

Consumer Price Index, March quarter 2017

Source: ABS 6401.0, released 26 April 2017, 11:30 am (AEST)

Key data

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

Brisbane..... ↑ 0.3%
 Australia^(b)..... ↑ 0.5%

Headline CPI inflation change (annual):

Brisbane..... ↑ 1.8%
 Australia..... ↑ 2.1%

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

Quarter..... ↔ 0.0%
 Annual..... ↑ 1.0%

(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) increased 0.3% in March quarter 2017, to be 1.8% higher over the year. In annual terms, Brisbane recorded the third-lowest 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 2017, Brisbane recorded stronger contributions from the CPI groups of *Food and non-alcoholic beverages*, *Health* and *Insurance and financial services*. These were partly offset by detractions from the *Recreation and culture*, *Furnishings, household equipment and services* and *Clothing and footwear* groups (see Figure 1).
- For Brisbane, the *Housing* group made the largest contribution to inflation in March quarter 2017 (0.18 of a percentage point). Within the *Housing* group, *New dwelling purchase by owner-occupiers* increased 1.9% in the quarter.
- For Brisbane, the *Recreation and culture* group recorded the largest detraction from inflation in March quarter 2017 (0.17 of a percentage point). Within the *Recreation and culture* group, *International holiday travel and accommodation* decreased 6.1% in the quarter.
- Australia's CPI for market sector goods and services, which excludes more volatile items, remained steady in March quarter 2017, with an annual inflation rate of 1.0% (see Figure 2).

Table 1 Percentage change in the CPI

Capital city	March qtr 2017		December qtr 2016	
	Quarterly	Yearly	Quarterly	Yearly
Brisbane	0.3	1.8	0.5	1.6
Sydney	0.4	2.4	0.5	1.8
Melbourne	0.9	2.5	0.7	1.5
Adelaide	0.4	2.0	0.3	1.3
Perth	0.0	1.0	0.4	0.4
Hobart	0.8	2.3	0.8	1.3
Darwin	-0.1	0.5	-0.1	-0.4
Canberra	0.6	2.3	0.6	1.8
Australia	0.5	2.1	0.5	1.5

Figure 1 Quarterly CPI contributions, by group, March quarter 2017

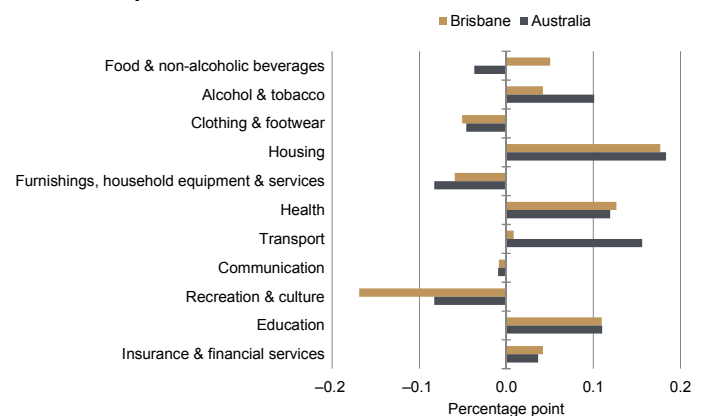


Figure 2 CPI annual change, Australia

