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# Wholesale prices up 13.2 % year-on-year in January

## Compared with December 2022, the index increased by 1.5 %

Vienna, 2023-02-07 – According to preliminary calculations by Statistics Austria, the wholesale price index (WPI 2020) for January 2023 reached 134.8 index points. This corresponds to a year-on-year increase of 13.2 %. In a month-on-month comparison, prices increased by 1.5 %.

“At the beginning of the year, price increases in Austrian wholesale trade were no longer quite as high as in 2022: Although January 2023 still showed a clear year-on-year increase of 13.2 %, the annual rate of change in December 2022 was still +14.4 %. Price drivers in January were in particular technical chemicals, solid fuels and petroleum products; inflation was dampened by reductions in the prices of waste and scrap,” says Statistics Austria Director General Tobias Thomas.

### Main price drivers in wholesale: technical chemicals, solid fuels and other petroleum products

The index increase compared to **January 2022** was mainly the result of rising wholesale prices for industrial chemicals (+61.2 %), solid fuels (+53.9 %), other liquid and gaseous fuels and related products (+41.1 %) as well as dairy products, eggs and edible oils and fats (+32.0 %).

Once again, live animals (+26.9 %), stationary (+26.1%), flat glass (+25.9 %), sugar, chocolate and sugar confectionery (+24.8 %), motor spirit (+24.6 %), other food (+21.8 %), other construction materials (+21.7 %), paper and paperboard (+20.7 %) in addition to meat and meat products (+20.2 %) proved to be noticeable price drivers.

Inflation for hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies (+16.5 %), fertilisers and agrochemical products (+14.7 %), perfume and cosmetics (+13.6 %), office furniture, other machinery and equipment (each +13.4 %) and also cleaning materials (+13.0 %) influenced the index development as well.

There were also increases in the prices of flowers and plants (+12.4 %), agricultural machinery, equipment and supplies (+12.0 %), coffee, tea, cocoa and spices (+11.9 %), wallpaper and floor coverings (+11.6 %), textiles (+11.2 %), glassware, china and pottery (+10.8 %), grain, seeds and animal feeds (+10.3 %), motor vehicle parts and accessories (+10.2 %) as well as furniture, carpets and lighting equipment (+10.0 %).

The prices of waste and scrap (-26.6 %), plastics and rubber in primary forms (-25.5 %), iron and steel (-5.2 %) and hides and leather (-3.6 %) fell in the period under review.

### Price increase of 1.5 % compared with December 2022

**Within the space of a single month**, significant price increases drove up the prices of wallpaper and floor coverings (+8.8 %), other machinery and equipment (+7.6 %), glassware, china and pottery (+6.7 %), textiles, waste and scrap (each +6.1 %) and solid fuels (+6.0 %). In addition cleaning materials (+5.1 %), medical and orthopaedic instruments and devices (+5.0 %), other household articles (+4.8 %), machinery for the textile industry and sewing and knitting machines, hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies (each +4.5 %) also increased in price.

Declines were mainly due to price reductions for plastics and rubber in primary forms (-18.3 %), industrial chemicals (-8.6 %), hides and leather (-3.7 %), grain, seeds and animal feeds (-2.0 %) as well as fertilisers and agrochemical products (-1.7 %).

For more information on the Wholesale Price Index, please refer to our [website](#).

## Wholesale price index (excluding value added tax)

Period	Total Index 2020 = 100	Change in percent	
		Previous Period	Previous Year Period
2023 January <sup>1</sup>	134.8	1.5	13.2
<b>2022 Annual average</b>	<b>133.5</b>	-	<b>20.9</b>
<b>2022 4th Quarter</b>	<b>136.3</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>17.4</b>
2022 December	132.8	-2.3	14.4
2022 November	135.9	-3.0	16.5
2022 October	140.1	3.1	21.2
<b>2022 3rd Quarter</b>	<b>136.3</b>	<b>-0.3</b>	<b>21.6</b>
2022 September	135.9	0.2	20.6
2022 August	135.6	-1.2	21.3
2022 July	137.3	-1.5	22.8
<b>2022 2nd Quarter</b>	<b>136.7</b>	<b>9.5</b>	<b>25.9</b>
2022 June	139.4	2.5	26.5
2022 May	136.0	1.0	25.1
2022 April	134.7	0.9	26.0
<b>2022 1st Quarter</b>	<b>124.8</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>19.2</b>
2022 March	133.5	9.7	25.6
2022 February	121.7	2.2	16.3
2022 January	119.1	2.6	15.5
<b>2021 Annual average</b>	<b>110.4</b>	-	<b>10.4</b>
<b>2021 4th Quarter</b>	<b>116.1</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>15.8</b>
2021 December	116.1	-0.5	15.0

Q: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, monthly price surveys.

1) Preliminary figures.

**Information on methodology, definitions:** The index series is denoted by the base year, i.e., the average measurement number of the 2020 wholesale price index is 100.0 in 2020. As a fixed-basis index, the base year wholesale price index recalculates the monthly measurement numbers from January through December 2020 based on an updated weighting and relates them to the reporting periods beginning in January 2021.

### If you have any questions on this topic, please contact:

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