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AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF SELECTED ITEMS  
EIGHT CAPITAL CITIES  
DECEMBER QUARTER 1993

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Scope of publication

1. This publication contains average prices for selected items which are included in the Consumer Price Index for the eight capital cities.

2. The CPI covers a wide range of goods and services arranged in eight groups which are in turn divided into subgroups. The selected items for which average prices are shown in this publication fall within the Food Group and the following non-food subgroups: household supplies and services; private motoring; alcoholic drinks; and personal care products. The items and varieties selected, however, do not comprise *all* of the items and varieties which are incorporated in the Food Group or the specified subgroups of the CPI.

Average prices

3. Prices shown are the averages of prices for specified grades, qualities, brands, etc. charged by a number of selected retailers in each city. The specified grades etc. and the retailers have been selected as representative to measure price change over time. Thus the prices do not purport to be the actual averages of all retail sales of these items. They should be regarded as no more than approximate indicators of price levels and price changes for the items concerned. Furthermore, the selected grades, brands, etc. for some items differ between cities and thus the *average prices for some items may not be comparable from city to city*. Details of differences in specifications are provided in footnotes to the table.

4. Prices for fresh fruit and vegetables are collected weekly and averaged to obtain quarterly prices. Prices for fresh meat, bread, fish, petrol and alcohol are collected monthly and averaged to obtain quarterly prices. Prices for fresh milk are collected at the end of the quarter together with details of price changes during the quarter and average prices calculated for the quarter. Prices for all other items are collected during the mid month of each quarter (i.e. in August, November, February and May).

Related publications

5. Users may also wish to refer to the following publications which are available from the Australian Bureau of Statistics on request:

*Consumer Price Index* (6401.0) - issued quarterly

*A Guide to the Consumer Price Index* (6440.0)

*The Australian Consumer Price Index, Concepts, Sources and Methods* (6461.0)

6. Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products, Australia* (1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a *Publications Advice* (1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the next few days. The Catalogue and Publications Advice are available from any ABS office.

Electronic services

DISCOVERY. Key \*656# for selected current economic, social and demographic statistics.

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Floppy disk service

Selected ABS statistics are available on floppy disk. Further information is available on (06) 252 6684.

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INQUIRIES

- for further information about statistics in this publication and the availability of related unpublished statistics, contact Mr Siddhartha De on Canberra (06) 252 6519 or any ABS State office.
- for information about other ABS statistics and ABS services, please contact Information Services on Canberra (06) 252 6627, 252 5402, 252 6007 or any ABS State office.

**AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF SELECTED ITEMS, DECEMBER QUARTER 1993**  
(Cents)

Item	Unit	Sydney	Melb.	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Darwin	Canberra
<b>Dairy products</b>									
Milk, carton, supermarket sales	(a) 1 litre	101	102	105	95	105	109	94	105
Milk, powdered, full cream	750 g	441	462	434	466	446	511	528	450
Cheese, processed, sliced, wrapped	500 g	373	347	341	337	338	332	388	350
Butter	(b) 500 g	178	176	153	161	166	201	176	176
<b>Cereal products</b>									
Bread white loaf, sliced, supermarket sales	680 g	164	152	145	122	147	153	168	166
Biscuits, dry	250 g	129	138	139	139	147	161	167	137
Breakfast cereal, com based	550 g	303	311	300	301	340	342	338	301
Flour, self raising	2 kg	275	292	223	188	204	225	266	294
Rice, medium grain	1 kg	110	108	107	103	122	123	139	113
<b>Meat and seafoods</b>									
<b>Beef</b>									
Rib, without bone	1 kg	758	680	575	606	574	608	847	632
Rump steak	1 kg	1224	1093	1112	1086	1003	1067	1232	1089
T-bone steak, with fillet	1 kg	1129	965	986	1071	1049	1000	1196	1063
Chuck steak	1 kg	617	602	640	662	685	668	768	634
Silverside, corned	1 kg	710	692	655	612	700	655	694	719
<b>Lamb</b>									
Leg	1 kg	642	550	596	501	557	550	628	527
Loin chops	1 kg	689	796	788	665	768	687	837	681
Forequarter chops	1 kg	447	433	500	482	506	482	621	408
<b>Pork</b>									
Leg	1 kg	598	550	587	609	592	692	708	554
Loin chops	1 kg	798	722	795	738	760	814	889	819
Chicken, frozen	1 kg	296	306	278	330	327	343	390	289
Bacon, middle rashers	250 g pkt	279	281	300	273	317	314	343	251
Beef corned	340 g can	248	254	255	235	232	287	261	263
Sausages	1 kg	324	354	447	365	355	399	401	318
Salmon, pink	210 g can	235	246	236	244	256	273	277	248
<b>Fresh fruit and vegetables</b>									
Oranges	1 kg	188	129	103	79	160	101	141	87
Bananas	1 kg	149	144	105	153	155	173	177	152
Potatoes	1 kg	80	97	70	72	107	76	99	86
Tomatoes	1 kg	332	326	261	350	297	377	424	310
Carrots	1 kg	140	133	86	91	96	106	164	147
Onions	1 kg	209	223	176	215	219	191	261	208
<b>Processed fruit and vegetables</b>									
Peaches	825 g can	191	200	198	196	218	213	248	184
Pineapple, sliced	450 g can	87	85	83	85	94	99	106	89
Peas, frozen	500 g pkt	137	136	134	111	151	155	174	124
<b>Confectionery</b>									
Chocolate, milk, block	250 g	248	240	244	230	237	244	303	241
<b>Other food</b>									
Eggs	(c) 55g, 1 dozen	187	191	197	180	196	252	251	188
Sugar, white	2 kg	206	204	188	193	227	238	272	207
Jam, strawberry	500 g jar	224	245	237	224	238	254	266	241
Tea	250 g	178	182	181	169	183	198	199	184
Coffee, instant	150 g jar	402	410	407	397	406	451	443	411
Tomato sauce	600 ml	189	191	183	170	198	189	211	193
Margarine, poly-unsaturated	500 g	145	157	133	142	147	148	186	155
Baked beans, in tomato sauce	440 g	84	95	98	89	100	103	111	87
Baby food	125 g can	55	55	57	53	56	64	60	55
<b>Household supplies and services</b>									
Laundry detergent	1 kg	458	427	449	425	479	494	477	422
Dishwashing detergent	1 litre	368	364	352	376	382	401	407	367
Facial tissues	pkt 224	211	199	202	195	202	217	236	203
Toilet paper	4 x 280 sheet rolls	281	286	295	276	311	334	305	291
Pet food	410 g	88	87	91	91	105	105	106	94
Private motoring	1 litre	68.3	68.4	61.9	70.2	67.9	74.2	75.0	74.8
Petrol, super grade									
<b>Alcoholic drinks</b>									
Beer, low alcohol, unchilled	(d)(e) 24 x 375 ml bottles	2000	1768	2034	1800	2000	2232	2172	2029
Beer, full strength, unchilled	(e) 24 x 375 ml bottles	2481	2365	2363	2406	2280	2577	2892	2427
Draught beer, full strength, public bar	(f) 285 ml glass	147	164	160	169	182	147	190	154
Draught beer, low alcohol, public bar	(f) 285 ml glass	136	140	146	150	176	139	189	146
Scotch nip, plus % bar	30 ml	279	252	226	310	355	206	276	262
<b>Personal care products</b>									
Toilet soap	(g) 2 x 125 g	162	154	152	148	164	177	170	145
Toothpaste	140 g	224	231	215	231	235	244	258	237

(a) Darwin price relates to blended milk. (b) Sydney, Melbourne and Canberra: 2 x 250g. (c) Eggs in Sydney have a net carton weight of 700g per dozen. Eggs in Melbourne, Adelaide and Canberra have a minimum net weight of 55 g. Eggs in Brisbane and Hobart have a minimum net weight of 52 g. Eggs in Perth have a minimum net weight of 53 g. Eggs in Darwin have a minimum net weight of 54 g. (d) Alcoholic content of low alcohol beer ranges from 1.5% to 3.8%. (e) Darwin, chilled. (f) Hobart glass size 225 ml. (g) Prices not comparable with previous periods due to change in product specification.

