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Construction costs rose significantly in May 2026

Costs for residential and housing construction increased by 5.6%

Vienna, 2026-06-15 – According to preliminary data from Statistics Austria, costs for residential and housing construction were 5.6% higher in May 2026 than in May of the previous year. In road construction, costs rose by 8.9% compared to May 2025, in bridge construction they grew by 6.9% and in sanitary engineering by 7.0%.

The construction cost index for **construction of residential buildings** stood at 105.8 points in May 2026. Compared to May 2025, this corresponds to an increase of 5.6% (see table 1). Compared to April 2026, costs for construction of residential buildings rose by 1.8% (see table 2).

The index for **road construction** reached 109.0 index points (+8.9% in annual and +1.6% in a monthly comparison). The index for **bridge construction** reached 107.1 index points, which represents an increase of 6.9% compared to May 2025 and of 2.0% compared to April 2026. The index for **sanitary engineering** was at 107.2 points (+7.0% in annual comparison, +1.9% in monthly comparison).

The changes in construction costs are significantly influenced by the collective wage agreements in force since 1 May 2026 in some sectors relevant to the construction industry, such as the bricklayer, carpentry and painting trades.

Table 1: Construction cost indices, compared to previous year

Month/Year	Residential buildings		Road construction		Bridge construction		Sanitary engineering	
	Index	Compared to same month of previous year in %	Index	Compared to same month of previous year in %	Index	Compared to same month of previous year in %	Index	Compared to same month of previous year in %
May 2026[1]	105.8	5.6	109.0	8.9	107.1	6.9	107.2	7.0
April 2026[1]	103.9	4.4	107.3	7.9	105.0	6.0	105.2	6.3
March 2026	102.4	2.9	104.1	4.5	103.2	3.9	103.1	3.7
February 2026	101.3	2.0	100.6	0.6	100.9	1.7	100.8	1.3
January 2026	101.1	1.9	100.4	0.5	100.7	1.4	100.7	1.2
Overall Index 2025	**100.0**		**100.0**		**100.0**		**100.0**	

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA. construction cost index. – Overall costs. – Base year 2025. – 1) Preliminary results.

Table 2: Construction cost indices, compared to previous month

Month/Year	Residential buildings		Road construction		Bridge construction		Sanitary engineering	
	Index	Compared to previous month in %	Index	Compared to previous month in %	Index	Compared to previous month in %	Index	Compared to previous month in %
May 2026[1]	105.8	1.8	109.0	1.6	107.1	2.0	107.2	1.9
April 2026[1]	103.9	1.5	107.3	3.1	105.0	1.7	105.2	2.0
March 2026	102.4	1.1	104.1	3.5	103.2	2.3	103.1	2.3
February 2026	101.3	0.2	100.6	0.2	100.9	0.2	100.8	0.1
January 2026	101.1	0.6	100.4	0.4	100.7	0.3	100.7	0.2
Overall Index 2025	**100.0**		**100.0**		**100.0**		**100.0**	

S: STATISTICS AUSTRIA, construction cost index. – Overall costs. – Base year 2025. 1) Preliminary results.

For detailed results and further information please refer to our website.

Information on methodology, definitions:

Construction costs represent the costs incurred by construction companies (master builders, professionals) in the execution of construction work. The construction cost index shows the monthly change in material, energy, transportation and wage costs as well as the costs for the use of machinery that construction companies in Austria have to bear for ongoing construction projects in Austria. The index is calculated for construction of residential buildings and for the three civil engineering sectors of road, bridge and sanitary engineering.

Since January 2026, the construction cost 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 construction cost index 2025 is standardised to 100.0 for the base year 2025.

In contrast to construction costs, **construction prices** are the actual prices that clients have to pay to construction companies for the respective construction services. The construction output price index shows the quarterly price changes for construction services provided by companies in Austria and purchased by clients in Austria. The index thus not only provides information on the cost development of the production factors used in the construction process (such as materials and wages), but also on the change in productivity, profit margin etc. of construction companies. The index is calculated for the sectors construction of residential buildings and other structural engineering as well as road and bridge construction along with other civil engineering. Data on the construction output price index can be found on our website.

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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