

Annual inflation rate in Saudi Arabia reaches 1.7% in February 2026 compared to February 2025

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) in Saudi Arabia recorded an annual increase of 1.7% in February 2026, compared to the same month of the previous year (February 2025). This increase was mainly driven by a rise in housing, water, electricity, gas, and other fuel prices by 4.1%, transport prices by 1.4%, and prices of restaurant and accommodation services by 1.9% (Figure1).

Rental prices main driver of inflation in February 2026 compared to February 2025

Housing, water, electricity, gas, and other fuels division increased by 4.1% in February 2026, driven by a 5.1% rise in actual rentals for the housing group.

Similarly, the transport division rose by 1.4%, influenced by a 5.6% increase in passenger transport services. The restaurant and accommodation services division rose by 1.9%, driven by a 3.1% increase in accommodation services prices. Prices of the personal care, social protection and miscellaneous goods and services division increased by 8.2%, driven by a 26.8% rise in the prices of other personal effects, mainly due to higher prices of jewelry and watches by 29.0%. The prices of insurance and financial services division also increased by 1.0%, driven by a 1.3% rise in the prices of the insurance group. The prices of recreation, sport and culture division increased by 1.8%, driven by a 2.6% increase in the prices of package holidays.

Additionally, the prices of education services increased by 1.4%, affected by 1.6% increase in the prices of secondary education. The information and communications prices also increased by 1.1%, driven by a 2.0% rise in the prices of the information and communications group.

On the other hand, the prices of furnishings, household equipment and routine household maintenance decreased by 0.9%, affected by the decline in the prices of furniture, furnishings and loose carpets by 3.4%. The food and beverages, and clothing and footwear segments recorded stability in their price levels during the period under comparison. (Figure2).

Price stability on a monthly basis in February 2026 compared to January 2026

On a monthly basis, the Consumer Price Index (CPI) in February 2026 recorded relative stability compared to January 2026. While the detailed analysis of the index showed varying changes at the level of the sections.

Regarding the increases: the housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels division recorded increase, driven by an increase in the actual rents of housing by 0.3%, also the prices of the transport division increased by 0.2%, the restaurants and accommodation services division by 0.3%, the personal care, social protection and miscellaneous goods and services division by 0.6%, the entertainment, sport and culture division by 0.8%, and the health division by 0.2%

On the other hand, the prices of food and beverages decreased by 0.5%, furniture, home appliances and periodic home maintenance by 0.4%, clothing and footwear by 0.3%, and Insurance and financial services by 0.1%

While the prices of education services, health, and tobacco remained stable, and did not record any significant relative change in February 2026.

Figure 1: Annual change in CPI (%)

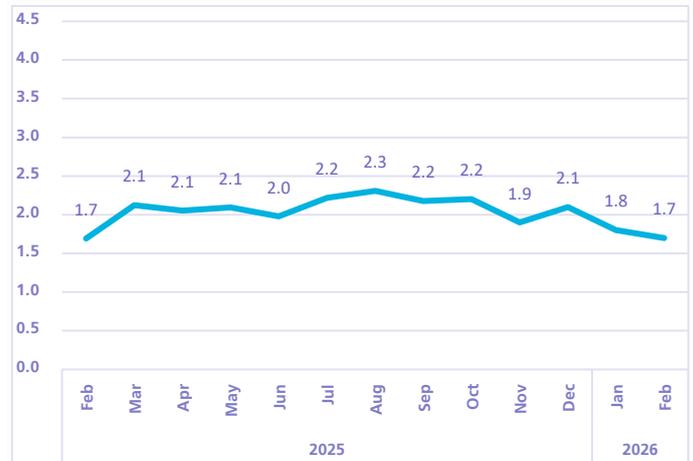
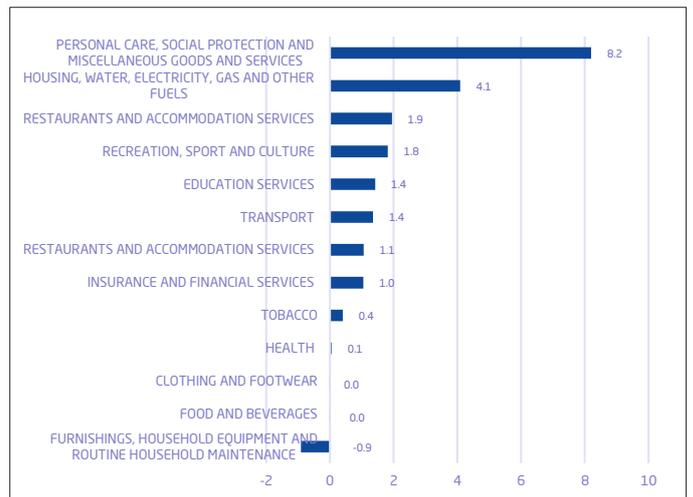


Figure 2: Annual change in CPI by division (February 2026) (%)



Methodology and quality

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) reflects changes in prices paid by consumers for a fixed basket of goods and services consisting of 582 items. The items of this basket were selected based on the results of the Household Expenditure and Income Survey conducted in 2023, and their weights were determined accordingly, in addition to other supplementary data sources related to household final consumption expenditure.

The General Authority for Statistics has adopted a new methodology for compiling the Consumer Price Index, aiming to improve data quality in line with the best international practices. This has been achieved through expanding geographical coverage, increasing the number of points of sale, broadening basket items, and adopting new data sources for regular price collection. Data has been published in accordance with the updated methodology starting from August 2025.

For more details, click [Methodology and Quality](#) , [Table](#)