

**AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF SELECTED ITEMS
EIGHT CAPITAL CITIES
DECEMBER QUARTER 1990**

PHONE INQUIRIES

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ELECTRONIC SERVICES

• *write to Information Services*, ABS, PO Box 10, Belconnen, ACT 2616 or any ABS State office.
• on DISCOVERY - key *656#.
• on TELESTATS - phone (06) 252 5404 Foreign Trade statistics inquiries, (06) 252 5405 Main Economic Indicator inquiries.

• on AUSSTATS - phone (06) 252 6017.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Scope of publication

This publication contains average prices for selected items which are included in the 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, 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.

Symbols and other usages

n.a. not available

Electronic services

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

AUSSTATS. Thousands of up-to-date time series are available on this ABS on-line service. For further information phone the AUSSTATS Help Desk on (06) 252 6017

TELESTATS. This service provides foreign trade statistics tailored to users' requirements. Further information is available on (06) 252 5404.

Text and tables for selected main Economic Indicator publications. Further information is available on (06) 252 5405.

Floppy disk service

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

IAN CASTLES
Australian Statistician

AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF SELECTED ITEMS, DECEMBER QUARTER 1990 (a)
(Cents)

Item	Unit	Sydney	Melb.	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Canberra	Darwin
Dairy products									
Milk, carton, delivered	(b) 1 litre	114	90	97	90	95	96	90	n.a.
Milk, carton, supermarket sales	(c) 1 litre	88	88	95	82	94	96	90	88
Milk, powdered, full cream	1 kg can	652	603	655	655	677	630	687	719
Cheese, processed, sliced, wrapped	500 g	333	328	336	332	357	333	340	375
Butter	500 g	190	212	169	171	183	187	194	203
Cereal products									
Bread, white loaf, sliced, supermarket sales	680 g	146	151	116	116	131	135	123	145
Biscuits, dry	250 g	130	127	119	125	131	142	128	150
Breakfast cereal, corn based	500 g	260	236	246	238	290	282	261	258
Flour, self-raising	2 kg	258	286	221	190	194	217	267	239
Rice, medium grain	1 kg	108	103	101	103	111	115	110	137
Meat and seafoods									
Beef									
Rib, without bone	1 kg	703	633	624	608	573	647	660	673
Rump steak	1 kg	1174	1156	1026	1092	1020	976	970	1089
T-bone steak, with fillet	1 kg	1103	1089	917	1050	978	935	973	1085
Chuck steak	1 kg	649	642	627	655	597	691	669	716
Silver-side, corned	1 kg	747	689	637	622	637	667	691	594
Lamb									
Leg	1 kg	512	503	553	440	551	500	489	576
Loin chops	1 kg	556	775	660	591	677	655	634	727
Forequarter chops	1 kg	389	444	418	415	495	452	429	515
Pork									
Leg	1 kg	585	562	586	598	586	688	592	658
Loin chops	1 kg	737	729	760	742	758	830	752	794
Chicken, frozen	1 kg	309	298	300	328	370	342	285	358
Bacon, middle rashers	250 g packet	259	260	288	289	309	326	248	309
Beef, corned	340 g can	315	241	237	217	255	258	256	244
Sausages	1 kg	219	413	425	366	392	384	327	461
Salmon, pink	210 g can	284	270	257	266	271	305	298	310
Fresh fruit and vegetables									
Oranges	1 kg	152	111	119	94	158	105	69	126
Bananas	1 kg	253	242	158	216	221	225	236	206
Potatoes	1 kg	93	86	60	93	121	37	70	93
Tomatoes	1 kg	291	266	225	339	269	307	272	348
Carrots	1 kg	138	130	87	130	96	130	140	174
Onions	1 kg	120	106	95	140	123	97	123	171
Processed fruit and vegetables									
Peaches	825 g can	170	178	167	172	206	199	172	216
Pineapple, sliced	450 g can	81	81	74	78	90	87	80	102
Pears, frozen	500 g packet	138	137	133	132	152	154	145	169
Confectionery									
Chocolate, milk, block	220 g	220	201	212	196	209	222	222	244
Other food									
Eggs	(d) 55 g, 1 dozen	170	186	203	223	194	239	175	263
Sugar, white	2 kg	204	191	208	201	222	224	205	292
Jam, strawberry	500 g jar	219	230	217	210	215	216	211	234
Tea	250 g	182	168	171	148	171	179	174	184
Coffee, instant	150 g jar	442	425	451	422	448	457	435	461
Tomato sauce	600 ml	186	170	167	147	183	180	182	184
Margarine, poly-unsaturated	500 g	144	148	130	148	159	153	149	180
Baked beans, in tomato sauce	440 g	82	82	86	84	92	94	79	107
Baby food	125 g can	49	42	46	39	44	47	47	49
Household supplies and services									
Laundry detergent	1 kg	441	452	455	402	486	492	450	477
Dishwashing detergent	1 litre	417	425	407	395	446	436	418	453
Facial tissues	pk 224	220	219	211	200	217	236	218	230
Toilet paper	4 x 300 sheet rolls	353	343	343	336	362	365	342	399
Pet food	415 g	87	85	87	82	97	97	88	101
Private motoring									
Petrol, super grade	1 litre	81.2	80.7	74.5	77.9	80.9	82.8	83.7	82.4
Alcoholic drinks									
Beer, low alcohol, unchilled	(e)(f) 24 x 375 ml bottles	1867	1961	2026	2178	2074	2187	2063	2237
Beer, full strength, unchilled	12 x 750 ml bottles	2201	2063	2049	2066	2120	2378	2238	n/a
Draught beer, full strength, public bar	285 ml glass	151	154	143	145	160	159	143	179
Draught beer, low alcohol, public bar	285 ml glass	138	130	131	128	157	145	137	182
Scotch, n.p., public bar	30 ml	236	220	194	264	250	198	231	239
Personal care product									
Toilet soap	2 x 125	150	147	144	145	163	161	147	162
Toothpaste	140 g	207	205	207	191	224	227	202	220

(a) Due to a change in the weights used to compile Average Retail Prices from the December quarter 1990 prices for some items are not fully comparable to those published in previous quarters. (b) Sydney 2 x 600ml bottles. (c) Darwin price relates to blended milk. (d) Eggs in Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide and Canberra have a minimum net weight of 55g. Eggs in Brisbane and Hobart have a minimum net weight of 52 g. Eggs in Perth have a minimum net weight of 53g. Eggs in Darwin have a minimum net weight of 54 g. (e) Alcoholic content of low alcohol beer ranges from 1.5% to 3.8%. (f) Sydney 24 x 345 ml bottles, unchilled. Perth 24 x 375ml bottles, chilled.

