# EUROPEAN COMMISSION DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS



## FLASH CONSUMER CONFIDENCE INDICATOR

## FOR EU AND EURO AREA

# February 2011

Final results for February, including the country breakdowns, will be published in the ESI press release of 24 February 2011 <a href="http://ec.europa.eu/economy\_finance/db\_indicators/surveys">http://ec.europa.eu/economy\_finance/db\_indicators/surveys</a>

In February 2011, the DG ECFIN flash estimate<sup>1</sup> of the consumer confidence indicator<sup>2</sup> improved significantly in the euro area (up to -9.9 from -11.2 in January 2011), while it remained broadly unchanged in the EU (-12.4 after -12.6 in January 2011).

#### **Computation of Flash CCI**

To compute the flash consumer confidence indicator for the EU and euro area, DG ECFIN uses the data available on the cut-off date. The estimation procedure combines historical data with information from those Member States for which data are available in the reference month. Experience has shown this procedure to be statistically reliable.

Further information on the computation procedure can be found in the <u>European Business Cycle Indicators</u> of January 2010.

### Scheduled publication dates

| Consumer confidence for | Flash estimate | Final release EU, euro area and Member States |
|-------------------------|----------------|---|
| March 2011              | 23 March 2011  | 30 March 2011                                 |
| April 2011              | 18 April 2011  | 29 April 2011                                 |
| May 2011                | 20 May 2011    | 27 May 2011                                   |

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Flash CCI for the EU aggregate is computed on the basis of consumer survey data from 19 EU countries, covering about 90% of the total weight for the construction of the EU consumer confidence indicator. For the euro area indicator, the 14 countries included represent 92% of the total.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The consumer confidence indicator is built on selected questions addressed to consumers according to the Joint Harmonised EU Business and Consumer Surveys. More details on the consumer confidence indicator as well as long time series can be found via the following link:

http://ec.europa.eu/economy finance/db indicators/surveys/index en.htm