

Electricity & Gas Prices in Ireland

Annex Household Gas Prices
2nd Semester (July – December) 2010



Report prepared by
Martin Howley and Emer Dennehy
Energy Policy Statistical Support Unit

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Sustainable Energy Ireland

The Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland was established as Ireland's national energy authority under the Sustainable Energy Act 2002. SEAI's mission is to play a leading role in transforming Ireland into a society based on sustainable energy structures, technologies and practices. To fulfil this mission SEAI aims provide well-timed and informed advice to Government, deliver a range of programmes efficiently and effectively, while engaging and motivating a wide range of stakeholders and showing continuing flexibility and innovation in all activities. SEAI's actions will help advance Ireland to the vanguard of the global green technology movement, so that Ireland is recognised as a pioneer in the move to decarbonised energy systems.

SEAI's key strategic objectives are;

- Energy efficiency first – implementing strong energy efficiency actions that radically reduce energy intensity and usage;
- Low carbon energy sources – accelerating the development and adoption of technologies to exploit renewable energy sources;
- Innovation and integration – supporting evidence-based responses that engage all actors, supporting innovation and enterprise for our low-carbon future;

The Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland is financed by Ireland's EU Structural Funds Programme co-funded by the Irish Government and the European Union.

Energy Policy Statistical Support Unit (EPSSU)

SEAI has a lead role in developing and maintaining comprehensive national and sectoral statistics for energy production, transformation and end use. This data is a vital input in meeting international reporting obligations, for advising policy makers and informing investment decisions. Based in Cork, EPSSU is SEAI's specialist statistics team. Its core functions are to:

- Collect, process and publish energy statistics to support policy analysis and development in line with national needs and international obligations;
- Conduct statistical and economic analyses of energy services sectors and sustainable energy options;
- Contribute to the development and promulgation of appropriate sustainability indicators.

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1 Introduction

The fluctuations in energy prices over the past number of years are a key concern to all energy consumers in Ireland, as they impact on the rate of inflation and competitiveness. Understanding the key contributing factors and the precise impacts of energy price changes are key ingredients to developing appropriate, sensible and measured responses from businesses, householders and policy makers. Comparing energy prices in Ireland with those of other EU Member States and elsewhere is a particularly important aspect of any analysis of the impact of price changes. This report seeks to add to that analysis and thereby increase the understanding of energy price changes in Ireland.

This report draws on the results of a new EU methodology for gathering energy price data that came into effect on January 1st 2008. Significant changes have occurred recently in the international oil and gas market prices. However, the focus of the report is on the electricity and gas price data gathered under this improved methodology and focuses on the period January – June 2010, i.e. the first semester 2010.

The report is structured as follows:

- Section 2 provides a context for the analysis, touching on global factors affecting energy prices, discussing some characteristics that particularly impact on prices in Ireland.
- Section 3 focuses on electricity and gas prices paid by industrial and services (business) customers, informing the discussion on impacts of energy price changes for business in Ireland.
- Section 4 focuses on price changes for domestic customers, comparing prices for households in Ireland with those of other EU Member States.
- Appendix 1 shows the average electricity and natural gas prices in the various consumption bands in Ireland during the 1st semester 2010.

Four separate Annexes are available in pdf form on our website detailing, for the latest five semesters, for all countries and all consumption bands, the electricity and gas price to business and residential consumers. Tables in the Annexes show the ex-tax, ex-VAT and all taxes included prices for all categories.

SEAI acknowledges the co-operation of electricity and gas suppliers in providing the information necessary for Ireland to comply with the *European Commission Decision (2007/394/EC)* amending *Directive 90/377/EEC* with regard to the methodology to be applied for the collection of gas and electricity prices charged to business and household end-users and to allow this analysis to be carried out.

This is the sixth edition of this report focusing on energy prices. Feedback and comments on the report are welcome and should be addressed by post to the address on the back cover or by e-mail to epsu@seai.ie.

Readers may also be interested in previous statistical analysis related to energy prices carried out by SEAI. The report *Energy in Ireland 1990 – 2008* tracks changes in aggregated energy prices from 2000. The report *Energy in Industry 2007* assesses how significant energy costs are as a proportion of the overall cost base for business enterprises, drawing on data from the CSO's *Census of Industrial Production*. Both reports are available from www.seai.ie/statistics.

2 Gas prices to Householders in the EU (without taxes)

Table 1 Household Gas Prices in band D1 in Europe (S2 2008 to S2 2010) without taxes

Band D1	without taxes (€/GJ)					% change				
	July '08 - Dec '08	Jan '09 - June '09	July '09 - Dec '09	Jan '10 - June '10	July '10 - Dec '10	S2 '08 - S1 '09	S1 '09 - S2 '09	S2 '09 - S1 '10	S1 '10 - S2 '10	12 months to S2 '10
Austria	15.48	16.02	15.40	15.39	15.07	3.5%	-3.9%	-0.1%	-2.1%	-2.1%
Belgium	22.88	19.79	17.72	17.92	18.35	-13.5%	-10.5%	1.1%	2.4%	3.6%
Bulgaria	9.66	11.03	7.82	8.41	9.78	14.2%	-29.1%	7.5%	16.2%	25.0%
Croatia	6.31	7.26	7.42	8.65	8.57	15.0%	2.1%	16.6%	-0.9%	15.5%
Czech Republic	17.66	16.79	16.49	17.15	18.39	-4.9%	-1.8%	4.0%	7.2%	11.5%
Denmark	13.13	12.40	13.28	14.60	14.92	-5.6%	7.1%	10.0%	2.2%	12.4%
Estonia	9.34	9.30	8.31	8.44	11.26	-0.4%	-10.7%	1.6%	33.5%	35.5%
France	27.75	24.21	28.33	23.75	27.52	-12.7%	17.0%	-16.2%	15.9%	-2.9%
Germany	22.97	21.07	19.70	18.97	21.41	-8.3%	-6.5%	-3.7%	12.9%	8.7%
Hungary	11.43	11.21	11.43	12.70	13.42	-1.9%	2.0%	11.0%	5.7%	17.4%
Ireland	17.36	16.91	15.48	13.35	13.90	-2.6%	-8.5%	-13.8%	4.1%	-10.2%
Italy	17.76	15.24	13.34	12.52	20.30	-14.2%	-12.4%	-6.2%	62.2%	52.2%
Latvia	18.38	20.20	16.52	13.96	16.72	9.9%	-18.2%	-15.5%	19.8%	1.2%
Lithuania	12.85	16.29	14.29	14.44	15.83	26.8%	-12.3%	1.0%	9.6%	10.8%
Luxembourg	16.79	19.08	18.38	12.57	13.82	13.6%	-3.7%	-31.6%	9.9%	-24.8%
Netherlands	20.06	20.82	17.63	17.55	18.46	3.8%	-15.3%	-0.5%	5.2%	4.7%
Poland	14.75	11.81	12.59	12.96	13.62	-19.9%	6.6%	2.9%	5.1%	8.2%
Portugal	21.41	20.87	20.54	19.53	21.50	-2.5%	-1.6%	-4.9%	10.1%	4.7%
Romania	6.16	4.86	4.08	4.20	4.05	-21.2%	-15.9%	2.9%	-3.7%	-0.9%
Slovakia	22.89	23.35	23.19	22.67	22.53	2.0%	-0.7%	-2.2%	-0.6%	-2.9%
Slovenia	19.94	17.87	16.94	15.54	15.90	-10.4%	-5.2%	-8.3%	2.4%	-6.1%
Spain	18.68	17.64	16.42	16.31	16.16	-5.6%	-6.9%	-0.7%	-0.9%	-1.6%
Sweden	27.60	22.01	27.05	29.63	32.48	-20.3%	22.9%	9.5%	9.6%	20.1%
Turkey	10.91	9.17	6.84	7.43	7.54	-16.0%	-25.4%	8.6%	1.5%	10.2%
United Kingdom	13.45	12.63	12.56	12.12	12.58	-6.1%	-0.6%	-3.5%	3.7%	0.2%
Euro Area	22.08	20.10	19.48	18.12	21.53	-9.0%	-3.1%	-7.0%	18.8%	10.5%
EU 27	19.07	17.54	17.12	16.17	18.64	-8.0%	-2.4%	-5.5%	15.2%	8.9%

Ireland relative to:

Euro Area	78.6%	84.1%	79.5%	73.7%	64.6%
EU 27	91.0%	96.4%	90.4%	82.5%	74.6%

Source: Eurostat

Table 2 Household Gas Prices in band D2 in Europe (S2 2008 to S2 2010) without taxes

Band D2	without taxes (€/GJ)					% change				
	July '08 - Dec '08	Jan '09 - June '09	July '09 - Dec '09	Jan '10 - June '10	July '10 - Dec '10	S2 '08 - S1 '09	S1 '09 - S2 '09	S2 '09 - S1 '10	S1 '10 - S2 '10	12 months to S2 '10
Austria	12.55	13.13	12.47	12.54	12.07	4.6%	-5.0%	0.6%	-3.7%	-3.2%
Belgium	16.37	13.54	11.45	11.75	13.30	-17.3%	-15.4%	2.6%	13.2%	16.2%
Bulgaria	9.05	10.95	8.06	8.51	9.98	21.0%	-26.4%	5.6%	17.3%	23.9%
Croatia	6.31	7.26	7.42	8.65	8.57	15.0%	2.1%	16.6%	-0.9%	15.5%
Czech Republic	12.34	11.55	11.02	10.87	11.96	-6.4%	-4.6%	-1.4%	10.1%	8.5%
Denmark	13.13	12.40	13.28	14.60	14.92	-5.6%	7.1%	10.0%	2.2%	12.4%
Estonia	8.38	8.99	8.03	7.71	8.66	7.3%	-10.7%	-3.9%	12.2%	7.9%
France	13.71	13.01	13.85	12.25	13.39	-5.1%	6.5%	-11.6%	9.3%	-3.3%
Germany	16.14	13.48	12.09	11.54	11.68	-16.5%	-10.3%	-4.5%	1.2%	-3.4%
Hungary	10.77	11.15	10.59	11.90	12.30	3.5%	-5.0%	12.4%	3.4%	16.2%
Ireland	15.90	15.76	13.47	12.07	12.12	-0.9%	-14.5%	-10.4%	0.4%	-10.0%
Italy	13.55	14.16	9.69	10.45	13.84	4.5%	-31.5%	7.8%	32.4%	42.7%
Latvia	13.20	13.21	9.57	7.92	10.24	0.1%	-27.5%	-17.3%	29.2%	6.9%
Lithuania	9.01	10.00	9.38	8.62	10.40	11.0%	-6.2%	-8.1%	20.7%	10.9%
Luxembourg	12.73	12.19	10.94	10.60	11.60	-4.2%	-10.3%	-3.1%	9.4%	6.0%
Netherlands	13.41	14.43	10.68	11.19	11.51	7.7%	-26.0%	4.8%	2.9%	7.8%
Poland	11.72	8.85	10.48	9.68	11.51	-24.5%	18.3%	-7.6%	18.9%	9.9%
Portugal	16.65	15.68	15.73	15.71	16.37	-5.8%	0.3%	-0.2%	4.2%	4.1%
Romania	6.14	4.84	4.05	4.18	4.02	-21.2%	-16.3%	3.1%	-3.7%	-0.7%
Slovakia	10.86	10.78	11.10	10.18	10.41	-0.7%	3.0%	-8.3%	2.3%	-6.2%
Slovenia	15.68	14.44	11.68	12.56	14.33	-7.9%	-19.1%	7.5%	14.1%	22.7%
Spain	15.64	14.64	12.82	12.79	12.71	-6.4%	-12.4%	-0.3%	-0.6%	-0.9%
Sweden	16.95	14.00	15.40	16.45	17.42	-17.4%	10.1%	6.8%	5.9%	13.1%
Turkey	10.67	8.91	6.97	7.31	7.59					8.9%
United Kingdom	12.73	11.28	11.28	10.73	11.16	-11.4%	0.0%	-4.9%	4.1%	-1.0%
Euro Area	14.80	13.66	11.78	11.47	12.57	-7.8%	-13.7%	-2.6%	9.6%	6.7%
EU 27	13.84	12.70	11.44	11.13	12.06	-8.2%	-9.9%	-2.7%	8.3%	5.4%

Ireland relative to:

Euro Area	107.4%	115.4%	114.4%	105.2%	96.4%
EU 27	114.9%	124.1%	117.7%	108.4%	100.5%

Source: Eurostat

Table 3 Household Gas Prices in band D3 in Europe (S2 2008 to S2 2010) without taxes

Band D3	without taxes (€/GJ)					% change				
	July '08 - Dec '08	Jan '09 - June '09	July '09 - Dec '09	Jan '10 - June '10	July '10 - Dec '10	S2 '08 - S1 '09	S1 '09 - S2 '09	S2 '09 - S1 '10	S1 '10 - S2 '10	12 months to S2 '10
Austria	10.90	11.54	10.92	10.92	10.74	5.9%	-5.4%	0.0%	-1.6%	-1.6%
Belgium	15.35	12.57	10.38	10.66	11.24	-18.1%	-17.4%	2.7%	5.4%	8.3%
Bulgaria	9.69	11.23	8.29	8.64	10.12	15.9%	-26.2%	4.2%	17.2%	22.1%
Croatia	6.31	7.26	7.42	8.65	8.57	15.0%	2.1%	16.6%	-0.9%	15.5%
Czech Republic	12.39	11.34	10.79	10.46	11.40	-8.5%	-4.9%	-3.1%	9.1%	5.7%
Denmark	13.13	12.40	13.28	14.60	14.92	-5.6%	7.1%	10.0%	2.2%	12.4%
Estonia	8.24	8.97	7.98	7.63	8.54	8.9%	-11.0%	-4.3%	11.8%	7.0%
France	12.06	11.87	11.70	10.73	11.27	-1.6%	-1.4%	-8.3%	5.0%	-3.7%
Germany	14.60	12.09	10.59	10.44	11.44	-17.2%	-12.4%	-1.4%	9.6%	8.0%
Hungary	11.09	10.85	10.65	12.04	11.76	-2.2%	-1.9%	13.1%	-2.3%	10.5%
Ireland	15.14	15.16	12.44	11.48	11.09	0.1%	-17.9%	-7.7%	-3.4%	-10.9%
Italy	11.53	13.03	9.72	9.79	10.88	13.0%	-25.4%	0.8%	11.1%	11.9%
Latvia	12.92	12.88	9.50	7.86	10.08	-0.3%	-26.3%	-17.2%	28.2%	6.1%
Lithuania	7.53	9.58	7.99	7.84	9.26	27.1%	-16.6%	-1.8%	18.1%	16.0%
Luxembourg	11.74	11.20	9.35	10.99	11.92	-4.6%	-16.5%	17.5%	8.5%	27.5%
Netherlands	12.59	13.43	10.00	10.33	10.75	6.6%	-25.5%	3.3%	4.1%	7.5%
Poland	10.56	8.49	9.30	8.99	10.18	-19.6%	9.6%	-3.4%	13.3%	9.4%
Portugal	15.28	13.33	14.08	12.95	14.24	-12.8%	5.6%	-8.0%	9.9%	1.1%
Romania	6.12	4.82	4.01	4.13	3.98	-21.2%	-16.8%	3.2%	-3.8%	-0.7%
Slovakia	10.15	10.79	11.13	10.08	10.32	6.3%	3.2%	-9.5%	2.4%	-7.3%
Slovenia	14.74	14.26	11.03	12.25	13.42	-3.3%	-22.7%	11.1%	9.5%	21.6%
Spain	13.56	11.78	10.87	10.69	11.98	-13.2%	-7.7%	-1.7%	12.1%	10.2%
Sweden	16.24	13.26	13.77	15.32	15.49	-18.3%	3.8%	11.3%	1.1%	12.5%
Turkey	10.60	8.81	6.90	7.37	7.55	-16.9%	-21.6%	6.8%	2.4%	9.4%
United Kingdom	11.17	10.11	9.79	9.72	9.58	-9.5%	-3.2%	-0.7%	-1.5%	-2.1%
Euro Area	13.21	12.39	10.59	10.39	11.22	-6.2%	-14.5%	-2.0%	8.0%	5.9%
EU 27	12.40	11.56	10.27	10.15	10.72	-6.8%	-11.2%	-1.2%	5.7%	4.4%

Ireland relative to:

Euro Area	114.6%	122.4%	117.4%	110.5%	98.9%
EU 27	122.1%	131.1%	121.1%	113.1%	103.4%

Source: Eurostat

3 Gas prices to Households in the EU (without VAT)

Table 4 Household Gas Prices in band D1 in Europe (S2 2008 to S2 2010) without VAT

Band D1	without VAT (€/GJ)					% change				
	July '08 - Dec '08	Jan '09 - June '09	July '09 - Dec '09	Jan '10 - June '10	July '10 - Dec '10	S2 '08 - S1 '09	S1 '09 - S2 '09	S2 '09 - S1 '10	S1 '10 - S2 '10	12 months to S2 '10
Austria	17.42	18.19	17.54	17.49	17.04	4.4%	-3.6%	-0.3%	-2.6%	-2.9%
Belgium	23.24	20.18	18.12	18.31	19.65	-13.2%	-10.2%	1.0%	7.3%	8.4%
Bulgaria	9.66	11.03	7.82	8.41	9.78	14.2%	-29.1%	7.5%	16.2%	25.0%
Croatia	6.31	7.26	7.42	8.65	8.57	15.0%	2.1%	16.6%	-0.9%	15.5%
Czech Republic	17.66	16.79	16.49	17.15	18.39	-4.9%	-1.8%	4.0%	7.2%	11.5%
Denmark	21.25	20.44	21.43	23.76	24.09	-3.8%	4.8%	10.9%	1.4%	12.4%
Estonia	9.61	9.58	8.68	9.10	11.89	-0.4%	-9.3%	4.8%	30.7%	36.9%
France	27.75	24.21	28.41	24.07	28.38	-12.7%	17.3%	-15.3%	17.9%	-0.1%
Germany	25.37	23.43	22.06	21.33	23.74	-7.6%	-5.8%	-3.3%	11.3%	7.6%
Hungary	11.43	11.21	11.43	12.70	13.42	-1.9%	2.0%	11.0%	5.7%	17.4%
Ireland	17.36	16.91	15.48	13.46	14.68	-2.6%	-8.5%	-13.0%	9.1%	-5.2%
Italy	21.56	18.88	16.45	15.94	24.12	-12.4%	-12.9%	-3.1%	51.4%	46.7%
Latvia	18.42	20.23	16.52	13.99	16.75	9.8%	-18.3%	-15.3%	19.7%	1.4%
Lithuania	12.85	16.29	14.29	14.44	15.83	26.8%	-12.3%	1.0%	9.6%	10.8%
Luxembourg	17.24	19.56	19.02	13.12	14.37	13.5%	-2.8%	-31.0%	9.5%	-24.4%
Netherlands	24.48	26.50	23.31	23.40	24.32	8.3%	-12.0%	0.4%	3.9%	4.3%
Poland	14.75	11.81	12.59	12.96	13.62	-19.9%	6.6%	2.9%	5.1%	8.2%
Portugal	21.41	20.87	20.54	19.53	21.62	-2.5%	-1.6%	-4.9%	10.7%	5.3%
Romania	7.92	6.88	6.30	6.45	6.27	-13.1%	-8.4%	2.4%	-2.9%	-0.6%
Slovakia	22.89	23.35	23.19	22.67	22.53	2.0%	-0.7%	-2.2%	-0.6%	-2.9%
Slovenia	20.73	18.66	17.73	16.45	17.14	-10.0%	-5.0%	-7.2%	4.2%	-3.3%
Spain	18.68	17.64	16.42	16.31	16.16	-5.6%	-6.9%	-0.7%	-0.9%	-1.6%
Sweden	33.79	27.81	33.21	36.16	39.26	-17.7%	19.4%	8.9%	8.6%	18.2%
Turkey	11.22	9.45	7.12	7.73	7.85	-15.8%	-24.7%	8.5%	1.5%	10.2%
United Kingdom	13.45	12.63	12.56	12.12	12.58	-6.1%	-0.6%	-3.5%	3.7%	0.2%
Euro Area	24.27	22.36	21.64	20.41	24.04	-7.9%	-3.2%	-5.7%	17.8%	11.1%
EU 27	20.57	19.15	18.67	17.81	20.43	-6.9%	-2.5%	-4.6%	14.7%	9.4%

Ireland relative to:

Euro Area	71.5%	75.6%	71.5%	65.9%	61.1%
EU 27	84.4%	88.3%	82.9%	75.6%	71.9%

Source: Eurostat

Table 5 Household Gas Prices in band D2 in Europe (S2 2008 to S2 2010) without VAT

Band D2	without VAT (€/GJ)					% change				
	July '08 - Dec '08	Jan '09 - June '09	July '09 - Dec '09	Jan '10 - June '10	July '10 - Dec '10	S2 '08 - S1 '09	S2 '09 - S2 '09	S2 '09 - S1 '10	S1 '10 - S2 '10	12 months to S2 '10
Austria	14.26	15.03	14.36	14.41	13.92	5.4%	-4.5%	0.3%	-3.4%	-3.1%
Belgium	16.74	13.93	11.86	12.16	13.92	-16.8%	-14.9%	2.5%	14.5%	17.4%
Bulgaria	9.05	10.95	8.06	8.51	9.98	21.0%	-26.4%	5.6%	17.3%	23.9%
Croatia	6.31	7.26	7.42	8.65	8.57	15.0%	2.1%	16.6%	-0.9%	15.5%
Czech Republic	12.34	11.55	11.02	10.87	11.96	-6.4%	-4.6%	-1.4%	10.1%	8.5%
Denmark	21.25	20.44	21.43	23.76	24.09	-3.8%	4.8%	10.9%	1.4%	12.4%
Estonia	8.73	9.29	8.39	8.37	9.28	6.4%	-9.6%	-0.2%	10.9%	10.6%
France	13.71	13.01	13.85	12.30	13.71	-5.1%	6.5%	-11.2%	11.5%	-1.0%
Germany	17.79	15.13	13.74	13.19	13.33	-15.0%	-9.2%	-4.0%	1.1%	-3.0%
Hungary	10.77	11.15	10.59	11.90	12.30	3.5%	-5.0%	12.4%	3.4%	16.2%
Ireland	15.90	15.76	13.47	12.19	12.89	-0.9%	-14.5%	-9.5%	5.7%	-4.3%
Italy	16.65	17.54	12.37	14.74	18.49	5.4%	-29.5%	19.1%	25.5%	49.4%
Latvia	13.22	13.22	9.57	7.94	10.25	0.1%	-27.6%	-17.1%	29.2%	7.1%
Lithuania	9.01	10.00	9.38	8.62	10.40	11.0%	-6.2%	-8.1%	20.7%	10.9%
Luxembourg	13.33	12.77	11.77	11.23	12.23	-4.2%	-7.8%	-4.6%	8.9%	3.9%
Netherlands	17.67	19.44	15.69	16.36	16.67	10.0%	-19.3%	4.3%	1.9%	6.2%
Poland	11.72	8.85	10.48	9.68	11.51	-24.5%	18.3%	-7.6%	18.9%	9.9%
Portugal	16.65	15.68	15.73	15.71	16.51	-5.8%	0.3%	-0.2%	5.1%	4.9%
Romania	7.84	6.82	6.26	6.42	6.23	-13.0%	-8.1%	2.5%	-2.9%	-0.5%
Slovakia	10.86	10.78	11.10	10.18	10.41	-0.7%	3.0%	-8.3%	2.3%	-6.2%
Slovenia	16.47	15.23	12.47	13.48	15.57	-7.5%	-18.1%	8.1%	15.5%	24.9%
Spain	15.64	14.64	12.82	12.79	12.71	-6.4%	-12.4%	-0.3%	-0.6%	-0.9%
Sweden	23.14	19.80	21.47	22.88	24.20	-14.4%	8.4%	6.6%	5.8%	12.7%
Turkey	10.98	9.19	7.24	7.61	7.89	-16.3%	-21.2%	5.1%	3.7%	9.0%
United Kingdom	12.73	11.28	11.28	10.73	11.16	-11.4%	0.0%	-4.9%	4.1%	-1.0%
Euro Area	16.54	15.53	13.50	13.57	14.81	-6.1%	-13.1%	0.5%	9.1%	9.7%
EU 27	15.05	14.05	12.69	12.64	13.66	-6.6%	-9.6%	-0.4%	8.1%	7.6%

Ireland relative to:

Euro Area	96.1%	101.5%	99.8%	89.8%	87.0%
EU 27	105.7%	112.2%	106.1%	96.4%	94.4%

Source: Eurostat

Table 6 Household Gas Prices in band D3 in Europe (S2 2008 to S2 2010) without VAT

Band D3	without VAT (€/GJ)					% change				
	July '08 - Dec '08	Jan '09 - June '09	July '09 - Dec '09	Jan '10 - June '10	July '10 - Dec '10	S2 '08 - S1 '09	S2 '09 - S2 '09	S2 '09 - S1 '10	S1 '10 - S2 '10	12 months to S2 '10
Austria	12.57	13.33	12.70	12.68	12.50	6.0%	-4.7%	-0.2%	-1.4%	-1.6%
Belgium	15.71	12.93	10.78	11.10	12.35	-17.7%	-16.6%	3.0%	11.3%	14.6%
Bulgaria	9.69	11.23	8.29	8.64	10.12	15.9%	-26.2%	4.2%	17.2%	22.1%
Croatia	6.31	7.26	7.42	8.65	8.57	15.0%	2.1%	16.6%	-0.9%	15.5%
Czech Republic	12.39	11.34	10.79	10.46	11.40	-8.5%	-4.9%	-3.1%	9.1%	5.7%
Denmark	21.25	20.44	21.43	23.76	24.09	-3.8%	4.8%	10.9%	1.4%	12.4%
Estonia	8.51	9.24	8.35	8.26	9.16	8.6%	-9.7%	-1.0%	10.9%	9.8%
France	12.06	11.87	11.70	10.76	11.33	-1.6%	-1.4%	-8.0%	5.3%	-3.2%
Germany	16.25	13.74	12.24	12.09	13.09	-15.4%	-10.9%	-1.2%	8.3%	6.9%
Hungary	11.09	10.85	10.65	12.04	11.76	-2.2%	-1.9%	13.1%	-2.3%	10.5%
Ireland	15.14	15.16	12.44	11.56	11.85	0.1%	-17.9%	-7.1%	2.5%	-4.7%
Italy	14.75	17.31	13.62	14.75	15.73	17.3%	-21.3%	8.2%	6.7%	15.5%
Latvia	12.95	12.91	9.50	7.88	10.10	-0.3%	-26.4%	-17.1%	28.1%	6.3%
Lithuania	7.53	9.58	7.99	7.84	9.26	27.1%	-16.6%	-1.8%	18.1%	16.0%
Luxembourg	12.53	11.96	10.50	11.60	12.53	-4.5%	-12.2%	10.5%	8.0%	19.3%
Netherlands	16.75	18.26	14.84	15.32	15.74	9.0%	-18.7%	3.2%	2.7%	6.1%
Poland	10.56	8.49	9.30	8.99	10.18	-19.6%	9.6%	-3.4%	13.3%	9.4%
Portugal	15.28	13.33	14.08	12.95	14.34	-12.8%	5.6%	-8.0%	10.7%	1.8%
Romania	7.65	6.67	6.13	6.28	6.10	-12.8%	-8.2%	2.5%	-2.9%	-0.5%
Slovakia	10.15	10.79	11.13	10.08	10.32	6.3%	3.2%	-9.5%	2.4%	-7.3%
Slovenia	15.53	15.05	11.82	13.17	14.65	-3.1%	-21.5%	11.4%	11.3%	24.0%
Spain	13.56	11.78	10.87	10.69	11.98	-13.2%	-7.7%	-1.7%	12.1%	10.2%
Sweden	22.33	19.06	19.93	21.86	22.26	-14.6%	4.6%	9.7%	1.8%	11.7%
Turkey	10.91	9.09	7.18	7.67	7.85	-16.7%	-21.0%	6.8%	2.4%	9.4%
United Kingdom	11.17	10.11	9.79	9.72	9.58	-9.5%	-3.2%	-0.7%	-1.5%	-2.1%
Euro Area	14.97	14.44	12.56	12.60	13.45	-3.6%	-13.0%	0.3%	6.7%	7.1%
EU 27	13.62	13.02	11.68	11.74	12.32	-4.4%	-10.3%	0.4%	5.0%	5.5%

Ireland relative to:

Euro Area	101.1%	105.0%	99.0%	91.7%	88.1%
EU 27	111.2%	116.4%	106.5%	98.5%	96.2%

Source: Eurostat

4 Gas prices to Households in the EU (all taxes incl.)

Table 7 Household Gas Prices in band D1 in Europe (S2 2008 to S2 2010) all taxes included

Band D1	all taxes included (€/GJ)					% change				
	July '08 - Dec '08	Jan '09 - June '09	July '09 - Dec '09	Jan '10 - June '10	July '10 - Dec '10	S2 '08 - S1 '09	S1 '09 - S2 '09	S2 '09 - S1 '10	S1 '10 - S2 '10	12 months to S2 '10
Austria	20.90	21.82	21.05	20.99	20.45	4.4%	-3.5%	-0.3%	-2.6%	-2.9%
Belgium	28.13	24.44	21.92	22.17	23.72	-13.1%	-10.3%	1.1%	7.0%	8.2%
Bulgaria	11.59	13.24	9.39	10.09	11.73	14.2%	-29.1%	7.5%	16.2%	25.0%
Croatia	7.70	8.86	9.10	10.63	10.54	15.0%	2.7%	16.8%	-0.8%	15.8%
Czech Republic	21.02	19.98	19.62	20.58	22.06	-4.9%	-1.8%	4.9%	7.2%	12.5%
Denmark	26.57	25.55	26.77	29.70	30.11	-3.8%	4.8%	10.9%	1.4%	12.5%
Estonia	11.34	11.30	10.42	10.91	14.27	-0.4%	-7.8%	4.8%	30.7%	36.9%
France	31.23	27.55	31.90	27.26	32.06	-11.8%	15.8%	-14.5%	17.6%	0.5%
Germany	30.19	27.88	26.25	25.38	28.25	-7.7%	-5.8%	-3.3%	11.3%	7.6%
Hungary	13.71	13.45	14.29	15.87	16.77	-1.9%	6.3%	11.0%	5.7%	17.4%
Ireland	19.70	19.20	17.56	15.24	16.66	-2.5%	-8.5%	-13.2%	9.3%	-5.1%
Italy	23.72	20.78	18.10	18.44	27.82	-12.4%	-12.9%	1.9%	50.9%	53.7%
Latvia	19.34	22.26	18.18	15.39	18.43	15.1%	-18.3%	-15.3%	19.7%	1.4%
Lithuania	15.16	19.23	17.20	17.47	19.15	26.8%	-10.5%	1.6%	9.6%	11.4%
Luxembourg	18.36	20.82	20.38	14.04	15.37	13.4%	-2.1%	-31.1%	9.5%	-24.6%
Netherlands	29.13	31.53	27.74	27.85	28.94	8.3%	-12.0%	0.4%	3.9%	4.3%
Poland	18.00	14.41	15.36	15.81	16.61	-19.9%	6.6%	2.9%	5.1%	8.2%
Portugal	22.48	21.91	21.57	20.50	22.91	-2.5%	-1.6%	-4.9%	11.8%	6.2%
Romania	9.42	8.19	7.50	7.68	7.77	-13.1%	-8.4%	2.4%	1.2%	3.6%
Slovakia	27.24	27.78	27.60	26.98	26.81	2.0%	-0.7%	-2.2%	-0.6%	-2.9%
Slovenia	24.88	22.39	21.27	19.75	20.57	-10.0%	-5.0%	-7.2%	4.2%	-3.3%
Spain	21.67	20.46	19.05	18.92	19.07	-5.6%	-6.9%	-0.7%	0.8%	0.1%
Sweden	42.22	34.80	41.49	45.15	49.05	-17.6%	19.2%	8.8%	8.6%	18.2%
Turkey	13.24	11.15	8.40	9.12	9.26	-15.8%	-24.7%	8.5%	1.5%	10.2%
United Kingdom	14.09	13.27	13.18	12.73	13.21	-5.8%	-0.6%	-3.5%	3.8%	0.2%
Euro Area	28.12	25.98	25.05	23.89	28.08	-7.6%	-3.6%	-4.6%	17.5%	12.1%
EU 27	23.55	21.99	21.38	20.59	23.61	-6.6%	-2.8%	-3.7%	14.6%	10.4%
Ireland relative to:										
Euro Area	70.1%	73.9%	70.1%	63.8%	59.3%					
EU 27	83.7%	87.3%	82.1%	74.0%	70.6%					

Source: Eurostat

Table 8 Household Gas Prices in band D2 in Europe (S2 2008 to S2 2010) all taxes included

Band D2	all taxes included (€/GJ)					% change				
	July '08 - Dec '08	Jan '09 - June '09	July '09 - Dec '09	Jan '10 - June '10	July '10 - Dec '10	S2 '08 - S1 '09	S1 '09 - S2 '09	S2 '09 - S1 '10	S1 '10 - S2 '10	12 months to S2 '10
Austria	17.11	18.03	17.23	17.29	16.71	5.4%	-4.4%	0.3%	-3.4%	-3.0%
Belgium	20.24	16.82	14.33	14.70	16.78	-16.9%	-14.8%	2.6%	14.1%	17.1%
Bulgaria	10.86	13.14	9.67	10.21	11.98	21.0%	-26.4%	5.6%	17.3%	23.9%
Croatia	7.70	8.86	9.10	10.63	10.54	15.0%	2.7%	16.8%	-0.8%	15.8%
Czech Republic	14.69	13.75	13.11	13.04	14.35	-6.4%	-4.6%	-0.6%	10.1%	9.4%
Denmark	26.57	25.55	26.77	29.70	30.11	-3.8%	4.8%	10.9%	1.4%	12.5%
Estonia	10.30	10.96	10.07	10.07	11.14	6.4%	-8.1%	0.0%	10.6%	10.6%
France	16.06	15.29	16.20	14.46	15.98	-4.8%	6.0%	-10.7%	10.5%	-1.4%
Germany	21.17	18.00	16.35	15.70	15.86	-15.0%	-9.2%	-4.0%	1.0%	-3.0%
Hungary	12.93	13.38	13.23	14.87	15.38	3.5%	-1.1%	12.4%	3.4%	16.2%
Ireland	18.05	17.89	15.29	13.79	14.63	-0.9%	-14.5%	-9.8%	6.1%	-4.3%
Italy	19.99	21.04	14.84	17.15	21.87	5.3%	-29.5%	15.5%	27.5%	47.3%
Latvia	13.88	14.54	10.52	8.73	11.28	4.8%	-27.6%	-17.1%	29.3%	7.2%
Lithuania	10.63	11.80	11.29	10.43	12.59	11.0%	-4.4%	-7.6%	20.7%	11.5%
Luxembourg	14.28	13.68	12.82	12.07	13.13	-4.2%	-6.3%	-5.9%	8.8%	2.4%
Netherlands	21.03	23.13	18.67	19.46	19.84	10.0%	-19.3%	4.2%	1.9%	6.3%
Poland	14.30	10.80	12.78	11.81	14.04	-24.5%	18.3%	-7.6%	18.9%	9.9%
Portugal	17.48	16.78	16.52	16.49	17.49	-4.0%	-1.6%	-0.2%	6.1%	5.9%
Romania	9.33	8.11	7.45	7.64	7.73	-13.0%	-8.1%	2.5%	1.2%	3.7%
Slovakia	12.92	12.83	13.21	12.11	12.39	-0.7%	3.0%	-8.3%	2.3%	-6.2%
Slovenia	19.77	18.28	14.96	16.18	18.68	-7.5%	-18.2%	8.1%	15.5%	24.9%
Spain	18.14	16.98	14.88	14.83	15.00	-6.4%	-12.4%	-0.3%	1.1%	0.8%
Sweden	28.82	24.77	26.86	28.71	30.33	-14.1%	8.4%	6.9%	5.7%	12.9%
Turkey	12.96	10.84	8.55	8.98	9.31	-16.3%	-21.2%	5.1%	3.7%	9.0%
United Kingdom	13.29	11.84	11.84	11.26	11.72	-10.9%	0.0%	-4.9%	4.1%	-1.0%
Euro Area	19.65	18.46	16.02	16.01	17.52	-6.1%	-13.2%	0.0%	9.4%	9.4%
EU 27	17.46	16.36	14.75	14.65	15.88	-6.3%	-9.9%	-0.7%	8.4%	7.7%
Ireland relative to:										
Euro Area	91.9%	96.9%	95.5%	86.1%	83.5%					
EU 27	103.4%	109.3%	103.7%	94.1%	92.1%					

Source: Eurostat

Table 9 Household Gas Prices in band D3 in Europe (S2 2008 to S2 2010) all taxes included

Band D3	all taxes included (€/GJ)					% change				
	July '08 - Dec '08	Jan '09 - June '09	July '09 - Dec '09	Jan '10 - June '10	July '10 - Dec '10	S2 '08 - S1 '09	S1 '09 - S2 '09	S2 '09 - S1 '10	S1 '10 - S2 '10	12 months to S2 '10
Austria	15.08	16.00	15.24	15.22	14.97	6.1%	-4.8%	-0.1%	-1.6%	-1.8%
Belgium	19.02	15.65	13.05	13.43	14.94	-17.7%	-16.6%	2.9%	11.2%	14.5%
Bulgaria	11.63	13.48	9.94	10.36	12.14	15.9%	-26.2%	4.2%	17.1%	22.1%
Croatia	7.70	8.86	9.10	10.63	10.54	15.0%	2.7%	16.8%	-0.8%	15.8%
Czech Republic	14.74	13.49	12.84	12.55	13.68	-8.5%	-4.9%	-2.2%	9.1%	6.6%
Denmark	26.57	25.55	26.77	29.70	30.11	-3.8%	4.8%	10.9%	1.4%	12.5%
Estonia	10.04	10.90	10.02	9.91	11.00	8.6%	-8.1%	-1.0%	10.9%	9.8%
France	14.32	14.15	13.87	12.79	13.47	-1.2%	-2.0%	-7.8%	5.3%	-2.9%
Germany	19.34	16.35	14.57	14.39	15.58	-15.5%	-10.9%	-1.2%	8.3%	6.9%
Hungary	13.31	13.02	13.31	15.05	14.70	-2.2%	2.2%	13.1%	-2.3%	10.5%
Ireland	17.19	17.20	14.12	13.12	13.46	0.1%	-17.9%	-7.1%	2.6%	-4.7%
Italy	17.71	20.78	16.34	17.60	18.83	17.4%	-21.4%	7.7%	7.0%	15.2%
Latvia	13.60	14.20	10.47	8.67	11.11	4.4%	-26.3%	-17.2%	28.2%	6.2%
Lithuania	8.89	11.30	9.61	9.49	11.21	27.1%	-14.9%	-1.3%	18.1%	16.6%
Luxembourg	13.51	12.91	11.71	12.46	13.44	-4.4%	-9.3%	6.4%	7.9%	14.8%
Netherlands	19.94	21.73	17.65	18.23	18.73	9.0%	-18.8%	3.3%	2.7%	6.1%
Poland	12.88	10.35	11.35	10.96	12.42	-19.6%	9.7%	-3.4%	13.3%	9.4%
Portugal	16.05	14.00	14.78	13.60	15.20	-12.8%	5.6%	-8.0%	11.8%	2.8%
Romania	9.11	7.94	7.29	7.48	7.56	-12.8%	-8.2%	2.5%	1.2%	3.7%
Slovakia	12.08	12.84	13.25	11.99	12.28	6.3%	3.2%	-9.5%	2.4%	-7.3%
Slovenia	18.64	18.06	14.19	15.80	17.58	-3.1%	-21.4%	11.4%	11.3%	23.9%
Spain	15.73	13.66	12.61	12.40	14.14	-13.2%	-7.7%	-1.7%	14.0%	12.1%
Sweden	27.91	23.85	24.84	27.28	27.86	-14.6%	4.2%	9.8%	2.1%	12.2%
Turkey	12.87	10.72	8.47	9.05	9.27	-16.7%	-21.0%	6.8%	2.4%	9.4%
United Kingdom	11.67	10.62	10.28	10.21	10.06	-9.0%	-3.2%	-0.7%	-1.4%	-2.1%
Euro Area	17.82	17.21	14.95	14.99	16.02	-3.5%	-13.1%	0.3%	6.9%	7.2%
EU 27	15.84	15.21	13.63	13.69	14.42	-3.9%	-10.4%	0.5%	5.3%	5.8%

Ireland relative to:

Euro Area	96.5%	100.0%	94.4%	87.5%	84.0%
EU 27	108.5%	113.0%	103.6%	95.8%	93.4%

Source: Eurostat

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Appendix – Methodologies for Assessing Prices

The International Energy Agency (IEA) are responsible for a major international compilation of energy prices at all market levels: import prices, industry prices and consumer prices. A large portion of the data is drawn from a quarterly reporting system of end-use energy prices initiated in 1981.

While this provides an extensive databank of energy prices, making comparisons between countries is not a trivial task. Definitions for prices shown for a particular energy source used in a given sector may differ from country to country. At one extreme, gasoline prices are closely comparable between countries; at the other extreme, only broad order of magnitude comparisons between coal prices may be possible.

Data collected in Ireland for *IEA's Energy Prices & Taxes* surveys are overall average prices for a given sector and therefore represent an aggregate price for small, medium and large consumers.

Eurostat collects electricity and gas prices under *Council Directive 90/377/EEC* of 29 June 1990 concerning a Community procedure to improve the transparency of gas and electricity prices charged to business end-users. This Directive obliges Member States to ensure that undertakings that supply electricity and gas to business end-users provide statistical data on an annual basis. Data must be provided to Eurostat on the price and terms of sale of gas and electricity to business end-users, the price systems in use and the breakdown of consumers and the corresponding volumes by category of consumption. Sustainable Energy Ireland has responsibility for the collection, collation and reporting of data on Ireland's behalf.

In 2002 Eurostat's Energy Statistics Committee meeting gave the mandate to set up a task force to study improvements in the existing data collection and methodology to take account in particular of market liberalization that changed the context for the methodology applied. *Directive 90/377/EEC* was recast in the interests of clarity and as a result the revised methodology, *European Commission Decision (2007/394/EC)*, has been applied since 1st January 2008. The electricity and gas price comparisons assessed in sections 3 and 4 of this report are drawn from the first set of results arising from this new methodology.

This new methodology reflects more accurately the actual cost of gas and electricity to final consumers as it incorporates all the factors in the cost of their use. The methodology is comprehensive and transparent and in each customer category, information is sought from each supplier regarding the volume of sales and the associated revenue. This allows computation of a national sales weighted unit price for electricity and gas for each customer category. It facilitates the comparison of costs across the EU but care must be taken in choosing the relevant costs to compare and to allow for currency and purchasing power differences.

