

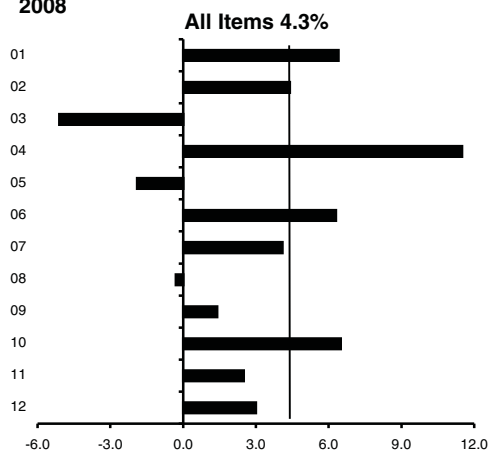


**Central Statistics Office**  
An Phríomh-Oifig Staidrimh

11 September 2008

## Consumer Price Index Detailed Sub-Indices Release August 2008

**Comparison of main CPI groups to the overall CPI annual % change - August 2008**



CPI (Base: December 2006 = 100)

COICOP Group	% changes	
	One month	12 months
01 Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	-0.3	+6.4
02 Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco	-	+4.4
03 Clothing and Footwear	+5.8	-5.1
04 Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	+2.5	+11.5
05 Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance	+0.2	-1.9
06 Health	+0.8	+6.3
07 Transport	-1.6	+4.1
08 Communications	-	-0.3
09 Recreation and Culture	-	+1.4
10 Education	+0.2	+6.5
11 Restaurants and Hotels	-0.2	+2.5
12 Miscellaneous Goods and Services	+0.1	+3.0
<b>ALL ITEMS</b>	<b>+0.5</b>	<b>+4.3</b>

### Annual Inflation falls slightly to 4.3% in August

Consumer Prices in August, as measured by the CPI, increased by 0.5% in the month. This is the same increase as recorded in August of last year. The annual rate of inflation fell to 4.3%, down from 4.4% in July 2008.

The most significant monthly price changes were increases in *Clothing & Footwear* (+5.8%), *Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels* (+2.5%) and *Health* (+0.8%). There were decreases in *Transport* (-1.6%) and *Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages* (-0.3%).

The most notable changes in the year were increases in *Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels* (+11.5%), *Education* (+6.5%), *Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages* (+6.4%) and *Health* (+6.3%). There were decreases in *Clothing & Footwear* (-5.1%) and *Furnishings, Household Equipment & Routine Household Maintenance* (-1.9%).

The annual rate of inflation for Services was 5.3% in August, while Goods increased by 3.5% in the year.

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

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## Note For Table A

The annual rate of inflation for August 2008 was 4.3%. The annual rate of inflation for the same period last year was 4.8%. The primary factor contributing to the difference in the annual percentage changes for August 2007 and August 2008 was the decreasing contribution of *Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels*. Other factors contributing to the index changes were increases in *Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages* and *Transport*.

Inflation for goods rose significantly from 0.2% in the year to August 2007, to 3.5% in August 2008, leading to an increased contribution by goods to the overall rate of inflation. Inflation for services fell from 8.5% in the year to August 2007, to 5.3% in August 2008.

**Table A Comparison of Contributions to the Annual Rate of Inflation for Aug 07 and Aug 08**

COICOP Group	Contributions to overall CPI % change					
	Aug '06 - Aug '07		Aug '07 - Aug '08		Difference	
01 Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages	+	0.32	+	0.73	+	0.41
02 Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco	+	0.40	+	0.26	-	0.14
03 Clothing and Footwear	-	0.26	-	0.24	+	0.02
04 Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	+	3.29	+	2.03	-	1.26
05 Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance	-	0.08	-	0.08	-	—
06 Health	+	0.10	+	0.19	+	0.09
07 Transport	+	0.02	+	0.54	+	0.52
08 Communications	+	0.04	-	0.01	-	0.05
09 Recreation and Culture	+	0.12	+	0.13	+	0.01
10 Education	+	0.08	+	0.12	+	0.04
11 Restaurants and Hotels	+	0.55	+	0.38	-	0.17
12 Miscellaneous Goods and Services	+	0.05	+	0.24	+	0.19
<b>ALL ITEMS % change</b>	<b>+</b>	<b>4.8<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>+</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0.5<sup>1</sup></b>
Goods	+	0.14	+	1.52	+	1.38
Services <sup>2</sup>	+	4.49	+	2.78	-	1.71

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

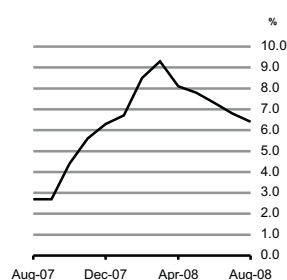
<sup>2</sup> Includes Mortgage Interest

# Consumer Price Index

## August 2008

### 01 Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages

Annual % change



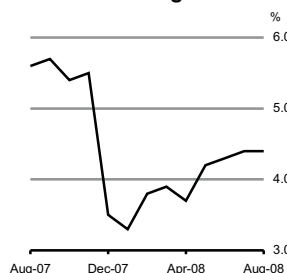
01 Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages

Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages prices decreased by 0.3% in the month and increased by 6.4% in the year to August 2008. This compares to an increase of 2.7% for the year to August 2007.

In the month, food prices decreased by 0.4% while non-alcoholic beverages prices remained unchanged. In August, price decreases were recorded for eggs (-3.2%), flour (-2.0%), lamb (-1.8%), beef (-1.6%), tea (-1.5%), other meat products (-1.4%), other fresh vegetables (-1.3%), miscellaneous food items (-1.2%), poultry (-1.0%), frozen vegetables (-1.0%), sugar & sweeteners (-1.0%), butter (-0.9%), desserts & ice cream (-0.8%) and other cereals (-0.7%). Price increases were recorded for other oils & fats (+6.8%), pork (+2.2%), breakfast cereals (+1.9%), cakes (+1.5%), condiments & sauces (+1.4%), fruit juices (+1.0%) and coffee (+1.0%).

### 02 Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco

Annual % change



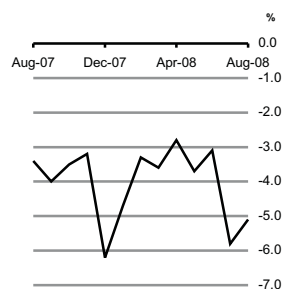
02 Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco

Overall prices remained unchanged in the month and increased by 4.4% in the year to August 2008. This compares to an increase of 5.6% for the year to August 2007.

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

### 03 Clothing and Footwear

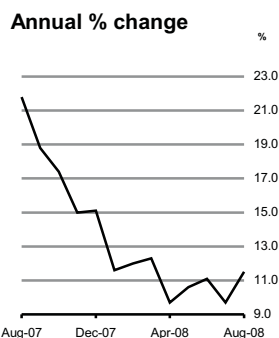
Annual % change



03 Clothing and Footwear

Clothing & Footwear prices increased by 5.8% in the month and decreased by 5.1% in the year to August 2008. This compares to a decrease of 3.4% for the year to August 2007. In the month, clothing prices increased by 6.2%, while footwear prices increased by 3.9%.

In the month, price increases were recorded for garments (+6.8%), shoes & other footwear (+4.0%), other articles of clothing (+0.3%) and repair & hire of footwear (+0.3%).

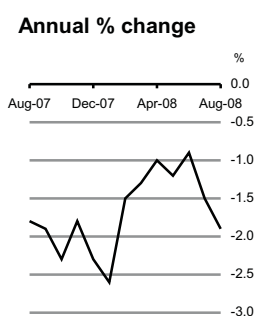


**04 Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels**

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

Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas & Other Fuels costs increased by 2.5% in the month and by 11.5% in the year to August 2008. This compares to an increase of 21.8% for the year to August 2007.

In the month, price increases were recorded for electricity (+17.6%), mortgage interest (+4.7%) and bottled gas (+1.5%). Price decreases were recorded for liquid fuels (i.e. home heating oil) (-9.2%) and rents (-2.9%).

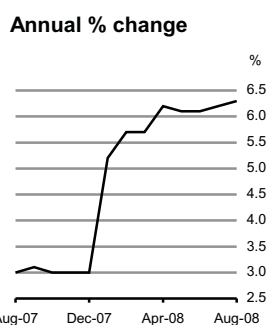


**05 Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance**

## 05 Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance

Furnishings, Household Equipment & Routine Household Maintenance costs increased by 0.2% in the month and decreased by 1.9% in the year to August 2008. This compares to a decrease of 1.8% for the year to August 2007.

In the month, price increases were recorded for household textiles (+3.4%), glassware, tableware & household utensils (+1.7%), repair of household appliances (+0.6%), furniture & furnishings (+0.5%) and small electric household appliances (+0.5%). Price decreases were recorded for small tools & miscellaneous accessories (-1.6%), carpets & other floor coverings (-1.0%) and major tools & equipment (-0.4%).



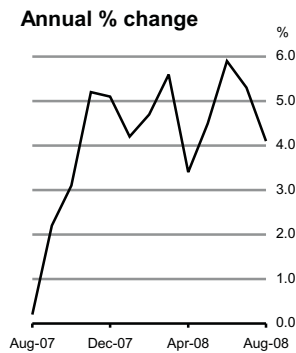
**06 Health**

## 06 Health

Overall health costs and charges increased by 0.8% in the month and by 6.3% in the year to August 2008. This compares to an increase of 3.0% for the year to August 2007.

In the month, price increases were recorded for doctors' fees (+3.5%), dental services (+1.4%) and prescribed drugs (+0.9%). A price decrease was recorded for other medical products (which includes condoms, petroleum jelly, disinfectant & adhesive dressing) (-2.9%).

## 07 Transport

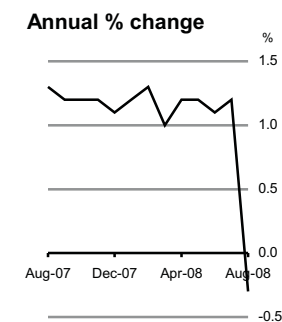


07 Transport

Transport costs decreased by 1.6% in the month and increased by 4.1% in the year to August 2008. This compares to an increase of 0.2% for the year to August 2007.

In the month, price decreases were recorded for sea transport (-13.0%), air transport (-5.8%), diesel (-4.8%) petrol (-4.4%), motor cycles (-0.4%) and motor oil (-0.2%). Price increases were recorded for other vehicle costs (which includes parking fees and car rental charges) (+1.9%), maintenance & repair (+1.7%) and other transport (+0.8%).

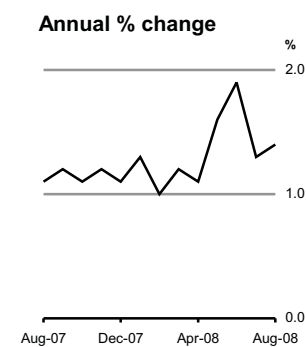
## 08 Communications



08 Communications

Overall communication costs remained unchanged in the month and decreased by 0.3% in the year to August 2008. This compares to an increase of 1.3% for the year to August 2007.

## 09 Recreation and Culture

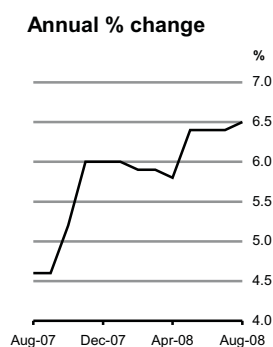


09 Recreation and Culture

Overall prices remained unchanged in the month and increased by 1.4% in the year to August 2008. This compares to an increase of 1.1% for the year to August 2007.

In the month, price increases were recorded for cultural admittance (+3.3%), sports participation (+0.2%) and other entertainment (+0.2%). Price decreases were recorded for information processing equipment (-2.9%), other major durables for recreation and culture (-2.3%), recording media (-1.3%), equipment for the reception, recording & reproduction of sound & pictures (-1.2%), games, toys & hobbies (-0.7%), pets & related products (-0.6%), photographic & cinematographic equipment & optical instruments (-0.5%) and nightclubs (-0.4%).

## 10 Education



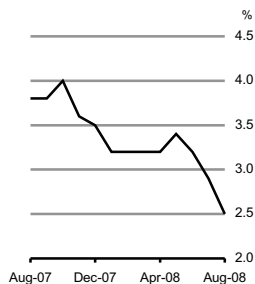
10 Education

Education costs increased by 0.2% in the month and by 6.5% in the year to August 2008. This compares to an increase of 4.6% for the year to August 2007.

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

## 11 Restaurants and Hotels

Annual % change



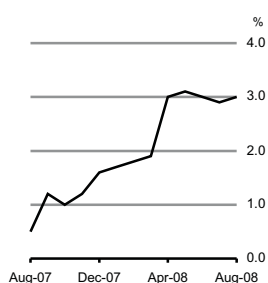
### 11 Restaurants and Hotels

Prices for the overall category decreased by 0.2% in the month and increased by 2.5% in the year to August 2008. This compares to an increase of 3.8% for the year to August 2007.

In the month, a price decrease was recorded for accommodation services (-2.1%). Price increases were recorded for restaurants, cafes & fast food (+0.3%), wine & cider (+0.2%), beer (+0.1%), spirits (+0.1%) and soft drinks & mineral water (+0.1%).

## 12 Miscellaneous Goods and Services

Annual % change



### 12 Miscellaneous Goods and Services

Overall prices increased by 0.1% in the month and by 3.0% in the year to August 2008. This compares to an increase of 0.5% recorded for the year to August 2007.

In the month, price increases were recorded for hair products (+3.4%), other personal goods (+1.9%), electric appliances for personal care (+0.8%), financial services (+0.3%) and other personal grooming (+0.3%). Price decreases were recorded for toilet accessories (-1.0%), hygiene products (-0.4%) and cosmetics & skincare products (-0.2%), hairdressing (-0.1%) and dwelling insurance (-0.1%).

**Table 1 Food and Non-Alcoholic Beverages - August 2008**

Description	Dec 2006 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
<b>Food</b>	10.8076	109.5	-0.4	6.6
Bread and Cereals	2.0242	114.6	0.3	10.1
Bread	0.6553	123.3	0.1	16.0
Flour	0.0517	144.5	-2.0	36.8
Biscuits	0.3268	107.7	-0.6	6.3
Cakes	0.3762	110.3	1.5	4.8
Breakfast cereals	0.2949	105.5	1.9	2.8
Other cereals	0.0992	118.7	-0.7	14.8
Other bread & cereals	0.2201	110.0	-0.3	8.2
Meat	2.6729	106.2	-1.0	5.0
Beef	0.7179	112.2	-1.6	10.9
Lamb	0.2234	111.7	-1.8	11.5
Pork	0.1781	96.0	2.2	-2.5
Bacon	0.3906	99.2	-0.2	-0.5
Poultry	0.4633	105.9	-1.0	3.1
Other meat products	0.6996	104.9	-1.4	3.2
Fish	0.3592	105.1	-0.2	2.0
Fresh fish	0.1814	101.4	-0.4	-0.6
Frozen/tinned/smoked fish	0.1778	108.8	-0.2	4.6
Milk, cheese and eggs	1.3177	124.1	0.1	18.3
Milk	0.6567	134.1	0.5	26.4
Other milk products	0.2608	116.6	0.2	12.4
Cheese	0.2790	112.0	0.6	9.6
Eggs	0.1212	114.3	-3.2	7.1
Oils and fats	0.2734	121.4	0.8	16.4
Butter	0.0813	117.2	-0.9	14.8
Margarine & low fat spreads	0.1448	125.7	0.1	18.1
Other oils & fats	0.0474	115.3	6.8	13.4
Fruit	0.8597	99.8	-0.6	-0.5
Fresh fruit	0.7731	98.9	-0.6	-1.2
Other fruits	0.0866	108.0	-0.6	6.3
Vegetables	1.5782	101.9	-0.6	-1.1
Potatoes	0.3256	92.2	0.7	-11.0
Other fresh vegetables	0.6079	104.7	-1.3	0.2
Tinned vegetables	0.0956	112.3	-0.2	7.0
Frozen vegetables	0.1549	103.9	-1.0	1.3
Other vegetable products	0.3943	102.1	-0.5	2.1
Sugar, jam, honey, chocolate and confectionery	0.8912	111.6	-0.4	7.5
Sugar & sweeteners	0.0583	99.2	-1.0	-0.9
Preserves	0.0526	116.0	-0.2	12.7
Sweets & chocolate	0.5151	111.5	-0.2	8.3
Desserts & ice cream	0.2652	113.6	-0.8	7.1
Other food products	0.8312	105.1	-0.1	4.0
Condiments & sauces	0.2761	107.2	1.4	6.0
Soup	0.1102	109.9	0.1	7.6
Miscellaneous food items	0.4449	102.6	-1.2	1.8
<b>Non-alcoholic beverages</b>	0.9347	107.0	0.0	4.3
Coffee, tea and cocoa	0.2380	107.6	-0.6	4.1
Tea	0.1417	108.5	-1.5	6.1
Coffee	0.0817	106.1	1.0	0.5
Cocoa	0.0146	107.6	0.2	5.5
Mineral waters, soft drinks & juices	0.6967	106.8	0.2	4.4
Soft drinks & mineral water	0.4523	107.2	-0.2	5.7
Fruit juices	0.2444	106.1	1.0	1.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>11.7423</b>	<b>109.3</b>	<b>-0.3</b>	<b>6.4</b>

**Table 2 Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco - August 2008**

Description	Dec 2006 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
<b>Alcoholic Beverages</b>	2.8725	104.1	-0.1	1.8
Spirits	0.5818	109.4	0.0	1.2
Wine & cider	1.5258	102.0	-0.2	0.6
Beer	0.7649	104.3	-0.1	4.6
<b>Tobacco</b>	3.1759	107.7	0.1	6.8
Cigarettes	3.1271	107.7	0.1	6.8
Other tobacco products	0.0488	104.7	0.0	2.9
<b>Total</b>	<b>6.0484</b>	<b>106.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>4.4</b>

**Table 3 Clothing and Footwear - August 2008**

Description	Dec 2006 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
<b>Clothing</b>	4.4488	87.0	6.2	-5.1
Garments	4.2028	86.2	6.8	-5.5
Other articles of clothing	0.1001	93.4	0.3	-1.6
Cleaning, repair & hire of clothing	0.1459	107.5	0.2	4.0
Dry cleaning & laundry	0.1052	108.1	0.1	4.1
Dress hire & repair of clothing	0.0408	105.8	0.1	3.3
<b>Footwear</b>	0.9670	87.0	3.9	-5.2
Shoes & other footwear	0.9537	86.7	4.0	-5.5
Repair & hire of footwear	0.0133	106.3	0.3	4.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>5.4158</b>	<b>87.0</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>-5.1</b>

**Table 4 Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels - August 2008**

Description	Dec 2006 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
Rents & other housing costs	9.5303	135.2	2.7	13.3
Rents	2.8696	110.8	-2.9	2.0
Mortgage interest	6.6607	145.7	4.7	17.6
Maintenance & repair of the dwelling	2.4521	103.8	0.0	1.4
Materials for maint. & repair of dwelling	1.5062	103.1	0.0	0.7
Services for maint. & repair of dwelling	0.9459	105.0	0.0	2.6
Water supply, refuse & misc. services	0.5117	105.2	0.0	0.7
Electricity, gas & other fuels	4.0142	119.9	3.5	14.2
Electricity	1.5444	125.2	17.6	11.2
Natural gas	0.7560	82.5	0.0	-8.3
Bottled gas	0.1177	113.2	1.5	12.0
Liquid fuels	0.8538	149.9	-9.2	40.0
Solid fuels	0.7423	113.7	0.0	10.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>16.5083</b>	<b>125.9</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>11.5</b>



**Table 5 Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance - August 2008**

Description	Dec 2006 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
Furniture, furnishings, carpets & other flooring	1.0812	91.8	0.3	-4.2
Furniture & furnishings	0.9467	92.3	0.5	-4.5
Carpets & other floor coverings	0.1345	88.5	-1.0	-2.1
Household textiles	0.2424	90.7	3.4	-5.2
Household appliances	1.0459	94.4	0.1	-2.8
Major household appliances	0.8435	93.4	0.0	-3.1
Small electric household appliances	0.1285	93.5	0.5	-4.6
Repair of household appliances	0.0740	107.1	0.6	3.7
Glassware, tableware & hsehd utensils	0.2577	93.8	1.7	-2.3
Tools & equipment for house & garden	0.3627	98.0	-1.3	-1.1
Major tools & equipment	0.0808	98.6	-0.4	-0.9
Small tools & misc. accessories	0.2820	97.8	-1.6	-1.2
Goods & services for routine hsehd maint.	1.4321	101.6	0.0	0.8
Non-durable household goods	0.6683	102.1	-0.1	0.5
Domestic & household services	0.7638	101.1	0.0	1.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>4.4221</b>	<b>96.1</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>-1.9</b>

**Table 6 Health - August 2008**

Description	Dec 2006 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
Medical products, appliances & equip.	1.1764	100.9	0.4	2.3
Pharmaceutical products	0.8672	100.0	0.7	2.4
Prescribed drugs	0.6160	98.3	0.9	2.1
Other medicines	0.2512	104.0	0.1	2.8
Other medical products	0.0456	100.2	-2.9	-1.0
Therapeutic appliances & equip	0.2637	104.0	0.0	2.9
Outpatient services	1.0313	112.6	2.2	6.8
Medical services	0.6684	114.6	2.6	8.1
Doctors' fees	0.4792	115.4	3.5	10.1
Alternative & complementary medicine	0.1893	112.6	0.2	3.2
Dental services	0.3628	108.9	1.4	4.5
Hospital services	0.9459	115.3	0.0	10.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>3.1536</b>	<b>109.0</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>6.3</b>

**Table 7      Transport - August 2008**

Description	Dec 2006 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
Purchase of vehicles	5.7319	99.2	0.0	-1.3
Motor cars	5.6398	99.2	0.0	-1.4
Motor cycles	0.0373	100.6	-0.4	0.7
Bicycles	0.0549	98.5	0.4	-0.6
Operation of personal transport equip.	5.9606	119.2	-2.8	10.9
Spare parts & accessories	0.3444	104.3	0.3	1.9
Fuels & lubricants	3.7506	125.0	-4.5	13.3
Petrol	2.9759	123.3	-4.4	10.5
Diesel	0.7604	132.3	-4.8	25.5
Motor oil	0.0143	108.0	-0.2	3.5
Maintenance & repair	0.7045	112.0	1.7	7.9
Other services	1.1611	109.3	0.5	7.2
Motor tax	0.8380	109.8	0.0	9.8
Other vehicle costs	0.3173	108.2	1.9	0.8
Driving licences	0.0058	100.0	0.0	0.0
Transport services	1.6008	110.1	-2.0	-2.6
Rail transport	0.2189	107.2	0.0	4.3
Road transport	0.9286	103.8	0.0	2.2
Bus fares	0.3926	108.9	0.0	5.0
Taxi	0.5360	100.0	0.0	0.0
Air transport	0.4009	126.1	-5.8	-13.2
Sea transport	0.0290	115.5	-13.0	-2.1
Combined transport	0.0183	109.7	0.0	5.4
Other transport	0.0051	100.2	0.8	0.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>13.2933</b>	<b>109.5</b>	<b>-1.6</b>	<b>4.1</b>

**Table 8      Communications - August 2008**

Description	Dec 2006 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
Postal services	0.0798	111.6	0.0	1.1
Telephone & communication services	3.3387	100.7	-0.1	-0.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>3.4184</b>	<b>101.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>-0.3</b>

**Table 9 Recreation and Culture - August 2008**

Description	Dec 2006 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
Audio-visual, photographic & information processing equipment	1.0479	81.0	-1.3	-12.6
Equipment for the reception, recording & reproduction of sound & pictures	0.2217	75.0	-1.2	-15.5
Photographic & cinematographic equip. & optical instruments	0.2622	77.9	-0.5	-11.6
Information processing equip.	0.1713	69.5	-2.9	-21.5
Recording media	0.3927	91.6	-1.3	-8.3
Other major durables for recreation & culture	0.0146	95.4	-2.3	-3.2
Other recreational items & equip. incl. gardens & pets	1.5602	99.2	-0.4	0.3
Games, toys & hobbies	0.5606	89.4	-0.7	-5.6
Equipment for sport, camping & open air recreation	0.1917	99.1	0.0	2.4
Gardens, plants & flowers	0.4325	104.7	-0.1	2.7
Pets & related products	0.2570	106.6	-0.6	5.0
Veterinary & other services for pets	0.1184	109.8	0.0	4.2
Recreational & cultural services	3.2243	108.7	0.6	5.3
Recreational & sporting services	1.1232	110.3	0.1	3.1
Sports admittance	0.1449	109.8	0.1	0.2
Sports participation	0.3086	105.4	0.2	4.2
Club & society subscriptions	0.6697	112.7	0.0	3.3
Cultural services	2.1011	107.8	0.7	6.6
Cinema	0.2026	104.9	0.0	2.6
Nightclubs	0.2299	104.3	-0.4	3.3
Cultural admittance	0.5231	112.9	3.3	15.4
Other entertainment	0.1791	101.7	0.2	0.8
Television services	0.9664	107.7	0.0	4.8
Newspapers, books & stationery	1.7290	105.4	-0.2	3.4
Books	0.4724	103.4	-0.1	3.8
Newspapers & periodicals	0.9333	107.9	-0.3	3.7
Stationery	0.3233	101.1	0.1	1.9
Package holidays	2.5280	102.0	-0.1	0.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>10.1041</b>	<b>102.1</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>1.4</b>

**Table 10 Education - August 2008**

Description	Dec 2006 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
Primary education	0.0334	108.7	0.0	8.7
Second level education	0.1695	109.9	0.0	9.9
Third level education	1.0183	106.1	0.0	5.8
Other education & training	0.8217	107.9	0.4	6.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>2.0429</b>	<b>107.2</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>6.5</b>

**Table 11 Restaurants and Hotels - August 2008**

Description	Dec 2006 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
Catering services	13.0297	107.0	0.1	3.6
Restaurants, cafes & licenced premises	11.6723	107.0	0.2	3.6
Beer	4.7087	107.3	0.1	3.7
Spirits	1.3776	107.5	0.1	3.9
Wine & cider	1.0197	106.9	0.2	3.8
Soft drinks & mineral water	0.3351	108.4	0.1	4.0
Restaurants, cafes & fast-food	4.2313	106.5	0.3	3.4
Canteens	1.3573	107.3	0.0	4.2
Accommodation services	2.3950	108.0	-2.1	-3.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>15.4247</b>	<b>107.2</b>	<b>-0.2</b>	<b>2.5</b>

**Table 12 Miscellaneous Goods and Services - August 2008**

Description	Dec 2006 base expenditure weight %	Current Index	% change 1 mth	% change 12 mths
Personal care	2.3999	104.4	0.0	2.1
Hairdressing salons & personal grooming	0.8844	109.9	-0.1	4.5
Hairdressing	0.7537	109.8	-0.1	4.7
Health & beauty treatments	0.1236	110.7	0.0	3.1
Other personal grooming	0.0071	108.8	0.3	4.7
Electric appliances for personal care	0.0130	97.9	0.8	-1.6
Other appliances, articles & products for personal care	1.5025	101.2	0.1	0.6
Hygiene products	0.3344	104.3	-0.4	1.8
Hair products	0.2034	100.4	3.4	3.0
Cosmetics & skincare products	0.6554	101.6	-0.2	1.1
Toilet accessories	0.3093	97.6	-1.0	-3.0
Personal goods	0.4855	93.7	1.2	-1.4
Jewellery, clocks & watches	0.1711	105.0	0.1	4.4
Other personal goods	0.3143	87.5	1.9	-4.8
Social protection	1.0171	105.7	0.0	4.9
Childcare	0.9858	105.1	0.0	4.7
Other social protection	0.0314	124.2	0.0	9.2
Insurance	3.9334	101.1	0.0	3.6
Dwelling insurance	0.7502	102.7	-0.1	2.2
Health insurance	1.7726	108.2	0.0	8.2
Transport insurance	1.4106	91.3	0.1	-1.8
Motor cycle insurance	0.0193	86.8	0.0	0.0
Motor car insurance	1.3913	91.4	0.1	-1.8
Financial services	0.1262	102.0	0.3	2.0
Other services	0.4639	107.1	0.2	3.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>8.4260</b>	<b>102.5</b>	<b>0.1</b>	<b>3.0</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		%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
% Base Expenditure														
Weights		11.742	6.048	5.416	16.509	4.422	3.154	13.293	3.418	10.104	2.043	15.425	8.426	100.000
2007	Mid-June	+0.4	+0.1	-1.7	+0.6	-0.4	-	+0.8	-	-0.2	-	+0.7	+0.2	+0.2
	Mid-July	+0.1	-	-8.4	+2.6	-0.8	-	+1.1	-0.1	+0.4	-	+0.5	-0.1	+0.3
	Mid-August	+0.1	-	+5.0	+0.9	+0.6	+0.7	-0.5	+1.5	-0.1	+0.1	+0.2	-	+0.5
	Mid-September	+0.2	-	+4.7	+0.3	+0.2	+0.1	-0.9	-0.1	+0.2	-	-0.3	+2.0	+0.3
	Mid-October	+1.4	-	-0.6	+0.3	-0.6	+0.1	-0.6	-	-	+3.9	-0.1	+0.1	+0.1
	Mid-November	+1.1	+0.1	+1.8	+0.7	+0.5	+0.3	+1.4	-	+0.2	+1.3	-0.6	+0.1	+0.6
	Mid-December	+0.9	+1.9	-3.4	+0.7	-0.4	-	-	-0.1	-	-	-0.1	-0.1	+0.1
2008	Mid-January	+0.4	+0.8	-12.9	+0.4	-2.9	+2.9	-0.3	-	+0.2	+0.1	-0.2	-0.2	-0.5
	Mid-February	+1.8	+0.5	+12.7	+0.7	+2.8	+1.0	+0.8	-	+0.4	+0.3	+0.4	+0.3	+1.2
	Mid-March	+0.9	+0.3	+1.7	+1.2	+0.1	+0.1	+2.5	-	+0.1	-	+1.0	+0.2	+0.9
	Mid-April	+0.1	+0.1	-0.1	+0.3	-0.2	+0.5	-0.9	-	-0.1	-	+1.1	+0.4	+0.1
	Mid-May	+0.4	+0.5	-0.3	+1.6	-0.1	+0.3	+1.2	-	+0.5	+0.6	+0.8	+0.2	+0.8
	Mid-June	-0.1	+0.2	-1.1	+1.0	-0.1	-	+2.1	-0.1	+0.1	-	+0.5	+0.1	+0.5
	Mid-July	-0.4	+0.1	-10.9	+1.3	-1.4	+0.1	+0.5	-	-0.2	-	+0.2	-0.2	-0.3
	Mid-August	-0.3	-	+5.8	+2.5	+0.2	+0.8	-1.6	-	-	+0.2	-0.2	+0.1	+0.5

**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>2007</b> Mid-June	+2.5	+5.6	-3.7	+22.6	-2.1	+2.7	+1.7	-	+1.3	+4.8	+4.3	+0.6	+4.9
Mid-July	+2.6	+5.6	-1.4	+21.8	-1.1	+2.6	+1.8	-0.2	+1.5	+4.5	+4.1	+0.7	+5.0
Mid-August	+2.7	+5.6	-3.4	+21.8	-1.8	+3.0	+0.2	+1.3	+1.1	+4.6	+3.8	+0.5	+4.8
Mid-September	+2.7	+5.7	-4.0	+18.8	-1.9	+3.1	+2.2	+1.2	+1.2	+4.6	+3.8	+1.2	+4.6
Mid-October	+4.4	+5.4	-3.5	+17.4	-2.3	+3.0	+3.1	+1.2	+1.1	+5.2	+4.0	+1.0	+4.8
Mid-November	+5.6	+5.5	-3.2	+15.0	-1.8	+3.0	+5.2	+1.2	+1.2	+6.0	+3.6	+1.2	+5.0
Mid-December	+6.3	+3.5	-6.2	+15.1	-2.3	+3.0	+5.1	+1.1	+1.1	+6.0	+3.5	+1.6	+4.7
<b>Year</b>	<b>+2.8</b>	<b>+5.3</b>	<b>-3.3</b>	<b>+20.4</b>	<b>-1.7</b>	<b>+2.9</b>	<b>+2.2</b>	<b>+0.5</b>	<b>+1.5</b>	<b>+5.1</b>	<b>+4.1</b>	<b>+1.0</b>	<b>+4.9</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

**Table 15 Consumer Price Index Goods and Services by COICOP - August 2008**

COICOP	Group	Mid-Dec 2006 % Base Expenditure Weights	% Goods Base Expenditure Weights	% Services Base Expenditure Weights	Index		Percentage changes		
					Goods	Services	Goods 12 Months	Services 12 Months	Overall 12 Months
01	Food and Non Alcoholic Beverages	11.742	11.742	-	109.3	-	+6.4	-	+6.4
02	Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco	6.048	6.048	-	106.0	-	+4.4	-	+4.4
03	Clothing and Footwear	5.416	5.257	0.159	86.4	107.4	-5.5	+4.0	-5.1
04	Housing, Water, Electricity, Gas and Other Fuels	16.509	3.220	13.289	118.3	127.7	+14.1	+10.9	+11.5
05	Furnishings, Household Equipment and Routine Household Maintenance	4.422	3.557	0.865	94.8	101.7	-2.7	+1.3	-1.9
06	Health	3.154	1.177	1.977	100.9	113.9	+2.3	+8.7	+6.3
07	Transport	13.293	9.827	3.466	109.2	110.2	+4.7	+2.6	+4.1
08	Communications	3.418	0.018	3.400	88.8	101.0	-1.9	-0.4	-0.3
09	Recreation and Culture	10.104	4.233	5.871	96.9	105.8	-1.5	+3.3	+1.4
10	Education	2.043	-	2.043	-	107.2	-	+6.5	+6.5
11	Restaurants and Hotels	15.425	-	15.425	-	107.2	-	+2.5	+2.5
12	Miscellaneous Goods & Services	8.426	2.001	6.425	99.4	103.5	+0.2	+3.9	+3.0
<b>ALL ITEMS</b>		<b>100.000</b>	<b>47.080</b>	<b>52.920</b>	<b>104.1</b>	<b>111.7</b>	<b>+3.5</b>	<b>+5.3</b>	<b>+4.3</b>

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

Period	Goods		Services		Energy		CPI excluding Mortgage Interest		CPI excluding Housing		CPI excluding Tobacco		CPI excluding Energy Products		All Items	
	%		%		%		%		%		%		%		%	
<b>2005</b>																
Mid-July	+	0.8	+	3.7	+	12.7	+	1.9	+	1.8	+	2.4	+	1.6	+	2.4
Mid-August	+	0.8	+	3.5	+	12.5	+	1.8	+	1.7	+	2.3	+	1.5	+	2.3
Mid-September	+	2.0	+	3.9	+	19.6	+	2.6	+	2.6	+	3.1	+	1.7	+	3.0
Mid-October	+	1.7	+	4.1	+	19.9	+	2.6	+	2.5	+	3.0	+	1.7	+	3.0
Mid-November	+	0.9	+	4.1	+	12.7	+	2.1	+	2.1	+	2.7	+	1.7	+	2.6
Mid-December	+	0.5	+	4.2	+	10.4	+	1.9	+	1.8	+	2.5	+	1.8	+	2.5
<b>Year</b>	+	<b>0.8</b>		<b>4.0</b>	+	<b>12.6</b>	+	<b>1.9</b>	+	<b>1.9</b>	+	<b>2.5</b>	+	<b>1.7</b>	+	<b>2.5</b>
<b>2006</b>																
Mid-January	+	1.4	+	4.4	+	13.3	+	2.3	+	2.2	+	3.0	+	2.2	+	3.0
Mid-February	+	2.0	+	4.4	+	15.3	+	2.6	+	2.6	+	3.4	+	2.3	+	3.3
Mid-March	+	2.1	+	4.7	+	13.9	+	2.7	+	2.7	+	3.5	+	2.7	+	3.5
Mid-April	+	1.9	+	5.3	+	10.3	+	2.7	+	2.7	+	3.8	+	3.2	+	3.8
Mid-May	+	2.6	+	5.1	+	13.0	+	2.9	+	2.9	+	4.0	+	3.3	+	3.9
Mid-June	+	2.1	+	5.4	+	12.7	+	2.8	+	2.8	+	4.0	+	3.2	+	3.9
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



**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>2005</b> Mid-July	101.2	+ 0.3	—	95.9	—	- 2.6	99.8	+ 0.2	- 0.6
Mid-August	101.2	—	—	95.6	- 0.2	- 2.9	99.7	- 0.1	- 0.8
Mid-September	101.1	- 0.2	- 0.2	96.0	+ 0.3	- 2.0	99.8	—	- 0.6
Mid-October	101.0	—	- 0.3	95.4	- 0.6	- 2.3	99.6	- 0.2	- 0.8
Mid-November	100.8	- 0.2	- 0.3	94.7	- 0.6	- 2.7	99.2	- 0.3	- 0.9
Mid-December	100.5	- 0.3	- 0.4	95.3	+ 0.5	- 3.2	99.2	- 0.1	- 1.1
<b>Year</b>	<b>100.9</b>		<b>- 0.2</b>	<b>96.0</b>		<b>- 2.2</b>	<b>99.7</b>		<b>- 0.8</b>
<b>2006</b> Mid-January	100.8	+ 0.3	- 0.2	95.2	- 0.1	- 2.5	99.4	+ 0.2	- 0.8
Mid-February	101.1	+ 0.3	+ 0.1	97.0	+ 2.0	- 0.9	100.1	+ 0.7	- 0.2
Mid-March	101.3	+ 0.2	+ 0.6	97.5	+ 0.5	+ 1.0	100.3	+ 0.3	+ 0.7
Mid-April	101.5	+ 0.2	+ 0.7	97.7	+ 0.2	+ 2.0	100.6	+ 0.3	+ 1.1
Mid-May	101.9	+ 0.4	+ 1.0	99.0	+ 1.3	+ 3.7	101.1	+ 0.6	+ 1.7
Mid-June	101.4	- 0.5	+ 0.5	98.1	- 0.9	+ 2.4	100.5	- 0.7	+ 0.9
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

<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 August index relates is Tuesday, 12th August 2008.
- 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](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 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.

<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 take-aways; 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.