

Macro note - 2024 October Inflation

CPI rises by 2.88% mom in October while annual inflation prints as 48.58%. While rigidity in the underlying trend of inflation continues, interest rate cut prospects are postponed to 2025...

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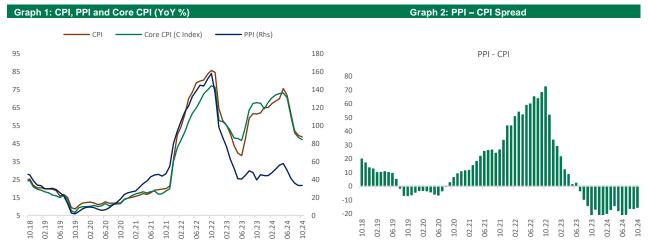
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	MoM%			YoY%			
	Market	Seker Invest	Actual	Market	Seker Invest	Actual	
CPI	2.53	2.6	2.88	48.07	48.2	48.58	
PPI	-	-	1.29			32.24	

CPI increased by 2.88% mom in October, while annual inflation fell to 48.58% (previously 49.38%). Market expectations were for inflation to increase by 2.53% mom and 48.07% yoy (Seker Investment a higher 2.6% mom and 48.58% yoy). The inflation figures, which are also above our expectations, indicate that the disinflation process will follow a slow and time-consuming path. The average of food, housing, and transportation inflation, which has a weight of 56.5% in the index, rose by 50.48% yoy. Inflation in households' basic expenditures remains high. In the same period, monthly inflation in the Special CPI Aggregate B index (core inflation) was 2.69%, while annual inflation was realized as 47.1%. Both core and headline figures are close to the upper band of the CBRT's forecast path. Producer prices, on the other hand, rose by 1.29% mom in October, while the annual change in PPI was realized as 32.24%. When we consider the sub-indices in PPI, annual changes in main industrial groups were realized as a 31.79% increase in intermediate goods, 39.17% increase in durable consumer goods, 41.48% increase in non-durable consumer goods, 14.54% increase in energy, and 33.84% increase in capital goods. The long-lasting calm course in producer prices has been limiting cost-driven consumer inflation. On the other hand, the pressure on services inflation is changing the pricing behavior of producers and consumers. Even under the currently tight monetary policy, the course of consumer inflation is not at the targeted level. For price stability, the monthly inflation level should first stabilize below 2% and gradually stabilize within the 1.2-1.5% band. The CBRT's final inflation report of the year, to be published this week, will be closely monitored for the monetary policy stance and expectations for the last quarter and 2025. Considering the level of realized inflation and the fact that monthly inflation developments are the most important criterion for the monetary policy stance, a rate cut in the last quarter is very unlikely. For 2025, the timing and frequency of the rate cut will depend on November-December inflation developments.



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Analyzing the subcategories of CPI inflation, the main group with the lowest year-on-year increase was transportation, with 26.14%. On the other hand, the main group with the highest increase compared to the same month of last year was education, with 93.66%. By main expenditure groups, the main group with the highest decrease in October 2024 compared to the previous month was transportation, with -0.54%. On the other hand, the main group with the highest increase in October 2024 compared to the previous month was clothing and footwear, with 14.32%.

Table 1: Inflation and Sub-Components						
Main expenditure groups		MoM (%)	Ytd (%)	YoY (%)		
CPI	100,00	2,88	39,77	48,58		
Food and non-alcoholic beverages		4,33	34,87	45,28		
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	3,76	-0,04	39,36	52,15		
Clothing and footwear	6,94	14,32	33,55	31,37		
Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	14,20	2,93	62,30	89,39		
Furnishing, household equipment, routine domestic maintenance		1,82	31,29	39,22		
Health	3,71	2,88	42,52	51,05		
Transportation		-0,54	26,05	26,14		
Communication	3,34	3,52	29,24	37,77		
Recreation and Culture		0,62	31,80	41,64		
Education		0,33	91,50	93,66		
Hotels, cafes and restaurants		1,44	53,81	62,09		
Miscellaneous goods and services	4,30	2,02	39,34	45,18		

Source: TURKSTAT

In sum, CPI increased by 2.88% mom in October, while annual inflation was realized as 48.58%. The sharp decline in inflation, which initially started due to the combined effect of tight monetary policy and the base effect, was replaced by a flat course. From this period onwards, we expect the disinflation process to follow a slower and more gradual path. In the last inflation report of the year, the CBRT's 2025 forecast path, in particular, will be decisive for the monetary policy stance. We expect the 2024 year-end inflation level to deviate upwards from both the CBRT forecast and the average market expectation (43.5%). In particular, contributions from administered prices, which are beyond the control of monetary policy, make the CBRT's job more difficult. The economic management, which gradually adjusts monetary and fiscal policies according to the trend in inflation, will need more time to manage inflation expectations. We closely monitor inflation expectations as the improvement in the expectations channel will have an impact on both pricing behavior and costs. Therefore, we expect year-end inflation forecasts to be realized with a one-quarter lag starting from 2025. Contributions to inflation from cost and exchange rate pressures have been limited, and consumption and demand inflation have entered a downtrend. We expect services inflation to converge significantly to headline inflation in the last quarter of the year, especially in line with PPI dynamics. Considering the sphere of monetary policy control, implementations that take financial stability as well as price stability into account will reduce exchange rate volatility and contribute to risk premiums and macro-financial stability. We emphasize here that we may revise our inflation forecasts depending on the developments in monthly inflation and the course of monetary policy. We maintain our year-end inflation forecast at 44.5%.

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