Flash estimate - March 2019

Euro area annual inflation down to 1.4%

Euro area annual inflation is expected to be 1.4% in March 2019, down from 1.5% in February according to a flash estimate from Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union.

Looking at the main components of euro area inflation, energy is expected to have the highest annual rate in March (5.3%, compared with 3.6% in February), followed by food, alcohol & tobacco (1.8%, compared with 2.3% in February), services (1.1%, compared with 1.4% in February) and non-energy industrial goods (0.2%, compared with 0.4% in February).
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 euro area data refer to the country composition at a specific point in time. New Member States are integrated into the aggregate using a chain index formula.

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

Revisions and timetable
The euro area inflation flash estimate is issued at the end of each reference month. The complete set of harmonised indices of consumer prices (HICP) for the euro area, EU and Member States is released around the middle of the month following the reference month. The next release with full data for March 2019 is scheduled for 17 April 2019.

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

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