

Consumer Price Index, December quarter 2018

Source: ABS 6401.0, released 30 January 2019, 10:30 am (AEST)

Key data

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

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

Headline CPI inflation change (annual):

Brisbane..... ↑ 1.5%
 Australia..... ↑ 1.8%

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

Quarter..... ↑ 0.7%
 Annual..... ↑ 1.5%

(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 0.5% in December quarter 2018, resulting in a 1.5% increase over the year. In annual terms, Brisbane recorded the sixth-largest increase while Hobart recorded the largest increase for all capital cities in Australia (see Table 1).
- Compared with the weighted average of eight capital cities for December quarter 2018, Brisbane recorded stronger contributions from the CPI groups of *Food and non-alcoholic beverages*, *Alcohol and tobacco*, *Furnishings, household equipment and services* and *Housing*. These were partly offset by detractions from the *Transport*, *Communication* and *Clothing and footwear* groups (see Figure 1).
- For Brisbane, the *Alcohol and tobacco* group made the largest contribution to inflation in December quarter 2018 (0.27 of a percentage point). Within the *Alcohol and tobacco* group, *Tobacco* increased 9.9% in the quarter.
- For Brisbane, the *Transport* group recorded the largest detraction from inflation in December quarter 2018 (0.09 of a percentage point). Within the *Transport* group, *Automotive fuel* decreased 3.3% in the quarter.
- Australia's CPI for market sector goods and services, which excludes more volatile items, increased 0.7% in December quarter 2018, with an annual inflation rate of 1.5% (see Figure 2).

Table 1 Percentage change in the CPI

Capital city	December qtr 2018		September qtr 2018	
	Quarterly	Yearly	Quarterly	Yearly
Brisbane	0.5	1.5	0.4	1.8
Sydney	0.4	1.7	0.6	2.0
Melbourne	0.5	2.0	0.2	2.2
Adelaide	0.5	1.6	0.3	1.8
Perth	0.5	1.3	0.5	1.2
Hobart	1.2	3.0	0.6	2.7
Darwin	0.2	1.2	0.6	1.3
Canberra	0.7	2.5	0.6	2.5
Australia	0.5	1.8	0.4	1.9

Figure 1 Quarterly CPI contributions, by group, December quarter 2018

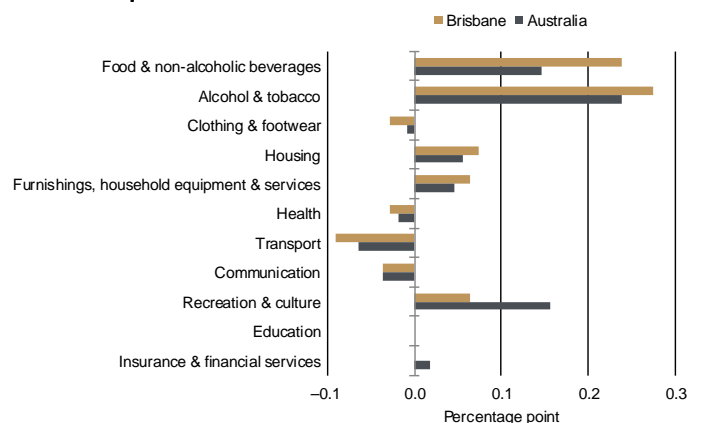


Figure 2 CPI annual change, Australia

