

Consumer price indices in April 2020

15.05.2020


3.4%

an increase compared with the corresponding month of the previous year

Consumer prices in April 2020 compared with the corresponding month of the previous year increased by 3,4% (with an increase of prices of services – by 6,5% and goods – by 2,3%).

As related to the previous month consumer prices decreased by 0,1% (of which goods – by 0,6% with an increase of prices of services by 1,4%).

Table 1. Consumer price indices in April 2020

SPECIFICATION	IV 2020			I-IV 2020	CONTRIBUTION OF CHANGES III 2020= =100
	IV 2019= =100	XII 2019= =100	III 2020= =100	I-IV 2019= =100	
TOTAL	103,4	101,7	99,9	104,2	x
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	107,4	103,9	100,3	107,6	0,08
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	104,9	103,9	100,5	104,0	0,03
Clothing and footwear	96,6	98,0	101,4	98,0	0,06
Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	107,5	105,6	100,7	107,1	0,13
Furnishings, household equipment and routine household maintenance	100,7	100,7	100,2	100,5	0,01
Health	104,4	102,1	100,4	104,0	0,02
Transport	90,1	91,7	95,2	98,0	-0,44
Communication	102,7	101,1	100,3	102,2	0,01
Recreation and culture	102,0	100,6	100,2	102,9	0,01
Education	105,1	101,0	100,0	105,0	0,00
Restaurants and hotels	106,3	102,4	100,4	106,1	0,03
Miscellaneous goods and services	101,5	99,5	99,5	101,9	-0,03

Contribution of price changes to the total consumer price index

In April of the current year, compared with the previous month, the highest contribution to the total consumer price index came from lower prices related to Transport (by 4,8%), which decreased the index by 0,44 pp. Higher prices related to Dwelling (by 0,6%), Food (by 0,3%) and Clothing and footwear (by 1,4%) increased the index by 0,14 pp, 0,08 pp and 0,06 pp, respectively.

Compared with the corresponding month of the previous year, higher prices of Food (by 7,8%) and related to Dwelling (by 5,9%) increased the index by 1,79 pp and 1,41 pp, respectively. Lower prices related to Transport (by 9,9%) and Clothing and footwear (by 3,4%) decreased the index by 1,00 pp and 0,18 pp, respectively.

Chart 1. Contribution of price changes of selected groups of consumer goods and services in April 2020 (change in pp compared with the previous period)

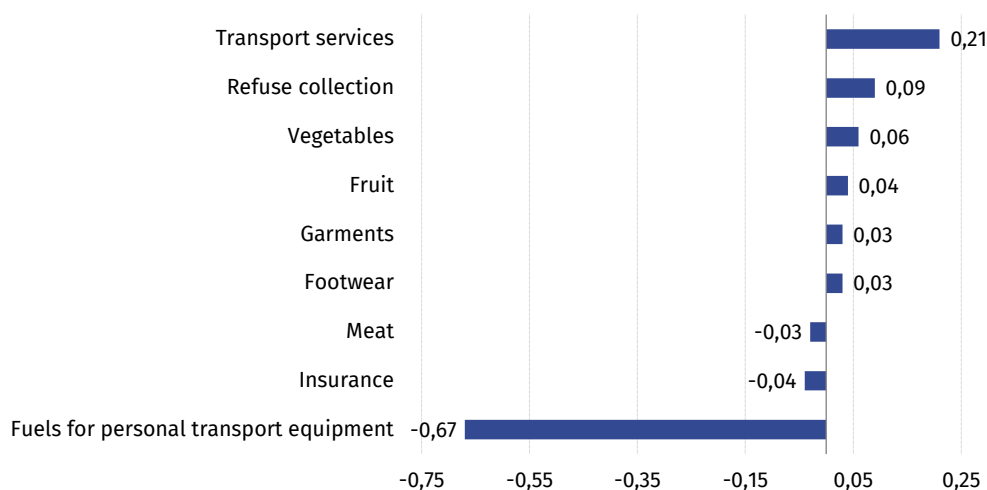


Chart 2. Weighting system used in the compilations of consumer price indices in 2020

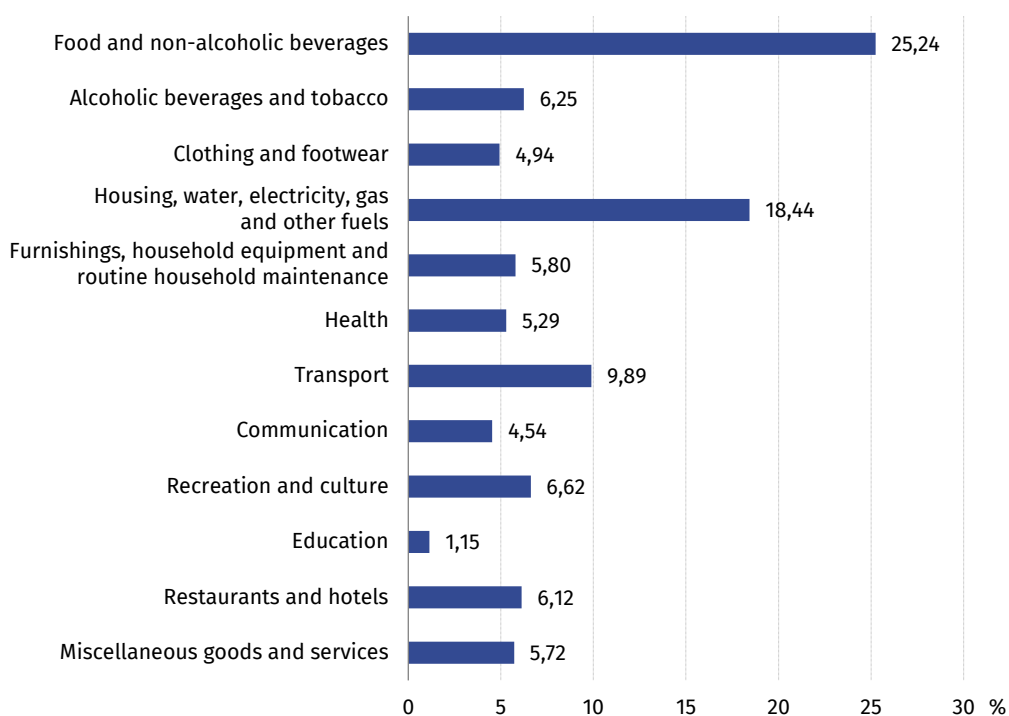


Chart 3. Consumer prices (change in % compared with the previous period)

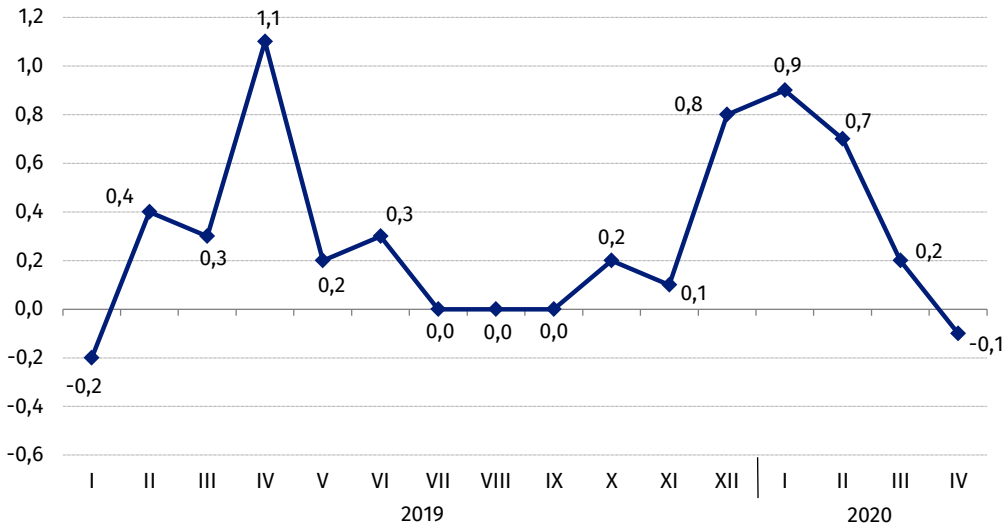
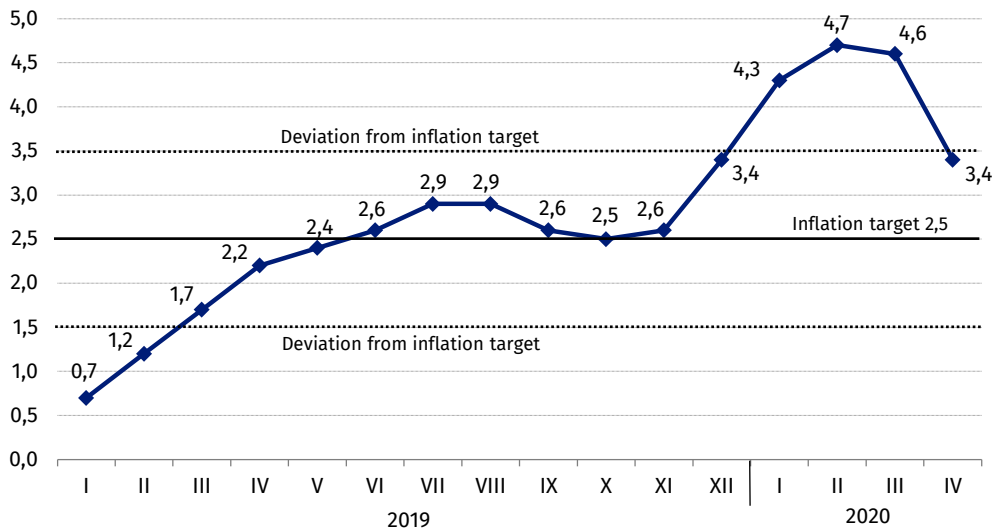
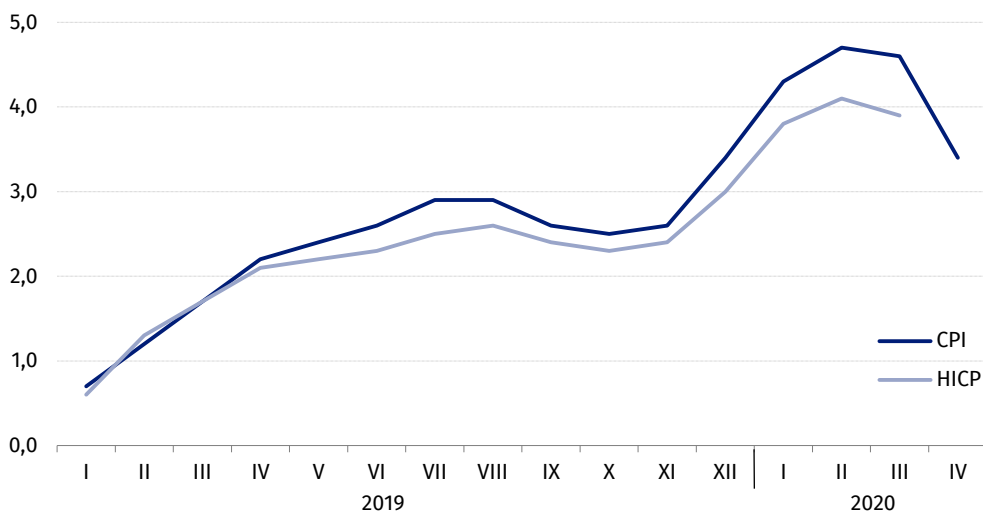


Chart 4. Consumer prices (change in % compared with the corresponding period of the previous year)



In April 2020 the consumer price index was within the deviations from inflation target determined by the Monetary Policy Council (2,5% +/- 1 pp)

Chart 5. Consumer price index (CPI) and harmonised index of consumer prices (HICP) (change in % compared with the corresponding period of the previous year)



In April 2020, the restrictions to prevent the coronavirus from spreading have influenced the compilation of the consumer price index to a much greater extent than in the previous month.

For the functioning retail market sectors, data was collected in a remote way, by telephone, e-mails and through websites. In cases where it was not possible to complete prices using these alternative methods, but the products were transacted, the missing data was estimated. The estimates were mainly based on price changes of similar products recorded in other points of sale or other areas of the country. The method used is analogous to normal statistical estimation procedures for products temporarily unavailable. Such estimation method has been used, among others, for food products, clothing and footwear, as regards health, dwelling and catering services. In addition, for certain groups of food commodities, estimates of the sub-indices have been supplemented by data obtained directly from retail chains.

For the segments of the retail market which did not function due to the restrictions in force, three methods of estimation of missing data were applied (and in several cases their combination):

- use of the last recorded price (e.g. recreational and sporting services, cultural services, education, hairdressing and personal grooming services),
- use of the price changes of the nearest higher aggregation level (transport services),
- use of the last recorded prices while respecting the seasonal pattern (by applying the monthly price change observed a year before – flights, package holidays, accommodation services).

These methods are in line with the methodological guidelines developed by Eurostat in consultation with the NSIs.¹ Decisions on estimates were made on a case-by-case basis for each case requiring imputation.

The share of data requiring estimation was higher in April than in March. More than 50% of the estimates were recorded in Education and Restaurants and hotels groups. Nearly 50% share of the missing data was for Recreation and culture. More than 25% of data imputation was made in the area of Health as well as Clothing and footwear. The smallest share of missing data occurred in the area of Communication and Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels.

Table 2 includes indications of the consumer expenditures groups for which the share of missing observations in April 2020 exceeded 50%. The flagged sub-indices were used in the calculation of higher-level aggregates, including the total index.

¹ Document 'Guidance on the compilation of the HICP in the context of the COVID-19 crisis' was published by Eurostat under the link https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/10186/10693286/HICP_guidance.pdf

The guidelines recommended by Eurostat concerning consumer price indices are also presented in Polish under the link <https://stat.gov.pl/obszary-tematyczne/ceny-handel/wskazniki-cen/wytyczne-dotyczace-opracowania-hicp-w-kontekście-kryzysu-związane-go-z-covid-19,19,1.html>

Table 2. Consumer price indices in April 2020

SPECIFICATION	IV 2020			I-IV 2020
	IV 2019= =100	XII 2019= =100	III 2020= =100	I-IV 2019= =100
TOTAL	103,4	101,7	99,9	104,2
Goods	102,3	101,1	99,4	103,5
Services	106,5	103,4	101,4	106,3
FOOD, NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AND TOBACCO	106,9	103,9	100,3	106,9
FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES	107,4	103,9	100,3	107,6
Food	107,8	104,1	100,3	108,2
of which:				
Rice	106,1	104,0	102,2	106,2
Flour	105,4	103,5	99,9	105,0
Bread	108,7	104,9	100,6	107,8
Pasta products and couscous	104,7	102,6	101,1	104,2
Meat	111,0	103,1	99,5	113,6
of which:				
Beef	102,5	102,1	100,2	102,5
Veal	104,1	101,4	99,9	104,0
Pork	117,0	102,9	101,2	123,4
Poultry	100,8	100,9	94,2	106,4
Dried, salted or smoked meat	113,3	103,9	100,3	113,9
Fish and seafood	104,1	101,7	99,9	104,7
Milk, cheese and eggs	103,6	101,8	100,0	103,0
of which:				
Milk	107,0	103,6	100,5	105,9
Yoghurt, cream, milk-based desserts, milk- based beverages and other similar milk- based products	103,5	101,9	100,3	103,6
Cheese and curd	103,2	101,7	100,1	102,5
Eggs	100,8	99,5	98,5	99,5
Oils and fats	100,2	100,8	98,4	98,4
Vegetable fats	101,5	101,4	99,4	101,0
Animal fats	99,2	100,3	97,7	96,6
of which butter	97,3	99,5	97,3	94,6
Fruit	122,1	117,3	102,1	119,0
Vegetables	108,1	106,8	101,9	109,0
Sugar	107,8	103,5	101,9	109,5
Non-alcoholic beverages	102,8	101,2	100,1	102,2
of which:				
Coffee	101,6	101,1	100,1	101,3
Tea	102,7	102,1	100,6	101,7
Cocoa and powdered chocolate	105,6	102,3	99,4	104,8
Mineral or spring waters	103,6	101,9	100,3	102,9
Fruit and vegetable juices	104,1	101,3	99,4	103,9

SPECIFICATION	IV 2020			I-IV 2020
	IV 2019= =100	XII 2019= =100	III 2020= =100	I-IV 2019= =100
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AND TOBACCO	104,9	103,9	100,5	104,0
Alcoholic beverages	104,3	103,5	100,5	103,4
Tobacco	106,4	105,0	100,4	105,5
CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR	96,6	98,0	101,4	98,0
of which:				
Garments	95,6	97,3	100,8	97,3
Footwear	98,5	99,7	102,7	99,5
DWELLING	105,9	104,4	100,6	105,5
HOUSING, WATER, ELECTRICITY, GAS AND OTHER FUELS	107,5	105,6	100,7	107,1
of which:				
Actual rentals for housing	106,0	102,9	100,0	106,3
Water supply	102,6	100,5	99,6	102,9
Refuse collection	153,9	135,3	106,7	151,3
Sewage collection	104,7	102,3	100,2	104,7
Electricity, gas and other fuels	105,2	104,8	100,2	105,1
Electricity	111,7	111,7	100,0	111,8
Gas	100,1	100,0	101,1	99,2
Liquid and solid fuels	99,6	99,3	99,7	99,7
Heat energy	102,7	101,2	100,3	102,7
FURNISHINGS, HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND ROUTINE HOUSEHOLD MAINTENANCE	100,7	100,7	100,2	100,5
of which:				
Furniture and furnishings	99,0	100,7	100,2	99,0
Household appliances	98,8	99,7	99,7	98,5
Cleaning and maintenance products	102,3	101,3	100,9	101,6
Domestic services and household services	106,8	103,5	100,5	106,7
HEALTH	104,4	102,1	100,4	104,0
of which:				
Pharmaceutical products	103,9	101,6	100,4	103,5
Therapeutic appliances and equipment	102,0	100,9	100,3	101,6
Medical services	107,3	103,9	100,8	107,3
Dental services ^U	106,2	103,5	100,5	105,7
Hospital services ^U	103,2	102,4	100,2	102,9
TRANSPORT	90,1	91,7	95,2	98,0
of which:				
Purchase of vehicles	98,6	101,5	101,2	97,6
of which motor cars	98,5	101,5	101,2	97,4
Fuels for personal transport equipment	81,2	82,9	87,1	95,9
Diesel	81,8	83,5	87,2	95,3
Petrol	80,6	83,4	86,9	96,1
Liquid petroleum gas and other fuels for per- sonal transport equipment	83,0	77,4	87,3	96,6
Transport services	104,4	107,7	124,8	102,6

SPECIFICATION	IV 2020			I-IV 2020
	IV 2019= =100	XII 2019= =100	III 2020= =100	I-IV 2019= =100
COMMUNICATION	102,7	101,1	100,3	102,2
of which:				
Telephone and telefax equipment	89,8	95,7	99,5	90,2
Telephone and telefax services	103,2	101,3	100,3	102,7
RECREATION AND CULTURE	102,0	100,6	100,2	102,9
of which:				
Audio-visual, photographic and information processing equipment	96,1	99,1	100,0	95,7
Recreational and cultural services	102,1	101,8	100,1	102,3
of which:				
Recreational and sporting services ^u	104,3	102,4	100,0	104,4
Cultural services	101,3	101,7	100,1	101,5
of which television and radio licence fees, subscriptions	98,7	101,1	100,2	99,1
Books	100,2	91,5	95,4	103,9
Newspapers and periodicals	105,8	105,4	101,4	105,0
Stationery and drawing materials	103,5	101,1	100,5	103,3
Package holidays ^u	104,9	101,2	102,2	107,0
Package domestic holidays ^u	107,6	104,6	102,2	107,2
Package international holidays ^u	102,9	98,7	102,2	106,8
EDUCATION ^u	105,1	101,0	100,0	105,0
RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS ^u	106,3	102,4	100,4	106,1
MISCELLANEOUS GOODS AND SERVICES	101,5	99,5	99,5	101,9
of which:				
Personal care	102,3	101,3	100,5	102,2
of which:				
Hairdressing salons and personal grooming establishments ^u	107,3	104,3	100,0	107,4
Articles for personal hygiene and wellness, esoteric products and beauty products	101,2	100,6	100,5	101,1
Social protection ^u	108,0	104,9	100,2	108,0
Insurance	98,0	91,7	95,9	100,5
Charges by banks and post offices	97,5	100,0	100,0	100,1

^u The share of estimated data for an aggregate more than 50%

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[Retail price](#)