

Table 1 Consumer Price Indices and Year-on-year Rates of Change  
at Section Level for December 2008  
(Oct. 2004 - Sep. 2005 = 100)

Section	Composite CPI		CPI(A)		CPI(B)		CPI(C)	
	Index for Dec 2008	% change over Dec 2007	Index for Dec 2008	% change over Dec 2007	Index for Dec 2008	% change over Dec 2007	Index for Dec 2008	% change over Dec 2007
Food	118.7	+7.7	120.4	+8.4	117.8	+7.4	117.1	+7.0
<i>Meals bought away from home</i>	111.8	+5.2	111.4	+5.2	111.5	+5.1	113.1	+5.4
<i>Food, excluding meals bought away from home</i>	130.0	+11.5	132.8	+12.4	129.3	+11.2	125.3	+9.9
Housing #	117.0	+4.2	110.0	+1.4	119.3	+4.9	122.4	+6.4
<i>Private housing rent</i>	122.8	+6.0	120.2	+4.8	123.6	+6.2	124.2	+6.9
<i>Public housing rent</i>	77.9	-12.6	77.9	-12.6	78.0	-12.6	-	-
Electricity, gas and water	66.1	-37.1	60.4	-42.4	67.7	-35.6	76.5	-27.5
Alcoholic drinks and tobacco	95.7	*	96.3	+0.3	95.1	-0.2	94.9	-0.8
Clothing and footwear	109.4	-1.5	111.4	+0.2	111.2	+0.2	105.6	-5.0
Durable goods	84.9	-1.7	83.6	-1.7	82.6	-2.0	88.4	-1.3
Miscellaneous goods	110.9	+4.2	111.1	+4.4	110.7	+4.3	111.0	+3.9
Transport	102.8	+1.5	102.8	+2.5	103.0	+1.5	102.6	+0.5
Miscellaneous services	103.7	-1.1	97.3	-3.2	104.7	-1.0	106.5	*
<i>Selected major groups</i>								
<i>Educational services</i>	94.4	-5.3	84.4	-12.5	94.7	-5.7	100.7	-0.2
<i>Telephone and other communications services</i>	93.9	-3.0	93.5	-3.0	93.9	-3.1	95.0	-2.8
<i>Medical services</i>	107.6	+5.1	106.4	+4.4	107.6	+5.0	108.6	+5.6
<b>All items</b>	<b>109.6</b>	<b>+2.1</b>	<b>107.7</b>	<b>+1.2</b>	<b>110.2</b>	<b>+2.4</b>	<b>111.1</b>	<b>+2.7</b>

\* Denotes a figure within  $\pm 0.05\%$ .

- Not applicable.

Note:

The CPI(A), CPI(B) and CPI(C) are compiled with reference to the average expenditure patterns for different groups of households as obtained from the Household Expenditure Survey. By aggregating the expenditure patterns of all households covered by the above three indices, a Composite CPI is also compiled.

The expenditure ranges of the households covered in the 2004/05-based CPI series are as follows:

	Approximate percentage of households covered	Average monthly household expenditure range (at 2004/05 prices)	Average monthly household expenditure range (adjusted to 2008 prices)
	(%)	(\$)	(\$)
CPI(A)	50	4,000 - 15,499	4,300 - 16,800
CPI(B)	30	15,500 - 27,499	16,800 - 30,200
CPI(C)	10	27,500 - 59,999	30,200 - 66,100
Composite CPI	90	4,000 - 59,999	4,300 - 66,100

# Apart from "Private housing rent" and "Public housing rent", the "Housing" section also includes "Management fees and other housing charges" and "Materials for house maintenance".

Table 2 Movements of Consumer Price Indices, December 2006 - December 2008

<u>Year/month</u>	<u>CPI</u>			
	<u>Year-on-year rate of change (%)</u>			
	<u>Composite</u> <u>CPI</u>	<u>CPI(A)</u>	<u>CPI(B)</u>	<u>CPI(C)</u>
2006 Dec	+2.3	+1.9	+2.3	+2.7
2007 Jan	+2.0	+1.8	+1.9	+2.3
Feb	+0.8 (+3.1)	-3.2 (+2.6)	+2.1 (+3.2)	+3.6
Mar	+2.4	+2.2	+2.3	+2.7
Apr	+1.3 (+2.4)	+0.7 (+2.1)	+1.3 (+2.3)	+1.9 (+2.8)
May	+1.2 (+2.3)	+0.7 (+2.1)	+1.3 (+2.3)	+1.7 (+2.6)
Jun	+1.3 (+2.4)	+0.8 (+2.2)	+1.4 (+2.4)	+1.9 (+2.7)
Jul	+1.5 (+2.6)	+1.0 (+2.4)	+1.6 (+2.6)	+2.1 (+2.9)
Aug	+1.6 (+2.7)	+0.7 (+2.1)	+1.7 (+2.7)	+2.4 (+3.3)
Sep	+1.6 (+2.7)	+1.0 (+2.4)	+1.8 (+2.8)	+2.2 (+3.0)
Oct	+3.2	+2.9	+3.2	+3.5
Nov	+3.4	+3.1	+3.5	+3.6
Dec	+3.8	+3.4	+3.9	+4.0
2008 Jan	+3.2 (+4.3)	+2.9 (+4.2)	+3.3 (+4.4)	+3.5 (+4.3)
Feb	+6.3 (+5.1)	+9.9 (+5.2)	+5.2 (+5.1)	+3.9 (+4.8)
Mar	+4.2 (+5.3)	+3.8 (+5.1)	+4.4 (+5.5)	+4.4 (+5.3)
Apr	+5.4 (+5.4)	+5.5 (+5.5)	+5.5 (+5.5)	+5.2 (+5.3)
May	+5.7 (+5.7)	+5.6 (+5.6)	+5.8 (+5.8)	+5.5 (+5.6)
Jun	+6.1 (+6.1)	+6.1 (+6.1)	+6.3 (+6.3)	+5.8 (+5.8)
Jul	+6.3 (+6.3)	+6.4 (+6.4)	+6.5 (+6.5)	+6.1 (+6.1)
Aug	+4.6 (+6.3)	+2.2 (+6.6)	+5.5 (+6.4)	+6.0 (+6.1)
Sep	+3.0 (+6.1)	-0.3 (+6.1)	+4.0 (+6.1)	+5.4 (+6.1)
Oct	+1.8 (+5.9)	-1.7 (+6.0)	+2.8 (+6.0)	+4.3 (+5.9)
Nov	+3.1 (+5.6)	+2.1 (+5.6)	+3.3 (+5.6)	+3.8 (+5.5)
Dec	+2.1 (+4.6)	+1.2 (+4.7)	+2.4 (+4.7)	+2.7 (+4.4)

( ) Denotes the rate of change upon removing the effects of the following Government's one-off relief measures : the public housing rental waiver by the Housing Authority and Housing Society in February 2007; the rates concession in April – September 2007 and January 2008 – March 2009; the public housing rental waiver by Housing Society in February 2008; Government's payment of public housing rentals in August – October 2008; suspension of Employees Retraining Levy since August 2008; and Government's provision of electricity charge subsidy starting from September 2008.

Table 3 Movements of Seasonally Adjusted Consumer Price Indices, December 2006 - December 2008

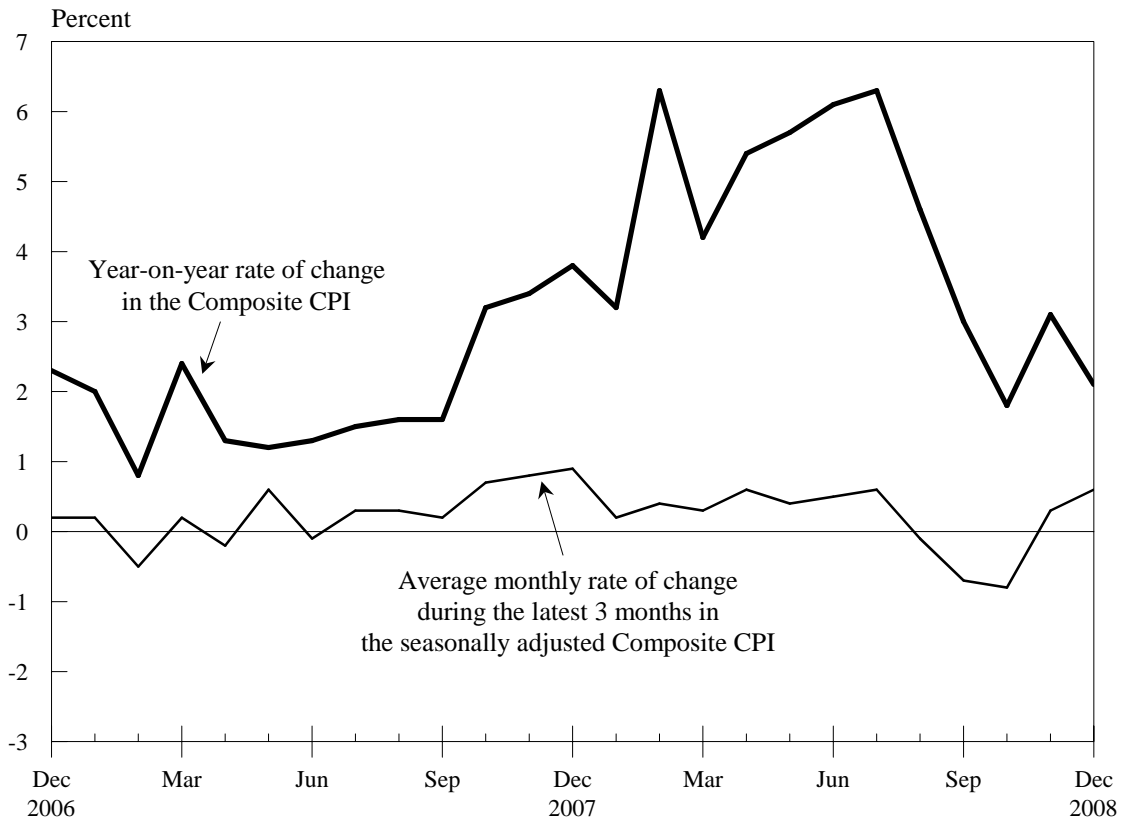
<u>Year/month</u>	<u>Seasonally adjusted CPI<sup>#</sup></u>			
	<u>Average monthly rate of change during the latest 3 months (%)</u>			
	<u>Composite</u> <u>CPI</u>	<u>CPI(A)</u>	<u>CPI(B)</u>	<u>CPI(C)</u>
2006 Dec	+0.2	+0.2	+0.2	+0.2
2007 Jan	+0.2	+0.2	+0.2	+0.3
Feb	-0.5 (+0.2)	-1.7 (+0.3)	-0.1 (+0.2)	+0.2
Mar	+0.2	+0.2	+0.2	+0.2
Apr	-0.2 (+0.2)	-0.3 (+0.2)	-0.2 (+0.1)	-0.1 (+0.2)
May	+0.6 (+0.2)	+1.7 (+0.2)	+0.2 (+0.2)	-0.1 (+0.2)
Jun	-0.1 (+0.3)	-0.2 (+0.3)	-0.1 (+0.3)	* (+0.3)
Jul	+0.3 (+0.3)	+0.3 (+0.3)	+0.3 (+0.3)	+0.3 (+0.3)
Aug	+0.3 (+0.3)	+0.1 (+0.1)	+0.3 (+0.3)	+0.4 (+0.4)
Sep	+0.2 (+0.2)	+0.1 (+0.1)	+0.3 (+0.3)	+0.3 (+0.3)
Oct	+0.7 (+0.3)	+0.7 (+0.2)	+0.7 (+0.4)	+0.7 (+0.4)
Nov	+0.8 (+0.4)	+0.9 (+0.4)	+0.8 (+0.4)	+0.7 (+0.5)
Dec	+0.9 (+0.5)	+1.0 (+0.5)	+0.9 (+0.5)	+0.8 (+0.5)
2008 Jan	+0.2 (+0.5)	+0.2 (+0.6)	+0.2 (+0.5)	+0.2 (+0.4)
Feb	+0.4 (+0.8)	+0.5 (+1.0)	+0.5 (+0.8)	+0.4 (+0.6)
Mar	+0.3 (+0.7)	+0.3 (+0.8)	+0.3 (+0.6)	+0.3 (+0.6)
Apr	+0.6 (+0.6)	+0.6 (+0.7)	+0.6 (+0.7)	+0.6 (+0.6)
May	+0.4 (+0.3)	+0.3 (+0.3)	+0.4 (+0.4)	+0.4 (+0.4)
Jun	+0.5 (+0.5)	+0.5 (+0.6)	+0.6 (+0.6)	+0.5 (+0.5)
Jul	+0.6 (+0.6)	+0.6 (+0.6)	+0.6 (+0.6)	+0.6 (+0.6)
Aug	-0.1 (+0.5)	-1.0 (+0.4)	+0.2 (+0.4)	+0.5 (+0.5)
Sep	-0.7 (+0.3)	-1.9 (+0.1)	-0.4 (+0.3)	+0.2 (+0.4)
Oct	-0.8 (+0.2)	-1.9 (+0.1)	-0.5 (+0.2)	+0.1 (+0.3)
Nov	+0.3 (+0.2)	+0.9 (+0.1)	+0.1 (+0.2)	+0.1 (+0.3)
Dec	+0.6 (*)	+1.5 (+0.1)	+0.3 (+0.1)	* (*)

\* Denotes a figure within  $\pm 0.05\%$ .

( ) Denotes the rate of change upon removing the effects of the following Government's one-off relief measures : the public housing rental waiver by the Housing Authority and Housing Society in February 2007; the rates concession in April – September 2007 and January 2008 – March 2009; the public housing rental waiver by Housing Society in February 2008; Government's payment of public housing rentals in August – October 2008; suspension of Employees Retraining Levy since August 2008; and Government's provision of electricity charge subsidy starting from September 2008.

# The seasonally adjusted indices are subject to revision up to 3 years after original publication.

Chart 1 Movements of the Composite Consumer Price Index



Note : The seasonally adjusted indices are subject to revision up to 3 years after original publication.