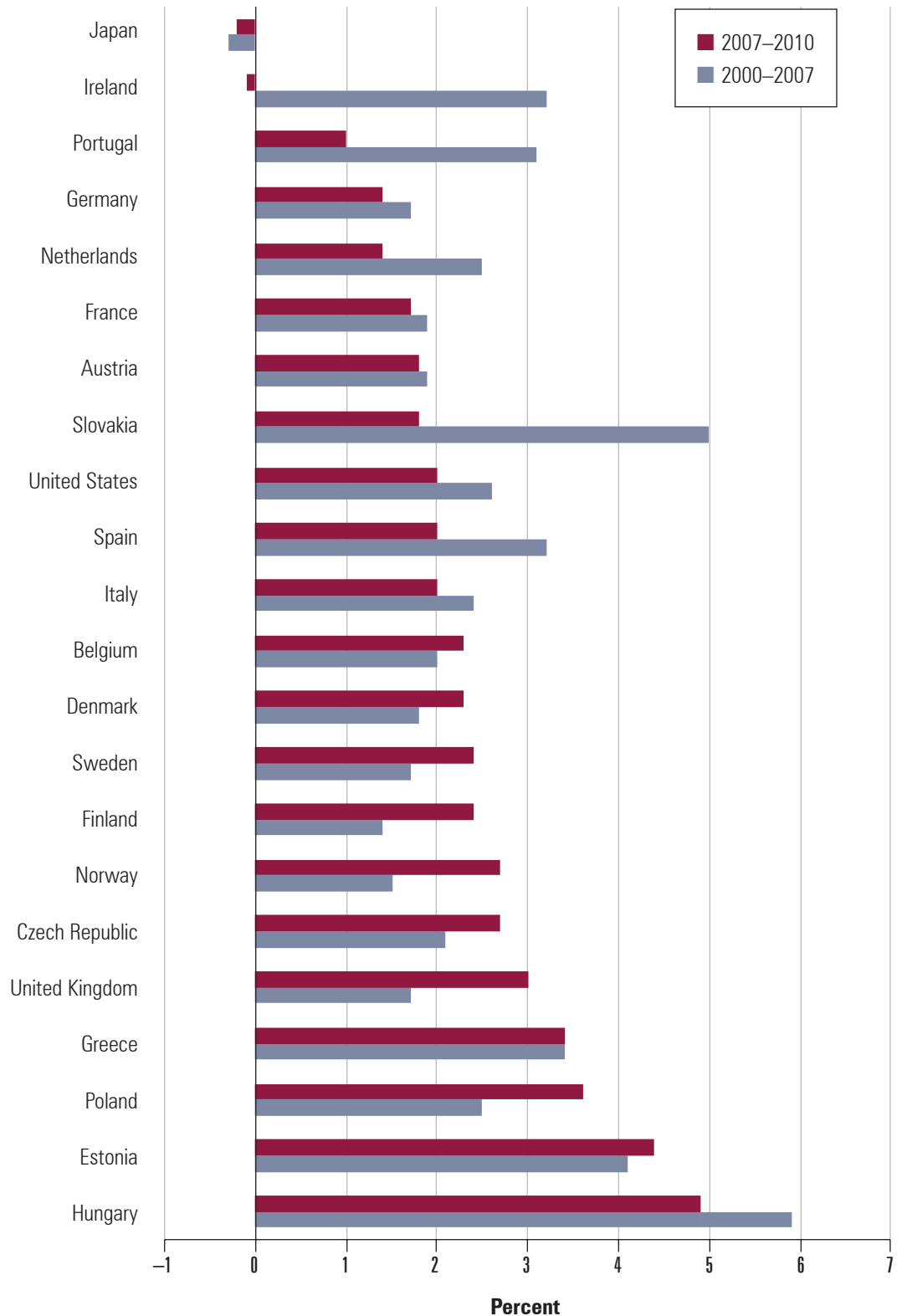


CHART 4.2

Harmonized indexes of consumer prices, selected countries, average annual growth rates, 2000–2007 and 2007–2010

Harmonized indexes of consumer prices (HICP) are an internationally comparable measure of consumer price inflation.

- For half the countries shown—particularly Ireland, Slovakia, and Portugal—inflation was slower during the 2007 to 2010 period, when economies worldwide experienced recessionary pressures.
- Eastern European countries generally had the highest rates of inflation during both periods, while prices decreased slightly in Japan.



SOURCES: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics and Eurostat.