

INFORMATION BRIEF  
**CONSUMER PRICE INDEX**  
**MARCH QUARTER 2008**

ABS 6401.0

Released: 23 April 2008, 11:30am (AEST)

**Summary**

**Headline<sup>1</sup> CPI inflation change (quarterly):**

Brisbane	1.3%
Australia <sup>2</sup>	1.3%

**Headline CPI inflation change (annual):**

Brisbane	4.8%
Australia	4.2%

**Market sector goods and services (core CPI) inflation change (Australia):**

Quarter	0.8%
Annual	3.5%

<sup>1</sup> Headline CPI refers to All Groups.

<sup>2</sup> Australia refers to the weighted average of the eight capital cities.

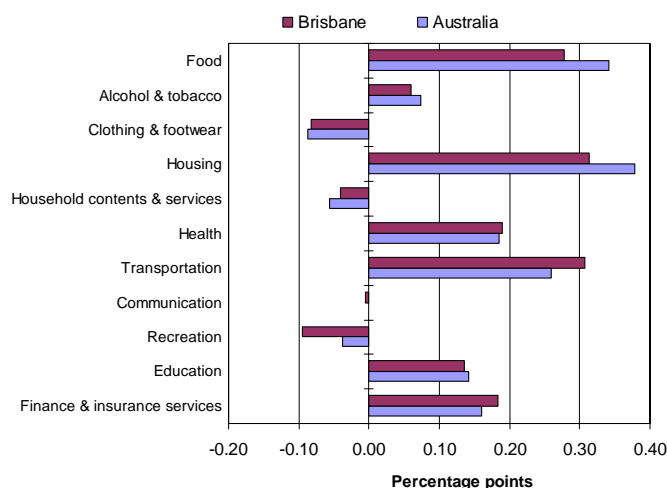
**Commentary**

- Brisbane's headline consumer price index (CPI) increased 1.3% in March quarter 2008, remaining 4.8% higher over the year. Brisbane recorded the fifth highest increase in headline consumer prices in March quarter 2008 (1.3%) (Table 1).
- Compared with the Australian average for the quarter, Brisbane recorded stronger contributions to the CPI where prices rose for the groups *Health*, *Transportation* and *Finance & insurance services*. The main contributors to the increase in the Brisbane CPI were the *Housing* and *Transportation* groups (Figure 1).
- For Brisbane, in March quarter 2008, the *Housing* group made the largest contribution to growth in the quarter (0.31 of a percentage point). Within this category, *Rents* increased 2.3% in the quarter.
- For Brisbane, in March quarter 2008, the *Recreation* group made the largest deduction from growth in the quarter (0.09 of a percentage point). Within this category, *Audio, visual and computing* decreased by 1.9% in the quarter.
- Australia's CPI for market sector goods and services, which excludes more volatile items, rose 0.8% in the March quarter, with annual growth of 3.5%.

**Table 1: Percentage change in the CPI**

Capital city	March quarter 2008		December quarter 2007	
	Quarterly	Yearly	Quarterly	Yearly
Sydney	1.4	3.9	0.9	2.4
Melbourne	1.3	4.4	1.0	3.3
<b>Brisbane</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>3.9</b>
Adelaide	1.5	4.5	1.0	2.7
Perth	1.4	4.3	0.8	3.0
Hobart	1.3	3.8	0.8	2.9
Darwin	0.9	3.9	0.3	2.9
Canberra	1.4	4.6	1.0	3.3
<b>Australia</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>3.0</b>

**Figure 1: Quarterly CPI contributions, by group, March quarter 2008**



**Figure 2: CPI annual change, quarterly, Australia**

