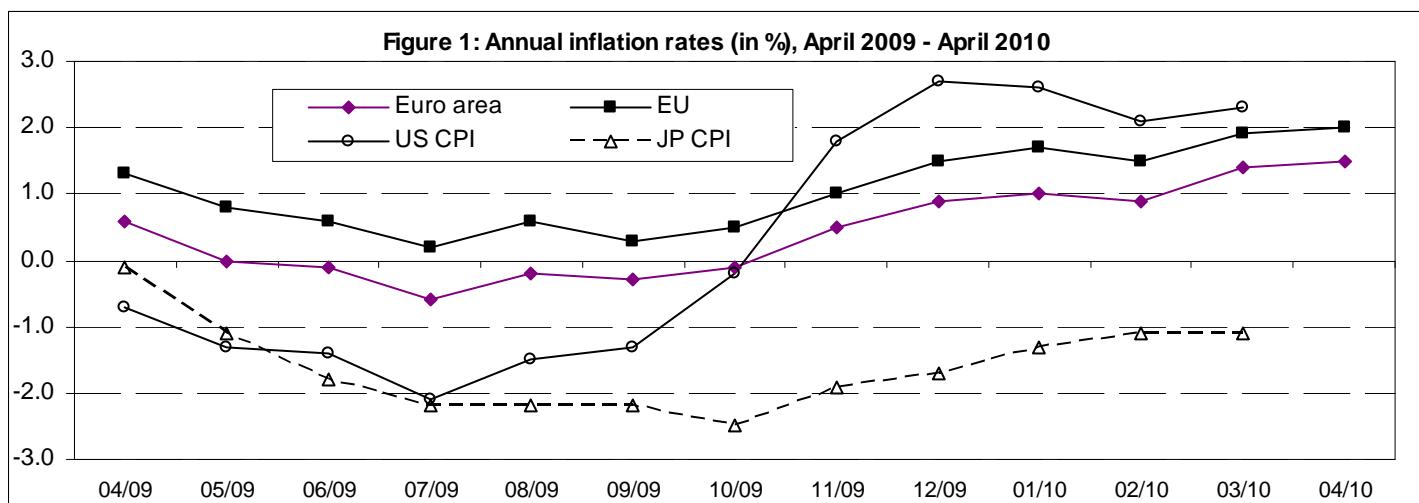


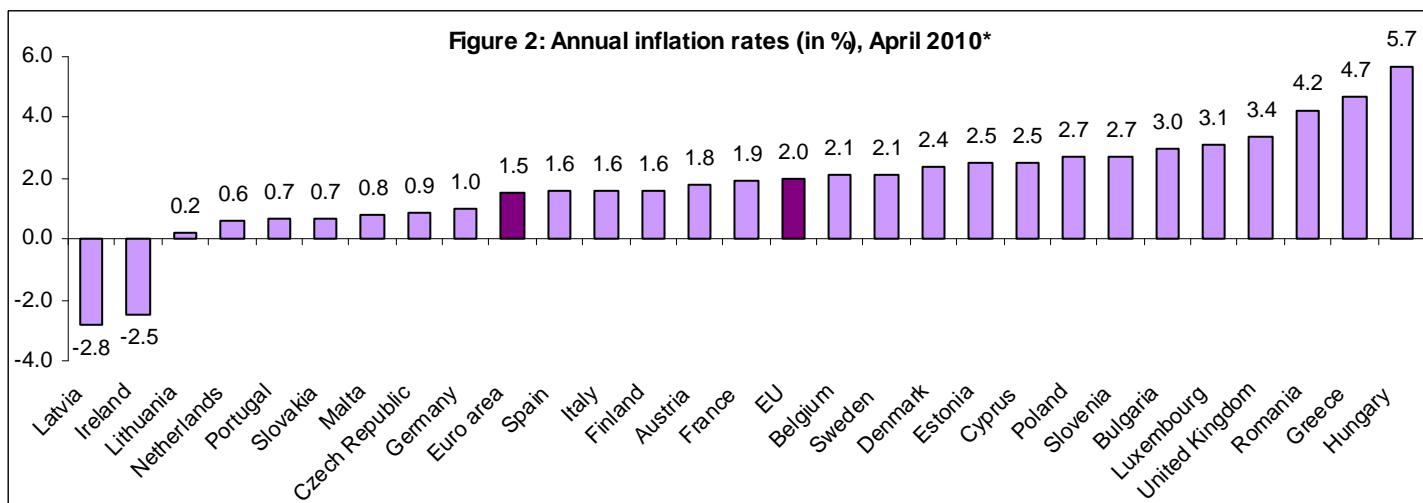
HARMONIZED INDICES OF CONSUMER PRICES APRIL 2010

**EURO AREA¹⁾ ANNUAL INFLATION WAS 1.5% IN APRIL 2010,
UP FROM 1.4% IN MARCH**

**EU²⁾ ANNUAL INFLATION WAS 2.0% IN APRIL 2010,
UP FROM 1.9% IN MARCH**



Sources: Eurostat ([prc_hicp_marr](#)), US Bureau of Labor Statistics, and Statistics Bureau of Japan



* Data for the Netherlands and Austria are provisional. Data for the United Kingdom are of March 2010.

Source: Eurostat ([prc_hicp_marr](#))

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

	Annual average index 2009	Monthly Indices											
		May 2009	Jun 2009	Jul 2009	Aug 2009	Sep 2009	Oct 2009	Nov 2009	Dec 2009	Jan 2010	Feb 2010	Mar 2010	Apr 2010
Belgium	108.86	109.12	109.00	107.23	109.49	109.04	109.02	109.23	109.46	107.90	110.42	110.98	111.48
Germany	107.2	107.0	107.4	107.3	107.6	107.1	107.2	107.0	108.0	107.3	107.7	108.3	108.2
Ireland	107.1	107.6	107.6	106.7	106.9	106.5	106.3	106.2	105.7	105.0	105.2	105.3	105.3
Greece	112.40	112.76	112.68	111.84	110.90	112.99	113.59	114.31	114.47	113.59	112.91	116.37	117.82
Spain ³⁾	110.64r	110.68	111.23r	110.31r	110.76r	110.48r	111.26r	111.87r	111.84r	110.67r	110.46r	111.27r	112.47
France	106.93	107.03	107.18	106.64	107.23	106.99	107.11	107.28	107.60	107.34	107.99	108.57	108.89
Italy	108.8	109.3	109.5	108.2	108.4	109.2	109.6	109.7	109.9	108.3	108.3	109.9	110.9
Cyprus	109.22	109.97	110.06	108.48	108.68	109.56	110.60	111.42	110.96	109.40	109.71	110.74	111.94
Luxembourg	110.02	109.86	110.61	109.63	111.07	110.91	110.71	111.33	111.21	110.49	111.66	112.46	112.94
Malta	110.12	111.72	111.63	111.47	112.09	111.88	111.46	108.57	108.38	107.79	108.13	109.60	112.40
Netherlands	106.57	107.87	107.39	105.67	105.89	106.46	106.75	106.59	105.82	105.52	106.51	108.08	108.41p
Austria	107.71	107.79	107.68	107.24	107.69	107.90	108.02	108.24	108.57	108.12	108.34	109.46r	109.69p
Portugal	107.36	107.68	107.87	107.46	107.24	107.15	107.17	107.33	107.52	106.84	106.89	108.20	108.66
Slovenia	113.25	113.74	114.34	113.42	113.48	113.37	113.51	114.37	113.88	113.24	113.61	114.78	116.05
Slovakia	111.43	111.45	111.46	111.33	111.11	111.05	111.24	111.56	111.49	111.63	111.64	111.79	112.19
Finland	108.66	108.71	109.17	108.41	108.87	109.22	108.68	108.88	109.05	109.13	109.53	110.19	110.50
Euro area	108.09	108.27	108.48	107.77r	108.14r	108.16	108.41	108.54	108.88	108.05	108.39	109.37	109.87p
Bulgaria	132.56	132.58	132.74	132.55	132.72	132.48	132.70	132.94	133.37	134.15	134.54	135.04	136.60
Czech Republic	112.4	112.9	112.9	112.5	112.3	111.8	111.5	111.6	111.7	113.0	113.1	113.3	113.8
Denmark	108.4	108.7	108.9	108.3	108.6	108.8	108.8	108.8	108.6	108.9	109.9	110.7	110.9
Estonia	123.56	123.05	122.81	123.85	123.74	123.52	123.42	123.11	123.26	123.61	123.93	125.46	126.09
Latvia	139.62	141.34	140.61	139.71	138.32	137.92	137.56	136.60	135.94	136.16	136.12	136.75	137.92
Lithuania	127.09	127.79	127.37	126.37	126.08	126.81	126.29	126.35	125.94	127.42	127.31	127.67	128.23
Hungary	123.85	124.34	124.40	126.18	125.51	125.20	125.00	125.65	125.40	127.25	127.54	128.36	129.47
Poland	112.6	113.0	113.2	113.5	113.1	113.1	113.3	113.6	113.6	114.1	114.5	114.8	115.3
Romania	127.43	127.22	127.47	127.39	127.15	127.64	128.20	129.06	129.47	131.66	131.91	132.20	132.61
Sweden	108.72	108.72	108.95	108.69	108.89	109.36	109.66	109.69	109.96	109.77	110.44	110.72	110.64
United Kingdom ⁴⁾	110.8	110.7	111.0	110.9	111.4	111.5	111.7	112.0	112.6	112.4	112.9	113.5	:
EU	109.49	109.62	109.85	109.34	109.65	109.69	109.91	110.09	110.44	109.94	110.30r	111.15r	111.58p
Iceland	142.18	139.77	142.49	143.53	144.52	145.30	147.04	148.10	149.24	149.27	151.18	152.63	153.10
Norway	109.2	109.2	109.9	109.2	108.9	110.0	109.7	110.1	110.3	110.2	111.8	112.4	112.6
EEA ⁵⁾	109.51	109.64	109.87	109.37r	109.67	109.72r	109.93	110.12	110.47r	109.97	110.34	111.19r	111.62p
Switzerland	103.4	103.6	103.8	103.4	103.6	103.3	104.0	103.9	103.6	103.8	103.8	104.0	104.9

Source: Eurostat ([prc_hicp_aинд](#), [prc_hicp_midx](#))

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

	12-month average rates		Annual rates												
	Dec 2009	Apr 2010	Apr 2009	May 2009	Jun 2009	Jul 2009	Aug 2009	Sep 2009	Oct 2009	Nov 2009	Dec 2009	Jan 2010	Feb 2010	Mar 2010	Apr 2010
Belgium	0.0	0.0	0.7	-0.2	-1.0	-1.7	-0.7	-1.0	-0.9	0.0	0.3	0.8	0.8	1.9	2.1
Germany	0.2	0.3	0.8	0.0	0.0	-0.7	-0.1	-0.5	-0.1	0.3	0.8	0.8	0.5	1.2	1.0
Ireland	-1.7	-2.5	-0.7	-1.7	-2.2	-2.6	-2.4	-3.0	-2.8	-2.8	-2.6	-2.4	-2.4	-2.4	-2.5
Greece	1.3	2.0	1.1	0.7	0.7	0.7	1.0	0.7	1.2	2.1	2.6	2.3	2.9	3.9	4.7
Spain	-0.2r	0.1	-0.2	-0.9	-1.0	-1.3r	-0.7r	-0.9r	-0.6	0.4	0.9	1.1	0.9	1.5	1.6
France	0.1	0.4	0.1	-0.3	-0.6	-0.8	-0.2	-0.4	-0.2	0.5	1.0	1.2	1.4	1.7	1.9
Italy	0.8	0.8	1.2	0.8	0.6	-0.1	0.1	0.4	0.3	0.8	1.1	1.3	1.1	1.4	1.6
Cyprus	0.2	0.8	0.6	0.5	0.1	-0.8	-0.9	-1.2	-1.0	1.0	1.6	2.5	2.8	2.3	2.5
Luxembourg	0.0	0.9	-0.3	-0.9	-1.0	-1.5	-0.2	-0.4	-0.2	1.7	2.5	3.0	2.3	3.2	3.1
Malta	1.8	0.9	4.0	3.4	2.8	0.8	1.0	0.8	-0.5	-0.1	-0.4	1.2	0.7	0.6	0.8
Netherlands	1.0	0.5p	1.8	1.5	1.4	-0.1	-0.1	0.0	0.4	0.7	0.7	0.4	0.3	0.7	0.6p
Austria	0.4	0.6p	0.5	0.1	-0.3	-0.4	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.6	1.1	1.2	0.9	1.8	1.8p
Portugal	-0.9	-0.7	-0.6	-1.2	-1.6	-1.4	-1.2	-1.8	-1.6	-0.8	-0.1	0.1	0.2	0.6	0.7
Slovenia	0.9	1.0	1.1	0.5	0.2	-0.6	0.1	0.0	0.2	1.8	2.1	1.8	1.6	1.8	2.7
Slovakia	0.9	0.3	1.4	1.1	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.0	-0.1	0.0	0.0	-0.2	-0.2	0.3	0.7
Finland	1.6	1.4	2.1	1.5	1.6	1.2	1.3	1.1	0.6	1.3	1.8	1.6	1.3	1.5	1.6
Euro area	0.3	0.4p	0.6	0.0	-0.1	-0.6r	-0.2	-0.3	-0.1	0.5	0.9	1.0	0.9	1.4	1.5p
Bulgaria	2.5	1.6	3.8	3.0	2.6	1.0	1.3	0.2	0.3	0.9	1.6	1.8	1.7	2.4	3.0
Czech Republic	0.6	0.3	1.3	0.9	0.8	-0.1	0.0	-0.3	-0.6	0.2	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.9
Denmark	1.1	1.2	1.1	1.1	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.5	0.6	0.9	1.2	1.9	1.8	2.1	2.4
Estonia	0.2	-0.6	0.9	0.3	-0.5	-0.4	-0.7	-1.7	-2.1	-2.1	-1.9	-1.0	-0.3	1.4	2.5
Latvia	3.3	-0.6	5.9	4.4	3.1	2.1	1.5	0.1	-1.2	-1.4	-1.4	-3.3	-4.3	-4.0	-2.8
Lithuania	4.2	1.5	5.9	4.9	3.9	2.6	2.2	2.3	1.0	1.3	1.2	-0.3	-0.6	-0.4	0.2
Hungary	4.0	5.0	3.2	3.8	3.7	4.9	5.0	4.8	4.2	5.2	5.4	6.2	5.6	5.7	5.7
Poland	4.0	3.8	4.3	4.2	4.2	4.5	4.3	4.0	3.8	3.8	3.8	3.9	3.4	2.9	2.7
Romania	5.6	4.9	6.5	5.9	5.9	5.0	4.9	4.9	4.3	4.6	4.7	5.2	4.5	4.2	4.2
Sweden	1.9	2.1	1.8	1.7	1.6	1.8	1.9	1.4	1.8	2.4	2.8	2.7	2.8	2.5	2.1
United Kingdom	2.2	:	2.3	2.2	1.8	1.8	1.6	1.1	1.5	1.9	2.9	3.5	3.0	3.4	:
EU	1.0	1.1p	1.3	0.8	0.6	0.2	0.6	0.3	0.5	1.0	1.5	1.7	1.5	1.9	2.0p
Iceland	16.3	13.4	16.3	15.7	16.7	16.5	16.0	15.3	13.8	12.4	11.3	10.6	10.7	11.6	11.1
Norway	2.3	2.5	2.9	2.9	3.5	2.2	1.8	1.4	0.8	1.9	2.4	2.7	3.1	3.6	3.4
EEA	1.0	1.1p	1.3	0.9	0.7	0.3	0.6	0.3	0.5	1.1	1.6r	1.7	1.5	1.9	2.0p
Switzerland	-0.7	-0.2	-0.6	-1.1	-1.2	-1.4	-1.0	-1.1	-1.0	-0.1	0.2	0.9	0.9	1.4	1.3

Source: Eurostat ([prc_hicp_mv12r](#), [prc_hicp_manr](#))

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

Apr 2010	Main categories												
	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12
Belgium	2.1	1.3	1.6	0.7	3.1	1.7	-1.8	7.0	-3.9	1.4	4.5	1.8	1.0
Germany	1.0	1.2	3.4	0.9	0.8	0.5	0.1	4.7	-1.7	-2.3	-1.4	0.8	0.8
Ireland	-2.5	-7.0	-2.9	-10.8	-5.0	-4.6	-0.6	4.7	-0.2	-1.7	8.9	-2.8	-2.8
Greece	4.7	-0.9	9.8	2.8	10.1	1.3	2.8	18.0	1.6	0.6	2.7	2.9	2.3
Spain	1.6	-1.9	12.1	-0.9	3.4	0.2	-1.7	9.5	-1.3	-2.5	2.6	0.8	1.4
France	1.9	0.8	3.9	0.6	3.8	0.3	0.8	4.3	1.1	-1.2	3.5	0.1	2.7
Italy	1.6	-0.1	2.2	0.6	0.6	1.4	1.7	5.5	-0.7	1.4	1.9	1.6	2.8
Cyprus	2.5	0.3	0.8	-1.5	16.0	0.1	2.7	6.0	0.0	0.3	4.9	-1.1	2.3
Luxembourg	3.1	0.2	3.8	0.0	4.7	1.5	1.1	8.1	-0.4	0.8	2.1	1.5	1.2
Malta	0.8	-1.4	3.6	-1.9	11.6	1.3	1.8	2.1	-7.2	-1.6	9.7	1.0	2.8
Netherlands	0.6p	-1.0p	3.2p	-0.7p	-4.0p	0.7p	2.0p	6.8p	1.5p	-0.1p	2.6p	1.6p	1.7p
Austria	1.8p	0.1p	2.0p	1.4p	3.0p	2.2p	1.9p	4.8p	0.8p	0.0p	-5.4p	0.8p	2.8p
Portugal	0.7	-2.8	3.2	-1.6	4.2	1.4	-1.9	4.7	-2.9	-2.3	3.0	1.4	0.2
Slovenia	2.7	-0.1	10.8	-1.6	12.8	0.7	0.3	3.2	1.0	0.2	1.7	2.0	2.1
Slovakia	0.7	0.8	7.9	-2.0	-1.3	-3.8	4.7	1.0	1.7	0.8	4.5	1.1	1.3
Finland	1.6	-5.6	4.7	0.7	3.8	2.0	1.1	6.4	-4.7	0.8	5.1	3.0	3.8
Euro area	1.5p	-0.2p	4.2p	0.3p	1.7p	0.7p	0.5p	5.9p	-0.6p	-1.0p	1.7p	1.0p	1.8p
Bulgaria	3.0	-2.9	26.3	-1.4	-0.9	0.0	4.3	7.4	-0.7	4.1	7.8	0.5	13.4
Czech Republic	0.9	-0.4	3.7	-2.1	1.2	-0.7	5.2	3.9	-3.0	-1.3	1.3	0.9	0.6
Denmark	2.4	-0.3	5.3	0.6	5.0	1.7	1.5	4.4	-1.5	0.0	4.1	1.4	3.0
Estonia	2.5	0.8	3.2	2.2	3.2	0.5	0.9	10.8	0.6	-1.0	1.1	-2.1	2.7
Latvia	-2.8	-2.6	3.7	-7.5	-8.4	-5.4	-2.0	5.0	-5.5	-5.6	7.2	-7.1	-3.7
Lithuania	0.2	-3.5	14.3	-7.1	0.0	-3.1	1.6	7.6	-6.1	-2.3	13.2	-3.8	0.3
Hungary	5.7	1.6	11.6	0.1	7.1	3.8	6.3	14.0	2.1	2.7	0.6	4.9	2.9
Poland	2.7	0.4	9.5	-3.8	2.6	1.2	3.2	7.0	-1.5	-0.4	2.0	3.4	4.2
Romania	4.2	-0.3	32.6	1.7	2.7	1.5	5.2	12.3	-1.5	3.1	7.2	4.2	6.3
Sweden	2.1	1.1	2.2	1.4	1.2	1.1	3.1	6.2	-1.5	1.0	2.6	3.8	0.6
United Kingdom	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
EU	2.0p	0.2p	6.1p	-0.3p	1.7p	1.1p	1.2p	6.8p	-0.3p	-0.2p	2.9p	1.4p	2.0p
Iceland	11.1	8.7	20.0	12.0	6.3	9.2	8.9	20.7	5.3	12.4	4.2	5.9	8.0
Norway	3.4	1.0	3.6	-3.7	11.1	-0.6	2.8	3.2	-3.0	3.0	3.3	4.1	3.1
EEA	2.0p	0.2p	6.1p	-0.3p	1.9p	1.1p	1.2p	6.7p	-0.4p	-0.1p	2.9p	1.4p	2.0p
Switzerland	1.3	-0.7	2.5	1.3	4.1	-0.3	0.7	3.6	-1.0	-2.2	1.2	0.9	1.2

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 ([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 2010	Apr 2010	Mar 2010	Apr 2010	Mar 2010	Apr 2010	Mar 2010	Apr 2010	Mar 2010	Apr 2010				
Belgium	110.06	110.14	108.25	108.36	109.60	109.72	109.68	109.78	110.85	111.34	118.32	122.14	116.36	116.34
Germany	106.9	106.5	105.9	105.3	106.6	106.1	106.7	106.2	108.1	107.9	120.3	121.8	111.3	111.9
Ireland	103.8	103.6	103.0	102.8	104.2	104.0	104.0	103.7	104.1	104.2	120.7	124.0	106.7	106.6
Greece	114.31	115.46	113.85	114.56	114.34	115.50	114.32	115.46	116.04	117.17	140.33	145.69	115.76	118.33
Spain	109.97r	110.94	108.41r	109.70	109.83r	110.88	109.98r	110.98	110.76r	111.98	121.99	125.32	114.16	114.05
France	107.95	108.04	107.40	107.41	107.63	107.63	107.77	107.78	108.44	108.78	114.34	117.35	109.97	110.35
Italy	109.6	110.6	108.6	109.9	109.5	110.6	109.6	110.7	109.6	110.7	112.8	114.5	113.2	113.2
Cyprus	109.43	110.22	105.97	107.14	107.07	108.05	107.95	108.88	110.86	112.09	120.01	124.73	120.83	120.27
Luxembourg	112.10	112.16	109.94	109.84	112.21	112.24	112.19	112.22	111.09	111.57	114.92	118.65	117.81	118.40
Malta	107.82	110.54	104.39	107.81	106.54	109.51	107.01	109.87	109.53	112.38	141.96	146.22	119.56	119.44
Netherlands	107.68	107.93p	106.67	106.84p	107.44	107.65p	107.37	107.59p	107.65	107.95p	111.43	112.50p	112.08	112.71p
Austria	108.89r	108.89p	108.14r	108.04p	108.63r	108.56p	108.66r	108.64p	109.43r	109.63p	116.01	119.03p	112.63	113.07p
Portugal	106.82	107.06	106.63	106.83	107.59	107.74	107.27	107.43	107.56	108.03	118.60	120.76	107.41	107.80
Slovenia	112.72	113.74	109.66	110.45	112.27	113.27	112.34	113.28	114.36	115.39	129.35	132.39	122.02	123.76
Slovakia	110.29	110.63	108.68	108.72	110.44	110.56	109.52	109.60	111.00	111.42	117.56	118.35	114.66	115.82
Finland	109.23	109.39	107.80	107.93	108.95	109.08	108.95	109.09	109.88	110.20	122.10	124.37	114.09	114.33
Euro area	108.46r	108.76p	107.43r	107.72p	108.22	108.48p	108.31r	108.57p	109.09	109.58p	118.21	120.55p	112.24	112.60p
Bulgaria	136.80	138.40	130.33	130.32	137.94	139.83	137.24	139.00	131.90	131.96	124.66	125.97	151.15	157.00
Czech Republic	110.6	110.9	106.8	107.0	110.7	111.0	110.2	110.5	111.4	111.8	131.4	133.1	118.9	119.3
Denmark	109.7	109.8	108.1	108.1	109.6	109.7	109.3	109.4	110.5	110.7	118.5	119.9	115.4	115.3
Estonia	121.90	122.30	117.58	117.47	121.28	121.42	121.17	121.26	124.54	125.18	152.99	155.43	131.07	132.54
Latvia	133.35	133.54	121.15	121.16	132.06	132.10	132.34	132.34	132.89	134.00	164.07	172.35	157.51	158.11
Lithuania	123.44	123.71	113.15	113.07	121.67	121.72	123.17	123.19	125.62	126.18	157.45	160.15	141.31	142.22
Hungary	125.11	125.69	118.39	118.90	123.00	123.44	123.43	123.81	128.00	129.09	150.65	155.32	140.35	141.06
Poland	112.2	112.6	107.4	107.6	111.4	111.6	111.5	111.7	113.3	113.7	131.6	132.4	121.9	122.7
Romania	130.00	130.35	123.80	124.48	133.31	133.66	130.91	131.23	126.61	127.03	142.15	142.84	135.76	135.79
Sweden	109.01	109.11	106.88	107.01	108.32	108.42	108.49	108.58	110.02	109.94	123.76	122.17	116.86	116.83
United Kingdom	110.7	:	108.3	:	109.9	:	110.2	:	112.8	:	148.9	:	124.1	:
EU	109.74r	110.00p	107.95r	108.19p	109.35r	109.57p	109.47r	109.69p	110.62r	111.03p	124.18r	126.30p	116.24r	116.60p
Iceland	150.89	151.32	150.02	150.21	151.45	151.61	150.45	150.63	152.54	153.02	170.54	171.56	154.15	155.49
Norway	109.3	109.6	108.3	108.6	109.6	109.8	109.4	109.6	112.3	112.5	145.5	144.1	113.8	114.4
EEA	109.76r	110.02p	107.99r	108.22p	109.38r	109.60p	109.50r	109.72p	110.66r	111.08p	124.43r	126.52p	116.24r	116.60p
Switzerland	103.3	104.1	103.3	104.1	103.3	104.1	103.2	104.1	104.0	104.8	113.2	115.3	103.7	104.2

Source: Eurostat ([prc_hicp_midx](#))

Comments

1. Euro area inflation is measured by the MUICP ('Monetary Union Index of Consumer Prices' as defined in Council Regulation (EC) No 2494/95 of 23 October 1995) which is the official euro area aggregate. The euro area initially included 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 and Slovakia from January 2009. New Member States are integrated into the MUICP using a chain index formula.
2. EU inflation is measured by the EICP ('European Index of Consumer Prices' as defined in Council Regulation (EC) No 2494/95 of 23 October 1995) which is the official EU aggregate. The EU included 15 Member States until April 2004, 25 Member States from May 2004 until December 2006 and 27 Member States from January 2007. New Member States are integrated into the EICP using a chain index formula.
3. Spain has revised its HICP for motor cars for the period from June 2009 to March 2010. This has had an upward impact of 0.1 percentage points on the all-items inflation rate for Spain in July, August and September 2009. The revision was requested by Eurostat in order to ensure comparable treatment of car scrappage schemes across Member States. For further information see:
http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/hicp/methodology/working_group.
4. Data for the United Kingdom for April 2010 were not available in time for publication. Due to this fact, EU and EEA totals were calculated using Eurostat estimates.
5. EEA inflation is measured by the EEAICP ('European Economic Area Index of Consumer Prices'). It is computed using data for Iceland and Norway in addition to the EU Member States.

Statistical symbols and abbreviation

p	provisional	:	not available
r	revised	EEA	European Economic area

Methodology

Measures of inflation

The *annual rate* measures the price change 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.

The *12-month average rate* overcomes this volatility by comparing average Harmonized Indices of Consumer Prices (HICPs) in the latest 12 months to the average of the previous 12 months. This measure is less sensitive to transient changes in prices.

HICPs designed for international comparison

Harmonized Indices of Consumer Prices (HICPs) are harmonized inflation figures required under the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union. They are designed for international comparison of consumer price inflation. The focus is on quality and comparability among the indices of different countries as well as on their relative movements.

The MUICP is used by, among others, the European Central Bank (ECB) as a main indicator for monetary policy management for the euro area (see [ECB press release](#), 8 May 2003).

The Member States' HICPs are supplied by the National Statistical Institutes; the MUICP, EICP and EEAICP are compiled by Eurostat. The HICP is computed as an annual chain index 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 euro area total. For the MUICP this is expressed in euro, for the EICP and the EEAICP it is expressed in purchasing power standards. The MUICP is treated as a single entity within the EICP and EEAICP starting from 1999.

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://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/hicp/data/database>

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

<http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/hicp/introduction>

Further information

European Statistical Data Support:

Contact details for this support network can be found on our Internet site:

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

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