

# **Standard-documentation Meta information**

**(Definitions, comments, methods, quality)**

on

## **Index of Agreed Minimum Wages 16**

This documentation is valid from the reference period:

**2017**

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STATISTICS AUSTRIA  
Bundesanstalt Statistik Österreich  
A-1110 Vienna, Guglgasse 13  
Phone: +43-1-71128-0  
[www.statistik.at](http://www.statistik.at)

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**Directorate Social Statistics**  
**Organizational unit Living Conditions, Social Protection**

Contact person:  
Mag. Serhan Marcel Bilgili  
Phone +43-1-71128-8284  
E-Mail: [serhan.bilgili@statistik.gv.at](mailto:serhan.bilgili@statistik.gv.at)

Contact person:  
Sylvia Necas  
Phone +43-1-71128-7338  
E-Mail: [sylvia.necas@statistik.gv.at](mailto:sylvia.necas@statistik.gv.at)

## Executive Summary

The subject of the Index of Agreed Minimum Wages is the change of minimum wages in Austria. It monitors the collective agreements or other equivalent agreements which are by law obligatory for all employment relationships in Austria.

The Index of Agreed Minimum Wages measures the development of minimum wages by following selected positions in the pay scales. The positions are weighted with 2016 as a basis year (Laspeyres-Index). The basis weight is constant and for the further calculation of the Index of Agreed Minimum Wages you only need the result of the salary agreements after the bargains of the social partners of the following year. This kind of index allows the monitoring of change in minimum wages; the effects or influences of general structural shifts in the labour market are excluded.

The Index of Agreed Minimum Wages does not consist of all collective agreements but a representative sample of them. The complex system of selection considers on the one hand the quantity of employees in a collective agreement but also other criteria (e.g. seniority principle, levels in the pay scale). The Index of Agreed Minimum Wages includes all integral minimum wage components which are obligatory for all employees. Individually rights or negotiated benefits (e.g. personal bonuses, child benefits, overpayment) are excluded.

The index is a key evaluation criterion for wage and salary negotiations and, in conjunction with other indices relating to wage and price trends, represents an important and extremely up-to-date economic indicator. The social partners use the index to observe the wage growth in Austria. It is included in several economic models and also internationally used and published (e.g. IMF). Furthermore the Index of Agreed Minimum Wages is used to adjust the value in contracts or investments.

With the revision in 2016 the Index of Agreed Minimum Wages 06 was replaced by the Index of Agreed Minimum Wages 16 (base 2016 = 100) in the reporting month of January 2019. The revision was necessary because of structural changes in the Austrian labour market and collective agreements. Although there is a break in the time series from 2006 to 2016 the index can be connected by a chain factor to older indices.

## Index of Agreed Minimum Wages 16 – Main Features

<b>Subject Matter</b>	The Index of Agreed Minimum Wages measures the growth of minimum wages by following selected positions in the pay scales for different classifications.
<b>Population</b>	All employees in Austria covered by collective agreements or other equivalent agreements (approximately 3.4m employment relationships).
<b>Type of statistics</b>	Index
<b>Data sources/Survey techniques</b>	<p><u>For the revision in 2016</u>            Personnel information system of the Austrian Federal Chancellery            Personnel information system of the states            Employment information for the social insurance (HVSV)            Employment information from the Farm Structure Survey            Data from the Austrian economic chamber (WKO)            Data about the oil industry from the Austrian Trade Union Federation            Survey of enterprises, agricultural enterprises and of communities</p> <p><u>Monthly evaluation</u>            Selected collective agreements, database of ÖGB-Verlag and RIS</p>
<b>Reference period or due day</b>	Running
<b>Periodicity</b>	Monthly
<b>Survey participation (in case of a survey)</b>	Voluntary
<b>Main legal acts</b>	Order of § 4 (1) Federal Statistics Act 2000
<b>Most detailed regional breakdown</b>	Austria
<b>Availability of results</b>	Preliminary results: t + 15 Final results: t + 105 Next revision is planned for 2026
<b>Other</b>	-