

AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF SELECTED ITEMS

EIGHT
CAPITAL
CITIES

EMBARGO: 11:30AM (CANBERRA TIME) WED 12 MAY 2004

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 eleven groups which are in turn divided into subgroups. The items for which average prices are shown in this publication comprise a selection of items from the CPI food group and the following non-food subgroups: household supplies; sport and other recreation; private motoring; alcoholic drinks; and personal care.

AVERAGE PRICES

Prices shown are the geometric means of prices for specified grades, qualities, brands, etc. charged by a number of selected retailers in each city. The items and the retailers have been selected as representative to measure price change over time rather than to measure the average prices of all retail sales of these items in each of the 8 capital cities. Therefore they should be regarded as no more than approximate indicators of price levels for the items concerned. Furthermore, the selected grades, brands, package size, etc. for some items differ between cities and may also differ from one period to the next due to changes in product specifications. For example, potatoes may be priced as washed or brushed, loose or bagged, depending on what is most representative for a particular city. Thus *the average prices for some items may not be completely comparable from city to city, nor from quarter to quarter.*

Changes in the price levels of the items in this publication may differ from those in *Consumer Price Index, Australia* (cat. no. 6401.0) because those indexes are adjusted to take account of changes in the quality of the items priced; no such adjustment is made to the price levels presented in this publication. Details of differences in specifications are provided in footnotes to the table.

Each month prices are collected at regular intervals for milk, butter, bread, fresh meat, fresh fruit and vegetables, margarine, petrol and alcohol and are averaged to obtain quarterly prices. Prices for all other items included in this publication are collected during the mid month of each quarter (i.e. in August, November, February and May).

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

Users may also wish to refer to the following publications:

- *Consumer Price Index, Australia*, cat. no. 6401.0
- *A Guide to the Consumer Price Index, 14th Series*, cat. no. 6440.0
- *Australian Consumer Price Index: Concepts, Sources and Methods*, cat. no. 6461.0.

FORTHCOMING ISSUE

The June quarter 2004 issue is expected to be released on 11 August 2004.

INQUIRIES

- For further information about these and related statistics, contact Steve Whennan on Canberra (02) 6252 6251, or the National Information Service on 1300 135 070

Dennis Trewin
Australian Statistician

Item (Unit)	Sydney cents	Melbourne cents	Brisbane cents	Adelaide cents	Perth cents	Hobart cents	Darwin cents	Canberra cents
Dairy and related products								
Milk (1 litre)	156	158	158	162	172	147	174	145
Cheese, processed, sliced, wrapped (500 g)	409	399	393	353	395	378	425	412
Butter (500 g) (a)	260	252	201	212	222	228	245	244
Bread and cereal products								
Bread, white loaf, sliced (650 g) (b)	246	256	247	239	242	249	276	252
Biscuits, dry (250 g)	181	184	172	185	170	203	202	183
Breakfast cereal, corn based (550 g)	337	320	340	306	294	341	332	319
Flour, self raising (2 kg)	325	351	279	330	391	261	348	369
Rice, long grain (1 kg)	197	208	184	198	207	208	216	198
Meat and seafoods								
Beef								
Silverside roast (1 kg) (c)	1 121	1 066	1 072	978	1 206	1 039	1 158	1 252
Rump steak (1 kg)	1 650	1 603	1 691	1 720	1 683	1 384	1 769	1 785
T-bone steak, with fillet (1 kg)	1 666	1 737	1 619	1 686	1 831	1 609	1 831	1 851
Chuck steak (1 kg)	903	898	870	934	940	928	894	983
Silverside, corned (1 kg)	701	639	635	726	786	686	693	722
Lamb								
Leg (1 kg)	861	854	864	891	910	868	842	884
Loin chops (1 kg)	1 480	1 496	1 476	1 493	1 520	1 366	1 505	1 581
Forequarter chops (1 kg)	815	783	803	862	890	804	855	782
Pork								
Leg (1 kg)	648	675	629	691	816	805	739	758
Loin chops (1 kg)	1 191	1 148	1 148	1 182	1 215	1 159	1 192	1 231
Chicken, frozen (1 kg)	367	407	386	426	410	393	454	393
Bacon, middle rashers (250 g pkt)	393	357	407	359	402	343	446	437
Sausages (1 kg)	577	576	528	581	596	599	505	575
Salmon, pink (210 g can)	234	257	240	246	243	308	269	271
Fresh fruit and vegetables (d)								
Oranges (1 kg)	298	283	251	151	310	239	370	265
Bananas (1 kg)	231	220	183	212	237	225	278	224
Potatoes (1 kg)	153	213	212	124	193	187	242	186
Tomatoes (1 kg)	446	406	443	456	380	486	529	465
Carrots (1 kg)	208	171	174	176	136	167	218	199
Onions (1 kg)	235	222	218	247	171	176	304	221
Processed fruit and vegetables								
Peaches (825 g can)	244	242	237	239	243	265	245	260
Pineapple, sliced (450 g can)	139	143	146	128	143	152	138	140
Peas, frozen (500 g pkt)	162	162	167	137	147	158	175	139
Snacks and confectionery								
Chocolate, milk, block (250 g)	333	357	332	338	354	358	319	352
Other food								
Eggs (1 dozen) (e), (f)	328	313	308	317	383	379	417	327
Sugar, white (2 kg) (f)	203	213	215	198	244	274	229	221
Jam, strawberry (500 g jar)	288	282	266	269	278	298	274	282
Teabags (180 g pkt)	380	373	343	350	347	414	351	397
Coffee, instant (150 g jar)	591	605	558	542	546	621	563	591
Tomato sauce (600 ml)	170	180	176	155	181	202	190	181
Margarine, poly-unsaturated (500 g)	234	234	239	225	233	241	241	239
Baked beans, in tomato sauce (420 g)	115	109	113	112	118	127	128	121
Baby food (120 g can)	73	74	72	73	73	78	73	72

Item (Unit)	Sydney cents	Melbourne cents	Brisbane cents	Adelaide cents	Perth cents	Hobart cents	Darwin cents	Canberra cents
Household supplies								
Laundry detergent (1 kg)	535	513	488	462	452	492	562	512
Dishwashing detergent (500 ml)	322	308	339	312	324	366	320	344
Facial tissues (pkt 180)	210	207	219	205	215	232	223	213
Toilet paper (4 x 250 sheet rolls)	296	303	297	295	309	317	310	310
Pet food (400 g)	95	104	90	97	94	107	101	93
Private motoring								
Petrol, lead replacement (1 litre)	96.1	95.7	88.4	98.1	96.7	101.2	103.4	96.9
Petrol, unleaded (1 litre)	92.1	91.4	84.2	92.9	92.3	97.4	99.9	93.1
Alcoholic drinks								
Beer, low alcohol (24 x 355 ml - 375 ml bottles) (g)	2 369	2 324	2 655	2 419	2 782	2 672	2 839	2 310
Beer, full strength (24 x 375 ml bottles) (h)	3 289	3 364	3 177	3 352	3 355	3 495	3 506	3 323
Draught beer, low alcohol, public bar (285 ml glass) (g)	197	235	209	257	297	241	238	187
Draught beer, full strength, public bar (285 ml glass) (h)	224	269	225	296	308	284	273	215
Scotch nip, public bar (30 ml)	386	403	356	462	457	359	413	328
Personal care								
Toilet soap (4 x 125 g)	260	253	260	250	260	309	295	240

(a) Sydney, Melbourne and Canberra
2 x 250 g.

(b) Hobart 680 g.

(c) Brisbane and Darwin prices relate to
topside roast. Adelaide price relates to
blade bolar roast.

(d) Although presented on a cents per
kilogram basis, the prices for fruit and
vegetables may vary across cities due to the
quantity priced, that is, some items may be
priced as loose while others may be priced
in bags of more than one kilogram.

(e) Eggs in all capital cities have a minimum net
carton weight of 700 g per dozen eggs, except
Adelaide where they have a minimum net
carton weight of 600 g per dozen.

(f) Represents average price of brand name and
generic brand products.

(g) Includes light and mid strength beer with an
alcoholic content equal to or less than 3.5%.

(h) Alcoholic content of full strength beer is
greater than 3.5%.

FOR MORE INFORMATION...

- INTERNET* **www.abs.gov.au** the ABS web site is the best place to start for access to summary data from our latest publications, information about the ABS, advice about upcoming releases, our catalogue, and Australia Now—a statistical profile.
- LIBRARY* A range of ABS publications is available from public and tertiary libraries Australia-wide. Contact your nearest library to determine whether it has the ABS statistics you require, or visit our web site for a list of libraries.
- CPI INFOLINE* For current and historical Consumer Price Index data, call 1902 981 074 (call cost 77c per minute).
- DIAL-A-STATISTIC* For the latest figures for National Accounts, Balance of Payments, Labour Force, Average Weekly Earnings, Estimated Resident Population and the Consumer Price Index call 1900 986 400 (call cost 77c per minute).

INFORMATION SERVICE

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