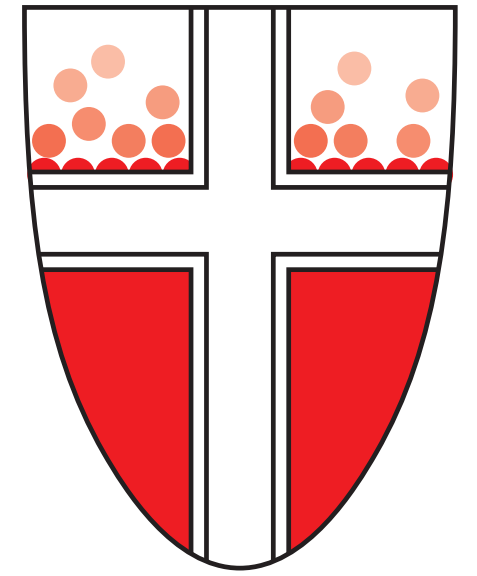


Vienna's electorate gap



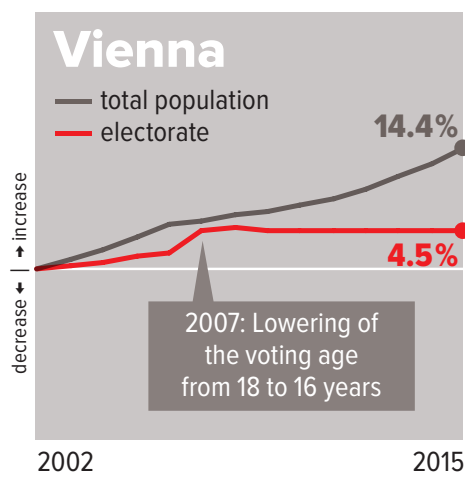
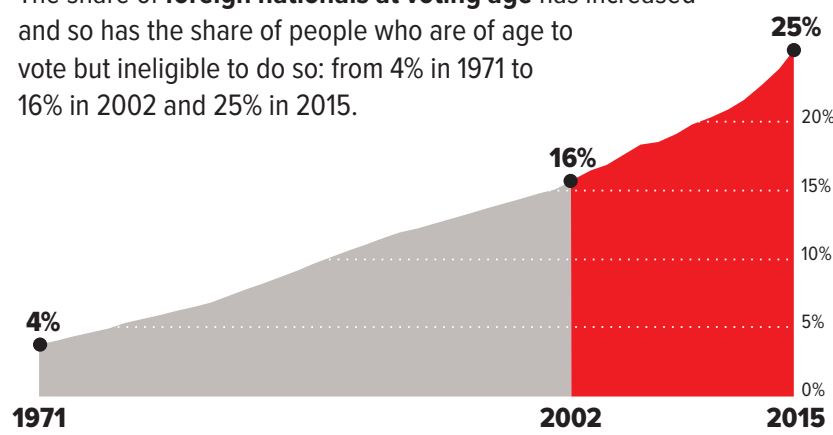
The shrinking electorate of Vienna (1971–2015)

The population of Vienna has been growing since the late 1980s. Population growth even accelerated after the year 2000, driven by increasing international immigration. These new arrivals are usually ineligible to vote, as only Austrian nationals are enfranchised, and so both the share and the number of people of voting age who are ineligible to vote has risen.

Vienna's **electorate gap** – i.e. the number or share of people of voting age not eligible to vote – is increasing because the growth of the electorate cannot keep up with the city's overall population growth. The total population has increased by 11% between 1971 and 2015, and yet the electorate has decreased by 10% over the same period.

Share of population at voting age but ineligible to vote (1971–2015)

The share of **foreign nationals at voting age** has increased and so has the share of people who are of age to vote but ineligible to do so: from 4% in 1971 to 16% in 2002 and 25% in 2015.



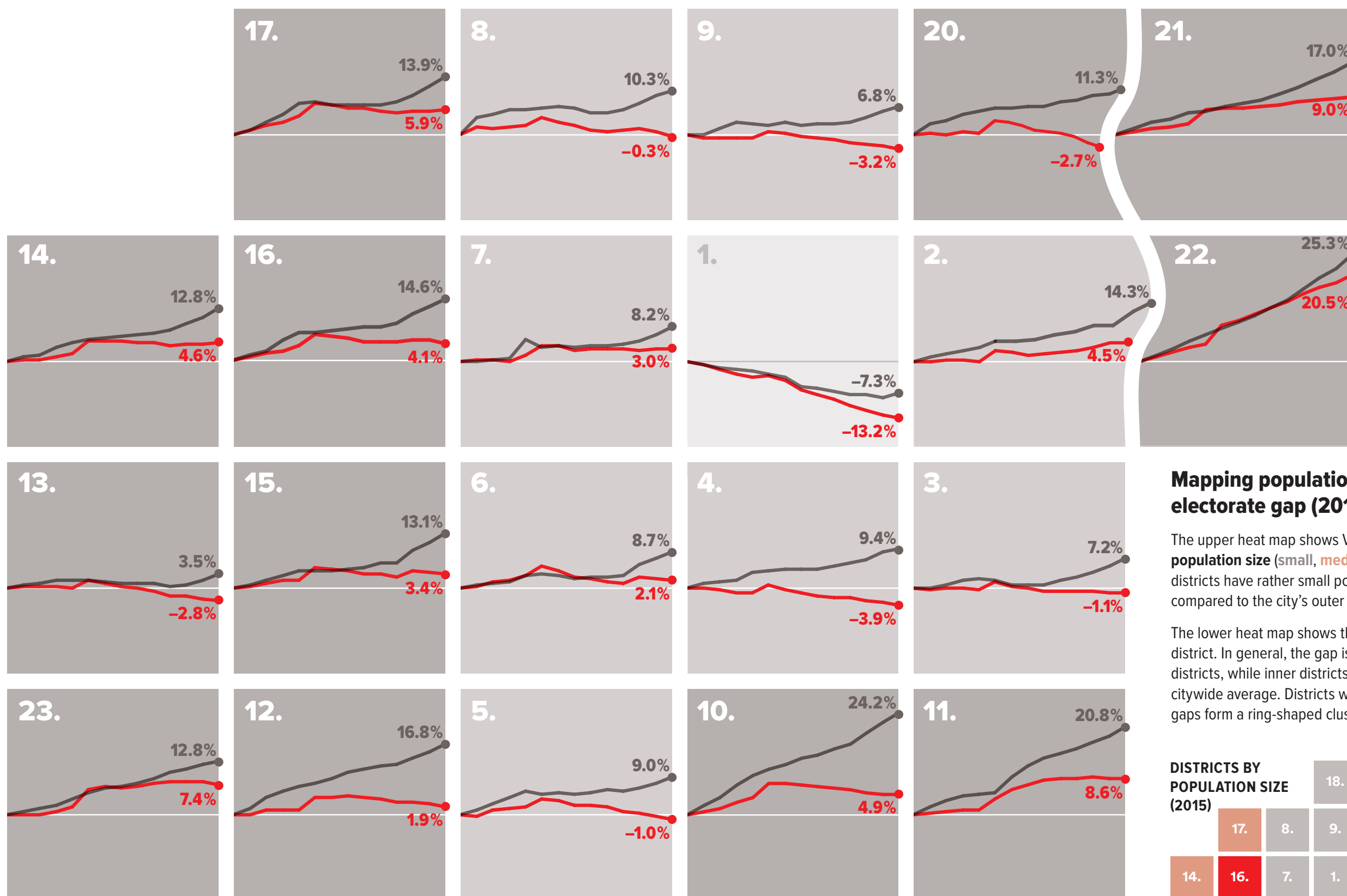
Change of total population and electorate in Vienna (2002–2015)

The chart above shows that Vienna's **total population** has gone up by 14.4% between 2002 and 2015 while the **electorate** has increased by only 4.5%. Moreover, at least half of the electorate's increase can be attributed to the lowering of the voting age in 2007.

District by district (2002–2015)

The **line charts** below illustrate the change in **electorate** compared to change in **total population** between 2002 and 2015, using 2002 figures as a baseline.

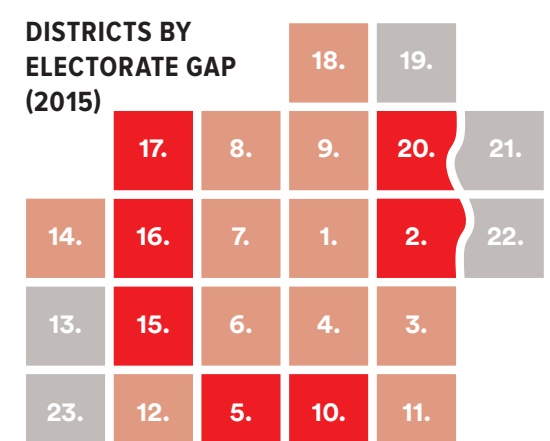
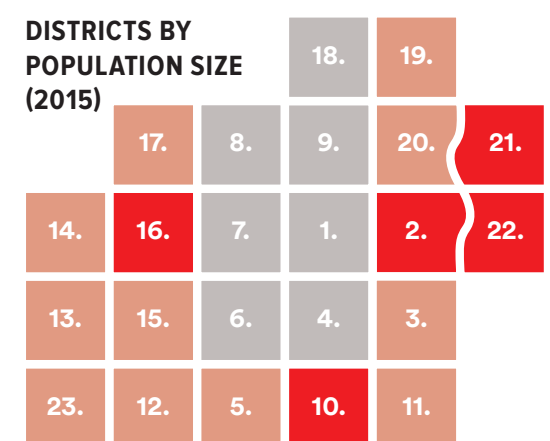
This data map depicts these developments separately for the 23 districts of Vienna. All districts gained population except for the 1st district. During the same period, the size of the electorate has stagnated or decreased in many districts. As a consequence, Vienna's electoral gap has widened since 2002.



Mapping population size and electorate gap (2015)

The upper heat map shows Vienna's 23 districts by **population size** (small, medium, large). Inner districts have rather small populations when compared to the city's outer districts.

The lower heat map shows the **electorate gap** by district. In general, the gap is lower in outer districts, while inner districts are close to the citywide average. Districts with larger electorate gaps form a ring-shaped cluster within the city.



■ SMALL (more than 80% of eligible voters)
■ MEDIUM (between 70% and 80%)
■ LARGE (less than 70%)

Infographic by Ramon Bauer, Tina Frank and Michael Holzapfel (2015).

Source data by Statistik Austria. Data map inspired by London Squared Map (aftertheflood.co/projects/london-squared-map). More information: www.metropop.eu/vienna-electorate

The electorate gap by age and district (2015)

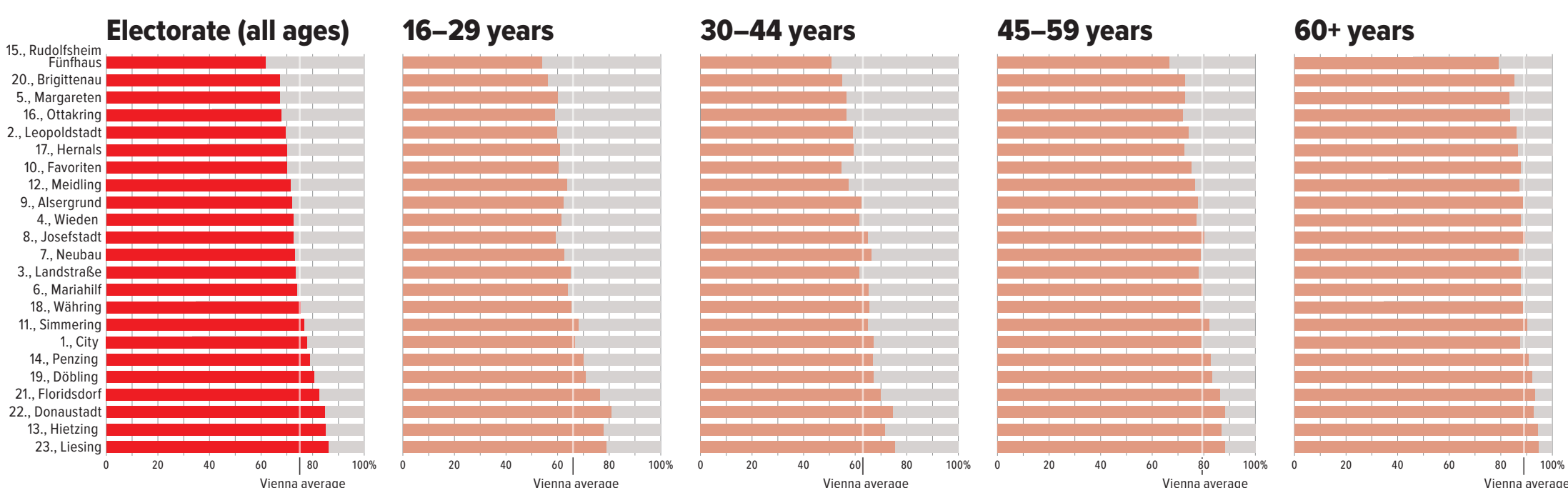
Vienna's electorate gap also varies by age – the younger the electorate, the larger the electoral gap. Below-left, the 23 **districts of Vienna** are ranked by 2015 electorate gap. Atop the chart is

the 15th district, where just 62% of the voting-age inhabitants (16 years and older) are eligible to vote. At the low end of the electorate gap ranking is the 23rd district, where 85% of residents

old enough to vote are eligible to do so. Differentiated **by age**, only two-thirds of Vienna's 16 to 29 year-olds are actually eligible to vote. The city's electorate gap is largest

among young adults between age 30 and 44, of which only 63% are eligible. Those at prime working age between 45 and 59 years have a smaller electorate gap – 80% on average.

Among residents 60 years and older the electorate gap is by far the smallest, with nearly 90% of this numerically strong age group eligible to vote in Vienna.



The **bar charts** above show (a) the share of people who are **eligible to vote** and (b) the share of those who are **ineligible to vote** for various age groups by district in 2015. Larger grey columns suggest a larger

electorate gap in the respective age group and district. Citywide averages are indicated in order to facilitate the comparability of the district values.