



## INFLATION AND CONSUMER PRICE INDICES - SEPTEMBER 2025

The monthly inflation rate was -0.8%, while the annual inflation rate was 5.6%. The inflation rate is measured by the CPI, with monthly inflation referring to September 2025 compared to the previous month, and the annual inflation is for September 2025 compared to the same month of the previous year.

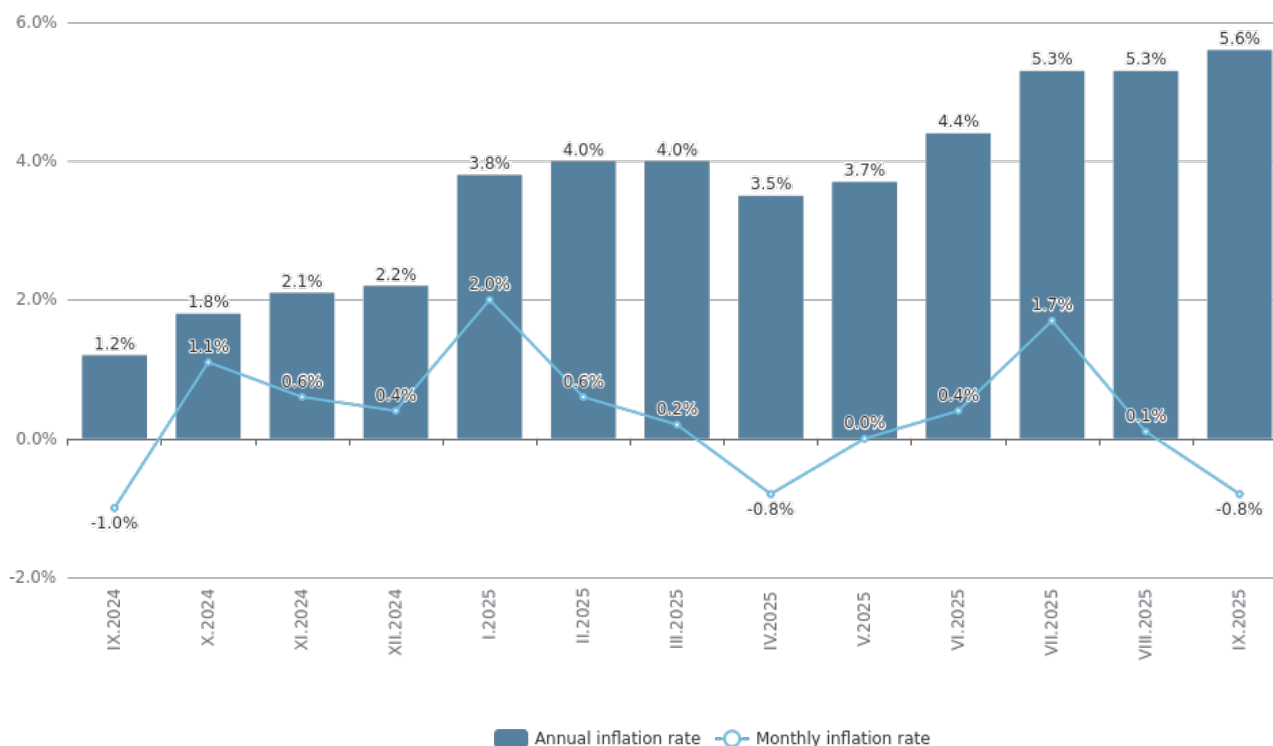
In September 2025, compared to the previous month, the decrease was registered in the following groups: 'Recreation and culture' (-9.9%), 'Restaurants and hotels' (-0.9%) and 'Food and non-alcoholic beverages' (-0.1%). The highest increase in the prices was recorded in the following groups: 'Education' (4.5%) and 'Clothing and footwear' (1.0%).

### Consumer Price Index (CPI)

In September 2025, the **monthly inflation** rate was -0.8% and the **annual inflation** rate in September 2025, compared to September 2024, was 5.6%<sup>[1]</sup>.

The inflation rate since the beginning of the year (September 2025 compared to December 2024) was 3.4%, and the annual average inflation rate for the period October 2024 - September 2025 compared to the period October 2023 - September 2024 was 3.8%.

Figure 1. Inflation, measured by CPI, by month



### Monthly inflation

In September 2025, the prices of goods and services decreased in the following consumer groups:

- 'Recreation and culture' - a decrease of 9.9%;
- 'Restaurants and hotels' - a decrease of 0.9%;
- 'Food and non-alcoholic beverages' - a decrease of 0.1%.

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

- 'Education' - an increase of 4.5%;
- 'Clothing and footwear' - an increase of 1.0%;
- 'Miscellaneous goods and services' - an increase of 0.5%;
- 'Communications' - an increase of 0.5%;
- 'Alcoholic beverages and tobacco' - an increase of 0.4%;
- 'Furnishings, household equipment and routine maintenance of the house' - an increase of 0.3%;
- 'Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels' - an increase of 0.1%.

The prices of the goods and services in the consumer groups 'Health' and in 'Transport' remained unchanged.

### Accumulated inflation

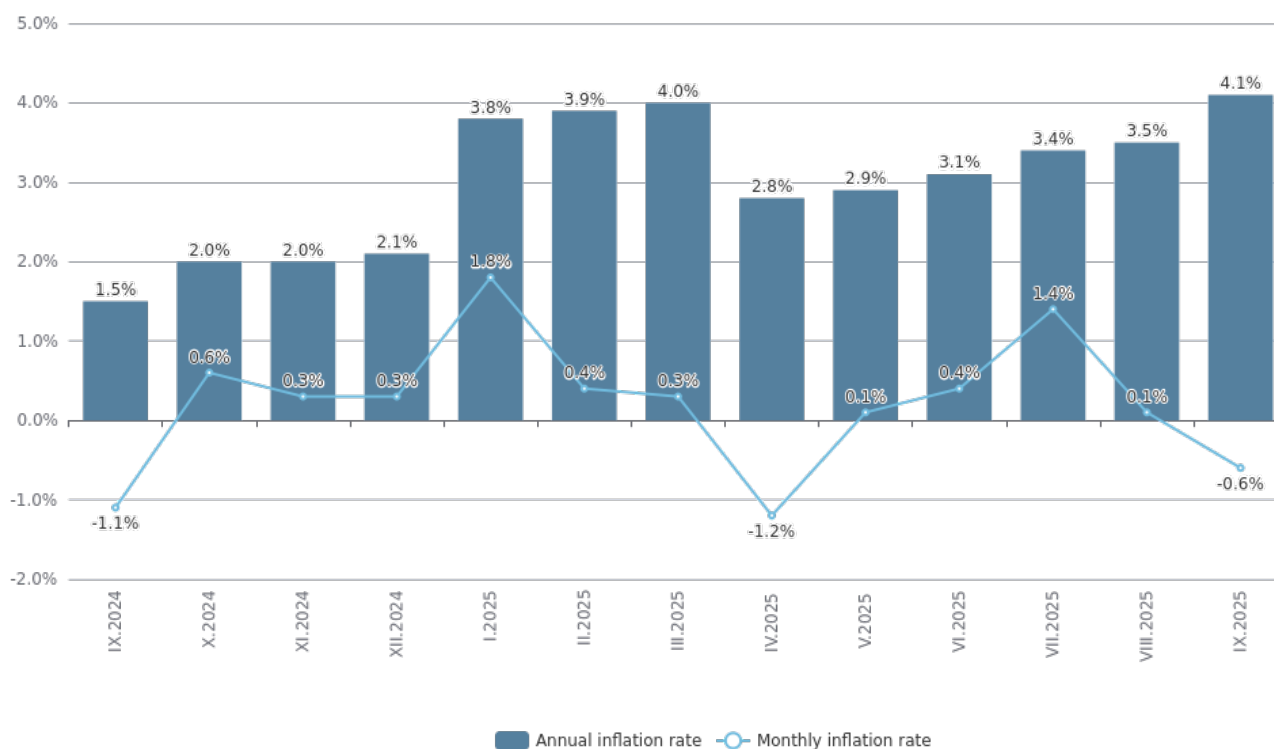
The accumulated inflation, measured by CPI, for the last three years (September 2025 compared to September 2022) was 13.5% and for the last five years (September 2025 compared to September 2020) was 41.1%.

### Harmonized Index of Consumer Prices (HICP)

In September 2025, the **monthly inflation** rate, measured by HICP, was -0.6% and the **annual inflation** rate in September 2025 compared to September 2024 was 4.1%<sup>[2]</sup>.

The inflation rate since the beginning of the year (September 2025 compared to December 2024) was 2.7%, and the annual average inflation rate for the period October 2024 - September 2025 compared to the period October 2023 - September 2024 was 3.1%.

Figure 2. Inflation, measured by HICP, by month



### Monthly inflation

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

- 'Restaurants and hotels' - a decrease of 4.8%;
- 'Recreation and culture' - a decrease of 3.1%;
- 'Transport' - a decrease of 0.5%;
- 'Food and non-alcoholic beverages' - a decrease of 0.2%.

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

- 'Education' - an increase of 4.5%;
- 'Clothing and footwear' - an increase of 1.3%;
- 'Communications' - an increase of 0.5%;
- 'Miscellaneous goods and services' - an increase of 0.5%;
- 'Alcoholic beverages and tobacco' - an increase of 0.4%;
- 'Furnishings, household equipment and routine maintenance of the house' - an increase of 0.4%;
- 'Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels' - an increase of 0.1%.

The prices of the goods and services in the consumer group 'Health' remained unchanged.

### Accumulated inflation

The accumulated inflation, measured by HICP, for the last three years (September 2025 compared to September 2022) was 12.4% and for the last five years (September 2025 compared to September 2020) was 35.1%.

### Price Index of a Small Basket (PISB)

In September 2025, according to the **Price Index of a Small Basket**, the prices remained unchanged on a monthly basis and a price increase of 4.7% was registered since the beginning of the year<sup>[3]</sup>.

In September 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:

- 'Non-food products' - an increase of 0.3%;
- 'Services' - an increase of 0.1%;
- 'Food products' - a decrease of 0.1%.

## 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 expenditures<sup>[4]</sup>.

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](http://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 \(nsi.bg\)](http://www.nsi.bg)

### IS Infostat: Consumer prices:

[https://infostat.nsi.bg/infostat/pages/module.jsf?x\\_2=68](https://infostat.nsi.bg/infostat/pages/module.jsf?x_2=68)

### Metadata and Methodology:

[Consumer Price Indices \(CPI\)|National Statistical Institute \(nsi.bg\)](http://www.nsi.bg)

### Inflation Rate Calculator:

[Inflation Rate Calculator|National Statistical Institute \(nsi.bg\)](http://www.nsi.bg)

Consumer Price Indices in September 2025					
Code	Commodity groups	Weights	September 2025 compared to August 2025	September 2025 compared to December 2024	September 2025 compared to September 2024
		%	%	%	%
00	Total CPI	100.000	99.2	103.4	105.6
01	Food and non-alcoholic beverages	29.826	99.9	105.3	106.2
02	Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	4.718	100.4	106.5	107.8
03	Clothing and footwear	4.552	101.0	95.6	100.8
04	Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	13.573	100.1	107.3	108.7
05	Furnishings, household equipment and routine household maintenance	5.967	100.3	101.3	100.7
06	Health	7.928	100.0	94.8	95.5
07	Transport	9.312	100.0	98.7	100.4
08	Communication	5.022	100.5	104.5	105.6
09	Recreation and culture	7.645	90.1	102.3	119.1
10	Education	0.509	104.5	107.2	109.4
11	Restaurants and hotels	5.764	99.1	108.8	110.8
12	Miscellaneous goods and services	5.184	100.5	104.5	105.2
	Foods	31.131	99.9	105.2	106.1
	Non-foods	34.890	100.3	100.3	101.6
	Catering	5.009	101.0	109.8	112.1
	Services	28.969	97.0	104.1	108.8

Table 2

Harmonised Indices of Consumer Prices in September 2025						
Code	Commodity groups	Weights	2015 = 100	September 2025 compared to August 2025	September 2025 compared to December 2024	September 2025 compared to September 2024
		‰	%	%	%	%
00	Total HICP	1000.000	142.81	99.4	102.7	104.1
01	Food and non-alcoholic beverages	219.661	181.97	99.8	105.7	106.4
02	Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	56.922	140.14	100.4	106.2	107.3
03	Clothing and footwear	39.747	105.45	101.3	96.5	101.6
04	Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	96.547	163.15	100.1	107.6	108.6
05	Furnishings, household equipment and routine household maintenance	69.081	126.69	100.4	101.3	101.0
06	Health	76.061	115.54	100.0	91.6	92.4
07	Transport	141.190	119.30	99.5	99.0	100.6
08	Communication	53.837	95.06	100.5	104.5	105.6
09	Recreation and culture	92.041	123.47	96.9	100.9	105.2
10	Education	13.934	171.63	104.5	107.2	109.4
11	Restaurants and hotels	82.002	184.84	95.2	107.1	108.4
12	Miscellaneous goods and services	58.976	149.66	100.5	103.7	104.6

Table 3

Indices of 100 socially useful and vital for the living goods and services in the small basket for the 20% lowest income households in September 2025			
Code	Commodity groups	Weights	September 2025 compared to August 2025
		%	%
00	Total PISB	100.000	100.0
01	Food and non-alcoholic beverages	50.013	99.9
03	Clothing and footwear	3.895	101.0
04	Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	23.511	100.1
05	Furnishings, household equipment and routine household maintenance	2.767	100.9
06	Health	12.894	99.8
07	Transport	0.695	100.1
08	Communication	0.098	100.0
09	Recreation and culture	0.561	100.2
12	Miscellaneous goods and services	5.566	100.4
	Foods	50.013	99.9
	Non-foods	29.156	100.3
	Services	20.831	100.1

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

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

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

[4] Guidance on the compilation of HICP weights in case of large changes in consumer expenditures, Eurostat, Directorate C, Macroeconomic 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>.