



Inflation Expectations

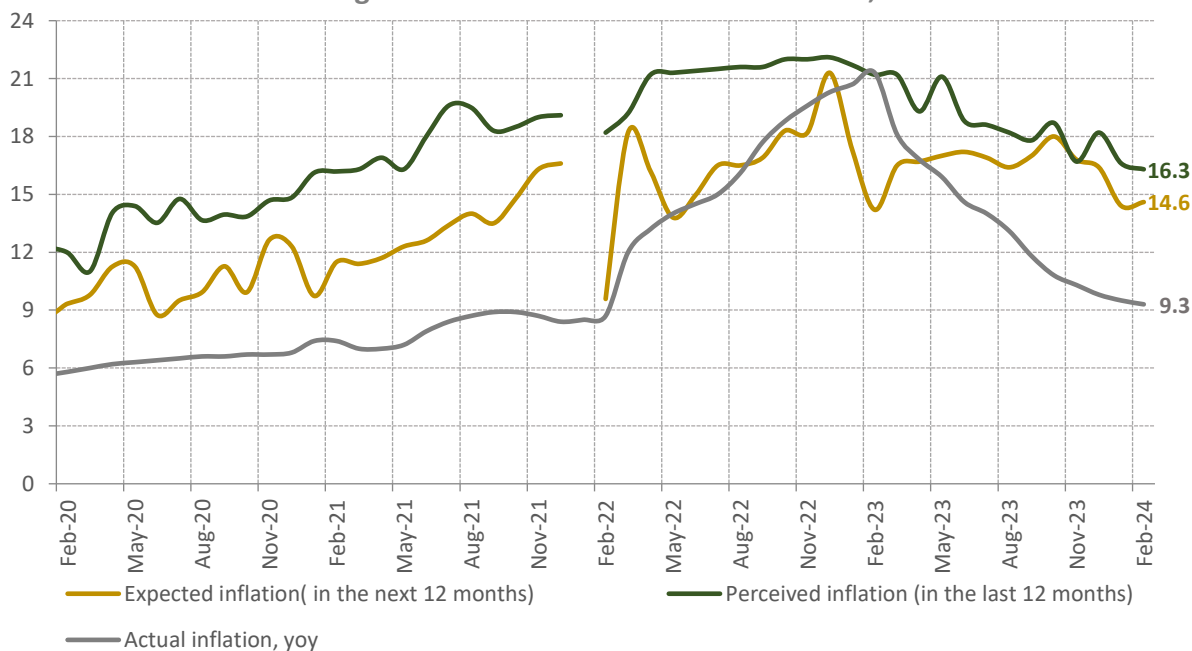
February 2024

- Inflation expectations of the population remain high
- Consumer sentiment has deteriorated slightly, but remained above the 2023 average

Households` inflation expectations

In February 2024, the median estimate¹ of expected inflation in the next 12 months accelerated slightly to 14.6% (January 2024 – 14.4%). At the same time, the median estimate of perceived inflation over the past 12 months continued to decline to 16.3% (16.6%) (Figure 1).

Figure 1. Inflation and median estimates, %



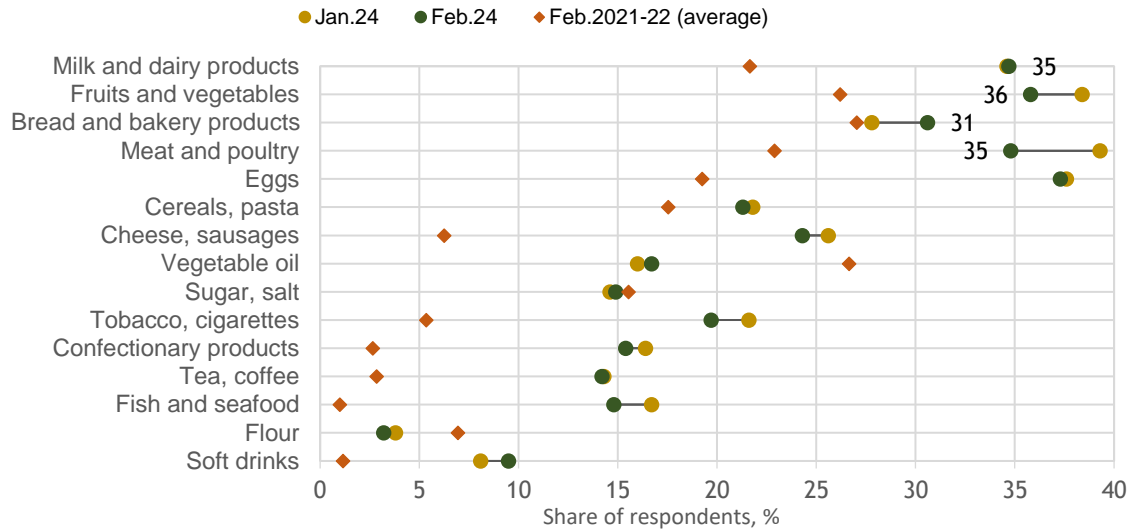
Source: Results of a telephone survey of the households, Fusion Lab

In February 2024, the share of respondents who noted an increase in food prices decreased (78%). At the same time, the share of those who noted an increase in prices for paid services increased to 10.7% (in January 2024 – 8.9%).

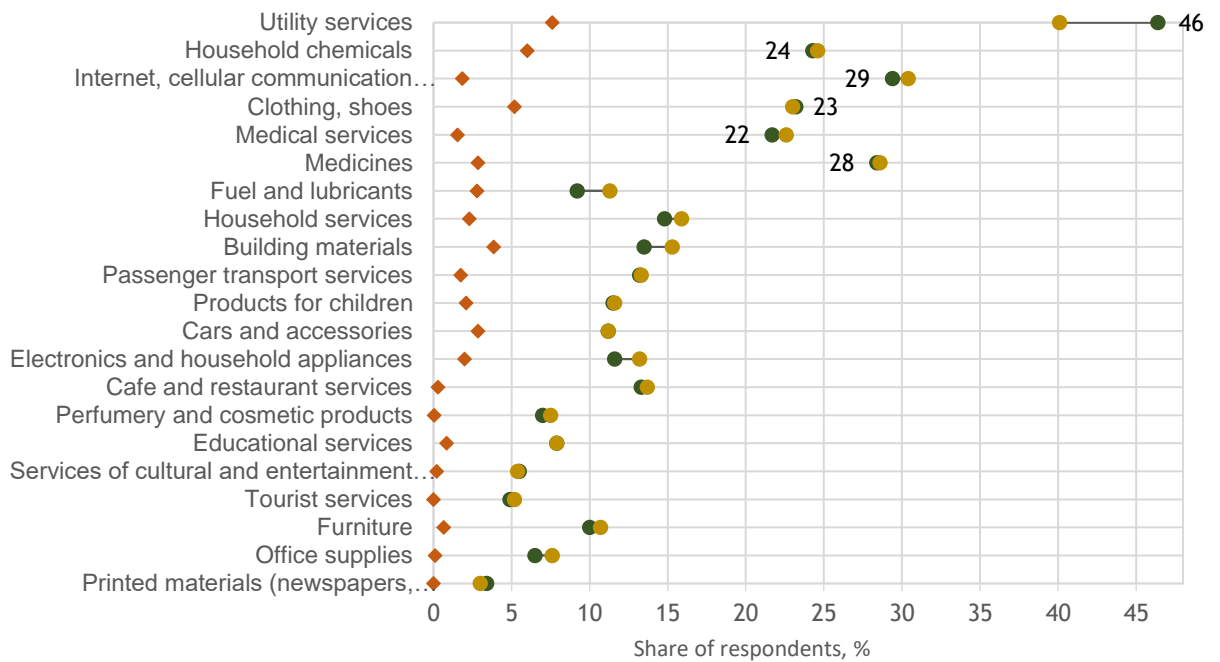
Among food products, respondents continue to note an increase in prices for fruits and vegetables, meat and dairy products, bread and bakery products, eggs. In the structure of non-food products, the population noted an increase in the prices of medicines, household chemicals, clothing and footwear, as well as building materials. Among paid services, respondents most noticed an increase in the prices of housing and communal services, Internet and cellular communications, medical and household services (Figure 2).

Figure 2. Frequently mentioned goods and services

Food products



Non-food products and services



Source: Results of a telephone survey of the population, FusionLab

Consumer sentiment

The consumer sentiment index in February 2024 decreased to 107.7 (in January 2024 – 110.7) (figures 3,4,5). In particular, estimates of the country's development prospects in 5 years decreased by 2.9 points. The assessment of personal financial situation in one year decreased by 4.4 points.

At the same time, in the estimates of the current situation, the assessment of personal financial situation over the past year has decreased (by 1.6 points) along with readiness for large purchases (by 5.8 points).

Figure 3. Index of Consumer Sentiment²

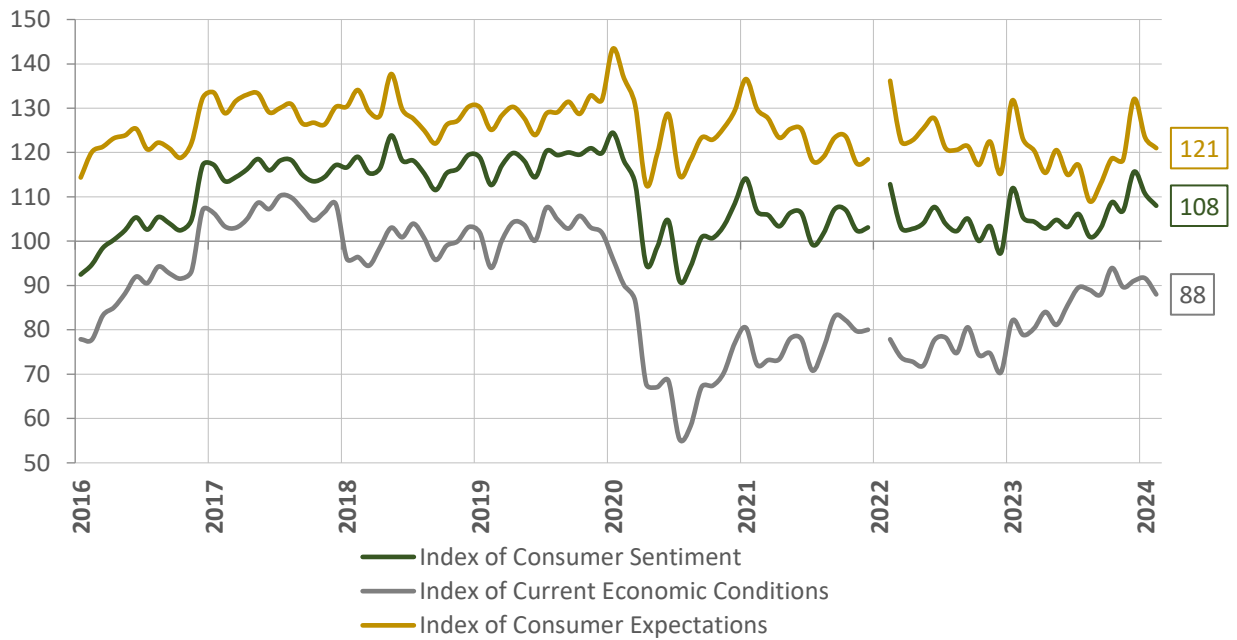


Figure 4. Consumer Expectations

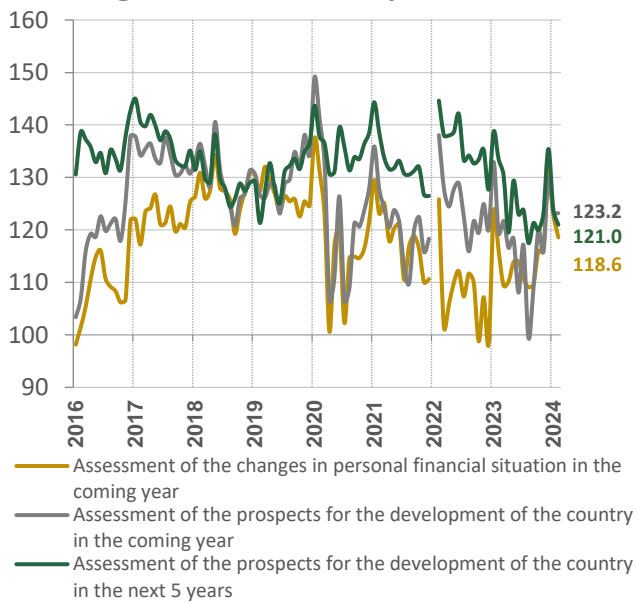
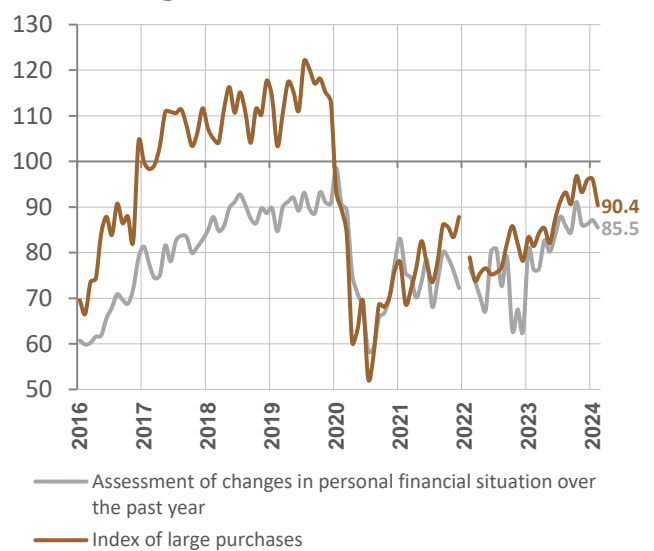


Figure 5. Current Conditions



Source: Results of a telephone survey of the population of Kazakhstan, FusionLab

NOTES

1 A quantitative assessment of inflation expectations/median estimates for January 2022 has not been published, because the results of the survey in January 2022 were influenced by January events in the country, which affected the smaller sample size and incompatibility with previous data

Median estimate of perceived inflation based on the survey results: How much exactly do you think the prices of goods and services have increased over the past 12 months? Median estimate of expected inflation based on the question: How much exactly do you think prices for goods and services will rise in the next 12 months?

2 Consumer sentiment index - The average value of private indices:

- changes in personal financial situation over the past year;
- changes in personal financial situation in the coming year;
- prospects for the development of the country in the coming year;
- prospects for the development of the country in the next 5 years;
- large purchases.

Current status index - The average value of private indices:

- changes in personal financial situation over the past year;
- the index of large purchases.

Consumer expectations index - The average value of private indices:

- changes in personal financial situation in the coming year;
- prospects for the development of the country in the coming year;
- prospects for the development of the country in the next 5 years.

The numerical value represents the balance of responses, which is calculated as the difference between the proportion of positive and negative responses + 100. Index values can vary from 0 to 200. A value above 100 indicates the predominance of positive estimates, below 100 – negative estimates.