

SILC

Questions and Answers





SILC 

Income &
Living Conditions



What is SILC?

SILC is the abbreviation for Statistics on Income and Living Conditions. This survey has been conducted in Austria every year since 2003. Currently, 37 European countries take part in SILC: all EU Member States plus Albania, Iceland, Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Norway, Serbia, Switzerland, Turkey and the United Kingdom.



Why is SILC important for Austria?

When you read or hear what the average income of Austrians is, how many people are unemployed or what education and training they have, these figures often come from Statistics Austria. The media use our statistics and provide you with information about the situation of people in Austria. For decision makers and advocacy groups, our statistics form the basis for a raft of measures that also affect your personal life and living conditions.

That's why SILC is conducted and **that's why it's important for you to take part.**



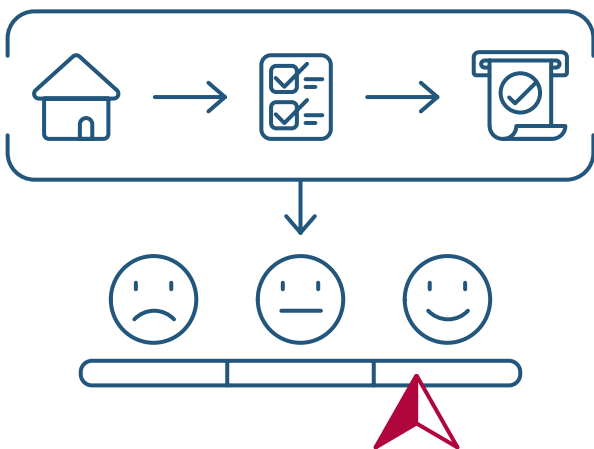
Why has my household been invited to take part?

SILC households are selected at random from the Central Register of Residents. Every year, Statistics Austria asks around 9 000 households to participate in SILC. This year, we are inviting your household to take part too.



Why is it important that I participate in SILC?

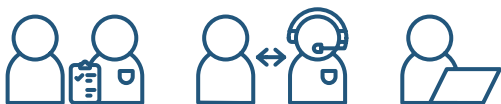
The information you provide will make a valuable contribution. Only if every household answers the questions as well as possible can SILC show living conditions in Austria realistically.





How does SILC work?

In the households taking part in SILC, all household members aged 16 and over are asked about their personal living situation. We ask about housing size, age, occupation, income and personal health. Adults complete a children's questionnaire for the children in the household. You do not need to prepare for the survey. However, you will find it easier to answer some of the questions if you gather documents about your home and your income beforehand.



Some of the households are interviewed by our survey staff in person, some can be interviewed by phone and some can take part online. The aim is to record how people live and work in Austria, and also how their living conditions change. That's why we invite all SILC households to take part over four consecutive years and ask similar questions every year. Each time your household completes the survey, you will receive a financial thank you from us.





What should I do if my address or phone number changes?

Please phone or email us if someone in your household has a new address or phone number. This will enable us to contact you again next year.



What does Statistics Austria do?

Statistics Austria collects data, anonymises it as soon as it is processed, and compiles statistics on Austrian society and the economy by public mandate. Our results provide a reliable decision-making basis for policymakers, public administrators, business and international institutions. Statistics Austria has a duty to the Austrian public and is a non-profit-making federal institution.



How will my data be protected?

The highest levels of confidentiality and data protection are important to us. We are subject to the Federal Statistics Act and the Data Protection Act. We are legally obliged to treat your data with strict confidentiality.

For more details, please visit our website:

 www.statistik.at/silcinfo

Your personal data will be used only to contact you. Your responses in the questionnaires will be stored separately from your name and address. After you have taken part in the survey for the last time, all your personal data will be deleted and the data set anonymised. The law prohibits us from sharing data containing your personal information with third parties.



What is the legal basis for SILC?

SILC is regulated by Regulation (EU) 2019/1700 of the European Parliament and of the Council as well as by implementing European regulations in the income and living conditions domain. In addition, a national regulation has been issued by the Federal Ministry of Social Affairs, Health, Care and Consumer Protection (ELStV, Federal Law Gazette (BGBl.) II No. 277/2010 as amended). The Republic of Austria is therefore obliged to collect information on the income and living conditions of Austrians.

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on our website:



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