

# **AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF SELECTED ITEMS**

EIGHT CAPITAL  
CITIES

EMBARGO: 11.30AM (CANBERRA TIME) WED 11 FEB 1998

## **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 milk, fresh meat, bread, fish, petrol and alcohol are collected monthly and averaged to obtain quarterly prices. Prices for all other items are collected during the mid month of each quarter (i.e. in August, November, February and May).

5. Commencing with the December quarter 1996, average retail prices are calculated using the geometric mean of the individual observations.

### **Related publications**

6. 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), available on CD-ROM *Statistical Concept Reference Library* (1361.0)

7. Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products* (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 Release Advice are available from any ABS office.

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### **INQUIRIES**

- for further information about statistics in this publication and the availability of related unpublished statistics, contact Sue Lewis on Canberra (02) 6252 5754 or any ABS State office.
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# AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF SELECTED ITEMS, DECEMBER QUARTER 1997 (Cents)

Item	Unit	Sydney	Melb.	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Darwin	Canberra
<b>Dairy products</b>									
Milk, carton, supermarket sales	(a) 1 litre	116	133	118	124	135	125	122	115
Milk, powdered, full cream	750 g	469	474	466	482	483	555	558	485
Cheese, processed, sliced, wrapped	500 g	361	355	367	322	337	392	370	375
Butter	(b) 500 g	174	206	172	167	191	219	202	175
<b>Cereal products</b>									
Bread white loaf, sliced, supermarket sales	680 g	200	188	195	163	187	189	196	198
Biscuits, dry	250 g	154	167	161	153	159	183	176	157
Breakfast cereal, corn based	550 g	308	327	357	302	332	376	333	320
Flour, self raising	2 kg	333	336	264	236	266	252	308	333
Rice, long grain	1 kg	146	148	145	126	168	165	170	152
<b>Meat and seafoods</b>									
<b>Beef</b>									
Silverside Roast	(c) 1 kg	763	774	729	710	748	716	932	731
Rump steak	1 kg	1226	1050	1086	1098	1052	976	1211	1123
T-bone steak, with fillet	1 kg	1123	1009	983	1029	1119	1014	1188	1049
Chuck steak	1 kg	562	573	617	628	614	599	787	552
Silverside, corned	1 kg	618	574	564	590	636	618	594	656
<b>Lamb</b>									
Leg	1 kg	640	501	573	535	579	545	643	541
Loin chops	1 kg	785	861	824	796	864	658	928	812
Forequarter chops	1 kg	469	484	506	575	572	475	608	444
<b>Pork</b>									
Leg	1 kg	576	550	645	618	621	660	723	560
Loin chops	1 kg	866	800	872	788	846	831	863	908
Chicken, frozen	1 kg	363	357	359	351	368	394	386	348
Bacon, middle rashers	250 g pkt	338	308	290	295	351	361	382	296
Beef corned	340 g can	284	285	298	267	274	313	300	289
Sausages	1 kg	336	322	333	351	428	387	357	288
Salmon, pink	210 g can	225	229	233	226	243	269	274	237
<b>Fresh fruit and vegetables</b>									
Oranges	1 kg	254	163	166	102	252	119	248	179
Bananas	1 kg	214	187	177	207	215	214	297	197
Potatoes	1 kg	122	142	114	104	120	83	141	125
Tomatoes	1 kg	244	218	188	311	311	271	340	235
Carrots	1 kg	154	116	106	120	110	139	185	157
Onions	1 kg	143	142	105	165	146	111	178	134
<b>Processed fruit and vegetables</b>									
Peaches	825 g can	189	189	197	185	221	213	227	189
Pineapple, sliced	450 g can	109	99	104	99	115	116	130	109
Peas, frozen	500 g pkt	117	119	128	118	124	143	156	127
<b>Confectionery</b>									
Chocolate, milk, block	250 g	293	289	285	258	283	279	304	279
<b>Other food</b>									
Eggs	(d) 55g, 1 dozen	278	278	278	235	263	284	310	277
Sugar, white	2 kg	206	204	189	183	233	237	246	199
Jam, strawberry	500 g jar	249	248	260	226	251	279	282	235
Tea	250 g	214	210	211	183	231	241	236	206
Coffee, instant	150 g jar	635	633	656	592	656	697	640	642
Tomato sauce	600 ml	169	187	184	164	213	204	220	172
Margarine, poly-unsaturated	500 g	163	128	159	142	149	165	188	154
Baked beans, in tomato sauce	(e) 420 g	93	95	103	92	101	112	106	98
Baby food	120 g can	60	56	64	59	65	69	64	60
<b>Household supplies and services</b>									
Laundry detergent	1 kg	470	473	487	447	479	522	514	492
Dishwashing detergent	500 ml	315	312	352	314	314	357	329	320
Facial tissues	pkt 224	190	184	197	174	195	212	196	187
Toilet paper	(f) 4 x 270 sheet rolls	314	335	362	302	331	372	320	330
Pet food	410 g	104	99	106	96	110	115	101	93
<b>Private motoring</b>									
Petrol, super grade	1 litre	75.4	74.9	68.1	75.0	75.8	81.3	82.6	75.6
Petrol, unleaded	1 litre	73.2	72.8	65.9	72.6	73.7	79.3	80.6	73.4
<b>Alcoholic drinks</b>									
Beer, low alcohol, unchilled	(g) 24 x 375 ml bottles	2041	1621	2336	2082	2392	2264	2323	1873
Beer, full strength, unchilled	(g) (h) 24 x 375 ml bottles	2646	2684	2638	2697	2694	2717	2944	2457
Draught beer, full strength, public bar	(h) (i) 285 ml glass	169	198	182	197	226	183	230	177
Draught beer, low alcohol, public bar	(i) 285 ml glass	154	167	170	172	221	158	216	158
Scotch nip, public bar	30 ml	334	299	256	354	366	259	325	289
<b>Personal care products</b>									
Toilet soap	4 x 125 g	276	260	302	273	276	337	324	267
Toothpaste	140 g	236	224	257	235	239	269	252	233

(a) Darwin price relates to blended milk. (b) Sydney, Melbourne and Canberra: 2 x 250 g. (c) Brisbane and Darwin prices relate to topside roast, 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 weight of 55g. Eggs in Brisbane and Hobart have a minimum net weight of 52 g. Eggs in Perth have a minimum net weight of 50g. Eggs in Darwin have a minimum net weight of 54g. (e) Baked Beans formerly 425 g (f) Previously 4 \* 280 sheet rolls (g) Darwin, chilled. (h) Alcoholic content of full strength beer is greater than 3.9% (i) Hobart glass size 225ml.

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