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Argentina: February Consumer Price Inflation

by Barbara Khol

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On March 4, the National Census and Statistics Institute (INDEC) reported that the consumer price index rose 2.2% in February, bringing the accumulated rate for the first two months of the year to 5.3%, and the 12-month rate to 27.5%. The wholesale price index rose 0.3%, result of an average 0.4% increase in domestic product prices, and a 1.1% decline on prices of imported goods. The highest consumer (retail) price increases were recorded for meats, fruit, housing, and electricity and gas rates. INDEC calculated a 5.2% increase in housing costs; foodstuffs and beverages, 3.2%; medical services, 2.1%; miscellaneous goods and services, 1.2%; education, 1.1%; and, household equipment and maintenance, 0.9%. Price deflation was registered for furniture (0.7%), and transportation and communications (0.1%). [Basic data from Agence France-Presse, 03/04/92; Ambito Financiero (Argentina), 03/05/92]

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