

# Birth Barometer

Monitoring Fertility in Austria

## Fertility during and after the COVID pandemic

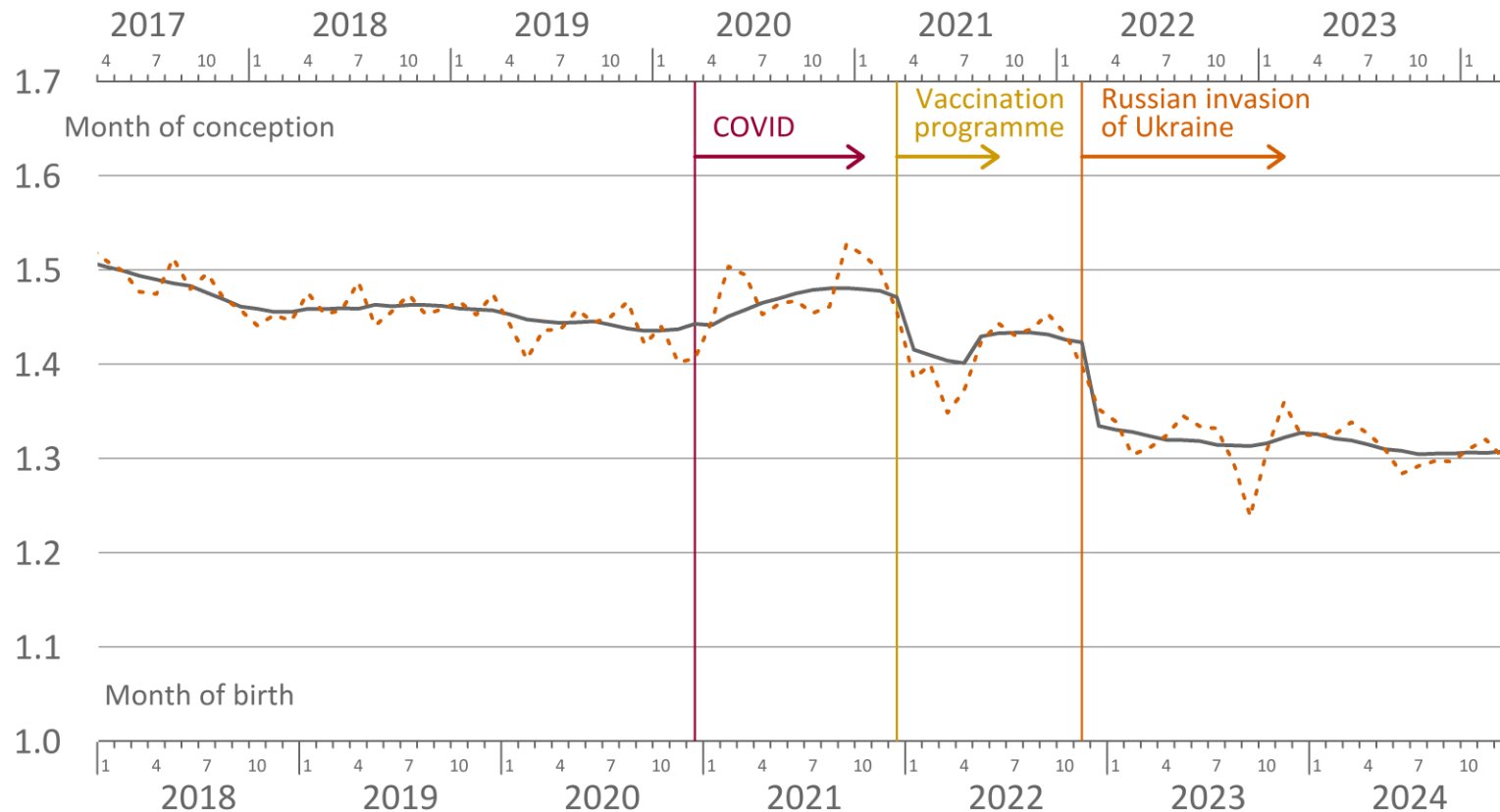


Analysis based on data from  
Statistics Austria covering the  
period until 2024

13 April 2026

# Total Fertility Rates (TFR) by month

## Seasonally-adjusted monthly TFR, 2018–2024

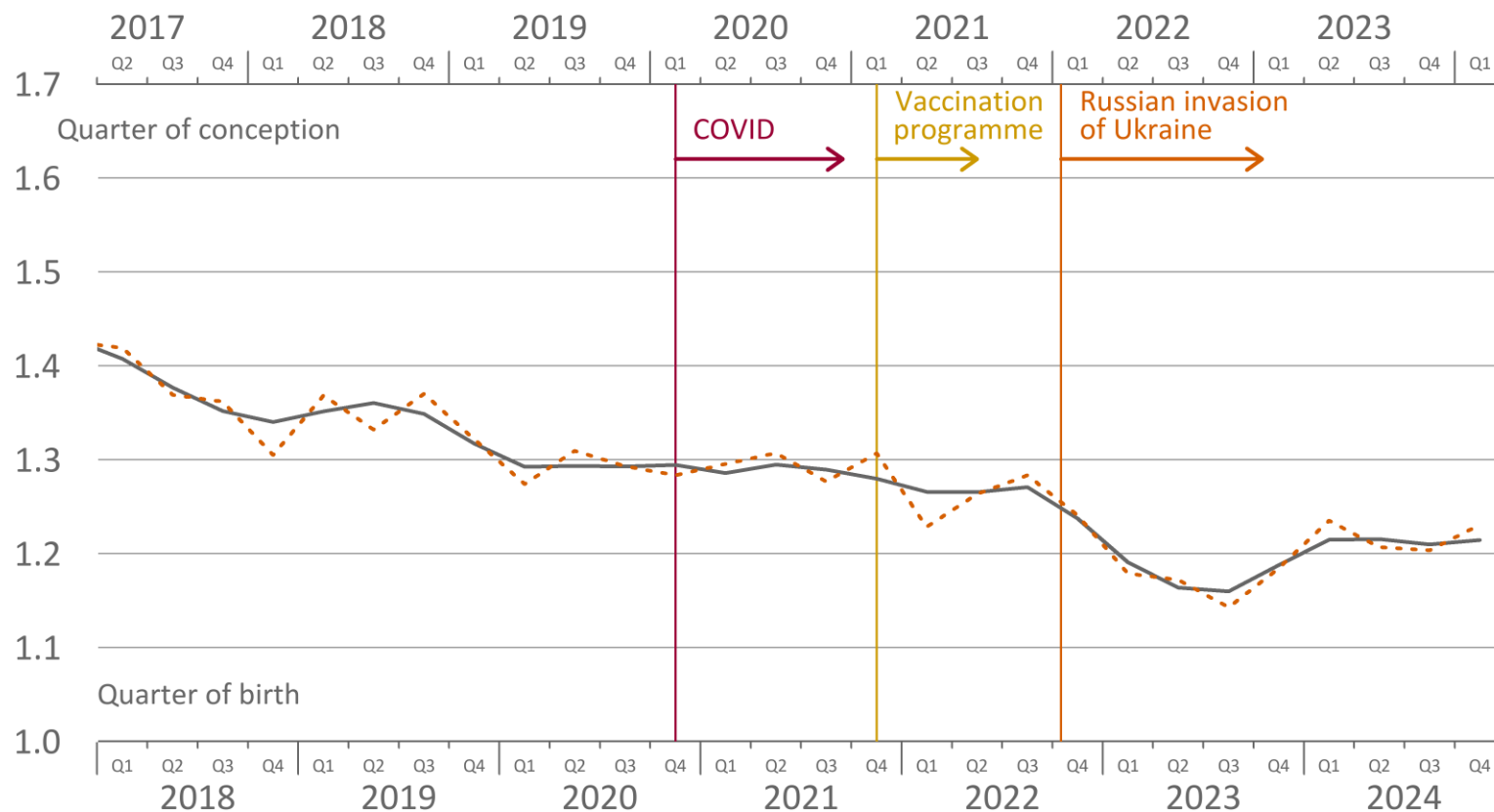


Monthly total fertility rates are adjusted for seasonal patterns in birth numbers (dashed line). The top time axis is shifted by nine months to capture the approximate time of conception.

- Nine months after the onset of the COVID 19-pandemic, fertility rates declined slightly and then rebounded quickly in 2021.
- Some couples avoided pregnancies during COVID-19 vaccination: fertility rates dropped after the start of the vaccination programme and partly recovered in mid-2022.
- Fertility rates fell sharply nine months after the Russian invasion of Ukraine and have since fluctuated around a lower trend (smoothed solid line) of about 1.3.

# Total Fertility Rates in Vienna

## Seasonally-adjusted quarterly TFR, 2018–2024

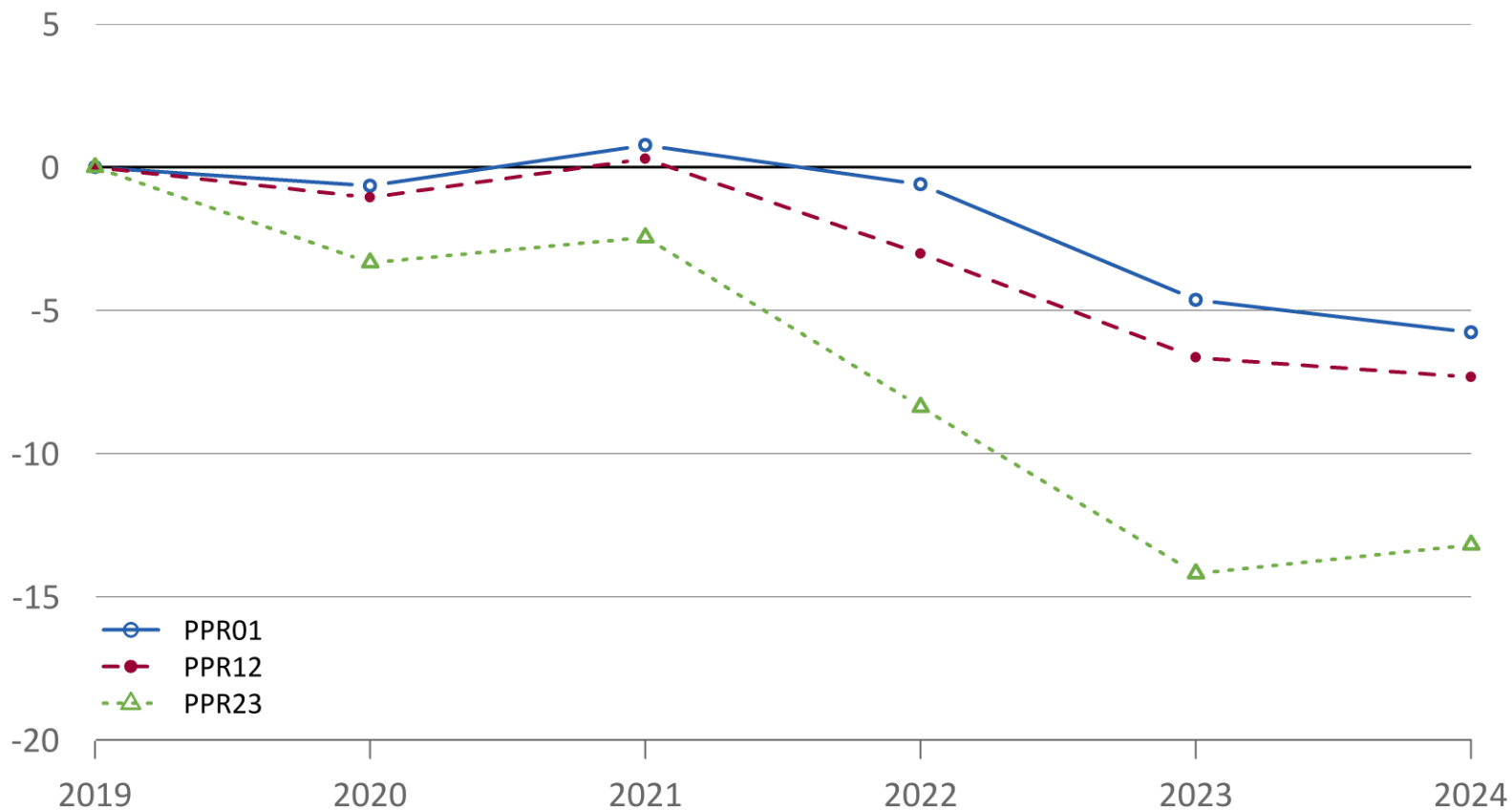


Quarterly total fertility rates are adjusted for seasonal patterns in birth numbers (dashed line). The top time axis is shifted by nine months to capture the approximate time of conception.

- Fertility rates in Vienna remained stable in Vienna in the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- As in Austria overall, a brief drop and rebound of fertility is visible after the COVID vaccination rollout.
- Fertility rates declined steeply nine months after Russian invasion of Ukraine, with a TFR reaching a low of 1.17 in Q3/2023.
- A slight recovery followed, with TFR at 1.22 in Vienna in 2024.

# Parity progression ratios (PPR)

Relative change in PPR by birth order, 2019–2024 (%)



Parity Progression Ratios (PPR) measure the probability that a woman with a given number of children (parity) will have another child. They allow to track changes the in fertility by birth order.

- Recent fertility declines were stronger for second and third births than for first births.
- Third birth rates fell already at the start of the COVID-19 pandemic and their decline accelerated in 2022 and 2023. The probability that a woman with two children would have a third child in 2023 was by 14% lower than in 2019.
- In 2024, first and second births rate continued to decline slightly, whereas third birth rates went slightly up.

# Trends in fertility by age

Relative change in fertility rates of women in selected age groups, 2019–2024 (%)

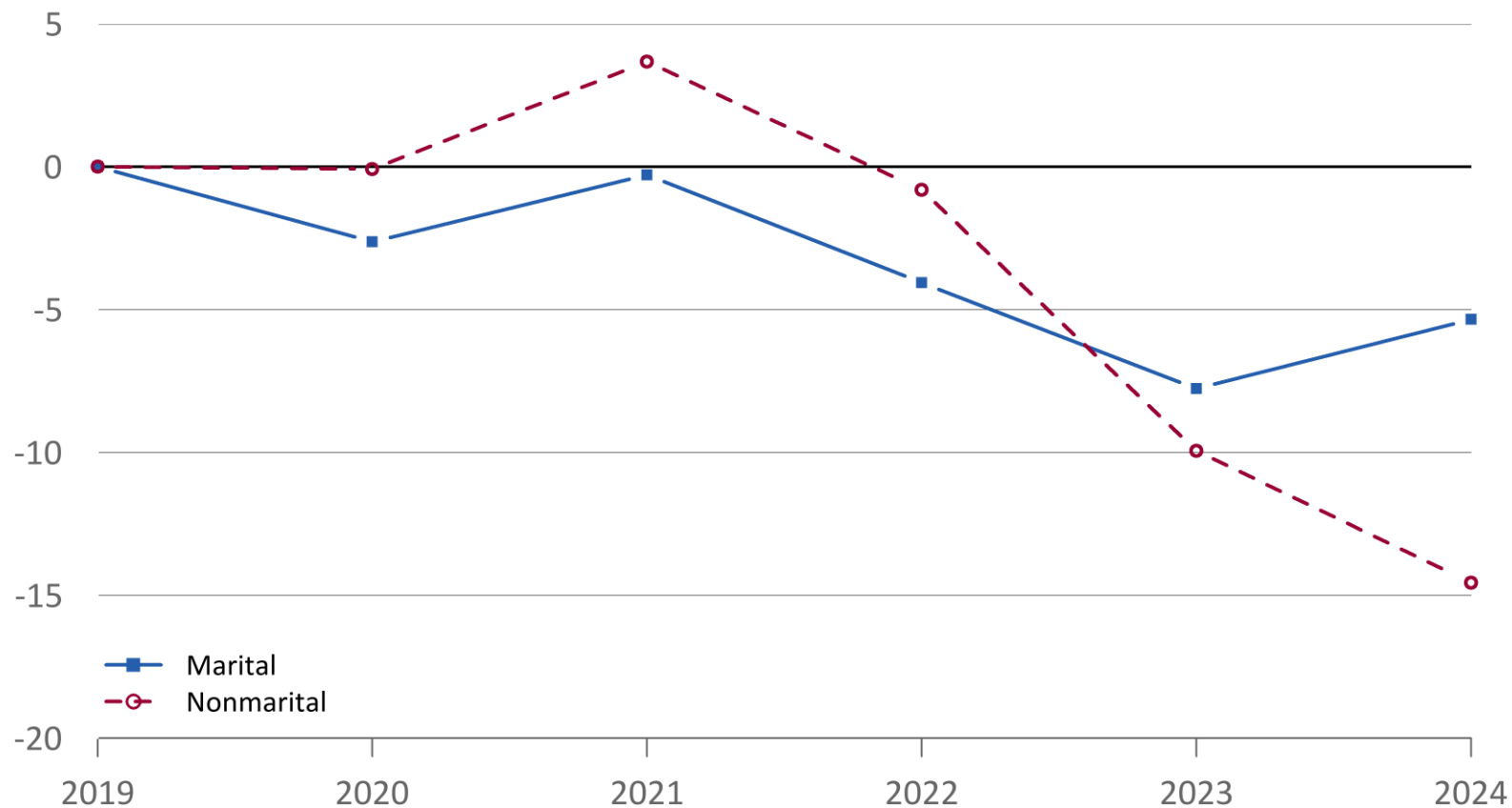


Age-specific fertility rates (ASFRs) show how many children women of a given age group have on average in a year.

- The long-term decline in fertility among young adult women (aged under 25 years) continued uninterrupted from 2020 to 2023.
- In 2021, fertility rose briefly among women older than 25 years, with stronger increases at older reproductive ages.
- Fertility declined steeply in 2022 and 2023, especially among women aged 25 to 29, with a decline of about nine percentage points.
- In 2024, fertility rates stabilised in all age groups except for women aged 25 to 29, who saw a minor decline.

# Trends in births by marital status

Relative change in the number of births by marital status, 2019–2024 (%)

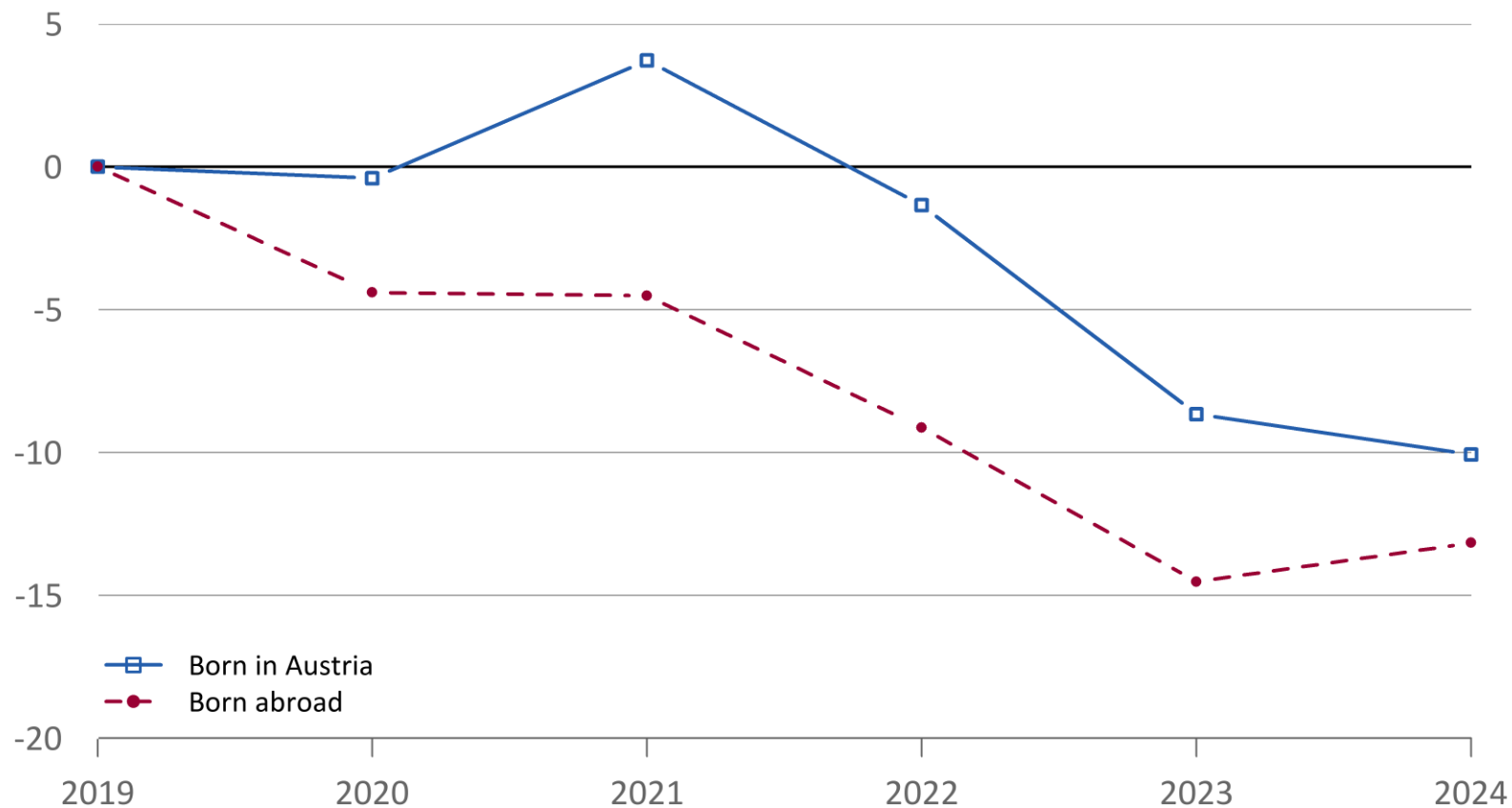


Birth trends varied by parents' marital status during the recent crises years.

- The increase in births in 2021 occurred both for women within and outside marriage (mostly in cohabiting unions).
- However, in 2023 and 2024, birth trends diverged for married and unmarried women.
- The birth decline in 2023 was much stronger among non-married women than among the married ones. Births outside marriage continued to fall in 2024, when births within marriage went up.
- As a result, the share of births outside marriage has dropped since (see chapter MAIN TRENDS).

# Trends by mother's country of birth

## Relative change in Total Fertility Rate by country of birth of mother, 2019–2024 (%)



- Total fertility rates by mother's country of birth diverged in 2021 and in 2024.
- Women born in Austria saw a slight fertility increase of about 4% in 2021, followed by a sharp decline in 2022 and 2023 and a moderate decrease in 2024.
- Among women born abroad, fertility continued to decline throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, with no increase in fertility in 2021.
- Fertility declines in 2022 and 2023 were similar for women born in Austria and abroad.
- In 2024, fertility increased among foreign-born women, and it declined slightly among Austrian-born women.

# Birth Barometer: Monitoring Fertility in Austria

**Data Source:** STATISTICS AUSTRIA. Vital Statistics

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