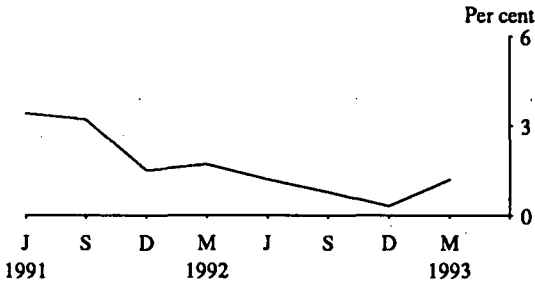


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EMBARGOED UNTIL 11.30 AM 28 April 1993

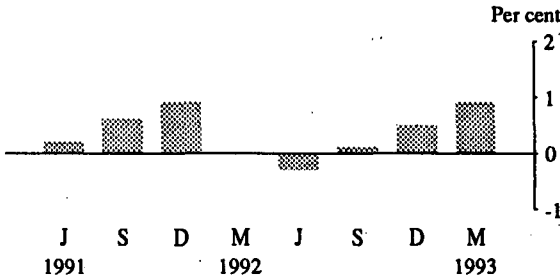
**CONSUMER PRICE INDEX, MARCH QUARTER 1993**

**MAIN FEATURES**

**ALL GROUPS - ANNUAL MOVEMENT**



**ALL GROUPS - QUARTERLY MOVEMENT**



Contributing most to the overall increase this quarter were fresh vegetable prices (up 31.7%), cigarette and tobacco prices (up 4.6%), motor vehicle prices (up 2.6%), the cost of pharmaceuticals (up 15.0%), fresh fruit prices (up 14.7%), and mortgage interest charges (up 1.3%).

Partially offsetting the above were falls in petrol prices (down 3.3%), furniture prices (down 2.7%), the cost of overseas holiday travel and accommodation (down 7.4%), and consumer credit charges (down 1.9%).

**SUMMARY OF FINDINGS**

**Overview**

The All groups CPI increased 0.9 per cent between December quarter 1992 and March quarter 1993, resulting in an annual increase (March quarter 1993 on March quarter 1992) of 1.2 per cent.

**INQUIRIES**

- for further information about statistics in this publication and the availability of related unpublished statistics, contact Information Services on Canberra (06) 252 6627 or any ABS State office.
- for more detailed information about these statistics, contact Bohdan Stankewytsch on Canberra (06) 252 6251 or any ABS State office.
- for information about other ABS statistics and services please refer to the back page of this publication.

## Main contributions to quarterly change

### Food: +2.2%

The food group was the largest contributor to the change in the All groups index, accounting for 47.2 per cent of the total change this quarter. Increases in prices of fresh fruit and vegetables (up 19.0%) accounted for about two-thirds of this, and take away foods (up 1.5%) and lamb and mutton (up 11.0%) each accounted for a further 12 per cent of the overall increase.

Fresh vegetable prices increased by 31.7 per cent on average this quarter, with increases in prices of cauliflower, lettuce, carrots, and tomatoes contributing most to the national result. Fresh fruit prices increased 14.7 per cent mainly as a result of increases in prices of apples and grapes.

These increases were partially offset by a fall in the price of fresh potatoes (-9.2%).

Over the 12 months to March quarter 1993, fresh vegetable prices have increased 23.9 per cent, fresh potato prices have fallen 7.6 per cent, and fresh fruit prices have fallen 1.8 per cent.

### Tobacco and alcohol: +2.2%

Cigarette and tobacco prices increased 4.6 per cent nationally as a result of the increase (from 50 to 75 per cent) in the tobacco franchise fee in Melbourne and small increases in prices in all other capital cities.

### Health and personal care: +2.4%

The increase this quarter is largely attributable to increases in costs of pharmaceuticals (+15.0%) due mainly to the reduced effect of the PBS safety net scheme.

### Recreation and education: +1.1%

Increases in the prices of books, newspapers, and magazines (+5.8%), education fees (+4.3%), entertainment charges (+1.8%), and child care fees (+7.8%) were partially offset by falls in the cost of holiday travel and accommodation overseas (-7.4%) and in Australia (-1.5%).

### Household equipment and operation: -0.6%

The decrease in the cost of household equipment and operation this quarter results mainly from falls in furniture prices (-2.7%) and consumer credit charges (-1.9%, reflecting an increase of 0.9 per cent in the value of the debt outstanding combined with a fall in interest rates of 2.7 per cent).

### Housing: +0.4%

The increase in housing costs this quarter results from an increase in mortgage interest charges (+1.3%), reflecting an increase in the debt outstanding (+1.4%) combined with a slight decrease in interest rates (-0.1%). This is the first increase in mortgage interest charges since June

quarter 1990, reflecting a moderation in interest rate reductions.

### Transportation: +0.4%

Increases in motor vehicle prices (+2.6%), motoring charges (+7.4%), and urban transport fares (+3.0%) were largely offset by falls in petrol prices (-3.3%) and the cost of vehicle insurance (-0.6%).

Motor vehicle prices increased relatively uniformly in all cities, ranging from 2.2 per cent in Adelaide to 3.6 per cent in Hobart. The 2.6 per cent overall increase this quarter, compared with a 0.7 per cent increase last quarter, delivers an annual increase (March quarter 1993 on March quarter 1992) of 3.3 per cent.

Motoring charges increased 7.4 per cent overall as a direct result of the increase (from \$70 to \$140) in the cost of motor vehicle registration in Melbourne.

The 3.0 per cent increase in urban transport fares is due to an 11.0 per cent increase in Melbourne combined with smaller increases in Brisbane (+2.2%) and Sydney (+0.2%).

The 3.3 per cent fall in petrol prices this quarter results from a decrease in October (-0.3%), a small increase in November (+0.9%), decreases in December (-1.2%), January (-2.2%) and February (-0.7%) followed by a small increase in March (+0.4%).

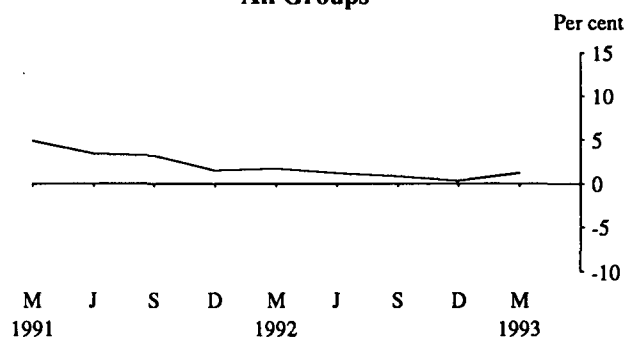
## CONSUMER PRICE INDEX- ALL GROUPS PERCENTAGE CHANGES

	<i>Change between—</i>	
	<i>Dec qtr 1992 and Mar qtr 1993</i>	<i>Mar qtr 1992 and Mar qtr 1993</i>
	%	%
Sydney	0.7	1.1
Melbourne	1.2	1.1
Brisbane	0.9	1.5
Adelaide	0.8	1.9
Perth	0.3	0.3
Hobart	1.0	1.6
Darwin	0.5	1.4
Canberra	1.0	1.8
Weighted average of eight capital cities	0.9	1.2

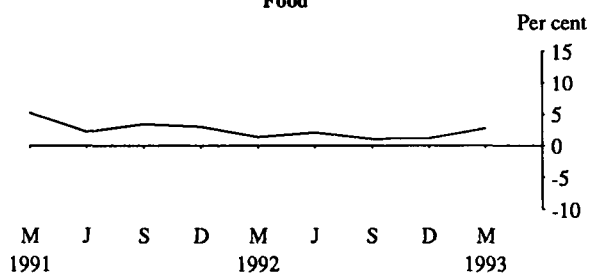
IAN CASTLES  
Australian Statistician

**WEIGHTED AVERAGE OF EIGHT CAPITAL CITIES  
PERCENTAGE CHANGE ON CORRESPONDING QUARTER OF PREVIOUS YEAR**

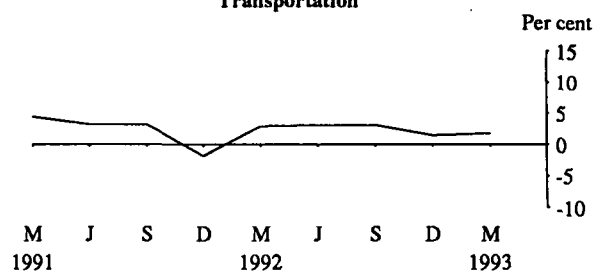
**All Groups**



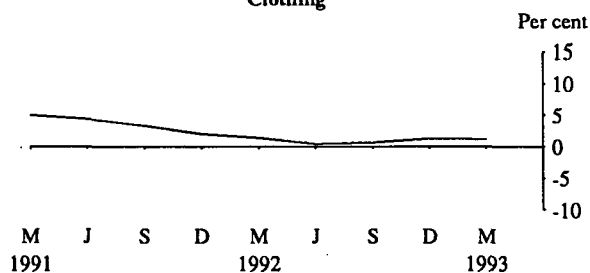
**Food**



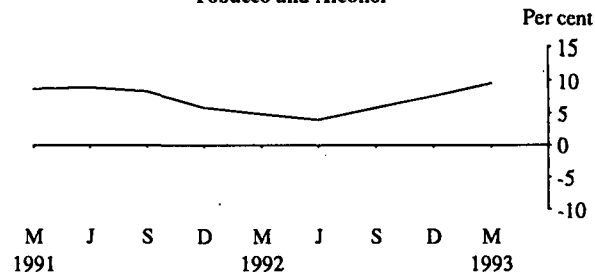
**Transportation**



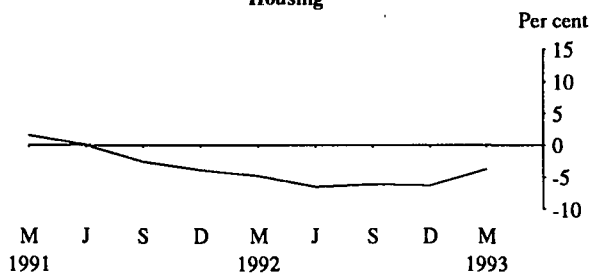
**Clothing**



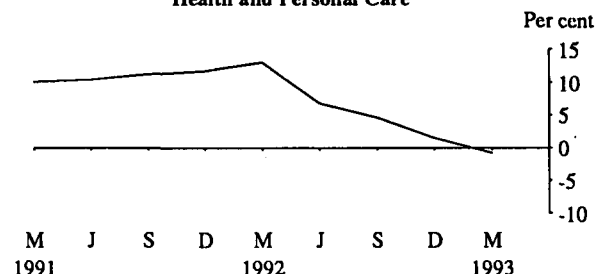
**Tobacco and Alcohol**



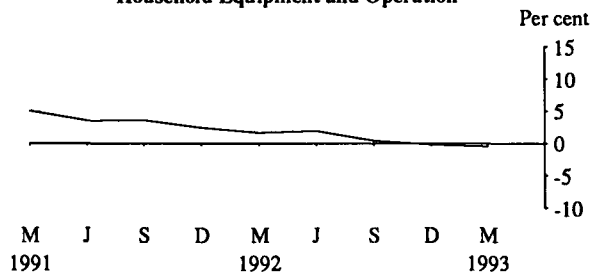
**Housing**



**Health and Personal Care**



**Household Equipment and Operation**



**Recreation and Education**

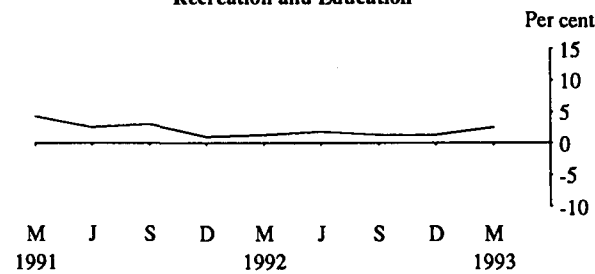


TABLE 1. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: ALL GROUPS INDEX NUMBERS  
(Base of each index: Year 1989-90 = 100.0)

Period	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Darwin	Canberra	Weighted average of eight capital cities
1988-89	92.5	92.3	93.0	93.3	92.3	93.4	94.2	93.1	92.6
1989-90	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1990-91	104.9	105.8	104.9	106.2	105.1	104.9	105.7	105.1	105.3
1991-92	106.7	108.1	107.0	108.9	105.9	107.1	108.0	107.8	107.3
1988-89—									
March	92.5	92.7	93.5	94.2	92.7	94.2	94.7	93.5	92.9
June	94.8	95.2	95.8	96.0	94.7	96.0	96.3	95.7	95.2
1989-90—									
September	97.4	97.3	97.6	97.7	96.9	97.6	97.6	97.2	97.4
December	99.2	99.2	99.3	99.2	98.9	99.4	99.4	99.3	99.2
March	100.9	100.7	100.8	100.6	101.2	101.0	100.6	101.2	100.9
June	102.5	102.7	102.2	102.5	102.9	101.9	102.4	102.3	102.5
1990-91—									
September	103.1	103.5	102.8	103.8	103.7	103.0	103.5	103.1	103.3
December	105.5	106.6	105.4	106.9	106.2	105.5	106.4	106.0	106.0
March	105.7	106.1	105.7	106.7	105.2	105.2	106.1	105.5	105.8
June	105.4	106.8	105.7	107.3	105.1	105.8	106.6	105.6	106.0
1991-92—									
September	106.0	107.6	106.1	108.0	105.7	106.7	106.9	107.0	106.6
December	107.1	108.4	107.3	108.8	106.1	107.4	108.2	107.9	107.6
March	107.0	108.3	107.5	109.5	106.1	107.4	108.3	108.2	107.6
June	106.5	108.2	107.0	109.4	105.6	107.0	108.4	107.9	107.3
1992-93—									
September	106.9	107.9	106.9	110.1	105.5	107.6	108.9	108.6	107.4
December	107.4	108.2	108.1	110.7	106.1	108.0	109.2	109.0	107.9
March	108.2	109.5	109.1	111.6	106.4	109.1	109.8	110.1	108.9

TABLE 2. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: ALL GROUPS PERCENTAGE CHANGES

Period	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Darwin	Canberra	Weighted average of eight capital cities
Change from previous year									
1989-90	8.1	8.3	7.5	7.2	8.3	7.1	6.2	7.4	8.0
1990-91	4.9	5.8	4.9	6.2	5.1	4.9	5.7	5.1	5.3
1991-92	1.7	2.2	2.0	2.5	0.8	2.1	2.2	2.6	1.9
Change from corresponding quarter of previous year									
1990-91—									
March	4.8	5.4	4.9	6.1	4.0	4.2	5.5	4.2	4.9
June	2.8	4.0	3.4	4.7	2.1	3.8	4.1	3.2	3.4
1991-92—									
September	2.8	4.0	3.2	4.0	1.9	3.6	3.3	3.8	3.2
December	1.5	1.7	1.8	1.8	-0.1	1.8	1.7	1.8	1.5
March	1.2	2.1	1.7	2.6	0.9	2.1	2.1	2.6	1.7
June	1.0	1.3	1.2	2.0	0.5	1.1	1.7	2.2	1.2
1992-93—									
September	0.8	0.3	0.8	1.9	-0.2	0.8	1.9	1.5	0.8
December	0.3	-0.2	0.7	1.7	0.0	0.6	0.9	1.0	0.3
March	1.1	1.1	1.5	1.9	0.3	1.6	1.4	1.8	1.2
Change from previous quarter									
1990-91—									
March	0.2	-0.5	0.3	-0.2	-0.9	-0.3	-0.3	-0.5	-0.2
June	-0.3	0.7	0.0	0.6	-0.1	0.6	0.5	0.1	0.2
1991-92—									
September	0.6	0.7	0.4	0.7	0.6	0.9	0.3	1.3	0.6
December	1.0	0.7	1.1	0.7	0.4	0.7	1.2	0.8	0.9
March	-0.1	-0.1	0.2	0.6	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.0
June	-0.5	-0.1	-0.5	-0.1	-0.5	-0.4	0.1	-0.3	-0.3
1992-93—									
September	0.4	-0.3	-0.1	0.6	-0.1	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.1
December	0.5	0.3	1.1	0.5	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.5
March	0.7	1.2	0.9	0.8	0.3	1.0	0.5	1.0	0.9

TABLE 3. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX : CHANGE BETWEEN DECEMBER QUARTER 1992 AND MARCH QUARTER 1993  
MAIN CONTRIBUTIONS TO CHANGE IN TERMS OF ALL GROUPS INDEX POINTS

Item	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Darwin	Canberra	Weighted average of eight capital cities
FOOD	0.54	0.33	0.40	0.58	0.33	0.30	0.45	0.54	0.43
Other dairy products	-0.01	0.00	-0.01	0.00	-0.01	-0.02	0.00	0.00	-0.01
Bread	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.01
Lamb and mutton	0.04	0.08	0.02	0.02	0.02	-0.01	0.01	0.03	0.05
Fresh fruit	0.12	0.07	0.07	0.24	0.09	0.09	0.13	0.20	0.10
Fresh potatoes	-0.01	-0.03	0.00	-0.04	0.00	0.00	-0.01	-0.02	-0.02
Fresh vegetables	0.26	0.11	0.29	0.21	0.04	0.02	0.22	0.21	0.19
Processed vegetables	0.00	-0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.00
Take away foods	0.07	0.03	0.09	0.02	0.07	0.08	0.01	0.01	0.05
CLOTHING	0.00	-0.04	-0.05	0.00	-0.04	-0.01	-0.02	0.02	-0.02
Boys' clothing	0.00	-0.01	-0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	-0.01	-0.01	-0.01
Children's footwear	0.00	-0.02	-0.03	-0.01	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.01	-0.01
HOUSING	0.08	0.02	0.18	0.00	0.08	0.14	0.17	0.20	0.07
Mortgage interest charges	0.11	0.04	0.14	-0.01	0.08	0.09	0.17	0.19	0.09
House repairs and maintenance	-0.03	0.00	0.03	0.00	-0.01	0.03	0.02	-0.03	-0.01
House insurance	0.00	-0.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-0.01	0.01	0.00
HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND OPERATION	-0.16	-0.07	0.02	-0.24	-0.15	-0.02	-0.08	0.00	-0.11
Electricity	0.00	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02
Gas	0.00	0.07	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.02
Furniture	-0.06	-0.18	0.06	-0.21	-0.13	0.01	0.05	0.00	-0.10
Consumer credit charges	-0.05	-0.05	-0.04	-0.05	-0.04	-0.04	-0.08	-0.04	-0.05
TRANSPORTATION	0.01	0.16	0.08	-0.05	0.07	0.12	-0.05	0.05	0.07
Motor vehicles	0.13	0.11	0.11	0.13	0.10	0.13	0.07	0.11	0.12
Automotive fuel	-0.12	-0.31	-0.09	-0.16	-0.06	0.03	-0.05	-0.13	-0.17
Vehicle insurance	-0.03	-0.01	0.02	-0.02	0.01	-0.03	-0.06	0.03	-0.01
Motoring charges	0.01	0.21	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.07
Vehicle servicing etc.	0.01	0.05	0.01	0.03	0.03	0.01	-0.02	0.02	0.02
Urban transport fares	0.01	0.12	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.04
TOBACCO AND ALCOHOL	0.06	0.49	0.03	0.06	-0.01	0.34	0.08	0.06	0.18
Beer	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.00	0.27	0.02	0.01	0.03
Wine	0.01	0.03	0.00	0.01	-0.02	0.05	0.02	0.03	0.01
Spirits	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.01	0.02	0.00	0.01
Cigarettes and tobacco	0.01	0.43	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.03	0.02	0.14
HEALTH AND PERSONAL CARE	0.15	0.17	0.24	0.32	0.12	0.22	0.17	0.18	0.18
Hospital and medical services	0.03	0.06	0.05	0.19	0.02	0.05	0.00	0.03	0.05
Pharmaceuticals	0.12	0.12	0.14	0.10	0.11	0.15	0.10	0.12	0.11
RECREATION AND EDUCATION	0.11	0.22	0.12	0.17	-0.10	0.04	-0.14	0.09	0.12
Books newspapers and magazines	0.07	0.10	0.02	0.08	0.05	0.05	0.02	0.08	0.07
Holiday travel and accommodation in Australia	-0.01	0.00	-0.03	-0.01	-0.14	-0.06	-0.02	0.01	-0.02
O'seas holiday travel and accommodation	-0.12	-0.08	-0.05	-0.05	-0.05	-0.10	-0.14	-0.07	-0.09
Entertainment	0.05	0.08	0.05	0.05	-0.01	0.03	-0.08	0.02	0.05
Education fees	0.06	0.09	0.07	0.08	0.04	0.12	0.01	0.05	0.07
Child care fees	0.06	0.02	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.04
Total change	0.8	1.3	1.0	0.9	0.3	1.1	0.6	1.1	1.0
Contribution of selected State and local government charges (a) to total change	0.01	0.44	0.04	0.00	0.01	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.14

(a) Composition of this category is described in footnote (c) Table 8, page 11.

TABLE 4. CHANGE BETWEEN DECEMBER QUARTER 1992 AND MARCH QUARTER 1993 (a)  
PERCENTAGE CONTRIBUTION TO CHANGE IN WEIGHTED AVERAGE EIGHT CAPITAL CITIES ALL GROUP INDEX

	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Darwin	Canberra	Weighted average of eight capital cities
Food	19.4	10.4	5.1	5.9	3.8	0.6	0.4	1.7	47.2
Clothing	0.0	-1.3	-0.7	0.0	-0.5	0.0	0.0	0.1	-2.3
Housing	2.8	0.8	2.2	0.0	0.8	0.3	0.2	0.6	7.5
Household equipment and operation	-5.9	-2.2	0.3	-2.5	-1.7	0.0	-0.1	0.0	-12.1
Transportation	0.5	5.3	1.0	-0.5	0.8	0.2	0.0	0.1	7.4
Tobacco and alcohol	1.9	15.5	0.4	0.7	-0.1	0.6	0.1	0.2	19.8
Health and personal care	5.1	5.5	3.0	3.3	1.3	0.4	0.1	0.6	19.2
Recreation and education	4.1	6.9	1.6	1.8	-1.2	0.1	-0.1	0.3	13.6
All Groups	28.1	40.9	12.8	8.7	3.1	2.1	0.5	3.5	100.0

(a) Table 4 shows the percentage contribution of Groups in each city to the change (between December quarter 1992 and March quarter 1993) in the All Groups index for the weighted average of the eight capital cities.

#### ANALYTICAL SERIES (a)

TABLE 5. DEBT PROFILE METHOD — WEIGHTED AVERAGE OF EIGHT CAPITAL CITIES: PERCENTAGE CHANGES

Period	Food	Clothing	Housing	Household equipment and operation	Trans- portation	Tobacco and alcohol	Health and personal care	Recreation and education	All Groups
Change from previous year									
1989-90	7.1	5.2	16.8	5.5	8.0	8.2	7.2	6.2	8.2
1990-91	3.3	4.6	3.5	5.0	6.8	8.8	9.6	5.0	5.3
1991-92	2.4	1.7	-4.4	2.3	1.8	5.7	10.7	1.8	1.9
Change from corresponding quarter of previous year									
1990-91— March	5.2	4.9	1.6	5.0	4.4	8.7	10.1	4.2	4.9
June	2.1	4.3	0.0	3.5	3.2	8.9	10.4	2.5	3.4
1991-92— September	3.4	3.2	-2.6	3.6	3.2	8.3	11.2	3.0	3.2
December	2.9	2.0	-3.9	2.4	-1.8	5.8	11.7	0.9	1.5
March	1.3	1.3	-4.8	1.6	2.9	4.8	13.0	1.2	1.7
June	2.0	0.4	-6.6	1.9	3.1	3.9	6.8	1.8	1.2
1992-93— September	1.0	0.6	-6.2	0.4	3.1	5.8	4.6	1.3	0.8
December	1.1	1.2	-6.4	-0.2	1.5	7.6	1.5	1.3	0.3
March	2.7	1.1	-3.8	-0.5	1.8	9.5	-0.8	2.5	1.2
Change from previous quarter									
1990-91— March	2.1	0.5	-1.4	0.5	-4.6	1.4	3.5	-0.4	-0.2
June	-0.4	1.4	0.0	0.3	-0.6	2.0	1.7	-0.7	0.2
1991-92— September	0.7	-0.4	-2.0	0.9	1.9	1.3	1.9	1.0	0.6
December	0.5	0.5	-0.5	0.7	1.6	1.0	4.1	1.0	0.9
March	0.6	-0.2	-2.3	-0.3	0.0	0.4	4.7	-0.1	0.0
June	0.3	0.5	-1.9	0.6	-0.4	1.1	-3.9	-0.1	-0.3
1992-93— September	-0.4	-0.2	-1.7	-0.6	1.8	3.2	-0.2	0.5	0.1
December	0.7	1.1	-0.6	0.1	0.0	2.7	1.1	1.0	0.5
March	2.2	-0.3	0.4	-0.6	0.4	2.2	2.4	1.1	0.9

(a) This table is intended to assist in the analysis of price change (as distinct from movements in the CPI) and is therefore based on indexes calculated using the debt profile method of measuring mortgage interest charges from March quarter 1987.

TABLE 6. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX — GROUP INDEXES

Period	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Darwin	Canberra	Weighted average of eight capital cities
FOOD (Base of each Index: Year 1989-90 = 100.0)									
1990-91—									
March	105.6	103.0	105.9	104.6	105.4	104.5	106.5	104.5	104.7
June	104.1	103.7	104.9	104.9	105.2	104.4	106.8	104.5	104.3
1991-92—									
September	105.3	104.0	104.5	104.9	107.0	104.8	104.8	105.6	105.0
December	106.1	104.6	105.4	105.9	105.9	105.8	106.1	106.4	105.5
March	106.6	104.9	106.3	106.4	107.4	106.7	106.7	107.2	106.1
June	106.4	106.0	106.2	106.9	107.6	107.2	107.5	107.0	106.4
1992-93—									
September	105.6	105.5	105.7	107.3	107.7	107.3	107.1	107.0	106.0
December	106.6	105.5	107.2	108.1	108.2	107.5	108.3	107.5	106.7
March	109.5	107.3	109.4	111.3	110.0	109.0	110.6	110.5	109.0
CLOTHING (Base of each Index: Year 1989-90 = 100.0)									
1990-91—									
March	104.9	104.7	106.2	103.8	105.2	104.9	105.6	105.1	104.9
June	106.5	106.5	106.9	104.8	105.9	106.3	106.1	106.6	106.4
1991-92—									
September	105.9	106.3	106.3	105.1	106.2	105.8	105.9	106.2	106.0
December	106.3	107.0	105.9	104.9	107.5	105.8	104.8	107.0	106.5
March	106.1	106.4	105.7	105.2	107.5	105.5	105.3	107.1	106.3
June	106.1	107.5	106.2	106.1	108.5	105.7	105.9	106.6	106.8
1992-93—									
September	106.6	106.8	105.6	106.0	108.0	105.3	106.1	106.1	106.6
December	107.3	108.3	107.5	107.2	109.2	107.3	106.8	107.0	107.8
March	107.3	107.7	106.7	107.2	108.4	107.2	106.5	107.4	107.5
HOUSING (Base of each Index: Year 1989-90 = 100.0)									
1990-91—									
March	102.3	103.8	104.1	103.8	102.1	102.4	105.4	103.9	103.0
June	102.5	103.9	104.0	103.7	100.6	102.6	105.8	103.7	103.0
1991-92—									
September	100.5	101.5	102.7	102.3	97.4	100.9	106.4	101.7	100.9
December	100.1	100.6	103.2	102.3	95.9	100.6	107.3	103.2	100.4
March	98.1	97.8	101.6	99.8	93.0	97.7	106.3	101.4	98.1
June	96.8	95.5	100.3	97.3	89.7	96.2	103.9	99.9	96.2
1992-93—									
September	95.5	93.3	99.3	95.4	88.1	95.0	102.9	98.7	94.6
December	95.0	92.3	99.0	94.0	87.6	94.4	102.9	99.2	94.0
March	95.4	92.4	100.0	94.0	88.1	95.3	103.8	100.2	94.4
HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND OPERATION (Base of each Index: Year 1989-90 = 100.0)									
1990-91—									
March	105.5	106.0	106.0	105.6	105.6	106.2	105.6	105.7	105.7
June	105.4	106.3	106.4	106.8	106.1	107.0	106.5	106.5	106.0
1991-92—									
September	106.1	108.0	106.4	107.1	107.5	108.3	106.8	107.2	107.0
December	107.3	108.3	107.1	107.6	107.6	109.4	106.6	107.3	107.7
March	106.8	107.9	106.9	107.3	107.6	109.1	106.1	107.2	107.4
June	107.6	108.9	107.3	108.1	107.4	109.7	106.2	108.0	108.0
1992-93—									
September	107.1	107.8	106.4	108.1	107.1	110.1	106.1	107.9	107.4
December	106.8	108.6	105.7	108.1	107.7	110.4	105.6	107.5	107.5
March	105.8	108.2	105.8	106.7	107.0	110.3	105.1	107.5	106.9

TABLE 6. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX — GROUP INDEXES — *continued*

<i>Period</i>	<i>Sydney</i>	<i>Melbourne</i>	<i>Brisbane</i>	<i>Adelaide</i>	<i>Perth</i>	<i>Hobart</i>	<i>Darwin</i>	<i>Canberra</i>	<i>Weighted average of eight capital cities</i>
<b>TRANSPORTATION</b> (Base of each Index: Year 1989-90 = 100.0)									
<i>1990-91—</i>									
March	107.0	106.4	105.2	106.5	104.7	105.2	105.7	106.4	106.2
June	105.6	106.2	105.0	105.9	105.4	105.1	105.5	105.0	105.6
<i>1991-92—</i>									
September	106.0	108.6	108.0	109.2	107.8	107.1	107.1	109.9	107.6
December	108.3	110.3	109.2	110.5	109.3	106.8	108.3	110.8	109.3
March	108.2	110.1	109.2	110.9	109.5	107.1	108.4	111.0	109.3
June	107.0	110.1	108.6	111.2	109.9	106.5	108.0	111.3	108.9
<i>1992-93—</i>									
September	109.2	112.0	110.6	113.7	111.2	108.7	110.9	113.8	110.9
December	109.0	112.0	110.1	115.1	110.8	110.0	111.0	114.1	110.9
March	109.1	113.1	110.6	114.9	111.2	110.9	110.6	114.4	111.3
<b>TOBACCO AND ALCOHOL</b> (Base of each Index: Year 1989-90 = 100.0)									
<i>1990-91—</i>									
March	108.5	112.8	107.2	113.7	107.5	107.0	109.7	107.4	109.9
June	110.3	115.7	109.0	116.8	109.7	108.6	111.8	109.0	112.1
<i>1991-92—</i>									
September	113.8	116.1	109.5	117.3	109.3	110.0	111.4	111.2	113.6
December	115.4	117.1	109.7	118.1	110.2	112.1	111.7	112.6	114.7
March	116.1	116.9	110.6	119.2	110.8	111.6	112.9	114.3	115.2
June	118.3	117.2	112.3	119.6	111.9	112.2	117.3	113.4	116.5
<i>1992-93—</i>									
September	125.7	118.0	113.1	126.5	112.6	114.0	119.6	120.0	120.2
December	128.3	118.8	125.9	130.4	113.9	112.4	122.8	122.0	123.4
March	129.1	126.4	126.3	131.3	113.8	116.9	123.6	123.0	126.1
<b>HEALTH AND PERSONAL CARE</b> (Base of each Index: Year 1989-90 = 100.0)									
<i>1990-91—</i>									
March	109.9	114.7	109.2	116.0	110.4	112.7	111.1	109.9	112.0
June	110.6	118.1	109.7	119.0	110.9	117.7	113.5	111.7	113.9
<i>1991-92—</i>									
September	112.9	120.6	110.9	121.2	112.6	120.7	114.8	114.9	116.1
December	118.4	125.2	117.2	124.2	117.2	122.0	122.6	118.5	120.9
March	123.0	131.7	122.1	134.1	122.1	125.2	128.7	122.5	126.6
June	116.2	127.5	117.7	131.6	116.9	122.9	120.9	118.3	121.6
<i>1992-93—</i>									
September	115.9	127.2	116.8	131.5	116.5	125.1	121.8	119.0	121.4
December	117.5	128.5	116.2	132.2	119.2	125.6	123.2	121.3	122.7
March	119.8	131.5	120.6	136.8	121.0	129.1	126.2	124.5	125.6
<b>RECREATION AND EDUCATION</b> (Base of each Index: Year 1989-90 = 100.0)									
<i>1990-91—</i>									
March	106.0	106.4	105.0	105.8	105.2	103.7	102.3	104.9	105.8
June	104.5	106.4	104.7	105.0	103.5	102.4	100.9	104.4	105.1
<i>1991-92—</i>									
September	105.5	107.9	105.0	106.2	103.3	104.3	102.9	105.7	106.1
December	106.4	108.8	107.0	106.8	105.9	106.6	105.7	106.0	107.2
March	106.2	108.7	106.1	108.8	104.6	107.4	103.8	106.5	107.1
June	106.0	108.9	105.2	108.9	105.3	106.0	105.2	107.0	107.0
<i>1992-93—</i>									
September	106.6	109.2	105.7	108.9	105.3	107.0	106.4	107.8	107.5
December	108.0	110.2	106.7	109.9	107.6	108.2	104.4	107.6	108.6
March	109.1	112.0	108.0	111.7	106.5	108.5	103.2	108.3	109.8

TABLE 7. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX — GROUPS, SUB-GROUPS AND SELECTED EXPENDITURE CLASSES: WEIGHTED AVERAGE OF EIGHT CAPITAL CITIES

Group, Sub-group and Expenditure class	Index numbers (Base of each index: Year 1989-90=100.0)			Percentage Change between		Contribution to total CPI (expressed as All Groups index points)			
	Mar qtr 1992	Dec qtr 1992	Mar qtr 1993	Dec qtr 1992 and Mar qtr 1993	Mar qtr 1992 and Mar qtr 1993	Dec qtr 1992	Mar qtr 1993	Change between Dec qtr 1992 and Mar qtr 1993	
FOOD	106.1	106.7	109.0	2.2	2.7	19.71	20.14	0.43	
Dairy products	109.8	111.5	112.0	0.4	2.0	1.60	1.60	0.00	
Cereal products	110.9	113.4	114.8	1.2	3.5	2.27	2.29	0.02	
Meat and seafoods	100.4	99.1	100.9	1.8	0.5	3.17	3.23	0.06	
Beef and veal	103.1	100.3	100.7	0.4	-2.3			0.77	
Lamb and mutton	96.0	95.1	105.6	11.0	10.0			0.38	
Pork	102.0	100.5	102.5	2.0	0.5			0.19	
Poultry	91.3	88.3	87.9	-0.5	-3.7			0.42	
Bacon and ham	102.9	102.3	103.3	1.0	0.4			0.34	
Processed meat	106.4	104.9	106.0	1.0	-0.4			0.73	
Fish	94.9	97.4	97.8	0.4	3.1			0.36	
Fresh fruit and vegetables	88.0	79.9	95.1	19.0	8.1	1.47	1.75	0.28	
Processed fruit and vegetables	106.0	107.1	107.5	0.4	1.4	0.89	0.89	0.00	
Soft drinks - ice cream and confectionery	112.7	115.8	116.1	0.3	3.0	3.14	3.15	0.01	
Meals out and take away foods	111.1	113.2	114.3	1.0	2.9	5.35	5.41	0.06	
Other foods	105.9	108.4	108.1	-0.3	2.1	1.83	1.82	-0.01	
CLOTHING	106.3	107.8	107.5	-0.3	1.1	6.77	6.75	-0.02	
Men's and boy's clothing	106.7	109.3	108.9	-0.4	2.1	1.84	1.84	0.00	
Women's and girls' clothing	105.7	107.4	107.2	-0.2	1.4	2.75	2.74	-0.01	
Fabrics and knitting wool	103.9	105.9	106.1	0.2	2.1	0.81	0.81	0.00	
Footwear	106.2	105.4	104.1	-1.2	-2.0	1.13	1.11	-0.02	
Dry cleaning and shoe repairs	114.0	116.4	117.1	0.6	2.7	0.24	0.25	0.01	
HOUSING	98.1	94.0	94.4	0.4	-3.8	16.66	16.73	0.07	
Rents	106.8	107.2	107.2	0.0	0.4	5.23	5.23	0.00	
Privately-owned dwelling rents	106.4	106.7	106.6	-0.1	0.2			4.81	
Government-owned dwelling rents	110.5	112.4	112.5	0.1	1.8			0.42	
Home ownership	94.4	88.5	89.0	0.6	-5.7	11.43	11.50	0.07	
Mortgage interest charges	85.2	74.7	75.7	1.3	-11.2			6.66	
Local government rates and charges	114.8	120.5	120.5	0.0	5.0			2.44	
House repairs and maintenance	109.6	111.4	110.9	-0.4	1.2			1.97	
House insurance	120.6	123.0	121.3	-1.4	0.6			0.44	
HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND OPERATION	107.4	107.5	106.9	-0.6	-0.5	19.62	19.51	-0.11	
Fuel and light	110.6	114.8	116.6	1.6	5.4	2.60	2.64	0.04	
Furniture and floor coverings	107.1	110.0	107.6	-2.2	0.5	4.66	4.56	-0.10	
Appliances	104.7	103.4	104.1	0.7	-0.6	1.63	1.64	0.01	
Household textiles	106.7	106.8	106.8	0.0	0.1	0.82	0.82	0.00	
Household utensils and tools	105.0	104.5	104.1	-0.4	-0.9	1.29	1.29	0.00	
Household supplies and services	107.6	110.6	110.2	-0.4	2.4	4.31	4.29	-0.02	
Postal and telephone services	107.7	107.2	107.2	0.0	-0.5	1.85	1.85	0.00	
Consumer credit charges	107.1	96.6	94.8	-1.9	-11.5	2.47	2.42	-0.05	

TABLE 7. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX — GROUPS, SUB-GROUPS AND SELECTED EXPENDITURE CLASSES: WEIGHTED AVERAGE OF EIGHT CAPITAL CITIES — continued

Group, Sub-group and Expenditure class	Index numbers (Base of each index: Year 1989-90=100.0)			Percentage Change between		Contribution to total CPI (expressed as All Groups index points)			
	Mar qtr 1992	Dec qtr 1992	Mar qtr 1993	Dec qtr 1992 and Mar qtr 1993	Mar qtr 1992 and Mar qtr 1993	Dec qtr 1992	Mar qtr 1993	Change between Dec qtr 1992 and Mar qtr 1993	
TRANSPORTATION									
Private motoring	109.3	110.9	111.3	0.4	1.8	17.45	17.52	0.07	
Motor vehicles	108.6	110.1	110.3	0.2	1.6	16.12	16.15	0.03	
Automotive fuel	105.8	106.5	109.3	2.6	3.3		4.35	4.47	
Vehicle insurance	110.1	114.7	110.9	-3.3	0.7		5.23	5.06	
Motoring charges	108.4	108.3	107.7	-0.6	-0.6		2.27	2.26	
Tyres and tubes	116.1	118.5	127.3	7.4	9.6		0.92	0.99	
Vehicle service repairs and parts	102.1	102.5	102.8	0.3	0.7		0.37	0.38	
Urban transport fares	110.3	109.8	110.8	0.9	0.5		2.98	3.00	
	122.5	125.5	129.3	3.0	5.6	1.33	1.37	0.04	
TOBACCO AND ALCOHOL									
Alcoholic drinks	115.2	123.4	126.1	2.2	9.5	8.50	8.68	0.18	
Beer	111.5	113.6	114.5	0.8	2.7	5.47	5.52	0.05	
Wine	112.2	114.5	115.5	0.9	2.9		3.17	3.20	
Spirits	103.4	104.8	105.9	1.1	2.4		1.09	1.10	
Cigarettes and tobacco	117.3	119.4	119.7	0.3	2.0		1.21	1.22	
	124.7	147.3	154.1	4.6	23.6	3.02	3.16	0.14	
HEALTH AND PERSONAL CARE									
Health services	126.6	122.7	125.6	2.4	-0.8	7.41	7.59	0.18	
Personal care products	137.2	132.0	133.9	1.4	-2.4	4.39	4.46	0.07	
Hairdressing services	112.9	110.0	115.8	5.3	2.6	2.17	2.28	0.11	
	110.8	111.9	111.7	-0.2	0.8	0.85	0.85	0.00	
RECREATION AND EDUCATION									
Books newspapers and magazines	107.1	108.6	109.8	1.1	2.5	11.82	11.94	0.12	
Recreational goods	116.6	119.8	126.7	5.8	8.7	1.26	1.33	0.07	
Holiday travel and accommodation	100.2	102.0	102.3	0.3	2.1	2.77	2.78	0.01	
Recreational services	97.5	98.7	94.6	-4.2	-3.0	2.60	2.49	-0.11	
Education and child care	115.2	117.6	119.6	1.7	3.8	3.10	3.16	0.06	
	118.5	118.7	124.6	5.0	5.1	2.08	2.19	0.11	
ALL GROUPS	107.6	107.9	108.9	0.9	1.2	107.9	108.9	1.0	

TABLE 8. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX — SPECIAL SERIES: WEIGHTED AVERAGE OF EIGHT CAPITAL CITIES

	Index numbers (Base of each index: Year 1989-90=100.0)			Percentage Change between			Contribution to total CPI (expressed as All Groups index points)		
	Mar qtr 1992	Dec qtr 1992	Mar qtr 1993	Dec qtr 1992 and Mar qtr 1993	Mar qtr 1992 and Mar qtr 1993	Dec qtr 1992 and Mar qtr 1993	Dec qtr 1992	Mar qtr 1993	Change between Dec qtr 1992 and Mar qtr 1993
	107.6	107.9	108.9	0.9	1.2	1.0	107.9	108.9	1.0
ALL GROUPS									
All groups - excluding food	108.0	108.3	108.9	0.6	0.8	0.50	88.23	88.73	0.50
All groups - excluding clothing	107.7	108.0	109.0	0.9	1.2	0.95	101.17	102.12	0.95
All groups - excluding housing	109.4	110.6	111.6	0.9	2.0	0.86	91.28	92.14	0.86
All groups - excluding household equipment and operation	107.7	108.1	109.3	1.1	1.5	1.04	88.32	89.36	1.04
All groups - excluding transportation	107.3	107.4	108.4	0.9	1.0	0.86	90.49	91.35	0.86
All groups - excluding tobacco and alcohol	107.0	106.7	107.5	0.8	0.5	0.75	99.44	100.19	0.75
All groups - excluding health and personal care	106.5	107.1	107.9	0.7	1.3	0.75	100.53	101.28	0.75
All groups - excluding recreation and education	107.8	107.9	108.8	0.8	0.9	0.81	96.12	96.93	0.81
All groups - excluding home ownership	109.4	110.5	111.5	0.9	1.9	0.86	96.51	97.37	0.86
Mortgage interest and consumer credit charges	90.7	80.2	80.5	0.4	-11.2	0.04	9.08	9.12	0.04
All groups - excluding mortgage interest and consumer credit charges	109.5	111.1	112.1	0.9	2.4	0.89	98.86	99.75	0.89
All groups - excluding hospital and medical services	106.7	107.2	108.1	0.8	1.3	0.86	104.45	105.31	0.86
All groups - goods component (a)	107.8	109.9	111.0	1.0	3.0	0.65	66.35	67.00	0.65
All groups - services component (b)	107.4	104.9	105.6	0.7	-1.7	0.28	41.59	41.87	0.28
Selected State and local government charges (c)	113.0	117.0	119.3	2.0	5.6	0.14	7.11	7.25	0.14
All groups - excluding selected State and local government charges (c)	107.3	107.4	108.2	0.7	0.8	0.79	100.83	101.62	0.79

(a) The special series 'All groups, goods component' comprises the Food group (except meals out); Clothing group (except dry cleaning and shoe repairs); Household equipment and operation group (except veterinary services, house contents insurance, repairs to appliances, postal and telephone services and consumer credit charges); Tobacco and alcohol group; materials used in house repairs and maintenance; motor vehicles; automotive fuel; tyres and tubes; parts used in vehicle service and repairs; personal care products; books, newspapers and magazines; and recreational goods. (b) The 'All groups, services component' comprises all items not included in the 'All groups, goods component'. (c) Selected State and local government charges comprise: government-owned dwelling tenets; water and sewerage rates; council property rates and charges; electricity prices; gas prices (Melbourne and Perth only); motor vehicles third party insurance premiums (except Canberra and in part only in Sydney and Brisbane); motor vehicle registration fees; drivers' licence fees; urban bus fares (government bus fares only in Sydney and Melbourne, council fares only in Brisbane); urban rail and tram fares (not applicable in Hobart, Canberra and Darwin). The derivations and limitations of these figures was described in the Appendix to the December quarter 1982 issue of this publication.

## EXPLANATORY NOTES

**Brief description of the CPI**

1. The CPI measures quarterly changes in the price of a *basket* of goods and services which account for a high proportion of expenditure by the CPI population group (ie metropolitan wage and salary earner households). This *basket* covers a wide range of goods and services, arranged in the following eight groups: food; clothing; housing; household equipment and operation; transportation; tobacco and alcohol; health and personal care; and recreation and education. Pensioners and other social welfare recipients are not included in the CPI population group and the index does not reflect concessional prices paid by these people such as subsidised government dwelling rents, public transport fares and the like.

2. The capital city indexes measure price movements over time in each city individually. They do not measure differences in retail price levels between cities.

3. Further information about the CPI is contained in a booklet entitled *A Guide to the Consumer Price Index* (6440.0) which is available from the ABS on request. A more detailed account is contained in *The Australian Consumer Price Index, Concepts, Sources and Methods* (6461.0).

**Prices**

4. Prices of goods and services included in the CPI are generally collected quarterly. However, some important items are priced monthly or more frequently (e.g. bread, fresh meat and fish, fresh fruit and vegetables, petrol, alcohol and tobacco) and a small number annually (e.g. seasonal clothing, local government rates and charges).

5. In order to facilitate a more even spread of field collection workload the bulk of the items for which prices are collected quarterly are priced in the first two months of each quarter (ie July/August, October/November, January/February, April/May). With a few exceptions items priced in the third month are those subject to price changes at discrete points of time (e.g. electricity and postal charges, milk); in these cases information about any changes in price during the quarter is obtained so that an average price for the whole quarter can be calculated.

**Weighting pattern**

6. There are 107 expenditure classes (that is, groupings of like items) in the eleventh series CPI and each expenditure class has its own weight, or measure of relative importance. In calculating the index, price changes for the various expenditure classes are combined using these weights.

7. Changes in the weighting pattern have been made at approximately five-yearly intervals to take account of changes in household spending patterns. The CPI now comprises twelve series of price indexes which have been linked to form a continuous series.

**Analysis of CPI changes**

8. Movements in indexes from one period to another can be expressed either as changes in *index points* or as percentage changes. The following example illustrates the method of calculating index points changes and percentage changes between any two periods:

All Groups CPI: Weighted average of eight capital cities

Index numbers:

Dec quarter 1992:	107.9	(see Table 1)
less: Sep quarter 1992:	107.4	(see Table 1)
Change in index points:	0.5	

$$\text{Percentage change} = \frac{0.5}{107.4} \times 100 = 0.5\%$$

9. In this publication, percentage changes are calculated to illustrate 3 different kinds of movements in index numbers:

- movements between consecutive financial years (where the index numbers for financial years are simple averages of the quarterly index numbers),
- movements between corresponding quarters of consecutive years, and
- movements between consecutive quarters.

10. Table 7 provides a detailed analysis, for the weighted average of eight capital cities, of movements in the CPI since the previous quarter, including information on movements for subgroups and for selected expenditure classes. It also shows the contribution which each group and subgroup makes to the total CPI. For instance, the dairy products subgroup contributed 1.60 index points to the total All Groups index number of 107.9 for December quarter 1992. The final column shows contributions to the change in All Groups index points by each group and subgroup.

11. Table 8 provides summary information about a range of Special series in a similar format to that provided in Table 7.

12. Information on the impact of changes in Selected State and local government charges on the CPI is included in Tables 3 and 8. Table 3 shows the contribution made by changes in these charges to the CPI for each capital city, while Table 8 shows index numbers for two special series *Selected State and local government charges* and *All Groups excluding selected State and local government charges*. An explanation of the derivation and limitations of these figures was published in the Appendix to the December quarter 1982 issue of this publication.

#### Related publications

13. Users may also wish to refer to the following publications which are available on request:

*The Australian Consumer Price Index: Concepts Sources and Methods* (6461.0)

*A Guide to the Consumer Price Index* (6440.0)

*Information Paper: The Australian Consumer Price Index: Treatment of Mortgage Interest Charges* (6442.0)

*House Price Indexes: Eight Capital Cities* (6416.0)

*Average Retail Prices of Selected Items Eight Capital Cities* (6403.0)

*Information Paper: The Australian Consumer Price Index: 12th Series Review* (6450.0)

#### Next issue

14. The Consumer Price Index - June quarter 1993 (6401.0) is scheduled to be released on Wednesday 28 July 1993.

15. Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products, Australia* (1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a *Publications Advice* (1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the next few days. The catalogue and Publications Advice are available from any ABS office.

#### Symbols and other usages

n.a.	not available
r	revised
n.y.a.	not yet available

NOTE. Any discrepancies between totals and sums of components in this publication are due to rounding. For similar reasons quarterly movements shown by subgroup or group index numbers in Table 7 do not necessarily correspond exactly with those shown by the relevant index points.



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