

Consumer Price Index, March quarter 2020

Source: ABS 6401.0, released 29 April 2020, 11:30 am (AEST)

Key data

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

Brisbane..... ↓ 0.1%
 Australia^(b)..... ↑ 0.3%

Headline CPI inflation change (annual):

Brisbane..... ↑ 1.8%
 Australia..... ↑ 2.2%

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

Quarter..... ↑ 0.3%
 Annual..... ↑ 2.1%

(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) decreased 0.1% in March quarter 2020, resulting in a 1.8% increase over the year. In annual terms, Brisbane recorded the seventh-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 March quarter 2020, Brisbane recorded stronger contributions from the CPI groups of *Food and non-alcoholic beverages*, *Health*, *Alcohol and tobacco*, *Education*, *Furnishings, household equipment and services* and *Insurance and financial services*. These were partly offset by detractions from the *Transport*, *Recreation and culture* and *Housing* groups (see Figure 1).
- For Brisbane, the *Food and non-alcoholic beverages* group made the largest contribution to inflation in March quarter 2020 (0.65 of a percentage point). Within the *Food and non-alcoholic beverages* group, *Vegetables* increased 10.4% in the quarter.
- For Brisbane, the *Transport* group recorded the largest detraction from inflation in March quarter 2020 (0.83 of a percentage point). Within the *Transport* group, *Automotive fuel* decreased 6.7% in the quarter.
- Australia's CPI for market sector goods and services, which excludes more volatile items, increased 0.3% in March quarter 2020, with an annual inflation rate of 2.1% (see Figure 2).

Table 1 Percentage change in the CPI

Capital city	March qtr 2020		December qtr 2019	
	Quarterly	Annual	Quarterly	Annual
Brisbane	-0.1	1.8	0.7	2.0
Sydney	0.3	2.0	0.5	1.6
Melbourne	0.8	2.7	0.9	2.0
Adelaide	0.3	2.4	0.8	2.1
Perth	0.4	2.1	0.4	1.6
Hobart	0.4	3.4	1.7	2.7
Darwin	0.3	1.5	0.2	0.5
Canberra	0.4	2.0	0.6	1.7
Australia	0.3	2.2	0.7	1.8

Figure 1 Quarterly CPI contributions, by group, March quarter 2020

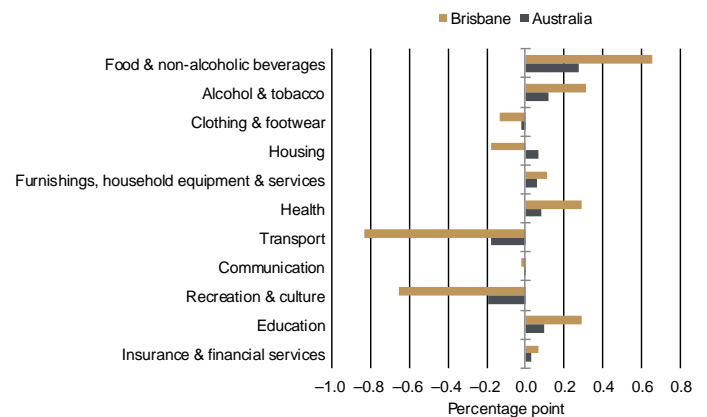


Figure 2 CPI annual change, Australia

