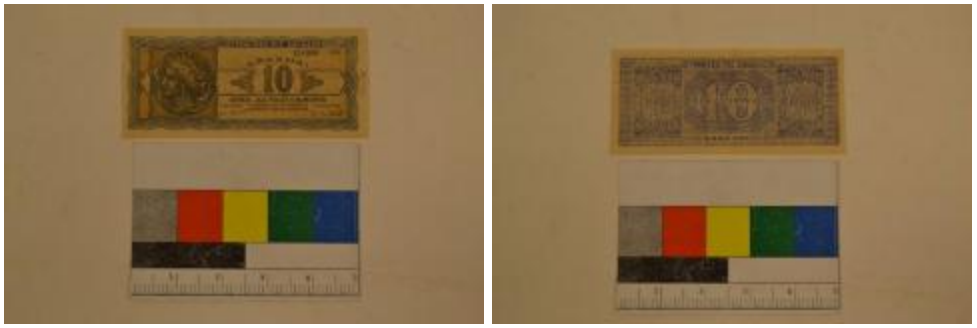


| | |
|---|---|
| **OBJECT ID** | F2014.55 |
| **OBJECT NAME** | Currency |
| **DATE CREATED** | 1944 |
| **MATERIAL** | Paper |
| **ACCESS POINTS** | 10<br>1944<br>bank<br>bill<br>billion<br>blue<br>brown<br>Posiden<br>ten |

## OBJECT DESCRIPTION

Greek 10 billion drachmas bill:
Obverse: brown and blue background with a picture of the head of Amphrite (wife of Posiden) on the left side. The rest is written in Greek- "The Kingdom of Greece, the value of 10 billion drachmas- payble on show in Athens October 20th, 1944." The bill is numbered as 254008AA.
Reverse: printed entirely in blue ink scrolls. The heading in the border says "The Bank of Greece." In the middle of the bill is a large number ten with the word billion through it. This is bordered by two other large number 10s. The Greek text underneith this says "first edition"

## ORIGIN

Greece went through its worst inflation in 1944. In 1942, the highest denomination was 50,000 drachmai. By 1944, the highest denomination was 100,000,000,000 drachmai. In the 1944 currency reform, 1 new drachma was exchanged for 50,000,000,000 drachmai. Another currency reform in 1953 replaced the drachma at an exchange rate of 1 new drachma = 1,000 old drachmai. The overall impact of hyperinflation: 1 (1953) drachma = 50,000,000,000,000 pre 1944 drachmai. The Greek monthly inflation rate reached 8.5 billion percent in October 1944.

Start and End Date: May 1941- Dec. 1945
Peak Month and Rate of Inflation: Nov. 1944, 13,800%

## CITATION

Currency, 1944, *National Hellenic Museum*, https://collections.nationalhellenicmuseum.org/Detail/objects/. Accessed 11/10/26.