# Informations *Rapides*



15 septembre 2015 - 221 Main indicators

Prices index – August 2015

### Consumer prices rose by 0.3% in August 2015; they were stable year-on-year

#### Monthly change: +0.3%; Year-on-year: 0.0%

In August 2015, the Consumer Price Index (CPI) picked up (+0.3%) after a decrease by 0.4% in July. Seasonally adjusted, it fell back by 0.1% in August compared with July. Year-on-year, it remained stable, after a rise by 0.2% in July.

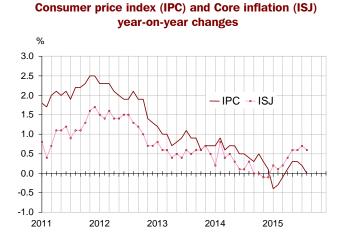
In August, the main contributors to the rise in the CPI came from seasonal increases in the manufactured product prices at the end of the summer sales in Metropolitan France and in some services related to tourism at the time of the summer holidays. Those rises were partially offset by a further decrease in prices of petroleum products and by the downturn, typical for the season, in prices of fresh foodstuffs.

## Prices of manufactured products bounced back after the end of summer sales

Prices of manufactured products picked up after the end of 2015 summer sales. This rebound (+1.6%) was less pronounced than last year (+1.9% in August 2014) after prices had declined to a greater extent in July (-3.1%; -2.9% in July 2014). In particular, prices of clothing and footwear rose less in August this year (+9.8%) than last year (+10.6%) due to the introduction this year of an additional week of sales (at the beginning of August). Conversely, for the other manufactured products, especially furniture and furnishings and high-tech products, the effects of the additional week of sales were not noticeable, their prices having more increased this year in August. Furthermore, prices of new cars diminished due to manufacturer discounts. In addition, prices of medical products continued to fall (-0.2% in August; -3.8% year-on-year).

#### **Detailed figures for various groups**

				998 : 100		
			Percentage			
Items	Weight	Index	change			
		Aug.	m-on-m	y-on-y		
	2015	2015	change	change		
a) All households - France						
All items (00 E)	10000	128.35	0.3	0.0		
All items SA (00 C)	10000	128	-0.1	0.0		
Food (4000 E)	1662	131.82	-0.1	0.8		
Fresh food (4001 E)	211	139.68	-1.5	8.0		
Food excluding fresh						
products (4002 E)	1451	130.7	0.1	-0.1		
Tobacco (4034 E)	199	259.28	0.0	0.3		
MANUFACTURED						
PRODUCTS (4003 E)	2584	98.44	1.6	-1.1		
Clothing and footwear						
(4004 E)	437	103.04	9.8	-2.4		
Medical products (4005 E)	427	75.21	-0.2	-3.8		
Other manufactured						
products (4006 E)	1720	103.29	0.3	-0.2 -5.1		
ENERGY (4007 E)	815	168.2	-1.9	-5.1		
Petroleum products						
(4008 E)	418	175.27	-4.8	-12.5		
SERVICES (4009 E)	4740	139.71	0.2	1.3		
Actual rentals and						
services for dwellings						
(4010 E)	767	143	0.1	0.9		
Medical services (4011 E)	568	122.26	-0.4	0.3		
Transport and						
communication services	540	400.00	0.0	4.5		
(4012 E)	510	100.88 151.71	-0.6 0.5	1.5		
Other services (4013 E) ALL ITEMS EXCLUDING	2895	151.71	0.5	1.6		
RENTALS AND						
TOBACCO (5000 E)	9192	125.75	0.3	0.0		
ALL ITEMS EXCLUDING	9192	120.70	0.5	0.0		
TOBACCO (4018 E)	9801	126.43	0.3	0.0		
b) Manual or clerical worker headed urban households - France						
TOBACCO (4018 D)	9714	126.27	0.3	0.1		
ALL ITEMS (00 D)	10000	120.27	0.3	0.1		
c) Households that belong to the lowest equivalized disposable income quintile - France						
ALL ITEMS EXCLUDING						
TOBACCO (4018 Q)	9687	127.6	0.3	0.0		
Source : INSEE - Consume			0.0	0.0		



Source : INSEE - Consumer Price Indexes

#### **Detailed figures for Core inflation\* and HICP\*\***

Items	Weight	Index	Percentage change	
	2015	Aug. 2015	m-on-m change	y-on-y change
All items "Core inflation" (4022 S)	6042	123.43	0.1	0.6
Food excluding fresh				
products, meat, milk and exotic products (4019 S)	715	124.53	-0.1	-0.1
Manufactured products	2102	104.00	0.1	0.6
(4020 S) Services including actual	2103	104.08	0.1	-0.6
rentals and services for				
dwellings (4021 S)	3224	141.82	0.2	1.5
All items HICP (00 H)		116.09	0.4	0.1

\* ISJ : Core inflation indicator excludes public sector prices, the most volatile consumer prices and the tax measures. Seasonally adjusted, this index is calculated for all households in France excluding overseas departments and territories (base 100 1998).

\*\*HICP : Harmonised Indices of Consumer Prices are inflation figures designed for international comparison of consumer price inflation between Member states of the European Union. This index is calculated for all households in France (base 100 2005). Source : INSEE - Consumer Price Indexes

#### Prices of petroleum products decreased again

Energy prices were down for the third month in a row (-1.9% in August; -5.1% year-on-year). In the wake of falling crude oil prices, petroleum product prices dropped (-4.8%; -12.5% year-on-year). Thus, prices of motor fuels fell sharply in August (-4.6%; -11.1% year-

on-year) and those of heating fuels even more (-7.1%; -21.6% year-on-year). Furthermore, prices of town gas remained broadly unchanged in August (-0.9% year-on-year) while electricity fares rose (+1.8%; +6.3% year-on-year).

#### Slight seasonal decrease in food prices

In August 2015, food prices were down slightly (-0.1%; +0.8% year-on-year) as a result of the seasonal decrease in prices of fresh foodstuffs (-1.5%; +8.0% year-on-year), in particular those of fresh fruits (-4.9%; +8.5% year-on-year). However, prices of fresh vegetables rose in August (+0.7%; +9.5% year-onyear), the high summer heat curbing the supply of these products. After a stability during the four previous months, prices of processed food products grew slightly in August (+0.1%; -0.1% year-on-year). Most of food goods became more expensive, excepting children foods and dietetic products (-0.8%; -7.0% year-on-year), pastries, cakes (-0.2%; -1.0% year-onyear) and cheese (-0.1%; -2.0% year-on-year).

#### Seasonal increase in service prices

As every year, service prices grew in August (+0.2% compared with the previous month; +1.3% year-on-year), mainly those of services related to tourism, as accomodation services (+4.4%; +2.2% year-on-year), package holidays (+7.1%; +2.4% year-on-year) and holiday rentals (+5.9%; +0.9% year-on-year). Conversely, airfares declined in August 2015 (-1.7%; -0.5% year-on-year).

#### **Core inflation remained moderate**

The core inflation indicator (ISJ) rose slightly again : +0.1% in August 2015, as in July. Year-on-year, it grew by 0.6% (after +0.7% year-on-year in July). The Harmonized Index of Consumer Prices (HICP) bounced back : +0.4% in August after -0.5% in July. Year-on-year, it increased by 0.1%, a lower pace than during the previous months (+0.2% year-on-year in July and +0.3% in May and June 2015).

#### For more information:

- The consumer prices indexes by categories of households (1998-2014) are available on the website insee.fr (French)

- Complementary data (long series) and metadata (linked internet pages, etc.) are available on the web page: <a href="http://www.insee.fr/en/themes/indicateur.asp?id=29">http://www.insee.fr/en/themes/indicateur.asp?id=29</a>, see "For further information" and "Links".

- Historical data are available on the BDM database: <u>IPC</u>, <u>IPCH</u>
- Follow us on <u>https://twitter.com/InseeFr\_News</u>
- Methodology contact: <u>ipc-dg@insee.fr</u>
- Press contact: <u>bureau-de-presse@insee.fr</u>