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HARMONISED INDEX OF CONSUMER PRICE

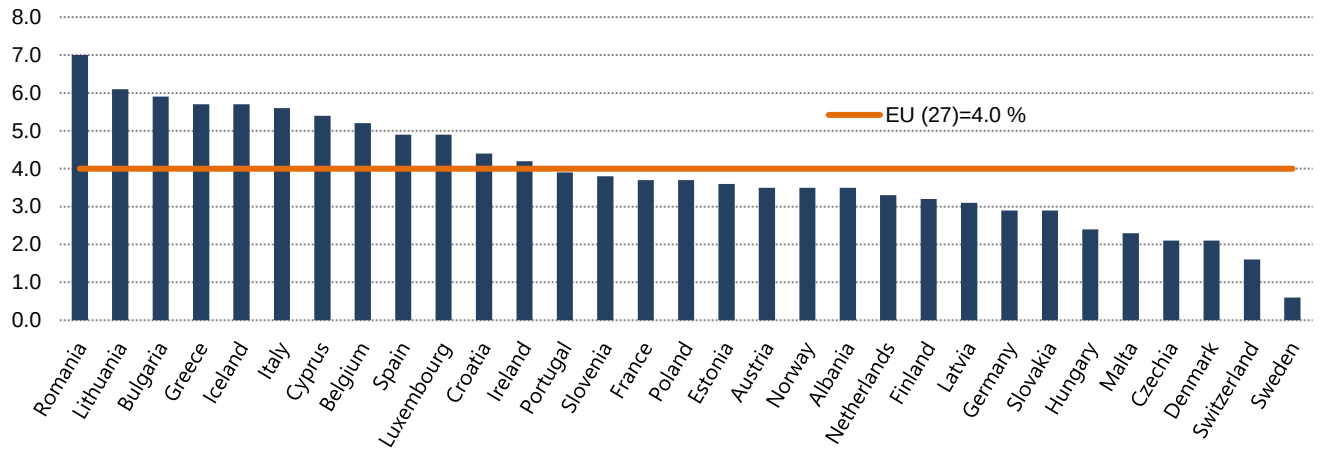
October 2026

Inflation measured by the Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices (HICP) in October 2026 was 3.5 %.

The main contribution to the annual increase in prices in October came from the group "Food and non-alcoholic beverages", with +1.53 percentage points and an annual increase of 4.4 %, followed by "Recreation, sport and culture", with a contribution of +0.63 percentage points and an annual increase of 9.8 %, "Transport" contributed +0.58 percentage points, with an annual increase of 6.9 %, "Restaurants and accommodation services", with a contribution of +0.30 percentage points and an annual increase of 2.0 %, "Alcoholic beverages and tobacco" contributed +0.19 percentage points, with an annual increase of 3.8 %, "Education services" contributed +0.14 percentage points, with an annual increase of 3.0 %, and "Health" contributed +0.11 percentage points, with an annual increase of 2.0 %, etc.

In October 2026, consumer prices increased by 0.8 % compared with the previous month. The monthly increase was mainly driven by higher prices in the group "Food and non-alcoholic beverages", with an increase of 2.1 %, followed by "Clothing and footwear" with an increase of 1.1 %, "Furnishings, household equipment and routine household maintenance" with 0.9 %, "Alcoholic beverages and tobacco" with 0.6 %, "Personal care, social protection and miscellaneous goods and services" with 0.5 %, etc. On the other hand, prices in the group "Restaurants and accommodation services" decreased by 0.5 %, followed by "Transport" with 0.3 % and "Health" with 0.1 %.

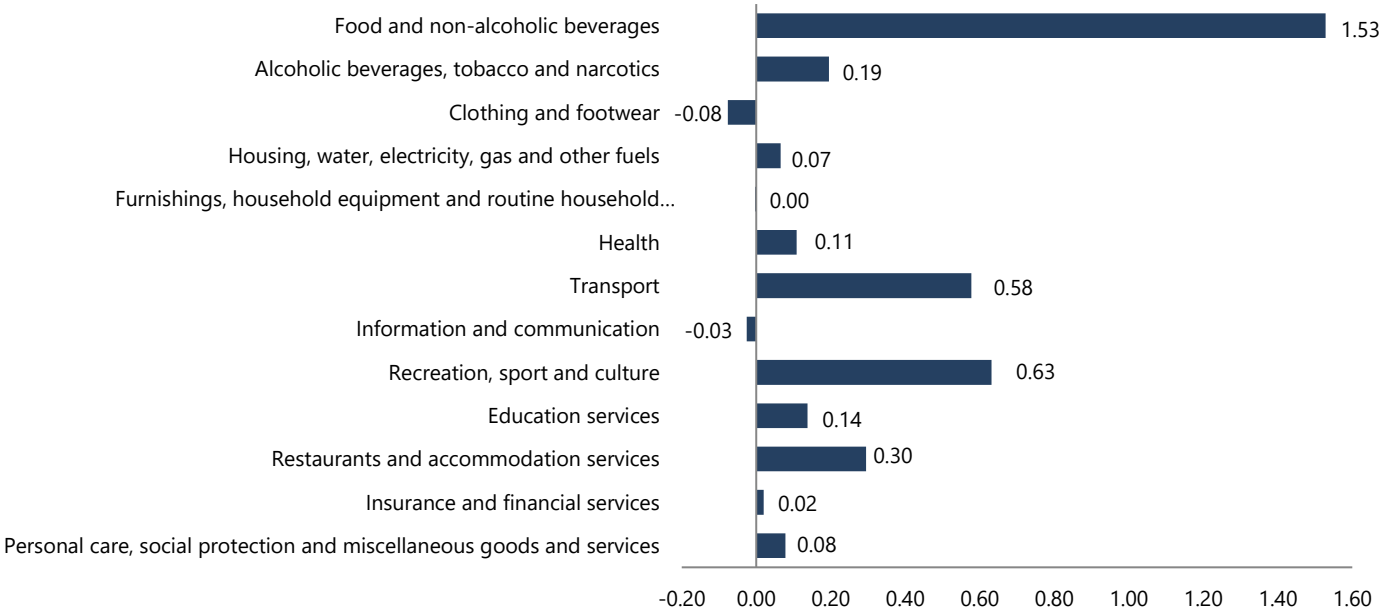
FIG. 1 ANNUAL CHANGE OF HICP BY COUNTRIES, OCTOBER 2026[1]



[1] INSTAT publishes unrounded indices. while EUROSTAT publishes indices rounded to two decimal places. This may lead to differences between them due to the different rounding methods used by each institution.

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FIG. 2 CONTRIBUTION OF MAIN GROUPS IN ANNUAL RATE

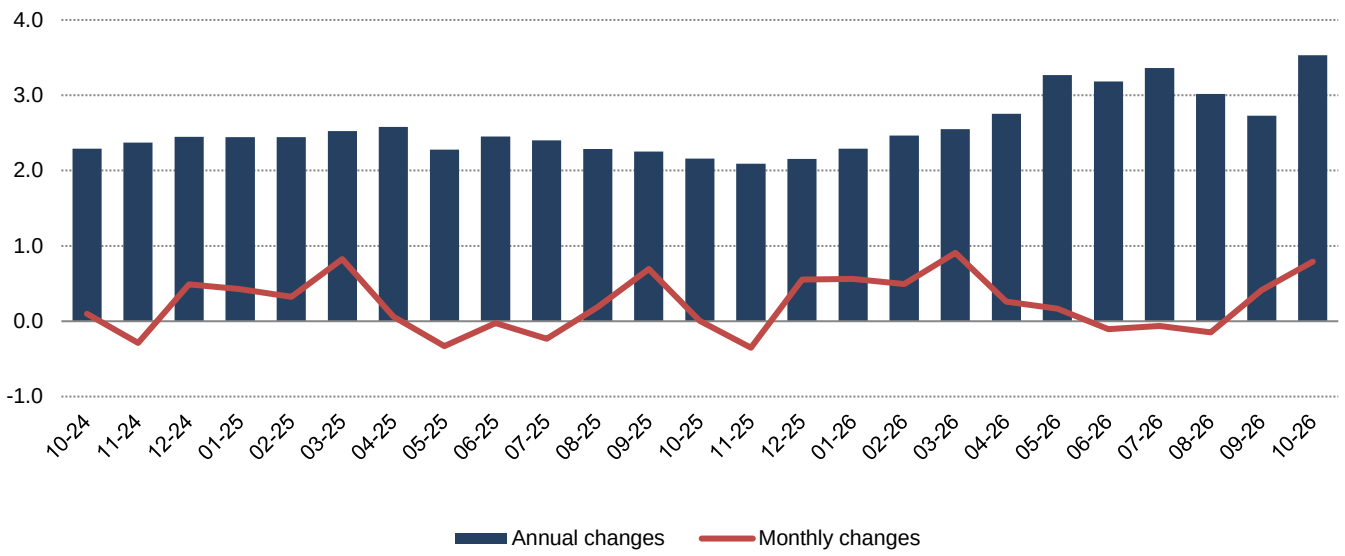


TAB. 1 RATES OF CHANGES (%) MEASURED BY HARMONISED INDEX OF CONSUMER PRICE

COICOP	Divisions	Weights	October 2026[2]	10-26/1Year 2025	10-26/10-25	10-26/09-25
	HICP	**1000**	**104.1**	**4.1**	**3.5**	**0.8**
01	Food and non-alcoholic beverages	344.6	104.4	4.4	4.4	2.1
02	Alcoholic beverages, tobacco and narcotics	51.9	104.6	4.6	3.8	0.6
03	Clothing and footwear	36.9	99.4	-0.6	-2.1	1.1
04	Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	57.9	101.8	1.8	1.1	0.1
05	Furnishings, household equipment and routine household maintenance	56.5	101.0	1.0	-0.1	0.9
06	Health	53.5	102.3	2.3	2.0	-0.1
07	Transport	82.7	106.6	6.6	6.9	-0.3
08	Information and communication	24.5	99.2	-0.8	-1.0	0.1
09	Recreation, sport and culture	63.9	112.5	12.5	9.8	0.3
10	Education services	46.1	104.4	4.4	3.0	0.0
11	Restaurants and accommodation services	144.5	102.9	2.9	2.0	-0.5
12	Insurance and financial services	6.6	103.1	3.1	3.2	0.0
13	Personal care, social protection and miscellaneous goods and services	30.5	103.6	3.6	2.5	0.5

[2] *2025=100*

FIG. 3 ANNUAL AND MONTHLY RATES OF HICP



Note to users:

- *Detailed monthly and annual data by groups are available in INSTAT's statistical database: Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices*
- *In accordance with the Error Treatment Policy, INSTAT promptly corrects any errors identified in published official statistics. Users are informed immediately and transparently of the corrections and resulting changes, in line with the principles of impartiality, transparency and quality of official statistics. The full Error Treatment Policy is available at: https://www.instat.gov.al/media/9577/politika-e-trajtimit-te-gabimeve.pdf*

Methodology

Starting with the release of data for June 2026, the complete Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices (HICP) time series for the period 2016-2025, compiled according to COICOP 2018 (ECOICOP ver. 2), is made available. During the preparation of the time series, some products were reclassified at detailed levels. In accordance with Eurostat requirements, the all-items HICP remains unchanged for each month up to the second decimal place. Consequently, the historical all-items inflation rates remain unchanged.

Methodological changes

Starting from January 2026, the HICP is calculated according to the ECOICOP 2018 classification. The transition to the new classification includes the restructuring of basket items and the reclassification of certain products. The structure of ECOICOP ver. 2 consists of 13 main divisions, further detailed into groups. classes, and subclasses. The implementation of this classification is in line with Regulation (EU) 2024/3159, ensuring full harmonisation with European and international statistical practices.
The index reference period has been changed from December 2020 = 100 to 2025 = 100.
Additionally, in January, as every year, the HICP is accompanied by some methodological changes in accordance with the international methodology for compiling this indicator. which consist of:

- Updating of weights: The weights of goods and services have been updated based on National Accounts data – Household Final Monetary Consumption Expenditure.
- Updating of the list of goods and services: The basket consists of 410 goods and services.
- Updating of the list of outlets where prices are collected.

Definitions

The Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices (HICP) measures the change in the level of retail prices of goods and services from the perspective of the expenditure structure of consumers (both domestic and foreign) for final consumption within the territory of Albania. The HICP is used to monitor price developments across European countries, enabling comparisons of inflation rates between countries and serving as the official measure of inflation for the European Central Bank, ensuring price stability within the Economic and Monetary Union.
The annual change measures the change in the price index between the current month and the same month of the previous year. This change reflects current price developments but may also be influenced by one-off effects in any given month.
The monthly change measures the change in the price index between the current month and the previous month. This indicator is sensitive to seasonal effects.
The 12-month average change measures the change in the average price index of the last 12 months compared with the average of the previous 12 months.

Comparison between CPI and HICP

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) and the Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices (HICP) are designed to measure changes in the average level of prices paid for the consumption of goods and services by all private and collective households. as well as by tourists in Albania. Both CPI and HICP are used as measures of consumer inflation.

Similarities between CPI and HICP

- *Purpose*
  Both CPI and HICP measure changes in the average price level of a fixed basket of consumer goods and services.
- *Classification system*
  Both indices use the same classification of goods and services - the European Classification of Individual Consumption by Purpose (ECOICOP Version 2).
- *Expenditure and data sources*
  Only expenditures within the territory of Albania are included. The main sources of expenditure data (weights) are the Household Budget Survey and National Accounts - Household Final Monetary Consumption Expenditure.
- *Price data*
  Both CPI and HICP are calculated based on prices collected from the same outlets. use the same product classification. and follow the same index compilation methodology.
- *Reference period (base)*
  Both CPI and HICP are calculated using 2025 = 100 as the index reference period.
- *Methodology*
  Both indices follow the methodology defined in European Commission Regulation (EC) No 2016/792 on HICP, developed by Eurostat in cooperation with the National Statistical Institutes of EU Member States.

Differences between CPI and HICP

- Measure of consumer inflation
  - CPI is the official measure of inflation in Albania.
  - HICP is used to monitor price developments across European countries and to compare inflation rates between them.
- Product coverage
  - CPI includes 411 items
  - HICP includes 410 items

- Coverage and source of expenditure data (weights)
  - CPI covers only the expenditures of Albanian private households, both inside and outside the country.
  - HICP covers all expenditures made within the country by all households, including private and collective households, as well as tourists in Albania.

- Weights
  - CPI weights are expressed per 100
  - HICP weights are expressed per 1000

COICOP	Divisions	Weights	
		CPI	HICP
	Total	**100**	**1000**
01.	Food and non-alcoholic beverages	34.1	344.6
02.	Alcoholic beverages. tobacco and narcotics	5.0	51.9
03.	Clothing and footwear	3.8	36.9
04.	Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	20.2	57.9
05.	Furnishings, household equipment and routine household maintenance	7.0	56.5
06.	Health	3.2	53.5
07.	Transport	6.4	82.7
08.	Information and communication	3.6	24.5
09.	Recreation, sport and culture	2.0	63.9
10.	Education services	3.0	46.1
11.	Restaurants and accommodation services	5.7	144.5
12.	Insurance and financial services	1.5	6.6
13.	Personal care, social protection and miscellaneous goods and services	4.5	30.5