

CATALOGUE NO. 6403.0
EMBARGOED UNTIL 11.30 A.M. 10 MAY 1994

**AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF SELECTED ITEMS
EIGHT CAPITAL CITIES
MARCH QUARTER 1994**

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 thus *the average prices for some items may not be comparable from city to city*. 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 meat, bread, fish, petrol and alcohol are collected monthly and averaged to obtain quarterly prices. Prices for fresh milk are collected at the end of the quarter together with details of price changes during the quarter, and average prices calculated for the quarter. Prices for all other items are collected during the mid month of each quarter (i.e. in August, November, February and May).

Related publications

5. 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)

6. Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products, Australia (1101.0)*. The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a *Publications Advice (1105.0)* which lists publications to be released in the next few days. The Catalogue and Publications Advice are available from any ABS office.

Electronic services

DISCOVERY. Key *656# for selected current economic, social and demographic statistics.

PC AUSSTATS. Thousands of up-to-date time series are available on this ABS on-line service. For further information phone the PC AUSSTATS Help Desk on (06) 252 6017.

PC TELESTATS. This service provides:

- foreign trade statistics tailored to users' requirements. Further information is available on (06) 252 5404.
- text and tables for selected main Economic Indicator publications. Further information is available on (06) 252 5405.

Floppy disk service

Selected ABS statistics are available on floppy disk. Further information is available on (06) 252 6684.

IAN CASTLES
Australian Statistician

INQUIRIES

- for further information about statistics in this publication and the availability of related unpublished statistics, contact Mr Siddhartha De on Canberra (06) 252 6519 or any ABS State office.
- for information about other ABS statistics and ABS services, please contact Information Services on Canberra (06) 252 6627, 252 5402, 252 6007 or any ABS State office.

AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF SELECTED ITEMS, MARCH QUARTER 1994
(Cents)

Item	Unit	Sydney	Melb.	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Darwin	Canberra
Dairy products									
Milk, carton, supermarket sales	(a) 1 litre	101	103	105	97	104	109	94	104
Milk, powdered, full cream	750 g	432	459	424	467	447	513	529	451
Cheese, processed, sliced, wrapped	500 g	372	352	357	333	338	366	389	367
Butter	(b) 500 g	164	180	157	161	160	212	182	170
Cereal products									
Bread white loaf, sliced, supermarket sales	680 g	167	155	145	121	121	153	168	169
Biscuits, dry	250 g	135	138	138	139	144	159	166	134
Breakfast cereal, corn based	550 g	310	308	319	290	349	354	316	319
Flour, self raising	2 kg	275	322	239	183	221	240	273	300
Rice, medium grain	1 kg	114	113	112	106	116	122	137	118
Meat and seafoods									
Beef									
Rib, without bone	1 kg	758	648	605	607	587	628	847	619
Rump steak	1 kg	1270	1092	1139	1104	1040	1090	1234	1122
T-bone steak, with fillet	1 kg	1183	990	1010	1047	1067	1042	1208	1087
Chuck steak	1 kg	635	604	643	617	685	661	761	609
Silverside, corned	1 kg	712	657	649	632	698	675	720	746
Lamb									
Leg	1 kg	601	542	593	521	574	556	618	538
Loin chops	1 kg	719	801	777	658	791	710	796	712
Forequarter chops	1 kg	446	449	507	495	540	506	630	435
Pork									
Leg	1 kg	569	545	560	585	594	708	696	542
Loin chops	1 kg	802	703	802	729	779	816	883	838
Chicken, frozen	1 kg	271	300	287	317	308	359	369	281
Bacon, middle rashers	250 g pkt	276	292	306	293	323	310	349	259
Beef corned	340 g can	244	250	253	234	245	287	263	269
Sausages	1 kg	339	349	452	369	377	397	427	300
Salmon, pink	210 g can	225	229	230	230	239	271	262	240
Fresh fruit and vegetables									
Oranges	1 kg	133	105	113	84	141	101	145	71
Bananas	1 kg	144	148	127	154	177	166	180	148
Potatoes	1 kg	74	85	75	59	101	86	87	63
Tomatoes	1 kg	320	245	278	273	252	347	462	308
Carrots	1 kg	146	114	109	95	90	111	170	140
Onions	1 kg	133	110	108	120	108	153	188	124
Processed fruit and vegetables									
Peaches	825 g can	192	199	203	191	202	214	247	185
Pineapple, sliced	450 g can	83	85	84	83	93	98	103	87
Peas, frozen	500 g pkt	126	128	119	117	147	157	182	124
Confectionery									
Chocolate, milk, block	250 g	241	231	232	230	239	255	244	242
Other food									
Eggs	(c) 55g, 1 dozen	187	199	205	172	190	252	245	190
Sugar, white	2 kg	208	202	198	196	222	237	269	215
Jam, strawberry	500 g jar	239	242	232	227	236	248	263	239
Tea	250 g	178	180	175	166	178	190	194	177
Coffee, instant	150 g jar	434	411	418	389	404	462	459	411
Tomato sauce	600 ml	192	192	187	172	196	207	208	192
Margarine, poly-unsaturated	500 g	144	155	138	138	158	161	181	147
Baked beans, in tomato sauce	440 g	90	96	97	90	100	104	110	89
Baby food	125 g can	55	54	55	53	56	64	60	55
Household supplies and services									
Laundry detergent	1kg	449	467	490	423	472	517	475	457
Dishwashing detergent	1 litre	364	364	347	370	377	398	393	366
Facial tissues	pkt 224	209	197	199	199	199	224	214	206
Toilet paper	4 x 280 sheet rolls	276	284	285	282	301	327	311	286
Pet food	410 g	97	97	95	94	102	107	96	96
Private motoring									
Petrol, leaded	(d) 1 litre	65.5	65.8	58.8	68.9	66.1	73.5	70.6	69.9
Petrol, unleaded	(e) 1 litre	64.9	65.1	58.2	68.2	65.4	73.2	70.1	69.3
Alcoholic drinks									
Beer, low alcohol, unchilled	(f)(g) 24 x 375 ml bottles	2019	1778	2059	1790	1992	2247	2194	2044
Beer, full strength, unchilled	(g) 24 x 375 ml bottles	2501	2374	2344	2450	2253	2600	2914	2431
Draught beer, full strength, public bar	(h) 285 ml glass	148	164	161	170	183	147	200	154
Draught beer, low alcohol, public bar	(h) 285 ml glass	137	140	146	152	176	139	191	146
Scotch nip, public bar	30 ml	282	253	227	311	360	206	277	262
Personal care products									
Toilet soap	2 x 125 g	159	157	146	154	160	177	174	159
Toothpaste	140 g	225	226	230	236	235	246	258	239

(a) Darwin price relates to blended milk. (b) Sydney, Melbourne and Canberra: 2 x 250g. (c) Eggs in Sydney have a net carton weight of 700g per dozen. Eggs in Melbourne, Adelaide and Canberra have a minimum net 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. (d) Description change only, from *super grade* to *leaded*. (e) Introduced this quarter. (f) Alcoholic content of low alcohol beer ranges from 1.5% to 3.8%. (g) Darwin, chilled. (h) Hobart glass size 225 ml.

