

COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS

CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA

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CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - JUNE QUARTER, 1966

Variations in retail prices as measured by the Consumer Price Index for the six State capital cities and Canberra are shown herein.

Compared with the previous quarter, the All Groups Consumer Price Index for June quarter, 1966, increased by 0.8% for the weighted average of the six State capital cities. Changes in individual cities were: Sydney +0.5%, Melbourne +0.9%, Brisbane +0.2%, Adelaide 1.0%, Perth +1.9%, Hobart +0.9%, Canberra +0.3%.

Recent quarterly changes in the All Groups index have been as follows:-

Percentage Change from Preceding Quarter

| Quarter | State Capital Cities - Separately and Combined | | | | | | | |
|--------------|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | Weighted Average of Six State Capital Cities | Sydney | Melbourne | Brisbane | Adelaide | Perth | Hobart | Canberra |
| | Per cent. | Per cent. | Per cent. | Per cent. | Per cent. | Per cent. | Per cent. | Per cent. |
| 1964 - June | + 1.0 | + 1.0 | + 0.9 | + 0.8 | + 1.3 | + 0.9 | + 0.2 | + 0.7 |
| September | + 1.2 | + 1.2 | + 1.0 | + 1.3 | + 1.4 | + 1.0 | + 1.2 | + 1.2 |
| December | + 1.2 | + 0.9 | + 1.7 | + 1.1 | + 1.3 | .. | + 1.3 | + 1.1 |
| 1965 - March | + 0.7 | + 0.5 | + 0.8 | + 0.9 | + 0.2 | + 1.1 | + 0.4 | + 0.3 |
| June | + 0.9 | + 0.9 | + 1.1 | + 0.8 | + 0.8 | + 1.0 | + 0.9 | + 0.9 |
| September | + 1.1 | + 1.2 | + 0.9 | + 1.9 | + 0.6 | + 0.5 | + 1.3 | + 1.0 |
| December | + 1.3 | + 1.1 | + 1.2 | + 1.2 | + 1.5 | + 1.3 | + 1.3 | + 1.1 |
| 1966 - March | + 0.1 | .. | .. | + 1.0 | + 0.3 | + 0.8 | - 0.5 | - 0.2 |
| June | + 0.8 | + 0.5 | + 0.9 | + 0.2 | + 1.0 | + 1.9 | + 0.9 | + 0.3 |

The All Groups index number for the weighted average of the six State capital cities increased by 3.3% over the year ended June Quarter, 1966. Recent quarterly changes in each of the groups of this index have been as follows:-

| Quarter | Weighted Average of Six State Capital Cities Percentage Change from Preceding Quarter | | | | | |
|--------------|--|----------------------|-----------|----------------------------------|---------------|------------|
| | Food | Clothing and Drapery | Housing | Household Supplies and Equipment | Miscellaneous | All Groups |
| | Per cent. | Per cent. | Per cent. | Per cent. | Per cent. | Per cent. |
| 1964 - June | + 2.0 | + 0.7 | + 1.1 | + 0.3 | + 0.2 | + 1.0 |
| September | + 1.7 | + 0.3 | + 0.8 | - 0.6 | + 2.1 | + 1.2 |
| December | + 1.1 | + 0.3 | + 0.9 | + 0.5 | + 2.6 | + 1.2 |
| 1965 - March | + 0.8 | + 0.3 | + 0.5 | + 1.1 | + 0.6 | + 0.7 |
| June | + 2.1 | + 0.4 | + 1.1 | + 0.4 | .. | + 0.9 |
| September | + 2.5 | .. | + 0.8 | + 0.4 | + 0.4 | + 1.1 |
| December | + 0.1 | + 0.3 | + 1.7 | + 0.3 | + 3.6 | + 1.3 |
| 1966 - March | - 0.8 | + 0.3 | + 0.6 | .. | + 1.4 | + 0.1 |
| June | + 1.0 | + 0.9 | + 1.7 | + 0.7 | + 0.1 | + 0.8 |

5. A detailed description of the Consumer Price Index is contained in Labour Report No. 50, 1962-63.

6. The Consumer Price Index measures quarterly variations in prices of commodities and services as affecting a high proportion of the expenditure of wage-earner households in the aggregate. Changes in the pattern of this expenditure since 1950 have been such as to render it necessary to construct the index with additional items and changes in weighting patterns at intervals (rather than on the basis of a list of items and set of weights which remained unchanged throughout the period). Five series for short periods, viz.: September Quarter, 1948 to June Quarter, 1952; June Quarter, 1952 to June Quarter, 1956; June Quarter, 1956 to March Quarter, 1960; March Quarter, 1960 to December Quarter, 1963; and from December Quarter, 1963 have therefore been constructed and linked to form a continuous retail price index series published herein as the Consumer Price Index. At times of linking the weighting pattern was altered and, in addition, new items (mainly ones that had become significant in household expenditure) were introduced. In each period between links the items and weighting have remained unchanged.

7. 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.

8. Table 1 on page 4 of this Bulletin shows Consumer Price Index numbers for each fiscal year from 1949-50 to 1965-66 and for each quarter from March Quarter, 1963. Table 2 on page 5 shows Group Index numbers quarterly from March Quarter, 1965 to June Quarter, 1966.

9. The following table is provided to assist interpretation of movements shown by the Consumer Price Index from March Quarter, 1966 to June Quarter, 1966.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

Movement from March Quarter, 1966 to June Quarter, 1966

Approximate Analysis in Terms of "All Groups" Index Points (a)

| Group | State Capital Cities - Separately and Combined | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|--|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| | Weighted Average of Six State Capital Cities | Sydney | Melbourne | Brisbane | Adelaide | Perth | Hobart | Canberra |
| | Index Points (a) | Index Points (a) | Index Points (a) | Index Points (a) | Index Points (a) | Index Points (a) | Index Points (a) | Index Points (a) |
| Food | | | | | | | | |
| Meat | + 0.6 | + 0.1 | + 0.8 | .. | + 1.1 | + 2.0 | + 0.7 | + 0.2 |
| Potatoes | - 0.2 | - 0.2 | - 0.3 | - 0.3 | - 0.3 | .. | - 0.3 | - 0.3 |
| Other | + 0.1 | + 0.1 | + 0.1 | + 0.2 | + 0.2 | + 0.1 | + 0.3 | + 0.1 |
| Clothing and Drapery | + 0.2 | + 0.2 | + 0.2 | + 0.2 | + 0.1 | + 0.2 | + 0.2 | + 0.2 |
| Housing | + 0.3 | + 0.4 | + 0.3 | + 0.1 | + 0.1 | + 0.1 | + 0.1 | + 0.1 |
| Household Supplies and Equipment | + 0.1 | + 0.1 | + 0.1 | + 0.1 | + 0.1 | + 0.1 | + 0.2 | + 0.1 |
| Miscellaneous | .. | .. | + 0.1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Total Change (Index Points) | + 1.1 | + 0.7 | + 1.3 | + 0.3 | + 1.3 | + 2.5 | + 1.2 | + 0.4 |

(a) For each city, the total change in index points since the preceding quarter is the arithmetical difference between the All Groups Index numbers for the last two quarters shown in Table 1, page 4 hereof (e.g. weighted average of Six State Capital Cities: March Quarter, 1966, 135.4; June Quarter, 1966, 136.5; difference of +1.1 index points). The dissection in this table shows the approximate amount each group has contributed to this total movement.

10. A summary of the movements of the various group indexes, together with the main quarterly price changes which affected the index between March Quarter, 1966 and June Quarter, 1966 is shown below:-

Food Group

Changes in meat and potato prices are frequently the major cause of movements in the total index. The effects of changes in the price of these items in each city are shown in the table in paragraph 9 on page 2 of this bulletin and the corresponding paragraph of preceding bulletins. For this quarter, increases in meat prices had significant and disparate effects on the total indexes for most cities. Potato prices decreased in six cities.

The Food Group of the index (weighted average of the six State capital cities) showed a quarterly increase of 1.0%.

Clothing and Drapery Group

The index for the weighted average of the six State capital cities showed a quarterly increase of 0.9% predominantly due to increases in prices of footwear.

Housing Group

Local Government rates and charges increased in two State capital cities. Rents increased in all cities and house price increased in six cities.

The index for the weighted average of the six State capital cities showed a quarterly increase of 1.7%.

Household Supplies and Equipment Group

The index for the weighted average of the six State capital cities showed a quarterly increase of 0.7%.

Miscellaneous Group

The index for the weighted average of the six State capital cities showed a quarterly increase of 0.1%.

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COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS

CANBERRA, A.C.T.

22ND JULY, 1966

NOTE. - Inquiries concerning these statistics may be made in Canberra by telephoning 70413 Extension 490 or, in each State capital, by telephoning the office of the Bureau of Census and Statistics.

TABLE 1.
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

ALL GROUPS

SIX STATE CAPITAL CITIES AND CANBERRA

(Base of Index for Each City and for Six State Capital Cities combined :
Year 1952-53 = 100.0) (a)

| Period | State Capital Cities - Separately and Combined | | | | | | | Canberra |
|-------------------|--|--------|-----------|----------|----------|-------|--------|----------|
| | Weighted Average of Six State Capital Cities | Sydney | Melbourne | Brisbane | Adelaide | Perth | Hobart | |
| Year ended June - | | | | | | | | |
| 1950 | 66.0 | 65.6 | 66.2 | 67.1 | 66.2 | 66.2 | 64.7 | 65.1 |
| 1951 | 74.6 | 74.5 | 74.6 | 75.1 | 74.7 | 74.4 | 73.3 | 74.0 |
| 1952 | 91.4 | 91.9 | 91.0 | 91.8 | 91.4 | 90.4 | 90.4 | 91.1 |
| 1953 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |
| 1954 | 102.0 | 101.6 | 102.0 | 102.0 | 102.3 | 103.0 | 105.0 | 102.9 |
| 1955 | 102.6 | 102.3 | 102.0 | 102.9 | 103.5 | 105.2 | 104.9 | 104.2 |
| 1956 | 106.9 | 105.7 | 108.1 | 106.3 | 106.9 | 107.9 | 110.2 | 107.8 |
| 1957 | 113.1 | 112.9 | 114.0 | 112.0 | 111.1 | 112.9 | 116.9 | 113.3 |
| 1958 | 114.2 | 114.5 | 114.4 | 114.4 | 111.9 | 113.6 | 117.0 | 114.0 |
| 1959 | 116.0 | 115.3 | 116.6 | 118.2 | 114.5 | 114.7 | 118.7 | 115.4 |
| 1960 | 118.9 | 117.8 | 120.0 | 121.2 | 118.0 | 116.9 | 120.8 | 117.8 |
| 1961 | 123.8 | 122.1 | 125.9 | 125.4 | 122.9 | 121.2 | 127.5 | 121.4 |
| 1962 | 124.3 | 122.6 | 126.3 | 127.3 | 122.5 | 121.6 | 128.1 | 123.1 |
| 1963 | 124.5 | 123.2 | 126.2 | 127.7 | 122.1 | 122.2 | 128.0 | 123.4 |
| 1964 | 125.7 | 124.5 | 127.1 | 129.0 | 123.5 | 123.8 | 129.4 | 124.3 |
| 1965 | 130.4 | 128.8 | 132.2 | 133.9 | 128.6 | 127.6 | 133.6 | 128.1 |
| 1966 | 135.2 | 133.1 | 137.1 | 140.4 | 132.7 | 132.5 | 138.3 | 131.9 |
| Quarter - | | | | | | | | |
| 1963 - March | 124.5 | 123.3 | 126.0 | 127.8 | 121.9 | 122.3 | 128.0 | 123.2 |
| June | 124.9 | 123.7 | 126.4 | 127.9 | 122.5 | 122.8 | 128.2 | 123.4 |
| September | 125.1 | 123.7 | 126.7 | 128.4 | 122.8 | 122.7 | 128.8 | 124.1 |
| December | 125.0 | 123.9 | 126.4 | 128.2 | 122.7 | 123.1 | 129.0 | 123.8 |
| 1964 - March | 125.8 | 124.6 | 127.1 | 129.2 | 123.5 | 124.2 | 129.8 | 124.2 |
| June | 127.0 | 125.8 | 128.3 | 130.2 | 125.1 | 125.3 | 130.1 | 125.1 |
| September | 128.5 | 127.3 | 129.6 | 131.9 | 126.9 | 126.6 | 131.7 | 126.6 |
| December | 130.0 | 128.4 | 131.8 | 133.4 | 128.6 | 126.6 | 133.4 | 128.0 |
| 1965 - March | 130.9 | 129.1 | 132.9 | 134.6 | 128.9 | 128.0 | 134.0 | 128.4 |
| June | 132.1 | 130.3 | 134.4 | 135.7 | 129.9 | 129.3 | 135.2 | 129.5 |
| September | 133.5 | 131.8 | 135.6 | 138.3 | 130.7 | 130.0 | 137.0 | 130.8 |
| December | 135.2 | 133.3 | 137.2 | 140.0 | 132.7 | 131.7 | 138.8 | 132.3 |
| 1966 - March | 135.4 | 133.3 | 137.2 | 141.4 | 133.1 | 132.8 | 138.1 | 132.0 |
| June | 136.5 | 134.0 | 138.5 | 141.7 | 134.4 | 135.3 | 139.3 | 132.4 |

(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.

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TABLE 2.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

GROUP INDEXES - SIX STATE CAPITAL CITIES AND CANBERRA

(Base of Each Group Index for Each City and for Six State Capital Cities combined :
Year 1952-53 = 100.0) (a)

| Quarter | State Capital Cities - Separately and Combined | | | | | | | Canberra |
|--|--|--------|-----------|----------|----------|-------|--------|----------|
| | Weighted Average of Six State Capital Cities | Sydney | Melbourne | Brisbane | Adelaide | Perth | Hobart | |
| FOOD GROUP | | | | | | | | |
| 1965 - March | 133.1 | 129.8 | 133.8 | 142.7 | 136.8 | 130.1 | 135.0 | 129.4 |
| June | 135.9 | 132.7 | 136.7 | 145.0 | 139.4 | 133.3 | 137.2 | 132.4 |
| September | 139.3 | 136.7 | 139.9 | 149.7 | 141.0 | 134.4 | 140.9 | 135.9 |
| December | 139.5 | 137.0 | 140.0 | 151.0 | 140.6 | 133.9 | 142.6 | 136.2 |
| 1966 - March | 138.4 | 135.6 | 138.0 | 151.7 | 140.0 | 135.8 | 140.0 | 134.7 |
| June | 139.8 | 135.5 | 139.9 | 151.1 | 143.3 | 142.1 | 142.2 | 134.8 |
| CLOTHING AND DRAPERY GROUP | | | | | | | | |
| 1965 - March | 115.8 | 114.4 | 116.9 | 119.7 | 114.6 | 114.3 | 116.9 | 113.3 |
| June | 116.3 | 114.9 | 117.5 | 120.1 | 115.0 | 114.7 | 117.3 | 113.8 |
| September | 116.3 | 114.9 | 117.5 | 120.2 | 115.0 | 114.7 | 117.2 | 113.8 |
| December | 116.6 | 115.2 | 117.7 | 120.6 | 115.3 | 115.0 | 117.5 | 114.0 |
| 1966 - March | 116.9 | 115.5 | 118.1 | 120.9 | 115.6 | 115.4 | 117.9 | 114.5 |
| June | 118.0 | 116.6 | 119.1 | 122.2 | 116.2 | 116.5 | 118.9 | 115.4 |
| HOUSING GROUP | | | | | | | | |
| 1965 - March | 165.3 | 166.8 | 169.4 | 149.5 | 165.4 | 160.4 | 182.4 | 164.7 |
| June | 167.2 | 168.3 | 172.4 | 150.4 | 166.5 | 161.5 | 183.5 | 165.0 |
| September | 168.6 | 168.7 | 173.3 | 157.1 | 167.2 | 162.9 | 184.5 | 165.4 |
| December | 171.4 | 171.1 | 177.1 | 157.7 | 171.5 | 165.5 | 185.9 | 166.6 |
| 1966 - March | 172.4 | 172.6 | 177.6 | 158.8 | 172.6 | 166.5 | 186.0 | 167.4 |
| June | 175.3 | 176.7 | 180.8 | 159.7 | 173.2 | 167.6 | 187.0 | 168.3 |
| HOUSEHOLD SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT GROUP | | | | | | | | |
| 1965 - March | 112.5 | 110.7 | 117.0 | 112.7 | 104.9 | 106.6 | 124.3 | 113.2 |
| June | 112.9 | 110.8 | 117.7 | 113.1 | 105.2 | 106.9 | 124.9 | 113.0 |
| September | 113.4 | 111.2 | 118.2 | 114.2 | 105.6 | 107.9 | 125.6 | 113.3 |
| December | 113.7 | 111.6 | 118.4 | 114.7 | 106.1 | 108.0 | 125.2 | 113.4 |
| 1966 - March | 113.7 | 111.1 | 118.7 | 115.1 | 106.2 | 107.9 | 125.4 | 113.1 |
| June | 114.5 | 111.8 | 119.4 | 116.1 | 107.0 | 108.5 | 126.7 | 113.6 |
| MISCELLANEOUS GROUP | | | | | | | | |
| 1965 - March | 137.3 | 135.9 | 140.1 | 141.7 | 130.2 | 136.0 | 133.9 | 130.4 |
| June | 137.3 | 135.8 | 140.1 | 142.4 | 130.2 | 136.2 | 134.7 | 130.5 |
| September | 137.8 | 136.3 | 140.5 | 143.1 | 130.7 | 136.4 | 136.2 | 130.4 |
| December | 142.7 | 140.9 | 145.1 | 147.8 | 137.3 | 142.8 | 141.6 | 135.9 |
| 1966 - March | 144.7 | 142.1 | 147.4 | 152.0 | 138.9 | 144.6 | 141.5 | 136.3 |
| June | 144.8 | 142.3 | 147.6 | 152.0 | 138.8 | 144.6 | 141.7 | 136.4 |
| ALL GROUPS | | | | | | | | |
| 1965 - March | 130.9 | 129.1 | 132.9 | 134.6 | 128.9 | 128.0 | 134.0 | 128.4 |
| June | 132.1 | 130.3 | 134.4 | 135.7 | 129.9 | 129.3 | 135.2 | 129.5 |
| September | 133.5 | 131.8 | 135.6 | 138.3 | 130.7 | 130.0 | 137.0 | 130.8 |
| December | 135.2 | 133.3 | 137.2 | 140.0 | 132.7 | 131.7 | 138.8 | 132.3 |
| 1966 - March | 135.4 | 133.3 | 137.2 | 141.4 | 133.1 | 132.8 | 138.1 | 132.0 |
| June | 136.5 | 134.0 | 138.5 | 141.7 | 134.4 | 135.3 | 139.3 | 132.4 |

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