

**AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF SELECTED ITEMS
EIGHT CAPITAL CITIES
JUNE QUARTER 1997**

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Scope of publication

1. This publication contains average prices for selected items which are included in the Consumer Price Index for the eight capital cities.

2. 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

3. 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.

4. Prices for fresh fruit and vegetables are collected weekly and averaged to obtain quarterly prices. Prices for fresh meat, bread, fish, petrol and alcohol are collected monthly and averaged to obtain quarterly prices. Prices for fresh milk are collected at the end of the quarter together with details of price changes during the quarter, and average prices calculated for the quarter. Prices for all other items are collected during the mid month of each quarter (i.e. in August, November, February and May).

5. Commencing with the December quarter 1996, average retail prices are calculated using the geometric mean of the individual observations.

Related publications

6. Users may also wish to refer to the following publications which are available from the Australian Bureau of Statistics on request:

Consumer Price Index (6401.0) - issued quarterly
A Guide to the Consumer Price Index (6440.0)
The Australian Consumer Price Index, Concepts, Sources and Methods (6461.0), available on CD-ROM *Statistical Concept Reference Library* (†361.0)

7. Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products* (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.

Information Consultancy Service

8. Information tailored to special needs of clients can be obtained from the Information Consultancy Service available at ABS offices (see Information Inquiries below for contact details).

National Dial-a-Statistic Line – 0055 86 400

9. This number gives 24-hour access, 365 days a year for a range of statistics.

Electronic Data Services

10. A large range of data is available via on-line services diskette, magnetic tape, tape cartridge and CD-ROM. For more details about our electronic data services, contact any ABS office.

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INQUIRIES

- for further information about statistics in this publication and the availability of related unpublished statistics, contact Sue Lewis on Canberra (06) 252 5754 or any ABS State office.
- for information about other ABS statistics and services, please call Information Services on Canberra (06) 252 6627, 252 6007 or any ABS State office.

AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF SELECTED ITEMS, JUNE QUARTER 1997 (Cents)

Item	Unit	Sydney	Melb.	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Darwin	Canberra
Dairy products									
Milk, carton, supermarket sales	(a) 1 litre	115	130	116	122	130	125	117	112
Milk, powdered, full cream	750 g	466	513	469	494	486	559	567	478
Cheese, processed, sliced, wrapped	500 g	386	357	362	320	347	360	383	399
Butter	(b) 500 g	188	199	180	161	192	206	210	180
Cereal products									
Bread white loaf, sliced, supermarket sales	680 g	201	192	197	160	178	171	194	193
Biscuits, dry	250 g	157	166	158	151	166	179	177	160
Breakfast cereal, corn based	550 g	358	321	357	331	379	361	353	342
Flour, self raising	2 kg	327	340	267	235	264	286	308	322
Rice, long grain	1 kg	145	149	138	126	165	170	170	142
Meat and seafoods									
Beef									
Silverside Roast	(c) 1 kg	755	785	781	683	726	666	840	651
Rump steak	1 kg	1205	1033	1084	1141	1076	958	1189	1043
T-bone steak, with fillet	1 kg	1128	1027	950	1084	1100	987	1199	924
Chuck steak	1 kg	552	547	602	650	602	586	760	508
Silverside, corned	1 kg	598	592	574	602	644	596	607	605
Lamb									
Leg	1 kg	638	577	579	574	595	587	652	572
Loin chops	1 kg	778	859	802	792	890	708	921	780
Forequarter chops	1 kg	481	502	477	547	610	480	555	462
Pork									
Leg	1 kg	585	542	591	621	607	681	733	555
Loin chops	1 kg	881	772	809	812	838	820	879	856
Chicken, frozen	1 kg	352	387	329	370	353	402	433	377
Bacon, middle fashers	250 g pkt	310	308	316	295	360	332	402	323
Beef corned	340 g can	280	279	286	267	283	317	294	274
Sausages	1 kg	340	359	338	360	399	365	419	294
Salmon, pink	210 g can	214	227	224	216	231	262	253	229
Fresh fruit and vegetables									
Oranges	1 kg	211	139	132	101	281	125	209	110
Bananas	1 kg	300	273	266	287	314	271	263	273
Potatoes	1 kg	121	130	116	108	112	77	130	114
Tomatoes	1 kg	311	265	248	362	284	310	433	296
Carrots	1 kg	160	119	117	118	121	132	179	139
Onions	1 kg	123	88	99	114	89	98	147	111
Processed fruit and vegetables									
Peaches	825 g can	198	186	193	185	227	211	249	200
Pineapple, sliced	450 g can	114	104	107	96	118	119	130	113
Peas, frozen	500 g pkt	123	131	134	117	128	148	172	131
Confectionery									
Chocolate, milk, block	250 g	284	273	281	249	261	284	279	280
Other food									
Eggs	(d) 55g, 1 dozen	277	271	289	246	265	288	308	266
Sugar, white	2 kg	222	201	177	182	231	239	255	210
Jam, strawberry	500 g jar	240	245	242	221	246	284	281	250
Tea	250 g	196	193	195	175	220	216	205	194
Coffee, instant	150 g jar	606	554	597	539	577	628	592	638
Tomato sauce	600 ml	175	187	189	158	212	196	213	179
Margarine, poly-unsaturated	500 g	169	144	165	133	158	173	197	169
Baked beans, in tomato sauce	425 g	97	98	103	87	102	111	113	100
Baby food	125 g can	61	56	61	58	60	70	62	63
Household supplies and services									
Laundry detergent	1 kg	512	498	566	450	535	533	528	544
Dishwashing detergent	1 litre	382	377	362	368	370	411	383	385
Facial tissues	pkt 224	187	181	188	169	198	204	193	187
Toilet paper	4 x 280 sheet rolls	323	333	351	314	340	372	327	328
Pet food	410 g	104	99	100	97	110	114	107	99
Private motoring									
Petrol, super grade	1 litre	75.9	73.5	67.1	75.4	77.0	80.0	82.5	79.6
Petrol, unleaded	1 litre	73.7	71.4	64.9	73.0	74.8	77.9	80.5	77.4
Alcoholic drinks									
Beer, low alcohol, unchilled	(e) 24 x 375 ml bottles	2060	1607	2339	2088	2383	2316	2370	1888
Beer, full strength, unchilled	(e) (f) 24 x 375 ml bottles	2673	2665	2602	2687	2685	2691	3060	2464
Draught beer, full strength, public bar	285 ml glass	167	194	179	194	222	179	228	175
Draught beer, low alcohol, public bar	(g) 285 ml glass	152	164	169	171	217	154	214	156
Scotch nip, public bar	30 ml	318	286	254	345	350	249	319	291
Personal care products									
Toilet soap	2 x 125 g	182	159	181	165	169	186	189	164
Toothpaste	140 g	233	244	244	223	254	269	234	247

(a) Darwin price relates to blended milk. (b) Sydney, Melbourne and Canberra: 2 x 250 g. (c) Adelaide price relates to blade bolar roast. Darwin price relates to topside roast. (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 55g. Eggs in Brisbane and Hobart have a minimum net weight of 52 g. Eggs in Perth have a minimum net weight of 50g. Eggs in Darwin have a minimum net weight of 54g. (e) Darwin, chilled. (f) Alcoholic content of full strength beer is greater than 3.9%. (g) Hobart glass size 225 ml.

