

AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF SELECTED ITEMS

EIGHT
CAPITAL
CITIES

EMBARGO: 11:30AM (CANBERRA TIME) WED 11 AUGUST 1999

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.

Prices for fresh fruit and vegetables are collected weekly and averaged to obtain quarterly prices. Prices for fresh milk, fresh meat, bread, fish, petrol and alcohol are collected monthly and averaged to obtain quarterly prices. Prices for all other items 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 September quarter 1999 issue is expected to be released on 10 November 1999.

W. McLennan
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)	122	140	126	136	141	130	135	115
Cheese, processed, sliced, wrapped (500 g)	381	365	389	323	348	386	399	367
Butter (500 g) (b)	186	209	172	182	200	210	218	181
Cereal products								
Bread, white loaf, sliced, supermarket sales (650 g) (c)	211	233	200	163	203	203	220	212
Biscuits, dry (250 g)	160	169	160	164	161	187	175	160
Breakfast cereal, corn based (550 g)	299	292	298	291	366	361	310	285
Flour, self raising (2 kg)	332	322	270	254	265	266	299	333
Rice, long grain (1 kg)	153	151	155	143	174	177	176	158
Meat and seafoods								
Beef								
Silverside roast (1 kg) (d)	789	817	747	757	844	714	885	811
Rump steak (1 kg)	1 249	1 090	1 033	1 201	1 138	1 081	1 207	1 214
T-bone steak, with fillet (1 kg)	1 184	1 106	983	1 134	1 206	989	1 225	1 168
Chuck steak (1 kg)	597	600	620	661	655	621	736	613
Silverside, corned (1 kg)	669	631	541	639	680	590	640	691
Lamb								
Leg (1 kg)	621	582	616	605	600	560	640	604
Loin chops (1 kg)	866	943	881	873	897	749	943	851
Forequarter chops (1 kg)	466	562	540	620	595	514	637	423
Pork								
Leg (1 kg)	542	539	492	611	582	650	669	596
Loin chops (1 kg)	914	835	839	842	811	799	876	947
Chicken, frozen (1 kg)	353	354	348	353	362	387	427	336
Bacon, middle rashers (250 g pkt)	341	310	344	311	317	361	356	308
Sausages (1 kg)	347	395	327	366	459	427	392	376
Salmon, pink (210 g can)	255	267	262	253	271	301	290	250
Fresh fruit and vegetables								
Oranges (1 kg)	263	229	224	149	385	149	333	232
Bananas (1 kg)	260	248	225	272	320	259	285	246
Potatoes (1 kg)	130	155	136	81	137	82	159	142
Tomatoes (1kg)	330	276	252	382	323	352	423	291
Carrots (1 kg)	194	161	159	174	128	148	227	185
Onions (1 kg)	128	99	101	109	102	120	166	124
Processed fruit and vegetables								
Peaches (825 g can)	204	210	214	214	210	243	254	224
Pineapple, sliced (450 g can)	118	115	117	116	129	127	120	118
Peas, frozen (500 g pkt)	137	139	133	141	146	158	160	138
Confectionery								
Chocolate, milk, block (250 g)	309	307	312	290	307	374	318	317
Other food								
Eggs (1 dozen) (e)	280	325	292	247	267	289	296	271
Sugar, white (2 kg)	240	221	217	187	259	268	214	220
Jam, strawberry (500 g jar)	248	226	229	221	247	281	260	254
Teabags (180 g pkt) (f)	334	334	338	311	367	402	335	320
Coffee, instant (150 g jar)	655	592	633	586	615	636	564	520
Tomato sauce (600 ml)	180	181	183	173	210	208	196	171
Margarine, poly-unsaturated (500 g)	176	152	173	155	188	207	178	171
Baked beans, in tomato sauce (420 g)	94	107	103	111	106	121	107	94
Baby food (120 g can)	64	66	62	62	67	73	64	62

AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF SELECTED ITEMS, Jun Qtr 1999(a) *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)	472	479	464	448	464	490	491	477
Dishwashing detergent (500ml)	338	334	327	325	331	370	340	343
Facial tissues (pkt 224)	189	174	186	184	181	215	190	184
Toilet paper (4 x 270 sheet rolls)	339	327	330	304	337	338	327	338
Pet food (400 g)	102	96	108	98	107	119	93	97
Private motoring								
Petrol, super grade (1 litre)	72.6	70.2	63.3	71.2	73.0	77.9	78.7	74.6
Petrol, unleaded (1 litre)	70.1	67.8	60.9	68.8	70.7	75.9	76.7	72.3
Alcoholic drinks								
Beer, low alcohol (24 x 355 ml - 375 ml bottles) (g)	2 041	1 647	2 334	2 113	2 140	2 288	2 338	1 978
Beer, full strength (24 x 375 ml bottles) (h)	2 666	2 775	2 632	2 686	2 526	2 557	2 947	2 426
Draught beer, full strength, public bar (285 ml glass) (h)	175	210	185	216	236	230	235	180
Draught beer, low alcohol, public bar (285 ml glass)	159	181	175	186	230	200	217	159
Scotch nip, public bar (30 ml)	331	321	271	363	387	264	333	273
Personal care products								
Toilet soap (4 x 125 g)	323	287	302	299	312	342	320	308
Toothpaste (140 g)	247	238	259	229	247	254	259	242

(a) Retail prices for the items 'Milk, powdered, full cream (750 g)' and 'Beef, corned (340 g can)' are no longer collected.

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

(c) Adelaide, Hobart and Darwin 680 g.

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

(e) 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.

(f) Tea formerly 250 g packaged loose tea.

(g) Beer, low alcohol, formerly 24 x 375 ml bottles only.

(h) 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.

WHY NOT SUBSCRIBE?

- PHONE* +61 1300 366 323
- FAX* +61 03 9615 7848

CONSULTANCY SERVICES

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
	Sydney	02 9268 4611	02 9268 4668
	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

POST Client Services, ABS, PO Box 10, Belconnen ACT 2616

EMAIL client.services@abs.gov.au



2640300006999
ISSN 0812-5546

RRP \$15.00