

Austria: A deforestation exposure assessment

Headlines

163 ha

Austria's average annual deforestation exposure in 2021–2023, from **direct trade**

1,270 ha

Austria's average annual deforestation exposure in 2021–2023, **adjusted for re-exports**

-49.2%

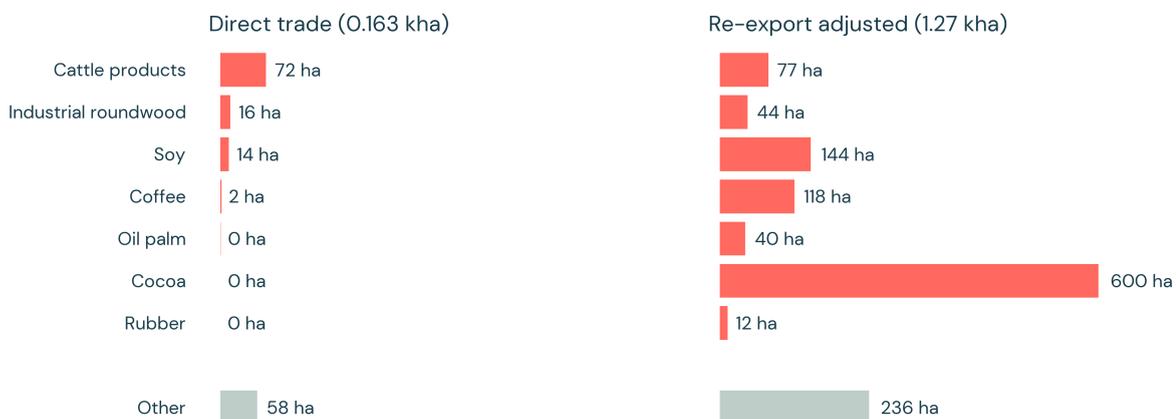
change in total deforestation exposure from 2014–2023, **adjusted for re-exports**

Methods note

This factsheet provides an estimate of the deforestation footprint of Austria's imports, combining data on global bilateral trade and the deforestation associated with 160+ different agricultural commodities. It is intended to help identify the most likely sources, trends and hotspots in global deforestation exposure. Deforestation exposure is likely to be underestimated for commodities that are often imported in more processed forms, particularly wood and rubber products. Please refer to the end of the factsheet for some key considerations, or read the full [methods note](#) for more detail on data sources and limitations.

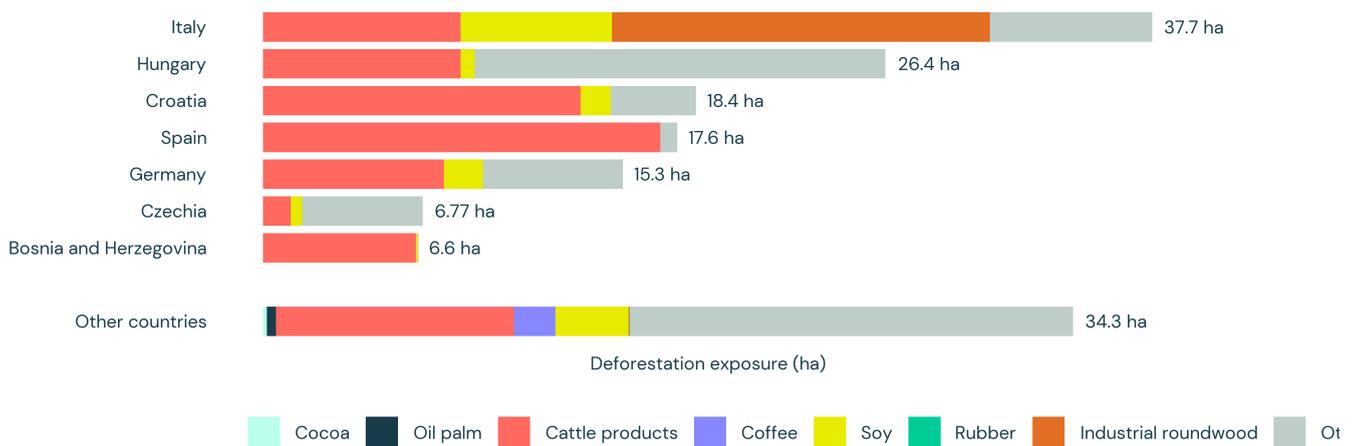
Deforestation exposure by commodity and trade perspective

Austria's total deforestation exposure was larger from the re-export adjusted perspective (1,270 ha per year) and smaller from the direct trade perspective (163 ha per year). The re-export adjustment process uses a mass-balance approach to estimate the likely true origins and destinations of products where supply chains involve multiple trade steps. For more information, see the accompanying [methods note](#). Numbers are average annual exposure from 2021 to 2023.



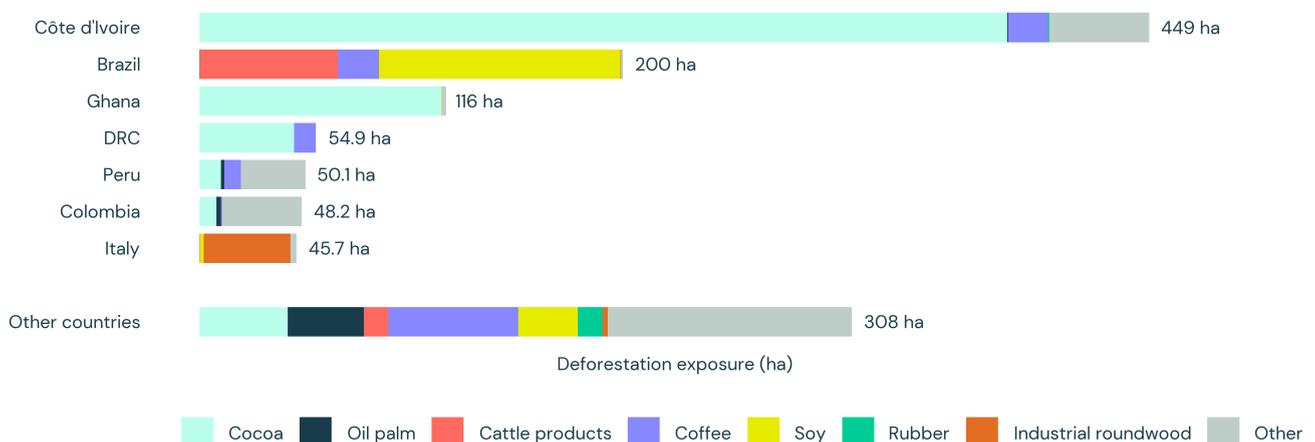
Direct trade deforestation exposure by origin country and commodity

From a direct trade perspective, on average between 2021 and 2023, Austria was most exposed to deforestation in Italy (37.7 ha, 23.1%), followed by Hungary (26.4 ha, 16.2%) and Croatia (18.4 ha, 11.3%). Across all origin countries, the most important commodities were cattle products (72.5 ha, 44.5%), industrial roundwood (16.1 ha, 9.9%) and soy (13.6 ha, 8.3%). In Italy, the most important commodity for Austria's deforestation exposure was industrial roundwood (16 ha, 42.5%), followed by cattle products (8.37 ha, 22.2%). In Hungary, the most important commodity was cattle products (8.38 ha, 31.8%), followed by maize (5.6 ha, 21.2%).



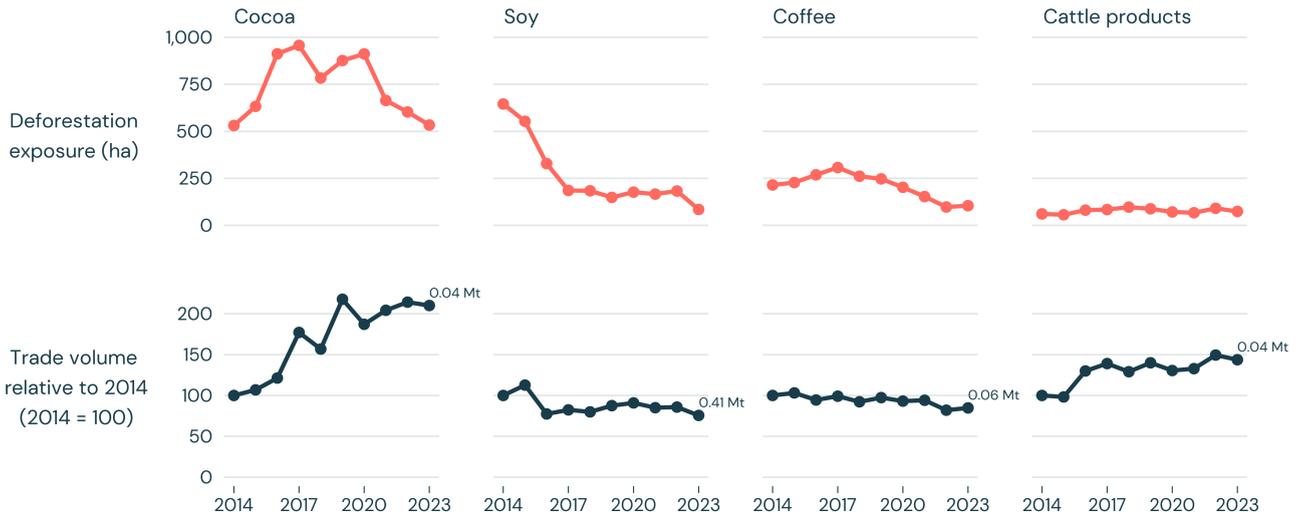
Re-export adjusted deforestation exposure by origin country and commodity

After adjusting for re-exports, on average between 2021 and 2023, Austria was most exposed to deforestation in Côte d'Ivoire (449 ha, 35.3%), followed by Brazil (200 ha, 15.7%) and Ghana (116 ha, 9.1%). Across all origin countries, the most important commodities were cocoa (600 ha, 47.2%), soy (144 ha, 11.3%) and coffee (118 ha, 9.3%). In Côte d'Ivoire, the most important commodity for Austria's deforestation exposure was cocoa (382 ha, 85%), followed by cashew nuts (31.7 ha, 7.1%). In Brazil, the most important commodity was soy (114 ha, 57.1%), followed by cattle products (65.2 ha, 32.6%).



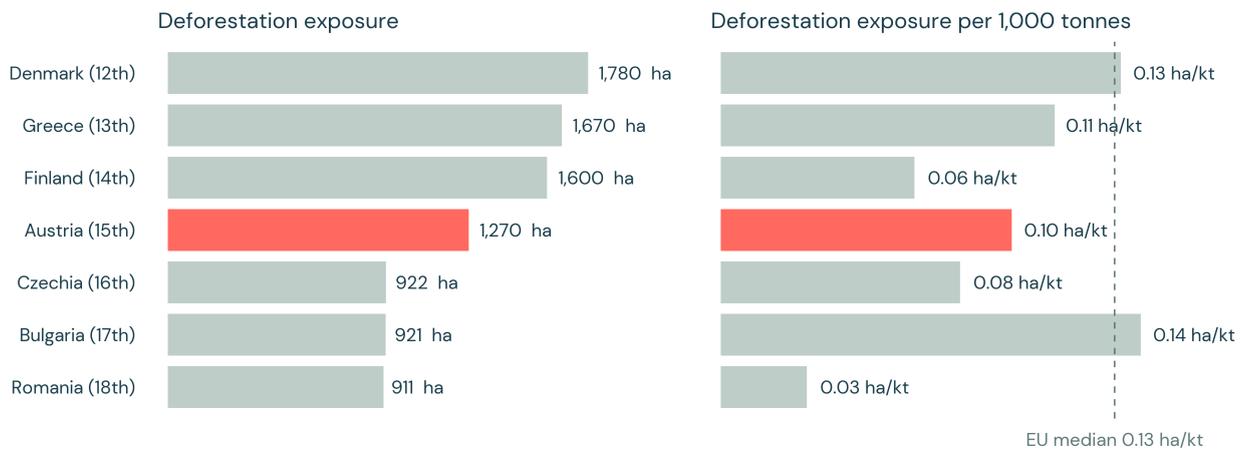
Trends in deforestation exposure and trade volume for top commodities

The following charts show trends in re-export adjusted deforestation exposure and trade volume for the top four commodities (selected based on total deforestation exposure over the last three years of the time series). Overall, Austria's total exposure decreased between 2014 and 2023 by 1,070 ha, a change of -49.2% . Of the top seven commodities, soy saw the biggest change over the time series in both absolute and relative terms, with a decrease of -561 ha (-87%).



Comparison with deforestation exposure of other EU countries

After adjusting for re-exports, Austria ranks 15th among EU countries for deforestation exposure, accounting for 1.2% of the EU27 total. Looking at the deforestation per 1,000 tonnes of imported material, Austria ranks 18th at 0.1 ha/kt, lower than the EU median of 0.13 ha/kt.



Interpreting this factsheet

To identify the most important commodities and countries globally for Austria's deforestation exposure, this factsheet uses the best available data [linking commodities to deforestation at the global scale](#), based on conversion of natural forests with canopy cover of at least 25%. Due to data availability limitations, we are currently unable to include deforestation exposure estimates for the imports of more processed materials, meaning that deforestation exposure is likely to be underestimated for commodities typically imported in more processed forms – particularly affecting wood and rubber products. We refer you to our [methods note](#) for further details.

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For methods information, data sources, and frequently asked questions, please refer to the [accompanying methods note](#).

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