

OBJECT ID	F2014.70
OBJECT NAME	Currency
DATE CREATED	1944
MATERIAL	Paper
ACCESS POINTS	1944 2000 drachmas men million two thousand

OBJECT DESCRIPTION

Greek 2000 million drachmas bill:
Obverse:green background with swirls and the print of a carving which represents men and bulls through the harvest. There is Greek writing over this which says- "The Kingdom of Greece, the value of 2000 million drachmas- payble on show in Athens October 11th, 1944." The bill is numbered as KE 255697
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 two-thouand with the word million under it. This is bordered by four other large number 2000s- one in each corner. 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 11/11/26.