



REPUBLIC OF CROATIA



**QUALITY REPORT FOR STATISTICAL SURVEY**  
**Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices**  
**For 2021**

Organisation unit: Price Statistics and European Comparison  
Programme Department

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## 0. Basic information

- Purpose, goal, and subject of the survey

The harmonised index of consumer prices (HICP) is an economic indicator that measures the change in the prices of goods and services acquired, used or paid by households over time. As such, it represents a group of European consumer price indices calculated according to the harmonised approach and a separate set of definitions, which provides a comparable measure of inflation in the euro area, the European Union, the European Economic Area and the candidate countries.

- Reference period

Month

- Legal acts and other agreements

Regulation (EC) No 2016/792 of the European Parliament and Council of 11 May 2016 on the harmonised indices of consumer prices and the house price index, and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 2494/95.

Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/1148 of 31 July 2020 laying down the methodological and technical specifications in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2016/792 of the European Parliament of the Council as regards harmonised indices of consumer prices and the house price index.

- Classification system

The classification of products used in the HICP is based on the European classification of Individual Consumption according to purpose (ECOICOP)

- Statistical concepts and definitions

The main statistical variables are price indices.

- Statistical units

The basic unit of statistical observation are prices for consumer products.

- Statistical population

HICP covers the household final monetary consumption expenditure (HFMCE) on the economic territory of a country by both resident and non-resident households. The household sector to which the definition refers includes all individuals or groups of individuals irrespective of the type of area in which they live, their position in the income distribution and their nationality or residence status.

## **1. Relevance**

### **1.1 Data users**

The main national users are state institutions, financial institutions, economic analysts, students, enterprises and the public.

International users are European Central Bank, International Monetary Fund, United Nations, etc.

Internal users are other statistical departments in the Croatian Bureau of Statistics.

#### 1.1.1 User needs

While the consumer price index is mostly used as a general measure of inflation in the national context, the harmonised index of consumer prices represents a comparable measure of inflation in the European Union.

#### 1.1.2 User satisfaction

User satisfaction is measured by the user satisfaction survey of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics. Two surveys were conducted so far (2013 and 2015). Detailed results of the last Survey are available on the website of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics under the section Quality.

## **1.2. Completeness**

Concepts and definitions are fully harmonised with the Eurostat regulations and guidelines.

#### 1.2.1 Data completeness rate

The data completeness rate is: 100%

## **2. Accuracy and reliability**

### **2.1. Sampling error**

Numerical estimates of HICP sampling errors are not calculated because they are difficult to quantify due to the complexity of price index structures and due to use of non-probability sampling. The Croatian Bureau of Statistics tries to reduce the sampling errors by using a sample of consumer prices that is as large as possible given resource constrains. In order to minimise the variance of the total index, the number of prices that should be observed in each geographical location for each chosen item is selected

#### 2.1.1 Sampling error indicators

Indicator for this survey is not applicable.

## 2.2. Non-sampling error

Non-sampling errors for HICP are not quantified. Non-sampling errors are reduced through continuous methodological improvements and survey process improvements which can help avoid coding and typing errors.

### 2.2.1. Coverage error

The coverage error is not applicable.

### 2.2.2. Over-coverage rate

Indicator for this survey is not applicable.

### 2.2.3. Measurement error

Errors can be made by price collectors when entering data on prices and additional descriptions into tablet computers, but they are minimised as special controls are included in the data entry programme (e.g. code entry controls, minimum and maximum allowed deviations from prices, comment entry, historical price review and additional descriptions up to 12 months back, etc.).

During the data processing, a detailed logical and arithmetical control of all received data on prices is conducted, as well as their methodological compliance (e.g. percentage change for each product comparing to the previous month, indicating changes compared to the previous period regarding quantity, code or product description etc..).

### 2.2.4. Non-response error

Retail prices for selected representative goods and services are recorded at the outlets selected by price collectors based on their knowledge and experience and in cooperation with the Croatian Bureau of Statistics. The number of outlets that should be included in the sample is pre-defined by the Croatian Bureau of Statistics and it does not change as a rule. However, in case of missing price observations, it is important to identify whether the product is missing temporarily or permanently. For non-seasonal items, which are no longer available at the outlet (for two consecutive months), or their importance is reduced, replacement items are selected. In such cases, price collectors select a similar and comparable product (if possible) of the same quality and at the same or similar outlet. If the product is missing temporarily (e.g. seasonal products) prices are then estimated.

### 2.2.5. Unit non-response rate

Unweighted unit non-response rate:

Domain	Domain value	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

%

### 2.2.6. Item non-response rate

Unweighted item non-response rate:

Variable	Domain	Domain value													%
			Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
			2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2

### 2.2.7. Processing error

The classification of goods and services included in the scope of the HICP is done according to the ECOICOP classification. At the beginning of each year, the harmonisation of goods and services included in the survey is checked with the ECOICOP classification, thus reducing inaccurate classification to a minimum.

### 2.2.8. Imputation rate

Unweighted imputation rate:

Variable	Domain	Domain value													%
			Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
			2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2

### 2.2.9. Model assumption error

Assessment calculating model is not used.

## 2.3. Data revision

### 2.3.1. Data revision – policy

The users of statistical data are informed about revisions (provisional, final data) on the website of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics.

### 2.3.2. Data revision – practice

Survey does not disseminate preliminary results and that's the reason why the regular data revision does not exist

### 2.3.3. Data revision – average size

Indicator for this survey is not applicable.

## 2.4. Seasonal adjustment

Not applied.

### **3. Timeliness and Punctuality**

#### **3.1. Timeliness**

HICP is published two weeks after the end of the reference month with an exception for December and January data, which are published no later than three weeks after the end of the reference month.

##### **3.1.1. Time lag – first results**

Indicator for this survey is not applicable.

##### **3.1.2. Time lag – final results**

Indicator for this survey is not applicable.

#### **3.2. Punctuality**

There has been no time difference between announced and publishing date so far.

##### **3.2.1. Punctuality – delivery and publication**

Delivery and publication is: 100

### **4. Accessibility and clarity**

First Releases, Statistics in Line, Annual Statistical Reports. The data are available on the website of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics.

#### **4.1. News release**

The HICP is published together with the CPI in the form of the First release (Consumer Price Indices) which is available on the website of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics.

#### **4.2. On-line database**

On the website of the Croatian Bureau of Statistics under the section Statistics in Line.

#### **4.3. Micro-data access**

The conditions under which certain users can access to microdata are regulated by The Ordinance on the Conditions and Manner of Using Confidential Statistical Data for Scientific purposes.

#### 4.4. Documentation on methodology

Description of the methodology can be found at the end of each First Release entitled Consumer Price Indices.

### 5. Comparability over time

#### 5.1. Asymmetry for mirror flows statistics

Not applied.

#### 5.2. Comparability - over time

The HICP data is fully comparable over time. There have been several improvements in methodology since HICP was introduced with the aim of improving reliability and comparability of the HICP.

##### 5.2.1. Length of comparable time series

Length of comparable time series is:

Domain	Domain value	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Croatia		265	266	267	268	269	270	271	272	273	274	275	276

##### 5.2.2. Reasons for break in time series

There is no break in time series.

#### 5.3. Coherence – subannual and annual statistics

Indicator for this survey is not applicable.

#### 5.4. Coherence – national accounts

Indicator for this survey is not applicable.

#### 5.5. Coherence – administrative sources

Indicator for this survey is not applicable.

### 6. Cost and burden

#### 6.1. Cost

Not available.

## **6.2. Burden**

Not available.