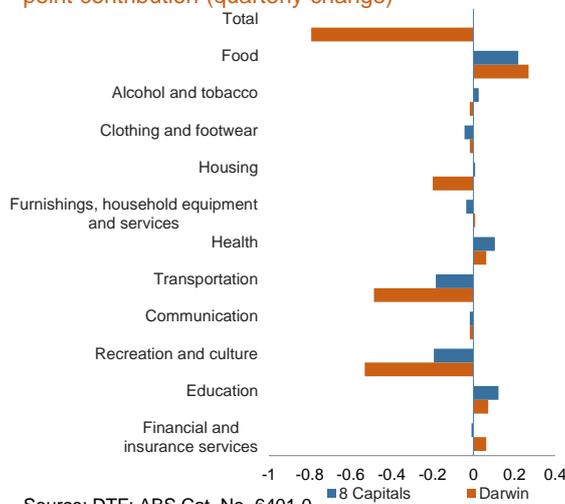


# Consumer price index

March quarter 2019

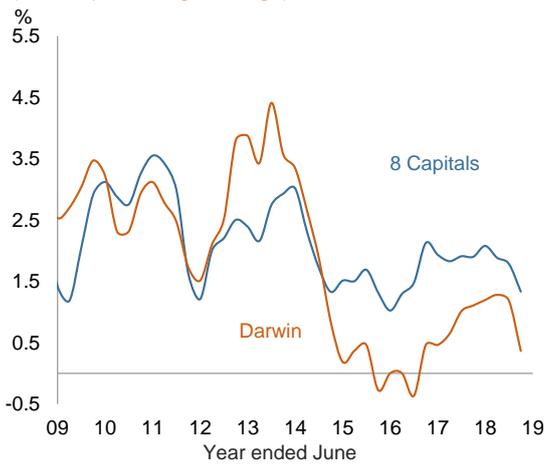
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Chart 1: Consumer price index percentage point contribution (quarterly change)



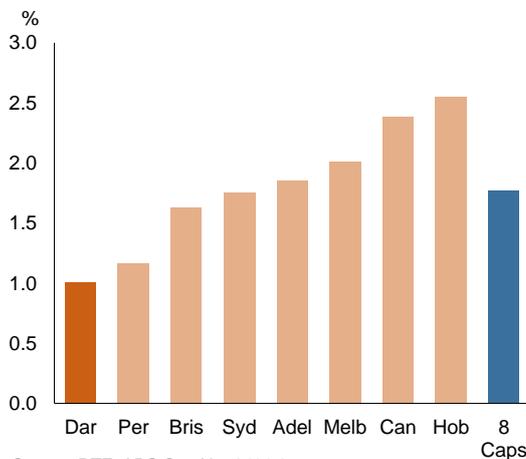
Source: DTF; ABS Cat. No. 6401.0

Chart 2: Consumer price index (annual percentage change)



Source: DTF; ABS Cat. No. 6401.0

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



Source: DTF; ABS Cat. No. 6401.0

## Consumer price index (CPI)

	Darwin	8-Capital cities
Quarterly change (%)	↓0.8%	flat
Annual change (%)	↑0.4%	↑1.3%
Year-on-year change (%)	↑1.0%	↑1.8%

### Quarterly result

The Darwin consumer price index (CPI) decreased by 0.8 per cent in the March quarter 2019. Darwin recorded the largest quarterly decrease of the capital cities, which ranged from 0.2 per cent decline in Hobart to an increase of 0.1 per cent in Melbourne, Brisbane, Canberra and Adelaide. The eight capital cities' average CPI was flat.

The categories that recorded the greatest contribution to the quarterly decrease in the Darwin CPI was recreation and culture (mainly domestic holiday travel), transport (mainly fuel) and housing (mainly rents) (Chart 1). This was partly offset by increases in food and non-alcoholic beverages (mainly fruit and vegetables).

### Annual result

Through the year to the March quarter 2019, the Darwin CPI increased by 0.4 per cent (Chart 2). The main price increase in Darwin CPI were tobacco and alcohol (up 8.1 per cent), education (up 2.6 per cent), financial services (up 2.5 per cent), health (up 2.3 per cent), food and non-alcoholic beverages (up 2.1 per cent). This was partly offset by falls in transport, furnishings, household equipment and services, clothing and footwear (mainly footwear), housing, communication and recreation and culture prices.

Darwin recorded the lowest increase in CPI in annual terms. In other capital cities, the increase in CPI ranged from 1.1 per cent in Perth to 2.1 per cent in Hobart. The eight capital cities' average CPI increased by 1.3 per cent.

### Year-on-year result

The annual average Darwin CPI increased by 1.0 per cent in the year to March 2019 (Chart 3). The eight capital cities' average CPI increased by 1.8 per cent over the same period.

The main price increase in the year-on-year Darwin CPI were alcohol and tobacco (mainly tobacco), and transportation (mainly fuel). The main categories that recorded the largest decreases from year-on-year Darwin CPI were communications (mainly telecommunications), housing (mainly rents) and furnishings, household equipment and services (mainly non-durable household products).

# Consumer price index March quarter 2019

Table 1: Consumer price index

	March quarter		Change		
	Quarter	Year average	Quarterly <sup>1</sup>	Annual <sup>2</sup>	Year-on-year <sup>3</sup>
<b>Darwin</b>	<b>110.1</b>	<b>110.5</b>	<b>-0.8%</b>	<b>0.4%</b>	<b>1.0%</b>
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	107.7	106.1	1.6%	2.1%	0.9%
Tobacco and alcohol	148.0	143.6	-0.1%	8.1%	7.7%
Clothing and footwear	92.6	93.4	-0.9%	-1.2%	-0.8%
Housing	106.1	106.8	-0.9%	-1.3%	-1.3%
Furnishings, household equipment and services	105.3	105.8	0.1%	-1.8%	-1.6%
Health	129.6	128.7	1.4%	2.3%	2.1%
Transportation	107.4	111.4	-4.8%	-3.4%	3.6%
Communication	80.8	82.0	-0.5%	-4.7%	-4.6%
Recreation and culture	100.5	104.3	-4.2%	-1.2%	0.0%
Education	135.6	132.9	2.7%	2.6%	4.1%
Financial services	115.7	114.5	1.1%	2.5%	2.9%
<b>8 Capitals</b>	<b>114.1</b>	<b>113.7</b>	<b>0.0%</b>	<b>1.3%</b>	<b>1.8%</b>
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	109.0	107.3	1.3%	2.3%	1.4%
Tobacco and alcohol	150.3	147.3	0.3%	6.4%	7.0%
Clothing and footwear	92.9	93.9	-1.4%	-0.1%	-0.9%
Housing	121.6	121.3	0.0%	0.8%	1.7%
Furnishings, household equipment and services	103.1	103.5	-0.4%	-0.8%	-1.0%
Health	136.3	134.7	1.9%	3.1%	3.2%
Transportation	103.8	105.3	-1.7%	0.0%	3.5%
Communication	81.4	82.6	-0.6%	-4.6%	-4.3%
Recreation and culture	105.1	105.3	-1.5%	0.9%	1.1%
Education	135.9	133.2	2.7%	2.9%	2.8%
Financial services	114.2	114.1	-0.2%	1.1%	1.4%
<b>RBA underlying measures of inflation</b>					
Weighted median			0.1%	1.2%	
Trimmed mean			0.3%	1.6%	

Table 2: Consumer price index contribution to change

	March quarter		Change	
	Quarter	Year average	Quarterly <sup>1</sup>	Annual <sup>2</sup>
<b>Darwin</b>	<b>110.1</b>	<b>110.5</b>	<b>-0.81 ppt</b>	<b>n.a.</b>
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	107.7	106.1	0.27 ppt	n.a.
Tobacco and alcohol	148.0	143.6	-0.02 ppt	n.a.
Clothing and footwear	92.6	93.4	-0.02 ppt	n.a.
Housing	106.1	106.8	-0.20 ppt	n.a.
Furnishings, household equipment and services	105.3	105.8	0.01 ppt	n.a.
Health	129.6	128.7	0.06 ppt	n.a.
Transportation	107.4	111.4	-0.49 ppt	n.a.
Communication	80.8	82.0	-0.02 ppt	n.a.
Recreation and culture	100.5	104.3	-0.53 ppt	n.a.
Education	135.6	132.9	0.07 ppt	n.a.
Financial services	115.7	114.5	0.06 ppt	n.a.
<b>8 Capitals</b>	<b>114.1</b>	<b>113.7</b>	<b>0.00 ppt</b>	<b>n.a.</b>
Food and non-alcoholic beverages	109.0	107.3	0.22 ppt	n.a.
Tobacco and alcohol	150.3	147.3	0.03 ppt	n.a.
Clothing and footwear	92.9	93.9	-0.04 ppt	n.a.
Housing	121.6	121.3	0.01 ppt	n.a.
Furnishings, household equipment and services	103.1	103.5	-0.04 ppt	n.a.
Health	136.3	134.7	0.11 ppt	n.a.
Transportation	103.8	105.3	-0.18 ppt	n.a.
Communication	81.4	82.6	-0.02 ppt	n.a.
Recreation and culture	105.1	105.3	-0.19 ppt	n.a.
Education	135.9	133.2	0.12 ppt	n.a.
Financial services	114.2	114.1	-0.01 ppt	n.a.

n.a.: not available

1 Compares the latest quarter with the previous quarter.

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

3 Compares the 4 quarters up to and including the latest quarter with the previous 4 quarters.

Source: Department of Treasury and Finance; ABS Cat. No. 6401.0

Caution is advised when using quarterly data for the Territory, which is often derived from small samples and highly volatile. Although all due care has been exercised in the preparation of this material, no responsibility is accepted for any errors or omission.

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