Irish Economy Watch

AIB Treasury Economic Research Unit

Monday 23 November 2026

	Mar-26	Apr-26	May-26	Jun-26	Jul-26	Aug-26	Sept-26	Oct-26
MANUFACTURING								
AIB Manufacturing PMI	53.7	54.9	55.9	54.9	55.1	55.4	55.5	55.2
AIB Manufacturing PMI - Future Output	67.0	62.6	68.7	67.2	68.8	70.9	63.2	66.7
Industrial Production (Ex-Modern)	108.0	110.2	107.6	114.2	110.5	115.5	112.2	#N/A
Production (Ex-Modern) : 3mma YoY%	-4.1	-5.8	-8.2	-5.0	-3.7	0.8	0.2	#N/A
3mth / 3mth % seas. adj.	-2.7	-1.0	-2.4	0.6	0.8	4.4	0.0	#N/A
SERVICES / RETAIL								
AIB Services PMI	50.7	49.7	50.8	54.2	55.2	55.4	54.1	54.3
CSO Services Index (Value)	171.0	179.5	184.0	182.0	192.9	190.5	197.5	#N/A
- YoY %	1.5	12.3	11.1	9.4	18.4	14.0	21.2	#N/A
- 3mth / 3mth % seas. adj.	4.5	2.1	2.7	3.8	6.2	5.8	6.5	#N/A
SIMI Car Registrations	15,402	10,080	8,036	2,185	28,989	7,785	6,320	2,510
- 12 mth cum total	125,030	126,406	128,623	128,373	130,630	130,835	131,549	131,879
- 3 mma YoY %	0.1	1.1	5.4	19.7	12.1	6.0	8.0	8.1
Retail Sales Index	115.3	115.3	116.0	116.8	118.7	119.3	118.8	#N/A
- YoY %	0.9	-0.3	1.0	1.0	2.8	4.1	2.9	#N/A
- 3mth / 3mth % seas. adj.	0.9	0.0	-0.1	0.1	1.5	2.4	2.5	#N/A
Ex Autos Index	114.2	113.8	114.5	115.3	116.3	116.4	116.4	#N/A
- YoY %	1.1	0.6	0.7	0.7	2.4	2.9	2.2	#N/A
- 3mth / 3mth % seas. adj.	0.3	0.5	0.7	0.6	1.2	1.6	1.6	#N/A
RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY								
AIB Construction PMI	53.2	47.1	50.2	45.4	53.0	50.7	50.4	48.0
- Housing Activity	52.7	44.4	43.2	40.4	50.5	46.9	47.2	45.6
- Commercial Activity	54.9	50.3	56.4	46.4	53.6	51.4	52.4	49.2
- New Orders	54.2	46.4	51.9	45.8	50.6	52.0	51.1	49.4
- Business Expectations	56.6	52.8	55.0	55.3	55.6	59.4	57.7	54.9
Commencements: 12mth Total	21,859	23,435	24,499	25,944	27,847	30,555	32,581	33,690
- 3 Month Avg YoY %	184.0	218.8	171.4	118.3	124.6	164.7	167.9	136.7
HOUSING MARKET ACTIVITY								
BPFI Mortgage Approvals : Month	3,644	3,774	4,477	4,413	4,923	4,075	4,233	#N/A
- 3 Month Avg YoY %	-0.8	2.0	2.8	6.4	8.9	8.9	8.5	#N/A
- 12 Mth Total	43,318	43,270	43,650	44,076	44,404	44,746	45,115	#N/A
RPPR Transactions : Month	4,860	4,530	4,880	5,110	5,767	4,902	5,520	5,312
- 3 Month Avg YoY %	3.3	1.6	-0.8	-1.8	-1.1	0.9	-0.8	-3.6
- 12 Mth Total	61,988	61,851	61,526	61,726	61,683	61,671	61,598	61,087
HOUSING MARKET PRICES								
CSO Price Index - MoM	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.5	#N/A
- YoY %	6.7	6.3	6.1	5.6	5.3	5.1	4.7	#N/A
Daft Asking Prices: MoM %	0.9	0.6	0.9	0.1	0.5	0.0	-0.5	#N/A
- YoY %	3.7	3.8	4.1	3.8	4.0	3.8	3.0	#N/A
RENTS: CSO Private Rents - MoM%	0.5	1.1	0.3	0.7	0.2	0.0	0.9	1.0
- YoY %	3.1	4.1	3.9	4.5	4.5	4.0	4.7	5.5
AFFORDABILITY: Couple on Avg Industrial Wage, 90% LTV, 30 Years, AIB Mortgage Rate, Prices: CSO/Perm' TSB								
- Mortgage as % of Disposable Income	22.4	25.1	24.3	23.6	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A

The manu. PMI remained robust but edged slightly lower to 55.2 in Oct. Sustained gains in output and new orders/exports drove activity. Both input and output price inflation increased again

Traditional industrial production stagnated in Q3, albeit it rose by 0.2% in annual terms

The serv. PMI inched up to 54.3 in Oct. However, new business expanded more slowly, export growth stalled and outstanding business contracted marginally. Prices charged rose at the sharpest pace in 44-months

The CSO services index jumped by 6.5% in Q3, meaning it was up 17.9% YoY in the quarter

New car sales remain solid at the start of Q4, and are up by 5.6% YTD in Oct. 12 month running sales total above 131.5k

Retail sales rose by 2.5% in Q3. Core sales were up by 1.6% over the same period

The construction PMI returned to contraction territory in Oct, falling to 48.0. The pace of contraction in the housing sector accelerated. Commercial activity and new orders declined slightly

Circa 29k commencements have been registered YTD in Oct, almost triple last years total but about half the level seen in 2024. 12mth running total up to 33.7k

Mortgage approvals rose by 8.5% YoY in Q3. 12 month total up to 45.1k

Residential property transactions fell by 3.6% YoY in the three months to Oct. Annual running total just above 61k

House prices increased by 0.5% in Sep. However, the YoY rate slowed again, to 4.7%

Asking prices on Daft.ie rose by 0.7% in Q3. Overall, they were up by 3.6% YoY in the quarter

CSO rental index rose by 1.0% in Oct, with the rate of rental inflation accelerating to 5.5%

Affordability deteriorated slightly in Q2, amid the recent increase in house price growth

Sources: Refinitiv, CSO, DoF, DoECLG, Daft.ie, BPFI, ILCU, PSRA, SIMI, European Commission, AIB ERU Calculations

	Mar-26	Apr-26	May-26	Jun-26	Jul-26	Aug-26	Sept-26	Oct-26
CONSUMER PRICES - YoY %	3.6	3.7	3.6	3.4	3.4	3.7	4.1	4.3
- MoM %	1.6	0.5	-0.1	0.3	0.1	0.7	0.2	0.7
HICP - YoY %	3.6	3.6	3.5	3.2	3.1	3.4	3.8	4.2
- MoM %	1.8	0.5	-0.2	0.3	0.1	0.6	0.2	0.8

Prices jumped by 0.7% in Sep amid an increase in energy, housing & the cost of cigarettes. CPI inflation rose to 4.1%. Prices were higher annually across all sub-categories bar education. HICP inflation rose to 4.2%

PERSONAL / FINANCIAL								
ILCU Consumer Sentiment Index	56.7	53.3	59.4	62.2	61.6	63.2	61.1	61.6
Credit Growth YoY %								
- Private Sector	5.3	5.3	6.5	8.2	9.0	9.6	9.1	#N/A
- *of which* : Household	5.3	5.2	5.3	5.4	5.3	5.4	5.3	#N/A
- *of which* : Mortgage Lending	5.8	5.8	5.8	5.8	5.7	5.8	5.7	#N/A

Consumer sentiment improved marginally in Oct but it remained very low amid high levels of economic uncertainty

Private sector credit growth eased in Sep. Household lending growth also slowed

LABOUR MARKET								
Live Register	171,500	171,700	172,300	172,800	174,000	173,300	172,400	172,800
- Change In Month	+400	+200	+600	+500	+1,200	-700	-900	+400
Unemployment Rate %	5.1	4.9	4.9	4.8	4.8	4.7	4.7	4.8
PMI Employment Indices								
- AIB Manufacturing	54.2	54.5	55.7	54.6	56.0	53.7	53.7	54.4
- AIB Services	49.6	51.8	52.6	51.3	52.7	49.9	50.9	51.0
- AIB Construction	52.6	53.8	52.9	52.5	52.9	50.2	47.9	49.5

Having averaged 4.7% in 2025, the unemployment rate has edged slightly higher this year. It has averaged 4.9% so far in 2026. It stood at 4.8% in October

The employment index of the manufacturing, services and construction PMIs all improved in Oct. However, the latter remained in contraction territory

MERCHANDISE TRADE								
Export Values - 3M / 3M %	0.8	2.2	5.2	8.0	4.4	2.0	0.7	#N/A
- 3MMA YoY %	-43.5	-37.7	-34.6	-11.7	-3.8	8.7	-12.5	#N/A
Import Values - 3M / 3M %	4.2	5.4	9.7	8.4	5.3	0.5	3.9	#N/A
- 3MMA YoY %	4.8	9.8	20.4	23.0	19.1	16.1	22.8	#N/A

Goods trade surplus widened to €33.3bn YTD in Sep. However, the value of exports fell by 25.2% YTD to €156.5bn, driven by a decrease in pharma and medical products (down 50.6%). Imports stood at €123.2bn, up 16.7% YTD

PUBLIC FINANCES								
Total Tax Receipts: Cum YTD %	-4.2	-2.1	1.3	1.2	2.8	3.4	8.1	7.9
Voted Spending : Cum YTD %	6.8	9.2	7.7	7.6	7.7	8.2	8.6	8.7
Exchequer Bal: 12 Mth Total €m	2,714	-404	809	3,297	2,420	2,088	8,043	4,871

Total tax receipts are up by 7.9% YTD in Oct, but they are 10.3% higher excl. Apple money. Expenditure rose by 8.7% YTD. 12mth rolling Exchequer surplus fell to €4.9bn

QUARTERLY DATA	Q4-24	Q1-25	Q2-25	Q3-25	Q4-25	Q1-26	Q2-26	Q3-26
GDP - YoY %	12.3	17.9	10.9	4.7	-0.4	-13.2	-0.4	3.9
*Domestic Demand - YoY%	0.9	3.0	5.9	4.4	5.6	4.5	1.7	#N/A
Consumer Spending - YoY %	2.6	2.0	3.2	2.7	2.5	2.7	2.9	#N/A
Services Exports - YoY % (3Q Avg)	12.3	5.6	1.1	0.6	1.5	4.3	4.3	#N/A
** Excludes Some Investment Related to the Multinational Sector*								

Flash estimate shows GDP rose sharply by 5.5% in Q3. Overall though, GDP is down 3.3% YTD

MDD rose by 3.1% YoY in H1, amid a solid rise in consumer spending (+2.8% YoY). Strong investment also boosted MDD

EMPLOYMENT & EARNINGS								
Employment YoY %	2.6	3.3	2.3	1.1	2.0	0.0	0.8	2.1
Labour Force YoY %	2.4	3.5	2.6	1.9	2.4	0.6	1.1	1.8
Average Earnings YoY %								
- Hourly	6.1	6.3	3.5	3.9	3.1	3.4	3.8	#N/A
- Weekly	5.8	5.9	4.5	4.1	3.1	3.4	3.9	#N/A
Weekly Earnings YoY %								
- Private Sector	5.3	5.6	4.2	3.6	2.9	2.8	3.9	#N/A
- Public Sector	6.0	6.3	5.4	5.9	3.3	4.0	3.2	#N/A

Employment rose by 2.1% YoY in Q3. However, YTD employment growth has slowed to 0.9% YoY compared to 2.2% in 2025. The labour force expanded by 1.8% YoY in Q3

Weekly average earnings rose by 3.9% YoY in Q2. Private sector pay growth outpaced public sector earnings, rising by 3.9% YoY vs. 3.6% YoY

CSO DWELLING COMPLETIONS	8651	5907	9152	9197	11959	7856	8823	10154
- YoY %	-15.2	2.0	34.4	3.6	38.2	33.0	-3.6	10.4
- Cum 12 Mth Total	30124	30240	32584	32907	36215	38164	37835	38792

Completions are up by 10.6% YTD in Q3, amid solid increases across all segments. 12mth running total at 38.8k

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