

AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF SELECTED ITEMS

EIGHT
CAPITAL
CITIES

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NOTES

INTRODUCTION

This publication contains average prices for selected items which are included in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the eight capital cities.

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; 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

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 may also differ from one period to the next due to a change in product specification. Thus *the average prices for some items may not be comparable from city to city, nor from quarter to quarter*. Details of differences in specifications are provided in footnotes to the table.

Each month prices are collected at regular intervals for milk, bread, fresh meat, fresh fruit and vegetables, petrol and alcohol and are averaged to obtain quarterly prices. Prices for all other items included in this publication are collected during the mid month of each quarter (i.e. in August, November, February and May).

Commencing with the December quarter 1996, average retail prices are calculated using the geometric mean of the individual observations.

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

Users may also wish to refer to the following publications:

- *Consumer Price Index, Australia* (6401.0)
- *A Guide to the Consumer Price Index* (6440.0)
- *The Australian Consumer Price Index: Concepts, Sources & Methods* (6461.0) available on CD-ROM *Statistical Concepts Reference Library* (1361.0).

FORTHCOMING ISSUE

The March quarter 2000 issue is expected to be released on 10 May 2000.

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Acting Australian Statistician

- For further information about these and related statistics, contact Steve Whennan on 02 6252 6251, or Client Services in any ABS Office as shown on the back cover of this publication.

Item (Unit)	Sydney cents	Melbourne cents	Brisbane cents	Adelaide cents	Perth cents	Hobart cents	Darwin cents	Canberra cents
Dairy products								
Milk, carton, supermarket sales (1 litre)	129	142	130	141	146	130	142	119
Cheese, processed, sliced, wrapped (500 g)	381	355	372	334	351	387	376	378
Butter (500 g) (a)	190	216	177	186	199	222	233	187
Cereal products								
Bread, white loaf, sliced, supermarket sales (650 g) (b)	232	239	213	219	220	239	219	230
Biscuits, dry (250 g)	163	174	160	172	167	194	178	160
Breakfast cereal, corn based (550 g)	266	299	281	299	378	350	309	298
Flour, self raising (2 kg)	341	335	278	257	263	277	314	338
Rice, long grain (1 kg)	159	155	156	147	177	178	182	162
Meat and seafoods								
Beef								
Silverside roast (1 kg) (c)	776	807	740	772	849	711	895	841
Rump steak (1 kg)	1 249	1 087	1 086	1 140	1 191	1 024	1 189	1 246
T-bone steak, with fillet (1 kg)	1 190	1 124	1 034	1 153	1 195	1 008	1 206	1 168
Chuck steak (1 kg)	597	635	620	671	657	601	724	669
Silverside, corned (1 kg)	677	666	575	643	683	604	655	741
Lamb								
Leg (1 kg)	589	530	601	592	569	547	623	552
Loin chops (1 kg)	858	938	871	865	897	720	952	836
Forequarter chops (1 kg)	455	541	527	592	557	499	621	439
Pork								
Leg (1 kg)	611	613	603	635	614	681	690	640
Loin chops (1 kg)	964	914	914	861	891	825	904	1 022
Chicken, frozen (1 kg)	363	367	327	375	353	371	414	360
Bacon, middle rashers (250 g pkt)	346	310	329	320	395	358	377	317
Sausages (1 kg)	426	484	407	445	542	487	430	432
Salmon, pink (210 g can)	251	260	260	261	267	302	289	255
Fresh fruit and vegetables								
Oranges (1 kg)	333	219	199	119	292	171	313	284
Bananas (1 kg)	231	229	181	246	271	250	278	226
Potatoes (1 kg)	127	170	119	105	152	93	137	141
Tomatoes (1kg)	268	257	191	294	298	325	368	260
Carrots (1 kg)	174	143	115	134	128	155	219	175
Onions (1 kg)	173	149	115	163	119	131	199	176
Processed fruit and vegetables								
Peaches (825 g can)	204	216	212	213	211	230	257	211
Pineapple, sliced (450 g can)	115	116	116	111	126	128	122	117
Peas, frozen (500 g pkt)	119	141	138	135	153	152	168	131
Confectionery								
Chocolate, milk, block (250 g)	312	334	326	275	306	346	298	325
Other food								
Eggs (1 dozen) (d)	294	331	254	265	281	291	297	271
Sugar, white (2 kg)	227	222	219	198	262	263	219	230
Jam, strawberry (500 g jar)	234	251	259	222	252	252	242	248
Teabags (180 g pkt)	327	338	347	325	334	399	335	333
Coffee, instant (150 g jar)	582	603	604	568	644	693	632	570
Tomato sauce (600 ml)	177	175	165	178	195	196	196	168
Margarine, poly-unsaturated (500 g)	189	146	185	148	179	211	197	185
Baked beans, in tomato sauce (420 g)	102	112	108	112	100	122	113	106
Baby food (120 g can)	65	71	64	61	67	76	64	61

AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF SELECTED ITEMS, Dec Qtr 1999 *continued*

Item (Unit)	Sydney cents	Melbourne cents	Brisbane cents	Adelaide cents	Perth cents	Hobart cents	Darwin cents	Canberra cents
Household supplies								
Laundry detergent (1 kg)	498	486	488	485	457	498	484	487
Dishwashing detergent (500ml)	337	330	330	326	329	348	343	343
Facial tissues (pkt 224)	198	193	192	198	193	227	190	195
Toilet paper (4 x 270 sheet rolls)	311	317	350	301	329	340	324	325
Pet food (400 g)	97	99	97	98	106	108	101	101
Private motoring								
Petrol, super grade (1 litre)(e)	79.6	76.2	69.9	78.4	79.0	84.7	86.5	83.1
Petrol, unleaded (1 litre)	76.9	73.8	67.3	75.8	76.4	82.7	84.5	80.5
Alcoholic drinks								
Beer, low alcohol (24 x 355 ml - 375 ml bottles)	2 105	1 988	2 316	2 164	2 374	2 291	2 389	2 045
Beer, full strength (24 x 375 ml bottles) (f)	2 745	2 800	2 620	2 652	2 736	2 609	2 951	2 712
Draught beer, full strength, public bar (285 ml glass) (f)	177	215	190	215	243	230	240	179
Draught beer, low alcohol, public bar (285 ml glass)	160	188	177	188	237	201	221	157
Scotch nip, public bar (30 ml)	337	328	277	368	393	264	332	275
Personal care products								
Toilet soap (4 x 125 g)	316	289	301	299	313	355	323	324
Toothpaste (140 g)	246	225	248	240	255	269	255	242

(a) Sydney, Melbourne and Canberra
2 x 250 g.

(b) Hobart and Darwin 680 g.

(c) Brisbane and Darwin prices relate to
topside roast. Adelaide price relates to
blade bolar roast.

(d) Eggs in Sydney and Canberra have a net
carton weight of 700 g per dozen. Eggs in
Melbourne and Perth have a minimum net
weight of 61 g. Eggs in Brisbane and
Hobart have a minimum net weight of 52 g.
Eggs in Adelaide have a minimum net
weight of 55 g. Eggs in Darwin have
minimum net weight of 54 g.

(e) Includes lead replacement petrol where
applicable.

(f) Alcoholic content of full strength beer is
greater than 3.9%.

SELF-HELP ACCESS TO STATISTICS

- CPI INFOLINE* For current and historical Consumer Price Index data, call 1902 981 074 (call cost 75c per minute).
- DIAL-A-STATISTIC* For the latest figures for National Accounts, Balance of Payments, Labour Force, Average Weekly Earnings, Estimated Resident Population and the Consumer Price Index call 1900 986 400 (call cost 75c per minute).
- INTERNET* www.abs.gov.au
- LIBRARY* A range of ABS publications is available from public and tertiary libraries Australia-wide. Contact your nearest library to determine whether it has the ABS statistics you require.

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ABS offers consultancy services on a user pays basis to help you access published and unpublished data. Data that is already published and can be provided within 5 minutes is free of charge. Statistical methodological services are also available. Please contact:

<i>INQUIRIES</i>	<i>City</i>	<i>By phone</i>	<i>By fax</i>
	Canberra	02 6252 6627	02 6207 0282
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	Melbourne	03 9615 7755	03 9615 7798
	Brisbane	07 3222 6351	07 3222 6283
	Perth	08 9360 5140	08 9360 5955
	Adelaide	08 8237 7400	08 8237 7566
	Hobart	03 6222 5800	03 6222 5995
	Darwin	08 8943 2111	08 8981 1218

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