

Section for Consumer Prices
Department of Economic statistics and analysis
Statistics Sweden

Treatment of changed high-cost protection for pharmaceuticals in the CPI

On 1 July 2025, the high-cost coverage for eligible pharmaceuticals will change. The change involves raising limits for the amount that the patient must have purchased pharmaceuticals for in the last 12 months, before reaching a certain level of subsidisation. In the second step of the high-cost protection system, the level of subsidisation is also reduced, from 50% to 25%.

The change will apply gradually, as a 12-month period for an individual patient ends, and a new one begins.

The product group for pharmaceuticals is categorized in the CPI basket under COICOP 06, Health. The weight for pharmaceuticals in 2025 is approximately 9 per cent.

Today's calculation is based on transaction data from the Swedish e-Health Agency. The index is calculated on prices reduced by the subsidy, stratified for each step of the high-cost ladder.

Statistics Sweden has assessed that a departure from the current method is necessary, to correctly capture the impact from the reform on the consumer price.

In a first step, the index will be calculated on prices before the subsidy was deducted. Next, this index will be multiplied by an adjustment factor that describes the impact of the reform on the consumer price.

The calculation takes into account that the change has a gradual impact. The adjustment factor will therefore increase gradually during the coming months. The factor is calculated based on information available in government reports regarding the predicted impact of the reform.

The changed high-cost protection will be taken into account from the CPI for July 2025, which is published 14 August.

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