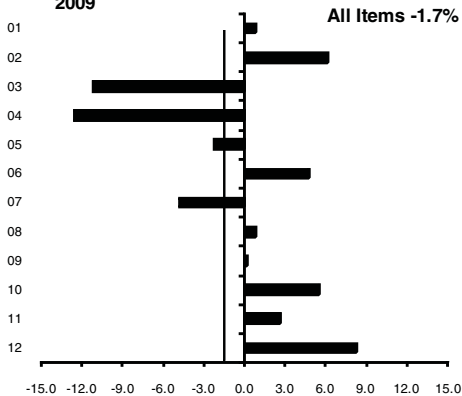




Consumer Price Index Detailed Sub-Indices Release February 2009

Comparison of main CPI groups to the overall CPI annual % change - February 2009



CPI (Base: December 2006 = 100)

COICOP Group	% changes	
	One month	12 months
01 Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	-0.4	+0.8
02 Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco	-0.2	+6.2
03 Clothing and Footwear	+7.5	-11.2
04 Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	-4.5	-12.6
05 Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance	+1.7	-2.2
06 Health	+0.1	+4.8
07 Transport	-0.1	-4.8
08 Communications	+0.1	+0.8
09 Recreation and Culture	+0.1	+0.2
10 Education	+0.2	+5.5
11 Restaurants and Hotels	-0.2	+2.7
12 Miscellaneous Goods and Services	+0.8	+8.3
ALL ITEMS	-0.4	-1.7

Prices fall by 1.7% in the year to February

Consumer Prices in February, as measured by the CPI, decreased by 0.4% in the month. This compares to an increase of 1.2% recorded in February of last year. As a result, prices on average, as measured by the CPI, were 1.7% lower in February compared with February 2008.

The most significant monthly price changes were decreases in *Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels* (-4.5%) and *Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages* (-0.4%). There were increases in *Clothing & Footwear* (+7.5%), *Furnishings, Household Equipment & Routine Household Maintenance* (+1.7%) and *Miscellaneous Goods & Services* (+0.8%).

The most notable changes in the year were decreases in *Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels* (-12.6%), *Clothing & Footwear* (-11.2%) and *Transport* (-4.8%). There were increases in *Miscellaneous Goods & Services* (+8.3%), *Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco* (+6.2%), *Education* (+5.5%) and *Health* (+4.8%). Price increases were recorded for 8 of the 12 COICOP groups (representing 60% of the total basket of goods and services), while prices fell at a faster rate for the remaining 4 categories.

Services prices fell by 0.7% in the year to February, while Goods fell by 2.8%.

This release provides a detailed analysis of the major price developments within the main CPI commodity groups in tables 1 to 17. Also included are Tables A and B, which compare the contributions towards the annual rate of inflation for the current month with the corresponding period last year.

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Table A Comparison of Contributions to the Annual Rate of Inflation for Feb 08 and Feb 09

COICOP Group	Contributions to overall CPI % change		
	Feb '07 - Feb '08	Feb '08 - Feb '09	Difference
01 Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	+ 1.00	+ 0.10	- 0.90
02 Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco	+ 0.23	+ 0.38	+ 0.15
03 Clothing and Footwear	- 0.16	- 0.53	- 0.37
04 Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	+ 2.06	- 2.30	- 4.36
05 Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance	- 0.07	- 0.09	- 0.02
06 Health	+ 0.18	+ 0.15	- 0.03
07 Transport	+ 0.64	- 0.64	- 1.28
08 Communications	+ 0.04	+ 0.03	- 0.01
09 Recreation and Culture	+ 0.10	+ 0.01	- 0.09
10 Education	+ 0.12	+ 0.11	- 0.01
11 Restaurants and Hotels	+ 0.49	+ 0.41	- 0.08
12 Miscellaneous Goods and Services	+ 0.16	+ 0.67	+ 0.51
ALL ITEMS % change	+ 4.8¹	- 1.7¹	- 6.5¹
Goods	+ 1.81	- 1.30	- 3.11
Services ²	+ 2.99	- 0.39	- 3.38

¹ The sum may not total exactly due to rounding differences

² Includes Mortgage Interest

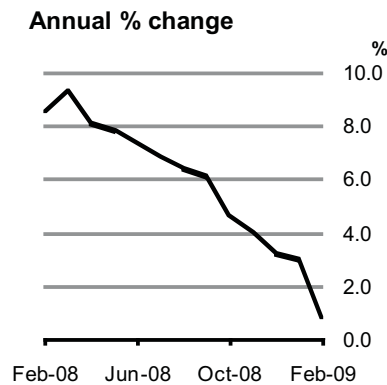
Table B Positive and Negative factors in the comparison of the Annual Rate of Inflation for Feb 08 and Feb 09

COICOP Group	+	COICOP Group	-
12 Miscellaneous Goods and Services	+ 0.51	04 Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	- 4.36
02 Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco	+ 0.15	07 Transport	- 1.28
		01 Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	- 0.90
		03 Clothing and Footwear	- 0.37
		09 Recreation and Culture	- 0.09
		11 Restaurants and Hotels	- 0.08
		06 Health	- 0.03
		05 Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance	- 0.02
		08 Communications	- 0.01
		10 Education	- 0.01
Total Positive	+ 0.66	Total Negative	- 7.15
Net Difference (Positive less Negative)			- 6.5¹

¹ The net difference may not total exactly due to rounding differences

Consumer Price Index February 2009

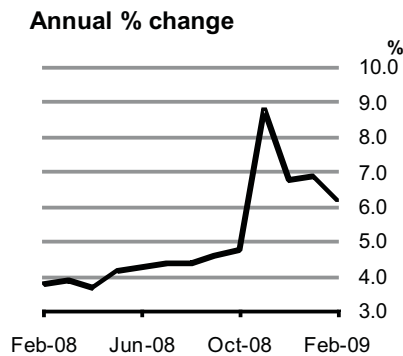
01 Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages



01 Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages

Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages prices decreased by 0.4% in the month and increased by 0.8% in the year to February 2009. This compares to an increase of 8.5% for the year to February 2008.

In the month, food prices decreased by 0.4% while non-alcoholic beverages prices decreased by 0.1%. In February, price decreases were recorded for beef (-3.1%), other meat products (-2.3%), other bread & cereals (-2.0%), other oils & fats (-1.8%), other fresh vegetables (-1.6%), cakes (-1.5%), eggs (-1.1%), breakfast cereals (-1.0%), fruit juices (-1.0%), flour (-1.0%), cheese (-0.9%), fresh fruit (-0.7%) and poultry (-0.6%). Price increases were recorded for pork (+6.7%), potatoes (+1.8%), fresh fish (+1.7%), other vegetable products (+1.3%), frozen vegetables (+1.3%), butter (+1.3%), other cereals (+1.1%), coffee (+1.0%), sweets & chocolate (+0.6%) and bread (+0.5%).

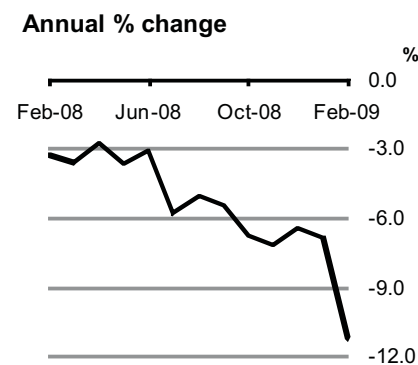


02 Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco

02 Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco

Overall prices decreased by 0.2% in the month and increased by 6.2% in the year to February 2009. This compares to an increase of 3.8% for the year to February 2008.

In the month, alcoholic beverages prices decreased by 0.4% while tobacco prices increased by 0.1%. Price decreases were recorded for wine & cider (-0.8%) and beer (-0.3%). Price increases were recorded for spirits (+0.4%), other tobacco products (+0.3%) and cigarettes (+0.1%).



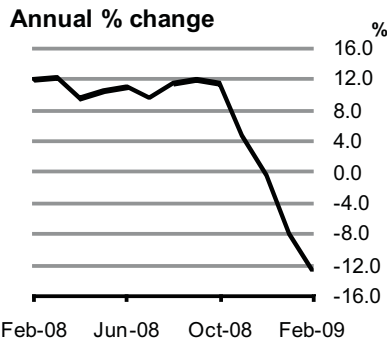
03 Clothing and Footwear

03 Clothing and Footwear

Clothing & Footwear prices increased by 7.5% in the month and decreased by 11.2% in the year to February 2009. This compares to a decrease of 3.3% for the year to February 2008. In the month, clothing prices increased by 7.6%, while footwear prices increased by 7.5%.

In the month, price increases were recorded for garments (+8.0%), shoes & other footwear (+7.7%) and other articles of clothing (+2.5%) due to a recovery in prices following the traditional January sales. There were also increases in the repair & hire of footwear (+0.3%) and dress hire & repair of clothing (+0.2%).

04 Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels



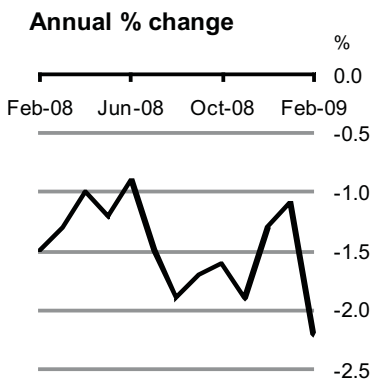
04 Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels

Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels costs decreased by 4.5% in the month and by 12.6% in the year to February 2009. This compares to an increase of 12.0% for the year to February 2008.

In the month, price decreases were recorded for mortgage interest (-8.4%), rents (-5.7%), liquid fuels (i.e. home heating oil) (-5.4%) and solid fuels (-0.1%). A price increase was recorded for materials for the maintenance & repair of dwelling (+1.5%).

The decrease in average mortgage interest repayments is mainly due to the introduction of lower mortgage interest rates by lending institutions following the ECB decision to decrease the base interest rate by 0.5% in January.

05 Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance

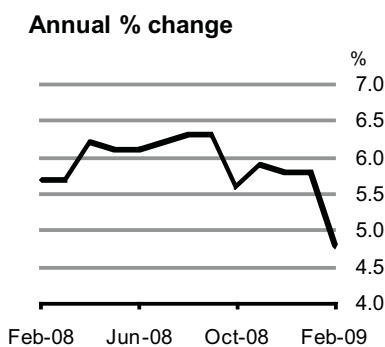


05 Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance

Furnishings, Household Equipment & Routine Household Maintenance costs increased by 1.7% in the month and decreased by 2.2% in the year to February 2009. This compares to a decrease of 1.5% for the year to February 2008.

In the month, price increases were recorded for household textiles (+4.7%), major household appliances (+3.0%), glassware, tableware & household utensils (+2.9%), furniture & furnishings (+2.5%), small electric household appliances (+2.3%), major tools & equipment (+2.3%) and small tools & miscellaneous accessories (+1.8%). A price decrease was recorded for repair of household appliances (-2.3%).

06 Health

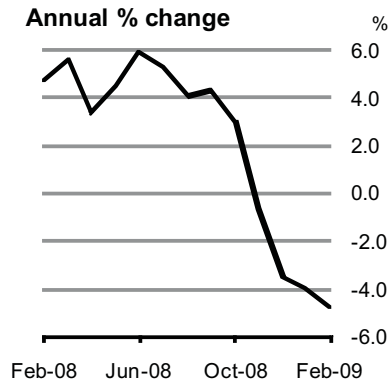


06 Health

Overall health costs and charges increased by 0.1% in the month and by 4.8% in the year to February 2009. This compares to an increase of 5.7% for the year to February 2008.

In the month, price increases were recorded for dental services (+0.6%), doctors fees (+0.3%) and other medicines (which includes pain relievers, antacid, cough mixture, vitamins & other supplements) (+0.2%). Price decreases were recorded for other medical products (which includes condoms, petroleum jelly, disinfectant & adhesive dressing) (-0.7%) and alternative and complementary medicines (-0.5%).

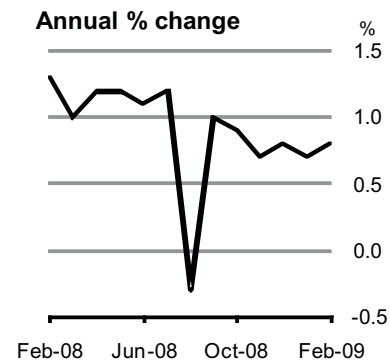
07 Transport



07 Transport

Transport costs decreased by 0.1% in the month and by 4.8% in the year to February 2009. This compares to an increase of 4.7% for the year to February 2008.

In the month, price decreases were recorded for motor cars (the introduction of purchase incentives was a contributor to the fall in car prices) (-4.2%), other transport (-3.7%), other vehicle costs (which includes parking fees and car rental charges) (-0.2%), motor cycles (-0.2%) and sea transport (-0.1%). Price increases were recorded for air fares (+21.4%), petrol (+5.1%), bicycles (+1.6%), diesel (+0.7%) and motor oil (+0.3%).

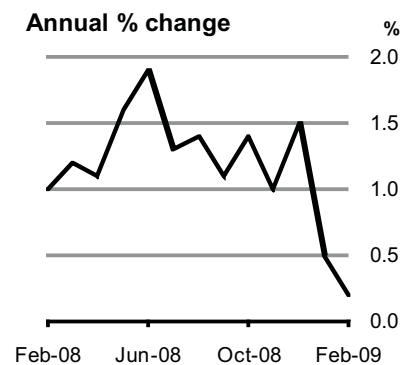


08 Communications

08 Communications

Overall communication costs increased by 0.1% in the month and by 0.8% in the year to February 2009. This compares to an increase of 1.3% for the year to February 2008.

A price increase was recorded for telephone & communication services (+0.1%).



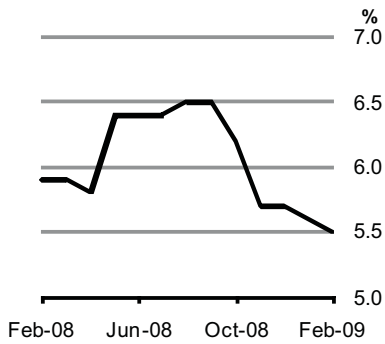
09 Recreation and Culture

09 Recreation and Culture

Overall prices increased by 0.1% in the month and by 0.2% in the year to February 2009. This compares to an increase of 1.0% for the year to February 2008.

In the month, price increases were recorded for club & society subscriptions (+2.9%), photographic & cinematographic equipment & optical instruments (+0.9%), pets & related products (+0.7%), games, toys & hobbies (+0.6%), stationery (+0.5%), gardens, plants & flowers (+0.4%) and sports participation (+0.4%). Price decreases were recorded for recording media (-1.8%), nightclubs (-1.4%), books (-1.3%), other major durables for recreation & culture (-1.3%), cultural admittance (-0.9%), sports admittance (-0.9%), equipment for the reception, recording & reproduction of sound & pictures (-0.7%) and newspapers & periodicals (-0.5%).

Annual % change



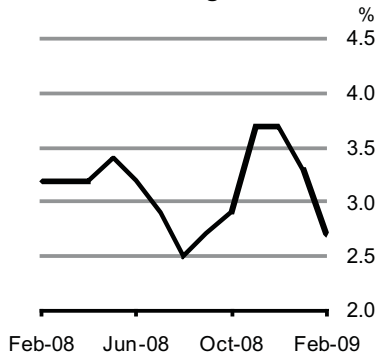
10 Education

10 Education

Education costs increased by 0.2% in the month and by 5.5% in the year to February 2009. This compares to an increase of 5.9% for the year to February 2008.

In the month, a price increase was recorded for other education & training (+0.4%).

Annual % change



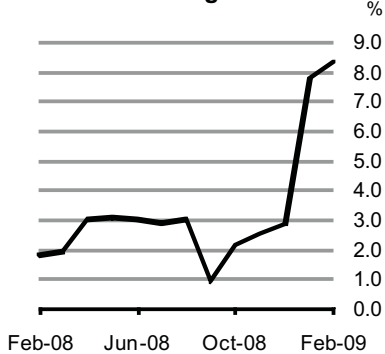
11 Restaurants and Hotels

11 Restaurants and Hotels

Prices for the overall category decreased by 0.2% in the month and increased by 2.7% in the year to February 2009. This compares to an increase of 3.2% for the year to February 2008.

In the month, price decreases were recorded for accommodation services (-1.3%) and restaurants, cafes & fast food (-0.2%). A price increase was recorded for soft drinks & mineral water (+0.1%).

Annual % change



12 Miscellaneous Goods and Services

12 Miscellaneous Goods and Services

Overall prices increased by 0.8% in the month and by 8.3% in the year to February 2009. This compares to an increase of 1.8% recorded for the year to February 2008.

In the month, price increases were recorded for hygiene products (+4.5%), other personal goods (+4.1%), electric appliances for personal care (+1.8%), motor car insurance (+1.5%), other services (which includes funerals, weddings, legal and professional services) (+1.2%), health insurance (+1.1%), dwelling insurance (+1.0%) and cosmetics & skincare products (+0.5%). Price decreases were recorded for hair products (-1.1%) and hairdressing (-0.8%).

Table 1 Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages - February 2009

Description	Dec 2006 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
Food	10.8076	109.7	-0.4	0.7
Bread and Cereals	2.0242	113.8	-0.4	-1.2
Bread	0.6553	123.1	0.5	0.5
Flour	0.0517	145.1	-1.0	-0.1
Biscuits	0.3268	108.4	-0.3	-3.6
Cakes	0.3762	108.5	-1.5	-1.7
Breakfast cereals	0.2949	104.7	-1.0	-3.1
Other cereals	0.0992	118.3	1.1	7.2
Other bread & cereals	0.2201	106.1	-2.0	-3.9
Meat	2.6729	105.7	-1.2	1.5
Beef	0.7179	111.5	-3.1	3.0
Lamb	0.2234	107.3	0.1	1.8
Pork	0.1781	100.8	6.7	7.5
Bacon	0.3906	99.2	-0.3	-0.9
Poultry	0.4633	104.8	-0.6	0.4
Other meat products	0.6996	104.7	-2.3	0.5
Fish	0.3592	104.6	0.6	2.6
Fresh fish	0.1814	100.8	1.7	2.6
Frozen/tinned/smoked fish	0.1778	108.5	-0.5	2.6
Milk, cheese and eggs	1.3177	123.8	-0.2	1.5
Milk	0.6567	132.7	0.0	2.4
Other milk products	0.2608	117.6	0.0	2.3
Cheese	0.2790	111.9	-0.9	0.2
Eggs	0.1212	116.6	-1.1	-2.2
Oils and fats	0.2734	123.6	0.1	8.7
Butter	0.0813	117.4	1.3	-0.3
Margarine & low fat spreads	0.1448	128.6	0.0	11.7
Other oils & fats	0.0474	119.0	-1.8	15.8
Fruit	0.8597	101.7	-0.6	-0.1
Fresh fruit	0.7731	100.9	-0.7	-0.3
Other fruits	0.0866	109.3	0.2	2.1
Vegetables	1.5782	102.9	0.1	-0.9
Potatoes	0.3256	92.4	1.8	-5.7
Other fresh vegetables	0.6079	106.2	-1.6	0.5
Tinned vegetables	0.0956	118.7	-0.3	6.6
Frozen vegetables	0.1549	103.5	1.3	-1.1
Other vegetable products	0.3943	102.5	1.3	-1.0
Sugar, jam, honey, chocolate and confectionery	0.8912	112.3	0.4	1.4
Sugar & sweeteners	0.0583	100.3	0.0	-0.5
Preserves	0.0526	116.1	-0.1	3.4
Sweets & chocolate	0.5151	112.9	0.6	1.4
Desserts & ice cream	0.2652	113.0	-0.2	1.4
Other food products	0.8312	105.5	-0.1	0.7
Condiments & sauces	0.2761	107.8	0.4	2.3
Soup	0.1102	110.5	-0.3	3.5
Miscellaneous food items	0.4449	102.9	-0.3	-1.0
Non-alcoholic beverages	0.9347	107.7	-0.1	2.3
Coffee, tea and cocoa	0.2380	108.7	0.3	3.6
Tea	0.1417	108.9	-0.1	4.9
Coffee	0.0817	108.3	1.0	1.8
Cocoa	0.0146	109.4	0.4	1.1
Mineral waters, soft drinks & juices	0.6967	107.3	-0.3	1.8
Soft drinks & mineral water	0.4523	109.0	0.2	3.6
Fruit juices	0.2444	104.1	-1.0	-1.6
Total	11.7423	109.5	-0.4	0.8

Table 2 Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco - February 2009

Description	Dec 2006 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
Alcoholic Beverages	2.8725	106.6	-0.4	3.7
Spirits	0.5818	111.1	0.4	2.9
Wine & cider	1.5258	104.1	-0.8	3.2
Beer	0.7649	108.1	-0.3	5.2
Tobacco	3.1759	115.6	0.1	8.5
Cigarettes	3.1271	115.7	0.1	8.6
Other tobacco products	0.0488	110.9	0.3	6.2
Total	6.0484	111.3	-0.2	6.2

Table 3 Clothing and Footwear - February 2009

Description	Dec 2006 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
Clothing	4.4488	82.3	7.6	-10.8
Garments	4.2028	81.1	8.0	-11.7
Other articles of clothing	0.1001	90.6	2.5	-3.9
Cleaning, repair & hire of clothing	0.1459	110.4	0.0	5.0
Dry cleaning & laundry	0.1052	111.2	0.0	5.1
Dress hire & repair of clothing	0.0408	108.5	0.2	4.9
Footwear	0.9670	79.8	7.5	-12.8
Shoes & other footwear	0.9537	79.4	7.7	-13.0
Repair & hire of footwear	0.0133	108.7	0.3	4.8
Total	5.4158	81.8	7.5	-11.2

Table 4 Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels - February 2009

Description	Dec 2006 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
Rents & other housing costs	9.5303	97.0	-7.7	-22.5
Rents	2.8696	98.3	-5.7	-13.3
Mortgage interest	6.6607	96.5	-8.4	-25.9
Maintenance & repair of the dwelling	2.4521	104.3	0.9	1.1
Materials for maint. & repair of dwelling	1.5062	102.3	1.5	-0.6
Services for maint. & repair of dwelling	0.9459	107.6	0.0	4.0
Water supply, refuse & misc. services	0.5117	105.1	0.0	-0.1
Electricity, gas & other fuels	4.0142	110.7	-1.0	5.5
Electricity	1.5444	124.4	0.0	16.8
Natural gas	0.7560	99.1	0.0	20.1
Bottled gas	0.1177	120.1	0.0	13.7
Liquid fuels	0.8538	85.5	-5.4	-28.9
Solid fuels	0.7423	121.5	-0.1	14.1
Total	16.5083	101.7	-4.5	-12.6

Table 5 Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance - February 2009

Description	Dec 2006 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
Furniture, furnishings, carpets & other flooring	1.0812	89.1	2.2	-5.9
Furniture & furnishings	0.9467	89.9	2.5	-5.7
Carpets & other floor coverings	0.1345	83.4	0.2	-7.6
Household textiles	0.2424	88.3	4.7	-6.8
Household appliances	1.0459	94.0	2.4	-2.2
Major household appliances	0.8435	93.3	3.0	-1.9
Small electric household appliances	0.1285	92.5	2.3	-3.4
Repair of household appliances	0.0740	104.6	-2.3	-3.8
Glassware, tableware & hsehd utensils	0.2577	91.1	2.9	-4.9
Tools & equipment for house & garden	0.3627	98.1	2.0	-1.0
Major tools & equipment	0.0808	98.3	2.3	-1.4
Small tools & misc. accessories	0.2820	98.0	1.8	-1.0
Goods & services for routine hsehd maint.	1.4321	102.8	0.1	1.5
Non-durable household goods	0.6683	103.7	0.2	1.7
Domestic & household services	0.7638	102.0	0.0	1.4
Total	4.4221	95.5	1.7	-2.2

Table 6 Health - February 2009

Description	Dec 2006 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
Medical products, appliances & equip.	1.1764	101.1	0.1	1.4
Pharmaceutical products	0.8672	99.6	0.0	1.0
Prescribed drugs	0.6160	97.5	0.0	0.2
Other medicines	0.2512	104.9	0.2	3.0
Other medical products	0.0456	103.5	-0.7	1.7
Therapeutic appliances & equip	0.2637	105.4	0.1	2.4
Outpatient services	1.0313	113.5	0.2	3.8
Medical services	0.6684	115.6	-0.1	4.1
Doctors' fees	0.4792	117.0	0.3	5.3
Alternative & complementary medicine	0.1893	112.3	-0.5	1.4
Dental services	0.3628	109.6	0.6	3.1
Hospital services	0.9459	124.6	0.0	9.4
Total	3.1536	112.2	0.1	4.8

Table 7 Transport - February 2009

Description	Dec 2006 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
Purchase of vehicles	5.7319	94.6	-4.1	-6.2
Motor cars	5.6398	94.6	-4.2	-6.2
Motor cycles	0.0373	100.0	-0.2	-0.3
Bicycles	0.0549	97.8	1.6	-1.0
Operation of personal transport equip.	5.9606	103.2	2.4	-6.9
Spare parts & accessories	0.3444	104.6	0.1	0.7
Fuels & lubricants	3.7506	97.7	4.2	-13.0
Petrol	2.9759	98.6	5.1	-12.0
Diesel	0.7604	94.1	0.7	-16.8
Motor oil	0.0143	110.4	0.3	4.4
Maintenance & repair	0.7045	115.8	0.0	5.8
Other services	1.1611	112.9	-0.1	3.7
Motor tax	0.8380	114.3	0.0	4.4
Other vehicle costs	0.3173	109.4	-0.2	2.0
Driving licences	0.0058	100.0	0.0	0.0
Transport services	1.6008	111.5	4.3	7.3
Rail transport	0.2189	116.5	0.0	9.0
Road transport	0.9286	113.4	0.0	10.3
Bus fares	0.3926	120.3	0.0	13.0
Taxi	0.5360	108.2	0.0	8.2
Air transport	0.4009	104.5	21.4	0.0
Sea transport	0.0290	111.7	-0.1	3.8
Combined transport	0.0183	119.1	0.0	12.5
Other transport	0.0051	88.8	-3.7	-10.5
Total	13.2933	100.5	-0.1	-4.8

Table 8 Communications - February 2009

Description	Dec 2006 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
Postal services	0.0798	111.6	0.0	1.1
Telephone & communication services	3.3387	101.7	0.1	0.9
Total	3.4184	101.9	0.1	0.8

Table 9 Recreation and Culture - February 2009

Description	Dec 2006 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
Audio-visual, photographic & information processing equipment	1.0479	74.8	-0.7	-13.6
Equipment for the reception, recording & reproduction of sound & pictures	0.2217	67.1	-0.7	-18.9
Photographic & cinematographic equip. & optical instruments	0.2622	69.3	0.9	-16.7
Information processing equip.	0.1713	60.8	0.3	-23.6
Recording media	0.3927	88.9	-1.8	-5.6
Other major durables for recreation & culture	0.0146	92.4	-1.3	-5.3
Other recreational items & equip. incl. gardens & pets	1.5602	96.6	0.3	-3.5
Games, toys & hobbies	0.5606	83.3	0.6	-9.7
Equipment for sport, camping & open air recreation	0.1917	96.7	0.0	-2.5
Gardens, plants & flowers	0.4325	103.2	0.4	-1.5
Pets & related products	0.2570	107.7	0.7	0.7
Veterinary & other services for pets	0.1184	111.8	0.0	4.3
Recreational & cultural services	3.2243	109.3	0.4	2.8
Recreational & sporting services	1.1232	112.4	1.8	2.0
Sports admittance	0.1449	110.0	-0.9	0.3
Sports participation	0.3086	105.6	0.4	0.4
Club & society subscriptions	0.6697	116.0	2.9	2.9
Cultural services	2.1011	107.7	-0.4	3.4
Cinema	0.2026	105.4	0.1	1.4
Nightclubs	0.2299	102.2	-1.4	-2.2
Cultural admittance	0.5231	107.2	-0.9	7.4
Other entertainment	0.1791	103.2	0.0	2.0
Television services	0.9664	110.6	0.0	3.3
Newspapers, books & stationery	1.7290	106.7	-0.5	2.6
Books	0.4724	101.9	-1.3	-0.6
Newspapers & periodicals	0.9333	110.5	-0.5	4.4
Stationery	0.3233	102.5	0.5	1.4
Package holidays	2.5280	103.5	0.1	1.9
Total	10.1041	101.9	0.1	0.2

Table 10 Education - February 2009

Description	Dec 2006 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
Primary education	0.0334	117.0	0.0	7.6
Second level education	0.1695	117.7	0.0	7.1
Third level education	1.0183	111.4	0.0	5.0
Other education & training	0.8217	111.8	0.4	5.5
Total	2.0429	112.2	0.2	5.5

Table 11 Restaurants and Hotels - February 2009

Description	Dec 2006 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
Catering services	13.0297	109.0	0.0	4.5
Restaurants, cafes & licenced premises	11.6723	108.8	0.0	4.3
Beer	4.7087	109.9	0.0	5.7
Spirits	1.3776	109.1	0.0	4.6
Wine & cider	1.0197	108.2	0.0	4.4
Soft drinks & mineral water	0.3351	109.8	0.1	4.7
Restaurants, cafes & fast-food	4.2313	107.4	-0.2	2.7
Canteens	1.3573	111.2	0.0	6.1
Accommodation services	2.3950	92.9	-1.3	-7.5
Total	15.4247	106.5	-0.2	2.7

Table 12 Miscellaneous Goods and Services - February 2009

Description	Dec 2006 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
Personal care	2.3999	104.5	0.4	1.1
Hairdressing salons & personal grooming	0.8844	109.6	-0.6	2.4
Hairdressing	0.7537	109.1	-0.8	2.3
Health & beauty treatments	0.1236	112.6	0.0	3.0
Other personal grooming	0.0071	111.4	0.2	5.1
Electric appliances for personal care	0.0130	96.5	1.8	-1.4
Other appliances, articles & products for personal care	1.5025	101.6	1.1	0.3
Hygiene products	0.3344	107.2	4.5	4.2
Hair products	0.2034	98.5	-1.1	-1.6
Cosmetics & skincare products	0.6554	101.9	0.5	1.1
Toilet accessories	0.3093	97.0	0.1	-4.2
Personal goods	0.4855	91.5	2.5	-3.9
Jewellery, clocks & watches	0.1711	107.0	0.3	2.8
Other personal goods	0.3143	83.1	4.1	-8.1
Social protection	1.0171	111.1	0.0	6.0
Childcare	0.9858	110.5	0.0	5.8
Other social protection	0.0314	128.9	0.0	7.9
Insurance	3.9334	116.0	1.2	15.9
Dwelling insurance	0.7502	115.8	1.0	16.5
Health insurance	1.7726	130.9	1.1	20.6
Transport insurance	1.4106	97.3	1.5	8.1
Motor cycle insurance	0.0193	86.8	0.0	0.0
Motor car insurance	1.3913	97.4	1.5	8.2
Financial services	0.1262	103.4	0.2	-2.9
Other services	0.4639	109.2	1.2	3.5
Total	8.4260	110.1	0.8	8.3

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 and Routine Household Maintenance	Health	Transport	Communications	Recreation and Culture	Education	Restaurants and Hotels	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	All Items CPI
Mid-December 2006	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
% Base Expenditure													
Weights	11.742	6.048	5.416	16.509	4.422	3.154	13.293	3.418	10.104	2.043	15.425	8.426	100.000
2008													
Mid-January	+0.4	+0.8	-12.9	+0.4	-2.9	+2.9	-0.3	-	+0.2	+0.1	-0.2	-0.2	-0.5
Mid-February	+1.8	+0.5	+12.7	+0.7	+2.8	+1.0	+0.8	-	+0.4	+0.3	+0.4	+0.3	+1.2
Mid-March	+0.9	+0.3	+1.7	+1.2	+0.1	+0.1	+2.5	-	+0.1	-	+1.0	+0.2	+0.9
Mid-April	+0.1	+0.1	-0.1	+0.3	-0.2	+0.5	-0.9	-	-0.1	-	+1.1	+0.4	+0.1
Mid-May	+0.4	+0.5	-0.3	+1.6	-0.1	+0.3	+1.2	-	+0.5	+0.6	+0.8	+0.2	+0.8
Mid-June	-0.1	+0.2	-1.1	+1.0	-0.1	-	+2.1	-0.1	+0.1	-	+0.5	+0.1	+0.5
Mid-July	-0.4	+0.1	-10.9	+1.3	-1.4	+0.1	+0.5	-	-0.2	-	+0.2	-0.2	-0.3
Mid-August	-0.3	-	+5.8	+2.5	+0.2	+0.8	-1.6	-	-	+0.2	-0.2	+0.1	+0.5
Mid-September	-0.1	+0.2	+4.3	+0.7	+0.4	+0.1	-0.6	+1.2	-0.1	-	-0.1	-0.1	+0.3
Mid-October	-0.1	+0.2	-2.0	-0.2	-0.5	-0.6	-1.8	-0.1	+0.3	+3.6	+0.1	+1.3	-0.2
Mid-November	+0.5	+3.9	+1.3	-5.4	+0.2	+0.6	-2.2	-0.2	-0.2	+0.8	+0.2	+0.5	-0.9
Mid-December	+0.1	-	-2.7	-4.4	+0.2	-0.1	-2.9	-	+0.5	-	-0.1	+0.2	-1.2
2009													
Mid-January	+0.2	+0.9	-13.2	-7.0	-2.6	+2.8	-0.8	-0.1	-0.8	-	-0.6	+4.6	-1.7
Mid-February	-0.4	-0.2	+7.5	-4.5	+1.7	+0.1	-0.1	+0.1	+0.1	+0.2	-0.2	+0.8	-0.4

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 and Routine Household Maintenance	Health	Transport	Communications	Recreation and Culture	Education	Restaurants and Hotels	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	All Items CPI
Mid-December 2006	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
% Base Expenditure													
Weights	11.742	6.048	5.416	16.509	4.422	3.154	13.293	3.418	10.104	2.043	15.425	8.426	100.000
2008													
Mid-January	+6.7	+3.3	-4.7	+11.6	-2.6	+5.2	+4.2	+1.2	+1.3	+6.0	+3.2	+1.7	+4.3
Mid-February	+8.5	+3.8	-3.3	+12.0	-1.5	+5.7	+4.7	+1.3	+1.0	+5.9	+3.2	+1.8	+4.8
Mid-March	+9.3	+3.9	-3.6	+12.3	-1.3	+5.7	+5.6	+1.0	+1.2	+5.9	+3.2	+1.9	+5.0
Mid-April	+8.1	+3.7	-2.8	+9.7	-1.0	+6.2	+3.4	+1.2	+1.1	+5.8	+3.2	+3.0	+4.3
Mid-May	+7.8	+4.2	-3.7	+10.6	-1.2	+6.1	+4.5	+1.2	+1.6	+6.4	+3.4	+3.1	+4.7
Mid-June	+7.3	+4.3	-3.1	+11.1	-0.9	+6.1	+5.9	+1.1	+1.9	+6.4	+3.2	+3.0	+5.0
Mid-July	+6.8	+4.4	-5.8	+9.7	-1.5	+6.2	+5.3	+1.2	+1.3	+6.4	+2.9	+2.9	+4.4
Mid-August	+6.4	+4.4	-5.1	+11.5	-1.9	+6.3	+4.1	-0.3	+1.4	+6.5	+2.5	+3.0	+4.3
Mid-September	+6.1	+4.6	-5.5	+12.0	-1.7	+6.3	+4.3	+1.0	+1.1	+6.5	+2.7	+0.9	+4.3
Mid-October	+4.6	+4.8	-6.8	+11.5	-1.6	+5.6	+3.0	+0.9	+1.4	+6.2	+2.9	+2.1	+4.0
Mid-November	+4.0	+8.8	-7.2	+4.8	-1.9	+5.9	-0.7	+0.7	+1.0	+5.7	+3.7	+2.5	+2.5
Mid-December	+3.2	+6.8	-6.5	-0.5	-1.3	+5.8	-3.5	+0.8	+1.5	+5.7	+3.7	+2.8	+1.1
Year	+6.5	+4.8	-4.9	+9.6	-1.6	+6.0	+3.4	+1.0	+1.3	+6.1	+3.1	+2.4	+4.1
2009													
Mid-January	+3.0	+6.9	-6.9	-7.9	-1.1	+5.8	-4.0	+0.7	+0.5	+5.6	+3.3	+7.7	-0.1
Mid-February	+0.8	+6.2	-11.2	-12.6	-2.2	+4.8	-4.8	+0.8	+0.2	+5.5	+2.7	+8.3	-1.7

Table 15 Consumer Price Index Goods and Services by COICOP - February 2009

COICOP	Group	Mid-Dec 2006 % 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	11.742	11.742	-	109.5	-	+0.8	-	+0.8
02	Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco	6.048	6.048	-	111.3	-	+6.2	-	+6.2
03	Clothing and Footwear	5.416	5.257	0.159	81.0	110.3	-11.8	+5.0	-11.2
04	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	16.509	3.220	13.289	102.9	101.4	-5.1	-14.3	-12.6
05	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance	4.422	3.557	0.865	93.8	102.4	-2.9	+1.0	-2.2
06	Health	3.154	1.177	1.977	101.1	118.8	+1.4	+6.5	+4.8
07	Transport	13.293	9.827	3.466	96.2	112.9	-8.6	+5.8	-4.8
08	Communications	3.418	0.018	3.400	80.0	102.1	-5.2	+0.9	+0.8
09	Recreation and Culture	10.104	4.233	5.871	94.9	106.9	-3.4	+2.5	+0.2
10	Education	2.043	-	2.043	-	112.2	-	+5.5	+5.5
11	Restaurants and Hotels	15.425	-	15.425	-	106.5	-	+2.7	+2.7
12	Miscellaneous Goods & Services	8.426	2.001	6.425	99.1	113.6	-0.7	+11.0	+8.3
ALL ITEMS		100.000	47.080	52.920	100.2	106.9	-2.8	-0.7	-1.7

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

Period	Goods	Services	Energy	CPI excluding	CPI excluding	CPI excluding	CPI excluding	All Items
				Mortgage Interest	Housing	Tobacco	Energy Products	
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
2006 Mid-July	+ 1.7	+ 6.4	+ 10.4	+ 2.7	+ 2.7	+ 4.4	+ 3.7	+ 4.2
Mid-August	+ 1.7	+ 7.0	+ 10.8	+ 3.0	+ 3.0	+ 4.7	+ 3.9	+ 4.5
Mid-September	-	+ 7.5	+ 0.1	+ 2.0	+ 2.0	+ 4.2	+ 4.3	+ 4.0
Mid-October	- 0.6	+ 7.8	- 2.0	+ 2.0	+ 1.9	+ 4.0	+ 4.4	+ 3.9
Mid-November	- 0.3	+ 8.5	+ 0.3	+ 2.2	+ 2.0	+ 4.6	+ 4.8	+ 4.4
Mid-December	+ 1.2	+ 8.0	+ 3.8	+ 2.8	+ 2.7	+ 4.7	+ 5.0	+ 4.9
Year	+ 1.2	+ 6.2	+ 8.2	+ 2.6	+ 2.5	+ 4.0	+ 3.6	+ 4.0
2007 Mid-January	+ 0.6	+ 9.1	+ 4.8	+ 2.7	+ 2.7	+ 4.8	+ 5.2	+ 5.2
Mid-February	-	+ 9.1	+ 1.2	+ 2.5	+ 2.2	+ 4.6	+ 5.1	+ 4.8
Mid-March	+ 0.4	+ 9.3	+ 3.5	+ 2.7	+ 2.5	+ 4.9	+ 5.3	+ 5.1
Mid-April	+ 0.4	+ 9.1	+ 3.5	+ 2.6	+ 2.4	+ 4.8	+ 5.3	+ 5.1
Mid-May	+ 0.3	+ 9.1	+ 2.8	+ 2.6	+ 2.3	+ 4.7	+ 5.1	+ 5.0
Mid-June	+ 0.6	+ 8.9	+ 4.0	+ 2.6	+ 2.3	+ 4.7	+ 5.1	+ 4.9
Mid-July	+ 0.6	+ 8.7	+ 3.7	+ 2.5	+ 2.3	+ 4.7	+ 5.1	+ 5.0
Mid-August	+ 0.2	+ 8.5	+ 1.7	+ 2.2	+ 2.0	+ 4.3	+ 4.9	+ 4.8
Mid-September	+ 1.0	+ 7.9	+ 5.1	+ 2.6	+ 2.4	+ 4.4	+ 4.6	+ 4.6
Mid-October	+ 2.1	+ 7.3	+ 5.7	+ 2.8	+ 2.6	+ 4.5	+ 4.7	+ 4.8
Mid-November	+ 3.5	+ 6.4	+ 10.3	+ 3.4	+ 3.2	+ 4.8	+ 4.6	+ 5.0
Mid-December	+ 2.7	+ 6.5	+ 9.5	+ 3.1	+ 2.8	+ 4.7	+ 4.3	+ 4.7
Year	+ 1.0	+ 8.4	+ 4.6	+ 2.7	+ 2.4	+ 4.6	+ 4.9	+ 4.9
2008 Mid-January	+ 3.3	+ 5.1	+ 8.3	+ 3.0	+ 2.7	+ 4.3	+ 3.9	+ 4.3
Mid-February	+ 3.9	+ 5.6	+ 7.9	+ 3.4	+ 3.3	+ 4.8	+ 4.5	+ 4.8
Mid-March	+ 4.2	+ 5.7	+ 8.6	+ 3.8	+ 3.6	+ 5.0	+ 4.7	+ 5.0
Mid-April	+ 3.8	+ 4.8	+ 7.3	+ 3.5	+ 3.3	+ 4.3	+ 4.1	+ 4.3
Mid-May	+ 4.0	+ 5.3	+ 9.2	+ 3.6	+ 3.6	+ 4.7	+ 4.3	+ 4.7
Mid-June	+ 4.6	+ 5.3	+ 12.6	+ 3.9	+ 3.9	+ 4.9	+ 4.2	+ 5.0
Mid-July	+ 4.2	+ 4.5	+ 13.9	+ 3.6	+ 3.5	+ 4.3	+ 3.5	+ 4.4
Mid-August	+ 3.5	+ 5.3	+ 13.8	+ 3.2	+ 3.3	+ 4.3	+ 3.6	+ 4.3
Mid-September	+ 3.0	+ 5.5	+ 14.3	+ 3.2	+ 3.3	+ 4.2	+ 3.5	+ 4.3
Mid-October	+ 1.8	+ 5.9	+ 11.0	+ 2.8	+ 2.8	+ 3.9	+ 3.4	+ 4.0
Mid-November	+ 0.4	+ 4.2	+ 2.5	+ 2.1	+ 2.4	+ 2.2	+ 2.4	+ 2.5
Mid-December	- 0.9	+ 2.7	- 3.3	+ 1.5	+ 1.7	+ 0.9	+ 1.5	+ 1.1
Year	+ 3.0	+ 5.0	+ 8.8	+ 3.1	+ 3.2	+ 4.0	+ 3.6	+ 4.1
2009 Mid-January	- 1.6	+ 1.3	- 6.8	+ 1.6	+ 1.8	- 0.4	+ 0.6	- 0.1
Mid-February	- 2.8	- 0.7	- 3.7	+ 0.5	+ 0.8	- 2.1	- 1.4	- 1.7

Table 17 Groceries and Non-Groceries Order Items (Former)

Period	Groceries Order Items ¹			Non-Groceries Order Items ²			Groceries Order and Non-Groceries Order Items		
	Percentage Change			Percentage Change			Percentage Change		
	Current base Dec. 2006	One ³ month	12 ³ months	Current base Dec. 2006	One ³ month	12 ³ months	Current base Dec. 2006	One ³ month	12 ³ months
2006 Mid-July	101.1	- 0.3	- 0.1	98.8	+ 0.7	+ 3.1	100.5	-	+ 0.7
Mid-August	101.0	- 0.1	- 0.2	99.0	+ 0.2	+ 3.5	100.5	-	+ 0.8
Mid-September	101.1	-	-	99.5	+ 0.5	+ 3.7	100.6	+ 0.1	+ 0.9
Mid-October	100.9	- 0.2	- 0.2	99.2	- 0.3	+ 4.0	100.4	- 0.2	+ 0.9
Mid-November	100.4	- 0.4	- 0.4	99.1	- 0.1	+ 4.6	100.1	- 0.3	+ 0.9
Mid-December	100.0	- 0.5	- 0.6	100.0	+ 0.9	+ 5.0	100.0	- 0.1	+ 0.9
Year	101.1		+ 0.1	98.3		+ 2.4	100.4		+ 0.7
2007 Mid-January	100.3	+ 0.3	- 0.5	100.1	+ 0.1	+ 5.1	100.2	+ 0.2	+ 0.8
Mid-February	100.4	+ 0.1	- 0.7	100.3	+ 0.2	+ 3.4	100.3	+ 0.1	+ 0.2
Mid-March	100.9	+ 0.5	- 0.4	99.5	- 0.8	+ 2.1	100.5	+ 0.2	+ 0.2
Mid-April	101.8	+ 0.9	+ 0.3	100.6	+ 1.1	+ 3.0	101.4	+ 0.9	+ 0.8
Mid-May	102.1	+ 0.3	+ 0.2	101.4	+ 0.8	+ 2.4	101.9	+ 0.5	+ 0.8
Mid-June	102.5	+ 0.4	+ 1.1	101.9	+ 0.5	+ 3.9	102.3	+ 0.4	+ 1.8
Mid-July	102.7	+ 0.2	+ 1.6	101.5	- 0.4	+ 2.7	102.3	-	+ 1.8
Mid-August	102.8	+ 0.1	+ 1.8	101.4	- 0.1	+ 2.4	102.4	+ 0.1	+ 1.9
Mid-September	102.9	+ 0.1	+ 1.8	101.8	+ 0.4	+ 2.3	102.6	+ 0.2	+ 2.0
Mid-October	104.2	+ 1.3	+ 3.3	101.9	+ 0.1	+ 2.7	103.5	+ 0.9	+ 3.1
Mid-November	105.4	+ 1.2	+ 5.0	101.6	- 0.3	+ 2.5	104.2	+ 0.7	+ 4.1
Mid-December	106.1	+ 0.7	+ 6.1	101.4	- 0.2	+ 1.4	104.7	+ 0.5	+ 4.7
Year	102.7		+ 1.6	101.1		+ 2.8	102.2		+ 1.8
2008 Mid-January	106.6	+ 0.5	+ 6.3	102.0	+ 0.6	+ 1.9	105.2	+ 0.5	+ 5.0
Mid-February	108.5	+ 1.8	+ 8.1	102.7	+ 0.7	+ 2.4	106.8	+ 1.5	+ 6.5
Mid-March	109.4	+ 0.8	+ 8.4	103.5	+ 0.8	+ 4.0	107.7	+ 0.8	+ 7.2
Mid-April	109.5	+ 0.1	+ 7.6	103.7	+ 0.2	+ 3.1	107.8	+ 0.1	+ 6.3
Mid-May	109.8	+ 0.3	+ 7.5	104.3	+ 0.6	+ 2.9	108.1	+ 0.3	+ 6.1
Mid-June	109.7	- 0.1	+ 7.0	103.9	- 0.4	+ 2.0	108.0	- 0.1	+ 5.6
Mid-July	109.4	- 0.3	+ 6.5	103.7	- 0.2	+ 2.2	107.7	- 0.3	+ 5.3
Mid-August	109.4	-	+ 6.4	102.9	- 0.8	+ 1.5	107.5	- 0.2	+ 5.0
Mid-September	109.3	- 0.1	+ 6.2	102.6	- 0.3	+ 0.8	107.3	- 0.2	+ 4.6
Mid-October	109.0	- 0.3	+ 4.6	103.0	+ 0.4	+ 1.1	107.2	- 0.1	+ 3.6
Mid-November	110.4	+ 1.3	+ 4.7	102.7	- 0.3	+ 1.1	108.1	+ 0.8	+ 3.7
Mid-December	110.2	- 0.2	+ 3.9	102.5	- 0.2	+ 1.1	107.9	- 0.2	+ 3.1
Year	109.3		+ 6.4	103.1		+ 2.0	107.5		+ 5.2
2009 Mid-January	110.4	+ 0.2	+ 3.6	103.7	+ 1.2	+ 1.7	108.4	+ 0.5	+ 3.0
Mid-February	110.2	- 0.2	+ 1.6	103.0	- 0.7	+ 0.3	108.1	- 0.3	+ 1.2

¹ Groceries Order Items included elements of Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages, Off-Licence Alcohol and Household Non-Durable Goods.

² Non-Groceries Order Items included elements of Foods & Non-Alcoholic Beverages and Household Non-Durable Goods

³ Up to December 2006, one month and twelve month percentage changes are based on the previously published base Dec 2001=100 indices.

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 50,000 prices are collected for a representative basket consisting of 616 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 February index relates is Tuesday, 10th February 2009.
- Scope of the Index**
- (i) **Population Coverage:** All private households in the state 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 Dublin and 83 other 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, approx. 80% of towns with a population of 10,000 and over, approx. 70% 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. The sample is organised on a regional basis for calculation purposes.
 - (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 616 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 50,000 price quotations are gathered in this way. In addition, 114 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 2006, the tenth series since the foundation of the State.

The rebase of the current CPI resulted in a number of methodological changes:

- 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 a regional structure in the calculation methodology.

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 replaced 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. Indices for the previous national classification are no longer published as of December 2006. The data, however, will continue to be made available on the CSO website (www.cso.ie) and by request to the Consumer Prices Section (cpi@cso.ie).

Methodological Details A full methodological description of the new series is available in the CPI 2006 Introduction to Series booklet which is published on the website at http://www.cso.ie/surveysandmethodologies/documents/pdf_docs/introduction_to_series_base_december_2006.pdf

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.

Background Notes – COICOP Classification

Prior to the introduction of the December 2001 based series in January 2002 the CPI used a national classification while the HICP used COICOP/HICP. To ensure greater comparability CPI and the HICP have both used the COICOP/HICP classification since December 2001 (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 and practitioners of alternative and complimentary medicine.
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 DVDs, 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.