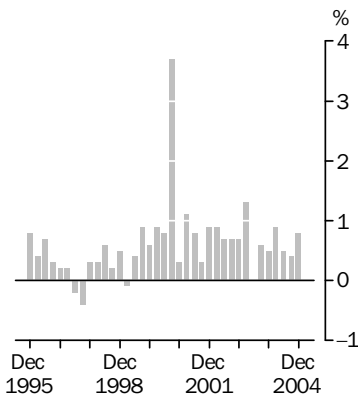


CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

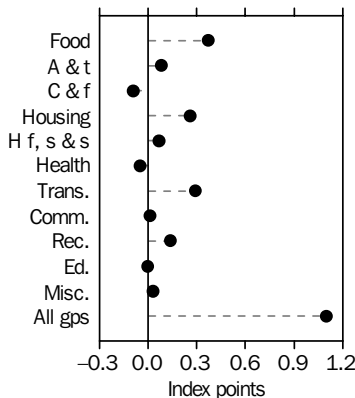
AUSTRALIA

EMBARGO: 11.30AM (CANBERRA TIME) TUES 25 JAN 2005

All Groups
Quarterly change



Contribution to quarterly change
December quarter 2004



KEY FIGURES

**WEIGHTED AVERAGE OF
EIGHT CAPITAL CITIES**

	<i>Sep Qtr 2004 to Dec Qtr 2004</i> % change	<i>Dec Qtr 2003 to Dec Qtr 2004</i> % change
Food	1.4	1.7
Alcohol and tobacco	0.7	3.5
Clothing and footwear	-1.4	-1.9
Housing	0.9	3.9
Household furnishings, supplies and services	0.6	-0.1
Health	-0.6	5.0
Transportation	1.4	4.6
Communication	0.3	1.2
Recreation	0.8	-0.2
Education	0.1	7.7
Miscellaneous	0.5	3.0

All groups

0.8 **2.6**

All groups excluding Housing

0.7 2.3

KEY POINTS

THE ALL GROUPS CPI

- rose 0.8% in the December quarter 2004, compared with 0.4% in the September quarter 2004.
- rose 2.6% through the year to December quarter 2004.

OVERVIEW OF CPI MOVEMENTS

- Contributing most to the overall increase this quarter were rises in house purchase (+1.5%), automotive fuel (+2.5%), fruit (+9.2%), domestic holiday travel and accommodation (+4.3%), motor vehicles (+1.5%), beer (+1.5%), restaurant meals (+1.2%) and rents (+0.5%).
- Partially offsetting these increases were falls in women's outerwear (-3.8%), pharmaceuticals (-4.1%), clothing accessories and jewellery (-2.3%) and toys, games and hobbies (-3.0%).
- Contributing most to the annual increase were rises in automotive fuel (+15.9%), house purchase (+5.2%), hospital and medical services (+6.3%), rents (+2.2%), beer (+4.4%), tertiary education (+8.4%), fruit (+8.5%), restaurant meals (+3.9%) and tobacco (+3.2%). Partially offsetting these increases were falls in motor vehicles (-2.0%), audio, visual and computing equipment (-13.1%), vegetables (-5.9%), overseas holiday travel and accommodation (-2.9%) and women's outerwear (-3.8%).

INQUIRIES

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

NOTES

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

ISSUE (Quarter)

RELEASE DATE

March 2005

27 April 2005

June 2005

27 July 2005



CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

There are no changes in this issue.

ROUNDING

Any discrepancies between totals and sums of components in this publication are due to rounding.

ABBREVIATIONS

ABS Australian Bureau of Statistics

CPI Consumer Price Index

Dennis Trewin

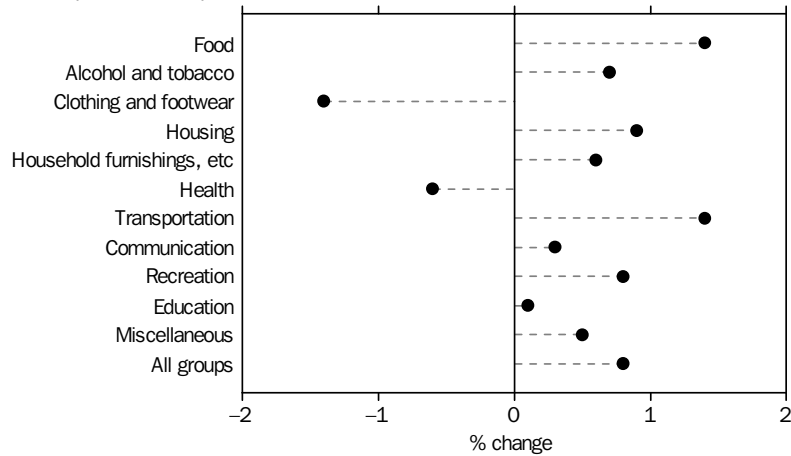
Australian Statistician

ANALYSES AND COMMENTS

MAIN CONTRIBUTORS TO CHANGE

CPI GROUPS

WEIGHTED AVERAGE OF EIGHT CAPITAL CITIES, Percentage change from previous quarter



The discussion of the CPI groups below is ordered in terms of their significance to the change in All groups index points (see tables 6 and 7).

FOOD (+1.4%)

The rise in food prices was mainly due to increases in the price of fruit (+9.2%), restaurant meals (+1.2%), beef and veal (+3.5%), pork (+11.5%), vegetables (+1.8%) and take away and fast foods (+0.6%). These increases were partially offset by a fall in the price of lamb and mutton (-3.0%).

The increase in fruit prices can be largely attributed to reduced supplies of bananas, apples and citrus fruit. Meat prices varied, with beef and veal and pork increasing due to tightening of supplies, while lamb and mutton prices fell with increased lamb numbers presented at sale yards.

Over the twelve months to December quarter 2004, food prices rose 1.7%. The main contributors to the increase were fruit (+8.5%), restaurant meals (+3.9%), take away and fast foods (+2.0%) and soft drinks, waters and juices (+4.5%). Partially offsetting these increases were falls in vegetables (-5.9%), tea, coffee and food drinks (-3.7%) and bread (-0.7%).

TRANSPORTATION (+1.4%)

Prices for all components of transportation rose this quarter with automotive fuel (+2.5%) and motor vehicles (+1.5%) being the main contributors.

Petrol prices rose in August (+5.3%), September (+0.5%) and October (+3.3%) and fell in November (-1.4%) and December (-5.3%). The price of motor vehicles rose mainly as a result of a reduction in bonuses and other incentives offered by dealers. Prices for both locally produced and imported vehicles increased.

Over the twelve months to December quarter 2004, transportation prices rose 4.6%. Increases in automotive fuel (+15.9%), motor vehicle repair and servicing (+3.2%), other motoring charges (+2.8%) and urban transport fares (+2.3%) more than offset a fall in motor vehicles (-2.0%).

ANALYSES AND COMMENTS *continued*

HOUSING (+0.9%)

The rise in housing prices was mainly attributable to increases in house purchase(+1.5%), rents (+0.5%), electricity (+0.5%) and house repairs and maintenance(+0.7%).

The house purchase index rose in all capital cities, driven to a large extent by a general shortage of skilled tradesmen leading to increased labour costs and rising material costs, particularly for steel and roofing materials. The increases ranged from 0.2% in Canberra to 5.2% in Hobart.

Over the twelve months to December quarter 2004, housing prices rose 3.9%. All components of housing rose with house purchase (+5.2%), rents (+2.2%), property rates and charges (+5.2%), electricity (+2.8%), house repairs and maintenance (+2.7%) and gas and other household fuels (+6.4%) being the most significant.

RECREATION (+0.8%)

The rise in the recreation index this quarter was mainly due to increases in domestic holiday travel and accommodation (+4.3%), audio, visual and computing media and services (+1.5%) and sports participation (+1.0%). Falls in toys, games and hobbies (-3.0%), audio, visual and computing equipment (-1.6%) and pets, pet foods and supplies (-1.7%) provided some offsetting price decreases.

The rise in domestic holiday travel and accommodation was due to the seasonal increase in holiday accommodation tariffs and domestic air fares. The fall in toys, games and hobbies reflected pre-Christmas discounting on most toys, board games and video games at department and specialty toy stores.

Over the twelve months to December quarter 2004, the recreation index fell 0.2%. Falls in audio, visual and computing equipment (-13.1%), overseas holiday travel and accommodation (-2.9%) and audio, visual and computing media and services (-2.1%) more than offset increases in other recreational activities (+3.9%), sports participation (+4.7%) and domestic holiday travel and accommodation (+1.4%).

CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR (-1.4%)

Clothing and footwear prices fell this quarter due mainly to decreases in women's outerwear (-3.8%), clothing accessories and jewellery (-2.3%) and men's outerwear (-0.4%). A small rise in children's footwear (+1.2%) provided a partial offsetting increase.

Clothing and footwear prices have fallen in the December quarter of the last two years and reflects, in part, the bringing forward of post-Christmas/New Year sales at department and specialty stores to earlier in December.

Over the twelve months to December quarter 2004, clothing and footwear prices fell 1.9%, with falls in all categories except women's underwear, nightwear and hosiery.

ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO (+0.7%)

Prices for all components of alcohol and tobacco rose this quarter. Beer rose 1.5%; wine 0.3%; spirits 0.7% and tobacco 0.1%.

The increase for beer and spirits was mainly due to the end of some discounting on packaged beer and increases in bar service prices at hotels and clubs.

Over the twelve months to December quarter 2004, alcohol and tobacco prices rose 3.5%. Prices for beer (+4.4%), tobacco (+3.2%), wine (+2.6%) and spirits (+3.5%) all rose.

ANALYSES AND COMMENTS *continued*

HOUSEHOLD FURNISHINGS, SUPPLIES AND SERVICES (+0.6%)

Most categories of household furnishings, supplies and services recorded small price increases this quarter with furniture (+0.8%) and household cleaning agents (+2.3%) being the most significant. A small decrease in small electric household appliances (-2.6%) partially offset this increase.

Over the twelve months to December quarter 2004, household furnishings, supplies and services prices fell 0.1%. Falls in furniture (-1.1%), small electric household appliances (-3.9%), glassware, tableware and household utensils (-3.7%) and towels and linen (-2.8%) were partially offset by increases in other household supplies (+1.9%), household services (+3.3%), household cleaning agents (+2.0%) and floor and window coverings (+1.9%).

HEALTH (-0.6%)

The fall in health costs in the December quarter was due to a fall in the net cost of pharmaceuticals (-4.1%) as a direct result of the cyclical effect of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme safety net, partially offset by small increases in dental services (+1.2%) and optical services (+0.4%).

There was no change in the net cost of hospital and medical services in the December quarter 2004. An increase in general fees for a number medical services was offset by an overall increase in bulk billing ratios for medical services and the negative impact on out-of-hospital medical expenses of the Medicare Plus safety net which was introduced in the March quarter 2004.

Over the twelve months to December quarter 2004, health costs rose 5.0%. Hospital and medical services (+6.3%), dental services (+5.0%) and pharmaceuticals (+1.2%) were the main contributors to this increase.

TRADABLES AND NON-TRADABLES

The non-tradables component (see table 8) of the All groups CPI increased by 0.8% in the December quarter. This component includes goods and services whose prices are determined by domestic price pressures and which represents approximately 55% of the weight of the CPI. Within non-tradables, the services component rose 0.7%, driven largely by increases in domestic holiday travel and accommodation, restaurant meals, rents and house repairs and maintenance. The non-tradables goods component rose 1.0% with house purchase, beer, take away and fast foods and bacon and ham being the main contributors.

The tradables component of the CPI, which includes goods and services whose prices are largely determined on the world market, rose 0.6% in the December quarter. Significant contributors to this increase were automotive fuel, fruit, motor vehicles, beef and veal, pork, vegetables and audio, visual and computing media and services.

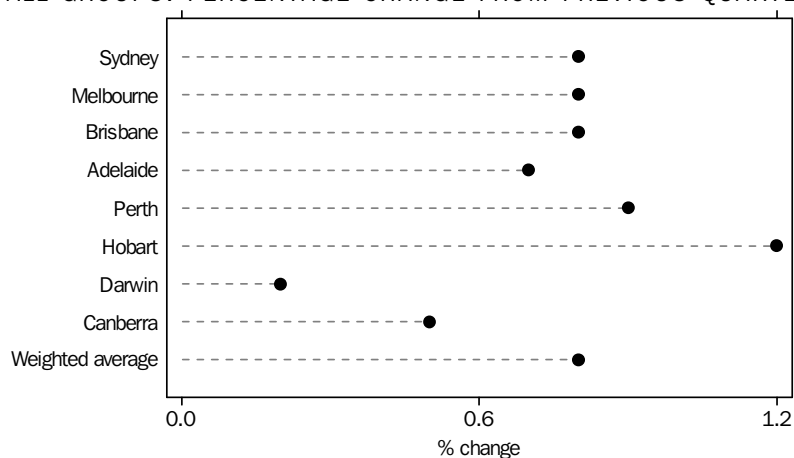
Over the twelve months to December quarter 2004, non-tradables rose 3.5% and tradables rose 1.4%. This compares with increases of 3.6% and 0.7%, respectively, for these components over the twelve months to September quarter 2004.

ANALYSES AND COMMENTS *continued*

CAPITAL CITIES COMPARISON

ALL GROUPS

ALL GROUPS: PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS QUARTER



At the all groups level, the CPI rose in all capital cities in the December quarter 2004. The increases ranged from 0.2% in Darwin to 1.2% in Hobart. The higher result in Hobart was mainly due to that city recording increases in housing and recreation that were well above the national average.

The lower result in Darwin was largely due to that city recording price increases for alcohol and tobacco, transportation and recreation which were well below the national average and the lowest of all eight capital cities.

Over the twelve months to December quarter 2004, the All groups CPI rose in each of the eight capital cities. The increases ranged from 1.9% in Darwin to 3.3% in Hobart.

CPI, All groups index numbers and percentage changes

	INDEX		PERCENTAGE CHANGE	
	NUMBER(a)		
	<i>Dec Qtr 2004</i>		<i>Sep Qtr 2004 to Dec Qtr 2004</i>	<i>Dec Qtr 2003 to Dec Qtr 2004</i>
Sydney	147.3		0.8	2.6
Melbourne	145.3		0.8	2.3
Brisbane	148.0		0.8	2.6
Adelaide	150.0		0.7	2.6
Perth	143.3		0.9	2.9
Hobart	146.7		1.2	3.3
Darwin	141.1		0.2	1.9
Canberra	146.3		0.5	2.4
Weighted average of eight capital cities	146.5		0.8	2.6

(a) Base of each index: 1989–90 = 100.0.

ALL GROUPS, Index numbers(a)

<i>Period</i>	<i>Sydney</i>	<i>Melbourne</i>	<i>Brisbane</i>	<i>Adelaide</i>	<i>Perth</i>	<i>Hobart</i>	<i>Darwin</i>	<i>Canberra</i>	<i>Weighted average of eight capital cities</i>
2000-01	133.2	131.6	132.4	133.5	129.6	132.0	130.9	131.9	132.2
2001-02	137.2	135.3	136.3	137.2	133.1	134.7	133.7	135.2	136.0
2002-03	141.1	139.7	140.7	142.7	136.8	139.1	136.8	139.7	140.2
2003-04	144.1	142.8	144.8	147.0	139.6	142.6	138.7	143.4	143.5
2000									
December	132.2	130.8	131.6	132.5	128.8	131.2	130.6	131.1	131.3
2001									
March	134.0	132.2	132.7	134.1	129.6	132.1	130.7	132.2	132.7
June	135.0	133.0	134.0	135.1	131.4	133.4	132.2	133.4	133.8
September	135.4	133.6	134.2	135.3	131.5	132.8	132.5	133.2	134.2
December	136.6	134.8	135.8	136.6	132.6	133.9	133.5	134.9	135.4
2002									
March	137.9	136.0	137.1	137.7	133.7	135.2	133.8	135.6	136.6
June	138.8	136.9	138.1	139.1	134.6	137.0	135.0	137.2	137.6
September	139.6	137.8	139.2	140.3	135.8	137.5	135.4	138.1	138.5
December	140.4	139.0	139.9	141.5	136.4	138.0	136.2	139.2	139.5
2003									
March	142.1	140.9	141.8	144.6	137.4	140.0	137.5	140.7	141.3
June	142.2	140.9	141.8	144.3	137.4	140.8	137.9	140.7	141.3
September	142.4	141.8	143.3	145.4	138.6	141.1	137.8	141.9	142.1
December	143.6	142.1	144.2	146.2	139.2	142.0	138.5	142.9	142.8
2004									
March	145.0	143.5	145.4	147.7	139.6	143.0	139.0	143.9	144.1
June	145.5	143.9	146.3	148.6	141.0	144.3	139.6	144.8	144.8
September	146.2	144.2	146.8	149.0	142.0	145.0	140.8	145.5	145.4
December	147.3	145.3	148.0	150.0	143.3	146.7	141.1	146.3	146.5

(a) Base of each index: 1989-90 = 100.0.

ALL GROUPS, Percentage changes

<i>Period</i>	<i>Sydney</i>	<i>Melbourne</i>	<i>Brisbane</i>	<i>Adelaide</i>	<i>Perth</i>	<i>Hobart</i>	<i>Darwin</i>	<i>Canberra</i>	<i>Weighted average of eight capital cities</i>
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous financial year)									
2000-01	6.2	6.0	5.9	5.7	5.5	5.8	5.4	6.2	6.0
2001-02	3.0	2.8	2.9	2.8	2.7	2.0	2.1	2.5	2.9
2002-03	2.8	3.3	3.2	4.0	2.8	3.3	2.3	3.3	3.1
2003-04	2.1	2.2	2.9	3.0	2.0	2.5	1.4	2.6	2.4
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from corresponding quarter of previous year)									
2000									
December	6.0	5.9	6.0	5.4	5.0	5.8	5.7	6.0	5.8
2001									
March	6.5	6.0	5.7	5.8	5.3	5.4	5.1	5.8	6.0
June	6.3	5.9	6.0	5.9	6.0	5.5	5.2	6.0	6.0
September	2.9	2.5	2.2	2.3	2.3	1.1	1.9	1.9	2.5
December	3.3	3.1	3.2	3.1	3.0	2.1	2.2	2.9	3.1
2002									
March	2.9	2.9	3.3	2.7	3.2	2.3	2.4	2.6	2.9
June	2.8	2.9	3.1	3.0	2.4	2.7	2.1	2.8	2.8
September	3.1	3.1	3.7	3.7	3.3	3.5	2.2	3.7	3.2
December	2.8	3.1	3.0	3.6	2.9	3.1	2.0	3.2	3.0
2003									
March	3.0	3.6	3.4	5.0	2.8	3.6	2.8	3.8	3.4
June	2.4	2.9	2.7	3.7	2.1	2.8	2.1	2.6	2.7
September	2.0	2.9	2.9	3.6	2.1	2.6	1.8	2.8	2.6
December	2.3	2.2	3.1	3.3	2.1	2.9	1.7	2.7	2.4
2004									
March	2.0	1.8	2.5	2.1	1.6	2.1	1.1	2.3	2.0
June	2.3	2.1	3.2	3.0	2.6	2.5	1.2	2.9	2.5
September	2.7	1.7	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.8	2.2	2.5	2.3
December	2.6	2.3	2.6	2.6	2.9	3.3	1.9	2.4	2.6
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous quarter)									
2000									
December	0.5	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2	-0.1	0.5	0.3	0.3
2001									
March	1.4	1.1	0.8	1.2	0.6	0.7	0.1	0.8	1.1
June	0.7	0.6	1.0	0.7	1.4	1.0	1.1	0.9	0.8
September	0.3	0.5	0.1	0.1	0.1	-0.4	0.2	-0.1	0.3
December	0.9	0.9	1.2	1.0	0.8	0.8	0.8	1.3	0.9
2002									
March	1.0	0.9	1.0	0.8	0.8	1.0	0.2	0.5	0.9
June	0.7	0.7	0.7	1.0	0.7	1.3	0.9	1.2	0.7
September	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.4	0.3	0.7	0.7
December	0.6	0.9	0.5	0.9	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.8	0.7
2003									
March	1.2	1.4	1.4	2.2	0.7	1.4	1.0	1.1	1.3
June	0.1	0.0	0.0	-0.2	0.0	0.6	0.3	0.0	0.0
September	0.1	0.6	1.1	0.8	0.9	0.2	-0.1	0.9	0.6
December	0.8	0.2	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.6	0.5	0.7	0.5
2004									
March	1.0	1.0	0.8	1.0	0.3	0.7	0.4	0.7	0.9
June	0.3	0.3	0.6	0.6	1.0	0.9	0.4	0.6	0.5
September	0.5	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.7	0.5	0.9	0.5	0.4
December	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.9	1.2	0.2	0.5	0.8

CPI GROUPS, Weighted average of eight capital cities—Index numbers(a)

<i>Period</i>	<i>Food</i>	<i>Alcohol and tobacco</i>	<i>Clothing and footwear</i>	<i>Housing</i>	<i>Household furnishings, supplies and services</i>	<i>Health</i>
2000-01	135.6	194.7	112.5	107.9	117.3	164.3
2001-02	142.7	203.1	112.4	111.1	119.7	169.9
2002-03	147.9	208.9	113.3	115.1	121.0	181.5
2003-04	152.3	217.8	112.7	120.2	121.1	193.9
2000						
December	133.4	192.1	113.1	107.7	116.3	161.9
2001						
March	137.6	197.1	110.7	108.2	117.2	166.4
June	138.8	199.4	112.5	108.4	119.3	166.7
September	139.8	201.5	111.1	110.0	118.9	166.5
December	143.4	201.8	112.7	110.7	120.3	166.1
2002						
March	144.2	203.9	112.2	111.5	119.4	171.1
June	143.5	205.0	113.7	112.2	120.3	175.9
September	145.0	207.3	113.0	113.7	120.5	176.4
December	147.0	207.3	114.0	114.2	121.6	177.1
2003						
March	149.8	209.9	112.4	115.7	120.4	183.5
June	149.8	211.2	113.7	116.8	121.4	189.1
September	149.3	215.2	113.3	118.9	121.5	189.1
December	152.0	216.5	113.1	119.6	121.4	189.4
2004						
March	154.7	218.8	111.5	120.7	120.7	195.5
June	153.3	220.5	112.7	121.5	120.7	201.6
September	152.4	222.5	112.5	123.2	120.6	200.1
December	154.6	224.0	110.9	124.3	121.3	198.8

(a) Base of each index: 1989-90 = 100.0.

<i>Period</i>	<i>Transportation</i>	<i>Communication</i>	<i>Recreation</i>	<i>Education</i>	<i>Miscellaneous</i>	<i>All groups</i>
2000-01	137.0	104.7	124.6	191.4	166.0	132.2
2001-02	137.3	105.2	128.6	200.0	171.8	136.0
2002-03	140.6	108.5	131.9	210.0	178.6	140.2
2003-04	142.0	110.0	130.0	223.3	183.4	143.5
2000						
December	136.4	104.9	124.6	187.5	165.0	131.3
2001						
March	136.7	104.4	124.5	195.4	166.7	132.7
June	139.4	103.8	124.3	195.4	168.7	133.8
September	137.0	103.6	125.4	195.4	170.4	134.2
December	136.1	105.4	127.5	195.5	170.6	135.4
2002						
March	136.8	105.5	130.4	204.6	172.8	136.6
June	139.3	106.3	131.1	204.6	173.5	137.6
September	138.8	107.9	131.8	205.0	177.4	138.5
December	140.3	108.4	131.9	205.3	178.0	139.5
2003						
March	143.7	108.8	132.4	214.7	179.2	141.3
June	139.4	108.9	131.5	214.8	179.6	141.3
September	141.3	109.7	130.0	215.1	182.2	142.1
December	140.7	109.9	131.1	215.1	182.2	142.8
2004						
March	141.7	110.0	129.7	231.4	184.5	144.1
June	144.1	110.4	129.3	231.5	184.5	144.8
September	145.2	110.9	129.9	231.5	186.8	145.4
December	147.2	111.2	130.9	231.7	187.7	146.5

(a) Base of each index: 1989-90 = 100.0.

CPI GROUPS, Weighted average of eight capital cities—Percentage changes

<i>Period</i>	<i>Food</i>	<i>Alcohol and tobacco</i>	<i>Clothing and footwear</i>	<i>Housing</i>	<i>Household furnishings, supplies and services</i>	<i>Health</i>
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous financial year)						
2000-01	5.0	11.1	6.6	8.0	3.5	3.5
2001-02	5.2	4.3	-0.1	3.0	2.0	3.4
2002-03	3.6	2.9	0.8	3.6	1.1	6.8
2003-04	3.0	4.3	-0.5	4.4	0.1	6.8
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from corresponding quarter of previous year)						
2000						
December	3.5	10.3	7.5	8.1	2.6	3.5
2001						
March	6.6	11.3	5.6	7.4	3.9	3.9
June	6.6	11.6	6.4	7.1	4.6	3.3
September	5.6	5.9	-2.1	2.4	2.1	2.7
December	7.5	5.0	-0.4	2.8	3.4	2.6
2002						
March	4.8	3.5	1.4	3.0	1.9	2.8
June	3.4	2.8	1.1	3.5	0.8	5.5
September	3.7	2.9	1.7	3.4	1.3	5.9
December	2.5	2.7	1.2	3.2	1.1	6.6
2003						
March	3.9	2.9	0.2	3.8	0.8	7.2
June	4.4	3.0	0.0	4.1	0.9	7.5
September	3.0	3.8	0.3	4.6	0.8	7.2
December	3.4	4.4	-0.8	4.7	-0.2	6.9
2004						
March	3.3	4.2	-0.8	4.3	0.2	6.5
June	2.3	4.4	-0.9	4.0	-0.6	6.6
September	2.1	3.4	-0.7	3.6	-0.7	5.8
December	1.7	3.5	-1.9	3.9	-0.1	5.0
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous quarter)						
2000						
December	0.8	1.0	-0.4	0.3	-0.1	-0.1
2001						
March	3.1	2.6	-2.1	0.5	0.8	2.8
June	0.9	1.2	1.6	0.2	1.8	0.2
September	0.7	1.1	-1.2	1.5	-0.3	-0.1
December	2.6	0.1	1.4	0.6	1.2	-0.2
2002						
March	0.6	1.0	-0.4	0.7	-0.7	3.0
June	-0.5	0.5	1.3	0.6	0.8	2.8
September	1.0	1.1	-0.6	1.3	0.2	0.3
December	1.4	0.0	0.9	0.4	0.9	0.4
2003						
March	1.9	1.3	-1.4	1.3	-1.0	3.6
June	0.0	0.6	1.2	1.0	0.8	3.1
September	-0.3	1.9	-0.4	1.8	0.1	0.0
December	1.8	0.6	-0.2	0.6	-0.1	0.2
2004						
March	1.8	1.1	-1.4	0.9	-0.6	3.2
June	-0.9	0.8	1.1	0.7	0.0	3.1
September	-0.6	0.9	-0.2	1.4	-0.1	-0.7
December	1.4	0.7	-1.4	0.9	0.6	-0.6

<i>Period</i>	<i>Transportation</i>	<i>Communication</i>	<i>Recreation</i>	<i>Education</i>	<i>Miscellaneous</i>	<i>All groups</i>
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous financial year)						
2000-01	6.3	7.1	3.5	4.9	8.4	6.0
2001-02	0.2	0.5	3.2	4.5	3.5	2.9
2002-03	2.4	3.1	2.6	5.0	4.0	3.1
2003-04	1.0	1.4	-1.4	6.3	2.7	2.4
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from corresponding quarter of previous year)						
2000						
December	7.9	7.8	3.0	5.5	9.9	5.8
2001						
March	5.1	7.1	3.6	4.5	7.3	6.0
June	5.5	5.1	3.6	4.5	5.2	6.0
September	1.0	-1.9	0.5	4.3	4.2	2.5
December	-0.2	0.5	2.3	4.3	3.4	3.1
2002						
March	0.1	1.1	4.7	4.7	3.7	2.9
June	-0.1	2.4	5.5	4.7	2.8	2.8
September	1.3	4.2	5.1	4.9	4.1	3.2
December	3.1	2.8	3.5	5.0	4.3	3.0
2003						
March	5.0	3.1	1.5	4.9	3.7	3.4
June	0.1	2.4	0.3	5.0	3.5	2.7
September	1.8	1.7	-1.4	4.9	2.7	2.6
December	0.3	1.4	-0.6	4.8	2.4	2.4
2004						
March	-1.4	1.1	-2.0	7.8	3.0	2.0
June	3.4	1.4	-1.7	7.8	2.7	2.5
September	2.8	1.1	-0.1	7.6	2.5	2.3
December	4.6	1.2	-0.2	7.7	3.0	2.6
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous quarter)						
2000						
December	0.6	-0.7	-0.2	0.1	0.9	0.3
2001						
March	0.2	-0.5	-0.1	4.2	1.0	1.1
June	2.0	-0.6	-0.2	0.0	1.2	0.8
September	-1.7	-0.2	0.9	0.0	1.0	0.3
December	-0.7	1.7	1.7	0.1	0.1	0.9
2002						
March	0.5	0.1	2.3	4.7	1.3	0.9
June	1.8	0.8	0.5	0.0	0.4	0.7
September	-0.4	1.5	0.5	0.2	2.2	0.7
December	1.1	0.5	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.7
2003						
March	2.4	0.4	0.4	4.6	0.7	1.3
June	-3.0	0.1	-0.7	0.0	0.2	0.0
September	1.4	0.7	-1.1	0.1	1.4	0.6
December	-0.4	0.2	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.5
2004						
March	0.7	0.1	-1.1	7.6	1.3	0.9
June	1.7	0.4	-0.3	0.0	0.0	0.5
September	0.8	0.5	0.5	0.0	1.2	0.4
December	1.4	0.3	0.8	0.1	0.5	0.8

Quarters	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Darwin	Canberra	Weighted average of eight capital cities
FOOD									
2002									
December	147.7	146.7	147.1	148.1	145.5	143.0	140.6	150.9	147.0
2003									
March	150.4	148.9	151.9	151.9	147.8	146.0	144.5	152.1	149.8
June	150.3	149.1	151.1	151.9	148.7	146.5	145.5	152.1	149.8
September	148.9	149.0	150.5	152.8	148.7	146.4	146.0	152.2	149.3
December	152.6	151.8	153.0	153.8	149.2	147.7	147.1	155.0	152.0
2004									
March	155.8	154.5	155.7	157.0	150.4	149.1	149.1	158.4	154.7
June	153.8	152.9	153.3	156.7	151.3	149.8	148.4	157.4	153.3
September	152.8	151.5	152.5	155.8	151.8	148.4	148.0	156.4	152.4
December	155.3	153.3	155.5	158.8	152.8	150.7	149.6	158.4	154.6
ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO									
2002									
December	210.4	208.7	206.0	213.3	196.4	196.3	201.7	195.6	207.3
2003									
March	213.7	210.8	208.1	216.0	198.8	198.9	202.3	197.5	209.9
June	215.1	212.2	208.2	216.8	200.0	203.3	205.5	199.5	211.2
September	219.5	217.2	211.3	220.0	202.8	206.5	206.5	201.5	215.2
December	221.4	217.6	212.4	222.3	204.2	208.9	208.0	203.4	216.5
2004									
March	224.5	219.9	215.2	224.7	204.1	210.0	210.8	206.2	218.8
June	226.7	220.7	217.4	227.7	205.2	210.7	211.5	207.6	220.5
September	229.1	222.3	219.8	228.3	207.4	213.9	215.0	209.9	222.5
December	231.4	224.3	219.8	228.6	208.8	214.5	214.5	209.9	224.0
CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR									
2002									
December	116.5	114.9	107.5	112.2	111.0	108.3	108.8	118.5	114.0
2003									
March	114.6	114.5	105.0	111.9	108.1	104.3	103.8	115.8	112.4
June	117.4	114.2	106.3	113.5	108.3	110.1	106.7	116.1	113.7
September	115.4	115.1	107.4	111.4	110.3	103.3	107.8	116.0	113.3
December	115.4	114.9	105.5	112.3	109.4	106.8	109.3	116.2	113.1
2004									
March	114.4	112.9	103.7	111.5	106.8	104.3	106.8	114.9	111.5
June	115.9	113.0	106.2	113.3	108.1	105.6	106.5	115.1	112.7
September	115.5	113.4	106.5	111.7	107.4	105.2	105.4	114.6	112.5
December	113.4	112.4	105.2	110.5	105.6	103.5	105.2	112.3	110.9
HOUSING									
2002									
December	122.0	105.0	119.4	113.0	105.7	113.0	127.0	116.4	114.2
2003									
March	122.6	107.4	120.5	117.9	106.3	115.2	128.6	117.8	115.7
June	123.3	108.4	122.9	117.8	107.8	116.9	128.8	119.9	116.8
September	125.1	109.6	126.6	120.2	110.4	118.3	129.3	124.0	118.9
December	125.6	109.3	129.2	121.6	111.7	119.3	131.1	125.3	119.6
2004									
March	126.3	110.5	130.4	123.6	112.8	121.2	131.9	126.8	120.7
June	127.4	110.7	132.0	123.1	114.4	122.9	133.9	127.8	121.5
September	129.4	112.0	133.5	124.2	116.5	124.5	135.8	129.0	123.2
December	130.5	112.5	135.0	125.1	118.7	126.9	136.5	129.5	124.3

(a) Base of each index: 1989-90 = 100.0.

Quarters	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Darwin	Canberra	Weighted average of eight capital cities
HOUSEHOLD FURNISHINGS, SUPPLIES AND SERVICES									
2002									
December	120.3	122.4	123.7	123.2	118.7	127.8	111.7	124.4	121.6
2003									
March	119.4	120.7	121.7	122.5	117.4	127.5	110.8	124.1	120.4
June	120.7	121.7	122.7	122.9	118.5	128.8	110.6	124.7	121.4
September	121.0	121.8	122.7	122.2	118.5	128.4	110.4	124.7	121.5
December	120.4	121.9	122.5	123.1	118.7	128.1	111.3	125.1	121.4
2004									
March	120.3	121.1	121.9	121.1	117.1	127.1	111.2	124.3	120.7
June	120.0	120.8	122.4	120.8	118.1	128.2	111.3	124.8	120.7
September	119.7	121.0	123.0	120.2	117.7	128.5	111.0	125.3	120.6
December	120.7	122.0	123.1	120.8	117.8	129.4	112.1	125.9	121.3
HEALTH									
2002									
December	165.3	189.4	176.4	178.1	171.8	192.9	163.8	173.5	177.1
2003									
March	171.5	196.3	183.2	183.2	177.8	200.7	168.4	181.2	183.5
June	175.9	202.3	189.9	194.0	181.1	209.1	171.3	185.1	189.1
September	175.8	201.8	190.7	193.9	181.4	207.8	172.3	188.5	189.1
December	176.0	202.6	190.6	193.3	181.7	207.4	175.9	187.9	189.4
2004									
March	182.0	209.3	197.1	197.9	187.3	214.5	180.5	193.5	195.5
June	187.6	214.7	203.4	207.2	192.8	223.0	186.8	197.7	201.6
September	185.9	213.2	202.6	205.5	191.9	221.3	186.4	197.4	200.1
December	184.5	212.0	200.5	204.8	190.9	218.5	185.7	196.4	198.8
TRANSPORTATION									
2002									
December	141.6	139.9	139.3	138.8	140.5	136.3	139.3	140.9	140.3
2003									
March	145.1	143.1	142.4	144.0	143.6	139.0	141.6	143.6	143.7
June	141.1	139.4	137.3	137.4	139.0	134.3	140.8	139.0	139.4
September	143.2	140.9	139.3	140.7	140.9	136.7	136.9	140.2	141.3
December	143.2	139.7	138.6	139.9	140.3	136.3	135.8	140.2	140.7
2004									
March	143.2	141.3	140.2	142.0	141.4	137.0	137.1	139.9	141.7
June	145.2	144.1	142.6	145.1	143.6	139.8	137.9	142.7	144.1
September	146.8	144.7	143.4	147.4	144.3	141.5	139.0	143.3	145.2
December	148.8	146.7	145.0	149.4	146.6	144.1	140.2	144.9	147.2
COMMUNICATION									
2002									
December	108.1	108.3	111.8	109.6	106.7	109.2	100.5	107.2	108.4
2003									
March	108.4	108.6	112.1	109.9	107.0	109.6	100.8	107.5	108.8
June	108.6	108.7	112.3	110.1	107.2	109.8	101.0	107.7	108.9
September	109.3	109.5	113.2	111.0	108.0	110.6	101.6	108.4	109.7
December	109.5	109.7	113.4	111.2	108.3	110.8	101.8	108.7	109.9
2004									
March	109.6	109.8	113.4	111.2	108.3	110.9	101.8	108.7	110.0
June	110.0	110.2	113.9	111.8	108.7	111.4	102.2	109.1	110.4
September	110.5	110.7	114.4	112.3	109.2	111.9	102.6	109.6	110.9
December	110.7	111.0	114.7	112.6	109.5	112.1	102.9	109.8	111.2

(a) Base of each index: 1989-90 = 100.0.

<i>Quarters</i>	<i>Sydney</i>	<i>Melbourne</i>	<i>Brisbane</i>	<i>Adelaide</i>	<i>Perth</i>	<i>Hobart</i>	<i>Darwin</i>	<i>Canberra</i>	<i>Weighted average of eight capital cities</i>
RECREATION									
2002									
December	134.7	131.7	129.4	131.5	130.2	125.1	112.9	128.3	131.9
2003									
March	135.9	132.1	129.9	132.4	128.6	126.3	112.3	129.6	132.4
June	135.1	131.3	129.1	131.7	126.8	125.0	111.4	128.6	131.5
September	131.9	130.8	129.3	130.7	125.7	124.5	110.5	126.9	130.0
December	134.1	131.0	129.5	131.2	127.0	125.6	110.8	127.4	131.1
2004									
March	132.9	130.3	126.9	130.5	124.4	125.2	107.7	125.3	129.7
June	132.4	129.4	126.4	130.6	125.3	123.8	107.6	125.7	129.3
September	133.0	129.8	126.5	131.6	125.8	125.0	110.3	127.3	129.9
December	134.3	131.1	126.9	131.8	127.3	128.0	108.2	128.4	130.9
EDUCATION									
2002									
December	204.6	198.3	226.6	240.7	197.5	222.7	159.5	194.2	205.3
2003									
March	214.8	207.7	236.0	251.5	205.5	233.2	161.4	202.0	214.7
June	214.8	207.6	236.2	251.5	205.5	233.4	161.4	202.0	214.8
September	215.5	207.9	236.3	251.8	205.5	233.6	161.4	202.2	215.1
December	215.5	208.0	236.3	251.8	205.5	233.6	161.4	202.2	215.1
2004									
March	239.0	221.6	248.7	266.4	214.9	241.6	167.0	213.4	231.4
June	239.2	221.6	248.9	266.4	214.9	241.8	167.0	213.4	231.5
September	239.3	221.7	248.9	266.5	214.9	241.5	167.0	213.6	231.5
December	239.6	221.7	249.0	266.6	214.9	241.6	167.0	213.7	231.7
MISCELLANEOUS									
2002									
December	182.6	168.5	186.7	170.9	183.8	174.0	169.7	202.2	178.0
2003									
March	184.6	169.1	188.2	171.6	184.1	176.5	172.8	203.0	179.2
June	185.0	169.3	189.7	172.2	183.7	177.6	175.3	203.8	179.6
September	185.3	173.6	190.6	176.5	187.4	178.8	180.0	209.8	182.2
December	186.2	172.2	191.7	176.7	187.5	179.5	175.9	209.6	182.2
2004									
March	189.3	173.6	195.4	177.9	189.3	181.3	176.8	214.0	184.5
June	187.9	174.0	196.3	178.1	190.3	183.2	177.1	215.9	184.5
September	190.3	175.8	197.3	180.4	195.2	184.4	178.3	219.9	186.8
December	190.2	177.1	199.1	181.8	196.0	186.5	179.6	220.8	187.7

(a) Base of each index: 1989-90 = 100.0.

Group, sub-group and expenditure class									Weighted average of eight capital cities
	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Darwin	Canberra	
Food	0.42	0.31	0.51	0.52	0.17	0.40	0.27	0.32	0.37
Dairy and related products	0.02	0.01	0.02	0.04	-0.03	0.02	0.01	0.02	0.01
Milk	0.01	—	—	0.02	-0.02	—	—	—	—
Cheese	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.01
Ice cream and other dairy products	—	0.01	—	0.01	-0.02	—	—	—	—
Bread and cereal products	-0.02	0.03	0.02	0.07	—	-0.05	0.03	0.02	0.01
Bread	-0.02	0.01	—	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.02	-0.02	—
Cakes and biscuits	-0.02	0.01	0.02	0.04	-0.01	-0.04	0.01	0.02	—
Breakfast cereals	0.01	0.01	-0.01	0.01	—	-0.02	—	0.01	0.01
Other cereal products	0.01	0.01	0.01	—	0.01	—	—	—	0.01
Meat and seafoods	0.04	0.08	0.08	0.07	0.11	0.06	0.02	0.02	0.07
Beef and veal	0.02	0.02	0.05	0.03	0.06	0.05	0.03	0.03	0.03
Lamb and mutton	-0.04	-0.01	-0.01	-0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	-0.04	-0.01
Pork	0.03	0.03	0.05	0.02	0.01	0.03	0.03	0.05	0.03
Poultry	—	0.01	-0.03	-0.01	0.02	-0.02	-0.06	-0.02	—
Bacon and ham	0.02	0.03	0.03	—	0.01	-0.01	—	0.01	0.02
Other fresh and processed meat	0.01	-0.02	-0.01	0.01	0.01	—	0.02	0.01	—
Fish and other seafood	—	0.02	—	0.02	—	—	—	—	0.01
Fruit and vegetables	0.20	0.18	0.27	0.19	-0.01	0.30	0.04	0.14	0.18
Fruit	0.15	0.16	0.19	0.16	0.09	0.07	0.04	0.11	0.15
Vegetables	0.06	0.02	0.08	0.04	-0.10	0.23	0.01	0.05	0.03
Non-alcoholic drinks and snack food	0.02	—	0.07	0.06	-0.03	0.01	0.08	0.01	0.02
Soft drinks, waters and juices	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.07	-0.04	-0.01	0.05	0.01	0.02
Snacks and confectionery	0.01	-0.03	0.03	-0.01	0.01	0.01	0.03	0.02	—
Meals out and take away foods	0.11	0.01	0.03	0.07	0.11	0.02	0.05	0.06	0.06
Restaurant meals	0.07	—	—	0.01	0.07	0.01	0.02	0.03	0.04
Take away and fast foods	0.03	0.01	0.03	0.04	0.05	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.03
Other food	0.04	—	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03
Eggs	—	—	—	—	0.01	—	—	0.01	—
Jams, honey and sandwich spreads	—	—	—	—	—	—	-0.01	—	—
Tea, coffee and food drinks	—	-0.02	0.01	0.01	—	0.02	0.01	0.01	—
Food additives and condiments	0.01	0.01	—	—	-0.01	—	—	0.01	0.01
Fats and oils	—	—	0.01	0.01	—	0.01	—	—	—
Food n.e.c.	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.01
Alcohol and tobacco	0.12	0.09	—	0.02	0.09	0.04	-0.04	—	0.08
Alcoholic drinks	0.11	0.10	-0.01	0.02	0.12	0.05	-0.04	-0.01	0.08
Beer	0.08	0.05	0.03	0.04	0.07	0.07	-0.05	-0.01	0.06
Wine	0.01	0.03	-0.05	-0.03	0.03	-0.02	0.01	-0.01	0.01
Spirits	0.02	0.01	0.01	—	0.03	0.01	-0.01	0.01	0.01
Tobacco	0.01	—	0.01	—	-0.03	-0.01	0.01	0.01	—
Clothing and footwear	-0.13	-0.06	-0.07	-0.09	-0.11	-0.11	-0.01	-0.14	-0.09
Men's clothing	—	-0.01	-0.03	0.04	-0.01	-0.03	0.01	-0.01	-0.01
Men's outerwear	-0.01	—	-0.02	0.02	0.01	-0.03	0.01	-0.01	-0.01
Men's underwear, nightwear and socks	—	-0.01	-0.01	0.02	-0.02	—	-0.01	-0.01	—
Women's clothing	-0.08	-0.06	-0.06	-0.08	-0.08	-0.08	0.01	-0.08	-0.07
Women's outerwear	-0.07	-0.05	-0.08	-0.11	-0.08	-0.09	—	-0.08	-0.07
Women's underwear, nightwear and hosiery	—	—	0.02	0.02	—	0.01	0.01	—	—
Children's and infants' clothing	—	-0.01	—	—	-0.02	0.01	—	-0.01	-0.01
Footwear	-0.01	0.02	0.01	—	-0.04	-0.02	—	—	—
Men's footwear	-0.01	—	0.01	-0.01	-0.01	-0.02	-0.01	—	—
Women's footwear	—	0.01	—	—	-0.03	—	—	—	—
Children's footwear	—	0.01	0.01	0.01	—	—	0.01	—	0.01
Clothing accessories, supplies and services	-0.04	—	—	-0.04	0.04	0.01	-0.02	-0.05	-0.01
Clothing accessories and jewellery	-0.04	-0.01	-0.01	-0.02	0.04	0.01	-0.02	-0.06	-0.02
Fabrics and knitting wool	—	—	0.01	-0.01	—	—	—	—	—
Clothing services and shoe repair	0.01	—	—	—	0.01	0.01	—	0.01	—

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) All groups index points.

Group, sub-group and expenditure class									Weighted average of eight capital cities
	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Darwin	Canberra	
Housing	0.25	0.14	0.37	0.22	0.56	0.54	0.13	0.11	0.26
Rents	0.03	0.01	0.10	0.04	0.03	0.05	0.04	0.06	0.04
Utilities	0.01	0.07	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.03	—	0.01	0.02
Electricity	—	0.05	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.02
Gas and other household fuels	—	—	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.03	0.01	0.01	0.01
Water and sewerage	0.01	0.02	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other housing	0.22	0.05	0.27	0.16	0.53	0.46	0.08	0.04	0.20
House purchase	0.20	0.04	0.24	0.14	0.50	0.44	0.07	0.01	0.18
Property rates and charges	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
House repairs and maintenance	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.01	0.03	0.02	0.01	0.02	0.02
Household furnishings, supplies and services	0.09	0.08	0.01	0.06	0.01	0.08	0.10	0.05	0.07
Furniture and furnishings	0.09	-0.01	-0.02	0.02	-0.02	0.03	0.08	0.03	0.03
Furniture	0.04	0.02	0.04	0.02	—	-0.01	0.01	0.02	0.02
Floor and window coverings	0.03	—	-0.02	—	-0.01	—	0.02	-0.01	—
Towels and linen	0.03	-0.01	-0.04	-0.01	-0.01	0.04	0.03	—	—
Household appliances, utensils and tools	-0.03	0.03	-0.01	0.04	0.01	0.04	0.01	—	—
Major household appliances	-0.01	0.01	0.02	0.03	—	0.02	0.01	0.03	0.01
Small electric household appliances	-0.02	—	-0.01	—	—	—	-0.01	-0.01	-0.01
Glassware, tableware and household utensils	—	0.02	—	0.01	0.01	0.02	-0.02	-0.01	0.01
Tools	-0.01	—	-0.01	—	-0.01	0.01	0.01	-0.01	—
Household supplies	0.04	0.04	—	-0.01	0.02	-0.02	0.01	—	0.03
Household cleaning agents	0.01	0.02	0.02	—	0.01	0.01	—	—	0.02
Other household supplies	0.03	0.03	-0.02	-0.01	0.01	-0.03	0.01	-0.01	0.01
Household services	—	0.01	0.03	0.01	—	0.03	—	0.03	0.01
Health	-0.05	-0.04	-0.07	-0.03	-0.03	-0.12	-0.02	-0.04	-0.05
Health services	0.01	0.03	—	0.03	0.01	-0.03	0.02	0.04	0.01
Hospital and medical services	-0.02	0.02	-0.02	0.03	-0.01	-0.03	0.01	-0.01	—
Optical services	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.01	—
Dental services	0.02	0.01	0.02	—	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.04	0.01
Pharmaceuticals	-0.07	-0.06	-0.07	-0.05	-0.05	-0.09	-0.04	-0.07	-0.06
Transportation	0.28	0.32	0.25	0.24	0.36	0.35	0.17	0.23	0.29
Private motoring	0.27	0.31	0.23	0.24	0.35	0.35	0.14	0.24	0.29
Motor vehicles	0.12	0.15	0.04	0.07	0.06	0.11	-0.14	0.08	0.11
Automotive fuel	0.16	0.18	0.09	0.16	0.25	0.20	0.22	0.11	0.16
Motor vehicle repair and servicing	-0.02	-0.03	0.08	—	0.05	0.01	0.07	0.03	0.01
Motor vehicle parts and accessories	0.01	0.01	—	-0.01	—	0.02	-0.01	0.01	0.01
Other motoring charges	—	—	0.02	0.02	—	—	—	0.01	—
Urban transport fares	0.01	0.01	0.02	—	0.01	—	0.02	—	0.01
Communication	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Postal	—	0.01	—	0.01	0.01	—	—	—	—
Telecommunication	0.01	—	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) All groups index points.

Group, sub-group and expenditure class									Weighted average of eight capital cities
	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Darwin	Canberra	
Recreation	0.16	0.16	0.05	0.04	0.19	0.43	-0.34	0.16	0.14
Audio, visual and computing	0.03	0.01	0.02	-0.02	0.02	-0.02	-0.02	-0.01	0.01
Audio, visual and computing equipment	—	-0.01	-0.02	-0.02	-0.01	-0.02	-0.02	-0.02	-0.01
Audio, visual and computing media and services	0.03	0.02	0.04	—	0.03	—	—	0.02	0.03
Books, newspapers and magazines	0.02	—	0.02	—	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Books	0.01	—	0.01	-0.01	—	0.01	—	—	—
Newspapers and magazines	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.01
Sport and other recreation	-0.01	-0.01	-0.03	-0.03	-0.02	0.02	-0.01	-0.02	-0.01
Sports and recreational equipment	—	-0.01	-0.02	-0.01	—	-0.01	-0.01	—	—
Toys, games and hobbies	-0.01	-0.01	-0.02	-0.02	-0.06	0.01	—	-0.02	-0.02
Sports participation	0.03	—	0.02	0.01	0.02	—	—	0.01	0.02
Pets, pet foods and supplies	-0.02	-0.01	-0.02	-0.03	-0.01	0.01	—	—	-0.01
Pet services including veterinary	—	0.01	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other recreational activities	—	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.02	—	—	—	0.01
Holiday travel and accommodation	0.12	0.16	0.05	0.10	0.18	0.41	-0.31	0.17	0.13
Domestic holiday travel and accommodation	0.14	0.17	0.14	0.13	0.11	0.48	-0.26	0.16	0.14
Overseas holiday travel and accommodation	-0.02	-0.01	-0.09	-0.03	0.07	-0.06	-0.06	—	-0.01
Education	—	—	0.01	—	—	—	—	—	—
Preschool and primary education	0.01	0.01	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Secondary education	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tertiary education	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous	—	0.04	0.05	0.05	0.03	0.06	0.05	0.03	0.03
Insurance services	-0.02	0.01	0.04	—	0.03	0.03	0.02	-0.02	—
Personal care	0.01	0.02	—	0.03	-0.01	0.03	-0.02	0.04	—
Hairdressing and personal care services	0.01	0.02	—	0.02	—	—	0.01	0.03	0.01
Toiletries and personal care products	—	-0.01	-0.01	—	-0.02	0.02	-0.03	—	-0.01
Child care	0.01	0.03	0.01	0.02	0.01	—	0.05	0.03	0.01
All groups	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.0	1.3	1.7	0.3	0.8	1.1

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) All groups index points.

GROUP, SUB-GROUP & EXPENDITURE CLASS, Weighted average of eight capital cities

Group, sub-group and expenditure class	INDEX NUMBERS(a)			PERCENTAGE CHANGE		CONTRIBUTION TO TOTAL CPI (ALL GROUPS) INDEX POINTS)		CHANGE IN POINTS CONTRIBUTION
	Dec Qtr 2003	Sep Qtr 2004	Dec Qtr 2004	Sep Qtr 2004 to Dec Qtr 2004	Dec Qtr 2003 to Dec Qtr 2004	Sep Qtr 2004	Dec Qtr 2004	Sep Qtr 2004 to Dec Qtr 2004
Food	152.0	152.4	154.6	1.4	1.7	26.17	26.54	0.37
Dairy and related products	158.6	161.9	163.0	0.7	2.8	2.13	2.14	0.01
Milk	173.1	177.1	177.5	0.2	2.5	1.12	1.12	—
Cheese	132.0	137.6	141.0	2.5	6.8	0.52	0.53	0.01
Ice cream and other dairy products	157.1	156.2	155.7	-0.3	-0.9	0.49	0.49	—
Bread and cereal products	163.4	162.3	162.8	0.3	-0.4	3.12	3.13	0.01
Bread	183.3	182.1	182.1	0.0	-0.7	1.12	1.12	—
Cakes and biscuits	152.3	152.6	152.7	0.1	0.3	1.29	1.29	—
Breakfast cereals	142.4	137.9	139.3	1.0	-2.2	0.35	0.36	0.01
Other cereal products	140.9	139.4	141.6	1.6	0.5	0.35	0.36	0.01
Meat and seafoods	141.2	140.2	142.6	1.7	1.0	4.00	4.07	0.07
Beef and veal	147.8	146.5	151.7	3.5	2.6	0.88	0.91	0.03
Lamb and mutton	198.1	208.0	201.8	-3.0	1.9	0.53	0.52	-0.01
Pork	151.0	137.9	153.8	11.5	1.9	0.28	0.31	0.03
Poultry	103.6	104.1	103.7	-0.4	0.1	0.67	0.67	—
Bacon and ham	136.4	129.6	136.2	5.1	-0.1	0.36	0.38	0.02
Other fresh and processed meat	150.0	151.7	151.3	-0.3	0.9	0.67	0.67	—
Fish and other seafood	124.9	122.7	124.1	1.1	-0.6	0.60	0.61	0.01
Fruit and vegetables	143.4	137.0	144.2	5.3	0.6	3.41	3.59	0.18
Fruit	158.3	157.2	171.7	9.2	8.5	1.60	1.75	0.15
Vegetables	134.5	124.3	126.5	1.8	-5.9	1.81	1.84	0.03
Non-alcoholic drinks and snack food	151.2	155.3	156.0	0.5	3.2	3.46	3.48	0.02
Soft drinks, waters and juices	134.3	139.1	140.4	0.9	4.5	1.72	1.74	0.02
Snacks and confectionery	172.7	175.8	175.9	0.1	1.9	1.74	1.74	—
Meals out and take away foods	157.8	160.9	162.2	0.8	2.8	7.70	7.76	0.06
Restaurant meals	159.9	164.2	166.1	1.2	3.9	3.18	3.22	0.04
Take away and fast foods	157.8	160.0	161.0	0.6	2.0	4.51	4.54	0.03
Other food	143.1	142.9	144.3	1.0	0.8	2.35	2.38	0.03
Eggs	178.5	176.9	178.8	1.1	0.2	0.18	0.18	—
Jams, honey and sandwich spreads	175.9	177.3	177.4	0.1	0.9	0.27	0.27	—
Tea, coffee and food drinks	138.7	133.5	133.6	0.1	-3.7	0.40	0.40	—
Food additives and condiments	128.9	128.3	129.0	0.5	0.1	0.43	0.44	0.01
Fats and oils	136.7	140.3	141.3	0.7	3.4	0.32	0.32	—
Food n.e.c.	140.3	141.5	144.4	2.0	2.9	0.75	0.76	0.01
Alcohol and tobacco	216.5	222.5	224.0	0.7	3.5	11.65	11.73	0.08
Alcoholic drinks	160.0	164.2	165.8	1.0	3.6	7.68	7.76	0.08
Beer	169.9	174.6	177.3	1.5	4.4	3.75	3.81	0.06
Wine	144.1	147.4	147.8	0.3	2.6	2.42	2.43	0.01
Spirits	158.4	162.8	164.0	0.7	3.5	1.51	1.52	0.01
Tobacco	371.6	383.1	383.4	0.1	3.2	3.97	3.97	—
Clothing and footwear	113.1	112.5	110.9	-1.4	-1.9	6.96	6.87	-0.09
Men's clothing	110.8	109.6	109.1	-0.5	-1.5	1.27	1.26	-0.01
Men's outerwear	108.6	107.2	106.8	-0.4	-1.7	1.05	1.04	-0.01
Men's underwear, nightwear and socks	123.2	122.8	121.7	-0.9	-1.2	0.22	0.22	—
Women's clothing	117.2	117.0	113.8	-2.7	-2.9	2.45	2.38	-0.07
Women's outerwear	111.7	111.6	107.4	-3.8	-3.8	1.92	1.85	-0.07
Women's underwear, nightwear and hosiery	139.2	138.1	139.6	1.1	0.3	0.53	0.53	—
Children's and infants' clothing	120.0	118.2	117.0	-1.0	-2.5	0.66	0.65	-0.01
Footwear	99.1	98.8	98.7	-0.1	-0.4	1.10	1.10	—
Men's footwear	93.9	94.5	93.4	-1.2	-0.5	0.33	0.33	—
Women's footwear	103.2	103.2	103.0	-0.2	-0.2	0.52	0.52	—
Children's footwear	99.9	97.9	99.1	1.2	-0.8	0.24	0.25	0.01
Clothing accessories, supplies and services(b)	107.2	106.7	105.7	-0.9	-1.4	1.49	1.48	-0.01
Clothing accessories and jewellery(b)	95.3	94.0	91.8	-2.3	-3.7	0.77	0.75	-0.02
Fabrics and knitting wool	113.6	111.9	111.7	-0.2	-1.7	0.16	0.16	—
Clothing services and shoe repair	168.6	170.6	171.7	0.6	1.8	0.57	0.57	—

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(b) Base: June quarter 1998 = 100.0.

(a) Unless otherwise specified, base of each index: 1989-90 = 100.0.

continued

Group, sub-group and expenditure class	INDEX NUMBERS(a)			PERCENTAGE CHANGE		CONTRIBUTION TO TOTAL CPI (ALL GROUPS INDEX POINTS)		CHANGE IN POINTS CONTRIBUTION
	Dec Qtr 2003	Sep Qtr 2004	Dec Qtr 2004	Sep Qtr 2004 to Dec Qtr 2004	Dec Qtr 2003 to Dec Qtr 2004	Sep Qtr 2004	Dec Qtr 2004	Sep Qtr 2004 to Dec Qtr 2004
Housing	119.6	123.2	124.3	0.9	3.9	30.32	30.58	0.26
Rents	138.5	140.9	141.6	0.5	2.2	7.84	7.88	0.04
Utilities	149.4	154.1	154.9	0.5	3.7	5.14	5.16	0.02
Electricity	145.5	148.8	149.6	0.5	2.8	2.67	2.69	0.02
Gas and other household fuels	160.3	169.8	170.5	0.4	6.4	1.18	1.19	0.01
Water and sewerage(b)	121.3	124.3	125.0	0.6	3.1	1.28	1.28	—
Other housing	113.3	117.3	118.7	1.2	4.8	17.34	17.54	0.20
House purchase(b)	135.9	140.8	142.9	1.5	5.2	12.49	12.67	0.18
Property rates and charges(b)	133.9	140.9	140.9	0.0	5.2	1.97	1.97	—
House repairs and maintenance	151.4	154.4	155.5	0.7	2.7	2.88	2.90	0.02
Household furnishings, supplies and services	121.4	120.6	121.3	0.6	-0.1	10.79	10.86	0.07
Furniture and furnishings	130.6	128.9	129.7	0.6	-0.7	4.81	4.84	0.03
Furniture	132.9	130.4	131.4	0.8	-1.1	3.07	3.09	0.02
Floor and window coverings	136.2	138.2	138.8	0.4	1.9	1.11	1.11	—
Towels and linen	112.5	109.3	109.3	0.0	-2.8	0.64	0.64	—
Household appliances, utensils and tools	106.4	104.2	104.2	0.0	-2.1	2.44	2.44	—
Major household appliances	107.7	106.4	106.9	0.5	-0.7	1.11	1.12	0.01
Small electric household appliances	102.3	100.9	98.3	-2.6	-3.9	0.34	0.33	-0.01
Glassware, tableware and household utensils	101.3	96.2	97.6	1.5	-3.7	0.56	0.57	0.01
Tools	112.7	112.0	111.0	-0.9	-1.5	0.42	0.42	—
Household supplies	131.1	132.4	133.6	0.9	1.9	2.57	2.60	0.03
Household cleaning agents	122.3	122.0	124.8	2.3	2.0	0.54	0.56	0.02
Other household supplies	135.1	136.9	137.7	0.6	1.9	2.03	2.04	0.01
Household services	198.2	202.9	204.7	0.9	3.3	0.97	0.98	0.01
Health	189.4	200.1	198.8	-0.6	5.0	7.34	7.29	-0.05
Health services	203.5	215.1	215.5	0.2	5.9	5.82	5.83	0.01
Hospital and medical services	211.9	225.3	225.2	0.0	6.3	4.53	4.53	—
Optical services	138.8	141.8	142.4	0.4	2.6	0.22	0.22	—
Dental services	194.4	201.8	204.2	1.2	5.0	1.07	1.08	0.01
Pharmaceuticals	136.5	144.1	138.2	-4.1	1.2	1.52	1.46	-0.06
Transportation	140.7	145.2	147.2	1.4	4.6	21.15	21.44	0.29
Private motoring	137.5	142.0	144.0	1.4	4.7	19.84	20.13	0.29
Motor vehicles	103.8	100.2	101.7	1.5	-2.0	7.07	7.18	0.11
Automotive fuel	151.1	170.8	175.1	2.5	15.9	6.46	6.62	0.16
Motor vehicle repair and servicing	137.8	142.1	142.2	0.1	3.2	3.29	3.30	0.01
Motor vehicle parts and accessories	113.7	113.9	114.5	0.5	0.7	1.36	1.37	0.01
Other motoring charges	193.1	198.0	198.5	0.3	2.8	1.66	1.66	—
Urban transport fares	198.4	201.8	203.0	0.6	2.3	1.30	1.31	0.01
Communication	109.9	110.9	111.2	0.3	1.2	4.08	4.09	0.01
Postal	132.7	133.2	134.1	0.7	1.1	0.22	0.22	—
Telecommunication	107.8	108.8	109.0	0.2	1.1	3.86	3.87	0.01

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(b) Base: June quarter 1998 = 100.0.

(a) Unless otherwise specified, base of each index: 1989-90 = 100.0.

continued

Group, sub-group and expenditure class	INDEX NUMBERS(a)			PERCENTAGE CHANGE		CONTRIBUTION TO TOTAL CPI (ALL GROUPS) INDEX POINTS)		CHANGE IN POINTS CONTRIBUTION
	Dec Qtr 2003	Sep Qtr 2004	Dec Qtr 2004	Sep Qtr 2004 to Dec Qtr 2004	Dec Qtr 2003 to Dec Qtr 2004	Sep Qtr 2004	Dec Qtr 2004	Sep Qtr 2004 to Dec Qtr 2004
Recreation	131.1	129.9	130.9	0.8	-0.2	16.78	16.92	0.14
Audio, visual and computing	59.0	55.1	55.4	0.5	-6.1	2.60	2.61	0.01
Audio, visual and computing equipment	35.9	31.7	31.2	-1.6	-13.1	0.92	0.91	-0.01
Audio, visual and computing media and services	101.8	98.2	99.7	1.5	-2.1	1.67	1.70	0.03
Books, newspapers and magazines	200.2	202.2	203.8	0.8	1.8	1.64	1.65	0.01
Books(b)	121.1	122.8	122.9	0.1	1.5	0.72	0.72	—
Newspapers and magazines(b)	133.1	134.1	135.8	1.3	2.0	0.92	0.93	0.01
Sport and other recreation	155.8	160.6	160.2	-0.2	2.8	6.05	6.04	-0.01
Sports and recreational equipment(b)	91.8	90.8	90.0	-0.9	-2.0	0.76	0.76	—
Toys, games and hobbies(b)	94.3	98.7	95.7	-3.0	1.5	0.67	0.65	-0.02
Sports participation(b)	136.2	141.2	142.6	1.0	4.7	1.31	1.33	0.02
Pets, pet foods and supplies	131.0	136.2	133.9	-1.7	2.2	0.60	0.59	-0.01
Pet services including veterinary	188.2	194.7	195.2	0.3	3.7	0.52	0.52	—
Other recreational activities(b)	130.4	135.0	135.5	0.4	3.9	2.19	2.20	0.01
Holiday travel and accommodation	133.6	130.1	132.8	2.1	-0.6	6.49	6.62	0.13
Domestic holiday travel and accommodation	137.3	133.5	139.2	4.3	1.4	3.48	3.62	0.14
Overseas holiday travel and accommodation	128.4	125.3	124.7	-0.5	-2.9	3.01	3.00	-0.01
Education	215.1	231.5	231.7	0.1	7.7	4.20	4.20	—
Preschool and primary education(c)	120.1	128.6	128.9	0.2	7.3	0.82	0.82	—
Secondary education(c)	120.9	129.3	129.3	0.0	6.9	1.53	1.53	—
Tertiary education(c)	108.6	117.7	117.7	0.0	8.4	1.86	1.86	—
Miscellaneous	182.2	186.8	187.7	0.5	3.0	5.94	5.97	0.03
Insurance services	240.6	244.2	244.4	0.1	1.6	2.23	2.23	—
Personal care	149.5	152.0	152.4	0.3	1.9	3.03	3.03	—
Hairdressing and personal care services	168.8	171.9	174.0	1.2	3.1	1.15	1.16	0.01
Toiletries and personal care products	139.0	141.3	140.9	-0.3	1.4	1.88	1.87	-0.01
Child care	169.9	187.4	192.2	2.6	13.1	0.69	0.70	0.01
All groups	142.8	145.4	146.5	0.8	2.6	145.4	146.5	1.1

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(b) Base: June quarter 1998 = 100.0.

(a) Unless otherwise specified, base of each index: 1989-90 = 100.0.

(c) Base: June quarter 2000 = 100.0.

	INDEX NUMBERS(a)			PERCENTAGE CHANGE		CONTRIBUTION TO TOTAL CPI (ALL GROUPS INDEX POINTS)		CHANGE IN POINTS CONTRIBUTION
	Dec Qtr 2003	Sep Qtr 2004	Dec Qtr 2004	Sep Qtr 2004 to Dec Qtr 2004	Dec Qtr 2003 to Dec Qtr 2004	Sep Qtr 2004	Dec Qtr 2004	Sep Qtr 2004 to Dec Qtr 2004
All groups	142.8	145.4	146.5	0.8	2.6	145.4	146.5	1.1
Selected components								
Goods component(b)	142.5	144.5	145.7	0.8	2.2	93.02	93.80	0.78
Services component(b)	144.2	147.8	148.8	0.7	3.2	52.36	52.69	0.33
Tradables component(b)(c)	111.1	111.9	112.6	0.6	1.4	64.77	65.22	0.45
Non-tradables component(b)(c)	124.4	127.8	128.8	0.8	3.5	80.61	81.27	0.66
All groups excluding								
Food	140.9	143.9	144.8	0.6	2.8	119.21	119.95	0.74
Alcohol and tobacco	137.6	139.9	141.0	0.8	2.5	133.73	134.76	1.03
Clothing and footwear	144.9	147.6	148.9	0.9	2.8	138.42	139.63	1.21
Housing	146.5	148.7	149.8	0.7	2.3	115.06	115.91	0.85
Household furnishings, supplies and services	146.4	149.3	150.4	0.7	2.7	134.59	135.63	1.04
Health	140.5	142.7	143.9	0.8	2.4	138.04	139.20	1.16
Transportation	143.3	145.5	146.4	0.6	2.2	124.23	125.05	0.82
Communication	143.4	146.0	147.1	0.8	2.6	141.30	142.40	1.10
Recreation	144.5	147.6	148.7	0.7	2.9	128.60	129.57	0.97
Education	142.0	144.3	145.5	0.8	2.5	141.18	142.29	1.11
Miscellaneous	141.3	143.7	144.9	0.8	2.5	139.44	140.52	1.08
Hospital and medical services	140.9	143.3	144.4	0.8	2.5	140.85	141.97	1.12

(a) Unless otherwise specified, base of each index: 1989-90 = 100.0.

(c) Base: June quarter 1998 = 100.0.

(b) Refer to paragraph 12 of the Explanatory Notes for a description of this series.

ANALYTICAL SERIES, Index numbers(a)(b)

Period	All groups	All groups excluding Housing	All groups excluding 'volatile items'	MARKET GOODS AND SERVICES EXCLUDING 'VOLATILE ITEMS'					Tradables(c)	Non-tradables(c)
				Goods	Services	Total				
2000-01	132.2	136.4	138.7	132.9	144.1	136.0		106.5	111.8	
2001-02	136.0	140.4	143.3	137.1	149.3	140.5		109.1	115.5	
2002-03	140.2	144.5	147.4	139.6	154.7	143.8		111.3	120.0	
2003-04	143.5	147.1	150.8	141.6	157.7	146.1		111.5	125.1	
2000										
December	131.3	135.4	137.7	131.9	143.8	135.2		105.4	111.4	
2001										
March	132.7	137.0	139.1	133.3	144.2	136.3		106.9	112.2	
June	133.8	138.4	140.4	135.0	145.0	137.7		108.4	112.6	
September	134.2	138.4	141.4	135.7	146.4	138.6		107.8	113.8	
December	135.4	139.8	142.7	137.0	148.4	140.1		108.7	114.9	
2002										
March	136.6	141.1	144.1	137.6	150.5	141.2		109.4	116.2	
June	137.6	142.1	145.0	138.2	151.8	142.0		110.3	116.9	
September	138.5	142.8	146.0	138.4	153.5	142.7		110.3	118.4	
December	139.5	143.9	146.8	139.2	154.5	143.5		111.1	119.2	
2003										
March	141.3	145.7	148.0	139.9	155.2	144.2		112.4	120.8	
June	141.3	145.4	148.9	140.8	155.6	144.9		111.4	121.7	
September	142.1	145.8	149.8	141.3	156.2	145.5		111.1	123.3	
December	142.8	146.5	150.3	141.4	157.9	146.1		111.1	124.4	
2004										
March	144.1	147.8	151.1	141.5	158.0	146.1		111.8	125.8	
June	144.8	148.4	151.8	142.0	158.6	146.7		112.0	126.7	
September	145.4	148.7	152.5	142.2	159.9	147.2		111.9	127.8	
December	146.5	149.8	153.4	143.1	161.2	148.2		112.6	128.8	

(a) Unless otherwise specified, base of each index: 1989-90 = 100.0.

(c) Base: June quarter 1998 = 100.0.

(b) Refer to paragraph 12 of the Explanatory Notes for a description of these series.

Period	All groups	All groups excluding Housing	All groups excluding 'volatile items'	MARKET GOODS AND SERVICES EXCLUDING 'VOLATILE ITEMS'				
				Goods	Services	Total	Tradables	Non-tradables
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous financial year)								
2000-01	6.0	5.4	5.5	4.6	7.7	5.5	4.3	7.5
2001-02	2.9	2.9	3.3	3.2	3.6	3.3	2.4	3.3
2002-03	3.1	2.9	2.9	1.8	3.6	2.3	2.0	3.9
2003-04	2.4	1.8	2.3	1.4	1.9	1.6	0.2	4.3
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from corresponding quarter of previous year)								
2000								
December	5.8	5.3	5.1	4.0	7.8	5.2	3.8	7.6
2001								
March	6.0	5.6	5.5	4.6	7.5	5.5	4.8	7.1
June	6.0	5.8	5.8	5.5	7.0	5.9	5.2	6.7
September	2.5	2.6	2.9	3.2	2.2	2.8	2.5	2.6
December	3.1	3.2	3.6	3.9	3.2	3.6	3.1	3.1
2002								
March	2.9	3.0	3.6	3.2	4.4	3.6	2.3	3.6
June	2.8	2.7	3.3	2.4	4.7	3.1	1.8	3.8
September	3.2	3.2	3.3	2.0	4.8	3.0	2.3	4.0
December	3.0	2.9	2.9	1.6	4.1	2.4	2.2	3.7
2003								
March	3.4	3.3	2.7	1.7	3.1	2.1	2.7	4.0
June	2.7	2.3	2.7	1.9	2.5	2.0	1.0	4.1
September	2.6	2.1	2.6	2.1	1.8	2.0	0.7	4.1
December	2.4	1.8	2.4	1.6	2.2	1.8	0.0	4.4
2004								
March	2.0	1.4	2.1	1.1	1.8	1.3	-0.5	4.1
June	2.5	2.1	1.9	0.9	1.9	1.2	0.5	4.1
September	2.3	2.0	1.8	0.6	2.4	1.2	0.7	3.6
December	2.6	2.3	2.1	1.2	2.1	1.4	1.4	3.5
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous quarter)								
2000								
December	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.5
2001								
March	1.1	1.2	1.0	1.1	0.3	0.8	1.4	0.7
June	0.8	1.0	0.9	1.3	0.6	1.0	1.4	0.4
September	0.3	0.0	0.7	0.5	1.0	0.7	-0.6	1.1
December	0.9	1.0	0.9	1.0	1.4	1.1	0.8	1.0
2002								
March	0.9	0.9	1.0	0.4	1.4	0.8	0.6	1.1
June	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.4	0.9	0.6	0.8	0.6
September	0.7	0.5	0.7	0.1	1.1	0.5	0.0	1.3
December	0.7	0.8	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.7
2003								
March	1.3	1.3	0.8	0.5	0.5	0.5	1.2	1.3
June	0.0	-0.2	0.6	0.6	0.3	0.5	-0.9	0.7
September	0.6	0.3	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.4	-0.3	1.3
December	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.1	1.1	0.4	0.0	0.9
2004								
March	0.9	0.9	0.5	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.6	1.1
June	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.7
September	0.4	0.2	0.5	0.1	0.8	0.3	-0.1	0.9
December	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.8

(a) Refer to paragraph 12 of the Explanatory Notes for a description of these series.

<i>Period</i>	<i>Australia</i>	<i>New Zealand</i>	<i>Hong Kong</i>	<i>Indonesia</i>	<i>Japan</i>	<i>Korea, Republic of</i>	<i>Singapore</i>	<i>Taiwan</i>	<i>Canada</i>	<i>United States of America</i>	<i>Germany</i>	<i>United Kingdom</i>
2000-01	136.4	123.5	164.8	402.6	111.0	179.2	123.0	130.9	128.1	135.3	123.7	141.4
2001-02	140.4	127.0	162.5	458.3	107.7	185.0	122.7	130.6	130.3	136.4	126.0	143.5
2002-03	144.5	129.5	159.2	495.8	106.4	190.9	123.1	130.5	135.2	138.9	127.4	145.8
2003-04	147.1	130.2	158.7	524.4	106.1	197.4	124.9	131.1	136.9	141.8	128.9	147.9
2000												
December	135.4	123.4	165.5	403.3	111.2	177.6	122.8	132.4	127.5	134.6	123.0	141.2
2001												
March	137.0	123.8	163.7	406.1	110.9	180.6	123.5	129.8	127.9	135.7	123.7	140.9
June	138.4	125.1	164.4	424.4	110.8	182.5	123.3	129.9	129.8	137.1	125.2	143.0
September	138.4	125.8	164.0	435.3	108.8	183.7	123.3	130.4	130.1	136.7	125.4	142.9
December	139.8	126.5	163.4	453.8	108.3	183.3	122.5	131.6	128.7	135.8	125.2	143.2
2002												
March	141.1	127.1	161.4	470.1	107.0	185.1	122.3	130.1	129.9	135.7	126.6	143.4
June	142.1	128.5	161.2	473.8	106.8	187.7	122.8	130.4	132.5	137.3	126.8	144.6
September	142.8	129.0	160.4	480.5	106.6	188.2	122.9	130.5	134.1	137.7	127.1	144.5
December	143.9	129.6	160.0	498.6	106.5	189.1	122.9	131.1	134.5	138.2	126.8	145.4
2003												
March	145.7	129.8	158.5	500.9	106.0	192.7	123.5	130.1	136.2	139.7	127.9	146.0
June	145.4	129.5	157.9	503.3	106.5	193.7	123.2	130.3	135.8	140.1	127.7	147.1
September	145.8	129.5	157.1	509.8	106.3	194.0	123.8	129.4	136.2	140.6	128.1	147.1
December	146.5	130.0	158.4	523.2	106.1	195.8	124.1	131.1	136.0	140.6	128.1	147.7
2004												
March	147.8	130.2	159.2	526.4	105.8	199.1	125.7	131.2	136.9	141.8	129.2	147.9
June	148.4	131.0	160.2	538.3	106.2	200.5	126.1	132.6	138.6	144.0	130.2	148.9
September	148.7	131.4	160.2	539.1	106.2	203.2	126.4	134.5	138.5	144.3	130.6	148.6
December	149.8	132.5	nya	553.0	nya	203.0	nya	134.2	138.9	145.7	130.6	149.5

nya not yet available

(b) Refer to paragraphs 14-16 of the Explanatory Notes for further information.

(a) Base of each index: 1989-90 = 100.0.

<i>Period</i>	<i>Australia</i>	<i>New Zealand</i>	<i>Hong Kong</i>	<i>Indonesia</i>	<i>Japan</i>	<i>Korea, Republic of</i>	<i>Singapore</i>	<i>Taiwan</i>	<i>Canada</i>	<i>United States of America</i>	<i>Germany</i>	<i>United Kingdom</i>
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous financial year)												
2000-01	5.4	4.0	-1.1	9.7	-0.5	4.1	1.9	1.2	2.5	3.4	1.2	1.5
2001-02	2.9	2.8	-1.4	13.8	-3.0	3.2	-0.2	-0.2	1.7	0.8	1.9	1.5
2002-03	2.9	2.0	-2.0	8.2	-1.2	3.2	0.3	-0.1	3.8	1.8	1.1	1.6
2003-04	1.8	0.5	-0.3	5.8	-0.3	3.4	1.5	0.5	1.3	2.1	1.2	1.4

PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from corresponding quarter of previous year)

2000												
December	5.3	4.4	-1.0	9.7	-0.6	3.1	2.2	2.2	2.4	3.4	1.0	1.5
2001												
March	5.6	4.1	-1.2	9.5	-0.2	4.5	1.8	0.7	2.4	3.4	1.0	1.3
June	5.8	4.4	-0.9	14.8	-0.5	5.6	1.9	-0.3	2.9	3.2	2.3	1.6
September	2.6	3.3	-0.8	15.6	-2.0	4.3	0.9	-0.7	2.2	2.2	2.0	1.7
December	3.2	2.5	-1.3	12.5	-2.6	3.2	-0.2	-0.6	0.9	0.9	1.8	1.4
2002												
March	3.0	2.7	-1.4	15.8	-3.5	2.5	-1.0	0.2	1.6	0.0	2.3	1.8
June	2.7	2.7	-1.9	11.6	-3.6	2.8	-0.4	0.4	2.1	0.1	1.3	1.1
September	3.2	2.5	-2.2	10.4	-2.0	2.4	-0.3	0.1	3.1	0.7	1.4	1.1
December	2.9	2.5	-2.1	9.9	-1.7	3.2	0.4	-0.4	4.5	1.8	1.3	1.5
2003												
March	3.3	2.1	-1.8	6.6	-0.9	4.1	1.0	0.0	4.8	2.9	1.0	1.8
June	2.3	0.8	-2.0	6.2	-0.3	3.2	0.4	-0.1	2.5	2.0	0.7	1.7
September	2.1	0.4	-2.1	6.1	-0.3	3.1	0.7	-0.8	1.6	2.1	0.8	1.8
December	1.8	0.3	-1.0	4.9	-0.4	3.5	1.0	0.0	1.1	1.7	1.0	1.6
2004												
March	1.4	0.3	0.4	5.1	-0.2	3.3	1.8	0.8	0.5	1.5	1.0	1.3
June	2.1	1.2	1.5	7.0	-0.3	3.5	2.3	1.8	2.1	2.8	2.0	1.2
September	2.0	1.5	2.0	5.7	-0.1	4.7	2.1	3.9	1.7	2.6	2.0	1.0
December	2.3	1.9	nya	5.7	nya	3.7	nya	2.4	2.1	3.6	2.0	1.2

PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous quarter)

2000												
December	0.4	1.3	0.1	7.1	0.2	0.9	0.5	0.8	0.2	0.7	0.1	0.5
2001												
March	1.2	0.3	-1.1	0.7	-0.3	1.7	0.5	-2.0	0.3	0.8	0.6	-0.2
June	1.0	1.1	0.4	4.5	-0.1	1.1	-0.2	0.1	1.5	1.0	1.2	1.5
September	0.0	0.6	-0.2	2.6	-1.8	0.7	0.0	0.4	0.2	-0.3	0.2	-0.1
December	1.0	0.6	-0.4	4.2	-0.5	-0.2	-0.6	0.9	-1.1	-0.7	-0.2	0.2
2002												
March	0.9	0.5	-1.2	3.6	-1.2	1.0	-0.2	-1.1	0.9	-0.1	1.1	0.1
June	0.7	1.1	-0.1	0.8	-0.2	1.4	0.5	0.2	2.0	1.2	0.2	0.8
September	0.5	0.4	-0.5	1.4	-0.2	0.3	0.1	0.1	1.2	0.3	0.2	-0.1
December	0.8	0.5	-0.2	3.8	-0.1	0.5	0.0	0.5	0.3	0.4	-0.2	0.6
2003												
March	1.3	0.2	-0.9	0.5	-0.5	1.9	0.5	-0.8	1.3	1.1	0.9	0.4
June	-0.2	-0.2	-0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5	-0.2	0.2	-0.3	0.3	-0.2	0.8
September	0.3	0.0	-0.5	1.3	-0.2	0.2	0.4	-0.7	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.0
December	0.5	0.4	0.8	2.6	-0.2	0.9	0.3	1.3	-0.1	0.0	0.0	0.4
2004												
March	0.9	0.2	0.5	0.6	-0.3	1.7	1.3	0.1	0.7	0.9	0.9	0.1
June	0.4	0.6	0.6	2.3	0.4	0.7	0.3	1.1	1.2	1.6	0.8	0.7
September	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.1	0.0	1.3	0.2	1.4	-0.1	0.2	0.3	-0.2
December	0.7	0.8	nya	2.6	nya	-0.1	nya	-0.2	0.3	1.0	0.0	0.6

nya not yet available

(a) Refer to paragraphs 14-16 of the Explanatory Notes for further information.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE CPI

1 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 expenditure by the CPI population group (i.e. metropolitan households). This 'basket' covers a wide range of goods and services, arranged in the following eleven groups:

- food
- alcohol and tobacco
- clothing and footwear
- housing
- household furnishings, supplies and services
- health
- transportation
- communication
- recreation
- education
- miscellaneous.

2 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 *Australian Consumer Price Index: Concepts, Sources and Methods* (cat. no. 6461.0) which is available on the ABS web site <<http://www.abs.gov.au>>.

PRICES

4 The frequency of price collection by item varies as necessary to obtain reliable price measures. Prices of some items are volatile (i.e. their prices may vary many times each quarter) and for these items frequent price observations are necessary to obtain a reliable measure of the average price for the quarter. Each month prices are collected at regular intervals for goods such as milk, bread, fresh meat and seafood, fresh fruit and vegetables, petrol, alcohol, tobacco and holiday travel and accommodation. For most other items, price volatility is not a problem and prices are collected once a quarter. There are a few items where prices are changed at infrequent intervals, for example education fees where prices are set once a year. In these cases, the frequency of price collection is modified accordingly.

5 In order to facilitate a more even spread of field collection workload, the number of items for which prices are collected quarterly is distributed roughly equally across each month of each quarter. In all cases, however, individual items are priced in the same month of each quarter. For example, items for which prices are collected in the first month of the September quarter, July, are also priced in the first month of subsequent quarters, namely October, January and April.

WEIGHTING PATTERN

6 There are 89 expenditure classes (that is, groupings of like items) in the fourteenth series 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 now comprises fourteen series of price indexes which have been linked to form a continuous series. The current weighting pattern for the CPI is given in *A Guide to the Consumer Price Index, 14th Series* (cat. no. 6440.0) and *Australian Consumer Price Index: Concepts, Sources and Methods* (cat. no. 6461.0) which are available on the ABS web site <<http://www.abs.gov.au>>.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

ANALYSIS OF CPI CHANGES

8 Movements in indexes from one period to another can be expressed either as changes in index points or as percentage changes. The following example illustrates the method of calculating changes in index points and percentage changes between any two periods:

All groups CPI: Weighted average of eight capital cities.

	Index numbers:
December Quarter 2004	146.5 (see table 1)
less Sept Quarter 2004	145.4 (see table 1)
Change in index points	1.1
Percentage change	$1.1/145.4 \times 100 = 0.8\%$

9 Percentage changes are calculated to illustrate three different kinds of movements in index numbers:

- movements between consecutive financial years (where the index numbers for financial years are simple averages of the quarterly index numbers)
- movements between corresponding quarters of consecutive years
- movements between consecutive quarters.

10 Table 7 provides a detailed analysis, for the weighted average of eight capital cities, of movements in the CPI since the previous quarter, including information on movements for groups, sub-groups and expenditure classes. It also shows the contribution which each makes to the total CPI. For instance, the dairy and related products sub-group contributed 2.14 index points to the total All groups index number of 146.5 for December Quarter 2004. The final column shows contributions to the change in All Groups index points by each group, sub-group and expenditure class.

SPECIAL SERIES

11 Various series are presented in tables 8, 9 and 10 in this publication which are helpful for analytical purposes. These series are compiled by taking subsets of the CPI basket. (A complete list of CPI groups, subgroups and expenditure classes is contained in tables 6 and 7.)

12 Some of the compiled series are self explanatory, such as 'All groups excluding Food'. Other series and their composition are described below:

- *All groups, goods component*: comprises the Food group (except Restaurant meals), Alcohol and tobacco group, Clothing and footwear group (except Clothing services and shoe repair) and Household furnishings, supplies and services group (except Household services); the Utilities, Audio, visual and computing and Books, newspapers and magazines sub-groups; and the House purchase, Pharmaceuticals, Motor vehicles, Automotive fuel, Motor vehicle parts and accessories, Sports and recreational equipment, Toys, games and hobbies, Pets, pet foods and supplies and Toiletries and personal care products expenditure classes.
- *All groups, services component*: comprises all items not included in the 'All groups, goods component'.
- *All groups, tradables component*: comprises all items whose prices are largely determined on the world market.
- *All groups, non-tradables component*: comprises all items not included in the 'All groups, tradables component'.
- *All groups excluding 'volatile items'*: comprises the All groups CPI excluding Fruit and vegetables and Automotive fuel.
- *Market goods and services excluding 'volatile items'*: in addition to the items excluded from the series 'All groups excluding 'volatile items'', also excludes: Utilities, Property rates and charges, Health, Other motoring charges, Urban transport fares, Postal, Education and Child care.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

SPECIAL SERIES *continued*

13 A detailed description of the special and analytical series was published in Appendix 1 to the September quarter 2000 issue of *Consumer Price Index, Australia* (cat. no. 6401.0). The ABS is grateful for the assistance of the Reserve Bank of Australia for specifying the items included in the 'All groups excluding 'volatile items'' and 'Market goods and services excluding 'volatile items''. The Reserve Bank of Australia does not accord any special policy status to these series.

INTERNATIONAL COMPARISONS

14 In analysing price movements in Australia, an important consideration is Australia's performance relative to other countries. However, due to the many differences in the structure of the housing sector in different countries and in the way that housing is treated in their CPIs, a simple comparison of All groups (or headline) CPIs is often inappropriate. To provide a better basis for international comparisons, the Fourteenth International Conference of Labour Statisticians adopted a resolution which called for countries to 'provide for dissemination at the international level of an index which excludes shelter, in addition to the all-items index'.

15 Table 11 presents indexes for selected countries on a basis consistent with the above resolution and broadly comparable to the Australian series 'All groups excluding Housing'. To facilitate comparisons all indexes in this table have been converted, where necessary, to a quarterly basis and re-referenced to a base of 1989–90 = 100.0.

16 In producing table 11, the ABS is grateful for the assistance of the relevant national statistical agencies which have either directly supplied indexes for all items excluding shelter or data to enable their derivation.

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

17 Current publications and other products released by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products* (cat. no. 1101.0). The Catalogue is available from any ABS office or the ABS web site <<http://www.abs.gov.au>>. The ABS also issues a daily Release Advice on the web site which details products to be released in the week ahead.

18 Users may also wish to refer to the following publications and other data products:

- *A Guide to the Consumer Price Index, 14th Series* (cat. no. 6440.0)
- *Average Retail Prices of Selected Items, Eight Capital Cities* (cat. no. 6403.0.55.001)
- *House Price Indexes: Eight Capital Cities* (cat. no. 6416.0)
- *Information Paper: Price Indexes and the New Tax System* (cat. no. 6425.0)
- *Information Paper: Introduction of the 14th Series Australian Consumer Price Index* (cat. no. 6456.0)
- *Australian Consumer Price Index: Concepts, Sources and Methods* (cat. no. 6461.0).

ABS DATA AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

19 As well as the statistics included in this and related publications, the ABS may have other relevant data available on request. Inquiries should be made to Steve Whennan on (02) 6252 6251 or to the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070.

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