

# CONSUMER PRICE INDEX AUSTRALIA

EMBARGO: 11:30AM (CANBERRA TIME) WED 23 JUL 1997

## All Groups

Base: 1989-90=100.0

Index

130

125

120

115

110

105

100

95

90

85

80

75

70

65

60

55

50

45

40

35

30

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-1295

-1300

# NOTES

## FORTHCOMING ISSUES

### ISSUE (Quarter)

### RELEASE DATE

September 1997

22 October 1997

December 1997

28 January 1998

## CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

There are no changes in this issue.

## ROUNDING

Any discrepancies between totals and sums of components in this publication are due to rounding. For similar reasons quarterly movements shown by sub-group or group index numbers in Table 6 do not necessarily correspond exactly with those shown by the relevant index points.

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Australian Statistician

## ANALYSES AND COMMENTS

### MAIN CONTRIBUTIONS TO CHANGE

#### HOUSING: -3.3%

The decrease in the housing index this quarter is the result of a fall of 9.6% in mortgage interest charges. It represents the largest quarterly decrease in housing costs since the introduction of mortgage interest charges in March quarter 1987. Partially offsetting the decrease were increases in privately-owned dwelling rents (+1.0%), house insurance (+0.9%) and house repairs and maintenance (+0.6%).

The fall in mortgage interest charges is the result of a significant decrease in interest rates (-10.0%), which was only offset in part by an increase of 0.4% in the value of debt outstanding (the smallest quarterly increase since the introduction of mortgage interest charges in March quarter 1987). Housing interest rates are calculated with a one month lag, therefore the decrease this quarter reflects reductions which occurred in March, April and May, and the flow-on of decreases which occurred late in the previous quarter.

Privately-owned dwelling rents fell in Canberra (-0.4%), but rose in all other capital cities. The increases ranged from 0.4% in Darwin to 1.1% in Sydney.

Annually, the cost of housing has fallen by 8.8%, also the largest decrease since March quarter 1987. This drop is due to an annual decrease of 24.1% in mortgage interest charges. Offsetting this decrease in part were rises in the costs of privately-owned dwelling rents (+3.0%) and local government rates and charges (+2.7%).

#### TRANSPORTATION: -1.0%

The fall in transportation costs this quarter is the largest decrease since the March quarter 1991 (-4.6%). The decrease mainly results from reduced prices for motor vehicles (-2.9%) and automotive fuel (-1.6%). A partial offset was contributed by rises in vehicle insurance premiums (+1.4%). June was the sixth consecutive quarter in which vehicle prices declined or showed no change.

The quarterly decrease of 1.6% in petrol prices is a result of rises in February (+0.2%), in March (+0.7%), a fall in April (-1.7%), a rise in May (+0.3%) and a fall in June (-2.2%).

The 0.1% annual rise in transportation costs is the smallest increase since Transportation was first published as a separate group in December quarter 1976.

Over the 12 months to June quarter 1997, motor vehicle prices declined by 7.2%, while there were rises in urban transport fares (+6.2%), vehicle insurance costs (+6.4%) and petrol prices (+0.5%).

#### FOOD: +0.5%

The increase this quarter is mainly attributable to increases in the price of fresh potatoes (+14.0%), soft drinks and cordials (+1.6%) and take away foods (+0.7%). The most significant price fall was for fresh fruit (-2.5%). The rise in the price of take away foods was the seventh consecutive quarterly rise.

Food prices increased 3.2% between the June quarters 1996 and 1997. The most significant movements within this group were take away foods (+2.3%), bread (+6.3%), fresh fruit (+8.0%) and fresh potatoes (+40.4%).

## ANALYSES AND COMMENTS

### MAIN CONTRIBUTIONS TO CHANGE *continued*

#### HEALTH AND PERSONAL CARE: +2.3%

The main contributor to the increase in health and personal care costs was a rise in the cost of hospital and medical services (+2.8%). This mainly reflects increases in some health fund premiums.

The 4.7% increase in pharmaceuticals results from an underestimate of the price increase recorded in the March quarter 1997, combined with the flow-on effect of price rises associated with the Pharmaceutical Benefit Scheme. Although the underestimation affects the quarterly movement, the annual movement is not affected.

Health and personal care costs rose by 7.2% between the June quarters 1996 and 1997. The most significant movements within this group were for hospital and medical services (+11.2%), pharmaceuticals (+4.8%), hairdressing services (+4.3%), and dental services (+4.4%).

#### HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND OPERATION: +0.4%

The increase in this quarter is mainly attributable to increases in the cost of furniture (+1.2%), bedding (+2.1%), repairs to appliances (+3.4%) and watches and clocks (+2.8%). The main price fall was in towels, linen and curtains (-1.1%).

#### TOBACCO AND ALCOHOL: +0.2%

The increase in the Tobacco and Alcohol index is the smallest quarterly increase in the last 5 years. The rise this quarter is due to increases in the cost of wine (+1.4%), spirits (+0.7%) and cigarettes and tobacco (+0.1%).

Wine prices increased moderately in all cities across the quarter. General price rises impacted most significantly on bottled table wine. These increases were offset in part by a slight drop in beer prices, particularly evident in Sydney and Canberra.

### CONSUMER PRICE INDEX, All groups percentage changes

#### PERCENTAGE CHANGE BETWEEN

Mar Qtr 1997 and Jun Qtr 1997      Jun Qtr 1996 and Jun Qtr 1997

Sydney	-0.3	0.3
Melbourne	-0.2	0.6
Brisbane	-0.3	0.6
Adelaide	-0.6	-0.1
Perth	-0.1	0.2
Hobart	-0.5	0.6
Darwin	-0.1	0.6
Canberra	-0.8	-0.8
Weighted average of eight capital cities	-0.2	0.3

## ALL GROUPS, Index Numbers(a)

Period	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Darwin	Canberra	Weighted average of eight capital cities
<b>1993-94</b>	109.2	111.1	110.6	113.4	108.5	111.7	111.5	111.4	110.4
<b>1994-95</b>	113.0	114.1	114.7	116.9	112.3	115.2	114.7	115.1	113.9
<b>1995-96</b>	118.7	118.4	119.1	121.2	116.7	119.6	119.5	120.3	118.7
<b>1996-97</b>	120.4	119.9	121.0	122.3	118.3	121.4	121.6	121.2	120.3
<b>1993</b>									
June	108.4	110.1	109.7	112.3	106.8	109.4	110.0	110.3	109.3
September	108.7	110.5	109.9	112.7	107.9	111.0	110.6	111.0	109.8
December	108.8	110.8	110.2	112.8	108.5	111.6	111.7	111.3	110.0
<b>1994</b>									
March	109.1	111.2	110.8	113.6	108.6	111.9	111.4	111.4	110.4
June	110.0	112.0	111.5	114.4	109.1	112.4	112.4	112.0	111.2
September	111.0	112.2	112.5	114.9	110.1	113.3	113.0	112.6	111.9
December	111.8	113.1	113.7	116.0	111.0	114.2	113.7	113.8	112.8
<b>1995</b>									
March	113.7	115.0	115.8	117.8	113.0	116.1	115.3	116.3	114.7
June	115.4	116.2	116.9	118.8	114.9	117.1	116.8	117.6	116.2
September	117.3	117.6	117.9	120.1	115.6	118.4	118.0	119.1	117.6
December	118.3	118.5	118.6	121.1	116.3	119.2	119.2	120.0	118.5
<b>1996</b>									
March	119.1	118.3	119.6	121.6	117.1	120.1	119.8	120.8	119.0
June	119.9	119.2	120.4	122.0	117.9	120.6	120.8	121.4	119.8
September	120.2	119.6	120.6	122.2	118.3	121.1	121.6	121.4	120.1
December	120.4	119.9	120.8	122.6	118.4	121.3	121.7	121.4	120.3
<b>1997</b>									
March	120.6	120.1	121.5	122.6	118.2	121.9	121.6	121.4	120.5
June	120.2	119.9	121.1	121.9	118.1	121.3	121.5	120.4	120.2

(a) Base of each index: 1989-90 = 100.0

## ALL GROUPS, Percentage Changes

Period	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Darwin	Canberra	Weighted average of eight capital cities
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous year)									
<b>1993-94</b>	1.4	2.0	1.9	2.0	2.2	2.9	1.8	1.7	1.8
<b>1994-95</b>	3.5	2.7	3.7	3.1	3.5	3.1	2.9	3.3	3.2
<b>1995-96</b>	5.0	3.8	3.8	3.7	3.9	3.8	4.2	4.5	4.2
<b>1996-97</b>	1.4	1.3	1.6	0.9	1.4	1.5	1.8	0.7	1.3
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from corresponding quarter of previous year)									
<b>1993</b>									
June	1.8	1.8	2.5	2.7	1.1	2.2	1.5	2.2	1.9
September	1.7	2.4	2.8	2.4	2.3	3.2	1.6	2.2	2.2
December	1.3	2.4	1.9	1.9	2.3	3.3	2.3	2.1	1.9
<b>1994</b>									
March	0.8	1.6	1.6	1.8	2.1	2.6	1.5	1.2	1.4
June	1.5	1.7	1.6	1.9	2.2	2.7	2.2	1.5	1.7
September	2.1	1.5	2.4	2.0	2.0	2.1	2.2	1.4	1.9
December	2.8	2.1	3.2	2.8	2.3	2.3	1.8	2.2	2.5
<b>1995</b>									
March	4.2	3.4	4.5	3.7	4.1	3.8	3.5	4.4	3.9
June	4.9	3.8	4.8	3.8	5.3	4.2	3.9	5.0	4.5
September	5.7	4.8	4.8	4.5	5.0	4.5	4.4	5.8	5.1
December	5.8	4.8	4.3	4.4	4.8	4.4	4.8	5.4	5.1
<b>1996</b>									
March	4.7	2.9	3.3	3.2	3.6	3.4	3.9	3.9	3.7
June	3.9	2.6	3.0	2.7	2.6	3.0	3.4	3.2	3.1
September	2.5	1.7	2.3	1.7	2.3	2.3	3.1	1.9	2.1
December	1.8	1.2	1.9	1.2	1.8	1.8	2.1	1.2	1.5
<b>1997</b>									
March	1.3	1.5	1.6	0.8	0.9	1.5	1.5	0.5	1.3
June	0.3	0.6	0.6	-0.1	0.2	0.6	0.6	-0.8	0.3
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous quarter)									
<b>1993</b>									
June	0.2	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.4
September	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.4	1.0	1.5	0.5	0.6	0.5
December	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.6	0.5	1.0	0.3	0.2
<b>1994</b>									
March	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.7	0.1	0.3	-0.3	0.1	0.4
June	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.5	0.4	0.9	0.5	0.7
September	0.9	0.2	0.9	0.4	0.9	0.8	0.5	0.5	0.6
December	0.7	0.8	1.1	1.0	0.8	0.8	0.6	1.1	0.8
<b>1995</b>									
March	1.7	1.7	1.8	1.6	1.8	1.7	1.4	2.2	1.7
June	1.5	1.0	0.9	0.8	1.7	0.9	1.3	1.1	1.3
September	1.6	1.2	0.9	1.1	0.6	1.1	1.0	1.3	1.2
December	0.9	0.8	0.6	0.8	0.6	0.7	1.0	0.8	0.8
<b>1996</b>									
March	0.7	-0.2	0.8	0.4	0.7	0.8	0.5	0.7	0.4
June	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.3	0.7	0.4	0.8	0.5	0.7
September	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.7	0.0	0.3
December	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.2
<b>1997</b>									
March	0.2	0.2	0.6	0.0	-0.2	0.5	-0.1	0.0	0.2
June	-0.3	-0.2	-0.3	-0.6	-0.1	-0.5	-0.1	-0.8	-0.2

## CPI GROUPS, Weighted Average of Eight Capital Cities—Index Numbers(a)

Period	Food	Clothing	Housing	Household equipment and operation	Trans- portation	Tobacco and alcohol	Health and personal care	Recreation and education	All groups
<b>1993-94</b>	109.4	106.7	94.2	107.8	113.8	133.7	129.0	111.9	110.4
<b>1994-95</b>	112.1	106.7	100.0	109.2	117.5	141.0	135.5	114.6	113.9
<b>1995-96</b>	116.0	107.0	105.9	111.7	122.6	156.1	141.8	117.7	118.7
<b>1996-97</b>	119.7	107.3	101.6	113.5	124.3	161.4	149.1	119.7	120.3
<b>1993</b>									
June	108.0	108.1	95.2	107.4	112.1	128.0	126.4	110.4	109.3
September	108.8	107.1	94.9	107.5	113.2	130.8	126.5	110.7	109.8
December	109.5	106.8	93.6	107.4	113.5	133.1	127.0	111.9	110.0
<b>1994</b>									
March	109.8	106.3	93.7	107.9	113.2	134.5	130.7	112.1	110.4
June	109.5	106.4	94.4	108.2	115.2	136.2	131.9	113.0	111.2
September	110.4	106.6	94.9	108.2	117.0	137.4	133.4	112.9	111.9
December	110.9	106.8	97.5	108.9	116.8	139.1	133.7	114.1	112.8
<b>1995</b>									
March	113.2	106.2	102.8	109.3	117.3	141.1	136.5	115.3	114.7
June	113.7	107.2	104.7	110.2	118.8	146.4	138.5	115.9	116.2
September	115.4	106.7	105.4	111.0	122.0	151.4	139.0	116.1	117.6
December	115.7	107.1	106.1	111.6	122.3	155.3	140.8	117.3	118.5
<b>1996</b>									
March	115.9	106.8	105.7	111.6	122.4	157.8	143.5	119.2	119.0
June	117.1	107.4	106.3	112.5	123.8	159.8	143.7	118.2	119.8
September	118.3	107.2	106.1	113.1	123.4	160.4	145.0	118.2	120.1
December	119.4	107.5	103.2	113.6	124.5	161.2	146.7	118.8	120.3
<b>1997</b>									
March	120.2	107.0	100.2	113.5	125.2	161.7	150.6	121.0	120.5
June	120.8	107.3	96.9	113.9	123.9	162.1	154.0	120.9	120.2

(a) Base of each index: 1989-90 = 100.0



# CPI GROUPS, Weighted Average of Eight Capital Cities—Percentage Changes

Period	Food	Clothing	Housing	Household equipment and operation	Trans- portation	Tobacco and alcohol	Health and personal care	Recreation and education	All groups
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous year)									
1993-94	1.9	-0.7	-0.4	0.5	2.2	7.5	4.0	2.6	1.8
1994-95	2.5	0.0	6.2	1.3	3.3	5.5	5.0	2.4	3.2
1995-96	3.5	0.3	5.9	2.3	4.3	10.7	4.6	2.7	4.2
1996-97	3.2	0.3	-4.1	1.6	1.4	3.4	5.1	1.7	1.3
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from corresponding quarter of previous year)									
1993									
June	1.5	1.2	-1.0	-0.6	2.9	9.9	3.9	3.2	1.9
September	2.6	0.5	0.3	0.1	2.1	8.8	4.2	3.0	2.2
December	2.6	-0.9	-0.4	-0.1	2.3	7.9	3.5	3.0	1.9
1994									
March	0.7	-1.1	-0.7	0.9	1.7	6.7	4.1	2.1	1.4
June	1.4	-1.6	-0.8	0.7	2.8	6.4	4.4	2.4	1.7
September	1.5	-0.5	0.0	0.7	3.4	5.0	5.5	2.0	1.9
December	1.3	0.0	4.2	1.4	2.9	4.5	5.3	2.0	2.5
1995									
March	3.1	-0.1	9.7	1.3	3.6	4.9	4.4	2.9	3.9
June	3.8	0.8	10.9	1.8	3.1	7.5	5.0	2.6	4.5
September	4.5	0.1	11.1	2.6	4.3	10.2	4.2	2.8	5.1
December	4.3	0.3	8.8	2.5	4.7	11.6	5.3	2.8	5.1
1996									
March	2.4	0.6	2.8	2.1	4.3	11.8	5.1	3.4	3.7
June	3.0	0.2	1.5	2.1	4.2	9.2	3.8	2.0	3.1
September	2.5	0.5	0.7	1.9	1.1	5.9	4.3	1.8	2.1
December	3.2	0.4	-2.7	1.8	1.8	3.8	4.2	1.3	1.5
1997									
March	3.7	0.2	-5.2	1.7	2.3	2.5	4.9	1.5	1.3
June	3.2	-0.1	-8.8	1.2	0.1	1.4	7.2	2.3	0.3
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous quarter)									
1993									
June	-0.9	0.6	0.8	0.5	0.7	1.5	0.6	0.5	0.4
September	0.7	-0.9	-0.3	0.1	1.0	2.2	0.1	0.3	0.5
December	0.6	-0.3	-1.4	-0.1	0.3	1.8	0.4	1.1	0.2
1994									
March	0.3	-0.5	0.1	0.5	-0.3	1.1	2.9	0.2	0.4
June	-0.3	0.1	0.7	0.3	1.8	1.3	0.9	0.8	0.7
September	0.8	0.2	0.5	0.0	1.6	0.9	1.1	0.1	0.6
December	0.5	0.2	2.7	0.6	-0.2	1.2	0.2	1.1	0.8
1995									
March	2.1	-0.6	5.4	0.4	0.4	1.4	2.1	1.1	1.7
June	0.4	0.9	1.8	0.8	1.3	3.8	1.5	0.5	1.3
September	1.5	-0.5	0.7	0.7	2.7	3.4	0.4	0.2	1.2
December	0.3	0.4	0.7	0.5	0.2	2.6	1.3	1.0	0.8
1996									
March	0.2	-0.3	-0.4	0.0	0.1	1.6	1.9	1.6	0.4
June	1.0	0.6	0.6	0.8	1.1	1.3	0.1	-0.8	0.7
September	1.0	-0.2	-0.2	0.5	-0.3	0.4	0.9	0.0	0.3
December	0.9	0.3	-2.7	0.4	0.9	0.5	1.2	0.5	0.2
1997									
March	0.7	-0.5	-2.9	-0.1	0.6	0.3	2.7	1.9	0.2
June	0.5	0.3	-3.3	0.4	-1.0	0.2	2.3	-0.1	-0.2



## CONTRIBUTION TO CHANGE IN ALL GROUPS INDEXES, Jun Qtr 1997(a)

Group, sub-group and expenditure class	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Darwin	Canberra	Weighted average of eight capital cities
<b>Food</b>	0.08	0.15	0.02	0.12	0.11	0.05	0.33	0.10	0.10
Dairy products	—	0.01	-0.02	0.05	0.04	—	—	—	0.01
Milk and cream	—	—	—	0.05	0.03	—	—	—	0.01
Cheese	—	-0.01	-0.01	—	-0.01	—	-0.01	0.01	-0.01
Butter	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other dairy products	—	0.01	—	—	0.01	—	0.01	—	0.01
Cereal products	-0.01	-0.01	0.03	0.01	0.04	-0.04	—	0.03	—
Bread	—	-0.02	0.01	0.04	0.02	-0.03	-0.01	—	-0.01
Cakes and biscuits	-0.01	—	-0.01	-0.02	0.03	-0.01	-0.01	0.02	—
Breakfast cereals	—	—	0.02	0.01	—	—	0.01	0.01	—
Other cereal products	—	0.01	—	—	—	—	0.01	—	—
Meat and seafoods	-0.01	-0.01	-0.01	0.01	0.01	0.04	-0.04	-0.02	-0.01
Beef and veal	—	—	—	0.02	-0.01	-0.02	-0.02	-0.02	—
Lamb and mutton	0.01	—	-0.01	—	-0.01	-0.02	—	-0.01	0.01
Pork	—	-0.01	-0.01	—	—	—	—	-0.01	—
Poultry	-0.02	-0.02	—	—	—	—	-0.01	—	-0.02
Bacon and ham	-0.01	—	0.02	—	0.01	0.03	-0.01	—	—
Processed meat	—	0.02	0.01	0.01	-0.01	0.04	-0.01	—	—
Fish	—	-0.01	-0.02	-0.01	0.01	—	-0.01	—	-0.01
Fresh fruit and vegetables	-0.05	0.04	0.01	-0.03	-0.13	—	0.11	-0.04	-0.02
Fresh fruit	-0.04	-0.02	0.02	-0.04	-0.07	0.04	0.07	-0.01	-0.03
Fresh potatoes	0.03	0.03	0.05	0.04	-0.01	-0.04	0.03	0.03	0.03
Fresh vegetables	-0.05	0.03	-0.07	-0.05	-0.05	-0.01	0.02	-0.06	-0.02
Processed fruit and vegetables	—	—	—	0.01	-0.01	0.01	0.02	0.01	—
Processed fruit	0.01	—	—	—	—	—	0.01	—	—
Fruit juice	-0.01	—	-0.01	0.01	—	0.01	—	—	—
Processed vegetables	—	0.01	—	—	-0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	—
Soft drinks, ice cream and confectionery	0.07	0.03	—	0.03	0.04	-0.01	0.08	0.05	0.05
Soft drinks and cordials	0.04	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.02	-0.01	0.07	0.03	0.03
Ice cream and ice confectionery	0.01	—	—	—	0.03	-0.01	-0.01	0.01	—
Confectionery	0.03	0.01	-0.01	0.01	—	—	0.02	0.01	0.02
Meals out and take away foods	0.03	0.04	-0.05	0.02	0.10	0.01	0.12	0.03	0.03
Meals out	—	0.02	0.01	0.01	—	—	0.01	0.01	0.01
Take away foods	0.03	0.02	-0.04	0.01	0.10	0.01	0.11	0.02	0.02
Other food	0.04	0.04	0.05	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.04	0.04
Eggs	0.01	0.01	0.01	—	0.01	—	—	—	—
Sugar	—	—	—	—	—	0.01	—	-0.01	—
Jams, honey and sandwich spreads	—	0.01	0.01	0.01	—	—	—	—	0.01
Tea, coffee and food drinks	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.03	0.02	—	0.03	0.02
Food additives, sauces and spices	0.01	0.01	0.01	—	—	—	—	—	0.01
Margarine	—	—	0.01	-0.01	-0.01	0.01	—	0.01	—
Cooking oils and fats	-0.01	—	0.01	-0.01	-0.01	—	—	—	—
Other food	0.01	0.01	—	—	—	0.01	0.03	-0.01	—
<b>Clothing</b>	0.01	0.03	0.06	0.01	0.04	-0.02	-0.03	—	0.02
Men's and boys' clothing	0.02	-0.01	0.01	0.03	—	0.01	-0.01	—	0.01
Men's outer clothing	0.02	—	0.01	0.01	0.01	—	—	0.01	0.01
Men's knitwear	—	—	-0.01	0.01	—	—	—	—	0.01
Men's shirts	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Men's underwear, nightwear and socks	—	—	0.01	—	0.01	0.01	-0.01	—	0.01
Boys' clothing	0.01	—	—	—	—	0.01	-0.01	—	—
Women's and girls' clothing	0.02	0.04	0.02	0.02	—	0.03	—	0.01	0.03
Women's outer clothing	0.01	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	—	0.01	0.02
Women's knitwear	—	—	0.01	—	—	—	—	—	—
Women's underwear, nightwear and hosiery	—	—	—	—	-0.01	0.01	—	—	—
Girls' clothing	0.01	—	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	—	—	—
Fabrics and knitting wool	-0.01	—	0.03	-0.03	-0.01	-0.06	-0.02	-0.01	—
Footwear	-0.02	-0.01	0.01	-0.03	0.02	—	—	-0.01	-0.01
Men's footwear	-0.01	—	—	-0.02	—	—	—	—	—
Women's footwear	-0.02	-0.01	—	-0.01	0.02	—	—	-0.01	—
Children's footwear	—	—	—	—	0.01	—	—	0.01	—
Dry cleaning and shoe repairs	—	—	0.01	—	—	—	—	—	—

Group, sub-group and expenditure class	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Darwin	Canberra	Weighted average of eight capital cities
<b>Housing</b>	-0.58	-0.55	-0.62	-0.58	-0.46	-0.56	-0.63	-0.93	-0.57
Rents	0.09	0.05	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.01	0.03	-0.02	0.05
Privately-owned dwelling rents	0.09	0.04	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.03	0.03	-0.02	0.04
Government-owned dwelling rents	—	0.01	—	—	—	-0.01	—	—	—
Home ownership	-0.67	-0.60	-0.65	-0.61	-0.48	-0.57	-0.66	-0.90	-0.63
Mortgage interest charges	-0.69	-0.62	-0.67	-0.61	-0.52	-0.57	-0.67	-0.94	-0.65
Local government rates and charges	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
House repairs and maintenance	—	0.02	0.01	—	0.05	—	0.02	0.02	0.01
House insurance	0.01	0.01	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.01
<b>Household equipment and operation</b>	0.08	0.07	0.12	0.06	0.11	-0.01	0.03	0.15	0.09
Fuel and light	—	—	—	—	—	-0.01	—	—	—
Electricity	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other fuel	—	-0.01	—	—	—	-0.01	—	0.01	—
Furniture and floor coverings	0.05	0.07	0.01	0.01	0.04	-0.03	—	0.11	0.05
Furniture	0.04	0.07	0.02	0.01	0.04	-0.04	0.01	0.11	0.05
Floor coverings	—	0.01	-0.01	—	—	0.01	—	—	—
Appliances	0.01	0.01	0.02	-0.01	0.01	-0.01	—	—	0.01
Household textiles	0.01	—	—	-0.02	0.02	-0.01	—	—	—
Bedding	0.02	0.01	—	—	0.01	-0.01	—	—	0.01
Towels, linen and curtains	-0.01	—	—	-0.02	—	-0.01	0.01	—	-0.01
Household utensils and tools	0.01	-0.02	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.05	-0.01	—
Tableware, glassware and cutlery	0.01	-0.02	0.01	0.01	—	-0.01	—	-0.01	—
Kitchen and cooking utensils	—	—	—	—	0.01	—	0.04	—	0.01
Cleaning utensils	—	—	—	—	—	0.01	—	—	—
Tools	0.01	—	—	—	—	0.01	0.01	—	—
Household supplies and services	0.01	0.02	0.05	0.06	0.04	0.02	-0.01	0.05	0.03
Household cleaning agents	-0.02	—	—	0.01	0.03	-0.01	-0.01	0.02	—
Household paper products	0.01	0.01	—	—	—	0.02	—	0.01	—
Other household non-durables	—	—	—	0.01	-0.01	—	-0.01	—	—
Stationery	—	-0.01	0.03	0.02	0.02	—	—	—	—
Watches and clocks	0.01	—	0.04	—	—	-0.01	—	—	0.01
Veterinary services	—	—	0.01	0.01	—	—	—	—	—
Pet foods	0.02	0.01	-0.01	0.01	—	—	0.01	0.01	—
Travel goods	—	-0.01	-0.01	—	—	-0.01	—	—	-0.01
House contents insurance	0.01	—	—	0.01	—	—	—	—	0.01
Repairs to appliances	—	0.02	—	—	—	0.01	—	—	0.01
Postal and telephone services	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Postal services	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Telephone services	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Consumer credit charges	—	—	0.02	—	—	0.01	—	—	—
<b>Transportation</b>	-0.21	-0.20	-0.11	-0.48	-0.11	-0.15	-0.04	-0.18	-0.21
Private motoring	-0.21	-0.19	-0.14	-0.49	-0.17	-0.14	-0.03	-0.18	-0.21
Motor vehicles	-0.14	-0.10	-0.13	-0.30	-0.15	-0.12	-0.13	-0.15	-0.14
Automotive fuel	-0.09	-0.13	-0.07	-0.16	-0.03	—	0.03	-0.05	-0.10
Vehicle insurance	0.04	0.06	0.04	—	0.01	0.01	0.05	0.05	0.04
Motoring charges	—	—	—	0.01	0.03	—	—	—	—
Tyres and tubes	—	0.01	0.01	—	—	0.01	—	0.01	—
Vehicle servicing, repairs and parts	-0.04	-0.04	0.02	-0.02	-0.02	-0.04	0.01	-0.03	-0.03
Urban transport fares	—	—	0.03	—	0.06	—	—	—	—
<b>Tobacco and Alcohol</b>	-0.02	0.06	—	0.10	0.05	0.03	0.09	-0.01	0.03
Alcoholic drinks	-0.01	0.03	0.02	0.07	0.07	0.03	0.06	-0.03	0.02
Beer	-0.03	—	0.03	—	0.03	-0.01	0.01	-0.06	-0.01
Wine	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.05	0.01	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.02
Spirits	0.01	0.01	-0.02	0.02	0.03	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Cigarettes and tobacco	—	0.03	-0.02	0.03	-0.03	-0.01	0.03	0.02	—

CONTRIBUTION TO CHANGE IN ALL GROUPS INDEXES, Jun Qtr 1997(a) *continued*

Group, sub-group and expenditure class	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Darwin	Canberra	Weighted average of eight capital cities
<b>Health and personal care</b>	0.24	0.25	0.11	0.02	0.25	0.20	0.08	0.17	0.20
Health services	0.15	0.20	0.06	—	0.18	0.16	0.07	0.13	0.14
Hospital and medical services	0.12	0.19	0.06	—	0.19	0.15	0.06	0.09	0.13
Optical services	—	0.01	—	—	—	—	—	0.01	—
Dental services	0.03	0.02	0.01	—	—	—	0.01	0.02	0.02
Personal care products	0.06	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.04	0.05	0.01	0.04	0.05
Pharmaceuticals	0.06	0.04	0.05	0.05	0.04	0.05	0.04	0.04	0.05
Toiletries and personal products	0.01	—	-0.03	-0.03	—	—	-0.03	—	—
Hairdressing services	0.03	0.02	0.01	—	0.02	—	0.01	—	0.02
<b>Recreation and education</b>	0.01	-0.05	0.02	0.06	-0.01	-0.15	0.03	-0.28	-0.01
Books, newspapers and magazines	0.05	0.01	0.05	0.04	0.03	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.04
Recreational goods	-0.03	-0.03	-0.03	-0.01	-0.01	-0.03	-0.03	-0.05	-0.02
Video and sound equipment	-0.01	-0.02	-0.01	—	—	-0.01	-0.01	-0.01	-0.01
Records, cassettes and tapes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sports and photographic equipment and toys	-0.02	-0.01	-0.03	—	-0.02	-0.01	-0.01	-0.03	-0.02
Holiday travel and accommodation	-0.02	-0.09	-0.08	-0.01	-0.02	-0.14	-0.02	-0.29	-0.05
Holiday travel and accommodation in Australia	-0.11	-0.10	-0.10	-0.04	-0.06	-0.14	-0.04	-0.32	-0.10
Holiday travel and accommodation overseas	0.09	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.01	0.02	0.04	0.05
Recreational services	0.01	0.01	0.05	0.01	—	-0.03	0.01	0.01	0.01
Photographic services	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Repairs to recreational goods	—	0.01	—	0.01	—	—	—	—	—
Entertainment	0.01	0.01	0.04	—	—	-0.02	0.01	0.02	0.01
Education and child care	0.01	0.03	0.03	0.02	—	0.02	0.03	0.01	0.02
Education fees	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Child care fees	—	0.03	0.04	0.02	—	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.02
<b>All groups</b>	<b>-0.4</b>	<b>-0.2</b>	<b>-0.4</b>	<b>-0.7</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>-0.6</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>-1.0</b>	<b>-0.3</b>
Selected State and local government charges(b)	—	0.01	0.03	0.01	0.09	-0.01	—	—	0.01

(a) Base of each index: 1989-90 = 100.0

(b) Refer to paragraph 14 of the Explanatory Notes for a description of this series

## GROUP, SUB-GROUP &amp; EXPENDITURE CLASS, Weighted Average of Eight Capital Cities

Group, sub-group and expenditure class	INDEX NUMBERS(a).....			PERCENTAGE CHANGE BETWEEN.....		CONTRIBUTION TO TOTAL CPI (ALL GROUPS INDEX POINTS)		
	Jun Qtr 1996	Mar Qtr 1997	Jun Qtr 1997	Mar Qtr 1997 and Jun Qtr 1997	Jun Qtr 1996 and Jun Qtr 1997	Mar Qtr 1997	Jun Qtr 1997	Change between Mar Qtr 1997 and Jun Qtr 1997
<b>Food</b>	117.1	120.2	120.8	0.5	3.2	22.32	22.42	0.10
Dairy products	126.8	131.1	131.7	0.5	3.9	1.88	1.89	0.01
Milk and cream	137.4	143.4	144.3	0.6	5.0	1.20	1.21	0.01
Cheese	113.5	114.4	113.2	-1.0	-0.3	0.43	0.42	-0.01
Butter	97.0	99.8	99.8	—	2.9	0.07	0.07	—
Other dairy products	118.7	122.9	126.4	2.8	6.5	0.18	0.19	0.01
Cereal products	129.0	134.1	134.4	0.2	4.2	2.68	2.68	—
Bread	137.7	146.5	146.4	-0.1	6.3	1.21	1.20	-0.01
Cakes and biscuits	122.4	125.2	125.0	-0.2	2.1	0.93	0.93	—
Breakfast cereals	126.0	129.4	131.3	1.5	4.2	0.31	0.31	—
Other cereal products	120.2	121.2	122.9	1.4	2.2	0.24	0.24	—
Meat and seafoods	108.3	108.9	108.7	-0.2	0.4	3.49	3.48	-0.01
Beef and veal	105.8	103.2	103.7	0.5	-2.0	0.79	0.79	—
Lamb and mutton	124.3	122.2	122.6	0.3	-1.4	0.49	0.50	0.01
Pork	109.6	115.9	113.9	-1.7	3.9	0.21	0.21	—
Poultry	93.4	97.8	95.4	-2.5	2.1	0.47	0.45	-0.02
Bacon and ham	111.0	115.0	115.2	0.2	3.8	0.38	0.38	—
Processed meat	112.1	112.0	113.3	1.2	1.1	0.78	0.78	—
Fish	102.1	102.7	101.4	-1.3	-0.7	0.38	0.37	-0.01
Fresh fruit and vegetables	96.6	107.1	106.1	-0.9	9.8	2.00	1.98	-0.02
Fresh fruit	112.4	124.5	121.4	-2.5	8.0	0.99	0.96	-0.03
Fresh potatoes	77.5	95.4	108.8	14.0	40.4	0.20	0.23	0.03
Fresh vegetables	88.6	96.1	93.3	-2.9	5.3	0.81	0.79	-0.02
Processed fruit and vegetables	114.3	116.3	116.5	0.2	1.9	0.96	0.96	—
Processed fruit	116.1	118.1	120.2	1.8	3.5	0.16	0.16	—
Fruit juice	119.1	122.0	121.5	-0.4	2.0	0.50	0.50	—
Processed vegetables	106.5	107.3	107.4	0.1	0.8	0.31	0.31	—
Soft drinks, ice cream and confectionery	127.8	130.7	132.3	1.2	3.5	3.55	3.60	0.05
Soft drinks and cordials	124.2	125.9	127.9	1.6	3.0	1.40	1.43	0.03
Ice cream and ice confectionery	139.0	145.3	147.5	1.5	6.1	0.50	0.50	—
Confectionery	128.9	131.9	133.0	0.8	3.2	1.65	1.67	0.02
Meals out and take away foods	117.9	119.8	120.4	0.5	2.1	5.71	5.74	0.03
Meals out	118.5	120.4	120.8	0.3	1.9	2.17	2.18	0.01
Take away foods	118.4	120.3	121.1	0.7	2.3	3.54	3.56	0.02
Other food	119.8	120.5	122.9	2.0	2.6	2.04	2.08	0.04
Eggs	135.4	140.5	144.1	2.6	6.4	0.19	0.19	—
Sugar	102.1	102.5	101.2	-1.3	-0.9	0.07	0.07	—
Jams, honey and sandwich spreads	134.4	133.4	136.4	2.2	1.5	0.18	0.19	0.01
Tea, coffee and food drinks	119.8	119.4	126.0	5.5	5.2	0.37	0.39	0.02
Food additives, sauces and spices	114.0	115.7	118.3	2.2	3.8	0.27	0.28	0.01
Margarine	112.9	113.1	115.6	2.2	2.4	0.15	0.15	—
Cooking oils and fats	126.9	129.1	128.2	-0.7	1.0	0.12	0.12	—
Other food	119.2	119.7	120.2	0.4	0.8	0.70	0.70	—
<b>Clothing</b>	107.4	107.0	107.3	0.3	-0.1	6.69	6.71	0.02
Men's and boys' clothing	111.8	111.3	111.9	0.5	0.1	1.86	1.87	0.01
Men's outer clothing	111.4	109.3	110.2	0.8	-1.1	0.74	0.75	0.01
Men's knitwear	114.0	114.0	115.0	0.9	0.9	0.17	0.18	0.01
Men's shirts	107.8	108.1	107.6	-0.5	-0.2	0.34	0.34	—
Men's underwear, nightwear and socks	112.7	113.8	114.6	0.7	1.7	0.16	0.17	0.01
Boys' clothing	112.8	113.8	114.5	0.6	1.5	0.44	0.44	—
Women's and girls' clothing	106.8	106.8	107.8	0.9	0.9	2.72	2.75	0.03
Women's outer clothing	104.4	104.2	105.5	1.2	1.1	1.73	1.75	0.02
Women's knitwear	106.3	106.3	106.8	0.5	0.5	0.21	0.21	—
Women's underwear, nightwear and hosiery	119.8	120.9	121.0	0.1	1.0	0.39	0.39	—
Girls' clothing	107.5	107.7	108.6	0.8	1.0	0.39	0.39	—
Fabric and knitting wool	103.4	100.3	99.5	-0.8	-3.8	0.76	0.76	—

Group, sub-group and expenditure class	INDEX NUMBERS(a).....			PERCENTAGE CHANGE BETWEEN.....		CONTRIBUTION TO TOTAL CPI (ALL GROUPS INDEX POINTS)		
				Mar Qtr 1997 and Jun Qtr 1997	Jun Qtr 1996 and Jun Qtr 1997			Change between Mar Qtr 1997 and Jun Qtr 1997
	Jun Qtr 1996	Mar Qtr 1997	Jun Qtr 1997			Mar Qtr 1997	Jun Qtr 1997	
<b>Clothing continued</b>								
Footwear	100.1	100.0	98.9	-1.1	-1.2	1.07	1.06	-0.01
Men's footwear	97.3	98.8	97.0	-1.8	-0.3	0.34	0.34	—
Women's footwear	103.5	103.0	102.0	-1.0	-1.4	0.48	0.48	—
Children's footwear	98.5	97.0	96.7	-0.3	-1.8	0.24	0.24	—
Dry cleaning and shoe repairs	128.1	130.2	131.1	0.7	2.3	0.28	0.28	—
<b>Housing</b>								
Rents	113.0	115.3	116.4	1.0	3.0	5.60	5.65	0.05
Privately-owned dwelling rents	112.4	114.7	115.8	1.0	3.0	5.15	5.19	0.04
Government-owned dwelling rents	119.3	121.5	122.5	0.8	2.7	0.45	0.45	—
Home ownership	103.1	93.9	89.0	-5.2	-13.7	12.02	11.39	-0.63
Mortgage interest charges	92.1	77.3	69.9	-9.6	-24.1	6.74	6.09	-0.65
Local government rates and charges	129.6	133.1	133.1	—	2.7	2.67	2.67	—
House repairs and maintenance	116.8	118.3	118.0	0.6	1.9	2.08	2.09	0.01
House insurance	145.5	150.8	152.2	0.9	4.6	0.53	0.54	0.01
<b>Household equipment and operation</b>								
Fuel and light	119.5	121.5	121.4	-0.1	1.6	2.75	2.75	—
Electricity	117.6	119.3	119.3	—	1.4	2.03	2.03	—
Gas	126.1	128.9	129.1	0.2	2.4	0.66	0.66	—
Other fuel	115.1	117.7	114.2	-3.0	-0.8	0.06	0.06	—
Furniture and floor coverings	117.0	117.0	118.1	0.9	0.9	4.98	5.03	0.05
Furniture	119.9	119.6	121.0	1.2	0.9	4.01	4.06	0.05
Floor coverings	108.2	109.7	109.8	0.1	1.5	0.97	0.97	—
Appliances	109.5	109.4	109.8	0.4	0.3	1.72	1.73	0.01
Household textiles	115.0	117.7	118.0	0.3	2.6	0.90	0.90	—
Bedding	115.7	119.5	122.0	2.1	5.4	0.40	0.41	0.01
Towels, linen and curtains	114.8	116.6	115.3	-1.1	0.4	0.50	0.49	-0.01
Household utensils and tools	106.0	104.6	104.9	0.3	-1.0	1.29	1.29	—
Tableware, glassware and cutlery	101.6	99.4	99.0	-0.4	-2.6	0.28	0.28	—
Kitchen and cooking utensils	104.8	103.8	104.3	0.5	-0.5	0.38	0.39	0.01
Cleaning utensils	105.2	106.0	107.3	1.2	2.0	0.10	0.10	—
Tools	109.3	107.6	108.0	0.4	-1.2	0.53	0.53	—
Household supplies and services	120.8	124.4	125.1	0.6	3.6	4.83	4.86	0.03
Household cleaning agents	122.3	125.3	125.1	-0.2	2.3	0.81	0.81	—
Household paper products	110.8	110.6	111.8	1.1	0.9	0.52	0.52	—
Other household non-durables	118.3	122.7	122.8	0.1	3.8	1.02	1.02	—
Stationery	115.7	120.1	120.6	0.4	4.2	0.56	0.56	—
Watches and clocks	127.0	128.8	132.4	2.8	4.3	0.16	0.17	0.01
Veterinary services	138.0	142.2	144.5	1.6	4.7	0.16	0.16	—
Pet foods	122.7	128.9	130.1	0.9	6.0	0.61	0.61	—
Travel goods	102.4	104.0	102.2	-1.7	-0.2	0.29	0.28	-0.01
House contents insurance	146.5	152.3	153.7	0.9	4.9	0.50	0.51	0.01
Repairs to appliances	129.9	130.9	135.3	3.4	4.2	0.21	0.22	0.01
Postal and telephone services	106.7	106.4	106.4	—	-0.3	1.83	1.83	—
Postal services	110.5	111.3	111.3	—	0.7	0.19	0.19	—
Telephone services	106.2	105.8	105.8	—	-0.4	1.64	1.64	—
Consumer credit charges	94.0	93.8	93.8	—	-0.2	2.39	2.39	—
<b>Transportation</b>								
Private motoring	122.8	123.7	122.2	-1.2	-0.5	18.19	17.98	-0.21
Motor vehicles	121.7	116.3	112.9	-2.9	-7.2	4.78	4.64	-0.14
Automotive fuel	121.3	123.9	121.9	-1.6	0.5	5.68	5.58	-0.10
Vehicle insurance	133.1	139.7	141.6	1.4	6.4	2.94	2.98	0.04
Motoring charges	139.5	144.7	145.4	0.5	4.2	1.14	1.14	—
Tyres and tubes	105.2	106.1	106.6	0.5	1.3	0.39	0.39	—
Vehicle servicing, repairs and parts	118.4	120.3	119.3	-0.8	0.8	3.27	3.24	-0.03
Urban transport fares	143.1	151.2	152.0	0.5	6.2	1.59	1.59	—



# GROUP, SUB-GROUP & EXPENDITURE CLASS, Weighted Average of Eight Capital Cities *continued*

Group, sub-group and expenditure class	INDEX NUMBERS(a).....			PERCENTAGE CHANGE BETWEEN.....		CONTRIBUTIONS TO TOTAL CPI (ALL GROUPS INDEX POINTS)		
	Jun Qtr 1996	Mar Qtr 1997	Jun Qtr 1997	Mar Qtr 1997 and Jun Qtr 1997	Jun Qtr 1996 and Jun Qtr 1997	Mar Qtr 1997	Jun Qtr 1997	Change between Mar Qtr 1997 and Jun Qtr 1997
<b>Tobacco and alcohol</b>	159.8	161.7	162.1	0.2	1.4	11.09	11.12	0.03
Alcoholic drinks	130.9	131.9	132.4	0.4	1.1	6.34	6.36	0.02
Beer	132.1	133.5	133.3	-0.1	0.9	3.68	3.67	-0.01
Wine	125.5	124.0	125.7	1.4	0.2	1.29	1.31	0.02
Spirits	132.4	135.1	136.1	0.7	2.8	1.37	1.38	0.01
Cigarettes and tobacco	228.5	232.4	232.7	0.1	1.8	4.76	4.76	—
<b>Health and personal care</b>	143.7	150.6	154.0	2.3	7.2	9.08	9.28	0.20
Health services	158.0	169.2	173.6	2.6	9.9	5.64	5.78	0.14
Hospital and medical services	167.0	180.7	185.7	2.8	11.2	4.59	4.72	0.13
Optical services	116.5	120.7	121.3	0.5	4.1	0.22	0.22	—
Dental services	137.4	140.8	143.5	1.9	4.4	0.83	0.85	0.02
Personal care products	126.4	127.3	129.5	1.7	2.5	2.49	2.54	0.05
Pharmaceuticals	128.3	128.5	134.5	4.7	4.8	0.97	1.02	0.05
Toiletries and personal products	125.3	126.7	126.4	-0.2	0.9	1.52	1.52	—
Hairdressing services	122.7	125.3	128.0	2.2	4.3	0.95	0.97	0.02
<b>Recreation and education</b>	118.2	121.0	120.9	-0.1	2.3	13.25	13.24	-0.01
Books, newspapers and magazines	143.1	146.6	149.8	2.2	4.7	1.54	1.58	0.04
Recreational goods	99.8	97.3	96.5	-0.8	-3.3	2.64	2.62	-0.02
Video and sound equipment	81.3	77.7	76.7	-1.3	-5.7	0.74	0.73	-0.01
Records, cassettes and tapes	106.5	98.5	98.6	0.1	-7.4	0.32	0.32	—
Sports and photographic equipment and toys	109.7	109.3	108.3	-0.9	-1.3	1.59	1.57	-0.02
Holiday travel and accommodation	102.8	104.7	102.7	-1.9	-0.1	2.77	2.72	-0.05
Holiday travel and accommodation in Australia	102.2	111.7	104.8	-6.2	2.5	1.63	1.53	-0.10
Holiday travel and accommodation overseas	103.4	96.0	100.0	4.2	-3.3	1.14	1.19	0.05
Recreational services	130.1	135.9	136.3	0.3	4.8	3.62	3.63	0.01
Photographic services	111.2	115.9	115.5	-0.3	3.9	0.29	0.29	—
Repairs to recreational goods	119.5	121.8	123.9	1.7	3.7	0.14	0.14	—
Entertainment	133.0	139.0	139.5	0.4	4.9	3.18	3.19	0.01
Education and child care	142.2	150.1	151.2	0.7	6.3	2.67	2.69	0.02
Education fees	151.1	160.8	160.8	—	6.4	2.15	2.15	—
Child care fees	119.2	121.7	126.0	3.5	5.7	0.52	0.54	0.02
<b>All groups</b>	<b>119.8</b>	<b>120.5</b>	<b>120.2</b>	<b>-0.2</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>120.5</b>	<b>120.2</b>	<b>-0.3</b>

(a) Base of each index: 1989-90 = 100.0

## SPECIAL SERIES, Weighted Average of Eight Capital Cities

	INDEX NUMBERS(a).....			PERCENTAGE CHANGE BETWEEN.....		CONTRIBUTION TO TOTAL CPI (ALL GROUPS INDEX POINTS)		
	Jun Qtr 1996	Mar Qtr 1997	Jun Qtr 1997	Mar Qtr 1997 and Jun Qtr 1997	Jun Qtr 1996 and Jun Qtr 1997	Mar Qtr 1997	Jun Qtr 1997	Change between Mar Qtr 1997 and Jun Qtr 1997
<b>All groups</b>	119.8	120.5	120.2	-0.2	0.3	120.5	120.2	-0.3
<b>Selected components</b>								
Mortgage interest and consumer credit charges	93.2	81.6	75.8	-7.1	-18.7	9.13	8.48	-0.65
Goods component(b)	121.1	122.3	122.3	0.0	1.0	73.91	73.92	0.01
Services component(b)	117.8	117.8	116.9	-0.8	-0.8	46.59	46.22	-0.37
Selected State and local government charges(b)	126.3	129.6	129.8	0.2	2.8	7.98	7.99	0.01
<b>All groups excluding</b>								
Food	120.4	120.6	120.0	-0.5	-0.3	98.18	97.73	-0.45
Clothing	120.6	121.4	121.0	-0.3	0.3	113.81	113.44	-0.37
Housing	122.3	124.5	124.8	0.2	2.0	102.89	103.11	0.22
Household equipment and operation	121.4	122.1	121.6	-0.4	0.2	99.82	99.38	-0.44
Transportation	119.1	119.7	119.5	-0.2	0.3	100.73	100.57	-0.16
Tobacco and alcohol	116.7	117.4	116.9	-0.4	0.2	109.41	109.03	-0.38
Health and personal care	118.3	118.7	118.1	-0.5	-0.2	111.42	110.86	-0.56
Recreation and education	120.0	120.5	120.1	-0.3	0.1	107.25	106.91	-0.34
Home ownership	121.9	124.1	124.4	0.2	2.1	108.49	108.76	0.27
Mortgage interest and consumer credit charges	122.8	125.1	125.4	0.2	2.1	111.38	111.67	0.29
Hospital and medical services	118.5	118.9	118.5	-0.3	0.0	115.91	115.43	-0.48
Selected State and local government charges(b)	119.4	120.0	119.6	-0.3	0.2	112.53	112.15	-0.38

(a) Base of each index: 1989-90 = 100.0

(b) Refer to paragraph 14 of the Explanatory Notes for a description of this series

## INTERNATIONAL COMPARISONS, All Groups Excluding Housing-Index Numbers(a)(b)

Period	United States of America	Japan	Germany	Canada	United Kingdom	Hong Kong	Korea, Republic of	Taiwan	Indonesia	Singapore	Australia	New Zealand
<b>1993-94</b>	114.8	107.9	113.2	112.0	122.0	140.1	130.4	114.2	137.8	110.9	113.5	109.4
<b>1994-95</b>	118.0	107.8	115.2	113.4	124.8	151.4	138.0	119.1	150.3	114.5	116.5	110.5
<b>1995-96</b>	120.9	107.3	116.3	116.0	128.3	160.8	144.4	122.5	163.7	116.0	121.1	111.9
<b>1996-97</b>	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	117.7	n.y.a.	131.5	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	125.7	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	123.9	113.7
<b>1993</b>												
June	113.3	107.6	111.9	111.5	120.8	134.8	126.4	113.5	133.2	109.0	112.0	109.1
September	113.7	108.1	112.6	112.1	121.1	136.4	127.2	112.2	133.5	109.5	112.6	109.3
December	114.6	107.6	112.4	112.6	121.4	139.3	128.3	113.4	135.0	110.3	113.2	109.4
<b>1994</b>												
March	115.1	107.7	113.6	111.8	121.8	140.8	132.2	114.4	140.9	111.4	113.6	109.3
June	115.9	108.1	114.1	111.5	123.5	143.7	134.0	116.6	141.6	112.5	114.4	109.5
September	116.9	107.7	114.9	112.2	123.4	147.6	136.6	119.3	145.3	113.6	115.1	109.8
December	117.4	108.2	114.6	112.4	123.9	149.6	136.2	117.2	147.5	114.4	115.7	110.4
<b>1995</b>												
March	118.2	107.4	115.3	113.9	125.1	152.9	138.4	118.8	152.6	114.5	116.9	110.6
June	119.4	107.8	115.8	115.1	126.6	155.5	140.7	121.0	155.9	115.3	118.3	111.3
September	119.7	107.3	116.1	115.3	127.0	158.6	141.8	121.4	157.9	115.4	119.8	111.2
December	120.2	107.3	115.7	115.3	127.7	159.6	142.3	122.0	161.6	115.6	120.8	111.6
<b>1996</b>												
March	121.2	106.9	116.4	116.0	128.5	160.7	145.2	122.3	167.0	116.3	121.5	112.0
June	122.6	107.8	116.9	117.3	130.0	164.1	148.1	124.3	168.1	116.8	122.3	112.8
September	123.1	107.3	117.3	117.5	130.3	165.5	149.6	126.1	168.5	117.3	122.7	113.0
December	124.1	107.5	117.1	118.5	131.2	167.4	149.5	126.3	173.1	117.7	123.6	113.8
<b>1997</b>												
March	124.7	107.2	118.0	119.2	131.6	168.9	152.4	124.7	177.1	118.4	124.5	113.9
June	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	118.2	n.y.a.	132.8	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	125.7	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	124.8	114.1

(a) Base of each index: Year 1989-90 = 100.0

(b) Refer to paragraphs 15-19 of the Explanatory Notes for further information



## ALTERNATIVE MEASURES OF CONSUMER PRICE INFLATION, Index Numbers(a)(b)

PRIVATE SECTOR GOODS  
AND SERVICES(c).....

Period	All groups	All groups excluding Housing	All groups excluding interest and 'volatile items'(c)	Goods	Services	Total	Treasury Underlying Rate(c)
<b>1993-94</b>	110.4	113.5	115.2	113.9	110.8	113.1	112.7
<b>1994-95</b>	113.9	116.5	118.1	116.2	114.0	115.7	115.1
<b>1995-96</b>	118.7	121.1	122.4	120.6	118.6	120.1	118.8
<b>1996-97</b>	120.3	123.9	125.2	122.5	122.1	122.4	121.2
<b>1993</b>							
June	109.3	112.0	113.4	112.2	109.3	111.5	111.3
September	109.8	112.6	114.1	113.1	109.6	112.2	112.0
December	110.0	113.2	114.8	113.6	111.0	112.9	112.4
<b>1994</b>							
March	110.4	113.6	115.6	114.1	111.0	113.3	113.0
June	111.2	114.4	116.1	114.6	111.6	113.8	113.5
September	111.9	115.1	116.7	115.0	112.7	114.4	114.2
December	112.8	115.7	117.5	115.7	113.7	115.2	114.8
<b>1995</b>							
March	114.7	116.9	118.3	116.3	114.2	115.7	115.2
June	116.2	118.3	119.7	117.9	115.5	117.3	116.3
September	117.6	119.8	121.0	119.4	116.8	118.7	117.7
December	118.5	120.8	122.1	120.3	118.4	119.9	118.5
<b>1996</b>							
March	119.0	121.5	122.8	120.8	119.7	120.5	119.0
June	119.8	122.3	123.5	121.9	119.6	121.3	119.9
September	120.1	122.7	124.1	122.2	120.4	121.7	120.5
December	120.3	123.6	124.8	122.5	121.6	122.3	121.0
<b>1997</b>							
March	120.5	124.5	125.6	122.6	122.8	122.7	121.5
June	120.2	124.8	126.1	122.8	123.4	123.0	121.9

(a) Base of each index: Year 1989-90 = 100.0

(b) Refer to paragraphs 20-25 of the Explanatory Notes for further information

(c) Refer to paragraph 14 of the Explanatory Notes for a description of this series

## INTERNATIONAL COMPARISONS, All Groups Excluding Housing-Percentage Changes(a)

Period	United States of America	Japan	Germany	Canada	United Kingdom	Hong Kong	Korea, Republic of	Taiwan	Indonesia	Singapore	Australia	New Zealand
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous year)												
1993-94	2.4	1.0	2.6	1.1	2.9	7.1	5.6	2.5	6.8	2.6	2.3	0.6
1994-95	2.8	-0.1	1.8	1.3	2.3	8.1	5.8	4.3	9.1	3.2	2.6	1.0
1995-96	2.5	-0.5	1.0	2.3	2.8	6.2	4.6	2.9	8.9	1.3	3.9	1.3
1996-97	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	1.2	n.y.a.	2.5	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	2.6	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	2.3	1.6

PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from corresponding quarter of previous year)												
<b>1993</b>												
June	3.0	0.6	2.9	1.9	3.0	7.0	4.5	2.7	8.4	1.9	2.5	1.5
September	2.7	1.7	3.2	1.9	3.4	7.1	4.2	1.9	8.2	2.1	2.6	1.1
December	2.6	0.8	2.9	2.1	2.9	8.2	5.5	2.3	7.3	2.3	2.4	0.7
<b>1994</b>												
March	2.1	1.0	2.3	0.5	2.9	6.6	6.8	2.8	5.5	2.8	1.8	0.4
June	2.3	0.5	2.0	0.0	2.2	6.6	6.0	2.7	6.3	3.3	2.1	0.4
September	2.8	-0.4	2.0	0.1	1.9	8.2	7.4	6.3	8.8	3.8	2.2	0.5
December	2.4	0.6	2.0	-0.2	2.1	7.4	6.2	3.4	9.3	3.7	2.2	0.9
<b>1995</b>												
March	2.7	-0.3	1.5	1.9	2.7	8.6	4.7	3.8	8.3	2.8	2.9	1.2
June	3.0	-0.3	1.5	3.2	2.5	8.2	5.0	3.8	10.1	2.5	3.4	1.6
September	2.4	-0.4	1.0	2.8	2.9	7.5	3.8	1.8	8.7	1.6	4.1	1.3
December*	2.4	-0.8	1.0	2.6	3.1	6.7	4.5	4.1	9.6	1.1	4.4	1.1
<b>1996</b>												
March	2.5	-0.5	1.0	1.8	2.7	5.1	4.9	2.9	9.4	1.6	3.9	1.3
June	2.7	0.0	0.9	1.9	2.7	5.5	5.3	2.7	7.8	1.3	3.4	1.3
September	2.8	0.0	1.0	1.9	2.6	4.4	5.5	3.9	6.7	1.6	2.4	1.6
December	3.2	0.2	1.2	2.8	2.7	4.9	5.1	3.5	7.1	1.8	2.3	2.0
<b>1997</b>												
March	2.9	0.3	1.4	2.8	2.4	5.1	5.0	2.0	6.0	1.8	2.5	1.7
June	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	1.1	n.y.a.	2.2	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	1.1	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	2.0	1.2

PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous quarter)												
<b>1993</b>												
June	0.5	0.9	0.8	0.3	2.0	2.0	2.1	2.0	-0.2	0.6	0.4	0.2
September	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.2	1.2	0.6	-1.1	0.2	0.5	0.5	0.2
December	0.8	-0.5	-0.2	0.4	0.2	2.1	0.9	1.1	1.1	0.7	0.5	0.1
<b>1994</b>												
March	0.4	0.1	1.1	-0.7	0.3	1.1	3.0	0.9	4.4	1.0	0.4	-0.1
June	0.7	0.4	0.4	-0.3	1.4	2.1	1.4	1.9	0.5	1.0	0.7	0.2
September	0.9	-0.4	0.7	0.6	-0.1	2.7	1.9	2.3	2.6	1.0	0.6	0.3
December	0.4	0.5	-0.3	0.2	0.4	1.4	-0.3	-1.8	1.5	0.6	0.5	0.5
<b>1995</b>												
March	0.7	-0.7	0.6	1.3	1.0	2.2	1.6	1.4	3.5	0.1	1.0	0.2
June	1.0	0.4	0.4	1.1	1.2	1.7	1.7	1.9	2.2	0.7	1.2	0.6
September	0.3	-0.5	0.3	0.2	0.3	2.0	0.8	0.3	1.3	0.1	1.3	-0.1
December	0.4	0.0	-0.3	0.0	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.5	2.3	0.2	0.8	0.4
<b>1996</b>												
March	0.8	-0.4	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.7	2.0	0.2	3.3	0.6	0.6	0.4
June	1.2	0.8	0.4	1.1	1.2	2.1	2.0	1.6	0.7	0.4	0.7	0.7
September	0.4	-0.5	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.9	1.0	1.4	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.2
December	0.8	0.2	-0.2	0.9	0.7	1.1	-0.1	0.2	2.7	0.3	0.7	0.7
<b>1997</b>												
March	0.5	-0.3	0.8	0.6	0.3	0.9	1.9	-1.3	2.3	0.6	0.7	0.1
June	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	0.2	n.y.a.	0.9	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	0.8	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	0.2	0.2

(a) Refer to paragraphs 15-19 of the Explanatory Notes for further information

## ALTERNATIVE MEASURES OF CONSUMER PRICE INFLATION, Percentage Changes(a)

PRIVATE SECTOR GOODS  
AND SERVICES(b).....

Period	All groups	All groups excluding Housing	All groups excluding interest and 'volatile items' (b)	Goods	Services	Total	Treasury Underlying Rate(b)
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous year)							
1993-94	1.8	2.3	2.8	2.7	1.7	2.4	2.1
1994-95	3.2	2.6	2.5	2.0	2.9	2.3	2.1
1995-96	4.2	3.9	3.6	3.8	4.0	3.8	3.2
1996-97	1.3	2.3	2.3	1.6	3.0	1.9	2.0
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from corresponding quarter of previous year)							
1993							
June	1.9	2.5	3.0	3.0	1.0	2.6	1.8
September	2.2	2.6	3.1	3.3	0.9	2.7	2.2
December	1.9	2.4	2.9	2.9	1.6	2.5	2.1
1994							
March	1.4	1.8	2.7	2.5	1.9	2.3	2.1
June	1.7	2.1	2.4	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.0
September	1.9	2.2	2.3	1.7	2.8	2.0	2.0
December	2.5	2.2	2.4	1.8	2.4	2.0	2.1
1995							
March	3.9	2.9	2.3	1.9	2.9	2.1	1.9
June	4.5	3.4	3.1	2.9	3.5	3.1	2.5
September	5.1	4.1	3.7	3.8	3.6	3.8	3.1
December	5.1	4.4	3.9	4.0	4.1	4.1	3.2
1996							
March	3.7	3.9	3.8	3.9	4.8	4.1	3.3
June	3.1	3.4	3.2	3.4	3.5	3.4	3.1
September	2.1	2.4	2.6	2.3	3.1	2.5	2.4
December	1.5	2.3	2.2	1.8	2.7	2.0	2.1
1997							
March	1.3	2.5	2.3	1.5	2.6	1.8	2.1
June	0.3	2.0	2.1	0.7	3.2	1.4	1.7
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous quarter)							
1993							
June	0.4	0.4	0.7	0.8	0.4	0.7	0.5
September	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.8	0.3	0.6	0.6
December	0.2	0.5	0.6	0.4	1.3	0.6	0.4
1994							
March	0.4	0.4	0.7	0.4	0.0	0.4	0.5
June	0.7	0.7	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.4
September	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.3	1.0	0.5	0.6
December	0.8	0.5	0.7	0.6	0.9	0.7	0.5
1995							
March	1.7	1.0	0.7	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.3
June	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.4	1.1	1.4	1.0
September	1.2	1.3	1.1	1.3	1.1	1.2	1.2
December	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.8	1.4	1.0	0.7
1996							
March	0.4	0.6	0.6	0.4	1.1	0.5	0.4
June	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.9	-0.1	0.7	0.8
September	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.2	0.7	0.3	0.5
December	0.2	0.7	0.6	0.2	1.0	0.5	0.4
1997							
March	0.2	0.7	0.6	0.1	1.0	0.3	0.4
June	-0.2	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.5	0.2	0.3

(a) Refer to paragraphs 20-25 of the Explanatory Notes for further information

(b) Refer to paragraph 14 of the Explanatory Notes for a description of this series

## EXPLANATORY NOTES

### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE CPI

**1** The Consumer Price Index (CPI) measures quarterly changes in the price of a 'basket' of goods and services which account for a high proportion of expenditure by the CPI population group (i.e. metropolitan wage and salary earner households). This 'basket' covers a wide range of goods and services, arranged in the following eight groups:

- food
- clothing
- housing
- household equipment and operation
- transportation
- tobacco and alcohol
- health and personal care and
- recreation and education.

Pensioners and other social welfare recipients are not included in the CPI population group and the index does not reflect concessional prices paid by these people such as subsidised government dwelling rents, public transport fares and the like.

**2** The capital city indexes measure price movements over time in each city individually. They do not measure differences in retail price levels between cities.

**3** Further information about the CPI is contained in a booklet entitled *A Guide to the Consumer Price Index* (6440.0) which is available from the ABS on request. A more detailed account is contained in *The Australian Consumer Price Index. Concepts, Sources and Methods* (6461.0), contained on the CD-ROM *Statistical Concepts Reference Library* (1361.0).

### PRICES

**4** Prices of goods and services included in the CPI are generally collected quarterly. However, some important items are priced monthly or more frequently (e.g. bread, fresh meat and fish, fresh fruit and vegetables, petrol, alcohol and tobacco) and a small number annually (e.g. seasonal clothing).

**5** In order to facilitate a more even spread of field collection workload the bulk of the items for which prices are collected quarterly are priced in the first two months of each quarter (i.e. July/August, October/November, January/February, April/May). With a few exceptions items priced in the third month are those subject to price changes at discrete points of time (e.g. electricity and postal charges); in these cases information about any changes in price during the quarter is obtained so that an average price for the whole quarter can be calculated.

### WEIGHTING PATTERN

**6** There are 107 expenditure classes (that is, groupings of like items) in the twelfth series CPI and each expenditure class has its own weight, or measure of relative importance. In calculating the index, price changes for the various expenditure classes are combined using these weights.

**7** Changes in the weighting pattern have been made at approximately five-yearly intervals to take account of changes in household spending patterns. The CPI now comprises twelve series of price indexes which have been linked to form a continuous series.

# EXPLANATORY NOTES

## ANALYSIS OF CPI CHANGES

**8** Movements in indexes from one period to another can be expressed either as changes in index points or as percentage changes. The following example illustrates the method of calculating changes in index points and percentage changes between any two periods:

All groups CPI: Weighted average of eight capital cities.

Index numbers:	
June Quarter 1997	120.2 (see Table 1)
less March Quarter 1997	120.5 (see Table 1)
Change in index points	-0.3
Percentage change =	$\frac{-0.3}{120.5} \times 100 = -0.2\%$

**9** Percentage changes are calculated to illustrate three different kinds of movements in index numbers:

- movements between consecutive financial years (where the index numbers for financial years are simple averages of the quarterly index numbers),
- movements between corresponding quarters of consecutive years, and
- movements between consecutive quarters.

**10** Table 6 provides a detailed analysis, for the weighted average of eight capital cities, of movements in the CPI since the previous quarter, including information on movements for groups, sub-groups and expenditure classes. It also shows the contribution which each makes to the total CPI. For instance, the dairy products sub-group contributed 1.89 index points to the total All groups index number of 120.2 for June Quarter 1997. The final column shows contributions to the change in All Groups index points by each group, sub-group and expenditure class.

**11** Table 7 provides summary information about a range of Special series in a similar format to that provided in Table 6.

**12** Information on the impact of changes in Selected State and local government charges on the CPI is included in Tables 5 and 7. Table 5 shows the contribution to the CPI made by changes in these charges for each capital city, while Table 7 shows index numbers for two special series 'Selected State and local government charges' and 'All groups excluding selected State and local government charges'.

## SPECIAL SERIES

**13** Various series are presented in this publication which are helpful for analytical purposes. These series are compiled by taking subsets of the CPI basket. A complete list of CPI groups, sub-groups and expenditure classes is contained in Tables 5 and 6.

**14** Some of the compiled series are self explanatory, such as 'All groups, excluding food'. Other series and their composition are described below:

*All Groups, goods component:* comprises the Food group (except Meals out), Clothing group (except Dry cleaning and Shoe repairs), Household equipment and operation group (except Veterinary services, House contents insurance, Repairs to appliances, Postal and telephone services and Consumer credit charges), Tobacco and alcohol group, Materials used in house repairs and maintenance, Motor vehicles, Automotive fuel, Tyres and tubes, Parts used in vehicle services and repairs, Personal care products, Books, Newspapers and magazines, and Recreational goods. The resulting series accounted for approximately 61% of the All groups CPI in the June quarter 1992.

*All Groups, services component:* comprises all items not included in the 'All groups, goods component'.

## EXPLANATORY NOTES

### SPECIAL SERIES (continued)

*Selected State and local government charges:* comprises Government-owned dwelling rents, Water and sewerage rates, Council property rates and charges, Electricity prices, Gas prices (Melbourne and Perth only), Motor vehicle third party insurance premiums (except Canberra and in part only in Sydney and Brisbane), Motor vehicle registration fees, Drivers' licence fees, Urban bus fares (government bus fares only in Sydney and Melbourne, council fares only in Brisbane), Urban rail and tram fares (not applicable in Hobart, Canberra and Darwin).

*All groups excluding interest and 'volatile items':* comprises the All groups CPI excluding: Fresh fruit and vegetables, Mortgage interest charges, Automotive fuel, and Consumer credit charges. The resulting series covers approximately 85% of the total CPI basket.

*Private sector goods and services:* in addition to the items excluded from the series "All groups excluding interest and 'volatile items'", also excludes: Government-owned dwelling rents, Fuel and light, Local government rates and charges, Postal and telephone services, Motoring charges, Urban transport fares, Health services, Pharmaceuticals, and Education and child care. The resulting series covers approximately 69% of the total CPI basket.

*Treasury underlying rate:* excludes items from the CPI basket whose prices are highly volatile, exhibit marked seasonal patterns or are largely affected by policy decisions – in addition to the items excluded from the series "Private sector goods and services", the Treasury underlying rate also excludes Meat and seafoods, Clothing group, Tobacco and alcohol group; and Holiday travel and accommodation; but includes Motoring charges. The resulting series covers approximately 51% of the total CPI basket.

### INTERNATIONAL COMPARISONS

**15** In analysing price movements in Australia, an important consideration is Australia's performance relative to other countries. However, due to the many differences in the structure of the housing sector in different countries and in the way that housing is treated in their CPIs, a simple comparison of All groups (or headline) CPIs is often inappropriate. To provide a better basis for international comparisons, the Fourteenth International Conference of Labour Statisticians adopted a resolution which called for countries to 'provide for dissemination at the international level of an index which excludes shelter, in addition to the all-items index'.

**16** Table 8 presents indexes for selected countries on a basis consistent with the above resolution and comparable to the Australian series 'All groups excluding housing'. To facilitate comparisons all indexes in this table have, where necessary, been converted to a quarterly basis and re-referenced to a base of 1989–90 = 100.0.

**17** The statistics for Germany refer to Western Germany (Federal Republic of Germany) before the unification of Germany.

**18** From March quarter 1994 the statistics for New Zealand refer to 'all groups excluding housing and credit services'.

**19** In producing this table, the ABS is grateful for the assistance of the relevant national statistical agencies which have either directly supplied indexes for all items excluding shelter or data to enable their derivation.

### ALTERNATIVE MEASURES OF CONSUMER PRICE INFLATION

**20** The various uses of the CPI may be grouped into two major categories. The first relates to uses of the CPI to assess changes in the purchasing power of household incomes, particularly as input to income adjustment processes. The second relates to uses as a general measure of inflation.

**21** It is not possible to produce a single measure that is entirely suitable for both purposes, due to certain fundamental differences in requirements. For more details, see the Information Paper *The Australian Consumer Price Index, 12th Series Review* (6450.0).

## EXPLANATORY NOTES

**22** While the removal of shelter costs from the CPI serves to improve international comparability there is a need for other measures for some purposes. In particular, there is a requirement for measures which seek to remove temporary influences and one-off changes in order to focus on the 'underlying' inflation rate.

**23** There is no universally accepted methodology for deriving a measure of an 'underlying' inflation rate. The Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) and the Commonwealth Department of the Treasury (Treasury) have developed several alternative measures which, while based on the CPI, exclude various components which have been assessed as contributing significant temporary influences from time to time.

**24** Table 10 presents the All groups CPI, All groups excluding housing (the series recommended for international comparisons), and a number of possible 'underlying' measures including the Treasury measure. A description of the Treasury 'underlying' inflation rate was published in the Appendix to the September quarter 1994 issue of this publication.

**25** No single series can be claimed to provide the ideal guide to 'underlying' inflation in every time period due to the variations in the sources of particular 'shocks'. Judgement will still be required in assessing the trend from period to period. However, Treasury and the RBA have agreed that the Treasury series provides the best available guide to 'underlying' inflation for macro-economic policy purposes.

### RELATED PUBLICATIONS

**26** Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products, Australia* (1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a *Release Advice* (1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the next few days. The Catalogue and Release Advice are available from any ABS office.

**27** Users may also wish to refer to the following publications:

- *The Australian Consumer Price Index: Concepts Sources and Methods* (6461.0), available on CD-ROM *Statistical Concept Reference Library* (1361.0)
- *A Guide to the Consumer Price Index* (6440.0)
- *Information Paper: The Australian Consumer Price Index: Treatment of Mortgage Interest Charges* (6442.0)
- *House Price Indexes: Eight Capital Cities* (6416.0)
- *Average Retail Prices of Selected Items Eight Capital Cities* (6403.0)
- *Information Paper: The Australian Consumer Price Index: 12th Series Review* (6450.0)

### SYMBOLS AND OTHER USAGES

- n.a. not available
- n.y.a. not yet available
- r revised
- nil or rounded to zero

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