

## Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices (HICP) May 2015

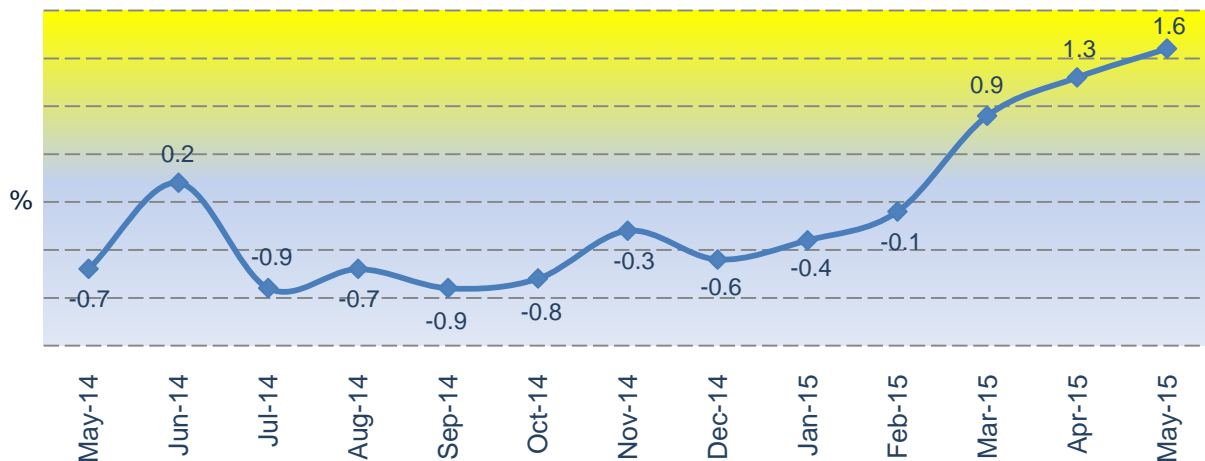
### Monthly inflation in May was 0.8%

Monthly inflation measured by Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices was 0.8% in May 2015, while the annual inflation was 1.6%, up from 1.3% in April. This was influenced mostly by increase in prices of: fuels and lubricants for personal transport; accommodation services; vegetables; restaurants, cafés and the like; milk, cheese and eggs. Consumer prices measured by the HICP in period January-May 2015 compared to the same period of the previous year were higher for 0.7%.

Observing the main groups, monthly growth of prices was noticed in the following groups: Transport (3.2%); Restaurants and hotels (1.6%), Food and non-alcoholic beverages (0.7%); Furnishing, household equipment and routine household maintenance (0.1%), while a monthly drop of prices was recorded in groups: Miscellaneous goods and services (-0.4%); Clothing and footwear (-0.3%); Alcoholic beverages and tobacco (-0.2%); Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels (-0.2%).

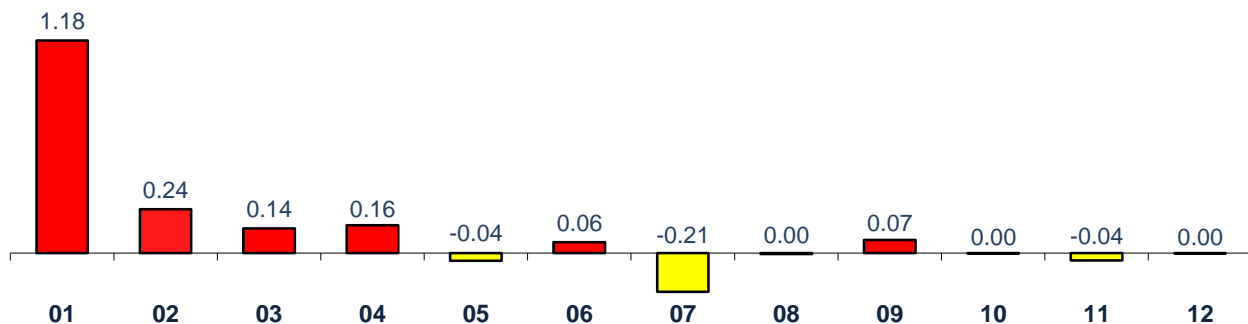
Positive annual inflation rates in May were observed in the following groups: Alcoholic beverages and tobacco (4.1%); Food and non-alcoholic beverages (3.8%); Clothing and footwear (3.1%); Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels (2.6%); Health (2.6%); Recreation and culture (2.0%); Miscellaneous goods and services (0.1%), while negative annual inflation rates were observed in the following groups: Transport (-1.9%); Furnishing, household equipment and routine household maintenance (-0.3%); Restaurants and Hotels (-0.1%).

**Chart 1. Harmonised index of consumer prices (HICP),  
 annual rates**



**Table 1. Inflation rates measured by Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices, in %**

	Name	Weights ‰	May 2015 Ø 2010	May 2015 Apr 2015	May 2015 May 2014	May 2015 Dec 2014
<b>00</b>	<b>HICP - total</b>	1000.0	<b>10.6</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>2.1</b>
01	Food and non-alcoholic beverages	319.9	18.3	0.7	3.8	3.8
02	Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	61.7	41.5	-0.2	4.1	3.0
03	Clothing and footwear	46.8	6.2	-0.3	3.1	-0.9
04	Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	63.4	14.7	-0.2	2.6	0.7
05	Furnishing, household equipment and routine household maintenance	90.3	-3.4	0.1	-0.3	0.3
06	Health	24.4	20.6	0.0	2.6	0.9
07	Transport	104.2	5.7	3.2	-1.9	3.8
08	Communications	49.9	1.3	0.0	0.0	-0.1
09	Recreation and culture	38.8	-1.8	0.0	2.0	0.6
10	Education	14.1	-0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
11	Restaurants and hotels	154.6	7.8	1.6	-0.1	1.3
12	Miscellaneous goods and services	31.9	1.9	-0.4	0.1	0.7
<b>Special aggregates</b>						
	Products	712.1	11.9	0.7	1.9	2.5
	Services	287.9	6.6	0.9	0.7	1.0
	HICP - excluding food, alcoholic beverages and tobacco	646.3	5.2	0.8	0.2	1.1
	Energy	95.2	12.0	3.1	-2.5	3.5
	Administrative inflation <sup>1</sup>	63.4	20.5	0.0	6.5	0.6

**Chart 2. Divisions with largest impacts on the annual inflation rate (in %), May 2015**

COICOP/HICP divisions

<sup>1</sup> Inflation which measures trend of administratively established prices, and the following prices are covered under this: bread, electricity, water supply, sewerage collection, refuse collection, public pre-primary institutions, obligatory insurance of vehicles, and issuing of administrative documents, such as birth certificate.

**Table 2. Subgroups with most important impacts on monthly inflation rate, May 2015**

COICOP/ HICP	Subgroup	Weights ‰	Monthly inflation %	Influence in percentage points
0722	Fuels and lubricants for personal transport equipment	48.2	6.5	0.31
1120	Accommodation services	49.8	2.9	0.14
0117	Vegetables	39.5	3.3	0.13
1111	Restaurants, cafés and the like	104.8	1.0	0.11
0114	Milk, cheese and eggs	66.8	0.7	0.05
0115	Oils and fats	10.1	3.7	0.04
0112	Meat	76.8	0.3	0.02
0113	Fish	9.5	1.7	0.02
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0454	Solid fuels	10.2	-1.5	-0.02
1212/3	Electric appliances for personal care and other appliances, articles and products for personal care	17.7	-1.0	-0.02
0122	Mineral waters, soft drinks, fruit and vegetable juices	15.8	-1.2	-0.02

**Table 3. Subgroups with most important impacts on annual inflation rate, May 2015**

COICOP/ HICP	Subgroup	Weights ‰	Annual inflation %	Influence in percentage points
0111	Bread and cereals	49.2	7.4	0.36
0116	Fruit	18.2	12.5	0.23
0117	Vegetables	39.5	5.6	0.22
0112	Meat	76.8	2.6	0.19
0220	Tobacco	35.1	3.6	0.12
0312	Garments	25.5	4.3	0.10
0213	Beer	15.0	6.2	0.09
1111	Restaurants, cafés and the like	104.8	0.9	0.08
0122	Mineral waters, soft drinks, fruit and vegetable juices	15.8	3.6	0.05
0411/2	Actual rentals paid by tenants and other actual rentals	6.5	8.0	0.05
0115	Oils and fats	10.1	4.7	0.05
0732	Passenger transport by road	13.8	3.4	0.04
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0511	Furniture and furnishings	17.2	-0.4	-0.01
0114	Milk, cheese and eggs	66.8	-0.1	-0.01
1212/3	Electric appliances for personal care and other appliances, articles and products for personal care	17.7	-1.0	-0.02
0121	Coffee, tea and cocoa	12.1	-1.5	-0.02
0520	Household textiles	5.2	-5.8	-0.03
1120	Accommodation services	49.8	-2.2	-0.12
0722	Fuels and lubricants for personal transport equipment	48.2	-5.3	-0.26

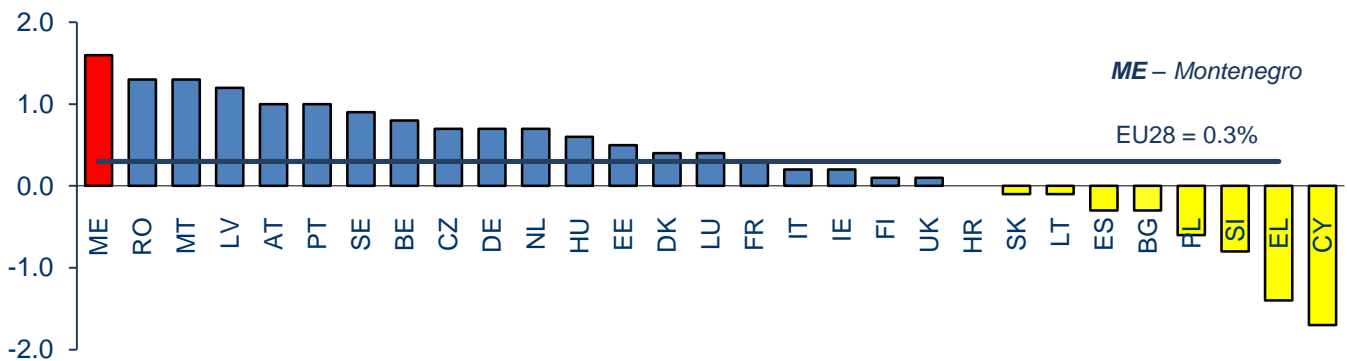
Table 4. Inflation rates in the EU measured by HICP, in %

	<u>May-14</u> <u>May-13</u>	<u>Dec-14</u> <u>Dec-13</u>	<u>Jan-15</u> <u>Jan-14</u>	<u>Feb-15</u> <u>Feb-14</u>	<u>Mar-15</u> <u>Mar-14</u>	<u>Apr-15</u> <u>Apr-14</u>	<u>May-15</u> <u>May-14</u>	<u>May-15</u> <u>Apr-15</u>
<b>Euro area</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>-0.2</b>	<b>-0.6</b>	<b>-0.3</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.3p</b>	<b>0.2p</b>
<b>European union</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>-0.5</b>	<b>-0.3</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.3p</b>	<b>0.2p</b>
Belgium (BE)	0.8	-0.4	-0.6	-0.4	-0.1	0.4	0.8	0.3
Bulgaria (BG)	-1.8	-2.0	-2.4	-1.7	-1.1	-0.9	-0.3	0.0
Czech Republic (CZ)	0.5	0.1	-0.1	-0.1	0.1	0.5	0.7	0.3
Denmark (DK)	0.3	0.1	-0.3	0.0	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.0
Germany (DE)	0.6	0.1	-0.5	0.0	0.2	0.3	0.7	0.1
Estonia (EE)	0.6	0.1	-0.5	-0.2	0.0	0.4	0.5	0.4
Ireland (IE)	0.4	-0.3	-0.4	-0.4	-0.3	-0.4	0.2	0.5
Greece (EL)	-2.1	-2.5	-2.8	-1.9	-1.9	-1.8	-1.4	-0.2
Spain (ES)	0.2	-1.1	-1.5	-1.2	-0.8	-0.7	-0.3	0.4
France (FR)	0.8	0.1	-0.4	-0.3	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.2
Croatia (HR)	0.4	-0.1	-0.6	-0.4	0.0	-0.1	0.0	0.6
Italy (IT)	0.4	-0.1	-0.5	0.1	0.0	-0.1	0.2	0.2
Cyprus (CY)	-0.1	-1.0	-0.7	-0.8	-1.4	-1.7	-1.7	1.1
Latvia (LV)	0.8	0.3	-0.3	0.0	0.5	0.6	1.2	0.8
Lithuania (LT)	0.1	-0.1	-1.4	-1.5	-1.1	-0.6	-0.1	0.6
Luxembourg (LU)	1.4	-0.9	-1.1	-0.3	0.1	0.0	0.4	0.5
Hungary (HU)	0.0	-0.8	-1.4	-1.0	-0.5	0.0	0.6	0.7
Malta (MT)	0.4	0.4	0.8	0.6	0.5	1.4	1.3	0.9
Netherlands (NL)	0.1	-0.1	-0.7	-0.5	-0.3	0.0	0.7	0.2
Austria (AT)	1.5	0.8	0.5	0.5	0.9	0.9	1.0p	0.2p
Poland (PL)	0.3	-0.6	-1.0	-1.3	-1.2	-0.9	-0.6	0.1
Portugal (PT)	-0.3	-0.3	-0.4	-0.1	0.4	0.5	1.0	0.5
Romania (RO)	1.3	1.0	0.5	0.4	0.8	0.6	1.3	0.6
Slovenia (SI)	1.0	-0.1	-0.7	-0.5	-0.4	-0.7	-0.8	0.7
Slovakia (SK)	0.0	-0.1	-0.5	-0.6	-0.4	-0.1	-0.1	0.3
Finland (FI)	1.0	0.6	-0.1	-0.1	0.0	-0.1	0.1	-0.1
Sweden (SE)	0.1	0.3	0.4	0.7	0.7	0.5	0.9	0.4
United Kingdom (UK)	1.5	0.5	0.3	0.0	0.0	-0.1	0.1	0.2

Source: EUROSTAT

p = provisional

Chart 3. Annual inflation rate measured by HICP, May 2015



Euro area annual inflation was 0.3% in May 2015, up from 0.0% in April while European Union annual inflation was also 0.3% in May 2015, up from 0.0% in April.

**Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices (HICP)** is the basis for comparative measurement of inflation in the European Union, and it estimates a monetary value in the Eurozone. As a difference to Consumer Index Index Price (CPI), it uses different methodological concept which is used by all EU members.

**May 2015 month of the current year**  
**Ø 2010 average of base year**

This rate indicates a change in average prices in current month when compared with average prices in the base year.

**May 2015 month of the current year**  
**Apr 2015 previous month of the current year**

**Monthly inflation rate** (current month compared with previous month) measures a change of average prices of current months compared with average prices of previous month. Monthly inflation rate can be under the influence of seasonal effects.

**May 2015 month of the current year**  
**May 2014 the same month of previous year**

**Annual inflation rate** (month of the current year compared with the same month of previous year) measures a change in average prices in current month compared with average prices in the same month of previous year. In the presence of a stable seasonal pattern, seasonal effects do not influence this measure.

**May 2015 month of the current year**  
**Dec 2014 December of the previous year**

This rate indicates a change in average prices in current month compared with average prices in December of the previous year. In December this rate equal the annual inflation rate.

**The influence of certain subgroups on inflation rate** indicates how much that subgroup has influenced on the total inflation rate. The influence depends on weights and inflation rate of given subgroup. 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 percentage points ( $10 \times 5\% = 0.5$  percentage points - 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 percentage points ( $12 \times 0.5\% = 0.06$  percentage points - 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. Summing up the influence in percentage points of all subgroups the final result should equal the all-items index rate of change in percentage.

**Monthly HICP releases published by Eurostat can be found at the following website:**

[http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/hicp/publications/news\\_releases](http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/hicp/publications/news_releases)

Issued and printed by Statistical Office of Montenegro (MONSTAT)  
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