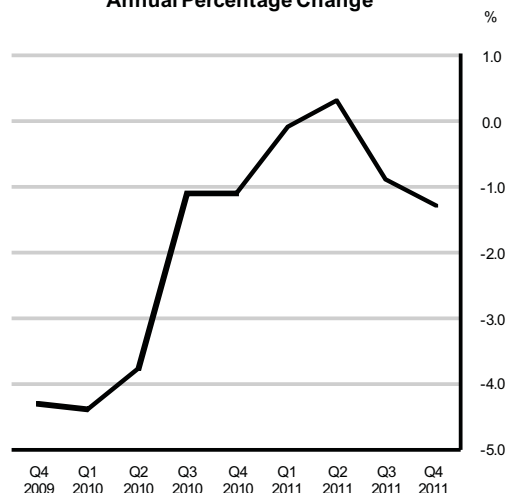




Services Producer Price Index (Experimental)
Annual Percentage Change



Services Producer Price Index

Experimental (Selected Services) Quarter 4 2011

Services Producer Price Index (Experimental)

	Price Index (Year 2006 =100)	% Quarterly change	% Annual change
Q2 2011	100.3	+0.5%	+ 0.3%
Q3 2011	99.5	-0.8%	-0.9%
Q4 2011	99.4	- 0.1%	- 1.3%

Services Producer Prices down 1.3 % in the year to Quarter 4 2011

The experimental Services Producer Price Index (SPPI) measures changes in the average prices charged by domestic service producers to other businesses for a selected range of services. **In most cases these services are provided to business customers only and so individual price indices should not be considered indicative of more general price trends in the economy. The index covers transaction costs from business to business and excludes consumers who are covered in the Consumer Price Index (CPI).**

The individual price indices are aggregated together to create a “service industry” index that is limited in coverage. The indices are still under development and may be subject to methodological improvement. Figures should therefore be treated as provisional and subject to revision. These indices are being published to engage users in the ongoing development of the SPPI methodology.

Services prices in Quarter 4 2011, as measured by the experimental SPPI, were on average 1.3% lower in the year when compared with the same period last year.

The most notable changes in the year were: Employment and Human Resource Activities (-12.4%), Architecture, Engineering and Technical Testing (-7.3%), Industrial and Building Cleaning (-5.0%) and Sea and Coastal Transport (+14.9%).

Services prices decreased by 0.1% in the quarter. This compares with a decrease of 0.8% recorded in Q3 2011.

The most notable quarterly price decreases were: Air Transport (-4.9%), Industrial and Building Cleaning (-2.4%) and Employment and Human Resource Activities (-1.5%). There were increases in Sea and Coastal Transport (+2.8%), Computer Programming and Consultancy (+2.5%) and Freight and Removal by Road (+1.8%).

The main factors contributing to the largest quarterly changes, as identified by respondents were as follows:

- ◆ Industrial and Building Cleaning – Drop in sales led to lower prices.
- ◆ Employment and Human Resource Activities – A reduction of rates due to downturn in business.
- ◆ Computer Programming and Consultancy – Rate increases negotiated with customers led to higher prices.
- ◆ Freight and Removal by Road – Currency fluctuations led to price increases.

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Table 1 Services Producer Price Index (All Sectors)

Period		SPPI Current base 2006 = 100	Quarterly	Annual
			%	%
2006	Year	100.0		
2007	Year	105.8		5.8
2008	Year	107.7		1.8
2009	Year	103.1		-4.3
2010	Year	100.3		-2.6
2011	Year	99.8		-0.5
2006	Quarter 1	98.2		
	Quarter 2	98.9	0.7	
	Quarter 3	101.8	2.9	
	Quarter 4	101.1	-0.7	
2007	Quarter 1	105.0	3.9	6.9
	Quarter 2	105.3	0.3	6.5
	Quarter 3	107.0	1.6	5.1
	Quarter 4	106.0	-0.9	4.8
2008	Quarter 1	109.3	3.1	4.1
	Quarter 2	107.4	-1.7	2.0
	Quarter 3	107.7	0.3	0.7
	Quarter 4	106.4	-1.2	0.4
2009	Quarter 1	104.5	-1.8	-4.4
	Quarter 2	103.9	-0.6	-3.3
	Quarter 3	101.5	-2.3	-5.8
	Quarter 4	101.8	0.3	-4.3
2010	Quarter 1	99.9	-1.9	-4.4
	Quarter 2	100.0	0.1	-3.8
	Quarter 3	100.4	0.4	-1.1
	Quarter 4	100.7	0.3	-1.1
2011	Quarter 1	99.8 ¹	-0.9 ¹	-0.1 ¹
	Quarter 2	100.3 ¹	0.5	0.3 ¹
	Quarter 3	99.5 ¹	-0.8	-0.9 ¹
	Quarter 4	99.4	-0.1	-1.3

¹ Revised Data

Table 2 Services Producer Price Index (2006 = 100)

Sector		Freight and Removal by Road	Sea and Coastal Transport	Air Transport ³	Warehousing, Storage and Cargo Handling	Postal and Courier	Computer Programming and Consultancy
Nace 2 Code ¹		49.4	50.1/50.2	51	52.1/52.24	53.1/53.2	62
Sectoral Weights ²		7.3	2.1	12.7	1.5	4.7	27.3
Annual average							
2006		100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
2007		102.3	99.6	106.4	102.6	103.7	108.9
2008		103.5	100.6	115.7	104.8	108.2	104.7
2009		100.1	98.9	113.6	101.9	106.2	97.4
2010		99.6	93.1	111.2	97.0	109.1	95.6
2011		99.7	100.7	117.6	95.8	109.7	95.2
Quarterly							
2009	Quarter 1	100.6	94.8	117.0	102.9	106.6	98.4
	Quarter 2	99.1	97.9	112.3	103.5	106.5	101.3
	Quarter 3	101.5	102.2	109.4	100.6	106.6	95.0
	Quarter 4	99.3	100.8	115.8	100.5	105.1	95.0
2010	Quarter 1	99.3	96.8	110.9	98.4	109.1	94.3
	Quarter 2	99.9	94.3	111.8	97.2	109.3	94.4
	Quarter 3	99.6	91.6	109.5	96.3	109.2	96.8
	Quarter 4	99.8	89.8	112.7	96.3	108.9	96.8
2011	Quarter 1	100.4	97.8	113.4	97.0	109.7	95.2
	Quarter 2	98.9	101.6	123.6	96.7	110.1	94.4
	Quarter 3	98.8	100.4	119.7	94.8	109.7	94.4
	Quarter 4	100.6	103.2	113.8	94.8	109.4	96.8
Annual percentage change							
2009	Quarter 1	-1.8	-5.3	-5.6	-2.3	0.0	-8.4
	Quarter 2	-3.1	-2.8	-3.3	-1.1	-2.1	-2.4
	Quarter 3	-2.9	1.1	-4.9	-4.2	-2.0	-8.5
	Quarter 4	-5.2	0.2	7.4	-3.6	-3.0	-8.5
2010	Quarter 1	-1.3	2.1	-5.2	-4.4	2.3	-4.2
	Quarter 2	0.8	-3.7	-0.4	-6.1	2.6	-6.8
	Quarter 3	-1.9	-10.4	0.1	-4.3	2.4	1.9
	Quarter 4	0.5	-10.9	-2.7	-4.2	3.6	1.9
2011	Quarter 1	1.1	1.0	2.3	-1.4	0.5	1.0
	Quarter 2	-1.0	7.7	10.6	-0.5	0.7	0.0
	Quarter 3	-0.8	9.6	9.3	-1.6	0.5	-2.5
	Quarter 4	0.8	14.9	1.0	-1.6	0.5	0.0
Quarterly percentage change							
2009	Quarter 1	-3.9	-5.8	8.5	-1.3	-1.7	-5.2
	Quarter 2	-1.5	3.3	-4.0	0.6	-0.1	2.9
	Quarter 3	2.4	4.4	-2.6	-2.8	0.1	-6.2
	Quarter 4	-2.2	-1.4	5.9	-0.1	-1.4	0.0
2010	Quarter 1	0.0	-4.0	-4.2	-2.1	3.8	-0.7
	Quarter 2	0.6	-2.6	0.8	-1.2	0.2	0.1
	Quarter 3	-0.3	-2.9	-2.1	-0.9	-0.1	2.5
	Quarter 4	0.2	-2.0	2.9	0.0	-0.3	0.0
2011	Quarter 1	0.6	8.9	0.6	0.7	0.7	-1.7
	Quarter 2	-1.5	3.9	9.0	-0.3	0.4	-0.8
	Quarter 3	-0.1	-1.2	-3.2	-2.0	-0.4	0.0
	Quarter 4	1.8	2.8	-4.9	0.0	-0.3	2.5

¹ Nace Rev 2 statistical classification of economic activities in the European Community² Sectoral weights do not total 100 due to rounding differences³ Air Transport is based on data compiled from the Consumer Price Index⁴ Revised Data

Table 2 Services Producer Price Index (2006 = 100) continued

Sector		Legal, Accounting, Public Relations and Business Management Consultancy	Architecture, Engineering and Technical Testing	Advertising, Media Representation and Market Research	Employment and Human Resource Activities	Security and Investigation	Industrial and Building Cleaning
Nace 2 Code ¹		69.1/69.2/70.2	71.1/71.2	73.1/73.2	78	80	81.2
Sectoral Weights ²		21.6	11.1	4.4	4.2	1.4	1.5
Annual average							
2006		100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
2007		104.0	107.0	105.3	103.9	103.3	107.1
2008		107.6	110.3	106.6	106.7	109.2	112.0
2009		105.4	101.3	99.2	101.2	104.5	115.5
2010		102.6	94.4	95.2	95.7	102.2	116.9
2011		101.5	88.2	95.3	86.6	98.5	114.0
Quarterly							
2009	Quarter 1	106.6	104.3	100.4	105.7	105.6	115.6
	Quarter 2	106.4	101.5	98.8	99.2	105.4	116.1
	Quarter 3	104.9	100.0	98.8	99.4	103.6	113.2
	Quarter 4	103.5	99.5	98.8	100.4	103.5	116.9
2010	Quarter 1	102.1	95.0	95.3	96.4	101.9	116.9
	Quarter 2	102.6	93.4	95.2	97.9	102.2	117.0
	Quarter 3	102.9	94.8	95.2	93.3	102.3	117.0
	Quarter 4	102.8	94.3	95.2	95.4	102.4	117.0
2011	Quarter 1	102.1	90.9 ³	94.7	89.5	98.6	116.8
	Quarter 2	101.6	87.3 ³	96.5	88.4	98.5	113.9
	Quarter 3	101.3	87.0 ³	95.0	84.9	98.5	113.9
	Quarter 4	101.0	87.4	95.0	83.6	98.5	111.2
Annual percentage change							
2009	Quarter 1	-0.7	-5.6	-5.0	-3.5	-3.3	5.2
	Quarter 2	-1.0	-8.1	-7.7	-5.8	-3.2	3.8
	Quarter 3	-3.3	-9.3	-7.7	-6.1	-5.6	0.0
	Quarter 4	-3.3	-9.7	-7.2	-5.4	-5.0	3.3
2010	Quarter 1	-4.2	-8.9	-5.1	-8.8	-3.5	1.1
	Quarter 2	-3.6	-8.0	-3.6	-1.3	-3.0	0.8
	Quarter 3	-1.9	-5.2	-3.6	-6.1	-1.3	3.4
	Quarter 4	-0.7	-5.2	-3.6	-5.0	-1.1	0.1
2011	Quarter 1	0.0	-4.3 ³	-0.6	-7.2	-3.2	-0.1
	Quarter 2	-1.0	-6.5 ³	1.4	-9.7	-3.6	-2.6
	Quarter 3	-1.6	-8.2 ³	-0.2	-9.0	-3.7	-2.6
	Quarter 4	-1.8	-7.3	-0.2	-12.4	-3.8	-5.0
Quarterly percentage change							
2009	Quarter 1	-0.4	-5.4	-5.7	-0.4	-3.1	2.1
	Quarter 2	-0.2	-2.7	-1.6	-6.1	-0.2	0.4
	Quarter 3	-1.4	-1.5	0.0	0.2	-1.7	-2.5
	Quarter 4	-1.3	-0.5	0.0	1.0	-0.1	3.3
2010	Quarter 1	-1.4	-4.5	-3.5	-4.0	-1.5	0.0
	Quarter 2	0.5	-1.7	-0.1	1.6	0.3	0.1
	Quarter 3	0.3	1.5	0.0	-4.7	0.1	0.0
	Quarter 4	-0.1	-0.5	0.0	2.3	0.1	0.0
2011	Quarter 1	-0.7	-3.6 ³	-0.5	-6.2	-3.7	-0.2
	Quarter 2	-0.5	-4.0 ³	1.9	-1.2	-0.1	-2.5
	Quarter 3	-0.3	-0.3 ³	-1.6	-4.0	0.0	0.0
	Quarter 4	-0.3	0.5	0.0	-1.5	0.0	-2.4

¹ Nace Rev 2 statistical classification of economic activities in the European Community² Sectoral weights do not total 100 due to rounding differences³ Revised Data

Table 3 Comparison of the sectoral SPPIs to the overall SPPI annual % change - Q4 2011

Sector	Annual
Freight and Removal by Road	0.8
Sea and Coastal Transport	14.9
Air Transport	1.0
Warehousing, Storage and Cargo Handling	-1.6
Postal and Courier	0.5
Computer Programming and Consultancy	0.0
Legal, Accounting, Public Relations and Business Management Consultancy	-1.8
Architecture, Engineering and Technical Testing	-7.3
Advertising, Media Representation and Market Research	-0.2
Employment and Human Resource Activities	-12.4
Security and Investigation	-3.8
Industrial and Building Cleaning	-5.0
ALL SECTORS % change	-1.3

Comparison of the sectoral SPPIs to the overall SPPI annual % Change - Q4 2011

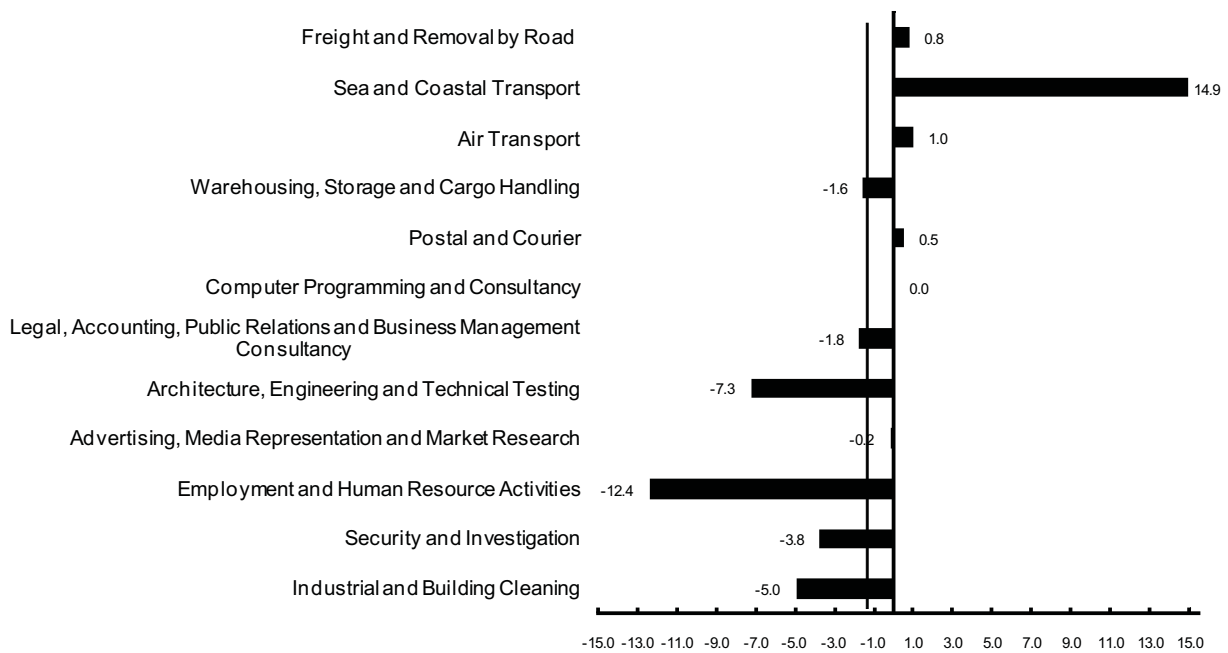
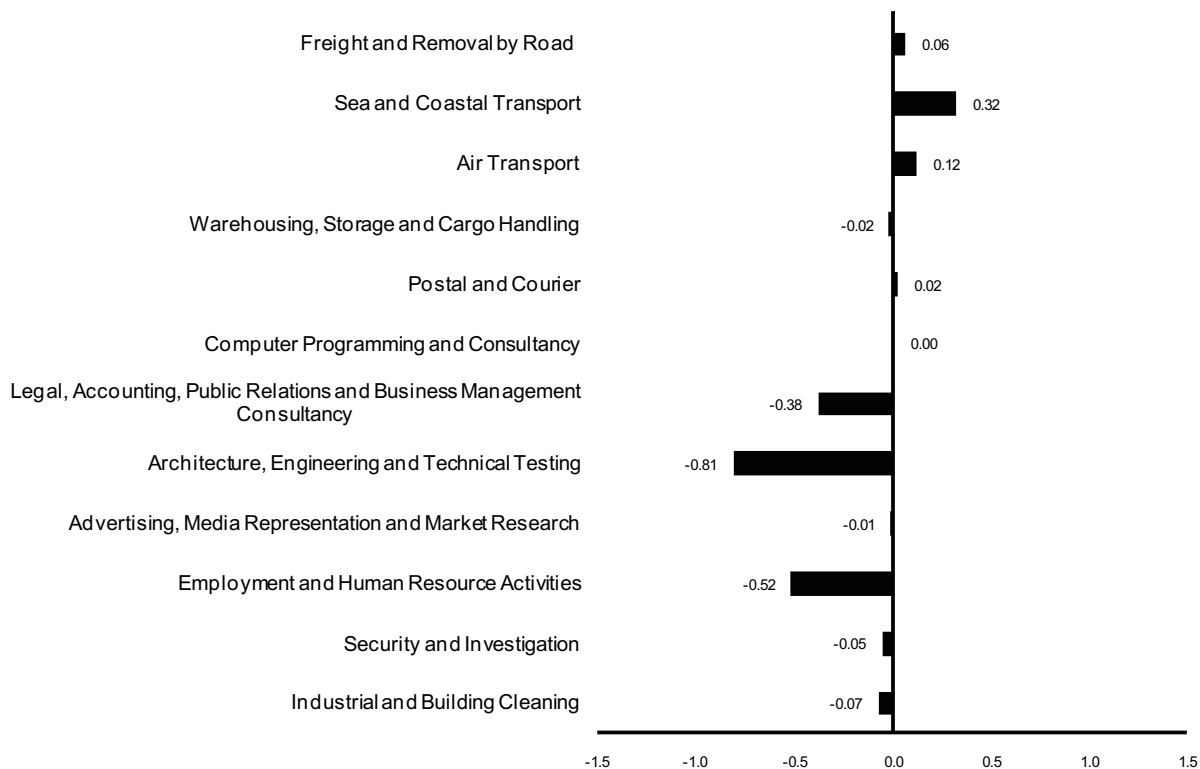


Table 4 Contributions to the overall SPPI change - Q4 2011

Sector	Contributions to overall SPPI % change	
	Quarterly	Annual
Freight and Removal by Road	0.13	0.06
Sea and Coastal Transport	0.06	0.32
Air Transport	-0.63	0.12
Warehousing, Storage and Cargo Handling	0.00	-0.02
Postal and Courier	-0.01	0.02
Computer Programming and Consultancy	0.69	0.00
Legal, Accounting, Public Relations and Business Management Consultancy	-0.06	-0.38
Architecture, Engineering and Technical Testing	0.05	-0.81
Advertising, Media Representation and Market Research	0.00	-0.01
Employment and Human Resource Activities	-0.06	-0.52
Security and Investigation	0.00	-0.05
Industrial and Building Cleaning	-0.04	-0.07
ALL SECTORS % change	-0.10¹	-1.30¹

¹ Totals may not equal the sum of the categories due to rounding differences

Contributions to the overall SPPI annual % Change - Quarter 4 2011

Background Notes

Services Producer Price Index **Services Producer Price Index** The Services Producer Price Index (SPPI) is made up of a set of individual price indices that measure changes in the average level of prices charged by producers for a selected range of services supplied to businesses and government. **In most cases these services are provided to business customers only and so individual price indices should not be considered indicative of more general price trends in the economy. The index covers transaction costs from business to business and excludes consumers who are covered in the Consumer Price Index (CPI).**

The individual price indices are aggregated together to create a “service industry” index that is limited in coverage. The SPPI is experimental, under development and may be subject to methodological improvement. Figures should therefore be treated as provisional and subject to revision. The index is published to engage users in the ongoing development of the methodology.

Relevancy There are two main uses of SPPI; as a short-term indicator of the business cycle and to provide deflators for national accounts.

Coverage The services producer price index covers a limited range of service industries as set by the European Parliament and Council Regulation (EC) No 1165/1998 (consolidated).

The following industries are selected (based on the Nace Rev 2 Classification):

H – Transportation & Storage

49.4 Freight transport by road and removal services

50.1/50.2 Sea and coastal transport

51 Air transport

52.1/52.24 Warehousing, storage and cargo handling

53.1/53.2 Postal and courier activities

J – Information & Communication

62 Computer programming and consultancy

M – Professional, Scientific & Technical Activities

69.1/69.2/70.2 Legal, accounting, public relations and business management and consultancy

71.1/71.2 Architecture, engineering and technical testing

73.1/73.2 Advertising, media representation and market research

N – Administrative and Support Services Activities

78 Employment activities

80 Security and investigation activities

81.2 Industrial and building cleaning

At present the quality of indices for the telecommunications (61) and information service activities (63) are deemed insufficient for publication.

The published index accounts for approximately 43% of the total value of the traded services sector, excluding Wholesale and Retail Trade, when measured by sales.

Nace Classification The business activity classifications used in this Statistical release are based on the Statistical Classification of Economic Activities in the European Community i.e. Nace Rev 2. The descriptions of particular NACE Rev 2 sectors are shown in abbreviated form in the release. For further information on the NACE Rev 2 classifications, visit the CSO website: (<http://www.cso.ie/px/u/NACECoder/NACEItems/searchnace.asp>)

Scope Regulation (EC) No 1165/1998 (consolidated) requires Member States to provide data on the change in price of services within the business sector. In most cases the CSO collects data on prices charged to Republic of Ireland businesses and government. In several instances prices are collected on the basis of prices charged to all sectors, i.e. ‘Air transport’ and ‘Postal activities under universal service obligation’, as these are representative of prices charged to Business customers.

Price collection All indices in the series are based on prices collected on a quarterly basis, using either the average price per quarter or the price on the 15th of the middle month of the reference period.

Prices used in the compilation of these indices are:

Exclusive of VAT

Inclusive of surcharges (such as for fuel)

The Air Transport index is constructed using data collected by the Consumer Price Section.

The Employment and Human Resource Activities index is constructed using a combination of survey data and data from the Earnings, Hours and Employment Cost Survey.

Weights The SPPI is compiled to base 2006 = 100. Weights at Nace Rev2 for 2006 were estimated by the SPPI Section primarily using data from the CSO Annual Services Inquiry. Weights are “gross” - they are based on turnover from sales to all sectors, including non-resident.

Methodology More information on SPPI’s is available from the Eurostat Methodological guide for developing producer price indices for services which can be viewed at:

<http://www.oecd.org/dataoecd/44/40/36274111.pdf>

Additional methodological information can be found on the website of the Voorburg Group on Services Statistics at: <http://www4.statcan.ca/english/voorburg/>

Calculating percentage changes in the index The movement of the SPPI is expressed as percentage change, rather than a change in index points, because index point changes are affected by the level of the index in relation to its base period, whereas percentage changes are not.

The example below illustrates the computation of a percentage change:

Percentage change calculation	
Current index	102.6
Less previous index	103.7
Equals in index points	-1.1
Divided by the previous index	103.7
Equals	-0.0106
Results multiplied by 100	0.0106*100
Equals percentage change	-1.1%