



INFLATION AND CONSUMER PRICE INDICES IN MAY 2025

The monthly inflation rate was 0.0%, while the annual inflation rate was 3.7%. The inflation rate is measured by the CPI, with monthly inflation referring to May 2025 compared to the previous month, and the annual inflation is for May 2025 compared to the same month of the previous year.

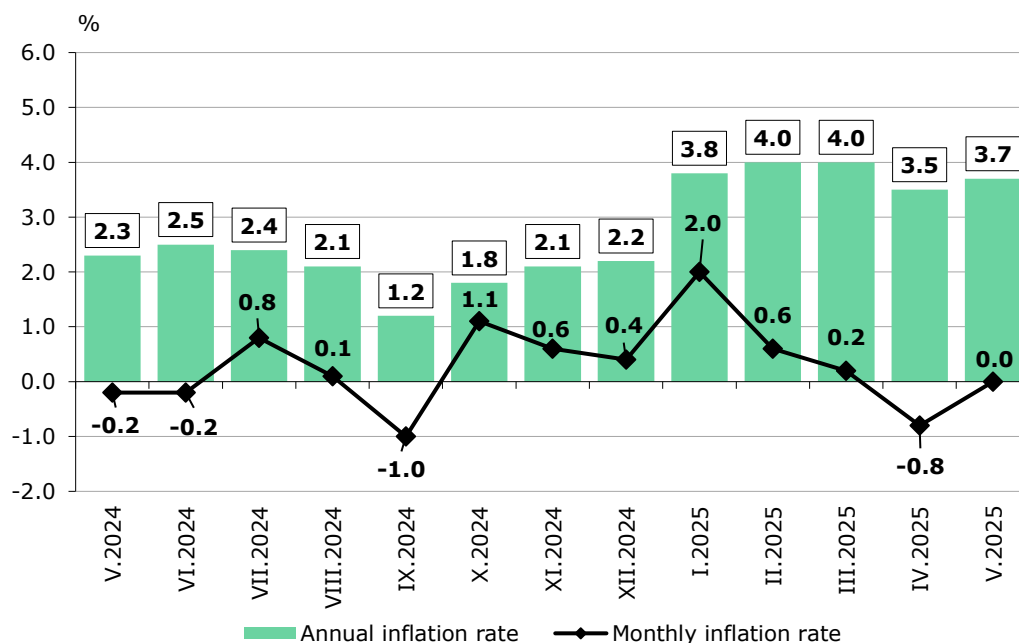
In May 2025, compared to the previous month, the highest increase was registered in the following groups: 'Restaurants and hotels' (0.8%), 'Miscellaneous goods and services' (0.6%), 'Alcoholic beverages and tobacco' (0.6%) and 'Clothing and footwear' (0.5%). A decrease in the prices was recorded in the following groups: 'Transport' (-1.8%), 'Communications' (-1.0), 'Recreation and culture' (-0.9%) and 'Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels' (-0.3%).

Consumer Price Index (CPI)

In May 2025, the **monthly inflation** rate was 0.0% and the **annual inflation** rate in May 2025, compared to May 2024, was 3.7%¹.

The inflation rate since the beginning of the year (May 2025 compared to December 2024) was 1.9%, and the annual average inflation rate for the period June 2024 - May 2025 compared to the period June 2023 - May 2024 was 2.8%.

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.

INFLATION AND CONSUMER PRICE INDICES

IN MAY 2025

Monthly inflation

In May 2025, the prices of goods and services increased in the following consumer groups:

- 'Restaurants and hotels' - an increase of 0.8%;
- 'Miscellaneous goods and services' - an increase of 0.6%;
- 'Alcoholic beverages and tobacco' - an increase of 0.6%;
- 'Clothing and footwear' - an increase of 0.5%;
- 'Furnishings, household equipment and routine maintenance of the house' - an increase of 0.5%;
- 'Food and non-alcoholic beverages' - an increase of 0.5%;
- 'Health' - an increase of 0.2%.

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

- 'Transport' - a decrease of 1.8%;
- 'Communications' - a decrease of 1.0%;
- 'Recreation and culture' - a decrease of 0.9%;
- 'Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels' - a decrease of 0.3%.

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

Accumulated inflation

The accumulated inflation, measured by CPI, for the last three years (May 2025 compared to May 2022) was 16.8% and for the last five years (May 2025 compared to May 2020) was 38.4%.

Harmonized Index of Consumer Prices (HICP)

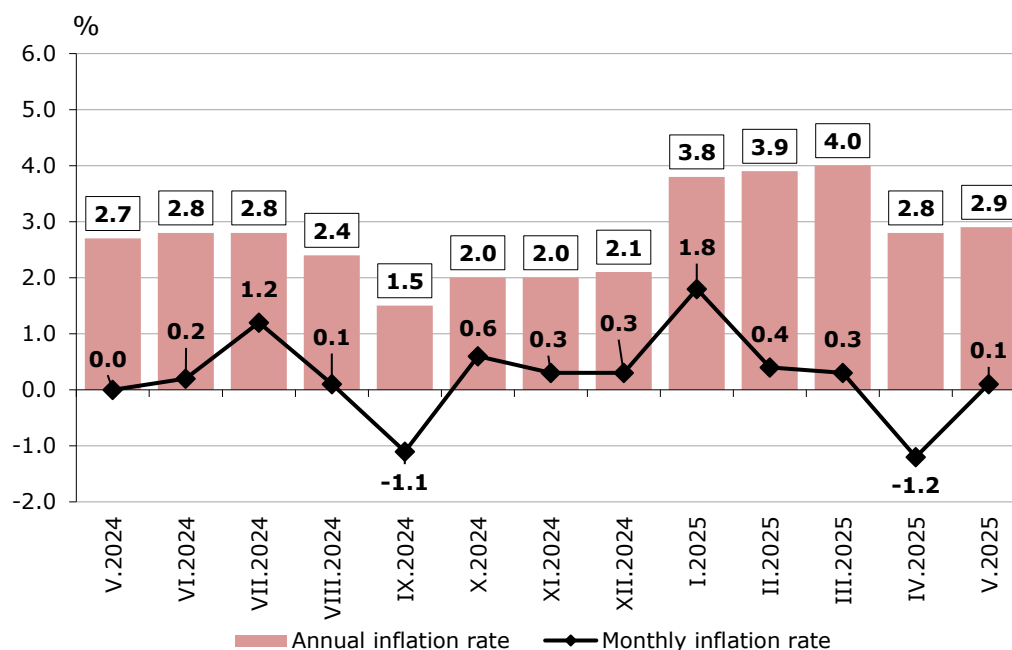
In May 2025, the **monthly inflation** rate, measured by HICP, was 0.1% and the **annual inflation** rate in May 2025 compared to May 2024 was 2.9%².

The inflation rate since the beginning of the year (May 2025 compared to December 2024) was 1.3%, and the annual average inflation rate for the period June 2024 - May 2025 compared to the period June 2023 - May 2024 was 2.7%.

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

INFLATION AND CONSUMER PRICE INDICES IN MAY 2025

Figure 2. Inflation, measured by HICP, by month



Monthly inflation

In terms of HICP, in May 2025, the prices of goods and services increased in the following consumer groups:

- 'Restaurants and hotels' - an increase of 1.3%;
- 'Miscellaneous goods and services' - an increase of 0.9%;
- 'Food and non-alcoholic beverages' - an increase of 0.5%;
- 'Alcoholic beverages and tobacco' - an increase of 0.5%;
- 'Clothing and footwear' - an increase of 0.5%;
- 'Furnishings, household equipment and routine maintenance of the house' - an increase of 0.4%;
- 'Health' - an increase of 0.2%.

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

- 'Transport' - a decrease of 1.5%;
- 'Communications' - a decrease of 1.0%;
- 'Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels' - a decrease of 0.4%;
- 'Recreation and culture' - a decrease of 0.2%.

INFLATION AND CONSUMER PRICE INDICES

IN MAY 2025

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

Accumulated inflation

The accumulated inflation, measured by HICP, for the last three years (May 2025 compared to May 2022) was 14.7% and for the last five years (May 2025 compared to May 2020) was 33.2%.

Price Index of a Small Basket (PISB)

In May 2025, according to the **Price Index of a Small Basket**, the prices remained unchanged on a monthly basis and a price increase of 4.1% was registered since the beginning of the year³.

In May 2025, 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:

- 'Services' - an increase of 0.1%;
- 'Non-food products' - an increase of 0.1%;
- 'Food products' - a decrease of 0.1%.

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

INFLATION AND CONSUMER PRICE INDICES

IN MAY 2025

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 2025, NA data for households' final monetary consumption expenditures (HFMCE) - domestic concept in 2023 is used. NA 2023 data are reviewed and updated to make them representative of 2024, following Eurostat's methodological guidance on the compilation of HICP weights in case of large changes in consumer expenditures⁴.

In compliance with Regulation (EC) No. 2015/2010, **since January 2016, the base year for HICP has changed**, and all indices have been calculated and published using **2015 as a base year**. The time series have been recalculated according to the new base year and have been posted on the website of NSI (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 $t - 1$.

⁴ Guidance on the compilation of HICP weights in case of large changes in consumer expenditures, Eurostat, Directorate C, Macro-economic statistics, 03.02.2020: <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/10186/10693286/Guidance-on-the-compilation-of-HICP-weights-in-case-of-large-changes-in-consumer-expenditures.pdf>.

INFLATION AND CONSUMER PRICE INDICES

IN MAY 2025

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 MAY 2025

Annex

Table 1

Consumer Price Indices in May 2025

(Per cent)

Commodity groups	Weights	May 2025		
		April 2025 = 100	December 2024 = 100	May 2024 = 100
00 Total CPI	100.000	100.0	101.9	103.7
01 Food and non-alcoholic beverages	29.826	100.5	104.8	106.9
02 Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	4.718	100.6	103.8	106.1
03 Clothing and footwear	4.552	100.5	101.2	99.5
04 Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	13.573	99.7	104.7	106.4
05 Furnishings, household equipment and routine household maintenance	5.967	100.5	100.6	99.1
06 Health	7.928	100.2	93.8	95.3
07 Transport	9.312	98.2	97.3	96.1
08 Communication	5.022	99.0	101.3	100.2
09 Recreation and culture	7.645	99.1	97.4	107.2
10 Education	0.509	100.0	101.5	107.0
11 Restaurants and hotels	5.764	100.8	105.2	110.8
12 Miscellaneous goods and services	5.184	100.6	102.7	104.1
Foods	31.131	100.4	104.8	106.7
Non-foods	34.890	99.7	100.2	99.4
Catering	5.009	100.6	105.9	110.5
Services	28.969	99.7	100.2	104.6

INFLATION AND CONSUMER PRICE INDICES
IN MAY 2025

Table 2

Harmonized Indices of Consumer Prices in May 2025

Commodity groups	Weights	May 2025			
		2015 = 100	April 2025 = 100	December 2024 = 100	May 2024 = 100
	‰	%			
00 Total HICP	1000.000	140.84	100.1	101.3	102.9
01 Food and non-alcoholic beverages	219.661	180.72	100.5	105.0	106.8
02 Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	56.922	136.76	100.5	103.7	105.6
03 Clothing and footwear	39.747	110.36	100.5	101.0	99.8
04 Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	96.547	159.05	99.6	104.9	106.4
05 Furnishings, household equipment and routine household maintenance	69.081	125.99	100.4	100.8	100.0
06 Health	76.061	114.64	100.2	90.9	92.4
07 Transport	141.190	117.31	98.5	97.3	97.3
08 Communication	53.837	92.10	99.0	101.3	100.3
09 Recreation and culture	92.041	121.98	99.8	99.7	101.4
10 Education	13.934	162.52	100.0	101.5	106.9
11 Restaurants and hotels	82.002	179.66	101.3	104.1	111.1
12 Miscellaneous goods and services	58.976	147.49	100.9	102.2	103.9

**INFLATION AND CONSUMER PRICE INDICES
IN MAY 2025**

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 May 2025**

Commodity groups	Weights	(Per cent)
		May 2025 April 2025 = 100
Total PISB	100.000	100.0
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	50.013	99.9
Clothing and footwear	3.895	100.2
Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	23.511	99.7
Furnishings, household equipment and routine household maintenance	2.767	101.6
Health	12.894	100.3
Transport	0.695	100.3
Communication	0.098	100.6
Recreation and culture	0.561	100.3
Miscellaneous goods and services	5.566	100.5
Foods	50.013	99.9
Non-foods	29.156	100.1
Services	20.831	100.1