



CATALOGUE NO. 6403.0

EMBARGOED UNTIL 11.30 A.M. 21 NOVEMBER 1989

**AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF SELECTED ITEMS
EIGHT CAPITAL CITIES
SEPTEMBER QUARTER 1989**

PHONE INQUIRIES

- *about these statistics* - contact Ms Maree Roy on Canberra (062) 52 5740 or any ABS State office.

- *about other statistics and ABS services* - contact Information Services on Canberra (062) 52 5402, 52 6007, 52 6627 or any ABS State office.

MAIL INQUIRIES

- *write to Information Services*, ABS, P.O. Box 10, Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616 or any ABS State office.

ELECTRONIC SERVICES

- on VIATEL - key *656#.

- on AUSSTATS - phone (062) 52 6017.

- on TELESTATS - phone (062) 52 5404 Foreign Trade statistics inquiries, (062) 525405 Main Economic Indicator inquiries.

EXPLANATORY NOTES**Scope of publication**

This publication contains average prices for selected items which are included in the 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 thus the average prices for some items may not be completely comparable from city to city.

4. Prices for fresh fruit and vegetables are collected weekly and averaged to obtain quarterly prices. Prices for fresh meat, bread, 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).

Related publications

5. 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)

A Guide to the Consumer Price Index (6440.0)

The Australian Consumer Price Index, Concepts, Sources and Methods (6461.0)

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

Symbols and other usages

n.a. not available

Electronic services

VIATEL. Key *656# for selected current economic, social and demographic statistics.

AUSSTATS. Thousands of up-to-date time series are available on this ABS on-line service through PAXUS COMNET.

TELESTATS. This service provides foreign trade statistics tailored to users' requirements. Further information is available on (062) 52 5404.

Text and tables for selected main Economic Indicator publications. Further information is available on (062) 52 5405.

Floppy disk service

Selected ABS statistics are available on floppy disk. Further information is available on (062) 52 6684.

IAN CASTLES
Australian Statistician

AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF SELECTED ITEMS, SEPTEMBER QUARTER 1989
(Cents)

| Item | Unit | Sydney | Melbourne | Brisbane | Adelaide | Perth | Hobart | Canberra | Darwin |
|--|---------------------|--------|-----------|----------|----------|-------|--------|----------|--------|
| Dairy products | | | | | | | | | |
| Milk, carton, delivered(a) | 1 litre | 102 | 88 | 93 | 85 | 90 | 90 | 87 | n.a. |
| Milk, carton, supermarket sales(b) | 1 litre | 86 | 82 | 92 | 80 | 90 | 90 | 86 | 85 |
| Milk, powdered, full cream | 1 kg can | 573 | 623 | 575 | 565 | 599 | 620 | 589 | 582 |
| Cheese, processed, sliced, wrapped | 500 g | 293 | 295 | 302 | 270 | 305 | 320 | 301 | 312 |
| Butter | 500 g | 192 | 205 | 173 | 163 | 174 | 203 | 191 | 179 |
| Cereal products | | | | | | | | | |
| Bread, white loaf, sliced, supermarket sales | 680 g | 132 | 129 | 114 | 104 | 128 | 122 | 134 | 129 |
| Biscuits, dry | 250 g | 113 | 117 | 103 | 106 | 113 | 129 | 112 | 131 |
| Breakfast cereal, corn based | 500 g | 226 | 220 | 216 | 210 | 248 | 261 | 207 | 235 |
| Flour, self-raising | 2 kg | 241 | 260 | 196 | 199 | 196 | 205 | 247 | 240 |
| Rice, medium grain | 1 kg | 106 | 99 | 94 | 93 | 104 | 116 | 107 | 113 |
| Meat and seafoods | | | | | | | | | |
| Beef | | | | | | | | | |
| Rib, without bone | 1 kg | 692 | 651 | 587 | 597 | 586 | 624 | 610 | 725 |
| Rump steak | 1 kg | 1118 | 1090 | 1005 | 1008 | 957 | 986 | 929 | 1044 |
| T-bone steak, with fillet(c) | 1 kg | 1017 | 921 | 887 | 986 | 927 | 934 | 959 | 1081 |
| Chuck steak | 1 kg | 639 | 610 | 611 | 629 | 617 | 660 | 632 | 746 |
| Silverside, corned | 1 kg | 696 | 692 | 610 | 604 | 640 | 643 | 657 | 610 |
| Lamb | | | | | | | | | |
| Leg | 1 kg | 517 | 505 | 561 | 489 | 559 | 470 | 510 | 582 |
| Loin chops | 1 kg | 602 | 730 | 659 | 626 | 706 | 594 | 580 | 710 |
| Forequarter chops | 1 kg | 409 | 423 | 468 | 443 | 520 | 422 | 389 | 503 |
| Pork | | | | | | | | | |
| Leg | 1 kg | 566 | 544 | 597 | 588 | 627 | 668 | 555 | 687 |
| Loin chops | 1 kg | 714 | 714 | 723 | 701 | 733 | 835 | 684 | 821 |
| Chicken, frozen | 1 kg | 290 | 308 | 287 | 336 | 334 | 295 | 263 | 361 |
| Bacon, middle rashers | 250 g pkt | 252 | 269 | 244 | 271 | 252 | 298 | 244 | 312 |
| Beef, corned | 340 g can | 214 | 219 | 215 | 198 | 227 | 235 | 222 | 221 |
| Sausages | 1 kg | 309 | 391 | 432 | 345 | 363 | 362 | 304 | 427 |
| Salmon, pink | 210 g can | 342 | 343 | 331 | 347 | 340 | 380 | 348 | 351 |
| Fresh fruit and vegetables | | | | | | | | | |
| Oranges | 1 kg | 149 | 135 | 114 | 101 | 160 | 131 | 83 | 136 |
| Bananas | 1 kg | 233 | 224 | 203 | 210 | 211 | 241 | 219 | 191 |
| Potatoes | 1 kg | 122 | 129 | 111 | 138 | 112 | 83 | 99 | 125 |
| Tomatoes | 1 kg | 393 | 388 | 324 | 397 | 369 | 516 | 377 | 451 |
| Carrots | 1 kg | 235 | 233 | 176 | 215 | 118 | 177 | 232 | 223 |
| Onions | 1 kg | 115 | 113 | 123 | 126 | 102 | 125 | 110 | 154 |
| Processed fruit and vegetables | | | | | | | | | |
| Peaches | 825 g can | 157 | 167 | 162 | 165 | 174 | 185 | 160 | 187 |
| Pineapple, sliced | 450 g can | 75 | 80 | 70 | 70 | 83 | 83 | 77 | 91 |
| Peas, frozen | 500 g pkt | 121 | 136 | 130 | 124 | 131 | 148 | 136 | 170 |
| Confectionery | | | | | | | | | |
| Chocolate, milk, block | 250 g | 191 | 173 | 183 | 167 | 201 | 199 | 191 | 210 |
| Other food | | | | | | | | | |
| Eggs(d) | 55 g, 1 dozen | 181 | 193 | 203 | 226 | 190 | 232 | 181 | 254 |
| Sugar, white | 2 kg | 200 | 190 | 173 | 191 | 219 | 227 | 207 | 229 |
| Jam, strawberry | 500 g jar | 184 | 189 | 190 | 170 | 188 | 196 | 174 | 201 |
| Tea | 250 g | 151 | 145 | 141 | 145 | 142 | 149 | 150 | 153 |
| Coffee, instant | 150 g jar | 477 | 476 | 486 | 421 | 450 | 494 | 445 | 487 |
| Tomato sauce | 600 ml | 161 | 143 | 140 | 118 | 155 | 144 | 157 | 154 |
| Margarine, poly-unsaturated | 500 g | 144 | 133 | 123 | 132 | 147 | 139 | 125 | 162 |
| Baked beans, in tomato sauce | 440 g | 81 | 80 | 83 | 80 | 81 | 84 | 78 | 94 |
| Baby food | 125 g can | 42 | 39 | 36 | 35 | 39 | 42 | 40 | 44 |
| Household supplies and services | | | | | | | | | |
| Laundry detergent | 1 kg | 378 | 396 | 378 | 364 | 387 | 411 | 365 | 412 |
| Dishwashing detergent | 1 litre | 377 | 378 | 359 | 361 | 394 | 403 | 367 | 392 |
| Facial tissues | pkt 224 | 206 | 199 | 190 | 189 | 191 | 204 | 198 | 201 |
| Toilet paper | 4 x 300 sheet rolls | 318 | 303 | 316 | 309 | 329 | 331 | 311 | 338 |
| Pet food | 415 g | 78 | 78 | 81 | 73 | 89 | 92 | 76 | 99 |
| Private motoring | | | | | | | | | |
| Petrol, super grade | 1 litre | 55.9 | 55.5 | 53.5 | 56.6 | 61.5 | 68.5 | 56.8 | 63.8 |
| Alcoholic drinks | | | | | | | | | |
| Beer, low alcohol, unchilled (e)(f) | 24 x 375 ml bottle | 1636 | 1818 | 1942 | 1657 | 1956 | 1878 | 1876 | 2085 |
| Beer, full strength, unchilled | 12 x 750 ml bottles | 2025 | 1837 | 1926 | 1852 | 1946 | 2158 | 2041 | n.a. |
| Draught beer, full strength, public bar | 285 ml glass | 137 | 133 | 127 | 127 | 154 | 142 | 120 | 157 |
| Draught beer, low alcohol, public bar (e) | 285 ml glass | 125 | 123 | 117 | 114 | 149 | 129 | n.a. | 157 |
| Scotch, nip, public bar | 30 ml | 212 | 192 | 187 | 202 | 228 | 164 | 196 | 228 |
| Personal care products | | | | | | | | | |
| Toilet soap | 2 x 125 g | 135 | 138 | 132 | 129 | 143 | 143 | 130 | 144 |
| Toothpaste | 140 g | 203 | 202 | 196 | 185 | 215 | 201 | 196 | 213 |

(a) Sydney 2 x 600ml bottles. (b) Darwin price relates to blended milk. (c) Melbourne and Hobart without fillet. (d) Eggs in Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide and Canberra have a minimum net 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 53g. Eggs in Darwin have a minimum net weight of 54 g. (e) Alcoholic content of low alcohol beer ranges from 1.5% to 3.8%. (f) Sydney 24 x 345 ml bottles, unchilled. Perth 24 x 345ml bottles, chilled.

