

# Statistics in focus

## ECONOMY AND FINANCE

33/2005

Prices

Author

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## Harmonized Indices of Consumer Prices September 2005

Euro-zone\* annual inflation, as measured by the Monetary Union Index of Consumer Prices (MUICP), was 2.6% in September 2005, up from 2.2% in August 2005. A year earlier the rate was 2.1%.

EU annual inflation, as measured by the European Index of Consumer Prices (EICP)\*\*, rose from 2.2% in August 2005 to 2.5% in September 2005. A year earlier the rate was 2.0%.

EEA annual inflation, as measured by the European Economic Area Index of Consumer Prices (EEAICP), was 2.5% in September 2005.

In September 2005, the highest annual inflation rates in EU Member States were recorded in Latvia (7.4%), Estonia (4.9%), Luxembourg (4.7%), Greece and Spain (both 3.8%); the lowest rates were observed in Finland and Sweden (both 1.1%), the Netherlands (1.7%) and Poland (1.8%).

For the USA\*\*\* the annual inflation rate was 4.7% in September 2005, up from 3.6% in August 2005. For Japan\*\*\* no September data was available in time for publication.

The annual inflation rates for the euro-zone, the EU and the latest available rates for the USA\*\*\* and Japan\*\*\* are shown in the graph below.

Methodological notes can be accessed via the Eurostat internet site under Publications/Methods and nomenclatures/Harmonized Indices of Consumer Prices – [Short guide for users](#) (issue date: 17/05/2004).

\* The euro-zone comprises: Belgium, Germany, Greece, Spain, France, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Austria, Portugal and Finland.

\*\* The EICP (EICP='European Index of Consumer Prices' as defined in Council Regulation (EC) No 2494/95 of 23 October 1995) is the official EU aggregate. It covers 15 Member States until April 2004 and 25 Member States starting from May 2004. The ten new Member States are integrated into the EICP starting from May 2004 using a chain index formula.

\*\*\* For the USA and Japan the national CPIs are given, which are not strictly comparable with the HICPs.

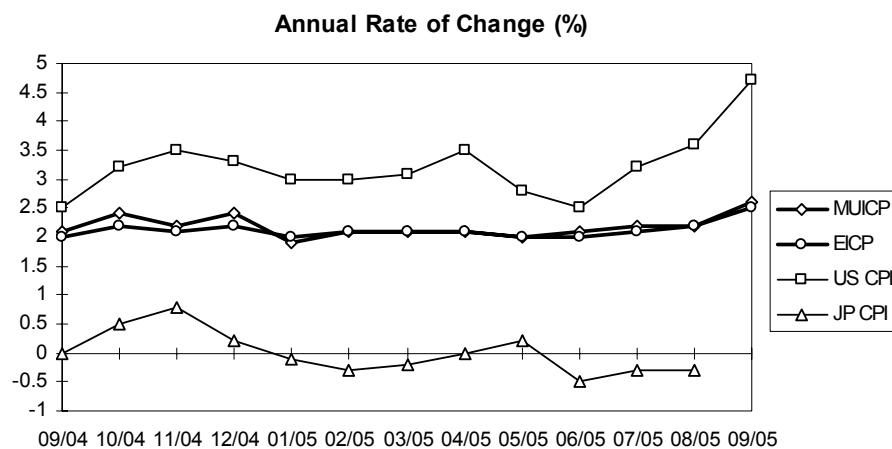






TABLE II  
HARMONIZED INDICES OF CONSUMER PRICES  
RATES OF CHANGE (%)

	Euro-zone	EICP	BE	CZ	DK	DE	EE	EL	ES	FR	IE	IT	CY
<b>Annual Average Rate of Change</b>													
<b>2002/12</b>	2.3	2.1	1.6	1.4	2.4	1.3	3.6	3.9	3.6	1.9	4.7	2.6	2.8
<b>2003/12</b>	2.1	2.0	1.5	-0.1	2.0	1.0	1.4	3.4	3.1	2.2	4.0	2.8	4.0
<b>2004/12</b>	2.1	2.0	1.9	2.6	0.9	1.8	3.0	3.0	3.1	2.3	2.3	2.3	1.9
<b>2005/9</b>	2.2\$	2.1\$	2.5	1.7	1.5	1.9	4.2	3.4	3.4	2.0	2.3	2.2	2.3
<b>Annual Rate of Change - 2003</b>													
<b>Jan</b>	2.1	2.0	1.2	-0.7	2.6	0.9	2.5	3.3	3.8	1.9	4.7	2.9	4.5
<b>Feb</b>	2.4	2.3	1.6	-0.6	2.9	1.2	2.2	4.2	3.8	2.5	5.1	2.6	4.8
<b>Mar</b>	2.4	2.3	1.7	-0.6	2.8	1.2	2.2	3.9	3.7	2.6	4.9	2.9	6.3
<b>Apr</b>	2.1	2.0	1.4	-0.4	2.5	1.0	1.1	3.3	3.2	1.9	4.6	3.0	5.6
<b>May</b>	1.8	1.7	0.9	-0.3	2.1	0.6	0.7	3.5	2.7	1.8	3.9	2.9	4.9
<b>Jun</b>	1.9	1.8	1.5	0.0	2.0	0.9	0.4	3.6	2.8	1.9	3.8	2.9	3.7
<b>Jul</b>	1.9	1.8	1.4	-0.3	1.8	0.8	0.9	3.5	2.9	1.9	3.9	2.9	2.6
<b>Aug</b>	2.1	2.0	1.6	-0.2	1.5	1.1	1.4	3.3	3.1	2.0	3.9	2.7	2.4
<b>Sep</b>	2.2	2.0	1.7	0.0	1.7	1.1	1.5	3.3	3.0	2.3	3.8	3.0	3.3
<b>Oct</b>	2.0	1.9	1.4	0.5	1.1	1.1	1.2	3.2	2.7	2.3	3.3	2.8	3.7
<b>Nov</b>	2.2	2.0	1.8	0.9	1.4	1.3	1.2	3.2	2.9	2.5	3.3	2.8	3.8
<b>Dec</b>	2.0	1.8	1.7	1.0	1.2	1.1	1.2	3.1	2.7	2.4	2.9	2.5	2.2
<b>Annual Rate of Change - 2004</b>													
<b>Jan</b>	1.9	1.8	1.4	2.0	1.0	1.2	0.6	3.1	2.3	2.2	2.3	2.2	1.6
<b>Feb</b>	1.6	1.5	1.2	2.0	0.7	0.8	0.6	2.6	2.2	1.9	2.2	2.4	1.4
<b>Mar</b>	1.7	1.5	1.0	2.1	0.4	1.1	0.7	2.9	2.2	1.9	1.8	2.3	0.1
<b>Apr</b>	2.0	1.8	1.7	2.0	0.5	1.7	1.5	3.1	2.7	2.4	1.7	2.3	0.1
<b>May</b>	2.5	2.3	2.4	2.6	1.1	2.1	3.7	3.1	3.4	2.8	2.1	2.3	1.2
<b>Jun</b>	2.4	2.3	2.0	2.7	0.9	1.9	4.4	3.0	3.5	2.7	2.5	2.4	2.4
<b>Jul</b>	2.3	2.2	2.1	3.1	1.1	2.0	4.0	3.1	3.3	2.6	2.5	2.2	2.9
<b>Aug</b>	2.3	2.1	2.0	3.2	0.9	2.1	3.9	2.8	3.3	2.5	2.5	2.4	2.8
<b>Sep</b>	2.1	2.0	1.8	2.8	0.9	1.9	3.8	2.9	3.2	2.2	2.4	2.1	1.8
<b>Oct</b>	2.4	2.2	2.7	3.1	1.6	2.2	4.0	3.3	3.6	2.3	2.5	2.1	2.0
<b>Nov</b>	2.2	2.1	2.3	2.6	1.0	2.0	4.4	3.2	3.5	2.2	2.8	2.0	2.6
<b>Dec</b>	2.4	2.2	1.9	2.5	1.0	2.2	4.8	3.1	3.3	2.3	2.4	2.4	3.9
<b>Annual Rate of Change - 2005</b>													
<b>Jan</b>	1.9	2.0	2.0	1.5	0.8	1.6	4.2	4.2	3.1	1.6	2.1	2.0	2.8
<b>Feb</b>	2.1	2.1	2.3	1.4	1.0	1.8	4.6	3.2	3.3	1.9	2.0	2.0	2.4
<b>Mar</b>	2.1	2.1	2.8	1.2	1.3	1.7	4.8	2.9	3.4	2.1	1.9	2.1	2.4
<b>Apr</b>	2.1	2.1	2.4	1.4	1.7	1.4	4.7	3.3	3.5	2.0	2.2	2.2	2.8
<b>May</b>	2.0	2.0	2.3	0.9	1.3	1.6	2.9	3.2	3.0	1.7	2.2	2.3	2.1
<b>Jun</b>	2.1	2.0	2.7	1.3	1.7	1.8	3.2	3.2	3.2	1.8	1.9	2.2	1.5
<b>Jul</b>	2.2	2.1	2.7	1.4	1.9	1.9	3.9	3.9	3.3	1.8	2.2	2.2	1.3
<b>Aug</b>	2.2	2.2	2.9	1.4	2.3	1.9	4.2	3.6	3.3	2.0	2.1	2.2	1.5
<b>Sep</b>	2.6\$	2.5\$	3.0	2.0	2.4	2.6	4.9	3.8	3.8	2.4	2.8	2.2	2.1
<b>Oct</b>													
<b>Nov</b>													
<b>Dec</b>													

\* estimated    \$ provisional    # revised    : not available



TABLE III  
HARMONIZED INDICES OF CONSUMER  
PRICES  
INDEX NUMBERS                  1996 = 100

	EEA	IS	NO	CH**
<b>Annual Average Index</b>				
<b>2002</b>	110.9	123.5	113.9	104.5
<b>2003</b>	113.0	125.2	116.2	105.2
<b>2004</b>	115.3	128.1	116.9	106.0
<b>Monthly Index - 2003</b>				
<b>Jan</b>	111.8	124.3	117.6	104.9
<b>Feb</b>	112.3	124.0	117.9	105.1
<b>Mar</b>	112.9	125.4	117.2	105.5
<b>Apr</b>	113.0	125.3	116.4	105.7
<b>May</b>	112.9	125.2	115.8	105.5
<b>Jun</b>	113.0	125.3	115.5	105.5
<b>Jul</b>	112.9	125.0	115.1	104.7
<b>Aug</b>	113.1	124.5	115.3	104.9
<b>Sep</b>	113.5	125.4	115.8	105.1
<b>Oct</b>	113.6	125.8	115.8	105.6
<b>Nov</b>	113.7	126.0	115.8	105.5
<b>Dec</b>	114.0	126.3	115.8	105.5
<b>Monthly Index - 2004</b>				
<b>Jan</b>	113.7	126.1	115.9	105.1
<b>Feb</b>	113.9	125.7	116.1	105.1
<b>Mar</b>	114.6	126.6	116.7	105.4
<b>Apr</b>	115.1	127.2	116.9	106.3
<b>May</b>	115.5	128.2	117.0	106.5
<b>Jun</b>	115.5	128.9	117.0	106.7
<b>Jul</b>	115.3	128.5	116.9	105.6
<b>Aug</b>	115.5	128.3	116.6	106.0
<b>Sep</b>	115.7	128.9	117.1	106.0
<b>Oct</b>	116.1	129.5	117.4	107.0
<b>Nov</b>	116.1	129.6	117.4	107.1
<b>Dec</b>	116.5	130.0	117.2	106.9
<b>Monthly Index - 2005</b>				
<b>Jan</b>	115.9	129.5	117.0	106.4
<b>Feb</b>	116.3	129.3	117.1	106.6
<b>Mar</b>	117.0	129.8	117.7	106.9
<b>Apr</b>	117.5	129.2	118.3	107.8
<b>May</b>	117.8	128.8	118.7	107.7
<b>Jun</b>	117.9	129.3	118.9	107.4
<b>Jul</b>	117.8	129.1	118.5	106.8
<b>Aug</b>	118.1	128.8	118.7	107.0
<b>Sep</b>	118.6\$	130.9	119.6	107.5
<b>Oct</b>				
<b>Nov</b>				
<b>Dec</b>				

\* estimated

\$ provisional

# revised

: not available

\*\* national CPI

TABLE IV  
HARMONIZED INDICES OF CONSUMER  
PRICES  
RATES OF CHANGE (%)

EEA	IS	NO	CH**	
<b>Annual Average Rate of Change</b>				
2.1	5.3	0.8	0.6	<b>2002/12</b>
2.0	1.4	2.0	0.6	<b>2003/12</b>
2.0	2.3	0.6	0.8	<b>2004/12</b>
2.1\$	1.8	1.4	1.2	<b>2005/9</b>
<b>Annual Rate of Change - 2003</b>				
2.0	1.1	4.2	0.8	Jan
2.3	1.1	4.1	0.9	Feb
2.3	1.9	3.2	1.3	Mar
2.0	1.9	2.5	0.7	Apr
1.7	1.8	1.8	0.4	May
1.8	1.3	1.5	0.5	Jun
1.8	0.9	1.2	0.3	Jul
1.9	1.0	1.8	0.5	Aug
2.0	1.2	1.5	0.5	Sep
1.9	1.1	1.3	0.5	Oct
2.0	1.5	1.0	0.5	Nov
1.8	1.8	0.1	0.6	Dec
<b>Annual Rate of Change - 2004</b>				
1.7	1.4	-1.4	0.2	Jan
1.5	1.4	-1.5	0.1	Feb
1.5	1.0	-0.4	-0.1	Mar
1.8	1.5	0.4	0.5	Apr
2.3	2.4	1.0	0.9	May
2.3	2.9	1.3	1.1	Jun
2.2	2.8	1.6	0.9	Jul
2.1	3.1	1.1	1.0	Aug
2.0	2.8	1.1	0.9	Sep
2.2	2.9	1.4	1.3	Oct
2.1	2.9	1.4	1.5	Nov
2.2	2.9	1.2	1.3	Dec
<b>Annual Rate of Change - 2005</b>				
2.0	2.7	0.9	1.2	Jan
2.1	2.9	0.9	1.4	Feb
2.1	2.5	0.9	1.4	Mar
2.1	1.6	1.2	1.4	Apr
2.0	0.5	1.5	1.1	May
2.0	0.3	1.6	0.7	Jun
2.1	0.5	1.4	1.2	Jul
2.2	0.4	1.8	1.0	Aug
2.5\$	1.6	2.1	1.4	Sep
				Oct
				Nov
				Dec

TABLE V

## MAIN CATEGORIES OF HARMONIZED INDICES OF CONSUMER PRICES

September 2005 / September 2004

ANNUAL RATES OF CHANGE (%)

	00.	01.	02.	03.	04.	05.	06.	07.	08.	09.	10.	11.	12.
Euro-zone	2.6\$	0.7\$	5.6\$	0.0\$	5.5\$	0.7\$	1.6\$	6.4\$	-2.5\$	-0.2\$	2.6\$	2.5\$	1.7\$
EICP	2.5\$	0.9\$	4.2\$	-1.0\$	5.4\$	0.5\$	2.0\$	6.4\$	-2.1\$	-0.6\$	3.4\$	2.8\$	2.4\$
BE	3.0	1.0	2.5	0.3	7.4	1.0	2.4	7.9	-1.4	-0.9	2.3	2.7	2.1
CZ	2.0	-0.2	-0.1	-5.9	4.8	-2.0	6.3	7.9	7.1	0.6	2.4	3.1	1.1
DK	2.4	1.2	1.1	-0.1	4.6	1.0	2.5	6.1	-1.4	-1.2	1.0	2.2	2.3
DE	2.6	0.9	10.5	-1.7	4.7	-0.2	0.9	5.8	-1.3	0.2	1.7	1.2	0.8
EE	4.9	1.8	4.3	3.8	8.2	0.7	2.7	16.7	-4.0	1.1	2.4	2.9	3.2
EL	3.8	2.2	3.3	3.6	9.8	1.7	3.9	6.3	-0.3	1.3	3.5	2.8	3.0
ES	3.8	2.8	4.7	1.2	6.1	2.3	0.8	9.3	-2.0	-0.6	4.1	4.3	2.7
FR	2.4	0.3	0.1	0.1	5.6	0.6	2.0	6.2	-0.2	-1.1	3.1	2.1	1.6
IE	2.8	-0.6	0.8	-2.4	10.7	-1.0	6.6	6.8	-0.4	-0.7	6.8	3.1	2.8
IT	2.2	0.0	7.4	0.7	5.7	1.4	1.4	5.0	-4.5	1.3	3.7	2.0	2.4
CY	2.1	4.5	-0.7	-4.2	10.6	0.4	-1.4	4.6	-9.4	-1.5	4.9	1.9	1.7
LV	7.4	8.5	6.1	-0.7	5.7	3.7	10.5	18.6	-3.0	1.7	9.2	12.3	7.0
LT	2.6	2.4	-0.2	-0.5	4.8	-1.7	6.8	11.6	-4.1	0.6	-1.4	2.4	-1.4
LU	4.7	1.8	6.2	0.7	8.4	1.6	1.3	10.0	-5.2	0.9	5.2	3.8	1.7
HU	3.6	1.7	0.8	0.2	6.7	-0.7	12.7	7.8	-0.6	1.5	7.7	5.0	2.6
MT	2.0	2.9	1.8	4.1	7.4	2.5	4.9	1.8	4.0	2.7	2.0	-1.9	3.3
NL	1.7\$	-1.7\$	1.1\$	-2.2\$	5.7\$	0.0\$	0.9\$	6.8\$	-3.7\$	-0.7\$	-15.6\$	1.7\$	2.2\$
AT	2.6\$	1.2\$	6.1\$	-0.6\$	6.3\$	-0.3\$	5.2\$	6.8\$	-10.7\$	-1.6\$	0.7\$	2.7\$	2.7\$
PL	1.8	0.7	2.7	-5.9	3.0	0.4	2.6	7.3	0.1	-1.7	3.7	3.0	0.6
PT	2.7	-0.4	4.9	0.4	4.5	1.2	0.8	8.4	-0.6	0.4	7.1	1.7	2.2
SI	3.2	0.0	4.7	-1.3	11.5	3.8	-1.7	5.2	-0.6	-0.2	6.1	4.7	2.3
SK	2.3	-1.8	-1.0	-1.0	6.8	-2.3	6.6	3.2	-2.7	1.0	30.8	3.8	3.3
FI	1.1	-0.8	1.2	-0.4	3.3	0.3	1.5	5.3	-13.4	-0.8	2.8	2.2	1.1
SE	1.1	-1.1	0.8	0.2	2.8	-1.4	1.6	6.3	-5.7	-2.4	2.2	2.3	1.4
UK	2.5	2.0	1.5	-5.3	6.5	-0.2	3.1	6.0	-1.2	-1.6	4.7	3.7	5.1
EEA	2.5\$	0.9\$	4.2\$	-1.0\$	5.4\$	0.5\$	2.1\$	6.4\$	-2.0\$	-0.6\$	3.4\$	2.8\$	2.4\$
IS	1.6	-2.9	3.3	1.0	4.5	-1.1	2.9	3.4	4.9	0.8	11.7	1.2	3.7
NO	2.1	2.0	2.3	-3.2	2.1	0.5	3.3	5.9	1.1	0.8	2.2	0.8	2.2

\* estimated    \$ provisional    # revised    : not available

**COICOP/HICP Code**

- |            |                                                                       |            |                                  |
|------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>00.</b> | HICP (all-items index)                                                | <b>06.</b> | Health                           |
| <b>01.</b> | Food and non-alcoholic beverages                                      | <b>07.</b> | Transports                       |
| <b>02.</b> | Alcoholic beverages and tobacco                                       | <b>08.</b> | Communications                   |
| <b>03.</b> | Clothing and footwear                                                 | <b>09.</b> | Recreation and culture           |
| <b>04.</b> | Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels                      | <b>10.</b> | Education                        |
| <b>05.</b> | Furnishings, household equipment and routine maintenance of the house | <b>11.</b> | Restaurants and hotels           |
|            |                                                                       | <b>12.</b> | Miscellaneous goods and services |

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