

65/2018 - 18 April 2018

March 2018

Annual inflation up to 1.3% in the euro area

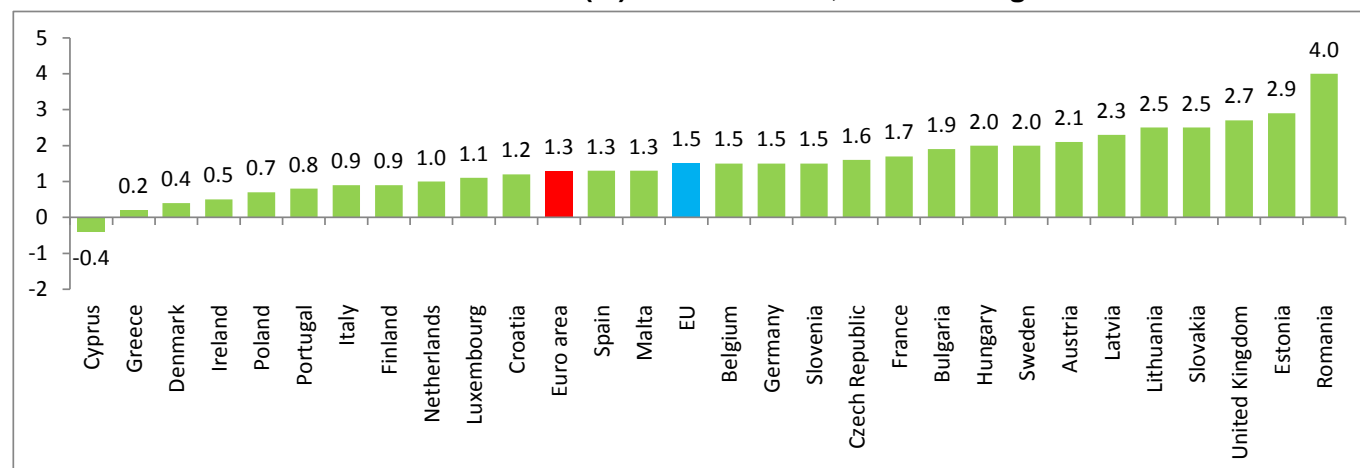
Up to 1.5% in the EU

Euro area annual inflation rate was 1.3% in March 2018, up from 1.1% in February. A year earlier, the rate was 1.5%. **European Union** annual inflation was 1.5% in March 2018, up from 1.4% in February. A year earlier the rate was 1.6%. These figures are published by **Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union**.

The lowest annual rates were registered in **Cyprus** (-0.4%), **Greece** (0.2%) and **Denmark** (0.4%). The highest annual rates were recorded in **Romania** (4.0%), **Estonia** (2.9%), **Slovakia** and **Lithuania** (both 2.5%). Compared with February, annual inflation fell in six Member States, remained stable in six and rose in fifteen.

In March 2018, the highest contribution to the annual **euro area** inflation rate came from services (+0.67 percentage point), followed by food, alcohol & tobacco (+0.41 pp), energy (0.20 pp) and non-energy industrial goods (0.07 pp).

Annual inflation rates (%) in March 2018, in ascending order



Data for the United Kingdom are for February 2018.

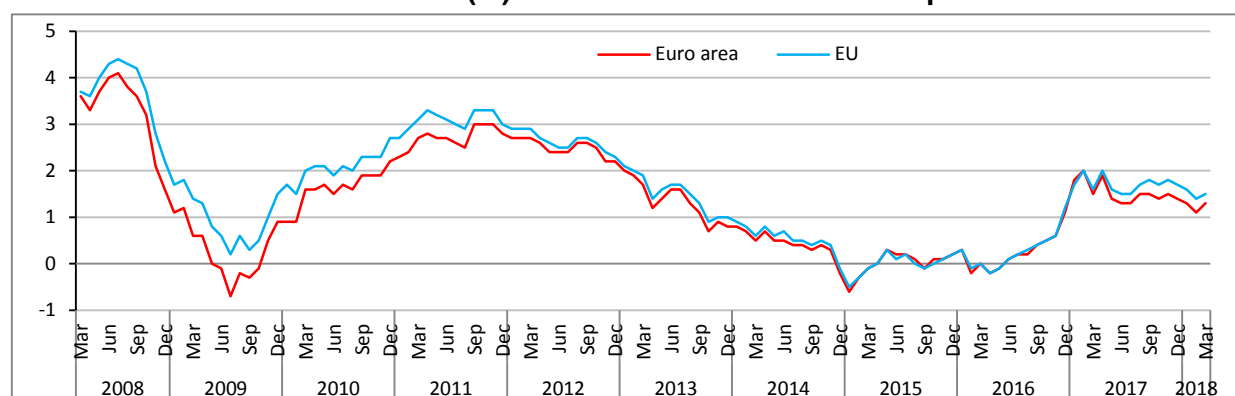
Inflation rates (%) measured by the HICP

	Annual rate							Monthly rate
	Mar 17	Oct 17	Nov 17	Dec 17	Jan 18	Feb 18	Mar 18	
Euro area	1.5	1.4	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.1	1.3	1.0
EU	1.6	1.7	1.8	1.7	1.6	1.4r	1.5	0.7
Belgium	2.5	1.8	2.1	2.1	1.8	1.5	1.5	0.0
Bulgaria	1.0	1.5	1.9	1.8	1.3	1.5	1.9	-0.2
Czech Republic	2.6	2.8	2.5	2.2	2.1	1.6	1.6	0.0
Denmark	0.9	1.4	1.3	0.8	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.0
Germany	1.5	1.5	1.8	1.6	1.4	1.2	1.5	0.4
Estonia	3.0	4.0	4.5	3.8	3.6	3.2	2.9	0.1
Ireland	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.7	0.5	0.4
Greece	1.7	0.5	1.1	1.0	0.2	0.4	0.2	1.2
Spain	2.1	1.7	1.8	1.2	0.7	1.2	1.3	1.2
France	1.4	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.5	1.3	1.7	1.1
Croatia	1.1	1.6	1.6	1.3	1.2	0.9	1.2	0.5
Italy	1.4	1.1	1.1	1.0	1.2	0.5	0.9	2.3
Cyprus	1.5	0.4	0.2	-0.4	-1.5	-0.4	-0.4	0.9
Latvia	3.3	2.7	2.7	2.2	2.0	1.8	2.3	1.3
Lithuania	3.2	4.2	4.2	3.8	3.6	3.2	2.5	0.4
Luxembourg	2.5	2.0	2.0	1.6	1.3	1.1	1.1	0.0
Hungary	2.7	2.2	2.6	2.2	2.1	1.9	2.0	0.1
Malta	1.2	1.5	1.5	1.3	1.2	1.3	1.3	0.9
Netherlands	0.6	1.3	1.5	1.2	1.5	1.3	1.0	0.2
Austria	2.1	2.4	2.4	2.3	1.9	1.9	2.1	0.9
Poland	1.8	1.6	2.0	1.7	1.6	0.7	0.7	0.0
Portugal	1.4	1.9	1.8	1.6	1.1	0.7	0.8	2.2
Romania	0.4	2.0	2.6	2.6	3.4	3.8	4.0	0.3
Slovenia	2.0	1.3	1.4	1.9	1.7	1.4	1.5	0.4
Slovakia	1.0	1.8	2.1	2.0	2.6	2.2	2.5	0.2
Finland	0.9	0.5	0.9	0.5	0.8	0.6	0.9	0.2
Sweden	1.4	1.7	1.9	1.7	1.6	1.6	2.0	0.3
United Kingdom	2.3	3.0	3.1	3.0	3.0	2.7	:	:
Iceland	-1.4	-1.2	-2.2	-1.0	-0.7	-1.0	0.3	0.7
Norway	2.5	1.0	1.0	1.5	1.6	2.3	2.2	0.3
Switzerland	0.5	0.8	0.8	1.1	0.8	0.5	0.7	0.3

r = revised
: = not available

The source dataset is available [here](#).

Annual inflation rate (%) in the euro area and the European Union



Euro area inflation rate (%), selected aggregates

	Weight (%)	Annual rate							Monthly rate
		2018	Mar 17	Oct 17	Nov 17	Dec 17	Jan 18	Feb 18	Mar 18
All-items HICP	1000.0	1.5	1.4	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.1	1.3	1.0
All-items excluding:									
> energy	903.0	0.9	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.0	1.3	1.2
> energy, unprocessed food	828.2	0.8	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.3
> energy, food, alcohol & tobacco	707.3	0.7	0.9	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.4
> energy, seasonal food	862.6	0.7	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.3
> tobacco	976.7	1.5	1.3	1.5	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.2	1.0
Food, alcohol & tobacco	195.7	1.8	2.3	2.2	2.1	1.9	1.0	2.1	0.5
> processed food, alcohol & tobacco	121.0	1.0	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.5	2.3	2.9	0.7
> unprocessed food	74.8	3.1	2.8	2.4	1.9	1.1	-0.9	0.8	0.2
Energy	97.0	7.4	3.0	4.7	2.9	2.2	2.1	2.0	-0.8
Non-energy industrial goods	263.3	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.2	3.2
Services	443.9	1.0	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.5	0.4

Contributions to the euro area annual inflation rate (pp), selected aggregates

	Contributions						
	Mar 17	Oct 17	Nov 17	Dec 17	Jan 18	Feb 18	Mar 18
Food, alcohol & tobacco	0.35	0.46	0.43	0.41	0.39	0.21	0.41
> processed food, alcohol & tobacco	0.12	0.25	0.26	0.27	0.30	0.28	0.35
> unprocessed food	0.23	0.21	0.18	0.14	0.08	-0.07	0.06
Energy	0.69	0.29	0.45	0.28	0.22	0.21	0.20
Non-energy industrial goods	0.07	0.09	0.11	0.13	0.15	0.14	0.07
Services	0.43	0.54	0.54	0.54	0.56	0.57	0.67

The full dataset is available in the Eurostat online [database](#).

Geographical coverage

The **euro area** consists of Belgium, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Portugal, Slovenia, Slovakia and Finland.

The **European Union** includes Belgium, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Croatia, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Hungary, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, Finland, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

The euro area and European Union data refer to the respective country compositions at a specific point in time. New Member States are integrated into the aggregates using a chain index formula.

Data for the United Kingdom for March 2018 were not available in time for publication. Due to this fact, the EU totals have been calculated using Eurostat estimates.

Methods and definitions

The **annual rate** measures the change of the Harmonised Indices of Consumer Prices (HICP) between a month and the same month of the previous year, and the **monthly rate** compares the indices between the two latest months.

A **contribution** shows how much of the annual inflation rate comes from a particular component of the HICP. The contributions are calculated according to a method which ensures their additivity (allowing for rounding).

Revisions and timetable

A flash estimate of euro area inflation is issued at the end of each reference month. The euro area [flash estimate for March 2018](#), published on 4 April 2018, was 1.4%.

The next flash estimate of euro area inflation with data for April 2018 is scheduled for 3 May 2018.

Data for the United Kingdom for February 2018 were not available in time for the HICP release of 16 March 2018, and EU totals were calculated using Eurostat estimates. Since then, the UK data have become available and the EU annual rate of change for February 2018 has been revised from 1.3% to 1.4% as a result.

For more information

Eurostat [website section](#) on inflation

Eurostat [database section](#) on inflation

Eurostat [Statistics Explained article](#) on inflation in the euro area

Eurostat [metadata](#) on inflation


Eurostat €-indicators [release calendar](#)

Issued by: **Eurostat Press Office**

Baiba GRANDOVSKA
Tel: +352-4301-33 444
eurostat-pressoffice@ec.europa.eu

For further information on methodology:

Lenka VALENTA
Tel: +352-4301-33 176
estat-hicp@ec.europa.eu

 **Media requests:** Eurostat media support / Tel: +352-4301-33 408 / eurostat-mediasupport@ec.europa.eu

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