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More than 400 road deaths for the first time since 2019

High level of alcohol-related accidents in 2023

Vienna, 2024-04-26 – According to Statistics Austria, 402 people lost their lives in road traffic accidents in Austria in 2023. This corresponds to an increase of 9% compared to 2022 (370 traffic fatalities). The record number of cyclists and e-scooter riders injured or killed was particularly remarkable, as well as the high proportion of alcohol-related accidents, which reached its second-highest level since 1992.

“In 2023, more than 400 people lost their lives on the roads for the first time since the pre-coronavirus year of 2019, while a further 44 585 were injured. Most people died in road accidents in Lower Austria, followed by Styria,” says Tobias Thomas, Director General of Statistics Austria.

Highest number of riders of bicycles and e-scooters casualties

11 226 riders of bicycles and e-scooters were injured or killed on Austria’s roads in 2023 (see Table 2). This corresponds to the highest figure since digital records began in 1992 and again an increase compared to the previous year (+3%). These increases, which have been observed for years, are mainly due to the rise in e-bike and e-scooter casualties. In 2023, 4 095 people were injured or killed in an accident while using an e-bike or e-scooter, which is around four times as many as in 2018 (1 042).

1 610 e-scooter riders injured or killed

E-scooters were reported as a separate traffic unit in the road accident statistics for the first time in 2023: 1 607 e-scooter riders were injured on the road in 2023 and three more were fatally injured. The most common accident opponent for e-scooter riders was a passenger car in 40% of all accidents, followed by single-vehicle accidents at 35%. The majority of injured or killed e-scooter riders were male (70%). In addition, a high proportion (13%) of e-scooter riders involved in accidents were under the influence of alcohol at the time of the accident.

Alcohol-related accidents at a high level, 86% of drunk drivers are male

Overall, the proportion of alcohol-related accidents was 7.5%, the second-highest figure since digital records began in 1992 (2022: 8.0%). Last year, 1 739 drivers of motor vehicles were involved in an accident with personal injury while under the influence of alcohol, 86% of whom were men. This means that of all male drivers of motor vehicles involved in accidents, one in 20 was impaired by alcohol, while only one in 56 of female drivers. 75% of all drivers with measured alcohol levels had a blood alcohol level of at least one per mille, 13% even more than two per mille.

New record in senior citizens involved in accidents with personal injury

In 2023, 6 479 people over 65 were injured or killed in road traffic accidents in Austria. This is the highest figure since digital records began in 1992. Although the number of accidents on Austria’s roads has fallen sharply by 24% since 1992, the number of senior citizens injured or killed has risen by 36% in the same period.

More detailed results are available on our [website](#).

Table 1: Injuries and fatalities 2022 and 2023 by federal province

Federal province	Injuries		Fatalities	
	2022	2023	2022	2023
Burgenland	1 066	1 087	19	21
Carinthia	3 252	3 135	21	30
Lower Austria	7 903	8 477	98	100
Upper Austria	8 000	8 348	80	75
Salzburg	3 223	3 445	19	35
Styria	6 426	6 575	70	81
Tyrol	4 528	4 705	29	35
Vorarlberg	2 443	2 422	16	13
Vienna	6 421	6 391	18	12
Austria	43 262	44 585	370	402

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Road traffic accidents.

Table 2: Casualties (injuries or fatalities) 2019–2023 by traffic unit

Traffic unit	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Pedestrians	3 646	2 661	2 854	3 303	3 434
Bikes ¹	8 167	9 348	9 667	10 915	11 226
thereof e-scooters ²	1 610
Mopeds	3 762	3 165	3 372	3 047	3 013
Motorcycles	4 154	3 627	3 759	3 937	4 261
Passenger Cars	23 128	17 189	19 111	19 578	19 981
Trucks ³	1 167	982	1 262	1 377	1 355
Other	1 532	1 102	1 226	1 475	1 717
Traffic unit total	45 556	38 074	41 251	43 632	44 987

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, Road traffic accidents – 1) incl. e-bikes, until 2022 incl. e-scooters – 2) from 2023 onwards new category. – 3) incl. articulated vehicles.

Information on methodology, definitions: Statistics Austria has been compiling and publishing statistics on road traffic accidents with personal injury since 1961. The traffic accidents are recorded electronically by the police authorities and transmitted to Statistics Austria via a web service.

Injury accident: Any accident involving at least one road vehicle in motion on a public road, resulting in at least one injured or killed person.

Casualties: include persons injured or killed in and as a result of an accident

Person killed: Any person killed immediately or dying within 30 days as a result of an injury accident.

The traffic unit **bicycle** also include e-bikes and until the reporting year 2022 electric scooters as well. From 2023 onwards, they are published separately.

An **alcohol accident** is an accident in which at least one person involved (driver or pedestrian) is influenced by alcohol (in accordance with § 5 (1) of the Road Traffic Act) or exceeds of the blood limit (specified in § 14 (8) of the Driving License Act) or breath alcohol level was determined, alcohol consumption was suspected by the police or the alcohol test was refused.

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