

# Austria - 2025 Biennial report on the implementation of the Child Guarantee

*This summary provides key highlights from the first Biennial report on the Child Guarantee implementation in Austria. It is not exhaustive or evaluative.*

## Roll-out of key services

**Early childhood education and care:** Austria is investing €200 million annually (2022/23–2026/27) to expand early childhood education and care.

**Education and school-based activities:** Measures include German language support, the *Disability 2022 – 2030 Action Plan* focused on inclusive schooling, revised special education curricula, and expanded provincial initiatives on inclusion.

**Healthy meal each school day:** Updated *School Canteen Guidelines* and regional programmes promote balanced school meals and regular water intake.

**Healthcare:** The *2024 Children's and Young People's Health Strategy*, social insurance reforms, and projects such as the *ABC of young people's psychosocial health* aim to strengthen health services, literacy, and psychological support.

**Healthy nutrition:** Updated national dietary guidelines and school canteen standards improve the quality and availability of healthy food in schools.

**Adequate housing:** Expanded national programmes, such as the *Wohnschirm* and *Housing First*, seek to prevent and reduce homelessness, backed by €264 million funding until 2026.

**Family support:** A permanent child supplement and annual valorisation of family benefits provide targeted support to low-income households, reaching around 1.2 million families and 2 million children.

## Resources

- [Full Biennial Report on the Implementation of the Child Guarantee](#)

## Monitoring and Evaluation

Austria is monitoring the National Action Plan for the Child Guarantee through indicators developed with *Statistik Austria*, making adjustments for data quality and availability, and recently adding new measures on children's physical activity and access to primary education.

A project group under the *Children's Rights Board*, involving government, civil society and children themselves, advises on implementation and has met twice so far.

## Funding to implement the Child Guarantee

While EU support encompasses the EU's *NextGenerationEU* programme and the *Technical Support Instrument*, many actions are financed through federal and regional funding.

## Target groups

The target groups have been listed in the National Action Plan and Eurochild's overview.

## Lessons learnt and further development

Since the adoption of the National Action Plan, efforts have also been made to further develop the objectives and concerns of the Child Guarantee. In autumn 2024, for example, the breakfast dialogue included an exchange with key stakeholders from the fields of child poverty, development cooperation, and sustainability, during which the aim of the Child Guarantee in the context of achieving the UN's sustainable development goals was discussed.

## Relevant trends

- The number of families with children unable to afford unexpected expenses decreased from 36% to 32% between 2022 and 2023.
- Severe material and social deprivation among children aged 0–17 increased from 2.2% to 5.3%.
- The proportion of overweight or obese young people rose from 16% in 2018 to 21% in 2022.
- Between 2018 and 2022, the share of 11–17-year-olds reporting excellent health slightly increased from 34% to 36%.
- Around 0.5% of children live in residential institutions, and 0.3% are in foster care.
- In 2023/24, 35% of children under three attended kindergarten, an increase of 2.9 points from 2022/23.