

Press release: 13 094-122/23

# Construction costs for residential buildings and bridge construction below prior-year level in May

## Year-on-year cost increases in road construction and sanitary engineering

Vienna, 2023-06-15 – In May 2023, the construction cost index for residential buildings was 0.7% lower than in May 2022, according to Statistics Austria. Costs in road construction increased by 1.3% and in sanitary engineering by 2.5% within one year. The costs in bridge construction dropped by 4.9% year-on-year.

The construction cost index for construction for **residential buildings** reached 125.0 index points in May 2023. This represents a decrease of 0.7% compared to May 2022. Compared to April 2023, the index increased by 2.6%.

The index for **road construction** reached 131.1 index points (+1.3% in annual and +3.1% in a monthly comparison). The index for **bridge construction** reached 127.8 index points, which represents a decline of 4.9% compared to May 2022 and an increase of 3.2% to April 2023. The index for **sanitary engineering** reached 127.3 points (+2.5% in annual and +3.4% in monthly comparison).

An important cost-increasing component for all construction branches is the new collective bargaining agreements of several construction branches (for example bricklayer-, carpenter and painter trade) which have been valid since 1 May 2023. Compared with the previous year the total wage (labour) costs increased by 8.5% and the wage costs for construction works by 9.2%.

Compared to May 2022, the product groups dominated by steel products recorded strong cost decreases, which was particularly reflected in bridge construction. The costs for plastic products also dropped significantly. The costs of ready-mixed concrete and mortar as well as natural and quarry stones increased significantly which especially affected the civil engineering sectors. On the other hand, 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.

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

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 %
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
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	121.9	5.3	127.2	10.5	124.0	3.8	123.1	8.0
March 2023	121.7	0.5	127.0	1.0	123.8	-3.7	123.0	2.6
April 2023 <sup>1</sup>	121.8	-1.8	127.2	-0.8	123.8	-6.6	123.1	1.1
May 2023 <sup>1</sup>	125.0	-0.7	131.1	1.3	127.8	-4.9	127.3	2.5

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	121.9	0.2	127.2	0.1	124.0	0.2	123.1	0.3
March 2023	121.7	-0.2	127.0	-0.2	123.8	-0.2	123.0	-0.1
April 2023 <sup>1</sup>	121.8	0.1	127.2	0.2	123.8	0.0	123.1	0.1
May 2023 <sup>1</sup>	125.0	2.6	131.1	3.1	127.8	3.2	127.3	3.4

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:**

Lukas Karbun. phone: +43 1 711 28-7432 | e-mail: [lukas.karbun@statistik.gv.at](mailto:lukas.karbun@statistik.gv.at)

**Media owner, producer and publisher:**

STATISTICS AUSTRIA | Federal Institution under Public Law | Guglgasse 13 | 1110 Vienna | [www.statistik.at](http://www.statistik.at)

Press: phone: +43 1 711 28-7777 | e-mail: [presse@statistik.gv.at](mailto:presse@statistik.gv.at)

© STATISTICS AUSTRIA