Press release: 14 130-049/26

Wholesale prices in February 2026 up 1.1% year-on-year

Price increase of 0.7% compared with January 2026

Vienna, 2026-03-06 – In February 2026, the wholesale price index (WPI 2025) rose by 1.1% to 101.4 points compared to February of the previous year, according to preliminary data from Statistics Austria. Compared to the previous month of January, prices increased by 0.7%.

“In February 2026, Austrian wholesale prices continued to rise. After a slight increase of 0.4% in January, wholesale prices rose by 1.1% year-on-year in February. We are seeing a particularly sharp increase in watches and jewellery due to the sharp rise in the price of gold. However, price increases for coffee, tea, cocoa and spices, as well as waste and scrap, also remain in the low double-digit percentage range. In addition, tobacco prices rose significantly due to the tax increase,” says Manuela Lenk, Director General Statistics at Statistics Austria.

Wholesale prices continue to rise year-on-year

The 1.1% increase in wholesale prices compared with February last year is mainly due to price increases for watches and jewellery (+16.1%), coffee, tea, cocoa and spices (+12.5%) as well as waste and scrap (+12.1%). Other machinery and equipment (+9.1%), fruits and vegetables (+8.3%), flat glass (+8.0%), solid fuels (+7.5%) and wood in the rough, products of primary processing of wood (+7.0%) also became more expensive. Furthermore, price gains year-on-year were recorded for non-iron metals (+6.9%), meat and meat products (+5.9%) as well as tobacco products, sugar, chocolate and sugar confectionary (each +5.5%).

Cheaper than in February last year were grain, seeds and animal feeds (–14.4%), plastics and rubber in primary forms (–12.1%), other liquid and gaseous fuels and related products (–8.1%), motor spirits (–6.5%) as well as hides and leather (–5.1%).

Month-on-month price increase

Compared with the previous month of January, wholesale prices rose by 0.7% in February 2026. This was mainly due to price increases for fruits and vegetables (+4.5%), watches and jewellery, other liquid and gaseous fuels and related products (each +3.8%), flowers and plants (+3.1%) as well as for solid fuels (+2.8%), information and communication equipment (+2.1%) and industrial chemicals (+2.0%).

For detailed results and further information on the wholesale price index, please refer to our website.

Information on methodology, definitions: The wholesale price index (WPI) tracks the monthly price development of goods sold by wholesalers. Since January 2026, the index has been published with 2025 as the base year. Previous time series can be continued concatenated. Each index series is labelled with the base year, i.e. the average annual measure of the current wholesale price index 2025 is standardised to 100.0 for the base year 2025.

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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