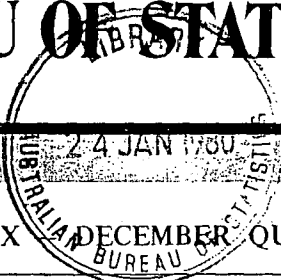


AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS Canberra

CATALOGUE NO. 6401.0

NOON 25 JANUARY 1980



CONSUMER PRICE INDEX DECEMBER QUARTER 1979

INQUIRIES

If you want to know more about these statistics ring Mr Trevor Travers on Canberra 526251 or our State office, or write to Information Services, ABS, P.O. Box 10, Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616.

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MAIN FEATURES

All Groups index	Change between		Group indexes – Weighted average of six State capital cities	Change between	
	Sept. quarter 1979 and Dec. quarter 1979 %	Dec. quarter 1978 and Dec. quarter 1979 %		Sept. quarter 1979 and Dec. quarter 1979 %	Dec. quarter 1978 and Dec. quarter 1979 %
	Weighted average of six State capital cities	+3.0		+10.0	Food
Sydney	+2.9	+10.3	Clothing	+1.5	+ 6.6
Melbourne	+2.8	+10.2	Housing	+2.2	+ 7.2
Brisbane	+3.1	+ 8.6	Household equipment and operation	+2.1	+ 7.4
Adelaide	+3.8	+10.4	Transportation	+3.6	+13.5
Perth	+3.3	+ 9.4	Tobacco and alcohol	+1.2	+ 3.5
Hobart	+2.8	+10.5	Health and personal care	+14.1	+18.9
Canberra	+2.7	+10.5	Recreation	+3.4	+ 8.3
Weighted average of seven capital cities	+3.0	+10.0	All Groups	+3.0	+10.0

Main price changes between September quarter 1979 and December quarter 1979 were as follows :

Food :

- Prices of fresh fruit and vegetables increased significantly in all cities.
- Prices of meals out and take away food increased in all cities.
- Prices of soft drinks, ice cream and confectionery increased in all cities.
- Prices of lamb fell in all cities except Hobart.

Clothing :

- Main price increases were for women's clothing reflecting higher prices for summer seasonal clothing.

Housing :

- Local government authority rates and charges increased in all cities.
- Rents of privately owned dwellings increased in all cities.
- House prices increased in all cities.

Household equipment and operation :

- Electricity charges increased in Melbourne and Adelaide.
- Prices of furniture and floor coverings increased in all cities.

Transportation :

- Petrol prices increased significantly in all cities.
- Urban rail, bus and tram fares increased in Melbourne, urban rail and taxi fares increased in Brisbane and taxi fares increased in Hobart.
- Motor car prices increased in all cities.
- Motor car registration fees decreased in Adelaide.

Tobacco and alcohol :

- Beer prices increased in all cities.
- Cigarette prices increased in all cities.

Health and personal care :

- Prices of hospital and medical services increased significantly in all cities as a result of changes to health insurance arrangements – see Appendix for details.

Recreation :

- Prices of books increased in all cities and newspaper prices increased in all cities except Brisbane and Adelaide.
- Holiday accommodation charges increased for all cities.

R. J. CAMERON
Australian Statistician

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Brief description of the CPI

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) measures quarterly changes in the price of a 'basket' of goods and services which account for a high proportion of expenditures by metropolitan wage and salary earner households. This 'basket' covers a wide range of goods and services, arranged in the following groups: Food; Clothing; Housing; Household equipment and operation; Transportation; Tobacco and alcohol; Health and personal care; and Recreation. Each group is in turn divided into subgroups. Index numbers at the *group* and *All Groups* levels are published for each State capital city and Canberra, for the weighted average of six State capital cities and for the weighted average of seven capital cities. This publication also contains *subgroup index numbers* for the weighted average of six State capital cities.

2. It is important to note that the capital city indexes measure price movements over time *in each city individually*. They do not measure differences in retail price levels between cities.

3. Further information about the CPI is contained in the booklet entitled *A Guide to the Consumer Price Index* which is available from the ABS on request.

Prices

4. Prices of *non-food items* are collected quarterly, usually as at the middle of the mid-month of the quarter. However, to facilitate field collection arrangements, some items (furniture, appliances, television sets, radios, sound equipment, motor vehicle operation, clothing and footwear services and hairdressing) are priced during the first month of each quarter. Items such as local government rates and seasonal clothing are priced annually.

5. The quarterly prices for *food items* used in the index are the averages of prices collected as at the middle of each of the three months of the quarter. In the case of some fresh food items (fruit, vegetables and fish) prices are collected more frequently and averaged to obtain monthly prices.

Weighting pattern

6. There are 105 expenditure classes (that is, groupings of like items) within the current CPI and each expenditure class has its own weight, or measure of relative importance. In calculating the index, price changes for the various expenditure classes are combined using these weights.

7. Changes in the weighting pattern have been made at approximately five-yearly intervals to take account of changes in household spending patterns. The CPI in fact comprises nine series of price indexes which have been linked to form a continuous series. The ninth series (that is, the current series) was introduced as from September quarter 1976 and its weighting pattern is based on estimated expenditures in 1974-75, obtained from the first household expenditure survey conducted by the ABS.

Index points and percentage changes

8. Movements in indexes from one period to another can be expressed either as percentage changes, or as changes in 'index points'. The difference between these two methods of describing movements in indexes is shown by the following example :

All Groups CPI : Weighted average of six State capital cities

Index numbers :

December quarter 1979 :	284.1
Less : September quarter 1979 :	275.8
Change in index points :	+8.3

$$\text{Percentage change} = \frac{+8.3}{275.8} \times 100 = +3.0\%$$

The index number of 284.1 for December quarter 1979 indicates an increase of 184.1% since the reference base year (1966-67).

9. Most of the tables in this publication show index numbers or percentage changes calculated from index numbers. Table 3, on the other hand, shows the main changes between September quarter 1979 and December quarter 1979, in terms of '*All Groups*' *index points*, for each capital city.

Special tables

10. Table 7 provides a *detailed analysis*, for the weighted average of six State capital cities, of movements in the CPI since the previous quarter, including information on movements for subgroups and for some special series. It also shows the *contribution* which each group and subgroup makes to the total index. For instance, the dairy produce subgroup contributed 5.75 index points to the total All Groups index number of 284.1 for December quarter 1979. The final column shows contributions to the *change in All Groups index points* by each group and subgroup.

11. The All Groups index includes the effects of changes in prices for hospital and medical services, for September and December quarters of 1975 (following the introduction of Medibank), for December quarter 1976 (following changes to Medibank) and for December quarters of 1978 and 1979 (following further changes in health insurance arrangements). To facilitate analysis of trends in retail prices without the effects of these changes, Table 5 shows percentage changes for a special series "All Groups excluding hospital and medical services", and compares these with changes in the All Groups index. For further information on the most recent changes see the Appendix to this publication.

Monthly food group index

12. The ABS publication *Consumer Price Index, Monthly Food Group Index, Six State Capital Cities and Canberra* (6402.0) contains monthly index numbers, percentage changes and other data relating to the Food Group of the CPI.

Symbols and other usages

— Nil or less than half the final digit shown.

NOTE. Any discrepancies between totals and sums of components in this publication are due to rounding. For similar reasons quarterly movements shown by subgroup or group index numbers in Table 7 do not necessarily correspond exactly with those shown by the relevant index points.

TABLE 1. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX : ALL GROUPS
PERCENTAGE CHANGES

	<i>Weighted average of six State capital cities</i>	<i>Sydney</i>	<i>Melbourne</i>	<i>Brisbane</i>	<i>Adelaide</i>	<i>Perth</i>	<i>Hobart</i>	<i>Canberra</i>	<i>Weighted average of seven capital cities</i>
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<i>Change from previous year</i>									
1976-77	+13.8	+12.3	+14.3	+14.2	+15.5	+15.7	+14.6	+13.7	+13.8
1977-78	+ 9.5	+ 8.9	+10.0	+ 9.4	+ 9.9	+10.8	+ 9.8	+ 9.1	+ 9.5
1978-79	+ 8.2	+ 8.7	+ 7.8	+ 8.2	+ 7.4	+ 8.1	+ 7.8	+ 8.1	+ 8.2
<i>Change from corresponding quarter of previous year</i>									
1977-78									
December	+ 9.3	+ 8.5	+ 9.9	+ 8.5	+ 9.5	+10.7	+ 9.6	+ 8.9	+ 9.3
March	+ 8.2	+ 7.8	+ 8.2	+ 8.1	+ 8.2	+ 9.5	+ 8.8	+ 8.2	+ 8.2
June	+ 7.9	+ 7.5	+ 8.0	+ 8.2	+ 7.6	+ 8.9	+ 8.3	+ 8.1	+ 7.9
1978-79									
September	+ 7.9	+ 8.1	+ 7.8	+ 8.0	+ 7.2	+ 8.4	+ 7.5	+ 8.0	+ 7.9
December	+ 7.8	+ 8.2	+ 7.3	+ 9.0	+ 6.6	+ 7.5	+ 6.9	+ 7.0	+ 7.7
March	+ 8.2	+ 8.8	+ 8.0	+ 7.8	+ 7.5	+ 7.7	+ 8.0	+ 7.9	+ 8.2
June	+ 8.8	+ 9.8	+ 8.2	+ 8.2	+ 8.2	+ 8.6	+ 8.8	+ 9.4	+ 8.8
1979-80									
September	+ 9.2	+10.0	+ 9.1	+ 8.6	+ 8.2	+ 8.4	+ 9.7	+10.1	+ 9.2
December	+10.0	+10.3	+10.2	+ 8.6	+10.4	+ 9.4	+10.5	+10.5	+10.0
<i>Change from previous quarter</i>									
1977-78									
December	+2.3	+2.5	+2.2	+2.2	+2.3	+3.2	+2.6	+3.2	+2.4
March	+1.3	+1.4	+1.1	+1.8	+0.9	+1.2	+1.1	+1.0	+1.3
June	+2.1	+1.9	+2.5	+1.9	+1.9	+1.8	+2.0	+1.7	+2.1
1978-79									
September	+1.9	+2.1	+1.8	+1.9	+2.0	+2.0	+1.5	+1.9	+1.9
December	+2.3	+2.6	+1.7	+3.1	+1.7	+2.4	+2.1	+2.3	+2.2
March	+1.7	+1.9	+1.8	+0.7	+1.7	+1.3	+2.2	+1.9	+1.7
June	+2.7	+2.8	+2.7	+2.3	+2.5	+2.7	+2.7	+3.0	+2.7
1979-80									
September	+2.3	+2.2	+2.6	+2.3	+2.0	+1.8	+2.5	+2.5	+2.3
December	+3.0	+2.9	+2.8	+3.1	+3.8	+3.3	+2.8	+2.7	+3.0

TABLE 2. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX : ALL GROUPS
INDEX NUMBERS
(Base of each index : Year 1966-67 = 100.0)

	<i>Weighted average of six State capital cities</i>	<i>Sydney</i>	<i>Melbourne</i>	<i>Brisbane</i>	<i>Adelaide</i>	<i>Perth</i>	<i>Hobart</i>	<i>Canberra</i>	<i>Weighted average of seven capital cities</i>
1975-76	193.3	199.0	189.5	190.9	190.5	189.6	190.0	187.3	193.3
1976-77	220.0	223.4	216.6	218.0	220.1	219.4	217.7	212.9	219.9
1977-78	241.0	243.2	238.2	238.4	241.8	243.1	239.1	232.3	240.9
1978-79	260.7	264.4	256.8	258.0	259.7	262.8	257.7	251.1	260.6
Quarter									
1975-76									
December	191.7	196.9	188.4	189.6	188.6	187.7	189.1	186.9	191.7
March	197.4	203.1	193.4	195.6	194.6	193.9	194.2	191.6	197.4
June	202.4	207.6	198.3	200.1	200.4	200.4	200.6	197.7	202.4
1976-77									
September	206.9	211.1	203.2	205.1	205.5	205.4	205.5	201.9	206.8
December	219.3	222.8	215.3	217.8	220.0	219.0	217.2	213.0	219.2
March	224.3	227.4	221.0	222.5	224.7	224.0	221.4	216.5	224.2
June	229.6	232.3	227.0	226.6	230.1	229.3	226.7	220.3	229.4
1977-78									
September	234.1	236.0	231.6	231.3	235.6	234.9	232.0	224.8	233.9
December	239.6	241.8	236.6	236.3	241.0	242.5	238.1	231.9	239.5
March	242.7	245.1	239.2	240.6	243.1	245.3	240.8	234.2	242.5
June	247.7	249.8	245.2	245.2	247.6	249.8	245.5	238.1	247.6
1978-79									
September	252.5	255.0	249.6	249.8	252.6	254.7	249.3	242.7	252.4
December	258.2	261.6	253.9	257.6	256.9	260.8	254.5	248.2	258.0
March	262.6	266.7	258.4	259.3	261.3	264.3	260.0	252.8	262.4
June	269.6	274.3	265.3	265.2	267.9	271.4	267.0	260.5	269.4
1979-80									
September	275.8	280.4	272.2	271.2	273.3	276.2	273.6	267.1	275.7
December	284.1	288.5	279.7	279.7	283.6	285.4	281.2	274.3	283.9

TABLE 3. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX
CHANGE IN INDEX POINTS BETWEEN SEPTEMBER QUARTER 1979 AND DECEMBER QUARTER 1979 (a)

	<i>Weighted average of six State capital cities</i>	<i>Sydney</i>	<i>Melbourne</i>	<i>Brisbane</i>	<i>Adelaide</i>	<i>Perth</i>	<i>Hobart</i>	<i>Canberra</i>	<i>Weighted average of seven capital cities</i>
Food									
Fresh fruit and vegetables	+0.4	+0.4	+0.3	+0.4	+0.3	+0.5	+0.4	+0.3	+0.4
Meals out and take-away food	+0.3	+0.4	+0.3	+0.3	+0.2	+0.4	+0.4	+0.2	+0.3
Soft drinks, ice-cream and confectionery	+0.2	+0.3	+0.2	+0.2	+0.2	+0.2	+0.2	+0.2	+0.2
Cereal products	+0.1	+0.1	+0.1	+0.2	+0.2	+0.1	+0.2	+0.1	+0.1
Dairy produce	+0.1	-	+0.2	+0.2	+0.1	+0.1	-	+0.1	+0.1
Lamb and mutton	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-	-0.1	-0.2	-	-0.1	-0.1
Beef and veal	-0.1	-0.1	-0.2	+0.4	+0.1	-0.5	+0.4	-0.1	-0.1
Other	+0.3	+0.3	+0.3	+0.5	+0.4	+0.2	+0.3	+0.3	+0.3
Clothing									
Women's and girls' clothing	+0.2	+0.2	+0.2	+0.3	+0.2	+0.2	+0.2	+0.2	+0.2
Other	+0.2	+0.2	+0.2	+0.2	+0.3	+0.3	+0.3	+0.2	+0.2
Housing									
Local government rates and charges	+0.3	+0.2	+0.4	+0.4	+0.5	+0.4	+0.3	+0.4	+0.3
Rent - privately owned dwellings	+0.2	+0.4	+0.1	+0.1	+0.1	+0.1	+0.1	-	+0.2
Repairs and maintenance	+0.1	+0.1	+0.1	+0.1	+0.1	+0.1	+0.3	+0.1	+0.1
House price	+0.1	+0.3	-	+0.2	+0.2	+0.1	+0.1	+0.1	+0.1
Household equipment and operation									
Fuel and light	+0.2	-	+0.4	+0.1	+0.4	+0.2	+0.1	+0.2	+0.2
Furniture and floor coverings	+0.1	+0.2	+0.1	+0.1	+0.2	+0.2	+0.1	+0.1	+0.2
Household supplies and services	+0.2	+0.2	+0.2	+0.3	+0.4	+0.2	+0.2	+0.3	+0.2
Other	+0.2	+0.3	+0.1	+0.2	+0.3	+0.3	+0.3	+0.3	+0.2
Transportation									
Petrol	+1.3	+1.5	+0.9	+1.3	+2.3	+1.6	+0.5	+1.4	+1.3
Public transport fares	+0.3	+0.1	+0.6	+0.2	-	-	+0.3	-	+0.3
Motor vehicle purchase	+0.2	+0.1	+0.2	+0.2	+0.2	+0.2	+0.2	+0.2	+0.2
Other	+0.1	-	+0.2	+0.3	-0.6	+0.4	-	-0.2	-
Tobacco and alcohol									
Alcoholic beverages	+0.2	+0.2	+0.1	+0.2	+0.5	+0.2	+0.3	+0.3	+0.2
Cigarettes and tobacco	+0.2	-	+0.3	+0.1	+0.1	+0.1	+0.1	+0.1	+0.2
Health and personal care									
Hospital and medical services	+2.0	+2.0	+1.4	+1.5	+3.1	+3.3	+1.7	+1.8	+1.9
Other	+0.2	+0.1	+0.2	+0.2	+0.2	+0.2	+0.2	+0.1	+0.2
Recreation									
Books, newspapers and magazines	+0.3	+0.4	+0.3	+0.2	+0.2	+0.3	+0.4	+0.3	+0.3
Holiday accommodation	+0.2	+0.2	+0.2	+0.2	+0.2	+0.1	+0.2	+0.2	+0.2
Other recreational services	+0.2	+0.1	+0.4	+0.1	+0.1	-	-	+0.3	+0.2
Other	-	-	-	+0.1	-	+0.1	-	-	-
Total change	+8.3	+8.1	+7.5	+8.5	+10.3	+9.2	+7.6	+7.2	+8.2

(a) See notes about changes in index points in paragraphs 8 and 9.

TABLE 4. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX : GROUP INDEXES
WEIGHTED AVERAGE OF SIX STATE CAPITAL CITIES
PERCENTAGE CHANGES

	Food %	Clothing %	Housing %	Household equipment and operation %	Transporta- tion %	Tobacco and alcohol %	Health and personal care (a) %	Recreation %	All Groups (a) %
<i>Change from previous year</i>									
1976-77	+11.7	+15.7	+13.9	+10.1	+8.9	+8.9	+75.3	(b)	+13.8
1977-78	+10.9	+10.7	+9.1	+8.3	+8.2	+4.4	+19.8	+8.9	+9.5
1978-79	+11.5	+7.3	+6.5	+6.3	+9.4	+15.6	-5.2	+6.4	+8.2
<i>Change from corresponding quarter of previous year</i>									
1977-78									
December	+11.3	+10.5	+9.5	+9.7	+9.4	+4.4	+5.3	+10.8	+9.3
March	+9.9	+10.1	+8.6	+7.5	+8.0	+5.0	+5.5	+8.6	+8.2
June	+9.7	+8.8	+7.7	+7.3	+7.5	+4.0	+10.6	+6.6	+7.9
1978-79									
September	+8.8	+8.4	+6.9	+7.1	+8.1	+3.9	+14.0	+6.8	+7.9
December	+9.9	+7.1	+6.3	+5.9	+8.6	+20.2	-9.4	+6.1	+7.8
March	+12.4	+6.7	+6.3	+6.5	+9.4	+18.4	-10.2	+5.9	+8.2
June	+14.6	+7.2	+6.5	+5.6	+11.5	+19.6	-14.2	+6.9	+8.8
1979-80									
September	+14.8	+7.3	+6.8	+6.6	+13.2	+19.8	-16.1	+6.5	+9.2
December	+13.7	+6.6	+7.2	+7.4	+13.5	+3.5	+18.9	+8.3	+10.0
<i>Change from previous quarter</i>									
1977-78									
December	+2.2	+3.3	+2.4	+2.6	+3.0	+1.4	+1.3	+2.3	+2.3
March	+0.6	+1.1	+1.4	+1.0	+1.6	+1.1	+2.2	+2.0	+1.3
June	+2.8	+2.4	+1.7	+2.1	+1.2	+0.4	+6.1	+1.0	+2.1
1978-79									
September	+3.0	+1.3	+1.2	+1.3	+2.2	+1.0	+3.8	+1.4	+1.9
December	+3.1	+2.2	+1.9	+1.4	+3.4	+17.2	-19.5	+1.6	+2.3
March	+3.0	+0.7	+1.3	+1.6	+2.3	-0.3	+1.2	+1.8	+1.7
June	+4.8	+3.0	+1.9	+1.2	+3.1	+1.4	+1.4	+1.9	+2.7
1979-80									
September	+3.2	+1.3	+1.5	+2.3	+3.8	+1.2	+1.6	+1.0	+2.3
December	+2.1	+1.5	+2.2	+2.1	+3.6	+1.2	+14.1	+3.4	+3.0

(a) Series includes effects of price changes in hospital and medical services; see paragraph 11. (b) New grouping not compiled for quarters prior to September quarter 1976.

TABLE 5. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX
COMPARISON OF 'ALL GROUPS EXCLUDING HOSPITAL AND MEDICAL SERVICES' AND ALL GROUPS INDEX
WEIGHTED AVERAGE OF SIX STATE CAPITAL CITIES : PERCENTAGE CHANGES

	<i>Change from previous quarter</i>		<i>Change from corresponding quarter of previous year</i>	
	<i>All Groups excluding hospital and medical services</i> %	<i>All Groups</i> %	<i>All Groups excluding hospital and medical services</i> %	<i>All Groups</i> %
1975-76				
September	+2.9	+0.8	+13.7	+12.1
December	+6.3	+5.6	+16.7	+14.0
March	+2.9	+3.0	+16.8	+13.4
June	+2.5	+2.5	+15.4	+12.3
1976-77				
September	+2.2	+2.2	+14.6	+13.9
December	+2.8	+6.0	+10.8	+14.4
March	+2.4	+2.3	+10.2	+13.6
June	+2.4	+2.4	+10.2	+13.4
1977-78				
September	+2.1	+2.0	+10.1	+13.1
December	+2.5	+2.3	+9.6	+9.3
March	+1.2	+1.3	+8.4	+8.2
June	+1.8	+2.1	+7.8	+7.9
1978-79				
September	+1.8	+1.9	+7.5	+7.9
December	+3.8	+2.3	+9.0	+7.8
March	+1.7	+1.7	+9.5	+8.2
June	+2.7	+2.7	+10.4	+8.8
1979-80				
September	+2.4	+2.3	+11.0	+9.2
December	+2.3	+3.0	+9.5	+10.0

TABLE 6.
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - GROUP INDEXES

Quarter	Weighted average of six State capital cities	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Canberra	Weighted average of seven capital cities
FOOD (Base of each index : Year 1966-67 = 100.0)									
1977-78									
December	222.1	218.9	220.8	219.9	228.0	233.2	223.3	219.0	222.0
March	223.5	221.5	219.6	225.1	229.7	235.1	225.5	223.1	223.5
June	229.8	226.7	226.6	229.6	236.9	244.7	229.5	229.1	229.8
1978-79									
September	236.6	234.6	233.3	233.7	242.7	250.4	238.4	235.7	236.6
December	244.0	243.0	241.1	240.4	248.7	254.4	245.0	241.7	243.9
March	251.3	250.2	248.5	249.6	254.8	260.5	254.7	251.0	251.3
June	263.4	263.1	260.2	259.2	265.6	275.5	266.9	267.7	263.5
1979-80									
September	271.7	271.3	269.0	267.2	274.1	281.7	275.1	274.0	271.8
December	277.5	277.3	273.8	276.5	280.3	285.1	283.8	279.3	277.5
CLOTHING (Base of each index : Year 1966-67 = 100.0)									
1977-78									
December	256.5	255.8	256.1	254.5	260.2	258.7	255.9	254.1	256.4
March	259.3	257.7	260.4	256.3	262.6	260.7	258.4	251.9	259.2
June	265.6	264.4	266.4	261.8	269.9	265.7	265.5	262.3	265.5
1978-79									
September	269.0	268.0	269.9	263.9	273.2	269.3	269.7	265.5	268.9
December	274.8	274.1	274.4	271.7	280.2	275.8	275.2	270.9	274.7
March	276.6	274.8	276.7	273.9	283.3	277.5	277.3	272.3	276.5
June	284.8	283.4	284.9	281.2	291.5	285.2	286.7	280.8	284.7
1979-80									
September	288.6	287.7	288.8	284.9	294.6	288.2	290.5	284.0	288.5
December	292.9	291.7	292.5	289.4	299.9	294.6	295.8	288.9	292.8
HOUSING (Base of each index : Year 1966-67 = 100.0)									
1977-78									
December	273.2	286.5	261.6	258.1	275.7	270.8	264.0	243.2	272.8
March	276.9	290.5	264.8	265.4	277.4	273.0	267.0	244.1	276.4
June	281.7	297.8	268.8	268.9	279.1	274.9	270.2	244.5	281.1
1978-79									
September	285.2	302.9	271.6	272.4	279.6	276.5	272.0	246.4	284.6
December	290.5	309.3	274.9	276.8	288.3	282.7	277.3	249.1	289.8
March	294.3	315.6	276.4	281.3	291.3	284.4	280.4	251.2	293.5
June	299.9	324.3	281.6	283.3	295.1	285.5	282.6	253.7	299.1
1979-80									
September	304.5	331.8	284.0	288.2	297.6	286.7	285.4	255.0	303.6
December	311.3	339.8	289.3	295.4	306.5	291.9	291.7	260.7	310.4
HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND OPERATION (Base of each index : Year 1966-67 = 100.0)									
1977-78									
December	211.7	219.7	203.3	211.4	206.8	218.5	223.2	199.0	211.5
March	213.8	222.0	205.3	214.4	208.1	220.1	224.6	201.0	213.6
June	218.3	225.7	210.4	221.6	211.9	223.6	227.3	202.9	218.0
1978-79									
September	221.1	227.8	213.1	225.9	214.4	228.3	228.8	206.3	220.8
December	224.2	230.9	216.2	228.0	217.2	232.4	233.4	213.1	224.0
March	227.8	233.5	221.2	229.6	222.2	235.3	238.5	215.3	227.7
June	230.5	236.6	223.5	231.6	224.6	237.7	242.7	218.8	230.3
1979-80									
September	235.7	240.7	230.1	236.5	229.9	241.7	248.1	224.8	235.5
December	240.7	245.2	235.0	240.7	237.4	247.7	251.9	229.0	240.6

TABLE 6.
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - GROUP INDEXES - *continued*

Quarter	Weighted average of six State capital cities	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Canberra	Weighted average of seven capital cities
TRANSPORTATION (Base of each index : Year 1966-67 = 100.0)									
1977-78									
December	239.2	247.8	235.3	232.9	234.2	225.1	240.6	237.1	239.3
March	243.0	251.9	239.6	235.4	236.4	229.0	244.5	238.8	243.1
June	245.9	254.6	242.2	238.7	240.3	231.8	247.9	241.0	245.9
1978-79									
September	251.2	260.4	245.8	245.9	246.5	239.3	247.0	246.4	251.2
December	259.7	268.7	254.5	255.1	253.9	248.0	252.4	252.1	259.7
March	265.8	278.2	259.3	258.9	259.2	250.9	258.7	258.3	265.8
June	274.1	284.6	268.1	268.2	269.3	259.6	268.0	268.1	274.1
1979-80									
September	284.4	294.0	281.3	276.0	277.2	267.0	282.5	282.5	284.6
December	294.7	304.3	291.8	286.7	286.9	277.9	287.7	289.1	294.8
TOBACCO AND ALCOHOL (Base of each index : Year 1966-67 = 100.0)									
1977-78									
December	239.2	245.6	240.1	226.0	233.1	235.6	230.6	225.8	239.0
March	241.9	247.3	243.5	229.1	234.7	240.3	233.2	226.3	241.6
June	242.8	247.2	244.8	231.4	236.1	241.9	235.7	227.7	242.6
1978-79									
September	245.3	250.6	247.1	232.3	237.6	244.3	238.8	228.7	245.1
December	287.5	290.3	284.8	301.9	272.8	286.4	276.0	262.5	287.0
March	286.5	291.7	288.5	275.7	273.4	288.0	278.1	264.0	286.1
June	290.4	298.4	291.0	276.4	275.2	290.2	280.7	268.2	290.0
1979-80									
September	293.9	300.7	295.4	282.7	276.7	295.1	283.1	272.6	293.6
December	297.5	303.0	300.3	285.5	283.3	298.1	287.5	276.5	297.2
HEALTH AND PERSONAL CARE (Base of each index : December quarter 1968 = 100.0)									
1977-78									
December	311.0	285.6	312.3	348.4	324.1	364.4	295.1	306.7	310.7
March	317.8	297.0	316.6	353.1	328.2	367.8	298.9	319.7	317.7
June	337.3	313.2	349.2	369.2	332.3	372.5	324.1	338.6	337.2
1978-79									
September	350.2	323.0	364.3	379.2	354.7	382.9	331.3	350.3	350.1
December	281.9	270.7	284.6	289.0	282.1	316.5	274.2	294.6	282.0
March	285.4	273.0	288.3	294.9	285.3	322.1	280.5	297.1	285.5
June	289.3	277.4	292.2	299.2	287.1	326.3	282.6	301.9	289.4
1979-80									
September	293.8	282.1	297.7	302.4	291.2	327.4	287.6	304.7	293.9
December	335.3	322.9	328.9	338.5	350.8	398.5	324.7	348.2	335.5
RECREATION (Base of each index : September quarter 1976 = 100.0)									
1977-78									
December	112.6	113.1	111.7	113.8	112.6	112.9	109.6	112.8	112.6
March	114.9	114.7	114.7	117.2	114.9	114.5	111.4	114.1	114.9
June	116.0	115.4	116.3	117.6	116.6	115.6	112.6	114.5	116.0
1978-79									
September	117.6	117.0	117.4	120.3	118.6	117.1	115.4	117.2	117.6
December	119.5	118.2	119.5	122.4	121.6	119.4	117.7	119.4	119.5
March	121.7	120.9	121.4	124.1	123.6	122.1	119.6	121.9	121.7
June	124.0	122.7	123.7	126.8	126.4	124.4	122.1	122.8	123.9
1979-80									
September	125.2	124.0	124.6	128.5	127.1	126.8	123.0	124.7	125.2
December	129.4	128.2	129.7	131.8	129.8	129.6	126.6	129.3	129.4

TABLE 7. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - INDEX NUMBERS AND INDEX POINTS CONTRIBUTIONS : WEIGHTED AVERAGE OF SIX STATE CAPITAL CITIES

	Reference base period	Index numbers		Change between		Contribution to total CPI (expressed as All Groups index points)					
		Sept. quarter 1979	Dec. quarter 1979	Sept. 1979 and Dec. 1979 %	Dec. 1978 and Dec. 1979 %	Sept. quarter 1979	Dec. quarter 1979	Sept. quarter and Dec. quarter 1979	Dec. quarter 1979		
FOOD											
Dairy produce	1966-67 = 100.0	271.7	277.5	+2.1	+13.7	61.46	62.77	+1.31			
Cereal products	"	222.7	227.4	+2.1	+6.1	5.63	5.75	+0.12			
Meat and seafoods	"	281.0	286.7	+2.0	+7.9	6.16	6.28	+0.12			
Beef and veal	"	321.5	321.0	-0.2	+37.2	18.41	18.38	-0.03			
Lamb and mutton	"	328.9	326.6	-0.7	+60.3				9.04	-0.06	
Pork	"	335.2	324.0	-3.3	+20.2				2.98	-0.11	
Poultry	"	310.9	314.7	+1.2	+24.2				0.80	+0.01	
Other meat	Dec. qtr 1968 = 100.0	191.6	189.6	-1.0	+6.4				1.34	-0.01	
Fish	1966-67 = 100.0	288.5	294.1	+1.9	+31.2				2.76	+0.05	
Fruit and vegetables	Sept. qtr 1976 = 100.0	153.3	163.9	+6.9	+14.5				1.33	+0.09	
Fresh fruit and vegetables	"	119.9	126.5	+5.5	-8.3	7.21	7.60	+0.39			
Processed fruit and vegetables	"	120.4	129.3	+7.4	-12.2				5.40	+0.38	
Soft drinks, ice cream and confectionery	1966-67 = 100.0	202.4	204.7	+1.1	+3.0				2.20	+0.02	
Menus out and take-away food	"	313.5	325.4	+3.8	+11.6	5.81	6.03	+0.22			
Other food	Sept. qtr 1976 = 100.0	135.2	138.7	+2.6	+12.4	12.32	12.64	+0.32			
		221.3	227.2	+2.7	+8.4	5.93	6.09	+0.16			
CLOTHING											
Men's and boys'	"	288.6	292.9	+1.5	+6.6	27.76	28.18	+0.42			
Women's and girls'	"	269.2	270.5	+0.5	+4.6	7.85	7.89	+0.04			
Piecegoods and other clothing	"	288.1	293.1	+1.7	+5.8	12.43	12.65	+0.22			
Footwear	"	257.9	266.0	+3.1	+12.6	1.59	1.64	+0.05			
Clothing and footwear services (a)	"	328.6	334.7	+1.9	+9.1	4.42	4.50	+0.08			
	"	386.1	393.4	+1.9	+10.8	1.48	1.50	+0.02			
HOUSING											
Rent	"	304.5	311.3	+2.2	+7.2	35.38	36.17	+0.79			
Privately-owned dwellings	"	294.9	299.2	+1.5	+7.5	14.02	14.23	+0.21			
Government-owned dwellings	"	284.7	289.3	+1.6	+7.1				12.61	+0.20	
Home ownership (b)	"	435.0	437.1	+0.5	+11.8				1.61		
Local government rates and charges (c)	"	315.2	323.8	+2.7	+6.9	21.36	21.95	+0.59			
House price, repairs and maintenance	"	382.7	408.6	+6.8	+10.4	4.90			5.23	+0.33	
	"	291.2	295.7	+1.5	+5.9	16.47	16.72	+0.25			
HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND OPERATION											
Fuel and light	"	235.7	240.7	+2.1	+7.4	37.90	38.71	+0.81			
Furniture and floor coverings	"	229.4	237.1	+3.4	+14.1	6.26	6.47	+0.21			
Appliances	"	277.2	282.1	+1.8	+4.9	8.15	8.29	+0.14			
Drapery	"	136.6	138.2	+1.2	+3.4	4.43	4.48	+0.05			
Household utensils and tools	"	314.7	321.6	+2.2	+7.0	3.04	3.11	+0.07			
Household supplies and services (d)	"	251.5	254.7	+1.3	+6.7	4.00	4.06	+0.06			
Postal and telephone services	"	229.5	235.6	+2.7	+10.3	8.78	9.01	+0.23			
	"	253.7	258.1	+1.7	+0.9	3.23	3.29	+0.06			
TRANSPORTATION											
Private transport	"	284.4	294.7	+3.6	+13.5	50.44	52.28	+1.84			
Motor vehicle purchase	"	280.6	290.2	+3.4	+13.4	45.00	46.55	+1.55			
Motor vehicle operation (e)	"	236.8	239.6	+1.2	+6.8				14.31	+0.16	
Public transport fares (f)	"	307.5	321.3	+4.5	+16.5				32.23	+1.38	
	"	258.7	272.3	+5.3	+14.5	5.44	5.73	+0.29			

For footnotes see page 9.

TABLE 7. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - INDEX NUMBERS AND INDEX POINTS CONTRIBUTIONS : WEIGHTED AVERAGE OF SIX STATE CAPITAL CITIES - continued

	Reference base period	Change between				Contribution to total CPI (expressed as All Groups index points)			
		Index numbers		Sept. 1979 and Dec. 1978		Sept. 1979 and Dec. 1979		Sept. 1979 and Dec. 1979	
		Sept. 1979	Dec. 1979	Sept. 1979	Dec. 1978	Sept. 1979	Dec. 1979	Sept. 1979	Dec. 1979
TOBACCO AND ALCOHOL	1966-67 = 100.0	293.9	297.5	+1.2	+3.5	27.56	27.90	+0.34	
Alcoholic beverages	"	284.7	287.6	+1.0	+2.8	19.05	19.24	+0.19	
Beer	"	285.9	288.8	+1.0	+2.4		12.93	13.06	+0.13
Wine and spirits	Dec. qtr 1973 = 100.0	200.7	202.8	+1.0	+3.7		6.12	6.18	+0.06
Cigarettes and tobacco	1966-67 = 100.0	298.8	303.9	+1.7	+5.0	8.51	8.66	+0.15	
HEALTH AND PERSONAL CARE	Dec. qtr 1968 = 100.0	293.8	335.3	+14.1	+18.9	14.86	16.96	+2.10	
Health services (g)	"	299.2	371.9	+24.3	+27.4	8.17	10.15	+1.98	
Personal care products (h)	1966-67 = 100.0	245.3	249.6	+1.8	+7.8	4.70	4.78	+0.08	
Personal care services (i)	"	543.9	553.8	+1.8	+9.6	1.99	2.03	+0.04	
RECREATION	Sept. qtr 1976 = 100.0	125.2	129.4	+3.4	+8.3	20.40	21.08	+0.68	
Books, newspapers, magazines	"	135.4	145.8	+7.7	+14.2	4.00	4.31	+0.31	
Other recreational goods (j)	"	115.2	115.4	+0.2	+3.0	7.67	7.68	+0.01	
Holiday accommodation	"	131.2	139.7	+6.5	+10.3	2.50	2.66	+0.16	
Other recreational services (k)	"	130.3	134.4	+3.1	+10.2	6.24	6.43	+0.19	
ALL GROUPS	1966-67 = 100.0	275.8	284.1	+3.0	+10.0	275.8	284.1	+8.3	
SPECIAL SERIES									
All groups, excluding food group	"	278.5	287.6	+3.3	+9.0	214.32	221.29	+6.97	
All groups, excluding housing group	"	270.9	279.4	+3.1	+10.5	240.40	247.88	+7.48	
All groups, excluding hospital and medical services	"	277.0	283.5	+2.3	+9.5	269.38	275.71	+6.33	
All groups, goods component (l)	"	265.1	271.2	+2.3	+9.8	207.56	212.29	+4.73	
All groups, services component (l)	"	318.9	335.4	+5.2	+10.6	68.22	71.76	+3.54	

(a) Dry cleaning and shoe repairs. (b) Does not include cost of land and interest charges on house purchases. (c) Local government (council) and water and sewerage authority rates and charges. (d) Household cleaning agents and paper products, gardening supplies, stationery, pet food, travel goods, umbrellas, insurance of dwellings and contents, repairs to household goods. (e) Petrol, tyres, tubes, parts, repairs, motor vehicle insurance, registration, driver's licence, motoring organisation fees. (f) Bus, train, rail, taxi and air fares. (g) Medical practitioners' fees (net), hospital charges (net), dental charges, and hospital and medical insurance contributions. (h) Pharmaceuticals, toiletries, cosmetics. (i) Hairdressing services. (j) Television sets, radios, sound equipment, photographic goods, sunglasses, records, cassettes, tapes, sports equipment, bicycles, toys, games, caravans. (k) Cinema and live theatre admission, other entertainment and recreation, spectator admission to sports, other sports services, television hire, photographic services and repairs to television sets. (l) The special series "All groups, goods component" comprises: the Food group (except meals out); Clothing group (except clothing and footwear services); Household group (except insurance of dwellings and contents, repairs to household goods and postal and telephone services); Tobacco and alcohol group; house price; house repair materials; motor vehicle purchase; petrol, tyres, tubes, vehicle replacement parts; personal care products; books, newspapers, magazines; other recreational goods; replacement parts for television sets. The remaining items are classified as "Services".

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX -- DECEMBER QUARTER 1979

HEALTH SERVICES SUBGROUP -- EFFECT OF CHANGES IN HEALTH INSURANCE ARRANGEMENTS

The CPI for December quarter 1979 is affected by price increases for hospital and medical services associated with recent changes to health insurance arrangements. The new arrangements involve:

- increased hospital bed-day charges from 1 September 1979
- reduced Commonwealth medical benefits from 1 September 1979
- increased schedule fees for medical services from 1 November 1979.

These changes resulted in increases in the level of hospital and medical benefits paid by health insurance funds which in turn led to increased fund contribution rates. The reduction in Commonwealth medical benefits also resulted in increases in the net price of medical services for uninsured people. The net price of medical services was also affected in December quarter by increases in doctors' fees.

2. The following table shows the contributions of the various components to the increase in the Health Services subgroup between September and December quarters 1979, expressed in terms of All Groups index points.

CPI HEALTH SERVICES SUBGROUP
(Weighted average of six State capital cities)

	All Groups index points			
	September quarter 1979 (former basis) (a)	September quarter 1979 (new basis) (a)	December quarter 1979	Change between September and December quarters
Hospital and medical services --				
Health insurance fund contributions	5.04	5.46	7.27	+1.81
Net price for medical services	1.36	0.94	1.08	+0.14
Total hospital and medical services	6.40	6.40	8.35	+1.95
Dental services	1.77	1.77	1.81	+0.04
TOTAL HEALTH SERVICES SUBGROUP	8.17	8.17	10.15	+1.98

(a) The relative contributions of the two components of hospital and medical services in September quarter 1979 have changed because the internal combining weights for these components have been adjusted. The new combining weights take account of information, from the Health Insurance Survey conducted by the ABS in March 1979, on proportions of (i) persons covered by health insurance funds, and (ii) persons uninsured, together with information on the extent to which services are consumed by those two groups in the population. Weights remain constant at the CPI expenditure class level and hence there is no change in the relative contributions of the two expenditure classes concerned, that is, "hospital and medical services" and "dental services".

3. The health insurance fund component is measured by pricing commonly-purchased levels of insurance cover for hospital and medical services from major health insurance funds in each capital city. In calculating price movement for health insurance fund contributions, the internal combining weights given to the various health insurance fund tables have been adjusted to reflect information on fund membership from the Health Insurance Survey and from other sources.

4. The net price for medical services component is calculated by taking a representative selection of medical

services (e.g. doctor's consultation), and calculating a net amount for each service from the average fee charged by doctors less the appropriate medical benefit paid, where applicable. In calculating the net amount, an allowance is made for the proportion of services which are bulk billed and hence have a net price of zero. Net prices for hospital accommodation were zero in both quarters, on the assumption that the target population uses standard (public ward) accommodation, or, if they use intermediate (shared) or private ward accommodation in public hospitals, they have corresponding insurance which provides full cover for the charges.

S/T 1980