



Central Statistics Office
An Phríomh-Oifig Staidrimh

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

(Base: December 2001 =100)

DETAILED SUB-INDICES RELEASE

September 2003

Annual inflation falls below 3% in September

This release provides a summary analysis of the major price developments within the main CPI COICOP groups together with constituent CPI Subgroups and details of their monthly and annual percentage changes. It also details changes for each COICOP subgroup for each month from June 2002 to date. See the Background Notes for a description of the COICOP classification.

A detailed description of the CPI is published in the Introduction of Updated Series, December 2001 =100. This release, together with the monthly CPI Statistical Release is available on the CSO Web Site (www.cso.ie) immediately following publication.

Tables 18 – 20 based on the old national classification are also included for analysis.

The date to which the September release relates is Tuesday, 9th September 2003. The Consumer Price Index for October 2003 will be published on Thursday, 13th November 2003.

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Consumer Price Index

September 2003

Overall Consumer Price Index

Consumer Prices in September, as measured by the CPI, increased by 0.2% in the month. This compares to an increase of 0.5% in September of last year and as a result, the annual rate of inflation fell to 2.9%, down from 3.2% in August.

The most significant monthly price changes were increases in Clothing & Footwear (+2.1%), Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels (+0.8%), Communications (+0.6%), Miscellaneous Goods & Services (+0.4%) and decreases in Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages (-0.5%) and Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco (-0.2%).

The most notable changes in the year were increases in Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco (+9.7%), Education (+9.6%), Health (+6.8%) and Restaurants & Hotels (+6.1%). Decreases were recorded for Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels (-2.6%) and Clothing & Footwear (-2.3%).

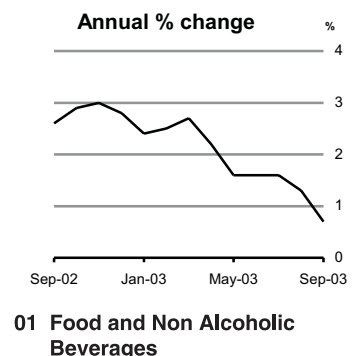
The annual rate of inflation for Services is now running at 4.0% compared to a rate of 1.7% in respect of Goods.



01 Food and Non Alcoholic Beverages

Food and Non Alcoholic Beverage prices decreased by 0.5% in September, resulting in an annual increase of 0.7%. This represents a decrease since August when the annual rate was 1.3%.

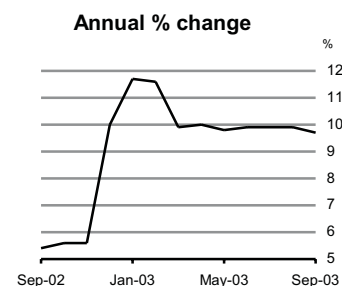
Food prices decreased by 0.4% while Non Alcoholic Beverage prices decreased by 1.1% in the month. Since August prices decreased for lamb (-4.1%), potatoes (-2.5%), other vegetable products (-2.5%), soft drinks & mineral water (-2.0%), other cereals (which includes pasta & rice) (-1.6%), frozen vegetables (-1.3%), biscuits (-1.1%) and beef (-1.0%). Price increases were recorded for other fruit (which includes tinned & dried fruit) (+5.8%), tea (+1.3%) and cakes (+0.9%).



02 Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco

This category covers Alcoholic Beverages (purchased in an off-licence or supermarket) and Tobacco products. Prices decreased by 0.2% in the month and increased by 9.7% in the year to September 2003, down from the increase recorded for the year to August 2003 (+9.9%). This compares with an annual rate of 5.4% for September 2002.

Alcoholic Beverages prices decreased by 0.4% while Tobacco prices remained unchanged in the month. The price changes that contributed to the decrease in Alcohol were beer (-1.1%), spirits (-0.1%) and wine & cider (-0.1%).

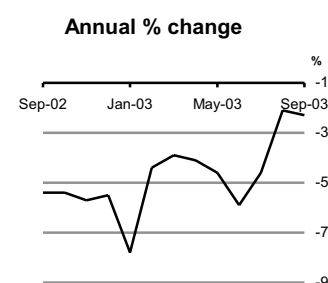


02 Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco

03 Clothing and Footwear

Clothing & Footwear prices increased by 2.1% in the month. Clothing prices increased by 2.2% while footwear prices increased by 1.9%. These increases were due to further recovery in prices following the summer sales. Average prices of clothing and footwear have decreased by 2.3% in the year since September 2002.

This category also covers Clothing & Footwear services such as dry cleaning. The services element for both clothing and footwear increased by 0.7% in the month.

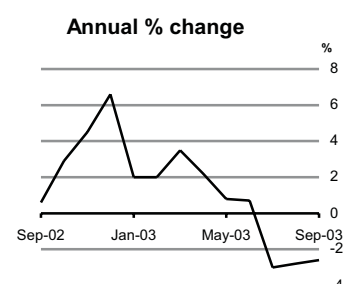


03 Clothing and Footwear

04 Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels

This group covers the former categories of Housing (excluding insurance) and Fuel and Light combined into one overall category. Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels costs increased by 0.8% in the month and decreased by 2.6% in the year to September. This compares with an increase of 0.6% in the year to September 2002.

In September increases were recorded for home heating oil (+3.8%), house repair and maintenance services (+2.8%) and average mortgage interest repayments (+1.0%).

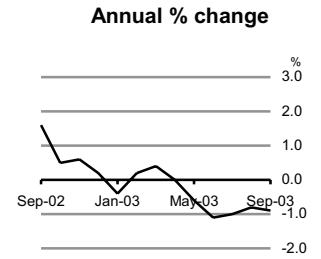


04 Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels

05 Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance

Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance costs increased by 0.1% in the month and decreased by 0.9% in the year to September 2003. This compares with an increase of 1.6% for the year to September 2002.

Price increases were recorded for household textiles (+1.7%), furniture & furnishings (+0.7%) and small tools & miscellaneous accessories (+0.6%). These were offset by a decrease in major household appliances (-0.6%).

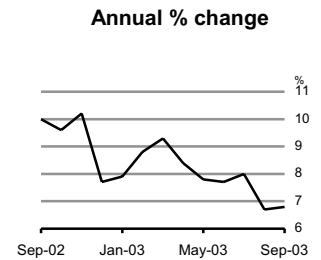


05 Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance

06 Health

Health costs and charges rose by 0.2% in September putting the annual increase at 6.8%, marginally up from 6.7% in the year to August 2003. This compares with an increase of 10.0% in the year to September 2002.

In September increases were recorded for therapeutic appliances & equipment (+1.2%) and other medicines (+0.3%). The 'other medicines' category includes pain relievers, antacid, cough mixtures, vitamins and other supplements.

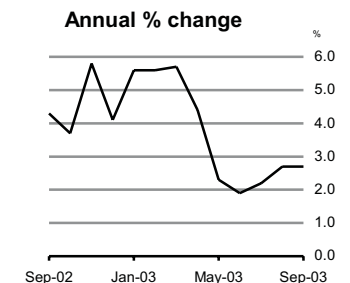


06 Health

07 Transport

Transport costs remained unchanged in the month and increased by 2.7% in the year to September 2003. This compares to an increase of 4.3% in the year to September 2002.

Price decreases were recorded for boat fares (-18.0%), other vehicle costs, which include car rental charges (-7.8%) and air fares (-1.4%). These were offset by increases in the cost of petrol (+2.1%) and diesel (+1.7%).

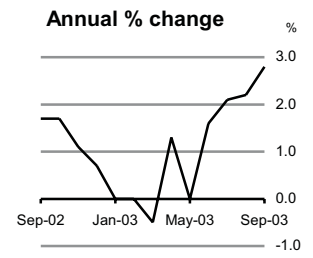


07 Transport

08 Communications

Overall communication costs increased by 0.6% in the month, resulting in an increase of 2.8% in the year to September 2003. This compares with an annual increase of 1.7% for September 2002.

Telephone & communication services charges remained unchanged in the month, while postal services charges increased by 13.5%, as a result of the recent price increases introduced by An Post.

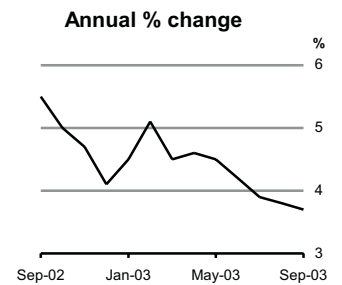


08 Communications

09 Recreation and Culture

Recreation and Culture covers a wide range of goods and services including items such as nightclubs, televisions, newspapers and gardening. Overall prices increased by 0.2% in September, resulting in an annual increase for the year of 3.7%.

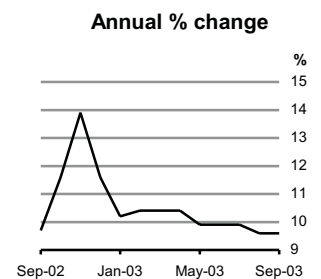
Price increases were recorded for books (+3.3%), veterinary & other services for pets (+0.8%) and recording media (+0.7%). These were partially offset by decreases in the cost of equipment for the reception, recording & reproduction of sound and pictures (-1.0%), photographic & cinematographic equipment and optical instruments (-0.8%), games, toys & hobbies (-0.8%) and newspapers & periodicals (-0.5%).



09 Recreation and Culture

10 Education

Education costs remained unchanged in September putting the annual increase at 9.6%, the same as in the year to August 2003. This compares with an increase of 9.7% for the year to September 2002.

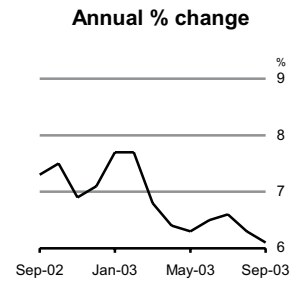


10 Education

11 Restaurants and Hotels

The category covers three main areas (1) meals out (2) alcohol consumed in or on licensed premises and (3) accommodation services. Prices for the overall category decreased by 0.1% in the month and increased by 6.1% in the year to September 2003.

The change in the month was made up of decreases in the cost of accommodation services (-1.7%) and wine & cider (-0.3%). These were partially offset by price increases in restaurants, cafes & fast-food (+0.2%) and soft drinks & mineral water (+0.1%).

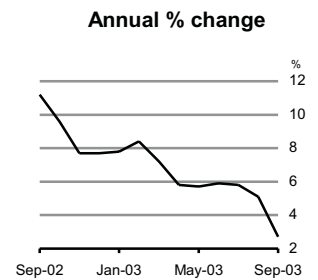


11 Restaurants and Hotels

12 Miscellaneous Goods and Services

Miscellaneous Goods and Services covers a wide range of items from personal hygiene products, hairdressing, insurance, childcare, social protection, financial services to personal goods and other services. Overall prices increased by 0.4% in the month, resulting in an annual increase of 2.7% for the year to September 2003. This is significantly down on the year to August 2003 when the annual rate was 5.1%.

Price increases were recorded in health insurance (+6.7%), health & beauty treatments (+1.4%), hairdressing (+0.7%) and other personal grooming (+0.7%). These increases were offset by decreases in motor car insurance (-3.2%), hair products (-1.3%), hygiene products (-0.9%), dwelling insurance (-0.8%) and cosmetic & skincare products (-0.7%).



12 Miscellaneous Goods and Services

Table 1 01 Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages - September 2003

Description	Dec. 2001 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
Food	12.7541	103.1	-0.4	0.8
Bread and Cereals	2.4351	103.6	-0.3	0.0
Bread	0.7932	103.2	-0.3	-2.0
Flour	0.0349	101.0	0.2	-0.2
Biscuits	0.4149	105.7	-1.1	1.6
Cakes	0.4370	106.5	0.9	1.3
Breakfast cereals	0.3592	99.5	-0.3	-0.4
Other cereals	0.1698	103.3	-1.6	1.3
Other bread & cereals	0.2263	102.0	-0.2	0.8
Meat	3.8238	99.8	-0.5	-0.5
Beef	0.7427	101.4	-1.0	-0.6
Lamb	0.3222	94.9	-4.1	3.7
Pork	0.2327	100.5	-0.9	-0.5
Bacon	0.5459	100.4	-0.1	0.7
Poultry	0.7558	94.9	0.3	-4.5
Other meat products	1.2245	102.6	0.0	0.2
Fish	0.3475	104.8	-0.5	1.1
Fresh fish	0.1522	107.3	-0.4	3.3
Frozen/tinned/smoked fish	0.1954	102.9	-0.4	-0.6
Milk, cheese and eggs	1.7813	104.6	0.2	3.2
Milk	0.9658	102.8	0.0	2.0
Other milk products	0.3633	108.4	0.5	4.7
Cheese	0.3103	107.0	0.4	5.9
Eggs	0.1419	101.5	-0.2	0.3
Oils and fats	0.3720	103.6	-0.3	0.7
Butter	0.2294	104.2	0.0	1.3
Margarine & low fat spreads	0.0706	104.4	-0.7	1.4
Other oils & fats	0.0720	100.9	-0.9	-1.8
Fruit	0.6780	102.3	1.0	2.1
Fresh fruit	0.5882	100.8	0.2	1.3
Other fruits	0.0897	112.1	5.8	6.5
Vegetables	1.6534	103.6	-1.7	-1.1
Potatoes	0.3644	108.4	-2.5	-6.4
Other fresh vegetables	0.6260	104.1	-1.0	2.0
Tinned vegetables	0.1308	105.3	-0.2	3.1
Frozen vegetables	0.1738	100.7	-1.3	-3.5
Other vegetable products	0.3584	98.8	-2.5	-0.7
Sugar, jam, honey, chocolate and confectionery	1.2890	108.1	-0.3	4.0
Sugar & sweeteners	0.0881	99.4	0.1	-0.2
Preserves	0.0898	109.3	0.4	4.6
Sweets & chocolate	0.8708	108.2	-0.1	4.6
Desserts & icecream	0.2404	110.7	-0.9	3.7
Other food products	0.3739	105.7	0.3	2.5
Condiments & sauces	0.1924	105.0	0.1	1.8
Soup	0.1011	107.4	0.8	3.9
Miscellaneous food items	0.0804	105.4	-0.2	3.1
Non-alcoholic beverages	1.3380	103.6	-1.1	0.1
Coffee, tea and cocoa	0.3108	100.0	1.1	-1.2
Tea	0.2007	101.4	1.3	-0.8
Coffee	0.0980	97.1	0.6	-2.0
Cocoa	0.0120	100.0	-0.1	-1.0
Mineral waters, soft drinks & juices	1.0273	104.7	-1.7	0.5
Soft drinks, mineral water	0.7641	105.2	-2.0	0.3
Fruit juices	0.2632	103.2	-0.6	1.0
Total	14.0921	103.1	-0.5	0.7

Table 2 02 Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco - September 2003

Description	Dec. 2001 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
Alcoholic Beverages	3.0987	110.8	-0.4	6.3
Spirits	0.8448	125.7	-0.1	22.2
Wine & cider	1.3729	107.2	-0.1	1.6
Beer	0.8811	102.2	-1.1	-1.4
Tobacco	4.3993	116.5	0.0	12.2
Cigarettes	4.2148	116.6	0.0	12.3
Other tobacco products	0.1844	113.7	0.0	10.1
Total	7.4980	114.1	-0.2	9.7

Table 3 03 Clothing and Footwear - September 2003

Description	Dec. 2001 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
Clothing	4.0605	92.0	2.2	-2.0
Clothing materials	0.1708	102.4	0.5	2.2
Garments	3.7922	91.2	2.4	-2.4
Other articles of clothing	0.1019	89.3	-0.8	-6.0
Cleaning, repair & hire of clothing	0.1494	112.4	0.7	7.5
Dry cleaning & laundry	0.1111	111.2	0.5	7.1
Dress hire & repair of clothing	0.0383	115.6	0.9	8.3
Footwear	0.9912	91.5	1.9	-3.8
Shoes & other footwear	0.9764	91.0	1.9	-4.1
Repair & hire of footwear	0.0148	121.4	0.7	12.4
Total	5.0517	91.9	2.1	-2.3

Table 4 04 Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels - September 2003

Description	Dec. 2001 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
Rents & other housing costs	7.2347	95.5	0.6	-9.6
Rents	2.6046	100.0	0.0	-1.0
Mortgage interest	4.6301	92.9	1.0	-14.1
Maintenance & repair of the dwelling	1.6222	108.9	1.6	4.4
Materials for maint. & repair of dwelling	0.7562	102.4	0.1	1.4
Services for maint. & repair of dwelling	0.8660	114.6	2.8	6.9
Water supply, refuse & misc. services	0.1971	149.7	0.0	25.7
Electricity, gas & other fuels	3.2775	111.2	0.7	7.8
Electricity	1.3930	118.7	0.0	13.7
Natural gas	0.4872	110.1	0.0	10.1
Bottled gas	0.0364	105.0	0.1	4.8
Liquid fuels	0.6914	103.8	3.8	-1.2
Solid fuels	0.6695	104.2	0.0	2.9
Total	12.3315	102.3	0.8	-2.6

Table 5 05 Furnishings, Household Equipment & Routine Household Maintenance - September 2003

Description	Dec. 2001 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
Furniture, furnishings, carpets & other flooring	0.6084	100.0	0.5	0.5
Furniture & furnishings	0.5132	99.7	0.7	0.2
Carpets & other floor coverings	0.0952	102.1	0.0	2.3
Household textiles	0.3860	91.3	1.7	-4.4
Household appliances	1.4105	97.9	-0.5	-2.3
Major household appliances	1.0325	96.9	-0.6	-3.3
Small electric household appliances	0.2678	96.9	0.0	-2.1
Repair of household appliances	0.1102	109.7	0.0	6.8
Glassware, tableware & hsehld utensils	0.2499	94.1	0.3	-3.3
Tools & equipment for house & garden	0.2203	103.6	0.3	1.7
Major tools & equipment	0.1121	105.9	0.0	2.2
Small tools & misc. accessories	0.1082	101.3	0.6	1.2
Goods & services for routine hsehld maint.	1.4560	101.8	-0.2	0.8
Non-durable household goods	0.8506	101.4	-0.3	0.3
Domestic & household services	0.6054	102.4	0.1	1.7
Total	4.3312	99.0	0.1	-0.9

Table 6 06 Health - September 2003

Description	Dec. 2001 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
Medical products, appliances & equip.	1.0425	107.6	0.4	3.7
Pharmaceutical products	0.5626	108.7	0.1	4.0
Prescribed drugs	0.3205	109.5	0.0	3.1
Other medicines	0.2420	107.6	0.3	5.2
Other medical products	0.1954	106.1	0.2	1.8
Therapeutic appliances & equip	0.2846	106.5	1.2	4.4
Outpatient services	0.8484	112.0	0.0	7.3
Medical services	0.5242	108.9	0.0	5.5
Doctors' fees	0.4310	109.3	0.0	5.7
Alternative & complementary medicine	0.0932	107.0	0.0	4.7
Dental services	0.2352	119.6	0.0	11.7
Paramedical services	0.0890	110.2	0.0	5.6
Hospital services	0.6273	128.6	0.0	11.1
Total	2.5182	114.3	0.2	6.8

Table 7 07 Transport - September 2003

Description	Dec. 2001 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
Purchase of vehicles	6.1617	103.6	-0.1	1.8
Motor cars	5.9503	103.8	0.0	1.9
Motor cycles	0.0608	100.0	0.0	0.9
Bicycles	0.1506	97.9	-0.3	-1.4
Operation of personal transport equip.	5.1975	108.3	0.4	1.9
Spare parts & accessories	0.3014	104.2	0.1	1.4
Fuels & lubricants	3.1186	106.8	2.1	-1.4
Petrol	2.6391	107.1	2.1	-1.9
Diesel	0.4533	104.6	1.7	0.6
Motor oil	0.0262	108.3	-0.1	6.1
Maintenance & repair	0.5904	108.4	0.2	4.2
Other services	1.1871	113.2	-3.3	10.2
Motor tax	0.7001	111.7	0.0	11.9
Other vehicle costs	0.4745	115.6	-7.8	7.8
Driving licences	0.0125	100.5	0.0	1.6
Transport services	1.8239	111.4	-0.7	8.6
Rail transport	0.2739	110.7	0.0	4.2
Road transport	1.2082	111.1	0.0	9.8
Bus fares	0.6445	112.5	0.0	12.4
Taxi	0.5637	109.6	0.0	7.0
Air transport	0.2860	110.8	-1.4	8.4
Sea transport	0.0339	130.7	-18.0	5.5
Combined transport	0.0118	113.4	0.0	14.3
Other transport	0.0100	115.8	0.0	3.0
Total	13.1831	106.5	0.0	2.7

Table 8 08 Communication - September 2003

Description	Dec. 2001 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
Postal services	0.0791	123.5	13.5	16.7
Telephone & communication services	1.8239	102.6	0.0	2.1
Total	1.9030	103.5	0.6	2.8

Table 9 09 Recreation and Culture - September 2003

Description	Dec. 2001 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
Audio-visual, photographic & information processing equipment	1.0625	94.9	0.1	-5.6
Equipment for the reception, recording & reproduction of sound and pictures	0.2557	89.6	-1.0	-8.2
Photographic & cinematographic equip. & optical instruments	0.0477	90.1	-0.8	-8.2
Information processing equip.	0.3516	97.5	0.2	-3.6
Recording media	0.4075	96.6	0.7	-5.4
Other major durables for recreation & culture	0.0183	98.7	0.0	-2.3
Other recreational items & equip. incl. gardens and pets	1.1538	102.1	-0.3	0.6
Games, toys & hobbies	0.3480	91.9	-0.8	-5.1
Equipment for sport, camping & open air recreation	0.1490	102.6	-0.5	-1.7
Gardens, plants & flowers	0.3375	107.0	-0.3	4.0
Pets & related products	0.2513	106.8	0.1	3.5
Veterinary & other services for pets	0.0680	112.0	0.8	4.8
Recreational & cultural services	3.2713	114.5	0.0	9.2
Recreational & sporting services	1.0955	117.7	0.0	10.7
Sports admittance	0.1575	126.4	0.0	17.6
Sports participation	0.4631	122.1	0.0	11.6
Cultural services	2.1757	113.0	0.0	8.4
Cinema	0.2523	106.8	0.0	3.0
Nightclubs	0.3261	110.6	0.2	1.9
Cultural admittance	0.6630	111.2	0.0	6.3
Other entertainment	0.2454	106.9	-0.1	2.4
Television services	0.6889	120.2	0.0	18.1
Newspapers, books & stationery	1.9011	107.0	0.7	4.2
Books	0.4801	106.0	3.3	2.5
Newspapers & periodicals	0.9945	110.0	-0.5	6.6
Stationery	0.4265	101.2	0.5	0.4
Package holidays	3.4024	106.0	0.1	1.5
Total	10.8095	107.3	0.2	3.7

Table 10 10 Education - September 2003

Description	Dec. 2001 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
Primary education	0.0111	111.6	0.0	11.6
Second level education	0.1572	112.1	0.0	12.1
Third level education	0.7009	112.8	0.0	12.1
Other education & training	0.6778	110.6	0.0	6.6
Total	1.5471	111.8	0.0	9.6

Table 11 11 Restaurants and Hotels - September 2003

Description	Dec. 2001 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
Catering services	15.5121	112.7	0.2	6.6
Restaurants, cafes & licenced premises	14.8341	113.3	0.2	6.8
Beer	6.3736	111.9	0.0	5.4
Spirits	1.6213	122.2	0.0	14.2
Wine & cider	0.7156	113.0	-0.3	5.3
Soft drinks & mineral water	0.3850	116.2	0.1	6.8
Restaurants, cafes & fast-food	5.7386	112.0	0.2	6.3
Canteens	0.6780	99.6	0.0	1.4
Accommodation services	2.2474	110.4	-1.7	3.4
Total	17.7595	112.4	-0.1	6.1

Table 12 12 Miscellaneous Goods and Services - September 2003

Description	Dec. 2001 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
Personal care	2.4202	105.9	-0.3	2.4
Hairdressing salons & personal grooming	0.6871	116.3	0.7	8.4
Hairdressing	0.6354	116.3	0.7	8.6
Health & beauty treatments	0.0496	116.9	1.4	7.4
Other personal grooming	0.0020	114.4	0.7	5.3
Electric appliances for personal care	0.0566	97.1	0.4	-1.3
Other appliances, articles & products for personal care	1.6765	101.9	-0.8	-0.1
Hygiene products	0.2343	101.8	-0.9	-1.9
Hair products	0.2124	101.1	-1.3	0.6
Cosmetics & skincare products	0.6036	102.5	-0.7	1.0
Toilet accessories	0.6262	101.7	-0.4	0.0
Personal goods	0.4623	94.3	0.3	-2.5
Jewellery, clocks & watches	0.1791	100.6	0.3	0.9
Other personal goods	0.2832	90.3	0.2	-4.8
Social protection	0.9203	111.5	0.0	6.6
Childcare	0.7423	111.1	0.0	7.6
Other social protection	0.1780	113.3	0.0	2.8
Insurance	4.3822	112.5	0.8	2.2
Dwelling insurance	0.6988	109.4	-0.8	2.0
Health insurance	1.4709	128.0	6.7	9.2
Transport insurance	2.2124	103.1	-3.1	-3.0
Motor cycle insurance	0.0242	139.8	0.0	21.6
Motor car insurance	2.1882	102.7	-3.2	-3.3
Financial services	0.0470	124.6	0.1	24.0
Other services	0.7432	113.0	0.1	3.8
Total	8.9751	109.8	0.4	2.7

Table 13 COICOP Groups Consumer Price Monthly Percentage Changes

Period	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco	Clothing and Footwear	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	Furnishings, Household Equipment & Routine Household Maintenance	Health	Transport	Communication	Recreation and Culture	Education	Restaurants and Hotels	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	All Items CPI
Mid-December 2001	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
% Base Expenditure													
Weights	14.092	7.498	5.052	12.331	4.331	2.518	13.183	1.903	10.810	1.547	17.760	8.975	100.000
2002													
Mid-June	+0.3	-	-0.2	+0.8	+0.2	+0.1	-	-0.5	+0.3	-	+0.3	-0.3	+0.2
Mid-July	+ 0.3	+ 0.1	- 11.0	+ 0.3	- 1.5	+ 0.2	- 0.2	- 0.6	+ 0.2	-	+ 0.3	-	- 0.4
Mid-August	+ 0.2	+ 0.1	+ 5.9	+ 0.5	+ 1.1	+ 1.4	-	- 0.1	+ 0.4	+ 0.3	+ 0.5	+ 0.7	+ 0.6
Mid-September	+ 0.1	-	+ 2.4	+ 0.6	+ 0.2	+ 0.1	-	-	+ 0.3	-	+ 0.1	+ 2.7	+ 0.5
Mid-October	+ 0.1	+ 0.2	+ 0.2	+ 0.9	- 0.1	+ 0.1	+ 0.3	-	+ 0.3	+ 7.3	+ 0.5	+ 0.6	+ 0.5
Mid-November	+ 0.1	-	+ 0.1	- 0.1	+ 0.3	+ 0.6	-	-	+ 0.3	+ 2.0	- 0.1	-	+ 0.1
Mid-December	+ 0.2	+ 5.6	+ 0.1	+ 0.8	+ 0.1	-	+ 0.1	-	-	-	+ 0.8	+ 0.2	+ 0.7
2003													
Mid-January	- 0.2	+ 2.1	- 13.7	- 3.7	- 2.7	+ 2.9	+ 1.4	- 0.6	+ 1.2	-	+ 1.6	-	- 0.4
Mid-February	+ 0.2	+ 0.1	+ 12.5	+ 0.4	+ 2.2	+ 0.8	+ 0.3	- 0.1	+ 1.0	+ 0.2	+ 0.2	+ 0.6	+ 1.0
Mid-March	+ 0.3	+ 0.5	+ 1.7	+ 2.1	- 0.2	+ 0.4	+ 0.8	-	- 0.2	-	+ 0.9	+ 0.7	+ 0.8
Mid-April	-	+ 0.8	- 0.1	- 0.6	+ 0.3	+ 0.4	+ 0.3	+ 2.0	+ 0.3	-	+ 0.8	+ 0.5	+ 0.3
Mid-May	-	+ 0.1	- 0.1	- 1.1	- 0.4	+ 0.5	- 0.7	- 0.1	+ 0.3	-	+ 0.4	- 0.1	- 0.1
Mid-June	+0.3	+0.1	-1.6	+0.7	-0.3	-	-0.4	+1.1	-	-	+0.4	-0.1	-
Mid-July	+0.3	+0.1	-9.7	-3.4	-1.4	+0.4	+0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-	+0.4	-0.1	-0.8
Mid-August	-0.1	+0.1	+8.7	+0.7	+1.3	+0.3	+0.5	-	+0.3	-	+0.3	-	+0.7
Mid-September	-0.5	-0.2	+2.1	+0.8	+0.1	+0.2	-	+0.6	+0.2	-	-0.1	+0.4	+0.2

Table 14 COICOP Groups Consumer Price Annual Percentage Changes

Period	Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco	Clothing and Footwear	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	Furnishings, Household Equipment & Routine Household Maintenance	Health	Transport	Communication	Recreation and Culture	Education	Restaurants and Hotels	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	All Items CPI
Mid-December 2001	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
% Base Expenditure													
Weights	14.092	7.498	5.052	12.331	4.331	2.518	13.183	1.903	10.810	1.547	17.760	8.975	100.000
2002													
Mid-June	+2.7	+5.4	-2.7	+0.3	+2.2	+10.2	+0.7	+3.2	+7.0	+9.7	+7.3	+10.4	+4.4
Mid-July	+2.8	+5.4	-6.6	-	+1.9	+9.9	+1.7	+1.8	+6.9	+9.5	+7.2	+9.8	+4.2
Mid-August	+2.6	+5.5	-5.4	+0.3	+1.6	+10.1	+4.0	+1.7	+6.4	+9.7	+7.5	+9.8	+4.5
Mid-September	+2.6	+5.4	-5.4	+0.6	+1.6	+10.0	+4.3	+1.7	+5.5	+9.7	+7.3	+11.2	+4.5
Mid-October	+2.9	+5.6	-5.4	+2.9	+0.5	+9.6	+3.7	+1.7	+5.0	+11.6	+7.5	+9.6	+4.6
Mid-November	+3.0	+5.6	-5.7	+4.5	+0.6	+10.2	+5.8	+1.1	+4.7	+13.9	+6.9	+7.7	+4.8
Mid-December	+2.8	+10.0	-5.5	+6.6	+0.2	+7.7	+4.1	+0.7	+4.1	+11.6	+7.1	+7.7	+5.0
Year	+3.5	+5.6	-4.3	+1.0	+1.7	+10.0	+3.0	+2.1	+6.3	+10.3	+7.4	+9.7	+4.6
2003													
Mid-January	+2.4	+11.7	-7.8	+2.0	-0.4	+7.9	+5.6	-	+4.5	+10.2	+7.7	+7.8	+4.8
Mid-February	+2.5	+11.6	-4.4	+2.0	+0.2	+8.8	+5.6	-	+5.1	+10.4	+7.7	+8.4	+5.1
Mid-March	+2.7	+9.9	-3.9	+3.5	+0.4	+9.3	+5.7	-0.5	+4.5	+10.4	+6.8	+7.2	+4.9
Mid-April	+2.2	+10.0	-4.1	+2.2	-	+8.4	+4.4	+1.3	+4.6	+10.4	+6.4	+5.8	+4.3
Mid-May	+1.6	+9.8	-4.6	+0.8	-0.6	+7.8	+2.3	-	+4.5	+9.9	+6.3	+5.7	+3.7
Mid-June	+1.6	+9.9	-5.9	+0.7	-1.1	+7.7	+1.9	+1.6	+4.2	+9.9	+6.5	+5.9	+3.5
Mid-July	+1.6	+9.9	-4.6	-3.0	-1.0	+8.0	+2.2	+2.1	+3.9	+9.9	+6.6	+5.8	+3.1
Mid-August	+1.3	+9.9	-2.1	-2.8	-0.8	+6.7	+2.7	+2.2	+3.8	+9.6	+6.3	+5.1	+3.2
Mid-September	+0.7	+9.7	-2.3	-2.6	-0.9	+6.8	+2.7	+2.8	+3.7	+9.6	+6.1	+2.7	+2.9

Table 15 Consumer Price Index Goods and Services by COICOP - September 2003

COICOP	Group	Mid-Dec 2001 % Base Expenditure Weights	% Goods Base Expenditure Weights	% Services Base Expenditure Weights	Index		Percentage changes		
					Goods	Services	Goods 12 Months	Services 12 Months	Overall 12 Months
01	Food and Non Alcoholic Beverages	14.092	14.092	-	103.1	-	+ 0.7	-	+ 0.7
02	Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco	7.498	7.498	-	114.1	-	+ 9.7	-	+ 9.7
03	Clothing and Footwear	5.052	4.888	0.164	91.2	113.2	- 2.8	+ 7.9	- 2.3
04	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	12.331	2.153	10.178	103.5	102.0	+ 1.1	- 3.3	- 2.6
05	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance	4.331	3.538	0.793	97.9	104.0	- 1.6	+ 2.6	- 0.9
06	Health	2.518	1.013	1.505	107.5	118.9	+ 3.6	+ 9.0	+ 6.8
07	Transport	13.183	9.582	3.601	104.7	111.5	+ 0.7	+ 8.4	+ 2.7
08	Communications	1.903	-	1.903	-	103.5	-	+ 2.8	+ 2.8
09	Recreation and Culture	10.810	4.064	6.746	102.4	110.2	+ 0.7	+ 5.3	+ 3.7
10	Education	1.547	-	1.547	-	111.8	-	+ 9.6	+ 9.6
11	Restaurants and Hotels	17.760	-	17.760	-	112.4	-	+ 6.1	+ 6.1
12	Miscellaneous Goods & Services	8.975	2.191	6.784	100.2	112.9	- 0.6	+ 3.7	+ 2.7
ALL ITEMS		100.000	49.019	50.981	103.5	109.7	+ 1.7	+ 4.0	+ 2.9

Table 16 Consumer Price Annual Percentage Changes for selected CPI Sub-indices

Period	Energy	CPI excluding Mortgage Interest	CPI excluding Housing	CPI excluding Tobacco	All Items
	%	%	%	%	%
2001 Mid-January	+4.2	+4.1	+3.7	+5.4	+5.2
Mid-February	+1.4	+4.1	+3.8	+5.5	+5.3
Mid-March	-	+4.3	+4.0	+5.6	+5.4
Mid-April	-2.1	+4.4	+4.2	+5.6	+5.6
Mid-May	+1.1	+4.5	+4.2	+5.7	+5.4
Mid-June	+1.8	+4.6	+4.3	+5.5	+5.3
Mid-July	-1.4	+4.3	+3.9	+4.9	+4.8
Mid-August	-4.5	+4.0	+3.7	+4.7	+4.6
Mid-September	-5.6	+4.2	+3.9	+4.7	+4.6
Mid-October	-7.6	+4.1	+3.9	+4.5	+4.3
Mid-November	-10.9	+4.0	+3.8	+3.8	+3.8
Mid-December	-6.3	+4.8	+4.6	+4.3	+4.2
Year	-2.6	+4.3	+4.0	+5.0	+4.9
2002 Mid-January	-1.3	+5.5	+5.4	+4.9	+4.9
Mid-February	+1.3	+5.2	+5.0	+4.7	+4.7
Mid-March	+0.4	+5.4	+5.1	+4.6	+4.8
Mid-April	+3.8	+5.5	+5.2	+4.7	+4.8
Mid-May	+4.7	+5.3	+5.3	+4.7	+4.7
Mid-June	+1.1	+4.8	+4.8	+4.3	+4.4
Mid-July	+1.9	+4.6	+4.5	+4.1	+4.2
Mid-August	+4.9	+4.9	+4.8	+4.5	+4.5
Mid-September	+5.7	+5.0	+4.9	+4.4	+4.5
Mid-October	+5.1	+4.7	+4.7	+4.5	+4.6
Mid-November	+8.5	+4.7	+4.7	+4.7	+4.8
Mid-December	+5.7	+4.7	+4.7	+4.6	+5.0
Year	+3.5	+5.0	+4.9	+4.6	+4.6
2003 Mid-January	+6.3	+5.0	+5.1	+4.4	+4.8
Mid-February	+6.5	+5.3	+5.5	+4.7	+5.1
Mid-March	+10.2	+5.1	+5.2	+4.6	+4.9
Mid-April	+8.2	+4.7	+4.8	+3.9	+4.3
Mid-May	+1.6	+4.0	+4.0	+3.2	+3.7
Mid-June	+0.9	+3.9	+4.0	+3.1	+3.5
Mid-July	+1.3	+4.1	+4.2	+2.8	+3.1
Mid-August	+2.1	+4.1	+4.2	+2.7	+3.2
Mid-September	+3.1	+3.7	+3.8	+2.4	+2.9

Table 17 Constant Tax Price Index

Period	Index	Annual Percentage Changes		Contribution
		CPI	Due to Indirect Taxes ¹	Immediate Tax Effect ²
		%	%	%
2002 January	99.6	+4.9	+1.2	+0.4
February	100.1	+4.7	+1.3	+0.4
March	100.9	+4.8	+1.3	+0.8
April	101.7	+4.8	+1.3	+0.8
May	102.2	+4.7	+1.2	+0.8
June	102.4	+4.4	+1.2	+0.8
July	102.0	+4.2	+1.3	+0.8
August	102.6	+4.5	+1.3	+0.8
September	103.1	+4.5	+1.3	+0.8
October	103.5	+4.6	+1.2	+0.8
November	103.6	+4.8	+1.3	+0.8
December	103.6	+5.0	+1.5	+1.0
2003 January	102.9	+4.8	+1.5	+1.5
February	103.7	+5.1	+1.5	+1.5
March	104.4	+4.9	+1.5	+1.1
April	104.7	+4.3	+1.4	+1.1
May	104.6	+3.7	+1.4	+1.1
June	104.7	+3.5	+1.3	+1.1
July	103.9	+3.1	+1.3	+1.1
August	104.5	+3.2	+1.4	+1.1
September	104.7	+2.9	+1.4	+1.1

¹ Theoretical impact of tax changes in the year to date taking into account both changes in tax rates and the change in the level of prices. The CTPI is used in conjunction with the CPI to measure the contribution of changes in indirect taxes since the base period to the overall price change.

² Immediate tax effect based on the measurement of the direct impact of tax changes at the point of introduction.

* For further information on the Constant Tax Price Index please see background notes.

Table 18 Consumer Price Commodity Group Indices - September 2003*

Commodity Group	Dec-01 base expenditure weights	Consumer Price Index (CPI)		Percentage changes		
		Current base Dec-01	Former base Nov-96	One month	Three months	12 months
				%	%	%
Food	20.805	105.6	130.7	- 0.3	+ 0.2	+ 2.3
Alcoholic Drink	11.898	113.1	137.9	- 0.1	+ 0.4	+ 6.8
Tobacco	4.399	116.5	159.5	-	+ 0.1	+12.2
Clothing and Footwear	4.888	91.2	68.4	+ 2.2	+ 0.2	- 2.8
Fuel and Light	3.278	111.2	125.3	+ 0.7	+ 1.2	+ 7.8
Housing	9.747	99.8	112.5	+ 0.7	- 2.8	- 5.7
Durable Household Goods	3.640	96.9	99.4	+ 0.1	+ 0.1	- 2.3
Other Goods	5.777	102.0	119.3	-	- 0.4	+ 0.4
Transport	15.413	106.0	124.2	- 0.5	- 0.2	+ 1.9
Services and Related Expenditure	20.156	111.7	142.1	+ 0.4	+ 0.9	+ 5.8
ALL ITEMS	100.000	106.7	126.1	+ 0.2	+ 0.1	+ 2.9

* Former classification used up to December 2001

Table 19 Commodity Group and All Items Consumer Price Monthly Percentage Changes*

Period	Food	Alcohol drink	Tobacco	Clothing and Footwear	Fuel and Light	Housing	Durable House- hold Goods	Other Goods	Transport	Services and Related Expendi- ture	All Items
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
2001 Mid-January	+0.3	-0.3	-	-11.6	-1.8	+0.6	-3.4	+0.7	-2.1	+0.1	-0.8
Mid-February	+0.8	+1.5	+0.5	+9.2	-2.4	+1.4	+2.9	-	-0.7	+1.3	+0.9
Mid-March	+1.1	+0.7	+1.4	+0.9	+0.7	+1.1	+0.8	+0.4	+1.0	+0.2	+0.8
Mid-April	+1.4	+1.5	+0.3	+0.1	-0.4	+0.4	+0.1	+0.4	+1.1	+0.3	+0.9
Mid-May	+0.6	+0.4	+0.1	+0.1	+0.5	+1.6	+0.3	+0.4	+1.4	+0.5	+0.6
Mid-June	+0.7	+0.3	-	-0.1	+0.6	-0.8	+0.1	+0.3	+1.8	+0.4	+0.5
Mid-July	+0.3	+0.2	-	-8.0	+0.4	+0.5	-1.8	-0.2	-1.0	+0.7	-0.3
Mid-August	+0.4	+0.2	-	+4.9	-0.9	+0.9	+1.4	+0.9	-1.6	+0.7	+0.3
Mid-September	+0.2	+0.2	-	+2.6	-0.3	+0.6	+0.2	+0.5	-0.3	+1.3	+0.4
Mid-October	-0.1	+0.2	-	+0.1	+1.2	-2.7	-	+0.3	+1.7	+1.4	+0.3
Mid-November	+0.1	+0.4	-	+0.4	-1.5	-1.0	+0.2	+0.3	-0.8	+0.4	-0.1
Mid-December	+0.6	+0.3	+2.0	-0.1	+0.7	-1.7	+0.6	+0.2	+1.1	+1.0	+0.5
2002 Mid-January	+0.5	+0.9	+0.5	-11.9	+1.4	+0.4	-2.7	-0.2	-	+1.2	-0.2
Mid-February	-	+0.3	-	+8.7	+0.1	+0.5	+1.8	+0.5	+0.2	+0.1	+0.7
Mid-March	+0.3	+2.3	+2.9	+1.3	-0.1	+0.9	-0.5	+0.4	+1.1	+0.7	+0.9
Mid-April	+0.7	+1.4	+0.2	+0.1	+1.5	+0.6	+0.9	+0.3	+2.1	+0.4	+0.9
Mid-May	+0.6	+0.3	+0.1	+0.4	+0.6	+0.2	+0.4	+0.1	+1.2	+0.7	+0.5
Mid-June	+0.3	+0.1	+0.1	-0.2	-0.3	+1.1	-0.1	+0.4	-0.4	+0.2	+0.2
Mid-July	+0.3	+0.2	-	-11.4	-0.3	+0.7	-2.0	-0.1	-0.3	+0.3	-0.4
Mid-August	+0.3	+0.2	-	+6.1	-0.2	+0.7	+1.3	+0.1	+0.2	+0.7	+0.6
Mid-September	+0.2	+0.1	-	+2.5	+0.5	+0.7	+0.1	+0.1	-0.1	+1.2	+0.5
Mid-October	+0.4	-	+0.3	+0.1	+1.6	+0.5	-0.3	+0.5	+0.4	+0.9	+0.5
Mid-November	+0.2	-	+0.2	+0.1	-1.2	+0.3	+0.2	+0.1	-0.1	+0.1	+0.1
Mid-December	+0.3	+1.3	+8.1	+0.1	+0.4	+0.8	-0.1	+0.1	+0.1	+0.2	+0.7
2003 Mid-January	+0.1	+2.3	+1.3	-14.2	+1.3	-5.0	-3.6	-	+1.2	+1.4	-0.4
Mid-February	+0.2	+0.3	+0.1	+13.0	+0.2	+0.5	+2.6	+0.4	+0.4	+0.6	+1.0
Mid-March	+0.4	+0.9	+0.6	+1.8	+4.6	+1.1	-0.3	-0.3	+0.8	+0.5	+0.8
Mid-April	+0.2	+1.0	+0.8	-0.1	+3.1	-1.6	+0.3	+0.2	+0.2	+0.5	+0.3
Mid-May	+0.1	+0.2	+0.3	-0.1	-4.0	+0.1	-0.6	+0.2	-0.7	+0.4	-0.1
Mid-June	+0.3	+0.3	+0.1	-1.7	+0.5	+0.6	-0.5	-0.4	-0.3	+0.3	-
Mid-July	+0.5	+0.3	-	-10.1	+0.2	-4.3	-1.7	-0.4	-	+0.1	-0.8
Mid-August	-	+0.2	+0.1	+9.0	+0.3	+0.8	+1.7	-	+0.3	+0.4	+0.7
Mid-September	-0.3	-0.1	-	+2.2	+0.7	+0.7	+0.1	-	-0.5	+0.4	+0.2

* Former classification used up to December 2001

Table 20 Commodity Group and All Items Consumer Price Annual Percentage Changes*

Period	Food	Alcohol and drink	Tobacco	Clothing and Footwear	Fuel and Light	Housing	Durable House- hold Goods	Other Goods	Trans- port	Services and Related Expendi- ture	All Items
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
2001 Mid-January	+5.0	+3.8	+1.9	-4.3	+7.5	+25.4	+1.2	+5.5	+3.3	+3.7	+5.2
Mid-February	+5.5	+4.9	+2.3	-3.2	+4.9	+26.2	+1.2	+4.9	+2.1	+4.3	+5.3
Mid-March	+6.5	+4.9	+3.6	-4.2	+4.3	+25.5	+1.4	+4.4	+1.6	+4.3	+5.4
Mid-April	+7.7	+5.6	+4.0	-4.6	+4.0	+23.5	+1.6	+4.5	+1.1	+3.8	+5.6
Mid-May	+7.0	+4.7	+2.6	-4.4	+5.1	+22.7	+1.7	+4.4	+3.0	+3.9	+5.4
Mid-June	+7.2	+4.5	+2.3	-4.6	+4.8	+19.4	+1.4	+4.4	+3.6	+4.0	+5.3
Mid-July	+6.8	+4.4	+2.2	-3.2	+4.8	+15.0	+1.3	+4.4	+1.6	+4.2	+4.8
Mid-August	+6.8	+4.6	+2.1	-2.5	+3.0	+14.5	+1.2	+5.1	-	+4.4	+4.6
Mid-September	+7.0	+4.8	+2.2	-2.4	+0.8	+13.3	+1.1	+5.0	-0.4	+5.7	+4.6
Mid-October	+6.8	+4.9	+2.2	-2.9	-2.3	+8.8	+1.1	+4.8	+0.1	+6.4	+4.3
Mid-November	+6.6	+5.4	+2.2	-2.7	-3.7	+3.3	+1.2	+4.7	-1.1	+7.4	+3.8
Mid-December	+6.5	+5.7	+4.3	-3.0	-2.9	+0.7	+1.3	+4.4	+1.4	+8.3	+4.2
Year	+6.6	+4.8	+2.6	-3.5	+2.4	+15.9	+1.3	+4.7	+1.3	+5.0	+4.9
2002 Mid-January	+6.8	+7.0	+4.8	-3.2	+0.3	+0.5	+1.9	+3.5	+3.5	+9.5	+4.9
Mid-February	+5.9	+5.7	+4.3	-3.7	+2.8	-0.5	+0.9	+3.9	+4.5	+8.2	+4.7
Mid-March	+5.1	+7.4	+5.8	-3.4	+2.0	-0.7	-0.4	+3.8	+4.5	+8.9	+4.8
Mid-April	+4.3	+7.3	+5.7	-3.5	+3.8	-0.5	+0.5	+3.7	+5.6	+8.9	+4.8
Mid-May	+4.4	+7.1	+5.8	-3.2	+3.9	-1.8	+0.6	+3.5	+5.3	+9.2	+4.7
Mid-June	+3.9	+7.0	+5.9	-3.2	+2.9	+0.1	+0.4	+3.5	+3.2	+9.0	+4.4
Mid-July	+3.8	+7.0	+5.9	-6.9	+2.2	+0.2	+0.1	+3.6	+3.9	+8.5	+4.2
Mid-August	+3.7	+7.1	+5.9	-5.8	+2.9	-	+0.1	+2.8	+5.8	+8.5	+4.5
Mid-September	+3.8	+6.9	+5.9	-5.9	+3.6	+0.1	-0.1	+2.4	+6.0	+8.4	+4.5
Mid-October	+4.2	+6.8	+6.2	-5.9	+4.1	+3.3	-0.3	+2.5	+4.7	+7.9	+4.6
Mid-November	+4.3	+6.3	+6.4	-6.1	+4.4	+4.7	-0.3	+2.4	+5.5	+7.7	+4.8
Mid-December	+4.1	+7.3	+12.8	-5.9	+4.0	+7.5	-1.0	+2.3	+4.4	+6.8	+5.0
Year	+4.5	+6.8	+6.2	-4.7	+3.0	+1.0	+0.2	+3.2	+4.7	+8.5	+4.6
2003 Mid-January	+3.7	+8.8	+13.7	-8.4	+3.9	+1.7	-2.0	+2.5	+5.7	+7.0	+4.8
Mid-February	+3.9	+8.8	+13.8	-4.8	+4.0	+1.7	-1.2	+2.4	+5.9	+7.5	+5.1
Mid-March	+4.0	+7.3	+11.3	-4.3	+9.0	+1.9	-1.0	+1.7	+5.6	+7.3	+4.9
Mid-April	+3.4	+6.9	+12.0	-4.5	+10.7	-0.4	-1.6	+1.6	+3.7	+7.4	+4.3
Mid-May	+2.9	+6.7	+12.2	-5.0	+5.7	-0.5	-2.6	+1.7	+1.8	+7.1	+3.7
Mid-June	+2.9	+6.9	+12.1	-6.5	+6.5	-1.0	-3.0	+0.9	+1.9	+7.2	+3.5
Mid-July	+3.1	+7.0	+12.1	-5.1	+7.0	-5.8	-2.7	+0.6	+2.2	+6.9	+3.1
Mid-August	+2.8	+7.0	+12.2	-2.5	+7.5	-5.7	-2.3	+0.5	+2.3	+6.6	+3.2
Mid-September	+2.3	+6.8	+12.2	-2.8	+7.8	-5.7	-2.3	+0.4	+1.9	+5.8	+2.9

* Former classification used up to December 2001

Background Notes – Consumer Price Index

- Definition** The Consumer Price Index is designed to measure the change in the average level of prices (inclusive of all indirect taxes) paid for consumer goods and services by all private households in the country and by foreign tourists holidaying in Ireland.
- Consumer Price Index (CPI)** Over 55,000 prices are collected for a representative basket consisting of 613 headings which cover over 1,000 different items in a fixed panel of retail and service outlets throughout the country on the second Tuesday of each month. The date to which the September index relates is Tuesday, 9th September 2003.
- Scope of the Index**
- (i) **Population Coverage:** All private households covering approximately 97% of the total population and the expenditure of foreign tourists within Ireland. It does not include the expenditure of persons in institutions and other non private households. Expenditure which occurs abroad by Irish residents is also excluded. In statistical terms coverage is referred to as the domestic concept.
 - (ii) **Geographic Coverage:** Covers the whole of the Republic of Ireland. Pricing takes place in 86 locations (cities and towns) throughout the country. These sampling points are located in Dublin city and county, the four regional cities of Cork, Limerick, Galway and Waterford, 90% of towns with a population of 10,000 and over, 88% of towns between 5,000 and 9,999 and a smaller proportion below this threshold. The results are weighted to represent the distribution of the population and its related consumer expenditure.
 - (iii) **Item Coverage:** All goods and services bought by the reference population for the purposes of consumption are included in the index. Expenditure on capital assets and investments, gambling and certain other activities are however excluded. Over 1,000 different varieties are priced and then aggregated into 613 item headings and 12 group headings based on the COICOP classification. With each rebase the coverage of goods and services is reviewed to ensure that it continues to be representative of consumer tastes and purchasing practices.
- Price Collection** Personal visits are made to retail outlets by some 200 part-time pricers on a monthly basis. Approximately 51,000 price quotations are gathered in this way. In addition 112 special inquiries covering items such as utility charges and services are conducted by post and telephone. Most prices are collected monthly, some quarterly and others annually. The CSO supplies general specifications to price collectors and collectors are free initially to select a brand and in certain cases, size. This allows for a wide variety of different brands of the same item to be priced throughout the country. Once selected, the same item/brand is priced on a monthly basis in order to ensure matched price quotations. If an item disappears, substitution can occur but that price is excluded until matched prices are available for the same comparable item for two consecutive months. The CSO wishes to put on record its appreciation of the co-operation and assistance it receives from retail outlets and other business concerns.
- CPI Weights** The CPI measures in index form the monthly changes in the cost of purchasing a fixed representative ‘basket’ of consumer goods and services (i.e. Laspeyres formula). The representative share of each item in this basket is proportional to the average amount purchased by all households in the country as determined by the Household Budget Survey and by foreign tourists in this country using estimates of expenditure by tourists across a range of consumer goods and services. Individual items typically purchased by foreign tourists while holidaying in Ireland such as hotel accommodation and meals out have been adjusted to take account of the additional tourist expenditure. Identical items are priced in the same outlet on each occasion so that changes in the cost of this constant basket reflect only pure price changes.

Background Notes – Consumer Price Index (continued)

- Rebase** The index has been rebased with effect from December 2001, the ninth series since the foundation of the State.
- The rebase of the current CPI resulted in a number of methodological changes:
- The introduction of the Geometric Mean;
 - Updating the expenditure weights;
 - A revision of the sample of goods and services;
 - An update of the sample of areas priced; and
 - A move to the COICOP classification.
- Classification** The classification used in the CPI is based on a version of COICOP – COICOP HICP, the Classification of Individual Consumption Expenditure by Purpose. This replaces the former national classification which was used up to December 2001. The COICOP classification breaks consumer expenditure into twelve different categories covering a comprehensive range of consumer goods and services.
- Methodological Details** A full methodological description of the new series is available in the CPI 2001 Introduction to Series booklet.
- Goods and Services** The consumer basket can be split into two constituent parts - goods and services according to the following definitions.
- Goods** Goods are defined as non service items usually purchased and transportable from a retail outlet - the basket excluding services.
- Services** Services include electricity, gas, telecommunications and other public utilities, alcoholic beverages consumed on licensed premises, meals out, accommodation services, public transport, medical fees, insurances, education fees, hairdressing & other personal services, childcare & social protection, entertainment & recreation services, mortgage interest & rents, package holidays and other miscellaneous services.
- Utilities and Local Charges** Includes electricity, gas, landline telecommunications and local authority service charges.
- Constant Tax** A change in the Consumer Price Index can result from increases or decreases in the pre-tax cost of goods or services and changes in the levels of indirect taxes levied on them. The Constant Tax Price Index (CTPI) is designed to exclude from the CPI the effect of changes in the level of indirect taxes since the base reference period. It does this by replacing the values of indirect taxation in the current prices with the values of indirect taxation in the corresponding base period prices. It is important to note that the CTPI thus excludes not only the impact due to changes in the taxation regime (e.g. new tax rates or excise duties) but also the impact of the ad valorem effect on tax receipts of changes in the pre-tax level of prices of goods and services. The CTPI can be used readily in conjunction with the CPI to measure the contribution of changes in indirect taxes since the base period to the overall price change.

The CTPI, together with the assessed contribution of indirect taxes to annual CPI change, is shown in Table 16. It is also possible to estimate the immediate direct contribution of changes in the tax regime on the monthly CPI according as the changes are implemented in practice - these exclude any ad valorem impacts. These monthly contributions can be summed over a twelve month period to give an estimate of the immediate impact of recent changes in the indirect taxation system on the annual rate of inflation and these are also given in Table 16.

Background Notes – COICOP Classification

Prior to the introduction of the current series in January 2002 the CPI used a national classification while the HICP used COICOP/HICP. To ensure greater comparability CPI and the HICP now both use the COICOP/HICP classification (Classification of Individual Consumption by Purpose - adapted for the purposes of the EU HICP).

The COICOP classification is based on 12 main subgroups.

- | | |
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| 01 Food and Non Alcoholic Beverages | Food and non alcoholic beverages purchased in supermarkets, small shops, speciality shops and petrol station forecourt outlets. It excludes meals out which are covered under 11 Restaurants and Hotels. |
| 02 Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco | Includes alcoholic beverages purchased in off licences and supermarkets but excludes alcohol consumed on or within a licensed premises which is classified under 11 Restaurants and Hotels. |
| 03 Clothing and Footwear | Mens, ladies and childrens clothing and footwear, sports and leisurewear and services such as laundry and dry cleaning, shoe repair, dress hire and alteration. |
| 04 Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels | This group covers rents, mortgage interest repayments, local authority service charges, goods and services for maintaining, decorating and repairing dwellings and domestic energy products such as electricity, gas and solid fuels. |
| 05 Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance | This category covers household items such as furniture, carpets and other floor coverings, house textiles and soft furnishings, household electrical appliances, and other household items such as utensils, tools, garden equipment and non-durable items for cleaning, washing and other day to day household activity. Also included in this category are domestic services such as cleaning and other services. |
| 06 Health | Health includes medical products, appliances and equipment, hospital charges and out patient services supplied by doctors, dentists, opticians, practitioners of alternative and complimentary medicine and paramedical services. |
| 07 Transport | Includes the purchase of new and second hand vehicles, spare parts, car maintenance, fuels and lubricants, public transport and services such as parking, motor association subscriptions, car wash, toll charges, driving tests, licences and car hire. |
| 08 Communications | Post and telecommunications. |
| 09 Recreation and Culture | All goods and services connected with recreation and culture and includes items such as audio visual and photographic equipment, computers, music and videos, sports and recreation goods, games and toys, items connected with gardening and pets, recreational, sporting and cultural activities and events, newspapers and other reading material, package holidays and other items connected with recreation and culture. |
| 10 Education | Covers all aspects of education including primary, secondary, third level and other education and training such as night courses, play schools and examination fees. |
| 11 Restaurants and Hotels | This category covers the following areas: meals in restaurants and hotels; fast food and take-aways; cafes; canteens; alcohol consumed on or within a licensed premises and accommodation services supplied by hotels, guesthouses and hostels. |
| 12 Miscellaneous Goods and Services | This remaining category covers a wide range of items including hairdressing and other grooming; goods for hygiene, hair and body care; personal goods such as jewellery, handbags and wallets; childcare and other social protection services; insurance, financial services and other services including funerals, weddings, legal and professional services. |