

Media Release

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Decrease of 0.2% in the Consumer Price Index (CPI), September 2019

- The CPI decreased 0.2% in September 2019 compared to August 2019. It was 100.8 points compared to 101.0 points in the previous month (base: average 2018 = 100.0 points). The CPI excluding vegetables and fruit and the CPI excluding housing decreased 0.3% each and were 100.7 and 100.2 points, respectively. The CPI excluding energy decreased 0.1% and was 101.0 points.
- Prices of the following items decreased in particular: culture and entertainment 2.8%, transport 1.1% and food 0.6%.
- Prices of the following items increased in particular: fresh fruit and vegetables 4.3%, education services 1.8% and furniture and household equipment 0.6%.
- Since the start of the year the CPI, the CPI excluding fruit and vegetables and the CPI excluding energy increased 0.6%, each and the CPI excluding housing increased 0.3%.
- Over the past 12 months (September 2019 compared to September 2018) the CPI increased 0.3%, the CPI excluding energy increased 0.7%, the CPI excluding vegetables and fruit increased 0.4%; in contrast the CPI excluding housing decreased 0.1%.
- In September 2019 the seasonally adjusted CPI decreased 0.1%, the seasonally adjusted CPI excluding vegetables, fruit and housing decreased 0.2%; in contrast the seasonally adjusted CPI excluding housing remained unchanged.
- Based on the trend data for the period June 2019 – September 2019, the annual pace of decrease in the CPI was 0.6%, the annual pace of decrease in the CPI excluding housing and the annual pace of decrease in the CPI excluding vegetables, fruit and housing were 0.9%, each.

Please note: This Press Release is for Publication

After 18:30 PM on Tuesday, October 15, 2019

Diagram 1 – Monthly Percentage Change in CPI during the Past 12 Months

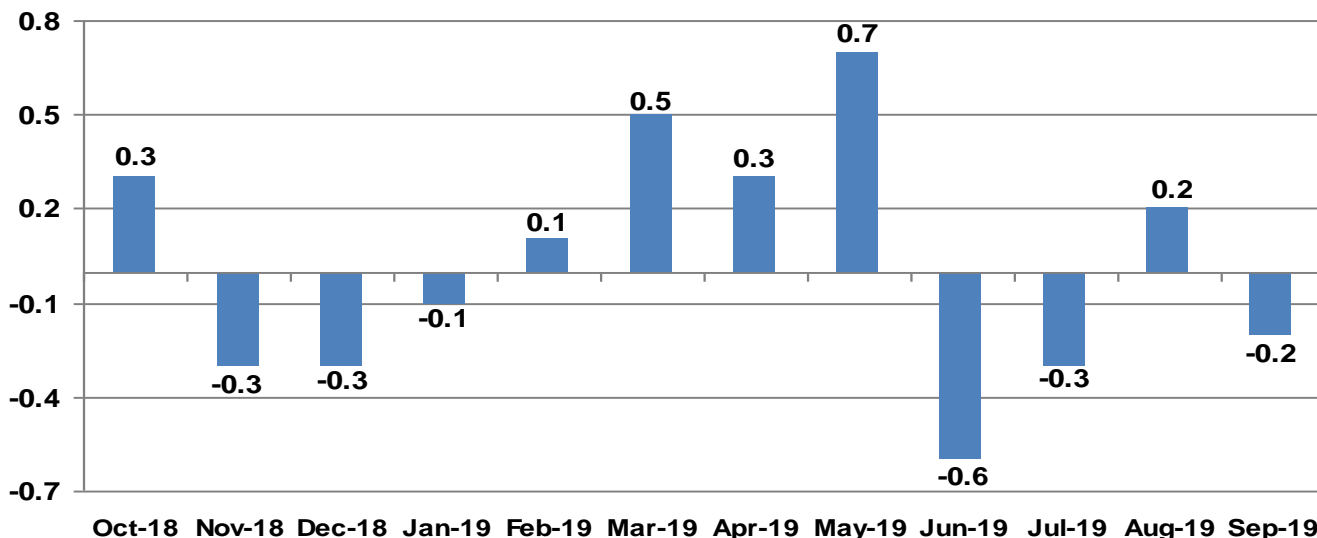
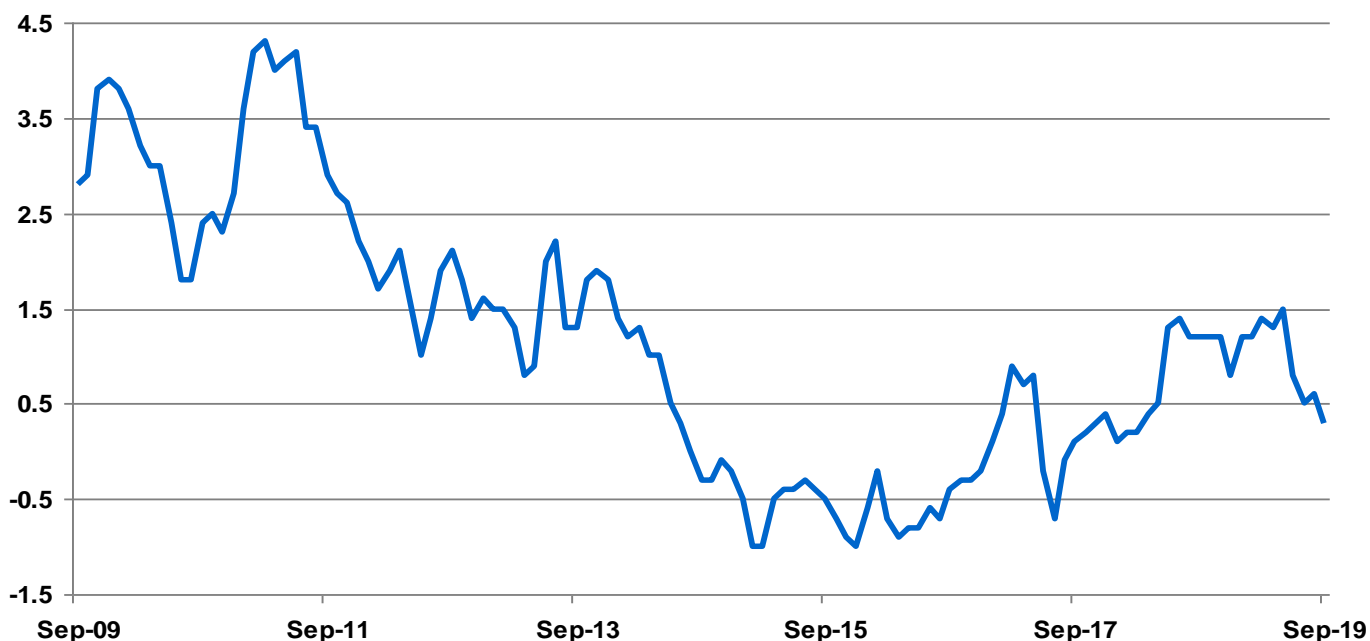


Diagram 2 – CPI 12-Month Inflation Rate for the Past 10 Years



Product and Service Groups that Particularly Influenced the Index This Month:

<i>Product / Service Group</i>	<i>Percentage Change</i>	<i>Contribution to Index's Percentage Change</i>
Recreation and holidays domestic and abroad	-4.0	-0.2353
vehicle fuel and lubricants	-2.9	-0.0964
bread, cereals and pastry products	-1.3	-0.0288
beverages	-1.5	-0.0230
processed vegetables and fruit	-3.1	-0.0214
bedding and home decorations	5.3	0.0265
owned dwellings services	0.2	0.0341
education services	1.8	0.1040
fresh fruit and vegetables	4.3	0.1070

Major Changes in Primary Consumption Items

Food (excluding vegetables and fruit)

The food price index decreased 0.6%.

The following decreased in particular: jam, honey and confiture (5.5%), ice cream (3.3%), fish (3.2%), tea (3.1%), pastry products (3.0%), coffee (2.7%), cereals and cereal products (2.5%), canned fish (2.5%), soft drinks (2.5%), brined cheese (2.4%), cocoa (2.2%), spices, sauces, baking products and baby food (1.7%), biscuits, cakes, cookies, etc. (1.5%), beef, frozen (1.5%) and alcoholic beverages (1.0%).

The following increased in particular: chicken and turkey liver (4.4%), poultry, other parts (2.6%), chicken and turkey breast (2.3%), prepared vegetable salads (2.0%), chicken leg quarters (1.6%), pork (1.5%), chicken and parts thereof (1.0%), fresh and frozen meat substitutes and products thereof (1.0%) and cheese and milk desserts (1.0%).

Vegetables and Fruit

The vegetables and fruit index increased 2.7%.

The fresh fruit index increased 4.6% and the fresh vegetables index increased 4.1%. In contrast, the frozen, pickled and canned vegetables index decreased 4.7% and the dried, preserved and frozen fruit index decreased 1.6%.

Among the fresh fruit, the following increased in particular: watermelon (54.7%), clementine (rose 19.6% compared to April 2019), sugar melons (17.4%), table grapes (16.8%), kiwi (rose 6.2% compared to June 2019), mangos (3.3%) and plums (2.7%).

The following decreased in particular: avocados (fell 26.6% compared to June 2019), pomegranates (fell 9.6% compared to February 2019), bananas (6.4%), peaches (2.7%) and apples (2.4%).

Among the fresh vegetables, the following increased in particular: fennel (rose 38.6% compared to May 2019), squash (23.5%), cabbage (12.8%), tomatoes (8.7%), cucumbers (6.0%), kohlrabi (5.5%), onion (4.8%), garlic (4.3%), corn on the cob (3.5%), cauliflower (2.6%), mushrooms (2.5%), leaf vegetables (2.2%), sprouts (1.6%), lettuce (1.6%), beans (1.3%) and broccoli (1.2%).

The following decreased in particular: pumpkin and butternut squash (5.1%), eggplant (4.2%) and peppers (2.1%).

Among the processed vegetables and fruit, the following decreased in particular: frozen vegetables (8.6%), olives (5.0%), dried fruit (3.0%), canned vegetables (2.7%), peanuts (2.0%), walnuts and pistachio nuts (1.8%), preserved and frozen fruit (1.5%), other pickled vegetables (1.1%) and almonds (1.1%).

Housing

The housing price index increased 0.2%.

The owned dwellings services index and the rent index increased 0.2%, each.

Owned Dwellings Services

The owned dwellings services index showed an increase in September 2019 compared to August 2019. This increase reflects the changes in rental prices set in contracts signed in August 2019 – September 2019, compared to contracts signed in July 2019 – August 2019.

Dwelling Maintenance

The dwelling maintenance index decreased 0.1%.

The following decreased in particular: laundry detergent, cleaning materials, and pesticides (2.1%).

Furniture and Household Equipment

The furniture and household equipment index increased 0.6%.

The following increased in particular: bedding and towels (15.6%), bathroom accessories (3.4%), home decorations (2.6%), deep freezer (1.5%) and eating utensils (1.2%).

The following decreased in particular: bookcases/bookshelves (1.8%), fan (1.3%) and washing machine and dryer (1.1%).

Clothing and Footwear

The clothing and footwear index increased 0.1%; the seasonally adjusted index increased 0.1%.

The clothing index increased 0.1% and the footwear index decreased 0.1%.

Among clothing item, the following decreased in particular: miscellaneous clothing such as hats, ties, and swimsuits (2.5%) and underwear (1.1%).

Health

The health index decreased 0.1%.

The following decreased in particular: oral hygiene products (3.0%), body hygiene products (1.4%), glasses and associated optical products (1.4%) and dietary supplements (1.0%).

The following increased in particular: complementary medicine (2.3%) and medical and health items (1.3%).

Education, Culture and Entertainment

The education, culture and entertainment index decreased 0.4%.

The education services index increased 1.8%; in contrast the culture and entertainment index decreased 2.8%.

Education item: Note that in September 2019, a direct measurement of education services prices was conducted for the school year 2019/2020, which replaces the estimates calculated in 2018/2019.

On annual rate (September 2019 compared to September 2018), the pre-primary education payment index (compulsory kindergarten, pre-compulsory kindergarten, private kindergarten, and day care centers), increased 4.1%, the index of primary school fees and payments decreased 0.7% and the index of secondary school fees and special payments increased 1.3%.

The following decreased in particular: recreation, holidays and trips (15.8%), tickets or subscription to sporting event (3.4%), museum entrance tickets (2.8%), toys for kids and teenagers (1.7%) and audio-visual systems (1.2%).

The following increased in particular: fiction books (2.4%), enrichment and recreation courses (1.4%), writing and office supplies (1.0%) and admissions to parks or amusement parks (1.0%).

Transport and Communication

The transport and communication index decreased 1.0%.

The transport index decreased 1.1% and the communication index decreased 0.1%.

The following decreased in particular: driving lessons, car rentals etc. (3.9%), travel abroad (3.5%) and vehicle fuel and lubricants (2.9%).

The following increased in particular: motor scooters and motorcycles (1.4%).

Miscellaneous

The miscellaneous index decreased 0.3%.

The following decreased in particular: bathing products and cosmetics (1.1%).

The following increased in particular: wallets (2.1%) and jewellery (1.9%).