

Press release: 13 260-026/24

Wholesale prices fell by 3.8% in January 2024

Compared to the previous month of December, the index rose by 1.0%

Vienna, 2024-02-07 – According to preliminary data from Statistics Austria, the wholesale price index (WPI 2020) for January 2024 was 129.7 index points. It was therefore 3.8% lower than a year earlier. Prices rose by 1.0% compared to the previous month. In December 2023, the annual rate of change was –3.3%.

“The trend of falling wholesale prices continued at the beginning of 2024. Starting from a high price level, wholesale sales prices fell by 3.8% compared to January of the previous year. Although we see a slight increase compared to the previous month of December, the 1.0 % increase in prices month-on-month is mainly due to the fact that some companies do not adjust their prices continuously, but rather at the beginning of each year,” says Statistics Austria Director General Tobias Thomas.

As in the previous months, the index was influenced by **year-on-year** declines in grain, seed and animal feed (–28.8%), industrial chemicals (–27.4%), fertilisers and agrochemical products (–25.1%) and solid fuels (–21.8%). Iron and steel (–14.1%), non-iron metals (–11.7%), rubber in primary forms (–11.0%), wood in the rough, products of primary processing of wood (–9.0%), other liquid and gaseous fuels and related products (–8.6%) and paper and paperboard (–8.2%) were also cheaper than a year ago.

In particular, prices rose compared to **December 2023** for glassware, china and pottery (+5.5%), iron and steel (+4.3%), books, magazines and newspapers (+4.2%), for textiles, other liquid and gaseous fuels and related products and industrial chemicals (each +3.7%). Furniture, carpets and lighting equipment, musical instruments, waste and scrap (each +3.3%) and footwear (+3.0%) also increased in price.

For more information on the wholesale price index, please refer to our [website](#).

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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