

## AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF SELECTED ITEMS

EIGHT  
CAPITAL  
CITIES

EMBARGO: 11:30AM (CANBERRA TIME) WED 11 NOV 1998

### NOTES

#### INTRODUCTION

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

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; household 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

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.

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).

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

#### RELATED PUBLICATIONS

Users may also wish to refer to the following publications:

- *Consumer Price Index* (6401.0)
- *A Guide to the Consumer Price Index* (6440.0)
- *The Australian Consumer Price Index: Concepts, Sources & Methods* (6461.0) available on CD-ROM *Statistical Concepts Reference Library* (1361.0).

#### FORTHCOMING ISSUE

The December quarter 1998 issue is expected to be released on 10 February 1999.

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- For further information about these and related statistics, contact Steve Whennan on 02 6252 6251, or any ABS Office.

Item (Unit)	Sydney cents	Melbourne cents	Brisbane cents	Adelaide cents	Perth cents	Hobart cents	Darwin cents	Canberra cents
<b>Dairy products</b>								
Milk, carton, supermarket sales (1 litre) (a)	116	135	119	127	135	126	122	115
Milk, powdered, full cream (750 g)	463	494	478	484	479	587	570	481
Cheese, processed, sliced, wrapped (500 g)	361	362	381	335	332	395	373	367
Butter (500 g) (b)	187	211	162	164	191	211	204	184
<b>Cereal products</b>								
Bread white loaf, sliced, supermarket sales (680 g)	216	201	195	169	205	209	210	210
Biscuits, dry (250 g)	157	167	157	154	154	183	172	158
Breakfast cereal, corn based (550 g)	352	339	337	319	363	379	341	354
Flour, self raising (2 kg)	325	328	271	239	264	259	300	328
Rice, long grain (1 kg)	151	156	153	140	171	173	173	156
<b>Meat and seafoods</b>								
Beef								
Silverside roast (1 kg) (c)	758	758	743	716	799	700	883	720
Rump steak (1 kg)	1 164	1 048	1 070	1 109	1 053	1 031	1 209	1 162
T-bone steak, with fillet (1 kg)	1 108	1 031	968	1 038	1 103	923	1 211	1 084
Chuck steak (1 kg)	592	563	588	631	626	604	790	561
Silverside, corned (1 kg)	626	599	508	629	674	610	639	644
Lamb								
Leg (1 kg)	614	544	601	554	591	554	636	582
Loin chops (1 kg)	765	844	843	788	878	730	919	798
Forequarter chops (1 kg)	442	492	507	551	601	484	624	435
Pork								
Leg (1 kg)	510	524	504	576	616	646	711	564
Loin chops (1 kg)	851	788	822	791	852	818	889	887
Chicken, frozen (1 kg)	332	339	294	367	336	353	390	361
Bacon, middle rashers (250 g pkt)	332	308	314	304	356	379	361	302
Beef corned (340 g can)	276	293	294	276	281	330	297	290
Sausages (1 kg)	319	333	327	369	420	380	388	325
Salmon, pink (210 g can)	252	257	266	257	269	298	275	258
<b>Fresh fruit and vegetables</b>								
Oranges (1 kg)	222	171	158	127	216	141	255	179
Bananas (1 kg)	187	176	150	190	227	195	285	183
Potatoes (1 kg)	108	111	114	62	130	72	108	120
Tomatoes (1kg)	359	301	276	450	346	344	459	344
Carrots (1 kg)	196	181	158	185	121	155	235	203
Onions (1 kg)	187	131	154	175	144	123	208	186
<b>Processed fruit and vegetables</b>								
Peaches (825 g can)	204	183	207	196	212	223	251	199
Pineapple, sliced (450 g can)	114	106	109	105	123	122	122	113
Peas, frozen (500 g pkt)	126	122	123	110	123	153	151	144
<b>Confectionery</b>								
Chocolate, milk, block (250 g)	300	304	293	278	308	314	289	286
<b>Other food</b>								
Eggs (55 g, 1 dozen) (d)	275	290	275	240	260	283	298	272
Sugar, white (2 kg)	234	213	214	210	270	272	241	245
Jam, strawberry (500 g jar)	244	236	230	237	246	281	259	248
Tea (250 g)	243	230	259	214	257	264	268	227
Coffee, instant (150 g jar)	662	608	617	570	583	608	615	591
Tomato sauce (600 ml)	171	182	192	171	206	202	208	176
Margarine, poly-unsaturated (500 g)	183	170	186	161	173	195	208	169
Baked beans, in tomato sauce (420 g)	93	93	95	93	101	107	108	92
Baby food (120 g can)	59	55	60	58	64	69	62	60

AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF SELECTED ITEMS, Sep Qtr 1998 *continued*

	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Darwin	Canberra
Item (Unit)	cents	cents	cents	cents	cents	cents	cents	cents
<b>Household supplies and services</b>								
Laundry detergent (1 kg)	477	478	486	456	475	520	489	477
Dishwashing detergent (500ml)	335	330	338	327	319	357	357	333
Facial tissues (pkt 224)	187	179	197	184	195	213	187	193
Toilet paper (4 x 270 sheet rolls)	330	335	354	319	333	368	322	345
Pet food (400 g)	97	98	95	92	116	117	94	98
<b>Private motoring</b>								
Petrol, super grade (1 litre)	72.6	69.8	61.4	71.0	71.6	77.4	79.2	74.9
Petrol, unleaded (1 litre)	70.3	67.6	59.2	68.6	69.4	75.4	77.2	72.7
<b>Alcoholic drinks</b>								
Beer, low alcohol, unchilled (24 x 375 ml bottles) (e)	2 058	1 668	2 282	2 084	2 381	2 251	2 345	1 921
Beer, full strength, unchilled (24 x 375 ml bottles) (e) (f)	2 665	2 702	2 634	2 688	2 724	2 759	2 870	2 488
Draught beer, full strength, public bar (285 ml glass) (f)	171	195	184	200	230	225	231	178
Draught beer, low alcohol, public bar (285 ml glass)	155	166	174	172	226	197	217	159
Scotch nip, public bar (30 ml)	339	315	264	359	377	265	327	263
<b>Personal care products</b>								
Toilet soap (4 x 125 g)	298	300	301	308	300	342	336	303
Toothpaste (140 g)	238	236	240	249	253	273	244	237

(a) Darwin price relates to blended milk.

(e) Darwin, chilled.

(b) Sydney, Melbourne and Canberra:  
2 x 250 g.(f) Alcoholic content of full strength beer is  
greater than 3.9%.(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 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.

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<i>PHONE</i>	Call 1900 986 400 for the latest statistics on CPI, Labour Force, Earnings, National Accounts, Balance of Payments and other topics. (Call cost is 75c per minute)
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2640300009983

ISSN 0812-5546

RRP \$15.00