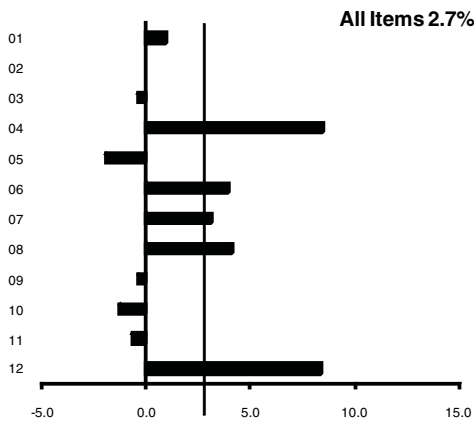




**Comparison of main CPI groups to the overall CPI annual % change - May 2011**



## Consumer Price Index Detailed Sub-Indices May 2011

CPI (Base: December 2006 = 100)

COICOP Group	% changes	
	One month	12 months
01 Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	-	+1.0
02 Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco	+0.2	-
03 Clothing and Footwear	+0.6	-0.4
04 Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	-0.1	+8.5
05 Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance	-0.1	-1.9
06 Health	-0.1	+4.0
07 Transport	+0.1	+3.1
08 Communications	-	+4.1
09 Recreation and Culture	+0.1	-0.4
10 Education	-0.1	-1.3
11 Restaurants and Hotels	+0.3	-0.7
12 Miscellaneous Goods and Services	-0.2	+8.4
<b>ALL ITEMS</b>	<b>+0.1</b>	<b>+2.7</b>

### Prices rise by 2.7% in the year to May

Consumer Prices in May, as measured by the CPI, increased by 0.1% in the month. This compares to an increase of 0.6% recorded in May of last year. Prices on average, as measured by the CPI, were 2.7% higher in May compared with May 2010.

The most significant monthly price changes were increases in *Clothing & Footwear* (+0.6%), *Restaurants & Hotels* (+0.3%) and *Alcoholic Beverages & Tobacco* (+0.2%).

The most notable changes in the year were increases in *Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels* (+8.5%), *Miscellaneous Goods & Services* (+8.4%), *Communications* (+4.1%) and *Health* (+4.0%). There were decreases in *Furnishings, Household Equipment & Routine Household Maintenance* (-1.9%) and *Education* (-1.3%).

The annual rate of inflation for Services was 3.6% in the year to May, while Goods increased by 1.4%.

This release provides a detailed analysis of the major price developments within the main CPI commodity groups in tables 1 to 16. 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 Dymrna Corry at 021 453 5128 or Sheila Finucane at 021 453 5438.*

Published by the Central Statistics Office, Ireland.

Ardee Road Skehard Road  
Dublin 6 Cork  
Ireland Ireland

LoCall: 1890 313 414 (ROI)  
0808 2347 581 (UK/NI)

Tel: +353 1 498 4000 Tel: +353 21 453 5000  
Fax: +353 1 498 4229 Fax: +353 21 453 5555

Both offices may be contacted through any of these telephone numbers.

CSO on the Web: [www.cso.ie](http://www.cso.ie)

and go to  
Economy: Prices

Director General: Gerard O'Hanlon

Enquiries:

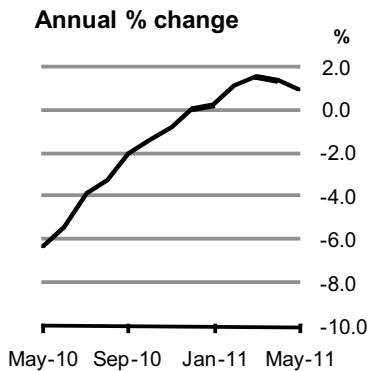
CPI Statistics (021) 453 5128, 453 5438  
cpi@cso.ie  
General Queries Information Section, ext 5021  
information@cso.ie

© Central Statistics Office

The contents of this release may be quoted provided the source is given clearly and accurately. Reproduction for own or internal use is permitted.

# Consumer Price Index May 2011

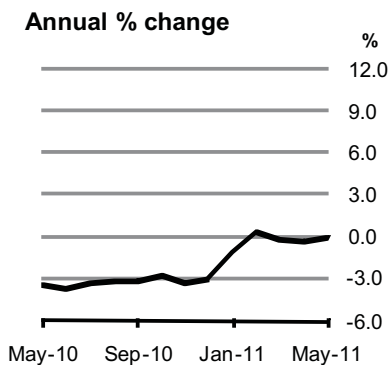
## 01 Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages



Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages prices remained unchanged in the month and increased by 1.0% in the year to May 2011. This compares to a decrease of 6.3% for the year to May 2010. In the month, food prices decreased by 0.1% while non-alcoholic beverages prices decreased by 0.2%.

In May, price increases were recorded for preserves (+2.8%), biscuits (+2.6%), beef (+2.4%), potatoes (+2.4%), lamb (+1.6%), other meat products (+1.4%), butter (+1.4%), cheese (+1.3%), condiments & sauces (+1.3%), other cereals (+1.2%) and sugar & sweeteners (+1.2%). Price decreases were recorded for pork (-4.2%), coffee (-3.6%), fresh fruit (-2.7%), cakes (-2.2%), breakfast cereals (-1.9%), other milk products (-1.8%), bacon (-1.5%) and poultry (-1.1%).

### 01 Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages

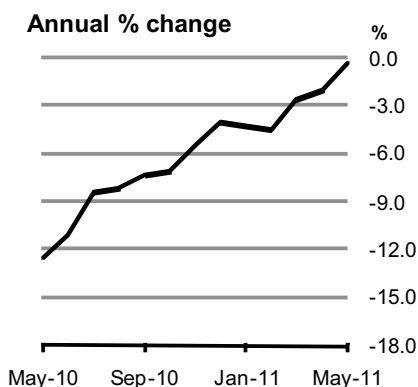


## 02 Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco

Overall prices increased by 0.2% in the month and remained unchanged in the year to May 2011. This compares to a decrease of 3.4% for the year to May 2010. In the month, alcoholic beverages prices increased by 0.5% while tobacco prices decreased by 0.1%.

In May, price increases were recorded for spirits (+3.4%) and beer (+0.2%). Price decreases were recorded for wine & cider (-0.5%), cigarettes (-0.1%) and other tobacco products (-0.1%).

### 02 Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco

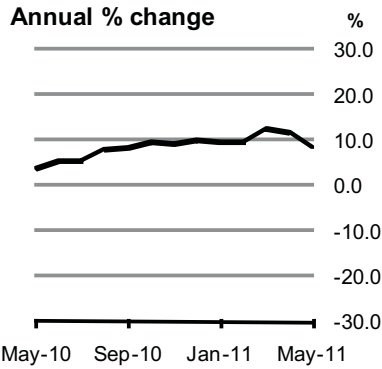


## 03 Clothing and Footwear

Clothing & Footwear prices increased by 0.6% in the month and decreased by 0.4% in the year to May 2011. This compares to a decrease of 12.6% for the year to May 2010. In the month, clothing prices increased by 0.4% while footwear prices increased by 1.1%.

In May, price increases were recorded for other articles of clothing (+2.1%), shoes & other footwear (+1.2%) and garments (+0.4%).

### 03 Clothing and Footwear

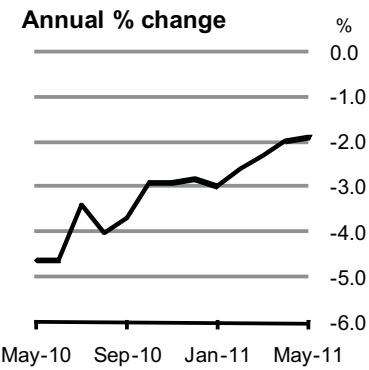


**04 Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels**

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

Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels costs decreased by 0.1% in the month and increased by 8.5% in the year to May 2011. This compares to an increase of 3.7% for the year to May 2010.

In the month, price decreases were recorded for liquid fuels (i.e. home heating oil) (-3.8%) and materials for maintenance & repair of dwelling (-0.1%). Price increases were recorded for bottled gas (+0.9%), mortgage interest (+0.6%) and rents (+0.1%).

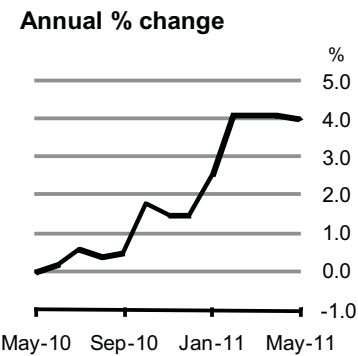


**05 Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance**

## 05 Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance

Furnishings, Household Equipment & Routine Household Maintenance costs decreased by 0.1% in the month and by 1.9% in the year to May 2011. This compares to a decrease of 4.6% for the year to May 2010.

In the month, price decreases were recorded for furniture & furnishings (-0.9%), major household appliances (-0.5%) and small tools & miscellaneous accessories (-0.4%). Price increases were recorded for household textiles (+1.2%), carpets & other floor coverings (+1.0%), repair of household appliances (+0.9%) and non-durable household goods (+0.7%).



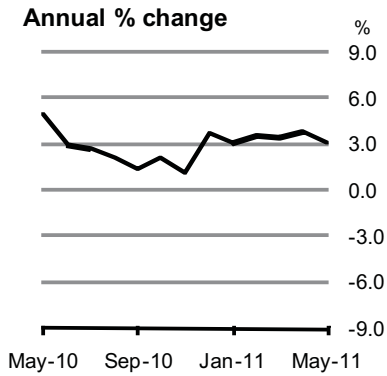
**06 Health**

## 06 Health

Overall health costs and charges decreased by 0.1% in the month and increased by 4.0% in the year to May 2011. This compares with no change for the year to May 2010.

In the month, price decreases were recorded for other medical products (which includes condoms, petroleum jelly, disinfectant and adhesive dressing) (-1.0%), doctors' fees (-0.4%) and other medicines (which includes pain relievers, antacid, cough mixture and vitamins & other supplements) (-0.3%). A price increase was recorded for prescribed drugs (+0.2%).

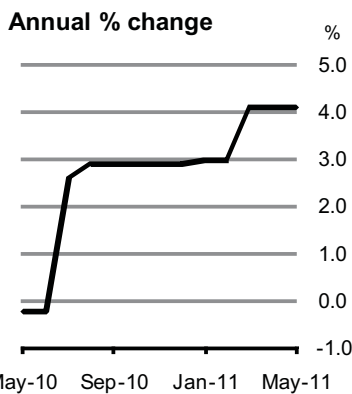
## 07 Transport



Transport costs increased by 0.1% in the month and by 3.1% in the year to May 2011. This compares to an increase of 4.9% for the year to May 2010.

In the month, price increases were recorded for sea transport (+2.8%), petrol (+1.7%), other transport (+0.5%), maintenance & repair (+0.4%) and other vehicle costs (which includes parking fees and car rental charges) (+0.4%). Price decreases were recorded for air transport (-8.9%), motor cycles (-0.5%) and diesel (-0.4%).

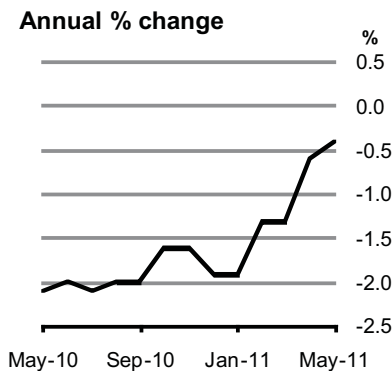
### 07 Transport



## 08 Communications

Overall communications costs remained unchanged in the month and increased by 4.1% in the year to May 2011. This compares to a decrease of 0.2% for the year to May 2010.

### 08 Communications



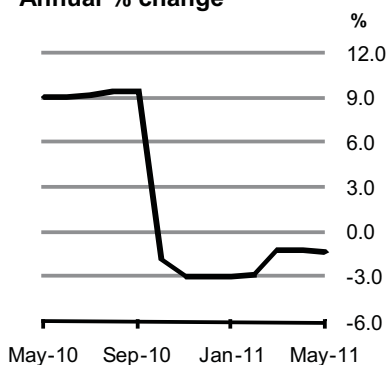
## 09 Recreation and Culture

Overall prices increased by 0.1% in the month and decreased by 0.4% in the year to May 2011. This compares to a decrease of 2.1% for the year to May 2010.

In the month, price increases were recorded for cultural admittance (+0.6%), package holidays (+0.5%), cinema (+0.4%), games, toys & hobbies (+0.3%) and books (+0.2%). Price decreases were recorded for other major durables for recreation & culture (-2.0%), information processing equipment (-1.7%), equipment for the reception, recording & reproduction of sound & pictures (-1.1%) and nightclubs (-1.0%).

### 09 Recreation and Culture

### Annual % change



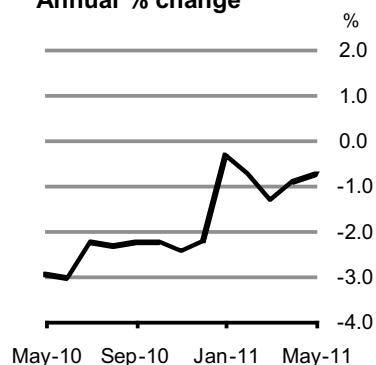
### 10 Education

## 10 Education

Education costs decreased by 0.1% in the month and by 1.3% in the year to May 2011. This compares to an increase of 9.1% for the year to May 2010.

A price decrease was recorded for other education & training (-0.1%).

### Annual % change



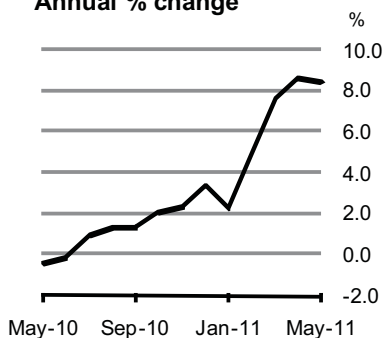
### 11 Restaurants and Hotels

## 11 Restaurants and Hotels

Prices for the overall category increased by 0.3% in the month and decreased by 0.7% in the year to May 2011. This compares to a decrease of 2.9% for the year to May 2010.

In the month, a price increase was recorded for accommodation services (+2.6%). Price decreases were recorded for beer (-0.1%) and wine & cider (-0.1%).

### Annual % change



### 12 Miscellaneous Goods and Services

## 12 Miscellaneous Goods and Services

Overall prices decreased by 0.2% in the month and increased by 8.4% in the year to May 2011. This compares to a decrease of 0.4% for the year to May 2010.

In the month, price decreases were recorded for toilet accessories (-0.8%), hair products (-0.7%), health insurance (-0.6%) and cosmetic & skincare products (-0.6%). Price increases were recorded for other personal goods (+0.8%), motor car insurance (+0.7%) and hygiene products (+0.7%).

**Table 1 Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages - May 2011**

Description	Dec 2006 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
<b>Food</b>	10.8076	101.3	-0.1	0.4
Bread and Cereals	2.0242	108.7	-0.4	2.6
Bread	0.6553	121.4	-0.8	4.1
Flour	0.0517	160.8	0.6	14.3
Biscuits	0.3268	97.2	2.6	0.2
Cakes	0.3762	99.8	-2.2	-2.9
Breakfast cereals	0.2949	104.4	-1.9	8.5
Other cereals	0.0992	115.0	1.2	2.7
Other bread & cereals	0.2201	93.5	1.1	-0.8
Meat	2.6729	94.9	0.6	-1.5
Beef	0.7179	104.4	2.4	0.0
Lamb	0.2234	112.5	1.6	3.4
Pork	0.1781	82.8	-4.2	-5.4
Bacon	0.3906	87.6	-1.5	-2.6
Poultry	0.4633	83.7	-1.1	-0.9
Other meat products	0.6996	93.9	1.4	-3.8
Fish	0.3592	97.4	0.2	-0.7
Fresh fish	0.1814	93.9	-0.1	-1.2
Frozen/tinned/smoked fish	0.1778	101.0	0.5	-0.2
Milk, cheese and eggs	1.3177	115.7	0.0	0.2
Milk	0.6567	125.5	-0.1	-0.2
Other milk products	0.2608	100.3	-1.8	-3.1
Cheese	0.2790	106.8	1.3	3.2
Eggs	0.1212	116.0	0.7	2.5
Oils and fats	0.2734	119.9	0.2	9.7
Butter	0.0813	125.3	1.4	11.7
Margarine & low fat spreads	0.1448	121.3	-0.4	8.5
Other oils & fats	0.0474	106.2	-0.5	9.8
Fruit	0.8597	94.0	-2.4	4.2
Fresh fruit	0.7731	91.2	-2.7	3.3
Other fruits	0.0866	118.7	-0.4	10.4
Vegetables	1.5782	92.4	0.2	-3.4
Potatoes	0.3256	67.7	2.4	-20.5
Other fresh vegetables	0.6079	99.5	0.4	-0.7
Tinned vegetables	0.0956	122.1	-0.2	4.3
Frozen vegetables	0.1549	92.7	-0.1	1.8
Other vegetable products	0.3943	94.7	-0.9	0.7
Sugar, jam, honey, chocolate and confectionery	0.8912	104.0	0.1	1.9
Sugar & sweeteners	0.0583	97.3	1.2	2.3
Preserves	0.0526	117.2	2.8	5.3
Sweets & chocolate	0.5151	105.0	-0.6	1.6
Desserts & ice cream	0.2652	100.9	0.4	1.3
Other food products	0.8312	98.5	0.3	0.5
Condiments & sauces	0.2761	103.5	1.3	3.4
Soup	0.1102	113.4	0.4	3.7
Miscellaneous food items	0.4449	91.6	-0.5	-2.4
<b>Non-alcoholic beverages</b>	0.9347	104.5	-0.2	6.7
Coffee, tea and cocoa	0.2380	104.7	-1.2	4.4
Tea	0.1417	105.4	-0.1	1.3
Coffee	0.0817	98.0	-3.6	5.6
Cocoa	0.0146	135.6	0.1	28.0
Mineral waters, soft drinks & juices	0.6967	104.5	0.2	7.7
Soft drinks & mineral water	0.4523	109.4	0.3	9.0
Fruit juices	0.2444	95.4	0.1	5.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>11.7423</b>	<b>101.6</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>1.0</b>

**Table 2 Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco - May 2011**

Description	Dec 2006 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
<b>Alcoholic Beverages</b>	2.8725	96.6	0.5	-1.2
Spirits	0.5818	98.1	3.4	0.0
Wine & cider	1.5258	95.6	-0.5	-2.2
Beer	0.7649	97.3	0.2	-0.1
<b>Tobacco</b>	3.1759	122.3	-0.1	0.9
Cigarettes	3.1271	122.4	-0.1	0.9
Other tobacco products	0.0488	115.3	-0.1	1.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>6.0484</b>	<b>110.1</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>0.0</b>

**Table 3 Clothing and Footwear - May 2011**

Description	Dec 2006 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
<b>Clothing</b>	4.4488	72.8	0.4	0.3
Garments	4.2028	71.2	0.4	0.3
Other articles of clothing	0.1001	88.5	2.1	1.8
Cleaning, repair & hire of clothing	0.1459	107.6	0.0	-0.7
Dry cleaning & laundry	0.1052	109.1	0.0	-0.9
Dress hire & repair of clothing	0.0408	103.7	0.0	-0.2
<b>Footwear</b>	0.9670	70.6	1.1	-3.2
Shoes & other footwear	0.9537	70.1	1.2	-3.2
Repair & hire of footwear	0.0133	104.9	0.0	-2.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>5.4158</b>	<b>72.4</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>-0.4</b>

**Table 4 Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels - May 2011**

Description	Dec 2006 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
Rents & other housing costs	9.5303	99.0	0.4	13.4
Rents	2.8696	90.5	0.1	-1.0
Mortgage interest	6.6607	102.7	0.6	20.1
Maintenance & repair of the dwelling	2.4521	98.7	0.0	-1.7
Materials for maint. & repair of dwelling	1.5062	102.0	-0.1	0.5
Services for maint. & repair of dwelling	0.9459	93.4	0.0	-5.4
Water supply, refuse & misc. services	0.5117	97.9	0.0	-4.3
Electricity, gas & other fuels	4.0142	116.7	-1.0	6.6
Electricity	1.5444	115.1	0.0	4.6
Natural gas	0.7560	78.6	0.0	0.0
Bottled gas	0.1177	130.8	0.9	7.8
Liquid fuels	0.8538	150.2	-3.8	17.9
Solid fuels	0.7423	118.0	0.0	0.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>16.5083</b>	<b>103.2</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>8.5</b>

**Table 5 Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance - May 2011**

Description	Dec 2006 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
Furniture, furnishings, carpets & other flooring	1.0812	77.1	-0.8	-5.7
Furniture & furnishings	0.9467	78.0	-0.9	-5.7
Carpets & other floor coverings	0.1345	70.9	1.0	-6.6
Household textiles	0.2424	75.1	1.2	5.3
Household appliances	1.0459	87.3	-0.3	-3.6
Major household appliances	0.8435	85.9	-0.5	-4.0
Small electric household appliances	0.1285	85.6	-0.3	-3.1
Repair of household appliances	0.0740	106.1	0.9	-1.5
Glassware, tableware & hsehd utensils	0.2577	80.6	-0.1	-3.2
Tools & equipment for house & garden	0.3627	91.7	-0.2	-2.4
Major tools & equipment	0.0808	93.0	0.2	-0.9
Small tools & misc. accessories	0.2820	91.3	-0.4	-3.0
Goods & services for routine hsehd maint.	1.4321	100.3	0.3	1.4
Non-durable household goods	0.6683	95.3	0.7	3.1
Domestic & household services	0.7638	104.7	0.0	0.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>4.4221</b>	<b>88.3</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>-1.9</b>

**Table 6 Health - May 2011**

Description	Dec 2006 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
Medical products, appliances & equip.	1.1764	97.6	0.0	1.7
Pharmaceutical products	0.8672	93.3	0.0	2.5
Prescribed drugs	0.6160	88.9	0.2	2.9
Other medicines	0.2512	104.2	-0.3	1.9
Other medical products	0.0456	96.0	-1.0	0.8
Therapeutic appliances & equip	0.2637	112.1	-0.1	-0.6
Outpatient services	1.0313	115.8	-0.2	-1.0
Medical services	0.6684	113.1	-0.4	-0.2
Doctors' fees	0.4792	113.5	-0.4	-0.5
Alternative & complementary medicine	0.1893	112.2	-0.1	0.7
Dental services	0.3628	120.6	0.0	-2.7
Hospital services	0.9459	140.2	0.0	11.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>3.1536</b>	<b>116.3</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>4.0</b>



**Table 7 Transport - May 2011**

Description	Dec 2006 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
Purchase of vehicles	5.7319	86.1	-0.2	-4.7
Motor cars	5.6398	86.0	-0.1	-4.7
Motor cycles	0.0373	96.4	-0.5	0.3
Bicycles	0.0549	90.9	-0.3	-0.2
Operation of personal transport equip.	5.9606	132.7	0.9	9.0
Spare parts & accessories	0.3444	100.8	-0.2	0.9
Fuels & lubricants	3.7506	146.3	1.2	14.3
Petrol	2.9759	147.8	1.7	14.0
Diesel	0.7604	141.3	-0.4	15.9
Motor oil	0.0143	116.5	0.0	3.7
Maintenance & repair	0.7045	105.9	0.4	-4.4
Other services	1.1611	114.3	0.1	-0.1
Motor tax	0.8380	114.3	0.0	0.0
Other vehicle costs	0.3173	114.3	0.4	-0.4
Driving licences	0.0058	105.0	0.0	4.1
Transport services	1.6008	117.4	-2.4	1.2
Rail transport	0.2189	118.8	0.0	1.7
Road transport	0.9286	116.2	0.0	0.6
Bus fares	0.3926	127.1	0.0	1.4
Taxi	0.5360	108.2	0.0	0.0
Air transport	0.4009	120.3	-8.9	1.7
Sea transport	0.0290	108.1	2.8	12.8
Combined transport	0.0183	123.0	0.0	3.3
Other transport	0.0051	74.7	0.5	-3.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>13.2933</b>	<b>110.8</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>3.1</b>

**Table 8 Communications - May 2011**

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	105.8	0.0	4.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>3.4184</b>	<b>105.9</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>4.1</b>

**Table 9 Recreation and Culture - May 2011**

Description	Dec 2006 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
Audio-visual, photographic & information processing equipment	1.0479	57.0	-0.7	-8.2
Equipment for the reception, recording & reproduction of sound & pictures	0.2217	53.1	-1.1	-7.3
Photographic & cinematographic equip. & optical instruments	0.2622	48.7	-0.4	-15.3
Information processing equip.	0.1713	34.8	-1.7	-16.9
Recording media	0.3927	74.6	-0.3	-2.9
Other major durables for recreation & culture	0.0146	89.1	-2.0	-2.6
Other recreational items & equip. incl. gardens & pets	1.5602	85.4	0.0	-2.3
Games, toys & hobbies	0.5606	69.9	0.3	-5.0
Equipment for sport, camping & open air recreation	0.1917	83.5	0.0	-6.9
Gardens, plants & flowers	0.4325	97.8	-0.1	0.4
Pets & related products	0.2570	88.1	-0.2	0.1
Veterinary & other services for pets	0.1184	110.8	0.0	-0.1
Recreational & cultural services	3.2243	106.6	0.0	-1.8
Recreational & sporting services	1.1232	106.0	-0.1	-1.7
Sports admittance	0.1449	109.3	-0.3	-0.1
Sports participation	0.3086	92.2	0.0	-5.9
Club & society subscriptions	0.6697	111.7	0.0	-0.3
Cultural services	2.1011	106.9	0.1	-1.8
Cinema	0.2026	108.3	0.4	1.0
Nightclubs	0.2299	85.0	-1.0	-13.7
Cultural admittance	0.5231	107.0	0.6	-5.1
Other entertainment	0.1791	88.8	-0.2	-11.0
Television services	0.9664	115.1	0.0	3.5
Newspapers, books & stationery	1.7290	109.1	-0.3	2.6
Books	0.4724	102.8	0.2	1.7
Newspapers & periodicals	0.9333	114.8	-0.3	3.4
Stationery	0.3233	101.9	-0.5	1.7
Package holidays	2.5280	110.3	0.5	2.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>10.1041</b>	<b>99.5</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>-0.4</b>

**Table 10 Education - May 2011**

Description	Dec 2006 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
Primary education	0.0334	121.3	0.0	1.3
Second level education	0.1695	121.7	0.0	0.8
Third level education	1.0183	132.3	0.0	-1.4
Other education & training	0.8217	105.4	-0.1	-1.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>2.0429</b>	<b>120.4</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>-1.3</b>

**Table 11 Restaurants and Hotels - May 2011**

Description	Dec 2006 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
Catering services	13.0297	106.7	-0.1	-0.2
Restaurants, cafes & licenced premises	11.6723	105.3	-0.1	-0.7
Beer	4.7087	106.1	-0.1	-0.3
Spirits	1.3776	105.8	0.0	-0.2
Wine & cider	1.0197	104.4	-0.1	-1.0
Soft drinks & mineral water	0.3351	108.9	0.0	-0.3
Restaurants, cafes & fast-food	4.2313	104.2	0.0	-1.1
Canteens	1.3573	118.9	0.0	4.1
Accommodation services	2.3950	82.9	2.6	-4.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>15.4247</b>	<b>103.0</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>-0.7</b>

**Table 12 Miscellaneous Goods and Services - May 2011**

Description	Dec 2006 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
Personal care	2.3999	92.9	-0.2	-1.5
Hairdressing salons & personal grooming	0.8844	101.9	-0.2	-2.0
Hairdressing	0.7537	101.5	-0.3	-1.6
Health & beauty treatments	0.1236	102.9	0.0	-5.6
Other personal grooming	0.0071	120.8	0.0	4.7
Electric appliances for personal care	0.0130	89.8	0.4	-1.2
Other appliances, articles & products for personal care	1.5025	87.6	-0.3	-1.1
Hygiene products	0.3344	90.2	0.7	0.8
Hair products	0.2034	79.8	-0.7	-0.9
Cosmetics & skincare products	0.6554	90.1	-0.6	-2.9
Toilet accessories	0.3093	84.5	-0.8	0.5
Personal goods	0.4855	89.0	0.5	1.3
Jewellery, clocks & watches	0.1711	120.8	0.1	5.8
Other personal goods	0.3143	71.7	0.8	-2.7
Social protection	1.0171	101.9	0.0	1.5
Childcare	0.9858	100.7	0.0	1.4
Other social protection	0.0314	141.6	0.0	4.5
Insurance	3.9334	147.2	-0.1	15.9
Dwelling insurance	0.7502	154.4	0.0	13.7
Health insurance	1.7726	174.7	-0.6	21.6
Transport insurance	1.4106	108.8	0.6	7.5
Motor cycle insurance	0.0193	69.6	0.0	0.0
Motor car insurance	1.3913	109.4	0.7	7.6
Financial services	0.1262	103.7	0.0	-0.4
Other services	0.4639	108.3	-0.2	0.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>8.4260</b>	<b>120.1</b>	<b>-0.2</b>	<b>8.4</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
<b>Mid-December 2006</b>	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<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>2010</b>													
Mid-January	+0.1	-0.5	-9.2	+0.1	-2.4	+2.2	+0.6	-0.2	-	-	-2.0	+0.9	-0.6
Mid-February	-0.2	-0.6	+6.8	+0.7	+1.5	-2.1	+0.3	-	-0.8	-0.5	+0.4	+1.4	+0.4
Mid-March	-0.2	-0.4	+1.9	+0.1	-0.4	-	+1.5	-	-0.2	-1.7	+0.5	-1.6	+0.1
Mid-April	-0.3	+0.1	-0.5	+1.5	-0.3	-	+0.6	-	-0.2	-	-0.1	+0.1	+0.2
Mid-May	+0.4	-0.1	-1.1	+2.9	-0.2	-	+0.8	-	-0.1	-	+0.1	-	+0.6
Mid-June	+0.1	-0.3	-1.1	-0.2	-0.1	+0.1	-0.5	-	-	-	-	+0.4	-0.1
Mid-July	+0.3	+0.5	-7.1	-0.1	-0.3	+0.5	+0.2	+2.8	-0.2	-	+0.3	+0.5	-
Mid-August	-0.3	+0.2	+3.7	+3.5	-	-0.1	+0.5	+0.4	+0.1	-	-	+0.2	+0.7
Mid-September	-0.2	+0.1	+4.5	+0.2	-	-	-1.6	-	-0.3	-	-0.3	-0.4	-0.1
Mid-October	+0.2	+0.2	-0.7	+0.4	-0.2	+1.1	-0.3	-	+0.3	-0.7	-0.5	+0.5	-
Mid-November	-0.2	-1.0	+1.9	-0.2	-	-0.2	-0.3	-	-0.1	-0.2	-0.4	+0.2	-0.1
Mid-December	+0.4	-1.3	-2.2	+0.6	-0.2	-	+1.8	-	-0.4	-	-0.2	+1.2	+0.2
<b>2011</b>													
Mid-January	+0.3	+1.5	-9.3	-0.1	-2.6	+3.3	-	-0.1	-	-	-0.1	-0.1	-0.2
Mid-February	+0.7	+0.8	+6.5	+0.5	+1.8	-0.6	+0.7	-	-0.2	-0.4	-	+3.8	+0.9
Mid-March	+0.2	-0.8	+4.0	+2.9	-0.1	-	+1.4	+1.0	-0.2	-	-0.1	+1.0	+0.9
Mid-April	-0.5	-0.1	-	+0.9	-	-	+1.0	-	+0.5	-	+0.3	+1.0	+0.4
Mid-May	-	+0.2	+0.6	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	+0.1	-	+0.1	-0.1	+0.3	-0.2	+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 and Routine Household Maintenance	Health	Transport	Communications	Recreation and Culture	Education	Restaurants and Hotels	Miscellaneous Goods and Services	All Items CPI
<b>Mid-December 2006</b>	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<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>2010</b>													
Mid-January	-8.2	-0.3	-10.8	-15.2	-4.6	+1.9	+3.5	-0.1	-0.6	+11.3	-3.7	+1.6	-3.9
Mid-February	-8.0	-0.7	-11.4	-10.6	-4.8	-0.4	+3.9	-0.2	-1.5	+10.6	-3.1	+2.2	-3.2
Mid-March	-7.8	-1.1	-13.7	-9.0	-5.5	-0.4	+5.0	-0.2	-1.3	+8.7	-2.4	-0.4	-3.1
Mid-April	-7.1	-3.0	-10.9	-3.2	-4.7	-0.6	+4.4	-0.2	-1.8	+8.9	-2.7	-0.4	-2.1
Mid-May	-6.3	-3.4	-12.6	+3.7	-4.6	-	+4.9	-0.2	-2.1	+9.1	-2.9	-0.4	-1.1
Mid-June	-5.4	-3.7	-11.2	+5.2	-4.6	+0.2	+2.9	-0.2	-2.0	+9.1	-3.0	-0.1	-0.9
Mid-July	-3.8	-3.3	-8.5	+5.5	-3.4	+0.6	+2.7	+2.6	-2.1	+9.2	-2.2	+1.0	-0.1
Mid-August	-3.2	-3.2	-8.2	+7.9	-4.0	+0.4	+2.1	+2.9	-2.0	+9.5	-2.3	+1.3	+0.2
Mid-September	-2.0	-3.1	-7.4	+8.5	-3.7	+0.5	+1.4	+2.9	-2.0	+9.5	-2.2	+1.3	+0.5
Mid-October	-1.4	-2.7	-7.2	+9.4	-2.9	+1.8	+2.1	+2.9	-1.6	-1.9	-2.2	+2.1	+0.7
Mid-November	-0.8	-3.3	-5.5	+9.2	-2.9	+1.5	+1.1	+2.9	-1.6	-3.0	-2.4	+2.4	+0.6
Mid-December	+0.1	-3.0	-4.1	+9.9	-2.8	+1.5	+3.7	+2.9	-1.9	-3.0	-2.2	+3.4	+1.3
<b>Year</b>	<b>-4.5</b>	<b>-2.6</b>	<b>-9.4</b>	<b>+1.3</b>	<b>-4.1</b>	<b>+0.6</b>	<b>+3.1</b>	<b>+1.4</b>	<b>-1.8</b>	<b>+6.4</b>	<b>-2.6</b>	<b>+1.1</b>	<b>-1.0</b>
<b>2011</b>													
Mid-January	+0.3	-1.1	-4.3	+9.6	-3.0	+2.5	+3.1	+3.0	-1.9	-3.0	-0.3	+2.3	+1.7
Mid-February	+1.2	+0.4	-4.6	+9.5	-2.6	+4.1	+3.5	+3.0	-1.3	-2.9	-0.7	+4.8	+2.2
Mid-March	+1.6	-0.1	-2.6	+12.5	-2.3	+4.1	+3.4	+4.1	-1.3	-1.2	-1.3	+7.6	+3.0
Mid-April	+1.4	-0.3	-2.0	+11.8	-2.0	+4.1	+3.8	+4.1	-0.6	-1.2	-0.9	+8.6	+3.2
Mid-May	+1.0	-	-0.4	+8.5	-1.9	+4.0	+3.1	+4.1	-0.4	-1.3	-0.7	+8.4	+2.7

**Table 15 Consumer Price Index Goods and Services by COICOP - May 2011**

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	-	101.6	-	+1.0	-	+1.0
02	Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco	6.048	6.048	-	110.1	-	+0.0	-	-
03	Clothing and Footwear	5.416	5.257	0.159	71.3	107.4	-0.4	-0.8	-0.4
04	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	16.509	3.220	13.289	119.5	99.3	+6.0	+9.4	+8.5
05	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance	4.422	3.557	0.865	84.3	104.8	-2.3	+0.0	-1.9
06	Health	3.154	1.177	1.977	97.6	127.4	+1.7	+5.0	+4.0
07	Transport	13.293	9.827	3.466	109.6	114.0	+4.4	-0.3	+3.1
08	Communications	3.418	0.018	3.400	76.1	106.1	+1.3	+4.2	+4.1
09	Recreation and Culture	10.104	4.233	5.871	87.4	108.3	-0.9	+0.0	-0.4
10	Education	2.043	-	2.043	-	120.4	-	-1.3	-1.3
11	Restaurants and Hotels	15.425	-	15.425	-	103.0	-	-0.7	-0.7
12	Miscellaneous Goods & Services	8.426	2.001	6.425	88.0	130.1	-0.6	+10.4	+8.4
<b>ALL ITEMS</b>		<b>100.000</b>	<b>47.080</b>	<b>52.920</b>	<b>98.9</b>	<b>108.5</b>	<b>+1.4</b>	<b>+3.6</b>	<b>+2.7</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
			Products <sup>2</sup>	Mortgage	Housing <sup>1</sup>	Tobacco	Energy	
	%	%	%	Interest			Products <sup>2</sup>	%
<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
Mid-April	- 3.8	- 3.2	- 4.9	- 0.3	-	- 3.9	- 3.4	- 3.5
Mid-May	- 4.5	- 4.8	- 10.5	- 1.2	- 0.9	- 5.2	- 4.1	- 4.7
Mid-June	- 5.0	- 5.6	- 11.3	- 1.6	- 1.3	- 5.9	- 4.8	- 5.4
Mid-July	- 5.5	- 6.2	- 13.4	- 2.0	- 1.6	- 6.4	- 5.1	- 5.9
Mid-August	- 5.0	- 6.8	- 11.4	- 1.8	- 1.5	- 6.5	- 5.4	- 5.9
Mid-September	- 5.3	- 7.5	- 11.7	- 2.4	- 2.2	- 7.1	- 6.1	- 6.5
Mid-October	- 5.2	- 7.7	- 10.5	- 2.4	- 2.1	- 7.2	- 6.2	- 6.6
Mid-November	- 4.9	- 6.3	- 3.7	- 2.2	- 2.1	- 6.2	- 5.9	- 5.7
Mid-December	- 4.8	- 5.1	+ 2.4	- 2.2	- 1.9	- 5.4	- 5.7	- 5.0
<b>Year</b>	<b>- 4.3</b>	<b>- 4.6</b>	<b>- 7.9</b>	<b>- 1.2</b>	<b>- 1.0</b>	<b>- 5.0</b>	<b>- 4.1</b>	<b>- 4.5</b>
<b>2010</b> Mid-January	- 3.4	- 4.4	+ 8.8	- 2.2	- 1.9	- 4.2	- 5.0	- 3.9
Mid-February	- 3.6	- 2.9	+ 6.3	- 2.1	- 2.1	- 3.4	- 4.1	- 3.2
Mid-March	- 3.3	- 2.8	+ 9.1	- 2.2	- 2.2	- 3.4	- 4.1	- 3.1
Mid-April	- 2.9	- 1.4	+ 9.1	- 2.2	- 2.1	- 2.2	- 3.1	- 2.1
Mid-May	- 2.8	+ 0.5	+ 13.7	- 1.6	- 1.6	- 1.2	- 2.3	- 1.1
Mid-June	- 3.1	+ 0.9	+ 9.5	- 1.8	- 1.8	- 1.0	- 1.9	- 0.9
Mid-July	- 2.0	+ 1.4	+ 9.8	- 1.0	- 1.0	- 0.2	- 1.1	- 0.1
Mid-August	- 2.1	+ 2.3	+ 7.9	- 1.0	- 1.1	+ 0.2	- 0.4	+ 0.2
Mid-September	- 1.6	+ 2.1	+ 8.0	- 0.9	- 0.9	+ 0.4	- 0.2	+ 0.5
Mid-October	- 0.8	+ 2.1	+ 10.8	- 0.5	- 0.6	+ 0.8	- 0.2	+ 0.7
Mid-November	- 1.1	+ 2.0	+ 8.4	- 0.7	- 0.8	+ 0.6	- 0.1	+ 0.6
Mid-December	+ 0.5	+ 2.1	+ 13.7	+ 0.2	+ 0.1	+ 1.4	+ 0.2	+ 1.3
<b>Year</b>	<b>- 2.2</b>	<b>+ 0.2</b>	<b>+ 9.6</b>	<b>- 1.4</b>	<b>- 1.3</b>	<b>- 1.1</b>	<b>- 1.9</b>	<b>- 1.0</b>
<b>2011</b> Mid-January	+ 0.5	+ 2.6	+ 11.6	+ 0.5	+ 0.5	+ 1.7	+ 0.7	+ 1.7
Mid-February	+ 1.4	+ 2.8	+ 13.9	+ 1.2	+ 1.3	+ 2.1	+ 1.1	+ 2.2
Mid-March	+ 2.0	+ 3.9	+ 14.8	+ 1.6	+ 1.8	+ 3.1	+ 1.9	+ 3.0
Mid-April	+ 1.6	+ 4.4	+ 12.5	+ 1.9	+ 2.0	+ 3.2	+ 2.3	+ 3.2
Mid-May	+ 1.4	+ 3.6	+ 10.5	+ 1.7	+ 1.7	+ 2.8	+ 1.8	+ 2.7

1 Housing includes rents, waste collection & disposal charges, mortgage interest, materials for repairs & decoration and house insurance.

2 Energy products includes electricity, gas, other domestic and transport fuels.

**Table A Comparison of Contributions to the Annual Rate of Inflation for May 10 and May 11**

COICOP Group	Contributions to overall CPI % change		
	May'09 - May'10	May'10 - May'11	Difference
01 Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	- 0.78	+ 0.11	+ 0.89
02 Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco	- 0.23	-	+ 0.23
03 Clothing and Footwear	- 0.56	- 0.01	+ 0.55
04 Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	+ 0.55	+ 1.33	+ 0.78
05 Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance	- 0.19	- 0.07	+ 0.12
06 Health	-	+ 0.14	+ 0.14
07 Transport	+ 0.65	+ 0.43	- 0.22
08 Communications	- 0.01	+ 0.14	+ 0.15
09 Recreation and Culture	- 0.21	- 0.03	+ 0.18
10 Education	+ 0.20	- 0.03	- 0.23
11 Restaurants and Hotels	- 0.46	- 0.11	+ 0.35
12 Miscellaneous Goods and Services	- 0.04	+ 0.78	+ 0.82
<b>ALL ITEMS % change</b>	- <b>1.1<sup>1</sup></b>	+ <b>2.7<sup>1</sup></b>	+ <b>3.8<sup>1</sup></b>
Goods	- 1.30	+ 0.66	+ 1.96
Services <sup>2</sup>	+ 0.23	+ 2.01	+ 1.78

<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 May 10 and May 11**

COICOP Group	+	COICOP Group	-
01 Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	+ 0.89	10 Education	- 0.23
12 Miscellaneous Goods and Services	+ 0.82	07 Transport	- 0.22
04 Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	+ 0.78		
03 Clothing and Footwear	+ 0.55		
11 Restaurants and Hotels	+ 0.35		
02 Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco	+ 0.23		
09 Recreation and Culture	+ 0.18		
08 Communications	+ 0.15		
06 Health	+ 0.14		
05 Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance	+ 0.12		
<b>Total Positive</b>	+ <b>4.21</b>	<b>Total Negative</b>	- <b>0.45</b>
<b>Net Difference (Positive less Negative)</b>			+ <b>3.8<sup>1</sup></b>

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



## 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 during the week containing the second Tuesday of each month. The dates to which the May index relates are Monday 9th to Tuesday 17th May, 2011.
- 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 84 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.
  - (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 100 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.

**Classification** The classification used in the CPI is based on a version of COICOP – COICOP HICP, the Classification of Individual Consumption 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](mailto: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 waste collection & disposal charges.

**Mortgage Interest** In line with normal practice for a fixed base price index, the current approach to measuring mortgage interest in the CPI reflects the situation in the base reference period December 2006 when the standard variable rate was dominant. Subsequently, tracker mortgages have become more popular. This did not give rise to any difficulties while the standard variable and tracker mortgage interest rates moved broadly in line with one another, which would be the normal expectation. However, the decoupling that has taken place since August 2009 has resulted in dramatically different trends emerging. For example, between September 2009 and September 2010 the standard variable rate increased from 2.93% to 3.66% whereas the tracker rate did not change. The Mortgage Interest component of the CPI, which is largely determined by the trend in the standard variable rate, increased by 25.1% as a result and contributed +1.25% to the overall change in the All Items index. It is crudely estimated that the latter impact would have been reduced by between 0.2% and 0.5% had the Mortgage Interest component been calculated on a current weighting basis. Users should take this “weighting effect” into account in interpreting the mortgage interest related movements in the index.

## 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 EU Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices (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.

<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 complimentary 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.