

Methodology

This document sets out the methodology used in compiling the Agri-Food Regulator's sector price reports. It applies to all current reports and will be updated as new reports are created or as new datasets are included.

Current Reports

- Dairy
- Eggs & Poultry
- Horticulture

All figures used in the reports are taken from official sources (listed at Appendix 1) and presented in line with how those series are published. Where needed, CSO data is aggregated to archived datasets to extend the reporting period.

Primary Data Sources

- Central Statistics Office (CSO) national price indices at farmgate input, output, producer/industrial (factory gate), and consumer levels.
- European Commission (DG AGRI) Market Transparency weekly submitted EU Market Transparency prices for Dairy and Eggs & Poultry (Member State submissions).

Central Statistics Office (CSO) datasets

AHM05 – Agricultural Input and Output Price Indices (Current series, 2020 - Current) Monthly indexes measuring prices of goods and services purchased (inputs) and prices received (outputs). Includes sub-indices such as feeding stuffs, fertilisers, energy, electricity (inputs) and milk, cattle, crops, potatoes, eggs (outputs).

AHM04 – Agricultural Input and Output Price Indices (Archived Series, 2014 – 2024) Monthly indexes measuring prices of goods and services purchased (inputs) and prices received (outputs). Includes sub-indices such as feeding stuffs, fertilisers, energy, electricity (inputs) and milk, cattle, crops, potatoes, eggs (outputs). AHM04 is the 2015=100 base archived dataset in the same series as AHM05 and is used to visualise trends over the past 10 years for these indexes.

WPM40 - Industrial Price Index (Current series, 2020 - Current)

The industrial producer price index is a monthly series that measures, in index form, changes in prices received by Irish manufacturers for goods fully or partially produced in Ireland and sold to the home and export markets by that sector.

WPM34 - Industrial Price Index (Archived Series, 2015 - 2024)

The industrial producer price index is a monthly series that measures, in index form, changes in prices received by Irish manufacturers for goods fully or partially produced in Ireland and sold to the home and export markets by that sector. WPM34 is the 2015=100 base archived dataset in the same series as WPM40 and is used to visualise trends over the past 10 years for these indexes.

WPM35 – Industrial Price Index (Current series, 2021 - Current)

Monthly producer price index for a broad set of products, spanning food and non-food. Specific agri-food related subindexes (dairy products, fruit & vegetables, potatoes) are included from this dataset for analysis.

WPM24 - Industrial Price Index (Archived Series, 2015 - 2024)

Monthly producer price index for a broad set of products, spanning food and non-food. Specific agri-food related subindexes (dairy products, fruit & vegetables, potatoes) are included from this dataset for analysis. WPM24 is the 2015=100 base archived dataset in the same series as WPM35 and is used to visualise trends over the past 10 years for these indexes.

CPM18 – Consumer Price Index (Current Series, 2003 – Current)

Detailed Consumer Price Index series. Used to analyse consumer-level food price trends and to compare with aggregate overall CPI and CPI for Food.

CPM12 – National Average Prices (Current Series, 2011 – Current)

Monthly euro prices (not indexes) for a selection of representative goods and services purchased by households. Used where an average retail price is informative alongside CPI indexes.

European Commission Market Transparency datasets

Dairy (raw milk and dairy products)

Weekly prices reported to the European Commission by Member States via the Milk Market Observatory. Series include raw milk and processed products (e.g. butter, cheese, powders).

Egg & Poultry

Weekly prices reported by farming method — cage, barn, free range, organic — submitted by Member States to DG AGRI and published through the EU market observatories.

Calculation and Presentation Conventions

- EU prices reported per 100 kilogrammes are converted to euro per kilogramme (€/kg) by dividing by 100, for ease of reference.
- EU "EU average" is calculated as the unweighted mean of reported Member State prices for the reference week, excluding Ireland, unless stated otherwise.
- CSO indices are shown as published (base years as per source). Where both an older and a rebased series exist (e.g. AHM04 and AHM05), the newer base is used for current periods and the older base for historical context.
- Series selection is sector-specific: e.g. Dairy overview focuses on feeding stuffs, fertilisers, energy, electricity (inputs) and milk (outputs). Non-dairy outputs such as cattle are shown, where relevant, on separate charts.
- Figures are rounded for readability; rounding may cause small discrepancies in calculated differences.
- All data is updated from official sources in line with publication time frames. Where an update or correction is provided by the data provider, this will be included when the report updates from the source.

Appendix 1:

Data Sources

All data used in these reports are drawn from official sources - listed below for reference.

Central Statistics Office (CSO)

• AHM05 – Agricultural Input and Output Price Indices

Source: https://data.cso.ie/table/AHM05

• AHM04 – Agricultural Input and Output Price Indices

Source: https://data.cso.ie/table/AHM04

• WPM40 – Industrial Price Index

Source: https://data.cso.ie/table/WPM40

• WPM34 – Industrial Price Index

Source: https://data.cso.ie/table/WPM34

• WPM35 – Industrial Price Index

Source: https://data.cso.ie/table/WPM35

• WPM24 – Industrial Price Index

Source: https://data.cso.ie/table/WPM24

• CPM18 – Consumer Price Index

Source: https://data.cso.ie/table/CPM18

• CPM12 - National Average Prices

Source: https://data.cso.ie/table/CPM12

European Commission – Market Transparency

• EU - Milk and Dairy products

Source: https://agridata.ec.europa.eu/extensions/DataPortal/milk.html

• EU - Eggs and Poultry

Source: https://agridata.ec.europa.eu/extensions/DataPortal/eggs-and-poultry.html