

Soaring Food Prices Threaten Recent Economic Gains in the EU

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The following code replicates the figures in “Soaring Food Prices Threaten Recent Economic Gains in the EU ” by Monica Robayo-Abril, Leonardo Lucchetti, and Lukas Delgado-Prieto. We thank Eurostat for providing the necessary data for this project.

Data:

The paper uses two primary sources of data:

1. The cross-sectional component of the EU statistics on income and living conditions (EU-SILC) includes Bulgaria, Croatia, and Romania for 2020 and Poland for 2019. Those datasets were accessed in December 2022.
2. The aggregate expenditure shares from the Household Budget Surveys (HBS) in 2019 for Bulgaria, Romania, and Poland, and in 2017 for Croatia. Those aggregates were accessed in December 2022.

Data Privacy Statement:

The authors do not have permission to share the data used in this paper, as it was utilized under strict data usage agreements and is not included in the reproducibility package. However, interested researchers can request access to this data under the same strict agreements. For the EU-SILC, researchers may request the data from Eurostat. For more information on accessing the EU-SILC, please refer to this link. To access the HBS surveys of the selected four countries, please refer to this link.

Folder Structure:

01.Data contains datasets in two subfolders: clean and raw. The raw folder includes the expenditure shares of consumption by deciles in the file “food_fuel_ALL.xls,” obtained from HBS and the [Regular Economic Report-8](#) of the World Bank. It also contains the EU-SILC raw datasets for Romania, Bulgaria, and Croatia in the file “SILC_2017_2020.dta,” as well as for Poland in the file “POL_2019.dta.” Then, in the clean folder, these datasets are saved in Stata format after running the do-file “0_Clean_Data.do.”

02.Do contains the Stata code files. Researchers wishing to reproduce the results must adjust the global path in the do-files to match their working directory.

03.Results includes all outputs from the analysis of Section II in the paper. Note that Figures 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 originate from the publicly available external data sources of Eurostat labor and price indicators, which are clearly indicated in the paper and hence are not replicable.

Description of the do-files:

“0_Clean_Data.do” is the do-file that saves the two primary datasets in .dta format.

The file “1_Inflation_Impacts_Direct.do” serves as the main do-file for the analysis in Section II of the paper. It utilizes an auxiliary do-file, “Aux_Inflation_Groups.do,” to generate necessary variables for the analysis. This process involves multiple loops across various price scenarios of food inflation, after which all results are exported into different sheets of the Excel file named “impact_inflation.xlsx” located in the 03.Results folder. Subsequently, we used the created sheets in Excel to generate figures 6 to 13 for the paper in the Excel “Master WP graphs.xlsx”.

The specific correspondence from the output in “impact_inflation.xlsx” to “Master WP graphs.xlsx” is provided with a sheet named “Table correspondence” that indicates which data produces each figure. Also, find it below for your reference:

	Source: Eurostat (https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/prc_hicp_midx/default/table?lang=en&category=prc.prc_hicp)
Figure 1	
Figure 2	Source: HBS in Excel "food_fuel_ALL.xlsx"
	Source: Eurostat (https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/ILC_MDES04__custom_70943/bookmark/table?lang=en&bookmarkId=8e195f40-5d4b-40db-9a11-49a57cef26f5)
Figure 3	
Figure 4	Source: World Bank rapid surveys, June 2023.
	Source: Eurostat (https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/ilc_mdes03/default/table?lang=en)
Figure 5	
	Source: For Figure 6a, combine the output of sheets Poverty changes 20, Poverty changes 30, and Poverty changes 40 of Excel "impact_inflation.xlsx" and the column poverty_change_food_line68.
Figure 6	For Figure 6b, the output is in Change NUTS 20 of Excel "impact_inflation.xlsx".
Figure 7	Source: For Figure 7, the output is in Poverty changes groups 20 of Excel "impact_inflation.xlsx".
	Source: For Figure 8, combine the output of sheets Gini changes 20, Gini changes 30, and Gini changes 40 of Excel "impact_inflation.xlsx" and do the difference between row 3 and 2.
Figure 8	
	Source: For Figure 9, the output is in Income changes 20 of Excel "impact_inflation.xlsx" of the column change_food.
Figure 9	
	Source: For Figure 10, the output is in Income changes 20 of Excel "impact_inflation.xlsx" of the columns share_receive and share_gmi.
Figure 10	
	Source: For Figure 11, combine the output of sheets Poverty changes 20, Poverty changes 30, and Poverty changes 40 of Excel "impact_inflation.xlsx" and the column poverty_change_food_line68_noSE.
Figure 11	
	Source: For Figure 12, the output is in Income changes 20 of Excel "impact_inflation.xlsx" of the column change_food_2xSE.
Figure 12	
Figure 13	Source: For Figure 13, the output is in Inc changes GMI groups 20 of Excel "impact_inflation.xlsx".

Feedback and Suggestions:

Thank you for exploring this project. For questions, comments, and suggestions, please contact Lukas Delgado-Prieto, Consultant, ldelgadoprieto@worldbank.org, and/or Monica Robayo-Abril, Senior Economist, mrobayo@worldbank.org, from the Poverty and Equity Global Practice at the World Bank.