

Consumer price index (CPI)

March 2018

Monthly inflation in March 2018 was 0.2%

Monthly inflation measured by Consumer price index was 0.2% in March 2018, while the annual inflation was 2.9%. This was influenced mostly by increase in prices of: vegetables; garments; fruit; shoes and other footwear; non-durable household goods; meat; milk, cheese and eggs; fish and seafood; other appliances, articles and products for personal care.

Observing the main groups monthly growth of prices was noticed in the following groups: Clothing and footwear (1.8%); Furnishing, household equipment and routine household maintenance (0.6%); Food and non-alcoholic beverages (0.4%); Miscellaneous goods and service (0.2%); Alcoholic beverages and tobacco (0.1%), while a drop of prices was recorded in the following groups: Transport (-0.3%); Restaurants and hotels (-0.3%); Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels (-0.2%).

Positive annual inflation rates in March 2018 were observed in the following groups: Alcoholic beverages and tobacco (30.8%); Clothing and footwear (6.9%); Restaurants and hotels (6.4%); Transport (4.4%); Furnishing, household equipment and routine household maintenance (2.0%); Miscellaneous goods and service (1.9%); Communication (1.8%); Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels (0.9%); Health (0.3%), while negative annual inflation rates were observed in the following groups: Food and non-alcoholic beverages (-0.6%); Recreation and culture (-0.1%).

Chart 1. Annual and monthly rates of inflation (CPI)

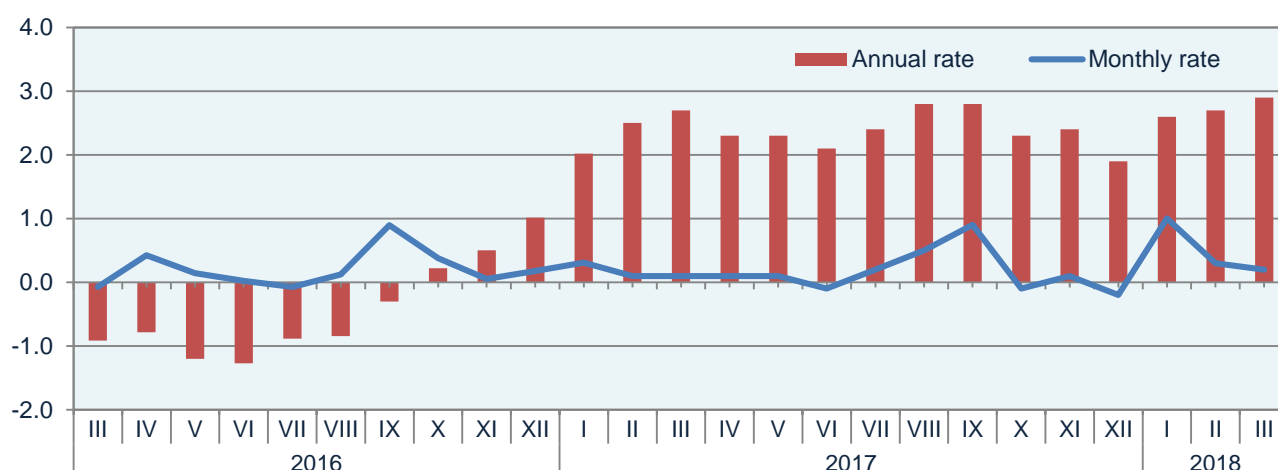


Table 1. Inflation rates measured by CPI, in %

	Name	Weights ‰	<u>Mar 2018</u> Ø 2015	<u>Mar 2018</u> Feb 2018	<u>Mar 2018</u> Mar 2017	<u>Jan-Mar 2018</u> Jan-Mar 2017
00	CPI - total	1000.0	4.4	0.2	2.9	2.7
01	Food and non-alcoholic beverages	341.1	0.9	0.4	-0.6	-0.7
02	Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	40.4	36.1	0.1	30.8	30.7
03	Clothing and footwear	86.1	10.0	1.8	6.9	7.2
04	Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	154.0	2.4	-0.2	0.9	0.5
05	Furnishing, household equipment and routine household maintenance	39.4	0.3	0.6	2.0	0.7
06	Health	40.8	5.2	0.0	0.3	0.5
07	Transport	109.4	5.7	-0.3	4.4	4.1
08	Communication	48.5	2.2	0.0	1.8	1.8
09	Recreation and culture	32.0	-0.4	0.0	-0.1	-0.4
10	Education	18.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
11	Restaurants and hotels	47.6	8.6	-0.3	6.4	6.7
12	Miscellaneous goods and services	42.0	2.2	0.2	1.9	1.8

**Chart 2. Impacts of divisions on the annual inflation rate (in %),
March 2018**

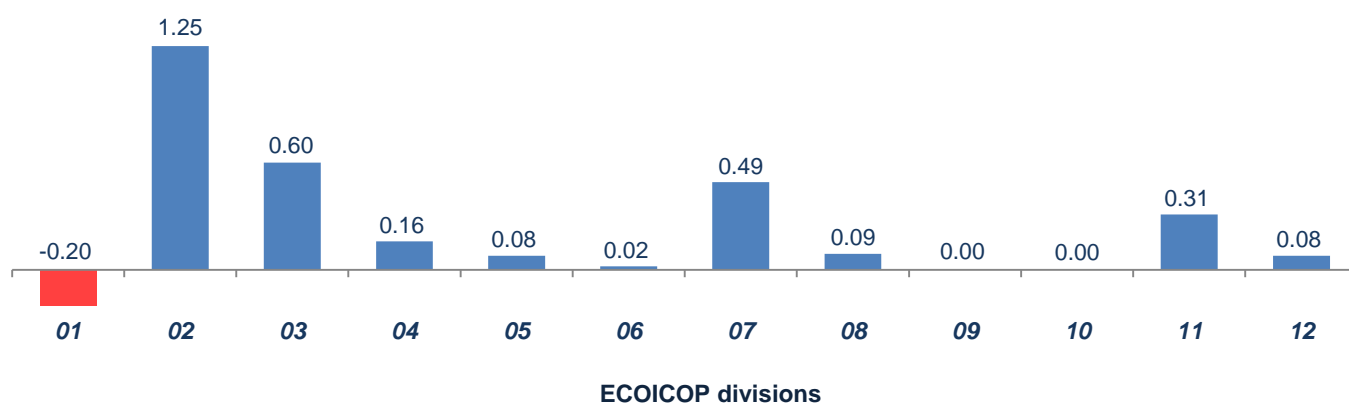


Table 2. Groups with most important impacts on monthly inflation rate, March 2018

ECOICOP	Group	Weights ‰	Monthly inflation %	Influence in percentage points
0117	Vegetables	33.7	3.0	0.10
0312	Garments	47.9	2.1	0.10
0116	Fruit	20.3	3.2	0.06
0321	Shoes and other footwear	37.4	1.3	0.05
0561	Non-durable household goods	14.3	1.9	0.03
0112	Meat	91.0	0.2	0.02
0114	Milk, cheese and eggs	74.1	0.2	0.02
0113	Fish and seafood	9.4	0.8	0.01
1213	Other appliances, articles and products for personal care	21.3	0.3	0.01
0520	Household textiles	2.8	-2.3	-0.01
1120	Accommodation services	19.0	-0.9	-0.02
0111	Bread and cereals	54.3	-0.4	-0.02
0454	Solid fuels	31.0	-1.0	-0.03
0722	Fuels and lubricants for personal transport equipment	51.4	-0.7	-0.04
0115	Oils and fats	15.3	-2.7	-0.04

Table 3. Groups with most important impacts on annual inflation rate, March 2018

ECOICOP	Group	Weights ‰	Annual inflation %	Influence in percentage points
0220	Tobacco	27.4	42.8	1.17
0321	Shoes and other footwear	37.4	9.2	0.35
0722	Fuels and lubricants for personal transport equipment	51.4	5.9	0.31
0312	Garments	47.9	5.3	0.26
0451	Electricity	80.2	2.6	0.21
1120	Accommodation services	19.0	9.9	0.19
0732	Passenger transport by road	20.5	6.0	0.12
1111	Restaurants, cafes and the like	28.6	3.4	0.10
0116	Fruit	20.3	4.8	0.10
0561	Non-durable household goods	14.3	6.5	0.09
0911	Equipment for the reception, recording and reproduction of sound and pictures	5.3	-5.1	-0.03
0115	Oils and fats	15.3	-2.4	-0.04
0112	Meat	91.0	-0.6	-0.05
0114	Milk, cheese and eggs	74.1	-0.8	-0.05
0454	Solid fuels	31.0	-2.2	-0.07
0117	Vegetables	33.7	-6.0	-0.20

METODOLOGICAL NOTES

Consumer price indices (CPI) are one of the most important macroeconomic indicators and the basis for taking decisions in the area of economy and finance. Since January 2009 they are used as *official measure of inflation* in Montenegro.

Consumer price index is used for harmonising wages and salaries in accordance with collective contracts, pensions, and social benefits. Also, it is used for deflating certain macroeconomic aggregates in national accounts statistics and for other purposes.

Consumer price index is defined as measure of average price change of fixed good and service basket bought by household for the purposes of satisfying its needs.

Weights used for calculating the consumer price index express a relative importance of selected products and services in total household consumption at the domestic territory.

Product list is regularly revised so that its representative status related to consumption structure and consumer habits is preserved.

Data are published according [Statistical Release Calendar](#).

The influence of certain groups on inflation rate indicates how much that group has influenced on the total inflation rate. The influence depends on weights and inflation rate of given group. The weights represents a relative share of household consumption of certain groups or subgroup of products in the total consumption. Consequently, weights have an important role in the calculation of inflation rate. They represent "importance" of certain product group in the total household consumption in certain reference period. For example, if during certain month prices of bread increases for 10%. this will influence for approx. 0.5% ($10 \times 5\% = 0.5\%$ - since the share of bread in the total expenses is 5%). But, if the prices of medicaments increase 12%, this will increase the inflation for 0.06% ($12 \times 0.5\% = 0.06\%$ - since the share of medicaments in the total expenses 0.5%). This simple example indicates how much large influence have weights on the final number presenting the inflation.

According to the [Revision policy](#) of the Statistical Office, the final data shall be published with the date defined by the Statistical Release Calendar.

Issued and printed by Statistical Office of Montenegro (MONSTAT)
81000 Podgorica, IV Proleterske 2
Phone (+382) 20 230-811; Fax (+382) 20 230-814

The release prepared by:

Miroslav PEJOVIĆ

Tel. +382-20-231-004

e-mail: contact@monstat.org