

# STATISTICAL NEWS

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## Consumer Price Index Statistics

This release gives information on changes in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) and the four states - Chuuk, Kosrae, Pohnpei and Yap. Appendix 1 contains tables with detailed data for FSM and the four states.

### Annual Inflation

The annual inflation in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2023 was 4.7% for *All Groups*. In the same quarter of the previous year (2022) the rate was 6.5%, indicating a decrease of 1.8 percentage points (Figure 1).

The largest contributions to the annual inflation for 4<sup>th</sup> quarter 2023 came from the *Food and non-alcoholic beverage* division, which increased in prices by 9.2%. (Figure 3).

Annual inflation differs by state. The highest inflation rate that was recorded in this quarter came from Kosrae at 6.6%, followed by Chuuk at 6.0%, Yap at 4.2% and Pohnpei at 3.9%.

The high inflation rate in Kosrae appears to be caused by the increasing prices for the *Transport* division, which was recorded at 21.4%. Whereas, in Pohnpei, Chuuk and Yap the inflation rates were driven by the increasing prices in the *Food and non-alcoholic* division, which recorded at 10.4%, 14.8%, and at 10.2%, respectively.

### Contributions to inflation

The details of the price changes are presented here, comparing the changes between 2022 and 2023 (Figure 3) and the items/products driving these changes (Figure 4).

Figure 1.  
Annual Inflation (year-on-year change)

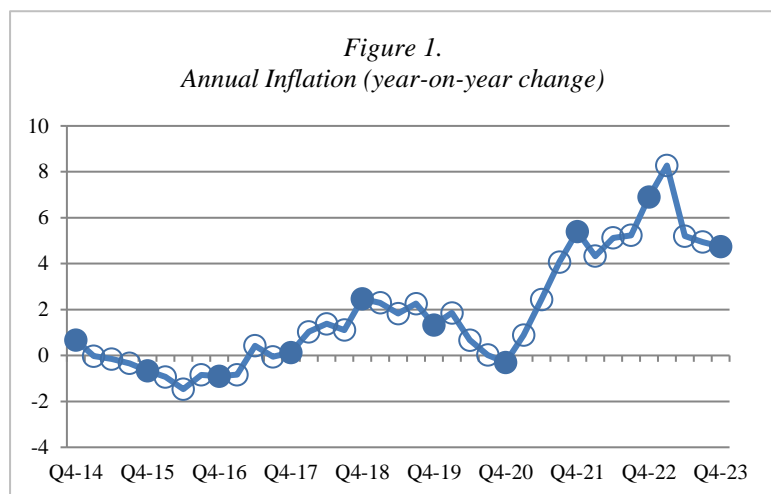
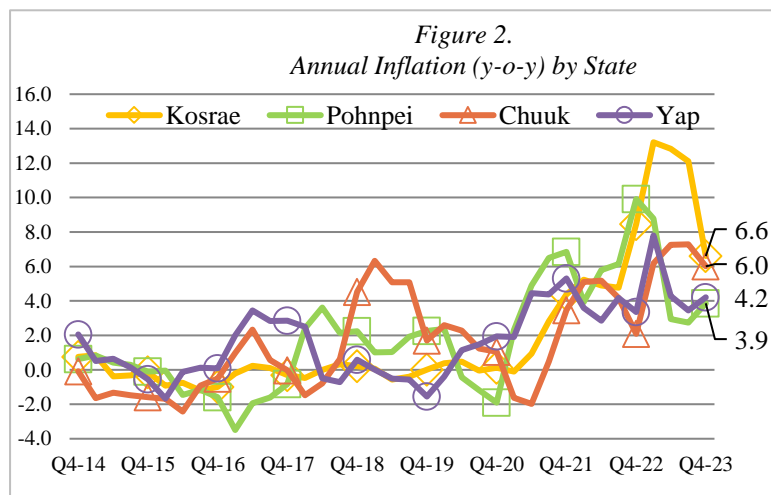
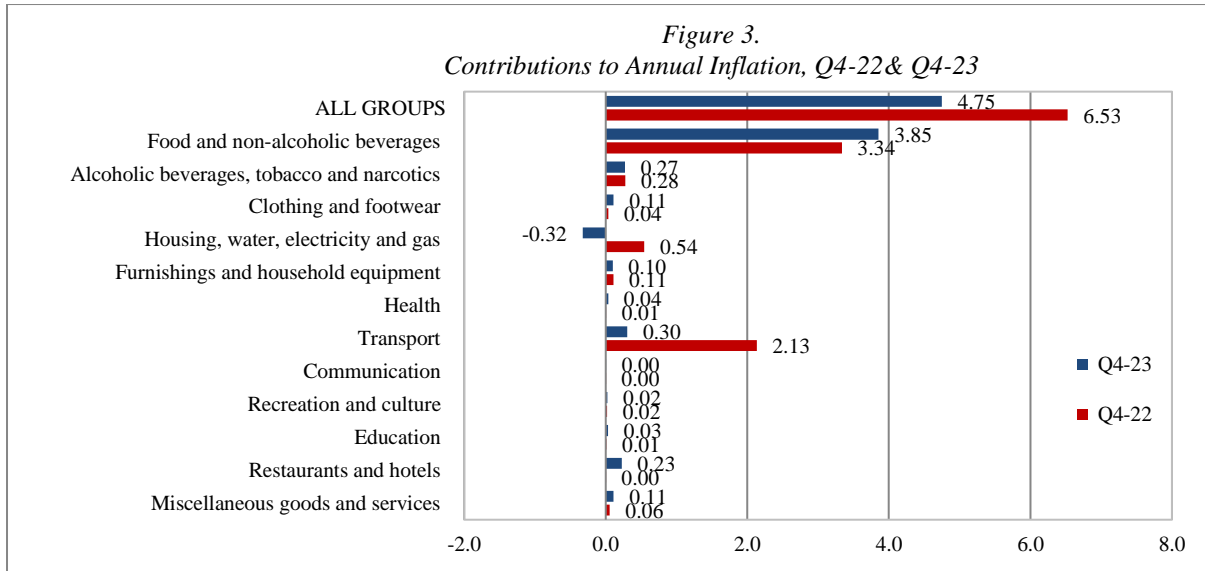


Figure 2.  
Annual Inflation (y-o-y) by State





**Figure 4.**  
*Contribution to Annual Inflation, Q4-23*

Division	Annual Change	Comments: Items contributing to change
All Groups	4.75%	Sum=All Groups % Change
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	9.18%	Higher prices were recorded for bread, fresh tuna, reef fish, doughnuts, soft drinks, ketchup and taro.
Alcoholic beverages, tobacco and narcotics	2.19%	Higher prices were recorded for betelnut, beer and liquor.
Clothing and footwear	4.20%	Higher prices were recorded for blouses, laundromats, pants, t-shirts, local dresses and shirts.
Housing, water, electricity and gas	-2.12%	Lower prices were recorded for electricity
Furnishings and household equipment	2.54%	Higher prices were recorded for batteries, towels, bleaches, tupperwares, fans, washing machines, and air conditioners.
Health	5.16%	Higher prices were recorded for prescription medicine.
Transport	2.18%	Higher prices were recorded for airfare, automobile services, and motor oil.
Communication	0.10%	Higher prices of were recorded for cell phones.
Recreation and culture	1.75%	Higher prices were recorded for notebooks.
Education	4.18%	Higher prices were recorded for tuition fees for primary and secondary schools.
Restaurants and hotels	26.18%	Higher prices were recorded for school lunches.
Miscellaneous goods and services	5.41%	Higher prices were recorded for deodorants, toilet papers, soap, shampoos, and baby oils.

**Appendix 1: Detailed tables**

Table 1	Indexes by COICOP category and State
Table 2	Quarterly changes by COICOP category and State
Table 3	Annual changes by COICOP category and State
Table 4	Quarterly contributions by COICOP category and State
Table 5	Annual contributions by COICOP category and State

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/s/

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