

Negotiating Information

Inflation Figures

2006	RPI Jan 1987=100	RPI	RPIX	CPI
Jan	193.4	2.4	2.3	1.9

2005	RPI Jan 1987=100	RPI	RPIX	CPI
Jan	188.9	3.2	2.1	1.6
Feb	189.6	3.2	2.1	1.6
Mar	190.5	3.2	2.4	1.9
April	191.6	3.2	2.3	1.9
May	192.0	2.9	2.1	1.9
Jun	192.0	2.9	2.2	2.0
July	192.2	2.9	2.4	2.3
Aug	192.6	2.8	2.3	2.4
Sep	193.1	2.7	2.5	2.5
Oct	193.3	2.5	2.4	2.3
Nov	193.6	2.4	2.3	2.1
Dec	194.1	2.2	2.0	1.9
Avg	192.0	2.8	2.3	2.0

2004	RPI Jan 1987=100	RPI	RPIX	CPI
Feb	183.8	2.5	2.3	1.3
Mar	184.6	2.6	2.1	1.1
April	185.7	2.5	2.0	1.2
May	186.5	2.8	2.3	1.5
June	186.8	3.0	2.3	1.6
July	186.8	3.0	2.2	1.4
Aug	187.4	3.2	2.2	1.3
Sept	188.1	3.1	1.9	1.1
Oct	188.6	3.3	2.1	1.2
Nov	189.0	3.4	2.2	1.5
Dec	189.9	3.5	2.5	1.6
Avg	186.7	3.0	2.2	1.3

Understanding inflation

The inflation rate is calculated from the prices of a range of different goods and services selected to represent average spending patterns in the UK. The Office for National Statistics monitors changes in these prices each month, and uses this to work out an average increase for the year. The different items in the 'basket' of goods and services are given different weights, so that things we spend more on, such as housing, motoring and food, are given more importance.

For more information on inflation see www.statistics.gov.uk or www.incomesdata.co.uk

Base Lending Rate for February 2006 is 4.5%

Average Earnings (excluding bonuses) 2005

2005	Whole Economy			Manufacturing			Public Sector		
	Average Earnings	Single Month	3 Month Average	Average Earnings	Single Month	3 Month Average	Average Earnings	Single Month	3 Month Average
Jan	123.1	4.2	4.4	117.4	3.0	3.2	122.7	4.7	4.6
Feb	120.7	5.7	4.7	117.8	3.0	3.2	123.2	4.6	4.6
Mar	121.7	4.0	4.6	121.7	3.4	3.4	123.3	4.2	4.5
April	121.7	4.2	4.1	119.8	3.4	3.5	124.5	4.9	4.7
May	121.8	3.9	4.0	120.0	3.0	3.2	125.3	5.1	4.8
Jun	122.2	3.9	4.0	120.6	3.4	3.3	125.2	4.4	4.8
July	122.8	4.1	4.0	121.2	3.2	3.2	125.3	4.1	4.5
Aug	123.1	3.9	4.0	122.0	4.1	3.6	125.7	4.2	4.3
Sep	123.5	3.9	4.0	122.6	4.6	4.0	126.1	3.9	4.1
Oct	123.7	3.7	3.9	122.8	4.1	4.3	126.6	3.8	4.0
Nov	124.2	3.9	3.8	123.1	4.1	4.3	127.2	4.2	4.0
Dec	124.6	3.7	3.8	123.5	4.0	4.1	127.7	4.3	4.1

The three-month average figures are the changes in the average seasonally adjusted index values for the last 3 months compared with the same period a year ago.

Full-time average weekly earnings by occupation

	£pw		£pw
All workers	526.40	Admin & Secretarial	358.70
All Male	579.20	Skilled/craft	440.00
All Female	443.90	Services	305.80
Managers	791.80	Sales	289.10
Professionals	720.30	Operatives	402.70
Associate Professionals	558.00	Other manual jobs	319.90

The table above gives estimates of full-time average weekly earnings by occupation. It is based on the figures from ASHE 2005, updated by AEI.

The National Minimum Wage

The National Minimum Wage was raised on 1 October 2005. From this date, the hourly rates are as follows:

- £5.05 for adult workers (22 and over)
- £4.25 for adult workers on accredited training in the first 6 months of a job
- £4.25 for the development rate (workers aged 18-21)
- £3 for 16-17 year olds (apprentices are exempt from this rate)

For more details see www.dti.gov.uk/er/nmw/index.htm

Negotiating Information on Amicus website

Amicus Research Department has created a new section on our website at www.amicustheunion.org/negotiatinginfo/ containing a variety of information to assist reps in their negotiations with employers. This includes information on GDP, RPI, economic indicators, a redundancy payment calculator, and this monthly negotiating information fact sheet, and will be updated regularly.