



INFLATION AND CONSUMER PRICE INDICES IN DECEMBER 2024

The monthly inflation rate was 0.4%, while the annual inflation rate was 2.2%. The inflation rate is measured by the CPI, with monthly inflation referring to the month of December 2024 compared to the previous month, and annual inflation for December 2024 compared to the same month of the previous year.

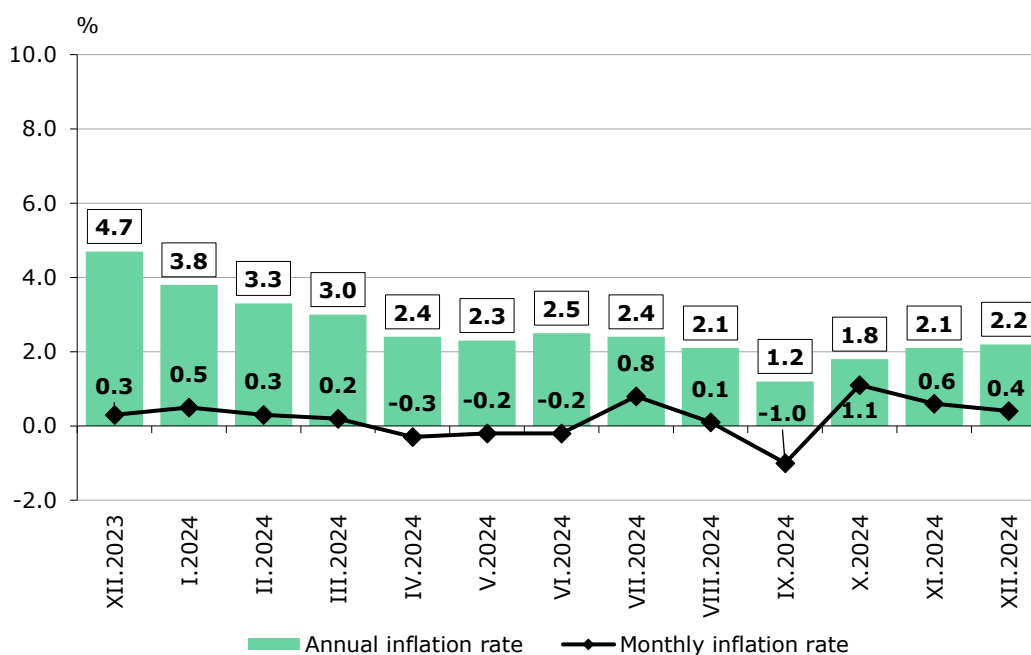
In December 2024, compared to the previous month, the highest increase was registered in the following groups: 'Recreation and culture' (+5.9%), 'Transport' (+1.3%), 'Restaurants and hotels' (+0.7%) and 'Miscellaneous goods and services' (+0.6%). The highest decrease in the prices was recorded in the groups: 'Clothing and footwear' (-1.3%) and 'Food and non-alcoholic beverages' (-0.6%).

Consumer Price Index (CPI)

In December 2024, the **monthly inflation** rate was 0.4% and the **annual inflation** rate in December 2024, compared to December 2023, was 2.2%¹.

The inflation rate since the beginning of the year (December 2024 compared to December 2023) was 2.2%, and the annual average inflation rate for the period January 2024 - December 2024 compared to the period January 2023 - December 2023 was 2.4%.

Figure 1. Inflation, measured by CPI, by month



¹ According to the CPI methodology. For more information, see the Methodological notes on pages 5 and 6 and Annex, Table 1.

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Monthly inflation

In December 2024, the prices of goods and services increased in the following consumer groups:

- 'Recreation and culture' - an increase of 5.9%;
- 'Transport' - an increase of 1.3%;
- 'Restaurants and hotels' - an increase of 0.7%;
- 'Miscellaneous goods and services' - an increase of 0.6%;
- 'Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels' - an increase of 0.4%;
- 'Health' - an increase of 0.4%;
- 'Communications' - an increase of 0.3%.

The prices of goods and services decreased in the following consumer group:

- 'Clothing and footwear' - a decrease of 1.3%;
- 'Food and non-alcoholic beverages' - a decrease of 0.6%;
- 'Furnishings, household equipment and routine maintenance of the house' - a decrease of 0.1%;
- 'Alcoholic beverages and tobacco' - a decrease of 0.1%.

The prices of the services in 'Education' remained unchanged.

Harmonized Index of Consumer Prices (HICP)

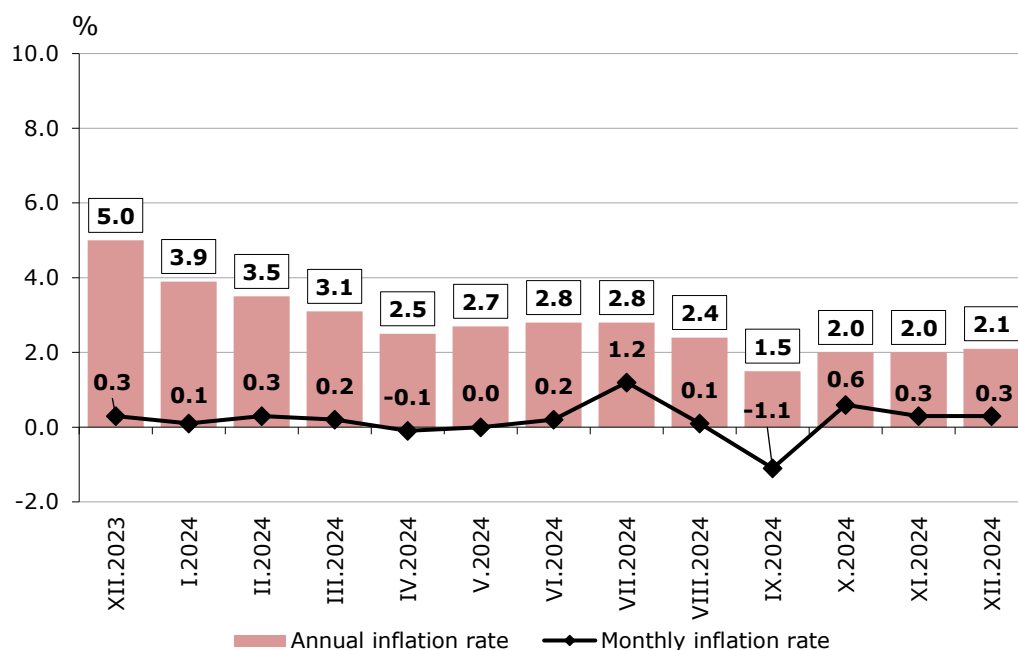
In December 2024, the **monthly inflation** rate, measured by HICP, was 0.3% and the **annual inflation** rate in December 2024 compared to December 2023 was 2.1%¹.

The inflation rate since the beginning of the year (December 2024 compared to December 2023) was 2.1%, and the annual average inflation rate for the period January 2024 - December 2024 compared to the period January 2023 - December 2023 was 2.6%.

¹ According to the HICP methodology. For more information, see the Methodological notes on pages 5 and 6 and Annex, Table 2.

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Figure 2. Inflation, measured by HICP, by month



Monthly inflation

In terms of HICP, in December 2024, the prices of goods and services increased in the following consumer groups:

- 'Transport' - an increase of 2.0%;
- 'Recreation and culture' - an increase of 1.8%;
- 'Restaurants and hotels' - an increase of 0.7%;
- 'Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels' - an increase of 0.4%;
- 'Health' - an increase of 0.4%;
- 'Communications' - an increase of 0.3%;
- 'Miscellaneous goods and services' - an increase of 0.3%;
- 'Furnishings, household equipment and routine maintenance of the house' - an increase of 0.1%.

The prices of goods and services decreased in the following consumer groups:

- 'Clothing and footwear' - a decrease of 1.1%;
- 'Food and non-alcoholic beverages' - a decrease of 0.7%;
- 'Alcoholic beverages and tobacco' - a decrease of 0.1%.

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The prices of the services in 'Education' remained unchanged.

Price Index of a Small Basket (PISB)

In December 2024, a price increase of 0.1%, measured by the **Price Index of a Small Basket**, was registered on a monthly basis, and a price increase of 2.3% - since the beginning of the year¹.

In December 2024, compared to the previous month, the prices of goods and services in the small basket for the 20% of households with the lowest income changed as follows:

- 'Non-food products' - an increase of 0.8%;
- 'Food products' - a decrease of 0.3%.

The prices of 'Services' remained unchanged.

¹ For more information, see the Methodological notes on pages 5 and 6 and Annex, Table 3.

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Methodological notes

The **Consumer Price Index (CPI) is the official measure of inflation in the Republic of Bulgaria.** It measures the total relative price change of goods and services used by households for private (non-production) consumption. It is calculated by applying the structure of Bulgarian households' final monetary consumption expenditures. The main source of information for the expenditures is the household budget survey in the country. The CPI in year t is calculated with the expenditures' structure of year $t - 1$.

The **Harmonized Index of Consumer Prices (HICP) is the comparable measure of inflation across EU Member States. It is one of the criteria for price stability and the readiness of Bulgaria to join the Eurozone.** HICP, as well as CPI, measures the total relative price change of goods and services. Both indices are calculated using the same basket of goods and services but differ with concern to the weights used. HICP is calculated using weights, which reflect the individual and collective consumption of all households (incl. institutional and foreign households) in the country's economic territory. The main source of information for HICP weights is the national accounts (NA) data. For calculating the HICP in 2024, NA data for households' final monetary consumption expenditures (HFMCE) - domestic concept in 2022 is used. NA 2022 data are reviewed and updated to make them representative of 2023, following Eurostat's methodological guidance on the compilation of HICP weights in case of large changes in consumer expenditures¹.

The Harmonized Index of Consumer Prices (HICP), calculated by the National Statistical Institute, is in accordance with the requirements of the European Union (EU) and is comparable to that of the other member states. This is the main finding in the Eurostat report, in which the results of the conducted in September 2024 assessment of Bulgaria's compliance with the existing legal framework and with the established HICP recommendations are reflected, as well as other guidelines and good practices in the field of consumer price indices. The report is based on an in-depth examination of the sources and methods used for the production of 2024 HICP, as well as on discussions held during the mission of the experts from the EU Statistical Office at the National Statistical Institute in mid-September 2024.

In compliance with Regulation (EC) No. 2015/2010, **since January 2016, the base year for the HICP has changed**, and all indices have been calculated and published using

¹ Guidance on the compilation of HICP weights in case of large changes in consumer expenditures, Eurostat, Directorate C, Macro-economic statistics, 3.02.2020:
<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/10186/10693286/Guidance-on-the-compilation-of-HICP-weights-in-case-of-large-changes-in-consumer-expenditures.pdf>.

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2015 as a base year. The time series have been recalculated according to the new base year and have been posted on the NSI website (www.nsi.bg).

The **Price Index of a Small Basket (PISB)** measures the relative average price changes of 100 socially useful and vital living goods and services. The weights of this index reflect the expenditures of the 20% lowest households' incomes. The source of the information on weights is the Households Budget Survey in the country. This index in year t is calculated with the weights of year $t - 1$.

The **chain** consumer price indices measure the price change in the current month compared to the previous month. The chain consumer price indices are used as a measure of **monthly inflation**.

The **12-month** consumer price indices measure the price changes occurring between the current month and the same month of the previous year. The 12-month consumer price indices are used as a measure of **annual inflation**.

Consumer price indices **over December of the previous year** measure the accumulated changes in prices of the current month concerning December of the previous year. Consumer price indices over December of the previous year are used as measures of **inflation since the beginning of the year**. In December of each year, the 12-month index is equal to the index over December of the previous year.

The **annual average** consumer price indices measure the average price change during the 12 months of the current year compared to the average price change during the 12 months of the previous year. The annual average consumer price indices are used as a measure of the **annual average inflation**.

Statistical area: Inflation and Consumer Price Indices:

[Inflation and Consumer Price Indices|National Statistical Institute \(nsi.bg\)](#)

IS Infostat: Consumer prices:

https://infostat.nsi.bg/infostat/pages/module.jsf?x_2=68

Metadata and Methodology:

[Consumer Price Indices \(CPI\)|National Statistical Institute \(nsi.bg\)](#)

Inflation Rate Calculator:

[Inflation Rate Calculator|National Statistical Institute \(nsi.bg\)](#)

INFLATION AND CONSUMER PRICE INDICES

IN DECEMBER 2024

Annex

Table 1

Consumer Price Indices in December 2024

(Per cent)

Commodity groups	Weights	December 2024		
		November 2024 = 100	December 2023 = 100	December 2023 = 100
00 Total CPI	100.000	100.4	102.2	102.2
01 Food and non-alcoholic beverages	31.322	99.4	102.8	102.8
02 Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	4.717	99.9	106.0	106.0
03 Clothing and footwear	4.216	98.7	98.8	98.8
04 Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	15.009	100.4	102.8	102.8
05 Furnishings, household equipment and routine household maintenance	5.753	99.9	98.5	98.5
06 Health	7.748	100.4	101.8	101.8
07 Transport	9.278	101.3	99.4	99.4
08 Communication	5.028	100.3	96.8	96.8
09 Recreation and culture	6.343	105.9	103.7	103.7
10 Education	0.424	100.0	107.1	107.1
11 Restaurants and hotels	5.344	100.7	107.5	107.5
12 Miscellaneous goods and services	4.819	100.6	103.4	103.4
Foods	32.646	99.4	102.7	102.7
Non-foods	35.089	100.4	99.3	99.3
Catering	4.461	100.7	107.3	107.3
Services	27.804	101.6	104.5	104.5

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IN DECEMBER 2024

Table 2

Harmonized Indices of Consumer Prices in December 2024

Commodity groups	Weights	December 2024			
		2015 = 100	November 2024 = 100	December 2023 = 100	December 2023 = 100
	‰	%			
00 Total HICP	1000.000	138.99	100.3	102.1	102.1
01 Food and non-alcoholic beverages	233.022	172.14	99.3	102.9	102.9
02 Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	54.937	131.91	99.9	105.5	105.5
03 Clothing and footwear	40.058	109.28	98.9	99.0	99.0
04 Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	119.313	151.63	100.4	102.4	102.4
05 Furnishings, household equipment and routine household maintenance	69.103	125.05	100.1	99.4	99.4
06 Health	74.193	126.10	100.4	101.7	101.7
07 Transport	139.919	120.54	102.0	100.0	100.0
08 Communication	49.875	90.93	100.3	96.8	96.8
09 Recreation and culture	64.537	122.36	101.8	99.8	99.8
10 Education	16.929	160.15	100.0	106.8	106.8
11 Restaurants and hotels	80.188	172.56	100.7	107.8	107.8
12 Miscellaneous goods and services	57.926	144.30	100.3	103.8	103.8

**INFLATION AND CONSUMER PRICE INDICES
IN DECEMBER 2024**

Table 3

**Price indices of 100 socially useful and vital for the
living goods and services in the small basket for the
20% lowest income households in December 2024**

Commodity groups	Weights	(Per cent)
		December 2024 November 2024 = 100
Total PISB	100.000	100.1
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	50.930	99.7
Clothing and footwear	4.172	98.5
Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	23.645	100.4
Furnishings, household equipment and routine household maintenance	2.703	98.2
Health	11.882	101.8
Transport	0.758	100.0
Communication	0.092	100.0
Recreation and culture	0.606	100.0
Miscellaneous goods and services	5.212	101.0
Foods	50.930	99.7
Non-foods	28.855	100.8
Services	20.216	100.0