Western Australian Economic Notes

Consumer Price Index, September 2020

Key Facts

Capital Cities

Perth

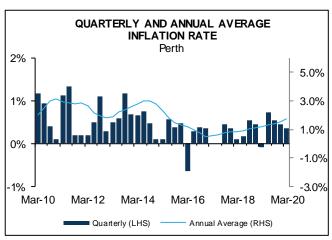
Perth's Consumer Price Index increased by 1.8% over the quarter, and rose by 1.3% in annual average terms to September 2020. In year-ended terms¹, Perth's CPI increased by 1.3%.

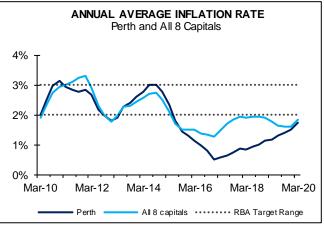
- The main contributors to quarterly growth in Perth's CPI were 'furnishings, household equipment and services', which contributed 0.78 percentage points, and 'transport' which contributed 0.38 percentage points.
- The main detractor from Perth's quarterly CPI was 'food and non-alcoholic beverages', which detracted 0.06 percentage points from growth.



Nationally, the Consumer Price Index rose by 1.6% over the quarter and increased by 1.1% in annual average terms to September 2020. In year-ended terms, the national CPI grew by 0.7%.

- The main contributors to the national quarterly growth were 'furnishings, household equipment and services', which contributed 0.93 percentage points and 'transport' which contributed 0.33 percentage points.
- The main component that detracted from national growth was 'food and non-alcoholic beverages', which detracted 0.07 percentage points from growth.
- In annual average terms to September, the largest increase in CPI by capital city was 2.3% in Hobart. The largest decline was -0.1% in Darwin.





INFLATION RATES BY CITY September 2020

	% Change		
		Annual	
	Quarter	Average	
Sydney	1.8%	0.7%	
Melbourne	0.9%	1.4%	
Brisbane	2.3%	0.9%	
Adelaide	1.0%	1.6%	
Perth	1.8%	1.3%	
Hobart	1.0%	2.3%	
Darwin	1.7%	-0.1%	
Canberra	2.3%	1.0%	
All 8 capitals	1.6%	1.1%	

¹ Year-ended growth (which compares the latest quarter of data to the same quarter a year earlier) is also reported for comparison with figures quoted in the media and financial markets (which are often in year-ended terms).

INFLATION RATES BY CATEGORY

September 2020

	Per	th	Contribution		Aust	ralia
	% Change		PP Change	PP Change	% Change	
		Annual				Annual
	Quarter	Average	Year	Quarter	Quarter	Average
Food/non-alcoholic beverages	-0.4%	3.2%	0.5pts	-0.06pts	-0.4%	3.3%
Alcohol/tobacco	1.6%	7.0%	0.5pts	0.12pts	1.6%	7.7%
Clothing/footwear	1.1%	0.4%	0.0pts	0.04pts	0.4%	0.8%
Housing	1.6%	1.3%	0.3pts	0.35pts	0.0%	0.2%
Furnishings/household contents	9.3%	-0.5%	-0.1pts	0.78pts	12.0%	-1.7%
Health	-0.3%	2.0%	0.1pts	-0.02pts	-0.1%	2.0%
Transport	3.8%	-2.2%	-0.2pts	0.38pts	3.4%	-1.6%
Communication	-0.8%	-3.5%	-0.1pts	-0.02pts	-0.8%	-3.5%
Recreation/culture	1.3%	1.0%	0.1pts	0.17pts	1.1%	0.5%
Education	0.2%	1.1%	0.0pts	0.01pts	2.1%	1.4%
Insurance/Finance	0.5%	1.1%	0.0pts	0.04pts	0.1%	1.4%
All groups	1.8%	1.3%	1.3pts	1.8pts	1.6%	1.1%

Categories

Price Changes

- Between the June and September quarters, the largest increase in prices by category in Perth was 9.3% for 'furnishings and household contents'. The largest decrease was 0.8% for 'communication'.
- In annual average terms to September 2020, the largest increase in prices in Perth was 7.0% for 'alcohol and tobacco'. The largest fall was 3.5% for 'communication'.
- Across all eight capital cities, the largest quarterly rise in prices by category was 12.0% for 'furnishings and household contents'. The largest decrease was 0.8% for 'communication'.
- In annual average terms to September 2020, the largest rise in prices by category across all eight capital cities was 7.7% for 'alcohol and tobacco'. The largest decrease nationally was 3.5% for 'communication'.

Underlying Inflation

- Both the Australian Bureau of Statistics and the Reserve Bank of Australia produce estimates of underlying inflation that attempt to strip out items whose prices tend to be volatile, and the effects of abnormal price movements.
- The Australian Bureau of Statistics' index of prices 'excluding volatile items' increased by 1.3% in annual average terms and by 1.3% over the guarter to September 2020.
- The Reserve Bank of Australia's estimate of trimmed mean inflation was 0.4% over the quarter and 1.4% on an annual basis in the September quarter.
- The Bank's weighted median inflation estimate was 0.3% for the guarter and 1.3% annualised.

ANALYTICAL SERIES September 2020

	% Ch	% Change		
		Annual		
	Quarter	Average		
Excl. housing/insurance	2.1%	1.4%		
Excl. volatile items	1.3%	1.3%		
Market goods/services	0.5%	1.9%		
Tradables	1.4%	0.8%		
Non-tradables	1.6%	1.3%		
RBA trimmed mean	0.4%	1.4%		
RBA weighted median	0.3%	1.3%		