Press Release



Trading in Irish market up 26% to over €10bn

- Value of ISEQ quoted companies rises by over 20% to €105 billion
- All ISEQ indices grow by more than 10% in Q1
- Turnover in Irish Government securities doubles to €25bn

Sunday, 29th April 2012

Equity trading in Irish market increased by 26.2% to over €10bn in Q1, with value of ISEQ quoted companies rising by 20.9%

Equity turnover rose to almost €10.4bn during the first quarter of 2012, according to the Irish Stock Exchange's quarterly update, published today. This represented an increase of 26.2% on the figures recorded during the last quarter [Q4 2011: €8.2bn] and was similar to levels recorded during the first quarter of 2011. The number of equity trades remained steady at over 630k in the quarter [Q1 2012: 632k and Q4 2012: 638k], with year to date figures showing daily average trades growing by 12.5% year on year [YTD 2012: 9,883 average trades compared to YTD 2011: 8,786 trades].

The market capitalisation of ISEQ quoted companies increased by 20.9% during the quarter, reaching €105bn at the end of March 2012 [Q4 2011: €86.9bn] (*Note 1*).

ISEQ shows strong growth in Q1 with all equity indices increasing by more than 10%

The ISEQ equity indices all showed strong growth in Q1, with increases across the range of indices of more than 10% during the period. The ISEQ Overall index rose by 12.2% and the suite of ISEQ 20 indices, which represent 20 of the largest and most liquid equities quoted on the ISE, continued their strong performance evident in the last quarter of 2011, with the ISEQ 20 up 12.6% [Q4 2011: 15.5%], the ISEQ 20 Capped index growing by 15.8% [Q4 2011: 11.7%] and the ISEQ 20 Leveraged index rising by 25.7% [Q4 2011: 31%]. Other strong performers in the quarter included the ESM index, covering the companies quoted on the Enterprise Securities Market, which grew by 17.6%, the Small Cap index up 23.8% and the Financial index increasing by 49.2%.

Turnover in Irish Government securities exceeds €25bn, more than double Q1 2011 levels

Turnover in Irish Government Bonds and Treasury Bills exceeded €25bn in Q1, a rise of 46.5% [€8bn] on the previous quarter. This reflected the impact of the NTMA's bond exchange programme, which saw some 30% of investors in an existing 2014 Treasury Bond switch to a new 4.5% Treasury Bond maturing in February 2015.

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A comparison of year on year figures shows that turnover and average daily turnover in 2012 is more than twice the level recorded in the first quarter of 2011 [an increase of 138.5% and 135.1% respectively].

All ISEQ bond indices also rose in the first quarter of 2012, continuing their strong performance from 2011 with percentage increases ranging from 3.8% to 11.3%. The best performing indices in 2011, the longer term 5 Plus ISEQ Bond index and the 10 Plus ISEQ Bond index, also showed the biggest returns in Q1, growing by 10.8% and 11.3% respectively.

New debt listings up 32%

The number of debt tranches admitted to listing on the ISE increased by 32% in the first quarter to 684 [Q4 2011: 518], reflecting additional listing activity across all debt product types, following improved global investor confidence in debt markets during the period. New fund securities admitted to the ISE's markets fell during Q1 to 68 [Q4 2011: 80].

At the end of Q1 2012, the number of funds and sub funds listed on the ISE was 2,851 [end 2011: 2,893] and tranches of debt securities amounted to 21,069 [end 2011: 21,142].

Further Information

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Note 1

If AIB and Irish Life and Permanent are excluded from the calculations, the market capitalisation of companies included in the ISEQ indices would have risen by almost €7.2bn during Q1 to €57.8bn at the end of March 2012, an increase of 14.2% since the end of 2011 [Q4 2011: 14.6%].

Quarterly Statistical Report Q1 2012

Irish 📕 Stock Exchange

	Q1 2012	Q4 2011		YTD 2012	YTD 2011	
Number of Days in Period	64	63		64	63	
Turnover						
Turnover	Q1 2012 €m	Q4 2011 €m	% Change	YTD 2012 €m	YTD 2011 €m	% Change
Equity & ETFs	10,376	8,225	26.2	10,376	10,364	0.1
Irish Government Bonds & Treasury Bills	25,302	17,273	46.5	25,302	10,607	138.5
Daily Average Turnover	€m	€m		€m	€m	
Equity & ETFs	162	131	23.7	162	165	-1.8
Irish Government Bonds & Treasury Bills	395	274	44.2	395	168	135.1
Trade Figures						
	Q1 2012	Q4 2011	% Change	YTD 2012	YTD 2011	% Change
Number of Trades						
Equity & ETF Trades	632,480	638,344	-0.9	632,480	553,542	14.3
Irish Government Bonds & Treasury Bills	6,583	5,659	16.3	6,583	6,522	0.9
Daily Average Trades						
Equity & ETF Trades	9,883	10,132	-2.5	9,883	8,786	12.5
Irish Government Bonds & Treasury Bills	103	90	14.4	103	104	-1.0
Money Raised						
	Q1 2012	Q4 2011	% Change	YTD 2012	YTD 2011	% Change
Money Raised	€m	€m		€m	€m	
Equity & ETFs	9	6	50	9	100	-91
Irish Government Bonds & Treasury Bills	0	0	0	0	0	0
Market Capitalisation						
	Q1 2012	Q4 2011	% Change	YTD 2012	End 2011	% Change
Market Capitalisation	€m	€m		€m	€m	
Equity (included in ISEQ)	105,025	86,857	20.9	105,025	86,857	20.9
Irish Government Bonds	73,822	73,437	0.5	73,822	73,437	0.5
Member Firms						
		New Q1 2012	2 Tot	tal at End Q1 2012		2011
Number of Member Firms (of which interna	tional)	0		46(38)		47(39)
Member Firm Type*		Domestic		International		Total
Equity (& ETF) Member Firms		7		14		21
Primary Dealers in Irish Government Bonds	6	1		15		16
Settlement Only & Clearing Member Firms		0		9		9

Quarterly Statistical Report Q1 2012 Irish 🕃 Stock Exchange

ISEQ Indices

ISEQ Equity Indices	Q1 2012	Q4 2011	% Change Q1 2012	2011	% Change 2012	
Overall	3,255	2,902	12.2	2,902	12.2	
Financial	179	120	49.2	120	49.2	
General	4,455	4,020	10.8	4,020	10.8	
Small Cap	2,029	1,639	23.8	1,639	23.8	
ESM	1,570	1,335	17.6	1,335	17.6	
ISEQ 20	528	469	12.6	469	12.6	
ISEQ 20 Leveraged	1,668	1,327	25.7	1,327	25.7	
ISEQ 20 Capped	696	601	15.8	601	15.8	

ISEQ Bond Indices	Q1 2012	Q4 2011	% Change Q1 2012	2011	% Change 2012
All Bond	93.00	85.66	8.6	85.66	8.6
Under 3	97.90	94.35	3.8	94.35	3.8
Under 5	102.01	96.53	5.7	96.53	5.7
Under 10	94.10	86.88	8.3	86.88	8.3
5 Plus	90.02	81.27	10.8	81.27	10.8
10 Plus	88.73	79.73	11.3	79.73	11.3

Securities

	New Q1 2012	New Q4 2011	New YTD 2012	Total At End Q1 2012	Total At End 2011
Companies - MSM	0	0	0	29	30
Companies - ESM	0	1	0	24	25
ETFs	0	0	0	1	1
Treasury Bills	0	0	0	0	0
Irish Government Bonds	1	0	1	12	12
Investment Funds**					
Funds	15	20	15	1,025	1,052
Subfunds	53	60	53	1,826	1,841
Total	68	80	68	2,851	2,893
Classes	491	398	491	7,591	7,488
Debt Securities***					
Programmes	17	21	17	528	520
Non Programmes	47	38	47	2,629	2,628
Debt Tranches	684	518	684	21,069	21,142

**Investment Fund totals include umbrella funds.

***The figure for Programmes and non Programmes represent the number of individual issuers during a period. Any such issuer may have issued a number of securities during the relevant period which are counted within the figure for tranches.