

EUWID Price Watch France

April 2025

Prices in € per tonne free delivered unless otherwise stated	April 2025	March 2025	April 2024
Fine paper			
Woodfree uncoated			
Copy paper 80 g A4 B grade	950 - 1,060	950 - 1,060	1,030 - 1,150
Copy paper 80 g A4 C grade	900 - 1,010	900 - 1,010	980 - 1,100
Offset sheets 80 g	980 - 1,070	980 - 1,070	1,040 - 1,120
Offset reels 80 g	900 - 1,000	900 - 1,000	990 - 1,080
Woodfree coated			
Sheets, double coated, 100 g	980 - 1,080	980 - 1,080	1,030 - 1,130
Reels, double coated, 100 g	910 - 1,020	910 - 1,020	990 - 1,080
Publication paper			
Standard newsprint 45 g	600 - 630	600 - 630	570 - 610
Standard newsprint 42 g	610 - 640	610 - 640	580 - 620
Improved newsprint ISO 68, 52 g	650 - 680	650 - 680	620 - 660
LWC offset 60 g	770 - 820	770 - 830	770 - 830
LWC rotogravure 60 g	780 - 830	780 - 840	780 - 840
SC offset 56 g (A)	670 - 710	670 - 720	670 - 720
SC rotogravure 56 g (A)	670 - 710	670 - 720	680 - 730
Corrugated case material			
Primary fibre corrugated case material			
Unbleached kraftliner 175 g+	780 - 870	780 - 870	640 - 790
Semi-chemical fluting	640 - 700	640 - 700	570 - 670
White-top kraftliner 140 g	880 - 990	840 - 990	770 - 910
Recycled corrugated case material			
Recycled fluting 100 g	640 - 665	640 - 665	580 - 605
Recycled fluting 90 g	650 - 680	650 - 680	590 - 620
Testliner II	660 - 690	660 - 690	600 - 630
Testliner III	650 - 675	650 - 675	590 - 615
White-top testliner, grade B, 140 g	720 - 790	720 - 790	640 - 730
Cartonboard			
GD II	840 - 970	810 - 940	810 - 940
GC II	1,140 - 1,330	1,140 - 1,330	1,100 - 1,280

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hikes because demand is not strong enough. According to producers, newsprint is the most robust of the publication paper segments and capacity utilisation on paper machines in Europe is relatively good. But despite machine closures, there is rather overcapacity than surplus demand.

On occasion, there were also announcements of price hikes for SC paper as of April. But here, too, price negotiations ended with a stalemate that left most prices unchanged. There were scattered reports that producers had been able to implement smaller mark-ups of around €10-15/t, on an individual basis and with various starting dates. Yet, especially low prices are still valid for major customers. Some of the relatively high prices are no longer to be found.

Peak prices were also trimmed in the market for LWC, which otherwise saw little price movement in the second quarter. Although this segment has the greatest excess capacity and the market

is described by producers as "decent" at best but often as "very weak," prices at the lower end of the bracket did not soften noticeably.

In the price negotiations for coated magazine paper, one topic that came up repeatedly was Kabel Premium – the company's troubles and insolvency filing influenced the talks. As long as the future of Kabel is up in the air, there will be no price adjustments for now, respondents in the market say.

On the producers' side, there is concern about rising production costs. One SC paper maker told EUWID they were already in the red at current price levels. Other producers report similar problems, depending on the paper grade and location of the mill. The biggest cost drivers are fibre and energy, but the general inflation of recent years has also made many other inputs in paper production more expensive.

After a few years of disruptive developments, the consumption trend in the publication paper

market has returned to the previous trajectory of structural decline. Circulation figures for newspapers and magazines are shrinking in France as well, but the downturn is moderated somewhat by the paper consumed by retail chains for their printed flyers. However, the "Oui Pub" pilot project, which tests distributing printed advertising only to private households that expressly signify they want to receive it by displaying a "Oui Pub" sticker, is slated to conclude at the end of May. However, retailers in France have already scaled back or in some cases even cancelled their flyer campaigns in light of the cost and complexity, especially for distribution.

Corrugated case material producers set to hike prices as of start of May

The announcement of last-minute price hikes for brown recycled corrugated case material, which

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