



## Consumer Price Index, March 2013

### Key Facts

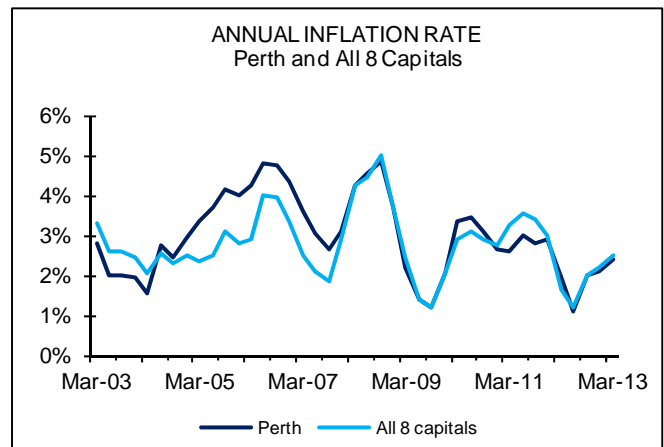
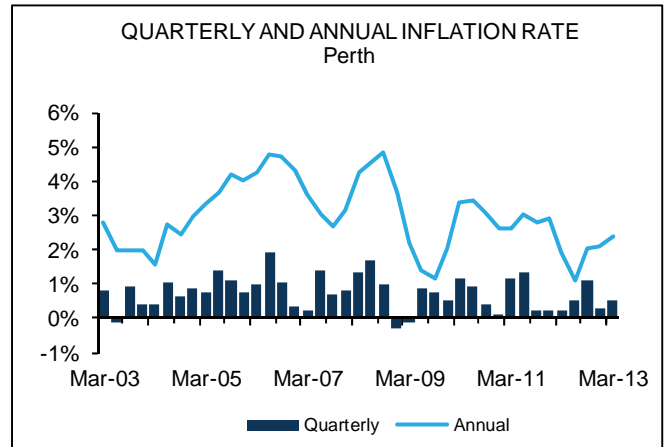
#### Capital Cities

##### Perth

- Perth's Consumer Price Index increased by 0.5% over the March quarter, and rose by 2.4% through the year to March 2013.
- The main contributors to the quarterly rise in Perth's CPI were the 'housing', 'health' and 'education' components.
- The main detractors from Perth's quarterly CPI growth were the 'clothing and footwear' and 'furnishings, household equipment and services' components.

##### Australia

- Nationally, the Consumer Price Index rose by 0.4% over the quarter and increased by 2.5% in the four quarters to March 2013.
- The main contributors to national quarterly growth were broadly consistent with Perth's – 'housing, 'education' and 'health'.
- The main components that detracted from national growth were 'clothing and footwear', 'food and non-alcoholic beverages' and 'furnishings, household equipment and services'.
- Over the year to March, the largest increase in Consumer Price Index by city was 3.8% in Darwin. The smallest increase was 1.0% in Hobart.



#### INFLATION RATES BY CATEGORY March 2013

	All 8 Capitals		Perth	
	% Change Over:		% Change Over:	
	Year	Quarter	Year	Quarter
Food/non-alcoholic beverages	1.6%	-0.8%	1.8%	0.1%
Alcohol/tobacco	3.7%	1.6%	3.2%	1.4%
Clothing/footwear	-1.5%	-3.9%	0.9%	-3.9%
Housing	5.1%	1.2%	5.5%	1.2%
Furnishings/household contents	0.6%	-1.3%	-0.2%	-1.0%
Health	6.1%	3.0%	6.5%	3.3%
Transportation	1.4%	0.5%	0.6%	-0.1%
Communication	1.5%	0.0%	1.3%	0.0%
Recreation/culture	-0.5%	-0.8%	-1.3%	-0.2%
Education	5.8%	5.7%	5.3%	5.3%
Finance/insurance	2.9%	0.7%	3.0%	0.3%
All groups	2.5%	0.4%	2.4%	0.5%

#### INFLATION RATES BY CITY March 2013

	% Change Over:	
	1 Year	Quarter
Sydney	2.8%	0.4%
Melbourne	2.5%	0.4%
Brisbane	2.1%	0.1%
Adelaide	2.2%	0.0%
Perth	2.4%	0.5%
Hobart	1.0%	0.3%
Darwin	3.8%	1.7%
Canberra	2.2%	0.1%
All 8 capitals	2.5%	0.4%

## Categories

### Price Changes

- Between the December and March quarters, the largest increase in prices by category in Perth was 5.3% for education. The largest decrease was 3.9% for clothing and footwear.
- Through the year to March 2013, the largest increase in prices in Perth was 6.5% for health. The largest fall was 1.3% for recreation and culture.
- Across all eight capital cities, the largest quarterly rise in prices by category was 5.7% for education. The largest decrease was 3.9% for clothing and footwear.
- Over the four quarters to March 2013, the largest rise in prices by category was 6.1% for health. The largest decrease nationally was 1.5% for clothing and footwear.

### 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 2.4% through the year and by 0.4% over the quarter to March 2013.
- The Reserve Bank of Australia's estimate of trimmed mean inflation was 0.3% over the quarter and 2.2% on an annual basis in the March quarter.
- The Bank's weighted median inflation estimate was 0.5% for the quarter and 2.6% annualised.

#### ANALYTICAL SERIES

March 2013

	% Change Over:	
	1 Year	Quarter
Excl. housing/insurance	1.7%	0.0%
Excl. volatile items	2.4%	0.4%
Market goods/services	0.5%	-0.3%
Tradables	-0.2%	-1.2%
Non-tradables	4.2%	1.3%
RBA trimmed mean	2.2%	0.3%
RBA weighted median	2.6%	0.5%