



Central Statistics Office
An Phríomh-Oifig Staidrimh

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

(Base: November 1996=100)

DETAILED SUB-INDICES RELEASE

December 1999

This release provides a summary analysis of the major price developments within the 10 main CPI commodity groups together with constituent CPI Sub-Indices and details of their monthly and annual percentage changes.

A detailed description of the CPI is published in the June 1997 issue of the Irish Statistical Bulletin. The monthly CPI Statistical Release is available on the CSO Web Site immediately following publication.

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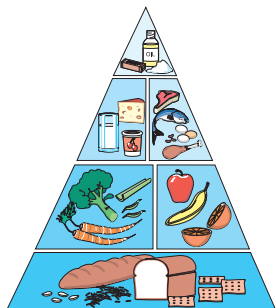
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Consumer Price Index

December 1999



Food

Food prices rose by 0.3% in the month of December, bringing the annual percentage change in the year to 2.9%. Price increases were recorded for mutton/lamb, fresh vegetables, fresh fruit and breakfast cereals while the price of potatoes and poultry declined.



Drink

Alcoholic drink prices rose marginally by 0.2% in the month. The annual percentage increase in alcohol prices was 3.8%, contributing 0.5% to the overall annual consumer price index in the twelve months to December.



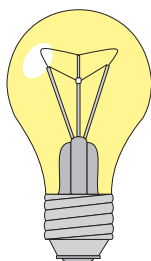
Tobacco

Cigarettes and related tobacco product prices rose sharply in December following the increase in excise duty in the budget. This brought the annual increase to 17.7% in the 12 months to December. The increase in cigarettes contributed approximately 70% to the overall monthly increase in the CPI in December.



Clothing & Footwear

Clothing and Footwear prices dropped marginally this month as a result of some pre Christmas sales. These sales were mainly in ladies wear.



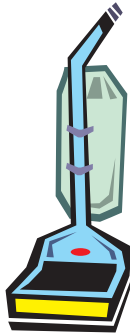
Fuel & Light

Fuel and light prices increased by 1.8% in December to bring the annual percentage change to 7.3%, up from 4.9% in November. Higher crude oil prices has resulted in a number of large increases in the price of home heating oil over the last few months. In December oil prices increased by 12.0%, bringing the annual increase to 44% in December 1999.



Housing

The cost of housing increased in December by 2.3%. This was due to an increase in mortgage interest rates and a rise in local authority rents. The annual change in the 12 months to December is -7.8%, down from -14% in the 12 months to November.



Durable Household Goods

Durable Goods prices rose marginally in December by 0.2%. Prices remained lower in December than the same period last year.



Other Goods

There were marginal increases in the cost of Other Goods, particularly, hair applications, magazines, newspapers and other items.



Transport

Transport costs rose in December by 0.6%. There were higher than average increases in the cost of motor fuel and car repair and maintenance. As a result the annual increase in transport in the year to December is 6.1%, while motor fuel has increased by almost 12% in the year.



Services & Related Expenditure

Services and Related Expenditure showed no major change in December, leaving the annual increase at 5.8%. In the year to December the major price changes were in Education and Training, Other Services, Discos/Nightclubs, Medical Expenses and Hairdressing.



Overall CPI

Consumer Prices grew by 1.1% in December, putting the annual rate of inflation for the twelve months to December at 3.4%. The main factors contributing to the monthly increase were Tobacco, Housing, Transport and Food.

Consumer Price Index

December 1999

TABLE 1 - FOOD

	Nov. 1996 base expenditure weights %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
TOTAL	22.8497	110.6	0.3	2.9
<u>Item</u>				
1 BEEF	1.0124	101.2	0.3	3.2
2 MUTTON/LAMB	0.4869	104.7	2.1	5.3
3 PORK	0.3829	94.1	0.4	-0.2
4 BACON	0.8557	98.5	-0.1	1.4
5 POULTRY	0.9482	99.8	-1.1	-0.3
6 COOKED MEAT	0.5328	110.1	0.5	4.6
7 SAUSAGES	0.2882	109.5	0.7	3.7
8 OTHER MEAT	0.3075	103.9	0.4	1.8
9 FRESH FISH	0.1926	113.9	-1.9	9.4
10 FROZEN FISH	0.1509	116.4	0.2	6.7
11 SMOKED FISH	0.0291	98.4	1.4	-0.5
12 TINNED FISH	0.0577	129.1	-0.3	3.8
13 POTATOES	0.6146	147.7	-4.6	-17.0
14 TOMATOES	0.0679	126.9	8.3	-1.5
15 OTHER FRESH VEGETABLES	0.5004	117.7	2.0	4.5
16 DRIED VEGETABLES	0.0124	116.0	0.8	5.5
17 TINNED VEGETABLES	0.1986	121.4	0.3	6.2
18 FROZEN VEGETABLES	0.2163	105.5	-0.3	4.1
19 BREAD	1.2377	103.7	0.0	3.5
20 FLOUR	0.0868	101.9	0.0	2.6
21 BISCUITS	0.5189	112.5	-0.9	3.5
22 CAKES	0.4911	111.3	0.5	3.5
23 PASTEURISED MILK	1.7399	100.9	0.3	2.0
24 OTHER MILK PRODUCTS	0.3647	111.2	0.2	4.7
25 CHEESE	0.3601	107.3	0.2	3.7
26 EGGS	0.2354	109.6	0.1	5.5
27 BUTTER	0.2705	103.3	0.1	2.5
28 MARGARINE	0.3033	121.1	0.7	5.9
29 OTHER FATS & OILS	0.0869	117.9	0.1	3.8
30 FRESH FRUIT	0.7009	121.8	6.0	7.6
31 TINNED FRUIT	0.0538	106.1	0.2	2.0
32 DRIED FRUIT & NUTS	0.0722	110.3	0.2	2.8
33 TEA	0.2999	117.8	0.2	2.9
34 COFFEE	0.1358	114.4	-1.3	-1.7
35 COCOA	0.0212	116.3	0.1	-0.3
36 SUGAR	0.2075	101.3	-0.1	0.1
37 BREAKFAST CEREALS	0.4263	136.2	1.3	7.8
38 OATMEAL	0.0230	96.0	2.7	-3.8
39 OTHER CEREALS	0.1600	105.6	0.2	1.7
40 SAUCES & MEAT EXTRACTS	0.3107	107.5	-1.0	1.9
41 SOUPS	0.1468	114.8	0.6	3.9
42 PRESERVES	0.1320	109.0	-0.1	2.5
43 SWEETS & CHOCOLATE	0.9008	120.8	0.2	5.7
44 CUSTARD	0.0101	123.6	0.2	8.5
45 DESSERTS & ICE CREAM	0.3728	106.8	0.5	2.8
46 BABY FOOD	0.0393	124.8	0.1	4.3
47 MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS	0.9014	109.1	0.0	3.3
48 SOFT DRINK	1.1075	110.5	0.2	3.9
49 MEALS OUT	4.2776	112.9	0.2	4.7

TABLE 2 - ALCOHOLIC DRINK

	Nov. 1996 base expenditure weights %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
TOTAL	12.6298	110.3	0.2	3.8
<u>Item</u>				
1 BEER	8.6190	110.6	0.3	3.9
2 SPIRITS	2.7137	109.8	0.2	3.6
3 WINE	1.2971	109.6	0.3	3.6

TABLE 3 - FUEL & LIGHT

	Nov. 1996 base expenditure weights %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
TOTAL	4.9038	105.2	1.8	7.3
<u>Item</u>				
1 FIRELIGHTERS	0.0761	100.5	-1.0	-0.8
2 COAL & ANTRACITE	0.8595	111.7	0.0	5.0
3 TURF & BRIQUETTES	0.3661	109.4	0.0	4.9
4 BOTTLED GAS	0.2881	113.4	0.4	7.2
5 PIPED GAS	0.4396	100.0	0.0	0.0
6 ELECTRICITY	2.0252	102.1	0.0	0.0
7 FUEL OIL	0.8491	104.8	12.0	44.0

TABLE 4 - HOUSING

	Nov. 1996 base expenditure weights %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
TOTAL	8.0385	88.7	2.3	-7.8
<u>Item</u>				
1 RENTS	1.7518	117.8	1.3	6.9
2 LOCAL AUTHOR. CHARGE	0.2952	24.4	0.0	18.4
3 MORTGAGE INTEREST	3.6315	68.7	5.2	-25.2
4 HOUSE INSURANCE	0.7311	107.5	0.1	3.4
5 REPAIRS & DECORATION	1.6288	105.0	0.2	3.7

TABLE 5 - TRANSPORT

	Nov. 1996 base expenditure Weights %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
TOTAL	13.9402	108.6	0.6	6.1
<u>Item</u>				
1 MOTOR CYCLES	0.0168	99.7	0.2	-0.6
2 MOTOR CARS	3.9458	102.5	0.0	2.2
3 OTHER VEHICLES	0.1683	107.3	0.1	1.1
4 MOTOR REG & TAX	0.8345	106.1	0.0	3.0
5 MOTOR INSURANCE	2.0077	118.0	-0.3	8.2
6 MOTOR FUEL	4.1761	108.6	1.4	11.8
7 MOTOR OIL	0.0460	112.8	0.2	4.1
8 SPARE PARTS	0.5010	103.8	0.0	0.6
9 REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE	0.6495	114.3	1.9	8.5
10 OTHER VEHICLE COSTS	0.0988	114.3	0.4	3.7
11 BUS FARES	0.6097	102.7	0.0	0.0
12 RAIL FARES	0.1790	109.8	0.0	1.9
13 COMBINED TRAVEL	0.1608	101.8	0.0	0.0
14 OTHER TRAVEL	0.5461	126.7	0.5	3.8

TABLE 6 - SERVICES & RELATED EXPENDITURE

	Nov. 1996 base expenditure Weights %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
<u>TOTAL</u>	16.7232	112.8	0.0	5.8
<u>Item</u>				
1 CINEMA	0.1774	113.3	0.2	4.7
2 DANCING	0.4527	112.4	0.4	9.7
3 OTHER ENTERTAINMENT	0.9787	115.4	0.0	7.2
4 EDUCATION & TRAINING	1.6085	131.2	0.0	11.8
5 MEDICAL FEES	0.9729	119.0	0.0	6.6
6 MEDICINES & DRUGS	0.5922	107.2	0.0	2.4
7 HOSPITAL CHARGES	0.1883	125.9	0.0	9.9
8 OTHER MEDICAL EXPENS	1.3443	128.8	0.0	9.2
9 THERAPEUTIC EQUIPMENT	0.0573	110.2	0.0	2.3
10 HAIRDRESSING	1.0846	124.3	0.2	9.2
11 SHOE REPAIRS	0.0345	117.4	0.4	6.4
12 LAUNDRY & DRYCLEAN	0.1334	111.4	1.2	5.3
13 OTHER SERVICES	1.0860	127.4	0.4	13.6
14 POSTAGE	0.1352	99.3	0.0	0.0
15 TELEPHONES	1.8388	83.2	0.0	-4.6
16 SOCIETY SUBSCRIPTION	0.5223	112.9	0.0	5.3
17 UNION SUBSCRIPTION	0.2626	105.2	0.0	2.7
18 TV RENTAL	0.4392	103.7	0.0	5.0
19 LICENCES	0.3871	101.6	0.0	1.6
20 ACCOMMODATION CHARGES	0.3180	113.7	-1.8	3.6
21 PACKAGE HOLIDAYS	2.9161	108.7	0.1	3.7
22 OTHER EXPENDITURE	1.1929	106.1	0.2	1.8