



# Harmonized Index of Consumer Prices

---

## Description

The HICP measures the change in prices of goods and services which are representative of the private and institutional households' consumption in Switzerland, whatever their place of residence and their nationality are. It indicates how much consumers have to increase or to decrease their expenditure to maintain the same volume of consumption, despite the variations in prices.

Available since:  
January 2006

Features registered:  
Prices of goods and services consumed in Switzerland by private and collective households irrespective of their residence (Transaction price).

---

## Methodology

Activity: Survey based on sampling

Survey: in the outlets, by phone, by post, on the Internet and scanner data

Type of the sample and sample size: about 100'000 prices per month, about 5'400 outlets

Participation: compulsory

Degree of regionalization: Switzerland

Periodicity: Monthly

Reference period: First two weeks of the month

Revision: new basis in 2015 (2015=100)

---

## Policy on revisions

No revision of results

---

## Legal bases

Bilateral agreement on statistics between the European Union and Switzerland  
Regulations of the European Commission concerning HICP  
Swiss federal law on Statistics of October 9th, 1992  
Federal Ordinance on the Realization of Federal Surveys of June 30th, 1993

---

## Organization

Swiss Federal Statistical Office (SFSO) and Demoscope

Jean-Daniel Kleisl  
+41 58 46 36395  
[hicp@bfs.admin.ch](mailto:hicp@bfs.admin.ch)

---