

HARMONISED INDICES OF CONSUMER PRICES APRIL 2015

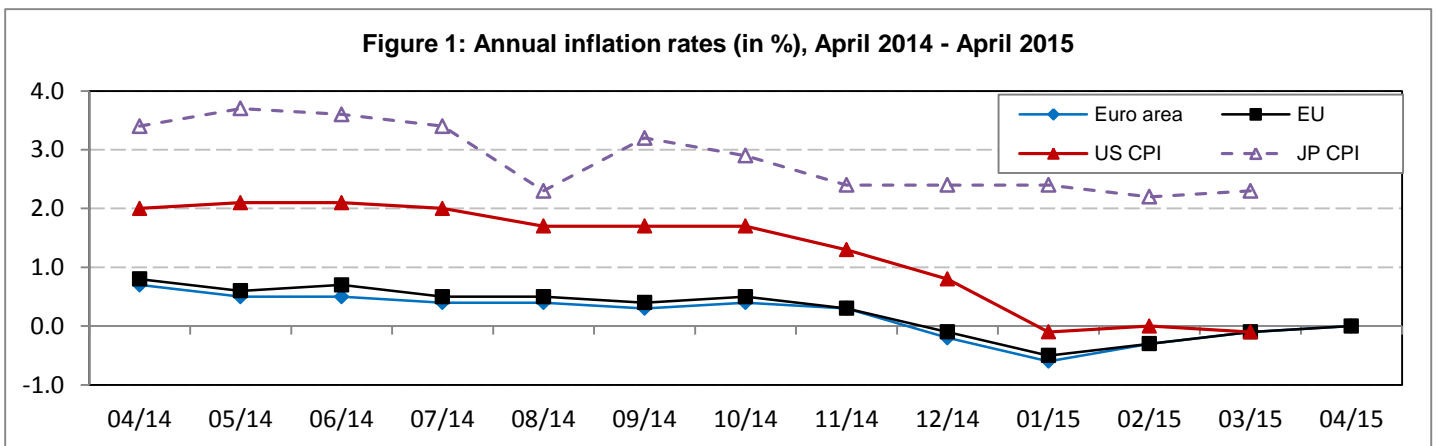
EURO AREA ANNUAL INFLATION WAS 0.0% IN APRIL 2015,

UP FROM -0.1% IN MARCH

EU ANNUAL INFLATION WAS 0.0% IN APRIL 2015,

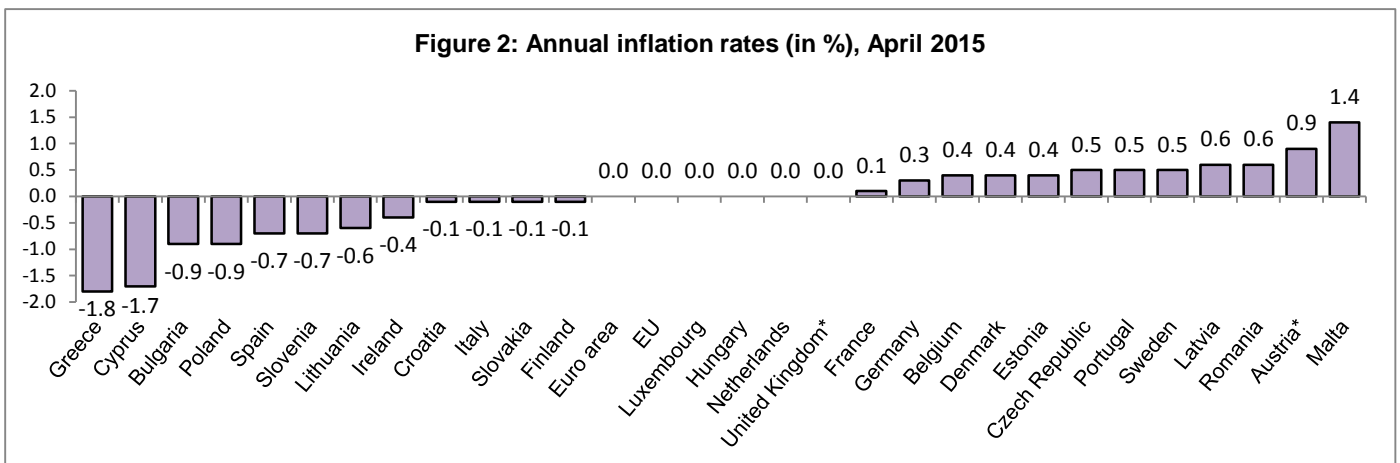
UP FROM -0.1% IN MARCH

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



* Data for Austria are provisional. Data for United Kingdom are of March 2015.

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

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

	Annual average index 2014	Monthly Indices											
		May 2014	Jun 2014	Jul 2014	Aug 2014	Sep 2014	Oct 2014	Nov 2014	Dec 2014	Jan 2015	Feb 2015	Mar 2015	Apr 2015
Belgium	120.22	120.47	120.65	119.06	120.77	120.32	120.33	120.14	120.13	117.58	120.43	120.76	121.10
Germany*	116.2	115.8	116.3	116.6	116.6	116.6	116.2	116.2	116.3	114.8	116.0r	116.6r	116.5
Estonia	144.22	144.83	145.25	145.00	144.68	144.52	144.43	143.12	143.13	142.55	143.30	144.24	145.08
Ireland	109.6	109.8	110.0	109.9	110.2	109.9	109.6	109.3	108.9	108.1	108.8	109.5	109.4
Greece	119.87	120.61	121.25	120.02	118.72	120.59	119.55	118.70	118.07	116.68	116.43	118.64	119.14
Spain	120.77	121.87	121.80	119.93	120.04	121.27	121.35	121.07	120.27	117.66	117.83	120.20	121.01
France	115.58	115.92	115.87	115.42	115.97	115.55	115.58	115.39	115.47	114.17	115.01	115.87	116.03
Italy	119.3	120.3	120.4	117.9	117.7	119.9	120.3	120.0	120.0	117.0	117.3	119.8	120.3
Cyprus	119.66	121.04	121.91	121.57	121.74	120.98	120.59	118.67	116.90	115.82	116.43	117.23	117.63
Latvia	148.05	148.78	149.36	149.01	147.84	148.39	148.04	147.70	146.71	146.79	147.32	148.49	149.32
Lithuania	140.08	140.53	140.51	139.83	139.69	140.32	140.45	140.36	139.46	137.69	137.49	138.62	139.64
Luxembourg	123.62	124.15	124.38	123.16	124.27	124.25	123.86	123.40	122.24	120.84	123.30	123.83	124.00
Malta	121.00	122.38	123.81	123.75	123.96	122.74	122.00	119.29	119.22	117.87	118.43	119.53	122.85
Netherlands	116.61	117.18	116.76	117.16	117.02	116.99	116.86	116.00	115.74	114.31	115.24	116.72	117.69
Austria	120.54	120.83	120.81	120.02	120.04	121.13	121.14	121.31	121.36	119.66	119.99	121.68	121.85p
Portugal	116.18	116.75	116.84	116.12	116.03	116.64	116.69	116.27	116.27	114.54	114.56	116.77	117.23
Slovenia	124.14	125.28	125.36	124.11	124.03	124.39	124.53	124.38	123.54	122.06	122.26	123.33	123.45
Slovakia	122.81	123.03	123.17	122.98	122.73	122.81	122.92	122.71	122.37	122.22	122.00	122.22	122.54
Finland	121.84	121.65	121.71	121.53	121.73	122.50	122.29	122.11	121.93	121.03	121.43	121.89	121.91
Euro area	117.71	118.07	118.20	117.43	117.57	118.08	118.01	117.80	117.69	115.86r	116.61r	117.93r	118.21p
Bulgaria	142.81	142.74	142.31	143.20	143.08	142.11	142.22	141.50	141.99	141.02	141.10	141.56	142.22
Czech Republic	122.4	122.5	122.5	122.8	122.7	122.5	122.6	122.2	122.2	122.1	122.2	122.5	123.0
Denmark	117.4	117.7	117.6	117.4	117.2	117.6	117.7	117.4	117.1	116.4	117.4	118.0	118.2
Croatia	125.59	126.09	126.40	126.57	126.66	126.36	126.06	125.25	124.38	123.72	123.86	124.91	125.40
Hungary	144.88	145.24	145.39	145.63	145.29	144.78	144.66	144.10	143.11	142.89	143.61	144.54	145.11
Poland	125.6	126.0	126.0	125.8	125.4	125.3	125.3	125.1	124.8	124.4	124.3	124.6	125.1
Romania	154.71	155.36	154.85	154.83	154.27	154.45	154.81	154.50	154.35	154.78	155.37	156.07	156.41
Sweden	114.10	114.18	114.44	114.15	114.12	114.39	114.46	114.37	114.67	113.41	114.37	114.50	114.69
United Kingdom**	128.0	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	121.03	121.15	120.53	120.65	121.03	121.01	120.76	120.64	119.11r	119.74r	120.79r	121.14p
Iceland	177.51	177.60	179.61	180.21	179.83	176.99	177.35	175.35	176.45	174.45	175.22	177.22	177.57
Norway	118.0	117.9	117.5	118.5	118.0	118.8	118.8	119.0	118.9	118.6	119.1	119.4	119.9
EEA	120.73	121.03	121.15	120.55	120.66	121.04	121.02	120.78	120.66	119.15r	119.77r	120.82r	121.17p
Switzerland	103.5	103.7	103.6	103.6	103.4	103.8	103.8	103.5	103.5	102.9	102.5	103.0	102.8

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

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

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

Apr 2015	Main categories												
	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12
Belgium	0.4	0.6	3.4	0.6	-1.6	1.0	1.5	-2.3	-0.6	0.4	1.3	2.9	2.0
Germany	0.3	1.2	2.5	0.8	-0.8	0.7	2.0	-0.8	-1.3	-0.1	-1.4	2.9	1.3
Estonia	0.4	0.1	5.3	3.0	0.0	1.3	3.8	-5.9	0.2	2.0	-18.8	2.1	3.3
Ireland	-0.4	-2.4	0.9	-4.4	5.7	-2.4	-0.1	-6.6	0.8	-0.5	5.0	1.8	0.5
Greece	-1.8	0.8	2.1	-2.5	-7.3	-1.8	-1.9	-2.1	0.0	-1.8	-3.1	0.2	-3.2
Spain	-0.7	0.4	1.5	0.4	-1.8	-0.5	0.0	-4.0	-3.5	-1.3	1.3	0.6	1.0
France	0.1	0.2	0.5	-0.4	0.6	-0.2	-0.5	-1.3	0.5	0.1	2.0	1.4	0.9
Italy	-0.1	1.2	3.1	0.5	-1.4	0.3	1.0	-2.7	-2.2	0.1	1.9	0.9	0.0
Cyprus	-1.7	1.0	1.0	-0.7	-9.1	-1.0	0.5	-6.0	0.8	-1.7	-1.5	-1.0	-1.0
Latvia	0.6	-1.5	1.5	0.5	5.2	0.7	2.2	-3.1	-0.4	1.4	1.5	1.7	1.4
Lithuania	-0.6	0.0	3.6	-1.1	-4.0	0.6	2.2	-7.4	1.2	2.4	1.7	5.0	2.4
Luxembourg	0.0	-0.4	2.7	0.2	-0.8	1.1	0.3	-3.3	-1.2	1.0	0.8	3.9	0.7
Malta	1.4	2.5	4.1	6.6	0.4	-0.1	0.8	-1.7	-0.6	1.4	6.5	1.4	3.1
Netherlands	0.0	0.1	2.5	-2.7	1.1	-1.0	-0.4	-2.1	-1.7	-0.6	2.7	2.1	1.9
Austria	0.9p	1.3p	3.1p	0.3p	1.5p	1.1p	1.8p	-3.0p	1.2p	1.0p	2.9p	2.9p	1.7p
Portugal	0.5	1.2	4.0	-2.4	0.5	0.6	0.5	-1.3	3.5	-2.5	0.5	2.9	0.0
Slovenia	-0.7	0.6	4.5	-3.3	-0.9	-2.1	0.2	-5.3	-0.9	1.1	1.1	0.8	1.1
Slovakia	-0.1	0.1	1.3	1.1	-1.0	2.3	0.6	-5.5	-0.4	0.3	3.3	1.4	1.2
Finland	-0.1	-1.6	1.5	-0.4	2.5	-0.1	3.3	-2.9	-5.0	-0.9	-0.3	1.3	0.4
Euro area	0.0p	0.6p	2.1p	0.1p	-0.6p	0.1p	0.9p	-2.0p	-1.2p	-0.2p	0.7p	1.6p	0.9p
Bulgaria	-0.9	1.6	0.9	0.6	5.1	0.1	-1.2	-8.2	-5.4	2.0	2.7	0.5	-0.3
Czech Republic	0.5	-0.6	5.7	3.9	1.5	0.3	-7.4	-3.6	-2.1	0.9	1.1	1.2	2.3
Denmark	0.4	1.4	0.3	0.2	-1.2	0.1	1.2	0.1	-3.2	1.5	2.8	1.7	1.3
Croatia	-0.1	0.5	2.0	0.0	-1.8	-0.4	0.7	-4.7	1.7	2.9	0.1	1.6	-0.2
Hungary	0.0	0.1	3.0	0.1	-1.4	-0.1	5.8	-5.7	-0.7	0.9	0.9	2.5	2.9
Poland	-0.9	-2.4	1.4	-4.9	0.5	-0.2	1.2	-7.0	5.3	1.1	1.5	2.2	0.5
Romania	0.6	0.5	2.8	2.0	1.6	1.4	2.0	-3.7	-0.8	1.7	2.0	1.7	2.5
Sweden	0.5	2.6	3.8	0.0	0.1	-0.1	0.6	-1.4	-1.9	-0.9	3.4	2.8	0.9
United Kingdom	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
EU	0.0p	0.2p	2.4p	-0.1p	-0.3p	0.2p	1.0p	-2.6p	-0.6p	0.1p	3.0p	1.7p	0.7p
Iceland	-0.3	1.9	-0.6	-2.5	3.4	-4.1	2.7	-6.4	4.1	1.8	8.1	2.8	1.4
Norway	1.8	2.0	2.9	-1.5	2.5	5.6	2.0	0.1	1.1	2.5	1.8	2.2	2.0
EEA	0.0p	0.2p	2.4p	-0.2p	-0.3p	0.2p	1.0p	-2.6p	-0.6p	0.1p	3.0p	1.7p	0.8p
Switzerland	-0.8	-0.2	0.7	4.1	-0.9	-1.3	-0.5	-4.5	-0.3	-3.6	1.1	-0.4	1.3

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		Mar 2015	Apr 2015	Mar 2015	Apr 2015
	Mar 2015	Apr 2015	Mar 2015	Apr 2015	Mar 2015	Apr 2015	Mar 2015	Apr 2015	Mar 2015	Apr 2015				
Belgium	119.68	120.30	117.02	117.20	119.48	119.74	119.64	119.85	120.24	120.55	126.48	124.44	128.92	131.13
Germany	114.5	114.3	112.3r	111.9	114.0r	113.7	114.2	113.9	116.1	116.0	132.8	133.4	124.7	125.5
Estonia	139.45	140.38	128.82	129.30	138.35	138.89	138.49	138.96	142.31	143.12	180.74	180.74	162.39	164.41
Ireland	106.5	106.4	105.5	105.4	107.4	107.3	107.0	106.9	107.7	107.7	139.3	139.8	110.2	110.2
Greece	114.29	114.74	110.17	110.65	113.74	114.16	113.86	114.28	116.89	117.41	180.74	181.97	127.11	127.49
Spain	117.21	118.02	114.16	115.25	116.76	117.71	116.91	117.81	118.91	119.73	146.80	147.58	126.33	126.24
France	114.11	114.25	112.79	112.97	113.46	113.61	113.85	114.00	115.28	115.43	134.39	134.64	118.89	118.91
Italy	118.6	119.3	116.9	117.8	118.3	119.1	118.3	119.1	119.2	119.8	133.7	132.1	124.5	124.4
Cyprus	113.91	114.31	107.46	108.59	110.88	111.49	111.63	112.08	116.46	116.81	142.86	143.29	137.36	135.33
Latvia	141.19	142.08	123.84	124.58	139.61	140.18	139.92	140.43	143.59	144.42	203.68	204.01	176.82	178.07
Lithuania	134.41	135.70	118.95	119.62	131.69	132.35	133.25	133.88	135.79	136.81	165.86	164.61	161.99	164.73
Luxembourg	124.37	124.58	120.80	120.91	124.52	124.74	124.52	124.75	121.32	121.41	123.39	123.32	134.74	135.26
Malta	118.12	121.69	111.06	115.32	114.93	118.70	115.86	119.53	118.91	122.30	147.82	147.31	145.14	145.37
Netherlands	115.95	116.92	114.11	115.22	115.88	116.85	115.80	116.76	115.63	116.61	123.40	124.31	123.92	124.34
Austria	121.43r	121.58p	119.67	119.77p	121.02	121.17p	121.22	121.38p	121.45	121.57p	125.90	126.13p	130.35r	130.81p
Portugal	113.18	113.59	111.57	111.90	113.58	113.96	113.21	113.52	115.57	115.96	141.38	142.42	118.41	119.06
Slovenia	119.70	119.92	111.81	111.88	118.07	118.08	118.50	118.50	121.37	121.50	148.37	147.73	144.84	145.59
Slovakia	120.45	120.72	116.65	116.81	120.20	120.30	119.44	119.53	120.98	121.30	129.30	129.92	130.73	131.27
Finland	120.55	120.49	116.98	117.02	119.82	119.83	120.18	120.19	121.25	121.27	138.44	139.48	132.62	132.23
Euro area	116.05r	116.35p	113.92r	114.22p	115.59r	115.86p	115.78r	116.04p	117.22r	117.50p	135.82	135.95p	124.05	124.37p
Bulgaria	142.51	143.35	129.72	130.16	142.76	143.24	142.28	142.75	137.04	137.71	135.35	134.88	172.30	174.10
Czech Republic	119.1	119.7	109.5	110.1	118.5	118.9	118.5	118.8	119.3	119.8	144.5	145.1	142.3	142.8
Denmark	117.0	117.1	114.0	114.1	116.9	117.1	116.6	116.8	117.3	117.5	125.8	126.1	128.3	128.5
Croatia	122.43	123.25	115.12	116.15	122.08	123.13	121.09	122.04	122.88	123.28	141.83	140.12	135.26	135.54
Hungary	144.06	144.79	131.07	131.67	141.08	141.50	141.78	142.09	141.47	142.04	151.86	151.56	174.29	175.34
Poland	121.4	121.9	113.6	114.1	120.6	121.0	121.1	121.4	121.7	122.2	146.0	146.5	138.0	138.5
Romania	151.63	151.97	142.91	142.98	155.60	155.67	152.11	152.18	147.55	147.82	177.45	177.70	160.18	160.92
Sweden	113.46	113.63	110.03	110.09	112.81	112.89	113.01	113.11	113.45	113.62	121.73	122.08	126.35	126.95
United Kingdom	123.4	:	119.5	:	122.5	:	122.9	:	125.3	:	169.6	:	145.1	:
EU	118.44r	118.80p	115.20r	115.55p	117.84r	118.16p	118.07r	118.38p	119.53r	119.86p	141.39	141.56p	130.47	130.89p
Iceland	174.89	175.19	173.12	173.52	174.95	175.31	174.22	174.52	176.74	177.09	200.49	201.47	181.86	181.72
Norway	117.7	118.2	116.0	116.6	118.4	118.9	117.7	118.1	118.8	119.2	129.1	129.0	124.3	124.7
EEA	118.47r	118.84p	115.25r	115.60p	117.89r	118.21p	118.10r	118.42p	119.56r	119.89p	141.41	141.58p	130.45	130.86p
Switzerland	102.4	102.1	102.4	102.1	102.6	102.3	102.5	102.2	102.7	102.4	109.6	108.9	102.3	102.3

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

Comments

* Germany has revised HICP data for the period January to March 2015 for 'Hospital services'. The revisions have an impact on the German all-items inflation rate for February and March 2015 as well as an impact on certain euro area aggregates in January, February and March. Further information on the revisions can be found on the website of the German statistical office at: https://www.destatis.de/EN/PressServices/Press/pr/2015/05/PE15_174_611.html

** Data for United Kingdom for April 2015 were not available in time for publication. Due to this fact, euro area, European Union (EU) and European economic area (EEA) totals were calculated using Eurostat estimates.

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, Latvia from January 2014, and Lithuania from January 2015. New Member States are integrated into the aggregates using a chain index formula.

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/>.