

30 March 2009

## Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices (HICP) flash estimate March 2009

### The HICP annual inflation estimate stands at -0.1% in March

The HICP annual inflation is expected to be -0.1% in March 2009, 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 eight tenths in the annual rate, since in February this change was 0.7%.

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.

#### Computation of the flash estimate

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 as a guideline, and therefore it does not have to coincide with the HICP data.**

#### Future publishing dates

The expected dates of publication for the coming months are:

Index for	Spanish HICP flash estimate	Spanish HICP
March 2009	30 March 2009	15 April 2009
April 2009	30 April 2009	13 May 2009
May 2009	28 May 2009	10 June 2009

---

For further information see [INEbase-www.ine.es/en/welcome\\_en.htm](http://INEbase-www.ine.es/en/welcome_en.htm) All press releases at: [www.ine.es/en/prensa/prensa\\_en.htm](http://www.ine.es/en/prensa/prensa_en.htm)

**Press office:** Telephone: 91 583 93 63 / 94 08 – Fax: 91 583 90 87 - [gprensa@ine.es](mailto:gprensa@ine.es)

**Information area:** Telephone: 91 583 91 00 – Fax: 91 583 91 58 – [www.ine.es/infoine](http://www.ine.es/infoine)

---