

Summary

Headline¹ CPI inflation change (quarterly):

Brisbane	0.2%
Australia ²	0.1%

Headline CPI inflation change (annual):

Brisbane	3.1%
Australia	2.5%

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

Quarter	-0.2%
Annual	2.8%

¹ Headline CPI refers to All Groups.

² Australia refers to the weighted average of the eight capital cities.

Commentary

- Brisbane's headline consumer price index (CPI) increased 0.2% in March quarter 2009, remaining 3.1% higher over the year. During this period, Brisbane recorded the equal second largest increase in headline consumer prices for all capital cities in Australia, behind Canberra (Table 1).
- Compared with the Australian average for the March quarter 2009, Brisbane recorded stronger positive contributions to the CPI for the groups *Alcohol & tobacco*, *Household contents & services*, *Health* and *Education*. The main contributors to the decrease in the Brisbane CPI were *Finance & insurance services* (Figure 1).
- For Brisbane, in March quarter 2009, the *Food* group made the largest positive contribution to growth in the quarter (0.28 of a percentage point). Within this category, *Vegetables* increased 9.4% in the quarter.
- For Brisbane, in March quarter 2009, the *Finance & insurance services* group made the largest detraction from growth in the quarter (0.41 of a percentage point). Within this category, *Deposit and loan facilities* decreased by 14.0% in the quarter.
- Australia's CPI for market sector goods and services, which excludes more volatile items, declined 0.2% in the March quarter, with annual growth of 2.8%.

Table 1: Percentage change in the CPI

Capital City	March quarter 2009		December quarter 2008	
	Quarterly	Yearly	Quarterly	Yearly
Sydney	0.1	2.4	-0.2	3.8
Melbourne	0.2	2.1	-0.5	3.2
Brisbane	0.2	3.1	-0.2	4.3
Adelaide	0.0	2.3	-0.3	3.8
Perth	-0.1	2.2	-0.3	3.7
Hobart	0.2	2.2	-0.2	3.3
Darwin	0.1	2.8	-0.4	3.7
Canberra	0.4	2.7	-0.4	3.7
Australia	0.1	2.5	-0.3	3.7

Figure 1: Quarterly CPI contributions, by group, March quarter 2009

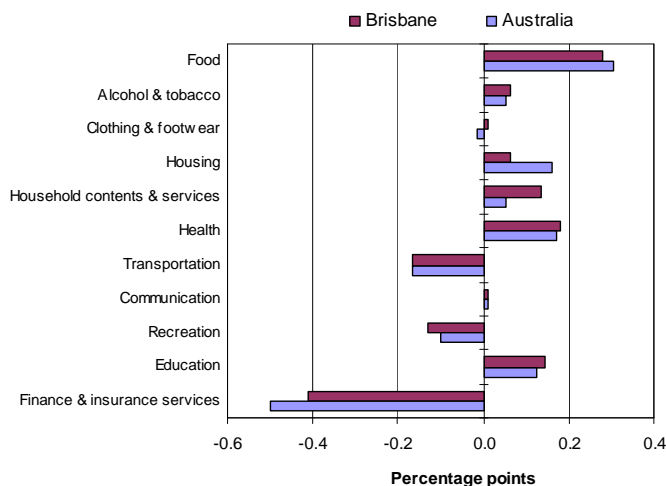


Figure 2: CPI annual change, quarterly, Australia

