



## Consumer Price Index, March 2016

### Key Facts

#### Capital Cities

##### Perth

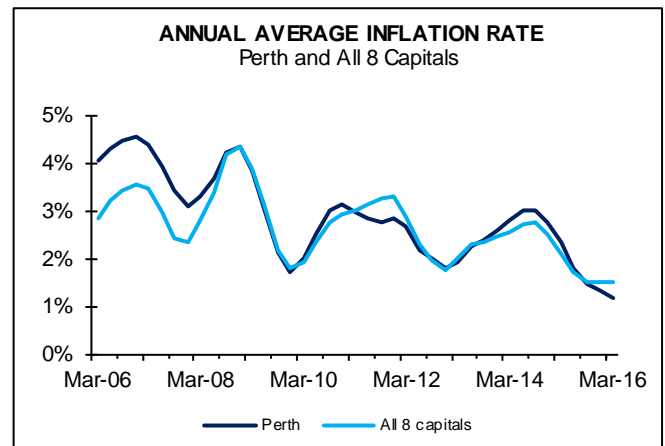
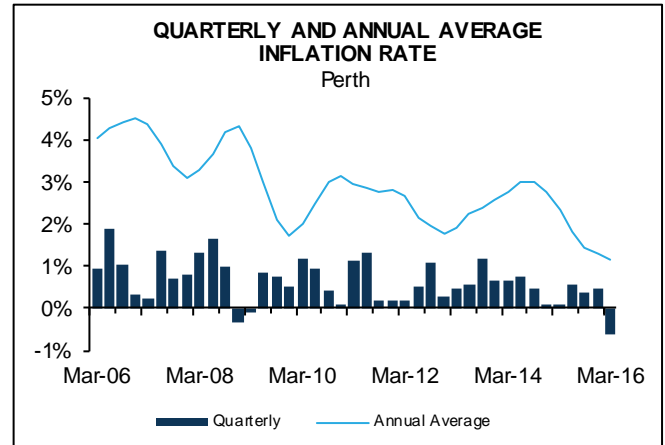
Perth's Consumer Price Index decreased by 0.6% over the quarter, and rose by 1.1% in annual average terms to March 2016. In year-ended terms<sup>1</sup>, Perth's CPI increased by 0.7%.

- The main detractor from Perth's quarterly CPI was 'housing', which detracted 0.33 percentage points from growth.
- The main contributors to quarterly growth in Perth's CPI were 'health', which contributed 0.10 percentage points, and 'education' which contributed 0.10 percentage points.

##### Australia

Nationally, the Consumer Price Index fell by 0.2% over the quarter and increased by 1.5% in annual average terms to March 2016. In year-ended terms, the national CPI grew by 1.3%.

- The main component that detracted from national growth was 'transport' (-0.28 percentage points).
- The main contributors to national quarterly growth were 'education' (0.12 percentage points) and 'health' (0.11 percentage points).
- In annual average terms to March, the largest increase in CPI by capital city was 1.8% in Sydney. The smallest increase was 0.2% in Darwin.



**INFLATION RATES BY CITY**  
March 2016

	% Change	
	Quarter	Annual Average
Sydney	-0.2%	1.8%
Melbourne	-0.1%	1.5%
Brisbane	0.0%	1.6%
Adelaide	-0.3%	1.0%
Perth	-0.6%	1.1%
Hobart	-0.2%	1.2%
Darwin	-0.9%	0.2%
Canberra	0.2%	0.7%
<b>All 8 capitals</b>	<b>-0.2%</b>	<b>1.5%</b>

<sup>1</sup> 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  
March 2016**

	<b>Perth</b>		<b>All 8 Capitals</b>	
	<b>% Change</b>		<b>% Change</b>	
	<b>Quarter</b>	<b>Annual Average</b>	<b>Quarter</b>	<b>Annual Average</b>
Food/non-alcoholic beverages	0.2%	0.2%	-0.2%	0.5%
Alcohol/tobacco	0.6%	6.8%	0.9%	5.5%
Clothing/footwear	-3.4%	-0.3%	-2.6%	-0.6%
Housing	-1.5%	0.7%	0.3%	2.3%
Furnishings/household contents	-0.7%	1.6%	-0.4%	1.7%
Health	1.8%	4.2%	1.9%	4.7%
Transport	-2.2%	-1.6%	-2.5%	-1.7%
Communication	-1.6%	-5.0%	-1.5%	-5.0%
Recreation/culture	-1.1%	0.8%	-1.0%	1.0%
Education	2.9%	4.1%	3.1%	4.9%
Insurance/Finance	0.8%	1.6%	0.6%	2.0%
<b>All groups</b>	<b>-0.6%</b>	<b>1.1%</b>	<b>-0.2%</b>	<b>1.5%</b>

## Categories

### Price Changes

- Between the December and March quarters, the largest increase in prices by category in Perth was 2.9% for 'education'. The largest decrease was 3.4% for 'clothing and footwear'.
- In annual average terms to March 2016, the largest increase in prices in Perth was 6.8% for 'alcohol and tobacco'. The largest fall was 5.0% for communication.
- Across all eight capital cities, the largest quarterly rise in prices by category was 3.1% for 'education'. The largest decrease was 2.6% for 'clothing and footwear'.
- In annual average terms to March 2016, the largest rise in prices by category across all eight capital cities was 5.5% for 'alcohol and tobacco'. The largest decrease nationally was 5.0% for 'communication'.

### Underlying Inflation

- Both the Australian Bureau of Statistics and the Reserve Bank of Australia produce estimates of underlying national 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 2.0% in annual average terms and by 0.2% over the quarter to March 2016.
- The Reserve Bank of Australia's estimate of trimmed mean inflation was 0.2% over the quarter and 1.7% on an annual basis in the March quarter.
- The Bank's weighted median inflation estimate was 0.1% for the quarter and 1.4% annualised.

**ANALYTICAL SERIES  
March 2016**

	<b>% Change</b>	
	<b>Quarter</b>	<b>Annual Average</b>
Excl. housing/insurance	-0.4%	1.2%
Excl. volatile items	0.2%	2.0%
Market goods/services	-0.2%	1.3%
Tradables	-1.4%	0.2%
Non-tradables	0.4%	2.3%
RBA trimmed mean	0.2%	1.7%
RBA weighted median	0.1%	1.4%

Note: The RBA weighted median is in year-ended terms