

30 March 2010

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

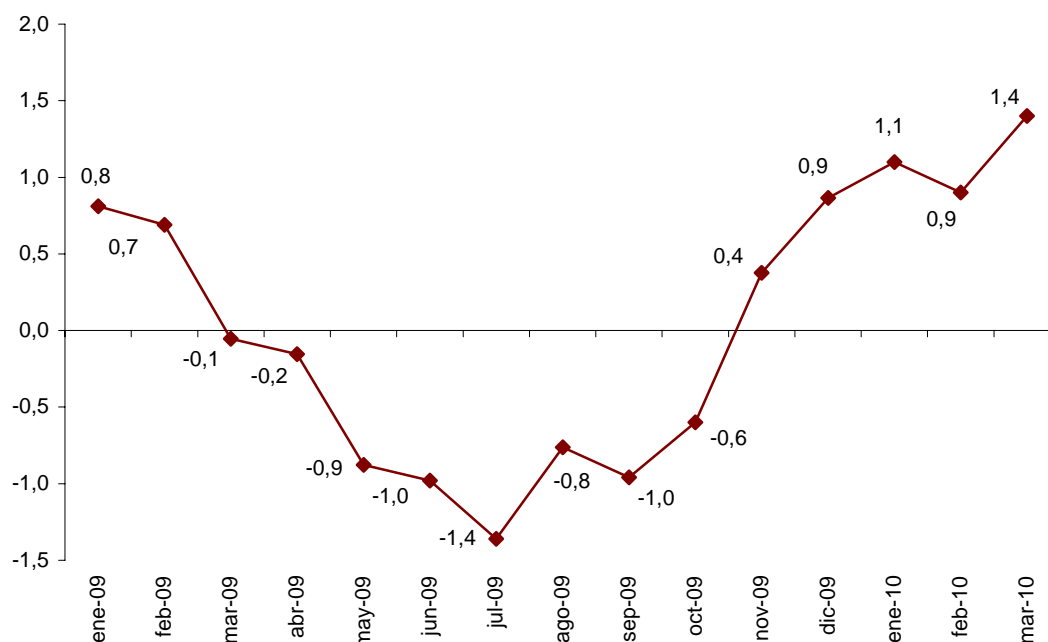
### The HICP flash estimate registers its annual rate as 1.4% in the month of March

The HICP annual inflation is expected to be 1.4% in March 2010, 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 five tenths in the annual rate, since in February this change was 0.9%. This is mainly as a result of the increase in price of *fuels* and of the maintaining of prices of *food*, as compared with the decrease experienced by both in March 2009.

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

Overall



<sup>(1)</sup> The last data refers to the leading index

## **Methodological note**

The INE prepares 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 timely and quality data that is comparable with that produced by the United States.

The flash estimate is calculated using the same methodology as that used for the HICP. The difference between both indicators lies in the information used. In the case of the flash estimate, several statistical modelling methods are used to estimate the information that is not yet 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.**

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For further information see **INEbase** - [www.ine.es/en/welcome\\_en.htm](http://www.ine.es/en/welcome_en.htm)  
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