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MORNING PAPERS .. THURSDAY, 25th AUGUST, 1938  
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RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD AND GROCERIES - JULY, 1938

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 July, 1938 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 - Weighted Average of Six Capital Cities 1923-27 = 1000.

Compared with the previous month of June, 1938, the price levels of the 30 Cities and Towns as a whole rose 1.1% and the Six Capitals 1.1%. Increases were recorded in the weighted averages of the five towns in the following States - New South Wales 1.8%; Victoria 1.2%; South Australia 0.5%; Queensland 0.4%. Decreases were recorded in Tasmania 0.2% and Western Australia 0.9%.

Items for which the greatest price variations were recorded in July as compared with the previous month were as follows:-

Groceries. Potato prices rose in all States except Tasmania where a fall was recorded.

Dairy Produce. Egg prices fell in all States.

Meat. Meat prices rose in New South Wales and Victoria, fell in Western Australia and were practically stationary in the other States.

Compared with the month of July, 1937, the following percentage increases are disclosed by the index numbers:- 30 Cities and Towns 5.9%; Six Capitals 5.9%; New South Wales 7.0%; Victoria 6.9%; South Australia 4.7%; Queensland 3.4%; Tasmania 1.8%; Western Australia 1.3%.

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Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics,

CANBERRA. A.C.T. 24th August, 1938.

RETAIL PRICE INDEXES - FOOD AND GROCERIES  
JULY, 1938

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

(Base: Weighted Average of Six Capitals, 1923-27 = 1000)

City or Town	1927			1938		
	May	June	July	May	June	July
<b>NEW SOUTH WALES -</b>						
Sydney .. ..	853	854	862	887	905	923
Newcastle .. ..	874	871	880	910	930	936
Broken Hill .. ..	996	992	995	1085	1080	1084
Goulburn .. ..	854	875	886	922	936	944
Rathurst .. ..	849	845	854	884	905	911
Wtd. Average - 5 Towns .. ..	857	858	866	893	911	927
<b>VICTORIA -</b>						
Melbourne .. ..	825	827	839	876	887	899
Bellarat .. ..	848	843	855	874	884	902
Bendigo .. ..	848	844	853	881	883	895
Gaelong .. ..	822	823	827	882	888	897
Warrnambool .. ..	834	829	828	877	888	918
Wtd. Average - 5 Towns .. ..	827	828	840	876	887	896
<b>QUEENSLAND -</b>						
Brisbane .. ..	821	816	818	836	843	845
Toowoomba .. ..	793	784	780	798	800	805
Rockhampton .. ..	862	861	858	879	883	888
Townsville .. ..	899	899	896	930	933	941
Bundaberg .. ..	865	873	869	885	890	892
Wtd. Average - 5 Towns .. ..	828	824	825	844	850	853
<b>SOUTH AUSTRALIA -</b>						
Adelaide .. ..	823	824	827	869	865	868
Kelonia, Mconata, Wallaroo .. ..	906	904	909	909	904	907
Port Pirie .. ..	919	915	916	940	935	940
Mount Gambier .. ..	849	848	844	872	859	860
Peterborough .. ..	865	862	874	901	894	897
Wtd. Average - 5 Towns .. ..	830	830	833	873	868	872
<b>WESTERN AUSTRALIA -</b>						
Perth, Fremantle .. ..	901	908	893	909	913	902
Kalgoorlie, Boulder .. ..	1021	1019	1018	1057	1065	1066
Northam .. ..	943	959	948	945	946	944
Eunbury .. ..	898	898	899	921	925	940
Geraldton .. ..	980	969	975	944	932	939
Wtd. Average - 5 Towns .. ..	912	916	905	922	925	917
<b>TASMANIA -</b>						
Hobart .. ..	867	861	861	880	876	869
Launceston .. ..	853	861	865	888	889	892
Burnie .. ..	906	908	906	915	915	920
Devonport .. ..	893	891	902	902	905	907
Queenstown .. ..	936	931	932	980	984	979
Wtd. Average - 5 Towns .. ..	868	867	868	888	886	884
Wtd. Average - 30 Towns .. ..	846	847	853	882	893	903
Wtd. Average - 6 Capitals .. ..	842	843	849	878	889	899
<b>SPECIAL TOWNS (NOT INCLUDED IN ABOVE WEIGHTED AVERAGES).</b>						
Lithgow (N.) .. ..	843	838	880	900	909	911
Yallourn (V.) .. ..	852	851	871	935	933	929
Charters Towers (Q.) .. ..	894	892	890	915	914	921
Warwick (Q.) .. ..	804	800	797	809	818	815
Port Augusta (S.) .. ..	940	942	945	957	951	951
Zeehan (T.) .. ..	999	999	999	990	1004	991
Canberra (A.C.T.) .. ..	938	931	941	995	998	993

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