



**Australian
Bureau of
Statistics**

CATALOGUE NO. 6403.0

EMBARGOED UNTIL 11.30 A.M. 3 JULY 1991

**AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF SELECTED ITEMS
EIGHT CAPITAL CITIES
MARCH QUARTER 1991**



EXPLANATORY NOTES

Scope of publication

This publication contains average prices for selected items which are included in the the Consumer Price Index for the eight capital cities.

2. The CPI covers a wide range of goods and services arranged in eight groups which are in turn divided into subgroups. The selected items for which average prices are shown in this publication fall within the Food Group and the following non-food subgroups: household supplies and services; private motoring; alcoholic drinks; and personal care products. The items and varieties selected, however, do not comprise *all* of the items and varieties which are incorporated in the Food Group or the specified subgroups of the CPI.

Average prices

3. Prices shown are the averages of prices for specified grades, qualities, brands, etc. charged by a number of selected retailers in each city. The specified grades etc. and the retailers have been selected as representative to measure price change over time. Thus the prices do not purport to be the actual averages of all retail sales of these items. They should be regarded as no more than approximate indicators of price levels and price changes for the items concerned. Furthermore, the selected grades, brands, etc. for some items differ between cities and thus *the average prices for some items may not be comparable from city to city*. Details of differences in specifications are provided in footnotes to the table.

4. Prices for fresh fruit and vegetables are collected weekly and averaged to obtain quarterly prices. Prices for fresh meat, bread, petrol and alcohol are collected monthly and averaged to obtain quarterly prices. Prices for fresh milk are collected at the end of the quarter together with details of price changes during the quarter, and average prices calculated for the quarter. Prices for all other items are collected during the mid month of each quarter (i.e. in August, November, February and May).

Related publications

5. Users may also wish to refer to the following

publications which are available from the Australian Bureau of Statistics on request:

Consumer Price Index (6401.0) - issued quarterly

A Guide to the Consumer Price Index (6440.0)

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

6. 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

Electronic services

DISCOVERY. Key *656# for selected current economic, social and demographic statistics.

AUSSTATS. Thousands of up-to-date time series are available on this ABS on-line service. For further information phone the AUSSTATS Help Desk on (06) 252 6017

TELESTATS. This service provides foreign trade statistics tailored to users' requirements. Further information is available on (06) 252 5404.

Text and tables for selected main Economic Indicator publications. Further information is available on (06) 252 5405.

Floppy disk service

Selected ABS statistics are available on floppy disk. Further information is available on (06) 252 6684.

IAN CASTLES
Australian Statistician

INQUIRIES

- for further information about statistics in this publication and the availability of related unpublished statistics, contact Ms Maree Roy on Canberra (06) 252 6251 or any ABS State office.
- for information about other ABS statistics and ABS services, please contact Information Services on Canberra (06) 252 6627, 252 5402, 252 6007 or any ABS State office.

AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF SELECTED ITEMS, MARCH QUARTER 1991 (a)

(Cents)

Item	Unit	Sydney	Melb.	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Darwin	Canberra
Dairy products									
Milk, carton, delivered	(b) 1 litre	120	91	97	93	97	97	n.a	90
Milk, carton, supermarket sales	(c) 1 litre	92	89	95	82	96	96	88	90
Milk, powdered, full cream	1 kg can	639	603	643	654	677	632	708	685
Cheese, processed, sliced, wrapped	500 g	333	314	345	324	358	340	373	336
Butter	(d) 500 g	184	198	174	167	179	201	193	196
Cereal products									
Bread white loaf, sliced, supermarket sales	680 g	148	153	122	118	124	136	149	144
Biscuits, dry	250 g	131	126	121	126	132	143	146	128
Breakfast cereal, com based	(e) 550 g	269	252	251	271	319	330	284	284
Flour, self raising	2 kg	259	288	230	191	200	221	256	267
Rice, medium grain	1 kg	110	107	104	100	112	114	138	115
Meat and seafoods									
Beef									
Rib, without bone	1 kg	703	638	627	625	589	650	707	665
Rump steak	1 kg	1194	1165	1062	1077	1012	961	1069	993
T-bone steak, with fillet	1 kg	1114	1011	955	1057	988	931	1104	971
Chuck steak	1 kg	629	635	633	648	604	683	713	652
Silverside, corned	1 kg	742	693	642	622	646	663	657	720
Lamb									
Leg	1 kg	522	503	563	447	564	504	565	520
Loin chops	1 kg	630	778	694	615	738	635	695	688
Forequarter chops	1 kg	419	454	471	443	532	429	513	463
Pork									
Leg	1 kg	567	560	585	607	591	696	672	592
Loin chops	1 kg	723	735	779	741	773	823	864	753
Chicken, frozen	1 kg	303	305	297	330	347	367	338	265
Bacon, middle rashers	250 g pkt	254	269	282	281	301	327	312	245
Beef corned	340 g can	254	250	245	229	263	274	257	275
Sausages	1 kg	305	426	416	354	368	407	447	337
Salmon, pink	210 g can	263	271	263	251	271	305	298	287
Fresh fruit and vegetables									
Oranges	1 kg	130	112	128	89	171	136	150	73
Bananas	1 kg	327	285	270	278	238	310	277	335
Potatoes	1 kg	91	87	76	74	112	59	91	69
Tomatoes	1 kg	387	304	303	320	229	365	473	352
Carrots	1 kg	174	130	160	129	95	134	192	175
Onions	1 kg	89	83	97	108	97	94	142	94
Processed fruit and vegetables									
Peaches	825 g can	165	177	169	175	205	199	217	168
Pineapple, sliced	450 g can	83	84	76	80	90	93	105	85
Peas, frozen	500 g pkt	138	134	130	137	147	159	171	124
Confectionery									
Chocolate, milk, block	250 g	217	206	209	197	224	219	242	216
Other food									
Eggs	(f) 55g, 1 dozen	168	182	206	221	189	238	258	167
Sugar, white	2 kg	198	187	200	195	216	226	286	196
Jam, strawberry	500 g jar	221	224	222	204	218	227	239	218
Tea	250 g	182	167	170	152	172	181	183	177
Coffee, instant	150 g jar	446	433	441	416	461	463	459	442
Tomato sauce	600 ml	185	175	169	150	188	173	194	183
Margarine, poly-unsaturated	500 g	145	159	135	138	145	147	178	149
Baked beans, in tomato sauce	440 g	85	85	86	84	92	91	109	82
Baby food	125 g can	49	42	43	40	44	47	51	48
Household supplies and services									
Laundry detergent	1kg	431	439	466	395	486	478	473	413
Dishwashing detergent	1 litre	425	424	411	403	445	438	456	410
Facial tissues	pkt 224	228	218	208	204	220	229	241	218
Toilet paper	4 x 300 sheet rolls	331	319	342	329	336	361	340	323
Pet food	415 g	88	83	84	79	95	95	104	87
Private motoring									
Petrol, super grade	1 litre	68.2	69.1	62.4	65.4	67.7	70.8	72.1	71.6
Alcoholic drinks									
Beer, low alcohol, unchilled	(g)(h) 24 x 375 ml bottles	1881	1964	1938	1686	2092	2226	2213	2092
Beer, full strength, unchilled	12 x 750 ml bottles	2233	2090	1978	2086	2122	2449	n.a	2248
Draught beer, full strength, public bar	285 ml glass	131	155	145	147	163	161	179	146
Draught beer, low alcohol, public bar	285 ml glass	119	131	132	130	160	147	182	137
Scotch nip, public bar	30 ml	240	223	200	268	253	199	239	230
Personal care products									
Toilet soap	2 x 125 g	148	147	144	145	163	161	164	145
Toothpaste	140 g	202	207	207	193	225	224	216	201

(a) Due to a change in the weights used to compile Average Retail Prices from the September quarter 1990 prices for some items are not fully comparable to those published in previous quarters. (b) Sydney 2 x 600 ml bottles. (c) Darwin price relates to blended milk. (d) Sydney, Melbourne and Canberra: 2 x 250g. (e) Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane: 500 g box. (f) Eggs in Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide and Canberra have a minimum net weight of 55 g. Eggs in Brisbane and Hobart have a minimum net weight of 52 g. Eggs in Perth have a minimum net weight of 53 g. Eggs in Darwin have a minimum net weight of 54 g. (g) Alcoholic content of low alcohol beer ranges from 1.5% to 3.8%. (h) Sydney 24 x 345 ml bottles, unchilled. Perth 24 x 375 ml bottles, chilled.

