

- Investment Index fell from 101 to 97 in April
- Investment Attitude Sub Index fell from 109 to 102
- Investment Environment Sub Index fell from 94 to 92

Investment Index

- March's rebound in investment sentiment was short-lived as the index backtracked again in April, falling from 101 to 97, just above its all-time low of 96. The fall in investor sentiment was driven mainly by weaker attitudes towards investment and a slight deterioration in peoples' views about the market outlook.
- The Investment attitudes sub index dropped from 109 to 102 in April. The percentage of people regularly investing dropped to 34% in April, albeit from the all-time high of 37% reached in March. At 34%, the percentage of regular investors remains above average over the past 12 months however.
- There was also a slight rise in dissatisfaction levels around how much people were investing each month. The percentage of people that said they weren't investing as much as they'd like to rose from 35% to 38% in April and this was driven by greater dissatisfaction among younger investors and those in professional occupations.
- Generally there was little change in how people felt about the outlook for markets right now. The percentage of people that felt it was a good time to invest (27%) dropped, as did the percentage that felt it was a bad time to invest (26%). The drop in confidence around the market outlook was most visible amongst younger investors although some deterioration was also noticeable among professionals and also Dublin based investors.
- Looking out six months, people were slightly less optimistic about the market outlook – 29% felt it would be a good time to invest in six months' time with 21% feeling it would be a bad time. Again the deterioration was more visible among professionals and Dublin based investors.

For media queries or interview opportunities, please contact:

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ENDS

Appendix:

Table 1 Investment Index and sub-indexes, monthly (Base=October 2017)

Month	Investment Index		
	Overall	Inv. Attitudes Index	Inv. Environment Index
Oct-17	100	100	100
Nov-17	103	106	99
Dec-17	101	104	98
Jan-18	100	95	105
Feb-18	101	104	98
Mar-18	97	94	99
Apr-18	100	98	102
May-18	98	98	98
Jun-18	102	103	101
Jul-18	97	97	98
Aug-18	106	110	101
Sep-18	103	101	106
Oct-18	99	102	96
Nov-18	100	102	99
Dec-18	96	99	92
Jan-19	97	105	90
Feb-19	97	109	85
Mar-19	101	109	94
Apr-19	97	102	92

About the Investment Index: The Bank of Ireland/ESRI Investment Index tracks household views on attitudes towards investment as well as understanding their perspectives on the current and future investing environment. Monitoring household investment patterns gives an understanding of how people are putting their money to work, their financial diversification, and their appetite for risk.

The Bank of Ireland Investment Index is produced monthly from a minimum sample of 800 consumers aged 15 years and above. The ESRI carries out the Savings and Investment Index research to ensure the indices represent a national sample.

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