

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.

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 December quarter 1999 issue is expected to be released on 9 February 2000.

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	140	146	130	141	115
Cheese, processed, sliced, wrapped (500 g)	388	351	362	331	339	374	392	367
Butter (500 g) (a)	192	211	172	182	202	214	236	187
Cereal products								
Bread, white loaf, sliced, supermarket sales (650 g) (b)	228	238	211	213	218	226	219	230
Biscuits, dry (250 g)	163	171	166	162	164	184	180	159
Breakfast cereal, corn based (550 g)	289	279	292	268	363	354	287	267
Flour, self raising (2 kg)	326	319	274	258	264	255	299	328
Rice, long grain (1 kg)	158	152	152	146	176	168	181	163
Meat and seafoods								
Beef								
Silverside roast (1 kg) (c)	783	789	740	772	848	693	810	822
Rump steak (1 kg)	1 197	1 093	1 067	1 206	1 172	983	1 122	1 202
T-bone steak, with fillet (1 kg)	1 190	1 096	987	1 165	1 186	974	1 196	1 174
Chuck steak (1 kg)	630	628	629	664	662	614	686	602
Silverside, corned (1 kg)	672	639	547	657	721	578	648	704
Lamb								
Leg (1 kg)	606	544	581	578	600	569	630	591
Loin chops (1 kg)	852	940	870	872	908	742	949	877
Forequarter chops (1 kg)	463	556	542	611	583	531	622	448
Pork								
Leg (1 kg)	543	562	548	607	586	641	696	606
Loin chops (1 kg)	930	855	871	829	833	807	881	1 005
Chicken, frozen (1 kg)	362	355	312	362	369	373	421	366
Bacon, middle rashers (250 g pkt)	337	310	339	310	369	362	345	319
Sausages (1 kg)	453	489	421	439	541	478	427	425
Salmon, pink (210 g can)	251	266	266	252	264	302	284	258
Fresh fruit and vegetables								
Oranges (1 kg)	253	198	200	132	255	156	272	187
Bananas (1 kg)	337	327	327	342	351	323	283	304
Potatoes (1 kg)	127	153	132	80	154	80	128	140
Tomatoes (1kg)	279	250	203	328	250	322	355	275
Carrots (1 kg)	172	157	129	161	128	151	221	159
Onions (1 kg)	153	120	120	131	106	114	171	139
Processed fruit and vegetables								
Peaches (825 g can)	194	226	204	210	214	228	255	212
Pineapple, sliced (450 g can)	119	118	117	111	126	129	123	116
Peas, frozen (500 g pkt)	132	138	146	135	145	168	163	141
Confectionery								
Chocolate, milk, block (250 g)	314	306	289	292	321	336	308	272
Other food								
Eggs (1 dozen) (d)	287	331	311	268	270	285	292	285
Sugar, white (2 kg)	240	227	214	202	254	265	213	241
Jam, strawberry (500 g jar)	243	245	260	233	252	262	249	239
Teabags (180 g pkt)	355	356	328	319	364	407	332	321
Coffee, instant (150 g jar)	610	640	636	568	671	604	561	493
Tomato sauce (600 ml)	176	186	181	181	205	200	179	152
Margarine, poly-unsaturated (500 g)	189	159	182	161	192	214	177	179
Baked beans, in tomato sauce (420 g)	107	105	105	112	108	115	108	85
Baby food (120 g can)	64	67	63	61	68	74	65	62

AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF SELECTED ITEMS, Sep 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)	508	507	511	463	508	481	473	489
Dishwashing detergent (500ml)	333	345	316	340	331	374	351	333
Facial tissues (pkt 224)	200	191	195	194	182	201	188	192
Toilet paper (4 x 270 sheet rolls)	341	316	346	308	343	374	324	325
Pet food (400 g)	100	102	106	97	110	119	100	101
Private motoring								
Petrol, super grade (1 litre)	78.4	76.4	69.9	78.0	78.4	82.8	83.1	80.6
Petrol, unleaded (1 litre)	75.8	74.0	67.5	75.6	76.0	80.8	81.0	78.2
Alcoholic drinks								
Beer, low alcohol (24 x 355 ml - 375 ml bottles)	2 075	1 879	2 320	2 146	2 165	2 263	2 394	1 983
Beer, full strength (24 x 375 ml bottles) (e)	2 703	2 720	2 664	2 627	2 758	2 393	2 923	2 526
Draught beer, full strength, public bar (285 ml glass) (e)	176	211	187	215	239	230	238	178
Draught beer, low alcohol, public bar (285 ml glass)	159	182	176	185	233	201	219	156
Scotch nip, public bar (30 ml)	334	322	273	363	389	264	332	270
Personal care products								
Toilet soap (4 x 125 g)	311	286	284	297	299	367	337	306
Toothpaste (140 g)	249	246	269	246	246	283	260	255

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

(b) Bread white loaf in Adelaide formerly
680 g. 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) 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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<i>INQUIRIES</i>	<i>City</i>	<i>By phone</i>	<i>By fax</i>
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	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



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