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Labour market policy

Qualitative report

Austria 2001

3



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A - Introduction

A - Introduction

The first publication of the **Qualitative Reports of the Labour Market Policy (LMP) database** is issued in 16 volumes, one for each country participating in the LMP data collection¹. The reports present qualitative information extracted from the database to describe, in total, 550 labour market policy measures included in the Eurostat database for the year 2001. The reports constitute a fundamental component of the Eurostat Labour Market Policy (LMP) database allowing the user to understand what lies behind the figures on expenditure and participants collected in the database. The qualitative reports give a succinct description of each of the labour market policy measures and should be considered as complementary information to the publication *Labour Market Policy - Expenditure and Participants - Data 2001*².

The reports all have the same structure: Part A presents the Introduction, Part B includes the Inventory of measures - i.e. the list of all measures grouped by category, and Part C presents the main details of each measure in three sections: Identification, Description, and Supplementary information. The *Description* contains seven sub-sections: Aim, Beneficiaries, Action/Instrument, Financing/Support, Eligibility, Legal basis, and Recent changes. The *Supplementary Information* contains nine sub-sections covering the target groups, the conditions for participation and other characteristics of the measure. Together, these items summarise the qualitative information collected through the LMP questionnaire³.

The measure descriptions in the LMP database are up-dated every year with the contribution of the LMP delegates in each country and should be published by Eurostat every 2 years. They are also available as a chapter of the Basic Information Reports (BIRs) produced by the European Employment Observatory⁴.

¹ The reports are issued primarily in English but French and German versions are also available on request. Eurostat makes every effort to ensure that measure descriptions entered in one language are updated in the other two languages but the alignment of translations cannot be guaranteed. Bearing this in mind, the preferred language for each country report is considered to be English for all countries except Belgium, France and Luxembourg (French); Germany and Austria (German).

² European Social Statistics - *Labour market Policy - Expenditure and Participants - Data 2001*. Eurostat Theme 3 - Population and Social conditions - 2003 Edition.

³ *Labour Market Policy Database - Methodology* - April 2000. Eurostat Working Papers.

⁴ The BIRs are produced on behalf of the European Employment Strategy Unit (General Directorate of Employment and Social Affairs) and can be accessed via <http://www.eu-employment-observatory.net/en/publications/bir>.

B - Inventory of measures

Inventory of measures

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Number of measures: 40 (including 1 mixed measure(s) with a total of 2 components)

C - Qualitative information by measure

Identification:

Country: Austria **Year:** 2001 **Category** 0 - General PES
Measure n°/name: 24 **Counselling and support of employment seekers & services to enterprises (AMS)**
Type of action: 0 General PES

Description:
Aim:

To provide jobseekers and enterprises with placement and information services

Beneficiaries:

Jobseekers

Action/Instrument:

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. 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) - and European Social Funds.

Eligibility:
Legal basis:

AMS Act, § 32 and 34, 1994

Recent changes:

None

Supplementary information:

Target groups:	Unemployed, Employed at risk, Inactive, Registered jobseekers	Detailed target groups:	None
Unemployment registration:	<i>Condition for participation:</i> n.a. <i>Registration continued:</i> n.a.	Other cash benefits:	None
Type of expenditure:	Transfers to service providers	Planned duration:	<i>Typical:</i> Not available <i>Maximum:</i> Not available
Responsible institution(s):	Public employment services	Area of Application:	National
Implementation:	<i>Year started:</i> Not available <i>Year ended:</i> Ongoing		

Identification:

Country: Austria **Year:** 2001 **Category** 1 - Intensive counselling and job-search assistance
Measure n°/name: 16 **External labour market consultation and support**
Type of action: 1 Intensive counselling and job-search assistance

Description:
Aim:

To help disadvantaged groups through the use of external service providers

Beneficiaries:

Various disadvantaged groups

Action/Instrument:

Labour market counselling provided by external non-profit-making bodies agreed by the AMS is usually incorporated in a comprehensive assistance programme, so that those groups of persons who avoid public institutions due to inhibitions or mistrust, can also be reached. The object of individual and group counselling is to remove the obstacles which forerun the question of employment and to resolve individual difficulties (e.g. debt reduction, treatment of psychological problems, reinforcement of self-confidence and motivation, reconciliation of work and family). Clients are also provided with information concerning the labour market and prepared for job-search and assisted in their efforts to find employment. Many of these external agencies also offer follow-up support (e.g. to assist clients in retaining employment). The Employment Service finances these agencies in proportion to their labour market activities

Financing/support:

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

Eligibility:

Persons recently released from prison, former drug addicts, persons in debt, young people with social problems, long-term unemployed, ethnic minorities, social welfare recipients, women with specific employment difficulties, girls with atypical career choices and persons with psychological problems.

Legal basis:

AMS Act, § 32 and 34, 1994 Guidelines of AMS, 01.01.2000

Recent changes:

None

Supplementary information:

Target groups:	Unemployed, Inactive, Registered jobseekers	Detailed target groups:	Youth, Disabled, Immigrants/ethnic minorities, Re-entrants/lone-parents, Public priorities and other
Unemployment registration:	<i>Condition for participation:</i> <i>Registration continued:</i>	n.a. n.a.	Other cash benefits: None
Type of expenditure:	Transfers to service providers	Planned duration:	<i>Typical:</i> <i>Maximum:</i> Not available Not available
Responsible institution(s):	Central government, State/regional government, Local government, Public employment services	Area of Application:	National
Implementation:	<i>Year started:</i> Not available		
	<i>Year ended:</i> Ongoing		

Identification:

Country: Austria **Year:** 2001 **Category** 1 - Intensive counselling and job-search assistance
Measure n°/name: 28 **Interview allowance**
Type of action: 1 Intensive counselling and job-search assistance

Description:
Aim:

To facilitate the search for work

Beneficiaries:

Registered unemployed

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).

Eligibility:

Registered unemployed

Legal basis:

AMS Act, § 32 and 34, 1994;
Guidelines of the AMS

Recent changes:

None

Supplementary information:

Target groups:	Unemployed	Detailed target groups:	None
Unemployment registration:	<i>Condition for participation:</i> Registration continued:	Yes	Other cash benefits: Unemployment benefit
Type of expenditure:	Transfers to individuals (Lump-sum payments, Reimbursements)		Planned duration: <i>Typical:</i> Not available <i>Maximum:</i> Not available
Responsible institution(s):	Central government, Public employment services	Area of Application:	National
Implementation:	<i>Year started:</i> <i>Year ended:</i>	Not available Ongoing	

Identification:

Country: Austria **Year:** 2001 **Category** 2 - Training
Measure n°/name: 45 **Community initiative EMPLOYMENT**
Type of action: 2 Training

Description:
Aim:

To facilitate the integration into the labour market of specific target groups within the framework of the European Union projects.

Beneficiaries:

Youngsters, disabled, immigrants and women.

Action/Instrument:

Pilot projects related to European Union programmes:

- NOW: to promote equal opportunities for women.
- HORIZON: promoting pathways to employment for persons with disabilities.
- YOUTHSTART: integrating young people under 20 into the labour market, especially those without adequate training or qualifications.
- INTEGRA: specialising in the employment barriers faced by immigrants, refugees and other people at risk of exclusion.

Financing/support:

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

Eligibility:
Legal basis:

Community initiative EMPLOYMENT

Recent changes:

None

Supplementary information:

Target groups:	Unemployed, Inactive	Detailed target groups:	Youth, Disabled, Immigrants/ethnic minorities
Unemployment registration:	<i>Condition for participation:</i> Registration continued:	n.a. n.a.	Other cash benefits: Unemployment benefit, Other LMP benefit
Type of expenditure:	Transfers to employers (Reimbursements), Transfers to service providers	Planned duration:	<i>Typical:</i> Not available <i>Maximum:</i> Not available
Responsible institution(s):	Public employment services	Area of Application:	National
Implementation:	<i>Year started:</i> 1995 <i>Year ended:</i> 2001		

Identification:

Country: Austria **Year:** 2001 **Category** 2 - Training
Measure n°/name: 46 **Community initiative ADAPT**
Type of action: 2 Training

Description:
Aim:

To facilitate the integration into the labour market of the participants through adapted training particularly to the fields of SMEs and of the information society.

Beneficiaries:

Unemployed and employed at risk persons.

Action/Instrument:

Pilot projects related to European Union programmes:

- ADAPT is seen as a chance to improve existing programmes and systems, creating new innovative approaches through exchange of experiences and the application of new concepts and instruments. This is particularly important in the field of SME development and of the labour market implications of the information society.

Financing/support:

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

Eligibility:
Legal basis:

Community initiative ADAPT

Recent changes:

None

Supplementary information:

Target groups:	Unemployed, Employed at risk	Detailed target groups:	None
Unemployment registration:	<i>Condition for participation:</i> n.a. <i>Registration continued:</i> n.a.	Other cash benefits:	None
Type of expenditure:	Transfers to employers (Reimbursements), Transfers to service providers	Planned duration:	<i>Typical:</i> Not available <i>Maximum:</i> Not available
Responsible institution(s):	Public employment services	Area of Application:	National
Implementation:	<i>Year started:</i> 1995 <i>Year ended:</i> 2001		

Identification:

Country: Austria **Year:** 2001 **Category** 2 - Training
Measure 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).

In addition, participants may also be eligible to receive a subsistence allowance (see measure A-8).

Financing/support:

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

Eligibility:
Legal basis:

AMS Act, § 32 and 34, 1994;

Guidelines of the AMS

Recent changes:

None

Supplementary information:

Target groups:	Unemployed, Registered jobseekers	Detailed target groups:	None
Unemployment registration:	<i>Condition for participation:</i> Registration continued: n.a.	Other cash benefits:	Other LMP benefit
Type of expenditure:	Transfers to individuals (Periodic cash payments, Lump-sum payments, Reimbursements)	Planned duration:	<i>Typical:</i> <i>Maximum:</i> Not available Not available
Responsible institution(s):	Public employment services	Area of Application:	
Implementation:	<i>Year started:</i> Not available		
	<i>Year ended:</i> Ongoing		

Identification:

Country: Austria **Year:** 2001 **Category** 2 - Training
Measure n°/name: 8 **Promotion of occupational mobility - living allowance**
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.

Financing/support:

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

Eligibility:
Legal basis:

AMS Act, § 32 and 34, 1994;

Guidelines of the AMS

Recent changes:

None

Supplementary information:

Target groups:	Unemployed, Registered jobseekers	Detailed target groups:	Disabled
Unemployment registration:	<i>Condition for participation:</i> <i>Registration continued:</i>	Yes No	Other cash benefits: Other LMP benefit
Type of expenditure:	Transfers to individuals (Periodic cash payments, Reduced social contributions)	Planned duration:	<i>Typical:</i> <i>Maximum:</i> Not available Not available
Responsible institution(s):	Public employment services	Area of Application:	National
Implementation:	<i>Year started:</i> <i>Year ended:</i>	Not available Ongoing	

Identification:

Country: Austria **Year:** 2001 **Category** 2 - Training
Measure n°/name: 9 **Unemployment benefit (ALG) for training after parental leave**
Type of action: 2.1 Institutional training

Description:
Aim:

To provide participant with an income support during participation to a training

Beneficiaries:

Persons losing their job during or after parental leave.

Action/Instrument:

Workers who take parental leave and are then fired by the employer soon after the leave are entitled to receive an unemployment benefit for up to 26 weeks if they participate in an approved training course.

Some participants may also be eligible to receive assistance with course costs (reported under measure A-7).

Financing/support:

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

Eligibility:

Registered unemployed lone parents after a parental leave

Legal basis:

§ 18 Unemployment Insurance Act (AlVG), 1977

Recent changes:

None

Supplementary information:

Target groups:	Unemployed	Detailed target groups:	Re-entrants/lone-parents
Unemployment registration:	<i>Condition for participation:</i> Registration continued:	n.a. No	Other cash benefits: Other LMP benefit
Type of expenditure:	Transfers to individuals (Periodic cash payments, Reduced social contributions)		Planned duration: <i>Typical:</i> Not available <i>Maximum:</i> 26 Weeks
Responsible institution(s):	Public employment services	Area of Application:	National
Implementation:	<i>Year started:</i> Not available <i>Year ended:</i> Ongoing		

Identification:

Country: Austria **Year:** 2001 **Category** 2 - Training
Measure n°/name: 12 **Support for training in institutions**
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:

Participants in labour market training measures

Action/Instrument:

The Employment Service commissions training establishments to undertake a range of labour market training courses. These educational institutions receive subsidies which reimburse up to 100% of expenditure linked to training courses (training personnel, material costs). The Employment Service also co-finances building and installation costs

Participants in these courses may benefit from a subsistence allowance which is taken into account in measure A-8 "Promotion of occupational mobility - living allowance". The duration of the training depends on the respective training or further training scheme; intensive training for skilled workers, for example, has a duration of approximately 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.

Eligibility:
Legal basis:

AMS Act, § 32 and 34, 1994;
Guidelines of the AMS

Recent changes:

None

Supplementary information:

Target groups:	Unemployed, Employed at risk, Registered jobseekers	Detailed target groups:	None
Unemployment registration:	<i>Condition for participation:</i> <i>Registration continued:</i>	n.a. No	Other cash benefits: None
Type of expenditure:	Transfers to service providers	Planned duration:	<i>Typical:</i> <i>Maximum:</i> Not available Not available
Responsible institution(s):	Public employment services	Area of Application:	National
Implementation:	<i>Year started:</i> <i>Year ended:</i>	Not available Ongoing	

Identification:

Country: Austria **Year:** 2001 **Category** 2 - Training
Measure n°/name: 25 **Further training allowance**
Type of action: 2.1 Institutional training

Description:
Aim:

To encourage unpaid leave of workers in order to create jobs for the unemployed and to 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 or an unpaid-leave receive the further training allowance for a duration included between 3 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.

In order to benefit from the further training allowance in case of unpaid leave: the conditions are an agreement on unpaid leave between the employer and employee and the recruitment of a replacement worker by the employer for the duration of the leave. The replacement worker must have been in receipt of either unemployment benefit or emergency assistance prior to his/her recruitment. No salary is paid for the duration of unpaid leave. The training leave period for those who are 45 years and older, is counted as a compensation period for their pension.

Financing/support:

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

Eligibility:

The claimant must have been in contributory employment for a certain minimum length of time (52 weeks within the 2 years prior to the claim for the first-time claimants of a benefit from unemployment insurance, otherwise 26 weeks within the previous 52 weeks). 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 ALVG), 1977 and the Adaptation of Employment Contracts Act (§ 11 AVRAG)

Recent changes:

None

Supplementary information:

Target groups:	None	Detailed target groups:	None
Unemployment registration:	<i>Condition for participation:</i> Registration continued:	n.a. No	Other cash benefits: None
Type of expenditure:	Transfers to individuals (Periodic cash payments, Reduced social contributions)		Planned duration: Typical: Maximum: Not available 1 Years
Responsible institution(s):	Public employment services		Area of Application: National
Implementation:	<i>Year started:</i> 1998 <i>Year ended:</i> Ongoing		

Identification:

Country: Austria **Year:** 2001 **Category** 2 - Training
Measure n°/name: 13 **Support for training in enterprises**
Type of action: 2.2 Workplace training

Description:
Aim:

To increase job security of employees through qualification and facilitation of training activities for employers.

Beneficiaries:

Certain categories of workers at risk such as women, men over 45, and unqualified men under 45 (under certain conditions).

Action/Instrument:

Employers whose employees take part in qualification measures can have up to two thirds of the costs reimbursed (with the exception of the Burgenland where three quarters of the costs are reimbursed). The basis for the granting of the subsidy is a training plan provided by the employer. The selection of the training measure is done by the company in agreement with the employees. The duration depends on the qualification pursued.

Financing/support:

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

Eligibility:
Legal basis:

AMS Act, § 32 and 34, 1994;

Guidelines of the AMS;

Guidelines of the Federal Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs

Recent changes:

None

Supplementary information:

Target groups:	Unemployed, Employed at risk	Detailed target groups:	None
Unemployment registration:	<i>Condition for participation:</i> Registration continued:	n.a. No	Other cash benefits: None
Type of expenditure:	Transfers to employers (Reimbursements)	Planned duration:	<i>Typical:</i> <i>Maximum:</i> Not available Not available
Responsible institution(s):	Public employment services	Area of Application:	National
Implementation:	<i>Year started:</i> 1995 <i>Year ended:</i> Ongoing		

Identification:

Country: Austria **Year:** 2001 **Category** 2 - Training
Measure n°/name: 11 **Promotion of apprenticeship training and vocational training**
Type of action: 2.4 Special support for apprenticeship

Description:
Aim:

To facilitate the integration into the labour market of participants through apprenticeship

Beneficiaries:

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

Action/Instrument:

Companies arranging apprenticeship training for the target groups receive aid and assistance from the AMS. Aid towards apprenticeship training consists of a partial reimbursement of the trainees' remuneration, of subsidies towards inter-plant additional training (50% of the costs incurred) and subsidies towards vocational preparation schemes (up to 100% of arising personnel and material costs). Duration of the apprenticeship is variable and can last up to 3 years.

Financing/support:

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

Eligibility:

Enterprises and institutions receive grants if, within the framework of apprenticeship training, they employ and train:

- young people who are disadvantaged on the labour market (young people with a physical, psychological or mental disability, young people with social problems, graduates of special schools, young people who have failed to complete an apprenticeship, etc.);
- girls in occupations where women are under-represented (less than 40%);

Legal basis:

AMS Act, § 32 and 34, 1994;
Guidelines of the AMS

Recent changes:

None

Supplementary information:

Target groups:	Unemployed, Registered jobseekers	Detailed target groups:	Youth, Disabled
Unemployment registration:	<i>Condition for participation:</i> <i>Registration continued:</i>	No	Other cash benefits: None
Type of expenditure:	Transfers to employers (Periodic cash payments, Reduced social contributions, Reduced taxes)		Planned duration: <i>Typical:</i> 1 Years <i>Maximum:</i> 3 Years
Responsible institution(s):	Public employment services	Area of Application:	National
Implementation:	<i>Year started:</i> <i>Year ended:</i>	Not available Ongoing	

Identification:

Country: Austria **Year:** 2001 **Category** 2 - Training
Measure n°/name: 31 **JASG apprenticeship foundations**
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 apprenticeship contracts

Beneficiaries:

Youngsters who cannot find a place in the normal apprenticeship system.

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 (see also measure A-32). The corner stones of this special aid programme were developed by a project group at the federal level. In order to be able to guarantee that regional circumstances are taken into account, state project groups (including the social partners) ensure the concrete implementation of the NAP safety net.

Financing/support:

Central government

Eligibility:
Legal basis:

Law Guaranteeing Youth Training (JASG)

BGBI.I Nr.91/1998

BGBI Nr. 301/98,

Law on Vocational Training (BAG, § 30)

Recent changes:

None

Supplementary information:

Target groups:	Unemployed, Registered jobseekers	Detailed target groups:	Youth
Unemployment registration:	<i>Condition for participation:</i> <i>Registration continued:</i>	n.a. No	Other cash benefits: None
Type of expenditure:	Transfers to individuals (Periodic cash payments), Transfers to service providers		Planned duration: <i>Typical:</i> <i>Maximum:</i> Not available Not available
Responsible institution(s):	State/regional government, Public employment services		Area of Application: National
Implementation:	<i>Year started:</i> 1998 <i>Year ended:</i> Ongoing		

Identification:

Country: Austria **Year:** 2001 **Category** 2 - Training
Measure n°/name: 32 **JASG training courses**
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.

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 (see also measure A-32). The corner stones of this special aid programme were developed by a project group at the federal level. In order to be able to guarantee that regional circumstances are taken into account, state project groups (including the social partners) ensure the concrete implementation of the NAP safety net.

Financing/support:

Central government

Eligibility:
Legal basis:

Law Guaranteeing Youth Training (JASG)

BGBI.I Nr.91/1998

BGBI. Nr. 301/98

Recent changes:

None

Supplementary information:

Target groups:	Unemployed, Registered jobseekers	Detailed target groups:	Youth
Unemployment registration:	<i>Condition for participation:</i> n.a. <i>Registration continued:</i> No	Other cash benefits:	None
Type of expenditure:	Transfers to individuals (Periodic cash payments), Transfers to service providers	Planned duration:	<i>Typical:</i> Not available <i>Maximum:</i> Not available
Responsible institution(s):	State/regional government, Public employment services	Area of Application:	National
Implementation:	<i>Year started:</i> 1998 <i>Year ended:</i> Ongoing		

Identification:

Country: Austria **Year:** 2001 **Category:** 3 - Job rotation and job sharing
Measure n°/name: 26 **Solidarity subsidy (SOL)**
Type of action: 3.1 Job rotation

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 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 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. Maximum duration is 2 years, but it may be extended by one year.

Financing/support:

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

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 (AVG), 1977 and the Adaptation of Employment Contracts Act (AVRAG)

Recent changes:

None

Supplementary information:

Target groups:	Unemployed	Detailed target groups:	None
Unemployment registration:	<i>Condition for participation:</i> Registration continued:	n.a. No	Other cash benefits: None
Type of expenditure:	Transfers to individuals (Periodic cash payments, Reduced social contributions)		Planned duration: <i>Typical:</i> Not available <i>Maximum:</i> 2 Years
Responsible institution(s):	Public employment services	Area of Application:	National
Implementation:	<i>Year started:</i> 1998 <i>Year ended:</i> Ongoing		

Identification:

Country: Austria **Year:** 2001 **Category** 4 - Employment incentives
Measure n°/name: 15 **Integration subsidy (BEB, BESEB, 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.

Beneficiaries:

Long-term unemployed or persons threatened by long-term unemployment who normally receive unemployment insurance.

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.

Financing/support:

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

Eligibility:

- 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.

Legal basis:

Guidelines of the AMS

Recent changes:

None

Supplementary information:

Target groups:	Unemployed (LTU)	Detailed target groups:	Older, Disabled, Re-entrants/lone-parents
Unemployment registration:	<i>Condition for participation:</i> Registration continued:	n.a. No	Other cash benefits: None
Type of expenditure:	Transfers to employers (Periodic cash payments)	Planned duration:	<i>Typical:</i> Not available <i>Maximum:</i> 2 Years
Responsible institution(s):	Public employment services	Area of Application:	National
Implementation:	<i>Year started:</i> Not available		
	<i>Year ended:</i> Ongoing		

Identification:

Country: Austria **Year:** 2001 **Category** 4 - Employment incentives
Measure n°/name: 5 **Promotion of regional mobility and entry into 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:

Unemployed having to move or travel in order to take on a job offer.

Action/Instrument:

Beneficiaries receive allowances for travel between home and work, and accommodation at the place of work. Amounts are paid as partial or total reimbursements of actual costs for up to 1 year, although an extension is possible under certain circumstances.

Financing/support:

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

Eligibility:
Legal basis:

AMS Act, § 32 and 34, 1994;
Guidelines of the AMS

Recent changes:

None

Supplementary information:

Target groups:	Unemployed	Detailed target groups:	None
Unemployment registration:	<i>Condition for participation:</i> <i>Registration continued:</i>	n.a. No	Other cash benefits: None
Type of expenditure:	Transfers to individuals (Periodic cash payments, Reimbursements)	Planned duration:	<i>Typical:</i> <i>Maximum:</i> Not available 1 Years
Responsible institution(s):	Public employment services	Area of Application:	National
Implementation:	<i>Year started:</i> <i>Year ended:</i>	Not available Ongoing	

Identification:

Country: Austria **Year:** 2001 **Category** 4 - Employment incentives
Measure n°/name: 6 **Promotion of regional mobility and entry into employment - childcare allowance**
Type of action: 4.1.1 Permanent

Description:
Aim:

To facilitate the integration into the labour market of persons with custodial obligations

Beneficiaries:

Persons who are prevented by their custodial duties from entering or resuming employment, or participating in a training or further training scheme.

Action/Instrument:

Partial reimbursement of child-care costs for up to 3 years is granted to beneficiaries having children under the age of 15 (under 19 for disabled children). The allowance is graded according to the income of the beneficiary.

Financing/support:

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

Eligibility:
Legal basis:

AMS Act, § 32 and 34, 1994;
Guidelines of the AMS

Recent changes:

None

Supplementary information:

Target groups:	Unemployed	Detailed target groups:	Re-entrants/lone-parents
Unemployment registration:	<i>Condition for participation:</i> <i>Registration continued:</i>	n.a. No	Other cash benefits: None
Type of expenditure:	Transfers to individuals (Periodic cash payments)		Planned duration: <i>Typical:</i> Not available <i>Maximum:</i> 3 Years
Responsible institution(s):	Public employment services		Area of Application:
Implementation:	<i>Year started:</i> <i>Year ended:</i>	Not available Ongoing	

Identification:

Country: Austria **Year:** 2001 **Category** 4 - Employment incentives

Measure n°/name: 19 **Promotion of investment and restructuring**

Type of action: 4.2 Employment maintenance incentives

Description:
Aim:

To encourage the restructuring or the development of "strategic" enterprises in manufacturing sectors and/or in specific regions in order to maintain and/or increase employment.

Beneficiaries:

Unemployed and employed at risk persons in manufacturing sectors and/or in specific regions

Action/Instrument:

The aid provided may take the form of interest-bearing or interest-free loans, subsidies or assumption of liabilities. The amount of aid depends among other things on the labour market significance of maintaining or creating employment and the specific requirements of the project in question. In assessing applications for aid, overall and internal economic aspects are taken into consideration. Aid from other bodies is calculable. Duration of loans is 20 years maximum, whereas subsidies are one-off payments.

Financing/support:

Central government and social security funds - Labour market policy funds (federal contribution and employer and employee contributions to unemployment insurance) -, and European Development Funds
Special federal funds are available for aid under § 51a AMFG

Eligibility:

Provision of aid for the following types of enterprises:

1. Enterprises which manufacture physical goods, namely
- small- and medium-sized firms;
- firms located in problem regions.

2. Under the terms of § 51a AMFG, enterprises which have considerable importance for the labour market or for a particular region may receive aid in pursuit of large-scale economic and employment policy goals. Enterprises which manufacture armaments are excluded from receipt of aid

Legal basis:

AMFG, § 27a, 35a, 51a

Recent changes:

None

Supplementary information:

Target groups:	Employed at risk	Detailed target groups:	None
Unemployment registration:	<i>Condition for participation:</i> <i>Registration continued:</i>	n.a. No	Other cash benefits: None
Type of expenditure:	Transfers to employers (Periodic cash payments, Lump-sum payments)		Planned duration: <i>Typical:</i> Not available <i>Maximum:</i> 20 Years
Responsible institution(s):	Central government	Area of Application:	National
Implementation:	<i>Year started:</i> 1971 <i>Year ended:</i> Ongoing		

Identification:

Country: Austria **Year:** 2001 **Category** 4 - Employment incentives
Measure n°/name: 22 **Support for reintegration after parental leave**
Type of action: 4.2 Employment maintenance incentives

Description:
Aim:

To encourage the maintenance of jobs for people returning to work after parental leave.

Beneficiaries:

Persons returning to work after parental leave.

Action/Instrument:

Workers in receipt of parental leave allowance who return to their jobs are often confronted with the problem of dismissal and thus unemployment on expiry of the legally stipulated retention period of four weeks. Thus, in conjunction with the introduction of a second parental leave year, measures were adopted towards improving the reemployment prospects of mothers or/and fathers on parental leave. Enterprises with up to 50 employees can receive a subsidy towards ensuing personnel costs; the reintegration subsidy amounts to the following share of the gross wage for the first three months:

- 66% for enterprises with up to 10 employees;
- 40% for enterprises with between 11 and 50 employees.

Financing/support:

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

Eligibility:
Legal basis:

AMS Act, § 32 and 34, 1994;
 Parental Leave Act, § 33, 1997;
 Guidelines of the Federal Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs

Recent changes:

None

Supplementary information:

Target groups:	Employed at risk, Inactive	Detailed target groups:	Re-entrants/lone-parents
Unemployment registration:	<i>Condition for participation:</i> Registration continued: n.a. No	Other cash benefits:	None
Type of expenditure:	Transfers to employers (Periodic cash payments)	Planned duration:	<i>Typical:</i> 3 Months <i>Maximum:</i> 3 Months
Responsible institution(s):	Public employment services	Area of Application:	National
Implementation:	<i>Year started:</i> Not available <i>Year ended:</i> 2001		

Identification:

Country: Austria **Year:** 2001 **Category** 4 - Employment incentives
Measure n°/name: 30 **Bonus part of the incentive-disincentive system for elderly workers**
Type of action: 4.2 Employment maintenance incentives

Description:
Aim:

The encourage the employment of elderly workers.

Beneficiaries:

Elderly workers

Action/Instrument:

The bonus-malus system is a measure which makes it advantageous in cost terms for businesses to employ persons aged over 50 and disadvantageous to terminate the longer-term employment of older people. If an employer employs a person aged over 50, (s)he is not required to pay employers' unemployment insurance contributions. This procedure does not apply to unemployed persons who were previously employed by the business concerned unless the former employment contract ended more than three years previously.

Employers who terminate the employment of workers aged 50 or over after at least ten years of employment are required to pay a special contribution. The basic surcharge is 0.2% of the gross earnings up to a ceiling. The percentage increases by 0.1% for every three months of the age of the worker whose employment is terminated (50 or over). The maximum value is that of the employers' unemployment insurance contribution (3%). This basic surcharge is multiplied by the number of months between the termination of the employment and the date on which the worker reaches the statutory age for early-retirement pension with long-term insurance.

Financing/support:

Unemployment insurance: (employers' and employees' contributions). Responsible organisation/institution: BMWA (Federal Ministry of Economic Affairs); social insurance; insurers' funds

Eligibility:

Workers aged over 50 years

Legal basis:

Labour Market Financing Act (Arbeitsmarktpolitik-Finanzierungsgesetz, AMPFG) with effect from April 1, 1996 (Federal Law Gazette No. 153/1996).

Recent changes:

01.10.2000: The reform provides for full exemption from unemployment insurance contributions for employers and begins with the appointment of a person aged over 50.

Before 01.10.2000: When a person aged between 50 and 55 is appointed, the employer's cont

Supplementary information:

Target groups:	Employed at risk	Detailed target groups:	Older
Unemployment registration:	<i>Condition for participation:</i> Registration continued:	No No	Other cash benefits: None
Type of expenditure:	Transfers to employers (Reduced social contributions)		Planned duration: Typical: Maximum: Not available Not available
Responsible institution(s):	Central government, Social security funds	Area of Application:	National
Implementation:	<i>Year started:</i> 1996 <i>Year ended:</i> 2001		

Identification:

Country: Austria **Year:** 2001 **Category** 5 - Integration of the disabled

Measure n°/name: 34 **Work adjustment backup system and job assistance for the disabled**

Type of action: 5.1 Regular employment

Description:
Aim:

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

Beneficiaries:

Disabled

Action/Instrument:

Job assistance for the disabled consists in counselling and support structures in order to facilitate the procurement and retention of jobs for the disabled.

Financing/support:

This measure for the disabled is funded by national resources such as the compensatory tax fund, labour market promotion, social insurance resources and the general budgets of the federal and Länder authorities.

Competent authority: the federal social welfare offices (Bundessozialämter, BSB).

Eligibility:

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

Legal basis:

Recruitment law for disabled persons 1992 § 6 Abs. 2 lit d

Recent changes:

None

Supplementary information:

Target groups:	Unemployed, Employed at risk, Inactive	Detailed target groups:	Disabled
Unemployment registration:	<i>Condition for participation:</i> Registration continued:	n.a. n.a.	Other cash benefits: Unemployment benefit, Other benefit
Type of expenditure:	Transfers to service providers		Planned duration: <i>Typical:</i> <i>Maximum:</i> Not available Not available
Responsible institution(s):	Central government	Area of Application:	National
Implementation:	<i>Year started:</i> 1995 <i>Year ended:</i> Ongoing		

Identification:

Country: Austria **Year:** 2001 **Category** 5 - Integration of the disabled
Measure n°/name: 37 **Support for employment of the disabled through the BSBs**
Type of action: 5.1 Regular employment

Description:
Aim:

To encourage the employment of the disabled persons

Beneficiaries:

Unemployed disabled

Action/Instrument:

Enterprise hiring an eligible disabled can receive employment subsidies within the framework of objectives 1 and 3 of the European Social Fund. The measure also includes a support towards the creation by disabled of their own business through the provision of either subsidies or loans.

Financing/support:

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

Competent authority: the federal social welfare offices (Bundessozialämter, BSB).

Eligibility:

Disabled people with a disablement of/or exceeding 50 per cent (eligible disabled) and unemployed for at least 6 months.

Legal basis:

Recruitment law for disabled persons 1992 § 6 Abs. 2 lit d

Recent changes:

From 1999 onwards, support is also provided to disabled in order to start their own business.

Supplementary information:

Target groups:	Unemployed, Inactive, Registered jobseekers	Detailed target groups:	Disabled
Unemployment registration:	<i>Condition for participation:</i> n.a. <i>Registration continued:</i> No	Other cash benefits:	None
Type of expenditure:	Transfers to individuals (Lump-sum payments, Reimbursements), Transfers to employers (Periodic cash payments, Lump-sum payments, Reimbursements)	Planned duration:	<i>Typical:</i> Not available <i>Maximum:</i> Not available
Responsible institution(s):	Central government	Area of Application:	National
Implementation:	<i>Year started:</i> Not available <i>Year ended:</i> Ongoing		

Identification:

Country: Austria **Year:** 2001 **Category** 5 - Integration of the disabled

Measure n°/name: 43 **Subsidies for contracted out work (BSB)**

Type of action: 5.2 Sheltered employment

Description:
Aim:

To encourage enterprises to contract companies employing disabled persons through the provision of bonuses.

Beneficiaries:

Disabled with a disablement of/or exceeding 50 per cent

Action/Instrument:

Employers who, within their entrepreneurial activities, give out work by contract to companies that employ for the most part disabled people, are entitled (have a statutory claim) to bonuses of 15 % of the invoiced amount of the work by contract (minus turnover tax and discounts). The contracts for which work bonuses are paid are primarily designed to secure existing jobs for the disabled in Integration Enterprises (see also measure A-44).

Financing/support:

Compensatory tax fund

Competent authority: the federal social welfare offices (Bundessozialämter, BSB).

Eligibility:

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

Legal basis:

Recruitment law for disabled persons 1992 § 6 Abs. 2 lit d

Recent changes:

None

Supplementary information:

Target groups:	Employed at risk	Detailed target groups:	Disabled
Unemployment registration:	<i>Condition for participation:</i> <i>Registration continued:</i>	No No	Other cash benefits: None
Type of expenditure:	Transfers to employers (Reimbursements)	Planned duration:	<i>Typical:</i> <i>Maximum:</i> Not available Not available
Responsible institution(s):	Central government	Area of Application:	National
Implementation:	<i>Year started:</i> <i>Year ended:</i>	Not available Ongoing	

Identification:

Country: Austria **Year:** 2001 **Category** 5 - Integration of the disabled
Measure n°/name: 44 **Integration enterprises (BSB)**
Type of action: 5.2 Sheltered 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:

The integration Enterprises receive subsidies from the public side but also must obtain the predominant part of its expenses by themselves. They calculate cost-covering and produce inquired products. Integration Enterprises are active in the most deceased branches, above all in the areas of wood and metal processing, printing, plastic processing, and assembling. Employers which give in the frame of its entrepreneur activities orders at Integration Enterprises receive a premium in height of 15 percent of the net invoice (see measure A-43).

The employees of the Integration Enterprises have a full social security protection and receive at least collectively agreed wage (minimum wage), have operational participation in decision-making rights and enjoy the special dismissal protection.

Financing/support:

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

Competent authority: the federal social welfare offices (Bundessozialämter, BSB).

Eligibility:

Enterprises that employ for the most part disabled people with a disablement of/or exceeding 50 per cent (eligible disabled)

Legal basis:

Recruitment law for disabled persons 1992 § 6 Abs. 2 lit d

Recent changes:

None

Supplementary information:

Target groups:	Unemployed, Registered jobseekers	Detailed target groups:	Disabled
Unemployment registration:	<i>Condition for participation:</i> Registration continued:	n.a. No	Other cash benefits: Other benefit
Type of expenditure:	Transfers to employers (Periodic cash payments, Reimbursements)		Planned duration: <i>Typical:</i> <i>Maximum:</i> Not available Not available
Responsible institution(s):	Central government	Area of Application:	National
Implementation:	<i>Year started:</i> Year ended:	Not available Ongoing	

Identification:

Country: Austria **Year:** 2001 **Category** 5 - Integration of the disabled

Measure n°/name: 35 **Vocational training for the disabled**

Type of action: 5.3 Other rehabilitation and 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. Training measures for unemployed disabled are also subsidised.

Financing/support:

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

Competent authority: the federal social welfare offices (Bundessozialämter, BSB).

Eligibility:

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

Legal basis:

Recruitment law for disabled persons 1992 § 6 Abs. 2 lit d

Recent changes:

None

Supplementary information:

Target groups:	Unemployed, Employed at risk, Inactive, Registered jobseekers	Detailed target groups:	Disabled
Unemployment registration:	<i>Condition for participation:</i> n.a. <i>Registration continued:</i> n.a.	Other cash benefits:	Unemployment benefit, Other benefit
Type of expenditure:	Transfers to individuals (Periodic cash payments, Lump-sum payments), Transfers to employers (Periodic cash payments, Lump-sum payments)	Planned duration:	<i>Typical:</i> Not available <i>Maximum:</i> Not available
Responsible institution(s):	Central government	Area of Application:	National
Implementation:	<i>Year started:</i> Not available <i>Year ended:</i> Ongoing		

Identification:

Country: Austria **Year:** 2001 **Category** 6 - Direct job creation
Measure n°/name: 27 **Childcare institutions**
Type of action: 6.1 Permanent

Description:
Aim:

To encourage job creation childcare institutions and to facilitate the integration of people with care problems.

Beneficiaries:

Registered unemployed

Action/Instrument:

Childcare institutions which take on unemployed persons are eligible to receive subsidies. The allowance is paid to persons who are prevented by their custodial duties from entering or resuming employment , or participating in a training or further training scheme. Child care costs are reimbursed in part. This allowance especially targets improved employment prospects for women.

Financing/support:

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

Eligibility:

Registered unemployed

Legal basis:

- § 32 (3) in conjunction with § 34 AMS act

Recent changes:

None

Supplementary information:

Target groups:	Unemployed		Detailed target groups:	None
Unemployment registration:	<i>Condition for participation:</i> <i>Registration continued:</i>	Yes No	Other cash benefits:	None
Type of expenditure:	Transfers to employers (Periodic cash payments, Reimbursements)		Planned duration:	<i>Typical:</i> <i>Maximum:</i> Not available 4 Years
Responsible institution(s):	Public employment services		Area of Application:	National
Implementation:	<i>Year started:</i> <i>Year ended:</i>	Not available Ongoing		

Identification:

Country: Austria **Year:** 2001 **Category** 6 - Direct job creation
Measure n°/name: 14 **Socio-economic enterprises (SÖB) and non-profit employment projects (GBP)**
Type of action: 6.2 Temporary

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 socio pedagogical 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).

Eligibility:
Legal basis:

AMS Act, § 32 and 34, 1994;
Guidelines of the AMS

Recent changes:

New AMS Guidelines of 1/10/2001

Supplementary information:

Target groups:	Unemployed (LTU)	Detailed target groups:	Youth, Older, Disabled, Re-entrants/lone-parents, Public priorities and other
Unemployment registration:	<i>Condition for participation:</i> <i>Registration continued:</i>	Yes No	Other cash benefits: None
Type of expenditure:	Transfers to employers (Periodic cash payments, Reimbursements)		Planned duration: <i>Typical:</i> 1 Years <i>Maximum:</i> Not available
Responsible institution(s):	Public employment services	Area of Application:	National
Implementation:	<i>Year started:</i> <i>Year ended:</i>	Not available Ongoing	

Identification:

Country: Austria **Year:** 2001 **Category** 6 - Direct job creation
Measure n°/name: 29 **Support for integration in the non-profit sector (GEB)**
Type of action: 6.2 Temporary

Description:
Aim:

To facilitate the integration into the labour market of hard-to-place persons through subsidies towards the creation of temporary jobs in the non-profit sector

Beneficiaries:

Long-term unemployed, elderly and other hard-to-place persons (women requiring child-care facilities, re-entrants, elderly, disabled and socially maladjusted persons).

Action/Instrument:

Companies that take on unemployed persons from the target groups for at least 12 months can benefit from the following aid from the AMS: 66 % of total labour cost for up to 12 months in case of non-profit making societies or 50 % of total labour cost for up to 12 months in case of public sector organisations. The job must be an additional one, and the pay must correspond to the local standard and the relevant collective agreement. Duration of the aid can be extended to 3 years for disabled persons.

Financing/support:

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

Eligibility:

- Long-term unemployed (under 25 and over 45 having been out of work for more than 6 months, and workers between 25 and 45 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 for at least 12 months, the job must be an additional one, and the pay must correspond to the local standard and the relevant collective agreement.

Legal basis:

Guidelines of the AMS

Recent changes:

None

Supplementary information:

Target groups:	Unemployed (LTU)	Detailed target groups:	Youth, Older, Disabled, Public priorities and other
Unemployment registration:	<i>Condition for participation:</i> <i>Registration continued:</i>	Yes No	Other cash benefits: None
Type of expenditure:	Transfers to employers (Periodic cash payments, Reimbursements)	Planned duration:	<i>Typical:</i> 12 Months <i>Maximum:</i> 12 Months
Responsible institution(s):	Public employment services	Area of Application:	National
Implementation:	<i>Year started:</i> 1984 <i>Year ended:</i> Ongoing		

Identification:

Country: Austria **Year:** 2001 **Category** 7 - Start-up incentives
Measure n°/name: 17 **Business start-up programme (GB)**
Type of action: 7 Start-up incentives

Description:
Aim:

To encourage unemployed creating their own business.

Beneficiaries:

Unemployed creating their own business

Action/Instrument:

AMS provides aid to individuals in the form of start-up counselling, training, maintenance of unemployment benefit in the preparation phase and, under certain conditions, an allowance during the initial phase in order that they may prepare and carry out business start-ups. Maximum duration of the aid is 9 months. The measure has been introduced throughout Austria from 1998 onwards.

Financing/support:

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

Eligibility:

Registered recipients of the unemployment benefit creating their own business.

Legal basis:

AMS Act, § 32 and 34, 1994;
Guidelines of the AMS

Recent changes:

None

Supplementary information:

Target groups:	Unemployed	Detailed target groups:	None
Unemployment registration:	<i>Condition for participation: Registration continued:</i>	Yes n.a.	Other cash benefits: Other LMP benefit
Type of expenditure:	Transfers to individuals (Periodic cash payments)	Planned duration:	<i>Typical: Maximum:</i> Not available 9 Months
Responsible institution(s):	Public employment services	Area of Application:	National
Implementation:	<i>Year started:</i> 1998 <i>Year ended:</i> Ongoing		

Identification:

Country: Austria **Year:** 2001 **Category:** 8 - Out-of-work income maintenance and support
Measure 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 workers who are willing and able to work and who have been in contributory employment for a minimum duration.

Action/Instrument:

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

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 - whereby AZR (approximately 613 Euro/month) is 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 graduated according to age and the duration of previous employment and can vary from 20 weeks up to 78 weeks.

Financing/support:

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

Eligibility:

Applicants must be unemployed (income from dependent employment under the non-significant income level of € 283,35 (2001: ÖS 3,899) per month is permissible), 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; repeated claims: 28 (1999 and 2000: 26) weeks within the preceding 52 weeks).

Legal basis:

Unemployment Insurance Act (ALVG), 1977

Recent changes:

None

Supplementary information:

Target groups:	Unemployed	Detailed target groups:	None
Unemployment registration:	<i>Condition for participation:</i> Registration continued:	Yes	Other cash benefits: None
Type of expenditure:	Transfers to individuals (Periodic cash payments, Reduced social contributions)		Planned duration: <i>Typical:</i> <i>Maximum:</i> Not available 52 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 **Year:** 2001 **Category** 8 - Out-of-work income maintenance and support
Measure 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% of 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). This base amount will be reduced against the income of the spouse/cohabitant (graduated according to age and duration of Unemployment benefit claim; whereby the earnings exemptions for defraying the cost of living of the spouse/cohabitant and that of dependants will not be considered).

Financing/support:

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

Eligibility:

Applicants 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 (ALVG), 1977

Recent changes:

None

Supplementary information:

Target groups:	Unemployed (LTU)	Detailed target groups:	None
Unemployment registration:	<i>Condition for participation:</i> <i>Registration continued:</i>	Yes Yes	Other cash benefits: None
Type of expenditure:	Transfers to individuals (Periodic cash payments, Reduced social contributions)		Planned duration: <i>Typical:</i> <i>Maximum:</i> Not available Not available
Responsible institution(s):	Public employment services		Area of Application: National
Implementation:	<i>Year started:</i> 1922 <i>Year ended:</i> Ongoing		

Identification:

Country: Austria **Year:** 2001 **Category:** 8 - Out-of-work income maintenance and support
Measure n°/name: 36 **Special unemployment assistance**
Type of action: 8.1.2 Unemployment assistance

Description:
Aim:

To provide income support to people having exhausted their claim to parental leave benefits

Beneficiaries:

Unemployed parents having exhausted their rights to parental leave allowance, but being in a situation where they cannot take up jobs because of child-care duties and lack of child-care facilities.

Action/Instrument:

Eligible father or mother receive a benefit equal to the unemployment assistance. Special unemployment assistance is granted for one year and no longer than until the 3rd year of the child.

Financing/support:

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

Eligibility:

With the exception of the willingness-to-work criteria, the same conditions apply as to the award of unemployment assistance. Special unemployment assistance is granted for one year and no longer than until the 3rd year of the child.

Legal basis:

§ 39 Unemployment Insurance Act (ALVG), 1997

Recent changes:

None

Supplementary information:

Target groups:	Unemployed	Detailed target groups:	Public priorities and other	
Unemployment registration:	<i>Condition for participation:</i> Registration continued:	Yes	Other cash benefits:	None
Type of expenditure:	Transfers to individuals (Periodic cash payments, Reduced social contributions)	Yes	Planned duration:	<i>Typical:</i> Not available <i>Maximum:</i> 1 Years
Responsible institution(s):	Public employment services		Area of Application:	National
Implementation:	<i>Year started:</i> Year ended:	Not available Ongoing		

Identification:

Country: Austria **Year:** 2001 **Category** 8 - Out-of-work income maintenance and support
Measure n°/name: 20 **Short-time working allowance**
Type of action: 8.2 Partial unemployment benefits

Description:
Aim:

To maintain jobs by supporting the partial compensation of wages for hours lost due to short-time working arrangements imposed due to short-term economic difficulties.

Beneficiaries:

Workers on short-time work arrangements.

Action/Instrument:

Short-time working allowances may be granted for a maximum of 3 months to workers in order to partially compensate for losses in income which are a consequence of short-term difficulties. Workers are paid at least 1/8 of the daily rate of unemployment benefit or the flat rate fixed by the BMAS for every lost working hour.

Financing/support:

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

Eligibility:

The following are the conditions for eligibility to short-time working allowance:

- the introduction of short-time working is subject to consensus between the social partners or collective bargaining parties, the works council and the management of the enterprise;
- the Employment Service must be informed within the required period of notice; the size of workforce may not decrease during the short-time working period or for a certain agreed length of time after.

If short-time working allowance affects largely people aged 45 or over then the allowance can be handled in a more flexible way.

Legal basis:

AMS Act, § 34(4), 1994 and AFG, § 27(1), 1968

Recent changes:

§ 29 AMFG; BGBL. I Nr. 179/1999; in force from 1.1.2000

Supplementary information:

Target groups:	Employed at risk	Detailed target groups:	None
Unemployment registration:	<i>Condition for participation:</i> Registration continued:	n.a. No	Other cash benefits: None
Type of expenditure:	Transfers to employers (Reimbursements)	Planned duration:	<i>Typical:</i> 3 Months <i>Maximum:</i> 3 Months
Responsible institution(s):	Central government, Public employment services	Area of Application:	National
Implementation:	<i>Year started:</i> <i>Year ended:</i>	Not available Ongoing	

Identification:

Country: Austria **Year:** 2001 **Category** 8 - Out-of-work income maintenance and support
Measure n°/name: 21 **Bad weather compensation**
Type of action: 8.2 Partial unemployment benefits

Description:
Aim:

To maintain jobs by supporting the payment of wages in case of hours lost due to bad weather conditions.

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.

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.

Eligibility:
Legal basis:

Law on bad-weather compensation in the building trade, 1957

Recent changes:

None

Supplementary information:

Target groups:	Employed at risk	Detailed target groups:	None
Unemployment registration:	<i>Condition for participation:</i> Registration continued:	n.a. No	Other cash benefits: None
Type of expenditure:	Transfers to employers (Reimbursements)	Planned duration:	<i>Typical:</i> <i>Maximum:</i> Not available Not available
Responsible institution(s):	Trade unions or similar	Area of Application:	National
Implementation:	<i>Year started:</i> 1992		
	<i>Year ended:</i> Ongoing		

Identification:

Country: Austria **Year:** 2001 **Category** 8 - Out-of-work income maintenance and support
Measure n°/name: 33 **Insolvency-bankruptcy compensation**
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-renumeration security law (IESG).

Employees and former employees are eligible to apply for IAG.

Financing/support:

Social security funds

Eligibility:

Employees and former employees are eligible to apply for IAG.

Legal basis:

Law for the protection of insolvency payment (IESG)

Recent changes:

None

Supplementary information:

Target groups:	Unemployed, Employed at risk	Detailed target groups:	None
Unemployment registration:	<i>Condition for participation:</i> <i>Registration continued:</i>	No Yes	Other cash benefits: None
Type of expenditure:	Transfers to individuals (Reimbursements, Reduced social contributions)		Planned duration: <i>Typical:</i> <i>Maximum:</i> Not available Not available
Responsible institution(s):	Central government	Area of Application:	National
Implementation:	<i>Year started:</i> 1978		
	<i>Year ended:</i> Ongoing		

Identification:

Country: Austria **Year:** 2001 **Category** 9 - Early retirement
Measure n°/name: 49 **Part-time pay/support for older workers**
Type of action: 9.2 Unconditional

Description:
Aim:

To safeguard the employment of older employees.

Beneficiaries:

Men aged 55 or over; women aged 50 or over.

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.

Financing/support:

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

Responsible organisation/institution: labour market service

Eligibility:

- 1) At least 780 weeks (15 years) subject to compulsory unemployment insurance in the past 25 years
- 2) 40% to 60% reduction in working hours
- 3) Agreement with the employer to this effect

Legal basis:

§§ 27 and 28 of the Unemployment Insurance Act (AlVG) 1997

Recent changes:

On 1 October 2000 it became easier for older workers to obtain part-time benefits when the requirement to appoint a substitute worker as a precondition for granting the benefit was abolished. Also, working hours can be reduced by 40% to 60% for up to 6.5

Supplementary information:

Target groups:	Employed at risk	Detailed target groups:	Older
Unemployment registration:	<i>Condition for participation:</i> Registration continued:	No No	Other cash benefits: None
Type of expenditure:	Transfers to employers (Reimbursements)		Planned duration: <i>Typical:</i> <i>Maximum:</i> Not available Not available
Responsible institution(s):		Area of Application:	National
Implementation:	<i>Year started:</i> 1999 <i>Year ended:</i> Ongoing		

Identification:

Country: Austria **Year:** 2001 **Category** 9 - Early retirement
Measure n°/name: 3 Transfer benefits to facilitate transition into retirement - Special support (SUG)
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.
 Benefits may be paid up to the official retirement age, but for a maximum of 10 years .

Financing/support:

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

Eligibility:

This regulation currently only applies to workers in the mining sector who are aged over 52. No requirement for replacement of retiree by an unemployed person.

Legal basis:

Special Support Act, 1973

Recent changes:

None

Supplementary information:

Target groups:	Unemployed	Detailed target groups:	Older
Unemployment registration:	<i>Condition for participation:</i> Registration continued:	Yes No	Other cash benefits: None
Type of expenditure:	Transfers to individuals (Periodic cash payments, Reduced social contributions), Transfers to service providers		Planned duration: <i>Typical:</i> Not available <i>Maximum:</i> 10 Years
Responsible institution(s):	Social security funds, Public employment services	Area of Application:	National, Other
Implementation:	<i>Year started:</i> 1973 <i>Year ended:</i> Ongoing		

Identification:

Country: Austria **Year:** 2001 **Category** 9 - Early retirement
Measure n°/name: 4 **Benefits to facilitate transition into retirement - 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 or invalidity pension (women must be at least 55 and men at least 60 years old)

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).

Eligibility:

Claimants must fulfil the requirements for receipt of unemployment benefit or emergency assistance, with the exception of ability and willingness to work and availability to the labour market.

Persons claiming an old-age pension must be at least 55 years (women) and at least 60 years (men). There are no age-limits for persons claiming invalidity pension.

Legal basis:

Unemployment Insurance Act (ALVG), 1977

Recent changes:
Supplementary information:

Target groups:	Unemployed		Detailed target groups:	Older
Unemployment registration:	<i>Condition for participation:</i> <i>Registration continued:</i>	Yes No	Other cash benefits:	None
Type of expenditure:	Transfers to individuals (Periodic cash payments, Reduced social contributions)		Planned duration:	<i>Typical:</i> <i>Maximum:</i> Not available Not available
Responsible institution(s):	Public employment services		Area of Application:	National
Implementation:	<i>Year started:</i> <i>Year ended:</i>	Not available Ongoing		

Identification:

Country: Austria	Year: 2001	Category	Mixed
Measure n°/name:	18	Employment foundations	
Type of action:	2 7	Training Start-up incentives	

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:

Different types of Employment foundations can be established: enterprise foundation and sectoral, regional bankruptcy and food foundations. Employment foundations are established by enterprises which - within the framework of the social plan and in agreement with the works council - are proposing large-scale manpower reductions. They consist of a package of measure which, depending on individual needs, comprises vocational guidance, active jobsearch, periods of practical training, (further) qualification and support for proposed business start-ups.

Sectoral, regional and bankruptcy foundations may be established if staff is to be reduced in several enterprises in a particular sector or region.

Members of employment foundations receive training-unemployment benefit for the duration of their participation. As a rule, they additionally receive a grant which has been agreed in the social partners' social plan. Participation in Employment foundations is limited to 4 years.

Financing/support:

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

Eligibility:

Members of employment foundations

Legal basis:

AMS Act, § 32 and 34, 1994;
Unemployment Insurance Act (ALVG), 1977;
Guidelines of the AMS

Recent changes:

None

Supplementary information:

Target groups:	Unemployed	Detailed target groups:	Older, Public priorities and other
Unemployment registration:	<i>Condition for participation:</i> <i>Registration continued:</i>	Yes No	Other cash benefits: None
Type of expenditure:	Transfers to individuals (Periodic cash payments, Reduced social contributions), Transfers to service providers	Planned duration:	<i>Typical:</i> <i>Maximum:</i> Not available 4 Years
Responsible institution(s):	Central government, Public employment services	Area of Application:	National
Implementation:	<i>Year started:</i> <i>Year ended:</i>	Not available Ongoing	

Identification:

Country: Austria **Year:** 2001 **Category** R - Reference data
Measure n°/name: 50 **Registered jobseekers (total)**
Type of action: R Reference data

Description:

Aim:

Beneficiaries:

Action/Instrument:

Financing/support:

Eligibility:

Registered jobseekers total = registered unemployed + registered jobseekers + registered apprenticeship seekers (immediately available and without an employment offer)

Legal basis:

Recent changes:

None

Supplementary information:

Target groups:	None	Detailed target groups:	None
Unemployment registration:	<i>Condition for participation:</i> Registration continued:	n.a.	Other cash benefits: None
Type of expenditure:		n.a.	Planned duration: Typical: Maximum: Not available Not available
Responsible institution(s):			Area of Application: National
Implementation:	<i>Year started:</i> Year ended:	Not available Ongoing	

Identification:

Country: Austria **Year:** 2001 **Category:** R - Reference data
Measure n°/name: 51 **Registered unemployed**
Type of action: R Reference data

Description:

Aim:

Beneficiaries:

Action/Instrument:

Financing/support:

Eligibility:

Legal basis:

Recent changes:

None

Supplementary information:

Target groups:	None	Detailed target groups:	None		
Unemployment registration:	<i>Condition for participation:</i> Registration continued:	n.a.	Other cash benefits:	None	
Type of expenditure:		n.a.	Planned duration:	<i>Typical:</i> <i>Maximum:</i>	Not available Not available
Responsible institution(s):			Area of Application:	National	
Implementation:	<i>Year started:</i> Year ended:	Not available Ongoing			

Identification:

Country: Austria **Year:** 2001 **Category** R - Reference data
Measure n°/name: 52 **Registered apprenticeship seekers**
Type of action: R Reference data

Description:

Aim:

Beneficiaries:

Action/Instrument:

Financing/support:

Eligibility:

Legal basis:

Recent changes:

None

Supplementary information:

Target groups:	None	Detailed target groups:	None		
Unemployment registration:	<i>Condition for participation:</i> Registration continued:	n.a.	Other cash benefits:	None	
Type of expenditure:		n.a.	Planned duration:	<i>Typical:</i> <i>Maximum:</i>	Not available Not available
Responsible institution(s):			Area of Application:	National	
Implementation:	<i>Year started:</i> Year ended:	Not available Ongoing			

Identification:

Country: Austria **Year:** 2001 **Category** R - Reference data
Measure n°/name: 53 **Registered jobseekers (not unemployed)**
Type of action: R Reference data

Description:

Aim:

Beneficiaries:

Action/Instrument:

Financing/support:

Eligibility:

Legal basis:

Recent changes:

None

Supplementary information:

Target groups:	None	Detailed target groups:	None
Unemployment registration:	<i>Condition for participation:</i> Registration continued: n.a.	Other cash benefits:	None
Type of expenditure:		Planned duration:	<i>Typical:</i> <i>Maximum:</i> Not available Not available
Responsible institution(s):		Area of Application:	National
Implementation:	<i>Year started:</i> Not available		
	<i>Year ended:</i> Ongoing		