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MORNING PAPERS .. WEDNESDAY, 25TH JANUARY, 1939.

EVENING PAPERS .. WEDNESDAY, 25TH JANUARY, 1939.

RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD AND GROCERIES - DECEMBER, 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 December, 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 November, 1938 the price levels of the 30 Cities and Towns as a whole rose 2.1%, and the Six Capitals 2.2%. Increases were recorded in the weighted averages of the five towns of the following States:- Victoria, 3.2%; South Australia, 2.1%; Queensland, 2.0%; New South Wales, 1.7%; Tasmania, 1.6%; Western Australia, 1.1%.

The items for which the greatest price variations were recorded in December as compared with the previous month were as follows:-

Groceries: Bread, flour, and self-raising flour prices increased in all States except Tasmania. Potato prices rose in Victoria, Queensland, and Tasmania but fell in South Australia.

Dairy Produce: Egg prices increased in New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland and Tasmania.

Meat: Meat prices fell in all States except Tasmania.

Compared with the month of December, 1937, the following percentage increases are recorded by the index numbers:- 30 Cities and Towns, 5.9%; Six Capitals, 5.9%; Victoria, 8.6%; New South Wales, 5.9%; South Australia, 5.9%; Western Australia, 4.0%; Tasmania, 3.7%; Queensland, 1.2%.

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Commonwealth Statistician

Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics,

CANBERRA, A.C.T. 24TH JANUARY, 1939.

RETAIL PRICE INDEXES - FOOD AND GROCERIES

DECEMBER, 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	1937			1938		
	October	November	December	October	November	December
<b>NEW SOUTH WALES -</b>						
Sydney .. ..	884	877	876	918	909	925
Newcastle .. ..	878	882	885	953	940	958
Broken Hill.. ..	1009	1036	1046	1114	1128	1132
Goulburn .. ..	885	888	893	951	952	970
Bathurst .. ..	852	861	863	906	914	929
<b>Wtd. Average - 5 Towns</b>	<b>886</b>	<b>880</b>	<b>880</b>	<b>925</b>	<b>916</b>	<b>932</b>
<b>VICTORIA -</b>						
Melbourne .. ..	861	848	851	901	896	925
Ballarat .. ..	869	860	867	885	886	916
Bendigo .. ..	859	853	863	909	904	926
Geelong .. ..	857	857	853	917	914	925
Warrnambool.. ..	837	834	840	916	910	944
<b>Wtd. Average - 5 Towns</b>	<b>861</b>	<b>849</b>	<b>852</b>	<b>901</b>	<b>896</b>	<b>925</b>
<b>QUEENSLAND -</b>						
Brisbane .. ..	831	835	833	839	824	843
Toowoomba .. ..	786	789	785	791	781	794
Rockhampton.. ..	854	877	880	877	863	881
Townsville .. ..	900	921	919	939	933	946
Bundaberg .. ..	864	873	874	882	875	892
<b>Wtd. Average - 5 Towns</b>	<b>835</b>	<b>842</b>	<b>840</b>	<b>847</b>	<b>833</b>	<b>850</b>
<b>SOUTH AUSTRALIA -</b>						
Adelaide .. ..	839	833	829	862	860	878
Kadina, Moonta, Wallaroo	887	897	894	914	915	928
Port Pirie .. ..	921	915	921	949	950	975
Mount Gambier .. ..	849	847	860	883	907	920
Peterborough .. ..	881	884	886	905	910	931
<b>Wtd. Average - 5 Towns</b>	<b>844</b>	<b>838</b>	<b>835</b>	<b>867</b>	<b>866</b>	<b>884</b>
<b>WESTERN AUSTRALIA -</b>						
Perth, Fremantle .. ..	872	866	864	907	888	898
Kalgoorlie, Boulder .. ..	1008	1002	1003	1063	1056	1065
Northam .. ..	921	905	914	939	931	939
Bunbury .. ..	884	896	893	942	931	927
Geraldton .. ..	934	924	924	928	901	924
<b>Wtd. Average - 5 Towns</b>	<b>885</b>	<b>879</b>	<b>877</b>	<b>920</b>	<b>902</b>	<b>912</b>
<b>TASMANIA -</b>						
Hobart .. ..	883	889	883	878	891	912
Launceston .. ..	866	870	878	898	908	916
Burnie .. ..	902	906	907	926	923	924
Devonport .. ..	898	895	892	911	936	919
Queenstown .. ..	923	922	933	993	1000	999
<b>Wtd. Average - 5 Towns</b>	<b>880</b>	<b>885</b>	<b>884</b>	<b>892</b>	<b>903</b>	<b>917</b>
<b>Wtd. Average - 30 Towns</b>	<b>868</b>	<b>862</b>	<b>863</b>	<b>902</b>	<b>895</b>	<b>914</b>
<b>Wtd. Average - 6 Capitals</b>	<b>866</b>	<b>859</b>	<b>859</b>	<b>898</b>	<b>890</b>	<b>910</b>
<b>SPECIAL TOWNS (NOT INCLUDED IN ABOVE WEIGHTED AVERAGES).</b>						
Lithgow (N.) .. ..	868	873	867	963	961	968
Yallourn (V.) .. ..	890	893	890	938	948	988
Charters Towers (Q.) .. ..	879	887	883	935	933	955
Warwick (Q.) .. ..	786	795	793	834	822	834
Port Augusta (S.) .. ..	942	945	943	947	949	967
Zeehan (T.) .. ..	980	983	984	1001	1001	1012
Canberra (A.C.T.) .. ..	962	965	976	1032	1026	1055

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