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**AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF SELECTED ITEMS
EIGHT CAPITAL CITIES
MARCH QUARTER 1989**

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| PHONE INQUIRIES | ● <i>about these statistics</i> - contact Ms Maree Roy on Canberra (062) 52 5740 or any ABS State office. |
| | ● <i>about other statistics and ABS services</i> - contact Information Services on Canberra (062) 52 5402, 52 6007, 52 6627 or any ABS State office. |
| MAIL INQUIRIES | ● <i>write to Information Services</i> , ABS, P.O. Box 10, Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616 or any ABS State office. |
| ELECTRONIC SERVICES | ● on VIATEL - key *656#. |
| | ● on AUSSTATS - phone (062) 52 6017. |
| | ● on TELESTATS - phone (062) 52 5404. |

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Scope of publication

This publication contains average prices for selected items which are included in the 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 completely comparable from city to city.

4. Prices for fresh fruit and vegetables are collected weekly and averaged to obtain quarterly prices. Prices for fresh meat, bread, 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, 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

Symbols and other usages

n.a. not available

Electronic services

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

AUSSTATS. Thousands of up-to-date time series are available on this ABS on-line service through CSIRONET.

For further information phone the AUSSTATS Help Desk on (062) 52 6017.

TELESTATS. This service provides foreign trade statistics tailored to users' requirements. Further information is available on (062) 52 5404.

Floppy disk service

Selected ABS statistics are available on floppy disk. Further information is available on (062) 52 6684.

IAN CASTLES.
Australian Statistician

AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF SELECTED ITEMS, MARCH QUARTER 1989
(Cents)

Item	Unit	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Canberra	Darwin
Dairy products									
Milk, carton, delivered(a)	1 Litre	108	87	92	83	88	88	82	n.a.
Milk, carton, supermarket sales(b)	1 litre	93	81	91	79	88	88	82	84
Milk, powdered, full cream	1 kg can	566	579	545	545	534	573	579	572
Cheese, processed, sliced, wrapped	500 g	260	277	270	250	289	305	281	297
Butter	500 g	187	200	172	166	177	190	194	197
Cereal products									
Bread, white loaf, sliced, supermarket sales	680 g	129	125	109	101	127	116	132	126
Biscuits, dry	250 g	112	118	104	109	111	127	112	125
Breakfast cereal, corn based	500 g	213	208	200	196	225	241	197	221
Flour, self-raising	2 kg	228	249	197	195	188	204	241	231
Rice, medium grain	1 kg	102	99	95	99	105	118	103	128
Meat and seafoods									
Beef									
Rib, without bone	1 kg	631	595	545	561	561	602	546	631
Rump steak	1 kg	1041	1003	931	966	918	1003	914	982
T-bone steak, with fillet(c)	1 kg	962	858	875	902	873	930	900	957
Chuck steak	1 kg	566	532	566	616	587	644	558	696
Silverside, corned	1 kg	655	620	599	600	591	611	615	608
Lamb									
Leg	1 kg	495	469	506	483	576	445	470	571
Loin chops	1 kg	566	661	634	631	676	566	566	694
Forequarter chops	1 kg	379	392	447	463	526	400	367	483
Pork									
Leg	1 kg	543	540	555	553	585	642	548	618
Loin chops	1 kg	684	689	679	706	715	770	686	748
Chicken, frozen	1 kg	283	309	286	321	334	349	285	341
Bacon, middle rashers	250 g pkt	239	262	245	256	262	281	252	289
Beef, corned	340 g can	210	227	212	198	229	240	225	216
Sausages	1 kg	309	393	402	342	350	373	316	404
Salmon, pink	210 g can	341	348	326	349	357	393	342	373
Fresh fruit and vegetables									
Oranges	1 kg	148	138	152	120	163	189	106	168
Bananas	1 kg	158	152	121	128	181	169	137	141
Potatoes	1 kg	98	102	88	118	121	80	81	121
Tomatoes	1 kg	263	278	219	280	264	344	257	354
Carrots	1 kg	159	122	133	111	102	155	163	172
Onions	1 kg	121	110	121	141	131	152	106	159
Processed fruit and vegetables									
Peaches	825 g can	152	153	154	151	168	168	151	179
Pineapple, sliced	450 g can	76	81	69	75	85	84	76	90
Peas, frozen	500 g pkt	113	127	117	121	121	148	127	148
Confectionery									
Chocolate, milk, block (d)	200 g	172	183	176	169	194	194	187	193
Other food									
Eggs(e)	55 g, 1 dozen	200	183	203	209	180	223	199	248
Sugar, white	2 kg	177	174	162	171	188	186	177	207
Jam, strawberry	500 g jar	181	189	185	176	186	190	185	152
Tea	250 g	150	145	138	141	149	155	148	150
Coffee, instant	150 g jar	485	488	479	451	490	501	467	490
Tomato sauce	600 ml	149	124	132	124	145	138	144	143
Margarine, poly-unsaturated	500 g	130	148	129	131	147	150	133	162
Baked beans, in tomato sauce	440 g	76	78	79	80	83	86	70	92
Baby food	125 g can	41	37	36	36	38	39	40	42
Household supplies and services									
Laundry detergent	1 kg	362	385	361	342	380	418	367	375
Dishwashing detergent	1 litre	377	391	372	366	395	408	360	393
Facial tissues	pkt 224	192	195	182	187	190	208	188	200
Toilet paper	4 x 300 sheet rolls	312	325	320	302	337	357	296	326
Pet food	415 g	78	79	81	76	89	93	74	100
Private motoring									
Petrol, super grade	1 litre	49.2	51.5	48.5	53.6	55.3	61.8	51.6	59.1
Alcoholic drinks									
Beer, low alcohol, unchilled (f)(g)	24 x 375 ml bottle	1550	1793	1879	1647	1802	1841	1835	2174
Beer, full strength, unchilled	12 x 750 ml bottles	1955	1802	1840	1806	1891	2089	1996	n.a.
Draught beer, full strength, public bar	285 ml glass	131	126	122	119	147	137	123	154
Draught beer, low alcohol, public bar (f)	285 ml glass	121	119	111	107	141	125	n.a.	152
Scotch, nip, public bar	30 ml	199	185	177	184	215	158	184	220
Personal care products									
Toilet soap	2 x 125 g	131	135	127	126	140	147	130	141
Toothpaste	140 g	198	199	196	178	214	205	200	211

(a) Sydney 2 x 600ml bottles. (b) Darwin price relates to blended milk. (c) Melbourne and Hobart without fillet. (d) Adelaide, Perth, Hobart and Darwin 250g block. Prices not comparable with previous periods due to change in product specification. (e) Eggs in Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide and Canberra have a minimum net weight of 55g. Eggs in Brisbane and Hobart have a minimum net weight of 52 g. Eggs in Perth have a minimum net weight of 53g. Eggs in Darwin have a minimum net weight of 54 g. (f) Alcoholic content of low alcohol beer ranges from 1.5% to 3.8%. (g) Sydney 24 x 345 ml bottles, unchilled. Perth 24 x 345ml bottles, chilled.



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ISSN 0812-5546