

# Consumer Price Inflation Detailed Briefing Note, March 2015

Coverage: **UK**

Date: **14 April 2015**

Geographical Area: **UK**

Theme: **Economy**

---

## Summary

### Consumer Prices Index (CPI)

The CPI is a measure of consumer price inflation produced to international standards and in line with European regulations. First published in 1997 as the Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices (HICP), the CPI is the inflation measure used in the Government's target for inflation.

The CPI is also used for purposes such as uprating pensions, wages and benefits and can aid in the understanding of inflation on family budgets. For more information see [Users and uses of consumer price inflation statistics \(100.5 Kb Pdf\)](#).

- The all items CPI is 127.6, up from 127.4 in February.
- The all items CPI annual rate is 0.0%, unchanged from last month.
- The annual rate for CPI excluding indirect taxes, CPIY, is -0.3%, down from -0.2% last month.
- The annual rate for CPI at constant tax rates, CPI-CT, is -0.1%, unchanged from last month.
- The CPI all goods index is 119.8, up from 119.5 in February.
- The CPI all goods index annual rate is -2.1%, down from -2.0% last month.
- The CPI all services index is 137.6, up from 137.4 in February.
- The CPI all services index annual rate is 2.4%, unchanged from last month.

### CPIH

The National Statistics status of CPIH has been discontinued pending work to investigate and improve the method for measuring owner occupiers' housing costs in this index. [Full details](#) can be found on the UK Statistics Authority website and in an [explanatory note \(313.9 Kb Pdf\)](#) on this website. The improvements from the resulting development work were introduced as part of the February 2015 dataset with the historical series revised back to 2005. Further information on the changes is available in the following articles: [Improvements to the measurement of Owner Occupiers' Housing Costs and Private Housing Rental Prices \(2.48 Mb Pdf\)](#) and [Revising the weight of Owner Occupiers' Housing in CPIH \(197.4 Kb Pdf\)](#).

CPIH is a measure of UK consumer price inflation that includes owner occupiers' housing costs (OOH). These are the costs of housing services associated with owning, maintaining and living in one's own home. OOH does not include costs such as utility bills, minor repairs and maintenance which are already included in the index. CPIH uses an approach called rental equivalence to measure OOH. Rental equivalence uses the rent paid for an equivalent house as a proxy for the costs faced by an owner occupier. In other words this answers the question "how much would I have to pay in rent to live in a home like mine?" for an owner occupier. OOH does not seek to capture increases in house prices. Although this may be inconsistent with some users' expectations of measures of OOH, the inclusion of an asset price and therefore capital gains would make the index less suitable for a measure of consumption. OOH currently accounts for 17.8% of the expenditure weight of CPIH. This compares with a weight of 19.5% in 2005.

Currently, the method of calculation, the population coverage and the basket of goods and services are the same as the Consumer Prices Index (CPI), with the exception of OOH. The method of deriving the weights for CPIH and the data used for these are also the same as for CPI, with the exception of OOH. This can result in some differences from the CPI.

- The all items CPIH is 125.5, up from 125.3 in February.
- The all items CPIH annual rate is 0.3%, unchanged from last month.
- The annual rate for CPIH excluding indirect taxes, CPIHY, is 0.1%, unchanged from last month.
- The OOH component of CPIH is 116.1, up from 116.0 in February.
- The OOH component annual rate is 2.0%, up from 1.9% last month.
- The CPIH all goods index is 119.9, up from 119.6 in February.
- The CPIH all goods index annual rate is -2.1%, down from -2.0% last month.
- The CPIH all services index is 130.0, up from 129.8 in February.
- The CPIH all services index annual rate is 2.2%, down from 2.3% last month.

## Retail Prices Index (RPI) and RPIJ

**In accordance with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007, the Retail Prices Index and its derivatives have been assessed against the Code of Practice for Official Statistics and found not to meet the required standard for designation as National Statistics. The [full assessment report](#) can be found on the UK Statistics Authority website.**

The RPI is a long-standing measure of UK inflation that has historically been used for a wide range of purposes such as the indexation of pensions, rents and index-linked gilts. For further information see [Users and uses of consumer price inflation statistics \(100.5 Kb Pdf\)](#).

RPIJ is an improved variant of the Retail Prices Index which is calculated using formulae that meet international standards. The rationale for creating RPIJ was to give users a better alternative to the RPI if their needs were for a measure of inflation based on the same population, classifications, weights etc as the RPI. Currently, RPIJ also acts as an analytical series, in that it allows users to see the impact of using the Jevons (which meets international standards) in place of the Carli formula (which does not meet international standards) in the RPI. The use of the different formulae at the elementary aggregate level is currently the only difference between these indices. Detailed goods and services indices for RPIJ are not produced.

- The all items RPI is 257.1, up from 256.7 in February.
- The all items RPI annual rate is 0.9%, down from 1.0% last month.
- The all items RPIJ is 237.4, up from 237.2 in February.
- The all items RPIJ annual rate is 0.3%, down from 0.4% last month.
- The annual rate for RPIX, the all items RPI excluding mortgage interest payments (MIPs) index, is 0.9%, down from 1.0% last month.
- The all goods RPI is 198.9, up from 198.0 in February.
- The all goods RPI annual rate is -0.8%, up from -1.0% last month.
- The all services RPI is 347.1, unchanged from last month.
- The all services RPI annual rate is 2.0%, down from 2.1% last month.
- The annual rate for RPIY, the all items RPI excluding MIPs and indirect taxes index, is 0.8%, unchanged from last month.
- The Tax and Price Index (TPI) is 225.6, up from 225.2 in February.
- The TPI annual rate is 0.4%, unchanged from last month.

## CPI Summary

### Contributions to change in the CPI annual rate

<b>CPI COICOP DIVISIONS</b>	<b>Weight 2014</b>	<b>Weight 2015</b>	<b>1 month % change Mar-14</b>	<b>1 month % change Mar-15</b>	<b>Contribution to CPI annual rate change</b>
01: Food and non-alcoholic beverages	112	110	-0.5	-0.2	0.04
02: Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	45	43	0.3	-0.1	-0.02
03: Clothing and footwear	72	70	1.8	-0.1	-0.13
04: Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	129	128	-0.1	-0.4	-0.03
05: Furniture, household equipment and maintenance	60	59	0.3	0.4	0.01
06: Health	24	25	0.2	0.4	0.01
07: Transport	152	149	-	0.7	0.12
08: Communication	32	31	0.2	0.2	-
09: Recreation and culture	144	147	0.4	0.4	0.01
10: Education	22	26	-	-	-
11: Restaurants and hotels	120	121	0.5	0.2	-0.03
12: Miscellaneous goods and services	88	91	0.3	0.2	-

## Download table

**XLS** [XLS format](#)

(38 Kb)

### A large downward effect came from:

- **Clothing and footwear**, where prices overall fell by 0.1% between February and March this year compared with a rise of 1.8% between the same months a year ago. This is the first time that prices have fallen between February and March since the CPI was introduced. Normally they rise as they continue to recover following the January sales period. The downward contribution came from price movements for a range of women's outerwear, particularly trousers, dresses and cardigans. There was also a smaller downward effect from men's outerwear.

### Small downward effects came from:

- **Housing and household services**, where prices overall fell by 0.4% between February and March 2015 compared with a smaller fall of 0.1% between the same months a year ago. The downward effect came from changes in gas prices with average bills falling by more this year than a year ago;
- **Restaurants and hotels**, where prices overall rose by 0.2% between February and March this year compared with a larger rise of 0.5% a year ago; and
- **Alcoholic beverages and tobacco**, where prices overall fell by 0.1% between February and March 2015, compared with a rise of 0.3% between the same months a year earlier.

### Large upward effects came from:

- **Transport**, where prices overall rose by 0.7% between February and March but were little changed between the same months a year ago. The upward contribution came principally from motor fuels. Average petrol prices rose by 3.8 pence per litre between February and March this year compared with no change between the same months a year ago. Diesel prices also rose this year, by 3.5 pence per litre, but fell by 0.4 pence per litre a year ago; and
- **Food and non-alcoholic beverages**, where prices overall fell by 0.2% between February and March 2015, compared with a larger fall of 0.5% between the same months a year earlier. Small upward effects came from the following product groups: milk, cheese and eggs; vegetables; sugar, jam, syrups, chocolate and confectionery; and mineral waters, soft drinks and juices. These were partially offset by small downward contributions from meat and fruit.

## CPI Notable Movements

### CPI notable movements, March 2015

---

All items CPI	Annual rate 0.0%, unchanged from last month Last higher in January 2015 (+0.3%) Never lower since official series began in January 1997
All items CPI exc energy, food, alcohol and tobacco	Annual rate +1.0%, down from +1.2% last month Lowest since July 2006 (+0.9%)
Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	Annual rate +0.7%, down from +0.9% last month Also +0.7% in November 2010 Last lower in October 2010 (+0.5%)
Restaurants and hotels	Annual rate +2.0%, down from +2.2% last month Lowest since December 2009 (+1.8%)
All goods	Annual rate -2.1%, down from -2.0% last month Lowest since June 2002 (-2.3%)
All services	Annual rate +2.4%, unchanged from last month Also +2.4% in January 2015 and November 2014 Last higher in October 2014 (+2.5%) Last lower in December 2014 (+2.3%)
Electricity, gas and other fuels	Annual rate -3.3%, down from -2.4% last month Lowest since March 2010 (-3.9%)

---

#### Download table

 [XLS format](#)

(35 Kb)

#### CPI Detailed Briefing

- Weights are specified as parts per 1000 in the CPI.

## 01 Food & non-alcoholic beverages

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
01 Food & non-alcoholic beverages	112	110	-0.5	-0.2	0.04

### Download table

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)

(36.5 Kb)

- Large upward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **food** and **non-alcoholic beverages**.

## 01.1 Food

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
01.1 Food	99	97	-0.5	-0.2	0.03
01.1.1 Bread and cereals	17	16	-0.4	-0.3	-
01.1.2 Meat	22	22	-	-0.7	-0.02
01.1.3 Fish	4	4	-1.0	-1.9	-
01.1.4 Milk, cheese and eggs	14	14	-1.0	1.2	0.03
01.1.5 Oils and fats	2	2	2.5	-2.7	-0.01
01.1.6 Fruit	10	10	1.8	0.1	-0.02
01.1.7 Vegetables including potatoes	15	14	-1.9	-0.3	0.03
01.1.8 Sugar, jam, syrups, chocolate and confectionery	12	12	-0.9	0.6	0.02
01.1.9 Food products not elsewhere covered	3	3	-0.9	-1.2	-

### Download table

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)

(37 Kb)

- Small upward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **milk, cheese and eggs; vegetables including potatoes; and sugar, jam, syrups, chocolate and confectionery.**
- Partially offset by **fruit; meat; and oils and fats.**

### Meat

- Small downward effect.



- Prices overall fell this year but were little changed a year ago, with the main downward contributions coming from beef products and back bacon.
- Partially offset by a small upward contribution coming from pork loin chops, where prices overall rose this year but fell a year ago.

### **Milk, cheese and eggs**

- Small upward effect.
- Prices overall rose this year but fell a year ago, with the main upward contributions coming from milk and yoghurt/fromage frais. Milk prices fell a year ago due to competitive price reductions in many major supermarkets.

### **Oils and fats**

- Small downward effect.
- Prices overall fell this year but rose a year ago, particularly for margarine/low fat spread.

### **Fruit**

- Small downward effect.
- Prices overall rose this year by less than a year ago, with the main downward contribution coming from strawberries.

### **Vegetables including potatoes**

- Small upward effect.
- Prices overall fell this year by less than a year ago, with the main upward contributions coming from premium potato crisps, tomatoes and onions.
- Partially offset by a small downward contribution coming from multipacks of potato crisps, where prices overall fell this year but rose a year ago.

### **Sugar, jam, syrups, chocolate and confectionery**

- Small upward effect.
- Prices overall rose this year but fell a year ago, particularly for cartons/boxes of chocolates and bags of sweets.

## 01.2 Non-alcoholic beverages

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
01.2 Non-alcoholic beverages	13	13	-0.9	-0.2	0.01
01.2.1 Coffee, tea and cocoa	3	3	0.3	-2.2	-0.01
01.2.2 Mineral waters, soft drinks and juices	10	10	-1.2	0.4	0.02

### Download table

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)  
(36.5 Kb)

- Small upward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **mineral waters, soft drinks and juices**, where prices overall rose this year but fell a year ago, with the main upward contributions coming from orange juice, bottles of cola flavoured drinks and fruit squashes.
- Partially offset by **coffee, tea and cocoa**, where prices overall fell this year but rose a year ago.

## 02 Alcoholic beverages and tobacco

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
02 Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	45	43	0.3	-0.1	-0.02

### Download table

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)  
(36 Kb)

- Small downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **alcoholic beverages**.

## 02.1 Alcoholic beverages

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
02.1 Alcoholic beverages	20	19	0.6	-0.2	-0.02
02.1.1 Spirits	6	5	2.6	-1.0	-0.02
02.1.2 Wine	9	9	0.6	-0.2	-0.01
02.1.3 Beer	5	5	-1.9	0.6	0.01

### Download table

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)

(36 Kb)

- Small downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **spirits** and **wine**, where prices overall fell this year but rose a year ago, particularly for whisky and red wine.
- Partially offset by **beer**, where prices overall rose this year but fell a year ago, particularly for large multipacks of lager.

## 02.2 Tobacco

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
02.2 Tobacco	25	24	0.1	-0.1	-

### Download table

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)

(35.5 Kb)

- Negligible overall effect on the all items 12-month rate change.

## 03 Clothing and footwear

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
03 Clothing and footwear	72	70	1.8	-0.1	-0.13

**Download table**[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)

(36 Kb)

- Largest downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **clothing**.

**03.1 Clothing**

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
03.1 Clothing	62	60	1.9	-0.3	-0.14
03.1.2 Garments	55	54	2.0	-0.4	-0.14
03.1.3 Other clothing and clothing accessories	6	5	0.5	0.8	-
03.1.4 Cleaning, repair and hire of clothing	1	1	0.2	0.3	-

**Download table**[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)

(36.5 Kb)

- Large downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **garments**, where prices overall fell this year but rose a year ago, only the second time that prices have fallen between February and March since the CPI was introduced. Normally they rise as they continue to recover following the January sales period.
- The main downward contributions came from women's trousers, cardigans, jumpers, dresses, jackets and bras; and men's jumpers, sweatshirts and t-shirts. Partially offsetting upward contributions came from men's coats and boys' jeans.

### 03.2 Footwear including repairs

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
03.2 Footwear including repairs	10	10	1.4	1.6	-

#### Download table

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)

(36 Kb)

- Negligible overall effect on the all items 12-month rate change.

### 04 Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
04 Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	129	128	-0.1	-0.4	-0.03

#### Download table

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)

(36 Kb)

- Small downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **electricity, gas and other fuels**.
- Partially offset by **actual rentals for housing**.

### 04.1 Actual rentals for housing

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
04.1 Actual rentals for housing	70	72	-	0.1	0.01

**Download table****XLS** [XLS format](#)

(36 Kb)

- Small upward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Average charges rose this year but were little changed a year ago.

**04.3 Regular maintenance and repair of the dwelling**

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
04.3 Regular maintenance and repair of the dwelling	2	2	-	0.1	-
04.3.1 Materials for maintenance and repair	1	1	-	-	-
04.3.2 Services for maintenance and repair	1	1	-	0.1	-

**Download table****XLS** [XLS format](#)

(36.5 Kb)

- Negligible overall effect on the all items 12-month rate change.

#### 04.4 Other services related to the dwelling

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
04.4 Other services related to the dwelling	12	12	-	-	-
04.4.1 Water supply	6	6	-	-	-
04.4.3 Sewerage collection	6	6	-	-	-

#### Download table

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)  
(36 Kb)

- Negligible overall effect on the all items 12-month rate change.

#### 04.5 Electricity, gas and other fuels

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
04.5 Electricity, gas and other fuels	45	42	-0.4	-1.3	-0.04
04.5.1 Electricity	21	20	-0.3	-	0.01
04.5.2 Gas	21	20	-0.3	-2.6	-0.05
04.5.3 Liquid fuels	2	1	-2.9	-3.0	-
04.5.4 Solid fuels	1	1	-	0.1	-

#### Download table

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)  
(36.5 Kb)

- Large downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.

- Due to **gas**, where average charges fell this year by more than a year ago.
- Partially offset by an upward contribution coming from **electricity**, where average charges were unchanged this year but fell a year ago.

## 05 Furniture, household equipment and maintenance

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
05 Furniture, household equipment and maintenance	60	59	0.3	0.4	0.01

### Download table

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)  
(36.5 Kb)

- Small upward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **furniture, furnishings and carpets**; and **glassware, tableware and household utensils**.

## 05.1 Furniture, furnishings and carpets

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
05.1 Furniture, furnishings and carpets	21	21	0.2	0.8	0.01
05.1.1 Furniture and furnishings	16	15	0.2	1.8	0.02
05.1.2 Carpets and other floor coverings	5	6	0.2	-1.7	-0.01

### Download table

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)  
(36.5 Kb)

- Small upward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **furniture and furnishings**.
- Partially offset by **carpets and other floor coverings**.



## Furniture and furnishings

- Small upward effect.
- Prices overall rose this year by more than a year ago, with the main upward contributions coming from bedroom furniture, kitchen furniture and leather settees.

## Carpets and other floor coverings

- Small downward effect.
- Prices overall fell this year but rose a year ago, particularly for rugs.

### 05.2 Household textiles

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
05.2 Household textiles	7	6	0.8	0.2	-

#### Download table

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)  
(36 Kb)

- Negligible overall effect on the all items 12-month rate change.

### 05.3 Household appliances, fitting and repairs

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
05.3 Household appliances, fitting and repairs	9	8	0.5	0.2	-
05.3.1/2 Major appliances and small electric goods	8	7	0.6	0.2	-
05.3.3 Repair of household appliances	1	1	-0.3	-	-

**Download table****XLS** [XLS format](#)

(36.5 Kb)

- Negligible overall effect on the all items 12-month rate change.

**05.4 Glassware, tableware and household utensils**

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
05.4 Glassware, tableware and household utensils	6	6	-0.5	0.8	0.01

**Download table****XLS** [XLS format](#)

(36 Kb)

- Small upward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Prices overall rose this year but fell a year ago.

**05.5 Tools and equipment for house and garden**

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
05.5 Tools and equipment for house and garden	4	5	0.8	0.2	-

**Download table****XLS** [XLS format](#)

(35.5 Kb)

- Negligible overall effect on the all items 12-month rate change.

## 05.6 Goods and services for routine maintenance

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
05.6 Goods and services for routine maintenance	13	13	0.2	-0.1	-
05.6.1 Non-durable household goods	5	5	0.2	-0.6	-
05.6.2 Domestic services and household services	8	8	0.2	0.1	-

### Download table

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)  
(36 Kb)

- Negligible overall effect on the all items 12-month rate change.

## 06 Health

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
06 Health	24	25	0.2	0.4	0.01

### Download table

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)  
(36 Kb)

- Small upward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **medical products, appliances and equipment**.

## 06.1 Medical products, appliances and equipment

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
06.1 Medical products, appliances and equipment	10	12	0.3	0.8	0.01
06.1.1 Pharmaceutical products	6	7	0.6	1.6	0.01
06.1.2/3 Other medical and therapeutic equipment	4	5	-0.2	-0.4	-

### Download table

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)  
(36.5 Kb)

- Small upward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **pharmaceutical products**, where prices overall rose this year by more than a year ago, with the main upward contribution coming from multi-vitamin capsules/tablets.

## 06.2 Out-patient services

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
06.2 Out-patient services	6	5	0.1	0.2	-
06.2.1/3 Medical and paramedical services	3	3	-	0.1	-
06.2.2 Dental services	3	2	0.2	0.4	-

### Download table

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)  
(36 Kb)

- Negligible overall effect on the all items 12-month rate change.

### 06.3 Hospital services

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
06.3 Hospital Services	8	8	-	-	-

#### Download table

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)

(36 Kb)

- Negligible overall effect on the all items 12-month rate change.

### 07 Transport

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
07 Transport	152	149	-	0.7	0.12

#### Download table

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)

(36 Kb)

- Largest upward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to operation of **personal transport equipment**.
- Partially offset by **purchase of vehicles**.

## 07.1 Purchase of vehicles

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
07.1 Purchase of vehicles	44	40	-	-0.2	-0.01
07.1.1A New cars	23	24	-	-	-
07.1.1B Second-hand cars	18	14	-0.1	-0.8	-0.01
07.1.2/3 Motorcycles and bicycles	3	2	1.1	1.7	-

### Download table

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)  
(36.5 Kb)

- Small downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **second-hand cars**, where prices overall fell this year by more than a year ago.

## 07.2 Operation of personal transport equipment

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
07.2 Operation of personal transport equipment	76	77	-0.1	1.5	0.12
07.2.1 Spare parts and accessories	5	6	0.1	-	-
07.2.2 Fuels and lubricants	35	34	-0.1	3.4	0.12
07.2.3 Maintenance and repairs	23	23	-0.2	0.1	0.01
07.2.4 Other services	13	14	-	0.1	-

## Download table

**XLS** [XLS format](#)

(36.5 Kb)

- Large upward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **fuels and lubricants** and, to a lesser extent, **maintenance and repairs**.

### Fuels and lubricants

- Large upward effect.
- The average price of petrol across the month, as recorded for the CPI, rose by 3.8 pence per litre between February and March 2015 to stand at 110.8 pence per litre.
- Last year, the average price of petrol was unchanged between February and March 2014 to remain at 129.0 pence per litre.
- The average price of diesel rose by 3.5 pence per litre between February and March 2015 to stand at 118.0 pence per litre, compared with a fall of 0.4 pence per litre a year earlier to stand at 136.5 pence per litre.

### Maintenance and repairs

- Small upward effect.
- Prices overall rose this year but fell a year ago, with the main upward contribution coming from services at fast fit centres.

## 07.3 Transport services

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
07.3 Transport services	32	32	-	-	-
07.3.1 Passenger transport by railway	11	12	-0.5	-0.9	-0.01
07.3.2 Passenger transport by road	11	12	-0.3	-0.8	-0.01
07.3.3 Passenger transport by air	6	6	1.9	2.7	0.01
07.3.4 Passenger transport by sea and inland waterway	4	2	-0.9	2.3	0.01

### Download table

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)

(36.5 Kb)

- Negligible overall effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- There are upward contributions coming from **passenger transport by sea and inland waterway** and **passenger transport by air**.
- Offset by downward contributions coming from **passenger transport by road** and **passenger transport by railway**.

### Passenger transport by railway

- Small downward effect.
- Prices overall fell this year by more than a year ago.

### Passenger transport by road

- Small downward effect.
- Prices overall fell this year by more than a year ago, particularly for coach fares.

### Passenger transport by air



- Small upward effect.
- Average air fares rose this year by more than a year ago, with the main upward contribution coming from European flights.
- Partially offset by a small downward contribution coming from domestic flights, where average fares rose this year by less than a year ago.

### Passenger transport by sea and inland waterway

- Small upward effect.
- Average sea fares rose this year but fell a year ago.

### 08 Communication

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
08 Communication	32	31	0.2	0.2	-

#### Download table

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)  
(36 Kb)

- Negligible overall effect on the all items 12-month rate change.

### 08.1 Postal services

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
08.1 Postal services	2	2	-	-	-

#### Download table

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)  
(36 Kb)

- Negligible overall effect on the all items 12-month rate change.

**08.2/3 Telephone equipment and services**

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
08.2/3 Telephone equipment and services	30	29	0.2	0.2	-

**Download table**

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)

(36 Kb)

- Negligible overall effect on the all items 12-month rate change.

**09 Recreation and culture**

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
09 Recreation and culture	144	147	0.4	0.4	0.01

**Download table**

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)

(36 Kb)

- Small upward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **other recreational items, gardens and pets; recreational and cultural services; and books, newspapers and stationery.**
- Partially offset by **audio-visual equipment and related products; and package holidays.**

## 09.1 Audio-visual equipment and related products

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
09.1 Audio-visual equipment and related products	22	23	0.1	-0.5	-0.01
09.1.1 Equipment for the reception and reproduction of sound and pictures	5	5	-0.1	-0.5	-
09.1.2 Photographic, cinematographic and optical equipment	3	3	-1.6	-1.8	-
09.1.3 Data processing equipment	8	9	0.4	-0.3	-
09.1.4 Recording media	5	5	0.8	-	-0.01
09.1.5 Repair of audio-visual equipment and related products	1	1	-	0.2	-

### Download table

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)

(36.5 Kb)

- Small downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **recording media**, where prices overall were little changed this year but rose a year ago, with the main downward contribution coming from DVDs. Partially offset by a small upward contribution coming from the purchase of music downloads, where average prices rose this year but fell a year ago.

**09.2 Other major durables for recreation and culture**

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
09.2.1/2 Major durables for in/outdoor recreation	9	10	-	-	-

**Download table**

**XLS** [XLS format](#)

(36 Kb)

- Negligible overall effect on the all items 12-month rate change.

**09.3 Other recreational items, gardens and pets**

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
09.3 Other recreational items, gardens and pets	36	36	1.3	1.6	0.01
09.3.1 Games, toys and hobbies	21	21	2.0	2.5	0.01
09.3.2 Equipment for sport and open-air recreation	3	4	0.6	2.1	0.01
09.3.3 Gardens, plants and flowers	4	4	-0.2	-0.1	-
09.3.4/5 Pets, related products and services	8	7	0.2	-0.6	-0.01

## Download table

**XLS** [XLS format](#)

(36.5 Kb)

- Small upward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **games, toys and hobbies**; and **equipment for sport and open-air recreation**.
- Partially offset by **pets, related products and services**.

### Games, toys and hobbies

- Small upward effect.
- Prices overall rose this year by more than a year ago, with the main upward contributions coming from computer games consoles and preschool activity toys.
- Partially offset by small downward contributions coming from computer games and children's craft kits.

### Equipment for sport and open-air recreation

- Small upward effect.
- Prices overall rose this year by more than a year ago.

### Pets, related products and services

- Small downward effect.
- Prices overall fell this year but rose a year ago.

## 09.4 Recreational and cultural services

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
09.4 Recreational and cultural services	31	31	0.3	0.6	0.01
09.4.1 Recreational and sporting services	9	8	0.1	0.1	-
09.4.2 Cultural services	22	23	0.4	0.8	0.01

**Download table****XLS** [XLS format](#)

(36.5 Kb)

- Small upward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **cultural services**, where prices overall rose this year by more than a year ago, with the main upward contributions coming from theatre admissions and social subscriptions. Partially offset by a small downward contribution coming from charges for nightclub entry, where prices fell this year but rose a year ago.

**09.5 Books, newspapers and stationery**

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
09.5 Books, newspapers and stationery	14	14	-0.2	0.3	0.01
09.5.1 Books	4	4	-0.6	2.0	0.01
09.5.2 Newspapers and periodicals	5	5	0.2	-1.0	-0.01
09.5.3/4 Misc. printed matter, stationery, drawing materials	5	5	-0.3	0.2	-

**Download table****XLS** [XLS format](#)

(37 Kb)

- Small upward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **books**, where prices overall rose this year but fell a year ago, with the main upward contribution coming from hardback books.
- Partially offset by a small downward contribution from **newspapers and periodicals**, where average prices for periodicals fell this year but rose a year ago.

## 09.6 Package holidays

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
09.6 Package holidays	32	33	0.1	-0.1	-0.01

### Download table

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)

(36 Kb)

- Small downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Prices overall fell this year but rose a year ago.

## 10 Education

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
10 Education	22	26	-	-	-

### Download table

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)

(36 Kb)

- Negligible overall effect on the all items 12-month rate change.

## 11 Restaurants and hotels

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
11 Restaurants and hotels	120	121	0.5	0.2	-0.03

### Download table

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)

(36 Kb)

- Small downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **catering services** and **accommodation services**.

## 11.1 Catering services

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
11.1 Catering services	100	100	0.3	0.1	-0.02
11.1.1 Restaurants and cafes	91	91	0.3	0.2	-0.01
11.1.2 Canteens	9	9	0.3	-0.4	-0.01

### Download table

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)  
(36 Kb)

- Small downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **restaurants and cafes**; and **canteens**.

### Restaurants and cafes

- Small downward effect.
- Prices overall rose this year by less than a year ago, with the main downward contribution coming from take-away sandwiches.

### Canteens

- Small downward effect.
- Prices overall fell this year but rose a year ago.

## 11.2 Accommodation services

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
11.2 Accommodation services	20	21	1.4	0.9	-0.01

### Download table

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)  
(36 Kb)



- Small downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Overall charges rose this year by less than a year ago, particularly for hotel overnight accommodation.

## 12 Miscellaneous goods and services

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
12 Misc. goods and services	88	91	0.3	0.2	-

### Download table

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)

(36 Kb)

- Negligible overall effect on the all items 12-month rate change.

## 12.1 Personal care

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
12.1 Personal care	29	30	0.5	0.5	-
12.1.1 Hairdressing and personal grooming establishments	7	7	0.3	-	-
12.1.2/3 Appliances and products for personal care	22	23	0.6	0.6	-

### Download table

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)

(36 Kb)

- Negligible overall effect on the all items 12-month rate change.

### 12.3 Personal effects not elsewhere covered

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
12.3 Personal effects not elsewhere covered	13	14	0.6	0.5	-
12.3.1 Jewellery, clocks and watches	8	9	0.1	-0.3	-
12.3.2 Other personal effects	5	5	1.3	2.0	-

#### Download table

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)  
(36.5 Kb)

- Negligible overall effect on the all items 12-month rate change.

### 12.4 Social protection

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
12.4 Social protection	12	13	0.2	0.2	-

#### Download table

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)  
(36 Kb)

- Negligible overall effect on the all items 12-month rate change.

## 12.5 Insurance

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
12.5 Insurance	7	10	0.1	-0.2	-
12.5.2 House contents insurance	2	2	0.7	-0.1	-
12.5.3 Health insurance	2	3	-	-	-
12.5.4 Transport insurance	3	5	-0.2	-0.3	-

### Download table

**XLS** [XLS format](#)  
(36.5 Kb)

- Negligible overall effect on the all items 12-month rate change.

## 12.6 Financial services not elsewhere covered

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to CPI annual rate change
12.6 Financial services not elsewhere covered	17	12	0.2	-0.4	-0.01

### Download table

**XLS** [XLS format](#)  
(36 Kb)

- Small downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Average charges for mortgage arrangement fees fell this year but rose a year ago.

**12.7 Other services not elsewhere covered**

	<b>Weight 2014</b>	<b>Weight 2015</b>	<b>1 month % change Mar-14</b>	<b>1 month % change Mar-15</b>	<b>Contribution to CPI annual rate change</b>
12.7 Other services not elsewhere covered	10	12	-0.3	0.3	0.01

**Download table**

**XLS** [XLS format](#)

(36 Kb)

- Small upward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Prices overall rose this year but fell a year ago.

## RPI Summary

### Contributions to change in the RPI annual rate

<b>GROUPS</b>	<b>Weight 2014</b>	<b>Weight 2015</b>	<b>1 month % change Mar-14</b>	<b>1 month % change Mar-15</b>	<b>Contribution to RPI annual rate change</b>
FOOD	114	109	-0.3	-0.3	0.01
CATERING	47	47	0.3	0.1	-0.01
ALCOHOLIC DRINKS	58	56	0.5	0.2	-0.02
TOBACCO	29	27	0.1	-	-
HOUSING	253	263	0.1	-	-0.05
FUEL AND LIGHT	48	45	-0.5	-1.4	-0.04
HOUSEHOLD GOODS	61	59	0.2	0.7	0.03
HOUSEHOLD SERVICES	62	65	0.3	-	-0.02
CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR	45	42	2.9	1.3	-0.08
PERSONAL GOODS AND SERVICES	40	41	0.5	0.5	-
MOTORING EXPENDITURE	120	115	-0.2	1.0	0.14
FARES AND OTHER TRAVEL COSTS	22	25	0.2	0.6	0.01
LEISURE GOODS	30	28	0.8	0.6	-0.01
LEISURE SERVICES	71	78	0.3	0.1	-0.01

**Download table****XLS** [XLS format](#)

(38.5 Kb)

**RPI Notable Movements****RPI notable movements, March 2015**


---

All items RPI	Annual rate +0.9%, down from +1.0% last month Lowest since November 2009 (+0.3%)
All items RPI exc MIPS (RPIX)	Annual rate +0.9%, down from +1.0% last month Never lower since official series began in January 1976
All items RPI exc MIPS and indirect taxes (RPIY)	Annual rate +0.8%, unchanged from last month Last higher in January 2015 (+1.1%) Never lower since official series began in January 1988
Catering	Annual rate +1.7%, down from +1.9% last month Never lower since official series began in January 1988
Fuel and light	Annual rate -4.1%, down from -3.3% last month Lowest since March 2010 (-4.4%)
Leisure goods	Annual rate -1.7%, down from -1.5% last month Lowest since March 2012 (-1.8%)
All goods	Annual rate -0.8%, up from -1.0% last month Highest since January 2015 (-0.6%)
All services	Annual rate +2.0%, down from +2.1% last month Also +2.0% in January 2015, May 1996 and April 1996 Never lower since official series began in January 1988

---

**Download table****XLS** [XLS format](#)

(36.5 Kb)

## RPI Detailed Briefing

In accordance with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007, the Retail Prices Index and its derivatives have been assessed against the Code of Practice for Official Statistics and found not to meet the required standard for designation as National Statistics. ONS consulted in March 2013 on whether to maintain this detailed RPI briefing and, based on views received, decided to continue with its publication.

- Weights are specified as parts per 1000 in the RPI.

### Food

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to RPI annual rate change
FOOD	114	109	-0.3	-0.3	0.01

### Download table

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)  
(37 Kb)

- Small upward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **non-seasonal food**.
- Partially offset by **seasonal food**.

### Seasonal food

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to RPI annual rate change
SEASONAL FOOD	19	18	-0.2	-0.8	-0.01
Home killed lamb	1	1	-2.2	-1.3	-
Fresh fish	2	2	3.2	-3.1	-0.01
Eggs	1	1	-0.6	-1.2	-
Unprocessed potatoes	2	2	-1.0	-1.4	-
Other fresh vegetables	7	6	-3.0	-0.4	0.02
Fresh fruit	6	6	2.6	-	-0.01

## Download table

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)

(37.5 Kb)

- Small downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to:
  - **Fresh fish**, where prices overall fell this year but rose a year ago, particularly for frozen prawns; and
  - **Fresh fruit**, where prices overall were little changed this year but rose a year ago, with the main downward contribution coming from strawberries.
- Partially offset by **other fresh vegetables**, where prices overall fell this year by less than a year ago, with the main upward contributions coming from tomatoes and onions.

## Non-seasonal food

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to RPI annual rate change
NON-SEASONAL FOOD	95	91	-0.4	-0.1	0.02
Bread	5	4	0.2	-0.6	-
Cereals	4	4	-0.2	-	-
Biscuits and cakes	7	7	0.3	-	-
Beef	4	4	1.0	-1.5	-0.01
Imported lamb	1	1	-2.4	-0.9	-
Pork	1	1	-5.9	-	0.01
Bacon	2	2	0.5	-0.8	-
Poultry	4	4	0.5	-0.1	-
Other meat	7	7	0.9	-0.3	-0.01
Processed fish	2	2	-0.7	-2.3	-
Butter	1	1	-0.5	-4.3	-
Oils and fats	2	1	2.2	-1.1	-0.01
Cheese	4	4	0.4	2.2	0.01
Milk, fresh	4	3	-2.7	1.2	0.01
Milk products	4	4	0.3	0.9	-
Tea	1	1	-1.8	-3.0	-



	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to RPI annual rate change
Soft drinks	11	10	-1.2	0.3	0.02
Sugar and preserves	1	1	1.2	-3.7	-
Sweets and chocolates	11	11	-0.4	1.2	0.02
Potato products	3	3	-0.1	-1.2	-
Processed vegetables	2	2	0.8	3.5	0.01
Processed fruit	1	2	0.5	-1.4	-
Other foods	11	11	-1.7	-1.5	-
Coffee and other hot drinks	2	1	1.2	-1.5	-

### Download table

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)  
(38.5 Kb)

- Small upward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to:
  - **Soft drinks, sweets and chocolates** and **fresh milk**, where prices overall rose this year but fell a year ago, with the main upward contributions coming from orange juice, bottles of cola flavoured drinks, fruit squashes, cartons/boxes of chocolates, bags of sweets and shop-bought milk;
  - **Cheese** and **processed vegetables**, where prices overall rose this year by more than a year ago; and
  - **Pork**, where prices overall were little changed this year but fell a year ago, particularly for loin chops.
- Partially offset by **beef, other meat** and **oils and fats**, where prices overall fell this year but rose a year ago, with the main downward contributions coming from beef steaks and margarine/low fat spread.

## Catering

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to RPI annual rate change
CATERING	47	47	0.3	0.1	-0.01
Restaurant meals	28	28	0.3	0.1	-
Canteen meals	3	3	0.1	-0.3	-
Take-away meals and snacks	16	16	0.4	-	-0.01

### Download table

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)  
(37.5 Kb)

- Small downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **take-away meals and snacks**, where prices overall were little changed this year but rose a year ago, with the main downward contribution coming from take-away sandwiches.

## Alcoholic drinks

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to RPI annual rate change
ALCOHOLIC DRINKS	58	56	0.5	0.2	-0.02
Beer on sales	20	19	0.1	0.4	0.01
Beer off sales	5	5	-1.7	-0.1	0.01
Wines and spirits on sales	18	18	0.5	0.2	-
Wines and spirits off sales	15	14	1.7	-0.1	-0.03

### Download table

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)  
(37.5 Kb)

- Small downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **wines and spirits off sales**, where prices overall fell this year but rose a year ago, with the main downward contributions coming from red wine and whisky.

- Partially offset by:
  - Beer off sales**, where prices overall fell this year by less than a year ago, with the main upward contribution coming from large multipacks of lager; and
  - Beer on sales**, where prices overall rose this year by more than a year ago.

## Tobacco

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to RPI annual rate change
TOBACCO	29	27	0.1	-	-
Cigarettes	25	23	0.1	-0.1	-
Other tobacco products	4	4	-0.1	-	-

## Download table

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)  
(37.5 Kb)

- Negligible overall effect on the all items 12-month rate change.

## Housing

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to RPI annual rate change
HOUSING	253	263	0.1	-	-0.05
Rent	87	84	-	0.1	-
Mortgage interest payments	30	29	-0.1	-0.3	-0.01
Council tax and rates	42	40	-	-	-
Water and other charges	14	14	-	-	-
Repairs and maintenance charges	10	9	-	0.2	-
DIY materials	6	8	0.4	0.2	-
Dwelling insurance and ground rent	6	6	-0.3	-0.9	-
House depreciation	58	73	0.7	-0.1	-0.04

### Download table

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)  
(38 Kb)

- Large downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to:
  - **House depreciation**, with the smoothed house price index used to calculate this component falling this year but rising year ago; and
  - **Mortgage interest payments**, where average charges fell this year by more than a year ago.

## Fuel and light

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to RPI annual rate change
FUEL AND LIGHT	48	45	-0.5	-1.4	-0.04
Coal and solid fuels	1	1	-	0.2	-
Electricity	22	21	-0.3	-	0.01
Gas	21	21	-0.3	-2.7	-0.05
Oil and other fuels	4	2	-2.5	-2.5	-

## Download table

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)  
(37.5 Kb)

- Large downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **gas**, where average charges fell this year by more than a year ago.
- Partially offset by **electricity**, where average charges were unchanged this year but fell a year ago.

## Household goods

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to RPI annual rate change
HOUSEHOLD GOODS	61	59	0.2	0.7	0.03
Furniture	21	22	-0.2	1.7	0.04
Furnishings	9	9	0.1	-0.3	-
Electrical appliances	6	5	1.5	2.1	-
Other household equipment	4	4	-0.2	0.6	-
Household consumables	12	12	0.3	-0.5	-0.01
Pet care	9	7	0.3	-0.4	-0.01

**Download table****XLS** [XLS format](#)

(37.5 Kb)

- Small upward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **furniture**, where prices overall rose this year but fell a year ago, with the main upward contributions coming from bedroom furniture, kitchen furniture and leather settees.
- Partially offset by **household consumables** and **pet care**, where prices overall fell this year but rose a year ago, particularly for bleach.

**Household services**

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to RPI annual rate change
HOUSEHOLD SERVICES	62	65	0.3	-	-0.02
Domestic services	13	13	0.2	0.2	-
Fees and subscriptions	24	26	0.5	-0.3	-0.02
Postage	1	1	-	-	-
Telephone charges	24	25	0.1	-	-

**Download table****XLS** [XLS format](#)

(37.5 Kb)

- Small downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **fees and subscriptions**, where prices overall fell this year but rose a year ago, particularly for estate agent fees and house contents insurance.

## Clothing and footwear

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to RPI annual rate change
CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR	45	42	2.9	1.3	-0.08
Men's outerwear	10	8	2.6	1.3	-0.02
Women's outerwear	16	16	4.0	0.7	-0.06
Children's outerwear	5	5	2.7	2.5	-
Other clothing	5	5	1.3	0.3	-
Footwear	9	8	2.2	2.1	-

### Download table

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)  
(37.5 Kb)

- Largest downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **women's outerwear** and, to a lesser extent, **men's outerwear**, where prices overall rose this year by less than a year ago, with the main downward contributions coming from women's trousers, cardigans, jumpers, dresses and jackets; and men's jumpers, sweatshirts and t-shirts.

## Personal goods & services

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to RPI annual rate change
PERSONAL GOODS & SERVICES	40	41	0.5	0.5	-
Personal articles	10	10	1.0	0.8	-
Chemists' goods	16	17	0.6	0.6	-
Personal services	14	14	0.1	0.1	-

**Download table**[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)

(37.5 Kb)

- Negligible overall effect on the all items 12-month rate change.

**Motoring expenditure**

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to RPI annual rate change
MOTORING EXPENDITURE	120	115	-0.2	1.0	0.14
Purchase of motor vehicles	36	42	-0.1	-0.4	-0.01
Maintenance of motor vehicles	17	16	-0.1	0.1	-
Petrol and oil	43	35	-0.3	3.3	0.13
Vehicle tax and insurance	24	22	-0.2	0.6	0.02

**Download table**[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)

(37.5 Kb)

- Largest upward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to:
  - **Petrol and oil**, where prices rose this year but fell a year ago. The price of petrol, as recorded for the RPI, rose by 3.7 pence per litre between February and March 2015, to stand at 111.0 pence per litre, compared with a fall of 0.4 pence per litre last year to stand at 128.8 pence per litre. Diesel prices rose by 3.6 pence per litre, to stand at 118.3 pence per litre in March 2015, compared with a fall of 0.5 pence per litre last year to stand at 136.3 pence per litre; and, to a lesser extent,
  - **Vehicle tax and insurance**, where average premiums for car insurance rose this year but fell a year ago.
- Partially offset by a small downward effect coming from **purchase of motor vehicles**, where prices overall fell this year by more than a year ago, with the main contribution coming from the purchase of second-hand cars.



## Fares and other travel costs

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to RPI annual rate change
FARES AND OTHER TRAVEL COSTS	22	25	0.2	0.6	0.01
Rail fares	7	7	-0.6	-0.7	-
Bus and coach fares	4	3	-0.5	-1.3	-
Other travel costs	11	15	1.0	1.7	0.01

### Download table

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)  
(37.5 Kb)

- Small upward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **other travel costs**, where prices overall rose this year by more than a year ago, particularly for air fares.

## Leisure goods

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to RPI annual rate change
LEISURE GOODS	30	28	0.8	0.6	-0.01
Audio-visual equipment	7	7	1.2	-	-0.01
CDs and tapes	2	2	0.8	0.7	-
Toys, photographic and sports goods	9	8	2.0	2.0	-
Books and newspapers	7	6	0.1	-0.2	-
Gardening products	5	5	0.4	0.1	-

## Download table

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)

(37.5 Kb)

- Small downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **audio-visual equipment**, where prices overall were little changed this year but rose a year ago.

## Leisure services

	Weight 2014	Weight 2015	1 month % change Mar-14	1 month % change Mar-15	Contribution to RPI annual rate change
LEISURE SERVICES	71	78	0.3	0.1	-0.01
TV licence and rentals	12	12	-	-	-
Entertainment and other recreation	15	15	0.5	0.7	-
Foreign holidays	34	41	0.1	-0.1	-0.01
UK holidays	10	10	0.8	0.5	-

## Download table

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)

(37.5 Kb)

- Small downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **foreign holidays**, where prices overall fell this year but rose a year ago.

## Reconciliation of CPI and RPI

[\(Table 5 of the Consumer Price Inflation Reference Tables\) \(2.22 Mb Excel sheet\)](#)

This table identifies the main factors contributing to the differences between the unrounded inflation rates for the CPI and the RPI. These differences are broken down into: mortgage interest payments, other housing components excluded from the CPI, other differences in the coverage of goods and services, and the formula effect. The final column titled 'other differences including weights' is derived as a residual.

The difference between the CPI and RPI unrounded annual rates in March 2015 was -0.92 percentage points, narrowing from -0.94 percentage points in February 2015.

The main factors contributing to the narrowing were:

- **Other housing components**, which decreased the RPI 12-month rate relative to the CPI 12-month rate by 0.06 percentage points between February and March 2015 but are excluded from the CPI. The effect was mainly due to house depreciation.
- **The formula effect**, which decreased the RPI 12-month rate relative to the CPI 12-month rate by 0.03 percentage points between February and March 2015. The effect was mainly due to food and non-alcoholic beverages, and recreation and culture.

The only offsetting factor was:

- **Other differences including weights**, which increased the RPI 12-month rate relative to the CPI 12-month rate by 0.07 percentage points between February and March 2015. The effect was mainly due to clothing and footwear, and furniture, furnishings, carpets and household textiles. This was partially offset by food and non-alcoholic beverages.

## RPI Miscellaneous Data

### Selected average prices

Description		January 2015	February 2015	March 2015
Petrol per litre	Diesel	£1.16	£1.15	£1.18
	Petrol	£1.09	£1.07	£1.11
Alcohol pub prices	Draught bitter (pint)	£2.96	£2.96	£2.97
	Draught lager (pint)	£3.40	£3.43	£3.44
	Whisky (per nip)	£2.56	£2.58	£2.59
Cigarettes	Per 20 king size	£8.69	£8.72	£8.71

#### Table notes:

1. Average prices are as recorded for the RPI.

### Download table

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)

(36.5 Kb)

## Changes in Mortgage Interest Rates

This table gives an estimate of the contribution that changes in the average mortgage interest rate (MI) make to the 1-month percentage change in the RPI.

## Changes in mortgage interest rates

Month	1-month % change in the RPI	Approx. change in average MI rate	Approx. contribution to the 1-month % change in the RPI
March 2014	+0.2	Down -0.02% points	-0.02% points
April 2014	+0.4	Down -0.01% points	-0.01% points
May 2014	+0.1	Down -0.02% points	-0.02% points
June 2014	+0.2	Down -0.01% points	-0.01% points
July 2014	-0.1	Negligible	-
August 2014	+0.4	Down -0.01% points	-0.01% points
September 2014	+0.2	Negligible	-
October 2014	+0.0	Down -0.02% points	-0.02% points
November 2014	-0.2	Down -0.01% points	-0.01% points
December 2014	+0.2	Down -0.01% points	-0.01% points
January 2015	-0.8	Down -0.01% points	-0.01% points
February 2015	+0.5	Down -0.02% points	-0.02% points
March 2015	+0.2	Down -0.02% points	-0.02% points

### Table notes:

1. A one percentage point change in the average mortgage interest rate contributes approx 0.9 percentage points to the 1-month percentage change in the RPI.

### Download table

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)  
(36.5 Kb)

## Outlook

The outlook is a summary of seasonal trends, selected news cuttings and other sources of information. It gives some indication of expected changes to the annual rate of the CPI and RPI in the next few months.

## FOOD

### Seasonal Food

- Seasonal food prices have tended to show variable movements in April of recent years and are typically dependent on weather conditions both in the UK and around the world.

## Monthly % change for CPI seasonal food index

Year	February	March	April
2009	+1.8	-2.4	-0.6
2010	+1.8	+0.2	+0.6
2011	+0.6	-2.0	-1.1
2012	+1.2	-0.2	-1.3
2013	+1.6	-0.7	+0.5
2014	-0.4	-0.5	-1.7
2015	-0.3	-0.4	

### Table notes:

1. Seasonal food prices in the RPI tend to show a similar movement.

### Download table

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)  
(35.5 Kb)

## ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AND TOBACCO

- As announced in the 2015 Budget, the duty rates on wine, beer and spirits will be reduced. These changes reduce the price of a typical bottle of spirits by 18 pence, a typical litre of cider by 1 penny, and a typical pint of beer by 1 penny.
- As announced at Budget 2014, duty rates on tobacco products will increase by 2% above the RPI rate of inflation on all tobacco duty rates each year until the end of the next Parliament.

## CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR

- Prices for clothing and footwear tend to rise in April.

## Monthly % change for CPI clothing and footwear index

Year	February	March	April
2009	+0.8	+1.1	+0.2
2010	+2.0	+1.8	+2.2
2011	+3.6	+1.1	+1.3
2012	+2.9	+2.2	+0.2
2013	+2.0	+2.4	+0.0
2014	+1.1	+1.8	+1.0
2015	+1.3	-0.1	

### Table notes:

1. The clothing and footwear group in the RPI exhibits a similar seasonal pattern.

### Download table

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)  
(35.5 Kb)

## ELECTRICITY, GAS AND OTHER FUELS

- SSE has announced a reduction of 4.1% in its household gas prices, taking effect from 30 April 2015. (sse.com 26 January 2015)

## FURNITURE, HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND MAINTENANCE

- Prices tend to fall in April.

## Monthly % change for CPI furniture, household equipment and maintenance index

Year	February	March	April
2009	+2.4	+2.1	-1.0
2010	+1.1	+1.6	-1.6
2011	+1.4	+1.7	-0.8
2012	+1.5	+1.3	-1.2
2013	+1.5	+0.8	-1.3
2014	+2.4	+0.3	-0.9
2015	+1.4	+0.4	

### Table notes:

1. The household goods group in the RPI exhibits a similar seasonal pattern.

## Download table

**XLS** [XLS format](#)

(35.5 Kb)

## HEALTH

### Prescription Charges

- The Department of Health has announced that NHS prescription charges for England will rise by 15 pence to £8.20 from 1 April 2015. ([www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk) 12 March 2015)

### NHS Dental Charges

- The Department of Health has announced that NHS dental charges for England will rise from £18.50 to £18.80 for Band 1, from £50.50 to £51.30 for Band 2 and from £219 to £222.50 for Band 3 from 1 April 2015. ([www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk) 12 March 2015)

## TRANSPORT

### Fuels and Lubricants

- Front-month Brent crude futures were up 82 cents at \$58.69 a barrel, continuing gains as financial traders increased bets on higher prices amid a slowdown in U.S. drilling. U.S. crude had risen 78 cents to \$52.42 a barrel. ([uk.reuters.com](http://uk.reuters.com) 13 April 2015)
- When considering the price of petrol between March and April 2015, it may be useful to note that the average price of petrol was unchanged between March and April 2014, standing at 129.0 pence per litre as measured in the CPI.
- A 1 pence change on average in the cost of a litre of motor fuel contributes approximately 0.03 percentage points to the 1-month change in the CPI.

### Vehicle Excise Duty (VED)

- The March 2015 Budget announced that legislation will be introduced to increase VED rates in line with the Retail Price Index (RPI) for cars, vans, and motorcycles, with effect from 1 April 2015.

### Passenger Transport by Air

- Air fares have shown variable movements in April which can depend on the position of Easter.

## Monthly % change for CPI air fares index

Year	February	March	April
2009	-2.1	-0.6	-1.2
2010	+1.7	+7.7	-1.0
2011	+2.1	+2.1	+29.0
2012	-1.6	+4.4	+7.4
2013	+9.2	+5.3	-6.4
2014	+3.3	+1.9	+17.9
2015	+5.3	+2.7	

### Table notes:

1. The air fares index used in the RPI is the same as that used in the CPI, and is included in the **other travel costs** section.

### Download table

[XLS](#) [XLS format](#)  
(35.5 Kb)

## COMMUNICATION

### Postal Services

- Royal Mail has announced that from 30 March 2015 the prices of a First Class stamp and a Second Class stamp will rise by 1p to 63p and 54p respectively. (royalmailgroup.com 27 February 2015)

## HOUSING (RPI)

### Mortgage interest payments (MIPs)

- The Bank of England Bank Rate remained unchanged at 0.5% on Thursday 9 April 2015.
- The change in average mortgage interest rates recorded in the RPI was -0.01% between March and April 2014. The Bank of England Bank Rate remained unchanged at 0.5% in March 2014.
- A one percentage point change in the average mortgage interest rate contributes approximately 0.9 percentage points to the 1-month percentage change in the RPI.

### Council Tax

- The Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) announced that the average Band D council tax set by local authorities in England for 2015-16 will be £1484 – a 1.1% increase on last year. ([www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk) 26 March 2015)
- The Scottish Government announced that the council tax freeze will continue in 2015-16. ([news.scotland.gov.uk](http://news.scotland.gov.uk) 24 February 2015)



- The Welsh Government announced that the average band D council tax for Wales for 2015-16 is £1328 – a 4.1% increase on last year. (gov.wales 26 March 2015)
- The Northern Ireland Executive announced that in the 2015-16 rating year, there will be an increase of 1.4% for the domestic regional rates. (northernireland.gov.uk 10 March 2015)
- The recorded increase for council tax and rates in the RPI last April was 0.9%.

## BUDGET 2015

- Budgetary measures that come into force in 2015/16 will add an estimated 0.01 percentage points to the CPI. Further details are available in the article [Estimated Effect of the Budget on Consumer Prices Index and Retail Prices Index \(93.9 Kb Pdf\)](#) which was published on 25 March 2015.

## Contacts

### Media contact:

Tel: Luke Croydon +44 (0) 845 6041858

Out of hours media line +44 (0) 7867 906553

Email: [media.relations@ons.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:media.relations@ons.gsi.gov.uk)

### Statistical contact:

Tel: Philip Gooding +44 (0) 1633 455896

Email: [philip.gooding@ons.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:philip.gooding@ons.gsi.gov.uk)

Website: [www.ons.gov.uk](http://www.ons.gov.uk)

Email: [cpi@ons.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:cpi@ons.gsi.gov.uk)

Consumer Price Inflation recorded message (available after 9.45 am on release day):

Tel: +44 (0) 800 0113703

Consumer Price Inflation Enquiries:

Tel: +44 (0) 1633 456900

## Background notes

1. Details of the policy governing the release of new data are available by visiting [www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/assessment/code-of-practice/index.html](http://www.statisticsauthority.gov.uk/assessment/code-of-practice/index.html) or from the Media Relations Office email: [media.relations@ons.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:media.relations@ons.gsi.gov.uk)

These National Statistics are produced to high professional standards and released according to the arrangements approved by the UK Statistics Authority.

## Copyright

© Crown copyright 2015

You may use or re-use this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit [www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/) or write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: [psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk).

This document is also available on our website at [www.ons.gov.uk](http://www.ons.gov.uk).