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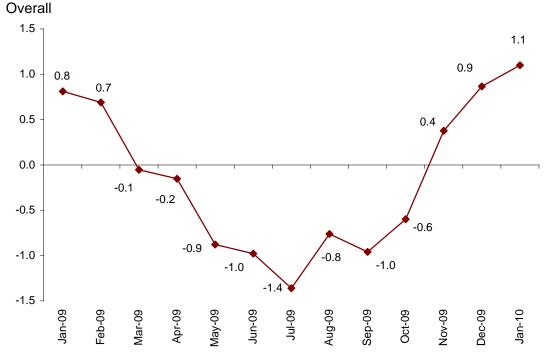
Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices (HICP) flash estimate January 2010

The HICP annual inflation estimate stands at 1.1% in January

The HICP annual inflation is expected to be 1.1% in January 2009, according to the flash estimate issued by the INE.

This indicator provides a preview of the HICP that, if confirmed, would imply an increase of two tenths in the annual change, given that in December, this change was 0.9%. This result is mainly due to the increase in the price of fuels, as compared with the decrease of the same in January 2009.

Annual evolution of the HICP, base 2005 (1)



⁽¹⁾ 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.