

Press release: 14 120-039/26

Inflation at 2.0% in January 2026

Lowest value since December 2024

Vienna, 2026-02-25 – According to Statistics Austria, the consumer price index (CPI 2025, base year 2025) reached 100.6 points in January 2026. Thus, prices were 2.0% higher on average than one year earlier. Compared to the previous month December 2025, the average price level decreased by 0.7%. The harmonised index of consumer prices (HICP 2025) was at 2.0%.

“As expected in the flash estimate, inflation stood at 2.0% in January 2026, down from 3.8% in December 2025. The last time the inflation rate was this low was in December 2024. The price development of electricity reduced inflation by a whole percentage point. In January 2025, prices for electricity had risen sharply due to the elimination of the electricity price cap, but year-on-year comparisons showed significant decreases not only due to this base effect, but also due to lower electricity taxes in January 2026. In addition, fuel and heating oil dampened inflation even more than recently. Furthermore, price increases slowed in many areas, particularly for services and food,” says Manuela Lenk, Director General Statistics at Statistics Austria.

In January 2026, restaurants and accommodation services had the most significant upward impact on inflation (+4.9% compared to January 2025; food and beverage serving services +5.4%, accommodation services +3.8%), followed by food and non-alcoholic beverages (+2.6%; food +2.2%, non-alcoholic beverages +4.6%). The third strongest contributor to price increases was housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels (+1.0%; electricity, gas and other fuels –3.9%, including electricity –8.2%, liquid fuels –9.4%, gas –1.1%, other energy for heating and cooling +2.7%, solid fuels +5.1% ; actual rental payments made for housing +4.1%; maintenance, repair and security of the dwelling +2.2%). Prices for personal care, social protection and miscellaneous goods and services showed a price increase of 4.3% (other services +10.0%, personal care +2.0%). Transport prices rose by 0.2% (second-hand passenger cars +5.8%, maintenance and repair of personal transport equipment +3.8%, fuels –6.5%).

The index level of the harmonised index of consumer prices (HICP 2025) was 100.65 in January 2026 (December 2025: 101.50), with a harmonised inflation rate of 2.0% (December, base year 2015: 3.8%).

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 2025 has been published for the CPI since January 2026. 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 2025 (CPI 2025) is standardised to 100.0 for the base year 2025. The HICP has been published also with the base year 2025 (since January 2026)

New classification: With the January 2026 index, COICOP18/ECOICOP vers.2 replaces the COICOP 1999 version. This results in a new assignment of basket items to ECOICOPvers.2 aggregates. From January 2026 onwards, there are 13 main groups instead of 12. The old classification with the 12 main groups ends in 2025. Old ECOICOP aggregates cannot be directly compared with the new aggregates. The structure and a reconciliation table are available in the classification database [classification database](#). The legal basis is [EU Regulation 2024/3159](#).

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.

Further enquiries:

For information on results and methodology, please contact:

Michaela Maier, phone.: +43 1 711 28-7187, e-mail: Michaela.Maier@statistik.gv.at

For interview requests, please contact the press office: presse@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