# CONSUMER PRICE INDEX 

AUSTRALIA

EMBARGO: 11:30AM (CANBERRA TIME) WED 22 JUL 1998


All Groups


- For further information about these and related statistics, contact Steve Whennan on 0262526251 , or any ABS Office.


## JUNE QTR KEY FIGURES

|  | \% change <br> Mar Qtr 1998 to <br> Jun Qtr 1998 | \% change <br> Jun Qtr 1997 to <br> Jun Qtr 1998 |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Weighted average of eight capital cities | 0.8 | 1.9 |
| Food | -0.1 | 0.0 |
| Clothing | 1.2 | -2.5 |
| Housing | 0.2 | 0.1 |
| Household equipment and operation | -0.1 | -0.9 |
| Transportation | 0.8 | 2.8 |
| Tobacco and alcohol | 2.0 | 2.5 |
| Health and personal care | 0.2 | 3.5 |
| Recreation and education |  |  |
|  | $\mathbf{0 . 6}$ | $\mathbf{0 . 7}$ |
| All groups | 0.5 | 1.2 |

## JUNE QTR KEY POINTS

## THE ALL GROUPS CPI

- rose $0.6 \%$ in June quarter 1998, up from $0.3 \%$ in the March quarter 1998.
- rose $0.7 \%$ between the June quarters 1997 and 1998.



## OVERVIEW OFCPIMOVEMENTS

- contributing most to the overall increase this quarter were the cost of hospital and medical services $(+3.0 \%)$, local governement rates and charges $(+2.4 \%)$, fresh vegetables $(+6.9 \%)$, cigarettes and tobacco $(+1.0 \%)$, privately-owned dwelling rents $(+1.1 \%)$, and holiday travel and accommodation overseas $(+4.3 \%)$.
- partially offsetting the above were falls in the cost of motor vehicles $(-2.1 \%)$, holiday travel and accommodation in Australia (-4.0\%) and consumer credit charges ( $-1.0 \%$ ).
- contributing most to the annual increase were rises in the cost of cigarettes and tobacco ( $+5.2 \%$ ), privately-owned dwelling rents ( $+3.3 \%$ ), and hospital and medical services $(+3.4 \%)$. Offsets were provided by falls in mortgage interest charges $(-10.9 \%)$, automotive fuel $(-3.2 \%)$ and motor vehicles $(-3.4 \%)$.

Treasury's Measure of Underlying Inflation
The index of underlying inflation, as defined by the Commonwealth Treasury, increased by $0.4 \%$ between the March and June quarters 1998, and 1.6\% between the June quarters 1997 and 1998.

## N O T E S

ISSUE (Quarter)
September 1998
December 1998

RELEASE DATE
28 October 1998
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CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE This is the final quarter for the 12 th Series Australian Consumer Price Index. Commencing with the September quarter 1998, the ABS will introduce the 13th Series Australian Consumer Price Index. For further information see the Appendix on pages 24-30.

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.

W. McLennan<br>Australian Statistician

## ANALYSES AND COMMENTS

## MAIN CONTRIBUTIONS TO CHANGE

HEALTH AND PERSONAL CARE: + 2.0\%

The main contributor to the increase this quarter is hospital and medical services $(+3.0 \%)$. This increase was mainly due to rises in health fund premiums in all capital cities.

Annually, health and personal care costs rose $2.5 \%$, due mainly to the increase in the cost of hospital and medical services ( $+3.4 \%$ ). Other contributors to the annual increase were rises in the prices of dental services ( $+3.6 \%$ ), hairdressing services $(+2.5 \%)$ and toiletries and personal products $(+0.8 \%)$.

The increase this quarter results mainly from increases in fresh vegetables ( $+6.9 \%$ ), fresh fruit ( $+5.3 \%$ ), meals out ( $+1.2 \%$ ) and take away foods ( $+0.4 \%$ ). For fresh vegetables, this is the third consecutive rise. Adverse weather conditions caused damage to crops resulting in higher prices for many types of vegetables. Fruit prices have been affected by short supplies as the summer growing season came to an end.

Over the twelve months to June quarter 1998, food prices have risen by $1.9 \%$. Increases for fresh vegetables ( $+13.0 \%$ ), confectionery ( $+4.7 \%$ ), meals out $(+3.1 \%)$ and soft drinks and cordials $(+4.0 \%)$ were partially offset by decreases for fresh fruit $(-8.1 \%)$. The annual decrease in fresh fruit was the cumulative effect of consecutive falls in the first three quarters of the year being only partially offset by the increase in the June quarter. Decreases in the price of bananas were the main contributors to these falls.

Total housing costs rose this quarter, the first increase since June quarter 1996. The main contributor to the rise was an increase in Melbourne local government rates and charges ( $+9.0 \%$ ). Both this rise and the offsetting reduction that occurred last quarter resulted from changes in the method of determining water charges in Melbourne. Other significant contributors to the increase were privately-owned dwelling rents ( $+1.1 \%$ ) and mortgage interest charges $(+0.8 \%)$. The increase in mortgage interest charges, the first increase since June quarter 1996, was due to changes in the level of debt outstanding.

Annually, the housing index fell $2.5 \%$. This was due entirely to a decrease of $10.9 \%$ in mortgage interest charges during the year.

## ANALYSES AND COMMENTS

## MAIN CONTRIBUTIONS TO CHANGE continued

TOBACCO AND ALCOHOL: $+0.8 \%$ The main contributors to the increase were rises in the price of cigarettes and tobacco $(+1.0 \%)$. This was mainly due to the flow on effect of price rises recorded in the previous quarter. Increases were recorded in all capital cities except Adelaide. Rises were also recorded for beer $(+0.5 \%)$ and wine $(+0.9 \%)$.

The annual increase of $2.8 \%$ for tobacco and alcohol was primarily due to the increases for cigarettes and tobacco which occurred in the December quarter 1997 and the March quarter 1998

The fall in transportation costs this quarter has been caused entirely by reductions in the price of motor vehicles $(-2.1 \%)$. Partially offsetting this fall was an increase in petrol prices $(+0.9 \%)$. This resulted from falls in January ( $-1.9 \%$ ), in February ( $-2.6 \%$ ), and in March ( $-2.6 \%$ ) followed by rises in April ( $+1.8 \%$ ), in May ( $+3.1 \%$ ) and a fall in June $(-1.1 \%)$. Additionally, there were rises in the cost of vehicle insurance ( $+0.8 \%$ ), vehicle servicing $(+0.5 \%)$, motoring charges $(+0.3 \%)$ and urban transport fares $(+0.2 \%)$.

Over the twelve months to June quarter 1998, the price of motor vehicles fell by 3.4\% and the price of petrol by $3.2 \%$. This is the first quarter since December quarter 1976 (when transportation became a separate Group in the CPI) that there have been three successive quarterly falls in transportation costs.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX, All groups percentage changes


| Period | Sydney | Melbourne | Brisbane | Adelaide | Perth | Hobart | Darwin | Canberra | Weighted average of eight capital cities |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1994-95 | 113.0 | 114.1 | 114.7 | 116.9 | 112.3 | 115.2 | 114.7 | 115.1 | 113.9 |
| 1995-96 | 118.7 | 118.4 | 119.1 | 121.2 | 116.7 | 119.6 | 119.5 | 120.3 | 118.7 |
| 1996-97 | 120.4 | 119.9 | 121.0 | 122.3 | 118.3 | 121.4 | 121.6 | 121.2 | 120.3 |
| 1997-98 | 120.5 | 119.8 | 121.6 | 121.6 | 118.0 | 121.3 | 121.3 | 120.4 | 120.3 |
| 1994 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 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 |
| 1995 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 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 |
| 1996 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 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 |
| 1997 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 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 |
| September | 119.8 | 119.5 | 120.7 | 121.2 | 117.5 | 120.6 | 121.0 | 119.8 | 119.7 |
| December | 120.1 | 119.8 | 121.4 | 121.2 | 117.6 | 121.2 | 120.8 | 119.8 | 120.0 |
| 1998 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| March | 120.7 | 119.6 | 121.9 | 121.7 | 118.0 | 121.5 | 121.5 | 120.6 | 120.3 |
| June | 121.4 | 120.3 | 122.3 | 122.4 | 118.9 | 122.0 | 121.8 | 121.2 | 121.0 |

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

| Period | Sydney | Melbourne | Brisbane | Adelaide | Perth | Hobart | Darwin | Canberra | cities |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous year) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1994-95 | 3.5 | 2.7 | 3.7 | 3.1 | 3.5 | 3.1 | 2.9 | 3.3 | 3.2 |
| 1995-96 | 5.0 | 3.8 | 3.8 | 3.7 | 3.9 | 3.8 | 4.2 | 4.5 | 4.2 |
| 1996-97 | 1.4 | 1.3 | 1.6 | 0.9 | 1.4 | 1.5 | 1.8 | 0.7 | 1.3 |
| 1997-98 | 0.1 | -0.1 | 0.5 | -0.6 | -0.3 | -0.1 | -0.2 | -0.7 | 0.0 |

PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from corresponding quarter of previous year)

| PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from corresponding quarter of previous year) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1994 ( 1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 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 |
| 1995 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 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 |
| 1996 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 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 |
| 1997 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 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 |
| September | -0.3 | -0.1 | 0.1 | -0.8 | -0.7 | -0.4 | -0.5 | -1.3 | -0.3 |
| December | -0.2 | -0.1 | 0.5 | -1.1 | -0.7 | -0.1 | -0.7 | -1.3 | -0.2 |
| 1998 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| March | 0.1 | -0.4 | 0.3 | -0.7 | -0.2 | -0.3 | -0.1 | -0.7 | -0.2 |
| June | 1.0 | 0.3 | 1.0 | 0.4 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.2 | 0.7 | 0.7 |

PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous quarter)

| 1994 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 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 |
| 1995 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 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 |
| 1996 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 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 |
| 1997 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 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 |
| September | -0.3 | -0.3 | -0.3 | -0.6 | -0.5 | -0.6 | -0.4 | -0.5 | -0.4 |
| December | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.6 | 0.0 | 0.1 | 0.5 | -0.2 | 0.0 | 0.3 |
| 1998 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| March | 0.5 | -0.2 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.6 | 0.7 | 0.3 |
| June | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.3 | 0.6 | 0.8 | 0.4 | 0.2 | 0.5 | 0.6 |


| Period | Food | Clothing | Housing | Household equipment and operation | Transportation | Tobacco and alcohol | Health and personal care | Recreation and education | All groups |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1994-95 | 112.1 | 106.7 | 100.0 | 109.2 | 117.5 | 141.0 | 135.5 | 114.6 | 113.9 |
| 1995-96 | 116.0 | 107.0 | 105.9 | 111.7 | 122.6 | 156.1 | 141.8 | 117.7 | 118.7 |
| 1996-97 | 119.7 | 107.3 | 101.6 | 113.5 | 124.3 | 161.4 | 149.1 | 119.7 | 120.3 |
| 1997-98 | 121.8 | 107.4 | 94.5 | 113.8 | 123.5 | 164.6 | 153.6 | 123.6 | 120.3 |
| 1994 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 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 |
| 1995 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 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 |
| 1996 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 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 |
| 1997 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 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 |
| September | 120.8 | 107.1 | 95.9 | 113.4 | 124.4 | 161.9 | 148.6 | 122.0 | 119.7 |
| December | 121.1 | 107.8 | 94.2 | 113.8 | 124.0 | 164.3 | 153.0 | 122.4 | 120.0 |
| 1998 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| March | 122.1 | 107.4 | 93.4 | 113.8 | 122.9 | 165.4 | 154.8 | 124.9 | 120.3 |
| June | 123.1 | 107.3 | 94.5 | 114.0 | 122.8 | 166.7 | 157.9 | 125.1 | 121.0 |

[^0]CPI GROUPS, Weighted Average of Eight Capital Cities-Percentage Changes

| Period | Food | Clothing | Housing | Household equipment and operation | Transportation | Tobacco and alcohol | Health and personal care | Recreation and education | All groups |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous year) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 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 |
| 1997-98 | 1.8 | 0.1 | -7.0 | 0.3 | -0.6 | 2.0 | 3.0 | 3.3 | 0.0 |


| PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from corresponding quarter of previous year) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1994 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 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 |
| September | 2.1 | -0.1 | -9.6 | 0.3 | 0.8 | 0.9 | 2.5 | 3.2 | -0.3 |
| December | 1.4 | 0.3 | -8.7 | 0.2 | -0.4 | 1.9 | 4.3 | 3.0 | -0.2 |
| 1998 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| March | 1.6 | 0.4 | -6.8 | 0.3 | -1.8 | 2.3 | 2.8 | 3.2 | -0.2 |
| June | 1.9 | 0.0 | -2.5 | 0.1 | -0.9 | 2.8 | 2.5 | 3.5 | 0.7 |

PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous quarter)

| 1994 ( $10.1{ }^{\text {a }}$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 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 |
| September | 0.0 | -0.2 | -1.0 | -0.4 | 0.4 | -0.1 | -3.5 | 0.9 | -0.4 |
| December | 0.2 | 0.7 | -1.8 | 0.4 | -0.3 | 1.5 | 3.0 | 0.3 | 0.3 |
| 1998 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| March | 0.8 | -0.4 | -0.8 | 0.0 | -0.9 | 0.7 | 1.2 | 2.0 | 0.3 |
| June | 0.8 | -0.1 | 1.2 | 0.2 | -0.1 | 0.8 | 2.0 | 0.2 | 0.6 |


| Group, sub-group and expenditure class | Sydney | Melbourne | Brisbane | Adelaide | Perth | Hobart | Danwin | Canberra | Weighted average eight capit cities |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Food | 0.16 | 0.16 | 0.12 | 0.14 | 0.35 | 0.12 | 0.10 | 0.29 | 0.18 |
| Dairy products | -0.01 | -0.01 | 0.01 | - | 0.05 | 0.01 | -0.01 | -0.01 | - |
| Milk and cream | - | - | 0.01 | - | 0.01 | - | - | - | - |
| Cheese | -0.01 | -0.01 | -0.01 | -0.01 | 0.04 | - | -0.01 | -0.01 | -0.01 |
| Butter | - | - | - | -0.01 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other dairy products | - | - | - | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | - | - |
| Cereal products | 0.03 | - | 0.07 | - | 0.07 | -0.01 | 0.01 | 0.02 | 0.03 |
| Bread | 0.01 | -0.02 | 0.05 | -0.02 | 0.06 | -0.02 | 0.01 | 0.01 | - |
| Cakes and biscuits | 0.02 | 0.01 | - | - | -0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | -0.01 | 0.01 |
| Breakfast cereals | 0.01 | 0.01 | - | 0.01 | 0.02 | 0.01 | - | 0.01 | 0.01 |
| Other cereal products | - | - | - | 0.01 | 0.01 | - | -0.01 | - | - |
| Meat and seafoods | -0.02 | -0.01 | -0.03 | 0.02 | 0.05 | 0.02 | 0.03 | 0.04 | - |
| Beef and veal | - | - | -0.01 | -0.02 | 0.01 | -0.01 | 0.01 | - | - |
| Lamb and mutton | - | 0.01 | -0.01 | - | - | 0.03 | - | 0.03 | 0.01 |
| Pork | -0.01 | -0.01 | -0.02 | -0.01 | - | 0.01 | - | -0.01 | -0.01 |
| Poultry | -0.01 | -0.01 | -0.03 | 0.01 | -0.01 | -0.03 | - | - | -0.01 |
| Bacon and ham | - | -0.01 | - | 0.01 | 0.01 | - | 0.02 | -0.01 | - |
| Processed meat | -0.01 | - | -0.01 | 0.02 | 0.03 | - | 0.01 | - | 0.01 |
| Fish | - | - | 0.01 | -0.01 | 0.01 | 0.02 | - | 0.02 | - |
| Fresh fruit and vegetables | 0.08 | 0.15 | 0.07 | 0.06 | 0.09 | -0.02 | 0.04 | 0.13 | 0.09 |
| Fresh fruit | 0.04 | 0.07 | 0.03 | 0.03 | 0.03 | - | 0.02 | 0.09 | 0.05 |
| Fresh potatoes | -0.01 | -0.02 | 0.02 | - | 0.02 | -0.03 | -0.01 | -0.01 | -0.01 |
| Fresh vegetables | 0.05 | 0.09 | 0.03 | 0.01 | 0.04 | 0.01 | 0.02 | 0.04 | 0.05 |
| Processed fruit and vegetables | -0.01 | - | 0.02 | - | - | - | - | 0.01 | - |
| Processed fruit | - | 0.01 | - | - | 0.01 | - | - | 0.01 | 0.01 |
| Fruit juice | - | -0.02 | - | 0.01 | - | - | 0.01 | - | - |
| Processed vegetables | -0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Soft drinks, ice cream and confectionery | 0.04 | - | -0.02 | 0.04 | 0.03 | 0.06 | -0.06 | 0.02 | 0.02 |
| Soft drinks and cordials | 0.01 | 0.01 | -0.01 | 0.01 | 0.04 | 0.02 | -0.01 | 0.02 | 0.01 |
| Ice cream and ice confectionery | 0.01 | - | - | 0.01 | - | - | - | -0.01 | - |
| Confectionery | 0.03 | -0.01 | -0.02 | 0.02 | 0.01 | 0.04 | -0.05 | 0.01 | 0.01 |
| Meals out and take away foods | 0.05 | 0.06 | -0.01 | 0.02 | 0.04 | -0.02 | 0.08 | 0.07 | 0.04 |
| Meals out | - | 0.07 | - | 0.01 | 0.04 | 0.02 | 0.03 | 0.03 | 0.02 |
| Take away foods | 0.04 | -0.01 | -0.02 | 0.01 | 0.01 | -0.04 | 0.05 | 0.04 | 0.02 |
| Other food | -0.02 | -0.01 | 0.02 | 0.02 | 0.01 | 0.08 | 0.01 | 0.01 | - |
| Eggs | - | - | 0.02 | - | - | - | - | -0.01 | - |
| Sugar | 0.01 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Jams, honey and sandwich spreads | - | -0.01 | - | - | - | - | -0.02 | - | - |
| Tea, coffee and food drinks | -0.01 | -0.01 | 0.01 | - | - | 0.01 | - | 0.01 | -0.01 |
| Food additives, sauces and spices | - | - | - | 0.01 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Margarine | -0.01 | - | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.03 | 0.03 | 0.01 | - | 0.01 |
| Cooking oils and fats | - | -0.01 | - | - | - | - | - | 0.01 | - |
| Other food | - | - | - | - | -0.01 | 0.04 | 0.02 | 0.01 | - |
| Clothing | -0.06 | - | 0.06 | 0.05 | 0.03 | -0.01 | 0.01 | 0.05 | -0.01 |
| Men's and boys' clothing | -0.01 | 0.02 | 0.03 | 0.01 | - | - | - | 0.03 | 0.01 |
| Men's outer clothing | - | 0.02 | 0.02 | 0.01 | -0.01 | - | - | 0.01 | 0.01 |
| Men's knitwear | - | - | - | - | - | - |  | - | - |
| Men's shirts | - | 0.01 | 0.01 | - | - | - | - | - | 0.01 |
| Men's underwear, nightwear and socks | - | - | -0.01 | - | 0.01 | - | - | - | - |
| Boys' clothing | -0.01 | - | - | - | - | - | 0.01 | 0.02 | -0.01 |
| Women's and girls' clothing | -0.02 | -0.02 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | -0.01 | -0.01 | -0.01 | -0.01 |
| Women's outer clothing | -0.01 | - | - | - | - | -0.01 | - | -0.01 | -0.01 |
| Women's knitwear | - | - | - | - | 0.01 | - |  | - | - |
| Women's underwear, nightwear and hosiery | -0.01 | -0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | - | - | -0.01 | - | - |
| Girls' clothing | - | - | 0.01 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Fabrics and knitting wool | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 0.01 | - |
| Footwear | -0.03 | -0.01 | 0.02 | 0.02 | 0.02 | - | - | 0.01 | -0.01 |
| Men's footwear | -0.02 | -0.01 | - | -0.01 | - | - | - | 0.01 | -0.01 |
| Women's footwear | - | -0.01 | 0.01 | 0.02 | 0.01 | - | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 |
| Children's footwear | -0.02 | - | 0.01 | - | 0.01 | - | - | - | - |
| Dry cleaning and shoe repairs | - | - | - | - | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | - | - |


| Group, sub-group and expenditure class | Sydney | Melbourne | Brisbane | Adelaide | Perth | Hobart | Darwin | Canberra | Weighted average of eight capital cities |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Housing | 0.20 | 0.34 | 0.06 | 0.06 | 0.06 | 0.04 | 0.12 | 0.01 | 0.18 |
| Rents | 0.12 | 0.06 | 0.01 | 0.02 | 0.02 | -0.01 | 0.01 | -0.02 | 0.06 |
| Privately-owned dwelling rents | 0.12 | 0.04 | 0.02 | 0.01 | 0.02 | - | 0.01 | -0.01 | 0.05 |
| Government-owned dwelling rents | - | 0.01 | - | - | - | -0.01 | - | - | - |
| Home ownership | 0.08 | 0.29 | 0.05 | 0.04 | 0.04 | 0.05 | 0.10 | 0.03 | 0.13 |
| Mortgage interest charges | 0.06 | 0.05 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.03 | 0.03 | 0.10 | 0.02 | 0.04 |
| Local government rates and charges | - | 0.20 | - | - | - | - | - | - | 0.06 |
| House repairs and maintenance | 0.03 | 0.02 | 0.04 | - | 0.02 | 0.02 | - | - | 0.01 |
| House insurance | - | 0.01 | - | 0.02 | -0.01 | - | - | - | 0.01 |
| Household equipment and operation | -0.02 | 0.01 | 0.11 | 0.04 | 0.10 | 0.03 | -0.08 | 0.16 | 0.02 |
| Fuel and light | - | - | - | - | 0.01 | 0.01 | - | 0.01 | - |
| Electricity | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Gas | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Other fuel | - | - |  | - | - | 0.01 |  | 0.01 | - |
| Furniture and floor coverings | -0.01 | - | 0.08 | -0.01 | 0.07 | 0.05 | 0.01 | 0.11 | 0.01 |
| Furniture | -0.02 | -0.02 | 0.06 | -0.01 | 0.06 | 0.05 | - | 0.10 | 0.01 |
| Floor coverings | 0.01 | 0.02 | 0.02 | 0.01 | - | - | - | - | 0.01 |
| Appliances | - | - | - | - | -0.01 | -0.01 | - | - | - |
| Household textiles | 0.01 | -0.02 | 0.01 | -0.01 | -0.01 | -0.01 | - | 0.02 | - |
| Bedding | - | -0.01 | 0.01 | - | -0.01 | - | - | 0.02 | - |
| Towels, linen and curtains | 0.01 | - | - | -0.01 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Household utensils and tools | -0.01 | 0.01 | 0.04 | 0.03 | 0.01 | - | - | 0.01 | 0.01 |
| Tableware, glassware and cutlery | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.02 | 0.01 | - | 0.03 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 |
| Kitchen and cooking utensils | -0.01 | - | 0.01 | - | - | -0.01 | - | 0.01 | -0.01 |
| Cleaning utensils | - | - | - | - | - | - | -0.01 | - | - |
| Tools | - | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | -0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 |
| Household supplies and services | 0.02 | 0.04 | 0.02 | 0.08 | 0.07 | - | 0.01 | 0.04 | 0.04 |
| Household cleaning agents | - | 0.01 | 0.01 | - | -0.01 | -0.01 | -0.01 | 0.01 | - |
| Household paper products | -0.01 | - | -0.02 | - | - | - | - | - | -0.01 |
| Other household non-durables | 0.02 | 0.02 | 0.04 | 0.04 | 0.04 | 0.03 | 0.01 | 0.03 | 0.02 |
| Stationery | 0.02 | 0.01 | -0.02 | 0.01 | 0.04 | -0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 |
| Watches and clocks | - | - | - | 0.01 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Veterinary services | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 0.01 | - |
| Pet foods | -0.01 | 0.01 | -0.01 | - | - | -0.02 | - | -0.01 | - |
| Travel goods | -0.01 | - | - | 0.01 | - | - | - | - | - |
| House contents insurance | - | 0.01 | - | 0.01 | - | 0.01 | - | - | - |
| Repairs to appliances | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Postal and telephone services | -0.01 | -0.01 | - | -0.02 | -0.03 | - | -0.08 | -0.02 | -0.01 |
| Postal services | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Telephone services | -0.01 | -0.01 | -0.01 | -0.02 | -0.03 | -0.01 | -0.08 | -0.02 | -0.01 |
| Consumer credit charges | -0.01 | -0.03 | -0.02 | -0.04 | -0.01 | -0.01 | -0.01 | -0.01 | -0.03 |
| Transportation | -0.01 | -0.02 | - | 0.09 | - | -0.16 | -0.10 | 0.02 | -0.01 |
| Private motoring | -0.02 | -0.02 | - | 0.10 | -0.04 | -0.16 | -0.10 | 0.02 | -0.01 |
| Motor vehicles | -0.10 | -0.13 | -0.06 | -0.07 | -0.07 | -0.03 | -0.07 | -0.06 | -0.10 |
| Automotive fuel | 0.03 | 0.07 | 0.04 | 0.12 | 0.02 | -0.17 | -0.06 | 0.06 | 0.04 |
| Vehicle insurance | 0.04 | 0.03 | -0.01 | -0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.03 |
| Motoring charges | - | 0.01 | - | 0.01 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Tyres and tubes | -0.01 | 0.01 | - | - | - | - | - | 0.01 | - |
| Vehicle servicing, repairs and parts | - | 0.01 | 0.03 | 0.04 | - | 0.05 | 0.02 | 0.01 | 0.02 |
| Urban transport fares | - | - | - | 0.01 | 0.03 | - | - | - | - |
| Tobacco and Alcohol | 0.08 | 0.12 | 0.07 | -0.01 | 0.11 | 0.17 | -0.06 | 0.09 | 0.09 |
| Alcoholic drinks | 0.02 | 0.06 | 0.02 | -0.01 | 0.04 | 0.12 | -0.12 | 0.06 | 0.03 |
| Beer | - | 0.04 | 0.02 | -0.01 | 0.06 | 0.10 | -0.08 | - | 0.02 |
| Wine | 0.02 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | -0.02 | - | -0.04 | 0.04 | 0.01 |
| Spirits | - | - | - | -0.01 | 0.01 | 0.02 | -0.01 | - | - |
| Cigarettes and tobacco | 0.06 | 0.06 | 0.05 | -0.01 | 0.06 | 0.04 | 0.07 | 0.05 | 0.05 |


| Group, sub-group and expenditure class | Sydney | Melbourne | Brisbane | Adelaide | Perth | Hobart | Darwin | Canberra | Weighted average of eight capital cities |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Health and personal care | 0.24 | 0.13 | 0.01 | 0.23 | 0.37 | 0.22 | 0.09 | 0.10 | 0.19 |
| Health services | 0.17 | 0.10 | - | 0.24 | 0.34 | 0.17 | 0.08 | 0.05 | 0.15 |
| Hospital and medical services | 0.16 | 0.09 | -0.02 | 0.24 | 0.34 | 0.16 | 0.06 | 0.05 | 0.14 |
| Optical services | - | - | - | - | - | - | 0.01 | - | - |
| Dental services | - | 0.02 | 0.02 | - | - | 0.01 | - | - | 0.01 |
| Personal care products | 0.08 | 0.02 | - | -0.02 | 0.04 | 0.04 | 0.01 | 0.05 | 0.04 |
| Pharmaceuticals | 0.03 | 0.02 | 0.01 | 0.02 | 0.01 | 0.03 | 0.01 | 0.02 | 0.02 |
| Toiletries and personal products | 0.04 | - | -0.02 | -0.04 | 0.02 | 0.03 | -0.01 | 0.03 | 0.01 |
| Hairdressing services | - | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | -0.01 | - | 0.01 | 0.01 | - |
| Recreation and education | 0.13 | -0.07 | -0.04 | 0.06 | -0.05 | 0.12 | 0.19 | -0.09 | 0.02 |
| Books, newspapers and magazines | 0.02 | 0.01 | 0.01 | - | 0.01 | 0.02 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 |
| Recreational goods | -0.01 | -0.01 | -0.04 | - | - | - | - | -0.01 | -0.01 |
| Video and sound equipment | - | - | - | - | 0.01 | - | - | - | - |
| Records, cassettes and tapes | 0.01 | - | -0.01 | - | - | - | - | - | 0.01 |
| Sports and photographic equipment and toys | -0.02 | - | -0.03 | -0.01 | -0.01 | -0.01 | - | -0.01 | -0.01 |
| Holiday travel and accommodation | 0.06 | -0.08 | -0.03 | 0.03 | -0.08 | - | 0.08 | -0.12 | -0.02 |
| Holiday travel and accommodation in Australia | -0.06 | -0.11 | -0.03 | - | -0.06 | -0.07 | 0.06 | -0.17 | -0.06 |
| Holiday travel and accommodation overseas | 0.12 | 0.02 | - | 0.02 | -0.02 | 0.07 | 0.02 | 0.05 | 0.05 |
| Recreational services | 0.05 | 0.01 | - | 0.03 | 0.01 | 0.08 | 0.10 | 0.02 | 0.03 |
| Photographic services | - | - | - | - | 0.01 | - | 0.01 | - | - |
| Repairs to recreational goods | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Entertainment | 0.05 | - | - | 0.03 | - | 0.08 | 0.09 | 0.03 | 0.03 |
| Education and child care | 0.02 | 0.01 | 0.02 | - | - | - | - | 0.01 | 0.01 |
| Education fees | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Child care fees | 0.02 | - | 0.01 | - | - | - | - | 0.01 | 0.01 |
| All groups | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.4 | 0.7 | 0.9 | 0.5 | 0.3 | 0.6 | 0.7 |
| Selected State and local government charges(b) | - | 0.22 | - | - | 0.04 | -0.01 | - | - | 0.07 |

(a) Base of each index: 1989-90 $=100.0$
(b) Refer to paragraph 14 of the Explanatory Notes for a description of this series

INDEX NUMBERS(a).........

|  |  |  |  | Mar Qtr | Jun Qtr |  |  | Change between |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Jun Otr | Mar Otr | Jun Otr | 1998 and | 1997 and Jun Qtr | Mar Qtr | Jun Otr | Mar Qtr 1998 |
| Group, sub-group and expenditure class | 1997 | 1998 | 1998 | 1998 | 1998 | 1998 | 1998 | Jun Qtr 1998 |


| Food | 120.8 | 122.1 | 123.1 | 0.8 | 1.9 | 22.67 | 22.85 | 0.18 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Dairy products | 131.7 | 134.0 | 134.1 | 0.1 | 1.8 | 1.92 | 1.92 | - |
| Milk and cream | 144.3 | 148.6 | 148.9 | 0.2 | 3.2 | 1.25 | 1.25 | - |
| Cheese | 113.2 | 111.7 | 110.8 | -0.8 | -2.1 | 0.42 | 0.41 | -0.01 |
| Butter | 99.8 | 99.7 | 100.7 | 1.0 | 0.9 | 0.07 | 0.07 | - |
| Other dairy products | 126.4 | 127.8 | 129.4 | 1.3 | 2.4 | 0.19 | 0.19 | - |
| Cereal products | 134.4 | 135.8 | 136.9 | 0.8 | 1.9 | 2.71 | 2.74 | 0.03 |
| Bread | 146.4 | 150.1 | 151.0 | 0.6 | 3.1 | 1.24 | 1.24 | - |
| Cakes and biscuits | 125.0 | 125.5 | 126.5 | 0.8 | 1.2 | 0.93 | 0.94 | 0.01 |
| Breakfast cereals | 131.3 | 128.0 | 130.6 | 2.0 | -0.5 | 0.30 | 0.31 | 0.01 |
| Other cereal products | 122.9 | 124.2 | 124.7 | 0.4 | 1.5 | 0.25 | 0.25 | - |
| Meat and seafoods | 108.7 | 109.6 | 109.5 | -0.1 | 0.7 | 3.51 | 3.51 | - |
| Beef and veal | 103.7 | 104.6 | 104.4 | -0.2 | 0.7 | 0.80 | 0.80 | - |
| Lamb and mutton | 122.6 | 120.8 | 122.7 | 1.6 | 0.1 | 0.49 | 0.50 | 0.01 |
| Pork | 113.9 | 114.3 | 110.0 | -3.8 | -3.4 | 0.21 | 0.20 | -0.01 |
| Poultry | 95.4 | 96.3 | 94.9 | -1.5 | -0.5 | 0.46 | 0.45 | -0.01 |
| Bacon and ham | 115.2 | 114.2 | 114.2 | - | -0.9 | 0.37 | 0.37 | - |
| Processed meat | 113.3 | 114.7 | 115.1 | 0.3 | 1.6 | 0.79 | 0.80 | 0.01 |
| Fish | 101.4 | 106.1 | 106.3 | 0.2 | 4.8 | 0.39 | 0.39 | - |
| Fresh fruit and vegetables | 106.1 | 100.8 | 106.0 | 5.2 | -0.1 | 1.89 | 1.98 | 0.09 |
| Fresh fruit | 121.4 | 106.0 | 111.6 | 5.3 | -8.1 | 0.84 | 0.89 | 0.05 |
| Fresh potatoes | 108.8 | 98.8 | 96.7 | -2.1 | -11.1 | 0.21 | 0.20 | -0.01 |
| Fresh vegetables | 93.3 | 98.6 | 105.4 | 6.9 | 13.0 | 0.84 | 0.89 | 0.05 |
| Processed fruit and vegetables | 116.5 | 117.4 | 117.6 | 0.2 | 0.9 | 0.97 | 0.97 | - |
| Processed fruit | 120.2 | 122.0 | 125.6 | 3.0 | 4.5 | 0.16 | 0.17 | 0.01 |
| Fruit juice | 121.5 | 122.7 | 121.7 | -0.8 | 0.2 | 0.50 | 0.50 | - |
| Processed vegetables | 107.4 | 107.7 | 107.9 | 0.2 | 0.5 | 0.31 | 0.31 | - |
| Soft drinks, ice cream and confectionery | 132.3 | 136.9 | 137.7 | 0.6 | 4.1 | 3.72 | 3.74 | 0.02 |
| Soft drinks and cordials | 127.9 | 132.2 | 133.0 | 0.6 | 4.0 | 1.47 | 1.48 | 0.01 |
| Ice cream and ice confectionery | 147.5 | 150.1 | 150.4 | 0.2 | 2.0 | 0.51 | 0.51 | - |
| Confectionery | 133.0 | 138.6 | 139.3 | 0.5 | 4.7 | 1.73 | 1.74 | 0.01 |
| Meals out and take away foods | 120.4 | 121.6 | 122.5 | 0.7 | 1.7 | 5.80 | 5.84 | 0.04 |
| Meals out | 120.8 | 123.1 | 124.6 | 1.2 | 3.1 | 2.22 | 2.24 | 0.02 |
| Take away foods | 121.1 | 121.7 | 122.2 | 0.4 | 0.9 | 3.58 | 3.60 | 0.02 |
| Other food | 122.9 | 126.8 | 126.6 | -0.2 | 3.0 | 2.15 | 2.15 | - |
| Eggs | 144.1 | 143.0 | 143.6 | 0.4 | -0.3 | 0.19 | 0.19 | - |
| Sugar | 101.2 | 106.6 | 111.2 | 4.3 | 9.9 | 0.08 | 0.08 | - |
| Jams, honey and sandwich spreads | 136.4 | 142.1 | 139.4 | -1.9 | 2.2 | 0.19 | 0.19 | - |
| Tea, coffee and food drinks | 126.0 | 140.3 | 138.1 | -1.6 | 9.6 | 0.43 | 0.42 | -0.01 |
| Food additives, sauces and spices | 118.3 | 121.4 | 121.6 | 0.2 | 2.8 | 0.28 | 0.28 | - |
| Margarine | 115.6 | 118.3 | 119.9 | 1.4 | 3.7 | 0.15 | 0.16 | 0.01 |
| Cooking oils and fats | 128.2 | 120.3 | 119.4 | -0.7 | -6.9 | 0.11 | 0.11 | - |
| Other food | 120.2 | 121.8 | 121.8 | - | 1.3 | 0.71 | 0.71 | - |
| Clothing | 107.3 | 107.4 | 107.3 | -0.1 | - | 6.72 | 6.71 | -0.01 |
| Men's and boys' clothing | 111.9 | 111.0 | 111.6 | 0.5 | -0.3 | 1.86 | 1.87 | 0.01 |
| Men's outer clothing | 110.2 | 108.7 | 110.0 | 1.2 | -0.2 | 0.74 | 0.75 | 0.01 |
| Men's knitwear | 115.0 | 115.0 | 114.8 | -0.2 | -0.2 | 0.18 | 0.18 | - |
| Men's shirts | 107.6 | 108.0 | 109.6 | 1.5 | 1.9 | 0.34 | 0.35 | 0.01 |
| Men's underwear, nightwear and socks | 114.6 | 113.6 | 113.3 | -0.3 | -1.1 | 0.16 | 0.16 | - |
| Boys' clothing | 114.5 | 113.4 | 112.5 | -0.8 | -1.7 | 0.44 | 0.43 | -0.01 |
| Women's and girls' clothing | 107.8 | 108.8 | 108.4 | -0.4 | 0.6 | 2.77 | 2.76 | -0.01 |
| Women's outer clothing | 105.5 | 106.6 | 106.3 | -0.3 | 0.8 | 1.77 | 1.76 | -0.01 |
| Women's knitwear | 106.8 | 106.8 | 107.3 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.21 | 0.21 | - |
| Women's underwear, nightwear and hosiery | 121.0 | 122.7 | 121.2 | -1.2 | 0.2 | 0.40 | 0.40 | - |
| Girls' clothing | 108.6 | 108.7 | 108.4 | -0.3 | -0.2 | 0.39 | 0.39 | - |
| Fabric and knitting wool | 99.5 | 99.6 | 99.7 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.76 | 0.76 | - |

INDEX NUMBERS(a).......
$\left.\begin{array}{llllllll} & & & \text { Mar Qtr } & \text { Jun Qtr } \\ \text { 1998 and } & & & & & \\ \text { 1997 and }\end{array}\right)$

Clothing continued
Footwear
Men's footwear
Women's footwear
Children's footwear
Dry cleaning and shoe repairs
Housing
Rents
Privately-owned dwelling rents
Government-owned dwelling rents
Home ownership
Mortgage interest charges
Local government rates and charges
House repairs and maintenance
House insurance
Household equipment and operation

Fuel and light
Electricity
Gas
Other fuel
Furniture and floor coverings
Furniture
Floor coverings
Appliances
Household textiles Bedding
Towels, linen and curtains
Household utensils and tools
Tableware, glassware and cutlery
Kitchen and cooking utensils Cleaning utensils Tools
Household supplies and services
Household cleaning agents
Household paper products Other household non-durables Stationery
Watches and clocks
Veterinary services
Pet foods
Travel goods
House contents insurance
Repairs to appliances
Postal and telephone services
Postal services
Telephone services
Consumer credit charges
Transportation
Private motoring
Motor vehicles
Automotive fuel
Vehicle insurance
Motoring charges
Tyres and tubes
Vehicle servicing, repairs and parts
Urban transport fares

| 98.9 | 97.9 | 97.3 | -0.6 | -1.6 | 1.05 | 1.04 | -0.01 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 97.0 | 94.6 | 92.3 | -2.4 | -4.8 | 0.33 | 0.32 | -0.01 |
| 102.0 | 101.3 | 102.1 | 0.8 | 0.1 | 0.47 | 0.48 | 0.01 |
| 96.7 | 97.2 | 96.2 | -1.0 | -0.5 | 0.24 | 0.24 | - |
| 131.1 | 133.6 | 133.9 | 0.2 | 2.1 | 0.28 | 0.28 | - |
| 96.9 | 93.4 | 94.5 | 1.2 | -2.5 | 16.43 | 16.61 | 0.18 |
| 116.4 | 118.8 | 120.0 | 1.0 | 3.1 | 5.76 | 5.82 | 0.06 |
| 115.8 | 118.3 | 119.6 | 1.1 | 3.3 | 5.31 | 5.36 | 0.05 |
| 122.5 | 122.7 | 123.8 | 0.9 | 1.1 | 0.46 | 0.46 | - |
| 89.0 | 83.3 | 84.3 | 1.2 | -5.3 | 10.66 | 10.79 | 0.13 |
| 69.9 | 61.8 | 62.3 | 0.8 | -10.9 | 5.39 | 5.43 | 0.04 |
| 133.1 | 130.1 | 133.2 | 2.4 | 0.1 | 2.61 | 2.67 | 0.06 |
| 119.0 | 120.2 | 121.3 | 0.9 | 1.9 | 2.12 | 2.13 | 0.01 |
| 152.2 | 157.0 | 158.0 | 0.6 | 3.8 | 0.55 | 0.56 | 0.01 |
| 113.9 | 113.8 | 114.0 | 0.2 | 0.1 | 20.75 | 20.77 | 0.02 |
| 121.4 | 122.5 | 122.6 | 0.1 | 1.0 | 2.77 | 2.77 | - |
| 119.3 | 120.1 | 120.1 | - | 0.7 | 2.04 | 2.04 | - |
| 129.1 | 131.5 | 131.5 | - | 1.9 | 0.67 | 0.67 | - |
| 114.2 | 112.8 | 114.2 | 1.2 | - | 0.06 | 0.06 | - |
| 118.1 | 119.2 | 119.6 | 0.3 | 1.3 | 5.08 | 5.09 | 0.01 |
| 121.0 | 122.1 | 122.2 | 0.1 | 1.0 | 4.09 | 4.10 | 0.01 |
| 109.8 | 110.9 | 112.3 | 1.3 | 2.3 | 0.98 | 0.99 | 0.01 |
| 109.8 | 108.5 | 108.5 | - | -1.2 | 1.71 | 1.71 | - |
| 118.0 | 120.4 | 120.2 | -0.2 | 1.9 | 0.92 | 0.92 | - |
| 122.0 | 123.3 | 122.7 | -0.5 | 0.6 | 0.41 | 0.41 | - |
| 115.3 | 118.5 | 118.6 | 0.1 | 2.9 | 0.51 | 0.51 | - |
| 104.9 | 105.3 | 105.8 | 0.5 | 0.9 | 1.30 | 1.31 | 0.01 |
| 99.0 | 98.3 | 100.7 | 2.4 | 1.7 | 0.28 | 0.29 | 0.01 |
| 104.3 | 105.0 | 104.0 | -1.0 | -0.3 | 0.39 | 0.38 | -0.01 |
| 107.3 | 108.8 | 107.2 | -1.5 | -0.1 | 0.10 | 0.10 | - |
| 108.0 | 108.5 | 109.4 | 0.8 | 1.3 | 0.53 | 0.54 | 0.01 |
| 125.1 | 124.9 | 125.9 | 0.8 | 0.6 | 4.85 | 4.89 | 0.04 |
| 125.1 | 120.1 | 120.4 | 0.2 | -3.8 | 0.78 | 0.78 | - |
| 111.8 | 113.3 | 111.9 | -1.2 | 0.1 | 0.53 | 0.52 | -0.01 |
| 122.8 | 123.1 | 126.3 | 2.6 | 2.9 | 1.03 | 1.05 | 0.02 |
| 120.6 | 121.4 | 123.5 | 1.7 | 2.4 | 0.57 | 0.58 | 0.01 |
| 132.4 | 130.0 | 131.1 | 0.8 | -1.0 | 0.17 | 0.17 | - |
| 144.5 | 146.4 | 147.6 | 0.8 | 2.1 | 0.16 | 0.16 | - |
| 130.1 | 129.8 | 130.1 | 0.2 | - | 0.61 | 0.61 | - |
| 102.2 | 101.0 | 100.4 | -0.6 | -1.8 | 0.28 | 0.28 | - |
| 153.7 | 157.1 | 158.2 | 0.7 | 2.9 | 0.52 | 0.52 | - |
| 135.3 | 139.3 | 139.9 | 0.4 | 3.4 | 0.22 | 0.22 | - |
| 106.4 | 106.8 | 106.1 | -0.7 | -0.3 | 1.83 | 1.82 | -0.01 |
| 111.3 | 111.4 | 111.4 | - | 0.1 | 0.19 | 0.19 | - |
| 105.8 | 106.2 | 105.4 | -0.8 | -0.4 | 1.65 | 1.64 | -0.01 |
| 93.8 | 90.2 | 89.3 | -1.0 | -4.8 | 2.30 | 2.27 | -0.03 |
| 123.9 | 122.9 | 122.8 | -0.1 | -0.9 | 19.41 | 19.40 | -0.01 |
| 122.2 | 120.9 | 120.9 | - | -1.1 | 17.79 | 17.78 | -0.01 |
| 112.9 | 111.4 | 109.1 | -2.1 | -3.4 | 4.58 | 4.48 | -0.10 |
| 121.9 | 117.0 | 118.0 | 0.9 | -3.2 | 5.36 | 5.40 | 0.04 |
| 141.6 | 145.4 | 146.5 | 0.8 | 3.5 | 3.06 | 3.09 | 0.03 |
| 145.4 | 149.8 | 150.2 | 0.3 | 3.3 | 1.18 | 1.18 | - |
| 106.6 | 105.9 | 106.0 | 0.1 | -0.6 | 0.39 | 0.39 | - |
| 119.3 | 118.8 | 119.4 | 0.5 | 0.1 | 3.23 | 3.25 | 0.02 |
| 152.0 | 154.0 | 154.3 | 0.2 | 1.5 | 1.62 | 1.62 | - |


|  | INDEX NUMBERS(a).......... |  |  | PERCENTAGE CHANGE BETWEEN............... |  | CONTRIBUTIONS TO TOTAL CPI (ALL GROUPS INDEX POINTS) |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Group, sub-group and expenditure class | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Jun Qtr } \\ & 1997 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Mar Qtr } \\ & 1998 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Jun Qtr } \\ & 1998 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Mar Qtr } \\ & 1998 \text { and } \\ & \text { Jun Qtr } \\ & 1998 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Jun Qtr } \\ & 1997 \text { and } \\ & \text { Jun Qtr } \\ & 1998 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Mar Qtr } \\ & 1998 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Jun Qtr } \\ & 1998 \end{aligned}$ | Change between <br> Mar Qtr 1998 <br> and <br> Jun Qtr 1998 |
| Tobacco and alcohol | 162.1 | 165.4 | 166.7 | 0.8 | 2.8 | 11.35 | 11.44 | 0.09 |
| Alcoholic drinks | 132.4 | 133.1 | 133.8 | 0.5 | 1.1 | 6.39 | 6.42 | 0.03 |
| Beer | 133.3 | 133.9 | 134.6 | 0.5 | 1.0 | 3.69 | 3.71 | 0.02 |
| Wine | 125.7 | 128.8 | 129.9 | 0.9 | 3.3 | 1.34 | 1.35 | 0.01 |
| Spirits | 136.1 | 134.5 | 134.7 | 0.1 | -1.0 | 1.37 | 1.37 | - |
| Cigarettes and tobacco | 232.7 | 242.4 | 244.9 | 1.0 | 5.2 | 4.96 | 5.01 | 0.05 |
| Health and personal care | 154.0 | 154.8 | 157.9 | 2.0 | 2.5 | 9.33 | 9.52 | 0.19 |
| Health services | 173.6 | 174.9 | 179.4 | 2.6 | 3.3 | 5.82 | 5.97 | 0.15 |
| Hospital and medical services | 185.7 | 186.4 | 192.0 | 3.0 | 3.4 | 4.74 | 4.88 | 0.14 |
| Optical services | 121.3 | 123.1 | 124.0 | 0.7 | 2.2 | 0.22 | 0.22 | - |
| Dental services | 143.5 | 147.3 | 148.6 | 0.9 | 3.6 | 0.87 | 0.88 | 0.01 |
| Personal care products | 129.5 | 128.6 | 130.5 | 1.5 | 0.8 | 2.52 | 2.56 | 0.04 |
| Pharmaceuticals | 134.5 | 132.5 | 135.5 | 2.3 | 0.7 | 1.00 | 1.02 | 0.02 |
| Toiletries and personal products | 126.4 | 126.3 | 127.4 | 0.9 | 0.8 | 1.52 | 1.53 | 0.01 |
| Hairdressing services | 128.0 | 130.7 | 131.2 | 0.4 | 2.5 | 0.99 | 0.99 | - |
| Recreation and education | 120.9 | 124.9 | 125.1 | 0.2 | 3.5 | 13.67 | 13.69 | 0.02 |
| Books, newspapers and magazines | 149.8 | 155.8 | 156.9 | 0.7 | 4.7 | 1.64 | 1.65 | 0.01 |
| Recreational goods | 96.5 | 95.3 | 95.0 | -0.3 | -1.6 | 2.59 | 2.58 | -0.01 |
| Video and sound equipment | 76.7 | 73.8 | 74.0 | 0.3 | -3.5 | 0.70 | 0.70 | - |
| Records, cassettes and tapes | 98.6 | 100.0 | 100.3 | 0.3 | 1.7 | 0.32 | 0.33 | 0.01 |
| Sports and photographic equipment and toys | 108.3 | 107.6 | 106.8 | -0.7 | -1.4 | 1.56 | 1.55 | -0.01 |
| Holiday travel and accommodation | 102.7 | 107.8 | 107.1 | -0.6 | 4.3 | 2.85 | 2.83 | -0.02 |
| Holiday travel and accommodation in Australia | 104.8 | 115.4 | 110.8 | -4.0 | 5.7 | 1.68 | 1.62 | -0.06 |
| Holiday travel and accommodation overseas | 100.0 | 98.3 | 102.5 | 4.3 | 2.5 | 1.17 | 1.22 | 0.05 |
| Recreational services | 136.3 | 140.5 | 141.4 | 0.6 | 3.7 | 3.74 | 3.77 | 0.03 |
| Photographic services | 115.5 | 115.7 | 115.9 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.29 | 0.29 | - |
| Repairs to recreational goods | 123.9 | 126.0 | 126.2 | 0.2 | 1.9 | 0.15 | 0.15 | - |
| Entertainment | 139.5 | 144.3 | 145.3 | 0.7 | 4.2 | 3.30 | 3.33 | 0.03 |
| Education and child care | 151.2 | 160.0 | 160.5 | 0.3 | 6.2 | 2.85 | 2.86 | 0.01 |
| Education fees | 160.8 | 170.3 | 170.3 | - | 5.9 | 2.27 | 2.27 | - |
| Child care fees | 126.0 | 133.0 | 135.3 | 1.7 | 7.4 | 0.57 | 0.58 | 0.01 |
| All groups | 120.2 | 120.3 | 121.0 | 0.6 | 0.7 | 120.3 | 121.0 | 0.7 |

(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) |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Jun Qtr } \\ & 1997 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Mar Qtr } \\ & 1998 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Jun Qtr } \\ & 1998 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Mar Qtr } \\ & 1998 \text { and } \\ & \text { Jun Qtr } \\ & 1998 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Jun Qtr } \\ & 1997 \text { and } \\ & \text { Jun Qtr } \\ & 1998 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Mar Qtr } \\ & 1998 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Jun Qtr } \\ & 1998 \end{aligned}$ | Change between <br> Mar Qtr 1998 and Jun Qtr 1998 |
| All groups | 120.2 | 120.3 | 121.0 | 0.6 | 0.7 | 120.3 | 121.0 | 0.7 |
| Selected components |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Mortgage interest and consumer credit charges | 75.8 | 68.7 | 68.9 | 0.3 | -9.1 | 7.68 | 7.71 | 0.03 |
| Goods component(b) | 122.3 | 122.6 | 123.1 | 0.4 | 0.7 | 74.12 | 74.42 | 0.30 |
| Services component(b) | 116.9 | 116.8 | 117.8 | 0.9 | 0.8 | 46.21 | 46.58 | 0.37 |
| Selected State and local government charges(b) | 129.8 | 129.8 | 131.1 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 7.99 | 7.61 | 0.07 |
| All groups excluding |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Food | 120.0 | 120.0 | 120.6 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 97.65 | 98.15 | 0.50 |
| Clothing | 121.0 | 121.2 | 121.9 | 0.6 | 0.7 | 113.61 | 114.29 | 0.68 |
| Housing | 124.8 | 125.7 | 126.3 | 0.5 | 1.2 | 103.90 | 104.39 | 0.49 |
| Household equipment and operation | 121.6 | 121.8 | 122.6 | 0.7 | 0.8 | 99.58 | 100.23 | 0.65 |
| Transportation | 119.5 | 119.9 | 120.7 | 0.7 | 1.0 | 100.92 | 101.60 | 0.68 |
| Tobacco and alcohol | 116.9 | 116.9 | 117.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 108.98 | 109.57 | 0.59 |
| Health and personal care | 118.1 | 118.2 | 118.7 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 110.99 | 111.48 | 0.49 |
| Recreation and education | 120.1 | 119.8 | 120.6 | 0.7 | 0.4 | 106.65 | 107.31 | 0.66 |
| Home ownership | 124.4 | 125.5 | 126.1 | 0.5 | 1.4 | 109.66 | 110.21 | 0.55 |
| Mortgage interest and consumer credit charges | 125.4 | 126.5 | 127.2 | 0.6 | 1.4 | 112.64 | 113.30 | 0.66 |
| Hospital and medical services | 118.5 | 118.6 | 119.2 | 0.5 | 0.6 | 115.59 | 116.13 | 0.54 |
| Selected State and local government charges(b) | 119.6 | 119.8 | 120.4 | 0.5 | 0.7 | 112.33 | 113.39 | 0.60 |
|  | (a) Base of each index: 1989-90 $=100.0$ |  |  |  | (b) Refer to paragraph 14 of the Explanatory Notes for a description of this series |  |  |  |




## PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous year)

| 1994-95 | 2.8 | -0.1 | 1.8 | 1.3 | 2.3 | 8.1 | 5.8 | 4.3 | 9.1 | 3.2 | 2.6 |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 1995-96 | 2.5 | -0.5 | 1.0 | 2.3 | 2.8 | 6.2 | 4.6 | 2.9 | 8.9 | 1.3 | 3.9 |
| 1996-97 | 2.8 | 0.8 | 1.2 | 2.4 | 2.5 | 4.6 | 4.8 | 2.6 | 6.4 | 1.8 | 2.3 |
| $\mathbf{1 9 9 7 - 9 8}$ | 1.2 | n.y.a. | 1.3 | n.y.a. | 2.4 | n.y.a. | n.y.a. | 1.0 | n.y.a. | n.y.a. | 1.2 |


|  | PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from corresponding quarter of previous year) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1994 ( 10.0 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 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 |
| 1995 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 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 |
| 1996 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 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 |
| 1997 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 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 | 2.0 | 2.7 | 1.1 | 2.1 | 2.2 | 4.1 | 3.8 | 1.1 | 5.7 | 1.7 | 2.0 | 1.2 |
| September | 1.8 | 4.7 | 1.7 | 2.4 | 2.5 | 5.0 | 3.9 | 1.2 | 8.8 | 2.2 | 1.4 | 1.3 |
| December | 1.5 | 4.7 | 1.5 | 1.4 | 2.4 | 4.1 | 5.6 | -0.5 | 13.1 | 2.0 | 1.3 | 1.0 |
| 1998 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| March | 0.7 | 4.5 | 0.9 | 1.4 | 2.2 | 4.0 | 9.8 | 1.6 | n.y.a. | 0.6 | 1.0 | 1.0 |
| June | 1.0 | n.y.a. | 1.1 | n.y.a. | 2.5 | n.y.a. | n.y.a. | 1.8 | n.y.a. | n.y.a. | 1.2 | 1.1 |


| PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous quarter) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1994 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 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 |
| 1995 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 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 |
| 1996 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 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 |
| 1997 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 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 | 0.3 | 3.3 | 0.2 | 0.5 | 0.9 | 1.1 | 0.9 | 0.8 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.2 |
| September | 0.2 | 1.4 | 0.9 | 0.4 | 0.5 | 1.7 | 1.0 | 1.5 | 3.2 | 0.9 | -0.3 | 0.4 |
| December | 0.5 | 0.2 | -0.3 | -0.2 | 0.6 | 0.3 | 1.6 | -1.5 | 6.8 | 0.1 | 0.6 | 0.3 |
| 1998 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| March | -0.2 | -0.4 | 0.2 | 0.7 | 0.1 | 0.9 | 6.0 | 0.8 | n.y.a. | -0.8 | 0.4 | 0.1 |
| June | 0.6 | n.y.a. | 0.3 | n.y.a. | 1.2 | n.y.a. | n.y.a. | 0.9 | n.y.a. | n.y.a. | 0.5 | 0.3 |

(a) Refer to paragraphs 15-20 of the Explanatory Notes for further information

|  |  |  |  | PRIVATE SECTOR GOODS AND SERVICES(c)........... |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Period | All groups | All groups exc/uding Housing | All groups excluding interest and 'volatile items'(c) | Goods | Services | Total | Treasury <br> Underlying <br> Rate(c) |
| 1994-95 | 113.9 | 116.5 | 118.1 | 116.2 | 114.0 | 115.7 | 115.1 |
| 1995-96 | 118.7 | 121.1 | 122.4 | 120.6 | 118.6 | 120.1 | 118.8 |
| 1996-97 | 120.3 | 123.9 | 125.2 | 122.5 | 122.1 | 122.4 | 121.2 |
| 1997-98 | 120.3 | 125.4 | 127.2 | 123.5 | 126.1 | 124.2 | 123.0 |
| 1994 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 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 |
| 1995 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 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 |
| 1996 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 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 |
| 1997 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 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 |
| September | 119.7 | 124.4 | 126.1 | 122.8 | 124.7 | 123.3 | 122.3 |
| December | 120.0 | 125.2 | 126.9 | 123.3 | 125.6 | 123.9 | 122.7 |
| 1998 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| March | 120.3 | 125.7 | 127.6 | 123.8 | 126.7 | 124.5 | 123.3 |
| June | 121.0 | 126.3 | 128.2 | 124.0 | 127.4 | 124.9 | 123.8 |

(a) Base of each index: Year 1989-90 $=100$
(c) Refer to paragraph 14 of the Explanatory Notes for
a description of this series
(b) Refer to paragraphs 21-26 of the Explanatory Notes for further information

|  |  | All groups excluding | All groups excluding interest and |  |  |  | Treasury Underlying |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Period | All groups | Housing | 'volatile items'(b) | Goods | Services | Total | Rate(b) |

PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous year)

| $1994-95$ | 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 |
| $\mathbf{1 9 9 6 - 9 7}$ | 1.3 | 2.3 | 2.3 | 1.6 | 3.0 | 1.9 | 2.0 |
| $1997-98$ | 0.0 | 1.2 | 1.6 | 0.8 | 3.3 | 1.5 | 1.5 |


|  | PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from corresponding quarter of previous year) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1994 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 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 |
| September | -0.3 | 1.4 | 1.6 | 0.5 | 3.6 | 1.3 | 1.5 |
| December | -0.2 | 1.3 | 1.7 | 0.7 | 3.3 | 1.3 | 1.4 |
| 1998 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| March | -0.2 | 1.0 | 1.6 | 1.0 | 3.2 | 1.5 | 1.5 |
| June | 0.7 | 1.2 | 1.7 | 1.0 | 3.2 | 1.5 | 1.6 |


| 1994 PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous quart |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 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 |
| September | -0.4 | -0.3 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 1.1 | 0.2 | 0.3 |
| December | 0.3 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.4 | 0.7 | 0.5 | 0.3 |
| 1998 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| March | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.6 | 0.4 | 0.9 | 0.5 | 0.5 |
| June | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.2 | 0.6 | 0.3 | 0.4 |
|  | (a) Refer to paragraphs 21-26 of the Explanatory Notes for further information |  |  | (b) Refer to paragraph 14 of the Explanatory Notes for a description of this series |  |  |  |

## EXPLANATORY NOTES

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).

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.

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.

## EXPLANATORYNOTES

ANALYSIS OF CPI CHANGES

SPECIAL SERIES

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 1998 | 121.0 (see Table 1) |
| :--- | :---: |
| less March Quarter 1998 | 120.3 (see Table 1) |
| Change in index points | 0.7 |
| Percentage change $=$ | $\frac{0.7}{120.3} \times 100=0.6 \%$ |

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 1.92 index points to the total All groups index number of 121.0 for June Quarter 1998. 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'.

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'.

## EXPLANATORYNOTES

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.

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 From 1 July 1997, Hong Kong became part of China. It is now known officially as: The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China. Taiwan is officially referred to as: Taiwan (Province of China).

20 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.

## EXPLANATORYNOTES

ALTERNATIVE MEASURES OF CONSUMER PRICE INFLATION

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

UNPUBLISHED STATISTICS

SYMBOLS AND OTHER USAGES

21 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.

22 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).

23 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.

24 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.

25 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.

26 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.

27 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.

28 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).

29 As well as the statistics included in this and related publications, the ABS may have other relevant unpublished data available. Inquiries should be made to Steve Whennan on 0262526251 or to any ABS office.

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


## APPENDIX CHANGES TO THE CPI

## INTRODUCTION

PRINCIPAL PURPOSE OF THE CPI 4 The most important finding of the 13 th Series CPI Review was the recognition that the context in which the CPI is used has changed:

- Containing inflation, and the shaping of inflationary expectations of the Australian population, is attracting much more focus as an economic policy imperative.
- The Reserve Bank of Australia now administers monetary policy with the objective of keeping underlying or core inflation within the range of $2 \%$ to $3 \%$ over the business cycle.
- There has been a continuing trend towards decentralised, enterprise level wage and salary setting arrangements with the outcomes focussed on the commercial circumstances of individual businesses. From employees' perspectives these arrangements have focussed attention on more forward looking inflationary expectations rather than on past 'catch-up' approaches. (Centralised safety net arrangements continue to apply for those employees unable to take advantage of enterprise bargaining arrangements.)
- The absolute reliance of most social welfare beneficiaries on the CPI for indexation of their incomes has changed with the passing of the Social Security and Veterans' Affairs Amendment (Male Total Average Weekly Earnings Benchmark) Bill 1997, which provides for adjustments should the maximum rate of the CPI-adjusted single adult pension fall below $25 \%$ of MTAWE.

5 The extensive use of the CPI for general indexation of public and private sector contracts continues. The user consultation phase confirmed that other attributes of the CPI such as its prominence, its wide availability, its timeliness and the fact that it is never revised, continue to be most important for these uses of the index.

6 After taking into account the practical implications of the alternative approaches to constructing a CPI on those most directly affected, the ABS reached the conclusion that, on balance, the Australian community would now be better served by a CPI designed specifically to provide a general measure of price inflation for the household sector.

7 In practice, the most significant consequences of this decision will be a change in the item coverage of the CPI and a change in the population group covered by the CPI.

8 The most noticeable changes to the item coverage will be the exclusion of mortgage interest and consumer credit charges from the index and the inclusion of expenditure on new dwellings (excluding land).

PRINCIPAL PURPOSE OF THE CPI continued

COMMODITY CLASSIFICATION AND ITEM COVERAGE

9 In due course the ABS will also develop, and include in the CPI, indexes to measure changes in the prices paid by households for a range of financial services including those incurred in respect of borrowings, savings, maintenance of accounts with financial institutions, accessing investment advice and the purchase of shares etc. These measures will cover both direct fees and charges and indirect costs incorporated in the interest rate margins of financial intermediaries. Due to the conceptual and methodological complexities involved in the construction of these indexes it has not proved possible to introduce these measures concurrently with the other changes in the September quarter. It is expected that these measures will be introduced during 2000.

10 Expansion of the population coverage beyond wage and salary earner households to all private households in the eight capital cities will result in an increase in coverage from $29 \%$ to $64 \%$ of all Australian private households.

11 In common with previous reviews of the CPI, the ABS has taken the opportunity to update the commodity classification and item coverage of the CPI. A concordance between the current, 12th Series, classification and the new, 13th Series, classification is presented at Table A1 to this appendix.
12 The new, 13th Series, commodity classification has been developed with a view to:

- reflecting item coverage consistent with the new objective of the CPI;
- classifying items according to utility, whereby items which are close substitutes in terms of use are grouped together;
- adopting titles which best describe the item composition of series;
- dropping, as separately publishable expenditure classes, items where expenditure has declined to a relatively insignificant level;
- introducing, as separately publishable expenditure classes, items for which expenditure has increased to a relatively significant level; and
- accommodating recent and potential technological changes.

13 Several new items have been added to the CPI 'basket' in this review, primarily home computers and software, domestic services (house cleaning, gardening and the like) and tertiary education fees.

14 Where changes to the CPI classification are indicated at Table A1, they are one of the following types:

## Dropped series:

where a series is no longer available with the commencement of the 13th series CPI. The items may have been removed from the CPI altogether (eg Mortgage interest charges) or combined with one or more other series to form a new series (eg Butter has been dropped in its own right but included in the new series Fats and oils).

## New series:

where a new series is introduced to the CPI for the first time, or an existing series is split from, or merged with another series. In each case there is insufficient data available to recreate the new series. The series will commence with a reference base of June quarter $1998=100.0$
where a new series is created from a combination of two or more previously published series. In these cases there is sufficient information available to calculate a back series and the series will commence with a reference base of $1989-90=100.0$

## APPENDIX CHANGES TO THE CPI continued

COMMODITY CLASSIFICATION AND ITEM COVERAGE continued

IMPLICATIONS FOR USERS OF THE CPI

## OTHER ISSUES

## Renamed series:

where a series is renamed, and there has been a minor change to its composition (eg Pet foods, pets and supplies). The series will be linked to its 12th series CPI equivalent;
where a series is renamed only, and there have been no changes to its composition (eg Fish and other seafood). The series will be linked to its 12th series CPI equivalent;

## Moved series:

where a series has changed its position in the CPI classification (eg Boys' clothing). The series will be linked to its 12th series equivalent.

15 The relative significance (or weights) of items in the 13th Series CPI are based primarily on expenditures of all private households in the eight capital cities as recorded in the 1993-94 Household Expenditure Survey (HES). The quantities underpinning the 1993-94 expenditures are preserved by revaluing these expenditures to June quarter 1998 prices. The new expenditure weights, at June quarter 1998 prices, will be provided in an Information Paper to be released on 29 September (a copy will be sent to all subscribers to the quarterly CPI publication). These new items and weights will be used to measure price change from June quarter 1998.

16 It is important for users to be aware that where a series has been dropped from the 13th Series CPI, the ABS will no longer be able to provide the series. For example, the series for Butter will no longer be available. Conversely, where a new series is created in the 13th series CPI (as indicated by (b) in Table A1) the ABS is unable to provide a history for the series prior to June quarter 1998.

17 Commencing with the introduction of the 13th Series CPI the ABS will also:

- Cease publishing the special index for Selected State and local government charges. Following consultation with the major users of this series, it has been agreed that their data needs would now be better met by the provision of a series for 'utilities'. A Utilities subgroup, comprising Electricity, Gas, Other household fuel and Water and sewerage charges, has been separately recognised in the Housing group.
- Progressively adopt the geometric mean formula for the calculation of elementary aggregate indexes in the CPI. This will eliminate what is referred to as "elementary aggregate formula bias" from the CPI. For further details see Appendix 2 to Information Paper: Issues To Be Considered During The 13th Series Australian Consumer Price Index Review (Cat. no. 6451.0).

18 Users requiring further information about the changes outlined above should contact:

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12TH SERIES (Old)..
Group,
subgroup, and
expenditure clas
expenditure class

13TH SERIES (New)
Group,
subgroup, and
expenditure class

## ALL GROUPS

## FOOD

Dairy and related products
Milk and cream
Cheese
1.1.3 Other dairy products

## Cereal products

Bread
1.2.2 Cakes and biscuits
1.2.3 Breakfast cereals
1.2.4 Other cereal products
1.3 Meat and seafoods
1.3.1 Beef and veal
1.3.2 Lamb and mutton
1.3.3 Pork
1.3.4 Poultry
1.3.5 Bacon and ham
13.6 Processed meat
1.3.7 Fish and other seafood

Fresh fruit and vegetables
Fresh fruit
Fresh vegetables

## Processed fruit and vegetables

Processed fruit
Processed vegetables
Fruit and vegetable juices
Soft drinks, ice cream and confectionery
Soft drinks and cordials
1.6.2 Ice cream and ice confectionen

Sweet and savoury snacks

## Meals out and take away food

1.7.2 Take away and fast foods

### 1.8 Other food

1.8.1 Eggs
1.8.2 Jams, honey and sandwich spreads
1.8.3 Tea, coffee and food drinks
1.8.4 Food additives and condiments
$\begin{array}{ll}\text { 1.8.4 } & \text { Food additives } \\ \text { 1.8.5 } & \text { Fats and oils }\end{array}$
1.8.6 Food n.e.c.
renamed
renamed
renamed

```
CONCORDANCE BETWEEN 12TH AND 13TH SERIES CPI(a) continued
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12TH SERIES (Old). Group,
$\qquad$
$\qquad$ subgroup, and
expenditure class $\quad$ Concordance with 13th seriesCLOTHING$\begin{array}{ll}2 & \text { CLOTHING } \\ 2.1 & \text { Men's and boys' clothing }\end{array}$2.1.1 Men's outer clothing2.1.2 Men's knitwear2.1.3 Men's shirts2.1.4 Men's underwear, nightwear and socksBoys' clothing
2.2 Women's and girls' clothing2.2.1 Women's outer clothing2.2.2 Women's knitwear
$\begin{array}{ll}\text { 2.2.3 } & \text { Women's unden } \\ \text { 2.2.4 }\end{array}$
2.3 Fabrics and knitting woo$\begin{array}{lr}\text { 2.3 } & \text { Fabrics and knitting woo } \\ \text { 2.3.1 } & \text { Fabrics and knitting wool }\end{array}$
2.4 Footwear2.4.1 Men's footwear2.4.2 Women's footwear2.4.3 Children's footwear
2.5 Dry cleaning and shoe repairsDry cleaning and shoe repairs

## 3 HOUSING

3.1 Ren
3.1.1 Privately-owned dwelling rents
3.1.2 Government-owned dwelling rents

### 3.2 Home ownership

3.2.1 Mortgage interest charges
3.2.2 Local government rates and charges
3.2.3 House repairs and maintenance
3.2.4 House insurance

13TH SERIES (New)
Group,

expenditure class
Condance with 12th series

## Clothing

Men's clothing
combination Old 2.1.1, 2.1.2
(c)

Men's shirts
Men's underwear, nightwear and socks

Women's clothing
Women's outerwear
Women's underwear, nightwear and hosiery

## Children's and infants' clothing

Boys' clothing
Girls' clothing
Footwear
Men's footwear
2.4.2 Women's footwear
2.4.3 Children's footwear

Clothing services and shoe repair

## HOUSING

Rents
3.1.1
3.1.2 Government-owned dwelling rents

## Utilities

3.2.1

### 3.2.2

3.2.3 Other household fuel
3.2.4 Water and sewera
3.3 Other housing
3.3.1 House purchase
3.3.2 Property rates and charges
3.3.3 House repairs and maintenance
3.3.4 House insurance

12TH SERIES (Old)
Group,
$\qquad$
subgroup, and
expenditure cla
subgroup, and
expenditure class
Concordance with 13th series
13TH SERIES (New)
Group,
subgroup, and
expenditure class $\qquad$ Concordance with 12th series

HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND OPERATION
4.1 Fuel and light
4.1.1 Electricity
4.1.2 Gas
4.1.3 Other fuel
4.2 Furniture and floor coverings
4.2.1 Furniture
4.2.2 Floor coverings
4.3 Appliances
4.3.1 Appliances
4.4 Household textiles
4.4.1 Bedding
4.5 Howseh, linen and curtains
4.5.1 Tableware, glassware and cutlery
4.5.2 Kitchen and cooking utensils
4.5.3 Cleaning utensils
4.5.4 Tools
4.6 Household supplies and services
4.6.1 Household cleaning agents
4.6.2 Household paper products
4.6.3 Other household non-durables
4.6.4 Stationery
4.6.5 Watches and clocks
4.6.6 Veterinary services
4.6.7 Pet foods
4.6.8 Travel goods
4.6.9 House contents insurance
4.6.10 Repairs to appliances
4.7 Postal and telephone services
4.7.1 Postal services
4.7.2 Telephone services
4.8 Consumer credit charges
4.8.1 Consumer credit charges

## TRANSPORTATION

### 5.1 Private motorin

### 5.1.1 Motor vehicles

5.1.2 Automotive fuel
5.1.3 Vehicle insurance
5.1. 5 Myres and tub

Tyres and tubes
Vehicle servicing, repairs and parts
5.2 Urban transport fares
5.2.1 Urban transport fares
renamed (New 3.2)
moved to New 3.2.1
moved to New 3.2.2
renamed (New 3.2.3)
dropped, in New 4.3

dropped, in New 4.3
dropped, in New 4.3.3 dropped, in New 4.3.3
dropped, split into New 4.4, 4.5
dropped, in New 4.4.3
dropped, in New 4.4.3 moved to New 8.1.3
dropped, in New 2.5.1, 4.1.1
renamed (New 4.5.1)
renamed (New 4.4.2)
dropped, in New 2.5.1
renamed (New 4.5.3) renamed (New 4.6)
renamed (New 4.6.2) dropped, removed from index dropped, removed from index

HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND OPERATION

## Furniture and floor covering

Furniture
Floor coverings

## Household textiles

Bedding
Towels, linen and curtains
Household appliances, utensils and tools new, combination Old 4.3, 4.5
Appliances
4.3.2 Tableware, glassware and cutlery
4.3.3 Household utensils

Tools
Household supplies Household cleaning agents
Pet foods, pets and supplies
Other household supplies Household services
4.5.1 Pet services including veterinary
4.5.2 House contents insurance
4.5.3 Repairs to household durables

Domestic senvices

Postal and communication services Postal services
4.6.2 Communication services

## TRANSPORTATION

### 5.1 Private motoring

Motor vehicles
Automotive fuel
Vehicle insurance
5.1.3 Vehicle insurance
renamed (New 5.1.6)
renamed, in New 5.1.5 renamed, in New 5.1.4, 5.1.5

Motor vehicle repair and senvicing
Motor vehicle parts and accessories
Other motoring charges
Urban transport fares
21 Urban transport fares
renamed, split from Old 5.1.6

| 12TH SERIES (Old).. |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Group, subgroup, and expenditure class | Concordanc |
| 6 | TOBACCO AND ALCOHOL | renamed |
| 6.1 | Alcoholic drinks |  |
| 6.1.1 | Beer |  |
| 6.1.2 | Wine |  |
| 6.1.3 | Spirits |  |
| 6.2 | Cigarettes and tobacco |  |
| 6.2.1 | Cigarettes and tobacco |  |
| 7 | HEALTH AND PERSONAL CARE |  |
| 7.1 | Health services |  |
| 7.1.1 | Hospital and medical services |  |
| 7.1.2 | Optical senvices |  |
| 7.1.3 | Dental services |  |
| 7.2 | Personal care products |  |
| 7.2.1 | Pharmaceuticals |  |
| 7.2.2 | Toiletries and personal products |  |
| 7.3 | Hairdressing services | renamed |
| 7.3.1 | Hairdressing senvices | renamed |

8 RECREATION AND EDUCATION
8.1 Books, newspapers and magazines
8.1.1 Books, newspapers and magazines
8.2 Recreational goods
8.2.1 Video and sound equipment
8.2.2 Records, cassettes and tapes
8.2.3 Sports and photographic equipment and toys

Holiday travel and accommodation

| 8.3 | Holiday travel and accommodation |
| :--- | :--- |
| 8.3.1 | Holiday travel and accommodation in Australia |
| 8.3.2 | Holiday travel and accommodation overseas |
| 8.4 | Recreational services |
| 8.4.1 | Photographic services |
| 8.4.2 | Repairs st recreational goods |
| 8.4.3 | Entertainment |
| 8.5 | Education and child care |
| 8.5.1 | Education fees |
| 8.5.2 | Child |

## renamed

renamed
dropped, in New 8.2
dropped, in New 8.2.2
moved to New 8.2.5
dropped, split into New 8.2.6, 8.2.7
renamed 8.4.1
8.4.2

13TH SERIES (New)
Group,

| subgroup, and <br> expenditure class$\quad$ Concordance with 12th series | Base <br> period |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |

Concordance with 12th series
period
renamed
ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO
Alcoholic drinks

## 6.1

6.1.2 Wine
6.1.2 Wine
6.2 Cigarettes and tobacco
6.2.1 Cigarettes and tobacco

## HEALTH AND PERSONAL CARE <br> Health services <br> Hospital and medical services <br> Optical services <br> Dental services Personal care products <br> $\begin{array}{ll}\text { 7.2 } & \text { Personal care pro } \\ \text { 7.2.1 } & \text { Pharmaceuticals }\end{array}$ <br> $\begin{array}{ll}\text { 7.2.1 } & \text { Pharmaceuticals } \\ \text { 7.2.2 } & \text { Toiletries and personal products }\end{array}$ <br> Hairdressing and personal care services <br> renamed

## RECREATION AND EDUCATION

Books, newspapers, magazines and stationery
Books
new, combination Old 8.1, 4.6.4
new, split from Old 8.1.1
new, split from Old 8.1.1
new, split from Old 8.1.
new, combination Old 8.2, 8.
renamed, Old 8.2.1, parts 8.2.3, and computers new, combination Old 8.2.2, 8.4.1, and software new, split from Old 8.2.3 new, split from Old 8.2. moved from Old 8.4.2 new, split from Old 8.4.3 new, split from Old 8.4.3

## renamed

renamed

Education and child care
Child care
renamed, Old 8.5.1, includes tertian renamed (OId 8.5.2)
(a) 12th and 13th series are numbered independently - the numbers are to assist readability only
(c) new series calculated with a reference base of 1989-90 $=100$
(b) new series will have a reference base of June quarter $1998=100$
(d) continuous series linked to the 12th series equivalent with a reference base of 1989-90 $=100$

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[^0]:    (a) Base of each index: 1989-90 $=100.0$

