

## **Price note**

# August 2019

#### 1. Consumer Price Index (CPI) - July 2019

Consumer Prices in July, as measured by the CPI, decreased by 0.2% in the month. During July of last year, prices rose by 0.4% in the month. Prices on average, as measured by the CPI, were 0.5% higher in July compared with July 2018.

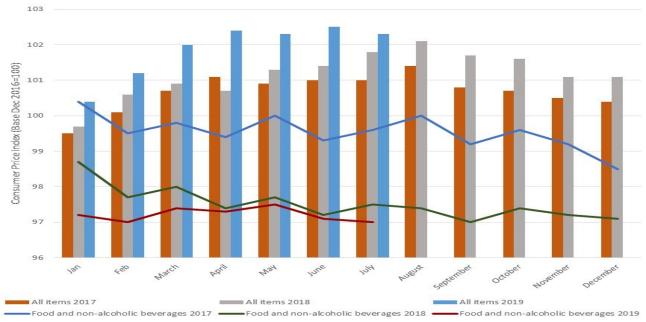
#### For more detail please follow the link: CSO Recent Prices Releases

Food & Non-Alcoholic Beverages prices decreased by -0.1% between June and July, they also decreased by -0.5% from July 2018 until July 2019. In the month, food prices remained stable, with no change in comparison to June figures, while non-alcoholic beverages prices decreased by -0.6%.

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

|                                      | Monthly Change | % Change 12 Months |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| Overall CPI                          | +0.2%          | +0.5%              |
|                                      |                |                    |
| Food & Non Alcoholic Beverages       | -0.1%          | -0.5%              |
| Food                                 | 0.0%           | -0.4%              |
| Beef & Veal                          | -2.3%          | -3.5%              |
| Pork                                 | -1.9%          | -5.7%              |
| Lamb & Goat                          | -2.7%          | +0.8%              |
| Poultry                              | -0.1%          | -1.4%              |
| Other Meat Preparations              | -0.9%          | +0.8%              |
| Fish                                 | -0.5%          | +0.3%              |
| Bread & Cereals                      | -0.5%          | -0.8%              |
| Fresh Whole Milk                     | 0.0%           | 0.0%               |
| Other Milk Products                  | -0.2%          | -4.6%              |
| Cheese & Curd                        | +1.6%          | -1.7%              |
| Eggs                                 | +0.6%          | -0.7%              |
| Butter                               | -1.9%          | -3.8%              |
| Sugar                                | -0.3%          | -7.1%              |
| Potatoes                             | +0.1%          | +19.3%             |
| Other Fresh or Chilled Vegetables    | +4.7%          | -0.8%              |
| Fresh or Chilled Fruit               | -0.8%          | -1.1%              |
| Tea, Coffee & Cocoa                  | -1.6%          | -2.7%              |
| Mineral Waters, Soft Drinks & Juices | -0.3%          | -0.9%              |
| Non-Alcoholic Beverages              | -0.6%          | -1.5%              |
| Alcoholic Beverages                  | -0.6%          | -1.3%              |

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



Source: CSO

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

Prices on average, as measured by the EU Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices (HICP), increased by **0.5%** compared with July 2018. In Ireland, the HICP decreased by **0.2%** in the month. This compares to an increase of **0.4%** recorded in July of last year. The average annual rate of change in the EU-28 was **+1.4%** and **+1.0%** in the Eurozone, Romania had the highest rate of change at **+4.1%**.

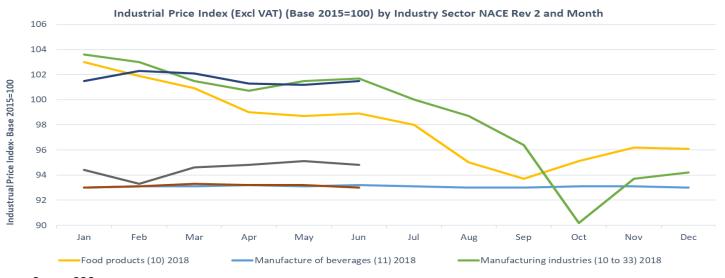
Irelands **HICP** for food and non-alcoholic beverages, remained steady in July, with no change on June 2019 figures. However Ireland's **HICP** decreased by -0.5% in July 2019 compared with July 2018. In July 2019 there was a annual rate of change of +2.5% in the EU-28 and a increase of +1.7% for the euro zone. Romania had the highest annual rate of change at +6.2%.

### 3. Wholesale Price Index (<u>WPI</u>), July 2019

Monthly factory gate prices decreased by 0.7% in July 2019. This compares to a decrease of 1.7% for July of last year. The annual percentage change showed a decrease of 5.9% in July 2019, compared to a decrease of 6.8% in the year to June 2019.

In the month, the price index for export sales decreased by 0.8%, while the index for home sales increased by 0.2%. In the year there was a decrease of 6.3% 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.

|  | <b>Monthly Change</b> | % Change 12 Months |
|--|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Wholesale Prices                             | -0.7%                 | -5.9%              |
|  |                       |                    |
| Food Products                                | +0.4%                 | +4.0%              |
| Meat and Meat Products                       | -1.7%                 | -2.9%              |
| Fish and Fish Products                       | +4.8%                 | +12.4%             |
| Fruit and Vegetables                         | -0.7%                 | +9.4%              |
| Dairy Products                               | +0.9%                 | -5.1%              |
| Other Food Products                          | +1.2%                 | +9.5%              |
|  |                       |                    |
| Energy Products                              | +11.4%                | -9.2%              |
| Auto Diesel                                  | +2.4%                 | 0.0%               |
| Gas Oil                                      | +3.2%                 | -0.6%              |
|  |                       |                    |
| All Capital Goods                            | +0.1%                 | +1.3%              |
| Transportable capital for use in Agriculture | +0.1%                 | +2.7%              |
| Agriculture and Industry                     | +0.1%                 | +1.4%              |
|  |                       |                    |



Source: CSO

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## 4. Agricultural Price Index (API)- June 2019

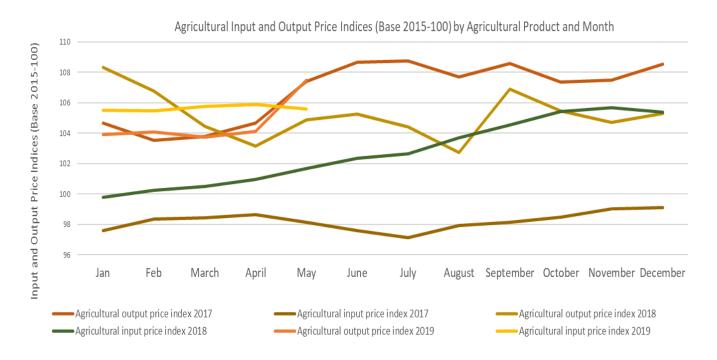
## Release date: 13/08/2019

The agricultural output price index decreased by 0.3% in June 2019 compared with May 2019.

The terms of trade index was **0.0%** in June 2019. On an annual basis, the agricultural input price index increased by **3.1%** in June 2019 compared with June 2018. The June 2019 subindices show that fertilisers and feeding stuffs were up **7.0%** and **4.6%** respectively on June 2018 prices.

|                     | Monthly Change | % Change 12 Months |
|---------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| Input Prices        | -0.3%          | + 3.1%             |
|                     |                |                    |
| Feeding Stuffs      | -0.1%          | +4.6%              |
| of which            |                |                    |
| Straight            | 0.0%           | +8.0%              |
| Cattle excl calves  | -0.7%          | +3.4%              |
|                     |                |                    |
| Fertilisers         | -0.3%          | +7.0%              |
| of which            |                |                    |
| Straight            | -0.6%          | +7.9%              |
| PK                  | +0.2%          | +7.2%              |
| NPK                 | -0.1%          | +6.8%              |
|                     |                |                    |
| Seeds               | 0.0%           | +11.5%             |
| Veterinary Expenses | 0.0%           | +2.1%              |
| Motor Fuels         | -2.0%          | -2.3%              |
| Electricity         | +0.0%          | +5.2%              |

The agricultural output price index decreased by 0.3% in June 2019 compared with May 2019. On an annual basis, agricultural output price index was up 1.8% in June 2019 compared with June 2018. A further comparison of the June 2019 output subindices with the June 2018 subindices shows that sheep and cattle decreased by 9.2% and 7.8% respectively.



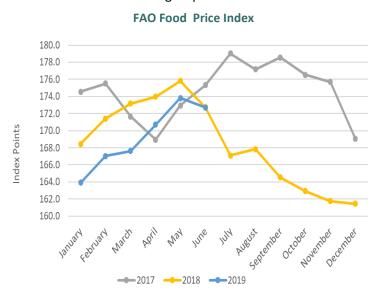
Source: CSO

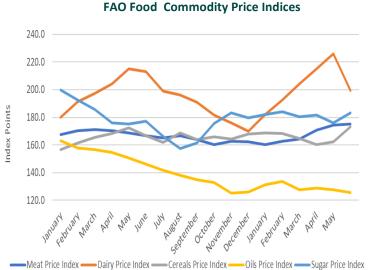
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#### 5. FAO Food Price Index - Release date: 01/08/2019

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 continues to rises



The **FAO Food Price Index\*** averaged 170.9 points in July 2019, down 1.1% (1.8 points) from June but 2.3% higher than in July 2018. The month-on-month decline was the result of lower prices for some cereals, dairy products and sugar, which more than offset somewhat firmer prices for meat and oils.



The FAO Cereal Price Index averaged 168.6 points in July, down 2.7% (4.6 points) from June but 4.1% above its level in the corresponding month last year. The decline in July was driven by lower wheat and maize prices. In wheat markets, despite downward adjustments to production prospects in several countries, large export supplies and continued expectations of record world production this year weighed on international prices. Similarly, after their rapid surge in June, international maize prices fell in July; ample export availabilities, particularly in Argentina and Brazil, contributed to the slide. However, FAO's all rice price index marked its fifth successive month of stability, amid generally quiet market activity.



The FAO Vegetable Oil Price Index averaged 126.5 points in July, up 0.8% (one point) from the previous month but still 11% below last year's corresponding level. Overall, firmer soy and sunflower oil prices more than offset a further drop in palm oil values. The concurrence of seasonal production rises in Southeast Asia and sluggish global import demand continued weighing on palm oil prices. On the other hand, soy oil prices appreciated almost in tandem with rising soybean values while low crush volumes in the United States also contributed to the increase. Similarly, sunflower oil firmed as a slowdown in crushing in the Black Sea region coincided with robust international demand.

Source: FAO

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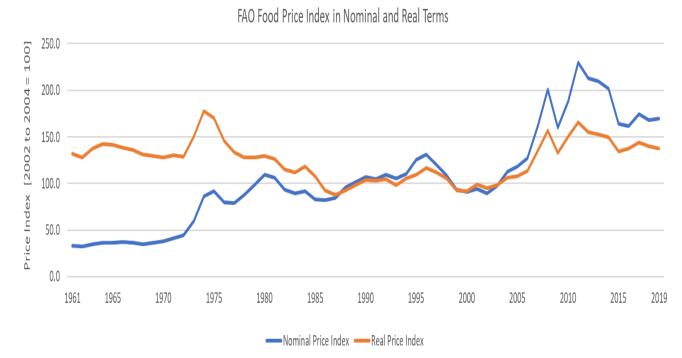
The FAO Dairy Price Index averaged 193.5 points in July, down 2.9% (5.7 points) from June, representing the second consecutive month of decline. At this level, the index value is some 6% above that of January 2019 but almost 3% below the corresponding month last year. In July, quotations for butter declined the most, followed by cheese and Whole Milk Powder (WMP). Weakness from lacklustre spot market trading, as the summer holiday period in the Northern hemisphere enters its peak, contributed to the weaker prices. By contrast, Skim Milk Powder (SMP) prices recovered, supported by firmer buying interest from the Middle East and Asia.



The FAO Meat Price Index\* averaged 176.2 points in July, up 0.6% (one point) from its slightly revised value for June and registering the sixth moderate month-on-month price increase. At this level, the index value stands at nearly 10% above that of January 2019, but almost 17% below its peak in August 2014. In July, price quotations for ovine meat rose further, boosted by strong import demand from Asia amid supplies from Oceania retreating from their seasonal highs. Asia's robust import demand for bovine meat also contributed to further gains in bovine prices. However, quotations for pigmeat were down slightly after four months of continued increases, reflecting larger export availabilities from Brazil and the United States. Poultry quotations held firm at June levels, with markets characterized by generally stable but still strong demand.



The FAO Sugar Price Index averaged 182.2 points in July, down 0.6% (one point) from June 2019, mainly on expectations for higher sugarcane yields in India, the world's largest sugar producer, following above average rainfalls in the main sugar producing regions. The decline in world prices was, however, somewhat contained by a strengthening of the Brazilian currency (Real) against the United States Dollar, a move that tends to restrain exports from Brazil, the world's largest sugar exporter. In addition, new estimates pointing to smaller sugar production in Brazil's Centre-South through June also provided some support.



\* 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

Source: FAO