



1996

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# **Change in Format of the Quarterly Publication 'Consumer Price Index' (6401.0)**

## **Information Paper**

## **NOTES**

### **ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION**

This Information Paper details changes which will be made to the Consumer Price Index publication (Catalogue no. 6401.0) commencing with the December quarter 1996 issue scheduled for release on 29 January 1997.

### **INQUIRIES**

For further information or comment on the changes to Catalogue No 6401.0, contact Bill Ferris on Canberra (06) 252 6251, or write to Consumer Price Index Section, Australian Bureau of Statistics, PO Box 10, Belconnen, ACT, 2616.

For further information about other ABS statistics and services, refer to the back of this publication.

W. McLennan  
Australian Statistician

## CHANGES TO THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX PUBLICATION

### INTRODUCTION

The changes include the addition of some information previously not published, the deletion of some less frequently used capital city indexes and changes in the presentation and style. The new design and layout has been introduced to be consistent with other ABS main economic indicator publications. Comment on the revised publication is welcome, especially from users who may be affected by the deletion of series. Comments should be forwarded promptly to Bill Ferris (see facing page for contact details) if any suggestions are to be considered for incorporation into the next release.

The most notable changes are:

- an improved layout for the commentary;
- the change to a consistent layout, including the presentation of all tables in portrait format; and
- the inclusion of data for all expenditure classes at the weighted average of eight capital cities level.

To illustrate the design changes, the September quarter 1996 publication (released on 23 October) has been reproduced in accordance with the new layout and included in this publication.

### DETAILS OF CHANGES

Front page	The layout has been changed and in the summary table the changes for the Index "All groups excluding food" have been dropped.
Page 2	This page will display the scheduled release date for forthcoming issues, and highlight any changes and revisions to data in the current issue.
Pages 3 and 4	The graphs of annual changes by Group and All groups for the weighted average of the eight capital cities have been dropped.
Pages 5 and 6	The previous Tables 1 and 2 are now presented on separate pages.
Page 7	Table 3 shows index numbers by group for the weighted average of the eight capital cities. The index numbers were previously included in Table 6. The old Table 6 has been dropped, ie Group Index numbers for individual capital cities are not included in the publication, but are still available on request or from PCAusstats. Also dropped is the old Table 4 which showed the percentage contribution to the change in the weighted average of the eight capital cities All groups index. The old Table 4 was open to problems in interpretation, especially at times when the change in the All groups index was small or there were divergent movements in the various index groups.

# NOTES

## FORTHCOMING ISSUES

### ISSUE QUARTER

### RELEASE DATE

December 1996

29 January 1997

March 1997

23 April 1997

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## CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

There are no changes in this issue.

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## ROUNDING

Any discrepancies between totals and sums of components in this publication are due to rounding. For similar reasons quarterly movements shown by sub-group or group index numbers in Table 6 do not necessarily correspond exactly with those shown by the relevant index points.

W McLennan

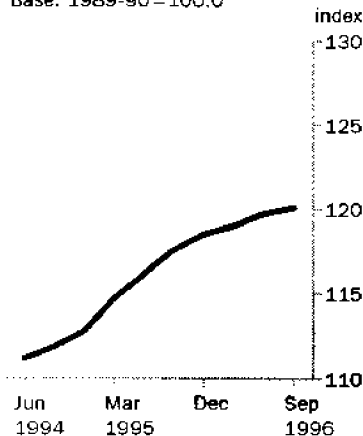
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**CONSUMER PRICE INDEX** AUSTRALIA

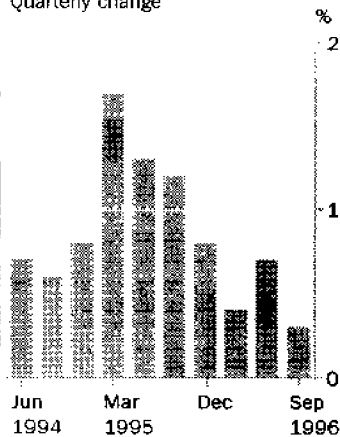
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**SEPTEMBER QTR KEY FIGURES****All Groups**

Base: 1989-90=100.0

**All Groups**

Quarterly change



<i>Weighted average of eight capital cities</i>	<i>% change Jun Qtr 1996 to Sep Qtr 1996</i>	<i>% change Sep Qtr 1995 to Sep Qtr 1996</i>
Food	1.0	2.5
Clothing	-0.2	0.5
Housing	-0.2	0.7
Household equipment and operation	0.5	1.9
Transportation	-0.3	1.1
Tobacco and alcohol	0.4	5.9
Health and personal care	0.9	4.3
Recreation and education	0.0	1.8
<b>All groups</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>2.1</b>
All groups excluding housing	0.3	2.4

**SEPTEMBER QTR KEY POINTS****THE ALL GROUPS CPI**

- rose 0.3% between the June and September quarters 1996, the lowest quarterly change recorded since December quarter 1993.
- rose 2.1% between the September quarter 1995 and the September quarter 1996, the lowest annual increase since September quarter 1994.

**OVERVIEW OF CPI MOVEMENTS**

- contributing most to the overall increase this quarter were prices of fresh fruit (+10.1%), local government rates and charges (+2.2%), hospital and medical services (+1.3%), urban transport fares (+3.3%), the cost of entertainment (+1.6%), vehicle insurance (+1.5%), the price of bread (+3.6%) and privately-owned dwelling rents (+0.8%).
- partially offsetting the above were falls in mortgage interest charges (-2.0%), prices of petrol (-2.1%), motor vehicles (-1.9%) and furniture (-0.8%).
- contributing most to the annual increase were cigarette and tobacco prices (+8.4%), hospital and medical services (+5.0%), privately-owned dwelling rents (+3.3%) and vehicle insurance (+6.2%) with off-sets being provided by falls in the prices of motor vehicles (-2.0%), local government rates and charges (-3.8%), fresh potatoes (-24.4%) and fresh vegetables (-8.0%).

**Treasury's Measure of Underlying Inflation**

The index of underlying inflation, as defined by the Commonwealth Treasury, increased by 0.5% between the June and September quarters 1996, and by 2.4% between the September quarters 1995 and 1996.

- For further information about these and related statistics, contact Bill Ferris on 06 252 6251, or any ABS Office.

## ANALYSES AND COMMENTS

### MAIN CONTRIBUTIONS TO CHANGE *continued*

#### HOUSING: -0.2%

A fall (-2.0%) in mortgage interest charges more than offset rises in local government rates and charges (+2.2%), privately-owned dwelling rents (+0.8%), the cost of house repairs and maintenance (+1.3%) and house insurance (+0.7%) and government-owned dwelling rents (+0.2%).

The fall in mortgage interest charges reflects a decline in interest rates (-2.7%) partially offset by an increase in debt outstanding (+0.7%). Housing interest rates are calculated with a one month lag so that reductions effective in September will not be reflected until the next quarter.

Privately-owned dwelling rents declined in Canberra (-0.2%), were steady in Adelaide and rose in the other capitals. The increases ranged from 0.2% in Brisbane, Perth and Hobart to 1.2% in Sydney.

Housing costs in the September quarter 1996 were 0.7% higher than in the September quarter 1995. Increases in privately-owned dwelling rents (+3.3%) were partially offset by lower local government rates and charges (-3.8%).

### CONSUMER PRICE INDEX, All groups percentage changes

#### PERCENTAGE CHANGE BETWEEN

	<i>Jun Qtr 1996 and Sep Qtr 1996</i>	<i>Sep Qtr 1995 and Sep Qtr 1996</i>
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Sydney	0.3	2.5
Melbourne	0.3	1.7
Brisbane	0.2	2.3
Adelaide	0.2	1.7
Perth	0.3	2.3
Hobart	0.4	2.3
Darwin	0.7	3.1
Canberra	0.0	1.9
Weighted average of eight capital cities	0.3	2.1

## ANALYSES AND COMMENTS

### MAIN CONTRIBUTIONS TO CHANGE

#### FOOD: +1.0%

The Food group was the largest contributor to the change in the All groups index, accounting for about two thirds of the total change this quarter. An increase in fresh fruit prices (+10.1%) accounted for about 40% of the increase in the Food group index. The rise in fresh fruit prices was mainly due to increases in banana prices in most cities. Other food items to show increases include bread (+3.6%) and milk and cream (+1.6%), with partial off-sets from declines in prices of fresh vegetables (-2.5%) and beef and veal (-1.9%).

Over the 12 months to the September quarter 1996, food prices increased 2.5% mainly due to increases in the prices of fresh fruit (+11.4%), bread (+8.8%), take away food (+2.3%), confectionery (+4.1%) and milk and cream (+5.0%) which were partially offset by falls in prices of fresh potatoes (-24.4%), fresh vegetables (-8.0%) and beef and veal (-4.5%).

#### HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT AND OPERATION: +0.5%

Increases in the prices of other household non-durables (+2.7%, mainly reflecting increases in the prices of batteries and insecticides), electricity (+1.3%), pet foods (+4.0%), consumer credit (+0.6%) and household cleaning agents (+1.6%) were partially offset by falls in furniture prices (-0.8%).

#### HEALTH AND PERSONAL CARE: +0.9%

The increase in the cost of health and personal care this quarter largely reflects a rise in the cost of hospital and medical services (+1.3%). Increases in health fund premiums (Sydney, Melbourne, Perth, Hobart and Canberra) accounted for a large part of this increase.

#### TRANSPORTATION: -0.3%

Falls in the prices of petrol (-2.1%) and motor vehicles (-1.9%) more than offset rises in the cost of urban transport fares (+3.3%), vehicle insurance (+1.5%), motoring charges (+2.3%), tyres and tubes (+0.7%) and vehicle servicing (+0.5%).

The decline in petrol prices (after a rise of 3.1% in the June quarter) is a result of an increase in May (+2.2%) followed by falls in June (-2.8%), July (-0.3%), August (-0.9%) and September (-0.3%). In the September quarter 1996 petrol prices were 1.0% lower than in the September quarter 1995.

#### TOBACCO AND ALCOHOL: +0.4%

Cigarette and tobacco prices increased 0.7%, mainly as a result of the increase in Commonwealth excise on 1 August and, in Brisbane, an increase in the State tobacco licence fee.

Nationally, the price of beer increased 0.2% and spirits 1.0% while wine prices declined 0.7%.

Over the 12 months to the September quarter tobacco and alcohol prices increased 5.9% overall due to increases in prices of cigarettes and tobacco (+8.4%), beer (+4.0%), wine (+5.0%) and spirits (+4.2%).

## **CHANGES TO THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX PUBLICATION** *continued*

- Page 8** Table 4 shows percentage changes for each group for the weighted average of the eight capital cities, the old Table 5.
- Pages 9 to 11** Table 5 shows change between the previous and current quarter in terms of All groups index points and is comparable to the old Table 3, except that all expenditure classes are now shown.
- Pages 12 to 14** Table 6 is comparable to the old Table 7, but has been expanded to show all 107 expenditure classes.
- Page 15** Table 7 shows special index series and is comparable to the old Table 8. The order of the indexes has been changed and descriptions of the series is now provided in paragraph 14 of the Explanatory Notes.
- Pages 16 and 17** The International Comparison Tables 8 and 9 index numbers and percentage changes (the old Tables 9 and 10) now appear on separate pages.
- Pages 18 and 19** The alternative measures of consumer price inflation, index numbers and percentage changes (the old Tables 11 and 12) now appear on separate pages.
- Pages 20 to 23** Now contain the Explanatory Notes.



## ALL GROUPS, Index Numbers(a)

Period	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Darwin	Canberra	Weighted average of eight capital cities
<b>1992-93</b>	107.7	108.9	108.5	111.2	106.2	108.5	109.5	109.5	108.4
<b>1993-94</b>	109.2	111.1	110.6	113.4	108.5	111.7	111.5	111.4	110.4
<b>1994-95</b>	113.0	114.1	114.7	116.9	112.3	115.2	114.7	115.1	113.9
<b>1995-96</b>	118.7	118.4	119.1	121.2	116.7	119.6	119.5	120.3	118.7
<b>1992</b>									
September	106.9	107.9	106.9	110.1	105.5	107.6	108.9	108.6	107.4
December	107.4	108.2	108.1	110.7	106.1	108.0	109.2	109.0	107.9
<b>1993</b>									
March	108.2	109.5	109.1	111.6	106.4	109.1	109.8	110.1	108.9
June	108.4	110.1	109.7	112.3	106.8	109.4	110.0	110.3	109.3
September	108.7	110.5	109.9	112.7	107.9	111.0	110.6	111.0	109.8
December	108.8	110.8	110.2	112.8	108.5	111.6	111.7	111.3	110.0
<b>1994</b>									
March	109.1	111.2	110.8	113.6	108.6	111.9	111.4	111.4	110.4
June	110.0	112.0	111.5	114.4	109.1	112.4	112.4	112.0	111.2
September	111.0	112.2	112.5	114.9	110.1	113.3	113.0	112.6	111.9
December	111.8	113.1	113.7	116.0	111.0	114.2	113.7	113.8	112.8
<b>1995</b>									
March	113.7	115.0	115.8	117.8	113.0	116.1	115.3	116.3	114.7
June	115.4	116.2	116.9	118.8	114.9	117.1	116.8	117.6	116.2
September	117.3	117.6	117.9	120.1	115.6	118.4	118.0	119.1	117.6
December	118.3	118.5	118.6	121.1	116.3	119.2	119.2	120.0	118.5
<b>1996</b>									
March	119.1	118.3	119.6	121.6	117.1	120.1	119.8	120.8	119.0
June	119.9	119.2	120.4	122.0	117.9	120.6	120.8	121.4	119.8
September	120.2	119.6	120.6	122.2	118.3	121.1	121.6	121.4	120.1

(a) Base of each index: 1989-90 = 100.0

## ALL GROUPS, Percentage Changes

Period	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Darwin	Canberra	Weighted average of eight capital cities
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous year)									
<b>1992-93</b>	0.9	0.7	1.4	2.1	0.3	1.3	1.4	1.6	1.0
<b>1993-94</b>	1.4	2.0	1.9	2.0	2.2	2.9	1.8	1.7	1.8
<b>1994-95</b>	3.5	2.7	3.7	3.1	3.5	3.1	2.9	3.3	3.2
<b>1995-96</b>	5.0	3.8	3.8	3.7	3.9	3.8	4.2	4.5	4.2
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from corresponding quarter of previous year)									
<b>1992</b>									
September	0.8	0.3	0.8	1.9	-0.2	0.8	1.9	1.5	0.8
December	0.3	-0.2	0.7	1.7	0.0	0.6	0.9	1.0	0.3
<b>1993</b>									
March	1.1	1.1	1.5	1.9	0.3	1.6	1.4	1.8	1.2
June	1.8	1.8	2.5	2.7	1.1	2.2	1.5	2.2	1.9
September	1.7	2.4	2.8	2.4	2.3	3.2	1.6	2.2	2.2
December	1.3	2.4	1.9	1.9	2.3	3.3	2.3	2.1	1.9
<b>1994</b>									
March	0.8	1.6	1.6	1.8	2.1	2.6	1.5	1.2	1.4
June	1.5	1.7	1.6	1.9	2.2	2.7	2.2	1.5	1.7
September	2.1	1.5	2.4	2.0	2.0	2.1	2.2	1.4	1.9
December	2.8	2.1	3.2	2.8	2.3	2.3	1.8	2.2	2.5
<b>1995</b>									
March	4.2	3.4	4.5	3.7	4.1	3.8	3.5	4.4	3.9
June	4.9	3.8	4.8	3.8	5.3	4.2	3.9	5.0	4.5
September	5.7	4.8	4.8	4.5	5.0	4.5	4.4	5.8	5.1
December	5.8	4.8	4.3	4.4	4.8	4.4	4.8	5.4	5.1
<b>1996</b>									
March	4.7	2.9	3.3	3.2	3.6	3.4	3.9	3.9	3.7
June	3.9	2.6	3.0	2.7	2.6	3.0	3.4	3.2	3.1
September	2.5	1.7	2.3	1.7	2.3	2.3	3.1	1.9	2.1
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous quarter)									
<b>1992</b>									
September	0.4	-0.3	-0.1	0.6	-0.1	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.1
December	0.5	0.3	1.1	0.5	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.5
<b>1993</b>									
March	0.7	1.2	0.9	0.8	0.3	1.0	0.5	1.0	0.9
June	0.2	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.4
September	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.4	1.0	1.5	0.5	0.6	0.5
December	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.6	0.5	1.0	0.3	0.2
<b>1994</b>									
March	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.7	0.1	0.3	-0.3	0.1	0.4
June	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.5	0.4	0.9	0.5	0.7
September	0.9	0.2	0.9	0.4	0.9	0.8	0.5	0.5	0.6
December	0.7	0.8	1.1	1.0	0.8	0.8	0.6	1.1	0.8
<b>1995</b>									
March	1.7	1.7	1.8	1.6	1.8	1.7	1.4	2.2	1.7
June	1.5	1.0	0.9	0.8	1.7	0.9	1.3	1.1	1.3
September	1.6	1.2	0.9	1.1	0.6	1.1	1.0	1.3	1.2
December	0.9	0.8	0.6	0.8	0.6	0.7	1.0	0.8	0.8
<b>1996</b>									
March	0.7	-0.2	0.8	0.4	0.7	0.8	0.5	0.7	0.4
June	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.3	0.7	0.4	0.8	0.5	0.7
September	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.7	0.0	0.3

## CPI GROUPS, Weighted Average of Eight Capital Cities—Index Numbers(a)

Period	Food	Clothing	Housing	Household equipment and operation	Trans- portation	Tobacco and alcohol	Health and personal care	Recreation and education	All groups
<b>1992-93</b>	107.4	107.5	94.6	107.3	111.3	124.4	124.0	109.1	108.4
<b>1993-94</b>	109.4	106.7	94.2	107.8	113.8	133.7	129.0	111.9	110.4
<b>1994-95</b>	112.1	106.7	100.0	109.2	117.5	141.0	135.5	114.6	113.9
<b>1995-96</b>	116.0	107.0	105.9	111.7	122.6	156.1	141.8	117.7	118.7
<b>1992</b>									
September	106.0	106.6	94.6	107.4	110.9	120.2	121.4	107.5	107.4
December	106.7	107.8	94.0	107.5	110.9	123.4	122.7	108.6	107.9
<b>1993</b>									
March	109.0	107.5	94.4	106.9	111.3	126.1	125.6	109.8	108.9
June	108.0	108.1	95.2	107.4	112.1	128.0	126.4	110.4	109.3
September	108.8	107.1	94.9	107.5	113.2	130.8	126.5	110.7	109.8
December	109.5	106.8	93.6	107.4	113.5	133.1	127.0	111.9	110.0
<b>1994</b>									
March	109.8	106.3	93.7	107.9	113.2	134.5	130.7	112.1	110.4
June	109.5	106.4	94.4	108.2	115.2	136.2	131.9	113.0	111.2
September	110.4	106.6	94.9	108.2	117.0	137.4	133.4	112.9	111.9
December	110.9	106.8	97.5	108.9	116.8	139.1	133.7	114.1	112.8
<b>1995</b>									
March	113.2	106.2	102.8	109.3	117.3	141.1	136.5	115.3	114.7
June	113.7	107.2	104.7	110.2	118.8	146.4	138.5	115.9	116.2
September	115.4	106.7	105.4	111.0	122.0	151.4	139.0	116.1	117.6
December	115.7	107.1	106.1	111.6	122.3	155.3	140.8	117.3	118.5
<b>1996</b>									
March	115.9	106.8	105.7	111.6	122.4	157.8	143.5	119.2	119.0
June	117.1	107.4	106.3	112.5	123.8	159.8	143.7	118.2	119.8
September	118.3	107.2	106.1	113.1	123.4	160.4	145.0	118.2	120.1

(a) Base of each index: 1989-90 = 100.0

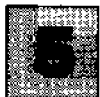
## CPI GROUPS, Weighted Average of Eight Capital Cities—Percentage Changes

Period	Food	Clothing	Housing	Household equipment and operation	Trans- portation	Tobacco and alcohol	Health and personal care	Recreation and education	All groups
PERCENTAGE 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	1.8
1994-95	2.5	0.0	6.2	1.3	3.3	5.5	5.0	2.4	3.2
1995-96	3.5	0.3	5.9	2.3	4.3	10.7	4.6	2.7	4.2
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from corresponding quarter of previous year)									
1992									
September	1.0	0.6	-6.2	0.4	3.1	5.8	4.6	1.3	0.8
December	1.1	1.2	-6.4	-0.2	1.5	7.6	1.5	1.3	0.3
1993									
March	2.7	1.1	-3.8	-0.5	1.8	9.5	-0.8	2.5	1.2
June	1.5	1.2	-1.0	-0.6	2.9	9.9	3.9	3.2	1.9
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
1994									
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
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
1995									
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
September	4.5	0.1	11.1	2.6	4.3	10.2	4.2	2.8	5.1
December	4.3	0.3	8.8	2.5	4.7	11.6	5.3	2.8	5.1
1996									
March	2.4	0.6	2.8	2.1	4.3	11.8	5.1	3.4	3.7
June	3.0	0.2	1.5	2.1	4.2	9.2	3.8	2.0	3.1
September	2.5	0.5	0.7	1.9	1.1	5.9	4.3	1.8	2.1
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous quarter)									
1992									
September	-0.4	-0.2	-1.7	-0.6	1.8	3.2	-0.2	0.5	0.1
December	0.7	1.1	-0.6	0.1	0.0	2.7	1.1	1.0	0.5
1993									
March	2.2	-0.3	0.4	-0.6	0.4	2.2	2.4	1.1	0.9
June	-0.9	0.6	0.8	0.5	0.7	1.5	0.6	0.5	0.4
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
1994									
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
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
1995									
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
September	1.5	-0.5	0.7	0.7	2.7	3.4	0.4	0.2	1.2
December	0.3	0.4	0.7	0.5	0.2	2.6	1.3	1.0	0.8
1996									
March	0.2	-0.3	-0.4	0.0	0.1	1.6	1.9	1.6	0.4
June	1.0	0.6	0.6	0.8	1.1	1.3	0.1	-0.8	0.7
September	1.0	-0.2	-0.2	0.5	-0.3	0.4	0.9	0.0	0.3

## CONTRIBUTIONS TO CHANGE IN ALL GROUPS INDEXES, Sep Qtr 1996(a)

Group, sub-group and expenditure class	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Darwin	Canberra	Weighted average of eight capital cities
<b>Food</b>	0.09	0.38	-0.01	0.15	0.46	0.32	0.10	0.13	0.21
Dairy products	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.02	0.04	0.02	-0.01	0.03	0.01
Milk and cream	—	0.04	-0.01	0.02	0.03	—	0.01	0.04	0.02
Cheese	—	-0.02	0.01	-0.01	—	0.02	-0.02	—	—
Butter	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other dairy products	—	—	—	—	0.01	0.01	—	0.01	0.01
Cereal products	0.01	0.11	0.02	0.03	0.07	0.11	0.02	-0.02	0.05
Bread	0.01	0.10	0.01	0.04	0.02	0.10	0.01	-0.01	0.04
Cakes and biscuits	-0.01	0.01	—	—	0.03	—	0.01	-0.01	—
Breakfast cereals	—	0.01	—	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	—	—
Other cereal products	0.01	-0.01	0.01	—	—	—	-0.01	—	—
Meat and seafoods	0.01	0.01	-0.01	-0.02	0.01	-0.01	-0.01	0.01	0.01
Beef and veal	-0.02	-0.01	-0.03	-0.02	-0.02	-0.02	-0.03	-0.01	-0.02
Lamb and mutton	-0.01	0.01	—	—	—	0.02	—	0.01	—
Pork	—	0.01	—	—	—	—	—	0.01	0.01
Poultry	0.01	—	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.02	—	0.01	—
Bacon and ham	0.01	—	0.01	—	-0.01	—	0.01	0.02	0.01
Processed meat	0.02	—	-0.02	0.01	0.02	—	—	-0.02	—
Fish	-0.01	-0.01	—	-0.01	—	—	0.01	-0.01	—
Fresh fruit and vegetables	0.04	0.10	-0.04	0.05	0.25	0.09	0.02	0.06	0.08
Fresh fruit	0.09	0.11	0.06	0.06	0.09	0.06	—	0.13	0.09
Fresh potatoes	0.01	-0.01	0.01	-0.01	0.02	0.01	-0.01	0.01	—
Fresh vegetables	-0.05	—	-0.10	—	0.15	0.02	0.04	-0.08	-0.02
Processed fruit and vegetables	—	0.02	0.01	—	0.01	—	-0.02	0.01	0.01
Processed fruit	—	—	—	-0.01	—	-0.01	—	-0.01	—
Fruit juice	—	0.02	—	0.02	0.01	—	-0.01	—	—
Processed vegetables	-0.01	—	0.01	—	0.01	—	-0.01	0.01	0.01
Soft drinks, ice cream and confectionery	0.03	0.03	0.06	0.03	0.05	0.05	0.04	0.02	0.04
Soft drinks and cordials	0.01	0.01	0.03	—	0.03	0.02	0.04	0.01	0.01
Ice cream and ice confectionery	—	0.02	—	0.01	-0.01	0.02	0.01	—	0.01
Confectionery	0.02	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.02	0.02	-0.01	0.01	0.01
Meals out and take away foods	-0.01	0.05	-0.05	0.05	0.01	0.02	0.05	0.04	0.01
Meals out	-0.02	0.04	0.02	-0.01	—	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.01
Take away foods	0.01	0.01	-0.07	0.05	0.01	—	0.03	—	—
Other food	0.02	0.02	-0.01	-0.01	0.04	0.02	—	-0.01	0.01
Eggs	0.01	0.01	0.02	—	—	0.01	—	0.01	0.01
Sugar	0.01	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jams, honey and sandwich spreads	—	0.01	—	-0.01	—	-0.01	0.01	—	—
Tea, coffee and food drinks	—	0.01	—	—	0.01	0.01	-0.01	—	0.01
Food additives, sauces and spices	—	—	—	-0.01	—	—	—	-0.01	—
Margarine	0.01	—	-0.01	—	0.02	-0.02	0.01	-0.01	—
Cooking oils and fats	0.01	—	—	—	-0.01	-0.01	—	—	—
Other food	—	—	-0.01	-0.01	0.02	0.03	—	0.01	—
<b>Clothing</b>	-0.03	0.02	-0.04	—	-0.03	—	-0.02	-0.03	-0.01
Men's and boys' clothing	-0.01	—	-0.03	—	—	-0.01	0.01	-0.01	-0.01
Men's outer clothing	-0.01	-0.01	-0.01	—	—	-0.02	0.01	-0.01	—
Men's knitwear	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Men's shirts	—	—	-0.02	—	—	—	—	—	-0.01
Men's underwear, nightwear and socks	—	—	-0.01	—	—	0.01	—	—	—
Boys' clothing	—	—	0.01	—	—	—	—	0.01	—
Women's and girls' clothing	—	0.01	—	—	—	—	-0.02	0.01	0.01
Women's outer clothing	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.01	—
Women's knitwear	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Women's underwear, nightwear and hosiery	—	—	-0.01	—	—	—	0.02	0.01	—
Girls' clothing	—	—	—	—	—	—	-0.03	—	—
Fabrics and knitting wool	0.01	0.01	—	0.01	—	—	—	-0.01	0.01
Footwear	-0.03	—	-0.01	-0.01	-0.03	—	-0.01	-0.02	-0.02
Men's footwear	—	—	0.01	—	-0.01	0.01	—	-0.01	—
Women's footwear	-0.01	—	0.01	—	-0.02	—	—	-0.01	—
Children's footwear	-0.02	—	-0.01	—	—	—	—	—	-0.01
Dry cleaning and shoe repairs	—	—	—	0.01	—	—	—	—	—

Group, sub-group and expenditure class	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Darwin	Canberra	Weighted average of eight capital cities
<b>Housing</b>	0.07	-0.14	-0.01	-0.06	-0.08	-0.02	0.02	-0.11	-0.03
Rents	0.09	0.03	0.01	—	—	0.01	0.02	-0.01	0.04
Privately-owned dwelling rents	0.09	0.03	—	—	0.01	—	0.02	-0.01	0.04
Government-owned dwelling rents	—	—	—	—	—	0.01	0.01	—	0.01
Home ownership	-0.01	-0.17	-0.03	-0.06	-0.09	-0.03	-0.01	-0.09	-0.08
Mortgage interest charges	-0.14	-0.19	-0.17	-0.17	-0.14	-0.13	-0.04	-0.23	-0.17
Local government rates and charges	0.11	—	0.11	0.07	—	0.13	0.06	0.07	0.06
House repairs and maintenance	0.01	0.03	0.04	0.04	0.05	-0.03	-0.02	0.03	0.03
House insurance	0.01	—	0.01	0.01	—	0.01	-0.01	0.03	0.01
<b>Household equipment and operation</b>	0.13	0.08	0.16	0.14	0.08	0.12	0.13	-0.05	0.11
Fuel and light	0.04	0.04	—	0.11	0.01	—	—	0.01	0.03
Electricity	0.03	0.02	—	0.09	—	—	—	—	0.02
Gas	—	0.02	—	0.02	0.01	—	—	—	0.01
Other fuel	—	—	—	-0.01	—	-0.01	—	—	—
Furniture and floor coverings	-0.01	-0.07	0.02	—	-0.08	0.07	—	-0.08	-0.03
Furniture	-0.01	-0.07	0.02	-0.02	-0.09	0.06	—	-0.08	-0.04
Floor coverings	—	—	0.01	0.01	—	—	—	—	0.01
Appliances	—	-0.01	0.04	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.02	—	0.01
Household textiles	0.01	0.01	0.01	—	-0.01	-0.01	—	-0.01	0.01
Bedding	—	0.01	—	—	-0.01	-0.01	—	-0.01	—
Towels, linen and curtains	—	—	0.01	—	—	—	0.01	—	—
Household utensils and tools	—	-0.01	0.01	0.01	—	0.02	0.03	-0.01	—
Tableware, glassware and cutlery	—	-0.01	—	—	—	—	—	—	-0.01
Kitchen and cooking utensils	—	0.01	-0.01	—	-0.01	0.01	—	-0.01	—
Cleaning utensils	—	—	—	—	-0.01	0.01	0.01	—	—
Tools	-0.01	-0.01	0.01	—	0.01	—	0.02	—	—
Household supplies and services	0.08	0.10	0.04	—	0.14	0.02	0.05	0.03	0.07
Household cleaning agents	0.02	—	0.02	-0.01	0.03	-0.01	—	-0.01	0.02
Household paper products	—	0.01	-0.01	-0.01	-0.01	-0.01	-0.01	0.01	—
Other household non-durables	0.02	0.04	0.01	0.01	0.05	0.02	0.04	0.02	0.03
Stationery	0.02	0.01	-0.03	0.01	0.02	—	—	-0.01	0.01
Watches and clocks	-0.01	0.01	0.03	—	—	—	—	—	0.01
Veterinary services	0.01	0.01	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pet foods	0.01	0.05	0.03	-0.01	0.04	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.02
Travel goods	—	-0.01	—	—	—	-0.01	-0.01	—	—
House contents insurance	0.01	-0.01	—	0.01	-0.01	—	-0.02	0.01	—
Repairs to appliances	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.02	—	—
Postal and telephone services	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Postal services	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Telephone services	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Consumer credit charges	0.02	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.01	—	0.03	0.01	0.02
<b>Transportation</b>	-0.04	-0.07	0.01	-0.15	-0.28	-0.01	0.32	-0.15	-0.08
Private motoring	-0.16	-0.07	0.01	-0.16	-0.28	-0.09	0.29	-0.21	-0.13
Motor vehicles	-0.10	-0.08	-0.09	-0.10	-0.10	-0.08	-0.03	-0.17	-0.10
Automotive fuel	-0.16	-0.04	-0.14	-0.18	-0.14	-0.08	—	-0.19	-0.11
Vehicle insurance	0.02	0.06	0.18	0.08	-0.12	0.01	0.23	0.08	0.04
Motoring charges	0.02	—	0.05	0.02	0.06	0.02	—	0.06	0.03
Tyres and tubes	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.01	0.01	0.01
Vehicle servicing, repairs and parts	0.04	-0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.03	0.08	0.01	0.01
Urban transport fares	0.13	—	—	0.01	—	0.09	0.04	0.07	0.05
<b>Tobacco and Alcohol</b>	0.05	0.02	0.03	0.08	0.10	0.03	0.12	0.08	0.05
Alcoholic drinks	0.01	0.01	-0.11	0.06	0.07	—	0.15	0.08	0.01
Beer	0.01	0.02	-0.11	0.04	0.03	0.01	0.12	0.06	0.01
Wine	-0.01	-0.02	-0.01	-0.01	0.03	—	0.01	-0.01	-0.01
Spirits	0.01	—	0.02	0.03	0.02	-0.01	0.01	0.04	0.01
Cigarettes and tobacco	0.03	—	0.14	0.03	0.03	0.03	-0.04	—	0.03

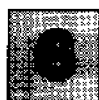


# CONTRIBUTION TO CHANGE IN ALL GROUPS INDEXES, Sep Qtr 1996(a) *continued*

Group, sub-group and expenditure class	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Darwin	Canberra	Weighted average of eight capital cities
<b>Health and personal care</b>	0.02	0.10	0.05	0.02	0.19	0.22	0.08	0.05	0.08
Health services	0.03	0.10	0.01	0.04	0.16	0.19	0.06	0.07	0.07
Hospital and medical services	0.01	0.10	—	0.01	0.15	0.19	0.03	0.06	0.06
Optical services	0.01	—	—	0.01	0.01	—	0.01	-0.01	—
Dental services	0.01	—	0.01	0.01	0.01	—	0.03	0.02	0.01
Personal care products	—	—	0.01	-0.01	0.02	0.04	0.01	-0.01	—
Pharmaceuticals	-0.01	-0.01	—	—	—	-0.01	-0.01	-0.01	—
Toiletries and personal products	—	0.01	0.01	-0.01	0.02	0.04	0.02	-0.01	—
Hairdressing services	—	0.01	0.01	—	—	0.01	0.01	—	0.01
<b>Recreation and education</b>	-0.03	0.06	-0.01	—	0.03	-0.12	-0.01	0.02	0.01
Books, newspapers and magazines	-0.01	-0.01	—	-0.02	—	-0.04	-0.02	-0.01	—
Recreational goods	-0.03	-0.01	-0.04	-0.01	-0.02	-0.04	0.01	—	-0.02
Video and sound equipment	-0.01	—	-0.01	-0.01	-0.02	-0.03	-0.01	-0.01	-0.01
Records, cassettes and tapes	-0.01	-0.01	-0.02	-0.02	—	-0.02	—	-0.01	-0.01
Sports and photographic equipment and toys	-0.02	0.01	-0.02	—	0.01	-0.01	0.02	0.02	-0.01
Holiday travel and accommodation	-0.01	-0.05	0.03	-0.01	-0.04	-0.06	—	—	-0.02
Holiday travel and accommodation in Australia	0.01	-0.05	0.04	—	-0.01	-0.08	0.02	0.02	-0.01
Holiday travel and accommodation overseas	-0.01	-0.01	-0.02	—	-0.03	0.02	-0.03	-0.02	-0.01
Recreational services	0.01	0.13	0.02	0.03	0.08	0.01	-0.02	0.03	0.05
Photographic services	—	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.03	0.01	—	0.01
Repairs to recreational goods	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Entertainment	—	0.12	0.01	0.02	0.07	-0.02	-0.03	0.03	0.05
Education and child care	—	—	-0.01	—	—	0.02	—	—	—
Education fees	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Child care fees	0.01	—	-0.02	—	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	—
<b>All groups</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>0.3</b>
Selected State and local government charges (b)	0.18	0.08	0.26	0.28	-0.08	0.25	0.28	0.18	0.14

(a) Base of each index: 1989-90 = 100.0

(b) Refer to paragraph 14 of the Explanatory Notes for a description of this series.



# GROUP, SUB-GROUP & EXPENDITURE CLASS, Weighted Average of Eight Capital Cities

Group, sub-group and expenditure class	INDEX NUMBERS(a).....			PERCENTAGE CHANGE BETWEEN.....		CONTRIBUTION TO TOTAL CPI (ALL GROUPS INDEX POINTS)		
	Sep Qtr 1995	Jun Qtr 1996	Sep Qtr 1996	Jun Qtr 1996 and	Sep Qtr 1995 and	Jun Qtr 1996	Sep Qtr 1996	Change between Jun Qtr 1996 and Sep Qtr 1996
				Sep Qtr 1996	Sep Qtr 1996			
<b>Food</b>	115.4	117.1	118.3	1.0	2.5	21.64	21.85	0.21
Dairy products	122.3	126.8	128.0	0.9	4.7	1.82	1.83	0.01
Milk and cream	132.9	137.4	139.6	1.6	5.0	1.15	1.17	0.02
Cheese	108.6	113.5	111.9	-1.4	3.0	0.42	0.42	—
Butter	89.4	97.0	99.4	2.5	11.2	0.07	0.07	—
Other dairy products	116.3	118.7	120.3	1.3	3.4	0.17	0.18	0.01
Cereal products	125.1	129.0	131.4	1.9	5.0	2.58	2.63	0.05
Bread	131.1	137.7	142.6	3.6	8.8	1.13	1.17	0.04
Cakes and biscuits	120.5	122.4	123.3	0.7	2.3	0.91	0.91	—
Breakfast cereals	125.1	126.0	126.4	0.3	1.0	0.30	0.30	—
Other cereal products	117.8	120.2	120.8	0.5	2.5	0.24	0.24	—
Meat and seafoods	106.4	108.3	108.5	0.2	2.0	3.47	3.48	0.01
Beef and veal	108.7	105.8	103.8	-1.9	-4.5	0.81	0.79	-0.02
Lamb and mutton	121.5	124.3	125.0	0.6	2.9	0.50	0.50	—
Pork	104.9	109.6	110.9	1.2	5.7	0.20	0.21	0.01
Poultry	87.0	93.4	95.1	1.8	9.3	0.45	0.45	—
Bacon and ham	107.2	111.0	112.6	1.4	5.0	0.36	0.37	0.01
Processed meat	109.5	112.1	113.0	0.8	3.2	0.78	0.78	—
Fish	101.0	102.1	100.8	-1.3	-0.2	0.37	0.37	—
Fresh fruit and vegetables	101.5	96.6	100.6	4.1	-0.9	1.77	1.85	0.08
Fresh fruit	111.1	112.4	123.8	10.1	11.4	0.88	0.97	0.09
Fresh potatoes	104.2	77.5	78.8	1.7	-24.4	0.16	0.16	—
Fresh vegetables	93.9	88.6	86.4	-2.5	-8.0	0.74	0.72	-0.02
Processed fruit and vegetables	113.7	114.3	115.1	0.7	1.2	0.94	0.95	0.01
Processed fruit	118.0	116.1	115.6	-0.4	-2.0	0.15	0.15	—
Fruit juice	116.3	119.1	120.5	1.2	3.6	0.49	0.49	—
Processed vegetables	107.8	106.5	107.2	0.7	-0.6	0.30	0.31	0.01
Soft drinks, ice cream and confectionery	125.5	127.8	129.1	1.0	2.9	3.46	3.50	0.04
Soft drinks and cordials	123.3	124.2	125.3	0.9	1.6	1.38	1.39	0.01
Ice cream and ice confectionery	138.0	139.0	141.1	1.5	2.2	0.47	0.48	0.01
Confectionery	125.0	128.9	130.1	0.9	4.1	1.61	1.62	0.01
Meals out and take away foods	115.5	117.9	118.2	0.3	2.3	5.58	5.59	0.01
Meals out	116.4	118.5	119.1	0.5	2.3	2.12	2.13	0.01
Take away foods	115.9	118.4	118.6	0.2	2.3	3.46	3.46	—
Other food	117.9	119.8	120.5	0.6	2.2	2.02	2.03	0.01
Eggs	125.8	135.4	140.2	3.5	11.4	0.18	0.19	0.01
Sugar	99.5	102.1	103.5	1.4	4.0	0.07	0.07	—
Jams, honey and sandwich spreads	129.9	134.4	134.0	-0.3	3.2	0.18	0.18	—
Tea, coffee and food drinks	119.9	119.8	121.3	1.3	1.2	0.36	0.37	0.01
Food additives, sauces and spices	117.1	114.0	115.4	1.2	-1.5	0.27	0.27	—
Margarine	119.2	112.9	114.1	1.1	-4.3	0.15	0.15	—
Cooking oils and fats	128.1	126.9	128.0	0.9	-0.1	0.12	0.12	—
Other food	114.4	119.2	118.5	-0.6	3.6	0.69	0.69	—
<b>Clothing</b>	106.7	107.4	107.2	-0.2	0.5	6.75	6.74	-0.01
Men's and boys' clothing	110.3	111.8	111.3	-0.4	0.9	1.89	1.88	-0.01
Men's outer clothing	110.8	111.4	110.3	-1.0	-0.5	0.76	0.76	—
Men's knitwear	112.0	114.0	114.0	—	1.8	0.18	0.18	—
Men's shirts	107.2	107.8	106.9	-0.8	-0.3	0.35	0.34	-0.01
Men's underwear, nightwear and socks	110.0	112.7	113.0	0.3	2.7	0.16	0.16	—
Boys' clothing	110.1	112.8	113.5	0.6	3.1	0.44	0.44	—
Women's and girls' clothing	107.3	106.8	106.9	0.1	-0.4	2.73	2.74	0.01
Women's outer clothing	105.6	104.4	104.5	0.1	-1.0	1.74	1.74	—
Women's knitwear	106.6	106.3	106.3	—	-0.3	0.21	0.21	—
Women's underwear, nightwear and hosiery	117.7	119.8	120.3	0.4	2.2	0.39	0.39	—
Girls' clothing	107.0	107.5	107.4	-0.1	0.4	0.39	0.39	—
Fabric and knitting wool	103.8	103.4	104.5	1.1	0.7	0.79	0.80	0.01



Group, sub-group and expenditure class	INDEX NUMBERS(a).....			PERCENTAGE CHANGE BETWEEN.....		CONTRIBUTION TO TOTAL CPI (ALL GROUPS INDEX POINTS)		
	Sep Qtr 1995	Jun Qtr 1996	Sep Qtr 1996	Jun Qtr 1996 and Sep Qtr 1996	Sep Qtr 1995 and Sep Qtr 1996	Jun Qtr 1996	Sep Qtr 1996	Change between Jun Qtr 1996 and Sep Qtr 1996
<b>Clothing</b> continued								
Footwear	97.9	100.1	98.4	-1.7	0.5	1.07	1.05	-0.02
Men's footwear	98.0	97.3	96.4	-0.9	-1.6	0.34	0.34	—
Women's footwear	99.6	103.5	102.2	-1.3	2.6	0.48	0.48	—
Children's footwear	95.4	98.5	95.0	-3.6	-0.4	0.25	0.24	-0.01
Dry cleaning and shoe repairs	123.7	128.1	128.9	0.6	4.2	0.27	0.27	—
<b>Housing</b>	105.4	106.3	106.1	-0.2	0.7	18.84	18.81	-0.03
Rents	110.5	113.0	113.9	0.8	3.1	5.52	5.56	0.04
Privately-owned dwelling rents	109.7	112.4	113.3	0.8	3.3	5.07	5.11	0.04
Government-owned dwelling rents	118.6	119.3	119.5	0.2	0.8	0.44	0.45	0.01
Home ownership	102.9	103.1	102.5	-0.6	-0.4	13.33	13.25	-0.08
Mortgage interest charges	90.4	92.1	90.3	-2.0	-0.1	8.11	7.94	-0.17
Local government rates and charges	137.7	129.6	132.4	2.2	-3.8	2.62	2.68	0.06
House repairs and maintenance	115.1	116.8	118.3	1.3	2.8	2.07	2.10	0.03
House insurance	141.2	145.5	146.5	0.7	3.8	0.52	0.53	0.01
<b>Household equipment and operation</b>	111.0	112.5	113.1	0.5	1.9	20.53	20.64	0.11
Fuel and light	119.4	119.5	121.0	1.3	1.3	2.71	2.74	0.03
Electricity	117.6	117.6	119.1	1.3	1.3	2.00	2.02	0.02
Gas	125.8	126.1	128.0	1.5	1.7	0.64	0.65	0.01
Other fuel	113.5	115.1	115.1	—	1.4	0.06	0.06	—
Furniture and floor coverings	114.5	117.0	116.3	-0.6	1.6	4.96	4.93	-0.03
Furniture	117.1	119.9	118.9	-0.8	1.5	4.01	3.97	-0.04
Floor coverings	107.1	108.2	108.7	0.5	1.5	0.95	0.96	0.01
Appliances	108.4	109.5	110.1	0.5	1.6	1.73	1.74	0.01
Household textiles	112.3	115.0	115.8	0.7	3.1	0.88	0.89	0.01
Bedding	113.7	115.7	117.0	1.1	2.9	0.39	0.39	—
Towels, linen and curtains	111.5	114.8	115.3	0.4	3.4	0.49	0.49	—
Household utensils and tools	106.1	106.0	105.8	-0.2	-0.3	1.31	1.31	—
Tableware, glassware and cutlery	103.4	101.6	100.1	-1.5	-3.2	0.29	0.28	-0.01
Kitchen and cooking utensils	106.3	104.8	105.4	0.6	-0.8	0.39	0.39	—
Cleaning utensils	102.7	105.2	105.3	0.1	2.5	0.10	0.10	—
Tools	107.8	109.3	109.2	-0.1	1.3	0.54	0.54	—
Household supplies and services	118.3	120.8	122.9	1.7	3.9	4.71	4.78	0.07
Household cleaning agents	117.4	122.3	124.2	1.6	5.8	0.79	0.81	0.02
Household paper products	107.3	110.8	110.8	—	3.3	0.52	0.52	—
Other household non-durables	121.7	118.3	121.5	2.7	-0.2	0.99	1.02	0.03
Stationery	108.6	115.7	117.7	1.7	8.4	0.54	0.55	0.01
Watches and clocks	117.8	127.0	131.0	3.1	11.2	0.16	0.17	0.01
Veterinary services	134.6	138.0	139.6	1.2	3.7	0.15	0.15	—
Pet foods	121.6	122.7	127.6	4.0	4.9	0.58	0.60	0.02
Travel goods	102.0	102.4	101.5	-0.9	-0.5	0.28	0.28	—
House contents insurance	140.8	146.5	147.2	0.5	4.5	0.48	0.48	—
Repairs to appliances	126.8	129.9	130.0	0.1	2.5	0.21	0.21	—
Postal and telephone services	107.8	106.7	106.7	—	-1.0	1.84	1.84	—
Postal services	110.5	110.5	110.5	—	—	0.18	0.18	—
Telephone services	107.3	106.2	106.2	—	-1.0	1.65	1.65	—
Consumer credit charges	91.7	94.0	94.6	0.6	3.2	2.40	2.42	0.02
<b>Transportation</b>	122.0	123.8	123.4	-0.3	1.1	19.49	19.41	-0.08
Private motoring	120.9	122.8	121.9	-0.7	0.8	17.97	17.84	-0.13
Motor vehicles	121.8	121.7	119.4	-1.9	-2.0	4.98	4.88	-0.10
Automotive fuel	120.0	121.3	118.8	-2.1	-1.0	5.53	5.42	-0.11
Vehicle insurance	127.2	133.1	135.1	1.5	6.2	2.79	2.83	0.04
Motoring charges	136.4	139.5	142.7	2.3	4.6	1.08	1.11	0.03
Tyres and tubes	107.1	105.2	105.9	0.7	-1.1	0.38	0.39	0.01
Vehicle servicing, repairs and parts	115.5	118.4	119.0	0.5	3.0	3.21	3.22	0.01
Urban transport fares	141.5	143.1	147.8	3.3	4.5	1.52	1.57	0.05

Group, sub-group and expenditure class	INDEX NUMBERS(a).....			PERCENTAGE CHANGE BETWEEN.....		CONTRIBUTIONS TO TOTAL CPI (ALL GROUPS INDEX POINTS)		
	Sep Qtr 1995	Jun Qtr 1996	Sep Qtr 1996	Jun Qtr 1996 and Sep Qtr 1996	Sep Qtr 1995 and Sep Qtr 1996	Jun Qtr 1996	Sep Qtr 1996	Change between Jun Qtr 1996 and Sep Qtr 1996
<b>Tobacco and alcohol</b>	151.4	159.8	160.4	0.4	5.9	11.00	11.05	0.05
Alcoholic drinks	125.7	130.9	131.1	0.2	4.3	6.31	6.32	0.01
Beer	127.2	132.1	132.3	0.2	4.0	3.65	3.66	0.01
Wine	118.7	125.5	124.6	-0.7	5.0	1.31	1.30	-0.01
Spirits	128.3	132.4	133.7	1.0	4.2	1.35	1.36	0.01
Cigarettes and tobacco	212.4	228.5	230.2	0.7	8.4	4.69	4.72	0.03
<b>Health and personal care</b>	139.0	143.7	145.0	0.9	4.3	8.68	8.76	0.08
Health services	152.6	158.0	160.0	1.3	4.8	5.26	5.33	0.07
Hospital and medical services	161.1	167.0	169.2	1.3	5.0	4.24	4.30	0.06
Optical services	117.5	116.5	119.1	2.2	1.4	0.21	0.21	—
Dental services	132.3	137.4	138.7	0.9	4.8	0.81	0.82	0.01
Personal care products	122.1	126.4	126.6	0.2	3.7	2.49	2.49	—
Pharmaceuticals	121.0	128.3	127.7	-0.5	5.5	0.97	0.97	—
Toiletries and personal products	122.8	125.3	125.9	0.5	2.5	1.52	1.52	—
Hairdressing services	120.0	122.7	123.2	0.4	2.7	0.93	0.94	0.01
<b>Recreation and education</b>	116.1	118.2	118.2	—	1.8	12.85	12.86	0.01
Books, newspapers and magazines	138.2	143.1	142.5	-0.4	3.1	1.50	1.50	—
Recreational goods	101.1	99.8	99.0	-0.8	-2.1	2.71	2.69	-0.02
Video and sound equipment	85.7	81.3	80.5	-1.0	-6.1	0.77	0.76	-0.01
Records, cassettes and tapes	105.8	106.5	102.8	-3.5	-2.8	0.34	0.33	-0.01
Sports and photographic equipment and toys	109.3	109.7	109.5	-0.2	0.2	1.60	1.59	-0.01
Holiday travel and accommodation	102.4	102.8	102.1	-0.7	-0.3	2.71	2.69	-0.02
Holiday travel and accommodation in Australia	102.1	102.2	101.6	-0.6	-0.5	1.49	1.48	-0.01
Holiday travel and accommodation overseas	102.7	103.4	102.6	-0.8	-0.1	1.22	1.21	-0.01
Recreational services	127.8	130.1	132.2	1.6	3.4	3.44	3.49	0.05
Photographic services	110.0	111.2	114.0	2.5	3.6	0.28	0.29	0.01
Repairs to recreational goods	115.4	119.5	118.9	-0.5	3.0	0.13	0.13	—
Entertainment	130.6	133.0	135.1	1.6	3.4	3.02	3.07	0.05
Education and child care	134.6	142.2	142.3	0.1	5.7	2.50	2.50	—
Education fees	142.9	151.1	151.1	—	5.7	1.99	1.99	—
Child care fees	113.0	119.2	119.5	0.3	5.8	0.51	0.51	—
<b>All groups</b>	<b>117.6</b>	<b>119.8</b>	<b>120.1</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>119.8</b>	<b>120.1</b>	<b>0.3</b>

(a) Base of each index: 1989-90 = 100.0

## SPECIAL SERIES, Weighted Average of Eight Capital Cities

	INDEX NUMBERS(a).....			PERCENTAGE CHANGE BETWEEN.....		CONTRIBUTION TO TOTAL CPI (ALL GROUPS INDEX POINTS)		
	Sep Qtr 1995	Jun Qtr 1996	Sep Qtr 1996	Jun Qtr 1996 and Sep Qtr 1996	Sep Qtr 1995 and Sep Qtr 1996	Jun Qtr 1996	Sep Qtr 1996	Change between Jun Qtr 1996 and Sep Qtr 1996
<b>All groups</b>	117.6	119.8	120.1	0.3	2.1	119.8	120.1	0.3
<b>Selected components</b>								
Mortgage interest and consumer credit charges	91.3	93.2	91.9	-1.4	0.7	10.55	10.41	-0.14
Goods component(b)	118.9	121.1	121.3	0.2	2.0	73.08	73.18	0.10
Services component(b)	115.6	117.8	118.3	0.4	2.3	46.70	46.92	0.22
Selected State and local government charges(b)	128.4	126.3	128.7	1.9	0.2	7.68	7.82	0.14
<b>All groups excluding</b>								
Food	118.1	120.4	120.6	0.2	2.1	98.14	98.25	0.11
Clothing	118.4	120.6	121.0	0.3	2.2	113.03	113.36	0.33
Housing	119.8	122.3	122.7	0.3	2.4	100.94	101.29	0.35
Household equipment and operation	119.1	121.4	121.7	0.2	2.2	99.25	99.46	0.21
Transportation	116.8	119.1	119.5	0.3	2.3	100.29	100.69	0.40
Tobacco and alcohol	115.0	116.7	117.0	0.3	1.7	108.78	109.05	0.27
Health and personal care	116.3	118.3	118.6	0.3	2.0	111.10	111.34	0.24
Recreation and education	117.9	120.0	120.4	0.3	2.1	106.93	107.24	0.31
Home ownership	119.5	121.9	122.4	0.4	2.4	106.45	106.85	0.40
Mortgage interest and consumer credit charges	120.5	122.8	123.3	0.4	2.3	109.23	109.69	0.46
Hospital and medical services	116.5	118.5	118.8	0.3	2.0	115.54	115.81	0.27
Selected State and local government charges(b)	116.9	119.4	119.6	0.2	2.3	112.10	112.28	0.18

(a) Base of each index: 1989-90 = 100.0

(b) Refer to paragraph 14 of the Explanatory Notes for a description of this series



# INTERNATIONAL COMPARISONS, All Groups Excluding Housing-Index Numbers(a)(b)

Period	United States of America	Japan	Germany	Canada	United Kingdom	Hong Kong	Korea, Republic of	Taiwan	Indonesia	Singapore	Australia	New Zealand
<b>1992-93</b>	112.1	106.8	110.3	110.8	118.6	130.8	123.5	111.4	129.0	108.1	111.0	108.7
<b>1993-94</b>	114.8	107.9	113.2	112.0	122.0	140.1	130.4	114.2	137.8	110.9	113.5	109.4
<b>1994-95</b>	118.0	107.8	115.2	113.4	124.8	151.4	138.0	119.1	150.3	114.5	116.5	110.5
<b>1995-96</b>	120.9	107.3	116.3	116.0	128.3	160.8	144.4	122.5	163.7	116.0	121.1	111.9
<b>1992</b>												
September	110.7	106.3	109.1	110.0	117.1	127.4	122.1	110.1	123.4	107.3	109.8	108.1
December	111.7	106.7	109.2	110.3	118.0	128.7	121.6	110.8	125.8	107.8	110.6	108.6
<b>1993</b>												
March	112.7	106.6	111.0	111.2	118.4	132.1	123.8	111.3	133.5	108.4	111.6	108.9
June	113.3	107.6	111.9	111.5	120.8	134.8	126.4	113.5	133.2	109.0	112.0	109.1
September	113.7	108.1	112.6	112.1	121.1	136.4	127.2	112.2	133.5	109.5	112.6	109.3
December	114.6	107.6	112.4	112.6	121.4	139.3	128.3	113.4	135.0	110.3	113.2	109.4
<b>1994</b>												
March	115.1	107.7	113.6	111.8	121.8	140.8	132.2	114.4	140.9	111.4	113.6	109.3
June	115.9	108.1	114.1	111.6	123.5	143.7	134.0	116.6	141.6	112.5	114.4	109.5
September	116.9	107.7	114.9	112.2	123.4	147.6	136.6	119.3	145.3	113.6	115.1	109.8
December	117.4	108.2	114.6	112.4	123.9	149.6	136.2	117.2	147.5	114.4	115.7	110.4
<b>1995</b>												
March	118.2	107.4	115.3	113.9	125.1	152.9	138.4	118.8	152.6	114.5	116.9	110.6
June	119.4	107.8	115.8	115.1	126.6	155.5	140.7	121.0	155.9	115.3	118.3	111.3
September	119.7	107.3	116.1	115.3	127.0	158.6	141.8	121.4	157.9	115.4	119.8	111.2
December	120.2	107.3	115.7	115.3	127.7	159.6	142.3	122.0	161.6	115.6	120.8	111.6
<b>1996</b>												
March	121.2	106.9	116.4	116.0	128.5	160.7	145.2	122.3	167.0	116.3	121.5	112.0
June	122.6	107.8	116.9	117.3	130.0	164.1	148.1	124.3	168.1	116.8	122.3	112.8
September	123.1	n.y.a.	117.3	n.y.a.	130.3	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	126.1	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	122.7	113.0

(a) Base of each index: 1989-90 = 100.0

(b) Refer to paragraphs 15-19 of the Explanatory Notes for further information

# INTERNATIONAL COMPARISONS, All Groups Excluding Housing-Percentage Changes(a)

Period	United States of America	Japan	Germany	Canada	United Kingdom	Hong Kong	Korea, Republic of	Taiwan	Indonesia	Singapore	Australia	New Zealand
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous year)												
1992-93	3.1	0.8	3.0	1.8	3.1	7.5	4.7	3.5	7.5	1.9	2.0	2.1
1993-94	2.4	1.0	2.6	1.1	2.9	7.1	5.6	2.5	6.8	2.6	2.3	0.6
1994-95	2.8	-0.1	1.8	1.3	2.3	8.1	5.8	4.3	9.1	3.2	2.6	1.0
1995-96	2.5	-0.5	1.0	2.3	2.8	6.2	4.6	2.9	8.9	1.3	3.9	1.3
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from corresponding quarter of previous year)												
1992												
September	3.0	1.5	3.0	1.1	3.6	7.9	6.0	4.4	5.7	1.9	1.9	2.4
December	3.0	0.6	2.8	1.8	3.1	7.8	4.3	3.9	5.3	1.8	1.6	2.5
1993												
March	3.5	0.9	3.3	2.3	2.9	7.2	4.4	3.2	10.5	2.0	2.0	1.8
June	3.0	0.6	2.9	1.9	3.0	7.0	4.5	2.7	8.4	1.9	2.5	1.5
September	2.7	1.7	3.2	1.9	3.4	7.1	4.2	1.9	8.2	2.1	2.6	1.1
December	2.6	0.8	2.9	2.1	2.9	8.2	5.5	2.3	7.3	2.3	2.4	0.7
1994												
March	2.1	1.0	2.3	0.5	2.9	6.6	6.8	2.8	5.5	2.8	1.8	0.4
June	2.3	0.5	2.0	0.0	2.2	6.6	6.0	2.7	6.3	3.3	2.1	0.4
September	2.8	-0.4	2.0	0.1	1.9	8.2	7.4	6.3	8.8	3.8	2.2	0.5
December	2.4	0.6	2.0	-0.2	2.1	7.4	6.2	3.4	9.3	3.7	2.2	0.9
1995												
March	2.7	-0.3	1.5	1.9	2.7	8.6	4.7	3.8	8.3	2.8	2.9	1.2
June	3.0	-0.3	1.5	3.2	2.5	8.2	5.0	3.8	10.1	2.5	3.4	1.6
September	2.4	-0.4	1.0	2.8	2.9	7.5	3.8	1.8	8.7	1.6	4.1	1.3
December	2.4	-0.8	1.0	2.6	3.1	6.7	4.5	4.1	9.6	1.1	4.4	1.1
1996												
March	2.5	-0.5	1.0	1.8	2.7	5.1	4.9	2.9	9.4	1.6	3.9	1.3
June	2.7	0.0	0.9	1.9	2.7	5.5	5.3	2.7	7.8	1.3	3.4	1.3
September	2.8	n.y.a.	1.0	n.y.a.	2.6	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	3.9	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	2.4	1.6
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous quarter)												
1992												
September	0.6	-0.7	0.4	0.5	-0.2	1.1	0.9	-0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.6
December	0.9	0.4	0.1	0.3	0.8	1.0	-0.4	0.6	1.9	0.4	0.7	0.5
1993												
March	0.9	-0.1	1.6	0.8	0.3	2.6	1.8	0.5	6.1	0.5	0.9	0.3
June	0.5	0.9	0.8	0.3	2.0	2.0	2.1	2.0	-0.2	0.6	0.4	0.2
September	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.5	0.2	1.2	0.6	-1.1	0.2	0.5	0.5	0.2
December	0.8	-0.5	-0.2	0.4	0.2	2.1	0.9	1.1	1.1	0.7	0.5	0.1
1994												
March	0.4	0.1	1.1	-0.7	0.3	1.1	3.0	0.9	4.4	1.0	0.4	-0.1
June	0.7	0.4	0.4	-0.3	1.4	2.1	1.4	1.9	0.5	1.0	0.7	0.2
September	0.9	-0.4	0.7	0.6	-0.1	2.7	1.9	2.3	2.6	1.0	0.6	0.3
December	0.4	0.5	-0.3	0.2	0.4	1.4	-0.3	-1.8	1.5	0.6	0.5	0.5
1995												
March	0.7	-0.7	0.6	1.3	1.0	2.2	1.6	1.4	3.5	0.1	1.0	0.2
June	1.0	0.4	0.4	1.1	1.2	1.7	1.7	1.9	2.2	0.7	1.2	0.6
September	0.3	-0.5	0.3	0.2	0.3	2.0	0.8	0.3	1.3	0.1	1.3	-0.1
December	0.4	0.0	-0.3	0.0	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.5	2.3	0.2	0.8	0.4
1996												
March	0.8	-0.4	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.7	2.0	0.2	3.3	0.6	0.6	0.4
June	1.2	0.8	0.4	1.1	1.2	2.1	2.0	1.6	0.7	0.4	0.7	0.7
September	0.4	n.y.a.	0.3	n.y.a.	0.2	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	1.4	n.y.a.	n.y.a.	0.3	0.2

(a) Refer to paragraphs 15-19 of the Explanatory Notes for further information

## ALTERNATIVE MEASURES OF CONSUMER PRICE INFLATION, Index Numbers(a)(b)

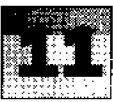
PRIVATE SECTOR GOODS  
AND SERVICES(c).....

Period	All groups	All groups excluding Housing	All groups excluding interest and 'volatile items'(c)	Goods	Services	Total	Treasury Underlying Rate(c)
<b>1992-93</b>	108.4	111.0	112.1	110.9	109.0	110.4	110.4
<b>1993-94</b>	110.4	113.5	115.2	113.9	110.8	113.1	112.7
<b>1994-95</b>	113.9	116.5	118.1	116.2	114.0	115.7	115.1
<b>1995-96</b>	118.7	121.1	122.4	120.6	118.6	120.1	118.8
<b>1992</b>							
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
<b>1993</b>							
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
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
<b>1994</b>							
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
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
<b>1995</b>							
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
September	117.6	119.8	121.0	119.4	116.8	118.7	117.7
December	118.5	120.8	122.1	120.3	118.4	119.9	118.5
<b>1996</b>							
March	119.0	121.5	122.8	120.8	119.7	120.5	119.0
June	119.8	122.3	123.5	121.9	119.6	121.3	119.9
September	120.1	122.7	124.1	122.2	120.4	121.7	120.5

(a) Base of each index: 1989-90=100.0

(b) See paragraphs 20-25 of the Explanatory Notes for further information

(c) Refer to paragraph 14 of the Explanatory Notes for a description of this series



## ALTERNATIVE MEASURES OF CONSUMER PRICE INFLATION, Percentage Changes(a)

PRIVATE SECTOR GOODS  
AND SERVICES(b).....

Period	All groups	All groups excluding Housing	All groups excluding interest and 'volatile items'(b)	Goods	Services	Total	Treasury Underlying Rate(b)
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous year)							
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
1995-96	4.2	3.9	3.6	3.8	4.0	3.8	3.2
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from corresponding quarter of previous year)							
1992							
September	0.8	2.0	2.5	2.3	1.7	2.2	2.4
December	0.3	1.6	2.1	2.4	0.4	1.9	1.9
1993							
March	1.2	2.0	2.5	3.1	0.7	2.4	2.0
June	1.9	2.5	3.0	3.0	1.0	2.6	1.8
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
1994							
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
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
1995							
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
September	5.1	4.1	3.7	3.8	3.6	3.8	3.1
December	5.1	4.4	3.9	4.0	4.1	4.1	3.2
1996							
March	3.7	3.9	3.8	3.9	4.8	4.1	3.3
June	3.1	3.4	3.2	3.4	3.5	3.4	3.1
September	2.1	2.4	2.6	2.3	3.1	2.5	2.4
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous quarter)							
1992							
September	0.1	0.5	0.5	0.6	0.4	0.6	0.3
December	0.5	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.7	0.5
1993							
March	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.8	-0.3	0.5	0.5
June	0.4	0.4	0.7	0.8	0.4	0.7	0.5
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
1994							
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
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
1995							
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
September	1.2	1.3	1.1	1.3	1.1	1.2	1.2
December	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.8	1.4	1.0	0.7
1996							
March	0.4	0.6	0.6	0.4	1.1	0.5	0.4
June	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.9	-0.1	0.7	0.8
September	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.2	0.7	0.3	0.5

(a) See paragraphs 20-25 of the Explanatory Notes for further information

(b) Refer to paragraph 14 of the Explanatory Notes for a description of this series

# EXPLANATORY NOTES

## BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE CPI

**1** The Consumer Price Index (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 (i.e. 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), contained on the CD-ROM *Statistical Concepts Reference Library* (1361.0).

## 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 (i.e. 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); 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.



## EXPLANATORY NOTES

### 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 changes in index points and percentage changes between any two periods:

All groups CPI: Weighted average of eight capital cities.

Index numbers:

September Quarter 1996 120.1 (see Table 1)

less June Quarter 1996 119.8 (see Table 1)

Change in index points 0.3

$$\text{Percentage change} = \frac{0.3}{119.8} \times 100 = 0.3\%$$

**9** Percentage changes are **calculated** to illustrate three 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 6 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 groups, sub-groups and expenditure classes. It also shows the contribution which each makes to the total CPI. For instance, the dairy products sub-group contributed 1.83 index points to the total All groups index number of 120.1 for September Quarter 1996. The final column shows contributions to the change in All Groups index points by each group, sub-group and expenditure class.

**11** Table 7 provides summary information about a range of Special series in a similar format to that provided in Table 6.

**12** Information on the impact of changes in Selected State and local government charges on the CPI is included in Tables 5 and 7. Table 5 shows the contribution to the CPI made by changes in these charges for each capital city, while Table 7 shows index numbers for two special series 'Selected State and local government charges' and 'All groups excluding selected State and local government charges'.

### SPECIAL SERIES

**13** Various series are presented in this publication which are helpful for analytical purposes. These series are compiled by taking subsets of the CPI basket. A complete list of CPI groups, sub-groups and expenditure classes is contained in Tables 5 and 6.

**14** Some of the compiled series are self explanatory, such as 'All groups, excluding food'. Other series and their composition are described below:

*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 services and repairs, Personal care products, Books, Newspapers and magazines, and Recreational goods. The resulting series accounted for approximately 61% of the All groups CPI in the June quarter 1992.

*All Groups, services component:* comprises all items not included in the 'All groups, goods component'.

## EXPLANATORY NOTES

### SPECIAL SERIES (continued)

*Selected State and local government charges:* comprises 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).

*All groups excluding interest and 'volatile items':* 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% of the total CPI basket.

*Private sector goods and services:* in addition to the items excluded from the series "All groups excluding interest and 'volatile items'", also excludes: 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% of the total CPI basket.

*Treasury underlying rate:* excludes items from the CPI basket whose prices are highly volatile, exhibit marked seasonal patterns or are largely effected by policy decisions – in addition to the items excluded from the series "Private sector goods and services", the Treasury underlying rate also excludes Meat and seafoods, Clothing group, Tobacco and alcohol group; and Holiday travel and accommodation; but includes Motoring charges. The resulting series covers approximately 51% of the total CPI basket.

### INTERNATIONAL COMPARISONS

**15** 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'.

**16** Table 8 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.

**17** The statistics for Germany refer to Western Germany (Federal Republic of Germany) before the unification of Germany.

**18** From March quarter 1994 the statistics for New Zealand refer to 'all groups excluding housing and credit services'.

**19** 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

**20** 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.

**21** 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* (6450.0).

## EXPLANATORY NOTES

**22** 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.

**23** 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.

**24** Table 10 presents the All groups CPI, All groups excluding housing (the series recommended for international comparisons), 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.

**25** 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

**26** 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.

**27** Users may also wish to refer to the following publications:

- *The Australian Consumer Price Index: Concepts Sources and Methods* (6461.0), available on CD-ROM *Statistical Concept Reference Library* (1361.0)
- *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: 12 Series Review* (6450.0)

### SYMBOLS AND OTHER USAGES

- n.a. not available
- n.y.a. not yet available
- r revised
- nil or rounded to zero

ABS Catalogue No. 6401.0.00.001

### Change in Format of the Quarterly Publication 'Consumer Price

1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 2124, 2125, 2126, 2127, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, 2139, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146, 2147, 2148, 2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 2155, 2156, 2157, 2158, 2159, 2160, 2161, 2162, 2163, 2164, 2165, 2166, 2167, 2168, 2169, 2170, 2171, 2172, 2173, 2174, 2175, 2176, 2177, 2178, 2179, 2180, 2181, 2182, 2183, 2184, 2185, 2186, 2187, 2188, 2189, 2190, 2191, 2192, 2193, 2194, 2195, 2196, 2197, 2198, 2199, 2200, 2201, 2202, 2203, 2204, 2205, 2206, 2207, 2208, 2209, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214, 2215, 2216, 2217, 2218, 2219, 2220, 2221, 2222, 2223, 2224, 2225, 2226, 2227, 2228, 2229, 2230, 2231, 2232, 2233, 2234, 2235, 2236, 2237, 2238, 2239, 2240, 2241, 2242, 2243, 2244, 2245, 2246, 2247, 2248, 2249, 2250, 2251, 2252, 2253, 2254, 2255, 2256, 2257, 2258, 2259, 2260, 2261, 2262, 2263, 2264, 2265, 2266, 2267, 2268, 2269, 2270, 2271, 2272, 2273, 2274, 2275, 2276, 2277, 2278, 2279, 2280, 2281, 2282, 2283, 2284, 2285, 2286, 2287, 2288, 2289, 2290, 2291, 2292, 2293, 2294, 2295, 2296, 2297, 2298, 2299, 2300, 2301, 2302, 2303, 2304, 2305, 2306, 2307, 2308, 2309, 2310, 2311, 2312, 2313, 2314, 2315, 2316, 2317, 2318, 2319, 2320, 2321, 2322, 2323, 2324, 2325, 2326, 2327, 2328, 2329, 2330, 2331, 2332, 2333, 2334, 2335, 2336, 2337, 2338, 2339, 2340, 2341, 2342, 2343, 2344, 2345, 2346, 2347, 2348, 2349, 2350, 2351, 2352, 2353, 2354, 2355, 2356, 2357, 2358, 2359, 2360, 2361, 2362, 2363, 2364, 2365, 2366, 2367, 2368, 2369, 2370, 2371, 2372, 2373, 2374, 2375, 2376, 2377, 2378, 2379, 2380, 2381, 2382, 2383, 2384, 2385, 2386, 2387, 2388, 2389, 2390, 2391, 2392, 2393, 2394, 2395, 2396, 2397, 2398, 2399, 2400, 2401, 2402, 2403, 2404, 2405, 2406, 2407, 2408, 2409, 2410, 2411, 2412, 2413, 2414, 2415, 2416, 2417, 2418, 2419, 2420, 2421, 2422, 2423, 2424, 2425, 2426, 2427, 2428, 2429, 2430, 2431, 2432, 2433, 2434, 2435, 2436, 2437, 2438, 2439, 2440, 2441, 2442, 2443, 2444, 2445, 2446, 2447, 2448, 2449, 2450, 2451, 2452, 2453, 2454, 2455, 2456, 2457, 2458, 2459, 2460, 2461, 2462, 2463, 2464, 2465, 2466, 2467, 2468, 2469, 2470, 2471, 2472, 2473, 2474, 2475, 2476, 2477, 2478, 2479, 2480, 2481, 2482, 2483, 2484, 2485, 2486, 2487, 2488, 2489, 2490, 2491, 2492, 2493, 2494, 2495, 2496, 2497, 2498, 2499, 2500, 2501, 2502, 2503, 2504, 2505, 2506, 2507, 2508, 2509, 2510, 2511, 2512, 2513, 2514, 2515, 2516, 2517, 2518, 2519, 2520, 2521, 2522, 2523, 2524, 2525, 2526, 2527, 2528, 2529, 2530, 2531, 2532, 2533, 2534, 2535, 2536, 2537, 2538, 2539, 2540, 2541, 2542, 2543, 2544, 2545, 2546, 2547, 2548, 2549, 2550, 2551, 2552, 2553, 2554, 2555, 2556, 2557, 2558, 2559, 2560, 2561, 2562, 2563, 2564, 2565, 2566, 2567, 2568, 2569, 2570, 2571, 2572, 2573, 2574, 2575, 2576, 2577, 2578, 2579, 2580, 2581, 2582, 2583, 2584, 2585, 2586, 2587, 2588, 2589, 2590, 2591, 2592, 2593, 2594, 2595, 2596, 2597, 2598, 2599, 2600, 2601, 2602, 2603, 2604, 2605, 2606, 2607, 2608, 2609, 2610, 2611, 2612, 2613, 2614, 2615, 2616, 2617, 2618, 2619, 2620, 2621, 2622, 2623, 2624, 2625, 2626, 2627, 2628, 2629, 2630, 2631, 2632, 2633, 2634, 2635, 2636, 2637, 2638, 2639, 2640, 2641, 2642, 2643, 2644, 2645, 2646, 2647, 2648, 2649, 2650, 2651, 2652, 2653, 2654, 2655, 2656, 2657, 2658, 2659, 2660, 2661, 2662, 2663, 2664, 2665, 2666, 2667, 2668, 2669, 2670, 2671, 2672, 2673, 2674, 2675, 2676, 2677, 2678, 2679, 26

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