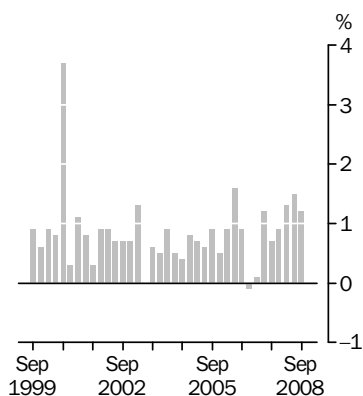


CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

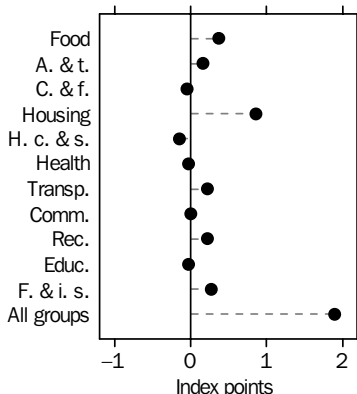
AUSTRALIA

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All Groups
Quarterly change



Contribution to quarterly change
September quarter 2008



KEY FIGURES

WEIGHTED AVERAGE OF EIGHT CAPITAL CITIES	<i>Jun Qtr 2008 to Sep Qtr 2008</i> % change	<i>Sep Qtr 2007 to Sep Qtr 2008</i> % change
Food	1.4	3.4
Alcohol and tobacco	1.4	5.8
Clothing and footwear	-0.7	0.0
Housing	2.6	6.8
Household contents and services	-0.9	0.9
Health	-0.2	5.1
Transportation	1.0	8.7
Communication	0.2	0.2
Recreation	1.3	1.6
Education	-0.5	4.7
Financial and insurance services	1.7	9.5
All groups	1.2	5.0
All groups excluding Housing and Financial and insurance services	0.7	3.8

KEY POINTS

THE ALL GROUPS CPI

- rose 1.2% in the September quarter 2008, compared with a rise of 1.5% in the June quarter.
- rose 5.0% through the year to September quarter 2008. This is the largest annual change since December quarter 1995, excluding the period associated with the introduction of the GST.

OVERVIEW OF CPI MOVEMENTS

- The most significant price rises this quarter were for rents (+2.1%), water and sewerage (+12.3%), house purchase (+1.3%), automotive fuel (+2.0%), deposit and loan facilities (+1.9%), overseas holiday travel and accommodation (+4.9%), electricity (+4.6%) and property rates and charges (+6.1%).
- The most significant offsetting price decreases were for child care (-22.9%), pharmaceuticals (-3.9%), audio, visual and computing equipment (-3.9%) and motor vehicles (-0.7%).

INQUIRIES

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

NOTES

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

<i>ISSUE (Quarter)</i>	<i>RELEASE DATE</i>
December 2008	28 January 2009
March 2009	22 April 2009
June 2009	22 July 2009
September 2009	28 October 2009

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ROUNDING

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

CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

An article describing the treatment of child care services in the Australian Consumer Price Index can be found in the Appendix on page 36 of this issue.

ABBREVIATIONS

ABS Australian Bureau of Statistics
CPI Consumer Price Index
CCTR Child Care Tax Rebate

LINKS TO OTHER PARTS OF THIS RELEASE ON THE WEBSITE

To access the 'Main Contributors to Change' data (on the website) use the link 'Main Contributors to Change' as shown below.

To access the 'Capital Cities Comparison' data (on the website) use the link 'Capital Cities Comparison' as shown below.

The standard way to access links to other parts of this or any release on the website is by selecting the required link from the links list in the box at the top left hand side of the 'Summary' page.



Ian Ewing
Acting Australian Statistician

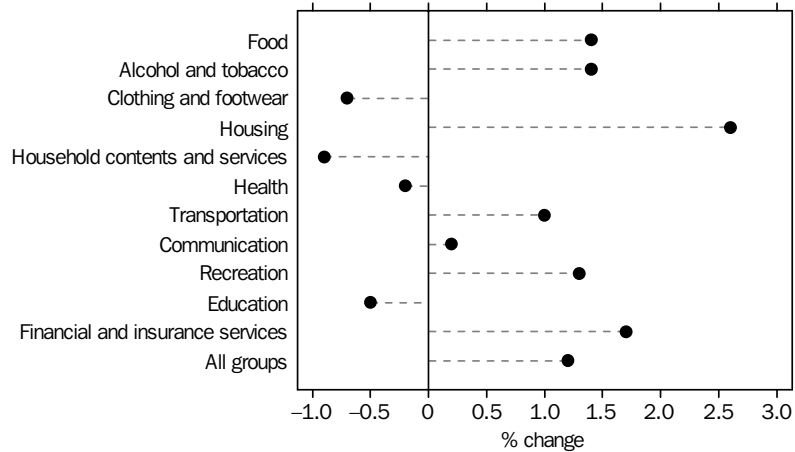
ANALYSES AND COMMENTS

MAIN CONTRIBUTORS TO CHANGE

CPI GROUPS

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

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



HOUSING (+2.6%)

All categories of housing recorded price rises this quarter at the weighted average of the eight capital cities level. The main contributors were rents (+2.1%), water and sewerage (+12.3%), house purchase (+1.3%), electricity (+4.6%) and property rates and charges (+6.1%). This is the largest quarterly increase for housing since the September quarter 2000.

Rents rose in every capital city, with the highest increases in Perth (+3.2%), Darwin (+3.0%) and Brisbane (+2.9%). Hobart showed the lowest rent increase of 0.9%.

Annual reviews of prices by State and local government authorities and utility providers led to a number of price rises. Water and sewerage prices rose in all capital cities, with increases ranging from 3.5% in Darwin to 17.7% in Melbourne. Electricity prices rose in six capital cities, with the highest increases in Sydney (+8.9%), Brisbane (+8.3%) and Canberra (+6.7%), were unchanged in Perth, and fell in Melbourne (-1.4%) due to the Winter Energy Concession. Property rates and charges rose in all capital cities, ranging from 3.5% in Sydney and Hobart to 8.7% in Melbourne.

Increases in house purchase prices were recorded in all capital cities, with Canberra (+3.7%) and Brisbane (+2.2%) being the highest and Melbourne (+0.6%) and Sydney (+0.9%) the lowest.

Over the twelve months to September quarter 2008, the housing group rose 6.8%, which was the largest annual increase since the June quarter 2001. This rise was mainly due to rents (+8.2%), house purchase (+5.4%) and electricity (+10.1%).

FOOD (+1.4%)

Food prices rose in most categories in all capital cities. The most significant contributors to the increase in food prices this quarter were fruit (+4.5%), bread (+4.6%), take away and fast foods (+1.3%), restaurant meals (+1.3%) and vegetables (+1.3%).

The rise in fruit prices was mainly due to price increases for bananas across all capital cities as cooler weather conditions in North Queensland resulted in reduced supplies.

ANALYSES AND COMMENTS *continued*

FOOD (+1.4%) *continued*

Over the past year, the food group rose 3.4%, with strong positive movements in all capital cities. The increase was predominantly due to rises in take away and fast foods (+6.9%), restaurant meals (+4.5%), bread (+10.9%), milk (+10.9%) and cakes and biscuits (+9.1%). Fruit (-16.8%) provided the major offsetting decrease, driven by falls in the prices of bananas and apples.

FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE SERVICES (+1.7%)

The rise in financial and insurance services this quarter is a result of increases in deposit and loan facilities (+1.9%), insurance services (+2.9%) and other financial services (+0.7%).

Over the twelve months to September quarter 2008, financial and insurance services rose 9.5%, with increases in the prices of all components – deposit and loan facilities (+16.0%), insurance services (+9.0%) and other financial services (+1.6%).

RECREATION (+1.3%)

The rise in recreation prices this quarter was mainly due to overseas holiday travel and accommodation (+4.9%), domestic holiday travel and accommodation (+2.4%) and sports participation (+2.7%). The major offset was provided by audio, visual and computing equipment (-3.9%).

Through the year to September quarter 2008, the recreation group rose 1.6%, the fifteenth consecutive annual rise. This rise was mainly due to overseas holiday travel and accommodation (+7.8%), other recreational activities (+5.9%) and domestic holiday travel and accommodation (+2.6%). Rises were reported in six capital cities ranging from 0.1% in Canberra to 2.4% in Brisbane and Adelaide. Hobart (-3.0%) and Darwin (-0.3%) recorded falls.

TRANSPORTATION (+1.0%)

The increase in transportation costs this quarter was mainly due to the rise in the price of automotive fuel (+2.0%). There were increases in most other categories of transportation, with other motoring charges (+2.7%) and motor vehicle repair and service (+1.3%) being the most significant. There was a small offsetting fall in the price of motor vehicles (-0.7%).

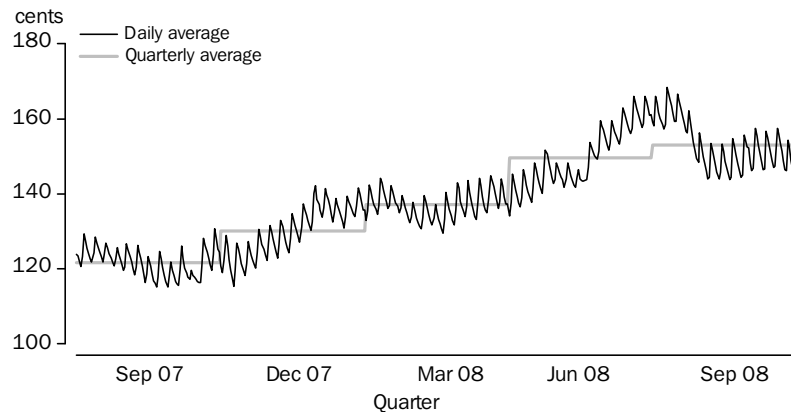
Automotive fuel prices rose in April (+2.7%), May (+3.3%), June (+7.5%) and July (+0.3%), fell in August (-6.7%) then rose in September (+1.1%). The automotive fuel expenditure class contributed 0.16 index points to the increase in the All groups CPI in September quarter 2008 and 1.64 index points to the through the year change.

The following graph shows the pattern of the average daily prices for unleaded petrol for the eight capital cities over the last fifteen months.

ANALYSES AND COMMENTS *continued*

TRANSPORTATION (+1.0%) *continued*

AVERAGE PRICE OF ULP, cents per litre



Over the twelve months to September quarter 2008, the transportation group rose 8.7%, with the main contributors being automotive fuel (+25.4%), motor vehicle repair and servicing (+3.7%), other motoring charges (+5.4%), motor vehicle parts and accessories (+5.5%) and urban transport fares (+4.4%). There was an offsetting fall in motor vehicles (-1.9%).

ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO (+1.4%)

The alcohol and tobacco group recorded a rise of 1.4% in the September 2008 quarter. All components in the alcohol and tobacco group rose this quarter, with price increases in spirits (+4.8%), tobacco (1.6%), beer (+0.8%) and wine (+0.1%).

The rises in spirits, tobacco and beer prices were mainly due to the effect of the increase in Federal excise from 1 August 2008. Spirits also incurred an additional tax in the previous quarter, which also impacted on prices this quarter.

Through the year to September quarter 2008, the alcohol and tobacco group rose 5.8%.

HOUSEHOLD CONTENTS AND SERVICES (-0.9%)

The major contributor to the fall in household contents and services this quarter was child care (-22.9%), with a less significant fall in furniture (-1.3%). The largest offsetting rise came from other household services (+2.2%), which recorded rises in all capital cities.

The drop in the net price of child care was due to the increase in the Child Care Tax Rebate (CCTR) from 30% to 50% that was implemented as of 1 July 2008. This resulted in a decrease in out-of-pocket expenses for consumers of these services. The changes to the CCTR and their impact on the CPI are discussed in further detail in the Appendix to this issue.

Through the year to September quarter 2008, the household contents and services group rose 0.9%, with increases in all capital cities. The increase was mainly due to rises in other household supplies (+4.1%) and other household services (+7.2%). Child care (-17.5%) provided the major offsetting fall, due to the increase in the CCTR implemented this quarter.

CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR (-0.7%)

The fall in prices of clothing and footwear this quarter is mainly due to widespread specials for winter season lines across a number of categories. The only significant rise was in clothing services and shoe repairs (+1.0%).

ANALYSES AND COMMENTS *continued*

CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR (-0.7%) *continued*

Over the twelve months to September quarter 2008, the clothing and footwear index remained flat (0.0%) due to falls in men's footwear (-5.4%), children and infants clothing (-1.7%), men's outerwear (-0.7%) and women's outerwear (-0.7%) being offset by rises in accessories (+3.4%), clothing services and shoe repairs (+3.2%) and children's footwear (+1.6%).

EDUCATION (-0.5%)

The 2.4% fall in education was entirely due to the increase in child care benefits flowing from the changes to CCTR that apply for children in pre-school and primary school. Through the year to September quarter 2008, the education group rose 4.7%.

HEALTH (-0.2%)

The decrease in the health costs was largely due to a fall in the net cost of pharmaceuticals (-3.9%). This was partially offset by increases to hospital and medical services (+0.9%) and dental services (+0.7%).

The net cost of pharmaceuticals fell mainly due to the cyclical effect of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme safety net, with more consumers exceeding the PBS safety net and receiving subsidised prescription pharmaceuticals.

The net cost of hospital and medical services rose as a result of increased gross prices across services, falls in the percentage of bulk billed services, offset by the cyclical effect of the Medicare Plus safety net.

Through the year to September quarter 2008, the health group rose 5.1% due to increases in hospital and medical services (+6.5%), dental services (+4.6%) and pharmaceuticals (+2.0%).

COMMUNICATION (+0.2%)

The rise in communication costs was due to increases in the cost of telecommunication (+0.2%) and postal services (+2.8%).

Over the twelve months to September quarter 2008, the cost of communication rose 0.2%.

TRADABLES AND NON-TRADABLES

The non-tradables component (see table 8) of the All groups CPI rose 1.6% in the September quarter. This component includes goods and services whose prices are largely determined by domestic price pressures and represents approximately 58% of the CPI. Within non-tradables, the services component rose 1.2%, mainly due to rents, deposit and loan facilities, property rates and charges, domestic holiday travel and accommodation and insurance services. The only significant offsets was provided by child care. The non-tradable goods component rose 2.2% mainly due to price increases for water and sewerage, house purchase and electricity.

The tradables component of the All groups CPI rose 0.7%. This component includes goods and services whose prices are largely determined on the world market and represents approximately 42% of the weight of the CPI. The tradable goods component rose 0.4%, driven by increases in automotive fuel, with less significant contributions from fruit, spirits and tobacco. Pharmaceuticals, audio, visual and computing equipment and motor vehicles provided the most significant offsetting falls.

Over the twelve months to September quarter 2008, non-tradables rose 6.1% and tradables rose 3.4%. This compares with rises of 5.6% and 2.9%, respectively, for these

ANALYSES AND COMMENTS *continued*

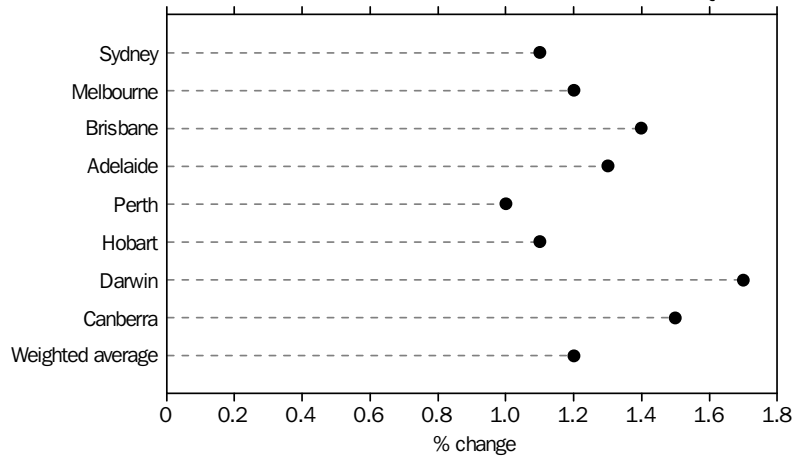
TRADABLES AND NON-TRADABLES *continued*

components through the year to June quarter 2008. The main drivers in non-tradables were deposit and loan facilities, rents, house purchase, hospital and medical services, take away and fast foods, electricity and insurance services. A fall in the net cost of child care provided a significant offset. Automotive fuel was the main contributor to the rise in tradables, with less significant contributions from overseas holiday travel and accommodation, spirits and tobacco. There were significant falls in fruit, audio, visual and computing equipment and vegetables.

CAPITAL CITIES COMPARISON

ALL GROUPS

ALL GROUPS: PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS QUARTER



At the All groups level, the CPI rose in all capital cities this quarter. Darwin rose 1.7%, Canberra rose 1.5%, Brisbane rose 1.4%, Adelaide rose 1.3%, Melbourne rose 1.2%, Sydney and Hobart rose 1.1%, while Perth rose 1.0%.

At the expenditure group level, housing was the most significant contributor in all cities. Food prices rose in all cities and were the second most important contributor in Melbourne, Canberra, Adelaide, Sydney and Hobart. In Brisbane the second most important contributor was transportation. In Darwin it was recreation, while in Perth it was alcohol and tobacco. Financial and insurance services was a significant contributor in all cities except Darwin.

Rents and house purchase were significant contributors in all cities. Water and sewerage prices rose strongly in all cities except Brisbane and Darwin. Deposit and loan facilities contributed strongly in all cities, while automotive fuel contributed strongly in all cities except Canberra and Perth.

The higher result for Darwin was mainly due to increases in prices for domestic holiday travel and accommodation. The lower result for Perth was mainly due to smaller than average contributions from automotive fuel and the fact that there was no change in electricity prices where most other cities showed significant rises.

Over the year to September quarter 2008, the All groups CPI rose in all capital cities with the increases ranging from 4.3% in Hobart to 5.6% in Brisbane. The higher result in Brisbane is largely due to stronger than average rises in housing, transportation and household contents and services.

ANALYSES AND COMMENTS *continued*

ALL GROUPS *continued*

CPI, All groups index numbers and percentage changes

	INDEX		PERCENTAGE CHANGE	
	NUMBER(a)		
	Sep Qtr 2008	Jun Qtr 2008 to Sep Qtr 2008	Sep Qtr 2007 to Sep Qtr 2008	
Sydney	165.9	1.1	4.9	
Melbourne	164.4	1.2	4.8	
Brisbane	170.8	1.4	5.6	
Adelaide	169.8	1.3	5.1	
Perth	166.7	1.0	4.9	
Hobart	164.7	1.1	4.3	
Darwin	163.6	1.7	4.5	
Canberra	167.5	1.5	5.2	
Weighted average of eight capital cities	166.5	1.2	5.0	

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

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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>
2004–05	147.7	145.7	148.5	150.4	144.0	147.1	141.8	146.7	147.0
2005–06	152.1	150.2	153.2	155.2	150.1	151.8	146.5	151.9	151.7
2006–07	156.2	154.2	158.3	159.2	156.1	155.7	152.9	156.4	156.1
2007–08	160.9	159.6	164.8	164.4	161.7	160.3	158.3	162.0	161.4
2004									
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
2005									
March	148.2	146.4	149.2	150.9	144.4	148.0	141.9	147.0	147.5
June	149.0	146.9	150.0	151.8	146.3	148.8	143.2	147.8	148.4
September	150.5	148.6	150.9	153.4	147.8	150.1	144.7	149.7	149.8
December	151.0	149.2	152.1	154.1	149.0	151.0	145.4	150.9	150.6
2006									
March	152.2	150.5	153.5	155.6	150.5	152.2	146.7	152.2	151.9
June	154.7	152.6	156.2	157.6	153.2	154.0	149.2	154.9	154.3
September	156.1	153.7	157.5	159.3	154.9	155.1	151.8	156.0	155.7
December	155.8	153.5	157.3	158.8	155.5	154.7	152.6	155.6	155.5
2007									
March	155.6	153.8	158.0	158.4	155.8	155.4	152.6	155.9	155.6
June	157.4	155.6	160.2	160.3	158.0	157.4	154.7	158.0	157.5
September	158.1	156.9	161.7	161.5	158.9	157.9	156.6	159.2	158.6
December	159.5	158.5	163.4	163.1	160.2	159.2	157.1	160.8	160.1
2008									
March	161.7	160.6	165.6	165.5	162.5	161.3	158.5	163.0	162.2
June	164.1	162.5	168.4	167.6	165.1	162.9	160.8	165.0	164.6
September	165.9	164.4	170.8	169.8	166.7	164.7	163.6	167.5	166.5

(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)									
2004-05	2.5	2.0	2.6	2.3	3.2	3.2	2.2	2.3	2.4
2005-06	3.0	3.1	3.2	3.2	4.2	3.2	3.3	3.5	3.2
2006-07	2.7	2.7	3.3	2.6	4.0	2.6	4.4	3.0	2.9
2007-08	3.0	3.5	4.1	3.3	3.6	3.0	3.5	3.6	3.4
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from corresponding quarter of previous year)									
2004									
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
2005									
March	2.2	2.0	2.6	2.2	3.4	3.5	2.1	2.2	2.4
June	2.4	2.1	2.5	2.2	3.8	3.1	2.6	2.1	2.5
September	2.9	3.1	2.8	3.0	4.1	3.5	2.8	2.9	3.0
December	2.5	2.7	2.8	2.7	4.0	2.9	3.0	3.1	2.8
2006									
March	2.7	2.8	2.9	3.1	4.2	2.8	3.4	3.5	3.0
June	3.8	3.9	4.1	3.8	4.7	3.5	4.2	4.8	4.0
September	3.7	3.4	4.4	3.8	4.8	3.3	4.9	4.2	3.9
December	3.2	2.9	3.4	3.0	4.4	2.5	5.0	3.1	3.3
2007									
March	2.2	2.2	2.9	1.8	3.5	2.1	4.0	2.4	2.4
June	1.7	2.0	2.6	1.7	3.1	2.2	3.7	2.0	2.1
September	1.3	2.1	2.7	1.4	2.6	1.8	3.2	2.1	1.9
December	2.4	3.3	3.9	2.7	3.0	2.9	2.9	3.3	3.0
2008									
March	3.9	4.4	4.8	4.5	4.3	3.8	3.9	4.6	4.2
June	4.3	4.4	5.1	4.6	4.5	3.5	3.9	4.4	4.5
September	4.9	4.8	5.6	5.1	4.9	4.3	4.5	5.2	5.0
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous quarter)									
2004									
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
2005									
March	0.6	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.8	0.9	0.6	0.5	0.7
June	0.5	0.3	0.5	0.6	1.3	0.5	0.9	0.5	0.6
September	1.0	1.2	0.6	1.1	1.0	0.9	1.0	1.3	0.9
December	0.3	0.4	0.8	0.5	0.8	0.6	0.5	0.8	0.5
2006									
March	0.8	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.0	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.9
June	1.6	1.4	1.8	1.3	1.8	1.2	1.7	1.8	1.6
September	0.9	0.7	0.8	1.1	1.1	0.7	1.7	0.7	0.9
December	-0.2	-0.1	-0.1	-0.3	0.4	-0.3	0.5	-0.3	-0.1
2007									
March	-0.1	0.2	0.4	-0.3	0.2	0.5	0.0	0.2	0.1
June	1.2	1.2	1.4	1.2	1.4	1.3	1.4	1.3	1.2
September	0.4	0.8	0.9	0.7	0.6	0.3	1.2	0.8	0.7
December	0.9	1.0	1.1	1.0	0.8	0.8	0.3	1.0	0.9
2008									
March	1.4	1.3	1.3	1.5	1.4	1.3	0.9	1.4	1.3
June	1.5	1.2	1.7	1.3	1.6	1.0	1.5	1.2	1.5
September	1.1	1.2	1.4	1.3	1.0	1.1	1.7	1.5	1.2

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 contents and services</i>	<i>Health</i>
2004–05	154.8	225.4	110.8	124.8	120.7	204.3
2005–06	162.3	233.1	109.2	129.3	122.2	213.5
2006–07	172.4	240.6	108.4	133.7	124.6	223.5
2007–08	177.8	249.8	109.3	140.6	123.4	233.5
2004						
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
2005						
March	156.0	226.9	109.4	125.5	119.7	206.7
June	156.2	228.1	110.3	126.2	121.2	211.6
September	157.4	230.3	110.5	128.0	121.6	209.3
December	160.2	231.4	110.3	128.8	122.4	207.1
2006						
March	162.5	234.3	107.5	129.6	121.9	216.2
June	169.1	236.4	108.4	130.6	122.9	221.4
September	173.0	237.7	108.5	132.2	124.5	219.8
December	173.9	239.5	108.1	132.9	124.7	218.0
2007						
March	169.9	241.6	107.7	134.2	123.6	225.7
June	172.8	243.6	109.2	135.3	125.5	230.5
September	176.1	245.0	109.6	137.8	122.5	229.3
December	175.9	248.2	109.8	139.3	123.5	226.9
2008						
March	179.6	250.7	107.2	141.9	122.7	236.0
June	179.5	255.4	110.4	143.4	124.7	241.6
September	182.1	259.1	109.6	147.2	123.6	241.0

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

<i>Period</i>	<i>Transportation</i>	<i>Communication</i>	<i>Recreation</i>	<i>Education</i>	<i>Financial and insurance services(b)</i>	<i>All groups</i>
2004-05	146.8	111.1	130.7	238.7	..	147.0
2005-06	155.5	109.5	132.0	253.2	101.2	151.7
2006-07	158.0	110.8	133.8	264.6	103.0	156.1
2007-08	165.2	111.2	135.7	275.6	109.4	161.4
2004						
September	145.2	110.9	129.9	231.5	..	145.4
December	147.2	111.2	130.9	231.7	..	146.5
2005						
March	145.8	111.6	131.8	245.7	..	147.5
June	148.8	110.6	130.1	245.9	100.0	148.4
September	153.7	109.8	131.7	246.0	100.1	149.8
December	153.0	109.0	131.7	246.3	101.6	150.6
2006						
March	155.0	109.5	132.5	260.1	101.0	151.9
June	160.2	109.6	132.0	260.2	102.2	154.3
September	160.8	110.3	133.0	258.0	102.5	155.7
December	154.7	110.8	134.8	258.0	103.0	155.5
2007						
March	155.8	111.0	133.9	270.9	102.8	155.6
June	160.5	111.2	133.3	271.3	103.7	157.5
September	159.4	111.2	135.1	268.6	105.8	158.6
December	163.3	111.2	136.2	268.6	108.0	160.1
2008						
March	166.4	111.1	135.8	282.5	109.8	162.2
June	171.6	111.2	135.5	282.6	114.0	164.6
September	173.3	111.4	137.3	281.3	115.9	166.5

.. not applicable

(b) Base: June quarter 2005 = 100.0.

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

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

	<i>Food</i>	<i>Alcohol and tobacco</i>	<i>Clothing and footwear</i>	<i>Housing</i>	<i>Household contents and services</i>	<i>Health</i>
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous financial year)						
2004–05	1.6	3.5	-1.7	3.8	-0.3	5.4
2005–06	4.8	3.4	-1.4	3.6	1.2	4.5
2006–07	6.2	3.2	-0.7	3.4	2.0	4.7
2007–08	3.1	3.8	0.8	5.2	-1.0	4.5

	<i>Food</i>	<i>Alcohol and tobacco</i>	<i>Clothing and footwear</i>	<i>Housing</i>	<i>Household contents and services</i>	<i>Health</i>
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from corresponding quarter of previous year)						
2004						
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
2005						
March	0.8	3.7	-1.9	4.0	-0.8	5.7
June	1.9	3.4	-2.1	3.9	0.4	5.0
September	3.3	3.5	-1.8	3.9	0.8	4.6
December	3.6	3.3	-0.5	3.6	0.9	4.2
2006						
March	4.2	3.3	-1.7	3.3	1.8	4.6
June	8.3	3.6	-1.7	3.5	1.4	4.6
September	9.9	3.2	-1.8	3.3	2.4	5.0
December	8.6	3.5	-2.0	3.2	1.9	5.3
2007						
March	4.6	3.1	0.2	3.5	1.4	4.4
June	2.2	3.0	0.7	3.6	2.1	4.1
September	1.8	3.1	1.0	4.2	-1.6	4.3
December	1.2	3.6	1.6	4.8	-1.0	4.1
2008						
March	5.7	3.8	-0.5	5.7	-0.7	4.6
June	3.9	4.8	1.1	6.0	-0.6	4.8
September	3.4	5.8	0.0	6.8	0.9	5.1

	<i>Food</i>	<i>Alcohol and tobacco</i>	<i>Clothing and footwear</i>	<i>Housing</i>	<i>Household contents and services</i>	<i>Health</i>
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous quarter)						
2004						
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
2005						
March	0.9	1.3	-1.4	1.0	-1.3	4.0
June	0.1	0.5	0.8	0.6	1.3	2.4
September	0.8	1.0	0.2	1.4	0.3	-1.1
December	1.8	0.5	-0.2	0.6	0.7	-1.1
2006						
March	1.4	1.3	-2.5	0.6	-0.4	4.4
June	4.1	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.8	2.4
September	2.3	0.5	0.1	1.2	1.3	-0.7
December	0.5	0.8	-0.4	0.5	0.2	-0.8
2007						
March	-2.3	0.9	-0.4	1.0	-0.9	3.5
June	1.7	0.8	1.4	0.8	1.5	2.1
September	1.9	0.6	0.4	1.8	-2.4	-0.5
December	-0.1	1.3	0.2	1.1	0.8	-1.0
2008						
March	2.1	1.0	-2.4	1.9	-0.6	4.0
June	-0.1	1.9	3.0	1.1	1.6	2.4
September	1.4	1.4	-0.7	2.6	-0.9	-0.2

	<i>Transportation</i>	<i>Communication</i>	<i>Recreation</i>	<i>Education</i>	<i>Financial and insurance services</i>	<i>All groups</i>
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous financial year)						
2004–05	3.4	1.0	0.5	6.9	..	2.4
2005–06	5.9	-1.4	1.0	6.1	..	3.2
2006–07	1.6	1.2	1.4	4.5	1.8	2.9
2007–08	4.6	0.4	1.4	4.2	6.2	3.4

	<i>Transportation</i>	<i>Communication</i>	<i>Recreation</i>	<i>Education</i>	<i>Financial and insurance services</i>	<i>All groups</i>
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from corresponding quarter of previous year)						
2004						
September	2.8	1.1	-0.1	7.6	..	2.3
December	4.6	1.2	-0.2	7.7	..	2.6
2005						
March	2.9	1.5	1.6	6.2	..	2.4
June	3.3	0.2	0.6	6.2	..	2.5
September	5.9	-1.0	1.4	6.3	..	3.0
December	3.9	-2.0	0.6	6.3	..	2.8
2006						
March	6.3	-1.9	0.5	5.9	..	3.0
June	7.7	-0.9	1.5	5.8	2.2	4.0
September	4.6	0.5	1.0	4.9	2.4	3.9
December	1.1	1.7	2.4	4.8	1.4	3.3
2007						
March	0.5	1.4	1.1	4.2	1.8	2.4
June	0.2	1.5	1.0	4.3	1.5	2.1
September	-0.9	0.8	1.6	4.1	3.2	1.9
December	5.6	0.4	1.0	4.1	4.9	3.0
2008						
March	6.8	0.1	1.4	4.3	6.8	4.2
June	6.9	0.0	1.7	4.2	9.9	4.5
September	8.7	0.2	1.6	4.7	9.5	5.0

	<i>Transportation</i>	<i>Communication</i>	<i>Recreation</i>	<i>Education</i>	<i>Financial and insurance services</i>	<i>All groups</i>
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous quarter)						
2004						
September	0.8	0.5	0.5	0.0	..	0.4
December	1.4	0.3	0.8	0.1	..	0.8
2005						
March	-1.0	0.4	0.7	6.0	..	0.7
June	2.1	-0.9	-1.3	0.1	..	0.6
September	3.3	-0.7	1.2	0.0	0.1	0.9
December	-0.5	-0.7	0.0	0.1	1.5	0.5
2006						
March	1.3	0.5	0.6	5.6	-0.6	0.9
June	3.4	0.1	-0.4	0.0	1.2	1.6
September	0.4	0.6	0.8	-0.8	0.3	0.9
December	-3.8	0.5	1.4	0.0	0.5	-0.1
2007						
March	0.7	0.2	-0.7	5.0	-0.2	0.1
June	3.0	0.2	-0.4	0.1	0.9	1.2
September	-0.7	0.0	1.4	-1.0	2.0	0.7
December	2.4	0.0	0.8	0.0	2.1	0.9
2008						
March	1.9	-0.1	-0.3	5.2	1.7	1.3
June	3.1	0.1	-0.2	0.0	3.8	1.5
September	1.0	0.2	1.3	-0.5	1.7	1.2

.. not applicable

CPI GROUPS, Index numbers(a)

Quarters	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Darwin	Canberra	Weighted average of eight capital cities
FOOD									
2006									
September	174.8	170.7	175.1	179.3	169.3	165.1	165.5	174.0	173.0
December	175.5	171.7	176.1	179.3	170.4	167.6	167.3	175.3	173.9
2007									
March	170.5	168.2	171.5	175.6	168.0	165.2	164.1	172.1	169.9
June	172.8	171.8	174.8	177.6	171.3	167.4	167.2	175.7	172.8
September	175.9	175.8	178.3	182.3	173.5	169.4	169.8	176.7	176.1
December	175.2	175.5	177.2	182.7	174.2	171.0	171.0	178.0	175.9
2008									
March	179.6	177.4	180.5	188.3	179.4	173.6	173.2	183.4	179.6
June	178.8	177.6	181.3	187.5	180.8	174.3	174.4	182.2	179.5
September	181.3	181.0	182.9	190.6	181.6	176.7	176.6	185.4	182.1
ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO									
2006									
September	244.2	238.2	232.1	245.7	223.5	224.4	230.7	223.7	237.7
December	245.9	241.2	233.4	245.9	224.3	225.4	231.6	224.8	239.5
2007									
March	247.2	243.4	236.2	250.2	225.7	226.5	233.5	227.7	241.6
June	249.3	244.6	239.6	252.4	228.3	229.7	235.0	228.6	243.6
September	249.1	247.3	240.1	253.6	231.4	231.3	235.4	230.5	245.0
December	252.3	251.5	241.4	257.9	232.8	234.3	240.3	234.6	248.2
2008									
March	255.0	254.2	243.7	259.7	235.3	236.5	242.1	239.1	250.7
June	259.3	259.1	249.2	264.2	239.1	241.7	246.4	244.3	255.4
September	262.6	260.8	255.4	269.5	244.3	244.2	251.7	247.2	259.1
CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR									
2006									
September	111.5	109.0	103.1	109.3	101.6	104.2	105.1	113.1	108.5
December	111.1	109.0	102.0	108.1	102.8	102.3	104.0	110.2	108.1
2007									
March	110.8	108.4	103.8	105.6	101.7	102.2	103.6	110.4	107.7
June	111.1	112.0	103.6	107.5	102.3	102.6	105.1	113.4	109.2
September	111.5	111.1	106.7	108.0	101.8	102.8	104.4	114.7	109.6
December	111.5	111.3	107.2	108.9	102.2	102.6	104.9	114.5	109.8
2008									
March	110.8	106.7	104.8	105.2	98.9	102.1	103.4	113.4	107.2
June	114.1	110.3	107.2	109.0	102.0	102.8	103.9	115.3	110.4
September	114.2	108.9	107.3	107.0	99.7	103.7	105.5	115.2	109.6
HOUSING									
2006									
September	137.2	116.4	143.9	131.2	138.7	135.8	153.8	140.2	132.2
December	137.5	117.4	144.8	131.4	139.7	135.7	157.4	140.9	132.9
2007									
March	138.3	118.6	147.4	132.5	141.3	137.4	158.9	141.8	134.2
June	139.5	119.2	149.4	132.9	142.9	139.6	160.5	142.5	135.3
September	142.3	120.5	153.8	134.4	145.1	141.9	164.6	147.4	137.8
December	143.4	122.2	156.7	135.7	146.3	142.8	166.3	148.9	139.3
2008									
March	145.4	125.9	159.0	139.2	147.7	145.9	168.3	150.1	141.9
June	147.6	126.4	161.3	139.5	149.7	147.3	170.1	152.0	143.4
September	151.2	129.2	166.5	143.4	153.7	150.2	174.2	158.2	147.2

(a) Unless otherwise specified, 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>
HOUSEHOLD CONTENTS AND SERVICES									
2006									
September	122.6	125.6	127.4	124.9	120.9	131.8	115.6	131.7	124.5
December	122.5	125.6	128.0	124.1	122.4	132.0	117.3	132.3	124.7
2007									
March	121.5	124.8	127.3	122.6	120.6	132.2	117.2	130.4	123.6
June	122.9	126.3	129.3	125.2	123.2	133.8	118.6	133.7	125.5
September	119.7	123.9	125.3	123.0	121.0	129.5	116.2	129.0	122.5
December	121.0	124.2	127.1	123.8	121.2	132.3	116.7	130.1	123.5
2008									
March	119.4	124.1	126.5	123.2	120.2	131.7	116.7	131.2	122.7
June	121.9	125.6	129.3	125.7	121.4	130.9	117.7	133.0	124.7
September	120.2	124.4	127.7	125.0	121.7	131.6	116.9	132.0	123.6
HEALTH									
2006									
September	206.1	231.4	223.1	226.4	209.6	241.3	202.9	217.3	219.8
December	203.2	230.9	220.6	225.8	208.7	239.2	204.8	214.5	218.0
2007									
March	209.9	239.0	230.9	231.9	216.0	247.0	213.2	224.3	225.7
June	215.3	242.7	235.3	236.9	221.6	253.9	216.2	227.0	230.5
September	213.8	242.2	233.2	234.4	221.0	251.7	213.6	227.0	229.3
December	211.3	239.8	230.1	232.7	219.9	248.4	211.1	224.2	226.9
2008									
March	220.5	247.8	241.4	239.8	228.8	258.0	219.0	234.8	236.0
June	225.9	253.7	246.9	247.3	232.7	266.6	222.4	239.9	241.6
September	225.0	254.2	245.4	246.3	232.3	265.7	221.2	238.7	241.0
TRANSPORTATION									
2006									
September	161.3	161.3	159.5	163.9	159.8	154.7	153.6	159.3	160.8
December	155.2	154.9	154.0	157.6	154.7	146.9	148.4	152.1	154.7
2007									
March	156.3	155.8	154.9	158.4	156.0	149.4	148.4	152.7	155.8
June	160.7	160.5	159.6	163.8	161.5	154.6	153.5	159.1	160.5
September	159.3	159.7	158.7	162.6	160.4	153.3	153.2	157.3	159.4
December	163.4	163.9	162.3	166.9	162.9	155.1	156.3	161.2	163.3
2008									
March	166.8	166.5	166.1	169.3	166.7	159.1	158.8	163.6	166.4
June	171.0	171.8	172.1	175.5	172.0	164.4	163.7	169.7	171.6
September	172.1	174.2	174.8	177.3	172.6	166.7	167.2	170.5	173.3
COMMUNICATION									
2006									
September	109.8	110.0	113.8	111.7	108.6	111.3	102.0	108.9	110.3
December	110.4	110.3	114.4	112.2	109.2	111.8	102.5	109.5	110.8
2007									
March	110.6	110.5	114.7	112.4	109.4	112.0	102.7	109.7	111.0
June	110.7	110.7	114.8	112.6	109.5	112.2	102.8	109.9	111.2
September	110.7	110.7	114.9	112.6	109.5	112.2	102.8	109.9	111.2
December	110.8	110.8	114.9	112.7	109.5	112.2	102.9	109.9	111.2
2008									
March	110.7	110.7	114.8	112.6	109.5	112.1	102.8	109.8	111.1
June	110.8	110.8	114.9	112.7	109.6	112.2	102.9	109.9	111.2
September	111.0	111.0	115.2	113.0	109.8	112.5	103.1	110.2	111.4

(a) Unless otherwise specified, 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>
RECREATION									
2006									
September	135.7	133.3	129.1	133.2	130.6	132.4	112.9	131.4	133.0
December	137.5	134.3	130.1	135.7	134.3	134.0	113.1	133.1	134.8
2007									
March	136.5	134.6	129.2	133.1	132.2	133.6	110.7	132.2	133.9
June	136.8	132.8	128.7	132.9	131.3	131.7	111.7	131.4	133.3
September	137.7	135.5	130.4	135.3	133.3	133.0	116.7	133.7	135.1
December	138.8	136.6	132.0	136.7	135.2	132.5	111.2	134.6	136.2
2008									
March	138.0	136.5	130.6	136.7	135.9	131.9	110.2	132.8	135.8
June	138.3	135.4	131.6	136.2	134.5	128.9	111.6	131.7	135.5
September	140.3	137.2	133.5	138.5	135.1	129.0	116.3	133.9	137.3
EDUCATION									
2006									
September	270.9	245.7	270.9	295.9	241.2	254.0	174.8	234.1	258.0
December	271.0	245.8	271.0	296.0	241.2	254.0	174.8	234.2	258.0
2007									
March	284.2	255.2	288.5	308.8	260.5	263.6	184.8	249.1	270.9
June	284.4	255.8	289.2	308.8	260.5	263.6	184.8	249.1	271.3
September	280.0	253.6	286.9	307.4	260.3	261.0	184.8	246.4	268.6
December	280.0	253.7	287.0	307.5	260.3	261.0	184.8	246.5	268.6
2008									
March	293.9	265.2	303.0	322.7	280.6	272.7	192.4	261.2	282.5
June	294.0	265.3	303.1	322.7	280.6	272.7	192.6	261.3	282.6
September	291.8	264.2	301.9	322.0	280.5	271.8	192.6	259.9	281.3
FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE SERVICES (b)									
2006									
September	102.8	103.5	101.5	101.3	101.8	100.8	99.5	102.8	102.5
December	103.5	103.3	102.0	101.5	102.6	102.2	100.1	103.6	103.0
2007									
March	103.1	103.3	102.0	101.4	102.3	102.4	101.2	103.4	102.8
June	103.8	104.5	102.9	102.1	103.0	103.3	102.4	104.3	103.7
September	105.5	107.2	105.5	104.3	104.5	105.5	103.5	106.1	105.8
December	107.7	109.8	107.6	106.3	106.3	108.0	105.7	108.3	108.0
2008									
March	109.5	111.7	109.8	108.0	107.6	109.2	107.4	110.3	109.8
June	114.4	115.1	112.1	111.5	114.2	113.3	111.6	113.5	114.0
September	116.5	117.1	114.1	113.4	115.2	115.7	112.4	116.0	115.9

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

(b) Base: June quarter 2005 = 100.0.

Group, sub-group and expenditure class									<i>Weighted average of eight capital cities</i>
	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Darwin	Canberra	
Food	0.38	0.51	0.23	0.47	0.12	0.37	0.32	0.43	0.37
Dairy and related products	0.04	0.04	0.02	0.02	-0.01	0.06	0.04	0.01	0.03
Milk	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.03	0.00	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.01
Cheese	0.03	0.02	-0.01	0.01	0.00	0.05	0.01	0.00	0.01
Ice cream and other dairy products	0.01	-0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	-0.01	0.00	-0.01	0.00
Bread and cereal products	0.11	0.10	0.06	0.08	0.05	0.05	0.04	0.09	0.09
Bread	0.07	0.06	0.05	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.00	0.05	0.06
Cakes and biscuits	0.02	0.03	-0.01	0.02	0.00	0.01	0.03	0.03	0.02
Breakfast cereals	-0.01	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	-0.01	-0.01	0.00	0.00
Other cereal products	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.02
Meat and seafoods	0.03	0.07	0.00	0.02	-0.02	-0.01	-0.01	0.05	0.03
Beef and veal	-0.01	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	-0.01	-0.02	0.01	0.00
Lamb and mutton	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-0.01	0.02	0.01	0.01
Pork	0.01	0.00	-0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Poultry	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-0.02	-0.03	-0.02	0.00	0.00
Bacon and ham	-0.01	0.00	-0.01	-0.01	-0.02	0.00	-0.01	0.00	-0.01
Other fresh and processed meat	0.01	0.04	0.01	0.02	0.01	-0.01	0.00	0.01	0.02
Fish and other seafood	0.03	0.03	0.01	0.02	0.00	0.04	0.02	0.03	0.02
Fruit and vegetables	0.14	0.07	0.13	0.09	0.04	0.12	0.02	0.21	0.10
Fruit	0.08	0.05	0.14	0.11	0.01	0.16	-0.05	0.13	0.08
Vegetables	0.06	0.02	-0.01	-0.03	0.03	-0.03	0.07	0.08	0.03
Non-alcoholic drinks and snack food	0.01	0.03	-0.03	0.00	0.01	0.04	0.04	-0.04	0.01
Soft drinks, waters and juices	0.01	0.01	-0.03	-0.02	0.00	0.01	0.05	0.02	0.01
Snacks and confectionery	-0.01	0.01	-0.01	0.02	0.00	0.04	-0.01	-0.06	0.00
Meals out and take away foods	0.05	0.18	0.04	0.17	0.06	0.10	0.14	0.10	0.10
Restaurant meals	0.03	0.08	0.02	0.06	0.02	0.02	0.09	0.04	0.04
Take away and fast foods	0.02	0.11	0.02	0.11	0.03	0.07	0.06	0.05	0.06
Other food	0.01	0.04	0.03	0.07	-0.02	0.01	0.06	0.01	0.02
Eggs	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00
Jams, honey and sandwich spreads	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00
Tea, coffee and food drinks	-0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	-0.01	0.02	-0.02	0.00
Food additives and condiments	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Fats and oils	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Food n.e.c.	0.01	0.01	-0.01	0.03	-0.03	-0.02	0.02	0.00	0.00
Alcohol and tobacco	0.13	0.07	0.28	0.26	0.26	0.15	0.31	0.12	0.16
Alcoholic drinks	0.09	0.02	0.18	0.17	0.19	0.09	0.23	0.07	0.10
Beer	0.00	-0.02	0.11	0.07	0.09	0.00	0.07	-0.01	0.03
Wine	0.01	-0.04	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.02	0.04	0.03	0.00
Spirits	0.06	0.09	0.06	0.07	0.10	0.08	0.13	0.05	0.07
Tobacco	0.05	0.05	0.09	0.09	0.07	0.06	0.08	0.05	0.06
Clothing and footwear	0.00	-0.07	0.00	-0.12	-0.11	0.06	0.08	0.00	-0.04
Men's clothing	-0.03	-0.02	0.03	-0.04	-0.06	0.01	0.06	0.02	-0.02
Men's outerwear	-0.01	-0.02	0.03	-0.04	-0.05	0.00	0.04	0.02	-0.02
Men's underwear, nightwear and socks	-0.02	-0.01	-0.01	0.00	-0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	-0.01
Women's clothing	0.04	-0.04	-0.04	-0.07	-0.02	0.03	0.04	0.00	-0.01
Women's outerwear	0.05	-0.04	-0.03	-0.08	0.00	0.03	0.03	-0.01	-0.01
Women's underwear, nightwear and hosiery	0.00	0.00	-0.02	0.00	-0.01	0.00	0.01	0.01	-0.01
Children's and infants' clothing	-0.02	-0.01	0.00	-0.03	-0.02	0.01	0.01	0.01	-0.01
Footwear	0.00	-0.02	0.00	0.00	0.02	-0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00
Men's footwear	0.00	-0.01	0.01	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.01	0.00	-0.01
Women's footwear	0.00	-0.01	-0.01	0.00	0.01	-0.02	0.01	0.01	0.00
Children's footwear	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00	-0.02	0.01	0.00
Accessories and clothing services	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.02	-0.04	0.01	0.00	-0.03	0.01
Accessories	0.00	0.02	0.02	0.02	-0.04	0.00	-0.01	-0.04	0.00
Clothing services and shoe repair	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01

(a) All groups index points.

<i>Group, sub-group and expenditure class</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>
Housing	0.80	0.68	1.22	0.86	0.95	0.64	0.90	1.43	0.86
Rents	0.19	0.10	0.35	0.08	0.25	0.05	0.30	0.16	0.19
Utilities	0.40	0.28	0.37	0.41	0.27	0.32	0.20	0.59	0.35
Electricity	0.25	-0.04	0.24	0.15	0.00	0.20	0.15	0.22	0.13
Gas and other household fuels	0.01	0.05	0.04	0.11	0.17	0.05	0.00	0.18	0.06
Water and sewerage	0.15	0.25	0.10	0.15	0.11	0.08	0.04	0.20	0.17
Other housing	0.20	0.30	0.50	0.36	0.42	0.27	0.41	0.69	0.32
House purchase	0.11	0.08	0.33	0.22	0.28	0.13	0.30	0.50	0.17
Property rates and charges	0.07	0.17	0.13	0.13	0.12	0.07	0.10	0.16	0.12
House repairs and maintenance	0.03	0.05	0.03	0.02	0.03	0.07	0.02	0.02	0.03
Household contents and services	-0.19	-0.13	-0.19	-0.10	0.03	0.08	-0.10	-0.11	-0.14
Furniture and furnishings	-0.05	-0.04	-0.02	-0.08	0.05	0.08	0.01	0.03	-0.03
Furniture	-0.04	-0.04	-0.06	-0.13	0.03	0.00	0.02	0.06	-0.04
Floor and window coverings	0.00	-0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.05	0.00	0.00	0.00
Towels and linen	-0.01	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03	-0.01	-0.03	0.01
Household appliances, utensils and tools	-0.03	-0.02	0.01	-0.02	-0.05	0.04	-0.03	0.03	-0.01
Major household appliances	-0.02	0.00	-0.03	-0.02	-0.02	0.01	-0.02	0.03	-0.01
Small electric household appliances	0.01	-0.01	-0.01	-0.01	-0.01	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00
Glassware, tableware and household utensils	-0.02	-0.01	0.06	0.02	-0.01	0.02	0.00	0.00	-0.01
Tools	-0.01	0.00	-0.01	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.01	-0.01	-0.01
Household supplies	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.05	0.06	0.01	-0.02	0.03	0.02
Household cleaning agents	0.02	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.01
Toiletries and personal care products	-0.01	-0.01	0.02	-0.02	0.01	0.01	0.00	-0.01	0.00
Other household supplies	0.00	0.01	-0.01	0.05	0.02	-0.02	-0.04	0.02	0.01
Household services	-0.13	-0.08	-0.21	-0.05	-0.02	-0.07	-0.07	-0.20	-0.10
Child care	-0.14	-0.10	-0.23	-0.12	-0.12	-0.08	-0.14	-0.21	-0.13
Hairdressing and personal care services	0.00	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.03	0.01	0.01
Other household services	0.02	0.01	0.02	0.07	0.07	0.02	0.04	0.00	0.02
Health	-0.03	0.02	-0.04	-0.03	-0.02	-0.02	-0.03	-0.05	-0.02
Health services	0.04	0.09	0.03	0.04	0.05	0.07	0.02	0.05	0.05
Hospital and medical services	0.03	0.08	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.04	0.03	0.03	0.04
Optical services	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	-0.01	0.00	0.00
Dental services	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.00	0.01	0.01
Pharmaceuticals	-0.06	-0.08	-0.07	-0.06	-0.06	-0.10	-0.06	-0.08	-0.07
Transportation	0.14	0.31	0.38	0.23	0.08	0.32	0.42	0.10	0.22
Private motoring	0.13	0.31	0.35	0.21	0.07	0.29	0.42	0.09	0.21
Motor vehicles	-0.06	-0.04	-0.04	-0.06	-0.12	0.01	0.01	-0.12	-0.06
Automotive fuel	0.12	0.25	0.19	0.15	0.02	0.21	0.31	0.12	0.16
Motor vehicle repair and servicing	0.02	0.02	0.08	0.05	0.09	0.00	0.05	0.02	0.04
Motor vehicle parts and accessories	0.04	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.05	0.02	0.03
Other motoring charges	0.00	0.06	0.10	0.05	0.06	0.05	0.01	0.04	0.05
Urban transport fares	0.02	0.00	0.03	0.02	0.01	0.03	0.00	0.01	0.01
Communication	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.01
Postal	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00
Telecommunication	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.00

(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	
Recreation	0.25	0.25	0.21	0.32	0.07	0.02	0.82	0.33	0.23
Audio, visual and computing	-0.08	-0.09	-0.06	-0.02	-0.08	-0.04	-0.05	-0.06	-0.08
Audio, visual and computing equipment	-0.09	-0.07	-0.04	-0.04	-0.08	-0.06	-0.05	-0.05	-0.07
Audio, visual and computing media and services	0.01	-0.02	-0.04	0.02	0.00	0.02	-0.02	0.00	0.00
Books, newspapers and magazines	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.04	0.01	-0.01	0.00	0.03	0.00
Books	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.01	-0.01	0.00	0.03	0.00
Newspapers and magazines	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sport and other recreation	0.07	0.07	0.07	0.08	0.07	0.08	0.05	0.06	0.07
Sports and recreational equipment	-0.01	-0.01	0.00	0.00	-0.01	0.01	-0.03	0.00	0.00
Toys, games and hobbies	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.02	-0.01	0.00	-0.01	0.02	0.01
Sports participation	0.05	0.02	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03
Pets, pet foods and supplies	0.02	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.03	0.01	0.01
Pet services including veterinary	0.00	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01
Other recreational activities	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.01
Holiday travel and accommodation	0.27	0.26	0.21	0.24	0.07	-0.02	0.83	0.30	0.24
Domestic holiday travel and accommodation	0.12	0.10	0.11	0.01	-0.03	-0.10	0.77	0.12	0.09
Overseas holiday travel and accommodation	0.15	0.17	0.11	0.23	0.10	0.09	0.06	0.17	0.15
Education	-0.04	-0.02	-0.02	-0.01	0.00	-0.02	0.00	-0.03	-0.02
Preschool and primary education	-0.03	-0.03	-0.02	-0.01	0.00	-0.01	0.00	-0.03	-0.02
Secondary education	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tertiary education	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Financial and insurance services	0.32	0.27	0.29	0.23	0.13	0.23	0.09	0.31	0.27
Financial services	0.23	0.19	0.26	0.13	0.10	0.22	0.08	0.21	0.20
Deposit and loan facilities	0.17	0.15	0.19	0.12	0.13	0.18	0.10	0.17	0.16
Other financial services	0.06	0.03	0.07	0.02	-0.03	0.05	-0.03	0.04	0.04
Insurance services	0.10	0.08	0.03	0.10	0.03	0.01	0.01	0.11	0.07
All groups	1.8	1.9	2.4	2.2	1.6	1.8	2.8	2.5	1.9

(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
	Sep Qtr 2007	Jun Qtr 2008	Sep Qtr 2008	Jun Qtr 2008 to Sep Qtr 2008	Sep Qtr 2007 to Sep Qtr 2008	Jun Qtr 2008	Sep Qtr 2008	Jun Qtr 2008 to Sep Qtr 2008
Food	176.1	179.5	182.1	1.4	3.4	26.33	26.70	0.37
Dairy and related products	186.5	204.8	207.6	1.4	11.3	2.14	2.17	0.03
Milk	202.2	221.2	224.3	1.4	10.9	0.99	1.00	0.01
Cheese	168.8	187.6	192.3	2.5	13.9	0.62	0.63	0.01
Ice cream and other dairy products	170.7	186.1	186.4	0.2	9.2	0.54	0.54	0.00
Bread and cereal products	184.4	196.7	202.7	3.1	9.9	3.05	3.14	0.09
Bread	217.4	230.3	241.0	4.6	10.9	1.18	1.24	0.06
Cakes and biscuits	169.8	182.5	185.3	1.5	9.1	1.24	1.26	0.02
Breakfast cereals	150.1	157.7	156.5	-0.8	4.3	0.32	0.32	0.00
Other cereal products	149.2	162.0	173.0	6.8	16.0	0.30	0.32	0.02
Meat and seafoods	150.6	156.3	157.3	0.6	4.4	3.87	3.90	0.03
Beef and veal	163.2	166.7	166.8	0.1	2.2	0.77	0.77	0.00
Lamb and mutton	213.4	222.2	223.0	0.4	4.5	0.42	0.43	0.01
Pork	168.8	181.5	180.8	-0.4	7.1	0.26	0.26	0.00
Poultry	98.9	108.1	107.4	-0.6	8.6	0.76	0.76	0.00
Bacon and ham	140.4	141.5	137.5	-2.8	-2.1	0.35	0.34	-0.01
Other fresh and processed meat	160.9	165.5	169.9	2.7	5.6	0.61	0.63	0.02
Fish and other seafood	139.6	140.6	145.3	3.3	4.1	0.69	0.71	0.02
Fruit and vegetables	192.4	163.2	167.7	2.8	-12.8	3.70	3.80	0.10
Fruit	218.7	174.1	182.0	4.5	-16.8	1.66	1.74	0.08
Vegetables	175.5	157.3	159.4	1.3	-9.2	2.04	2.07	0.03
Non-alcoholic drinks and snack food	176.2	185.4	185.7	0.2	5.4	3.35	3.36	0.01
Soft drinks, waters and juices	159.2	168.2	168.6	0.2	5.9	1.58	1.59	0.01
Snacks and confectionery	198.3	207.8	208.0	0.1	4.9	1.77	1.77	0.00
Meals out and take away foods	179.1	187.1	189.6	1.3	5.9	7.67	7.77	0.10
Restaurant meals	183.4	189.3	191.7	1.3	4.5	3.32	3.36	0.04
Take away and fast foods	177.7	187.5	190.0	1.3	6.9	4.34	4.40	0.06
Other food	158.4	167.5	168.8	0.8	6.6	2.55	2.57	0.02
Eggs	202.9	206.0	207.8	0.9	2.4	0.18	0.18	0.00
Jams, honey and sandwich spreads	193.6	203.5	205.0	0.7	5.9	0.25	0.25	0.00
Tea, coffee and food drinks	144.2	156.1	155.4	-0.4	7.8	0.41	0.41	0.00
Food additives and condiments	142.1	145.2	147.3	1.4	3.7	0.45	0.46	0.01
Fats and oils	172.0	186.5	192.0	2.9	11.6	0.35	0.36	0.01
Food n.e.c.	153.1	163.0	163.2	0.1	6.6	0.91	0.91	0.00
Alcohol and tobacco	245.0	255.4	259.1	1.4	5.8	11.28	11.44	0.16
Alcoholic drinks	178.6	187.1	189.6	1.3	6.2	7.25	7.35	0.10
Beer	199.3	207.8	209.4	0.8	5.1	3.30	3.33	0.03
Wine	148.2	153.3	153.3	0.0	3.4	2.41	2.41	0.00
Spirits	180.9	195.5	204.8	4.8	13.2	1.54	1.61	0.07
Tobacco	431.4	445.6	452.6	1.6	4.9	4.03	4.09	0.06
Clothing and footwear	109.6	110.4	109.6	-0.7	0.0	5.81	5.77	-0.04
Men's clothing	106.9	108.3	106.2	-1.9	-0.7	1.11	1.09	-0.02
Men's outerwear	104.4	105.3	103.7	-1.5	-0.7	0.94	0.92	-0.02
Men's underwear, nightwear and socks	120.6	125.2	119.8	-4.3	-0.7	0.17	0.16	-0.01
Women's clothing	109.6	109.8	109.1	-0.6	-0.5	2.03	2.02	-0.01
Women's outerwear	101.6	101.5	100.9	-0.6	-0.7	1.61	1.60	-0.01
Women's underwear, nightwear and hosiery	144.0	146.0	144.8	-0.8	0.6	0.43	0.42	-0.01
Children's and infants' clothing	116.0	116.4	114.0	-2.1	-1.7	0.59	0.58	-0.01
Footwear	97.8	97.0	96.8	-0.2	-1.0	0.95	0.95	0.00
Men's footwear	93.9	89.6	88.8	-0.9	-5.4	0.26	0.25	-0.01
Women's footwear	101.2	102.0	101.5	-0.5	0.3	0.51	0.51	0.00
Children's footwear	98.5	98.9	100.1	1.2	1.6	0.19	0.19	0.00
Accessories and clothing services(b)	109.6	112.6	113.4	0.7	3.5	1.13	1.14	0.01
Accessories(b)	93.1	95.8	96.3	0.5	3.4	0.87	0.87	0.00
Clothing services and shoe repair	188.2	192.2	194.2	1.0	3.2	0.26	0.27	0.01

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

(b) Base: June quarter 1998 = 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
	Sep Qtr 2007	Jun Qtr 2008	Sep Qtr 2008	Jun Qtr 2008 to Sep Qtr 2008	Sep Qtr 2007 to Sep Qtr 2008	Jun Qtr 2008	Sep Qtr 2008	Jun Qtr 2008 to Sep Qtr 2008
Housing	137.8	143.4	147.2	2.6	6.8	32.93	33.79	0.86
Rents	157.6	167.0	170.5	2.1	8.2	9.02	9.21	0.19
Utilities	176.1	183.1	195.1	6.6	10.8	5.39	5.74	0.35
Electricity	166.2	175.0	183.0	4.6	10.1	2.82	2.95	0.13
Gas and other household fuels	195.6	205.3	214.9	4.7	9.9	1.21	1.27	0.06
Water and sewerage(b)	147.9	148.5	166.8	12.3	12.8	1.35	1.52	0.17
Other housing	130.4	134.6	137.0	1.8	5.1	18.52	18.84	0.32
House purchase(b)	157.0	163.3	165.4	1.3	5.4	13.05	13.22	0.17
Property rates and charges(b)	163.3	163.3	173.2	6.1	6.1	1.99	2.11	0.12
House repairs and maintenance	165.6	169.5	171.2	1.0	3.4	3.48	3.51	0.03
Household contents and services	122.5	124.7	123.6	-0.9	0.9	14.67	14.53	-0.14
Furniture and furnishings	129.1	130.4	129.6	-0.6	0.4	4.71	4.68	-0.03
Furniture	129.7	131.6	129.9	-1.3	0.2	2.97	2.93	-0.04
Floor and window coverings	146.2	148.3	148.1	-0.1	1.3	1.21	1.21	0.00
Towels and linen	101.0	98.8	100.8	2.0	-0.2	0.53	0.54	0.01
Household appliances, utensils and tools	103.3	103.5	102.8	-0.7	-0.5	2.58	2.57	-0.01
Major household appliances	106.6	107.2	105.9	-1.2	-0.7	0.98	0.97	-0.01
Small electric household appliances	93.8	93.5	93.3	-0.2	-0.5	0.38	0.38	0.00
Glassware, tableware and household utensils	96.9	96.2	95.9	-0.3	-1.0	0.70	0.69	-0.01
Tools	110.0	111.6	110.9	-0.6	0.8	0.53	0.52	-0.01
Household supplies	137.3	139.7	140.3	0.4	2.2	4.51	4.53	0.02
Household cleaning agents	132.1	128.8	132.9	3.2	0.6	0.50	0.51	0.01
Toiletries and personal care products	144.0	144.8	144.4	-0.3	0.3	1.78	1.78	0.00
Other household supplies	142.6	148.0	148.5	0.3	4.1	2.23	2.24	0.01
Household services	213.0	222.7	214.6	-3.6	0.8	2.86	2.76	-0.10
Child care	170.2	182.3	140.5	-22.9	-17.5	0.60	0.47	-0.13
Hairdressing and personal care services	189.2	195.0	196.9	1.0	4.1	1.24	1.25	0.01
Other household services	227.0	238.1	243.4	2.2	7.2	1.02	1.04	0.02
Health	229.3	241.6	241.0	-0.2	5.1	7.96	7.94	-0.02
Health services	249.8	262.7	264.8	0.8	6.0	6.17	6.22	0.05
Hospital and medical services	262.4	277.1	279.5	0.9	6.5	4.83	4.87	0.04
Optical services	148.1	149.9	150.1	0.1	1.4	0.18	0.18	0.00
Dental services	236.3	245.4	247.1	0.7	4.6	1.16	1.17	0.01
Pharmaceuticals	158.5	168.2	161.7	-3.9	2.0	1.79	1.72	-0.07
Transportation	159.4	171.6	173.3	1.0	8.7	22.42	22.64	0.22
Private motoring	155.8	168.1	169.8	1.0	9.0	21.21	21.42	0.21
Motor vehicles	99.6	98.4	97.7	-0.7	-1.9	7.22	7.16	-0.06
Automotive fuel	210.0	258.2	263.3	2.0	25.4	7.94	8.10	0.16
Motor vehicle repair and servicing	154.3	158.0	160.0	1.3	3.7	3.20	3.24	0.04
Motor vehicle parts and accessories	126.4	130.4	133.3	2.2	5.5	1.14	1.17	0.03
Other motoring charges	220.4	226.3	232.4	2.7	5.4	1.71	1.76	0.05
Urban transport fares	223.6	230.7	233.5	1.2	4.4	1.21	1.22	0.01
Communication	111.2	111.2	111.4	0.2	0.2	4.94	4.95	0.01
Postal	142.3	143.3	147.3	2.8	3.5	0.18	0.18	0.00
Telecommunication	108.7	108.7	108.9	0.2	0.2	4.77	4.77	0.00

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

(b) Base: June quarter 1998 = 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
	Sep Qtr 2007	Jun Qtr 2008	Sep Qtr 2008	Jun Qtr 2008 to Sep Qtr 2008	Sep Qtr 2007 to Sep Qtr 2008	Jun Qtr 2008	Sep Qtr 2008	Jun Qtr 2008 to Sep Qtr 2008
Recreation	135.1	135.5	137.3	1.3	1.6	17.85	18.08	0.23
Audio, visual and computing	47.5	45.2	44.3	-2.0	-6.7	3.67	3.59	-0.08
Audio, visual and computing equipment	23.4	20.7	19.9	-3.9	-15.0	1.64	1.57	-0.07
Audio, visual and computing media and services	95.7	97.2	96.9	-0.3	1.3	2.03	2.03	0.00
Books, newspapers and magazines	215.1	218.4	219.3	0.4	2.0	1.34	1.34	0.00
Books(b)	126.9	128.4	128.5	0.1	1.3	0.68	0.68	0.00
Newspapers and magazines(b)	146.8	149.6	150.8	0.8	2.7	0.66	0.66	0.00
Sport and other recreation	174.5	177.9	179.8	1.1	3.0	6.07	6.14	0.07
Sports and recreational equipment(b)	86.3	85.8	85.4	-0.5	-1.0	0.79	0.79	0.00
Toys, games and hobbies(b)	95.1	94.2	94.5	0.3	-0.6	0.73	0.74	0.01
Sports participation(b)	161.3	164.8	169.2	2.7	4.9	1.23	1.26	0.03
Pets, pet foods and supplies	162.3	161.1	163.4	1.4	0.7	0.69	0.70	0.01
Pet services including veterinary	216.2	221.5	224.0	1.1	3.6	0.74	0.75	0.01
Other recreational activities(b)	151.9	159.3	160.9	1.0	5.9	1.89	1.90	0.01
Holiday travel and accommodation	145.1	147.1	152.2	3.5	4.9	6.77	7.01	0.24
Domestic holiday travel and accommodation	152.4	152.8	156.4	2.4	2.6	3.77	3.86	0.09
Overseas holiday travel and accommodation	135.9	139.6	146.5	4.9	7.8	3.00	3.15	0.15
Education	268.6	282.6	281.3	-0.5	4.7	4.66	4.64	-0.02
Preschool and primary education(c)	150.9	160.0	156.2	-2.4	3.5	0.91	0.89	-0.02
Secondary education(c)	158.3	168.7	168.7	0.0	6.6	1.71	1.71	0.00
Tertiary education(c)	130.2	135.1	135.1	0.0	3.8	2.04	2.04	0.00
Financial and insurance services(d)	105.8	114.0	115.9	1.7	9.5	15.74	16.01	0.27
Financial services(d)	105.5	114.1	115.8	1.5	9.8	13.21	13.41	0.20
Deposit and loan facilities(d)	103.8	118.1	120.4	1.9	16.0	7.82	7.98	0.16
Other financial services(d)	107.8	108.7	109.5	0.7	1.6	5.39	5.43	0.04
Insurance services	266.4	282.2	290.5	2.9	9.0	2.53	2.60	0.07
All groups	158.6	164.6	166.5	1.2	5.0	164.6	166.5	1.9

(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.

(d) Base: June quarter 2005 = 100.0.

SPECIAL SERIES, Weighted average of eight capital cities(a)

	INDEX NUMBERS(b)			PERCENTAGE CHANGE		CONTRIBUTION TO TOTAL CPI (ALL GROUPS INDEX POINTS)		CHANGE IN POINTS CONTRIBUTION
	Sep Qtr 2007	Jun Qtr 2008	Sep Qtr 2008	Jun Qtr 2008 to Sep Qtr 2008	Sep Qtr 2007 to Sep Qtr 2008	Jun Qtr 2008	Sep Qtr 2008	Jun Qtr 2008 to Sep Qtr 2008
All groups	158.60	164.6	166.5	1.2	5.0	164.6	166.5	1.9
Selected components								
Goods component	156.6	161.8	163.4	1.0	4.3	95.38	96.32	0.94
Services component	162.9	170.0	172.4	1.4	5.8	69.20	70.19	0.99
Tradables component(c)	119.4	122.6	123.4	0.7	3.4	67.02	67.44	0.42
Non-tradables component(c)	141.7	148.1	150.4	1.6	6.1	97.56	99.08	1.52
All groups excluding								
Food	155.3	161.7	163.5	1.1	5.3	138.25	139.81	1.56
Alcohol and tobacco	152.6	158.2	160.1	1.2	4.9	153.30	155.07	1.77
Clothing and footwear	161.9	168.1	170.2	1.2	5.1	158.77	160.74	1.97
Housing	161.2	167.1	168.5	0.8	4.5	131.65	132.72	1.07
Household contents and services	164.0	170.5	172.8	1.3	5.4	149.91	151.98	2.07
Health	155.3	161.0	163.0	1.2	5.0	156.62	158.57	1.95
Transportation	158.6	163.6	165.5	1.2	4.4	142.16	143.87	1.71
Communication	159.7	165.9	167.9	1.2	5.1	159.64	161.56	1.92
Recreation	162.0	168.8	170.8	1.2	5.4	146.73	148.43	1.70
Education	157.2	163.0	165.0	1.2	5.0	159.92	161.87	1.95
Financial and insurance services	165.5	171.0	172.9	1.1	4.5	148.84	150.50	1.66
Housing and Financial and insurance services	161.5	166.6	167.7	0.7	3.8	115.92	116.72	0.80
Hospital and medical services	156.0	161.8	163.7	1.2	4.9	159.75	161.64	1.89

(a) Refer to paragraphs 11 and 12 of the Explanatory Notes for a description of these series.

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

(c) Base: June quarter 1998 = 100.0.

ANALYTICAL SERIES, Index numbers(a)(b)

Period	All groups	All groups excluding Housing and Financial and insurance services	All groups excluding 'volatile items'	MARKET GOODS AND SERVICES EXCLUDING 'VOLATILE ITEMS'				
				Goods	Services	Total	Tradables(c)	Non-tradables(c)
2004-05	147.0	150.3	154.0	143.2	161.5	148.4	112.6	129.6
2005-06	151.7	155.2	157.6	145.6	165.2	151.2	116.0	133.9
2006-07	156.1	159.8	161.7	148.2	170.0	154.6	118.5	138.6
2007-08	161.4	163.8	167.2	151.8	177.8	159.7	120.7	144.9
2004								
September	145.4	148.8	152.5	142.2	159.9	147.2	111.9	127.8
December	146.5	149.9	153.4	143.1	161.2	148.2	112.6	128.8
2005								
March	147.5	150.8	154.7	143.4	162.5	148.8	112.5	130.5
June	148.4	151.7	155.3	144.2	162.4	149.3	113.4	131.1
September	149.8	153.2	156.2	144.9	163.4	150.2	114.8	132.2
December	150.6	153.7	156.9	145.3	164.8	150.9	114.8	133.3
2006								
March	151.9	155.4	158.1	145.7	165.6	151.4	115.7	134.5
June	154.3	158.4	159.1	146.4	166.8	152.3	118.8	135.6
September	155.7	159.7	160.3	147.3	168.2	153.4	119.8	136.9
December	155.5	159.2	161.1	147.8	170.1	154.4	118.1	138.0
2007								
March	155.6	159.0	162.1	148.3	170.3	154.8	116.9	139.2
June	157.5	161.2	163.3	149.5	171.3	155.9	119.2	140.2
September	158.6	161.5	164.4	149.9	174.1	157.2	119.4	141.7
December	160.1	162.7	166.0	151.3	176.7	159.0	119.8	143.6
2008								
March	162.2	164.5	168.0	152.1	178.6	160.2	120.8	146.1
June	164.6	166.6	170.2	153.9	181.7	162.4	122.6	148.1
September	166.5	167.7	172.0	154.7	184.9	164.1	123.4	150.4

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

(c) Base: June quarter 1998 = 100.0.

(b) Refer to paragraphs 11-13 of the Explanatory Notes for a description of these series.

Period	All groups excluding Housing and Financial and insurance services			MARKET GOODS AND SERVICES EXCLUDING 'VOLATILE ITEMS'					RBA CONSUMER PRICE MEASURES	
	All groups		All groups excluding 'volatile items'	Goods	Services	Total	Tradables	Non-tradables	Weighted median	Trimmed mean
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous financial year)										
2004-05	2.4	2.0	2.1	1.1	2.4	1.6	1.0	3.6	2.5	2.5
2005-06	3.2	3.3	2.3	1.7	2.3	1.9	3.0	3.3	2.6	2.6
2006-07	2.9	3.0	2.6	1.8	2.9	2.2	2.2	3.5	3.0	2.8
2007-08	3.4	2.5	3.4	2.4	4.6	3.3	1.9	4.5	4.0	3.7
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from corresponding quarter of previous year)										
2004										
September	2.3	2.0	1.8	0.6	2.4	1.2	0.7	3.6	2.5	2.4
December	2.6	2.3	2.1	1.2	2.1	1.4	1.4	3.5	2.6	r2.7
2005										
March	2.4	2.0	2.4	1.3	2.8	1.8	0.6	3.7	2.4	2.6
June	2.5	2.1	2.3	1.5	2.4	1.8	1.3	3.5	2.5	2.6
September	3.0	3.0	2.4	1.9	2.2	2.0	2.6	3.4	r2.5	2.6
December	2.8	2.5	2.3	1.5	2.2	1.8	2.0	3.5	r2.5	2.3
2006										
March	3.0	3.1	2.2	1.6	1.9	1.7	2.8	3.1	2.7	2.6
June	4.0	4.4	2.4	1.5	2.7	2.0	4.8	3.4	2.9	2.8
September	3.9	4.2	2.6	1.7	2.9	2.1	4.4	3.6	3.0	2.9
December	3.3	3.6	2.7	1.7	3.2	2.3	2.9	3.5	2.9	2.9
2007										
March	2.4	2.3	2.5	1.8	2.8	2.2	1.0	3.5	2.9	2.7
June	2.1	1.8	2.6	2.1	2.7	2.4	0.3	3.4	2.9	2.7
September	1.9	1.1	2.6	1.8	3.5	2.5	-0.3	3.5	3.2	2.9
December	3.0	2.2	3.0	2.4	3.9	3.0	1.4	4.1	3.8	r3.5
2008										
March	4.2	3.5	3.6	2.6	4.9	3.5	3.3	5.0	4.4	4.0
June	4.5	3.3	4.2	2.9	6.1	4.2	2.9	5.6	4.5	4.3
September	5.0	3.8	4.6	3.2	6.2	4.4	3.4	6.1	4.8	4.6
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous quarter)										
2004										
September	0.4	0.1	0.5	0.1	0.8	0.3	-0.1	0.9	0.6	0.6
December	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.8	0.6	0.7
2005										
March	0.7	0.6	0.8	0.2	0.8	0.4	-0.1	1.3	0.5	0.6
June	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.6	-0.1	0.3	0.8	0.5	0.7	0.7
September	0.9	1.0	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.6	1.2	0.8	0.6	0.6
December	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.9	0.5	0.0	0.8	0.6	0.5
2006										
March	0.9	1.1	0.8	0.3	0.5	0.3	0.8	0.9	0.8	0.8
June	1.6	1.9	0.6	0.5	0.7	0.6	2.7	0.8	0.9	0.9
September	0.9	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.8	0.7	0.8	1.0	0.7	0.7
December	-0.1	-0.3	0.5	0.3	1.1	0.7	-1.4	0.8	0.5	0.5
2007										
March	0.1	-0.1	0.6	0.3	0.1	0.3	-1.0	0.9	0.7	0.6
June	1.2	1.4	0.7	0.8	0.6	0.7	2.0	0.7	1.0	0.9
September	0.7	0.2	0.7	0.3	1.6	0.8	0.2	1.1	1.0	r0.8
December	0.9	0.7	1.0	0.9	1.5	1.1	0.3	1.3	1.1	r1.1
2008										
March	1.3	1.1	1.2	0.5	1.1	0.8	0.8	1.7	1.3	1.2
June	1.5	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.7	1.4	1.5	1.4	1.0	1.2
September	1.2	0.7	1.1	0.5	1.8	1.0	0.7	1.6	1.3	1.2

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(a) Refer to paragraphs 11-13 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>
2004-05	150.3	132.9	161.2	560.2	106.2	204.9	125.6	134.7	139.3	146.2	131.1	149.7
2005-06	155.2	136.8	162.6	646.6	106.1	210.4	126.9	138.2	142.2	152.6	133.1	152.8
2006-07	159.8	139.6	164.7	nya	106.4	215.4	127.8	138.4	143.8	155.6	135.0	157.6
2007-08	163.8	143.2	171.2	nya	107.3	223.2	134.2	144.4	145.8	161.8	138.7	162.4
2004												
September	148.8	131.8	160.0	539.1	106.2	203.2	125.7	134.5	138.5	144.3	130.6	148.6
December	149.9	132.8	161.6	553.0	106.8	203.0	125.6	134.2	138.9	145.7	130.6	149.5
2005												
March	150.8	133.1	161.4	571.4	105.6	206.0	125.4	133.9	139.2	146.2	131.2	149.7
June	151.7	133.9	161.9	577.1	106.1	207.3	125.6	136.2	140.6	148.6	131.8	151.1
September	153.2	135.3	162.1	589.5	105.8	208.7	126.3	139.8	141.9	150.9	132.8	151.4
December	153.7	136.1	162.6	655.1	106.1	208.8	127.1	138.5	141.5	152.0	132.9	152.3
2006												
March	155.4	136.7	162.2	668.6	105.9	211.4	127.2	136.0	141.9	152.4	132.8	152.5
June	158.4	138.9	163.4	673.3	106.5	212.5	127.1	138.6	143.6	155.2	133.7	154.9
September	159.7	139.5	164.0	681.5	106.8	214.3	127.3	138.5	143.3	155.7	134.2	156.0
December	159.2	138.8	164.3	698.8	106.5	213.6	127.9	137.7	142.2	153.4	134.2	157.1
2007												
March	159.0	139.3	164.8	710.7	105.8	215.7	127.7	137.2	143.7	154.8	135.1	157.7
June	161.2	140.6	165.7	nya	106.4	218.1	128.4	140.3	145.9	158.5	136.5	159.6
September	161.5	140.8	167.4	nya	106.6	219.5	131.1	141.3	145.4	158.5	137.3	159.2
December	162.7	142.7	169.4	nya	107.2	220.9	133.2	146.2	144.7	160.1	138.3	161.2
2008												
March	164.5	143.5	172.9	nya	107.1	223.8	135.5	143.9	145.0	161.9	139.1	162.6
June	166.6	145.8	175.1	nya	108.1	228.7	137.1	146.2	148.2	166.7	139.9	166.5
September	167.7	nya	nya	nya	nya	231.8	137.7	148.9	nya	169.2	140.9	nya

nya not yet available

(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)												
2004-05	2.0	1.8	1.7	6.8	0.1	3.8	1.1	2.7	1.8	3.1	1.7	1.2
2005-06	3.3	2.9	0.9	15.4	-0.1	2.7	1.0	2.6	2.1	4.4	1.5	2.1
2006-07	3.0	2.0	1.3	nya	0.3	2.4	0.7	0.1	1.1	2.0	1.4	3.1
2007-08	2.5	2.6	3.9	nya	0.8	3.6	5.0	4.3	1.4	4.0	2.7	3.0

PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from corresponding quarter of previous year)

2004												
September	2.0	1.5	2.0	5.7	-0.1	4.7	2.2	3.9	1.7	2.6	2.0	1.0
December	2.3	1.9	2.1	5.7	0.7	3.7	1.9	2.4	2.1	3.6	2.0	1.2
2005												
March	2.0	1.9	1.5	8.5	-0.2	3.5	0.2	2.1	1.7	3.1	1.5	1.2
June	2.1	2.0	1.2	7.2	-0.1	3.4	0.2	2.7	1.4	3.2	1.2	1.5
September	3.0	2.6	1.3	9.3	-0.4	2.7	0.5	3.9	2.5	4.6	1.7	1.9
December	2.5	2.5	0.6	18.5	-0.7	2.9	1.2	3.2	1.9	4.3	1.8	1.9
2006												
March	3.1	2.7	0.5	17.0	0.3	2.6	1.4	1.6	1.9	4.2	1.2	1.9
June	4.4	3.7	0.9	16.7	0.4	2.5	1.2	1.8	2.1	4.4	1.4	2.5
September	4.2	3.1	1.2	15.6	1.0	2.7	0.8	-0.9	1.0	3.2	1.1	3.0
December	3.6	1.9	1.0	6.5	0.4	2.3	0.6	-0.6	0.5	0.9	1.0	3.2
2007												
March	2.3	1.9	1.6	6.3	-0.1	2.0	0.4	0.9	1.3	1.6	1.7	3.4
June	1.8	1.2	1.4	nya	-0.1	2.6	1.0	1.2	1.6	2.1	2.1	3.0
September	1.1	1.0	1.0	nya	-0.2	2.4	3.0	1.7	1.5	1.8	2.3	2.1
December	2.2	2.8	3.1	nya	0.6	3.4	4.1	5.8	1.8	4.4	3.1	2.6
2008												
March	3.5	3.0	4.9	nya	1.2	3.8	6.1	4.9	0.9	4.6	3.0	3.1
June	3.3	3.8	5.7	nya	1.6	4.9	6.8	4.2	1.6	5.2	2.5	4.3
September	3.8	nya	nya	nya	nya	5.6	5.0	5.4	nya	6.8	2.6	nya

PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous quarter)

2004												
September	0.1	0.4	0.0	0.1	0.0	1.3	0.3	1.4	-0.1	0.2	0.3	-0.2
December	0.7	0.7	1.0	2.6	0.6	-0.1	-0.1	-0.2	0.3	1.0	0.0	0.6
2005												
March	0.6	0.2	-0.1	3.3	-1.1	1.5	-0.2	-0.2	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.1
June	0.6	0.6	0.3	1.0	0.5	0.6	0.2	1.7	1.0	1.6	0.5	0.9
September	1.0	1.0	0.1	2.1	-0.3	0.7	0.6	2.6	0.9	1.5	0.8	0.2
December	0.3	0.6	0.3	11.1	0.3	0.0	0.6	-0.9	-0.3	0.7	0.1	0.6
2006												
March	1.1	0.4	-0.2	2.1	-0.2	1.2	0.1	-1.8	0.3	0.3	-0.1	0.1
June	1.9	1.6	0.7	0.7	0.6	0.5	-0.1	1.9	1.2	1.8	0.7	1.6
September	0.8	0.4	0.4	1.2	0.3	0.8	0.2	-0.1	-0.2	0.3	0.4	0.7
December	-0.3	-0.5	0.2	2.4	-0.3	-0.3	0.5	-0.6	-0.8	-1.5	0.0	0.7
2007												
March	-0.1	0.4	0.3	1.9	-0.7	1.0	-0.2	-0.4	1.1	0.9	0.7	0.4
June	1.4	0.9	0.5	nya	0.6	1.1	0.5	2.3	1.5	2.4	1.0	1.2
September	0.2	0.2	1.0	nya	0.2	0.6	2.1	1.6	-0.3	0.0	0.6	-0.3
December	0.7	1.3	1.2	nya	0.5	0.6	1.6	3.4	-0.5	1.0	0.7	1.3
2008												
March	1.1	0.6	2.1	nya	-0.1	1.3	1.7	-1.6	0.2	1.1	0.6	0.9
June	1.3	1.6	1.3	nya	1.0	2.2	1.2	1.6	2.2	3.0	0.6	2.4
September	0.7	nya	nya	nya	nya	1.4	0.4	1.8	nya	1.5	0.7	nya

nya not yet available

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 contents and services
- Health
- Transportation
- Communication
- Recreation
- Education
- Financial and insurance services.

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, 2005* (cat. no. 6461.0) which is available on the ABS website <<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 90 expenditure classes (that is, groupings of like items) in the fifteenth 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 fifteen series of price indexes which have been linked to form a continuous series. The current and historical weighting patterns for the CPI for the weighted average of the eight capital cities is published in *Consumer Price Index: Historical Weighting Patterns (1948 to 2005)* (cat. no. 6431). The 15th series weighting pattern for the weighted average of eight capital cities and for each of the eight capital cities, as well as each city's percentage contribution to the weighted average, are also published in the *Consumer Price Index: 15th Series Weighting Pattern (Reissue)* (cat. no. 6430.0)

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

WEIGHTING PATTERN *continued*

(electronic publication). Both publications are available on the ABS website <<http://www.abs.gov.au>>.

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 2008	166.5 (see table 1)
less June Quarter 2008	164.6 (see table 1)
Change in index points	1.9
Percentage change	$1.9/164.6 \times 100 = 1.2\%$

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 2.17 index points to the total All groups index number of 166.5 for September Quarter 2008. 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, sub-groups 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 excluding Financial and insurance services*: Reflecting the changing composition of the CPI, from September quarter 1989 to June quarter 1998, comprises the All groups CPI excluding house insurance, house contents insurance, vehicle insurance and mortgage interest charges and consumer credit charges; from September quarter 1998 to June quarter 2000 comprises the All groups CPI excluding house insurance, house contents insurance and vehicle insurance; from September quarter 2000 to June quarter 2005 comprises the All groups CPI excluding insurance services; from September quarter 2005 comprises the All groups CPI excluding Financial and insurance services.
- *All groups excluding Housing and Financial and insurance services*: Reflecting the changing composition of the CPI, from September quarter 1989 to June quarter 1998, comprises the All groups CPI excluding Housing, house contents insurance, vehicle insurance and consumer credit charges; from September quarter 1998 to June quarter 2000 comprises the All groups CPI excluding Housing, house insurance, house contents insurance and vehicle insurance; from September quarter 2000 to June quarter 2005 comprises the All groups CPI excluding Housing and insurance services; from September quarter 2005 comprises the All groups CPI excluding Housing and Financial and insurance services.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

SPECIAL SERIES *continued*

- *All groups, goods component*: comprises the Food group (except Restaurant meals expenditure class), Alcohol and tobacco group, Clothing and footwear group (except Clothing services and shoe repair expenditure class) and Household contents and services group (except Household services sub-group); 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 and Pets, pet foods and supplies 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.
- *RBA measures 'Weighted median' and 'Trimmed mean'*: These measures are calculated following the methodology adopted by the Reserve Bank of Australia. The 'Trimmed mean' is calculated by ordering the CPI expenditure class components by their price change in the quarter and taking the expenditure weighted average of the middle 70 per cent of these price changes. The 'Weighted median' is the price change of the component in the middle of this ordering. For calculating the 'Weighted median' and 'Trimmed mean' series, where CPI components are identified as having a seasonal pattern, quarterly price changes are estimated on a seasonally adjusted basis. Seasonal adjustment factors are calculated using the history of price changes up to the current quarter CPI and are revised each quarter. These revisions to the seasonal adjustment factors lead to revisions in the 'Weighted median' and 'Trimmed mean' series. Movements in the series from one period to another are expressed as percentage changes (see paragraph 9).

13 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, Child care, Health, Other motoring charges, Urban transport fares, Postal, and Education. A detailed description of the special and analytical series was published in Appendix 1 to the September quarter 2005 issue of *Consumer Price Index, Australia* (cat. no. 6401.0).

14 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.

ROUNDING

15 The CPI uses a hierarchy of rounding procedures to ensure consistency between published index numbers and percentage changes. However, rounding differences can arise in the 'points contributions' published in tables 6, 7 and 8 because of the different levels of precision required in those data.

INTERNATIONAL COMPARISONS

16 In analysing price movements in Australia, an important consideration is Australia's performance relative to other countries. However, a simple comparison of All groups (or headline) CPIs is often inappropriate because of the different measurement approaches used by countries for certain products, particularly housing and financial and insurance services. To provide a better basis for international comparisons, the Seventeenth International Conference of Labour Statisticians adopted a resolution which called for countries to 'if possible, compile and provide for dissemination to the international

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

community an index that excludes housing and financial services' in addition to the all-items index.

17 Table 11 aims to present indexes for selected countries on a basis consistent with the above resolution and comparable to the Australian series 'All groups excluding Housing and Financial services' (see paragraph 12). However, other than Australia and New Zealand, the countries represented in this table are yet to develop indexes on this basis, so the indexes presented here are consistent with the series previously published for 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.

18 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 housing and financial services or data to enable their derivation.

RELATED PUBLICATIONS

19 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 website <<http://www.abs.gov.au>>. The ABS also issues a daily Release Advice on the website which details products to be released in the week ahead.

20 Users may also wish to refer to the following publications and other data products that are available free of charge from the ABS website:

- *Average Retail Prices of Selected Items, Eight Capital Cities* (cat. no. 6403.0.55.001)
- *Information Paper: Experimental Price Indexes for Financial Services* (cat. no. 6413.0)
- *House Price Indexes: Eight Capital Cities* (cat. no. 6416.0)
- *Consumer Price Index: 15th Series Weighting Pattern (Reissue)* (cat. no. 6430.0)
- *A Guide to the Consumer Price Index, 15th Series* (cat. no. 6440.0)
- *Consumer Price Index: Concordance with Household Expenditure Classification, Australia* (cat. no. 6446.0.55.001)
- *Information Paper: The Introduction of Hedonic Price Indexes for Personal Computers* (cat. no. 6458.0)
- *Australian Consumer Price Index: Concepts, Sources and Methods, 2005* (cat. no. 6461.0)
- *Information Paper: Introduction of the 15th Series Australian Consumer Price Index 2005 (Reissue)* (cat. no. 6462.0)
- *Information Paper: Consumer Price Index with Reserve Bank of Australia Consumer Price Measures, Australia, 2007* (cat. no. 6401.0.55.002)
- *Consumer Price Index: Historical Weighting Patterns (1948 to 2005)* (cat. no. 6431.0).

DATA AVAILABLE

21 As well as the statistics included in this publication, there is more detailed data for each capital city available on the ABS website. Inquiries should be made to the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070 or to Lee Taylor on (02) 6252 6251.

TREATMENT OF CHILD CARE SERVICES IN THE AUSTRALIAN CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

INTRODUCTION

1. The purpose of this article is to describe how the costs of child care services are treated in the Australian Consumer Price Index (CPI). It also sets out the change in treatment of the Child Care Tax Rebate (CCTR) that took effect in the CPI from the September quarter 2007 and subsequent changes to the Child Care Benefit (CCB) and CCTR from the September quarter 2008.

2. The simplest way of thinking about the CPI is to imagine a basket of goods and services comprising all the types of items bought by Australian households. The composition of the CPI basket is based largely on information on the spending habits of Australian households during 2003-04, obtained from the Household Expenditure Survey (HES) conducted by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS). While the HES did not identify the cost of child care as being a large expense overall for the general population (0.45% of the average weekly household expenditure in June quarter 2005), for families with young children it is a much more significant expense. This article outlines the methodology for pricing child care in the CPI.

3. For the purposes of the CPI, expenditure on child care relates to fees charged by registered or CCB approved child care centres and crèches, baby-sitting charges, and play group charges. In practice, fees paid to private and community child care centres, pre-schools, and to family day-care providers are priced in the CPI.

MEASURES TO ASSIST FAMILIES

4. Before describing the methodology for measuring child care in the CPI, it is necessary to understand the two mechanisms that the government has put in place to assist families with the cost of child care, i.e. the CCB and the CCTR.

Child Care Benefit (CCB)

5. CCB is administered by the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) and delivered by the Families Assistance Office (FAO). It is a payment to assist families with children in registered and approved child care, with benefit rates depending on the individual circumstances of each family (number of children in care, number of hours each is in care, family income, and the type of child care). The maximum rate of CCB (currently \$173.50 per week for one child in 50 hours of CCB-approved care) is available to families with incomes up to a threshold of \$36,573 a year. Once a family's income exceeds this threshold, the amount of CCB tapers as income increases. The income cut-off point for a family with one child is a combined income of \$126,793, after which they are not eligible for the CCB. Children using part time care attract a slightly higher rate of CCB per hour than those using full time care.

Child Care Tax Rebate (CCTR)

6. The Federal Government announced that it would introduce a 30% CCTR for out-of-pocket child care costs from 2004/05. Working, studying or training parents with children in approved child care were entitled to a tax offset of 30% of the difference between the child care fees incurred and the CCB, up to a limit that is indexed annually. From 1 July 2008, the government raised the CCTR to 50% and increased the maximum rebate that can be claimed to \$7,500 per annum. The formula to calculate the CCTR is as follows:

$$\text{CCTR} = (\text{Gross Child Care Fees} - \text{CCB}) \times 50\%$$

7. When the system began in 2004/05, the CCTR could only be claimed in the tax return of the following year and could only reduce a tax liability to nil (any excess could not be refunded).

8. In May 2007, the government announced that CCTR would be administered differently. The CCTR ceased to be a tax offset and instead would be paid directly to families as a rebate by the FAO as soon as possible after the end of the financial year in

APPENDIX CHILD CARE SERVICES IN THE CPI *continued*

*Child Care Tax Rebate (CCTR)
continued*

which the child care costs were incurred, regardless of the family's tax liability. However the CCTR is now available to be paid quarterly into an individual's bank account.

9. As explained below, this change to the CCTR brings it in scope of the CPI and it is included in the CPI calculation from the September 2007 quarter onwards.

CPI METHODOLOGY

10. There are three alternative conceptual approaches for constructing a CPI. A detailed description of them is set out in *Australian Consumer Price Index: Concepts, Sources and Methods 2005* (ABS cat. no. 6461.0). The principal purpose of the Australian CPI is to provide a general measure of price inflation for the household sector as a whole. This is best achieved by constructing what is referred to as an "acquisitions index". The key attribute of such an index is that it measures the average change between two periods in the prices on an out-of-pocket expenses basis for the consumption of goods and services actually acquired by households. Prices measured on this basis include any government taxes and charges and are net of subsidies and rebates that reduce out-of-pocket expenses. In terms of the time of recording, the International Manual on CPIs, *Consumer Price Index Manual: Theory and Practice* (International Labour Organization, 2004,) para 3.19 defines the time of acquisition as follows:

"The time at which a good is acquired is the moment at which ownership of the good is transferred to the consumer. In a market situation, it is the moment at which the consumer incurs a liability to pay, either in cash or in kind. The time at which a service is acquired is not so easy to determine precisely as the provision of a service does not involve any exchange of ownership. Instead, it typically leads to some improvement in the condition of the consumer. A service is acquired by the consumer at the same time that the producer provides it and the consumer accepts a liability to pay."

*Measuring the Price Changes
in Child Care for the CPI*

11. Consistent with the acquisitions approach, child care in the CPI is measured as child care fees minus any subsidies/rebates that are available to families purchasing child care services.

*Benefits, Subsidies and
Rebates in the CPI*

12. The criteria (taken from the *Australian Consumer Price Index: Concepts, Sources and Methods* (ABS cat. no. 6461.0)) that are considered by the ABS when determining whether specific benefits, subsidies and rebates (referred to below as "benefits") should be deducted from the prices collected in calculating the CPI are listed below. "Taxpayer", where noted below, refers to households that are paying income tax.

13. Benefits are included if :

- The benefit is tied to the acquisition of a specific good or service (or the right to acquire a specific good or service) AND
- The benefit is not an integral component of the income tax system and is available to non-taxpayers as well as taxpayers. In practice, this generally means the benefit provided to taxpayers by way of a tax rebate is also available to non-taxpayers via cash or other form of benefit.

14. These two criteria both have to be met for a rebate/subsidy to be included when compiling the CPI. The original CCTR legislation fell under a "Tax Laws Amendment (2005 Measures No. 4) Bill 2005". Under that legislation the CCTR was a non-refundable tax offset and it was available only to taxpayers. As a result, the ABS concluded that the rebate in its original form did not satisfy the second of the above criteria; in effect, it was an integral part of the tax system and was therefore outside the scope of the CPI.

15. The change to the administration of the CCTR payment, for child care costs incurred from 1 July 2006, meant it no longer depends on a family's tax liability and now satisfies both criteria. Therefore it is in scope of the CPI.

APPENDIX CHILD CARE SERVICES IN THE CPI *continued*

*Benefits, Subsidies and
Rebates in the CPI continued*

NET CHILD CARE FEE CALCULATION

16. Benefits available under the CCB have been deducted from the actual child care prices (the gross prices) in measuring the cost recorded in the CPI from the September quarter 2000.

17. The out-of-pocket costs of child care will vary depending on the actual (gross) price paid by a family and the value of the family's CCB and CCTR entitlements (i.e. Net Child Care Fees = Gross Child Care Fees – Child Care Benefit – Child Care Tax Rebate). It is impossible to collect such details for every family purchasing child care services. Therefore, the ABS randomly samples confidentialised family profiles that reflect the spread of attributes (such as income, number of children and hours in care for each child) throughout the population of families that receive CCB and CCTR.

18. Gross fees are collected from a sample of the child care providers in each capital city. The sample of family profiles are then used to calculate a net fee taking into account gross fees paid, CCB and CCTR entitlements and the profile of child care usage.

19. DEEWR apply new CCB rates and CCTR limits from 1 July each year and the ABS methodology is adjusted annually to reflect any changes.

20. The incomes of the sampled families are indexed quarterly in line with a four-quarter moving average of the wage price index from *Labour Price Index, Australia* (ABS cat. no. 6345.0). The aim of using a four-quarter moving average of the wage price index is to reflect the impact of changes in wages on the annual incomes underlying the "fixed basket" of child care services.

Example of how net child care rates are calculated in the CPI

21. The following examples illustrate how the CPI measures the changes in a family's out-of-pocket expenses when either the child care fees increase and/or the family receives a pay rise. In the examples below the family has a combined annual income of \$65,000. The maximum CCB that can be claimed is \$173.50 per week for one child in full-time care. Families earning \$65,000 per year are entitled to 68.49% of the maximum child care benefit. The CCTR is 50% of the difference between the child care fees incurred and the CCB.

EXAMPLE 1 – THE FAMILY RECEIVES A 4% PAY RISE

	PERIOD 1	PERIOD 2
<i>Combined household income</i>	\$65,000 <i>per annum</i>	\$67,600 <i>per annum</i>
(% change)		4.0
Gross child care fee	\$240.00 per week	\$240.00 per week
(% change)		0.0
Eligible child care benefit	\$118.83 per week	\$113.83 per week
Eligible child care tax rebate	\$60.58 per week	\$63.08 per week
Net child care fee	\$60.58 per week	\$63.08 per week
(% change)		4.1

APPENDIX CHILD CARE SERVICES IN THE CPI *continued*

Example of how net child care rates are calculated in the CPI *continued*

EXAMPLE 2 – THE CHILD CARE FEES INCREASE BY \$10 PER WEEK

	PERIOD 1	PERIOD 2
Combined household income	\$65,000 per annum	\$65,000 per annum
(% change)		0.0
Gross child care fee	\$240.00 per week	\$250.00 per week
(% change)		4.2
Eligible child care benefit	\$118.83 per week	\$118.83 per week
Eligible child care tax rebate	\$60.58 per week	\$65.58 per week
Net child care	\$60.58 per week	\$65.58 per week
(% change)		8.3

EXAMPLE 3 – THE FAMILY RECEIVES A 4% PAY RISE AND THE CHILD CARE FEES INCREASE BY \$10 PER WEEK

	PERIOD 1	PERIOD 2
Combined household income	\$65,000 per annum	\$67,600 per annum
(% change)		4.0
Gross child care fee	\$240.00 per week	\$250.00 per week
(% change)		4.2
Eligible child care benefit	\$118.83 per week	\$113.83 per week
Eligible child care tax rebate	\$60.58 per week	\$68.08 per week
Net child care	\$60.58 per week	\$68.08 per week
(% change)		12.4

GROSS VERSUS NET PRICES

22. The table below compares the price indexes for gross and net child care fees over the period September quarter 2005 to September quarter 2008. It should be noted that the gross index has only been prepared from the September quarter 2005 and has a different reference base from the CPI net child care index.

23. From the table it can be seen that many components impact on this net index. In the September quarter 2007 the net index showed a reduction in "out-of-pocket expenses" with the impact of the inclusion of the CCTR as a rebate for the first time and an additional 10% indexation of the CCB rates on top of the usual annual CPI indexation. The net index showed another reduction in September quarter 2008 due to the increase in CCTR from 30% to 50%.

24. With the exception of September quarter 2007 and September quarter 2008, over time it can be seen that the net index generally rises more rapidly than the gross prices charged by the child care providers. This is because over recent years, the Labour Price Index has been rising at a faster rate than the CPI and so family incomes are increasing faster than the income thresholds used in calculating CCB. As a result, the subsidy paid under the CCB becomes a smaller proportion of the overall costs of child care. The CCTR does take up some of this gap.

25. In other words, the out-of-pocket expenses (prices after CCB and CCTR rebates are taken into account) that form the basis of the net prices recorded in the CPI generally rise more rapidly than the gross prices charged by the child care providers.

APPENDIX CHILD CARE SERVICES IN THE CPI *continued*

GROSS VERSUS NET PRICES
continued

CHILD CARE TIME SERIES TABLE

	NET CHILD CARE			GROSS CHILD CARE		
	Index number(a)	Percentage change from previous quarter	Percentage change from corresponding quarter of previous year	Index numbers(b)	Percentage change from previous quarter	Percentage change from corresponding quarter of previous year
Sep 2003	169.9	7.3	12.4	na	na	na
Dec 2003	169.9	0.0	10.5	na	na	na
Mar 2004	177.4	4.4	12.7	na	na	na
Jun 2004	179.2	1.0	13.1	na	na	na
Sep 2004	187.4	4.6	10.3	na	na	na
Dec 2004	192.2	2.6	13.1	na	na	na
Mar 2005	198.7	3.4	12.0	na	na	na
Jun 2005	201.5	1.4	12.4	100.0	na	na
Sep 2005	204.4	1.4	9.1	103.2	3.2	na
Dec 2005	211.8	3.6	10.2	104.3	1.0	na
Mar 2006	222.5	5.1	12.0	106.3	1.9	na
Jun 2006	226.5	1.8	12.4	106.8	0.5	6.8
Sep 2006	233.9	3.3	14.4	110.8	3.7	7.3
Dec 2006	238.5	2.0	12.6	111.5	0.6	6.9
Mar 2007	251.3	5.4	12.9	113.9	2.2	7.1
Jun 2007	255.6	1.7	12.8	114.3	0.4	7.0
Sep 2007	170.2	-33.4	-27.2	119.4	4.4	7.8
Dec 2007	172.3	1.2	-27.8	119.9	0.4	7.5
Mar 2008	180.1	4.5	-28.3	122.5	2.2	7.6
Jun 2008	182.3	1.2	-28.7	123.0	0.4	7.7
Sep 2008	140.5	-22.9	-17.5	128.1	4.1	7.3

na not available

(a) Base 1989-90 = 100.0

(b) Base June quarter 2005 = 100.0

26. The quarterly gross child care fee index will be made available annually on request after the release of the September quarter CPI.

FURTHER INFORMATION

27. For further information, please call Mr Lee Taylor on (02) 6252 6251 or email lee.taylor@abs.gov.au.

FOR MORE INFORMATION . . .

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