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EVENING PAPERS .. THURSDAY, 22ND OCTOBER, 1936.
MORNING PAPERS .. FRIDAY, 23RD OCTOBER, 1936.

COST OF FOOD AND GROCERIES - SEPTEMBER, 1936.

The results of the investigations made under the direction of the Honorable the Treasurer by the Commonwealth Statistician (Dr. Roland Wilson) as to the price of Food and Groceries (44 commodities) in 36 principal towns in Australia, have been made available for the month of September, 1936.

BASE PERIOD. The index numbers in the attached table are computed to the base 1923-27 = 1000, which has replaced the 1911 base since January, 1930.

The following are the percentage increases in various towns as compared with the figures for July, 1914:- Sydney, 32.6; Melbourne, 34.9; Brisbane, 32.5; Adelaide, 16.2; Perth, 17.2; Hobart, 27.3; 30 Towns, 29.3; 6 Capitals, 30.1.

Compared with the previous month of August, the price levels for the 30 towns rose 0.4% and for the six capitals, 0.2%.

Percentage increases were recorded in Tasmania (2.2%); New South Wales (1.1%); Queensland (0.6%). Decreases were recorded in Western Australia (0.9%); South Australia (0.5%); and Victoria (0.1%).

GROCERIES. Bread prices were higher in New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia and Tasmania. Flour prices increased in all States. Potato prices rose slightly in Victoria and Queensland, fell in Western Australia, but remained practically stationary elsewhere.

DAIRY PRODUCE. Egg prices were lower in all States except New South Wales. Bacon prices were higher in Victoria, Queensland, South Australia and Western Australia.

MEAT. Meat prices increased in New South Wales and Tasmania, fell in Queensland, South Australia and Western Australia, and remained practically unaltered in Victoria.

It will be noted that the following alterations have been made in the August, 1936, figures published in the last issue.

Brisbane	..	779
Charters Towers	..	858
Weighted average Queensland		782

The necessary alterations should be made to the August issue.

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

22nd October, 1936.

RETAIL PRICE INDEXES.
COST OF FOOD AND GROCERIES ONLY -
SEPTEMBER, 1936.

RETAIL PRICE INDEX NUMBERS FOR EACH ONE OF THE 36 PRINCIPAL TOWNS IN AUSTRALIA.

BASE: Weighted Average cost in the Six Capital Cities during the five yearly period 1928-27 = 1000.

Town	July 1914	September 1935	July 1936	August 1936	September 1936	Percentage Increase from July, 1914 to September, 1936
Sydney ..	645	866	835	846	855	32.6
Newcastle ..	642	876	848	859	868	35.2
Broken Hill ..	821	930	928	934	963	17.3
Goulburn ..	661	817	837	839	848	28.3
Bathurst ..	613	841	840	846	839	36.9
<u>Wtd. Aver. N.S. WALES</u>	<u>652</u>	<u>867</u>	<u>837</u>	<u>849</u>	<u>858</u>	<u>31.6</u>
Melbourne ..	619	792	813	837	835	34.9
Ballarat ..	617	820	836	857	852	38.1
Bendigo ..	619	815	817	837	836	35.1
Geelong ..	609	800	810	827	837	37.4
Warrnambool ..	608	810	811	825	829	36.3
<u>Wtd. Aver. VICTORIA</u>	<u>618</u>	<u>794</u>	<u>813</u>	<u>837</u>	<u>836</u>	<u>35.3</u>
Brisbane ..	591	796	776	779	783	32.5
Toowoomba ..	582	759	747	750	761	30.8
Rockhampton ..	646	833	829	826	835	29.3
Charters Towers	696	872	866	858	864	24.1
Warwick ..	605	782	761	760	769	27.1
<u>Wtd. Aver. QUEENSLAND</u>	<u>605</u>	<u>798</u>	<u>780</u>	<u>782</u>	<u>787</u>	<u>30.1</u>
Acelaide ..	699	789	812	817	812	16.2
Kadina, Moonta, Wallaroo ..	688	868	878	895	888	29.1
Port Pirie ..	722	816	871	889	887	22.9
Mount Gambier	595	790	808	822	821	38.0
Peterborough	749	821	865	872	867	15.8
<u>Wtd. Aver. S. AUSTRALIA</u>	<u>697</u>	<u>793</u>	<u>817</u>	<u>822</u>	<u>818</u>	<u>17.4</u>
Perth, Fremantle	749	823	883	887	878	17.2
Edgoolie, Boulder	931	976	1019	1020	1020	9.6
Northam ..	(a)	860	945	941	929	-
Burbury ..	793	843	888	897	889	12.1
Geraldton ..	808	846	943	953	953	17.9
<u>Wtd. Aver. W. AUSTRALIA</u>	<u>790</u>	<u>836</u>	<u>895</u>	<u>899</u>	<u>891</u>	<u>12.8</u>
Hobart ..	678	787	811	846	833	27.3
Launceston ..	640	783	784	804	822	28.4
Burnie ..	(a)	834	828	852	865	-
Devonport ..	(a)	805	800	818	880	-
Queenstown ..	735	903	877	889	895	21.8
<u>Wtd. Aver. TASMANIA</u>	<u>672</u>	<u>792</u>	<u>805</u>	<u>834</u>	<u>852</u>	<u>26.8</u>
<u>Wtd. Aver. 30 TOWNS</u>	<u>651</u>	<u>826</u>	<u>825</u>	<u>839</u>	<u>842</u>	<u>29.3</u>
<u>Wtd. Aver. 6 CAPITALS</u>	<u>645</u>	<u>823</u>	<u>822</u>	<u>837</u>	<u>839</u>	<u>30.1</u>
<u>SPECIAL TOWNS (NOT INCLUDED IN ABOVE WEIGHTED AVERAGES)</u>						
Lithgow (N.)	(a)	844	833	838	818	-
Yallourn (V.)	(a)	828	849	868	860	-
Townsville (Q.)	(a)	882	873	862	876	-
Port Augusta (S.)	(a)	896	930	928	923	-
Zeehan (T.)	723	952	910	936	950	31.4
Canberra (F.C.T.)	(a)	918	892	890	895	-

(a) Not available.

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