

CATALOGUE NO. 6401.0
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CONSUMER PRICE INDEX, DECEMBER QUARTER 1990

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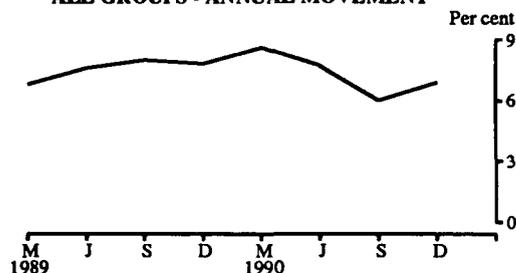
Note: Change in presentation. From this issue, the ordering of Canberra and Darwin in tables containing city data has been reversed to conform with the order of presentation generally adopted in ABS publications.

MAIN FEATURES

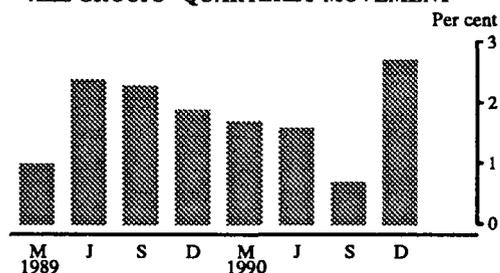
Both the quarterly and annual rates of increase (2.7% and 6.9%) are up significantly on the results recorded in September quarter (0.7% and 6.0%).

Weighted average of eight capital cities	Change between	
	Sep. qtr 1990 and Dec. qtr 1990 %	Dec. qtr 1989 and Dec. qtr 1990 %
Food	+0.9	+3.2
Clothing	+1.7	+4.5
Housing	+0.8	+5.1
Household equipment and operation	+1.8	+6.0
Transportation	+6.7	+12.2
Tobacco & alcohol	+3.4	+9.6
Health and personal care	+3.6	+10.5
Recreation and education	+3.1	+7.0
All groups	+2.7	+6.9
All groups excluding housing	+3.0	+7.2
All groups excluding food	+3.1	+7.8

ALL GROUPS - ANNUAL MOVEMENT



ALL GROUPS - QUARTERLY MOVEMENT



Higher petrol prices (up 20.8%) had a substantial impact on the CPI this quarter. Increases in charges for hospital and medical services (up 8.8%), higher prices for overseas and domestic travel and accommodation (up 8.5%) also made significant contributions to the quarterly increase.

Lower increases in housing costs (+0.8%) and food prices (+0.9%) again exerted a moderating influence on the CPI. The small increase in housing costs this quarter was due to a fall in mortgage interest charges (down 0.2%).

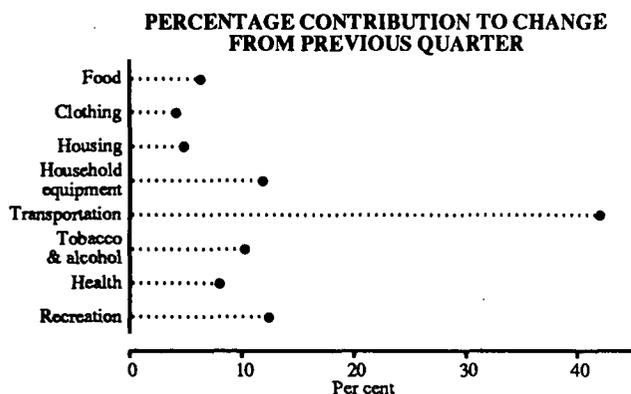
SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Overview.

The CPI increased by 2.7% between the September and December quarters and by 6.9% since December quarter 1989.

Main contributions to change.

The five groups which had the most significant influence on the change in the all groups index were: Transportation (+41.9%), Recreation and Education (+12.3%), Household equipment and operations (+11.9%) Tobacco and Alcohol (+10.4%) and Health and Personal Care (8.0%) - see chart below.



Transportation: +6.7%

The transportation group is the largest contributor to change in the all groups index. This was largely due to petrol prices which increased by 20.8% in the December quarter. The increase reflected significant increases in August September and October followed by falls in November and December. Increases in petrol prices accounted for approximately one third of the increase in the all groups index.

Recreation and Education: +3.1%

This represents a significant increase on the rate of 0.5% recorded last quarter. Increases in costs of holiday travel and accommodation accounted for about 80% of the increase this quarter.

Overseas airfares rose significantly in the December quarter reflecting seasonal increases and a reduction in the level of discounting.

Significant increases were also recorded for domestic airfares and holiday accommodation, again reflecting higher seasonal prices.

Tobacco and Alcohol: +3.4%

Cigarette prices increased in all cities with substantial increases being recorded in Melbourne Adelaide and Darwin. The large increases in the first two cities resulted in the main from higher State government taxes. The increase in Darwin reflected a decrease in the level of discounting.

Beer prices increased in all cities except Perth. The increases reflected both general price increases and a flow on of last quarter's increase in Federal excise.

Household equipment and operation: +1.8%

The increase this quarter represents a significant increase on the 0.9% recorded in September quarter. Electricity charges increased in Sydney, Hobart and Canberra. The increase in Sydney reflects the reversal of the effect of the \$75 rebate paid in the September quarter to Sydney City Council electricity customers.

Higher prices for furniture in all cities also contributed significantly to the group increase.

Consumer credit charges increased this quarter by 0.8% substantially down on the 2.0% increase recorded in September quarter. The increase was mainly the result of an increase in the value of debt outstanding.

Health and Personal Care: +3.6%

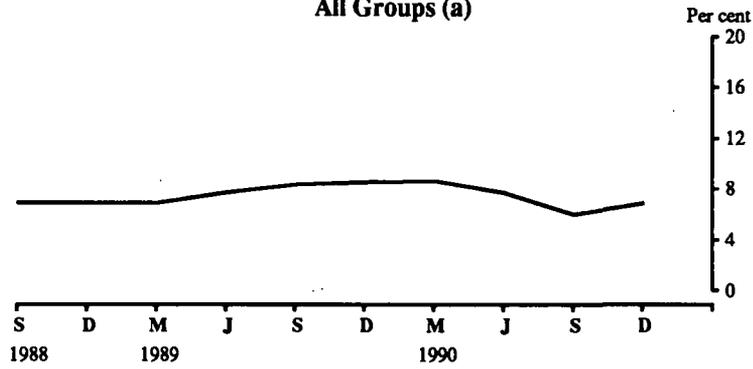
The large increase this quarter was due to increases in health insurance fund contributions with falls in the cost of pharmaceuticals (due to the PBS safety net scheme) exerting a moderating influence.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - ALL GROUPS PERCENTAGE CHANGES

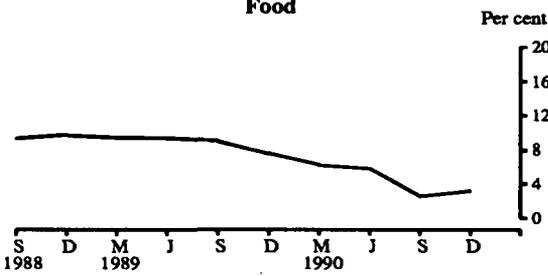
	<i>Change between</i>	
	<i>Sep. qtr 1990 and Dec. qtr 1990</i>	<i>Dec. qtr 1989 and Dec. qtr 1990</i>
Sydney	+2.4	+6.4
Melbourne	+3.0	+7.4
Brisbane	+2.6	+6.2
Adelaide	+3.0	+7.8
Perth	+2.5	+7.4
Hobart	+2.4	+6.1
Darwin	+2.8	+7.1
Canberra	+2.8	+6.8
Weighted average of eight capital cities	+2.7	+6.9

**WEIGHTED AVERAGE OF EIGHT CAPITAL CITIES
PERCENTAGE CHANGE ON CORRESPONDING QUARTER OF PREVIOUS YEAR**

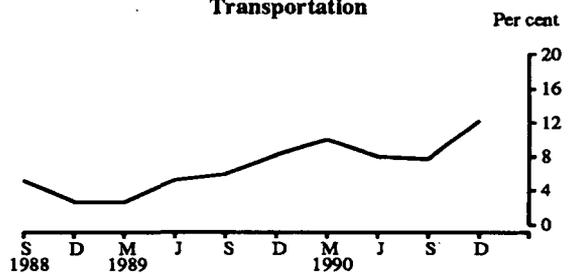
All Groups (a)



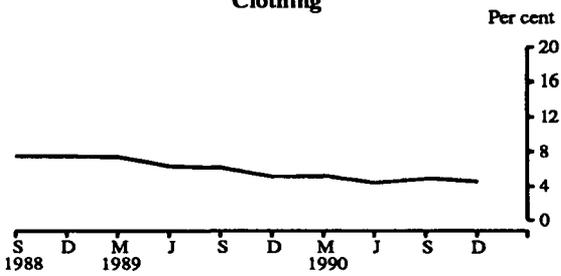
Food



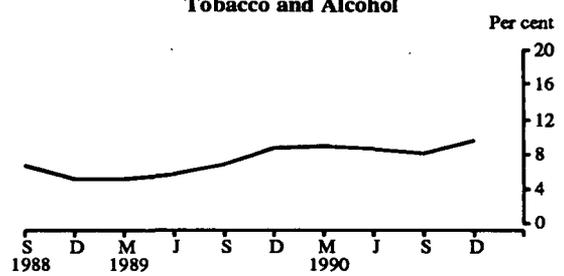
Transportation



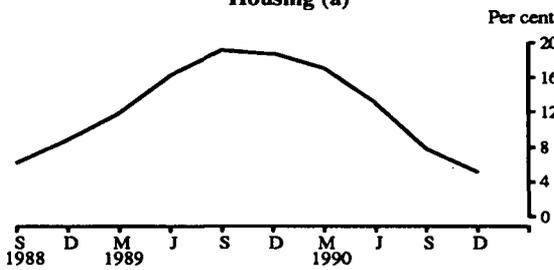
Clothing



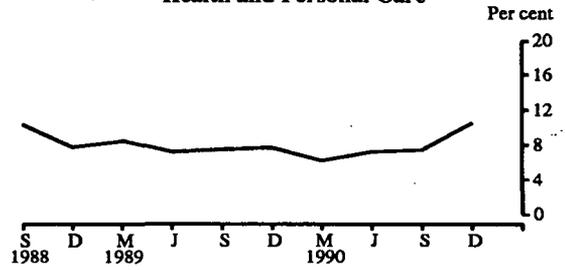
Tobacco and Alcohol



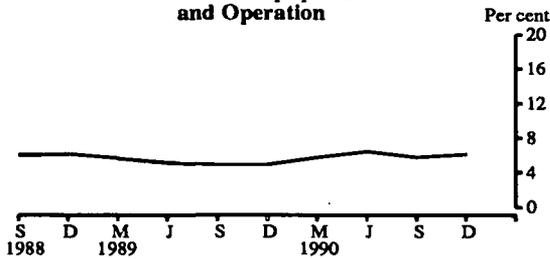
Housing (a)



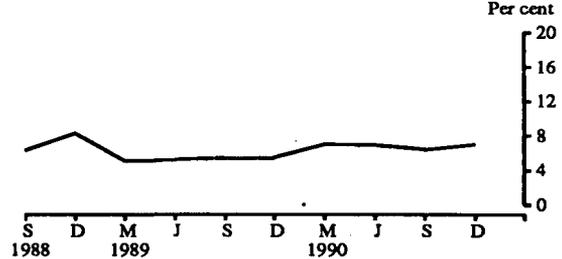
Health and Personal Care



Household Equipment and Operation



Recreation and Education



(a) Analytical series see previous page under *Changes over recent years*.

TABLE 1. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: ALL GROUPS INDEX NUMBERS
(Base of each index: Year 1980-81 = 100.0)

Period	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Darwin	Canberra	Weighted average of eight capital cities
1986-87	161.4	163.9	161.8	164.0	161.8	162.5	159.3	163.4	162.6
1987-88	173.7	175.9	173.1	175.0	173.3	174.4	170.6	174.7	174.5
1988-89	187.7	187.9	185.4	187.8	186.1	185.3	178.9	186.4	187.3
1989-90	203.0	203.6	199.3	201.2	201.7	198.3	190.0	200.2	202.3
Quarter - 1986-87									
December	160.1	162.9	160.7	162.9	160.7	161.4	158.6	162.3	161.5
March	163.5	166.0	164.1	165.7	163.8	164.8	161.4	165.1	164.7
June	166.1	168.6	166.1	168.4	166.6	167.3	163.9	167.8	167.2
1987-88									
September	169.0	171.6	168.4	170.5	169.1	170.3	166.6	170.0	170.0
December	171.8	174.5	171.5	173.8	171.8	172.9	169.5	173.0	172.9
March	175.6	177.1	174.6	176.3	174.6	175.8	171.7	176.4	176.0
June	178.3	180.4	177.9	179.2	177.7	178.4	174.5	179.5	179.0
1988-89									
September	182.9	183.0	180.5	182.7	181.3	180.6	175.6	181.7	182.4
December	187.6	186.2	183.7	185.7	185.1	183.5	177.2	185.0	186.2
March	187.8	188.7	186.4	189.5	187.0	186.8	180.0	187.2	188.0
June	192.5	193.8	191.0	193.2	191.0	190.3	182.9	191.5	192.6
1989-90									
September	197.8	198.1	194.5	196.5	195.5	193.6	185.5	194.5	197.0
December	201.4	202.0	197.9	199.6	199.5	197.1	188.8	198.8	200.7
March	204.9	205.1	200.9	202.5	204.1	200.2	191.2	202.7	204.1
June	208.0	209.0	203.7	206.2	207.5	202.1	194.6	204.8	207.4
1990-91									
September	209.2	210.7	204.8	208.8	209.1	204.2	196.7	206.5	208.9
December	214.2	217.0	210.1	215.1	214.3	209.2	202.2	212.3	214.5

TABLE 2. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: ALL GROUPS PERCENTAGE CHANGES.

Period	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Darwin	Canberra	Weighted average of eight capital cities
Change from previous year									
1987-88	7.6	7.3	7.0	6.7	7.1	7.4	7.1	6.9	7.3
1988-89	8.1	6.8	7.1	7.3	7.4	6.3	4.9	6.7	7.3
1989-90	8.2	8.4	7.5	7.1	8.4	7.0	6.2	7.4	8.0
Change from corresponding quarter of previous year									
1988-89									
December	9.2	6.7	7.1	6.8	7.7	6.1	4.5	6.9	7.7
March	6.9	6.5	6.8	7.5	7.1	6.3	4.8	6.1	6.8
June	8.0	7.4	7.4	7.8	7.5	6.7	4.8	6.7	7.6
1989-90									
September	8.1	8.3	7.8	7.6	7.8	7.2	5.6	7.0	8.0
December	7.4	8.5	7.7	7.5	7.8	7.4	6.5	7.5	7.8
March	9.1	8.7	7.8	6.9	9.1	7.2	6.2	8.3	8.6
June	8.1	7.8	6.6	6.7	8.6	6.2	6.4	6.9	7.7
1990-91									
September	5.8	6.4	5.3	6.3	7.0	5.5	6.0	6.2	6.0
December	6.4	7.4	6.2	7.8	7.4	6.1	7.1	6.8	6.9
Change from previous quarter									
1988-89									
December	2.6	1.7	1.8	1.6	2.1	1.6	0.9	1.8	2.1
March	0.1	1.3	1.5	2.0	1.0	1.8	1.6	1.2	1.0
June	2.5	2.7	2.5	2.0	2.1	1.9	1.6	2.3	2.4
1989-90									
September	2.8	2.2	1.8	1.7	2.4	1.7	1.4	1.6	2.3
December	1.8	2.0	1.7	1.6	2.0	1.8	1.8	2.2	1.9
March	1.7	1.5	1.5	1.5	2.3	1.6	1.3	2.0	1.7
June	1.5	1.9	1.4	1.8	1.7	0.9	1.8	1.0	1.6
1990-91									
September	0.6	0.8	0.5	1.3	0.8	1.0	1.1	0.8	0.7
December	2.4	3.0	2.6	3.0	2.5	2.4	2.8	2.8	2.7

TABLE 3. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX : CHANGE BETWEEN SEPTEMBER QUARTER 1990 AND DECEMBER QUARTER 1990
MAIN CONTRIBUTIONS TO CHANGE IN TERMS OF ALL GROUPS INDEX POINTS

Item	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Darwin	Canberra	Weighted average of eight capital cities
FOOD	0.50	0.03	0.45	0.67	0.41	0.43	0.62	0.31	0.36
Milk and cream	0.01	0.07	0.08	0.01	0.05	0.02	0.02	0.00	0.03
Bread	0.03	0.01	0.01	0.08	0.02	0.04	-0.02	0.01	0.03
Cakes and biscuits	0.09	0.01	0.03	0.07	0.15	0.02	0.05	0.04	0.06
Lamb and mutton	-0.06	-0.05	-0.04	-0.10	-0.03	0.01	-0.02	-0.07	-0.05
Fresh fruit	0.08	-0.08	0.04	-0.15	-0.05	0.00	0.07	0.10	0.00
Fresh vegetables	-0.05	-0.19	-0.06	0.13	-0.14	-0.06	0.03	0.00	-0.09
Soft drinks and cordials	0.07	0.00	0.03	0.05	0.09	0.07	0.11	0.02	0.05
Confectionery	0.02	0.02	0.05	0.10	0.04	0.00	0.03	0.03	0.03
Meals out	0.06	0.12	0.04	0.05	0.03	0.15	0.04	0.00	0.07
Take away foods	0.12	0.11	0.11	0.21	0.08	0.13	0.06	0.10	0.12
CLOTHING	0.23	0.17	0.37	0.19	0.32	0.30	0.07	0.21	0.23
Men's outer clothing	-0.01	-0.04	0.06	0.00	0.07	-0.01	-0.01	-0.04	-0.01
Women's outer clothing	0.13	0.07	0.22	0.11	0.12	0.14	0.01	0.11	0.12
Girl's clothing	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.02
Women's footwear	0.04	0.03	0.03	0.02	-0.01	0.04	0.01	0.02	0.03
HOUSING	0.04	0.35	0.53	0.50	0.15	0.24	1.13	0.82	0.27
Privately-owned dwelling rents	0.12	0.12	0.08	0.11	0.00	0.05	0.04	0.08	0.10
Govt-owned dwelling rents	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.11	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.26	0.02
Mortgage interest charges	-0.09	-0.02	0.04	-0.13	-0.02	-0.12	0.98	0.02	-0.04
Local government rates and charges	0.00	0.21	0.29	0.31	0.26	0.21	0.09	0.39	0.16
HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND OPERATION	1.09	0.29	0.58	0.67	0.47	0.59	0.32	0.52	0.66
Electricity	0.79	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.14	0.00	0.05	0.28
Furniture and floor coverings	0.20	0.08	0.38	0.40	0.20	0.12	0.06	0.26	0.20
Tools	-0.09	0.00	-0.04	-0.04	-0.02	0.00	-0.07	0.00	-0.04
Household cleaning agents	0.08	0.04	0.05	0.04	0.05	0.05	0.11	0.07	0.06
Household paper products	0.02	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.01
Consumer credit charges	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.02	0.05	0.06	0.10	0.06	0.05
TRANSPORTATION	1.92	2.81	2.37	2.34	2.54	2.25	1.91	2.42	2.34
Motor vehicles	0.19	0.12	0.15	0.13	0.20	0.26	0.16	0.19	0.16
Automotive fuel	1.54	2.40	1.99	1.98	2.05	1.82	1.56	2.24	1.96
Vehicle insurance	-0.03	-0.01	0.09	0.10	0.22	0.10	0.00	0.00	0.03
Vehicle servicing etc.	0.11	0.04	0.13	0.10	0.04	0.06	-0.01	-0.02	0.08
Urban transport fares	0.09	0.21	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.02	0.00	0.10
TOBACCO AND ALCOHOL	0.36	0.99	0.28	1.11	0.10	0.43	0.75	0.33	0.58
Beer	0.15	0.22	0.17	0.30	-0.02	0.14	0.25	0.15	0.17
Spirits	0.09	0.11	0.06	0.13	0.04	0.08	0.02	0.05	0.09
Cigarettes and tobacco	0.12	0.66	0.09	0.68	0.11	0.18	0.50	0.07	0.32
HEALTH AND PERSONAL CARE	0.42	0.65	0.19	0.46	0.24	0.36	0.16	0.47	0.44
Hospital and medical services	0.41	0.67	0.20	0.46	0.24	0.37	0.10	0.48	0.45
Pharmaceuticals	-0.05	-0.07	-0.09	-0.07	-0.07	-0.11	-0.03	-0.07	-0.07
Toiletries and personal products	0.06	-0.01	0.03	0.02	0.01	0.03	0.07	0.03	0.03
RECREATION AND EDUCATION	0.49	1.00	0.53	0.37	0.95	0.42	0.55	0.77	0.69
Books newspapers and magazines	0.03	0.00	0.04	0.03	0.00	0.03	0.00	0.03	0.02
Sports and photo equip and toys	-0.01	0.06	-0.01	-0.02	0.00	0.02	0.00	-0.22	0.01
Holiday travel and accom in Aust	0.22	0.27	0.27	0.13	0.22	0.31	0.26	0.40	0.24
O'seas holiday travel and accomm	0.25	0.41	0.23	0.19	0.43	0.29	0.36	0.47	0.32
Entertainment	0.04	0.21	0.01	0.06	0.34	0.01	0.04	0.09	0.12
Child care fees	-0.02	0.03	-0.02	-0.03	-0.04	-0.26	-0.09	-0.01	-0.01
Total change	5.0	6.3	5.3	6.3	5.2	5.0	5.5	5.8	5.6
Contribution of selected State and local government charges (a) to total change	n.y.a.								

(a) Composition of this category is described in footnote (d) Table 8, page 11.

TABLE 4. CHANGE BETWEEN SEPTEMBER QUARTER 1990 AND DECEMBER QUARTER 1990 (a)
PERCENTAGE CONTRIBUTION TO CHANGE IN WEIGHTED AVERAGE EIGHT CAPITAL CITIES ALL GROUPS INDEX.

	<i>Sydney</i>	<i>Melbourne</i>	<i>Brisbane</i>	<i>Adelaide</i>	<i>Perth</i>	<i>Hobart</i>	<i>Darwin</i>	<i>Canberra</i>	<i>Weighted average of eight capital cities</i>
Food	3.0	0.2	1.0	1.1	0.8	0.1	0.1	0.2	6.4
Clothing	1.4	0.9	0.8	0.3	0.6	0.1	0.0	0.1	4.2
Housing	0.3	1.8	1.1	0.8	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.4	4.9
Household equipment and operation	6.5	1.5	1.2	1.1	0.9	0.2	0.0	0.3	11.9
Transportation	11.4	14.6	5.1	4.0	4.7	0.7	0.3	1.3	41.9
Tobacco and alcohol	2.2	5.1	0.6	1.9	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	10.4
Health and personal care	2.5	3.4	0.4	0.8	0.4	0.1	0.0	0.2	8.0
Recreation and education	2.9	5.2	1.1	0.6	1.8	0.1	0.1	0.4	12.3
All Groups	30.2	32.7	11.3	10.8	9.7	1.6	0.9	3.0	100.0

(a) Table 4 shows the percentage contribution of Groups in each city to the change (between September quarter 1990 and December quarter 1990) in the All Groups index for the weighted average of the eight capital cities.

ANALYTICAL SERIES (a)

TABLES. DEBT PROFILE METHOD-WEIGHTED AVERAGE OF EIGHT CAPITAL CITIES: PERCENTAGE CHANGES

<i>Period</i>	<i>Food</i>	<i>Clothing</i>	<i>Housing</i>	<i>Household equipment and operation</i>	<i>Transportation</i>	<i>Tobacco and alcohol</i>	<i>Health and personal care</i>	<i>Recreation and education</i>	<i>All Groups</i>
Change from previous year									
1987-88	5.2	7.8	6.8	6.9	7.8	8.4	11.3	7.8	7.3
1988-89	9.4	7.1	10.8	5.7	3.9	5.7	8.4	6.2	7.1
1989-90	7.1	5.2	16.8	5.5	8.0	8.3	7.2	6.2	8.2
Change from corresponding quarter of previous year									
1988-89									
December	9.7	7.4	8.8	6.1	2.7	5.2	7.8	8.3	6.9
March	9.4	7.3	11.8	5.6	2.7	5.2	8.5	5.1	6.9
June	9.3	6.3	16.2	5.1	5.3	5.7	7.2	5.2	7.7
1989-90									
September	9.0	6.1	19.1	4.9	6.0	6.8	7.5	5.4	8.3
December	7.6	5.1	18.7	4.9	8.2	8.7	7.7	5.5	8.5
March	6.2	5.2	17.0	5.7	9.9	8.9	6.2	7.0	8.6
June	5.8	4.4	13.0	6.4	8.0	8.6	7.2	6.9	7.7
1990-91									
September	2.6	4.9	7.8	5.7	7.7	8.1	7.4	6.4	6.0
December	3.2	4.5	5.1	6.0	12.2	9.6	10.5	7.0	6.9
Change from previous quarter									
1988-89									
December	1.6	3.0	3.8	1.6	0.3	0.2	0.5	2.4	1.7
March	1.5	-0.1	3.5	0.7	1.0	2.0	5.3	0.8	1.6
June	3.2	2.8	5.3	1.0	2.4	2.1	0.5	1.1	2.4
1989-90									
September	2.5	0.2	5.4	1.5	2.2	2.3	1.0	1.0	2.3
December	0.3	2.0	3.4	1.5	2.4	2.0	0.7	2.5	1.9
March	0.2	0.1	2.0	1.5	2.6	2.2	3.8	2.3	1.7
June	2.8	2.0	1.6	1.7	0.6	1.8	1.5	1.0	1.6
1990-91									
September	-0.7	0.7	0.6	0.9	1.9	1.9	1.2	0.5	0.7
December	0.9	1.7	0.8	1.8	6.7	3.4	3.6	3.1	2.7

(a) This table is intended to assist in the analysis of price change (as distinct from movements in the CPI) and is therefore based on indexes calculated using the debt profile method of measuring mortgage interest charges from March quarter 1987.

TABLE 6. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - GROUP INDEXES

Period	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Darwin	Canberra	Weighted average of eight capital cities
FOOD (Base of each index : Year 1980-81 = 100.0)									
1988-89									
December	176.0	182.3	173.9	177.4	178.7	180.6	168.1	170.7	177.9
March	178.4	183.9	177.6	180.4	183.8	181.9	171.8	172.8	180.5
June	184.5	190.8	183.8	185.6	185.7	185.2	175.2	176.6	186.2
1989-90									
September	189.4	196.6	186.8	189.5	188.4	188.8	176.7	180.8	190.8
December	189.4	198.1	185.8	188.4	190.6	192.1	178.6	183.2	191.4
March	191.4	195.4	187.5	186.8	194.0	192.1	177.7	185.3	191.7
June	196.3	202.8	191.6	190.7	198.2	194.9	182.3	187.9	197.0
1990-91									
September	193.9	201.4	189.2	192.6	198.9	194.8	182.1	186.9	195.7
December	196.4	201.5	191.5	196.1	201.1	197.1	185.3	188.5	197.5
CLOTHING (Base of each index : Year 1980-81 = 100.0)									
1988-89									
December	174.0	177.5	175.6	180.3	177.6	173.2	156.7	175.9	176.0
March	173.9	177.3	175.6	180.2	177.0	173.1	157.6	175.1	175.9
June	179.2	181.1	180.0	186.2	182.7	178.3	159.8	180.9	180.8
1989-90									
September	179.6	182.3	179.7	186.6	181.5	178.5	159.2	181.7	181.2
December	182.8	186.4	184.7	188.7	186.4	182.3	161.2	185.7	184.9
March	182.7	186.9	183.6	190.1	185.8	183.5	161.9	185.0	185.0
June	186.9	191.0	186.6	191.9	188.6	186.9	164.3	190.2	188.7
1990-91									
September	188.1	192.3	188.1	193.2	189.2	187.2	167.2	191.8	190.0
December	191.1	194.6	194.2	196.0	194.1	191.2	169.1	194.8	193.2
HOUSING (a) (Base of each index : Year 1980-81 = 100.0)									
1988-89									
December	208.1	204.5	180.0	185.0	188.2	173.5	164.3	196.1	199.7
March	199.7	207.3	179.0	197.2	182.1	179.9	168.9	201.9	197.7
June	210.8	218.9	186.6	204.3	193.4	186.1	174.4	210.7	208.1
1989-90									
September	222.3	230.9	195.7	212.6	206.6	193.5	180.1	220.0	219.3
December	230.6	237.2	202.4	219.0	215.1	200.0	185.5	229.6	226.8
March	234.5	242.6	205.4	223.4	222.6	203.0	188.3	233.0	231.4
June	237.8	248.0	208.3	226.5	225.8	204.8	190.4	234.8	235.1
1990-91									
September	239.5	249.1	209.4	228.1	226.7	205.4	189.9	234.9	236.4
December	239.8	251.9	213.3	232.2	227.7	207.2	197.1	241.4	238.4
HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND OPERATION (Base of each index : Year 1980-81 = 100.0)									
1988-89									
December	181.2	181.1	186.1	182.5	180.3	180.9	178.0	178.7	181.8
March	182.2	182.3	186.9	184.0	182.9	183.2	179.1	180.4	183.1
June	183.6	185.0	188.9	185.4	185.2	185.5	180.5	182.6	185.0
1989-90									
September	186.1	188.1	191.2	187.5	188.6	187.7	182.6	185.3	187.8
December	188.3	192.2	195.0	191.1	189.5	190.4	184.5	188.2	190.7
March	191.4	195.5	196.4	193.5	192.6	192.3	185.7	190.6	193.5
June	193.9	198.8	199.5	197.8	197.6	194.6	189.5	194.4	196.8
1990-91									
September	192.8	203.0	202.1	199.8	199.8	199.4	192.8	197.6	198.5
December	198.7	204.6	205.2	203.1	202.3	202.7	194.6	200.2	202.1

(a) These series have been affected by the adoption of a new approach to the treatment of mortgage interest charges.

TABLE 6. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - GROUP INDEXES - *continued*

<i>Period</i>	<i>Sydney</i>	<i>Melbourne</i>	<i>Brisbane</i>	<i>Adelaide</i>	<i>Perth</i>	<i>Hobart</i>	<i>Darwin</i>	<i>Canberra</i>	<i>Weighted average of eight capital cities</i>
TRANSPORTATION (Base of each index : Year 1980-81 = 100.0)									
1988-89									
December	198.6	181.3	195.2	199.6	188.4	196.9	190.8	193.7	191.7
March	199.3	184.5	196.4	201.6	192.0	199.5	192.3	193.3	193.6
June	203.6	189.0	201.3	204.9	196.9	204.1	195.6	200.4	198.2
1989-90									
September	212.8	190.6	205.4	205.8	200.4	206.7	197.8	198.7	202.5
December	218.9	195.4	209.9	210.5	203.1	208.5	199.9	204.4	207.4
March	224.8	200.4	214.9	215.6	207.7	212.8	202.2	212.0	212.7
June	226.1	201.1	216.1	218.3	209.6	211.0	205.3	212.9	214.0
1990-91									
September	232.7	204.3	218.0	221.8	212.7	214.7	209.4	216.5	218.1
December	245.9	220.9	231.4	236.3	228.6	228.4	221.2	230.6	232.8
TOBACCO AND ALCOHOL (Base of each index : Year 1980-81 = 100.0)									
1988-89									
December	208.8	201.9	198.5	206.9	210.5	223.3	213.5	206.1	206.0
March	211.1	204.8	212.6	210.9	213.0	229.7	216.7	209.1	210.1
June	215.3	209.8	217.3	215.8	217.3	233.3	217.9	213.7	214.6
1989-90									
September	220.7	214.7	221.6	221.2	222.2	237.0	220.5	217.7	219.6
December	225.1	219.5	224.2	223.5	229.1	239.9	226.4	222.0	223.9
March	229.1	224.6	229.9	228.5	236.4	244.6	230.0	226.8	228.9
June	233.1	228.2	234.3	234.0	240.9	249.1	235.1	230.1	233.0
1990-91									
September	237.1	232.9	238.4	239.5	245.8	252.3	239.2	234.2	237.4
December	242.0	247.3	242.4	253.5	247.2	258.4	246.6	239.3	245.4
HEALTH AND PERSONAL CARE (Base of each index : Year 1980-81 = 100.0)									
1988-89									
December	172.8	192.6	176.4	182.7	187.1	159.7	175.1	181.3	181.5
March	181.9	203.7	187.2	190.8	193.9	168.4	187.0	188.7	191.1
June	182.2	205.0	189.1	191.6	195.7	170.6	188.7	189.5	192.1
1989-90									
September	183.7	207.2	189.3	196.0	199.2	171.3	190.4	192.4	194.1
December	184.2	206.7	191.4	201.7	204.1	174.2	196.4	195.5	195.5
March	191.6	213.8	199.6	209.4	212.2	185.8	211.8	198.6	203.0
June	193.7	216.8	201.8	216.3	215.8	188.7	215.7	200.7	206.0
1990-91									
September	195.4	220.2	202.5	221.2	218.9	191.2	217.7	201.1	208.5
December	202.5	231.0	205.9	228.6	223.4	196.9	221.2	210.0	216.1
RECREATION AND EDUCATION (Base of each index : March Quarter 1982 = 100.0)									
1988-89									
December	161.2	163.7	163.5	161.6	155.2	165.0	152.5	167.5	161.9
March	161.9	165.4	164.4	163.3	157.4	167.6	153.1	169.1	163.2
June	163.5	167.9	167.3	165.2	156.6	168.2	155.1	169.4	165.0
1989-90									
September	165.0	169.4	168.7	166.9	158.8	171.8	158.0	172.0	166.6
December	169.2	174.0	173.3	170.1	162.8	175.6	161.8	174.3	170.8
March	172.3	179.3	175.6	173.0	167.0	179.1	164.8	180.2	174.7
June	173.8	181.5	177.5	175.3	167.8	181.0	166.5	179.1	176.4
1990-91									
September	175.1	181.7	178.5	177.0	167.4	182.8	168.7	180.9	177.2
December	179.4	189.2	182.7	180.1	174.7	185.9	172.6	186.2	182.7

TABLE 7. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - GROUPS, SUB-GROUPS AND SELECTED EXPENDITURE CLASSES : WEIGHTED AVERAGE OF EIGHT CAPITAL CITIES

Group, Sub-group and Expenditure class	Index numbers (Base of each index: Year 1980-81=100.0)				Percentage Change between		Contribution to total CPI (expressed as All Groups index points)				Change between Sep qtr 1990 and Dec qtr 1990	
	Dec qtr 1989	Sep qtr 1990	Dec qtr 1990	Dec qtr 1989 and Dec qtr 1990	Sep qtr 1990 and Dec qtr 1990	Dec qtr 1990	Sep qtr 1990	Dec qtr 1990	Sep qtr 1990	Dec qtr 1990	Sep qtr 1990	Dec qtr 1990
FOOD												
Dairy products	191.4	195.7	197.5	0.9	3.2	38.50	38.86				0.36	
Cereal products	180.5	187.7	190.8	1.7	5.7	3.11	3.16				0.05	
Meat and seafoods	209.9	221.4	226.6	2.3	8.0	4.13	4.23				0.10	
Beef and veal	163.3	166.3	166.3	0.0	1.8	7.07	7.07				0.00	
Lamb and mutton	170.5	178.0	177.9	-0.1	4.3			2.06			-0.01	
Pork	151.1	162.9	154.2	-5.3	2.1	0.99	0.94				-0.05	
Poultry	166.5	166.9	168.3	0.8	1.1	0.35	0.35				0.00	
Bacon and ham	152.9	146.2	146.0	-0.1	-4.5	0.73	0.72				-0.01	
Processed meat	146.0	143.5	147.2	2.6	0.8	0.64	0.65				0.01	
Fish	159.0	162.1	164.5	1.5	3.5	1.37	1.39				0.02	
Fresh fruit and vegetables	216.3	212.5	216.5	1.9	0.1	0.93	0.95				0.02	
Processed fruit and vegetables	230.3	194.6	189.2	-2.8	-17.8	3.41	3.32				-0.09	
Soft drinks - ice cream and conf.	200.1	210.8	209.5	-0.6	4.7	1.83	1.82				-0.01	
Meals out and take away foods	207.3	218.3	221.4	1.4	6.8	5.83	5.91				0.08	
Other foods	203.7	214.8	219.0	2.0	7.5	9.77	9.96				0.19	
	177.8	184.3	186.7	1.3	5.0	3.34	3.38				0.04	
CLOTHING												
Men's and boy's clothing	184.9	190.0	193.2	1.7	4.5	13.90	14.13				0.23	
Women's and girls' clothing	177.6	184.4	185.7	0.7	4.6	3.96	3.99				0.03	
Fabrics and knitting wool	188.3	192.2	197.1	2.5	4.7	6.32	6.47				0.15	
Footwear	181.6	184.3	187.4	1.7	3.2	0.95	0.95				0.00	
Dry cleaning and shoe repairs	207.9	224.1	228.0	1.7	9.7	2.13	2.16				0.03	
						0.55	0.56				0.01	
HOUSING												
Rents	226.8	236.4	238.4	0.8	5.1	32.92	33.19				0.27	
Privately-owned dwelling rents	225.4	233.9	236.8	1.2	5.1	9.95	10.07				0.12	
Government-owned dwelling rents	221.7	230.5	233.0	1.1	5.1			9.07			0.10	
Home ownership	255.1	259.5	265.9	2.5	4.2			0.88			0.02	
Mortgage interest charges (a)	227.7	237.9	239.5	0.7	5.2	22.97	23.12				0.15	
Local govt. rates and charges	153.6	160.6	160.3	-0.2	4.4			15.46			-0.04	
House repairs and maintenance	220.5	227.5	237.5	4.4	7.7			3.72			0.16	
House insurance	184.4	193.6	194.5	0.5	5.5			2.95			0.01	
	198.8	212.0	215.8	1.8	8.6			0.85			0.01	
HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND OPERATION												
Fuel and light	190.7	198.5	202.1	1.8	6.0	36.85	37.51				0.66	
Furniture and floor coverings	209.4	206.7	220.8	6.8	5.4	4.50	4.81				0.31	
Appliances	194.2	205.0	210.0	2.4	8.1	8.48	8.68				0.20	
Household textiles	145.7	146.8	147.1	0.2	1.0	2.85	2.85				0.00	
Household utensils and tools	187.6	194.5	193.7	-0.4	3.3	1.39	1.38				-0.01	
Household supplies and services	204.4	214.2	214.0	-0.1	4.7	3.55	3.55				0.00	
Postal and telephone services	192.8	200.8	203.8	1.5	5.7	7.81	7.81				0.11	
Consumer credit charges (a)	158.6	162.6	162.8	0.1	2.6	2.67	2.67				0.00	
	130.0	141.4	142.5	0.8	9.6	5.71	5.76				0.05	

For footnotes see page 10.

TABLE 7. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - GROUPS, SUB-GROUPS AND SELECTED EXPENDITURE CLASSES : WEIGHTED AVERAGE OF EIGHT CAPITAL CITIES - continued

Group, Sub-group and Expenditure class	Index numbers (Base of each index: Year 1980-81=100.0)				Percentage Change between		Contribution to total CPI (expressed as All Groups index points)			
	Dec qtr 1989	Sep qtr 1990	Dec qtr 1990	Dec qtr 1989 and Dec qtr 1990	Sep qtr 1990 and Dec qtr 1990	Dec qtr 1990	Sep qtr 1990	Dec qtr 1990	Change between Sep qtr 1990 and Dec qtr 1990	
TRANSPORTATION										
Private motoring	207.4	218.1	232.8	12.2	6.7	34.89	37.23	2.34	0.16	
Motor vehicles	205.0	215.3	230.1	12.2	6.9	32.76	35.00	2.24	1.96	
Automotive fuel	176.2	197.7	238.8	35.5	20.8	11.30	11.36	0.06	0.03	
Vehicle insurance	255.6	270.3	272.2	6.5	0.7	4.52	4.55	0.03	0.02	
Motoring charges	191.6	199.6	201.6	5.2	1.0	1.59	1.61	0.02	0.00	
Tyres and tubes	162.7	167.9	170.6	4.9	1.6	0.46	0.46	0.00	0.00	
Vehicle serv. repairs and parts	200.4	213.0	216.0	7.8	1.4	5.49	5.57	0.08	0.08	
Urban transport fares	232.7	249.8	261.3	12.3	4.6	2.13	2.23	0.10	0.10	
TOBACCO AND ALCOHOL										
Alcoholic drinks	223.9	237.4	245.4	9.6	3.4	17.39	17.97	0.58	0.58	
Beer	204.2	215.0	219.5	7.5	2.1	12.22	12.47	0.25	0.25	
Wine	208.8	222.4	227.7	9.1	2.4	7.34	7.51	0.17	0.17	
Spirits	176.5	175.4	175.2	-0.7	-0.1	2.34	2.34	0.00	0.00	
Cigarettes and tobacco	207.9	223.6	231.3	11.3	3.4	2.54	2.63	0.09	0.09	
	278.0	300.0	319.0	14.7	6.3	5.17	5.49	0.32	0.32	
HEALTH AND PERSONAL CARE										
Health services	195.5	208.5	216.1	10.5	3.6	12.27	12.71	0.44	0.44	
Personal care products	193.1	203.3	216.7	12.2	6.6	7.10	7.56	0.46	0.46	
Hairstressing services	195.1	213.9	211.9	8.6	-0.9	3.80	3.76	-0.04	-0.04	
	196.7	208.4	210.9	7.2	1.2	1.37	1.39	0.02	0.02	
RECREATION AND EDUCATION										
Books newspapers and magazines	170.8	177.2	182.7	7.0	3.1	22.22	22.91	0.69	0.69	
Recreational goods	228.1	247.4	249.4	9.3	0.8	2.61	2.63	0.02	0.02	
Holiday travel and accomm. (b)	125.2	124.7	124.8	-0.3	0.1	4.91	4.91	0.00	0.00	
Recreational services	185.4	185.4	201.1	8.5	8.5	6.55	7.11	0.56	0.56	
Education and child care (b)	211.7	223.0	228.5	7.9	2.5	5.00	5.12	0.12	0.12	
	208.2	235.5	234.4	12.6	-0.5	3.15	3.13	-0.02	-0.02	
ALL GROUPS	200.7	208.9	214.5	6.9	2.7	208.9	214.5	5.6	5.6	

(a) Base : December quarter 1986 = 100.0. (b) Base : March quarter 1982 = 100.0.

TABLE 8. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - SPECIAL SERIES : WEIGHTED AVERAGE OF EIGHT CAPITAL CITIES

	Index numbers (Base of each index: Year 1980-81 = 100.0)				Percentage Change between		Contribution to total CPI (expressed as All Groups index points)		
	Dec qtr 1989	Sep qtr 1990	Dec qtr 1990	Sep qtr 1990 and Dec qtr 1990	Dec qtr 1989 and Dec qtr 1990	Sep qtr 1990	Dec qtr 1990	Change between Sep qtr 1990 and Dec qtr 1990	
ALL GROUPS	200.7	208.9	214.5	2.7	6.9	208.9	214.5	5.6	
SPECIAL SERIES									
All groups - excluding food	203.2	212.5	219.0	3.1	7.8	170.45	176.65	5.20	
All groups - excluding housing	196.5	204.5	210.6	3.0	7.2	176.03	181.31	5.28	
All groups - excl. home ownership	197.8	205.9	211.9	2.9	7.1	185.98	191.38	5.40	
Mortgage interest and consumer credit charges (a)	146.6	154.9	154.9	0.0	5.7	21.17	21.18	0.01	
All groups excl. mortgage interest and consumer credit charges	122.2	127.0	130.8	3.0	7.0	187.78	193.33	5.55	
All groups - excluding hospital and medical services	201.3	209.6	214.9	2.5	6.8	203.86	208.97	5.11	
All groups - goods component (b)	192.6	199.4	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	129.37	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	
All groups - services comp. (c)	218.0	229.0	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	79.58	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	
Selected State and local govt. charges(d)	233.4	236.7	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	12.32	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	
All groups - excl. selected State and local govt. charges (d)	198.3	206.9	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	196.63	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	

(a) Base : December quarter 1986 = 100.0. (b) The special series 'All groups, goods component' comprises the Food group (except meals out); Clothing group (except dry cleaning and shoe repairs); Household equipment and operation group (except veterinary services, house contents insurance, repairs to appliances, postal and telephone services and consumer credit charges); Tobacco and alcohol group; materials used in house repairs and maintenance; motor vehicles; automotive fuel; tyres and tubes; parts used in vehicle service and repairs; personal care products; books, newspapers and magazines; and recreational goods. (c) The 'All groups, services component' comprises all items not included in the 'All groups, goods component'. (d) Selected State and local government charges comprise: government-owned dwelling rents; water and sewerage rates; council property rates and charges; electricity prices; gas prices (Melbourne and Perth only); motor vehicle third party insurance premiums (except Canberra and in part only in Sydney and Brisbane); motor vehicle registration fees; drivers' licence fees; urban bus fares (government bus fares only in Sydney and Melbourne, council fares only in Brisbane); urban rail and tram fares (not applicable in Hobart, Canberra and Darwin). The derivations and limitations of these figures was described in the Appendix to the December quarter 1982 issue of this publication.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Brief description of the CPI

The CPI measures quarterly changes in the price of a basket of goods and services which account for a high proportion of expenditure by the CPI population group (ie metropolitan wage and salary earner households). This basket covers a wide range of goods and services, arranged in the following eight groups: food; clothing; housing; household equipment and operation; transportation; tobacco and alcohol; health and personal care; and recreation and education. Pensioners and other social welfare recipients are not included in the CPI population group and the index does not reflect concessional prices paid by these people such as subsidised government dwelling rents, public transport fares and the like.

2. The capital city indexes measure price movements over time in each city individually. They do not measure differences in retail price levels between cities.

3. Further information about the CPI is contained in a booklet entitled *A Guide to the Consumer Price Index* (6440.0) which is available from the ABS on request. A more detailed account is contained in *The Australian Consumer Price Index, Concepts, Sources and Methods* (6461.0).

Prices

4. Prices of goods and services included in the CPI are generally collected quarterly. However, some important items are priced monthly or more frequently (e.g. bread, fresh meat and fish, fresh fruit and vegetables, petrol, alcohol and tobacco) and a small number annually (e.g. seasonal clothing, local government rates and charges).

5. In order to facilitate a more even spread of field collection workload the bulk of the items for which prices are collected quarterly are priced in the first two months of each quarter (ie July/August, October/November, January/February, April/May). With a few exceptions items priced in the third month are those subject to price changes at discrete points of time (e.g. electricity and postal charges, milk); in these cases information about any changes in price during the quarter is obtained so that an average price for the whole quarter can be calculated.

Weighting pattern

6. There are 107 expenditure classes (that is, groupings of like items) in the eleventh series CPI and each expenditure class has its own weight, or measure of relative importance. In calculating the index, price changes for the various expenditure classes are combined using these weights.

7. Changes in the weighting pattern have been made at approximately five-yearly intervals to take account of changes in household spending patterns. The CPI now comprises eleven series of price indexes which have been linked to form a continuous series.

Analysis of CPI changes

8. Movements in indexes from one period to another can be expressed either as changes in *index points* or as percentage changes. The following example illustrates the method of calculating index points changes and percentage changes between any two periods:

All Groups CPI: Weighted average of eight capital cities

Index numbers:

Sept quarter 1990: 208.9 (see Table 1)

less: June quarter 1990: 207.4 (see Table 1)

Change in index points: +1.5

$$\text{Percentage change} = \frac{+1.5}{207.4} \times 100 = +0.7\%$$

9. In this publication, percentage changes are calculated to illustrate 3 different kinds of movements in index numbers:

- movements between consecutive financial years (where the index numbers for financial years are simple averages of the quarterly index numbers),
- movements between corresponding quarters of consecutive years, and
- movements between consecutive quarters.

10. Table 7 provides a detailed analysis, for the weighted average of eight capital cities, of movements in the CPI since the previous quarter, including information on movements for subgroups and for selected expenditure classes. It also shows the contribution which each group and subgroup makes to the total CPI. For instance, the dairy products subgroup contributed 2.91 index points to the total All Groups index number of 197.0 for September quarter 1989. The final column shows contributions to the change in All Groups index points by each group and subgroup.

11. Table 8 provides summary information about a range of Special series in a similar format to that provided in Table 7.

12. Information on the impact of changes in Selected State and local government charges on the CPI is included in Tables 3 and 8. Table 3 shows the contribution made by changes in these charges to the CPI for each capital city, while Table 8 shows index numbers for two special series *Selected State and local government charges* and *All Groups excluding selected State and local government charges*. An explanation of the derivation and limitations of these figures was published in the Appendix to the December quarter 1982 issue of this publication.

Related publications

13. Users may also wish to refer to the following publications which are available on request:

The Australian Consumer Price Index: Concepts Sources and Methods (6461.0)

A Guide to the Consumer Price Index (6440.0)

Information Paper: The Australian Consumer Price Index: Treatment of Mortgage Interest Charges (6442.0)

House Price Indexes: Eight Capital Cities (6416.0)

Average Retail Prices of Selected Items Eight Capital Cities (6403.0)

Next issue

14. The Consumer Price Index - March quarter 1991 (6401.0) is scheduled to be released on Wednesday 8 May 1991.

15. 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
r	revised
n.y.a.	not yet available

NOTE. Any discrepancies between totals and sums of components in this publication are due to rounding. For similar reasons quarterly movements shown by subgroup or group index numbers in Table 7 do not necessarily correspond exactly with those shown by the relevant index points.

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

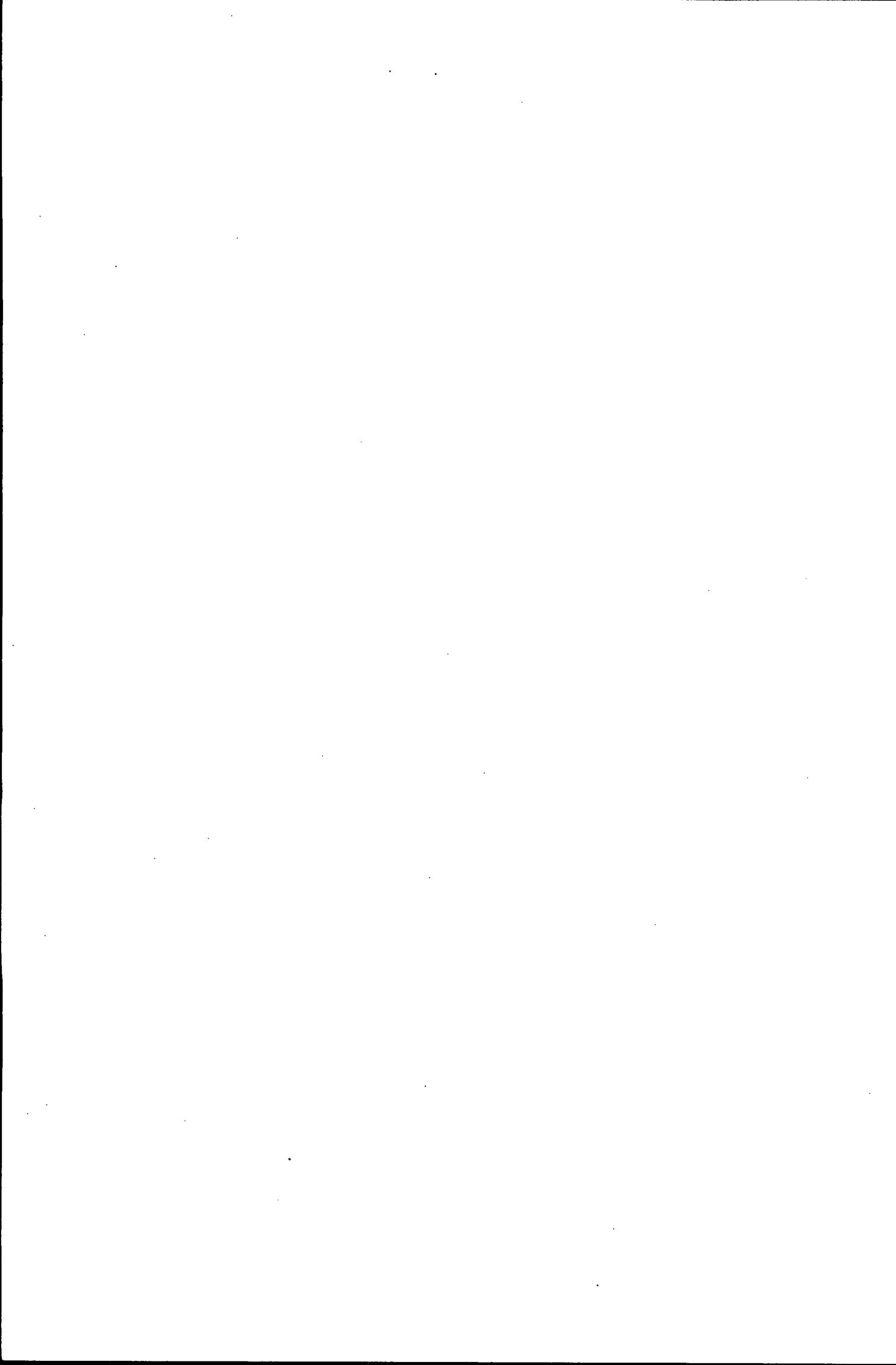
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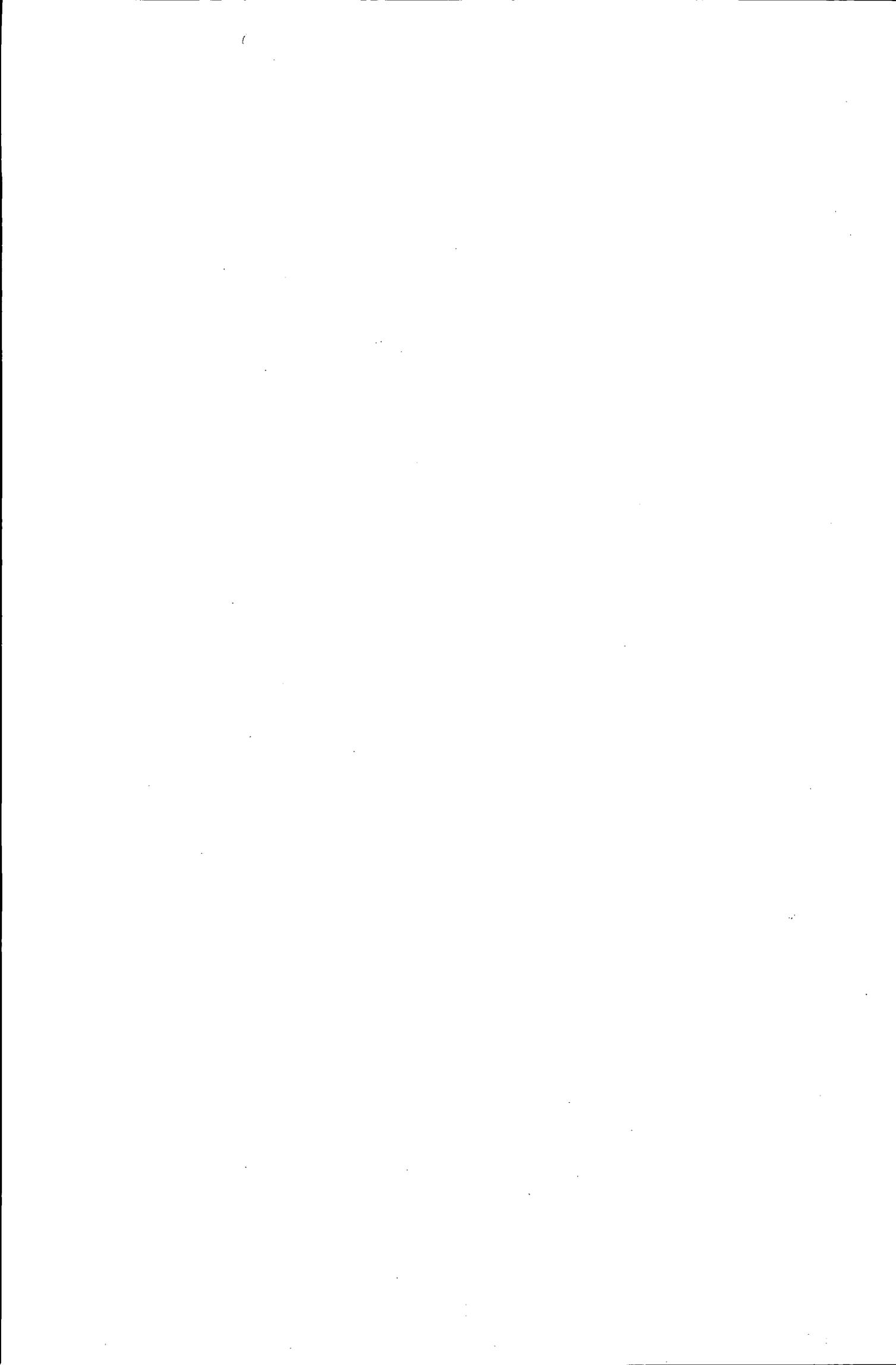
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