



MONETARY BULLETIN

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The objective of the Central Bank of Iceland's monetary policy is to contribute to general economic well-being in Iceland. The Central Bank does so by promoting price stability, which is its main objective. In the joint declaration by the Government of Iceland and Central Bank of Iceland from March 27, 2001, this is defined as aiming at an average rate of inflation, measured as the 12-month increase in the CPI, of as close to 2½% as possible.

Professional analysis and transparency are prerequisites for a credible monetary policy. In publishing *Monetary Bulletin* three times a year, the Central Bank aims to fulfil these principles.

It includes a detailed analysis of economic developments and prospects, on which the Board of Governors' interest rate decisions are based. *Monetary Bulletin* also represents a vehicle for the Bank's accountability towards the government authorities and the public.

The framework of monetary policy, its implementation and instruments are described in the Chapter on Monetary policy and instruments on pp. 81-83 of this edition of *Monetary Bulletin*.

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Icelandic letters:

ð/Ð (pronounced like th in English this)

þ/Þ (pronounced like th in English think)

In *Monetary Bulletin*, ð is transliterated as d and þ as th in personal names, for consistency with international references, but otherwise the Icelandic letters are retained.

Symbols:

- * Preliminary or estimated data.
- 0 Less than half of the unit used.
- Nil.
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- . Not applicable.