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Wholesale prices rose by 6.9% in May 2026

Heating oil and fuel prices have fallen slightly, but remain well above last year's level

Vienna, 2026-06-05 – According to preliminary data from Statistics Austria, the wholesale price index (WPI 2025) stood at 106.7 points in May 2026. This represents an increase of 6.9% compared with May 2025. Compared to the previous month, April 2026, prices rose slightly by 0.1%. In April 2026, the year-on-year increase was +6.7%.

"Austrian wholesale prices rose sharply year-on-year in May 2026, marking the fifth consecutive month of annual price increases in the wholesale sector. We are seeing the highest increases in plastics and rubber in primary forms, heating oil and fuels. However, the price rises for heating oil and fuels were lower this time than previously," says Manuela Lenk, Director General Statistics at Statistics Austria.

Price increases reached as much as double-digit rates

The main drivers of the rise in the index compared with May 2025 (+6.9%) were the price increases for plastics and rubber in primary forms (+53.1%), other liquid and gaseous fuels and related products (+44.9%) and motor spirit (+30.1%).

Specifically, price rises for non-iron metals (+16.9%), information and communication equipment (+15.5%), waste and scrap (+14.7%), other machinery and equipment (+11.7%), watches and jewellery (+11.4%), solid fuels (+10.5%) as well as iron and steel (+10.1%) also contributed to the index.

Slight price increase of 0.1% compared with April 2026

Compared with the previous month, April 2026, wholesale prices rose by 0.1% in May. Month-on-month price increases were seen in plastics and rubber in primary forms (+5.5%), waste and scrap (+4.2%), industrial chemicals (+3.5%), other machinery and equipment (+2.2%) as well as for grain, seeds and animal feeds (+2.0%).

For detailed results and further information 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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