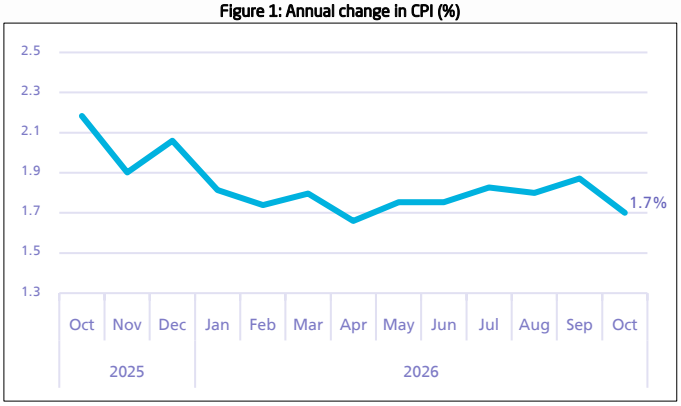
Inflation in Saudi Arabia reaches 1.7% in October 2026

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) in Saudi Arabia recorded an annual increase of 1.7% in October 2026, compared to the same month of the previous year (October 2025). This increase was mainly driven by a rise in housing, water, electricity, gas, and other fuels prices by 3.5%, food and beverage prices by 1.1%, and transportation prices by 2.3% (Figure 1).

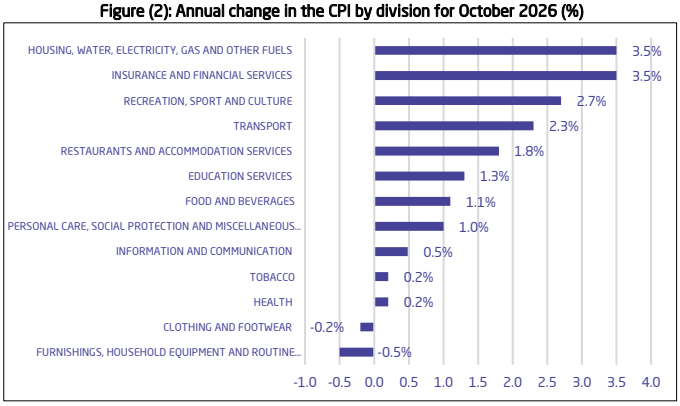
Figure 1: Annual change in CPI (%)



Annual change in consumer prices by division

The prices of the housing, water, electricity, gas, and other fuels division increased by 3.5%, driven by the increase in the prices of the actual rental group for housing by 3.5%. This was followed by the insurance and financial services division, which increased by 3.5%, driven by the increase in the prices of the insurance group services by 6.5%. The recreation, sports, and culture division followed, increasing by 2.7%, driven by the increase in the prices of holiday packages by 4.6%. The transport division also increased by 2.3%, driven by the increase in the prices of passenger transport services by 9.5%. On the other hand, the prices of furniture, home appliances, and periodic home maintenance division decreased by 0.5%, while the prices of clothing and footwear division decreased by 0.2% (Figure 2).

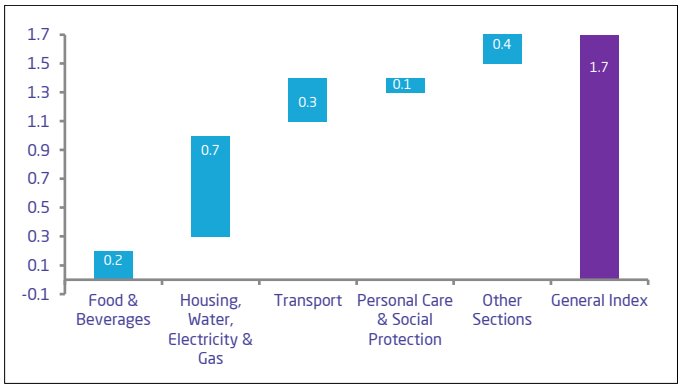
Figure (2): Annual change in the CPI by division for October 2026 (%)



Divisions' contribution to the annual inflation rate

The housing, water, electricity, gas, and other fuels division was the main contributor to the annual inflation, with a contribution of 0.7 percentage points, followed by the food and beverages division, with a contribution of 0.2 percentage points, in addition to the transport division, with a contribution of 0.3 percentage points. The personal care, social protection, and other goods and services division contributed 0.1 percentage points, while the other divisions collectively contributed 0.4 percentage points (Figure 3).

Figure (3): Divisions' contribution to the annual inflation rate



Monthly change in consumer prices

On a monthly basis, the CPI in October 2026 recorded an increase of 0.1%, compared to September 2026 (Figure 4), due to the increase in the prices of the following divisions: housing, water, electricity, gas, and other fuels by 0.2%, driven by the increase in the prices of the actual rental group for housing by 0.4%, the prices of the food and beverages by 0.2%, the insurance and financial services division by 1.5%, the entertainment, sports, and culture division by 0.2%, the clothing and footwear division by 0.4%, and the health division by 0.2%. On the other hand, the prices of personal care, social protection, and other goods and services decreased by 0.6%. The prices remained stable in the following divisions: transport, restaurants and accommodation services, furniture, home appliances, and periodic home maintenance, education services, and tobacco (Figure 5).

Figure (4): Change in the CPI on a monthly basis (%)

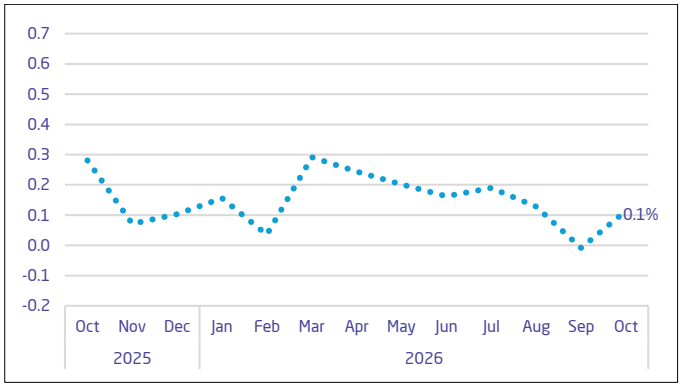
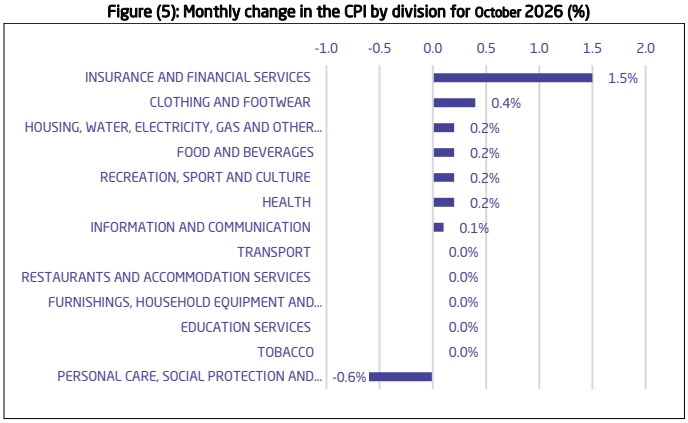


Figure (5): Monthly change in the CPI by division for October 2026 (%)



Methodology and quality

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

The General Authority for Statistics (GASTAT) has adopted a new methodology for calculating the Consumer Price Index, aimed at improving data quality in line with international best practices. This has been achieved through expanded geographic coverage, increased coverage of points of sale and basket items, and the adoption of new data sources for the regular collection of price information.

Data based on the updated methodology have been published starting from August 2025. For further details, please refer to Methodology and Quality ,Table