

Consumer Price Inflation

April 2020

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CONTENTS

SUMMARY	2
CPIH SUMMARY	5
CPIH NOTABLE MOVEMENTS	8
CPIH DETAILED BRIEFING	9
RPI SUMMARY	29
RPI NOTABLE MOVEMENTS	31
RPI DETAILED BRIEFING	32
RECONCILIATION OF CPIH AND RPI	41
RPI MISCELLANEOUS DATA	42
OUTLOOK	43

This note is produced as background briefing for the Consumer Price Inflation Statistical Bulletin. Users who require authoritative figures should use the Consumer Price Inflation Statistical Bulletin or Consumer Price Inflation Dataset.

SUMMARY

COVID-19

As a result of the ongoing coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, we identified 92 items which are unavailable to UK consumers as detailed in the [Coronavirus and the effects on UK prices](#) paper. Overall, for the April 2020 CPIH index, we have collected a weighted total of 77.8% (excluding unavailable items) of the number of price quotes collected for the February 2020 index, although the coverage varies across the range of items.

Where items are unavailable due to the coronavirus, their movement has been imputed.

CPIH

The Consumer Prices Index including owner occupiers' housing costs (CPIH) is the most comprehensive measure of inflation. It extends the Consumer Prices Index (CPI) to include a measure of the costs associated with owning, maintaining and living in one's own home, known as owner occupiers' housing costs (OOH), along with Council Tax. Both of these are significant expenses for many households and are not included in the CPI.

Aside from including owner occupiers' housing costs (OOH) and Council Tax, CPIH is otherwise identical to CPI. This means that, aside from these two components, the factors contributing to the CPI rate are the same as those contributing to the CPIH. For example, if food is reported as increasing the CPIH rate, it is also acting to increase the CPI rate. The size of the contributions for components other than OOH and Council Tax are exaggerated in the CPI compared with the CPIH because they account for a larger proportion of the overall index.

The [National Statistics](#) status of the CPIH was reinstated on 31 July 2017. [A letter](#) from the Director General for Regulation to the National Statistician detailed the actions that were taken to meet the requirements as set out in the [CPIH assessment report](#).

The main movements for CPIH in April 2020 are:

- The all items CPIH is 108.6, unchanged from last month.
- The all items CPIH annual rate is 0.9%, down from 1.5% in March.
- As a direct result of the challenges that we have encountered this month, we have made the decision to delay the publication of the CPIH excluding indirect taxes supplementary series, CPIHY. The series will be published in the coming weeks.
- The OOH component of CPIH is 107.7, unchanged from last month.
- The OOH component annual rate is 1.1%, down from 1.3% last month.
- The CPIH all goods index is 104.8, down from 105.7 in March.

- The CPIH all goods index annual rate is -0.4%, down from 0.6% last month.
- The CPIH all services index is 111.5, up from 110.8 in March.
- The CPIH all services index annual rate is 1.9%, down from 2.2% last month.

Consumer Prices Index (CPI)

The CPI continues to be a National Statistic and 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](#).

The main movements for CPI in April 2020 are:

- The all items CPI is 108.5, down from 108.6 in March.
- The all items CPI annual rate is 0.8%, down from 1.5% in March.
- As a direct result of the challenges that we have encountered this month, we have made the decision to delay the publication of the CPI excluding indirect taxes, CPIY, and the CPI at constant tax rates, CPI-CT, supplementary series. These series will be published in the coming weeks.
- The CPI all goods index is 104.8, down from 105.7 in March.
- The CPI all goods index annual rate is -0.4%, down from 0.6% last month.
- The CPI all services index is 112.5, up from 111.9 in March.
- The CPI all services index annual rate is 2.0%, down from 2.5% last month.

Retail Prices Index (RPI)

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 legacy measure of UK inflation that continues to be published because of its use in long-term contracts and index-linked gilts. For further information see [Users and uses of consumer price inflation statistics](#).

The UK Statistics Authority recommended in 2019 that the publication of the RPI should be stopped at a point in the future and that in the interim, the shortcomings of the RPI should be

addressed by introducing CPIH data sources and methods into its production. The Authority and HM Treasury have launched a [consultation](#) on the Authority's proposal to address the shortcomings of the RPI. HM Treasury is consulting on the appropriate timing for the proposed changes to the RPI to take place. The Authority is consulting on how to make its proposed methodological changes to the RPI in a way that follows best statistical practice. The consultation was originally scheduled to run until 22 April 2020 but, because of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, the period has been extended to 21 August 2020. The UK Statistics Authority and HM Treasury have agreed that they cannot conclude a meaningful consultation with businesses and individuals focused on mitigating the challenges that this public health and economic emergency has created.

The main movements for RPI in April 2020 are:

- The all items RPI is 292.6, unchanged from last month.
- The all items RPI annual rate is 1.5%, down from 2.6% last month.
- The annual rate for RPIX, the all items RPI excluding mortgage interest payments (MIPs), is 1.6%, down from 2.7% last month.
- The all goods RPI is 217.7, down from 220.2 in March.
- The all goods RPI annual rate is 0.4%, down from 1.3% last month.
- The all services RPI is 406.7, up from 404.2 in March.
- The all services RPI annual rate is 2.3%, down from 4.1% last month.

CPIH SUMMARY

CONTRIBUTIONS TO CHANGE IN THE CPIH ANNUAL RATE

CPIH COICOP DIVISIONS	Weight	Weight	1 month	1 month	Contribution to CPIH annual rate change
	2019 Feb-Dec	2020 Feb-Dec	% change Apr 2019	% change Apr 2020	
01: Food and non-alcoholic beverages	82	79	-0.3	-0.2	0.01
02: Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	32	32	-0.4	0.7	0.04
03: Clothing and footwear	54	51	0.2	-1.5	-0.08
04: Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	298	296	1.4	0.2	-0.35
05: Furniture, household equipment and maintenance	53	50	-1.2	-1.5	-0.01
06: Health	22	22	0.8	-0.1	-0.02
07: Transport	123	120	2.3	0.1	-0.27
08: Communication	20	17	1.3	0.5	-0.02
09: Recreation and culture	127	136	-0.8	0.4	0.15
10: Education	18	24	-	-	-
11: Restaurants and hotels	97	96	0.4	0.7	0.03
12: Miscellaneous goods and services	74	77	0.3	-0.8	-0.09

Large downward effects came from:

- Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels**, which was the result of a 0.2% rise in the price of electricity and a 3.5% reduction in the price of gas between March and April 2020, compared with price rises of 10.9% and 9.3% for electricity and gas over the same period last year. The cost of water supply and sewerage collection fell by 1.7% and 4.6%, respectively, between March and April 2020 to contribute a further 0.06 percentage point reduction to the CPIH 12-month inflation rate.

- **Transport**, where the downward effect came largely from motor fuels. Petrol prices fell by 10.4 pence per litre between March and April 2020, to stand at 109.0 pence per litre, and diesel prices fell by 7.8 pence per litre, to stand at 116.0 pence per litre. In comparison, between March and April 2019, petrol and diesel prices increased by 3.8 and 2.3 pence per litre, to stand at 124.1 and 133.0 pence per litre, respectively. Petrol prices were last lower in May 2016 (when a litre cost 108.7 pence) and the 10.4 pence per litre drop in petrol prices is the largest monthly fall since the current ultra-low sulphur/unleaded petrol series began in 1990.

Within the transport category, there was also a large downward contribution from transport services, where prices overall were estimated to have increased by 5.9% compared with an increase of 8.1% between March and April 2019. There was a small offsetting upward movement from the purchase of vehicles where prices for second-hand cars have increased between March and April this year, but they fell in price between the same two months a year ago.

- **Miscellaneous goods and services**, where price overall fell between March and April this year but rose between the same two months a year ago. The movements came from other personal effects, where there were increased sales for travel goods (including luggage) and jewellery items, and from reductions to banking services not elsewhere covered.
- **Clothing and footwear**, where the movement came almost entirely from garments although there was a large offsetting upward contribution from other clothing and accessories. For garments, prices overall fell by 2.3% between March and April compared with a small increase of 0.4% a year ago. There were a greater number of items recorded as being discounted this year, when compared with April 2019, with reductions across a range of women's and men's clothing items. For other clothing and accessories, most of the upward movement came from balls a knitting wool, where there were recoveries from sales and higher price comparable items as a result of stock shortages in some stores.

Small downward effects came from:

- **Health**, where prices overall fell slightly this month compared with a small rise a year ago. The movements came from outpatient and hospital service which both contain items that are currently unavailable and have been imputed.
- **Communications**, where there was a small downward contribution this year. The main movements came from mobile phone applications, where prices overall fell this year but rose a year ago, and mobile phone charges, where prices overall rose this year by less than a year ago.

Large upward effects came from:

- **Recreation and culture**, where prices overall rose by 0.4% between March and April this year but fell by 0.8% a year ago. There was an upward contribution (of 0.11 percentage points) from games, toys and hobbies where prices for items like computer games consoles, preschool activity toys, craft kits, dolls, construction toys, and sit and ride toys overall rose by 0.5% in the month compared with a fall of 5.8% a year ago. There were further upward contributions of 0.07 percentage points from data processing equipment, principally computer software, and 0.05 percentage points from recording media, including CDs and DVDs purchased online and music downloads. These movements were partially offset by a large downward contribution of 0.05 percentage points from books with prices falling by 14.3% between March and April 2020 but rising by 1.4% between the same two months a year ago.
- **Alcoholic beverages and tobacco**, where prices for whisky increased by more than a year ago and prices for packs of bottled and canned lager, and cigarettes increased this year but fell in price a year ago.

A small upward effect came from:

- **Restaurants and hotels**, where prices overall were estimated to have increased by 0.7% between March and April this year compared with a smaller increase of 0.4% between the same two months a year ago. For fast food and takeaway services, where some were available to consumers this month, we saw price rises across a range of items with the largest monthly price increases of 7.3% and 4.6% coming from takeaway or delivery pizzas, and takeaway burgers.

CPIH NOTABLE MOVEMENTS

All items CPIH	Annual rate +0.9%, down from +1.5% last month Also +0.9% in July 2016 Last lower in June 2016 (+0.8%)
All items CPIH excl. energy, food, alcohol and tobacco	Annual rate +1.5%, down from +1.6% last month Lowest since December 2019 (+1.4%)
Furniture, household equipment and maintenance	Annual rate -0.2%, down from +0.1% last month Lowest since September 2016 (-1.4%)
Health	Annual rate +2.3%, down from +3.2% last month Also +2.3% in January 2019 and December 2018 Last lower in November 2018 (+2.2%)
Communication	Annual rate +4.2%, down from +5.0% last month Also +4.2% in January 2020 Last lower in November 2019 (+3.3%)
Fuels & lubricants	Annual rate -12.2% down from -2.4% last month Lowest since November 2015 (-12.9%)
All goods	Annual rate -0.4%, down from +0.6% last month Also -0.4% in October 2016 Last lower in September 2016 (-0.5%)
All services	Annual rate +1.9%, down from +2.2% last month Also +1.9% in December 2019, April 2018, May 2014 and March 2014 Last lower in May 2010 (+1.7%)

CPIH DETAILED BRIEFING

The [National Statistics](#) status of the Consumer Prices Index including owner occupiers' housing costs (CPIH) was reinstated on 31 July 2017. [A letter](#) from the Director General for Regulation to the National Statistician detailed the actions that were taken to meet the requirements as set out in the [CPIH assessment report](#).

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

01 FOOD AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES	Weight 2019 Feb-Dec	Weight 2020 Feb-Dec	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to CPIH annual rate change
01 Food & non-alcoholic beverages	82	79	-0.3	-0.2	0.01

- Small upward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- There is a small upward contribution coming from **food**.
- Offset by a small downward contribution coming from **non-alcoholic beverages**.

01.1 Food	Weight 2019 Feb-Dec	Weight 2020 Feb-Dec	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to CPIH annual rate change
01.1 Food	72	71	-0.3	-0.1	0.02
01.1.1 Bread and cereals	12	13	-0.1	-1.9	-0.02
01.1.2 Meat	15	14	-0.3	0.5	0.01
01.1.3 Fish	3	3	-0.9	2.6	0.01
01.1.4 Milk, cheese and eggs	9	8	-0.6	-1.9	-0.01
01.1.5 Oils and fats	2	2	4.5	4.3	-
01.1.6 Fruit	8	9	-0.5	-0.1	-
01.1.7 Vegetables including potatoes	11	11	-1.0	1.6	0.03
01.1.8 Sugar, jam, syrups, chocolate and confectionery	10	9	0.3	-0.9	-0.01
01.1.9 Food products not elsewhere covered	2	2	-1.7	1.0	0.01

- Small upward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **vegetables including potatoes; meat; fish; and food products not elsewhere covered**.
- Partially offset by **bread and cereals; milk, cheese and eggs; and sugar, jam, syrups, chocolate and confectionery**.

Bread and cereals

- Small downward effect.
- Prices overall fell this year by more than a year ago, with the main downward contributions coming from packs of individual cakes and breakfast cereals.

Meat

- Small upward effect.
- Prices overall rose this year but fell a year ago, with the main upward contribution coming from cooked ham prepacked and sliced.
- Partially offset by a small downward contribution coming from home killed lamb shoulder, where prices overall fell this year but rose a year ago.

Fish

- Small downward effect.
- Prices overall rose this year but fell a year ago, with the main contribution coming from frozen fish fingers.

Milk, cheese and eggs

- Negligible overall effect.
- Prices overall fell this year by more than a year ago, with the main downward contribution coming from tubs of cheese spread, where prices fell this year but rose a year ago, and pots of chilled dessert, where prices fell by more than last year.
- Partially offset by a small upward contribution coming from yoghurt/fromage frais, where prices overall fell this year by less than a year ago.

Vegetables including potatoes

- Negligible overall effect.
- Prices overall rose this year but fell a year ago, with the main upward contribution coming from frozen chips, where prices overall rose this year but fell a year ago.

Sugar, jam, syrups, chocolate and confectionery

- Small upward effect.
- Prices overall fell this year but rose a year ago, with the main downward contribution coming from chocolate covered ice cream bars.

Food not elsewhere covered

- Small downward effect.
- Prices overall rose this year but fell a year ago, with the main upward contribution coming from jars of cook-in sauce.

01.2 Non-alcoholic beverages	Weight 2019 Feb-Dec	Weight 2020 Feb-Dec	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to CPIH annual rate change
01.2 Non-alcoholic beverages	10	8	-0.1	-1.2	-0.01
01.2.1 Coffee, tea and cocoa	3	2	-2.0	-2.5	-
01.2.2 Mineral waters, soft drinks and juices	7	6	0.7	-0.7	-0.01

- Small downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **mineral waters, soft drinks and juices**, where prices overall fell this year but rose a year ago.

02 ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AND TOBACCO	Weight 2019 Feb-Dec	Weight 2020 Feb-Dec	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to CPIH annual rate change
02 Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	32	32	-0.4	0.7	0.04

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

02.1 Alcoholic Beverages	Weight 2019 Feb-Dec	Weight 2020 Feb-Dec	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to CPIH annual rate change
02.1 Alcoholic beverages	15	16	-0.4	0.9	0.02
02.1.1 Spirits	4	5	2.1	3.4	0.01
02.1.2 Wine	7	7	-	-0.2	-
02.1.3 Beer	4	4	-3.5	-0.2	0.01

- Small upward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **spirits** and **beer**.

Spirits

- Small upward effect.
- Prices overall rose by more than a year ago, with the main upward contribution coming from bottles of whisky.

Beer

- Small upward effect.
- Prices overall fell by less than a year ago, with the main upward contributions coming from larger packs of canned lager and bottled lager, where prices rose this year but fell a year ago.

02.2 Tobacco	Weight 2019 Feb-Dec	Weight 2020 Feb-Dec	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to CPIH annual rate change
02.2 Tobacco	17	16	-0.5	0.4	0.02

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

03 CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR	Weight 2019 Feb-Dec	Weight 2020 Feb-Dec	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to CPIH annual rate change
03 Clothing and footwear	54	51	0.2	-1.5	-0.08

- Large downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **clothing** and, to a lesser extent, **footwear including repairs**.

03.1 Clothing	Weight 2019 Feb-Dec	Weight 2020 Feb-Dec	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to CPIH annual rate change
03.1 Clothing	45	43	0.3	-1.4	-0.07
03.1.2 Garments	41	38	0.4	-2.3	-0.11
03.1.3 Other clothing and clothing accessories	3	4	-1.8	7.6	0.04
03.1.4 Cleaning, repair and hire of clothing	1	1	0.2	0.5	-

- 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, particularly for women's branded jeans, dresses, formal skirts, casual jackets and short sleeve/sleeveless tops, and men's suits. Partially offset by a small upward contribution coming from child's jumper/sweatshirt/cardigan.

- Offset by a large upward contribution from **other clothing and clothing accessories**, where prices overall rose this year but fell a year ago, with the main upward contributions coming from knitting wool and adult hat/cap.

03.2 Footwear including repairs	Weight 2019 Feb-Dec	Weight 2020 Feb-Dec	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to CPIH annual rate change
03.2 Footwear including repairs	9	8	-0.4	-2.1	-0.01

- Small downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Prices overall fell this year by more than a year ago.
- Partially offset by a small upward contribution from women's high heels, where prices rose this year but fell a year ago.

04 HOUSING, WATER, ELECTRICITY, GAS AND OTHER FUELS	Weight 2019 Feb-Dec	Weight 2020 Feb-Dec	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to CPIH annual rate change
04 Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	298	296	1.4	0.2	-0.35

- Largest downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **electricity, gas and other fuels**; and **other services related to the dwelling**; and, to a lesser extent, **owner occupiers' housing costs**; and **council tax and rates**.
- Offset by a large upward contribution from **actual rents for housing**.

04.1 Actual rentals for housing	Weight 2019 Feb-Dec	Weight 2020 Feb-Dec	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to CPIH annual rate change
04.1 Actual rentals for housing	69	68	-0.1	0.5	0.04

- Large upward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Charges overall rose this year but fell a year ago, particularly for England and Wales, and for Registered Social Landlord (RSL) rents.

04.2 Owner occupiers' housing costs	Weight 2019 Feb-Dec	Weight 2020 Feb-Dec	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to CPIH annual rate change
04.2 Owner occupiers' housing costs	165	163	0.1	-	-0.02

- Small downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Charges overall were little changed this year but rose a year ago, particularly for England.

04.3 Regular maintenance and repair of the dwelling	Weight 2019 Feb-Dec	Weight 2020 Feb-Dec	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to CPIH annual rate change
04.3 Regular maintenance and repair of the dwelling	3	2	0.2	-0.8	-
04.3.1 Materials for maintenance and repair	1	1	0.5	-1.1	-
04.3.2 Services for maintenance and repair	2	1	0.1	-0.4	-

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

04.4 Other services related to the dwelling	Weight 2019 Feb-Dec	Weight 2020 Feb-Dec	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to CPIH annual rate change
04.4 Other services related to the dwelling	9	9	3.1	-3.3	-0.06
04.4.1 Water supply	4	4	2.8	-1.7	-0.02
04.4.3 Sewerage collection	5	5	3.4	-4.6	-0.04

- Large downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **sewerage collection** and, to a lesser extent, **water supply**, where in both cases prices fell this year but rose a year ago.

04.5 Electricity, gas and other fuels	Weight 2019 Feb-Dec	Weight 2020 Feb-Dec	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to CPIH annual rate change
04.5 Electricity, gas and other fuels	26	27	9.3	-1.8	-0.29
04.5.1 Electricity	14	15	10.9	0.2	-0.15
04.5.2 Gas	10	10	9.3	-3.5	-0.13
04.5.3 Liquid fuels	1	1	0.4	-22.2	-0.02
04.5.4 Solid fuels	1	1	-1.6	-0.1	-

- Large downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **electricity**, where charges increased by less than a year ago, **gas** and, to a lesser extent, **liquid fuels**, where, in both cases, prices fell this year but rose a year ago.
- The downward movement to **electricity** and **gas** partially reflected the response from energy providers to Ofgem's six-month energy price cap which came into effect from 1 April 2020.

04.9 Council Tax and rates	Weight 2019 Feb-Dec	Weight 2020 Feb-Dec	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to CPIH annual rate change
04.9 Council Tax and rates	26	27	4.7	3.9	-0.02

- Small downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Prices increased this year by less than a year ago.

05 FURNITURE, HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND MAINTENANCE	Weight 2019 Feb-Dec	Weight 2020 Feb-Dec	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to CPIH annual rate change
05 Furniture, household equipment and maintenance	53	50	-1.2	-1.5	-0.01

- Small downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **household textiles**; and **glassware, tableware and household utensils**.
- Offset by a small upward contribution from **furniture, furnishings and carpets**.

05.1 Furniture, furnishings and carpets	Weight 2019 Feb-Dec	Weight 2020 Feb-Dec	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to CPIH annual rate change
05.1 Furniture, furnishings and carpets	22	17	-1.5	-1.5	0.01
05.1.1 Furniture and furnishings	15	14	-2.2	-1.4	0.01
05.1.2 Carpets and other floor coverings	7	3	-	-2.3	-0.01

- Small upward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **furniture and furnishings**, where prices overall fell this year by less than a year ago, with the main upward contributions coming from lounge furniture, in particular, settees, and armchairs. Partially offset by a downward movement from single beds, where price fell this year but rose a year ago.
- Offset by a small downward contribution from **carpets and other floor coverings**, where prices fell this year but were little changed a year ago, particularly for wool carpets.

05.2 Household textiles	Weight 2019 Feb-Dec	Weight 2020 Feb-Dec	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to CPIH annual rate change
05.2 Household textiles	5	6	-2.9	-4.4	-0.01

- Small downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Prices overall fell this year by more than a year ago, particularly for bath towels and fitted bed sheets.

05.3 Household appliances, fitting and repairs	Weight 2019 Feb-Dec	Weight 2020 Feb-Dec	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to CPIH annual rate change
05.3 Household appliances, fitting and repairs	8	8	-1.1	-0.6	-
05.3.1/2 Major appliances and small electric goods	7	7	-1.2	-0.6	-
05.3.3 Repair of household appliances	1	1	0.2	-0.2	-

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

05.4 Glassware, tableware and household utensils	Weight 2019 Feb-Dec	Weight 2020 Feb-Dec	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to CPIH annual rate change
05.4 Glassware, tableware and household utensils	4	6	-1.4	-2.4	-0.01

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

05.5 Tools and equipment for house and garden	Weight 2019 Feb-Dec	Weight 2020 Feb-Dec	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to CPIH annual rate change
05.5 Tools and equipment for house and garden	5	5	-0.3	-0.2	-

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

05.6 Goods and services for routine maintenance	Weight 2019 Feb-Dec	Weight 2020 Feb-Dec	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to CPIH annual rate change
05.6 Goods and services for routine maintenance	9	8	-0.1	-0.5	-
05.6.1 Non-durable household goods	3	3	-0.4	-0.8	-
05.6.2 Domestic services and household services	6	5	0.1	-0.3	-

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

06 HEALTH	Weight 2019 Feb-Dec	Weight 2020 Feb-Dec	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to CPIH annual rate change
06 Health	22	22	0.8	-0.1	-0.02

- Small downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **out-patient services** and **hospital services**.

06.1 Medical products, appliances and equipment	Weight 2019 Feb-Dec	Weight 2020 Feb-Dec	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to CPIH annual rate change
06.1 Medical products, appliances and equipment	9	12	0.2	-	-
06.1.1 Pharmaceutical products	5	8	0.5	1.1	0.01
06.1.2/3 Other medical and therapeutic equipment	4	4	-0.2	-2.4	-0.01

- Negligible overall effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- There is a small downward contribution coming from **other medical and therapeutic equipment**, where prices overall fell this year by more than a year ago, with the main contribution coming from disposable contact lenses.
- Offset by a small upward contribution coming from **pharmaceutical products** where prices overall rose this year by more than a year ago.

06.2 Out-patient services	Weight 2019 Feb-Dec	Weight 2020 Feb-Dec	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to CPIH annual rate change
06.2 Out-patient services	8	6	0.9	-0.3	-0.01
06.2.1/3 Medical and paramedical services	5	4	-	-0.4	-
06.2.2 Dental services	3	2	2.5	-	-0.01

- Small downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **dental services**, where prices were unchanged this year but rose a year ago.
- These items are unavailable due to the current coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic so their movement has been imputed.

06.3 Hospital services	Weight 2019 Feb-Dec	Weight 2020 Feb-Dec	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to CPIH annual rate change
06.3 Hospital Services	5	4	1.5	-	-0.01

- Small downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change, where prices were unchanged this year but rose a year ago.
- These items are unavailable due to the current coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic so their movement has been imputed.

07 TRANSPORT	Weight 2019 Feb-Dec	Weight 2020 Feb-Dec	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to CPIH annual rate change
07 Transport	123	120	2.3	0.1	-0.27

- Large downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **operation of personal transport equipment and transport services**.
- Offset by **purchase of vehicles**.

07.1 Purchase of vehicles	Weight 2019 Feb-Dec	Weight 2020 Feb-Dec	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to CPIH annual rate change
07.1 Purchase of vehicles	37	35	-0.4	0.8	0.04
07.1.1A New cars	21	19	0.5	0.7	-
07.1.1B Second-hand cars	14	14	-1.6	1.0	0.04
07.1.2/3 Motorcycles and bicycles	2	2	-0.3	0.1	-

- Large upward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **second-hand cars**, where prices overall rose this year but fell a year ago.

07.2 Operation of personal transport equipment	Weight 2019 Feb-Dec	Weight 2020 Feb-Dec	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to CPIH annual rate change
07.2 Operation of personal transport equipment	60	62	1.4	-2.6	-0.25
07.2.1 Spare parts and accessories	4	4	0.3	0.7	-
07.2.2 Fuels and lubricants	24	25	2.6	-7.8	-0.25
07.2.3 Maintenance and repairs	20	21	-	0.1	-
07.2.4 Other services	12	12	1.8	1.4	-

- Large downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **fuels and lubricants**.

Fuels and lubricants

- Large downward effect.
- Prices overall fell this year but rose a year ago.
- The average price of petrol across the month, as recorded for the CPIH, fell by 10.4 pence per litre between March and April 2020, to stand at 109.0 pence per litre.
- Last year, the average price of petrol rose by 3.8 pence per litre between March and April 2019, to stand at 124.1 pence per litre.

- The average price of diesel fell by 7.8 pence per litre between March and April 2020, to stand at 116.0 pence per litre, compared with a rise of 2.3 pence per litre a year earlier, to stand at 133.0 pence per litre.

07.3 Transport services	Weight	Weight	1 month	1 month	Contribution to CPIH annual rate change
	2019	2020	% change	% change	
	Feb-Dec	Feb-Dec	Apr 2019	Apr 2020	
07.3 Transport services	26	23	8.1	5.9	-0.07
07.3.1 Passenger transport by railway	11	9	2.3	2.2	-0.01
07.3.2 Passenger transport by road	9	8	3.9	0.8	-0.03
07.3.3 Passenger transport by air	4	4	26.4	15.5	-0.04
07.3.4 Passenger transport by sea and inland waterway	2	2	23.6	22.4	-

- Large downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **passenger transport by air**, and to a lesser extent, **passenger transport by road** and **railway**.

Passenger transport by railway

- Small downward effect.
- Due to international rail, where prices rose this year by less than a year ago.
- International rail fares are unavailable due to the current coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic so their movement has been imputed.

Passenger transport by road

- Small downward effect.
- Average charges rose this year by less than a year ago, particularly for coach fares.
- Coach fares are unavailable due to the current coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic so their movement has been imputed.

Passenger transport by air

- Large downward effect.
- Average air fares rose this year by less than a year ago.
- These items are unavailable due to the current coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic so their movement has been imputed.

08 COMMUNICATION	Weight 2019 Feb-Dec	Weight 2020 Feb-Dec	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to CPIH annual rate change
08 Communication	20	17	1.3	0.5	-0.02

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

08.1 Postal services	Weight 2019 Feb-Dec	Weight 2020 Feb-Dec	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to CPIH annual rate change
08.1 Postal services	1	1	4.0	5.3	-

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

08.2/3 Telephone equipment and services	Weight 2019 Feb-Dec	Weight 2020 Feb-Dec	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to CPIH annual rate change
08.2/3 Telephone equipment and services	19	16	1.2	0.3	-0.02

- Small downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Prices overall rose this year by less than a year ago.
- Due to mobile phone applications, where prices overall fell this year but rose a year ago, and mobile phone charges, where prices overall rose this year by less than a year ago.

09 RECREATION AND CULTURE	Weight 2019 Feb-Dec	Weight 2020 Feb-Dec	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to CPIH annual rate change
09 Recreation and culture	127	136	-0.8	0.4	0.15

- Largest upward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **audio-visual equipment and related products**; and **other recreational items, gardens and pets**.
- Partially offset by **books, newspapers and stationery**; **recreational and cultural services**; and **other major durables for recreation and culture**.

09.1 Audio-visual equipment and related products	Weight 2019 Feb-Dec	Weight 2020 Feb-Dec	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to CPIH annual rate change
09.1 Audio-visual equipment and related products	17	18	-2.8	3.6	0.12
09.1.1 Equipment for the reception and reproduction of sound and pictures	4	3	-2.3	-2.4	-
09.1.2 Photographic, cinematographic and optical equipment	2	2	-0.1	-2.6	-0.01
09.1.3 Data processing equipment	7	7	-5.8	3.7	0.07
09.1.4 Recording media	3	5	1.1	10.2	0.05
09.1.5 Repair of audio-visual equipment and related products	1	1	-0.1	-	-

- Large upward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **data processing equipment** and **recording media**.
- Partially offset by **photographic, cinematographic and optical equipment**.

Photographic, cinematographic and optical equipment

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

Data processing equipment

- Large upward effect.
- Prices overall rose this year but fell a year ago.
- Due to computer software and, to a lesser extent, PC peripherals and tablet computers, which all rose overall this year but fell a year ago.

Recording media

- Large upward effect.
- Prices overall rose this year by more than a year ago.
- Due to CDs bought via the internet, where prices overall rose by more than a year ago; music downloads; and DVDs bought via the internet where, in both cases, prices rose overall this year but fell a year ago.

09.2 Other major durables for recreation and culture	Weight 2019 Feb-Dec	Weight 2020 Feb-Dec	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to CPIH annual rate change
09.2.1/2 Major durables for in/outdoor recreation	14	14	0.5	0.1	-0.01

- Small downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Prices overall rose by less than a year ago, with the main downward contribution coming from caravans.

09.3 Other recreational items, gardens and pets	Weight 2019 Feb-Dec	Weight 2020 Feb-Dec	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to CPIH annual rate change
09.3 Other recreational items, gardens and pets	30	33	-3.5	0.2	0.11
09.3.1 Games, toys and hobbies	18	16	-5.8	0.5	0.11
09.3.2 Equipment for sport and open-air recreation	2	3	-1.1	-	-
09.3.3 Gardens, plants and flowers	3	5	-	-0.9	-
09.3.4/5 Pets, related products and services	7	9	0.3	0.4	-

- Large upward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **games, toys and hobbies**, where prices overall rose this year but fell a year ago, with the main upward contributions coming from computer game consoles; preschool activity toys; craft kits; dolls; board games; construction toys and sit and ride toys. Partially offset by a small downward contribution coming from computer downloads and computer games.

09.4 Recreational and cultural services	Weight 2019 Feb-Dec	Weight 2020 Feb-Dec	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to CPIH annual rate change
09.4 Recreational and cultural services	22	28	2.8	1.1	-0.03
09.4.1 Recreational and sporting services	6	8	2.6	0.2	-0.02
09.4.2 Cultural services	16	20	2.9	1.5	-0.02

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

Recreational and sporting services

- Small downward effect.
- Prices overall rose this year by less than a year ago, with the main downward movement coming from part-time leisure classes.
- Some of these items are unavailable due to the current coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic so their movement has been imputed.

Cultural services

- Small downward effect.
- Prices overall rose this year this year by less than a year ago, with the main downward movement coming from TV rentals, where prices were unchanged this year but rose a year ago.
- Some of these items are unavailable due to the current coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic so their movement has been imputed.

09.5 Books, newspapers and stationery	Weight 2019 Feb-Dec	Weight 2020 Feb-Dec	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to CPIH annual rate change
09.5 Books, newspapers and stationery	10	9	-	-4.2	-0.04
09.5.1 Books	3	3	1.4	-14.3	-0.05
09.5.2 Newspapers and periodicals	3	3	0.1	-	-
09.5.3/4 Misc. printed matter, stationery, drawing materials	4	3	-1.1	1.6	0.01

- Large downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- There is a large downward contribution coming from **books**, where prices overall fell this year but rose a year ago, in particular from non-fiction paperbacks and hardbacks, eBooks and fiction paperbacks.
- Offset by an upward contribution from **miscellaneous printed matter; stationary; drawing materials**, where prices rose this year but fell a year ago, in particular, from greetings cards.

09.6 Package holidays	Weight 2019 Feb-Dec	Weight 2020 Feb-Dec	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to CPIH annual rate change
09.6 Package holidays	34	34	-0.4	-0.4	-

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

10 EDUCATION	Weight 2019 Feb-Dec	Weight 2020 Feb-Dec	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to CPIH annual rate change
10 Education	18	24	-	-	-

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

11 RESTAURANTS AND HOTELS	Weight 2019 Feb-Dec	Weight 2020 Feb-Dec	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to CPIH annual rate change
11 Restaurants and hotels	97	96	0.4	0.7	0.03

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

11.1 Catering services	Weight 2019 Feb-Dec	Weight 2020 Feb-Dec	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to CPIH annual rate change
11.1 Catering services	76	80	0.4	0.6	0.01
11.1.1 Restaurants and cafes	70	74	0.4	0.6	0.01
11.1.2 Canteens	6	6	0.5	0.8	-

- Small upward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **restaurants and cafes**, where prices overall rose this year by more than a year ago. There were upward contributions from pub and restaurant meals; takeaway or delivery pizza; and eat in or takeaway burgers.
- Some of these items are unavailable due to the current coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic so their movement has been imputed.

11.2 Accommodation services	Weight	Weight	1 month	1 month	Contribution to CPIH annual rate change
	2019 Feb-Dec	2020 Feb-Dec	% change Apr 2019	% change Apr 2020	
11.2 Accommodation services	21	16	0.3	1.2	0.01

- Small upward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Prices overall rose this year by more than a year ago.
- Some of these items are unavailable due to the current coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic so their movement has been imputed.

12 MISCELLANEOUS GOODS AND SERVICES	Weight	Weight	1 month	1 month	Contribution to CPIH annual rate change
	2019 Feb-Dec	2020 Feb-Dec	% change Apr 2019	% change Apr 2020	
12 Misc. goods and services	74	77	0.3	-0.8	-0.09

- Large downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **personal effects not elsewhere covered; financial services not elsewhere covered; social protection and insurance.**

12.1 Personal care	Weight	Weight	1 month	1 month	Contribution to CPIH annual rate change
	2019 Feb-Dec	2020 Feb-Dec	% change Apr 2019	% change Apr 2020	
12.1 Personal care	24	23	-	-0.1	-
12.1.1 Hairdressing and personal grooming establishments	6	6	0.5	-0.5	-0.01
12.1.2/3 Appliances and products for personal care	18	17	-0.1	0.1	-

- Negligible overall effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- There is a small downward movement from **hairdressing and personal grooming establishments** where prices fell this year but rose a year ago. These items are unavailable due to the current coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic so their movement has been imputed.

12.3 Personal effects not elsewhere covered	Weight 2019 Feb-Dec	Weight 2020 Feb-Dec	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to CPIH annual rate change
12.3 Personal effects not elsewhere covered	15	11	0.2	-2.8	-0.04
12.3.1 Jewellery, clocks and watches	10	7	-0.3	-2.3	-0.01
12.3.2 Other personal effects	5	4	1.2	-3.6	-0.02

- Large downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **other personal effects**, where prices overall fell this year but rose a year ago, in particular for luggage; and **jewellery, clocks and watches**, where prices overall fell this year by more than a year ago, in particular from diamond solitaire rings and gold chains.

12.4 Social protection	Weight 2019 Feb-Dec	Weight 2020 Feb-Dec	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to CPIH annual rate change
12.4 Social protection	13	17	0.4	-0.6	-0.02

- Small downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Some of these items are unavailable due to the current coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic so their movement has been imputed.

12.5 Insurance	Weight 2019 Feb-Dec	Weight 2020 Feb-Dec	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to CPIH annual rate change
12.5 Insurance	5	5	2.0	-	-0.01
12.5.2 House contents insurance	1	1	1.8	-0.4	-
12.5.3 Health insurance	2	2	2.3	2.5	-
12.5.4 Transport insurance	2	2	1.9	-2.3	-0.01

- Small downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **transport insurance**, where average premiums for car insurance fell this year but rose a year ago.

12.6 Financial services not elsewhere covered	Weight 2019 Feb-Dec	Weight 2020 Feb-Dec	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to CPIH annual rate change
12.6 Financial services not elsewhere covered	8	8	0.3	-3.0	-0.03

- Small downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Prices overall fell this year but rose a year ago.
- Due to some bank charges which fell this year but were unchanged a year ago.

12.7 Other services not elsewhere covered	Weight 2019 Feb-Dec	Weight 2020 Feb-Dec	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to CPIH annual rate change
12.7 Other services not elsewhere covered	9	13	0.4	0.4	-

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

RPI SUMMARY

CONTRIBUTIONS TO CHANGE IN THE RPI ANNUAL RATE

GROUPS	Weight pre-Jul 2019	Weight 2020	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to RPI annual rate change
FOOD	100	102	-0.4	-0.4	-
CATERING	49	51	0.5	1.3	0.04
ALCOHOLIC DRINKS	59	62	0.3	-	-0.01
TOBACCO	21	22	-0.5	0.3	0.02
HOUSING	260	266	0.9	0.7	-0.03
FUEL AND LIGHT	38	40	9.2	-2.3	-0.43
HOUSEHOLD GOODS	69	67	-1.2	-0.7	0.03
HOUSEHOLD SERVICES	61	55	1.0	-	-0.07
CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR	39	37	0.7	-1.3	-0.09
PERSONAL GOODS AND SERVICES	42	42	0.5	-0.6	-0.05
MOTORING EXPENDITURE	125	113	0.7	-2.5	-0.38
FARES AND OTHER TRAVEL COSTS	28	26	12.8	8.0	-0.14
LEISURE GOODS	24	26	-1.0	-0.6	0.01
LEISURE SERVICES	85	91	0.8	0.4	-0.03

As a result of the [error identified in the Retail Prices Index \(RPI\) in 2019](#) (resulting from an issue with the 2017 and 2018 Living Costs and Food Survey (LCF) dataset, which is used to produce the weights unpinning the RPI), the 2019 RPI was based on two weight structures – prior to July 2019, on the incorrect basis and, from July 2019 onwards, on the corrected basis.

From February 2020, the new 2020 RPI weights structure has been implemented and it should be noted that contributions calculations will be based on the comparison between the latest 2020 weights structure and the structure used at the time of publication. This means that contribution calculations between now and July 2020 will be based on the uncorrected 2019 weights structure to ensure that no revisions are made to the RPI.

RPI NOTABLE MOVEMENTS

All items RPI	Annual rate +1.5%, down from +2.6% last month Lowest since May 2016 (+1.4%)
All items RPI excl. MIPS (RPIX)	Annual rate +1.6%, down from +2.7% last month Lowest since May 2016 (+1.5%)
Personal goods and services	Annual rate +2.4%, down from +3.5% last month Also 2.4% in November 2019 Last lower in October 2019 (+2.3%)
Petrol and oil	Annual rate -11.7%, down from -1.8% last month Lowest since December 2015 (-13.1%)
All goods	Annual rate +0.4%, down from +1.3% last month Lowest since August 2016 (-0.2%)
All services	Annual rate +2.3%, down from +4.1% last month Lowest since March 2017 (+2.2%)

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. A consultation was carried out in March 2013 on whether to maintain this detailed RPI briefing and, based on views received, it was decided to continue with its publication.

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

FOOD	Weight pre-Jul 2019	Weight 2020	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to RPI annual rate change
FOOD	100	102	-0.4	-0.4	-

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

Seasonal Food	Weight pre-Jul 2019	Weight 2020	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to RPI annual rate change
SEASONAL FOOD	18	18	-0.5	0.5	0.02
Home killed lamb	1	1	1.5	-2.4	-
Fresh fish	2	2	-0.8	-	-
Eggs	1	1	-0.5	-1.0	-
Unprocessed potatoes	1	1	-2.4	4.5	0.01
Other fresh vegetables	6	6	-0.6	1.4	0.01
Fresh fruit	7	7	-0.3	-0.1	-

- Small upward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- There is a small upward contribution coming from **unprocessed potatoes** and **other fresh vegetables**, where prices overall rose this year but fell a year ago.

Non-Seasonal Food	Weight pre-Jul 2019	Weight 2020	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to RPI annual rate change
NON-SEASONAL FOOD	82	84	-0.4	-0.6	-0.02
Bread	3	3	-0.4	-0.4	-
Cereals	3	3	1.5	0.5	-
Biscuits and cakes	6	6	2.0	-1.4	-0.02
Beef	3	3	-1.2	-0.5	-
Imported lamb	1	0	-1.6	-	-
Pork	1	1	-0.6	2.8	-
Bacon	1	1	-1.9	-	-
Poultry	4	3	-0.5	0.4	-
Other meat	6	6	0.2	1.3	0.01
Processed fish	2	2	-2.2	-1.3	-
Butter	1	1	0.2	1.2	-
Oils and fats	1	1	7.4	4.7	-
Cheese	3	3	2.6	-1.6	-0.01
Milk, fresh	3	3	0.1	0.3	-
Milk products	4	4	-4.0	-3.6	-
Tea	1	1	-1.7	3.2	0.01
Soft drinks	9	9	0.6	-0.5	-0.01
Sugar and preserves	1	1	-1.9	-2.4	-
Sweets and chocolates	11	12	0.2	-0.1	-
Potato products	3	3	-1.0	1.8	0.01
Processed vegetables	1	2	-2.0	4.6	0.01
Processed fruit	1	2	3.4	0.9	-
Other foods	11	12	-2.8	-3.1	-0.01
Coffee and other hot drinks	2	2	-2.2	-4.8	-0.01

- Small downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to:
 - **Biscuits and cakes, cheese, and soft drinks**, where prices overall fell this year but rose a year ago, particularly for packs of individual cakes, tubs of cheese spread and fresh chilled orange juice; and
 - **Other foods and coffee and other hot drinks**, where prices overall fell this year by more than a year ago. With the main downward contributions coming from chocolate covered ice cream bar, instant coffee, and dried potted snack. Partially offset by a small upward contribution coming from jars of cook-in sauce, where prices rose this year but fell a year ago.
- Partially offset by:
 - **Other meat**, where prices overall rose this year by more than a year ago, particularly for pre-packaged cooked ham; and
 - **Tea, potato products and processed vegetables**, where prices overall rose this year but fell a year ago, particularly for frozen chips and canned tomatoes.

CATERING	Weight pre-Jul 2019	Weight 2020	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to RPI annual rate change
CATERING	49	51	0.5	1.3	0.04
Restaurant meals	29	30	0.5	1.1	0.02
Canteen meals	3	3	0.5	1.0	-
Take-away meals and snacks	17	18	0.4	1.8	0.03

- Largest upward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to:
 - **Takeaway meals and snacks**, where prices overall rose this year by more than a year ago particularly for takeaway or delivery pizzas, and eat in or takeaway burgers; and
 - **Restaurant meals**, where prices overall rose this year by more than a year ago. There were upward contributions from pub and restaurant meals.
- Some of these items are unavailable due to the current coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic so their movement has been imputed.

ALCOHOLIC DRINKS	Weight pre-Jul 2019	Weight 2020	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to RPI annual rate change
ALCOHOLIC DRINKS	59	62	0.3	-	-0.01
Beer on sales	19	19	0.5	-0.3	-0.02
Beer off sales	6	6	-2.8	-0.6	0.01
Wines and spirits on sales	19	21	0.4	-0.3	-0.02
Wines and spirits off sales	15	16	1.0	1.1	-

- Small downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **beer on sales** and **wines and spirits on sales**, where prices overall fell this year but rose a year ago, with the main downward contribution coming from vodka. The items in these sections are unavailable due to the current coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic so their movement has been imputed.
- Offset by **beer off sales**, where prices overall fell this year by less than a year ago, with the main contributions coming from larger packs of canned lager and bottled lager.

TOBACCO	Weight pre-Jul 2019	Weight 2020	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to RPI annual rate change
TOBACCO	21	22	-0.5	0.3	0.02
Cigarettes	17	18	-0.6	0.7	0.02
Other tobacco products	4	4	0.2	-1.2	-0.01

- Small upward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **cigarettes**, where prices overall rose this year but fell a year ago.
- Offset by a small downward contribution from **other tobacco products**, where prices overall fell this year but rose a year ago, in particular for hand rolling tobacco.

HOUSING	Weight pre-Jul 2019	Weight 2020	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to RPI annual rate change
HOUSING	260	266	0.9	0.7	-0.03
Rent	77	82	-	0.6	0.05
Mortgage interest payments	25	24	-0.2	-0.5	-0.01
Council Tax and rates	39	41	4.7	3.9	-0.02
Water and other charges	12	13	3.1	-3.2	-0.08
Repairs and maintenance charges	10	9	0.1	-0.3	-
DIY materials	7	7	0.2	-0.4	-
Dwelling insurance and ground rent	6	6	1.4	-0.3	-0.01
House depreciation	84	84	-0.1	0.5	0.05

- Small downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to:
 - **Water and other charges**, where charges fell this year but rose a year ago, in particular for England and Wales; and, to a lesser extent,
 - **Council tax and rates**, where charges overall rose this year by less than a year ago;
 - **Mortgage interest payments**, where average charges fell this year by more than a year ago; and
 - **Dwelling insurance and ground rent**, where prices for dwelling insurance fell this year but rose a year ago.
- Offset by:
 - **Rent**, where charges overall rose this year, but were little changed a year ago, in particular for Local Authority rent (England and Wales) and Registered Social Landlord (RSL) rents; and
 - **House depreciation**, where the smoothed house price index used to calculate this component rose this year but fell a year ago.

FUEL AND LIGHT	Weight pre-Jul 2019	Weight 2020	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to RPI annual rate change
FUEL AND LIGHT	38	40	9.2	-2.3	-0.43
Coal and solid fuels	1	1	-1.6	-0.1	-
Electricity	19	21	10.8	0.2	-0.20
Gas	15	15	9.4	-3.6	-0.19
Oil and other fuels	3	3	1.1	-16.2	-0.04

- Largest downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to
 - **Electricity**, where prices rose by less than a year ago;
 - **Gas**, where prices overall fell this year but rose a year ago; and, to a lesser extent,
 - **Oil and other fuels**, where average prices for kerosene fell this year but rose a year ago.

The downward movement to **electricity** and **gas** partially reflected the response from energy providers to Ofgem's six-month energy price cap which came into effect from 1 April 2020.

HOUSEHOLD GOODS	Weight pre-Jul 2019	Weight 2020	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to RPI annual rate change
HOUSEHOLD GOODS	69	67	-1.2	-0.7	0.03
Furniture	27	27	-2.0	-1.2	0.02
Furnishings	10	9	-1.2	-1.9	-0.01
Electrical appliances	7	6	-1.0	-0.3	0.01
Other household equipment	5	4	-1.9	-2.4	-
Household consumables	11	12	-0.1	0.8	0.01
Pet care	9	9	0.2	0.6	-

- Small upward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to:
 - **Furniture**, where prices overall fell this year by less than a year ago, with the main upward contributions coming from leather settees, sofa beds and armchairs, partially offset by downward contributions from single and double beds, mattresses and patio tables and chairs;
 - **Electrical appliances**, where overall prices fell this year by less than a year ago; and
 - **Household consumables**, where overall prices rose this year but fell a year ago with the main upward contribution came from toilet rolls.

- Partially offset by:
 - Furnishings**, where prices overall fell this year by more than a year ago, with the main downward contribution coming from wool carpets, partially offset tufted carpets, where prices rose by more than a year ago.

HOUSEHOLD SERVICES	Weight pre-Jul 2019	Weight 2020	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to RPI annual rate change
HOUSEHOLD SERVICES	61	55	1.0	-	-0.07
Domestic services	14	12	0.4	-0.1	-0.01
Fees and subscriptions	22	18	0.8	0.3	-0.01
Postage	1	1	4.0	5.3	-
Telephone charges	24	24	1.5	-0.4	-0.05

- Large downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to:
 - Telephone charges**, where overall prices fell this year but rose a year ago, the effect came mainly from mobile phone applications and mobile phone charges; and, to a lesser extent,
 - Domestic services**, where prices overall fell this year but rose a year ago; and
 - Fees and subscriptions**, where average charges overall rose this year by less than a year ago. The downward movement came from bank charges, which fell this year but were unchanged a year ago, and household services maintenance policy, which overall fell this year but rose a year ago. Partially offset by estate agents' fees, where overall charges rose by more than a year ago.

CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR	Weight pre-Jul 2019	Weight 2020	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to RPI annual rate change
CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR	39	37	0.7	-1.3	-0.09
Men's outerwear	8	7	0.8	-2.3	-0.02
Women's outerwear	14	13	1.7	-1.9	-0.05
Children's outerwear	4	4	0.3	-0.7	-
Other clothing	5	5	-0.4	1.7	0.01
Footwear	8	8	-0.3	-1.9	-0.01

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

- Due to:
 - **Women's outerwear**, where prices overall fell this year but rose a year ago, with the main downward contributions coming from casual outer jacket, formal skirt, dresses, branded jeans and short sleeve/sleeveless top; and, to a lesser extent,
 - **Men's outerwear**, where prices overall fell this year but rose a year ago, in particular for men's suit; and
 - **Footwear**, where overall prices fell by more than a year ago.
- Offset by **other clothing** where prices overall increased this year but fell a year ago. The largest upward contributions came from knitting wool, where overall prices rose by more than a year ago, and adult hat/cap, where overall prices rose this year but fell a year ago.

PERSONAL GOODS AND SERVICES	Weight pre-Jul 2019	Weight 2020	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to RPI annual rate change
PERSONAL GOODS AND SERVICES	42	42	0.5	-0.6	-0.05
Personal articles	10	10	-	-2.8	-0.03
Chemists' goods	16	16	-0.1	-0.3	-
Personal services	16	16	1.2	0.5	-0.01

- Large downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to:
 - **Personal articles**, where prices overall fell this year but were little changed a year ago, with the main downward contributions coming from luggage; and
 - **Personal services**, where prices overall rose this year by less than a year ago, with the main downward contribution NHS dental charges. Some of these items are unavailable due to the current coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic so their movement has been imputed.

MOTORING EXPENDITURE	Weight pre-Jul 2019	Weight 2020	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to RPI annual rate change
MOTORING EXPENDITURE	125	113	0.7	-2.5	-0.38
Purchase of motor vehicles	51	37	-0.5	0.9	0.06
Maintenance of motor vehicles	17	15	0.1	0.3	-
Petrol and oil	35	37	1.7	-8.5	-0.36
Vehicle tax and insurance	22	24	2.7	-0.8	-0.08

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

- Due to:
 - **Petrol and oil**, where prices overall fell this year but rose a year ago. The price of petrol, as recorded for the RPI, fell by 11.7 pence per litre between March and April 2020, to stand at 108.6 pence per litre, compared with a rise of 2.6 pence per litre last year, to stand at 122.7 pence per litre. Diesel prices fell by 8.7 pence per litre, to stand at 115.7 pence per litre in April 2020, compared with a rise of 1.5 pence per litre last year, to stand at 132.1 pence per litre; and
 - **Vehicle tax and insurance**, where average premiums for car insurance fell this year but rose a year ago.
- Partially offset by **purchase of motor vehicles**, where average prices for second-hand cars rose this year but fell a year ago.

FARES AND OTHER TRAVEL COSTS	Weight pre-Jul 2019	Weight 2020	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to RPI annual rate change
FARES AND OTHER TRAVEL COSTS	28	26	12.8	8.0	-0.14
Rail fares	7	7	2.3	2.3	-
Bus and coach fares	3	3	9.1	0.7	-0.02
Other travel costs	18	16	17.4	11.6	-0.11

- Large downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **other travel costs** and **bus and coach fares**, where prices rose this year, by less than a year ago. Some of these items are unavailable due to the current coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic so their movement has been imputed.

LEISURE GOODS	Weight pre-Jul 2019	Weight 2020	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to RPI annual rate change
LEISURE GOODS	24	26	-1.0	-0.6	0.01
Audio-visual equipment	4	5	-1.4	-	0.01
CDs and tapes	1	1	-1.1	9.8	0.01
Toys, photographic and sports goods	9	9	-2.7	1.4	0.04
Books and newspapers	5	5	1.3	-7.4	-0.05
Gardening products	5	6	0.2	-0.9	-0.01

- Small upward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to:
 - **Toys, photographic and sports goods**, where prices overall rose this year but fell a year ago, in particular for child's preschool activity toy and craft kits;
 - **Audio-visual equipment**, where prices overall were unchanged this year but fell a year ago, in particular for PC peripherals; and

- **CDs and tapes**, where prices overall rose this year but fell a year ago.
- Partially offset by:
 - **Books and newspapers**, where prices overall fell this year but rose a year ago in particular for eBooks and non-fiction paperbacks, and
 - **Gardening products**, where prices overall fell this year but rose a year ago, with the largest downward contribution coming from packets of seeds.

LEISURE SERVICES	Weight pre-Jul 2019	Weight 2020	1 month % change Apr 2019	1 month % change Apr 2020	Contribution to RPI annual rate change
LEISURE SERVICES	85	91	0.8	0.4	-0.03
TV licence and rentals	10	14	4.4	2.9	-
Entertainment and other recreation	16	16	2.0	0.5	-0.02
Foreign holidays	46	50	-0.4	-0.3	-
UK holidays	13	11	0.4	0.3	-

- Small downward effect on the all items 12-month rate change.
- Due to **entertainment and other recreation**, where average charges rose this year by less than a year ago, in particular for part-time leisure classes. Some of these items are unavailable due to the current coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic so their movement has been imputed.

RECONCILIATION OF CPIH AND RPI

(Table 5a of the Consumer Price Inflation Dataset)

This table identifies the main factors contributing to the differences between the unrounded inflation rates for the CPIH and the RPI. These differences are broken down into: mortgage interest payments, other housing components excluded from the CPIH, imputed rents (included in CPIH as a measure of owner occupiers' housing costs and excluded from RPI), other differences in the coverage of goods and services, and the formula effect. The final component titled 'other differences including weights' is derived as a residual.

The corresponding figures for the Consumer Prices Index (CPI) can be found in Table 5b of the [Consumer price inflation dataset](#).

The difference between the CPIH and RPI unrounded annual rates in April 2020 was -0.60 percentage points, narrowing from -1.09 percentage points in March 2020.

The main factors contributing to the widening were:

- **Other differences including weights**, which decreased the RPI 12-month rate relative to the CPIH 12-month rate by 0.58 percentage points between March and April 2020. The effect came from a range of sectors and encompasses the difference between imputed price movements, for items that are currently unavailable to consumers to purchase, in the CPIH and the RPI. The [coronavirus and the effects on UK prices](#) article describes the approach we have taken.

This was partially offset by:

- **Other housing components**, which increased the RPI 12-month rate relative to the CPIH 12-month rate by 0.05 percentage points between March and April 2020. The effect came mainly from house depreciation
- **The formula effect**, which increased the RPI 12-month rate relative to the CPIH 12-month rate by 0.02 percentage points between March and April 2020. The effect came mainly from furniture, household equipment and maintenance; and transport.
- **CPIH imputed rents**, which decreased the CPIH 12-month rate relative to the RPI 12-month rate by 0.02 percentage points between March and April 2020

RPI MISCELLANEOUS DATA

Selected Average Prices

Description		February 2020	March 2020	April 2020
Fuel per litre	Diesel	£1.28	£1.24	£1.16
	Petrol	£1.24	£1.20	£1.09
Alcohol pub prices	Draught bitter (pint)	£3.12	£3.13	£3.12
	Draught lager (pint)	£3.76	£3.75	£3.75
	Whisky (per nip)	£3.03	£3.05	£3.04
Cigarettes	Per 20 king size	£10.80	£11.02	£11.10

Average prices are as recorded for the RPI.

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.

Month	1-month % change in the RPI	Approx. change in average MI rate	Approx. contribution to the 1-month % change in the RPI
April 2019	+1.1	Down -0.01% points	-0.01% points
May 2019	+0.3	Negligible	-
June 2019	+0.1	Down -0.02% points	-0.02% points
July 2019	0.0	Negligible	-
August 2019	+0.8	Negligible	-
September 2019	-0.2	Negligible	-
October 2019	-0.2	Down -0.02% points	-0.02% points
November 2019	+0.2	Down -0.01% points	-0.01% points
December 2019	+0.3	Negligible	-
January 2020	-0.4	Down -0.03% points	-0.03% points
February 2020	+0.5	Down -0.02% points	-0.02% points
March 2020	+0.2	Negligible	-
April 2020	-0.5	Down -0.02% points	-0.01% points

NB: A one percentage point change in the average mortgage interest rate contributes approx. 1.0 percentage points to the 1-month percentage change in the RPI.

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 CPIH and RPI in the next few months.

COVID-19

In preparing to collect the prices for this publication, we identified 92 goods or services across the CPIH/CPI and RPI baskets of goods and services that were unavailable for consumers.

As the collection issues are likely to continue in subsequent months, we are continuing to monitor the resumption of services stopped during the lockdown period, and we will carefully consider how we will reintroduce items in the coming months.

FOOD

Seasonal Food

- Seasonal food prices have shown a mixed pattern of rises and falls in May of recent years, but are typically dependent on weather conditions UK and around the world.

Monthly % change for CPIH seasonal food index			
Year	March	April	May
2014	-0.5	-1.7	-1.6
2015	-0.4	-0.7	0.1
2016	-0.9	-0.8	-0.7
2017	0.6	-0.2	-0.5
2018	-0.5	-0.8	0.5
2019	-0.5	-0.8	-0.4
2020	-2.3	1.1	

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

CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR

- Prices for clothing and footwear prices have shown a mixed pattern of rises and falls in May of recent years.

Monthly % change for CPIH clothing and footwear index			
Year	March	April	May
2014	1.8	1.0	-0.1
2015	-0.1	0.7	0.5
2016	1.0	-0.3	-0.2
2017	2.0	1.1	0.5
2018	0.7	0.4	0.2
2019	1.0	0.2	0.5
2020	-0.3	-1.5	

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

FURNITURE, HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND MAINTENANCE

- Prices tend to rise in May.

Monthly % change for CPIH furniture, household equipment and maintenance index			
Year	March	April	May
2014	0.3	-0.9	0.5
2015	0.4	-1.2	0.6
2016	0.7	-1.5	0.4
2017	0.7	-1.0	1.2
2018	-0.1	-0.8	0.6
2019	0.1	-1.2	1.1
2020	-	-1.5	

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

TRANSPORT**Fuels and Lubricants**

- Oil prices rose for a fourth straight session on Tuesday amid signs that producers are cutting output as promised just as demand picks up, stoked by more countries easing out of curbs imposed to counter the coronavirus pandemic. Brent crude, climbed 25 cents or 0.7% to \$35.06 a barrel, after earlier touching its highest since April 9. (uk.reuters.com 19 May 2020)
- When considering the price of petrol between April and May 2020, it may be useful to note that the average price of petrol rose by 4.2 pence per litre between April and May 2019, to stand at 128.3 pence per litre as measured in the CPIH.
- A 1 pence change on average in the cost of a litre of motor fuel contributes approximately 0.02 percentage points to the 1-month change in the CPIH.

Passenger Transport by Air

- Air fares tend to rise in May, but this can depend on the position of Easter.

Monthly % change for CPIH air fares index			
Year	March	April	May
2014	1.9	17.9	-3.2
2015	2.7	4.5	10.4
2016	22.9	-14.2	3.8
2017	-3.9	18.6	-6.4
2018	-2.1	-0.2	10.0
2019	-5.7	26.4	-5.2
2020	5.3	15.5	

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

HOUSING (RPI)**Mortgage Interest Payments (MIPs)**

- The Bank of England Bank Rate was decreased from 0.75% to 0.25% on Wednesday 11 March 2020, and then to 0.10% on Thursday 19 March 2020. It has not changed since. The next announcement and minutes from the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee are scheduled to be published on 18 June 2020.
- The change in average mortgage interest rates recorded in the RPI was negligible between April and May 2019. The Bank of England Bank Rate remained unchanged at 0.75% in April 2019.
- A one percentage point change in the average mortgage interest rate contributes approximately 1.0 percentage points to the 1-month percentage change in the RPI.

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