Living arrangements 2019: One third of people aged 65 and older live alone

Vienna, 2020-03-20 – In 2019, the Austrian Labour Force Survey registered 3 950 000 private households, as Statistics Austria reports. Among them, there were 2 328 000 single family households, 60 000 multi-family households and 82 000 non-family multi-person households. 1 480 000 Austrian residents were living alone. Out of the total population in private households 79% were living in a nuclear family, 17% were living alone and only 4% chose other living arrangements.

Between 1985 and 2019, the number of private households increased by 41% from 2 801 000 to 3 950 000. In the same period, the population in private households only grew by 17% (1985: 7 481 000; 2019: 8 717 000). Hence, the rising number of households was only partly triggered by population growth. A large part of this development was caused by the rapid growth of single person households, which increased by 93% from 768 000 in 1985 to 1 480 000 in 2019, representing 17% of the total population in private households. This increase also had an effect on the average household size: In 1985, there were 2.67 people living in a household, while in 2019, only 2.21 people inhabited an average household.

For more detailed information please refer to the German version.