

AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF SELECTED ITEMS

EIGHT
CAPITAL
CITIES

EMBARGO: 11:30AM (CANBERRA TIME) WED 5 AUGUST 1998

NOTES

INTRODUCTION

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

The CPI covers a wide range of goods and services arranged in eight groups which are in turn divided into subgroups. The selected items for which average prices are shown in this publication fall within the Food Group and the following non-food subgroups: household supplies and services; private motoring; alcoholic drinks; and personal care products. The items and varieties selected, however, do not comprise all of the items and varieties which are incorporated in the Food Group or the specified subgroups of the CPI.

AVERAGE PRICES

Prices shown are the averages of prices for specified grades, qualities, brands, etc. charged by a number of selected retailers in each city. The specified grades etc. and the retailers have been selected as representative to measure price change over time. Thus the prices do not purport to be the actual averages of all retail sales of these items. They should be regarded as no more than approximate indicators of price levels and price changes for the items concerned. Furthermore, the selected grades, brands, etc. for some items differ between cities and may also differ from one period to the next due to a change in product specification. Thus *the average prices for some items may not be comparable from city to city, nor from quarter to quarter*. Details of differences in specifications are provided in footnotes to the table.

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

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

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

Users may also wish to refer to the following publications:

- *Consumer Price Index* (6401.0)
- *A Guide to the Consumer Price Index* (6440.0)
- *The Australian Consumer Price Index: Concepts, Sources & Methods* (6461.0) available on CD-ROM *Statistical Concepts Reference Library* (1361.0).

FORTHCOMING ISSUE

The September quarter 1998 issue is expected to be released on 11 November 1998.

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Australian Statistician

- For further information about these and related statistics, contact Steve Whennan on 02 6252 6251, or any ABS Office.

	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Darwin	Canberra
Item (Unit)	cents	cents	cents	cents	cents	cents	cents	cents
Dairy products								
Milk, carton, supermarket sales (1 litre) (a)	116	135	119	127	135	125	124	115
Milk, powdered, full cream (750 g)	459	493	483	501	487	580	570	481
Cheese, processed, sliced, wrapped (500 g)	371	337	366	312	325	364	381	380
Butter (500 g) (b)	187	204	179	172	187	211	219	187
Cereal products								
Bread white loaf, sliced, supermarket sales (680 g)	211	189	192	162	201	184	209	201
Biscuits, dry (250 g)	159	167	161	150	159	177	175	159
Breakfast cereal, corn based (550 g)	363	328	343	310	360	368	356	368
Flour, self raising (2 kg)	316	330	269	227	268	258	302	327
Rice, long grain (1 kg)	150	153	158	138	173	168	169	156
Meat and seafoods								
Beef								
Silverside roast (1 kg) (c)	762	755	725	714	761	682	891	729
Rump steak (1 kg)	1 203	1 031	1 044	1 125	1 028	1 012	1 247	1 124
T-bone steak, with fillet (1 kg)	1 164	1 030	990	1 047	1 093	957	1 270	1 037
Chuck steak (1 kg)	571	569	601	613	607	607	783	529
Silverside, corned (1 kg)	614	587	549	608	680	572	588	632
Lamb								
Leg (1 kg)	626	550	545	569	591	560	625	586
Loin chops (1 kg)	794	860	812	800	883	727	904	825
Forequarter chops (1 kg)	452	485	501	573	581	492	612	466
Pork								
Leg (1 kg)	511	490	520	544	616	665	718	559
Loin chops (1 kg)	844	765	838	803	840	834	888	898
Chicken, frozen (1 kg)	345	336	291	357	356	332	386	352
Bacon, middle rashers (250 g pkt)	336	314	332	302	352	369	365	311
Beef corned (340 g can)	279	295	303	278	286	330	303	297
Sausages (1 kg)	312	337	335	352	435	384	398	306
Salmon, pink (210 g can)	251	264	262	257	265	305	281	263
Fresh fruit and vegetables								
Oranges (1 kg)	244	158	147	106	283	118	277	161
Bananas (1 kg)	174	158	142	176	200	157	287	186
Potatoes (1 kg)	103	108	115	76	127	77	117	111
Tomatoes (1kg)	391	298	318	413	329	335	469	365
Carrots (1 kg)	195	159	178	169	118	133	229	201
Onions (1 kg)	129	99	107	111	105	122	165	120
Processed fruit and vegetables								
Peaches (825 g can)	191	199	196	180	229	213	241	198
Pineapple, sliced (450 g can)	113	103	114	104	122	123	129	112
Peas, frozen (500 g pkt)	115	136	136	114	129	140	162	132
Confectionery								
Chocolate, milk, block (250 g)	307	283	291	264	298	310	284	308
Other food								
Eggs (55 g, 1 dozen) (d)	283	272	299	234	253	290	302	283
Sugar, white (2 kg)	237	211	212	206	262	256	252	245
Jam, strawberry (500 g jar)	243	229	249	218	240	251	241	257
Tea (250 g)	240	234	252	221	263	269	268	234
Coffee, instant (150 g jar)	613	621	636	586	619	686	636	649
Tomato sauce (600 ml)	170	171	197	169	202	202	213	180
Margarine, poly-unsaturated (500 g)	164	159	169	147	170	192	195	175
Baked beans, in tomato sauce (420 g)	96	94	105	92	101	108	112	97
Baby food (120 g can)	61	55	62	59	62	68	63	61

AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF SELECTED ITEMS, Jun Qtr 1998 *continued*

	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Darwin	Canberra
Item (Unit)	cents	cents	cents	cents	cents	cents	cents	cents
Household supplies and services								
Laundry detergent (1 kg)	470	486	502	448	467	521	495	478
Dishwashing detergent (500ml)	318	309	326	312	328	358	340	316
Facial tissues (pkt 224)	174	179	197	179	183	203	186	179
Toilet paper (4 x 270 sheet rolls)	332	331	355	320	323	352	335	333
Pet food (400 g) (e)	99	98	105	98	111	103	101	97
Private motoring								
Petrol, super grade (1 litre)	73.5	70.9	64.4	73.1	74.5	77.5	81.5	76.1
Petrol, unleaded (1 litre)	71.3	68.7	62.1	70.7	72.4	75.5	79.5	73.8
Alcoholic drinks								
Beer, low alcohol, unchilled (24 x 375 ml bottles) (f)	2 049	1 669	2 359	2 087	2 373	2 284	2 330	1 931
Beer, full strength, unchilled (24 x 375 ml bottles) (f) (g)	2 671	2 699	2 618	2 706	2 693	2 848	2 947	2 483
Draught beer, full strength, public bar (285 ml glass) (g) (h)	171	194	183	200	229	224	230	178
Draught beer, low alcohol, public bar (285 ml glass) (h)	156	164	171	172	225	197	215	159
Scotch nip, public bar (30 ml)	339	305	260	354	379	265	326	259
Personal care products								
Toilet soap (4 x 125 g)	296	286	308	274	291	328	337	279
Toothpaste (140 g)	250	247	260	237	265	267	270	261

(a) Darwin price relates to blended milk.

(e) Pet food formerly 410 g.

(b) Sydney, Melbourne and Canberra:
2 x 250 g.

(f) Darwin, chilled.

(c) Brisbane and Darwin prices relate to
topside roast. Adelaide price relates to
blade bolar roast.(g) Alcoholic content of full strength beer is
greater than 3.9%.

(h) Hobart glass size formerly 225 ml.

(d) Eggs in Sydney have a net carton weight of
700 g per dozen. Eggs in Melbourne,
Adelaide and Canberra have a minimum
weight of 55 g. Eggs in Brisbane and Hobart
have a minimum net weight of 52 g. Eggs in
Perth have a minimum net weight of 50 g.
Eggs in Darwin have a minimum net weight
of 54 g.

SELF-HELP ACCESS TO STATISTICS

<i>PHONE</i>	Call 1900 986 400 for the latest statistics on CPI, Labour Force, Earnings, National Accounts, Balance of Payments and other topics. (Call cost is 75c per minute)
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