

August 2020

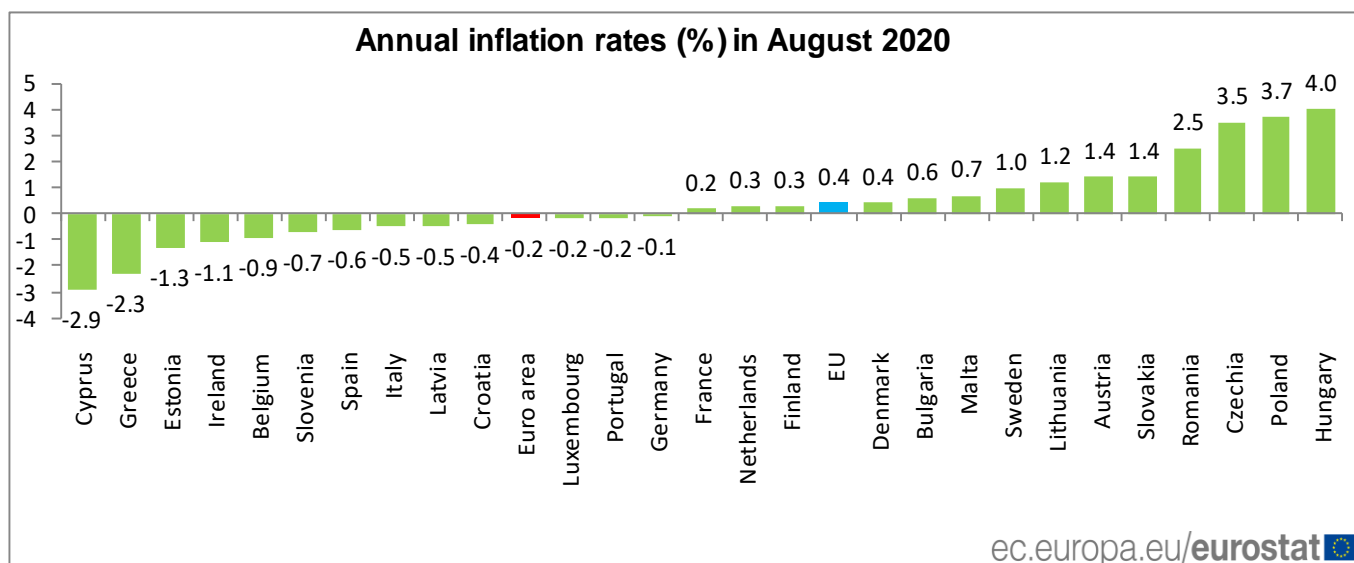
Annual inflation down to -0.2% in the euro area

Down to 0.4% in the EU

In August 2020, a month in which COVID-19 containment measures continued to be lifted, the **euro area** annual inflation rate was -0.2%, down from 0.4% in July. A year earlier, the rate was 1.0%. **European Union** annual inflation was 0.4% in August 2020, down from 0.9% in July. A year earlier, the rate was 1.4%. These figures are published by **Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union**.

The lowest annual rates were registered in **Cyprus** (-2.9%), **Greece** (-2.3%) and **Estonia** (-1.3%). The highest annual rates were recorded in **Hungary** (4.0%), **Poland** (3.7%) and **Czechia** (3.5%). Compared with July, annual inflation fell in sixteen Member States, remained stable in five and rose in six.

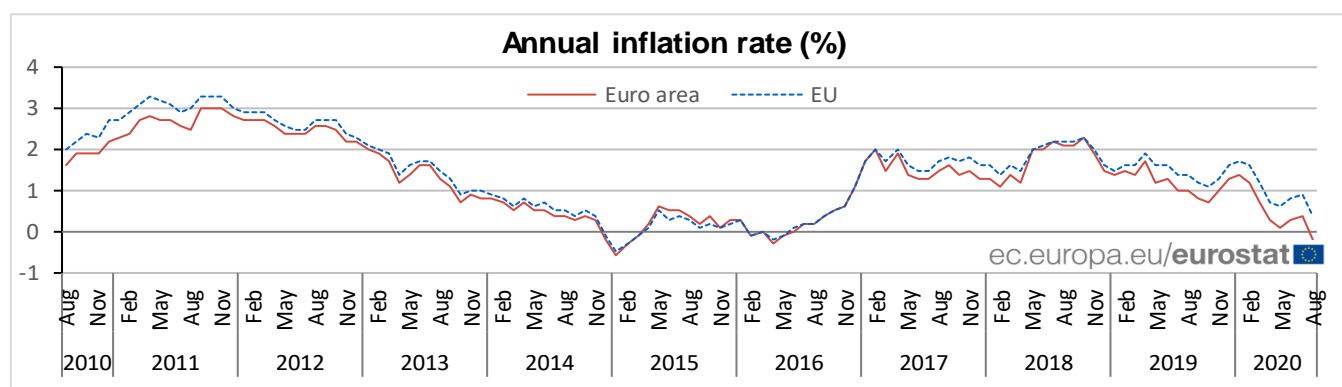
In August, the highest contribution to the annual **euro area** inflation rate came from food, alcohol & tobacco (+0.33 percentage points, pp), followed by services (+0.30 pp), non-energy industrial goods (-0.03 pp) and energy (-0.77 pp).



Inflation rates (%) measured by the HICP

	Annual rate							Monthly rate
	Aug 19	Mar 20	Apr 20	May 20	Jun 20	Jul 20	Aug 20	Aug 20
Euro area	1.0	0.7	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.4	-0.2	-0.4
EU	1.4	1.2	0.7	0.6	0.8	0.9	0.4	-0.4
Belgium	0.9	0.4	0.0	-0.2	0.2	1.7	-0.9	-1.5
Bulgaria	2.5	2.4	1.3	1.0	0.9	0.4	0.6	0.4
Czechia	2.6	3.6	3.3	3.1	3.4	3.6	3.5	0.0
Denmark	0.5	0.3	-0.1	-0.2	0.2	0.4	0.4	-0.4
Germany	1.0	1.3	0.8	0.5	0.8	0.0	-0.1	-0.2
Estonia	2.1	1.0	-0.9	-1.8	-1.6	-1.3	-1.3	0.6
Ireland	0.6	0.5	-0.3	-0.8	-0.6	-0.6	-1.1	-0.1
Greece	0.1	0.2	-0.9	-0.7	-1.9	-2.1	-2.3	-0.7
Spain	0.4	0.1	-0.7	-0.9	-0.3	-0.7	-0.6	0.0
France	1.3	0.8	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.9	0.2	-0.1
Croatia	0.6	0.5	-0.1	-0.7	-0.4	-0.6	-0.4	-0.2
Italy	0.5	0.1	0.1	-0.3	-0.4	0.8	-0.5	-1.3
Cyprus	0.6	0.1	-1.2	-1.4	-2.2	-2.0	-2.9	0.8
Latvia	3.1	1.4	-0.1	-0.9	-1.1	0.1	-0.5	-0.4
Lithuania	2.5	1.7	0.9	0.2	0.9	0.9	1.2	-0.2
Luxembourg	1.4	0.3	-0.8	-1.6	-0.4	0.1	-0.2	0.9
Hungary	3.2	3.9	2.5	2.2	2.9	3.9	4.0	0.0
Malta	1.9	1.2	1.1	0.9	1.0	0.7	0.7	0.7
Netherlands	3.1	1.1	1.0	1.1	1.7	1.6	0.3	-0.7
Austria	1.5	1.6	1.5	0.6	1.1	1.8	1.4	-0.3
Poland	2.6	3.9	2.9	3.4	3.8	3.7	3.7	-0.1
Portugal	-0.1	0.1	-0.1	-0.6	0.2	-0.1	-0.2	-0.3
Romania	4.1	2.7	2.3	1.8	2.2	2.5	2.5	0.0
Slovenia	2.4	0.7	-1.3	-1.4	-0.8	-0.3	-0.7	0.0
Slovakia	3.0	2.4	2.1	2.1	1.8	1.8	1.4	-0.1
Finland	1.2	0.9	-0.3	-0.1	0.1	0.7	0.3	0.0
Sweden	1.3	0.8	-0.2	0.1	0.9	0.7	1.0	-0.2
United Kingdom	1.7	1.5	0.8	0.5	0.6	1.0	0.2	-0.4
Iceland	1.7	1.0	-0.1	0.9	0.3	-0.1	0.9	0.6
Norway	1.5	0.5	0.6	1.1	1.3	1.4	1.6	-0.5
Switzerland	0.5	-0.4	-1.0	-1.0	-1.3	-1.2	-1.4	-0.1

Source dataset: [prc_hicp_manr](#)



Euro area inflation rate (%), selected aggregates

	Weights (%)	Annual rate							Monthly rate
		2020	Aug 19	Mar 20	Apr 20	May 20	Jun 20	Jul 20	
All-items HICP	1000.0	1.0	0.7	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.4	-0.2	-0.4
All-items excluding:									
> energy	901.5	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.3	1.4	0.7	-0.5
> energy, unprocessed food	857.1	1.1	1.2	1.1	1.2	1.1	1.3	0.6	-0.5
> energy, food, alcohol & tobacco	710.8	0.9	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.8	1.2	0.4	-0.6
> energy, seasonal food	876.5	1.1	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.1	1.3	0.6	-0.5
> tobacco	977.2	0.9	0.7	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.2	-0.3	-0.4
Food, alcohol & tobacco	190.7	2.1	2.4	3.6	3.4	3.2	2.0	1.7	-0.1
> processed food, alcohol & tobacco	146.3	1.9	2.1	2.3	2.4	2.3	1.6	1.5	0.0
> unprocessed food	44.5	2.5	3.6	7.6	6.7	6.0	3.1	2.3	-0.4
Energy	98.5	-0.6	-4.5	-9.7	-11.9	-9.3	-8.4	-7.8	0.0
Non-energy industrial goods	262.1	0.3	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.2	1.6	-0.1	-1.6
Services	448.7	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.3	1.2	0.9	0.7	0.0

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

	Contributions						
	Aug 19	Mar 20	Apr 20	May 20	Jun 20	Jul 20	Aug 20
Food, alcohol & tobacco	0.40	0.46	0.67	0.64	0.60	0.38	0.33
> processed food, alcohol & tobacco	0.28	0.30	0.34	0.35	0.34	0.24	0.23
> unprocessed food	0.11	0.16	0.33	0.30	0.26	0.14	0.10
Energy	-0.06	-0.45	-0.97	-1.20	-0.93	-0.83	-0.77
Non-energy industrial goods	0.08	0.13	0.09	0.06	0.05	0.42	-0.03
Services	0.60	0.60	0.52	0.59	0.55	0.42	0.30

Source dataset: [prc_hicp_ctrb](#)

Geographical information

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, Czechia, Denmark, Germany, Estonia, Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Croatia, Italy, Cyprus, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Hungary, Malta, the Netherlands, Austria, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, Finland and Sweden.

The euro area and European Union data refer to the respective country compositions at a specific point in time. Changes in the composition of these aggregates are incorporated using a chain index formula. For more information on this, please read [this note](#).

Methods and definitions

Annual inflation is the change of the price level between the current month and the same month of the previous year. **Monthly inflation** is the change of the price level between the current month and the previous month.

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).

Data collection for HICP has been affected by the COVID-19 crisis in all countries. Eurostat and the Member States' national statistical institutes have agreed a set of procedures to estimate prices that could not be collected due to mobility restrictions or closures of outlets. All information about these procedures is available on the [Eurostat website section on inflation](#).

The annual inflation rate for August is impacted by sales periods falling in August instead of July in a number of countries.

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 August 2020](#), published on 1 September 2020, was -0.2%.

The next flash estimate of euro area inflation with data for September 2020 is scheduled for 2 October 2020.

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](#)

European Statistics [Code of Practice](#)

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