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Inflation in Austria at 3.2% in August 2026

Rising fuel and heating oil prices responsible for higher inflation rate

Vienna, 2026-09-17 – According to Statistics Austria, the consumer price index (CPI 2025) reached 103.7 points in August 2026. Thus, prices were 3.2% higher on average than in August 2025. In the monthly comparison to July 2026, the average price level increased by 0.6%. The harmonised index of consumer prices (HICP 2025) stood at 2.9%.

"As expected in the flash estimate published in early September, inflation in Austria rose to 3.2% in August 2026. In July 2026, it had stood at 2.8%. Higher fuel and heating oil prices, in particular, drove up the inflation rate. However, the services sector remained the main driver of inflation. By contrast, the reduction in VAT on basic foodstuffs from 10% to 4.9%, which has been in force since July, had a dampening effect on inflation: food prices in August were also lower than a year ago," says Manuela Lenk, Director General Statistics at Statistics Austria.

In August 2026, transport had the biggest impact on inflation (+7.8% compared to August 2025; fuels +26.3%, maintenance and repair of personal transport equipment +4.1%, air tickets 6.8%, second-hand passenger cars −2.0%), followed by housing, water, electricity as well as gas and other fuels (+3.3%; actual rental payments made for housing +4.4%, maintenance, repair and security of the dwelling +3.6%, electricity, gas and other fuels +1.3%, including liquid fuels +48.1%, gas +7.9%, solid fuels +13.9%, district heating +1.2%, electricity −10.7%). The third strongest contributor to price increases were restaurants and accommodation services (+4.7%; food and beverage serving services +4.7%, accommodation services +3.7%). Prices for recreation, sport and culture rose by 2.5% (recreational services +4.1%, package holidays +3.2%). Food and non-alcoholic beverages showed a decrease of 0.3% (food −0.3%, non-alcoholic beverages −0.6%).

The index level of the harmonised index of consumer prices (HICP 2025) was 103.15 in August 2026, with a harmonised inflation rate of 2.9% (July: 2.7%).

For detailed results and further information 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).

What is the inflation rate?

The **inflation rate** is the average price development over a 12-month period.

What is the difference between the consumer price index (CPI) and the 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 considers households living in Austria, the HICP also covers expenditure by non-resident tourists.

Who is Statistics Austria?

Statistics Austria is the central organisation for official data and statistics on society, the economy, the state and the environment in Austria. 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

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