

February, 15th 2008

PRESS RELEASE

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

January 2008

CONSUMER PRICES UP 2.9 IN JANUARY ON A YEAR EARLIER

The Portuguese Consumer Price Index (CPI) rose 2.9% in January 2008 when compared with January 2007. On a monthly basis, the CPI decreased 0.1%. The CPI 12-month average rate of change remained at 2.5% in January 2008.

In January, the Portuguese Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices (HICP) increased 2.9% when compared with the same month of the previous year.

Consumer prices increased 2.9% in January 2008 when compared with January of the previous year, 0.2 percentage points (p.p.) higher than in the previous month (see figure 1).

The core inflation index, which excludes energy components and fresh unprocessed food products, rose at a lower rate than the CPI (2.5%), 0.1 p.p. higher than the previous month).

The main upward pressure on the overall annual rate of change came from changes in the costs associated with the services provided by restaurants and hotels, housing and transports.

The main downward contributions to the CPI monthly rate came from changes in the prices of clothing and footwear goods. These products cost, on average, 14.4% less than in December 2007 (the same as a year earlier) as a result of the typical sales period that usually occurs at that time of the year.

Food and non-alcoholic beverages and Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels had an impact on January's month-on-month results as the main upward contributions to the CPI monthly rate were found in fish and electricity price rises, 4.7% and 5.2%, respectively.

In January, the HICP for Portugal rose 2.9% when compared with January 2007, 0.2 percentage points higher than in the previous month. The HICP decreased 0.1% between December 2007 and January 2008. The HICP 12-month average rate remained at 2.4%. In December 2007 the gap between the Portuguese and the Euro-area annual rate of change was -0.4 p.p. and is estimated to have decreased to -0.3 p.p. in January 2008 (see figure 2).

Fig. 1 - Consumer price and core inflation indexes (annual rate and 12-month moving average)

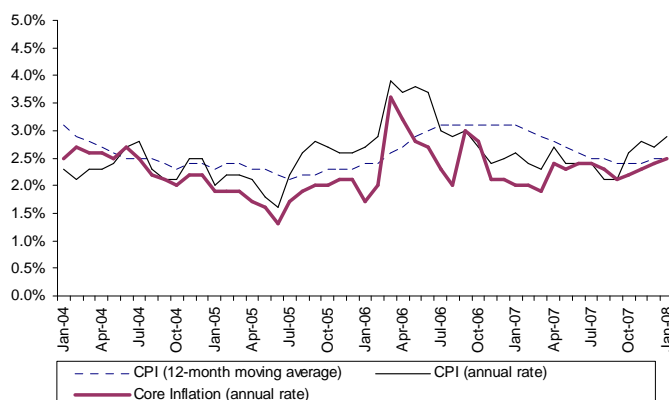
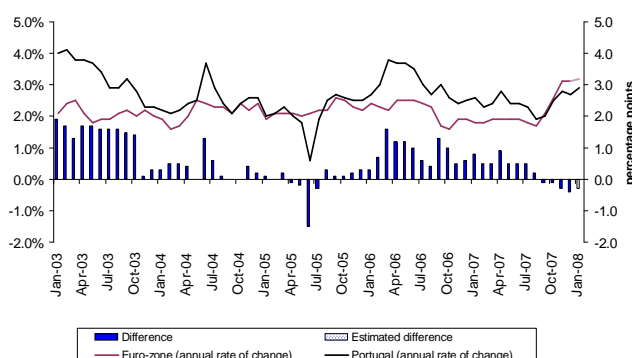


Fig. 2 - Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices (Portugal and the Euro area)



The February 2008 CPI/HICP will be released on March 14th 2008

Consumer Price Index

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is an indicator showing how the prices of a certain basket of goods and services bought by a "typical" consumer change over time. The CPI has been designed to capture price changes and not to measure price levels. Both the consumption pattern and the goods and services included in the CPI basket were derived from the year 2000 Household Budget Survey and are updated annually with the most recent information on prices and quantities. The CPI is compiled through the aggregation of seven regional price indexes and the goods and services included in the index are grouped according to the COICOP classification.

Table 1: CPI/COICOP Index Divisions

01	Food and non-alcoholic beverages	07	Transports
02	Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	08	Communications
03	Clothing and footwear	09	Recreation and culture
04	Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	10	Education
05	Furnishings, household equipment and routine maintenance of the house	11	Restaurants and hotels
06	Health	12	Miscellaneous goods and services

Monthly rate

The monthly rate is the change in the index of a certain month compared with the index of the previous month expressed as a percentage. Although up-to-date, this measure can be affected by seasonal and other effects.

Annual rate

The annual rate is the change in the index of a certain month compared with the index of the same month in the previous year expressed as a percentage. In the presence of a stable seasonal pattern, seasonal effects do not influence this measure.

12-month average rate

The 12-month average rate is the change in the average index of one year compared with the average index of the previous year expressed as a percentage. This moving average is less sensitive to transient changes in prices.

Core inflation index (all items CPI excluding unprocessed food and energy products)

The core inflation index is compiled by excluding the prices of unprocessed food and energy products from the all-items CPI. The primary objective of this index is to capture the underlying inflation pressures in the economy. In the publication *Síntese Económica de Conjuntura* is released a core inflation indicator based on a different methodological approach (factorial analysis) and, for this reason, it is possible that differences between the values shown by the two measures exist.

Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices

The Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices (HICP) is compiled in each member state of the European Union for the purposes of inflation comparisons across EU countries, as required by the Treaty on European Union 1. This index plays an important role as a guideline for the achievement of the European System of Central Banks primary objective: price stability. In 1998, the European Central Bank adopted the HICP as "the most appropriate price measure" for its definition of price stability in the Euro area 2.

¹ Article 109j and protocol on the convergence criteria referred to in that article.

² "A stability oriented monetary policy strategy for the ESCB". ECB press notice released on 13 October 1998.



Annexes:

CPI rate of change (index division and all items CPI)

		Index divisions ⁽¹⁾												All-items CPI
		01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	
		Annual average rate												
2005		-0.6	4.8	-1.1	4.4	1.3	0.9	5.8	-0.2	1.6	7.0	2.4	2.2	2.3
2006		2.7	9.7	0.5	3.9	1.0	1.5	5.5	-0.9	1.2	5.2	2.3	3.3	3.1
2007		2.4	4.9	2.2	3.6	1.6	7.4	1.6	-1.8	0.3	3.7	2.6	2.4	2.5
		Annual rate												
2006	January	1.7	14.5	-11.6	4.0	1.5	0.0	8.2	-1.2	1.2	5.3	2.6	2.3	2.7
	February	1.8	9.1	-6.5	4.4	1.0	0.2	8.4	-1.1	1.3	5.3	2.0	2.4	2.9
	March	1.3	9.4	12.1	4.4	0.7	0.1	7.8	-0.5	1.2	5.7	2.1	2.5	3.9
	April	1.7	9.4	5.4	4.1	0.9	0.5	7.9	-0.7	1.7	5.7	2.6	2.9	3.7
	May	2.6	9.0	0.9	4.1	1.0	0.7	8.5	-0.6	1.9	5.7	2.3	3.6	3.8
	June	3.9	9.2	-0.9	4.1	1.0	0.8	7.4	-0.6	2.2	5.7	2.3	3.6	3.7
	July	3.1	9.3	-2.7	3.8	1.2	0.7	6.1	-0.9	1.6	5.7	2.2	3.5	3.0
	August	3.2	9.5	-3.0	3.8	0.9	1.2	5.2	-0.9	1.0	5.7	1.7	3.3	2.9
	September	3.1	9.3	8.9	3.7	0.9	1.4	2.5	-1.0	0.7	5.9	2.3	3.7	3.0
	October	3.6	9.3	6.4	3.3	0.9	2.7	0.8	-1.0	0.4	4.0	2.5	3.9	2.7
	November	3.3	9.4	-0.6	3.2	0.9	4.3	1.5	-1.0	0.2	4.0	2.6	3.7	2.4
	December	3.1	9.4	-0.9	3.2	0.8	5.5	2.2	-1.3	0.7	4.0	2.2	3.7	2.5
2007	January	4.1	0.8	1.9	3.9	1.5	5.5	1.5	-1.3	0.6	4.0	2.3	3.3	2.6
	February	3.6	0.4	0.7	3.6	1.4	6.0	0.8	-1.1	1.8	3.9	2.5	3.2	2.4
	March	3.1	0.5	1.0	3.5	2.1	6.3	1.7	-1.8	0.1	3.5	2.4	3.1	2.3
	April	3.5	6.1	1.4	3.5	1.7	10.6	1.3	-2.2	0.1	3.5	2.5	2.9	2.7
	May	2.2	6.3	1.5	3.5	1.8	9.6	1.2	-2.0	0.2	3.5	2.5	2.5	2.4
	June	1.4	6.5	2.9	3.5	1.8	9.3	1.6	-1.9	-0.1	3.5	2.6	2.3	2.4
	July	1.8	6.3	4.8	3.8	1.5	8.9	0.7	-1.9	-0.2	3.4	2.6	2.2	2.4
	August	1.6	6.3	2.8	3.8	1.7	8.3	-0.2	-2.0	0.0	3.4	2.8	2.3	2.1
	September	1.8	6.2	0.6	3.7	1.6	7.9	0.7	-2.0	0.3	2.9	2.8	1.7	2.1
	October	2.4	6.3	2.8	3.3	1.4	6.8	2.3	-1.9	0.3	4.5	2.5	1.8	2.6
	November	2.2	6.3	2.9	3.6	1.2	5.5	3.6	-1.9	0.7	4.4	2.5	2.2	2.8
	December	1.7	6.3	3.1	3.7	1.1	4.7	3.5	-1.6	0.4	4.4	2.8	1.8	2.7
2008	January	2.0	6.5	3.1	3.9	1.2	5.2	3.4	-1.7	0.3	4.3	3.5	2.2	2.9
Symbols:		f estimated Po provisional x not available												
Notes:		(1) The names of the divisions are given in the explanatory notes.												
Source:		INE - Portugal												

HICP rate of change (international comparison)⁽¹⁾

	EU-13 ⁽²⁾	EICP ⁽³⁾	BE	BG	CZ	DK	DE	EE	EL	ES	FR	IE	IT	CY	LV	LT	LU	HU	MT	NL	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK	FI	SE	UK						
	Annual average rate																																		
2005	2.2	2.2	2.5	6.0	1.6	1.7	1.9	4.1	3.5	3.4	1.9	2.2	2.2	2.0	6.9	2.7	3.8	3.5	2.5	1.5	2.1	2.2	2.1	9.1	2.5	2.8	0.8	0.8	2.1						
2006	2.2	2.2	2.3	7.4	2.1	1.9	1.8	4.4	3.3	3.6	1.9	2.7	2.2	2.2	6.6	3.8	3.0	4.0	2.6	1.7	1.7	1.3	3.0	6.6	2.5	4.3	1.3	1.5	2.3						
2007	2.1 Po	2.3 Po	1.8	7.6	3.0	1.7	2.3	6.7	3.0	2.8	1.6	x	2.0	2.2	10.1	5.8	2.7	7.9	0.7	1.6 Po	2.2 Po	2.6	2.4	4.9	3.8	1.9	1.6	1.7	2.3						
	Annual rate																																		
2006	January	2.4	2.3	2.8	7.6	2.4	2.0	2.1	4.7	3.0	4.2	2.3	2.5	2.2	2.0	7.6	3.5	4.1	2.5	2.4	1.8	1.5	0.9	2.7	9.0	2.6	4.1	1.2	1.1	1.9					
	February	2.3	2.2	2.8	9.4	2.4	2.1	2.1	4.5	3.1	4.1	2.0	2.7	2.2	2.3	7.0	3.4	3.9	2.3	2.3	1.4	1.5	0.9	3.0	8.6	2.3	4.3	1.3	1.1	2.0					
	March	2.2	2.1	2.2	9.1	2.4	1.8	1.9	4.0	3.3	3.9	1.7	2.8	2.2	2.6	6.6	3.1	3.7	2.4	2.9	1.4	1.3	0.9	3.8	8.5	2.0	4.3	1.2	1.5	1.8					
	April	2.5	2.3	2.6	8.5	2.3	1.8	2.3	4.3	3.5	3.9	2.0	2.7	2.3	2.5	6.1	3.4	3.5	2.4	3.5	1.8	2.1	1.2	3.7	7.0	2.8	4.4	1.5	1.8	2.0					
	May	2.5	2.4	2.8	9.0	2.8	2.1	2.1	4.6	3.3	4.1	2.4	3.0	2.3	2.5	7.1	3.6	3.6	2.9	3.5	1.8	2.1	1.5	3.7	7.3	3.4	4.8	1.7	1.9	2.2					
	June	2.5	2.4	2.5	8.4	2.3	2.1	2.0	4.4	3.4	4.0	2.2	2.9	2.4	2.6	6.3	3.7	3.9	2.9	3.3	1.8	1.9	1.5	3.5	7.2	3.0	4.5	1.5	1.9	2.5					
	July	2.4	2.4	2.4	7.8	2.4	2.0	2.1	4.5	3.9	4.0	2.2	2.9	2.3	2.8	6.9	4.4	3.4	3.2	3.6	1.7	2.0	1.4	3.0	6.2	1.9	5.0	1.4	1.8	2.4					
	August	2.3	2.3	2.3	7.0	2.6	1.9	1.8	5.0	3.4	3.8	2.1	3.2	2.3	2.7	6.8	4.3	3.1	4.7	3.0	1.9	2.1	1.7	2.7	6.1	3.1	5.0	1.3	1.6	2.5					
	September	1.7	1.9	1.9	5.4	2.2	1.5	1.0	3.8	3.1	2.9	1.5	2.2	2.4	2.2	5.9	3.3	2.0	5.9	3.1	1.5	1.3	1.4	3.0	5.5	2.5	4.5	0.8	1.2	2.4					
	October	1.6	1.8	1.7	5.2	0.8	1.4	1.1	3.8	3.1	2.6	1.2	2.2	1.9	1.7	5.6	3.7	0.6	6.3	1.7	1.3	1.3	1.1	2.6	4.8	1.5	3.1	0.9	1.2	2.4					
	November	1.9	2.1	2.0	5.9	1.0	1.8	1.5	4.7	3.2	2.7	1.6	2.4	2.0	1.3	6.3	4.4	1.8	6.4	0.9	1.6	1.6	1.3	2.4	4.7	2.4	3.7	1.3	1.5	2.7					
	December	1.9	2.2	2.1	6.1	1.5	1.7	1.4	5.1	3.2	2.7	1.7	3.0	2.1	1.5	6.8	4.5	2.3	6.6	0.8	1.7	1.6	1.4	2.5	4.9	3.0	3.7	1.2	1.4	3.0					
2007	January	1.8	2.1	1.7	6.8	1.4	1.8	1.8	5.0	3.0	2.4	1.4	2.9	1.9	1.4	7.1	4.0	2.3	8.4	1.2	1.2	1.7	1.6	2.6	4.1	2.8	2.2	1.3	1.6	2.7					
	February	1.8	2.1	1.8	4.6	1.7	1.9	1.9	4.6	3.0	2.5	1.2	2.6	2.1	1.2	7.2	4.4	1.8	9.0	0.8	1.4	1.7	1.9	2.3	3.9	2.3	2.0	1.2	1.7	2.8					
	March	1.9	2.3	1.8	4.4	2.1	1.9	2.0	5.6	2.8	2.5	1.2	2.9	2.1	1.4	8.5	4.8	2.4	9.0	0.5	1.9	1.9	2.4	2.4	3.7	2.6	2.1	1.6	1.6	3.1					
	April	1.9	2.2	1.8	4.4	2.7	1.7	2.0	5.6	2.6	2.5	1.3	2.9	1.8	1.6	8.8	4.9	2.5	8.7	-1.1	1.9	1.8	2.2	2.8	3.8	2.9	2.0	1.5	1.6	2.8					
	May	1.9	2.1	1.3	4.5	2.4	1.7	2.0	5.9	2.6	2.4	1.2	2.7	1.9	1.9	7.8	5.0	2.3	8.4	-1.0	2.0	1.9	2.3	2.4	3.9	3.1	1.5	1.3	1.2	2.5					
	June	1.9	2.1	1.3	5.3	2.6	1.3	2.0	6.0	2.6	2.5	1.3	2.8	1.9	1.7	8.9	5.0	2.3	8.5	-0.6	1.8	1.9	2.6	2.4	3.9	3.8	1.5	1.4	1.3	2.4					
	July	1.8	2.0	1.3	6.8	2.5	1.1	2.0	6.5	2.7	2.3	1.2	2.7	1.7	2.3	9.5	5.1	2.0	8.3	-0.2	1.4	2.0	2.5	2.3	4.1	4.0	1.2	1.6	1.4	1.9					
	August	1.7	1.9	1.2	9.3	2.6	0.9	2.0	6.1	2.7	2.2	1.3	2.3	1.7	2.2	10.2	5.6	1.9	7.1	0.6	1.1	1.7	2.1	1.9	5.0	3.4	1.2	1.3	1.2	1.8					
	September	2.1	2.2	1.4	11.0	2.8	1.2	2.7	7.5	2.9	2.7	1.6	2.9	1.7	2.3	11.5	7.1	2.5	6.4	0.9	1.3	2.1	2.7	2.0	6.1	3.6	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.8					
	October	2.6	2.7	2.2	10.6	4.0	1.8	2.7	8.7	3.0	3.6	2.1	3.0	2.3	2.7	13.2	7.6	3.6	6.9	1.6	1.6	2.9	3.1	2.5	6.9	5.1	2.4	1.8	1.9	2.1					
	November	3.1	3.1	2.9	11.4	5.1	2.5	3.3	9.3	3.9	4.1	2.6	3.5	2.6	3.2	13.7	7.9	4.0	7.2	2.9	1.8	3.2	3.7	2.8	6.8	5.7	2.3	2.2 Rc	2.4	2.1					
	December	3.1 Po	3.2 Po	3.1	11.6	5.5	2.4	3.1	9.7	3.9	4.3	2.8	x	2.8	3.7	14.0	8.2	4.3	7.4	3.1	1.6 Po	3.5 Po	4.2	2.7	6.7	5.7	2.5	1.9	2.5	2.1					
2008 January	3.2 f	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	2.9	x	x	x	x	x	x						
Symbols:		f estimated Po provisional Rc revised x not available																																	
Notes:		(1) From January 2006 onwards: base 100=2005; index rates of change calculated based on indexes rounded up to two decimal places. (2) Member States belonging to the Euro area: EU-13 until December 2007, EU-15 from January 2008 (including Malta and Cyprus). (3) European Index of Consumer Prices: EU-15 until April 2004, EU-25 until December 2006 and EU-27 onwards.																																	
Source:		INE-Portugal and Eurostat.																																	
Code abbreviations of the Member States:																																			
	BE	Belgium					EE	Estonia					IT	Italy					HU	Hungary					PT	Portugal					SE	Sweden			
	BG	Bulgaria					EL	Greece					CY	Cyprus					MT	Malta					RO	Romania					UK	United Kingdom			
	CZ	Czech Republic					ES	Spain					LV	Latvia					NL	Netherlands					SI	Slovenia									
	DK	Denmark					FR	France					LT	Lithuania					AT	Austria					SK	Slovakia									
	DE	Germany					IE	Ireland					LU	Luxembourg					PL	Poland					FI	Finland									