# Self-Employment in Austria

## Introduction

The aim of this report is to analyse the self-employment situation in Austria and outline any noticeable trends. It will also discuss ways how to make co-working hubs more attractive and viable in Austria. The data used is from the OECD, Junge Wirtschaft and Statista.

## Compared to the EU Average

As of 2018, 18 percent of people are self-employed in the EU, compared to only 12 percent in Austria. Even in 2010 and 2000, Austria always was below the EU average.

## Trends

There is a clear trend in the EU. Self-employment is rising at a steady rate of about two percent per decade. Meanwhile Austria is all over the place, rising in 2010 and then falling to 12 percent in 2018, even lower than it was in the year 2000. This could be because it’s not easy to have your own company in Austria and many give up when they fail.

## Making Co-Working Hubs More Attractive

Austria has 228 co-working spaces, about half of them being in Vienna. Styria and Lower Austria landing in second and third place with 37 and 34 respectively. The other provinces have few spaces.

A good way to make co-working hubs more attractive is to increase how many options people have. Having more options means more competition amongst co-working hubs and might lead to better experiences for workers.

Statistics show that the two main negatives of co-working hubs are noise levels and a lack of privacy. These issues arise from the very nature of a co-working hub. A solution would be to offer small private rooms in case one requires a quiet working environment or has to discuss sensitive matters.

Overall, increasing how many co-working spaces there are, offering private rooms and maybe lowering prices slightly, should make them more attractive for many more people.