

Consumer Price Index, March quarter 2016

Source: ABS 6401.0, released 27 April 2016, 11:30 am (AEST)

Key data

Headline^(a) CPI inflation change (quarterly):

Brisbane..... ↔ 0.0%
 Australia^(b)..... ↓ 0.2%

Headline CPI inflation change (annual):

Brisbane..... ↑ 1.7%
 Australia..... ↑ 1.3%

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

Quarter..... ↓ 0.2%
 Annual..... ↑ 1.3%

(a) Headline CPI refers to All Groups.

(b) Australia refers to the weighted average of the eight capital cities.

Main findings

- Brisbane's headline consumer price index (CPI) was largely unchanged in March quarter 2016, to be 1.7% higher over the year. In annual terms, Brisbane recorded the second-highest increase while Melbourne recorded the largest increase for all capital cities in Australia (see Table 1).
- Compared with the weighted average of eight capital cities for March quarter 2016, Brisbane recorded stronger contributions from the CPI groups of *Furnishings, household equipment and services*, *Food and non-alcoholic beverages*, *Health* and *Insurance and financial services*. These were partly offset by detractions from the *Transport*, *Recreation and culture* and *Communication* groups (see Figure 1).
- For Brisbane, the *Health* group made the largest contribution to inflation in March quarter 2016 (0.15 of a percentage point). Within the *Health* group, *Pharmaceutical products* increased 5.1% in the quarter.
- For Brisbane, the *Transport* group recorded the largest detraction from inflation in March quarter 2016 (0.22 of a percentage point). Within the *Transport* group, *Automotive fuel* decreased 8.0% in the quarter.
- Australia's CPI for market sector goods and services, which excludes more volatile items, decreased 0.2% in March quarter 2016, with an annual inflation rate of 1.3% (see Figure 2).

Table 1 Percentage change in the CPI

Capital city	March qtr 2016		December qtr 2015	
	Quarterly	Yearly	Quarterly	Yearly
Brisbane	0.0	1.7	0.4	1.7
Sydney	-0.2	1.3	0.3	2.0
Melbourne	-0.1	1.7	0.7	1.9
Adelaide	-0.3	0.7	0.2	1.0
Perth	-0.6	0.7	0.5	1.5
Hobart	-0.2	1.3	0.9	1.8
Darwin	-0.9	-0.3	0.3	0.5
Canberra	0.2	1.0	0.2	0.7
Australia	-0.2	1.3	0.4	1.7

Figure 1 Quarterly CPI contributions, by group, March quarter 2016

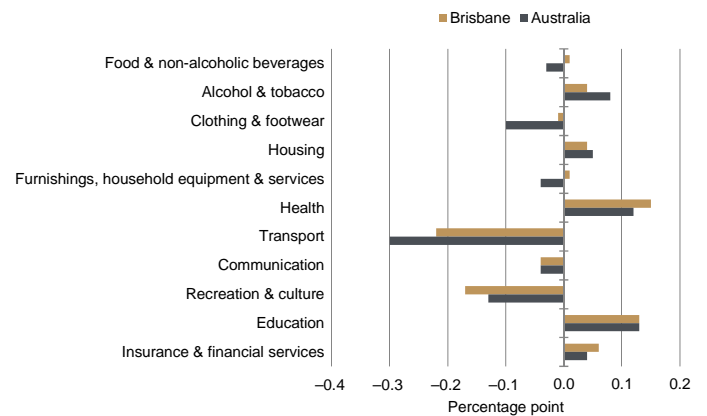


Figure 2 CPI annual change, Australia

