

AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF SELECTED ITEMS

EIGHT
CAPITAL
CITIES

EMBARGO: 11:30AM (CANBERRA TIME) WED 13 MAY 1998

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 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

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* (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 June 1998 issue is expected to be released on 5 August 1998.

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Australian Statistician

- For further information about these and related statistics, contact Judy Henson on 02 6252 6251, or any ABS Office.

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) (a)	116	135	117	127	135	125	123	115
Milk, powdered, full cream (750 g)	474	485	492	488	475	572	573	501
Cheese, processed, sliced, wrapped (500 g)	380	357	368	323	335	370	387	399
Butter (500 g) (b)	183	205	170	175	186	206	200	189
Cereal products								
Bread white loaf, sliced, supermarket sales (680 g)	206	191	191	165	192	185	208	200
Biscuits, dry (250 g)	159	164	151	153	157	180	185	156
Breakfast cereal, corn based (550 g)	329	313	336	284	334	331	292	312
Flour, self raising (2 kg)	335	332	278	235	263	259	308	331
Rice, long grain (1 kg)	150	147	146	127	164	165	173	153
Meat and seafoods								
Beef								
Silverside roast (1 kg) (c)	754	781	724	736	725	700	837	738
Rump steak (1 kg)	1 186	1 008	1 079	1 197	1 067	998	1 259	1 101
T-bone steak, with fillet (1 kg)	1 156	1 021	1 017	1 107	1 115	977	1 218	1 054
Chuck steak (1 kg)	560	585	596	617	606	594	733	540
Silverside, corned (1 kg)	626	600	521	596	628	615	571	613
Lamb								
Leg (1 kg)	594	530	566	534	598	544	625	545
Loin chops (1 kg)	787	846	809	794	869	683	921	793
Forequarter chops (1 kg)	451	495	505	577	577	474	591	448
Pork								
Leg (1 kg)	542	549	605	601	630	646	731	557
Loin chops (1 kg)	880	795	871	812	832	828	917	914
Chicken, frozen (1 kg)	364	347	328	362	351	376	440	340
Bacon, middle rashers (250 g pkt)	338	311	268	322	347	367	411	303
Beef corned (340 g can)	285	284	305	264	265	330	285	295
Sausages (1 kg)	318	336	345	357	405	380	371	286
Salmon, pink (210 g can)	237	245	244	246	256	294	279	257
Fresh fruit and vegetables								
Oranges (1 kg)	236	149	161	91	272	107	255	138
Bananas (1 kg)	160	137	132	170	179	152	287	163
Potatoes (1 kg)	108	118	107	69	119	91	125	114
Tomatoes (1kg)	285	233	256	275	265	265	424	258
Carrots (1 kg)	170	129	149	137	115	141	197	176
Onions (1 kg)	132	105	105	122	101	125	174	117
Processed fruit and vegetables								
Peaches (825 g can)	192	195	191	193	235	213	242	195
Pineapple, sliced (450 g can)	106	98	103	98	119	116	130	112
Peas, frozen (500 g pkt)	128	129	132	117	132	131	157	132
Confectionery								
Chocolate, milk, block (250 g)	302	284	295	260	294	303	303	299
Other food								
Eggs (55 g, 1 dozen) (d)	284	270	232	238	255	284	310	282
Sugar, white (2 kg)	216	217	204	201	260	258	262	224
Jam, strawberry (500 g jar)	248	254	262	234	260	272	288	280
Tea (250 g)	237	223	238	217	253	248	253	224
Coffee, instant (150 g jar)	650	647	656	588	670	697	616	657
Tomato sauce (600 ml)	169	186	191	161	209	206	219	181
Margarine, poly-unsaturated (500 g)	180	150	156	141	128	162	191	177
Baked beans, in tomato sauce (420 g)	96	93	97	91	100	94	109	98
Baby food (120 g can)	61	56	62	58	64	69	63	62

AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF SELECTED ITEMS, Mar Qtr 1998 *continued*

Item (Unit)	Sydney cents	Melbourne cents	Brisbane cents	Adelaide cents	Perth cents	Hobart cents	Darwin cents	Canberra cents
Household supplies and services								
Laundry detergent (1 kg)	470	476	496	455	484	523	526	475
Dishwashing detergent (500ml)	300	332	357	319	339	372	336	327
Facial tissues (pkt 224)	187	184	203	177	189	207	200	195
Toilet paper (4 x 270 sheet rolls)	337	326	356	317	334	346	325	332
Pet food (410 g)	101	96	103	96	112	111	103	103
Private motoring								
Petrol, super grade (1 litre)	73.2	70.2	63.9	71.5	74.2	80.0	82.4	75.3
Petrol, unleaded (1 litre)	71.0	68.0	61.7	69.2	72.0	78.0	80.4	73.1
Alcoholic drinks								
Beer, low alcohol, unchilled (24 x 375 ml bottles) (e)	2 013	1 643	2 345	2 106	2 368	2 264	2 330	1 947
Beer, full strength, unchilled (24 x 375 ml bottles) (e) (f)	2 703	2 651	2 614	2 722	2 652	2 781	2 990	2 437
Draught beer, full strength, public bar (285 ml glass) (f) (g)	171	194	183	198	228	194	230	177
Draught beer, low alcohol, public bar (285 ml glass) (g)	155	165	170	172	223	168	215	158
Scotch nip, public bar (30 ml)	338	303	259	356	372	262	326	256
Personal care products								
Toilet soap (4 x 125 g)	272	273	307	275	268	328	330	295
Toothpaste (140 g)	233	234	275	237	242	263	274	233

(a) Darwin price relates to blended milk.

(e) Darwin, chilled.

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

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

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

(g) Hobart glass size 225 ml.

(d) Eggs in Sydney have a net carton weight of
700 g per dozen. Eggs in Melbourne,
Adelaide and Canberra have a minimum
weight of 55 g. Eggs in Brisbane and Hobart
have a minimum net weight of 52 g. Eggs in
Perth have a minimum net weight of 50 g.
Eggs in Darwin have a minimum net weight
of 54 g.

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2640300003981
ISSN 0812-5546

RRP \$15.00