

Current status of the ECP
Eurostat's new calculation and publication timetable

1. The new calculation and publication calendar

A frequent user complaint is that the detailed PPP results come too late for their purposes and that there are no preliminary results or nowcasts available. This paper spells out how Eurostat, as of the reference year 2001, better addresses the user requirements for more timely PPP results.

The overall PPP calculations depend on three forms of input, the price survey results, the GDP weights coming from the National Accounts and other input data such as CPI, salaries and rents. These inputs are of different character and become available according to quite different timetables.

Price surveys are “snapshots” in time, once done the established results are normally not subject to changes. Price survey results should be available about 12 months after the survey has been executed.

GDP weights are subject to revisions in line with the national revision timetables for the National Accounts. For the first time, detailed weights are available to Eurostat 9 months after the end of the reference year. These are revised one year later, which means 21 months after the end of the reference period. Further revisions are possible, however, usually not very substantial. Other input data are provided by the NSI once a year, however, the different availability of data at national level causes timing problems.

Total GDP in national currency, which is the basis for expressing GDP volume in PPS by converting it with PPPs, is subject to numerous revisions, all according to national revision timetables not (yet) harmonised across the EU. These regular revisions can in individual countries go on for 4 years after the end of the reference year. In addition, there are so called “big” National Accounts revisions which occur after major methodological changes, like the introduction of ESA95.

Allowing for all the user needs and the input data availability and revision constraints, Eurostat now follows a new PPP calculation and publication timetable, which is fully in place from the calendar year 2003 onwards. The timetable is fully in line with the Structural Funds regulation, which requires final PPP 24 months after the end of the reference year, and with the data delivery timetable of the National Accounts under ESA95.

Table 1 below also covers the form of publication, which will be discussed under point 2 of this paper.

Table 1: Eurostat PPP calculations and publication timetable

What?	When?	Based on what?			Form of publication?
	reference Year T + n months	Prices, other input data	Weights NA	GDP NA	
PPP results					
Nowcast	T + 5	Preliminary results for year T-1, extrapolations with (H)CPI and implicit deflators of NA		First estimate T+4	➤ SIF ¹ , ➤ Press release ➤ New Cronos
Preliminary results	T + 12	both consumer price surveys, extrapolations other input data, (or estimates)	First estimate T+9	Revision T+9	➤ SIF covering T-1 and T-2 year, ➤ Press release ➤ New Cronos ➤ CD ROM ➤ Methodological note
Final results	T + 24	all prices and input data	Revision T+21	Revision T+21	
Price survey results					
Capital goods	T+2, covering T and T-1; every second year as of 2004	price survey	weights of T-1 and T-2	-	➤ SIF ➤ New Cronos
Consumer goods	T + 4	price survey I, HICP	weights T-1	-	➤ SIF ➤ New Cronos
Consumer goods	T + 12	price survey II, HICP	First estimate T+9	-	➤ SIF ➤ New Cronos

¹ SIF – Statistics in focus

Table 2 translates the general timetable proposed in Table 1 into an example for the calendar year 2003, which should be the first year where the new timetable is fully in place.

Table 2: Eurostat PPP calculation and publication timetable for the calendar year 2003

What?	When?	Based on what?			Form of publication?
		Prices, other input data	Weights NA	GDP NA	
PPP results					
Now cast 2002	May 2003	Preliminary results 2001, extrapolations with (H)CPI and NA implicit deflators of 2002		First estimate (T+4) of 2002	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ SIF➤ Press release➤ New Cronos
Preliminary results 2002	December 2003	both consumer price surveys, extrapolations	First estimate (T+9) of 2002	Revision (T+9) of 2002	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ SIF covering 2002 and 2001➤ Press release➤ New Cronos➤ CD ROM➤ Methodological note
Final results 2001		other input data, (or estimates)	(or other estimates)		
		all prices and input data	Revision (T+21) of 2001	Revision (T+21) of 2001	
Price survey results					
Capital goods 2001	May 2003	price survey	First estimate (T+9) of 2001	-	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ SIF➤ New Cronos
Consumer goods	April 2003	“Furniture and glass and tableware price survey” 02-1, HICP	First estimate (T+9) of 2001	-	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ SIF➤ New Cronos

Consumer goods	December 2003	“Transport goods and services and other goods and service” price survey 02-2, HICP	First estimate (T+9) of 2002 (or other estimates)	-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ SIF ➤ New Cronos
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However, this new timetable is only possible if all parties involved in this multi-country exercise strictly respect the annual workplan and the deadlines given for data provision. Every delay even by a single country, or the provision of data sets in different formats than the agreed ones, or datasets with big gaps and inconsistencies can have consequences for the overall timetable.

The reason is that editing procedures and the overall PPP calculations have to be run on the prices and other input data of all countries *at the same time*. In addition, they have to be repeated if only one country changes its data, as the data of each country are closely interconnected with all other countries.

In other words, the timeliness and quality of the PPP results can only be good if every country is committed to the programme. The nature of the PPP programme is such that responsibilities have to be shared between countries and Eurostat. The quality and intensity of each country's and Eurostat's effort by itself cannot guarantee high-quality results for a particular country, but a **collective effort and the associated responsibility will generate reliable results for everyone**.

2. Forms of publication

Eurostat proposes, in future will not produce the old format “Purchasing power parities and related economic indicators” that was used until the 1998 results. This publication was always too late for the users and contained a data cemetery in paper format.

Instead, Eurostat produces every year 4-5 smaller publications in the “**Statistics in focus**” format, which addresses the interested non-expert user and the press. SIF allows the use of 4, 8 or 12 pages, depending on the material to cover and presents tables and graphs with summary results, short comments and associated methodological notes. Where appropriate, the SIF can be combined with a **press release** to attract more media attention. SIF can be download from the Eurostat website free of charge and a certain number of free paper copies would be distributed to the partners in the ECP and important users inside and outside the Commission. An example for a SIF at price survey level (food) and a SIF for PPP results is given in annex 1 and 2 respectively. A more detailed **note**, covering the **PPP methodology and the use of PPP** data, will be available to the public upon request.

In addition, data will be available in electronic format, covering longer timeseries and more detail. This refers to the Eurostat dissemination database **New Cronos**. From end-2003 (and after the revision 1995 to 2000), Eurostat also will produce, always together with the final PPP results of a given year, a **CD Rom**.

New Cronos extractions requested by non-privileged users are handled by the Eurostat datashops against payment. The CD Rom would be given free of charge to the ECP partners.

As in the past, all detailed results, also below published level, are available in **Circa** to the Eurostat/OECD comparison partners.

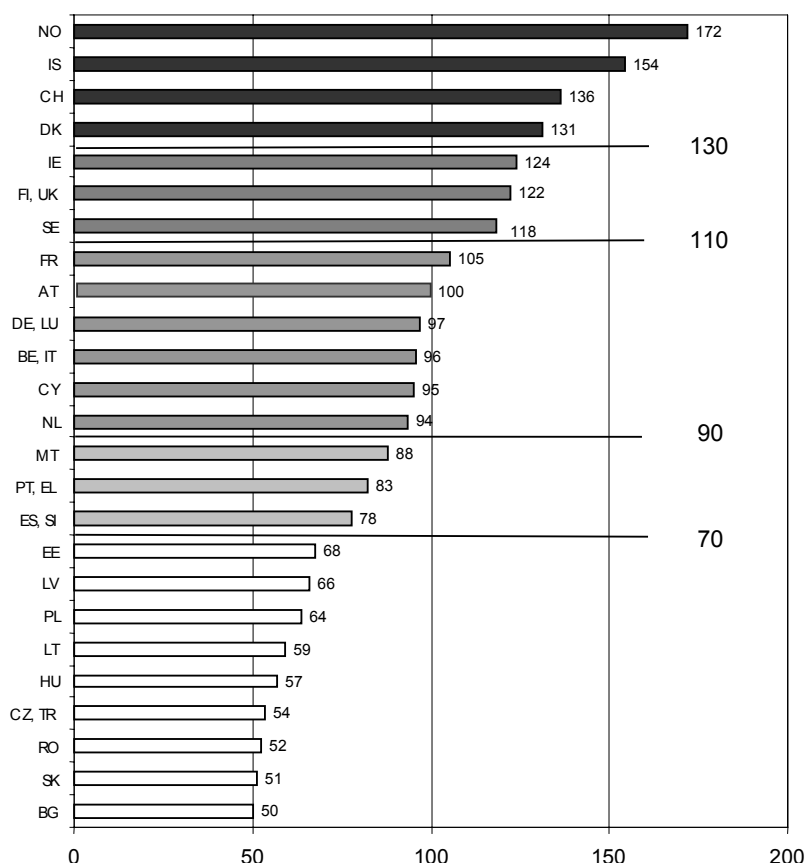
Eating, drinking, smoking – comparative price levels in EU, EFTA¹ and Candidate Countries for 2001

Silke STAPEL

In the framework of the European Comparison Programme (ECP) – in which Eurostat closely co-operates with the OECD - surveys on prices of household goods and services are cyclically carried out by National Statistical Institutes (NSIs). 31 countries are currently participating in the surveys co-ordinated by Eurostat: the 15 EU Member States, the 13 Candidate Countries, Iceland, Norway and Switzerland. OECD co-ordinates the surveys for the non-European OECD Member States. These price surveys are corner stones of the work resulting in annual volume comparisons of the main National Accounts aggregates: Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and its components in Purchasing Power Standards².

Each survey relates to a particular group of products. The results presented in this article refer to the survey on Food, Beverages and Tobacco carried out in Spring 2001 in the 31 participating countries. This survey covered a total of more than 550 comparable products, enabling all countries to price a sufficient number of products representative of their consumption pattern.

Chart 1: Price level index for Food, beverages and tobacco – overall 2001 survey results, EU15=100



¹ Excluding Liechtenstein

² see methodological notes

Statistics in focus

ECONOMY AND FINANCE

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PRICES AND PURCHASING POWER PARITIES

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Box 1 : What are Price level indices?

The indicators analysed in this article are Price level indices (PLIs), calculated as the ratio between Purchasing Power Parities (PPPs)³ and exchange rates for each country, in relation to the EU average.

These indices provide a comparison of the countries' price levels with respect to the European Union average: if the price level index is higher than 100, the country concerned is relatively expensive compared to the EU average and vice versa. Price level indices are not intended to rank countries strictly. In fact, they only provide an indication of the comparative order of magnitude of the price level in one country in relation to others, particularly when countries are clustered around a very narrow range of outcomes. The level of uncertainty associated with the basic price data and the methods used for compiling PPPs, may affect in such a case the minor differences between the PLIs and result in differences in ranking which are statistically or economically not significant.

It is, therefore, preferable to use these indices for dividing countries into groups of a comparable level, as done in this article. It should also be noted that the PLI in this article have been calculated using 2001 price data, however, estimated expenditure data had to be applied, as expenditure data 2001 become only available in autumn this year. The PLI may therefore change slightly when the preliminary PPP data 2001 are published in December 2002, based on 2001 expenditure data, rather than on estimates.

Food, Beverages and Tobacco: Price level indices for 2001 – a comparison between EU, EFTA and EU Candidate Countries

Price level indices resulting from the 2001 survey on Food, Beverages and Tobacco and presented in **Chart 1**, highlighting the following country groups:

- **Group I** ($\geq 130\%$ of the EU average): Denmark, Switzerland, Iceland and Norway;
- **Group II** ($\geq 110\%$ and $< 130\%$ of the EU average): Sweden, Finland, United Kingdom and Ireland;
- **Group III** ($\geq 90\%$ and $< 110\%$ of the EU average, i.e. close to the EU average): the Netherlands, Cyprus, Belgium, Italy, Germany, Luxembourg, Austria and France;
- **Group IV** ($\geq 70\%$ and $< 90\%$ of the EU average): Spain, Slovenia, Portugal, Greece and Malta;
- **Group V** ($< 70\%$ of the EU average): Bulgaria, Slovakia, Romania, Czech Republic, Turkey, Hungary, Lithuania, Poland, Latvia and Estonia.

Chart 1 shows that half of the EU Member States are concentrated around the EU average. However, disparities in the price level index between the EU countries are remarkable and lie between 78 (Spain) and

131 (Denmark) at total survey level. This means that a comparable basket of food, beverages and tobacco in the most expensive EU country, Denmark, costs nearly 70% more than in the least expensive country, Spain. Moreover, the distribution generally tends to reflect a geographical element with Southern EU countries (Spain, Greece and Portugal) below the EU average and Northern countries (Sweden, Finland, United Kingdom, Ireland and Denmark) all above this average.

As regards the three EFTA countries, they appear to be the most expensive in the survey group: Iceland (154) and Norway (172) in particular are significantly higher than Denmark (131), while Switzerland with 136 is closer to the Danish index.

Finally, all Candidate Countries have PLIs below the EU average. Nevertheless two sub-groups can be distinguished: the first containing Slovenia (78), Malta (88) and Cyprus (95) with PLI somewhat close to those of the least expensive EU Member States. The second sub-group is constituted by the remaining 10 Candidate Countries, which are below all other participating countries, and show price level indices from 50 (Bulgaria) to 68 (Estonia).

Box 2: International price and volume comparisons

Eurostat participates in the "International Comparison Programme" (ICP), which has been running for 30 years. In Europe, Eurostat and the OECD co-operate in the framework of the "European comparison programme" (ECP), in which Eurostat annually establishes PPPs for the 15 EU Member States, the 13 EU Candidate Countries and three EFTA countries, Norway, Iceland and Switzerland. A rolling 3-year survey cycle is used for consumer prices. About one third of consumer goods and services are surveyed every year, and for the remaining two thirds, suitable consumer price indices are used for extrapolation in the intervening years. Capital goods prices, rents, and GDP weights are collected annually, as well as salaries in the government sector, which are used as proxy-PPPs for the respective part of this sector. For the remaining OECD member countries, the OECD follows the Eurostat survey cycle for consumer prices, whereas a benchmark-extrapolation approach is used for the other components, with PPP calculations every third year.

³ see methodological notes

Table 1: 2001 Comparative price level indices for the main sub-groups of the survey, EU15=100

	BE	DK	DE	EL	ES	FR	IE	IT	LU	NL	AT	PT	FI	SE	UK	IS	NO	CH	BG	CY	CZ	EE	HU	LV	LT	MT	PL	RO	SK	SI	TR
Overall survey	96	131	97	83	78	105	124	96	97	94	100	83	122	118	122	154	172	136	50	95	54	68	57	66	59	88	64	52	51	78	54
Food	100	128	101	83	82	110	111	100	110	96	104	83	112	113	103	148	154	151	54	92	53	68	59	65	58	80	58	53	51	85	55
Bread and cereals	98	136	106	87	101	105	102	99	104	90	107	87	132	122	86	166	171	140	44	92	41	65	45	57	47	66	57	44	38	89	51
Meat	97	124	117	72	69	116	99	96	113	112	111	73	108	107	98	153	165	189	44	63	49	58	58	59	54	71	48	47	46	83	43
Fish	123	130	101	93	90	112	104	99	107	96	109	89	99	97	107	103	143	159	66	109	63	76	69	67	68	85	77	69	69	89	66
Milk, cheese and eggs	105	110	82	102	86	108	118	117	104	98	93	92	101	104	112	141	143	133	84	108	59	67	72	67	60	98	58	70	61	76	86
Oils and fats	109	131	91	92	81	123	107	96	120	98	116	96	116	125	110	150	151	167	75	93	70	83	69	83	71	91	87	68	70	103	89
Fruit	104	125	109	66	85	108	120	101	130	89	100	75	106	103	113	138	130	128	50	107	62	77	52	88	69	75	60	45	58	78	39
Vegetables	89	144	101	67	81	113	141	100	113	97	98	64	119	123	111	170	152	157	48	102	52	76	51	63	64	80	54	41	47	91	37
Sugar, jam, honey, chocolate & confectionery	101	141	88	112	106	105	111	95	95	79	96	124	109	127	114	162	170	129	61	128	65	79	72	86	73	97	76	70	64	90	83
Food products n.e.c.	90	137	101	129	71	102	130	87	107	89	122	99	137	142	117	132	150	146	61	113	59	80	73	66	56	102	74	68	59	98	61
Non-alcoholic beverages	94	142	105	97	68	91	120	88	90	96	89	101	119	116	125	155	164	113	66	119	63	86	66	86	72	120	77	77	66	84	76
Coffee, tea and cocoa	90	110	111	98	73	101	116	97	96	87	103	98	111	92	109	136	118	106	75	113	80	86	85	91	76	93	81	101	90	98	77
Mineral waters, soft drinks, fruit and vegetable juices	96	162	102	97	65	86	122	86	86	102	83	102	123	132	133	162	188	116	62	121	56	86	58	81	68	131	76	69	55	76	77
Alcoholic beverages	90	144	82	95	65	88	159	87	88	95	89	101	195	164	164	235	272	120	41	142	63	97	63	108	89	140	119	54	57	72	94
Tobacco	86	133	90	71	62	104	155	82	68	81	93	63	120	119	203	139	221	92	27	72	45	38	41	34	30	81	47	30	41	48	29

How to interpret this table?

The prices underlying this table are average annual national prices for the respective product groups. In the rows, the table provides a direct comparison of the price levels for the respective product group across all 31 participating countries. For example, the PLI for Fish is 1% above the EU average in Germany and 30% above the EU average in Denmark. Fish is, therefore, in Denmark about 29% more expensive than in Germany ($130/101=1.287$).

By column, the table refers to the PLIs of different product groups within one country and the interpretation is more complicated. All PLIs are expressed relative to the EU average for the respective product groups. For example, for meat the Belgian price level is 3% below the EU average and for fruit 4% above the EU average. In relation to the respective EU averages, therefore, meat is relatively cheaper in Belgium than fruit. However, the intra-country analysis of PLIs is limited because of the use of different scaling factors per product group and the general non-additivity of the underlying aggregation method. Another difficulty is that the intra-country comparison may not correspond to the opinion of the consumers about price differentials in their country as their daily price comparison may involve different regions within their own or the neighbouring countries (for people living close to the borders), rather than the EU average.

2001 Comparative Price level indices and price dispersion for the main sub-groups of the survey

Table 1 on page 3 shows for all participating countries the comparative PLIs for the main sub-groups of products making up the total survey.

It is particularly interesting to compare in table 1 the price level difference by product groups for countries having direct *land borders* with each other. This comparison has its limitations as the underlying prices are national average prices and those are not necessarily the ones consumers pay on both sides of the border.

However, the latter argument does apply less to smaller countries, so let's look at Luxembourg as an example. Luxembourg has borders with Belgium, France and Germany. While it is at about the same price level as Belgium and Germany, Luxembourg is about 8 % less expensive than France when it comes to food, beverages and tobacco in total. Looking at individual product groups, the picture is different. Luxembourgers would, according to table 1, financially gain in buying bread and cereals, meat, fruit and vegetables in Belgium and fish, milk, cheese and eggs and oils and fats in Germany. For non-alcoholic beverages Luxembourg (90) is at about the same price level as France (91) and cheaper than the two other countries. For alcoholic beverages, Germany (82) is the least expensive country of the four, the three other being at about the same level (88-90). A remarkable price level difference again exist for tobacco, Luxembourg (68) being the cheapest of the four by some way. In France (104) tobacco products are more than 50% more expensive than in Luxembourg, in Germany (90) 32% and in Belgium (86) 26%, respectively.

Table 2 on this page is based on table 1 and provides a measure of price dispersion within the Eurozone, the EU, the Candidate Countries group and the group of all countries participating in the survey. The measure used is, for each product group, the difference between the maximum price level index and the minimum price level index of the respective group of countries, expressed as percentage of the minimum PLI of this group of countries. The bigger this number is the higher is price dispersion in the respective country and product group.

What attracts particular attention in table 2 is the fact that the price level dispersion is biggest for alcoholic beverages and tobacco, in all country groups. However, this is no real surprise, as these products are subject to very different national regulations, excise duties and other taxes. The high price dispersion appears as, for example, Nordic countries show PLIs for alcoholic beverages that are significantly higher

Table 2: Price dispersion for EUR12, EU15, CC13 and all 31 survey participants by product groups

	(Max-Min)/Min*100			
	EUR12	EU15	CC13	All 31
Overall survey	59	69	90	242
Food	36	55	79	200
Bread and cereals	52	58	143	350
Meat	70	80	92	337
Fish	38	45	74	153
Milk, cheese and eggs	45	45	88	149
Oils and fats	53	62	52	145
Fruit	95	95	174	253
Vegetables	122	127	173	355
Sugar, jam, honey, chocolate & confectionery	57	78	112	181
Food products n.e.c.	94	101	100	166
Non-alcoholic beverages	77	109	90	159
Coffee, tea and cocoa	59	59	51	87
Mineral waters, soft drinks, fruit and vegetable juices	89	150	140	244
Alcoholic beverages	201	201	244	555
Tobacco	150	227	197	709

than those of all other countries (see table 1). In Finland and Norway alcoholic beverages are about 2 times and 2.7 times respectively more expensive than the average of the EU, while they are sold in Spain at a price level being only about two thirds of the EU average.

For tobacco products consumers have to pay in UK and Norway prices about 2 and 2.2 times respectively above the level of the EU average. In Portugal and Spain, on the other hand those products are available at nearly 40% below the average EU price level (see table1).

Relatively high price dispersion in all country groups can also be observed for vegetables, while price level differences are lowest, at least for EUR12 and EU15, for fish and milk, cheese and eggs.

Price dispersion is naturally biggest within the 31-country group of the survey participants, involving at the same time the high price EFTA and the mostly low price Candidate Countries, relative to the EU.

Table 3: 2001 results for food and non-alcoholic beverages
Cross table of Comparative Price level indices, EU15=100

	BE	DK	DE	EL	ES	FR	IE	IT	LU	NL	AT	PT	FI	SE	UK	EU-15	IS	NO	CH	BG	CY	CZ	EE	HU	LV	LT	MT	PL	RO	SK	SI	TR	
BE	100	77	97	119	122	91	88	100	91	103	97	118	88	88	94	99	67	64	67	182	105	183	143	166	148	167	119	166	181	188	116	177	BE
DK	131	100	127	155	159	119	115	131	119	135	127	154	115	114	123	129	87	83	88	238	137	239	186	217	194	218	155	216	236	246	152	231	DK
DE	103	79	100	122	125	94	91	103	94	106	100	121	90	90	96	102	68	66	69	187	108	188	146	171	152	172	122	170	185	193	119	182	DE
EL	84	65	82	100	103	77	74	84	77	87	82	99	74	74	79	83	56	54	57	153	89	154	120	140	125	141	100	140	152	159	98	149	EL
ES	82	63	80	98	100	75	73	82	75	85	80	97	72	72	77	81	55	53	55	150	86	150	117	137	122	137	98	136	148	155	96	146	ES
FR	110	84	107	130	134	100	97	110	100	113	107	129	96	96	103	109	73	70	74	200	115	201	157	182	163	184	131	182	198	207	128	194	FR
IE	113	87	110	134	138	103	100	113	103	117	110	133	99	99	106	112	75	72	76	206	119	207	161	188	168	189	135	188	204	213	132	201	IE
IT	100	77	97	119	122	91	88	100	91	103	97	118	88	88	94	99	67	64	67	182	105	183	143	166	148	167	119	166	180	188	116	177	IT
LU	109	84	107	130	133	100	97	109	100	113	106	129	96	96	103	108	73	70	73	199	115	200	156	182	162	183	130	181	198	206	127	194	LU
NL	97	74	94	115	118	88	85	97	88	100	94	114	85	85	91	96	65	62	65	176	102	177	138	161	143	162	115	160	175	182	112	171	NL
AT	103	79	100	122	125	94	91	103	94	106	100	121	90	90	97	102	69	66	69	188	108	189	147	171	153	172	123	171	186	194	120	183	AT
PT	85	65	83	101	103	77	75	85	77	88	82	100	74	74	80	84	57	54	57	154	89	155	121	141	126	142	101	141	153	160	99	150	PT
FI	114	87	111	135	139	104	101	114	104	118	111	134	100	100	107	113	76	73	76	208	120	209	163	189	169	191	136	189	206	215	133	202	FI
SE	114	87	111	135	139	104	101	114	104	118	111	134	100	100	107	113	76	73	77	208	120	209	163	190	169	191	136	189	206	215	133	202	SE
UK	106	82	104	126	130	97	94	106	97	110	103	126	93	93	100	105	71	68	71	194	112	195	152	177	158	178	127	176	192	201	124	189	UK
EU-15	101	77	98	120	123	92	89	101	92	104	98	119	89	89	95	100	67	65	68	184	106	185	144	168	150	169	120	167	182	190	117	179	EU-15
IS	150	115	146	178	183	137	133	150	137	155	146	177	132	132	141	149	100	96	101	273	158	275	214	249	222	251	178	249	271	282	174	266	IS
NO	156	120	152	186	190	143	138	156	143	162	152	184	137	137	147	155	104	100	105	285	164	286	223	260	232	262	186	259	282	295	182	277	NO
CH	149	114	145	177	181	136	132	149	136	154	145	176	131	131	140	148	99	95	100	271	157	273	213	248	221	249	177	247	269	281	173	264	CH
BG	55	42	53	65	67	50	49	55	50	57	53	65	48	48	52	54	37	35	37	100	58	101	78	91	81	92	65	91	99	103	64	97	BG
CY	95	73	93	113	116	87	84	95	87	98	92	112	83	83	89	94	63	61	64	173	100	174	136	158	141	159	113	158	172	179	111	169	CY
CZ	55	42	53	65	66	50	48	55	50	56	53	64	48	48	51	54	36	35	37	99	57	100	78	91	81	91	65	91	99	103	64	97	CZ
EE	70	54	68	83	85	64	62	70	64	72	68	83	61	61	66	69	47	45	47	128	74	128	100	117	104	117	83	116	127	132	81	124	EE
HU	60	46	59	71	73	55	53	60	55	62	58	71	53	53	56	60	40	38	40	110	63	110	86	100	89	101	72	100	109	113	70	107	HU
LV	67	52	66	80	82	61	60	67	62	70	65	80	59	59	63	67	45	43	45	123	71	123	96	112	100	113	80	112	122	127	78	120	LV
LT	60	46	58	71	73	54	53	60	55	62	58	70	52	52	56	59	40	38	40	109	63	109	85	99	89	100	71	99	108	113	70	106	LT
MT	84	64	82	100	102	77	74	84	77	87	82	99	74	74	79	83	56	54	56	153	88	154	120	140	125	141	100	139	152	158	98	149	MT
PL	60	46	59	72	73	55	53	60	55	62	59	71	53	53	57	60	40	39	40	110	63	110	86	100	89	101	72	100	109	114	70	107	PL
RO	55	42	54	66	67	50	49	55	51	57	54	65	49	49	52	55	37	35	37	101	58	101	79	92	82	93	66	92	100	104	64	98	RO
SK	53	41	52	63	65	48	47	53	49	55	52	63	47	47	50	53	35	34	36	97	56	97	76	88	79	89	63	88	96	100	62	94	SK
SI	86	66	84	102	105	78	76	86	79	89	84	101	75	75	81	85	57	55	58	157	90	157	123	143	128	144	102	143	155	162	100	152	SI
TR	56	43	55	67	69	51	50	56	52	58	55	67	50	49	53	56	38	36	38	103	59	103	81	94	84	94	67	94	102	106	66	100	TR

How to read the table?

The table should be read vertically. Each column indicates how many euro are needed in each of the countries listed in the rows to buy the same representative basket of *Food and non-alcoholic beverages*, which costs 100 euro in the country at the top of the column. For example, to buy the same basket of *Food and non-alcoholic beverages* products, costing 100 euro in Greece, will cost 135 euro in Sweden. In other words, Sweden is about 35% more expensive than Greece as regards *Food and non-alcoholic beverages*. The PLIs of countries having a direct land border are marked in grey. Of course, cross-border trade can also happen in cases of direct connections via bridges or regular ferry boat traffic.

Box 3: How are consumer price surveys organised?

For the purposes of the collection of consumer prices, the 31 countries currently participating in the group co-ordinated by Eurostat, are divided in three sub-groups that are organised as follows:

- the "Northern" group is composed of Finland, Denmark, Sweden, Iceland, Norway, UK, Ireland, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania;
- the "Central" group is composed of Austria, Germany, Switzerland, the Netherlands, Belgium, Luxembourg, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia;
- the "Southern" group is composed of Italy, France, Spain, Portugal, Greece, Cyprus, Bulgaria, Malta, Romania and Turkey.

Finland, Austria and Italy act as group leaders. The idea behind this approach is to combine countries in a group, which have similar market structures and consumption pattern due to their similar geographical location. Consequently, each group of countries has group-specific product lists. Another reason for the group structure was to integrate the PPP price surveys for Member States and candidate countries. Specific meetings in all three groups and one so-called "overlap" meeting are organised in order to ensure:

- a harmonised approach to the survey concerned in all participating countries,
- the right balance between comparability of products selected for the survey and their representativity of the expenditure pattern in each participating country,
- and sufficient overlap between the three group product lists for the overall European comparison. A particularly difficult problem in this process is a sufficient overlap between EU Member States and Candidate Countries, as the consumption pattern in many Candidate Countries are still substantially different.

The three group leaders co-ordinate the establishment of the group product lists, including pre-survey work and validate the prices collected in their respective group. Eurostat is responsible for the overall European co-ordination and PPP calculation.

For practical and cost reasons, the consumer price surveys are organised in a rolling cycle over three years, and they are carried out in the countries' capital cities in a specific survey month. Subsequently, the prices are adjusted to annual average prices, using monthly consumer price indices of the survey year and to national average prices, using spatial adjustment factors. Between survey years, benchmark results are extrapolated using annual average CPI. The prices observed are the market prices consumers actually pay, including all taxes and duties.

Table 3 on page 5 provides an interesting cross comparison of Price level indices for all ECP participants for Food and non-alcoholic beverages combined. Again, it is interesting to look at countries that have *land borders* with each other.

Taking Germany as an example, as this country is the one with most land borders to other countries participating in the comparison, considerable average price level differences between neighbours in Europe become evident. The comparable and representative basket of food and non-alcoholic beverages, which costs 100 euro in Germany, would cost about the same in Austria and slightly less in Belgium (97) and the Netherlands (94). In France and Luxembourg, this basket would cost 7 euro more and in Denmark even 27 euro more than in Germany. Shopping for food and non-alcoholic beverages in Switzerland is very expensive for Germans, as the basket would cost 45 euro more than at home. At the Eastern borderlines, on the other hand, the same basket would be available for 53 euro in Czech Republic and for 59 euro in Poland.

Big price level differences when it comes to food and non-alcoholic beverages, however, also exist within the Candidate Countries group. Taking Hungary as an example, the basket that costs 100 euro in Hungary would be available for 88 euro in Slovakia and for 92 euro in Romania. In Slovenia, however, it would be expensive for Hungarians, as the basket would cost 43 euro more than in Hungary.

Slovenia generally is an interesting case within the Candidate Countries group. The price level for food and non-alcoholic beverages in this country is considerably higher than in all other Candidate Countries with the exception of Malta and Cyprus. With regard to Malta, Slovenia is about at the same price level, while the same basket items would cost 11 euro more in Cyprus than in Slovenia.

Slovenia, Malta and Cyprus, are also the only Candidate Countries that have higher price levels for food and non-alcoholic beverages than some of the Member States. In the case of the Cypriot – Greek comparison, the difference is even considerable, Cyprus being 13% more expensive than Greece.

➤ ESSENTIAL INFORMATION – METHODOLOGICAL NOTES

PPPs, PPS and the Euro

The differences in values of GDP expenditure between countries, even when revalued in a common currency using exchange rates, correspond not only to a “volume of goods and services” component but also to a “level of prices” component, which can sometimes assume sizeable proportions. Exchange rates are determined by many factors, which reflect demand and supply on the currency markets, such as international trade and interest rate differentials. In other words, exchange rates usually reflect other elements than price differences alone. Therefore, the use of exchange rates as conversion factors in cross-country comparisons is not advisable.

To obtain a pure comparison of volumes, it is essential to use special conversion rates (spatial deflators) which remove the effect of price level differences between countries. Purchasing Power Parities (PPPs) are such currency conversion rates that convert economic indicators expressed in national currencies to an artificial common currency, called Purchasing Power Standard (PPS), that equalises the purchasing power of different national currencies.

In their simplest form, PPPs are a set of price relatives, which show the ratio of the prices in national currency of the same good or service in different countries (e.g. a loaf of bread costs 1.87 euro in France, 1.68 euro in Germany, 95 pence in the UK, etc). For the price collections, a basket of comparable goods and services is used which are selected to represent the whole range of goods and services, and to be representative of consumption patterns in the various countries. The simple price relatives at product level are subsequently aggregated (weighted together) to PPPs for groups of products, for total consumption and finally for GDP.

To fix a numeraire for the numerical procedure of the PPP calculation, usually one country is used as a base country and set to equal 1. For the EU the selection of a single country (currency) as a base seemed inappropriate. Therefore, PPS is the artificial common reference currency unit used in the European Union to express the volume of economic aggregates for the purpose of spatial comparisons in real terms. Volume aggregates in PPS are obtained by dividing their original value in national currency units by the respective PPPs. One PPS, therefore, buys the same given average volume of goods and services in all countries, whereas different amounts of national currency units are needed to buy this volume of goods and services, depending on the national price level.

With the launch of the euro in the euro-zone Member States, for the first time prices can be compared directly between these countries. However, the euro has different purchasing power in the individual euro-zone countries, depending on the national price levels. Therefore, for the establishment of pure volume aggregates in PPS it is still necessary to calculate PPPs. With other words, for the non-euro-zone countries PPPs are currency converters and eliminate the effects of different price levels, while for the euro-zone countries they fulfil only the latter price deflator function.

Publication calendar 2002

During the calendar year 2002 the following further PPP related publications have been published or are planned:

July 2002:	Purchasing Power parities and related economic indicators for EU, EFTA and Candidate Countries, preliminary results for 2000
December 2002:	Comparative price levels for “Services”, for the year 2001
December 2002:	Final PPP results 2000 and preliminary results 2001

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Purchasing Power Parities and related economic indicators for EU, Acceding and Candidate Countries and EFTA¹

Statistics in focus

Final results for 2000 and preliminary results for 2001

Silke STAPEL

ECONOMY AND FINANCE

THEME 2 – 56/2002

PRICES AND PURCHASING POWER PARITIES

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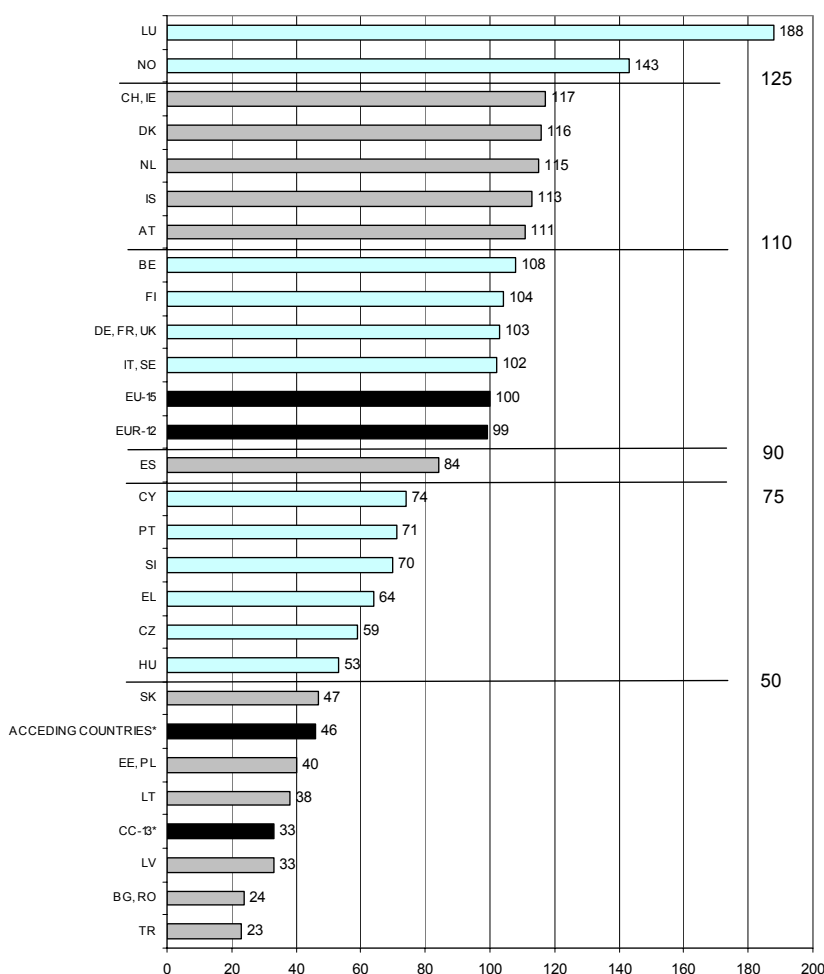
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Price level indices and per capita volume indices for GDP and selected components in 2000 and 20015

This article presents final Purchasing Power Parities and related economic indicators for 2000 for the 31 countries⁽²⁾ participating in the European Comparison Programme (ECP), as well as preliminary results for 2001. The ECP – in which Eurostat closely co-operates with OECD – is aimed at making annual volume comparisons of the main National Accounts aggregates: Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and its components.

**Chart 1: Per capita volume index at the level of total GDP
2001 preliminary results, EU-15=100**



*Without Malta



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⁽¹⁾ Excluding Liechtenstein

⁽²⁾ The 15 EU Member States, the 10 Acceding Countries, the 3 Candidate Countries, Iceland, Norway and Switzerland

Purchasing Power Parities and international volume comparisons

The differences in values of GDP between countries, even when revalued in a common currency using exchange rates, do not only correspond to a “volume of goods and services” component but also to a “level of prices” component, which can sometimes assume sizeable proportions.

Exchange rates are determined by many factors, which reflect demand and supply on the currency markets, such as international trade and interest rate differentials. In other words, exchange rates usually reflect other elements than price differences alone. Therefore, the use of exchange rates as conversion factors in cross-country comparisons is not advisable.

To obtain a pure comparison of volumes, it is essential to use special conversion rates (spatial deflators) which remove the effect of price level differences between countries. Purchasing Power Parities (PPPs) are such currency conversion rates

that convert economic indicators expressed in national currencies to an artificial common currency, that are called Purchasing Power Standard (PPS). In other words, PPPs are used to convert nominal final expenditures on product groups, aggregates and GDP of the different countries taking part in the comparison into comparable volumes, expressed in PPS units.

With the launch of the euro, for the first time, prices can be compared directly between the countries in the euro-zone. However, the euro has different purchasing power in the individual euro-zone countries, depending on the national price levels. Therefore, it is still necessary to calculate PPPs for the establishment of pure volume aggregates in PPS. In other words, for the non-euro-zone countries PPPs are currency converters and eliminate the effects of different price levels, while for the euro-zone countries they only fulfil a price deflator function.

Box 1: How are PPPs calculated and what is PPS?

In their simplest form, PPPs are a set of relative prices, which show the ratio of the prices in national currency of the same good or service in different countries (e.g. a loaf of bread costs 1.87 euro in France, 1.68 euro in Germany, 95 pence in the UK, etc). For the price collections, a basket of comparable goods and services is used, selected as representative of the whole range of goods and services, as well as of consumption patterns in the various countries.

The simple relative prices at product level are subsequently aggregated (weighted together) to PPPs for groups of products, for total consumption and finally for GDP.

To fix a numéraire for the numerical procedure of the PPP calculation, usually one country is used as a base country and set to equal 1. For the European Union the selection of a single country (currency) as a base seemed inappropriate. Therefore, PPS is the artificial common reference currency unit used in the European Union to express the volume of economic aggregates for the purpose of spatial comparisons. Economic volume aggregates in PPS are obtained by dividing their original value in national currency units by the respective PPPs.

Per capita GDP volume index ⁽³⁾ in 2001

The **per capita GDP volume indices** shown in **Chart 1** represent the real volumes of production (GDP values in national currency, converted using PPPs) in per capita terms, expressed in relation to the European Union average. If the per capita GDP volume index of a country is higher than 100, this country's level of production per head of population is higher than the EU average and vice versa. However, these indices are not intended to rank countries strictly. In fact, they only provide an indication of the comparative order of magnitude of the per capita GDP volume in one country in relation to others.

It is therefore preferable to use these indices for dividing countries into groups of a comparable level. In this respect, the 2001 preliminary results presented here highlight the following groups of countries:

Group I (≥125% of the EU average): Norway and Luxembourg;

Group II (≥110% and <125% of the EU average): Austria, Iceland, the Netherlands, Denmark, Switzerland and Ireland;

Group III (≥90% and <110% of the EU average, i.e. close to the EU average): Sweden, France, Italy, United Kingdom, Germany, Finland and Belgium;

⁽³⁾ One of the particularly important uses of PPPs is for the European Commission to establish both the list of regions that could benefit from the EU Structural Funds as well as the amount of funds to be allocated to each region. One criterion for allocating these funds is based on PPP-converted GDP per capita. The aim of the Structural Funds is to gradually reduce economic disparities between and within EU Member States.

Group IV ($\geq 75\%$ and $< 90\%$ of the EU average): Spain;

Group V ($\geq 50\%$ and $< 75\%$ of the EU average): Hungary, Czech Republic, Greece, Slovenia, Portugal and Cyprus;

Group VI ($< 50\%$ of the EU average): Turkey, Romania, Bulgaria, Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, Poland and Slovakia.

It is remarkable that almost no country has changed group between 2000 and 2001, and that France, the United Kingdom and Germany have become closer than ever.

The per capita GDP for Luxembourg and Norway are

the highest of all countries participating in the comparison, by some distance. One of the reasons for Luxembourg's high GDP per capita is the large share of cross-border workers in total employment: while contributing to GDP, they are not taken into consideration as part of the resident population which is used to calculate GDP per head. The large difference between the V.I. per capita for Household consumption and GDP is due to the fact that a non-negligible part of the Luxembourgish exports is accounted for by expenditure on certain products on the Luxembourg territory made by cross-border shoppers. Norway's results are significantly influenced by oil price variations due to its position as a large oil exporter.

Box 2: Revisions of PPP and comparability of data

It has already been mentioned above that the data for 2001 presented in this paper have preliminary character. This preliminary status arises from the regular PPP revision calendar. Preliminary results for every given year are published 12 months after the end of the reference year. At that time, the results of the two consumer price surveys for the reference year as well as preliminary data for all other input data are available. Final data for the same reference year are published 24 months after the end of the reference year. Naturally, once collected the prices for the reference year do not change between the preliminary data and the final data. Yet, all other input data and particularly the NA related data such as the GDP expenditure weights that are needed for aggregating the PPP up to GDP level, for instance, are themselves subject to regular revisions. 24 months after the end of the reference year, however, such other input data have reached a sufficiently final status to allow for the calculation and publication of the final PPP for a given year. This system represents a compromise between user needs, who prefer quick availability of data, and statisticians whose mission is to provide a reliable information based on sufficiently final input data⁽⁴⁾.

This regular revision calendar does, however, not embrace major PPP revisions. These appear with major methodological changes, such as the introduction of new accounting frameworks. For the majority of the ECP participants, the reference year 2000 can be seen as the first year in which the PPP weights taken from National Accounts are fully based on ESA95⁽⁵⁾. The years before 2000 were affected by the gradual introduction of ESA95 since 1995, in different countries at different points in time. Moreover, all Candidate Countries now fully participate in the price surveys according to the survey cycle, while in the past, estimates had to be partly used. The years before 2000, therefore, include a multitude of minor or major breaks in the time series, which negatively affected the comparability over time or even between countries within one given year. To facilitate economic analysis, Eurostat and the ECP participants have decided to revise the PPPs for the years 1995 to 2000 in the light of ESA95. This enormous exercise will be undertaken in the first half of 2003. The publication of first results from the revision is foreseen for October 2003 and a more extended publication with detailed results and methodological explanations early in 2004.

As a consequence of the above described circumstances, currently only the data for 2000 and 2001 are more closely comparable, as they have been compiled following the same methodology, whereas comparability with previous years' data is weaker. This is why no longer time series are given. In addition, users should also be aware that the data for 2000, that have currently final status, will undergo changes in the major revision next year. This is firstly due to the fact that in the framework of the revision methodological decisions may be taken that will affect data for all years currently available. Secondly, the 2000 data will change to the extent they depend, in the framework of the 3-year survey cycle for consumer goods, on extrapolated PPP of 1999 and 1998, which are themselves subject to revision.

⁽⁴⁾ For the ECP publication calendar 2003, see methodological note on page 7

⁽⁵⁾ ESA95 (European System of Accounts 1995; Commission Regulation (EC) 2223/1996 of 25 June 1996) is the current European methodological framework for compiling National Accounts. Since 1995, it has gradually replaced the former system – ESA79.

Box 3: Maltese results

The data for Malta are not included in this publication. Malta is currently undertaking a revision of its National Accounts in order to adopt ESA95. The revision results are expected to become available in summer 2003. To avoid multiple revisions of data and user confusion, the Maltese statistical office and Eurostat decided not to show the results for 2000 and 2001 before the revision is finalised.

Purchasing Power Parities for GDP and selected components in 2000 and 2001

Table 1 shows the exchange rate to the euro and the PPP at GDP level for 2000 and 2001. In addition to PPPs at GDP level, Table 1 also presents PPPs for the two following components: Household and

NPISH final consumption expenditure and Actual individual consumption. When analysing these PPPs, it appears that they are generally more or less close to that of total GDP.

Table 1 : Euro exchange rates and Purchasing Power Parities, in 2000 and in 2001

	2000 (Final results)				2001 (Preliminary results)			
	Exchange rate to the Euro	Purchasing Power Parity (1 PPS in National Currency)			Exchange rate to the Euro	Purchasing Power Parity (1 PPS in National Currency)		
		GDP	Household and NPISH final consumption expenditure (*)	Actual individual consumption (**)		GDP	Household and NPISH final consumption expenditure (*)	Actual individual consumption (**)
Belgium (BE)	1	0.994520	1.00022	1.00476	1	0.979092	0.983844	0.990534
Denmark (DK)	7.45382	9.05928	9.03311	9.08495	7.45207	9.27280	9.35858	9.38481
Germany (DE)	1	1.02691	0.998257	1.01088	1	1.04793	1.02030	1.03099
Greece (EL)	1	0.753117	0.779556	0.756176	1	0.796929	0.809598	0.784743
Spain (ES)	1	0.821262	0.827120	0.813768	1	0.829546	0.822250	0.811421
France (FR)	1	1.02330	1.01724	1.01334	1	1.00661	0.987349	0.988755
Ireland (IE)	1	1.04071	1.07435	1.04600	1	1.08606	1.12651	1.10434
Italy (IT)	1	0.874605	0.884367	0.885729	1	0.880228	0.914650	0.911149
Luxembourg (LU)	1	1.06934	0.974099	1.04699	1	1.09658	1.00432	1.08113
Netherlands (NL)	1	1.00600	0.993942	0.965773	1	1.00298	0.98635	0.96494
Austria (AT)	1	0.988303	0.969095	0.978955	1	1.01219	0.980974	0.995721
Portugal (PT)	1	0.731522	0.723084	0.733879	1	0.743536	0.739665	0.752095
Finland (FI)	1	1.07831	1.15678	1.14387	1	1.08296	1.16254	1.14909
Sweden (SE)	8.44519	10.2799	10.7576	10.6682	9.25511	10.7234	11.2357	11.1400
United Kingdom (UK)	0.609478	0.701340	0.719836	0.714055	0.621874	0.702483	0.715631	0.710287
EU-15	:	1	1	1	:	1	1	1
Iceland (IS)	72.5848	90.4116	94.8855	92.3776	87.4173	98.6959	106.453	103.986
Norway (NO)	8.11292	9.7834	10.4442	10.3393	8.04844	10.0654	10.8375	10.7545
Switzerland (CH)	1.55786	2.07145	2.11920	2.16134	1.51052	2.10288	2.15059	2.18925
Cyprus (CY)	0.573924	0.464054	0.470770	0.470385	0.575893	0.487772	0.510843	0.508028
Czech Republic (CZ)	35.5995	15.2133	16.0440	14.2086	34.0685	15.3475	15.7832	14.1147
Estonia (EE)	15.6466	7.01593	7.14754	6.30427	15.6466	7.64962	7.89668	6.98072
Hungary (HU)	260.045	114.716	116.789	103.819	256.591	118.810	123.070	110.245
Latvia (LV)	0.559227	0.262703	0.296854	0.253813	0.560060	0.260637	0.288551	0.250780
Lithuania (LT)	3.69516	1.59778	1.72971	1.48299	3.58229	1.53728	1.69491	1.44974
Poland (PL)	4.00817	2.01804	2.16164	2.00899	3.67214	2.06152	2.21450	2.07140
Slovakia (SK)	42.6017	16.2184	17.1796	14.6745	43.3001	16.7584	17.9127	15.2491
Slovenia (SI)	206.613	133.567	136.279	130.493	217.980	141.420	144.245	138.859
Bulgaria (BG)	1.94792	0.566196	0.617644	0.559967	1.94819	0.652727	0.752350	0.671136
Romania (RO)	19 921.8	6 775.15	8 020.96	6 993.68	26 004.0	9 265.88	10 526.40	9 226.44
Turkey (TR)	574 816	323 196	370 000	338 367	1 102 430	497 363	542 264	495 509

*Household final consumption expenditure refers to consumption of goods and services which households actually paid for. Non-profit institutions serving households (NPISH) final consumption expenditure is the sum of their costs less receipts from sales.

**Actual individual consumption consists of household and NPISH final consumption expenditure plus goods and services for individual consumption provided by the government free of charge or at reduced prices, e.g. in education and health. The latter are goods and services that, while provided by government, are consumed individually by households.

Price level indices and per capita volume indices for GDP and selected components, in 2000 and 2001

For 2000 and 2001, Table 2 shows Price Level Indices (PLIs) and per capita Volume Indices (V.I.) for total GDP and two of its components: Household and NPISH final consumption expenditure, and Actual individual consumption.

PLIs are obtained as the ratio between PPP and the exchange rate for each country. These indices provide a comparison of the countries' Price Levels with respect to the EU average: if the PLI is higher than 100, the country concerned is relatively expensive compared to the EU average. In this case, the use of exchange rates would overestimate the volumes; the opposite is true if the PLI is lower than 100.

The V.I. for Household and NPISH final consumption expenditure and Actual individual consumption in table 2 represent the real volumes of expenditure / consumption (aggregate values in national currency, converted using PPPs) in per capita terms, expressed in relation to the European Union average. If the V.I. of a country and a certain aggregate is higher than 100, it means that in this country the level of expenditure / consumption per head of population is higher than in the average of the EU and vice versa.

It is interesting to compare the V.I. for household and NPISH final consumption expenditure with the one for actual individual consumption in Table 2. The differences between both V.I.s are, relative to the EU average, the goods and services that are provided free of charge or at reduced prices by the government to the households (e.g. for education and health). Big state re-distribution effects in 2001 are particularly noticeable for Denmark, Sweden and Norway. These countries have a V.I. for actual individual consumption, which is, relative to the EU average, at least 10 percentage points higher than the one for their final consumption expenditure.

As already mentioned above, both sets of indices are not intended to rank countries strictly, but to provide the order of magnitude.

Table 2 shows that disparities in the PLI for GDP among EU Member States lie between 74 (Portugal) and 124 (Denmark) in 2001, while they are spread between 34 (Bulgaria) and 139 (Switzerland) when considering all participating countries in the ECP. In 2000, these disparities lay between 73 (Portugal) and 122 (Sweden and Denmark) for the EU-15, and 29 (Bulgaria) and 133 (Switzerland). PLIs and per capita V.I.s for GDP appear to be much less dispersed in EU-15 than in the whole set of 31 countries. This is confirmed by the computation of indicators of dispersion like the coefficient of variation of PLIs, defined as standard deviation divided by mean, on different country groups (EU-15 and the whole set of countries). This coefficient reaches 14.3% in 2000

and 13.5% in 2001 for EU-15, is stable at 25.1% in 2000 and in 2001 for acceding countries, whereas it reaches 38.3% in 2000 and 37.6% in 2001 for the whole set of participating countries.

In EU-15, Portugal and Spain are going closer to the EU average between 2000 and 2001, both in PLIs and per capita V.I.s.

Other countries tend to get closer to the EU average in terms of prices only. Two groups can be distinguished: countries with above average PLIs which are decreasing closer to the EU average, such as France, the Netherlands and especially the UK and Sweden, and countries with PLI below the EU average that tend to go up to the average, like Italy and Greece. In the case of the UK and Sweden, however, it has to be noted that this development is also influenced by the development of the exchange rates, as both countries do not belong to the eurozone. Both countries' currencies have depreciated between 2000 and 2001 what leads to lower PLI. Finally, some countries with per capita V.I.s for GDP above the EU average are getting closer to it: Austria, Denmark, Germany, Luxembourg and Sweden.

These conclusions should be analysed with caution. As no long time series are available, a distinction between structural changes and short-term economic circumstances is not possible.

In the EFTA-3 group (Iceland, Norway and Switzerland), the most significant feature is the very fast decrease in the Prices Level Index of Iceland between 2000 and 2001, however, fully explained by a sharp depreciation of the Icelandic Krona against the euro.

Acceding countries and the three CC all have PLIs well below the EU-15 average, the highest index being that of Cyprus, by some distance (85 in 2001). But all except Latvia, Lithuania and Turkey have experienced rises in their PLIs, getting closer to the EU-15 average. These rises were especially considerable in Poland, Bulgaria and in Estonia. In the case of Turkey, the fall in PLIs has been sharp (-19.8%), mostly as a consequence of the depreciation of the Turkish lira.

Per capita V.I.s for GDP have also risen to the EU-15 average over +4% points in Hungary, around +3% points in the Czech Republic and Slovenia and around 2% points in Latvia and Lithuania.

Table 2 : Price level indices and Volume indices per capita in PPS, EU-15=100, for 2000 and 2001

	2000 (Final results)						2001 (Preliminary results)					
	Price level index, EU-15=100			Per capita volume index, EU-15=100			Price level index, EU-15=100			Per capita volume index, EU-15=100		
	GDP	Household and NPISH final consumption expenditure (*)	Actual individual consumption (**)	GDP	Household and NPISH final consumption expenditure (*)	Actual individual consumption (**)	GDP	Household and NPISH final consumption expenditure (*)	Actual individual consumption (**)	GDP	Household and NPISH final consumption expenditure (*)	Actual individual consumption (**)
BE	99	100	100	107	99	102	98	98	99	108	100	103
DK	122	121	122	118	96	108	124	126	126	116	92	105
DE	103	100	101	106	110	107	105	102	103	103	107	105
EL	76	79	77	67	78	72	80	81	78	64	74	69
ES	82	83	81	82	82	81	83	82	81	84	85	83
FR	102	102	101	101	95	99	101	99	99	103	98	102
IE	104	107	105	115	91	91	109	113	110	117	91	91
IT	87	88	89	102	104	102	88	91	91	102	101	100
LU	107	97	105	195	150	142	110	100	108	188	149	142
NL	101	99	97	111	96	102	100	99	96	115	99	104
AT	99	97	98	114	113	112	101	98	100	111	112	109
PT	73	72	73	70	74	73	74	74	75	71	74	72
FI	108	116	114	104	82	87	108	116	115	104	82	88
SE	122	127	126	106	85	98	116	121	120	102	81	93
UK	115	118	117	102	112	110	113	115	114	103	114	112
EUR-12	96	95	95	99	98	98	96	96	96	99	98	98
EU-15	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
IS	125	131	127	117	113	122	113	122	119	113	102	111
NO	121	129	127	147	101	110	125	135	134	143	98	108
CH	133	136	139	120	120	110	139	142	145	117	118	108
EFTA-3	128	133	134	130	113	110	133	139	140	127	110	108
CY	81	82	82	75	87	82	85	89	88	74	82	78
CZ	43	45	40	56	49	56	45	46	41	59	53	58
EE	45	46	40	40	38	42	49	50	45	40	37	41
HU	44	45	40	49	43	49	46	48	43	53	46	51
LV	47	53	45	31	29	33	47	52	45	33	32	35
LT	43	47	40	36	36	43	43	47	40	38	38	44
PL	50	54	50	40	41	41	56	60	56	40	42	41
SK	38	40	34	46	42	47	39	41	35	47	43	48
SI	65	66	63	67	62	65	65	66	64	70	62	66
ACCEDING COUNTRIES***	48	51	46	45	43	46	51	55	50	46	44	46
BG	29	32	29	25	28	28	34	39	34	24	25	26
RO	34	40	35	23	24	25	36	40	35	24	26	27
TR	56	64	59	25	27	26	45	49	45	23	26	25
CC-13***	49	57	51	33	34	35	42	46	42	33	34	35

*See table 1

**See table 1

*** Without Malta

➤ ESSENTIAL INFORMATION – METHODOLOGICAL NOTES

Publication calendar 2003

During the calendar year 2003 the following PPP related publications are planned:

- 30. April 2003 – Relative prices for Furniture, glassware and tableware
- 23. May 2003 – Nowcast of the PPP 2002
- 30. June 2003 - Relative prices for services
- 31. October 2003 – Revision of the PPP 1995 to 2000 – first aggregated results
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