

CATALOGUE NO. 6403.0

EMBARGOED UNTIL 11.30 AM 13 FEBRUARY 1996

**AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF SELECTED ITEMS
EIGHT CAPITAL CITIES
DECEMBER QUARTER 1995**

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Scope of publication

1. This publication contains average prices for selected items which are included in 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 may also differ from one period to the next due to a change in product specification. Thus *the average prices for some items may not be comparable from city to city, nor from quarter to quarter*. 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, fish, 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 *Release 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.

Information Consultancy Service

7. Information tailored to special needs of clients can be obtained from the Information Consultancy Service available at ABS Offices (see Information Inquiries below for contact details).

National Dial-a-Statistic Line -- 0055 86 400

8. This number gives 24-hour access, 365 days a year for a range of statistics.

Electronic Data Services

9. A large range of data is available via on-line services diskette, magnetic tape, tape cartridge and CD ROM. For more details about our electronic data services, contact any ABS Office.

W. McLennan
Australian Statistician

INQUIRIES

- for further information about statistics in this publication and the availability of related unpublished statistics, contact Cheryl Porter on Canberra (06) 252 5754 or any ABS State office.
- for information about other ABS statistics and ABS services, please contact Information Services on Canberra (06) 252 6627, 252 6007 or any ABS State office.

AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF SELECTED ITEMS, DECEMBER QUARTER 1995
(Cents)

Item	Unit	Sydney	Melb.	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Darwin	Canberra
Dairy products									
Milk, carton, supermarket sales	(a) 1 litre	111	117	112	114	116	120	109	106
Milk, powdered, full cream	750 g	433	452	435	457	438	509	520	456
Cheese, processed, sliced, wrapped	500 g	360	358	385	335	344	372	389	404
Butter	(b) 500 g	170	184	160	165	193	214	207	174
Cereal products									
Bread white loaf, sliced, supermarket sales	680 g	186	164	180	148	166	154	189	179
Biscuits, dry	250 g	149	153	146	153	157	179	178	144
Breakfast cereal, corn based	550 g	324	319	319	324	359	365	351	306
Flour, self raising	2 kg	314	346	217	213	245	274	296	323
Rice, medium grain	1 kg	125	128	123	108	125	135	150	117
Meat and seafoods									
Beef									
Silverside Roast	(c) 1 kg	813	806	831	777	839	727	1148	768
Rump steak	1 kg	1311	1119	1135	1130	1101	1114	1187	1151
T-bone steak, with fillet	1 kg	1209	1078	981	1100	1145	1071	1161	1056
Chuck steak	1 kg	570	621	645	672	655	645	810	592
Silverside, corned	1 kg	729	650	610	642	678	685	619	703
Lamb									
Leg	1 kg	631	554	541	516	554	589	576	556
Loin chops	1 kg	754	830	794	726	819	720	790	751
Forequarter chops	1 kg	460	451	451	514	556	496	546	434
Pork									
Leg	1 kg	581	536	569	593	599	640	718	535
Loin chops	1 kg	818	748	811	764	782	770	859	816
Chicken, frozen	1 kg	280	325	267	331	329	323	358	303
Bacon, middle rashers	250 g pkt	282	290	291	287	318	329	337	267
Beef corned	340 g can	261	265	272	252	257	296	285	288
Sausages	1 kg	351	385	387	366	411	379	406	314
Salmon, pink	210 g can	233	225	236	220	231	269	256	249
Fresh fruit and vegetables									
Oranges	1 kg	217	172	118	105	156	113	171	106
Bananas	1 kg	180	173	148	194	216	199	198	184
Potatoes	1 kg	133	177	151	134	120	93	152	136
Tomatoes	1 kg	338	271	250	367	282	351	426	339
Carrots	1 kg	145	126	91	98	105	126	185	149
Onions	1 kg	181	171	147	192	207	144	246	173
Processed fruit and vegetables									
Peaches	825 g can	184	198	186	185	209	208	233	191
Pineapple, sliced	450 g can	102	90	90	89	106	114	118	102
Peas, frozen	500 g pkt	127	149	133	116	135	157	173	133
Confectionery									
Chocolate, milk, block	250 g	269	262	267	253	257	294	252	280
Other food									
Eggs	(d) 55 g, 1 dozen	245	237	278	230	217	263	279	263
Sugar, white	2 kg	218	205	194	186	220	237	248	219
Jam, strawberry	500 g jar	233	252	228	237	247	279	273	253
Tea	250 g	189	175	176	166	186	203	191	189
Coffee, instant	150 g jar	591	590	600	552	577	644	572	582
Tomato sauce	600 ml	173	197	204	166	192	197	215	179
Margarine, poly-unsaturated	500 g	155	161	154	148	172	169	197	154
Baked beans, in tomato sauce	440 g	94	97	97	89	107	113	111	97
Baby food	125 g can	58	55	54	55	57	65	61	54
Household supplies and services									
Laundry detergent	1 kg	505	473	499	464	475	526	539	487
Dishwashing detergent	1 litre	369	334	337	372	360	395	376	374
Facial tissues	pkt 224	182	186	190	187	188	221	184	205
Toilet paper	4 x 280 sheet rolls	321	333	348	311	331	388	313	338
Pet food	410 g	95	92	99	93	96	113	101	98
Private motoring									
Petrol, super grade	1 litre	71.9	73.0	64.1	74.0	75.7	78.5	77.1	76.1
Petrol, unleaded	1 litre	69.9	71.0	62.1	71.7	73.7	76.5	75.1	74.1
Alcoholic drinks									
Beer, low alcohol, unchilled	(e)(f) 24 x 375 ml bottles	1961	1734	2268	2027	2230	2259	2300	1929
Beer, full strength, unchilled	(f) 24 x 375 ml bottles	2587	2485	2565	2605	2552	2370	3048	2572
Draught beer, full strength, public bar	(g) 285 ml glass	161	175	173	189	202	169	220	165
Draught beer, low alcohol, public bar	(g) 285 ml glass	147	150	161	166	195	143	209	146
Scotch nip, public bar	30 ml	313	266	246	317	374	215	306	288
Personal care products									
Toilet soap	2 x 125 g	164	172	175	167	168	195	186	170
Toothpaste	140 g	230	233	253	235	246	267	243	244

(a) Darwin price relates to blended milk. (b) Sydney, Melbourne and Canberra: 2 x 250 g. (c) Adelaide price relates to blade bolar roast. (d) Eggs in Sydney have a net carton weight of 700 g per dozen. Eggs in 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 50 g. Eggs in Darwin have a minimum net weight of 54 g. (e) Alcoholic content of low alcohol beer ranges from 1.5% to 3.8%. (f) Darwin, chilled. (g) Hobart glass size 225 ml.

