

Questionnaire for returning summary information to CI
Please return to Azzizza at CI by 21st February

Your name: MIGUEL ANGEL GARCIA GONZALEZ

Organisation and country: MAG (ESTUDIOS DE CONSUMO) – European School of Consumers (SPAIN)

Printer ink

- Which three top-selling inkjet printers did you choose?
 - HP DESKJET 810/820/850
 - CANON BJC 3000/6100/6500
 - EPSON STYLUS COLOR 740/760/800/850/860

- Did you find much price variation for original cartridges (please list the lowest and highest price in euros)?
 - HP DESKJET 810/820/850: Lowest: 26,49 € / Highest: 32,9 €
 - CANON BJC 3000/6100/6500: Lowest 13,90 € - Highest: 14,73 €
 - EPSON STYLUS COLOR 740/760/800/850/860: Lowest 33,90 € - Highest: 41,36 €

- Did you find many retailers selling compatible cartridges? Please tell us how many.
 - HP DESKJET 810/820/850: 4 retailers
 - CANON BJC 3000/6100/6500: 4 retailers
 - EPSON STYLUS COLOR 740/760/800/850/860: 5 retailers

- If so, did you find much price variation for compatible cartridges (please list the lowest and highest price in euros)?
 - HP DESKJET 810/820/850: Lowest: 16,09 € / Highest: 26,59 €
 - CANON BJC 3000/6100/6500: Lowest 5,79 € - Highest: 9,05 €
 - EPSON STYLUS COLOR 740/760/800/850/860: Lowest 5,99 € - Highest: 11,63 €

- In general were the compatible cartridges much cheaper than the original cartridges (if you can give the average price in euros you found for original and compatible cartridges, please do so)?

Average price for original and compatible cartridges

- HP DESKJET 810/820/850: Original: 29,70 € / Compatible: 21,34 € (+39%)
- CANON BJC 3000/6100/6500: Original: 14,32 € / Compatible: 7,42 € (+93%)
- EPSON STYLUS COLOR 740/760/800/850/860: Original 37,63 € - Compatible: 8,81 € (+327%)

- Any other comments?

In case of EPSON cartridges, the original ones have a foreseen life of 300 sheets and the cheapest compatible ones advertise a life of 900 sheets (three times more). Aspects such as the printing quality or the possible problems with printer's heads have not been considered.

Petrol

- Were you able to collect prices for one litre of 95 unleaded petrol? If not, what is a common unit in your country?

Yes, it is the most common type in Spain

- What date did you record prices?

14/02/2006

- How many different brands did you find?

8

- Was there much price variation (please list the lowest and highest price in euros)?

Lowest: 0,895 €. Highest: 0,999 €

- Do you think this picture is representative of the situation in your country generally, or would you expect differences for example in rural areas?

It is not representative, because in rural areas the lack of competition increases the prices of the product.

- Any other comments?

Tyres

- Were you able to find this tyre in your country? If not, what tyre was suitable for a similar Ford Focus?

Yes

- Did you find a wide range of brands on offer?

From 2/3 brands (in hypermarkets) to 11 in an on line shop.

- Were most of these brands available from stock or next day?

Yes

- If not, which brands tended to be most commonly in stock?
- Was it possible to collect prices excluding fitting? If not, why not?

It was possible, because the fitting price is indicated separately.

- Did prices vary much for the two particular models (budget and mid-price) you chose (please list the lowest and highest price in euros)?

FIRESTONE HR14-TZ200. Lowest : 52,95 €. Highest: 61,9 € (+17%)

PIRELLI P6000 : Lowest: 70,95 €. Highest: 86,52 € (+22%)

- Any other comments?

The most frequent brands have been the following ones: Pirelli, Michelin and Firestone

Over the counter medicine

- Was paracetamol available in 500mg strength? If not, what was available?

Yes, it is available. But paracetamol in 650 mg strength is consumed in a higher level.

- Was 16 tablets a common pack size? If not, what pack size was most common?

The most common pack size is 20 tablets

- What choice of brands of paracetamol was available?

Termalgin, Tylenol, Eferalgan, Gelocatil

- What shops was it available from?

Just in pharmacies

- Was it possible to buy generic paracetamol? If so, was this easy to find? What shops was it available from?

Yes, it is possible. It is easy to find. Only in pharmacies

- Did the price vary much for generic paracetamol (please list the lowest and highest price in euros)?

650 mg.: Lowest: 0,90 €. Highest: 2,79 € (+ 210%)

500 mg.: Lowest: 0,68 €. Highest: 2,39 € (+ 251%)

- Did the price vary much for branded paracetamol (please list the lowest and highest price in euros)?

650 mg.: Lowest: 1,02 €. Highest: 1,45 € (+ 42%)

500 mg.: Lowest: 1,39 €. Highest: 2,85 € (+ 105%)

- Any other comments?

The paracetamol in 500 mg strength (brand) is almost twice more expensive than the paracetamol in 650 mg strength!

Personal hygiene (toothbrushes)

- What choice of toothbrushes did you have?

A toothbrush adult compact head, no special features

- Was it easy to find own-brand as well as branded?

Finding branded products is much easier than finding own-brand ones.

- Did the price vary much for branded brushes (please list the lowest and highest price in euros)?

Lowest: 1,60 € - Highest: 4,59 € (+187%)

- How did the own-brand brushes compare (please list the lowest and highest price in euros)?

Lowest: 0,79 € - Highest: 1,34 € (+70%)

- Do the Crest and Oral B brand names exist in your country?

Yes

- Can you find out if historical price data on toothbrushes in your country is available and accessible to you, in case we need this for our research?

No

- Any other comments?

Downloadable music

- What choice of sites did you have?

- iTunes
- MSN
- Yahoo
- Fnac
- Wanadoo
- MTV.es
- Tiscali.es

- Did the price per track vary much (please list the lowest and highest price in euros)?

Same price: 0,99 €

- Any other comments?

In some websites, the user thinks that downloading a software to arrange the purchase of songs is annoying, because it is necessary to download it before seeing the song prices. The consumer must work before deciding... (?)