

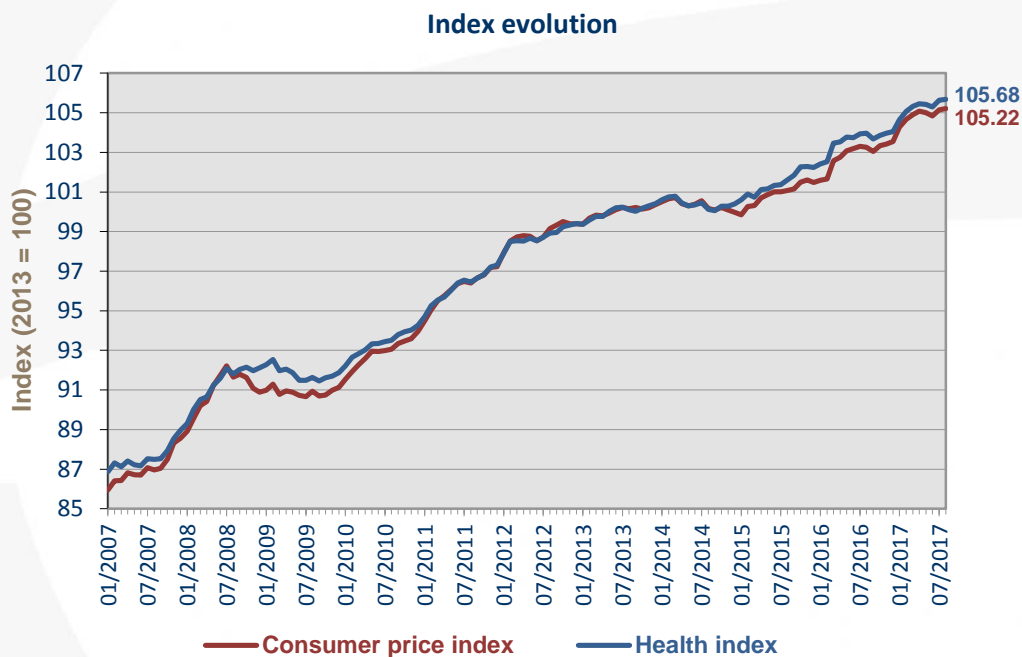
Inflation increases from 1.78% to 1.90%

Consumer price index of August 2017

- **Inflation** increases from 1.78% to 1.90% in August.
- The **consumer price index** this month increases by 0.07 points or 0.07%.
- Inflation based on the **health index** remains unchanged at 1.64%.
- The **smoothed health index** is running at 103.39 points in August.
- The most significant **price increases** in August were registered for meat, motor fuels and personal care products. Flight tickets, mobile telephone services, vegetables and alcoholic beverages provided the largest **downward contribution** to the CPI.

The consumer price index is running at 105.22 points in August 2017. It has increased by 0.07 point over the month. Inflation has edged up to 1.90% from 1.78%. The health index has gained 0.05 point to 105.68 points. Inflation based on the health index remains unchanged at 1.64%. The most significant price increases in August have been registered for meat, motor fuels and personal care products. These increases were mostly offset by price decreases for flight tickets, mobile telephone services, vegetables and alcoholic beverages.

The **consumer price index** has risen by 0.07 points or 0.07% in August 2017 and now amounts to 105.22 points, compared to 105.15 points in July 2017 (2013=100).



The **health index** has gained 0.05 point to 105.68 points in August, up from 105.63 points in July. The **smoothed health index** is running at 103.39 points in August. The **central index** for public service and social benefits, set at 105.10 points, has not been exceeded. The last time the central index was exceeded was in May 2017.

Products with the largest increasing effect in August are meat, motor fuels and personal care products. Flight tickets, mobile telephone services, vegetables and alcoholic beverages provided the largest downward pressure compared to last month. The most important trends this month are:

<u>Upward:</u>	<u>Effect:</u>	<u>Downward:</u>	<u>Effect:</u>
Meat	+0.045 point	Flight tickets	-0,065 point
Motor fuels	+0.045 point	Mobile telephone services	-0,030 point
Personal care products	+0.020 point	Vegetables	-0,030 point
		Alcoholic beverages	-0,020 point

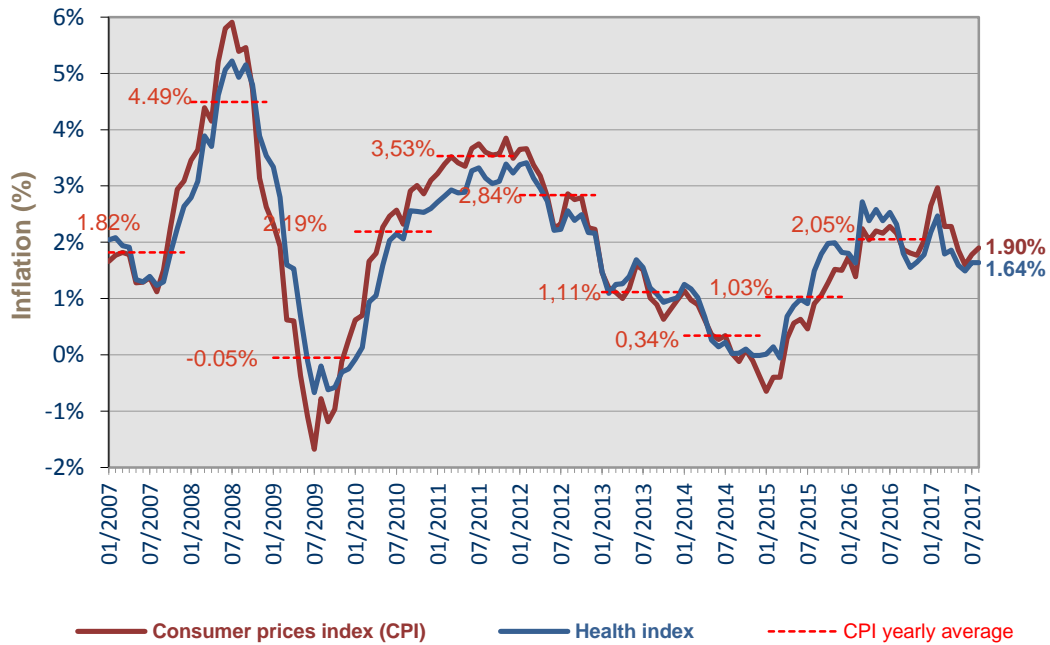
Meat has become on average 1.1% more expensive. Prices of **Motor fuels** have increased on average by 1.5%. **Personal care products** have become on average 1.1% more expensive.

Flight tickets have become on average 9.6% less expensive in August. **Mobile telephone services** have been on average 3.3% cheaper in August. Prices of **vegetables** have gone down by 1.6% in August. Prices of **alcoholic beverages** have decreased by 1.2%.

Inflation is now running at 1.90%, compared to 1.78% in July and 1.60% in June. **Inflation** based on the **health index** remains unchanged this month and amounts to 1.64% just like in July, compared to 1.49% in June. **Inflation without energy** has decreased to 1.44% in August, from 1.46% in July and 1.16% in June. **Core inflation**, which does not take into account price evolutions of energy products and unprocessed food, stands at 1.54% in August, as against 1.60% in July and 1.40% in June.

Food inflation is now running at 1.39%, up from 0.87% in July and -0.14% in June. Fresh fruit now costs 7.2% less than in August 2016. Fresh vegetables are also cheaper: 4.1% on an annual basis. Fish and shellfish are 8.5% more expensive than a year ago. Oils and fats are 12.8% more expensive than last year. Especially the price of butter is higher (inflation of 24.7%). Non-alcoholic beverages now cost 2.4% more than in August 2016. For alcoholic beverages, consumers now have to pay 1.0% more on an annual basis. Tobacco prices have gone up by 5.4% compared to August last year. **Energy** inflation is now running at 6.07%, up from 4.79% in July and 5.57% in June. Electricity is now 3.7% more expensive than a year ago. Natural gas is 1.0% more expensive than in August last year. Prices for domestic heating oil, calculated based on a smoothed 12-month moving average, have increased by 15.7% in a year. Motor fuels are 8.9% more expensive than last year in August. Inflation for **services** has decreased to 1.82% from 2.13%. Inflation for **rents** increased to 1.06% from 1.05%.

Inflation rate



2013 = 100	May 2017	June 2017	July 2017	August
Consumer price index	105.00	104.84	105.15	105.22
Inflation	1.86%	1.60%	1.78%	1.90%
Health index	105.42	105.29	105.63	105.68
Smoothed health index*	103.21	103.27	103.34	103.39

* defined in the law of 23 April 2015 on the promotion of employment (Belgian Official Journal of 27 April 2015)

Additional information

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Source

Statistics Belgium

Additional figures

Tables with detailed data can be found on:

http://statbel.fgov.be/en/statistics/figures/economy/consumer_price_index/

Consumer price index in open data format

Statistics Belgium now also offers the consumer price index in open data format.

The general file contains the general consumer price index from 1920 onward.

The second file contains an overview of the indices from 1998 onward for the twelve main groups according to the [COICOP classification](#).

Open Data

- [Consumer price index, general: from 1920 onward](#)
- [Consumer price index, per group: from 1998 onward](#)