

Kingdom annual inflation rate reaches 1.9% in December 2024

The annual inflation rate in the Kingdom reached 1.9% in December 2024, compared to December 2023. This is primarily attributed to the rise in the prices of housing, water, electricity, gas, and other fuels by 8.9%, as well as the increase in the price of Food and beverage by 0.8%, as well as the increase in the prices of personal goods and services by 2.2%. Meanwhile, the prices of transportation decreased by 2.5%. (Figure1)

Rental prices main driver of inflation in December 2024 compared to December 2023

The section of housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels section increased by 8.9%, which was affected by the increase in rents paid for housing by 10.6% in December 2024, due to the increase in villa rental prices by 9.9%. The increase in this section had a significant impact on the continuation of the annual inflation pace for the month of December 2024 due to the weight formed by this section, which amounted to (25.5%).

Food and beverage prices increased by 0.8%, driven by a 2.9% increase in meat and poultry prices.

Similarly, personal goods and services prices increased by 2.2%, influenced by a 20.2% rise in jewelry, watches of all kinds and precious antiques prices. Prices of restaurants and hotels sector also rose by 0.9%, driven by a 2.3% increase in hotel and furnished apartment services prices.

Meanwhile, the education sector witnessed an increase of 1.1%, due to a rise in the fees of intermediate and secondary education by 1.8%.

On the other hand, prices of furnishing and home equipment decreased by 2.8%, influenced by a decline in furniture, carpets, and flooring prices by 5.1%. Similarly, prices of clothing and footwear decreased by 2.2%, influenced by a 4.2% decline in ready-made clothing prices. Transportation prices also decreased by 2.5%, affected by a 3.9% decrease in vehicle purchase prices. (Figure2)

Stability of prices on a monthly basis in December 2024 compared to November 2024

The consumer price index in December 2024 recorded relative stability, compared to November 2024. In analyzing the index on a monthly basis it has witnessed several varying changes .In terms of heights: was influenced by a 0.5% rise in the section of housing, water, electricity, gas, and other fuels, which in turn, was affected by a 0.6% increase in actual housing rents and prices.

The index also witnessed an increase in the prices of Food and beverages by 0.1%, driven by a 0.5% rise in meat and poultry and prices.

However, the index witnessed a decrease in the prices of clothing and footwear by 0.2%, Transportation by 0.3%, Furnishings, Household Equipment & Maintenance by 0.4%, restaurants and hotels by 0.2% Recreation & Culture by 0.6%, communications by 0.1%..

On the other hand, the prices of Health, education and Tobacco did not show any significant change in December 2024.

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

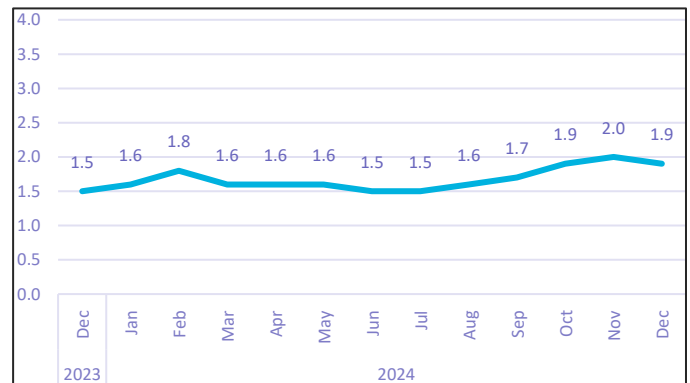
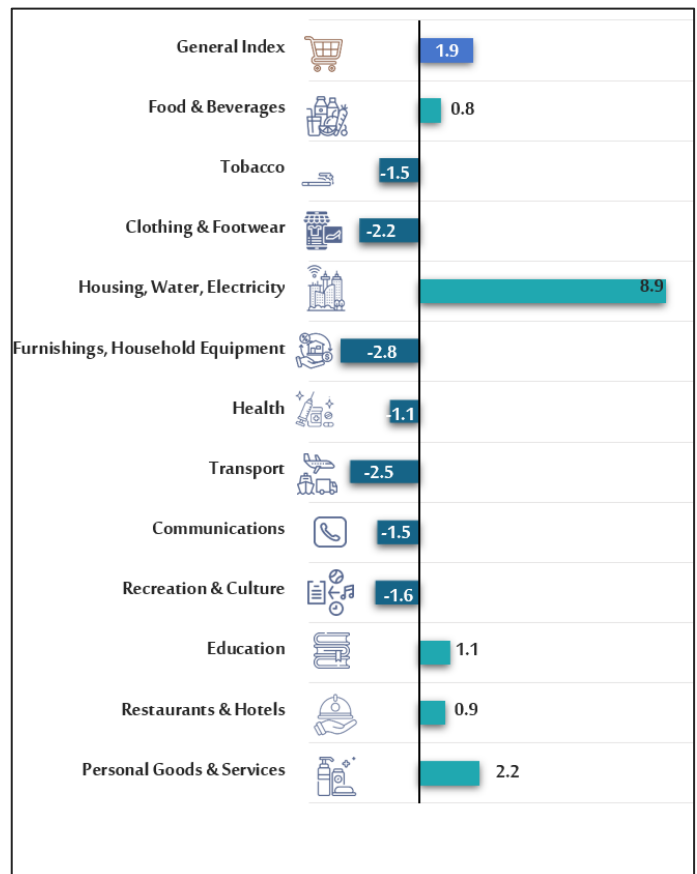


Figure2. Annual and change in CPI by category (December 2024) (%)



CPI Methodology and Quality

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 [Methodology and Quality . Table](#)