

## Saudi Arabia annual inflation rate reaches 1.7% in September 2024

The annual inflation rate in Saudi Arabia reached 1.7% in September 2024, compared to September 2023. This is primarily attributed to the rise in the prices of housing, water, electricity, gas, and other fuels by 9.3%, as well as the increase in prices of food and beverages by 0.8%. Meanwhile, prices of transportation decreased by 3.3%.

### Rental prices main driver of inflation in September 2024 compared to September 2023

The Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels Section increased by 9.3%, which was affected by the increase in the group of rents paid for housing by 11.2% in September 2024, affected by the increase in apartment rental prices by 10.0%, and the increase in this section had a significant impact on the continuation of the annual inflation pace for the month of September 2024 due to the weight formed by this section, which amounts to (25.5%).

Similarly, food and beverage prices increased by 0.8%, influenced by a 5.2% rise in vegetables prices. Prices in the restaurants and hotels sector also rose by 1.7%, driven by a 1.5% increase in catering service prices.

Meanwhile, the education sector witnessed an increase of 1.6%, due to a rise in the fees of intermediate and secondary education by 3.8%.

On the other hand, prices of furnishing and home equipment decreased by 3.7%, influenced by a decline in furniture, carpets, and flooring prices by 7.0%. Similarly, prices of clothing and footwear decreased by 3.2%, influenced by a 5.5% decline in ready-made clothing prices. Transportation prices also decreased by 3.3%, affected by a 4.5% decrease in vehicle purchase prices.

### Prices increase by 0.1% in September 2024 compared to August 2024

In September 2024, the consumer price index recorded a slight increase of 0.1% compared to August 2024. This monthly inflation index was influenced by a 0.6% rise in housing, water, electricity, gas, and other fuels, which in turn, was affected by a 0.8% increase in actual housing rents and prices.

The index also witnessed an increase in the prices of food and beverage by 0.3%, driven by a 1.6% rise in vegetables and prices. Restaurants and hotels along with personal goods and services both increased by 0.1% .

However, the index witnessed a decrease in the prices of transportation by 0.4%, recreation and culture by 0.3%, furnishing and home equipment by 0.3% clothing and footwear, by 0.2%, communications by 0.1%, and tobacco by 0.1%.

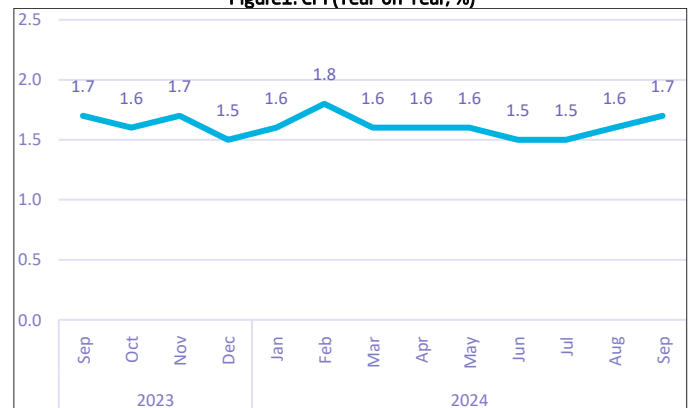
On the other hand, prices of education and health did not show any significant change in September 2024.

Table1. Annual and monthly change in CPI by category (September 2024 ) (%)

General Index, Categories	Percent change in September 2024 compared to	
	Sep 2023	Aug 2024
<b>General Index</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>0.1</b>
Food & Beverages	0.8	0.3
Tobacco	-1.5	-0.1
Clothing and Footwear	-3.2	-0.2
Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels	9.3	0.6
Furnishings, Household Equipment & Maintenance	-3.7	-0.3
Health	-1.1	0.0
Transport	-3.3	-0.4
Communications	-1.6	-0.1
Recreation & Culture	-2.8	-0.3
Education	1.6	0.0
Restaurants & Hotels	1.7	0.1
Personal Goods and Services	1.0	0.1

Tables.

Figure1. CPI (Year-on-Year, %)



### CPI Reference Metadata

Consumer Price Index (CPI) measures the prices paid by consumers for a fixed basket of goods and services consisting of 490 items. The basket was selected based on the results of the household income and expenditure survey conducted in 2018, according to which the items and their weights were determined. The prices are collected through field visits to points of sale. The CPI statistics are published monthly. For more details, click [Reference Metadata](#)