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COST OF FOOD AND GROCERIES.

June, 1924.

The results of the investigations made under the direction of the Minister for Home and Territories by the Commonwealth Statistician (Mr. Chas. H. Wickens) as to prices of food and groceries (46 commodities) have been made available for the month of June, 1924.

Compared with the preceding month (May) of this year, there has been a decrease for the thirty towns considered as a whole of 1.5 per cent. All the States except Western Australia show decreases. The decrease was greatest in New South Wales (2.6 per cent.), followed in the order named by Tasmania (1.7 per cent.), Victoria (1.5 per cent.), Queensland (1.3 per cent.), and South Australia (0.6 per cent.). There was an increase in Western Australia of 1.8 per cent.

Compared with the corresponding month (June) of last year, all the States show decreases. The decrease was greatest in Victoria (12.5 per cent.), followed in the order named by New South Wales (8.4 per cent.), South Australia (4.8 per cent.), Queensland (1.5 per cent.), Western Australia (0.7 per cent.), and Tasmania (0.6 per cent.). The weighted average index-number for the thirty towns considered as a whole was 1732 in June, 1924, compared with 1883 in June, 1923 - a decrease of 8.0 per cent.

In the following table particulars are given, in the form of index-numbers, of price levels for food and groceries in June, 1924, compared with July 1914, June 1923, and May 1924. In the last column the percentage increase in June 1924 compared with July 1914 is shown. The base (1000) to which the index-numbers are computed is the weighted average aggregate cost for the six capital cities of the commodities included in the investigations for the year 1911. The increase in cost since July 1914 is greatest in Tasmania (54.3 per cent.), followed in the order named by Queensland (54.2 per cent.), Victoria (52.0 per cent.), New South Wales (47.5 per cent.), South Australia (45.3 per cent.), and Western Australia (38.5 per cent.).

The increase in cost in the thirty towns considered as a whole from July 1914 to June 1924 amounts to 48.8 per cent.

Price Indexes.

RETAIL PRICE INDEXES *Monthly*

Based upon the Cost of Food and Groceries only.
June 1924.

Retail Price Index-Numbers for each of the 30 Principal Towns in the Commonwealth for the months specified the weighted average cost in the six Capital Towns in 1911 being taken as base (= 1000).

	July 1914.	June 1923.	May 1924.	June 1924.	Percentage Increase from July 1914 to June 1924.
Sydney	1153	1877	1757	1709	48.2
Newcastle	1147	1830	1771	1744	52.0
Broken Hill	1468	2023	1939	1923	31.0
Goulburn	1183	1863	1814	1794	51.6
Bathurst	1097	1786	1684	1635	49.0
<u>Wt. Aver. - NEW SOUTH WALES.</u>	<u>1165</u>	<u>1876</u>	<u>1763</u>	<u>1718</u>	<u>47.5</u>
Melbourne	1106	1930	1702	1676	51.5
Bellarat	1103	1856	1719	1691	53.3
Bendigo	1107	1834	1770	1750	58.1
Geelong	1089	1805	1694	1672	53.5
Warrnambool	1087	1849	1761	1728	59.0
<u>Wt. Aver. - VICTORIA</u>	<u>1105</u>	<u>1920</u>	<u>1705</u>	<u>1680</u>	<u>52.0</u>
Brisbane	1057	1694	1695	1673	58.3
Toowoomba	1041	1640	1605	1575	53.3
Rockhampton	1156	1716	1685	1675	44.9
Charters Towers	1246	1783	1830	1828	46.7
Warwick	1083	1657	1623	1590	46.8
<u>Wt. Aver. - QUEENSLAND.</u>	<u>1082</u>	<u>1694</u>	<u>1690</u>	<u>1669</u>	<u>54.2</u>
Adelaide	1250	1918	1833	1823	45.8
Moonta	1230	1838	1805	1764	43.4
Port Pirie	1291	1830	1834	1819	40.9
Mt. Gambier	1064	1791	1700	1691	58.9
Porterborough	1340	1849	1788	1819	35.7
<u>Wt. Aver. - SOUTH AUSTRALIA.</u>	<u>1247</u>	<u>1910</u>	<u>1830</u>	<u>1819</u>	<u>45.9</u>
Perth	1340	1939	1891	1929	44.0
Kalgoorlie	1064	2158	2147	2135	28.3
Northam .. .. .	.. .. .	2030	1975	2026	.. .. .
Bunbury	1418	1959	1990	2010	41.7
Geraldton	1445	1954	1927	2003	38.6
<u>Wt. Aver. - WESTERN AUSTRALIA.</u>	<u>1412</u>	<u>1969</u>	<u>1922</u>	<u>1956</u>	<u>38.5</u>
Hobart	1211	1880	1879	1846	52.4
Lanceston	1144	1814	1874	1841	60.9
Burnie .. .. .	.. .. .	1917	1931	1883	.. .. .
Devonport .. .. .	.. .. .	1866	1878	1866	.. .. .
Queenstown	1315	1949	2013	2006	52.5
<u>Wt. Aver. - TASMANIA</u>	<u>1201</u>	<u>1865</u>	<u>1885</u>	<u>1853</u>	<u>54.3</u>
<u>Wt. Aver. - COMMONWEALTH</u>	<u>1164</u>	<u>1883</u>	<u>1759</u>	<u>1732</u>	<u>48.8</u>
Townsville, Queensland	1849	1862	1855

* Not included in weighted average for Queensland or the Commonwealth.

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Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics,
MELBOURNE, 25th July, 1924.



Manning papers released 27/8/24 tomorrow papers
28/8/24 to evening -

COST OF FOOD AND GROCERIES,

July, 1924.

The results of the investigations made under the direction of the Minister for Home and Territories by the Commonwealth Statistician (Mr. Chas. K. Wickens) as to prices of food and groceries (26 commodities) have been made available for the month of July, 1924.

Compared with the preceding month (June) of this year, there has been a decrease for the thirty towns considered as a whole of 0.2 per cent. All the States except Victoria show decreases. The decrease was greatest in Western Australia (2.1 per cent.), followed in the order named by South Australia (0.6 per cent.), Tasmania (0.4 per cent.), and New South Wales and Queensland - equal - with 0.1 per cent. There has been an increase in Victoria of 0.2 per cent.

Compared with the corresponding month (July) of last year, all the States show decreases. The decrease was greatest in Victoria (5.3 per cent.), followed in the order named by New South Wales (3.8 per cent.), South Australia (5.5 per cent.), Queensland (3.4 per cent.), Tasmania (2.7 per cent.), and Western Australia (0.6 per cent.). The weighted average index number for the thirty towns considered as a whole was 1728 in July 1924, compared with 1914 in July 1923 - a decrease of 9.7 per cent.

In the following table particulars are given, in the form of index-numbers, of price levels for food and groceries in July 1924 compared with July 1914, July 1923 and June 1924. In the last column the percentage increase in July 1924 compared with July 1914 is shown. The base (1000) to which the index-numbers are computed is the weighted average aggregate cost for the six capital cities of the commodities included in the investigations for the year 1911. The increase in cost since July 1914 is greatest in Queensland (54.1 per cent.), followed in the order named by Tasmania (53.6 per cent.), Victoria (52.3 per cent.), New South Wales (47.4 per cent.), South Australia (45.0 per cent.), and Western Australia (35.6 per cent.).

The increase in cost in the thirty towns considered as a whole from July 1914 to July 1924 amounts to 48.5 per cent.

/Price Indexes.

RETAIL PRICE INDEXES.

Based upon the Cost of Food and Groceries only.
July, 1924.

Retail Price Index-Numbers for each of the 30 Principal Towns in the Commonwealth for the months specified, the weighted average cost in the six capital towns in 1911 being taken as base (= 1000).

Town.	July 1914	July 1923	June 1924	July 1924	Percentage Increase from July 1914 to July 1924.
Sydney	1153	1901	1709	1711	48.4
Newcastle	1147	1877	1744	1724	50.3
Broken Hill	1468	2053	1923	1934	31.7
Goulburn	1183	1956	1794	1726	45.9
Bathurst	1097	1856	1635	1644	49.9
<u>Wt. Aver. - N. S. WALES</u>	<u>1165</u>	<u>1903</u>	<u>1718</u>	<u>1717</u>	<u>47.4</u>
Melbourne	1106	1997	1676	1679	51.8
Ballarat	1103	1920	1691	1691	53.3
Bendigo	1107	1934	1750	1753	58.4
Geelong	1089	1870	1672	1681	54.1
Warrnambool	1087	1870	1728	1721	58.3
<u>Wt. Aver. - VICTORIA</u>	<u>1105</u>	<u>1986</u>	<u>1680</u>	<u>1683</u>	<u>52.3</u>
Brisbane	1057	1718	1673	1672	58.2
Toowoomba	1041	1720	1575	1576	51.4
Rockhampton	1156	1772	1675	1660	43.6
Charters Towers	1246	1817	1828	1832	47.0
Warwick	1083	1704	1590	1590	46.8
<u>Wt. Aver. - QUEENSLAND</u>	<u>1082</u>	<u>1728</u>	<u>1669</u>	<u>1667</u>	<u>54.1</u>
Adelaide	1250	1922	1823	1811	44.9
Mount	1230	1833	1764	1755	42.9
Port Pirie	1291	1863	1819	1832	41.9
Mt. Gambier	1064	1848	1691	1694	59.2
Peterborough	1340	1798	1819	1860	38.8
<u>Wt. Aver. - S. AUSTRALIA</u>	<u>1247</u>	<u>1914</u>	<u>1819</u>	<u>1808</u>	<u>45.0</u>
Perth	1340	1893	1929	1885	40.7
Kalgoorlie	1664	2172	2135	2115	27.1
Northam .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	2026	1966	.. .. .
Bunbury	1418	1904	2010	1995	40.7
Geraldton	1445	1953	2003	1996	38.1
<u>Wt. Aver. - W. AUSTRALIA</u>	<u>1412</u>	<u>1927</u>	<u>1956</u>	<u>1915</u>	<u>35.6</u>
Hebart	1211	1902	1846	1841	52.0
Launceston	1144	1861	1841	1822	50.3
Burnie .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	1883	1896	.. .. .
Devonport .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	1866	1870	.. .. .
Queenstown	1315	1964	2006	1999	52.0
<u>Wt. Aver. - TASMANIA</u>	<u>1201</u>	<u>1896</u>	<u>1853</u>	<u>1845</u>	<u>53.6</u>
<u>Wt. Aver. - COMMONWEALTH</u>	<u>1164</u>	<u>1914</u>	<u>1732</u>	<u>1728</u>	<u>48.5</u>
Townsville, Q'land...	..	1890	1855	1856	.. .. .

Not included in weighted average for Queensland or the Commonwealth.