

Press release

Embargo: 05.05.2021, 8:30

05 Prices

Swiss Consumer Price Index in April 2021

Consumer prices increased by 0.2% in April

The consumer price index (CPI) increased by 0.2% in April 2021 compared with the previous month, reaching 100.8 points (December 2020 = 100). Inflation was +0.3% compared with the same month of the previous year. These are the results of the Federal Statistical Office (FSO).

The 0.2% increase compared with the previous month can be explained by several factors including rising prices for fruiting vegetables. Clothing also recorded a price increase, as did hotel accommodation. In contrast, prices for heating oil and berries decreased.

Main results April 2021	Index level	% change compared with	
	Base Dec. 2020 (=100)	previous month	April 2020
CPI: Total	100.8	+0.2	+0.3
- Core inflation *	100.3	+0.2	0.0
- Domestic products	100.3	+0.1	+0.1
- Imported products	102.2	+0.5	+1.2

* Core inflation 1: Total excluding fresh and seasonal products, energy and fuel

Quality of results

The current pandemic affects all of society and the entire economy. In this difficult context, the Federal Statistical Office (FSO) must continue to provide public opinion, particularly the country's decision makers and media, with reliable figures.

In April 2021, it was possible to collect all prices according to the survey plan with the exception of prices in the following areas: package holidays, airfares and restaurants. For package holidays and airfares, the price trend measured for those articles that could be ascertained was applied to missing articles from the same category, neutralising their impact on the results. For restaurants, the results shown are based on prices from the previous period. With the exception of these categories, the quality of the price collection for the CPI in April 2021 meets the usual standards.

Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices (HICP)

In April 2021, the Swiss Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices (HICP) stood at 100.79 points (base 2015 = 100). This corresponds to a rate of change of +0.3% compared with the previous month and of -0.1% compared with the same month the previous year. Due to the effects of the pandemic, the same missing price imputation techniques used for the CPI were introduced for the HICP.

The HICP is a supplementary indicator for inflation based on a harmonised method across EU member countries. It enables inflation in Switzerland to be compared with that of European countries.

The European Statistical Office, Eurostat, publishes the results according to a predefined calendar. The FSO publishes a comparison between inflation in Switzerland and Europe on the webpage www.ipch.bfs.admin.ch. A methodological note, the 2021 weighting of the Swiss standard HICP basket and the FSO News publication on the HICP are also available on this page. Eurostat will publish the HICP indices for other European countries for April 2021 on 19 May 2021. You will find the HICP results on the Eurostat website at the following address: <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/hicp>

Information

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Further information and publications: www.cpi.bfs.admin.ch

Statistics counts for you: www.statistics-counts.ch

NewsMail subscription in German, French and Italian: www.news-stat.admin.ch

FSO website: www.statistics.admin.ch

Access to results

This press release has been established on the basis of the European Statistics Code of Practice, which ensures the independence, integrity and accountability of national and community statistical offices. Privileged access is supervised and under embargo.

The Swiss National Bank (SNB) received the results of the CPI four working days before publication as required by the legislation in force and the conduct of its monetary policy. The news agencies received this press release with an embargo of 15 minutes.

For the preparation of economic forecasts and calculation of the quarterly GDP, the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO) also received the press release four working days before publication.

Indices and change rates in April 2021

Position	Weight in %	Index	Change in % over		Contribution to the monthly change
			previous month	April 2020	
Total	100,000	100,8	0,2	0,3	0,209
Major groups					
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	11,930	99,7	0,3	-2,0	0,030
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	3,013	100,2	0,2	0,5	0,007
Clothing and footwear	2,762	101,7	1,9	0,5	0,053
Housing and energy	27,165	100,7	-0,1	0,9	-0,015
Household goods and services	3,810	101,2	1,7	2,0	0,064
Healthcare	17,580	99,9	0,0	-0,3	-0,006
Transport	10,019	103,5	0,5	2,8	0,054
Communications	3,114	100,0	0,1	-1,0	0,003
Recreation and culture	7,480	100,5	0,1	-0,8	0,011
Education	0,559	100,0	0,0	0,8	0,000
Restaurants and hotels	6,859	101,7	0,3	1,2	0,023
Other goods and services	5,709	100,3	-0,3	0,0	-0,015
Type of products					
Goods	40,960	101,3	0,4	0,6	0,152
Non durables	27,328	101,3	0,0	0,3	0,014
Semi durables	5,397	101,1	1,2	0,4	0,064
Durables	8,235	101,1	0,9	1,8	0,075
Services	59,040	100,4	0,1	0,1	0,056
Private Services	48,002	100,5	0,1	0,2	0,061
Public Services	11,038	99,9	0,0	-0,4	-0,005
Origin of products					
Domestic products	76,423	100,3	0,1	0,1	0,081
Imported products	23,577	102,2	0,5	1,2	0,128
Additional classifications					
Health care	17,580	99,9	0,0	-0,3	-0,006
Index without health care	82,420	101,0	0,3	0,5	0,214
Housing rental	20,104	100,3	0,0	0,5	0,000
Index without housing rental	79,896	100,9	0,3	0,3	0,209
Petroleum products	2,433	115,2	0,2	16,2	0,004
Index without petroleum products	97,567	100,4	0,2	-0,1	0,204
Tobacco products	1,787	100,2	0,2	1,1	0,004
Index without tobacco products	98,213	100,8	0,2	0,3	0,205
Alcoholic beverages	2,035	100,1	0,1	0,1	0,003
Index without alcoholic beverages	97,965	100,8	0,2	0,3	0,206
Clothing and footwear	2,762	101,7	1,9	0,5	0,053
Index without clothing and footwear	97,238	100,7	0,2	0,3	0,156
Administered prices	26,691	100,1	0,0	-0,3	-0,004
Index without administered prices	73,309	101,0	0,3	0,6	0,212
Core inflation 1 ¹	89,814	100,3	0,2	0,0	0,173
<i>Fresh and seasonal products</i>	4,885	102,0	0,6	-1,8	0,031
<i>Energy and fuels</i>	5,301	107,5	0,1	7,3	0,005
Core inflation 2 ²	65,812	100,4	0,3	0,2	0,178

¹ core inflation 1 = total without fresh and seasonal products, energy and fuels

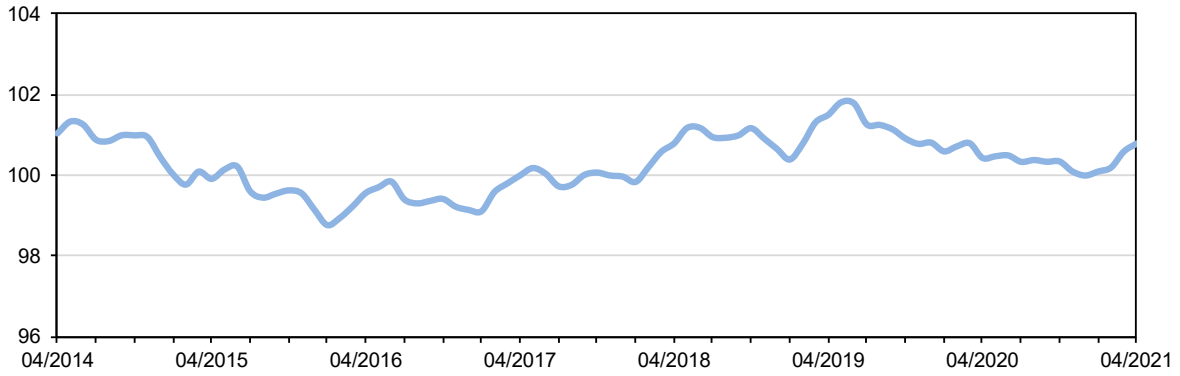
² core inflation 2 = core inflation 1 without products whose prices are administered

Principal contributions to change in the global index in April 2021

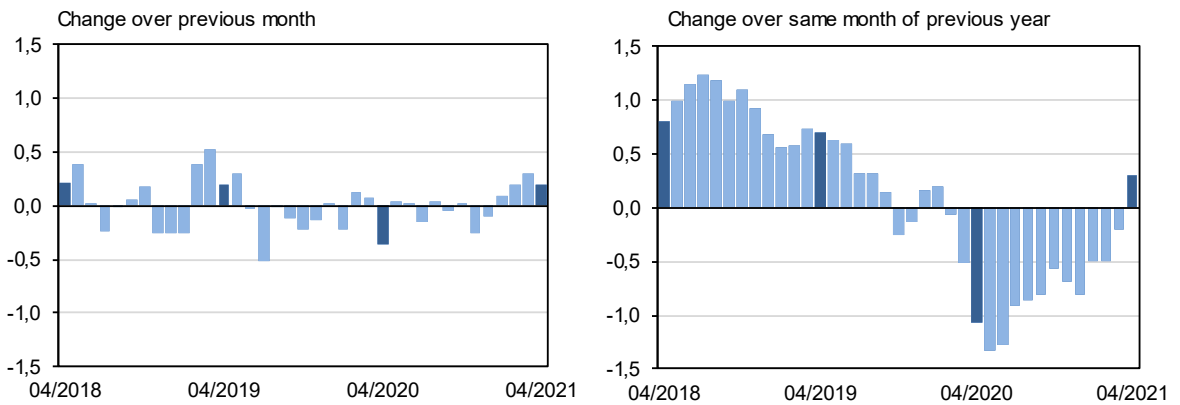
Position	Contribution to the change of the global index compared to the last survey period	Weight in %	Index	Change in % over previous month	Change in % over same month of previous year
Fruiting vegetables	0,034	0,256	119,8	12,7	-6,3
Women's skirts and dresses	0,020	0,113	116,1	17,7	5,6
Hotels	0,018	0,885	113,2	1,9	6,2
Garden furniture	0,014	0,139	110,0	10,0	8,9
Air transport*	0,014	0,439	105,0	3,1	-7,6
International package holidays*	0,014	0,956	106,0	1,4	0,4
Petrol	0,013	1,146	115,9	1,0	15,6
Pasta	0,012	0,163	99,0	8,1	-3,9
New cars	0,012	2,398	101,3	0,5	2,2
Women's trousers	0,010	0,207	106,0	4,8	-0,3
Bicycles	0,010	0,178	101,6	5,7	
Fruit or vegetable juices	0,008	0,187	96,7	4,9	2,5
Living room and home office furniture	0,008	0,414	101,6	1,8	5,3
Bedroom furniture	0,008	0,335	99,6	2,4	3,1
Cookers, ovens and barbecues	0,008	0,098	104,8	7,9	3,9
Domestic package holidays	0,008	0,150	102,7	5,4	-2,2
Coffee (retail)	0,007	0,369	105,2	1,8	1,2
Olive oil	0,007	0,079	98,2	9,5	7,3
Combined offers for fixed-line and mobile communication	0,006	1,568	100,1	0,4	-1,4
Brassicac	0,006	0,052	104,8	12,4	-17,8
Women's blouses	0,006	0,070	112,7	7,8	6,4
Beef	0,005	0,472	100,8	1,0	2,1
Swiss red wine	0,005	0,150	100,7	3,3	0,4
Foreign red wine	0,005	0,399	100,1	1,2	-0,6
Men's trousers	0,005	0,147	105,0	3,6	4,4
Diesel	0,005	0,504	114,9	0,9	14,4
[...]					
Beer (retail)	-0,005	0,242	96,2	-2,1	-1,7
Pork	-0,005	0,234	96,0	-2,0	-8,9
Chocolate	-0,005	0,381	99,2	-1,2	-2,1
Medical products	-0,005	0,288	93,1	-1,7	-7,4
Pet related products	-0,005	0,344	97,1	-1,5	-2,5
Paper articles for personal hygiene	-0,005	0,200	96,8	-2,5	-4,7
Public transport abroad	-0,005	0,051	98,4	-9,3	
Sparkling wine	-0,007	0,082	107,0	-7,6	1,6
Mountain railways, ski lifts	-0,007	0,214	98,6	-3,1	-3,0
Products for face care and make-up	-0,007	0,223	108,9	-3,0	2,4
Fresh fish	-0,012	0,273	96,7	-4,4	-1,9
Berries	-0,014	0,185	70,5	-9,7	17,2
Heating oil	-0,014	0,783	114,4	-1,5	20,6

* missing prices imputed

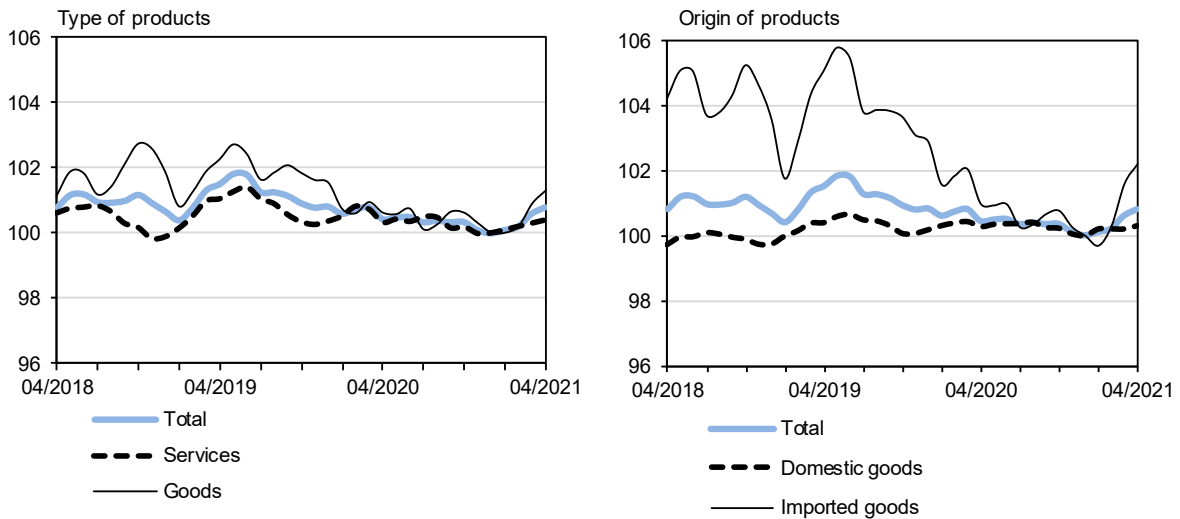
G1 Swiss Consumer Price Index (December 2020 = 100): index evolution



G2 Swiss Consumer Price Index: change in %



G3 Swiss Consumer Price Index (December 2020 = 100): type and origin of products



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