INTRODUCTORY NOTE

The publication provides a general overview of the price level movements in the sphere of consumption.

A revision of the weighting system was carried out in 2023. The weights are updated since January 2024 on the basis of the household expenditure of national accounts statistics. They are primarily based on the expenditure in 2022 and are modified by the estimate of the expenditure in 2023. The weights for detailed elementary aggregates are updated using Household Budget Survey extended by other available sources and surveys. Price indices that are calculated according to new revised index patterns are published since January 2024.

Starting from January 2018, detailed consumer price indices are calculated based on the ECOICOP classification (European Classification of Individual Consumption according to Purpose), which introduced a more detailed breakdown into the consumer basket. This change occurred according to the Regulation (EU) 2016/792 of the European Parliament and of the Council. The structure of published indices remained unchanged.

Starting from January 2024, the price reference period of December 2021 for the price indices is changed to December 2023. Indices calculated with the new base December 2023 = 100 are chained at all levels of the consumer basket to the current index time series on the base average of 2015 = 100. Thereby, a continuation of the existing time series, from which indices to other bases are derived (previous month = 100, corresponding period of previous year = 100 and annual rolling average, i.e. the average of index numbers over the last 12 months to the average for the previous 12 months) is ensured.

Since 2019 scanner data (SD, data from retail chain cash registers) were gradually implemented into the process of calculation of inflation rate. At the beginning, the prices from the field price survey for selected price representatives were being replaced by prices from the SD only partially, so called hybrid model – combination of SD and field survey at the level of price representative. With the increasing number of chains that provide data on a regular basis, the share of prices collected by the field price survey decreased gradually, until SD fully replaced field price collection in these areas, so called full model, when item selection is not limited by the description of the price representative, but all significant items of the chain enter into calculation. Price indices at ECOICOP5 level are there as output. Since January 2021 it concerned divisions of the ECOICOP 01 – Food and non-alcoholic beverages, 02 – Alcoholic beverages, tobacco together with groups 05.61 – Non-durable household goods, 12.13 – Other appliances, articles and products for personal care. Since January 2022 moreover groups 06.11 – Pharmaceutical products, 06.12 – Other medical products, 06.139 – Other therapeutic appliances and equipment, 09.342 – Products for pets, 09.541 – Paper products.

The calculation of the price indices is based on prices of representatives collected in selected reporting units by aggregating simple price indices into an aggregate using a modified Laspeyres formula.

$$I = \frac{\sum \dfrac{p_1}{p_0} * p_0 q_0}{\sum p_0 q_0} * 100$$

p_1 = *the price of goods (service) in the reference (current) period.*
p_0 = *the price of goods (service) in the base period*
$p_0.q_0$ = *constant weight: household expenditure on goods (service) in the base period.*