

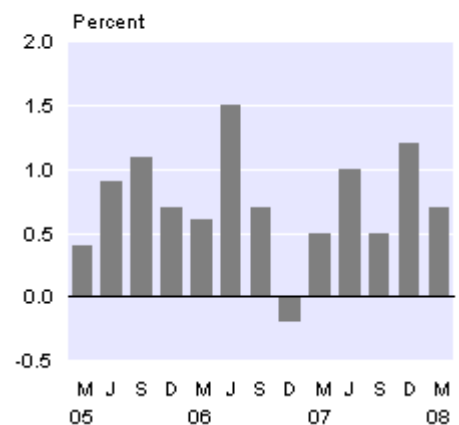
Embargoed until 10:45am – 15 April 2008

## Consumers Price Index: March 2008 quarter

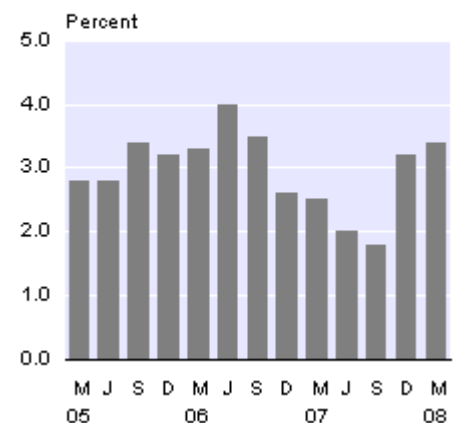
### Highlights

- The Consumers Price Index (CPI) rose 0.7 percent in the March 2008 quarter.
- Food prices increased 1.8 percent, with the main contribution coming from higher prices for grocery food, in particular cheese.
- Housing and household utilities prices rose 1.0 percent, driven by higher prices for actual rentals for housing.
- Transport prices rose 0.8 percent, driven by higher prices for petrol.
- Prices for recreation and culture fell 1.2 percent.
- The CPI increased 3.4 percent for the year to the March 2008 quarter.

**Consumers Price Index**  
Quarterly percentage change



**Consumers Price Index**  
Annual percentage change



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There is a companion Media Release published – [Consumers Price Index: March 2008 quarter](#).

# Commentary

## Consumers Price Index quarterly movement

The Consumers Price Index (CPI) recorded an increase of 0.7 percent in the March 2008 quarter, following increases of 1.2 percent and 0.5 percent in the December 2007 and September 2007 quarters, respectively.

Seven of the 11 CPI groups recorded increases in the March 2008 quarter. The most significant upward contributions came from the food (up 1.8 percent), housing and household utilities (up 1.0 percent) and transport (up 0.8 percent) groups. Other upward movements came from the following groups: alcoholic beverages and tobacco (up 1.1 percent), education (up 3.9 percent), miscellaneous goods and services (up 1.0 percent), and health (up 0.4 percent).

Four groups recorded decreases: recreation and culture (down 1.2 percent), household contents and services (down 0.8 percent), clothing and footwear (down 1.0 percent) and communication (down 0.1 percent).

The most significant individual upward contributions came from higher prices for petrol (up 4.0 percent), cheese (up 18.9 percent) and actual rentals for housing (up 1.2 percent).

The most significant individual downward contributions came from lower prices for international air transport (down 8.6 percent), audio-visual and computing equipment (down 3.6 percent) and overseas package holidays (down 5.7 percent).

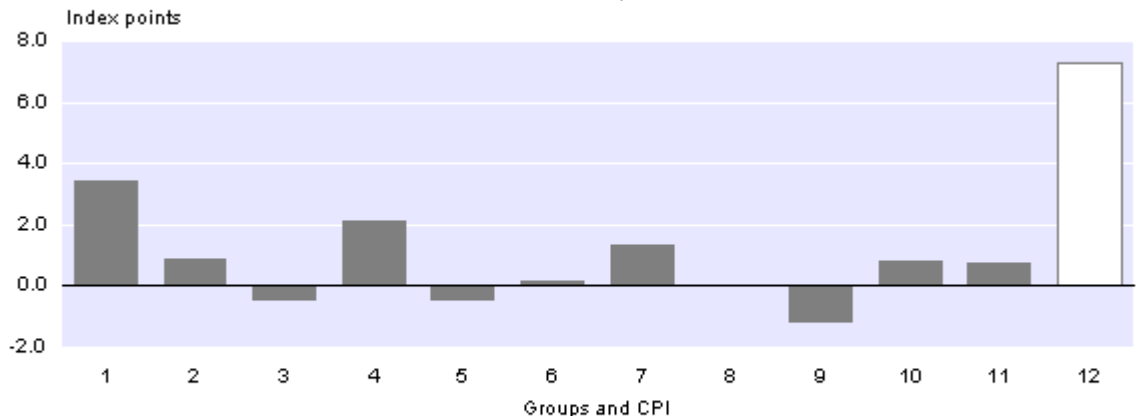
### Index Points Contribution

Group	December 2007 quarter to March 2008 quarter
Food	3.40
Housing and household utilities	2.14
Transport	1.33
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	0.88
Education	0.80
Miscellaneous goods and services	0.72
Health	0.18
Communication	-0.05
Clothing and footwear	-0.46
Household contents and services	-0.47
Recreation and culture	-1.20
<b>All groups CPI</b>	<b>7.26</b>

Note: Points contribution may not sum to totals due to rounding.

## Points Contribution to Consumers Price Index

March 2008 quarter



1 Food  
2 Alcoholic beverages and tobacco  
3 Clothing and footwear  
4 Housing and household utilities  
5 Household contents and services  
6 Health  
7 Transport  
8 Communication  
9 Recreation and culture  
10 Education  
11 Miscellaneous goods and services  
12 All groups

## Distribution of item-level movements

The table below outlines the distribution of price movements in the December 2007 and March 2008 quarters. The CPI has been partitioned into those national item-level indexes that increased, showed no change, or decreased.

### Distribution of Item-level Index Movements

National item-level index movements	September 2007 quarter to December 2007 quarter	December 2007 quarter to March 2008 quarter
<b>Increase in price</b>		
Number of items	392	349
Percentage of all items	57.2	50.9
Percentage of expenditure weight	72.8	67.2
Index points contribution	18.6	15.2
Weighted average price increase (percent)	2.5	2.2
<b>No change in price</b>		
Number of items	97	103
Percentage of all items	14.2	15.0
Percentage of expenditure weight	9.3	10.3
<b>Decrease in price</b>		
Number of items	196	233
Percentage of all items	28.6	34.0
Percentage of expenditure weight	17.9	22.5
Index points contribution	-6.7	-7.9
Weighted average price decrease (percent)	3.7	3.4

The distribution of item-level movements shows that in the March 2008 quarter:

- the percentage of expenditure weight of items that increased in price has fallen, while the percentage of expenditure weight of items that decreased in price has risen
- both the weighted average price increase and the weighted average price decrease have fallen
- the percentage of expenditure weight of items that increased in price is still significantly greater than the percentage of expenditure weight of items that decreased in price.

This resulted in an increase of 0.7 percent in the CPI in the March 2008 quarter, following an increase of 1.2 percent in the December 2007 quarter.

## **CPI annual movement**

The CPI increased 3.4 percent in the year from the March 2007 quarter to the March 2008 quarter, following increases of 3.2 and 1.8 percent for the years to the December 2007 and September 2007 quarters, respectively.

Six of the 11 groups in the CPI made upward contributions to the annual increase in the March 2008 quarter. The most significant upward contributions came from the transport (up 7.0 percent), housing and household utilities (up 5.1 percent) and food (up 5.1 percent) groups. The following groups also recorded increases for the year to the March 2008 quarter: alcoholic beverages and tobacco (up 3.5 percent), miscellaneous goods and services (up 2.9 percent) and household contents and services (up 0.2 percent).

The most significant individual upward contributions came from higher prices for petrol (up 20.5 percent), purchase of new housing (up 5.7 percent), actual rentals for housing (up 3.0 percent) and electricity (up 6.0 percent).

Downward contributions came from the following groups: recreation and culture (down 0.7 percent), education (down 2.0 percent), health (down 0.5 percent), communication (down 0.5 percent) and clothing and footwear (down 0.1 percent).

The most significant individual downward contributions came from lower prices for audio-visual equipment (down 21.2 percent), early childhood education (down 34.7 percent) and pharmaceutical products (down 15.8 percent).

## **CPI all groups and tradable and non-tradable component series**

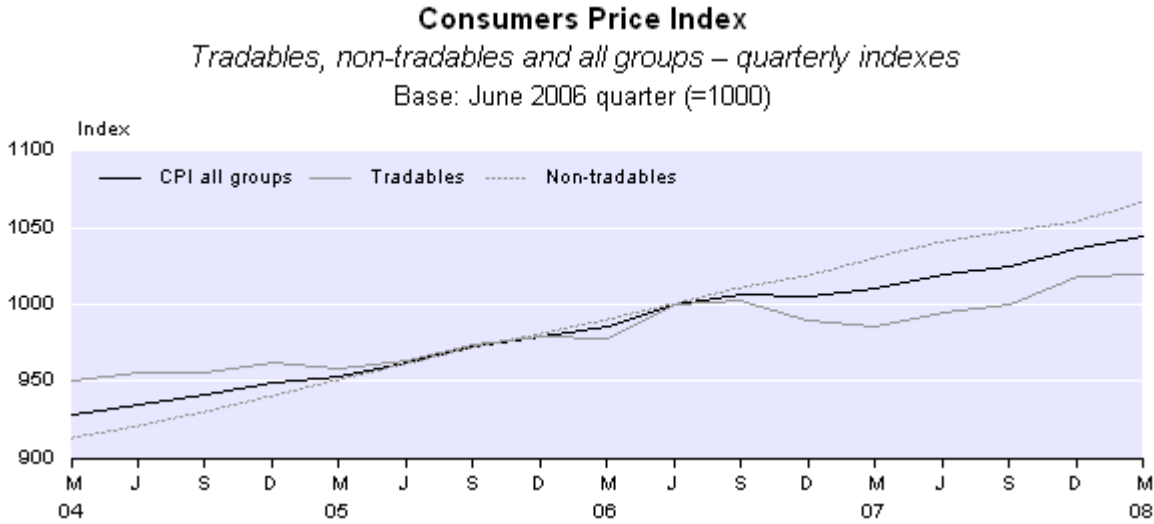
In the March 2008 quarter, the non-tradable component increased 1.1 percent, following an increase of 0.7 percent in the December 2007 quarter. Significant upward contributions came from actual rentals for housing, and cigarettes and tobacco. The most significant downward contribution came from domestic air transport.

The tradable component increased 0.2 percent, following an increase of 1.8 percent in the December 2007 quarter. The most significant contributions to the tradable component came from petrol and (tradable) grocery food. The tradable component would have fallen 0.3 percent if petrol prices had remained constant over the same period. Offsetting these increases were downward contributions from international air transport and overseas package holidays.

From the March 2007 quarter to the March 2008 quarter, the non-tradable component increased 3.5 percent and the tradable component rose 3.4 percent.

Within the non-tradable component, significant upward contributions to the annual movement came from the purchase of new housing, actual rentals for housing and electricity. Downward contributions came from (non-tradable) pharmaceutical products and early childhood education.

Significant upward contributions to the tradable component came from petrol and (tradable) grocery food. If petrol prices had remained constant over the same period, the tradable component would have only increased 1.3 percent. A significant downward contribution came from audio-visual and computing equipment.



# Food

Prices for the food group rose 1.8 percent in the March 2008 quarter, following increases of 1.5 percent and 1.2 percent in the December 2007 and September 2008 quarters, respectively. Upward contributions came from higher prices for the grocery food (up 3.6 percent), restaurant meals and ready-to-eat food (up 1.3 percent) and non-alcoholic beverages (up 3.3 percent) subgroups.

Within the grocery food subgroup the main contributors to the 3.6 percent increase were higher prices for cheese (up 18.9 percent), bread (up 7.3 percent) and butter (up 33.9 percent).

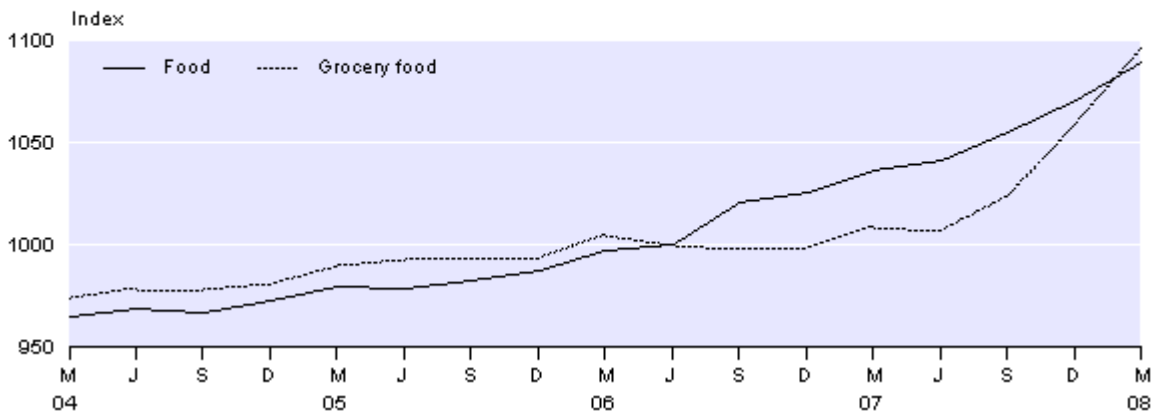
The downward contributions came from the lower price for the fruit and vegetables (down 1.0 percent) and meat, poultry and fish (down 0.2 percent) subgroups. The biggest individual downward contribution came from the lower prices for tomatoes (down 24.4 percent).

The food group increased 5.1 percent from the March 2007 quarter to the March 2008 quarter. The most significant individual upward contributions came from higher prices for grocery food (up 8.7 percent). This was followed by, in order of significance, restaurant meals and ready-to-eat food (up 4.3 percent), meat, poultry and fish (up 3.6 percent) and non-alcoholic beverages (up 4.9 percent) subgroups. The only downward contribution came from lower prices for the fruit and vegetables subgroup (down 1.2 percent).

## Food Group and Grocery Food

*Quarterly indexes*

Base: June 2006 quarter (=1000)



## Housing and household utilities

The housing and household utilities group increased 1.0 percent in the March 2008 quarter, following increases of 0.9 percent and 1.8 percent in the December 2007 and September 2007 quarters, respectively.

Actual rentals for housing rose 1.2 percent in the March 2008 quarter, following rises of 0.5 percent and 0.8 percent in the December 2007 and September 2007 quarters, respectively. Actual rentals for housing have now risen for 27 consecutive quarters.

Prices for the purchase of new housing increased 0.9 percent in the March 2008 quarter, following increases of 1.3 percent and 1.8 percent in the December 2007 and September 2007 quarters, respectively. The 0.9 percent increase in the March 2008 quarter was the lowest increase since the September 2002 quarter, when prices for the purchase of new housing increased 0.6 percent. Respondents were asked to indicate reasons for any reported changes in their prices. Of respondents reporting increases in the March 2008 quarter, 87 percent cited higher prices for construction components and 61 percent cited increased subcontractors' charges as contributing factors to the increase.

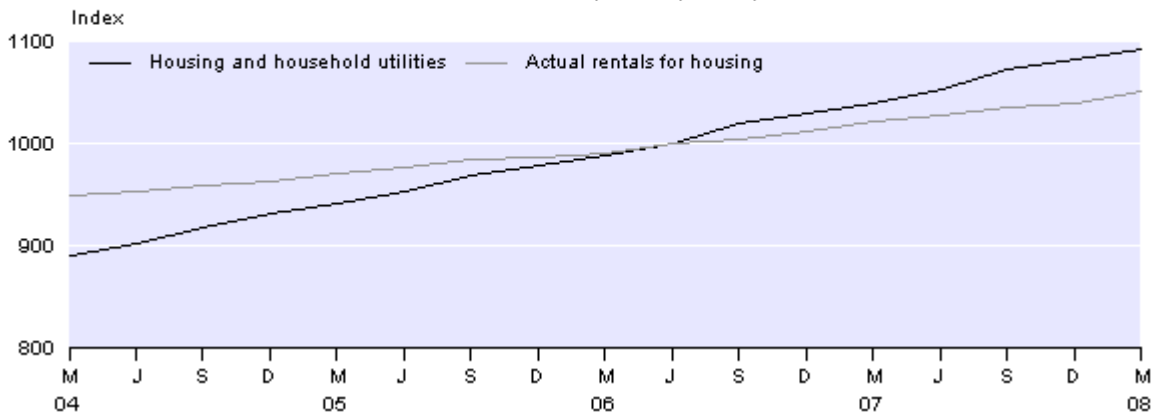
Prices for electricity rose 0.8 percent in the March 2008 quarter, following increases of 1.2 percent and 0.8 percent in the December 2007 and September 2007 quarters, respectively.

The housing and household utilities group increased 5.1 percent from the March 2007 quarter to the March 2008 quarter. The most significant upward contributions came from higher prices for the purchase of new housing (up 5.7 percent), actual rentals for housing (up 3.0 percent), electricity (up 6.0 percent), and local authority rates and payments (up 6.7 percent).

### Housing and Household Utilities Group and Actual Rentals for Housing

*Quarterly indexes*

Base: June 2006 quarter (=1000)



## Transport

Prices for the transport group rose 0.8 percent in the March 2008 quarter, following increases of 3.2 percent and 0.4 percent in the December 2007 and September 2007 quarters, respectively. The most significant individual upward contribution came from higher prices for petrol (up 4.0 percent). If petrol prices had remained constant from the December 2007 quarter to the March 2008 quarter, the CPI would have increased 0.5 percent. Purchasing of second-hand motor cars (up 1.3 percent) also made a significant upward contribution to the transport group.

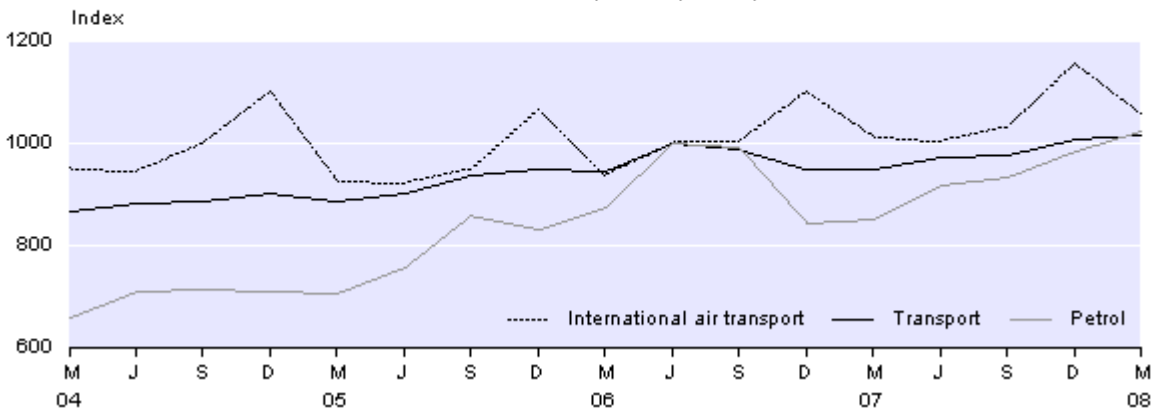
The most significant downward contribution came from lower prices for international air transport (down 8.6 percent). Domestic air transport (down 4.4 percent) and purchase of new motor cars (down 1.6 percent) also made significant downward contributions to the transport group.

The transport group increased 7.0 percent from the March 2007 quarter to the March 2008 quarter. The most significant individual upward contributions came from higher prices for petrol (up 20.5 percent). If petrol prices had remained constant from the March 2007 quarter to the March 2008 quarter, the CPI would have increased 2.5 percent. The most significant individual downward contribution came from lower prices for domestic air transport (down 9.4 percent).

### Transport Group and Selected Classes

*Quarterly indexes*

Base: June 2006 quarter (=1000)



## Recreation and Culture

Prices for the recreation and culture group fell 1.2 percent in the March 2008 quarter, following increases of 1.0 percent and 0.3 percent in the December 2007 and September 2007 quarters, respectively. The most significant individual downward contribution came from lower prices for audio-visual and computing equipment (down 3.6 percent) and overseas package holidays (down 5.7 percent).

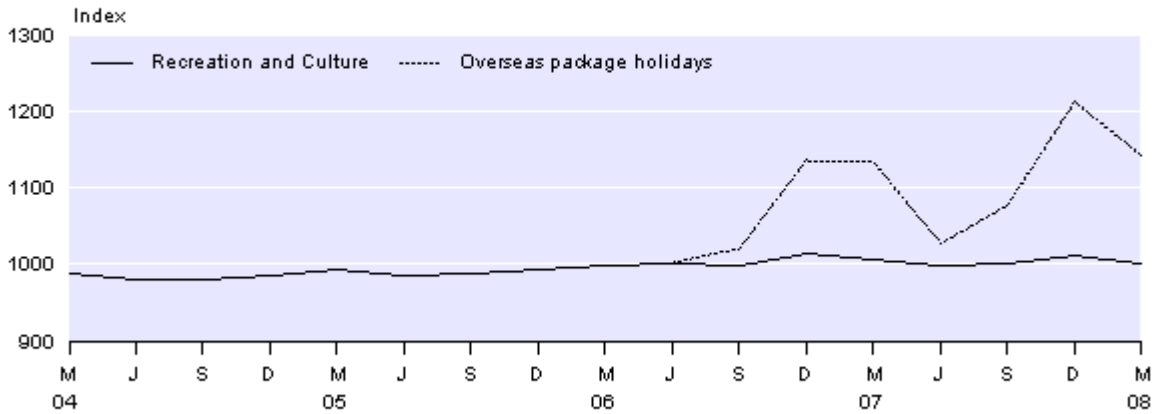
Upward contributions came from higher prices for accommodation services (up 3.0 percent) and recreational and sporting services (up 1.8 percent).

The recreation and culture group decreased 0.7 percent from the March 2007 quarter to the March 2008 quarter. The most significant individual downward contributions came from lower prices for audio-visual and computing equipment (down 15.0 percent).

### Recreation and Culture Group and Overseas Package Holidays

*Quarterly indexes*

Base: June 2006 quarter (=1000)



**Note:** Overseas package holidays were added into the recreation and culture group in the June 2006 quarter.

## Other upward groups

In the March 2008 quarter, upward movements were also recorded for the following groups: alcoholic beverages and tobacco (up 1.1 percent), education (up 3.9 percent), miscellaneous goods and services (up 1.0 percent), and health (up 0.4 percent). Combined, these groups contributed 2.58 index points to the overall CPI movement.

The 1.1 percent increase in alcoholic beverages and tobacco was driven by a 3.4 percent increase in cigarette and tobacco prices. Cigarette and tobacco prices were subject to an increase in excise duty from 1 January (see the Technical notes for more details).

Education prices are collected for primary and secondary, and tertiary education in the March quarter of each year. These subgroups increased 5.7 and 3.2 percent, respectively. Early childhood education prices rose 1.1 percent. Most of the increase can be attributed to new optional charges that were reported by some survey respondents not being fully included in the December 2007 quarter (this is explained in greater detail in the Technical notes of this release).

The increase in miscellaneous goods and services was driven by higher prices for insurance. Within insurances, higher prices were recorded for vehicle insurance (up 7.1 percent), dwelling insurance (up 5.9 percent) and contents insurance (up 4.4 percent).

## Other downward groups

In the March 2008 quarter, the following groups made downward contributions to the overall CPI movement: household contents and services (down 0.8 percent), clothing and footwear (down 1.0 percent) and communication (down 0.1 percent). Combined, these groups contributed -0.98 index points to the overall CPI movement.

The 0.8 percent fall in household contents and services was mainly driven by lower prices for furniture and furnishings (down 1.7 percent), and major household appliances (down 1.5 percent).

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## Technical notes

### What the Consumers Price Index measures

The Consumers Price Index (CPI) measures the rate of price change of goods and services purchased by households. The CPI all groups index is prepared quarterly. The food group is the only commodity group of the CPI for which an index is prepared each month.

### 2006 CPI review

The CPI underwent a major review in 2006. The CPI review was implemented with the publication of the reweighted September 2006 quarter CPI on 25 October 2006. The review encompassed:

- updating and reweighting the sample of representative goods and services in the CPI basket
- updating the sample of retail outlets that prices are collected from
- other changes, such as the adoption of a new expenditure classification (New Zealand Household Expenditure Classification (NZHEC)).

The review was initiated when the CPI Revision Advisory Committee met in June 2004 to undertake an independent review of the practices and methods used to compile the CPI. The committee's recommendations played a major part in shaping the review.

### Information paper on CPI review

An information paper, published on 28 September 2006, provides detailed information about the 2006 CPI review.

This information paper includes:

- details of changes made to the basket of representative goods and services
- the new CPI expenditure weights down to the third level of the new expenditure classification
- details of how these weights were derived
- back-cast index time series, compiled using the new classification, up to the June 2006 quarter, inclusive
- details of progress made towards implementing the CPI Revision Advisory Committee's recommendations.

The information paper, entitled *Consumers Price Index Review (September 2006 (revised))*, is available electronically on the Statistics New Zealand website.

### Expression base

The CPI has an expression base of the June 2006 quarter (=1000). The June 2006 quarter was the final quarter calculated and published on the previous base of the June 1999 quarter (=1000).

For categories under the new expenditure classification that have equivalent indexes under the old classification system, the previously published percentage changes for periods up until the June 2006 quarter have been preserved by scaling the index numbers so that the June 2006 quarter is set to 1000. For categories with no equivalent existing series, a new time series has been calculated back to the June 1999 quarter.

Price movements for the updated and reweighted basket from the June to September 2006 quarters have been linked to the rescaled series at the June 2006 quarter.

## **Pricing coverage**

Prices are obtained by price collectors from retail outlets in 15 urban areas: Whangarei, Auckland, Hamilton, Tauranga, Rotorua, Napier-Hastings, New Plymouth, Wanganui, Palmerston North, Wellington, Nelson, Christchurch, Timaru, Dunedin and Invercargill. Before 1988, 25 regions were sampled. In 1998 the number was reduced to 20, and in 1991 to 15. The territorial authorities of the 15 regional pricing centres account for about 69 percent of New Zealand's total resident population.

However, the prices of some goods and services are collected by postal questionnaires. In some cases, for sampling and collection reasons, these prices are aggregated to the national level or to broad regions such as Auckland, Wellington, Canterbury, Rest of North Island and Rest of South Island. Items where movements for five broad regions are used include purchase of second-hand cars, purchase of new housing and rentals for housing. In these cases, price movements for the five broad regions are used for the corresponding 15 regions.

The 2006 review looked at options for optimising the regional sample allocation, given existing resources.

Analysis was carried out on the impact of reducing the number of pricing centres on the CPI. However, due to concerns about the cumulative effect that periodically reducing the number of regional centres would have on the population coverage of price collection, the preferred approach was to retain all 15 centres but to reallocate resources to align them more closely with the importance of the regions than is currently the case. Public submissions were generally in favour of the proposed option, and a decision was made to adopt this approach. This has resulted in more prices being collected from the larger pricing centres, particularly Auckland.

## **Pricing frequency**

Prices are collected weekly, monthly, quarterly or annually, depending on the expected frequency of price changes exhibited by the good or service. Weekly surveys are conducted for fresh fruit and vegetables, and motor fuels. Monthly surveys are limited to the following commodities: food, non-food groceries, electricity, gas, tobacco, alcoholic drinks, newspapers, Internet, cellphones, rental cars, and domestic and international air travel. Some items are monitored throughout the quarter, eg telephone call charges. Mortgage interest is also surveyed monthly but has been excluded from the CPI all groups calculations from the June 1999 quarter rebase.

## **Changes in expenditure weights**

The main source of CPI weights is the Household Economic Survey (HES). However, data also comes from a variety of independent sources, including retail trade statistics, the census, building consents, data from the national accounts, and a variety of government and industry sources.

The total estimated expenditure used to create the weights in 2006 was \$69.6 billion, compared with total estimated expenditure in 2002 of \$58.6 billion, an increase of 19 percent. This is due in part to inflation, population growth, growth in real expenditure and change, and improvements in the methods and data sources used to derive the weights.

When 2000/01 HES expenditure estimates were originally published, they were based on a benchmark number of 1,371,000 private households living in permanent dwellings. Prior to publication of the 2003/04 HES expenditure estimates in 2004, it was found that the benchmark number of households used in 2000/01 was understated. Updated 2000/01 HES expenditure estimates were published in 2004. They were based on a revised number of 1,432,000 households. This resulted in the 2000/01 HES expenditure estimates increasing by about 4 percent, on average, across the expenditure classification.

The benchmark number of households for the 2003/04 HES was 1,494,500, 4.3 percent higher than the updated benchmark for 2000/01, and 9.0 percent higher than the original benchmark.

The originally published 2000/01 HES expenditure estimates were used to calculate the 2002 CPI weights. This means that CPI expenditure weights for 2002, which were independently estimated from other sources, were slightly overweighted relative to the weights derived directly from the 2000/01 HES. All things being equal, the independently estimated weights for 2006 have slightly lower relative importance than they did in 2002, as the 2003/04 HES estimates are based on higher population benchmarks.

## **Treatment of fresh fruit and fresh vegetables – removal of seasonal adjustment**

Prior to the June 2006 quarter, fresh fruit and fresh vegetable items that exhibited a seasonal pattern were adjusted to remove the effect of normal seasonal change. This treatment was used to reduce the influence of normal seasonal price fluctuations. However, the treatment did not completely eliminate the effects of seasonal fluctuations if shifts in seasonal patterns occurred.

From the June 2006 quarter onwards, the CPI incorporates seasonally unadjusted prices for fresh fruit and fresh vegetables. This is in line with a recommendation made by the 2004 CPI Revision Advisory Committee.

The ongoing, fully unadjusted CPI is linked at the June 2006 quarter to the previously published CPI, which is partly seasonally adjusted. As such, annual movements calculated over the annual period encompassing the June 2006 quarter will be based on fully unadjusted index numbers for the latest quarter, compared with partly adjusted index numbers for the same quarter of the previous year. However, analytical time series will provide annual movements on a fully unadjusted basis during the year-long transition of the official CPI, during which annual movements will be based on fully unadjusted index numbers for the latest quarter, compared with partly adjusted index numbers for the same quarter of the previous year.

## New elementary aggregate formula

Prior to the review, the CPI used a 'ratio of arithmetic mean prices' (or Dutot) formula to combine surveyed prices at the first (or elementary) stage of aggregation. The Dutot formula is:

$$P_{DU} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N \left(\frac{1}{N}\right) P_i^1}{\sum_{i=1}^M \left(\frac{1}{M}\right) P_i^0}$$

Where:

$P_i^1$  = Price of item  $i$  ( $i=1 \dots N$ ) in period 1

$P_i^0$  = Price of item  $i$  ( $i=1 \dots M$ ) in the base period

In practice, Statistics NZ uses a weighted arithmetic mean formula, with the weights, where available, representing the relative importance of outlet types, such as department stores, to appliance stores.

For the rebased CPI, the Jevons formula will be used to calculate the elementary aggregate indexes for items where outlet substitution is possible (eg for groceries and appliances). The Jevons formula is:

$$P_{JE} = \prod_{n=1}^N \left( \frac{P_n^1}{P_n^0} \right)^{\frac{1}{N}}$$

Where:

$P_n^1$  = Price of item  $n$  ( $n=1 \dots N$ ) in period 1

$P_n^0$  = Price of item  $n$  ( $n=1 \dots N$ ) in the base period

In practice, Statistics NZ uses a weighted geometric mean formula, with the weights, where available, representing the relative importance of outlet types, such as department stores, to appliance stores.

The Jevons formula is used to calculate the elementary aggregate indexes for items where outlet substitution is possible (eg for groceries and appliances). The Dutot formula will continue to be used for other items where outlet substitution is not possible (eg local authority rates), where prices are subsidised and may fall to zero (eg GPs' fees), for fresh fruit and vegetables (as the first stage of aggregation is across both outlets within each region and across weeks within each month), and where it is not currently practical to adopt the Jevons formula.

The Dutot formula assumes that households purchase the same quantities at each surveyed outlet in each period. By comparison, the Jevons formula assumes that households spend the same amount at each surveyed outlet in each period. This implies that increased quantities are purchased from outlets showing lower-than-average relative price change, and decreased quantities from outlets showing higher-than-average price change. Use of the Jevons formula is recommended by the International Labour Office for goods and services where households are able to substitute towards outlets showing lower relative price change.

## **Use of retail transaction data**

For the 2006 CPI review, substantial use was made of retail transaction data, obtained from ACNielsen in New Zealand and from GfK in Australia.

ACNielsen collects details of sales of barcoded products that are scanned at checkout counters in supermarkets up and down the country. Aggregate sales information was obtained for about 375 categories, broken down by quarter, leading manufacturer, leading brand and, in some cases, variety.

GfK collects similar information for a range of small and large appliances sold through most of New Zealand's main appliance retailers and department stores. Information was obtained on the volume and value of sales of about 30 different categories, broken down by feature. For example, the information quantifies the relative importance of colour TVs with standard, LCD and plasma displays.

The ACNielsen and GfK information has been used to help:

- determine the expenditure weights of some goods in the CPI basket
- determine whether expenditure weight adjustments were required to reflect volume changes since 2003/04 and, if so, by how much
- select representative products to survey when price collectors visit retail outlets each month or quarter
- ensure that the mix of brands in the CPI price samples reflect market shares.

Supermarket information relating to the year to June is being obtained once a year from ACNielsen. Appliance information for the years to June 2004, 2005 and 2006, broken down by calendar quarter, has been obtained from GfK.

The ACNielsen and GfK data will also be used on an ongoing basis between the three-yearly reweights to assist with keeping product samples, brand shares and weights (below the class level of the NZHEC classification) up to date.

## **Determining the effect of a specified change in a lower-level index**

As the CPI and Food Price Index (FPI) have been reweighted and re-expressed in the June 2006 quarter, the method used to determine the effect that a specified change in a lower-level index would have on a higher-level index to which it contributes, can be simplified for the September 2006 and subsequent quarters.

The index points effect and percentage contribution on a higher-level index of a specified percentage change in a lower-level index that contributes to the higher-level index can be determined by following these steps:

1. Adjust the lower-level index for the previous period ( $I_{n-1,low}$ ) by the specified percentage change ( $PC_{n,low}$ ) to derive the index number for the current period:

$$I_{n,low} = I_{n-1,low} \times \left(1 + \left(\frac{PC_{n,low}}{100}\right)\right)$$

2. Calculate the index points effect on the higher-level index of the specified change in the lower-level index:

$$PE_{(low\ on\ high)} = \left(\frac{W_{Jun-06,low}}{W_{Jun-06,high}}\right) \times (I_{n,low} - I_{n-1,low})$$

3. Calculate the percentage change in the higher-level index that would be caused by the specified change in the lower-level index:

$$PC_{n,high} = \left(\left(\frac{I_{n-1,high} + PE_{(low\ on\ high)}}{I_{n-1,high}}\right) - 1\right) \times 100$$

**Where:**

*I* : index

*n* : period n, where n is the September 2006 quarter or a subsequent quarter (CPI), or the July 2006 month or a subsequent month (FPI)

*n-1* : (period n)-1

*Jun-06* : June 2006 quarter (CPI) or June 2006 month (FPI)

*low* : lower-level index

*high* : higher-level index

*W* : expenditure weight, expressed as a percentage of the all groups (CPI) or group (FPI) index

*PC* : percentage change

*PE* : index points effect

*low on high* : lower-level index on higher-level index

**Example:**

The effect that a 5.0 percent increase in the petrol index (which has a weight of 5.38 percent in the CPI) from the June 2006 quarter to the September 2006 quarter would have on the all groups CPI index can be calculated as follows:

1. Increase the petrol index for the June 2006 quarter by 5.0 percent to derive the index number for the September 2006 quarter:

$$\begin{aligned}
 I_{\text{Sep-06,low}} &= I_{\text{Jun-06,low}} \times \left(1 + \left(\frac{PC_{\text{Sep-06,low}}}{100}\right)\right) \\
 &= 1000 \times \left(1 + \left(\frac{5}{100}\right)\right) \\
 &= 1050
 \end{aligned}$$

2. Calculate the index points effect on the all groups CPI index of the 5.0 percent increase in the petrol index:

$$\begin{aligned}
 PE_{(\text{low on high})} &= \left(\frac{W_{\text{Jun-06,low}}}{W_{\text{Jun-06,high}}}\right) \times (I_{\text{Sep-06,low}} - I_{\text{Jun-06,low}}) \\
 &= \left(\frac{5.38}{100}\right) \times (1050 - 1000) \\
 &= 2.69 \text{ index points.}
 \end{aligned}$$

3. Calculate the percentage change in the all groups CPI index that would be caused by a 5.0 percent change in the petrol index:

$$\begin{aligned}
 PC_{\text{Sep-06,high}} &= \left(\left(\frac{I_{\text{Jun-06,high}} + PE_{(\text{low on high})}}{I_{\text{Jun-06,high}}}\right) - 1\right) \times 100 \\
 &= \left(\left(\frac{1000 + 2.69}{1000}\right) - 1\right) \times 100 \\
 &= 0.3 \text{ percent.}
 \end{aligned}$$

## Treatment of selected items

### Excise duty increase for cigarettes and tobacco

The implementation dates of the annual indexation of excise duty on cigarettes and tobacco now takes place on 1 January. Previously, adjustments took effect on 1 December.

The excise duty on cigarettes and tobacco increased by 1.887 percent on 1 January 2008 (not 1 December 2007, as reported in the December 2007 quarter release). The later implementation dates mean that the impact on retail prices will be fully (or nearly fully) shown in the CPI in the March 2008 quarter, rather than being spread over two quarters. Whether increases are fully shown in one quarter will, however, depend on the timing of price increases in stores and the timing of price collection by Statistics New Zealand staff.

## **Treatment of introduction of free early childhood education and optional charges requested for early childhood education**

Some of the early childhood education providers that offer free early childhood education for three- and four-year-old children introduced optional charges for existing services that were previously included in the standard fee. Of the new optional charges that were reported by CPI survey respondents for the December 2007 quarter, some were not shown in the index until the March 2008 quarter. Had the new optional charges reported in the December 2007 quarter been fully reflected in that quarter, early childhood education would have recorded an increase of 0.3 percent in the March 2008 quarter. The late inclusion of some of the newly reported optional charges had no impact on the all groups CPI rounded index numbers for the December 2007 quarter or the March 2008 quarter.

## **Fuel discount schemes**

New fuel discount schemes, related to spending at supermarkets and in-store at petrol stations, were launched in late October, November and December 2006. These new schemes and existing supermarket-related fuel discount schemes were incorporated into the CPI for the first time in the December 2006 quarter. Information on the volume and value of discounts attributable to private households is being used to adjust surveyed petrol and diesel pump prices. Further schemes, related to spending at other types of retail outlets, were added to the CPI in the March 2007 quarter.

## **Method of aggregating monthly collected prices from the monthly level to the quarterly level**

Prices are collected monthly for the food group and a number of non-food items in the CPI, including electricity, cigarettes and tobacco, alcoholic drinks and air travel. These prices are averaged over the quarter for inclusion in the CPI.

The method for calculating these averages is to obtain monthly regional average prices for the item by outlet-weighting the prices collected at different outlets within each region. The monthly regional average prices are used to calculate quarterly regional average prices by weighting each monthly regional average price by the number of days in the month in which it was collected. This is called day weighting. All the regions are aggregated to obtain the New Zealand quarterly index by weighting together regional price movements from the base (ie June 2006) quarter to the current quarter, using the regional population weights.

Petrol and diesel prices are collected weekly, usually on Fridays. The CPI petrol price index measures price changes of 91 octane petrol and 95/98 octane petrol. Within each CPI region, an average price per 10 litres of each fuel is calculated from the prices surveyed each week from individual service stations. Monthly regional average prices for each fuel are then calculated as the simple averages of the averages for the weeks within each month. Quarterly regional average prices for each fuel are then calculated as the day-weighted averages of the averages for the three months within the quarter. Regional price movements from the base (ie June 2006) quarter to the current quarter are then weighted by the regional population-weighted share of the national expenditure weight, to calculate the national petrol and diesel price indexes for the current quarter.

Since petrol and diesel prices are collected either 12 or 13 times within each quarter, a price change that occurs after the first price collection of a quarter is reflected only partly in that quarter, with the remainder being reflected in the following quarter. This is also the case for commodities that are priced monthly, such as cigarettes and tobacco.

## **Distribution of item-level index movements**

The Distribution of Item-level Index Movements table in the Commentary section of this release gives additional information on the distribution of price movements recorded for the current quarter's CPI. The analytical statistics in the table give an indication of how widespread price changes are, and their relative magnitude when compared with previous quarters.

The weighted average price increase and decrease uses unrounded index numbers for the previous and current periods to calculate item-level price movements from the previous period, and these are weighted using previous period expenditure weights. The previous period expenditure weight for an item is calculated by updating base period expenditure weights by the price change for the item from the base period to the previous period.

Movements based on unrounded index numbers are used to determine whether items have increased, showed no change or decreased in price. Previous period expenditure weights are used to indicate the proportion of the expenditure weight that has increased, showed no change or decreased.

## **Standard and non-standard series**

CPI series that contribute to the hierarchical structure of the overall CPI are known as standard series. For example, the clothing index, combined with the footwear index, contributes to the clothing and footwear index, which in turn contributes to the all groups index. Components of this pyramid-like structure are known as standard index series. In addition, a selection of non-standard series is published in the Hot Off The Press release tables, and additional series are publicly available on INFOS.

Examples of these non-standard series include:

- All groups CPI less food
- All groups CPI plus interest
- Interest.

The series references for the CPI and FPI INFOS groups (CPIQ and CPIM) have changed as a result of the new NZHEC expenditure classification being adopted. The CPIQ and CPIM series references on INFOS now include the new classification category numbers and are expressed on bases of the June 2006 month or quarter (=1000).

The CPI is published at the following levels: group, subgroup and class, at the national level.

All series that were published under the old classification and on a base of the June 1999 month or quarter (=1000) have had changes to their references. The old references that began with CPIM or CPIQ have been relabelled CPYM or CPYQ, respectively. The CPYM and CPYQ series are being ceased at the June 2006 month or quarter, but will remain available on INFOS for those who wish to refer to series on the old expression base.

The new CPIQ series, expressed on a base of the June 2006 quarter (=1000), are given in the tables attached to these Technical notes.

## **Availability of regional indexes**

The previously published 15 region series will not be published after the June 2006 quarter. These series are not considered 'fit for purpose', as price movements from national or broad region price collection have been used in their compilation.

However, in their stead, series for five broad regions will be produced: Auckland, Wellington, Canterbury (encompasses Christchurch and Timaru), Rest of North Island and Rest of South Island. These series are considered to be fit for purpose and will make less significant use of national pricing indicators in their compilation. The 15 region series will continue to be calculated and are available only upon request.

## **Tradable and non-tradable non-standard series**

The tradable and non-tradable component series that appear in Table 1 allow users to decompose CPI goods and services into two components: one contains goods and services that are imported or in competition with foreign goods, either in domestic or foreign markets (tradables); and the other contains goods and services that face no foreign competition (non-tradables). Movements in the tradables component (tradable inflation) demonstrate how international price movements and exchange rates are impacting on movements in consumer prices. The non-tradables component shows how domestic demand and supply conditions are affecting consumer prices.

The June 2006 quarter expenditure weight of the tradables component is 46.32 percent, compared with 44.42 percent in 2002. The June 2006 quarter weight of non-tradables is 53.68 percent, compared with 55.58 percent in 2002.

The reduced weight for non-tradables in part reflects lower weights for purchase of housing and insurance caused by methodology or estimation changes. Strong growth in petrol prices also contributed to tradables gaining a greater share of the weight.

The June 2006 quarter tradable/non-tradable weights at the group, subgroup and class levels of the NZHEC classification are included in the supplementary tables with the web version of the CPI review information paper: *Consumers Price Index Tradable and Non-tradable Series – Information Paper* available on the Statistics New Zealand website. This contains detailed information regarding the methodology.

## Trend measures of price-level change

The CPI captures the broad pattern of price change over the long term, but over shorter horizons the trend in price change may be masked by one-off events. In particular, the CPI:

- can be subject to temporary influences, such as adverse climatic conditions affecting the prices of fresh fruit and vegetables
- is influenced by other supply disturbances, which, while they affect the cost of living, do not directly affect the underlying inflationary pressures in the economy. For example, supply disturbances for petrol or electricity can have a large impact on the CPI in the short term, and
- some items are subject to seasonality, such as international air fares and rental car hire, which may induce volatile short-term price behaviour.

In order to provide an indication of the trend in the CPI over time, alternative statistics, sometimes known as trend measures of price-level change, are calculated in an attempt to isolate the more persistent component of general price-level changes.

Several series are constructed to give a good guide to the trend in price-level change (5, 10, 15, 20, 25 and 30 percent trims), and a weighted median measure (the 50th percentile) is produced. Four other weighted percentile measures are also available (the 10th, 25th, 75th and 90th weighted percentiles), primarily to highlight the distribution of price changes within a particular time period. Where the distribution of price movements is positively skewed, the weighted median movement will tend to lie below the CPI movement. Where the distribution of price movements is negatively skewed, the weighted median movement will tend to lie above the CPI movement.

For detailed information regarding the methodology and compilation of trimmed means and weighted medians, an information paper titled *Trend Measures of Price Level Changes: Trimmed Means and Weighted Medians* is available electronically on the Statistics NZ website.

## Annual trend measures spanning a reweighting period

When the CPI is reweighted, as happened at the June 2002 quarter and again at the June 2006 quarter, there is a transition period during which the percentage changes used to calculate the annual trimmed mean and weighted percentile measures span the price reference period. The annual measures are calculated by directly weighting annual percentage changes, rather than by aggregating the four relevant quarterly percentage changes.

As the June 2006 quarter reweight resulted in some significant relative changes in expenditure weights (such as for petrol and the purchase of new housing), Statistics NZ made two sets of annual trimmed mean and weighted percentile measures available during the transition across the June 2006 quarter reweight. The two sets of figures were based on:

- 'price-updated' June 2002 quarter expenditure weights
- 'price-backdated' June 2006 quarter expenditure weights.

Two sets of figures were released for the September 2006, December 2006 and March 2007 quarters. From the June 2007 quarter onwards, only the June 2006 quarter expenditure weights will be used.

Statistics NZ considers that the transition across the June 2006 quarter reweight has resulted in a structural break in the annual trimmed mean and weighted percentile time series. For this reason, the annual time series based on the June 2002 quarter expenditure weights, and on the June 2006 quarter expenditure weights, will be presented as separate time series, with an overlap period of three quarters. The annual series based on the June 2002 quarter expenditure weights cease at the March 2007 quarter. The annual series based on the June 2006 quarter expenditure weights commence with figures for the September 2006 quarter and will be updated on an ongoing basis.

An information paper titled *Transition across reweights for trimmed means and weighted percentiles* is available electronically on the Statistics NZ website.

## **Central and local government charges non-standard series**

The central and local government charges index, which appears in Tables 3.01, 3.02 and 3.03, made up 9.53 percent of the CPI in the June 2006 quarter. It includes items such as Housing NZ and local authority rentals, land transfer registration fee, local authority rates, water supply and part of refuse disposal, electricity, prescription charges and oral contraception, general practitioner fees, vehicle relicensing fees, road user charges, driver licensing fees, postage, State and integrated school donations and fees, university and polytechnic fees, and cheque duty.

However, the current composition of the “Central and Local Government Charges” series is being reviewed. Users are invited to consult with Statistics New Zealand on the use they make of the current series. Upon completion of the review, the series will either be continued under its existing composition or new series of indexes will be produced to replace it.

## **Goods and services non-standard series**

The goods and services component series that appear in Tables 3.01, 3.02 and 3.03 allow users to decompose CPI into its goods and services components, respectively. The goods component made up 62.90 percent, while the services component 37.10 percent, in the June 2006 quarter.

The goods component comprises: the food group (except restaurant meals); alcoholic beverages and tobacco group; clothing and footwear group (except clothing services); purchase of new housing, property maintenance materials, water supply, household energy, household contents and services group (except repair and hire of household appliances, hire of major tools and equipment, and other household services); medical products, appliances and equipment; dentures; purchase of vehicles, vehicle parts and accessories; petrol, other vehicle fuels and lubricants; telecommunication equipment; recreation and culture group (except recreational and cultural services, accommodation services and package holidays); and the miscellaneous goods and services group (except hairdressing and personal grooming services, jewellery and watch repair, insurance, credit services and other miscellaneous services). The services component comprises all items not in the goods component.

## Points effect tables

Tables 8.01 and 8.02 list selected group, subgroup, and class points effects and percentage changes from the previous quarter and from the same quarter of the previous year. These tables have been included to provide a broader perspective of the categories contributing to the movement in the CPI. The categories listed in the table are for the group, subgroup and class levels of the index. In cases where there is only one class within a subgroup, the class is omitted to avoid unnecessary duplication.

## Average retail prices in the CPI

Included in this Hot Off The Press is a selection of average retail prices for the current and previous quarter. The weighted average prices will be calculated by applying index movements to weighted average prices for the June 2006 quarter CPI. They are not statistically accurate measures of average transaction price levels, but do provide a reliable indicator of percentage changes in prices.

As part of the CPI review, the selection of items appearing in the tables has been reviewed, and the items have been grouped under their corresponding group headings.

With the adoption of the Jevons elementary aggregate formula as part of the current review, the average prices in these tables will be calculated differently for some items. For some items, a weighted arithmetic mean price is calculated for each of the 15 pricing centres. The weights reflect the relative importance of sampled outlets. These regional arithmetic mean prices are then weighted by the population weights assigned to pricing centres (see Table 6) to calculate a national weighted arithmetic mean price. For other items, a weighted geometric mean price is calculated for each of the pricing centres. The weights reflect the relative importance of sampled outlets. These regional geometric mean prices are then weighted by the pricing centre population weights to calculate a national mean price using a weighted arithmetic mean formula.

For any given set of prices, a geometric mean price is less than or equal to an arithmetic mean price. This means that the June 2006 quarter average prices for items where the Dutot formula is adopted will in many cases be lower than those that appeared in the June 2006 quarter CPI Hot Off The Press. Other factors that will cause the new quarter average prices to differ from the previously published ones include:

- the sample of retail outlets has been updated
- the relative importance of sampled outlet types (eg department stores and appliance stores) has been updated
- the mix of surveyed brands, varieties and sizes has been updated
- the reference size in the 'unit' column of the tables has changed for some items.

## International comparisons of consumer price indexes

To provide a better basis for international comparisons, the Seventeenth International Conference of Labour Statisticians adopted a resolution that called for countries to "if possible, compile and provide for dissemination to the international community an index that excludes housing and financial services" in addition to the all items index. Table 4 presents the CPI less housing and household utilities group and credit services class series. Data for other international statistics offices is calculated by the Australian Bureau of Statistics from information supplied by the source country.

## More information

For more information, follow the [link](#) from the Technical notes of this release on the Statistics New Zealand website.

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### Next release ...

*Consumers Price Index: June 2008 quarter* will be released on 15 July 2008.

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## Tables

The following tables can be downloaded from the Statistics New Zealand website in Excel format. If you do not have access to Excel, you may use the [Excel file viewer](#) to view, print and export the contents of the file.

### List of tables

1. Consumers price index, tradables, non-tradables and all groups – index numbers and percentage changes
- 2.01. Consumers price index, groups and subgroups – index numbers
- 2.02. Consumers price index, groups and subgroups, percentage change from previous quarter
- 2.03. Consumers price index, groups and subgroups, percentage change from same quarter of previous year
- 3.01. Consumers price index, selected groupings – index numbers
- 3.02. Consumers price index, selected groupings, percentage change from previous quarter
- 3.03. Consumers price index, selected groupings, percentage change from same quarter of previous year
4. International comparisons of consumer price indexes, excluding housing and household utilities group and credit services class – index numbers and percentage changes
5. Consumers price index, weighted average retail prices of selected items
6. Consumers price index expenditure weights, by group
7. Consumers price index population weights, by region
- 8.01. Consumers price index, groups, subgroups and classes, points effect and percentage change from previous quarter
- 8.02. Consumers price index, groups, subgroups and classes, points effect and percentage change from same quarter of previous year
9. Consumers price index, expenditure weights, groups, subgroups and classes
10. Consumers price index, COICOP divisions – index numbers and percentage changes

### Supplementary tables

The following tables can be downloaded from the Statistics New Zealand website in Excel format. If you do not have access to Excel, you may use the Excel file viewer to view, print and export the contents of the file.

### List of tables

1. Consumers price index, trimmed means and all groups
2. Consumers price index, weighted percentiles and all groups

**Consumers Price Index: March 2008 quarter**

Table 1

**Consumers Price Index**

*Tradables, non-tradables and all groups - index numbers (unrounded) and percentage changes*<sup>(1)(2)</sup>

Base: June 2006 quarter (=1000)

	Tradables <sup>(3)(4)</sup>				Non-tradables <sup>(5)</sup>			All groups <sup>(3)</sup>		
	Index	Percentage change		Index	Percentage change		Index	Percentage change		
		From previous quarter	From same quarter of previous year		From previous quarter	From same quarter of previous year		From previous quarter	From same quarter of previous year	
<i>Series ref: CPIQ</i>	<i>SE9NS6000</i>				<i>SE9NS6500</i>			<i>SE9A</i>		
<b>Quarter</b>										
2000 Mar	903	0.5	..	800	0.8	..	843	0.7	1.5	
Jun	910	0.7	1.6	806	0.7	2.3	849	0.7	2.0	
Sep	924	1.6	3.2	816	1.3	2.9	860	1.4	3.0	
Dec	940	1.7	4.6	821	0.7	3.5	870	1.2	4.0	
2001 Mar	938	-0.2	3.9	820	-0.1	2.6	869	-0.2	3.1	
Jun	953	1.5	4.7	823	0.3	2.2	876	0.9	3.2	
Sep	957	0.5	3.6	828	0.7	1.5	881	0.6	2.4	
Dec	960	0.3	2.1	834	0.7	1.5	886	0.6	1.8	
2002 Mar	958	-0.2	2.1	844	1.2	2.9	891	0.6	2.6	
Jun	973	1.6	2.2	849	0.6	3.2	900	1.0	2.8	
Sep	970	-0.3	1.4	857	1.0	3.5	904	0.5	2.6	
Dec	975	0.5	1.6	865	0.9	3.8	910	0.6	2.7	
2003 Mar	972	-0.3	1.5	872	0.8	3.4	913	0.4	2.5	
Jun	962	-1.0	-1.1	880	0.8	3.6	913	0.0	1.5	
Sep	956	-0.7	-1.5	890	1.2	3.8	918	0.5	1.5	
Dec	955	-0.1	-2.0	902	1.3	4.2	924	0.7	1.6	
2004 Mar	950	-0.6	-2.3	912	1.1	4.5	928	0.4	1.5	
Jun	956	0.7	-0.7	920	0.9	4.7	935	0.8	2.4	
Sep	956	0.0	0.0	930	1.0	4.5	941	0.6	2.5	
Dec	962	0.7	0.7	940	1.1	4.3	949	0.9	2.7	
2005 Mar	958	-0.5	0.8	950	1.1	4.2	953	0.4	2.8	
Jun	963	0.6	0.7	961	1.1	4.4	962	0.9	2.8	
Sep	974	1.1	1.9	971	1.1	4.4	973	1.1	3.4	
Dec	979	0.5	1.7	980	1.0	4.3	979	0.7	3.2	
2006 Mar	978	-0.1	2.1	990	1.0	4.1	985	0.6	3.3	
Jun	1000	2.3	3.8	1000	1.0	4.1	1000	1.5	4.0	
Sep	1003	0.3	3.0	1010	1.0	4.0	1007	0.7	3.5	
Dec	990	-1.3	1.2	1018	0.8	3.8	1005	-0.2	2.6	
2007 Mar	986	-0.4	0.9	1030	1.2	4.1	1010	0.5	2.5	
Jun	995	0.9	-0.5	1041	1.1	4.1	1020	1.0	2.0	
Sep	1000	0.5	-0.3	1047	0.6	3.7	1025	0.5	1.8	
Dec	1018	1.8	2.8	1054	0.7	3.5	1037	1.2	3.2	
2008 Mar	1020	0.2	3.4	1066	1.1	3.5	1044	0.7	3.4	

(1) Percentage changes are calculated from index numbers that are not rounded until the June 2006 quarter.

(2) Five decimal places have been retained prior to the June 2006 quarter to preserve percentage changes that were originally published on earlier expression bases.

(3) From the September 2006 quarter, prices for fresh fruit and vegetables are not seasonally adjusted. They were seasonally adjusted until the June 2006 quarter.

(4) Tradables are goods and services that are imported or that are in competition with foreign goods and services either in domestic or foreign markets.

(5) Non-tradables are goods and services that do not face foreign competition.

**Symbol:**

.. figures not available

Table 2.01

**Consumers Price Index**  
**Groups and subgroups – index numbers**  
 Base: June 2006 quarter (=1000)

Group or subgroup	Series ref. CPIQ	Quarter				
		2007				2008
		Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	Mar
<b>Food group<sup>(1)</sup></b>	SE901	1036	1041	1054	1070	1089
Fruit and vegetables	SE9011	1097	1093	1140	1095	1084
Meat, poultry and fish	SE9012	1070	1090	1087	1110	1108
Grocery food	SE9013	1008	1006	1023	1058	1096
Non-alcoholic beverages	SE9014	1026	1034	1026	1042	1076
Restaurant meals and ready-to-eat food	SE9015	1028	1038	1048	1058	1072
<b>Alcoholic beverages and tobacco group</b>	SE902	1031	1034	1052	1055	1067
Alcoholic beverages	SE9021	1026	1031	1056	1061	1063
Cigarettes and tobacco	SE9022	1040	1041	1042	1043	1078
<b>Clothing and footwear group</b>	SE903	992	1001	996	1001	991
Clothing	SE9031	996	1004	1000	1006	998
Footwear	SE9032	971	982	976	977	959
<b>Housing and household utilities group</b>	SE904	1039	1052	1071	1081	1092
Actual rentals for housing	SE9041	1020	1026	1034	1039	1051
Home ownership	SE9042	1044	1061	1080	1094	1104
Property maintenance	SE9043	1039	1051	1067	1080	1093
Property rates and related services	SE9044	1078	1079	1146	1152	1154
Household energy	SE9045	1043	1070	1079	1094	1108
<b>Household contents and services group</b>	SE905	999	1011	1008	1009	1001
Furniture, furnishings and floor coverings	SE9051	1004	1022	1019	1006	997
Household textiles	SE9052	985	978	984	987	991
Household appliances	SE9053	1000	1003	1004	1007	994
Glassware, tableware and household utensils	SE9054	967	991	989	1003	966
Tools and equipment for house and garden	SE9055	1008	1018	1019	1019	1018
Other household supplies and services	SE9056	1005	1021	1007	1030	1028
<b>Health group</b>	SE906	1005	1024	992	996	1000
Medical products, appliances and equipment	SE9061	982	988	883	881	882
Out-patient services	SE9062	1002	1027	1005	1012	1016
Hospital services	SE9063	1058	1067	1108	1113	1117
<b>Transport group</b>	SE907	947	970	974	1005	1013
Purchase of vehicles	SE9071	976	982	961	973	976
Private transport supplies and services	SE9072	907	950	964	1000	1030
Passenger transport services	SE9073	1027	1015	1031	1085	1026
<b>Communication group</b>	SE908	998	1002	999	994	993
Postal services	SE9081	1016	1028	1049	1049	1049
Telecommunication equipment	SE9082	861	803	747	703	660
Telecommunication services	SE9083	1004	1011	1009	1006	1006
<b>Recreation and culture group</b>	SE909	1007	999	1002	1012	1000
Audio-visual and computing equipment	SE9091	905	875	841	798	769
Major recreational and cultural equipment	SE9092	1019	1025	1034	1050	1052
Other recreational equipment and supplies	SE9093	1005	1009	1001	1004	1002
Recreational and cultural services	SE9094	1016	1019	1033	1032	1037
Newspapers, books and stationery	SE9095	1022	1057	1080	1096	1068
Accommodation services	SE9096	1068	1039	1037	1081	1113
Package holidays	SE9097	1117	1018	1062	1194	1132
<b>Education group</b>	SE910	1034	1032	978	975	1013
Early childhood education	SE9101	1011	995	673	653	660
Primary and secondary education	SE9102	1072	1072	1072	1072	1133
Tertiary and other post-school education	SE9103	1017	1017	1017	1017	1050
<b>Miscellaneous goods and services group</b>	SE911	1025	1033	1041	1045	1055
Personal care	SE9111	1011	1014	1015	1021	1026
Personal effects	SE9113	1068	1071	1085	1094	1105
Insurance	SE9114	1011	1012	1014	1010	1040
Credit services	SE9115	988	982	987	986	992
Other miscellaneous services	SE9116	1052	1082	1101	1108	1109
<b>All groups<sup>(1)</sup></b>	SE9A	1010	1020	1025	1037	1044

(1) From the September 2006 quarter, prices for fresh fruit and vegetables are not seasonally adjusted. They were seasonally adjusted until the June 2006 quarter.

Table 2.02

Group or subgroup	Quarter				
	2007				2008
	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	Mar
<b>Food group<sup>(2)</sup></b>	1.1	0.5	1.2	1.5	1.8
Fruit and vegetables	-1.3	-0.4	4.3	-3.9	-1.0
Meat, poultry and fish	2.2	1.9	-0.3	2.1	-0.2
Grocery food	1.0	-0.2	1.7	3.4	3.6
Non-alcoholic beverages	2.9	0.8	-0.8	1.6	3.3
Restaurant meals and ready-to-eat food	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.3
<b>Alcoholic beverages and tobacco group</b>	1.0	0.3	1.7	0.3	1.1
Alcoholic beverages	0.1	0.5	2.4	0.5	0.2
Cigarettes and tobacco	2.8	0.1	0.1	0.1	3.4
<b>Clothing and footwear group</b>	-0.5	0.9	-0.5	0.5	-1.0
Clothing	-0.4	0.8	-0.4	0.6	-0.8
Footwear	-1.5	1.1	-0.6	0.1	-1.8
<b>Housing and household utilities group</b>	1.1	1.3	1.8	0.9	1.0
Actual rentals for housing	1.0	0.6	0.8	0.5	1.2
Home ownership	1.3	1.6	1.8	1.3	0.9
Property maintenance	1.5	1.2	1.5	1.2	1.2
Property rates and related services	0.0	0.1	6.2	0.5	0.2
Household energy	1.3	2.6	0.8	1.4	1.3
<b>Household contents and services group</b>	-1.0	1.2	-0.3	0.1	-0.8
Furniture, furnishings and floor coverings	-1.2	1.8	-0.3	-1.3	-0.9
Household textiles	0.5	-0.7	0.6	0.3	0.4
Household appliances	-0.3	0.3	0.1	0.3	-1.3
Glassware, tableware and household utensils	-3.8	2.5	-0.2	1.4	-3.7
Tools and equipment for house and garden	0.4	1.0	0.1	0.0	-0.1
Other household supplies and services	-1.7	1.6	-1.4	2.3	-0.2
<b>Health group</b>	1.1	1.9	-3.1	0.4	0.4
Medical products, appliances and equipment	0.8	0.6	-10.6	-0.2	0.1
Out-patient services	1.3	2.5	-2.1	0.7	0.4
Hospital services	0.4	0.9	3.8	0.5	0.4
<b>Transport group</b>	-0.2	2.4	0.4	3.2	0.8
Purchase of vehicles	0.4	0.6	-2.1	1.2	0.3
Private transport supplies and services	0.8	4.7	1.5	3.7	3.0
Passenger transport services	-4.2	-1.2	1.6	5.2	-5.4
<b>Communication group</b>	0.1	0.4	-0.3	-0.5	-0.1
Postal services	0.2	1.2	2.0	0.0	0.0
Telecommunication equipment	-6.2	-6.7	-7.0	-5.9	-6.1
Telecommunication services	0.4	0.7	-0.2	-0.3	0.0
<b>Recreation and culture group</b>	-0.7	-0.8	0.3	1.0	-1.2
Audio-visual and computing equipment	-4.1	-3.3	-3.9	-5.1	-3.6
Major recreational and cultural equipment	0.8	0.6	0.9	1.5	0.2
Other recreational equipment and supplies	-0.7	0.4	-0.8	0.3	-0.2
Recreational and cultural services	0.9	0.3	1.4	-0.1	0.5
Newspapers, books and stationery	-2.0	3.4	2.2	1.5	-2.6
Accommodation services	2.1	-2.7	-0.2	4.2	3.0
Package holidays	-0.2	-8.9	4.3	12.4	-5.2
<b>Education group</b>	3.4	-0.2	-5.2	-0.3	3.9
Early childhood education	0.9	-1.6	-32.4	-3.0	1.1
Primary and secondary education	7.2	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.7
Tertiary and other post-school education	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.2
<b>Miscellaneous goods and services group</b>	1.2	0.8	0.8	0.4	1.0
Personal care	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.6	0.5
Personal effects	2.8	0.3	1.3	0.8	1.0
Insurance	0.4	0.1	0.2	-0.4	3.0
Credit services	-0.6	-0.6	0.5	-0.1	0.6
Other miscellaneous services	2.4	2.9	1.8	0.6	0.1
<b>All groups<sup>(2)</sup></b>	0.5	1.0	0.5	1.2	0.7

(1) Percentage changes are calculated from index numbers that, in some cases, are not rounded until the June 2006 quarter.

(2) From the September 2006 quarter, prices for fresh fruit and vegetables are not seasonally adjusted. They were seasonally adjusted until the June 2006 quarter.

Table 2.03

**Consumers Price Index**  
**Groups and subgroups**  
 Percentage change from same quarter of previous year<sup>(1)</sup>

Group or subgroup	Quarter				
	2007				2008
	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	Mar
<b>Food group<sup>(2)</sup></b>	4.0	4.1	3.3	4.4	5.1
Fruit and vegetables	17.1	9.3	0.8	-1.4	-1.2
Meat, poultry and fish	4.7	9.0	7.8	6.0	3.6
Grocery food	0.4	0.6	2.5	6.0	8.7
Non-alcoholic beverages	2.8	3.4	2.3	4.5	4.9
Restaurant meals and ready-to-eat food	3.4	3.8	3.7	3.9	4.3
<b>Alcoholic beverages and tobacco group</b>	3.6	3.4	3.5	3.3	3.5
Alcoholic beverages	3.2	3.1	3.2	3.5	3.6
Cigarettes and tobacco	4.1	4.1	4.2	3.1	3.7
<b>Clothing and footwear group</b>	-0.5	0.1	0.3	0.4	-0.1
Clothing	0.2	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.2
Footwear	-3.8	-1.8	-1.0	-0.9	-1.2
<b>Housing and household utilities group</b>	5.3	5.2	5.1	5.2	5.1
Actual rentals for housing	3.0	2.6	3.1	2.9	3.0
Home ownership	5.8	6.1	5.8	6.1	5.7
Property maintenance	5.3	5.1	5.0	5.5	5.2
Property rates and related services	7.8	7.9	7.3	6.9	7.1
Household energy	7.3	7.0	6.1	6.2	6.2
<b>Household contents and services group</b>	0.2	1.1	-0.1	0.0	0.2
Furniture, furnishings and floor coverings	0.6	2.2	-0.6	-1.0	-0.7
Household textiles	-0.2	-2.2	-0.3	0.7	0.6
Household appliances	0.3	0.3	0.9	0.4	-0.6
Glassware, tableware and household utensils	-3.1	-0.9	-2.0	-0.2	-0.1
Tools and equipment for house and garden	1.2	1.8	1.5	1.5	1.0
Other household supplies and services	0.4	2.1	-0.1	0.8	2.3
<b>Health group</b>	1.5	2.4	0.0	0.2	-0.5
Medical products, appliances and equipment	-2.8	-1.2	-11.7	-9.5	-10.2
Out-patient services	1.6	2.7	2.3	2.3	1.4
Hospital services	6.2	6.7	7.3	5.6	5.6
<b>Transport group</b>	0.4	-3.0	-1.4	5.9	7.0
Purchase of vehicles	-1.3	-1.8	-0.2	0.1	0.0
Private transport supplies and services	-1.3	-5.0	-3.0	11.1	13.6
Passenger transport services	8.2	1.5	1.5	1.2	-0.1
<b>Communication group</b>	1.6	0.2	0.1	-0.3	-0.5
Postal services	1.6	2.8	4.9	3.5	3.2
Telecommunication equipment	-16.4	-19.7	-22.3	-23.4	-23.3
Telecommunication services	2.3	1.1	0.9	0.6	0.2
<b>Recreation and culture group</b>	0.8	-0.1	0.3	-0.2	-0.7
Audio-visual and computing equipment	-10.0	-12.5	-13.2	-15.5	-15.0
Major recreational and cultural equipment	1.1	2.5	2.8	3.9	3.2
Other recreational equipment and supplies	0.7	0.9	0.5	-0.8	-0.3
Recreational and cultural services	3.4	1.9	3.3	2.5	2.1
Newspapers, books and stationery	2.4	5.7	5.4	5.1	4.5
Accommodation services	2.5	3.9	2.8	3.3	4.2
Package holidays	..	1.8	4.8	6.7	1.3
<b>Education group</b>	4.2	3.2	-2.4	-2.5	-2.0
Early childhood education	4.0	-0.5	-33.4	-34.8	-34.7
Primary and secondary education	7.2	7.2	7.2	7.2	5.7
Tertiary and other post-school education	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	3.2
<b>Miscellaneous goods and services group</b>	3.3	3.3	3.3	3.2	2.9
Personal care	2.1	1.4	1.2	1.4	1.5
Personal effects	10.0	7.1	5.9	5.3	3.5
Insurance	1.5	1.2	0.8	0.3	2.9
Credit services	-1.2	-1.8	-1.3	-0.8	0.4
Other miscellaneous services	6.2	8.2	8.6	7.9	5.4
<b>All groups<sup>(2)</sup></b>	2.5	2.0	1.8	3.2	3.4

(1) Percentage changes are calculated from index numbers that, in some cases, are not rounded until the June 2006 quarter.

(2) From the September 2006 quarter, prices for fresh fruit and vegetables are not seasonally adjusted. They were seasonally adjusted until the June 2006 quarter.

**Symbol:**

.. figures not available

**Consumers Price Index: March 2008 quarter**

Table 3.01

**Consumers Price Index**  
*Selected groupings – index numbers*  
 Base: June 2006 quarter (=1000)

Selected grouping	Series ref: CPIQ	Quarter					2008 Mar
		2007					
		Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec		
All groups <sup>(1)</sup>	SE9A	1010	1020	1025	1037	1044	
All groups – seasonally unadjusted	SE9NS1160	1010	1020	1025	1037	1044	
<b>All groups less selected groups/classes<sup>(1)</sup></b>							
All groups less food group	SE9NS1200	1004	1015	1019	1030	1035	
All groups less alcoholic beverages and tobacco group	SE9NS1210	1008	1018	1023	1036	1043	
All groups less clothing and footwear group	SE9NS1220	1011	1021	1027	1039	1047	
All groups less housing and household utilities group	SE9NS1230	1003	1012	1014	1026	1033	
All groups less household contents and services group	SE9NS1240	1011	1020	1026	1039	1047	
All groups less health group	SE9NS1250	1010	1019	1027	1039	1047	
All groups less transport group	SE9NS1260	1023	1030	1036	1044	1051	
All groups less communication group	SE9NS1270	1010	1020	1026	1039	1046	
All groups less recreation and culture group	SE9NS1280	1010	1022	1028	1040	1050	
All groups less education group	SE9NS1290	1009	1019	1026	1039	1045	
All groups less miscellaneous goods and services group	SE9NS1300	1009	1019	1024	1037	1044	
All groups less credit services class	SE9NS1080	1010	1020	1026	1038	1045	
All groups less purchase of housing class	SE9NS1400	1008	1018	1023	1034	1042	
<b>Other groupings<sup>(1)</sup></b>							
All groups less central and local government charges <sup>(2)</sup>	SE9NS1120	1009	1018	1025	1037	1044	
Central and local government charges <sup>(2)</sup>	SE9NS3270	1020	1033	1029	1036	1045	
All groups – goods component <sup>(3)</sup>	SE9NS1130	1000	1013	1017	1030	1039	
All groups – services component <sup>(4)</sup>	SE9NS1140	1027	1031	1039	1050	1054	
All groups plus interest	SE9NS1150	1009	1019	1027	1039	1047	

(1) From the September 2006 quarter, prices for fresh fruit and vegetables are not seasonally adjusted. They were seasonally adjusted until the June 2006 quarter.

(2) The composition of central and local government charges is further explained in the Technical notes of this release.

(3) The composition of goods is further explained in the Technical notes of this release.

(4) Services comprises all items not included in goods.

Table 3.02

**Consumers Price Index**  
*Selected groupings*  
Percentage change from previous quarter<sup>(1)</sup>

Selected grouping	Quarter				
	2007				2008
	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	Mar
All groups <sup>(2)</sup>	0.5	1.0	0.5	1.2	0.7
All groups – seasonally unadjusted	0.5	1.0	0.5	1.2	0.7
<b>All groups less selected groups/classes<sup>(2)</sup></b>					
All groups less food group	0.3	1.1	0.4	1.1	0.5
All groups less alcoholic beverages and tobacco group	0.4	1.0	0.5	1.3	0.7
All groups less clothing and footwear group	0.5	1.0	0.6	1.2	0.8
All groups less housing and household utilities group	0.4	0.9	0.2	1.2	0.7
All groups less household contents and services group	0.6	0.9	0.6	1.3	0.8
All groups less health group	0.4	0.9	0.8	1.2	0.8
All groups less transport group	0.6	0.7	0.6	0.8	0.7
All groups less communication group	0.5	1.0	0.6	1.3	0.7
All groups less recreation and culture group	0.6	1.2	0.6	1.2	1.0
All groups less education group	0.4	1.0	0.7	1.3	0.6
All groups less miscellaneous goods and services group	0.5	1.0	0.5	1.3	0.7
All groups less credit services class	0.5	1.0	0.6	1.2	0.7
All groups less purchase of housing class	0.4	1.0	0.5	1.1	0.8
<b>Other groupings<sup>(2)</sup></b>					
All groups less central and local government charges <sup>(3)</sup>	0.4	0.9	0.7	1.2	0.7
Central and local government charges <sup>(3)</sup>	1.1	1.3	-0.4	0.7	0.9
All groups – goods component <sup>(4)</sup>	0.4	1.3	0.4	1.3	0.9
All groups – services component <sup>(5)</sup>	0.7	0.4	0.8	1.1	0.4
All groups plus interest	0.5	1.0	0.8	1.2	0.8

(1) Percentage changes are calculated from index numbers that, in some cases, are not rounded until the June 2006 quarter.

(2) From the September 2006 quarter, prices for fresh fruit and vegetables are not seasonally adjusted. They were seasonally adjusted until the June 2006 quarter.

(3) The composition of central and local government charges is further explained in the Technical notes of this release.

(4) The composition of goods is further explained in the Technical notes of this release.

(5) Services comprises all items not included in goods.

Table 3.03

**Consumers Price Index**  
*Selected groupings*

Percentage change from same quarter of previous year<sup>(1)</sup>

Selected grouping	Quarter				
	2007				2008
	Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	Mar
All groups <sup>(2)</sup>	2.5	2.0	1.8	3.2	3.4
All groups – seasonally unadjusted	2.4	2.0	1.8	3.2	3.4
<b>All groups less selected groups/classes<sup>(2)</sup></b>					
All groups less food group	2.2	1.5	1.5	2.9	3.1
All groups less alcoholic beverages and tobacco group	2.4	1.8	1.7	3.2	3.5
All groups less clothing and footwear group	2.7	2.1	2.0	3.3	3.6
All groups less housing and household utilities group	1.9	1.2	1.0	2.7	3.0
All groups less household contents and services group	2.7	2.0	2.0	3.4	3.6
All groups less health group	2.5	1.9	2.0	3.3	3.7
All groups less transport group	3.0	3.0	2.5	2.7	2.7
All groups less communication group	2.5	2.0	1.9	3.4	3.6
All groups less recreation and culture group	2.6	2.2	2.1	3.6	4.0
All groups less education group	2.4	1.9	1.9	3.4	3.6
All groups less miscellaneous goods and services group	2.5	1.9	1.7	3.3	3.5
All groups less credit services class	2.6	2.0	1.9	3.3	3.5
All groups less purchase of housing class	2.3	1.8	1.7	3.0	3.4
<b>Other groupings<sup>(2)</sup></b>					
All groups less central and local government charges <sup>(3)</sup>	2.4	1.8	1.8	3.2	3.5
Central and local government charges <sup>(3)</sup>	3.3	3.3	2.3	2.7	2.5
All groups – goods component <sup>(4)</sup>	1.6	1.3	1.1	3.4	3.9
All groups – services component <sup>(5)</sup>	4.2	3.1	3.2	2.9	2.6
All groups plus interest	2.2	1.9	2.1	3.5	3.8

(1) Percentage changes are calculated from index numbers that, in some cases, are not rounded until the June 2006 quarter.

(2) From the September 2006 quarter, prices for fresh fruit and vegetables are not seasonally adjusted. They were seasonally adjusted until the June 2006 quarter.

(3) The composition of central and local government charges is further explained in the Technical notes of this release.

(4) The composition of goods is further explained in the Technical notes of this release.

(5) Services comprises all items not included in goods.

**Consumers Price Index: March 2008 quarter**

Table 4

**International Comparisons of Consumer Price Indexes**

*Excluding housing and household utilities group and credit services class – index numbers and percentage change <sup>(1)</sup>*

Base: June 2006 quarter (=1000)

	New Zealand <sup>(2)(3)</sup>	Australia	Canada	Japan	Germany	United Kingdom	United States
<i>Series ref. ICPQ</i>	<i>SI1A</i>	<i>SI1B</i>	<i>SI1C</i>	<i>SI1E</i>	<i>SI1F</i>	<i>SI1G</i>	<i>SI1H</i>
<b>Quarter</b>							
2006 Mar	984	981	988	994	993	985	982
Jun	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
Sep	1004	1008	998	1003	1004	1007	1003
Dec	999	1005	990	1000	1004	1014	988
2007 Mar	1003	1004	1001	993	1010	1018	997
Jun	1012	1018	1016	999	1021	1030	1021
Sep	1014	1020	1013	1001	1027	1028	1021
Dec	1027	1027	1008	1007	1034	1041	1032
2008 Mar	1033	..	..	..	..	..	..
<b>Percentage change from previous quarter</b>							
<b>Quarter</b>							
2006 Mar	0.4	1.1	0.3	-0.2	-0.1	0.1	0.3
Jun	1.6	1.9	1.2	0.6	0.7	1.6	1.8
Sep	0.4	0.8	-0.2	0.3	0.4	0.7	0.3
Dec	-0.5	-0.3	-0.8	-0.3	0.0	0.7	-1.5
2007 Mar	0.4	-0.1	1.1	-0.7	0.7	0.4	0.9
Jun	0.9	1.4	1.5	0.6	1.0	1.2	2.4
Sep	0.2	0.2	-0.3	0.2	0.6	-0.3	0.0
Dec	1.3	0.7	-0.5	0.6	0.7	1.3	1.0
2008 Mar	0.6	..	..	..	..	..	..
<b>Percentage change from same quarter of previous year</b>							
<b>Quarter</b>							
2006 Mar	2.7	3.1	1.9	0.7	1.2	1.9	4.2
Jun	3.7	4.4	2.1	0.8	1.4	2.5	4.4
Sep	3.1	4.2	1.0	0.9	1.1	3.0	3.2
Dec	1.9	3.6	0.5	0.4	1.0	3.2	0.9
2007 Mar	1.9	2.3	1.3	-0.1	1.7	3.4	1.6
Jun	1.2	1.8	1.6	-0.1	2.1	3.0	2.1
Sep	1.0	1.1	1.5	-0.2	2.3	2.1	1.8
Dec	2.8	2.2	1.8	0.7	3.1	2.6	4.4
2008 Mar	3.0	..	..	..	..	..	..

(1) Percentage changes are calculated from unrounded index numbers. For New Zealand, index numbers from the June 2006 quarter onwards are rounded.

(2) From the September 2006 quarter, prices for fresh fruit and vegetables are not seasonally adjusted. They were seasonally adjusted until the June 2006 quarter.

(3) Excludes the housing and household utilities group and the credit services class.

**Symbol:**

.. figures not available

Table 5

**Consumers Price Index**  
*Weighted average retail prices of selected items*

Item	Unit	December 2007 quarter	March 2008 quarter	Percentage change <sup>(1)</sup>
		\$		
<b>Alcoholic beverages and tobacco group</b>				
Beer – bottles (supermarket & liquor store)	1 dozen	18.71	18.32	-2.1
Beer – glass (licensed premises)	400ml	4.41	4.44	0.7
Wine – cask, white (supermarket & liquor store)	3 litres	19.70	19.97	1.4
Whisky (liquor store)	1000ml	39.82	40.24	1.1
Cigarettes (supermarket & convenience store)	pk of 25	12.46	12.90	3.5
<b>Clothing and footwear group</b>				
Socks – men's (clothing store & department store)	pair	10.04	9.80	-2.4
Panty-hose – 15 denier, average size (supermarket)	pair	4.92	4.97	1.0
Dry cleaning – men's 2-piece, woollen suit	each	22.23	22.53	1.3
<b>Housing and household utilities group</b>				
Spouting/guttering – plastic	per 3m	29.96	28.94	-3.4
Concrete blocks – 390 mm x 190 mm x 190 mm	per 100	322.79	336.89	4.4
House paint – acrylic, white	10 litres	147.15	144.97	-1.5
Plasterboard – 2400 mm x 1200 mm	per sheet	22.64	22.29	-1.5
Wallpaper – roll	each	40.76	39.33	-3.5
<b>Household contents and services group</b>				
Carpet – wool, heavy duty, cut pile, width 3.66 m	per m	162.02	164.31	1.4
Electric light bulb – standard, 100 watt (supermarket)	each	0.95	0.99	4.2
Bleach (supermarket)	2.5 litres	3.77	3.80	0.8
Clothes washing powder – concentrate (supermarket)	1kg	4.42	4.32	-2.3
Detergent – dishwashing liquid (supermarket)	900ml	3.40	3.48	2.4
Cling food wrap – refill roll (supermarket)	45m	3.74	3.71	-0.8
<b>Health group</b>				
General Practitioner – consultation, adult without community services card	each	28.78	28.94	0.6
Optometrist – examination	each	65.01	65.43	0.6
Dental examination, 2 X-rays, scale and polish	each	106.72	108.10	1.3
<b>Transport group</b>				
Car battery – 12 volts	each	110.28	115.24	4.5
Petrol – 91 octane	10 litres	16.50	17.16	4.0
Petrol – 95/98 octane	10 litres	17.11	17.79	4.0
Diesel	10 litres	11.85	12.55	5.9
Warrant of fitness – private car	each	42.64	42.87	0.5
<b>Communication group</b>				
Postage – standard, medium-size envelope	each	0.50	0.50	0.0
<b>Recreation and culture group</b>				
Compact disc – current top 10 album (record store & department store)	each	27.95	28.18	0.8
Pet food – canned (supermarket)	700g	1.92	1.95	1.6
DVD hire – overnight Friday, new release	1 movie	7.26	7.29	0.4
Envelopes – medium-size (supermarket)	pk of 20	1.66	1.73	4.2
<b>Miscellaneous goods and services group</b>				
Hairdressing – women's, shampoo, cut and blow wave	each	52.28	53.87	3.0
Bathroom soap – cake, 100 g (supermarket)	pk of 4	3.47	3.46	-0.3
Shampoo (supermarket)	400ml	6.68	6.67	-0.1
Tissues – facial (supermarket)	box of 180	2.55	2.51	-1.6
Toilet paper (supermarket)	4 rolls	2.58	2.68	3.9

(1) Percentage changes are calculated from weighted average retail prices rounded to the nearest cent. They may differ from percentage changes calculated using index numbers on the expression base of 1000.

Table 6

**Consumers Price Index Expenditure Weights**  
*By group*

Group	Base expenditure weight	
	June 2002 quarter	June 2006 quarter
	Percent <sup>(1)</sup>	
Food	17.21	17.38
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	8.72	7.20
Clothing and footwear	4.77	4.75
Housing and household utilities	21.52	20.02
Household contents and services	5.13	5.49
Health	4.83	5.23
Transport	15.51	17.24
Communication	2.92	3.26
Recreation and culture	9.73	10.21
Education	1.65	2.08
Miscellaneous goods and services	8.01	7.13
<b>All groups</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>

(1) Percentages may not sum to totals due to rounding.

Table 7

**Consumers Price Index Population Weights**  
*By region*

Region	Base population weight	
	June 2002 quarter	June 2006 quarter
	Percent <sup>(1)</sup>	
Auckland	32.69	32.63
Wellington	11.89	11.23
Rest of North Island	31.25	32.19
Whangarei	3.79	3.63
Hamilton	7.99	9.39
Tauranga	4.80	4.42
Rotorua	2.00	1.94
Napier-Hastings	4.96	4.74
New Plymouth	2.61	2.56
Wanganui	1.38	1.59
Palmerston North	3.72	3.93
Canterbury	13.85	12.84
Christchurch	12.23	11.46
Timaru	1.62	1.38
Rest of South Island	10.33	11.11
Nelson	3.16	4.04
Dunedin	4.41	4.80
Invercargill	2.76	2.27
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>100.00</b>

(1) Percentages may not sum to totals due to rounding.

Table 8.01

**Consumers Price Index**  
*Groups, subgroups and classes*  
 Points effect and percentage change from previous quarter

Group, subgroup or class	Percentage of total expenditure (weight) June 2006 quarter <sup>(1)</sup>	From previous quarter	
		Percentage change <sup>(2)</sup>	Points effect <sup>(1)</sup>
<b>Food group</b>	17.38	1.8	3.40
Fruit and vegetables	2.20	-1.0	-0.23
Fruit	0.87	0.7	0.08
Vegetables	1.33	-2.3	-0.31
Meat, poultry and fish	2.82	-0.2	-0.06
Meat and poultry	2.48	0.0	0.02
Fish and other seafood	0.34	-2.3	-0.08
Grocery food	6.70	3.6	2.55
Bread and cereals	2.01	4.8	1.00
Milk, cheese and eggs	1.57	5.8	0.99
Oils and fats	0.31	14.0	0.49
Food additives and condiments	0.46	-1.6	-0.08
Confectionery, nuts and snacks	1.65	0.8	0.15
Other grocery food	0.70	0.0	0.00
Non-alcoholic beverages	1.62	3.3	0.56
Coffee, tea and other hot drinks	0.32	2.5	0.08
Soft drinks, waters and juices	1.30	3.5	0.48
Restaurant meals and ready-to-eat food	4.03	1.3	0.58
Restaurant meals	1.79	0.8	0.14
Ready-to-eat food	2.24	1.9	0.44
<b>Alcoholic beverages and tobacco group</b>	7.20	1.1	0.88
Alcoholic beverages	4.97	0.2	0.11
Beer	2.18	-0.4	-0.08
Wine	1.51	0.8	0.13
Spirits and liqueurs	1.28	0.6	0.07
Cigarettes and tobacco	2.23	3.4	0.77
<b>Clothing and footwear group</b>	4.75	-1.0	-0.46
Clothing	3.95	-0.8	-0.32
Men's clothing	1.08	-0.5	-0.06
Women's clothing	2.00	-0.4	-0.08
Children's and infants' clothing	0.73	-2.6	-0.19
Knitting and sewing supplies	0.07	0.4	0.00
Clothing services	0.07	1.4	0.01
Footwear	0.80	-1.8	-0.14
Men's footwear	0.24	-3.0	-0.07
Women's footwear	0.43	-0.9	-0.04
Children's and infants' footwear	0.12	-3.0	-0.03
<b>Housing and household utilities group</b>	20.02	1.0	2.14
Actual rentals for housing	6.87	1.2	0.82
Home ownership	4.66	0.9	0.44
Purchase of new housing	4.66	0.9	0.44
Property maintenance	2.24	1.2	0.28
Property maintenance materials	0.63	0.2	0.01
Property maintenance services	1.61	1.6	0.28
Property rates and related services	2.44	0.2	0.05
Water supply	0.16	0.0	0.00
Refuse disposal and recycling	0.12	3.4	0.05
Local authority rates and payments	2.16	0.0	0.00
Household energy	3.82	1.3	0.54
Electricity	3.29	0.8	0.29
Gas	0.40	5.6	0.26
Solid fuels	0.13	0.0	0.00

Note: For footnotes, see end of table.

**Consumers Price Index: March 2008 quarter**

Table 8.01  
continued

**Consumers Price Index**  
*Groups, subgroups and classes*  
Points effect and percentage change from previous quarter

Group, subgroup or class	Percentage of total expenditure (weight) June 2006 quarter <sup>(1)</sup>	From previous quarter	
		Percentage change <sup>(2)</sup>	Points effect <sup>(1)</sup>
<b>Household contents and services group</b>	5.49	-0.8	-0.47
Furniture, furnishings and floor coverings	2.07	-0.9	-0.19
Furniture and furnishings	1.59	-1.7	-0.27
Carpets and other floor coverings	0.49	1.6	0.08
Household textiles	0.53	0.4	0.02
Household appliances	1.16	-1.3	-0.15
Major household appliances	0.89	-1.5	-0.13
Small electrical household appliances	0.15	-0.9	-0.01
Repair and hire of household appliances	0.13	0.1	0.00
Glassware, tableware and household utensils	0.35	-3.7	-0.13
Tools and equipment for house and garden	0.45	-0.1	0.00
Major tools and equipment for the house and garden	0.18	0.2	0.00
Small tools and accessories for the house and garden	0.27	-0.2	-0.01
Other household supplies and services	0.93	-0.2	-0.02
Cleaning products and other household supplies	0.77	-0.5	-0.04
Other household services	0.16	1.4	0.02
<b>Health group</b>	5.23	0.4	0.18
Medical products, appliances and equipment	1.13	0.1	0.01
Pharmaceutical products	0.77	0.0	0.00
Other medical products	0.04	0.7	0.00
Therapeutic appliances and equipment	0.33	0.0	0.00
Out-patient services	3.42	0.4	0.14
Medical services	2.09	0.2	0.03
Dental services	0.86	1.2	0.11
Paramedical services	0.47	0.0	0.00
Hospital services	0.68	0.4	0.03
<b>Transport group</b>	17.24	0.8	1.33
Purchase of vehicles	5.24	0.3	0.15
Purchase of new motor cars	1.69	-1.6	-0.26
Purchase of second-hand motor cars	3.30	1.3	0.40
Purchase of motorcycles	0.19	0.2	0.00
Purchase of bicycles	0.05	0.5	0.00
Private transport supplies and services	9.27	3.0	2.78
Vehicle parts and accessories	0.72	2.5	0.18
Petrol	5.38	4.0	2.10
Other vehicle fuels and lubricants	0.44	5.4	0.23
Vehicle servicing and repairs	1.48	1.7	0.26
Other private transport services	1.27	0.2	0.02
Passenger transport services	2.73	-5.4	-1.60
Rail passenger transport	0.08	1.0	0.01
Road passenger transport	0.46	0.9	0.05
Domestic air transport	0.73	-4.4	-0.31
International air transport	1.36	-8.6	-1.34
Sea passenger transport	0.10	0.0	0.00
<b>Communication group</b>	3.26	-0.1	-0.05
Postal services	0.16	0.0	0.00
Telecommunication equipment	0.15	-6.1	-0.06
Telecommunication services	2.96	0.0	0.01

**Note:** For footnotes, see end of table.

Table 8.01  
continued

**Consumers Price Index**  
*Groups, subgroups and classes*  
Points effect and percentage change from previous quarter

Group, subgroup or class	Percentage of total expenditure (weight) June 2006 quarter <sup>(1)</sup>	From previous quarter	
		Percentage change <sup>(2)</sup>	Points effect <sup>(1)</sup>
<b>Recreation and culture group</b>	10.21	-1.2	-1.20
Audio-visual and computing equipment	1.83	-3.6	-0.53
Audio-visual equipment	0.94	-5.1	-0.35
Computing equipment	0.49	-5.3	-0.21
Recording media	0.40	0.9	0.03
Major recreational and cultural equipment	0.42	0.2	0.01
Other recreational equipment and supplies	2.01	-0.2	-0.06
Games, toys and hobbies	0.37	-1.2	-0.04
Equipment for sport, camping and outdoor recreation	0.47	-1.7	-0.08
Plants, flowers and gardening supplies	0.57	-0.1	0.00
Pet-related products	0.59	1.1	0.07
Recreational and cultural services	2.88	0.5	0.13
Recreational and sporting services	1.01	1.8	0.20
Cultural services	1.63	-0.6	-0.10
Veterinary services	0.24	1.3	0.03
Newspapers, books and stationery	1.58	-2.6	-0.44
Books	0.45	-1.2	-0.06
Newspapers and magazines	0.87	1.1	0.11
Stationery and drawing materials	0.26	-16.6	-0.49
Accommodation services	0.66	3.0	0.21
Package holidays	0.84	-5.2	-0.52
<b>Education group</b>	2.08	3.9	0.80
Early childhood education	0.35	1.1	0.02
Primary and secondary education	0.70	5.7	0.42
Tertiary and other post school education	1.03	3.2	0.35
<b>Miscellaneous goods and services group</b>	7.13	1.0	0.72
Personal care	2.14	0.5	0.09
Hairdressing and personal grooming services	0.67	1.9	0.13
Electrical appliances for personal care	0.02	-4.8	-0.01
Other appliances, articles and products for personal care	1.44	-0.3	-0.04
Personal effects	0.58	1.0	0.07
Jewellery and watches	0.37	2.8	0.12
Other personal effects	0.22	-2.3	-0.05
Insurance	1.70	3.0	0.51
Life insurance	0.69	0.3	0.02
Dwelling insurance	0.19	5.9	0.12
Contents insurance	0.25	4.4	0.11
Health insurance	0.18	0.0	0.00
Vehicle insurance	0.38	7.1	0.27
Credit services	0.76	0.6	0.05
Other miscellaneous services	1.95	0.1	0.01
Vocational services	0.30	0.5	0.02
Professional services	0.35	0.1	0.00
Real estate services	1.11	-0.1	-0.01
Other miscellaneous services nec	0.19	0.0	0.00
<b>All groups</b>	100.00	0.7	7.26

(1) Figures may not add to totals due to rounding.

(2) Percentage changes are calculated from rounded index numbers.

Table 8.02

**Consumers Price Index**  
*Groups, subgroups and classes*  
 Points effect and percentage change from same quarter of previous year

Group, subgroup or class	Percentage of total expenditure (weight) June 2006 quarter <sup>(1)</sup>	From previous year	
		Percentage change <sup>(2)</sup>	Points effect <sup>(1)</sup>
<b>Food group</b>	17.38	5.1	9.29
Fruit and vegetables	2.20	-1.2	-0.28
Fruit	0.87	-6.4	-0.73
Vegetables	1.33	3.5	0.44
Meat, poultry and fish	2.82	3.6	1.08
Meat and poultry	2.48	4.0	1.07
Fish and other seafood	0.34	0.2	0.01
Grocery food	6.70	8.7	5.88
Bread and cereals	2.01	6.6	1.32
Milk, cheese and eggs	1.57	21.9	3.24
Oils and fats	0.31	27.2	0.86
Food additives and condiments	0.46	-0.6	-0.02
Confectionery, nuts and snacks	1.65	3.2	0.54
Other grocery food	0.70	-0.8	-0.05
Non-alcoholic beverages	1.62	4.9	0.82
Coffee, tea and other hot drinks	0.32	6.9	0.22
Soft drinks, waters and juices	1.30	4.5	0.60
Restaurant meals and ready-to-eat food	4.03	4.3	1.79
Restaurant meals	1.79	2.8	0.53
Ready-to-eat food	2.24	5.4	1.26
<b>Alcoholic beverages and tobacco group</b>	7.20	3.5	2.66
Alcoholic beverages	4.97	3.6	1.82
Beer	2.18	3.3	0.74
Wine	1.51	3.5	0.54
Spirits and liqueurs	1.28	4.1	0.54
Cigarettes and tobacco	2.23	3.7	0.84
<b>Clothing and footwear group</b>	4.75	-0.1	-0.01
Clothing	3.95	0.2	0.08
Men's clothing	1.08	1.6	0.17
Women's clothing	2.00	-0.4	-0.09
Children's and infants' clothing	0.73	-0.4	-0.03
Knitting and sewing supplies	0.07	-2.9	-0.02
Clothing services	0.07	6.3	0.05
Footwear	0.80	-1.2	-0.10
Men's footwear	0.24	-4.6	-0.11
Women's footwear	0.43	0.2	0.01
Children's and infants' footwear	0.12	-0.2	0.00
<b>Housing and household utilities group</b>	20.02	5.1	10.52
Actual rentals for housing	6.87	3.0	2.16
Home ownership	4.66	5.7	2.79
Purchase of new housing	4.66	5.7	2.79
Property maintenance	2.24	5.2	1.22
Property maintenance materials	0.63	3.3	0.20
Property maintenance services	1.61	6.0	1.01
Property rates and related services	2.44	7.1	1.86
Water supply	0.16	3.5	0.06
Refuse disposal and recycling	0.12	17.5	0.24
Local authority rates and payments	2.16	6.7	1.55
Household energy	3.82	6.2	2.50
Electricity	3.29	6.0	2.03
Gas	0.40	10.3	0.45
Solid fuels	0.13	1.8	0.02

Note: For footnotes, see end of table.

Table 8.02  
continued

**Consumers Price Index**  
*Groups, subgroups and classes*  
Points effect and percentage change from same quarter of previous year

Group, subgroup or class	Percentage of total expenditure (weight) June 2006 quarter <sup>(1)</sup>	From previous year	
		Percentage change <sup>(2)</sup>	Points effect <sup>(1)</sup>
<b>Household contents and services group</b>	5.49	0.2	0.07
Furniture, furnishings and floor coverings	2.07	-0.7	-0.15
Furniture and furnishings	1.59	-1.4	-0.21
Carpets and other floor coverings	0.49	1.4	0.07
Household textiles	0.53	0.6	0.03
Household appliances	1.16	-0.6	-0.07
Major household appliances	0.89	-1.7	-0.15
Small electrical household appliances	0.15	-0.8	-0.01
Repair and hire of household appliances	0.13	6.8	0.10
Glassware, tableware and household utensils	0.35	-0.1	-0.01
Tools and equipment for house and garden	0.45	1.0	0.05
Major tools and equipment for the house and garden	0.18	-0.9	-0.02
Small tools and accessories for the house and garden	0.27	2.3	0.06
Other household supplies and services	0.93	2.3	0.22
Cleaning products and other household supplies	0.77	1.3	0.10
Other household services	0.16	7.3	0.12
<b>Health group</b>	5.23	-0.5	-0.27
Medical products, appliances and equipment	1.13	-10.2	-1.13
Pharmaceutical products	0.77	-15.8	-1.17
Other medical products	0.04	1.2	0.00
Therapeutic appliances and equipment	0.33	1.1	0.04
Out-patient services	3.42	1.4	0.47
Medical services	2.09	0.0	-0.01
Dental services	0.86	4.4	0.40
Paramedical services	0.47	1.7	0.08
Hospital services	0.68	5.6	0.40
<b>Transport group</b>	17.24	7.0	11.42
Purchase of vehicles	5.24	0.0	0.01
Purchase of new motor cars	1.69	-2.7	-0.43
Purchase of second-hand motor cars	3.30	1.8	0.54
Purchase of motorcycles	0.19	-3.0	-0.06
Purchase of bicycles	0.05	-6.9	-0.04
Private transport supplies and services	9.27	13.6	11.43
Vehicle parts and accessories	0.72	4.8	0.34
Petrol	5.38	20.5	9.36
Other vehicle fuels and lubricants	0.44	28.1	0.97
Vehicle servicing and repairs	1.48	4.3	0.64
Other private transport services	1.27	0.9	0.11
Passenger transport services	2.73	-0.1	-0.02
Rail passenger transport	0.08	1.0	0.01
Road passenger transport	0.46	2.3	0.11
Domestic air transport	0.73	-9.4	-0.70
International air transport	1.36	4.0	0.57
Sea passenger transport	0.10	-0.3	0.00
<b>Communication group</b>	3.26	-0.5	-0.16
Postal services	0.16	3.2	0.05
Telecommunication equipment	0.15	-23.3	-0.29
Telecommunication services	2.96	0.2	0.08

**Note:** For footnotes, see end of table.

Table 8.02  
continued

**Consumers Price Index**  
*Groups, subgroups and classes*  
Points effect and percentage change from same quarter of previous year

Group, subgroup or class	Percentage of total expenditure (weight) June 2006 quarter <sup>(1)</sup>	From previous year	
		Percentage change <sup>(2)</sup>	Points effect <sup>(1)</sup>
<b>Recreation and culture group</b>	10.21	-0.7	-0.68
Audio-visual and computing equipment	1.83	-15.0	-2.50
Audio-visual equipment	0.94	-21.2	-1.75
Computing equipment	0.49	-15.4	-0.69
Recording media	0.40	-1.5	-0.05
Major recreational and cultural equipment	0.42	3.2	0.14
Other recreational equipment and supplies	2.01	-0.3	-0.08
Games, toys and hobbies	0.37	-3.0	-0.11
Equipment for sport, camping and outdoor recreation	0.47	-1.4	-0.06
Plants, flowers and gardening supplies	0.57	-0.3	-0.02
Pet-related products	0.59	1.8	0.11
Recreational and cultural services	2.88	2.1	0.61
Recreational and sporting services	1.01	4.0	0.41
Cultural services	1.63	0.4	0.07
Veterinary services	0.24	5.2	0.13
Newspapers, books and stationery	1.58	4.5	0.73
Books	0.45	3.6	0.17
Newspapers and magazines	0.87	5.5	0.50
Stationery and drawing materials	0.26	2.6	0.06
Accommodation services	0.66	4.2	0.29
Package holidays	0.84	1.3	0.12
<b>Education group</b>	2.08	-2.0	-0.44
Early childhood education	0.35	-34.7	-1.22
Primary and secondary education	0.70	5.7	0.43
Tertiary and other post school education	1.03	3.2	0.35
<b>Miscellaneous goods and services group</b>	7.13	2.9	2.15
Personal care	2.14	1.5	0.30
Hairdressing and personal grooming services	0.67	5.5	0.38
Electrical appliances for personal care	0.02	-5.1	-0.01
Other appliances, articles and products for personal care	1.44	-0.4	-0.07
Personal effects	0.58	3.5	0.22
Jewellery and watches	0.37	5.4	0.22
Other personal effects	0.22	-0.3	-0.01
Insurance	1.70	2.9	0.49
Life insurance	0.69	0.3	0.02
Dwelling insurance	0.19	8.9	0.17
Contents insurance	0.25	3.3	0.08
Health insurance	0.18	0.9	0.02
Vehicle insurance	0.38	5.5	0.21
Credit services	0.76	0.4	0.03
Other miscellaneous services	1.95	5.4	1.10
Vocational services	0.30	2.5	0.08
Professional services	0.35	5.2	0.19
Real estate services	1.11	6.3	0.75
Other miscellaneous services nec	0.19	4.2	0.08
<b>All groups</b>	100.00	3.4	34.55

(1) Figures may not add to totals due to rounding.

(2) Percentage changes are calculated from rounded index numbers.

Table 9

**Consumers Price Index**  
*Expenditure weights*  
Groups, subgroups and classes

Group, subgroup or class	Base quarter expenditure weight		
	June 1999	June 2002	June 2006
	Percent of total expenditure (weight) <sup>(1)</sup>		
<b>Food group</b>	18.17	17.21	17.38
Fruit and vegetables	2.37	2.03	2.20
Fruit	1.03	0.90	0.87
Vegetables	1.33	1.13	1.33
Meat, poultry and fish	2.73	3.28	2.82
Meat and poultry	2.38	2.93	2.48
Fish and other seafood	0.35	0.36	0.34
Grocery food	7.54	6.54	6.70
Bread and cereals	2.34	1.90	2.01
Milk, cheese and eggs	1.80	1.55	1.57
Oils and fats	0.35	0.33	0.31
Food additives and condiments	0.39	0.55	0.46
Confectionery, nuts and snacks	2.04	1.60	1.65
Other grocery food	0.61	0.59	0.70
Non-alcoholic beverages	1.80	1.76	1.62
Coffee, tea and other hot drinks	0.36	0.28	0.32
Soft drinks, waters and juices	1.44	1.48	1.30
Restaurant meals and ready-to-eat food	3.74	3.60	4.03
Restaurant meals	1.44	1.64	1.79
Ready-to-eat food	2.29	1.96	2.24
<b>Alcoholic beverages and tobacco group</b>	9.25	8.72	7.20
Alcoholic beverages	6.14	6.43	4.97
Beer	3.31	2.81	2.18
Wine	1.39	1.54	1.51
Spirits and liqueurs	1.45	2.08	1.28
Cigarettes and tobacco	3.11	2.29	2.23
<b>Clothing and footwear group</b>	3.83	4.77	4.75
Clothing	3.12	3.89	3.95
Men's clothing	0.85	1.19	1.08
Women's clothing	1.46	1.86	2.00
Children's and infants' clothing	0.54	0.63	0.73
Knitting and sewing supplies	0.17	0.13	0.07
Clothing services	0.11	0.08	0.07
Footwear	0.71	0.88	0.80
Men's footwear	0.24	0.32	0.24
Women's footwear	0.29	0.41	0.43
Children's and infants' footwear	0.18	0.15	0.12
<b>Housing and household utilities group</b>	24.24	21.52	20.02
Actual rentals for housing	6.32	5.54	6.87
Home ownership	9.85	8.47	4.66
Purchase of new housing	9.85	8.47	4.66
Property maintenance	2.37	2.12	2.24
Property maintenance materials	1.26	1.08	0.63
Property maintenance services	1.11	1.04	1.61
Property rates and related services	2.26	2.34	2.44
Water supply	0.00	0.16	0.16
Refuse disposal and recycling	0.00	0.14	0.12
Local authority rates and payments	2.26	2.04	2.16
Household energy	3.44	3.04	3.82
Electricity	3.00	2.73	3.29
Gas	0.31	0.20	0.40
Solid fuels	0.12	0.11	0.13

**Note:** For footnotes, see end of table.

**Consumers Price Index: March 2008 quarter**

Table 9  
continued

**Consumers Price Index**  
*Expenditure weights*  
Groups, subgroups and classes

Group, subgroup or class	Base quarter expenditure weight		
	June 1999	June 2002	June 2006
	Percent of total expenditure (weight) <sup>(1)</sup>		
<b>Household contents and services group</b>	5.58	5.13	5.49
Furniture, furnishings and floor coverings	1.91	1.91	2.07
Furniture and furnishings	1.53	1.50	1.59
Carpets and other floor coverings	0.38	0.41	0.49
Household textiles	0.56	0.51	0.53
Household appliances	1.17	1.26	1.16
Major household appliances	0.98	1.08	0.89
Small electrical household appliances	0.10	0.05	0.15
Repair and hire of household appliances	0.09	0.12	0.13
Glassware, tableware and household utensils	0.44	0.32	0.35
Tools and equipment for house and garden	0.59	0.48	0.45
Major tools and equipment for the house and garden	0.22	0.21	0.18
Small tools and accessories for the house and garden	0.36	0.27	0.27
Other household supplies and services	0.92	0.66	0.93
Cleaning products and other household supplies	0.72	0.59	0.77
Other household services	0.20	0.06	0.16
<b>Health group</b>	2.20	4.83	5.23
Medical products, appliances and equipment	0.93	0.62	1.13
Pharmaceutical products	0.73	0.54	0.77
Other medical products	0.05	0.04	0.04
Therapeutic appliances and equipment	0.15	0.04	0.33
Out-patient services	1.20	3.54	3.42
Medical services	0.71	2.62	2.09
Dental services	0.45	0.70	0.86
Paramedical services	0.04	0.21	0.47
Hospital services	0.08	0.67	0.68
<b>Transport group</b>	14.39	15.51	17.24
Purchase of vehicles	4.84	4.48	5.24
Purchase of new motor cars	0.80	1.25	1.69
Purchase of second-hand motor cars	3.86	3.12	3.30
Purchase of motorcycles	0.09	0.07	0.19
Purchase of bicycles	0.08	0.04	0.05
Private transport supplies and services	5.56	6.22	9.27
Vehicle parts and accessories	0.60	0.47	0.72
Petrol	3.00	3.12	5.38
Other vehicle fuels and lubricants	0.35	0.26	0.44
Vehicle servicing and repairs	0.66	1.14	1.48
Other private transport services	0.95	1.22	1.27
Passenger transport services	3.99	4.82	2.73
Rail passenger transport	0.06	0.25	0.08
Road passenger transport	0.54	0.49	0.46
Domestic air transport	0.67	0.84	0.73
International air transport	2.65	3.11	1.36
Sea passenger transport	0.06	0.13	0.10
<b>Communication group</b>	2.58	2.92	3.26
Postal services	0.15	0.12	0.16
Telecommunication equipment	0.02	0.15	0.15
Telecommunication services	2.41	2.65	2.96

**Note:** For footnotes, see end of table.

**Consumers Price Index: March 2008 quarter**

Table 9  
continued

**Consumers Price Index**  
*Expenditure weights*  
Groups, subgroups and classes

Group, subgroup or class	Base quarter expenditure weight		
	June 1999	June 2002	June 2006
	Percent of total expenditure (weight) <sup>(1)</sup>		
<b>Recreation and culture group</b>	9.24	9.73	10.21
Audio-visual and computing equipment	1.90	1.78	1.83
Audio-visual equipment	0.68	0.74	0.94
Computing equipment	0.61	0.52	0.49
Recording media	0.51	0.47	0.40
Major recreational and cultural equipment	0.54	0.87	0.42
Other recreational equipment and supplies	1.87	2.00	2.01
Games, toys and hobbies	0.36	0.28	0.37
Equipment for sport, camping and outdoor recreation	0.38	0.32	0.47
Plants, flowers and gardening supplies	0.64	0.89	0.57
Pet-related products	0.49	0.52	0.59
Recreational and cultural services	2.52	2.55	2.88
Recreational and sporting services	1.21	1.01	1.01
Cultural services	1.10	1.31	1.63
Veterinary services	0.21	0.23	0.24
Newspapers, books and stationery	1.81	1.89	1.58
Books	0.42	0.23	0.45
Newspapers and magazines	0.96	1.33	0.87
Stationery and drawing materials	0.43	0.11	0.26
Accommodation services	0.55	0.57	0.66
Package holidays	0.06	0.06	0.84
<b>Education group</b>	1.81	1.65	2.08
Early childhood education	0.22	0.48	0.35
Primary and secondary education	0.54	0.21	0.70
Tertiary and other post-school education	1.05	0.96	1.03
<b>Miscellaneous goods and services group</b>	8.70	8.01	7.13
Personal care	1.91	2.02	2.14
Hairdressing and personal grooming services	0.51	0.52	0.67
Electrical appliances for personal care	0.02	0.02	0.02
Other appliances, articles and products for personal care	1.37	1.49	1.44
Personal effects	0.39	0.45	0.58
Jewellery and watches	0.25	0.28	0.37
Other personal effects	0.14	0.18	0.22
Insurance	3.58	3.71	1.70
Life insurance	0.35	0.70	0.69
Dwelling insurance	0.59	0.51	0.19
Contents insurance	0.72	1.04	0.25
Health insurance	0.93	0.15	0.18
Vehicle insurance	0.99	1.30	0.38
Credit services	0.69	0.58	0.76
Other miscellaneous services	2.13	1.25	1.95
Vocational services	0.22	0.18	0.30
Professional services	0.41	0.31	0.35
Real estate services	1.39	0.69	1.11
Other miscellaneous services nec	0.10	0.07	0.19
<b>All groups</b>	100.00	100.00	100.00

(1) Figures may not add to totals due to rounding.

**Consumers Price Index: March 2008 quarter**

Table 10

**Consumers Price Index**  
**COICOP<sup>(1)</sup> divisions - index numbers and percentage changes**  
 Base: June 2006 quarter (=1000)

Division	Series ref: CPIQ	Quarter				
		2007				2008
		Mar	Jun	Sep	Dec	Mar
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	SE9NS2000	1038	1041	1056	1073	1094
Alcoholic beverages, tobacco and narcotics	SE9NS2010	1027	1030	1043	1045	1060
Clothing and footwear	SE9NS2020	992	1001	996	1001	991
Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels	SE9NS2030	1039	1052	1071	1081	1092
Furnishings, household equipment and routine household maintenance	SE9NS2040	999	1010	1006	1007	998
Health	SE9NS2050	1005	1024	991	996	999
Transport	SE9NS2060	947	971	974	1006	1014
Communication	SE9NS2070	998	1002	999	994	993
Recreation and culture	SE9NS2080	1003	996	1000	1007	992
Education	SE9NS2090	1034	1032	978	975	1013
Restaurants and hotels	SE9NS2100	1035	1040	1055	1065	1080
Miscellaneous goods and services	SE9NS2110	1025	1033	1041	1045	1055
<b>Percentage change from previous quarter</b>						
Food and non-alcoholic beverages		1.1	0.3	1.4	1.6	2.0
Alcoholic beverages, tobacco and narcotics		1.2	0.3	1.3	0.2	1.4
Clothing and footwear		-0.5	0.9	-0.5	0.5	-1.0
Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels		1.0	1.3	1.8	0.9	1.0
Furnishings, household equipment and routine household maintenance		-1.0	1.1	-0.4	0.1	-0.9
Health		1.1	1.9	-3.2	0.5	0.3
Transport		-0.3	2.5	0.3	3.3	0.8
Communication		0.1	0.4	-0.3	-0.5	-0.1
Recreation and culture		-0.9	-0.7	0.4	0.7	-1.5
Education		3.4	-0.2	-5.2	-0.3	3.9
Restaurants and hotels		1.0	0.5	1.4	0.9	1.4
Miscellaneous goods and services		1.1	0.8	0.8	0.4	1.0
<b>Percentage change from same quarter of previous year</b>						
Food and non-alcoholic beverages		..	4.1	3.2	4.5	5.4
Alcoholic beverages, tobacco and narcotics		..	3.0	3.4	3.0	3.2
Clothing and footwear		..	0.1	0.3	0.4	-0.1
Housing, water, electricity, gas and other fuels		..	5.2	5.1	5.1	5.1
Furnishings, household equipment and routine household maintenance		..	1.0	-0.4	-0.2	-0.1
Health		..	2.4	-0.1	0.2	-0.6
Transport		..	-2.9	-1.4	5.9	7.1
Communication		..	0.2	0.1	-0.3	-0.5
Recreation and culture		..	-0.4	0.1	-0.5	-1.1
Education		..	3.2	-2.4	-2.5	-2.0
Restaurants and hotels		..	4.0	3.7	3.9	4.3
Miscellaneous goods and services		..	3.3	3.3	3.1	2.9

(1) United Nations Classification of Individual Consumption According to Purpose. These series have been created for analytical purposes. They were constructed by reclassifying the New Zealand CPI basket of goods and services classified under the New Zealand Household Expenditure Classification to the divisional level of the UN classification.

**Symbol:**

.. figures not available