

Monthly consumer price index

September 2026 | Economic brief

National result

The national consumer price index (CPI) increased by 0.8% in September 2026, to be 4.3% higher in year-ended terms.

The largest contributors to the year-ended result were:

- housing (up by 5.2% contributing 1.14 percentage points (ppt)), mainly driven by utilities (contributing 0.40 ppt)
- transportation (up by 8.7% contributing 0.99 ppt), mainly driven by private motoring (contributing 1.03 ppt)
- recreation and culture (up by 4.5% contributing 0.56 ppt), mainly driven by holiday travel and accommodation (contributing 0.25 ppt)

National trimmed mean CPI increased by 0.3% in the month, to be 3.6% higher in year-ended terms (Chart 1). The RBA forecasts the national trimmed mean to increase 3.3% in the year-ended December quarter 2026, in the August 2026 Statement on Monetary Policy.

	Darwin	Australia
Year-ended change (original)	↑ 5.2%	↑ 4.3%
Year-ended change (seasonally adjusted)	n.a.	↑ 4.4%

Darwin result (original)

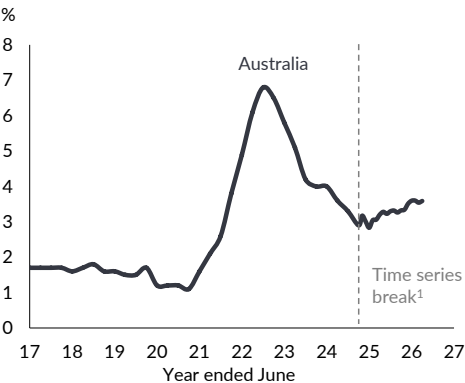
The Darwin CPI increased by 5.2% in the year-ended September 2026 (Chart 2). This was the second highest result of the capital cities, which ranged from an increase of 4.0% in Melbourne to an increase of 5.3% in Hobart (Chart 3).

The largest contributors to the year-ended result were:

- housing (up by 7.6% contributing 1.34 ppt), mainly driven by utilities (contributing 0.54 ppt)
- transportation (up by 10.6% contributing 1.25 ppt), mainly driven by private motoring (contributing 1.25 ppt)
- recreation and culture (up by 5.8% contributing 0.75 ppt), mainly driven by holiday travel and accommodation (contributing 0.41 ppt)

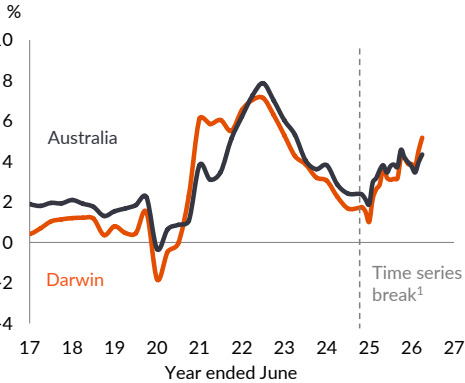
In the year-ended September 2026, the price of goods increased by 5.8% while the price of services increased by 4.3%. Nationally, the price of goods increased by 4.6% while the price of services increased by 4.1% in seasonally adjusted terms.

Chart 1: Trimmed mean consumer price index (monthly, year-ended change, seasonally adjusted)



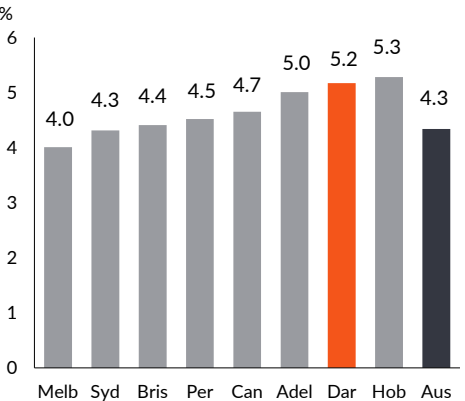
1 Data up to March 25 is reported on a quarterly basis.
Source: DTF: ABS, Consumer Price Index

Chart 2: Consumer price index (monthly, year-ended change, original)



1 Data up to March 25 is reported on a quarterly basis.
Source: DTF: ABS, Consumer Price Index

Chart 3: Capital cities consumer price index (monthly, year-ended change, original)

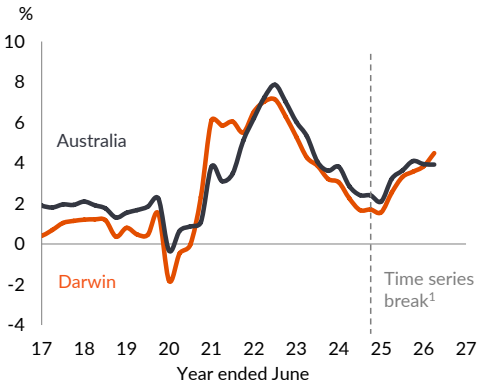


Source: DTF; ABS, Consumer Price Index

Quarterly result (September quarter 2026)

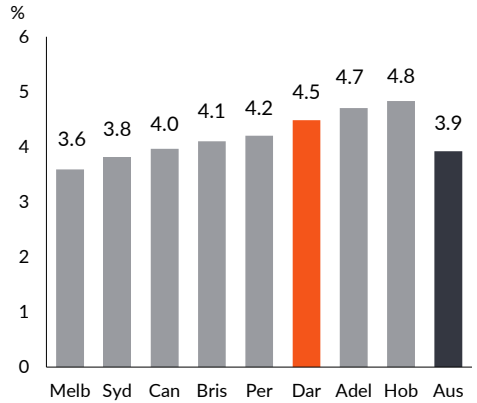
The Darwin CPI increased by 4.5% in the year-ended September quarter 2026 (Chart 4). This was the third highest result of the capital cities, which ranged from an increase of 3.6% in Melbourne to an increase of 4.8% in Hobart (Chart 5). Nationally, the CPI increased by 3.9% in the year-ended September quarter 2026.

Chart 4: Consumer price index (quarterly, year-ended change, original)



1 Data up to March 25 is reported on a quarterly basis.
Source: DTF; ABS, Consumer Price Index

Chart 5: Capital cities consumer price index (quarterly, year-ended change, original)



Source: DTF; ABS, Consumer Price Index

Monthly consumer price index

Table 1: Consumer price index

	Period			Change		Contribution to change	
	Sep 25	Aug 26	Sep 26	Monthly ¹	Year-ended ²	Monthly ¹	Year-ended ²
Darwin							
Original	100.0	104.0	105.2	1.1%	5.2%	1.13 ppt	5.17 ppt
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	100.0	103.2	103.0	-0.2%	3.0%	-0.04 ppt	0.57 ppt
Alcohol and tobacco	100.0	104.0	105.7	1.7%	5.7%	0.17 ppt	0.58 ppt
Clothing and footwear	100.0	104.8	103.4	-1.4%	3.4%	-0.04 ppt	0.09 ppt
Housing	100.0	107.1	107.6	0.5%	7.6%	0.09 ppt	1.34 ppt
Furnishings, household equipment and services	100.0	101.4	101.4	0.0%	1.4%	0.00 ppt	0.12 ppt
Health	100.0	100.5	100.3	-0.2%	0.3%	-0.01 ppt	0.02 ppt
Transportation	100.0	107.1	110.6	3.3%	10.6%	0.40 ppt	1.25 ppt
Communication	100.0	102.0	102.4	0.5%	2.4%	0.01 ppt	0.06 ppt
Recreation and culture	100.0	101.7	105.8	4.1%	5.8%	0.51 ppt	0.75 ppt
Education	100.0	103.3	103.4	0.1%	3.4%	0.00 ppt	0.11 ppt
Insurance and financial services	100.0	104.4	105.3	0.8%	5.3%	0.04 ppt	0.27 ppt
Australia							
Original	100.0	103.5	104.3	0.8%	4.3%	0.81 ppt	4.34 ppt
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	100.0	103.3	103.2	0.0%	3.2%	-0.01 ppt	0.56 ppt
Alcohol and tobacco	100.0	103.6	104.3	0.7%	4.3%	0.04 ppt	0.29 ppt
Clothing and footwear	100.0	103.2	100.4	-2.7%	0.4%	-0.09 ppt	0.01 ppt
Housing	100.0	104.9	105.2	0.3%	5.2%	0.07 ppt	1.14 ppt
Furnishings, household equipment and services	100.0	101.3	100.8	-0.6%	0.8%	-0.05 ppt	0.06 ppt
Health	100.0	104.0	103.7	-0.3%	3.7%	-0.02 ppt	0.25 ppt
Transportation	100.0	105.5	108.7	3.0%	8.7%	0.35 ppt	0.99 ppt
Communication	100.0	101.8	102.3	0.5%	2.3%	0.01 ppt	0.05 ppt
Recreation and culture	100.0	100.7	104.5	3.8%	4.5%	0.46 ppt	0.56 ppt
Education	100.0	104.7	104.7	0.0%	4.7%	0.00 ppt	0.22 ppt
Insurance and financial services	100.0	103.2	103.9	0.6%	3.9%	0.04 ppt	0.21 ppt
Seasonally adjusted	104.0	107.9	108.5	0.6%	4.4%		
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	104.6	107.4	107.9	0.5%	3.2%		
Alcohol and tobacco	108.2	112.8	112.8	0.0%	4.3%		
Clothing and footwear	103.8	106.1	104.7	-1.4%	0.9%		
Housing	104.6	109.8	110.1	0.3%	5.2%		
Furnishings, household equipment and services	102.6	104.0	103.4	-0.6%	0.8%		
Health	105.9	109.7	109.8	0.1%	3.7%		
Transportation	97.7	103.1	106.2	3.1%	8.7%		
Communication	101.2	103.4	103.5	0.1%	2.3%		
Recreation and culture	104.7	108.0	109.5	1.3%	4.5%		
Education	107.8	112.4	112.9	0.4%	4.7%		
Insurance and financial services	104.3	108.0	108.3	0.3%	3.9%		
3-month rolling average (original)							
Darwin	99.7	103.1	104.1	n.a.	4.5%		
Australia	99.7	102.9	103.6	n.a.	3.9%		
Trimmed mean CPI (seasonally adjusted)							
Darwin	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.		
Australia	104.6	108.1	108.4	0.3%	3.6%		

n.a.: not available

1 Compares the latest month with the previous month.

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

Source: Department of Treasury and Finance; ABS *Consumer Price Index*

Table 2: Quarterly consumer price index (September quarter 2026)

	Period			Change	
	Sep 25	Jun 26	Sep 26	Quarterly ¹	Year-ended ²
Quarter average (original)					
Darwin	99.7	102.4	104.1	1.7%	4.5%
Australia	99.7	102.3	103.6	1.3%	3.9%

n.a.: not available

1 Compares the latest quarter with the previous quarter.

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

Source: Department of Treasury and Finance; ABS *Consumer Price Index*

Term	Definition
Consumer price index	The consumer price index tracks changes in the price of a 'basket' of goods and services that is representative of expenditure by metropolitan households.

Caution is advised when using monthly 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.

[Consumer Price Index, Australia | Australian Bureau of Statistics \(abs.gov.au\)](https://www.abs.gov.au)

More information

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