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# Inflation at 3.8% in December 2025

## Inflation falls below 4.0% for the first time since July 2025

Vienna, 2026-01-19 – According to Statistics Austria, the consumer price index reached 129.8 points in December 2025. As expected in the flash estimate at the beginning of January, prices were thus on average 3.8% higher than a year earlier. Compared to the previous month November 2025, the average price level increased by 0.3%. The harmonised index of consumer prices (HICP 2015) was at 3.8%.

“Inflation in Austria fell below 4.0% for the first time since July 2025, reaching 3.8% in December 2025. The lower increase is mainly attributable to fuel, which became cheaper in December compared with the previous year and had a dampening effect on prices again after 3 months. The strongest price drivers remain electricity and services. For food, price pressure increased at the end of the year,” says Manuela Lenk, Director General Statistics at Statistics Austria.

In December 2025, housing, water and energy had the most significant upward impact on inflation (+6.5% compared to December 2024; electricity, gas and other fuels +16.5%, including electricity +41.9%, gas +3.5%, solid fuels +4.6%, district heating +1.7%, heating oil –1.4%; rents +4.1%; maintenance and repair of the dwelling +2.6%), followed by restaurants and hotels (+5.5%; restaurants +5.5%, hotels +4.8%). The third strongest contributor to price increases was the group food and non-alcoholic beverages (+3.9%; food +3.4%, non-alcoholic beverages +7.6%). Prices for miscellaneous goods and services showed an increase of 4.5% (insurance +4.9%, personal care +2.2%). Transport prices rose by 2.1% (used cars +6.4%, maintenance and repair of personal transport equipment +4.1%, fuels –1.4%). Prices for recreation and culture showed a plus of 2.4% (recreational and cultural services +4.1%, package holidays +2.4%).

The index level of the harmonised index of consumer prices (HICP 2015) was 141.09 in December 2025 (November 2025: revised 140.37), with a harmonised inflation rate of 3.8% (November: 4.0%).

Information on the **annual inflation rate for 2025** can be found in a separate [press release](#). For more information on the consumer price index, please refer to our [website](#).

**Information on methodology, definitions:** A new index period with the base year 2020 has been published for the CPI since January 2021. Previous time series are continued concatenated. Each index series is labelled with the base year, i.e. the average annual measure of the new consumer price index 2020 (CPI 2020) is standardised to 100.0 for the base year 2020. The harmonised index of consumer prices (HICP) continues to be published on the basis of 2015 (as it has been since January 2016).

The **inflation rate** is the average price development over a twelve-month period.

**Harmonised index of consumer prices (HICP):** Differences between the consumer price index (CPI) and the EU-wide comparable harmonised index of consumer prices (HICP) are primarily based on weighting differences. While the CPI only takes into account households living in Austria, the HICP also covers expenditure by non-resident tourists.

**Statistics Austria** is the central organisation for official data and statistics on society, the economy, the state and the environment. As a national statistical institute, it is committed to the statutory principles of independence, impartiality and objectivity. Statistics Austria is headed by Manuela Lenk, Director General Statistics, and Franz Haslauer, Director General Finance.

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