

- Savings Index decreased by 2 points to 100 in October 2018
- Savings Attitude Sub Index decreased by 2 points to 102
- Savings Environment Sub-Index decreased by 1 point to 98

Savings Index

- The Savings Index decreased in October for a second consecutive month, showing a decline of 2 points this month.
- The main cause of the decline is a weakening in attitudes towards saving. In the Savings Attitude Sub Index, 47% of people in October said they save regularly, a decline from 50% last month. This decline is most apparent amongst the under 50's where 51% are saving regularly compared to 56% last month.
- People are also less satisfied with the amount they are saving. In October, 47% feel they are saving less than they think they should, an increase from 45% last month and 38% in August. At the same time, 41% of people say they are saving about the right amount, a decrease from 45% last month and 50% in August. This sentiment is being expressed amongst both older and younger people.
- In the Savings Environment Sub Index, 29% of people say that now is a bad or very bad time to save, compared to 28% last month, while 39% say it is a good or very good time to save, down from 41% last month.
- When asked what they would do if given €10,000, 67% of people overall would save it. This preference is stronger amongst those aged over 50 with 69% of this group preferring to save, compared to 65% of those aged under 50.

For media queries or interview opportunities, please contact:
Mark Leech, Media Relations Manager @ Bank of Ireland
Tel: +353 (0)76 623 4773
E: Mark.Leech@boi.com

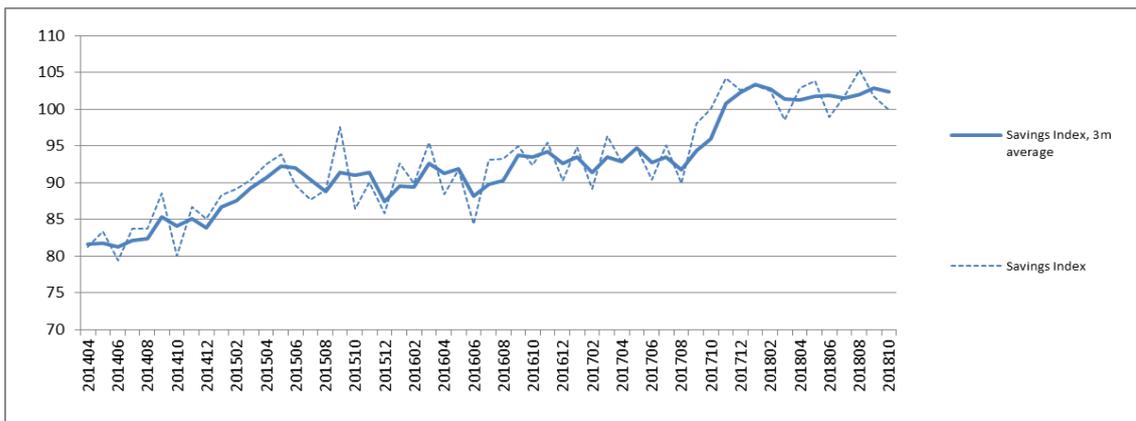
ENDS

Appendix:

Figure 1- Savings Index and sub-indexes, monthly (Base=October 2017)

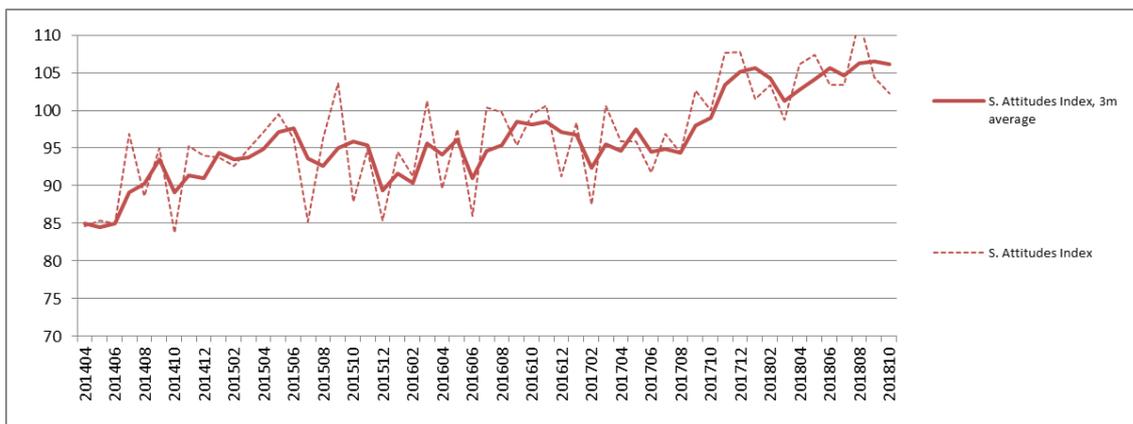
Month	Savings Index		
	Overall	Attitudes	Environment
Oct-17	100	100	100
Nov-17	104	108	101
Dec-17	103	108	98
Jan-18	103	101	105
Feb-18	103	103	102
Mar-18	99	99	98
Apr-18	103	106	100
May-18	104	107	100
Jun-18	99	103	94
Jul-18	102	103	100
Aug-18	105	112	99
Sep-18	102	104	99
Oct-18	100	102	98

Figure 2 - Savings Index



- The Savings Index is an overall measure of consumer sentiment towards saving. It is composed of two sub-indices: Savings Attitudes and Savings Environment. In October 2018 the overall monthly Savings Index decreased by 2 points to 100

Figure 3 - Savings Attitudes Sub-Index



- The Savings Attitude sub-index is built on two questions which ask respondents about their saving behaviour and how they feel about the amount they save. In October 2018, the sub-index decreased by 2 points as the proportion of people saving regularly fell to 47% from 50% last month.

Figure 4 - Savings Environment Sub- Index



- The Savings Environment Index is built on two questions which ask whether or not respondents believe that the current period is a good time to save and whether or not they believe that in 6 months' time it will be a good time to save. This sub-index declined by 1 point in October 2018 as 29% of people say that now is a bad or very bad time to save, compared to 28% last month,

About the Savings Index: The Bank of Ireland/ESRI Savings Index tracks household views on attitudes towards savings as well as understanding their perspectives on the current and future savings environment. Understanding savings behaviour provides insight into how households smooth consumption, plan to make big purchases and build up buffers which can be drawn down in times of economic stress.

The Bank of Ireland Savings 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.

For further information contact:

Tom McCabe – Bank of Ireland – tom.mccabe2@boi.com

or

Conor O'Toole – ESRI – conor.otoole@esri.ie