

Press release: 12.975-003/23

Wholesale prices 2022 20.9% higher than 2021

Rise weakens at the end of the year

Vienna, 2023-01-05 – According to preliminary calculations by Statistics Austria, the wholesale price index (GHPI 2020) averaged 133.5 index points in 2022. This means that prices in Austrian wholesale trade increased by an average of 20.9 % compared with the previous year. From 2020 to 2021, the increase was half as high at +10.4 %.

“The price rally was also evident in the wholesale sector in 2022, with wholesale prices 20.9 % higher than in 2021. However, the increase slowed considerably at the end of the year: in December, wholesale prices rose by 14.4 %, after 16.5 % in November and 21.2 % in October. This indicates a rather subdued course of the general inflation rate,” says Statistics Austria Director General Tobias Thomas.

Wholesale prices for solid fuels nearly double in 2022

The index increase in 2022 was fueled primarily by price increases for solid fuels (+91.2 %), other liquid and gaseous fuels and related products (+83.8 %), fertilisers and agrochemical products (+59.0 %), industrial chemicals (+54.7 %), motor spirit (+49.2 %) and grain, seeds and animal feeds (+44.2 %).

Wholesale prices for iron and steel (+28.5 %), non-iron metals (+28.1 %), live animals (+23.7 %), stationary (+21.7 %), paper and paperboard (+21.6 %), plastics and rubber in primary forms (+20.9 %) as well as dairy products, eggs and edible oils and fats (+20.0 %) rose at an above-average rate in the past year.

There were also notable price increases for flat glass (+18.7 %), wood in the rough, products of primary processing of wood, other construction materials (each +16.6 %), coffee, tea, cocoa and spices (+15.0 %), furniture, carpets and lighting equipment (+14.5 %), other food (+13.5 %) and meat and meat products (+13.4 %).

There were also significant price increases for office furniture (+13.2 %), sugar, chocolate and sugar confectionary (+11.9 %), fruits and vegetables (+11.8 %), hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies (+11.5 %), mining, construction and civil engineering machinery (+11.2 %), agricultural machinery, equipment and supplies (+10.9 %) and motor vehicle parts and accessories (+10.8 %).

Wholesale prices increased by 14.4 % in December 2022

In December 2022, the index of wholesale prices reached 132.8 points, according to preliminary calculations, and was thus 14.4 % higher than in December of the previous year, compared with the previous month of November 2022, the index decreased by 2.3 %.

Compared with December of the previous year, the index was strongly influenced by the significant price increases for industrial chemicals (+91.8 %), solid fuels (+58.1 %), other liquid and gaseous fuels and related products (+55.2 %) as well as dairy products, eggs and edible oils and fats (+32.8 %).

The index was also affected by price increases for stationary (+27.8 %), live animals (+26.0 %), motor spirit (+25.4 %), flat glass (+25.2 %), paper and paperboard (+23.7 %), sugar, chocolate and sugar confectionary (+23.1 %), other food and other construction materials (each +21.6 %) and meat and meat products (+20.4 %).

There was also a marked rise in the price of fertilisers and agrochemical products (+19.1 %), office furniture (+17.3 %), furniture, carpets and lighting equipment (+16.6 %), grain, seeds and animal feeds (+16.0 %),

flowers and plants (+14.3 %), hardware, plumbing and heating equipment and supplies (+14.2 %), games and toys (+13.6 %) as well as coffee, tea, cocoa and spices (+13.5 %).

In addition, agricultural machinery, equipment and supplies (+12.7 %), motor vehicle parts and accessories (+12.3 %), perfumes and cosmetics (+11.8 %), mining, construction and civil engineering machinery (+11.7 %), cleaning materials (+10.2 %), paints, varnishes and lacquers (+10.1 %) and also textiles, wallpaper, floor coverings (each+10.0 %) became more expensive.

Prices for waste and scrap (–29.7 %) and iron and steel (–3.7 %) fell during this period.

Compared with the previous month of November 2022, the wholesale price index fell by 2.3%. The main reasons for this were price reductions for other liquid and gaseous fuels and related products (–10.4 %), motor spirit (–8.9 %), iron and steel (–7.0 %), industrial chemicals (–3.6 %) and grain, seeds and animal feeds (–3.5 %) were the main factors influencing the downward trend of the index. Solid fuels (–2.9 %), fertilisers and agrochemical products (–2.2 %), plastics and rubber in primary forms (–2.0 %), flowers and plants (–1.3 %) and waste and scrap (–1.2 %) also had a dampening effect on prices.

By contrast, prices for dairy products, eggs and edible oils and fats (+3.3 %), other construction materials (+2.5 %), live animals (+1.6 %), information and communication equipment (+1.5 %) and non-alcoholic beverages (+1.3 %) rose month-on-month. In addition, prices for hides and leather, sugar, chocolate and sugar confectionary, other food and textiles each rose by 1.1 %, while those for fruit and vegetables increased by 1.0 %.

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
2022 Annual average¹	133.5	-	20.9
2022 4th Quarter¹	136.3	0.0	17.4
2022 December ¹	132.8	–2.3	14.4
2022 November	135.9	–3.0	16.5
2022 October	140.1	3.1	21.2
2022 3rd Quarter	136.3	–0.3	21.6
2022 September	135.9	0.2	20.6
2022 August	135.6	–1.2	21.3
2022 July	137.3	–1.5	22.8
2022 2nd Quarter	136.7	9.5	25.9
2022 June	139.4	2.5	26.5
2022 May	136.0	1.0	25.1
2022 April	134.7	0.9	26.0
2022 1st Quarter	124.8	7.5	19.2
2022 March	133.5	9.7	25.6
2022 February	121.7	2.2	16.3
2022 January	119.1	2.6	15.5
2021 Annual average	110.4	-	10.4
2021 4th Quarter	116.1	3.6	15.8
2021 December	116.1	–0.5	15.0
2021 November	116.7	1.0	16.6

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:

Barbara Albl, phone: +43 1 711 28-8226 | e-mail: barbara.albl@statistik.gv.at

Media owner, producer and publisher:

STATISTICS AUSTRIA | Federal Institution under Public Law | Guglgasse 13 | 1110 Vienna | www.statistik.at

Press: phone: +43 1 711 28-7777 | e-mail: presse@statistik.gv.at

© STATISTICS AUSTRIA