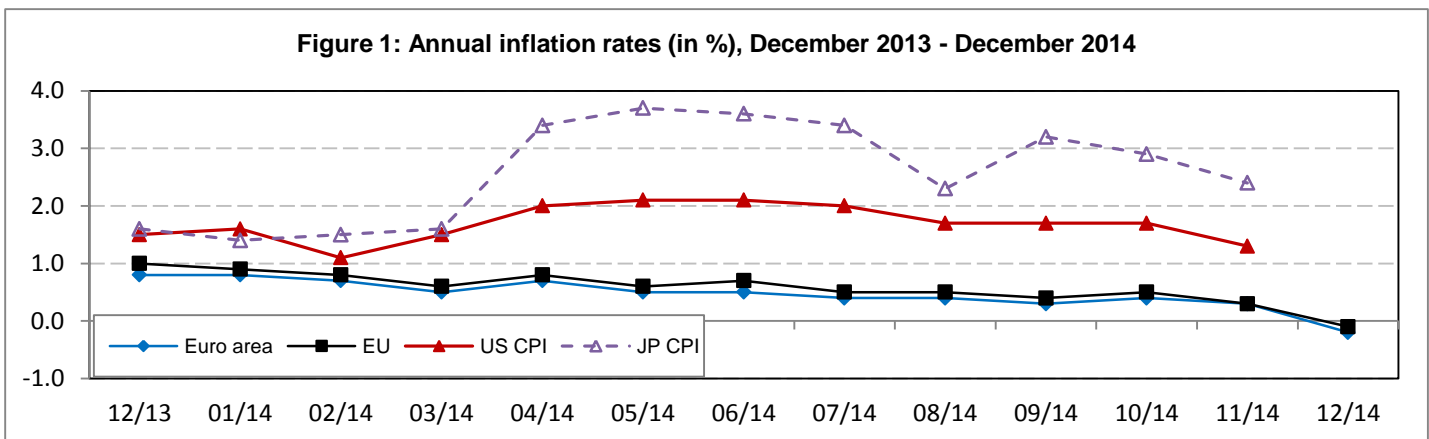


HARMONISED INDICES OF CONSUMER PRICES DECEMBER 2014

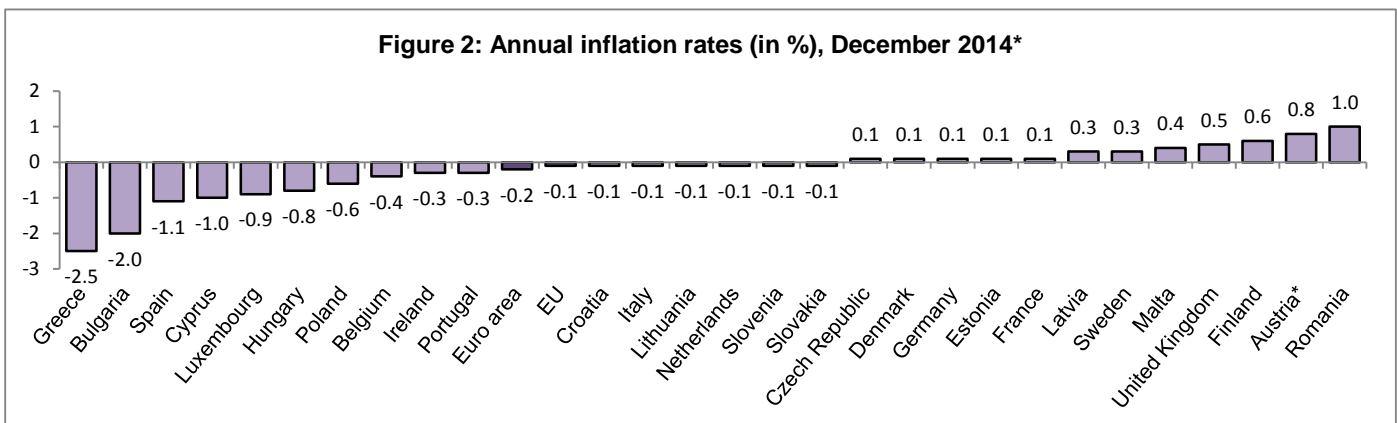
**EURO AREA¹⁾ ANNUAL INFLATION WAS -0.2% IN DECEMBER 2014,
DOWN FROM 0.3% IN NOVEMBER**
**EU²⁾ ANNUAL INFLATION WAS -0.1% IN DECEMBER 2014,
DOWN FROM 0.3% IN NOVEMBER**

Figure 1: Annual inflation rates (in %), December 2013 - December 2014



Sources: Eurostat (online data code: [prc_hicp_manr](#)), US Bureau of Labor Statistics, and Statistics Bureau of Japan

Figure 2: Annual inflation rates (in %), December 2014*



* Data for Austria are provisional.

Source: Eurostat (online data code: [prc_hicp_manr](#))

Table 1: Index levels (2005=100) – HICP all-items

	Annual average index 2014	Monthly Indices											
		Jan 2014	Feb 2014	Mar 2014	Apr 2014	May 2014	Jun 2014	Jul 2014	Aug 2014	Sep 2014	Oct 2014	Nov 2014	Dec 2014
Belgium	120.22	118.33	120.93	120.90	120.65	120.47	120.65	119.06	120.77	120.32	120.33	120.14	120.13
Germany	116.2	115.4	116.0	116.4	116.1	115.8	116.3	116.6	116.6	116.6	116.2	116.2	116.3
Estonia	144.22	143.31	143.64	144.23	144.50	144.83	145.25	145.00	144.68	144.52	144.43	143.12	143.13
Ireland	109.6	108.5	109.2	109.8	109.8	109.8	110.0	109.9	110.2	109.9	109.6	109.3	108.9
Greece	119.87	119.99	118.70	120.89	121.34	120.61	121.25	120.02	118.72	120.59	119.55	118.70	118.07
Spain	120.77	119.40	119.25	121.14	121.90	121.87	121.80	119.93	120.04	121.27	121.35	121.07	120.27
France	115.58	114.63	115.33	115.92	115.89	115.92	115.87	115.42	115.97	115.55	115.58	115.39	115.47
Italy	119.3	117.6	117.2	119.8	120.4	120.3	120.4	117.9	117.7	119.9	120.3	120.0	120.0
Cyprus	119.66	116.68	117.32	118.85	119.71	121.04	121.91	121.57	121.74	120.98	120.59	118.67	116.90
Latvia	148.05	147.30	147.28	147.73	148.48	148.78	149.36	149.01	147.84	148.39	148.04	147.70	146.71
Luxembourg	123.62	122.24	123.71	123.76	124.04	124.15	124.38	123.16	124.27	124.25	123.86	123.40	122.24
Malta	121.00	116.94	117.78	118.91	121.19	122.38	123.81	123.75	123.96	122.74	122.00	119.29	119.22
Netherlands	116.61	115.08	115.77	117.04	117.72	117.18	116.76	117.16	117.02	116.99	116.86	116.00	115.75
Austria	120.54p	119.09	119.44	120.56	120.71	120.83	120.81	120.02	120.04	121.13	121.14	121.31	121.36p
Portugal	116.18	114.96	114.67	116.26	116.66	116.75	116.84	116.12	116.03	116.64	116.69	116.27	116.27
Slovenia	124.14	122.93	122.89	123.81	124.37	125.28	125.36	124.11	124.03	124.39	124.53	124.38	123.54
Slovakia	122.81	122.85	122.73	122.70	122.70	123.03	123.17	122.98	122.73	122.81	122.92	122.71	122.37
Finland	121.84	121.19	121.53	121.84	122.01	121.65	121.71	121.53	121.73	122.50	122.29	122.11	121.93
Euro area	117.71p	116.57	116.92	118.02	118.20	118.07	118.20	117.43	117.57	118.08	118.01	117.80	117.69p
Bulgaria	142.81	144.42	143.57	143.16	143.47	142.74	142.31	143.20	143.08	142.11	142.22	141.50	141.99
Czech Republic	122.4	122.2	122.3	122.4	122.4	122.5	122.5	122.8	122.7	122.5	122.6	122.2	122.2
Denmark	117.4	116.8	117.4	117.6	117.7	117.7	117.6	117.4	117.2	117.6	117.7	117.4	117.1
Croatia	125.59	124.52	124.32	124.89	125.53	126.09	126.40	126.57	126.66	126.36	126.06	125.25	124.38
Lithuania	140.08	139.59	139.60	140.14	140.53	140.53	140.51	139.83	139.69	140.32	140.45	140.36	139.46
Hungary	144.88	144.87	144.99	145.30	145.15	145.24	145.39	145.63	145.29	144.78	144.66	144.10	143.11
Poland	125.6	125.7	125.9	126.1	126.2	126.0	126.0	125.8	125.4	125.3	125.3	125.1	124.8
Romania	154.71	154.01	154.80	154.90	155.41	155.36	154.85	154.83	154.27	154.45	154.81	154.50	154.35
Sweden	114.10	113.01	113.61	113.65	114.11	114.18	114.44	114.15	114.12	114.39	114.46	114.37	114.67
United Kingdom	128.0	126.7	127.4	127.7	128.1	128.0	128.3	127.8	128.3	128.4	128.5	128.2	128.2
EU	120.72p	119.68	120.06	120.92	121.14	121.03	121.15	120.53	120.65	121.03	121.01	120.76	120.65p
Iceland	177.51	174.54	176.68	177.39	178.15	177.60	179.61	180.21	179.83	176.99	177.35	175.35	176.45
Norway	118.0	116.4	117.0	117.4	117.8	117.9	117.5	118.5	118.0	118.8	118.8	119.0	118.9
EEA³⁾	120.73p	119.68	120.07	120.92	121.14	121.03	121.15	120.55	120.66	121.04	121.02	120.78	120.66p
Switzerland	103.5	103.0	102.9	103.5	103.6	103.7	103.6	103.6	103.4	103.8	103.8	103.5	103.5

Source: Eurostat (online data codes: [prc_hicp_aind](#), [prc_hicp_midx](#))

Table 2: Inflation rates (in %) – HICP all-items

	12-month average rates		Annual rates												
	Dec 2013	Dec 2014	Dec 2013	Jan 2014	Feb 2014	Mar 2014	Apr 2014	May 2014	Jun 2014	Jul 2014	Aug 2014	Sep 2014	Oct 2014	Nov 2014	Dec 2014
Belgium	1.2	0.5	1.2	1.1	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.1	-0.4
Germany	1.6	0.8	1.2	1.2	1.0	0.9	1.1	0.6	1.0	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.5	0.1
Estonia	3.2	0.5	2.0	1.6	1.1	0.7	0.8	0.6	0.4	0.0	-0.2	0.2	0.5	0.0	0.1
Ireland	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.2	-0.3
Greece	-0.9	-1.4	-1.8	-1.4	-0.9	-1.5	-1.6	-2.1	-1.5	-0.8	-0.2	-1.1	-1.8	-1.2	-2.5
Spain	1.5	-0.2	0.3	0.3	0.1	-0.2	0.3	0.2	0.0	-0.4	-0.5	-0.3	-0.2	-0.5	-1.1
France	1.0	0.6	0.8	0.8	1.1	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.1
Italy	1.3	0.2	0.7	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.2	0.0	-0.2	-0.1	0.2	0.3	-0.1
Cyprus	0.4	-0.3	-1.3	-1.6	-1.3	-0.9	-0.4	-0.1	0.0	0.9	0.8	0.0	0.3	0.0	-1.0
Latvia	0.0	0.7	-0.4	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.8	1.2	0.7	0.9	0.3
Luxembourg	1.7	0.7	1.5	1.5	0.8	0.8	0.9	1.4	1.2	1.2	0.7	0.3	0.4	0.2	-0.9
Malta	1.0	0.8	1.0	0.9	1.6	1.4	0.5	0.4	0.7	0.6	0.8	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.4
Netherlands	2.6	0.3	1.4	0.8	0.4	0.1	0.6	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.3	-0.1
Austria	2.1	1.5p	2.0	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.6	1.5	1.7	1.7	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.5	0.8p
Portugal	0.4	-0.2	0.2	0.1	-0.1	-0.4	-0.1	-0.3	-0.2	-0.7	-0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	-0.3
Slovenia	1.9	0.4	0.9	0.9	0.2	0.6	0.5	1.0	1.0	0.3	0.0	-0.1	0.1	0.1	-0.1
Slovakia	1.5	-0.1	0.4	0.0	-0.1	-0.2	-0.2	0.0	-0.1	-0.2	-0.2	-0.1	0.0	0.0	-0.1
Finland	2.2	1.2	1.9	1.9	1.6	1.3	1.3	1.0	1.1	1.0	1.2	1.5	1.2	1.1	0.6
Euro area	1.4	0.4p	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.5	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.3	-0.2p
Bulgaria	0.4	-1.6	-0.9	-1.4	-2.1	-2.0	-1.3	-1.8	-1.8	-1.1	-1.0	-1.4	-1.5	-1.9	-2.0
Czech Republic	1.4	0.4	1.5	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.5	0.0	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.1
Denmark	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.8	0.3	0.2	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.1
Croatia	2.3	0.2	0.5	0.4	-0.2	-0.1	-0.1	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.5	0.3	-0.1
Lithuania	1.2	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.5	0.3	0.0	0.3	0.4	-0.1
Hungary	1.7	0.0	0.6	0.8	0.3	0.2	-0.2	0.0	-0.1	0.5	0.3	-0.5	-0.3	0.1	-0.8
Poland	0.8	0.1	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.0	-0.1	-0.2	-0.3	-0.3	-0.6
Romania	3.2	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.6	1.3	0.9	1.5	1.3	1.8	1.8	1.5	1.0
Sweden	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.1	-0.4	0.3	0.1	0.5	0.4	0.2	0.0	0.3	0.3	0.3
United Kingdom	2.6	1.5	2.0	1.9	1.7	1.6	1.8	1.5	1.9	1.6	1.5	1.2	1.3	1.0	0.5
EU	1.5	0.6p	1.0	0.9	0.8	0.6	0.8	0.6	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.3	-0.1p
Iceland	4.1	1.0	3.7	1.5	0.8	0.9	1.3	1.1	1.3	2.3	2.3	0.4	1.0	-0.6	-0.4
Norway	2.0	1.9	1.8	2.1	1.9	1.8	1.5	1.6	1.8	2.2	1.9	2.1	1.9	2.0	2.0
EEA	1.5	0.6p	1.0	0.9	0.8	0.6	0.8	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.4	-0.1p
Switzerland	0.1	0.0	0.3	0.2	-0.2	-0.1	0.1	0.2	-0.1	-0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	-0.1

Source: Eurostat (online data codes: [prc_hicp_mv12r](#), [prc_hicp_manr](#))

Table 3: Annual inflation rates (in %) for HICP main categories

Dec 2014	Main categories												
	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12
Belgium	-0.4	-1.0	3.2	0.4	-4.1	1.3	0.1	-2.0	-2.9	0.1	1.3	2.4	2.2
Germany	0.1	-0.8	2.4	2.0	-0.3	0.6	2.4	-2.0	-1.1	0.0	-0.6	2.2	1.4
Estonia	0.1	-0.3	3.8	0.3	0.2	1.5	3.1	-5.7	-0.2	1.4	-20.1	3.6	2.5
Ireland	-0.3	-2.6	3.0	-2.2	2.6	-3.0	0.2	-4.2	0.0	-0.3	5.0	1.2	0.1
Greece	-2.5	-1.1	3.1	-4.0	-7.8	-1.9	-2.1	-2.6	0.0	-1.5	-3.1	-1.2	-2.2
Spain	-1.1	-0.3	0.4	0.5	-0.2	-0.6	-0.2	-6.1	-5.7	-1.2	1.2	0.6	0.5
France	0.1	-0.6	2.5	0.3	1.2	-0.5	-0.1	-1.5	-3.9	-0.7	2.0	2.6	1.0
Italy	-0.1	-0.4	-0.1	0.3	-0.4	0.5	0.9	-0.9	-2.3	0.1	1.8	1.0	0.2
Cyprus	-1.0	-2.1	3.4	1.0	-3.8	-0.1	-0.1	-2.8	1.8	-2.0	-1.6	0.3	-1.0
Latvia	0.3	-0.8	3.1	-0.1	1.3	2.5	1.9	-4.5	-0.8	2.1	1.4	3.6	2.1
Luxembourg	-0.9	-0.8	3.2	-0.3	-2.2	1.4	0.5	-5.6	-2.4	0.5	0.8	1.8	0.7
Malta	0.4	-0.1	3.4	2.5	-9.1	-0.1	0.4	0.3	-0.7	1.9	6.4	2.8	1.9
Netherlands	-0.1	0.0	1.1	0.1	1.9	-1.4	0.9	-1.8	-4.9	-0.4	3.5	1.5	0.0
Austria	0.8p	0.9p	4.3p	-2.0p	1.2p	0.9p	2.2p	-2.8p	2.8p	1.3p	2.9p	2.9p	1.8p
Portugal	-0.3	-0.4	3.0	-1.8	1.9	1.1	0.3	-4.4	0.3	-1.9	0.6	2.4	-0.5
Slovenia	-0.1	-1.3	4.5	-1.8	-0.6	-1.8	-0.1	-2.3	-2.7	3.6	1.1	1.0	3.1
Slovakia	-0.1	-0.5	1.1	1.2	-0.6	1.7	0.5	-4.8	-0.4	0.9	2.8	1.1	1.6
Finland	0.6	-0.9	4.4	-0.4	2.0	0.2	2.5	-2.8	-2.4	0.4	7.2	2.3	1.9
Euro area	-0.2p	-0.6p	2.1p	0.4p	-0.1p	0.1p	0.9p	-2.3p	-2.6p	-0.2p	0.9p	1.5p	0.9p
Bulgaria	-2.0	-0.8	0.7	-0.6	4.5	-1.2	-4.2	-7.4	-6.1	-0.2	2.5	-0.2	-1.4
Czech Republic	0.1	-0.5	1.3	4.3	-1.5	0.4	-1.1	-1.2	-2.3	0.2	1.3	1.4	2.1
Denmark	0.1	-0.7	0.4	-1.8	0.9	0.5	1.2	-2.0	-3.9	1.2	2.2	1.3	1.5
Croatia	-0.1	-1.9	3.1	-4.0	0.4	-0.9	4.0	-2.9	1.5	2.3	0.2	2.6	-0.8
Lithuania	-0.1	0.1	4.2	0.4	-0.3	-0.1	1.6	-5.5	-3.0	0.4	1.2	3.3	1.8
Hungary	-0.8	-1.0	1.0	-0.2	-3.0	-0.4	5.2	-5.1	0.0	0.4	2.9	1.5	0.7
Poland	-0.6	-3.1	4.0	-4.9	0.5	-0.3	-0.4	-5.2	3.6	1.8	1.5	1.8	0.2
Romania	1.0	-0.5	5.7	2.1	1.1	1.6	2.2	-1.0	0.2	2.2	2.7	2.6	4.8
Sweden	0.3	1.6	1.4	0.0	0.5	-1.0	0.6	-1.9	-0.2	0.3	4.8	1.6	0.7
United Kingdom	0.5	-1.7	5.0	-0.3	1.0	0.2	2.1	-1.4	0.7	0.6	10.0	2.3	-0.6
EU	-0.1p	-0.8p	2.7p	0.1p	0.1p	0.0p	1.0p	-2.4p	-1.6p	0.1p	3.3p	1.7p	0.6p
Iceland	-0.4	-1.0	2.2	-0.9	3.0	-2.9	5.9	-5.3	1.1	1.2	7.9	2.8	0.0
Norway	2.0	2.5	2.7	-0.1	1.7	2.2	2.8	1.7	0.0	2.4	1.7	2.1	2.4
EEA	-0.1p	-0.8p	2.7p	0.1p	0.1p	0.1p	1.0p	-2.3p	-1.6p	0.2p	3.3p	1.7p	0.7p
Switzerland	-0.1	0.4	1.6	6.3	-0.4	-0.4	-0.4	-1.5	-0.4	-2.5	1.1	0.1	1.8

COICOP/HICP code of main categories

00	HICP (all-items index)	06	Health
01	Food and non-alcoholic beverages	07	Transports
02	Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	08	Communications
03	Clothing and footwear	09	Recreation and culture
04	Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	10	Education
05	Furnishings, household equipment and routine maintenance of the house	11	Restaurants and hotels
		12	Miscellaneous goods and services

Source: Eurostat (online data code: [prc_hicp_manr](#))

Table 4: Index levels (2005=100) - some special aggregates

	HICP all-items excluding ...										Energy		Food, alcohol and tobacco	
	... energy		... energy, food, alcohol and tobacco		... energy, unprocessed food		... energy, seasonal food		... tobacco		Nov 2014	Dec 2014	Nov 2014	Dec 2014
	Nov 2014	Dec 2014	Nov 2014	Dec 2014	Nov 2014	Dec 2014	Nov 2014	Dec 2014	Nov 2014	Dec 2014				
Belgium	118.52	118.93	116.02	116.51	118.48	118.86	118.66	119.02	119.68	119.67	131.11	126.88	127.14	127.32
Germany	113.6	114.2	111.5	112.2	113.2	113.8	113.5	114.1	115.8	115.9	137.9	132.6	123.2	123.5
Estonia	137.38	137.94	127.80	128.39	136.60	137.12	136.91	137.40	141.17	141.18	187.67	182.99	157.85	158.37
Ireland	105.7	105.6	104.2	104.3	106.3	106.3	106.0	106.0	107.5	107.1	147.1	142.5	111.0	110.4
Greece	113.78	113.81	110.23	110.46	113.66	113.86	113.80	114.00	116.97	116.31	187.72	178.54	125.06	124.52
Spain	117.54	117.41	114.65	114.51	117.08	116.96	117.22	117.13	119.83	119.03	153.02	145.74	126.15	126.06
France	113.40	113.79	112.02	112.54	112.82	113.24	113.25	113.66	114.79	114.88	136.44	133.09	118.41	118.33
Italy	118.4	118.6	117.1	117.4	118.3	118.5	118.3	118.6	119.6	119.6	138.5	135.9	122.8	122.7
Cyprus	114.14	112.94	108.44	107.75	111.38	110.48	112.15	111.25	117.97	116.15	161.50	152.18	135.32	132.12
Latvia	140.56	140.13	123.27	122.89	139.28	138.85	139.57	139.21	142.76	141.80	201.74	196.31	176.09	175.54
Luxembourg	123.12	122.99	119.36	119.33	123.26	123.19	123.29	123.20	120.91	119.67	128.27	120.23	134.12	133.68
Malta	117.48	117.40	110.79	110.65	114.46	114.47	115.40	115.43	118.81	118.63	154.16	154.16	142.84	143.01
Netherlands	114.84	114.92	113.00	113.03	114.73	114.79	114.71	114.76	114.99	114.73	126.17	123.06	122.83	123.11
Austria	120.52	121.09p	118.84	119.48p	120.17	120.74p	120.38	120.96p	121.13	121.18p	131.18	125.76p	129.02r	129.28p
Portugal	112.67	113.03	110.96	111.37	113.03	113.39	112.71	113.06	115.06	115.06	141.57	136.21	118.21	118.42
Slovenia	119.68	119.29	112.14	111.83	118.30	118.00	118.79	118.48	122.51	121.58	157.73	153.37	143.60	142.92
Slovakia	120.25	119.98	116.81	116.56	120.29	119.88	119.61	119.25	121.48	121.13	133.91	133.19	129.55	129.21
Finland	120.52	120.69	116.87	117.01	119.82	119.93	120.22	120.32	121.53	121.35	142.20	136.95	132.92	133.17
Euro area	115.47	115.79p	113.46	113.86p	115.11	115.45p	115.33	115.66p	117.12	117.01p	140.37	135.75p	123.00	123.02p
Bulgaria	141.64	142.61	129.25	130.96	142.47	143.83	142.18	143.40	136.99	137.49	140.38	137.94	170.38	169.57
Czech Republic	118.3	118.5	109.5	109.7	117.8	118.0	117.9	118.0	119.5	119.4	149.1	146.9	139.1	139.5
Denmark	115.8	115.9	112.8	112.9	115.7	115.8	115.4	115.5	116.8	116.5	131.3	127.1	127.2	127.2
Croatia	122.29	121.67	115.98	115.19	122.71	122.02	121.69	120.96	123.24	122.34	145.25	142.81	132.85	132.59
Lithuania	134.70	134.42	119.18	119.10	132.29	132.02	133.96	133.69	137.48	136.57	179.54	173.45	162.37	161.64
Hungary	142.69	142.32	130.46	130.45	140.29	140.11	141.07	140.84	141.10	140.08	156.70	152.18	171.13	169.88
Poland	121.2	121.1	113.7	113.6	120.7	120.6	121.2	121.0	122.3	122.0	151.4	148.9	137.0	137.0
Romania	149.77	150.13	141.99	142.26	154.66	154.96	151.28	151.53	146.10	145.94	178.60	174.01	156.93	157.42
Sweden	113.12	113.76	110.13	110.87	112.63	113.27	112.82	113.49	113.41	113.70	123.44	120.50	124.29	124.53
United Kingdom	123.5	123.7	119.5	119.7	122.5	122.7	122.9	123.1	126.0	125.9	179.0	175.3	145.7	145.9
EU	117.94	118.22p	114.85	115.19p	117.46	117.74p	117.72	117.99p	119.55	119.43p	146.34	142.04p	129.41	129.44p
Iceland	172.43	173.87	170.80	172.44	172.82	174.28	171.98	173.38	174.86	175.97	206.05	202.93	178.75	179.32
Norway	116.8	116.8	115.1	115.4	117.5	117.6	116.9	116.9	118.4	118.3	133.0	132.4	123.8	122.5
EEA	117.97	118.24p	114.89	115.23p	117.50	117.78p	117.75	118.01p	119.58	119.45p	146.35	142.09p	129.39	129.40p
Switzerland	102.4	102.7	102.2	102.7	102.4	102.9	102.4	102.8	103.1	103.2	117.7	112.7	103.1	102.5

Source: Eurostat (online data code: [prc_hicp_midx](#))

Flags

p provisional r revised : not available

Methodology

HICPs designed for international comparison

The Harmonised Indices of Consumer Prices (HICPs) are harmonised inflation figures required under the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union. They are designed for international comparison of consumer price inflation.

The euro area annual inflation rate is used by, among others, the European Central Bank (ECB) as a main indicator for monetary policy management for the euro area.

The Member States' HICPs are supplied by the National Statistical Institutes; the euro area, EU and EEA aggregates are compiled by Eurostat. HICPs are computed as annual chain indices allowing weights to be changed each year. HICP aggregates are calculated as weighted averages of the HICPs using the weights of the countries and sub-indices concerned. The weight of a country is its share of the household final monetary consumption expenditure in the total of the country group. The euro area is treated as a single entity within the EU and EEA starting from 1999.

Euro area, EU and EEA aggregates

The euro area, EU and EEA 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.

The euro area was originally comprised of Belgium, Germany, Ireland, Spain, France, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Austria, Portugal and Finland. Greece was included from January 2001, Slovenia from January 2007, Cyprus and Malta from January 2008, Slovakia from January 2009, Estonia from January 2011, and Latvia from January 2014. New Member States are integrated into the aggregates using a chain index formula. Lithuania is a member of the euro area from 1 January 2015, and will be included in the calculation of euro area inflation for January 2015.

The EU had 15 Member States until April 2004, 25 Member States until December 2006, 27 Member States until June 2013 and 28 Member states from July 2013. New Member States are integrated into the aggregates using a chain index formula.

EEA inflation is computed by using HICP data for Iceland and Norway in addition to the EU Member States.

Measures of inflation

An *annual rate* measures the change of the index level between the current month and the same month of the previous year. This measure is responsive to recent changes in price levels but can be influenced by one-off effects in either month.

A *12-month average rate* overcomes this volatility by comparing average HICPs in the latest 12 months to the average of the previous 12 months. This measure is less sensitive to transient changes in prices.

Additional information

About 100 MUICP, EICP, EEAICP and HICP sub-indices and over 30 special aggregates with corresponding weights and inflation rates are available in Eurostat's database:

<http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/hicp/data/database>

More information on methods and data can be found on the HICP section of the Eurostat website:

<http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/hicp>

Further information

European Statistical Data Support:

Contact details for this support network can be found on the Eurostat website at:
<http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/>.