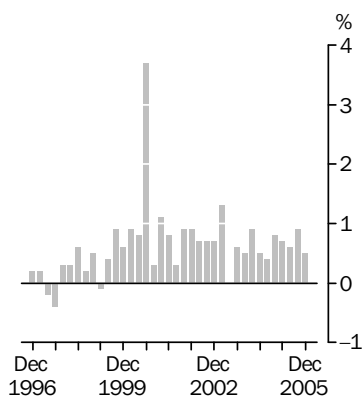


CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

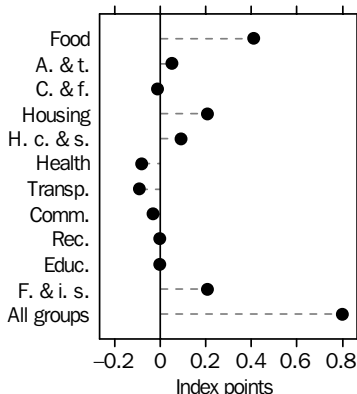
AUSTRALIA

EMBARGO: 11.30AM (CANBERRA TIME) WED 25 JAN 2006

All Groups
Quarterly change



Contribution to quarterly change
December quarter 2005



KEY FIGURES

**WEIGHTED AVERAGE OF EIGHT
CAPITAL CITIES**

	Sep Qtr 2005 to Dec Qtr 2005 % change	Dec Qtr 2004 to Dec Qtr 2005 % change
Food	1.8	3.6
Alcohol and tobacco	0.5	3.3
Clothing and footwear	-0.2	-0.5
Housing	0.6	3.6
Household contents and services	0.7	0.9
Health	-1.1	4.2
Transportation	-0.5	3.9
Communication	-0.7	-2.0
Recreation	0.0	0.6
Education	0.1	6.3
Financial and insurance services	1.5	..

All groups

All groups	0.5	2.8
All groups excluding Housing and Financial and insurance services	0.3	2.5

.. not applicable

KEY POINTS

THE ALL GROUPS CPI

- rose 0.5% in the December quarter 2005 compared with 0.9% in the September quarter.
- rose 2.8% through the year to December quarter 2005.

OVERVIEW OF CPI MOVEMENTS

- Contributing most to the overall increase this quarter were deposit and loan facilities (+2.3%), vegetables (+6.8%), domestic holiday travel and accommodation (+3.3%), house purchase (+0.8%), fruit (+5.8%), rents (+0.7%), take away and fast foods (+1.2%), other financial services (+0.8%), bread (+3.6%), tobacco (+0.6%), other household supplies (+1.3%) and other recreational activities (+1.8%).
- Partially offsetting these increases were falls in audio, visual and computing equipment (-3.2%), pharmaceuticals (-4.6%), motor vehicles (-1.1%), overseas holiday travel and accommodation (-2.5%), automotive fuel (-0.9%) and telecommunication (-0.8%).

INQUIRIES

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

NOTES

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

ISSUE (Quarter)

RELEASE DATE

March 2006

26 April 2006

June 2006

26 July 2006



CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

There are no changes in this issue.

ROUNDING

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

ABBREVIATIONS

ABS Australian Bureau of Statistics

CPI Consumer Price Index

Dennis Trewin

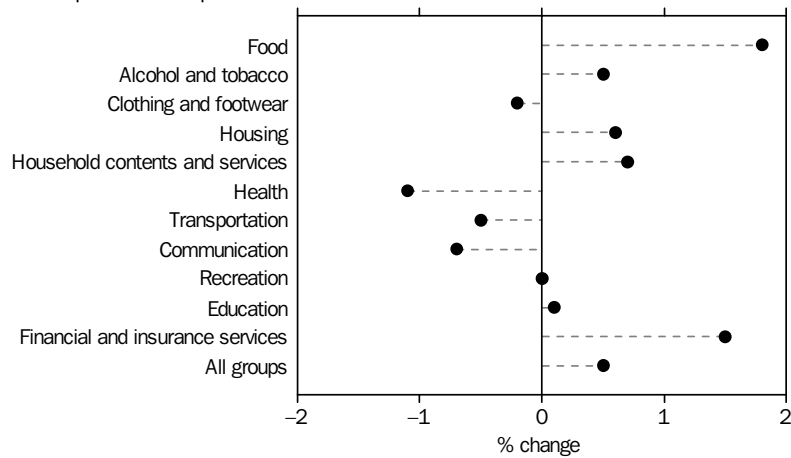
Australian Statistician

ANALYSES AND COMMENTS

MAIN CONTRIBUTORS TO CHANGE

CPI GROUPS

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



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

FOOD (+1.8%)

The rise in food prices was largely as a result of vegetables (+6.8%), fruit (+5.8%), take away and fast foods (+1.2%) and bread (+3.6%). Lamb and mutton (-2.5%) and food additives and condiments (-1.7%) provided minor offsetting price falls.

The rise in vegetable prices was due to adverse weather in major growing areas affecting supplies, particularly of potatoes, broccoli, onions and tomatoes. Poor weather also impacted on supplies of pears, apples and oranges, pushing fruit prices up overall.

Some respondents have indicated an increase in the cost of fuel affected prices for a number of food categories including milk, bread, restaurant meals and take away and fast foods.

Through the year to December quarter 2005, the food group rose 3.6%.

HOUSING (+0.6%)

Most categories of housing recorded price rises this quarter with house purchase (+0.8%), rents (+0.7%), electricity (+0.7%), water and sewerage (+2.0%) and house repairs and maintenance (+0.6%) contributing to the increase.

House purchase rose in all capital cities except Melbourne and Hobart, which were flat. The increases in the other capitals ranged from 0.3% in Sydney and Adelaide to 3.9% in Perth. Builders reported material costs and labour and tradesmen's costs as the main contributing factors. Rents rose in all capital cities, with the increases ranging from 0.3% in Melbourne to 1.6% in Brisbane.

Through the year to December quarter 2005, the housing group rose 3.6%.

FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE SERVICES (+1.5%)

All categories of financial and insurance services rose this quarter with deposit and loan facilities (+2.3%), other financial services (+0.8%) and insurance services (+0.8%) contributing to the increase.

ANALYSES AND COMMENTS *continued*

FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE SERVICES (+1.5%) *continued*

The rise in deposit and loan facilities was due to increases in some banking charges, such as account keeping and transaction fees. The rise in other financial services was due to increased stamp duty payments on real estate transfers.

HOUSEHOLD CONTENTS AND SERVICES (+0.7%)

Most categories of household contents and services rose this quarter with other household supplies (+1.3%), toiletries and personal care products (+1.2%) and child care (+3.6%) being the most significant. The rises were partially offset by falls in glassware, tableware and household utensils (-2.2%) and major household appliances (-1.0%).

The net price rise in child care was due to increases in gross fees charged by child care providers to cover increases in wages and other running costs, and adjustments to income levels more than offsetting increases in the Child Care Benefit. The fall in glassware, tableware and household utensils and major household appliances was due to discounting at major retailers.

Through the year to December quarter 2005, the household contents and services group rose 0.9%.

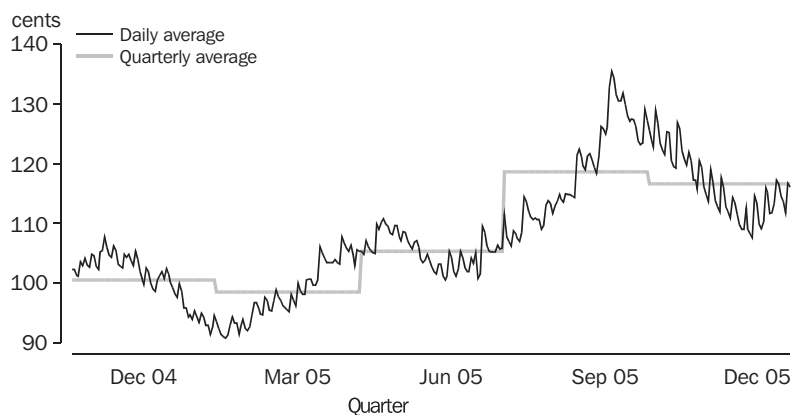
TRANSPORTATION (-0.5%)

The fall in transportation was due to decreases in motor vehicles (-1.1%) and automotive fuel (-0.9%). These falls were partially offset by rises in motor vehicle repair and servicing (+0.6%), motor vehicle parts and accessories (+1.4%) and urban transport fares (+1.1%).

The fall in motor vehicles was mainly due to competitive pricing and drive-away offers on vehicle run-outs in order to clear stocks of 2005 plated vehicles.

Automotive fuel prices rose in July (+4.9%), August (+5.9%) and September (+9.1%) before falling in October (-3.6%), November (-6.2%) and December (-2.0%), resulting in a fall of 0.9% between the September and December quarters. The following graph shows the pattern of daily price behaviour for unleaded petrol for the eight capital cities over the last 15 months.

AVERAGE PRICE OF ULP, cents per litre



Through the year to December quarter 2005, the transportation group rose 3.9%.

ANALYSES AND COMMENTS *continued*

HEALTH (-1.1%)

The fall in health costs was due to pharmaceuticals (-4.6%) and hospital and medical services (-0.2%). These falls were partially offset by rises in optical services (+1.3%) and dental services (+0.7%).

The fall in the net cost of pharmaceuticals was a direct result of the cyclical effect of the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme safety net. The small fall in hospital and medical services was due to increased bulk billing ratios for some services and the negative impact on out-of-hospital medical expenses of the Medicare Plus Safety Net more than offsetting general increases for a number of medical practitioners' fees and hospital charges.

Through the year to December quarter 2005, the health group rose 4.2%.

ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO (+0.5%)

The rise in alcohol and tobacco this quarter was due to tobacco (+0.6%), spirits (+1.0%) and beer (+0.5%).

The rise in tobacco prices was mainly due to a residual of the increase in Federal excise and customs duty from 1 August, together with the end of some discounting. Increases in both bar service and bottle shop prices accounted for the increase in spirits.

Through the year to December quarter 2005, the alcohol and tobacco group rose 3.3%.

TRADABLES AND NON-TRADABLES

The non-tradables component (see table 8) of the CPI rose 0.8% in the December quarter. 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 1.0%, mainly due to house purchase, take away and fast foods and bread. The non-tradables services component rose 0.8% with deposit and loan facilities, domestic holiday travel and accommodation, rents and other financial services being the main contributors. Falls in telecommunication provided the most significant offset.

The tradables component, which includes goods and services whose prices are largely determined on the world market was flat in the December quarter. The largest positive contributors were vegetables, fruit, tobacco and other household supplies. The largest negative contributors were audio, visual and computing equipment, pharmaceuticals motor vehicles, overseas holiday travel and accommodation and automotive fuel.

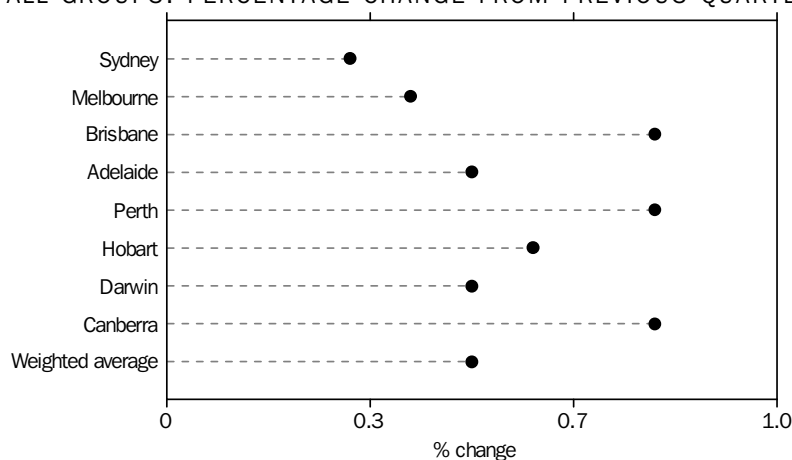
Through the year to December quarter 2005, non-tradables rose 3.5% and tradables rose 2.0%. This compares with rises of 3.4% and 2.6%, respectively, for these components through the year to September quarter 2005.

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 December quarter 2005, with the increases ranging from 0.3% in Sydney to 0.8% in Brisbane, Perth and Canberra. Canberra recorded the largest rises in food, household contents and services and financial and insurance services. Perth had the largest increase in housing costs, at almost four times the weighted average of eight capital cities. Brisbane recorded increases above the weighted average of eight capital cities in food, alcohol and tobacco, housing, household contents and services and recreation.

Sydney recorded movements that were below the weighted average of eight capital cities in a number of categories including alcohol and tobacco, clothing, transportation and financial and insurance services.

Through the year to December quarter 2005, the All groups CPI rose in each of the eight capital cities and ranged from 2.5% in Sydney to 4.0% in Perth. The higher result for Perth was largely due to a 9.3% increase in housing, more than double the weighted average of eight capital cities increase of 3.6%. The rise in Perth's housing costs was largely attributable to a 16.0% 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	Sep Qtr 2005 to Dec Qtr 2005	Dec Qtr 2004 to Dec Qtr 2005
Sydney	151.0	0.3	2.5
Melbourne	149.2	0.4	2.7
Brisbane	152.1	0.8	2.8
Adelaide	154.1	0.5	2.7
Perth	149.0	0.8	4.0
Hobart	151.0	0.6	2.9
Darwin	145.4	0.5	3.0
Canberra	150.9	0.8	3.1
Weighted average of eight capital cities	150.6	0.5	2.8

(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
2001									
December	136.6	134.8	135.8	136.6	132.6	133.9	133.5	134.9	135.4
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

(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)									
2001									
December	3.3	3.1	3.2	3.1	3.0	2.1	2.2	2.9	3.1
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
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous quarter)									
2001									
December	0.9	0.9	1.2	1.0	0.8	0.8	0.8	1.3	0.9
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

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
2001						
December	143.4	201.8	112.7	110.7	120.3	166.1
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

(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
2001						
December	136.1	105.4	127.5	195.5	..	135.4
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

.. 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)						
2001						
December	7.5	5.0	-0.4	2.8	3.4	2.6
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
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous quarter)						
2001						
December	2.6	0.1	1.4	0.6	1.2	-0.2
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

<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)						
2001						
December	-0.2	0.5	2.3	4.3	..	3.1
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
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous quarter)						
2001						
December	-0.7	1.7	1.7	0.1	..	0.9
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

.. not applicable

<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									
2003									
December	152.6	151.8	153.0	153.8	149.2	147.7	147.1	155.0	152.0
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
ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO									
2003									
December	221.4	217.6	212.4	222.3	204.2	208.9	208.0	203.4	216.5
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
CLOTHING AND FOOTWEAR									
2003									
December	115.4	114.9	105.5	112.3	109.4	106.8	109.3	116.2	113.1
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
HOUSING									
2003									
December	125.6	109.3	129.2	121.6	111.7	119.3	131.1	125.3	119.6
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

(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
HOUSEHOLD CONTENTS AND SERVICES									
2003									
December	120.4	121.9	122.5	123.1	118.7	128.1	111.3	125.1	121.4
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
HEALTH									
2003									
December	176.0	202.6	190.6	193.3	181.7	207.4	175.9	187.9	189.4
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
TRANSPORTATION									
2003									
December	143.2	139.7	138.6	139.9	140.3	136.3	135.8	140.2	140.7
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
COMMUNICATION									
2003									
December	109.5	109.7	113.4	111.2	108.3	110.8	101.8	108.7	109.9
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

(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									
2003									
December	134.1	131.0	129.5	131.2	127.0	125.6	110.8	127.4	131.1
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
EDUCATION									
2003									
December	215.5	208.0	236.3	251.8	205.5	233.6	161.4	202.2	215.1
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
FINANCIAL AND INSURANCE SERVICES (b)									
2003									
December	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
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

.. 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									Weighted average of eight capital cities
	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Darwin	Canberra	
Food	0.44	0.30	0.52	0.52	0.32	0.42	0.28	0.66	0.41
Dairy and related products	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.07	0.06	0.05	0.03	0.03	0.03
Milk	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.02	0.02	0.02
Cheese	—	0.02	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Ice cream and other dairy products	—	—	—	0.02	0.01	—	—	—	0.01
Bread and cereal products	0.06	0.07	0.05	0.05	0.05	-0.01	0.02	0.05	0.06
Bread	0.03	0.05	0.04	-0.01	0.01	-0.03	0.01	0.03	0.03
Cakes and biscuits	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.04	—	0.01	—	0.02	0.02
Breakfast cereals	—	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.02	—	—	—	—
Other cereal products	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.01	—	—
Meat and seafoods	—	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.05	0.04	0.03	0.04	0.01
Beef and veal	0.01	0.02	0.01	—	0.03	0.03	0.01	0.02	0.01
Lamb and mutton	-0.02	-0.01	—	-0.01	0.02	0.01	—	-0.02	-0.01
Pork	-0.01	-0.01	-0.01	—	-0.01	—	-0.02	-0.01	—
Poultry	-0.02	-0.01	-0.01	0.02	0.01	0.02	0.03	0.03	—
Bacon and ham	—	—	-0.02	—	0.01	-0.02	-0.01	0.01	—
Other fresh and processed meat	0.01	0.01	0.02	-0.03	-0.01	-0.02	0.01	—	—
Fish and other seafood	0.03	0.01	0.03	0.02	—	0.02	—	0.01	0.02
Fruit and vegetables	0.25	0.14	0.26	0.28	0.02	0.21	0.20	0.35	0.20
Fruit	0.12	0.07	0.06	0.06	0.05	0.05	0.04	0.12	0.08
Vegetables	0.13	0.08	0.19	0.22	-0.03	0.15	0.16	0.23	0.12
Non-alcoholic drinks and snack food	0.03	—	0.06	0.01	0.04	0.04	-0.03	0.07	0.02
Soft drinks, waters and juices	—	-0.01	0.04	—	0.01	-0.03	-0.04	0.03	0.01
Snacks and confectionery	0.02	—	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.07	0.01	0.03	0.01
Meals out and take away foods	0.04	0.05	0.11	0.10	0.07	0.06	0.05	0.07	0.06
Restaurant meals	0.01	—	0.02	0.04	0.04	—	—	0.02	0.02
Take away and fast foods	0.02	0.05	0.08	0.07	0.03	0.05	0.05	0.04	0.05
Other food	0.04	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.04	0.03	-0.01	0.06	0.02
Eggs	—	0.01	—	—	0.01	—	—	—	—
Jams, honey and sandwich spreads	—	—	—	0.01	0.01	—	-0.01	—	—
Tea, coffee and food drinks	0.02	—	-0.01	—	—	0.02	—	0.02	—
Food additives and condiments	—	—	—	-0.01	-0.02	—	—	—	-0.01
Fats and oils	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Food n.e.c.	0.01	0.01	—	-0.01	0.04	—	-0.01	0.02	0.01
Alcohol and tobacco	0.01	0.06	0.10	0.05	0.04	0.16	0.09	0.08	0.05
Alcoholic drinks	—	0.04	0.07	0.04	0.01	0.12	0.05	0.05	0.03
Beer	0.02	-0.01	0.03	0.03	-0.02	0.10	0.01	0.03	0.01
Wine	-0.02	0.01	0.03	-0.02	0.01	—	0.01	0.02	—
Spirits	0.01	0.03	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.02
Tobacco	0.01	0.03	0.02	0.01	0.03	0.05	0.05	0.03	0.03
Clothing and footwear	-0.03	0.05	-0.03	-0.02	-0.04	-0.03	0.06	-0.03	-0.01
Men's clothing	—	—	-0.02	-0.01	-0.01	—	0.03	-0.01	—
Men's outerwear	—	—	-0.03	-0.01	0.01	0.01	0.03	-0.02	-0.01
Men's underwear, nightwear and socks	0.01	—	—	—	-0.01	-0.01	0.01	—	—
Women's clothing	-0.02	-0.01	-0.03	-0.03	-0.01	-0.02	—	-0.01	-0.01
Women's outerwear	-0.01	-0.01	-0.01	-0.02	—	-0.02	—	-0.01	-0.01
Women's underwear, nightwear and hosiery	-0.01	—	-0.02	-0.01	—	—	0.01	—	-0.01
Children's and infants' clothing	-0.01	0.01	0.01	-0.01	—	—	0.01	—	-0.01
Footwear	—	0.03	0.01	—	-0.02	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Men's footwear	-0.01	0.01	0.01	—	-0.01	—	—	—	—
Women's footwear	—	0.02	—	—	-0.01	—	0.01	—	0.01
Children's footwear	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Accessories and clothing services	-0.01	0.02	—	0.01	—	-0.02	0.01	-0.02	0.01
Accessories	—	0.02	—	-0.01	-0.01	-0.02	0.01	-0.02	—
Clothing services and shoe repair	0.01	—	—	0.02	0.01	—	—	—	—

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) All groups index points.

Group, sub-group and expenditure class									Weighted
	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Darwin	Canberra	average of eight capital cities
Housing	0.17	0.03	0.32	0.12	0.65	0.11	0.39	0.21	0.21
Rents	0.04	0.02	0.16	0.05	0.06	0.05	0.08	0.06	0.06
Utilities	0.07	0.01	0.05	0.01	0.02	0.02	—	0.02	0.04
Electricity	—	0.05	0.03	—	—	—	—	—	0.02
Gas and other household fuels	—	-0.04	0.03	—	0.01	0.01	—	0.02	—
Water and sewerage	0.07	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.02
Other housing	0.06	0.01	0.11	0.06	0.57	0.05	0.30	0.13	0.11
House purchase	0.03	—	0.09	0.03	0.53	—	0.30	0.12	0.09
Property rates and charges	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
House repairs and maintenance	0.02	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.05	0.04	—	—	0.02
Household contents and services	0.07	0.10	0.17	0.04	0.04	0.10	0.14	0.17	0.09
Furniture and furnishings	0.03	0.01	0.03	0.01	0.01	—	-0.01	—	0.02
Furniture	0.02	-0.01	0.03	0.03	0.03	-0.01	0.01	0.02	0.01
Floor and window coverings	—	0.01	-0.01	—	0.01	—	—	-0.01	0.01
Towels and linen	0.01	0.01	0.02	-0.02	-0.03	—	-0.02	-0.01	0.01
Household appliances, utensils and tools	-0.03	—	-0.02	-0.10	-0.09	-0.02	0.01	-0.02	-0.03
Major household appliances	-0.01	-0.02	—	-0.03	-0.02	—	0.02	—	-0.01
Small electric household appliances	-0.01	—	—	—	-0.02	—	—	-0.01	—
Glassware, tableware and household utensils	-0.02	0.02	-0.02	-0.05	-0.05	-0.01	—	-0.02	-0.02
Tools	0.01	—	0.01	—	—	—	-0.01	0.01	—
Household supplies	0.05	0.04	0.09	0.04	0.08	0.05	0.05	0.04	0.05
Household cleaning agents	0.01	0.01	—	0.01	—	—	-0.01	0.01	—
Toiletries and personal care products	0.03	0.01	0.03	0.01	0.03	0.01	—	0.03	0.02
Other household supplies	0.01	0.02	0.06	0.01	0.05	0.04	0.06	0.01	0.03
Household services	0.02	0.05	0.07	0.08	0.05	0.08	0.09	0.14	0.04
Child care	—	0.04	0.04	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.08	0.02
Hairdressing and personal care services	—	—	0.03	0.02	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.01
Other household services	—	0.01	—	0.04	0.02	0.03	0.05	0.04	0.01
Health	-0.08	-0.06	-0.11	-0.04	-0.02	-0.08	-0.03	-0.11	-0.08
Health services	-0.01	0.02	-0.02	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.02	-0.04	—
Hospital and medical services	-0.02	0.01	-0.04	0.02	0.02	—	0.01	-0.06	-0.01
Optical services	—	—	—	—	—	0.01	0.01	—	0.01
Dental services	0.01	—	0.02	—	0.01	0.02	—	0.02	0.01
Pharmaceuticals	-0.07	-0.08	-0.09	-0.07	-0.05	-0.10	-0.04	-0.08	-0.07
Transportation	-0.14	-0.12	-0.07	-0.12	0.01	0.01	0.28	0.07	-0.09
Private motoring	-0.13	-0.14	-0.10	-0.11	—	-0.01	0.28	0.07	-0.11
Motor vehicles	-0.08	-0.08	-0.07	-0.12	-0.03	-0.14	-0.07	-0.07	-0.07
Automotive fuel	-0.05	-0.11	-0.05	-0.06	-0.07	0.06	0.32	0.08	-0.05
Motor vehicle repair and servicing	-0.02	0.03	0.01	0.03	0.06	0.03	0.01	0.01	0.02
Motor vehicle parts and accessories	—	0.02	0.01	0.02	0.03	0.01	0.03	—	0.02
Other motoring charges	0.01	—	—	0.01	0.01	0.03	—	0.03	—
Urban transport fares	—	0.03	0.02	—	0.01	0.03	—	—	0.01
Communication	-0.03	-0.03	-0.03	-0.04	-0.03	-0.03	-0.03	-0.03	-0.03
Postal	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.01	0.01
Telecommunication	-0.04	-0.03	-0.03	-0.03	-0.04	-0.04	-0.04	-0.04	-0.04

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) All groups index points.

Group, sub-group and expenditure class									Weighted average of eight capital cities
	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Darwin	Canberra	
Recreation	-0.01	-0.01	0.09	—	0.04	0.05	-0.49	-0.09	—
Audio, visual and computing	-0.08	-0.08	-0.10	-0.11	-0.09	-0.15	-0.07	-0.11	-0.09
Audio, visual and computing equipment	-0.06	-0.08	-0.07	-0.10	-0.08	-0.09	-0.04	-0.10	-0.08
Audio, visual and computing media and services	-0.02	—	-0.02	-0.03	-0.02	-0.04	-0.02	-0.02	-0.02
Books, newspapers and magazines	—	0.01	—	—	—	0.01	0.01	0.01	—
Books	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Newspapers and magazines	—	0.01	—	—	—	0.01	—	0.01	—
Sport and other recreation	0.05	0.04	0.07	0.04	0.02	0.02	—	0.02	0.04
Sports and recreational equipment	-0.02	-0.01	-0.01	0.01	0.01	-0.01	-0.01	-0.01	-0.01
Toys, games and hobbies	—	-0.02	0.01	-0.01	-0.03	0.01	-0.01	—	-0.01
Sports participation	—	0.01	0.01	-0.01	—	0.02	—	—	0.01
Pets, pet foods and supplies	0.01	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01	—	0.03	0.02
Pet services including veterinary	—	0.01	0.02	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other recreational activities	0.04	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.02	—	0.02	—	0.03
Holiday travel and accommodation	0.03	0.03	0.11	0.08	0.11	0.17	-0.43	—	0.05
Domestic holiday travel and accommodation	0.12	0.10	0.13	0.16	0.15	0.22	-0.28	0.07	0.12
Overseas holiday travel and accommodation	-0.09	-0.07	-0.01	-0.07	-0.05	-0.05	-0.16	-0.07	-0.07
Education	—	0.01	—	—	—	—	—	0.01	—
Preschool and primary education	—	0.01	0.01	—	—	0.01	—	0.01	—
Secondary education	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tertiary education	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Financial and insurance services	0.16	0.28	0.20	0.15	0.24	0.14	0.06	0.27	0.21
Financial services	0.21	0.19	0.10	0.15	0.26	0.12	0.08	0.24	0.19
Deposit and loan facilities	0.18	0.16	0.08	0.12	0.16	0.09	0.08	0.11	0.15
Other financial services	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03	0.10	0.03	—	0.14	0.04
Insurance services	-0.05	0.09	0.10	-0.01	-0.01	0.02	-0.02	0.03	0.02
All groups	0.5	0.6	1.2	0.7	1.2	0.9	0.7	1.2	0.8

— 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
	Dec Qtr 2004	Sep Qtr 2005	Dec Qtr 2005	Sep Qtr 2005 to Dec Qtr 2005	Dec Qtr 2004 to Dec Qtr 2005	Sep Qtr 2005	Dec Qtr 2005	Sep Qtr 2005 to Dec Qtr 2005
Food	154.6	157.4	160.2	1.8	3.6	23.08	23.49	0.41
Dairy and related products	163.0	168.7	171.9	1.9	5.5	1.76	1.79	0.03
Milk	177.5	183.6	187.9	2.3	5.9	0.82	0.84	0.02
Cheese	141.0	146.6	149.7	2.1	6.2	0.48	0.49	0.01
Ice cream and other dairy products	155.7	160.3	161.8	0.9	3.9	0.46	0.47	0.01
Bread and cereal products	162.8	166.4	170.1	2.2	4.5	2.58	2.64	0.06
Bread	182.1	186.6	193.3	3.6	6.2	0.96	0.99	0.03
Cakes and biscuits	152.7	155.8	158.3	1.6	3.7	1.06	1.08	0.02
Breakfast cereals	139.3	143.4	147.7	3.0	6.0	0.30	0.30	—
Other cereal products	141.6	142.9	142.0	-0.6	0.3	0.27	0.27	—
Meat and seafoods	142.6	144.9	145.4	0.3	2.0	3.59	3.60	0.01
Beef and veal	151.7	159.8	162.9	1.9	7.4	0.74	0.75	0.01
Lamb and mutton	201.8	214.6	209.2	-2.5	3.7	0.41	0.40	-0.01
Pork	153.8	168.6	163.3	-3.1	6.2	0.24	0.24	—
Poultry	103.7	98.3	97.7	-0.6	-5.8	0.69	0.69	—
Bacon and ham	136.2	134.6	134.3	-0.2	-1.4	0.34	0.34	—
Other fresh and processed meat	151.3	152.0	152.3	0.2	0.7	0.56	0.56	—
Fish and other seafood	124.1	124.1	128.2	3.3	3.3	0.61	0.63	0.02
Fruit and vegetables	144.2	139.8	148.6	6.3	3.1	3.17	3.37	0.20
Fruit	171.7	152.7	161.5	5.8	-5.9	1.46	1.54	0.08
Vegetables	126.5	132.2	141.2	6.8	11.6	1.71	1.83	0.12
Non-alcoholic drinks and snack food	156.0	161.4	162.5	0.7	4.2	2.92	2.94	0.02
Soft drinks, waters and juices	140.4	143.3	144.0	0.5	2.6	1.35	1.36	0.01
Snacks and confectionery	175.9	184.3	186.0	0.9	5.7	1.57	1.58	0.01
Meals out and take away foods	162.2	166.8	168.3	0.9	3.8	6.83	6.89	0.06
Restaurant meals	166.1	171.7	172.6	0.5	3.9	3.01	3.03	0.02
Take away and fast foods	161.0	164.9	166.8	1.2	3.6	3.82	3.87	0.05
Other food	144.3	146.5	148.0	1.0	2.6	2.23	2.25	0.02
Eggs	178.8	173.4	177.6	2.4	-0.7	0.15	0.15	—
Jams, honey and sandwich spreads	177.4	183.9	182.7	-0.7	3.0	0.23	0.23	—
Tea, coffee and food drinks	133.6	135.7	137.6	1.4	3.0	0.36	0.36	—
Food additives and condiments	129.0	131.9	129.7	-1.7	0.5	0.41	0.40	-0.01
Fats and oils	141.3	147.3	151.4	2.8	7.1	0.27	0.28	0.01
Food n.e.c.	144.4	145.2	147.9	1.9	2.4	0.81	0.82	0.01
Alcohol and tobacco	224.0	230.3	231.4	0.5	3.3	10.17	10.22	0.05
Alcoholic drinks	165.8	169.2	170.0	0.5	2.5	6.56	6.59	0.03
Beer	177.3	183.7	184.6	0.5	4.1	2.92	2.93	0.01
Wine	147.8	148.6	148.6	0.0	0.5	2.34	2.34	—
Spirits	164.0	165.7	167.4	1.0	2.1	1.30	1.32	0.02
Tobacco	383.4	399.6	401.9	0.6	4.8	3.61	3.64	0.03
Clothing and footwear	110.9	110.5	110.3	-0.2	-0.5	5.82	5.81	-0.01
Men's clothing	109.1	107.7	107.4	-0.3	-1.6	1.10	1.10	—
Men's outerwear	106.8	105.1	104.8	-0.3	-1.9	0.94	0.93	-0.01
Men's underwear, nightwear and socks	121.7	121.9	121.8	-0.1	0.1	0.16	0.16	—
Women's clothing	113.8	113.1	112.2	-0.8	-1.4	2.09	2.08	-0.01
Women's outerwear	107.4	106.4	105.8	-0.6	-1.5	1.68	1.67	-0.01
Women's underwear, nightwear and hosiery	139.6	140.1	138.0	-1.5	-1.1	0.41	0.40	-0.01
Children's and infants' clothing	117.0	117.4	116.8	-0.5	-0.2	0.60	0.59	-0.01
Footwear	98.7	97.1	98.0	0.9	-0.7	0.95	0.96	0.01
Men's footwear	93.4	91.5	92.8	1.4	-0.6	0.26	0.26	—
Women's footwear	103.0	100.8	101.9	1.1	-1.1	0.50	0.51	0.01
Children's footwear	99.1	99.3	99.5	0.2	0.4	0.19	0.19	—
Accessories and clothing services(b)	105.7	107.1	107.6	0.5	1.8	1.07	1.08	0.01
Accessories(b)	91.8	92.1	92.2	0.1	0.4	0.83	0.83	—
Clothing services and shoe repair	171.7	175.9	178.8	1.6	4.1	0.24	0.24	—

— 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
	Dec Qtr 2004	Sep Qtr 2005	Dec Qtr 2005	Sep Qtr 2005 to Dec Qtr 2005	Dec Qtr 2004 to Dec Qtr 2005	Sep Qtr 2005	Dec Qtr 2005	Sep Qtr 2005 to Dec Qtr 2005
Housing	124.3	128.0	128.8	0.6	3.6	29.37	29.58	0.21
Rents	141.6	144.1	145.1	0.7	2.5	7.78	7.84	0.06
Utilities	154.9	159.8	161.0	0.8	3.9	4.70	4.74	0.04
Electricity	149.6	152.6	153.6	0.7	2.7	2.46	2.48	0.02
Gas and other household fuels	170.5	179.7	179.0	-0.4	5.0	1.06	1.06	—
Water and sewerage(b)	125.0	129.5	132.1	2.0	5.7	1.18	1.20	0.02
Other housing	118.7	122.8	123.6	0.7	4.1	16.89	17.00	0.11
House purchase(b)	142.9	148.0	149.2	0.8	4.4	11.83	11.92	0.09
Property rates and charges(b)	140.9	147.9	147.9	0.0	5.0	1.80	1.80	—
House repairs and maintenance	155.5	159.0	159.9	0.6	2.8	3.26	3.28	0.02
Household contents and services	121.3	121.6	122.4	0.7	0.9	14.30	14.39	0.09
Furniture and furnishings	129.7	129.2	129.8	0.5	0.1	4.66	4.68	0.02
Furniture	131.4	130.0	130.7	0.5	-0.5	2.93	2.94	0.01
Floor and window coverings	138.8	142.1	142.6	0.4	2.7	1.16	1.17	0.01
Towels and linen	109.3	106.8	107.4	0.6	-1.7	0.57	0.58	0.01
Household appliances, utensils and tools	104.2	105.3	104.0	-1.2	-0.2	2.63	2.60	-0.03
Major household appliances	106.9	111.0	109.9	-1.0	2.8	1.01	1.00	-0.01
Small electric household appliances	98.3	95.5	94.0	-1.6	-4.4	0.39	0.39	—
Glassware, tableware and household utensils	97.6	97.5	95.4	-2.2	-2.3	0.71	0.69	-0.02
Tools	111.0	110.2	110.1	-0.1	-0.8	0.52	0.52	—
Household supplies	133.6	133.4	135.1	1.3	1.1	4.31	4.36	0.05
Household cleaning agents	124.8	126.4	128.1	1.3	2.6	0.49	0.49	—
Toiletries and personal care products	140.9	142.2	143.9	1.2	2.1	1.75	1.77	0.02
Other household supplies	137.7	137.2	139.0	1.3	0.9	2.07	2.10	0.03
Household services	204.7	210.3	213.8	1.7	4.4	2.71	2.75	0.04
Child care	192.2	204.4	211.8	3.6	10.2	0.68	0.70	0.02
Hairdressing and personal care services	174.0	177.9	179.7	1.0	3.3	1.13	1.14	0.01
Other household services	204.7	209.4	211.6	1.1	3.4	0.90	0.91	0.01
Health	198.8	209.3	207.1	-1.1	4.2	6.90	6.82	-0.08
Health services	215.5	225.2	225.3	0.0	4.5	5.29	5.29	—
Hospital and medical services	225.2	235.6	235.2	-0.2	4.4	4.11	4.10	-0.01
Optical services	142.4	143.2	145.0	1.3	1.8	0.17	0.18	0.01
Dental services	204.2	213.8	215.4	0.7	5.5	1.01	1.02	0.01
Pharmaceuticals	138.2	150.9	143.9	-4.6	4.1	1.60	1.53	-0.07
Transportation	147.2	153.7	153.0	-0.5	3.9	20.08	19.99	-0.09
Private motoring	144.0	150.6	149.7	-0.6	4.0	19.00	18.89	-0.11
Motor vehicles	101.7	99.0	97.9	-1.1	-3.7	7.25	7.18	-0.07
Automotive fuel	175.1	203.7	201.8	-0.9	15.2	6.26	6.21	-0.05
Motor vehicle repair and servicing	142.2	144.5	145.4	0.6	2.3	2.93	2.95	0.02
Motor vehicle parts and accessories	114.5	116.9	118.5	1.4	3.5	1.02	1.04	0.02
Other motoring charges	198.5	202.0	202.4	0.2	2.0	1.53	1.53	—
Urban transport fares	203.0	207.4	209.7	1.1	3.3	1.09	1.10	0.01
Communication	111.2	109.8	109.0	-0.7	-2.0	4.88	4.85	-0.03
Postal	134.1	134.7	136.0	1.0	1.4	0.16	0.17	0.01
Telecommunication	109.0	107.6	106.7	-0.8	-2.1	4.72	4.68	-0.04

— 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
	Dec Qtr 2004	Sep Qtr 2005	Dec Qtr 2005	Sep Qtr 2005 to Dec Qtr 2005	Dec Qtr 2004 to Dec Qtr 2005	Sep Qtr 2005	Dec Qtr 2005	Sep Qtr 2005 to Dec Qtr 2005
Recreation	130.9	131.7	131.7	0.0	0.6	17.35	17.35	—
Audio, visual and computing	55.4	53.0	51.9	-2.1	-6.3	4.30	4.21	-0.09
Audio, visual and computing equipment	31.2	28.3	27.4	-3.2	-12.2	2.24	2.16	-0.08
Audio, visual and computing media and services	99.7	98.6	97.8	-0.8	-1.9	2.06	2.04	-0.02
Books, newspapers and magazines	203.8	206.7	207.2	0.2	1.7	1.27	1.27	—
Books(b)	122.9	124.4	124.8	0.3	1.5	0.66	0.66	—
Newspapers and magazines(b)	135.8	138.3	138.4	0.1	1.9	0.61	0.61	—
Sport and other recreation	160.2	163.8	165.0	0.7	3.0	5.59	5.63	0.04
Sports and recreational equipment(b)	90.0	89.2	88.3	-1.0	-1.9	0.82	0.81	-0.01
Toys, games and hobbies(b)	95.7	97.7	96.6	-1.1	0.9	0.76	0.75	-0.01
Sports participation(b)	142.6	148.2	148.8	0.4	4.3	1.10	1.11	0.01
Pets, pet foods and supplies	133.9	142.8	147.3	3.2	10.0	0.61	0.63	0.02
Pet services including veterinary	195.2	200.0	201.7	0.9	3.3	0.67	0.67	—
Other recreational activities(b)	135.5	137.0	139.5	1.8	3.0	1.62	1.65	0.03
Holiday travel and accommodation	132.8	134.5	135.6	0.8	2.1	6.19	6.24	0.05
Domestic holiday travel and accommodation	139.2	141.3	146.0	3.3	4.9	3.48	3.60	0.12
Overseas holiday travel and accommodation	124.7	126.0	122.8	-2.5	-1.5	2.71	2.64	-0.07
Education	231.7	246.0	246.3	0.1	6.3	4.06	4.06	—
Preschool and primary education(c)	128.9	137.9	138.6	0.5	7.5	0.79	0.79	—
Secondary education(c)	129.3	138.3	138.3	0.0	7.0	1.40	1.40	—
Tertiary education(c)	117.7	123.9	123.9	0.0	5.3	1.87	1.87	—
Financial and insurance services(d)	..	100.1	101.6	1.5	..	13.81	14.02	0.21
Financial services(d)	..	99.8	101.5	1.7	..	11.56	11.75	0.19
Deposit and loan facilities(d)	..	99.3	101.6	2.3	..	6.58	6.73	0.15
Other financial services(d)	..	100.6	101.4	0.8	..	4.98	5.02	0.04
Insurance services	244.4	251.6	253.7	0.8	3.8	2.25	2.27	0.02
All groups	146.5	149.8	150.6	0.5	2.8	149.8	150.6	0.8

.. 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
	Dec Qtr 2004	Sep Qtr 2005	Dec Qtr 2005	Sep Qtr 2005 to Dec Qtr 2005	Dec Qtr 2004 to Dec Qtr 2005	Sep Qtr 2005	Dec Qtr 2005	Sep Qtr 2005 to Dec Qtr 2005
All groups	146.50	149.8	150.6	0.5	2.8	149.8	150.6	0.8
Selected components								
Goods component	145.7	149.0	149.6	0.4	2.7	87.85	88.17	0.32
Services component	148.8	152.2	153.3	0.7	3.0	61.98	62.42	0.44
Tradables component(c)	112.6	114.8	114.8	0.0	2.0	62.75	62.74	-0.01
Non-tradables component(c)	128.8	132.2	133.3	0.8	3.5	87.07	87.85	0.78
All groups excluding								
Food	144.8	148.2	148.6	0.3	2.6	126.75	127.10	0.35
Alcohol and tobacco	141.0	144.2	144.9	0.5	2.8	139.65	140.37	0.72
Clothing and footwear	148.9	152.5	153.3	0.5	3.0	144.01	144.78	0.77
Housing	149.8	152.9	153.6	0.5	2.5	120.46	121.01	0.55
Household contents and services	150.4	154.1	154.9	0.5	3.0	135.52	136.20	0.68
Health	143.9	146.9	147.8	0.6	2.7	142.93	143.77	0.84
Transportation	146.4	149.3	150.3	0.7	2.7	129.75	130.60	0.85
Communication	147.1	150.7	151.5	0.5	3.0	144.95	145.74	0.79
Recreation	148.7	152.4	153.3	0.6	3.1	132.48	133.24	0.76
Education	145.5	148.6	149.4	0.5	2.7	145.77	146.53	0.76
Financial and insurance services	152.6	156.3	156.9	0.4	2.8	136.01	136.57	0.56
Housing and Financial and insurance services	149.9	153.2	153.7	0.3	2.5	106.64	106.99	0.35
Hospital and medical services	144.4	147.6	148.3	0.5	2.7	145.72	146.49	0.77

(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
2001								
December	135.4	139.9	142.7	137.0	148.4	140.1	108.7	114.9
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

(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)								
2001								
December	3.1	3.2	3.6	3.9	3.2	3.6	3.1	3.1
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
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous quarter)								
2001								
December	0.9	1.0	0.9	1.0	1.4	1.1	0.8	1.0
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

(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
2001												
December	139.9	126.7	163.4	453.8	108.3	183.3	121.7	131.6	128.7	135.8	125.2	143.2
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	nya	655.1	nya	208.8	nya	138.5	141.5	152.0	132.9	152.3

nya not yet available

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

Period	Australia	New Zealand	Hong Kong	Indonesia	Japan	Korea, Republic of	Singapore	Taiwan	Canada	United States of America	Germany	United Kingdom
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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)

2001												
December	3.2	r2.6	-1.3	12.5	-2.6	3.2	-0.2	-0.6	0.9	0.9	1.8	1.4
2002												
March	2.8	r2.7	-1.4	15.8	-3.5	2.5	-1.0	0.2	1.6	0.0	2.3	1.8
June	2.6	r2.8	-1.9	11.6	-3.6	2.8	-0.4	0.4	2.1	0.1	1.3	1.1
September	3.1	r2.5	-2.2	10.4	-2.0	2.4	-0.2	0.1	3.1	0.7	1.4	1.1
December	2.9	r2.5	-2.1	9.9	-1.7	3.2	0.4	-0.4	4.5	1.8	1.3	1.5
2003												
March	3.4	r2.1	-1.8	6.6	-0.9	4.1	1.0	0.0	4.8	2.9	1.0	1.8
June	2.3	r0.8	-2.0	6.2	-0.3	3.2	0.3	-0.1	2.5	2.0	0.7	1.7
September	2.2	r0.3	-2.1	6.1	-0.3	3.1	0.7	-0.8	1.6	2.1	0.8	1.8
December	1.8	r0.2	-1.0	4.9	-0.4	3.5	0.9	0.0	1.1	1.7	1.0	1.6
2004												
March	1.4	r0.3	0.4	5.1	-0.2	3.3	2.0	0.8	0.5	1.5	1.0	1.3
June	2.1	r1.1	1.5	7.0	-0.3	3.5	2.4	1.8	2.1	2.8	2.0	1.2
September	2.0	r1.5	2.0	5.7	-0.1	4.7	2.2	3.9	1.7	2.6	2.0	1.0
December	2.3	r2.1	1.6	5.7	0.7	3.7	1.9	2.4	2.1	3.6	2.0	1.2
2005												
March	2.0	r2.0	1.4	8.5	-0.2	3.5	0.2	2.1	1.7	3.1	1.5	1.2
June	2.1	r2.1	1.4	7.2	r-0.1	3.4	0.2	2.7	1.4	3.2	1.2	1.5
September	3.0	r2.8	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	nya	18.5	nya	2.9	nya	3.2	1.9	4.3	1.8	1.9

PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous quarter)

2001												
December	1.0	0.5	-0.4	4.2	-0.5	-0.2	-0.7	0.9	-1.1	-0.7	-0.2	0.2
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	nya	11.1	nya	0.0	nya	-0.9	-0.3	0.7	0.1	0.6

nya not yet available

r revised

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:
December Quarter 2005	150.6 (see table 1)
less September Quarter 2005	149.8 (see table 1)
Change in index points	0.8
Percentage change	$0.8/149.8 \times 100 = 0.5\%$

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 1.79 index points to the total All groups index number of 150.6 for December Quarter 2005. The final column shows contributions to the change in All Groups index points by each group, sub-group and expenditure class.

SPECIAL SERIES

11 Various series are presented in tables 8, 9 and 10 in this publication which are helpful for analytical purposes. These series are compiled by taking subsets of the CPI basket. (A complete list of CPI groups, 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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