

Inflation – consumer price indices in February 2026

Posledná aktualizácia: 13.03.2026 | Počet zobrazení: 2860



Vydavateľ: Štatistický úrad SR

Tématická oblasť: Makroekonomické štatistiky

Okruh: Spotrebiteľské ceny a ceny produkčných štatistík

Dátum publikovania: 13.03.2026

Inflation in February eased slightly to 3.7%, while food prices dropped significantly compared with January

In February, consumer prices rose both on a monthly and yearly basis, but growth slowed. Monthly inflation rose mainly due to higher transport and recreation prices, while growth remained minimal due to food and non-alcoholic beverage prices drop. Year-on-year inflation was still driven by prices of housing and energy, food and non-alcoholic beverages and catering services. Only transportation prices dropped.

In February, consumer prices of goods and services rose only slightly by 0.1% month-on-month. This was significantly less than in January. Inflation, i.e., the year-on-year increase in prices, reached 3.7%, which was the lowest monthly value in the past year.

Since early 2026, prices have been influenced by higher value-added tax (VAT) rates and changes in regulated energy tariffs. Currently, transportation and energy prices are particularly at risk due to rising oil and gas prices.

The measurement of inflation – consumer prices – has been influenced by **three main changes** since January 2026. The first was the introduction of a new, revised classification COICOP 2018 / ECOICOP Rev. 2, followed by a new base period (the average of the 12 months of 2025), as well as the recalculation of new weights for individual items in the consumer basket for 2026.

Month-on-month development – February 2026 compared with January 2026

In February, consumer prices rose month-on-month in 9 out of a total of 13¹⁾ divisions (household expenditure groups), ranging from 0.2% for **housing and energy** to 1.3% for **transportation**. Prices dropped in 3 divisions, i.e. **clothing and footwear** by 1%, **food and non-alcoholic beverages** by 0.8%, and **alcoholic beverages and tobacco** by 0.1%. Prices of insurance and financial services remained unchanged.

The most considerable influence on month-to-month inflation was the decrease in prices of **food and non-alcoholic beverages** (-0.8%). These represent the second largest item in the expenditure structure of Slovak households (with a share of 21%). In February, prices dropped month-on-month in 4 of the 9 **food components**²⁾, on average by 0.8%. Meat as well as oils and fats experienced price reductions by more than 3%, while prices of milk, dairy products and eggs, as well as sugar and confectionery, decreased by up to 2%. Vegetables, cereals including bread, prepared foods and fish became more expensive. Following a sharper price increase in the previous month, **non-alcoholic beverages**²⁾ became slightly cheaper in February on average by 0.2%. However, this was mainly due to a 3.3% drop in coffee prices, as prices for other non-alcoholic beverages continued to increase.

The positive development in food prices was, however, outweighed by price increases in other sectors. The largest negative

impact on the month-to-month development came from higher prices in **transportation** (+1.3%). In particular, fuel prices rose (+1.9%), and prices of air passenger transport also increased sharply.

Another unfavorable effect arose from higher prices of **recreation, sport and culture** (+0.8%). Package holidays became more expensive, and consumers also paid more for cultural services, particularly for tickets to cultural events and photographic services. In the **catering and accommodation services** division (+0.6%), prices of catering services increased more moderately (+0.5%), while accommodation services became more expensive at a faster pace (+2.3%).

Prices also increased in the **housing and energy** division (+0.2%), representing the largest share in household expenditures in Slovakia (21.8%). Housing services rose the most (+1.5%), as well as actual and imputed rents.

The month-on-month rise in inflation was also affected by higher prices of drugstore goods and hairdressing services of **personal care, social protection, and miscellaneous goods and services** (+0.4%). Prices of household appliances and household textiles also rose in the **furnishing, and routine household maintenance** division (+0.3%).

A favorable impact on month-on-month inflation came from sales of **clothing** (-1.1%) and **footwear** (-0.9%), as well as **alcoholic beverages** due to lower prices of wine.

Year-on-year development – February 2026 compared to February 2025

Inflation, i.e. the year-on-year increase in prices, reached 3.7% in February. It was the lowest value since the beginning of 2025 and was last recorded at this level in November. Compared with February 2025, prices were higher in 12 of the 13¹⁾ divisions (household expenditure groups), ranging from 0.9% in the division **furnishings, household equipment** to 7.1% in the **catering and accommodation** division. Lower prices compared with February 2025 were recorded only in **transportation** (-0.9%).

A significant impact on the growth of year-on-year inflation in February, as in January, came from the two largest items in the structure of Slovak household expenditures – **housing and energy** (+6%) and **food and non-alcoholic beverages**²⁾ (+2.7%).

Regulatory measures implemented at the start of the year continued to influence February's housing-related energy prices. Prices of thermal energy were up year-on-year by as much as 27.5%, gas prices increased by 6.7%, and electricity prices by 4.9%. Prices of services related to housing were also higher, such as water supply and sewage services or dwelling maintenance.

Food prices rose by 2% year-on-year, with 7 out of 9 food components becoming more expensive. The most dynamic price increases, exceeding 3%, were recorded for cereals including bread, as well as milk, dairy products, and eggs. Price increases in the range of 2% to 3% were recorded for vegetables, prepared foods, and fish. In contrast, lower prices were recorded for meat and for oils and fats. Prices of **non-alcoholic beverages** still recorded double-digit growth, although this was the lowest value in the last 14 months.

Price growth in the **catering and accommodation services** division again exceeded 7%, with consumers paying more mainly for food services. The overall year-on-year inflation rate was also affected by prices that were 6% higher in the recreation, sports and culture sector. Notable increases were recorded in **recreational and sports services**, as well as organized holiday tours. Prices in **healthcare** were higher on average by almost 5%, with consumers feeling the impact most from dental services, which became more expensive by more than 9%.

Similarly as in January, lower prices in **transportation** had a dampening effect on inflation year-on-year; fuel, the purchase of transport vehicles and air transport were cheaper.

In total, during the first two months of 2026, consumer prices rose by 3.8% year-on-year.

Development of core and net inflation

In February, the year-on-year inflation rate was 3.7%, **core inflation** reached 2.4% and **net inflation** reached 2.8%. On a month-to-month basis, core inflation remained unchanged, while net inflation reached 0.2%.

Core inflation tracks the growth of the price level after excluding the impact of changes in regulated prices (e.g. energy prices) and other administrative measures (e.g. tax adjustments, etc.). Net inflation is core inflation excluding changes in food prices.

New consumer basket for 2026

The Statistical Office of the SR, together with price changes, also adjusts the weights of individual divisions in the **structure of**

the consumer basket every January. For 2026, the weights were revised according to household consumption in 2024 in line with international methodology. At the same time, following the implementation of the new COICOP 2018 classification, the consumer basket is divided into 13 divisions (until the end of 2025 it consisted of 12 divisions).

Under the national CPI inflation methodology, the shares of the two largest items in household expenditure decreased. Housing and energy currently represents 21.8% of household expenditure (last year it was 23.3%). Food and non-alcoholic beverages account for 20.9%, while last year their share was 21.2%. A comparison of the consumer basket structures for 2025 and 2026 is provided in the document [Comparison_consumption_expenditure_structure_CPI_2025_2026](#) (ZIP 15,5 kB).

Supplementary statistical outputs on the topic of inflation

The Statistical Office of the SR publishes additional supplementary data on national inflation 10 days after the first publication of the total monthly inflation, approximately around the 26th day of the month. Structured data are available in the public database DATAcube. within the Chapter [2.3.1.1 - Consumer Price Indices](#). Data for February 2026 will be published on March 26, 2026.

These are outputs on the topics:

- changes in consumer prices for specific social groups (households of pensioners, employees, low-income households)
 - average consumer prices of selected specific goods and services from the consumer basket (including food)³⁾.
-
- ¹⁾ Since January 2026, according to the new COICOP 2018 classification (also referred to as ECOICOP ver. 2), it has been divided into 13 divisions.
 - ²⁾ According to the new COICOP 2018 classification, some divisions and groups have a new, more detailed breakdown into lower levels (classes) or have modified names.
 - ³⁾ The cube mentioned contains data from January 2023. Older data are stored in the archive data cube [sp2042ms]. For the purposes of comparison in a long time series, it is possible to combine data from both cubes only for goods and services with the exception of those belonging to divisions 1 - food and non-alcoholic beverages; 2 alcoholic beverages and tobacco. For these two divisions (1; 2), data are processed until the end of 2022 using the original field collection methodology and from January 2023 using the new methodology and data sources from the so-called scanner data.

Data source: DATAcube. database:

Price growth indices (inflation)

- Indices of consumer prices (divisions) to three bases - monthly [\[sp0110ms\]](#)
- Indices of consumer prices (detailed data) to two bases- monthly [\[sp0111ms\]](#)

Core and net inflation

- Development of core and net inflation change in comparison with corresponding period of previous year in % - monthly [\[sp0008ms\]](#)
- Development of core and net inflation change in comparison with previous period in % - monthly [\[sp0007ms\]](#)
- Development of core and net inflation change in comparison with December of previous year in % - monthly [\[sp0009ms\]](#)

Consumer baskets

- The Universal Consumer Basket 2026 [\[sp0039rs\]](#)
- The Universal Consumer Basket 2026 - representative items [\[sp0040rs\]](#)

Inflation - specific social groups

- The development of consumer price indices (living cost) - employees - monthly [\[sp1803ms\]](#)
- The development of consumer price indices (living cost) - pensioners - monthly [\[sp1804ms\]](#)
- The development of consumer price indices (living cost) - households with low money incomes - monthly [\[sp1805ms\]](#)

Average prices of selected goods

- Average consumer prices of selected products - monthly (since 2023) [\[sp1828ms\]](#)

Average fuel prices

- Average fuel prices in the Slovak Republic - weekly [[sp0207ts](#)]
- Average fuel prices in the Slovak Republic - monthly [[sp0202ms](#)]

Outputs for inflation:

Published types of inflation

The Statistical Office of the SR publishes two types of inflation:

- development of consumer prices based on national methodology – Inflation – Consumer Price Indices (the English abbreviation CPI - Consumer Price Index is used)
- development of consumer prices based on internationally harmonized EU methodology - **Harmonized Index of Consumer Prices** (HICP - Harmonized Indices of Consumer Prices)

The prices are monitored based on consumer basket, which is composed of selected representatives for selected types of goods and services included into 12 divisions, 44 groups and 101 classes according to COICOP classification. Internationally comparable inflation (HICP) differs from the national methodology (CPI inflation) in the structure of the prices of goods and services (it does not include the item "imputed rent" and selected items of major household repairs and maintenance) and, consequently, the value of the weights in the consumption basket. HICP data are published monthly, a few days after the national CPI inflation in terms of the [First Release Calendar](#) in the DATAcube database chapter: [2. 3. 3 - Harmonized indices of consumer prices \(HICP inflation\)](#) and also in the database and in the press release on the Eurostat website.

Change in methodology in determining consumer prices

The Statistical Office of the SR uses a new source of data on prices, the so-called scanner data/transactional data of business chains to obtain prices for 2 of the 12 divisions of the required basket, for food and non-alcoholic beverages (from January 1, 2024) and for alcoholic beverages and tobacco (from January 1, 2025). Scanner data replaced traditional field surveys, thus significantly expanding the output of consumer prices in the mentioned segments while maintaining and increasing its quality. Their use is an important part of the modernization of price statistics. [More in the methodological notes - CPI.](#)

Consumption basket - structure of household expenses

The Statistical Office of the SR publishes the Structure of Household Expenditure graph, which presents [the consumer basket valid for the year 2025](#). It indicates how much the household spends on specific expenditure groups of products and services in everyday life. Knowing the structure of household expenses is an essential part of determining the amount of inflation (price growth), because it determines the weights of expenditure items for its calculation. The weights are revised annually according to data from previous periods on household consumption.

Vydal:

Štatistický úrad SR
Lamačská cesta 3/C
P.O. Box 67
840 00 Bratislava 4
Slovenská republika

Hovorca:

tel. +421 2 50 236 553
e-mail: hovorca@statistics.sk

Sociálne siete :



Informačný servis:

tel. +421 2 50 236 339
+421 2 50 236 335
e-mail: info@statistics.sk



Upozornenie: Pri uverejnení celej informatívnej správy alebo jej časti prosíme uviesť zdroj informácií Štatistický úrad Slovenskej republiky. Štatistický úrad SR tvorí kvalitné štatistiky užitočné pre spoločnosť podľa 16 zásad týkajúcich sa inštitucionálneho prostredia, štatistických procesov a výstupov podľa Kódexu postupov pre európsku štatistiku.