

HARMONISED INDICES OF CONSUMER PRICES MARCH 2015

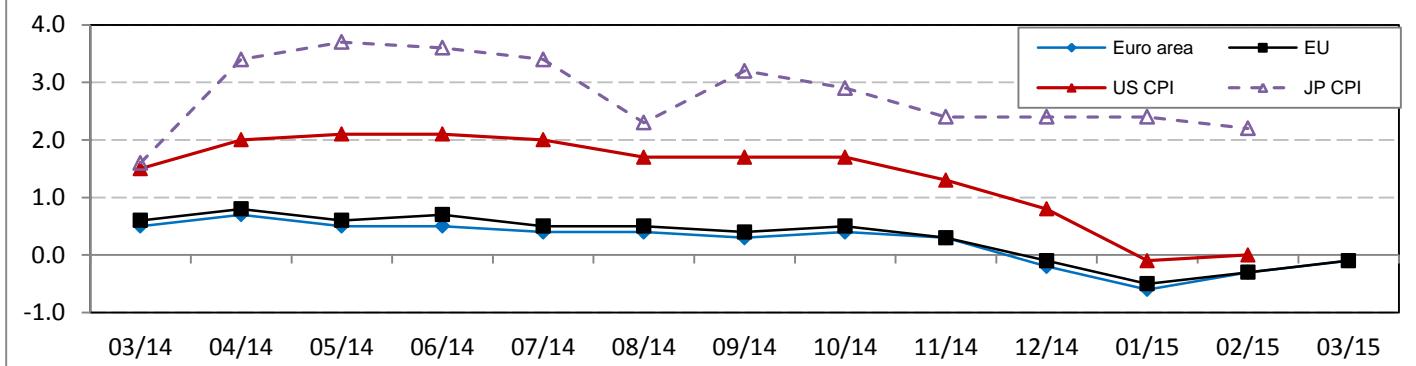
EURO AREA ANNUAL INFLATION WAS -0.1% IN MARCH 2015,

UP FROM -0.3% IN FEBRUARY

EU ANNUAL INFLATION WAS -0.1% IN MARCH 2015,

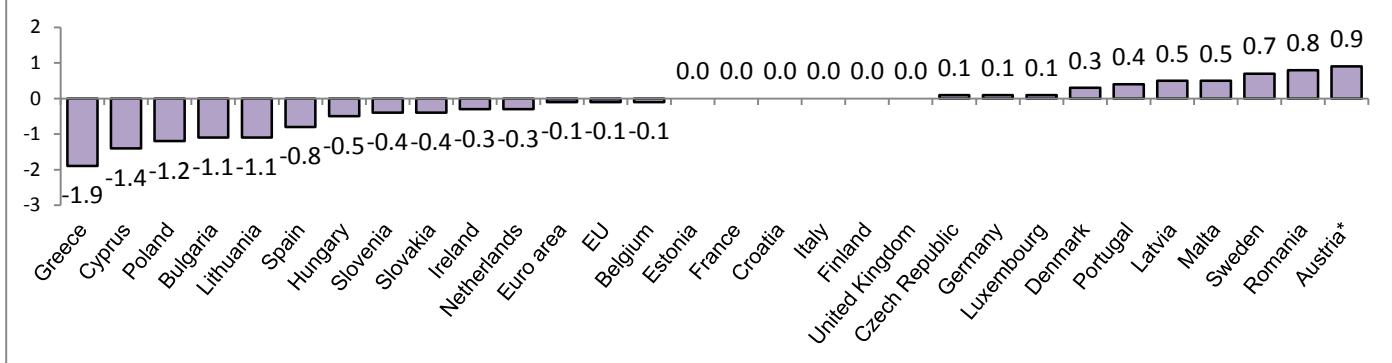
UP FROM -0.3% IN FEBRUARY

Figure 1: Annual inflation rates (in %), March 2014 - March 2015



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

Figure 2: Annual inflation rates (in %), March 2015



* 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											
		Apr 2014	May 2014	Jun 2014	Jul 2014	Aug 2014	Sep 2014	Oct 2014	Nov 2014	Dec 2014	Jan 2015	Feb 2015	Mar 2015
Belgium	120.22	120.65	120.47	120.65	119.06	120.77	120.32	120.33	120.14	120.13	117.58	120.43	120.76
Germany	116.2	116.1	115.8	116.3	116.6	116.6	116.6	116.2	116.2	116.3	114.8	115.9	116.5
Estonia	144.22	144.50	144.83	145.25	145.00	144.68	144.52	144.43	143.12	143.13	142.55	143.30	144.24
Ireland	109.6	109.8	109.8	110.0	109.9	110.2	109.9	109.6	109.3	108.9	108.1	108.8	109.5
Greece	119.87	121.34	120.61	121.25	120.02	118.72	120.59	119.55	118.70	118.07	116.68	116.43	118.64
Spain	120.77	121.90	121.87	121.80	119.93	120.04	121.27	121.35	121.07	120.27	117.66	117.83	120.20
France	115.58	115.89	115.92	115.87	115.42	115.97	115.55	115.58	115.39	115.47	114.17	115.01	115.87
Italy	119.3	120.4	120.3	120.4	117.9	117.7	119.9	120.3	120.0	120.0	117.0	117.3	119.8
Cyprus	119.66	119.71	121.04	121.91	121.57	121.74	120.98	120.59	118.67	116.90	115.82	116.43	117.23
Latvia	148.05	148.48	148.78	149.36	149.01	147.84	148.39	148.04	147.70	146.71	146.79	147.32	148.49
Lithuania	140.08	140.53	140.53	140.51	139.83	139.69	140.32	140.45	140.36	139.46	137.69	137.49	138.62
Luxembourg	123.62	124.04	124.15	124.38	123.16	124.27	124.25	123.86	123.40	122.24	120.84	123.30	123.83
Malta	121.00	121.19	122.38	123.81	123.75	123.96	122.74	122.00	119.29	119.22	117.87	118.43	119.53
Netherlands	116.61	117.72	117.18	116.76	117.16	117.02	116.99	116.86	116.00	115.74	114.31	115.24r	116.72
Austria	120.54	120.71	120.83	120.81	120.02	120.04	121.13	121.14	121.31	121.36	119.66	119.99r	121.68p
Portugal	116.18	116.66	116.75	116.84	116.12	116.03	116.64	116.69	116.27	116.27	114.54	114.56	116.77
Slovenia	124.14	124.37	125.28	125.36	124.11	124.03	124.39	124.53	124.38	123.54	122.06	122.26	123.33
Slovakia	122.81	122.70	123.03	123.17	122.98	122.73	122.81	122.92	122.71	122.37	122.22	122.00	122.22
Finland	121.84	122.01	121.65	121.71	121.53	121.73	122.50	122.29	122.11	121.93	121.03	121.43	121.89
Euro area	117.71	118.20	118.07	118.20	117.43	117.57	118.08	118.01	117.80	117.69	115.85	116.59	117.91p
Bulgaria	142.81	143.47	142.74	142.31	143.20	143.08	142.11	142.22	141.50	141.99	141.02	141.10	141.56
Czech Republic	122.4	122.4	122.5	122.5	122.8	122.7	122.5	122.6	122.2	122.2	122.1	122.2	122.5
Denmark	117.4	117.7	117.7	117.6	117.4	117.2	117.6	117.7	117.4	117.1	116.4	117.4	118.0
Croatia	125.59	125.53	126.09	126.40	126.57	126.66	126.36	126.06	125.25	124.38	123.72	123.86	124.91
Hungary	144.88	145.15	145.24	145.39	145.63	145.29	144.78	144.66	144.10	143.11	142.89	143.61	144.54
Poland	125.6	126.2	126.0	126.0	125.8	125.4	125.3	125.3	125.1	124.8	124.4	124.3	124.6
Romania	154.71	155.41	155.36	154.85	154.83	154.27	154.45	154.81	154.50	154.35	154.78	155.37	156.07
Sweden	114.10	114.11	114.18	114.44	114.15	114.12	114.39	114.46	114.37	114.67	113.41	114.37	114.50
United Kingdom	128.0	128.1	128.0	128.3	127.8	128.3	128.4	128.5	128.2	128.2	127.1	127.4	127.6
EU	120.72	121.14	121.03	121.15	120.53	120.65	121.03	121.01	120.76	120.64	119.10	119.73r	120.78p
Iceland	177.51	178.15	177.60	179.61	180.21	179.83	176.99	177.35	175.35	176.45	174.45	175.22	177.22
Norway	118.0	117.8	117.9	117.5	118.5	118.0	118.8	118.8	119.0	118.9	118.6	119.1	119.4
EEA	120.73	121.14	121.03	121.15	120.55	120.66	121.04	121.02	120.78	120.66	119.13	119.76r	120.80p
Switzerland	103.5	103.6	103.7	103.6	103.6	103.4	103.8	103.8	103.5	103.5	102.9	102.5	103.0

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

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

	12-month average rates		Annual rates												
	Dec	Mar	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
	2014	2015	2014	2014	2014	2014	2014	2014	2014	2014	2014	2014	2015	2015	2015
Belgium	0.5	0.2	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.1	-0.4	-0.6	-0.4	-0.1
Germany	0.8	0.5	0.9	1.1	0.6	1.0	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.5	0.1	-0.5	-0.1	0.1
Estonia	0.5	0.1	0.7	0.8	0.6	0.4	0.0	-0.2	0.2	0.5	0.0	0.1	-0.5	-0.2	0.0
Ireland	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.2	-0.3	-0.4	-0.4	-0.3
Greece	-1.4	-1.6	-1.5	-1.6	-2.1	-1.5	-0.8	-0.2	-1.1	-1.8	-1.2	-2.5	-2.8	-1.9	-1.9
Spain	-0.2	-0.5	-0.2	0.3	0.2	0.0	-0.4	-0.5	-0.3	-0.2	-0.5	-1.1	-1.5	-1.2	-0.8
France	0.6	0.3	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.1	-0.4	-0.3	0.0
Italy	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.2	0.0	-0.2	-0.1	0.2	0.3	-0.1	-0.5	0.1	0.0
Cyprus	-0.3	-0.2	-0.9	-0.4	-0.1	0.0	0.9	0.8	0.0	0.3	0.0	-1.0	-0.7	-0.8	-1.4
Latvia	0.7	0.6	0.3	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.8	1.2	0.7	0.9	0.3	-0.3	0.0	0.5
Lithuania	0.2	-0.2	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.5	0.3	0.0	0.3	0.4	-0.1	-1.4	-1.5	-1.1
Luxembourg	0.7	0.3	0.8	0.9	1.4	1.2	1.2	0.7	0.3	0.4	0.2	-0.9	-1.1	-0.3	0.1
Malta	0.8	0.6	1.4	0.5	0.4	0.7	0.6	0.8	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.4	0.8	0.6	0.5
Netherlands	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.6	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.3	-0.1	-0.7	-0.5	-0.3
Austria	1.5	1.2p	1.4	1.6	1.5	1.7	1.7	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.5	0.8	0.5	0.5	0.9p
Portugal	-0.2	-0.1	-0.4	-0.1	-0.3	-0.2	-0.7	-0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	-0.3	-0.4	-0.1	0.4
Slovenia	0.4	0.1	0.6	0.5	1.0	1.0	0.3	0.0	-0.1	0.1	0.1	-0.1	-0.7	-0.5	-0.4
Slovakia	-0.1	-0.2	-0.2	-0.2	0.0	-0.1	-0.2	-0.2	-0.1	0.0	0.0	-0.1	-0.5	-0.6	-0.4
Finland	1.2	0.8	1.3	1.3	1.0	1.1	1.0	1.2	1.5	1.2	1.1	0.6	-0.1	-0.1	0.0
Euro area	0.4	0.2p	0.5	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.3	-0.2	-0.6	-0.3	-0.1p
Bulgaria	-1.6	-1.6	-2.0	-1.3	-1.8	-1.8	-1.1	-1.0	-1.4	-1.5	-1.9	-2.0	-2.4	-1.7	-1.1
Czech Republic	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.5	0.0	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.1	-0.1	-0.1	0.1
Denmark	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.1	-0.3	0.0	0.3
Croatia	0.2	0.1	-0.1	-0.1	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.5	0.3	-0.1	-0.6	-0.4	0.0
Hungary	0.0	-0.3	0.2	-0.2	0.0	-0.1	0.5	0.3	-0.5	-0.3	0.1	-0.8	-1.4	-1.0	-0.5
Poland	0.1	-0.3	0.6	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.0	-0.1	-0.2	-0.3	-0.3	-0.6	-1.0	-1.3	-1.2
Romania	1.4	1.2	1.3	1.6	1.3	0.9	1.5	1.3	1.8	1.8	1.5	1.0	0.5	0.4	0.8
Sweden	0.2	0.4	-0.4	0.3	0.1	0.5	0.4	0.2	0.0	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.7	0.7	0.7
United Kingdom	1.5	1.1	1.6	1.8	1.5	1.9	1.6	1.5	1.2	1.3	1.0	0.5	0.3	0.0	0.0
EU	0.6	0.3p	0.6	0.8	0.6	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.3	-0.1	-0.5	-0.3r	-0.1p
Iceland	1.0	0.6	0.9	1.3	1.1	1.3	2.3	2.3	0.4	1.0	-0.6	-0.4	-0.1	-0.8	-0.1
Norway	1.9	1.9	1.8	1.5	1.6	1.8	2.2	1.9	2.1	1.9	2.0	2.0	1.9	1.8	1.7
EEA	0.6	0.3p	0.6	0.8	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.4	-0.1	-0.5	-0.3r	-0.1p
Switzerland	0.0	-0.1	-0.1	0.1	0.2	-0.1	-0.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.4	-0.5

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

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

Mar 2015	Main categories												
	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12
Belgium	-0.1	0.0	3.3	0.5	-4.3	1.1	1.5	-1.8	-0.6	-0.7	1.3	2.2	2.4
Germany	0.1	0.2	2.2	0.5	-0.6	0.5	1.2	-0.9	-1.2	-0.4	-1.2	2.6	1.4
Estonia	0.0	-1.4	5.0	3.5	-0.1	0.9	3.5	-5.8	0.0	1.5	-18.8	2.3	3.5
Ireland	-0.3	-2.7	1.0	-4.2	5.9	-2.7	0.0	-5.3	0.6	-0.2	4.9	1.3	-0.3
Greece	-1.9	0.6	1.9	-4.2	-7.0	-1.8	-2.0	-2.0	0.0	-1.3	-3.1	-0.2	-2.5
Spain	-0.8	0.4	1.4	0.0	-1.9	-0.5	0.0	-4.1	-4.7	-0.4	1.3	0.7	0.9
France	0.0	0.1	0.4	-0.4	0.5	-0.4	-0.6	-0.9	-1.4	-0.7	2.0	1.2	0.7
Italy	0.0	1.2	3.1	0.3	-1.3	0.4	1.0	-2.1	-1.0	-1.0	1.9	0.9	0.0
Cyprus	-1.4	2.3	1.3	-2.6	-8.3	-0.8	0.5	-6.1	1.0	-1.9	-1.5	-0.1	-0.6
Latvia	0.5	-1.2	2.5	-0.2	5.1	1.7	1.6	-3.9	-0.2	0.4	1.6	2.9	0.6
Lithuania	-1.1	-1.6	3.4	-1.5	-3.1	0.9	2.1	-7.9	0.4	1.5	1.7	4.7	2.2
Luxembourg	0.1	0.1	3.2	0.0	-1.1	1.0	0.7	-3.2	-0.8	0.7	0.8	4.1	0.8
Malta	0.5	2.5	3.7	4.0	-8.9	-0.6	0.8	-1.7	-0.6	1.4	6.4	2.0	2.7
Netherlands	-0.3	-0.2	2.4	-3.0	0.9	-1.4	-0.4	-1.6	-5.6	-0.2	3.5	1.7	1.9
Austria	0.9p	1.3p	2.8p	-0.4p	1.6p	1.0p	2.0p	-3.1p	1.5p	2.0p	2.7p	2.7p	1.6p
Portugal	0.4	0.3	2.5	-1.9	0.3	0.7	0.6	-0.1	3.7	-1.7	0.5	2.9	-0.6
Slovenia	-0.4	0.2	4.7	-3.0	-1.2	-2.3	0.4	-4.3	0.0	3.6	1.1	0.7	1.1
Slovakia	-0.4	-1.3	1.2	1.5	-1.0	2.1	0.6	-6.6	-0.4	0.8	3.0	1.5	1.9
Finland	0.0	-1.6	2.0	0.5	2.5	-0.1	4.3	-3.1	-5.3	-0.8	-0.5	1.4	0.5
Euro area	-0.1p	0.3p	2.0p	-0.1p	-0.6p	0.0p	0.6p	-1.8p	-1.7p	-0.4p	0.7p	1.4p	0.8p
Bulgaria	-1.1	0.5	0.6	0.3	5.8	-0.5	-1.2	-7.3	-6.1	0.7	2.7	0.0	-0.5
Czech Republic	0.1	-1.9	4.4	4.8	1.3	-0.2	-7.6	-4.0	-2.0	1.0	1.0	1.4	2.2
Denmark	0.3	1.3	0.0	0.7	-1.0	1.0	1.0	-0.4	-3.2	1.1	2.8	1.9	1.4
Croatia	0.0	0.4	1.7	-0.5	0.3	-0.6	4.0	-4.7	1.1	1.4	0.1	1.3	-0.6
Hungary	-0.5	-0.3	2.1	-0.1	-3.0	0.0	5.6	-5.7	-0.9	1.0	1.1	2.1	2.1
Poland	-1.2	-3.3	1.8	-5.2	0.5	-0.3	1.2	-7.8	3.1	1.3	1.5	1.7	0.7
Romania	0.8	-0.1	3.6	2.0	1.7	1.4	2.0	-1.7	-1.0	1.7	2.1	1.8	2.5
Sweden	0.7	2.0	3.5	1.2	0.4	0.0	0.7	-0.2	-1.2	-0.7	3.3	2.5	0.9
United Kingdom	0.0	-3.0	3.4	-0.2	0.7	-0.2	2.1	-1.9	0.9	-0.7	10.0	2.0	-0.5
EU	-0.1p	-0.3p	2.3p	-0.2p	-0.3p	0.0p	0.8p	-2.2p	-1.1p	-0.3p	3.1p	1.5p	0.7p
Iceland	-0.1	1.4	-0.4	-2.2	3.6	-4.7	3.5	-5.2	1.0	1.4	8.1	4.1	1.1
Norway	1.7	0.6	2.6	-2.4	1.6	5.0	2.2	1.3	0.3	3.7	1.8	2.2	2.1
EEA	-0.1p	-0.3p	2.3p	-0.2p	-0.3p	0.1p	0.9p	-2.2p	-1.1p	-0.3p	3.1p	1.5p	0.7p
Switzerland	-0.5	-0.8	1.6	4.8	-0.6	-1.8	-0.4	-3.3	0.0	-1.4	1.1	-0.1	1.5

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_mainr](#))

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					
	Feb 2015	Mar 2015	Feb 2015	Mar 2015	Feb 2015	Mar 2015	Feb 2015	Mar 2015	Feb 2015	Mar 2015				
Belgium	119.85	119.68	117.32	117.02	119.64	119.48	119.78	119.64	119.96	120.24	121.94	126.48	128.60	128.92
Germany	114.0	114.5	111.7	112.2	113.4	113.9	113.7	114.2	115.5	116.1	130.9	132.8	124.7	124.7
Estonia	138.55	139.45	127.78	128.82	137.41	138.35	137.59	138.49	141.36	142.31	179.47	180.74	161.85	162.39
Ireland	106.1	106.5	104.9	105.5	106.9	107.4	106.5	107.0	107.0	107.7	135.2	139.3	110.3	110.2
Greece	112.21	114.29	107.49	110.17	111.52	113.74	111.74	113.86	114.62	116.89	176.38	180.74	126.67	127.11
Spain	115.00	117.21	111.13	114.16	114.10	116.76	114.41	116.91	116.52	118.91	142.96	146.80	126.84	126.33
France	113.28	114.11	111.80	112.79	112.62	113.46	113.06	113.85	114.40	115.28	133.10	134.39	118.63	118.89
Italy	116.1	118.6	113.6	116.9	115.4	118.3	115.6	118.3	116.7	119.2	131.2	133.7	124.7	124.5
Cyprus	113.16	113.91	106.83	107.46	110.02	110.88	110.78	111.63	115.66	116.46	141.61	142.86	136.17	137.36
Latvia	140.11	141.19	122.53	123.84	138.51	139.61	138.83	139.92	142.35	143.59	201.76	203.68	176.39	176.82
Lithuania	133.73	134.41	118.02	118.95	130.95	131.69	132.62	133.25	134.61	135.79	161.03	165.86	162.03	161.99
Luxembourg	124.36	124.37	120.79	120.80	124.49	124.52	124.50	124.52	120.77	121.32	119.20	123.39	134.70	134.74
Malta	116.81	118.12	109.49	111.06	113.54	114.93	114.52	115.86	117.81	118.91	150.26	147.82	145.08	145.14
Netherlands	114.50	115.95	112.36	114.11	114.33	115.88	114.29	115.80	114.17r	115.63	121.71r	123.40	123.77	123.92
Austria	119.82r	121.42p	117.87r	119.67p	119.35	121.02p	119.59r	121.22p	119.74r	121.45p	123.28	125.90p	129.77	130.34p
Portugal	111.05	113.18	108.65	111.57	111.14	113.58	110.86	113.21	113.33	115.57	138.55	141.38	118.52	118.41
Slovenia	118.82	119.70	110.76	111.81	117.10	118.07	117.57	118.50	120.28	121.37	145.88	148.37	144.58	144.84
Slovakia	120.34	120.45	116.59	116.65	120.11	120.20	119.37	119.44	120.75	120.98	128.39	129.30	130.47	130.73
Finland	120.29	120.55	116.65	116.98	119.56	119.82	119.94	120.18	120.79	121.25	135.18	138.44	132.64	132.62
Euro area	114.81	116.03p	112.37	113.90p	114.23	115.57p	114.47	115.76p	115.87	117.20p	133.50r	135.82p	124.03	124.05p
Bulgaria	142.87	142.51	130.33	129.72	143.35	142.76	142.86	142.28	136.58	137.04	129.58	135.35	172.05	172.30
Czech Republic	119.1	119.1	109.6	109.5	118.5	118.5	118.5	118.5	119.2	119.3	142.9	144.5	142.0	142.3
Denmark	116.4	117.0	113.4	114.0	116.4	116.9	116.1	116.6	116.7	117.3	125.0	125.8	127.7	128.3
Croatia	121.97	122.43	114.38	115.12	121.58	122.08	120.58	121.09	121.81	122.88	136.89	141.83	135.48	135.26
Hungary	143.67	144.06	130.77	131.07	140.85	141.08	141.56	141.78	140.54	141.47	147.90	151.86	173.68	174.29
Poland	121.3	121.4	113.5	113.6	120.5	120.6	121.0	121.1	121.5	121.7	144.3	146.0	138.0	138.0
Romania	151.21	151.63	142.74	142.91	155.39	155.60	151.92	152.11	146.95	147.55	174.44	177.45	159.39	160.18
Sweden	113.37	113.46	109.99	110.03	112.69	112.81	112.93	113.01	113.35	113.45	121.14	121.73	126.07	126.35
United Kingdom	123.3	123.4	119.3	119.5	122.3	122.5	122.7	122.9	125.1	125.3	168.4	169.6	145.3	145.1
EU	117.50r	118.43p	114.02r	115.18p	116.80r	117.82p	117.08r	118.05p	118.46r	119.51p	139.16r	141.39p	130.43r	130.47p
Iceland	173.26	174.89	171.10	173.12	173.21	174.95	172.56	174.22	174.72	176.74	193.88	200.49	181.97	181.86
Norway	117.1	117.7	115.0	116.0	117.8	118.4	117.1	117.7	118.4	118.8	130.5	129.1	125.7	124.3
EEA	117.54r	118.46p	114.08r	115.23p	116.86r	117.87p	117.12r	118.09p	118.50r	119.54p	139.22r	141.41p	130.42r	130.45p
Switzerland	102.0	102.4	101.9	102.4	102.2	102.6	102.1	102.5	102.2	102.7	106.8	109.6	102.4	102.3

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

Flags

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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

HICP sub-indices and 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/>.