

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX, SEPTEMBER QUARTER 1995

MAIN FEATURES

Weighted average of eight capital cities	Change between—	
	Jun qtr 1995 and Sep qtr 1995	Sep qtr 1994 and Sep qtr 1995
	%	%
Food	1.5	4.5
Clothing	-0.5	0.1
Housing	0.7	11.1
Household equipment and operation	0.7	2.6
Transportation	2.7	4.3
Tobacco and alcohol	3.4	10.2
Health and personal care	0.4	4.2
Recreation and education	0.2	2.8
All groups	1.2	5.1
All groups excluding housing	1.3	4.1
All groups excluding household equipment and operation	1.4	5.7

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

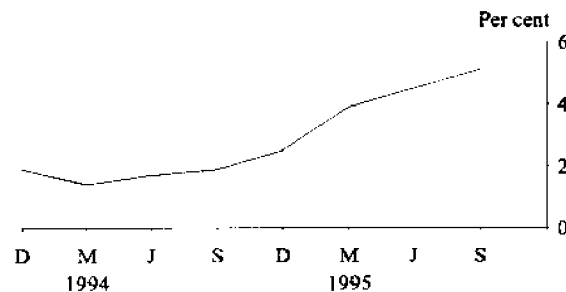
CPI Outcome

The All groups CPI increased 1.2 per cent between the June and September quarters 1995, resulting in an annual increase (September quarter 1995 on September quarter 1994) of 5.1 per cent.

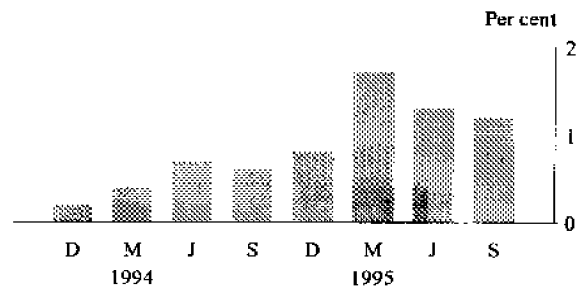
Overview of CPI Movements

Contributing most to the overall increase this quarter were prices of cigarettes and tobacco (up 6.3%), petrol (up 3.7%), the cost of vehicle insurance (up 5.1%), motor vehicle prices (up 1.6%), beer (up 1.8%), local government rates and charges (up 1.8%), fresh fruit prices

ALL GROUPS - ANNUAL MOVEMENT



ALL GROUPS - QUARTERLY MOVEMENT



(up 5.7%), and the cost of vehicle servicing, repairs and parts (up 1.3%).

Partially offsetting the above were falls in the cost of pharmaceuticals (down 2.7%), prices of video and sound equipment (down 2.8%), fresh vegetables (down 2.8%), furniture (down 0.4%), and take away food (down 0.3%).

Contributing most to the annual increase in consumer prices were mortgage interest charges (up 25.2%), cigarette and tobacco prices (up 20.0%), petrol (up 5.1%), hospital and medical services (up 5.7%), motor vehicle prices (up 4.6%), and the cost of vehicle insurance (up 6.7%), with off-sets being provided by falls in prices of video and sound equipment (down 5.4%), and fresh fruit (down 3.8%).

Treasury's Measure of Underlying Inflation

The index of underlying inflation, as defined by the Commonwealth Treasury, increased by 1.2 per cent between the June and September quarters 1995, resulting in an annual increase (September quarter 1995 on September quarter 1994) of 3.1 per cent.

- INQUIRIES**
- for further information about statistics in this publication and the availability of related unpublished statistics, contact **Information Services** on Canberra (06) 252 6627 or any ABS State office.
 - for more detailed information about these statistics, contact Bohdan Stankewytsch on Canberra (06) 252 6251 or any ABS State office.
 - for information about other ABS statistics and services please refer to the back page of this publication.

Main contributions to change:**Transportation: +2.7%**

The increase in transportation costs results mainly from increases in petrol prices (+3.7%), the cost of vehicle insurance (+5.1%), and motor vehicle prices (+1.6%).

Petrol prices increased 3.7 per cent this quarter as a result of a fall in May (-0.6%), increases in June (+4.1%), July (+1.8%), and August (+0.4%), and a fall in September (-2.7%). Over the 12 months to September quarter 1995, the price of petrol has increased 5.1 per cent.

The cost of vehicle insurance increased in all cities except Hobart (-0.1%). The increases ranged from 0.1 per cent in Brisbane to 11.3 per cent in Sydney and 18.2 per cent in Canberra. The increases in Sydney and Canberra were largely the result of increases in Compulsory Third Party insurance premiums. Over the 12 months to September quarter 1995, the cost of vehicle insurance has increased 6.7 per cent nationally.

Motor vehicle prices increased in all cities. The 1.6 per cent overall increase this quarter results mainly from the flow-on effect of an increase in the rate of Wholesale Sales Tax during the June quarter, combined with a further increase (from 21 to 22 per cent) on 1 July 1995.

Over the 12 months to September quarter 1995, motor vehicle prices have increased 4.6 per cent.

Tobacco and alcohol: +3.4%

Cigarettes and tobacco prices increased 6.3 per cent mainly as a result of the flow-on effects of an increase in the Commonwealth excise and increases in State and Territory tobacco licence fees in Sydney, Melbourne, Darwin, and Canberra during the June quarter.

The price of beer increased 1.8 per cent nationally, wine 0.8 per cent, and spirits 0.9 per cent.

Over the 12 months to September quarter 1995, tobacco and alcohol prices have increased 10.2 per cent overall. An increase in cigarette and tobacco prices (+20.0%) accounted for 76 per cent of this annual increase, and an increase in beer prices (+5.0%) accounted for 18 per cent.

Food: +1.5%

Increases in prices of fresh fruit (+5.7%), cakes and biscuits (+4.2%), lamb and mutton (+6.8%), soft drinks and cordials (+2.3%), and confectionery (+1.6%) were partially offset by falls in prices of fresh vegetables (-2.8%), take away food (-0.3%), and poultry (-1.8%).

Over the 12 months to September 1995, food prices have increased 4.5 per cent mainly due to increases in prices of bread (+10.8%), fresh potatoes (+61.3%), fresh vegetables (+11.7%), and milk and cream (+6.6%), with a partial offset being provided by a fall in fresh fruit prices (-3.8%).

Household equipment and operation: +0.7%

Increases in consumer credit charges (+1.1%), the price of other household non-durables (+2.4%), and household paper products (+4.9%) were partially offset by a fall in furniture prices (-0.4%).

Housing: +0.7%

Local government rates and charges increased 1.8 per cent, privately-owned dwelling rents increased 0.6 per cent, and mortgage interest charges increased 0.4 per cent.

Increases in local government rates and charges ranged from 0.2 per cent in Sydney to 6.7 per cent in Darwin. This component of the CPI includes council rates and charges, as well as water, sewerage, and drainage rates. The September quarter 1995 figure includes changes in water, sewerage, and drainage rates and charges for all capital cities, together with changes in general rates and charges for all cities except Melbourne and Adelaide.

The increase in mortgage interest charges reflects an increase in the debt outstanding (+0.9%) combined with a decrease in interest rates (-0.5%).

Privately-owned dwelling rents increased in all cities except Adelaide (no change) and Canberra (-1.3%). The increases ranged from 0.2 per cent in both Brisbane and Perth to 1.1 per cent in Sydney.

Health and personal care: +0.4%

The increase this quarter is primarily due to an increase in the cost of hospital and medical services (+0.9%) as a result of increases in health insurance premiums, combined with an increase in the net fee payable by households for medical services.

This increase was partially offset by a fall in the cost of pharmaceuticals (-2.7%) mainly due to the increased effect of the PBS safety net scheme.

Over the 12 months to September quarter 1995, the cost of hospital and medical services has increased 5.7 per cent overall. An increase in the cost of health insurance accounted for 68 per cent of this annual increase, and an increase in net fee payable by households for medical services accounted for the remaining 32 per cent.

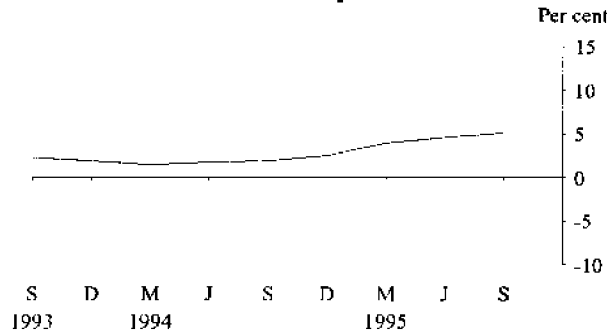
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX- ALL GROUPS
PERCENTAGE CHANGES

	<i>Change between—</i>	
	<i>Jun qtr 1995 and Sep qtr 1995</i>	<i>Sep qtr 1994 and Sep qtr 1995</i>
	<i>%</i>	<i>%</i>
Sydney	1.6	5.7
Melbourne	1.2	4.8
Brisbane	0.9	4.8
Adelaide	1.1	4.5
Perth	0.6	5.0
Hobart	1.1	4.5
Darwin	1.0	4.4
Canberra	1.3	5.8
Weighted average of eight capital cities	1.2	5.1

W. McLennan
Australian Statistician

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

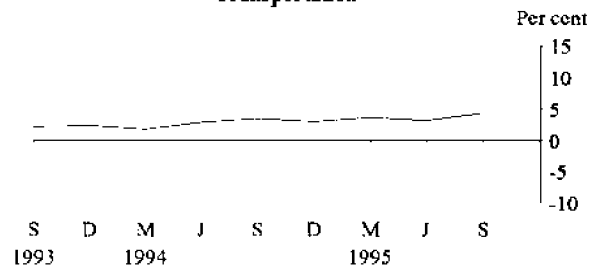
All Groups



Food



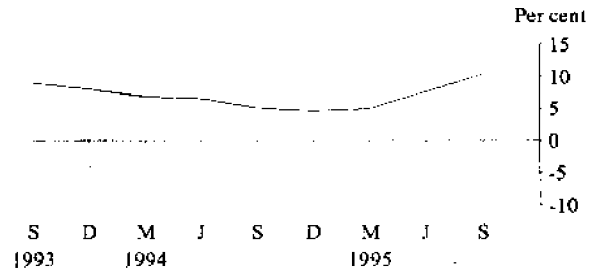
Transportation



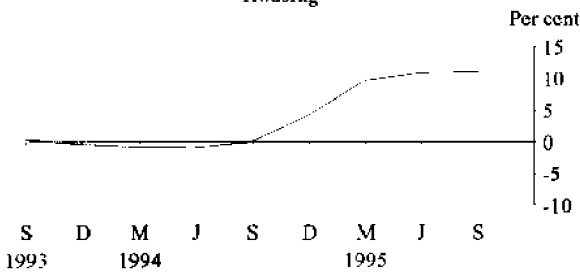
Clothing



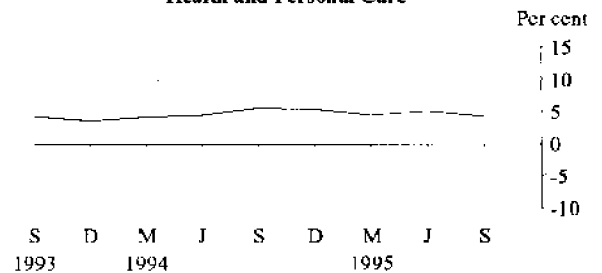
Tobacco and Alcohol



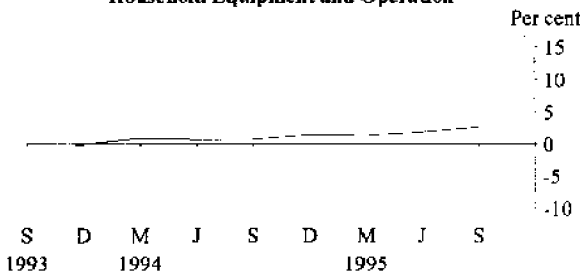
Housing



Health and Personal Care



Household Equipment and Operation



Recreation and Education

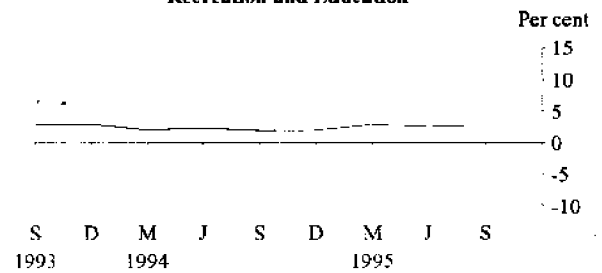


TABLE 3. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX : CHANGE BETWEEN JUNE QUARTER 1995 AND SEPTEMBER QUARTER 1995
MAIN CONTRIBUTIONS TO CHANGE IN TERMS OF ALL GROUPS INDEX POINTS

Item	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Darwin	Canberra	Weighted average of eight capital cities
FOOD	0.38	0.33	0.16	0.37	0.17	0.23	-0.03	0.10	0.30
Milk and cream	0.02	0.02	0.00	0.04	0.02	-0.01	0.04	0.05	0.02
Cheese	-0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	-0.02	0.01	-0.01	0.01	0.00
Butter	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Bread	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.06	-0.03	0.00	0.00	-0.01	0.01
Cakes and biscuits	0.04	0.04	0.01	0.04	0.05	0.04	0.02	0.03	0.03
Beef and veal	0.03	0.02	0.00	0.04	0.02	0.00	-0.02	-0.03	0.02
Lamb and mutton	0.02	0.05	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.07	0.01	0.01	0.03
Fresh fruit	0.06	0.07	0.02	0.01	0.01	-0.03	-0.03	0.06	0.05
Fresh potatoes	0.04	-0.01	0.03	0.04	0.01	-0.01	0.01	0.02	0.02
Fresh vegetables	-0.03	0.01	-0.12	0.05	-0.05	-0.01	-0.09	-0.07	-0.02
Fruit juice	0.01	0.00	0.04	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.02
Soft drinks and cordials	0.06	0.00	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.03
Confectionery	0.03	0.04	-0.01	0.00	0.02	0.03	0.00	0.01	0.03
Meals out	0.03	0.00	0.01	0.03	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.04	0.02
Take away foods	0.01	-0.02	-0.01	-0.05	-0.05	0.00	-0.01	-0.04	-0.02
Eggs	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.02
Other foods	0.02	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.03	-0.04	0.01	0.02
CLOTHING	-0.02	-0.03	-0.03	-0.02	-0.03	-0.01	0.02	0.02	-0.02
Fabrics and knitting wool	0.00	-0.04	0.00	0.00	-0.01	-0.02	0.01	0.03	-0.01
Children's footwear	-0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-0.01	0.00	0.00	-0.01
HOUSING	0.15	0.07	0.14	0.10	0.16	0.23	0.20	0.12	0.12
Privately-owned dwelling rents	0.08	0.02	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.02	-0.05	0.03
Government-owned dwelling rents	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00
Mortgage interest charges	0.05	0.01	-0.01	0.03	0.04	0.02	0.16	0.09	0.04
Local government rates and charges	0.01	0.05	0.11	0.08	0.07	0.14	0.10	0.10	0.04
House insurance	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.02	0.01
HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND OPERATION	0.08	0.12	0.18	0.24	0.09	0.21	0.18	0.18	0.13
Electricity	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.07	0.01
Gas	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Furniture	-0.01	-0.04	0.03	0.03	-0.02	0.05	0.00	-0.04	-0.02
Appliances	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.01	0.02	0.00	0.02
Household paper products	0.02	0.04	0.03	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.03	0.02
Other household non-durables	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.05	0.01	0.05	0.01	0.05	0.02
Consumer credit charges	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.05	0.02	0.02
TRANSPORTATION	0.69	0.39	0.42	0.51	0.30	0.31	0.33	0.70	0.50
Motor vehicles	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.13	0.09	0.06	0.10	0.05	0.08
Automotive fuel	0.16	0.23	0.24	0.26	0.12	0.15	0.12	0.06	0.19
Vehicle insurance	0.31	0.03	0.00	0.01	0.03	0.00	0.03	0.41	0.13
Motoring charges	0.03	0.00	0.00	0.09	0.01	0.03	0.05	0.06	0.02
Tyres and tubes	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00
Vehicle servicing etc.	0.03	0.05	0.08	0.02	0.01	0.07	-0.01	0.04	0.04
Urban transport fares	0.09	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.05	0.00	0.02	0.06	0.04
TOBACCO AND ALCOHOL	0.52	0.39	0.13	0.13	0.03	0.09	0.34	0.32	0.34
Beer	0.05	0.05	0.10	0.11	0.07	0.09	0.06	0.03	0.06
Wine	0.02	-0.01	0.02	0.06	-0.02	0.01	0.12	0.03	0.01
Spirits	0.02	0.00	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.01
Cigarettes and tobacco	0.44	0.35	-0.02	-0.05	-0.05	-0.02	0.15	0.25	0.26
HEALTH AND PERSONAL CARE	0.04	0.03	0.03	0.01	0.00	0.36	0.00	0.00	0.03
Hospital and medical services	0.04	0.02	0.03	0.01	0.01	0.35	0.00	0.02	0.03
Dental services	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.02	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.01
Pharmaceuticals	-0.03	-0.02	-0.02	-0.02	-0.03	-0.02	-0.01	-0.03	-0.02
Toiletries and personal products	0.01	0.02	0.03	0.02	-0.01	0.02	-0.01	0.00	0.02
RECREATION AND EDUCATION	0.04	0.04	-0.02	0.00	-0.02	-0.08	0.18	-0.04	0.02
Books newspapers and magazines	0.01	0.04	-0.01	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.02
Video and sound equipment	-0.03	-0.02	-0.01	-0.02	-0.01	-0.02	-0.01	-0.02	-0.03
Sports and photo equip and toys	0.02	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.00	-0.01	0.00	-0.03	0.01
Holiday travel and accommodation in Australia	0.02	0.00	-0.01	-0.01	-0.03	-0.08	0.07	-0.02	0.00
O'ceas holiday travel and accommodation	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	-0.03	0.00	0.05	-0.02	-0.01
Entertainment	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.05	0.00	0.02
Total change	1.9	1.4	1.0	1.3	0.7	1.3	1.2	1.5	1.4
Contribution of selected State and local government charges (a) to total change	0.08	0.06	0.11	0.14	0.11	0.17	0.17	0.26	0.09

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

TABLE 4. CHANGE BETWEEN JUNE QUARTER 1995 AND SEPTEMBER QUARTER 1995 (a)
PERCENTAGE CONTRIBUTION TO CHANGE IN WEIGHTED AVERAGE EIGHT CAPITAL CITIES ALL GROUP 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	8.9	6.9	1.4	2.5	1.2	0.3	0.0	0.2	21.5
Clothing	-0.5	-0.6	-0.3	-0.1	-0.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	-1.8
Housing	3.5	1.4	1.1	0.7	1.1	0.3	0.1	0.2	8.5
Household equipment and operation	2.1	2.7	1.5	1.6	0.7	0.3	0.1	0.4	9.1
Transportation	16.5	8.2	3.4	3.4	2.2	0.4	0.2	1.4	35.7
Tobacco and alcohol	12.5	8.1	1.0	0.8	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.7	24.1
Health and personal care	1.0	0.6	0.2	0.1	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	2.4
Recreation and education	0.8	1.0	-0.2	0.0	-0.2	-0.1	0.1	-0.1	1.4
All Groups	44.8	28.0	8.2	9.0	5.2	1.7	0.7	2.9	100.0

(a) Table 4 shows the percentage contribution of Groups in each city to the change (between June quarter 1995 and September quarter 1995) in the All Groups index for the weighted average of the eight capital cities.

TABLE 5. 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>Trans- portation</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									
1992-93	1.5	1.0	-4.3	-0.2	2.3	8.2	2.2	2.1	1.0
1993-94	1.9	-0.7	-0.4	0.5	2.2	7.5	4.0	2.6	3.8
1994-95	2.5	0.0	6.2	1.3	3.3	5.5	5.0	2.4	3.2
Change from corresponding quarter of previous year									
<i>1993-94</i>									
September	2.6	0.5	0.3	0.1	2.1	8.8	4.2	3.0	2.2
December	2.6	-0.9	-0.4	-0.1	2.3	7.9	3.5	3.0	1.9
March	0.7	-1.1	-0.7	0.9	1.7	6.7	4.1	2.1	1.4
June	1.4	-1.6	-0.8	0.7	2.8	6.4	4.4	2.4	1.7
<i>1994-95</i>									
September	1.5	-0.5	0.0	0.7	3.4	5.0	5.5	2.0	1.9
December	1.3	0.0	4.2	1.4	2.9	4.5	5.3	2.0	2.5
March	3.1	0.1	9.7	1.3	3.6	4.9	4.4	2.9	3.9
June	3.8	0.8	10.9	1.8	3.1	7.5	5.0	2.6	4.5
<i>1995-96</i>									
September	4.5	0.1	11.1	2.6	4.3	10.2	4.2	2.8	5.1
Change from previous quarter									
<i>1993-94</i>									
September	0.7	0.9	-0.3	0.1	1.0	2.2	0.1	0.3	0.5
December	0.6	-0.3	-1.4	-0.1	0.3	1.8	0.4	1.1	0.2
March	0.3	-0.5	0.1	0.5	-0.3	1.1	2.9	0.2	0.4
June	-0.3	0.1	0.7	0.3	1.8	1.3	0.9	0.8	0.7
<i>1994-95</i>									
September	0.8	0.2	0.5	0.0	1.6	0.9	1.1	-0.1	0.6
December	0.5	0.2	2.7	0.6	-0.2	1.2	0.2	1.1	0.8
March	2.1	-0.6	5.4	0.4	0.4	1.4	2.1	1.1	1.7
June	0.4	0.9	1.8	0.8	1.3	3.8	1.5	0.5	1.3
<i>1995-96</i>									
September	1.5	-0.5	0.7	0.7	2.7	3.4	0.4	0.2	1.2

TABLE 6. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX — GROUP INDEXES

<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>
FOOD (Base of each Index: Year 1989-90 = 100.0)									
<i>1993-94</i>									
September	108.6	107.8	109.4	110.4	109.8	110.2	111.2	109.8	108.8
December	109.6	108.1	110.1	111.3	110.3	111.7	112.6	111.4	109.5
March	110.2	107.8	111.2	112.0	110.2	112.6	112.6	111.9	109.8
June	109.4	107.9	110.2	113.0	109.9	112.2	113.1	111.4	109.5
<i>1994-95</i>									
September	110.2	108.6	110.7	114.5	111.6	113.9	112.8	112.3	110.4
December	111.4	108.8	111.0	114.3	111.4	113.3	112.8	113.6	110.9
March	113.4	111.2	114.1	115.7	115.1	115.4	114.7	116.4	113.2
June	114.0	111.7	114.5	115.7	115.7	116.1	115.5	116.7	113.7
<i>1995-96</i>									
September	116.0	113.5	115.4	117.8	116.6	117.3	115.3	117.2	115.4
CLOTHING (Base of each Index: Year 1989-90 = 100.0)									
<i>1993-94</i>									
September	106.2	107.9	106.3	107.5	108.3	106.9	103.8	108.0	107.1
December	106.3	107.5	105.6	107.1	107.8	106.8	103.7	107.2	106.8
March	105.6	106.7	105.5	106.0	108.2	106.4	103.6	106.9	106.3
June	106.0	106.9	105.4	105.8	108.5	106.4	105.3	106.7	106.4
<i>1994-95</i>									
September	106.6	107.0	105.3	105.2	107.9	106.6	105.7	107.0	106.6
December	106.6	107.4	106.3	105.1	107.4	105.3	105.9	107.1	106.8
March	106.0	107.0	105.5	104.2	106.9	105.0	106.2	107.1	106.2
June	107.0	108.2	105.9	105.1	107.5	106.1	106.3	107.1	107.2
<i>1995-96—</i>									
September	106.7	107.7	105.3	104.8	106.9	105.9	107.0	107.4	106.7
HOUSING (Base of each Index: Year 1989-90 = 100.0)									
<i>1993-94—</i>									
September	96.1	93.8	100.4	93.3	87.7	94.9	104.2	100.3	94.9
December	94.5	92.4	99.8	91.6	86.9	93.4	103.0	99.2	93.6
March	94.7	92.2	100.1	91.6	86.9	93.3	103.6	98.8	93.7
June	95.9	92.4	100.7	91.9	87.8	94.2	104.5	99.3	94.4
<i>1994-95</i>									
September	96.8	92.7	101.1	92.4	88.5	94.8	105.3	99.7	94.9
December	99.1	95.0	104.0	95.6	91.8	97.6	107.7	102.8	97.5
March	104.4	100.4	109.0	100.8	96.9	102.7	113.0	108.7	102.8
June	106.6	102.0	110.7	102.2	99.0	104.5	115.5	110.7	104.7
<i>1995-96—</i>									
September	107.4	102.4	111.4	102.7	100.0	106.0	116.5	111.3	105.4
HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND OPERATION (Base of each Index: Year 1989-90 = 100.0)									
<i>1993-94</i>									
September	105.9	109.0	106.1	107.5	108.6	111.3	105.0	107.1	107.5
December	105.1	109.3	106.5	108.2	108.1	111.8	104.5	107.0	107.4
March	105.1	110.8	107.1	107.9	108.1	112.2	103.7	107.5	107.9
June	106.0	110.8	107.2	108.2	107.9	112.4	104.2	107.8	108.2
<i>1994-95—</i>									
September	106.2	110.3	107.9	108.3	108.3	112.8	104.3	107.7	108.2
December	106.6	110.9	109.1	108.7	109.0	113.9	104.3	108.6	108.9
March	107.1	111.5	109.2	109.5	108.9	114.9	104.7	109.2	109.3
June	108.5	111.8	110.6	110.2	110.0	115.4	105.0	110.4	110.2
<i>1995-96—</i>									
September	109.0	112.5	111.6	111.5	110.5	116.5	106.1	111.5	111.0

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 1989-90 = 100.0)									
<i>1993-94</i>									
September	110.9	115.0	111.8	117.3	113.6	111.6	112.8	116.9	113.2
December	110.6	115.8	112.3	117.6	114.2	112.3	113.4	117.5	113.5
March	110.8	114.9	112.0	117.6	113.9	111.9	111.3	115.4	113.2
June	112.7	117.5	113.8	118.5	116.0	112.8	113.9	117.8	115.2
<i>1994-95</i>									
September	115.3	118.4	115.8	119.6	117.9	113.9	114.9	119.6	117.0
December	114.9	118.5	115.4	119.8	117.2	115.0	114.5	118.9	116.8
March	115.4	118.5	116.7	119.9	119.3	115.1	114.9	119.7	117.3
June	116.8	119.9	117.4	121.4	121.4	117.2	116.4	122.1	118.8
<i>1995-96</i>									
September	121.1	122.4	120.1	124.4	123.4	119.4	119.0	126.8	122.0
TOBACCO AND ALCOHOL (Base of each Index: Year 1989-90 = 100.0)									
<i>1993-94</i>									
September	131.8	129.8	130.7	138.8	123.7	132.1	127.0	127.3	130.8
December	134.0	131.7	131.8	140.0	129.1	133.4	133.1	129.7	133.1
March	135.7	133.0	132.2	142.6	130.4	134.3	134.4	130.9	134.5
June	138.1	134.0	134.1	144.5	131.8	134.8	136.4	132.2	136.2
<i>1994-95</i>									
September	139.9	134.0	136.5	144.2	133.6	137.2	137.8	134.0	137.4
December	141.9	134.7	138.4	147.8	135.9	139.1	139.2	134.9	139.1
March	143.3	137.1	140.9	150.2	137.7	140.3	141.4	137.2	141.1
June	150.2	143.5	144.1	153.2	140.2	143.1	146.3	143.3	146.4
<i>1995-96</i>									
September	158.3	149.5	145.6	154.8	140.6	144.3	149.7	148.0	151.4
HEALTH AND PERSONAL CARE (Base of each Index: Year 1989-90 = 100.0)									
<i>1993-94</i>									
September	120.6	131.9	121.2	138.7	122.1	134.5	126.2	125.2	126.5
December	121.4	132.9	120.5	138.4	122.9	134.5	126.9	125.1	127.0
March	123.8	137.4	124.0	145.5	124.8	137.5	129.5	128.1	130.7
June	124.4	139.2	124.6	148.2	125.5	137.9	129.7	129.0	131.9
<i>1994-95</i>									
September	126.3	139.8	128.5	148.3	127.6	138.7	132.6	131.1	133.4
December	126.0	140.8	128.4	148.7	128.4	138.7	133.5	131.2	133.7
March	128.7	143.4	131.8	153.0	130.1	140.4	133.2	134.1	136.5
June	129.7	145.5	133.6	155.3	135.7	141.0	135.3	134.5	138.5
<i>1995-96</i>									
September	130.4	146.0	134.1	155.4	135.7	146.7	135.3	134.6	139.0
RECREATION AND EDUCATION (Base of each Index: Year 1989-90 = 100.0)									
<i>1993-94</i>									
September	110.6	112.2	108.9	112.8	107.1	108.7	104.1	110.2	110.7
December	112.0	113.3	110.2	113.0	108.5	111.0	108.1	110.5	111.9
March	111.5	114.1	111.2	114.1	107.5	109.7	105.4	111.3	112.1
June	112.5	114.8	113.5	114.8	107.5	111.3	106.1	112.0	113.0
<i>1994-95</i>									
September	112.0	114.9	113.5	115.1	107.7	111.7	105.9	111.1	112.9
December	112.6	116.4	115.5	116.2	109.4	113.0	106.8	112.9	114.1
March	113.8	117.9	117.2	117.2	109.0	115.4	105.4	114.7	115.3
June	115.5	117.5	117.0	116.5	112.3	114.0	106.0	114.1	115.9
<i>1995-96</i>									
September	115.8	118.0	116.8	116.5	112.1	113.3	107.5	113.8	116.1

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 1989-90=100.0)				Percentage Change between		Contribution to total CPI (expressed as All Groups index points)			Change between Jun qtr 1995 and Sep qtr 1995
	Sep qtr 1994	Jun qtr 1995	Sep qtr 1995	Jun qtr 1995 and Sep qtr 1995	Jun qtr 1995 and Sep qtr 1995	Sep qtr 1994 and Sep qtr 1995	Jun qtr 1995	Sep qtr 1995		
FOOD	110.4	113.7	115.4	1.5	4.5	21.31	21.01	21.31	0.30	
Dairy products	117.9	120.5	122.3	1.5	3.7	1.75	1.72	1.75	0.03	
Cereal products	116.1	122.7	125.1	2.0	7.8	2.50	2.45	2.50	0.05	
Meat and seafoods	100.8	104.6	106.4	1.7	5.6	3.41	3.35	3.41	0.06	
Beef and veal	106.4	106.3	108.7	2.3	2.2	0.81	0.81	0.83	0.02	
Lamb and mutton	104.3	113.8	121.5	6.8	16.5	0.46	0.46	0.49	0.03	
Pork	102.3	104.2	104.9	0.7	2.5	0.19	0.19	0.19	0.00	
Poultry	81.7	88.6	87.0	-1.8	6.5	0.42	0.42	0.41	-0.01	
Bacon and ham	103.7	105.4	107.2	1.7	3.4	0.34	0.34	0.35	0.01	
Processed meat	103.7	108.8	109.5	0.6	5.6	0.75	0.75	0.76	0.01	
Fish	97.9	100.9	101.0	0.1	3.2	0.37	0.37	0.37	0.00	
Fresh fruit and vegetables	94.4	99.1	101.5	2.4	7.5	1.86	1.82	1.86	0.04	
Processed fruit and vegetables	110.0	111.1	113.7	2.3	3.4	0.92	0.92	0.94	0.02	
Soft drinks - ice cream and confectionery	121.2	123.1	125.5	1.9	3.5	3.40	3.33	3.40	0.07	
Meals out and take away foods	113.4	115.4	115.5	0.1	1.9	5.46	5.46	5.46	0.00	
Other foods	110.5	115.5	117.9	2.1	6.7	1.99	1.94	1.99	0.05	
CLOTHING	106.6	107.2	106.7	-0.5	0.1	6.71	6.73	6.71	-0.02	
Men's and boy's clothing	109.3	110.5	110.3	-0.2	0.9	1.86	1.86	1.86	0.00	
Women's and girls' clothing	106.6	107.2	107.3	0.1	0.7	2.74	2.74	2.74	0.00	
Fabrics and knitting wool	103.8	105.1	103.8	-1.2	0.0	0.80	0.80	0.79	-0.01	
Footwear	100.7	99.4	97.9	-1.5	-2.8	1.05	1.06	1.05	-0.01	
Dry cleaning and shoe repairs	120.5	122.5	123.7	1.0	2.7	0.26	0.26	0.26	0.00	
HOUSING	94.9	104.7	105.4	0.7	11.1	18.68	18.56	18.68	0.12	
Rents	108.4	109.8	110.5	0.6	1.9	5.39	5.36	5.39	0.03	
Privately-owned dwelling rents	107.6	109.0	109.7	0.6	2.0	4.92	4.92	4.95	0.03	
Government-owned dwelling rents	117.9	118.6	118.6	0.0	0.6	0.44	0.44	0.44	0.00	
Home ownership	89.3	102.2	102.9	0.7	15.2	13.29	13.21	13.29	0.08	
Mortgage interest charges	72.2	90.0	90.4	0.4	25.2	7.92	7.92	7.96	0.04	
Local government rates and charges	131.6	135.3	137.7	1.8	4.6	2.74	2.74	2.78	0.04	
House repairs and maintenance	115.1	114.9	115.1	0.2	0.0	2.04	2.04	2.04	0.00	
House insurance	131.0	140.4	141.2	0.6	7.8	0.50	0.50	0.51	0.01	
HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND OPERATION	108.2	110.2	111.0	0.7	2.6	20.25	20.12	20.25	0.13	
Fuel and light	118.5	118.9	119.4	0.4	0.8	2.70	2.69	2.70	0.01	
Furniture and floor coverings	113.2	114.6	114.5	-0.1	1.1	4.86	4.86	4.86	0.00	
Appliances	107.3	107.4	108.4	0.9	1.0	1.71	1.69	1.71	0.02	
Household textiles	107.9	111.5	112.3	0.7	4.1	0.85	0.85	0.86	0.01	
Household utensils and tools	106.2	105.7	106.1	0.4	-0.1	1.31	1.31	1.31	0.00	
Household supplies and services	113.5	116.6	118.3	1.5	4.2	4.61	4.54	4.61	0.07	
Postal and telephone services	106.7	107.7	107.8	0.1	1.0	1.85	1.85	1.86	0.01	
Consumer credit charges	85.2	90.7	91.7	1.1	7.6	2.34	2.32	2.34	0.02	

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			Percentage Change between				Contribution to total CPI (expressed as All Groups index points)			
	(Base of each index: Year 1989-90=100.0)			Jun qtr 1995 and Sep qtr 1994		Sep qtr 1995 and Jun qtr 1994		Jun qtr 1995 and Sep qtr 1994		Sep qtr 1995 and Jun qtr 1994	
	Sep qtr 1994	Jun qtr 1995	Sep qtr 1995	Jun qtr 1995 and Sep qtr 1994	Sep qtr 1995 and Jun qtr 1994	Jun qtr 1995 and Sep qtr 1994	Sep qtr 1995 and Jun qtr 1994	Jun qtr 1995 and Sep qtr 1994	Sep qtr 1995 and Jun qtr 1994	Jun qtr 1995 and Sep qtr 1994	Sep qtr 1995 and Jun qtr 1994
TRANSPORTATION											
Private motoring	117.0	118.8	122.0	2.7	4.3	18.69	19.19	0.50			
Motor vehicles	115.9	117.7	120.9	2.7	4.3	17.23	17.69	0.46			
Automotive fuel	116.4	119.9	121.8	1.6	4.6		4.90	4.98			0.08
Vehicle insurance	114.2	115.7	120.0	3.7	5.1		5.28	5.47			0.19
Motoring charges	119.2	121.0	127.2	5.1	6.7		2.54	2.67			0.13
Tyres and tubes	132.8	134.1	136.4	1.7	2.7		1.04	1.06			0.02
Vehicle service repairs and parts	103.8	106.3	107.1	0.8	3.2		0.39	0.39			0.00
Urban transport fares	113.9	114.0	115.5	1.3	1.4		3.09	3.13			0.04
	136.0	137.8	141.5	2.7	4.0	1.46	1.50	0.04			
TOBACCO AND ALCOHOL											
Alcoholic drinks	137.4	146.4	151.4	3.4	10.2	10.08	10.42	0.34			
Beer	120.8	124.0	125.7	1.4	4.1	5.98	6.06	0.08			
Wine	121.2	125.0	127.2	1.8	5.0		3.46	3.52			0.06
Spirits	114.9	117.7	118.7	0.8	3.3		1.23	1.24			0.01
Cigarettes and tobacco	125.2	127.2	128.3	0.9	2.5		1.29	1.30			0.01
	177.0	199.8	212.4	6.3	20.0	4.10	4.36	0.26			
HEALTH AND PERSONAL CARE											
Health services	133.4	138.5	139.0	0.4	4.2	8.37	8.40	0.03			
Personal care products	144.9	151.3	152.6	0.9	5.3	5.04	5.08	0.04			
Hairstressing services	119.4	122.8	122.1	-0.6	2.3	2.42	2.41	-0.01			
	115.6	119.6	120.0	0.3	3.8	0.91	0.91	0.00			
RECREATION AND EDUCATION											
Books newspapers and magazines	112.9	115.9	116.1	0.2	2.8	12.61	12.63	0.02			
Recreational goods	135.1	136.7	138.2	1.1	2.3	1.43	1.45	0.02			
Holiday travel and accommodation	102.5	101.6	101.1	-0.5	-1.4	2.76	2.75	-0.01			
Recreational services	98.2	102.5	102.4	-0.1	4.3	2.70	2.70	0.00			
Education and child care	122.1	127.2	127.8	0.5	4.7	3.36	3.37	0.01			
	128.9	134.3	134.6	0.2	4.4	2.36	2.36	0.00			
ALL GROUPS	111.9	116.2	117.6	1.2	5.1	116.2	117.6	1.4			

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

	Index numbers (Base of each index: Year 1989-90=100.0)			Percentage Change between			Contribution to total CPI (expressed as All Groups index points)		
	Sep qtr 1994	Jun qtr 1995	Sep qtr 1995	Jun qtr 1995 and Sep qtr 1995	Sep qtr 1994 and Sep qtr 1995	Jun 1995	Sep qtr 1995	Change between Jun qtr 1995 and Sep qtr 1995	
ALL GROUPS	111.9	116.2	117.6	1.2	5.1	116.2	117.6	1.4	
All groups - excluding food	112.2	116.8	118.1	1.1	5.3	95.17	96.28	1.11	
All groups - excluding clothing	112.2	116.8	118.4	1.4	5.5	109.45	110.88	1.43	
All groups - excluding housing	115.1	118.3	119.8	1.3	4.1	97.62	98.91	1.29	
All groups - excluding household equipment and operation	112.7	117.5	119.1	1.4	5.7	96.06	97.34	1.28	
All groups - excluding transportation	110.9	115.7	116.8	1.0	5.3	97.49	98.40	0.91	
All groups - excluding tobacco and alcohol	109.9	113.8	115.0	1.1	4.6	106.10	107.17	1.07	
All groups - excluding health and personal care	110.5	114.8	116.3	1.3	5.2	107.81	109.19	1.38	
All groups - excluding recreation and education	111.8	116.3	117.9	1.4	5.5	103.57	104.96	1.39	
All groups - excluding home ownership	114.9	117.9	119.5	1.4	4.0	102.97	104.30	1.33	
Mortgage interest and consumer credit charges	75.8	90.8	91.3	0.6	20.4	10.29	10.34	0.05	
All groups - excluding mortgage interest and consumer credit charges	116.1	119.0	120.5	1.3	3.8	105.89	107.25	1.36	
All groups - excluding hospital and medical services	110.9	115.1	116.5	1.2	5.0	112.13	113.50	1.37	
All groups - goods component (a)	114.5	117.3	118.9	1.4	3.8	70.77	71.75	0.98	
All groups - services component (b)	107.9	114.5	115.6	1.0	7.1	45.41	45.84	0.43	
Selected State and local government charges (c)	125.4	126.9	128.4	1.2	2.4	7.72	7.81	0.09	
All groups - excluding selected State and local government charges (c)	111.0	115.5	116.9	1.2	5.3	108.46	109.78	1.32	

(a) 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. (b) The 'All groups, services component' comprises all items not included in the 'All groups, goods component'. (c) 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 vehicles 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.

**TABLE 9. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX INTERNATIONAL COMPARISONS:
ALL GROUPS EXCLUDING HOUSING, INDEX NUMBERS (a)**
(Base of each index : 1989-90 = 100.0)

Period	United States of America	Japan	Germany (b)	Canada	United Kingdom	Hong Kong	Korea Republic of	Taiwan	Australia	New Zealand (c)
1991-92	108.7	105.9	106.9	108.8	115.0	121.7	117.9	107.6	108.8	106.5
1992-93	112.1	106.8	110.5	110.8	118.6	130.8	123.5	111.4	111.0	108.7
1993-94	114.8	107.9	113.9	112.0	122.0	140.1	130.4	114.2	113.5	109.4
1994-95	118.0	107.8	116.4	113.4	124.8	151.4	138.0	119.1	116.5	110.5
<i>1991-92</i>										
September	107.5	104.7	105.5	108.7	113.0	118.1	115.2	105.5	107.7	105.6
December	108.4	106.1	106.1	108.2	114.4	119.4	116.6	106.6	108.9	105.9
March	108.9	105.6	107.4	108.7	115.1	123.2	118.6	107.8	109.4	107.0
June	110.0	107.0	108.4	109.4	117.3	126.0	121.0	110.5	109.3	107.5
<i>1992-93--</i>										
September	110.7	106.3	108.6	110.0	117.1	127.4	122.1	110.1	109.8	108.1
December	111.7	106.7	109.6	110.3	118.0	128.7	121.6	110.8	110.6	108.6
March	112.7	106.6	111.4	111.2	118.4	132.1	123.8	111.3	111.6	108.9
June	113.3	107.6	112.4	111.5	120.8	134.8	126.4	113.5	112.0	109.1
<i>1993-94--</i>										
September	113.7	108.1	112.6	112.1	121.1	136.4	127.2	112.2	112.6	109.3
December	114.6	107.6	113.1	112.6	121.4	139.3	128.3	113.4	113.2	109.4
March	115.1	107.7	114.7	111.8	121.8	140.8	132.2	114.4	113.6	109.3
June	115.9	108.1	115.3	111.5	123.5	143.7	134.0	116.6	114.4	109.5
<i>1994-95</i>										
September	116.9	107.7	115.6	112.2	123.4	147.6	136.6	119.3	115.1	109.8
December	117.4	108.2	115.7	112.4	123.9	149.6	136.2	117.2	115.7	110.4
March	118.2	107.4	116.8	113.9	125.1	152.9	138.4	118.8	116.9	110.6
June	119.4	107.8	117.5	115.1	126.6	155.5	140.7	121.0	118.3	111.3
<i>1995-96</i>										
September	119.7	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	127.0	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	121.4	119.8	111.2

(a) See explanatory notes, paragraph 13, page 15. (b) The statistics for Germany refer to Western Germany (Federal Republic of Germany before the unification of Germany). (c) From March quarter 1994 the statistics for New Zealand refer to 'all groups excluding housing and credit services'.

**TABLE 10. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX INTERNATIONAL COMPARISONS:
ALL GROUPS EXCLUDING HOUSING, PERCENTAGE CHANGES (a)**

Period	United States of America	Japan	Germany (b)	Canada	United Kingdom	Hong Kong	Korea Republic of	Taiwan	Australia	New Zealand (c)
Change from previous year										
1992-93	3.1	0.8	3.4	1.8	3.1	7.5	4.7	3.5	2.0	2.1
1993-94	2.4	1.0	3.1	1.1	2.9	7.1	5.6	2.5	2.3	0.6
1994-95	2.8	-0.1	2.2	1.3	2.3	8.1	5.8	4.3	2.6	1.0
Change from corresponding quarter of previous year										
<i>1993-94</i>										
September	2.7	1.7	3.7	1.9	3.4	7.1	4.2	1.9	2.6	1.1
December	2.6	0.8	3.2	2.1	2.9	8.2	5.5	2.3	2.4	0.7
March	2.1	1.0	3.0	0.5	2.9	6.6	6.8	2.8	1.8	0.4
June	2.3	0.5	2.6	0.0	2.2	6.6	6.0	2.7	2.1	0.4
<i>1994-95--</i>										
September	2.8	-0.4	2.7	0.1	1.9	8.2	7.4	6.3	2.2	0.5
December	2.4	0.6	2.3	-0.2	2.1	7.4	6.2	3.4	2.2	0.9
March	2.7	-0.3	1.8	1.9	2.7	8.6	4.7	3.8	2.9	1.2
June	3.0	-0.3	1.9	3.2	2.5	8.2	5.0	3.8	3.4	1.2
<i>1995-96--</i>										
September	2.4	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	2.9	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	1.8	4.1	1.3
Change from previous quarter										
<i>1993-94</i>										
September	0.4	0.5	0.2	0.5	0.2	1.2	0.6	-1.1	0.5	0.2
December	0.8	-0.5	0.4	0.4	0.2	2.1	0.9	1.1	0.5	0.1
March	0.4	0.1	1.4	-0.7	0.3	1.1	3.0	0.9	0.4	-0.1
June	0.7	0.4	0.5	-0.3	1.4	2.1	1.4	1.9	0.7	0.2
<i>1994-95</i>										
September	0.9	-0.4	0.3	0.6	-0.1	2.7	1.9	2.3	0.6	0.3
December	0.4	0.5	0.1	0.2	0.4	1.4	-0.3	-1.8	0.5	0.5
March	0.7	-0.7	1.0	1.3	1.0	2.2	1.6	1.4	1.0	0.2
June	1.0	0.4	0.6	1.1	1.2	1.7	1.7	1.9	1.2	0.6
<i>1995-96</i>										
September	0.3	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	0.3	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	0.3	1.3	-0.1

(a) See explanatory notes, paragraph 13, page 15. (b) The statistics for Germany refer to Western Germany (Federal Republic of Germany before the unification of Germany). (c) From March quarter 1994 the statistics for New Zealand refer to 'all groups excluding housing and credit services'.

TABLE 11. ALTERNATIVE MEASURES OF CONSUMER PRICE INFLATION(a)

Period	All Groups	All Groups excluding Housing(b)	All Groups excl. interest and "volatile items"(c)	Private Sector Goods and Services(d)		Total	Treasury Underlying Rate(e)
				Goods	Services		
Index Numbers (1989-90 = 100.0)							
1991-92	107.3	108.8	109.3	107.9	108.0	107.9	108.2
1992-93	108.4	111.0	112.1	110.9	109.0	110.4	110.4
1993-94	110.4	113.5	115.2	113.9	110.8	113.1	112.7
1994-95	113.9	116.5	118.1	116.2	114.0	115.7	115.1
<i>1991-92</i>							
September	106.6	107.7	108.0	107.0	106.8	106.9	107.0
December	107.6	108.9	109.3	107.8	108.8	108.0	108.1
March	107.6	109.4	109.9	108.0	108.1	108.1	108.5
June	107.3	109.3	110.1	108.9	108.2	108.7	109.3
<i>1992-93</i>							
September	107.4	109.8	110.7	109.5	108.6	109.3	109.6
December	107.9	110.6	111.6	110.4	109.2	110.1	110.1
March	108.9	111.6	112.6	111.3	108.9	110.7	110.7
June	109.3	112.0	113.4	112.2	109.3	111.5	111.3
<i>1993-94</i>							
September	109.8	112.6	114.1	113.1	109.6	112.2	112.0
December	110.0	113.2	114.8	113.6	111.0	112.9	112.4
March	110.4	113.6	115.6	114.1	111.0	113.3	113.0
June	111.2	114.4	116.1	114.6	111.6	113.8	113.5
<i>1994-95</i>							
September	111.9	115.1	116.7	115.0	112.7	114.4	114.2
December	112.8	115.7	117.5	115.7	113.7	115.2	114.8
March	114.7	116.9	118.3	116.3	114.2	115.7	115.2
June	116.2	118.3	119.7	117.9	115.5	117.3	116.3
<i>1995-96</i>							
September	117.6	119.8	121.0	119.4	116.8	118.7	117.7
Percentage Changes							
Change from previous year							
1991-92	1.9	3.0	3.6	3.1	1.9	2.7	3.1
1992-93	1.0	2.0	2.6	2.8	0.9	2.3	2.0
1993-94	1.8	2.3	2.8	2.7	1.7	2.4	2.1
1994-95	3.2	2.6	2.5	2.0	2.9	2.3	2.1
Change from corresponding quarter of previous year							
<i>1993-94</i>							
September	2.2	2.6	3.1	3.3	0.9	2.7	2.2
December	1.9	2.4	2.9	2.9	1.6	2.5	2.1
March	1.4	1.8	2.7	2.5	1.9	2.3	2.1
June	1.7	2.1	2.4	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.0
<i>1994-95</i>							
September	1.9	2.2	2.3	1.7	2.8	2.0	2.0
December	2.5	2.2	2.4	1.8	2.4	2.0	2.1
March	3.9	2.9	2.3	1.9	2.9	2.1	1.9
June	4.5	3.4	3.1	2.9	3.5	3.1	2.5
<i>1995-96</i>							
September	5.1	4.1	3.7	3.8	3.6	3.8	3.1
Change from previous quarter							
<i>1993-94</i>							
September	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.8	0.3	0.6	0.6
December	0.2	0.5	0.6	0.4	1.3	0.6	0.4
March	0.4	0.4	0.7	0.4	0.0	0.4	0.5
June	0.7	0.7	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.4
<i>1994-95</i>							
September	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.3	1.0	0.5	0.6
December	0.8	0.5	0.7	0.6	0.9	0.7	0.5
March	1.7	1.0	0.7	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.3
June	1.3	1.2	1.2	1.4	1.1	1.4	1.0
<i>1995-96</i>							
September	1.2	1.3	1.1	1.3	1.1	1.2	1.2

(a) See explanatory notes, paragraph 16, page 15. (b) This series covers approximately 84 per cent of the total CPI basket. (c) Comprises the All Groups CPI excluding: Fresh fruit and vegetables, Mortgage interest charges, Automotive fuel, and Consumer credit charges. The resulting series covers approximately 85 per cent of the total CPI basket. (d) Comprises the All Groups CPI excluding: items in (c), Government-owned dwelling rents, Fuel and light, Local government rates and charges, Postal and telephone services, Motoring charges, Urban transport fares, Health services, Pharmaceuticals, and Education and child care. The resulting series covers approximately 69 per cent of the total CPI basket. (e) Comprises the All Groups CPI excluding: items in (c) and (d) (except Motoring charges), Meat and seafoods, Clothing, Tobacco and alcohol, and Holiday travel and accommodation. The resulting series covers approximately 51 per cent of the total CPI basket.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Brief description of the CPI

1. 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).

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 twelfth 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 twelve 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:		
Mar quarter 1995:	114.7	(see Table 1)
less: Dec quarter 1994:	112.8	(see Table 1)
Change in index points:	1.9	

$$\text{Percentage change} = \frac{1.9}{112.8} \times 100 = 1.7\%$$

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 1.75 index points to the total All Groups index number of 117.6 for September quarter 1995. 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.

International comparisons

13. In analysing price movements in Australia, an important consideration is Australia's performance relative to other countries. However, due to the many differences in the structure of the housing sector in different countries and in the way that housing is treated in their CPIs, a simple comparison of All groups (or headline) CPIs is often inappropriate. To provide a better basis for international comparisons, the Fourteenth International Conference of Labour Statisticians adopted a resolution which called for countries to "provide for dissemination at the international level of an index which excludes shelter, in addition to the all-items index."

14. Table 9 presents indexes for selected countries on a basis consistent with the above resolution and comparable to the Australian series *All groups excluding housing*. To facilitate comparisons all indexes in this table have, where necessary, been converted to a quarterly basis and re-referenced to a base of 1989-90 = 100.0.

15. In producing this table, the ABS is grateful for the assistance of the relevant national statistical agencies which have either directly supplied indexes for all items excluding shelter or data to enable their derivation.

Alternative Measures of Consumer Price Inflation

16. The various uses of the CPI may be grouped into two major categories. The first relates to uses of the CPI to assess changes in the purchasing power of household incomes, particularly as input to income adjustment processes. The second relates to uses as a general measure of inflation.

17. It is not possible to produce a single measure that is entirely suitable for both purposes, due to certain fundamental differences in requirements. For more details, see the Information Paper *The Australian Consumer Price Index, 12th Series Review* (Cat. No. 6450.0).

18. While the removal of shelter costs from the CPI serves to improve international comparability there is a need for other measures for some purposes. In particular, there is a requirement for measures which seek to remove temporary influences and one-off changes in order to focus on the "underlying" inflation rate.

19. There is no universally accepted methodology for deriving a measure of an "underlying" inflation rate. The Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) and the Commonwealth Department of the Treasury (Treasury) have developed several alternative measures which, while based on the CPI, exclude various components which have been assessed as contributing significant temporary influences from time to time.

20. Table 11 presents the *All groups* CPI, the series recommended for international comparisons (*All groups excluding housing*), and a number of possible "underlying" measures including the Treasury measure. A description of the Treasury "underlying" inflation rate was published in the Appendix to the September quarter 1994 issue of this publication.

21. No single series can be claimed to provide the ideal guide to "underlying" inflation in every time period due to the variations in the sources of particular "shocks". Judgement will still be required in assessing the trend from period to period. However, Treasury and the RBA have agreed that the Treasury series provides the best available guide to "underlying" inflation for macro-economic policy purposes.

Related publications

22. 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)

Information Paper: The Australian Consumer Price Index: 12th Series Review (6450.0)

Next issue

23. The Consumer Price Index - December quarter 1995 (6401.0) is scheduled to be released on Wednesday 24 January 1996.

24. 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 *Release Advice* (1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the next few days. The catalogue and Release 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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