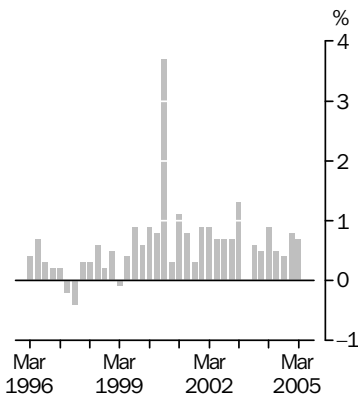


**CONSUMER PRICE INDEX**

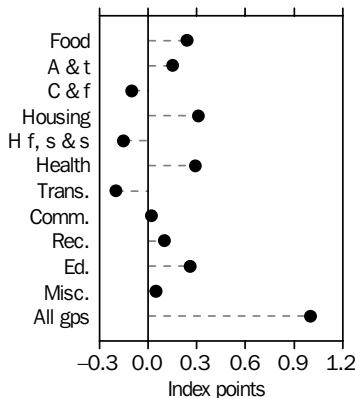
AUSTRALIA

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**All Groups**  
Quarterly change



**Contribution to quarterly change**  
March quarter 2005



**KEY FIGURES**

**WEIGHTED AVERAGE OF  
EIGHT CAPITAL CITIES**

	<i>Dec Qtr 2004 to Mar Qtr 2005</i>	<i>Mar Qtr 2004 to Mar Qtr 2005</i>
	<i>% change</i>	<i>% change</i>
Food	0.9	0.8
Alcohol and tobacco	1.3	3.7
Clothing and footwear	-1.4	-1.9
Housing	1.0	4.0
Household furnishings, supplies and services	-1.3	-0.8
Health	4.0	5.7
Transportation	-1.0	2.9
Communication	0.4	1.5
Recreation	0.7	1.6
Education	6.0	6.2
Miscellaneous	0.9	2.6
<b>All groups</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>2.4</b>
All groups excluding Housing	0.5	1.9

**KEY POINTS**

**THE ALL GROUPS CPI**

- rose 0.7% in the March quarter 2005, compared with 0.8% in the December quarter 2004.
- rose 2.4% through the year to March quarter 2005.

**OVERVIEW OF CPI MOVEMENTS**

- Contributing most to the overall increase this quarter were rises in pharmaceuticals (+16.8%), house purchase (+1.4%), domestic holiday travel and accommodation (+4.2%), secondary education (+7.0%), tobacco (+2.2%), tertiary education (+5.3%), vegetables (+4.3%), preschool and primary education (+6.4%), snacks and confectionery (+2.8%) and take away and fast foods (+1.1%).
- Partially offsetting these increases were falls in automotive fuel (-2.7%, see discussion on pages 4 and 5 for details), motor vehicles (-1.4%), furniture (-2.5%), audio, visual and computing equipment (-6.4%) and fruit (-3.5%).
- Contributing most to the through the year (annual) increase were rises in house purchase (+5.5%), automotive fuel (+9.0%), hospital and medical services (+5.8%), domestic holiday travel and accommodation (+6.8%), beer (+4.9%), rents (+2.1%), tobacco (+3.9%), and take away and fast foods (+2.8%). Partially offsetting these increases were falls in vegetables (-13.2%), audio, visual and computing equipment (-14.9%), motor vehicles (-1.6%), women's outerwear (-4.8%) and furniture (-1.8%).

**INQUIRIES**

For further information about these and related statistics, contact Steve Whennan on Canberra (02) 6252 6251 or the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070.

# NOTES

## FORTHCOMING ISSUES

*ISSUE (Quarter)*

*RELEASE DATE*

June 2005

27 July 2005

September 2005

26 October 2005



## CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

There are no changes in this issue.

## INTRODUCTION OF THE 15TH SERIES CPI

The 15th Series Australian Consumer Price Index will be introduced from the September quarter 2005. Further details are contained in the appendix to this issue.

## ROUNDING

Any discrepancies between totals and sums of components in this publication are due to rounding.

## ABBREVIATIONS

ABS Australian Bureau of Statistics

CPI Consumer Price Index

Dennis Trewin

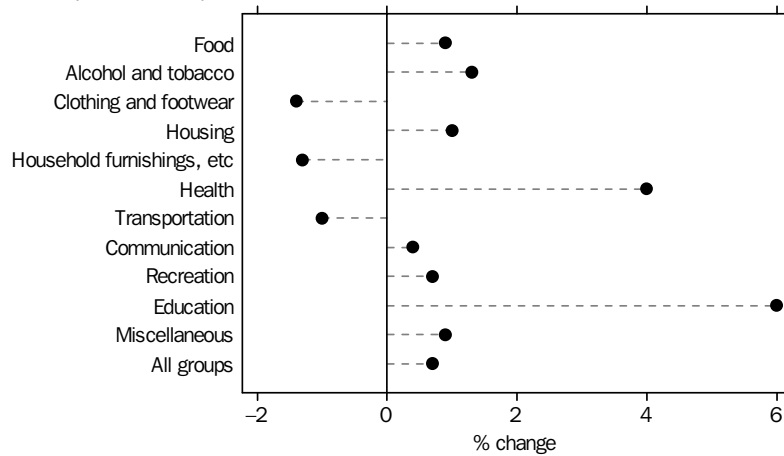
Australian Statistician

## ANALYSES AND COMMENTS

### MAIN CONTRIBUTORS TO CHANGE

#### CPI GROUPS

WEIGHTED AVERAGE OF EIGHT CAPITAL CITIES, Percentage change from previous quarter



The discussion of the CPI groups below is ordered in terms of their significance to the change in All groups index points (see tables 6 and 7).

#### HOUSING (+1.0%)

The rise in housing prices was mainly attributable to increases in house purchase (+1.4%), rents (+0.4%), electricity (+1.6%) and gas and other household fuels (+2.8%). There were no price falls.

The house purchase index rose in all capital cities, driven to a large extent by increasing labour costs, as a result of a general shortage of skilled tradesman, and rising material costs, particularly for structural timber, roofing materials and steel. The increases ranged from 0.2% in Canberra to 4.2% in Perth. In addition to the labour and material cost factors experienced in all capital cities, Perth's increase was particularly affected by a significant rise in roof tilers' rates following a recent industrial campaign.

Over the twelve months to March quarter 2005, housing prices rose 4.0%. All components of housing rose, with house purchase (+5.5%), rents (+2.1%), property rates and charges (+5.1%), electricity (+3.1%), house repairs and maintenance (+2.9%) and gas and other household fuels (+4.3%) being the most significant.

#### HEALTH (+4.0%)

The rise in health costs was due to increases in the net cost of pharmaceuticals (+16.8%), hospital and medical services (+0.5%) and dental services (+2.0%).

The cost of pharmaceuticals rose as a result of the cyclical reduction in the negative effect on prices of the PBS safety net that occurs at the start of each calendar year, together with an average increase of approximately 20% in the patient co-payment for PBS prescription pharmaceuticals from 1 January. The rise in hospital and medical services reflects increases in fees for specialists' services, combined with a cyclical reduction in the negative impact on out-of-hospital medical expenses of the Medicare Plus safety net at the start of each calendar year. These increases were partially offset by a reduction in the net cost of general practitioners' fees following an increase in the Medicare rebate for their services. A small increase in the overall bulk billing ratio for medical services also contributed to the offset.

## ANALYSES AND COMMENTS *continued*

### HEALTH (+4.0%) *continued*

Over the twelve months to March quarter 2005, health costs rose 5.7%. Hospital and medical services (+5.8%), pharmaceuticals (+6.3%) and dental services (+5.3%) were the main contributors to this increase.

### EDUCATION (+6.0%)

All levels of education rose in the March quarter, coinciding with the commencement of the new school year. Secondary education rose 7.0%, tertiary education rose 5.3% and preschool and primary education rose 6.4%.

Secondary and primary education fees rose in order to cover increasing wage, IT and other operating costs. The increase in tertiary education was due to a CPI-indexed increase in HECS payments, together with the introduction of new HECS arrangements allowing tertiary institutions to increase fees by up to 25% for most courses, for students enrolling for the first time in 2005.

Over the twelve months to March quarter 2005, the cost of education rose 6.2%.

### FOOD (+0.9%)

The rise in food prices was mainly due to increases in vegetables (+4.3%), snacks and confectionery (+2.8%), take away and fast foods (+1.1%) and beef and veal (+3.1%). These increases were partially offset by a fall in fruit prices (-3.5%).

Vegetable prices increased largely due to poor weather conditions and seasonal shortages affecting supplies of cauliflowers, lettuces, potatoes and broccoli. On the other hand, fruit prices fell as a result of plentiful supplies of bananas, stone fruit and grapes.

Over the twelve months to March quarter 2005, food prices rose 0.8%. The main contributors to the increase were take away and fast foods (+2.8%), restaurant meals (+3.2%), soft drinks, waters and juices (+3.7%), snacks and confectionery (+3.7%) and beef and veal (+5.6%). Partially offsetting these increases were falls in vegetables (-13.2%), poultry (-2.5%) and tea, coffee and food drinks (-3.3%).

### TRANSPORTATION (-1.0%)

The decrease in transportation costs was due to falls in automotive fuel (-2.7%) and motor vehicles (-1.4%). These falls were partially offset by increases in motor vehicle repair and servicing (+1.3%) and urban transport fares (+1.2%).

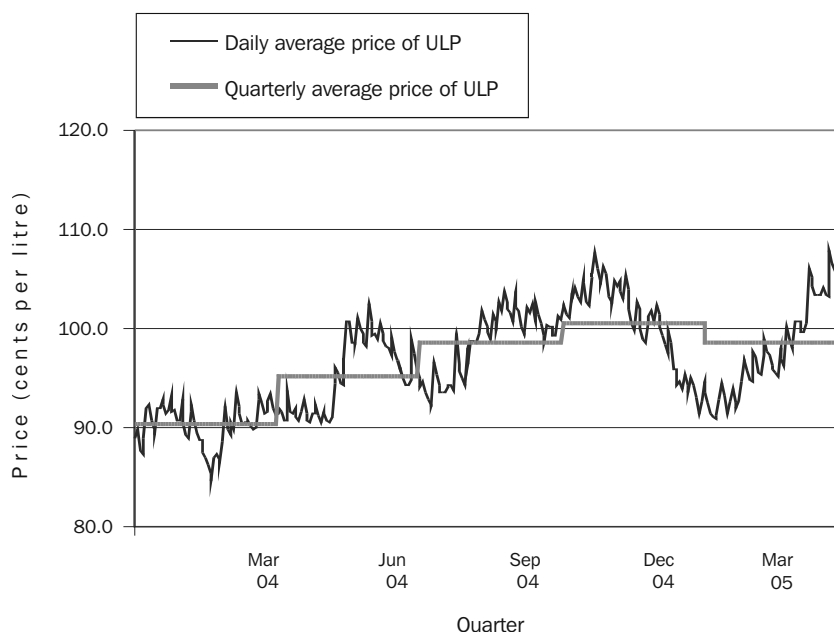
The 2.7% decrease in automotive fuel prices in the March quarter 2005 may seem at odds with the high price levels currently being observed around the country. Automotive fuel prices for the CPI are obtained each day, including weekends and public holidays, from a broad sample of outlets across all regions within each of the eight capital cities. Prices are collected for unleaded petrol, premium unleaded petrol, LPG and diesel. For each capital city, daily prices for each fuel type are averaged over a month and then the monthly prices are averaged to arrive at a quarterly average price. The movements between the average quarterly price for each fuel type are weighted together to calculate a quarterly movement in the overall automotive fuel index.

The following graph shows the pattern of daily price behaviour for unleaded petrol for the 8 capital cities over the past 15 months. It is presented to illustrate the impact of this pattern on quarterly petrol prices, particularly the fall recorded in prices between the December quarter 2004 and the March quarter 2005. It also illustrates the significant rise in prices between March quarter 2004 and March quarter 2005 and the large swings between the lowest and highest daily prices recorded over this time.

## ANALYSES AND COMMENTS *continued*

TRANSPORTATION  
(-1.0%) *continued*

### UNLEADED PETROL DAILY AND QUARTERLY AVERAGE PRICES



The fall in automotive fuel prices between December quarter 2004 and March quarter 2005, and the increase between March quarter 2004 and March quarter 2005, are also illustrated in the following table which shows the monthly and published quarterly automotive fuel price index for the weighted average of eight capital cities.

### CPI AUTOMOTIVE FUEL MONTHLY AND QUARTERLY INDEX NUMBERS

	2004			2004			2005		
<i>Index number</i>	<i>Jan</i>	<i>Feb</i>	<i>Mar</i>	<i>Oct</i>	<i>Nov</i>	<i>Dec</i>	<i>Jan</i>	<i>Feb</i>	<i>Mar</i>
Monthly	157.2	152.7	158.6	180.0	177.4	168.0	162.8	168.5	179.7
Quarterly average	156.2			175.1			170.3		

The price of motor vehicles decreased mainly as a result of some list price falls following import tariff cuts from 1 January, competitive pricing between dealers in order to clear stocks of 2004 plated vehicles, and the offering of incentives such as bonus inclusions, drive-away deals, and free fuel and extended warranty offers.

Over the twelve months to March quarter 2005, transportation prices rose 2.9%. Automotive fuel (+9.0%), motor vehicle repair and servicing (+3.2%) and other motoring charges (+2.6%) were the main contributors to this increase, while a 1.6% fall in the price of motor vehicles partially offset the increase.

ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO  
(+1.3%)

Prices for all components of alcohol and tobacco rose this quarter with tobacco (+2.2%), beer (+1.2%) and wine (+0.5%) being the main contributors.

## ANALYSES AND COMMENTS *continued*

### ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO (+1.3%) *continued*

The increase for tobacco and beer was mainly due to the indexed adjustment to the rate of Federal excise and customs duty from 1 February. A reduction in the alcohol content of some beers, which is treated as a quality adjusted price increase, and the reversal of some discounting also contributed to the increase in beer prices.

Over the twelve months to March quarter 2005, alcohol and tobacco prices rose 3.7%. Prices for beer (+4.9%), tobacco (+3.9%), wine (+2.1%) and spirits (+2.4%) all rose.

### HOUSEHOLD FURNISHINGS, SUPPLIES AND SERVICES (-1.3%)

Most categories of household furnishings, supplies and services recorded price falls this quarter with furniture (-2.5%), towels and linen (-4.1%) and glassware, tableware and household utensils (-4.3%) being the most significant. Small increases in floor and window coverings (+0.4%) and household services (+1.1%) partially offset these increases.

The decreases in the March quarter were largely due to post-Christmas/New Year sales at department and specialty stores.

Over the twelve months to March quarter 2005, household furnishings, supplies and services fell 0.8%. Falls in furniture (-1.8%), towels and linen (-6.1%), glassware, tableware and household utensils (-5.3%) and small electric household appliances (-7.0%) were partially offset by increases in household services (+3.3%), floor and window coverings (+1.8%) and other household supplies (+0.8%).

### CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR (-1.4%)

Clothing and footwear prices fell this quarter due mainly to decreases in men's outerwear (-2.4%), women's outerwear (-1.2%) and children's and infants' clothing (-3.2%). There were no significant price increases.

The price falls were mainly associated with post-Christmas/New Year sales at department and specialty clothing stores.

Over the twelve months to March quarter 2005, clothing and footwear prices fell 1.9%. Women's outerwear (-4.8%) was the most significant contributor to this decrease.

### RECREATION (+0.7%)

The rise in the recreation index this quarter was mainly due to increases in domestic holiday travel and accommodation (+4.2%) and other recreational activities (+0.8%). Falls in audio, visual and computing equipment (-6.4%) and overseas holiday travel and accommodation (-1.3%) provided some offsetting price decreases.

The rise in domestic holiday travel and accommodation was due to the seasonal increase in holiday accommodation tariffs brought about by the strong demand in January each year, together with further demand arising from Easter falling in March this year. The decrease in prices for audio, visual and computing equipment resulted mainly from quality adjustment and exchange rate driven falls in computer prices and discounting on a number of home entertainment items by major retailers.

Over the twelve months to March quarter 2005, the recreation index rose 1.6%. The main contributors to this increase were domestic holiday travel and accommodation (+6.8%), sports participation (+4.3%), other recreational activities (+2.5%) and overseas holiday travel and accommodation (+1.4%). Audio, visual and computing equipment (-14.9%), audio, visual and computing media and services (-1.4%) and sports and recreational equipment (-2.1%) provided partially offsetting decreases.

## ANALYSES AND COMMENTS *continued*

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### TRADABLES AND NON-TRADABLES

The non-tradables component (see table 8) of the All groups CPI increased by 1.3% in the March quarter. This component includes goods and services whose prices are determined by domestic price pressures and which represents approximately 55% of the weight of the CPI. Within non-tradables, the services component rose 1.4%, driven mainly by increases in domestic holiday travel and accommodation, all levels of education, motor vehicle repair and servicing and rents. The non-tradables goods component rose 1.2% with house purchase, take away and fast foods, beer and electricity being the main contributors.

The tradables component of the CPI, which includes goods and services whose prices are largely determined on the world market, fell 0.1% in the March quarter. Falls in automotive fuel, motor vehicles, furniture, audio, visual and computing equipment, fruit and overseas holiday travel and accommodation were partially offset by increases in pharmaceuticals, tobacco, vegetables and snacks and confectionery.

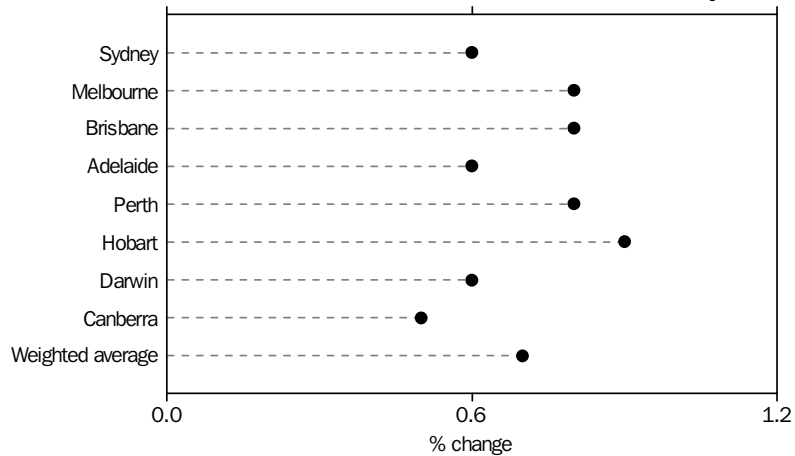
Through the year to March quarter 2005, non-tradables rose 3.7% and tradables rose 0.6%. This compares with increases of 3.5% and 1.4%, respectively, for these components through the year to December quarter 2004.

## ANALYSES AND COMMENTS *continued*

### CAPITAL CITIES COMPARISON

ALL GROUPS

ALL GROUPS: PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS QUARTER



At the All groups level, the CPI rose in all capital cities in the March quarter 2005. The increases ranged from 0.5% in Canberra to 0.9% in Hobart. The higher result for Hobart was mainly due to that city recording percentage movements in food, clothing and footwear, household furnishings, supplies and services and recreation that were well above the national average.

Through the year to March quarter 2005, the All groups CPI rose in each of the eight capital cities. The increases ranged from 2.0% in Melbourne to 3.4% in Perth and 3.5% in Hobart. The higher annual movements for Perth and Hobart were mainly due to those cities recording increases for food, housing and recreation that were well above the national average.

### CPI, All groups index numbers and percentage changes

	INDEX		PERCENTAGE CHANGE	
	NUMBER(a)			
	<i>Mar Qtr 2005</i>	<i>Dec Qtr 2004 to Mar Qtr 2005</i>	<i>Mar Qtr 2004 to Mar Qtr 2005</i>	
Sydney	148.2	0.6	2.2	
Melbourne	146.4	0.8	2.0	
Brisbane	149.2	0.8	2.6	
Adelaide	150.9	0.6	2.2	
Perth	144.4	0.8	3.4	
Hobart	148.0	0.9	3.5	
Darwin	141.9	0.6	2.1	
Canberra	147.0	0.5	2.2	
Weighted average of eight capital cities	147.5	0.7	2.4	

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





## ALL GROUPS, Index numbers(a)

<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>
<b>2000-01</b>	133.2	131.6	132.4	133.5	129.6	132.0	130.9	131.9	132.2
<b>2001-02</b>	137.2	135.3	136.3	137.2	133.1	134.7	133.7	135.2	136.0
<b>2002-03</b>	141.1	139.7	140.7	142.7	136.8	139.1	136.8	139.7	140.2
<b>2003-04</b>	144.1	142.8	144.8	147.0	139.6	142.6	138.7	143.4	143.5
<b>2001</b>									
March	134.0	132.2	132.7	134.1	129.6	132.1	130.7	132.2	132.7
June	135.0	133.0	134.0	135.1	131.4	133.4	132.2	133.4	133.8
September	135.4	133.6	134.2	135.3	131.5	132.8	132.5	133.2	134.2
December	136.6	134.8	135.8	136.6	132.6	133.9	133.5	134.9	135.4
<b>2002</b>									
March	137.9	136.0	137.1	137.7	133.7	135.2	133.8	135.6	136.6
June	138.8	136.9	138.1	139.1	134.6	137.0	135.0	137.2	137.6
September	139.6	137.8	139.2	140.3	135.8	137.5	135.4	138.1	138.5
December	140.4	139.0	139.9	141.5	136.4	138.0	136.2	139.2	139.5
<b>2003</b>									
March	142.1	140.9	141.8	144.6	137.4	140.0	137.5	140.7	141.3
June	142.2	140.9	141.8	144.3	137.4	140.8	137.9	140.7	141.3
September	142.4	141.8	143.3	145.4	138.6	141.1	137.8	141.9	142.1
December	143.6	142.1	144.2	146.2	139.2	142.0	138.5	142.9	142.8
<b>2004</b>									
March	145.0	143.5	145.4	147.7	139.6	143.0	139.0	143.9	144.1
June	145.5	143.9	146.3	148.6	141.0	144.3	139.6	144.8	144.8
September	146.2	144.2	146.8	149.0	142.0	145.0	140.8	145.5	145.4
December	147.3	145.3	148.0	150.0	143.3	146.7	141.1	146.3	146.5
<b>2005</b>									
March	148.2	146.4	149.2	150.9	144.4	148.0	141.9	147.0	147.5

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

## ALL GROUPS, Percentage changes

<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>
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous financial year)									
<b>2000-01</b>	6.2	6.0	5.9	5.7	5.5	5.8	5.4	6.2	6.0
<b>2001-02</b>	3.0	2.8	2.9	2.8	2.7	2.0	2.1	2.5	2.9
<b>2002-03</b>	2.8	3.3	3.2	4.0	2.8	3.3	2.3	3.3	3.1
<b>2003-04</b>	2.1	2.2	2.9	3.0	2.0	2.5	1.4	2.6	2.4
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from corresponding quarter of previous year)									
<b>2001</b>									
March	6.5	6.0	5.7	5.8	5.3	5.4	5.1	5.8	6.0
June	6.3	5.9	6.0	5.9	6.0	5.5	5.2	6.0	6.0
September	2.9	2.5	2.2	2.3	2.3	1.1	1.9	1.9	2.5
December	3.3	3.1	3.2	3.1	3.0	2.1	2.2	2.9	3.1
<b>2002</b>									
March	2.9	2.9	3.3	2.7	3.2	2.3	2.4	2.6	2.9
June	2.8	2.9	3.1	3.0	2.4	2.7	2.1	2.8	2.8
September	3.1	3.1	3.7	3.7	3.3	3.5	2.2	3.7	3.2
December	2.8	3.1	3.0	3.6	2.9	3.1	2.0	3.2	3.0
<b>2003</b>									
March	3.0	3.6	3.4	5.0	2.8	3.6	2.8	3.8	3.4
June	2.4	2.9	2.7	3.7	2.1	2.8	2.1	2.6	2.7
September	2.0	2.9	2.9	3.6	2.1	2.6	1.8	2.8	2.6
December	2.3	2.2	3.1	3.3	2.1	2.9	1.7	2.7	2.4
<b>2004</b>									
March	2.0	1.8	2.5	2.1	1.6	2.1	1.1	2.3	2.0
June	2.3	2.1	3.2	3.0	2.6	2.5	1.2	2.9	2.5
September	2.7	1.7	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.8	2.2	2.5	2.3
December	2.6	2.3	2.6	2.6	2.9	3.3	1.9	2.4	2.6
<b>2005</b>									
March	2.2	2.0	2.6	2.2	3.4	3.5	2.1	2.2	2.4
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous quarter)									
<b>2001</b>									
March	1.4	1.1	0.8	1.2	0.6	0.7	0.1	0.8	1.1
June	0.7	0.6	1.0	0.7	1.4	1.0	1.1	0.9	0.8
September	0.3	0.5	0.1	0.1	0.1	-0.4	0.2	-0.1	0.3
December	0.9	0.9	1.2	1.0	0.8	0.8	0.8	1.3	0.9
<b>2002</b>									
March	1.0	0.9	1.0	0.8	0.8	1.0	0.2	0.5	0.9
June	0.7	0.7	0.7	1.0	0.7	1.3	0.9	1.2	0.7
September	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.4	0.3	0.7	0.7
December	0.6	0.9	0.5	0.9	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.8	0.7
<b>2003</b>									
March	1.2	1.4	1.4	2.2	0.7	1.4	1.0	1.1	1.3
June	0.1	0.0	0.0	-0.2	0.0	0.6	0.3	0.0	0.0
September	0.1	0.6	1.1	0.8	0.9	0.2	-0.1	0.9	0.6
December	0.8	0.2	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.6	0.5	0.7	0.5
<b>2004</b>									
March	1.0	1.0	0.8	1.0	0.3	0.7	0.4	0.7	0.9
June	0.3	0.3	0.6	0.6	1.0	0.9	0.4	0.6	0.5
September	0.5	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.7	0.5	0.9	0.5	0.4
December	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.9	1.2	0.2	0.5	0.8
<b>2005</b>									
March	0.6	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.8	0.9	0.6	0.5	0.7

## CPI GROUPS, Weighted average of eight capital cities—Index numbers(a)

<i>Period</i>	<i>Food</i>	<i>Alcohol and tobacco</i>	<i>Clothing and footwear</i>	<i>Housing</i>	<i>Household furnishings, supplies and services</i>	<i>Health</i>
<b>2000-01</b>	135.6	194.7	112.5	107.9	117.3	164.3
<b>2001-02</b>	142.7	203.1	112.4	111.1	119.7	169.9
<b>2002-03</b>	147.9	208.9	113.3	115.1	121.0	181.5
<b>2003-04</b>	152.3	217.8	112.7	120.2	121.1	193.9
<b>2001</b>						
March	137.6	197.1	110.7	108.2	117.2	166.4
June	138.8	199.4	112.5	108.4	119.3	166.7
September	139.8	201.5	111.1	110.0	118.9	166.5
December	143.4	201.8	112.7	110.7	120.3	166.1
<b>2002</b>						
March	144.2	203.9	112.2	111.5	119.4	171.1
June	143.5	205.0	113.7	112.2	120.3	175.9
September	145.0	207.3	113.0	113.7	120.5	176.4
December	147.0	207.3	114.0	114.2	121.6	177.1
<b>2003</b>						
March	149.8	209.9	112.4	115.7	120.4	183.5
June	149.8	211.2	113.7	116.8	121.4	189.1
September	149.3	215.2	113.3	118.9	121.5	189.1
December	152.0	216.5	113.1	119.6	121.4	189.4
<b>2004</b>						
March	154.7	218.8	111.5	120.7	120.7	195.5
June	153.3	220.5	112.7	121.5	120.7	201.6
September	152.4	222.5	112.5	123.2	120.6	200.1
December	154.6	224.0	110.9	124.3	121.3	198.8
<b>2005</b>						
March	156.0	226.9	109.4	125.5	119.7	206.7

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

<i>Period</i>	<i>Transportation</i>	<i>Communication</i>	<i>Recreation</i>	<i>Education</i>	<i>Miscellaneous</i>	<i>All groups</i>
<b>2000-01</b>	137.0	104.7	124.6	191.4	166.0	132.2
<b>2001-02</b>	137.3	105.2	128.6	200.0	171.8	136.0
<b>2002-03</b>	140.6	108.5	131.9	210.0	178.6	140.2
<b>2003-04</b>	142.0	110.0	130.0	223.3	183.4	143.5
<b>2001</b>						
March	136.7	104.4	124.5	195.4	166.7	132.7
June	139.4	103.8	124.3	195.4	168.7	133.8
September	137.0	103.6	125.4	195.4	170.4	134.2
December	136.1	105.4	127.5	195.5	170.6	135.4
<b>2002</b>						
March	136.8	105.5	130.4	204.6	172.8	136.6
June	139.3	106.3	131.1	204.6	173.5	137.6
September	138.8	107.9	131.8	205.0	177.4	138.5
December	140.3	108.4	131.9	205.3	178.0	139.5
<b>2003</b>						
March	143.7	108.8	132.4	214.7	179.2	141.3
June	139.4	108.9	131.5	214.8	179.6	141.3
September	141.3	109.7	130.0	215.1	182.2	142.1
December	140.7	109.9	131.1	215.1	182.2	142.8
<b>2004</b>						
March	141.7	110.0	129.7	231.4	184.5	144.1
June	144.1	110.4	129.3	231.5	184.5	144.8
September	145.2	110.9	129.9	231.5	186.8	145.4
December	147.2	111.2	130.9	231.7	187.7	146.5
<b>2005</b>						
March	145.8	111.6	131.8	245.7	189.3	147.5

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

## CPI GROUPS, Weighted average of eight capital cities—Percentage changes

<i>Period</i>	<i>Food</i>	<i>Alcohol and tobacco</i>	<i>Clothing and footwear</i>	<i>Housing</i>	<i>Household furnishings, supplies and services</i>	<i>Health</i>
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous financial year)						
<b>2000-01</b>	5.0	11.1	6.6	8.0	3.5	3.5
<b>2001-02</b>	5.2	4.3	-0.1	3.0	2.0	3.4
<b>2002-03</b>	3.6	2.9	0.8	3.6	1.1	6.8
<b>2003-04</b>	3.0	4.3	-0.5	4.4	0.1	6.8
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from corresponding quarter of previous year)						
<b>2001</b>						
March	6.6	11.3	5.6	7.4	3.9	3.9
June	6.6	11.6	6.4	7.1	4.6	3.3
September	5.6	5.9	-2.1	2.4	2.1	2.7
December	7.5	5.0	-0.4	2.8	3.4	2.6
<b>2002</b>						
March	4.8	3.5	1.4	3.0	1.9	2.8
June	3.4	2.8	1.1	3.5	0.8	5.5
September	3.7	2.9	1.7	3.4	1.3	5.9
December	2.5	2.7	1.2	3.2	1.1	6.6
<b>2003</b>						
March	3.9	2.9	0.2	3.8	0.8	7.2
June	4.4	3.0	0.0	4.1	0.9	7.5
September	3.0	3.8	0.3	4.6	0.8	7.2
December	3.4	4.4	-0.8	4.7	-0.2	6.9
<b>2004</b>						
March	3.3	4.2	-0.8	4.3	0.2	6.5
June	2.3	4.4	-0.9	4.0	-0.6	6.6
September	2.1	3.4	-0.7	3.6	-0.7	5.8
December	1.7	3.5	-1.9	3.9	-0.1	5.0
<b>2005</b>						
March	0.8	3.7	-1.9	4.0	-0.8	5.7
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous quarter)						
<b>2001</b>						
March	3.1	2.6	-2.1	0.5	0.8	2.8
June	0.9	1.2	1.6	0.2	1.8	0.2
September	0.7	1.1	-1.2	1.5	-0.3	-0.1
December	2.6	0.1	1.4	0.6	1.2	-0.2
<b>2002</b>						
March	0.6	1.0	-0.4	0.7	-0.7	3.0
June	-0.5	0.5	1.3	0.6	0.8	2.8
September	1.0	1.1	-0.6	1.3	0.2	0.3
December	1.4	0.0	0.9	0.4	0.9	0.4
<b>2003</b>						
March	1.9	1.3	-1.4	1.3	-1.0	3.6
June	0.0	0.6	1.2	1.0	0.8	3.1
September	-0.3	1.9	-0.4	1.8	0.1	0.0
December	1.8	0.6	-0.2	0.6	-0.1	0.2
<b>2004</b>						
March	1.8	1.1	-1.4	0.9	-0.6	3.2
June	-0.9	0.8	1.1	0.7	0.0	3.1
September	-0.6	0.9	-0.2	1.4	-0.1	-0.7
December	1.4	0.7	-1.4	0.9	0.6	-0.6
<b>2005</b>						
March	0.9	1.3	-1.4	1.0	-1.3	4.0

<i>Period</i>	<i>Transportation</i>	<i>Communication</i>	<i>Recreation</i>	<i>Education</i>	<i>Miscellaneous</i>	<i>All groups</i>
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous financial year)						
<b>2000-01</b>	6.3	7.1	3.5	4.9	8.4	6.0
<b>2001-02</b>	0.2	0.5	3.2	4.5	3.5	2.9
<b>2002-03</b>	2.4	3.1	2.6	5.0	4.0	3.1
<b>2003-04</b>	1.0	1.4	-1.4	6.3	2.7	2.4

PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from corresponding quarter of previous year)						
<b>2001</b>						
March	5.1	7.1	3.6	4.5	7.3	6.0
June	5.5	5.1	3.6	4.5	5.2	6.0
September	1.0	-1.9	0.5	4.3	4.2	2.5
December	-0.2	0.5	2.3	4.3	3.4	3.1
<b>2002</b>						
March	0.1	1.1	4.7	4.7	3.7	2.9
June	-0.1	2.4	5.5	4.7	2.8	2.8
September	1.3	4.2	5.1	4.9	4.1	3.2
December	3.1	2.8	3.5	5.0	4.3	3.0
<b>2003</b>						
March	5.0	3.1	1.5	4.9	3.7	3.4
June	0.1	2.4	0.3	5.0	3.5	2.7
September	1.8	1.7	-1.4	4.9	2.7	2.6
December	0.3	1.4	-0.6	4.8	2.4	2.4
<b>2004</b>						
March	-1.4	1.1	-2.0	7.8	3.0	2.0
June	3.4	1.4	-1.7	7.8	2.7	2.5
September	2.8	1.1	-0.1	7.6	2.5	2.3
December	4.6	1.2	-0.2	7.7	3.0	2.6
<b>2005</b>						
March	2.9	1.5	1.6	6.2	2.6	2.4

PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous quarter)						
<b>2001</b>						
March	0.2	-0.5	-0.1	4.2	1.0	1.1
June	2.0	-0.6	-0.2	0.0	1.2	0.8
September	-1.7	-0.2	0.9	0.0	1.0	0.3
December	-0.7	1.7	1.7	0.1	0.1	0.9
<b>2002</b>						
March	0.5	0.1	2.3	4.7	1.3	0.9
June	1.8	0.8	0.5	0.0	0.4	0.7
September	-0.4	1.5	0.5	0.2	2.2	0.7
December	1.1	0.5	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.7
<b>2003</b>						
March	2.4	0.4	0.4	4.6	0.7	1.3
June	-3.0	0.1	-0.7	0.0	0.2	0.0
September	1.4	0.7	-1.1	0.1	1.4	0.6
December	-0.4	0.2	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.5
<b>2004</b>						
March	0.7	0.1	-1.1	7.6	1.3	0.9
June	1.7	0.4	-0.3	0.0	0.0	0.5
September	0.8	0.5	0.5	0.0	1.2	0.4
December	1.4	0.3	0.8	0.1	0.5	0.8
<b>2005</b>						
March	-1.0	0.4	0.7	6.0	0.9	0.7

Quarters	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Darwin	Canberra	Weighted average of eight capital cities
<b>FOOD</b>									
<b>2003</b>									
March	150.4	148.9	151.9	151.9	147.8	146.0	144.5	152.1	149.8
June	150.3	149.1	151.1	151.9	148.7	146.5	145.5	152.1	149.8
September	148.9	149.0	150.5	152.8	148.7	146.4	146.0	152.2	149.3
December	152.6	151.8	153.0	153.8	149.2	147.7	147.1	155.0	152.0
<b>2004</b>									
March	155.8	154.5	155.7	157.0	150.4	149.1	149.1	158.4	154.7
June	153.8	152.9	153.3	156.7	151.3	149.8	148.4	157.4	153.3
September	152.8	151.5	152.5	155.8	151.8	148.4	148.0	156.4	152.4
December	155.3	153.3	155.5	158.8	152.8	150.7	149.6	158.4	154.6
<b>2005</b>									
March	156.9	154.1	157.5	159.9	154.4	152.9	151.9	160.0	156.0
<b>ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO</b>									
<b>2003</b>									
March	213.7	210.8	208.1	216.0	198.8	198.9	202.3	197.5	209.9
June	215.1	212.2	208.2	216.8	200.0	203.3	205.5	199.5	211.2
September	219.5	217.2	211.3	220.0	202.8	206.5	206.5	201.5	215.2
December	221.4	217.6	212.4	222.3	204.2	208.9	208.0	203.4	216.5
<b>2004</b>									
March	224.5	219.9	215.2	224.7	204.1	210.0	210.8	206.2	218.8
June	226.7	220.7	217.4	227.7	205.2	210.7	211.5	207.6	220.5
September	229.1	222.3	219.8	228.3	207.4	213.9	215.0	209.9	222.5
December	231.4	224.3	219.8	228.6	208.8	214.5	214.5	209.9	224.0
<b>2005</b>									
March	234.5	226.5	222.7	232.1	212.2	215.9	216.4	212.5	226.9
<b>CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR</b>									
<b>2003</b>									
March	114.6	114.5	105.0	111.9	108.1	104.3	103.8	115.8	112.4
June	117.4	114.2	106.3	113.5	108.3	110.1	106.7	116.1	113.7
September	115.4	115.1	107.4	111.4	110.3	103.3	107.8	116.0	113.3
December	115.4	114.9	105.5	112.3	109.4	106.8	109.3	116.2	113.1
<b>2004</b>									
March	114.4	112.9	103.7	111.5	106.8	104.3	106.8	114.9	111.5
June	115.9	113.0	106.2	113.3	108.1	105.6	106.5	115.1	112.7
September	115.5	113.4	106.5	111.7	107.4	105.2	105.4	114.6	112.5
December	113.4	112.4	105.2	110.5	105.6	103.5	105.2	112.3	110.9
<b>2005</b>									
March	112.6	110.3	102.1	109.5	104.1	103.5	103.4	112.4	109.4
<b>HOUSING</b>									
<b>2003</b>									
March	122.6	107.4	120.5	117.9	106.3	115.2	128.6	117.8	115.7
June	123.3	108.4	122.9	117.8	107.8	116.9	128.8	119.9	116.8
September	125.1	109.6	126.6	120.2	110.4	118.3	129.3	124.0	118.9
December	125.6	109.3	129.2	121.6	111.7	119.3	131.1	125.3	119.6
<b>2004</b>									
March	126.3	110.5	130.4	123.6	112.8	121.2	131.9	126.8	120.7
June	127.4	110.7	132.0	123.1	114.4	122.9	133.9	127.8	121.5
September	129.4	112.0	133.5	124.2	116.5	124.5	135.8	129.0	123.2
December	130.5	112.5	135.0	125.1	118.7	126.9	136.5	129.5	124.3
<b>2005</b>									
March	131.1	114.0	135.7	126.8	121.6	128.5	138.6	130.0	125.5

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



Quarters	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Darwin	Canberra	Weighted average of eight capital cities
HOUSEHOLD FURNISHINGS, SUPPLIES AND SERVICES									
<b>2003</b>									
March	119.4	120.7	121.7	122.5	117.4	127.5	110.8	124.1	120.4
June	120.7	121.7	122.7	122.9	118.5	128.8	110.6	124.7	121.4
September	121.0	121.8	122.7	122.2	118.5	128.4	110.4	124.7	121.5
December	120.4	121.9	122.5	123.1	118.7	128.1	111.3	125.1	121.4
<b>2004</b>									
March	120.3	121.1	121.9	121.1	117.1	127.1	111.2	124.3	120.7
June	120.0	120.8	122.4	120.8	118.1	128.2	111.3	124.8	120.7
September	119.7	121.0	123.0	120.2	117.7	128.5	111.0	125.3	120.6
December	120.7	122.0	123.1	120.8	117.8	129.4	112.1	125.9	121.3
<b>2005</b>									
March	118.7	120.9	123.3	118.2	114.7	129.2	111.5	124.1	119.7
HEALTH									
<b>2003</b>									
March	171.5	196.3	183.2	183.2	177.8	200.7	168.4	181.2	183.5
June	175.9	202.3	189.9	194.0	181.1	209.1	171.3	185.1	189.1
September	175.8	201.8	190.7	193.9	181.4	207.8	172.3	188.5	189.1
December	176.0	202.6	190.6	193.3	181.7	207.4	175.9	187.9	189.4
<b>2004</b>									
March	182.0	209.3	197.1	197.9	187.3	214.5	180.5	193.5	195.5
June	187.6	214.7	203.4	207.2	192.8	223.0	186.8	197.7	201.6
September	185.9	213.2	202.6	205.5	191.9	221.3	186.4	197.4	200.1
December	184.5	212.0	200.5	204.8	190.9	218.5	185.7	196.4	198.8
<b>2005</b>									
March	192.1	220.5	209.1	211.3	197.7	226.8	191.6	205.5	206.7
TRANSPORTATION									
<b>2003</b>									
March	145.1	143.1	142.4	144.0	143.6	139.0	141.6	143.6	143.7
June	141.1	139.4	137.3	137.4	139.0	134.3	140.8	139.0	139.4
September	143.2	140.9	139.3	140.7	140.9	136.7	136.9	140.2	141.3
December	143.2	139.7	138.6	139.9	140.3	136.3	135.8	140.2	140.7
<b>2004</b>									
March	143.2	141.3	140.2	142.0	141.4	137.0	137.1	139.9	141.7
June	145.2	144.1	142.6	145.1	143.6	139.8	137.9	142.7	144.1
September	146.8	144.7	143.4	147.4	144.3	141.5	139.0	143.3	145.2
December	148.8	146.7	145.0	149.4	146.6	144.1	140.2	144.9	147.2
<b>2005</b>									
March	147.5	145.4	144.3	147.8	144.6	142.3	139.5	143.4	145.8
COMMUNICATION									
<b>2003</b>									
March	108.4	108.6	112.1	109.9	107.0	109.6	100.8	107.5	108.8
June	108.6	108.7	112.3	110.1	107.2	109.8	101.0	107.7	108.9
September	109.3	109.5	113.2	111.0	108.0	110.6	101.6	108.4	109.7
December	109.5	109.7	113.4	111.2	108.3	110.8	101.8	108.7	109.9
<b>2004</b>									
March	109.6	109.8	113.4	111.2	108.3	110.9	101.8	108.7	110.0
June	110.0	110.2	113.9	111.8	108.7	111.4	102.2	109.1	110.4
September	110.5	110.7	114.4	112.3	109.2	111.9	102.6	109.6	110.9
December	110.7	111.0	114.7	112.6	109.5	112.1	102.9	109.8	111.2
<b>2005</b>									
March	111.1	111.4	115.1	113.0	109.9	112.5	103.2	110.2	111.6

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

<i>Quarters</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>
<b>RECREATION</b>									
<b>2003</b>									
March	135.9	132.1	129.9	132.4	128.6	126.3	112.3	129.6	132.4
June	135.1	131.3	129.1	131.7	126.8	125.0	111.4	128.6	131.5
September	131.9	130.8	129.3	130.7	125.7	124.5	110.5	126.9	130.0
December	134.1	131.0	129.5	131.2	127.0	125.6	110.8	127.4	131.1
<b>2004</b>									
March	132.9	130.3	126.9	130.5	124.4	125.2	107.7	125.3	129.7
June	132.4	129.4	126.4	130.6	125.3	123.8	107.6	125.7	129.3
September	133.0	129.8	126.5	131.6	125.8	125.0	110.3	127.3	129.9
December	134.3	131.1	126.9	131.8	127.3	128.0	108.2	128.4	130.9
<b>2005</b>									
March	134.5	132.7	128.1	132.0	127.9	129.5	106.6	128.9	131.8
<b>EDUCATION</b>									
<b>2003</b>									
March	214.8	207.7	236.0	251.5	205.5	233.2	161.4	202.0	214.7
June	214.8	207.6	236.2	251.5	205.5	233.4	161.4	202.0	214.8
September	215.5	207.9	236.3	251.8	205.5	233.6	161.4	202.2	215.1
December	215.5	208.0	236.3	251.8	205.5	233.6	161.4	202.2	215.1
<b>2004</b>									
March	239.0	221.6	248.7	266.4	214.9	241.6	167.0	213.4	231.4
June	239.2	221.6	248.9	266.4	214.9	241.8	167.0	213.4	231.5
September	239.3	221.7	248.9	266.5	214.9	241.5	167.0	213.6	231.5
December	239.6	221.7	249.0	266.6	214.9	241.6	167.0	213.7	231.7
<b>2005</b>									
March	254.5	234.4	265.8	282.9	227.9	249.9	173.9	227.1	245.7
<b>MISCELLANEOUS</b>									
<b>2003</b>									
March	184.6	169.1	188.2	171.6	184.1	176.5	172.8	203.0	179.2
June	185.0	169.3	189.7	172.2	183.7	177.6	175.3	203.8	179.6
September	185.3	173.6	190.6	176.5	187.4	178.8	180.0	209.8	182.2
December	186.2	172.2	191.7	176.7	187.5	179.5	175.9	209.6	182.2
<b>2004</b>									
March	189.3	173.6	195.4	177.9	189.3	181.3	176.8	214.0	184.5
June	187.9	174.0	196.3	178.1	190.3	183.2	177.1	215.9	184.5
September	190.3	175.8	197.3	180.4	195.2	184.4	178.3	219.9	186.8
December	190.2	177.1	199.1	181.8	196.0	186.5	179.6	220.8	187.7
<b>2005</b>									
March	191.7	179.1	199.9	183.6	198.0	187.2	181.9	222.7	189.3

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

Group, sub-group and expenditure class									Weighted
	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Darwin	Canberra	average of eight capital cities
<b>Food</b>	0.27	0.14	0.34	0.19	0.26	0.39	0.39	0.25	0.24
Dairy and related products	0.04	0.03	0.02	0.07	0.02	0.05	0.03	0.04	0.04
Milk	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.02	—	0.04	0.01	0.02	0.02
Cheese	0.01	—	-0.01	0.03	—	0.01	—	—	0.01
Ice cream and other dairy products	—	—	0.01	0.01	0.02	—	0.02	0.01	0.01
Bread and cereal products	-0.02	0.04	—	0.01	0.01	0.04	0.02	-0.04	—
Bread	-0.01	0.01	0.02	-0.01	-0.01	-0.01	—	-0.04	—
Cakes and biscuits	-0.01	0.02	-0.01	—	-0.01	0.01	0.01	—	—
Breakfast cereals	0.01	—	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.02	—	—
Other cereal products	—	-0.01	-0.01	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meat and seafoods	0.05	0.01	0.10	0.05	0.01	0.08	0.11	0.05	0.04
Beef and veal	0.02	0.02	0.06	0.05	0.01	0.05	0.06	0.04	0.03
Lamb and mutton	0.03	-0.01	0.01	—	—	0.01	—	0.03	—
Pork	—	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.01	—	0.02	-0.01	0.01
Poultry	-0.01	-0.01	0.02	0.01	-0.01	—	0.02	—	—
Bacon and ham	-0.01	—	-0.01	0.01	-0.01	—	—	—	—
Other fresh and processed meat	0.01	-0.01	—	—	0.01	0.02	0.01	-0.01	—
Fish and other seafood	0.01	—	-0.01	-0.01	—	-0.01	-0.01	-0.01	—
Fruit and vegetables	0.01	-0.03	0.10	-0.02	0.07	0.12	0.12	0.06	0.01
Fruit	-0.06	-0.08	-0.07	-0.10	—	—	0.07	-0.03	-0.06
Vegetables	0.07	0.05	0.18	0.08	0.07	0.12	0.05	0.08	0.08
Non-alcoholic drinks and snack food	0.09	0.04	0.02	0.04	0.04	0.05	0.01	0.08	0.06
Soft drinks, waters and juices	0.01	-0.01	—	-0.01	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01
Snacks and confectionery	0.07	0.05	0.03	0.05	0.02	0.03	-0.01	0.04	0.05
Meals out and take away foods	0.11	0.02	0.11	0.05	0.08	0.08	0.10	0.08	0.08
Restaurant meals	0.05	—	0.01	0.02	0.03	0.04	0.05	0.04	0.02
Take away and fast foods	0.08	0.02	0.08	0.04	0.05	0.03	0.05	0.04	0.05
Other food	-0.01	0.04	0.01	-0.02	0.02	-0.02	0.01	-0.01	—
Eggs	-0.01	—	—	-0.01	—	—	—	-0.01	—
Jams, honey and sandwich spreads	—	0.01	0.01	—	—	-0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Tea, coffee and food drinks	-0.01	—	-0.02	-0.02	—	-0.02	-0.01	-0.02	—
Food additives and condiments	—	—	—	—	0.01	—	—	—	—
Fats and oils	0.01	0.01	—	0.01	0.01	—	—	0.01	0.01
Food n.e.c.	0.01	0.02	0.01	-0.01	0.01	—	—	—	0.01
<b>Alcohol and tobacco</b>	0.15	0.12	0.15	0.18	0.22	0.09	0.15	0.16	0.15
Alcoholic drinks	0.07	0.02	0.07	0.07	0.08	0.02	0.07	0.12	0.06
Beer	0.05	0.03	0.03	0.05	0.12	0.03	0.11	0.08	0.04
Wine	0.02	—	0.02	0.02	-0.01	-0.03	-0.02	0.02	0.01
Spirits	—	—	0.01	0.01	-0.03	—	-0.02	0.02	—
Tobacco	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.11	0.13	0.07	0.08	0.04	0.09
<b>Clothing and footwear</b>	-0.05	-0.13	-0.18	-0.07	-0.10	—	-0.09	0.01	-0.10
Men's clothing	-0.02	-0.05	-0.04	-0.02	-0.01	-0.01	-0.01	0.02	-0.03
Men's outerwear	-0.01	-0.04	-0.03	-0.02	-0.01	-0.01	-0.01	0.01	-0.02
Men's underwear, nightwear and socks	—	—	-0.01	—	0.01	—	—	0.01	-0.01
Women's clothing	-0.03	-0.02	-0.05	-0.05	—	0.04	-0.05	-0.03	-0.03
Women's outerwear	-0.03	-0.01	-0.04	-0.05	0.01	0.03	-0.04	-0.02	-0.02
Women's underwear, nightwear and hosiery	—	-0.02	—	—	-0.01	0.01	-0.01	-0.01	-0.01
Children's and infants' clothing	-0.02	-0.02	-0.02	-0.01	-0.01	-0.03	-0.02	-0.03	-0.02
Footwear	-0.01	-0.03	-0.02	-0.03	—	0.01	—	-0.02	-0.02
Men's footwear	-0.01	-0.01	-0.01	—	—	0.01	—	—	—
Women's footwear	-0.01	-0.02	-0.01	-0.02	—	-0.01	—	-0.01	-0.01
Children's footwear	—	-0.01	-0.01	-0.01	—	0.01	—	—	-0.01
Clothing accessories, supplies and services	0.03	-0.01	-0.04	0.04	-0.06	—	—	0.07	—
Clothing accessories and jewellery	0.03	—	-0.04	0.03	-0.07	-0.01	-0.01	0.06	0.01
Fabrics and knitting wool	—	—	-0.01	—	—	—	—	—	-0.01
Clothing services and shoe repair	—	0.01	0.01	0.01	—	—	0.02	0.01	—

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) All groups index points.

Group, sub-group and expenditure class									Weighted
	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Darwin	Canberra	average of eight capital cities
<b>Housing</b>	0.16	0.37	0.18	0.39	0.72	0.35	0.43	0.10	0.31
Rents	0.03	0.02	0.10	0.04	0.04	0.07	0.15	0.05	0.04
Utilities	—	0.19	0.01	0.32	—	0.05	—	0.02	0.09
Electricity	—	0.06	—	0.33	—	0.06	—	—	0.04
Gas and other household fuels	—	0.11	0.01	-0.01	—	-0.01	—	0.02	0.03
Water and sewerage	—	0.03	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.01
Other housing	0.13	0.16	0.07	0.04	0.68	0.23	0.29	0.02	0.19
House purchase	0.14	0.15	0.07	0.03	0.62	0.20	0.25	0.02	0.18
Property rates and charges	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
House repairs and maintenance	—	—	0.01	0.01	0.06	0.02	0.04	—	0.01
<b>Household furnishings, supplies and services</b>	-0.18	-0.08	0.02	-0.25	-0.28	-0.02	-0.05	-0.18	-0.15
Furniture and furnishings	-0.17	-0.02	0.02	-0.21	-0.15	0.01	0.01	-0.08	-0.10
Furniture	-0.14	-0.01	—	-0.12	-0.15	0.02	—	-0.05	-0.08
Floor and window coverings	—	0.01	0.01	-0.07	0.02	0.05	0.02	0.01	0.01
Towels and linen	-0.04	-0.03	0.01	-0.02	-0.01	-0.06	—	-0.03	-0.03
Household appliances, utensils and tools	—	-0.04	-0.04	-0.03	-0.11	-0.04	-0.06	-0.09	-0.03
Major household appliances	0.02	—	0.01	—	-0.03	-0.01	-0.03	-0.04	—
Small electric household appliances	—	-0.02	-0.01	-0.01	-0.03	-0.01	—	-0.01	-0.01
Glassware, tableware and household utensils	-0.02	-0.02	-0.03	-0.02	-0.07	-0.02	—	-0.03	-0.02
Tools	—	—	-0.02	—	0.01	—	-0.02	—	-0.01
Household supplies	-0.02	-0.03	-0.01	-0.02	-0.03	0.01	-0.01	-0.01	-0.02
Household cleaning agents	-0.02	-0.01	-0.01	—	-0.01	-0.02	—	-0.01	-0.01
Other household supplies	-0.01	-0.03	—	-0.01	-0.02	0.03	—	-0.01	-0.01
Household services	0.01	0.01	0.05	—	0.01	—	—	—	0.01
<b>Health</b>	0.30	0.29	0.30	0.26	0.24	0.35	0.17	0.32	0.29
Health services	0.03	0.05	0.08	0.01	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.06	0.05
Hospital and medical services	0.03	0.02	0.07	—	0.01	—	0.02	0.04	0.02
Optical services	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dental services	0.01	0.03	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.02	0.02
Pharmaceuticals	0.27	0.24	0.22	0.24	0.20	0.32	0.14	0.26	0.24
<b>Transportation</b>	-0.19	-0.21	-0.11	-0.19	-0.31	-0.25	-0.11	-0.21	-0.20
Private motoring	-0.22	-0.21	-0.12	-0.19	-0.31	-0.27	-0.11	-0.21	-0.22
Motor vehicles	-0.10	-0.12	-0.03	-0.08	-0.12	-0.10	0.01	-0.09	-0.10
Automotive fuel	-0.17	-0.20	-0.15	-0.12	-0.25	-0.19	-0.14	-0.16	-0.18
Motor vehicle repair and servicing	0.02	0.08	0.05	—	0.05	0.02	—	0.02	0.04
Motor vehicle parts and accessories	0.01	0.03	0.01	0.01	0.01	—	0.04	0.01	0.01
Other motoring charges	0.02	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.01	0.01
Urban transport fares	0.03	0.01	—	—	—	0.04	—	—	0.02
<b>Communication</b>	0.02	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.02
Postal	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Telecommunication	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.01

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) All groups index points.

Group, sub-group and expenditure class									Weighted average of eight capital cities
	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Darwin	Canberra	
<b>Recreation</b>	0.03	0.20	0.16	0.03	0.08	0.22	-0.26	0.07	0.10
Audio, visual and computing	-0.08	-0.06	-0.08	-0.05	-0.08	-0.05	-0.07	-0.11	-0.07
Audio, visual and computing equipment	-0.06	-0.06	-0.06	-0.05	-0.07	-0.04	-0.07	-0.08	-0.06
Audio, visual and computing media and services	-0.01	—	-0.02	—	-0.01	-0.01	—	-0.04	-0.01
Books, newspapers and magazines	—	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01
Books	—	—	—	0.01	0.01	—	0.01	0.01	—
Newspapers and magazines	—	—	—	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Sport and other recreation	0.03	0.07	0.05	-0.04	0.12	0.04	—	0.11	0.05
Sports and recreational equipment	-0.01	—	-0.01	—	-0.01	0.01	—	—	-0.01
Toys, games and hobbies	0.02	—	0.02	0.01	0.04	—	—	0.02	0.01
Sports participation	—	0.01	0.01	—	0.03	0.01	0.03	0.01	0.01
Pets, pet foods and supplies	0.02	0.01	—	0.03	0.01	0.01	0.01	-0.01	0.01
Pet services including veterinary	—	—	—	0.01	—	0.02	—	0.01	—
Other recreational activities	—	0.05	0.03	-0.08	0.05	0.01	-0.03	0.07	0.02
Holiday travel and accommodation	0.08	0.18	0.18	0.09	0.02	0.22	-0.21	0.05	0.12
Domestic holiday travel and accommodation	0.14	0.20	0.18	0.10	0.07	0.26	-0.20	0.19	0.16
Overseas holiday travel and accommodation	-0.06	-0.02	—	-0.01	-0.05	-0.04	—	-0.13	-0.04
<b>Education</b>	0.27	0.26	0.29	0.27	0.21	0.13	0.09	0.19	0.26
Preschool and primary education	0.07	0.04	0.04	0.05	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.05
Secondary education	0.10	0.12	0.12	0.08	0.08	0.07	0.01	0.10	0.10
Tertiary education	0.10	0.09	0.14	0.13	0.09	0.04	0.06	0.06	0.09
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	0.05	0.07	0.02	0.07	0.06	0.02	0.08	0.06	0.05
Insurance services	0.01	—	0.01	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.01
Personal care	0.01	0.02	-0.01	0.04	0.03	-0.01	0.01	0.01	0.02
Hairdressing and personal care services	0.01	—	0.01	0.01	0.03	—	—	0.01	0.01
Toiletries and personal care products	—	0.02	-0.01	0.02	0.01	—	0.01	—	0.01
Child care	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.01	—	0.01	0.06	0.03	0.03
<b>All groups</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>1.0</b>

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) All groups index points.

Group, sub-group and expenditure class	INDEX NUMBERS(a)			PERCENTAGE CHANGE		CONTRIBUTION TO TOTAL CPI (ALL GROUPS) INDEX POINTS)		CHANGE IN POINTS CONTRIBUTION
	Mar Qtr	Dec Qtr	Mar Qtr	Dec Qtr	Mar Qtr	Dec Qtr	Mar Qtr	Dec Qtr
	2004	2004	2005	2004 to Mar Qtr 2005	2004 to Mar Qtr 2005	2004	2005	2004 to Mar Qtr 2005
<b>Food</b>	154.7	154.6	156.0	0.9	0.8	26.54	26.78	0.24
Dairy and related products	159.7	163.0	165.6	1.6	3.7	2.14	2.18	0.04
Milk	173.8	177.5	180.7	1.8	4.0	1.12	1.14	0.02
Cheese	134.5	141.0	142.4	1.0	5.9	0.53	0.54	0.01
Ice cream and other dairy products	157.4	155.7	158.4	1.7	0.6	0.49	0.50	0.01
Bread and cereal products	162.5	162.8	163.1	0.2	0.4	3.13	3.13	—
Bread	182.1	182.1	181.8	-0.2	-0.2	1.12	1.12	—
Cakes and biscuits	152.9	152.7	152.8	0.1	-0.1	1.29	1.29	—
Breakfast cereals	140.0	139.3	142.1	2.0	1.5	0.36	0.36	—
Other cereal products	138.2	141.6	141.2	-0.3	2.2	0.36	0.36	—
Meat and seafoods	141.9	142.6	144.0	1.0	1.5	4.07	4.11	0.04
Beef and veal	148.1	151.7	156.4	3.1	5.6	0.91	0.94	0.03
Lamb and mutton	199.9	201.8	204.6	1.4	2.4	0.52	0.52	—
Pork	150.2	153.8	157.4	2.3	4.8	0.31	0.32	0.01
Poultry	105.9	103.7	103.3	-0.4	-2.5	0.67	0.67	—
Bacon and ham	136.3	136.2	134.8	-1.0	-1.1	0.38	0.38	—
Other fresh and processed meat	151.0	151.3	151.7	0.3	0.5	0.67	0.67	—
Fish and other seafood	124.1	124.1	124.3	0.2	0.2	0.61	0.61	—
Fruit and vegetables	156.8	144.2	145.0	0.6	-7.5	3.59	3.60	0.01
Fruit	166.1	171.7	165.7	-3.5	-0.2	1.75	1.69	-0.06
Vegetables	152.0	126.5	132.0	4.3	-13.2	1.84	1.92	0.08
Non-alcoholic drinks and snack food	152.9	156.0	158.6	1.7	3.7	3.48	3.54	0.06
Soft drinks, waters and juices	136.1	140.4	141.1	0.5	3.7	1.74	1.75	0.01
Snacks and confectionery	174.3	175.9	180.8	2.8	3.7	1.74	1.79	0.05
Meals out and take away foods	159.0	162.2	163.8	1.0	3.0	7.76	7.84	0.08
Restaurant meals	162.1	166.1	167.3	0.7	3.2	3.22	3.24	0.02
Take away and fast foods	158.3	161.0	162.8	1.1	2.8	4.54	4.59	0.05
Other food	144.5	144.3	144.8	0.3	0.2	2.38	2.38	—
Eggs	180.2	178.8	174.4	-2.5	-3.2	0.18	0.18	—
Jams, honey and sandwich spreads	177.3	177.4	180.3	1.6	1.7	0.27	0.28	0.01
Tea, coffee and food drinks	135.0	133.6	130.6	-2.2	-3.3	0.40	0.40	—
Food additives and condiments	129.5	129.0	129.2	0.2	-0.2	0.44	0.44	—
Fats and oils	138.4	141.3	145.1	2.7	4.8	0.32	0.33	0.01
Food n.e.c.	144.8	144.4	146.0	1.1	0.8	0.76	0.77	0.01
<b>Alcohol and tobacco</b>	218.8	224.0	226.9	1.3	3.7	11.73	11.88	0.15
Alcoholic drinks	161.4	165.8	167.1	0.8	3.5	7.76	7.82	0.06
Beer	171.1	177.3	179.5	1.2	4.9	3.81	3.85	0.04
Wine	145.5	147.8	148.6	0.5	2.1	2.43	2.44	0.01
Spirits	160.2	164.0	164.1	0.1	2.4	1.52	1.52	—
Tobacco	377.0	383.4	391.8	2.2	3.9	3.97	4.06	0.09
<b>Clothing and footwear</b>	111.5	110.9	109.4	-1.4	-1.9	6.87	6.77	-0.10
Men's clothing	108.4	109.1	106.6	-2.3	-1.7	1.26	1.23	-0.03
Men's outerwear	105.3	106.8	104.2	-2.4	-1.0	1.04	1.02	-0.02
Men's underwear, nightwear and socks	125.3	121.7	119.7	-1.6	-4.5	0.22	0.21	-0.01
Women's clothing	117.2	113.8	112.4	-1.2	-4.1	2.38	2.35	-0.03
Women's outerwear	111.5	107.4	106.1	-1.2	-4.8	1.85	1.83	-0.02
Women's underwear, nightwear and hosiery	139.7	139.6	137.7	-1.4	-1.4	0.53	0.52	-0.01
Children's and infants' clothing	114.9	117.0	113.3	-3.2	-1.4	0.65	0.63	-0.02
Footwear	96.9	98.7	97.2	-1.5	0.3	1.10	1.08	-0.02
Men's footwear	92.0	93.4	91.8	-1.7	-0.2	0.33	0.33	—
Women's footwear	101.2	103.0	101.3	-1.7	0.1	0.52	0.51	-0.01
Children's footwear	96.9	99.1	98.1	-1.0	1.2	0.25	0.24	-0.01
Clothing accessories, supplies and services(b)	106.0	105.7	105.8	0.1	-0.2	1.48	1.48	—
Clothing accessories and jewellery(b)	93.6	91.8	91.9	0.1	-1.8	0.75	0.76	0.01
Fabrics and knitting wool	110.5	111.7	109.9	-1.6	-0.5	0.16	0.15	-0.01
Clothing services and shoe repair	169.1	171.7	172.8	0.6	2.2	0.57	0.57	—

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(b) Base: June quarter 1998 = 100.0.

(a) Unless otherwise specified, base of each index: 1989-90 = 100.0.

continued

Group, sub-group and expenditure class	INDEX NUMBERS(a)			PERCENTAGE CHANGE		CONTRIBUTION TO TOTAL CPI (ALL GROUPS) INDEX POINTS)		CHANGE IN POINTS CONTRIBUTION
	Mar Qtr 2004	Dec Qtr 2004	Mar Qtr 2005	Dec Qtr 2004 to Mar Qtr 2005	Mar Qtr 2004 to Mar Qtr 2005	Dec Qtr 2004	Mar Qtr 2005	Dec Qtr 2004 to Mar Qtr 2005
<b>Housing</b>	120.7	124.3	125.5	1.0	4.0	30.58	30.89	0.31
Rents	139.3	141.6	142.2	0.4	2.1	7.88	7.92	0.04
Utilities	152.1	154.9	157.4	1.6	3.5	5.16	5.25	0.09
Electricity	147.5	149.6	152.0	1.6	3.1	2.69	2.73	0.04
Gas and other household fuels	168.0	170.5	175.3	2.8	4.3	1.19	1.22	0.03
Water and sewerage(b)	121.5	125.0	125.7	0.6	3.5	1.28	1.29	0.01
Other housing	114.2	118.7	120.0	1.1	5.1	17.54	17.73	0.19
House purchase(b)	137.4	142.9	144.9	1.4	5.5	12.67	12.85	0.18
Property rates and charges(b)	134.0	140.9	140.9	0.0	5.1	1.97	1.97	—
House repairs and maintenance	151.6	155.5	156.0	0.3	2.9	2.90	2.91	0.01
<b>Household furnishings, supplies and services</b>	120.7	121.3	119.7	-1.3	-0.8	10.86	10.71	-0.15
Furniture and furnishings	129.1	129.7	127.0	-2.1	-1.6	4.84	4.74	-0.10
Furniture	130.5	131.4	128.1	-2.5	-1.8	3.09	3.01	-0.08
Floor and window coverings	136.8	138.8	139.3	0.4	1.8	1.11	1.12	0.01
Towels and linen	111.6	109.3	104.8	-4.1	-6.1	0.64	0.61	-0.03
Household appliances, utensils and tools	105.2	104.2	102.9	-1.2	-2.2	2.44	2.41	-0.03
Major household appliances	106.9	106.9	107.2	0.3	0.3	1.12	1.12	—
Small electric household appliances	102.6	98.3	95.4	-3.0	-7.0	0.33	0.32	-0.01
Glassware, tableware and household utensils	98.6	97.6	93.4	-4.3	-5.3	0.57	0.55	-0.02
Tools	111.9	111.0	110.7	-0.3	-1.1	0.42	0.41	-0.01
Household supplies	131.6	133.6	132.5	-0.8	0.7	2.60	2.58	-0.02
Household cleaning agents	122.3	124.8	122.6	-1.8	0.2	0.56	0.55	-0.01
Other household supplies	135.8	137.7	136.9	-0.6	0.8	2.04	2.03	-0.01
Household services	200.2	204.7	206.9	1.1	3.3	0.98	0.99	0.01
<b>Health</b>	195.5	198.8	206.7	4.0	5.7	7.29	7.58	0.29
Health services	205.8	215.5	217.2	0.8	5.5	5.83	5.88	0.05
Hospital and medical services	214.0	225.2	226.4	0.5	5.8	4.53	4.55	0.02
Optical services	139.7	142.4	142.3	-0.1	1.9	0.22	0.22	—
Dental services	197.8	204.2	208.2	2.0	5.3	1.08	1.10	0.02
Pharmaceuticals	151.9	138.2	161.4	16.8	6.3	1.46	1.70	0.24
<b>Transportation</b>	141.7	147.2	145.8	-1.0	2.9	21.44	21.24	-0.20
Private motoring	138.3	144.0	142.5	-1.0	3.0	20.13	19.91	-0.22
Motor vehicles	101.9	101.7	100.3	-1.4	-1.6	7.18	7.08	-0.10
Automotive fuel	156.2	175.1	170.3	-2.7	9.0	6.62	6.44	-0.18
Motor vehicle repair and servicing	139.5	142.2	144.0	1.3	3.2	3.30	3.34	0.04
Motor vehicle parts and accessories	114.1	114.5	115.6	1.0	1.3	1.37	1.38	0.01
Other motoring charges	194.3	198.5	199.4	0.5	2.6	1.66	1.67	0.01
Urban transport fares	202.1	203.0	205.4	1.2	1.6	1.31	1.33	0.02
<b>Communication</b>	110.0	111.2	111.6	0.4	1.5	4.09	4.11	0.02
Postal	132.7	134.1	134.1	0.0	1.1	0.22	0.22	—
Telecommunication	107.8	109.0	109.4	0.4	1.5	3.87	3.88	0.01

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(b) Base: June quarter 1998 = 100.0.

(a) Unless otherwise specified, base of each index: 1989-90 = 100.0.

continued

Group, sub-group and expenditure class	INDEX NUMBERS(a)			PERCENTAGE CHANGE		CONTRIBUTION TO TOTAL CPI (ALL GROUPS) INDEX POINTS)		CHANGE IN POINTS CONTRIBUTION
	Mar Qtr	Dec Qtr	Mar Qtr	Dec Qtr	Mar Qtr	Dec Qtr	Mar Qtr	Dec Qtr
	2004	2004	2005	2004 to Mar Qtr 2005	2004 to Mar Qtr 2005	2004	2005	2004 to Mar Qtr 2005
<b>Recreation</b>	129.7	130.9	131.8	0.7	1.6	16.92	17.02	0.10
Audio, visual and computing	57.5	55.4	53.9	-2.7	-6.3	2.61	2.54	-0.07
Audio, visual and computing equipment	34.3	31.2	29.2	-6.4	-14.9	0.91	0.85	-0.06
Audio, visual and computing media and services	100.4	99.7	99.0	-0.7	-1.4	1.70	1.69	-0.01
Books, newspapers and magazines	201.4	203.8	204.8	0.5	1.7	1.65	1.66	0.01
Books(b)	122.0	122.9	123.8	0.7	1.5	0.72	0.72	—
Newspapers and magazines(b)	133.8	135.8	136.3	0.4	1.9	0.93	0.94	0.01
Sport and other recreation	158.1	160.2	161.6	0.9	2.2	6.04	6.09	0.05
Sports and recreational equipment(b)	91.6	90.0	89.7	-0.3	-2.1	0.76	0.75	-0.01
Toys, games and hobbies(b)	98.0	95.7	97.9	2.3	-0.1	0.65	0.66	0.01
Sports participation(b)	137.6	142.6	143.5	0.6	4.3	1.33	1.34	0.01
Pets, pet foods and supplies	130.6	133.9	136.3	1.8	4.4	0.59	0.60	0.01
Pet services including veterinary	190.5	195.2	196.3	0.6	3.0	0.52	0.52	—
Other recreational activities(b)	133.3	135.5	136.6	0.8	2.5	2.20	2.22	0.02
Holiday travel and accommodation	129.4	132.8	135.0	1.7	4.3	6.62	6.74	0.12
Domestic holiday travel and accommodation	135.8	139.2	145.0	4.2	6.8	3.62	3.78	0.16
Overseas holiday travel and accommodation	121.4	124.7	123.1	-1.3	1.4	3.00	2.96	-0.04
<b>Education</b>	231.4	231.7	245.7	6.0	6.2	4.20	4.46	0.26
Preschool and primary education(c)	128.1	128.9	137.1	6.4	7.0	0.82	0.87	0.05
Secondary education(c)	129.3	129.3	138.3	7.0	7.0	1.53	1.63	0.10
Tertiary education(c)	117.7	117.7	123.9	5.3	5.3	1.86	1.95	0.09
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	184.5	187.7	189.3	0.9	2.6	5.97	6.02	0.05
Insurance services	242.7	244.4	245.9	0.6	1.3	2.23	2.24	0.01
Personal care	150.8	152.4	153.2	0.5	1.6	3.03	3.05	0.02
Hairdressing and personal care services	169.8	174.0	175.2	0.7	3.2	1.16	1.17	0.01
Toiletries and personal care products	140.6	140.9	141.4	0.4	0.6	1.87	1.88	0.01
Child care	177.4	192.2	198.7	3.4	12.0	0.70	0.73	0.03
<b>All groups</b>	<b>144.1</b>	<b>146.5</b>	<b>147.5</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>146.5</b>	<b>147.5</b>	<b>1.0</b>

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Unless otherwise specified, base of each index: 1989-90 = 100.0.

(b) Base: June quarter 1998 = 100.0.

(c) Base: June quarter 2000 = 100.0.



	INDEX NUMBERS(a)			PERCENTAGE CHANGE		CONTRIBUTION TO TOTAL CPI (ALL GROUPS INDEX POINTS)		CHANGE IN POINTS CONTRIBUTION
	<i>Mar Qtr</i>	<i>Dec Qtr</i>	<i>Mar Qtr</i>	<i>Dec Qtr 2004 to</i>	<i>Mar Qtr 2004 to</i>	<i>Dec Qtr</i>	<i>Mar Qtr</i>	<i>Dec Qtr 2004 to</i>
	<i>2004</i>	<i>2004</i>	<i>2005</i>	<i>Mar Qtr 2005</i>	<i>Mar Qtr 2005</i>	<i>2004</i>	<i>2005</i>	<i>Mar Qtr 2005</i>
<b>All groups</b>	144.1	146.5	147.5	0.7	2.4	146.5	147.5	1.0
<b>Selected components</b>								
Goods component(b)	143.8	145.7	146.2	0.3	1.7	93.80	94.12	0.32
Services component(b)	145.4	148.8	150.6	1.2	3.6	52.69	53.34	0.65
Tradables component(b)(c)	111.8	112.6	112.5	-0.1	0.6	65.22	65.12	-0.10
Non-tradables component(b)(c)	125.8	128.8	130.5	1.3	3.7	81.27	82.35	1.08
<b>All groups excluding</b>								
Food	141.8	144.8	145.7	0.6	2.8	119.95	120.69	0.74
Alcohol and tobacco	138.8	141.0	141.9	0.6	2.2	134.76	135.59	0.83
Clothing and footwear	146.3	148.9	150.1	0.8	2.6	139.63	140.70	1.07
Housing	147.8	149.8	150.6	0.5	1.9	115.91	116.58	0.67
Household furnishings, supplies and services	147.8	150.4	151.7	0.9	2.6	135.63	136.76	1.13
Health	141.5	143.9	144.6	0.5	2.2	139.20	139.89	0.69
Transportation	144.6	146.4	147.8	1.0	2.2	125.05	126.23	1.18
Communication	144.7	147.1	148.1	0.7	2.3	142.40	143.36	0.96
Recreation	146.2	148.7	149.7	0.7	2.4	129.57	130.45	0.88
Education	143.0	145.5	146.2	0.5	2.2	142.29	143.01	0.72
Miscellaneous	142.5	144.9	145.8	0.6	2.3	140.52	141.45	0.93
Hospital and medical services	142.2	144.4	145.4	0.7	2.3	141.97	142.92	0.95

(a) Unless otherwise specified, base of each index: 1989-90 = 100.0.

(c) Base: June quarter 1998 = 100.0.

(b) Refer to paragraph 12 of the Explanatory Notes for a description of this series.

## ANALYTICAL SERIES, Index numbers(a)(b)

Period	All groups	All groups excluding Housing	All groups excluding 'volatile items'	MARKET GOODS AND SERVICES EXCLUDING 'VOLATILE ITEMS'			Tradables(c)	Non-tradables(c)
				Goods	Services	Total		
<b>2000-01</b>	132.2	136.4	138.7	132.9	144.1	136.0	106.5	111.8
<b>2001-02</b>	136.0	140.4	143.3	137.1	149.3	140.5	109.1	115.5
<b>2002-03</b>	140.2	144.5	147.4	139.6	154.7	143.8	111.3	120.0
<b>2003-04</b>	143.5	147.1	150.8	141.6	157.7	146.1	111.5	125.1
<b>2001</b>								
March	132.7	137.0	139.1	133.3	144.2	136.3	106.9	112.2
June	133.8	138.4	140.4	135.0	145.0	137.7	108.4	112.6
September	134.2	138.4	141.4	135.7	146.4	138.6	107.8	113.8
December	135.4	139.8	142.7	137.0	148.4	140.1	108.7	114.9
<b>2002</b>								
March	136.6	141.1	144.1	137.6	150.5	141.2	109.4	116.2
June	137.6	142.1	145.0	138.2	151.8	142.0	110.3	116.9
September	138.5	142.8	146.0	138.4	153.5	142.7	110.3	118.4
December	139.5	143.9	146.8	139.2	154.5	143.5	111.1	119.2
<b>2003</b>								
March	141.3	145.7	148.0	139.9	155.2	144.2	112.4	120.8
June	141.3	145.4	148.9	140.8	155.6	144.9	111.4	121.7
September	142.1	145.8	149.8	141.3	156.2	145.5	111.1	123.3
December	142.8	146.5	150.3	141.4	157.9	146.1	111.1	124.4
<b>2004</b>								
March	144.1	147.8	151.1	141.5	158.0	146.1	111.8	125.8
June	144.8	148.4	151.8	142.0	158.6	146.7	112.0	126.7
September	145.4	148.7	152.5	142.2	159.9	147.2	111.9	127.8
December	146.5	149.8	153.4	143.1	161.2	148.2	112.6	128.8
<b>2005</b>								
March	147.5	150.6	154.7	143.4	162.5	148.8	112.5	130.5

(a) Unless otherwise specified, base of each index: 1989-90 = 100.0.

(c) Base: June quarter 1998 = 100.0.

(b) Refer to paragraph 12 of the Explanatory Notes for a description of these series.

Period	All groups	All groups excluding Housing	All groups excluding 'volatile items'	MARKET GOODS AND SERVICES EXCLUDING 'VOLATILE ITEMS'				
				Goods	Services	Total	Tradables	Non-tradables
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous financial year)								
<b>2000-01</b>	6.0	5.4	5.5	4.6	7.7	5.5	4.3	7.5
<b>2001-02</b>	2.9	2.9	3.3	3.2	3.6	3.3	2.4	3.3
<b>2002-03</b>	3.1	2.9	2.9	1.8	3.6	2.3	2.0	3.9
<b>2003-04</b>	2.4	1.8	2.3	1.4	1.9	1.6	0.2	4.3
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from corresponding quarter of previous year)								
<b>2001</b>								
March	6.0	5.6	5.5	4.6	7.5	5.5	4.8	7.1
June	6.0	5.8	5.8	5.5	7.0	5.9	5.2	6.7
September	2.5	2.6	2.9	3.2	2.2	2.8	2.5	2.6
December	3.1	3.2	3.6	3.9	3.2	3.6	3.1	3.1
<b>2002</b>								
March	2.9	3.0	3.6	3.2	4.4	3.6	2.3	3.6
June	2.8	2.7	3.3	2.4	4.7	3.1	1.8	3.8
September	3.2	3.2	3.3	2.0	4.8	3.0	2.3	4.0
December	3.0	2.9	2.9	1.6	4.1	2.4	2.2	3.7
<b>2003</b>								
March	3.4	3.3	2.7	1.7	3.1	2.1	2.7	4.0
June	2.7	2.3	2.7	1.9	2.5	2.0	1.0	4.1
September	2.6	2.1	2.6	2.1	1.8	2.0	0.7	4.1
December	2.4	1.8	2.4	1.6	2.2	1.8	0.0	4.4
<b>2004</b>								
March	2.0	1.4	2.1	1.1	1.8	1.3	-0.5	4.1
June	2.5	2.1	1.9	0.9	1.9	1.2	0.5	4.1
September	2.3	2.0	1.8	0.6	2.4	1.2	0.7	3.6
December	2.6	2.3	2.1	1.2	2.1	1.4	1.4	3.5
<b>2005</b>								
March	2.4	1.9	2.4	1.3	2.8	1.8	0.6	3.7
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous quarter)								
<b>2001</b>								
March	1.1	1.2	1.0	1.1	0.3	0.8	1.4	0.7
June	0.8	1.0	0.9	1.3	0.6	1.0	1.4	0.4
September	0.3	0.0	0.7	0.5	1.0	0.7	-0.6	1.1
December	0.9	1.0	0.9	1.0	1.4	1.1	0.8	1.0
<b>2002</b>								
March	0.9	0.9	1.0	0.4	1.4	0.8	0.6	1.1
June	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.4	0.9	0.6	0.8	0.6
September	0.7	0.5	0.7	0.1	1.1	0.5	0.0	1.3
December	0.7	0.8	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.7
<b>2003</b>								
March	1.3	1.3	0.8	0.5	0.5	0.5	1.2	1.3
June	0.0	-0.2	0.6	0.6	0.3	0.5	-0.9	0.7
September	0.6	0.3	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.4	-0.3	1.3
December	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.1	1.1	0.4	0.0	0.9
<b>2004</b>								
March	0.9	0.9	0.5	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.6	1.1
June	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.7
September	0.4	0.2	0.5	0.1	0.8	0.3	-0.1	0.9
December	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.8
<b>2005</b>								
March	0.7	0.5	0.8	0.2	0.8	0.4	-0.1	1.3

(a) Refer to paragraph 12 of the Explanatory Notes for a description of these series.

<i>Period</i>	<i>Australia</i>	<i>New Zealand</i>	<i>Hong Kong</i>	<i>Indonesia</i>	<i>Japan</i>	<i>Korea, Republic of</i>	<i>Singapore</i>	<i>Taiwan</i>	<i>Canada</i>	<i>United States of America</i>	<i>Germany</i>	<i>United Kingdom</i>
<b>2000-01</b>	136.4	123.5	164.8	402.6	111.0	179.2	123.0	130.9	128.1	135.3	123.7	141.4
<b>2001-02</b>	140.4	127.0	162.5	458.3	107.7	185.0	122.7	130.6	130.3	136.4	126.0	143.5
<b>2002-03</b>	144.5	129.5	159.2	495.8	106.4	190.9	123.1	130.5	135.2	138.9	127.4	145.8
<b>2003-04</b>	147.1	130.2	158.7	524.4	106.1	197.4	124.9	131.1	136.9	141.8	128.9	147.9
<b>2001</b>												
March	137.0	123.8	163.7	406.1	110.9	180.6	123.5	129.8	127.9	135.7	123.7	140.9
June	138.4	125.1	164.4	424.4	110.8	182.5	123.3	129.9	129.8	137.1	125.2	143.0
September	138.4	125.8	164.0	435.3	108.8	183.7	123.3	130.4	130.1	136.7	125.4	142.9
December	139.8	126.5	163.4	453.8	108.3	183.3	122.5	131.6	128.7	135.8	125.2	143.2
<b>2002</b>												
March	141.1	127.1	161.4	470.1	107.0	185.1	122.3	130.1	129.9	135.7	126.6	143.4
June	142.1	128.5	161.2	473.8	106.8	187.7	122.8	130.4	132.5	137.3	126.8	144.6
September	142.8	129.0	160.4	480.5	106.6	188.2	122.9	130.5	134.1	137.7	127.1	144.5
December	143.9	129.6	160.0	498.6	106.5	189.1	122.9	131.1	134.5	138.2	126.8	145.4
<b>2003</b>												
March	145.7	129.8	158.5	500.9	106.0	192.7	123.5	130.1	136.2	139.7	127.9	146.0
June	145.4	129.5	157.9	503.3	106.5	193.7	123.2	130.3	135.8	140.1	127.7	147.1
September	145.8	129.5	157.1	509.8	106.3	194.0	123.8	129.4	136.2	140.6	128.1	147.1
December	146.5	130.0	158.4	523.2	106.1	195.8	124.1	131.1	136.0	140.6	128.1	147.7
<b>2004</b>												
March	147.8	130.2	159.2	526.4	105.8	199.1	125.7	131.2	136.9	141.8	129.2	147.9
June	148.4	131.0	160.2	538.3	106.2	200.5	126.1	132.6	138.6	144.0	130.2	148.9
September	148.7	131.4	160.2	539.1	106.2	203.2	126.4	134.5	138.5	144.3	130.6	148.6
December	149.8	132.5	161.0	553.0	106.8	203.0	126.6	134.2	138.9	145.7	130.6	149.5
<b>2005</b>												
March	150.6	132.9	nya	571.4	nya	206.0	nya	133.9	nya	146.2	nya	149.7

nya not yet available

(b) Refer to paragraphs 14-16 of the Explanatory Notes for further information.

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

<i>Period</i>	<i>Australia</i>	<i>New Zealand</i>	<i>Hong Kong</i>	<i>Indonesia</i>	<i>Japan</i>	<i>Korea, Republic of</i>	<i>Singapore</i>	<i>Taiwan</i>	<i>Canada</i>	<i>United States of America</i>	<i>Germany</i>	<i>United Kingdom</i>
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous financial year)												
<b>2000-01</b>	5.4	4.0	-1.1	9.7	-0.5	4.1	1.9	1.2	2.5	3.4	1.2	1.5
<b>2001-02</b>	2.9	2.8	-1.4	13.8	-3.0	3.2	-0.2	-0.2	1.7	0.8	1.9	1.5
<b>2002-03</b>	2.9	2.0	-2.0	8.2	-1.2	3.2	0.3	-0.1	3.8	1.8	1.1	1.6
<b>2003-04</b>	1.8	0.5	-0.3	5.8	-0.3	3.4	1.5	0.5	1.3	2.1	1.2	1.4

PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from corresponding quarter of previous year)

<b>2001</b>												
March	5.6	4.1	-1.2	9.5	-0.2	4.5	1.8	0.7	2.4	3.4	1.0	1.3
June	5.8	4.4	-0.9	14.8	-0.5	5.6	1.9	-0.3	2.9	3.2	2.3	1.6
September	2.6	3.3	-0.8	15.6	-2.0	4.3	0.9	-0.7	2.2	2.2	2.0	1.7
December	3.2	2.5	-1.3	12.5	-2.6	3.2	-0.2	-0.6	0.9	0.9	1.8	1.4
<b>2002</b>												
March	3.0	2.7	-1.4	15.8	-3.5	2.5	-1.0	0.2	1.6	0.0	2.3	1.8
June	2.7	2.7	-1.9	11.6	-3.6	2.8	-0.4	0.4	2.1	0.1	1.3	1.1
September	3.2	2.5	-2.2	10.4	-2.0	2.4	-0.3	0.1	3.1	0.7	1.4	1.1
December	2.9	2.5	-2.1	9.9	-1.7	3.2	0.4	-0.4	4.5	1.8	1.3	1.5
<b>2003</b>												
March	3.3	2.1	-1.8	6.6	-0.9	4.1	1.0	0.0	4.8	2.9	1.0	1.8
June	2.3	0.8	-2.0	6.2	-0.3	3.2	0.4	-0.1	2.5	2.0	0.7	1.7
September	2.1	0.4	-2.1	6.1	-0.3	3.1	0.7	-0.8	1.6	2.1	0.8	1.8
December	1.8	0.3	-1.0	4.9	-0.4	3.5	1.0	0.0	1.1	1.7	1.0	1.6
<b>2004</b>												
March	1.4	0.3	0.4	5.1	-0.2	3.3	1.8	0.8	0.5	1.5	1.0	1.3
June	2.1	1.2	1.5	7.0	-0.3	3.5	2.3	1.8	2.1	2.8	2.0	1.2
September	2.0	1.5	2.0	5.7	-0.1	4.7	2.1	3.9	1.7	2.6	2.0	1.0
December	2.3	1.9	1.6	5.7	0.7	3.7	2.0	2.4	2.1	3.6	2.0	1.2
<b>2005</b>												
March	1.9	2.1	nya	8.5	nya	3.5	nya	2.1	nya	3.1	nya	1.2

PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous quarter)

<b>2001</b>												
March	1.2	0.3	-1.1	0.7	-0.3	1.7	0.5	-2.0	0.3	0.8	0.6	-0.2
June	1.0	1.1	0.4	4.5	-0.1	1.1	-0.2	0.1	1.5	1.0	1.2	1.5
September	0.0	0.6	-0.2	2.6	-1.8	0.7	0.0	0.4	0.2	-0.3	0.2	-0.1
December	1.0	0.6	-0.4	4.2	-0.5	-0.2	-0.6	0.9	-1.1	-0.7	-0.2	0.2
<b>2002</b>												
March	0.9	0.5	-1.2	3.6	-1.2	1.0	-0.2	-1.1	0.9	-0.1	1.1	0.1
June	0.7	1.1	-0.1	0.8	-0.2	1.4	0.5	0.2	2.0	1.2	0.2	0.8
September	0.5	0.4	-0.5	1.4	-0.2	0.3	0.1	0.1	1.2	0.3	0.2	-0.1
December	0.8	0.5	-0.2	3.8	-0.1	0.5	0.0	0.5	0.3	0.4	-0.2	0.6
<b>2003</b>												
March	1.3	0.2	-0.9	0.5	-0.5	1.9	0.5	-0.8	1.3	1.1	0.9	0.4
June	-0.2	-0.2	-0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5	-0.2	0.2	-0.3	0.3	-0.2	0.8
September	0.3	0.0	-0.5	1.3	-0.2	0.2	0.4	-0.7	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.0
December	0.5	0.4	0.8	2.6	-0.2	0.9	0.3	1.3	-0.1	0.0	0.0	0.4
<b>2004</b>												
March	0.9	0.2	0.5	0.6	-0.3	1.7	1.3	0.1	0.7	0.9	0.9	0.1
June	0.4	0.6	0.6	2.3	0.4	0.7	0.3	1.1	1.2	1.6	0.8	0.7
September	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.1	0.0	1.3	0.2	1.4	-0.1	0.2	0.3	-0.2
December	0.7	0.8	0.5	2.6	0.6	-0.1	0.2	-0.2	0.3	1.0	0.0	0.6
<b>2005</b>												
March	0.5	0.3	nya	3.3	nya	1.5	nya	-0.2	nya	0.3	nya	0.1

nya not yet available

(a) Refer to paragraphs 14-16 of the Explanatory Notes for further information.

## 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 households). This 'basket' covers a wide range of goods and services, arranged in the following eleven groups:

- food
- alcohol and tobacco
- clothing and footwear
- housing
- household furnishings, supplies and services
- health
- transportation
- communication
- recreation
- education
- miscellaneous.

**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 *Australian Consumer Price Index: Concepts, Sources and Methods* (cat. no. 6461.0) which is available on the ABS web site <<http://www.abs.gov.au>>.

### PRICES

**4** The frequency of price collection by item varies as necessary to obtain reliable price measures. Prices of some items are volatile (i.e. their prices may vary many times each quarter) and for these items frequent price observations are necessary to obtain a reliable measure of the average price for the quarter. Each month prices are collected at regular intervals for goods such as milk, bread, fresh meat and seafood, fresh fruit and vegetables, alcohol, tobacco, women's outerwear, project homes, motor vehicles, petrol and holiday travel and accommodation. For most other items, price volatility is not a problem and prices are collected once a quarter. There are a few items where prices are changed at infrequent intervals, for example education fees where prices are set once a year. In these cases, the frequency of price collection is modified accordingly.

**5** In order to facilitate a more even spread of field collection workload, the number of items for which prices are collected quarterly is distributed roughly equally across each month of each quarter. In all cases, however, individual items are priced in the same month of each quarter. For example, items for which prices are collected in the first month of the September quarter, July, are also priced in the first month of subsequent quarters, namely October, January and April.

### WEIGHTING PATTERN

**6** There are 89 expenditure classes (that is, groupings of like items) in the fourteenth 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 fourteen series of price indexes which have been linked to form a continuous series. The current weighting pattern for the CPI is given in *A Guide to the Consumer Price Index, 14th Series* (cat. no. 6440.0) and *Australian Consumer Price Index: Concepts, Sources and Methods* (cat. no. 6461.0) which are available on the ABS web site <<http://www.abs.gov.au>>.

## EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

### 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:
March Quarter 2005	147.5 (see table 1)
less December Quarter 2004	146.5 (see table 1)
Change in index points	1.0
Percentage change	$1.0/146.5 \times 100 = 0.7\%$

**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
- 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 groups, sub-groups and expenditure classes. It also shows the contribution which each makes to the total CPI. For instance, the dairy and related products sub-group contributed 2.18 index points to the total All groups index number of 147.5 for March Quarter 2005. The final column shows contributions to the change in All Groups index points by each group, sub-group and expenditure class.

### SPECIAL SERIES

**11** Various series are presented in tables 8, 9 and 10 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, subgroups and expenditure classes is contained in tables 6 and 7.)

**12** 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 Restaurant meals), Alcohol and tobacco group, Clothing and footwear group (except Clothing services and shoe repair) and Household furnishings, supplies and services group (except Household services); the Utilities, Audio, visual and computing and Books, newspapers and magazines sub-groups; and the House purchase, Pharmaceuticals, Motor vehicles, Automotive fuel, Motor vehicle parts and accessories, Sports and recreational equipment, Toys, games and hobbies, Pets, pet foods and supplies and Toiletries and personal care products expenditure classes.
- *All groups, services component*: comprises all items not included in the 'All groups, goods component'.
- *All groups, tradables component*: comprises all items whose prices are largely determined on the world market.
- *All groups, non-tradables component*: comprises all items not included in the 'All groups, tradables component'.
- *All groups excluding 'volatile items'*: comprises the All groups CPI excluding Fruit and vegetables and Automotive fuel.
- *Market goods and services excluding 'volatile items'*: in addition to the items excluded from the series 'All groups excluding 'volatile items'', also excludes: Utilities, Property rates and charges, Health, Other motoring charges, Urban transport fares, Postal, Education and Child care.

## EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

### SPECIAL SERIES *continued*

**13** A detailed description of the special and analytical series was published in Appendix 1 to the September quarter 2000 issue of *Consumer Price Index, Australia* (cat. no. 6401.0). The ABS is grateful for the assistance of the Reserve Bank of Australia for specifying the items included in the 'All groups excluding 'volatile items'' and 'Market goods and services excluding 'volatile items''. The Reserve Bank of Australia does not accord any special policy status to these series.

### INTERNATIONAL COMPARISONS

**14** 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'.

**15** Table 11 presents indexes for selected countries on a basis consistent with the above resolution and broadly comparable to the Australian series 'All groups excluding Housing'. To facilitate comparisons all indexes in this table have been converted, where necessary, to a quarterly basis and re-referenced to a base of 1989–90 = 100.0.

**16** In producing table 11, 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.

### RELATED PUBLICATIONS

**17** Current publications and other products released by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products* (cat. no. 1101.0). The Catalogue is available from any ABS office or the ABS web site <<http://www.abs.gov.au>>. The ABS also issues a daily Release Advice on the web site which details products to be released in the week ahead.

**18** Users may also wish to refer to the following publications and other data products:

- *A Guide to the Consumer Price Index, 14th Series* (cat. no. 6440.0)
- *Average Retail Prices of Selected Items, Eight Capital Cities* (cat. no. 6403.0.55.001)
- *House Price Indexes: Eight Capital Cities* (cat. no. 6416.0)
- *Information Paper: Price Indexes and the New Tax System* (cat. no. 6425.0)
- *Information Paper: Introduction of the 14th Series Australian Consumer Price Index* (cat. no. 6456.0)
- *Australian Consumer Price Index: Concepts, Sources and Methods* (cat. no. 6461.0).

### ABS DATA AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

**19** As well as the statistics included in this and related publications, the ABS may have other relevant data available on request. Inquiries should be made to Steve Whennan on (02) 6252 6251 or to the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070.



## APPENDIX

### INTRODUCTION OF THE 15TH SERIES AUSTRALIAN CPI

#### BACKGROUND

The CPI measures the change over time in the total price of a fixed basket of goods and services acquired by household consumers. The quantities underlying the base period expenditures remain fixed over the life of the basket, with the expenditures being updated by the movements in the price relatives in each period. It is important to update the basket and item weights periodically to reflect changes in the range of available goods and services and changes in household spending patterns.

The basket of goods and services at the expenditure class level in the Australian CPI is updated at approximately five yearly intervals. The current basket (14th series) was introduced in the September quarter 2000. The 15th series will be linked into the CPI in the September quarter 2005 issue of *Consumer Price Index, Australia* (cat. no. 6401.0).

#### EXPECTED CHANGES TO THE CPI

When new expenditure weights are introduced, the ABS typically undertakes a review of the CPI to ensure that it continues to serve its purpose as the best measure of household inflation. The 15th series is a minor review and accordingly, will not involve formal user consultation. The expected outcomes of the review are:

- update of the CPI basket and weighting patterns
- introduction of financial services into the CPI in a new group for Financial and insurance services
- introduction of a hedonic price index for computers.

The most significant change to the structure of the CPI will be the introduction of a new group for Financial and insurance services. The existing insurance services price index will be moved from the Miscellaneous group into the Financial and insurance services group. Some other groups may also be affected by this restructure. Full details of changes in the structure of the CPI Groups will be presented in *Information Paper: Introduction of the 15th Series Australian Consumer Price Index, 2005* (cat. no. 6462.0) which will be released in mid September 2005. In addition to providing details of the new structure, the Information Paper will also present the new weights to be used in the 15th series Australian CPI.

An *Information Paper: Experimental Price Indexes for Financial Services 1998 to 2003* (cat. no. 6413.0) was released in July 2004 and the experimental series has since been published quarterly in *Experimental Price Indexes for Financial Services* (cat. no. 6413.0.55.001). The coverage of the financial services price index is restricted to deposit and loan facilities provided to households by deposit-taking institutions, and services provided by stockbrokers and real estate agencies in respect of the acquisition and disposal of equities (shares) and real estate.

Details of the ABS approach to producing hedonic price indexes for computers are presented in *Information Paper: The Introduction of Hedonic Price Indexes for Personal Computers, 2005* (cat. no. 6458.0), released in February 2005.

#### 15TH SERIES SOURCES AND METHODS

The main data source for the 15th series weighting pattern will be the 2003-04 Household Income and Expenditure Survey (HIES). The HIES data will be supplemented or adjusted to allow for the following factors:

- underreporting of alcohol and tobacco expenditures in the HIES;
- use of other data sources where HIES data are inadequate for CPI purposes, for example expenditure on net house purchase excluding land and the Higher Education Contribution Scheme (HECS);
- HIES expenditures that are not recorded on an acquisitions basis, for example insurance
- HIES expenditures that appear "abnormal" (excessively high or low); and
- price movements between time of purchase and reporting in the HIES for those items collected in HIES with a recall period of more than one quarter;

## APPENDIX *continued*

### 15TH SERIES SOURCES AND METHODS *continued*

Significant changes in expenditure patterns between the time the HIES was undertaken and the link period for the CPI will also be taken into account.

The link period for the 15th series will be the June quarter 2005. HIES expenditures in 2003-04 will be revalued to CPI link period prices to maintain the underlying 2003-04 quantities.

When a new series is introduced it is linked to the previous series without affecting the index numbers in the link (or overlap) period.

Initially, 1989-90 will continue as the reference base year when the 15th series based on 2003-04 weights is introduced in September quarter 2005. The CPI will be re-referenced to a 2003-04 base year during 2006.

### OTHER INDEXES

The weights for the special and analytical indexes will also be updated with the introduction of the 15th series. The most significant change to the classification of items within the special series will result from the introduction of the new Financial services and insurance group.

### PUBLICATION DATES

The release dates for 15th series publications will be:

Mid September 2005

*Information paper: Introduction of the 15th Series Australian Consumer Price Index* (cat. no. 6462.0)

Late October 2005

*A Guide to the Consumer Price Index, 15th Series* (cat. no. 6440.0);

*Concordance with Household Expenditure Classification* (cat. no. 6446.0.55.001);

26th October 2005

*Consumer Price Index, Australia* (cat. no. 6401.0).

### FURTHER INFORMATION

Readers requiring further information about the introduction of the 15th series Australian CPI should contact Steve Whennan on Canberra (02) 6252 6251, or email <steve.whennan@abs.gov.au>.



## FOR MORE INFORMATION . . .

- INTERNET* **www.abs.gov.au** the ABS web site is the best place to start for access to summary data from our latest publications, information about the ABS, advice about upcoming releases, our catalogue, and Australia Now—a statistical profile.
- LIBRARY* A range of ABS publications is available from public and tertiary libraries Australia-wide. Contact your nearest library to determine whether it has the ABS statistics you require, or visit our web site for a list of libraries.
- CPI INFOLINE* For current and historical Consumer Price Index data, call 1902 981 074 (call cost 77c per minute).
- DIAL-A-STATISTIC* This service now provides only current Consumer Price Index statistics call 1900 986 400 (call cost 77c per minute).

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