

4. Social Inclusion

According to [Statistik Austria](#), in 2019 16.9% of the population (1 472 000 people) were considered at-risk-of-poverty or social exclusion in terms of the Europe 2020 strategy. 13.3% of the population were considered at-risk-of-poverty, 2.6% of the population were severely materially deprived and 7.8% of those below 60 years of age were living in households with very low work intensity. In pursuance of the Europe 2020 strategy of lifting people out of poverty, the **at-risk-of-poverty or social exclusion rate** dropped from 20.6% in 2008 to 16.9% in 2019 (reduction of 227 000 people). The impacts of the detrimental COVID-19 pandemic and related measures remain to be surveyed and critically assessed.

The **national integration indicators** are intended to ensure that social developments remain in the focus of political decisions over the long term. The national integration indicators have been developed in a dialogue with state and non-state stakeholders within the framework of the Poverty Platform, and are regularly adapted.

In the area of Integration, The Federal Government adopted the **National Action Plan for Integration** ([Nationaler Aktionsplan Integration](#)). The Action Plan is the new foundation of integration policy, combining challenges, principles and objectives in the following key action fields:

- Language and Education
- Work and Employment
- Rule of Law and Values
- Health and Social Issues
- Intercultural Dialogue
- Sports and Recreation
- Living and the regional Dimension of Integration
- Language and Education

In 2008, Austria ratified the [Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities](#) ([UN?Behindertenrechtskonvention](#)). Alongside the [EU Disability Strategy](#), this accounted for **new standards in dealing with people with disabilities**. In implementing the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, Austria has adopted a comprehensive national strategy: the National Action Plan on Disability 2012-2020 contained long-term disability policy objectives and measures. According to [Statistik Austria](#), in 2015 2,5% of people ages 15 to 20 (and 19,3% of the total population) were faced with permanent health impairments. The UN CRPD obliges States Parties to ensure that children with disabilities can enjoy all human rights and fundamental freedoms on an equal basis with other children. In this context, the Federal

Constitutional Act on the Rights of Children was passed, the Child and Adolescent Health Strategy presented, child rehabilitation was included in the Austrian Structural Health Plan, and a Child Rights Monitoring Board was established. This and further information is accessible the [Federal Ministry of Social Affairs, Health, Care and Consumer Protection \(Bundesministerium für Soziales, Gesundheit, Pflege und Konsumentenschutz\)](#).