

COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS, CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA

Reference No. 9.11

 CONSUMER PRICE INDEX
 FOOD GROUP INDEX NUMBERS, MARCH 1973

This bulletin is the first of a series showing monthly Consumer Price Index numbers for the Food Group and its component sub-groups. Compilation and publication of this information has been facilitated by the recent application of computer processing to some stages of index compilation. Index numbers for each month since July 1966 and All Groups index points contributions for each month since October 1968 have been compiled and are available on request.

2. Detailed information about the Consumer Price Index can be found in the quarterly bulletin *Consumer Price Index* (Reference No. 9.1) and in *Labour Report No. 56, 1971* (Reference No. 6.7).

3. Compared with the previous month, the Food Group Index increased by 2.1% for the weighted average of the six State capital cities. Changes in individual cities were: Sydney +1.2%, Melbourne +3.7%, Brisbane +1.2%, Adelaide +1.5%, Perth +2.3%, Hobart +1.1%, Canberra +0.7%.

4. Recent monthly changes in the Food Group index have been as follows:

Percentage Change from Preceding Month

Month	Six Capitals(a)	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Canberra
	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent
1971-72 -								
March	-0.1	-0.5	+0.2	..	+0.3	+0.5	-0.2	-0.7
April	-0.3	-0.4	+0.1	..	-1.0	+0.1	-0.2	-0.4
May	+0.3	+0.8	-0.1	..	-0.2	+0.6	+0.6	+1.2
June	+0.2	-0.1	+0.2	-0.1	+0.4	+1.1	+0.3	..
1972-73 -								
July	+1.0	+1.4	+0.7	+0.2	+1.8	+0.5	+0.6	+0.4
August	+1.1	+1.2	+1.3	+0.6	+0.8	+1.3	+0.7	+2.0
September	+0.7	+1.0	+0.5	+0.7	+1.2	-0.3	+0.6	+0.8
October	+0.4	+0.6	+0.1	+1.2	+0.3	-0.2	+0.9	+0.4
November	+0.1	-0.2	+0.4	+1.1	..	-0.7	+0.3	-0.2
December	-0.2	-0.4	-0.1	-0.2	-0.8	..	+0.3	+0.2
January	+0.7	+0.4	+0.2	+1.3	+1.5	+1.7	+0.1	+0.5
February	+4.7	+5.5	+5.2	+3.5	+4.3	+1.8	+3.3	+6.1
March	+2.1	+1.2	+3.7	+1.2	+1.5	+2.3	+1.1	+0.7

(a) Weighted average of six State capital cities.

5. At the last link, December quarter 1968, the Food Group contributed 31.248 per cent to the total Consumer Price Index aggregate for the weighted average of the six State capital cities. This is the only group for which prices are collected each month, the complete All Groups price index being prepared quarterly. For potatoes and onions, weekly prices are collected and averaged to arrive at monthly prices. Prices for other food items are collected as at the middle of each month.

6. In January, the main price increases were for bread in Adelaide and Perth; meat in Brisbane, Adelaide and Perth; potatoes in Brisbane and soft drinks in Adelaide.

In February, the price of meat increased significantly in each city and for the weighted average of the six State capital cities contributed approximately three-quarters of the movement in the total food index. Other main price increases in February were for potatoes in all capital cities except Perth and Hobart; eggs in all cities except Perth, and milk and soft drinks in Hobart.

In March, the price of meat increased in each city and the weighted average of the six State capital cities contributed approximately two-thirds of the movement in the total food index. Other main price increases in March were for fresh milk in Melbourne; bread in Melbourne and Brisbane; eggs and soft drinks in Sydney and Canberra, and chocolate confectionery in all capital cities. The price of potatoes decreased in all capital cities except Perth.

7. In analysing trends in food prices it should be remembered that some food prices are subject to significant irregular fluctuations as a result of seasonality of supply and demand and other factors. These fluctuations can also cause disparate movements in the index numbers for the various cities in any particular month.

8. The indexes measure price movements in each city individually. They do not provide a comparison of the retail price level in any city with the retail price level of any other city.

9. Users of figures in Table I should bear in mind that the Consumer Price Index is designed to measure the proportionate change in retail prices as combined in the five major groups and more particularly the total of the groups. For sub-groups or particular items, the index does not necessarily provide comprehensive and valid measures of price changes in those particular fields. Nor does it necessarily measure the relative influences of those classes of items in aggregate variations in prices. The Consumer Price Index is essentially a combination of selected items under various headings and not a dissection of total household expenditure into its component parts.

TABLE I.
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX
PARTICULARS FOR FOOD GROUP AND ITS SUB-GROUPS
DECEMBER 1972 AND JANUARY 1973

Group and sub-Group	Index Numbers (Base of each Index : Year 1966-67 = 100.0) (a)			All Groups Index Points Contributed by Sub-Groups, etc. to Total (b)		
	Dec. 1972	Jan. 1973	Percentage change since Dec. %	Dec. 1972	Jan. 1973	Change In Index Points since Dec.
WEIGHTED AVERAGE OF SIX STATE CAPITAL CITIES						
Cereal products	133.6	135.0	+1.0	5.23	5.29	+0.06
Dairy produce	115.0	115.3	+0.3	7.20	7.21	+0.01
Preserved fruit and vegetables	106.2	106.5	+0.3	1.57	1.58	+0.01
Potatoes and onions	135.9	141.4	+4.0	1.17	1.22	+0.05
Soft drinks, ice cream and confectionery	134.6	135.5	+0.7	5.50	5.54	+0.04
Other food (except meat)	114.0	114.2	+0.2	3.81	3.81	..
Meat	119.1	119.8	+0.6	13.55	13.64	+0.09
Beef	129.0	129.5	+0.4	6.01	6.04	+0.03
Mutton	113.1	115.3	+1.9	1.60	1.63	+0.03
Lamb	110.9	112.6	+1.5	2.23	2.26	+0.03
Pork	110.2	110.2	..	0.85	0.85	..
Processed meat (c)	112.4	112.3	-0.1	2.86	2.86	..
Food Group	121.4	122.2	+0.7	38.03	38.28	+0.25
SYDNEY						
Cereal products	132.8	133.3	+0.4	5.25	5.27	+0.02
Dairy produce	115.8	115.9	+0.1	7.55	7.56	+0.01
Preserved fruit and vegetables	104.1	104.6	+0.5	1.57	1.58	+0.01
Potatoes and onions	137.9	143.8	+4.3	1.17	1.22	+0.05
Soft drinks, ice cream and confectionery	136.8	137.2	+0.3	5.40	5.42	+0.02
Other food (except meat)	113.8	113.8	..	3.78	3.79	+0.01
Meat	120.6	121.2	+0.5	13.36	13.42	+0.06
Beef	133.5	134.4	+0.7	5.84	5.88	+0.04
Mutton	117.2	117.5	+0.3	1.66	1.66	..
Lamb	112.6	114.0	+1.2	2.20	2.23	+0.03
Pork	105.6	105.7	+0.1	0.84	0.85	+0.01
Processed meat (c)	111.3	111.0	-0.3	2.81	2.80	-0.01
Food Group	122.1	122.6	+0.4	38.08	38.24	+0.16
MELBOURNE						
Cereal products	137.1	137.6	+0.4	5.32	5.34	+0.02
Dairy produce	112.9	113.2	+0.3	6.72	6.74	+0.02
Preserved fruit and vegetables	108.4	108.4	..	1.52	1.52	..
Potatoes and onions	143.4	142.7	-0.5	1.22	1.22	..
Soft drinks, ice cream and confectionery	135.3	136.1	+0.6	5.42	5.45	+0.03
Other food (except meat)	113.7	114.3	+0.5	3.73	3.75	+0.02
Meat	116.9	117.0	+0.1	13.02	13.03	+0.01
Beef	122.7	122.7	..	5.58	5.58	..
Mutton	111.3	113.2	+1.7	1.51	1.53	+0.02
Lamb	108.6	108.5	-0.1	2.07	2.07	..
Pork	111.9	111.2	-0.6	0.86	0.85	-0.01
Processed meat (c)	116.6	116.1	-0.4	3.00	2.99	-0.01
Food Group	121.2	121.5	+0.2	36.96	37.05	+0.09
BRISBANE						
Cereal products	131.5	132.6	+0.8	5.00	5.04	+0.04
Dairy produce	119.4	120.0	+0.5	7.36	7.40	+0.04
Preserved fruit and vegetables	105.6	105.7	+0.1	1.69	1.69	..
Potatoes and onions	106.4	142.0	+33.5	0.92	1.23	+0.31
Soft drinks, ice cream and confectionery	127.5	127.7	+0.2	5.31	5.32	+0.01
Other food (except meat)	115.0	115.3	+0.3	4.00	4.01	+0.01
Meat	129.3	130.1	+0.6	15.70	15.80	+0.10
Beef	143.2	143.9	+0.5	8.15	8.19	+0.04
Mutton	121.4	123.6	+1.8	1.63	1.66	+0.03
Lamb	124.7	126.5	+1.4	2.41	2.45	+0.04
Pork	122.2	124.6	+2.0	0.67	0.69	+0.02
Processed meat (c)	106.2	105.5	-0.7	2.83	2.81	-0.02
Food Group	124.1	125.7	+1.3	39.97	40.47	+0.50

For footnotes see page 8.

TABLE 1. - continued
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX
PARTICULARS FOR FOOD GROUP AND ITS SUB-GROUPS
DECEMBER 1972 AND JANUARY 1973

Group and sub-Group	Index Numbers (Base of each Index : Year 1966-67 = 100.0) (a)			All Groups Index Points Contributed by Sub-Groups, etc. to Total (b)		
	Dec. 1972	Jan. 1973	Percentage change since Dec. %	Dec. 1972	Jan. 1973	Change in Index Points since Dec.
ADELAIDE						
Cereal products	129.9	133.2	+2.5	5.07	5.20	+0.13
Dairy produce	113.9	114.1	+0.2	7.07	7.09	+0.02
Preserved fruit and vegetables	104.3	104.9	+0.6	1.55	1.56	+0.01
Potatoes and onions	142.9	138.8	-2.9	1.23	1.20	-0.03
Soft drinks, ice cream and confectionery	132.3	136.4	+3.1	5.88	6.06	+0.18
Other food (except meat)	113.4	113.6	+0.2	3.84	3.84	..
Meat	112.3	114.3	+1.8	13.72	13.96	+0.24
Beef	120.0	120.3	+0.3	6.00	6.02	+0.02
Mutton	101.8	108.1	+6.2	1.65	1.75	+0.10
Lamb	100.4	105.0	+4.6	2.31	2.41	+0.10
Pork	111.2	112.2	+0.9	0.90	0.91	+0.01
Processed meat (c)	113.3	114.0	+0.6	2.86	2.88	+0.02
<i>Food Group</i>	<i>118.0</i>	<i>119.8</i>	<i>+1.5</i>	<i>38.35</i>	<i>38.91</i>	<i>+0.56</i>
PERTH						
Cereal products	130.5	137.7	+5.5	5.25	5.53	+0.28
Dairy produce	115.5	115.7	+0.2	7.45	7.46	+0.01
Preserved fruit and vegetables	110.3	111.2	+0.8	1.65	1.66	+0.01
Potatoes and onions	117.7	119.6	+1.6	1.18	1.20	+0.02
Soft drinks, ice cream and confectionery	136.0	136.0	..	6.21	6.21	..
Other food (except meat)	115.0	115.5	+0.4	3.88	3.90	+0.02
Meat	117.4	120.1	+2.3	13.58	13.89	+0.31
Beef	125.6	127.2	+1.3	5.88	5.95	+0.07
Mutton	111.9	118.7	+6.1	1.65	1.76	+0.10
Lamb	115.8	121.9	+5.3	2.58	2.72	+0.14
Pork	113.9	113.3	-0.5	0.89	0.89	..
Processed meat (c)	109.9	110.2	+0.3	2.57	2.58	+0.01
<i>Food Group</i>	<i>120.3</i>	<i>122.4</i>	<i>+1.7</i>	<i>39.19</i>	<i>39.85</i>	<i>+0.66</i>
HOBART						
Cereal products	134.0	136.0	+1.5	5.49	5.57	+0.08
Dairy produce	115.8	115.4	-0.3	7.18	7.15	-0.03
Preserved fruit and vegetables	108.3	108.4	+0.1	1.67	1.67	..
Potatoes and onions	174.1	172.3	-1.0	1.58	1.56	-0.02
Soft drinks, ice cream and confectionery	128.9	129.5	+0.5	4.92	4.95	+0.03
Other food (except meat)	114.1	113.2	-0.8	3.95	3.92	-0.03
Meat	109.1	109.0	-0.1	13.15	13.13	-0.02
Beef	119.8	119.6	-0.2	5.09	5.08	-0.01
Mutton	93.2	94.5	+1.4	1.15	1.17	+0.02
Lamb	103.4	100.9	-2.4	2.67	2.61	-0.06
Pork	110.0	109.3	-0.6	1.35	1.34	-0.01
Processed meat (c)	105.7	107.5	+1.7	2.89	2.94	+0.05
<i>Food Group</i>	<i>118.3</i>	<i>118.4</i>	<i>+0.1</i>	<i>37.94</i>	<i>37.96</i>	<i>+0.02</i>
CANNBERRA						
Cereal products	131.4	132.4	+0.8	5.24	5.27	+0.03
Dairy produce	109.7	109.9	+0.2	7.00	7.02	+0.02
Preserved fruit and vegetables	101.6	104.3	+2.7	1.58	1.62	+0.04
Potatoes and onions	140.4	145.1	+3.3	1.24	1.28	+0.04
Soft drinks, ice cream and confectionery	134.0	134.9	+0.7	5.44	5.48	+0.04
Other food (except meat)	112.6	113.3	+0.6	3.74	3.76	+0.02
Meat	119.8	119.7	-0.1	13.88	13.86	-0.02
Beef	124.5	125.2	+0.6	5.80	5.83	+0.03
Mutton	124.1	121.7	-1.9	1.94	1.90	-0.04
Lamb	118.5	117.7	-0.7	2.62	2.60	-0.02
Pork	111.8	111.1	-0.6	0.88	0.87	-0.01
Processed meat (c)	109.2	109.9	+0.6	2.64	2.66	+0.02
<i>Food Group</i>	<i>119.9</i>	<i>120.5</i>	<i>+0.5</i>	<i>38.11</i>	<i>38.29</i>	<i>+0.18</i>

For footnotes see page 8.

TABLE 1. - continued
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX
PARTICULARS FOR FOOD GROUP AND ITS SUB-GROUPS
JANUARY 1973 AND FEBRUARY 1973

Group and sub-Group	Index Numbers (Base of each Index : Year 1966-67 = 100.0) (a)			All Groups Index Points Contributed by Sub-Groups, etc. to Total (b)		
	Jan 1973	Feb. 1973	Percentage change since Jan. %	Jan. 1973	Feb. 1973	Change in Index Points since Jan.
WEIGHTED AVERAGE OF SIX STATE CAPITAL CITIES						
Cereal products	135.0	135.1	+0.1	5.29	5.29	..
Dairy produce	115.3	116.4	+1.0	7.21	7.28	+0.07
Preserved fruit and vegetables	106.5	107.5	+0.9	1.58	1.59	+0.01
Potatoes and onions	141.4	168.6	+19.2	1.22	1.46	+0.24
Soft drinks, ice cream and confectionery	135.5	137.5	+1.5	5.54	5.62	+0.08
Other food (except meat)	114.2	114.0	-0.2	3.81	3.81	..
Meat	119.8	132.1	+10.3	13.64	15.04	+1.40
Beef	129.5	138.2	+6.7	6.04	6.44	+0.40
Mutton	115.3	144.2	+25.1	1.63	2.04	+0.41
Lamb	112.6	140.5	+24.8	2.26	2.83	+0.57
Pork	110.2	111.8	+1.5	0.85	0.86	+0.01
Processed meat (c)	112.3	112.9	+0.5	2.86	2.87	+0.01
Food Group	122.2	127.9	+4.7	38.28	40.08	+1.80
SYDNEY						
Cereal products	133.3	134.1	+0.6	5.27	5.30	+0.03
Dairy produce	115.9	116.7	+0.7	7.56	7.61	+0.05
Preserved fruit and vegetables	104.6	105.1	+0.5	1.58	1.58	..
Potatoes and onions	142.8	174.2	+21.1	1.22	1.47	+0.25
Soft drinks, ice cream and confectionery	137.2	138.3	+0.8	5.42	5.46	+0.04
Other food (except meat)	113.8	113.2	-0.5	3.79	3.76	-0.03
Meat	121.2	136.6	+12.7	13.42	15.13	+1.71
Beef	134.4	146.5	+9.0	5.88	6.41	+0.53
Mutton	117.5	153.8	+33.6	1.66	2.20	+0.54
Lamb	114.0	145.7	+27.8	2.23	2.85	+0.62
Pork	105.7	107.8	+2.0	0.85	0.86	+0.01
Processed meat (c)	111.0	110.8	-0.2	2.80	2.80	..
Food Group	122.6	129.3	+5.5	38.24	40.32	+2.08
MELBOURNE						
Cereal products	137.6	136.9	-0.5	5.34	5.32	-0.02
Dairy produce	113.2	114.6	+1.2	6.74	6.82	+0.08
Preserved fruit and vegetables	108.4	111.0	+2.4	1.52	1.56	+0.04
Potatoes and onions	142.7	170.6	+19.6	1.22	1.46	+0.24
Soft drinks, ice cream and confectionery	136.1	138.4	+1.7	5.45	5.54	+0.09
Other food (except meat)	114.3	114.4	+0.1	3.75	3.75	..
Meat	117.0	130.4	+11.5	13.03	14.52	+1.49
Beef	122.7	131.9	+7.5	5.58	6.00	+0.42
Mutton	113.2	144.6	+27.7	1.53	1.96	+0.43
Lamb	108.5	140.9	+29.9	2.07	2.69	+0.62
Pork	111.2	112.9	+1.5	0.85	0.87	+0.02
Processed meat (c)	116.1	116.8	+0.6	2.99	3.00	+0.01
Food Group	121.5	127.8	+5.2	37.05	38.96	+1.91
BRISBANE						
Cereal products	132.6	132.5	-0.1	5.04	5.03	-0.01
Dairy produce	120.0	121.4	+1.2	7.40	7.49	+0.09
Preserved fruit and vegetables	105.7	104.8	-0.9	1.69	1.68	-0.01
Potatoes and onions	142.0	182.9	+28.8	1.23	1.58	+0.35
Soft drinks, ice cream and confectionery	127.7	130.7	+2.3	5.32	5.44	+0.12
Other food (except meat)	115.3	115.1	-0.2	4.01	4.00	-0.01
Meat	130.1	137.3	+5.5	15.80	16.67	+0.87
Beef	143.9	151.1	+5.0	8.19	8.60	+0.41
Mutton	123.6	128.6	+4.0	1.66	1.73	+0.07
Lamb	126.5	141.3	+11.7	2.45	2.73	+0.28
Pork	124.6	124.9	+0.2	0.69	0.69	..
Processed meat (c)	105.5	109.3	+3.6	2.81	2.91	+0.10
Food Group	125.7	130.1	+3.5	40.47	41.88	+1.41

For footnotes see page 8.

TABLE 1. - continued
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX
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JANUARY 1973 AND FEBRUARY 1973

Group and sub-Group	Index Numbers (Base of each index : Year 1966-67 = 100.0) (a)			All Groups Index Points Contributed by Sub-Groups, etc. to Total (b)		
	Jan. 1973	Feb. 1973	Percentage change since Jan. %	Jan. 1973	Feb. 1973	Change in Index Points since Jan.
ADELAIDE						
Cereal products	133.2	133.0	-0.2	5.20	5.19	-0.01
Dairy produce	114.1	115.1	+0.9	7.09	7.14	+0.05
Preserved fruit and vegetables	104.9	105.4	+0.5	1.56	1.57	+0.01
Potatoes and onions	138.8	167.2	+20.5	1.20	1.44	+0.24
Soft drinks, ice cream and confectionery	136.4	137.9	+1.1	6.06	6.13	+0.07
Other food (except meat)	113.6	113.3	-0.3	3.84	3.84	..
Meat	114.3	125.3	+9.6	13.96	15.31	+1.35
Beef	120.3	124.3	+3.3	6.02	6.22	+0.20
Mutton	108.1	134.6	+24.5	1.75	2.18	+0.43
Lamb	105.0	135.7	+29.2	2.41	3.12	+0.71
Pork	112.2	113.3	+1.0	0.91	0.92	+0.01
Processed meat (c)	114.0	113.9	-0.1	2.88	2.87	-0.01
Food Group	119.8	125.0	+4.3	38.91	40.61	+1.70
PERTH						
Cereal products	137.7	138.1	+0.3	5.53	5.55	+0.02
Dairy produce	115.7	115.8	+0.1	7.46	7.46	..
Preserved fruit and vegetables	111.2	112.8	+1.4	1.66	1.69	+0.03
Potatoes and onions	119.6	121.4	+1.5	1.20	1.21	+0.01
Soft drinks, ice cream and confectionery	136.0	139.3	+2.4	6.21	6.36	+0.15
Other food (except meat)	115.5	115.4	-0.1	3.90	3.89	-0.01
Meat	120.1	124.6	+3.7	13.89	14.41	+0.52
Beef	127.2	129.3	+1.7	5.95	6.05	+0.10
Mutton	118.7	132.1	+11.3	1.76	1.96	+0.20
Lamb	121.9	131.0	+7.5	2.72	2.92	+0.20
Pork	113.3	113.1	-0.2	0.89	0.89	..
Processed meat (c)	110.2	111.0	+0.7	2.58	2.60	+0.02
Food Group	122.4	124.6	+1.8	39.85	40.58	+0.73
HOBART						
Cereal products	136.0	137.3	+1.0	5.57	5.63	+0.06
Dairy produce	115.4	121.3	+5.1	7.15	7.52	+0.37
Preserved fruit and vegetables	108.4	106.6	-1.7	1.67	1.64	-0.03
Potatoes and onions	172.3	158.6	-8.0	1.56	1.43	-0.13
Soft drinks, ice cream and confectionery	129.5	134.7	+4.0	4.95	5.14	+0.19
Other food (except meat)	113.2	114.1	+0.8	3.92	3.96	+0.04
Meat	109.0	115.3	+5.8	13.13	13.90	+0.77
Beef	119.6	119.9	+0.3	5.08	5.10	+0.02
Mutton	94.5	98.3	+4.0	1.17	1.21	+0.04
Lamb	100.9	126.5	+25.4	2.61	3.27	+0.66
Pork	109.3	109.6	+0.3	1.34	1.34	..
Processed meat (c)	107.5	109.0	+1.4	2.94	2.98	+0.04
Food Group	118.4	122.3	+3.3	37.96	39.23	+1.27
CANBERRA						
Cereal products	132.4	132.6	+0.2	5.27	5.28	+0.01
Dairy produce	109.9	110.9	+0.9	7.02	7.08	+0.06
Preserved fruit and vegetables	104.3	101.5	-2.7	1.62	1.58	-0.04
Potatoes and onions	145.1	175.0	+20.6	1.28	1.54	+0.26
Soft drinks, ice cream and confectionery	134.9	135.5	+0.4	5.48	5.50	+0.02
Other food (except meat)	113.3	112.5	-0.7	3.76	3.74	-0.02
Meat	119.7	137.3	+14.7	13.86	15.90	+2.04
Beef	125.2	137.8	+10.1	5.83	6.41	+0.58
Mutton	121.7	165.4	+35.9	1.90	2.59	+0.69
Lamb	117.7	152.3	+29.4	2.60	3.36	+0.76
Pork	111.1	115.7	+4.2	0.87	0.94	+0.07
Processed meat (c)	109.9	107.3	-2.4	2.66	2.60	-0.06
Food Group	120.5	127.8	+6.1	38.29	40.62	+2.33

For footnotes see page 8.

TABLE 1. - continued
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX
PARTICULARS FOR FOOD GROUP AND ITS SUB-GROUPS
FEBRUARY 1973 AND MARCH 1973

Group and sub-Group	Index Numbers (Base of each Index : Year 1966-67 = 100.0) (a)			All Groups Index Points Contributed by Sub-Groups, etc. to Total (b)		
	Feb. 1973	Mar. 1973	Percentage change since Feb. :	Feb. 1973	Mar. 1973	Change in Index Points since Feb.
WEIGHTED AVERAGE OF SIX STATE CAPITAL CITIES						
Cereal products	135.1	137.2	+1.6	5.29	5.37	+0.08
Dairy produce	116.4	119.0	+2.2	7.28	7.44	+0.16
Preserved fruit and vegetables	107.5	108.4	+0.8	1.59	1.60	+0.01
Potatoes and onions	168.6	157.2	-6.8	1.46	1.36	-0.10
Soft drinks, ice cream and confectionery	137.5	140.3	+2.0	5.62	5.73	+0.11
Other food (except meat)	114.0	114.1	+0.1	3.81	3.81	..
Meat	132.1	137.1	+3.8	15.04	15.60	+0.56
Beef	138.2	142.8	+3.3	6.44	6.65	+0.21
Mutton	144.2	157.3	+9.1	2.04	2.22	+0.18
Lamb	140.5	141.0	+0.4	2.83	2.84	+0.01
Pork	111.8	117.6	+5.2	0.86	0.91	+0.05
Processed meat (c)	112.9	117.2	+3.8	2.87	2.98	+0.11
Food Group	127.9	130.6	+2.1	40.08	40.93	+0.85
SYDNEY						
Cereal products	134.1	134.2	+0.1	5.30	5.31	+0.01
Dairy produce	116.7	118.2	+1.3	7.61	7.71	+0.10
Preserved fruit and vegetables	105.1	106.2	+1.0	1.58	1.60	+0.02
Potatoes and onions	174.2	171.6	-1.5	1.47	1.45	-0.02
Soft drinks, ice cream and confectionery	138.3	144.4	+4.4	5.4	5.70	+0.24
Other food (except meat)	113.2	113.5	+0.3	3.76	3.78	+0.02
Meat	136.6	137.9	+1.0	15.13	15.27	+0.14
Beef	146.5	147.0	+0.3	6.41	6.43	+0.02
Mutton	155.8	161.7	+3.8	2.20	2.29	+0.09
Lamb	145.7	138.2	-5.1	2.85	2.70	-0.15
Pork	107.8	115.4	+7.1	0.86	0.92	+0.06
Processed meat (c)	110.8	115.7	+4.4	2.80	2.92	+0.12
Food Group	129.3	130.8	+1.2	40.32	40.81	+0.49
MELBOURNE						
Cereal products	136.9	141.8	+3.6	5.32	5.51	+0.19
Dairy produce	114.6	120.9	+5.5	6.82	7.20	+0.38
Preserved fruit and vegetables	111.0	111.0	..	1.56	1.56	..
Potatoes and onions	170.6	154.6	-9.4	1.46	1.32	-0.14
Soft drinks, ice cream and confectionery	138.4	139.3	+0.7	5.54	5.58	+0.04
Other food (except meat)	114.4	114.0	-0.3	3.75	3.74	-0.01
Meat	130.4	139.1	+6.7	14.52	15.49	+0.97
Beef	131.9	139.8	+6.0	6.00	6.36	+0.36
Mutton	144.6	165.5	+14.5	1.96	2.24	+0.28
Lamb	140.9	151.7	+7.7	2.69	2.90	+0.21
Pork	112.9	120.0	+6.3	0.87	0.92	+0.05
Processed meat (c)	116.8	119.3	+2.1	3.00	3.07	+0.07
Food Group	127.8	132.5	+3.7	38.96	40.39	+1.43
BRISBANE						
Cereal products	132.5	137.5	+3.8	5.03	5.22	+0.19
Dairy produce	121.4	122.1	+0.6	7.49	7.53	+0.04
Preserved fruit and vegetables	104.8	106.2	+1.3	1.68	1.70	+0.02
Potatoes and onions	182.9	155.8	-14.8	1.58	1.35	-0.23
Soft drinks, ice cream and confectionery	130.7	131.5	+0.6	5.44	5.48	+0.04
Other food (except meat)	115.1	115.2	+0.1	4.00	4.01	+0.01
Meat	137.3	141.1	+2.8	16.67	17.13	+0.46
Beef	151.1	154.3	+2.1	8.60	8.78	+0.18
Mutton	128.6	138.4	+7.6	1.73	1.86	+0.13
Lamb	141.3	138.0	-2.3	2.73	2.67	-0.06
Pork	124.9	127.5	+2.1	0.69	0.70	+0.01
Processed meat (c)	109.3	116.9	+7.0	2.91	3.11	+0.20
Food Group	130.1	131.7	+1.2	41.88	42.41	+0.53

For footnotes see page 8.

TABLE 1. — *continued*
 CONSUMER PRICE INDEX
 PARTICULARS FOR FOOD GROUP AND ITS SUB-GROUPS
 FEBRUARY 1973 AND MARCH 1973

Group and sub-Group	Index Numbers (Base of each Index : Year 1966-67 = 100.0) (a)			All Groups Index Points Contributed by Sub-Groups, etc. to Total (b)		
	Feb. 1973	Mar. 1973	Percentage change since Feb. %	Feb. 1973	Mar. 1973	Change in Index Points since Feb.
ADELAIDE						
Cereal products	132.0	132.9	-0.1	5.19	5.19	..
Dairy produce	115.1	114.9	-0.2	7.14	7.13	-0.01
Preserved fruit and vegetables	105.4	107.0	+1.5	1.57	1.59	+0.02
Potatoes and onions	167.2	144.8	-13.4	1.44	1.25	-0.19
Soft drinks, ice cream and confectionery	137.9	139.5	+1.2	6.13	6.20	+0.07
Other food (except meat)	113.3	113.7	+0.4	3.84	3.85	+0.01
Meat	125.3	131.3	+4.8	15.31	16.03	+0.72
Beef	124.3	132.8	+6.8	6.22	6.64	+0.42
Mutton	134.6	151.5	+12.6	2.18	2.45	+0.27
Lamb	135.7	131.2	-3.3	3.12	3.02	-0.10
Pork	113.3	116.0	+3.2	0.92	0.95	+0.03
Processed meat (c)	113.9	117.9	+3.5	2.87	2.98	+0.11
<i>Food Group</i>	125.0	126.9	+1.5	40.61	41.24	+0.63
PERTH						
Cereal products	138.1	138.1	..	5.55	5.55	..
Dairy produce	115.8	115.7	-0.1	7.46	7.46	..
Preserved fruit and vegetables	112.8	113.0	+0.2	1.69	1.69	..
Potatoes and onions	121.4	122.2	+0.7	1.21	1.22	+0.01
Soft drinks, ice cream and confectionery	139.3	140.3	+0.7	6.36	6.41	+0.05
Other food (except meat)	115.4	116.4	+0.9	3.89	3.93	+0.04
Meat	124.6	131.9	+5.9	14.41	15.25	+0.84
Beef	129.3	136.2	+5.3	6.05	6.37	+0.32
Mutton	132.1	146.6	+11.0	1.96	2.17	+0.21
Lamb	131.0	138.6	+5.8	2.92	3.09	+0.17
Pork	113.1	113.7	+0.5	0.89	0.89	..
Processed meat (c)	111.0	116.6	+5.0	2.60	2.73	+0.13
<i>Food Group</i>	124.6	127.5	+2.3	40.58	41.51	+0.93
HOBART						
Cereal products	137.3	137.7	+0.3	5.63	5.64	+0.01
Dairy produce	121.3	121.2	-0.1	7.52	7.51	-0.01
Preserved fruit and vegetables	106.6	109.5	+2.7	1.64	1.69	+0.05
Potatoes and onions	158.6	151.4	-4.5	1.43	1.37	-0.06
Soft drinks, ice cream and confectionery	134.7	135.3	+0.4	5.14	5.17	+0.03
Other food (except meat)	114.1	113.7	-0.4	3.96	3.94	-0.02
Meat	115.3	118.8	+3.0	13.90	14.32	+0.42
Beef	119.9	120.9	+0.8	5.10	5.14	+0.04
Mutton	98.3	115.9	+17.9	1.21	1.43	+0.22
Lamb	126.5	128.5	+1.6	3.27	3.32	+0.05
Pork	109.6	109.4	-0.2	1.34	1.34	..
Processed meat	109.0	113.2	+3.9	2.98	3.10	+0.12
<i>Food Group</i>	122.3	123.6	+1.1	39.23	39.64	+0.41
CANBERRA						
Cereal products	132.6	132.4	-0.2	5.28	5.27	-0.01
Dairy produce	110.9	112.1	+1.1	7.08	7.16	+0.08
Preserved fruit and vegetables	101.4	103.5	+2.0	1.58	1.61	+0.03
Potatoes and onions	171.0	169.4	-3.2	1.54	1.49	-0.05
Soft drinks, ice cream and confectionery	135.5	139.3	+2.8	5.50	5.65	+0.15
Other food (except meat)	112.5	112.8	+0.3	3.74	3.75	+0.01
Meat	137.3	138.0	+0.5	15.90	15.98	+0.08
Beef	137.8	143.6	+4.2	6.41	6.68	+0.27
Mutton	165.4	155.6	-5.9	2.59	2.43	-0.16
Lamb	152.3	143.3	-5.9	3.36	3.16	-0.20
Pork	119.7	120.9	+1.0	0.94	0.95	+0.01
Processed meat (c)	107.3	113.5	+5.8	2.60	2.75	+0.15
<i>Food Group</i>	127.8	128.7	+0.7	40.62	40.91	+0.29

For footnotes see page 8.

TABLE 2
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX
PARTICULARS FOR FOOD GROUP - SIX STATE CAPITAL CITIES AND CANBERRA
(BASE OF INDEX FOR EACH CITY AND FOR SIX STATE CAPITAL CITIES COMBINED : YEAR 1966-67 = 100.0) (a)

Period	Six Capitals (d)	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Canberra
1971 - January	111.9	112.4	111.8	112.9	109.4	111.6	110.1	109.6
February	112.6	113.2	112.3	114.4	109.5	113.0	109.1	110.2
March	112.6	113.3	112.2	114.3	109.2	113.6	109.4	110.5
April	113.7	114.5	112.8	116.4	110.8	114.7	110.0	111.4
May	114.7	115.3	114.1	117.0	112.3	115.2	110.6	112.6
June	114.7	115.5	114.1	116.9	111.4	115.0	109.9	113.2
July	114.5	115.2	114.2	117.1	111.6	114.2	109.8	113.1
August	115.8	116.7	115.5	117.7	112.9	114.7	111.6	114.7
September	116.6	117.7	115.9	119.4	113.7	114.8	112.6	115.4
October	116.7	117.8	116.3	118.9	113.1	115.5	113.3	115.2
November	116.5	117.5	116.6	117.6	113.3	115.1	113.4	114.9
December	116.8	117.8	116.7	118.4	113.2	115.9	112.3	114.4
1972 - January	117.5	118.2	117.7	119.6	113.7	116.6	113.0	114.5
February	117.6	118.2	117.4	119.7	114.7	116.9	113.8	115.5
March	117.5	117.6	117.6	119.7	115.1	117.5	113.6	114.8
April	117.2	117.1	117.7	119.7	114.0	117.6	113.4	114.3
May	117.5	118.0	117.6	119.7	113.8	118.3	114.1	115.7
June	117.7	117.9	117.8	119.6	114.3	119.6	114.4	115.7
July	118.9	119.5	118.6	119.8	116.4	120.2	115.1	116.2
August	120.2	120.9	120.1	120.5	117.3	121.8	115.9	118.5
September	121.1	122.1	120.7	121.4	118.7	121.4	116.6	119.5
October	121.6	122.8	120.8	122.9	119.0	121.1	117.6	120.0
November	121.7	122.6	121.3	124.3	119.0	120.3	117.9	119.7
December	121.4	122.1	121.2	124.1	118.0	120.3	118.3	119.9
1973 - January	122.2	122.6	121.5	125.7	119.8	122.4	118.4	120.5
February	127.9	129.3	127.8	130.1	125.0	124.6	122.3	127.8
March	130.6	130.8	132.5	131.7	126.9	127.5	123.6	128.7

POINTS CONTRIBUTION TO ALL GROUPS INDEX								
December quarter 1972 (e)	38.08	38.20	36.93	39.85	38.56	39.27	37.83	38.08
January 1973	38.28	38.24	37.05	40.47	38.91	39.85	37.96	38.29
February 1973	40.08	40.32	38.96	41.88	40.61	40.58	39.23	40.62
March 1973	40.93	40.81	40.39	42.41	41.24	41.51	39.64	40.91
March quarter 1973 (a)	39.76	39.79	38.80	41.59	40.25	40.65	38.94	39.94

(a) Figures appearing after the decimal point possess little significance for general statistical purposes. They are inserted to avoid the distortions that would occur in rounding off the figures to the nearest whole number. (b) Any discrepancies between totals and sums of components in this table are due to rounding. For similar reasons monthly movements shown by sub-group or group index numbers do not necessarily correspond exactly with those shown by the relevant index points. (c) Includes poultry as from December quarter 1968. (d) Weighted average of six State capital cities. (e) Average of three months.

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NOTE. Inquiries concerning these statistics may be made in Canberra by telephoning 63 9111 extension 2054 or, in each State capital, by telephoning the office of the Bureau of Census and Statistics.