



1. Consumer Price Index (CPI) - April 2019

Consumer Prices in April, as measured by the CPI, increased by **0.4%** in the month. During April of last year, prices fell by **0.2%** in the month. Prices on average, as measured by the CPI, were **1.7%** higher in April compared with April 2018.

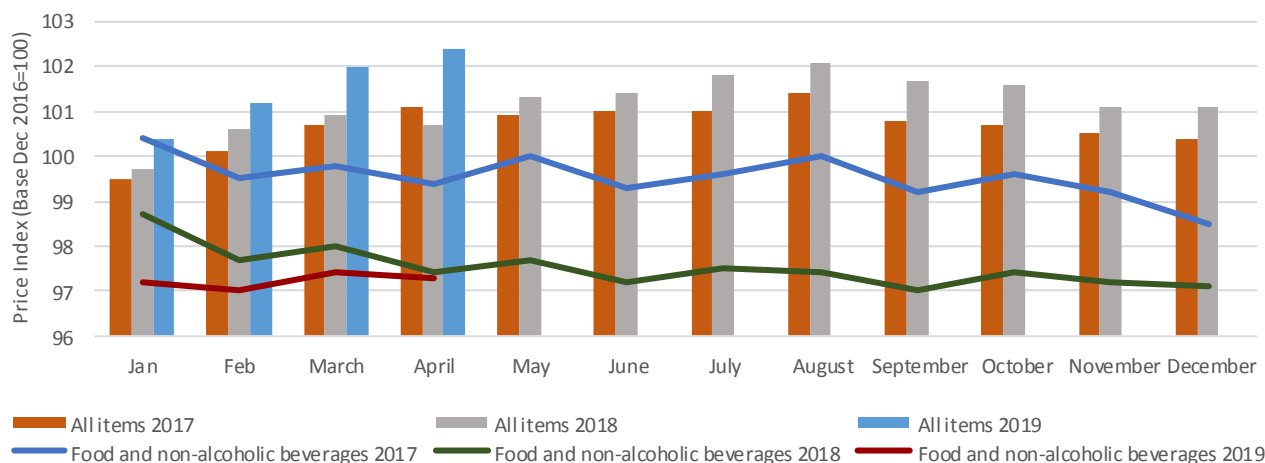
For more detail please follow the link: [CSO Recent Prices Releases](#)

Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages prices decreased by **0.1%** in April and decreased by **0.1%** from April 2018 until April 2019. In the month, food prices increased by **0.1%** while non-alcoholic beverages prices decreased by **1.2%**.

A detailed breakdown of food prices is set out in the table below.

	Monthly Change	% Change 12 Months
Overall CPI	+0.4%	+1.7%
Food & Non Alcoholic Beverages	-0.1%	-0.1%
Food	+0.1%	-0.1%
Beef & Veal	-0.5%	-1.5%
Pork	+4.6%	+1.2%
Lamb & Goat	+3.6%	-2.7%
Poultry	-0.6%	-2.1%
Other Meat Preparations	+1.2%	+1.5%
Fish	+0.6%	-2.0%
Bread & Cereals	-0.2%	-0.2%
Fresh Whole Milk	0.0%	-0.2%
Other Milk Products	-0.6%	-4.1%
Cheese & Curd	+0.5%	-4.7%
Eggs	-0.4%	-1.7%
Butter	+0.7%	+0.5%
Sugar	+0.0%	-6.4%
Potatoes	+1.0%	+18.4%
Other Fresh or Chilled Vegetables	+0.1%	-0.1%
Fresh or Chilled Fruit	+0.4%	-0.4%
Tea, Coffee & Cocoa	-2.8%	+0.3%
Mineral Waters, Soft Drinks & Juices	-0.7%	+0.7%
Non-Alcoholic Beverages	-1.2%	+0.5%
Alcoholic Beverages	-0.1%	-1.3%

Consumer Price Index (Base Dec 2016=100) by commodity group and month





2. Comparison with other EU Countries (HICP – March 2019)

Using the Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices (HICP), Ireland showed a monthly inflationary rate of **+0.4%** and an increased of **+1.7%** in April 2019 compared with April 2018. The average in the EU-28 was **+1.9%** and Eurozone was **+1.7%**. Romania had the highest rate at **+4.4%**.

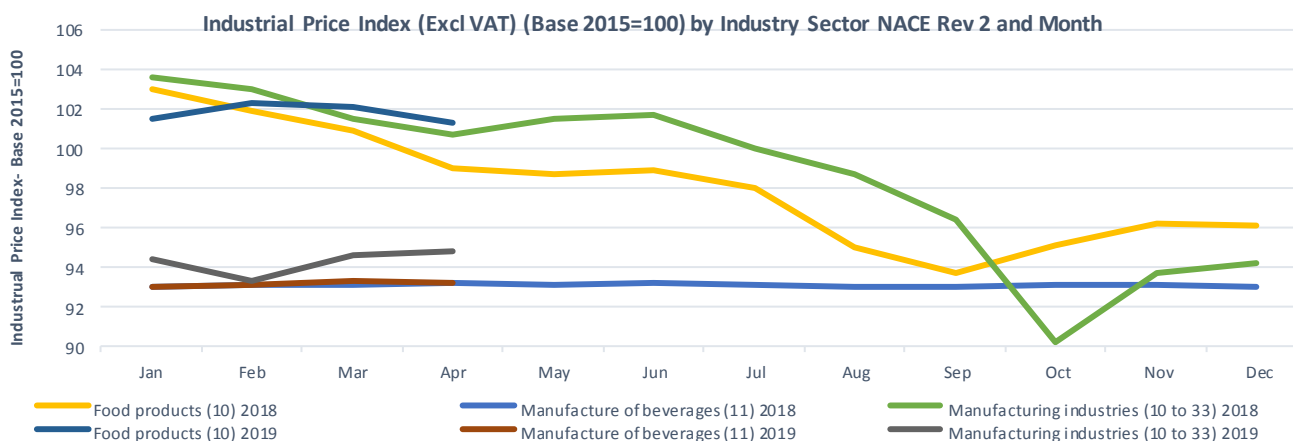
For food and non-alcoholic beverages, Ireland had a monthly inflationary rate of **0.0%** and an annual decrease of 0.01% in April 2019 compared with April 2018. In April 2019 there was a increase of **+1.7%** in the EU-28 and a increase of **+1.1%** for the euro zone. Romania had the highest monthly inflation rate at **+6.5%**.

3. Wholesale Price Index (WPI), May 2019

Monthly factory gate prices increased by **+0.2%** in April 2019. This compares to a decrease of **+0.8%** for April of last year. The annual percentage change showed a decrease of **5.9%** in April 2019, compared to a decrease of **6.8%** in the year to March 2019.

In the month, the price index for export sales increased by **+0.3%**, while the index for home sales decreased by **0.2%**. In the year there was a decrease of **6.2%** in the price index for export sales (this can be influenced by currency fluctuations) and an increase of **1.8%** in respect of the price index for home sales.

	Monthly Change	% Change 12 Months
Wholesale Prices	+0.2%	-5.9%
Food Products	-0.8%	+2.3%
Meat and Meat Products	-0.1%	-0.7%
Fish and Fish Products	+0.1%	+11.2%
Fruit and Vegetables	+0.3%	+9.7%
Dairy Products	+2.7%	-6.8%
Other Food Products	-1.8%	+6.7%
Energy Products	+4.6%	+4.1%
Auto Diesel	+0.9%	+3.2%
Gas Oil	+1.7%	+3.6%
All Capital Goods	+0.2%	+2.1%
Transportable capital for use in Agriculture	-0.3%	+1.4%
Agriculture and Industry	+0.0%	+1.0%



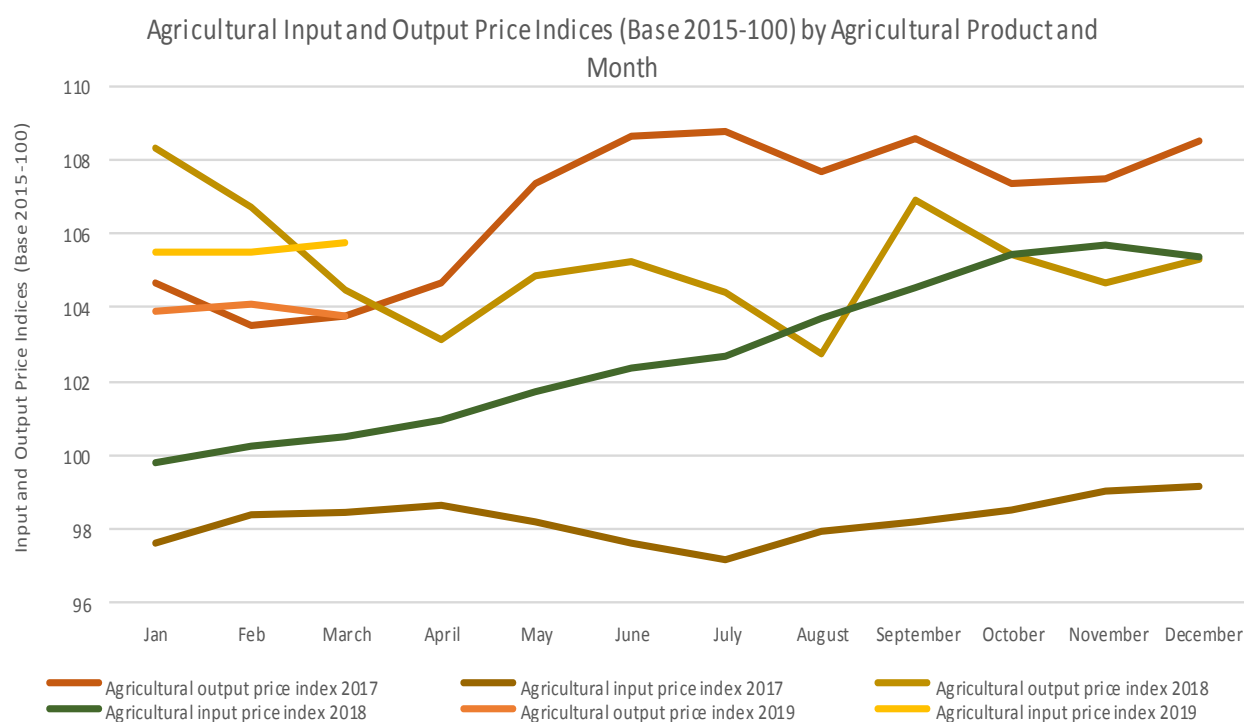


4. Agricultural Price Index (API)- March 2019

The agricultural input price index increased by **0.3%** in March 2019 compared with February 2019. Thus, the resulting terms of trade index decreased by **0.6%** in March 2019. On an annual basis, the agricultural input price index increased by **5.2%** in March 2019 compared with March 2018. On the input side, the March 2019 sub-indices show that feeding stuffs and fertilisers were up **9.4%** and **7.9%** respectively on March 2018 prices.

	Monthly Change	% Change 12 Months
Input Prices	+0.3%	+ 5.2%
Feeding Stuffs	-0.1%	+9.4%
<i>of which</i>		
Straight	-0.5%	+12.9%
Cattle excl calves	-0.1%	+10.6%
Fertilisers	-0.5%	+7.9%
<i>of which</i>		
Straight	-0.1%	+9.3%
PK	+0.3%	+7.5%
NPK	-0.1%	+7.5%
Seeds	9.2%	+11.5%
Veterinary Expenses	0.0%	+2.1%
Motor Fuels	+2.6%	+3.8%
Electricity	+2.1%	+3.5%

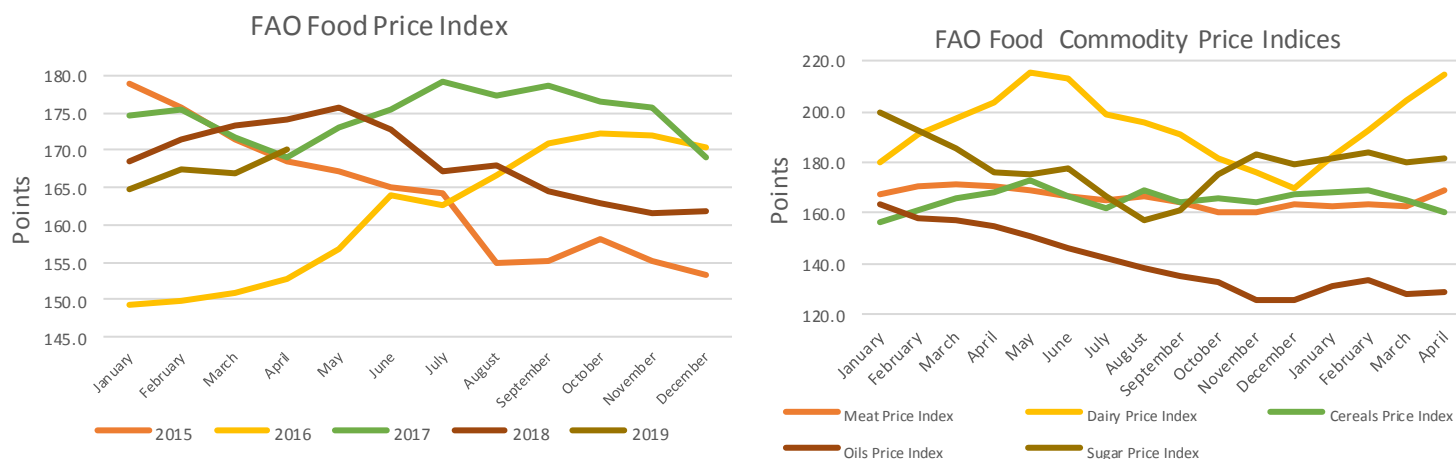
The agricultural output price index decreased by **0.3%** in March 2019 compared with February 2019. The agricultural output price index was down **0.7%** in March 2019 compared with March 2018. A further comparison of the March 2019 output sub-indices with the March 2018 sub-indices shows that sheep and cattle decreased by **12.4%** and **9.0%** respectively.





5. FAO Food Price Index – Release date: 09/05/2019

The FAO Food Price Index is a measure of the monthly change in international prices of a basket of food commodities. It consists of the average of five commodity group price indices, weighted with the average export shares of each of the groups for 2002-2004.



The FAO Food Price Index rises to a 10-month high



The **FAO Food Price Index*** (FFPI) rose in April 2019 to around 170 points, 1.5% higher than in March and marking its highest value since June 2018. At this level, the FFPI would still remain 2.3% below its level in the corresponding month last year. Except for the sub-index for cereals, all the other sub-indices firmed in April, led by dairy and meat, and to a lesser extent vegetable oils and sugar.



The **FAO Cereal Price Index** averaged 160 points in April, down 2.8% (4.7 points) from March and 5% below its April 2018 value. The sub-index fell for the fourth consecutive month, pressured by large export availabilities and slowing trade. Among the cereals, wheat prices fell the most in April, influenced by prospects for a strong rebound in the 2019 production, amid large exportable supplies. Maize prices were also lower, mostly because of expectations of larger South American crops. By contrast, FAO's rice price index was generally stable in April, amid diverging trends across the various market segments and origins.



The **FAO Vegetable Oil Price Index** averaged 128.7 points in April, up 1.1 points (or 0.9%) from the previous month. The rise mainly reflects slight increases in palm and soybean oil values. International palm oil price quotations rebounded somewhat on rising global import demand, combined with inventory drawdowns in major exporting countries. Soybean prices, on the other hand, notched up, underpinned primarily by robust domestic demand in the United States stemming from both the biodiesel and food sectors. Firming crude oil values also lent support to international vegetable oil prices.



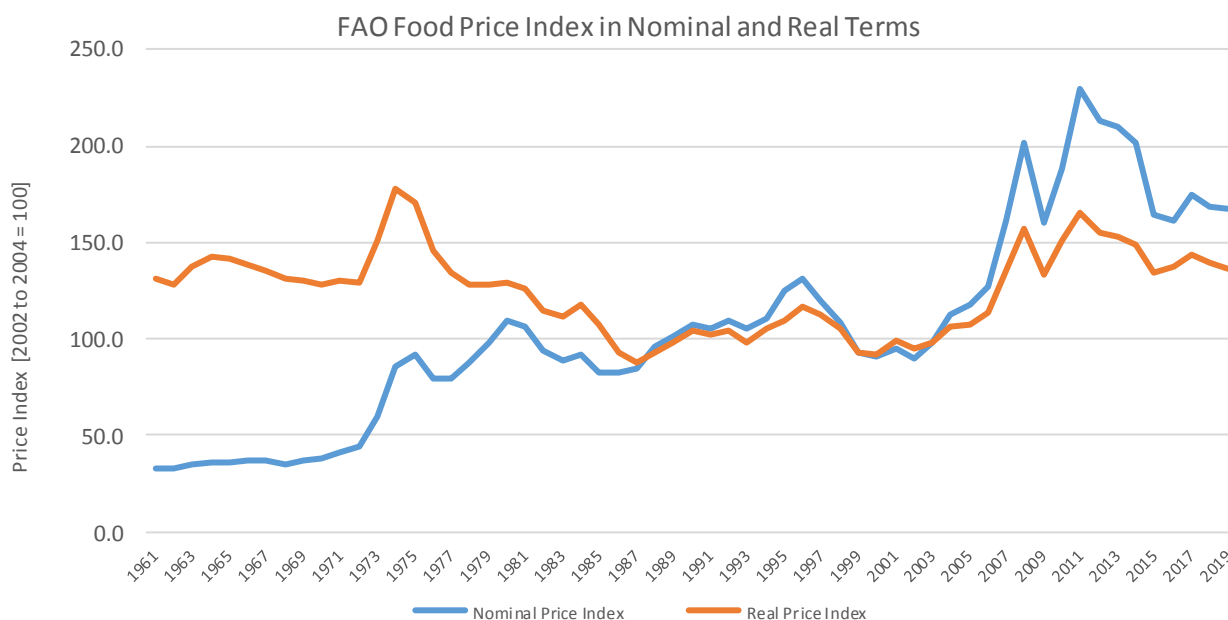
The FAO Dairy Price Index averaged 215 points in April, up 10.7 points (5.2%) from March, representing the fourth consecutive month of increase. In April, international price quotations for butter, Whole Milk Powder (WMP) and cheese rose, as global import demand continued to be robust in anticipation of a further tightening in export availabilities from Oceania with dry weather conditions reinforcing the seasonal milk production drop. By contrast, Skim Milk Powder (SMP) prices slipped for a second consecutive month from the February high, underpinned by continued slowdown in demand.



The FAO Meat Price Index* averaged just over 169 points in April, up 4.9 points (3.0%) from March, with month-on-month price quotation increases registered for pig and bovine meats and, more moderately, for poultry and ovine meats. International price quotations of pig meat rose sharply due to a surge in import demand in Asia, primarily in China, caused by a sharp fall in the country's pig meat production associated with the rapid spread of the African Swine Fever. Bovine, poultry and ovine meat prices all firmed reflecting an overall tightening of global meat markets.



The FAO Sugar Price Index averaged 181.7 points in April 2019, up almost 1.4 points (0.8%) from March and now 3.2% above its April 2018 value. The latest rise in international sugar prices was largely driven by firmer crude oil prices. Stronger energy prices lend support to international sugar prices by affecting Brazilian sugar exports to the world market, as higher energy prices encourage producers to process sugarcane into ethanol for local sale. On the other hand, the continued weakness of the Brazilian Real against the United States dollar capped the extent of the increase in international sugar price quotations.



* Unlike for other commodity groups, most prices utilized in the calculation of the FAO Meat Price Index are not available when the FAO Food Price Index is computed and published; therefore, the value of the Meat Price Index for the most recent months is derived from a mixture of projected and observed prices. This can, at times, require significant revisions in the final value of the FAO Meat Price Index which could in turn influence the value of the FAO Food Price Index.