

# CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

## RAPID INFORMATION

### THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX IN 1984

Moderate increases or even, slight decreases in some countries contributed to a rise of only 0.2% in the consumer price index of the Community as a whole in December 1984 compared with the previous month.

Inflation for the Community in 1984, measured by comparing the index for December 1984 with that for December 1983, is 5.5% whereas for the previous years this increase was 7.2% in 1983, 8.5% in 1982 and 11.7% in 1981.

For the Community Countries these figures were as follows:

	1984	1983	1984	1983
Germany (FR)	2.0	2.6	Denmark	5.6
Luxembourg	2.3	8.0	France	6.7
Netherlands	2.7	2.9	Ireland (1)	6.8
United Kingdom	4.6	5.3	Italy	9.5
Belgium	5.3	7.2	Greece	18.1

(1) Ireland : November 1983 to November 1984.

These figures confirm the slowing down of the inflation in all the Member States during 1984 and especially for Luxembourg, Ireland, Italy and France. The corresponding figures for the USA, Canada and Japan are respectively 3.9% (3.8% in 1983), 3.7% (4.5% in 1983) and 2.6 (1.8% in 1983).

### IMPORTANT REMARKS

In line with the decision to make a general change of the base year, starting from this bulletin Eurostat will publish the consumer price indices on the new base 1980=100 (instead of 1975=100).

At the same time the method of calculating the EUR-10 index has been modified. Instead of a Laspeyres index with fixed weights, Eurostat has calculated a chain index. This is because the use of a fixed base index does not reflect systematically and in an adequate way the share of each country and leads to substantial revisions when the base year is changed.

The new method will avoid these disadvantages. The influence of the change of method on the results should be pointed out: for example the inflation rate between December 1984 and December 1983 is now 5.5%, instead of 6.4%.

In future Eurostat will only publish each month the general index accompanied by a short comment.

The indices for the 8 main groups as well as for the 20 sub-groups will be published in a quarterly bulletin and the first edition of this quarterly publication will appear about mid-March 1985.

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CONSUMER PRICES  
GENERAL INDEX

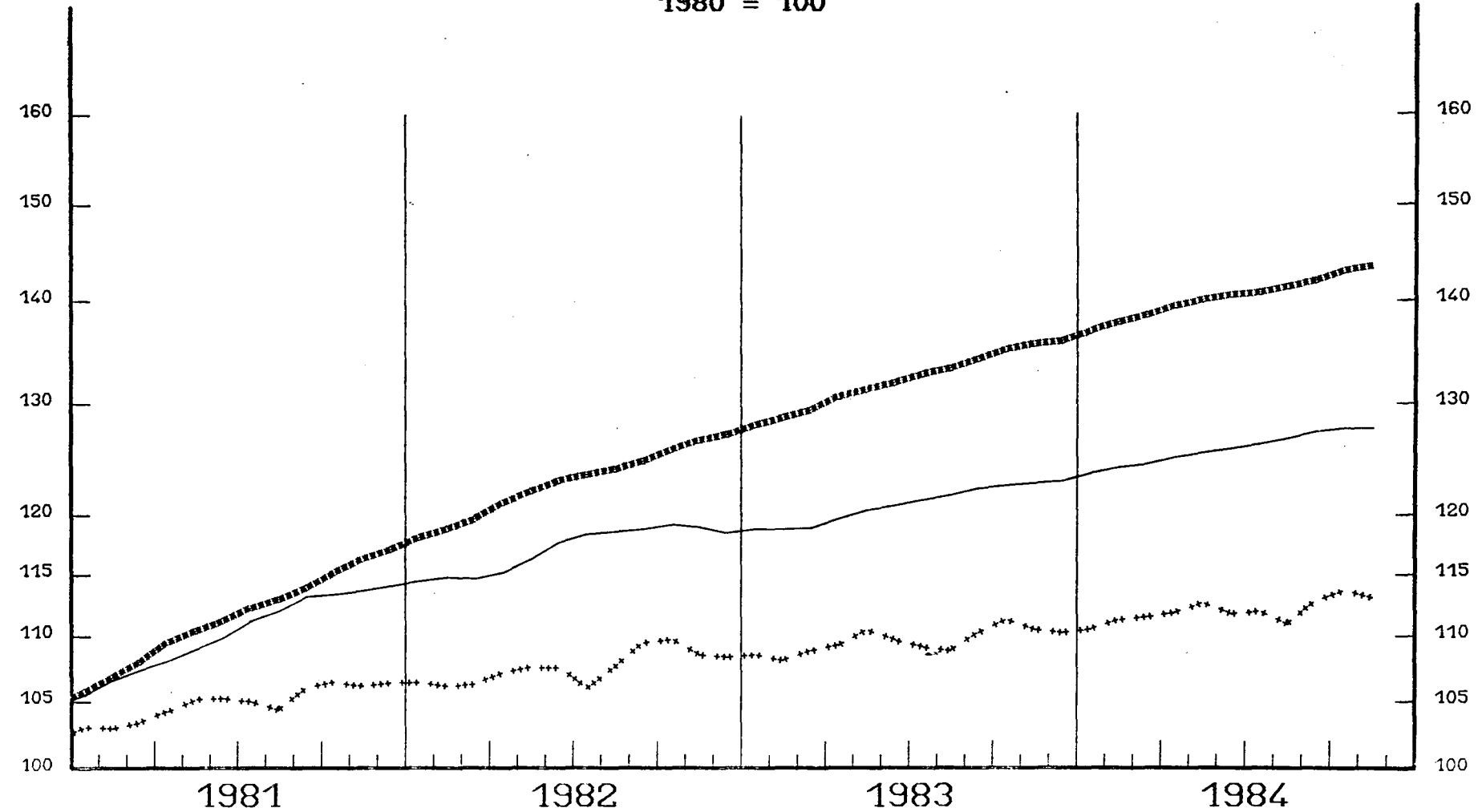
PRIX A LA CONSOMMATION  
INDICE GENERAL

USA

EUR 10

JAPAN

1980 = 100



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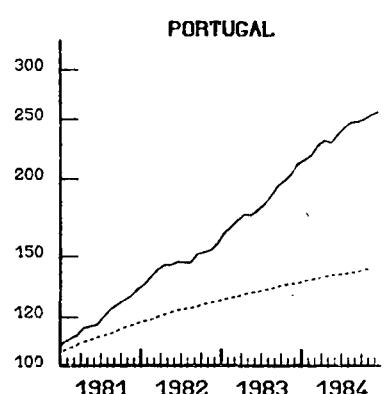
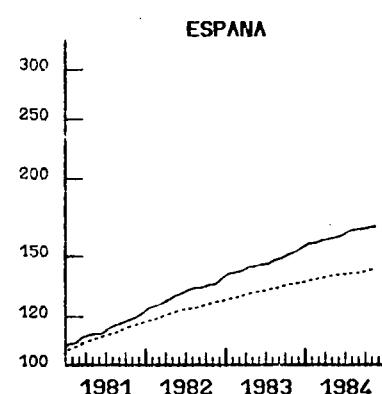
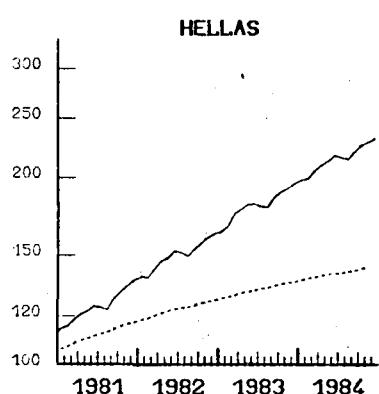
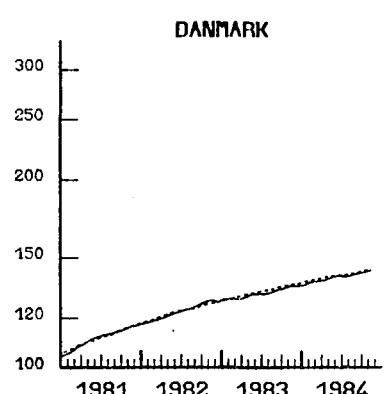
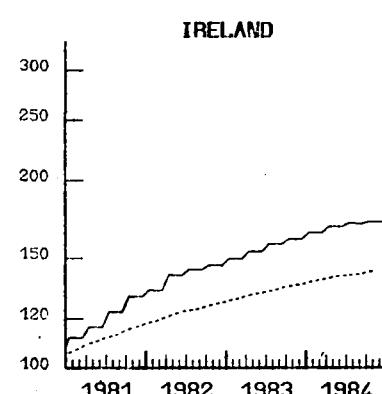
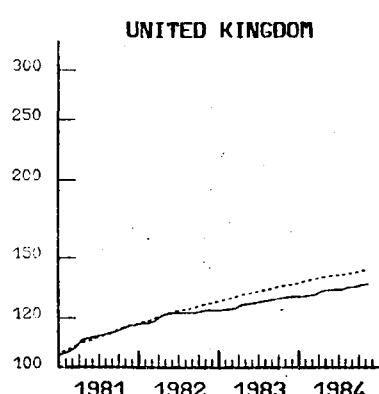
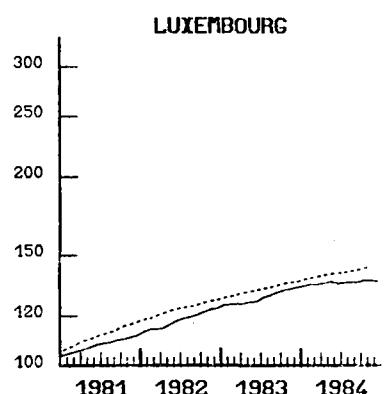
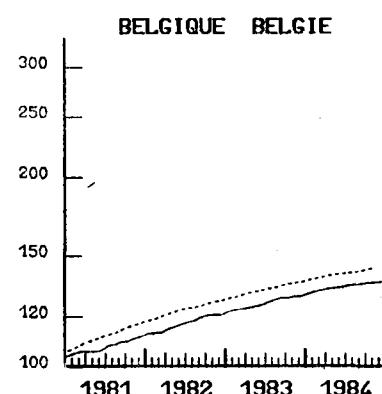
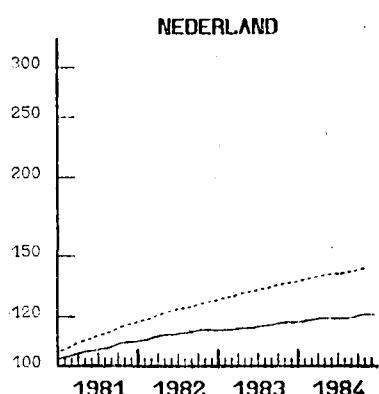
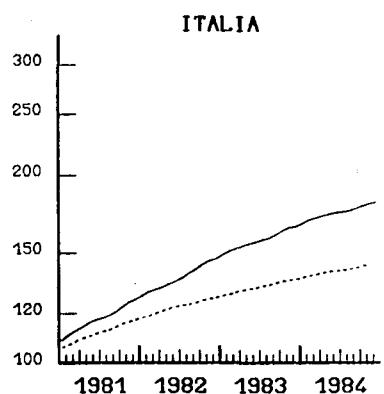
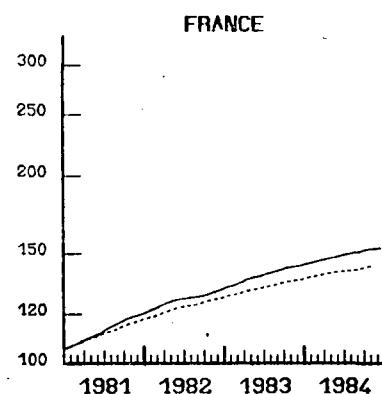
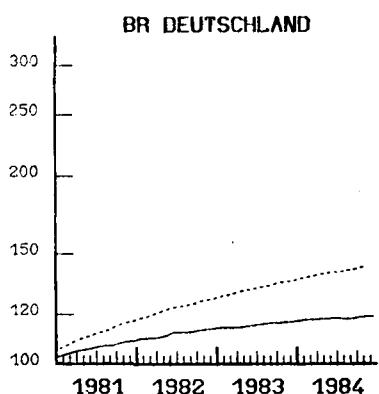
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SEMI-LOGARITHMIC SCALE

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