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COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS

CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA

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CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - SEPTEMBER QUARTER 1969

Variations in retail prices as measured by the Consumer Price Index for the six State capital cities and Canberra are shown herein.

2. Compared with the previous quarter the All Groups Consumer Price Index for September Quarter 1969, increased by 0.6% for the weighted average of the six State capital cities. Changes in individual cities were : Sydney +0.7%, Melbourne +0.4%, Brisbane +0.8%, Adelaide +0.5%, Perth +0.7%, Hobart +0.4%, Canberra +0.8%.

3. Recent quarterly changes in the All Groups index have been as follows :

Percentage Change from Preceding Quarter

Quarter	State Capital Cities - Separately and Combined							
	Weighted Average of Six State Capital Cities	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Canberra
	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent
1967-68 -								
September	+1.4	+1.4	+1.3	+1.8	+1.1	+0.4	+2.8	+0.9
December	+0.3	+0.4	+0.4	+0.2	-0.5	+0.5	+0.7	+0.2
March	+0.4	+0.3	+0.5	+0.7	+0.5	+0.6	-0.4	+0.2
June	+0.8	+0.8	+1.0	..	+1.6	+0.9	..	+0.6
1968-69 -								
September	+0.4	+0.4	+0.3	+1.0	..	+0.3	+0.4	+0.3
December	+1.1	+1.4	+0.9	+0.6	+1.0	+0.6	+0.8	+0.4
March	+0.7	+0.8	+0.6	+0.5	+0.3	+0.7	+0.7	+0.9
June	+0.8	+0.8	+0.6	+0.5	+0.9	+1.3	+0.5	+0.4
1969-70								
September	+0.6	+0.7	+0.4	+0.8	+0.5	+0.7	+0.4	+0.8

4. The All Groups index number for the weighted average of the six State capital cities increased by 3.1% over the year ended September Quarter 1969. Recent quarterly changes in each of the groups of this index have been as follows :

Quarter	Weighted Average of Six State Capital Cities Percentage Change from Preceding Quarter					
	Food	Clothing and Drapery	Housing	Household Supplies and Equipment	Miscellaneous	All Groups
	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent
1967-68 -						
September	+2.8	+0.3	+1.1	+0.2	+0.8	+1.4
December	-0.9	+0.7	+1.3	+0.5	+1.0	+0.3
March	+0.7	+0.2	+0.5	..	+0.3	+0.4
June	+1.0	+0.5	+1.2	+0.8	+0.5	+0.8
1968-69 -						
September	-0.3	+0.5	+0.7	+0.2	+1.4	+0.4
December	+0.2	+0.8	+1.9	+0.6	+2.1	+1.1
March	+0.2	+0.3	+0.9	+0.3	+1.1	+0.7
June	+0.9	+0.8	+1.4	+0.7	+0.4	+0.8
1969-70						
September	..	+0.8	+1.4	..	+1.0	+0.6

Ref. No. 9.1

5. A detailed description of the Consumer Price Index is contained in Labour Report No. 52, 1965 and 1966. For periods after December Quarter 1968, reference should also be made to the appendix of the statistical bulletin on the Consumer Price Index for the March Quarter 1969.

6. The Consumer Price Index measures quarterly variations in prices of commodities and services as affecting a high proportion of the expenditure of wage-earner households in the aggregate. Changes in the pattern of this expenditure since 1950 have been such as to render it necessary to construct the index with additional items and changes in weighting patterns at intervals (rather than on the basis of a list of items and set of weights which remained unchanged throughout the period). Six series for short periods, viz., September Quarter 1948 to June Quarter 1952; June Quarter 1952 to June Quarter 1956; June Quarter 1956 to March Quarter 1960; March Quarter 1960 to December Quarter 1963; December Quarter 1963 to December Quarter 1968; and from December Quarter 1968 have therefore been constructed and linked to form a continuous retail price index series published herein as the Consumer Price Index. At times of linking the weighting pattern was altered and, in addition, new items (mainly ones that had become significant in household expenditure) were introduced. In each period between links the items and weighting have remained unchanged.

7. The indexes measure price movements in each city individually. They do not provide a comparison of the retail price level in any city with the retail price level of any other city.

8. Table 1 on page 4 of this Bulletin shows Consumer Price Index numbers for each fiscal year from 1959-60 to 1968-69 and for each quarter from June Quarter 1966. Table 2 on pages 5 and 6 shows Group Index numbers quarterly from June Quarter 1967 to September Quarter 1969.

9. The following table is provided to assist interpretation of movements shown by the Consumer Price Index from June Quarter 1969 to September Quarter 1969.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

Movement from June Quarter 1969 to September Quarter 1969

Approximate Analysis in Terms of "All Groups" Index Points (a) (b)

Group	State Capital Cities - Separately and Combined							Canberra
	Six Capitals (c)	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	
	- Index Points (a) -							
Food - Meat	..	..	-0.1	+0.2	-0.1	..	-0.1	-0.1
Potatoes	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	..	-0.1	-0.1	..
Other	+0.1	..	+0.2	+0.1	..	+0.1	+0.1	+0.2
Clothing and Drapery	+0.1	+0.1	+0.1	+0.1	+0.1	+0.1	+0.1	+0.1
Housing	+0.2	+0.4	+0.1	+0.3	+0.2	+0.3	+0.1	+0.1
Household Supplies and Equipment	..	..	..	..	..	..	+0.1	+0.1
Miscellaneous	+0.3	+0.4	+0.2	+0.3	+0.3	+0.3	+0.2	+0.4
Total Change (Index Points)	+0.6	+0.8	+0.4	+0.9	+0.5	+0.7	+0.4	+0.8

(a) For each city, the total change in index points since the preceding quarter is the arithmetical difference between the All Groups Index numbers for the last two quarters shown in Table 1, page 4 hereof (e.g. Weighted Average of Six State Capital Cities: June Quarter 1969, 107.2, September Quarter 1969, 107.8; difference of +0.6 index points). The dissection in this table shows the approximate amount each group has contributed to this total movement. (b) In terms of 1966-67 base. (c) Weighted average of six State capital cities.

10. A summary of the movements of the various group indexes, together with the main quarterly price changes which affected the index between June Quarter 1969 and September Quarter 1969, is shown below:

Food Group. The price of milk increased in Canberra. The Food Group index number for the weighted average of the six State capital cities did not change.

Clothing and Drapery Group. The index for the weighted average of the six State capital cities showed a quarterly increase of 0.8% mainly due to increases in prices of footwear.

Housing Group. Local Government rates and charges increased in Brisbane. Increases also occurred in all other sections of the group. The group index for the weighted average of the six State capital cities showed a quarterly increase of 1.4%.

Household Supplies and Equipment Group. The index for the weighted average of the six State capital cities did not change.

Miscellaneous Group. Motor car prices increased in all cities, petrol prices increased in four cities and the cost of third party insurance increased in Perth. Prices for medical services increased in five cities. Beer prices increased in Brisbane. The group index for the weighted average of the six State capital cities showed a quarterly increase of 1.0%.

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COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS

CANBERRA. A.C.T. 2600 20 OCTOBER 1969

NOTE. Inquiries concerning these statistics may be made in Canberra by telephoning 63 9111 Extension 2054 or, in each State capital, by telephoning the office of the Bureau of Census and Statistics.

TABLE 1

CONSUMER PRICE INDEXALL GROUPS - SIX STATE CAPITAL CITIES AND CANBERRA

(Base of Index for Each City and for Six State Capital Cities combined :
Year 1966-67 = 100.0) (a)

Period	State Capital Cities - Separately and Combined							Canberra
	Weighted Average of Six State Capital Cities	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	
Year -								
1959-60	85.7	86.5	85.3	84.2	86.2	84.8	85.6	87.6
1960-61	89.2	89.6	89.5	87.1	89.8	87.9	90.3	90.3
1961-62	89.6	89.9	89.8	88.4	89.5	88.2	90.7	91.6
1962-63	89.8	90.4	89.7	88.7	89.1	88.7	90.7	91.8
1963-64	90.6	91.4	90.4	89.6	90.2	89.8	91.7	92.5
1964-65	94.0	94.5	94.0	93.0	93.9	92.6	94.6	95.3
1965-66	97.4	97.7	97.5	97.5	97.0	96.1	98.0	98.1
1966-67	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1967-68	103.3	103.2	103.7	103.3	102.9	102.9	104.6	102.6
1968-69	106.0	106.2	106.2	105.5	105.3	105.5	106.1	104.4
Quarter -								
1965-66 -								
June	98.4	98.3	98.4	98.4	98.2	98.1	98.7	98.5
1966-67 -								
September	98.8	98.8	98.9	99.0	98.6	98.8	98.6	98.9
December	99.7	99.9	99.6	99.7	99.7	99.3	99.2	99.7
March	100.1	100.1	100.0	100.3	100.2	100.3	100.6	100.1
June	101.3	101.1	101.6	101.0	101.5	101.6	101.5	101.3
1967-68 -								
September	102.7	102.5	102.9	102.8	102.6	102.0	104.3	102.2
December	103.0	102.9	103.3	103.0	102.1	102.5	105.0	102.4
March	103.4	103.2	103.8	103.7	102.6	103.1	104.6	102.6
June	104.2	104.0	104.8	103.7	104.2	104.0	104.6	103.2
1968-69 -								
September	104.6	104.4	105.1	104.7	104.2	104.3	105.0	103.5
December	105.7	105.9	106.0	105.3	105.2	104.9	105.8	103.9
March	106.4	106.7	106.6	105.8	105.5	105.6	106.5	104.8
June	107.2	107.6	107.2	106.3	106.4	107.0	107.0	105.2
1969-70 -								
September	107.8	108.4	107.6	107.2	106.9	107.7	107.4	106.0

(a) Figures appearing after the decimal point possess little significance for general statistical purposes. They are inserted to avoid the distortions that would occur in rounding off the figures to the nearest whole number.

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TABLE 2

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

GROUP INDEXES - SIX STATE CAPITAL CITIES AND CANBERRA

(Base of Each Group Index for Each City and for Six State Capital Cities combined :
Year 1966-67 = 100.0) (a)

Quarter	State Capital Cities - Separately and Combined							Canberra
	Weighted Average of Six State Capital Cities	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	
FOOD GROUP								
1966-67 -								
June	101.9	101.2	102.5	101.5	102.4	102.2	102.1	102.1
1967-68 -								
September	104.8	104.0	106.1	103.6	105.0	102.8	108.6	104.7
December	103.9	103.5	105.3	102.7	102.3	101.6	107.5	103.7
March	104.6	103.8	106.1	104.6	103.7	102.9	105.9	103.8
June	105.6	104.1	107.6	103.7	107.7	104.2	105.1	104.8
1968-69 -								
September	105.3	104.1	107.0	103.9	106.8	103.7	105.1	105.3
December	105.5	104.4	107.4	104.1	106.3	103.3	105.3	105.0
March	105.7	105.0	107.1	105.1	105.8	104.1	105.1	104.8
June	106.6	105.9	107.8	105.5	106.7	106.9	105.8	105.3
1969-70 -								
September	106.6	105.5	107.9	106.2	106.3	106.9	105.6	105.7
CLOTHING AND DRAPERY GROUP								
1966-67 -								
June	101.1	101.1	101.1	101.2	101.1	101.1	101.2	101.2
1967-68 -								
September	101.4	101.4	101.3	101.6	101.3	101.4	101.5	101.5
December	102.1	102.1	102.1	102.4	102.1	102.0	102.3	102.3
March	102.3	102.4	102.2	102.6	102.3	102.3	102.5	102.5
June	102.8	102.9	102.8	103.1	102.9	102.8	103.1	102.8
1968-69 -								
September	103.3	103.3	103.3	103.6	103.4	103.4	103.5	103.4
December	104.1	104.0	104.1	104.1	104.3	104.4	104.5	104.0
March	104.4	104.4	104.3	104.4	104.6	104.7	104.7	104.3
June	105.2	105.0	105.1	105.2	105.6	105.5	105.3	105.0
1969-70 -								
September	106.0	106.0	105.9	105.8	106.2	106.4	106.2	105.9
HOUSING GROUP								
1966-67 -								
June	101.8	102.3	101.8	100.9	101.0	102.2	101.5	100.0
1967-68 -								
September	102.9	103.3	102.1	105.1	101.5	103.4	101.7	99.3
December	104.2	104.5	103.7	105.6	102.0	105.5	103.7	100.5
March	104.7	105.1	104.1	105.9	102.3	106.5	104.1	100.6
June	106.0	107.0	105.4	106.5	102.5	107.8	104.7	101.2
1968-69 -								
September	106.7	107.5	105.8	108.6	102.9	109.7	105.5	101.4
December	108.7	110.0	107.7	109.2	104.2	112.3	108.4	101.5
March	109.7	111.2	108.4	110.0	105.3	113.7	109.4	102.1
June	111.2	113.3	109.7	110.7	106.3	115.1	110.1	102.4
1969-70 -								
September	112.8	115.7	110.5	112.7	107.4	117.0	110.6	102.7

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TABLE 2. - continued
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

GROUP INDEXES - SIX STATE CAPITAL CITIES AND CANBERRA

(Base of Each Group Index for Each City and for Six State Capital Cities combined :
Year 1966-67 = 100.0) (a)

Quarter	State Capital Cities - Separately and Combined							Canberra
	Weighted Average of Six State Capital Cities	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	

HOUSEHOLD SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT GROUP

1966-67 -								
June	100.4	100.5	100.3	100.6	100.2	100.6	100.8	100.3
1967-68 -								
September	100.6	100.8	100.5	100.9	100.4	100.4	101.2	100.4
December	101.1	100.9	101.4	101.0	100.2	100.4	103.4	100.5
March	101.1	100.9	101.5	101.1	100.2	100.6	103.3	100.4
June	101.9	102.1	102.2	101.7	100.5	101.5	103.7	100.5
1968-69 -								
September	102.1	102.0	102.2	103.5	100.6	101.5	104.1	100.5
December	102.7	102.3	103.1	104.2	101.0	101.9	104.1	100.5
March	103.0	103.3	102.8	104.7	101.4	102.3	104.7	100.7
June	103.7	104.3	103.6	104.8	101.5	102.6	105.2	101.0
1969-70 -								
September	103.7	104.3	103.5	105.2	101.5	102.7	105.5	101.4

MISCELLANEOUS GROUP

1966-67 -								
June	101.0	100.8	101.3	100.7	101.5	101.3	101.5	101.5
1967-68 -								
September	101.8	101.7	101.7	102.3	101.9	101.5	103.2	101.7
December	102.8	103.1	102.2	103.4	102.5	103.6	104.7	103.1
March	103.1	103.2	102.8	103.4	102.8	103.8	104.8	103.4
June	103.6	103.8	103.4	103.7	103.0	104.0	105.3	103.9
1968-69 -								
September	105.1	105.2	105.3	105.0	103.8	104.5	106.3	104.5
December	107.3	108.7	106.6	106.1	107.0	105.4	107.3	105.7
March	108.5	109.8	108.6	106.3	107.9	105.9	109.0	108.7
June	108.9	110.2	108.6	106.6	109.2	106.5	109.4	108.9
1969-70 -								
September	110.0	111.6	109.1	107.9	110.4	107.5	110.0	110.4

ALL GROUPS

1966-67 -								
June	101.3	101.1	101.6	101.0	101.5	101.6	101.5	101.3
1967-68 -								
September	102.7	102.5	102.9	102.8	102.6	102.0	104.3	102.2
December	103.0	102.9	103.3	103.0	102.1	102.5	105.0	102.4
March	103.4	103.2	103.8	103.7	102.6	103.1	104.6	102.6
June	104.2	104.0	104.8	103.7	104.2	104.0	104.6	103.2
1968-69 -								
September	104.6	104.4	105.1	104.7	104.2	104.3	105.0	103.5
December	105.7	105.9	106.0	105.3	105.2	104.9	105.8	103.9
March	106.4	106.7	106.6	105.8	105.5	105.6	106.5	104.8
June	107.2	107.6	107.2	106.3	106.4	107.0	107.0	105.2
1969-70 -								
September	107.8	108.4	107.6	107.2	106.9	107.7	107.4	106.0

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