



# Monthly analysis of inflation developments

October 2014



*Article 3 (1) of the Central Bank Act (Act CXXXIX of 2013 on the Magyar Nemzeti Bank) defines the achievement and maintenance of price stability as the Magyar Nemzeti Bank's primary objective. Assessments of inflation developments have key importance in monetary policy decision-making. The MNB attaches a high priority to informing the general public on a continuous basis and thereby to improving the transparency and predictability of its decisions. Consistent with this principle, the Magyar Nemzeti Bank produces publicly available analyses of its assessments of inflation developments and the extent of medium-term inflationary effects on a monthly basis.*

*The analysis has been prepared by the Economic Forecasts and Analysis Directorate and approved by Dániel Palotai, Executive Director responsible for monetary policy.*

The publicly available analyses and the related statistical databases are accessible on the MNB's website at:

[http://english.mnb.hu/Statisztika/data-and-information/mnben\\_statistikai\\_idosorok/mnben\\_elv\\_prices/underlying\\_inflation\\_indicators\\_MNB](http://english.mnb.hu/Statisztika/data-and-information/mnben_statistikai_idosorok/mnben_elv_prices/underlying_inflation_indicators_MNB)

## ASSESSMENT OF INFLATION DATA FOR OCTOBER 2014

In October 2014, the consumer price index stood at -0.4 per cent, core inflation at 1.5 per cent and core inflation adjusted for the effects of indirect taxes at 1.4 per cent. Both consumer price inflation and core inflation rose by 0.1 percentage point relative to the previous month. The change in inflation in the month was accounted for by divergent movements in the price indices for a number of product groups (Chart 1).

The Bank's measures of *underlying inflation developments* (annual inflation rates of demand-sensitive and sticky-price products) *slightly rose relative to the previous month*. The levels of the measures continue to indicate a moderate inflation environment (Chart 2).

Below is a brief analysis of changes in the prices of items determining medium-term inflation developments.

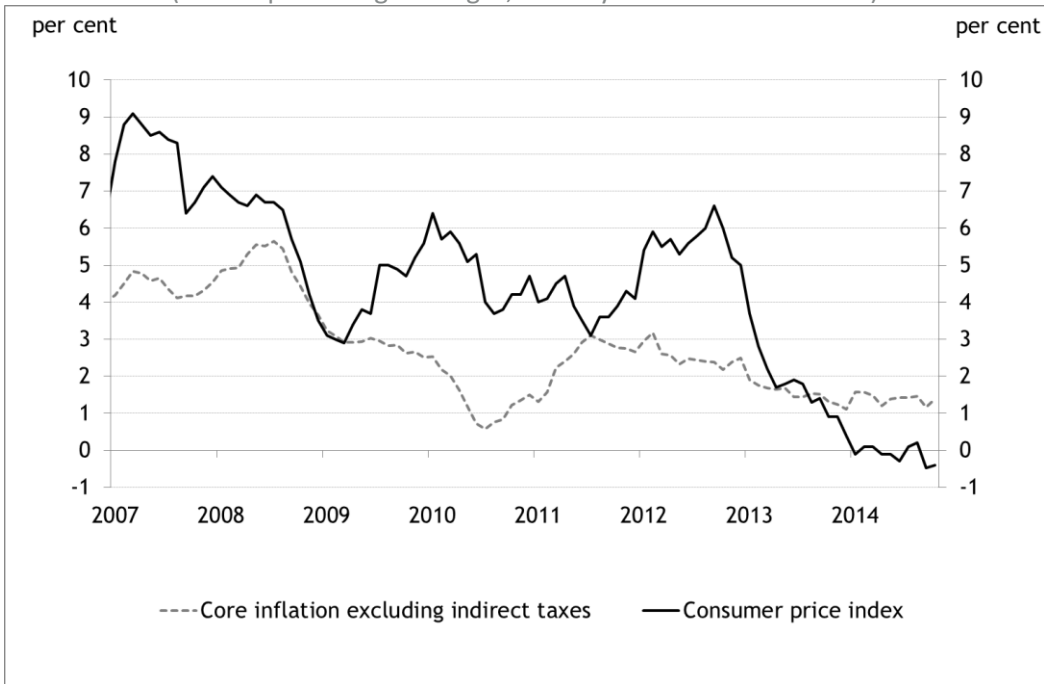
*Tradables* prices were barely changed relative to the same period a year earlier. Inflation of durable and non-durable goods both reflected moderate dynamics.

*Services* prices rose by 0.6 per cent relative to the previous month (Chart 3), which was higher than the increases observed in previous years. The increase in the prices of not elsewhere classified services contributed significantly to inflation developments within this product group. Excluding this effect, price increases continued to be generally moderate across a wide range of services.

In seasonally adjusted terms, *processed food* prices fell relative to the previous month, mainly reflecting the decline in the price indices for milk and dairy products.

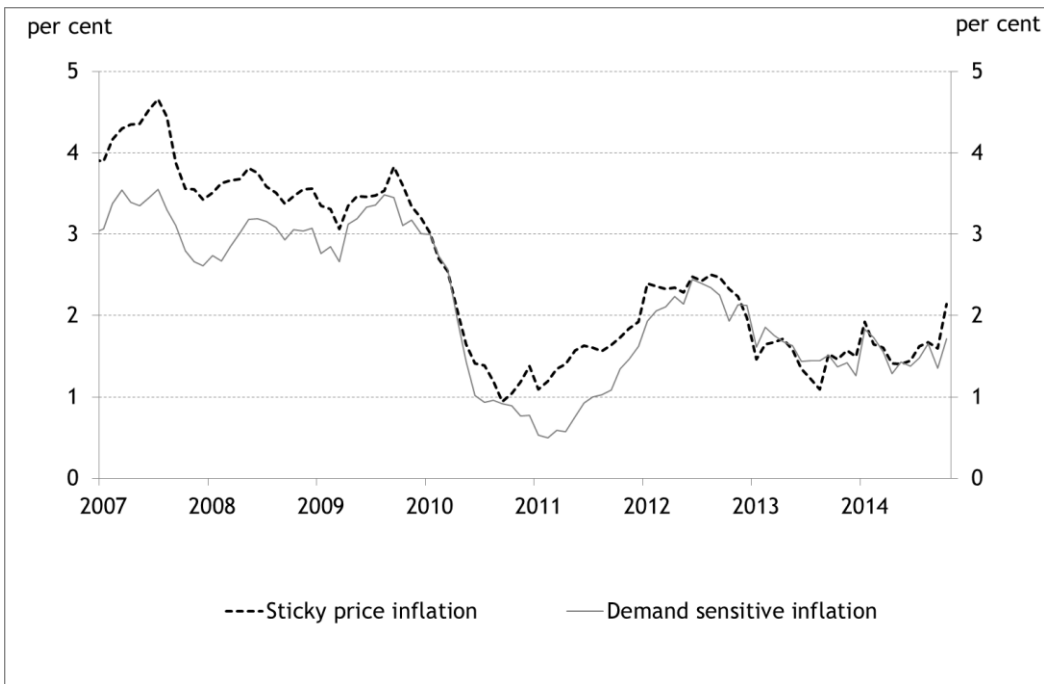
Budapest, 11 November 2014

**Chart 1: The consumer price index and core inflation excluding indirect taxes**  
(annual percentage changes, January 2007 – October 2014)



**Chart 2: Underlying inflation indicators**

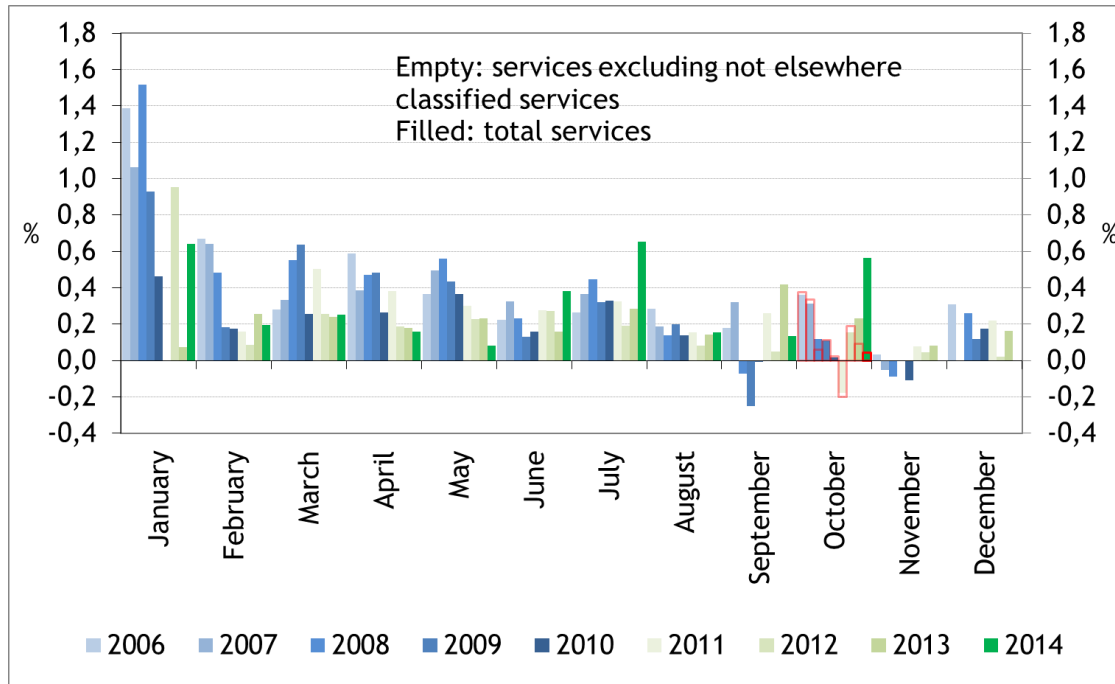
(excluding indirect taxes, annual percentage changes, January 2007 – October 2014)



*Note: Demand-sensitive inflation is derived by eliminating processed food prices from core inflation. Inflation of sticky-price products is composed of items of the consumer price index where maximum 15 per cent of elementary prices change monthly on average. MNB calculation based on data released by the CSO.*

**Chart 3: Services price inflation**

(seasonally unadjusted, tax-adjusted monthly changes, January 2005 – October 2014)



**Table 1: Annual change in the consumer price index and contribution of the measures of underlying inflation**

Consumer price index, October 2014 (CSO)					
-0,4% (annual change)					
MNB underlying inflation indicators (MNB calculation)					
Contribution of sticky price inflation (percentage point), weight 31,3%	0,7	Contribution of demand sensitive inflation (percentage point), weight 52,8%	0,9	Contribution of core inflation excluding indirect taxes (percentage point), weight 65,6%	0,9
Contribution of other items (percentage point)	-1,1	Contribution of other items (percentage point)	-1,3	Contribution of other items (percentage point)	-1,3

Sources: CSO and the MNB's own calculations.

The sum of contributions may differ from the official figures due to rounding.