

Eurostat

Labour market policy statistics

Qualitative report

Austria, 2019

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- A Introduction
- B Inventory of interventions
- C Qualitative information by intervention
- D Reference data
- E Abbreviations

A - Introduction

Introduction

The Eurostat Labour Market Policy (LMP) database collects information on labour market interventions implemented by each of the EU Member States and Norway. Data are collected according to a comprehensive methodology, which classifies interventions into three main types – services, measures and supports – and into nine detailed categories according to the type of action (see below). Readers are recommended to refer to the LMP methodology ¹ for details of this classification scheme and definitions of terms used in this report.

The LMP database collects quantitative data on expenditure and participants for each intervention. These are published annually and are available online from the Eurostat website ². The quantitative data are complemented by a set of qualitative information describing each intervention. This represents an invaluable source of reference to support a harmonised approach to the classification of national interventions and to help interpret the detailed figures on expenditure and participants. These qualitative data are compiled into a series of **Labour market policy statistics: Qualitative Reports** and produced as separate volumes for each country/year.

The reports all have the same structure:

- Part A Introduction

- Part B Inventory of interventions - a list of all interventions reported for the relevant year, grouped by type of action and including a national language version of the intervention name.

- Part C Qualitative information by intervention - presents the available information about each intervention in three sections: *Identification*, *Description*, and *Supplementary information*. The *Description* contains seven sub-sections: Aim, Beneficiaries/participants, Action/instrument, Financing/support, Eligibility, Legal basis, and Recent changes. The *Supplementary information* contains eight sub-sections describing the breakdown of expenditure, target groups, the treatment of unemployment spells, receipt of benefits, planned duration and other characteristics of the intervention. Together, these items summarise the qualitative information collected through the LMP questionnaire.

- Part D Reference data - provides a description of the populations considered as reference data within the LMP database, giving national definitions of those considered as registered unemployed and other groups registered with the public employment services (PES).

- Part E Abbreviations

The qualitative information in the LMP database is updated annually with the contribution of delegates from each country and Eurostat cannot take responsibility for the validity of the content. The reports are published annually by Eurostat in English and reports for other years that are not currently in the online library can be produced on request.

Classification of interventions by type of action

LMP services

1. Labour market services

LMP measures

2. Training
4. Employment incentives
5. Supported employment and rehabilitation
6. Direct job creation
7. Start-up incentives

LMP supports

- 8. Out-of-work income maintenance and support
- 9. Early retirement

¹

http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/product_details/publication?p_product_code=KS-GQ-13-002

² http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/labour_market/labour_market_policy

B - Inventory of interventions

Category, intervention number and name (English/National language)

1	Labour market services	
16	Counselling for jobseekers and enterprises	Beratungs- und Betreuungseinrichtungen (BBE)
28	Interview allowance	Vorstellungsbeihilfe (VOR)
34	Work adjustment and job assistance for disabled	Arbeitsassistenten für Behinderte und sonstige Unterstützungsmaßnahmen der SMS
67	Individual Action Plans	Individuelle Betreuungspläne
55	Administration of LMP supports (cat. 8-9)	Verwaltung der Arbeitslosenversicherungsleistungen
56	Administration of foreign labour legislation	Verwaltung des Ausländerbeschäftigungsgesetzes
57	General overheads of PES services (staff costs)	Allgemeine Overhead Dienstleistungen des Arbeitsmarktservice
59	Administration costs of the Territorial Employment Pacts (TEP)	Verwaltungskosten der Territorialen Beschäftigungspakte
62	Non-staff costs of PES administration	Sachkosten für die Verwaltung des Arbeitsmarktservice Österreich
2	Training	
7	Promotion of occupational mobility - course cost and course related cost	Förderung der beruflichen Mobilität -Beihilfe zu den Kurs- u. Kursnebenkosten
8	Living allowance during training	Beihilfe zur Deckung des Lebensunterhalts
12	Support for institutional training	Förderungen von Schulungseinrichtungen - geförderte Personen in Kursen
18	Training in Employment Foundations	Arbeitsstiftungen gem. §18 Abs.5 / Stiftungs-ALG
25	[Component] Further training allowance - Institutional training	[Component] Weiterbildungsgeld - Aus- und Weiterbildung in Bildungsinstitutionen
68	Grant for acquiring skills in shortage	Fachkräftestipendium
13	Support for training in enterprises	Förderung von Unternehmen - geförderte Personen in betrieblichen Ausbildungsmaßnahmen (Qualifizierungsmaßnahmen für Beschäftigte)
35	Vocational training for disabled	Berufliche Qualifizierung für Menschen mit Behinderungen
11	Apprenticeships for low-skilled youth	Förderung der Lehrausbildung und Berufsvorbereitung
32	Supra-company apprentice training	Überbetriebliche Lehrausbildung (ÜBA)
70	Production schools	Produktionsschulen

4	Employment incentives	
5	Promotion of regional mobility and employment - travel allowance	Förderung der regionalen Mobilität und Arbeitsaufnahme - Entfernungsbeihilfe
6	Promotion of regional mobility and employment - childcare allowance	Förderung der regionalen Mobilität und Arbeitsaufnahme - Kinderbetreuungsbeihilfe
15	Integration subsidy (EB)	Eingliederungsbeihilfen (EB)
66	Recruitment incentive for sole traders	Beihilfe für Ein-Personen-Unternehmen
25	[Component] Further training allowance - Job rotation	[Component] Weiterbildungsgeld - Arbeitsplatztausch
26	Solidarity premium model (SOL)	Solidaritätsprämienmodell (SOL)
63	Job sharing during part-time parental leave	Ersatzkräfte bei Elternteilzeitkarenz (EK)
5	Supported employment and rehabilitation	
37	Support for the employment of disabled (SMS)	Beschäftigungsbeihilfen für Behinderte durch das SMS
44	Integration enterprises (BSB)	Integrative Betriebe (BSB)
69	Retraining benefit for disabled	Umschulungsgeld
6	Direct job creation	
14	Socio-economic enterprises (SÖB) and non-profit employment projects (GBP)	Sozialökonomische Beschäftigungsbetriebe (SÖB) und Gemeinnützige Beschäftigungsprojekte (GBP)
27	Childcare institutions	Kinderbetreuungseinrichtungen (KBE)
7	Start-up incentives	
17	Business start-up programme (UGP+GB)	Unternehmensgründungsbeihilfe für Arbeitslose (vormals Gründungsbeihilfe (GB) und Unternehmensgründungsprogramm (UGP))
8	Out-of-work income maintenance and support	
1	Unemployment benefit	Arbeitslosengeld
2	Unemployment assistance	Notstandshilfe
20	Short-time working allowance	Kurzarbeitsbeihilfe
21	Bad weather compensation	Schlechtwetterentschädigung der BUAK (Bauarbeiterurlaubs- und Abfertigungskasse)
33	Insolvency-bankruptcy compensation (IAG)	Insolvenz-Ausfallsgeld (IAG)
9	Early retirement	
3	Special pre-retirement support	Leistungen zur Erleichterung des Übertritts in die Pension - Sonderunterstützung (SUG)
4	Pension advances	Pensionsbevorschussung
49	Partial retirement allowance	Altersteilzeitgeld/Altersteilzeitbeihilfe
64	Transition benefit	Übergangsgeld

Source: Eurostat LMP database. Date of extraction: 31 March 2021

Mixed \$\$353

25 Further training allowance

Weiterbildungsgeld

Number of measures: **70**

C - Qualitative information by intervention

Identification

Country Austria 2019 Category 1 - Labour market services
Intervention n°/name 16 Counselling for jobseekers and enterprises
Type of action: 1.1.2 - Individual case-management

Description

Aim:

Counselling and guidance for disadvantaged groups by outside consultancies.

Use is made of external consultancies if, in addition to problems relating to the job market per se (employment/qualifications), other upstream problems must first be resolved or areas analysed and a confidential approach is called for. If these services are an indispensable precondition for integration or for internal posts, or if assisted guidance or follow-up is required and such services cannot be provided internally at the necessary level.

Beneficiaries:

Jobseekers, employed jobseekers who are at risk of unemployment; unemployed training place seekers and students, which are confronted with their occupational choice; different disadvantaged groups of people (youths, disabled, immigrants, ethnic minorities, re-entrants/lone parents etc.), enterprises

Action/Instrument:

The AMS provides information on job opportunities, training (schemes, measures and allowances), basic legal criteria relating to employment and the job market.

Counselling provides help with problem-solving in job hunts. After joint solutions have been reached, agreements are decided on and these are then set down in a guidance plan.

Other types of assistance may also be provided, e.g. skills appraisals careers guidance measures, or schemes to re-incorporate individuals into the labour market or to secure employment.

For certain types of problem, counselling and guidance may be contracted out to independent bodies.

Enterprises are given information on placement possibilities for vacancies to be filled, labour exchange support measures, basic legal aspects concerning the employment market and the employment market itself.

Financing/Support:

Social security funds - Labour market policy funds (federal contribution and employer and employee contributions to unemployment insurance) - and European Social Funds.

Responsible organisation / institution: Federal Business Centre and Land Business centre, together with the regional business centres of the AMS.

Eligibility:

Persons with and without PES- registration (preventive counselling): Individuals and young people with social problems, long-term unemployed, foreigners, social assistance recipients, women with specific employment problems, young women with atypical career ideas and people with psychological problems.

Legal basis:

AMS Act (Arbeitsmarktservicegesetz) § 32 Abs. 3, § 34 Abs. 5,

Berufsausbildungsgesetz (BAG) § 8 b

Arbeitsmarktförderungsgesetz (AMFG) §§ 2-7

Federal AMS guideline, in force since 01.09.2017

Recent changes:

Supplementary information

Breakdown of expenditure: Transfers to service providers

Target groups: Registered unemployed (All, Youth, Older, Disabled, Immigrants/ethnic minorities, Re-entrants/lone parents, Public priorities and Other)
Other registered jobseekers (Youth, Older, Disabled, Immigrants/ethnic minorities, Re-entrants/lone parents, Public priorities and Other)
Not registered (Youth, Older, Disabled, Immigrants/ethnic minorities, Re-entrants/lone parents, Public priorities and Other)

Source: Eurostat LMP database. Date of extraction: 31 March 2021

Treatment of unemployment spells: Continuous/Continuous
Receipt of benefits: None
Planned duration: Continuously available
Responsible institution(s): Central government, State/regional government, Public employment services
Area of application: National
Implementation: *Year started:* 1994 *Year Ended:* Ongoing

Identification

Country Austria 2019 Category 1 - Labour market services
Intervention n°/name 28 Interview allowance
Type of action: 1.1.2 - Individual case-management

Description

Aim:

Interview allowance, in the form of a monetary payment, makes it easier for the unemployed to find a job (or apprenticeship), promotes vocational mobility and helps with the rapid return to working life.

Beneficiaries:

Interview allowance can be claimed from the AMS by the registered unemployed, those looking for work, persons undergoing training, persons looking for apprenticeships and those in employment but whose jobs are under threat.

Action/Instrument:

Registered unemployed can receive allowance in order to cover travel expenses, accommodation and food costs during their search for a job.

Partial or total reimbursement of actual costs.

Financing/Support:

Social security funds - Labour market policy funds (federal contribution and employer and employee contributions to unemployment insurance).

Responsible organisation / institution: Public employment service (AMS Österreich)

Eligibility:

Registration with AMS. The persons mentioned under "target groups" must be suffering financial hardship that hampers the search for a job or an apprenticeship.

The benefit is contingent on a consultation between the applicant and the AMS contact official.

Legal basis:

AMS Act (Arbeitsmarktservicegesetz), §34

Federal AMS guideline, Bundesrichtlinie Vorstellungsbeihilfe in force since 17.06.2019

Recent changes:

Supplementary information

Breakdown of expenditure: Transfers to individuals (Lump-sum payments, Reimbursements)

Target groups: Registered unemployed (All)
Employed (All)

Treatment of unemployment spells: Continuous/Continuous

Receipt of benefits: Cash benefits (Source: Current intervention, Unemployment benefit)

Planned duration: One-off

Responsible institution(s): Central government, Public employment services

Area of application: National

Implementation: *Year started:* 1994 *Year Ended:* Ongoing

Identification

Country Austria 2019 Category 1 - Labour market services
Intervention n°/name 34 Work adjustment and job assistance for disabled
Type of action: 1.1.2 - Individual case-management

Description

Aim:

To facilitate the socio-professional integration of disabled through guidance and counselling

Beneficiaries:

Persons with disabilities

Action/Instrument:

Job assistance for the disabled consists of counselling and support structures to help the disabled find and stay in work.

Work assistants counsel, support and guide heavily disabled people concerning all professional questions. The aim is to help particularly disadvantaged people by intensive care for a durable integration into the working life.

First occupational enquiries and abilities are discussed together, and then the work assistants help with the search of a job.

In order that the situation of employment remains, the work assistants help and advice also the enterprise and help to eliminate probable rising difficulties.

Work assistance is a voluntary free and optionally anonymous range of services, generally accessible for disabled.

Financing/Support:

Compensatory tax fund (ATF), ESF funds, AMS and Central Government Budget.

Responsible organisation / institution: the federal social welfare offices (Sozialministeriumservice, SMS).

Eligibility:

Disabled people with a disability of or exceeding 50% who are eligible or available for work; also includes young people with special learning needs and socially and emotionally handicapped young people (up to the age of 24).

Legal basis:

§6 Abs. 2 lit. d BEinstG (Behinderteneinstellungsgesetz)

Guidelines of the Federal Ministry for Labour, Social Affairs and Consumer Protection

Recent changes:

Supplementary information

Breakdown of expenditure: Transfers to service providers

Target groups: Registered unemployed (Disabled)
Not registered (Disabled)
Employed (Disabled)

Treatment of unemployment spells: Continuous/Continuous

Receipt of benefits: Cash benefits (Source: Unemployment benefit)

Planned duration: Continuously available

Responsible institution(s): Central government

Area of application: National

Implementation: *Year started:* 1995 *Year Ended:* Ongoing

Identification

Country Austria 2019 Category 1 - Labour market services
Intervention n°/name 67 Individual Action Plans
Type of action: 1.1.2 - Individual case-management

Description

Aim:

To provide jobseekers and enterprises with placement and information services

Beneficiaries:

Jobseekers

Action/Instrument:

The PES tasks are the registration of jobseekers and the certification of unemployment status. Public employment services (PES) provide information concerning the labour market and working life, counselling and assistance in choosing a career: assistance in clarifying and realising career goals, in determining personal attitude and in reaching decisions concerning training and further training, assistance in the search for and choice of employment, information about vacancies and counselling with respect to specific job offers. The procedure is documented in an Individual Action Plan.

Enterprises are assisted and registered vacancies coordinated on the basis of a service plan in which aims and procedure are agreed. The following steps are carried out to this end: ascertainment of the client's wishes, agreement on a recruitment strategy (number and qualification of jobseekers to be selected for interview by the Employment Service, form and frequency of accounts of subsequent interviews, advertisement of the vacancy, e.g. in newspapers or Employment Service publications), clarification of whether the enterprise would employ a difficult-to-place worker in the event of financial support, etc.

Financing/Support:

Social security funds - Labour market policy funds (federal contribution and employer and employee contributions to unemployment insurance) .

Responsible organisation / institution: Public employment service (AMS Österreich)

Eligibility:

Registered at the Public Employment Service: AL (unemployed), LS (apprenticeship seeker), AS (job seeker), SC (Participation in training measures)

Legal basis:

AMS Act (Arbeitsmarktservicegesetz); §32 and §34; 1994

Labour Market Promotion Law (Arbeitsmarktförderungsgesetz) in the version of the 2002 Short-term Economic Revival Law.

AMS guideline in force since 01.07.2017

Recent changes:

Supplementary information

Breakdown of expenditure: Transfers to service providers

Target groups: Registered unemployed (All)
Other registered jobseekers (All)
Not registered (All)
Employed (All)

Treatment of unemployment spells: Continuous/Continuous

Receipt of benefits: None

Planned duration: Typical: 3 Months

Responsible institution(s): Public employment services

Area of application: National

Implementation: Year started: 1994 Year Ended: Ongoing

Source: Eurostat LMP database. Date of extraction: 31 March 2021

Identification

Country Austria 2019 Category 1 - Labour market services
Intervention n°/name 55 Administration of LMP supports (cat. 8-9)
Type of action: 1.2.2 - Administration of LMP supports

Description

Aim:

Existence maintenance in the event of unemployment

Beneficiaries:

Registered unemployed

Action/Instrument:

The AMS Act regulates the tasks of the AMS such as the verification of claims for wage-compensation and the decisions about benefit entitlements as well as the payment of wage-compensation benefits in the event of unemployment. (Unemployment Insurance Act, Arbeitslosenversicherungsgesetz, ALVG). The Unemployment Insurance Act is carried out as a part of national administration, with the AMS offices acting as public authorities and subject to the provisions of administrative procedure. When the conditions are satisfied there is a legal entitlement to these benefits.

Finanacina/Support:

Central government and social security funds: Labour market policy funds (federal contribution and employer and employee contributions to unemployment insurance).

Responsible organisation / institution: Public employment service (AMS Österreich)

Eligibility:

Legal basis:

AMS Act (Arbeitsmarktservicegesetz, AMSG) in force since 1.7.1994

Unemployment Insurance Act (Arbeitslosenversicherungsgesetz, ALVG) in force since 1977

Recent changes:

Supplementary information

Breakdown of expenditure: Transfers to service providers
Target groups: Registered unemployed (All)
Treatment of unemployment spells: Not relevant
Receipt of benefits: None
Planned duration: Not relevant
Responsible institution(s): Public employment services
Area of application: National
Implementation: *Year started:* 1994 *Year Ended:* Ongoing

Identification

Country Austria 2019 Category 1 - Labour market services
Intervention n°/name 56 Administration of foreign labour legislation
Type of action: 1.2.3 - Others services / activities

Description

Aim:

Admission of citizens of non-EU countries into the labour market

Beneficiaries:

Citizens of non-EU countries

Action/Instrument:

The AMS act regulates the tasks of the AMS such as regulatory functions: the admission of work permits for citizens of non-EU countries and the registration of foreign workers. The following are the primary circumstances in which approval is required for the use of foreign labour: under employment, training or similar contracts as well as employment of workers delegated by their foreign employers and of shareholders who have no significant say in the management of the company.

Finanacina/Support:

Central government and social security funds: Labour market policy funds (federal contribution and employer and employee contributions to unemployment insurance).

Responsible organisation / institution: Public employment service (AMS Österreich)

Eligibility:

Legal basis:

AMS act (Arbeitsmarktservicegesetz), in force 1.7.1994 (AMSG)

Foreign Labour Act (Ausländerbeschäftigungsgesetz - AuslBG), in force since 1976

Residency Act (Aufenthaltsgesetz) in force since 1993

Recent changes:

Supplementary information

Breakdown of expenditure: Transfers to service providers
Target groups: Employed (Immigrants/ethnic minorities)
Treatment of unemployment spells: Not relevant
Receipt of benefits: None
Planned duration: Not relevant
Responsible institution(s): Public employment services
Area of application: National
Implementation: *Year started:* 1994 *Year Ended:* Ongoing

Identification

Country Austria 2019 Category 1 - Labour market services
Intervention n°/name 57 General overheads of PES services (staff costs)
Type of action: 1.2.3 - Others services / activities

Description

Aim:

Service for jobseekers and service for enterprises.

Beneficiaries:

Jobseekers, employers and employees

Action/Instrument:

The AMS is comprised of one authority at federal level, nine at land and 97 at regional level. The main tasks of the federal authority are to exercise coordination and control functions; the federal authority is also charge with creating the framework conditions required for decentralised implementation of labour market policy. The Land authority is responsible for all labour market policy affairs at Land level, management, budget planning and allocation, and the coordination and support of the regional authorities in the respective Land.

Further tasks of the PES are: Procedures for selecting projects to be financed, definition of the legal framework, developing labour market services and measures (active or passive), evaluation and follow-up of interventions, research and evaluation of general labour market developments.

The duties of the regional authority include achieving the prescribed labour market policy goals and implementing labour market policy in the region. The organisation of the regional offices is the real provider of the AMS. In accordance with the goal of customer-oriented service provision and in addition to the central management, coordination and administrative functions, there are two main functional areas:

- services for jobseekers
- services for enterprises

Financing/Support:

Central government and social security funds: Labour market policy funds (federal contribution and employer and employee contributions to unemployment insurance).

Responsible organisation / institution: Public employment service (AMS Österreich)

Eligibility:

Legal basis:

AMS act (Arbeitsmarktservicegesetz), in force since 1.7.1994 (AMSG)

Recent changes:

Supplementary information

Breakdown of expenditure:	Transfers to service providers
Target groups:	Registered unemployed (All, Public priorities and Other) Other registered jobseekers (All, Public priorities and Other) Not registered (All, Public priorities and Other) Employed (All, Public priorities and Other)
Treatment of unemployment spells:	Not relevant
Receipt of benefits:	None
Planned duration:	Not relevant
Responsible institution(s):	Public employment services
Area of application:	National
Implementation:	<i>Year started:</i> 1994 <i>Year Ended:</i> Ongoing

Source: Eurostat LMP database. Date of extraction: 31 March 2021

Identification

Country Austria 2019 Category 1 - Labour market services
Intervention n°/name 59 Administration costs of the Territorial Employment Pacts (TEP)
Type of action: 1.2.3 - Others services / activities

Description

Aim:

Cooperation of the actors on the labour market at regional level

Beneficiaries:

Actors on the Austrian labour market and employment policy (see 3.3)

Action/Instrument:

A territorial employment pact is the contractually fixed cooperation of actors from various sectors of a region with the agreed objective to adopt measures for securing and creating jobs. Partners involved in territorial employment pacts are: Labour market-political institutions, federal bodies, communities, provincial governments, social partners, gender mainstreaming experts and other relevant actors.

TEP's are contractually fixed cooperations of regional partners to connect Labour market and employment policy with other policies.

The main targets is a comprehensive partnership of the regions in order to

- provide of information, guidance and counselling related to jobs, training etc.
- assess the employment-political difficulties, ideas and objectives of all regional actor,
- employ all available means for an overall strategy, accepted by all actors, corresponding to actual requirements and expressed in a territorial employment pact
- better combine and model employment-effective action
- implement employment-effective measures.

Financing/Support:

European Social Fund and Ministry for Economic Affairs and Labour (BMWA)

Responsible organisation / institution: Coordination office for Territorial Employment Pacts

Eligibility:

Legal basis:

1. National Action Plan for Employment 1998
 2. National Action Plan for Employment 2003
- Guidelines from the European Commission: Guide to Territorial Employment Pacts 1997 and 2000 - 2006

Recent changes:

Supplementary information

Breakdown of expenditure: Transfers to service providers

Target groups: Registered unemployed (All, Public priorities and Other)
Other registered jobseekers (All, Public priorities and Other)
Not registered (All, Public priorities and Other)
Employed (All, Public priorities and Other)

Treatment of unemployment spells: Not relevant

Receipt of benefits: None

Planned duration: Not relevant

Responsible institution(s): Central government

Area of application: National

Implementation: *Year started:* 1997 *Year Ended:* Ongoing

Source: Eurostat LMP database. Date of extraction: 31 March 2021

Identification

Country Austria 2019 Category 1 - Labour market services
Intervention n°/name 62 Non-staff costs of PES administration
Type of action: 1.2.3 - Others services / activities

Description

Aim:

Beneficiaries:

Jobseekers, employers and employees

Action/Instrument:

The AMS is comprised of one authority at federal level, nine at land and 97 at regional level. The main tasks of the federal authority are to exercise coordination and control functions; the federal authority is also charge with creating the framework conditions required for decentralised implementation of labour market policy. The Land authority is responsible for all labour market policy affairs at Land level, management, budget planning and allocation, and the coordination and support of the regional authorities in the respective Land.

The duties of the regional authority include achieving the prescribed labour market policy goals and implementing labour market policy in the region. The organisation of the regional offices is the real provider of the AMS. In accordance with the goal of customer-oriented service provision and in addition to the central management, coordination and administrative functions, there are two main functional areas:

- services for jobseekers
- services for enterprises

Non-staff costs of the PES administration: mainly computing expense, rental and leasing expense, running costs, information expense, sales promotion expense, research and consulting expense, training expense

Non-staff costs covers e.g.:

- self-help facilities and online job-banks etc. (eJob-Room)
- the administration of the selection and monitoring of participants, employers and service providers
- the evaluation and follow-up of interventions
- the research and evaluation of general labour market developments
- general building operations and equipment

Financing/Support:

Central government and social security funds: Labour market policy funds (federal contribution and employer and employee contributions to unemployment insurance).

Responsible organisation / institution: Public employment service (AMS Österreich)

Eligibility:

Legal basis:

AMS act (Arbeitsmarktservicegesetz), in force since 1.7.1994 (AMSG)

Recent changes:

Supplementary information

Breakdown of expenditure: Transfers to service providers

Target groups: Registered unemployed (All, Public priorities and Other)
Other registered jobseekers (All, Public priorities and Other)
Not registered (All, Public priorities and Other)
Employed (All, Public priorities and Other)

Treatment of unemployment spells: Not relevant

Source: Eurostat LMP database. Date of extraction: 31 March 2021

Receipt of benefits:	None			
Planned duration:	Not relevant			
Responsible institution(s):	Public employment services			
Area of application:	National			
Implementation:	<i>Year started:</i>	1994	<i>Year Ended:</i>	Ongoing

Identification

Country Austria 2019 Category 2 - Training
Intervention n°/name 7 Promotion of occupational mobility - course cost and course related cost
Type of action: 2.1 - Institutional training

Description

Aim:

To facilitate the integration into the labour market of participants through the provision of vocational training or on the job-training

Beneficiaries:

Unemployed persons participating in training or further training schemes, vocational guidance courses, active groups and on-the-job training schemes (work experience)

Action/Instrument:

Participants in training measures can benefit from allowances for the following purposes:

- to cover course fees (e.g. for courses which are not commissioned by the AMS);
- to cover other course-related expenses (for those participating in courses taking place some distance from their place of residence).

For the unemployed, 100% of costs are refunded, for all other applicants reimbursement is staggered according to income.

Financing/Support:

Social security funds: Labour market policy funds (federal contribution and employer and employee contributions to unemployment insurance).

Responsible organisation / institution: Public employment service (AMS Österreich)

Eligibility:

A contribution to course costs is possible only if this is agreed between the AMS and the applicant as part of a counselling and guidance scheme.

Legal basis:

AMS Act (Arbeitsmarktservicegesetz), § 34, 1994; AMS guideline in force, Aus- und Weiterbildungsbeihilfen 18.11.2019

Recent changes:

Supplementary information

Breakdown of expenditure: Transfers to individuals (Periodic cash payments, Lump-sum payments, Reimbursements)
Target groups: Registered unemployed (All)
Other registered jobseekers (All)
Employed (All)
Treatment of unemployment spells: Broken
Receipt of benefits: Cash benefits (Source: Current intervention, Other LMP intervention)
Planned duration: Variable
Responsible institution(s): Public employment services
Area of application: National
Implementation: *Year started:* 1994 *Year Ended:* Ongoing

Identification

Country Austria 2019 Category 2 - Training
Intervention n°/name 8 Living allowance during training
Type of action: 2.1 - Institutional training

Description

Aim:

To secure the livelihood of persons in vocational training or work on the job-training through the provision of subsistence allowances

Beneficiaries:

Unemployed persons participating in training or further training schemes, vocational guidance courses, active groups and on-the-job training schemes (work experience)

Action/Instrument:

Participants in training measures receive a subsistence allowance. Social security contributions are also paid on behalf of the trainee (health, accident, pension and unemployment insurance) so that beneficiaries may acquire entitlement to unemployment benefit if the scheme is of sufficient duration. Benefits are paid for the duration of the course, which is variable. This measure is often combined with measure A-7.

Finanacina/Support:

Social security funds - Labour market policy funds (federal contribution and employer and employee contributions to unemployment insurance)

Responsible organisation / institution: Public employment service (AMS Österreich)

Eligibility:

A contribution to course costs is possible only if this is agreed between the AMS and the applicant as part of a counselling and guidance scheme.

Legal basis:

AMS Act (Arbeitsmarktservicegesetz) (1994) §35; AMS guidelines Aus- und Weiterbildungsbeihilfen 18.11.2019

Recent changes:

Supplementary information

Breakdown of expenditure: Transfers to individuals (Periodic cash payments, Reduced social contributions)

Target groups: Registered unemployed (All)
Other registered jobseekers (All)
Employed (All)

Treatment of unemployment spells: Broken

Receipt of benefits: Cash benefits (Source: Current intervention)

Planned duration: Variable

Responsible institution(s): Public employment services

Area of application: National

Implementation: *Year started:* 1973 *Year Ended:* Ongoing

Identification

Country Austria 2019 Category 2 - Training
Intervention n°/name 12 Support for institutional training
Type of action: 2.1 - Institutional training

Description

Aim:

To facilitate the integration into the labour market of participants through training in educational institutions commissioned and subsidised by the Employment services.

Beneficiaries:

Formerly unemployed participants in labour market training schemes.

Action/Instrument:

The Employment Service commissions training establishments which then receive subsidies covering up to 100% of expenditure related to the provision of training courses (training personnel, material costs).

The duration of training courses is variable - intensive specialist training, for instance, lasts around one year.

Financing/Support:

Social security funds - Labour market policy funds (federal contribution and employer and employee contributions to unemployment insurance) - and European Social Funds.

Responsible organisation / institution: Public employment service (AMS Österreich)

Eligibility:

Participation in an award procedure according to the Bundesvergabegesetz, in force since 2002

Legal basis:

AMS Act (Arbeitsmarktservicegesetz), § 32 and 34, 1994;

Guidelines of the AMS: BM 1 (in force since 1.7.2013) and BM 2 (in force since 1.7.2013)

Recent changes:

Supplementary information

Breakdown of expenditure: Transfers to service providers

Target groups: Registered unemployed (All)
Other registered jobseekers (All)
Employed (All)

Treatment of unemployment spells: Broken

Receipt of benefits: Cash benefits (Source: Other LMP intervention)

Planned duration: Variable

Responsible institution(s): Public employment services

Area of application: National

Implementation: *Year started:* 1994 *Year Ended:* Ongoing

Identification

Country Austria 2019 Category 2 - Training
Intervention n°/name 18 Training in Employment Foundations
Type of action: 2.1 - Institutional training

Description

Aim:

To facilitate the re-integration into the labour market of persons who belong to enterprises or economic sectors with severe restructuring problems through collectively agreed packages of employment-related measures.

Beneficiaries:

Registered unemployed due to collective dismissal or who worked in sectors with severe restructuring problems, with special attention paid to older workers, public priorities and other.

Action/Instrument:

There are different kinds of foundations :

Outplacement foundations - staff reduction: enterprises/branch foundations; regional foundations and insolvency foundations. enterprises foundations are created in arrangement with the work council.

Implacement foundations - engagement of new staff: enterprises foundations and regional foundations

Financing/Support:

Employment foundation costs are financed by the AMS and also by employers, employees and Länder and municipalities (State/Regional government budget)

Responsible organisation / institution: Federal Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Consumer Protection, Public employment service (AMS Österreich)

Eligibility:

Registered unemployed, which are members of employment foundations: legal basis § 18 and 12 AIVG

Legal basis:

AMS Act (Arbeitsmarktservicegesetz) §32 and §34; 1994

Unemployment Insurance Act (Arbeitslosenversicherungsgesetz ALVG) §12 and §18; 1977;

Federal AMS guidelines, in force since 01.11.2018

Recent changes:

Supplementary information

Breakdown of expenditure: Transfers to individuals (Periodic cash payments, Reduced social contributions),
Transfers to service providers

Target groups: Registered unemployed (All, Older, Public priorities and Other)

Treatment of unemployment spells: Broken

Receipt of benefits: Cash benefits (Source: Current intervention)

Planned duration: Maximum: 4 Years

Responsible institution(s): Central government, Public employment services

Area of application: National

Implementation: Year started: 1987 Year Ended: Ongoing

Identification

Country Austria 2019 Category 2 - Training
Intervention n°/name 68 Grant for acquiring skills in shortage
Type of action: 2.1 - Institutional training

Description

Aim:

Increase qualification levels to cover the demand for skilled workers of Austrian enterprises

Beneficiaries:

- Employees on leave of absence for the purpose of the training
- Unemployed or persons with a maximum income below the non-significant income level of € 446,81
- Former self-employed persons with inactive business

Action/Instrument:

Acquirement of missing qualification: skilled workers grant or unemployment benefit or unemployment assistance for maximum 3 years.

The Training can be completed if it is included in the training list at the beginning of the training. Training is eligible if it leads to higher qualification and a degree in areas where there is a shortage of skilled workers, take at least 3 months and at least 20 hours / week over the entire duration of the course

Financing/Support:

Labour market policy funds (federal, employer and employee contributions to unemployment insurance)

Responsible institution: Public employment service (PES)

Eligibility:

Minimum 208 weeks of employment or self-employment within the last 15 years.

Unemployment insurance contributions resp. pension insurance contributions must have been paid during this period.

- Qualification beyond higher education (Fachhochschule)
- Certificate of the entrance examination
- Residence in Austria

Legal basis:

§ 34b in Verb. mit § 34 Arbeitsmarktservicegesetz (AMSG)

§12 Abs. 5 i.V.m. § 18 Abs. 4 AIVG

§ 1 Abs. 3 und §1 3 Arbeitsmarktpolitik-Finanzierungsgesetz (AMPFG)

§ 80 Arbeitsmarktservicegesetz (AMSG)

Recent changes:

Supplementary information

Breakdown of expenditure: Transfers to individuals (Periodic cash payments)

Target groups: Registered unemployed (All)
Employed (All)

Treatment of unemployment spells: Broken

Receipt of benefits: Cash benefits (Source: Current intervention)

Planned duration: Typical: 12 Months, Maximum: 3 Years

Responsible institution(s): Public employment services

Area of application: National

Implementation: *Year started:* 2013 *Year Ended:* Ongoing

Identification

Country Austria 2019 Category 2 - Training
Intervention n°/name 13 Support for training in enterprises
Type of action: 2.2 - Workplace training

Description

Aim:

To increase the job security of employees who are particularly at risk. To improve the chances of changing job, either within or outside the company. To increase the flexibility of such workers by providing them with up-to-date knowledge that can be used between enterprises. To encourage enterprises which hitherto had few further training schemes to improve further training. To prevent seasonal unemployment through qualification. To reduce skilled staff bottlenecks.

Beneficiaries:

- * women;
- * men over 45;
- * unskilled men aged over 45 eligible only in the context of job rotation projects and combined qualification schemes;
- * persons in short-time-working
- * employees in health and social services

All the above must be in employment which carries full insurance obligations or on parental leave.

Action/Instrument:

Employers with staff on skill acquisition schemes receive up to two-thirds of the costs. The schemes are decided on jointly by the enterprise and the employees. The employer has to accept one third of the costs (in case of short-time working: 60% subsidies and the employer has to pay 40% of the training-costs)

If training measures are carried out within the framework of short-time working (for employees of temporary employment agencies too), training subsidies can be granted.

Financing/Support:

Social security funds - Labour market policy funds (federal contribution and employer and employee contributions to unemployment insurance) - and European Social Funds.

Responsible organisation / institution: Public employment service (AMS Österreich)

Eligibility:

The subsidy is granted subject to the drafting of a training plan. Inter-enterprise training schemes that are of relevance to the labour market are eligible. At least 50% if the individuals receiving assistance must be women.

Legal basis:

§34 and 37c of the AMS Act 1994 (Arbeitsmarktservicegesetz),

Federal AMS guidelines - in force since 01.01.2019

Recent changes:

Supplementary information

Breakdown of expenditure: Transfers to employers (Reimbursements)
Target groups: Registered unemployed (All)
Employed (All)
Treatment of unemployment spells: Broken
Receipt of benefits: None
Planned duration: Variable
Responsible institution(s): Public employment services
Area of application: National

Implementation:

Year started: 1995

Year Ended: Ongoing

Identification

Country Austria 2019 Category 2 - Training
Intervention n°/name 35 Vocational training for disabled
Type of action: 2.2 - Workplace training

Description

Aim:

To facilitate the socio-professional integration of disabled through the provision of vocational training in enterprise

Beneficiaries:

Disabled people

Action/Instrument:

For every eligible disabled employee who is currently being trained, the employer receives a bonus (subsidies for training measures for disabled).

If the employer shoulders the bulk of costs for the training and further training of the disabled, he is eligible for a bonus of up to half the costs. Costs generated by the start-up or running of a training scheme are refundable from the compensation tax fund resources.

Training establishments for the disabled are eligible, subject to exact criteria being met, to assistance in the form of subsidies or loans. Assistance may cover staff (teachers and assistants) and materials (teaching material).

Financing/Support:

Compensatory tax fund (ATF), ESF funds, AMS and Central Government Budget.

Responsible organisation / institution: the federal social welfare offices (Bundessozialämter, BSB).

Eligibility:

Disabled people with a disablement of/or exceeding 50 per cent (eligible disabled)

Legal basis:

Behinderteneinstellungsgesetz 1992 § 6 Abs. 2 lit e

Guidelines of the Federal Ministry for Labour, Social Affairs and Consumer Protection

Recent changes:

Supplementary information

Breakdown of expenditure: Transfers to individuals (Periodic cash payments, Lump-sum payments), Transfers to employers (Periodic cash payments, Lump-sum payments)

Target groups: Registered unemployed (Disabled)
Other registered jobseekers (Disabled)
Not registered (Disabled)
Employed (Disabled)

Treatment of unemployment spells: Broken

Receipt of benefits: Cash benefits (Source: Current intervention)

Planned duration: Variable

Responsible institution(s): Central government

Area of application: National

Implementation: *Year started:* 1994 *Year Ended:* Ongoing

Identification

Country Austria 2019 Category 2 - Training
Intervention n°/name 11 Apprenticeships for low-skilled youth
Type of action: 2.4 - Special support for apprenticeship

Description

Aim:

To integrate problem groups into the labour market (AMS assistance); to combat discrimination against women on the labour market; to improve the quality of apprenticeships (inter-company additional training); to reduce the apprenticeship deficit by creating replacement apprenticeships; to facilitate entrance/transfer to apprenticeship.

Beneficiaries:

Low qualified unemployed under 25 years with special focus on disabled and disadvantaged persons and women.

Action/Instrument:

Enterprises that run apprenticeships for these target groups receive aid and assistance from the AMS. Enterprises and educational institutes which are entitled to train apprentices under the vocational education act (Berufsausbildungsgesetz, BAG) are eligible for such assistance. Federal institutions are excluded, as are political parties and foundations within the meaning of § 29 of the BAG. The aid is paid in a lump sum as a monthly subsidy towards the cost of apprenticeship training (apprenticeship indemnification, personnel and material costs). The amount varies depending on the following:

- Firms can receive up to € 400 per month depending on the target group (young women, the disadvantaged), educational institutions up to €453.
- Firms or educational establishments providing assistance to the over-19s may receive up to € 755.

- Additional apprentice is promoted with € 400 per months in the first year of apprenticeship, € 200 in the second and € 100 in the third year.

The length of apprenticeships varies, but may be up to three years.

Financing/Support:

Social security funds - Labour market policy funds (federal contribution and employer and employee contributions to unemployment insurance) - and European Social Funds.

Responsible organisation / institution: Public employment service (AMS Österreich)

Eligibility:

Firms and institutions receive assistance if they employ and train the following as part of labour market apprenticeships:

-disadvantaged young people (young people with a physical, psychological or mental disability, young people with social problems, young people leaving special schools of a general nature, young people who have failed to complete an apprenticeship, etc.,

-young women in jobs with a low percentage of women (less than 40%)

- additional apprentice: qualification of a trainee on additional apprenticeships which are provided in enterprises

Assistance is contingent upon a consultation between the AMS and the firm or institution in question about the apprentice to be taken on. This means that the applicant for assistance, together with the apprentice, contact the regional branch of the AMS prior to the start of the apprenticeship.

Legal basis:

AMS Act (Arbeitsmarktservicegesetz) 1994 §34; Berufsausbildungsgesetz §8b and Land- und forstwirtschaftliches

Berufsausbildungsgesetz (LFBAG) §11a bis 11i

Federal AMS guidelines: in force since 11.6.2012

Recent changes:

Supplementary information

Breakdown of expenditure: Transfers to employers (Periodic cash payments, Reduced social contributions, Reduced taxes)

Target groups: Registered unemployed (Youth, Disabled)
Other registered jobseekers (Youth, Disabled)

Treatment of unemployment spells: Broken
Receipt of benefits: None
Planned duration: Typical: 1 Years, Maximum: 3 Years
Responsible institution(s): Public employment services
Area of application: National
Implementation: *Year started:* 1994 *Year Ended:* Ongoing

Identification

Country Austria 2019 Category 2 - Training
Intervention n°/name 32 Supra-company apprentice training
Type of action: 2.4 - Special support for apprenticeship

Description

Aim:

To facilitate the integration into the labour market of youngsters through the provision of vocational training

Beneficiaries:

Youngsters who cannot find a place in the normal apprenticeship system or broken-off their apprenticeship.
Disabled young persons, with special educational needs and young persons who have broken-off school without any graduation.

Action/Instrument:

A temporary NAP safety net provides apprenticeship places for especially hard to place youngsters in case they cannot find a place in the normal apprenticeship places.

This scheme is designed to improve young people's chances of finding employment and operates in all Federal Länder showing an imbalance in the training sector. The idea is to supplement conventional training by putting greater emphasis on skills in the new technologies sector, thus ensuring that young people are better integrated into the employment market.

Two types of Supra-company apprentice training:

- training contract for the complete period of training (apprenticeship)
- training contract for a reduced period and placement of a regular apprenticeship

Two more Types are:

- JASG training courses (expiring)
- integrative training for young persons with special needs

Financing/Support:

Central government budget, Land expenditure, unemployment insurance funds (employer contributions).

Responsible organisation / institution: State / regional government, Public employment service (AMS Österreich)

Eligibility:

Successful completion of 8th and 9th grades and lack of apprenticeships for young people on the job market.

Legal basis:

Arbeitsmarktservicegesetz (AMSG) §§ 29(3), 32 (3), 34(2), 35, 36, 38d und e

Arbeitsmarktpolitik-Finanzierungsgesetz (AMPFG) § 2 (7)

Berufsausbildungsgesetz (BAG) §§ 8b und 30b

Land- und forstwirtschaftliches Berufsausbildungsgesetz (LFBAG) §§ 11a bis 11i

AMS guideline, Bundesrichtlinie zur Durchführung der Überbetrieblichen Lehrausbildung, in force since 01.09.2018

Recent changes:

Supplementary information

Breakdown of expenditure: Transfers to individuals (Periodic cash payments), Transfers to service providers

Target groups: Registered unemployed (Youth)
Other registered jobseekers (Youth)

Treatment of unemployment spells: Broken

Receipt of benefits: Cash benefits (Source: Current intervention)

Planned duration: Maximum: 10 Months

Responsible institution(s): State/regional government, Public employment services

Area of application: National

Implementation: *Year started:* 1998 *Year Ended:* Ongoing

Source: Eurostat LMP database. Date of extraction: 31 March 2021

Identification

Country Austria 2019 Category 2 - Training
Intervention n°/name 70 Production schools
Type of action: 2.4 - Special support for apprenticeship

Description

Aim:

Training for young people to get basic qualification and soft skills. The aim is to get an apprenticeship position resp. to get a place in the supra-company apprenticeship training or to take part in higher formal education.

Beneficiaries:

Young persons at the age of 15 to 21 (24 year for special target groups such as young people with disabilities or special needs) with special learning difficulties and/or special needs

Action/Instrument:

The training courses combine working in workshops, teaching through creativity and support by social workers. Four-pronged model: training, coaching, learning, sports

Finanacina/Support:

Central government and ATF

Responsible organisation: Social Ministry Service (SMS)

Eligibility:

Registration at the PES

Legal basis:

SMS guideline in force since 1.1.2015

Recent changes:

Supplementary information

Breakdown of expenditure: Transfers to service providers

Target groups: Registered unemployed (Youth)
Other registered jobseekers (Youth)
Not registered (Youth)

Treatment of unemployment spells: Broken

Receipt of benefits: None

Planned duration: Maximum: 12 Months

Responsible institution(s): Central government

Area of application: National

Implementation: *Year started:* 2014 *Year Ended:* Ongoing

Identification

Country Austria 2019 Category 4 - Employment incentives
Intervention n°/name 15 Integration subsidy (EB)
Type of action: 4.1 - Recruitment incentives

Description

Aim:

To encourage the employment of certain specific categories of unemployed, especially long-term unemployed and older workers and to increase the employment of women. (EB)

Kombilohnbeihilfe for the integration of unemployed persons, it should be an incentive to accept a job. (KOMB)

Beneficiaries:

Long-term unemployed or persons threatened by long-term unemployment who normally receive unemployment insurance. Kombilohnbeihilfe especially for persons 50 years and older, for persons reintegrated after parental leave and for disabled persons under the Behinderteneinstellgesetz or Landesbehindertengesetz, registered unemployed or in training (status AL or SC) 182 days or longer.

Action/Instrument:

Aid is provided in the form of wage-cost subsidies to all employers who, in collaboration with the AMS, recruit members of the target group. The wage-cost subsidy may amount to a maximum of 66.7% of the wage and non-wage labour costs. BEB maximum duration is 2 years, but it can be extended to 3 years if the person is disabled, whereas it is one year for BESEB. During a trial period of 3 months (6 months for persons with physical, psychological and mental disabilities), the subsidy may amount to 100% of wage and non-wage labour costs.

Kombilohnbeihilfe for part time employed € 150.-, full time and income < €1.500.- € 300.-, income > € 1.500.- subsidy of € 150.-

Financing/Support:

Social security funds - Labour market policy funds (federal contribution and employer and employee contributions to unemployment insurance).

Responsible organisation / institution: Public employment service (AMS Österreich)

Eligibility:

Integration subsidy:

- Long-term unemployed (unemployed under 25 years and having been out of work for more than 6 months and workers of 25 and over having been out of work for more than 12 months) and other hard-to-place groups (women requiring child-care facilities, re-entrants, elderly, disabled and socially maladjusted persons).

- Requirements to be met by employer to qualify for the subsidy: employment contract, the job must be an additional one, and the pay must correspond to the local standard and the relevant collective agreement.

The target group for the special integration subsidy is restricted to beneficiaries of unemployment insurance.

Requirements to qualify for the subsidy "Kombilohnbeihilfe": employment contract closed from Juli 1st 2009 - 31.12.2013

Legal basis:

AMS Act (Arbeitsmarktservicegesetz) 1994 §34 and 34a

Federal AMS guidelines "Come back", in force since 01.01.2018

Recent changes:

Supplementary information

Breakdown of expenditure: Transfers to individuals (Periodic cash payments), Transfers to employers (Periodic cash payments)

Target groups: Registered unemployed (All, LTU, Youth, Older, Disabled, Re-entrants/lone parents)

Treatment of unemployment spells: Broken

Receipt of benefits: Cash benefits (Source: Current intervention)
Planned duration: Maximum: 2 Years, Maximum extended: 3 Years
Responsible institution(s): Public employment services
Area of application: National
Implementation: *Year started:* 1994 *Year Ended:* Ongoing

Identification

Country Austria 2019 Category 4 - Employment incentives
Intervention n°/name 66 Recruitment incentive for sole traders
Type of action: 4.1 - Recruitment incentives

Description

Aim:

Recruitment incentive for sole traders

Beneficiaries:

Registered unemployed immediately after education/training or registered unemployed for minimum two weeks (status AL or SC)

Action/Instrument:

Allowances for one person enterprises, if this enterprise employs a further, formally unemployed person. Allowance in the amount of 25% of the gross wage resp. 25% of the maximum assessment basis for one year, minimum 2 months.

Financing/Support:

Social security funds - Labour market policy funds (federal contribution and employer and employee contributions to unemployment insurance) .

Responsible organisation / institution: Public employment service (AMS Österreich)

Eligibility:

Employment contract for minimum 50% of the in collective contracts or legal fixed working hours per week.

Legal basis:

§34 of the AMS Act (Arbeitsmarktservicegesetz), in force since 1.9.2009

AMS guidelines in force since 18.11.2019

Recent changes:

Supplementary information

Breakdown of expenditure: Transfers to employers (Periodic cash payments)

Target groups: Registered unemployed (All)
Other registered jobseekers (All)

Treatment of unemployment spells: Broken

Receipt of benefits: None

Planned duration: Maximum: 1 Years

Responsible institution(s): Public employment services

Area of application: National

Implementation: *Year started:* 2009 *Year Ended:* Ongoing

Identification

Country Austria 2019 Category 4 - Employment incentives
Intervention n°/name 5 Promotion of regional mobility and employment - travel allowance
Type of action: 4.1.1 - Permanent

Description

Aim:

To encourage the geographical mobility of unemployed in order to favour the take up of a job.

Beneficiaries:

The unemployed, job-seekers and apprenticeship seekers who could not be offered a closer, more practicable job or training position and who are prepared to take a job or training position that is further away and either move or commute. Employed persons who are already drawing a travel allowance and whose job is complicated or jeopardized by the distance between their place of residence and place of employment. Under certain conditions (gross income threshold, cost reimbursement and minimum distance), the allowance can be maintained for such individuals in employment.

Action/Instrument:

The travel allowance serves to facilitate the transregional uptake of employment. The AMS can partially refund the additional financial costs involved in accepting a job, apprenticeship or pre-apprenticeship located at a distance from the place of residence. Regular return journeys (daily/weekly/monthly) may be partly refunded, as may accommodation at the place of employment. The allowance may cover the entire monthly travel expenses and/or accommodation expenses minus the deductible of 33% per month, but for a maximum of € 260 per month for travelling costs and € 400 per month for the apartment rental costs.

Financing/Support:

Social security funds: Labour market policy funds (federal contribution and employer and employee contributions to unemployment insurance).

Responsible organisation / institution: Public employment service (AMS Österreich)

Eligibility:

The travel allowance is available to unemployed persons, persons seeking employment and apprentices who could not be offered a closer job or apprenticeship and who are prepared to accept a more distant job or apprenticeship. The allowance is contingent on a meeting between the applicant and an AMS advisor prior to the start of the contract.

Legal basis:

§34 of the AMS Act (Arbeitsmarktservicegesetz), 1994

Federal AMS guidelines Bundesrichtlinie Beihilfen zur Förderung der regionalen Mobilität und Arbeitsaufnahme (REMO) 27.11.2017

Recent changes:

Supplementary information

Breakdown of expenditure: Transfers to individuals (Periodic cash payments, Reimbursements)

Target groups: Registered unemployed (All)
Other registered jobseekers (All)
Employed (All)

Treatment of unemployment spells: Broken

Receipt of benefits: Cash benefits (Source: Current intervention)

Planned duration: Typical: 26 Weeks, Maximum: 2 Years

Responsible institution(s): Public employment services

Area of application: National

Implementation: Year started: 1994 Year Ended: Ongoing

Identification

Country Austria 2019 Category 4 - Employment incentives
Intervention n°/name 6 Promotion of regional mobility and employment - childcare allowance
Type of action: 4.1.1 - Permanent

Description

Aim:

Facilitated integration into the employment market for persons with care obligations in terms of assisted employment searches; securing of employment or participation in a scheme and assistance with/securing of participation in a business establishment programme.

Beneficiaries:

Individuals who need child-care facilities for their child so that they can

- * start or continue a job
- * acquire qualifications.

Action/Instrument:

Recipients with children under 16 years (with disability: under 20 years) receive partly a remuneration of the child care costs (kindergarten, creche, day care, child minder, day mothers and/or day fathers, etc.) for up to three years. The aid is graduated according to the income height.

Financing/Support:

From unemployment insurance funds: (employer and employee contributions).

Responsible organisation / institution: Public employment service (AMS Österreich)

Eligibility:

- * Obligation to look after child under age of 15 (under 19 for disabled children)
- * AMS advisory and care scheme
- * Meeting of allowance objective
- * Compliance with income thresholds

" Pay-based care

Legal basis:

AMS Act (Arbeitsmarktservicegesetz) (1994) § 34.

AMS guidelines, valid from 27.11.2017

Recent changes:

Supplementary information

Breakdown of expenditure: Transfers to individuals (Periodic cash payments)

Target groups: Registered unemployed (Re-entrants/lone parents)
Employed (Re-entrants/lone parents)

Treatment of unemployment spells: Broken

Receipt of benefits: Cash benefits (Source: Current intervention)

Planned duration: Typical: 26 Weeks, Maximum: 156 Weeks

Responsible institution(s): Public employment services

Area of application: National

Implementation: *Year started:* 1994 *Year Ended:* Ongoing

Identification

Country Austria 2019 Category 4 - Employment incentives
Intervention n°/name 26 Solidarity premium model (SOL)
Type of action: 4.3.2 - Job sharing

Description

Aim:

To encourage working time reduction in order to improve the distribution of work between the employed and the unemployed

Beneficiaries:

Workers reducing their working time and unemployed, apprenticeship seekers or participants of supra-company apprentice training replacing workers who reduce their working time.

Action/Instrument:

Certain groups of employees are to be given the opportunity to reduce their hours of work in order that unemployed persons, apprenticeship seekers or participants of supra-company apprentice training can be recruited to fill the vacant volume of working time. The calculation of the solidarity bonus for the employees is based on the amount of unemployment benefit they would be due on the day of recruitment of the replacement worker. Then they are paid the percentage of this sum by which their normal weekly hours are reduced. For the replacement workers, the basis of assessment for the percentage rate is the unemployment benefit previously drawn.

Financing/Support:

From unemployment insurance funds (employer and employee contributions).

Responsible organisation / institution: Public employment service (AMS Österreich)

Eligibility:

The requirements are that the employees reduce their average weekly working hours by a percentage yet to be defined and that a replacement worker who was previously in receipt of unemployment benefit or unemployment assistance is recruited at a wage above the insignificant income level to cover the total volume of hours ensuing from the working-time reduction.

Legal basis:

§ 37 a, AMS act: Special regulations for assistance to the Solidarity Bonus

Stipulations under the Unemployment Insurance Act (Arbeitslosenversicherungsgesetz), 1977 and the Adaptation of Employment Contracts Act (Arbeitsvertragsrechtsanpassungsgesetz)

Federal AMS guideline, Beihilfe zum Solidaritätsprämienmodell, in force since 01.03.2018

Recent changes:

Supplementary information

Breakdown of expenditure: Transfers to employers (Periodic cash payments)

Target groups: Registered unemployed (All)
Employed (All)

Treatment of unemployment spells: Broken

Receipt of benefits: None

Planned duration: Maximum: 2 Years, Maximum extended: 3 Years

Responsible institution(s): Public employment services

Area of application: National

Implementation: *Year started:* 1998 *Year Ended:* Ongoing

Identification

Country Austria 2019 Category 4 - Employment incentives
Intervention n°/name 63 Job sharing during part-time parental leave
Type of action: 4.3.2 - Job sharing

Description

Aim:

Promotion of women's employment; reduction of unemployment, re-entry into paid employment after partial parental leave

Beneficiaries:

Unemployed persons (status AL) who are without work for minimum one month and re-entries with the status job-seeking (AS) or participation in training (SC).

Action/Instrument:

The employer obtains wage-cost subsidies for a substitute employee, recruited from the target group, during partial parental leave of a staff member. The employer also can get a subsidy for qualification costs. The wage-cost subsidies are 33.3% of the assessment base and the qualification subsidies 50% of the qualifications costs.

Financing/Support:

Social security funds: Labour market policy funds (federal contribution and employer and employee contributions to unemployment insurance). Responsible organisation / institution: Public employment service (AMS Österreich)

Eligibility:

The beneficiary must be employed by the subsidy applicant (employer) in exchange for an employee who reduced working time within the last three months for the purpose of child care. The employment contract contains a minimum 13 working hours a week or 33.3% of the legal working time or of the collective agreement.

Legal basis:

§34 of the AMS Act (Arbeitsmarktservicegesetz), 1994

Federal AMS guidelines - in force since 11.7.2005, not valid since 01.10.2019

Recent changes:

Supplementary information

Breakdown of expenditure: Transfers to employers (Periodic cash payments)

Target groups: Registered unemployed (All)
Other registered jobseekers (Re-entrants/lone parents)

Treatment of unemployment spells: Broken

Receipt of benefits: None

Planned duration: Typical: 4 Months, Maximum: 4 Months

Responsible institution(s): Public employment services

Area of application: National

Implementation: *Year started:* 2005 *Year Ended:* Ongoing

Identification

Country Austria 2019 Category 5 - Supported employment and rehabilitation

Intervention n°/name 37 Support for the employment of disabled (SMS)

Type of action: 5.1 - Supported employment

Description

Aim:

To encourage the employment of the disabled persons

Beneficiaries:

Unemployed disabled

Action/Instrument:

Employers may be granted loans, allowances and allowances towards payments in kind for the creation of new jobs. Enterprises creating permanent posts for the disabled are eligible for subsidies under objectives 1 and 3 of the European Social Fund.

As well as job creation, the focus is also on keeping existing posts secure.

This measure also covers assistance for the establishment of businesses by the disabled in the form of subsidies and/or loans.

Finanacina/Support:

Compensatory tax fund, ESF funds, AMS and Central Government Budget.

Responsible organisation / institution: the federal social welfare offices (Bundessozialämter, BSB).

Eligibility:

Disabled people with a degree of disablement of or exceeding 50% who are unemployed and available for work.

Legal basis:

§6 Abs. 2 lit. c BEinstG (Behinderteneinstellungsgesetz)

Guidelines of the Federal Ministry for Labour, Social Affairs and Consumer Protection

Recent changes:

Supplementary information

Breakdown of expenditure: Transfers to individuals (Lump-sum payments, Reimbursements), Transfers to employers (Periodic cash payments, Lump-sum payments, Reimbursements)

Target groups: Registered unemployed (Disabled)
Other registered jobseekers (Disabled)
Not registered (Disabled)

Treatment of unemployment spells: Broken

Receipt of benefits: Cash benefits (Source: Current intervention)

Planned duration: Maximum: 3 Years

Responsible institution(s): Central government

Area of application: National

Implementation: *Year started:* 1995 *Year Ended:* Ongoing

Identification

Country Austria 2019 Category 5 - Supported employment and rehabilitation

Intervention n°/name 44 Integration enterprises (BSB)

Type of action: 5.1 - Supported employment

Description

Aim:

To facilitate the socio-professional integration of disabled through employment in integration enterprises

Beneficiaries:

Disabled with a disablement of 50 per cent or more

Action/Instrument:

Although integration enterprises receive public funding, they must cover the bulk of expenses themselves. Having the legal status of limited liability companies, they are run along commercial lines, producing goods for which market demand exists and covering their own costs. Most of them operate in the fields of wood and metal processing, printing, plastics processing and assembly.

Integration enterprises must meet minimum requirements for support services in the medical, psychological, educational and social fields.

Persons employed in integration enterprises have full social security protection and receive at least the collectively agreed wage. They have decision-making rights and enjoy special dismissal protection.

Ultimately, integration enterprises must have a minimum of 30 jobs for the disabled, 60% of the employees must be disabled persons.

Financing/Support:

Compensatory tax fund (ATF), States (Länder) and municipalities, AMS

Responsible organisation / institution: the federal social welfare offices (Bundessozialämter, BSB).

Eligibility:

Enterprises that employ disabled persons who, owing to the nature and severity of their disability, have not yet worked or are no longer in work, but who have a minimum level of skills that can be turned to economic account.

Legal basis:

§11 BEinstG, 1992 (Behinderteneinstellungsgesetz)

Guideline of the Federal Ministry for Labour, Social Affairs and Consumer Protection

Recent changes:

Supplementary information

Breakdown of expenditure: Transfers to employers (Periodic cash payments, Reimbursements)

Target groups: Registered unemployed (Disabled)
Other registered jobseekers (Disabled)

Treatment of unemployment spells: Broken

Receipt of benefits: None

Planned duration: Typical: 3 Years

Responsible institution(s): Central government

Area of application: National

Implementation: *Year started:* 1992 *Year Ended:* Ongoing

Identification

Country Austria 2019 Category 5 - Supported employment and rehabilitation

Intervention n°/name 69 Retraining benefit for disabled

Type of action: 5.2 - Rehabilitation

Description

Aim:

The aim of vocational rehabilitation is to enable people with disabilities (through vocational training or retraining) to return to their previous profession or, if not possible, to pursue a new one, thus enabling them to integrate permanently into work, occupation and society.

Beneficiaries:

Persons with occupational disability for minimum 6 months

Action/Instrument:

Occupational rehabilitation

Vocational rehabilitation services include, but are not limited to

Assistance for the preservation or attainment of a job

Promotion of the start of work

Measures for finding an occupation

professional adaptation, training, education and retraining

Adaptation of the workplace

Financing/Support:

Central government and social security funds: Labour market policy funds (federal contribution and employer and employee contributions to unemployment insurance).

Responsible organisation / institution: Public employment service (AMS Österreich)

Eligibility:

Notification of occupational disability for minimum 6 months. Persons are committed to cooperate on planning the measures of occupational rehabilitation and have to be available 20 resp. 16 hours a week to take part in these measures.

Legal basis:

Unemployment Insurance Act § 39b

Recent changes:

Supplementary information

Breakdown of expenditure: Transfers to individuals (Periodic cash payments, Reduced social contributions)

Target groups: Registered unemployed (Disabled)
Other registered jobseekers (Disabled)
Not registered (Disabled)
Employed (Disabled)

Treatment of unemployment spells: Continuous/Continuous

Receipt of benefits: Cash benefits (Source: Current intervention)

Planned duration: Variable

Responsible institution(s): Social security funds, Public employment services

Area of application: National

Implementation: *Year started:* 2014 *Year Ended:* Ongoing

Identification

Country Austria 2019 Category 6 - Direct job creation
Intervention n°/name 14 Socio-economic enterprises (SÖB) and non-profit employment projects (GBP)
Type of action: 6 - Direct job creation

Description

Aim:

To avoid the exclusion from the labour market of hard-to-place unemployed persons through the creation of fixed-term employment in non-profit making service enterprises (SÖBs and GBPs)

Beneficiaries:

Unemployed persons facing specific obstacles (long-term unemployed, former drug addicts, ex-prisoners, homeless and persons facing other specific obstacles)

Action/Instrument:

SÖBs and GBPs which provide unemployed with fixed term employment receive an aid from the AMS. Contribution by AMS is to be seen as a partial payment for a service commissioned by the AMS and provided by the SÖB. It covers the costs of the jobs provided, the training of the participants, sociopedagogical care, integration aids and the necessary personnel for qualified supervision and training of the employees. SÖBs pursue both labour market goals (provide fixed-term employment and a package of sociopedagogical services for the target group) and economic objectives (must sell products or services at market prices and thereby cover some costs through sales revenue). Maximum duration of the contract is 1 year with a possibility of extension.

Financing/Support:

Social security funds - Labour market policy funds (federal contribution and employer and employee contributions to unemployment insurance) - and European Social Funds (only for specific qualification). Responsible organisation / institution: Public employment service (AMS Österreich)

Eligibility:

Submission of an allowance application at the regional agency of the Public Employment Service

Legal basis:

AMS Act (Arbeitsmarktservicegesetz) (1994) §§32 (3) and 34 (5);

GBP [non-profit employment projects]: Federal AMS guidelines, in force since 01.07.2018

SÖB [socio-economic enterprises]: Federal AMS guidelines, in force since 01.07.2018

Recent changes:

Supplementary information

Breakdown of expenditure: Transfers to employers (Periodic cash payments, Reimbursements)

Target groups: Registered unemployed (LTU, Youth, Older, Disabled, Re-entrants/lone parents, Public priorities and Other)

Treatment of unemployment spells: Broken

Receipt of benefits: None

Planned duration: Maximum: 1 Years

Responsible institution(s): Public employment services

Area of application: National

Implementation: *Year started:* 1994 *Year Ended:* Ongoing

Identification

Country Austria 2019 Category 6 - Direct job creation
Intervention n°/name 27 Childcare institutions
Type of action: 6 - Direct job creation

Description

Aim:

- * Contribution to the reduction of unemployment by creating additional jobs in the child care sector (job creation).
- * Integration into the labour market and securing the jobs of people with child care responsibilities by expanding care capacities and promoting organisational activities (placement assistance and securing employment).

Beneficiaries:

Registered unemployed, childcare institutions

Action/Instrument:

Childcare schemes (parents' initiatives, children's groups, child minder projects, company creches, private creches, etc.) that take on unemployed people receive support. This support covers about 50% of the staff expenses and also parts of the non-staff costs of these services.

Financing/Support:

Social security funds - Labour market policy funds (federal contribution and employer and employee contributions to unemployment insurance).

Responsible organisation / institution: Public employment service (AMS Österreich)

Eligibility:

A person must be registered unemployed with the AMS.

The applicant for assistance must sign, for the funding period at least, an employment contract carrying obligatory social security insurance with the person for whom an allowance is being granted.

Legal basis:

AMS Act (Arbeitsmarktservicegesetz) § 32 (3) in conjunction with § 34 AMS act; Federal AMS guidelines, Bundesrichtlinie Förderung von Kinderbetreuungseinrichtungen in force 01.02.2018

Recent changes:

Supplementary information

Breakdown of expenditure: Transfers to employers (Periodic cash payments, Reimbursements)

Target groups: Registered unemployed (All)
Employed (All)

Treatment of unemployment spells: Broken

Receipt of benefits: None

Planned duration: Typical: 1 Years, Maximum: 4 Years

Responsible institution(s): Public employment services

Area of application: National

Implementation: *Year started:* 1994 *Year Ended:* Ongoing

Identification

Country Austria 2019 Category 7 - Start-up incentives
Intervention n°/name 17 Business start-up programme (UGP+GB)
Type of action: 7 - Start-up incentives

Description

Aim:

Provision of assistance to secure the survival of new businesses during the first few months, thus ensuring lasting market success. The possibility of extending start-up assistance to persons not receiving benefits is primarily designed to make it easier for re-starters to enter the business creation programme and also provides this group with security during the start-up phase of new businesses.

Beneficiaries:

Unemployed creating their own business

Action/Instrument:

As part of the business start-up programme for the unemployed, the AMS provides assistance during the business start-up phase in the form of start-up assistance. The amount of the start-up allowance is based on the amount of unemployment or emergency benefit being paid or on the living allowance, including any family allowances. There is also a supplement equal to the valid social insurance contribution for the minimum contribution of commercial social insurance, currently equal to € 5,50 (2019) per day.

Financing/Support:

Social security funds - Labour market policy funds (federal contribution and employer and employee contributions to unemployment insurance)

Responsible organisation / institution: Public employment service (AMS Österreich)

Eligibility:

Registered recipients of the unemployment benefit creating their own business.

Legal basis:

AMS Act (Arbeitsmarktservicegesetz) 1994, §34 together with §32(3) and §35, plus §12(5) of the Unemployment Insurance Act (Arbeitslosenversicherungsgesetz), §18(5) in conjunction with (6) and (7) for foundation participants;
Federal AMS guidelines: since 15.04.2019

Recent changes:

Supplementary information

Breakdown of expenditure: Transfers to individuals (Periodic cash payments)
Target groups: Registered unemployed (All)
Treatment of unemployment spells: Broken
Receipt of benefits: Cash benefits (Source: Current intervention)
Planned duration: Typical: 6 Months, Maximum: 9 Months
Responsible institution(s): Public employment services
Area of application: National
Implementation: Year started: 1998 Year Ended: Ongoing

Identification

Country Austria 2019 Category 8 - Out-of-work income maintenance and support

Intervention n°/name 1 Unemployment benefit

Type of action: 8.1.1 - Unemployment insurance

Description

Aim:

To partially compensate for earnings lost due to unemployment.

Beneficiaries:

Unemployed individuals who are willing and able to work and who have contributed for the period necessary to qualify for unemployment benefit.

Action/Instrument:

Unemployment benefit comprises a basic rate allowance and family supplements. Social contributions are paid on behalf of the unemployed person by the AMS.

The basic rate is derived from the income earned during the preceding 12 months. Uniform net replacement rate providing a 55% replacement of previous net earnings. For income groups below the equalisation supplement reference rate (Ausgleichszulagenrichtsatz, AZR): singles receive up to 60%, non-singles up to 80% (including family supplements) of previous earnings - AZR (2019: 933,06 € /month) being the absolute maximum benefit level in these cases.

Family supplements (monthly fixed amount) are payable for young children and partners.

The period for which benefit is payable is staggered according to age and the duration of previous employment and may vary from

20 weeks up to 78 weeks.

Reorganisation since 1.1.2009:

Unemployment insurance for the self-employed

Since 1.1.2009, self-employed persons who are insured under the Act on Social Insurance for the Self-Employed (GSVG) can opt for unemployment insurance. Persons who fulfil all of the criteria are informed by the Social Insurance Institution for Businesses and have to declare their wish to be insured against unemployment within a stated period. The insured person chooses a contribution base according to section 2 of the Labour Market Policy Finance Act (AMPFG) for a compulsory period of at least eight years (or a multiple of eight years). It is possible to withdraw from unemployment insurance within six months of the end of the minimum period.

Finanacina/Support:

Central government and social security funds: Labour market policy funds (federal contribution and employer and employee contributions to unemployment insurance).

Responsible organisation / institution: Public employment service (AMS Österreich)

Eligibility:

Applicants must be out of work (income below the non-significant income level of 446,81 € per month (2019) is permissible), be willing and able to work, and have been in contributory employment for a minimum duration (first-time claimants: 52 weeks within the preceding 104 weeks; repeat claims: 28 (1999 and 2000: 26) weeks within the preceding 52 weeks).

Legal basis:

Unemployment Insurance Act (Arbeitslosenversicherungsgesetz), 1977

Recent changes:

Supplementary information

Breakdown of expenditure: Transfers to individuals (Periodic cash payments, Reduced social contributions)

Target groups: Registered unemployed (All)

Treatment of unemployment spells: Not relevant

Source: Eurostat LMP database. Date of extraction: 31 March 2021

Receipt of benefits:	Cash benefits (Source: Current intervention)		
Planned duration:	Typical: 20 Weeks, Maximum: 78 Weeks		
Responsible institution(s):	Public employment services		
Area of application:	National		
Implementation:	<i>Year started:</i>	1920	<i>Year Ended:</i> Ongoing

Identification

Country Austria 2019 Category 8 - Out-of-work income maintenance and support

Intervention n°/name 2 Unemployment assistance

Type of action: 8.1.2 - Unemployment assistance

Description

Aim:

To provide income support to unemployed not entitled to unemployment benefit.

Beneficiaries:

Unemployed persons who have exhausted their entitlement to unemployment benefit and who are considered to be in need.

Action/Instrument:

Unemployment assistance comprises a basic rate allowance and family supplements. Social contributions are paid on behalf of the unemployed person. The basic allowance may not exceed 92 or 95% or the unemployment benefit previously received. Since unemployment assistance is means-tested on the income of the spouse there is no minimum benefit standard. The benefit is payable for one year and maybe extended indefinitely by application, provided that the qualifying conditions are fulfilled.

The base amount is either 95 % (if the previous unemployment benefit has been below the reference rate for equalisation supplements) or 92 % (if the unemployment benefit has been above this rate).

The basic sum is either 95% (if the unemployment benefit previously received was below the compensatory guideline rate) or 92% (if the unemployment benefit was above this).

The basic sum is reduced in proportion to a life partner's income (staggered by age and length of time for which unemployment benefit paid, due account being taken of the maintenance obligations vis-a-vis dependents).

Persons who are not eligible for unemployment assistance solely because of their partner's income continue to receive pension insurance cover as long as the other conditions for the receipt of unemployment assistance are met. This includes registration and availability for jobs. On 1 August 2009 a new regulation came into effect as part of the Labour Market Package II which also ensures health insurance cover in such cases.

Financing/Support:

Social security funds: Labour market policy funds (federal contribution and employer and employee contributions to unemployment insurance).

Responsible organisation / institution: Public employment service (AMS Österreich)

Eligibility:

Applicants must be out of work (income below the non-significant income level of 446,81 € per month (2019) is permissible), must have exhausted their entitlement to unemployment benefit and be in serious need of support. Unemployment assistance claimants must - just as those claiming unemployment benefit - be available for work, i.e. they must display an ability to work and a willingness to work.

Legal basis:

Unemployment Insurance Act (Arbeitslosenversicherungsgesetz), 1977

Recent changes:

Supplementary information

Breakdown of expenditure: Transfers to individuals (Periodic cash payments, Reduced social contributions)

Target groups: Registered unemployed (All, LTU)

Treatment of unemployment spells: Not relevant

Receipt of benefits:	Cash benefits (Source: Current intervention)		
Planned duration:	Unlimited		
Responsible institution(s):	Public employment services		
Area of application:	National		
Implementation:	<i>Year started:</i>	1922	<i>Year Ended:</i> Ongoing

Identification

Country Austria 2019 Category 8 - Out-of-work income maintenance and support

Intervention n°/name 20 Short-time working allowance

Type of action: 8.2 - Partial unemployment benefits

Description

Aim:

Compensation for short-term variations in employment and job maintenance by the partial compensation of wages lost as a result of part-time working arrangements caused by short-term problems faced by enterprises. In order to achieve the labour market goal of securing jobs in the longer term, the aid recipient must agree, not just during the period of short-time working but also for an agreed period afterwards, to maintain the size of the workforce.

Beneficiaries:

Employees on short-time working arrangements and those who participate in training measures while short-time working.

Action/Instrument:

Short-time working allowances may be granted for a maximum of 6 months to workers (first granting, extension possible, maximum 24 months) in order to partially compensate for losses in income which are a consequence of short-term difficulties. Workers are paid at least with the flat rate fixed by the AMS (public employment service) for every lost working hour.

The aid may be granted only if it makes financial sense and is demonstrably in the public interest and it helps achieve the labour market objective of overcoming short-term variations in employment and securing jobs.

Short-time working allowance is paid to employers who pay short-time support to employees who are suffering a shortfall in wages owing to short-time work.

Training subsidies are granted to employers who pay short-time training subsidies to employees who take part in a training measure while short-time working.

A compensation is to be paid to employers for their increased costs for social insurance contributions from the seventh month onwards.

Since 2009 Extension maximum 24 months

Training subsidies while short-time working

Compensation for social insurance contributions from the seventh months onwards.

Financing/Support:

Social security funds: Labour market policy funds (federal contribution and employer and employee contributions to unemployment insurance).

Responsible organisation / institution: Public employment service (AMS Österreich)

Eligibility:

The following are preconditions for granting short-time work benefits:

- major economic disruption over a longer period of time (more than three months) or
- short-term variations in employment caused by natural disasters or similar catastrophes of comparable magnitude,
- agreement between the social or collective bargaining partners, the works council and management on the introduction of short-time working,
- timely agreement of the regional branch of the AMS,
- maintenance of the workforce during the period of short-time working or for an agreed period beyond this.

Legal basis:

AMS Act 1994 (Arbeitsmarktservicegesetz) § 37b and 37c

AMS guidelines in force since 19.11.2018

Recent changes:

Supplementary information

Breakdown of expenditure: Transfers to employers (Reimbursements)

Source: Eurostat LMP database. Date of extraction: 31 March 2021

Target groups:	Employed (All)
Treatment of unemployment spells:	Not relevant
Receipt of benefits:	None
Planned duration:	Maximum: 6 Months, Maximum extended: 24 Months
Responsible institution(s):	Central government, Public employment services
Area of application:	National
Implementation:	<i>Year started:</i> 1968 <i>Year Ended:</i> Ongoing

Identification

Country Austria 2019 Category 8 - Out-of-work income maintenance and support

Intervention n°/name 21 Bad weather compensation

Type of action: 8.2 - Partial unemployment benefits

Description

Aim:

Avoidance of employment fluctuations in the construction industry owing to weather-induced work stoppages.

Beneficiaries:

Building trade workers suffering wage fluctuations due to the weather

Action/Instrument:

The workers concerned receive wage compensation amounting to 60% of the wage due under normal circumstances. A flat rate of 30% towards social security contributions is included. There is a limit on the number of winter or summer working hours for which bad-weather compensation can be claimed. It is possible to transfer unclaimed lost hours from one season to another. Bad weather compensation is refunded by the Builders' Holiday and Severance Payments Fund to employers who apply for this benefit.

Bad weather compensation, half of which is paid by the employer and half by the employee, comes to 1.4% of earnings. On application, the enterprise is refunded reimbursed by the BUAK (Builders' Holiday and Severance Payments Fund).

Financing/Support:

Employer and employee contributions to Builders' Holiday and Severance Payments Fund and intervention of the labour market policy fund in case of deficits.

Responsible organisation / institution: Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs and Labour, Builder's Holiday and Severance Payments Funds

Eligibility:

Legal basis:

Law on bad-weather compensation in the building trade (Bauarbeiter-Schlechtwetterentschädigungsgesetz), 1957
BGBl I No 129/1957

Recent changes:

Supplementary information

Breakdown of expenditure: Transfers to employers (Reimbursements)

Target groups: Employed (All)

Treatment of unemployment spells: Not relevant

Receipt of benefits: None

Planned duration: Maximum: 144 <1 day

Responsible institution(s): Trade union or similar

Area of application: National

Implementation: *Year started:* 1992 *Year Ended:* Ongoing

Identification

Country Austria 2019 Category 8 - Out-of-work income maintenance and support

Intervention n°/name 33 Insolvency-bankruptcy compensation (IAG)

Type of action: 8.5 - Bankruptcy compensation

Description

Aim:

To guarantee the employees to be paid in case of the bankruptcy of their companies.

Beneficiaries:

Workers who have not been paid before bankruptcy proceedings are instituted.

Action/Instrument:

Workers can apply for the Insolvency-loss money (IAG; corresponding to their claims against the employer) based on the Insolvency-remuneration security law (IESG).

Employees and former employees are eligible to apply for IAG.

Finanacina/Support:

Social security funds, the amount of which is established on an annual basis.

Responsible organisation / institution: Federal Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Consumer Protection as a supervisory authority, Insolvency remuneration fund service, IAF GmbH

Eligibility:

Employees and former employees may submit claims for outstanding pay in the event of their employer going bankrupt.

Legal basis:

Insolvency Remuneration Security Law (IESG, Insolvenz-Entgeltsicherungsgesetz) and Insolvency Remuneration Fund Service GmbH Law (IEFG, Insolvenz-Ausfallgeld-Fonds Service-GmbH Gesetz). The IESG basically contains provisions on the criteria governing, and the extent of, admissions for insolvency-bankruptcy compensation, as well as rules on fund provision; the IEFG contains provisions on the organisational structure of the GmbH.

Recent changes:

Supplementary information

Breakdown of expenditure: Transfers to individuals (Reimbursements, Reduced social contributions)

Target groups: Employed (All)

Treatment of unemployment spells: Not relevant

Receipt of benefits: Cash benefits (Source: Current intervention)

Planned duration: Maximum: 9 Months

Responsible institution(s): Central government

Area of application: National

Implementation: *Year started:* 1978 *Year Ended:* Ongoing

Identification

Country Austria 2019 Category 9 - Early retirement
Intervention n°/name 3 Special pre-retirement support
Type of action: 9.2.1 - Full

Description

Aim:

To facilitate transition into retirement for older people working in specific economic sectors affected by structural transformation,

Beneficiaries:

Workers aged over 52 in sectors affected by structural transformation. Currently only the mining sector is eligible.

Action/Instrument:

Benefits are at most equal to the disability or miners' pension which would be due and are payable 14 times annually (income from other sources is calculable). Social contributions are paid on behalf of the retiree.

Financing/Support:

Central government and social security funds: Labour market policy funds (federal contribution and employer and employee contributions to unemployment insurance).

Responsible organisation / institution: Social security funds, Austrian mining industry's insurance foundation

Eligibility:

This measure currently only applies to workers in the mining industry who are aged over 52, have worked at least 10 years in mining enterprises and done at least 60 months' mining work. A further stipulation is that the applicant be unemployed and is willing and able to work.

Legal basis:

Special Support Act (Sonderunterstützungsgesetz), 1973

Recent changes:

Supplementary information

Breakdown of expenditure: Transfers to individuals (Periodic cash payments, Reduced social contributions)

Target groups: Registered unemployed (Older)

Treatment of unemployment spells: Not relevant

Receipt of benefits: Cash benefits (Source: Current intervention)

Planned duration: Maximum: 10 Years

Responsible institution(s): Social security funds, Public employment services

Area of application: National

Implementation: *Year started:* 1974 *Year Ended:* Ongoing

Identification

Country Austria 2019 Category 9 - Early retirement
Intervention n°/name 4 Pension advances
Type of action: 9.2.1 - Full

Description

Aim:

To provide financial support for unemployed persons claiming a pension while the pension insurance authorities verify the claim.

Beneficiaries:

Older workers who have applied for an old-age pension (women must be at least 56.5 years old and men at least 61.5). No age limits for individuals who have applied for an invalidity pension.

Action/Instrument:

Benefits correspond to the amount of unemployment benefit or emergency assistance that the individual would have been entitled to, subject to the maximum related to the level of the pension applied for. Social contributions are paid on behalf of the retiree.

Financing/Support:

Social security funds: Labour market policy funds (federal contribution and employer and employee contributions to unemployment insurance).

Responsible organisation / institution: Public employment service (AMS Österreich)

Eligibility:

On application, the pension advance is payable on

- a benefit for reduced working capacity or work incapacity
- a bridging payment from a statutory pension scheme or accident insurance
- an old-age pension or
- a special retirement package (pursuant to the Law on Heavy Night Work)

To be eligible, claimants must meet the basic criteria for receipt of unemployment benefit or emergency assistance, with the exception of willingness to work and availability for work, and must have applied for a pension of this type. Whilst drawing a pension advance, the applicant must not be available to the employment authorities for work.

Legal basis:

Unemployment Insurance Act (Arbeitslosenversicherungsgesetz), 1977

Recent changes:

Supplementary information

Breakdown of expenditure: Transfers to individuals (Periodic cash payments, Reduced social contributions)

Target groups: Registered unemployed (Older)

Treatment of unemployment spells: Not relevant

Receipt of benefits: Cash benefits (Source: Current intervention)

Planned duration: Not relevant

Responsible institution(s): Public employment services

Area of application: National

Implementation: Year started: 1977 Year Ended: Ongoing

Identification

Country Austria 2019 Category 9 - Early retirement
Intervention n°/name 64 Transition benefit
Type of action: 9.2.1 - Full

Description

Aim:

Financial security for persons after leaving a part-time contract for older workers and respectively persons who reached the earliest possible pensionable age. If these persons cannot be reintegrated in the labour market they will get the transition benefit.

Beneficiaries:

Unemployed persons (status AL) after leaving a part-time contract for older workers and respectively persons who reached the earliest possible pensionable age who cannot be reintegrated in the labour market.

Action/Instrument:

Persons of the target group will get transition benefit amounting to unemployment benefit plus 25% (and family allowance).

Financing/Support:

Social security funds: Labour market policy funds (federal contribution and employer and employee contributions to unemployment insurance). Responsible organisation / institution: Public employment service (AMS Österreich)

Eligibility:

§39a: Transition benefit can be requested by persons who reached the earliest possible pensionable age. As of 1.1.2011 early increase as of age of admission

Legal basis:

§39 and 39a of the Unemployment Insurance Act (Arbeitslosenversicherungsgesetz), 1977

Recent changes:

Supplementary information

Breakdown of expenditure: Transfers to individuals (Periodic cash payments, Reduced social contributions)
Target groups: Registered unemployed (Older)
Treatment of unemployment spells: Broken
Receipt of benefits: Cash benefits (Source: Current intervention)
Planned duration: Typical: 12 Months
Responsible institution(s): Public employment services
Area of application: National
Implementation: *Year started:* 2004 *Year Ended:* Ongoing

Identification

Country Austria 2019 Category 9 - Early retirement
Intervention n°/name 49 Partial retirement allowance
Type of action: 9.2.2 - Partial

Description

Aim:

Safeguarding and maintaining the employment of older employees to the end of their working lives.

Beneficiaries:

Part-time pay for older workers can be paid to men on completion of their 58th year and to women on completion of their 53th year if they opt to work part time.

Action/Instrument:

Older employees who reduce their working hours receive compensation of at least 50% of the lost income. The loss of income is equivalent to the difference between the original earnings (up to the contribution ceiling) and the earnings from the shorter working hours.

Also, social-security contributions are paid according to the contributory basis before the reduction in normal working hours.

Revision of partial retirement allowance for older workers from 1 September 2009:

- If there is a 'block time agreement' (i.e. a reference period for the reduction of working hours which is longer than a year and which provides for longer periods of time off work for the employee), the obligation to hire a replacement worker is waived
- Depending on whether the reduction of working hours is constant or consists of 'blocks', the compensation paid by the AMS amounts to 90% or 55% of the respective additional costs
- The ages for eligibility in 2010 have been frozen at the level of 2009: 53 for women and 58 for men. From 2011, the ages for eligibility will be raised by six months per year
- Partial retirement allowance for older workers can also be claimed for part-time workers whose working hours are not more than 40% less than statutory or collective agreement-based hours.

Finanacina/Support:

Unemployment insurance: (employers' and employees' contributions).

Responsible organisation/institution: Public employment service (AMS Österreich)

Eligibility:

The employee agreeing to work part time must, within the 25 years preceding the start of part-time working, have worked at least 780 weeks (15 years) subject to compulsory unemployment insurance.

On the basis of a contractual agreement, the employee's statutory or collectively agreed normal working time must be reduced by between 40% and 60%. An agreement of this type may also be reached if the normal working time prior to entry into force of part-time working on age grounds is up to less than 20% of the statutory or collectively agreed working hours.

Furthermore, there must be a collective, company or individual agreement stipulating the following:

- * that, when part time is worked up to the maximum ceiling agreed on in the General Social Insurance Act, the employee receives a guaranteed compensatory salary equal to 50% of the difference between the normal salary due prior to the reduction and the salary earned for reduced working time,
- * that the social insurance contributions shall continue to be deducted for the same amounts as prior to the commencement of part-time work,
- * that assessment of any future termination application (severance pay) will be based on the working time prior to reduction of normal working hours.

Legal basis:

1997 Unemployment Insurance Act 1997 (Arbeitslosenversicherungsgesetz); §27 and §28

Recent changes:

Supplementary information

Breakdown of expenditure: Transfers to employers (Reimbursements)

Target groups:	Employed (Older)
Treatment of unemployment spells:	Not relevant
Receipt of benefits:	None
Planned duration:	Typical: 5 Years, Maximum: 6.5 Years
Responsible institution(s):	Public employment services
Area of application:	National
Implementation:	<i>Year started:</i> 2000 <i>Year Ended:</i> Ongoing

Identification

Country Austria 2019 Category Mixed

Intervention n°/name 25 Further training allowance

Type of action: 2.1 - Institutional training
4.3.1 - Job rotation

Description

Aim:

Improve workers qualification through training leave.

Beneficiaries:

Unemployed replacing workers taking an unpaid leave and workers taking an unpaid or training leave.

Action/Instrument:

Workers taking a training-leave receive the further training allowance (unemployment benefit, but minimum € 14,53 daily) for a duration included between 2 and 12 months. In order to benefit from the further training allowance in case of training leave, the conditions are an agreement on training leave between employer and employee and proof of participation in a training measure for the duration of the leave. No salary is paid for the duration of leave.

Financing/Support:

From unemployment insurance funds (employer and employee contributions).

Responsible organisation / institution: Public employment service (AMS Österreich)

Eligibility:

The claimant must have been in contributory employment for a certain minimum length of time (6 months). The claimant may not engage in any other employment or self-employment which yields an income in excess of the insignificant income level. The replacement worker must have been in receipt of either unemployment benefit or emergency assistance prior to his/her recruitment.

Legal basis:

Stipulations under the Unemployment Insurance Act § 26 und 26a (Part time training allowance as of 1.7.2013) (Arbeitslosenversicherungsgesetz), 1977 and the Adaptation of Employment Contracts Act § 11 and 11a (Arbeitsvertragsrechtsanpassungsgesetz)

Recent changes:

Supplementary information

Breakdown of expenditure: Transfers to individuals (Periodic cash payments, Reduced social contributions)

Target groups: Registered unemployed (All)
Employed (All)

Treatment of unemployment spells: Broken

Receipt of benefits: Cash benefits (Source: Current intervention)

Planned duration: Typical: 9 Months, Maximum: 12 Months

Responsible institution(s): Public employment services

Area of application: National

Implementation: *Year started:* 1998 *Year Ended:* Ongoing

D - Reference data

R.1 Registered jobseekers (total)

50 Registered jobseekers (total)

Cf.:

- * registered unemployed (AT-51)
- * registered persons looking for apprenticeships (AT-52)
- * registered non-unemployed looking for work (AT-53)

51 Registered unemployed

Overview:

A person is registered as unemployed if he/she is seeking employment, has not found work (within the meaning of §12 of the AIVG) and is available to the AMS (within the meaning of §7 of the AIVG). Registered unemployed must not have income that exceeds the de minimis threshold (2005: € 323,46 per month).

A person is available to the employment authorities if he or she can start work (§7 par. 3), is capable of working (§8), is willing to work (§9) and is out of work (§12).

Minimum age to be registered unemployed: 15

- School leaving age: 15.
- Minimum employment age: 15.
- Apprenticeship seekers (normally 15-24 years old) are counted separately and not included in RU.
- Full-time students cannot register as RU (even during holidays). Students who worked during their studies and paid unemployment insurance contributions can however be RU and receive UI benefits during their studies, but they are relatively few.
- No restrictions for school-leavers/first-time jobseekers.

Maximum age to be registered unemployed: -

- There is no legal age limit.
- Retirement age: 65 men, 60 women.
- Persons beyond retirement age entitled to a regular old-age pension cannot be RU.
- 2 unemployment insurance benefits for the elderly, with relaxed obligations for seeking work:
 - i) Transition benefits (according to the effective PES guideline till the end of 2006)
 - ii) Pension advances (AT-4).

Recipients of both benefits are not counted as RU.

Registered unemployed are allowed to work? YES

- Income threshold: RU must be out of work, but an income below the non-significant income level of €316.19 per month (2004)
- so called minor employment - is allowed.

RU have to be immediately available for work? YES

- According to the AIVG (Unemployment Insurance Act, 1977), a person is available to the employment authorities if he/she can start work, is capable of working, is willing to work and is out of work.

Restrictions on the type of work sought (full/part-time, permanent/temporary, etc.)? NO

- Seeking employment as dependent worker.

Notes:

The following groups cannot be RU:

- pensioners entitled to regular old-age pension (65 men, 60 women)
- non-nationals without a valid work-permit (where necessary).

RU and UBR - Are all UBR counted as RU? NO

- Registered apprenticeship seekers may receive UB, but they are not counted as RU. Furthermore, in some cases, LMP training participants receive UB during training.

RU and UBR - Do all RU receive benefits? NO

- Around 90% of RU receive UB. The remainder do not because they do not have an adequate contribution history or because

Source: Eurostat LMP database. Date of extraction: 31 March 2021

they fail the means-test for unemployment assistance (e.g. partner is working).

Treatment of periods of activation during unemployment. Is the unemployment spell:

Broken:

Activation periods >28 days.

Suspended:

Activation periods <= 28 days. For the calculation of the duration of the unemployment spell the activation period also counts as unemployment days in that case (LMP measure participation shorter than 29 days).

52 Registered apprenticeship seekers

All persons who are looking for an apprenticeship or similar training opportunity with the help of the AMS and who meet the conditions for registration as an unemployed person seeking employment:

- apprenticeship seekers immediately available
- apprenticeship seekers not immediately available: interested persons in the last year of compulsory schooling or already at work.

53 Registered jobseekers (not unemployed)

Individuals who have applied to the AMS for employment but who are not immediately available:

- individuals in employment
- individuals who are not eligible for unemployment benefit (within the meaning of §10 of the Unemployment Insurance Act)
- individuals still at school or college
- individuals transferring entitlements from Austria to another EEA country, assuming they are hoping for further offers from Austria.

54 Counselling and support of employment seekers

Registered at the Public Employment Service: AL (unemployed), LS (apprenticeship seeker), AS (job seeker), AM (job seekers from EU/EWR)

Abbreviations

Abbreviation, Description