

Consumer price index

March quarter 2022 | Economic brief

Consumer price index (CPI)

	Darwin	8 Capital Cities
Quarterly change (%)	↑2.1%	↑2.1%
Annual change (%)	↑5.5%	↑5.1%
Year-on-year change (%)	↑5.9%	↑3.9%

Quarterly result

The Darwin CPI increased by 2.1% in the March quarter 2022. Darwin recorded the fourth lowest quarterly increase of the capital cities. The other capital cities ranged from a 1.7% increase in Sydney to a 3.3% increase in Perth. The eight capital cities' average CPI increased by 2.1%.

The greatest contributors to the quarterly increase in the Darwin CPI were transportation (up by 5.0% contributing 0.53 ppt), and food and non-alcoholic beverages (up by 2.7% contributing 0.5 ppt) (Chart 1).

The increase in transportation was driven by automotive fuel (up by 12.0% contributing 0.46 ppt) due to an oil price shock caused by the Russia-Ukraine conflict. Nationally, automotive fuel increased by 11%.

The increase in food and non-alcoholic beverages was driven by meats and seafoods, and fruits and vegetables, each contributing 0.13 ppt.

Housing increased by 2.0% (contributing 0.42 ppt), driven by increases in rents (up 3.1% contributing 0.19 ppt) and new dwelling purchases (up 2.5% contributing 0.17 ppt).

Annual result

Darwin CPI increased by 5.5% (Chart 2). This was the fourth strongest increase of the capital cities. The categories with the largest annual change were transportation (up by 17.6%) and insurance and financial services (up by 9.4%).

In other capital cities, the CPI ranged from an increase of 4.4% in Sydney to an increase of 7.6% in Perth. The eight capital cities' average CPI increased by 5.1%.

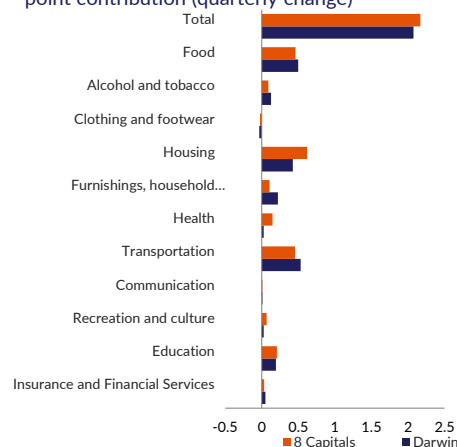
Year-on-year Result

Darwin CPI increased by 5.9% in the year to March 2022, the highest of the capital cities (Chart 3). The eight capital cities' average CPI increased by 3.9%.

The largest price increases were in transportation (up by 13.0%), housing (up by 11.6%) and furnishing, household equipment and services (up by 6.9%). Clothing and footwear (down by 3.4%) and communication (down by 0.8%) reported the only decreases.

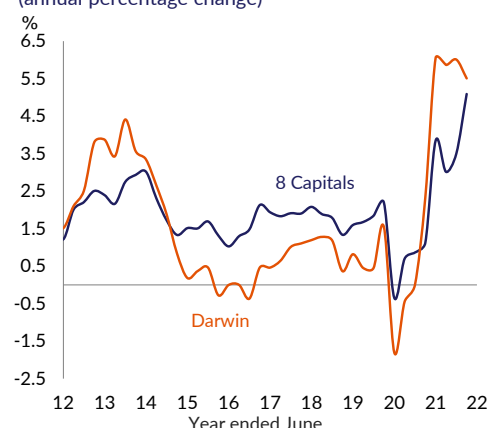
In other capital cities, CPI growth ranged from an increase of 3.2% in Melbourne to an increase of 5.2% in Perth.

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



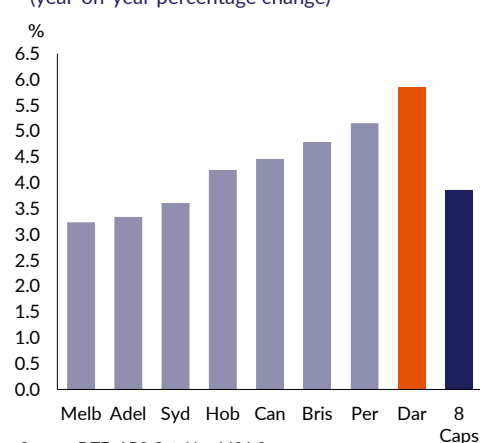
Source: DTF; ABS Cat. No. 6401.0

Chart 2: Consumer price index (annual percentage change)



Source: DTF; ABS Cat. No. 6401.0

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



Source: DTF; ABS Cat. No. 6401.0

Table 1: Consumer price index

	Period				Change		
	Mar qtr 21	Dec qtr 21	Mar qtr 22	Year average	Quarterly ¹	Annual ²	Year-on-year ³
Darwin	114.4	118.2	120.7	118.0	2.1%	5.5%	5.9%
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	111.7	113.3	116.4	113.7	2.7%	4.2%	2.2%
Alcohol and tobacco	172.3	173.2	174.9	173.1	1.0%	1.5%	2.9%
Clothing and footwear	93.7	92.0	91.0	91.2	-1.1%	-2.9%	-3.4%
Housing	107.4	113.0	115.3	112.0	2.0%	7.4%	11.6%
Furnishings, household equipment and services	110.3	113.5	116.1	113.2	2.3%	5.3%	6.9%
Health	136.9	139.5	140.2	139.0	0.5%	2.4%	3.5%
Transportation	108.8	121.9	128.0	120.1	5.0%	17.6%	13.0%
Communication	76.5	75.8	76.0	75.9	0.3%	-0.7%	-0.8%
Recreation and culture	103.9	104.3	104.6	106.6	0.3%	0.7%	3.3%
Education	144.8	144.9	154.5	147.3	6.6%	6.7%	5.2%
Insurance and financial services	109.4	118.6	119.7	116.0	0.9%	9.4%	6.0%
8 Capitals	117.9	121.3	123.9	120.9	2.1%	5.1%	3.9%
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	113.3	115.0	118.2	115.3	2.8%	4.3%	2.1%
Alcohol and tobacco	175.0	176.3	178.2	176.3	1.1%	1.8%	3.4%
Clothing and footwear	94.8	94.0	93.4	93.6	-0.6%	-1.5%	-1.3%
Housing	120.9	125.6	129.0	124.8	2.7%	6.7%	3.0%
Furnishings, household equipment and services	108.2	112.3	113.5	111.6	1.1%	4.9%	7.5%
Health	144.5	146.3	149.6	147.3	2.3%	3.5%	4.1%
Transportation	106.9	116.6	121.5	115.4	4.2%	13.7%	11.9%
Communication	77.1	76.3	76.5	76.4	0.3%	-0.8%	-0.9%
Recreation and culture	108.1	110.6	111.3	109.7	0.6%	3.0%	2.5%
Education	139.5	139.7	146.0	141.2	4.5%	4.7%	2.7%
Insurance and financial services	116.7	119.2	119.8	118.5	0.5%	2.7%	1.7%
RBA underlying measures of inflation							
Weighted median					1.0%	3.2%	
Trimmed mean					1.4%	3.7%	

Table 2: Consumer price index contribution to change

	Period				Change	
	Mar qtr 21	Dec qtr 21	Mar qtr 22	Year average	Quarterly ¹	Annual ²
Darwin	114.4	118.2	120.7	118.0	2.12 ppt	n.a.
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	111.7	113.3	116.4	113.7	0.50 ppt	n.a.
Alcohol and tobacco	172.3	173.2	174.9	173.1	0.13 ppt	n.a.
Clothing and footwear	93.7	92.0	91.0	91.2	-0.03 ppt	n.a.
Housing	107.4	113.0	115.3	112.0	0.42 ppt	n.a.
Furnishings, household equipment and services	110.3	113.5	116.1	113.2	0.22 ppt	n.a.
Health	136.9	139.5	140.2	139.0	0.03 ppt	n.a.
Transportation	108.8	121.9	128.0	120.1	0.53 ppt	n.a.
Communication	76.5	75.8	76.0	75.9	0.01 ppt	n.a.
Recreation and culture	103.9	104.3	104.6	106.6	0.03 ppt	n.a.
Education	144.8	144.9	154.5	147.3	0.19 ppt	n.a.
Insurance and financial services	109.4	118.6	119.7	116.0	0.05 ppt	n.a.
8 Capitals	117.9	121.3	123.9	120.9	2.14 ppt	n.a.
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	113.3	115.0	118.2	115.3	0.462 ppt	n.a.
Alcohol and tobacco	175.0	176.3	178.2	176.3	0.09 ppt	n.a.
Clothing and footwear	94.8	94.0	93.4	93.6	-0.02 ppt	n.a.
Housing	120.9	125.6	129.0	124.8	0.62 ppt	n.a.
Furnishings, household equipment and services	108.2	112.3	113.5	111.6	0.11 ppt	n.a.
Health	144.5	146.3	149.6	147.3	0.15 ppt	n.a.
Transportation	106.9	116.6	121.5	115.4	0.45 ppt	n.a.
Communication	77.1	76.3	76.5	76.4	0.01 ppt	n.a.
Recreation and culture	108.1	110.6	111.3	109.7	0.07 ppt	n.a.
Education	139.5	139.7	146.0	141.2	0.21 ppt	n.a.
Insurance and financial services	116.7	119.2	119.8	118.5	0.03 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 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.

More information

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