

AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF SELECTED ITEMS

EIGHT
CAPITAL
CITIES

EMBARGO: 11:30AM (CANBERRA TIME) WED 11 FEB 2004

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 eleven groups which are in turn divided into subgroups. The items for which average prices are shown in this publication comprise a selection of items from the CPI food group and the following non-food subgroups: household supplies; sport and other recreation; private motoring; alcoholic drinks; and personal care.

AVERAGE PRICES

Prices shown are the geometric means of prices for specified grades, qualities, brands, etc. charged by a number of selected retailers in each city. The items and the retailers have been selected as representative to measure price change over time rather than to measure the average prices of all retail sales of these items in each of the 8 capital cities. Therefore they should be regarded as no more than approximate indicators of price levels for the items concerned. Furthermore, the selected grades, brands, package size, etc. for some items differ between cities and may also differ from one period to the next due to changes in product specifications. For example, potatoes may be priced as washed or brushed, loose or bagged, depending on what is most representative for a particular city. Thus *the average prices for some items may not be completely comparable from city to city, nor from quarter to quarter.*

Changes in the price levels of the items in this publication may differ from those in *Consumer Price Index, Australia* (cat. no. 6401.0) because those indexes are adjusted to take account of changes in the quality of the items priced; no such adjustment is made to the price levels presented in this publication. Details of differences in specifications are provided in footnotes to the table.

Each month prices are collected at regular intervals for milk, butter, bread, fresh meat, fresh fruit and vegetables, margarine, 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).

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

Users may also wish to refer to the following publications:

- *Consumer Price Index, Australia*, cat. no. 6401.0
- *A Guide to the Consumer Price Index, 14th Series*, cat. no. 6440.0
- *Australian Consumer Price Index: Concepts, Sources and Methods*, cat. no. 6461.0.

FORTHCOMING ISSUE

The March quarter 2004 issue is expected to be released on 12 May 2004.

INQUIRIES

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

Dennis Trewin
Australian Statistician

Item (Unit)	Sydney cents	Melbourne cents	Brisbane cents	Adelaide cents	Perth cents	Hobart cents	Darwin cents	Canberra cents
Dairy and related products								
Milk (1 litre)	156	157	158	161	171	148	174	145
Cheese, processed, sliced, wrapped (500 g)	362	373	388	376	371	375	402	396
Butter (500 g) (a)	246	240	208	206	216	222	249	240
Bread and cereal products								
Bread, white loaf, sliced (650 g) (b)	245	247	243	243	233	276	277	254
Biscuits, dry (250 g)	178	179	170	170	166	198	197	178
Breakfast cereal, corn based (550 g)	342	315	333	306	362	356	338	346
Flour, self raising (2 kg)	349	361	315	325	403	256	346	407
Rice, long grain (1 kg)	199	213	198	196	212	220	224	199
Meat and seafoods								
Beef								
Silverside roast (1 kg) (c)	1 044	896	1 049	936	1 115	1 030	1 155	1 171
Rump steak (1 kg)	1 689	1 626	1 647	1 618	1 641	1 434	1 624	1 715
T-bone steak, with fillet (1 kg)	1 716	1 798	1 627	1 709	1 719	1 532	1 734	1 908
Chuck steak (1 kg)	897	876	816	940	916	949	928	973
Silverside, corned (1 kg)	708	653	673	717	766	677	688	716
Lamb								
Leg (1 kg)	878	826	857	861	904	909	902	887
Loin chops (1 kg)	1 467	1 459	1 504	1 474	1 488	1 326	1 538	1 592
Forequarter chops (1 kg)	813	785	865	844	859	811	888	797
Pork								
Leg (1 kg)	670	715	621	705	770	758	765	683
Loin chops (1 kg)	1 196	1 115	1 121	1 207	1 250	1 130	1 150	1 227
Chicken, frozen (1 kg)	374	409	395	417	379	400	454	395
Bacon, middle rashers (250 g pkt)	403	357	410	347	390	337	434	418
Sausages (1 kg)	560	562	515	555	588	591	503	562
Salmon, pink (210 g can)	239	228	257	230	246	318	266	273
Fresh fruit and vegetables (d)								
Oranges (1 kg)	317	275	242	134	310	222	319	257
Bananas (1 kg)	210	187	165	191	226	222	280	189
Potatoes (1 kg)	152	227	215	129	189	169	244	175
Tomatoes (1 kg)	398	368	375	374	352	381	449	398
Carrots (1 kg)	209	158	152	177	135	169	219	199
Onions (1 kg)	241	225	213	260	250	168	305	254
Processed fruit and vegetables								
Peaches (825 g can)	229	243	237	239	231	257	243	221
Pineapple, sliced (450 g can)	138	143	142	127	139	155	138	139
Peas, frozen (500 g pkt)	167	163	161	157	165	168	164	162
Snacks and confectionery								
Chocolate, milk, block (250 g)	319	332	321	306	321	313	305	328
Other food								
Eggs (1 dozen) (e), (f)	320	310	308	307	380	372	417	324
Sugar, white (2 kg) (f)	213	211	214	203	244	276	221	215
Jam, strawberry (500 g jar)	273	262	272	247	257	308	265	275
Teabags (180 g pkt)	382	397	363	334	371	450	371	397
Coffee, instant (150 g jar)	588	580	577	552	580	650	577	594
Tomato sauce (600 ml)	171	167	170	160	173	202	186	182
Margarine, poly-unsaturated (500 g)	235	241	234	219	229	239	243	233
Baked beans, in tomato sauce (420 g)	120	113	114	107	114	115	104	111
Baby food (120 g can)	73	71	74	72	69	76	73	69



AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF SELECTED ITEMS, December Qtr 2003 *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)	530	525	538	485	543	514	434	506
Dishwashing detergent (500 ml)	324	304	304	283	306	300	321	309
Facial tissues (pkt 180)	212	208	211	209	216	220	218	213
Toilet paper (4 x 250 sheet rolls)	290	299	292	290	306	305	307	303
Pet food (400 g)	93	103	98	94	99	106	103	102
Private motoring								
Petrol, lead replacement (1 litre)	94.9	90.7	84.2	93.8	93.7	98.5	100.2	98.1
Petrol, unleaded (1 litre)	90.5	86.9	80.3	88.8	89.7	95.3	97.0	94.1
Alcoholic drinks								
Beer, low alcohol (24 x 355 ml - 375 ml bottles) (g)	2 390	2 414	2 572	2 396	2 741	2 702	2 909	2 310
Beer, full strength (24 x 375 ml bottles) (h)	3 283	3 322	3 004	3 296	3 373	3 501	3 406	3 251
Draught beer, low alcohol, public bar (285 ml glass) (g)	193	231	207	253	293	239	240	185
Draught beer, full strength, public bar (285 ml glass) (h)	220	266	222	293	304	279	269	212
Scotch nip, public bar (30 ml)	380	394	354	462	453	357	405	327
Personal care								
Toilet soap (4 x 125 g)	244	221	238	224	242	236	259	218
Toothpaste (140 g)	223	243	241	231	223	229	248	237

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

(b) Hobart 680 g.

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

(d) Although presented on a cents per kilogram
basis, the prices for fruit and vegetables may
vary across cities due to the quantity priced,
that is, some items may be priced as loose
while others may be priced in bags of more
than one kilogram.

(e) Eggs in all capital cities have a minimum net
carton weight of 700 g per dozen eggs, except
Adelaide where they have a minimum net
carton weight of 600 g per dozen.

(f) Represents average price of brand name and
generic brand products.

(g) Includes light and mid strength beer with an
alcoholic content equal to or less than 3.5%.

(h) Alcoholic content of full strength beer is
greater than 3.5%.

FOR MORE INFORMATION...

- INTERNET* **www.abs.gov.au** the ABS web site is the best place to start for access to summary data from our latest publications, information about the ABS, advice about upcoming releases, our catalogue, and Australia Now—a statistical profile.
- 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, or visit our web site for a list of libraries.
- CPI INFOLINE* For current and historical Consumer Price Index data, call 1902 981 074 (call cost 77c 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 77c per minute).

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