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7% more part-time workers than in previous year

Significantly more employed persons in 2022, but mostly in part-time employment

Vienna, 2023-03-14 – The upswing on the labour market continues. According to Statistics Austria’s Microcensus Labour Force Survey, a total of 4 442 600 people aged 15 and over were employed in 2022 according to the EU definition, and 221 100 were unemployed. With 206 500 job vacancies, another peak in job supply was recorded.

“The number of vacancies was 2022 at record levels, while employment is high. The demand for labour affects all professions, with the largest gaps in sales and other services. In the future, the labour shortage will also become more acute due to the aging of the Austrian population. Currently, the share of elder workers in Austria is significantly lower than in most other EU countries. On the other hand, the share of women in part-time employment is much higher than in other EU countries,” said Statistics Austria Director General Tobias Thomas at the press conference on the Austrian Economic Barometer. The quarterly editions of the Austrian Economic Barometer use various economic indicators to show how Austria’s economy is developing against the backdrop of multiple crises.

7% more persons working part-time than in previous year

The labour market in 2022 was characterised by recovery. The number of people in employment rose, the number of unemployed fell and the number of job vacancies reached a record level. However, labour force participation varied widely by gender and age, among other factors.

In 2022, a total of 4 442 600 people aged 15 and older were employed on average, 136 600 or 3.2% more than in 2021 (see table 1). However, almost two-thirds of this employment growth is due to an increase in part-time workers. Compared with the previous year, the number of full-time employed rose by 1.6% (47 700), while the number of part-time employed increased by 7.0% (88 900). In 2022, one in eight men (12.6%) and one in two employed women (50.7%) reported working part-time. Two-thirds of women stated that their main reason for working part-time was their care responsibilities (39.5%) or the desire to work only part-time (26.5%).

The employment rate, as the share of employed persons in all persons aged 15 to 64, was 74.0% in 2022. The labour force participation rate varies by age. In particular, the employment rate of 55 to 64 year-olds remains below average at 56.4%, despite a significant increase in the last years.

The employment rate for those born in Austria was 75.3% in 2022, and 70.2% for those not born in Austria. The highest labour force participation rate among immigrants is 79.2% among persons from the EU accession countries prior to 2004, while the lowest rates are recorded for persons from Türkiye (61.4%) and other third countries (60.5%).

Table 1: Main results on employment (international definition)

Employment (ILO concept)	Unit	Annual average		Changes compared to 2021 (abs. or in % points)
		2022	2021	
Employed (15 years and over)	1 000	4 442.6	4 306.0	136.6
Employed (15 to 64 years)	1 000	4 357.3	4 231.8	125.5
Employment rate ¹ (15 to 64 years)	%	74.0	72.4	1.6

Employment (ILO concept)	Unit	Annual average		Changes compared to 2021 (abs. or in % points)
		2022	2021	
Men	%	78.0	76.7	1.3
Women	%	70.0	68.1	1.9
Elder persons (55 to 64 years)	%	56.4	55.4	1.0
Born in Austria (15 to 64 years)	%	75.3	73.9	1.4
Born abroad (15 to 64 years)	%	70.2	67.5	2.7
Part-time rate ²	%	30.5	29.4	1.1
Men	%	12.6	11.6	1.0
Women	%	50.7	49.6	1.1

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Labour Force Survey (Microcensus) – International definition according to ILO concept.

1) Employed persons as a percentage of the population of the respective age group. – 2) Part-time employed (self-assignment) as a percentage of employed persons aged 15 years and over.

62 600 less unemployed than in the previous year

As employment rises, the number of unemployed also continues to fall. Unemployment according to the ILO definition fell from 283 700 persons in the previous year to 221 100 in 2022 (see table 2). This is a decrease of 62 600 persons or 22.1%. The overall non-seasonally adjusted unemployment rate in 2022 was 4.8%, 1.4 percentage points below the previous year's value (6.2%).

Men and women differ considerably with regard to the amount of working time they are looking for. Thus, 87.0% of the male unemployed are mainly or exclusively looking for a full-time job, compared with only 48.1% of the women (69.5% in total).

Table 2: Main results on unemployment (international definition)

Unemployment (ILO concept)	Unit	Annual average		Changes compared to 2021 (abs. or in % points)
		2022	2021	
Unemployed	1 000	221.1	283.7	-62.6
Unemployment rate ¹	%	4.8	6.2	-1.4
Men	%	4.9	6.3	-1.4
Women	%	4.5	6.1	-1.6
Born in Austria	%	3.5	4.6	-1.1
Born abroad	%	8.5	11.3	-2.8

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Labour Force Survey (Microcensus) – International definition according to ILO concept.

1) Unemployed as a percentage of the labour force (employed and unemployed) aged 15 to 74.

Job vacancies again at record level

According to the job vacancy survey, the number of job vacancies in Austria reached 206 500 in 2022, a new high since the start of the time series in 2009 (see table 3). Compared to the previous year (2021: 146 100 vacancies), an increase of 41.3% was recorded (see [press release of 10 February 2023](#)).

The vacancy rate in 2022 was 4.8%, considerably higher than in the year before. It describes the share of vacancies in all available jobs and is an indication of shortages on the labour market. There were 52 500 vacancies in the manufacturing sector (ÖNACE B–F), 123 800 in the service sector (ÖNACE G–N) and 30 200 in the public sector (ÖNACE O–S).

Full-time positions were predominantly offered (83.5%), and only 16.5% of job offers were directed to persons who wished to work part-time.

Table 3: Main results of the Job Vacancy Survey

Job vacancies	Unit	Annual average		Changes compared to 2021 (abs. or in % points)
		2022	2021	
Job vacancies (ÖNACE 2008 B–S)	1 000	206.5	146.1	60.4
Full-time ¹	1 000	172.4	123.3	49.1
Part-time ¹	1 000	34.0	22.4	11.6
Job vacancy rate ²	%	4.8	3.5	1.3

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Job Vacancy Survey.

1) Without “unknown”. – 2) Job vacancy rate = (vacancies*100/(vacancies+employees)).

Detailed results and further information on the labour market can be found on our [website](#).

Information on methodology, definitions:

The European Labour Force Survey (LFS), which takes place in all EU Member States, collects information on employment and job search in a standardised form from randomly selected private households. In Austria, the LFS is conducted as part of the Microcensus – a sample survey in which about 1 500 households are interviewed weekly. These data are extrapolated to the population.

Employed persons according to the international definition: According to the concepts of the International Labour Organization (ILO), persons are considered to be employed if they have worked at least one hour in the reference week as employees, self-employed persons or unpaid family workers. If they have not worked due to holidays, compensatory time off, part-time work for older employees, other working time arrangements, illness, vocational training or maternity/paternity leave, but are otherwise in work, they are considered to be in employment. Persons in employment also include: Persons who are absent from work for any other reason for a maximum of three months; persons on parental leave (with childcare allowance and a right to return to the employer or a leave of up to three months); apprentices; seasonal workers who have not worked in the reference week due to seasonal reasons, but who work regularly for the enterprise in the off-season. Military and civilian servants are excluded.

Results on **part-time** work are based on the direct question about full-time or part-time employment.

Unemployed according to the international definition: Persons who are not employed (see above) and have actively sought work during the reference week or the three preceding weeks. Also considered unemployed are persons who already have a job offer and start this job within three months. In addition, they must be able to start work within the next two weeks after the reference week.

Job vacancies: The Job Vacancy Survey of Statistics Austria has been carried out continuously since the Q1 2009 for the economic sections B to S of ÖNACE 2008. A total of around 6 000 enterprises are surveyed each quarter.

If you have any questions on this topic, please contact:

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