

CONFIDENTIAL: To be treated as strictly confidential until released for publication as follows:

MORNING PAPERS .. FRIDAY, 19TH OCTOBER, 1934.
EVENING PAPERS .. FRIDAY, 19TH OCTOBER, 1934.

COST OF FOOD AND GROCERIES - SEPTEMBER, 1934.

The results of the investigations made under the direction of the Honorable the Treasurer by the Commonwealth Statistician (Mr. E.T. McPhee) as to the price of Food and Groceries (44 commodities) have been made available for the month of September, 1934.

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.

Compared with the previous month, the price levels, for the 30 Towns and for the Six Capitals increased 0.3%.

Increases were recorded in the following States - Victoria, 0.7%; Queensland, 0.8%; and South Australia, 0.3%. The New South Wales figure remained unaltered, and those for Western Australia and Tasmania decreased 1.0% and 0.3%, respectively.

The following are the percentage increases in the various capitals, etc., as compared with the figures for July, 1914 - Sydney, 29.1%; Melbourne, 22.3%; Brisbane, 23.9%; Adelaide, 8.4%; Perth, etc., 7.7%; Hobart, 18.6%; 30 Towns, 21.5%; Six Capitals, 22.3%.

In Group I (Groceries) there were increases generally in the prices of Tinned Fruit and Onions. Flour and Potato prices fluctuated.

In Group II (Dairy Produce) the prices of Eggs decreased in all States.

In Group III (Meat) prices showed upward tendencies in all States except Western Australia, where they decreased.

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY E.T. MCPHEE, COMMONWEALTH STATISTICIAN.

CANBERRA F.C.T.

18th October, 1934.

RETAIL PRICE INDEXES.

COST OF FOOD AND GROCERIES ONLY.

SEPTEMBER 1934.

Retail Price Index Number for each of the 30 Principal Towns in Australia.

Base - Weighted Average cost in the Six Capital Cities during the five-yearly Base period, 1923-27 = 1000.

TOWN	July 1914	September 1933	July 1934	August 1934	September 1934	Percentage Increase from July 1914, to September 1934
Sydney	345	807	816	832	833	29. 1
Newcastle	642	815	832	837	836	30. 5
Broken Hill	821	876	931	928	919	11. 9
Coolburn	661	733	822	818	813	23. 0
Bathurst	613	797	791	789	785	28. 1
Wt. Av. - NEW SOUTH WALES	652	809	819	824	834	27. 9
Melbourne	619	737	743	752	757	22. 3
Ballarat	617	756	789	773	772	25. 1
Bendigo	619	757	780	802	799	29. 1
Geelong	609	768	750	759	759	24. 6
Warrambool	608	776	780	782	787	29. 4
Wt. Av. - VICTORIA	618	740	746	754	759	22. 8
Adelaide	591	708	725	726	732	23. 9
Toowoomba	582	689	684	687	693	19. 1
Rockhampton	646	745	763	758	763	18. 1
Charlton Towers ..	665	750	806	797	801	15. 1
Traralgon	665	733	728	718	722	19. 3
Wt. Av. - QUEENSLAND	605	713	727	727	733	21. 2
Perth	599	747	747	756	758	8. 4
Wagga, etc.	686	803	823	836	833	21. 1
Port Pirie	722	755	782	793	799	10. 7
Mount Gambier	585	742	722	738	736	23. 7
Robertsburg	749	785	778	785	786	4. 9
Wt. Av. - SOUTH AUSTRALIA	697	750	754	764	762	9. 3
Perth, etc.	749	753	805	815	807	7. 7
Albany, etc.	931	940	1004	1005	999	7. 3
Northam	(a)	805	844	861	852	-
Barbury	793	810	849	848	847	6. 8
Geraldton	808	759	830	832	829	2. 6
Wt. Av. - WESTERN AUSTRALIA	790	775	822	831	823	4. 2
Rotary	678	768	788	802	804	18. 6
Leedswood	640	755	778	774	768	20. 0
Perth	(a)	762	800	808	797	-
Devonport	(a)	773	805	802	804	-
Queensland	735	875	908	913	904	23. 0
Wt. Av. - TASMANIA	672	780	791	798	796	18. 5
Wt. Average - AUSTRALIA	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)
(30 Towns)	651	768	779	789	791	21. 5
Wt. Average - AUSTRALIA	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)
(10 Capitals)	645	764	775	787	789	22. 3
SPECIAL TOWNS (NOT INCLUDED IN WEIGHTED AVERAGES)						
Longwood (N.) ..	(a)	805	794	819	812	-
Talloum (V.)	(a)	791	777	791	801	-
Townsville (Q.) ..	(a)	807	814	809	812	-
Port Augusta (S.) ..	(a)	826	851	859	854	-
Geelong (T.)	723	936	963	959	953	31. 6
Port Augusta (N.C.T.)	(a)	857	912	915	930	-

(a) Not Available.

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY E.T. McPHEE, COMMONWEALTH STATISTICIAN.

CANBERRA, F.C.T.

18th October, 1934.