

This country snapshot presents detailed results of the **NOURISHING policy index** [1] for Austria. It highlights strengths and weaknesses in the design of national government nutrition policies. This snapshot supplements the policy index results with an in-depth look at the quality of policy design in each country. Full policy index results are outlined in the NOURISHING policy brief, which compares Austria to 29 other European countries.

## Main messages

- 1 Austria implements nutrition and diet-related policy actions in five out of the ten policy areas of the NOURISHING framework. The highest assessment achieved was moderate on policies to limit or remove specific nutrients in food products (I1).
- 2 Nutrition label standards and regulations (N1) which include only EU wide policies, need to be strengthened at national level. There is a lack of sugar-sweetened beverage provisions in schools and of regulations on food availability within the school vicinity which have an impact on otherwise well-designed standards on school food and food in other out-of-education locations (O). Weak food based dietary guidelines and an absence of public awareness campaigns on nutrition (I2) were also identified.
- **3** No action was taken at national level in half of the framework therefore policy areas need to be prioritised in using financial incentives to increase affordability and accessibility of healthier food. An example through the implementation of health-related food taxes (U), and marketing to young people, particularly in/around schools (R), the retail environment (S), nutrition advice and counselling in healthcare settings (N2) along with strengthening public food procurement policies by implementing further policy actions within this area (H).

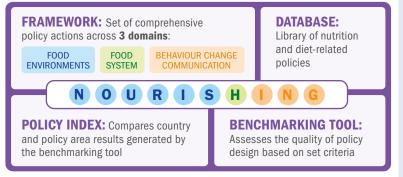
Overview of policy status	NO POLICIES IDENTIFIED	POOR	FAIR	MODERATE	GOOD	EXCELLENT	
Nutrition label standards and regulations on the use of claims and implied claims on food						FAIR	
O Offer healthy food and set	Offer healthy food and set standards in public institutions and other specific settings						
U Use economic tools to add	U Use economic tools to address food affordability and purchase incentives						
R Restrict food advertising a	Restrict food advertising and other forms of commercial promotion						
Improve nutritional quality	Improve nutritional quality of the whole food supply						
S Set incentives and rules to	Set incentives and rules to create a healthy retail and food service environment						
H Harness supply chain and	Harness supply chain and actions across sectors to ensure coherence with health						
Inform people about food	Inform people about food and nutrition through public awareness						
Nutrition advice and count	Nutrition advice and counselling in healthcare settings						
G Give nutrition education a	Give nutrition education and skills						

This snapshot is based on national level policies only. Policies issued by provincial, regional or local governments are outside the scope of this project.

## Methods

The NOURISHING policy index methods are fully explained in the associated **policy brief**. In short, the policy index combines values for a) policy presence, and b) policy design for 41 benchmarks.

The benchmarks are applied to policies in the **NOURISHING database** [2], collected through a comprehensive scan in 30 European countries, including Austria.



Policy tools used to produce the policy index results

Nutrition policy status in Austria

Breakdown of policy index results (For full		details on the policy design criteria, consult the <b>policy brief</b> )					
×	No policy identified	Meets up to 75% of policy design					
	Meets up to 25% of policy design		Meets up to 99% of policy design				
	Meets up to 50% of policy design			Meets all aspirational standards			
	Nutrients on back of pack			Planning restrictions regarding food	~		
	Front of pack labels X Warning labels		S	service outlets around schools			
N				Planning restrictions on food service outlets			
	Rules on nutrient claims			Initiatives to increase the availability of healthier food in stores and food	×		
	Rules on health claims			service outlets			
	Food and drink available in schools, including restrictions on unhealthy foodsMeasures relating to sugar-sweetened beverage provision in schools			Measures to support food producers to increase healthy food and decrease unhealthy food in the supply chain	×		
				Measures to support food manufacturers to increase healthy food and decrease	X		
0	Fruit and vegetables initiatives in schools		H	unhealthy food in the supply chain Measures to support food retailers			
	Food and drink available in immediate vicinity of schools	×		to increase healthy food and decrease	×		
	Unhealthy food in out-of-education locations			Governance structures for multi- sectoral/stakeholder engagement	×		
	Health-related food taxes or tariffs	X		Nutrition standards for public	X		
U	Income related subsidies or initiatives to increase affordability and accessibility of healthy food	×		procurement Supporting urban agriculture in health and planning policies	X		
	Targeted subsidies or initiatives to	×		Community food production	X		
	increase affordability and accessibility of healthy food			Development and communication of food-based dietary guidelines			
	Marketing to young people through advertising	×		Public awareness, mass media and informational campaigns and social	×		
	Direct marketing to young people	X		marketing on healthy eating	••		
	Marketing through sponsorship to young people	×		Nutrition advice and counselling in primary care	X		
R	Marketing to young people through point of sale measures			Nutrition advice and counselling in school healthcare setting			
	Marketing to young people through		××	Nutrition education in curricula	××		
				Training for educators			
	product design and packaging Marketing in/or around schools	×	G	Training for health professionals	× × ×		
	יימו אפנוווט וווי טו מוסעווע גנווטטנג			Cooking skills	X		
	Limit or removal of specific nutrients in food products			Training in schools in growing food	X		
				Training for caterers			

Note: The policy landscape in any country evolves over time. These findings reflect our knowledge as of May 2023. To see latest results and for further technical information on the policy indexes, please consult our website: wcrf.org/our-policy-work. For feedback or suggested updates, please email policy@wcrf.org. More info in the CO-CREATE project can be found at co-create.eu

[1] Policy index: wcrf.org/nutrition-policy-index [2] Policy database: policydatabase.wcrf.org





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