

## Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices (HICP) flash estimate February 2010

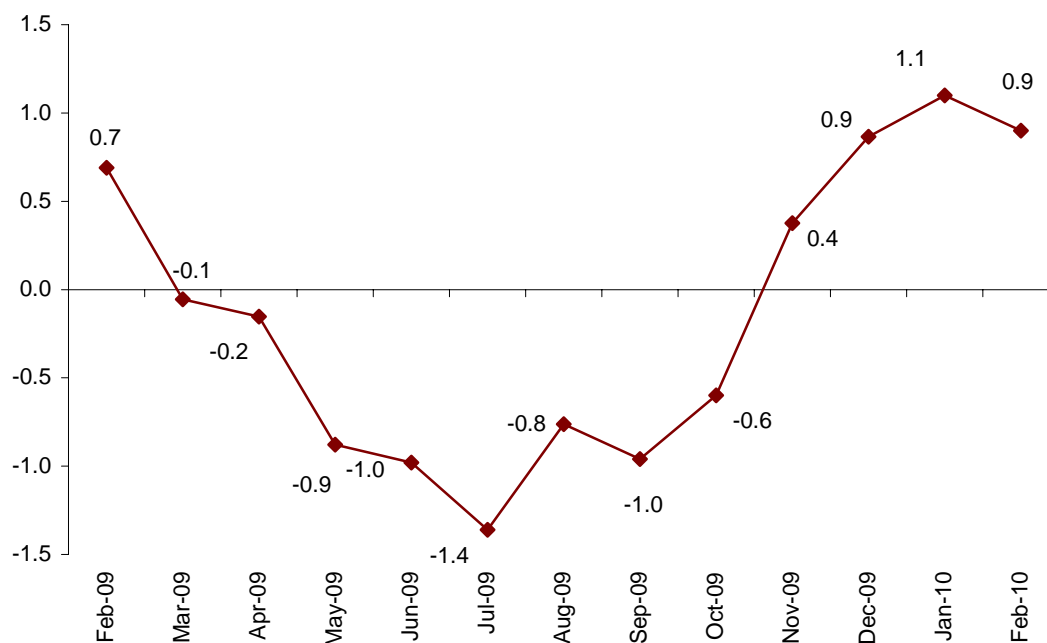
### The HICP annual inflation estimate stands at 0.9% in February

The HICP annual inflation is expected to be 0.9% in February 2010, according to the flash estimate issued by the INE.

This indicator provides a preview of the HICP that, if confirmed, would imply a decrease of two tenths in the annual change, given that in January, this change was 1.1%. This result is mainly due to the maintenance of the price of *fuels*, as compared with the increase of the same in February 2009, and with the outstanding decrease of the price of *food* this year.

#### Annual evolution of the HICP, base 2005 <sup>(1)</sup>

Overall



<sup>(1)</sup> The last figure refers to the flash estimate

### **Methodological note**

The INE issues this indicator with the aim of incorporating it into the calculation of the HICP flash estimate of the European Monetary Union (EMU) published by Eurostat. Obtaining this EMU flash estimate forms part of the Eurostat and European Central Bank policy of offering data that is comparable in time and quality with that produced by the United States.

The flash estimate is computed using the same methodology as that used for the HICP. The difference between these indicators lies in the information used. The flash estimation procedure uses statistical modelling methods to estimate the information that is not available at the time of publication.

**The flash estimate provides information only for guidance purposes, and therefore, needs not coincide with the data from the HICP.**

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