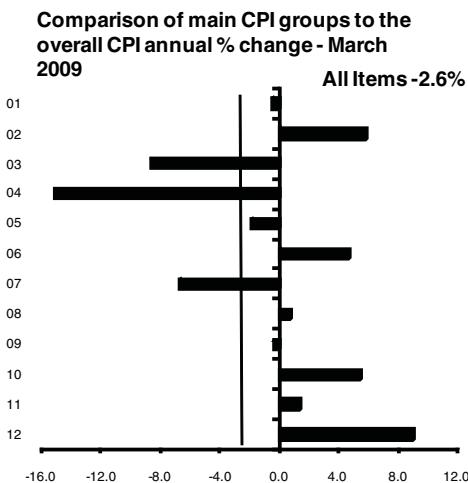




# Consumer Price Index Detailed Sub-Indices Release March 2009



CPI (Base: December 2006 = 100)		
	% changes	
COICOP Group	One month	12 months
01 Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	-0.5	-0.5
02 Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco	-	+5.9
03 Clothing and Footwear	+4.6	-8.6
04 Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	-1.7	-15.1
05 Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance	+0.3	-1.9
06 Health	-	+4.7
07 Transport	+0.5	-6.7
08 Communications	-	+0.8
09 Recreation and Culture	-0.4	-0.3
10 Education	-	+5.5
11 Restaurants and Hotels	-0.3	+1.4
12 Miscellaneous Goods and Services	+1.0	+9.1
<b>ALL ITEMS</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-2.6</b>

## **Prices fall by 2.6% in the year to March**

Consumer Prices in March, as measured by the CPI, showed no change in the month. This compares to an increase of 0.9% recorded in March of last year. As a result, prices on average, as measured by the CPI, were 2.6% lower in March compared with March 2008.

The most significant monthly price changes were decreases in *Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels* (-1.7%) and *Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages* (-0.5%). There were increases in *Clothing & Footwear* (+4.6%), *Miscellaneous Goods & Services* (+1.0%) and *Transport* (+0.5%).

The most notable changes in the year were decreases in *Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels* (-15.1%), *Clothing & Footwear* (-8.6%), and *Transport* (-6.7%). There were increases in *Miscellaneous Goods & Services* (+9.1%), *Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco* (+5.9%), *Education* (+5.5%) and *Health* (+4.7%).

Services prices fell by 1.7% in the year to March, while Goods fell by 3.7%.

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.

*For more information, contact James Hegarty at 021 453 5445 or Sheila Finucane at 021 453 5438*

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

COICOP Group	Contributions to overall CPI % change				
	Mar '07 - Mar '08		Mar '08 - Mar '09		Difference
01 Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	+ 1.07	-	0.07	-	1.14
02 Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco	+ 0.24	+	0.35	+	0.11
03 Clothing and Footwear	- 0.18	-	0.41	-	0.23
04 Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	+ 2.09	-	2.75	-	4.84
05 Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance	- 0.06	-	0.08	-	0.02
06 Health	+ 0.18	+	0.15	-	0.03
07 Transport	+ 0.75	-	0.89	-	1.64
08 Communications	+ 0.03	+	0.03	-	-
09 Recreation and Culture	+ 0.11	-	0.02	-	0.13
10 Education	+ 0.12	+	0.11	-	0.01
11 Restaurants and Hotels	+ 0.48	+	0.22	-	0.26
12 Miscellaneous Goods and Services	+ 0.16	+	0.74	+	0.58
<b>ALL ITEMS % change</b>	<b>+ 5.0<sup>1</sup></b>	-	<b>2.6<sup>1</sup></b>	-	<b>7.6<sup>1</sup></b>
Goods	+ 1.93	-	1.71	-	3.64
Services <sup>2</sup>	+ 3.07	-	0.93	-	-4.00

<sup>1</sup> The sum may not total exactly due to rounding differences<sup>2</sup> Includes Mortgage Interest**Table B Positive and Negative factors in the comparison of the Annual Rate of Inflation for Mar 08 and Mar 09**

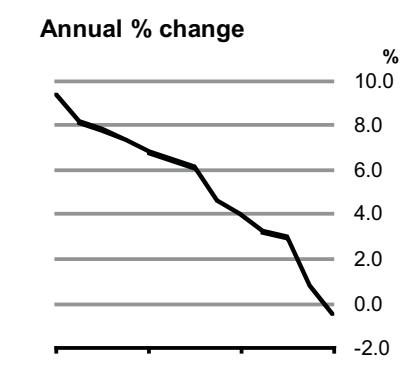
COICOP Group	+	COICOP Group	-
12 Miscellaneous Goods and Services	+ 0.58	04 Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	- 4.84
02 Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco	+ 0.11	07 Transport	- 1.64
		01 Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	- 1.14
		11 Restaurants and Hotels	- 0.26
		03 Clothing and Footwear	- 0.23
		09 Recreation and Culture	- 0.13
		06 Health	- 0.03
		05 Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance	- 0.02
		10 Education	- 0.01
<b>Total Positive</b>	<b>+ 0.69</b>	<b>Total Negative</b>	<b>- 8.30</b>
<b>Net Difference (Positive less Negative)</b>			<b>- 7.6<sup>1</sup></b>

<sup>1</sup> The net difference may not total exactly due to rounding differences

# Consumer Price Index

## March 2009

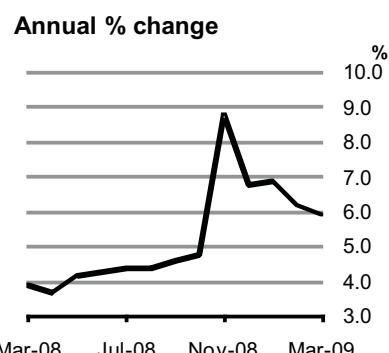
### 01 Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages



#### 01 Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages

Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages prices decreased by 0.5% in the month and by 0.5% in the year to March 2009. This compares to an increase of 9.3% for the year to March 2008.

In the month, food prices decreased by 0.5% while non-alcoholic beverages prices decreased by 0.9%. In March, price decreases were recorded for coffee (-4.9%), fresh fish (-3.6%), other oils & fats (-3.2%), margarine & low fat spreads (-2.8%), breakfast cereals (-2.4%), pork (-2.0%), eggs (-1.6%), frozen, tinned & smoked fish (-1.5%), poultry (-1.4%), cheese (-1.4%), other vegetable products (-1.3%), tea (-1.3%), sugar & sweeteners (-1.3%), other meat products (-1.2%), other milk products (-1.0%), cocoa (-1.0%), condiments & sauces (-0.9%), tinned vegetables (-0.8%), soup (-0.7%) and flour (-0.6%). Price increases were recorded for lamb (+2.6%), biscuits (+0.9%), potatoes (+0.9%), other bread & cereals (+0.9%), beef (+0.5%), other cereals (+0.2%) and sweets & chocolate (+0.1%).

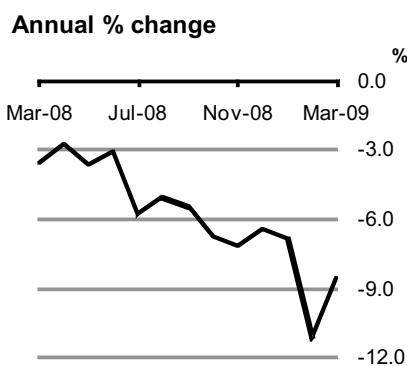


#### 02 Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco

### 02 Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco

Overall prices remained unchanged in the month and increased by 5.9% in the year to March 2009. This compares to an increase of 3.9% for the year to March 2008.

In the month, alcoholic beverages prices decreased by 0.1% while tobacco prices increased by 0.1%. Price increases were recorded for wine & cider (+0.5%) and beer (+0.2%). A price decrease was recorded for spirits (-1.4%).



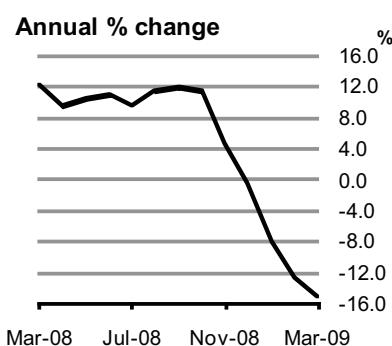
#### 03 Clothing and Footwear

### 03 Clothing and Footwear

Clothing & Footwear prices increased by 4.6% in the month and decreased by 8.6% in the year to March 2009. This compares to a decrease of 3.6% for the year to March 2008. In the month, clothing prices increased by 4.1%, while footwear prices increased by 6.5%.

In the month, price increases were recorded for shoes & other footwear (+6.7%), garments (+4.6%), other articles of clothing (+1.1%) and dry cleaning & laundry (+0.2%). Price decreases were recorded for dress hire & repair of clothing (-1.3%) and repair & hire of footwear (-0.1%).

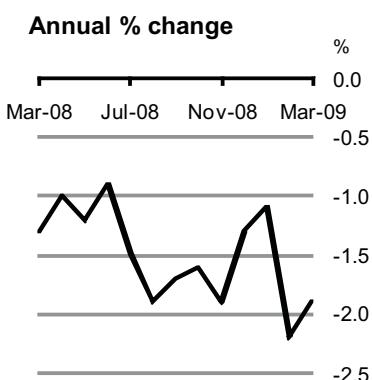
## 04 Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels



04 Housing, Water, Electricity,  
Gas and Other Fuels

Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels costs decreased by 1.7% in the month and by 15.1% in the year to March 2009. This compares to an increase of 12.3% for the year to March 2008.

In the month, price decreases were recorded for liquid fuels (i.e. home heating oil) (-7.7%), services for maintenance & repair of dwelling (-3.3%), mortgage interest (-3.2%), bottled gas (-0.2%) and solid fuels (-0.1%). Price increases were recorded for rents (+0.4%) and materials for the maintenance & repair of dwelling (+0.4%).

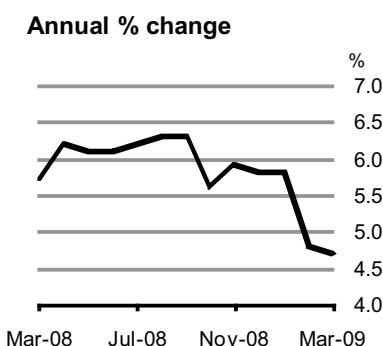


05 Furnishings, Household  
Equipment and Routine  
Household Maintenance

## 05 Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance

Furnishings, Household Equipment & Routine Household Maintenance costs increased by 0.3% in the month and decreased by 1.9% in the year to March 2009. This compares to a decrease of 1.3% for the year to March 2008.

In the month, price increases were recorded for domestic & household services (+2.2%), furniture & furnishings (+0.8%), small electric household appliances (+0.6%), small tools & miscellaneous accessories (+0.3%) and glassware, tableware & household utensils (+0.3%). Price decreases were recorded for carpets & other floor coverings (-2.4%), non-durable household goods (-1.3%) and major tools & equipment (-0.5%).



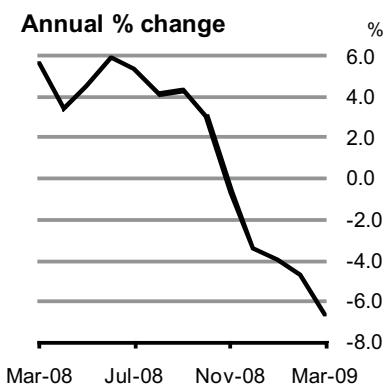
06 Health

## 06 Health

Overall health costs and charges remained unchanged in the month and increased by 4.7% in the year to March 2009. This compares to an increase of 5.7% for the year to March 2008.

In the month, price decreases were recorded for other medical products (which includes condoms, petroleum jelly, disinfectant & adhesive dressing) (-0.4%) and other medicines (which includes pain relievers, antacid, cough mixture, vitamins & other supplements) (-0.3%).

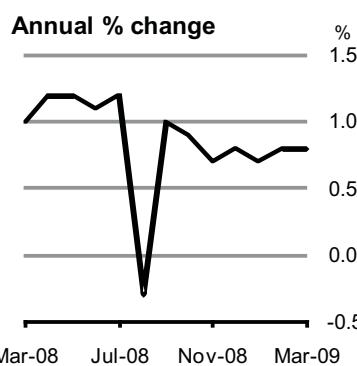
## 07 Transport



Transport costs increased by 0.5% in the month and decreased by 6.7% in the year to March 2009. This compares to an increase of 5.6% for the year to March 2008.

In the month, price increases were recorded for air fares (+13.8%), petrol (+1.1%), driving licences (+0.9%), other vehicle costs (which includes parking fees and car rental charges) (+0.7%) and motor cycles (+0.5%). Price decreases were recorded for sea transport (-6.2%), diesel (-3.1%), bicycles (-1.3%) and motor oil (-0.3%).

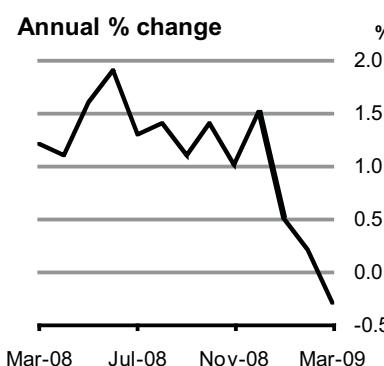
### 07 Transport



## 08 Communications

Overall communication costs remained unchanged in the month and increased by 0.8% in the year to March 2009. This compares to an increase of 1.0% for the year to March 2008.

### 08 Communications



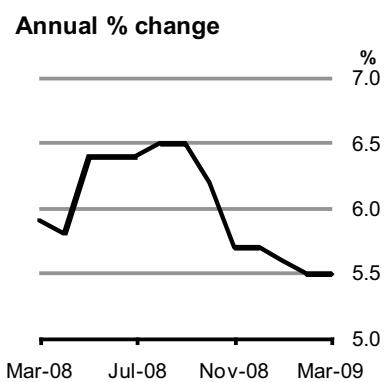
## 09 Recreation and Culture

Overall prices decreased by 0.4% in the month and by 0.3% in the year to March 2009. This compares to an increase of 1.2% for the year to March 2008.

In the month, price decreases were recorded for recording media (-4.4%), information processing equipment (-2.3%), photographic & cinematographic equipment & optical instruments (-1.9%), other entertainment (-1.2%), equipment for the reception, recording & reproduction of sound & pictures (-1.0%), books (-0.7%), games, toys & hobbies (-0.6%), pets & related products (-0.6%), newspapers & periodicals (-0.3%) and equipment for sport, camping & open air recreation (-0.3%). Price increases were recorded for gardens, plants & flowers (+0.2%) and package holidays (+0.1%).

### 09 Recreation and Culture

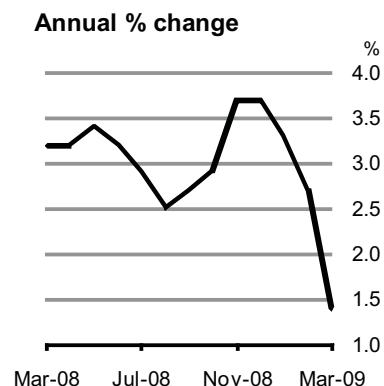
## 10 Education



### 10 Education

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

## 11 Restaurants and Hotels

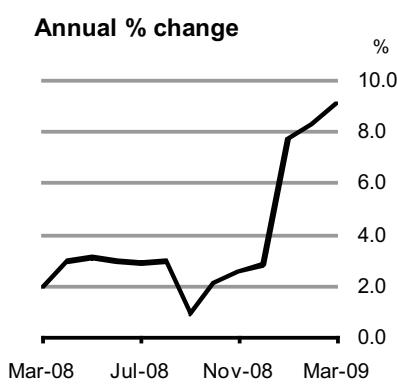


### 11 Restaurants and Hotels

Prices for the overall category decreased by 0.3% in the month and increased by 1.4% in the year to March 2009. This compares to an increase of 3.2% for the year to March 2008.

In the month, price decreases were recorded for accommodation services (-1.3%) and restaurants, cafes & fast food (-0.5%). Price increases were recorded for beer (+0.1%) and wine & cider (+0.1%).

## 12 Miscellaneous Goods and Services



### 12 Miscellaneous Goods and Services

Overall prices increased by 1.0% in the month and by 9.1% in the year to March 2009. This compares to an increase of 1.9% recorded for the year to March 2008.

In the month, price increases were recorded for dwelling insurance (+6.7%), motor car insurance (+2.7%), other personal grooming (+1.2%), health insurance (+1.0%) and jewellery, clocks & watches (+1.0%). Price decreases were recorded for toilet accessories (-2.8%), hygiene products (-2.5%), hair products (-1.2%) and cosmetics & skincare products (-1.0%).

**Table 1 Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages - March 2009**

Description	Dec 2006 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
<b>Food</b>	10.8076	109.2	-0.5	-0.6
Bread and Cereals	2.0242	113.6	-0.2	-2.2
Bread	0.6553	122.9	-0.2	0.1
Flour	0.0517	144.2	-0.6	-1.5
Biscuits	0.3268	109.4	0.9	-3.2
Cakes	0.3762	108.4	-0.1	-2.5
Breakfast cereals	0.2949	102.2	-2.4	-7.3
Other cereals	0.0992	118.5	0.2	2.5
Other bread & cereals	0.2201	107.1	0.9	-3.2
Meat	2.6729	105.3	-0.4	-0.3
Beef	0.7179	112.1	0.5	4.3
Lamb	0.2234	110.1	2.6	0.2
Pork	0.1781	98.8	-2.0	-2.5
Bacon	0.3906	98.7	-0.5	-0.7
Poultry	0.4633	103.3	-1.4	-3.8
Other meat products	0.6996	103.4	-1.2	-2.3
Fish	0.3592	102.0	-2.5	-2.3
Fresh fish	0.1814	97.2	-3.6	-5.3
Frozen/tinned/smoked fish	0.1778	106.9	-1.5	0.7
Milk, cheese and eggs	1.3177	123.0	-0.6	-0.6
Milk	0.6567	132.6	-0.1	0.2
Other milk products	0.2608	116.4	-1.0	-0.2
Cheese	0.2790	110.3	-1.4	-2.4
Eggs	0.1212	114.7	-1.6	-2.8
Oils and fats	0.2734	120.9	-2.2	4.8
Butter	0.0813	116.8	-0.5	2.1
Margarine & low fat spreads	0.1448	125.0	-2.8	4.7
Other oils & fats	0.0474	115.2	-3.2	9.7
Fruit	0.8597	101.7	0.0	-0.3
Fresh fruit	0.7731	100.9	0.0	-0.4
Other fruits	0.0866	108.9	-0.4	0.1
Vegetables	1.5782	102.6	-0.3	-0.9
Potatoes	0.3256	93.2	0.9	-1.4
Other fresh vegetables	0.6079	106.1	-0.1	-0.6
Tinned vegetables	0.0956	117.7	-0.8	5.1
Frozen vegetables	0.1549	103.0	-0.5	-2.0
Other vegetable products	0.3943	101.2	-1.3	-1.9
Sugar, jam, honey, chocolate and confectionery	0.8912	112.1	-0.2	0.2
Sugar & sweeteners	0.0583	99.0	-1.3	-1.9
Preserves	0.0526	115.9	-0.2	0.9
Sweets & chocolate	0.5151	113.0	0.1	0.9
Desserts & ice cream	0.2652	112.4	-0.5	-0.9
Other food products	0.8312	105.0	-0.5	-0.1
Condiments & sauces	0.2761	106.8	-0.9	1.2
Soup	0.1102	109.7	-0.7	1.6
Miscellaneous food items	0.4449	102.8	-0.1	-1.2
<b>Non-alcoholic beverages</b>	0.9347	106.7	-0.9	0.4
Coffee, tea and cocoa	0.2380	106.0	-2.5	1.0
Tea	0.1417	107.5	-1.3	3.5
Coffee	0.0817	103.0	-4.9	-3.4
Cocoa	0.0146	108.3	-1.0	0.7
Mineral waters, soft drinks & juices	0.6967	107.0	-0.3	0.2
Soft drinks & mineral water	0.4523	108.6	-0.4	1.9
Fruit juices	0.2444	103.9	-0.2	-3.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>11.7423</b>	<b>109.0</b>	<b>-0.5</b>	<b>-0.5</b>

**Table 2 Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco - March 2009**

Description	Dec 2006 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
<b>Alcoholic Beverages</b>	2.8725	106.5	-0.1	2.8
Spirits	0.5818	109.5	-1.4	0.9
Wine & cider	1.5258	104.6	0.5	2.9
Beer	0.7649	108.3	0.2	4.6
<b>Tobacco</b>	3.1759	115.7	0.1	8.6
Cigarettes	3.1271	115.7	0.0	8.5
Other tobacco products	0.0488	110.9	0.0	6.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>6.0484</b>	<b>111.3</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>5.9</b>

**Table 3 Clothing and Footwear - March 2009**

Description	Dec 2006 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
<b>Clothing</b>	4.4488	85.7	4.1	-8.7
Garments	4.2028	84.8	4.6	-9.3
Other articles of clothing	0.1001	91.6	1.1	-3.5
Cleaning, repair & hire of clothing	0.1459	110.2	-0.2	4.2
Dry cleaning & laundry	0.1052	111.4	0.2	4.9
Dress hire & repair of clothing	0.0408	107.1	-1.3	2.2
<b>Footwear</b>	0.9670	85.0	6.5	-8.5
Shoes & other footwear	0.9537	84.7	6.7	-8.7
Repair & hire of footwear	0.0133	108.6	-0.1	4.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>5.4158</b>	<b>85.6</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>-8.6</b>

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

Description	Dec 2006 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
Rents & other housing costs	9.5303	95.0	-2.1	-25.0
Rents	2.8696	98.7	0.4	-13.8
Mortgage interest	6.6607	93.4	-3.2	-29.1
Maintenance & repair of the dwelling	2.4521	103.2	-1.1	-0.6
Materials for maint. & repair of dwelling	1.5062	102.7	0.4	-0.5
Services for maint. & repair of dwelling	0.9459	104.0	-3.3	-0.8
Water supply, refuse & misc. services	0.5117	105.1	0.0	-0.1
Electricity, gas & other fuels	4.0142	109.3	-1.3	2.1
Electricity	1.5444	124.4	0.0	16.8
Natural gas	0.7560	99.1	0.0	20.1
Bottled gas	0.1177	119.8	-0.2	14.2
Liquid fuels	0.8538	78.9	-7.7	-39.6
Solid fuels	0.7423	121.4	-0.1	13.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>16.5083</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>-1.7</b>	<b>-15.1</b>

**Table 5 Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance - March 2009**

Description	Dec 2006 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
Furniture, furnishings, carpets & other flooring	1.0812	89.4	0.3	-5.3
Furniture & furnishings	0.9467	90.6	0.8	-4.7
Carpets & other floor coverings	0.1345	81.4	-2.4	-8.7
Household textiles	0.2424	88.4	0.1	-7.8
Household appliances	1.0459	94.1	0.1	-2.1
Major household appliances	0.8435	93.4	0.1	-1.8
Small electric household appliances	0.1285	93.1	0.6	-2.2
Repair of household appliances	0.0740	104.6	0.0	-3.8
Glassware, tableware & hsehld utensils	0.2577	91.4	0.3	-4.5
Tools & equipment for house & garden	0.3627	98.2	0.1	-0.9
Major tools & equipment	0.0808	97.8	-0.5	-1.8
Small tools & misc. accessories	0.2820	98.3	0.3	-0.7
Goods & services for routine hsehld maint.	1.4321	103.4	0.6	1.6
Non-durable household goods	0.6683	102.4	-1.3	-0.3
Domestic & household services	0.7638	104.2	2.2	3.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>4.4221</b>	<b>95.8</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>-1.9</b>

**Table 6 Health - March 2009**

Description	Dec 2006 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
Medical products, appliances & equip.	1.1764	101.0	-0.1	1.1
Pharmaceutical products	0.8672	99.6	0.0	0.7
Prescribed drugs	0.6160	97.5	0.0	0.2
Other medicines	0.2512	104.6	-0.3	1.8
Other medical products	0.0456	103.1	-0.4	0.0
Therapeutic appliances & equip	0.2637	105.4	0.0	2.4
Outpatient services	1.0313	113.5	0.0	3.8
Medical services	0.6684	115.6	0.0	4.1
Doctors' fees	0.4792	117.0	0.0	5.3
Alternative & complementary medicine	0.1893	112.3	0.0	1.4
Dental services	0.3628	109.6	0.0	3.1
Hospital services	0.9459	124.6	0.0	9.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>3.1536</b>	<b>112.2</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>4.7</b>

**Table 7 Transport - March 2009**

Description	Dec 2006 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
Purchase of vehicles	5.7319	94.6	0.0	-6.2
Motor cars	5.6398	94.6	0.0	-6.2
Motor cycles	0.0373	100.5	0.5	-0.2
Bicycles	0.0549	96.5	-1.3	-2.3
Operation of personal transport equip.	5.9606	103.4	0.2	-8.7
Spare parts & accessories	0.3444	104.6	0.0	0.7
Fuels & lubricants	3.7506	98.0	0.3	-15.6
Petrol	2.9759	99.7	1.1	-13.8
Diesel	0.7604	91.2	-3.1	-22.6
Motor oil	0.0143	110.1	-0.3	3.9
Maintenance & repair	0.7045	115.8	0.0	5.8
Other services	1.1611	113.1	0.2	3.9
Motor tax	0.8380	114.3	0.0	4.4
Other vehicle costs	0.3173	110.2	0.7	2.7
Driving licences	0.0058	100.9	0.9	0.9
Transport services	1.6008	115.0	3.1	-1.0
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	118.9	13.8	-22.5
Sea transport	0.0290	104.8	-6.2	-4.0
Combined transport	0.0183	119.1	0.0	12.5
Other transport	0.0051	88.8	0.0	-10.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>13.2933</b>	<b>101.0</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>-6.7</b>

**Table 8 Communications - March 2009**

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

**Table 9 Recreation and Culture - March 2009**

Description	Dec 2006 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
Audio-visual, photographic & information processing equipment	1.0479	72.6	-2.9	-15.7
Equipment for the reception, recording & reproduction of sound & pictures	0.2217	66.4	-1.0	-18.6
Photographic & cinematographic equip. & optical instruments	0.2622	68.0	-1.9	-17.4
Information processing equip.	0.1713	59.4	-2.3	-23.7
Recording media	0.3927	85.0	-4.4	-10.2
Other major durables for recreation & culture	0.0146	92.4	0.0	-5.3
Other recreational items & equip. incl. gardens & pets	1.5602	96.4	-0.2	-3.9
Games, toys & hobbies	0.5606	82.8	-0.6	-10.2
Equipment for sport, camping & open air recreation	0.1917	96.4	-0.3	-2.6
Gardens, plants & flowers	0.4325	103.4	0.2	-1.4
Pets & related products	0.2570	107.1	-0.6	-0.1
Veterinary & other services for pets	0.1184	111.7	-0.1	2.3
Recreational & cultural services	3.2243	109.3	0.0	2.8
Recreational & sporting services	1.1232	112.4	0.0	2.0
Sports admittance	0.1449	110.0	0.0	0.3
Sports participation	0.3086	105.6	0.0	0.4
Club & society subscriptions	0.6697	116.0	0.0	2.9
Cultural services	2.1011	107.6	-0.1	3.3
Cinema	0.2026	105.4	0.0	1.2
Nightclubs	0.2299	102.2	0.0	-2.2
Cultural admittance	0.5231	107.2	0.0	7.4
Other entertainment	0.1791	102.0	-1.2	0.7
Television services	0.9664	110.6	0.0	3.3
Newspapers, books & stationery	1.7290	106.3	-0.4	1.5
Books	0.4724	101.2	-0.7	-2.4
Newspapers & periodicals	0.9333	110.2	-0.3	3.6
Stationery	0.3233	102.3	-0.2	0.9
Package holidays	2.5280	103.6	0.1	2.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>10.1041</b>	<b>101.5</b>	<b>-0.4</b>	<b>-0.3</b>

**Table 10 Education - March 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	0.0	5.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>2.0429</b>	<b>112.2</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>5.5</b>

**Table 11      Restaurants and Hotels - March 2009**

Description	Dec 2006 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
Catering services	13.0297	108.9	-0.1	3.3
Restaurants, cafes & licenced premises	11.6723	108.6	-0.2	3.0
Beer	4.7087	110.0	0.1	4.2
Spirits	1.3776	109.1	0.0	3.1
Wine & cider	1.0197	108.3	0.1	3.0
Soft drinks & mineral water	0.3351	109.8	0.0	2.9
Restaurants, cafes & fast-food	4.2313	106.9	-0.5	1.7
Canteens	1.3573	111.2	0.0	6.1
Accommodation services	2.3950	91.7	-1.3	-9.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>15.4247</b>	<b>106.2</b>	<b>-0.3</b>	<b>1.4</b>

**Table 12      Miscellaneous Goods and Services - March 2009**

Description	Dec 2006 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
Personal care	2.3999	103.4	-1.1	-0.3
Hairdressing salons & personal grooming	0.8844	109.5	-0.1	2.1
Hairdressing	0.7537	109.0	-0.1	2.1
Health & beauty treatments	0.1236	112.6	0.0	2.5
Other personal grooming	0.0071	112.7	1.2	5.1
Electric appliances for personal care	0.0130	96.5	0.0	-1.6
Other appliances, articles & products for personal care	1.5025	99.8	-1.8	-1.9
Hygiene products	0.3344	104.5	-2.5	0.8
Hair products	0.2034	97.3	-1.2	-1.0
Cosmetics & skincare products	0.6554	100.9	-1.0	-1.1
Toilet accessories	0.3093	94.3	-2.8	-6.9
Personal goods	0.4855	91.8	0.3	-4.2
Jewellery, clocks & watches	0.1711	108.1	1.0	3.1
Other personal goods	0.3143	82.9	-0.2	-8.7
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	118.9	2.5	18.7
Dwelling insurance	0.7502	123.6	6.7	24.3
Health insurance	1.7726	132.2	1.0	21.8
Transport insurance	1.4106	99.8	2.6	10.8
Motor cycle insurance	0.0193	86.8	0.0	0.0
Motor car insurance	1.3913	100.0	2.7	10.9
Financial services	0.1262	103.3	-0.1	-2.8
Other services	0.4639	109.3	0.1	2.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>8.4260</b>	<b>111.2</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>9.1</b>

**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	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>% Base Expenditure</b>													
<b>Weights</b>	<b>11.742</b>	<b>6.048</b>	<b>5.416</b>	<b>16.509</b>	<b>4.422</b>	<b>3.154</b>	<b>13.293</b>	<b>3.418</b>	<b>10.104</b>	<b>2.043</b>	<b>15.425</b>	<b>8.426</b>	<b>100.000</b>
<b>2008</b>													
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
<b>2009</b>													
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
Mid-March	-0.5	-	+4.6	-1.7	+0.3	-	+0.5	-	-0.4	-	-0.3	+1.0	-

**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	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>% Base Expenditure</b>													
<b>Weights</b>	<b>11.742</b>	<b>6.048</b>	<b>5.416</b>	<b>16.509</b>	<b>4.422</b>	<b>3.154</b>	<b>13.293</b>	<b>3.418</b>	<b>10.104</b>	<b>2.043</b>	<b>15.425</b>	<b>8.426</b>	<b>100.000</b>
<b>2008</b>													
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
<b>Year</b>	<b>+6.5</b>	<b>+4.8</b>	<b>-4.9</b>	<b>+9.6</b>	<b>-1.6</b>	<b>+6.0</b>	<b>+3.4</b>	<b>+1.0</b>	<b>+1.3</b>	<b>+6.1</b>	<b>+3.1</b>	<b>+2.4</b>	<b>+4.1</b>
<b>2009</b>													
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
Mid-March	-0.5	+5.9	-8.6	-15.1	-1.9	+4.7	-6.7	+0.8	-0.3	+5.5	+1.4	+9.1	-2.6

**Table 15 Consumer Price Index Goods and Services by COICOP - March 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
15	Food and Non Alcoholic Beverages	11.742	11.742	-	109.0	-	-0.5	-	-0.5
	Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco	6.048	6.048	-	111.3	-	+5.9	-	+5.9
	Clothing and Footwear	5.416	5.257	0.159	84.9	110.0	-9.1	+4.2	-8.6
	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	16.509	3.220	13.289	101.3	99.7	-9.0	-16.4	-15.1
	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance	4.422	3.557	0.865	93.8	104.3	-3.1	+2.6	-1.9
	Health	3.154	1.177	1.977	101.0	118.8	+1.1	+6.5	+4.7
	Transport	13.293	9.827	3.466	96.3	114.5	-9.7	+1.9	-6.7
	Communications	3.418	0.018	3.400	80.0	102.1	-5.2	+0.9	+0.8
	Recreation and Culture	10.104	4.233	5.871	94.1	106.9	-4.3	+2.5	-0.3
	Education	2.043	-	2.043	-	112.2	-	+5.5	+5.5
	Restaurants and Hotels	15.425	-	15.425	-	106.2	-	+1.4	+1.4
	Miscellaneous Goods & Services	8.426	2.001	6.425	97.9	115.4	-2.4	+12.7	+9.1
<b>ALL ITEMS</b>		<b>100.000</b>	<b>47.080</b>	<b>52.920</b>	<b>100.2</b>	<b>106.7</b>	<b>-3.7</b>	<b>-1.7</b>	<b>-2.6</b>

**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	Housing	Tobacco	Energy	
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<b>2006</b>								
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
<b>Year</b>	<b>+ 1.2</b>	<b>+ 6.2</b>	<b>+ 8.2</b>	<b>+ 2.6</b>	<b>+ 2.5</b>	<b>+ 4.0</b>	<b>+ 3.6</b>	<b>+ 4.0</b>
<b>2007</b>								
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
<b>Year</b>	<b>+ 1.0</b>	<b>+ 8.4</b>	<b>+ 4.6</b>	<b>+ 2.7</b>	<b>+ 2.4</b>	<b>+ 4.6</b>	<b>+ 4.9</b>	<b>+ 4.9</b>
<b>2008</b>								
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
<b>Year</b>	<b>+ 3.0</b>	<b>+ 5.0</b>	<b>+ 8.8</b>	<b>+ 3.1</b>	<b>+ 3.2</b>	<b>+ 4.0</b>	<b>+ 3.6</b>	<b>+ 4.1</b>
<b>2009</b>								
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
Mid-March	- 3.7	- 1.7	- 6.8	- 0.3	+ 0.1	- 3.0	- 2.3	- 2.6

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

Period	Groceries Order Items <sup>1</sup>			Non-Groceries Order Items <sup>2</sup>			Groceries Order and Non-Groceries Order Items		
	Percentage Change			Percentage Change			Percentage Change		
	Current base Dec. 2006	One <sup>3</sup> month	12 <sup>3</sup> months	Current base Dec. 2006	One <sup>3</sup> month	12 <sup>3</sup> months	Current base Dec. 2006	One <sup>3</sup> month	12 <sup>3</sup> months
<b>2006</b>									
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
<b>Year</b>	<b>101.1</b>	<b>+ 0.1</b>		<b>98.3</b>	<b>+ 2.4</b>		<b>100.4</b>	<b>+ 0.7</b>	
<b>2007</b>									
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
<b>Year</b>	<b>102.7</b>	<b>+ 1.6</b>		<b>101.1</b>	<b>+ 2.8</b>		<b>102.2</b>	<b>+ 1.8</b>	
<b>2008</b>									
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
<b>Year</b>	<b>109.3</b>	<b>+ 6.4</b>		<b>103.1</b>	<b>+ 2.0</b>		<b>107.5</b>	<b>+ 5.2</b>	
<b>2009</b>									
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
Mid-March	109.6	- 0.5	+ 0.2	102.5	- 0.5	- 1.0	107.5	- 0.6	- 0.2

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

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

<sup>3</sup> 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 March index relates is Tuesday, 10th March 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](http://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](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.

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|--|---|
| <b>01 Food and Non Alcoholic Beverages</b>                                   | 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.  |
| <b>02 Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco</b>                                    | 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.   |
| <b>03 Clothing and Footwear</b>  | Mens, ladies and childrens clothing and footwear, sports and leisurewear and services such as laundry and dry cleaning, shoe repair, dress hire and alteration.   |
| <b>04 Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels</b>                   | 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.   |
| <b>05 Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance</b> | 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.         |
| <b>06 Health</b>   | Health includes medical products, appliances and equipment, hospital charges and out patient services supplied by doctors, dentists, opticians and practitioners of alternative and complementary medicine.   |
| <b>07 Transport</b>  | 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.  |
| <b>08 Communications</b>   | Post and telecommunications.  |
| <b>09 Recreation and Culture</b>   | 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. |
| <b>10 Education</b>  | Covers all aspects of education including primary, secondary, third level and other education and training such as night courses, play schools and examination fees.  |
| <b>11 Restaurants and Hotels</b>   | This category covers the following areas: meals in restaurants and hotels; fast food and takeaways; cafes; canteens; alcohol consumed on or within a licensed premises and accommodation services supplied by hotels, guesthouses and hostels.  |
| <b>12 Miscellaneous Goods and Services</b>                                   | 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.  |