

Purchasing Power Parities and Prices

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Price Indicators

Purpose

To provide a set of relevant, reliable, timely, monthly and quarterly price indices for internal and external users. To provide methodological information on these price indices.

Objectives and outputs

The 'Price Indices' dataset in the Main Economic Indicators (MEI) publication and database contains statistics on Consumer prices, Producer prices and Construction costs for 34 OECD member, Russian Federation, and 5 B(R)ICS countries. The data series presented within these subjects have been chosen as the most relevant prices statistics in the MEI database for which comparable data across countries is available. In all cases much effort has gone into ensuring international comparability and into the availability of historical time-series for analysis.

Databases

MEI

MEI_PRICE

Main Developments for 2011

General aspects:

- organise a joint Eurostat-OECD Task Force for the revision of the Methodological guide for developing producer price indices for services with a view to finalising work in 2012.
- calculate G20 aggregates for CPI
- improve the dissemination of price indices

Data management:

Harmonisation of metadata across countries and introduction of new inflation measures.

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Purchasing Power Parities

Purpose

Produce reliable and timely Purchasing Power Parities (PPPs) data for OECD member countries. PPPs are an important tool to compare levels of real income or real output across countries with indicators such as GDP per capita and relative price levels between countries.

Objectives and outputs

- Calculation of final benchmark results for the round 2008
- Organisation of the data collection for the 2011 round which started in 2009 and covers 47 countries (30 OECD countries and 17 non-member countries).
- Work closely with Eurostat to further harmonise the methodology employed. Participate in the ad-hoc task forces set up by Eurostat to discuss various issues associated with PPPs.
- Provide technical input into the 2011 round of the ICP currently being organised by the World Bank.
- Work closely with ELS on developing a new methodology for health specific PPPs (publication of a WP on hospital price levels)

Databases

ANA

Purchasing Power Parities

Main Developments for 2011

General aspects:

Finalise the methodology to calculate specific PPPs for health (to be implemented in 2012).

Provide technical input into the 2011 round of the ICP currently being organised by the World Bank.

Participation in a TF to update the Eurostat-OECD PPP manual