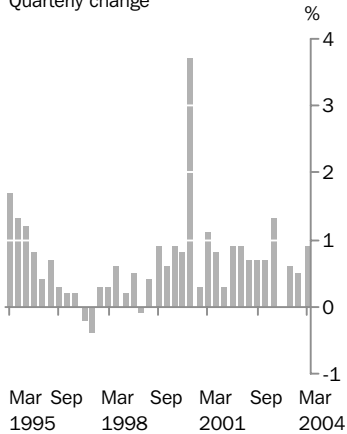


CONSUMER PRICE INDEX AUSTRALIA

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All Groups

Quarterly change

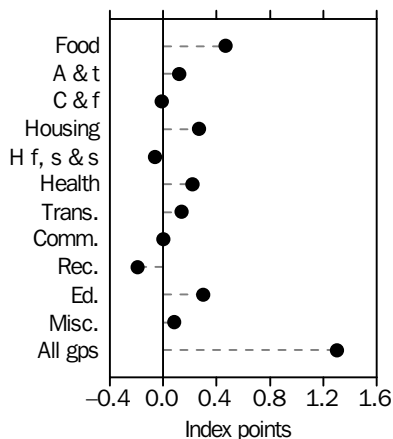


MARCH QTR KEY FIGURES

| | % change Dec Qtr 2003 to Mar Qtr 2004 | % change Mar Qtr 2003 to Mar Qtr 2004 |
|---|--|--|
| Weighted average of eight capital cities | | |
| Food | 1.8 | 3.3 |
| Alcohol and tobacco | 1.1 | 4.2 |
| Clothing and footwear | -1.4 | -0.8 |
| Housing | 0.9 | 4.3 |
| Household furnishings, supplies and services | -0.6 | 0.2 |
| Health | 3.2 | 6.5 |
| Transportation | 0.7 | -1.4 |
| Communication | 0.1 | 1.1 |
| Recreation | -1.1 | -2.0 |
| Education | 7.6 | 7.8 |
| Miscellaneous | 1.3 | 3.0 |
| All groups | 0.9 | 2.0 |
| All groups excluding Housing | 0.9 | 1.4 |

Contribution to quarterly change

March quarter 2004



MARCH QTR KEY POINTS

THE ALL GROUPS CPI

- rose 0.9% in the March quarter 2004, compared with 0.5% in the December quarter 2003.
- rose 2.0% between the March quarters 2003 and 2004.

OVERVIEW OF CPI MOVEMENTS

- contributing most to the overall increase this quarter were rises in the cost of vegetables (+13.0%), automotive fuel (+3.4%), pharmaceuticals (+11.3%), tertiary education (+8.4%), house purchase (+1.1%), secondary education (+6.9%), fruit (+4.9%), tobacco (+1.5%), gas and other household fuels (+4.8%), other recreational activities (+2.2%) and preschool and primary education (+6.7%).
- partially offsetting these increases were falls in the cost of overseas holiday travel and accommodation (-5.5%), motor vehicles (-1.8%), furniture (-1.8%) and audio, visual and computing equipment (-4.5%).
- contributing most to the annual increase were rises in house purchase (+5.9%), hospital and medical services (+8.7%), beer (+6.3%), fruit (+13.1%), rents (+2.6%), tobacco (+4.6%), take away and fast foods (+3.6%), tertiary education (+8.4%) and vegetables (+6.5%). Partially offsetting these increases were falls in motor vehicles (-4.0%), automotive fuel (-4.6%), audio, visual and computing equipment (-21.3%) and overseas holiday travel and accommodation (-6.5%).

INQUIRIES

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

NOTES

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

| <i>ISSUE</i> | <i>RELEASE DATE</i> |
|----------------|---------------------|
| June 2004 | 28 July 2004 |
| September 2004 | 27 October 2004 |



CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

There are no changes in this issue.



ROUNDING

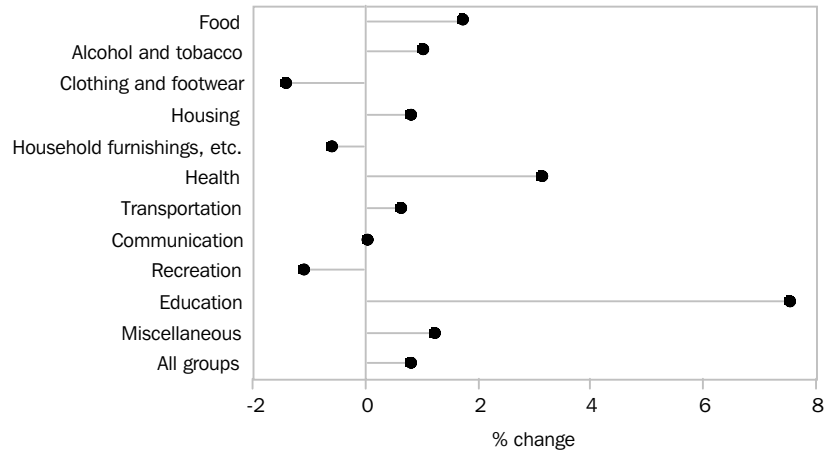
Any discrepancies between totals and sums of components in this publication are due to rounding.



Dennis Trewin
Australian Statistician

ANALYSES AND COMMENTS

CPI GROUPS, WEIGHTED AVERAGE OF EIGHT CAPITAL CITIES: PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS QUARTER



MAIN CONTRIBUTORS TO CHANGE

The discussion of the CPI groups below is ordered in terms of their significance to the change in All groups index points (see Tables 6 and 7).

FOOD (+1.8%)

The rise in food prices was mainly attributable to increases in vegetables (+13.0%), fruit (+4.9%) and restaurant meals (+1.4%). There were no significant falls in food prices.

The increase in fruit and vegetable prices was influenced by adverse weather conditions in some of the major growing regions of eastern Australia which affected supplies, while general price rises contributed to the increase in restaurant meals.

Over the twelve months to March quarter 2004, food costs rose 3.3%. The main contributors to this increase were fruit (+13.1%), take away and fast foods (+3.6%), vegetables (+6.5%) and restaurant meals (+4.1%).

EDUCATION (+7.6%)

All levels of education rose in the March quarter, coinciding with the commencement of the new school year. Tertiary education rose 8.4%, secondary education rose 6.9% and preschool and primary education rose 6.7%.

The increase in tertiary education was due to a CPI-indexed increase in HECS payments and some significant increases in TAFE fees, particularly in Sydney and Melbourne. Secondary and primary education fees rose in order to cover increasing wage, IT and other operating costs.

Over the twelve months to March quarter 2004, the cost of education rose 7.8%.

HOUSING (+0.9%)

The rise in housing costs was mainly due to increases in house purchase (+1.1%), gas and other household fuels (+4.8%), rents (+0.6%) and electricity (+1.4%).

The house purchase index rose in all capital cities, driven by increasing labour and building material costs, while the introduction of new tariff schedules in Melbourne was the main reason for the increase in gas and other household fuels.

Over the twelve months to March quarter 2004, housing costs rose 4.3%. All components of housing increased with house purchase (+5.9%), rents (+2.6%) and property rates and charges (+6.2%) being the most significant contributors.

ANALYSES AND COMMENTS

MAIN CONTRIBUTORS TO CHANGE *continued*

HEALTH (+3.2%)

The rise in health costs was due to increases in pharmaceuticals (+11.3%), hospital and medical services (+1.0%) and dental services (+1.7%).

Pharmaceuticals prices rose mainly as a result of the cyclical reduction in the negative effect on prices of the PBS safety net that occurs at the start of each calendar year. The increase in hospital and medical services reflects rises in general practitioners' and some specialists' fees.

Over the twelve months to March quarter 2004, health costs rose 6.5%. Hospital and medical services (+8.7%, due to increases in net medical services and private health fund insurance) and dental services (+5.9%), were mainly responsible for this increase.

RECREATION (-1.1%)

The fall in recreation costs was mainly due to decreases in overseas holiday travel and accommodation (-5.5%), audio, visual and computing equipment (-4.5%) and domestic holiday travel and accommodation (-1.1%). Partially offsetting these decreases were rises in other recreational activities (+2.2%) and toys, games and hobbies (+3.9%).

The decrease in overseas holiday travel and accommodation was attributable to shoulder season discounting of air fares by travel agents and airlines to most destinations, together with the appreciation of the Australian dollar against most major currencies. Continuing quality adjustment driven falls in computer prices, together with discounting on a number of home entertainment items by major retailers, contributed to the decrease in audio, visual and computing equipment.

Over the twelve months to March quarter 2004, the cost of recreation fell 2.0%. The main contributors to this decrease were audio, visual and computing equipment (-21.3%), overseas holiday travel and accommodation (-6.5%) and pets, pet foods and supplies (-5.9%). Rises in other recreational activities (+5.0%) and sports participation (+4.4%) provided partially offsetting increases.

TRANSPORTATION (+0.7%)

The increase in transportation costs was mainly due to increases in automotive fuel (+3.4%), motor vehicle repair and servicing (+1.2%) and urban transport fares (+1.9%). Petrol prices fell in October (-1.5%), November (-0.2%) and December (-0.9%) 2003, rose in January (+4.7%) 2004, fell again in February (-2.9%) and rose in March (+3.9%). Partially offsetting these increases was a fall in motor vehicles (-1.8%).

There were few changes in the list price of motor vehicles in the March quarter 2004. However, competitive pricing between dealers in order to clear out stocks of 2003 plated vehicles and the offering of incentives such as bonus inclusions, drive-away deals and free fuel offers, resulted in the observed price fall.

Over the twelve months to March quarter 2004, transportation costs fell 1.4%. Decreases in motor vehicles (-4.0%) and automotive fuel (-4.6%) were partially offset by increases in motor vehicle repair and servicing (+3.0%), other motoring charges (+6.0%) and urban transport fares (+5.5%).

TRADABLES AND NON-TRADABLES

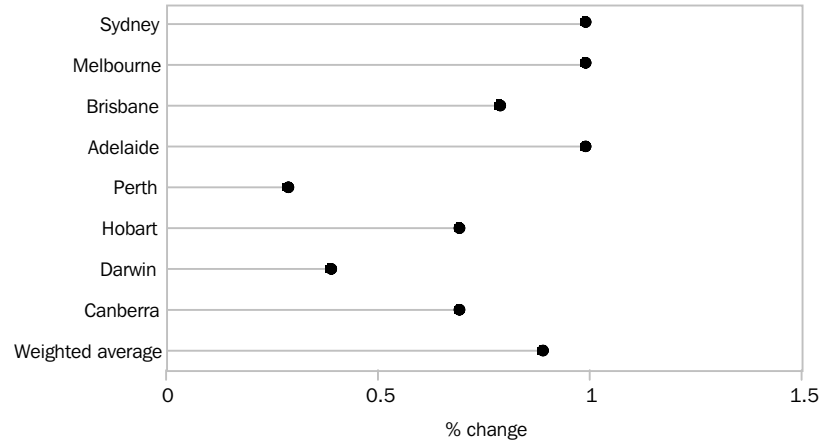
The increase in the All groups CPI through the year to March quarter 2004 has mainly been driven by domestic cost pressures. The non-tradables component of the CPI (see Table 8 on page 21), which represents approximately 55% of the CPI, increased by 4.1% over the last twelve months. On the other hand, the tradables component, whose prices are largely determined on the world market, fell 0.5% over the same period.

In the March quarter 2004, the non-tradables component rose 1.1%, while the tradables component rose 0.6%. This compares with an increase of 0.9% and nil movement, respectively, for these components in the December quarter 2003.

ANALYSES AND COMMENTS

CAPITAL CITIES COMPARISON

ALL GROUPS: PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS QUARTER



At the All groups level, the March quarter 2004 CPI rose in all capital cities. The increases ranged from 0.3% in Perth to 1.0% in Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide. The low result in Perth was largely due to that city recording the lowest increases in food, alcohol and tobacco and clothing and footwear.

Over the twelve months to March quarter 2004, the All groups CPI rose in each of the eight capital cities. The increases ranged from 1.1% in Darwin to 2.5% in Brisbane.

CPI, All groups index numbers(a) and percentage changes

| | INDEX NUMBER(a) | PERCENTAGE CHANGE BETWEEN | |
|---|--------------------|---------------------------|---|
| | | <i>Mar Qtr 2004</i> | <i>Dec Qtr 2003 and Mar Qtr 2004</i> <i>Mar Qtr 2003 and Mar Qtr 2004</i> |
| Sydney | 145.0 | 1.0 | 2.0 |
| Melbourne | 143.5 | 1.0 | 1.8 |
| Brisbane | 145.4 | 0.8 | 2.5 |
| Adelaide | 147.7 | 1.0 | 2.1 |
| Perth | 139.6 | 0.3 | 1.6 |
| Hobart | 143.0 | 0.7 | 2.1 |
| Darwin | 139.0 | 0.4 | 1.1 |
| Canberra | 143.9 | 0.7 | 2.3 |
| Weighted average of eight capital cities | 144.1 | 0.9 | 2.0 |

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

ALL GROUPS, Index Numbers(a)

| <i>Period</i> | <i>Sydney</i> | <i>Melbourne</i> | <i>Brisbane</i> | <i>Adelaide</i> | <i>Perth</i> | <i>Hobart</i> | <i>Darwin</i> | <i>Canberra</i> | <i>Weighted average of eight capital cities</i> |
|------------------|---------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|---|
| 1999-2000 | 125.4 | 124.1 | 125.0 | 126.3 | 122.9 | 124.8 | 124.2 | 124.2 | 124.7 |
| 2000-01 | 133.2 | 131.6 | 132.4 | 133.5 | 129.6 | 132.0 | 130.9 | 131.9 | 132.2 |
| 2001-02 | 137.2 | 135.3 | 136.3 | 137.2 | 133.1 | 134.7 | 133.7 | 135.2 | 136.0 |
| 2002-03 | 141.1 | 139.7 | 140.7 | 142.7 | 136.8 | 139.1 | 136.8 | 139.7 | 140.2 |
| 2000 | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 125.8 | 124.7 | 125.5 | 126.8 | 123.1 | 125.3 | 124.4 | 124.9 | 125.2 |
| June | 127.0 | 125.6 | 126.4 | 127.6 | 124.0 | 126.5 | 125.7 | 125.9 | 126.2 |
| September | 131.6 | 130.4 | 131.3 | 132.3 | 128.6 | 131.3 | 130.0 | 130.7 | 130.9 |
| December | 132.2 | 130.8 | 131.6 | 132.5 | 128.8 | 131.2 | 130.6 | 131.1 | 131.3 |
| 2001 | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 134.0 | 132.2 | 132.7 | 134.1 | 129.6 | 132.1 | 130.7 | 132.2 | 132.7 |
| June | 135.0 | 133.0 | 134.0 | 135.1 | 131.4 | 133.4 | 132.2 | 133.4 | 133.8 |
| September | 135.4 | 133.6 | 134.2 | 135.3 | 131.5 | 132.8 | 132.5 | 133.2 | 134.2 |
| December | 136.6 | 134.8 | 135.8 | 136.6 | 132.6 | 133.9 | 133.5 | 134.9 | 135.4 |
| 2002 | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 137.9 | 136.0 | 137.1 | 137.7 | 133.7 | 135.2 | 133.8 | 135.6 | 136.6 |
| June | 138.8 | 136.9 | 138.1 | 139.1 | 134.6 | 137.0 | 135.0 | 137.2 | 137.6 |
| September | 139.6 | 137.8 | 139.2 | 140.3 | 135.8 | 137.5 | 135.4 | 138.1 | 138.5 |
| December | 140.4 | 139.0 | 139.9 | 141.5 | 136.4 | 138.0 | 136.2 | 139.2 | 139.5 |
| 2003 | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 142.1 | 140.9 | 141.8 | 144.6 | 137.4 | 140.0 | 137.5 | 140.7 | 141.3 |
| June | 142.2 | 140.9 | 141.8 | 144.3 | 137.4 | 140.8 | 137.9 | 140.7 | 141.3 |
| September | 142.4 | 141.8 | 143.3 | 145.4 | 138.6 | 141.1 | 137.8 | 141.9 | 142.1 |
| December | 143.6 | 142.1 | 144.2 | 146.2 | 139.2 | 142.0 | 138.5 | 142.9 | 142.8 |
| 2004 | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 145.0 | 143.5 | 145.4 | 147.7 | 139.6 | 143.0 | 139.0 | 143.9 | 144.1 |

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

ALL GROUPS, Percentage Changes

| <i>Period</i> | <i>Sydney</i> | <i>Melbourne</i> | <i>Brisbane</i> | <i>Adelaide</i> | <i>Perth</i> | <i>Hobart</i> | <i>Darwin</i> | <i>Canberra</i> | <i>Weighted average of eight capital cities</i> |
|---|---------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|---|
| PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous financial year) | | | | | | | | | |
| 1999-2000 | 2.4 | 2.6 | 1.7 | 2.5 | 2.3 | 1.9 | 1.5 | 2.2 | 2.4 |
| 2000-01 | 6.2 | 6.0 | 5.9 | 5.7 | 5.5 | 5.8 | 5.4 | 6.2 | 6.0 |
| 2001-02 | 3.0 | 2.8 | 2.9 | 2.8 | 2.7 | 2.0 | 2.1 | 2.5 | 2.9 |
| 2002-03 | 2.8 | 3.3 | 3.2 | 4.0 | 2.8 | 3.3 | 2.3 | 3.3 | 3.1 |
| PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from corresponding quarter of previous year) | | | | | | | | | |
| 2000 | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 2.6 | 3.1 | 2.2 | 3.3 | 2.8 | 2.6 | 1.9 | 2.9 | 2.8 |
| June | 3.3 | 3.4 | 2.7 | 3.2 | 2.6 | 3.3 | 2.4 | 3.6 | 3.2 |
| September | 6.0 | 6.3 | 5.9 | 5.8 | 5.5 | 6.5 | 5.8 | 6.8 | 6.1 |
| December | 6.0 | 5.9 | 6.0 | 5.4 | 5.0 | 5.8 | 5.7 | 6.0 | 5.8 |
| 2001 | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 6.5 | 6.0 | 5.7 | 5.8 | 5.3 | 5.4 | 5.1 | 5.8 | 6.0 |
| June | 6.3 | 5.9 | 6.0 | 5.9 | 6.0 | 5.5 | 5.2 | 6.0 | 6.0 |
| September | 2.9 | 2.5 | 2.2 | 2.3 | 2.3 | 1.1 | 1.9 | 1.9 | 2.5 |
| December | 3.3 | 3.1 | 3.2 | 3.1 | 3.0 | 2.1 | 2.2 | 2.9 | 3.1 |
| 2002 | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 2.9 | 2.9 | 3.3 | 2.7 | 3.2 | 2.3 | 2.4 | 2.6 | 2.9 |
| June | 2.8 | 2.9 | 3.1 | 3.0 | 2.4 | 2.7 | 2.1 | 2.8 | 2.8 |
| September | 3.1 | 3.1 | 3.7 | 3.7 | 3.3 | 3.5 | 2.2 | 3.7 | 3.2 |
| December | 2.8 | 3.1 | 3.0 | 3.6 | 2.9 | 3.1 | 2.0 | 3.2 | 3.0 |
| 2003 | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 3.0 | 3.6 | 3.4 | 5.0 | 2.8 | 3.6 | 2.8 | 3.8 | 3.4 |
| June | 2.4 | 2.9 | 2.7 | 3.7 | 2.1 | 2.8 | 2.1 | 2.6 | 2.7 |
| September | 2.0 | 2.9 | 2.9 | 3.6 | 2.1 | 2.6 | 1.8 | 2.8 | 2.6 |
| December | 2.3 | 2.2 | 3.1 | 3.3 | 2.1 | 2.9 | 1.7 | 2.7 | 2.4 |
| 2004 | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 2.0 | 1.8 | 2.5 | 2.1 | 1.6 | 2.1 | 1.1 | 2.3 | 2.0 |
| PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous quarter) | | | | | | | | | |
| 2000 | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 0.9 | 1.0 | 1.1 | 0.9 | 0.3 | 1.0 | 0.6 | 1.0 | 0.9 |
| June | 1.0 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.7 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 0.8 | 0.8 |
| September | 3.6 | 3.8 | 3.9 | 3.7 | 3.7 | 3.8 | 3.4 | 3.8 | 3.7 |
| December | 0.5 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.2 | -0.1 | 0.5 | 0.3 | 0.3 |
| 2001 | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 1.4 | 1.1 | 0.8 | 1.2 | 0.6 | 0.7 | 0.1 | 0.8 | 1.1 |
| June | 0.7 | 0.6 | 1.0 | 0.7 | 1.4 | 1.0 | 1.1 | 0.9 | 0.8 |
| September | 0.3 | 0.5 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | -0.4 | 0.2 | -0.1 | 0.3 |
| December | 0.9 | 0.9 | 1.2 | 1.0 | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.8 | 1.3 | 0.9 |
| 2002 | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 1.0 | 0.9 | 1.0 | 0.8 | 0.8 | 1.0 | 0.2 | 0.5 | 0.9 |
| June | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.7 | 1.0 | 0.7 | 1.3 | 0.9 | 1.2 | 0.7 |
| September | 0.6 | 0.7 | 0.8 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.7 | 0.7 |
| December | 0.6 | 0.9 | 0.5 | 0.9 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.6 | 0.8 | 0.7 |
| 2003 | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 1.2 | 1.4 | 1.4 | 2.2 | 0.7 | 1.4 | 1.0 | 1.1 | 1.3 |
| June | 0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | -0.2 | 0.0 | 0.6 | 0.3 | 0.0 | 0.0 |
| September | 0.1 | 0.6 | 1.1 | 0.8 | 0.9 | 0.2 | -0.1 | 0.9 | 0.6 |
| December | 0.8 | 0.2 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.4 | 0.6 | 0.5 | 0.7 | 0.5 |
| 2004 | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 1.0 | 1.0 | 0.8 | 1.0 | 0.3 | 0.7 | 0.4 | 0.7 | 0.9 |

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

| <i>Period</i> | <i>Food</i> | <i>Alcohol and tobacco</i> | <i>Clothing and footwear</i> | <i>Housing</i> | <i>Household furnishings, supplies and services</i> | <i>Health</i> |
|------------------|-------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------|---|---------------|
| 1999-2000 | 129.2 | 175.2 | 105.5 | 99.9 | 113.3 | 158.7 |
| 2000-01 | 135.6 | 194.7 | 112.5 | 107.9 | 117.3 | 164.3 |
| 2001-02 | 142.7 | 203.1 | 112.4 | 111.1 | 119.7 | 169.9 |
| 2002-03 | 147.9 | 208.9 | 113.3 | 115.1 | 121.0 | 181.5 |
| 2000 | | | | | | |
| March | 129.1 | 177.1 | 104.8 | 100.7 | 112.8 | 160.2 |
| June | 130.2 | 178.6 | 105.7 | 101.2 | 114.1 | 161.3 |
| September | 132.4 | 190.2 | 113.5 | 107.4 | 116.4 | 162.1 |
| December | 133.4 | 192.1 | 113.1 | 107.7 | 116.3 | 161.9 |
| 2001 | | | | | | |
| March | 137.6 | 197.1 | 110.7 | 108.2 | 117.2 | 166.4 |
| June | 138.8 | 199.4 | 112.5 | 108.4 | 119.3 | 166.7 |
| September | 139.8 | 201.5 | 111.1 | 110.0 | 118.9 | 166.5 |
| December | 143.4 | 201.8 | 112.7 | 110.7 | 120.3 | 166.1 |
| 2002 | | | | | | |
| March | 144.2 | 203.9 | 112.2 | 111.5 | 119.4 | 171.1 |
| June | 143.5 | 205.0 | 113.7 | 112.2 | 120.3 | 175.9 |
| September | 145.0 | 207.3 | 113.0 | 113.7 | 120.5 | 176.4 |
| December | 147.0 | 207.3 | 114.0 | 114.2 | 121.6 | 177.1 |
| 2003 | | | | | | |
| March | 149.8 | 209.9 | 112.4 | 115.7 | 120.4 | 183.5 |
| June | 149.8 | 211.2 | 113.7 | 116.8 | 121.4 | 189.1 |
| September | 149.3 | 215.2 | 113.3 | 118.9 | 121.5 | 189.1 |
| December | 152.0 | 216.5 | 113.1 | 119.6 | 121.4 | 189.4 |
| 2004 | | | | | | |
| March | 154.7 | 218.8 | 111.5 | 120.7 | 120.7 | 195.5 |

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

| <i>Period</i> | <i>Transportation</i> | <i>Communication</i> | <i>Recreation</i> | <i>Education</i> | <i>Miscellaneous</i> | <i>All groups</i> |
|------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-------------------|------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| 1999-2000 | 128.9 | 97.8 | 120.4 | 182.4 | 153.2 | 124.7 |
| 2000-01 | 137.0 | 104.7 | 124.6 | 191.4 | 166.0 | 132.2 |
| 2001-02 | 137.3 | 105.2 | 128.6 | 200.0 | 171.8 | 136.0 |
| 2002-03 | 140.6 | 108.5 | 131.9 | 210.0 | 178.6 | 140.2 |
| 2000 | | | | | | |
| March | 130.1 | 97.5 | 120.2 | 187.0 | 155.3 | 125.2 |
| June | 132.1 | 98.8 | 120.0 | 187.0 | 160.3 | 126.2 |
| September | 135.6 | 105.6 | 124.8 | 187.3 | 163.5 | 130.9 |
| December | 136.4 | 104.9 | 124.6 | 187.5 | 165.0 | 131.3 |
| 2001 | | | | | | |
| March | 136.7 | 104.4 | 124.5 | 195.4 | 166.7 | 132.7 |
| June | 139.4 | 103.8 | 124.3 | 195.4 | 168.7 | 133.8 |
| September | 137.0 | 103.6 | 125.4 | 195.4 | 170.4 | 134.2 |
| December | 136.1 | 105.4 | 127.5 | 195.5 | 170.6 | 135.4 |
| 2002 | | | | | | |
| March | 136.8 | 105.5 | 130.4 | 204.6 | 172.8 | 136.6 |
| June | 139.3 | 106.3 | 131.1 | 204.6 | 173.5 | 137.6 |
| September | 138.8 | 107.9 | 131.8 | 205.0 | 177.4 | 138.5 |
| December | 140.3 | 108.4 | 131.9 | 205.3 | 178.0 | 139.5 |
| 2003 | | | | | | |
| March | 143.7 | 108.8 | 132.4 | 214.7 | 179.2 | 141.3 |
| June | 139.4 | 108.9 | 131.5 | 214.8 | 179.6 | 141.3 |
| September | 141.3 | 109.7 | 130.0 | 215.1 | 182.2 | 142.1 |
| December | 140.7 | 109.9 | 131.1 | 215.1 | 182.2 | 142.8 |
| 2004 | | | | | | |
| March | 141.7 | 110.0 | 129.7 | 231.4 | 184.5 | 144.1 |

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

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

| <i>Period</i> | <i>Food</i> | <i>Alcohol and tobacco</i> | <i>Clothing and footwear</i> | <i>Housing</i> | <i>Household furnishings, supplies and services</i> | <i>Health</i> |
|---|-------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------|---|---------------|
| PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous financial year) | | | | | | |
| 1999-2000 | 2.1 | 3.9 | -1.1 | 4.3 | -0.4 | -2.9 |
| 2000-01 | 5.0 | 11.1 | 6.6 | 8.0 | 3.5 | 3.5 |
| 2001-02 | 5.2 | 4.3 | -0.1 | 3.0 | 2.0 | 3.4 |
| 2002-03 | 3.6 | 2.9 | 0.8 | 3.6 | 1.1 | 6.8 |
| PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from corresponding quarter of previous year) | | | | | | |
| 2000 | | | | | | |
| March | 1.3 | 4.7 | -1.4 | 4.7 | -0.2 | 3.6 |
| June | 1.9 | 4.9 | -0.9 | 4.8 | 0.4 | 3.9 |
| September | 3.0 | 11.4 | 6.9 | 9.5 | 3.0 | 3.4 |
| December | 3.5 | 10.3 | 7.5 | 8.1 | 2.6 | 3.5 |
| 2001 | | | | | | |
| March | 6.6 | 11.3 | 5.6 | 7.4 | 3.9 | 3.9 |
| June | 6.6 | 11.6 | 6.4 | 7.1 | 4.6 | 3.3 |
| September | 5.6 | 5.9 | -2.1 | 2.4 | 2.1 | 2.7 |
| December | 7.5 | 5.0 | -0.4 | 2.8 | 3.4 | 2.6 |
| 2002 | | | | | | |
| March | 4.8 | 3.5 | 1.4 | 3.0 | 1.9 | 2.8 |
| June | 3.4 | 2.8 | 1.1 | 3.5 | 0.8 | 5.5 |
| September | 3.7 | 2.9 | 1.7 | 3.4 | 1.3 | 5.9 |
| December | 2.5 | 2.7 | 1.2 | 3.2 | 1.1 | 6.6 |
| 2003 | | | | | | |
| March | 3.9 | 2.9 | 0.2 | 3.8 | 0.8 | 7.2 |
| June | 4.4 | 3.0 | 0.0 | 4.1 | 0.9 | 7.5 |
| September | 3.0 | 3.8 | 0.3 | 4.6 | 0.8 | 7.2 |
| December | 3.4 | 4.4 | -0.8 | 4.7 | -0.2 | 6.9 |
| 2004 | | | | | | |
| March | 3.3 | 4.2 | -0.8 | 4.3 | 0.2 | 6.5 |
| PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous quarter) | | | | | | |
| 2000 | | | | | | |
| March | 0.2 | 1.7 | -0.4 | 1.1 | -0.4 | 2.4 |
| June | 0.9 | 0.8 | 0.9 | 0.5 | 1.2 | 0.7 |
| September | 1.7 | 6.5 | 7.4 | 6.1 | 2.0 | 0.5 |
| December | 0.8 | 1.0 | -0.4 | 0.3 | -0.1 | -0.1 |
| 2001 | | | | | | |
| March | 3.1 | 2.6 | -2.1 | 0.5 | 0.8 | 2.8 |
| June | 0.9 | 1.2 | 1.6 | 0.2 | 1.8 | 0.2 |
| September | 0.7 | 1.1 | -1.2 | 1.5 | -0.3 | -0.1 |
| December | 2.6 | 0.1 | 1.4 | 0.6 | 1.2 | -0.2 |
| 2002 | | | | | | |
| March | 0.6 | 1.0 | -0.4 | 0.7 | -0.7 | 3.0 |
| June | -0.5 | 0.5 | 1.3 | 0.6 | 0.8 | 2.8 |
| September | 1.0 | 1.1 | -0.6 | 1.3 | 0.2 | 0.3 |
| December | 1.4 | 0.0 | 0.9 | 0.4 | 0.9 | 0.4 |
| 2003 | | | | | | |
| March | 1.9 | 1.3 | -1.4 | 1.3 | -1.0 | 3.6 |
| June | 0.0 | 0.6 | 1.2 | 1.0 | 0.8 | 3.1 |
| September | -0.3 | 1.9 | -0.4 | 1.8 | 0.1 | 0.0 |
| December | 1.8 | 0.6 | -0.2 | 0.6 | -0.1 | 0.2 |
| 2004 | | | | | | |
| March | 1.8 | 1.1 | -1.4 | 0.9 | -0.6 | 3.2 |

| <i>Period</i> | <i>Transportation</i> | <i>Communication</i> | <i>Recreation</i> | <i>Education</i> | <i>Miscellaneous</i> | <i>All groups</i> |
|---------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-------------------|------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
|---------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-------------------|------------------|----------------------|-------------------|

PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous financial year)

| | | | | | | |
|------------------|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| 1999-2000 | 5.6 | -5.0 | 0.8 | 4.8 | 6.8 | 2.4 |
| 2000-01 | 6.3 | 7.1 | 3.5 | 4.9 | 8.4 | 6.0 |
| 2001-02 | 0.2 | 0.5 | 3.2 | 4.5 | 3.5 | 2.9 |
| 2002-03 | 2.4 | 3.1 | 2.6 | 5.0 | 4.0 | 3.1 |

PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from corresponding quarter of previous year)

| | | | | | | |
|-------------|------|------|------|-----|------|-----|
| 2000 | | | | | | |
| March | 7.3 | -3.7 | 0.0 | 5.2 | 7.8 | 2.8 |
| June | 7.5 | -2.1 | 0.2 | 5.2 | 10.6 | 3.2 |
| September | 6.9 | 8.1 | 3.7 | 5.3 | 11.1 | 6.1 |
| December | 7.9 | 7.8 | 3.0 | 5.5 | 9.9 | 5.8 |
| 2001 | | | | | | |
| March | 5.1 | 7.1 | 3.6 | 4.5 | 7.3 | 6.0 |
| June | 5.5 | 5.1 | 3.6 | 4.5 | 5.2 | 6.0 |
| September | 1.0 | -1.9 | 0.5 | 4.3 | 4.2 | 2.5 |
| December | -0.2 | 0.5 | 2.3 | 4.3 | 3.4 | 3.1 |
| 2002 | | | | | | |
| March | 0.1 | 1.1 | 4.7 | 4.7 | 3.7 | 2.9 |
| June | -0.1 | 2.4 | 5.5 | 4.7 | 2.8 | 2.8 |
| September | 1.3 | 4.2 | 5.1 | 4.9 | 4.1 | 3.2 |
| December | 3.1 | 2.8 | 3.5 | 5.0 | 4.3 | 3.0 |
| 2003 | | | | | | |
| March | 5.0 | 3.1 | 1.5 | 4.9 | 3.7 | 3.4 |
| June | 0.1 | 2.4 | 0.3 | 5.0 | 3.5 | 2.7 |
| September | 1.8 | 1.7 | -1.4 | 4.9 | 2.7 | 2.6 |
| December | 0.3 | 1.4 | -0.6 | 4.8 | 2.4 | 2.4 |
| 2004 | | | | | | |
| March | -1.4 | 1.1 | -2.0 | 7.8 | 3.0 | 2.0 |

PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous quarter)

| | | | | | | |
|-------------|------|------|------|-----|-----|-----|
| 2000 | | | | | | |
| March | 2.9 | 0.2 | -0.7 | 5.2 | 3.4 | 0.9 |
| June | 1.5 | 1.3 | -0.2 | 0.0 | 3.2 | 0.8 |
| September | 2.6 | 6.9 | 4.0 | 0.2 | 2.0 | 3.7 |
| December | 0.6 | -0.7 | -0.2 | 0.1 | 0.9 | 0.3 |
| 2001 | | | | | | |
| March | 0.2 | -0.5 | -0.1 | 4.2 | 1.0 | 1.1 |
| June | 2.0 | -0.6 | -0.2 | 0.0 | 1.2 | 0.8 |
| September | -1.7 | -0.2 | 0.9 | 0.0 | 1.0 | 0.3 |
| December | -0.7 | 1.7 | 1.7 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.9 |
| 2002 | | | | | | |
| March | 0.5 | 0.1 | 2.3 | 4.7 | 1.3 | 0.9 |
| June | 1.8 | 0.8 | 0.5 | 0.0 | 0.4 | 0.7 |
| September | -0.4 | 1.5 | 0.5 | 0.2 | 2.2 | 0.7 |
| December | 1.1 | 0.5 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.3 | 0.7 |
| 2003 | | | | | | |
| March | 2.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 4.6 | 0.7 | 1.3 |
| June | -3.0 | 0.1 | -0.7 | 0.0 | 0.2 | 0.0 |
| September | 1.4 | 0.7 | -1.1 | 0.1 | 1.4 | 0.6 |
| December | -0.4 | 0.2 | 0.8 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.5 |
| 2004 | | | | | | |
| March | 0.7 | 0.1 | -1.1 | 7.6 | 1.3 | 0.9 |

CPI GROUPS, Index Numbers(a)

| Quarters | Sydney | Melbourne | Brisbane | Adelaide | Perth | Hobart | Darwin | Canberra | Weighted average of eight capital cities |
|-----------------------|--------|-----------|----------|----------|-------|--------|--------|----------|--|
| FOOD | | | | | | | | | |
| 2002 | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 144.6 | 143.2 | 145.3 | 144.6 | 145.1 | 140.4 | 140.3 | 146.5 | 144.2 |
| June | 143.8 | 142.6 | 145.1 | 143.6 | 143.4 | 141.1 | 139.3 | 147.0 | 143.5 |
| September | 144.8 | 145.1 | 146.1 | 145.4 | 144.9 | 142.0 | 139.4 | 147.7 | 145.0 |
| December | 147.7 | 146.7 | 147.1 | 148.1 | 145.5 | 143.0 | 140.6 | 150.9 | 147.0 |
| 2003 | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 150.4 | 148.9 | 151.9 | 151.9 | 147.8 | 146.0 | 144.5 | 152.1 | 149.8 |
| June | 150.3 | 149.1 | 151.1 | 151.9 | 148.7 | 146.5 | 145.5 | 152.1 | 149.8 |
| September | 148.9 | 149.0 | 150.5 | 152.8 | 148.7 | 146.4 | 146.0 | 152.2 | 149.3 |
| December | 152.6 | 151.8 | 153.0 | 153.8 | 149.2 | 147.7 | 147.1 | 155.0 | 152.0 |
| 2004 | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 155.8 | 154.5 | 155.7 | 157.0 | 150.4 | 149.1 | 149.1 | 158.4 | 154.7 |
| ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO | | | | | | | | | |
| 2002 | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 208.9 | 203.5 | 203.2 | 207.8 | 193.2 | 191.5 | 194.3 | 192.9 | 203.9 |
| June | 209.7 | 204.1 | 204.9 | 210.0 | 194.2 | 193.0 | 196.6 | 194.7 | 205.0 |
| September | 211.6 | 207.4 | 206.8 | 210.4 | 196.6 | 195.5 | 200.3 | 196.3 | 207.3 |
| December | 210.4 | 208.7 | 206.0 | 213.3 | 196.4 | 196.3 | 201.7 | 195.6 | 207.3 |
| 2003 | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 213.7 | 210.8 | 208.1 | 216.0 | 198.8 | 198.9 | 202.3 | 197.5 | 209.9 |
| June | 215.1 | 212.2 | 208.2 | 216.8 | 200.0 | 203.3 | 205.5 | 199.5 | 211.2 |
| September | 219.5 | 217.2 | 211.3 | 220.0 | 202.8 | 206.5 | 206.5 | 201.5 | 215.2 |
| December | 221.4 | 217.6 | 212.4 | 222.3 | 204.2 | 208.9 | 208.0 | 203.4 | 216.5 |
| 2004 | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 224.5 | 219.9 | 215.2 | 224.7 | 204.1 | 210.0 | 210.8 | 206.2 | 218.8 |
| CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR | | | | | | | | | |
| 2002 | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 114.9 | 113.4 | 105.4 | 110.6 | 108.1 | 110.9 | 106.3 | 116.0 | 112.2 |
| June | 116.5 | 114.2 | 106.6 | 113.0 | 110.5 | 113.3 | 108.2 | 116.7 | 113.7 |
| September | 115.0 | 113.7 | 107.6 | 111.5 | 110.5 | 107.4 | 107.1 | 117.5 | 113.0 |
| December | 116.5 | 114.9 | 107.5 | 112.2 | 111.0 | 108.3 | 108.8 | 118.5 | 114.0 |
| 2003 | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 114.6 | 114.5 | 105.0 | 111.9 | 108.1 | 104.3 | 103.8 | 115.8 | 112.4 |
| June | 117.4 | 114.2 | 106.3 | 113.5 | 108.3 | 110.1 | 106.7 | 116.1 | 113.7 |
| September | 115.4 | 115.1 | 107.4 | 111.4 | 110.3 | 103.3 | 107.8 | 116.0 | 113.3 |
| December | 115.4 | 114.9 | 105.5 | 112.3 | 109.4 | 106.8 | 109.3 | 116.2 | 113.1 |
| 2004 | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 114.4 | 112.9 | 103.7 | 111.5 | 106.8 | 104.3 | 106.8 | 114.9 | 111.5 |
| HOUSING | | | | | | | | | |
| 2002 | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 119.4 | 103.2 | 115.1 | 108.6 | 103.8 | 109.0 | 124.2 | 112.7 | 111.5 |
| June | 120.3 | 103.5 | 116.3 | 109.5 | 104.0 | 110.3 | 125.6 | 114.0 | 112.2 |
| September | 121.7 | 104.8 | 118.5 | 112.1 | 105.0 | 112.4 | 126.7 | 115.6 | 113.7 |
| December | 122.0 | 105.0 | 119.4 | 113.0 | 105.7 | 113.0 | 127.0 | 116.4 | 114.2 |
| 2003 | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 122.6 | 107.4 | 120.5 | 117.9 | 106.3 | 115.2 | 128.6 | 117.8 | 115.7 |
| June | 123.3 | 108.4 | 122.9 | 117.8 | 107.8 | 116.9 | 128.8 | 119.9 | 116.8 |
| September | 125.1 | 109.6 | 126.6 | 120.2 | 110.4 | 118.3 | 129.3 | 124.0 | 118.9 |
| December | 125.6 | 109.3 | 129.2 | 121.6 | 111.7 | 119.3 | 131.1 | 125.3 | 119.6 |
| 2004 | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 126.3 | 110.5 | 130.4 | 123.6 | 112.8 | 121.2 | 131.9 | 126.8 | 120.7 |

| Quarters | Sydney | Melbourne | Brisbane | Adelaide | Perth | Hobart | Darwin | Canberra | Weighted average of eight capital cities |
|---|--------|-----------|----------|----------|-------|--------|--------|----------|--|
| HOUSEHOLD FURNISHINGS, SUPPLIES AND SERVICES | | | | | | | | | |
| 2002 | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 117.5 | 120.3 | 122.3 | 120.0 | 117.1 | 127.6 | 110.7 | 122.7 | 119.4 |
| June | 119.1 | 121.0 | 122.4 | 120.9 | 117.0 | 127.4 | 111.8 | 123.7 | 120.3 |
| September | 119.4 | 120.6 | 122.7 | 121.4 | 118.0 | 127.7 | 111.9 | 124.6 | 120.5 |
| December | 120.3 | 122.4 | 123.7 | 123.2 | 118.7 | 127.8 | 111.7 | 124.4 | 121.6 |
| 2003 | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 119.4 | 120.7 | 121.7 | 122.5 | 117.4 | 127.5 | 110.8 | 124.1 | 120.4 |
| June | 120.7 | 121.7 | 122.7 | 122.9 | 118.5 | 128.8 | 110.6 | 124.7 | 121.4 |
| September | 121.0 | 121.8 | 122.7 | 122.2 | 118.5 | 128.4 | 110.4 | 124.7 | 121.5 |
| December | 120.4 | 121.9 | 122.5 | 123.1 | 118.7 | 128.1 | 111.3 | 125.1 | 121.4 |
| 2004 | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 120.3 | 121.1 | 121.9 | 121.1 | 117.1 | 127.1 | 111.2 | 124.3 | 120.7 |
| HEALTH | | | | | | | | | |
| 2002 | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 161.7 | 183.2 | 166.1 | 173.7 | 162.5 | 185.8 | 157.7 | 168.9 | 171.1 |
| June | 165.2 | 186.5 | 173.6 | 178.0 | 171.5 | 193.6 | 162.1 | 173.3 | 175.9 |
| September | 165.6 | 187.0 | 175.2 | 178.1 | 172.0 | 193.4 | 162.4 | 173.7 | 176.4 |
| December | 165.3 | 189.4 | 176.4 | 178.1 | 171.8 | 192.9 | 163.8 | 173.5 | 177.1 |
| 2003 | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 171.5 | 196.3 | 183.2 | 183.2 | 177.8 | 200.7 | 168.4 | 181.2 | 183.5 |
| June | 175.9 | 202.3 | 189.9 | 194.0 | 181.1 | 209.1 | 171.3 | 185.1 | 189.1 |
| September | 175.8 | 201.8 | 190.7 | 193.9 | 181.4 | 207.8 | 172.3 | 188.5 | 189.1 |
| December | 176.0 | 202.6 | 190.6 | 193.3 | 181.7 | 207.4 | 175.9 | 187.9 | 189.4 |
| 2004 | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 182.0 | 209.3 | 197.1 | 197.9 | 187.3 | 214.5 | 180.5 | 193.5 | 195.5 |
| TRANSPORTATION | | | | | | | | | |
| 2002 | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 138.2 | 136.4 | 136.6 | 133.9 | 136.4 | 131.3 | 135.6 | 136.2 | 136.8 |
| June | 140.2 | 139.2 | 138.6 | 138.4 | 138.8 | 135.9 | 138.8 | 139.4 | 139.3 |
| September | 140.2 | 138.0 | 138.0 | 138.0 | 139.6 | 134.9 | 137.9 | 138.2 | 138.8 |
| December | 141.6 | 139.9 | 139.3 | 138.8 | 140.5 | 136.3 | 139.3 | 140.9 | 140.3 |
| 2003 | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 145.1 | 143.1 | 142.4 | 144.0 | 143.6 | 139.0 | 141.6 | 143.6 | 143.7 |
| June | 141.1 | 139.4 | 137.3 | 137.4 | 139.0 | 134.3 | 140.8 | 139.0 | 139.4 |
| September | 143.2 | 140.9 | 139.3 | 140.7 | 140.9 | 136.7 | 136.9 | 140.2 | 141.3 |
| December | 143.2 | 139.7 | 138.6 | 139.9 | 140.3 | 136.3 | 135.8 | 140.2 | 140.7 |
| 2004 | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 143.2 | 141.3 | 140.2 | 142.0 | 141.4 | 137.0 | 137.1 | 139.9 | 141.7 |
| COMMUNICATION | | | | | | | | | |
| 2002 | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 105.1 | 105.4 | 108.6 | 106.2 | 103.8 | 106.0 | 97.8 | 104.2 | 105.5 |
| June | 105.9 | 106.2 | 109.5 | 107.3 | 104.6 | 106.9 | 98.4 | 105.0 | 106.3 |
| September | 107.5 | 107.8 | 111.2 | 109.2 | 106.3 | 108.6 | 99.8 | 106.5 | 107.9 |
| December | 108.1 | 108.3 | 111.8 | 109.6 | 106.7 | 109.2 | 100.5 | 107.2 | 108.4 |
| 2003 | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 108.4 | 108.6 | 112.1 | 109.9 | 107.0 | 109.6 | 100.8 | 107.5 | 108.8 |
| June | 108.6 | 108.7 | 112.3 | 110.1 | 107.2 | 109.8 | 101.0 | 107.7 | 108.9 |
| September | 109.3 | 109.5 | 113.2 | 111.0 | 108.0 | 110.6 | 101.6 | 108.4 | 109.7 |
| December | 109.5 | 109.7 | 113.4 | 111.2 | 108.3 | 110.8 | 101.8 | 108.7 | 109.9 |
| 2004 | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 109.6 | 109.8 | 113.4 | 111.2 | 108.3 | 110.9 | 101.8 | 108.7 | 110.0 |

CPI GROUPS, Index Numbers(a) *continued*

| Quarters | Sydney | Melbourne | Brisbane | Adelaide | Perth | Hobart | Darwin | Canberra | Weighted average of eight capital cities |
|---------------|--------|-----------|----------|----------|-------|--------|--------|----------|--|
| RECREATION | | | | | | | | | |
| 2002 | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 133.8 | 129.9 | 129.5 | 129.0 | 127.6 | 124.5 | 112.8 | 125.5 | 130.4 |
| June | 134.2 | 130.7 | 129.3 | 129.9 | 129.3 | 125.8 | 112.9 | 127.8 | 131.1 |
| September | 134.9 | 131.2 | 130.0 | 131.5 | 129.4 | 125.9 | 112.4 | 128.6 | 131.8 |
| December | 134.7 | 131.7 | 129.4 | 131.5 | 130.2 | 125.1 | 112.9 | 128.3 | 131.9 |
| 2003 | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 135.9 | 132.1 | 129.9 | 132.4 | 128.6 | 126.3 | 112.3 | 129.6 | 132.4 |
| June | 135.1 | 131.3 | 129.1 | 131.7 | 126.8 | 125.0 | 111.4 | 128.6 | 131.5 |
| September | 131.9 | 130.8 | 129.3 | 130.7 | 125.7 | 124.5 | 110.5 | 126.9 | 130.0 |
| December | 134.1 | 131.0 | 129.5 | 131.2 | 127.0 | 125.6 | 110.8 | 127.4 | 131.1 |
| 2004 | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 132.9 | 130.3 | 126.9 | 130.5 | 124.4 | 125.2 | 107.7 | 125.3 | 129.7 |
| EDUCATION | | | | | | | | | |
| 2002 | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 204.0 | 197.1 | 226.3 | 240.6 | 197.5 | 221.9 | 159.5 | 194.0 | 204.6 |
| June | 204.1 | 197.1 | 226.3 | 240.6 | 197.5 | 221.9 | 159.5 | 194.0 | 204.6 |
| September | 204.6 | 197.6 | 226.6 | 240.7 | 197.5 | 222.7 | 159.5 | 194.2 | 205.0 |
| December | 204.6 | 198.3 | 226.6 | 240.7 | 197.5 | 222.7 | 159.5 | 194.2 | 205.3 |
| 2003 | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 214.8 | 207.7 | 236.0 | 251.5 | 205.5 | 233.2 | 161.4 | 202.0 | 214.7 |
| June | 214.8 | 207.6 | 236.2 | 251.5 | 205.5 | 233.4 | 161.4 | 202.0 | 214.8 |
| September | 215.5 | 207.9 | 236.3 | 251.8 | 205.5 | 233.6 | 161.4 | 202.2 | 215.1 |
| December | 215.5 | 208.0 | 236.3 | 251.8 | 205.5 | 233.6 | 161.4 | 202.2 | 215.1 |
| 2004 | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 239.0 | 221.6 | 248.7 | 266.4 | 214.9 | 241.6 | 167.0 | 213.4 | 231.4 |
| MISCELLANEOUS | | | | | | | | | |
| 2002 | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 180.3 | 162.6 | 180.3 | 166.0 | 173.0 | 167.7 | 164.2 | 194.5 | 172.8 |
| June | 181.0 | 163.1 | 182.5 | 167.0 | 173.2 | 168.8 | 167.2 | 194.3 | 173.5 |
| September | 183.2 | 167.7 | 184.0 | 171.2 | 182.2 | 173.1 | 168.9 | 199.0 | 177.4 |
| December | 182.6 | 168.5 | 186.7 | 170.9 | 183.8 | 174.0 | 169.7 | 202.2 | 178.0 |
| 2003 | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 184.6 | 169.1 | 188.2 | 171.6 | 184.1 | 176.5 | 172.8 | 203.0 | 179.2 |
| June | 185.0 | 169.3 | 189.7 | 172.2 | 183.7 | 177.6 | 175.3 | 203.8 | 179.6 |
| September | 185.3 | 173.6 | 190.6 | 176.5 | 187.4 | 178.8 | 180.0 | 209.8 | 182.2 |
| December | 186.2 | 172.2 | 191.7 | 176.7 | 187.5 | 179.5 | 175.9 | 209.6 | 182.2 |
| 2004 | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 189.3 | 173.6 | 195.4 | 177.9 | 189.3 | 181.3 | 176.8 | 214.0 | 184.5 |

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

| Group, sub-group and expenditure class | Sydney | Melbourne | Brisbane | Adelaide | Perth | Hobart | Darwin | Canberra | Weighted average of eight capital cities |
|---|--------|-----------|----------|----------|-------|--------|--------|----------|--|
| Food | 0.54 | 0.47 | 0.46 | 0.56 | 0.20 | 0.25 | 0.33 | 0.54 | 0.47 |
| Dairy and related products | 0.04 | — | — | 0.01 | 0.01 | -0.01 | 0.02 | 0.01 | 0.01 |
| Milk | 0.01 | — | — | — | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | — | 0.01 |
| Cheese | 0.02 | — | — | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | — | 0.01 |
| Ice cream and other dairy products | — | — | — | — | — | -0.01 | — | 0.01 | — |
| Bread and cereal products | -0.02 | — | -0.03 | 0.01 | -0.06 | -0.04 | — | -0.05 | -0.02 |
| Bread | -0.01 | 0.01 | -0.06 | — | -0.01 | -0.01 | -0.01 | -0.01 | -0.01 |
| Cakes and biscuits | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.04 | 0.01 | -0.02 | -0.01 | 0.01 | -0.01 | — |
| Breakfast cereals | — | — | — | — | -0.02 | — | — | -0.01 | — |
| Other cereal products | — | -0.01 | -0.01 | 0.01 | -0.01 | -0.01 | -0.01 | -0.01 | -0.01 |
| Meat and seafoods | — | 0.07 | -0.05 | 0.01 | 0.04 | 0.01 | -0.03 | 0.05 | 0.02 |
| Beef and veal | -0.01 | 0.01 | -0.02 | 0.01 | 0.01 | — | 0.05 | 0.02 | — |
| Lamb and mutton | -0.01 | 0.02 | -0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | -0.01 | -0.02 | — | — |
| Pork | -0.01 | — | -0.01 | -0.01 | -0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | — | -0.01 |
| Poultry | 0.02 | 0.01 | -0.02 | 0.02 | 0.04 | 0.01 | -0.03 | 0.02 | 0.02 |
| Bacon and ham | — | 0.02 | -0.02 | -0.06 | — | -0.01 | -0.04 | 0.01 | — |
| Other fresh and processed meat | — | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.02 | — | — | — | 0.02 | 0.01 |
| Fish and other seafood | -0.01 | — | -0.01 | — | — | — | — | -0.01 | — |
| Fruit and vegetables | 0.36 | 0.33 | 0.43 | 0.36 | 0.16 | 0.22 | 0.25 | 0.36 | 0.34 |
| Fruit | 0.07 | 0.07 | 0.09 | 0.12 | 0.08 | 0.04 | 0.04 | 0.15 | 0.08 |
| Vegetables | 0.29 | 0.26 | 0.34 | 0.23 | 0.07 | 0.18 | 0.21 | 0.21 | 0.26 |
| Non-alcoholic drinks and snack food | 0.03 | 0.02 | 0.08 | 0.03 | 0.02 | 0.04 | 0.10 | 0.12 | 0.04 |
| Soft drinks, waters and juices | 0.03 | 0.02 | 0.04 | 0.02 | -0.02 | 0.01 | 0.07 | 0.01 | 0.02 |
| Snacks and confectionery | — | 0.01 | 0.04 | 0.01 | 0.04 | 0.03 | 0.04 | 0.11 | 0.02 |
| Meals out and take away foods | 0.10 | 0.02 | 0.03 | 0.10 | 0.02 | 0.02 | — | 0.02 | 0.06 |
| Restaurant meals | 0.07 | — | 0.05 | 0.07 | 0.03 | 0.01 | — | — | 0.04 |
| Take away and fast foods | 0.03 | 0.01 | -0.02 | 0.03 | -0.01 | 0.01 | — | 0.01 | 0.01 |
| Other food | 0.03 | 0.02 | 0.01 | 0.05 | 0.01 | -0.01 | — | 0.02 | 0.02 |
| Eggs | — | — | — | — | 0.01 | — | -0.01 | — | — |
| Jams, honey and sandwich spreads | — | 0.01 | -0.01 | 0.01 | — | — | -0.01 | — | — |
| Tea, coffee and food drinks | -0.01 | -0.01 | -0.01 | — | -0.02 | -0.03 | -0.02 | — | -0.01 |
| Food additives and condiments | — | 0.01 | — | — | — | — | 0.01 | 0.01 | — |
| Fats and oils | — | — | — | 0.01 | — | — | — | — | — |
| Food n.e.c. | 0.03 | 0.02 | 0.03 | 0.03 | 0.02 | 0.03 | 0.02 | 0.02 | 0.02 |
| Alcohol and tobacco | 0.16 | 0.11 | 0.15 | 0.12 | -0.01 | 0.07 | 0.21 | 0.18 | 0.12 |
| Alcoholic drinks | 0.11 | 0.04 | 0.09 | 0.06 | -0.06 | 0.01 | 0.12 | 0.08 | 0.06 |
| Beer | 0.06 | 0.01 | 0.04 | 0.05 | -0.07 | 0.01 | 0.06 | 0.03 | 0.02 |
| Wine | 0.04 | 0.03 | 0.02 | 0.01 | -0.01 | -0.02 | 0.03 | 0.03 | 0.02 |
| Spirits | 0.03 | 0.01 | 0.02 | — | 0.03 | 0.01 | 0.02 | 0.03 | 0.02 |
| Tobacco | 0.05 | 0.07 | 0.05 | 0.06 | 0.06 | 0.07 | 0.10 | 0.08 | 0.06 |
| Clothing and footwear | -0.06 | -0.12 | -0.11 | -0.06 | -0.16 | -0.15 | -0.12 | -0.08 | -0.10 |
| Men's clothing | -0.02 | -0.03 | -0.02 | -0.01 | -0.06 | -0.05 | -0.05 | -0.02 | -0.03 |
| Men's outerwear | -0.02 | -0.04 | -0.02 | -0.01 | -0.05 | -0.04 | -0.05 | -0.02 | -0.03 |
| Men's underwear, nightwear and socks | — | 0.01 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Women's clothing | 0.02 | — | -0.05 | 0.01 | -0.01 | -0.08 | -0.01 | 0.02 | — |
| Women's outerwear | 0.01 | 0.01 | -0.05 | — | -0.02 | -0.08 | -0.01 | 0.03 | — |
| Women's underwear, nightwear and hosiery | 0.02 | -0.02 | 0.01 | 0.02 | 0.01 | — | — | -0.01 | — |
| Children's and infants' clothing | -0.03 | -0.04 | -0.02 | -0.01 | -0.03 | — | — | -0.03 | -0.03 |
| Footwear | -0.02 | -0.02 | -0.01 | -0.04 | -0.03 | -0.02 | -0.01 | -0.04 | -0.02 |
| Men's footwear | -0.01 | -0.01 | — | — | -0.01 | -0.01 | — | -0.01 | — |
| Women's footwear | -0.02 | — | -0.01 | -0.03 | -0.01 | -0.01 | — | -0.02 | -0.01 |
| Children's footwear | — | -0.02 | -0.01 | — | -0.01 | -0.01 | -0.01 | -0.02 | -0.01 |
| Clothing accessories, supplies and services | -0.01 | -0.03 | -0.01 | -0.01 | -0.03 | — | -0.04 | -0.01 | -0.02 |
| Clothing accessories and jewellery | -0.01 | -0.02 | — | -0.01 | -0.04 | — | -0.05 | -0.01 | -0.01 |
| Fabrics and knitting wool | — | — | -0.01 | — | -0.01 | — | — | — | -0.01 |
| Clothing services and shoe repair | — | — | — | — | 0.01 | — | — | — | — |

| <i>Group, sub-group and expenditure class</i> | <i>Sydney</i> | <i>Melbourne</i> | <i>Brisbane</i> | <i>Adelaide</i> | <i>Perth</i> | <i>Hobart</i> | <i>Darwin</i> | <i>Canberra</i> | <i>Weighted average of eight capital cities</i> |
|---|---------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|---|
| Housing | 0.18 | 0.32 | 0.29 | 0.48 | 0.27 | 0.41 | 0.16 | 0.34 | 0.27 |
| Rents | 0.05 | 0.02 | 0.09 | 0.06 | 0.03 | 0.07 | 0.05 | 0.20 | 0.04 |
| Utilities | — | 0.24 | — | 0.22 | — | 0.11 | — | 0.08 | 0.09 |
| Electricity | — | 0.05 | — | 0.22 | — | 0.15 | — | — | 0.04 |
| Gas and other household fuels | — | 0.19 | — | — | — | -0.04 | — | 0.01 | 0.05 |
| Water and sewerage | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0.07 | — |
| Other housing | 0.14 | 0.06 | 0.20 | 0.20 | 0.24 | 0.23 | 0.11 | 0.06 | 0.13 |
| House purchase | 0.12 | 0.06 | 0.19 | 0.19 | 0.24 | 0.22 | 0.10 | 0.04 | 0.13 |
| Property rates and charges | 0.01 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| House repairs and maintenance | — | -0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.02 | 0.01 | 0.02 | 0.01 |
| Household furnishings, supplies and services | -0.01 | -0.06 | -0.06 | -0.19 | -0.14 | -0.10 | — | -0.07 | -0.06 |
| Furniture and furnishings | -0.01 | -0.07 | -0.03 | -0.16 | -0.12 | -0.04 | -0.01 | -0.08 | -0.06 |
| Furniture | -0.05 | -0.06 | -0.04 | -0.08 | -0.09 | -0.01 | 0.01 | -0.05 | -0.05 |
| Floor and window coverings | 0.02 | 0.01 | — | -0.04 | -0.01 | 0.01 | — | — | 0.01 |
| Towels and linen | 0.02 | -0.03 | 0.01 | -0.04 | -0.01 | -0.03 | -0.03 | -0.03 | -0.01 |
| Household appliances, utensils and tools | -0.03 | -0.04 | -0.05 | -0.01 | -0.01 | -0.03 | -0.01 | 0.02 | -0.03 |
| Major household appliances | -0.01 | — | -0.02 | — | -0.01 | -0.02 | -0.04 | -0.01 | -0.01 |
| Small electric household appliances | — | 0.01 | — | — | -0.01 | -0.01 | — | — | — |
| Glassware, tableware and household utensils | -0.01 | -0.03 | -0.01 | -0.02 | — | -0.01 | — | 0.03 | -0.01 |
| Tools | — | — | -0.01 | — | 0.01 | -0.01 | 0.02 | — | — |
| Household supplies | 0.02 | 0.04 | 0.01 | -0.03 | -0.03 | -0.05 | 0.01 | -0.01 | 0.01 |
| Household cleaning agents | — | — | -0.01 | 0.01 | — | -0.01 | 0.01 | — | — |
| Other household supplies | 0.01 | 0.03 | 0.01 | -0.03 | -0.02 | -0.04 | — | -0.02 | 0.01 |
| Household services | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.02 | 0.01 | 0.02 | 0.01 | 0.02 | 0.01 | 0.01 |
| Health | 0.24 | 0.23 | 0.23 | 0.18 | 0.20 | 0.29 | 0.13 | 0.20 | 0.22 |
| Health services | 0.06 | 0.07 | 0.07 | 0.03 | 0.06 | 0.09 | 0.05 | 0.02 | 0.06 |
| Hospital and medical services | 0.05 | 0.05 | 0.04 | 0.02 | 0.04 | 0.05 | 0.04 | — | 0.04 |
| Optical services | 0.01 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Dental services | 0.01 | 0.02 | 0.02 | 0.02 | 0.03 | 0.04 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.02 |
| Pharmaceuticals | 0.18 | 0.15 | 0.16 | 0.16 | 0.13 | 0.21 | 0.08 | 0.18 | 0.16 |
| Transportation | -0.01 | 0.25 | 0.24 | 0.26 | 0.16 | 0.09 | 0.18 | -0.04 | 0.14 |
| Private motoring | -0.01 | 0.18 | 0.24 | 0.26 | 0.16 | 0.07 | 0.18 | -0.05 | 0.12 |
| Motor vehicles | -0.17 | -0.15 | -0.10 | -0.07 | -0.10 | -0.09 | 0.03 | -0.03 | -0.14 |
| Automotive fuel | 0.09 | 0.30 | 0.25 | 0.28 | 0.17 | 0.15 | 0.14 | -0.05 | 0.20 |
| Motor vehicle repair and servicing | 0.04 | 0.03 | 0.05 | 0.03 | 0.09 | — | -0.01 | — | 0.04 |
| Motor vehicle parts and accessories | 0.01 | — | 0.02 | — | -0.01 | 0.01 | 0.02 | 0.01 | — |
| Other motoring charges | 0.02 | — | 0.02 | — | — | — | — | 0.03 | 0.01 |
| Urban transport fares | — | 0.08 | — | — | — | 0.01 | — | — | 0.03 |
| Communication | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Postal | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Telecommunication | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 0.01 |

| <i>Group, sub-group and expenditure class</i> | <i>Sydney</i> | <i>Melbourne</i> | <i>Brisbane</i> | <i>Adelaide</i> | <i>Perth</i> | <i>Hobart</i> | <i>Darwin</i> | <i>Canberra</i> | <i>Weighted average of eight capital cities</i> |
|--|---------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|---|
| Recreation | -0.16 | -0.09 | -0.33 | -0.11 | -0.33 | -0.06 | -0.50 | -0.33 | -0.19 |
| Audio, visual and computing | -0.06 | -0.07 | -0.09 | -0.04 | -0.12 | -0.05 | -0.09 | -0.06 | -0.07 |
| Audio, visual and computing equipment | -0.03 | -0.04 | -0.07 | -0.04 | -0.08 | -0.05 | -0.09 | -0.05 | -0.05 |
| Audio, visual and computing media and services | -0.03 | -0.02 | -0.03 | — | -0.04 | — | 0.01 | — | -0.02 |
| Books, newspapers and magazines | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.02 | — | — | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 |
| Books | — | — | 0.01 | — | — | — | 0.01 | 0.01 | — |
| Newspapers and magazines | 0.01 | 0.01 | — | — | — | 0.01 | — | 0.01 | 0.01 |
| Sport and other recreation | 0.11 | 0.08 | 0.04 | 0.11 | 0.08 | 0.05 | -0.02 | 0.01 | 0.09 |
| Sports and recreational equipment | -0.01 | 0.01 | -0.02 | — | -0.01 | — | -0.02 | — | — |
| Toys, games and hobbies | 0.03 | 0.03 | 0.02 | 0.01 | 0.03 | 0.01 | -0.02 | 0.01 | 0.02 |
| Sports participation | 0.02 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.02 | 0.02 | 0.02 | — | -0.01 | 0.01 |
| Pets, pet foods and supplies | — | — | -0.01 | 0.01 | -0.01 | -0.01 | -0.01 | -0.01 | — |
| Pet services including veterinary | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | — | 0.01 |
| Other recreational activities | 0.07 | 0.03 | 0.04 | 0.06 | 0.05 | 0.02 | 0.01 | 0.03 | 0.05 |
| Holiday travel and accommodation | -0.22 | -0.12 | -0.29 | -0.18 | -0.30 | -0.06 | -0.40 | -0.29 | -0.21 |
| Domestic holiday travel and accommodation | -0.04 | 0.06 | -0.17 | -0.03 | -0.10 | 0.02 | -0.25 | -0.06 | -0.03 |
| Overseas holiday travel and accommodation | -0.17 | -0.18 | -0.12 | -0.16 | -0.20 | -0.08 | -0.15 | -0.24 | -0.17 |
| Education | 0.42 | 0.27 | 0.22 | 0.24 | 0.15 | 0.12 | 0.07 | 0.15 | 0.30 |
| Preschool and primary education | 0.07 | 0.05 | 0.04 | 0.06 | 0.02 | 0.02 | 0.01 | 0.02 | 0.05 |
| Secondary education | 0.08 | 0.11 | 0.12 | 0.14 | 0.07 | 0.06 | 0.01 | 0.11 | 0.10 |
| Tertiary education | 0.27 | 0.11 | 0.06 | 0.05 | 0.06 | 0.04 | 0.06 | 0.03 | 0.15 |
| Miscellaneous | 0.10 | 0.05 | 0.11 | 0.05 | 0.05 | 0.05 | 0.03 | 0.14 | 0.08 |
| Insurance services | 0.01 | — | 0.07 | 0.01 | 0.04 | 0.03 | -0.01 | 0.05 | 0.02 |
| Personal care | 0.04 | 0.03 | 0.02 | 0.03 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.02 | 0.02 | 0.02 |
| Hairdressing and personal care services | — | 0.01 | 0.02 | 0.02 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | — | 0.01 |
| Toiletries and personal care products | 0.04 | 0.03 | 0.01 | 0.01 | — | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.02 | 0.02 |
| Child care | 0.05 | 0.02 | 0.02 | — | 0.01 | — | 0.02 | 0.07 | 0.03 |
| All groups | 1.4 | 1.4 | 1.2 | 1.5 | 0.4 | 1.0 | 0.5 | 1.0 | 1.3 |

(a) All groups index points.

| Group, sub-group and expenditure class | INDEX NUMBERS(a)..... | | | PERCENTAGE CHANGE BETWEEN..... | | CONTRIBUTION TO TOTAL CPI (ALL GROUPS INDEX POINTS) | | |
|--|-----------------------|---------|---------|--------------------------------|----------|---|---------|-------------------------------|
| | Mar Qtr | Dec Qtr | Mar Qtr | Dec Qtr | Mar Qtr | Dec Qtr | Mar Qtr | Change between |
| | 2003 | 2003 | 2004 | 2003 and | 2003 and | 2003 | 2004 | Dec Qtr 2003 and Mar Qtr 2004 |
| Food | 149.8 | 152.0 | 154.7 | 1.8 | 3.3 | 26.10 | 26.57 | 0.47 |
| Dairy and related products | 158.2 | 158.6 | 159.7 | 0.7 | 0.9 | 2.09 | 2.10 | 0.01 |
| Milk | 171.2 | 173.1 | 173.8 | 0.4 | 1.5 | 1.09 | 1.10 | 0.01 |
| Cheese | 130.5 | 132.0 | 134.5 | 1.9 | 3.1 | 0.50 | 0.51 | 0.01 |
| Ice cream and other dairy products | 161.1 | 157.1 | 157.4 | 0.2 | -2.3 | 0.49 | 0.49 | — |
| Bread and cereal products | 163.4 | 163.4 | 162.5 | -0.6 | -0.6 | 3.14 | 3.12 | -0.02 |
| Bread | 186.8 | 183.3 | 182.1 | -0.7 | -2.5 | 1.13 | 1.12 | -0.01 |
| Cakes and biscuits | 153.0 | 152.3 | 152.9 | 0.4 | -0.1 | 1.29 | 1.29 | — |
| Breakfast cereals | 137.2 | 142.4 | 140.0 | -1.7 | 2.0 | 0.36 | 0.36 | — |
| Other cereal products | 135.8 | 140.9 | 138.2 | -1.9 | 1.8 | 0.36 | 0.35 | -0.01 |
| Meat and seafoods | 135.7 | 141.2 | 141.9 | 0.5 | 4.6 | 4.03 | 4.05 | 0.02 |
| Beef and veal | 140.6 | 147.8 | 148.1 | 0.2 | 5.3 | 0.89 | 0.89 | — |
| Lamb and mutton | 179.1 | 198.1 | 199.9 | 0.9 | 11.6 | 0.51 | 0.51 | — |
| Pork | 146.6 | 151.0 | 150.2 | -0.5 | 2.5 | 0.31 | 0.30 | -0.01 |
| Poultry | 98.3 | 103.6 | 105.9 | 2.2 | 7.7 | 0.67 | 0.69 | 0.02 |
| Bacon and ham | 133.1 | 136.4 | 136.3 | -0.1 | 2.4 | 0.38 | 0.38 | — |
| Other fresh and processed meat | 146.8 | 150.0 | 151.0 | 0.7 | 2.9 | 0.66 | 0.67 | 0.01 |
| Fish and other seafood | 125.1 | 124.9 | 124.1 | -0.6 | -0.8 | 0.61 | 0.61 | — |
| Fruit and vegetables | 143.5 | 143.4 | 156.8 | 9.3 | 9.3 | 3.56 | 3.90 | 0.34 |
| Fruit | 146.8 | 158.3 | 166.1 | 4.9 | 13.1 | 1.61 | 1.69 | 0.08 |
| Vegetables | 142.7 | 134.5 | 152.0 | 13.0 | 6.5 | 1.95 | 2.21 | 0.26 |
| Non-alcoholic drinks and snack food | 150.8 | 151.2 | 152.9 | 1.1 | 1.4 | 3.37 | 3.41 | 0.04 |
| Soft drinks, waters and juices | 134.2 | 134.3 | 136.1 | 1.3 | 1.4 | 1.66 | 1.68 | 0.02 |
| Snacks and confectionery | 172.0 | 172.7 | 174.3 | 0.9 | 1.3 | 1.71 | 1.73 | 0.02 |
| Meals out and take away foods | 153.2 | 157.8 | 159.0 | 0.8 | 3.8 | 7.55 | 7.61 | 0.06 |
| Restaurant meals | 155.7 | 159.9 | 162.1 | 1.4 | 4.1 | 3.10 | 3.14 | 0.04 |
| Take away and fast foods | 152.8 | 157.8 | 158.3 | 0.3 | 3.6 | 4.45 | 4.46 | 0.01 |
| Other food | 143.7 | 143.1 | 144.5 | 1.0 | 0.6 | 2.36 | 2.38 | 0.02 |
| Eggs | 180.0 | 178.5 | 180.2 | 1.0 | 0.1 | 0.18 | 0.18 | — |
| Jams, honey and sandwich spreads | 174.6 | 175.9 | 177.3 | 0.8 | 1.5 | 0.27 | 0.27 | — |
| Tea, coffee and food drinks | 137.7 | 138.7 | 135.0 | -2.7 | -2.0 | 0.42 | 0.41 | -0.01 |
| Food additives and condiments | 131.8 | 128.9 | 129.5 | 0.5 | -1.7 | 0.44 | 0.44 | — |
| Fats and oils | 136.1 | 136.7 | 138.4 | 1.2 | 1.7 | 0.31 | 0.31 | — |
| Food n.e.c. | 141.3 | 140.3 | 144.8 | 3.2 | 2.5 | 0.74 | 0.76 | 0.02 |
| Alcohol and tobacco | 209.9 | 216.5 | 218.8 | 1.1 | 4.2 | 11.34 | 11.46 | 0.12 |
| Alcoholic drinks | 155.1 | 160.0 | 161.4 | 0.9 | 4.1 | 7.49 | 7.55 | 0.06 |
| Beer | 160.9 | 169.9 | 171.1 | 0.7 | 6.3 | 3.65 | 3.67 | 0.02 |
| Wine | 143.5 | 144.1 | 145.5 | 1.0 | 1.4 | 2.37 | 2.39 | 0.02 |
| Spirits | 155.6 | 158.4 | 160.2 | 1.1 | 3.0 | 1.47 | 1.49 | 0.02 |
| Tobacco | 360.4 | 371.6 | 377.0 | 1.5 | 4.6 | 3.85 | 3.91 | 0.06 |
| Clothing and footwear | 112.4 | 113.1 | 111.5 | -1.4 | -0.8 | 7.00 | 6.90 | -0.10 |
| Men's clothing | 110.5 | 110.8 | 108.4 | -2.2 | -1.9 | 1.28 | 1.25 | -0.03 |
| Men's outerwear | 108.3 | 108.6 | 105.3 | -3.0 | -2.8 | 1.06 | 1.03 | -0.03 |
| Men's underwear, nightwear and socks | 122.9 | 123.2 | 125.3 | 1.7 | 2.0 | 0.22 | 0.22 | — |
| Women's clothing | 116.2 | 117.2 | 117.2 | — | 0.9 | 2.45 | 2.45 | — |
| Women's outerwear | 110.8 | 111.7 | 111.5 | -0.2 | 0.6 | 1.92 | 1.92 | — |
| Women's underwear, nightwear and hosiery | 137.4 | 139.2 | 139.7 | 0.4 | 1.7 | 0.53 | 0.53 | — |
| Children's and infants' clothing | 116.5 | 120.0 | 114.9 | -4.3 | -1.4 | 0.67 | 0.64 | -0.03 |
| Footwear | 100.3 | 99.1 | 96.9 | -2.2 | -3.4 | 1.10 | 1.08 | -0.02 |
| Men's footwear | 98.2 | 93.9 | 92.0 | -2.0 | -6.3 | 0.33 | 0.33 | — |
| Women's footwear | 102.1 | 103.2 | 101.2 | -1.9 | -0.9 | 0.52 | 0.51 | -0.01 |
| Children's footwear | 101.4 | 99.9 | 96.9 | -3.0 | -4.4 | 0.25 | 0.24 | -0.01 |
| Clothing accessories, supplies and services(b) | 106.3 | 107.2 | 106.0 | -1.1 | -0.3 | 1.50 | 1.48 | -0.02 |
| Clothing accessories and jewellery(b) | 95.6 | 95.3 | 93.6 | -1.8 | -2.1 | 0.78 | 0.77 | -0.01 |
| Fabrics and knitting wool | 111.6 | 113.6 | 110.5 | -2.7 | -1.0 | 0.16 | 0.15 | -0.01 |
| Clothing services and shoe repair | 165.1 | 168.6 | 169.1 | 0.3 | 2.4 | 0.56 | 0.56 | — |

| Group, sub-group and expenditure class | INDEX NUMBERS(a)..... | | | PERCENTAGE CHANGE BETWEEN..... | | CONTRIBUTION TO TOTAL CPI (ALL GROUPS INDEX POINTS) | | |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|---|-----------------|---|
| | Mar Qtr 2003 | Dec Qtr 2003 | Mar Qtr 2004 | Dec Qtr 2003 and | Mar Qtr 2003 and | Dec Qtr 2003 | Mar Qtr 2004 | Change between Dec Qtr 2003 and Mar Qtr 2004 |
| | | | | Mar Qtr 2004 | Mar Qtr 2004 | | | |
| Housing | 115.7 | 119.6 | 120.7 | 0.9 | 4.3 | 29.43 | 29.70 | 0.27 |
| Rents | 135.8 | 138.5 | 139.3 | 0.6 | 2.6 | 7.71 | 7.75 | 0.04 |
| Utilities | 147.2 | 149.4 | 152.1 | 1.8 | 3.3 | 4.98 | 5.07 | 0.09 |
| Electricity | 145.7 | 145.5 | 147.5 | 1.4 | 1.2 | 2.61 | 2.65 | 0.04 |
| Gas and other household fuels | 157.0 | 160.3 | 168.0 | 4.8 | 7.0 | 1.12 | 1.17 | 0.05 |
| Water and sewerage(b) | 116.1 | 121.3 | 121.5 | 0.2 | 4.7 | 1.25 | 1.25 | — |
| Other housing | 108.4 | 113.3 | 114.2 | 0.8 | 5.4 | 16.75 | 16.88 | 0.13 |
| House purchase(b) | 129.7 | 135.9 | 137.4 | 1.1 | 5.9 | 12.05 | 12.18 | 0.13 |
| Property rates and charges(b) | 126.2 | 133.9 | 134.0 | 0.1 | 6.2 | 1.87 | 1.87 | — |
| House repairs and maintenance | 147.5 | 151.4 | 151.6 | 0.1 | 2.8 | 2.82 | 2.83 | 0.01 |
| Household furnishings, supplies and services | 120.4 | 121.4 | 120.7 | -0.6 | 0.2 | 10.86 | 10.80 | -0.06 |
| Furniture and furnishings | 128.5 | 130.6 | 129.1 | -1.1 | 0.5 | 4.87 | 4.81 | -0.06 |
| Furniture | 130.7 | 132.9 | 130.5 | -1.8 | -0.2 | 3.12 | 3.07 | -0.05 |
| Floor and window coverings | 132.5 | 136.2 | 136.8 | 0.4 | 3.2 | 1.09 | 1.10 | 0.01 |
| Towels and linen | 113.6 | 112.5 | 111.6 | -0.8 | -1.8 | 0.66 | 0.65 | -0.01 |
| Household appliances, utensils and tools | 106.4 | 106.4 | 105.2 | -1.1 | -1.1 | 2.49 | 2.46 | -0.03 |
| Major household appliances | 106.7 | 107.7 | 106.9 | -0.7 | 0.2 | 1.13 | 1.12 | -0.01 |
| Small electric household appliances | 106.3 | 102.3 | 102.6 | 0.3 | -3.5 | 0.35 | 0.35 | — |
| Glassware, tableware and household utensils | 101.3 | 101.3 | 98.6 | -2.7 | -2.7 | 0.59 | 0.58 | -0.01 |
| Tools | 111.9 | 112.7 | 111.9 | -0.7 | — | 0.42 | 0.42 | — |
| Household supplies | 131.6 | 131.1 | 131.6 | 0.4 | — | 2.55 | 2.56 | 0.01 |
| Household cleaning agents | 122.0 | 122.3 | 122.3 | — | 0.2 | 0.54 | 0.54 | — |
| Other household supplies | 135.9 | 135.1 | 135.8 | 0.5 | -0.1 | 2.00 | 2.01 | 0.01 |
| Household services | 193.5 | 198.2 | 200.2 | 1.0 | 3.5 | 0.95 | 0.96 | 0.01 |
| Health | 183.5 | 189.4 | 195.5 | 3.2 | 6.5 | 6.95 | 7.17 | 0.22 |
| Health services | 190.9 | 203.5 | 205.8 | 1.1 | 7.8 | 5.51 | 5.57 | 0.06 |
| Hospital and medical services | 196.9 | 211.9 | 214.0 | 1.0 | 8.7 | 4.26 | 4.30 | 0.04 |
| Optical services | 138.0 | 138.8 | 139.7 | 0.6 | 1.2 | 0.22 | 0.22 | — |
| Dental services | 186.7 | 194.4 | 197.8 | 1.7 | 5.9 | 1.03 | 1.05 | 0.02 |
| Pharmaceuticals | 148.4 | 136.5 | 151.9 | 11.3 | 2.4 | 1.44 | 1.60 | 0.16 |
| Transportation | 143.7 | 140.7 | 141.7 | 0.7 | -1.4 | 20.49 | 20.63 | 0.14 |
| Private motoring | 140.9 | 137.5 | 138.3 | 0.6 | -1.8 | 19.21 | 19.33 | 0.12 |
| Motor vehicles | 106.1 | 103.8 | 101.9 | -1.8 | -4.0 | 7.33 | 7.19 | -0.14 |
| Automotive fuel | 163.7 | 151.1 | 156.2 | 3.4 | -4.6 | 5.71 | 5.91 | 0.20 |
| Motor vehicle repair and servicing | 135.5 | 137.8 | 139.5 | 1.2 | 3.0 | 3.19 | 3.23 | 0.04 |
| Motor vehicle parts and accessories | 111.8 | 113.7 | 114.1 | 0.4 | 2.1 | 1.36 | 1.36 | — |
| Other motoring charges | 183.3 | 193.1 | 194.3 | 0.6 | 6.0 | 1.62 | 1.63 | 0.01 |
| Urban transport fares | 191.5 | 198.4 | 202.1 | 1.9 | 5.5 | 1.28 | 1.31 | 0.03 |
| Communication | 108.8 | 109.9 | 110.0 | 0.1 | 1.1 | 4.05 | 4.05 | — |
| Postal | 129.5 | 132.7 | 132.7 | — | 2.5 | 0.22 | 0.22 | — |
| Telecommunication | 106.7 | 107.8 | 107.8 | — | 1.0 | 3.82 | 3.83 | 0.01 |

| Group, sub-group and expenditure class | INDEX NUMBERS(a)..... | | | PERCENTAGE CHANGE BETWEEN..... | | CONTRIBUTIONS TO TOTAL CPI (ALL GROUPS INDEX POINTS) | | |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|--|--|--|-----------------|---|
| | Mar Qtr 2003 | Dec Qtr 2003 | Mar Qtr 2004 | Dec Qtr 2003 and Mar Qtr 2004 | Mar Qtr 2003 and Mar Qtr 2004 | Dec Qtr 2003 | Mar Qtr 2004 | Change between Dec Qtr 2003 and Mar Qtr 2004 |
| | | | | | | | | |
| Recreation | 132.4 | 131.1 | 129.7 | -1.1 | -2.0 | 16.94 | 16.75 | -0.19 |
| Audio, visual and computing | 64.1 | 59.0 | 57.5 | -2.5 | -10.3 | 2.78 | 2.71 | -0.07 |
| Audio, visual and computing equipment | 43.6 | 35.9 | 34.3 | -4.5 | -21.3 | 1.05 | 1.00 | -0.05 |
| Audio, visual and computing media and services | 102.4 | 101.8 | 100.4 | -1.4 | -2.0 | 1.73 | 1.71 | -0.02 |
| Books, newspapers and magazines | 197.4 | 200.2 | 201.4 | 0.6 | 2.0 | 1.62 | 1.63 | 0.01 |
| Books(b) | 120.6 | 121.1 | 122.0 | 0.7 | 1.2 | 0.71 | 0.71 | — |
| Newspapers and magazines(b) | 130.2 | 133.1 | 133.8 | 0.5 | 2.8 | 0.91 | 0.92 | 0.01 |
| Sport and other recreation | 155.2 | 155.8 | 158.1 | 1.5 | 1.9 | 5.87 | 5.96 | 0.09 |
| Sports and recreational equipment(b) | 93.6 | 91.8 | 91.6 | -0.2 | -2.1 | 0.77 | 0.77 | — |
| Toys, games and hobbies(b) | 99.5 | 94.3 | 98.0 | 3.9 | -1.5 | 0.64 | 0.66 | 0.02 |
| Sports participation(b) | 131.8 | 136.2 | 137.6 | 1.0 | 4.4 | 1.27 | 1.28 | 0.01 |
| Pets, pet foods and supplies | 138.8 | 131.0 | 130.6 | -0.3 | -5.9 | 0.57 | 0.57 | — |
| Pet services including veterinary | 184.8 | 188.2 | 190.5 | 1.2 | 3.1 | 0.50 | 0.51 | 0.01 |
| Other recreational activities(b) | 127.0 | 130.4 | 133.3 | 2.2 | 5.0 | 2.12 | 2.17 | 0.05 |
| Holiday travel and accommodation | 133.1 | 133.6 | 129.4 | -3.1 | -2.8 | 6.66 | 6.45 | -0.21 |
| Domestic holiday travel and accommodation | 135.1 | 137.3 | 135.8 | -1.1 | 0.5 | 3.57 | 3.54 | -0.03 |
| Overseas holiday travel and accommodation | 129.8 | 128.4 | 121.4 | -5.5 | -6.5 | 3.09 | 2.92 | -0.17 |
| Education | 214.7 | 215.1 | 231.4 | 7.6 | 7.8 | 3.90 | 4.20 | 0.30 |
| Preschool and primary education(c) | 119.0 | 120.1 | 128.1 | 6.7 | 7.6 | 0.76 | 0.81 | 0.05 |
| Secondary education(c) | 120.9 | 120.9 | 129.3 | 6.9 | 6.9 | 1.43 | 1.53 | 0.10 |
| Tertiary education(c) | 108.6 | 108.6 | 117.7 | 8.4 | 8.4 | 1.71 | 1.86 | 0.15 |
| Miscellaneous | 179.2 | 182.2 | 184.5 | 1.3 | 3.0 | 5.79 | 5.87 | 0.08 |
| Insurance services | 237.4 | 240.6 | 242.7 | 0.9 | 2.2 | 2.20 | 2.22 | 0.02 |
| Personal care | 148.5 | 149.5 | 150.8 | 0.9 | 1.5 | 2.98 | 3.00 | 0.02 |
| Hairdressing and personal care services | 162.9 | 168.8 | 169.8 | 0.6 | 4.2 | 1.13 | 1.14 | 0.01 |
| Toiletries and personal care products | 140.6 | 139.0 | 140.6 | 1.2 | — | 1.85 | 1.87 | 0.02 |
| Child care | 157.4 | 169.9 | 177.4 | 4.4 | 12.7 | 0.62 | 0.65 | 0.03 |
| All groups | 141.3 | 142.8 | 144.1 | 0.9 | 2.0 | 142.8 | 144.1 | 1.3 |

(a) Unless otherwise specified, base of each index: 1989-90 = 100.0. (b) Base: June quarter 1998 = 100.0.

(c) Base: June quarter 2000 = 100.0.

SPECIAL SERIES, Weighted Average of Eight Capital Cities

| | INDEX NUMBERS(a)..... | | | PERCENTAGE CHANGE BETWEEN..... | | CONTRIBUTION TO TOTAL CPI (ALL GROUPS INDEX POINTS) | | |
|--|-----------------------|----------------|----------------|--------------------------------|----------------|---|----------------|--|
| | <i>Mar Qtr</i> | <i>Dec Qtr</i> | <i>Mar Qtr</i> | <i>Dec Qtr</i> | <i>Mar Qtr</i> | <i>Dec Qtr</i> | <i>Mar Qtr</i> | <i>Change between</i> |
| | <i>2003</i> | <i>2003</i> | <i>2004</i> | <i>2004</i> | <i>2004</i> | <i>2003</i> | <i>2004</i> | <i>Dec Qtr 2003</i> <i>and</i> <i>Mar Qtr 2004</i> |
| All groups | 141.3 | 142.8 | 144.1 | 0.9 | 2.0 | 142.8 | 144.1 | 1.3 |
| Selected components | | | | | | | | |
| Goods component(b) | 142.1 | 142.5 | 143.8 | 0.9 | 1.2 | 91.78 | 92.59 | 0.81 |
| Services component(b) | 140.6 | 144.2 | 145.4 | 0.8 | 3.4 | 51.06 | 51.51 | 0.45 |
| Tradables component(b)(c) | 112.4 | 111.1 | 111.8 | 0.6 | -0.5 | 64.36 | 64.72 | 0.36 |
| Non-tradables component(b)(c) | 120.8 | 124.4 | 125.8 | 1.1 | 4.1 | 78.48 | 79.38 | 0.90 |
| All groups excluding | | | | | | | | |
| Food | 139.5 | 140.9 | 141.8 | 0.6 | 1.6 | 116.74 | 117.53 | 0.79 |
| Alcohol and tobacco | 136.3 | 137.6 | 138.8 | 0.9 | 1.8 | 131.51 | 132.64 | 1.13 |
| Clothing and footwear | 143.3 | 144.9 | 146.3 | 1.0 | 2.1 | 135.84 | 137.20 | 1.36 |
| Housing | 145.7 | 146.5 | 147.8 | 0.9 | 1.4 | 113.41 | 114.39 | 0.98 |
| Household furnishings, supplies and services | 144.7 | 146.4 | 147.8 | 1.0 | 2.1 | 131.98 | 133.30 | 1.32 |
| Health | 139.1 | 140.5 | 141.5 | 0.7 | 1.7 | 135.90 | 136.93 | 1.03 |
| Transportation | 140.9 | 143.3 | 144.6 | 0.9 | 2.6 | 122.35 | 123.46 | 1.11 |
| Communication | 141.8 | 143.4 | 144.7 | 0.9 | 2.0 | 138.80 | 140.05 | 1.25 |
| Recreation | 142.5 | 144.5 | 146.2 | 1.2 | 2.6 | 125.91 | 127.34 | 1.43 |
| Education | 140.4 | 142.0 | 143.0 | 0.7 | 1.9 | 138.94 | 139.90 | 0.96 |
| Miscellaneous | 139.8 | 141.3 | 142.5 | 0.8 | 1.9 | 137.05 | 138.23 | 1.18 |
| Hospital and medical services | 139.7 | 140.9 | 142.2 | 0.9 | 1.8 | 138.58 | 139.80 | 1.22 |

(a) Unless otherwise specified, base of each index:
1989-90 = 100.0

(b) Refer to paragraph 12 of the Explanatory Notes for a description of this series.

(c) Base: June quarter 1998 = 100.0

MARKET GOODS AND SERVICES
EXCLUDING 'VOLATILE
ITEMS'.....

| <i>Period</i> | <i>All groups</i> | <i>All groups excluding Housing</i> | <i>All groups excluding 'volatile items'</i> | <i>Goods</i> | <i>Services</i> | <i>Total</i> | <i>Tradables(c)</i> | <i>Non-tradables(c)</i> |
|------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|--|--------------|-----------------|--------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| 1999-2000 | 124.7 | 129.4 | 131.5 | 127.1 | 133.8 | 128.9 | 102.1 | 104.0 |
| 2000-01 | 132.2 | 136.4 | 138.7 | 132.9 | 144.1 | 136.0 | 106.5 | 111.8 |
| 2001-02 | 136.0 | 140.4 | 143.3 | 137.1 | 149.3 | 140.5 | 109.1 | 115.5 |
| 2002-03 | 140.2 | 144.5 | 147.4 | 139.6 | 154.7 | 143.8 | 111.3 | 120.0 |
| 2000 | | | | | | | | |
| March | 125.2 | 129.7 | 131.9 | 127.4 | 134.1 | 129.2 | 102.0 | 104.8 |
| June | 126.2 | 130.8 | 132.7 | 128.0 | 135.5 | 130.0 | 103.0 | 105.5 |
| September | 130.9 | 134.9 | 137.4 | 131.5 | 143.3 | 134.8 | 105.2 | 110.9 |
| December | 131.3 | 135.4 | 137.7 | 131.9 | 143.8 | 135.2 | 105.4 | 111.4 |
| 2001 | | | | | | | | |
| March | 132.7 | 137.0 | 139.1 | 133.3 | 144.2 | 136.3 | 106.9 | 112.2 |
| June | 133.8 | 138.4 | 140.4 | 135.0 | 145.0 | 137.7 | 108.4 | 112.6 |
| September | 134.2 | 138.4 | 141.4 | 135.7 | 146.4 | 138.6 | 107.8 | 113.8 |
| December | 135.4 | 139.8 | 142.7 | 137.0 | 148.4 | 140.1 | 108.7 | 114.9 |
| 2002 | | | | | | | | |
| March | 136.6 | 141.1 | 144.1 | 137.6 | 150.5 | 141.2 | 109.4 | 116.2 |
| June | 137.6 | 142.1 | 145.0 | 138.2 | 151.8 | 142.0 | 110.3 | 116.9 |
| September | 138.5 | 142.8 | 146.0 | 138.4 | 153.5 | 142.7 | 110.3 | 118.4 |
| December | 139.5 | 143.9 | 146.8 | 139.2 | 154.5 | 143.5 | 111.1 | 119.2 |
| 2003 | | | | | | | | |
| March | 141.3 | 145.7 | 148.0 | 139.9 | 155.2 | 144.2 | 112.4 | 120.8 |
| June | 141.3 | 145.4 | 148.9 | 140.8 | 155.6 | 144.9 | 111.4 | 121.7 |
| September | 142.1 | 145.8 | 149.8 | 141.3 | 156.2 | 145.5 | 111.1 | 123.3 |
| December | 142.8 | 146.5 | 150.3 | 141.4 | 157.9 | 146.1 | 111.1 | 124.4 |
| 2004 | | | | | | | | |
| March | 144.1 | 147.8 | 151.1 | 141.5 | 158.0 | 146.1 | 111.8 | 125.8 |

(a) Unless otherwise specified, base of each index:
1989-90 = 100.0.

(b) Refer to paragraph 12 of the Explanatory Notes for a description
of these series.

(c) Base: June quarter 1998 = 100.0.

ANALYTICAL SERIES, Percentage Changes(a)

MARKET GOODS AND SERVICES
EXCLUDING 'VOLATILE ITEMS'.....

| Period | All groups | All groups excluding Housing | All groups excluding 'volatile items' | Goods | Services | Total | Tradables | Non-tradables |
|---|------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------|----------|---------|-----------|---------------|
| PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous financial year) | | | | | | | | |
| 1999-2000 | 2.4 | 2.0 | 1.9 | 1.8 | 3.4 | 2.2 | 1.7 | 3.0 |
| 2000-01 | 6.0 | 5.4 | 5.5 | 4.6 | 7.7 | 5.5 | 4.3 | 7.5 |
| 2001-02 | 2.9 | 2.9 | 3.3 | 3.2 | 3.6 | 3.3 | 2.4 | 3.3 |
| 2002-03 | 3.1 | 2.9 | 2.9 | 1.8 | 3.6 | 2.3 | 2.0 | 3.9 |
| PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from corresponding quarter of previous year) | | | | | | | | |
| 2000 | | | | | | | | |
| March | 2.8 | 2.4 | 2.2 | 1.8 | 3.1 | 2.2 | 1.8 | 3.8 |
| June | 3.2 | 2.7 | 2.6 | 1.8 | 3.8 | 2.4 | 2.0 | 4.2 |
| September | 6.1 | 5.1 | 5.5 | 4.3 | 8.5 | 5.6 | 3.4 | 8.4 |
| December | 5.8 | 5.3 | 5.1 | 4.0 | 7.8 | 5.2 | 3.8 | 7.6 |
| 2001 | | | | | | | | |
| March | 6.0 | 5.6 | 5.5 | 4.6 | 7.5 | 5.5 | 4.8 | 7.1 |
| June | 6.0 | 5.8 | 5.8 | 5.5 | 7.0 | 5.9 | 5.2 | 6.7 |
| September | 2.5 | 2.6 | 2.9 | 3.2 | 2.2 | 2.8 | 2.5 | 2.6 |
| December | 3.1 | 3.2 | 3.6 | 3.9 | 3.2 | 3.6 | 3.1 | 3.1 |
| 2002 | | | | | | | | |
| March | 2.9 | 3.0 | 3.6 | 3.2 | 4.4 | 3.6 | 2.3 | 3.6 |
| June | 2.8 | 2.7 | 3.3 | 2.4 | 4.7 | 3.1 | 1.8 | 3.8 |
| September | 3.2 | 3.2 | 3.3 | 2.0 | 4.8 | 3.0 | 2.3 | 4.0 |
| December | 3.0 | 2.9 | 2.9 | 1.6 | 4.1 | 2.4 | 2.2 | 3.7 |
| 2003 | | | | | | | | |
| March | 3.4 | 3.3 | 2.7 | 1.7 | 3.1 | 2.1 | 2.7 | 4.0 |
| June | 2.7 | 2.3 | 2.7 | 1.9 | 2.5 | 2.0 | 1.0 | 4.1 |
| September | 2.6 | 2.1 | 2.6 | 2.1 | 1.8 | 2.0 | 0.7 | 4.1 |
| December | 2.4 | 1.8 | 2.4 | 1.6 | 2.2 | 1.8 | 0.0 | 4.4 |
| 2004 | | | | | | | | |
| March | 2.0 | 1.4 | 2.1 | 1.1 | 1.8 | 1.3 | -0.5 | 4.1 |
| PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous quarter) | | | | | | | | |
| 2000 | | | | | | | | |
| March | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.7 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 1.3 |
| June | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.6 | 0.5 | 1.0 | 0.6 | 1.0 | 0.7 |
| September | 3.7 | 3.1 | 3.5 | 2.7 | 5.8 | 3.7 | 2.1 | 5.1 |
| December | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.2 | 0.5 |
| 2001 | | | | | | | | |
| March | 1.1 | 1.2 | 1.0 | 1.1 | 0.3 | 0.8 | 1.4 | 0.7 |
| June | 0.8 | 1.0 | 0.9 | 1.3 | 0.6 | 1.0 | 1.4 | 0.4 |
| September | 0.3 | 0.0 | 0.7 | 0.5 | 1.0 | 0.7 | -0.6 | 1.1 |
| December | 0.9 | 1.0 | 0.9 | 1.0 | 1.4 | 1.1 | 0.8 | 1.0 |
| 2002 | | | | | | | | |
| March | 0.9 | 0.9 | 1.0 | 0.4 | 1.4 | 0.8 | 0.6 | 1.1 |
| June | 0.7 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.4 | 0.9 | 0.6 | 0.8 | 0.6 |
| September | 0.7 | 0.5 | 0.7 | 0.1 | 1.1 | 0.5 | 0.0 | 1.3 |
| December | 0.7 | 0.8 | 0.5 | 0.6 | 0.7 | 0.6 | 0.7 | 0.7 |
| 2003 | | | | | | | | |
| March | 1.3 | 1.3 | 0.8 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 1.2 | 1.3 |
| June | 0.0 | -0.2 | 0.6 | 0.6 | 0.3 | 0.5 | -0.9 | 0.7 |
| September | 0.6 | 0.3 | 0.6 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.4 | -0.3 | 1.3 |
| December | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.3 | 0.1 | 1.1 | 0.4 | 0.0 | 0.9 |
| 2004 | | | | | | | | |
| March | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.5 | (b) 0.1 | (b) 0.1 | (b) 0.0 | 0.6 | 1.1 |

(a) Refer to paragraph 12 of the Explanatory Notes for a description of these series.

(b) The March quarter 2004 movement of 0.0% for total Market goods and services excluding 'volatile items' is less than the movement of 0.1% for each of the individual goods and services components due to a rounding effect.

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

| Period | Australia | New Zealand | Hong Kong | Indonesia | Japan | Korea, Republic of | Singapore | Taiwan | Canada | United States of America | Germany | United Kingdom |
|------------------|-----------|-------------|-----------|-----------|--------|--------------------|-----------|--------|--------|--------------------------|---------|----------------|
| 1999-2000 | 129.4 | 118.7 | 166.6 | 367.1 | 111.6 | 172.1 | 120.7 | 129.3 | 125.0 | 130.9 | 122.2 | 139.3 |
| 2000-01 | 136.4 | 123.5 | 164.8 | 402.6 | 111.0 | 179.2 | 123.0 | 130.9 | 128.1 | 135.3 | 123.7 | 141.4 |
| 2001-02 | 140.4 | 127.0 | 162.5 | 458.3 | 107.7 | 185.0 | 122.7 | 130.6 | 130.3 | 136.4 | 126.0 | 143.5 |
| 2002-03 | 144.5 | 129.5 | 159.2 | 495.8 | 106.4 | 190.9 | 123.1 | 130.5 | 135.2 | 138.9 | 127.4 | 145.8 |
| 2000 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 129.7 | 118.9 | 165.7 | 370.7 | 111.1 | 172.9 | 121.2 | 128.9 | 124.9 | 131.3 | 122.5 | 139.1 |
| June | 130.8 | 119.8 | 165.9 | 369.7 | 111.4 | 172.9 | 121.0 | 130.3 | 126.2 | 132.8 | 122.4 | 140.7 |
| September | 134.9 | 121.8 | 165.4 | 376.7 | 111.0 | 176.1 | 122.2 | 131.3 | 127.3 | 133.7 | 122.9 | 140.5 |
| December | 135.4 | 123.4 | 165.5 | 403.3 | 111.2 | 177.6 | 122.8 | 132.4 | 127.5 | 134.6 | 123.0 | 141.2 |
| 2001 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 137.0 | 123.8 | 163.7 | 406.1 | 110.9 | 180.6 | 123.5 | 129.8 | 127.9 | 135.7 | 123.7 | 140.9 |
| June | 138.4 | 125.1 | 164.4 | 424.4 | 110.8 | 182.5 | 123.3 | 129.9 | 129.8 | 137.1 | 125.2 | 143.0 |
| September | 138.4 | 125.8 | 164.0 | 435.3 | 108.8 | 183.7 | 123.3 | 130.4 | 130.1 | 136.7 | 125.4 | 142.9 |
| December | 139.8 | 126.5 | 163.4 | 453.8 | 108.3 | 183.3 | 122.5 | 131.6 | 128.7 | 135.8 | 125.2 | 143.2 |
| 2002 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 141.1 | 127.1 | 161.4 | 470.1 | 107.0 | 185.1 | 122.3 | 130.1 | 129.9 | 135.7 | 126.6 | 143.4 |
| June | 142.1 | 128.5 | 161.2 | 473.8 | 106.8 | 187.7 | 122.8 | 130.4 | 132.5 | 137.3 | 126.8 | 144.6 |
| September | 142.8 | 129.0 | 160.4 | 480.5 | 106.6 | 188.2 | 122.9 | 130.5 | 134.1 | 137.7 | 127.1 | 144.5 |
| December | 143.9 | 129.6 | 160.0 | 498.6 | 106.5 | 189.1 | 122.9 | 131.1 | 134.5 | 138.2 | 126.8 | 145.4 |
| 2003 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 145.7 | 129.8 | 158.5 | 500.9 | 106.0 | 192.7 | 123.5 | 130.1 | 136.2 | 139.7 | 127.9 | 146.0 |
| June | 145.4 | 129.5 | 157.9 | 503.3 | 106.5 | 193.7 | 123.2 | 130.3 | 135.8 | 140.1 | 127.7 | 147.1 |
| September | 145.8 | 129.5 | 157.1 | 509.8 | 106.3 | 194.0 | 123.8 | 129.4 | 136.2 | 140.6 | 128.1 | 147.1 |
| December | 146.5 | 130.0 | 158.4 | 523.2 | 106.1 | 195.8 | 124.1 | 131.1 | 136.0 | 140.6 | 128.1 | 147.7 |
| 2004 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 147.8 | 130.2 | n.y.a. | n.y.a. | n.y.a. | 199.1 | n.y.a. | 131.2 | 136.9 | 141.8 | 129.2 | 147.9 |

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

(b) Refer to paragraphs 14–16 of the Explanatory Notes for further information.

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

| Period | Australia | New Zealand | Hong Kong | Indonesia | Japan | Korea, Republic of | Singapore | Taiwan | Canada | United States of America | Germany | United Kingdom |
|---|-----------|-------------|-----------|-----------|--------|--------------------|-----------|--------|--------|--------------------------|---------|----------------|
| PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous financial year) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1999-2000 | 2.0 | 1.5 | -3.1 | -0.3 | -0.7 | 1.8 | 1.9 | 0.9 | 2.5 | 2.9 | 0.6 | 1.5 |
| 2000-01 | 5.4 | 4.0 | -1.1 | 9.7 | -0.5 | 4.1 | 1.9 | 1.2 | 2.5 | 3.4 | 1.2 | 1.5 |
| 2001-02 | 2.9 | 2.8 | -1.4 | 13.8 | -3.0 | 3.2 | -0.2 | -0.2 | 1.7 | 0.8 | 1.9 | 1.5 |
| 2002-03 | 2.9 | 2.0 | -2.0 | 8.2 | -1.2 | 3.2 | 0.3 | -0.1 | 3.8 | 1.8 | 1.1 | 1.6 |
| PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from corresponding quarter of previous year) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2000 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 2.4 | 1.5 | -2.6 | -1.9 | -0.7 | 2.2 | 2.4 | 1.1 | 2.6 | 3.3 | 1.1 | 1.5 |
| June | 2.7 | 1.9 | -2.0 | -0.4 | -0.9 | 1.8 | 1.4 | 2.2 | 2.3 | 3.4 | 0.7 | 1.5 |
| September | 5.1 | 3.4 | -1.4 | 4.6 | -0.8 | 3.5 | 1.7 | 2.3 | 2.3 | 3.5 | 0.8 | 1.5 |
| December | 5.3 | 4.4 | -1.0 | 9.7 | -0.6 | 3.1 | 2.2 | 2.2 | 2.4 | 3.4 | 1.0 | 1.5 |
| 2001 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 5.6 | 4.1 | -1.2 | 9.5 | -0.2 | 4.5 | 1.8 | 0.7 | 2.4 | 3.4 | 1.0 | 1.3 |
| June | 5.8 | 4.4 | -0.9 | 14.8 | -0.5 | 5.6 | 1.9 | -0.3 | 2.9 | 3.2 | 2.3 | 1.6 |
| September | 2.6 | 3.3 | -0.8 | 15.6 | -2.0 | 4.3 | 0.9 | -0.7 | 2.2 | 2.2 | 2.0 | 1.7 |
| December | 3.2 | 2.5 | -1.3 | 12.5 | -2.6 | 3.2 | -0.2 | -0.6 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 1.8 | 1.4 |
| 2002 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 3.0 | 2.7 | -1.4 | 15.8 | -3.5 | 2.5 | -1.0 | 0.2 | 1.6 | 0.0 | 2.3 | 1.8 |
| June | 2.7 | 2.7 | -1.9 | 11.6 | -3.6 | 2.8 | -0.4 | 0.4 | 2.1 | 0.1 | 1.3 | 1.1 |
| September | 3.2 | 2.5 | -2.2 | 10.4 | -2.0 | 2.4 | -0.3 | 0.1 | 3.1 | 0.7 | 1.4 | 1.1 |
| December | 2.9 | 2.5 | -2.1 | 9.9 | -1.7 | 3.2 | 0.4 | -0.4 | 4.5 | 1.8 | 1.3 | 1.5 |
| 2003 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 3.3 | 2.1 | -1.8 | 6.6 | -0.9 | 4.1 | 1.0 | 0.0 | 4.8 | 2.9 | 1.0 | 1.8 |
| June | 2.3 | 0.8 | -2.0 | 6.2 | -0.3 | 3.2 | 0.4 | -0.1 | 2.5 | 2.0 | 0.7 | 1.7 |
| September | 2.1 | 0.4 | -2.1 | 6.1 | -0.3 | 3.1 | 0.7 | -0.8 | 1.6 | 2.1 | 0.8 | 1.8 |
| December | 1.8 | 0.3 | -1.0 | 4.9 | -0.4 | 3.5 | 1.0 | 0.0 | 1.1 | 1.7 | 1.0 | 1.6 |
| 2004 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 1.4 | 0.3 | n.y.a. | n.y.a. | n.y.a. | 3.3 | n.y.a. | 0.8 | 0.5 | 1.5 | 1.0 | 1.3 |
| PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous quarter) | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2000 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 0.9 | 0.6 | -0.9 | 0.9 | -0.7 | 0.3 | 0.9 | -0.5 | 0.3 | 0.8 | 0.6 | 0.0 |
| June | 0.8 | 0.8 | 0.1 | -0.3 | 0.3 | 0.0 | -0.2 | 1.1 | 1.0 | 1.1 | -0.1 | 1.2 |
| September | 3.1 | 1.7 | -0.3 | 1.9 | -0.4 | 1.9 | 1.0 | 0.8 | 0.9 | 0.7 | 0.4 | -0.1 |
| December | 0.4 | 1.3 | 0.1 | 7.1 | 0.2 | 0.9 | 0.5 | 0.8 | 0.2 | 0.7 | 0.1 | 0.5 |
| 2001 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 1.2 | 0.3 | -1.1 | 0.7 | -0.3 | 1.7 | 0.5 | -2.0 | 0.3 | 0.8 | 0.6 | -0.2 |
| June | 1.0 | 1.1 | 0.4 | 4.5 | -0.1 | 1.1 | -0.2 | 0.1 | 1.5 | 1.0 | 1.2 | 1.5 |
| September | 0.0 | 0.6 | -0.2 | 2.6 | -1.8 | 0.7 | 0.0 | 0.4 | 0.2 | -0.3 | 0.2 | -0.1 |
| December | 1.0 | 0.6 | -0.4 | 4.2 | -0.5 | -0.2 | -0.6 | 0.9 | -1.1 | -0.7 | -0.2 | 0.2 |
| 2002 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 0.9 | 0.5 | -1.2 | 3.6 | -1.2 | 1.0 | -0.2 | -1.1 | 0.9 | -0.1 | 1.1 | 0.1 |
| June | 0.7 | 1.1 | -0.1 | 0.8 | -0.2 | 1.4 | 0.5 | 0.2 | 2.0 | 1.2 | 0.2 | 0.8 |
| September | 0.5 | 0.4 | -0.5 | 1.4 | -0.2 | 0.3 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 1.2 | 0.3 | 0.2 | -0.1 |
| December | 0.8 | 0.5 | -0.2 | 3.8 | -0.1 | 0.5 | 0.0 | 0.5 | 0.3 | 0.4 | -0.2 | 0.6 |
| 2003 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 1.3 | 0.2 | -0.9 | 0.5 | -0.5 | 1.9 | 0.5 | -0.8 | 1.3 | 1.1 | 0.9 | 0.4 |
| June | -0.2 | -0.2 | -0.4 | 0.5 | 0.5 | 0.5 | -0.2 | 0.2 | -0.3 | 0.3 | -0.2 | 0.8 |
| September | 0.3 | 0.0 | -0.5 | 1.3 | -0.2 | 0.2 | 0.4 | -0.7 | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.3 | 0.0 |
| December | 0.5 | 0.4 | 0.8 | 2.6 | -0.2 | 0.9 | 0.3 | 1.3 | -0.1 | 0.0 | 0.0 | 0.4 |
| 2004 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| March | 0.9 | 0.2 | n.y.a. | n.y.a. | n.y.a. | 1.7 | n.y.a. | 0.1 | 0.7 | 0.9 | 0.9 | 0.1 |

(a) Refer to paragraphs 14-16 of the Explanatory Notes for further information.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE CPI

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

- food
- alcohol and tobacco
- clothing and footwear
- housing
- household furnishings, supplies and services
- health
- transportation
- communication
- recreation
- education
- miscellaneous.

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 *Australian Consumer Price Index: Concepts, Sources and Methods* (cat. no. 6461.0) which is available on the ABS web site <<http://www.abs.gov.au>>.

PRICES

4 The frequency of price collection by item varies as necessary to obtain reliable price measures. Prices of some items are volatile (i.e. their prices may vary many times each quarter) and for these items frequent price observations are necessary to obtain a reliable measure of the average price for the quarter. Each month prices are collected at regular intervals for goods such as milk, bread, fresh meat and seafood, fresh fruit and vegetables, petrol, alcohol and tobacco and holiday travel and accommodation. For most other items, price volatility is not a problem and prices are collected once a quarter. There are a few items where prices are changed at infrequent intervals, for example education fees where prices are set once a year. In these cases, the frequency of price collection is modified accordingly.

5 In order to facilitate a more even spread of field collection workload, the number of items for which prices are collected quarterly is distributed roughly equally across each month of each quarter. In all cases, however, individual items are priced in the same month of each quarter. For example, items for which prices are collected in the first month of the September quarter, July, are also priced in the first month of subsequent quarters, namely October, January and April.

WEIGHTING PATTERN

6 There are 89 expenditure classes (that is, groupings of like items) in the fourteenth 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 fourteen series of price indexes which have been linked to form a continuous series. The current weighting pattern for the CPI is given in *A Guide to the Consumer Price Index, 14th Series* (cat. no. 6440.0) and *Australian Consumer Price Index: Concepts, Sources and Methods* (cat. no. 6461.0) which are available on the ABS web site <<http://www.abs.gov.au>>.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

ANALYSIS OF CPI CHANGES

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

All groups CPI: Weighted average of eight capital cities.

Index numbers:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| March Quarter 2004 | 144.1 (see Table 1) |
| <i>less</i> December Quarter 2003 | 142.8 (see Table 1) |
| Change in index points | 1.3 |

$$\text{Percentage change} = \frac{1.3}{142.8} \times 100 = 0.9\%$$

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 7 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 and related products sub-group contributed 2.10 index points to the total All groups index number of 144.1 for March Quarter 2004. The final column shows contributions to the change in All Groups index points by each group, sub-group and expenditure class.

SPECIAL SERIES

11 Various series are presented in Tables 8, 9 and 10 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, subgroups and expenditure classes is contained in Tables 6 and 7.)

12 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 Restaurant meals), Alcohol and tobacco group, Clothing and footwear group (except Clothing services and shoe repair) and Household furnishings, supplies and services group (except Household services); the Utilities, Audio, visual and computing and Books, newspapers and magazines sub-groups; and the House purchase, Pharmaceuticals, Motor vehicles, Automotive fuel, Motor vehicle parts and accessories, Sports and recreational equipment, Toys, games and hobbies, Pets, pet foods and supplies and Toiletries and personal care products expenditure classes.

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

All groups, tradables component: comprises all items whose prices are largely determined on the world market.

All groups, non-tradables component: comprises all items not included in the 'All groups, tradables component'.

All groups excluding 'volatile items': comprises the All groups CPI excluding Fruit and vegetables and Automotive fuel.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

SPECIAL SERIES *continued*

Market goods and services excluding 'volatile items': in addition to the items excluded from the series "All groups excluding 'volatile items'", also excludes: Utilities, Property rates and charges, Health, Other motoring charges, Urban transport fares, Postal, Education and Child care.

13 A detailed description of the special and analytical series was published in Appendix 1 to the September quarter 2000 issue of *Consumer Price Index, Australia* (cat. no. 6401.0). The ABS is grateful for the assistance of the Reserve Bank of Australia for specifying the items included in the "All groups excluding 'volatile items'" and "Market goods and services excluding 'volatile items'". The Reserve Bank of Australia does not accord any special policy status to these series.

INTERNATIONAL COMPARISONS

14 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'.

15 Table 11 presents indexes for selected countries on a basis consistent with the above resolution and broadly comparable to the Australian series 'All groups excluding Housing'. To facilitate comparisons all indexes in this table have been converted, where necessary, to a quarterly basis and re-referenced to a base of 1989–90 = 100.0.

16 In producing Table 11, 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.

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

17 Current publications and other products by the ABS are listed in the Catalogue of Publications and Products (cat. no. 1101.0). The Catalogue is available from any ABS office or the ABS web site <<http://www.abs.gov.au>>. The ABS also issues a daily Release Advice on this web site which details products to be released in the week ahead.

18 Users may also wish to refer to the following publications:

- *A Guide to the Consumer Price Index, 14th Series*, cat. no. 6440.0
- *Average Retail Prices of Selected Items, Eight Capital Cities*, cat. no. 6403.0
- *House Price Indexes: Eight Capital Cities*, cat. no. 6416.0
- *Information Paper: Price Indexes and the New Tax System*, cat. no. 6425.0
- *Information Paper: Introduction of the 14th Series Australian Consumer Price Index*, cat. no. 6456.0
- *Australian Consumer Price Index: Concepts, Sources and Methods*, cat. no. 6461.0.

ABS DATA AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

19 As well as the statistics included in this and related publications, the ABS may have other relevant data available on request. Inquiries should be made to Steve Whennan on 02 6252 6251 or to the National Information Service on 1300 135 070.

SYMBOLS AND OTHER USAGES

| | |
|--------|--------------------------|
| — | nil or rounded to zero |
| . . | not applicable |
| n.a. | not available |
| n.y.a. | not yet available |
| r | revised |
| n.e.c. | not elsewhere classified |

FOR MORE INFORMATION...

- INTERNET* **www.abs.gov.au** the ABS web site is the best place to start for access to summary data from our latest publications, information about the ABS, advice about upcoming releases, our catalogue, and Australia Now—a statistical profile.
- LIBRARY* A range of ABS publications is available from public and tertiary libraries Australia-wide. Contact your nearest library to determine whether it has the ABS statistics you require, or visit our web site for a list of libraries.
- CPI INFOLINE* For current and historical Consumer Price Index data, call 1902 981 074 (call cost 77c per minute).
- DIAL-A-STATISTIC* For the latest figures for National Accounts, Balance of Payments, Labour Force, Average Weekly Earnings, Estimated Resident Population and the Consumer Price Index call 1900 986 400 (call cost 77c per minute).

INFORMATION SERVICE

Data which have been published and can be provided within five minutes are free of charge. Our information consultants can also help you to access the full range of ABS information—ABS user-pays services can be tailored to your needs, time frame and budget. Publications may be purchased. Specialists are on hand to help you with analytical or methodological advice.

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