

NATIONAL BANK OF KAZAKHSTAN

## A comment by Head of the Real Sector Monitoring Division of NBK Monetary Policy Department Igor Ossipov about inflation trends in the regions of the Republic of Kazakhstan in January 2022

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In January 2022, **annual inflation** in the country accelerated to 8.5% (8.4% in December 2021). In terms of regions, annual inflation sped up in 10 regions, slowed down in 5 regions and remained unchanged in 2 regions.

The highest acceleration pace was reported in Aktobe Region (from 8.7% in December to 9.2% in January), a slowdown was indicated in Mangistau Region (from 9.2% to 8.7%) and the capital city (from 8.8% to 8.3%).

The growth pace of **food** prices in January remained at the level of 9.9%, which is the same as a month earlier. Akmola Region demonstrated a maximum increase in prices for goods of this group (11.7%).

The growth in prices for **non-food** products remained at 8.5%. The peak values were recorded in the Regions of Akmola and Aktobe (10.2% each), the lowest – in Mangistau Region (7.1%).

Prices for **paid services** rose by 6.8% in January (by 6.5% in December). Significantly above the national level, prices grew in the Regions of West Kazakhstan and East Kazakhstan (8.2% each), while significantly lower growth rate was indicated in Akmola Region (5.3%).

The monthly inflation in the country comprised 0.7%, which is higher than the average of January prices for the past 5 years (0.6% for 2017-2021). Prices in January 2022 grew above their average historical rate in Almaty (1.0%), Aktobe (0.9%) and Karaganda (0.9%) Regions, Shymkent (0.9%), and Akmola (0.8%), West Kazakhstan (0.7%) and North Kazakhstan (0.6%) Regions.

In the Regions of Mangistau, Atyrau, Pavlodar and Kostanay, growth rates of prices remained at their average historical level. In other regions, monthly price growth pace were below their historical average.

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