

- Investment Index fell from 106 to 103 in September
- Investment Attitude Sub Index fell from 110 to 101
- Investment Environment Sub Index rose from 101 to 106

Investment Index

- The investment index fell in September from 106 to 103 with weaker investment attitudes the catalyst for the fall.
- The investment attitudes subindex fell heavily from 110 to 101. The percentage of people who said they were regular investors in September was down a touch to 31% in September. However the percentage of people that said they felt they weren't investing enough rose to 35% from a low of 23% the previous month.
- Despite this fall Irish people were more positive about the outlook for the investment environment in September than at any other stage in the past year. 34% of Irish people felt it was a good time to invest in September, double the amount that felt it was a bad time to invest (17%). This drove the Investment Environment subindex up to 106 in September, its highest level since launch.
- Investment markets enjoyed another positive month with world stocks up 0.6% for Irish investors and US stock markets hitting fresh all-time highs. It is clear based on the results from the Investment Environment subindex that this strong performance is resonating with Irish people far more than some of the downside risks that have emerged this year such as geopolitics and global trade concerns.

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:

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

| Month | Investment Index | | |
|--------|------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| | Overall | Inv. Attitudes Index | Inv. Environment Index |
| | | Inv. A. Index | Inv. E. Index |
| Oct-17 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| Nov-17 | 102.5 | 106.1 | 98.9 |
| Dec-17 | 101.2 | 104.2 | 98.2 |
| Jan-18 | 100.0 | 95.2 | 104.8 |
| Feb-18 | 101.4 | 104.4 | 98.3 |
| Mar-18 | 96.6 | 94.2 | 99.1 |
| Apr-18 | 100.1 | 98.0 | 102.2 |
| May-18 | 98.1 | 97.7 | 98.5 |
| Jun-18 | 101.8 | 102.5 | 101.1 |
| Jul-18 | 97.3 | 97.0 | 97.6 |
| Aug-18 | 105.7 | 110.2 | 101.2 |
| Sep-18 | 103.4 | 101.2 | 105.7 |

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.

For further information contact:

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

or

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