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# Construction costs up only moderately in March

## Bridge construction costs declined in March 2023 year-on-year

Vienna, 2023-04-14 – According to Statistics Austria, the construction cost index for residential buildings was 0.5% higher in March 2023 than in March 2022. Costs in road construction rose by 0.9% and in sanitary engineering by 2.6% within one year. The costs in bridge construction decreased by 3.7% year-on-year.

The construction cost index for construction for **residential buildings** reached 121.7 index points in March 2023. Compared to March 2022 this means an increase of 0.5%, while compared to February 2023, the index decreased by 0.2%.

The index for **road construction** reached 126.9 index points (+0.9% in annual and –0.2% in a monthly comparison). The index for **bridge construction** reached 123.8 index points, which shows a decline of 3.7% compared to March 2022 and of 0.2% to February 2023. The index for **sanitary engineering** reached 123.0 points (+2.6% in annual and -0.1% in monthly comparison).

There was a significant increase in transportation costs compared to March 2022, which impacted all construction sectors. In the sector of residential buildings, the material groups polystyrene, foam boards and ready-mixed plaster as well as floor screed were considerable cost drivers. The costs of fuels and bituminous mixes decreased significantly which especially affected the civil engineering sectors. In addition, there were strong cost increases in the product groups cast iron goods and pipes, plastic pipes as well as concrete pipes, which mainly influenced sanitary engineering. The cost decline in bridge construction was mainly caused by decreases in the material groups dominated by steel products.

Detailed results and further information on the construction cost index can be found on our [website](#).

**Table 1: Construction cost indices, overall costs, compared to previous year, base 2020**

| Month/Year                | Residential buildings |  | Road construction |  | Bridge construction |  | Sanitary engineering |  |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|--|-------------------|--|---------------------|--|----------------------|--|
|                           | Index                 | Compared to same month of previous year in % | Index             | Compared to same month of previous year in % | Index               | Compared to same month of previous year in % | Index                | Compared to same month of previous year in % |
| <b>Overall index 2021</b> | <b>110.4</b>          | <b>10.4</b>                                  | <b>108</b>        | <b>8.0</b>                                   | <b>114.2</b>        | <b>14.2</b>                                  | <b>107.7</b>         | <b>7.7</b>                                   |
| January 2022              | 115.0                 | 11.9   | 113.9             | 12.5   | 119.0               | 14.5   | 112.9                | 11.0   |
| February 2022             | 115.8                 | 11.5   | 115.1             | 12.5   | 119.5               | 13.2   | 114.0                | 11.0   |
| March 2022                | 121.1                 | 15.2   | 125.8             | 21.7   | 128.5               | 20.4   | 119.9                | 15.6   |
| April 2022                | 124.0                 | 16.0   | 128.2             | 21.5   | 132.5               | 21.1   | 121.8                | 16.1   |
| May 2022                  | 125.9                 | 13.9   | 129.4             | 20.3   | 134.4               | 17.6   | 124.2                | 15.8   |
| June 2022                 | 124.4                 | 10.7   | 130.0             | 19.5   | 132.2               | 12.8   | 124.4                | 14.1   |
| July 2022                 | 123.4                 | 8.5  | 130.7             | 18.8   | 129.9               | 9.1  | 124.4                | 13.1   |
| August 2022               | 122.7                 | 7.3  | 130.5             | 18.5   | 128.3               | 7.3  | 123.7                | 12.4   |
| September 2022            | 122.9                 | 7.6  | 131.5             | 19.1   | 128.4               | 7.6  | 124.0                | 12.4   |
| October 2022              | 122.4                 | 7.5  | 130.7             | 16.8   | 128.5               | 8.1  | 124.4                | 12.3   |
| November 2022             | 121.1                 | 6.5  | 127.8             | 13.4   | 125.5               | 5.9  | 122.8                | 10.6   |

| Month/Year                 | Residential buildings |  | Road construction |  | Bridge construction |  | Sanitary engineering |  |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|--|-------------------|--|---------------------|--|----------------------|--|
|                            | Index                 | Compared to same month of previous year in % | Index             | Compared to same month of previous year in % | Index               | Compared to same month of previous year in % | Index                | Compared to same month of previous year in % |
| December 2022              | 120.2                 | 5.8  | 126.5             | 12.5   | 123.6               | 4.9  | 122.1                | 10.0   |
| <b>Overall Index 2022</b>  | <b>121.6</b>          | <b>10.1</b>                                  | <b>126.7</b>      | <b>17.3</b>                                  | <b>127.5</b>        | <b>11.6</b>                                  | <b>121.6</b>         | <b>12.9</b>                                  |
| January 2023               | 121.6                 | 5.7  | 127.1             | 11.6   | 123.7               | 3.9  | 122.7                | 8.7  |
| February 2023 <sup>1</sup> | 121.9                 | 5.3  | 127.2             | 10.5   | 124.0               | 3.8  | 123.1                | 8.0  |
| March 2023 <sup>1</sup>    | 121.7                 | 0.5  | 126.9             | 0.9  | 123.8               | -3.7   | 123.0                | 2.6  |

Q: STATISTICS AUSTRIA.

1) preliminary results: t+75 final results.

**Table 2: Construction cost indices, overall costs, compared to previous month, base 2020**

| Month/Year                 | Residential buildings |                                 | Road construction |                                 | Bridge construction |                                 | Sanitary engineering |                                 |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|
|                            | Index                 | Compared to previous month in % | Index             | Compared to previous month in % | Index               | Compared to previous month in % | Index                | Compared to previous month in % |
| <b>Overall index 2021</b>  | <b>110.4</b>          |                                 | <b>108</b>        |                                 | <b>114.2</b>        |                                 | <b>107.7</b>         |                                 |
| January 2022               | 115.0                 | 1.2                             | 113.9             | 1.3                             | 119.0               | 1.0                             | 112.9                | 1.7                             |
| February 2022              | 115.8                 | 0.7                             | 115.1             | 1.1                             | 119.5               | 0.4                             | 114.0                | 1.0                             |
| March 2022                 | 121.1                 | 4.6                             | 125.8             | 9.3                             | 128.5               | 7.5                             | 119.9                | 5.2                             |
| April 2022                 | 124.0                 | 2.4                             | 128.2             | 1.9                             | 132.5               | 3.1                             | 121.8                | 1.6                             |
| May 2022                   | 125.9                 | 1.5                             | 129.4             | 0.9                             | 134.4               | 1.4                             | 124.2                | 2.0                             |
| June 2022                  | 124.4                 | -1.2                            | 130.0             | 0.5                             | 132.2               | -1.6                            | 124.4                | 0.2                             |
| July 2022                  | 123.4                 | -0.8                            | 130.7             | 0.5                             | 129.9               | -1.7                            | 124.4                | 0.0                             |
| August 2022                | 122.7                 | -0.6                            | 130.5             | -0.2                            | 128.3               | -1.2                            | 123.7                | -0.6                            |
| September 2022             | 122.9                 | 0.2                             | 131.5             | 0.8                             | 128.4               | 0.1                             | 124.0                | 0.2                             |
| October 2022               | 122.4                 | -0.4                            | 130.7             | -0.6                            | 128.5               | 0.1                             | 124.4                | 0.3                             |
| November 2022              | 121.1                 | -1.1                            | 127.8             | -2.2                            | 125.5               | -2.3                            | 122.8                | -1.3                            |
| December 2022              | 120.2                 | -0.7                            | 126.5             | -1.0                            | 123.6               | -1.5                            | 122.1                | -0.6                            |
| <b>Overall Index 2022</b>  | <b>121.6</b>          |                                 | <b>126.7</b>      |                                 | <b>127.5</b>        |                                 | <b>121.6</b>         |                                 |
| January 2023               | 121.6                 | 1.2                             | 127.1             | 0.5                             | 123.7               | 0.1                             | 122.7                | 0.5                             |
| February 2023 <sup>1</sup> | 121.9                 | 0.2                             | 127.2             | 0.1                             | 124.0               | 0.2                             | 123.1                | 0.3                             |
| March 2023 <sup>1</sup>    | 121.7                 | -0.2                            | 126.9             | -0.2                            | 123.8               | -0.2                            | 123.0                | -0.1                            |

Q: STATISTICS AUSTRIA.

1) preliminary results: t+75 final results.

**Information on methodology:** In the base year of an index period, the mean annual index number is standardised to the value 100.0. This index period is defined as the base year. The mean index number of the construction cost index for the year 2020 is therefore 100.0.

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

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