



PRESS RELEASE

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: January 2016

On the basis of the implementation of chain linking method for the compilation of CPI, ELSTAT carried out the following updating works :

- of CPI weights
- of CPI population weights

A relevant information note is posted on ELSTAT's home page:

<http://www.statistics.gr/en/statistics/-/publication/DKT87/->

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) in January 2016 compared with January 2015 decreased by 0.7%. In January 2015, the annual rate of change of the CPI was -2.8% (Table 2).

The CPI in January 2016 compared with December 2015 decreased by 1.9%. In January 2015, the monthly rate of change of the CPI was -1.4% (Table 1).

In the twelve-month period from February 2015 to January 2016, compared with the period from February 2014 to January 2015, the annual average rate of change of the CPI was -1.6%. The corresponding annual average rate of change of the CPI in the previous year (February 2014 to January 2015) was -1.4% (Table 3).

Information:

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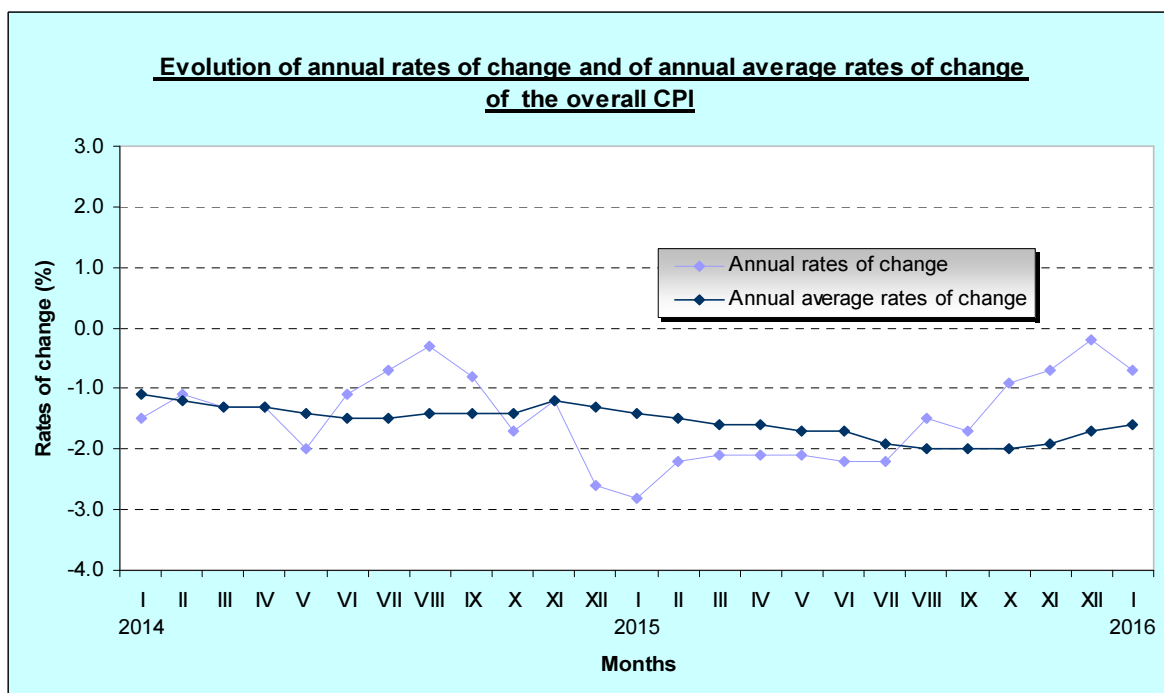


Table 1
Monthly rates of change of the Consumer Price Index – January 2016
(2009=100.0)

	Main groups of goods and services	Weights HBS 2014 (%)	2016	2015	Rate of change %	2015	2014	Rate of change %
			January	December		January	December	
1	Food & non-Alcoholic Beverages	218.10	105.20	104.90	0.3	103.51	102.08	1.4
2	Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco	42.79	134.55	134.14	0.3	133.05	132.32	0.6
3	Clothing and Footwear	65.30	81.68	106.03	-23.0	90.26	105.24	-14.2
4	Housing	129.19	116.48	118.02	-1.3	120.95	122.43	-1.2
5	Household Equipment	51.15	92.90	94.62	-1.8	93.04	96.28	-3.4
6	Health	75.42	97.78	97.82	0.0	96.44	96.72	-0.3
7	Transport	122.40	111.97	114.22	-2.0	113.02	116.69	-3.1
8	Communication	42.74	98.40	98.41	0.0	98.41	98.41	0.0
9	Recreation and Culture	44.71	91.87	92.13	-0.3	93.43	93.50	-0.1
10	Education	33.47	89.27	89.35	-0.1	90.41	90.41	0.0
11	Hotels Cafés & Restaurants	103.94	104.58	104.51	0.1	101.81	101.75	0.1
12	Miscellaneous Goods & Services	70.79	95.76	95.85	-0.1	98.83	99.45	-0.6
	Overall Index	1000.00	103.56	105.61	-1.9	104.32	105.79	-1.4

Note: 1. The indices are calculated with infinite decimal figures and rounded up to two decimal figures when published.

2. Percentage changes are calculated on the basis of indices with infinite decimal figures and rounded up to one decimal figure when published.

Table 2
Annual rates of change of the Consumer Price Index – January 2016
(2009=100.0)

I

Main groups of goods and services		January		Rate of change (%)	Effect
		2015	2014		
1	Food and non Alcoholic Beverages	103.51	104.00	-0.5	-0.0970
2	Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco	133.05	129.57	2.7	0.1455
3	Clothing and Footwear	90.26	92.95	-2.9	-0.1571
4	Housing	120.95	131.48	-8.0	-1.3278
5	Household Equipment	93.04	95.25	-2.3	-0.1194
6	Health	96.44	97.60	-1.2	-0.0808
7	Transport	113.02	121.44	-6.9	-0.9670
8	Communication	98.41	98.46	0.0	-0.0019
9	Recreation and Culture	93.43	94.67	-1.3	-0.0513
10	Education	90.41	93.34	-3.1	-0.0893
11	Hotels Cafés and Restaurants	101.81	102.54	-0.7	-0.0674
12	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	98.83	101.22	-2.4	-0.1586
Overall Index		104.32	107.37	-2.8	

II

Main groups of goods and services		January		Rate of change (%)	Effect
		2016	2015		
1	Food and non Alcoholic Beverages	105.20	103.51	1.6	0.3546
2	Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco	134.55	133.05	1.1	0.0615
3	Clothing and Footwear	81.68	90.26	-9.5	-0.5371
4	Housing	116.48	120.95	-3.7	-0.5537
5	Household Equipment	92.90	93.04	-0.2	-0.0072
6	Health	97.78	96.44	1.4	0.0969
7	Transport	111.97	113.02	-0.9	-0.1231
8	Communication	98.40	98.41	0.0	-0.0006
9	Recreation and Culture	91.87	93.43	-1.7	-0.0672
10	Education	89.27	90.41	-1.3	-0.0365
11	Hotels Cafés and Restaurants	104.58	101.81	2.7	0.2760
12	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	95.76	98.83	-3.1	-0.2082
Overall Index		103.56	104.32	-0.7	

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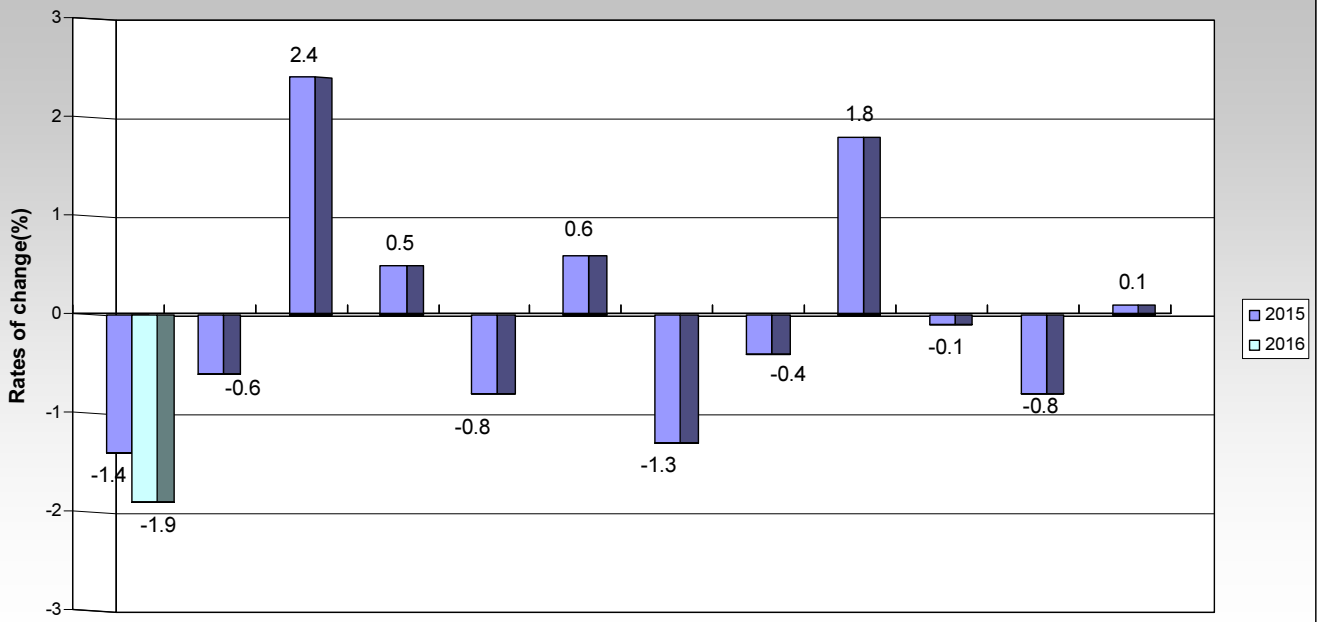
Table 3
Comparisons of the overall Consumer Price Index
(2009=100.0)

Year and month	Overall index	Monthly rates of change %	Annual rates of change %	Annual average index (moving average)	Annual average rates of change %
2013 : 1	108.97	-1.4	0.2	109.84	1.3
2	107.17	-1.6	0.1	109.85	1.2
3	109.90	2.5	-0.2	109.83	1.0
4	110.41	0.5	-0.6	109.78	0.8
5	110.21	-0.2	-0.4	109.73	0.6
6	109.95	-0.2	-0.4	109.70	0.5
7	108.13	-1.7	-0.7	109.64	0.3
8	106.41	-1.6	-1.3	109.52	0.1
9	109.20	2.6	-1.1	109.42	-0.1
10	109.13	-0.1	-2.0	109.23	-0.4
11	107.64	-1.4	-2.9	108.97	-0.7
12	108.62	0.9	-1.7	108.81	-0.9
<i>Annual average</i>	<i>108.81</i>	-	-	<i>108.81</i>	<i>-0.9</i>
2014 : 1	107.37	-1.2	-1.5	108.68	-1.1
2	105.94	-1.3	-1.1	108.58	-1.2
3	108.42	2.3	-1.3	108.45	-1.3
4	108.92	0.5	-1.3	108.33	-1.3
5	108.05	-0.8	-2.0	108.15	-1.4
6	108.75	0.6	-1.1	108.05	-1.5
7	107.40	-1.2	-0.7	107.99	-1.5
8	106.09	-1.2	-0.3	107.96	-1.4
9	108.29	2.1	-0.8	107.88	-1.4
10	107.30	-0.9	-1.7	107.73	-1.4
11	106.30	-0.9	-1.2	107.62	-1.2
12	105.79	-0.5	-2.6	107.38	-1.3
<i>Annual average</i>	<i>107.38</i>	-	-	<i>107.38</i>	<i>-1.3</i>
2015 : 1	104.32	-1.4	-2.8	107.13	-1.4
2	103.65	-0.6	-2.2	106.94	-1.5
3	106.10	2.4	-2.1	106.75	-1.6
4	106.63	0.5	-2.1	106.56	-1.6
5	105.73	-0.8	-2.1	106.36	-1.7
6	106.40	0.6	-2.2	106.17	-1.7
7	105.00	-1.3	-2.2	105.97	-1.9
8	104.54	-0.4	-1.5	105.84	-2.0
9	106.42	1.8	-1.7	105.68	-2.0
10	106.32	-0.1	-0.9	105.60	-2.0
11	105.51	-0.8	-0.7	105.54	-1.9
12	105.61	0.1	-0.2	105.52	-1.7
<i>Annual average</i>	<i>105.52</i>	-	-	<i>105.52</i>	<i>-1.7</i>
2016 : 1	103.56	-1.9	-0.7	105.46	-1.6

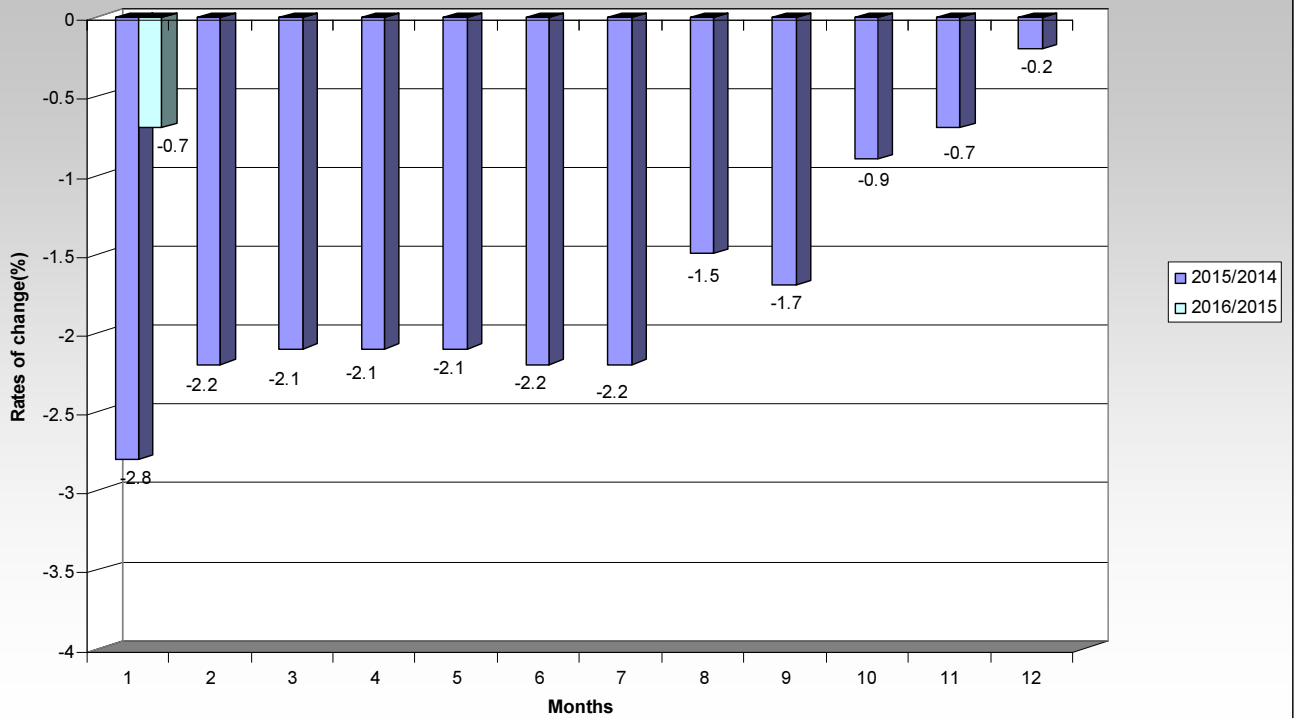
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DIAGRAMS

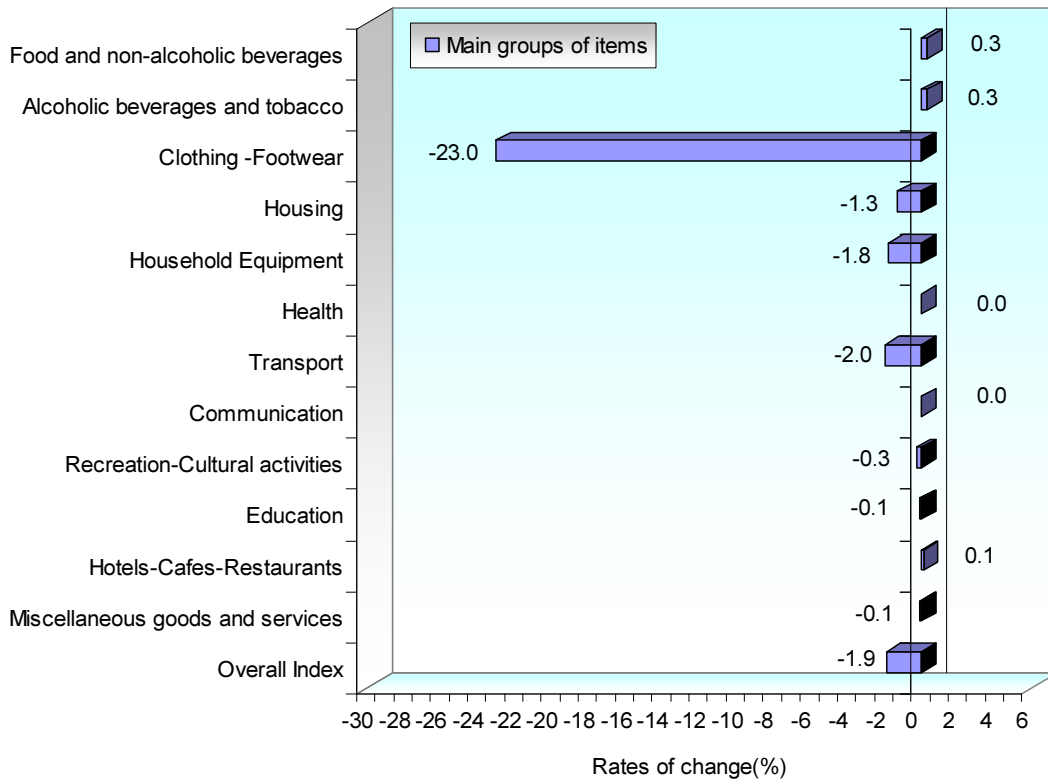
Monthly rates of change (%) of the overall Consumer Price Index during the years 2015 and 2016



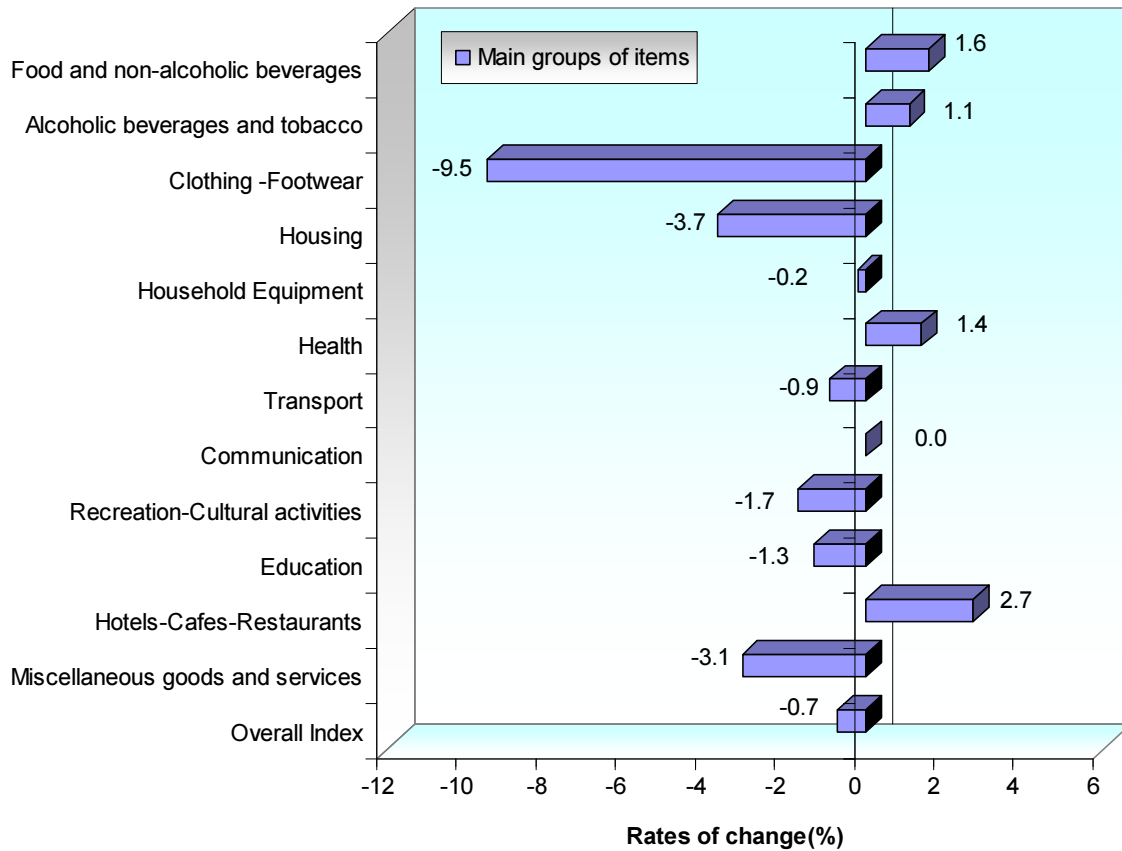
Annual rates of change (%) of the overall Consumer Price Index during the years 2015 and 2016



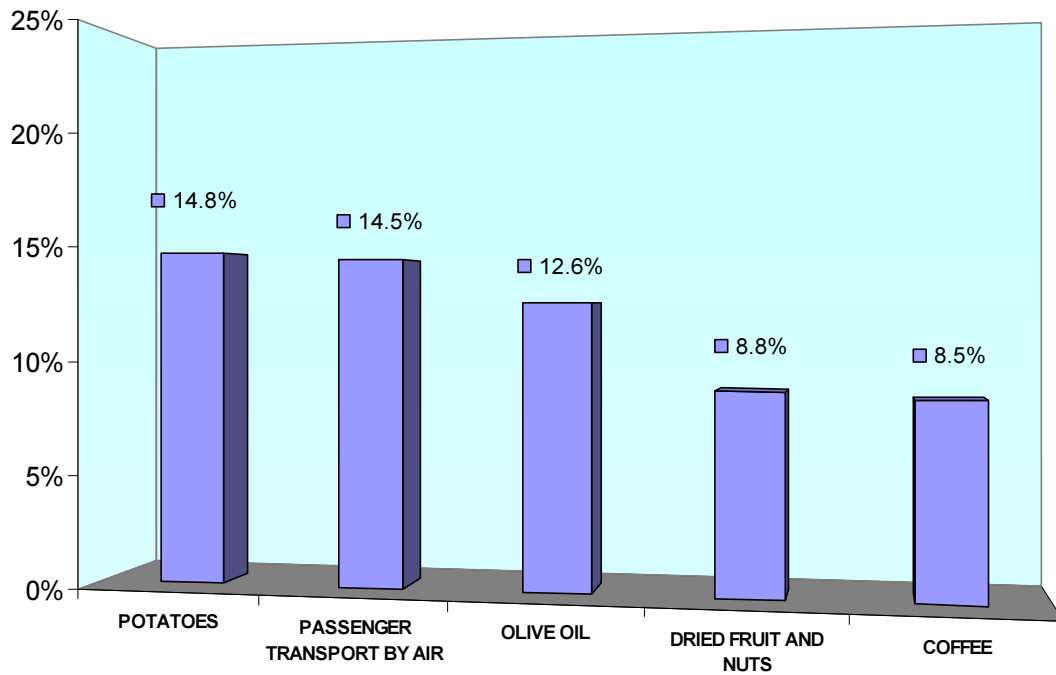
Monthly rates of change (%) of the CPI between January 2016 and December 2015



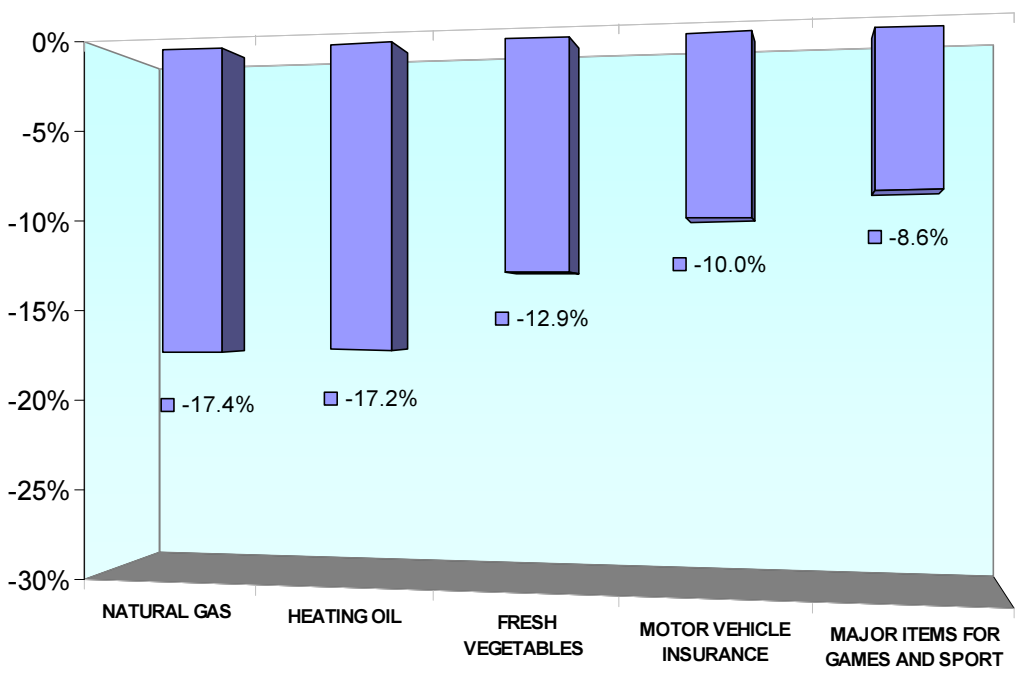
Annual rates of change (%) of the CPI between January 2016 and January 2015



CPI higher annual increases (%)



CPI higher annual decreases (%)



METHODOLOGICAL NOTES

Generally	The Consumer Price Index (CPI) in Greece is compiled by the Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT) since 1959. Up to the year 2000, the CPI referred to the urban areas of the country, while from 2001 onwards it refers to the whole country.
Purpose of the index	The purpose of the Consumer Price Index is to measure the general level of prices of goods and services purchased by the average Greek household.
Legal basis	Law 3832/10
Reference period	Month
Base	December of the previous year
Reference year	2009=100.0
Chain linking Index	<p>Until 2013, the weights underlying the CPI were revised periodically (usually every five years) on the basis of the results of the latest Household Budget Survey (HBS), which was conducted every 5 years. Until December 2013, the CPI was a fixed-base index with the reference year being 2009=100.0. From January 2014 onwards, the revised CPI index follows the chain linking method, where new weights are introduced annually with every year having as a base the December of the previous year. The weights are estimated on the basis of the most recent available data from the Household Budget Survey, which is now conducted on an annual basis, extrapolated in the prices of December.</p> <p>The CPI, adjusted on an annual basis to the latest consumption expenditure pattern of the private households of the country, ensures the representativity of goods and services, which compose the “basket” of purchases of the average household.</p>
Geographical and population coverage of the CPI	<p>The CPI refers to the whole of the country covering the urban, semi-urban and rural areas.</p> <p>As regards the population coverage of the Index, in terms of the weights, it covers the resident households of the territory excluding collective households (hospital homes for the elderly, boarding homes, prisons, etc.) and non-resident households (tourists, and expatriates visiting home) in the country.</p>
Classification of items	The classification of items (goods and services) that are included in the index is based on the international classification COICOP (Classification of Individual consumption by Purpose) and, in particular, as this has been adapted to the needs of the HICPs of the EU Member States, thus creating the COICOP5/HICP classification.
Weights of items	From December 2013, the weights of items are updated every year, on the basis of the most recent available data from the Household Budget Survey. The weights are calculated as the share (‰) of the expenditures for each group, subgroup and item (good or service) to the total household expenditure of the average household.
Price collection Cities	The prices of the items of CPI are collected in 27 cities, aiming at a representative coverage of the 13 Regions of the country. The selection criteria of the price collection cities are the size and the particularities of their markets, the possibility of continuous price collection and the comparability of the index and the required cost of price collection.
Population weights	The calculation of the population weights by regions is based on the population data of the General Population Census for the year 2011 and the expenditure data of the latest available HBS by regions.
Selection of items	The composition of the “household basket” i.e. the selection of goods and services which are included in the calculation of CPI is updated annually from December 2014 using the results of the latest available Household Budget Survey, other market research, etc. The chain linking methodology allows the change of items of the household basket on an annual basis, in order to ensure the representativeness of items, which take part in the calculation of groups and subgroups of CPI.

Price collection- Outlets Prices for CPI's items are collected from retail sales outlets, enterprises providing services, street markets etc. (price collection outlets) which are considered representative of the branches of shops, where the households make their purchases in the 27 selected price collection cities. The new methodology allows the renewal of price collection sources in order to maintain their representativeness in the calculation of CPI.

Prices are collected by experienced and well-trained staff of ELSTAT. They visit the selected outlets within a certain time period of a month (monthly prices) or on a certain day of the week (weekly prices) and register the prices into special price collection forms (questionnaires). The collected prices correspond to the prices actually faced by the consumer.

Specification- Substitution of items All the items, for which prices are collected, are defined by the specification, that is the particular characteristics which determine the quality, the trade show and the identity, in general, of goods (such as brand, weight, package etc), in order to avoid any price variations attributable to differences in the specification.

When a specified item (good or service) is no longer available in the market or has ceased to be important, as regards consumption, then it is replaced by a newly specified item, which has taken its place in the market.

Calculation of the Consumer Price Index The Consumer Price Index is a Laspeyres-type index and it is calculated based on December of the previous year.

Implementation of formula in five-digit level of COICOP5

Specifically, if the five-digit item h includes q price collected items, then its index in month t of year T, $R_h^{t,T}$, is given by the formula below:

$$R_h^{t,T} = R_h^{12,T-1} \left[\frac{\sum_{i=1}^q w_i^T R_i^{t,T} / R_i^{12,T-1}}{\sum_{i=1}^q w_i^T} \right],$$

where:

$R_h^{12,T-1}$ = the index of the five-digit item h, in December of year T-1,

w_i^T = the weight of the price collected item i, in year T,

$R_i^{t,T}$ = the index of the price collected item i, in month t of year T,

$R_i^{12,T-1}$ = the index of the price collected item i, in December of year T-1.

A similar methodology is followed for the calculation of indices in the upper levels (two-digit, three-digit and four-digit) of COICOP5 and the calculation of the overall CPI as well.

Publication of data The available time series of the Consumer Price Index with the same reference year (2009=100.0) starts back from January 1959 onwards.

The CPI data are released each month in the anticipated press release to a pre-defined timetable, which is normally based on the previous years publication dates. These data is posted on the ELSTAT website (www.statistics.gr), under the link "timeseries".

References Further information concerning the Consumer Price Index can be found in the Methodological Publication CPI (2009=100.0), and also in the information note for CPI of January 2016, which are posted on the homepage of ELSTAT (www.statistics.gr).