

PRICE DEVELOPMENTS REPORT DECEMBER 2024

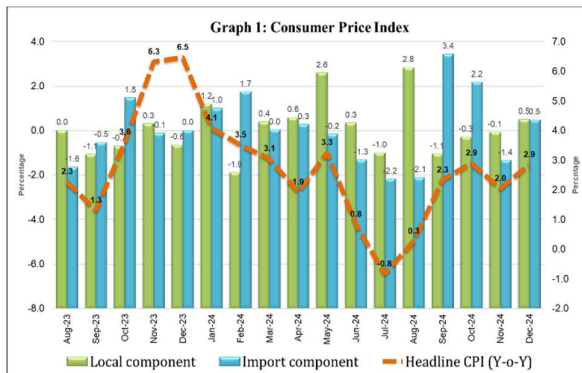
This report is prepared on a monthly basis using monthly Consumer Price Index (CPI) data from the Samoa Bureau of Statistics.

Report No.6: 2024/2025

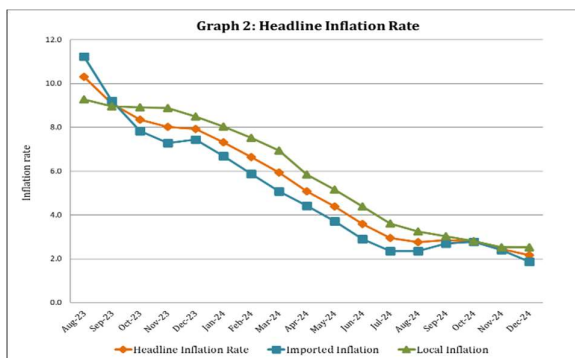
December 2024

1. Headline CPI and Inflation

The **Headline Consumer Price Index (CPI)** edged up slightly by 0.5 percent over the previous month, driven by a 0.5 percent increase in both its imported and local components. Likewise, it was 2.9 percent higher when compared to the same month in 2023. (See Graph 1)

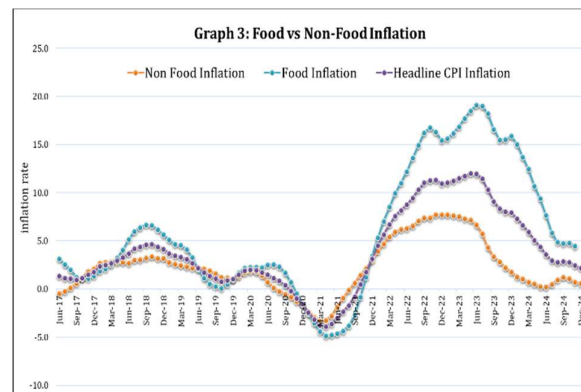


However, **the annual average headline inflation rate contracted to 2.2 percent**, down from 2.5 percent in the previous month and significantly lower than 7.9 percent in December of last year. This reflected a reduction in the imported inflation (down to 1.9 percent from 2.4 percent) while local inflation remained unchanged at 2.5 percent. (See Graph 2)



This section decomposes the headline CPI in terms of its Food and Non-Food inflation components. Food makes up 40.4 percent of the total CPI basket while Non-Food is around 59.6 percent. Historically, the predominant driver in Samoa's CPI inflationary trend is food inflation, with some periods influenced by non-food inflation (which includes fuel prices).

While the Food Index rose by 0.5 percent in December 2024, the **annual average food inflation rate slowed down to 4.0 percent** from 4.5 percent in the previous month and remains significantly below 15.9 percent recorded in December 2023. The monthly hike in the Food Index was driven by gains in prices of imported food items such as soy sauce, turkey wings, coffee, rice and biscuits among others; as well as locally produced food items such as fish, eggs, Chinese cabbages, water bottle to name a few. (See Graph 3).



Similarly, although the Non-Food Index edged up by 0.4 percent from November 2024, **the annual average non-food inflation rate eased slightly to 0.6 percent** from 0.7 percent in the previous month and 1.8 percent in December 2023. The higher index over the month was due to increases in its sub-groups, such as 'transport', 'housing, water, electricity, gas and

1.1 Headline Food vs Non-Food Inflation

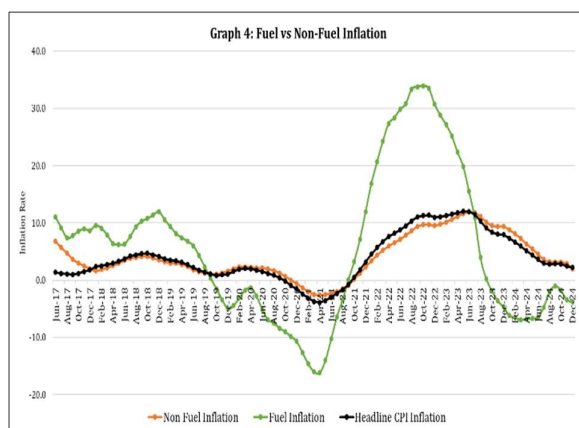
other fuels’, ‘miscellaneous goods & services’ and ‘Clothing and Footwear’.

1.2 Headline Fuel¹ vs Non-Fuel Inflation

This section breaks down the headline CPI in terms of fuel and non-fuel inflation. Fuel makes up 6.6 percent of the total CPI basket while non-fuel is around 93.4 percent. Historically, the predominant driver in Samoa’s CPI inflationary trend is non-fuel inflation given its much larger weight.

The Fuel Index increased by 2.8 percent from November 2024, reflecting the current upward trend in imported fuel prices. **On an annual average basis, however, the fuel inflation rate edged from -3.4 percent to -3.8 percent² in December 2024, which was slightly lower than the -4.7 percent recorded in the same month of 2023.** This deflationary trend reflected the lower average level of fuel prices in the year ending December 2024, compared to the year ending December 2023.

Similarly, the Non-Fuel Index rose by 0.3 percent from the previous month. However, **the annual average non-fuel inflation rate fell to 2.0 percent in December 2024, from 2.9 percent in November 2024 and notably lower than 9.4 percent recorded in the same month last year.** This monthly increase reflects the expansion in prices for the ‘Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages’, ‘Furnishing, Household equipment and Maintenance’ and ‘Clothing and Footwear’ sub-groups. (See Graph 4)

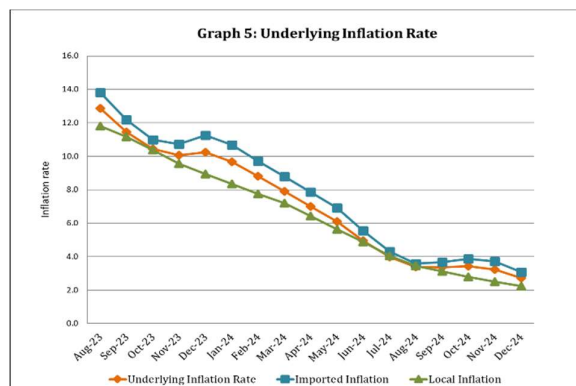


¹ Fuel includes unleaded petrol, diesel, gas and kerosene prices.

² Deflation is when the inflation rate is negative meaning prices are actually lower than the comparative period.

2. Underlying CPI and Inflation

The **Underlying CPI³** rose 0.1 percent when compared to the previous month but was 3.4 percent higher than in December of the previous year. Nevertheless, the **annual average underlying inflation rate** dropped further to 2.7 percent from 3.2 percent in December 2024, and significantly lower than 10.2 percent recorded in the same month of last year. (See Graph 5)



2.1 Underlying Food vs Non-Food Inflation

The **annual average underlying food inflation rate** decreased further to 3.2 percent from 3.9 percent in the previous month. This was also much lower compared to 13.0 percent in the same month last year. The **annual average underlying non-food inflation rate** also fell to 1.8 percent in December 2024 from 2.0 percent in November 2024 and was lower than the 5.7 percent in December 2023.

CENTRAL BANK OF SAMOA

05th February 2025

³ Underlying CPI takes into account the effects of both external and local pressure on prices for commodities that are not subject to extreme volatility and price regulations.

Review of Price Developments
December 2024

Table 1: HEADLINE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (February 2016 = 100) **														
	All Groups Index	Percentage change					Overall Import Component				Overall Local Component			
		Monthly Index	12 months average	Latest month		12 months over prev 12 months (AnnAvg)	Index	Monthly Change	Annual Average 12 months	Annual Average Percent Change	Index	Monthly Change	Annual Average 12 months	Annual Average Percent Change
				over prev month	over a year earlier									
2021	December	115.3	109.9	2.1	11.6	3.1	122.7	3.9	114.0	5.7	108.2	0.0	105.9	0.6
2022	December	124.0	122.0	-0.4	7.5	11.0	130.7	-2.3	131.5	15.3	117.5	1.7	112.6	6.4
2023	December	132.0	131.6	-0.3	6.5	7.9	142.0	0.0	141.3	7.4	122.3	-0.6	122.2	8.5
	January	133.4	132.1	1.1	4.1	7.3	143.4	1.0	141.8	6.7	123.7	1.1	122.6	8.0
	February	133.5	132.5	0.1	3.5	6.6	145.9	1.7	142.2	5.9	121.4	-1.8	122.9	7.5
	March	133.8	132.8	0.2	3.1	5.9	145.9	0.0	142.7	5.1	121.9	0.4	123.1	6.9
	April	134.3	133.0	0.4	1.9	5.1	146.3	0.3	143.1	4.4	122.6	0.6	123.1	5.8
	May	135.8	133.3	1.1	3.3	4.4	146.0	-0.2	143.5	3.7	125.8	2.6	123.4	5.2
	June	135.1	133.4	-0.6	0.8	3.6	144.1	-1.3	143.5	2.9	126.2	0.3	123.6	4.4
	July	132.9	133.3	-1.6	-0.8	2.9	140.9	-2.2	143.3	2.4	124.9	-1.0	123.6	3.6
	August	133.2	133.4	0.2	0.3	2.8	138.0	-2.1	143.1	2.4	128.5	2.8	123.9	3.2
	September	134.8	133.6	1.2	2.3	2.9	142.7	3.4	143.3	2.7	127.1	-1.1	124.2	3.0
	October	136.2	134.0	1.0	2.9	2.8	145.8	2.2	143.6	2.8	126.7	-0.3	124.5	2.8
	November	135.1	134.2	-0.8	2.0	2.5	143.8	-1.4	143.7	2.4	126.7	-0.1	124.8	2.5
2024	December	135.8	134.5	0.5	2.9	2.2	144.5	0.5	143.9	1.9	127.3	0.5	125.2	2.5

Source: CPI data from February 2016 onwards are from the Samoa Bureau of Statistics.
Historical CPI figures from SBS prior to February 2016 and further spliced by the CBS to later years.
(R) - Revised due to adjustments made from Samoa Bureau of Statistics (SBS)
** New CPI Index reflecting the 2013/14 Household Income and Expenditures Survey

Table 2: UNDERLYING CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (February 2016 = 100) **															
	All Groups Index	Percent Changes					Overall Import Component				Overall Local Component				
		Monthly Index	3 months average	12 months average	Latest Month		Annual Average Percent Change	Index	Monthly Change	12 months avg	Annual Average Percent Change	Index	Monthly Change	12 months avg	Annual Average Percent Change
					over prev month	over a year earlier									
2021	December	115.4	114.0	110.1	2.0	11.7	3.2	118.9	2.8	112.3	4.4	107.8	0.1	105.1	0.6
2022	December	124.4	127.2	122.9	-1.3	7.8	11.6	126.2	-2.1	126.9	12.9	120.3	0.4	114.3	8.7
2023	December	136.7	135.9	135.4	1.2	9.9	10.2	142.4	1.8	141.1	11.3	124.4	-0.2	123.1	7.7
	January	138.6	136.8	136.1	1.4	6.2	9.7	144.9	1.8	142.0	10.7	125.0	0.5	123.5	7.2
	February	140.9	138.7	136.7	1.6	4.8	8.8	148.2	2.3	142.6	9.7	125.0	0.0	123.9	6.6
	March	140.3	139.9	137.1	-0.4	4.3	7.9	147.3	-0.6	143.2	8.8	125.0	0.0	124.1	5.7
	April	140.1	140.4	137.6	-0.1	3.8	7.0	147.0	-0.2	143.7	7.9	125.1	0.1	124.3	4.9
	May	139.9	140.1	138.0	-0.1	3.5	6.1	146.7	-0.2	144.2	6.9	125.3	0.1	124.5	4.1
	June	137.8	139.3	138.0	-1.5	0.1	4.9	143.6	-2.1	144.1	5.5	125.4	0.1	124.7	3.5
	July	135.1	137.6	137.7	-2.0	-2.3	4.0	139.7	-2.7	143.7	4.3	125.3	-0.1	124.8	3.2
	August	134.4	135.8	137.5	-0.5	-1.7	3.4	138.5	-0.8	143.3	3.6	125.5	0.2	125.0	2.9
	September	138.1	135.9	137.7	2.7	1.9	3.4	143.9	3.9	143.6	3.7	125.4	-0.1	125.1	2.6
	October	141.8	138.1	138.2	2.7	4.4	3.4	149.3	3.8	144.3	3.9	125.7	0.2	125.1	2.3
	November	141.1	140.4	138.7	-0.5	4.5	3.2	148.3	-0.7	145.0	3.7	125.6	0.0	125.2	2.0
2025	December	141.3	141.4	139.1	0.1	3.4	2.7	148.5	0.1	145.5	3.1	125.7	0.1	125.3	1.8

Source: Samoa Bureau of Statistics
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** New CPI Index reflecting the 2013/14 Household Income and Expenditures Survey

Table 3: FOOD vs NON-FOOD INFLATION & FUEL vs NON-FUEL INFLATION (February 2016 = 100) **																	
	Food Inflation (40.4%)				Non-Food Inflation (59.6%)				Fuel Inflation (6.6%)				Non-Fuel Inflation (93.4%)				
	Index	Monthly Change	3mths av % chg	Annual Average Percent Change	Index	Monthly Change	3mths av % chg	Annual Average Percent Change	Index	Monthly Change	3mths av % chg	Annual Average Percent Change	Index	Monthly Change	3mths av % chg	Annual Average Percent Change	
2021	December	123.1	2.5	2.7	3.4	110.1	1.7	0.8	2.9	137.3	9.6	6.6	12.0	113.5	1.4	1.3	2.3
2022	December	134.5	0.1	-2.9	15.5	116.9	-0.9	-1.9	7.7	150.9	-3.3	-9.4	30.7	122.0	0.0	-1.6	9.5
2023	December	153.2	1.4	-2.7	15.9	117.7	-1.7	1.6	1.8	143.9	-7.5	8.1	-4.7	131.5	0.7	-1.1	9.4
	January	156.6	2.2	-0.3	15.0	117.8	0.1	0.7	1.3	140.1	-2.6	2.6	-6.2	132.9	1.1	0.0	8.8
	February	157.4	0.5	2.3	13.7	117.4	-0.4	-0.8	1.0	139.0	-0.8	-5.5	-6.5	133.5	0.4	1.3	8.1
	March	156.8	-0.4	3.1	12.5	118.2	0.7	-0.8	0.7	143.3	3.1	-6.2	-6.9	133.2	-0.2	1.6	7.3
	April	157.2	0.3	2.3	10.7	118.8	0.5	-0.2	0.5	147.2	2.7	-2.3	-6.8	133.6	0.3	1.3	6.3
	May	160.7	2.2	1.6	9.4	119.0	0.1	0.9	0.3	147.1	-0.1	3.4	-6.7	135.1	1.1	1.0	5.5
	June	158.2	-1.6	1.1	7.7	119.4	0.4	1.1	0.2	146.9	-0.1	4.4	-6.4	133.9	-0.9	0.8	4.5
	July	153.0	-3.3	0.1	5.9	119.2	-0.2	0.9	0.5	146.9	0.0	2.7	-4.8	131.6	-1.7	0.1	3.6
	August	155.6	1.7	-1.7	4.9	118.0	-1.0	0.2	1.0	138.0	-6.1	-1.3	-2.2	133.0	1.1	-0.8	3.2
	September	159.2	2.3	-1.7	4.8	118.3	0.3	-0.5	1.2	138.0	0.0	-4.1	-1.0	134.7	1.2	-0.8	3.1
	October	164.1	3.0	1.5	4.8	117.3	-0.9	-1.1	1.1	133.3	-3.4	-7.2	-1.8	136.7	1.5	1.0	3.1
	November	162.8	-0.7	4.1	4.5	116.4	-0.8	-1.3	0.7	126.6	-5.1	-7.9	-3.4	136.2	-0.4	2.3	2.9
2024	December	163.7	0.5	4.9	4.0	116.9	0.4	-1.4	0.6	130.1	2.8	-7.8	-3.8	126.2	-7.3	0.0	2.0

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