

### OECD annual inflation stable at 1.2% in August 2020

Annual inflation in the **OECD area** overall was stable at 1.2% in August 2020. Energy prices continued to fall in August (minus 7.1%), but at a slower pace than in July (minus 8.4%), while food price inflation picked up slightly to 3.9%, compared with 3.8% in July. OECD annual inflation excluding food and energy decreased slightly, to 1.6% in August 2020, compared with 1.7% in July.

By contrast, inflation in the **Euro area** (as measured by the HICP<sup>1</sup>) fell sharply to (minus) 0.2%, from 0.4% in July, the first negative rate since May 2016. Excluding food and energy, annual inflation also dropped sharply to 0.4%, compared with 1.2% in July (see below for additional explanations).

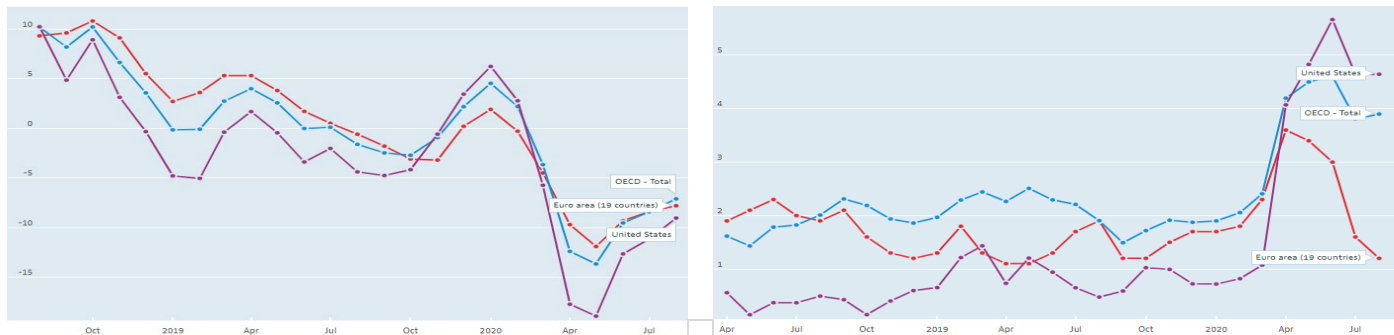
**Graph 1 - Consumer prices, selected areas**  
August 2020, percentage change on the same period of the previous year, %



Visit the interactive [OECD Data Portal](#) to explore these data further

<sup>1</sup> HICP (Harmonised Indices of Consumer Prices) published by Eurostat.

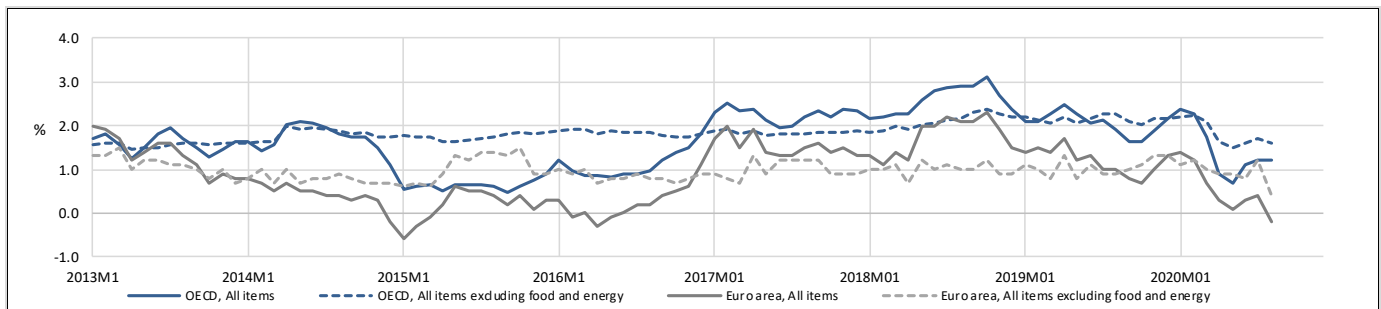
**Graph 2 – Energy (CPI) and Food (CPI), selected areas**  
August 2018 – August 2020, percentage change on the same period of the previous year, %



Visit the interactive [OECD Data Portal](#) to explore these data further Visit the interactive [OECD Data Portal](#) to explore these data

In August, annual inflation was stable in **Canada** (at 0.1%). It slowed marginally in **Japan** (to 0.2%, from 0.3%), and strongly in the **United Kingdom** (to 0.5%, from 1.1%) and **France** (to 0.2%, from 0.8%). In **Italy**, prices continued to fall for the fourth consecutive month to (minus) 0.5% from (minus) 0.4% in July 2020. Annual inflation increased in the **United States** (to 1.3%, from 1.0%) and picked up marginally in **Germany** (to 0.0% from minus 0.1% in July 2020).

**Graph 3 - Total (CPI) and euro area (HICP)**  
Percentage change on the same month of the previous year



In the **Euro area**, the sharp decrease in inflation in August was partly driven by the postponement of sales from July to August in several countries. These later than usual sales dates contributed to an increase in inflation excluding food and energy in July (to 1.2%) and a decrease in August (to 0.4%). Nevertheless, Eurostat's [flash estimate](#) for September points to overall inflation in the Euro area continuing to fall to minus 0.3% and inflation excluding food and energy decreasing further to 0.2%. The underlying components for the latter are not available at this stage.

Annual inflation in the **G20<sup>2</sup> area** as a whole increased slightly to 2.5% compared with 2.4% in July. Among non-OECD G20 economies, annual inflation increased in **India** (to 5.6%, from 5.3%), the **Russian Federation** (to 3.6%, from 3.4%), **Brazil** (to 2.4%, from 2.3%) and **Saudi Arabia** (to 6.2%, from 6.1). It decreased in **Argentina** (to 40.7%, from 42.4%), **China** (to 2.4%, from 2.7%), **South Africa** (to 3.0%, from 3.2%), and **Indonesia** (to 1.1%, from 1.2%).

<sup>2</sup> On 11 July 2017, the Argentinian Authorities started to publish a new national CPI (December 2016 = 100) covering the whole country. This officially reported CPI-series starts in December 2016, and has now been included in the G20 aggregate, from January 2018 onwards. The inclusion of the Argentinian CPI in the G-20 aggregate entailed a clear break in the series.

**Table 1 - Consumer prices, All items, selected countries**

Percentage change on the same period of the previous year

	2018	2019	2019					2020							
	Average		Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
<b>OECD-Total</b>	2.6	2.1	2.0	1.7	1.6	1.9	2.2	2.4	2.3	1.7	0.8	0.7	1.1	1.2	1.2
<b>G7</b>	2.1	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.6	1.8	2.0	1.9	1.2	0.4	0.2	0.5	0.7	0.8
<b>Euro area (HICP)</b>	1.8	1.2	1.0	0.8	0.7	1.0	1.3	1.4	1.2	0.7	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.4	-0.2
<b>European Union (HICP)*</b>	1.8	1.4	1.3	1.1	1.0	1.3	1.6	1.7	1.6	1.1	0.6	0.5	0.7	0.8	0.4
<i>Major seven countries</i>															
<b>Canada</b>	2.3	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.9	2.2	2.2	2.4	2.2	0.9	-0.2	-0.4	0.7	0.1	0.1
<b>France</b>	1.9	1.1	1.0	0.9	0.8	1.0	1.5	1.5	1.4	0.7	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.8	0.2
<b>Germany</b>	1.7	1.4	1.4	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.5	1.7	1.7	1.4	0.9	0.6	0.9	-0.1	0.0
<b>Italy</b>	1.1	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.1	0.0	-0.2	-0.2	-0.4	-0.5
<b>Japan</b>	1.0	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.8	0.7	0.4	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.2
<b>United Kingdom</b>	2.3	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.8	1.7	1.5	0.9	0.7	0.8	1.1	0.5
<b>United States</b>	2.4	1.8	1.7	1.7	1.8	2.1	2.3	2.5	2.3	1.5	0.3	0.1	0.6	1.0	1.3
<i>G20 and other non OECD G20 economies</i>															
<b>G20</b>	3.2	3.5	3.3	3.1	3.2	3.7	4.0	4.0	3.8	3.2	2.4	2.1	2.3	2.4	2.5
<b>Argentina</b>	..	53.5	54.5	53.5	50.5	52.1	53.8	52.9	50.3	48.4	45.6	43.4	42.8	42.4	40.7
<b>Brazil</b>	3.7	3.7	3.4	2.9	2.5	3.3	4.3	4.2	4.0	3.3	2.4	1.9	2.1	2.3	2.4
<b>China</b>	2.1	2.9	2.8	3.0	3.8	4.5	4.5	5.4	5.2	4.3	3.3	2.4	2.5	2.7	2.4
<b>India</b>	4.9	7.7	6.3	7.0	7.6	8.6	9.6	7.5	6.8	5.5	5.4	5.1	5.1	5.3	5.6
<b>Indonesia</b>	3.2	3.0	3.5	3.4	3.1	3.0	2.7	2.7	3.1	3.0	2.7	2.0	1.7	1.2	1.1
<b>Russian Federation</b>	2.9	4.5	4.3	4.0	3.8	3.5	3.0	2.4	2.3	2.5	3.1	3.0	3.2	3.4	3.6
<b>Saudi Arabia</b>	2.5	-2.1	-1.9	-1.4	-0.9	-0.8	-0.2	0.7	1.2	1.5	1.3	1.1	0.5	6.1	6.2
<b>South Africa</b>	4.5	4.1	4.3	4.1	3.7	3.6	4.0	4.4	4.5	4.1	2.9	2.1	2.1	3.2	3.0

**Table 2 - Consumer prices, All items excluding food and energy, selected countries**

Percentage change on the same period of the previous year

	2018	2019	2019					2020							
	Average		Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
<b>OECD-Total</b>	2.1	2.2	2.3	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.2	2.1	1.6	1.5	1.6	1.7	1.6
<b>G7</b>	1.7	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.8	1.9	1.7	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.3	1.2
<b>Euro area (HICP)</b>	1.0	1.0	0.9	1.0	1.1	1.3	1.3	1.1	1.2	1.0	0.9	0.9	0.8	1.2	0.4
<b>European Union (HICP)*</b>	1.0	1.2	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.5	1.5	1.3	1.5	1.3	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.5	0.9
<i>Major seven countries</i>															
<b>Canada</b>	2.0	2.3	2.5	2.4	2.2	2.1	1.9	1.8	1.9	1.9	1.6	1.0	1.2	0.7	0.6
<b>France</b>	1.0	0.7	0.6	0.8	0.8	1.0	1.2	1.1	1.4	1.0	0.7	1.1	0.8	1.7	1.0
<b>Germany</b>	1.3	1.5	1.4	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.2	1.3	1.4	0.6	0.7
<b>Italy</b>	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.7	0.6	0.3	0.3
<b>Japan</b>	0.2	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.5	0.5	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.4	-0.2
<b>United Kingdom</b>	1.9	1.7	1.5	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.4	1.6	1.7	1.6	1.5	1.3	1.5	1.8	1.0
<b>United States</b>	2.1	2.2	2.4	2.4	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.4	2.1	1.4	1.2	1.2	1.6	1.7

\*The present publication presents time series, which extend beyond the date of the United Kingdom's withdrawal from the European Union on 1 February 2020. In order to maintain consistency over time, the "European Union" aggregate presented here excludes the UK for the entire time series. Interested readers may refer to the [Eurostat website](#) for further information on Eurostat's plans for disseminating EU aggregates and to the [Eurostat database](#) for the actual series.

**Table 3 - Consumer prices, OECD countries, selected items**  
 August 2020

	All items		Food	Energy	All items excluding food & energy	Food	Energy	All items excluding food & energy
	CPI	HICP	CPI			Contributions to annual CPI inflation		
	percentage change on the same period of the previous year					percentage points		
OECD-Total	1.2		3.9	-7.1	1.6			
G7	0.8		3.2	-8.0	1.2			
European Union (HICP)*		0.4	1.8	-7.0	0.9			
Euro area (HICP)		-0.2	1.2	-7.8	0.4			
Australia <sup>1</sup>	-0.3		8.8	-11.9	-0.6	..	..	..
Austria	1.4	1.4	2.4	-6.6	2.0	0.3	-0.5	1.6
Belgium	0.8	-0.9	3.7	-8.7	1.3	0.7	-0.8	1.0
Canada	0.1		1.6	-6.3	0.6	0.2	-0.5	0.5
Chile	2.4		6.3	-2.6	2.0	..	..	..
Colombia	1.9		4.7	-3.1	1.8	..	..	..
Czech Republic	3.3	3.5	4.1	-1.8	3.9	0.7	-0.2	2.7
Denmark	0.5	0.4	0.7	-3.9	0.9	0.1	-0.3	0.7
Estonia	-0.9	-1.3	2.3	-7.5	-0.6	0.5	-1.0	-0.4
Finland	0.2	0.3	0.9	-4.1	0.5	0.1	-0.3	0.4
France	0.2	0.2	0.8	-7.0	1.0	0.1	-0.6	0.8
Germany	0.0	-0.1	0.6	-6.3	0.7	0.1	-0.6	0.6
Greece	-1.9	-2.3	1.9	-12.4	-1.0	0.4	-1.6	-0.7
Hungary	3.9	4	7.9	-2.3	3.6	1.7	-0.3	2.4
Iceland	3.2	0.9	6.1	-2.4	3.1	0.8	-0.2	2.5
Ireland	-1.0	-1.1	-1.8	-6.3	-0.4	-0.2	-0.5	-0.3
Israel	-0.8		0.2	-8.6	-0.4	0.0	-0.5	-0.3
Italy	-0.5	-0.5	1.1	-9.8	0.3	0.2	-0.8	0.2
Japan	0.2		3.1	-3.5	-0.2	0.6	-0.3	-0.1
Korea	0.7		6.6	-8.0	0.4	0.9	-0.5	0.3
Latvia	-0.2	-0.5	2.0	-9.1	1.1	0.4	-1.4	0.7
Lithuania	1.3	1.2	1.4	-11.2	3.6	0.3	-1.4	2.4
Luxembourg	0.6	-0.2	2.3	-8.4	1.1	0.3	-0.6	0.9
Mexico	4.0		7.5	0.3	3.2	1.9	0.0	2.1
Netherlands	0.7	0.3	0.9	-9.5	1.6	0.1	-0.7	1.0
New Zealand <sup>1</sup>	1.5		3.8	-7.2	2.3	0.5	-0.7	1.7
Norway	1.7	1.6	3.7	-23.1	3.8	0.5	-1.4	3.1
Poland	2.9	3.7	3.0	-1.5	4.0	0.8	..	..
Portugal	0.0	-0.2	2.3	-4.9	-0.1	0.5	-0.4	-0.1
Slovak Republic	1.4	1.4	1.0	-0.3	1.9	0.2	0.0	1.3
Slovenia	-0.1	-0.7	3.6	-9.3	0.5	0.6	-1.1	0.4
Spain	-0.5	-0.6	2.2	-9.3	0.2	0.4	-1.1	0.2
Sweden	0.8	1.0	2.0	-7.5	1.4	0.3	-0.5	1.1
Switzerland	-0.9	-1.4	0.2	-9.9	-0.3	0.0	-0.5	-0.2
Turkey	11.8	11.8	13.5	8.8	11.6	3.1	0.9	7.8
United Kingdom	0.5	0.2	0.4	-8.9	1.0	0.0	-0.5	0.9
United States	1.3		4.6	-9.0	1.7	0.3	-0.7	1.5

<sup>1</sup> Percentage change Q2 2019 to Q2 2020

..: not available

As a consequence of measures put in place by governments to reduce the spread of the Coronavirus (Covid-19), many statistical agencies are facing unprecedented collection, compilation and methodological challenges to develop indicators across a number of domains. To address these challenges, the statistical community is developing guidance, both conceptual and practical, to help ensure the continued delivery of timely and reliable statistics. However, in some cases, there will inevitably be an impact on quality and, as such, the statistics included in this press release may be subject to larger than normal uncertainty.

**>> Methodological information:**

 OECD Consumer price index – [Methodological Notes for OECD CPI News Release](#)

 OECD Contributions to annual inflation – [OECD calculation of contributions to overall annual inflation](#)
**>> Access Data:**

 OECD Database: [OECD CPI News release underlying data](#); [CPI series and Contributions](#); [G20 dataset](#)
**>> Graphs:**
[OECD countries - Contributions to annual CPI inflation by COICOP Division, current month](#) and [OECD countries - Contributions to annual CPI inflation, selected components, historical series](#)
**>> Contacts:**

 For further information contact the OECD's Media Relations Division on (33) 1 45 24 97 00 or e-mail [news.contact@oecd.org](mailto:news.contact@oecd.org); for further information on data contact OECD's Statistics and Data Directorate: [stat.contact@oecd.org](mailto:stat.contact@oecd.org)

 Next release: [4 November 2020](#)