



Central Statistics Office
An Phríomh-Oifig Staidrimh

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

(Base: December 2001 =100)

DETAILED SUB-INDICES RELEASE

September 2004

Annual Inflation falls to 2.5% 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 July 2003 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, 14th September 2004.

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Consumer Price Index

September 2004

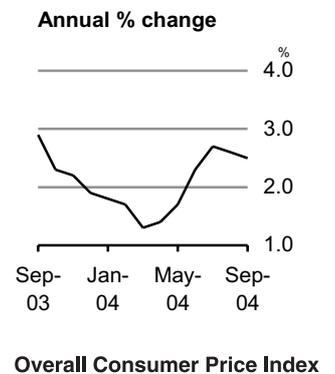
Overall Consumer Price Index

Consumer Prices in September, as measured by the CPI, increased by 0.1% in the month. This compares to an increase of 0.2% in September of last year and as a result, the annual rate of inflation fell to 2.5%, marginally down from 2.6% in August 2004.

The most significant monthly price changes were increases in Clothing & Footwear (+3.2%) and Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels (+0.8%). Price decreases were recorded for Miscellaneous Goods & Services (-0.8%), Transport (-0.4%), Furnishings, Household Equipment & Routine Household Maintenance (-0.3%) and Communications (-0.3%).

The most notable changes in the year were increases in Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels (+6.6%), Education (+6.0%), Health (+5.4%), Transport (+5.2%), Restaurants & Hotels (+4.5%) and Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco (+3.7%). Decreases were recorded for Clothing & Footwear (-2.8%), Furnishings, Household Equipment & Routine Household Maintenance (-2.4%) and Miscellaneous Goods & Services (-1.6%).

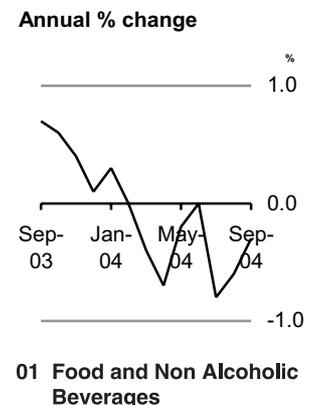
The annual rate of inflation for Services is now running at 3.6% compared to a rate of 1.4% in respect of Goods.



01 Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages

Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages prices decreased by 0.2% in the month and by 0.3% in the year to September 2004.

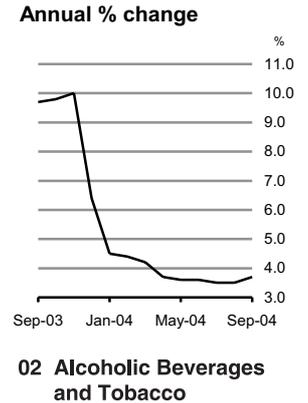
Food prices decreased by 0.2% in the month while overall Non-Alcoholic Beverages prices decreased by 0.6%. Since August, price decreases were recorded for potatoes (-5.7%), bacon (-1.9%), fruit juices (-1.4%), other fresh vegetables (-1.3%), fresh fish (-1.3%) and other meat products (which includes cooked meats, sausages and frozen & chilled convenience foods) (-1.0%). Prices rose for lamb (+3.7%), cakes (+1.7%), biscuits (+1.4%) and cheese (+1.4%).



02 Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco

This category covers Alcoholic Beverages (purchased in an off-licence or supermarket) and Tobacco products. Overall prices remained unchanged in the month and increased by 3.7% in the year to September 2004, which is up on the increase recorded for the year to August (+3.5%). This compares with an annual rate of 9.7% for September 2003.

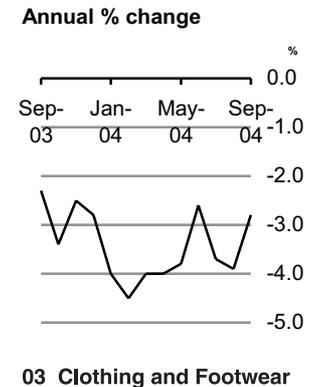
Alcoholic Beverages prices increased by 0.1% while overall Tobacco prices decreased by 0.1% in the month. The price changes that contributed to the increase in Alcoholic Beverages were beer (+0.4%) and spirits (+0.2%). The fall in Tobacco was due to a decrease in cigarette prices (-0.1%).



03 Clothing and Footwear

Clothing & Footwear prices increased by 3.2% in the month. Clothing prices increased by 3.5% while footwear prices increased by 2.5%. These increases were due to further recovery in prices following the summer sales. Clothing & footwear prices decreased by 2.8% in the year since September 2003.

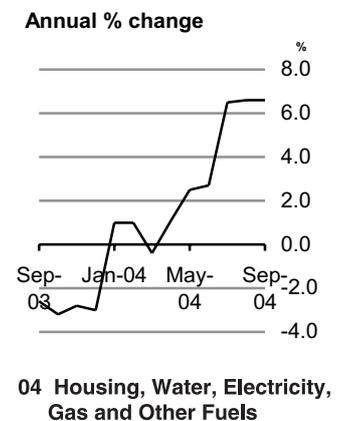
This category also covers Clothing & Footwear services such as dry cleaning. The services element for clothing increased by 1.1% and for footwear by 0.2% in the month.



04 Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels

This group covers the former categories of Housing (excluding insurance) and Fuel & Light combined into one overall category. Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels increased by 0.8% in the month and by 6.6% in the year to September 2004. This compares with a decrease of 2.6% in the year to September 2003.

In September, price increases were recorded for home heating oil (+5.4%), house repair & maintenance services (+1.4%) and average mortgage interest repayments (+1.1%). These were partially offset by a decrease in the cost of rental accommodation (-0.1%).

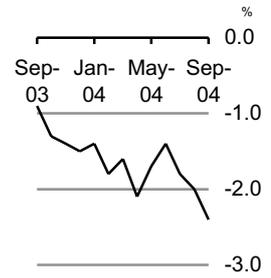


05 Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance

Furnishings, Household Equipment & Routine Household Maintenance costs decreased by 0.3% in the month, resulting in a decrease of 2.4% for the year to September 2004. This compares with a decrease of 0.9% for the year to September 2003.

Price decreases were recorded for glassware, tableware & household utensils (-2.1%), small tools & miscellaneous accessories (-2.1%), small electric household appliances (-2.0%), non-durable household goods (-0.7%) and household textiles (-0.7%). These were partially offset by an increase in the cost of furniture & furnishings (+0.7%).

Annual % change



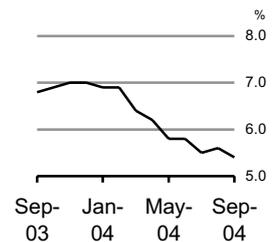
05 Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance

06 Health

Health costs and charges remained unchanged in September putting the annual increase at 5.4%, which is down on the increase recorded for the year to August 2004 (+5.6%). This compares with an increase of 6.8% for the year to September 2003.

In September, increases were recorded for therapeutic appliances & equipment (+0.6%) and other medicines (which includes pain relievers, antacid, cough mixture, vitamins & other supplements) (+0.1%).

Annual % change



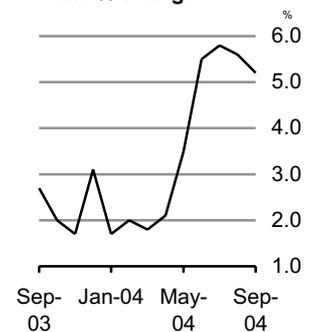
06 Health

07 Transport

Transport costs decreased by 0.4% in the month and increased by 5.2% in the year to September 2004. This compares to an increase of 2.7% in the year to September 2003.

Price decreases were recorded for boat fares (-14.6%), air fares (-8.5%), other vehicle costs (which includes car rental charges) (-6.0%) and petrol (-0.6%). These were partially offset by increases in the cost of diesel (+1.7%) and car maintenance & repair (+0.9%).

Annual % change

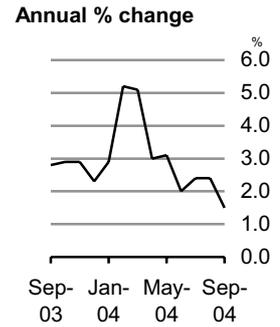


07 Transport

08 Communications

Overall communication costs decreased by 0.3% in the month and increased by 1.5% in the year to September 2004. This compares with an increase of 2.8% in the year to September 2003.

Telephone & communication services charges fell by 0.3% in the month, as a result of a decrease in private and mobile phone costs. Postal services costs remained unchanged in September.

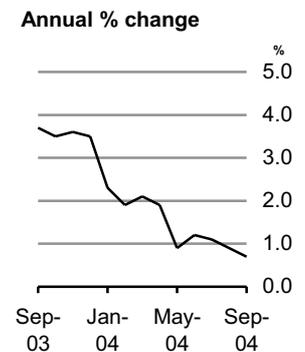


08 Communications

09 Recreation and Culture

Recreation & Culture covers a wide range of goods and services including items such as nightclubs, televisions, newspapers and gardening. Overall prices fell by 0.1% in the month, resulting in an increase of 0.7% in the year to September 2004.

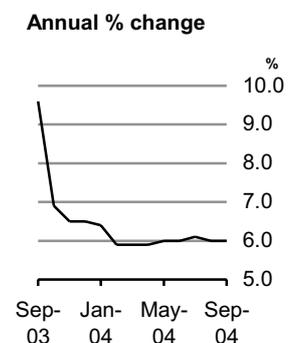
Price decreases were recorded for equipment for sport, camping & open air recreation (-2.1%), photographic & cinematographic equipment & optical instruments (-2.1%), equipment for the reception, recording & reproduction of sound & pictures (-1.7%), games, toys & hobbies (-1.4%) information processing equipment (-1.2%), recording media (-0.9%) and gardens, plants & flowers (-0.5%). These were partially offset by increases in the cost of books (+2.1%), veterinary & other services for pets (+0.7%), newspapers & periodicals (+0.6%) and cinema (+0.4%).



09 Recreation and Culture

10 Education

Education costs remained unchanged in September putting the annual increase at 6.0%, the same as in the year to August 2004. This compares with an increase of 9.6% for the year to September 2003.

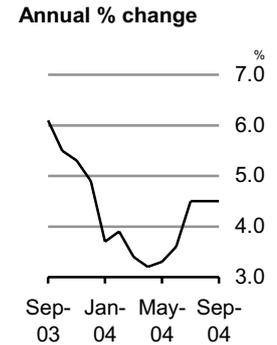


10 Education

11 Restaurants and Hotels

This 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 4.5% in the year to September 2004.

The change in the month was due to a decrease in the cost of accommodation services (-1.8%), partially offset by price increases for restaurants, cafes & fast-food (+0.3%), wine & cider (+0.2%), beer (+0.1%), soft drinks & mineral water (+0.1%) and spirits (+0.1%).

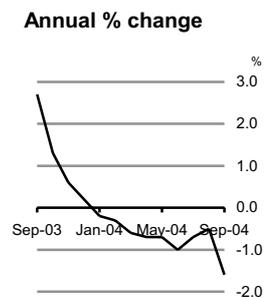


11 Restaurants and Hotels

12 Miscellaneous Goods and Services

Miscellaneous Goods & 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 decreased by 0.8% in the month and by 1.6% in the year to September 2004. This compares with an annual increase of 2.7% for September 2003.

Price decreases were recorded for motor car insurance (-6.0%), hair products (-4.5%), electric appliances for personal care (-2.4%) and hygiene products (-0.4%). These were partially offset by increases in the cost of health insurance (+2.5%), hairdressing (+0.7%), health & beauty treatments (+0.7%), other personal goods (+0.5%) and jewellery, clocks & watches (+0.5%).



12 Miscellaneous Goods and Services

Table 1 Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages - September 2004

Description	Dec 2001 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
Food	12.7541	102.6	-0.2	-0.5
Bread and Cereals	2.4351	105.7	0.6	2.0
Bread	0.7932	109.5	0.5	6.1
Flour	0.0349	109.9	0.0	8.8
Biscuits	0.4149	104.2	1.4	-1.4
Cakes	0.4370	107.5	1.7	0.9
Breakfast cereals	0.3592	99.5	-0.4	0.0
Other cereals	0.1698	104.3	-0.3	1.0
Other bread & cereals	0.2263	101.8	-0.5	-0.2
Meat	3.8238	100.0	-0.2	0.2
Beef	0.7427	103.6	0.0	2.2
Lamb	0.3222	100.5	3.7	5.9
Pork	0.2327	102.5	-0.3	2.0
Bacon	0.5459	96.6	-1.9	-3.8
Poultry	0.7558	92.6	0.2	-2.4
Other meat products	1.2245	103.1	-1.0	0.5
Fish	0.3475	106.4	-0.7	1.5
Fresh fish	0.1522	110.2	-1.3	2.7
Frozen/tinned/smoked fish	0.1954	103.5	-0.2	0.6
Milk, cheese and eggs	1.7813	104.3	0.2	-0.3
Milk	0.9658	102.4	0.1	-0.4
Other milk products	0.3633	108.8	-0.2	0.4
Cheese	0.3103	105.4	1.4	-1.5
Eggs	0.1419	104.0	-0.2	2.5
Oils and fats	0.3720	101.9	-0.3	-1.6
Butter	0.2294	100.9	-0.4	-3.2
Margarine & low fat spreads	0.0706	106.1	-0.4	1.6
Other oils & fats	0.0720	100.6	0.0	-0.3
Fruit	0.6780	100.2	0.2	-2.1
Fresh fruit	0.5882	97.4	0.2	-3.4
Other fruits	0.0897	118.8	0.6	6.0
Vegetables	1.6534	98.0	-1.7	-5.4
Potatoes	0.3644	95.6	-5.7	-11.8
Other fresh vegetables	0.6260	96.3	-1.3	-7.5
Tinned vegetables	0.1308	105.2	0.3	-0.1
Frozen vegetables	0.1738	100.2	-0.4	-0.5
Other vegetable products	0.3584	99.9	0.6	1.1
Sugar, jam, honey, chocolate and confectionery	1.2890	107.4	-0.4	-0.6
Sugar & sweeteners	0.0881	99.0	0.2	-0.4
Preserves	0.0898	111.5	0.3	2.0
Sweets & chocolate	0.8708	107.3	-0.5	-0.8
Desserts & icecream	0.2404	109.6	-0.5	-1.0
Other food products	0.3739	107.2	-0.1	1.4
Condiments & sauces	0.1924	106.5	0.0	1.4
Soup	0.1011	109.0	-0.5	1.5
Miscellaneous food items	0.0804	107.1	0.4	1.6
Non-alcoholic beverages	1.3380	104.2	-0.6	0.6
Coffee, tea and cocoa	0.3108	100.0	-0.1	0.0
Tea	0.2007	103.1	0.2	1.7
Coffee	0.0980	94.0	-0.6	-3.2
Cocoa	0.0120	99.3	-0.3	-0.7
Mineral waters, soft drinks & juices	1.0273	105.5	-0.7	0.8
Soft drinks, mineral water	0.7641	107.4	-0.4	2.1
Fruit juices	0.2632	100.0	-1.4	-3.1
Total	14.0921	102.8	-0.2	-0.3

Table 2 Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco - September 2004

Description	Dec 2001 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
Alcoholic Beverages	3.0987	111.3	0.1	0.5
Spirits	0.8448	126.3	0.2	0.5
Wine & cider	1.3729	108.1	0.0	0.8
Beer	0.8811	102.1	0.4	-0.1
Tobacco	4.3993	123.2	-0.1	5.8
Cigarettes	4.2148	123.4	-0.1	5.8
Other tobacco products	0.1844	119.0	0.0	4.7
Total	7.4980	118.3	0.0	3.7

Table 3 Clothing and Footwear - September 2004

Description	Dec 2001 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
Clothing	4.0605	89.7	3.5	-2.5
Clothing materials	0.1708	103.4	-0.1	1.0
Garments	3.7922	88.7	3.7	-2.7
Other articles of clothing	0.1019	83.6	2.0	-6.4
Cleaning, repair & hire of clothing	0.1494	118.6	1.1	5.5
Dry cleaning & laundry	0.1111	117.1	0.9	5.3
Dress hire & repair of clothing	0.0383	122.8	1.7	6.2
Footwear	0.9912	87.8	2.5	-4.0
Shoes & other footwear	0.9764	87.1	2.5	-4.3
Repair & hire of footwear	0.0148	132.0	0.2	8.7
Total	5.0517	89.3	3.2	-2.8

Table 4 Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels - September 2004

Description	Dec 2001 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
Rents & other housing costs	7.2347	102.1	0.6	6.9
Rents	2.6046	97.7	-0.1	-2.3
Mortgage interest	4.6301	104.6	1.1	12.6
Maintenance & repair of the dwelling	1.6222	111.5	0.9	2.4
Materials for maint. & repair of dwelling	0.7562	103.0	0.4	0.6
Services for maint. & repair of dwelling	0.8660	118.9	1.4	3.8
Water supply, refuse & misc. services	0.1971	168.7	0.0	12.7
Electricity, gas & other fuels	3.2775	119.9	1.3	7.8
Electricity	1.3930	124.8	0.0	5.1
Natural gas	0.4872	110.1	0.0	0.0
Bottled gas	0.0364	111.9	0.3	6.6
Liquid fuels	0.6914	129.5	5.4	24.8
Solid fuels	0.6695	107.3	0.2	3.0
Total	12.3315	109.1	0.8	6.6

Table 5 Furnishings, Household Equipment & Routine Household Maintenance - September 2004

Description	Dec 2001 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
Furniture, furnishings, carpets & other flooring	0.6084	97.8	0.7	-2.2
Furniture & furnishings	0.5132	96.7	0.7	-3.0
Carpets & other floor coverings	0.0952	103.7	0.3	1.6
Household textiles	0.3860	87.0	-0.7	-4.7
Household appliances	1.4105	94.8	-0.3	-3.2
Major household appliances	1.0325	94.1	0.2	-2.9
Small electric household appliances	0.2678	91.1	-2.0	-6.0
Repair of household appliances	0.1102	111.2	0.0	1.4
Glassware, tableware & hsehld utensils	0.2499	88.7	-2.1	-5.7
Tools & equipment for house & garden	0.2203	103.7	-1.0	0.1
Major tools & equipment	0.1121	107.5	0.0	1.5
Small tools & misc. accessories	0.1082	99.8	-2.1	-1.5
Goods & services for routine hsehld maint.	1.4560	100.7	-0.3	-1.1
Non-durable household goods	0.8506	97.8	-0.7	-3.6
Domestic & household services	0.6054	104.7	0.2	2.2
Total	4.3312	96.6	-0.3	-2.4

Table 6 Health - September 2004

Description	Dec 2001 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
Medical products, appliances & equip.	1.0425	109.6	0.2	1.9
Pharmaceutical products	0.5626	110.1	0.0	1.3
Prescribed drugs	0.3205	111.8	0.0	2.1
Other medicines	0.2420	107.9	0.1	0.3
Other medical products	0.1954	108.7	0.0	2.5
Therapeutic appliances & equip	0.2846	109.3	0.6	2.6
Outpatient services	0.8484	117.8	0.0	5.2
Medical services	0.5242	115.4	0.0	6.0
Doctors' fees	0.4310	116.2	0.0	6.3
Alternative & complementary medicine	0.0932	111.7	0.0	4.4
Dental services	0.2352	124.8	0.0	4.3
Paramedical services	0.0890	113.3	0.0	2.8
Hospital services	0.6273	142.4	0.0	10.7
Total	2.5182	120.5	0.0	5.4

Table 7 Transport - September 2004

Description	Dec 2001 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
Purchase of vehicles	6.1617	104.9	0.2	1.3
Motor cars	5.9503	105.2	0.2	1.3
Motor cycles	0.0608	97.3	0.0	-2.7
Bicycles	0.1506	95.8	0.1	-2.1
Operation of personal transport equip.	5.1975	119.4	-0.6	10.2
Spare parts & accessories	0.3014	105.1	0.0	0.9
Fuels & lubricants	3.1186	122.4	-0.2	14.6
Petrol	2.6391	122.3	-0.6	14.2
Diesel	0.4533	123.9	1.7	18.5
Motor oil	0.0262	112.2	0.4	3.6
Maintenance & repair	0.5904	113.0	0.9	4.2
Other services	1.1871	118.1	-2.6	4.3
Motor tax	0.7001	117.3	0.0	5.0
Other vehicle costs	0.4745	119.9	-6.0	3.7
Driving licences	0.0125	100.5	0.0	0.0
Transport services	1.8239	115.1	-1.8	3.3
Rail transport	0.2739	116.8	0.0	5.5
Road transport	1.2082	112.6	0.0	1.4
Bus fares	0.6445	114.8	0.0	2.0
Taxi	0.5637	110.0	0.0	0.4
Air transport	0.2860	121.0	-8.5	9.2
Sea transport	0.0339	136.8	-14.6	4.7
Combined transport	0.0118	114.3	0.0	0.8
Other transport	0.0100	126.5	0.0	9.2
Total	13.1831	112.0	-0.4	5.2

Table 8 Communications - September 2004

Description	Dec 2001 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
Postal services	0.0791	123.8	0.0	0.2
Telephone & communication services	1.8239	104.3	-0.3	1.7
Total	1.9030	105.1	-0.3	1.5

Table 9 Recreation and Culture - September 2004

Description	Dec 2001 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
Audio-visual, photographic & information processing equipment	1.0625	88.4	-1.2	-6.8
Equipment for the reception, recording & reproduction of sound & pictures	0.2557	82.1	-1.7	-8.4
Photographic & cinematographic equip. & optical instruments	0.0477	80.0	-2.1	-11.2
Information processing equip.	0.3516	90.5	-1.2	-7.2
Recording media	0.4075	91.5	-0.9	-5.3
Other major durables for recreation & culture	0.0183	98.1	0.0	-0.6
Other recreational items & equip. incl. gardens & pets	1.1538	99.1	-0.7	-2.9
Games, toys & hobbies	0.3480	83.9	-1.4	-8.7
Equipment for sport, camping & open air recreation	0.1490	98.4	-2.1	-4.1
Gardens, plants & flowers	0.3375	107.4	-0.5	0.4
Pets & related products	0.2513	104.9	0.0	-1.8
Veterinary & other services for pets	0.0680	115.7	0.7	3.3
Recreational & cultural services	3.2713	118.8	0.0	3.8
Recreational & sporting services	1.0955	122.7	0.0	4.2
Sports admittance	0.1575	131.4	0.0	4.0
Sports participation	0.4631	130.0	0.0	6.5
Cultural services	2.1757	116.9	0.1	3.5
Cinema	0.2523	111.9	0.4	4.8
Nightclubs	0.3261	112.9	0.0	2.1
Cultural admittance	0.6630	111.3	0.0	0.1
Other entertainment	0.2454	110.1	0.2	3.0
Television services	0.6889	128.4	0.0	6.8
Newspapers, books & stationery	1.9011	110.6	0.8	3.4
Books	0.4801	108.2	2.1	2.1
Newspapers & periodicals	0.9945	115.2	0.6	4.7
Stationery	0.4265	102.6	-0.1	1.4
Package holidays	3.4024	105.4	-0.3	-0.6
Total	10.8095	108.0	-0.1	0.7

Table 10 Education - September 2004

Description	Dec 2001 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
Primary education	0.0111	121.9	0.0	9.2
Second level education	0.1572	123.7	0.0	10.3
Third level education	0.7009	119.0	0.0	5.5
Other education & training	0.6778	116.8	0.0	5.6
Total	1.5471	118.5	0.0	6.0

Table 11 Restaurants and Hotels - September 2004

Description	Dec 2001 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
Catering services	15.5121	116.8	0.1	3.6
Restaurants, cafes & licenced premises	14.8341	117.3	0.2	3.5
Beer	6.3736	115.6	0.1	3.3
Spirits	1.6213	124.9	0.1	2.2
Wine & cider	0.7156	116.2	0.2	2.8
Soft drinks & mineral water	0.3850	119.4	0.1	2.8
Restaurants, cafes & fast-food	5.7386	117.0	0.3	4.5
Canteens	0.6780	107.6	0.0	8.0
Accommodation services	2.2474	121.6	-1.8	10.1
Total	17.7595	117.5	-0.1	4.5

Table 12 Miscellaneous Goods and Services - September 2004

Description	Dec 2001 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
Personal care	2.4202	106.6	-0.3	0.7
Hairdressing salons & personal grooming	0.6871	122.4	0.7	5.2
Hairdressing	0.6354	122.5	0.7	5.3
Health & beauty treatments	0.0496	121.3	0.7	3.8
Other personal grooming	0.0020	119.0	0.2	4.0
Electric appliances for personal care	0.0566	89.9	-2.4	-7.4
Other appliances, articles & products for personal care	1.6765	100.6	-0.7	-1.3
Hygiene products	0.2343	99.8	-0.4	-2.0
Hair products	0.2124	97.2	-4.5	-3.9
Cosmetics & skincare products	0.6036	102.5	0.0	0.0
Toilet accessories	0.6262	100.6	-0.1	-1.1
Personal goods	0.4623	91.3	0.4	-3.2
Jewellery, clocks & watches	0.1791	99.2	0.5	-1.4
Other personal goods	0.2832	86.3	0.5	-4.4
Social protection	0.9203	119.8	0.0	7.4
Childcare	0.7423	120.4	0.0	8.4
Other social protection	0.1780	117.2	0.0	3.4
Insurance	4.3822	106.3	-1.6	-5.5
Dwelling insurance	0.6988	108.5	0.0	-0.8
Health insurance	1.4709	132.9	2.5	3.8
Transport insurance	2.2124	87.9	-6.0	-14.7
Motor cycle insurance	0.0242	153.7	0.0	9.9
Motor car insurance	2.1882	87.2	-6.0	-15.1
Financial services	0.0470	126.4	-0.1	1.4
Other services	0.7432	117.4	0.1	3.9
Total	8.9751	108.0	-0.8	-1.6

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	Communications	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
2003													
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
Mid-October	-	+0.3	-0.9	+0.2	-0.5	+0.2	-0.4	+0.1	+0.1	+4.6	-0.2	-0.8	-0.1
Mid-November	-0.1	+0.2	+1.0	+0.3	+0.2	+0.6	-0.3	-	+0.4	+1.6	-0.3	-0.7	-
Mid-December	-0.1	+2.1	-0.1	+0.6	-	-	+1.4	-0.6	-0.1	-	+0.4	-0.2	+0.4
2004													
Mid-January	-	+0.3	-14.8	+0.3	-2.6	+2.9	+0.1	-	+0.1	-0.1	+0.4	-0.4	-0.5
Mid-February	-0.1	-0.1	+12.0	+0.4	+1.8	+0.8	+0.6	+2.1	+0.6	-0.3	+0.4	+0.6	+0.8
Mid-March	-0.1	+0.4	+2.3	+0.8	-	-	+0.6	-0.1	-	-	+0.4	+0.4	+0.4
Mid-April	-0.3	+0.3	-0.1	+0.9	-0.2	+0.3	+0.6	-	+0.1	-	+0.6	+0.4	+0.4
Mid-May	+0.5	-	+0.1	+0.4	-	+0.2	+0.5	-	-0.6	+0.1	+0.5	-0.1	+0.2
Mid-June	+0.5	+0.1	-0.4	+0.8	-	-	+1.5	-	+0.3	-	+0.7	-0.4	+0.6
Mid-July	-0.5	-	-10.8	+0.3	-1.8	+0.2	+0.4	+0.3	-0.2	+0.1	+1.3	+0.2	-0.3
Mid-August	+0.1	+0.1	+8.5	+0.7	+1.1	+0.3	+0.4	-	+0.1	-0.1	+0.3	+0.3	+0.6
Mid-September	-0.2	-	+3.2	+0.8	-0.3	-	-0.4	-0.3	-0.1	-	-0.1	-0.8	+0.1

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	Communications	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
2003													
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
Mid-October	+0.6	+9.8	-3.4	-3.2	-1.3	+6.9	+2.0	+2.9	+3.5	+6.9	+5.5	+1.3	+2.3
Mid-November	+0.4	+10.0	-2.5	-2.8	-1.4	+7.0	+1.7	+2.9	+3.6	+6.5	+5.3	+0.6	+2.2
Mid-December	+0.1	+6.4	-2.8	-3.0	-1.5	+7.0	+3.1	+2.3	+3.5	+6.5	+4.9	+0.2	+1.9
Year	+1.4	+9.8	-4.0	-0.5	-0.7	+7.7	+3.3	+1.5	+4.1	+9.1	+6.3	+4.7	+3.5
2004													
Mid-January	+0.3	+4.5	-4.0	+1.0	-1.4	+6.9	+1.7	+2.9	+2.3	+6.4	+3.7	-0.2	+1.8
Mid-February	-	+4.4	-4.5	+1.0	-1.8	+6.9	+2.0	+5.2	+1.9	+5.9	+3.9	-0.3	+1.7
Mid-March	-0.4	+4.2	-4.0	-0.4	-1.6	+6.4	+1.8	+5.1	+2.1	+5.9	+3.4	-0.6	+1.3
Mid-April	-0.7	+3.7	-4.0	+1.1	-2.1	+6.2	+2.1	+3.0	+1.9	+5.9	+3.2	-0.7	+1.4
Mid-May	-0.2	+3.6	-3.8	+2.5	-1.7	+5.8	+3.5	+3.1	+0.9	+6.0	+3.3	-0.7	+1.7
Mid-June	-	+3.6	-2.6	+2.7	-1.4	+5.8	+5.5	+2.0	+1.2	+6.0	+3.6	-1.0	+2.3
Mid-July	-0.8	+3.5	-3.7	+6.5	-1.8	+5.5	+5.8	+2.4	+1.1	+6.1	+4.5	-0.7	+2.7
Mid-August	-0.6	+3.5	-3.9	+6.6	-2.0	+5.6	+5.6	+2.4	+0.9	+6.0	+4.5	-0.5	+2.6
Mid-September	-0.3	+3.7	-2.8	+6.6	-2.4	+5.4	+5.2	+1.5	+0.7	+6.0	+4.5	-1.6	+2.5

Table 15 Consumer Price Index Goods and Services by COICOP - September 2004

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	-	102.8	-	- 0.3	-	- 0.3
02	Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco	7.498	7.498	-	118.3	-	+ 3.7	-	+ 3.7
03	Clothing and Footwear	5.052	4.888	0.164	88.3	119.8	- 3.2	+ 5.8	- 2.8
04	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	12.331	2.153	10.178	113.0	108.3	+ 9.2	+ 6.2	+ 6.6
05	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance	4.331	3.538	0.793	94.5	106.2	- 3.5	+ 2.1	- 2.4
06	Health	2.518	1.013	1.505	109.5	128.0	+ 1.9	+ 7.7	+ 5.4
07	Transport	13.183	9.582	3.601	110.6	115.7	+ 5.6	+ 3.8	+ 5.2
08	Communications	1.903	-	1.903	-	105.1	-	+ 1.5	+ 1.5
09	Recreation and Culture	10.810	4.064	6.746	101.4	112.0	- 1.0	+ 1.6	+ 0.7
10	Education	1.547	-	1.547	-	118.5	-	+ 6.0	+ 6.0
11	Restaurants and Hotels	17.760	-	17.760	-	117.5	-	+ 4.5	+ 4.5
12	Miscellaneous Goods & Services	8.975	2.191	6.784	98.3	111.1	- 1.9	- 1.6	- 1.6
ALL ITEMS		100.000	49.019	50.981	104.9	113.7	+ 1.4	+ 3.6	+ 2.5

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
	%	%	%	%	%
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
Mid-October	+1.5	+3.2	+3.2	+1.8	+2.3
Mid-November	+2.3	+3.1	+3.2	+1.7	+2.2
Mid-December	+5.2	+2.8	+2.9	+1.7	+1.9
Year	+4.0	+4.1	+4.2	+3.0	+3.5
2004 Mid-January	+3.9	+2.1	+2.1	+1.5	+1.8
Mid-February	+3.9	+2.0	+2.0	+1.4	+1.7
Mid-March	+0.4	+1.6	+1.6	+1.0	+1.3
Mid-April	+1.2	+1.4	+1.5	+1.2	+1.4
Mid-May	+6.9	+1.8	+1.9	+1.5	+1.7
Mid-June	+11.8	+2.2	+2.2	+2.0	+2.3
Mid-July	+10.9	+2.3	+2.3	+2.5	+2.7
Mid-August	+12.0	+2.2	+2.3	+2.5	+2.6
Mid-September	+11.1	+2.1	+2.2	+2.4	+2.5

Table 17 Constant Tax Price Index

Period		Index	Annual Percentage Changes		Contribution
			CPI	Due to Indirect Taxes ¹	Immediate Tax Effect ²
			%	%	%
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
	October	104.6	+2.3	+1.2	+1.1
	November	104.6	+2.2	+1.2	+1.1
	December	104.6	+1.9	+1.0	+1.0
2004	January	104.1	+1.8	+0.7	+0.5
	February	104.9	+1.7	+0.6	+0.5
	March	105.3	+1.3	+0.5	+0.5
	April	105.6	+1.4	+0.6	+0.5
	May	105.8	+1.7	+0.7	+0.5
	June	106.3	+2.3	+0.8	+0.5
	July	106.1	+2.7	+0.8	+0.5
	August	106.7	+2.6	+0.7	+0.5
	September	106.7	+2.5	+0.7	+0.5

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 2004*

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	107.1	132.6	-	- 0.1	+ 1.4
Alcoholic Drink	11.898	115.8	141.2	+ 0.1	+ 1.3	+ 2.4
Tobacco	4.399	123.2	168.7	- 0.1	-	+ 5.8
Clothing and Footwear	4.888	88.3	66.2	+ 3.4	-	- 3.2
Fuel and Light	3.278	119.9	135.1	+ 1.3	+ 1.7	+ 7.8
Housing	9.747	105.5	118.9	+ 0.7	+ 1.9	+ 5.7
Durable Household Goods	3.640	93.0	95.4	- 0.6	- 1.4	- 4.0
Other Goods	5.777	101.2	118.4	- 0.1	- 0.5	- 0.8
Transport	15.413	108.5	127.2	- 1.2	- 0.4	+ 2.4
Services and Related Expenditure	20.156	116.2	147.8	-	+ 0.6	+ 4.0
ALL ITEMS	100.000	109.4	129.3	+ 0.1	+ 0.4	+ 2.5

^{*} Former classification used up to December 2001

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

Period	Food	Alco- holic drink	Tobacco	Clothing and Footwear	Fuel and Light	Housing	Durable House- hold Goods	Other Goods	Trans- port	Services and Related Expendi- ture	All Items
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
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
Mid-October	+0.2	-	+0.3	-1.0	-0.3	+0.4	-0.4	-0.2	-0.9	+0.3	-0.1
Mid-November	-	+0.1	+0.3	+1.1	+0.5	+0.1	+0.4	-	-0.7	+0.1	-
Mid-December	-	+0.2	+3.7	-0.2	+0.3	+0.7	-0.4	-0.1	+1.2	-	+0.4
2004 Mid-January	+0.5	+0.2	+0.4	-15.4	-0.1	+0.2	-3.6	-0.8	-	+0.5	-0.5
Mid-February	-	-	-	+12.5	+0.2	+0.4	+2.4	+0.8	+0.6	+0.8	+0.8
Mid-March	-	-0.1	+0.7	+2.4	+0.7	+0.9	-0.1	-0.1	+0.5	+0.5	+0.4
Mid-April	+0.1	+0.2	+0.2	-0.2	+2.0	+0.3	-0.4	+0.4	+0.6	+0.4	+0.4
Mid-May	+0.4	-	+0.1	+0.1	+1.1	+0.1	-0.2	-1.0	+0.5	+0.3	+0.2
Mid-June	+0.4	+0.5	+0.1	-0.5	+1.5	+0.6	-0.2	+0.7	+1.1	+0.3	+0.6
Mid-July	-0.1	+1.0	-	-11.2	-0.4	+0.5	-2.3	-0.5	+0.4	+0.4	-0.3
Mid-August	-	+0.2	+0.1	+8.9	+0.9	+0.8	+1.6	+0.1	+0.5	+0.2	+0.6
Mid-September	-	+0.1	-0.1	+3.4	+1.3	+0.7	-0.6	-0.1	-1.2	-	+0.1

* Former classification used up to December 2001

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

Period	Food	Alco- holic drink	Tobacco	Clothing and Footwear	Fuel and Light	Housing	Durable House- hold Goods	Other Goods	Trans- port	Services and Related Expendi- ture	All Items
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
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
Mid-October	+2.1	+6.8	+12.3	-3.8	+5.7	-5.7	-2.4	-0.3	+0.6	+5.2	+2.3
Mid-November	+1.9	+6.9	+12.4	-2.9	+7.5	-5.9	-2.2	-0.4	-	+5.2	+2.2
Mid-December	+1.6	+5.7	+7.7	-3.2	+7.4	-6.0	-2.5	-0.6	+1.1	+5.0	+1.9
Year	+2.9	+7.2	+12.0	-4.5	+6.9	-2.6	-2.1	+0.9	+2.7	+6.4	+3.5
2004 Mid-January	+2.0	+3.5	+6.7	-4.5	+5.9	-0.9	-2.5	-1.4	-0.2	+4.1	+1.8
Mid-February	+1.8	+3.2	+6.6	-4.9	+5.9	-1.0	-2.8	-1.0	-	+4.3	+1.7
Mid-March	+1.4	+2.2	+6.7	-4.3	+1.9	-1.2	-2.6	-0.8	-0.4	+4.4	+1.3
Mid-April	+1.3	+1.3	+6.0	-4.4	+0.9	+0.8	-3.3	-0.6	-	+4.3	+1.4
Mid-May	+1.6	+1.2	+5.8	-4.2	+6.2	+0.8	-2.9	-1.8	+1.1	+4.3	+1.7
Mid-June	+1.7	+1.4	+5.8	-3.0	+7.3	+0.8	-2.6	-0.7	+2.5	+4.3	+2.3
Mid-July	+1.1	+2.2	+5.8	-4.2	+6.6	+5.8	-3.3	-0.8	+2.9	+4.7	+2.7
Mid-August	+1.1	+2.2	+5.8	-4.3	+7.2	+5.8	-3.3	-0.7	+3.1	+4.5	+2.6
Mid-September	+1.4	+2.4	+5.8	-3.2	+7.8	+5.7	-4.0	-0.8	+2.4	+4.0	+2.5

* 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, 14th September 2004.
- 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 17. 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 17.

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.

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.