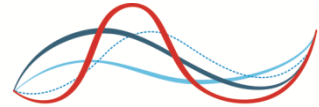




REPUBLIC OF CROATIA



CROATIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS

QUALITY REPORT FOR STATISTICAL SURVEY
Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices
For 2015

Organisational unit: Price Statistics and European Comparison
Programme Department
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0. Basic information

- Purpose, goal, and subject of the survey

The harmonised index of consumer prices (HICP) is an economic indicator that measures the change in the prices of goods and services acquired, used or paid by households over time. As such, it represents a group of European consumer price indices calculated according to the harmonised approach and a separate set of definitions, which provides a comparable measure of inflation in the euro area, the European Union, the European Economic Area and the candidate countries.

- Reference period

Month.

- Legal acts and other agreements

Council Regulation (EC) No 2494/95 of 23 October 1995 concerning harmonised index of consumer prices (legal framework)

Commission Regulation (EC) No 1749/96 of 9 September 1996 on initial implementing measures for Council Regulation (EC) No 2494/95

Commission Regulation (EC) No 2214/96 of 20 November 1996, concerning transmission and dissemination of sub-indices

Council Regulation (EC) No 1687/98 of 20 July 1998 amending Commission Regulation (EC) No 1749/96 concerning the coverage of goods and services

Council Regulation (EC) No 1688/98 of 20 July 1998 amending Commission Regulation (EC) No 1749/96 concerning the geographic and population coverage

Commission Regulation (EC) No 2646/98 of 9 December 1998 as regards minimum standards for the treatment of tariffs

Commission Regulation (EC) No 1617/1999 of 23 July 1999 as regards minimum standards for the treatment of insurance

Commission Regulation (EC) No 1749/1999 of 23 July 1999 amending Regulation (EC) 2214/96 concerning the sub-indices

Council Regulation (EC) No 2166/1999 of 8 October 1999 as regards minimum standards for the treatment of products in the health, education and social protection

Commission Regulation (EC) No 2601/2000 of 17 November 2000 as regards the timing of entering purchaser prices into the Harmonized Index of Consumer Prices

Commission Regulation (EC) No 2602/2000 of 17 November 2000 as regards minimum standards for the treatment of price reductions

Commission Regulation (EC) No 1920/2001 of 28 September 2001 as regards minimum standards for the treatment of service charges proportional to transaction values

Commission Regulation (EC) No 1921/2001 of 28 September 2001 as regards minimum standards for revisions of the harmonized index of consumer prices and amending Regulation (EC) No 2602/2000

Commission Regulation (EC) No 1708/2005 of 19 October 2005 as regards the common index reference period and amending Regulation (EC) No 2214/96

Council Regulation (EC) No 701/2006 of 25 April 2006 as regards the temporal coverage

Commission Regulation (EC) No 1334/2007 of 14 November 2007 amending Regulation (EC) No 1749/96 on initial implementing measures for Council Regulation (EC) No 2494/95 concerning harmonised indices of consumer prices

Commission Regulation (EC) No 330/2009 of 22 April 2009 as regards minimum standards for seasonal products

Commission Regulation (EU) No 1114/2010 of 1 December 2010 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of Council Regulation (EC) No 2494/95 as regards minimum standards for the quality of HICP weightings and repealing Commission Regulation (EC) No 2454/97 Commission Regulation (EU) 2015/2010 of 11 November 2015 amending Regulation (EC) No 1708/2005 as regards the common index reference period

- Classification system

The classification of products used in the HICP is based on the European classification of Individual Consumption according to Purpose (ECOICOP).

- Concepts and definitions

The main statistical variables are price indices.

- Statistical units

The basic unit of statistical observation are the prices of consumer products.

- Statistical population

HICP covers the household final monetary consumption expenditure (HFMCCE) on the economic territory of the country of both resident and non-resident households. The household sector to which the definition refers includes all individuals or groups of individuals irrespective of the type of the area in which they live, their position in the income distribution and their nationality or residence status.

1. Relevance

1.1. Data users

The main national users are state institutions, financial institutions, economic analysts, students, enterprises and the public.

International users are European Central Bank, International Monetary Fund, United Nations, etc.

Internal users are other statistical departments in the Croatian Bureau of Statistics).

1.1.1 User needs

While the consumer price index is mostly used as a general measure of inflation in the national context, the harmonised index of consumer prices represents a comparable measure of inflation in the European Union.

1.1.2 User satisfaction

User satisfaction is measured by the User Satisfaction Survey conducted by the Croatian Bureau of Statistics. So far, two survey were carried out (in 2013 and 2015). Detailed results of the 2015 survey are available on the website of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics under section Quality

at http://www.dzs.hr/Eng/international/Quality_Report/Quality_Report_Documents/Quality_Report_Satisfaction_Survey.pdf

1.2. Completeness

Concepts and definitions are fully harmonised with the Eurostat regulations and guidelines.

1.2.1 Data completeness rate

Data completeness rate is 100%.

2. Accuracy and reliability

2.1. Sampling error

Numerical estimates of HICP sampling errors are not calculated because they are difficult to quantify due to the complexity of price index structures and due to the use of non-probability sampling. The Croatian Bureau of Statistics tries to reduce the sampling errors using a sample of consumer prices that is as large as possible given the resource constraints. In order to minimise the variance of the total index, the number of prices that should be observed in each geographical location for each chosen item is selected.

2.1.1 Sampling error indicators

The indicator for this survey is not applicable.

2.1.2 Bias due to sample selection process

The indicator for this survey is not applicable.

2.2. Non-sampling error

Non-sampling errors for HICP are not quantified. Non-sampling errors are reduced through continuous methodological improvements and survey process improvements, which can help avoid coding and typing errors.

2.2.1 Coverage error

The coverage error is not applicable.

2.2.2 Over-coverage rate

The indicator for this survey is not applicable.

2.2.3 Measurement errors

Errors can be made by price collectors when entering price data and additional descriptions into tablet computers, but they are minimised as special controls are included in the data entry programme (e.g. code entry controls, minimum and maximum allowed deviations from prices, comment entry, historical price review and additional descriptions up to 12 months back, etc.).

During the data processing, a detailed logical and arithmetical control of all received price data is conducted, as well as their methodological compliance (e.g. percentage change for each

product compared to the previous month, indicating changes compared to the previous period regarding quantity, code or product description, etc.).

2.2.4 Non-response errors

Retail prices for selected representative goods and services are recorded at the outlets selected by price collectors based on their knowledge and experience and in co-operation with central staff. The number of outlets that should be included in the sample is pre-defined by the central office and it does not change as a rule.

However, in case of missing price observations, it is important to identify whether the product is missing temporarily or permanently. For non-seasonal items, which are no longer available at the outlet (for two consecutive months), or their importance is reduced, replacement items are selected. In such cases, price collectors select a similar and comparable product (if possible) of the same quality and at the same or similar outlet. If the product is temporarily missing (e.g. seasonal items), prices are then estimated.

2.2.5 Unit non-response rate

Unweighted unit non-response rate:

Domain	Domain value	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Average
		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

%

2.2.6 Item non-response-rate

Unweighted item non-response rate:

Variable	Domain	Domain value	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Average
			2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2

%

2.2.7 Processing errors

The classification of goods and services included in the scope of the HICP is done according to the ECOICOP classification. At the beginning of each year, the harmonisation of goods and services included in the survey is checked with the ECOICOP classification, thus reducing inaccurate classification to a minimum.

2.2.8 Imputation rate

Unweighted imputation rate:

Variable	Domain	Domain value	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Average
			2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2

%

2.2.9 Editing rate

The indicator for this survey is not applicable.

2.2.10 Hit rate

The indicator for this survey is not applicable.

2.2.11 Model assumption error

Model assumption error is not applied.

2.3. Data revision

2.3.1 Data revision – policy

The users of statistical data are informed about revisions (preliminary, final data) on the website of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics.

2.3.2 Data revision – practice

Provisional data are not published in the survey; therefore, there are no data revisions.

2.3.3 Data revision – average size

The indicator for this survey is not applicable.

2.4. Seasonal adjustment

Not applied.

3. Timeliness and Punctuality

3.1. Timeliness

3.1.1 Time lag – first results

The indicator for this survey is not applicable.

3.1.2 Time lag – final results

The indicator for this survey is not applicable.

3.2. Punctuality

3.2.1 Punctuality – delivery and publication

Delivery and publication is 100.

4. Accessibility and clarity

Monthly First Releases, Statistics in Line, Annual Statistical Report

Data are available in electronic form on the website of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics and in paper form in the library of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics for reading or purchase.

4.1. News release

The HICP is published together with the CPI in the form of the First Release 13.1.1. Consumer Price Indices, which is available on the website of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics.

4.2. Other publications

Other publications: monthly Statistical Report and annual Statistical Report (available on the website of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics).

4.3. Online database

On the website of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics under the section Statistics in Line (<http://www.dzs.hr/Eng/publication/StatisticsInLine.htm>) **Micro-data access**

The conditions under which certain users can have access to microdata are regulated by the Ordinance on the Conditions and Manner of Using Confidential Statistical Data for Scientific Purposes.

4.4. Documentation on methodology

Description of the methodology can be found at the end of each First Release entitled Consumer Price Indices.

5. Comparability

5.1. Asymmetry for mirror flows statistics

Not applied.

5.2. Comparability over time

5.2.1 Length of comparable time series

Length of comparable time series is 204

5.2.2 Reasons for break in time series

There are no breaks in time series.

6. Coherence

6.1. Coherence – short-term and structural data

The indicator for this survey is not applicable.

6.2. Coherence – national accounts

The indicator for this survey is not applicable.

6.3. Coherence – administrative sources

The indicator for this survey is not applicable.

7. Cost and burden

7.1. Cost

Costs associated with the collection of retail price data are very low as price collectors are employees of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics.

7.2. Burden

Not available.