

## Consumer price index

3 □ 1992      Monthly

### PRICES : EC annual inflation unchanged at 4.7% in February 1992

The inflation rate over the last 12 months for the EC as a whole stayed at 4.7% in February (February 1991: 5.5%), thus remaining practically at the same level for the fourth consecutive month.

On a monthly basis there were increases in the CPI of all the Member States except Luxembourg between January and February 1992: Portugal 1.3%, Spain 0.7%, Germany 0.6%, the United Kingdom and Denmark 0.5%, Netherlands 0.4%, Belgium, France, Greece and Italy (all 0.3%). The index for Luxembourg did not change from January to February.

The quarterly index for Ireland rose by 0.8% between mid-November 1991 and mid-February 1992, which corresponds to an average monthly inflation of about 0.3%.

In order of increasing current inflation the rates for the EC Member States are as follows: (February 1992 compared with February 1991 and February 1991 compared with February 1990)

	<u>Feb.92</u> Feb.91	<u>Feb.91</u> Feb.90		<u>Feb.92</u> Feb.91	<u>Feb.91</u> Feb.90
<b>Belgium</b>	2.3%	4.0%	<b>Netherlands</b>	4.3%	3.1%
<b>Denmark</b>	2.3%	2.6%	<b>Germany *</b>	4.3%p	2.7%
<b>Luxembourg</b>	2.8%	3.2%	<b>Italy</b>	5.7%p	6.4%
<b>France</b>	3.0%p	2.5%	<b>Spain</b>	6.7%	6.0%
<b>Ireland</b>	3.7%	2.5%	<b>Portugal</b>	8.0%	12.5%
<b>United Kingdom</b>	4.1%	8.9%	<b>Greece</b>	18.2%	21.8%

The above figures show that inflation is lower than a year ago in all the EC countries except Germany, France, Spain, the Netherlands and Ireland.

The corresponding figures for the USA 2.8% (5.3%) and Japan 2.0% (3.6%) show also a tendency of decreasing inflation.

p = Provisional

\* = The CPI for the Federal Republic of Germany continues to reflect the geographic borders prior to 3 October 1990.



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## VERBRAUCHERPREISE

GESAMTINDEX

## CONSUMER PRICES

GENERAL INDEX

## PRIX A LA CONSOMMATION

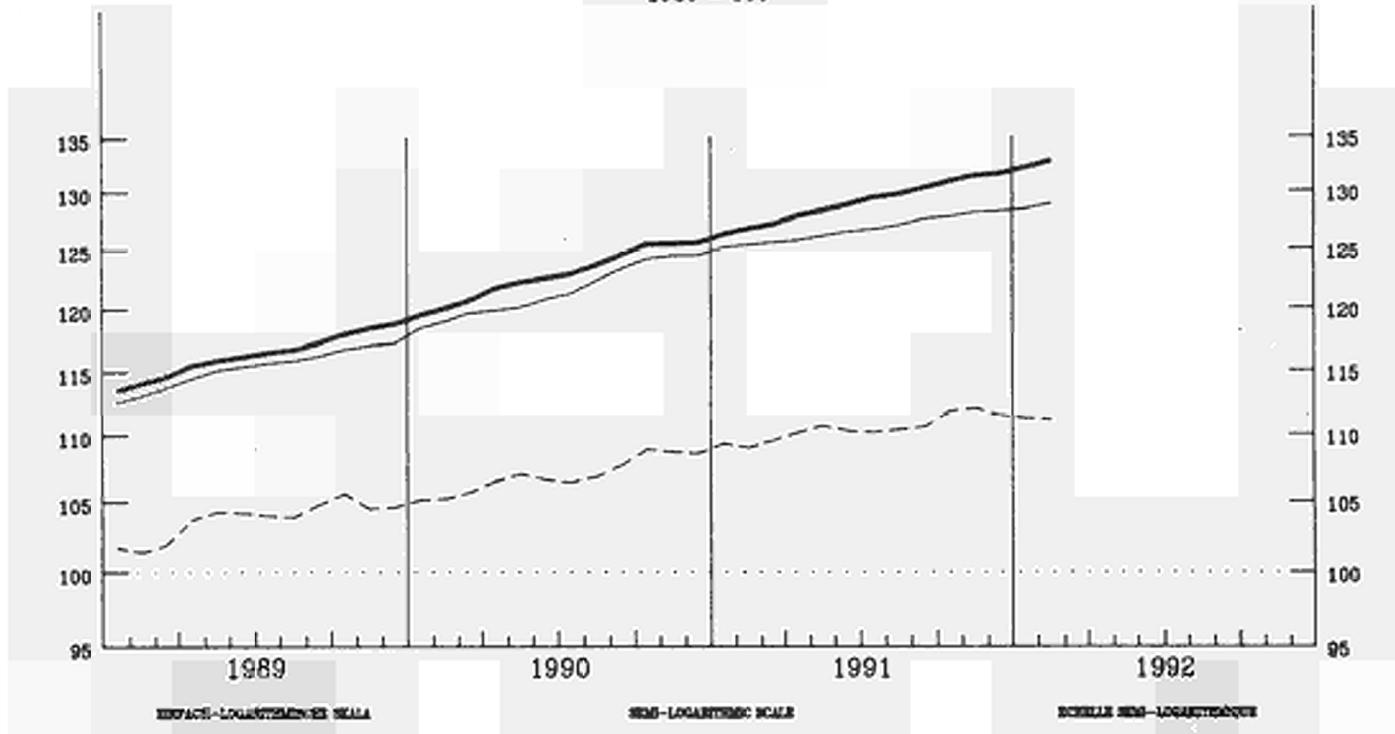
INDICE GENERAL

USA

EUR 12

JAPAN

1985 = 100



## VERÄNDERUNG % T/T-12

## VARIATION % T/T-12

## VARIATION % T/T-12

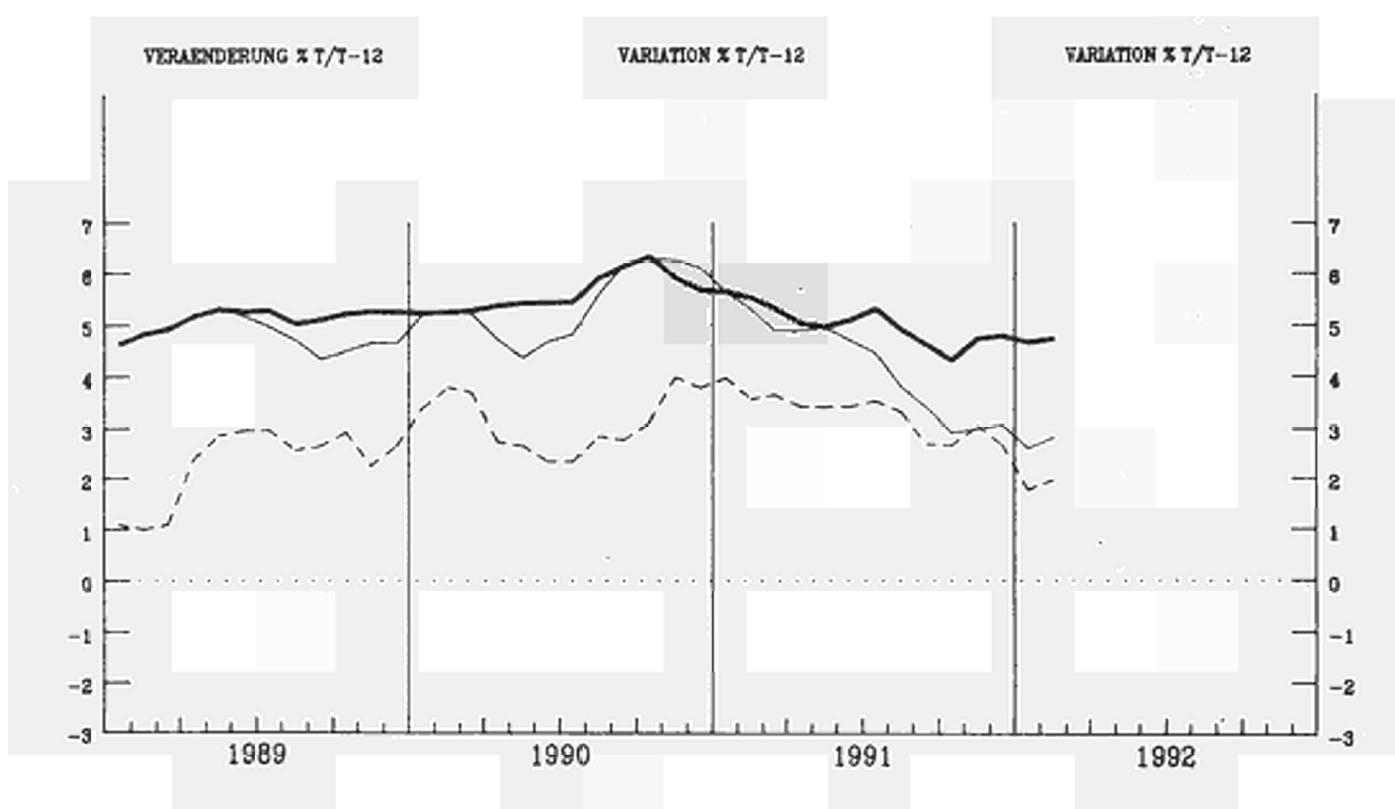


TABLE I

## CONSUMER PRICES

## GENERAL INDEX

	EUR 12	B	DK	D	GR	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	P	UK
Price indices													
Annual average													<b>1985=100</b>
1988	110.7	104.1	112.7	101.4	162.6	120.0	108.7	109.4	116.5	101.7	100.7	133.9	113.0
1989	116.3	107.3	118.1	104.2	184.9	128.2	112.7	113.9	123.8	105.1	101.7	151.0	121.8
1990	122.9	111.0	121.2	107.0	222.6	136.8	116.5	117.6	131.8	109.0	104.3	170.9	133.3
1991P	129.0	114.6	124.1	110.7	265.9	145.0	120.0	121.3	140.2P	112.4	108.4	189.5	141.1
<b>1991</b>													
February	126.8	113.8	122.8	109.1	246.3	142.0	118.6	119.6	137.5	111.4	106.1	184.9	138.4
March	127.1	113.3	123.0	109.0	251.1	142.5	118.7	:	138.3	111.6	106.8	185.8	138.9
April	127.9	113.4	123.3	109.5	260.0	142.8	119.1	:	138.8	111.2	107.2	186.9	140.7
May	128.3	113.8	124.1	109.9	260.5	143.2	119.4	120.6	139.3	111.7	107.4	188.4	141.1
June	128.8	114.3	124.4	110.5	266.5	143.6	119.7	:	139.8	111.9	107.5	189.5	141.7
July	129.4	114.9	124.0	111.5	265.0	145.4	120.2	:	140.4	112.5	109.0	190.4	141.4
August	129.7	115.3	124.2	111.5	263.5	146.0	120.4	122.2	140.9	112.8	109.4	191.7	141.8
September	130.3	115.2	124.9	111.7	275.4	147.1	120.6	:	141.6	113.1	110.1	192.1	142.3
October	130.9	115.6	125.1	112.0	280.7	148.1	121.1	:	142.3	113.4	110.5	193.3	142.8
November	131.4	115.9	125.7	112.5	285.2	148.3	121.5	122.9	143.3	114.0	110.7	194.3	143.3
December	131.6	115.7	125.3	112.6	290.1	148.4	121.6	:	143.7	114.1	110.6	195.5	143.4
<b>1992</b>													
January	132.2P	116.0	125.1	113.1	290.4	150.6	121.9	:	144.8P	114.5	110.3	197.3	143.3
February	132.8P	116.4	125.7	113.8P	291.2	151.6	122.3P	123.9	145.2P	114.5	110.7	199.9	144.1
<b>1991</b>													<b>(T/T-1)</b>
Feb./Jan.	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	-0.1	0.2	0.8	0.9	0.1	0.1	1.8	0.5
March/Feb.	0.3	-0.4	0.2	-0.1	1.9	0.3	0.1	:	0.6	0.2	0.7	0.5	0.4
April/March	0.6	0.1	0.2	0.5	3.6	0.2	0.3	:	0.4	-0.4	0.4	0.6	1.3
May/April	0.3	0.4	0.7	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.8	0.4	0.5	0.2	0.8	0.3
June/May	0.4	0.5	0.2	0.5	2.3	0.3	0.2	:	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.6	0.4
July/June	0.5	0.5	-0.3	0.9	-0.5	1.2	0.4	:	0.4	0.5	1.4	0.5	-0.2
August/July	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.0	-0.1	0.4	0.2	1.3	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.7	0.2
Sept./August	0.4	-0.1	0.6	0.2	4.1	0.8	0.2	:	0.5	0.2	0.6	0.2	0.4
Oct./Sept.	0.5	0.4	0.2	0.3	1.9	0.6	0.4	:	0.6	0.3	0.4	0.6	0.4
Nov./Oct.	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.4	1.6	0.2	0.3	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.2	0.5	0.4
Dec./Nov.	0.1	-0.2	-0.3	0.1	1.7	0.1	0.1	:	0.3	0.0	-0.1	0.6	0.1
<b>1992</b>													
Jan/Dec	0.4P	0.3	-0.2	0.4	0.1	1.5	0.3	:	0.8P	0.4	-0.3	0.9	-0.1
Feb./Jan.	0.5P	0.3	0.5	0.6P	0.3	0.7	0.3P	0.8	0.3P	0.0	0.4	1.3	0.5
<b>1991/90</b>													<b>(T/T-12)</b>
February	5.5	4.0	2.6	2.7	22.3	6.0	3.5	2.5	6.4	3.2	3.1	12.5	8.9
March	5.3	3.3	2.4	2.5	20.7	5.9	3.2	:	6.6	3.5	3.4	12.3	8.2
April	5.0	2.9	2.6	2.8	22.8	5.9	3.2	:	6.6	2.9	3.3	11.6	6.4
May	5.0	3.2	2.5	3.0	19.2	6.2	3.2	3.1	6.7	3.2	3.4	11.3	5.8
June	5.1	3.6	2.9	3.5	18.9	6.2	3.3	:	6.6	3.3	3.6	11.6	5.8
July	5.3	3.8	2.9	4.4	18.8	6.1	3.4	:	6.7	3.8	4.7	11.3	5.5
August	4.9	3.5	2.1	4.1	18.0	6.0	3.0	3.6	6.3	3.6	4.7	10.7	4.7
September	4.6	2.5	1.8	3.9	18.2	5.8	2.6	:	6.3	3.2	4.6	9.7	4.1
October	4.3	2.2	1.8	3.5	17.7	5.5	2.5	:	6.0	2.4	4.5	9.2	3.7
November	4.7	2.8	2.3	4.2	18.0	5.8	3.0	3.6	6.0	2.6	4.8	9.0	4.3
December	4.8	2.8	2.3	4.2	18.0	5.6	3.1	:	6.1	2.6	4.9	8.9	4.5
<b>1992/91</b>													
January	4.7P	2.3	2.1	4.0	18.1	5.9	2.9	:	6.3P	2.9	4.1	8.6	4.1
February	4.7P	2.3	2.3	4.3P	18.2	6.7	3.0P	3.7	5.7P	2.8	4.3	8.0	4.1

TABLE II

## CONSUMER PRICES

## GENERAL INDEX

	U.S.A	Japan	Switzerland	Austria	Norway	Sweden	Finland	Canada
Price indices								
Annual average								
1988	110.0	101.4	104.2	105.1	124.3	114.9	112.6	113.1
1989	115.3	103.7	107.4	107.8	130.0	122.3	120.0	118.7
1990	121.5	106.9	113.2	111.3	135.4	135.1	127.3	124.4
1991	126.6	110.4P	119.8	115.0	140.0	147.8	132.6	131.4
1991								
February	125.4	109.0	118.1	113.7	138.3	146.3	131.6	130.2
March	125.5	109.5	118.1	114.0	139.3	146.9	131.7	130.7
April	125.7	110.2	118.4	114.1	139.7	147.7	132.2	130.7
May	126.1	110.7	119.4	114.2	139.9	147.8	132.8	131.3
June	126.5	110.3	119.9	114.9	140.0	147.6	132.7	131.9
July	126.7	110.2	120.0	116.3	140.2	147.6	132.7	132.0
August	127.0	110.4	120.6	117.0	140.1	147.4	132.8	132.1
September	127.6	110.6	120.8	116.1	141.1	149.1	133.0	131.9
October	127.8	111.8	120.9	115.7	141.1	149.7	133.3	131.7
November	128.1	112.0	122.4	115.9	141.2	150.4	133.4	132.2
December	128.2	111.4	122.1	115.7	141.2	150.1	134.0	131.6
1992								
January	128.4	111.2	122.6	117.3	141.2	149.7	134.7	132.2
February	128.9	111.1P	123.5	118.4	141.5	149.8	135.0	132.3
1991								
Rates of increase over one month (IRL 3 months)								
Feb./Jan.	0.1	-0.3	1.0	0.7	0.3	2.8	0.5	0.0
March/Feb.	0.1	0.5	0.0	0.3	0.7	0.4	0.1	0.4
April/March	0.1	0.6	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.0
May/April	0.3	0.5	0.9	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.5	0.5
June/May	0.3	-0.4	0.4	0.6	0.1	-0.1	-0.1	0.5
July/June	0.1	-0.1	0.1	1.2	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1
August/July	0.3	0.2	0.5	0.6	0.0	-0.1	0.1	0.1
Sept./August	0.4	0.2	0.2	-0.7	0.7	1.1	0.2	-0.2
Oct./Sept.	0.1	1.1	0.1	-0.4	0.0	0.4	0.2	-0.2
Nov./Oct.	0.3	0.2	1.2	0.2	0.0	0.5	0.1	0.4
Dec./Nov.	0.1	-0.5	-0.2	-0.2	0.0	-0.2	0.4	-0.5
1992								
Jan/Dec	0.1	-0.2	0.5	1.3	0.0	-0.3	0.5	0.5
Feb./Jan.	0.4	-0.1P	0.7	1.0	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.1
1991/90								
Rates of increase over 12 months								
February	5.3	3.6	6.2	3.3	4.0	12.6	5.0	6.2
March	4.9	3.6	5.8	3.5	3.5	9.9	4.8	6.3
April	4.9	3.4	5.8	3.3	3.8	10.7	4.6	6.3
May	5.0	3.4	6.3	3.3	3.8	10.1	4.6	6.2
June	4.7	3.4	6.5	3.8	3.5	10.1	4.2	6.3
July	4.4	3.5	6.6	3.6	3.5	9.0	4.1	5.8
August	3.8	3.3	6.0	3.7	3.6	8.2	3.7	5.8
September	3.4	2.7	5.7	3.2	3.3	8.1	3.3	5.4
October	2.9	2.7	5.1	2.7	2.5	7.8	3.2	4.4
November	3.0	3.1	5.5	3.3	2.6	8.0	3.3	4.2
December	3.1	2.7	5.2	3.1	2.9	7.9	3.9	3.8
January	2.6	1.8	4.9	3.9	2.4	5.2	2.9	1.6
February	2.8	2.0P	4.6	4.1	2.3	2.4	2.6	1.7

# **EXPLANATORY NOTES**

## **METHODOLOGY**

The consumer price indices given here are the national indices which have different names in each country. As far as trends are concerned, the general index published by EUROSTAT always corresponds to the general index published by the country. The component items of this general index are groups of national indices aggregated according to a harmonized classification conforming to the ESA (European System of Integrated Economic Accounts). For these groups, the price trends correspond to the trends noted by the national indices for the same classification field. The field covered by the general index varies according to country; as regards the population concerned (specific income bracket, certain socio-professional categories or total households), the geographical areas used (capital, urban areas, country as a whole, etc.) or differences in treatments of expenditure on rent, health care, etc... Finally, there is no uniform method for seasonal adjustments. A fixed system is used in some countries, whereas in others a chain system is used (variable weightings). The reference years used at national level for the indices vary according to country. For ease of comparison, EUROSTAT has chosen 1985 as the common year for the presentation of these indices.

## **THE CALCULATION OF THE EUR-12 INDEX**

The EUR-12 index as calculated by EUROSTAT is a weighted average of national price indices. The weight used is the proportion of each country in the final consumption of households for EUR-12. The values of this consumption in national currency are converted into purchasing power standard (PPS); for this purpose the purchasing power parities of the G.D.P. are used. Up to 1987 purchasing power parities are those which result from the 1980 enquiry, from 1988 onwards they are those from the 1985 enquiry. The index calculated is a chain index of the "Laspeyres" type with weights changing each year. However, the weights are lagged by three years since the national accounts data needed become available only after three years. For example: the weights used for 1991 are those of 1988, for 1990 those of 1987. Moreover, national accounts data are often revised leading to revisions of the consumption weights. In order to avoid continuous modifications in the EUR-12 index for previous periods, EUROSTAT has decided to "freeze" the weights which are used. Thus the EUR-12 index will not be affected by revisions of the national accounts. However when Member States carry out major revisions in the price series for past years, EUR-12 data will be calculated using these new series.

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