



An Phríomh-Oifig Staidrimh Central Statistics Office

Preas Ráiteas Press Statement

Household Budget Survey 2009-2010

First Results

Introduction

The Central Statistics Office today published the first results of the 2009-2010 Household Budget Survey (HBS) which was undertaken between August 2009 and September 2010.

The main purpose of the HBS is to determine in detail the current pattern of household expenditure (e.g. average household spend on *Food, Drink & Tobacco, Transport* etc.) and this information is also used to update the weighting basis of the Consumer Price Index (which was published on 23 February 2012). Detailed information is also collected on household income and on a range of household facilities and appliances (e.g. dishwashers, televisions, internet access etc).

Surveys have been carried out periodically in Ireland since 1951 and the previous survey was undertaken in 2004-2005. In all 5,891 households participated in the 2009-2010 survey.

Summary of results

Household Expenditure

- The estimated average weekly expenditure in 2009-2010 for all households in the state was €810.61. This was 3% higher than the €787.07 figure recorded five years earlier (*see Table A*).
- The proportion of total household expenditure that related to expenditure on *Food* dropped from 18.1% in 2004-2005 to 16.2% in 2009-2010 whereas the proportion related to *Housing* increased from 12% to 18.2% over this five year period.
- Expenditure on *Transport* decreased by just over 5% from €122.74 per week in 2004-2005 to €116.31 five years later. This was due to a decrease in expenditure on car purchases and in fact there was a 14.3% percent increase in expenditure on *Transport* when expenditure on car purchases was excluded.

[More/...](#)



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Household Income

- The average gross weekly household income for the state in 2009-2010 was €1,026.77 which was almost 4% higher than the €987.96 figure recorded five years earlier. Total direct income decreased by 6.1% from €862.55 to €809.56. This decrease was more than offset by the increase in state transfer payments over the five year period, which increased by 73.2% from €125.41 per week to €217.20 (see Table C).
- Average weekly household disposable income (which is arrived at after the deduction of income tax and social insurance from gross income) increased by just over 5% from €842.98 to €885.72 over the five year period.

Table C: Average weekly household income and taxation by location, 2004-2005 and 2009-2010

Income	Urban			Rural			State		
	2004-2005	2009-2010	% change	2004-2005	2009-2010	% change	2004-2005	2009-2010	% change
	€	€	%	€	€	%	€	€	%
Direct Income (A)	908.42	873.49	-3.8	788.03	701.58	-11.0	862.55	809.56	-6.1
State Transfers (B)	126.21	208.09	64.9	124.11	232.59	87.4	125.41	217.20	73.2
Gross Income (A+B)	1,034.63	1,081.58	4.5	912.14	934.17	2.4	987.96	1,026.77	3.9
Direct Taxation (C)	163.20	159.50	-2.3	115.37	109.88	-4.8	144.98	141.05	-2.7
Disposable Income (A+B-C)	871.43	922.08	5.8	796.77	824.29	3.5	842.98	885.72	5.1

Household Facilities and Appliances

- In 2009-2010 almost 66% of households indicated they had internet access compared with just over 42% five years earlier (see Table D).
- In 2009-2010, 96% of households had at least one household member who had a mobile phone compared with 84.3% in 2004-2005. On the other hand the percentage of households with a fixed landline decreased from almost 86% in 2004-2005 to just over 70% five years later.
- There was a large increase in the percentage of households with two or more television sets from just under 49% in 2004-2005 to almost 65% in 2009-2010.
- There was also an increase in the percentage of households with home computers (from just over 56% to 77.3%) and with games consoles (from just over 29% to almost 39%) over the five year period.

Table D: Household Facilities & Appliances - a comparison between 1999-2000, 2004-2005 and 2009-2010

Item Description	1999-2000	2004-2005	2009-2010
Household Facilities			
Percentage households with-	%	%	%
Telephone (fixed)	89.2	85.9	70.2
Mobile phone	44.3	84.3	96.0
Double glazing	53.9	76.1	89.2
Internet access	14.2	42.2	65.8
Household Appliances			
Percentage households with-			
Dishwasher	32.0	50.1	63.2
Television set(s)	98.7	99.2	97.2
One TV set only	49.7	50.5	32.4
Two or more TV sets	49.0	48.7	64.8
Home computer	29.3	56.2	77.3
Games console	*	29.2	38.9

* Not included in reference year

For copies of the publication contact:

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Household Budget Survey 2009-2010 First Results is available on the CSO web site (www.cso.ie)

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