



## INFLATION AND CONSUMER PRICE INDICES IN MARCH 2025

The monthly inflation rate was 0.2%, while the annual inflation rate was 4.0%. The inflation rate is measured by the CPI, with monthly inflation referring to March 2025 compared to the previous month, and the annual inflation is for March 2025 compared to the same month of the previous year.

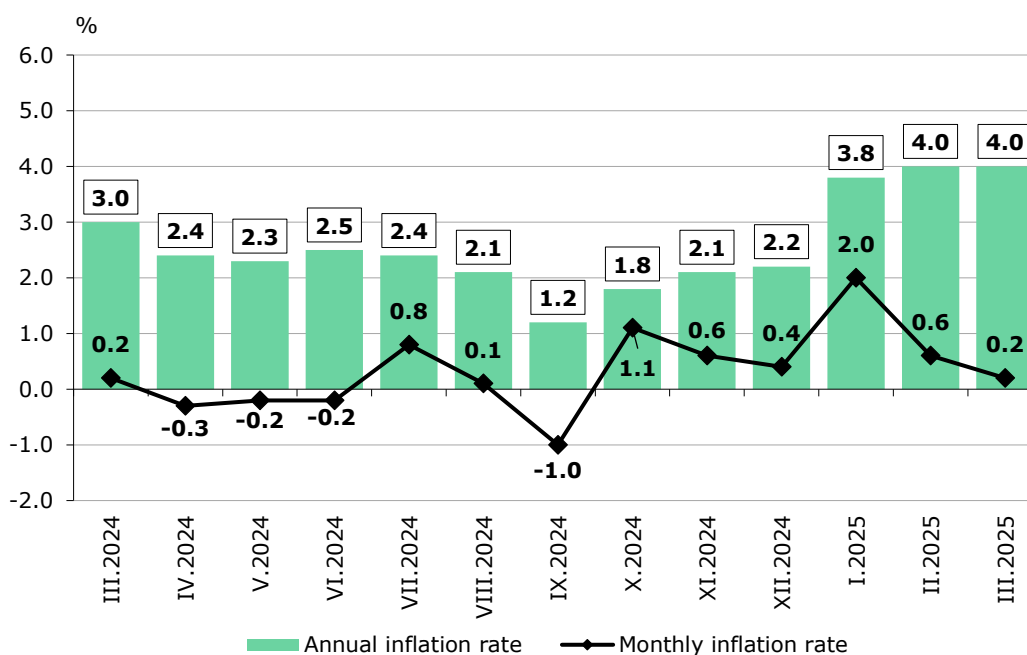
In March 2025, compared to the previous month, the highest increase was registered in the following groups: 'Communications' (+1.3%), 'Health' (+0.9%), 'Miscellaneous goods and services' (+0.8%), 'Restaurants and hotels' (+0.8%) and 'Food and non-alcoholic beverages' (+0.6%). A decrease in the prices was recorded in the groups: 'Recreation and culture' (-2.7%), 'Transport' (-0.7%) and 'Clothing and footwear' (-0.6%).

### Consumer Price Index (CPI)

In March 2025, the **monthly inflation** rate was 0.2% and the **annual inflation** rate in March 2025, compared to March 2024, was 4.0%<sup>1</sup>.

The inflation rate since the beginning of the year (March 2025 compared to December 2024) was 2.8%, and the annual average inflation rate for the period April 2024 - March 2025 compared to the period April 2023 - March 2024 was 2.6%.

Figure 1. Inflation, measured by CPI, by month



<sup>1</sup> 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 MARCH 2025

---

### **Monthly inflation**

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

- 'Communications' - an increase of 1.3%;
- 'Health' - an increase of 0.9%;
- 'Miscellaneous goods and services' - an increase of 0.8%;
- 'Restaurants and hotels' - an increase of 0.8%;
- 'Food and non-alcoholic beverages' - an increase of 0.6%;
- 'Alcoholic beverages and tobacco' - an increase of 0.3%;
- 'Furnishings, household equipment and routine maintenance of the house' - an increase of 0.3%;
- 'Education' - an increase of 0.1%;
- 'Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels' - an increase of 0.1%.

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

- 'Recreation and culture' - a decrease of 2.7%;
- 'Transport' - a decrease of 0.7%;
- 'Clothing and footwear' - a decrease of 0.6%.

### **Accumulated inflation**

The accumulated inflation, measured by CPI, for the last three years (March 2025 compared to March 2022) was 22.2% and for the last five years (March 2025 compared to March 2020) was 38.2%.

### **Harmonized Index of Consumer Prices (HICP)**

In March 2025, the **monthly inflation** rate, measured by HICP, was 0.3% and the **annual inflation** rate in March 2025 compared to March 2024 was 4.0%<sup>2</sup>.

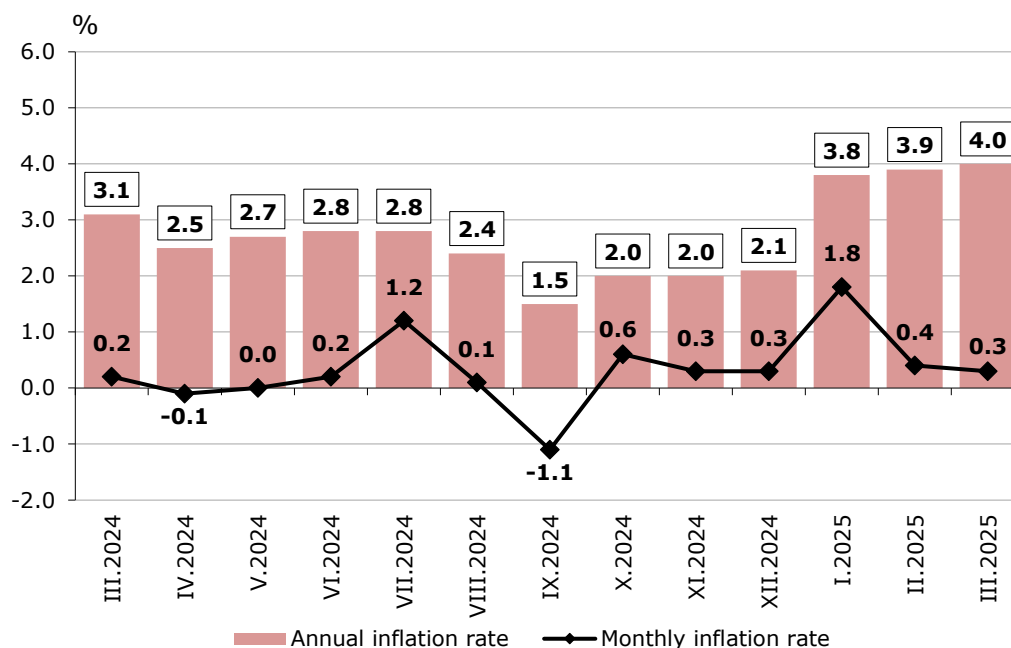
---

<sup>1</sup> 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 MARCH 2025

The inflation rate since the beginning of the year (March 2025 compared to December 2024) was 2.5%, and the annual average inflation rate for the period April 2024 - March 2025 compared to the period April 2023 - March 2024 was 2.7%.

**Figure 2. Inflation, measured by HICP, by month**



### **Monthly inflation**

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

- 'Communications' - an increase of 1.3%;
- 'Health' - an increase of 0.9%;
- 'Food and non-alcoholic beverages' - an increase of 0.7%;
- 'Restaurants and hotels' - an increase of 0.6%;
- 'Miscellaneous goods and services' - an increase of 0.6%;
- 'Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels' - an increase of 0.5%;
- 'Alcoholic beverages and tobacco' - an increase of 0.3%;
- 'Furnishings, household equipment and routine maintenance of the house' - an increase of 0.2%;
- 'Education' - an increase of 0.1%.

## INFLATION AND CONSUMER PRICE INDICES IN MARCH 2025

---

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

- 'Clothing and footwear' - a decrease of 0.8%;
- 'Recreation and culture' - a decrease of 0.6%;
- 'Transport' - a decrease of 0.5%.

### ***Accumulated inflation***

The accumulated inflation, measured by HICP, for the last three years (March 2025 compared to March 2022) was 20.2% and for the last five years (March 2025 compared to March 2020) was 33.9%.

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

In March 2025, a price increase of 0.6%, measured by the **Price Index of a Small Basket**, was registered on a monthly basis, and since the beginning of the year, there was a price increase of 4.3%<sup>3</sup>.

In March 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 0.9%;
- 'Food products' - an increase of 0.6%;
- 'Services' - an increase of 0.3%.

---

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

## INFLATION AND CONSUMER PRICE INDICES IN MARCH 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 expenditures<sup>4</sup>.

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 **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](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  $t - 1$ .

---

<sup>1</sup> 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>.

## INFLATION AND CONSUMER PRICE INDICES IN MARCH 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](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 MARCH 2025**

**Annex**

**Table 1**

**Consumer Price Indices in March 2025**

(Per cent)

Commodity groups	Weights	March 2025		
		February 2025 = 100	December 2024 = 100	March 2024 = 100
<b>00 Total CPI</b>	<b>100.000</b>	<b>100.2</b>	<b>102.8</b>	<b>104.0</b>
01 Food and non-alcoholic beverages	29.826	100.6	103.9	105.3
02 Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	4.718	100.3	103.1	107.1
03 Clothing and footwear	4.552	99.4	93.3	98.6
04 Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	13.573	100.1	105.1	106.2
05 Furnishings, household equipment and routine household maintenance	5.967	100.3	100.8	99.1
06 Health	7.928	100.9	102.6	103.4
07 Transport	9.312	99.3	101.7	100.5
08 Communication	5.022	101.3	106.1	101.3
09 Recreation and culture	7.645	97.3	99.9	102.4
10 Education	0.509	100.1	101.2	106.9
11 Restaurants and hotels	5.764	100.8	104.0	109.8
12 Miscellaneous goods and services	5.184	100.8	102.4	104.4
<b>Foods</b>	<b>31.131</b>	<b>100.6</b>	<b>103.9</b>	<b>105.3</b>
<b>Non-foods</b>	<b>34.890</b>	<b>99.9</b>	<b>100.4</b>	<b>99.9</b>
<b>Catering</b>	<b>5.009</b>	<b>100.9</b>	<b>104.3</b>	<b>109.8</b>
<b>Services</b>	<b>28.969</b>	<b>99.8</b>	<b>104.1</b>	<b>106.7</b>

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

**Table 2**

**Harmonized Indices of Consumer Prices in March 2025**

Commodity groups	Weights	March 2025			
		2015 = 100	February 2025 = 100	December 2024 = 100	March 2024 = 100
	‰	%			
<b>00 Total HICP</b>	<b>1000.000</b>	<b>142.53</b>	<b>100.3</b>	<b>102.5</b>	<b>104.0</b>
01 Food and non-alcoholic beverages	219.661	179.03	100.7	104.0	105.5
02 Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	56.922	135.98	100.3	103.1	106.8
03 Clothing and footwear	39.747	102.08	99.2	93.4	99.2
04 Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	96.547	159.62	100.5	105.3	106.4
05 Furnishings, household equipment and routine household maintenance	69.081	126.03	100.2	100.8	99.9
06 Health	76.061	129.27	100.9	102.5	103.3
07 Transport	141.190	121.00	99.5	100.4	101.0
08 Communication	53.837	96.51	101.3	106.1	101.3
09 Recreation and culture	92.041	123.23	99.4	100.7	100.1
10 Education	13.934	162.00	100.1	101.2	106.8
11 Restaurants and hotels	82.002	179.15	100.6	103.8	109.9
12 Miscellaneous goods and services	58.976	149.65	100.6	103.7	106.1



**INFLATION AND CONSUMER PRICE INDICES  
IN MARCH 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 March 2025**

Commodity groups	Weights	(Per cent)	
		March 2025	February 2025 = 100
<b>Total PISB</b>	<b>100.000</b>	<b>100.6</b>	
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	50.013	100.6	
Clothing and footwear	3.895	99.7	
Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	23.511	99.9	
Furnishings, household equipment and routine household maintenance	2.767	105.0	
Health	12.894	101.7	
Transport	0.695	100.2	
Communication	0.098	101.3	
Recreation and culture	0.561	100.0	
Miscellaneous goods and services	5.566	99.8	
Foods	50.013	100.6	
Non-foods	29.156	100.9	
Services	20.831	100.3	