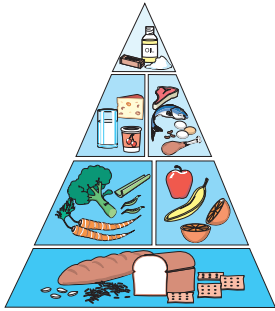




Central Statistics Office
An Phríomh-Oifig Staidrimh

Consumer Price Index

September 1999



Food

Food prices fell by 0.4% in the month with decreases in mutton/lamb, potatoes and fresh vegetables and fresh fruit while canteen prices rose. The annual percentage increase in the year to September stands at 2.7%.



Drink

Drink prices in September remained relatively stable showing a monthly increase of +0.2%. In the year to September alcoholic drink prices have increased by 3.7%.



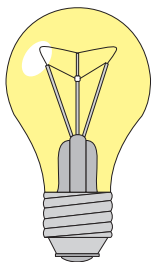
Tobacco

Tobacco prices remained fixed in September leaving the annual percentage increase at 3.2%, the same annual increase recorded in August.



Clothing & Footwear

There was a further recovery from sales in clothing and footwear, particularly in the case of mens and womens clothing. The price of footwear increased by 2% in the month.



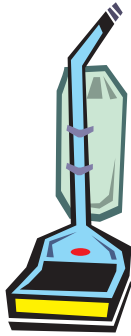
Fuel & Light

The price of home heating oil increased by just over 4% in the month. As a result Fuel & Light increased by 0.8% in the month, putting the annual increase at over 4%.



Housing

Following a reduction in interest rates in September mortgage interest charges decreased by just over 9%. There were, however, increases in home insurance charges.



Durable Household Goods

There were increases in the cost of soft furnishings such as towels and bed linen, while other household durables remained relatively stable. The annual percentage change shows that durables are less expensive than the same period last year.



Other Goods

There were increases in the price of cosmetics, sport and recreation goods, magazines and newspapers which resulted in a monthly increase of 0.3% and an annual increase of 1.5% in the twelve months to September.



Transport

The main factors causing an increase in transport costs were an increase of 2.7% in the month in motor fuels including petrol and an increase of 1.6% in the cost of motor insurance.



Services & Related Expenditure

In September there was an increase in the cost of medical insurance, childcare costs, education & training and package holidays. These price increases lead to a overall monthly change for services and related expenditure of 1.7%. As a result the annual percentage increase is now running at 5.2%.

Overall CPI



The CPI for September increased by 0.4% over the previous month, resulting in an annual increase of 1.5%. The main contributors to the annual percentage change were increases in services & related expenditure, transport, food and drink and decreases in the cost of housing (mortgages) and clothing & footwear prices.

Consumer Price Index

September 1999

TABLE 1 - FOOD

	<i>Nov. 1996 base expenditure weights</i>	<i>Current Index</i>	<i>% change 1 mth</i>	<i>% change 12 mths</i>
TOTAL	22.8497	110.0	-0.4	2.7
Items				
1 BEEF	1.0124	99.2	-0.8	-1.5
2 MUTTON/LAMB	0.4869	103.1	-5.2	-1.9
3 PORK	0.3829	94.9	0.7	-4.3
4 BACON	0.8557	97.7	0.4	-0.5
5 POULTRY	0.9482	101.0	0.6	1.0
6 COOKED MEAT	0.5328	108.9	0.7	3.5
7 SAUSAGES	0.2882	106.5	0.3	0.4
8 OTHER MEAT	0.3075	102.6	0.2	0.5
9 FRESH FISH	0.1926	114.6	0.5	8.6
10 FROZEN FISH	0.1509	113.4	0.1	4.8
11 SMOKED FISH	0.0291	99.8	2.4	3.6
12 TINNED FISH	0.0577	129.3	0.2	6.5
13 POTATOES	0.6146	163.3	-6.8	2.3
14 TOMATOES	0.0679	111.0	2.4	-1.2
15 OTHER FRESH VEGETABLES	0.5004	118.4	-6.3	1.8
16 DRIED VEGETABLES	0.0124	114.6	1.6	3.9
17 TINNED VEGETABLES	0.1986	120.1	1.3	7.4
18 FROZEN VEGETABLES	0.2163	109.0	-1.4	7.0
19 BREAD	1.2377	103.7	0.0	3.5
20 FLOUR	0.0868	102.4	1.3	1.2
21 BISCUITS	0.5189	113.1	0.0	4.4
22 CAKES	0.4911	109.9	0.2	2.3
23 PASTEURISED MILK	1.7399	99.8	0.2	1.0
24 OTHER MILK PRODUCTS	0.3647	110.0	0.1	3.9
25 CHEESE	0.3601	104.4	0.3	1.4
26 EGGS	0.2354	109.1	0.0	4.9
27 BUTTER	0.2705	102.7	0.1	2.0
28 MARGARINE	0.3033	119.0	1.6	7.8
29 OTHER FATS & OILS	0.0869	116.5	1.0	6.3
30 FRESH FRUIT	0.7009	116.5	-2.2	2.6
31 TINNED FRUIT	0.0538	105.6	0.4	1.5
32 DRIED FRUIT & NUTS	0.0722	111.3	1.6	0.9
33 TEA	0.2999	117.0	1.7	2.0
34 COFFEE	0.1358	116.5	0.9	-0.5
35 COCOA	0.0212	117.3	-0.1	1.6
36 SUGAR	0.2075	101.3	0.1	0.1
37 BREAKFAST CEREALS	0.4263	132.9	0.3	5.1
38 OATMEAL	0.0230	99.9	-1.1	-2.1
39 OTHER CEREALS	0.1600	105.2	0.2	1.3
40 SAUCES & MEAT EXTRACT	0.3107	107.7	0.1	3.1
41 SOUPS	0.1468	113.9	0.0	3.6
42 PRESERVES	0.1320	108.9	0.1	3.0
43 SWEETS & CHOCOLATE	0.9008	119.6	0.6	5.5
44 CUSTARD	0.0101	123.0	0.2	8.3
45 DESSERTS & ICE CREAM	0.3728	106.5	-0.1	2.9
46 BABY FOOD	0.0393	124.0	-0.2	5.1
47 MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS	0.9014	108.8	0.6	4.2
48 SOFT DRINK	1.1075	108.9	-0.2	2.4
49 MEALS OUT	4.2776	111.7	0.4	4.5

TABLE 2 - ALCOHOL

	Nov. 1996 base expenditure weights	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
TOTAL	12.6298	109.9	0.2	3.7
<u>Items</u>				
1 BEER	8.6190	110.0	0.1	3.7
2 SPIRITS	2.7137	109.5	0.2	3.4
3 WINE	1.2971	109.3	0.4	3.3

TABLE 3 - FUEL & LIGHT

	Nov. 1996 base expenditure weights	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
TOTAL	4.9038	102.0	0.8	4.1
<u>Items</u>				
1 FIRELIGHTERS	0.0761	101.9	0.2	0.4
2 COAL & ANTRACITE	0.8595	107.7	0.0	2.1
3 TURF & BRIQUETTES	0.3661	107.0	0.0	3.0
4 BOTTLED GAS	0.2881	110.4	3.0	4.4
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	91.9	4.1	24.4

TABLE 4 - HOUSING

	Nov. 1996 base expenditure weights	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
TOTAL	8.0385	90.1	-3.2	-14.1
<u>Items</u>				
1 RENTS	1.7518	114.9	0.5	5.5
2 LOCAL AUTHOR. CHARGES	0.2952	24.4	0.0	18.4
3 MORTGAGE INTEREST	3.6315	73.6	-9.4	-34.1
4 HOUSE INSURANCE	0.7311	107.0	1.7	3.1
5 REPAIRS & DECORATION	1.6288	104.3	0.2	3.0

TABLE 5 - TRANSPORT

	Nov. 1996 base expenditure weights	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
TOTAL	13.9402	107.7	0.9	4.7
1 MOTOR CYCLES	0.0168	99.5	0.0	-0.8
2 MOTOR CARS	3.9458	102.3	0.1	2.0
3 OTHER VEHICLES	0.1683	106.8	-0.4	-0.5
4 MOTOR REG & TAX	0.8345	106.1	0.0	3.0
5 MOTOR INSURANCE	2.0077	117.0	1.6	7.9
6 MOTOR FUEL	4.1761	106.7	2.7	7.7
7 MOTOR OIL	0.0460	111.2	0.4	5.5
8 SPARE PARTS	0.5010	104.7	0.1	1.7
9 REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE	0.6495	111.5	-0.3	6.0
10 OTHER VEHICLE COSTS	0.0988	114.4	0.2	4.8
11 BUS FARES	0.6097	102.7	0.0	0.4
12 RAIL FARES	0.1790	109.7	1.4	5.2
13 COMBINED TRAVEL	0.1608	101.8	0.0	0.7
14 OTHER TRAVEL	0.5461	127.0	-1.9	1.6

TABLE 6 - SERVICES & RELATED EXPENDITURE

	Nov. 1996 base expenditure weights	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
TOTAL	16.7232	111.3	1.7	5.2
<u>Items</u>				
1 CINEMA	0.1774	112.8	0.4	4.7
2 DISCO/NIGHTCLUBS	0.4527	111.8	-0.4	9.5
3 OTHER ENTERTAINMENT	0.9787	114.4	0.0	7.5
4 EDUCATION & TRAINING	1.6085	119.0	0.9	10.4
5 MEDICAL FEES	0.9729	117.8	0.0	7.1
6 MEDICINES & DRUGS	0.5922	107.1	0.2	2.6
7 HOSPITAL CHARGES	0.1883	123.5	0.0	9.4
8 OTHER MEDICAL EXPENSES(1)	1.3443	128.7	8.8	9.2
9 THERAPEUTIC EQUIPMENT	0.0573	110.2	2.3	2.3
10 HAIRDRESSING	1.0846	123.4	0.7	9.7
11 SHOE REPAIRS	0.0345	115.8	0.6	6.4
12 LAUNDRY & DRYCLEANING	0.1334	108.7	0.5	4.3
13 OTHER SERVICES (2)	1.0860	126.9	11.1	13.1
14 POSTAGE	0.1352	99.3	0.0	0.0
15 TELEPHONES	1.8388	83.3	0.0	-8.9
16 SOCIETY SUBSCRIPTIONS	0.5223	112.9	0.0	5.3
17 UNION SUBSCRIPTIONS	0.2626	105.1	0.0	2.8
18 TV RENTAL	0.4392	103.7	0.0	4.6
19 LICENCES	0.3871	101.6	0.0	1.6
20 ACCOMMODATION CHARGES	0.3180	118.3	-1.1	4.6
21 PACKAGE HOLIDAYS	2.9161	108.3	0.4	3.9
22 OTHER EXPENDITURE	1.1929	105.4	0.4	1.7

(1) Including medical insurance

(2) Including childcare/creches