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https://www.100test.com/kao_ti2020/503/2021_2022__E9_87_91_E 8_9E_8D_E9_98_85_E8_c92_503254.htm Chinas inflation eased in April, but barely meeting the governments target of three percent, increasing the pressure on the central bank to raise interest rates. The Consumer Price Index, a barometer of inflation, rose three percent year-on-year, down from 3.3 percent in March, the National Bureau of Statistics said on Monday. The increase was mainly driven by food prices which grew 7.1 percent while non-food items rose a mere 1.0 percent. Among food items, egg prices jumped the most, by 30.4 percent, followed by edible oil and meat. Grain prices went up 6.1 percent. The rural areas witness a price jump of 3.4 percent, bigger than 2.9 percent for the cities. The figures upped the pressure on the Peoples Bank of China to hike interest rates as the countrys real interest rate has been kept in negative territory. Chinas benchmark one-year deposit rate stands at 2.79 percent and interest income is subject to a 20 percent tax. Another indicator of inflation, producer price index rose 2.9 percent in April from 2.7 percent in March, the bureau said on Friday. What adds to the pressure for an interest rate increase is a Odrop in household deposits and higher lending activities. Household deposits decreased by 167.4 billion yuan (US\$21.7 billion) in April, compared with an increase of 60.6 billion yuan (US\$7.9 billion) at the same time last year, the central bank said in a statement on its website on Sunday. Meanwhile, household loans went up 123.6 billion yuan, a year-on-year increase of 63 billion yuan, according to the bank. Given the lack of a substantial jump in consumption, analysts said, a major part of deposits and loans may have flowed into the stock market which has surged more than 50 percent so far this year on top of a 130 rally in 2006. A total of 4.79 million new A-share trading accounts were opened in April, 853,500 more than the combined total for the previous two years, according to statistics from the China Securities Depository and Clearing Corporation. From May 8 to 10, 1.03 million new accounts were added, more than the total number in 2005. The wave of new money has consistently pushed the Shanghai and Shenzhen markets to new highs. Notes barometer n.晴雨表,标记 edible a.可食用的 negative a.负的 China Securities Depository and Clearing Corporation中国证券保证金结算公司 100Test 下载频道开通,各类考试题目直接下载。详细请访问 www.100test.com