

## CONSUMER PRICE INDEX – MARCH QUARTER 1978

### INQUIRIES

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### SUMMARY OF RESULTS

All Groups index	Change between –		Group indexes – Weighted average of six State capital cities	Change between –	
	Dec. quarter 1977 and Mar. quarter 1978 %	Mar. quarter 1977 and Mar. quarter 1978 %		Dec. quarter 1977 and Mar. quarter 1978 %	Mar. quarter 1977 and Mar. quarter 1978 %
Weighted average of six State capital cities	+1.3	+8.2	Food	+0.6	+9.9
Sydney	+1.4	+7.8	Clothing	+1.1	+10.1
Melbourne	+1.1	+8.2	Housing	+1.4	+8.6
Brisbane	+1.8	+8.1	Household equipment and operation	+1.0	+7.5
Adelaide	+0.9	+8.2	Transportation	+1.6	+8.0
Perth	+1.2	+9.5	Tobacco and alcohol	+1.1	+5.0
Hobart	+1.1	+8.8	Health and personal care	+2.2	+5.5
Canberra	+1.0	+8.2	Recreation	+2.0	+8.6
Weighted average of seven capital cities	+1.3	+8.2	All Groups	+1.3	+8.2

The increase of 1.3%, for the weighted average of six State capital cities, is the lowest quarterly increase since September quarter 1975.

### MAIN PRICE CHANGES BETWEEN DECEMBER QUARTER 1977 AND MARCH QUARTER 1978

#### Food

- Main increases were for meat; meals out, take-away food; cereal products; and soft drinks, ice cream and confectionery.
- During the quarter bread prices increased in all cities except Hobart and milk prices increased in Brisbane, Perth and Hobart.
- Fruit and vegetable prices fell in all cities except Brisbane.

#### Clothing

- There were increases in all sections of this group.

#### Housing

- House prices increased in all cities except Canberra.
- Private dwelling rents increased in all cities.
- Government dwelling rents increased in Brisbane.

#### Household Equipment and Operation

- Furniture prices increased in all cities.

#### Transportation

- Motor car prices increased in all cities.
- Motor vehicle servicing charges increased in all cities.
- Bus, train and tram fares increased in Melbourne and taxi fares increased in Sydney, Brisbane, Perth and Canberra.
- Increased discounting resulted in falls in petrol prices in Sydney, Brisbane, Adelaide, Perth and Canberra.

#### Tobacco and Alcohol

- Prices of cigarettes and tobacco rose in all cities.
- Beer prices increased in most cities, and especially in Perth.

#### Health and Personal Care

- Health insurance fund contribution rates increased in Sydney and Canberra.

#### Recreation

- Higher charges for entertainment were responsible for most of the increase in this group.

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## 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 sub-groups. 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 bulletin also contains *sub-group 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 current series of the CPI is contained in the Appendix to the December quarter 1976 issue of this bulletin. In addition, a document entitled *List of Expenditure Classes and their Percentage Contributions to the Index Aggregate (Ninth Series)* is available from the ABS on request. An up-to-date detailed description of the CPI will be published shortly. *Labour Report* No. 58, 1973 (Ref. No. 6.7) contains information about earlier series of the CPI.

**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*

March quarter 1978 :	242.7
less December quarter 1977 :	239.6
Change in index points :	3.1

$$\text{Percentage change} = \frac{3.1}{239.6} \times 100 = 1.3\%$$

The index number of 242.7 for March quarter 1978 indicates an increase of 142.7% since the reference base year (1966-67).

9. Most of the tables in this bulletin show index numbers or percentage changes calculated from index numbers. Table 3, on the other hand, shows the main changes between December quarter 1977 and March quarter 1978, 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 sub-groups and for some special groupings. It also shows the *contribution* which each group and sub-group makes to the total index. For instance, the dairy produce sub-group contributed 5.13 index points to the total All Groups index number of 242.7 for March quarter 1978. The final column shows contributions to the *change in All Groups index points* by each group and sub-group.

11. The All Groups index includes the effects of unusual changes in prices for hospital and medical services, for September and December quarters of 1975 (following the introduction of Medibank) and for December quarter 1976 (following changes to Medibank). To facilitate analysis of trends in retail prices without the effects of these unusual changes Table 5 shows percentage changes for a special grouping "All Groups excluding hospital and medical services", and compares these with changes in the All Groups index.

**Monthly food group index**

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

**Other related publications**

13. Users may also wish to refer to the following publications which are available on request :

- . *Average Retail Prices of Selected Food and Grocery Items, Six State Capital Cities and Canberra* (6403.0)
- . *Price Index of Materials Used in Manufacturing Industry* (6411.0)
- . *Price Index of Articles Produced by Manufacturing Industry* (6412.0)
- . *Average Weekly Earnings* (6302.0)

14. All publications produced by the ABS are listed in *Catalogue of Publications 1977* (1101.0) which is available free of charge from any ABS office.

**Symbols used**

.. 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 sub-group 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

	Weighted average of six State capital cities	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Canberra	Weighted average of seven capital cities
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<i>Change from previous year -</i>									
1974-75	+16.7	+16.4	+16.6	+15.5	+17.9	+18.1	+16.9	+15.5	+16.6
1975-76	+13.0	+13.0	+12.9	+13.2	+12.3	+14.1	+14.0	+13.6	+13.0
1976-77	+13.8	+12.3	+14.3	+14.2	+15.5	+15.7	+14.6	+13.7	+13.8
<i>Change from corresponding quarter of previous year -</i>									
1975-76									
March	+13.4	+13.6	+13.2	+14.3	+12.0	+14.2	+14.7	+15.1	+13.4
June	+12.3	+11.9	+12.2	+14.0	+11.8	+13.4	+14.9	+14.1	+12.4
1976-77									
September	+13.9	+12.2	+14.4	+15.0	+15.3	+16.4	+16.8	+16.7	+13.9
December	+14.4	+13.2	+14.3	+14.9	+16.6	+16.7	+14.9	+14.0	+14.3
March	+13.6	+12.0	+14.3	+13.8	+15.5	+15.5	+14.0	+13.0	+13.6
June	+13.4	+11.9	+14.5	+13.2	+14.8	+14.4	+13.0	+11.4	+13.3
1977-78									
September	+13.1	+11.8	+14.0	+12.8	+14.6	+14.4	+12.9	+11.3	+13.1
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
<i>Change from previous quarter -</i>									
1975-76									
March	+3.0	+3.1	+2.7	+3.2	+3.2	+3.3	+2.7	+2.5	+3.0
June	+2.5	+2.2	+2.5	+2.3	+3.0	+3.4	+3.3	+3.2	+2.5
1976-77									
September	+2.2	+1.7	+2.5	+2.5	+2.5	+2.5	+2.4	+2.1	+2.2
December	+6.0	+5.5	+6.0	+6.2	+7.1	+6.6	+5.7	+5.5	+6.0
March	+2.3	+2.1	+2.6	+2.2	+2.1	+2.3	+1.9	+1.6	+2.3
June	+2.4	+2.2	+2.7	+1.8	+2.4	+2.4	+2.4	+1.8	+2.3
1977-78									
September	+2.0	+1.6	+2.0	+2.1	+2.4	+2.4	+2.3	+2.0	+2.0
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

TABLE 2. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX : ALL GROUPS  
INDEX NUMBERS

(Base of each index : Year 1966-67 = 100.0)

	Weighted average of six State capital cities	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Canberra	Weighted average of seven capital cities
1973-74	146.6	151.3	144.0	146.1	143.9	140.6	142.6	142.8	146.6
1974-75	171.1	176.1	167.9	168.7	169.7	166.1	166.7	164.9	171.0
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
Quarter									
1973-74									
March	148.1	152.8	145.2	147.8	145.4	142.1	144.0	145.0	148.0
June	154.1	158.7	151.9	153.1	151.7	147.1	149.9	149.6	154.1
1974-75									
September	162.0	167.0	159.4	161.4	159.4	154.3	157.4	157.4	162.0
December	168.1	173.0	164.6	166.6	166.4	163.6	165.5	162.7	168.0
March	174.1	178.8	170.8	171.1	173.8	169.8	169.3	166.4	174.0
June	180.2	185.5	176.7	175.6	179.3	176.7	174.6	173.2	180.1
1975-76									
September	181.6	188.2	177.7	178.4	178.2	176.5	175.9	173.0	181.5
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

TABLE 3. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX  
CHANGE IN INDEX POINTS BETWEEN DECEMBER QUARTER 1977 AND MARCH QUARTER 1978 (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>
<b>Food</b>									
Cereal products	+0.1	+0.1	+0.2	+0.1	+0.1	+0.1	+0.1	+0.1	+0.1
Meat and seafoods	+0.4	+0.6	+0.2	+0.5	+0.4	+0.1	+0.1	+0.6	+0.4
Fruit and vegetables	-0.5	-0.4	-0.9	+0.2	-0.5	-0.2	-0.3	-0.2	-0.5
Soft drinks, ice cream and confectionery	+0.1	+0.2	+0.1	+0.2	+0.2	+0.1	+0.1	+0.1	+0.1
Meals out, take-away food	+0.2	+0.2	+0.2	+0.2	+0.2	+0.3	+0.2	+0.1	+0.2
Other	..	-0.1	..	..	..	..	+0.2	..	..
<b>Clothing</b>	+0.3	+0.2	+0.5	+0.2	+0.3	+0.2	+0.3	-0.2	+0.3
<b>Housing</b>									
Rents, private	+0.2	+0.2	+0.1	+0.2	+0.1	+0.1	+0.1	..	+0.1
Rents, government	+0.1	..	..	+0.4	..	..	..	..	+0.1
House price, repairs and maintenance	+0.2	+0.2	+0.3	+0.3	+0.1	+0.2	+0.3	+0.1	+0.2
<b>Household equipment and operation</b>									
Furniture and floor coverings	+0.1	+0.1	+0.1	+0.2	+0.1	..	+0.1	+0.2	+0.1
Other	+0.2	+0.3	+0.2	+0.3	+0.1	+0.2	+0.2	+0.2	+0.2
<b>Transportation</b>									
Motor vehicle purchase	+0.4	+0.3	+0.3	+0.4	+0.5	+0.5	+0.3	+0.4	+0.4
Petrol	-0.1	-0.2	..	-0.1	-0.2	..	..	-0.3	-0.1
Motor vehicle service	+0.1	+0.2	+0.1	+0.1	+0.1	+0.2	+0.1	+0.2	+0.1
Public transport fares	+0.2	+0.1	+0.4	+0.1	..	+0.1	..	+0.1	+0.2
Other	+0.1	+0.2	-0.1	..	..	+0.1	+0.4	..	+0.1
<b>Tobacco and alcohol</b>									
Alcoholic beverages	+0.1	..	+0.2	+0.2	..	+0.4	+0.2	..	+0.1
Cigarettes and tobacco	+0.1	+0.1	+0.1	+0.1	+0.1	+0.1	+0.1	+0.1	+0.1
<b>Health and personal care</b>									
Hospital and medical	+0.2	+0.4	..	+0.1	+0.1	..	..	+0.4	+0.2
Other	+0.2	+0.2	+0.2	+0.1	+0.2	+0.2	+0.2	+0.1	+0.2
<b>Recreation</b>									
Entertainment	+0.3	+0.2	+0.3	+0.4	+0.3	+0.2	+0.1	+0.2	+0.3
Other	+0.1	+0.1	+0.2	+0.2	+0.1	+0.1	+0.1	..	+0.1
<b>Total change</b>	<b>+3.1</b>	<b>+3.3</b>	<b>+2.6</b>	<b>+4.3</b>	<b>+2.1</b>	<b>+2.8</b>	<b>+2.7</b>	<b>+2.3</b>	<b>+3.0</b>

(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>									
1974-75	+9.7	+21.0	+18.8	+18.7	+19.4	+17.4	+25.2	(b)	+16.7
1975-76	+9.9	+16.2	+18.0	+15.9	+17.8	+23.9	-18.7	(b)	+13.0
1976-77	+11.7	+15.7	+13.9	+10.1	+8.9	+8.9	+75.3	(b)	+13.8
<i>Change from corresponding quarter of previous year -</i>									
1975-76									
March	+13.6	+15.6	+18.1	+15.6	+17.8	+26.4	-25.0	(b)	+13.4
June	+10.5	+17.2	+16.8	+14.8	+15.5	+26.9	-22.5	(b)	+12.3
1976-77									
September	+12.1	+16.6	+16.2	+14.1	+11.9	+24.4	+3.8	(b)	+13.9
December	+12.8	+16.1	+14.2	+8.2	+7.7	+6.1	+104.7	(b)	+14.4
March	+9.5	+16.3	+13.5	+9.3	+7.8	+4.4	+101.4	(b)	+13.6
June	+12.2	+13.9	+11.8	+9.1	+8.3	+3.4	+94.3	(b)	+13.4
1977-78									
September	+13.1	+13.8	+10.6	+8.7	+7.9	+4.4	+90.2	+10.1	+13.1
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
<i>Change from previous quarter -</i>									
1975-76									
March	+5.0	+1.3	+2.8	+2.0	+2.8	+2.1	+3.7	(b)	+3.0
June	+0.5	+5.8	+4.1	+2.5	+1.2	+2.4	+4.9	(b)	+2.5
1976-77									
September	+3.1	+1.7	+3.1	+1.8	+1.9	+0.1	+2.9	(b)	+2.2
December	+3.8	+6.4	+3.4	+1.6	+1.6	+1.4	+82.9	+1.6	+6.0
March	+1.9	+1.5	+2.2	+3.1	+2.9	+0.5	+2.0	+4.1	+2.3
June	+2.9	+3.6	+2.6	+2.3	+1.6	+1.3	+1.2	+2.8	+2.4
1977-78									
September	+3.8	+1.7	+1.9	+1.4	+1.6	+1.1	+0.7	+1.2	+2.0
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

(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				
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

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
<b>FOOD</b> (Base of each index : Year 1966-67 = 100.0)									
1975-76									
March	185.7	187.7	182.8	187.9	185.9	183.8	181.6	187.5	185.7
June	186.6	187.2	183.3	188.1	189.0	189.6	184.7	187.9	186.6
1976-77									
September	192.3	191.9	189.9	192.1	197.4	194.6	192.0	193.0	192.3
December	199.6	199.5	197.0	199.8	203.8	201.8	200.4	201.8	199.6
March	203.4	202.1	200.8	205.9	207.6	208.2	204.0	203.8	203.4
June	209.4	207.1	207.7	209.1	214.4	217.3	209.7	207.4	209.4
1977-78									
September	217.4	213.2	216.6	215.7	224.3	229.4	218.9	215.3	217.4
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
<b>CLOTHING</b> (Base of each index : Year 1966-67 = 100.0)									
1975-76									
March	202.6	202.6	201.9	201.8	205.0	203.8	202.4	202.7	202.6
June	214.4	213.5	214.3	213.9	217.4	215.9	215.2	215.1	214.5
1976-77									
September	218.1	217.6	217.7	217.1	220.7	219.8	218.5	218.3	218.1
December	232.1	231.3	232.3	230.0	235.8	232.7	231.8	232.2	232.1
March	235.6	234.7	235.6	233.6	240.7	235.5	235.4	235.1	235.6
June	244.1	244.1	243.8	240.7	248.6	243.5	244.1	243.9	244.1
1977-78									
September	248.2	247.7	247.9	245.8	252.0	249.2	248.5	246.4	248.2
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
<b>HOUSING</b> (Base of each index : Year 1966-67 = 100.0)									
1975-76									
March	224.6	236.2	217.5	205.5	228.0	215.8	221.4	198.5	224.2
June	233.9	247.3	226.6	211.3	235.0	224.4	230.1	211.2	233.6
1976-77									
September	241.1	254.5	232.4	225.2	241.3	230.9	235.5	214.7	240.8
December	249.4	262.3	239.1	235.1	252.5	242.9	244.0	226.4	249.2
March	255.0	267.4	245.4	239.4	258.1	249.3	247.7	226.6	254.6
June	261.6	273.8	253.3	244.2	263.3	254.8	252.5	228.4	261.1
1977-78									
September	266.7	279.9	257.1	251.1	268.0	259.1	257.3	229.6	266.1
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
<b>HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND OPERATION</b> (Base of each index : Year 1966-67 = 100.0)									
1975-76									
March	181.9	189.8	173.1	185.5	177.2	187.1	188.7	168.7	181.7
June	186.5	196.0	176.9	189.3	181.4	190.5	192.8	175.3	186.4
1976-77									
September	189.9	198.7	181.0	192.4	184.2	194.2	196.2	178.4	189.7
December	193.0	202.7	184.0	194.8	187.0	195.3	198.5	181.5	192.8
March	198.9	207.7	191.2	199.9	192.7	200.7	203.3	185.6	198.7
June	203.5	212.8	195.9	203.7	196.2	205.3	209.3	190.1	203.3
1977-78									
September	206.4	215.3	197.8	207.8	201.0	209.2	212.8	193.9	206.2
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

TABLE 6. - *continued*  
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
<b>TRANSPORTATION</b>									
(Base of each index : Year 1966-67 = 100.0)									
1975-76									
March	208.7	228.2	196.7	204.1	198.7	188.1	202.8	201.8	208.7
June	211.2	226.4	200.8	210.1	203.1	195.3	209.1	207.0	211.3
1976-77									
September	215.2	225.9	207.9	214.9	207.6	203.4	215.2	211.3	215.3
December	218.6	228.0	212.5	217.6	213.5	204.9	217.7	214.0	218.7
March	225.0	235.3	220.7	221.3	217.7	207.2	223.3	219.1	225.0
June	228.7	237.5	226.0	224.5	223.0	209.4	226.6	222.1	228.7
1977-78									
September	232.3	240.0	229.7	228.0	228.4	213.5	233.2	228.1	232.3
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
<b>TOBACCO AND ALCOHOL</b>									
(Base of each index : Year 1966-67 = 100.0)									
1975-76									
March	220.6	224.1	224.5	207.8	214.2	217.3	212.2	200.8	220.3
June	225.8	232.0	228.1	211.4	219.2	219.8	218.2	203.3	225.4
1976-77									
September	226.1	232.9	225.7	213.4	220.7	223.1	218.9	210.3	225.8
December	229.2	236.4	228.4	216.6	224.7	225.1	220.9	212.0	228.9
March	230.3	236.6	230.5	217.9	225.5	227.5	220.5	214.8	230.1
June	233.4	240.4	232.7	221.8	227.6	229.5	227.6	215.2	233.0
1977-78									
September	236.0	240.6	238.2	223.5	231.4	232.6	229.2	218.1	235.7
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
<b>HEALTH AND PERSONAL CARE</b>									
(Base of each index : December quarter 1968 = 100.0)									
1975-76									
March	149.6	144.2	149.9	167.5	145.2	161.2	141.0	159.2	149.8
June	156.9	150.9	157.9	173.3	153.4	167.5	150.4	166.3	157.0
1976-77									
September	161.5	154.9	163.7	178.5	156.7	172.3	153.4	169.6	161.6
December	295.4	272.1	295.0	329.8	310.2	348.0	277.0	289.4	295.1
March	301.3	278.6	300.5	335.4	313.9	356.3	283.4	294.6	301.0
June	304.9	281.4	305.3	340.7	318.0	355.8	287.3	299.4	304.6
1977-78									
September	307.1	282.8	308.0	343.6	320.8	358.0	292.1	302.2	306.9
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
<b>RECREATION</b>									
(Base of each index : September quarter 1976 = 100.0)									
1976-77									
September	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
December	101.6	102.0	101.2	102.0	101.0	101.4	102.1	102.8	101.6
March	105.8	106.5	105.1	106.2	105.0	105.9	105.4	105.8	105.8
June	108.8	109.2	108.3	108.2	109.0	109.9	106.9	108.5	108.8
1977-78									
September	110.1	110.8	109.3	110.5	109.7	111.0	107.3	110.1	110.1
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

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 Dec. qtr 1977 and Mar. qtr 1978 %		Contribution to total CPI (expressed as All Groups index points)		
		Dec. quarter 1977	Mar. quarter 1978	Dec. qtr 1977	Mar. qtr 1978	Dec. quarter 1977	Mar. quarter 1978	Change between Dec. qtr 1977 and Mar. qtr 1978
<b>FOOD</b>								
Dairy produce	1966-67 = 100.0	222.1	223.5	+0.6	50.24	50.57	+0.33	+0.33
Cereal products	"	200.5	202.8	+1.1	5.07	5.13	+0.06	+0.06
Meat and seafoods	"	249.4	255.6	+2.5	5.47	5.60	+0.13	+0.13
Beef and veal	"	202.0	208.7	+3.3	11.57	11.95	+0.38	+0.38
Lamb and mutton	"	165.7	170.3	+2.8	4.59	4.71	+0.12	+0.12
Pork	"	228.8	251.4	+9.9	2.11	2.32	+0.21	+0.21
Poultry	"	222.3	226.4	+1.8	0.56	0.57	+0.01	+0.01
Other meat	Dec. Qtr 1968 = 100.0	175.2	174.4	-0.5	1.23	1.22	-0.01	-0.01
Fish	1966-67 = 100.0	202.6	205.3	+1.3	1.94	1.96	+0.02	+0.02
Fruit and vegetables	Sept. Qtr 1976 = 100.0	131.7	134.3	+2.0	1.14	1.17	+0.03	+0.03
Fresh fruit and vegetables	"	117.6	109.7	-6.7	7.07	6.59	-0.48	-0.48
Processed fruit and vegetables	"	121.7	108.9	-10.5	5.08	4.54	-0.54	-0.54
Soft drinks, ice cream and confectionery	1966-67 = 100.0	184.8	190.3	+3.0	1.99	2.05	+0.06	+0.06
Meals out, take-away food	"	267.4	274.1	+2.5	4.95	5.08	+0.13	+0.13
Other food	Sept. Qtr 1976 = 100.0	114.4	116.5	+1.8	10.43	10.61	+0.18	+0.18
	1966-67 = 100.0	212.4	209.3	-1.5	5.69	5.61	-0.08	-0.08
<b>CLOTHING</b>								
Men's and boys'	"	256.5	259.3	+1.1	24.67	24.95	+0.28	+0.28
Women's and girls'	"	245.8	247.9	+0.9	7.17	7.23	+0.06	+0.06
Piecegoods and other clothing	"	256.3	257.7	+0.5	11.06	11.12	+0.06	+0.06
Footwear	"	211.0	223.1	+5.7	1.30	1.37	+0.07	+0.07
Clothing and footwear services (a)	"	287.9	293.0	+1.8	3.87	3.94	+0.07	+0.07
	"	333.0	336.0	+0.9	1.27	1.28	+0.01	+0.01
<b>HOUSING</b>								
Rent	"	273.2	276.9	+1.4	31.74	32.17	+0.43	+0.43
Privately-owned dwellings	"	257.6	261.9	+1.7	12.25	12.45	+0.20	+0.20
Government-owned dwellings	"	252.9	256.3	+1.3	11.03	11.18	+0.15	+0.15
Home ownership (b)	"	331.4	345.8	+4.3	1.22	1.28	+0.06	+0.06
Local government rates and charges (c)	"	287.5	290.9	+1.2	19.49	19.72	+0.23	+0.23
House price, repairs and maintenance	"	338.6	338.6	..	4.33	4.33	..	..
	"	268.1	272.2	+1.5	15.16	15.39	+0.23	+0.23
<b>HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND OPERATION</b>								
Fuel and light	"	211.7	213.8	+1.0	34.05	34.39	+0.34	+0.34
Furniture and floor coverings	"	191.3	192.6	+0.7	5.22	5.25	+0.03	+0.03
Appliances	"	256.9	260.6	+1.4	7.55	7.66	+0.11	+0.11
Drapery	"	129.1	130.5	+1.1	4.19	4.23	+0.04	+0.04
Household utensils and tools	"	279.8	283.1	+1.2	2.71	2.74	+0.03	+0.03
Household supplies and services (d)	"	220.0	223.7	+1.7	3.50	3.56	+0.06	+0.06
Postal and telephone services	"	201.8	203.6	+0.9	7.72	7.79	+0.07	+0.07
	"	248.2	247.6	-0.2	3.16	3.15	-0.01	-0.01
<b>TRANSPORTATION</b>								
Private transport	"	239.2	243.0	+1.6	42.43	43.10	+0.67	+0.67
Motor vehicle purchase	"	235.7	238.6	+1.2	37.80	38.27	+0.47	+0.47
Motor vehicle operation (e)	"	213.5	219.4	+2.8	12.76	13.11	+0.35	+0.35
Public transport fares (f)	"	249.6	250.8	+0.5	25.04	25.16	+0.12	+0.12
	"	219.9	229.8	+4.5	4.63	4.83	+0.20	+0.20



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

	Reference base period	Index numbers		Change between Dec. qtr 1977 and Mar. qtr 1978 %	Contribution to total CPI (expressed as All Groups index points)			Change between Dec. qtr 1977 and Mar. qtr 1978
		Dec. quarter 1977	Mar. quarter 1978		Dec. quarter 1977	Mar. quarter 1978	Dec. qtr 1977 and Mar. qtr 1978	
<b>TOBACCO AND ALCOHOL</b>								
Alcoholic beverages	1966-67 = 100.0	239.2	241.9	+1.1	22.43	22.68	+0.25	
Beer	"	230.7	232.6	+0.8	15.44	15.57	+0.13	
Wine and spirits	Dec. Qtr 1973 = 100.0	233.7	235.1	+0.6	10.57	10.63	+0.06	
Cigarettes and tobacco	1966-67 = 100.0	159.7	161.8	+1.3	4.87	4.93	+0.06	
		245.5	249.8	+1.8	6.99	7.12	+0.13	
<b>HEALTH AND PERSONAL CARE</b>								
Health services (g)	Dec. Qtr 1968 = 100.0	311.0	317.8	+2.2	15.73	16.08	+0.35	
Personal care products (h)	"	364.0	371.5	+2.1	9.94	10.14	+0.20	
Personal care services (i)	1966-67 = 100.0	216.5	220.6	+1.9	4.15	4.23	+0.08	
		449.8	465.6	+3.5	1.65	1.71	+0.06	
<b>RECREATION</b>								
Books, newspapers, magazines	Sept. Qtr 1976 = 100.0	112.6	114.9	+2.0	18.35	18.73	+0.38	
Other recreation goods (j)	"	120.7	123.2	+2.1	3.56	3.64	+0.08	
Holiday accommodation	"	106.7	107.5	+0.7	7.10	7.15	+0.05	
Other recreation services (k)	"	119.9	119.3	-0.5	2.28	2.27	-0.01	
	"	112.9	118.3	+4.8	5.40	5.66	+0.26	
<b>ALL GROUPS</b>	1966-67 = 100.0	239.6	242.7	+1.3	239.6	242.7	+3.1	
<b>SPECIAL GROUPINGS</b>								
All groups, excluding food group	"	246.1	249.6	+1.4	189.40	192.10	+2.70	
All groups, excluding housing group and medical services	"	234.3	237.2	+1.2	207.90	210.49	+2.59	
All groups, goods component (l)	"	237.7	240.6	+1.2	231.17	234.01	+2.84	
All groups, services component (l)	"	225.6	228.1	+1.1	176.66	178.56	+1.90	
All groups, services component (l)	"	294.4	299.6	+1.8	62.99	64.10	+1.11	

(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, tram, 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 grouping "All groups, goods component" comprises: the Food group except meals out; Clothing group (except clothing and footwear services); Household equipment and operation 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 recreation goods; replacement parts for television sets. The remaining items are classified as "Services".

