

Media Release

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Decrease of 0.3% in the Consumer Price Index, May 2020

- The CPI decreased 0.3% in May 2020 compared to April 2020. It was 100.1 points compared to 100.4 points in the previous month (base: average 2018 = 100.0 points). The CPI excluding vegetables and fruit, the CPI excluding housing and the CPI excluding energy have also decreased 0.3% and were 99.8, 99.1 and 100.1 points, respectively.
- Prices of the following items decreased in particular: fresh vegetables 1.5%, food 0.9% and furniture and household equipment and transport 0.5%, each.
- Prices of the following items increased in particular: fresh fruit 5.2%.
- Since the start of the year, the CPI decreased 0.7%, the CPI excluding housing decreased 0.9%, the CPI excluding fruit and vegetables decreased 1.0%; in contrast the CPI excluding energy increased 0.2%.
- Over the past 12 months (May 2020 compared to May 2019) the CPI decreased 1.6%, the CPI excluding housing decreased 2.6%, the CPI excluding vegetables and fruit decreased 1.5% and the CPI excluding energy decreased 0.6%.
- In May 2020 the seasonally adjusted CPI decreased 0.4%, the seasonally adjusted CPI excluding housing and the seasonally adjusted CPI excluding vegetables, fruit and housing decreased 0.6%, each.

Please note: This Press Release is for Publication

After 18:30 PM on Monday, June 15, 2020

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

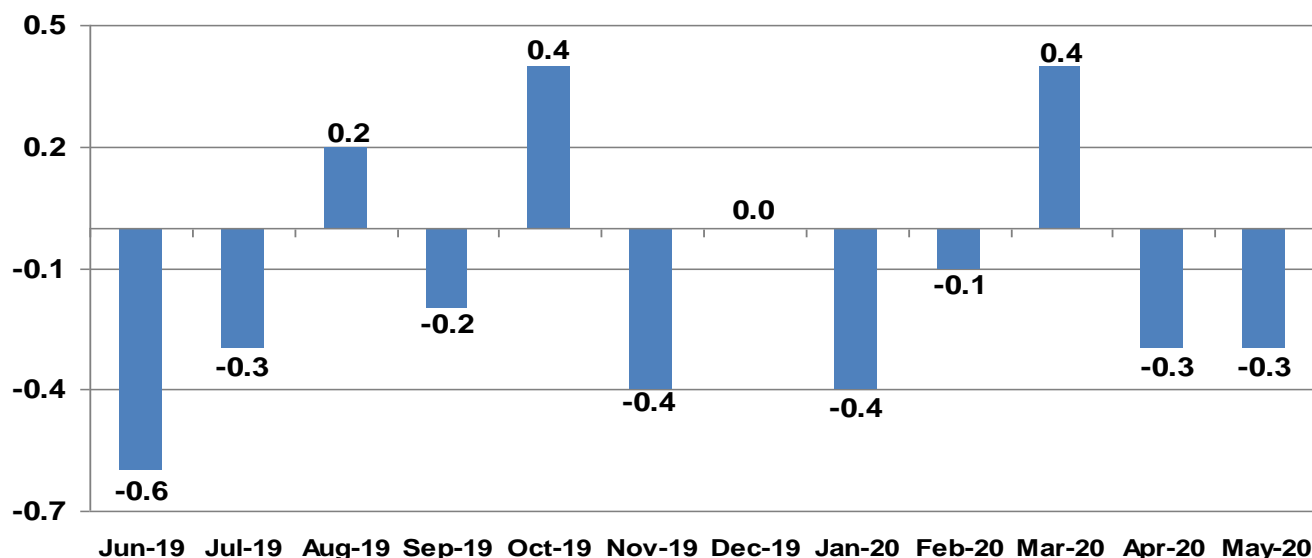


Diagram 2 – CPI 12-Month Inflation Rate for the Past 10 Years



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>
meat, poultry, fish and their products	-2.8	-0.1008
owned dwellings services	-0.5	-0.0857
vehicle fuel and lubricants	-2.3	-0.0623
milk and dairy products	-1.9	-0.0353
bread, cereals and pastry products	-1.3	-0.0290
fresh vegetables	-1.5	-0.0239
glasses and associated optical products	-4.6	-0.0154
holiday villages, hostels and rural tourism	10.0	0.0116
fresh fruit	5.2	0.0610

Major Changes in Primary Consumption Items

Food (excluding vegetables and fruit)

The food price index decreased 0.9%.

The following decreased in particular: chicken and parts thereof (6.5%), pastry products (4.0%), baking and cake decorating products (4.0%), cheese (3.6%), fish (3.4%), beer (2.7%), biscuits, cakes, cookies, etc. (2.0%), other special bread (1.8%), milk (1.6%) and flour (other) (1.1%).

The following increased in particular: raw rice (4.8%), soup mixes and prepared dishes (3.7%), tahini (3.2%), processed fish (2.9%), sweets and chocolate (2.1%), jam, honey and confiture (2.0%), soft drinks (1.6%), ground coffee (1.6%), prepared vegetable salads (1.5%), beef, frozen (1.1%), cocoa (1.1%), baby food (1.0%) and tea (1.0%).

Vegetables and Fruit

The vegetables and fruit index increased 0.9%.

The fresh fruit index increased 5.2%; in contrast the fresh vegetables index decreased 1.5%. The frozen, pickled and canned vegetables index decreased 1.4% and the dried, preserved and frozen fruit index decreased 0.1%.

Among the fresh fruit, the following increased in particular: apricots (rose 37.8% compared to June 2019), avocados (24.1%), watermelon (rose 23.0% compared to September 2019), table grapes (rose 16.1% compared to November 2019), peaches (rose 8.5% compared to October 2019), kiwi (6.4%), oranges (6.3%) and lemons (1.5%).

The following decreased in particular: bananas (11.4%).

Among the fresh vegetables, the following decreased in particular: corn on the cob (17.6%), onions (16.4%), squash (11.0%), cucumbers (8.1%), beans (5.4%), carrots (5.3%), beets (4.8%), sprouts (3.7%), garlic (2.9%), potatoes and sweet potatoes (2.2%), artichoke (1.5%), kohlrabi (1.5%) and broccoli (1.0%).

The following increased in particular: peppers (10.4%), eggplant (8.7%), fennel (3.6%), tomatoes (3.4%), leaf vegetables (2.8%), culinary herbs (2.2%), cabbage (2.1%), mushrooms (1.3%) and cauliflower (1.2%).

Among the processed vegetables and fruit, the following decreased in particular: frozen vegetables (4.7%), canned tomatoes and tomato puree (1.1%) and peanuts (1.0%).

The following increased in particular: other pickled vegetables (4.4%), canned legumes and vegetables (1.3%) and almonds (1.2%).

Housing

The housing price index decreased 0.3%.

The owned dwellings services index decreased 0.5%; in contrast the rent index remained unchanged.

Owned Dwellings Services

The owned dwellings services index showed a decrease in May 2020 compared to April 2020. This decrease reflects the changes in rental prices set in contracts signed in April 2020 – May 2020, compared to contracts signed in March 2020 – April 2020.

Dwelling Maintenance

The dwelling maintenance index increased 0.1%.

The following increased in particular: garden and dwelling services (2.3%), other cleaning materials (1.7%), painting, whitewashing, etc. (1.4%), housecleaning products (1.3%) and tools and materials (1.0%).

The following decreased in particular: kerosene and diesel oil for heating (8.2%), disinfectants and pesticides (1.5%) and other laundry products (1.0%).

Furniture and Household Equipment

The furniture and household equipment index decreased 0.5%.

The following decreased in particular: cutlery (3.4%), cooking and baking utensils (3.0%), mugs, cups, and glasses (2.1%), serving dishes and storage containers (2.0%), home decorations (2.0%), dining room tables and chairs (1.8%), plates (1.6%), bathroom accessories (1.4%), beds and mattresses (1.3%), other equipment for babies (1.1%), insurance and repair of electrical equipment (1.1%) and stove for cooking and baking (1.0%).

The following increased in particular: bedding and towels (2.9%), buffets (1.7%) and outdoor furniture (1.4%).

Clothing and Footwear

The clothing and footwear index increased 0.3%; the seasonally adjusted index decreased 1.8%.

The clothing index increased 0.3% and the footwear index increased 0.4%.

Note that in May, the price indexes of summer clothing and footwear are obtained by comparing May 2020 prices to May 2019 prices. In addition, price indexes of year-round clothing are obtained by comparing May 2020 prices to December 2019 prices. Nonetheless, the percentages of change of all groups and items are in comparison to April 2020.

Among clothing item, the following indices increased in particular: children's outerwear (1.3%) and children's underwear and sleepwear (1.3%).

The following indices decreased in particular: men's socks (3.1%), sports and exercise clothes (2.1%), fabrics and sewing accessories (1.5%) and men's underwear (1.0%).

Among footwear item, the following indices increased in particular: men's footwear (1.5%) and women's footwear (1.1%).

The following indices decreased in particular: children's footwear (3.0%).

Health

The health index decreased 0.2%.

The following decreased in particular: glasses and associated optical products (4.6%), private surgery services (4.2%) and dietary supplements (1.5%).

The following increased in particular: body hygiene products (1.6%).

Education, Culture and Entertainment

The education, culture and entertainment index remained unchanged.

The education services index decreased 0.1%; in contrast the culture and entertainment index increased 0.3%.

The following decreased in particular: camping equipment and accessories (2.5%), musical instruments (2.3%), notebooks and paper products (1.9%), audio-visual systems (1.1%) and sports equipment and accessories (1.1%).

The following increased in particular: holiday villages, hostels and rural tourism (10.0%), reading and nonfiction books (3.4%), toys for kids and teenagers (1.4%) and computers and peripheral equipment (1.3%).

Transport and Communication

The transport and communication index decreased 0.4%.

The transport index decreased 0.5%; in contrast the communication index remained unchanged.

The following decreased in particular: car rental for domestic travel (2.4%), vehicle fuel and lubricants (2.3%) and vehicle accessories and washing vehicle (1.4%).

The following increased in particular: transport by taxi (3.1%) and hauling services (1.4%).

Miscellaneous

The miscellaneous index remained unchanged.

The following decreased in particular: diapering products and accessories for babies (1.2%), bathing products and cosmetics (1.1%) and wristwatches and watch repair (1.0%).

The following increased in particular: wallets (3.6%), inheritances, wills, and legal consultation (1.9%), cosmetology (1.8%) and jewellery (1.2%).

The price indices will be published at the following times during the next 12 months:

Index for Month	To be published on date	Time
June 2020	Wednesday, July 15, 2020	18:30
July 2020	Friday, August 14, 2020	14:00
August 2020	Tuesday, September 15, 2020	18:30
September 2020	Thursday, October 15, 2020	18:30
October 2020	Sunday, November 15, 2020	18:30
November 2020	Tuesday, December 15, 2020	18:30
December 2020 and Annual Summary of 2020	Friday, January 15, 2021	14:00
January 2021	Monday, February 15, 2021	18:30
February 2021	Monday, March 15, 2021	18:30
March 2021	Wednesday, April 14, 2021	14:00
April 2021	Friday, May 14, 2021	14:00
May 2021	Tuesday, June 15, 2021	18:30