

Inflation – consumer price indices in April 2026

Posledná aktualizácia: 14.05.2026 | Počet zobrazení: null



Vydavateľ: null

Tematická oblasť: null

Okruh: null

Dátum publikovania: 14.05.2026

Inflation accelerated to 3.9% in April, mainly due to higher fuel prices

April's month-on-month inflation rate accelerated, driven mainly by higher fuel prices and housing costs while lower food prices moderated the increase. In year-on-year terms, inflation reached the second highest level this year. Its upward pressure continued due to higher housing energy prices and the sharpest rise in motor fuel prices in almost 3.5 years. A positive fact was the slowdown in food price growth.

In April, consumer prices of goods and services rose by only 0.5% month-on-month. Year-on-year inflation rose to 3.9%; similarly to the month-on-month comparison, this was the second highest value this year after January.

Inflation rates, i.e. the development of consumer prices since January 2026, have been influenced by **three major changes**. The first was the implementation of the new revised COICOP 2018 classification, together with a new base period and the newly recalculated weights for individual items in the consumer basket for 2026. At the same time, recalculated data have been retrospectively available in the time series from January 2021 onwards.

Month-on-month development – April 2026 compared with March 2026

In April, consumer prices rose month-on-month in 10 out of a total of 13¹⁾ divisions (household expenditure groups), ranging from 0.1% in **clothing and footwear**, as well as **education services**, to 4.6% in **transport**. A price decrease was recorded in only one division, namely **food and non-alcoholic beverages**, by 0.2%. Prices of **furnishings, household equipment and routine household maintenance**, as well as **insurance and financial services**, remained unchanged.

The month-on-month inflation rate was affected most significantly by the sharp price increase in **transport**. In particular, prices of fuels and lubricants rose by as much as 11.9%, representing the highest growth rate ever recorded.

Higher oil prices had a major impact on this development and were also clearly reflected in fuel prices.

The acceleration of month-on-month inflation was moderated by lower prices in the **food and non-alcoholic beverages** division, representing the second largest share of household expenditure in Slovakia (21%). **Food** prices dropped by 0.3% month-on-month, with prices falling in 5 out of 9 food components²⁾. The most significant positive impact came from lower prices of meat²⁾ (-1.7%) and milk, dairy products and eggs (-1.4%). Prices also fell for fruit and nuts, as well as sugar and confectionery. By contrast, compared with March, prices of vegetables (+2.0%) and oils and fats (+4.2%) increased. After a two-month decline in prices, **non-alcoholic beverages** became more expensive again in April, rising by 1.2%; price developments were mainly affected by prices of soft drinks, coffee and tea.

Although prices in the **housing and energy** division rose more moderately in April (+0.2%), their impact on month-on-month inflation development was significant. Higher prices were recorded mainly for imputed rentals for housing, water supply, and services related to the maintenance of household dwellings. This division represents the largest item in the expenditure structure

of Slovak households (21.8%).

Inflation was also affected by higher **tobacco** prices (+1.6%), while lower prices of **alcoholic beverages** (-0.7%), particularly wine, affected favourably the inflation.

An unfavourable impact on month-on-month inflation was also due to a price growth in the **personal care and social protection division**²⁾ (+0.5%). In particular, services and goods related to personal care, such as hairdressing services, became more expensive.

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

Inflation, i.e. the year-on-year increase in prices, reached 3.9% in April. This was the second highest value in 2026. Compared with April 2025, prices were higher in all 13 divisions¹⁾ (household expenditure groups), ranging from 0.7% in the **clothing and footwear** division to 7.2% in the **transport** division.

A major contribution to the year-on-year inflation increase in April came from the **housing and energy** division (+6.3%), representing the highest share in household expenditure in Slovakia. The impact of the January regulatory measures continued to be reflected in April prices, with particularly high year-on-year increases recorded for heating energy prices (+27.8%). Compared with last year, higher prices were also recorded for imputed rentals for housing as well as water supply and sewerage services.

Transport prices had a notably negative impact on inflation developments, rising sharply by 7.2% in April, the highest increase since February 2023. This was the highest figure since February 2023. The result was driven mainly by a sharp increase in motor fuel prices of 15.3%, the highest value since November 2022. For the first time this year, prices for the purchase of motor cars also rose.

In the second most significant component in the household structure, **food and non-alcoholic beverages**²⁾, year-on-year growth slowed to 1.0%. This was the lowest value since November 2025. Lower growth dynamics in **food** prices (+0.3%) moderated the year-on-year overall inflation rate in April. Prices rose in 6 out of 9 food components, but lower prices for meat²⁾ (-3.7%), milk, cheese and eggs (-0.3%), and oils and fats (-5.4%) contributed to the slowdown in inflation growth. On the other hand, cereals including bread, vegetables, as well as fruit and nuts and prepared food products recorded more significant price increases. The year-on-year growth rate of prices for **non-alcoholic beverages** slowed slightly again to +7.8%, which was the lowest value since December 2024.

Alcoholic beverages and tobacco recorded a higher year-on-year rate of price growth (+4.8%), with prices increasing across the entire division. Prices of **restaurants and accommodation services** (+5.5%), as well as services and goods related to **recreation, sport and culture** (+4.7%), continued to rise.

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

Development of core and net inflation

In March, the year-on-year inflation rate was 3.9%, **core inflation** reached 2.4% and **net inflation** reached 3.3%. On a month-to-month basis, core inflation remained unchanged, while net inflation reached 0.8%.

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 April 2026 will be published on May 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) - month-on-month and year-on-year

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

Price growth indices (inflation) - year-on-year

- Indices of consumer prices year-on-year (divisions)-quarterly [\[sp0112qs\]](#)

Price growth indices to the base period, 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 [\[sp0040rs\]](#)

Consumer price indices for specific social groups – month-on-month and year-on-years

- Indices of consumer prices (households in total) to three bases - monthly [\[sp1028ms\]](#)
- Indices of consumer prices (households with low money incomes) to three bases - monthly [\[sp1027ms\]](#)
- Indices of consumer prices (pensioners) to three bases - monthly [\[sp1026ms\]](#)

Average prices of selected goods

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

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.

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