

Grocery Price Survey

June 2006

Introduction of Series Two

In 2005, NT Treasury conducted a review of items and weightings in the Grocery Price Survey (GPS) basket for the first time since the survey began in 2000. The GPS measures the cost of purchasing an average basket of goods at 26 supermarkets across both the Northern Territory and, for comparative purposes, Northern Queensland. The review resulted in the survey being updated, which has allowed the basket to remain consistent with changing consumer expenditure patterns. Data collection for the new survey (Series Two) began in December 2005, however the original series (Series One) will continue to be collected and reported on until June 2007. More information on Series Two is provided on pages 6 to 8.

For the purpose of analysing price movements over time and due to the limited data collected for Series Two, the following brief primarily reports on the results of the GPS Series One basket.

Significant price increases across most regions

The June 2006 Grocery Price Survey reports significant price increases in most surveyed regions, broadly consistent with movements in the 'food' category of the Darwin Consumer Price Index (CPI), as compiled by the ABS. The exception to this was Yulara, where prices fell in the June 2006 survey following a sharp increase in the December 2005 survey.

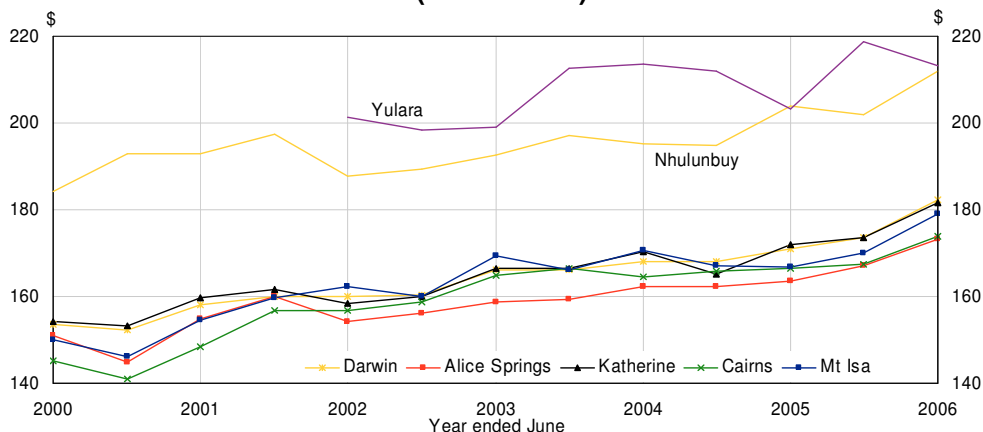
In Darwin, the cost of the basket increased by 5.1% in the six months since the last survey. In other regions, the cost of the basket increased by 3.6% in Alice Springs, by 4.5% in Katherine, by 5.0% in Nhulunbuy, by 3.7% in Cairns and by 5.3% in Mt Isa, but fell by 2.5% in Yulara. The 'food' component of Darwin's CPI – which, by including 'meals out and take away foods', uses a broader 'basket' than the Grocery Price Survey – increased by 5.1% over the same period. Alice Springs continues to record the lowest cost basket of the centres surveyed, followed by Cairns, Mount Isa, Katherine, Darwin, Nhulunbuy and Yulara.

Fruit and vegetables the major contributor to growth

Consistent across all centres in the survey was a dramatic increase in the Fruit & Vegetable category, which was the major driver of the significant rise in the cost of the total basket reported in most areas. The increase was due largely to the impact of the high cost of bananas following the destruction of banana crops in Queensland by Cyclone Larry. Since the December 2005 survey, the price of bananas increased by an average of over \$7 per kilo across all the stores surveyed. It should be noted, however, that the impact on consumers of the increased cost of the basket may be substantially less than the survey results suggest. This is because the weightings assigned to products in the basket do not change from one period to the next. As such, the survey methodology implicitly assumes that households' consumption of bananas is unchanged. In reality, most consumers would choose to substitute bananas for other less costly products, so that their total expenditure on fruit and vegetables may be less than is reported in the GPS.

Compared to June 2005, the cost of the basket increased by 6.6% in Darwin, by 5.8% in Alice Springs, by 5.7% in Katherine, by 5.0% in Yulara, by 4.0% in Nhulunbuy, by 4.5% in Cairns and by 7.4% in Mount Isa.

Cost to Purchase the (Series One) Basket of Goods



Source: NT Treasury



Grocery Price Survey - June 2006[#]

Expenditure Category	Darwin			Alice Springs			Katherine			Nhulunbuy			Yulara			Cairns			Mount Isa		
	Expenditure (\$)	6 mth % Change	Ppt contrib to Change	Expenditure (\$)	6 mth % Change	Ppt contrib to Change	Expenditure (\$)	6 mth % Change	Ppt contrib to Change	Expenditure (\$)	6 mth % Change	Ppt contrib to Change	Expenditure (\$)	6 mth % Change	Ppt contrib to Change	Expenditure (\$)	6 mth % Change	Ppt contrib to Change	Expenditure (\$)	6 mth % Change	Ppt contrib to Change
Dairy & Related Products	17.14	2.0	0.2	16.00	0.1	0.0	16.67	0.1	0.0	19.40	-6.8	-0.7	18.97	-3.1	-0.3	16.15	0.7	0.1	16.52	3.4	0.3
Bread & Cereal Products	18.56	1.6	0.2	17.97	-0.2	0.0	18.96	3.1	0.3	21.52	-9.7	-1.1	25.35	2.4	0.3	17.46	-0.8	-0.1	17.60	-2.8	-0.3
Meat & Seafoods	27.43	2.9	0.4	25.86	-0.3	0.0	27.27	3.4	0.5	31.23	0.4	0.1	28.11	-24.3	-4.1	24.63	-2.5	-0.4	25.67	-3.2	-0.5
Fruit & Vegetables	32.68	16.5	2.7	29.92	13.2	2.1	32.35	19.2	3.0	42.79	25.4	4.3	30.94	6.8	0.9	31.91	19.0	3.0	33.42	25.9	4.0
Non-Alcoholic Drinks & Snacks	26.85	4.0	0.6	25.76	3.1	0.5	26.87	0.1	0.0	31.48	9.7	1.4	39.77	0.9	0.2	25.88	0.5	0.1	26.92	3.9	0.6
Other Food	17.22	3.4	0.3	16.52	5.0	0.5	17.09	1.9	0.2	18.94	0.9	0.1	20.58	0.6	0.1	16.00	2.6	0.2	16.88	5.9	0.5
Household Supplies	17.19	2.4	0.2	16.93	4.2	0.4	16.89	-0.5	0.0	18.73	4.8	0.4	20.58	-1.4	-0.1	17.24	3.6	0.4	17.26	3.6	0.4
Pharmaceuticals	8.99	10.8	0.5	8.58	8.3	0.4	9.14	13.2	0.6	10.09	16.5	0.7	10.62	13.6	0.6	8.69	12.9	0.6	8.51	3.9	0.2
Pet Foods	4.93	1.7	0.0	4.77	-0.3	0.0	4.95	5.3	0.1	5.68	4.3	0.1	5.84	17.7	0.4	4.77	-0.5	0.0	4.99	2.3	0.1
Personal Care Products	11.41	-1.1	-0.1	10.84	-2.7	-0.2	11.31	-3.2	-0.2	12.16	-4.2	-0.3	12.50	-5.1	-0.3	11.09	-2.5	-0.2	11.34	0.3	0.0
Total (\$)	182.39	5.1	5.1	173.15	3.6	3.6	181.51	4.5	4.5	212.01	5.0	5.0	213.27	-2.5	-2.5	173.82	3.7	3.7	179.11	5.3	5.3
December 2005 (\$)*	173.53			167.17			173.61			201.99			218.69			167.57			170.06		
\$ Change from previous period	8.86			5.98			7.89			10.01			-5.42			6.25			9.05		
% Change from previous period	5.11 %			3.57 %			4.55 %			4.96 %			-2.48 %			3.73 %			5.32 %		
June 2005 (\$)	171.09			163.64			171.80			203.90			203.19			166.33			166.76		
\$ Change from December 2004	11.30			9.51			9.70			8.11			10.07			7.49			12.35		
% Change from December 2004	6.60 %			5.81 %			5.65 %			3.98 %			4.96 %			4.50 %			7.40 %		
Variation from Darwin (\$)																					
Dairy & Related Products				-1.14			-0.47			2.26			1.83			-0.99			-0.62		
Bread & Cereal Products				-0.59			0.40			2.96			6.79			-1.09			-0.96		
Meat & Seafoods				-1.57			-0.15			3.80			0.68			-2.80			-1.76		
Fruit & Vegetables				-2.76			-0.33			10.11			-1.74			-0.77			0.74		
Non-Alcoholic Drinks & Snacks				-1.09			0.02			4.63			12.93			-0.97			0.07		
Other Food				-0.69			-0.13			1.72			3.36			-1.22			-0.34		
Household Supplies				-0.27			-0.31			1.53			3.39			0.04			0.07		
Pharmaceuticals				-0.41			0.15			1.10			1.62			-0.31			-0.49		
Pet Foods				-0.16			0.03			0.75			0.92			-0.16			0.06		
Personal Care Products				-0.56			-0.10			0.76			1.09			-0.32			-0.06		
Total (\$)				-9.25			-0.89			29.62			30.87			-8.57			-3.28		
% Variation from Darwin				-5.07 %			-0.49 %			16.24 %			16.93 %			-4.70 %			-1.80 %		
Variation from Darwin in December 2005 (\$)*				-6.36			0.08			28.47			45.16			-5.96			-3.47		
Net \$ change in relation to Darwin				-2.89			-0.97			1.15			-14.29			-2.61			0.18		
% Variation from Darwin				-3.66 %			0.05 %			16.40 %			26.02 %			-3.44 %			-2.00 %		
Variation from Darwin in June 2005 (\$)*				-7.45			0.71			32.80			32.10			-4.76			-4.33		
Net \$ change in relation to Darwin				-1.79			-1.59			-3.19			-1.22			-3.81			1.05		
% Variation from Darwin				-4.36 %			0.41 %			19.17 %			18.76 %			-2.78 %			-2.53 %		

Calculations may not add up due to rounding.

* Adjusted to reflect changes in CPI

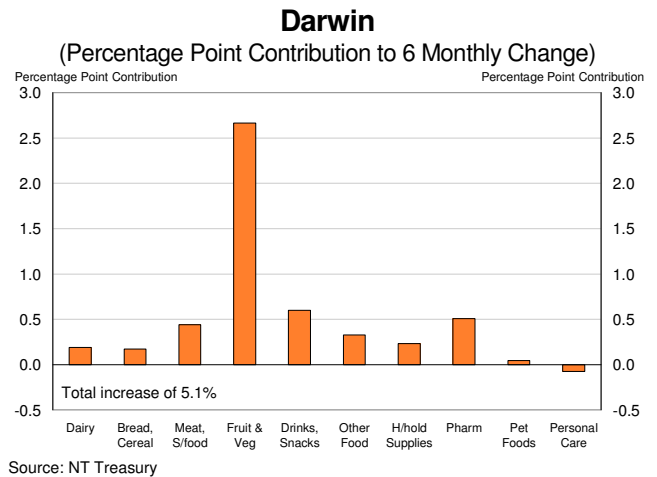
Darwin

In Darwin, the average cost of the June 2006 basket was \$182.39, \$8.57 more expensive than in Cairns at \$173.82. Since December 2005, the cost of the basket has increased by \$8.86 (5.1%) in Darwin and by \$6.25 (3.7%) in Cairns.

Except for Personal Care Products, all categories contributed to the increased cost of the basket. The largest increase occurred in the Fruit & Vegetable category, up by 16.5%, contributing 2.7 percentage points to overall prices growth in Darwin.

In Darwin, the cheapest basket was at Humpty Doo Woolworths, at \$178.24, and the most expensive basket was at Darwin Woolworths on Cavenagh Street, at \$186.68.

Since June 2000, the cost of the basket in Darwin has increased at an average annual rate of 2.9%.



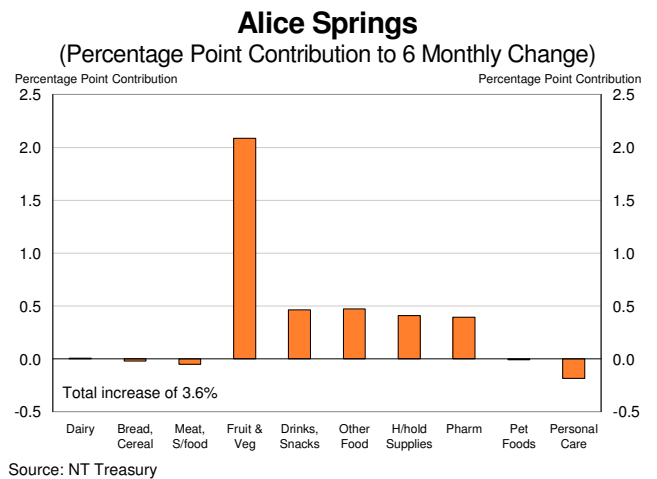
Alice Springs

The average cost of the basket in Alice Springs was \$173.15 in the latest survey, \$5.96 cheaper than in Mount Isa. Since December 2005, the cost of the basket increased by \$5.98 (3.6%) in Alice Springs compared to a \$9.05 (5.3%) increase in Mt Isa. The basket was \$9.25 (5.1%) cheaper than in Darwin, compared to \$6.36 (3.7%) cheaper in the December 2005 survey.

Five out of ten of the categories contributed to the increased cost of the basket. Again, Fruit & Vegetables accounted for the majority of the increase, up by 13.2%, and contributing 2.1 percentage points to total growth.

Grocery prices in Alice Springs are generally lower than in Darwin, particularly for perishables, reflecting its proximity to southern supply centres.

Since June 2000, the cost of the basket in Alice Springs has increased at an average annual rate of 2.3%.



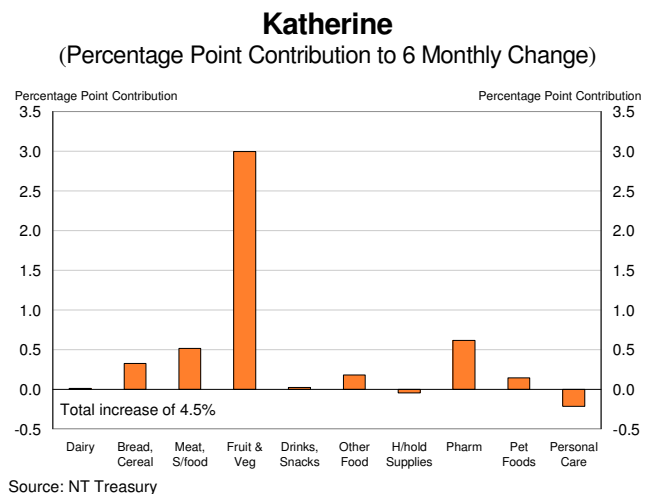
Katherine

Note: There is only one major grocery store in Katherine (Woolworths).

In Katherine, the cost of the basket increased by \$7.89 (4.5%) to \$181.51, marginally less expensive than in Darwin.

Prices increased in all categories except for Household Supplies and Personal Care products. Fruit & Vegetables contributed 3.0 percentage points to total growth in the basket, increasing by 19.2%.

In aggregate, price changes in Katherine tend to track Darwin's, though price movements within categories can diverge substantially between the two regions. In the latest survey, however, the direction and magnitude of changes within categories was broadly consistent between Darwin and Katherine.



Nhulunbuy

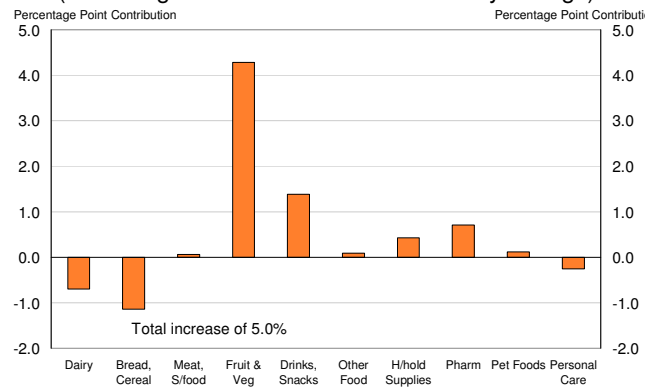
Note: Only one major grocery store is surveyed in Nhulunbuy (Woolworths).

In Nhulunbuy, the cost of the basket increased by \$10.01 (5.0%) to \$212.01. Nhulunbuy remains the second most expensive basket of the surveyed regions, \$29.62 (16.2%) more expensive than in Darwin.

Nhulunbuy recorded price increases in seven of the ten categories, the largest being Fruit & Vegetables, up by 25.4%, and contributing 4.3 percentage points to overall growth in the basket. Dairy products and Bread & Cereal products both recorded substantial decreases, down by 6.8% and 9.7% respectively.

In general, the cost of goods in Nhulunbuy is substantially higher than in Darwin, reflecting additional freight costs, especially for perishables and limited economies of scale and competition. Over the past year this has been exacerbated by higher fuel prices and increased demand for freight services associated with the Alcan G3 expansion.

Nhulunbuy (Percentage Point Contribution to 6 Monthly Change)



Source: NT Treasury

Yulara

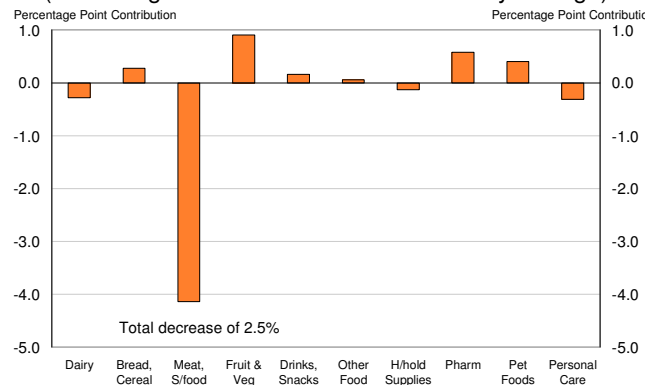
Note: There is only one grocery store in Yulara (IGA).

The latest survey reports that, at \$213.27, Yulara has the most expensive basket of the surveyed regions. The purchase cost of the basket in Yulara has decreased by \$5.42 (2.5%) since the previous survey and was \$30.87 (16.9%) more expensive than in Darwin.

Meat & Seafood recorded a decrease of 24.3%, subtracting 4.1 percentage points from overall growth in the basket. The fall in Meat & Seafood more than offset increases in six other categories including Fruit & Vegetables, Pharmaceuticals and Pet Foods.

Yulara IGA was introduced to the survey in June 2002 and, for similar reasons to Nhulunbuy, has significantly higher prices than in Darwin. This reflects the combination of remoteness as well as lack of competition and economies of scale.

Yulara (Percentage Point Contribution to 6 Monthly Change)



Source: NT Treasury

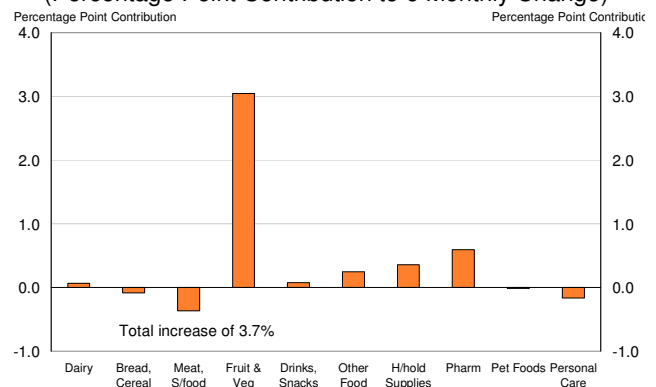
Cairns

Note: Cairns prices are surveyed to provide a similar sized town to compare with Darwin.

In Cairns, the cost of the basket increased by \$6.25 (3.7%) to \$173.82 in the latest survey. As previously noted, the basket was \$8.57 cheaper in Cairns than in Darwin.

In aggregate, prices in Darwin and Cairns tend to track each other, though there can be some variation in individual categories. Similar to Darwin, Fruit & Vegetables in Cairns contributed 3.0 percentage points to total growth, while Pharmaceuticals added 0.6 percentage points. Other categories showed much smaller increases than Darwin, while Meat & Seafoods subtracted 0.4 percentage point from total growth in the basket.

Cairns (Percentage Point Contribution to 6 Monthly Change)



Source: NT Treasury

Mount Isa

Note: Mt Isa prices are surveyed to provide a similar sized town to compare with Alice Springs.

In June 2006, the cost of the basket in Mount Isa was \$179.11, an increase of \$9.05 (5.3%) compared to the previous survey. This followed an increase of \$3.30 (2.0%) in December 2005. The cost of the basket in Mount Isa was \$5.96 (3.4%) more expensive than Alice Springs.

In Mount Isa, increases were recorded in eight out of the ten categories in the basket. Consistent with all other areas, Fruit & Vegetables made the largest contribution to total growth, adding 4.0 percentage points. Decreases were recorded for Mount Isa in Meat & Seafood and Bread & Cereal Products.

Overall Results

The results for June 2006 are in line with the general principle that people purchasing an average basket of goods at supermarkets in towns more remote from major supply centres and larger population centres face higher prices than those living closer to major centres (see middle chart). This reflects higher freight costs, which have been affected by significantly higher fuel prices recently, as well as the smaller market size and reduced competition in these centres.

Prices for Fruit & Vegetables and Meat & Seafoods (which typically make up around one-third of the cost of the basket) are highly volatile, reflecting variations in seasonal and other factors affecting supply. As such, variations in prices in these categories can have a substantial impact on the overall cost of the basket in any one survey period.

Of the stores surveyed in the Territory in the latest period, the cheapest basket was at Alice Springs Bi-Lo (\$171.73) and the highest cost basket was at Yulara IGA (\$213.27). In Darwin, the cheapest basket was at Humpty Doo Woolworths (\$178.24), and the most expensive basket was at Darwin Woolworths on Cavenagh Street (\$186.68).

Since the survey began in June 2000, Cairns has recorded the highest average annual increase in the cost to purchase the basket (see bottom chart), while Yulara reports the lowest average annual increase. Darwin's average annual increase of 2.9% is slightly below the average across all the surveyed regions.

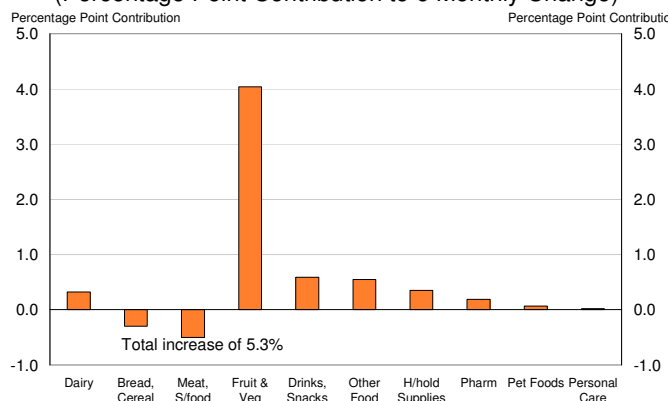
Movements in Cost of the (Series One) Basket (% change)

	Six months to June 2006	Year to June 2006	Since June 2000
Darwin	5.1	6.6	18.8
Alice Springs	3.6	5.8	14.8
Katherine	4.5	5.6	17.6
Nhulunbuy	5.0	4.0	15.2
Cairns	3.7	4.5	19.8
Mount Isa	5.3	7.4	19.4
Yulara*	- 2.5	5.0	8.6*

* Growth since June 2002
Source: NT Treasury

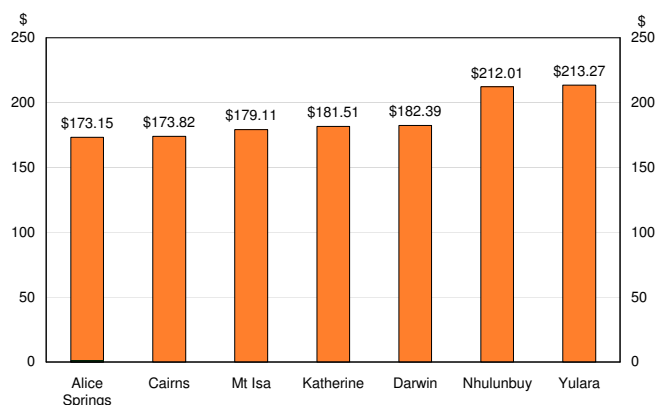
Mount Isa

(Percentage Point Contribution to 6 Monthly Change)



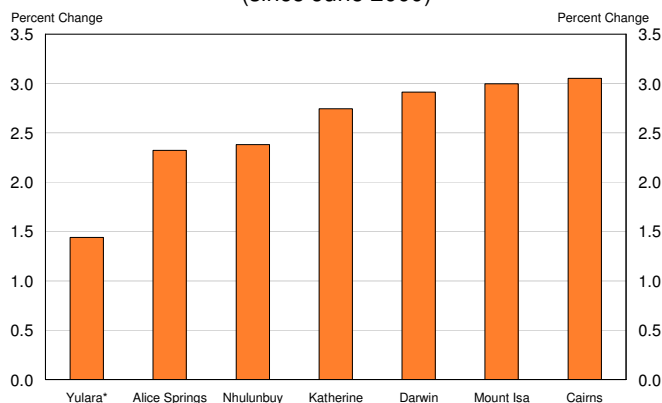
Source: NT Treasury

Cost of Grocery Basket (June 2006)



Source: NT Treasury

Compound Annual Growth Rate (since June 2000)



* For Yulara compound annual growth rate since June 2002
Source: NT Treasury

GROCERY PRICE SURVEY – SERIES TWO New Household Expenditure data released

Every five years the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) releases data on household expenditure patterns. Data are available by jurisdiction and by capital city and form the basis of items and weightings used to estimate the cost of a 'standard' basket of goods in the Grocery Price Survey. In August 2005 the ABS released the *Household Expenditure Survey, 2003-04* (Cat. No. 6535.0.55.001).

In order to reflect the latest household spending patterns Treasury has updated items and weightings in the basket. Further, the introduction of the 15th series Consumer Price Index (CPI), which is also based on the Household Expenditure Survey (HES), provided a timely opportunity to review the methodology for calculating the cost of the basket. This is the first time the basket and its weightings have been reviewed and updated since the Grocery Price Survey commenced in 2000.

The review involved updating the 10 sub-groups, and 29 expenditure classes (and items within the classes) in the original survey. The rationale for examining these categories is that, to update the survey over time, there is a requirement for the items in the expenditure classes to broadly correlate with detailed quarterly CPI data which is available from the ABS.

Changes resulting from the review include:

1. the Personal Care Products expenditure class being incorporated into the Household Supplies expenditure class;
2. the Pharmaceuticals expenditure class being removed from the basket;
3. 26 items being deleted from the survey and 30 new items being introduced (the basket now has 136 items);
4. a break in the time series of data; and
5. for comparative purposes, information will be collected for the Series One and Series Two surveys until December 2006.

The substantive changes to the survey reflect modifications to the 15th series CPI and, the reality that it is not possible to accurately update expenditure on grocery store-sourced pharmaceuticals using available 15th series CPI data. This is because the Pharmaceuticals sub-group in the CPI is dominated by prescription drugs which are not dispensed at grocery stores.

In June 2006, the Series Two basket cost less than the Series One basket across all locations. The Series Two basket was 6.9% (\$11.76) cheaper, on average, than Series One. This largely reflects the removal of the Pharmaceuticals sub-group from the survey which accounts for the majority of the cost difference.

The lower cost of the Series Two basket does not reflect cheaper prices, but better reflects changes in household expenditure patterns. Of interest, compared to the 1998-99 Household Expenditure Survey, the 2003-04 Survey reports that households are spending less on grocery items as a proportion of total expenditure.

Broad Comparison of Series One and Series Two Baskets across Territory Centres

As anticipated, the introduction of the Series Two survey in December 2005 has not impacted on the cost ranking (least to most expensive) of the surveyed centres.

Nonetheless, by individual grocery store there were some changes in rankings from Series One to the Series Two basket. For example, Alice Springs Bi-Lo went from being ranked third cheapest in the Series One basket to the cheapest in the Series Two basket (see tables on page 7).

In addition, the pattern of cost variations from Darwin, was consistent across both surveys (see tables on page 8).

For further information on the survey methodology and changes introduced in the latest survey see technical paper December 2005, available at:

http://www.nt.gov.au/ntt/economics/econ_nt_gpsurvey.shtml

Grocery Price Survey – June 2006

Cost of (Series One) Basket by Location and by Store *

Supermarkets	Jun-2006		Dec-2005		Jun-2005		Dec-2004		2 year average	
	\$	Rank	\$	Rank	\$	Rank	\$	Rank	\$	Rank
Cairns Action Stocklands	169.72	1	166.03	2	171.34	17	168.00	17	168.77	6
Cairns Bi-Lo Central	169.84	2	167.05	4	162.30	1	165.03	6	166.06	2
Alice Springs Bi-Lo	171.73	3	165.39	1	163.64	3	164.06	4	166.21	3
Alice Springs Woolworths	172.22	4	166.84	3	162.63	2	162.46	2	166.04	1
Alice Springs Coles	175.49	5	169.28	8	164.65	4	160.32	1	167.43	4
Cairns Woolworths Stocklands	177.55	6	168.40	5	166.54	6	163.96	3	169.11	7
Mount Isa Coles	177.64	7	168.66	6	166.74	7	166.56	12	169.90	9
Cairns Coles Central	178.16	8	168.79	7	165.15	5	165.86	9	169.49	8
Darwin Woolworths Humpty Doo	178.24	9	173.83	19	170.21	12	167.15	15	172.36	11
Darwin Woolworths Hibiscus	179.95	10	174.95	22	170.65	13	169.66	21	173.80	20
Darwin Bi-Lo Casuarina	180.24	11	170.26	n.a.	170.98	15	170.74	22	173.05	17
Mount Isa Woolworths	180.58	12	171.47	10	166.79	8	167.77	16	171.65	10
Darwin Woolworths Nightcliff	180.93	13	172.40	12	170.69	14	166.71	13	172.68	13
Darwin Woolworths Palmerston	180.93	14	174.08	20	169.77	11	165.64	8	172.60	12
Darwin Woolworths Coolalinga	181.34	15	173.47	16	171.00	16	164.94	5	172.69	14
Katherine Woolworths	181.51	16	173.61	18	171.80	19	165.21	7	173.03	16
Darwin Coles Palmerston	181.59	17	172.81	15	172.29	21	166.51	11	173.30	18
Darwin Coles Casuarina	182.72	18	172.54	14	172.78	22	166.73	14	173.69	19
Darwin Coles Northlakes	183.28	19	172.32	11	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	177.80	25
Darwin Woolworths Casuarina	183.31	20	172.48	13	169.57	10	165.92	10	172.82	15
Darwin Coles Karama	183.66	21	174.46	21	172.01	20	170.90	23	175.26	21
Darwin Woolworths Knuckey St	184.40	22	176.65	24	171.35	18	172.42	24	176.21	24
Darwin Coles City	186.22	23	173.57	17	173.21	24	168.76	19	175.44	22
Darwin Woolworths Cavenagh St	186.68	24	175.60	23	172.88	23	169.60	20	176.19	23
Nhulunbuy Woolworths	212.01	25	201.99	25	203.90	26	194.99	25	203.22	26
Yulara IGA	213.27	26	218.69	26	203.19	25	212.00	26	211.79	27
Darwin Bi-Lo Northlakes	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	167.92	9	168.68	18	168.30	5

Cost of (Series Two) Basket by Location and by Store *

Supermarkets	Jun-2006		Dec-2005		Jun-2005		Dec-2004		2 year average	
	\$	Rank	\$	Rank	\$	Rank	\$	Rank	\$	Rank
Alice Springs Bi-Lo	157.84	1	153.02	1	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Cairns Action Stocklands	159.68	2	156.54	4	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Cairns Bi-Lo Central	159.99	3	154.96	3	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Alice Springs Woolworths	161.37	4	154.78	2	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Alice Springs Coles	162.84	5	157.00	8	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Darwin Woolworths Humpty Doo	165.87	6	162.17	19	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Mount Isa Coles	166.00	7	156.66	5	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Cairns Woolworths Stocklands	166.34	8	156.93	7	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Cairns Coles Central	166.53	9	156.86	6	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Darwin Woolworths Hibiscus	167.09	10	163.14	22	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Darwin Coles Palmerston	168.20	11	161.59	16	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Darwin Woolworths Palmerston	168.66	12	163.08	21	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Darwin Woolworths Nightcliff	168.69	13	161.10	13	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Darwin Woolworths Coolalinga	169.01	14	161.63	17	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Darwin Coles Casuarina	169.15	15	161.58	15	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Darwin Bi-Lo Casuarina	169.16	16	159.20	10	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Katherine Woolworths	169.25	17	162.47	20	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Mount Isa Woolworths	169.47	18	158.91	9	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Darwin Coles Northlakes	170.34	19	159.97	11	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Darwin Woolworths Casuarina	170.77	20	160.89	12	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Darwin Coles Karama	171.70	21	161.80	18	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Darwin Woolworths Cavenagh St	173.51	22	164.44	23	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Darwin Woolworths Knuckey St	173.62	23	164.97	24	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Darwin Coles City	174.39	24	161.37	14	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Nhulunbuy Woolworths	202.85	25	189.69	25	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Yulara IGA	205.26	26	204.04	26	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.

Expenditures figures adjusted to reflect CPI estimates for each previous period.

Source: NT Treasury

Grocery Price Survey – June 2006

Cost of (Series One) Grocery Basket – June 2006

Expenditure (\$)	Alice						
	Darwin	Springs	Katherine	Nhulunbuy	Yulara	Cairns	Mount Isa
Dairy & Related Products	17.14	16.00	16.67	19.40	18.97	16.15	16.52
Bread & Cereal Products	18.56	17.97	18.96	21.52	25.35	17.46	17.60
Meat & Seafoods	27.43	25.86	27.27	31.23	28.11	24.63	25.67
Fruit & Vegetables	32.68	29.92	32.35	42.79	30.94	31.91	33.42
Non-Alcoholic Drinks & Snacks	26.85	25.76	26.87	31.48	39.77	25.88	26.92
Other Food	17.22	16.52	17.09	18.94	20.58	16.00	16.88
Household Supplies	17.19	16.93	16.89	18.73	20.58	17.24	17.26
Pharmaceuticals	8.99	8.58	9.14	10.09	10.62	8.69	8.51
Pet Foods	4.93	4.77	4.95	5.68	5.84	4.77	4.99
Personal Care Products	11.41	10.84	11.31	12.16	12.50	11.09	11.34
Total	182.39	173.15	181.51	212.01	213.27	173.82	179.11

Variation from Darwin (\$)

Dairy and Related Products	-1.14	-0.47	2.26	1.83	-0.99	-0.62
Bread and Cereal Products	-0.59	0.40	2.96	6.79	-1.09	-0.96
Meat & Seafoods	-1.57	-0.15	3.80	0.68	-2.80	-1.76
Fruit & Vegetables	-2.76	-0.33	10.11	-1.74	-0.77	0.74
Non-Alcoholic Drinks and Snacks	-1.09	0.02	4.63	12.93	-0.97	0.07
Other Food	-0.69	-0.13	1.72	3.36	-1.22	-0.34
Household Supplies	-0.27	-0.31	1.53	3.39	0.04	0.07
Pharmaceuticals	-0.41	0.15	1.10	1.62	-0.31	-0.49
Pet Foods	-0.16	0.03	0.75	0.92	-0.16	0.06
Personal Care Products	-0.56	-0.10	0.76	1.09	-0.32	-0.06
Total	-9.25	-0.89	29.62	30.87	-8.57	-3.28
% Variation from Darwin	-5.07 %	-0.49 %	16.24 %	16.93 %	-4.70 %	-1.80 %

* may not add due to rounding
Source: NT Treasury

Cost of (Series Two) Grocery Basket – June 2006

Expenditure (\$)	Alice						
	Darwin	Springs	Katherine	Nhulunbuy	Yulara	Cairns	Mount Isa
Dairy & Related Products	14.96	12.88	14.59	17.47	16.69	13.96	14.37
Bread & Cereal Products	18.37	17.81	18.75	21.33	24.92	17.23	17.40
Meat & Seafoods	28.29	27.10	28.30	34.28	30.92	34.28	26.64
Fruit & Vegetables	31.36	28.82	31.04	41.30	32.32	41.30	32.22
Non-Alcoholic Drinks & Snacks	25.19	23.89	25.26	30.39	38.19	30.39	25.11
Other Food	17.96	17.24	17.87	21.08	22.05	21.08	17.62
Household Supplies	28.81	28.03	28.34	31.16	34.18	31.16	29.23
Pet Foods	5.07	4.91	5.10	5.84	6.01	5.84	5.13
Total	170.01	160.68	169.25	202.85	205.26	163.14	167.74

Variation from Darwin (\$)

Dairy & Related Products	-2.08	-0.37	2.51	1.73	-1.00	-0.59
Bread & Cereal Products	-0.55	0.39	2.96	6.55	-1.14	-0.96
Meat & Seafoods	-1.18	0.01	5.99	2.63	5.99	-1.65
Fruit & Vegetables	-2.54	-0.32	9.94	0.96	9.94	0.86
Non-Alcoholic Drinks & Snacks	-1.30	0.06	5.20	12.99	5.20	-0.08
Other Food	-0.72	-0.10	3.12	4.08	3.12	-0.34
Household Supplies	-0.79	-0.47	2.35	5.37	2.35	0.42
Pet Foods	-0.16	0.03	0.77	0.94	0.77	0.06
Total	-9.33	-0.76	32.84	35.25	-6.87	-2.27
% Variation from Darwin	-5.5 %	-0.4 %	19.3 %	20.7 %	-4.0 %	-1.3 %

* may not add due to rounding
Source: NT Treasury