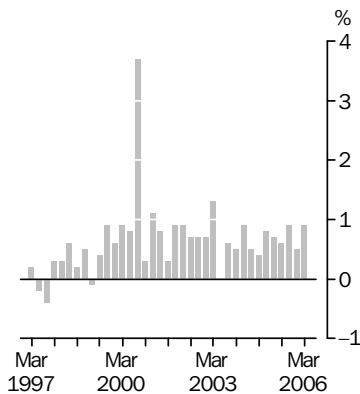


CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

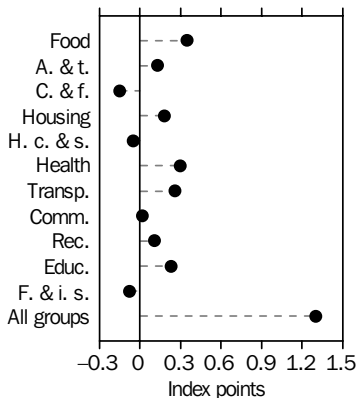
AUSTRALIA

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All Groups
Quarterly change



Contribution to quarterly change
March quarter 2006



KEY FIGURES

**WEIGHTED AVERAGE OF EIGHT
CAPITAL CITIES**

	<i>Dec Qtr 2005 to Mar Qtr 2006</i>	<i>Mar Qtr 2005 to Mar Qtr 2006</i>
	<i>% change</i>	<i>% change</i>
Food	1.4	4.2
Alcohol and tobacco	1.3	3.3
Clothing and footwear	-2.5	-1.7
Housing	0.6	3.3
Household contents and services	-0.4	1.8
Health	4.4	4.6
Transportation	1.3	6.3
Communication	0.5	-1.9
Recreation	0.6	0.5
Education	5.6	5.9
Financial and insurance services	-0.6	..

All groups

All groups	0.9	3.0
All groups excluding Housing and Financial and insurance services	1.1	3.1

.. not applicable

KEY POINTS

THE ALL GROUPS CPI

- rose 0.9% in the March quarter 2006 compared with 0.5% in the December quarter.
- rose 3.0% through the year to March quarter 2006.

OVERVIEW OF CPI MOVEMENTS

- Contributing most to the overall increase this quarter were pharmaceuticals (+14.2%), vegetables (+7.9%), motor vehicles (+1.4%), secondary education (+6.9%), tertiary education (+4.8%), automotive fuel (+1.4%), overseas holiday travel and accommodation (+2.6%), rents (+0.8%), hospital and medical services (+1.4%), beer (+1.6%) and tobacco (+1.4%).
- The most significant offsetting price falls were deposit and loan facilities (-2.1%), furniture (-3.2%), clothing and footwear accessories (-3.5%), audio, visual and computing equipment (-1.5%), men's outerwear (-2.6%), women's outerwear (-1.6%), children's and infants' clothing (-4.0%) and towels and linen (-2.1%).

INQUIRIES

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

NOTES

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

ISSUE (Quarter)

RELEASE DATE

June 2006

26 July 2006

September 2006

25 October 2006



CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

There are no changes in this issue.

CHANGES TO TIME SERIES SPREADSHEETS

The time series spreadsheets associated with this publication have been converted from Lotus 1-2-3 .wks format to Excel .xls format. *Information paper: Changes to Time Series Spreadsheets for Consumer Price Index, Australia* (6401.0.55.001), advising users of this change, was released on 3 March 2006 and provides a concordance between the old Lotus 1-2-3 .wks spreadsheets and the new Excel .xls spreadsheets.

ROUNDING

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

ABBREVIATIONS

ABS Australian Bureau of Statistics

CPI Consumer Price Index

Dennis Trewin

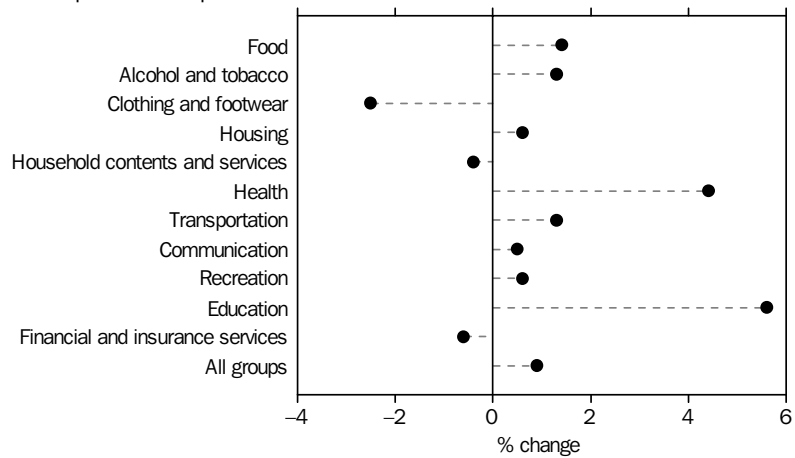
Australian Statistician

ANALYSES AND COMMENTS

MAIN CONTRIBUTORS TO CHANGE

CPI GROUPS

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



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

FOOD (+1.4%)

The rise in food prices was largely due to vegetables (+7.9%), soft drinks, waters and juices (+2.3%), restaurant meals (+1.0%), bread (+1.6%), snacks and confectionery (+1.0%), take away and fast foods (+0.7%) and food n.e.c. (+2.6%). Other cereal products (-1.8%), poultry (-1.1%) and fruit (-0.8%) provided minor offsetting price falls.

The rise in vegetable prices was due to adverse weather in major growing areas in eastern Australia, together with some seasonal shortages affecting supplies and quality of some vegetables, in particular, lettuces, cauliflower, cabbages and potatoes.

Increasing fuel and packaging costs were cited by a number of respondents as contributing to price rises in a number of food categories.

Through the year to March quarter 2006, the food group rose 4.2%.

HEALTH (+4.4%)

The rise in health costs was due to pharmaceuticals (+14.2%), hospital and medical services (+1.4%) and dental services (+2.1%).

Pharmaceuticals prices rose as a result of the cyclical reduction in the proportion of consumers who qualify for subsidised medications under the Pharmaceuticals Benefit Scheme at the start of each calendar year. The rise in hospital and medical services reflects increases in gross fees for most medical practitioners' services, combined with a cyclical reduction in the proportion of consumers who qualify for subsidies for out-of-hospital medical expenses under the Medicare Plus safety net at the start of each calendar year, and a small fall in the overall bulk billing ratio for medical services.

Through the year to March quarter 2006, the health group rose 4.6%.

TRANSPORTATION (+1.3%)

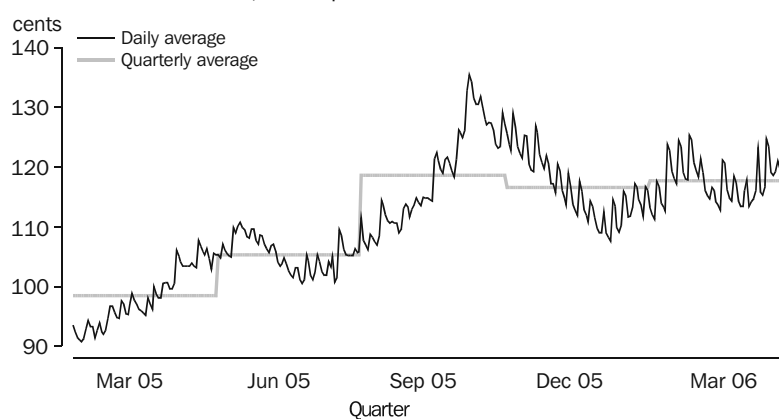
Most categories of transportation rose this quarter with motor vehicles (+1.4%), automotive fuel (+1.4%) and motor vehicle repair and servicing (+1.4%) being the most significant.

TRANSPORTATION
(+1.3%) *continued*

The rise in motor vehicles was the first increase since December quarter 2004. A number of new models were released in the March quarter 2006, together with most dealers now distributing 2006 plated vehicles for existing models. This meant there were fewer incentives and bonuses being offered during the quarter.

Automotive fuel prices fell in October (-3.6%), November (-6.2%) and December (-2.0%), rose in January (+5.3%), fell in February (-1.3%) and rose in March (+1.9%), resulting in an overall rise of 1.4% between December quarter 2005 and March quarter 2006. The following graph shows the pattern of the average daily price behaviour for unleaded petrol for the eight capital cities over the last fifteen months.

AVERAGE PRICE OF ULP, cents per litre



Through the year to March quarter 2006, the transportation group rose 6.3%.

EDUCATION (+5.6%)

All levels of education rose in the March quarter, coinciding with the commencement of the new school year. Secondary education rose 6.9%, tertiary education rose 4.8% and preschool and primary education rose 5.4%.

Secondary and primary education fees rose in order to cover increasing wage, IT and other operating costs. The rise in tertiary education was due to the effect of the increase in the Higher Education Indexation Factor (HEIF) on student contributions for all university courses, together with an increase in the proportion of students subject to the arrangements whereby tertiary institutions can charge up to 25% above the basic student contribution range for most courses, for students enrolling for the first time after 2005.

Through the year to March quarter 2006, the education group rose 5.9%.

HOUSING (+0.6%)

Most categories of housing recorded price rises this quarter with rents (+0.8%), house purchase (+0.3%), electricity (+1.5%), gas and other household fuels (+2.4%), water and sewerage (+1.0%) and house repairs and maintenance (+0.4%) contributing to the increase.

Rents rose in all capital cities, with the increases ranging from 0.3% in Melbourne to 1.7% in Hobart. The 0.3% rise in house purchase was the lowest quarterly increase since June quarter 2001. House purchase rose in Adelaide (+0.7%), Perth (+3.4%), Hobart (+1.9%), Darwin (+3.1%) and Canberra (+0.9%), was flat in Brisbane and fell in Sydney (-0.3%) and Melbourne (-0.8%). A number of builders in Sydney and Melbourne

ANALYSES AND COMMENTS *continued*

HOUSING (+0.6%)

continued

introduced various bonuses and incentives during the quarter to attract new home buyers, reporting a slowing in dwelling commencements as a contributing factor.

Through the year to March quarter 2006, the housing group rose 3.3%.

CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR (-2.5%)

The 2.5% fall for the clothing and footwear group in the March quarter 2006, was the largest quarterly decrease on record. All categories of clothing and footwear, except clothing services and shoe repairs (+0.7%), fell in the March quarter, with accessories (-3.5%), men's outerwear (-2.6%), women's outerwear (-1.6%) and children's and infants' clothing (-4.0%) being the most significant.

Pre-Christmas/January and end of summer season sales had a significant impact on the overall price movements this quarter. Retailers introduced strong and widespread discounting activity in all capital cities during the period in an attempt to increase sales activity after an unexpectedly slow lead up to Christmas.

Through the year to March quarter 2006, the clothing and footwear group fell 1.7%.

ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO (+1.3%)

Prices for all components of alcohol and tobacco rose this quarter with beer (+1.6%), tobacco (+1.4%), spirits (+1.5%) and wine (+0.4%) all contributing.

The increase for beer, tobacco and spirits was mainly due to the indexed adjustment to the rate of Federal excise and customs duty from 1 February.

Through the year to March quarter 2006, the alcohol and tobacco group rose 3.3%.

RECREATION (+0.6%)

The rise in the recreation index was mainly due to overseas holiday travel and accommodation (+2.6%), domestic holiday travel and accommodation (+1.0%), and other recreational activities (+1.4%). These increases were partially offset by a fall in audio, visual and computing equipment (-1.5%).

The rise in overseas holiday travel and accommodation was due to increases in airfares to all destinations in the price survey, in particular, to Asia and North America. The rise in domestic holiday travel and accommodation was largely a result of the seasonal increase in holiday accommodation tariffs due to the strong demand in January each year.

Through the year to March quarter 2006, the recreation group rose 0.5%.

FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE SERVICES (-0.6%)

The fall in financial and insurance services resulted from a decrease in deposit and loan facilities (-2.1%) being only partially offset by rises in other financial services (+0.6%) and insurance services (+0.7%).

The deposit and loan facilities component aims to measure the total cost of the financial service and therefore covers both those fees and charges levied directly on households and those paid indirectly via differences in interest rates on loans and those on deposits ('interest rate margins').

HOUSEHOLD CONTENTS AND SERVICES (-0.4%)

The fall in household contents and services was mainly due to furniture (-3.2%), towels and linen (-2.1%) and glassware, tableware and household utensils (-2.0%). These falls were partially offset by a rise in child care (+5.1%) and toiletries and personal care products (+1.1%).

ANALYSES AND COMMENTS *continued*

HOUSEHOLD CONTENTS AND SERVICES (-0.4%) *continued*

The net price rise in child care was due to increases in gross fees charged by child care providers, with many centres reviewing fees at the start of a new year to cover increases in wages and other running costs, and adjustments to income levels more than offsetting increases in the Child Care Benefit.

Through the year to March quarter 2006, the household contents and services group rose 1.8%.

TRADABLES AND NON-TRADABLES

The non-tradables component (see table 8) of the CPI rose 0.9% in the March quarter 2006. This component includes goods and services whose prices are largely determined by domestic price pressures and represents approximately 58% of the weight of the CPI. Within non-tradables, the goods component rose 0.7%, mainly due to beer, house purchase, electricity, bread, take away and fast foods, and gas and other households fuels. The non-tradables services component rose 0.9% with education, rents, hospital and medical services, child care, motor vehicle repair and servicing, domestic holiday travel and accommodation, and other financial services being the main contributors. Falls in deposit and loan facilities provided the most significant offset.

The tradables component, which includes goods and services whose prices are largely determined on the world market rose 0.8% in the March quarter. The largest positive contributors were pharmaceuticals, vegetables, motor vehicles, automotive fuel and overseas holiday travel and accommodation. The largest negative contributors were furniture, clothing and footwear accessories and audio, visual and computing equipment.

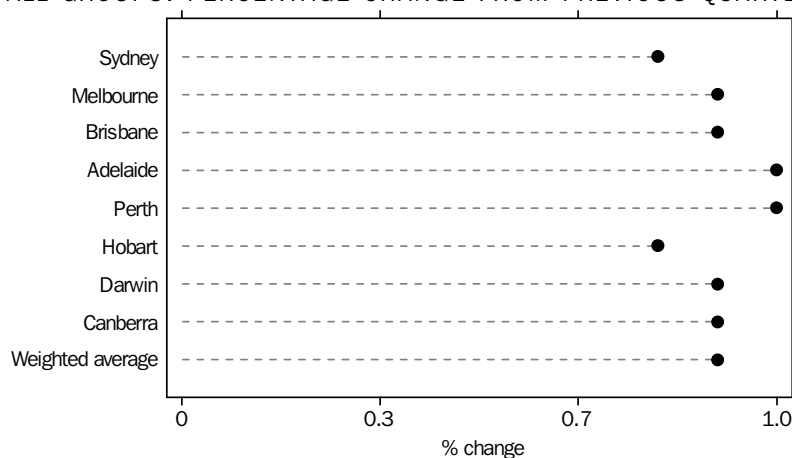
Through the year to March quarter 2006, non-tradables rose 3.1% and tradables rose 2.8%. This compares with rises of 3.5% and 2.0%, respectively, for these components through the year to December quarter 2005.

ANALYSES AND COMMENTS *continued*

CAPITAL CITIES COMPARISON

ALL GROUPS

ALL GROUPS: PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS QUARTER



At the All groups level, the CPI rose in all capital cities in the March quarter 2006, with the increases ranging from 0.8% in Sydney and Hobart to 1.0% in Adelaide and Perth. The other capital cities all rose 0.9%.

Through the year to March quarter 2006, the All groups CPI rose in each of the eight capital cities and ranged from 2.7% in Sydney to 4.2% in Perth. The higher result for Perth was largely due to a 8.7% increase in housing, more than double the weighted average of eight capital cities of 3.3%. The rise in Perth's housing cost was largely attributable to a 15.2% increase in new house purchase prices through the year.

CPI, All groups index numbers and percentage changes

	INDEX	PERCENTAGE CHANGE	
	NUMBER(a)		
		Dec Qtr 2005 to Mar Qtr 2006	Mar Qtr 2005 to Mar Qtr 2006
	<i>Mar Qtr</i> <i>2006</i>		
Sydney	152.2	0.8	2.7
Melbourne	150.5	0.9	2.8
Brisbane	153.5	0.9	2.9
Adelaide	155.6	1.0	3.1
Perth	150.5	1.0	4.2
Hobart	152.2	0.8	2.8
Darwin	146.7	0.9	3.4
Canberra	152.2	0.9	3.5
Weighted average of eight capital cities	151.9	0.9	3.0

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

ALL GROUPS, Index numbers(a)

<i>Period</i>	<i>Sydney</i>	<i>Melbourne</i>	<i>Brisbane</i>	<i>Adelaide</i>	<i>Perth</i>	<i>Hobart</i>	<i>Darwin</i>	<i>Canberra</i>	<i>Weighted average of eight capital cities</i>
2001-02	137.2	135.3	136.3	137.2	133.1	134.7	133.7	135.2	136.0
2002-03	141.1	139.7	140.7	142.7	136.8	139.1	136.8	139.7	140.2
2003-04	144.1	142.8	144.8	147.0	139.6	142.6	138.7	143.4	143.5
2004-05	147.7	145.7	148.5	150.4	144.0	147.1	141.8	146.7	147.0
2002									
March	137.9	136.0	137.1	137.7	133.7	135.2	133.8	135.6	136.6
June	138.8	136.9	138.1	139.1	134.6	137.0	135.0	137.2	137.6
September	139.6	137.8	139.2	140.3	135.8	137.5	135.4	138.1	138.5
December	140.4	139.0	139.9	141.5	136.4	138.0	136.2	139.2	139.5
2003									
March	142.1	140.9	141.8	144.6	137.4	140.0	137.5	140.7	141.3
June	142.2	140.9	141.8	144.3	137.4	140.8	137.9	140.7	141.3
September	142.4	141.8	143.3	145.4	138.6	141.1	137.8	141.9	142.1
December	143.6	142.1	144.2	146.2	139.2	142.0	138.5	142.9	142.8
2004									
March	145.0	143.5	145.4	147.7	139.6	143.0	139.0	143.9	144.1
June	145.5	143.9	146.3	148.6	141.0	144.3	139.6	144.8	144.8
September	146.2	144.2	146.8	149.0	142.0	145.0	140.8	145.5	145.4
December	147.3	145.3	148.0	150.0	143.3	146.7	141.1	146.3	146.5
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

(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)									
2001-02	3.0	2.8	2.9	2.8	2.7	2.0	2.1	2.5	2.9
2002-03	2.8	3.3	3.2	4.0	2.8	3.3	2.3	3.3	3.1
2003-04	2.1	2.2	2.9	3.0	2.0	2.5	1.4	2.6	2.4
2004-05	2.5	2.0	2.6	2.3	3.2	3.2	2.2	2.3	2.4
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from corresponding quarter of previous year)									
2002									
March	2.9	2.9	3.3	2.7	3.2	2.3	2.4	2.6	2.9
June	2.8	2.9	3.1	3.0	2.4	2.7	2.1	2.8	2.8
September	3.1	3.1	3.7	3.7	3.3	3.5	2.2	3.7	3.2
December	2.8	3.1	3.0	3.6	2.9	3.1	2.0	3.2	3.0
2003									
March	3.0	3.6	3.4	5.0	2.8	3.6	2.8	3.8	3.4
June	2.4	2.9	2.7	3.7	2.1	2.8	2.1	2.6	2.7
September	2.0	2.9	2.9	3.6	2.1	2.6	1.8	2.8	2.6
December	2.3	2.2	3.1	3.3	2.1	2.9	1.7	2.7	2.4
2004									
March	2.0	1.8	2.5	2.1	1.6	2.1	1.1	2.3	2.0
June	2.3	2.1	3.2	3.0	2.6	2.5	1.2	2.9	2.5
September	2.7	1.7	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.8	2.2	2.5	2.3
December	2.6	2.3	2.6	2.6	2.9	3.3	1.9	2.4	2.6
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
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous quarter)									
2002									
March	1.0	0.9	1.0	0.8	0.8	1.0	0.2	0.5	0.9
June	0.7	0.7	0.7	1.0	0.7	1.3	0.9	1.2	0.7
September	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.4	0.3	0.7	0.7
December	0.6	0.9	0.5	0.9	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.8	0.7
2003									
March	1.2	1.4	1.4	2.2	0.7	1.4	1.0	1.1	1.3
June	0.1	0.0	0.0	-0.2	0.0	0.6	0.3	0.0	0.0
September	0.1	0.6	1.1	0.8	0.9	0.2	-0.1	0.9	0.6
December	0.8	0.2	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.6	0.5	0.7	0.5
2004									
March	1.0	1.0	0.8	1.0	0.3	0.7	0.4	0.7	0.9
June	0.3	0.3	0.6	0.6	1.0	0.9	0.4	0.6	0.5
September	0.5	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.7	0.5	0.9	0.5	0.4
December	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.7	0.9	1.2	0.2	0.5	0.8
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

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>
2001-02	142.7	203.1	112.4	111.1	119.7	169.9
2002-03	147.9	208.9	113.3	115.1	121.0	181.5
2003-04	152.3	217.8	112.7	120.2	121.1	193.9
2004-05	154.8	225.4	110.8	124.8	120.7	204.3
2002						
March	144.2	203.9	112.2	111.5	119.4	171.1
June	143.5	205.0	113.7	112.2	120.3	175.9
September	145.0	207.3	113.0	113.7	120.5	176.4
December	147.0	207.3	114.0	114.2	121.6	177.1
2003						
March	149.8	209.9	112.4	115.7	120.4	183.5
June	149.8	211.2	113.7	116.8	121.4	189.1
September	149.3	215.2	113.3	118.9	121.5	189.1
December	152.0	216.5	113.1	119.6	121.4	189.4
2004						
March	154.7	218.8	111.5	120.7	120.7	195.5
June	153.3	220.5	112.7	121.5	120.7	201.6
September	152.4	222.5	112.5	123.2	120.6	200.1
December	154.6	224.0	110.9	124.3	121.3	198.8
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

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

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

<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>
2001-02	137.3	105.2	128.6	200.0	..	136.0
2002-03	140.6	108.5	131.9	210.0	..	140.2
2003-04	142.0	110.0	130.0	223.3	..	143.5
2004-05	146.8	111.1	130.7	238.7	..	147.0
2002						
March	136.8	105.5	130.4	204.6	..	136.6
June	139.3	106.3	131.1	204.6	..	137.6
September	138.8	107.9	131.8	205.0	..	138.5
December	140.3	108.4	131.9	205.3	..	139.5
2003						
March	143.7	108.8	132.4	214.7	..	141.3
June	139.4	108.9	131.5	214.8	..	141.3
September	141.3	109.7	130.0	215.1	..	142.1
December	140.7	109.9	131.1	215.1	..	142.8
2004						
March	141.7	110.0	129.7	231.4	..	144.1
June	144.1	110.4	129.3	231.5	..	144.8
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

.. 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>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>
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous financial year)						
2001-02	5.2	4.3	-0.1	3.0	2.0	3.4
2002-03	3.6	2.9	0.8	3.6	1.1	6.8
2003-04	3.0	4.3	-0.5	4.4	0.1	6.8
2004-05	1.6	3.5	-1.7	3.8	-0.3	5.4

PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from corresponding quarter of previous year)

2002						
March	4.8	3.5	1.4	3.0	1.9	2.8
June	3.4	2.8	1.1	3.5	0.8	5.5
September	3.7	2.9	1.7	3.4	1.3	5.9
December	2.5	2.7	1.2	3.2	1.1	6.6
2003						
March	3.9	2.9	0.2	3.8	0.8	7.2
June	4.4	3.0	0.0	4.1	0.9	7.5
September	3.0	3.8	0.3	4.6	0.8	7.2
December	3.4	4.4	-0.8	4.7	-0.2	6.9
2004						
March	3.3	4.2	-0.8	4.3	0.2	6.5
June	2.3	4.4	-0.9	4.0	-0.6	6.6
September	2.1	3.4	-0.7	3.6	-0.7	5.8
December	1.7	3.5	-1.9	3.9	-0.1	5.0
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

PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous quarter)

2002						
March	0.6	1.0	-0.4	0.7	-0.7	3.0
June	-0.5	0.5	1.3	0.6	0.8	2.8
September	1.0	1.1	-0.6	1.3	0.2	0.3
December	1.4	0.0	0.9	0.4	0.9	0.4
2003						
March	1.9	1.3	-1.4	1.3	-1.0	3.6
June	0.0	0.6	1.2	1.0	0.8	3.1
September	-0.3	1.9	-0.4	1.8	0.1	0.0
December	1.8	0.6	-0.2	0.6	-0.1	0.2
2004						
March	1.8	1.1	-1.4	0.9	-0.6	3.2
June	-0.9	0.8	1.1	0.7	0.0	3.1
September	-0.6	0.9	-0.2	1.4	-0.1	-0.7
December	1.4	0.7	-1.4	0.9	0.6	-0.6
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

<i>Period</i>	<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)						
2001-02	0.2	0.5	3.2	4.5	..	2.9
2002-03	2.4	3.1	2.6	5.0	..	3.1
2003-04	1.0	1.4	-1.4	6.3	..	2.4
2004-05	3.4	1.0	0.5	6.9	..	2.4

PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from corresponding quarter of previous year)						
2002						
March	0.1	1.1	4.7	4.7	..	2.9
June	-0.1	2.4	5.5	4.7	..	2.8
September	1.3	4.2	5.1	4.9	..	3.2
December	3.1	2.8	3.5	5.0	..	3.0
2003						
March	5.0	3.1	1.5	4.9	..	3.4
June	0.1	2.4	0.3	5.0	..	2.7
September	1.8	1.7	-1.4	4.9	..	2.6
December	0.3	1.4	-0.6	4.8	..	2.4
2004						
March	-1.4	1.1	-2.0	7.8	..	2.0
June	3.4	1.4	-1.7	7.8	..	2.5
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

PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous quarter)						
2002						
March	0.5	0.1	2.3	4.7	..	0.9
June	1.8	0.8	0.5	0.0	..	0.7
September	-0.4	1.5	0.5	0.2	..	0.7
December	1.1	0.5	0.1	0.1	..	0.7
2003						
March	2.4	0.4	0.4	4.6	..	1.3
June	-3.0	0.1	-0.7	0.0	..	0.0
September	1.4	0.7	-1.1	0.1	..	0.6
December	-0.4	0.2	0.8	0.0	..	0.5
2004						
March	0.7	0.1	-1.1	7.6	..	0.9
June	1.7	0.4	-0.3	0.0	..	0.5
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

.. not applicable

CPI GROUPS, Index numbers(a)

<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>
FOOD									
2004									
March	155.8	154.5	155.7	157.0	150.4	149.1	149.1	158.4	154.7
June	153.8	152.9	153.3	156.7	151.3	149.8	148.4	157.4	153.3
September	152.8	151.5	152.5	155.8	151.8	148.4	148.0	156.4	152.4
December	155.3	153.3	155.5	158.8	152.8	150.7	149.6	158.4	154.6
2005									
March	156.9	154.1	157.5	159.9	154.4	152.9	151.9	160.0	156.0
June	156.4	154.5	157.4	160.3	156.5	153.1	151.4	159.6	156.2
September	158.0	156.0	157.2	161.9	157.4	153.4	152.4	159.4	157.4
December	161.0	158.1	160.8	165.5	159.7	156.1	154.4	164.3	160.2
2006									
March	163.1	160.6	164.7	167.7	160.9	157.8	158.4	165.8	162.5
ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO									
2004									
March	224.5	219.9	215.2	224.7	204.1	210.0	210.8	206.2	218.8
June	226.7	220.7	217.4	227.7	205.2	210.7	211.5	207.6	220.5
September	229.1	222.3	219.8	228.3	207.4	213.9	215.0	209.9	222.5
December	231.4	224.3	219.8	228.6	208.8	214.5	214.5	209.9	224.0
2005									
March	234.5	226.5	222.7	232.1	212.2	215.9	216.4	212.5	226.9
June	235.0	227.5	224.5	234.4	214.1	217.5	218.9	213.6	228.1
September	237.7	230.1	225.5	237.7	215.2	217.7	222.7	215.2	230.3
December	238.0	231.5	227.8	238.7	215.9	220.5	224.3	217.3	231.4
2006									
March	240.2	235.3	230.1	241.9	219.1	221.8	226.1	219.9	234.3
CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR									
2004									
March	114.4	112.9	103.7	111.5	106.8	104.3	106.8	114.9	111.5
June	115.9	113.0	106.2	113.3	108.1	105.6	106.5	115.1	112.7
September	115.5	113.4	106.5	111.7	107.4	105.2	105.4	114.6	112.5
December	113.4	112.4	105.2	110.5	105.6	103.5	105.2	112.3	110.9
2005									
March	112.6	110.3	102.1	109.5	104.1	103.5	103.4	112.4	109.4
June	112.5	111.7	104.1	111.1	105.6	104.1	103.6	112.7	110.3
September	113.2	110.9	105.0	111.0	105.4	105.5	103.6	113.9	110.5
December	112.5	111.8	104.6	110.5	104.5	105.0	104.9	113.3	110.3
2006									
March	110.8	108.8	98.9	109.1	100.5	103.5	102.8	113.0	107.5
HOUSING									
2004									
March	126.3	110.5	130.4	123.6	112.8	121.2	131.9	126.8	120.7
June	127.4	110.7	132.0	123.1	114.4	122.9	133.9	127.8	121.5
September	129.4	112.0	133.5	124.2	116.5	124.5	135.8	129.0	123.2
December	130.5	112.5	135.0	125.1	118.7	126.9	136.5	129.5	124.3
2005									
March	131.1	114.0	135.7	126.8	121.6	128.5	138.6	130.0	125.5
June	132.0	113.9	136.6	126.2	124.1	129.4	140.5	131.1	126.2
September	133.6	115.5	138.3	127.3	126.9	130.9	142.0	133.5	128.0
December	134.4	115.6	139.7	127.9	129.7	131.4	143.7	134.4	128.8
2006									
March	134.7	115.9	140.6	129.4	132.2	133.6	146.5	135.2	129.6

(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									
2004									
March	120.3	121.1	121.9	121.1	117.1	127.1	111.2	124.3	120.7
June	120.0	120.8	122.4	120.8	118.1	128.2	111.3	124.8	120.7
September	119.7	121.0	123.0	120.2	117.7	128.5	111.0	125.3	120.6
December	120.7	122.0	123.1	120.8	117.8	129.4	112.1	125.9	121.3
2005									
March	118.7	120.9	123.3	118.2	114.7	129.2	111.5	124.1	119.7
June	120.0	121.4	124.2	120.7	118.3	129.8	113.0	126.7	121.2
September	120.3	122.3	123.5	121.6	119.0	130.7	113.1	127.8	121.6
December	120.9	123.3	124.8	121.9	119.3	131.5	114.3	129.3	122.4
2006									
March	120.4	122.7	124.5	122.1	118.5	130.9	114.3	129.7	121.9
HEALTH									
2004									
March	182.0	209.3	197.1	197.9	187.3	214.5	180.5	193.5	195.5
June	187.6	214.7	203.4	207.2	192.8	223.0	186.8	197.7	201.6
September	185.9	213.2	202.6	205.5	191.9	221.3	186.4	197.4	200.1
December	184.5	212.0	200.5	204.8	190.9	218.5	185.7	196.4	198.8
2005									
March	192.1	220.5	209.1	211.3	197.7	226.8	191.6	205.5	206.7
June	197.7	224.4	214.4	218.2	200.5	234.2	196.2	209.1	211.6
September	195.3	221.9	211.2	215.5	199.3	230.8	194.8	208.9	209.3
December	193.0	219.8	207.5	214.4	198.7	228.2	193.6	205.7	207.1
2006									
March	201.9	229.2	219.7	221.7	204.8	238.2	199.2	216.2	216.2
TRANSPORTATION									
2004									
March	143.2	141.3	140.2	142.0	141.4	137.0	137.1	139.9	141.7
June	145.2	144.1	142.6	145.1	143.6	139.8	137.9	142.7	144.1
September	146.8	144.7	143.4	147.4	144.3	141.5	139.0	143.3	145.2
December	148.8	146.7	145.0	149.4	146.6	144.1	140.2	144.9	147.2
2005									
March	147.5	145.4	144.3	147.8	144.6	142.3	139.5	143.4	145.8
June	150.7	148.3	147.2	151.5	147.3	145.1	141.6	145.8	148.8
September	154.7	153.9	152.0	157.4	152.1	150.0	144.3	151.6	153.7
December	153.6	153.1	151.4	156.5	152.1	150.1	146.7	152.1	153.0
2006									
March	155.6	155.5	153.3	158.1	154.0	150.2	148.2	153.2	155.0
COMMUNICATION									
2004									
March	109.6	109.8	113.4	111.2	108.3	110.9	101.8	108.7	110.0
June	110.0	110.2	113.9	111.8	108.7	111.4	102.2	109.1	110.4
September	110.5	110.7	114.4	112.3	109.2	111.9	102.6	109.6	110.9
December	110.7	111.0	114.7	112.6	109.5	112.1	102.9	109.8	111.2
2005									
March	111.1	111.4	115.1	113.0	109.9	112.5	103.2	110.2	111.6
June	110.1	110.4	114.1	112.0	108.9	111.5	102.3	109.2	110.6
September	109.3	109.6	113.3	111.2	108.1	110.8	101.6	108.5	109.8
December	108.5	108.8	112.4	110.4	107.3	110.0	100.8	107.7	109.0
2006									
March	109.0	109.3	112.9	110.9	107.8	110.4	101.3	108.2	109.5

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

Quarters	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Darwin	Canberra	Weighted average of eight capital cities
RECREATION									
2004									
March	132.9	130.3	126.9	130.5	124.4	125.2	107.7	125.3	129.7
June	132.4	129.4	126.4	130.6	125.3	123.8	107.6	125.7	129.3
September	133.0	129.8	126.5	131.6	125.8	125.0	110.3	127.3	129.9
December	134.3	131.1	126.9	131.8	127.3	128.0	108.2	128.4	130.9
2005									
March	134.5	132.7	128.1	132.0	127.9	129.5	106.6	128.9	131.8
June	133.3	130.4	125.7	130.7	127.1	126.9	107.3	127.2	130.1
September	134.7	132.0	126.7	132.1	129.0	128.7	111.1	129.5	131.7
December	134.7	132.0	127.6	132.1	129.2	129.1	108.3	128.9	131.7
2006									
March	135.2	133.3	128.7	132.5	130.3	130.2	106.7	129.8	132.5
EDUCATION									
2004									
March	239.0	221.6	248.7	266.4	214.9	241.6	167.0	213.4	231.4
June	239.2	221.6	248.9	266.4	214.9	241.8	167.0	213.4	231.5
September	239.3	221.7	248.9	266.5	214.9	241.5	167.0	213.6	231.5
December	239.6	221.7	249.0	266.6	214.9	241.6	167.0	213.7	231.7
2005									
March	254.5	234.4	265.8	282.9	227.9	249.9	173.9	227.1	245.7
June	254.7	234.7	265.9	283.0	227.9	250.0	174.1	227.2	245.9
September	254.6	234.8	266.6	283.2	227.9	250.0	174.3	227.2	246.0
December	254.7	235.3	266.7	283.4	227.9	250.4	174.3	227.6	246.3
2006									
March	271.8	246.4	279.5	299.9	241.6	259.7	180.8	241.7	260.1
FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE SERVICES (b)									
2004									
March	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
June	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
September	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
December	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
2005									
March	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
June	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
September	100.8	100.2	99.4	99.3	98.7	99.9	98.9	100.1	100.1
December	101.9	102.2	100.9	100.5	100.5	101.4	99.4	102.2	101.6
2006									
March	101.2	101.5	100.4	100.3	100.3	100.3	98.4	101.3	101.0

.. not applicable

(b) Base: June quarter 2005 = 100.0.

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

Group, sub-group and expenditure class	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Darwin	Canberra	Weighted average of eight capital cities
Food	0.31	0.38	0.54	0.32	0.17	0.26	0.59	0.21	0.35
Dairy and related products	0.02	0.03	0.01	0.01	—	0.02	0.04	0.01	0.02
Milk	—	0.01	0.01	0.01	—	0.01	0.01	—	—
Cheese	0.01	0.01	0.01	-0.01	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.01
Ice cream and other dairy products	0.01	0.02	—	0.01	—	—	0.01	—	—
Bread and cereal products	0.01	0.03	0.01	0.03	0.04	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.02
Bread	0.02	0.01	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.02	—	0.03	0.02
Cakes and biscuits	—	0.04	—	—	0.03	-0.01	0.01	-0.01	0.01
Breakfast cereals	-0.01	-0.01	—	—	0.01	0.02	0.02	—	—
Other cereal products	-0.01	-0.01	—	—	-0.01	-0.01	-0.01	—	-0.01
Meat and seafoods	0.04	0.02	0.07	0.06	-0.01	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.04
Beef and veal	0.01	—	0.02	0.02	—	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.01
Lamb and mutton	0.01	—	-0.01	—	-0.02	—	—	0.01	—
Pork	0.02	—	0.01	—	0.01	—	—	0.01	—
Poultry	-0.02	0.01	0.02	-0.01	-0.03	-0.01	-0.02	-0.01	-0.01
Bacon and ham	0.01	—	0.03	—	-0.02	0.01	0.01	—	—
Other fresh and processed meat	—	—	-0.01	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.01
Fish and other seafood	0.01	0.02	—	0.03	0.02	—	0.01	-0.01	0.01
Fruit and vegetables	0.14	0.11	0.33	0.06	-0.01	0.07	0.27	0.08	0.13
Fruit	-0.04	-0.02	0.02	-0.05	0.06	-0.04	0.09	0.02	-0.01
Vegetables	0.18	0.13	0.30	0.10	-0.07	0.12	0.18	0.06	0.14
Non-alcoholic drinks and snack food	0.05	0.04	0.02	0.08	0.05	0.02	0.07	0.01	0.05
Soft drinks, waters and juices	0.03	0.04	0.01	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.05	0.02	0.03
Snacks and confectionery	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.04	0.01	-0.01	0.03	-0.02	0.02
Meals out and take away foods	0.03	0.07	0.06	0.06	0.07	0.06	0.09	0.07	0.06
Restaurant meals	0.01	0.06	0.03	0.01	0.03	0.04	0.01	0.05	0.03
Take away and fast foods	0.02	0.01	0.04	0.03	0.04	0.03	0.08	0.03	0.02
Other food	0.02	0.07	0.06	0.03	0.02	0.03	0.06	—	0.04
Eggs	—	—	—	-0.01	—	—	—	—	—
Jams, honey and sandwich spreads	—	0.01	—	—	—	—	0.01	—	—
Tea, coffee and food drinks	—	0.02	0.01	0.01	—	-0.01	—	0.02	0.01
Food additives and condiments	—	—	0.01	0.01	0.02	-0.01	0.01	—	0.01
Fats and oils	—	0.01	—	0.01	—	0.01	—	0.01	0.01
Food n.e.c.	0.03	0.02	0.04	0.02	—	0.03	0.03	-0.02	0.02
Alcohol and tobacco	0.08	0.17	0.10	0.16	0.16	0.09	0.11	0.11	0.13
Alcoholic drinks	0.05	0.12	0.05	0.09	0.06	0.05	0.06	0.06	0.07
Beer	0.04	0.07	0.05	0.04	0.03	0.03	0.05	0.05	0.05
Wine	-0.01	0.02	-0.01	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.01
Spirits	0.02	0.03	—	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.02	—	0.02
Tobacco	0.03	0.05	0.06	0.08	0.10	0.02	0.04	0.05	0.05
Clothing and footwear	-0.08	-0.17	-0.32	-0.09	-0.18	-0.10	-0.10	-0.02	-0.15
Men's clothing	-0.01	-0.03	-0.08	-0.01	-0.04	-0.04	-0.03	—	-0.03
Men's outerwear	-0.01	-0.03	-0.06	—	-0.04	-0.04	-0.03	0.01	-0.02
Men's underwear, nightwear and socks	-0.01	-0.01	-0.02	-0.01	-0.01	—	-0.01	-0.01	—
Women's clothing	-0.03	-0.06	-0.05	0.01	-0.05	0.01	—	-0.01	-0.04
Women's outerwear	-0.03	-0.04	-0.03	0.01	-0.04	—	—	—	-0.02
Women's underwear, nightwear and hosiery	—	-0.02	-0.03	—	-0.01	—	—	-0.01	-0.01
Children's and infants' clothing	-0.01	-0.02	-0.07	-0.03	-0.02	-0.02	-0.02	-0.04	-0.02
Footwear	-0.03	-0.05	-0.02	-0.02	-0.02	-0.02	-0.05	—	-0.03
Men's footwear	—	-0.01	—	—	—	-0.01	-0.01	0.01	—
Women's footwear	-0.02	-0.01	-0.01	-0.01	-0.01	0.01	-0.03	0.01	-0.01
Children's footwear	-0.01	-0.02	-0.01	-0.01	—	-0.01	-0.01	-0.01	-0.01
Accessories and clothing services	—	-0.01	-0.10	-0.03	-0.06	-0.03	-0.01	0.02	-0.03
Accessories	-0.01	-0.02	-0.10	-0.04	-0.06	-0.03	-0.01	0.01	-0.03
Clothing services and shoe repair	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.01

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(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	0.07	0.07	0.20	0.34	0.60	0.48	0.62	0.18	0.18
Rents	0.06	0.02	0.13	0.04	0.07	0.09	0.12	0.05	0.06
Utilities	0.04	0.12	0.05	0.21	—	0.14	0.01	—	0.07
Electricity	—	0.04	0.03	0.22	—	0.14	—	—	0.03
Gas and other household fuels	—	0.08	0.02	—	—	0.01	0.02	—	0.02
Water and sewerage	0.04	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.01
Other housing	-0.03	-0.08	0.02	0.09	0.53	0.25	0.49	0.13	0.05
House purchase	-0.03	-0.09	—	0.08	0.49	0.24	0.43	0.11	0.04
Property rates and charges	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
House repairs and maintenance	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.04	0.02	0.05	0.03	0.01
Household contents and services	-0.06	-0.07	-0.03	0.03	-0.11	-0.08	—	0.05	-0.05
Furniture and furnishings	-0.13	-0.13	-0.06	-0.11	-0.09	-0.04	-0.04	—	-0.10
Furniture	-0.11	-0.11	-0.09	-0.08	-0.10	0.04	-0.02	-0.01	-0.09
Floor and window coverings	—	—	—	-0.04	0.01	—	-0.04	0.03	-0.01
Towels and linen	-0.03	-0.02	0.01	0.02	—	-0.08	0.02	-0.02	-0.02
Household appliances, utensils and tools	-0.03	-0.04	-0.02	0.03	-0.05	-0.05	-0.01	-0.04	-0.03
Major household appliances	-0.02	0.01	—	0.01	-0.03	-0.01	-0.01	-0.01	-0.01
Small electric household appliances	—	-0.01	-0.01	—	-0.01	-0.01	—	-0.01	-0.01
Glassware, tableware and household utensils	—	-0.04	-0.01	0.01	-0.01	-0.02	0.01	-0.01	-0.01
Tools	—	-0.01	-0.01	—	—	-0.01	—	-0.01	—
Household supplies	0.02	0.05	0.02	0.06	0.02	—	-0.01	—	0.03
Household cleaning agents	—	—	-0.01	—	—	—	—	-0.01	—
Toiletries and personal care products	0.01	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01	—	0.01	0.02
Other household supplies	—	0.03	0.01	0.04	—	-0.01	-0.01	-0.01	0.01
Household services	0.08	0.04	0.03	0.05	0.01	0.01	0.05	0.09	0.06
Child care	0.06	0.03	0.03	0.03	—	0.01	0.02	0.06	0.04
Hairdressing and personal care services	0.03	—	-0.02	0.02	—	0.01	0.03	0.02	0.01
Other household services	—	0.01	0.02	—	—	—	—	0.02	0.01
Health	0.33	0.29	0.35	0.23	0.22	0.30	0.15	0.37	0.30
Health services	0.10	0.06	0.11	0.03	0.06	0.06	0.03	0.14	0.09
Hospital and medical services	0.07	0.04	0.10	0.01	0.04	0.05	0.03	0.13	0.06
Optical services	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dental services	0.02	0.03	0.01	0.01	0.02	—	0.01	0.01	0.02
Pharmaceuticals	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.21	0.15	0.24	0.12	0.22	0.22
Transportation	0.26	0.32	0.25	0.22	0.24	0.01	0.18	0.13	0.26
Private motoring	0.24	0.29	0.25	0.22	0.24	—	0.19	0.14	0.25
Motor vehicles	0.13	0.10	0.04	0.06	0.11	-0.04	0.20	0.14	0.10
Automotive fuel	0.03	0.12	0.20	0.14	0.09	-0.01	-0.08	-0.03	0.08
Motor vehicle repair and servicing	0.05	0.07	0.03	0.01	0.03	0.02	0.06	0.03	0.04
Motor vehicle parts and accessories	0.01	—	-0.03	—	0.01	0.01	—	0.01	—
Other motoring charges	0.03	—	0.01	0.02	—	—	—	—	0.01
Urban transport fares	0.01	0.02	—	—	—	0.01	—	—	0.01
Communication	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02
Postal	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Telecommunication	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(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>
Recreation	0.06	0.17	0.14	0.05	0.14	0.16	-0.29	0.14	0.11
Audio, visual and computing	-0.03	-0.03	-0.01	-0.02	-0.03	-0.03	-0.03	-0.07	-0.03
Audio, visual and computing equipment	-0.03	-0.04	-0.03	-0.02	-0.05	-0.03	-0.02	-0.06	-0.03
Audio, visual and computing media and services	—	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	-0.01	-0.01	-0.01	0.01
Books, newspapers and magazines	—	0.01	—	—	0.01	0.01	—	0.02	0.01
Books	-0.01	0.01	—	—	0.01	—	—	0.01	—
Newspapers and magazines	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.01	0.01	—
Sport and other recreation	0.01	0.06	0.02	0.03	0.06	—	0.03	—	0.03
Sports and recreational equipment	—	-0.01	-0.01	-0.02	-0.01	-0.02	-0.02	-0.01	-0.01
Toys, games and hobbies	-0.01	0.01	-0.02	—	0.02	—	-0.01	-0.01	—
Sports participation	—	0.02	0.01	—	0.03	—	—	—	0.01
Pets, pet foods and supplies	—	—	—	0.02	-0.01	0.01	0.01	—	—
Pet services including veterinary	—	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	—	0.01
Other recreational activities	0.02	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.04	-0.01	0.03	0.01	0.02
Holiday travel and accommodation	0.09	0.14	0.13	0.03	0.10	0.17	-0.28	0.19	0.11
Domestic holiday travel and accommodation	0.02	0.07	0.03	-0.03	0.05	0.14	-0.18	0.11	0.04
Overseas holiday travel and accommodation	0.07	0.07	0.09	0.06	0.06	0.03	-0.10	0.08	0.07
Education	0.27	0.22	0.19	0.21	0.20	0.15	0.08	0.23	0.23
Preschool and primary education	0.05	0.04	0.02	0.05	0.06	0.02	0.02	0.04	0.04
Secondary education	0.12	0.09	0.07	0.10	0.09	0.08	0.01	0.13	0.10
Tertiary education	0.11	0.08	0.10	0.07	0.04	0.04	0.05	0.06	0.09
Financial and insurance services	-0.11	-0.10	-0.07	-0.03	-0.03	-0.11	-0.10	-0.12	-0.08
Financial services	-0.12	-0.11	-0.08	-0.09	-0.05	-0.11	-0.08	-0.10	-0.10
Deposit and loan facilities	-0.15	-0.13	-0.13	-0.10	-0.12	-0.09	-0.10	-0.11	-0.13
Other financial services	0.04	0.02	0.05	0.01	0.08	-0.03	0.02	0.01	0.04
Insurance services	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.08	0.02	0.01	-0.02	-0.03	0.02
All groups	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.3

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) All groups index points.

Group, sub-group and expenditure class	INDEX NUMBERS(a)			PERCENTAGE CHANGE		CONTRIBUTION TO TOTAL CPI (ALL GROUPS INDEX POINTS)		CHANGE IN POINTS CONTRIBUTION
	Mar Qtr 2005	Dec Qtr 2005	Mar Qtr 2006	Dec Qtr 2005 to Mar Qtr 2006	Mar Qtr 2005 to Mar Qtr 2006	Dec Qtr 2005	Mar Qtr 2006	Dec Qtr 2005 to Mar Qtr 2006
Food	156.0	160.2	162.5	1.4	4.2	23.49	23.84	0.35
Dairy and related products	165.6	171.9	173.4	0.9	4.7	1.79	1.81	0.02
Milk	180.7	187.9	188.4	0.3	4.3	0.84	0.84	—
Cheese	142.4	149.7	152.3	1.7	7.0	0.49	0.50	0.01
Ice cream and other dairy products	158.4	161.8	163.5	1.1	3.2	0.47	0.47	—
Bread and cereal products	163.1	170.1	171.4	0.8	5.1	2.64	2.66	0.02
Bread	181.8	193.3	196.3	1.6	8.0	0.99	1.01	0.02
Cakes and biscuits	152.8	158.3	160.2	1.2	4.8	1.08	1.09	0.01
Breakfast cereals	142.1	147.7	145.8	-1.3	2.6	0.30	0.30	—
Other cereal products	141.2	142.0	139.5	-1.8	-1.2	0.27	0.26	-0.01
Meat and seafoods	144.0	145.4	146.8	1.0	1.9	3.60	3.64	0.04
Beef and veal	156.4	162.9	164.6	1.0	5.2	0.75	0.76	0.01
Lamb and mutton	204.6	209.2	210.3	0.5	2.8	0.40	0.40	—
Pork	157.4	163.3	168.9	3.4	7.3	0.24	0.24	—
Poultry	103.3	97.7	96.6	-1.1	-6.5	0.69	0.68	-0.01
Bacon and ham	134.8	134.3	136.9	1.9	1.6	0.34	0.34	—
Other fresh and processed meat	151.7	152.3	153.5	0.8	1.2	0.56	0.57	0.01
Fish and other seafood	124.3	128.2	130.9	2.1	5.3	0.63	0.64	0.01
Fruit and vegetables	145.0	148.6	154.4	3.9	6.5	3.37	3.50	0.13
Fruit	165.7	161.5	160.2	-0.8	-3.3	1.54	1.53	-0.01
Vegetables	132.0	141.2	152.3	7.9	15.4	1.83	1.97	0.14
Non-alcoholic drinks and snack food	158.6	162.5	165.2	1.7	4.2	2.94	2.99	0.05
Soft drinks, waters and juices	141.1	144.0	147.3	2.3	4.4	1.36	1.39	0.03
Snacks and confectionery	180.8	186.0	187.9	1.0	3.9	1.58	1.60	0.02
Meals out and take away foods	163.8	168.3	169.6	0.8	3.5	6.89	6.95	0.06
Restaurant meals	167.3	172.6	174.4	1.0	4.2	3.03	3.06	0.03
Take away and fast foods	162.8	166.8	167.9	0.7	3.1	3.87	3.89	0.02
Other food	144.8	148.0	150.6	1.8	4.0	2.25	2.29	0.04
Eggs	174.4	177.6	175.2	-1.4	0.5	0.15	0.15	—
Jams, honey and sandwich spreads	180.3	182.7	186.1	1.9	3.2	0.23	0.23	—
Tea, coffee and food drinks	130.6	137.6	140.3	2.0	7.4	0.36	0.37	0.01
Food additives and condiments	129.2	129.7	131.2	1.2	1.5	0.40	0.41	0.01
Fats and oils	145.1	151.4	154.1	1.8	6.2	0.28	0.29	0.01
Food n.e.c.	146.0	147.9	151.7	2.6	3.9	0.82	0.84	0.02
Alcohol and tobacco	226.9	231.4	234.3	1.3	3.3	10.22	10.35	0.13
Alcoholic drinks	167.1	170.0	171.9	1.1	2.9	6.59	6.66	0.07
Beer	179.5	184.6	187.6	1.6	4.5	2.93	2.98	0.05
Wine	148.6	148.6	149.2	0.4	0.4	2.34	2.35	0.01
Spirits	164.1	167.4	169.9	1.5	3.5	1.32	1.34	0.02
Tobacco	391.8	401.9	407.6	1.4	4.0	3.64	3.69	0.05
Clothing and footwear	109.4	110.3	107.5	-2.5	-1.7	5.81	5.66	-0.15
Men's clothing	106.6	107.4	104.4	-2.8	-2.1	1.10	1.07	-0.03
Men's outerwear	104.2	104.8	102.1	-2.6	-2.0	0.93	0.91	-0.02
Men's underwear, nightwear and socks	119.7	121.8	117.5	-3.5	-1.8	0.16	0.16	—
Women's clothing	112.4	112.2	110.3	-1.7	-1.9	2.08	2.04	-0.04
Women's outerwear	106.1	105.8	104.1	-1.6	-1.9	1.67	1.65	-0.02
Women's underwear, nightwear and hosiery	137.7	138.0	134.8	-2.3	-2.1	0.40	0.39	-0.01
Children's and infants' clothing	113.3	116.8	112.1	-4.0	-1.1	0.59	0.57	-0.02
Footwear	97.2	98.0	94.9	-3.2	-2.4	0.96	0.93	-0.03
Men's footwear	91.8	92.8	90.1	-2.9	-1.9	0.26	0.26	—
Women's footwear	101.3	101.9	99.2	-2.6	-2.1	0.51	0.50	-0.01
Children's footwear	98.1	99.5	94.4	-5.1	-3.8	0.19	0.18	-0.01
Accessories and clothing services(b)	105.8	107.6	104.9	-2.5	-0.9	1.08	1.05	-0.03
Accessories(b)	91.9	92.2	89.0	-3.5	-3.2	0.83	0.80	-0.03
Clothing services and shoe repair	172.8	178.8	180.1	0.7	4.2	0.24	0.25	0.01

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(b) Base: June quarter 1998 = 100.0.

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

continued

Group, sub-group and expenditure class	INDEX NUMBERS (a)			PERCENTAGE CHANGE		CONTRIBUTION TO TOTAL CPI (ALL GROUPS INDEX POINTS)		CHANGE IN POINTS CONTRIBUTION
	Mar Qtr 2005	Dec Qtr 2005	Mar Qtr 2006	Dec Qtr 2005 to Mar Qtr 2006	Mar Qtr 2005 to Mar Qtr 2006	Dec Qtr 2005	Mar Qtr 2006	Dec Qtr 2005 to Mar Qtr 2006
Housing	125.5	128.8	129.6	0.6	3.3	29.58	29.76	0.18
Rents	142.2	145.1	146.2	0.8	2.8	7.84	7.90	0.06
Utilities	157.4	161.0	163.6	1.6	3.9	4.74	4.81	0.07
Electricity	152.0	153.6	155.9	1.5	2.6	2.48	2.51	0.03
Gas and other household fuels	175.3	179.0	183.3	2.4	4.6	1.06	1.08	0.02
Water and sewerage(b)	125.7	132.1	133.4	1.0	6.1	1.20	1.21	0.01
Other housing	120.0	123.6	124.0	0.3	3.3	17.00	17.05	0.05
House purchase(b)	144.9	149.2	149.7	0.3	3.3	11.92	11.96	0.04
Property rates and charges(b)	140.9	147.9	147.9	0.0	5.0	1.80	1.80	—
House repairs and maintenance	156.0	159.9	160.5	0.4	2.9	3.28	3.29	0.01
Household contents and services	119.7	122.4	121.9	-0.4	1.8	14.39	14.34	-0.05
Furniture and furnishings	127.0	129.8	126.8	-2.3	-0.2	4.68	4.58	-0.10
Furniture	128.1	130.7	126.5	-3.2	-1.2	2.94	2.85	-0.09
Floor and window coverings	139.3	142.6	142.4	-0.1	2.2	1.17	1.16	-0.01
Towels and linen	104.8	107.4	105.1	-2.1	0.3	0.58	0.56	-0.02
Household appliances, utensils and tools	102.9	104.0	102.9	-1.1	0.0	2.60	2.57	-0.03
Major household appliances	107.2	109.9	109.0	-0.8	1.7	1.00	0.99	-0.01
Small electric household appliances	95.4	94.0	93.1	-1.0	-2.4	0.39	0.38	-0.01
Glassware, tableware and household utensils	93.4	95.4	93.5	-2.0	0.1	0.69	0.68	-0.01
Tools	110.7	110.1	109.6	-0.5	-1.0	0.52	0.52	—
Household supplies	132.5	135.1	136.0	0.7	2.6	4.36	4.39	0.03
Household cleaning agents	122.6	128.1	127.2	-0.7	3.8	0.49	0.49	—
Toiletries and personal care products	141.4	143.9	145.5	1.1	2.9	1.77	1.79	0.02
Other household supplies	136.9	139.0	139.9	0.6	2.2	2.10	2.11	0.01
Household services	206.9	213.8	218.1	2.0	5.4	2.75	2.81	0.06
Child care	198.7	211.8	222.5	5.1	12.0	0.70	0.74	0.04
Hairdressing and personal care services	175.2	179.7	181.4	0.9	3.5	1.14	1.15	0.01
Other household services	206.9	211.6	213.7	1.0	3.3	0.91	0.92	0.01
Health	206.7	207.1	216.2	4.4	4.6	6.82	7.12	0.30
Health services	217.2	225.3	228.8	1.6	5.3	5.29	5.38	0.09
Hospital and medical services	226.4	235.2	238.5	1.4	5.3	4.10	4.16	0.06
Optical services	142.3	145.0	146.0	0.7	2.6	0.18	0.18	—
Dental services	208.2	215.4	219.9	2.1	5.6	1.02	1.04	0.02
Pharmaceuticals	161.4	143.9	164.4	14.2	1.9	1.53	1.75	0.22
Transportation	145.8	153.0	155.0	1.3	6.3	19.99	20.25	0.26
Private motoring	142.5	149.7	151.7	1.3	6.5	18.89	19.14	0.25
Motor vehicles	100.3	97.9	99.3	1.4	-1.0	7.18	7.28	0.10
Automotive fuel	170.3	201.8	204.7	1.4	20.2	6.21	6.29	0.08
Motor vehicle repair and servicing	144.0	145.4	147.5	1.4	2.4	2.95	2.99	0.04
Motor vehicle parts and accessories	115.6	118.5	118.5	0.0	2.5	1.04	1.04	—
Other motoring charges	199.4	202.4	204.2	0.9	2.4	1.53	1.54	0.01
Urban transport fares	205.4	209.7	212.1	1.1	3.3	1.10	1.11	0.01
Communication	111.6	109.0	109.5	0.5	-1.9	4.85	4.87	0.02
Postal	134.1	136.0	136.3	0.2	1.6	0.17	0.17	—
Telecommunication	109.4	106.7	107.2	0.5	-2.0	4.68	4.70	0.02

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(b) Base: June quarter 1998 = 100.0.

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

continued

Group, sub-group and expenditure class	INDEX NUMBERS(a)			PERCENTAGE CHANGE		CONTRIBUTION TO TOTAL CPI (ALL GROUPS INDEX POINTS)		CHANGE IN POINTS CONTRIBUTION
	Mar Qtr 2005	Dec Qtr 2005	Mar Qtr 2006	Dec Qtr 2005 to Mar Qtr 2006	Mar Qtr 2005 to Mar Qtr 2006	Dec Qtr 2005	Mar Qtr 2006	Dec Qtr 2005 to Mar Qtr 2006
Recreation	131.8	131.7	132.5	0.6	0.5	17.35	17.46	0.11
Audio, visual and computing	53.9	51.9	51.5	-0.8	-4.5	4.21	4.18	-0.03
Audio, visual and computing equipment	29.2	27.4	27.0	-1.5	-7.5	2.16	2.13	-0.03
Audio, visual and computing media and services	99.0	97.8	98.0	0.2	-1.0	2.04	2.05	0.01
Books, newspapers and magazines	204.8	207.2	208.0	0.4	1.6	1.27	1.28	0.01
Books(b)	123.8	124.8	125.0	0.2	1.0	0.66	0.66	—
Newspapers and magazines(b)	136.3	138.4	139.3	0.7	2.2	0.61	0.61	—
Sport and other recreation	161.6	165.0	166.0	0.6	2.7	5.63	5.66	0.03
Sports and recreational equipment(b)	89.7	88.3	87.4	-1.0	-2.6	0.81	0.80	-0.01
Toys, games and hobbies(b)	97.9	96.6	96.2	-0.4	-1.7	0.75	0.75	—
Sports participation(b)	143.5	148.8	150.2	0.9	4.7	1.11	1.12	0.01
Pets, pet foods and supplies	136.3	147.3	147.6	0.2	8.3	0.63	0.63	—
Pet services including veterinary	196.3	201.7	204.0	1.1	3.9	0.67	0.68	0.01
Other recreational activities(b)	136.6	139.5	141.5	1.4	3.6	1.65	1.67	0.02
Holiday travel and accommodation	135.0	135.6	137.8	1.6	2.1	6.24	6.35	0.11
Domestic holiday travel and accommodation	145.0	146.0	147.5	1.0	1.7	3.60	3.64	0.04
Overseas holiday travel and accommodation	123.1	122.8	126.0	2.6	2.4	2.64	2.71	0.07
Education	245.7	246.3	260.1	5.6	5.9	4.06	4.29	0.23
Preschool and primary education(c)	137.1	138.6	146.1	5.4	6.6	0.79	0.83	0.04
Secondary education(c)	138.3	138.3	147.8	6.9	6.9	1.40	1.50	0.10
Tertiary education(c)	123.9	123.9	129.8	4.8	4.8	1.87	1.96	0.09
Financial and insurance services(d)	..	101.6	101.0	-0.6	..	14.02	13.94	-0.08
Financial services(d)	..	101.5	100.6	-0.9	..	11.75	11.65	-0.10
Deposit and loan facilities(d)	..	101.6	99.5	-2.1	..	6.73	6.60	-0.13
Other financial services(d)	..	101.4	102.0	0.6	..	5.02	5.06	0.04
Insurance services	245.9	253.7	255.6	0.7	3.9	2.27	2.29	0.02
All groups	147.5	150.6	151.9	0.9	3.0	150.6	151.9	1.3

.. not applicable

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

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

(b) Base: June quarter 1998 = 100.0.

(c) Base: June quarter 2000 = 100.0.

(d) Base: June quarter 2005 = 100.0.

	INDEX NUMBERS(b)			PERCENTAGE CHANGE		CONTRIBUTION TO TOTAL CPI (ALL GROUPS INDEX POINTS)		CHANGE IN POINTS CONTRIBUTION
	Mar Qtr 2005	Dec Qtr 2005	Mar Qtr 2006	Dec Qtr 2005 to Mar Qtr 2006	Mar Qtr 2005 to Mar Qtr 2006	Dec Qtr 2005	Mar Qtr 2006	Dec Qtr 2005 to Mar Qtr 2006
All groups	147.50	150.6	151.9	0.9	3.0	150.6	151.9	1.3
Selected components								
Goods component	146.2	149.6	150.7	0.7	3.1	88.17	88.84	0.67
Services component	150.6	153.3	154.8	1.0	2.8	62.42	63.04	0.62
Tradables component(c)	112.5	114.8	115.7	0.8	2.8	62.74	63.27	0.53
Non-tradables component(c)	130.5	133.3	134.5	0.9	3.1	87.85	88.61	0.76
All groups excluding								
Food	145.7	148.6	149.7	0.7	2.7	127.10	128.05	0.95
Alcohol and tobacco	141.9	144.9	146.1	0.8	3.0	140.37	141.53	1.16
Clothing and footwear	150.1	153.3	154.8	1.0	3.1	144.78	146.22	1.44
Housing	150.6	153.6	155.0	0.9	2.9	121.01	122.12	1.11
Household contents and services	151.7	154.9	156.4	1.0	3.1	136.20	137.54	1.34
Health	144.6	147.8	148.8	0.7	2.9	143.77	144.76	0.99
Transportation	147.8	150.3	151.5	0.8	2.5	130.60	131.63	1.03
Communication	148.1	151.5	152.8	0.9	3.2	145.74	147.02	1.28
Recreation	149.7	153.3	154.7	0.9	3.3	133.24	134.42	1.18
Education	146.2	149.4	150.5	0.7	2.9	146.53	147.59	1.06
Financial and insurance services	153.7	156.9	158.5	1.0	3.1	136.57	137.94	1.37
Housing and Financial and insurance services	150.8	153.7	155.4	1.1	3.1	106.99	108.18	1.19
Hospital and medical services	145.4	148.3	149.6	0.9	2.9	146.49	147.72	1.23

(a) Refer to paragraph 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)
2001-02	136.0	140.4	143.3	137.1	149.3	140.5	109.1	115.5
2002-03	140.2	144.6	147.4	139.6	154.7	143.8	111.3	120.0
2003-04	143.5	147.3	150.8	141.6	157.7	146.1	111.5	125.1
2004-05	147.0	150.3	154.0	143.2	161.5	148.4	112.6	129.6
2002								
March	136.6	141.1	144.1	137.6	150.5	141.2	109.4	116.2
June	137.6	142.2	145.0	138.2	151.8	142.0	110.3	116.9
September	138.5	142.8	146.0	138.4	153.5	142.7	110.3	118.4
December	139.5	144.0	146.8	139.2	154.5	143.5	111.1	119.2
2003								
March	141.3	145.9	148.0	139.9	155.2	144.2	112.4	120.8
June	141.3	145.5	148.9	140.8	155.6	144.9	111.4	121.7
September	142.1	145.9	149.8	141.3	156.2	145.5	111.1	123.3
December	142.8	146.6	150.3	141.4	157.9	146.1	111.1	124.4
2004								
March	144.1	147.9	151.1	141.5	158.0	146.1	111.8	125.8
June	144.8	148.6	151.8	142.0	158.6	146.7	112.0	126.7
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

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

(c) Base: June quarter 1998 = 100.0.

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

Period	All groups	All groups excluding Housing and Financial and insurance services	All groups excluding 'volatile items'	MARKET GOODS AND SERVICES EXCLUDING 'VOLATILE ITEMS'				
				Goods	Services	Total	Tradables	Non-tradables
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous financial year)								
2001-02	2.9	2.7	3.3	3.2	3.6	3.3	2.4	3.3
2002-03	3.1	3.0	2.9	1.8	3.6	2.3	2.0	3.9
2003-04	2.4	1.9	2.3	1.4	1.9	1.6	0.2	4.3
2004-05	2.4	2.0	2.1	1.1	2.4	1.6	1.0	3.6
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from corresponding quarter of previous year)								
2002								
March	2.9	2.8	3.6	3.2	4.4	3.6	2.3	3.6
June	2.8	2.6	3.3	2.4	4.7	3.1	1.8	3.8
September	3.2	3.1	3.3	2.0	4.8	3.0	2.3	4.0
December	3.0	2.9	2.9	1.6	4.1	2.4	2.2	3.7
2003								
March	3.4	3.4	2.7	1.7	3.1	2.1	2.7	4.0
June	2.7	2.3	2.7	1.9	2.5	2.0	1.0	4.1
September	2.6	2.2	2.6	2.1	1.8	2.0	0.7	4.1
December	2.4	1.8	2.4	1.6	2.2	1.8	0.0	4.4
2004								
March	2.0	1.4	2.1	1.1	1.8	1.3	-0.5	4.1
June	2.5	2.1	1.9	0.9	1.9	1.2	0.5	4.1
September	2.3	2.0	1.8	0.6	2.4	1.2	0.7	3.6
December	2.6	2.3	2.1	1.2	2.1	1.4	1.4	3.5
2005								
March	2.4	2.0	2.4	1.3	2.8	1.8	0.6	3.7
June	2.5	2.1	2.3	1.5	2.4	1.8	1.3	3.5
September	3.0	3.0	2.4	1.9	2.2	2.0	2.6	3.4
December	2.8	2.5	2.3	1.5	2.2	1.8	2.0	3.5
2006								
March	3.0	3.1	2.2	1.6	1.9	1.7	2.8	3.1
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous quarter)								
2002								
March	0.9	0.9	1.0	0.4	1.4	0.8	0.6	1.1
June	0.7	0.8	0.6	0.4	0.9	0.6	0.8	0.6
September	0.7	0.4	0.7	0.1	1.1	0.5	0.0	1.3
December	0.7	0.8	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.7	0.7
2003								
March	1.3	1.3	0.8	0.5	0.5	0.5	1.2	1.3
June	0.0	-0.3	0.6	0.6	0.3	0.5	-0.9	0.7
September	0.6	0.3	0.6	0.4	0.4	0.4	-0.3	1.3
December	0.5	0.5	0.3	0.1	1.1	0.4	0.0	0.9
2004								
March	0.9	0.9	0.5	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.6	1.1
June	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.7
September	0.4	0.1	0.5	0.1	0.8	0.3	-0.1	0.9
December	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.6	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.8
2005								
March	0.7	0.6	0.8	0.2	0.8	0.4	-0.1	1.3
June	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.6	-0.1	0.3	0.8	0.5
September	0.9	1.0	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.6	1.2	0.8
December	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.9	0.5	0.0	0.8
2006								
March	0.9	1.1	0.8	0.3	0.5	0.3	0.8	0.9

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

<i>Period</i>	<i>Australia</i>	<i>New Zealand</i>	<i>Hong Kong</i>	<i>Indonesia</i>	<i>Japan</i>	<i>Korea, Republic of</i>	<i>Singapore</i>	<i>Taiwan</i>	<i>Canada</i>	<i>United States of America</i>	<i>Germany</i>	<i>United Kingdom</i>
2001-02	140.4	127.3	162.5	458.3	107.7	185.0	121.9	130.6	130.3	136.4	126.0	143.5
2002-03	144.6	129.8	159.2	495.8	106.4	190.9	122.4	130.5	135.2	138.9	127.4	145.8
2003-04	147.3	130.4	158.7	524.4	106.1	197.4	124.2	131.1	136.9	141.8	128.9	147.9
2004-05	150.3	132.9	161.3	560.2	106.2	204.9	125.6	134.7	139.3	146.2	131.1	149.7
2002												
March	141.1	127.4	161.4	470.1	107.0	185.1	121.5	130.1	129.9	135.7	126.6	143.4
June	142.2	128.8	161.2	473.8	106.8	187.7	122.0	130.4	132.5	137.3	126.8	144.6
September	142.8	129.2	160.4	480.5	106.6	188.2	122.2	130.5	134.1	137.7	127.1	144.5
December	144.0	129.9	160.0	498.6	106.5	189.1	122.2	131.1	134.5	138.2	126.8	145.4
2003												
March	145.9	130.1	158.5	500.9	106.0	192.7	122.7	130.1	136.2	139.7	127.9	146.0
June	145.5	129.8	157.9	503.3	106.5	193.7	122.4	130.3	135.8	140.1	127.7	147.1
September	145.9	129.6	157.1	509.8	106.3	194.0	123.0	129.4	136.2	140.6	128.1	147.1
December	146.6	130.1	158.4	523.2	106.1	195.8	123.3	131.1	136.0	140.6	128.1	147.7
2004												
March	147.9	130.5	159.2	526.4	105.8	199.1	125.1	131.2	136.9	141.8	129.2	147.9
June	148.6	131.2	160.2	538.3	106.2	200.5	125.3	132.6	138.6	144.0	130.2	148.9
September	148.8	131.6	160.2	539.1	106.2	203.2	125.7	134.5	138.5	144.3	130.6	148.6
December	149.9	132.8	161.0	553.0	106.8	203.0	125.6	134.2	138.9	145.7	130.6	149.5
2005												
March	150.8	133.1	161.5	571.4	105.6	206.0	125.4	133.9	139.2	146.2	131.2	149.7
June	151.7	133.9	162.5	577.1	106.1	207.3	125.6	136.2	140.6	148.6	131.8	151.1
September	153.2	135.3	162.7	589.5	105.8	208.7	126.3	139.8	141.9	150.9	132.8	151.4
December	153.7	136.0	163.5	655.1	106.1	208.8	127.1	138.5	141.5	152.0	132.9	152.3
2006												
March	155.4	136.7	nya	nya	nya	nya	nya	136.0	141.9	152.4	132.8	152.5

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)												
2001-02	2.7	2.9	-1.4	13.8	-3.0	3.2	-0.2	-0.2	1.7	0.8	1.9	1.5
2002-03	3.0	2.0	-2.0	8.2	-1.2	3.2	0.4	-0.1	3.8	1.8	1.1	1.6
2003-04	1.9	0.5	-0.3	5.8	-0.3	3.4	1.5	0.5	1.3	2.1	1.2	1.4
2004-05	2.0	1.9	1.6	6.8	0.1	3.8	1.1	2.7	1.8	3.1	1.7	1.2

PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from corresponding quarter of previous year)

2002												
March	2.8	2.7	-1.4	15.8	-3.5	2.5	-1.0	0.2	1.6	0.0	2.3	1.8
June	2.6	2.8	-1.9	11.6	-3.6	2.8	-0.4	0.4	2.1	0.1	1.3	1.1
September	3.1	2.5	-2.2	10.4	-2.0	2.4	-0.2	0.1	3.1	0.7	1.4	1.1
December	2.9	2.5	-2.1	9.9	-1.7	3.2	0.4	-0.4	4.5	1.8	1.3	1.5
2003												
March	3.4	2.1	-1.8	6.6	-0.9	4.1	1.0	0.0	4.8	2.9	1.0	1.8
June	2.3	0.8	-2.0	6.2	-0.3	3.2	0.3	-0.1	2.5	2.0	0.7	1.7
September	2.2	0.3	-2.1	6.1	-0.3	3.1	0.7	-0.8	1.6	2.1	0.8	1.8
December	1.8	0.2	-1.0	4.9	-0.4	3.5	0.9	0.0	1.1	1.7	1.0	1.6
2004												
March	1.4	0.3	0.4	5.1	-0.2	3.3	2.0	0.8	0.5	1.5	1.0	1.3
June	2.1	1.1	1.5	7.0	-0.3	3.5	2.4	1.8	2.1	2.8	2.0	1.2
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	2.1	1.6	5.7	0.7	3.7	1.9	2.4	2.1	3.6	2.0	1.2
2005												
March	2.0	2.0	1.4	8.5	-0.2	3.5	0.2	2.1	1.7	3.1	1.5	1.2
June	2.1	2.1	1.4	7.2	-0.1	3.4	0.2	2.7	1.4	3.2	1.2	1.5
September	3.0	2.8	1.6	9.3	-0.4	2.7	0.5	3.9	2.5	4.6	1.7	1.9
December	2.5	2.4	1.6	18.5	-0.7	2.9	1.2	3.2	1.9	4.3	1.8	1.9
2006												
March	3.1	2.7	nya	nya	nya	nya	nya	1.6	1.9	4.2	1.2	1.9

PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous quarter)

2002												
March	0.9	0.6	-1.2	3.6	-1.2	1.0	-0.2	-1.1	0.9	-0.1	1.1	0.1
June	0.8	1.1	-0.1	0.8	-0.2	1.4	0.4	0.2	2.0	1.2	0.2	0.8
September	0.4	0.3	-0.5	1.4	-0.2	0.3	0.2	0.1	1.2	0.3	0.2	-0.1
December	0.8	0.5	-0.2	3.8	-0.1	0.5	0.0	0.5	0.3	0.4	-0.2	0.6
2003												
March	1.3	0.2	-0.9	0.5	-0.5	1.9	0.4	-0.8	1.3	1.1	0.9	0.4
June	-0.3	-0.2	-0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5	-0.2	0.2	-0.3	0.3	-0.2	0.8
September	0.3	-0.2	-0.5	1.3	-0.2	0.2	0.5	-0.7	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.0
December	0.5	0.4	0.8	2.6	-0.2	0.9	0.2	1.3	-0.1	0.0	0.0	0.4
2004												
March	0.9	0.3	0.5	0.6	-0.3	1.7	1.5	0.1	0.7	0.9	0.9	0.1
June	0.5	0.5	0.6	2.3	0.4	0.7	0.2	1.1	1.2	1.6	0.8	0.7
September	0.1	0.3	0.0	0.1	0.0	1.3	0.3	1.4	-0.1	0.2	0.3	-0.2
December	0.7	0.9	0.5	2.6	0.6	-0.1	-0.1	-0.2	0.3	1.0	0.0	0.6
2005												
March	0.6	0.2	0.3	3.3	-1.1	1.5	-0.2	-0.2	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.1
June	0.6	0.6	0.6	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	0.5	0.5	11.1	0.3	0.0	0.6	-0.9	-0.3	0.7	0.1	0.6
2006												
March	1.1	0.5	nya	nya	nya	nya	nya	-1.8	0.3	0.3	-0.1	0.1

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 web site <<http://www.abs.gov.au>>.

PRICES

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

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

WEIGHTING PATTERN

6 There are 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 weighting pattern for the CPI for the weighted average of the eight capital cities is published in *A Guide to the Consumer Price Index, 15th Series* (cat. no. 6440.0). 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) (electronic publication). Both publications are available on the ABS web site <<http://www.abs.gov.au>>.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

ANALYSIS OF CPI CHANGES

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

All groups CPI: Weighted average of eight capital cities.

	Index numbers:
March Quarter 2006	151.9 (see table 1)
less December Quarter 2005	150.6 (see table 1)
Change in index points	1.3
Percentage change	$1.3/150.6 \times 100 = 0.9\%$

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 1.81 index points to the total All groups index number of 151.9 for March Quarter 2006. 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.

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 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 13). 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.

EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

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

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

- *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)
- *Consumer Price Index Standard Data Report: Capital Cities Index Numbers by Expenditure Class* (cat. no. 6455.0.55.001)
- *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).

ABS DATA AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

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

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ISSN 1442 3987

RRP \$25.00