

Summary

Headline¹ CPI inflation change (quarterly):

Brisbane	0.2%
Australia ²	0.1%

Headline CPI inflation change (annual):

Brisbane	1.3%
Australia	1.6%

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

Quarter	-0.2%
Annual	1.2%

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 2012, to be 1.3% higher over the year. In annual terms, Brisbane recorded the lowest increase while Hobart recorded the largest increase for all capital cities in Australia (see Table 1).
- For March quarter 2012, no Brisbane CPI groups recorded stronger contributions when compared with the Australian average. The Brisbane CPI groups *Food and non-alcoholic beverages*, *Recreation and culture*, *Furnishings, household equipment and services* and *Clothing and footwear* all recorded detractions over the quarter (see Figure 1).
- For Brisbane, the *Health* and *Education* groups made the equal largest contribution to inflation in March quarter 2012 (0.29 of a percentage point). Within the *Health* category, *Pharmaceutical products* increased 14.5% in the quarter. Within the *Education* category, *Secondary education* increased 9.8% in the quarter.
- For Brisbane, the *Food and non-alcoholic beverages* group recorded the largest deduction from inflation in March quarter 2012 (-0.33 of a percentage point). Within the *Food and non-alcoholic beverages* category, *Fruit* decreased by 28.6% in the quarter.
- Australia's CPI for market sector goods and services, which excludes more volatile items, decreased 0.2% in March quarter 2012, with an annual inflation rate of 1.2% (see Figure 2).

Table 1: Percentage change in the CPI

Capital City	March quarter 2012		December quarter 2011	
	Quarterly	Yearly	Quarterly	Yearly
Sydney	0.1	1.6	-0.1	3.2
Melbourne	0.0	1.4	0.1	3.1
Brisbane	0.2	1.3	-0.2	2.4
Adelaide	-0.1	1.8	-0.1	3.6
Perth	0.2	1.9	0.2	2.9
Hobart	0.3	2.1	0.1	3.2
Darwin	0.3	1.7	-0.4	2.4
Canberra	-0.4	1.6	0.3	3.6
Australia	0.1	1.6	0.0	3.1

Figure 1: Quarterly CPI contributions, by group, March quarter 2012

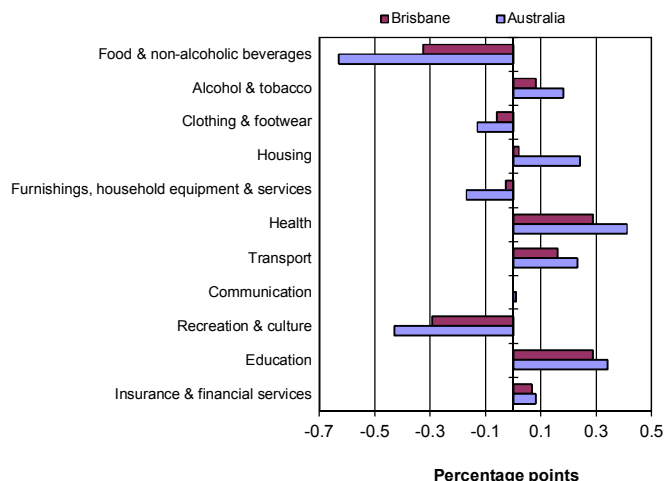


Figure 2: CPI annual change, Australia

