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RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD AND GROCERIES - SEPTEMBER, 1937

Particulars concerning variations in the retail prices of Food and Groceries (41 commodities) in 30 principal cities and towns in Australia for the month of September, 1937, have been made available by the Commonwealth Statistician (Dr. Roland Wilson).

BASE PERIOD: The index numbers in the attached table are computed to the base 1923-27 = 1000.

Compared with the previous month of August, 1937, the price levels of the 30 Cities and Towns rose 1.5% and the Six Capitals rose 1.8%. Increases were recorded in the weighted average of Five Towns of the following States - Victoria, 2.3%; New South Wales, 1.7%; South Australia, 1.3%; Tasmania, 1.3%. A decrease was recorded in Western Australia, 0.1%. Queensland remained unaltered.

The items for which the greatest price variations were recorded in September as compared with the previous month, were as follows:-

Groceries. Bread prices fell in New South Wales and Queensland. Potato prices fell in Victoria, Western Australia and Tasmania.

Dairy Produce. Egg prices decreased in all States except Victoria where a rise was recorded. Bacon prices rose in all States.

Meat. Meat prices increased in all States except Western Australia where prices fell.

Compared with the month of September, 1936, the following percentage increases are disclosed by Indexes - 30 Cities and Towns, 2.7%; Six Capitals, 2.9%; Queensland, 5.0%; South Australia, 4.4%; Victoria, 3.1%; Tasmania, 2.7%; New South Wales, 2.2%. Western Australia, on the other hand, recorded a decrease of 0.2%.

This document is published by the Commonwealth Statistician and contains statistics or abstracts thereof compiled and tabulated by the Commonwealth Statistician pursuant to the Census and Statistics Act 1905-1930.

ROLAND WILSON

Commonwealth Statistician

Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics,

CANBERRA, F.C.T. 20th October, 1937

RETAIL PRICE INDEXES - FOOD AND GROCERIES

SEPTEMBER, 1937

RETAIL PRICE INDEX-NUMBERS FOR EACH OF THE 30 PRINCIPAL CITIES AND TOWNS IN AUSTRALIA

(BASE: WEIGHTED AVERAGE SIX CAPITALS, 1923-27 = 1000)

City or Town	1936			1937		
	July	August	Sept- ember	July	August	Sept- ember
Sydney ..	835	846	855	862	858	874
Newcastle ..	848	859	868	880	879	878
Broken Hill ..	928	934	963	995	995	1013
Goulburn ..	837	839	848	886	882	898
Bathurst ..	840	846	839	854	852	853
<u>Wtd. Aver. - 5 Towns</u>	<u>837</u>	<u>849</u>	<u>858</u>	<u>866</u>	<u>862</u>	<u>877</u>
Melbourne ..	813	837	835	839	842	862
Ballarat ..	836	857	852	855	862	871
Bendigo ..	817	837	836	853	848	859
Geelong ..	810	827	837	827	838	860
Warrnambool ..	811	825	829	828	837	839
<u>Wtd. Aver. - 5 Towns</u>	<u>813</u>	<u>837</u>	<u>836</u>	<u>840</u>	<u>843</u>	<u>862</u>
Brisbane ..	776	779	783	818	820	820
Toowoomba ..	747	750	761	780	779	777
Rockhampton ..	829	826	835	858	854	851
Townsville ..	(866)a	(858)a	(864)a	896	893	897
Bundaberg ..	(761)b	(760)b	(769)b	869	871	864
<u>Wtd. Aver. - 5 Towns</u>	<u>780</u>	<u>782</u>	<u>787</u>	<u>825</u>	<u>826</u>	<u>826</u>
Adelaide ..	812	817	812	827	837	850
Kadina, Moonta, Wallaroo	878	895	888	909	908	893
Port Pirie ..	871	889	887	916	916	920
Mount Gambier ..	808	822	821	844	848	850
Peterborough ..	865	872	867	874	874	873
<u>Wtd. Aver. - 5 Towns</u>	<u>817</u>	<u>822</u>	<u>818</u>	<u>833</u>	<u>843</u>	<u>854</u>
Perth, Fremantle	883	887	878	893	876	876
Kalgoorlie, Boulder	1019	1020	1020	1018	1010	1011
Northam ..	945	941	929	948	934	928
Bunbury ..	888	897	889	899	896	884
Geraldton ..	942	953	953	975	970	954
<u>Wtd. Aver. - 5 Towns</u>	<u>895</u>	<u>899</u>	<u>891</u>	<u>905</u>	<u>890</u>	<u>889</u>
Hobart ..	811	846	863	861	858	880
Launceston ..	784	804	822	865	859	853
Burnie ..	828	852	865	906	898	907
Devonport ..	800	818	880	902	900	900
Queenstown ..	877	889	895	932	928	929
<u>Wtd. Aver. - 5 Towns</u>	<u>805</u>	<u>834</u>	<u>852</u>	<u>868</u>	<u>864</u>	<u>875</u>
<u>Wtd. Aver. - 30 Towns</u>	<u>825</u>	<u>839</u>	<u>842</u>	<u>853</u>	<u>852</u>	<u>865</u>
<u>Wtd. Aver. - 6 Capitals</u>	<u>822</u>	<u>837</u>	<u>839</u>	<u>849</u>	<u>848</u>	<u>863</u>
<u>SPECIAL TOWNS (NOT INCLUDED IN ABOVE WEIGHTED AVERAGES)</u>						
Lithgow (N.) ..	833	836	818	880	878	874
Yallourn (V.) ..	849	868	860	871	864	877
Charters Towers (Q.)	(866)c	(858)c	(864)c	890	878	868
Warwick (Q.) ..	(761)c	(760)c	(763)c	797	785	785
Port Augusta (S.)	930	928	930	945	941	948
Zeehan (T.) ..	910	936	950	999	989	990
Canberra (F.C.T.)	892	890	895	941	947	954

a. Charters Towers. b. Warwick. c. Included in Weighted Average for Q'ld.

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