

Austria

Trilemma Rank
5

Trilemma Score
81

Balance Grade
AAA

Austria maintains its position in the top 10 global ranking at number 5. Excellent performance in all trilemma dimensions results in a very well-balanced profile of AAA. Scores for Security have remained stable over the past five years, indicating that Austria has been able to manage the reliability and safety of imported supplies. The Equity index shows that Austria's energy supply is of a high quality and at affordable prices. Sustainability is driven by the reduction of CO2 intensity, which has decreased by 57.0% since 2000.

Population
8.9 (million)

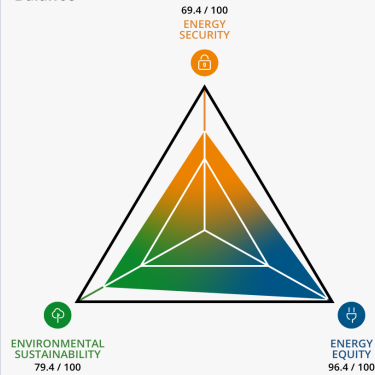
Land Area
82.5 (thousand sq. km)

GDP Per Capita
50,138 (PPP US\$)

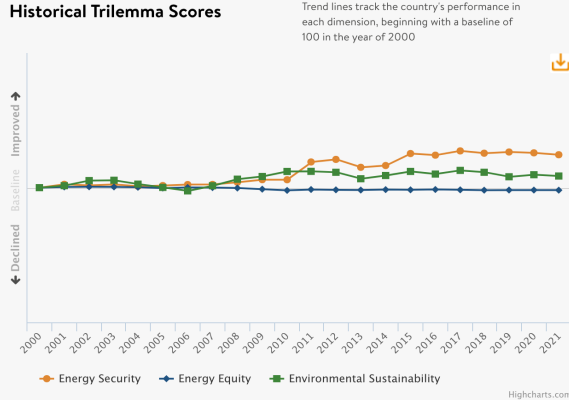
Industrial Sector
25.5 (% of GDP)

GDP Growth
1.4 (annual %)

Balance



Historical Trilemma Scores



Trends and Outlook

According to initial preliminary calculations, Austria's energy consumption fell by around 7% in 2020. This is primarily due to the effects of the Corona pandemic. Travel restrictions and increased activity in the home office resulted in a sharp drop in demand for energy sources in the transport sector (-18%). Energy use in the service sector declined by -4%, as did that in the manufacturing sector (-1%). Only private households required a similar amount of energy in the pandemic year as in the previous year.

In the pandemic year 2020, coal and oil have lost market share, mainly in favour of renewables. Nevertheless, a broad energy mix remains characteristic. Coal, oil and gas accounted for 64 % of domestic energy consumption in 2020.

The Austrian federal government is committed to the Paris Agreement and to European climate change policy and has set ambitious targets, with the aim of positioning Austria as a pioneer of climate protection in Europe. The government's policy programme for 2020 to 2024 (Austrian Federal Chancellery: Out of a Sense of Responsibility for Austria) includes its stated objective of achieving climate neutrality for Austria by 2040. The planned measures include phasing out the use of fossil fuels for building heating from 2021 onwards, '1 million roofs' photovoltaic programme, covering 100% of total electricity consumption (national balance) from renewable energy sources by 2030.

The Renewable Energy Expansion Act (EAG), which was passed by a two-thirds majority in parliament on 7 July 2021, is now a first, important step towards climate neutrality.

Specifically, the annual electricity generation from renewable energies is to be increased by 27 TWh by 2030, taking strict ecological criteria into account, with 11 TWh for photovoltaics, 10 TWh for wind power, 5 TWh for hydropower and 1 TWh for biomass. In addition, investment security for existing and future plants for the production of renewable gas is to be guaranteed and the share of nationally produced renewable gas in Austrian gas sales is to be increased to 5 TWh by 2030.

A mandatory 'supplier quota' for green gas as well as a regulation to 'stop the expansion of the gas grid' will be laid down in a separate 'Renewable Gas Act', which is to be assessed in the summer of 2021.

The Renewable Energy Expansion Act provides for an 'Integrated Grid Infrastructure Plan' as a central measure. This is intended to create the energy infrastructure required for the energy transition (including sector- and technology-specific measures), to achieve better coordination between the generation, transport and consumption of electricity, gas and heat and to ensure security of supply.

The legal basis for the decarbonisation of the Austrian heating sector is to be created by a Renewable Energies Heat Act. In addition, the Federal Energy Efficiency Act and the Austrian Climate Change Act will be amended in 2021 or early 2022.

Key Metrics

Metrics are determined relative to other countries, with a full bar representing a score of 100.

