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Comparative price levels in 2023

According to the final data of EUROSTAT, within the purchasing power parity project, the price level indices for consumer goods and services in Montenegro was 64% of the EU-27 average in 2023.

Price levels for consumer goods and services varied significantly across EU member states in 2023. Denmark recorded the highest price levels (143%) of the EU-27 average, followed by Ireland (142%), Luxembourg (135%), Finland (125%) and Netherlands (118%), while the lowest price levels were recorded in Hungary (76%), Poland (66%), Romania and Bulgaria (60%).

Among the neighbouring countries, Croatia had the highest price level of consumer goods and services which is 76% of the EU-27 average, while Serbia and Albania record a price level of 68% and 66% of the EU-27 average. The price level of consumer goods and services in Bosnia and Herzegovina was on the level of 58% of the European average, while North Macedonia was on the level of 52% of the European average.

Chart 1. Price level index among European countries for household final consumption in 2023 (EU-27=100)

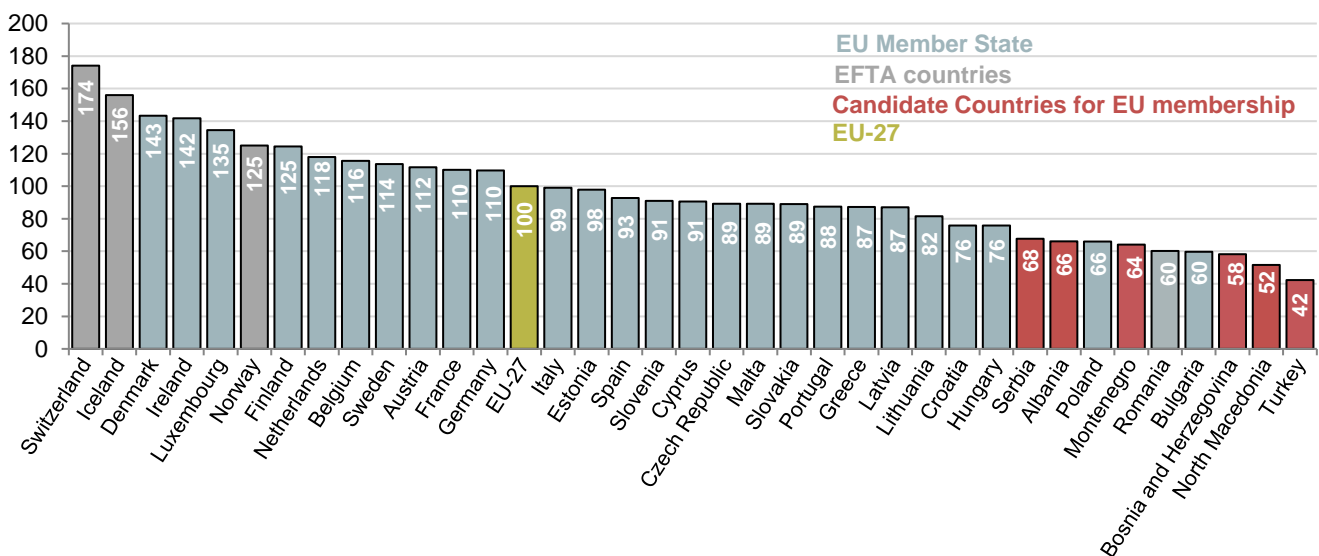


Table 1. Comparative price level indices for consumer goods and services in 2023 (EU-27=100)

Country	Total	Food and non-alcoholic beverages	Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	Clothing	Personal transport equipment	Audio-visual, photographic and information processing equipment	Restaurants and hotels
EU-27¹	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
EU member states							
Belgium	116	106	120	101	106	99	126
Bulgaria	60	88	66	82	94	97	52
Czech Republic	89	99	99	126	96	112	74
Denmark	143	116	133	131	129	105	152
Germany	110	106	99	99	100	97	111
Estonia	98	109	102	118	95	96	98
Ireland	142	113	211	96	112	107	128
Greece	87	106	98	99	93	107	85
Spain	93	98	90	81	97	96	83
France	110	107	132	104	101	113	113
Croatia	76	102	90	100	98	108	91
Italy	99	102	91	104	100	92	107
Cyprus	91	104	90	93	93	104	89
Latvia	87	107	99	104	94	103	90
Lithuania	82	101	95	102	93	100	82
Luxembourg	135	119	94	107	95	101	124
Hungary	76	101	86	88	102	102	72
Malta	89	116	100	102	101	108	90
Netherlands	118	97	115	107	114	109	123
Austria	112	106	88	103	105	97	108
Poland	66	78	77	96	91	96	84
Portugal	88	102	96	98	105	101	74
Romania	60	74	85	89	94	100	65
Slovenia	91	101	87	98	93	103	90
Slovakia	89	107	87	103	90	101	90
Finland	125	110	170	113	106	111	129
Sweden	114	105	118	112	95	107	117
EFTA member states							
Iceland	156	136	217	134	120	135	167
Norway	125	126	205	107	99	104	143
Switzerland	174	158	135	144	112	103	172
Candidate countries for EU membership							
Montenegro	64	87	72	99	92	106	63
Bosnia and Herzegovina	58	85	65	84	92	113	58
North Macedonia	52	68	52	78	89	117	47
Albania	66	91	79	102	100	133	49
Serbia	68	96	73	102	93	124	67
Turkey	42	64	55	30	143	69	57

Source: EUROSTAT

¹ EU represents the European Union of 27 Member States after 1 February 2020.

Table 1. shows the price level indices for 6 important groups of products and services: "Food and non-alcoholic beverages", "Alcoholic beverages and tobacco", "Clothing", "Personal transport equipment", "Audio-visual, photographic and information processing equipment" and "Restaurants and hotels".

Observing all countries participating in this project, Switzerland is the most expensive country for three listed groups of products and services: "Food and non-alcoholic beverages", "Clothing" and "Restaurants and hotels". Products and services in the groups "Audio visual equipment and data processing equipment" and "Alcoholic beverages and tobacco" are most expensive on Island. According to this survey motor vehicles are the most expensive in Turkey.

Turkey has the lowest price level index for products and services in the following groups: "Food and non-alcoholic beverages", "Clothing" and Audio-visual, photographic and information processing equipment". Products and services in the group "Alcoholic beverages and tobacco", "Personal transport equipment" and "Restaurants and hotels" according to the survey are the cheapest in North Macedonia.

For the group "Clothing", Montenegro recorded price level index of (99), which is below the EU average, in Serbia the index is higher and amounts (102), while the index was significantly lower in North Macedonia (78), Turkey (30) as well as in some EU member states, Hungary (88), Bulgaria (82) and Spain (81).

Products in the group "Food and non-alcoholic beverages" in Montenegro are 87% of the EU average, and they are more expensive than in Bosnia and Herzegovina (85%), North Macedonia (68%), while they are cheaper compared to Croatia which the price levels for the mentioned group of products are (102%), Serbia (96%) and Albania (91%) of the EU-27 average.

In Montenegro, price level indices for "Audio-visual, photographic and information processing equipment" group of products was (106) and it is above EU average, while for "Personal transport equipment" price level index is (92).

The lowest price levels in the group "Restaurants and hotels" in the region were recorded in North Macedonia and Albania (47%) and (49%) of the EU average, while in Montenegro price level for this group of products was (63%) of EU average.

METHODOLOGICAL NOTES

The data in this release are calculated by EUROSTAT and OECD as a result of the surveys conducted by these two institutions in cooperation with national statistical institutions within the Purchasing Power Parity (PPP) project.

In total, 6 surveys are conducted, each related to a particular group of product and services. The whole survey cycle takes 3 years and two surveys are conducted per year. The price level indices presented in this release are based on annual national average prices for approx. comparable 2000 products and services, allowing countries to collect prices for a sufficient number of representative products.

Methodological manual on purchasing power parity is available on EUROSTAT's website:

<http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/products-manuals-and-guidelines/-/KS-RA-12-023>

Purchasing power parities in their simplest form represent price ratio, which show the ratio of prices expressed in national currencies of the same goods and services in different countries.

For example, if the price of a hamburger in Sweden is 28.60 Swedish krona and in Italy it is 2.76 euro, the PPP for hamburgers between Sweden and Italy is 28.60 krona to 2.76 euro or 10.36 krona to the euro. In other words, for every euro spent on hamburgers in Italy, 10.36 krona would have to be spent in Sweden in order to obtain the same quantity and quality of hamburgers.

Purchasing power parities (PPPs) is a mean of converting national currencies into a common currency that equalizes the purchasing power of different national currencies.

Price level indices provide a comparison of the countries price levels related to the EU average. If the price level index is higher than 100, the country is considered relatively expensive compared to the EU average and if the price index is lower than 100, the country is considered relatively cheaper compared to the EU average.

More data, as well as detailed methodological notes can be found in the section: [Purchasing power parity](#)