

**Summary**

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

Brisbane	-0.2%
Australia <sup>2</sup>	-0.3%

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

Brisbane	4.3%
Australia	3.7%

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

Quarter	0.5%
Annual	3.8%

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

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

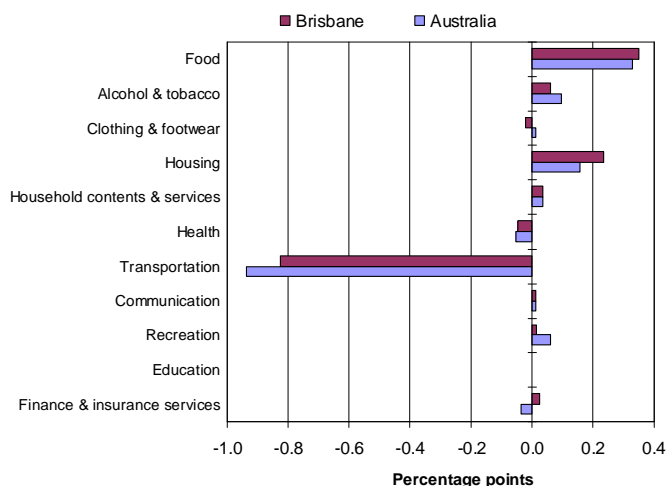
**Commentary**

- Brisbane's headline consumer price index (CPI) decreased 0.2% in December quarter 2008, remaining 4.3% higher over the year. During this period, Brisbane recorded the equal smallest decrease in headline consumer prices for all capital cities in Australia, along with Sydney and Hobart (Table 1).
- Compared with the Australian average for the quarter, Brisbane recorded stronger positive contributions to the CPI for the groups *Food*, *Housing* and *Finance & insurance services*. The main contributors to the decrease in the Brisbane CPI were the *Transportation* and *Health* groups (Figure 1).
- For Brisbane, in December quarter 2008, the *Food* group made the largest positive contribution to growth in the quarter (0.35 of a percentage point). Within this category, *Fruit* increased 12.2% in the quarter.
- For Brisbane, in December quarter 2008, the *Transportation* group made the largest detraction from growth in the quarter (0.83 of a percentage point). Within this category, *Automotive fuel* decreased by 18.8% in the quarter.
- Australia's CPI for market sector goods and services, which excludes more volatile items, rose 0.5% in the December quarter, with annual growth of 3.8%.

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

Capital City	December quarter 2008		September quarter 2008	
	Quarterly	Yearly	Quarterly	Yearly
Sydney	-0.2	3.8	1.1	4.9
Melbourne	-0.5	3.2	1.2	4.8
<b>Brisbane</b>	<b>-0.2</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>5.6</b>
Adelaide	-0.3	3.8	1.3	5.1
Perth	-0.3	3.7	1.0	4.9
Hobart	-0.2	3.3	1.1	4.3
Darwin	-0.4	3.7	1.7	4.5
Canberra	-0.4	3.7	1.5	5.2
<b>Australia</b>	<b>-0.3</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>5.0</b>

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



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

