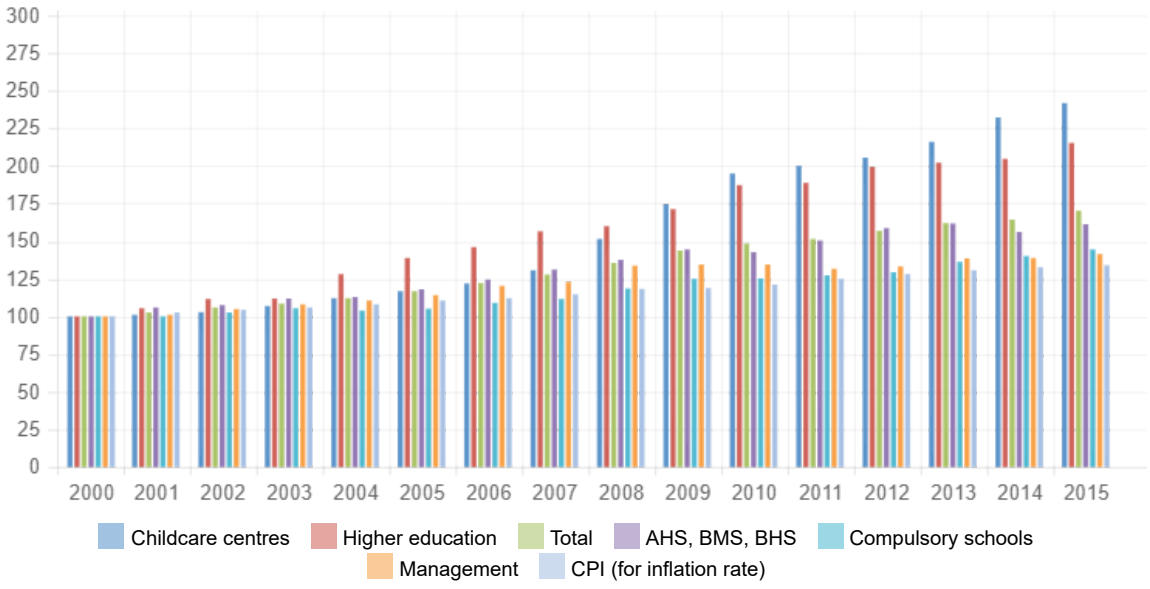
in million euros



Childcare centres: nurseries, mixed-age facilities, crèches and day care centres
Compulsory schools: primary schools, new secondary schools, general secondary schools and pre-vocational schools
Source: Statistics Austria, Statistics for expenditure on education – next update: March 2018

Expenditure on education by educational institution - indexed

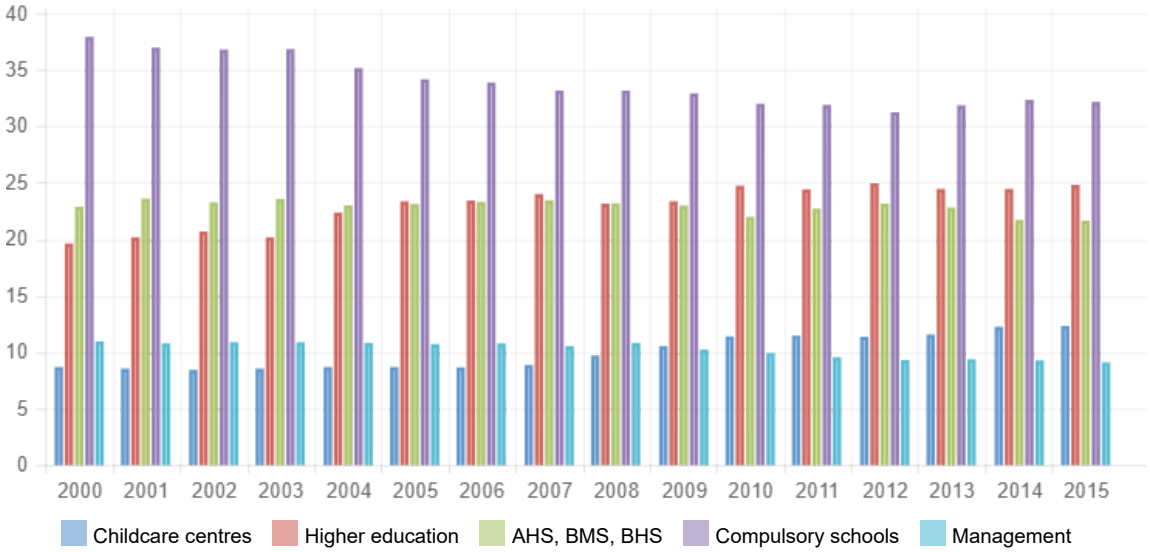
The greatest increase in expenditure is for child day care facilities and the universities.
Index: year 2000 = 100.00



Childcare centres: nurseries, mixed-age facilities, crèches and day care centres
Higher education: universities, universities of applied sciences and academies/university colleges of teacher education
AHS, BMS, BHS: academic secondary schools, schools for intermediate and colleges for higher vocational education
Compulsory schools: primary schools, new secondary schools, general secondary schools, pre-vocational schools and part-time vocational schools
Sources: Statistics Austria, Statistics for expenditure on education – next update: March 2018; Statistics Austria, Consumer price index 2000

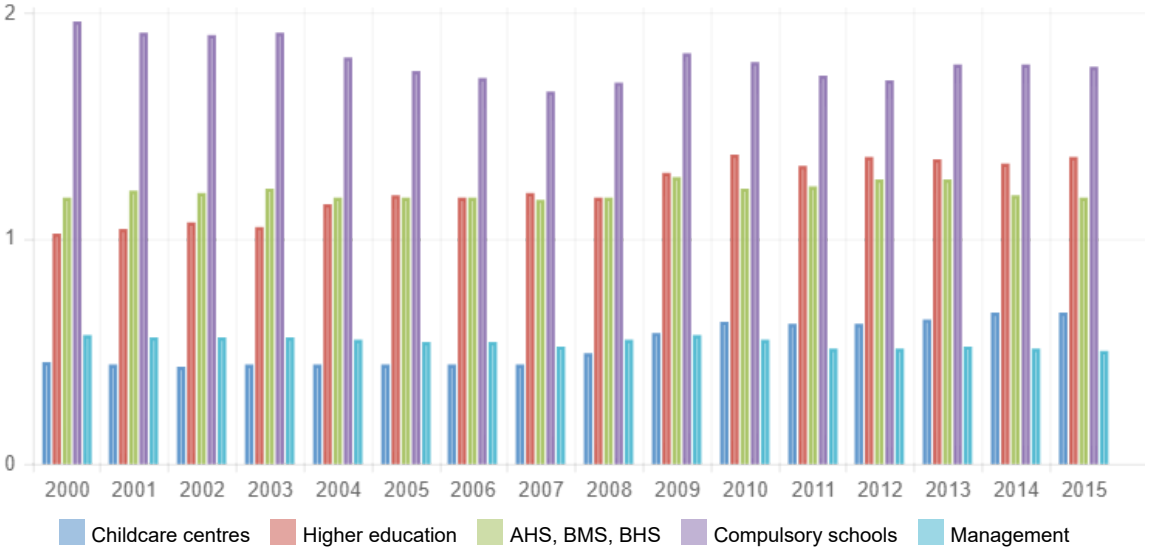
Share of expenditure for educational institutions in % of total expenditure on education

in %



Childcare centres: nurseries, mixed-age facilities, crèches and day care centres
Higher education: universities, universities of applied sciences and academies/university colleges of teacher education
AHS, BMS, BHS: academic secondary schools, schools for intermediate and colleges for higher vocational education
Compulsory schools: primary schools, new secondary schools, general secondary schools, pre-vocational schools and part-time vocational schools
Source: Statistics Austria, Statistics for expenditure on education – next update: March 2018

Expenditure on education by educational institution in % of economic output



Childcare centres: nurseries, mixed-age facilities, crèches and day care centres
Higher education: universities, universities of applied sciences and academies/university colleges of teacher education
AHS, BMS, BHS: academic secondary schools, schools for intermediate and colleges for higher vocational education
Compulsory schools: primary schools, new secondary schools, general secondary schools, pre-vocational schools and part-time vocational schools
Sources: Statistics Austria, Statistics for expenditure on education – next update: March 2018; Statistics Austria, National accounts – annual data

Development

Since 2000 public expenditure on education has grown by 70.3%, exceeding economic output (+61.3%). Growth well above the inflation rate brought about a real increase in expenditure of 27.1% (see: Overview of expenditure on education).

Since 2000 budgets for childcare centres (nurseries, mixed-age facilities, crèches and day care centres: +141.8%) and for higher education institutions (universities, universities of applied sciences, academies/university colleges of teacher education: +115.2%) have more than doubled. As for overall expenditure on education, these costs grew much faster than economic output. There was a significant increase in expenditure even where adjusted for inflation: a rise in real terms of 80.5% for child day care and 60.6% for higher education.

The trend for the gross domestic product was reflected by the growth in common budgets for the academic secondary schools and the schools for intermediate vocational education and the colleges for higher vocational education (+61.2%; nominal GDP: +61.3%). In real terms there was a significant increase of 20.3%. The smallest rise was in spending on compulsory schooling (primary schools, new secondary schools, general secondary schools, pre-vocational schools, part-time vocational schools: +44.5%), falling well short of economic output. This expenditure still increased by 7.8% in real terms.

Since 2000 the management budget has been reduced pro rata by around a sixth, falling from 10.9% to 9.1% of the total spend on education. At 41.4%, growth up to 2015 was the flattest in all of the sectors listed here (+5.5% in real terms).

Expenditure on education – Overview and regional breakdown (management levels)

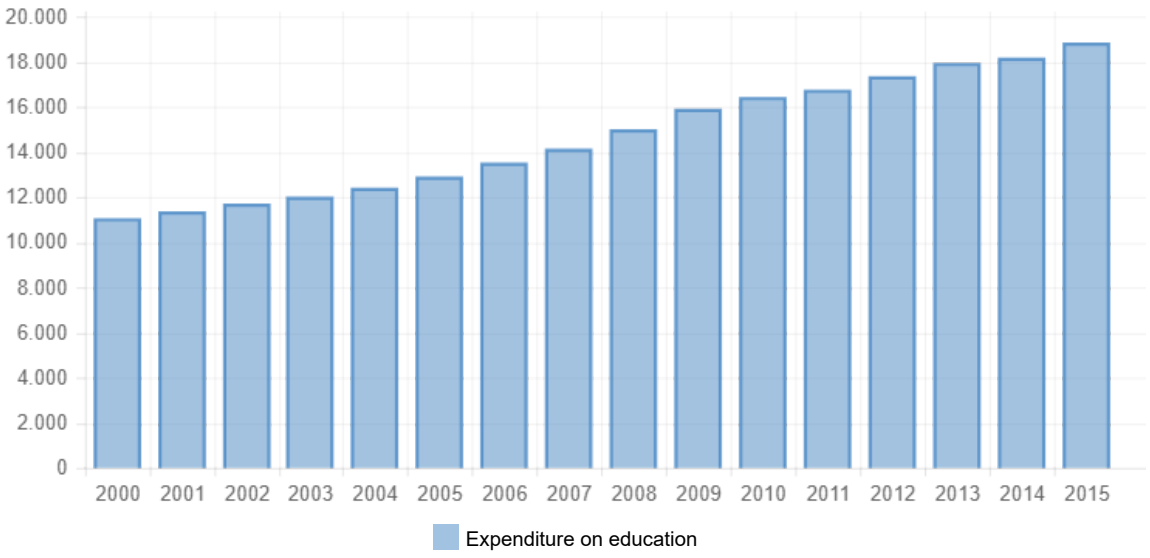
According to Statistics Austria educational expenditure in the public sector was 18,842.5 million euros in 2015, i.e. 5.5% of gross domestic product (GDP).

At approx. 52.6% (9.9 billion euros) in 2015, more than half of educational expenditure was funded by the federal government (incl. public-law corporations), followed by the provinces including Vienna at 33.7% (6.4 billion euros). 13.7% (2.6 billion euros) was spent here by local authorities and school boards (joint administration of multiple schools through associations of municipalities).

Statistics Austria also uses the International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED) to calculate data for public expenditure on education so these figures can be reported to UNESCO/OECD/EUROSTAT (UOE). They then vary slightly from the above figures from the Statistics for expenditure on education (also included in the annual publication „Bildung in Zahlen“). This is because the Statistics focus on the transparency of cash flows, while the UOE (UNESCO/OECD/Eurostat) wants to ensure data can be compared internationally via standardised rules for evaluation and recording. Only the statistics for expenditure on education are reported here.

Public expenditure on education

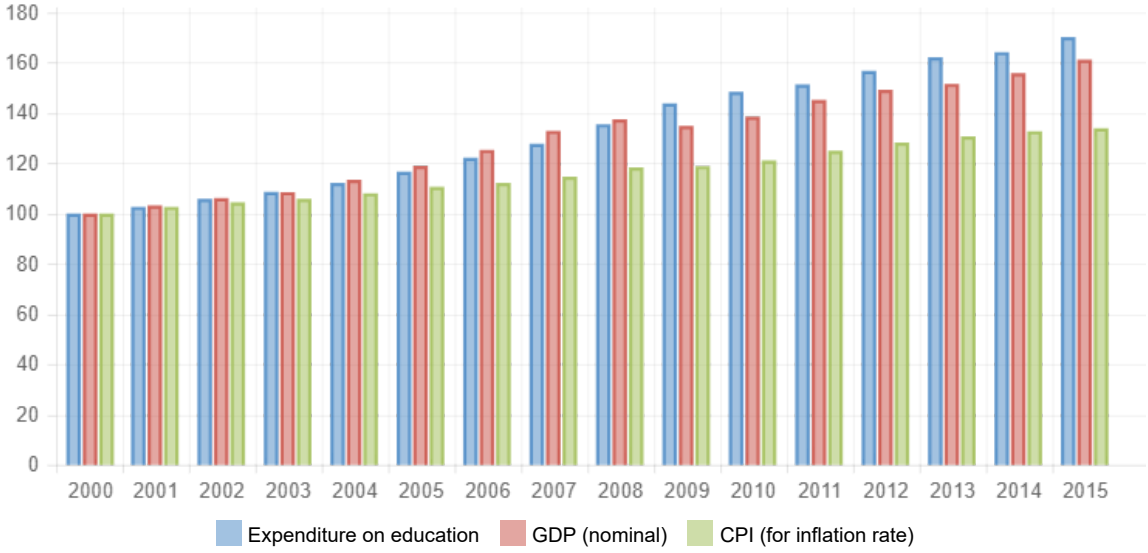
in million euros



Source: Statistics Austria, Statistics for expenditure on education – next update: March 2018

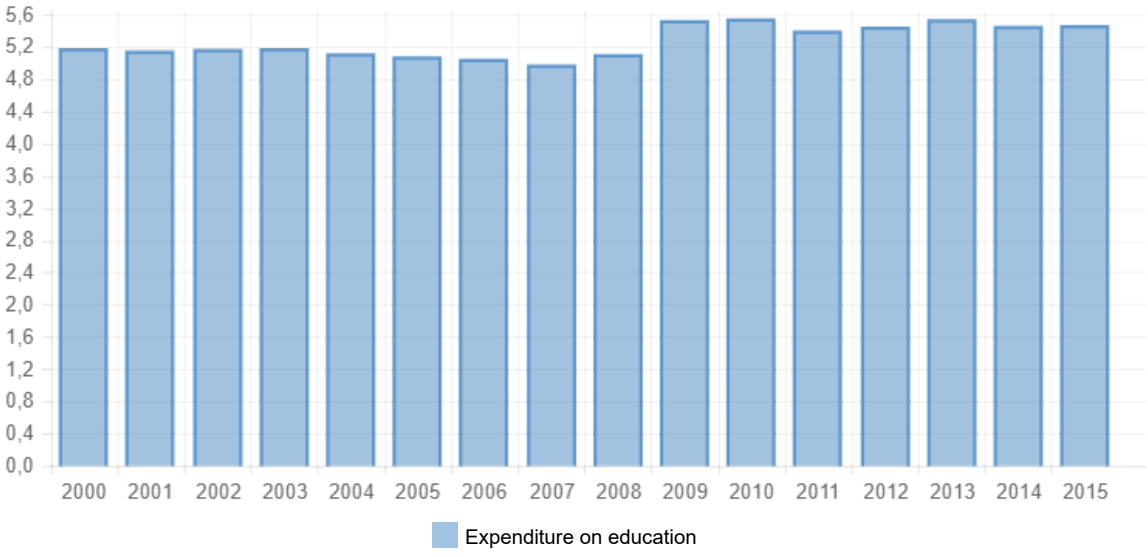
Expenditure on education, indexed - comparison with economic output and inflation rate

Expenditure on education is rising faster than economic output.
Index: year 2000 = 100



Sources: Statistics Austria, Statistics for expenditure on education – next update: March 2018; Statistics Austria, National accounts – annual data; Statistics Austria, Consumer price index 2000

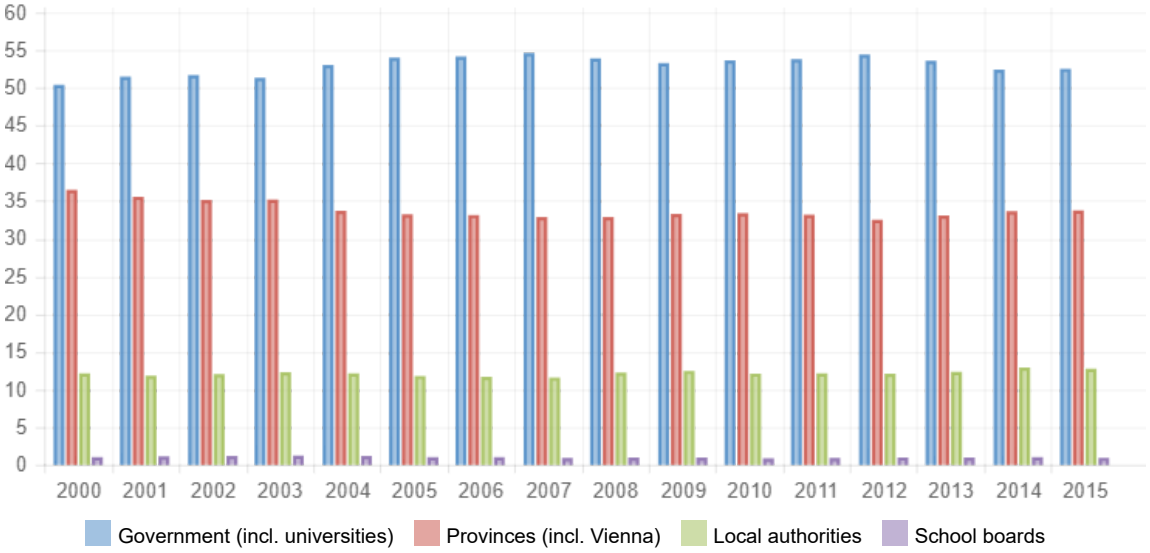
Public expenditure on education in % of economic output



Sources: Statistics Austria, Statistics for expenditure on education – next update: March 2018; Statistics Austria, National accounts – annual data

Expenditure on education pro rata broken down by region

in %



Source: Statistics Austria, Statistics for expenditure on education – next update: March 2018

Development

Since 2000 public expenditure on education grew continuously by 70.3%, rising from 11.07 billion euros to 18.84 billion euros in 2015. This corresponds to average annual growth of 3.62%.

In these 15 years educational expenditure exceeded economic output, which saw an average increase of 3.25% per year. In relation to GDP (gross domestic product), public expenditure on education above all increased from 2009 onwards. While spending grew at a similar rate between 2000 and 2008 (up on average 3.88%) and after 2009 (up on average 3.32%), GDP in fact did slightly better in the first period until 2008 (averaging 0.19 percentage points more). However, it has since then seen a significant fall – on average 1 percentage point lower. This was partly also due to weaker economic growth when the financial crisis made itself felt in the second period (growth was even negative in 2009). Since 2000 overall public expenditure on education has outstripped economic output by 8.98 percentage points.

For an international comparison of the cost levels of a public education system, expenditure is also considered in relation to economic output. This averaged 5.28% of GDP from 2000-2015. Here too figures until 2008 were slightly lower (5.11%) than from 2009 (5.49%).

To appreciate real growth rates for overall public expenditure on education, inflation should also be considered. Averaging 1.97% per year since 2000, inflation has fallen well below the increased spend on education, with real growth in this expenditure reaching 27.06% over the entire 15-year period. Adjusted for inflation, the annual increase was 1.62%.

As regards the regional breakdown (or more precisely, the management levels), there has been no relevant shifting of the cost burden since 2000. Just over half (average 53.0%) was funded by the federal government (incl. public-law corporations), around a third by the provinces including Vienna (average 33.8%) and the remainder (13.2%) by the local authorities and school boards. It should be noted here that although Vienna is simultaneously a province (Land) and a municipality, it is only counted among the provinces here.

Expenditure on children's health (0 to 14 years)

In 2014 a total of 1.97 billion euros was spent directly on the health of the under 15s, representing 6.2% of the resources spent on all age groups. However, given that the under-15s make up 14.3% of the general population (yearly average), at just 1,613.50 euros the annual expenditure per capita in this group was well below the amount spent on all inhabitants of Austria (3,744.82 euros per capita).

Data on health spending in Austria is collected according to the OECD's „System of Health Accounts 2011" (SHA). All figures listed here take the following health services and goods (HC) into consideration:

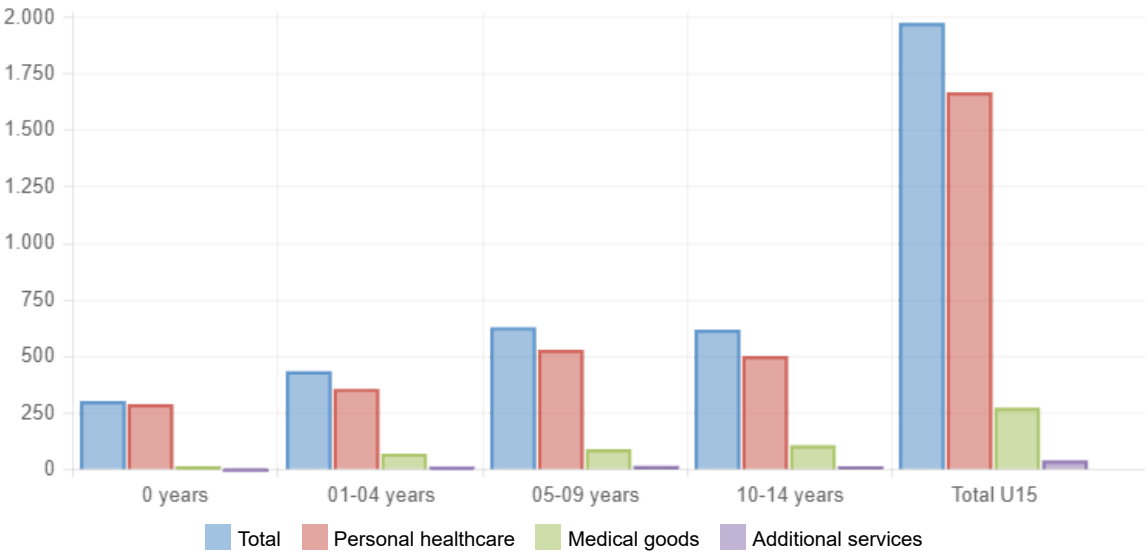
- HC.1: Curative healthcare services
- HC.2: Rehabilitative healthcare services
- HC.3 Long-term care
- HC.4 Ancillary healthcare services
- HC.5 Medical goods

Expenditure on Preventive care (HC.6) and Governance, and health system and financing administration (HC.7) is not included here. A more detailed description of the categories HC.1-HC.5 can be found for example in section 2.1.5.1 of the documentation of Statistics Austria on data acquisition for health spending according to SHA.

At 84.4% in 2014, „personal healthcare" accounted for the greatest share of this expenditure. This comprises in-patient and out-patient healthcare, day care and home care. 13.7% was spent on „medical goods" – this not only includes pharmaceuticals and other medical non-durable and durable goods, but also therapeutic appliances. The remaining 1.9% is classified under „additional services".

Expenditure on children's health by age group 2014

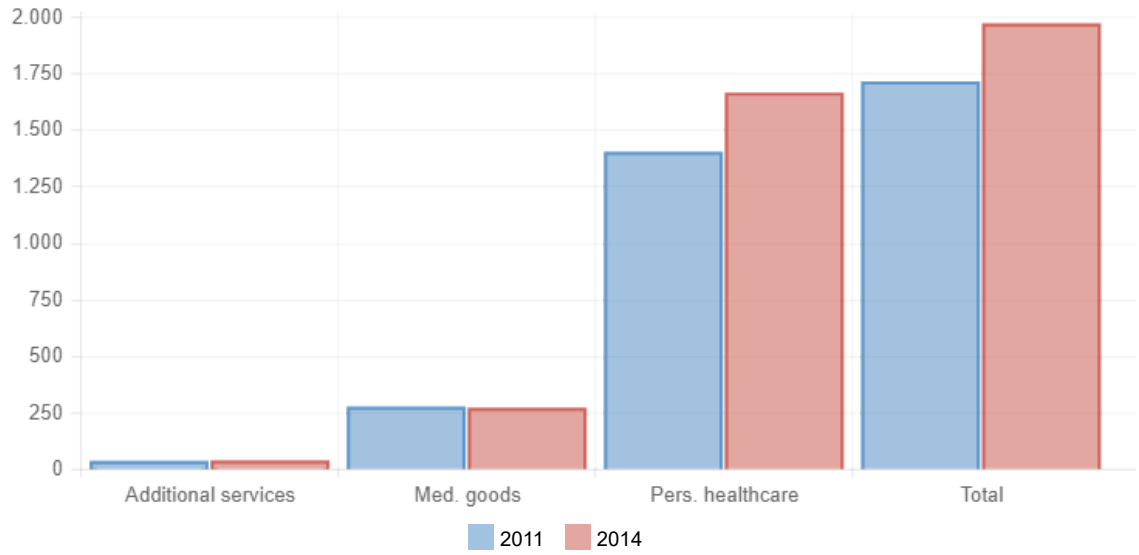
in million euros



„Personal healthcare" comprises the following items: in-patient healthcare, out-patient healthcare, day care and home care. „Medical goods" not only comprises pharmaceuticals and other medical durables but also therapeutic appliances and other medical goods
Source: Statistics Austria, Statistics on health expenditure

Expenditure on children's health by expenditure group 2011 and 2014

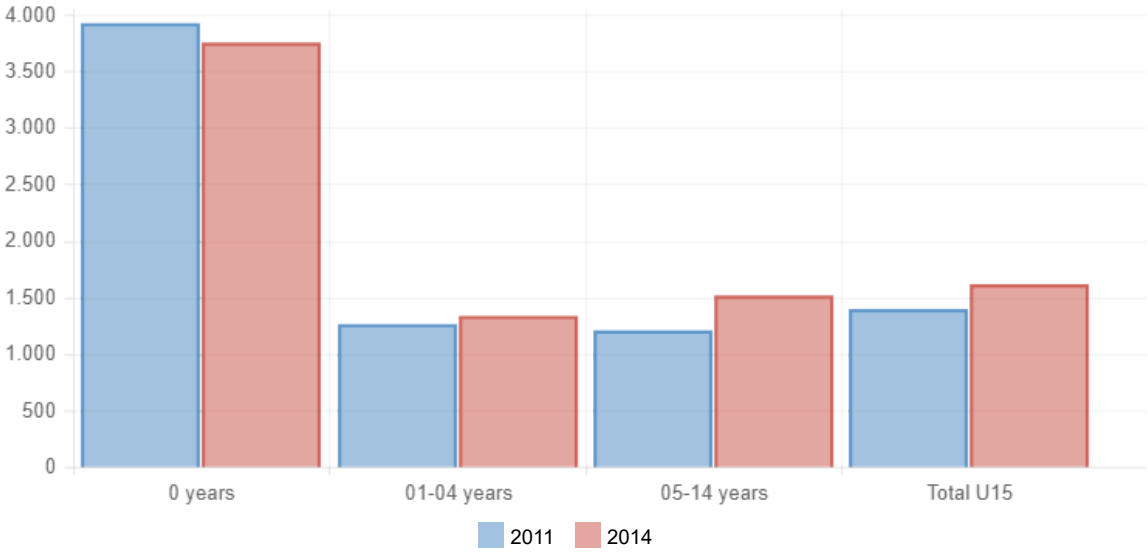
(children under 15)
in million euros



„Personal healthcare“ comprises the following items: in-patient healthcare, out-patient healthcare, day care and home care. „Medical goods“ not only comprises pharmaceuticals and other medical durables but also therapeutic appliances and other medical goods.
Source: Statistics Austria, Statistics on health expenditure

Expenditure on children's health per capita by age group 2011 and 2014

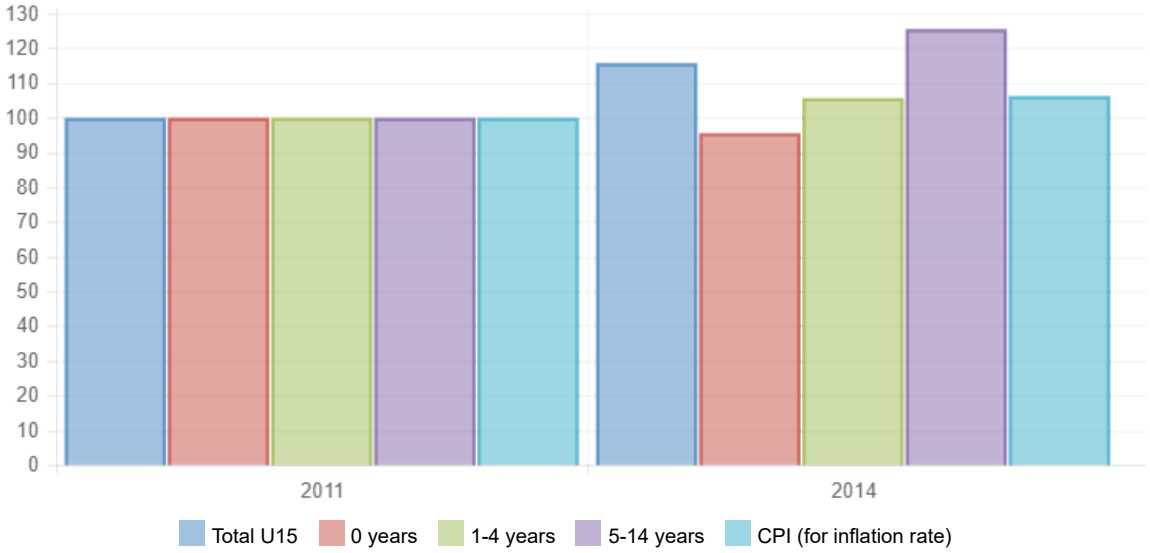
in euros



Sources: Statistics Austria, Statistics on health expenditure; Statistics Austria, Annual average population

Expenditure on children's health per capita by age group 2011 and 2014 - indexed

Index: year 2011 = 100



Sources: Statistics Austria, Statistics on health expenditure; Statistics Austria, Annual average population; Statistics Austria, Consumer price index 2000

Structure and development

Between 2011 and 2014 health expenditure (HC.1-HC.5 as per SHA) for children under 15 years rose from 1.72 billion euros to 1.97 billion. This represents an increase of 15.0% and average annual growth of 4.8%. As the population under the age of 15 contracted by an average of 0.2% per year over these three years, the increase per capita was even slightly higher (+15.7% and +5.0% per year). Expenditure per capita totalled 1,394.45 euros in 2011 and 1,613.50 euros in 2014.

To compare expenditure in real terms, current prices must be used for evaluation. Corrected by average inflation of approx. 2%, this results in real growth in health expenditure of 8.9% per capita for children aged 0 to 14 years (average +2.9% per year).

When broken down into age groups (under 1 year, 1 to 4 years and 5 to 14 years), the greatest spend is on the youngest children. In 2014 health costs per capita amounted to 3,751.27 euros for babies and infants under 1 year of age. Compared with 2011, this resulted in a nominal fall of 4.4% or, at current prices, 10.0% (average -3.5% per year). The lowest expenditure per capita in 2014 was on 1 to 4-year-olds. Although the costs of 1,334.86 euros/child in this group were up 5.7% on 2011, growth here still fell short of the overall inflation rate over the three years – in real terms, an insignificant fall of 0.5% (average -0.17% per year). The overall increase in per capita expenditure (also adjusted for inflation) nonetheless seen for all children between 0 and 14 years from 2011 to 2014 can be attributed to the group of 5 to 14-year-olds: expenditure of 1,515.01 euros per capita (up +25.5% on 2011). This represented in real terms an overall rise of 18.1% or an average increase of 5.71% per year since 2011.

Of the 1,664.3 million euros which fell under „personal healthcare“ for the under 15s, almost one third (32.3%) was spent on in-patient care and just under two thirds (63.5%) went on healthcare for out-patients. Home care (3.2%) and day care (1.0%) accounted for the remainder.
The 269.9 million euros for the provision of „medical goods“ to children from 0 to 14 years was broken down as follows: almost three quarters (72.0%) on pharmaceuticals and other medical durable and non-durable goods, and a good quarter (28.0%) for therapeutic appliances and other medical goods.
„Additional services“ are not shown in further detail (37.2 million euros in 2014 for all under 15s).

Children supported by means-tested minimum income benefit

The **means-tested minimum income benefit system (MIB)** replaced income support in 2011 (the relevant agreement according to Art. 15a B-VG is under renegotiation by the government and provinces). MIB can only be claimed by persons who live permanently in Austria and cannot cover their basic needs (living costs, housing, healthcare) or who cannot do so sufficiently with their own resources or through other welfare benefits to which they are entitled. Persons in need not eligible for Austria's public pension scheme or unemployment / health insurance benefits can apply to the MIB scheme of the provinces under the principle of secondary liability. These statistics are based on data reported to Statistics Austria by the provinces in table format.

The reports do not however always exactly correspond to the specifications of the above agreement. The figures are inflated as Styria and Vorarlberg also include an unknown number of unsupported children in their statistics. If we assume that Styria and Vorarlberg have the same number of unsupported children as Vienna (for which 32.3% can be calculated), approx. 4,700 children could be deducted for 2016 (5.6% of all children and 1.5% of all persons). To ensure consistency with the official statistics published, uncorrected figures are used below for reporting.

In 2016 a total of 307,533 persons were registered by the MIB statistics, including 83,818 children under the age of 18 (27.3%). At approx. 56% of persons overall and 49% of children, the majority of persons claiming MIB live in Vienna – some 21% of the city's population. In the other eight provinces, an average of 5.5% persons overall received MIB (highest value Lower Austria at 9.9% and the lowest Burgenland at 1.3%), and 6.4% of children for each province. Apart from Vienna, only Carinthia's share of children eligible for MIB was lower than the share of persons overall with MIB.
In 2016 not only benefits covering living costs and housing were funded by the MIB scheme for 22,046 children (26.3%), but also payments in the framework of sickness benefit (health insurance contributions and any other benefits – e.g. deductibles). This level was slightly below that for all recipients of MIB (30.3%).

The number of people claiming MIB can be expressed more clearly in shares: 3.5% of Austria's population received means-tested minimum income benefit in 2016, while 5.5% of all minors were allocated MIB payments. At 12.9% Vienna had by far the highest number of persons under the age of 18 claiming such benefits – at 6.3% Vorarlberg was the only other province exceeding the national average. The figures for the other provinces were as follows: Styria and Salzburg (5.0% and 4.8%), Tyrol and Lower Austria (3.6% and 3.5%), Burgenland and Upper Austria (2.4% and 2.2%), and just 1.5% for Carinthia.

Regional differences are further influenced by the average claim period for means-tested minimum income benefit. In 2016 the longest period was 9 months in Vienna and Burgenland. The other provinces were below the overall average of 8.5 months, with periods ranging between 6.2 and 7.6 months (Vorarlberg and Upper Austria). If converted to years, the percentage of person/years of the population under the age of 18 years claiming MIB can then be reweighted. As these values are not published anywhere, the number of unsupported children (see above) should be simultaneously deducted here. At 9.8% Vienna far outstrips the national average of 3.7% in 2016. Salzburg assumes second place at 2.9%, followed by Lower Austria and Vorarlberg (2.2%), Styria (2.1%), Tyrol (1.9%) and Burgenland (1.8%). Upper Austria is second to last at 1.4%, while Carinthia has the lowest MIB requirement for children due to its short claim period of only 0.8%.

Number of persons receiving MIB

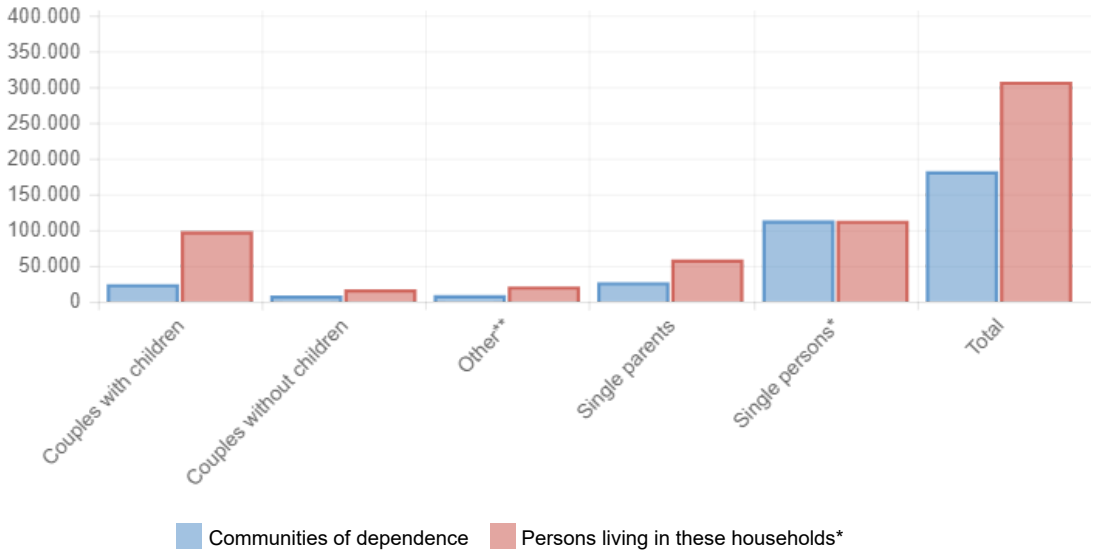
Annual totals
*Minors, partially including unsupported children (Styria, Vorarlberg)
Source: Statistics Austria, Statistics for means-tested minimum income benefit and Ministry of Social Affairs, Statistics for means-tested minimum income benefit 2011-2016

Persons receiving MIB pro rata and claim levels

In %

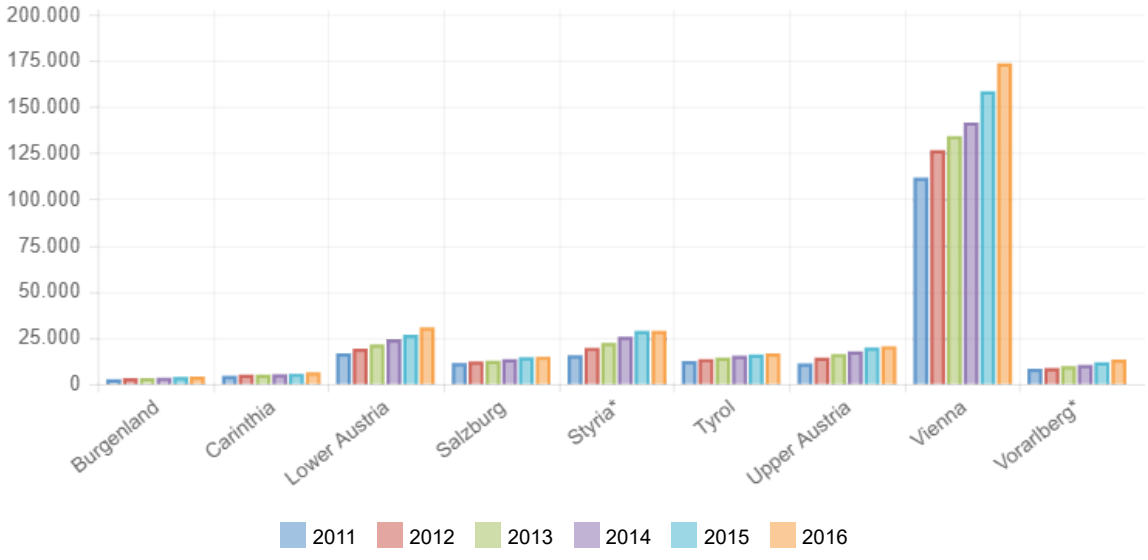
*Minors, partially including unsupported children (Styria, Vorarlberg)
**Share of persons receiving MIB in the total annual average population
***Share of minors receiving MIB in the total annual average population under 18 years
Sources: Statistics Austria, Statistics for means-tested minimum income benefit and Ministry of Social Affairs, Statistics for means-tested minimum income benefit 2011-2016; Statistics Austria, Annual average population

Supported persons and communities of dependence in comparison 2016



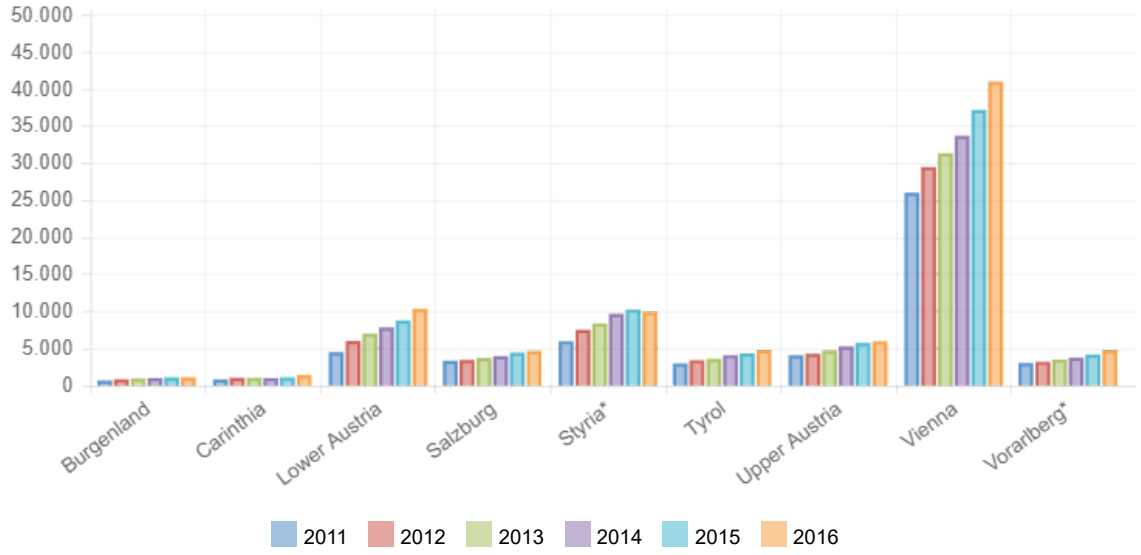
Partially including unsupported children (Styria, Vorarlberg)
*Due imprecise data capture by Upper Austria, the number of single persons does not tally with the figures for communities of dependence.
**For example, a couple with a person of age eligible for family allowance, living in the same household.
Source: Statistics Austria, Statistics for means-tested minimum income benefit and Ministry of Social Affairs, Statistics for means-tested minimum income benefit 2011-2016

Number of persons receiving MIB by province



Annual totals
*including unsupported children
Source: Statistics Austria, Statistics for means-tested minimum income benefit and Ministry of Social Affairs, Statistics for means-tested minimum income benefit 2011-2016

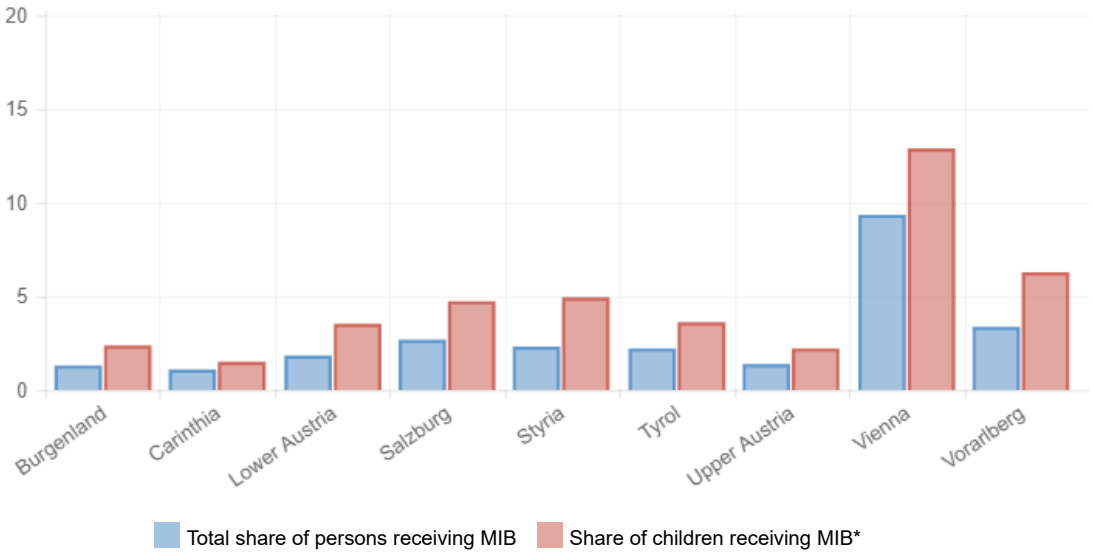
Number of children receiving MIB by province



Annual totals for minors
*including unsupported children
Source: Statistics Austria, Statistics for means-tested minimum income benefit and Ministry of Social Affairs, Statistics for means-tested minimum income benefit 2011-2016

Persons and children receiving MIB by province 2016

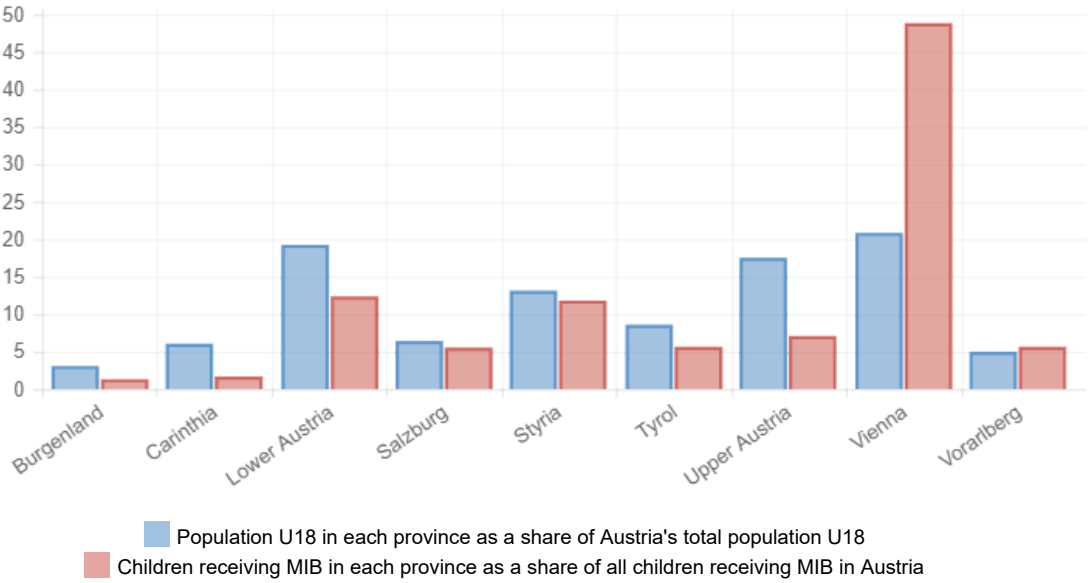
Persons receiving MIB in the population (of the same age) in %



*Minors, partially including unsupported children (Styria, Vorarlberg)
Sources: Statistics Austria, Statistics for means-tested minimum income benefit; Statistics Austria, Annual average population

Comparison of the distribution of the population aged under 18 and children receiving MIB 2016

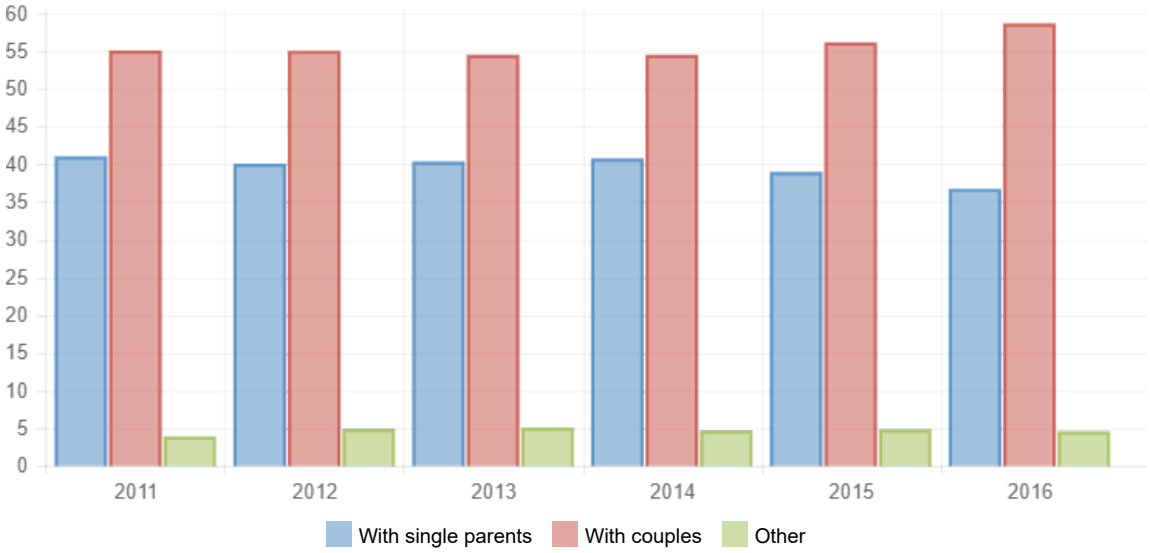
In %



Minors, children receiving MIB partially including unsupported children (Styria, Vorarlberg)
Sources: Statistics Austria, Statistics for means-tested minimum income benefit; Statistics Austria, Annual average population

Family constellation of supported children - Shares (not incl. Salzburg)

In %



Values refer to annual totals.
Minors, partially including unsupported children (Styria, Vorarlberg) The figures supplied by Salzburg have been deducted as persons were counted more than once in the categories.
Source: Statistics Austria, Statistics for means-tested minimum income benefit and Ministry of Social Affairs, Statistics for means-tested minimum income benefit 2011-2016

Average claim period for MIB

in months during the reporting year

Data on the average claim period for persons throughout Austria not available until 2015, for Carinthia from 2013, and not available at all for Lower Austria and Styria.
The value for Austria is calculated from the average claim periods of the provinces, weighted with their data for the number of persons/communities of dependence.
Source: Statistics Austria, Statistics for means-tested minimum income benefit and Ministry of Social Affairs, Statistics for means-tested minimum income benefit 2011-2016

Development and structure

In 2016 the total number of supported persons increased by 23,159 (+8.1%) compared with the previous year, and the number of supported minors was up by 6,650 (+8.6%). Since introduction of the means-tested minimum income benefit system in 2011 claims have risen by 59.1%, and by 63.0% for children.

The population did not however grow as fast (in total up by 4.2% from 2011 to 2016, with the number of under 18s only increasing by 0.23%). This means that there has been a significant rise in the share of persons receiving MIB: it increased from 2.3% of the total number of persons living in Austria in 2011 to reach 3.5% in 2016 (+52.7%). Over the same period the share of children aged under 18 in the population of the same age rose from 3.4% to 5.5% (+62.7%).

The greatest increase in children receiving MIB was seen in Lower Austria, where this more than doubled since 2011 (up +129.4% up to 2016). The lowest increases were recorded for Upper Austria (+45.4%) and Salzburg (+39.6%), while in all other provinces the number of supported children rose by between 57% to 68%.

Persons claiming MIB who live in the same household are consolidated into ‚communities of dependence'. A community of dependence consists either of one person (who is supported as a single person) or several persons who are supported jointly. Where several persons in one household claim MIB benefits independently due to an absence of reciprocal maintenance obligations, they are counted as more than one community of dependence. Family constellations are divided into one of five categories: Single persons, Couples without children, Single parents, Couples with children and Other.
In 2016 on average throughout Austria 1.69 persons were living in a community of dependence. Two categories are relevant in the case of supported children: in 2016 communities of dependence with single parents consisted on average of 2.17 persons, while the category Couples with children was made up of 4.01 persons.
These figures cannot be used to directly determine the exact number of children in each community as, for example, adult „children" (persons of age eligible for family allowance) living in the same household are counted as Women/Men. It can nevertheless be assumed that the average number of children was just above one child for the category Single parents and around two for Couples with children.
Communities of dependence which came under „Other" (e.g. a couple with a child of age eligible for family allowance living in the same household) consisted on average of 2.40 persons in 2016.

The family constellation (Single parent, Couples) is also taken into account when counting the number of supported children and has brought about a slight shift since the introduction of MIB (shares without including the province Salzburg as the breakdown of children by family constellation resulted in persons being counted more than once). In 2011 most children (55.1%) already lived with couples, with this level rising further in 2016 (58.7%). At the same time, the number of supported children living with single parents fell from 41.0% to 36.8%. The remaining persons were allocated to the category „Other".

Spending on the means-tested minimum income benefit scheme

In 2016 spending by the Länder on the means-tested minimum income benefit scheme (MIB), i.e. living costs, housing and sickness benefit, totalled 924.2 million euros. This represented 1.3% of MIB resources (70.7 billion euros) or 0.9% of total Austrian expenditure on social protection amounting to 107.0 billion euros (cash benefits and benefits in kind, transfers, management and other; Source for social expenditure: Statistics Austria, ESSPROS, social expenditure). The sum of 872.4 million euros (94.4%) was spent on covering living costs and housing, and 51.8 million euros (5.6%) on sickness benefit. As was the case with the receipt of benefits Vienna accounted for most of this expenditure (583.4 million euros or 63.1%).

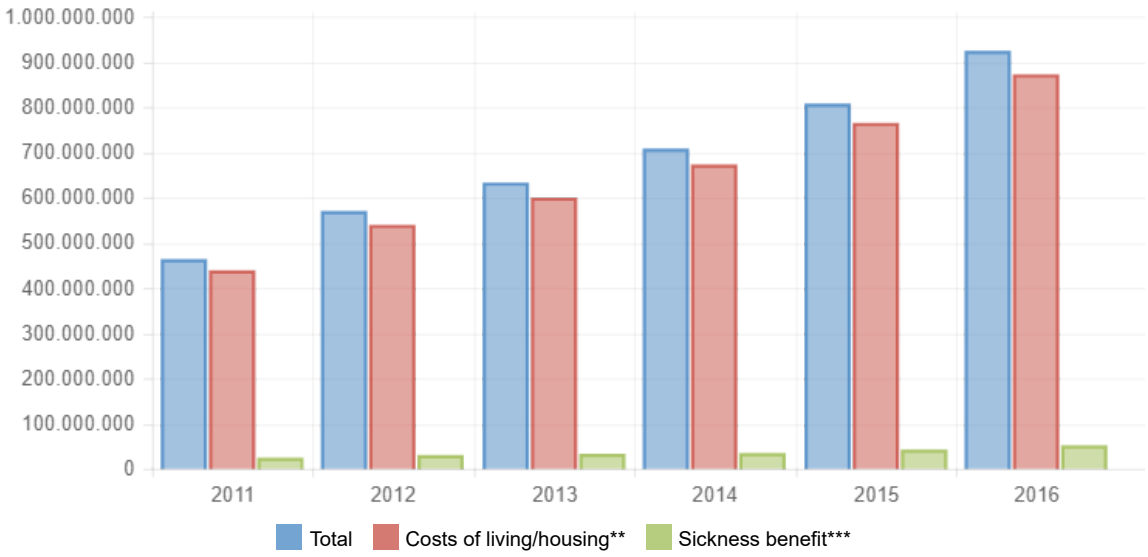
Approximately one third (33.9%) of spending on living costs or housing was paid out to ‚communities of dependence' with children (no detailed breakdown of the figures is available for spending on sickness benefit by type of community of dependence). More than half this amount (56.1%) was spent on couples with children as opposed to on single parents (43.9%).

Starting in 2015, Austria (federal level) has been distributing school starter kits to pupils in households receiving means-tested minimum income. The aim of this measure, financed by the Fund for European Aid and cofinanced by Austria, is to reduce the costs for school children, in particular at the beginning of each school year, by distributing high-quality school materials and thus avoid stigmatisation and promote social inclusion in schools. Since 2015 approximately 120,000 school starter kits have been distributed, with a take-up rate of 78% and an impressive level of satisfaction among end recipients of 95%.

For more detailed reports on the numbers of persons or children supported by the MIB and on the minimum standards for MIB see: Children Supported by MIB or Minimum Standards for MIB

Spending on cash benefits under the MIB

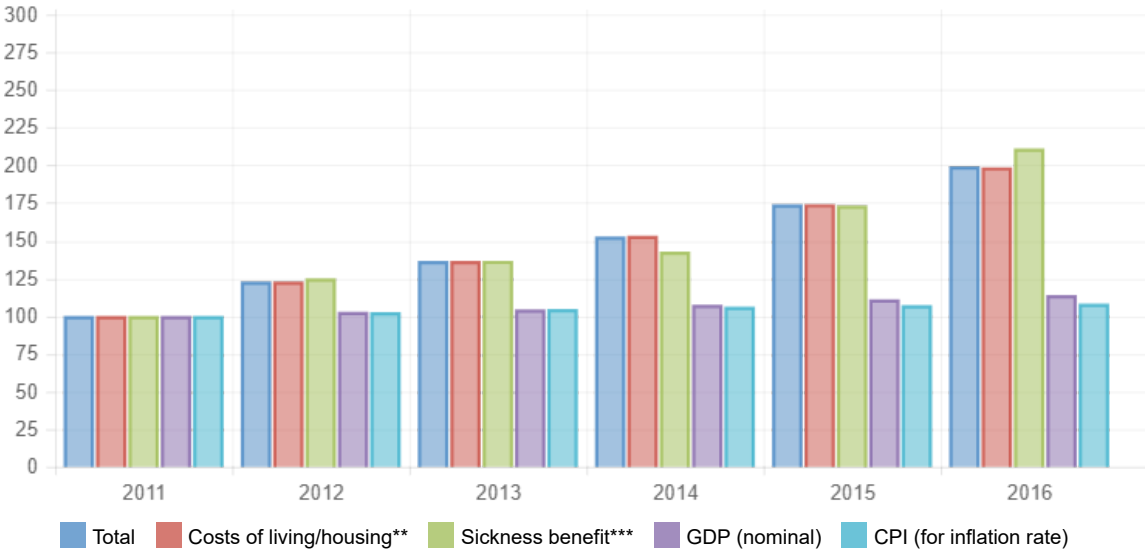
for living costs/housing and sickness benefit; annual expenditure in euros



Annual totals, not including any return flows from cost reimbursement.
** Covering the cost of living and housing outside residential facilities.
*** Payment of health insurance contributions and any other expenses (e.g. deductibles).
Source: Statistics Austria, Statistics for means-tested minimum income benefit and Ministry of Social Affairs, Statistics for means-tested minimum income benefit 2011-2016

Expenditure* for MIB - indexed

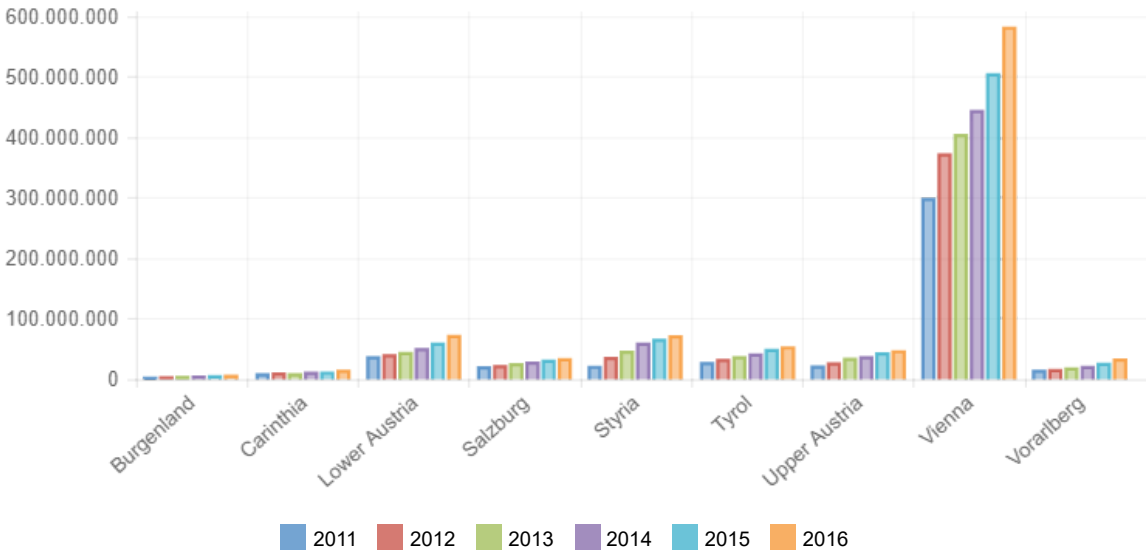
Index: year 2011=100
for living costs/housing and sickness benefit



* Annual totals, not including any return flows from cost reimbursement.
** Covering the cost of living and housing outside residential facilities.
*** Payment of health insurance contributions and any other expenses (e.g. deductibles).
Sources: Statistics Austria, Statistics for means-tested minimum income benefit and Ministry of Social Affairs, Statistics for means-tested minimum income benefit 2011-2016; Statistics Austria, National accounts – annual data; Statistics Austria, Consumer Price Index 2000

Expenditure for MIB by Länder

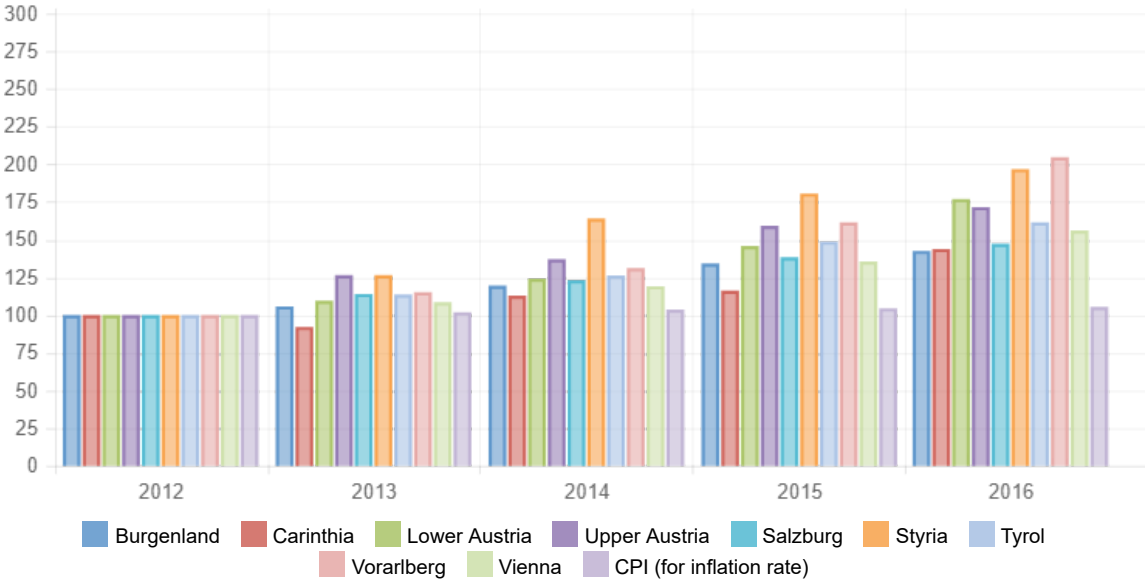
for living costs/housing and sickness benefit taken together, annual total in euros



Annual totals, not including any return flows from cost reimbursement.
Source: Statistics Austria, Statistics for means-tested minimum income benefit and Ministry of Social Affairs, Statistics for means-tested minimum income benefit 2011-2016

Spending* on cash benefits from MIB by Länder - indexed

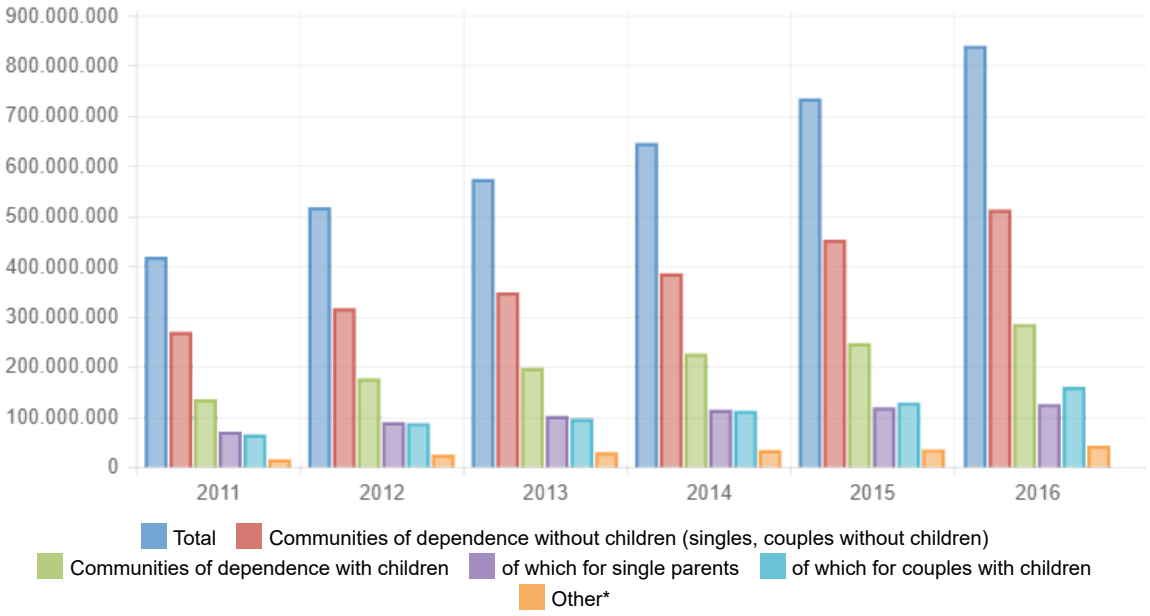
Index: year 2012=100
Covering living costs and housing outside residential facilities



Annual totals, not including any return flows from cost reimbursement.
Note: 2012 was taken as the base year here, as in Styria expenditure can only be considered after 1.3.2011 (introduction of MIB).
Sources: Statistics Austria, Statistics for means-tested minimum income benefit and Ministry of Social Affairs, Statistics for means-tested minimum income benefit 2011-2016; Statistics Austria, Consumer Price Index 2000

Spending on MIB in Austria (excluding Salzburg) to cover the cost of living/housing

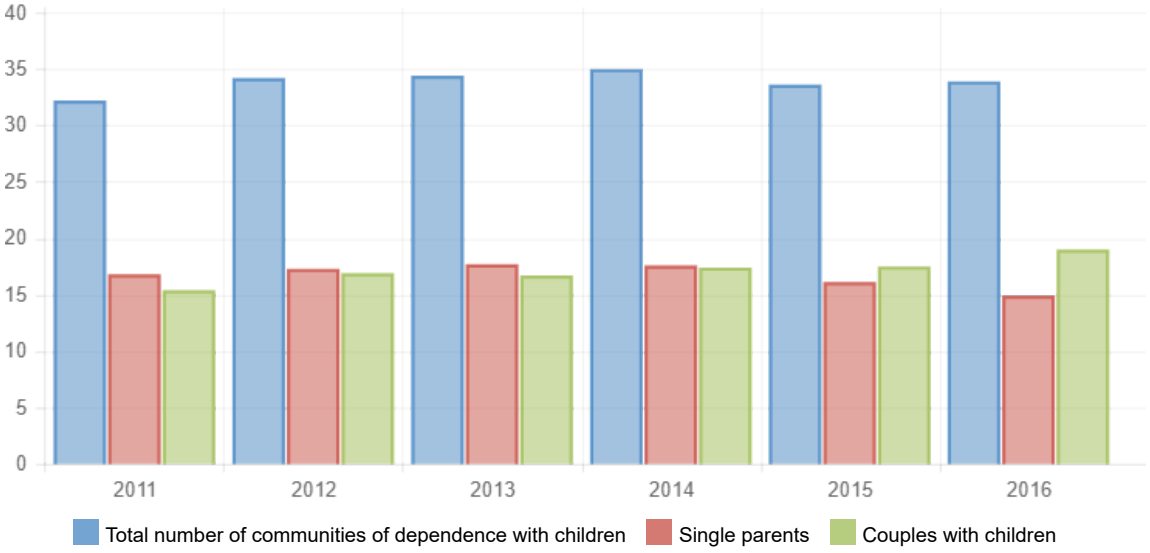
Annual expenditure in euros



Annual totals, not including any return flows from cost reimbursement.
As no data is available from the Land Salzburg for the categories shown here until 2013, all figures refer to total spending on living costs/housing (without sickness benefit) in Austria minus those in Salzburg.
* For example, a couple with a person of age with an entitlement to family allowance, living in the same household.
Source: Statistics Austria, Statistics for means-tested minimum income benefit and Ministry of Social Affairs, Statistics for means-tested minimum income benefit 2011-2016

Pro rata spending for MIB in Austria (excluding Salzburg) to cover living costs/housing for communities of dependence with children

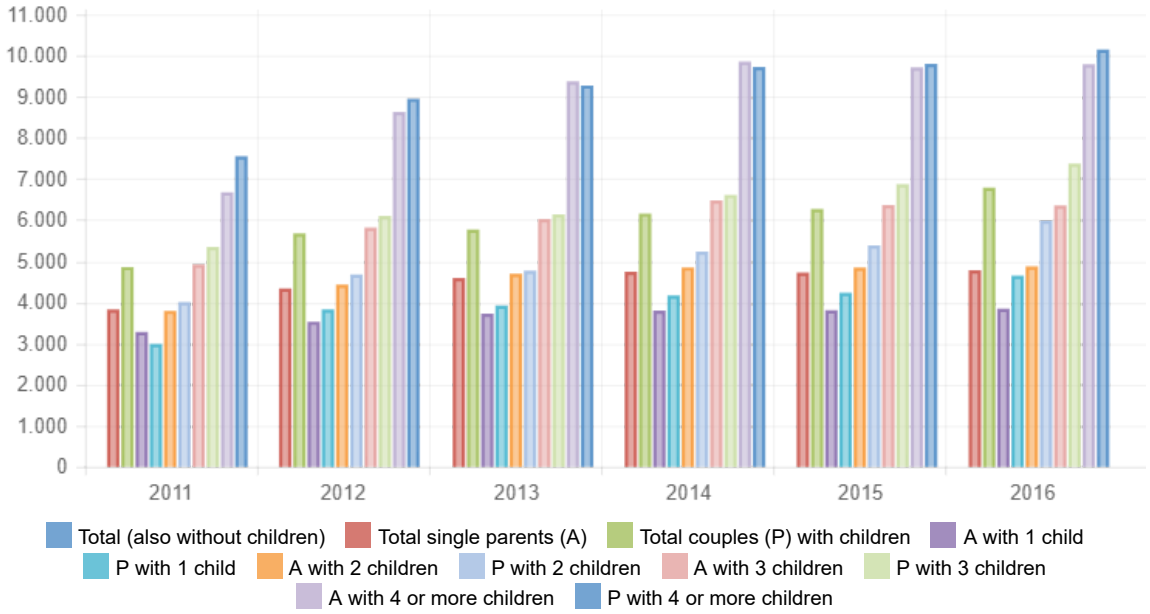
in % of total spending excluding Salzburg



Based on the annual totals, not including any return flows from cost reimbursement.
As no data for the categories shown here is available from the Land Salzburg from the period up to 2013, all figures refer to total expenditure to cover living costs/housing (without sickness benefit) in Austria minus those in Salzburg.
Source: Statistics Austria, Statistics for means-tested minimum income benefit and Ministry of Social Affairs, Statistics for means-tested minimum income benefit 2011-2016

Spending per community of dependence with children for MIB to cover the cost of living and housing

Annual expenditure in euros



Annual totals, not including any return flows from cost reimbursement. The categories (single parent, couples) other than “Total” do not include Salzburg prior to 2014 (data not available). Between 2014 and 2016 persons were in some cases counted more than once in the categories in Salzburg so minor inaccuracies are present here. Salzburg was not deducted to ensure there is no divergence to the published figures. The “Total” figures have been adjusted to take account of these multiple counts.

Source: Statistics Austria, Statistics for means-tested minimum income benefit and Ministry of Social Affairs, Statistics for means-tested minimum income benefit 2011-2016

Development

Since it was introduced in 2011, spending on MIB (living costs, housing and sickness benefit) has doubled (+99.3% until 2016). The biggest year-on-year increase of 23% was recorded in 2012 due to the fact that this was the first full MIB year (e.g. MIB was only introduced in Styria as of 1.3.2011). From then until 2016 it rose by an average of 12.8% per year or by 62.1% overall. As inflation averaged just 1.34% per year or 5.46% over the four years, spending in real terms adjusted for inflation rose by 53.7% between 2012 and 2016.

Spending on sickness benefit as a proportion of total spending on MIB has remained relatively stable at between 4.9% and 5.6% percent since MIB was introduced, peaking in 2016. For this reason, spending on sickness benefit rose (+68.9%) between 2012 and 2016 slightly faster than total spending on living costs and housing (+61.7%).

After Vienna, which received more than 60% of expenditure each year, (lowest figure: 62.7% 2015; highest figure: 65.6% 2012), spending was highest in Lower Austria and Styria (on average 7.5% and 7.2% respectively) and lowest in Burgenland (0.9% on average).

There have also been differences in regional growth rates since 2012. In Vorarlberg, Styria, Lower and Upper Austria the overall change up to 2016 was higher than the national average, and in Tyrol, Vienna, Salzburg, Carinthia and Burgenland lower than the national average. The biggest increase was seen in Vorarlberg (+104.8%), and the smallest in Burgenland (+42.6%).

With the exception of the year of introduction, slightly more than one third of all spending up to 2016 went each year to communities of dependence with underage children (the Land Salzburg has not been included in the figures reported below on spending by type of communities of dependence due to a lack of data; nor has sickness benefit expenditure been taken into account).
Although this share declined by approximately 1 percentage point in 2015 and 2016 compared with the two previous years (from 34.7% to 33.8%), it is still not possible to speak here of a relevant trend.
There was however a shift in spending with regard to the family constellation of communities of dependencies with children that receive support, above all in the last two years. From 2011 up to and including 2014, more than half of all spending, which decreased slightly by 1.8 percentage points from 52.2% to 50,4%, was used for single parents. In 2015 and 2016 this share fell by 6.5 percentage points together to 43.9%, and couples with children on the whole benefited to a comparatively greater extent from the means-tested minimum income benefit scheme.
Accordingly, from 2012 to 2016 changes in total spending for single parents (+40.0%) were lower than average, and for couples with children higher than average (+82.9%).

Minimum standards for the means-tested minimum income benefits scheme

Since 1.1.2017 there has no longer been any nationwide agreement on the **means-tested minimum income benefit scheme (MIB).** Benefits are now regulated differently from Land to Land. To cover living costs and the costs of adequate housing, the Länder are required to guarantee a certain level of monthly payments as a minimum standard. As the MIB statistics for 2017 are not yet available (status: 22.2.2018), the provisions for 2016 will be described below. The baseline figure was the net amount derived from the equalisation supplemental reference rate for single persons minus the health insurance contribution.

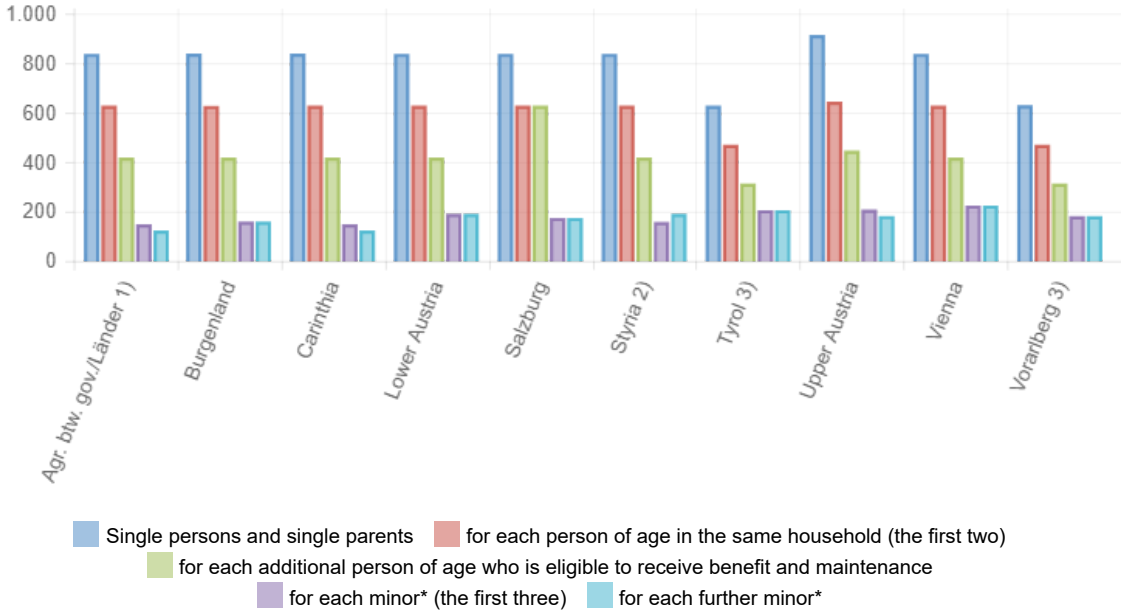
For more detailed reports on the number of persons or children supported by the MIB scheme as well as the spending for MIB see: Children supported by MIB and Expenditure for MIB

In 2016 the MIB to cover living costs and housing (minimum standard as defined by the agreement between the federal government and the Länder) essentially comprised two components: A basic amount of 628.32 euros and 209.44 euros to cover the costs of housing per month (twelve times per year), which together makes 837.76 euros. If the cost of adequate housing cannot be completely met with this housing component, the Länder should provide additional benefits (as a rule the Länder cannot provide additional cash or non-cash benefits for special needs that are not covered). Individuals living in partnerships together received 1.5 times the basic amount: but at least 1,256.64 euros.
For the first three (underage) children an additional sum of at least 150.80 euros each (18% of the amount for single persons) was paid out, and for each additional child 125.66 euros. However, an actual reduction for more than three children was only achieved in three Länder (Carinthia, Upper Austria and as of 1.9.2016 in Styria).

In 2016, the minimum standards implemented in all Länder for children exceeded those agreed between the Länder and the federal government, on average by 17.13% for the first three children. The highest amount in excess of this level was paid in Vienna with 226.20 euros (33.3% more), followed by Upper Austria (28.29% more). In Carinthia payments most closely approximated the amounts set out in the agreement and were thus the lowest (0.03% more).
Implementation of the minimum standards demonstrated a number of Länder-specific features; for more detailed information see the MIB statistics as well as the relevant regulations/notices of the Länder.
As many individuals who receive means-tested minimum income benefit do so as a supplement to income from employment or to unemployment benefit (in each case below the level of the means-tested minimum income benefit), the actual amounts received are often frequently significantly lower than the amounts listed here.

Minimum standards for MIB by Länder 2016

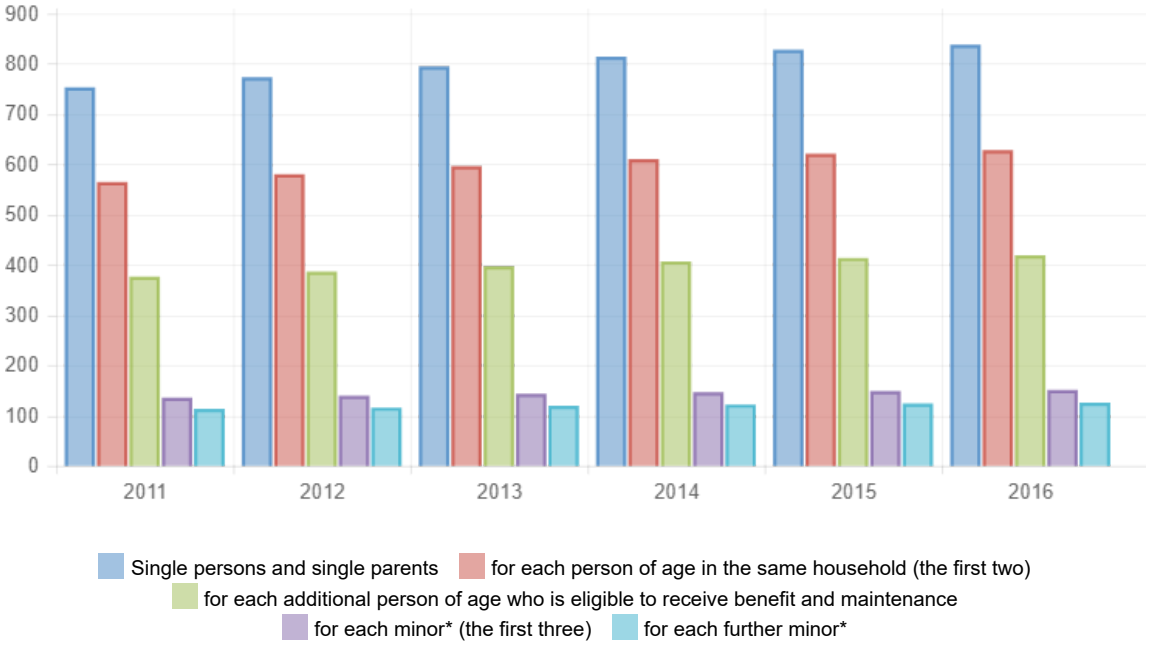
in euros; monthly (12x per year)



The minimum standards described here are the main categories as defined in the agreement between the federal government and the Länder. Furthermore, the Länder provide for additional minimum standards for other groups of persons and household constellations.
* additional minors in the same household (with at least one person of age)
1) Minimum standards based on the provisions of the agreement between the federal government (Bund) and the Länder (Fed. Gaz. I No. 96/2010).
2) Minimum standards for minors for the first four children and for each additional child; as of 1.9.2016 this was changed to the first three children and for each additional child with a simultaneous reduction of the minimum standards (first three children: 150.80 euros, for each additional child: 125.66 euros).
3) Minimum standards for single parents and persons of age without the housing component (calculated separately)
Source: Regulations/notices of the Länder and the agreement between the federal government and the Länder on means-tested minimum income benefit – summarised in Statistische Nachrichten 10/2017 of Statistics Austria

Development of the minimum standards since the introduction of MIB

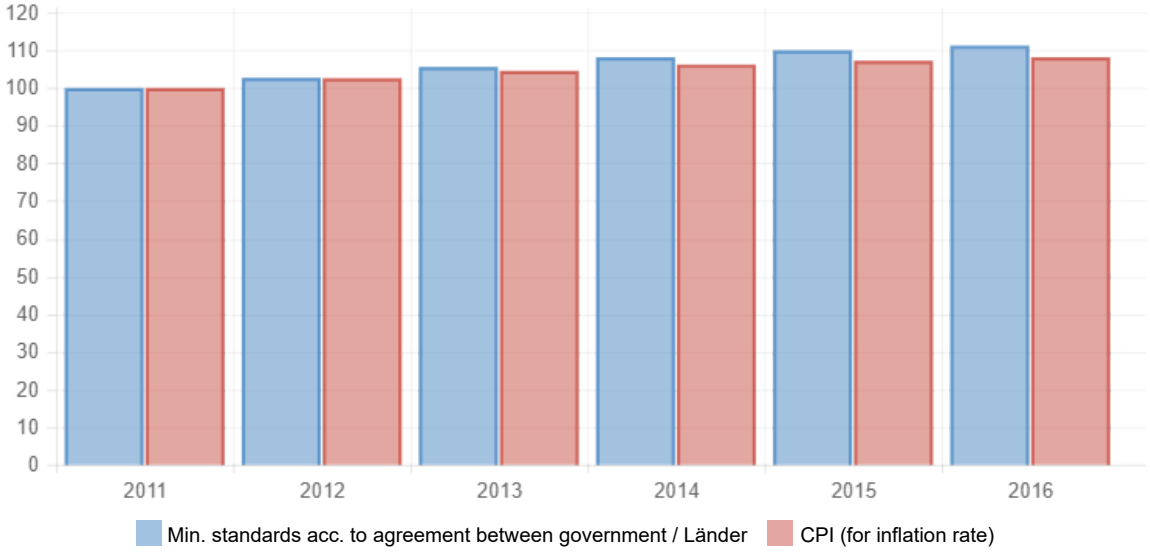
in euros; monthly (12x per year)



Minimum standards based on the provisions of the agreement between the federal government (Bund) and the Länder (Fed. Gaz. I No. 96/2010). In the case of those listed here, this involves the main categories in accordance with the agreement. Furthermore, the Länder provide for additional minimum standards for other groups of persons and household constellations.
* additional minors in the same household (with at least one person of age)
Source: Statistics Austria, Statistics for means-tested minimum income benefit and Ministry of Social Affairs, Statistics for means-tested minimum income benefit 2011-2016

Development of minimum standards for children indexed and comparison with inflation

Index: 2011 = 100



Minimum standards indexed on the basis of the provisions of the agreement between the federal government and the Länder (Fed. Gaz. I No. 96/2010). The same index adjustment was carried out in all main categories (single persons, several persons of age/minors) in all years.
Sources: Statistics Austria, Statistics for means-tested minimum income benefit and Ministry of Social Affairs, Statistics for means-tested minimum income benefit 2011-2016; Statistics Austria, Consumer Price Index 2000

Development

Agreement between Bund and Länder pursuant to Art. 15a B-VG on a nationwide means-tested minimum income benefit scheme came into force on 1.12.2010. The first baseline value defined as the net sum for 2011 was 752.94 euros for single persons (this is a minimum amount). The amounts for other persons were based on fixed percentages, which have remained unchanged since then. Consequently, reference will only be made below to the development of the minimum standards (the rates of change are identical for all persons, especially for children). In all years from 2011 to 2016 persons of age living in the same household with other persons of age each received at least 75% of the baseline value for single persons; for each additional person of age who was eligible to receive the benefit, at least 50% was paid out if this person was eligible for maintenance payments from another person in the same household.
The first three underage children for whom there was an entitlement to family allowance and who were living in the same household with at least one person of age, consistently received at least 18% of the baseline value, in the case of four or more children at least 15%.

Since then, under the terms of the agreement, the minimum standards for all persons (and in particular for children) have been raised by an average of 2.16% per year through annual index adjustment, or by a total of 11.27% from 2011 to 2016. As the annual rate of inflation averaged just 1.58% or 8.16% over the five-year period, the minimum standards rose faster than the rate of inflation. Adjusted for inflation this resulted in a real increase of 2.87% (+0.57% per year).
It should be noted here that people with low incomes spend a significantly higher proportion of their income on housing and food (the prices of which have recently risen much faster than average) so that inflation tends to affect recipients of MIB more severely.

As the parties to the contract have not (yet) been able to reach a new agreement, responsibility for structuring means-tested minimum income benefit is since January 2017 once more fully incumbent on the Länder with no common framework – as was the case with the income support it replaced.

Family allowance and child care benefit

The child related benefits funded by the Family Burden Equalisation Fund, particularly **family allowance** and **child care benefit** (CCB), have greatly contributed towards poverty reduction. Based on EU-SILC data for 2010, Austria's family oriented anti-poverty policy reduces its child poverty rate by 63 per cent through a combination of family benefits and family-related tax breaks.

The amount of **family allowance** varies according to the age of the child (as of January 2018):

Age of the child	Monthly Amount
From birth	114.00 euros
3 years and over	121.90 euros
10 years and over	141.50 euros
19 years and over	165.10 euros
Supplement for a child with a severe disability	155.90 euros

Bearbeiten

At the beginning of September, a school start fee of 100 Euros is paid for each child aged between 6 and 15 years.

If there are several children in a family, sibling supplements are granted:

Children in the family	Monthly Amount
two children	7.10 euros each
three children	17.40 euros each
four children	26.50 euros each
five children	32.00 euros each
six children	35.70 euros each
seven children and more	52 euros for each additional child

Bearbeiten

Single earners and lone parents are entitled to the single earner / lone parent tax allowance:

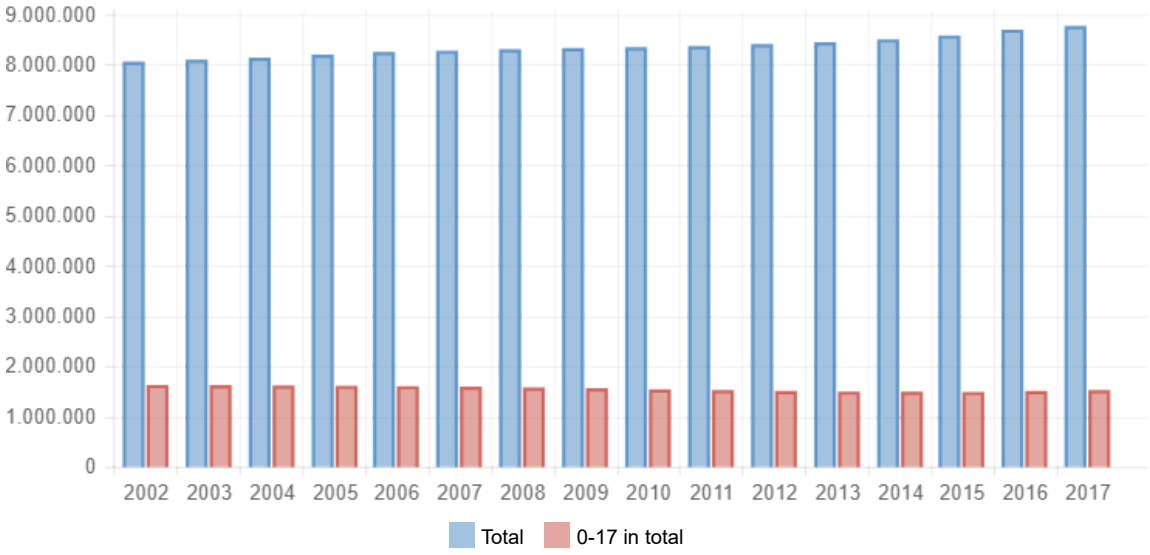
- for one child − 494 euros (per annum)
- for two children − 669 euros (per annum)
- for three children − 889 euros (per annum)
- for each additional child − 220 euros (per annum)

Child care benefit (CCB) is payable at the earliest on the day the child is born. Entitlement to CCB generally does not depend on earlier employment or compulsory insurance. Therefore housewives/househusbands, students, „marginally employed" persons and freelance employees are also entitled to CCB as long as there is an entitlement to family allowance in respect of the child according to the Family Allowance Act (Familienlastenausgleichsgesetz), the parents live in a common household with the child and a certain annual earnings limit is not exceeded.

Number of children in Austria

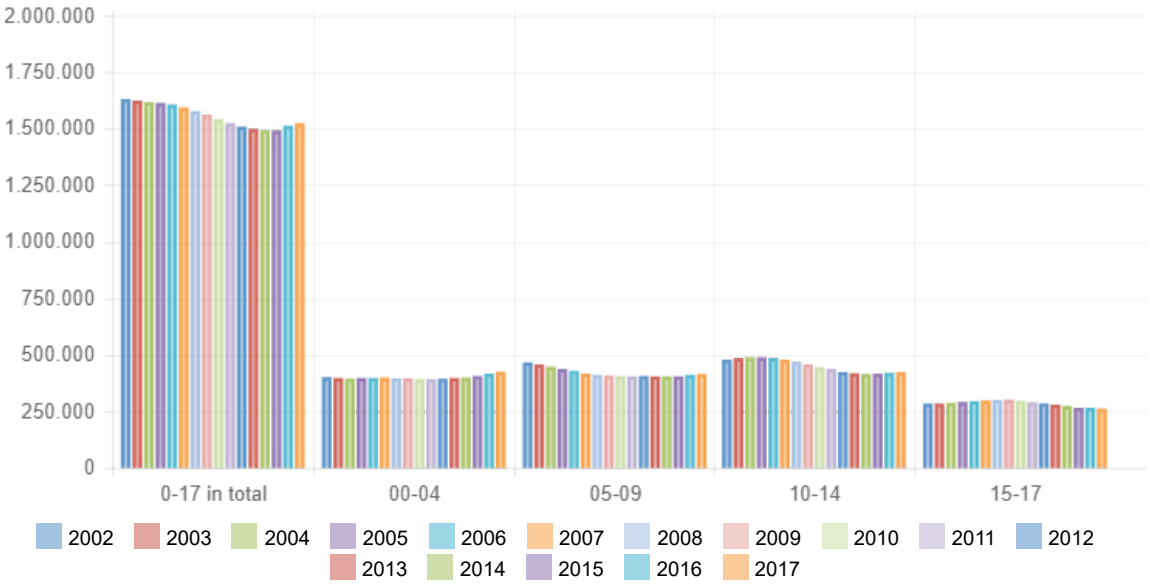
1 525 337 people from 0 to 17 were living in Austria on 1 January 2017, according to preliminary results released by Statistics Austria. Compared to the beginning of 2016, the resident population (0-17) increased by 12 550 (+0.83%).

Population of Austria



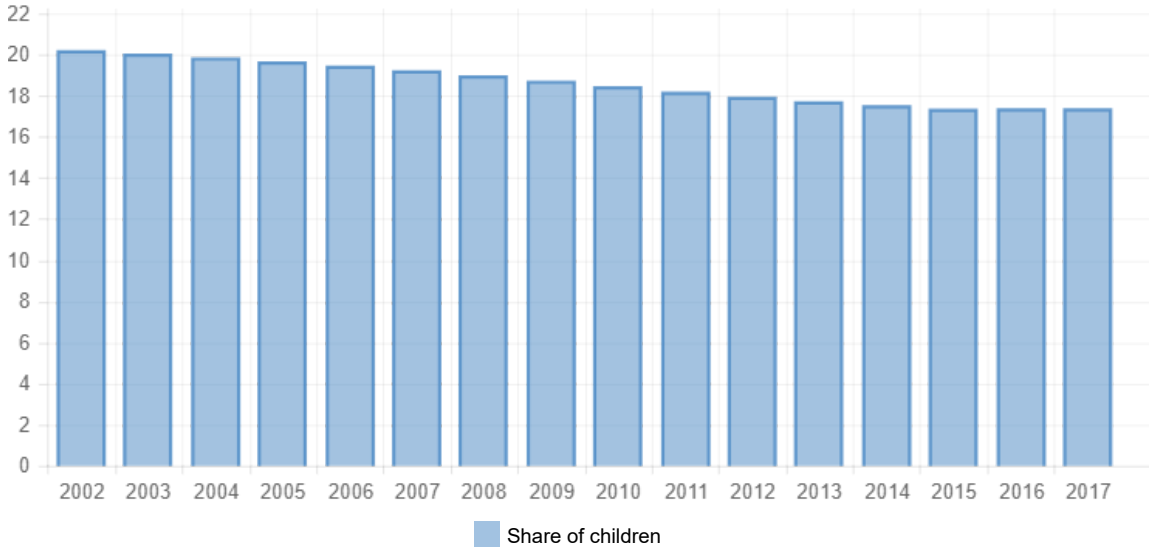
Reference date: 1 January
Source: Statistics Austria, Population Stock

Number of children in Austria (by age groups)



Reference date: 1 January
Source: Statistics Austria, Population Stock

Share of children (0-17) of population in total in %



Reference date: 1 January
Source: Statistics Austria, Population Stock

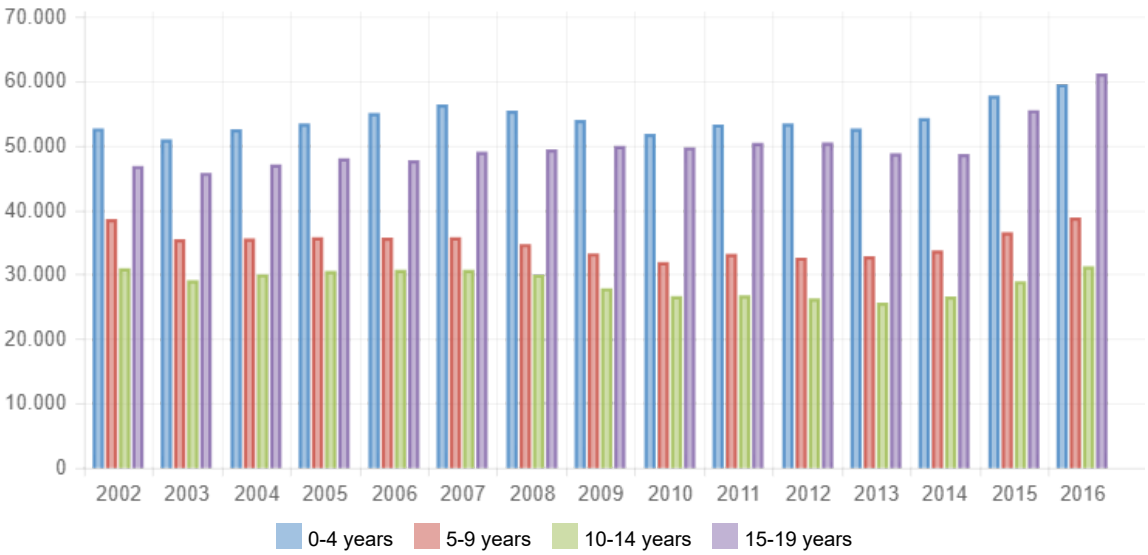
For further information see (e.g.): Statistics Austria, Population Stock or United Nations, DESA / Population Division, World Population Prospects

Migration within Austria (internal migration)

Children accompany their parents during the phases of a family's life cycle, generally not moving far away. It should be noted here that relocation of a family's primary residence is extremely common. Among the 1.222 million youngsters under the age of 15 years living in Austria, some 114,500 cases of internal migration were registered in 2014, i.e. 9.4%. We speak here of „cases" as some people move house several times a year. At 13.5% infants (0 to 4 years) proved to be the most „mobile". The older children become, the less the family moves house. Of children aged between 5 and 9 years 8.4% were involved in internal migration in 2014, and 6.4% of those were between 10 and 14 years of age.

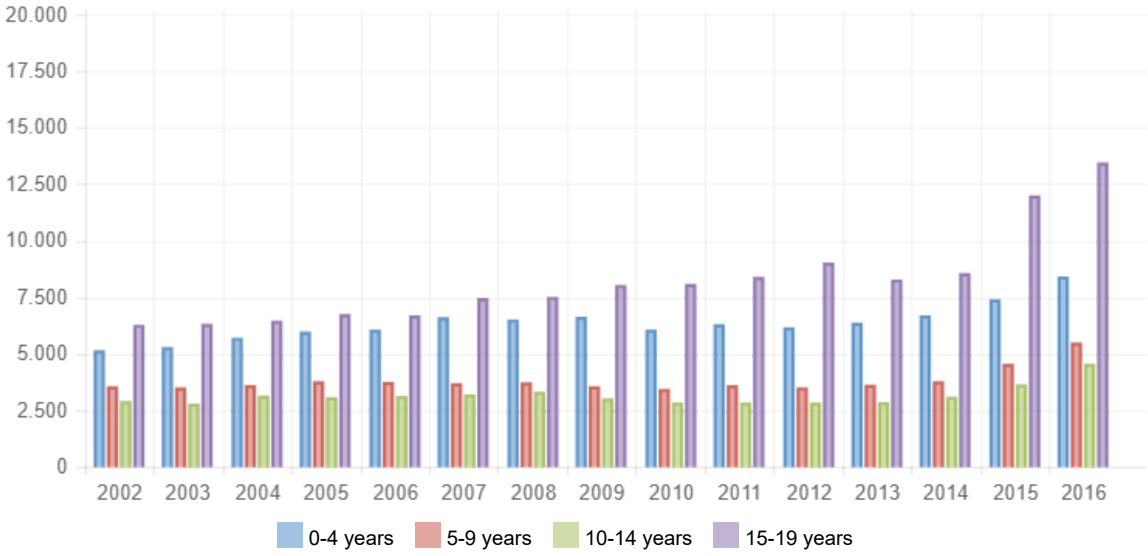
In 57.0% of cases of internal migration children remained in the same municipality, and a further 16.6% moved within one administrative district, i.e. only relocating a short distance away. Local migration between cities and the surrounding region is also included in these two categories. When adolescents reach school-leaving age, there is an increase in internal migration levels as they leave home to embark on a course of study or employment (2014: 10.5%), peaking in adults aged 20 – 24 years (2014: 22.3%). At this age internal migration between different districts and relocation over national borders is, as is to be expected, more common than among children.

Internal migration by age



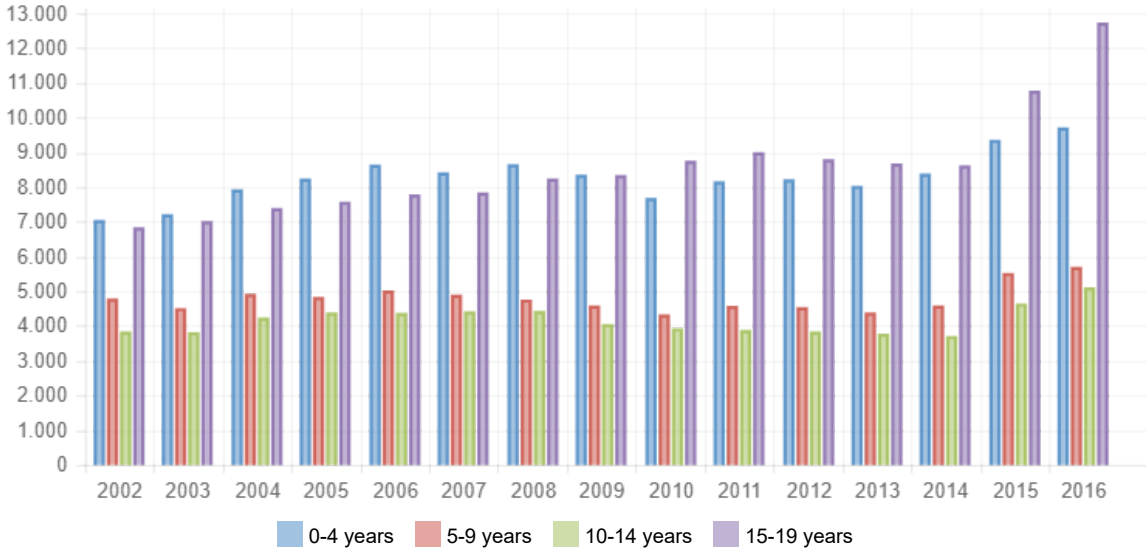
Source: Statistics Austria, Migration within Austria

Internal migration between federal states by age



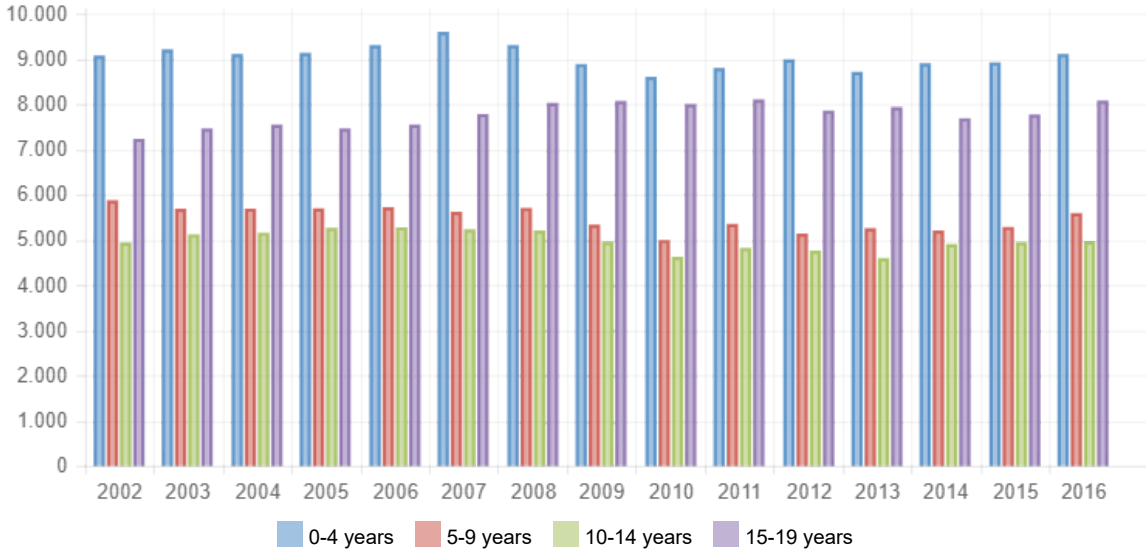
Source: Statistics Austria, Migration within Austria

Internal migration between districts in the same federal state by age



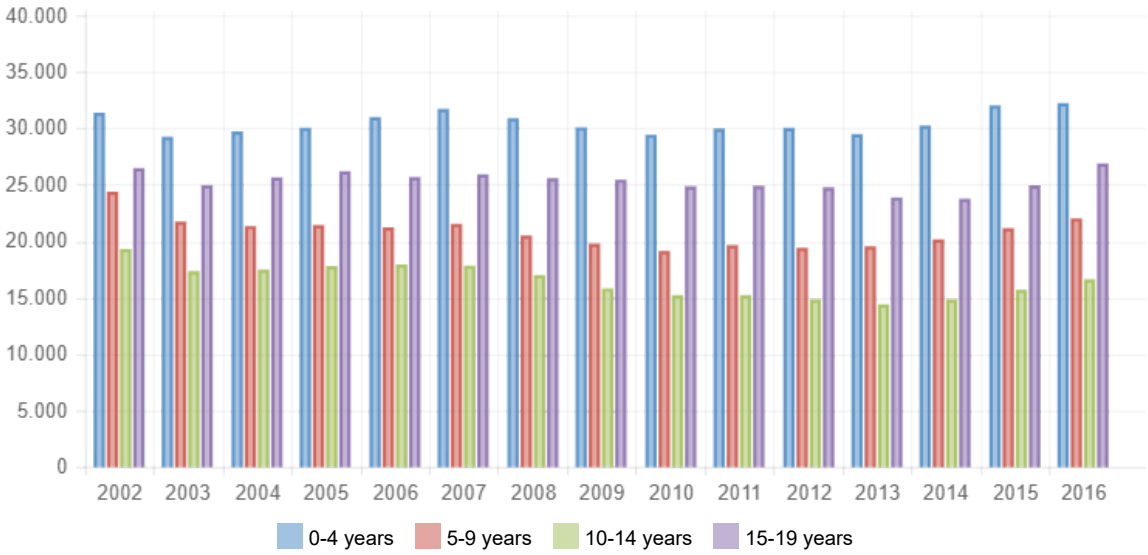
Source: Statistics Austria, Migration within Austria

Internal migration between municipalities in the same district by age



Source: Statistics Austria, Migration within Austria

Internal migration within the same municpality by age



Source: Statistics Austria, Migration within Austria

Internal migration of children between the age of 0 and 14 years by gender

Sources: Statistics Austria, Migration within Austria; Statistics Austria, Annual average population

Internal migration of young people between the age of 15 and 19 years by gender

Sources: Statistics Austria, Migration within Austria; Statistics Austria, Annual average population

Development

In contrast to children, where boys and girls have virtually identical levels of internal migration over all three five-year age groups (0-4, 5-9, 10-14), female adolescents relocate within Austria more frequently than their male counterparts. In 2014, 9.5% of boys aged 15 to 19 years moved house within the country as against 11.5% of girls, with a similar situation emerging for the 20 to 24-year-olds: 20.7% versus 23.9%.

2015 saw a rise in internal migration mobility, not lastly due to the arrival and redistribution of numerous displaced persons. The internal migration rate among both boys and girls under the age of 15 years was up on the previous year by some 0.6 percentage points. Changes were observed in the mobility patterns of adolescents. Between 2014 and 2015 the internal migration rate among 15 to 19-year-old boys rose 2.8 percentage points to 12.3%, with this figure being boosted by the number of unaccompanied minor asylum seekers, who are almost all male. In contrast, at 11.8% the rate for girls of the same age was up only slightly on 2014, in fact lagging behind the figure for teenage boys.

This trend became more pronounced in 2016 when the internal migration rate for boys aged 15 to 19 years rose a further 2.1 percentage points from 2015. It then stood at 14.4%, so surpassing the rate for teenage girls, which merely increased by 0.3 points to 12.1%. Since 2015 the clear predominance of girls in leaving home, observed until recently (2014), has been eroded by the additional internal migration mobility of male adolescent asylum seekers and has now even put this trend into reverse.

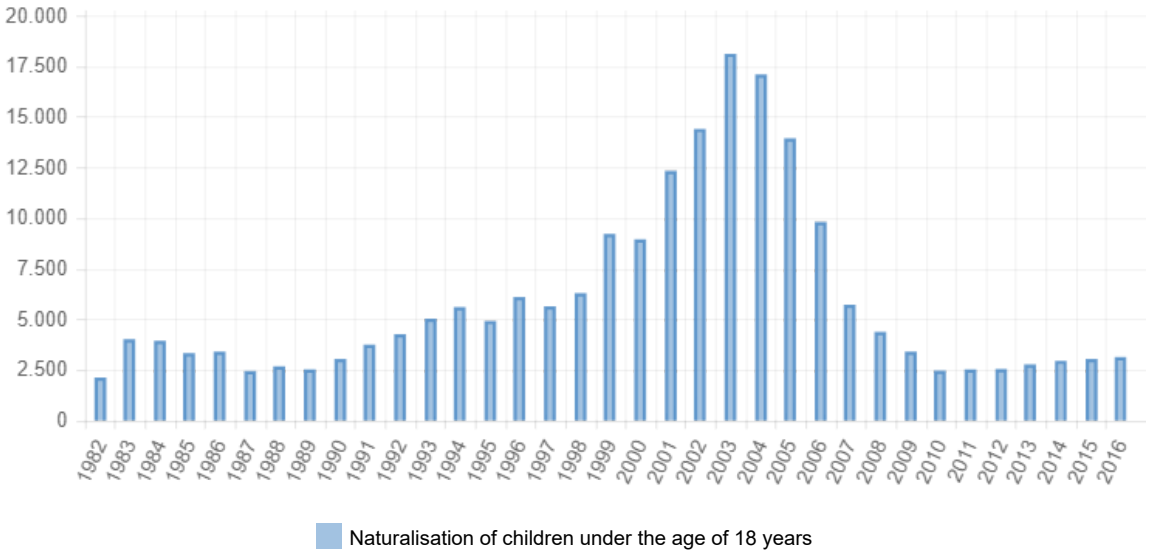
A slightly higher mobility level has also been seen in children below 15 years over the last two years. At 10.3% (129,600 cases) in 2016 the internal migration rate was around a tenth higher than in 2014, when the figure stood at 9.4%, as mentioned above. Another characteristic that can be noted here is the similarity between the sexes (boys: 10.5%, girls; 10.1%), in addition to the fall in internal migration which is observed as children become older: 14.1% for the under fives, 9.4% for children between 5 and 9 years of age and 7.4% those aged 10 to 14 years.

Acquisition of nationality by children

A child can acquire nationality at birth either according to the principle of ius sanguinis or the territoriality principle. Nationality can also be conferred on aliens under certain conditions (naturalisation). The provisions governing the acquisition of nationality are laid down in the Citizenship Act of 1985 (StbG 1985). The principle of ius sanguinis – the „right of blood“ – applies in Austria. This means that a child born in Austria becomes an Austrian national at birth if at least one parent is an Austrian citizen.

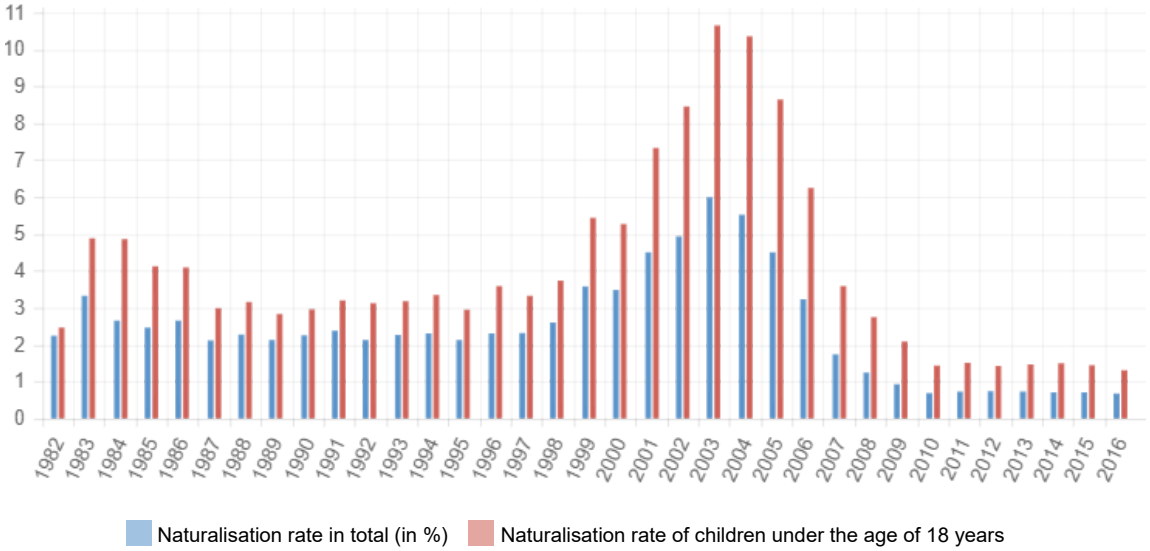
Nationality can also be granted in a process known as naturalisation following examination of the application by the competent Land government and issue of a legally binding decision. A distinction is made here between three legal principles: a) the entitlement to the granting of nationality, b) discretionary naturalisation, and c) the extension of acquisition of nationality (to spouses and minors). As children are generally naturalised with their parents, the extension of acquisition of nationality to minors is by far the most common way of acquiring nationality, accounting for some three quarters of cases. A good quarter of cases of naturalisation in children under the age of 18 years derives from legal entitlement, and around 1% from discretionary naturalisation (period under review: 2007-2016).

Naturalisation of children under the age of 18 years



Source: Statistics Austria, Acquisition of nationality

Naturalisation rate



Source: Statistics Austria, Acquisition of nationality

The level of naturalisations peaked in 2003 when almost 45,000 or 6.0% of all foreign nationals living in Austria at the time became Austrian citizens. Of this population, over 18,000 minors took Austrian citizenship, with the annual naturalisation rate for this group of aliens climbing to 10.7%. The main factors for this peak and the high values seen around this time were a change to the property and inheritance laws in Turkey („Pink Card“) and the fulfilment of a residence period requirement by a large number of persons from the successor states to the former Yugoslavia. The significance of these factors then waned in the years that followed. The amendment to the Citizenship Act, which came into force in 2006, moreover brought more stringent requirements with it, in addition to dual citizenship on the grounds of child welfare.

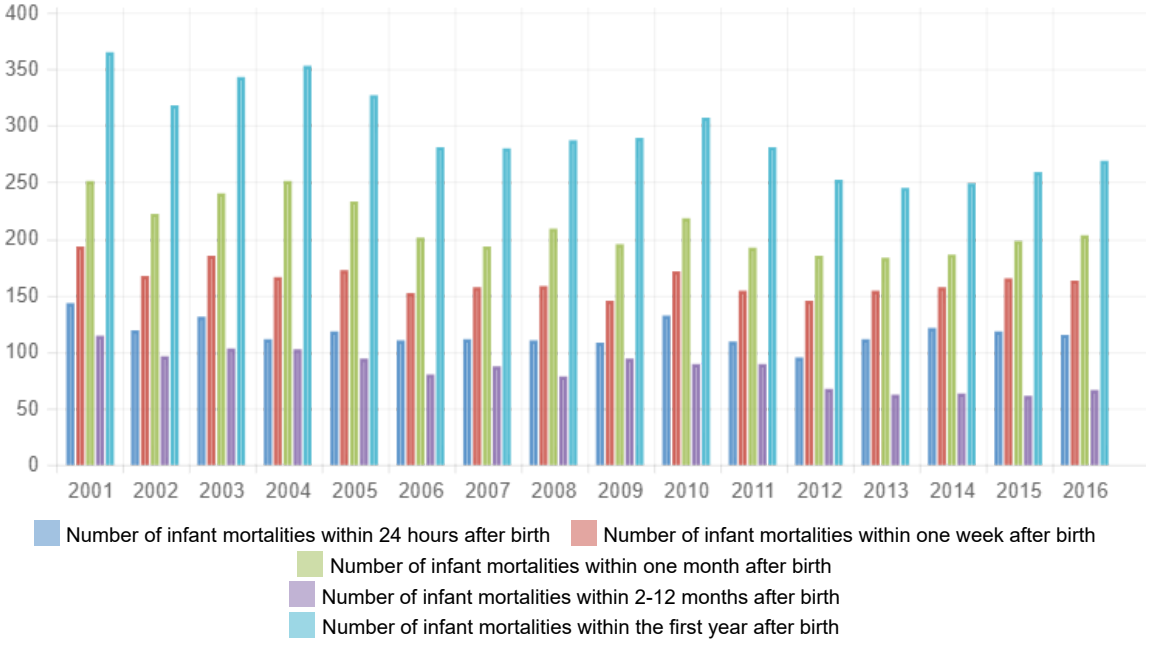
Since 2010 the general naturalisation rate has remained fairly constant at just 0.7%, with the figure for minors totalling some 1.4%. As there has been steady growth in the number of foreign children and adolescents in the country, the number of naturalised minors has simultaneously increased, rising from 2,463 in 2010 to 3,141 in 2016. The following data for 2012 offers an insight into the demographic structure of youngsters who have become Austrian citizens. Although the naturalisation rate of 1.4% did not differ by gender, it has varied by age. Citizenship was granted to 1.2% of foreign children under the age of 10 years, to 1.5% of those aged 10 to 13 years and to 1.8% of teenagers from 14 to 17 years. For children and adolescents with Turkish citizenship the naturalisation rate was 2.2%, 1.9% for minors from the former Yugoslavia, and 0.9% for youngsters from elsewhere in the world. It does not come as a surprise that the vast majority (75.6%) of the children and adolescents naturalised in 2012 were born in Austria. For the under 10s this figure was 92.5%, for children between 10 to 13 years 62%, and for teenagers from 14 to 17 years still more than half (55%). In other words, only 24.4% of all naturalised children and adolescents were born outside Austria, i.e. were migrants.

Infant mortality

The phenomenon of infant mortality relates to children who die before reaching their first birthday. Absolute figures are important to enable appropriate measures to be taken in the health and social system. The number of cases occurring here obviously depends on the number of children born. When describing and analysing the phenomenon of infant mortality, the customary method is to refer the cases of infant deaths to the number of live births over the same period and to express this as a rate per thousand. Child mortality after the first birthday is measured with reference to the average number of children who survive to the same age.

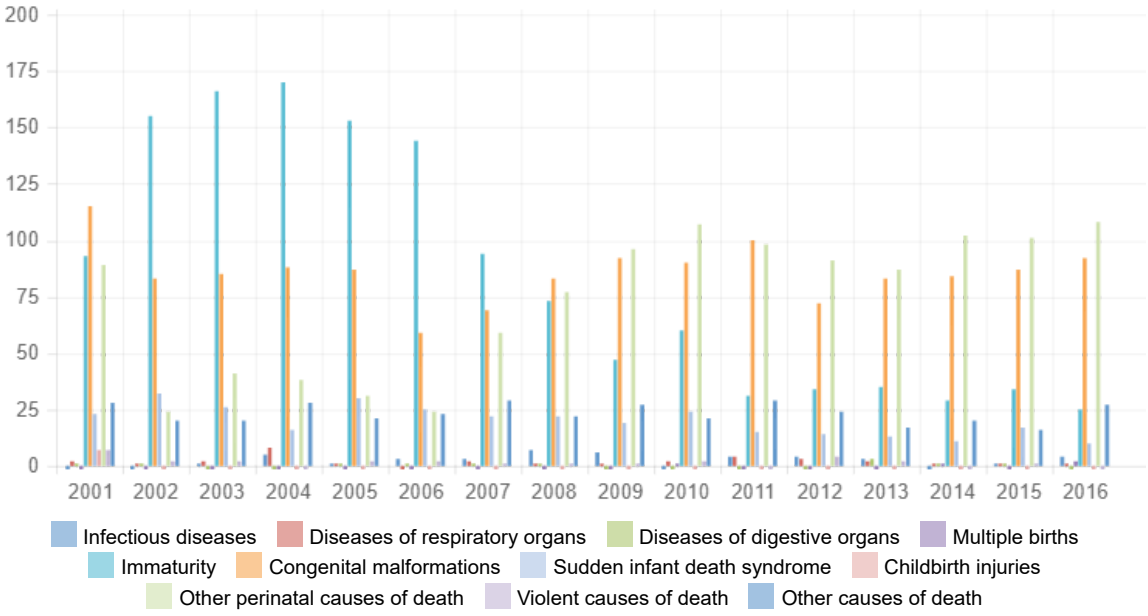
Infant mortality

Infant mortality by life span



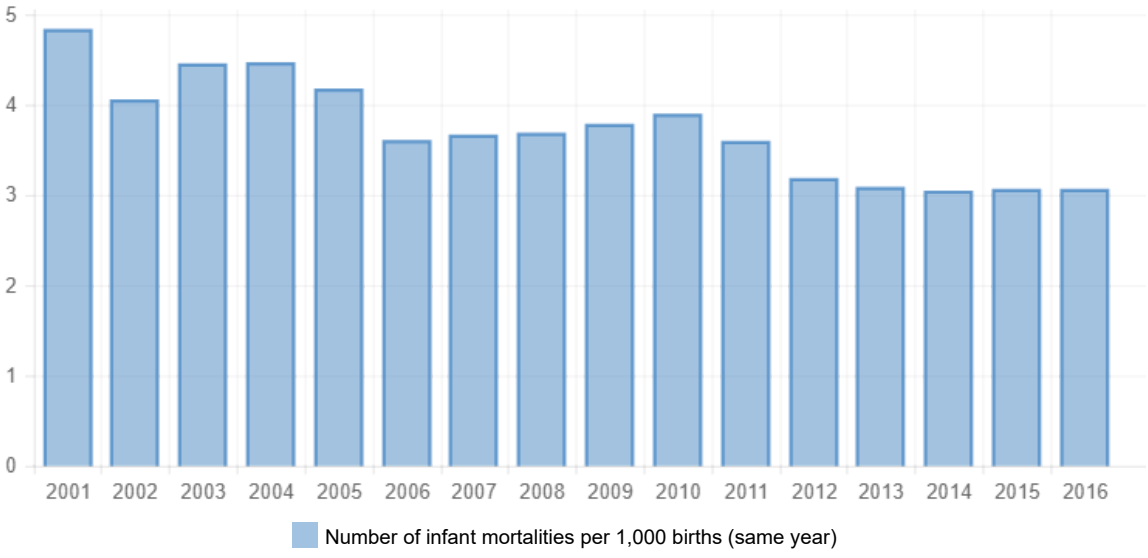
Source: Statistics Austria, Statistics on deaths

Infant mortalities by causes of death



The perinatal mortality rate shows the number of infant deaths during the perinatal period (encompassing stillbirths or deaths within seven days after birth.
Source: Statistics Austria, Statistics on deaths

Rate of infant mortality



Source: Statistics Austria, Statistics on deaths

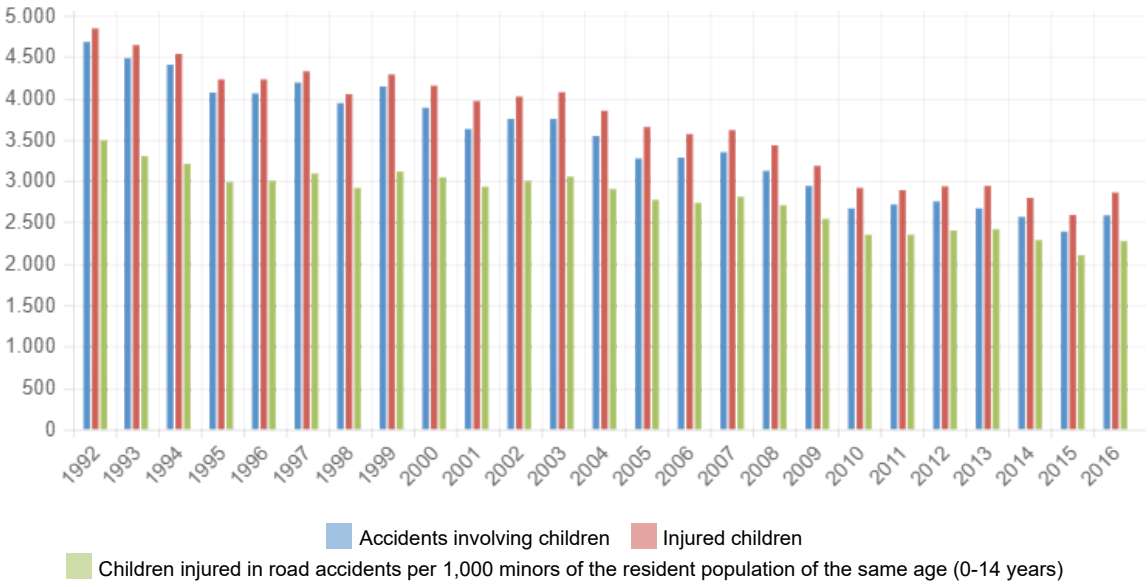
The special position of infant mortality is due to the enormous risks to which babies are exposed in the early stages of life. High levels of infant mortality are typical of underdevelopment and are particularly common in developing countries. Despite the recent increase in the incidence of infant mortality in Austria – rising from 245 (2013) to 249 (2014), 259 (2015) and 269 (2016) – this rate remained more or less constant during these four years: 3.09‰ in 2013, 3.05‰ in 2014 and 3.07‰ for both 2015 and 2016. This discrepancy can be explained by the rise in the birth rate alone. The lowest level of infant mortality to date has been three per 1,000 babies. This figure is just one hundredth of the infant mortality rate around the middle of the 19th century, when 30% of babies did not see their first birthday. From the 1870s there was a secular fall in infant mortality before it reached a tenth of its original level (30.9‰) in 1961/65. Then however, this figure stagnated (1968/72: 25.6‰), with Austria coming in last among the countries of Western Europe. It was hoped that the use of screening tests and financial incentives would further reduce the high levels of infant mortality. By 1984, i.e. ten years after introduction of the mother-and-child pass, this rate had more than halved to 11.4‰. It fell below 5‰ for the first time in 1997, followed by less than 4‰ in 2006 and under 3.5‰ (3.19) in 2012. This fall to below 3.5‰ was once again associated with a decline in post-neonatal mortality, i.e. infant mortality between the second and twelfth month of life, which is more susceptible to social factors. In the 1920s this period of life accounted for 60% of all infant deaths. Mostly recently we have seen a distinct reduction in post-neonatal levels, which fell from 30% (2006-11) to now 25% of total infant mortality (2012-16), i.e. a rate of 0.8‰.

As regards the cause of death, during the last fifteen years there has been an unmistakable decline in the incidence of sudden infant death syndrome and immaturity. On the other hand, Austria has seen an irregular, but overall slight increase in congenital deformities, i.e. merely a below-average decline in this segment of the mortality rate, falling from 1.2‰ (2001-05) to 1.1‰ (2006-11) and finally to 1.0‰.

Road accidents involving children (0 to 14 years)

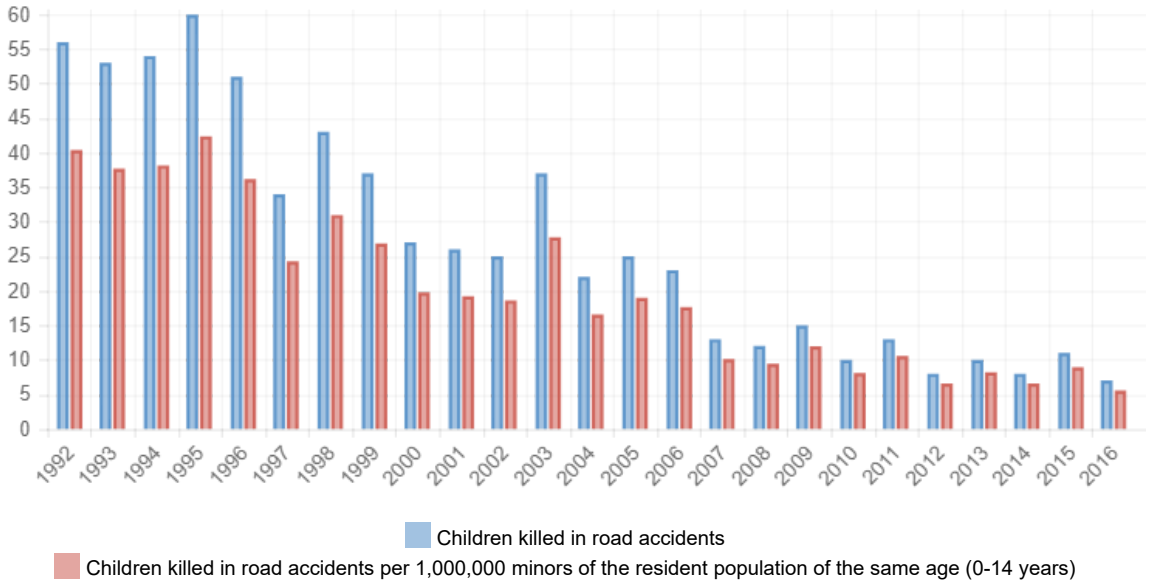
The frequency of road accidents has been falling for some time, albeit with yearly fluctuations that are sometimes due to poor weather. It is therefore recommended making comparisons between five-year periods, and in the time series at issue here this is the periods 1992-1996 and 2012-2016. In the first period, an average of 4,339 road accidents involving children were reported per year in Austria, with 4,495 children being injured and 54.8 fatalities. Twenty years later, this figure had fallen to 2,591 accidents/year, resulting in 2,823 injured children and 8.8 fatalities. The average number of accidents dropped by some 40% over the observation period, with the number of injured children dropping by 37% and fatalities by an impressive 84%.

Road accidents involving children (0 – 14 years)



The statistical method changed in 2012, therefore it is not possible to compare the results before and after 2012.
Sources: Statistics Austria, Road traffic accidents; Statistics Austria, Annual average population

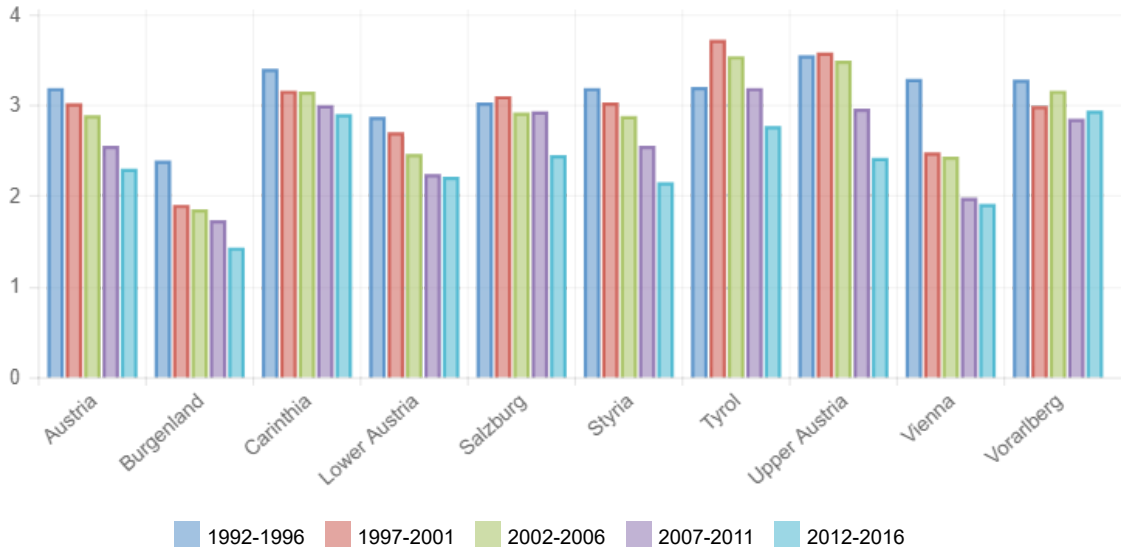
Children killed in road accidents (0 - 14 years)



The statistical method changed in 2012, therefore a direct comparison of the results before and after 2012 is not possible.
Sources: Statistics Austria, Road traffic accidents; Statistics Austria, Annual average population

Children injured in road accidents per 1,000 minors of the resident population of the same age (0-14 years)

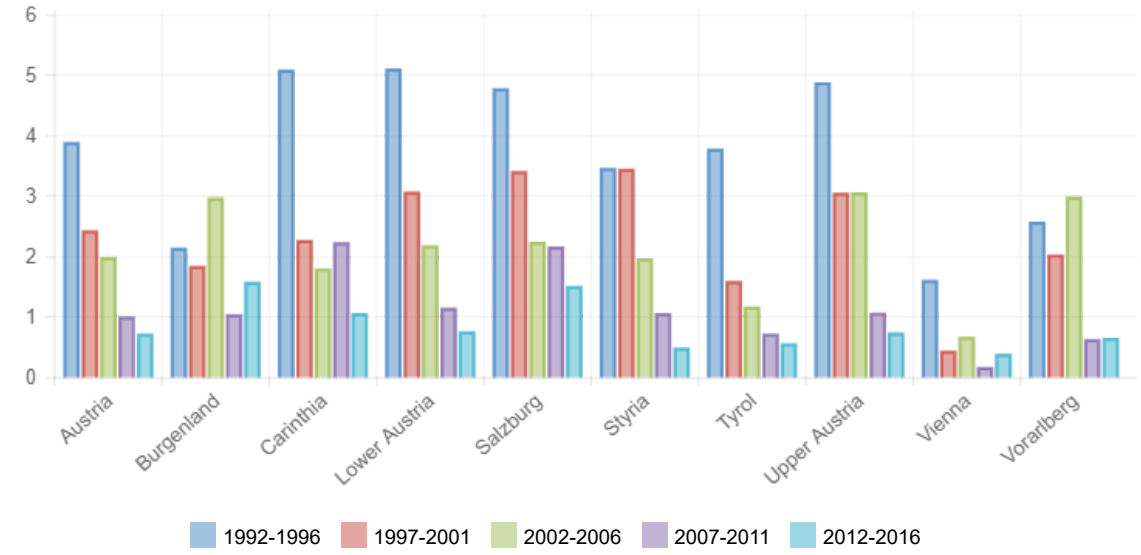
Average amount over a period of five years by Land (state)



The statistical method changed in 2012, therefore it is not possible to compare the results before and after 2012.
Sources: Statistics Austria, Road traffic accidents; Statistics Austria, Annual average population

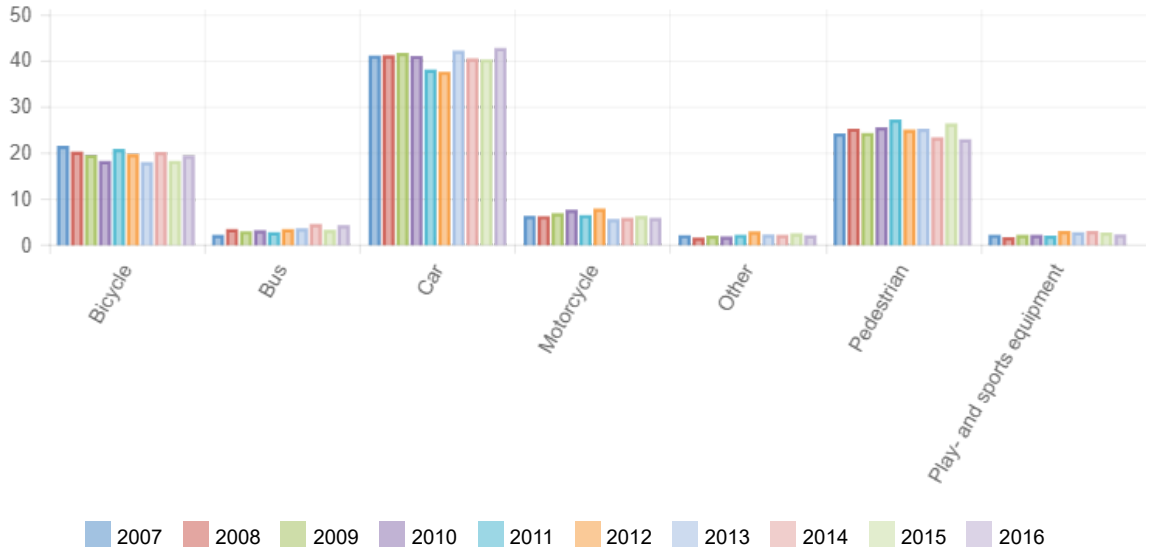
Children killed in road accidents per 100,000 minors of the resident population of the same age (0-14 years)

Average amount over a period of five years by Land (state)



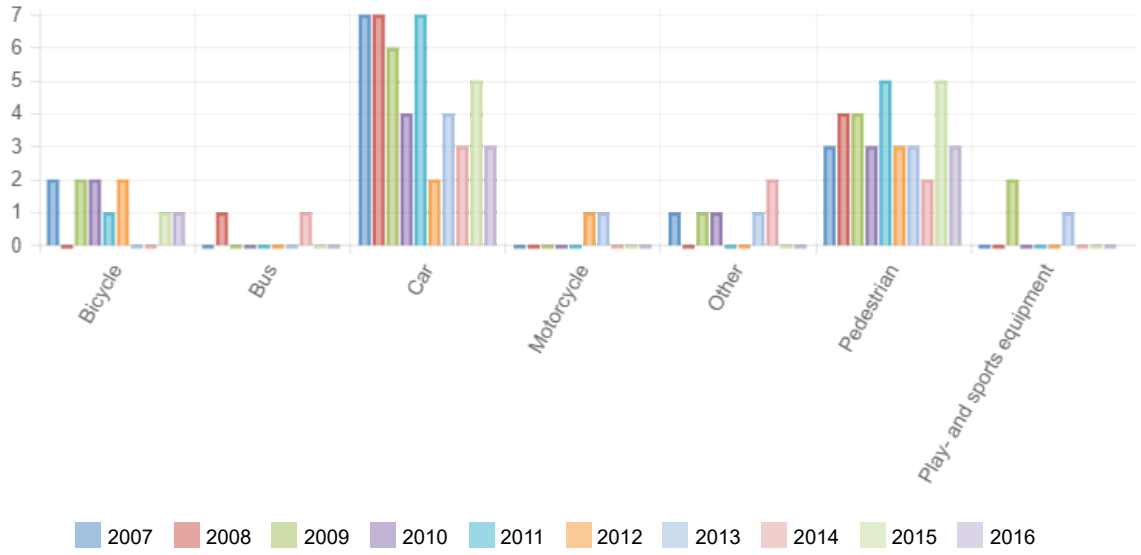
The statistical method changed in 2012, therefore a direct comparison of the results before and after 2012 is not possible.
Sources: Statistics Austria, Road traffic accidents; Statistics Austria, Annual average population

Injured children (0-14 years) by type of transport in per cent



The statistical method changed in 2012, therefore a direct comparison of the results before and after 2012 is not possible.
Source: Statistics Austria, Road traffic accidents – annual results 2016

Killed children (0-14 years) by type of transport in per cent



The statistical method changed in 2012, therefore a direct comparison of the results before and after 2012 is not possible.
Source: Statistics Austria, Road traffic accidents – annual results 2016

As the size of the population at risk under the age of 15 contracted during the same period, the accident rates as a percentage of the population as a whole did not decline as sharply. Where in 1992/96, 3,196 per million children were injured and 39 killed on the roads each year, by 2012/16 these figures had fallen to just 2,296 and 7.2 respectively. In the last two decades, these rates have thus been cut by 28.2% and 72.6%. In the individual Länder this downward trend was not always as steady as in the rest of the country over five-year periods – indeed, in some cases levels increased. Tyrol saw a distinct rise in the number of injured children in the two five-year periods around the turn of the millennium. There was a similar picture in Upper Austria, Salzburg and Vorarlberg, although this tendency was not as marked and was also less prolonged. At the present time, (2012/16) regional differences at Länder level regarding the rate of injuries are especially noticeable in the case of Vorarlberg (2.94‰), Lower Austria (2.90‰) and Tyrol (2.77‰) on the one hand, and Burgenland (1.43‰) and the capital Vienna (1.91‰) on the other.

Vienna and Styria simultaneously reported the lowest level of fatalities, and Salzburg and Burgenland the highest. The most dangerous mode of transport proves to be the car, accounting for some 40% of injured children, ahead of „Walking“ at around a quarter and the bicycle at around one fifth. As regards children killed on the roads over the last ten years, 45% were car passengers, 33% were on foot and 10% were travelling by bike.

Birth registration

The birth of a child born in Austria must be registered within one week after the birth. This should be done via long-distance data communications by transmitting such notification to a service specified by the operator of the ZPR, the Austrian register of births, marriages and deaths (main memory). Where the technical conditions for such notification cannot be fulfilled, the birth must be registered with the registrar of births, marriages and deaths based at the location where the birth took place (Section 9 Subsection 1 Civil Registry Act (PStG) 2013). Following introduction of the new Civil Registry Act Austria no longer has a birth register.

The registration of a birth is incumbent on the following persons, listed in order of priority:

1. the director of the hospital in which the child was born;
2. the doctor or midwife who attended the birth;
3. the father or the mother where able to register the birth within the deadline for notification;
4. the authority or security agency investigating the birth;
5. other persons who have learned of the birth through their own observations.

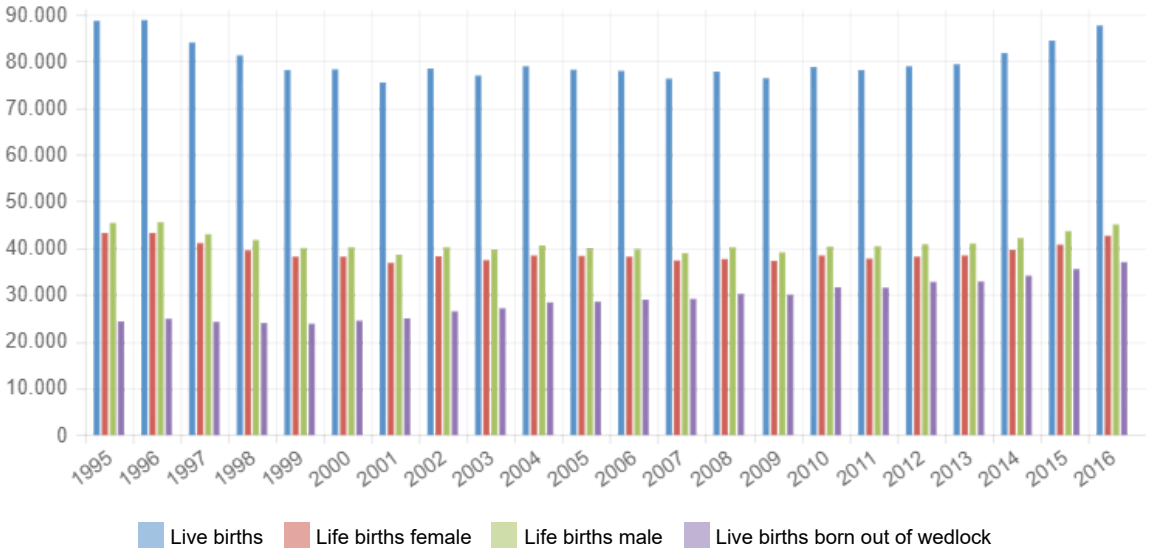
The notification must include all information required for registration (Section 11 PStG 2013). Registration takes place before the registrar of births, marriages and deaths at the location of the birth. If it is not possible to establish where an abandoned baby was born, the location at which the infant was found is taken as the place of birth. If it is not possible to establish the place of birth for a baby born in a conveyance, the location to which the infant was conveyed by this vehicle is taken as the place of birth.

According to Section 35 PStG 2013 it is not merely every change in civil status which occurs in Austria that should be registered. In fact, any change in civil status that occurs abroad must also be registered where it concerns 1) an Austrian citizen; 2) a person who is stateless or whose nationality is unclear where the customary place of abode of this person is Austria; 3) an asylum seeker as defined by the Geneva Convention (Fed. Gaz. Nos. 55/1955 and 78/1974) where the place of residence, or in its absence, the customary place of abode of this person is Austria.

In the event of live births a birth certificate is issued for the child (Section 54 PStG 2013) and a separate document for stillborn babies (Section 57 Subsection 2). The Midwife Act serves as the basis for distinguishing between a live birth and stillbirth, whereby Section 8 Subsection 1 not only defines live births (line 1), but also stillbirth (line 2) and miscarriage (line 3). A foetus is deemed to be a live birth, irrespective of the duration of pregnancy, where, following full extraction from the mother, respiration has either commenced or any other evidence of life is detected such as a heartbeat, pulsation of the umbilical cord or distinct movements of voluntary muscles, no matter whether the umbilical cord has been cut or the placenta expelled. A foetus is deemed to be stillborn or as having died during delivery where no evidence of life as given under „live birth“ is detected and where the birth weight is at least 500 grammes. Stillborn foetuses weighing less than 500 grammes at birth are deemed a miscarriage, and no certificate is issued in such case. Until 1994 a body length of 35 cm was used to distinguish between a stillbirth and a miscarriage.

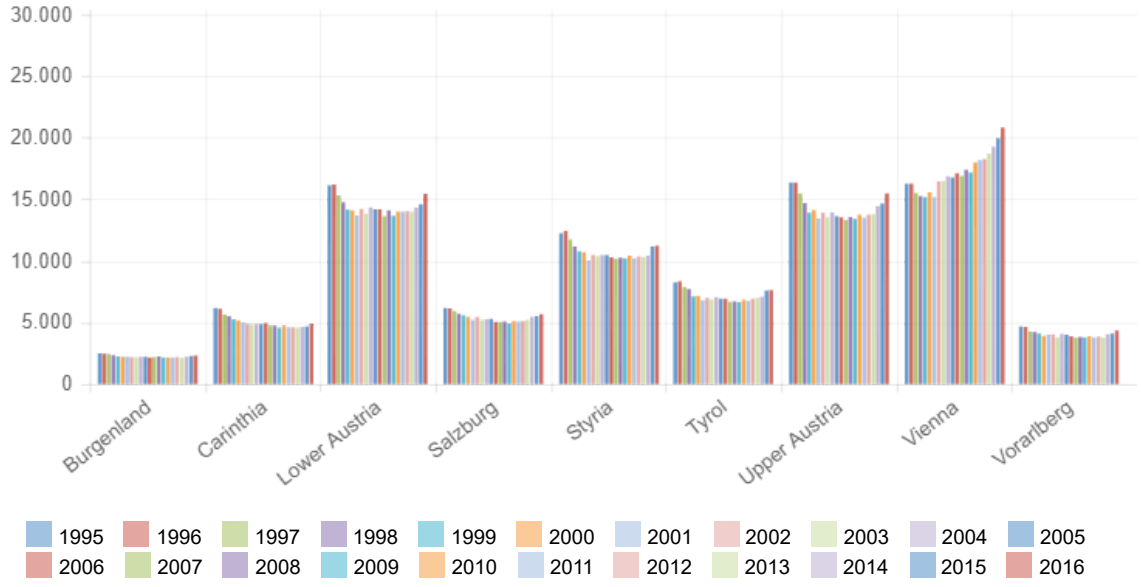
Before 2014 the statistical documentation of newborn babies only included births registered in Austria by its resident population. From 2015 it also applies to births which take place abroad in the case of mothers whose primary residence is Austria (0.7% of live births).

Live births by gender; live births born out of wedlock



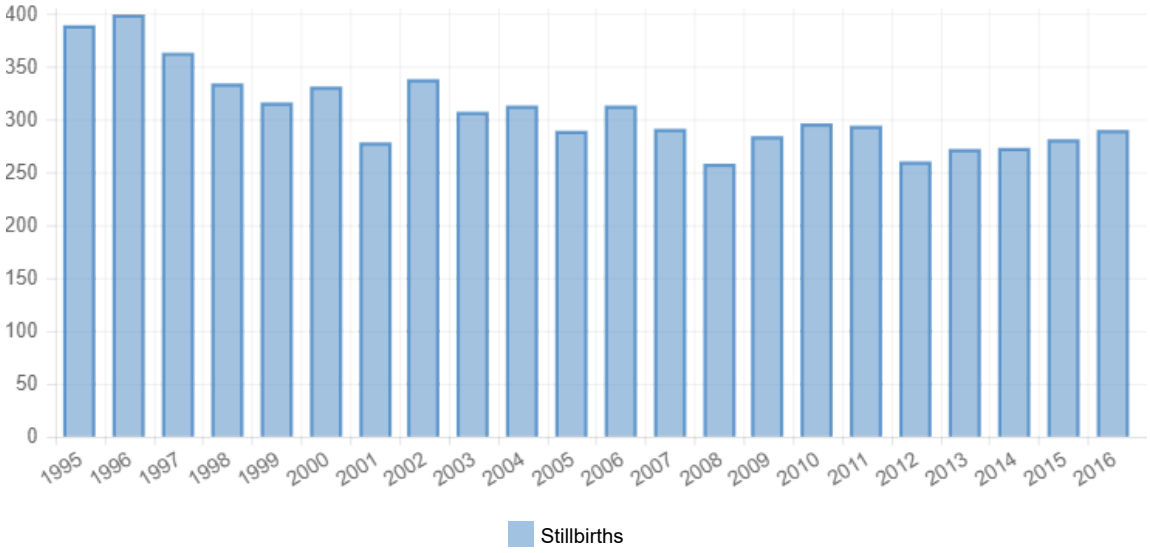
Source: Statistics Austria, Statistics on births

Live births by state (Land)



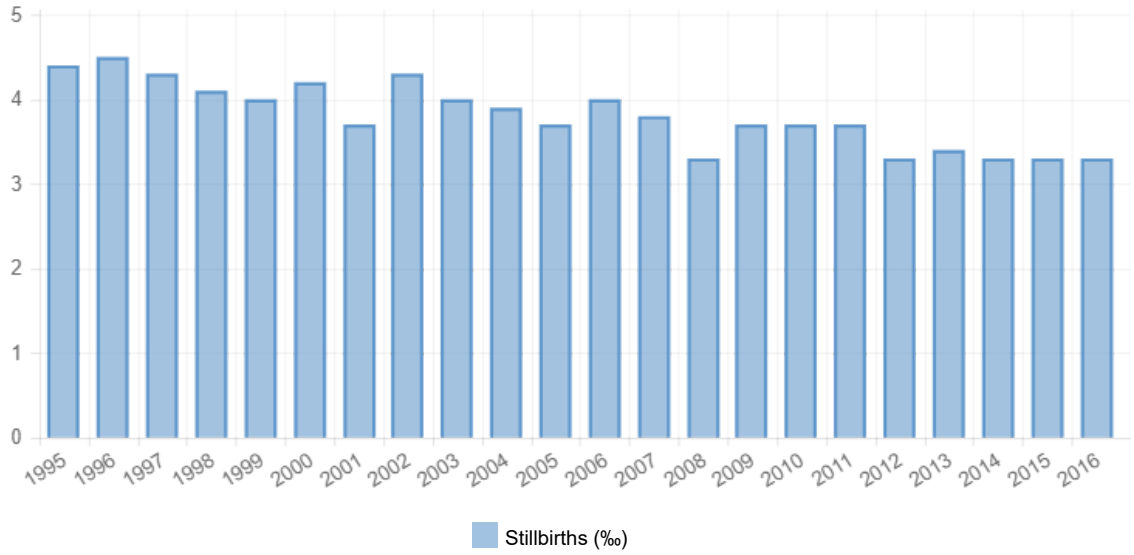
Source: Statistics Austria, Statistics on births

Stillbirths



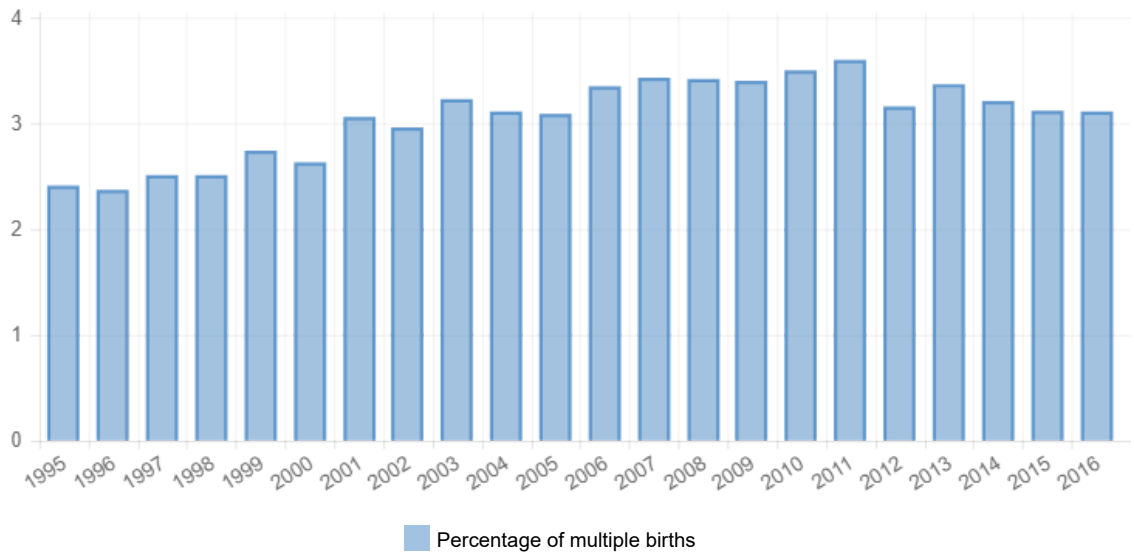
Source: Statistics Austria, Statistics on births

Stillbirths per 1.000 live births (per mil)



Source: Statistics Austria, Statistics on births

Percentage of multiple births among live births



Source: Statistics Austria, Statistics on births

In the 1980s and 1990s the number of live births per year was around 90,000, with this figure peaking in 1982 (94,840) and 1992 (95,302). Between 1999 and 2013 it remained below the 80,000 mark with minor fluctuations and represented the lowest levels measured to date. During these 15 years the number of live births in Austria per year averaged 77,851, with 2001 being the all-time low for live births: 75,458. Since 2011 there has been a rise in the birth rate. At 81,722 in 2014, it exceeded the level of 1998, and at 84,381 in 2015, that of 1997. In 2016 this figure rose by 3.9% to 87,675 live births, a increase of 16.2% compared with the all-time low seen in 2001. Broken down by the individual Länder, the greatest rise over this period was observed in Vienna: 37.2% (up from 15,167 to 20,804). In Carinthia however, the birth rate of 4872 recently fell below the figure of 5,007 for 2001.

In 2016 there were 1,000 live births of girls against 1,056.9 for boys, a rate that is in line with the average for 1995-2016 (1,054.7). While fluctuating between 3.3% (1982) and 7.1% (2011/12), the predominance of boys at 5-6% is a quasi-constant value. The rate of children born out of wedlock nonetheless has shown a clear upward trend over the last fifty years, continuously increasing from the lowest level of 11.2% (1965) through 27.4% (1995) to peak at 42.2% (2016). Since 2007 more than half of all first-born babies are not born within marriage. At 52.3% in 2016, the number of illegitimate first-borns however slipped below the peak of 2012 (53.3%).

The incidence of stillbirth shows a strong secular decline and is subject to annual fluctuations as a consequence of today's low figures. Since the definition of stillbirth was last changed, there was a 27% fall from the average of 384 stillborn babies for 1995-97 to 281 in 2014-16. Over the same period the rate of stillbirth dropped by a quarter, falling from 4.4‰ to 3.3‰ of the total birth rate. 290 stillborn babies were registered in 2016, likewise a rate of 3.3‰.

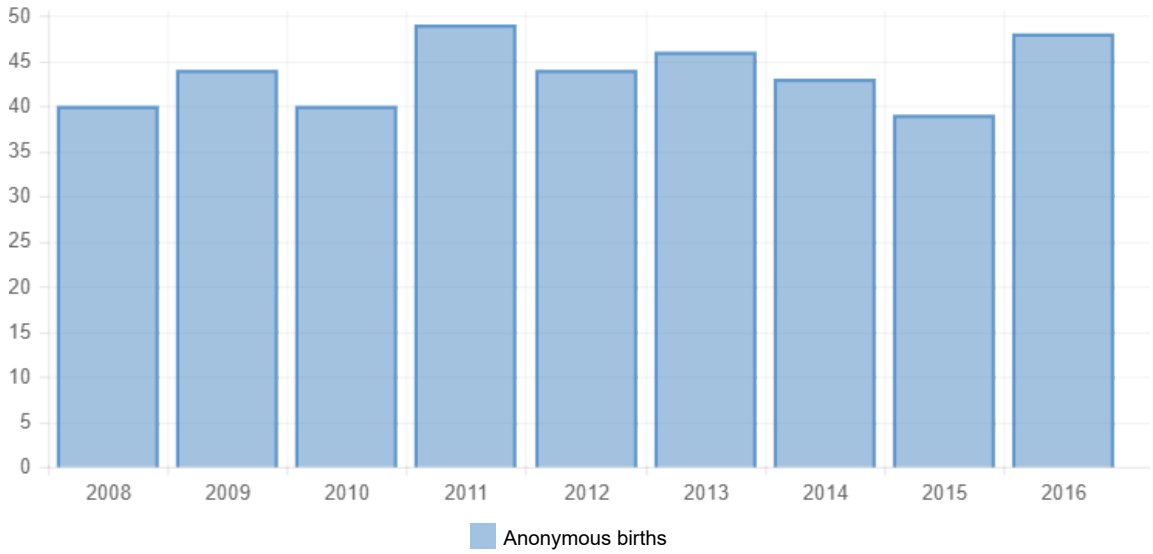
The percentage of multiple births among live births, which until 1988 was less than 2%, showed a significant increase in the last couple of decades before 2011. The rise between 1993 (2.09%) and 2001 (3.06%) was particularly marked, peaking at 3.50% in 2010 and 3.60% in 2011. Since then the trend has tended to be downward again, with the percentage of multiple births among live births only totalling 3.11% in 2016.

Anonymous births and baby hatches

In 2001 Austria introduced legislation enabling women to give birth in hospital anonymously and free of charge (see decree of Federal Ministry of Justice on baby hatches and anonymous birth – JMZ 4.600/42-I.1/2001). Both anonymous birth and baby hatches are designed to protect babies from abandonment or death. With an anonymous birth the mother does not reveal her identity: her personal details are not registered. The prerequisite is that she finds herself in a hopeless situation, an „emergency“ which must be justified at a confidential counselling session in the framework of child and youth welfare. Mothers in Austria do not have a fundamental right to anonymous birth.

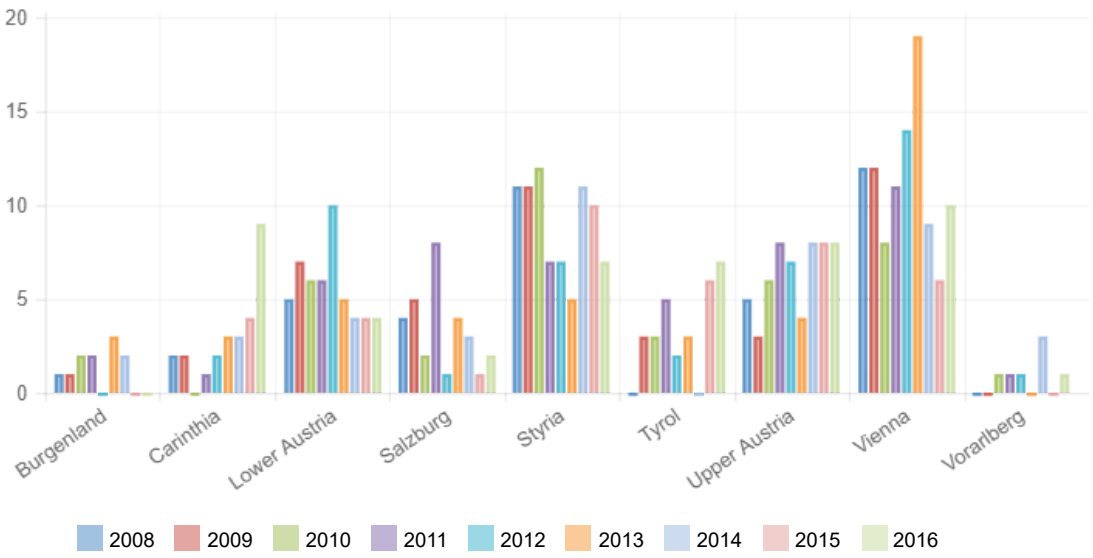
A baby hatch, also known as a „baby flap“, is a facility that allows a baby to be abandoned at a hospital. The first baby hatch in Austria was introduced in Vienna in 2000, and today there are currently 15 in seven of Austria's Länder. Vorarlberg and Burgenland however have none.

Number of anonymous births in Austria



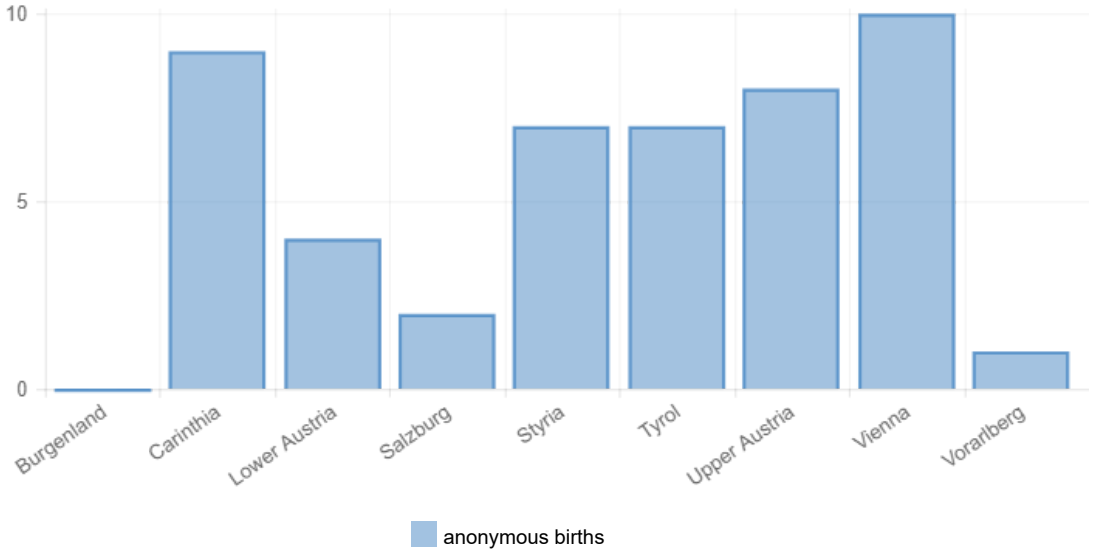
Sources: Federal Ministry for Family and Youth, Annual child and youth welfare statistics 2002-2016

Anonymous births by state (Land)



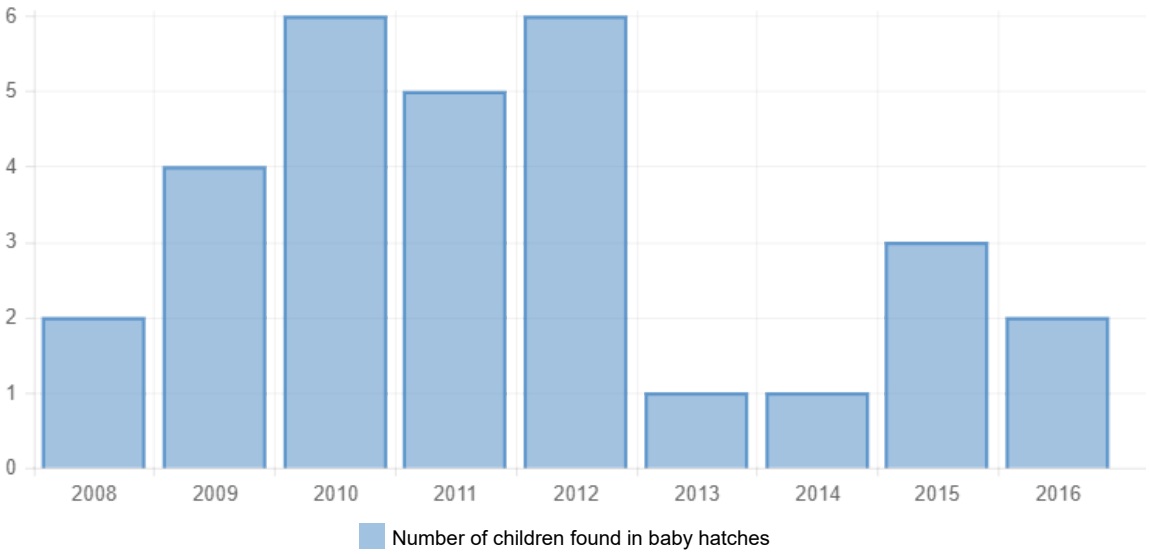
Sources: Federal Ministry for Family and Youth, Annual child and youth welfare statistics 2002-2016

number of anonymous births 2016 by state (Land)



Sources: Federal Ministry for Family and Youth, Annual child and youth welfare statistics 2002-2016

Number of children found in baby hatches



Sources: Federal Ministry for Family and Youth, Annual child and youth welfare statistics 2002-2016

Since 2008 both anonymous births and the number of infants found in baby hatches have been recorded by the annual child and youth welfare statistics (known until 2013 as the youth welfare report). The use of baby hatches (fluctuating between 2 and 6 cases over the last nine years) is outstripped by the number of anonymous births, totalling 30-50 per year and averaging 43.6 between 2008 and 2016. During this period the majority of anonymous births were seen in Styria and Vienna, an average of 9.1 and 8.7 per year respectively. No relevant trend can however be identified here. The use of baby hatches is highly sporadic. Between 2008 and 2016 they were frequently not used more than twice a year in the whole of Austria, and a total of 30 times in the entire country during these nine years.

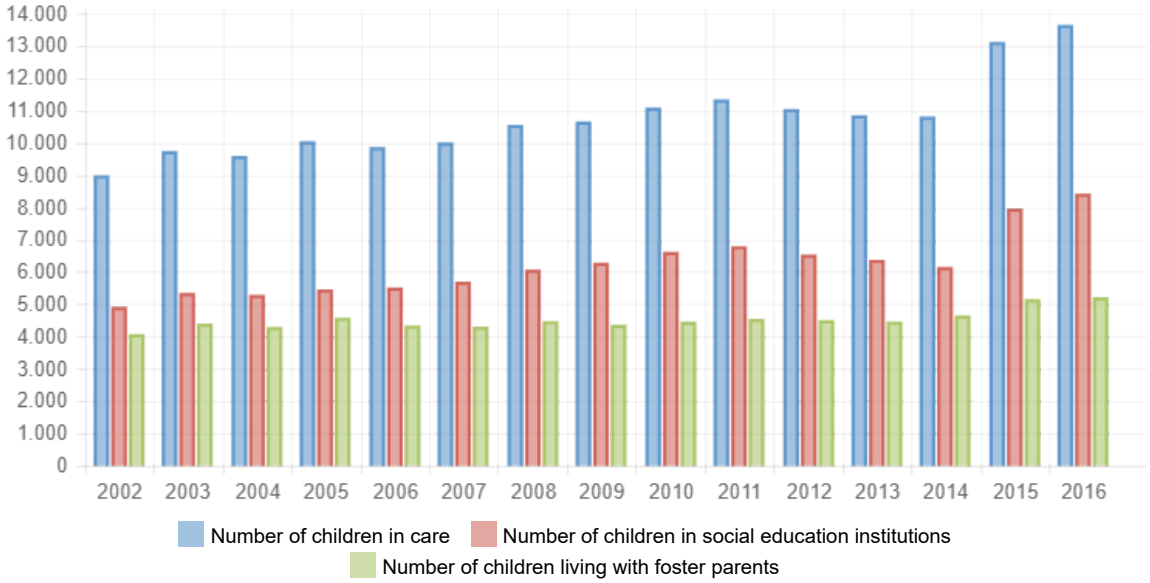
Children in care

The Federal Child and Youth Welfare Act (B-KJHG) of 2013 governs instances in which youngsters are unable to remain in their own family due to a risk to the welfare of the child. Where it is possible to „avert this risk only by means of care outside the family or other current living environment, children must be put into care“ (Section 26 Subsection 1 B-KJHG 2013). This care – generally long-term in nature – takes the form of accommodation with close relatives, foster parents or in a social education institution (children's home). There are currently no statistics for children who go to live with close relatives.

In 2016, 13,646 children and adolescents were accommodated in the Austrian care system. Referred to the population under the age of 18 years, this represents 9 per 1,000 minors. A good three-fifths (8,423 youngsters or 61.7%) were accommodated in a children's home (5.5 per 1,000), and 5,223 with foster parents (3.4 per 1,000). In terms of gender, boys predominated with a figure of 54.6%. Only the share of boys in children's homes was above average at 56.9%: at 51.0% for foster children, it largely corresponded to the number of males in the population under the age of 18 years (51.5%).

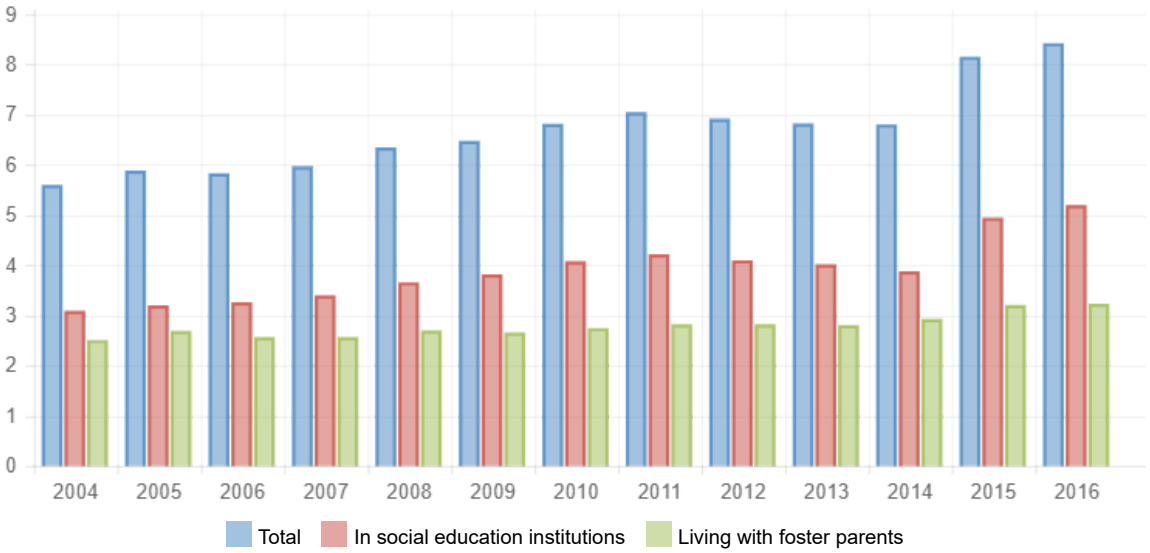
Figures from 2015 onwards can only be compared with those for previous years to a very limited extent as there has been a radical change in the method of data collection.

Children in care



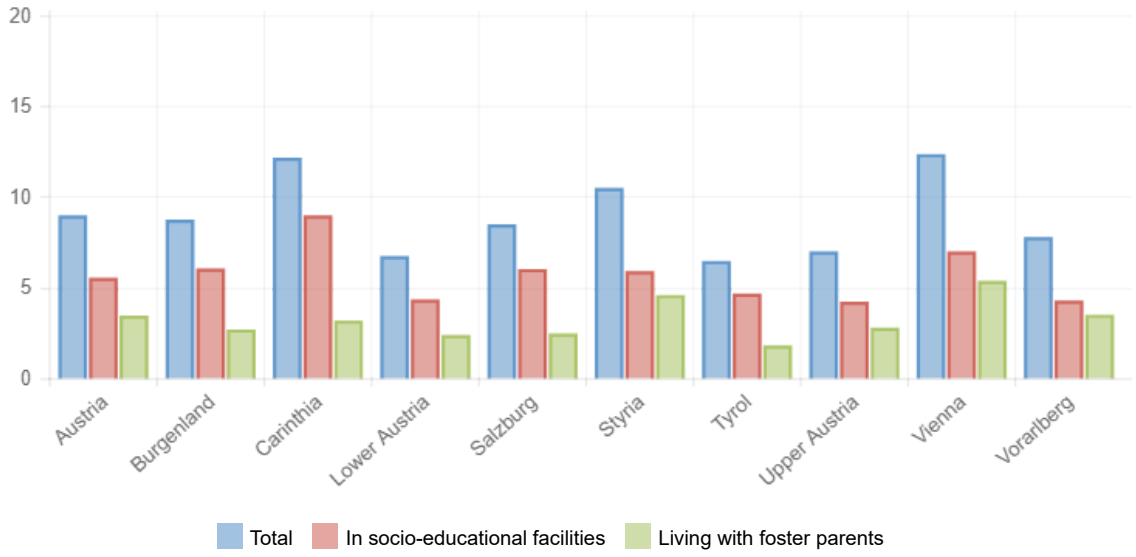
Statistical method changed in 2015
Sources: Federal Ministry for Family and Youth, Annual child and youth welfare statistics 2002-2016

Children and young people in care per 1,000 minors (of the resident population)



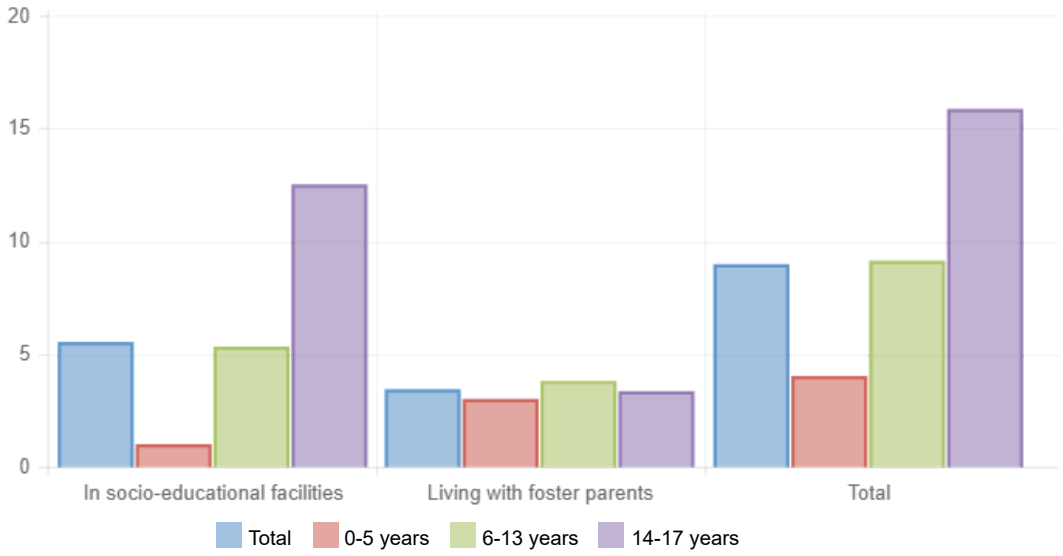
Statistical method changed in 2015
Sources: Federal Ministry for Family and Youth, Annual child and youth welfare statistics 2002-2016

Children and young people in out-of-home care per 1,000 minors by federal state 2016



Sources: Federal Ministry for Family and Youth, Annual child and youth welfare statistics 2002-2016; Statistics Austria, Population

Children and young people in care per 1,000 minors by age groups



Sources: Federal Ministry for Family and Youth, Annual child and youth welfare statistics 2002-2016; Statistics Austria, Population

Until 2014 statistics on children in care were published in the youth welfare reports known as the Jugendwohlfahrtsbericht (in 2014 called the Kinder- und Jugendhilfebericht or child and youth support report). Following introduction of the 2013 Federal Child and Youth Welfare Act, it has been replaced since 2015 by child and youth welfare statistics (Kinder- und Jugendhilfestatistik). Until 2014 the reference date for surveying the number of children and adolescents in care was 31 December of each year, but the procedure was altered in 2015.

From this date it changed to the annual total, with a child or adolescent only being counted once to avoid being included several times where a child was taken into care multiple times during a year. This results in a more precise, more realistic picture, and is also the reason why the figures up to 2014 cannot be compared with those from 2015 onwards. The age groups have likewise been adapted, so making comparison more difficult. In particular, it should be noted here that until 2014 adolescents aged 18 years were also included in the statistics, but from 2015 they have been excluded, i.e. only children up to the age of 17 years are registered. This means that the parts of the resident population to which the figures relate are not identical.

As data from the new method have only been available for the last two years, it is at present generally only possible to base conclusions about trends on figures for the period 2002-2014. During this period there was initially a nationwide rise in the number of the youngsters in care until 2011, then followed by a slight fall. Totalling 10,810 on the reference date in 2014, the number of children living in care was up by a fifth (+20.2%) in 2002 (8995), peaking at 11,343 in 2011 – an increase of 26.1%.

Given the simultaneous reduction of approx. 7.7% in persons aged up to 18 years in the resident population, the relative increase is even more significant here. In 2002, 5.2 per 1,000 children and adolescents under the age of 19 years found themselves in care, peaking at 7.0‰ in 2011 (+34.6%). In 2014 this figure stood at 6.8‰ (+30.8% compared with 2002). The greatest increase here was the number of youngsters living in children's homes: between 2002 and 2014 this grew by a quarter (25.2%).

In 2002, 2.9 per 1,000 children and adolescents under 19 years were accommodated in homes, and at 3.9 by 2014 this was up by 34.5%. The peak during this period occurred in 2011: 4.2‰ (+44.8% compared with 2002). Although the number of children in foster care was lower, the increase seen here was continuous. In absolute figures, 14.1% more children and adolescents were living with foster parents

in 2014 than in 2002. In relative terms, this represents a 20.8% increase, rising from 2.4 to 2.9 per 1,000 youngsters under 19 years.

To offer an insight into the age structure and differences between the Länder of Austria, figures from the 2016 child and youth welfare statistics have been used. In relative terms, the largest number of children and adolescents (here: under 18 years) living in care in 2016 were to be found in Vienna and Carinthia: 12.4 per 1,000 minors and 12.1‰ respectively. At 10.5‰ Styria was above the national average of 9.0‰. As regards the largest number of children in foster care, Vienna took the lead at 5.4‰, ahead of Styria with 4.6‰ and Salzburg with 3.5‰. Tyrol had the fewest children living with foster parents: 1.8 per 1,000 minors. The divergence between the different Länder for children living in foster care was thus 3:1. As regards accommodation in children's homes, at 9.0‰ Carinthia was ahead of Vienna with 7.0‰. Salzburg, Burgenland and Styria were in the order of 6‰ and also exceeded the national average. The lowest number of children and adolescents living in a home was to be found in Upper Austria: 4.2 per 1,000 minors, i.e. a divergence of just over 2:1. Analysis of the data for 2016 broken down into the three age groups did not show any major difference for the numbers of children in foster care. While on average 3.4 per 1,000 minors lived with foster parents, this figure was 3.0 for the under-sixes, 3.8 for children aged between 6 and 13 years and 3.4 for teenagers of 14 -17 years. In comparison, with an average of 5.4‰, a significantly larger number of older children and adolescents were accommodated in children's homes than infants. While only one per thousand of under-sixes (1.0‰) lived in a home, this figure was 5.3‰ for children aged 6 to 13 years and 12.5‰ for teenagers between 14 and 17 years. In total, 2,027 or 14.9% of children and adolescents in care were aged less than 6 years (4.0‰ of all under-sixes), 6,087 or 44.6% were teenagers between 6 to 13 years (9.1‰ of the population in this age group), while 5,532 or 40.5% were adolescents aged 14 to 17 years (15.9‰). Children are put into care either on the basis of an agreement or following a court order.

If the parents or other persons responsible for the care and upbringing of the child consent to such an offer of support, it is based on a written agreement between these persons and the child and youth welfare authority. If no agreement is reached, the court order will take effect. While the number of children in care following a court order was 40.4% in 2002, this fell to 35.3% in 2003. Since then it has fluctuated between 32.6% and 36.8%, bottoming out in 2010 and peaking in 2008. In 2016 agreements accounted for almost two thirds of all children living in care (65.8%).

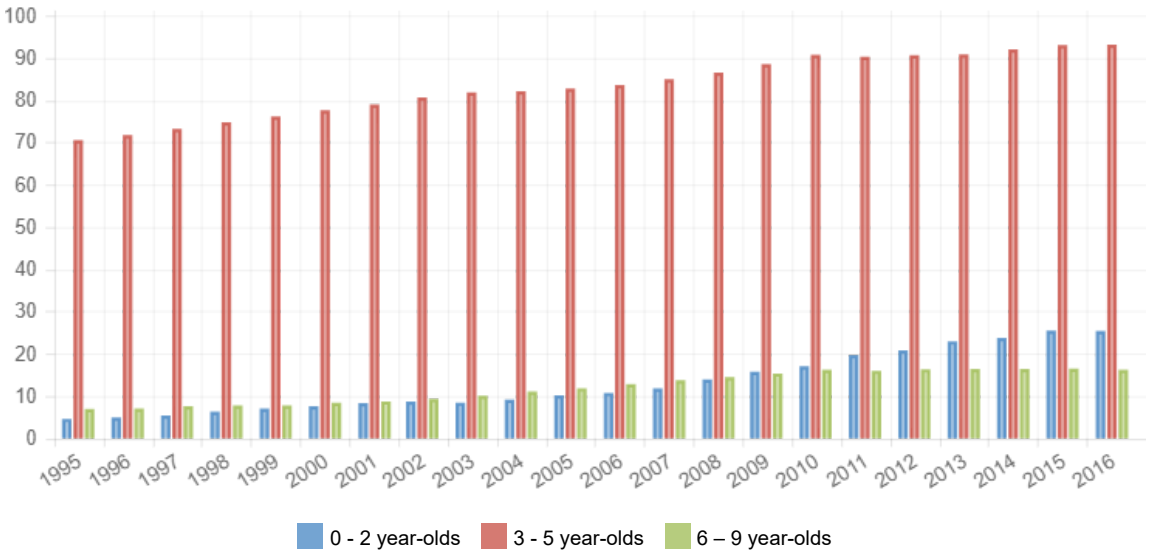
Levels of child care

According to the Barcelona targets of the European Union dating from 2002, Member States should *„strive, taking into account the demand for child care facilities and in line with national patterns of provision, to provide child care by 2010 to at least 90% of children between 3 years old and the mandatory school age and at least 33% of children under three years of age.“*

In 2010, 90.7% of three to five-year-olds in Austria already had a place at a child care facility. To this figure we can also add the 0.3% of children who started school early, generally at the age of 5 years. By 2016 this rate showed a further rise to 93.1%. As regards younger children, in 2010 Austria was only halfway to achieving the Barcelona target, with a figure of just 17.1% attending a child care facility. Only in Vienna and Burgenland did child care levels for infants up to two years of age approach the Barcelona target: 28.1% and 26.9% respectively.

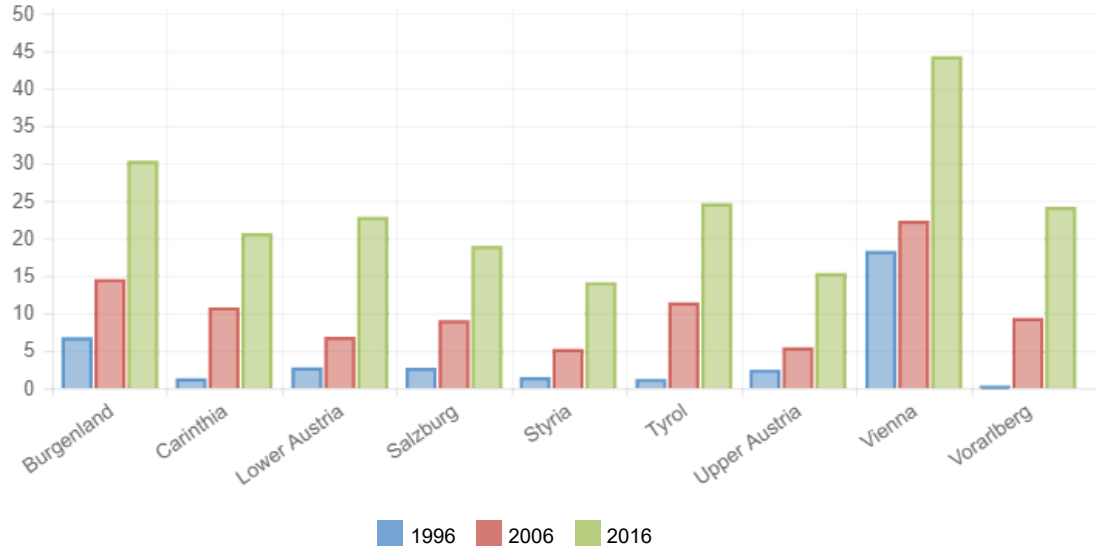
In the meantime, at least one in four children nationwide in this age group has a child care place (25.4% in 2016). To date however it is only Austria's capital that has managed to attain the Barcelona target. At 33.2% this figure was first exceeded in 2011 before climbing to 44.3% in 2016.

Share of children in child care facilities by age groups



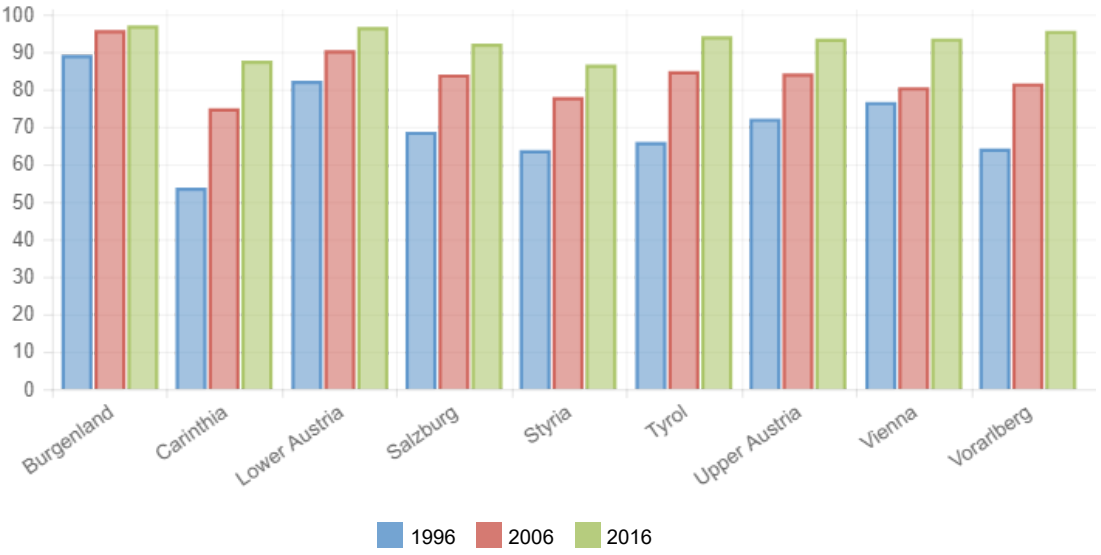
Children that are below the age of five and are enrolled in school but not in after-school care have not been taken into account. (approximately less than 0.5 %)
Source: Statistik Austria, Statistics on child care

Share of 0-2 year-olds in childcare facilities by federal state



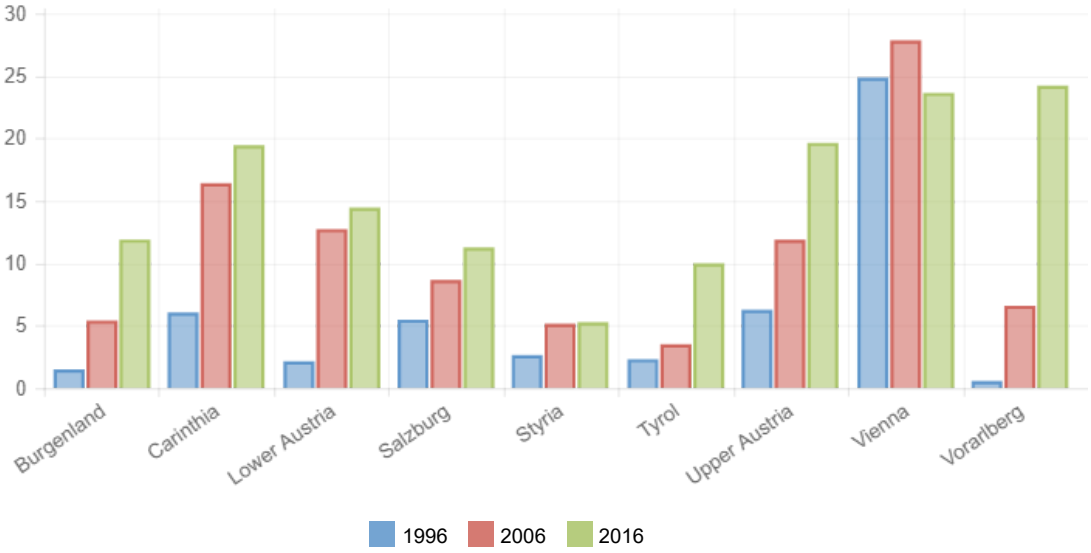
Source: Statistik Austria, Statistics on child care

Share of 3-5 year-olds in childcare facilities by federal state



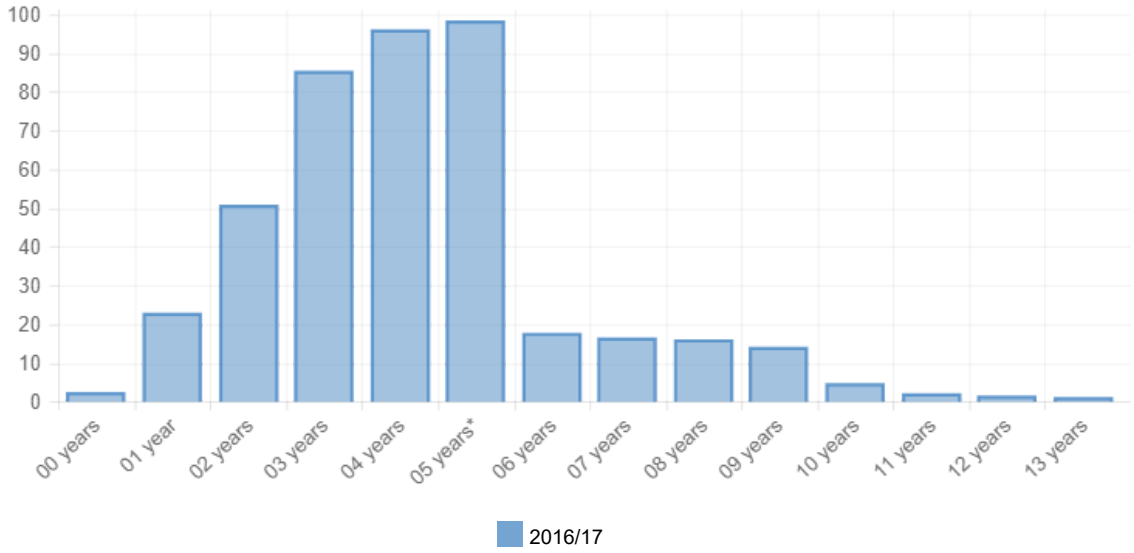
Source: Statistik Austria, Statistics on child care

Share of 6-9 year-olds in childcare facilities by federal state



Source: Statistik Austria, Statistics on child care

Share of children in childcare facilities by year



*Including children enrolled in schools below the age of five
Source: Statistik Austria, Statistics on child care

Development

Over the last two decades all age groups have seen a major increase in the growth of child care levels (number of children in day care centres, referred to youngsters of the same age in the resident population, survey date 1 September of each year). Relatively speaking, over the last 20 years the trend towards child care has been the most marked in the case of children under the age of three. In this age group the figure increased more than fivefold, rising from 4.6% in 1995 to 25.4% in 2016 (highest levels in Vienna and Burgenland at 44.3% and 30.3% respectively, and lowest in Styria at 14.1% and Upper Austria at 15.4%).

The number of infants attending nursery mainly aged three to five years (incl. mixed age groups) increased from 70.6% in 1995 to 93.1% in 2016, with a child care level of 98.5% for five-year-olds including children who started school early. Only Styria (86.7%) and Carinthia (87.6%) failed to meet the Barcelona target of 90% for three to five-year-olds in 2016. The increase of 22.5 percentage points for Austria overall means that almost a third more children of this age receive child care outside the family than 20 years ago. Day care attendance by children aged 6 – 9 years, for which no Barcelona target exists, also rose in the same period from 7.0% to 16.2%. i.e. an increase of just under ten percentage points.

Further information

- Between 2008 and 2018 the federal government invested a total of € 442.5 million in developing childhood education and care, with € 387.5 million being set aside for 2012 to 2018 (reporting period). Thanks to the development offensive, 65,459 additional child day care places were created between 2008 and 2016, including 38,467 places for children under the age of three years and 26,992 for those aged between three and six years.
- Opening hours have also been extended here. In 2016/17, 59.6% of under 3 year olds and 43.2% of children from 3 to 6 years were cared for at facilities complying with the VIF (family compatibility) indicators (open min. 45 hours/week and min. 47 weeks/year). In 2007/08 these figures were just below 55% for under 3 year olds and only around 21% for 3 − 6 year olds.
- In kindergarten year 2009/10 half-day attendance at nursery for children at the age of five was made free of charge, and since kindergarten year 2010/11 this has been mandatory, with the federal government allocating € 70 million per kindergarten year to the Länder for this purpose. Since kindergarten year 2016/17 the following measures have been taken with the aim of involving four year olds more closely in elementary education:
  – Mandatory counselling by appropriate specialists for parents whose children are not registered for kindergarten in the penultimate year before compulsory school attendance
  – Recommendation to attend kindergarten in the penultimate year before compulsory school attendance
  – Attendance free of charge in the penultimate year before compulsory school attendance or attendance at reduced or means-tested rates.

Child day-care centres – Staffing and group sizes

In the reporting year 2016/17 a total of 61,877 persons were employed in the child care sector. This means that the ratio of staff to children was 1:5.8. The number of children cared for by a nursery assistant (the care ratio) increases with the age of the children. For the youngest children, i.e. at crèches and infant care centres, the care ratio is 1 caregiver to 3.5 children. At the mixed-age childcare facilities this was 1:5.7, at nurseries 1:6.1 and at day care centres 1:7.9.

The group sizes follow a similar pattern to the care ratios: the younger the children, the smaller the groups. In 2016/17 a crèche or infant group consisted on average of 12.4 children and a mixed-age care facility of 18. Nursery groups were attended by 19.2 children and day care groups by 20.7. There was on average a total of 3.1 nursery assistants to one child care group. The mean values for crèches and nurseries were slightly above this figure at 3.5 and 3.2 respectively, while at 3.1 it was more or less average in the case of mixed-age child care. Child day care centres however fell short of this figure at just 2.6 nursery assistants per group.

It is interesting to note that only a small proportion of child care staff are men. In 2016/17 the highest percentage of male staff, 5.4%, was to be found at the day care centres, while at 2.4% only half as many were employed in the mixed-age child care sector. Not even two in a hundred caregivers at nurseries (1.7%) or crèches and infant groups (1.9%) were men. The overall percentage of men working at all child care facilities was 2.3%.

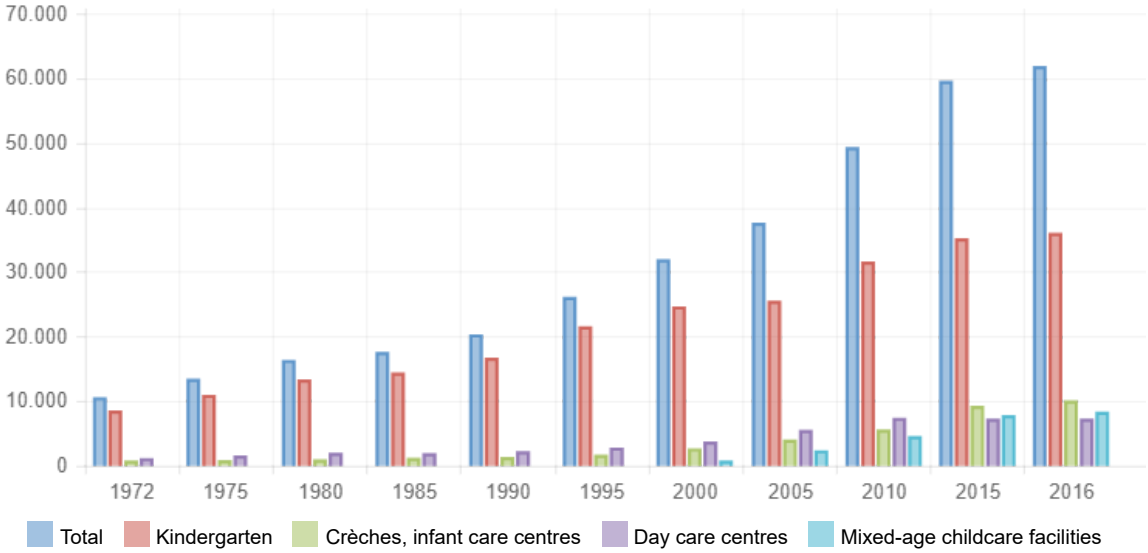
Staffing – all day-care centers for children

Source: Statistics Austria, Statistics on child care

Percentage of male child care staff

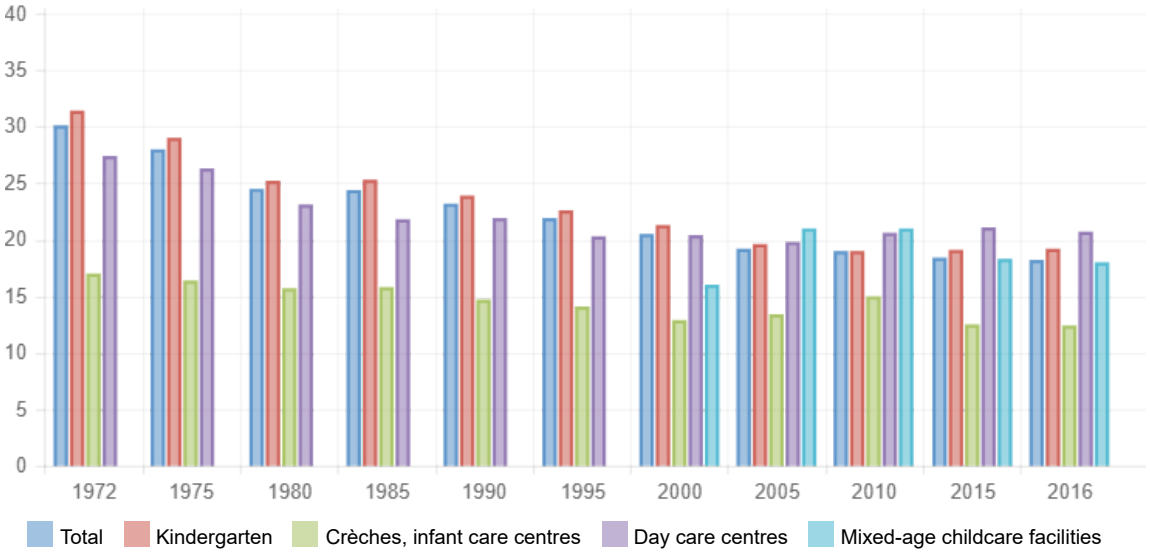
Source: Statistics Austria, Statistics on child care

Staff by type of care facility



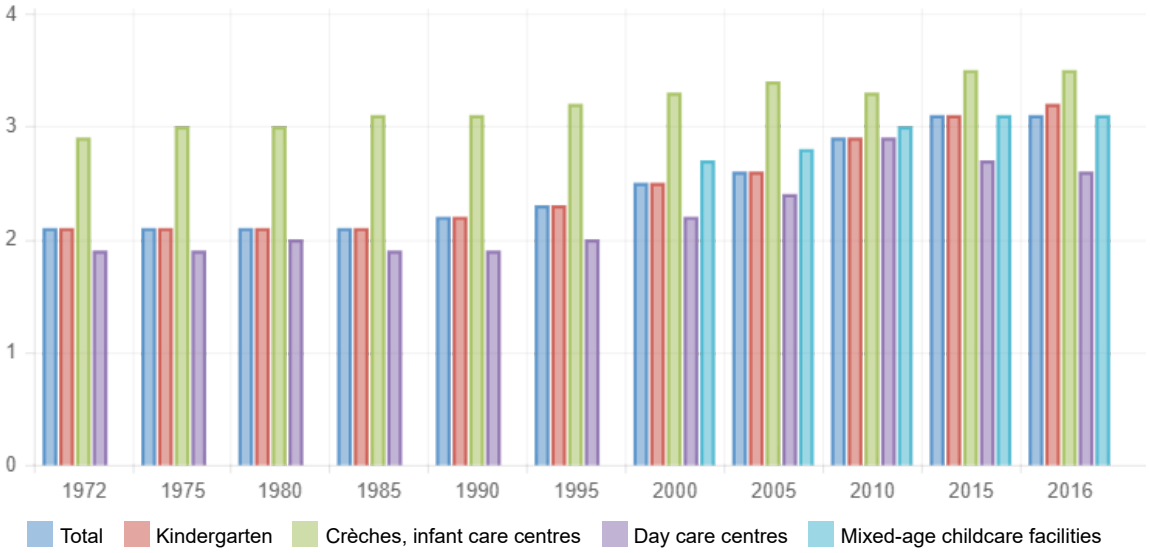
Source: Statistics Austria, Statistics on child care

Group sizes



Source: Statistics Austria, Statistics on child care

Staffing level/group



Source: Statistics Austria, Statistics on child care

Austria has also seen a rise in staffing levels in this sector. This is due to the fact that the total number of all children attending child day-care centres has continuously increased, namely from around 150,000 in 1972/73 to 360,000 today, i.e. a rise of more than four-thirds, or +138% to be precise. Total staffing levels for child care however showed a disproportionate growth rate, increasing almost sixfold from 10,634 employees to 61,877 (+481.9%).
The number of nursery workers of all kinds employed at child care centres has continuously increased, in all cases surpassing the rise in the number of children attending each facility.
The smallest increase observed here was at the nurseries, with this figure rising from 8,588 in 1972/73 to 36,067 in 2016/17, i.e. growing by a factor of four (+319.9%). Over the same period staffing levels at child day care centres rose from 1,215 to 7,315, a sixfold increase (+502.1%). The largest increase seen here

was at the crèches and infant care centres. While 831 employees were working in this sector in 1972/73, by 2016/17 this had multiplied by a factor of more than twelve to reach 10,119 or +1,117%.
Mixed-age childcare facilities were not included in the statistics until 1997/98, but since then staffing levels have increased from 250 to 8,376.
At almost 4% at the beginning of the 1970s, the proportion of men working in the child care sector was considerably higher than is the case today. By the turn of the millennium it had dropped with fluctuations to little more than 1%, before temporarily rising to 2% and then falling again to 1.6% in 2009/10. Since then a steady increase has been observed, standing at 2.3% in the reporting year 2016/17. From 1972/73 to 2016/17 the number of men working at day care centres always significantly exceeded that for the other types of child care. Initially, the percentage of male staff was almost 10%, before falling to around 4% in 1985/86 and then settling at 4-6% (2016/17: 5.4%). In the crèches, infant care centres and nurseries, staffing levels developed more or less in line with the overall trend, merely hovering slightly below it. There was a similar picture for mixed-age childcare (not recorded until 1997/1998), although here the figure was slightly higher than the overall trend.
Given the disproportionate increase in staffing levels in relation to child attendance, it was possible, despite falling group sizes, to continuously improve the care ratio for the groups. In 1972/73 the average group size at a child care facility was around 30 children. Only in the crèches was this average markedly lower at 17 children per group. Since then an overall reduction in group size to 18.2 children was observed in the reporting year 2016/17, i.e. a drop of some 40%. Since the turn of the millennium there has been no significant fall in this level for the individual types of care facilities. The further drop in the overall average can be attributed to the above-average growth in the number of crèches, which are characterised by smaller group sizes.

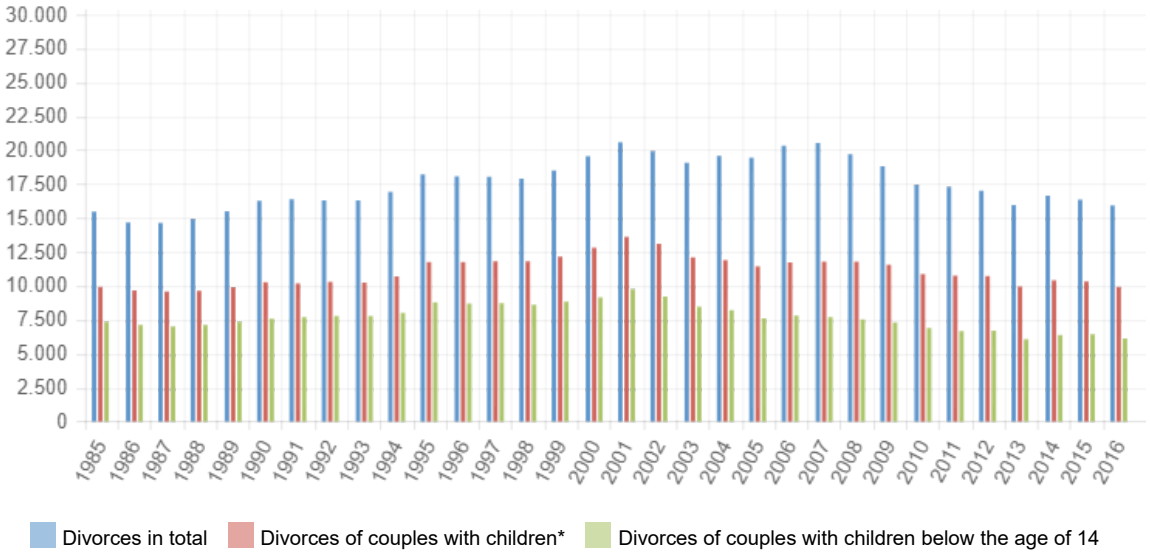
From 1972/73 to 2016/17 group sizes by type of child care facility showed the following development: In the crèches the group size fell from initially 17 to 12.9 in 2000/01 and then to 12.4 children, with minor fluctuations: a total reduction of 27.3%. In the nurseries this figure dropped from 31.4 to 21.3 in 2000/01 and then further to 19.2 children: a total reduction of 38.9%), At the child day care centres there was likewise a fall from 27.4 to 20.4 in 2000/01, although since then this level has remained remarkably constant (20.7 children in 2016/17: a total reduction of 24.6%). Since their introduction mixed-age groups have developed in a similar manner to the group sizes for all child care facilities.

The steady improvement in the care ratio did not however just result from the fall in group sizes, but also because more staff were increasingly assigned per group. The lowest rise was seen in the average staffing level/group at the crèches, which at 2.9 in 1972/73 was already relatively high. By 2016/17 this figure had increased by 21% (3.5 per group). In the same period the number of staff employed at child day care centres was up 36.7%, rising from 1.9 to 2.6, while at 50.6% the most marked increase was seen at the nurseries, increasing from 2 to 3.15 per group.

Children affected by the divorce of their parents

Whenever discussion considers the stability of marriages and thus a child's home environment, attention is normally directed to levels of divorce and relative divortiality. This statistic is based on the total divorce rate (TDR), which specifies how many of the marriages currently taking place will end in divorce if there is no change in the current divorce rates specific to the duration of the marriage. This hypothetical TDR value is currently just above 40%. Where children's rights are concerned, it is however only the number of children who are affected by divorce that is of interest here, in addition to the number of minors and above all, children under the age of 14 years whose parents have divorced. It is important to note that almost 40% of couples whose marriage ends in divorce have no children. The probability that the parents of children born in wedlock will divorce before they attain the age of majority is 20% (this is what is known as the total parental divorce rate of children born in wedlock).

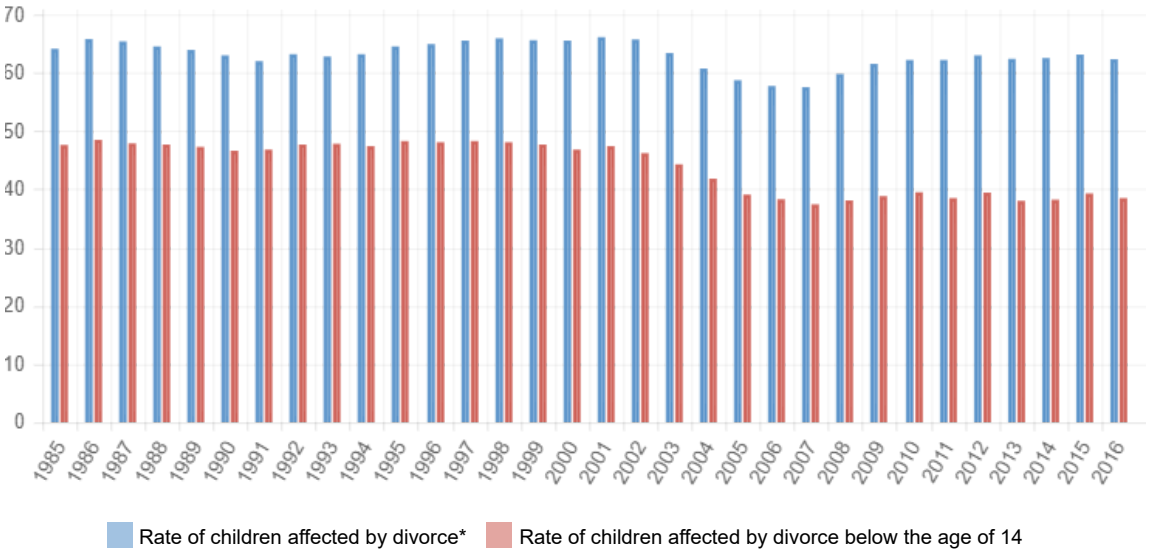
Divorces



Taking into account children who were born within the marriage including those who were subsequently legitimated.
* Children of any age (also older than 18 years)
Source: Statistics Austria, Statistics on divorces

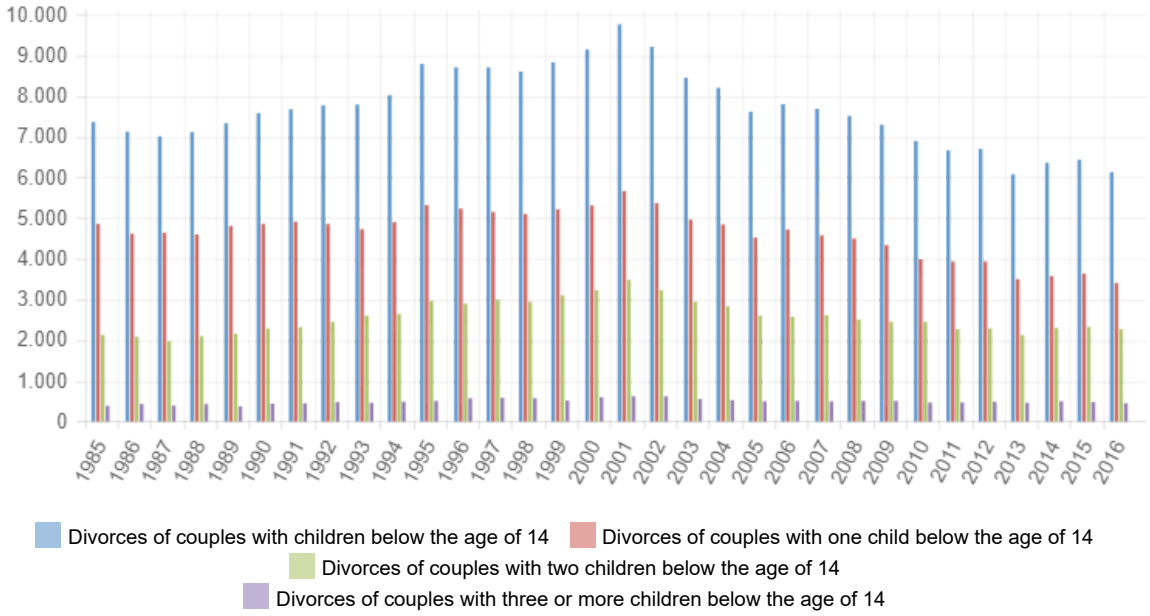
Rate of children affected by divorce

(in per cent)



Compared to the number of all divorces in the same year.
* Children of any age (also older than 18 years)
Source: Statistics Austria, Statistics on divorces

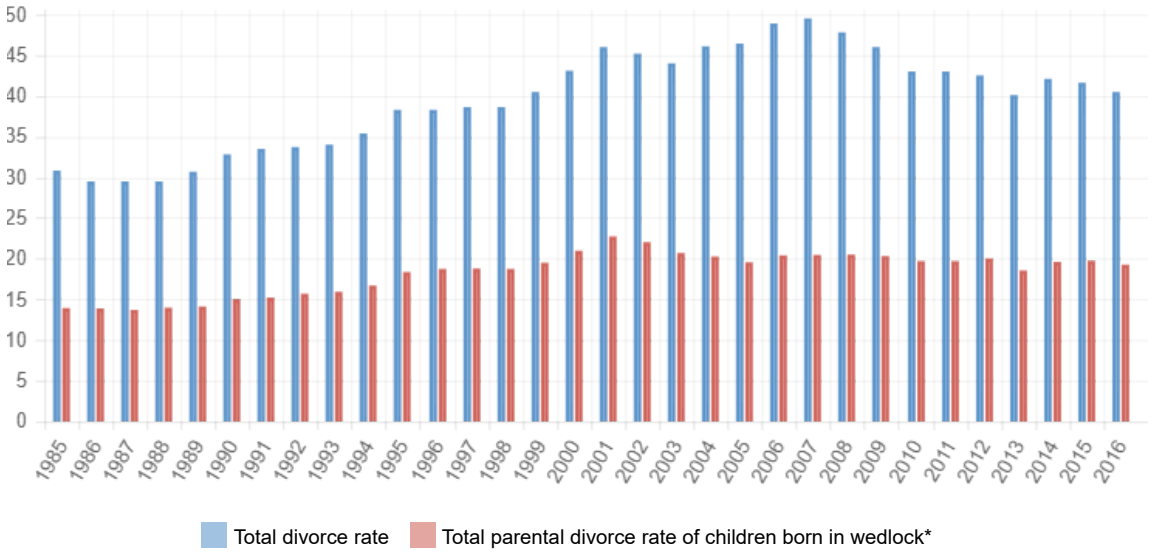
Divorces of couples with children below the age of 14 by number of children



Taking into account children who were born within the marriage including those who were subsequently legitimated.
Source: Statistics Austria, Statistics on divorces

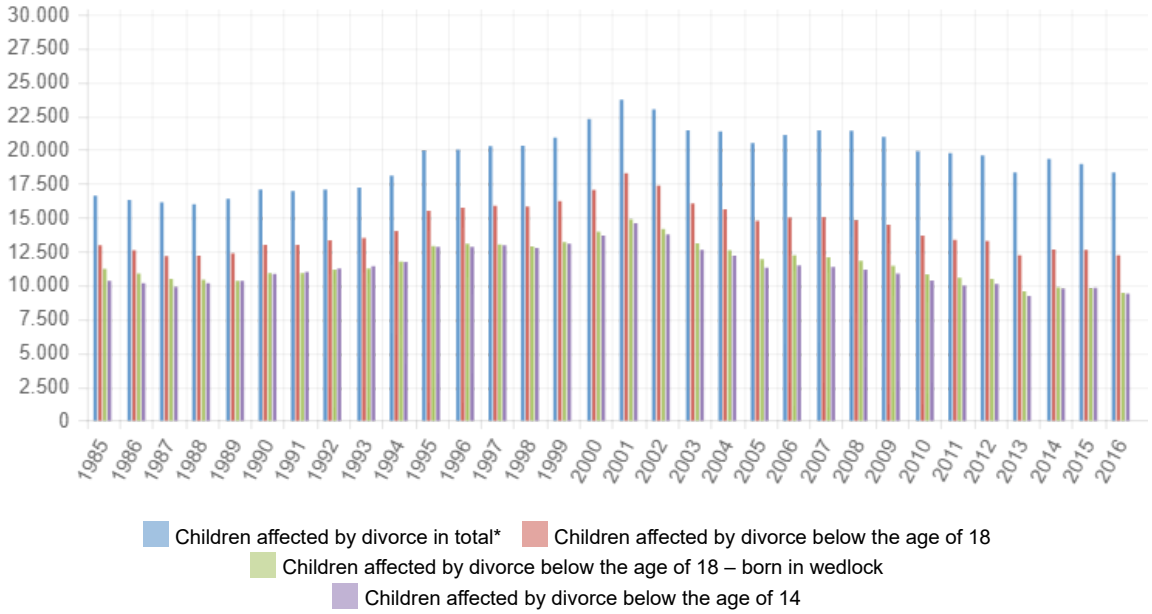
Total divorce rate and total parental divorce rate of children born in wedlock

In %



* Parental divorces until the 18th birthday of the child
Sources: Statistics Austria, Statistics on divorces; Statistics Austria, Demographic Indicators

Children affected by divorce



Taking into account children who were born within the marriage including those who were subsequently legitimated
* Children of any age (also older than 18 years)
Sources: Statistics Austria, Statistics on divorces; Statistics Austria, Demographic Indicators

Totalling some 10,000 divorces at the beginning of the 1970s, the number of marriages taking place per year in Austria that ended in divorce had doubled by the turn of the millennium. The highest absolute figure to date (20,582) was attained in 2001. During these three decades the total divorce rate – i.e. the

probability of the marriages taking place in the relevant year ending in divorce with no change in the divorce pattern – rose by a factor of 2.6, namely from around 18% to 46%. The number of divorces then remained high; at 20,516 in 2007, it was to date the second highest in Austria, and the total divorce rate of 49.47% was the highest.

One reason for this was a special situation which came about involving bi-national marriages (an increase in „marriages of convenience“ which peaked in 2004; from 2006 introduction of legal provisions relating to foreign nationals; rate of divorce culminating in 2007). From 2010 divorce then returned to „normal“ levels, with rates of 43% being reported (2012: 17,006 divorces, i.e. 42.51%). In 2013 the number of divorces fell by 1,048 to 15,958 or 6.2%. This fall is no doubt due to the Austrian law KindNamRÄG (law amending child custody and right to a name, Fed. Gaz. I No. 15/2013), which was introduced on 1 February 2013. The change specifically related to Section 95 Subsection 1a Non-Contentious Proceedings Act, which states: *„Prior to the conclusion or submission of an arrangement governing the consequences of the divorce, the parties must present documentation confirming that they have sought advice from an appropriate quarter about the specific needs of their underage children ensuing from the divorce*.“

The fluctuation in the divorce rate seen in 2013 was concentrated on the months of February/March in which 17% fewer marriages ended in divorce than in the previous year. In 2014 the number of divorces in these two months was then 15% higher. In 2013 the total divorce rate was only 40.14% before rising again to 42.14% in 2014 (16,647 divorces, i.e. +4.3%). It is not possible to say whether the obligation to seek advice to ensure children’s welfare led to a backlog of divorces in 2013 and concurrently, a fall in the divorce level. After rising again in 2014, the rate declined slightly by 1.8% to reach 16,351 in 2015 and then by 2.6% to 15,919 in 2016. The TDR fell to 41.60% and 40.45%, i.e. in 2016 it still exceeded the figure for 2013.

At the beginning of the 1970s the proportion of divorces involving children was two-thirds (66.6%). At 66.1% in 2001 it had hardly dropped at all. In 2007 this figure fell to 57.5%, an all-time low, as marriages of convenience ending in divorce were almost all childless. Of the couples who divorced in 2016, 62.3% did have children – or to be more precise, children who were born within the marriage including those who were subsequently legitimated. The number of youngsters of any age affected by divorce peaked at 23,715 in 2001, likewise the number of children under 14 years involved here, who totalled 14,588 in this year. The figures for children with divorced parents have to date fallen due to the decline in the birth rate within marriage. In 2012, 10,080 children under the age of 14 years were affected by divorce. At 9,204 in 2013 this was down 8.7% before rising again to 9,741 in 2014, i.e. 5.8% more. The changes observed in the first and second year after the obligation to seek advice was introduced by KindNamRÄG 2013 were most marked in the case of the under threes (2012/13: -22.9%, 2013/14: +11.8%). This trend weakened as the age of the child increased (three to under-sixes: -11.4%, +8.1%; six to under-tens: -6.4%, +5.4%; 10 to under-14s: -3.3%, +2.7%). At 9,794 in 2015, the number of under-14s whose parents divorced remained virtually the same as the previous year before falling by 4.3% to 9,370 in 2016 – albeit not below the level of 2013. A largely parallel trend is seen in the greater number of under-18s affected by divorce (e.g. 2012: 13,278 in 2013: 12,201, 2016: 12,218). Whether the phenomenon of divorce involving children has changed and if so, how, can only be analysed using the relevant figures.

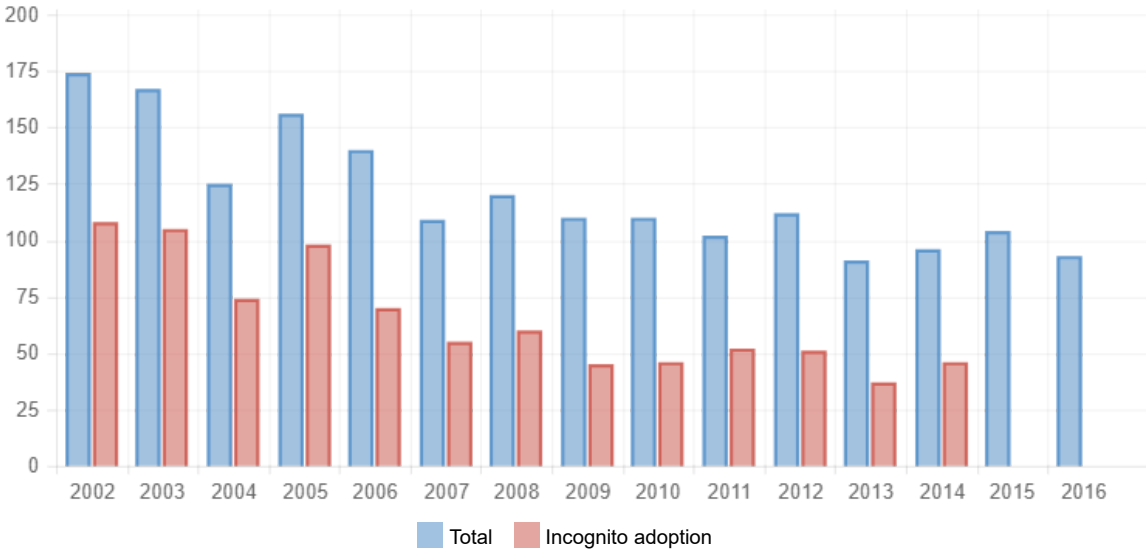
The rate of children affected by divorce, i.e. the total parental divorce rate of children born in wedlock, calculated up to the 18th birthday, hovered around the 20% mark for many years. It fell by 7.2% to 18.56% in 2013 before rising again by 5.5% to 19.58% in 2014. There was another extremely modest rise (+0.8%) to 19.74% in 2015, followed by a slight fall (-2.5%) to 19.24% in 2016. Once again, this rate remained above the level seen in 2013.

It is only with further age-specific analysis that a dampening effect emerges for marriages involving very young children. This could be due to the greater emphasis placed on ensuring the welfare of the child: The divorce rate of couples with children under the age of three who were born in wedlock fell from 2.47% (2012) to 1.89% (2013), with a similarly low level also occurring in 2016: 1.86%. This does not however apply to the divorce rate for parents with children over the age of three who were born in wedlock, which remained more or less the same. In the case of illegitimate children subsequently legitimated by their parents, who currently account for almost 30% of all minors affected by divorce, the fall was more pronounced and encompassed a wider age group, namely children under six. The parental divorce rate fell here from 6.02% (2012) to 5.34% (2013) and then to 4.80% (2016).

Adoption

The number of adoptions taking place in Austria is registered according to the adoptions organised by the child and youth welfare authorities (prior to 2014: youth welfare service). These figures do not include the adoption of stepchildren, and up to the reporting year 2014 only adoptions taking place within Austria were taken into consideration. In line with the 2013 Federal Child and Youth Welfare Act, the statistics published from 2015 onwards also report the number of intercountry adoptions (i.e. those involving states which signed the Hague Convention of 29 May 1993 on Protection of Children and Co-operation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption), with these figures being broken down by gender and age group.

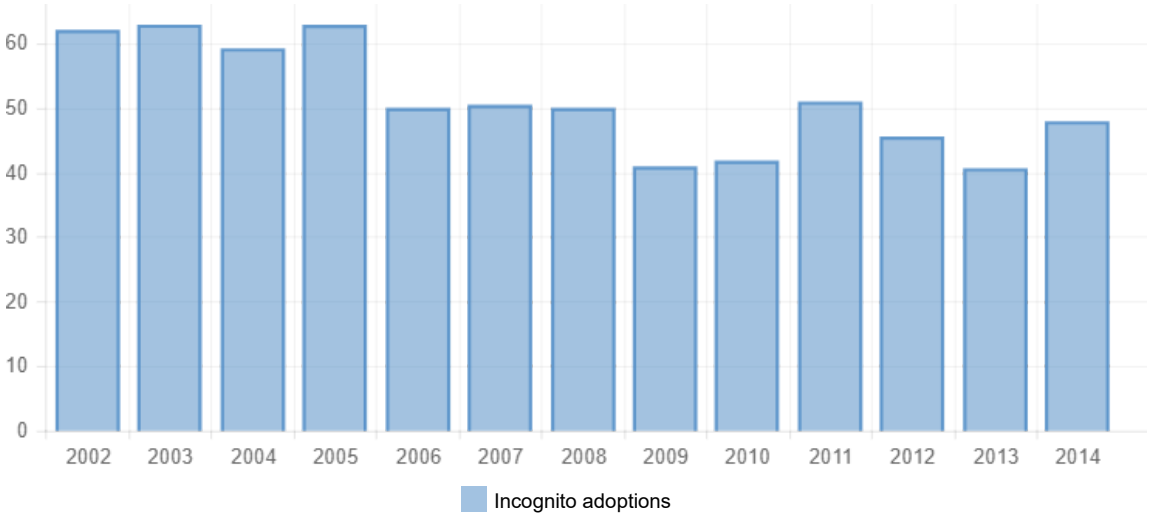
Number of adoptions/year



The statistic only shows incognito adoptions that have been registered before the year 2014.
Sources: Federal Ministry for Family and Youth, Annual child and youth welfare statistics 2002-2016

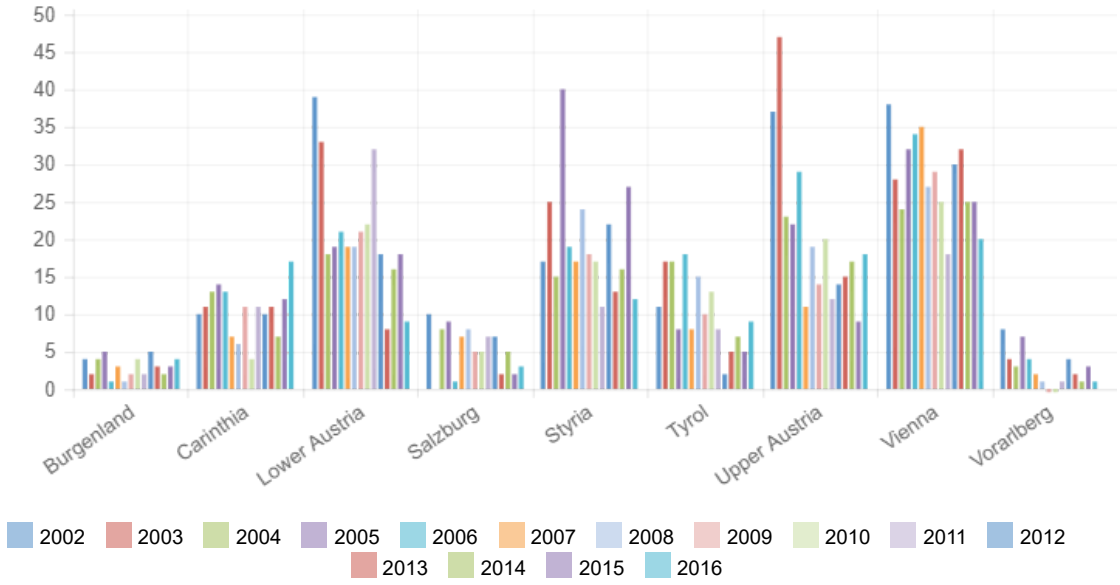
Share of incognito adoptions of all adoptions/year

In %



Sources: Federal Ministry for Family and Youth, Annual child and youth welfare statistics 2002-2016

Number of adoptions in Austria by federal state



Sources: Federal Ministry for Family and Youth, Annual child and youth welfare statistics 2002-2016

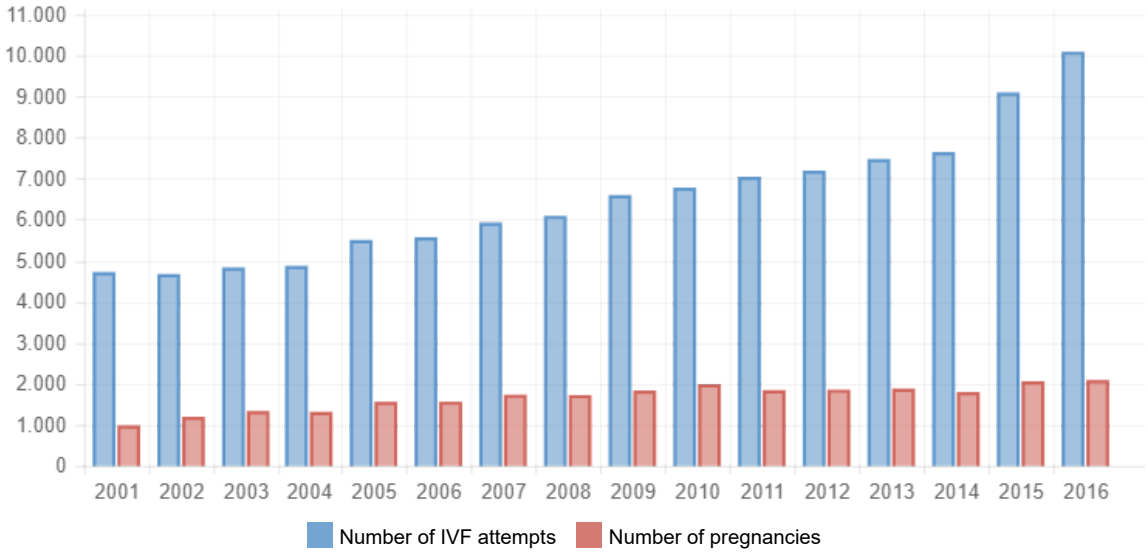
The number of adoptions in Austria has been in decline since 2000. Whereas the number of adoptions averaged some 155.5 adoptions/year between 2002 and 2005, an average of only 96 was registered per year from 2013 to 2016. There has likewise been a fall in the number of „incognito“ adoptions taking place within Austria (i.e. no contact between the adoptive and birth parents – however since 2015 this statistic has no longer been reported). This figure shrank by 60% (averaging 61.7% between 2002-2005) and dropped to below 50% (averaging 44.7% between 2012-2014). As adoption is frequently a lengthy process, the date of the relevant court order is taken as the reference date for determining the age of the child and the year.

In 2016 the child and youth welfare authorities organised 118 adoptions of minors throughout Austria, with over three quarters (93 or 78.8%) taking place within the country and the rest (25 or 21.2%) involving intercountry adoption. The majority of the adopted children were under six (104 or 88.1%) while 14 children (11.9%) were aged between 6 and 13 years. The adoption of older children did not take place. 52.5% of the children adopted were female, i.e. slightly more than the actual share of girls under 14 in the population: 48.6%.

In-vitro fertilisation

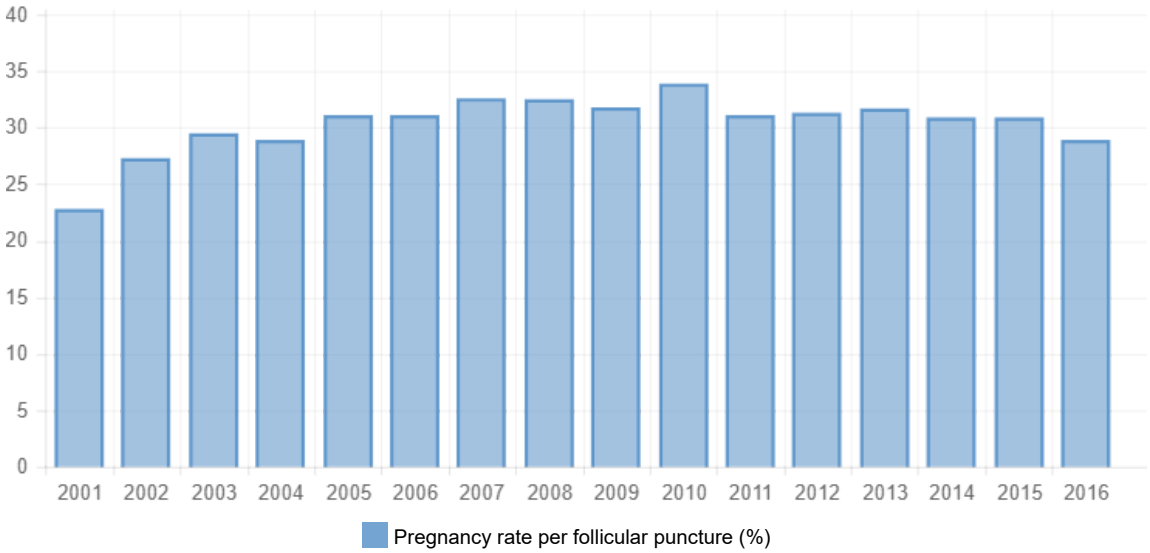
The Austria fund for financing in-vitro fertilisation (IVF Fund) was established in 2000 (IVF Fund Act, Fed. Gaz. I No. 180/1999 – amendment 2015). Since introduction of this law and in cases where treatment with specific methods is necessary for aspiring parents to fulfil their wish for a child they have, under certain conditions, been able to apply to the IVF Fund for help with the costs of such medical procedures.

In-vitro fertilisation (IVF)



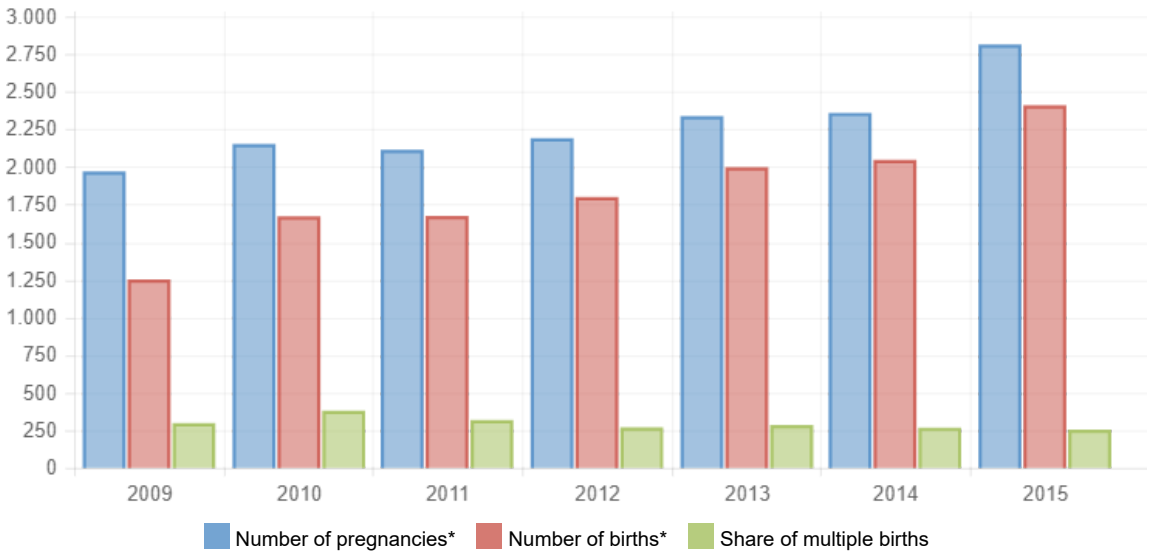
Only pregnancies without cryopreserved embryos.
Source: Federal Ministry of Health, IVF Fund, Annual Reports – 2009-2016

Pregnancy rate per follicular puncture



Source: Federal Ministry of Health, IVF Fund, Annual Reports – 2009-2016

Number of births (after IVF procedures)



*Taking into account the births after IVF with cryopreserved embryos
Source: Federal Ministry of Health, IVF Fund, Annual Reports – 2009-2016

Development

Between 2001 and 2014 Austria saw a surge in the number of attempts documented in the IVF register, rising from some 4,700 to over 7,600, i.e. an increase of around 62%. This was followed in 2015 and 2016 by a further rise to approx. 9,100 attempts at IVF (+19%) and then to 10,100.

In 2016 a total of 2,092 pregnancies were registered in the framework of the IVF Fund (not including attempts made with cryopreserved embryos). Between 2001 and 2010 there was a dramatic increase in this figure, which rose from 986 to 1,993 pregnancies, but by 2014 this had dropped to 1797. Between

2001-2010 Austria witnessed a rise in the pregnancy rate (number of pregnancies per follicular puncture), which increased in this period from 22.8% to 33.9%. The high pregnancy rate of 2010 has not been attained again. In 2015 it reached 30.9% and in 2016, 28.9%.

If attempts involving cryopreserved embryos are also taken into consideration, a total of 3,006 pregnancies resulting from IVF were registered in 2016. The figure for 2015 was 2,814 pregnancies, followed by 2,410 births, accounting for 2.9% of all babies born in Austria. As for IVF attempts, there was a significant increase from 2014 to 2015, up some 19% in the case of pregnancies and approx. 18% for births.

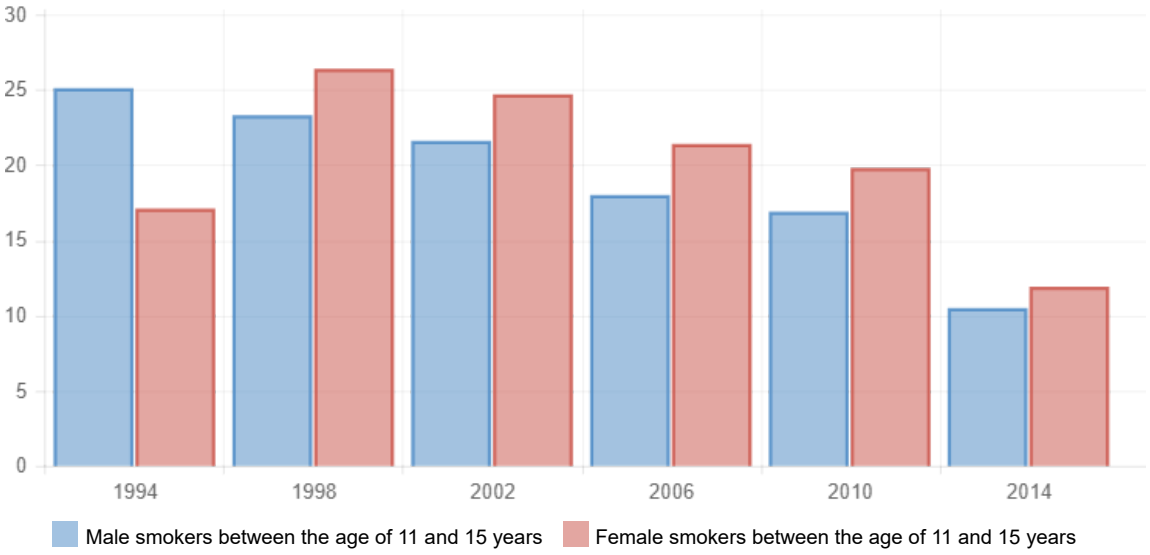
Numbering 2,047 births, IVF accounted for 2.5% of all births in 2014. (No figures for births resulting from IVF are available for 2016.) The fall in the pregnancy rate seen from 2010 can be attributed to the current tendency of transferring fewer embryos to minimise the probability of multiple births and the greater risk associated with such pregnancies. And indeed, while in 2009 almost 24% of births from IVF were multiple births (298 births), this figure plummeted in 2015 to around 10% (253 births). Almost a fifth of all multiple births documented in 2015 (19.2%) were the result of IVF.

Consumption of tobacco by adolescents

The relevant data here were collected by an international research network cooperating with the WHO in the framework of the HBSC Study (Health Behaviour in School-aged Children).

Consumption of tobacco by adolescents

Share of students smoking between the age of 11 and 15 years in %.



Source: Federal Ministry of Health, HBSC-Survey

Development

The results of this study shows that the consumption of tobacco increases with the age of users, with only minor differences being observed between the sexes. These results indicate that, although more girls overall smoke, they do so less heavily than boys, i.e. consuming fewer cigarettes on fewer days per week. Whereas the number of students aged 11 – 15 years who smoke rose between 1994 and 1998, this figure has steadily fallen since then. There has also been a continuous reduction in the percentage of adolescents who smoke on a daily basis, although this trend is not as marked, falling from 9.7% in 1998 to 8.2% in 2010. The consumption pattern of 17-year-olds has only been recorded by the HBSC study since 2010. The study showed that by 2014 the number of youngsters smoking every day had halved: falling from 30.4% to 14.3% for girls and from 35.4% to 18.8% for boys.

Questions such as the current status of smokers in the population aged 15 years or older in private households were investigated by the Austrian Health Interview Survey (ATHIS). This study was carried out by Statistics Austria in the framework of the European Statistical System. The proportion of adolescents aged 15 – 19 years who smoke every day declined in the time between the ATHIS surveys performed in 2006 and in 2014, falling from 21% to 18% for girls and from 26% to 22% for boys. However, the increase in smoking, which rises with age, was especially marked in the generation born between 1987-1991, who were aged 15 to 19 years at the time of the 2006 ATHIS survey. Hence, the increase in the number of daily smokers by nine and eleven percentage points respectively in the 2014 ATHIS survey.

Risk of poverty or marginalisation to children (0 to 15 years)

Child poverty is generally understood to mean growing up in a low-income family, with the poverty experienced by a child being directly linked to the income poverty of the child's family. Child-specific manifestations of poverty are above all seen in the form of material, social, cultural and health-related deprivation. This has a detrimental effect on the development and educational opportunities of the children concerned and limits their future prospects both in the medium and long term.

Reducing the number of people affected or threatened by poverty and social marginalisation by at least 20 million is one of the key targets of the Europe 2020 strategy. The terms used here are defined as follows:

Europe 2020 social target group at risk of poverty or marginalisation: Persons to whom at least one of the three following criteria apply:

- at risk of poverty or
- zero/very low employment intensity in their household or
- significant material deprivation.

Risk of poverty: Households are defined in the EU as being at risk of poverty if their equivalised income is 60% below the national median equivalised income. In 2016 the risk-of-poverty threshold in Austria was for persons who live alone 14,217 EUR per year or 1,185 EUR per month. To this figure 592 EUR per month should be added for every additional person aged 14 or over and 355 EUR per month for every child under 14 in the household.

Persons in households with zero or very low employment intensity: Persons up to the age of 59 years who live in a household in which persons aged between 18 and 59 years (excepting students) have spent less than 20% of the maximum possible employment months in gainful employment over the course of a year.
Both the employment months and the hours per week are taken into consideration here.

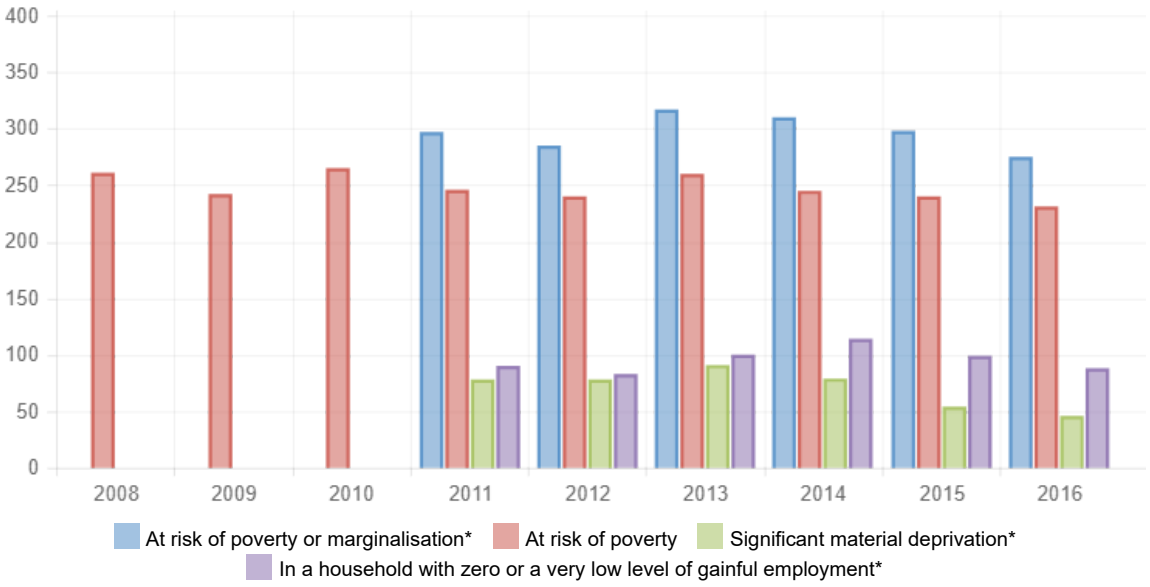
Significant material deprivation (European minimum living standard): Nine criteria regarding the affordability of goods/needs for a household have been laid down. If at least four of these nine items are unaffordable, it is assumed that all persons in this household are subject to significant material deprivation or limitation. The household is unable:

1. to settle regular payments during the last twelve months on time (rent, running costs, loan repayments, utility costs, charges for water, refuse collection and drainage, other repayments owing);
2. to finance unexpected expenses up to 1,160 EUR;
3. to keep the home sufficiently warm;
4. to eat meat, fish (or corresponding vegetarian meals) every two days;
5. to go for a week's holiday every year;
6. to afford a car;
7. to afford a washing machine;
8. to afford a television;
9. to afford a landline or mobile telephone.

In 2016 some 275,000 youngsters in Austria under the age of 16 were affected by poverty or social marginalisation. The rate of persons at risk of poverty or marginalisation was 20.6%, a good fifth of the population of the same age totalling 1,336 million. Around 231,000 youngsters were at risk of poverty, i.e. over one in six children aged between 0 and 15 years (at-risk-of-poverty rate: 17.3%). Some 88,000 (6.6%) lived in a home where no-one was in work or the level of employment was very low, and around 46,000 (3.4%) were affected by significant material deprivation.

Children under the age of 16 at risk of poverty and marginalisation in Austria

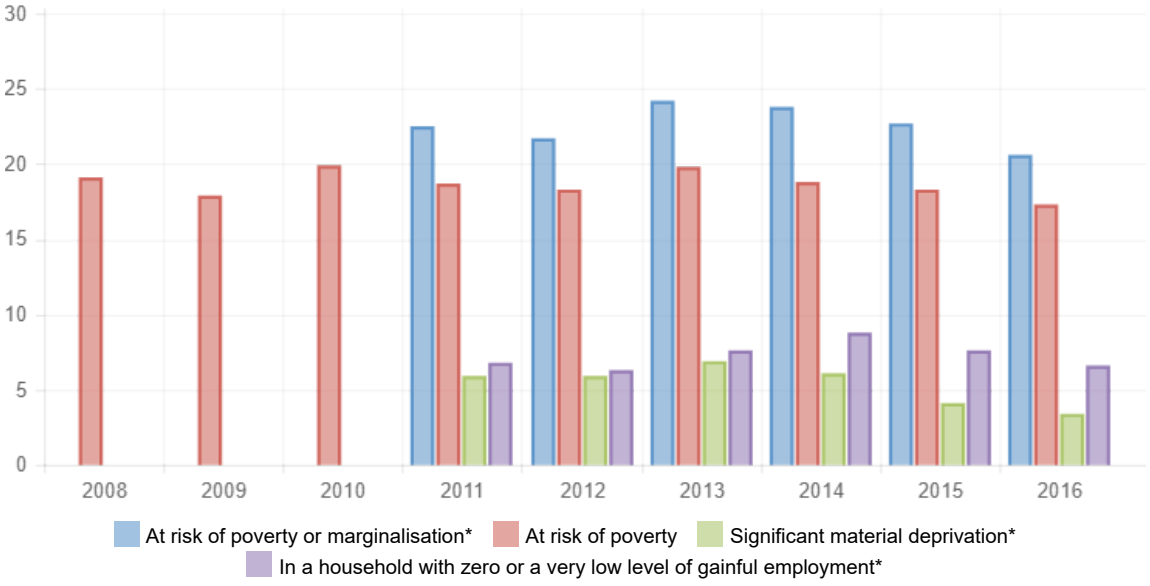
in 1000



*prior to 2011 not broken down for children under 16
Sources: Statistik Austria, EU SILC tables 2008-2016

At-risk rates for poverty and marginalisation of children under the age of 16 in Austria

in % of the total population of the same age



*prior to 2011 not broken down for children under 16
Sources: Statistik Austria, EU SILC tables 2008-2016

Development

2013 saw levels peak both for the numbers of children affected and the at-risk rates in the categories „At risk of poverty or marginalisation“, „At risk of poverty“ and „Significant material deprivation“. At that time some 260,000 children (19.8%) were at risk of poverty and 317,000 (24.2%) at risk of poverty or marginalisation. Only in „Households with zero or a very low level of gainful employment“ was the all-time high of 114,000 (8.8%) not attained until 2014. Due to a break in the time series the years prior to 2012 are comparable only to a limited extent.

At 17.3% in 2016, the at-risk-of-poverty rate was clearly below the long-term average of 2008-2016 (18.7%) and since 2013 has declined by an eighth (12.8%). The at-risk rate for poverty or marginalisation fell by 14.8% between 2013 and 2016, and the rate for significant material deprivation was even halved (-50.4%). The rate for children under the age of 16 in households with zero or a very low level of gainful employment was reduced by around a quarter (-24.8%) from the all-time high of 2014.

The figures should be treated with caution as they are based on not entirely reliable statistical projections from random sample surveys (EU-SILC). There however seems to be a promising trend towards the reduction of child poverty.

Prescription of psychostimulants

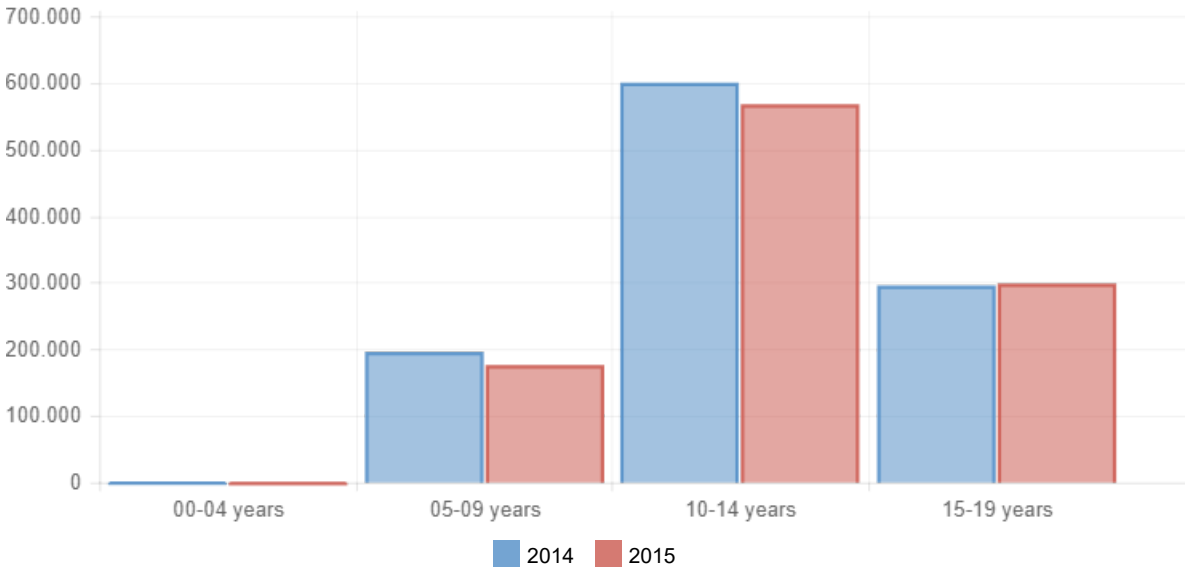
The basic **definition** of the defined daily dose (DDD) is:

The DDD is the assumed average maintenance dose per day for a drug used for its main indication in adults. (Source: WHO Collaborating Centre for Drug Statistics Methodology)

Prescription of the psychostimulant methylphenidate in the case of children aged from 0–19 years (2014 – 2015).

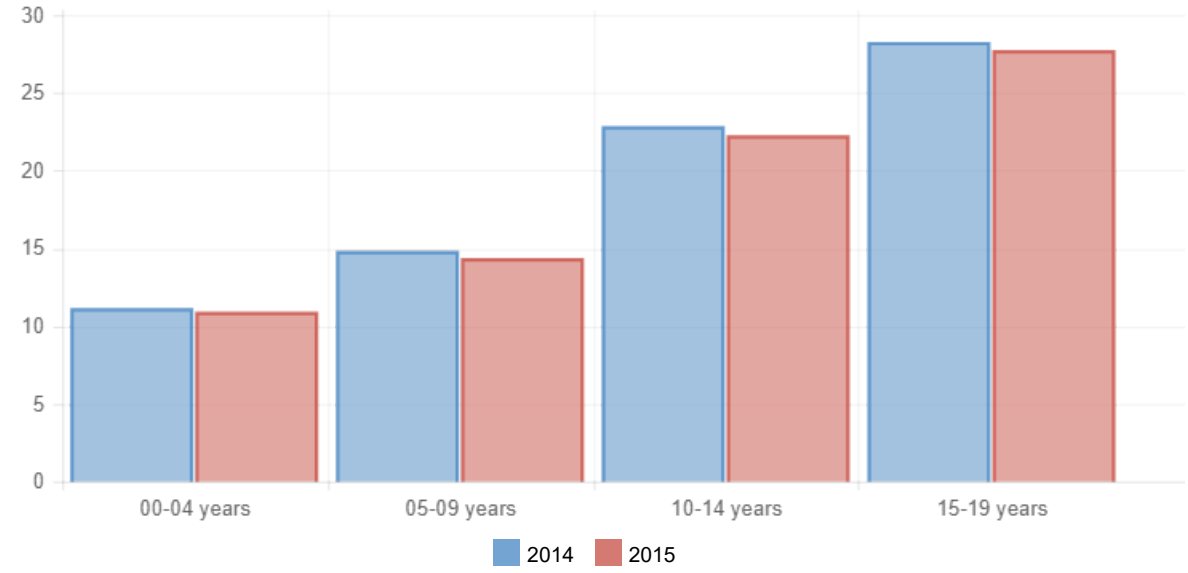
Based on the current data for prescription of the psychostimulant methylphenidate.

Prescription of the psychostimulant methylphenidate in the case of children aged from 0–19 years (2014 – 2015) - No. DDD



Based on the current data for prescription of the psychostimulant methylphenidate.

No. DDD per prescription of the psychostimulant methylphenidate in the case of children aged from 0–19 years (2014 – 2015)



Based on the current data for prescription of the psychostimulant methylphenidate.

A slight fall in the prescribing level is indicated by the current data for prescription of the psychostimulants atomoxetine and methylphenidate in the case of children aged from 0 – 19 years (2014 − 2015).

Support and funding of (extracurricular) children and youth work

Although extracurricular children and youth work focuses on activities undertaken during children's free time, it is also aimed at informal and non-formal learning outside school hours.
Extracurricular children and youth work involves voluntary activities which youngsters cannot be compelled to attend.

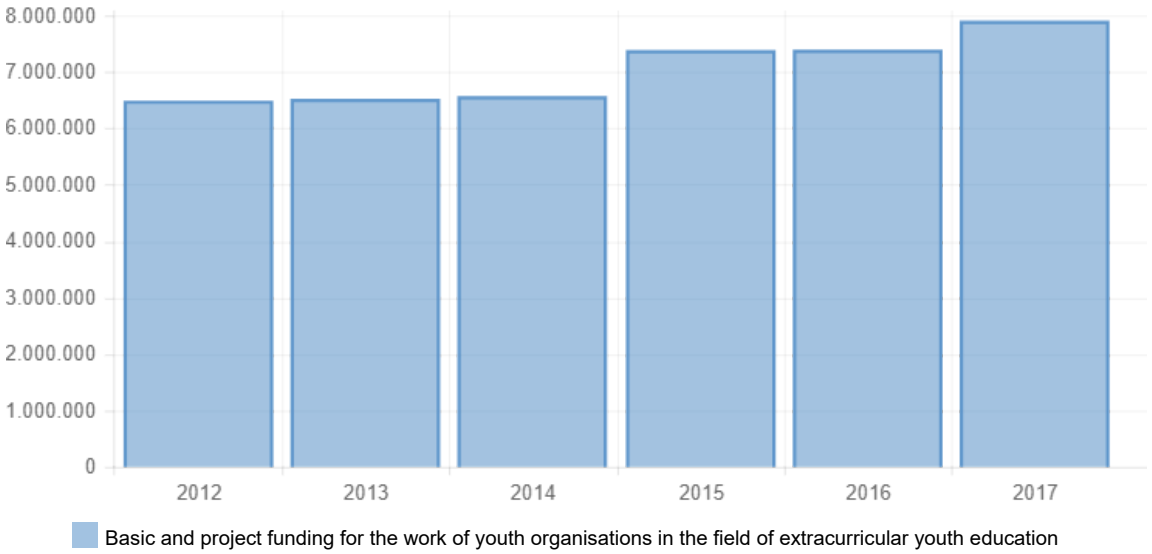
It basically consists of three main areas:

- Children and youth work in youth organisations:
  Its objectives and ideological background are for example religious, cultural, ecological or party-political in nature. The children and youth work organised by such organisations and groups covers a wide range of activities and benefits some 1.56 million youngsters up to the age of 30 (Austrian National Youth Council, 2017).
- Youth information:
  This is not just limited to special topics, but also provides youngsters with an initial point of contact in relation to all issues. With a total of 28 centres in all Länder (as of February 2018), the Austrian Youth Information Centres (Österreichische Jugendinfos) offer a comprehensive service for young people throughout the country. The key target group is youngsters aged between 12 to 26 years.
- Professional open children and youth work:
  Offering activities between social work, educational and cultural work, and health promotion, this represents an important opportunity for young people to socialise. It takes place at youth centres, youth clubs and youth cafés and other facilities, as well as in public spaces such as parks, stations and public areas. In Austria there are 346 supporting institutions which organise open children and youth work, some with more than one site (623 institutions of professional open children and youth work together).

In 2017 the activities of youth organisations in the field of extracurricular children and youth work received funding to the tune of some 7.9 million euros under the Federal Act on the Promotion of Education and Upbringing outside Schools and the Promotion of Youth Work (Federal Youth Promotion Act) This involves central government resources for basic and project funding from the Federal Chancellery, Division Families and Youth. It is not possible here to provide an overview of the resources from the federal government or the Länder.

Support and funding of extracurricular children and youth work

In euros.



Source: Figures of Federal Chancellery, Division Families and Youth, Department V/5: Youth Policy

Development

The amount of funding paid to nationwide youth organisations – which, in accordance with § 6 (1 to 4) Federal Youth Promotion Act, includes basic funding and project funding – has remained stable since 2012. Membership of such organisations however has risen by approximately 100,000.

Funding for the other nationwide youth organisations, various youth associations, youth initiatives or youth groups – **which do not receive any basic funding** – was increased between 2015 und 2017 by budget reallocations.

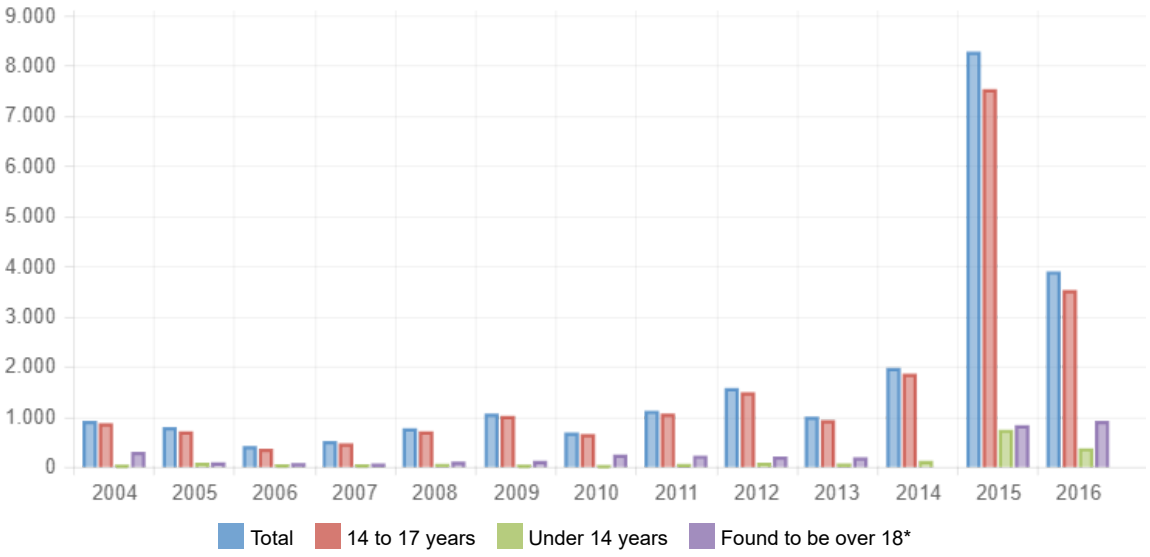
Unaccompanied minor asylum seekers – Asylum applications

Asylum seekers who entered Austria without being accompanied by an adult responsible for them or were left on their own in the country are referred to as unaccompanied minor asylum seekers (UMAs). As such, they are entitled to receive special protection.

In the wake of the refugee crisis in Europe since 2015 the numbers of unaccompanied minor asylum seekers have reached record levels. In 2015 a total of 8,277 UMAs claimed asylum in Austria, with 743 (9%) being under-age children of less than 14 years. At 7,880, the vast majority, 95.2% of all unaccompanied minors applying for asylum, were male. In 2016 this figure had dropped by over half (to 3,900), although it still far outstripped the numbers of asylum seekers seen in previous years.

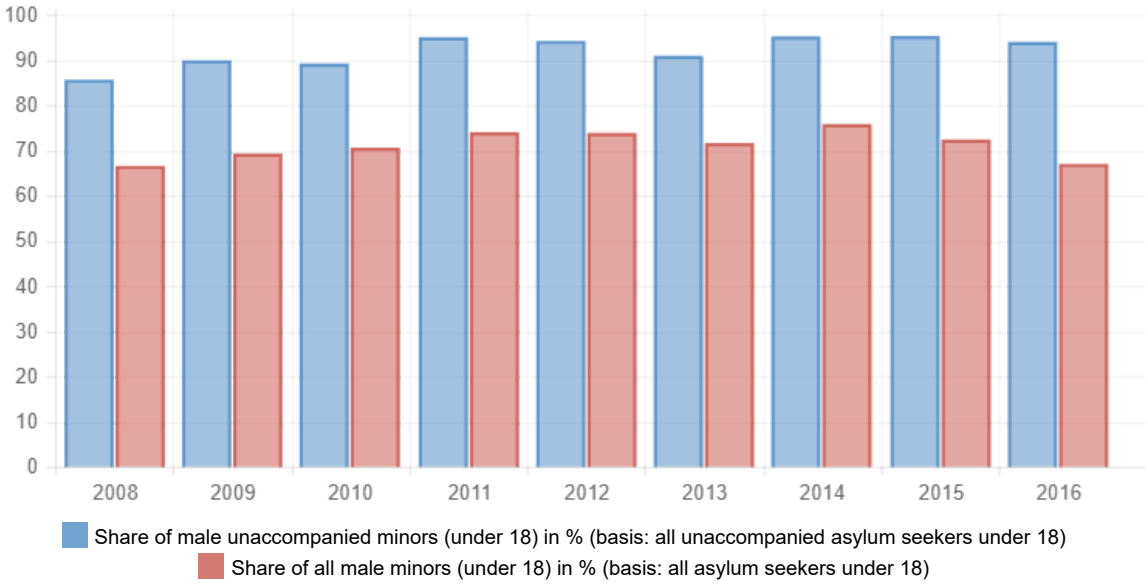
Compared with the size of its population, Austria received a higher-than-average number of asylum claims from unaccompanied minor asylum seekers. If the years 2015 and 2016 are combined, the figure was more than five times the EU average – Sweden was the only country to receive more applications.

Applications of unaccompanied minor asylum seekers



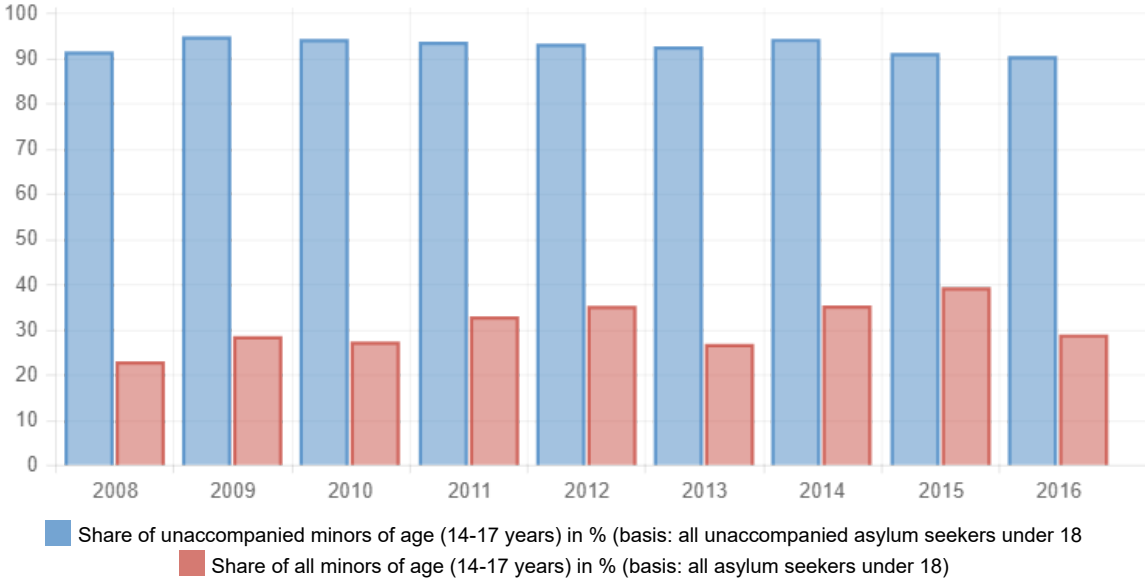
The figures for „Total“ exclude claims where the applicant was found to be over the age of 18.
* from 2014 onward not yet listed in the annual statistics; for 2015, 2016: data supplied directly by Federal Ministry of the Interior
Source: Federal Ministry of the Interior, asylum statistics, Annual statistics for asylum seekers 2004-2016

Share of unaccompanied minor asylum seekers by gender



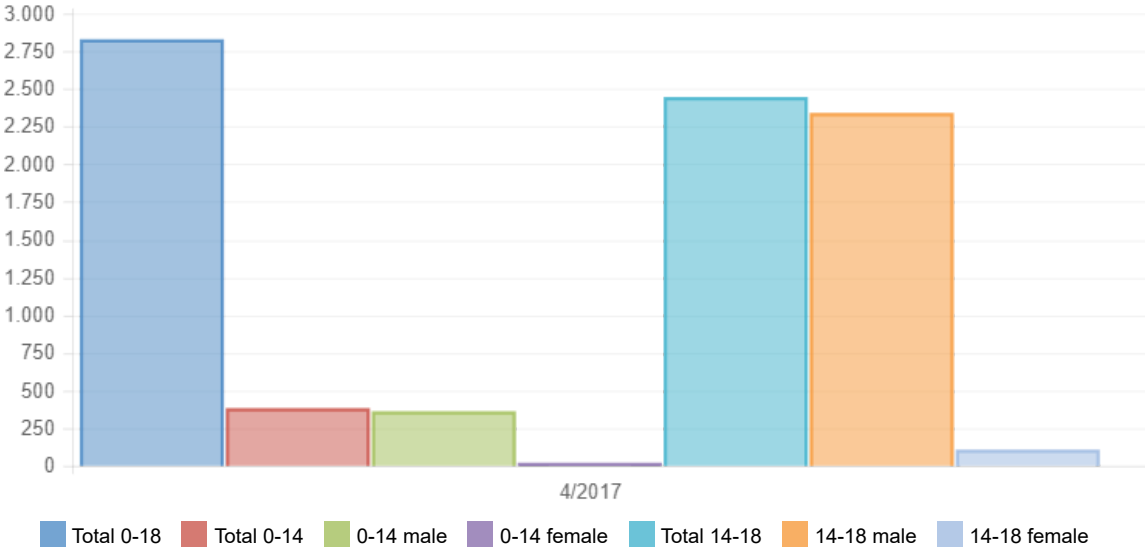
Source: Eurostat, asylum and ‚Dublin' statistics, applications, Asylum seekers: presumed to be unaccompanied minors

Share of unaccompanied minor asylum seekers of age (14-17 years)



Source: Eurostat, asylum and ‚Dublin' statistics, applications, Asylum seekers: presumed to be unaccompanied minors

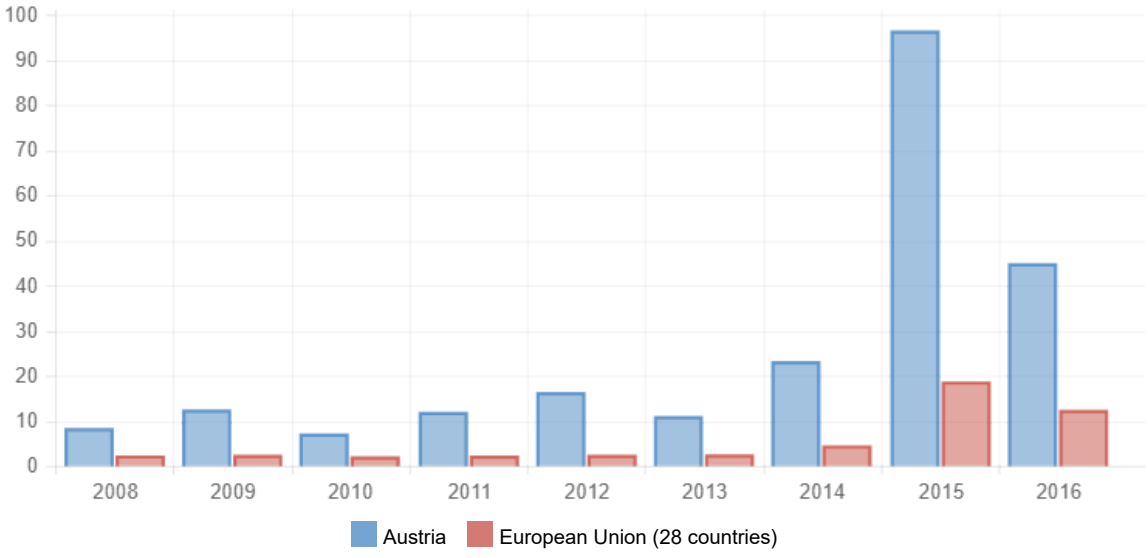
Unaccompanied minor asylum seekers in the custody jurisdiction of the Länder (4/2017)



Source: Federal Ministry of the Interior, asylum statistics, Monthly statistics for asylum seekers 2017

Unaccompanied minor asylum seekers per 100,000 inhabitants

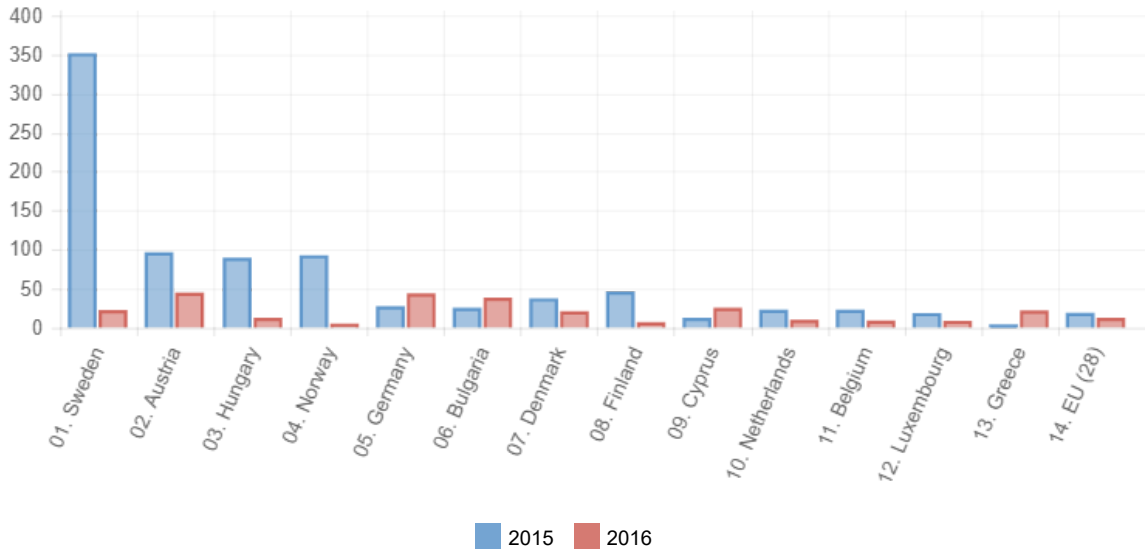
compared with the EU average (28 countries)



Sources: Eurostat, asylum and ‚Dublin' statistics, applications, Asylum seekers: presumed to be unaccompanied minors; Eurostat, Demography and migration, population, population as at 1 January

Unaccompanied minor asylum seekers per 100,000 inhabitants in 2015, 2016: a European comparison

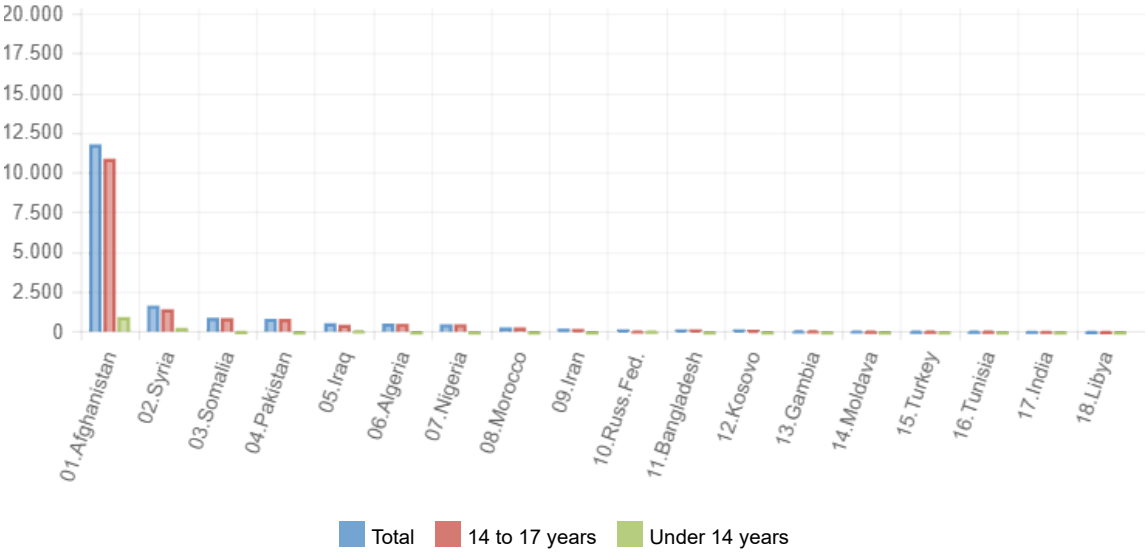
Top 13 countries in Europe



Countries ranked by average values in 2015-2016, showing the 13 countries with the most applications from UMAs in these two years and the EU average.
Sources: Eurostat, asylum and ‚Dublin' statistics, applications, Asylum seekers: presumed to be unaccompanied minors; Eurostat, Demography and migration, population, population as at 1 January

Unaccompanied minors seeking asylum 2010 – 2016 / Countries of origin

Top 18 countries



Source: Federal Ministry of the Interior, asylum statistics, Annual statistics for asylum seekers 2004-2016

Unaccompanied minors seeking asylum 2010 − 2016 / Countries of origin (Top 18)
Sources: Federal Ministry of the Interior, asylum statistics, Annual statistics for asylum seekers 2004-2016

Country	Under 14 years	14 to 17 years	Total
Afghanistan	920	10,860	11,780
Syria	242	1,393	1,635
Somalia	28	838	866
Pakistan	10	794	804
Iraq	88	428	516
Algeria	10	486	496
Nigeria	0	461	461
Morocco	8	249	257
Iran	11	165	176
Russian Federation	67	73	140
Bangladesh	0	128	128
Kosovo	7	116	123
Gambia	0	89	89
Moldava	2	67	69
Turkey	0	52	52
Tunisia	0	51	51
India	0	49	49
Libya	1	41	42
TOTAL	**1,476**	**17,058**	**18,534**

Development

Between 2005 and 2010 the total number of all asylum applications from unaccompanied minor asylum seekers (UMAs) rarely reached 1,000 per year (only in 2009 was this level marginally exceeded at 1,062). An average of 736 applications/year were submitted between 2004 and 2010, with the lowest value, 414 claims, being recorded in 2006.
In contrast, the average between 2011 and 2016 was four times this figure (2,975 per year). As mentioned earlier, a record number of 8,277 applications was received from unaccompanied minor asylum seekers in 2015. In 2011 and 2012 this figure had already risen by almost 500 per year, mainly due to an increase in the number of unaccompanied minor asylum seekers from Afghanistan in these two years. This was followed by a fall to less than 1,000 in 2013 before increasing for the first time to almost 2,000. 2014 then saw a sharp rise in UMAs fleeing from Syria – the first time this happened since war had broken out there. An above-average number of applications were however also submitted by persons from most of the other main countries of origin in 2014, with numbers rising in 2015. (For a more detailed breakdown of claims from UMAs by country of origin, see Unaccompanied minor asylum seekers – Applications by country of origin).
In 2016 this figure was down more than 50% on the previous year. The number of 3,900 applications was nonetheless double the long-term average between 2004 and 2016 (1,769 per year).

Most unaccompanied minor asylum seekers are male. Since 2008 the share of men has always exceeded 85%, fluctuating slightly between 85.5% and 95.5% (averaging 92.1% between 2008- 2016). In the record year of 2015, 95.2% of all minor asylum seekers were boys or male adolescents, with this figure rising to 94% in 2016. Over the last 10 years the number of unaccompanied male asylum seekers has averaged a good 70%. When compared with all minor asylum seekers, the share of men in this figure has remained far higher than the number of unaccompanied female applicants. In terms of age (whether over 18 years), the deviation between all minor asylum seekers and those who were unaccompanied is even more marked. While between 2008 and 2016 roughly a third (average: 30.7%) of all minor asylum seekers were generally between 14 to 17 years, this figure among unaccompanied asylum seekers invariably exceeded 90% in the same period, peaking in 2014 at 94.2%. At 90.4% in 2016, almost all unaccompanied minor asylum seekers were aged 14 years or above.

When compared with Europe, during the nine years between 2008 and 2016 Austria always ranked among the five countries with the largest number of asylum claims from UMAs in terms of its population size. Austria ranked between third and fifth place until 2013, was second to Sweden in 2014 and 2015, before registering the greatest number of unaccompanied minor asylum seekers per 100,000 inhabitants in 2016. Prior to 2014, the number of claims varied between 7.2 (2010) and 16.4 (2012) UMAs per 100,000 persons living in Austria (averaging 11.2 from 2008 to 2013). At 23.2, this value exceeded the level of 20 UMAs per 100,000 inhabitants for the first time in 2014. In 2015 it then rose to almost 100 (96.5 per 100,000 inhabitants) – a level five times the EU average. Only Sweden received significantly more applications during this year: more than 350 UMAs per 100,000 inhabitants. In 2016 Austria saw this figure plummet over 50% to 44.9 unaccompanied minor asylum seekers per 100,000 inhabitants compared with the previous year. Overall, this level was also almost five times the EU average since 2008.

From January to August 2017, 1 263 UMAs applied for asylum – of which 125 were under the age of 14.

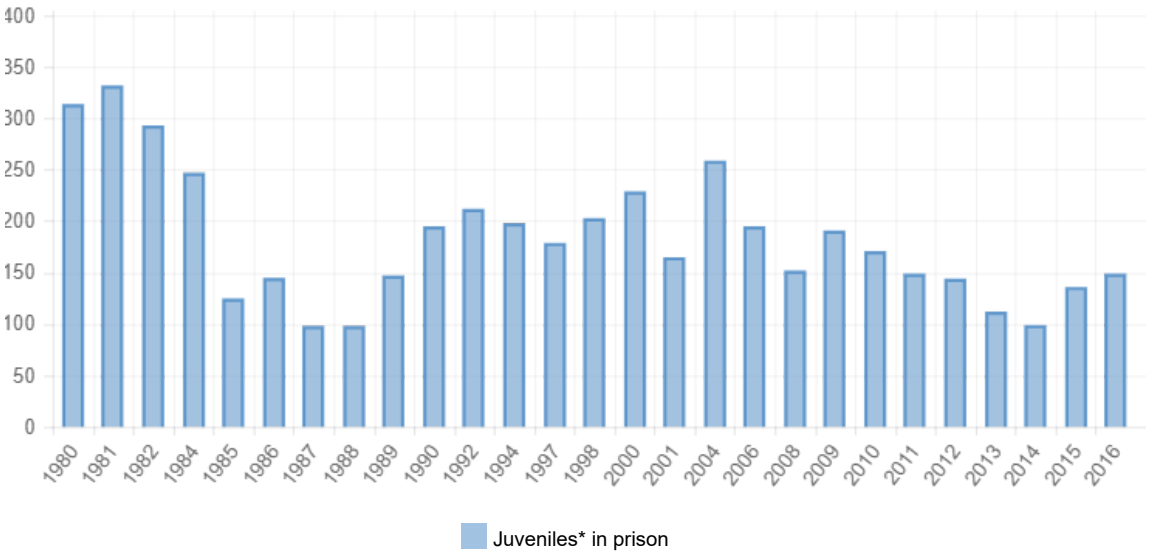
Further informations

- According to estimates of the Federal Ministry of Finance regarding the budgetary impact of the influx of refugees, „allowable“ additional costs (for both adults and children) as defined by the Stability and Growth Pact (SGP) were assumed to be € 0.4 billion or 0.11% of GDP in 2015 and € 0.8 billion or 0.21% of GDP in 2016. For 2017 a fall in spending on refugees is assumed, measured as a percentage of GDP (2016: € 1.67 billion or 0.48% of GDP; 2017: € 1.71 billion or 0.47% of GDP).
- With the Basic Care Agreement 2004 the Federal Government and the Länder have jointly professed their responsibility to provide care for asylum seekers. The costs of board, accommodation and care for alien minors and unaccompanied minor aliens in the Austrian federal care system (initial reception facility Traiskirchen – EAST Ost) are included in the general basic care costs for asylum seekers. With a maximum daily rate of € 95, the costs for accommodation and care amount to € 2,898 per month for every unaccompanied minor asylum seeker.
- For 24-hour care every unaccompanied minor alien (UMA) has his or her own supervisor on hand to act as a comprehensive point of contact for matters of whatever nature. The staffing/child ratio here is at least 1:15. The key areas of such care range from detailed structuring of children’s daily routine (German lessons and classes in integration, educational programmes and leisure activities, etc.) through psychological support for UMAs to communication of social skills and conflict prevention. Minors of compulsory school age are offered the opportunity to attend „bridging classes“ at the federal care facility. The main objective of this care is to prepare minors to live independently (e.g. to keep house, manage money, structure their daily routine).
- The costs for the provision of age-appropriate accommodation and care for every unaccompanied minor asylum seeker aged less than 14 years amount to € 5,068 per month. In addition to the standard level of care for minors, „paid mothers“ are also enlisted to act as reference persons for unaccompanied minor aliens under 14 years of age.
- As of 1 October 2017, 133 unaccompanied minor aliens found themselves in Austria’s federal care system (ORS Service GmbH), and 3,184 in the care of the Länder.
- Overview of age-diagnostic procedures: On average, about 500 age-diagnostic procedures are commissioned per year. The result of the investigations shows that on average in 61% of cases the applicant was found to be over the age of 18.

Number of juveniles in Austrian prisons

Number of juveniles in Austrian prisons

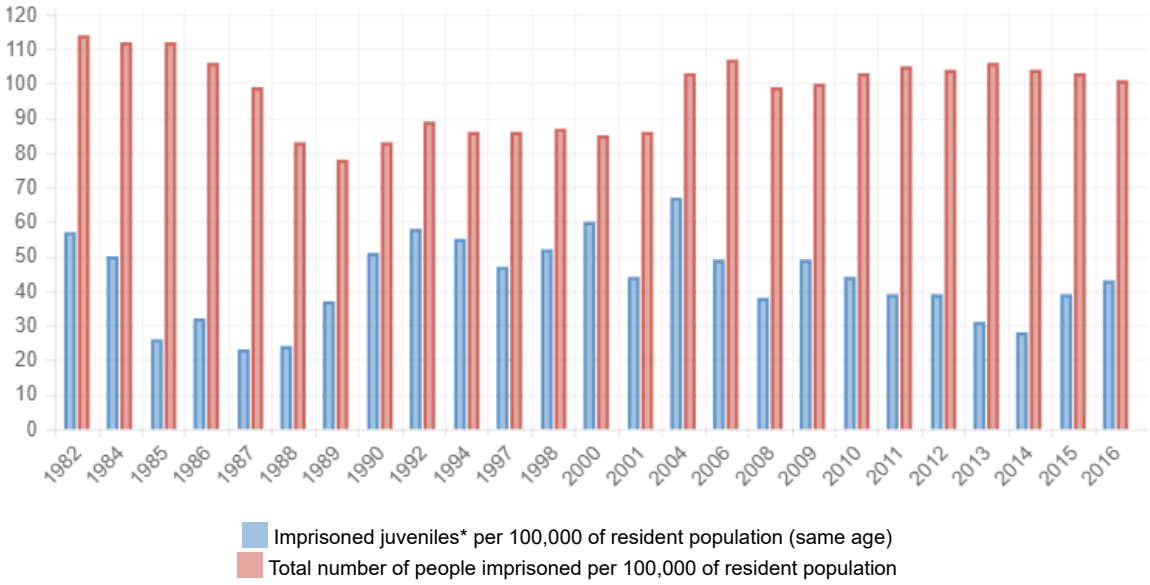
Reference date: 30 November; from 2000: 1 September



* It is necessary to take into account statutory amendments to age limits when analysing the number of juvenile prisoners over time. Prior to 1989, 14 to under-18 year olds were regarded as juveniles, from 1990 to 30 June 2001 under -19s were too. As of 1 July 2001 the age limit was reduced to 18 again.
**Before 1989 and from 1.7.2001: 14 to under-18s, from 1990 to 30 June 2001: 14 to under-19s
Some of the values for individual years are missing prior to 2008. The figures lay between the last year reported and the next.
Source: Statistical overview of imprisonment; IVV data from the Austrian Federal Computing Centre (BRZ) taken from the Ministry of Justice Security Reports 2011-2006

Total number of juveniles and people imprisoned per 100,000 of the resident population

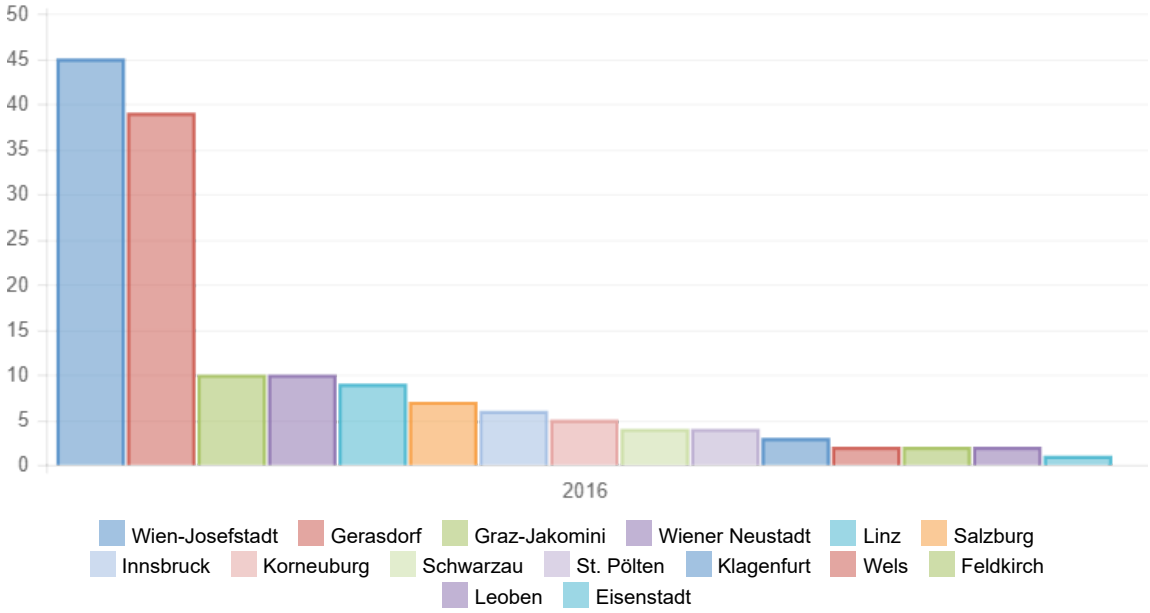
Reference date: 30 November; from 2000: 1 September



*Before 1989 and from 1.7.2001: 14 to under-18s, from 1990 to 30 June 2001: 14 to under-19 year olds.
Some of the values for individual years are missing prior to 2008.
Sources: own calculation; figures taken from the Ministry of Justice Security Reports 2011-2006.
Imprisoned juveniles: Statistical overview of imprisonment; IVV data from the Austrian Federal Computing Centre (BRZ);
Imprisoned people: Police crime statistics (published by the Federal Ministry of the Interior), judicial crime statistics (published by Statistics Austria), Statistics Austria Yearbook, www.statistik.at, Statistical overview of imprisonment; (published by the Federal Ministry of Justice); Security Reports; From 2001: IVV (Integrated Administration of the Penitentiary System, supplied by the Austrian Federal Computing Centre);
For population figures: Statistics Austria, Annual average population

Juveniles* in prisons 2016

Reference date: 1 September



*14 to under-18 year olds Source: Statistical overview of imprisonment; IVV data from the Austrian Federal Computing Centre (BRZ) taken from the Ministry of Justice, Security Reports 2011-2006

Development and structure

The number of juveniles in Austrian prisons initially declined sharply up to 1988, but rose steeply at the end of the 1980s. The pre-1990 rise can no longer be explained by extension of the age limit (to under 19). A sharp rise in juvenile prisoners in the years following 2001 “compensated” for the decline caused by the new reduction of the age limit (to 18) in 2001. After reaching a high of 259 juveniles in prison in 2004, the number of people aged under 18 in prison in the reporting year 2016 was 149, of whom just 10 were female. This was therefore an increase compared to the previous year (136). Out of all prisoners in 2016, the proportion of juveniles was around 1.7% on the reference date. This development is one of the effects of the interdisciplinary round table – “Juvenile remand – prevention, reduction, enforcement” – appointed in summer 2013.
Up to 2003/2004, out of all imprisoned juveniles, the proportion of aliens rose to more than two thirds and as of the reference date in 2016 was 70.5%.

The breakdown of imprisoned juveniles as of the reference date of 1 September 2016 can be seen from the above graphic; the 10 female juveniles were in Vienna-Josefstadt prison (4), Innsbruck prison (2), Linz (2), Schwarzau (1) and Leoben (1).

Trafficking of children

In Austria minors and persons of legal age who are victims of human trafficking receive identical support irrespective of their nationality. Every person has equal entitlement to make use of victim protection facilities – regardless of whether they have a migrant background.

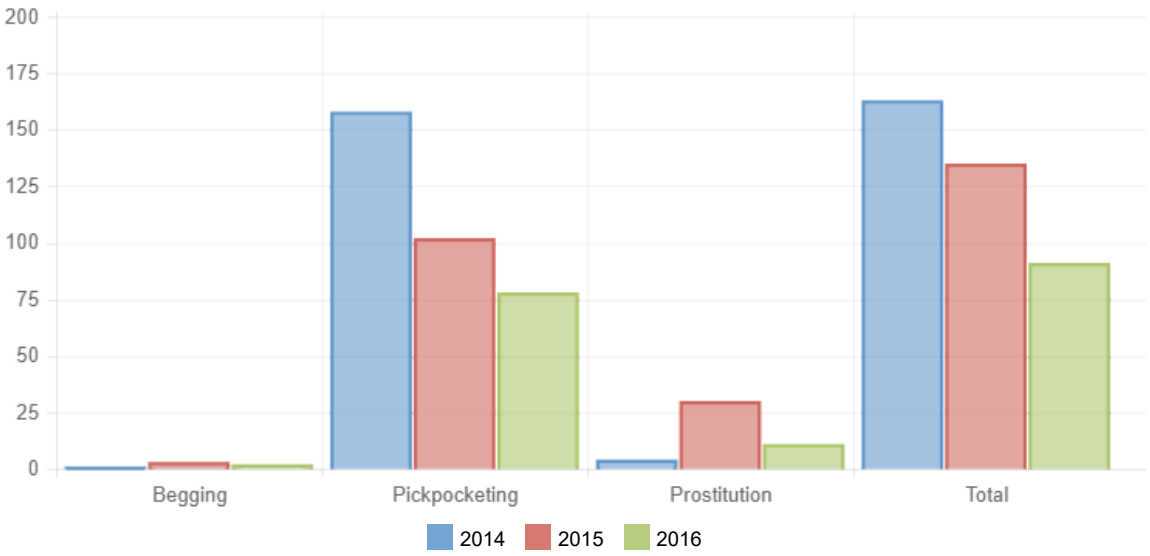
The table below provides information on the underage victims covered in the criminal statistics on „Trafficking in Human Beings“ (para.104a Penal Code) and on „Cross-border trafficking for prostitution purposes“ (para. 217 Penal Code) (2014 − 2016):

Year	§ 104a StGB	§ 217 StGB
2014	3 (one victim aged between 10-13)	2 (> 14 years)
2015	10 (three victims aged between 10-13)	1 (> 14 years)
2016	6 (one victim aged between 10-13)	2 (> 14 years)

Bearbeiten

The following figure shows suspected cases of child trafficking based on observations and perceptions of the Drehscheibe section of MD 11 − Vienna Youth and Family Office:

Suspected cases of child trafficking



Source: Drehscheibe section of MD 11 – Vienna Youth and Family Office