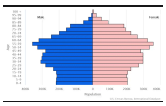
Austria Country Summary



Introduction

Background

Once the center of power for the large Austro-Hungarian Empire, Austria was reduced to a small republic after its defeat in World War I. A State Treaty signed in 1955 recognized Austria's independence after a decade of Allied occupation. The treaty's neutrality requirement has kept Austria from joining NATO, but the country joined the EU in 1995.

Geography

Area

total: 83,871 sq km
land: 82,445 sq km
water: 1,426 sq km

Climate

temperate; continental, cloudy; cold winters with frequent rain and some snow in lowlands and snow in mountains; moderate summers with occasional showers

Natural resources

oil, coal, lignite, timber, iron ore, copper, zinc, antimony, magnesite, tungsten, graphite, salt, hydropower

People and Society

Population

total: 8,967,982
male: 4,392,898
female: 4,575,084 (2024 est.)

Ethnic groups

Austrian 80.8%, German 2.6%, Bosnian and Herzegovinian 1.9%, Turkish 1.8%, Serbian 1.6%, Romanian 1.3%, other 10% (2018 est.)

Languages

German (official nationwide) 88.6%, Turkish 2.3%, Serbian 2.2%, Croatian (official in Burgenland) 1.6%, other (includes Slovene, official in southern Carinthia, and Hungarian, official in Burgenland) 5.3% (2001 est.)

Religions

Roman Catholic 55.2%, Muslim 8.3%, Orthodox 4.9%, Evangelical Christian 3.8%, Jewish 0.1%, other 5.4%, none 22.4% (2021 est.)

Population growth rate

0.3% (2024 est.)

Government

Government type

federal parliamentary republic

Capital

name: Vienna

Executive branch

chief of state: President Alexander VAN DER BELLEN (since 26 January 2017)
head of government: Chancellor Karl NEHAMMER (since 6 December 2021)

Legislative branch

description: bicameral Federal Assembly or Bundesversammlung consists of:
Federal Council or Bundesrat (61 seats - currently 60; members appointed by state parliaments with each state receiving 3 to 12 seats in proportion to its population; members serve 5- or 6-year terms)
National Council or Nationalrat (183 seats; members directly elected in single-seat constituencies by proportional representation vote; members serve 5-year terms)

Economy

Economic overview

one of the strongest EU and euro economies; diversified trade portfolios and relations; enormous trade economy; Russian energy dependence, but investing in alternative energy; aging labor force but large refugee population; large government debt

Real GDP (purchasing power parity)

$505.143 billion (2022 est.)
$481.977 billion (2021 est.)
$462.382 billion (2020 est.)

Real GDP per capita

$55,900 (2022 est.)
$53,800 (2021 est.)
$51,900 (2020 est.)

Agricultural products

milk, sugar beets, maize, wheat, barley, potatoes, pork, grapes, triticale, apples (2022)

Industries

construction, machinery, vehicles and parts, food, metals, chemicals, lumber and paper, electronics, tourism

Exports

$292.012 billion (2022 est.)
$267.791 billion (2021 est.)
$224.242 billion (2020 est.)

Exports - partners

Germany 28%, US 7%, Italy 7%, Switzerland 5%, Hungary 5% (2022)

Exports - commodities

cars, packaged medicine, vaccines, plastic products, electricity (2022)

Imports

$290.277 billion (2022 est.)
$264.231 billion (2021 est.)
$209.817 billion (2020 est.)

Imports - partners

Germany 40%, Italy 7%, Czechia 5%, Switzerland 5%, Netherlands 4% (2022)

Imports - commodities

cars, refined petroleum, gold, garments, broadcasting equipment (2022)

Exchange rates

euros (EUR) per US dollar -
Exchange rates:
0.95 (2022 est.)
0.845 (2021 est.)
0.876 (2020 est.)
0.893 (2019 est.)
0.847 (2018 est.)

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