

Consumer price index

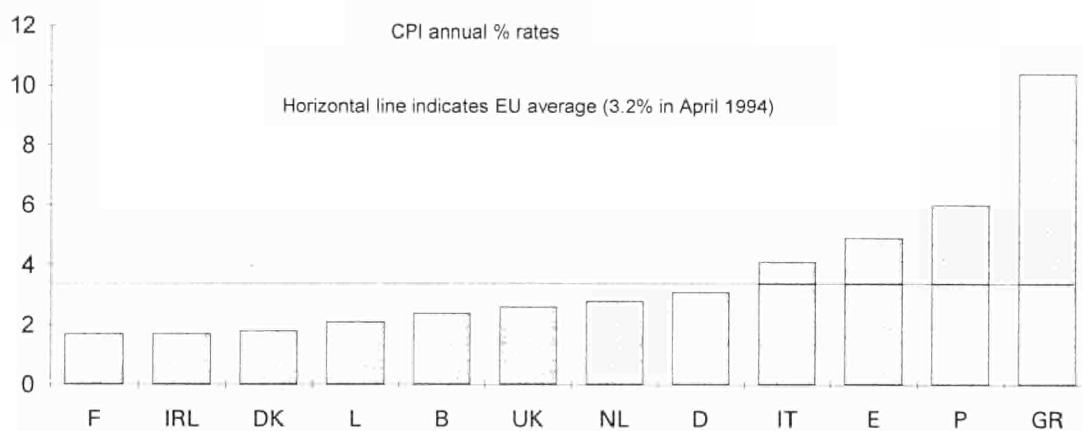
5 □ 1994 Monthly

Prices : EU annual inflation unchanged at 3.2% in April.

The annual inflation rate for the EU - as measured by the CPI - remained unchanged from March to April at a level of 3.2%. The monthly EUR-12 index rose by 0.5% mainly due to a big increase in the index of Greece (1.5%) - resulting from sharp price rises for food, housing, health care and recreation - and in that of the UK (1.2%) caused by price rises for food, housing, motoring costs, fuel, light and leisure services. Increases were low to moderate in Luxembourg (0.1%), Belgium, Denmark, Germany and the Netherlands (all 0.2%), France and Italy (0.3%) and Spain (0.4%) and substantial in Portugal (0.6%).

At present in 8 out the 12 Member States inflation is below the EU average of 3.2%, only Italy, Spain, Portugal and Greece show higher rates. In ascending order of current inflation these rates and those a year ago are as follows:

	<u>Apr.'94</u> Apr. '93	<u>Apr.'93</u> Apr.'92		<u>Apr.'94</u> Apr.'93	<u>Apr.'93</u> Apr.'92
France	1.7% p	2.1%	Netherlands	2.8%	2.4%
Ireland**	1.7%	1.9%	Germany *	3.1%	4.3%
Denmark	1.8% E	1.1%	Italy	4.1% p	4.4%
Luxembourg	2.1%	3.8%	Spain	4.9%	4.5%
Belgium	2.4%	2.9%	Portugal	6.0%	6.2%
United Kingdom	2.6%	1.3%	Greece	10.4%	16.2%



Inflation rates for the applicant Member States are all lower than the EU average: Finland 0.2% (2.6%), Norway 0.9% (2.6%), Sweden 1.7% (5.1%) and Austria (March) 3.1% (3.9%). The corresponding rates for some other countries are: USA 2.4% (3.2%), Japan 0.7% (0.9%), Canada (March) 0.2% (1.8%) and Switzerland 1.0% (3.8%).

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

** February '94/February '93 and February '93/February '92

p Provisional E Eurostat estimate



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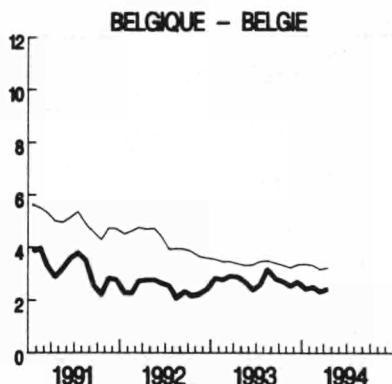
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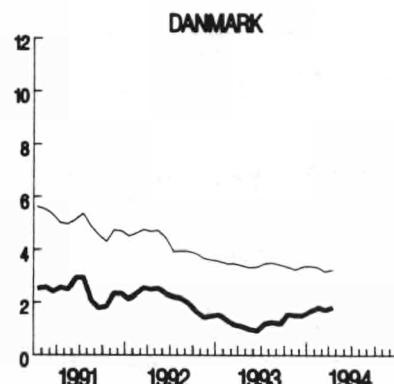
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VERBRAUCHERPREISE
GESAMTINDEX
VEARENDERUNG % T/T-12



CONSUMER PRICES
GENERAL INDEX
VARIATION % T/T-12



PRIX A LA CONSOMMATION
INDICE GENERAL
VARIATION % T/T-12

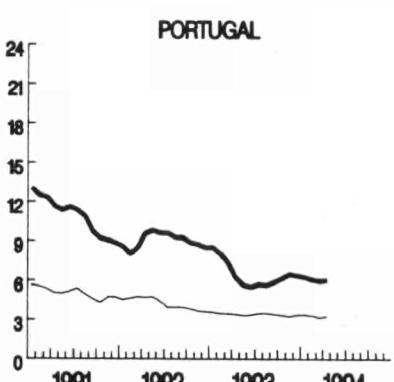
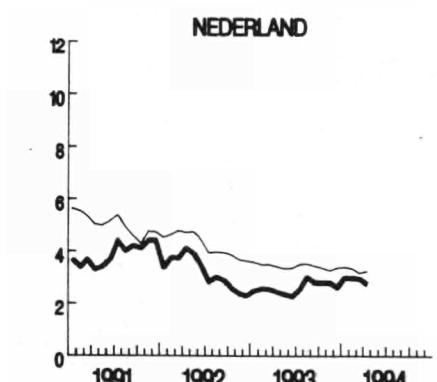
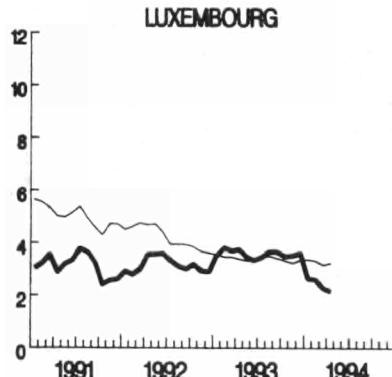
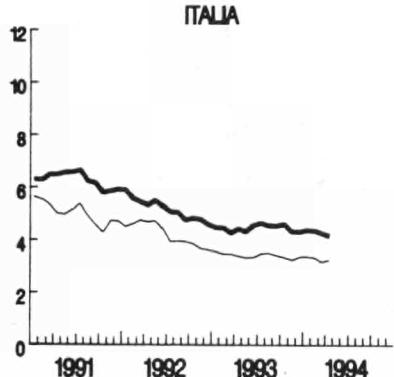
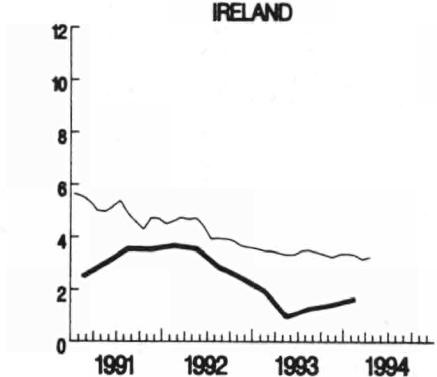
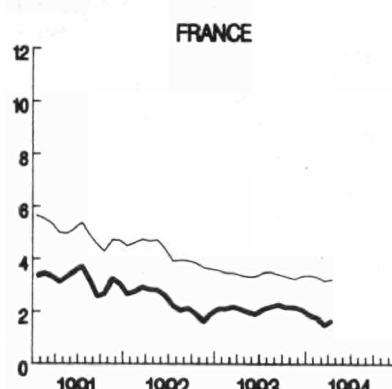
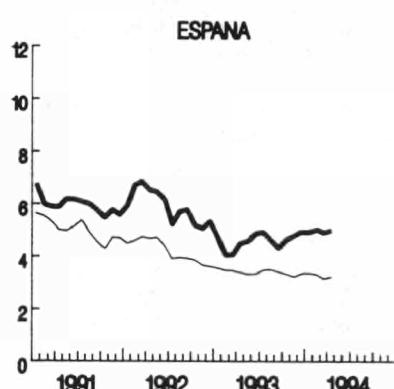
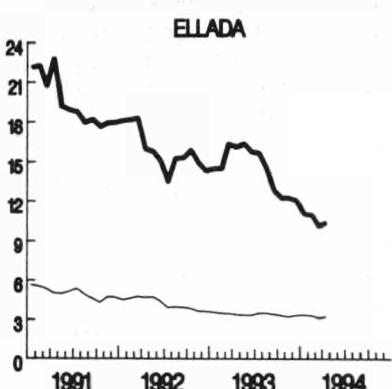


TABLE I

CONSUMER PRICES

GENERAL INDEX

	EUR 12	B	DK	D	GR	E	F	IRL	I	L	NL	P	UK
Price indices													
Annual average													1985=100
1990	122.9	111.0	121.2	107.0	222.6	136.8	116.5	117.6	131.8	109.0	104.2	170.9	133.3
1991	129.1	114.6	124.1	110.7	265.9	145.0	120.2	121.3	140.2	112.4	108.4	189.5	141.1
1992	134.5	117.3	126.7	115.1	308.1	153.5	123.0	125.1	147.3	115.9	112.5	206.7	146.4
1993	139.1	120.6	128.3	119.8	352.6	160.6	125.6	126.9	153.8	120.1	114.9	220.0	148.7
1993													
April	138.5	119.9	127.7	119.4	350.4	159.0	125.4	:	152.5	119.5	114.3	217.5	148.6
May	138.9	120.1	128.5	119.8	351.2	159.5	125.7	126.1	153.2	119.7	114.2	218.6	149.2
June	139.1	120.1	128.4	120.0	355.1	159.9	125.5	:	153.9	119.8	113.8	219.1	149.0
July	139.2	120.9	128.2	120.2	348.3	160.5	125.7	:	154.3	120.2	114.6	220.6	148.7
August	139.6	121.4	128.4	120.2	349.8	161.5	125.7	127.3	154.6	120.6	115.3	221.5	149.4
September	140.0	121.2	128.8	120.3	358.5	162.4	126.1	:	154.9	120.7	116.0	222.2	150.0
October	140.4	121.4	129.2	120.6	365.4	163.0	126.4	:	155.8	121.1	116.0	223.5	149.9
November	140.6	121.5	129.4	120.9	368.3	163.3	126.5	127.7	156.3	121.5	116.0	225.0	149.7
December	140.8	121.7	129.1	121.1	371.9	164.0	126.4	:	156.4	121.6	115.5	225.6	150.0
1994													
January	141.3	122.2	129.2	122.2	369.3	165.6	126.6	:	157.4	121.6	115.9	227.4	149.4
February	141.8P	122.6	129.6	122.6	370.1	165.7	126.9	128.5	158.0P	122.0	116.5	228.8	150.3
March	142.2P	122.6	129.7	122.8	381.0	166.2	127.2	:	158.3P	121.9	117.3	229.3	150.7
April	142.9P	122.8	130.0E	123.1	386.8	166.9	127.6P	:	158.8P	122.0	117.5	230.6	152.5
1993													(T/T-1)
April/March	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.3	1.3	0.4	0.1	:	0.4	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.9
May/April	0.3	0.2	0.6	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.2	-0.2	0.4	0.2	-0.1	0.5	0.4
June/May	0.1	0.0	-0.1	0.2	1.1	0.3	-0.1	:	0.5	0.1	-0.1	0.2	-0.1
July/June	0.1	0.7	-0.2	0.2	-1.9	0.4	0.1	:	0.3	0.4	0.6	0.7	-0.2
August/July	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.0	0.4	0.6	0.0	1.0	0.2	0.3	0.6	0.4	0.4
Sept./August	0.3	-0.2	0.3	0.1	2.5	0.6	0.4	:	0.2	0.1	0.6	0.3	0.4
Oct./Sept.	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.2	1.9	0.4	0.2	:	0.6	0.3	0.0	0.6	-0.1
Nov./Oct.	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.8	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.7	-0.1
Dec./Nov.	0.1	0.2	-0.2	0.2	1.0	0.5	-0.1	:	0.1	0.1	-0.5	0.3	0.2
1994													
Jan./Dec.	0.4	0.4	0.1	0.9	-0.7	1.0	0.2	:	0.6	0.0	0.4	0.8	-0.4
Feb./Jan.	0.4P	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.6	0.4P	0.3	0.5	0.6	0.6
March/Feb.	0.3P	0.0	0.1	0.2	2.9	0.3	0.2	:	0.2P	-0.0	0.6	0.2	0.3
April/March	0.5P	0.2	0.2E	0.2	1.5	0.4	0.3P	:	0.3P	0.1	0.2	0.6	1.2
1993/92													(T/T-12)
April	3.4	2.9	1.1	4.3	16.2	4.5	2.1	:	4.4	3.8	2.4	6.2	1.3
May	3.3	2.7	1.0	4.2	16.4	4.6	2.0	1.0	4.3	3.5	2.4	5.7	1.3
June	3.3	2.4	0.9	4.2	15.8	4.9	1.9	:	4.6	3.3	2.3	5.5	1.2
July	3.5	2.6	1.2	4.3	15.7	4.9	2.1	:	4.6	3.5	2.5	5.7	1.4
August	3.5	3.2	1.2	4.2	14.6	4.6	2.2	1.3	4.5	3.7	3.0	5.6	1.7
September	3.4	2.8	1.2	4.0	12.8	4.3	2.3	:	4.5	3.7	2.8	5.9	1.8
October	3.3	2.7	1.5	3.9	12.3	4.6	2.2	:	4.6	3.5	2.8	6.3	1.4
November	3.2	2.5	1.5	3.6	12.3	4.8	2.2	1.5	4.3	3.5	2.8	6.6	1.4
December	3.4	2.7	1.5	3.7	12.1	4.9	2.1	:	4.3	3.6	2.6	6.4	1.9
1994/93													
January	3.4	2.4	1.8	3.5	11.1	5.0	1.9	:	4.4	2.6	3.0	6.3	2.5
February	3.3P	2.5	1.8	3.4	11.0	5.0	1.8	1.7	4.4P	2.6	3.0	6.1	2.4
March	3.2P	2.3	1.7	3.2	10.2	5.0	1.5	:	4.3P	2.3	2.9	6.0	2.3
April	3.2P	2.4	1.8E	3.1	10.4	4.9	1.7P	:	4.1P	2.1	2.8	6.0	2.6

TABLE II
CONSUMER PRICES **GENERAL INDEX**

	U.S.A	Japan	Switzerland	Austria	Norway	Sweden	Finland	Canada
Price indices								
Annual average								1985=100
1990	121.5	106.9	113.2	111.3	135.4	135.1	127.4	124.4
1991	126.6	110.4	119.8	115.0	140.0	147.8	132.8	131.4
1992	130.5	112.3	124.6	119.7	143.3	151.1	136.7	133.4
1993	134.3	113.8	128.7	124.0	146.5	158.2	139.7	135.8
1993								
April	133.9	113.8	128.8	123.3	146.8	158.5	140.1	135.3
May	134.1	113.9	128.9	123.5	146.8	158.1	140.2	135.5
June	134.3	113.8	128.9	123.8	146.9	157.6	140.0	135.6
July	134.3	114.1	128.7	125.2	146.8	157.3	139.7	135.9
August	134.6	114.4	129.3	125.6	146.4	157.6	139.4	136.0
September	134.9	114.5	129.2	124.7	147.1	159.0	139.7	136.1
October	135.5	114.4	129.3	124.6	147.2	159.5	139.9	136.3
November	135.6	113.8	129.2	124.7	147.1	159.5	139.7	137.0
December	135.6	113.9	129.3	124.9	147.0	158.9	139.6	136.7
1994								
January	136.0	114.0	129.5	125.8	146.6	159.4	139.3	136.7
February	136.4	114.0	130.0	126.6	147.2	159.9	139.8	135.7
March	136.8	114.5	130.0	127.0	148.0	160.5	140.1	135.5
April	137.1	114.5P	130.1	:	148.1	161.2	140.3	:
Rates of increase over one month (IRL 3 months)								
1993								(T/T-1)
April/March	0.3	0.7	0.3	0.0	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.0
May/April	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.0	-0.2	0.1	0.2
June/May	0.1	-0.1	0.0	0.2	0.0	-0.3	-0.2	0.1
July/June	0.0	0.3	-0.1	1.2	-0.1	-0.2	-0.2	0.2
August/July	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.3	-0.2	0.2	-0.2	0.1
Sept./August	0.2	0.1	-0.1	-0.7	0.4	0.9	0.2	0.1
Oct./Sept.	0.4	-0.1	0.1	-0.1	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.2
Nov./Oct.	0.1	-0.6	-0.1	0.1	-0.1	0.0	-0.1	0.5
Dec./Nov.	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.2	-0.1	-0.4	-0.1	-0.2
1994								
Jan./Dec.	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.7	-0.2	0.3	-0.3	0.0
Feb./Jan.	0.3	0.0	0.4	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.4	-0.8
March/Feb.	0.3	0.5	0.0	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.2	-0.2
April/March	0.1	0.0P	0.1	:	0.1	0.4	0.2	:
Rates of increase over 12 months								
1993/92								(T/T-12)
April	3.2	0.9	3.8	3.9	2.6	5.1	2.6	1.8
May	3.2	0.9	3.6	3.7	2.5	4.8	2.6	1.8
June	3.0	0.9	3.2	3.6	2.3	4.7	2.0	1.6
July	2.8	1.9	3.4	3.5	2.2	4.6	2.1	1.6
August	2.8	1.9	3.6	3.4	2.2	4.8	2.1	1.7
September	2.7	1.5	3.4	3.4	2.2	4.2	1.7	1.9
October	2.8	1.3	3.3	3.5	2.0	4.3	1.6	1.9
November	2.7	0.9	2.3	3.5	1.9	4.8	1.4	1.9
December	2.7	1.0	2.5	3.5	1.8	4.0	1.6	1.7
1994/93								
January	2.5	1.2	2.1	3.1	1.3	1.7	0.2	1.3
February	2.5	1.1	1.8	3.1	1.4	1.8	0.3	0.2
March	2.5	1.3	1.3	3.1	1.0	1.7	0.4	0.2
April	2.4	0.7P	1.0	:	0.9	1.7	0.2	:

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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