



PRESS RELEASE

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: March 2022, annual inflation 8.9%

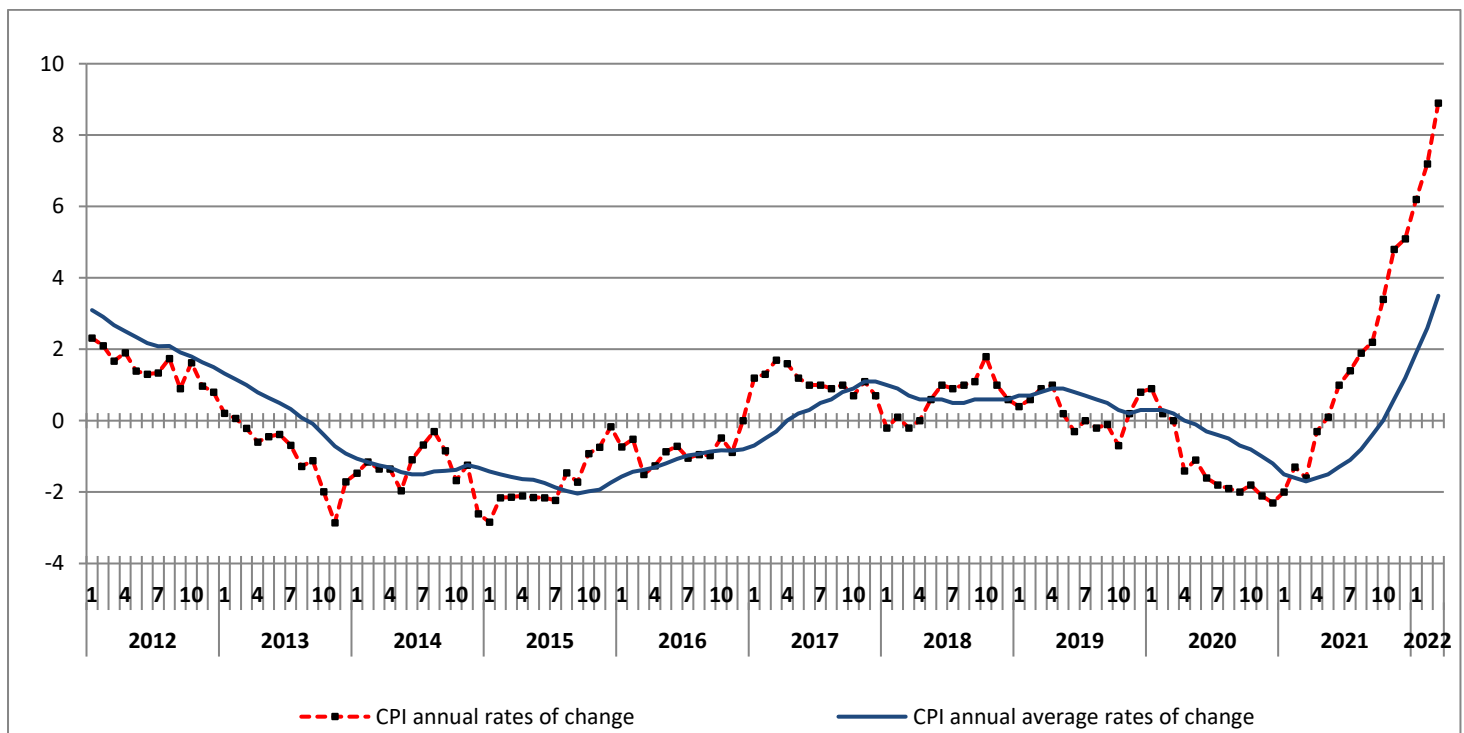
The evolution of the Consumer Price Index (CPI) of March 2022 (reference year 2020=100.0) is depicted as follows:

The CPI in March 2022 compared with March 2021, increased by 8.9%. In March 2021, the annual rate of change of the CPI was -1.6% (Table 2).

The CPI in March 2022 compared with February 2022, increased by 2.7%. In March 2021, the monthly rate of change of the CPI was 1.2% (Table 1).

The average CPI for the twelve - month period from April 2021 to March 2022, compared with the corresponding index for the period April 2020 to March 2021 increased by 3.5%. The annual rate of change of the average CPI between the twelve - month period April 2020 to March 2021 in comparison to the period April 2019 to March 2020 was -1.7% (Table 3).

Graph 1. Annual and annual average rates of change (%) of CPI



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Analysis of changes of the CPI: March 2022

I. Monthly rates of change: March 2022 compared with February 2022 (Tables 1, 4)

The 2.7% increase of the Overall CPI in March 2022, compared with the corresponding index in February 2022 is, mainly, due to the changes in the groups of goods and services as follows:

An increase of:

- 0.6% in the group Food and non-alcoholic beverages, due to the increase, mainly, in the prices of: *bread, beef, lamb and goat, poultry, cheese, olive oil, potatoes*. This increase was partly offset by the decrease, mainly, in the prices of: *fresh fish, fresh vegetables*.
- 0.3% in the group Alcoholic beverages and tobacco, due to the increase, mainly, in the prices of *wines*.
- 21.1% in the group Clothing and footwear, due to the recovery of part of prices up to normal levels as before the winter sales period.
- 4.2% in the group Housing, due to the increase, mainly, in the prices of: *electricity, heating oil*. This increase was partly offset by the decrease, mainly, in the prices of *natural gas*.
- 0.8% in the group Household equipment, due to the recovery of prices up to normal levels as before the winter sales period.
- 5.3% in the group Transport, due to the increase, mainly, in the prices of: *new motorcars, fuels and lubricants, tickets for passenger transport by air, tickets for passenger transport by sea*.
- 0.5% in the group Recreation and culture, due to the increase, mainly, in the prices of *cinemas-theatres*.
- 1.1% in the group Hotel-Cafés-Restaurants, due to the increase, mainly, in the prices of *restaurants-confectioneries-cafes, hotels-motels-inns*.
- 0.4% in the group Miscellaneous goods and services, due to the increase, mainly, in the prices of *other appliances and articles for personal care*.

II. Annual rates of change: March 2022 compared with March 2021 (Tables 2, 5)

The 8.9% increase of the Overall CPI in March 2022, compared with the corresponding index in March 2021 is, mainly, due to the changes in the groups of goods and services as follows:

1. An increase of:

- 8.1% in the group Food and non-alcoholic beverages due to the increase, mainly, in the prices of: *bread and cereals, meat, fish, seafood, milk cheese and eggs, oils and fats, fresh fruit, vegetables, sugar-chocolates-sweets-ice creams, food n.e.c., coffee, mineral water-refreshments-fruit juices.*
- 0.4% in the group Alcoholic beverages and tobacco, due to the increase, mainly, in the prices of *wines.*
- 6.5% in the group Clothing and footwear, due to the increase in the prices of clothing and footwear.
- 29.9% in the group Housing, due to the increase, mainly, in the prices of: *rentals for dwellings, materials for the repair and maintenance of the dwelling, electricity, natural gas, heating oil.*
- 3.7% in the group Household equipment, due to the increase, mainly, in the prices of: *furniture and furnishings, household textiles, glassware-tableware and utensils of domestic use, non-durable household articles, domestic services.*
- 15.4% in the group Transport, due to the increase, mainly, in the prices of: *new motorcars, second hand motorcars, motor cycles, tyres, fuels and lubricants, tickets for passenger transport by air, tickets for passenger transport by sea.*
- 0.1% in the group Recreation and culture, due to the increase, mainly, in the prices of: *small recreational items-flowers-pets, cinemas-theatres.* This increase was partly offset by the decrease, mainly, in the prices of: *audiovisual and information processing equipment, major durables for outdoor recreation.*
- 0.9% in the group Education, due to the increase, mainly, in the prices of *fees of secondary education.*
- 2.8% in the group Hotel-Cafés-Restaurants, due to the increase, mainly, in the prices of: *restaurants-confectioneries-cafes, hotels-motels-inns.*
- 0.1% in the group Miscellaneous goods and services, due to the increase, mainly, in the prices of *other appliances and articles for personal care.* This increase was partly offset by the decrease, mainly, in the prices of *motor vehicle insurance.*

2. A decrease of:

- 2.9% in the group Communication, due to the decrease, mainly, in the prices of: *mobile telephone equipment, telephone services.*

Table 1. Monthly rates of change of CPI
(Reference year: 2020=100.0)

Main groups of goods and services	Weights 2022 (%)	2022	2022	Rate of change %	2021	2021	Rate of change %
		March	February		March	February	
1. Food & non-alcoholic beverages	210.62	107.74	107.15	0.6	99.68	100.05	-0.4
2. Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	37.28	100.11	99.76	0.3	99.68	99.98	-0.3
3. Clothing and footwear	62.93	99.19	81.92	21.1	93.14	77.59	20.0
4. Housing	161.24	132.41	127.07	4.2	101.91	101.33	0.6
5. Household equipment	44.99	103.06	102.25	0.8	99.34	98.26	1.1
6. Health	81.02	99.39	99.40	0.0	99.43	99.43	0.0
7. Transport	137.64	118.37	112.42	5.3	102.54	100.18	2.4
8. Communication	39.59	95.71	95.77	-0.1	98.58	98.82	-0.2
9. Recreation and culture	33.67	99.91	99.38	0.5	99.80	99.78	0.0
10. Education	30.59	100.93	100.93	0.0	99.99	99.99	0.0
11. Hotels-Cafés-Restaurants	95.39	102.23	101.10	1.1	99.43	99.40	0.0
12. Miscellaneous goods and services	65.05	99.27	98.83	0.4	99.19	99.01	0.2
Overall Index	1000.00	108.75	105.84	2.7	99.91	98.72	1.2

Note: The indices are rounded up to two decimal figures when published and percentage changes up to one decimal figure when published.

Graph 2. Annual and monthly rates of change (%) of CPI

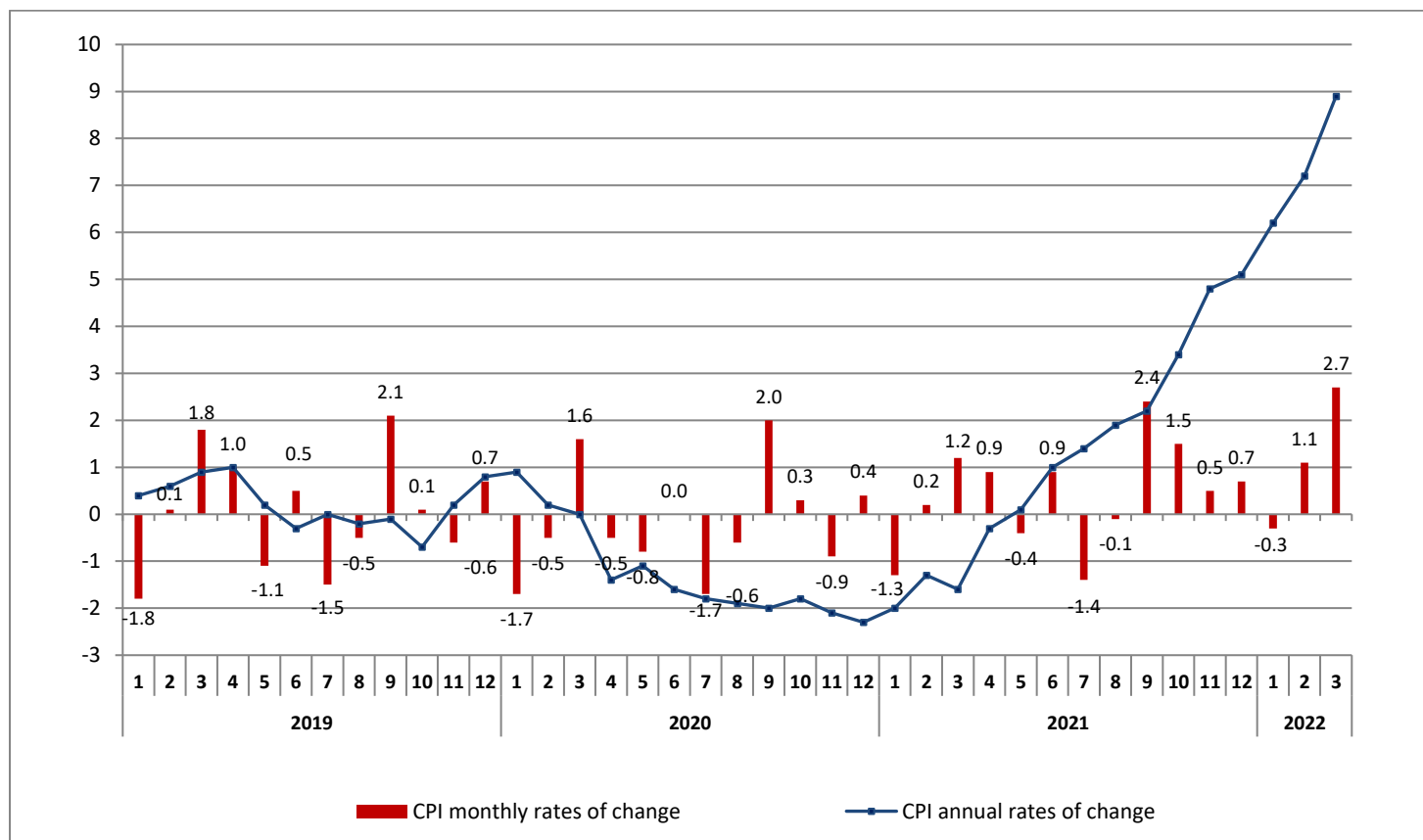


Table 2. Inflation – Annual rates of change of CPI
(Reference year: 2020=100.0)

I: March 2022/2021

Main groups of goods and services	March		Rate of change (%)	Impact
	2022	2021		
1. Food and non-alcoholic beverages	107.74	99.68	8.1	1.8017
2. Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	100.11	99.68	0.4	0.0197
3. Clothing and footwear	99.19	93.14	6.5	0.2722
4. Housing	132.41	101.91	29.9	4.3515
5. Household equipment	103.06	99.34	3.7	0.1770
6. Health	99.39	99.43	0.0	-0.0031
7. Transport	118.37	102.54	15.4	2.0790
8. Communication	95.71	98.58	-2.9	-0.1259
9. Recreation and culture	99.91	99.80	0.1	0.0026
10. Education	100.93	99.99	0.9	0.0348
11. Hotels-Cafés-Restaurants	102.23	99.43	2.8	0.2470
12. Miscellaneous goods and services	99.27	99.19	0.1	-0.0065
Overall Index	108.75	99.91	8.9	

II: March 2021/2020

Main groups of goods and services	March		Rate of change (%)	Impact
	2021	2020		
1. Food and non-alcoholic beverages	99.68	99.94	-0.3	-0.0494
2. Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	99.68	100.20	-0.5	-0.0215
3. Clothing and footwear	93.14	112.12	-16.9	-1.0292
4. Housing	101.91	101.84	0.1	0.0162
5. Household equipment	99.34	101.05	-1.7	-0.0718
6. Health	99.43	100.50	-1.1	-0.0830
7. Transport	102.54	103.36	-0.8	-0.1712
8. Communication	98.58	100.19	-1.6	-0.0688
9. Recreation and culture	99.80	100.10	-0.3	-0.0116
10. Education	99.99	100.01	0.0	-0.0006
11. Hotels-Cafés-Restaurants	99.43	99.97	-0.5	-0.0613
12. Miscellaneous goods and services	99.19	100.61	-1.4	-0.0847
Overall Index	99.91	101.57	-1.6	

Note: The indices are rounded up to two decimal figures when published and percentage changes up to one decimal figure when published.

**Table 3. Comparisons of the overall CPI
(Reference year: 2020=100.0)**

Year and month	Overall Index	Monthly rates of change %	Annual rates of change Inflation %	Annual average index (moving average)	Annual average rates of change %
2019 : 1	99.63	-1.8	0.4	101.04	0.7
2	99.76	0.1	0.6	101.10	0.7
3	101.58	1.8	0.9	101.17	0.8
4	102.58	1.0	1.0	101.26	0.9
5	101.45	-1.1	0.2	101.28	0.9
6	101.93	0.5	-0.3	101.26	0.8
7	100.44	-1.5	0.0	101.26	0.7
8	99.89	-0.5	-0.2	101.25	0.6
9	102.00	2.1	-0.1	101.24	0.5
10	102.13	0.1	-0.7	101.18	0.3
11	101.55	-0.6	0.2	101.20	0.2
12	102.22	0.7	0.8	101.26	0.3
Annual average	101.26	-	-	101.26	0.3
2020 : 1	100.49	-1.7	0.9	101.34	0.3
2	99.99	-0.5	0.2	101.35	0.3
3	101.57	1.6	0.0	101.35	0.2
4	101.11	-0.5	-1.4	101.23	0.0
5	100.29	-0.8	-1.1	101.13	-0.1
6	100.33	0.0	-1.6	101.00	-0.3
7	98.63	-1.7	-1.8	100.85	-0.4
8	97.99	-0.6	-1.9	100.69	-0.5
9	99.98	2.0	-2.0	100.52	-0.7
10	100.33	0.3	-1.8	100.37	-0.8
11	99.45	-0.9	-2.1	100.20	-1.0
12	99.84	0.4	-2.3	100.00	-1.2
Annual average	100.00	-	-	100.00	-1.2
2021 : 1	98.52	-1.3	-2.0	99.84	-1.5
2	98.72	0.2	-1.3	99.73	-1.6
3	99.91	1.2	-1.6	99.59	-1.7
4	100.82	0.9	-0.3	99.57	-1.6
5	100.43	-0.4	0.1	99.58	-1.5
6	101.36	0.9	1.0	99.66	-1.3
7	99.96	-1.4	1.4	99.78	-1.1
8	99.83	-0.1	1.9	99.93	-0.8
9	102.19	2.4	2.2	100.11	-0.4
10	103.75	1.5	3.4	100.40	0.0
11	104.24	0.5	4.8	100.80	0.6
12	104.95	0.7	5.1	101.22	1.2
Annual average	101.22	-	-	101.22	1.2
2022 : 1	104.68	-0.3	6.2	101.74	1.9
2	105.84	1.1	7.2	102.33	2.6
3	108.75	2.7	8.9	103.07	3.5

Note: The indices are rounded up to two decimal figures when published and percentage changes up to one decimal figure when published.

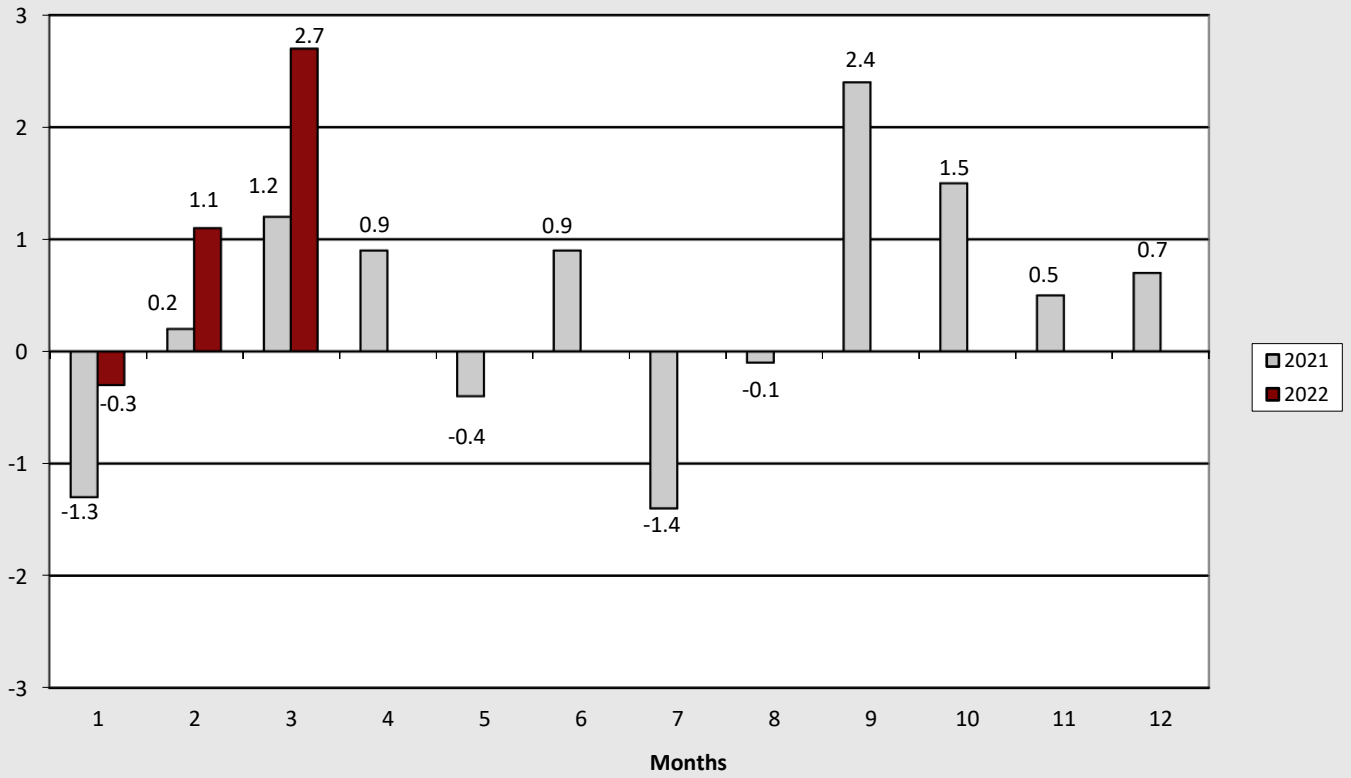
**Table 4. Major price changes from index comparison between
March 2022 and February 2022 and their impact
on the Overall CPI**

Goods and services	Rate of change (%)	Impact
Bread	2.0	0.03
Beef	0.6	0.01
Lamb and goat	2.4	0.01
Poultry	3.4	0.03
Cheese	2.9	0.04
Olive Oil	3.1	0.03
Potatoes	2.2	0.01
Fresh fish	-4.2	-0.05
Fresh vegetables	-4.8	-0.08
Wines	1.9	0.01
Electricity	4.6	0.29
Heating oil	18.3	0.49
Natural gas	-7.3	-0.06
New motorcars	0.5	0.01
Fuels and lubricants	9.6	0.63
Passenger transport by air	20.9	0.09
Passenger transport by sea	12.3	0.01
Cinemas-theatres	9.2	0.01
Restaurants-confectioneries-cafes	0.7	0.05
Hotels-motels-inns	7.4	0.06
Other appliances and articles for personal care	0.5	0.01
Recovery of prices up to normal levels before the winter sales period	-	1.00

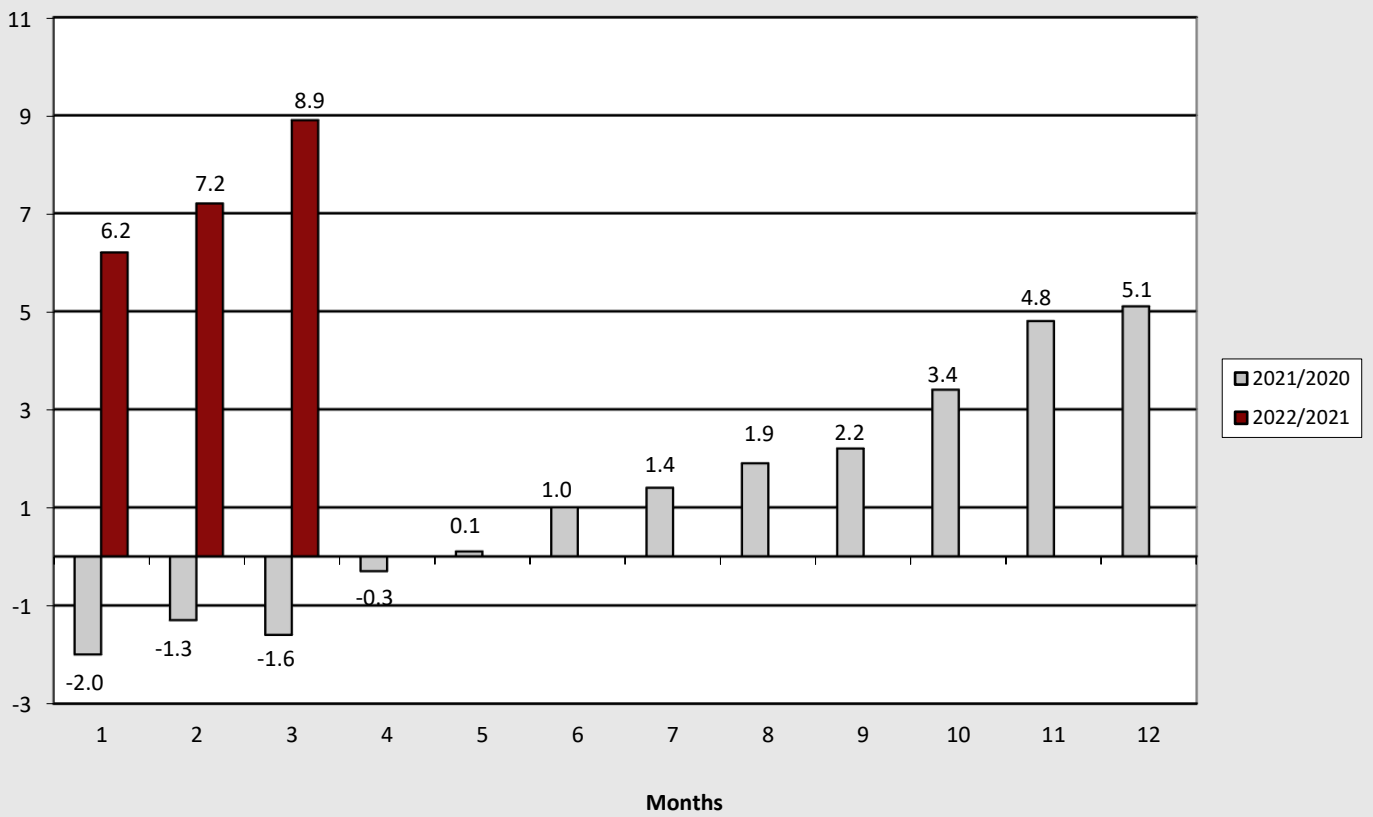
**Table 5. Major price changes from index comparison between
March 2022 and March 2021 and their impact
on the Overall CPI**

Goods and services	Rate of change (%)	Impact
Bread and cereals	7.6	0.27
Meat	6.4	0.32
Fish	3.5	0.06
Milk cheese and eggs	8.4	0.29
Oils and fats	19.9	0.24
Fresh fruit	7.8	0.11
Vegetables	13.6	0.39
Sugar-chocolates-sweets-ice creams	3.4	0.04
Food n.e.c.	5.1	0.02
Coffee	5.4	0.03
Mineral water-refreshments-fruit juices	2.3	0.01
Wines	2.7	0.02
Clothing and footwear	6.5	0.27
Rentals for dwellings	0.8	0.03
Materials for the repair and maintenance of the dwelling	5.0	0.01
Electricity	79.3	3.09
Natural gas	68.3	0.05
Heating oil	58.5	1.15
Furniture and furnishings	5.8	0.02
Household textiles	3.0	0.01
Glassware-tableware and utensils of domestic use	9.6	0.03
Non-durable household articles	2.7	0.06
Domestic services	4.8	0.05
Pharmaceutical products	-1.3	-0.04
Dental services	1.1	0.01
Hospital and clinic services	0.4	0.01
New motorcars	8.1	0.16
Second hand motorcars	11.5	0.14
Motor cycles	5.0	0.01
Tyres	4.7	0.01
Fuels and lubricants	29.0	1.60
Passenger transport by air	26.8	0.11
Passenger transport by sea	16.0	0.02
Mobile telephone equipment	-8.7	-0.01
Telephone services	-2.8	-0.12
Small recreational items-flowers-pets	1.9	0.02
Cinemas-theatres	9.2	0.02
Audiovisual and information processing equipment	-2.6	-0.02
Major durables for outdoor recreation	-2.7	-0.02
Secondary education	1.4	0.03
Restaurants-confectioneries-cafes	2.1	0.15
Hotels-motels-inns	18.5	0.10
Other appliances and articles for personal care	0.8	0.01
Motor vehicle insurance	-1.6	-0.02

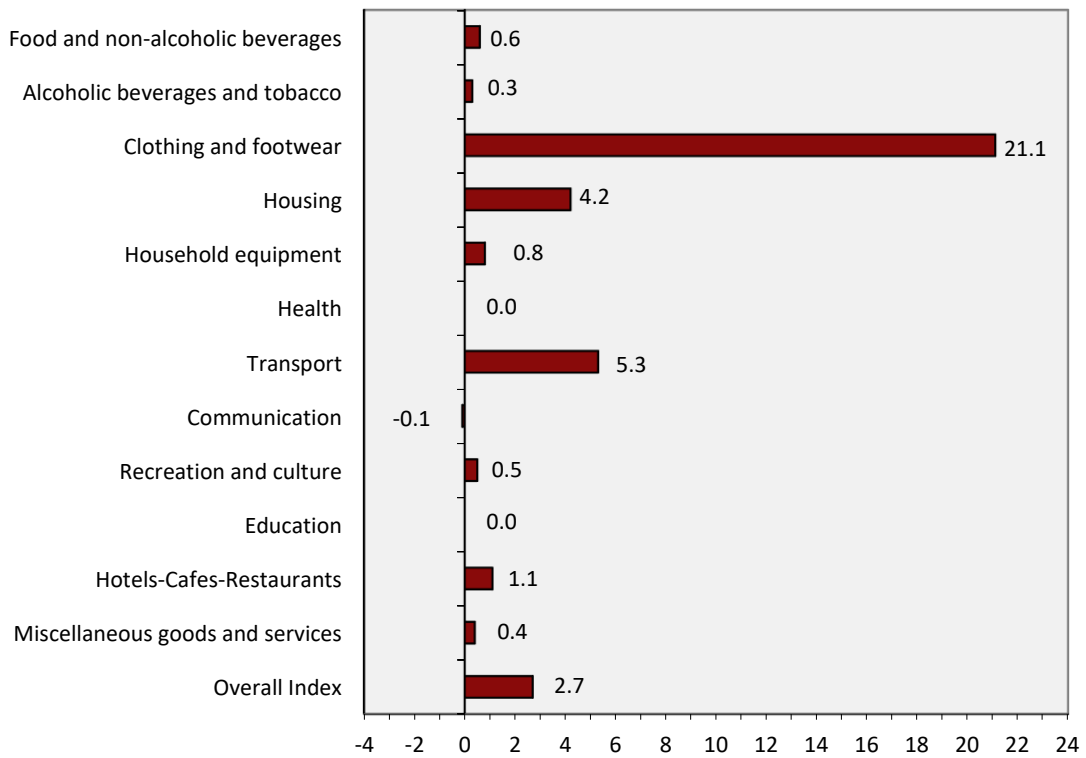
Graph 3. Monthly rates of change (%) of the overall CPI, 2021 and 2022



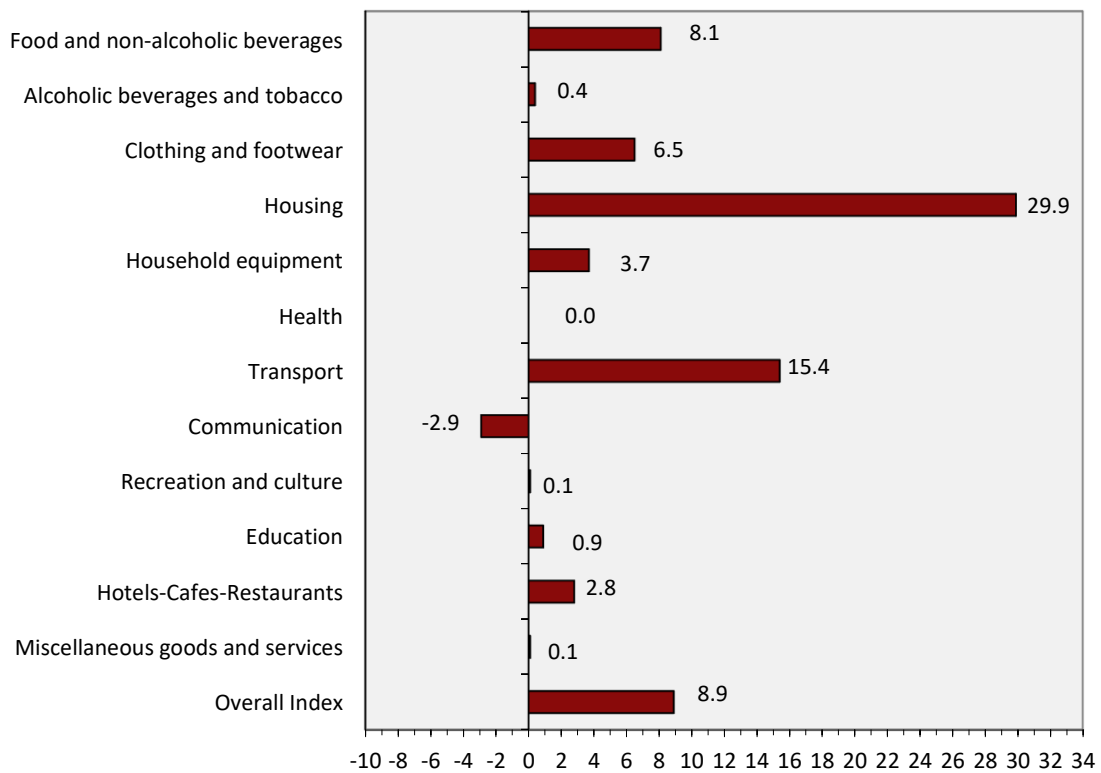
Graph 4. Annual rates of change (%) of the overall CPI, 2021 and 2022



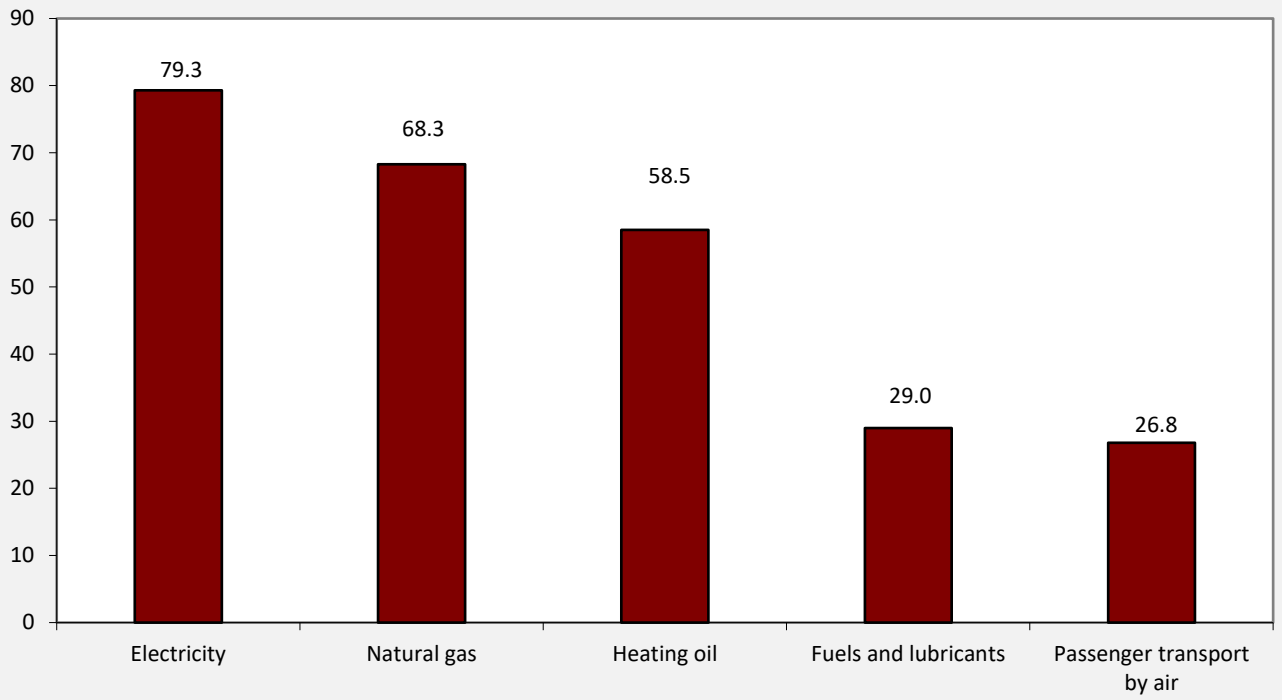
Graph 5. Monthly rates of change (%) of CPI between March 2022 and February 2022



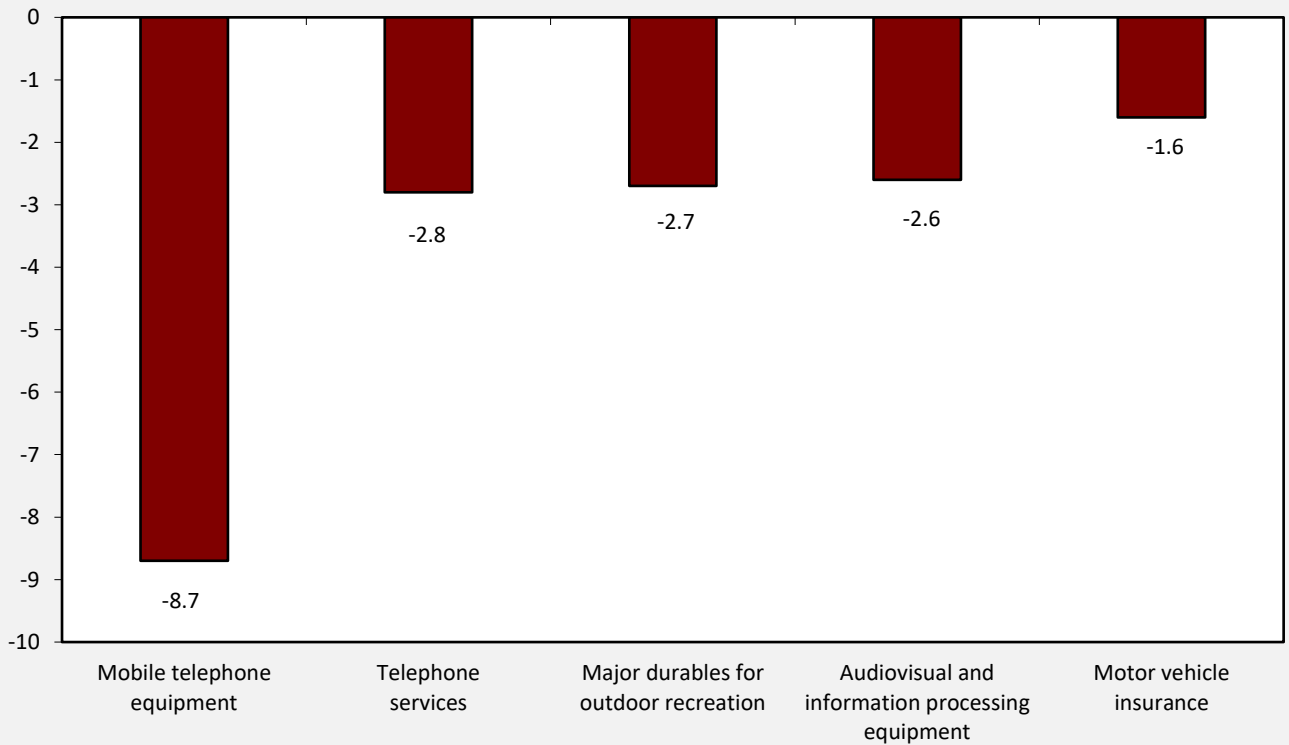
Graph 6. Annual rates of change (%) of CPI between March 2022 and March 2021



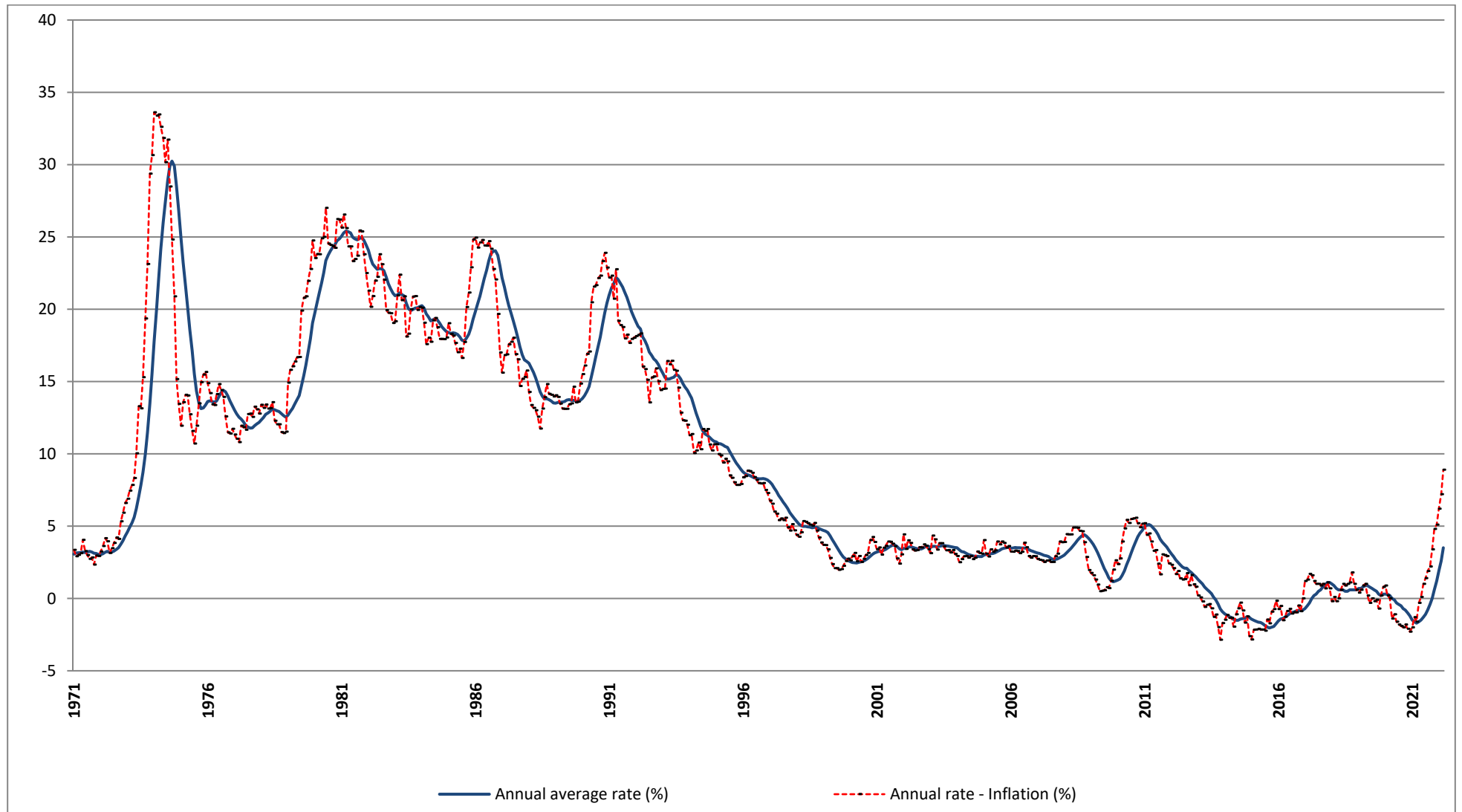
Graph 7. CPI highest annual increases (%)



Graph 8. CPI highest annual decreases (%)



Graph 9. Historical evolution of CPI. 1971 – 2022



METHODOLOGICAL NOTES

Generally	The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is compiled by the Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT) since 1959. Until the year 2000, the CPI referred to the urban areas of the Country, while from 2001 onwards it refers to the whole Country covering urban, semi-urban and rural areas.
Purpose of the index	The purpose of the CPI is to measure the general level of prices of goods and services purchased by the average Greek household.
Legal basis	Law 3832/2010 .
Reference period	Month.
Base	December of the previous year.
Reference year	2020=100.0.
Chain linking Index	The CPI index follows the chain linking method, introducing new weights annually and having as a base the December of the previous year. The weights are estimated on the basis of the most recent available data of the Household Budget Survey (HBS), extrapolated to the prices of December. The CPI, adjusted on an annual basis to the most recent consumption expenditure pattern of the private households of the Country, ensures the representativeness of goods and services, which compose the "basket" of purchases of the average household.
Geographical and population coverage of the CPI	The CPI refers to the whole Country and covers the resident households of the territory excluding collective households (hospitals, homes for the elderly, boarding houses, prisons, etc.) and non-resident households (tourists) in the Country.
Classification of items	The classification of the CPI items (goods and services) is based on the international classification COICOP (Classification of Individual Consumption by Purpose) as this has been adapted to the needs of the HICPs of the EU Member States with the COICOP5/HICP classification.
Weights of items	The weights of CPI items are updated every year, on the basis of the most recent available data of HBS. The weights are calculated as the share (%) of the expenditures for each group, subgroup and item (good or service) to the total household expenditure of the average household.
Price collection Cities	The CPI prices are collected in 27 cities with representative markets for the coverage of the 13 Regions of the Country. The selection criteria of the price collection cities are the size and the particularities of their markets, the possibility of continuous price collection, the comparability of the index and the cost of price collection.
Population weights	The calculation of the population weights by regions is based on the population data of the 2011 General Population Census and the expenditure data of the latest available HBS by regions.
Selection of items	The composition of the "household basket" i.e. the selection of goods and services which are included in the calculation of CPI is updated annually, using the results of the latest available HBS, other market research, etc. The chain linking methodology allows the change of items of the household basket on an annual basis, in order to ensure the representativeness of the items involved in the calculation of groups and subgroups of CPI.
Price collection-Outlets	The prices collection outlets are retail stores, enterprises providing services, street markets etc. which are considered representative of the branches of shops, where the households make their purchases in the 27 selected cities. The methodology allows the renewal of price collection sources, annually, in order to maintain their representativeness in the calculation of CPI. Prices are collected by employees of ELSTAT as well as by external price collectors, hired on a temporary basis. They pay a visit to the selected outlets within a specific time period of a month (monthly prices) or on a specific day of the week (weekly prices). The collected prices correspond to the prices actually faced by the consumer.
Specification-Substitution of items	All the collected items are defined by the specification, that is the particular characteristics which determine the quality, the trade show and the identity, in general, of good products (such as brand, weight, package etc), in order to avoid any price variations attributable to differences in the specification. Once a specified item (good or service) is no longer available in the market or has ceased to be important, as regards consumption, it is substituted by a newly specified item, which has taken its place in the market.

Calculation of the Consumer Price Index

The Consumer Price Index is a Laspeyres-type index and it is calculated based on December of the previous year.

Implementation of formula in five-digit level of COICOP5

Specifically, if the five-digit item h includes q price collected items, then its index in month t of year T, $R_h^{t,T}$, is given by the following formula:

$$R_h^{t,T} = R_h^{12,T-1} \left[\frac{\sum_{i=1}^q w_i^T R_i^{t,T} / R_i^{12,T-1}}{\sum_{i=1}^q w_i^T} \right],$$

where:

$R_h^{12,T-1}$ = the index of the five-digit item h, in December of year T-1.

w_i^T = the weight of the price collected item I, in year T.

$R_i^{t,T}$ = the index of the price collected item I, in month t of year T.

$R_i^{12,T-1}$ = the index of the price collected item I, in December of year T-1.

A similar methodology is followed for the calculation of indices in the upper levels (two-digit, three-digit and four-digit) of COICOP5 and the calculation of the overall CPI as well.

Publication of data The published CPI time series (reference year 2020=100.0), covers the period from January 1959 onwards. The CPI data are released each month as scheduled, in accordance with the Press Releases Calendar of ELSTAT, with the [Press Release and the tables](#).

References Further information concerning the methodology and the compilation of the CPI is available in the [Methodological Publication CPI \(2009=100.0\)](#) and the [Single Integrated Metadata Structure \(SIMS\)](#).