

Consumer price index

December quarter 2021

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Chart 1: Consumer price index percentage point contribution (quarterly change)

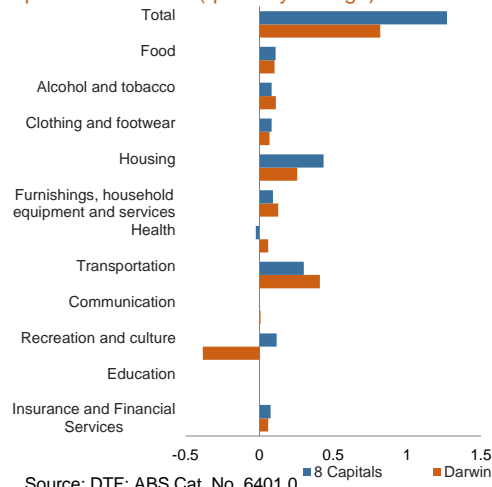


Chart 2: Consumer price index (annual percentage change)

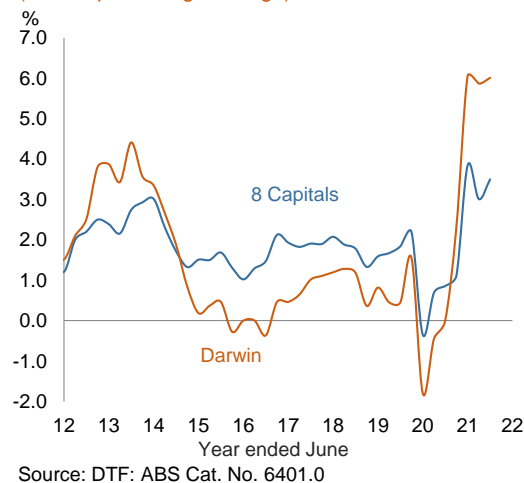
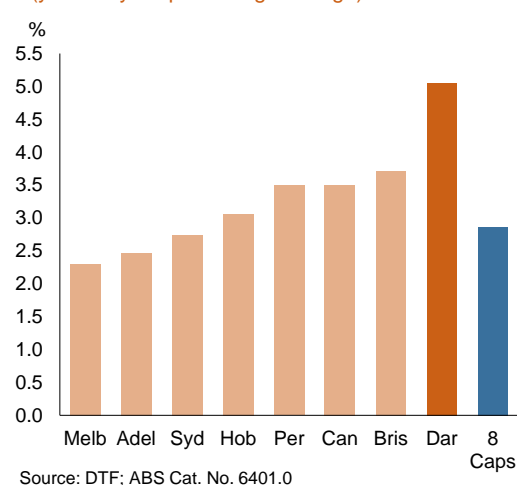


Chart 3: Capital cities consumer price index (year-on-year percentage change)



Consumer price index (CPI)

	Darwin	8 Capital cities
Quarterly change (%)	↑0.8%	↑1.3%
Annual change (%)	↑6.0%	↑3.5%
Year-on-year change (%)	↑5.1%	↑2.9%

Quarterly result

The Darwin CPI increased by 0.8% in the December quarter 2021, the lowest quarterly increase of the capital cities. The other capital cities ranged from a 1.0% increase in Canberra to a 2.2% increase in Hobart. The eight capital cities' average CPI increased by 1.3%.

The greatest contributors to the increase in the Darwin CPI were transportation (0.42 ppt) and housing (0.25 ppt) (Chart 1).

The increase in transportation was driven by automotive fuel (up by 9.9%, contributing 0.35ppt), due to increased global oil prices. Nationally automotive fuel increased significantly.

The increase in housing was driven by rents (up by 3.1%, contributing 0.17ppt). Housing's contribution to growth is down significantly compared with the September quarter 2021 (0.71 ppt), when new housing was the major contributor.

Recreation and culture decreased by 4.1%, impacted by COVID-19 restrictions and seasonal factors.

Annual result

Compared to the December quarter 2020, Darwin's CPI increased by 6.0% (Chart 2), the strongest increase of the capital cities.

The categories with the largest increase were transportation (up by 16.0%) and housing (up by 15.9%) which, combined, account for more than 30% of the index weighting.

In other capital cities, CPI growth ranged from an increase of 2.5% in Melbourne to an increase of 5.7% in Perth. The eight capital cities' average CPI increased by 3.5%.

Year-on-year result

Darwin CPI increased by 5.1% in 2021 (Chart 3) the largest of all capital cities. The categories with the largest increases were housing (up by 10.4%) and transportation (up by 8.2%). Clothing and footwear (down by 2.2%) and communication (down by 1.2%) reported decreases.

In other capital cities, CPI growth ranged from an increase of 2.3% in Melbourne to an increase of 3.7% in Brisbane. The eight capital cities' average CPI increased by 2.9%.

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Table 1: Consumer price index

	Period				Change		
	Dec qtr 20	Sep qtr 21	Dec qtr 21	Year average	Quarterly ¹	Annual ²	Year-on-year ³
Darwin	111.5	117.3	118.2	116.4	0.8%	6.0%	5.1%
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	111.4	112.6	113.3	112.6	0.6%	1.7%	1.3%
Alcohol and tobacco	171.7	171.8	173.2	172.5	0.8%	0.9%	4.3%
Clothing and footwear	93.7	89.8	92.0	91.8	2.4%	-1.8%	-2.2%
Housing	97.5	111.7	113.0	110.0	1.2%	15.9%	10.4%
Furnishings, household equipment and services	110.0	112.0	113.5	111.7	1.3%	3.2%	6.5%
Health	133.9	138.0	139.5	138.1	1.1%	4.2%	3.9%
Transportation	105.1	117.3	121.9	115.3	3.9%	16.0%	8.2%
Communication	76.2	75.6	75.8	76.0	0.3%	-0.5%	-1.2%
Recreation and culture	104.6	108.8	104.3	106.4	-4.1%	-0.3%	3.4%
Education	139.3	144.8	144.9	144.8	0.1%	4.0%	4.5%
Insurance and financial services	109.3	117.1	118.6	113.4	1.3%	8.5%	3.7%
8 Capitals	117.2	119.7	121.3	119.4	1.3%	3.5%	2.9%
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	112.9	114.2	115.0	114.1	0.7%	1.9%	1.2%
Alcohol and tobacco	174.4	174.8	176.3	175.5	0.9%	1.1%	4.9%
Clothing and footwear	94.3	91.6	94.0	93.9	2.6%	-0.3%	-1.0%
Housing	120.8	123.4	125.6	122.8	1.8%	4.0%	1.0%
Furnishings, household equipment and services	108.4	111.1	112.3	110.3	1.1%	3.6%	7.0%
Health	141.6	146.7	146.3	146.1	-0.3%	3.3%	4.0%
Transportation	103.6	113.4	116.6	111.7	2.8%	12.5%	8.4%
Communication	76.7	76.2	76.3	76.6	0.1%	-0.5%	-1.2%
Recreation and culture	108.3	109.0	110.6	108.9	1.5%	2.1%	2.1%
Education	138.9	139.6	139.7	139.6	0.1%	0.6%	1.5%
Insurance and financial services	116.6	117.8	119.2	117.7	1.2%	2.2%	1.1%
RBA underlying measures of inflation							
Weighted median					0.9%	2.7%	
Trimmed mean					1.0%	2.6%	

Table 2: Consumer price index contribution to change

	Period				Change	
	Dec qtr 20	Sep qtr 21	Dec qtr 21	Year average	Quarterly ¹	Annual ²
Darwin	111.5	117.3	118.2	116.4	0.77 ppt	n.a.
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	111.4	112.6	113.3	112.6	0.09 ppt	n.a.
Alcohol and tobacco	171.7	171.8	173.2	172.5	0.10 ppt	n.a.
Clothing and footwear	93.7	89.8	92.0	91.8	0.07 ppt	n.a.
Housing	97.5	111.7	113.0	110.0	0.25 ppt	n.a.
Furnishings, household equipment and services	110.0	112.0	113.5	111.7	0.11 ppt	n.a.
Health	133.9	138.0	139.5	138.1	0.05 ppt	n.a.
Transportation	105.1	117.3	121.9	115.3	0.42 ppt	n.a.
Communication	76.2	75.6	75.8	76.0	0.01 ppt	n.a.
Recreation and culture	104.6	108.8	104.3	106.4	-0.39 ppt	n.a.
Education	139.3	144.8	144.9	144.8	0.01 ppt	n.a.
Insurance and financial services	109.3	117.1	118.6	113.4	0.07 ppt	n.a.
8 Capitals	117.2	119.7	121.3	119.4	1.34 ppt	n.a.
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	112.9	114.2	115.0	114.1	0.11 ppt	n.a.
Alcohol and tobacco	174.4	174.8	176.3	175.5	0.09 ppt	n.a.
Clothing and footwear	94.3	91.6	94.0	93.9	0.08 ppt	n.a.
Housing	120.8	123.4	125.6	122.8	0.44 ppt	n.a.
Furnishings, household equipment and services	108.4	111.1	112.3	110.3	0.10 ppt	n.a.
Health	141.6	146.7	146.3	146.1	-0.02 ppt	n.a.
Transportation	103.6	113.4	116.6	111.7	0.32 ppt	n.a.
Communication	76.7	76.2	76.3	76.6	0.01 ppt	n.a.
Recreation and culture	108.3	109.0	110.6	108.9	0.10 ppt	n.a.
Education	138.9	139.6	139.7	139.6	0.00 ppt	n.a.
Insurance and financial services	116.6	117.8	119.2	117.7	0.08 ppt	n.a.

n.a.: not available

1 Compares the latest quarter with the previous quarter.

2 Compares the latest quarter with the same quarter last year.

3 Compares the 4 quarters up to and including the latest quarter with the previous 4 quarters.

Source: Department of Treasury and Finance; ABS Cat. No. 6401.0

Caution is advised when using quarterly data for the Territory, which is often derived from small samples and highly volatile. Although all due care has been exercised in the preparation of this material, no responsibility is accepted for any errors or omission.

More information:

Economic Group | Department of Treasury and Finance

P: 08 8999 6718 | E: economics.dtf@nt.gov.au | W: <https://nteconomy.nt.gov.au/>