

Food Price Index: September 2012

Embargoed until 10:45am – 11 October 2012

Key facts

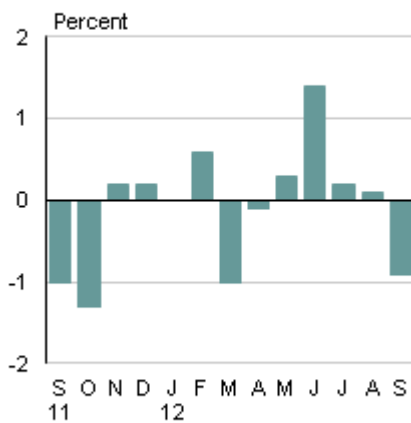
In September 2012 compared with August 2012:

- Food prices fell 0.9 percent.
- Grocery food prices fell 1.6 percent.
- Fruit and vegetable prices fell 2.2 percent.
- Non-alcoholic beverage prices fell 0.5 percent.
- Meat, poultry, and fish prices rose 0.2 percent.
- Restaurant meals and ready-to-eat food prices rose 0.2 percent.

From September 2011 to September 2012:

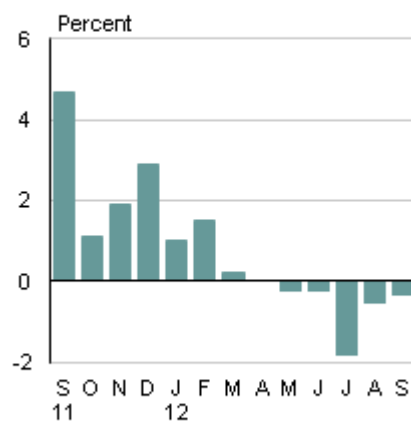
- Food prices decreased 0.3 percent.

Food price index
Monthly change



Source: Statistics New Zealand

Food price index
Annual change



Source: Statistics New Zealand

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Commentary

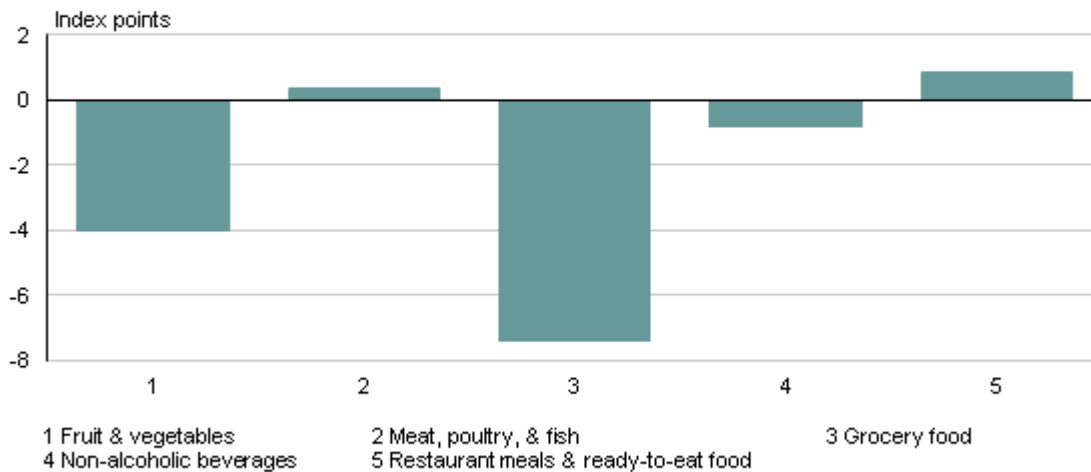
- [Food prices fall in September 2012](#)
- [Sixth fall in seven months for grocery food](#)
- [Fruit and vegetable prices down for the month, but up for the year](#)
- [Summary of other food subgroups](#)
- [Impact of items that rose and fell in price](#)

Food prices fall in September 2012

Food prices fell 0.9 percent in September 2012, following a rise of 0.1 percent in August 2012. The price fall in September 2012 is similar to a 1.0 percent fall in the month of September 2011.

Index points contribution to food price index

By subgroup
September 2012



Source: Statistics New Zealand

Food price index subgroups: September 2012

Subgroup	Index points contribution to FPI	Monthly percentage change
Fruit and vegetables	-4.02	-2.2
Meat, poultry, and fish	0.37	0.2
Grocery food	-7.40	-1.6
Non-alcoholic beverages	-0.78	-0.5
Restaurant meals and ready-to-eat food	0.84	0.2
Food price index	-10.98	-0.9

Note: Index points contributions may not sum to total due to rounding.

In the year to September 2012, food prices decreased 0.3 percent, following 0.5 percent and 1.8 percent decreases in the years to August and July, respectively. This is the fifth consecutive annual fall in food prices.

Food price index subgroups: Year to September 2012		
Subgroup	Index points contribution to FPI	Percentage change from September 2011
Fruit and vegetables	13.03	7.8
Meat, poultry, and fish	-1.64	-0.8
Grocery food	-17.08	-3.5
Non-alcoholic beverages	-1.83	-1.3
Restaurant meals and ready-to-eat food	3.73	1.4
Food price index	-3.80	-0.3

Note: Index points contributions may not sum to total due to rounding.

Sixth fall in seven months for grocery food

Monthly

Prices for the grocery food subgroup fell 1.6 percent in September 2012, reaching their lowest level since September 2010. This was the third consecutive fall for grocery prices, and the sixth fall in seven months.

Plain biscuit prices fell (down 18 percent), influenced by more discounting in September than in August. The September fall is the largest since the series began in June 2006, leaving the average price of plain biscuits at \$2.07 per 250g packet. This is the lowest level since July 2008, when the average price was \$1.97 per 250g packet.

Prices also fell for sweets (down 12 percent) and muesli bars (down 10 percent). Both items are now at their lowest levels since June 2008 and August 2005, respectively.

Chocolate biscuit prices made the most significant upward contribution, up 15 percent to \$3.33 per 200g packet. This rise follows a 9.9 percent price fall in August 2012. Higher prices were also recorded for crackers (up 7.4 percent).

Annual

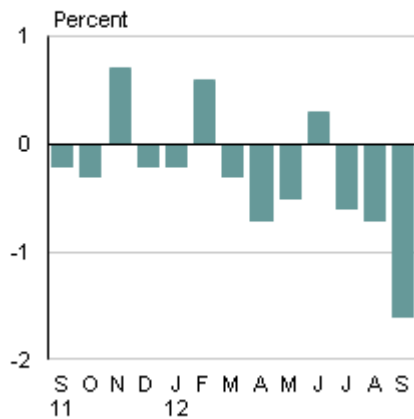
For the year to September 2012, grocery food prices decreased 3.5 percent. This is the fifth consecutive annual fall in grocery food prices.

Lower prices for fresh milk (down 9.2 percent), butter (down 30 percent), and cheddar cheese (down 15 percent) made the most significant downward contributions. Fresh milk prices peaked in 2011, and were relatively stable until January 2012. Butter prices, which fell to 34 percent below their June 2011 peak, have had annual falls for the past 11 months. Cheddar cheese prices have had annual falls for the past 14 months.

Prices also fell for sweets (down 11 percent) and plain biscuits (down 14 percent).

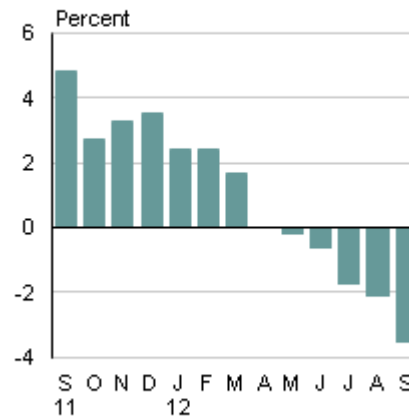
For the grocery food group, nuts (up 11 percent) made the main upward contribution for the year to September 2012. This is the smallest annual rise for nuts in the past 10 months. Prices were also higher for crackers (up 8.5 percent) and chocolate biscuits (up 7.1 percent).

Grocery food subgroup Monthly change



Source: Statistics New Zealand

Grocery food subgroup Annual change

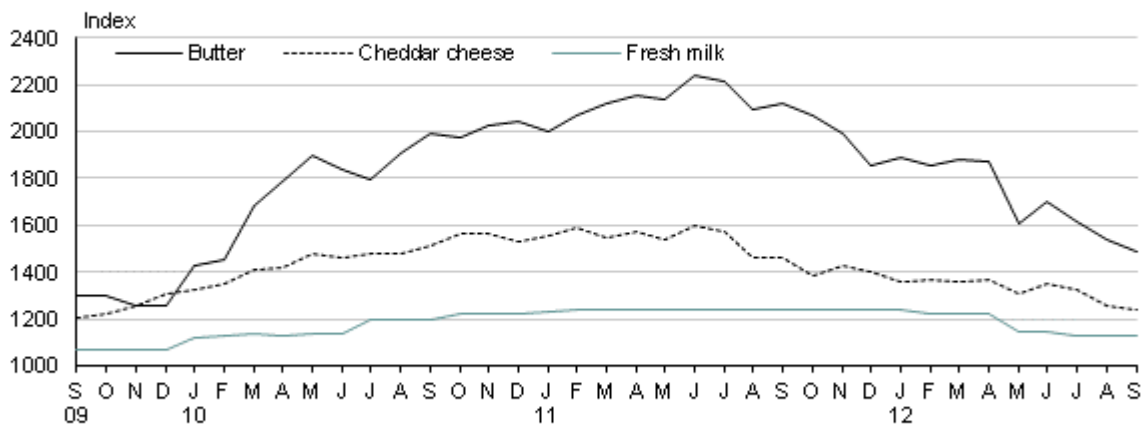


Source: Statistics New Zealand

Dairy products – selected indexes

Monthly indexes

Base: June 2006 month (=1000)



Source: Statistics New Zealand

Fruit and vegetable prices down for the month, but up for the year

Monthly

Fruit and vegetable prices fell 2.2 percent in September 2012. Fruit prices fell 3.7 percent, while vegetable prices fell 1.2 percent.

With the arrival of new season stock, capsicums (down 32 percent) made the main downward contribution. The average price of capsicums fell from a high of \$22.28 per kilogram in August 2012 to \$15.05 per kilogram in September 2012. Capsicums have shown price falls for four of the last five September months. Seasonally lower prices were also recorded for cucumber (down 33 percent), strawberries (down 20 percent), and lettuce (down 12 percent).

Broccoli prices doubled, with the latest price rise the largest since the series began in June 1999. Prices for broccoli are now at their highest level since October 2010. Prices often rise in September, but this September's rise was larger than usual, caused by an early spring

shortage. Higher prices were also recorded for pumpkins (up 62 percent) and cauliflower (up 56 percent). While pumpkin prices often rise in September months, the 62 percent rise is only the third September rise over 10 percent since the series began in June 1999.

Annual

In the year to September 2012, prices for the fruit and vegetables subgroup increased 7.8 percent. Vegetable prices increased 10 percent while fruit prices increased 4.3 percent.

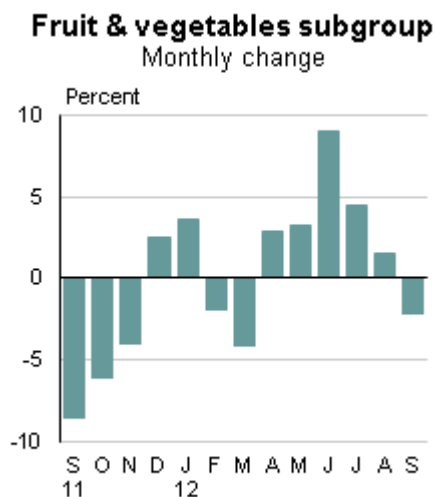
Tomatoes made the main upward contribution, increasing 69 percent, from an average price of \$7.23 per kilogram in September 2011 to \$12.26 in September 2012.

Kumara prices increased 90 percent for the year to September 2012, reaching their highest level since February 2008. The annual increase was influenced by low prices in September 2011, and by poor weather conditions in both the planting and harvesting seasons, which affected this year's crop.

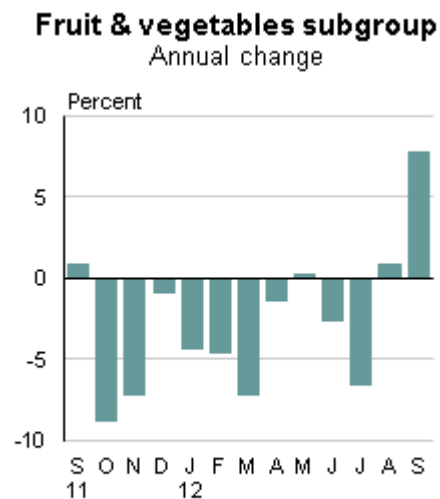
Higher prices were also recorded for broccoli (up 36 percent in the year).

Lettuce made the most significant downward contribution, decreasing 20 percent in the year to September 2012. This is the 12th annual decrease in 13 months.

Lower prices were also recorded for potatoes (down 13 percent) and onions (down 24 percent).



Source: Statistics New Zealand

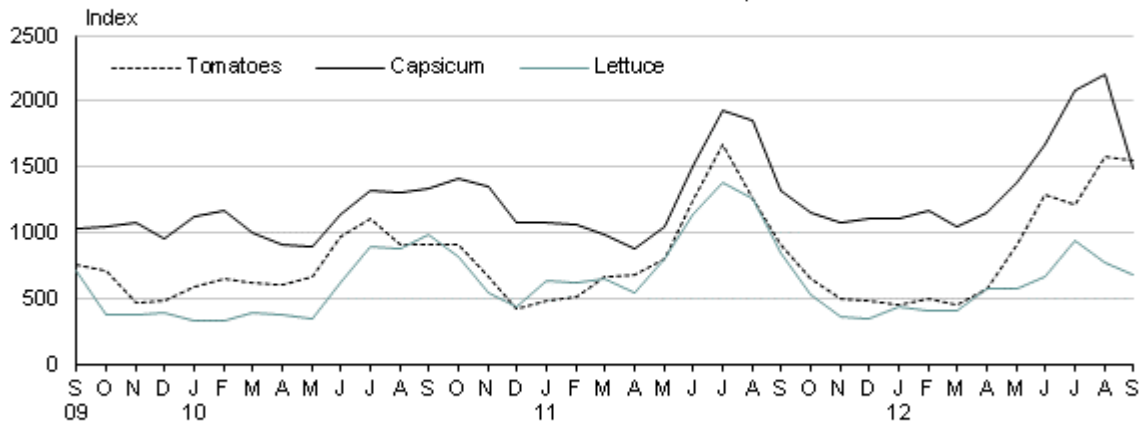


Source: Statistics New Zealand

Fruit & vegetables subgroup – selected indexes

Monthly indexes

Base: June 2006 month (=1000)

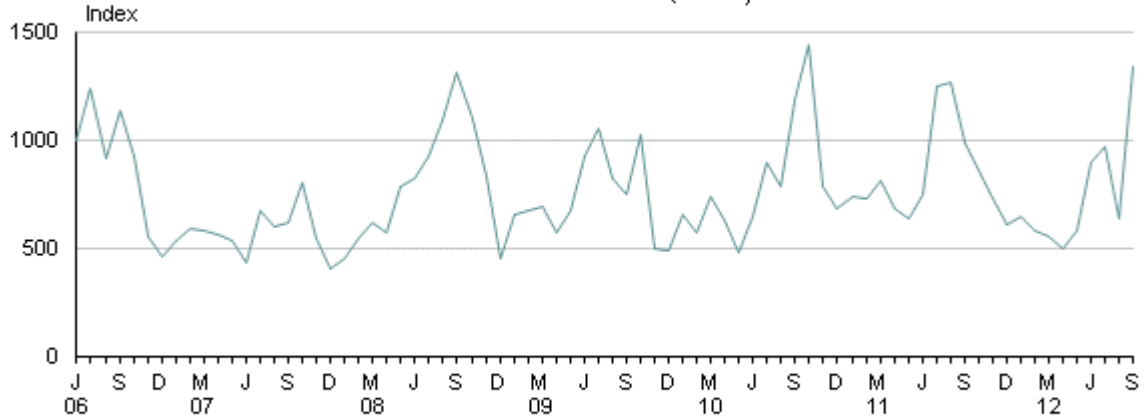


Source: Statistics New Zealand

Fruit & vegetables subgroup – broccoli

Monthly indexes

Base: June 2006 month (=1000)

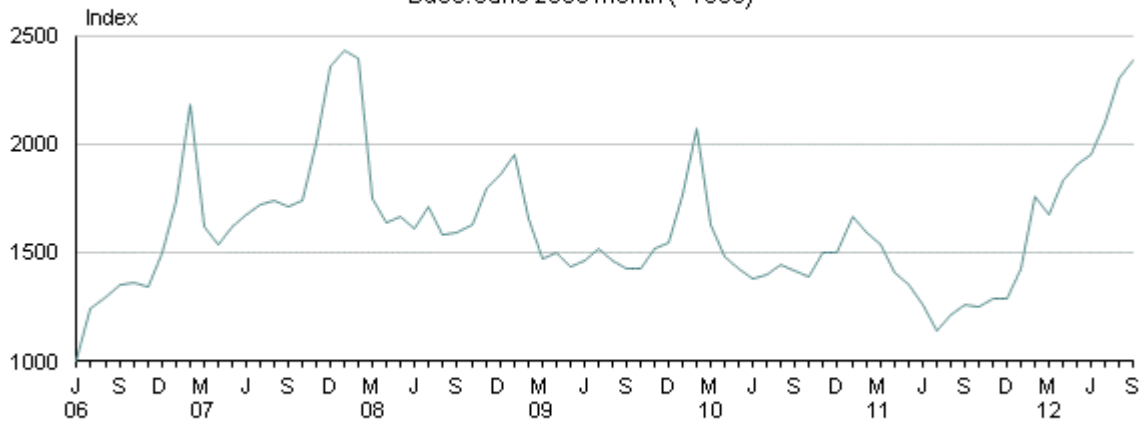


Source: Statistics New Zealand

Fruit & vegetables subgroup – kumara

Monthly indexes

Base: June 2006 month (=1000)



Source: Statistics New Zealand

Summary of other food subgroups

Monthly

Lower prices were recorded for non-alcoholic beverages (down 0.5 percent) in September 2012. This was influenced by lower prices for fruit juice (down 5.3 percent) and soft drinks (down 0.8 percent). Both decreases were influenced by more discounting – the opposite of what happened last month, when both these items rose in price due to lower levels of discounting.

Meat, poultry, and fish prices rose 0.2 percent. Higher prices for porterhouse/sirloin beef steak (up 6.0 percent), were partly offset by lower prices for roasting pork (down 12 percent).

Higher prices were recorded for restaurant meals and ready-to-eat food (up 0.2 percent).

Annual

Lower prices were recorded for non-alcoholic beverages (down 1.3 percent) in the year to September 2012. This was influenced by lower prices for soft drinks (down 1.1 percent).

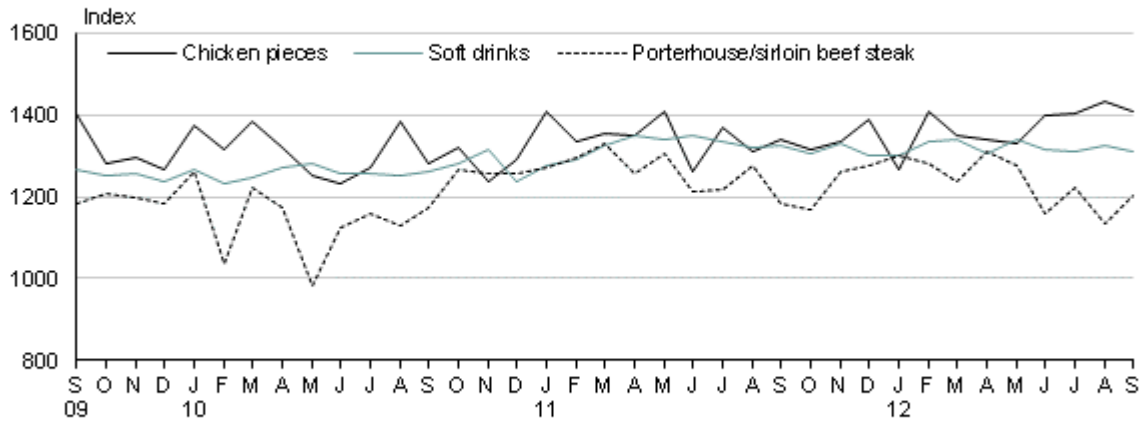
Meat, poultry, and fish prices also fell for the year (down 0.8 percent). Lower prices for ham (down 11 percent) made the most significant downward contribution. This fall was partly offset by an increase in the price of chicken pieces (up 5.0 percent).

Of the other subgroups, restaurant meals and ready-to-eat food (up 1.4 percent) was the only subgroup to increase for the year. However, within this subgroup there were strong downward contributions, with takeaway pizzas decreasing 13 percent for the year.

Other selected indexes

Monthly indexes

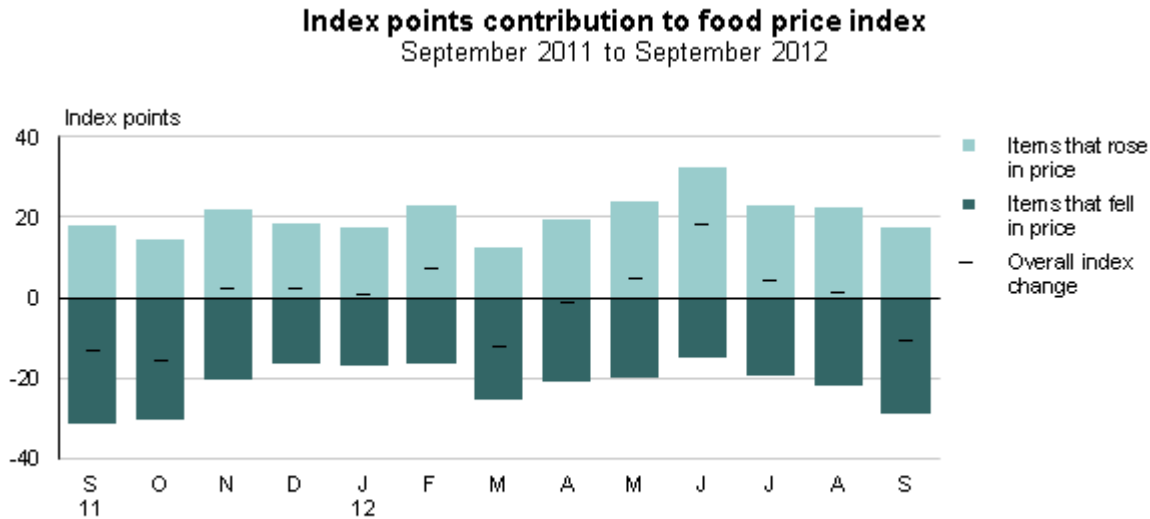
Base: June 2006 month (=1000)



Source: Statistics New Zealand

Impact of items that rose and fell in price

The items that rose in price had a smaller impact in September 2012 than in August 2012, while the impact of items that fell in price was larger. Compared with September 2011, the impact of items that rose in price was almost identical, while the impact of items that fell in price in September 2012 was slightly lower.



Source: Statistics New Zealand

Distribution of item-level index movements		
	July 2012 to August 2012	August 2012 to September 2012
Increase in price		
Number of items	78	73
Percentage of all items	48.4	45.3
Percentage of expenditure weight	47.2	46.0
Index points contribution	22.5	17.6
Weighted average price increase (percent)	3.7	3.0
No change in price		
Number of items	5	3
Percentage of all items	3.1	1.9
Percentage of expenditure weight	2.3	2.0
Decrease in price		
Number of items	78	85
Percentage of all items	48.4	52.8
Percentage of expenditure weight	50.5	52.0
Index points contribution	-21.9	-28.6
Weighted average price decrease (percent)	3.4	4.3

For more detailed data from the FPI see the Excel tables in the 'Downloads' box.

Definitions

About the food price index

The food price index (FPI) measures the rate of price change of a fixed basket of food goods and services purchased by households. The FPI aims to measure price changes of the same items (brand and relevant details) at each outlet over time. When there is a change in the size or quality of any of the goods or services in the basket, an adjustment is made to ensure that the price change shown in the FPI is not affected by the change in size or quality.

The FPI represents \$16.9 billion spent on food by New Zealand households (at June 2011 month prices). This is based on information from the 2009/10 Household Economic Survey and other sources. This is equivalent to spending about \$199 a week per household on food.

A full listing of the representative food items monitored in the FPI is available in [Food price index review: 2011](#) (see tables 3 and 4).

Food prices are also included in the consumers price index (CPI). The food group is the only group of the CPI for which an index is prepared each month. The all groups CPI is prepared quarterly.

The sources and methods used to compile food prices are explained in [Food prices in the consumers price index and food price index](#), available on the Statistics NZ website.

More definitions

A **price index** measures the change in price between time periods for a given set of goods and services. It summarises a set of prices for a variety of goods and services collected from a number of outlets.

Grocery food specials: Items that are 'on special' or come 'off special' are included in the FPI at the price levels observed at the time prices are collected. An analysis of the price quotes for these items is often given for the meat, poultry, and fish; grocery food; and non-alcoholic beverages subgroups in the 'Commentary' section of this information release. To be included in this analysis, the priced item will have been on special either last month or this month, or have been on special in both months.

Upward/downward contributions: Items mentioned in this release are often those that made a large contribution to the overall movement in the FPI. An item's contribution is a combination of its weight in the index (ie its relative importance, based on its share of household spending on food) and the magnitude of price movement. For example, for two items recording the same percentage rise in price, the item with the larger weight in the FPI will have a larger contribution to the overall movement. This contribution is also referred to as points (or index points) contribution.

Related links

Upcoming releases

The *Food Price Index: October 2012* will be released on 13 November 2012.

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[The release calendar](#) lists all our upcoming information releases by date of release.

Past releases

[Food Price Index](#) has links to past releases.

Related information

[Consumers price index \(CPI\)](#) measures price change of goods and services purchased by New Zealand households.

An explanation of sources and methods used to compile food prices is available here:
[Food prices in the consumers price index and food price index.](#)

[Electronic card transactions](#) measure the number and value of electronic card transactions with New Zealand-based merchants.

[Retail Trade Survey](#) measures sales of a range of household and personal goods and services.

Data quality

Period-specific information

This section contains information about data that has changed since the last release.

- [Reference period](#)
- [Sample size](#)
- [Imputation](#)

General information

This section contains information that does not change between releases.

- [Reference population](#)
- [Expenditure weights](#)
- [Collection methods](#)
- [Sample design](#)
- [Accuracy of the data](#)
- [Consistency with other periods or datasets](#)
- [Interpreting the data](#)
- [More information](#)

Period-specific information

Reference period

Prices were collected during the period 11–18 September 2012, with the exception of fresh fruit and vegetable prices, which were collected each Friday in most urban areas, and each Thursday in remaining urban areas.

Sample size

About 22,000 prices were collected from 650 retail outlets.

Imputation

Due to being unavailable at the time of price collection, on average 0.7 percent of prices (not including seasonal fresh fruit and vegetables) are imputed each month by carrying forward the previous month's price.

General information

Reference population

The reference population of the FPI covers approximately 98 percent of the usually-resident New Zealand population living in permanent dwellings. There are no exclusions based on income source or geographic location.

Expenditure weights

Expenditure weights give the relative importance of the food goods and services in the FPI basket.

The FPI represents about \$16.9 billion spent on food goods and services by New Zealand households (at June 2011 month prices). This is based on information from the 2009/10 Household Economic Survey and other sources.

New Zealand households spent \$15.7 billion on food goods and services in the year to June 2010 (which is the latest period available). Once the effect of price change between the year to June 2010 and the year to June 2011 is taken into account (called 'price updating'), spending on food rises to \$16.9 billion.

The relative importance of the FPI subgroups show that about \$38 of every \$100 households spend on food, is spent on grocery food. About \$21 is spent on eating out or takeaways, and about \$16 is spent on meat, poultry, and fish. Fruit and vegetables account for \$14, and the remaining \$11 is spent on non-alcoholic beverages, such as packaged coffee, soft drinks, and juices.

More information on the relative importance of FPI subgroups, classes, and selected sections is given in table 5 of this release.

Collection methods

Prices are surveyed by visiting 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.

Fresh fruit and vegetable prices are surveyed weekly, and the remaining food prices are generally surveyed between the 8th and 16th day of the month, although sometimes surveying starts and finishes earlier or later.

Sample design

Food prices are collected from about 650 outlets in the 15 surveyed urban areas. Of these, about 70 are supermarkets, 30 greengrocers, 30 fish shops, 30 butchers, 50 convenience stores (with half being service stations and the other half being dairies, grocery stores, and superettes), 120 restaurants (for evening meals), and more than 300 other suitable outlets (for breakfast, lunch, and takeaway food).

Statistics New Zealand collects prices from a sample of supermarkets in each of the 15 FPI pricing regions. This sample is designed to be representative of household purchases in each region. It was last reviewed in 2011. The sample of other stores was last reviewed in 2006.

Accuracy of the data

Review of the food price index

Reviews of the FPI are undertaken every three years, as part of wider reviews of the consumers price index (CPI). The latest review was implemented with the publication of the July 2011 FPI.

The review involved reselecting the basket of representative food goods and services, calculating new national expenditure weights, and updating regional population weights.

The previous product sample's final price collection period was June 2011. The updated FPI sample of products also had prices collected in June 2011. An overlapping price collection is necessary when changing a price index, to ensure changes in basket composition (eg basket additions, different outlets) are not reflected as price changes.

For more information, see [Food price index review: 2011](#).

Population weights

Population weights are used to allocate the national expenditure weights of goods and services to the FPI pricing centres. For example, the population weights ensure that a price change in Auckland (which has 33.43 percent of the population weight) would have about three times the effect on the national FPI than the same price change in Wellington (which has 11.07 percent of the population weight).

The latest subnational population estimates, which are published annually, are used to calculate the population weights at each FPI review. Estimates at 30 June 2010 were the latest figures available at the time of the 2011 FPI review. This means that any potential population movements following the Christchurch earthquakes in 2010/11 have not been reflected in these weights. Population weights will be monitored, and if considered necessary, updated to maintain the accuracy of the FPI.

Statistics NZ publishes FPI and CPI price indexes for five broad regions based on regional council area boundaries. These indexes are available from Infoshare. These regions are Auckland, Wellington, rest of North Island, Canterbury, and rest of South Island.

For the population weights of each region in the FPI, see table 6 of this release.

Outlet weights

Outlets are given appropriate weights to reflect their relative importance in terms of household spending.

Elementary aggregate formulae

Regional elementary aggregates are calculated for each of the 15 pricing centres from all prices collected for an item within that region. Regional elementary aggregates are calculated using a 'geometric mean of price relatives', or Jevons formula.

The Jevons formula is used to calculate average prices for all food goods and services in the basket, except fresh fruit and fresh vegetables. 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. The calculation of fresh fruit and vegetable average prices uses the Dutot formula.

For more information on the Jevons and Dutot formulae, see elementary aggregate formulae in [Information about the Food Price Index](#).

'On special' prices

Items that are 'on special' are included in the FPI at the price levels observed at the time of price collection. Quantity specials (for example, three loaves of bread for \$5.00) are also taken into account (as the price per loaf for the special is usually lower than the price of a single loaf). Where discounted prices are available only to customers who belong to discount schemes, this is represented in the FPI by collecting these prices at some outlets within a region, but not others.

Consistency with other periods or datasets

Impact of the Christchurch earthquakes on price collection

Price collection did not take place in March 2011, following the Christchurch earthquake on 22 February 2011. For the March FPI, price movements for the rest of New Zealand were used to calculate price movements in Christchurch.

Statistics NZ began collecting food (and non-food grocery) prices again in April 2011. While we were able to collect prices from most outlets in Christchurch in April, some were not open for business. For these outlets, price movements from other Christchurch outlets where prices were collected were used. In May 2011, most outlets that had not reopened were replaced with suitable alternative outlets. The remaining closed outlets are expected to reopen in the coming months.

In June 2011, further earthquakes interrupted price collection in Christchurch. About half the prices used to calculate the June 2011 FPI had been collected before the 13 June earthquakes, and price collection was put on hold for the remainder of the week. Collection was completed on 20 and 21 June, two working days later than other regions where we collect prices for the FPI.

Index base

The FPI has an index reference period of the June 2006 month (=1000). This is the benchmark to which prices in other periods are compared (eg if the index number in a later period is 1150, prices have increased by 15.0 percent since the index reference period). Prices for later periods can also be compared in the same fashion.

Seasonal adjustment of prices – fresh fruit and vegetables

Until the June 2006 month, fresh fruit and vegetable items that exhibited a seasonal pattern were adjusted to remove the effect of normal seasonal change. From the July 2006 month onwards, the FPI incorporates seasonally unadjusted prices for fresh fruit and vegetables. This change is in line with a recommendation made by the 2004 CPI Revision Advisory Committee.

The ongoing, fully unadjusted FPI is linked at the June 2006 month to the previously published FPI, which is partly seasonally adjusted. As such, care is required when comparing annual movements over this transition period. Annual movements calculated over the annual period encompassing the June 2006 month were based on fully unadjusted index numbers for the latest month, compared with adjusted index numbers for fresh fruit and vegetables for the same month of the previous year.

Reconciling the FPI and food group of the CPI

When comparing the FPI and the food group of the CPI, strictly speaking, the quarterly food group index number is not the average of the relevant three monthly FPI numbers. There are some technical differences between the monthly FPI indexes and quarterly indexes.

For more information, see [Food prices in the consumers price index and food price index](#).

Interpreting the data

Seasonal availability of fruit and vegetables

Fruit and vegetable prices are reflected in the FPI when there is enough produce available to estimate representative average prices. For example, prices for nectarines are historically not included in the April and May FPI. Similarly, prices for strawberries are not included in the May and June FPI. This is because not enough prices can be collected from stores during these months. No price change is shown in the FPI for these items during these months. When produce returns to sufficient levels, the prices are again reflected in the FPI. Price movements then reflect the price change from the month that the item was last included to the current month.

Weighted average retail prices of selected food items

Table 3 contains a selection of weighted average retail prices for the current and previous months. These weighted average retail prices were calculated from prices collected in the June 2006 month. Subsequent months' weighted average prices are then calculated by applying price index movements for the relevant items. These are not statistically accurate measures of average transaction price levels, but are reliable indicators of percentage changes in prices.

More information

See more [information about the Food Price Index](#).

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Tables

The following tables are available in Excel format from the 'Downloads' box. If you have problems viewing the files, see [opening files and PDFs](#).

1. Food price index, subgroups
- 2.01 Food price index, subgroups, classes, and selected sections – index numbers
- 2.02 Food price index, subgroups, classes, and selected sections, percentage change from previous month
- 2.03 Food price index, subgroups, classes, and selected sections, percentage change from same month of previous year
3. Weighted average retail prices of selected food items
4. Contribution to food price index and percentage change, by subgroup, class, or selected section
5. Food expenditure weights, by subgroup, class, or selected section
6. Population weights, by region/pricing centre

Supplementary tables

The following tables are available in Excel format from the 'Downloads' box. These tables provide longer time-series information than the tables above. Given the long time-series nature of the tables, they are not suitable for printing.

1. Food price index, subgroups
- 2.01 Food price index, subgroups, classes, and selected sections – index numbers
- 2.02 Food price index, subgroups, classes, and selected sections, percentage change from previous month
- 2.03 Food price index, subgroups, classes, and selected sections, percentage change from same month of previous year

Access more data on Infoshare

Use [Infoshare](#) to access time-series data specific to your needs. For this release, select the following categories from the Infoshare home page:

Subject category: **Economic indicators**

Group: **Consumers Price Index**

The FPI series are listed immediately after the CPI series. Additional information includes:

- index series for the FPI and its subgroups, classes, and selected sections
- the FPI for the 15 pricing centres and five broad regions
- non-standard aggregations of indexes (eg fresh fruit and vegetables)
- historical seasonally unadjusted index series
- average prices for a selection of items in the FPI basket.

The time series can be downloaded in Excel or comma delimited format. Percentage movements can be calculated using the following formula:

((Index number for later period minus index number for earlier period) divided by index number for earlier period) multiplied by 100.

[See more information about Infoshare.](#)

Table 1

Food price index**Subgroups**

Base: June 2006 month (=1000)

Series ref: CPIM	Subgroup price index					Food price index			
	Fruit and vegetables	Meat, poultry, and fish	Grocery food	Non-alcoholic beverages	Restaurant meals and ready-to-eat food	Index	Percentage change		
							From previous month	From same month of previous year	
	SE9011	SE9012	SE9013	SE9014	SE9015	SE901			
Month									
2009	Sep	1119	1275	1207	1220	1153	1196	-0.7	3.3
	Oct	1068	1234	1202	1215	1150	1178	-1.5	2.0
	Nov	1047	1235	1200	1205	1157	1175	-0.3	0.9
	Dec	1066	1220	1196	1190	1155	1172	-0.3	0.9
2010	Jan	1117	1260	1218	1212	1158	1197	2.1	2.2
	Feb	1078	1230	1208	1189	1158	1181	-1.3	0.7
	Mar	1058	1246	1211	1195	1161	1183	0.2	0.3
	Apr	1040	1213	1220	1189	1161	1177	-0.5	0.4
	May	1018	1184	1211	1207	1165	1169	-0.7	-0.5
	Jun	1113	1216	1201	1197	1168	1184	1.3	-2.0
	Jul	1210	1222	1216	1184	1171	1203	1.6	-1.0
	Aug	1165	1232	1223	1195	1171	1202	-0.1	-0.2
	Sep	1195	1220	1238	1203	1170	1211	0.7	1.3
	Oct	1243	1255	1259	1223	1192	1238	2.2	5.1
	Nov	1172	1249	1260	1244	1199	1231	-0.6	4.8
	Dec	1125	1259	1255	1211	1201	1221	-0.8	4.2
2011	Jan	1208	1280	1266	1225	1206	1243	1.8	3.8
	Feb	1187	1273	1273	1244	1208	1244	0.1	5.3
	Mar	1168	1292	1278	1258	1210	1248	0.3	5.5
	Apr	1130	1286	1291	1279	1214	1249	0.1	6.1
	May	1148	1301	1288	1291	1214	1255	0.5	7.4
	Jun	1288	1259	1297	1294	1220	1273	1.4	7.5
	Jul	1402	1305	1303	1291	1220	1298	2.0	7.9
	Aug	1319	1293	1299	1274	1220	1281	-1.3	6.6
	Sep	1206	1297	1297	1290	1222	1268	-1.0	4.7
	Oct	1133	1277	1293	1279	1223	1252	-1.3	1.1
	Nov	1088	1289	1302	1296	1228	1254	0.2	1.9
	Dec	1115	1305	1299	1264	1230	1256	0.2	2.9
2012	Jan	1155	1282	1296	1252	1233	1256	0.0	1.0
	Feb	1132	1304	1304	1290	1230	1263	0.6	1.5
	Mar	1084	1281	1300	1289	1227	1250	-1.0	0.2
	Apr	1114	1290	1291	1255	1226	1249	-0.1	0.0
	May	1150	1271	1285	1282	1234	1253	0.3	-0.2
	Jun	1254	1287	1289	1263	1238	1271	1.4	-0.2
	Jul	1309	1284	1281	1264	1237	1274	0.2	-1.8
	Aug	1329	1284	1272	1280	1236	1275	0.1	-0.5
	Sep	1300	1286	1252	1273	1239	1264	-0.9	-0.3

Source: Statistics New Zealand

Table 2.01

Food price index

Subgroups, classes, and selected sections – index numbers

Base: June 2006 month (=1000)

Subgroup, class, or section ⁽¹⁾	Series ref: CPIM	Month				
		2012				
		May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
Fruit and vegetables subgroup	SE9011	1150	1254	1309	1329	1300
Fruit	SE901101	1301	1334	1351	1361	1310
Vegetables	SE901102	1056	1203	1279	1306	1290
Meat, poultry, and fish subgroup	SE9012	1271	1287	1284	1284	1286
Meat and poultry	SE901201	1279	1297	1291	1294	1293
Beef and veal	SE9012011	1303	1296	1308	1271	1306
Pork	SE9012012	1235	1188	1164	1234	1164
Mutton, lamb, and hogget	SE9012013	1399	1380	1201	1283	1296
Poultry	SE9012014	1385	1443	1485	1474	1444
Preserved, prepared, and processed meat	SE9012016	1129	1161	1154	1165	1164
Fish and other seafood	SE901202	1210	1216	1225	1211	1230
Grocery food subgroup	SE9013	1285	1289	1281	1272	1252
Bread and cereals	SE901301	1316	1280	1298	1286	1283
Bread	SE9013011	1413	1373	1332	1370	1348
Cakes and biscuits	SE9013012	1297	1245	1315	1258	1292
Breakfast cereals	SE9013013	1168	1169	1189	1176	1193
Pasta products	SE9013014	1137	1149	1151	1156	1109
Pastry-cook products	SE9013015	1235	1211	1234	1208	1155
Other cereal products	SE9013016	1370	1320	1375	1338	1323
Milk, cheese, and eggs	SE901302	1252	1265	1252	1240	1224
Fresh milk	SE9013021	1150	1142	1125	1125	1125
Preserved milk	SE9013022	1383	1397	1404	1453	1454
Yoghurt	SE9013023	1325	1360	1346	1339	1276
Cheese	SE9013024	1344	1397	1379	1324	1287
Other milk products	SE9013025	1509	1498	1492	1501	1493
Eggs	SE9013026	1160	1177	1186	1166	1163
Oils and fats	SE901303	1289	1378	1332	1276	1252
Food additives and condiments	SE901304	1308	1323	1288	1305	1253
Confectionery, nuts, and snacks	SE901305	1298	1327	1298	1299	1257
Other grocery food	SE901306	1240	1243	1258	1234	1236
Non-alcoholic beverages subgroup	SE9014	1282	1263	1264	1280	1273
Coffee, tea, and other hot drinks	SE901401	1313	1302	1294	1337	1336
Soft drinks, waters, and juices	SE901402	1275	1255	1257	1268	1259
Restaurant meals and ready-to-eat food subgroup	SE9015	1234	1238	1237	1236	1239
Restaurant meals	SE901501	1210	1211	1212	1212	1218
Ready-to-eat food	SE901502	1254	1261	1258	1255	1258
Food group	SE901	1253	1271	1274	1275	1264

1. Sections are given for selected classes.

Source: Statistics New Zealand

Table 2.02

Food price index

Subgroups, classes, and selected sections

Percentage change from previous month

Subgroup, class, or section ⁽¹⁾	Series ref: CPIM	Month				
		2012				
		May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
Fruit and vegetables subgroup	SE9011	3.2	9.0	4.4	1.5	-2.2
Fruit	SE901101	-3.2	2.5	1.3	0.7	-3.7
Vegetables	SE901102	8.4	13.9	6.3	2.1	-1.2
Meat, poultry, and fish subgroup	SE9012	-1.5	1.3	-0.2	0.0	0.2
Meat and poultry	SE901201	-1.4	1.4	-0.5	0.2	-0.1
Beef and veal	SE9012011	-2.3	-0.5	0.9	-2.8	2.8
Pork	SE9012012	2.9	-3.8	-2.0	6.0	-5.7
Mutton, lamb, and hogget	SE9012013	0.4	-1.4	-13.0	6.8	1.0
Poultry	SE9012014	-0.2	4.2	2.9	-0.7	-2.0
Preserved, prepared, and processed meat	SE9012016	-2.9	2.8	-0.6	1.0	-0.1
Fish and other seafood	SE901202	-1.6	0.5	0.7	-1.1	1.6
Grocery food subgroup	SE9013	-0.5	0.3	-0.6	-0.7	-1.6
Bread and cereals	SE901301	1.6	-2.7	1.4	-0.9	-0.2
Bread	SE9013011	2.4	-2.8	-3.0	2.9	-1.6
Cakes and biscuits	SE9013012	3.3	-4.0	5.6	-4.3	2.7
Breakfast cereals	SE9013013	-1.8	0.1	1.7	-1.1	1.4
Pasta products	SE9013014	-0.8	1.1	0.2	0.4	-4.1
Pastry-cook products	SE9013015	0.8	-1.9	1.9	-2.1	-4.4
Other cereal products	SE9013016	-0.4	-3.6	4.2	-2.7	-1.1
Milk, cheese, and eggs	SE901302	-2.7	1.0	-1.0	-1.0	-1.3
Fresh milk	SE9013021	-5.7	-0.7	-1.5	0.0	0.0
Preserved milk	SE9013022	-2.7	1.0	0.5	3.5	0.1
Yoghurt	SE9013023	0.2	2.6	-1.0	-0.5	-4.7
Cheese	SE9013024	-1.3	3.9	-1.3	-4.0	-2.8
Other milk products	SE9013025	0.9	-0.7	-0.4	0.6	-0.5
Eggs	SE9013026	1.8	1.5	0.8	-1.7	-0.3
Oils and fats	SE901303	-7.5	6.9	-3.3	-4.2	-1.9
Food additives and condiments	SE901304	0.3	1.1	-2.6	1.3	-4.0
Confectionery, nuts, and snacks	SE901305	-0.3	2.2	-2.2	0.1	-3.2
Other grocery food	SE901306	1.6	0.2	1.2	-1.9	0.2
Non-alcoholic beverages subgroup	SE9014	2.2	-1.5	0.1	1.3	-0.5
Coffee, tea, and other hot drinks	SE901401	2.2	-0.8	-0.6	3.3	-0.1
Soft drinks, waters, and juices	SE901402	2.2	-1.6	0.2	0.9	-0.7
Restaurant meals and ready-to-eat food subgroup	SE9015	0.7	0.3	-0.1	-0.1	0.2
Restaurant meals	SE901501	0.9	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.5
Ready-to-eat food	SE901502	0.5	0.6	-0.2	-0.2	0.2
Food group	SE901	0.3	1.4	0.2	0.1	-0.9

1. Sections are given for selected classes.

Source: Statistics New Zealand

Table 2.03

Food price index

Subgroups, classes, and selected sections

Percentage change from same month of previous year

Subgroup, class, or section ⁽¹⁾	Series ref: CPIM	Month				
		2012				
		May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
Fruit and vegetables subgroup	SE9011	0.2	-2.6	-6.6	0.8	7.8
Fruit	SE901101	2.9	2.6	3.8	11.0	4.3
Vegetables	SE901102	-2.5	-5.8	-12.3	-4.7	10.1
Meat, poultry, and fish subgroup	SE9012	-2.3	2.2	-1.6	-0.7	-0.8
Meat and poultry	SE901201	-2.8	1.9	-2.4	-0.6	-1.4
Beef and veal	SE9012011	-2.3	0.2	0.1	-4.3	0.7
Pork	SE9012012	2.6	-0.8	-9.1	1.1	-8.1
Mutton, lamb, and hogget	SE9012013	-3.0	-5.5	-23.6	-19.2	-9.6
Poultry	SE9012014	-6.5	5.8	2.6	7.1	0.9
Preserved, prepared, and processed meat	SE9012016	-2.4	2.9	-0.9	2.0	-1.3
Fish and other seafood	SE901202	0.7	4.2	2.6	-1.3	2.3
Grocery food subgroup	SE9013	-0.2	-0.6	-1.7	-2.1	-3.5
Bread and cereals	SE901301	2.2	-1.2	-0.6	-0.5	-1.1
Bread	SE9013011	1.0	-2.6	-5.1	-2.0	-2.5
Cakes and biscuits	SE9013012	3.5	0.0	3.1	1.3	2.5
Breakfast cereals	SE9013013	4.9	7.1	2.9	3.4	3.2
Pasta products	SE9013014	1.6	1.5	-1.6	-0.9	-2.2
Pastry-cook products	SE9013015	3.2	-3.1	0.0	-3.5	-7.6
Other cereal products	SE9013016	-0.1	-6.4	0.3	-2.0	-4.9
Milk, cheese, and eggs	SE901302	-4.9	-4.0	-6.8	-5.8	-7.1
Fresh milk	SE9013021	-7.2	-8.0	-9.3	-9.2	-9.2
Preserved milk	SE9013022	-1.1	0.1	4.5	5.6	5.7
Yoghurt	SE9013023	-1.6	6.4	-8.2	-2.6	-6.8
Cheese	SE9013024	-8.4	-7.7	-9.7	-8.3	-10.8
Other milk products	SE9013025	4.9	0.7	1.6	2.2	-0.5
Eggs	SE9013026	4.7	5.5	4.5	3.0	1.7
Oils and fats	SE901303	-11.4	-8.2	-11.0	-12.9	-14.4
Food additives and condiments	SE901304	1.9	2.6	0.5	-0.3	-4.3
Confectionery, nuts, and snacks	SE901305	2.5	3.4	2.2	0.9	-1.7
Other grocery food	SE901306	2.4	2.9	3.5	0.1	1.3
Non-alcoholic beverages subgroup	SE9014	-0.7	-2.4	-2.1	0.5	-1.3
Coffee, tea, and other hot drinks	SE901401	-2.7	-1.0	-4.1	4.8	-1.3
Soft drinks, waters, and juices	SE901402	-0.2	-2.6	-1.6	-0.4	-1.3
Restaurant meals and ready-to-eat food subgroup	SE9015	1.6	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.4
Restaurant meals	SE901501	2.1	1.8	1.8	1.7	1.8
Ready-to-eat food	SE901502	1.5	1.4	1.2	1.0	1.1
Food group	SE901	-0.2	-0.2	-1.8	-0.5	-0.3

1. Sections are given for selected classes.

Source: Statistics New Zealand

Table 3

Weighted average retail prices of selected food items⁽¹⁾

Item	Series ref: CPIM	Unit	Aug 2012	Sep 2012	Percentage change ⁽²⁾
			\$		
Fruit and vegetables subgroup (supermarket & greengrocer)					
Oranges	SAP0100	1kg	2.54	2.50	-1.6
Bananas	SAP0101	1kg	2.57	2.55	-0.8
Apples	SAP0102	1kg	2.73	2.75	0.7
Kiwifruit	SAP0103	1kg	2.17	2.38	9.7
Sultanas (supermarket only)	SAP0104	375g	2.28	2.19	-3.9
Peaches – canned (supermarket only)	SAP0105	410g	1.89	1.85	-2.1
Lettuce	SAP0106	1kg	5.21	4.58	-12.1
Broccoli	SAP0107	1kg	4.48	9.43	110.5
Cabbage	SAP0108	1kg	1.67	1.44	-13.8
Tomatoes	SAP0109	1kg	12.52	12.26	-2.1
Carrots	SAP0110	1kg	1.67	1.92	15.0
Mushrooms	SAP0111	1kg	11.89	11.89	0.0
Potatoes	SAP0112	1kg	1.41	1.33	-5.7
Peas – frozen (supermarket only) ⁽³⁾	SAP0113	1kg	2.90	2.89	-0.3
Meat, poultry, and fish subgroup (supermarket & butcher)					
Beef steak – blade	SAP0114	1kg	14.83	13.99	-5.7
Beef steak – porterhouse/sirloin	SAP0115	1kg	22.74	24.12	6.1
Beef – mince	SAP0116	1kg	12.09	12.08	-0.1
Pork – loin chops	SAP0117	1kg	16.31	16.26	-0.3
Lamb – chops	SAP0118	1kg	13.60	13.49	-0.8
Bacon – middle rashers (supermarket only)	SAP0119	1kg	21.39	21.58	0.9
Sausages	SAP0120	1kg	9.13	8.95	-2.0
Tuna – canned (supermarket only)	SAP0121	185g	2.42	2.50	3.3
Grocery food subgroup (supermarket & convenience store)					
Bread – white sliced loaf ⁽³⁾	SAP0122	700g	1.89	1.89	0.0
Biscuits – chocolate	SAP0123	200g	2.89	3.33	15.2
Breakfast biscuits	SAP0124	1kg	5.69	6.00	5.4
Flour – white (supermarket only) ⁽³⁾	SAP0125	1.5kg	2.07	2.06	-0.5
Rice – long grain, white (supermarket only)	SAP0126	1kg	2.43	2.39	-1.6
Milk – standard homogenised ⁽³⁾	SAP0127	2 litres	3.19	3.20	0.3
Yoghurt – flavoured, 150g pottle (supermarket only)	SAP0128	pk of 6	5.26	5.01	-4.8
Cheese – mild cheddar (supermarket only) ⁽³⁾	SAP0129	1kg	8.53	8.40	-1.5
Eggs ⁽³⁾	SAP0130	dozen	3.45	3.43	-0.6
Butter – salted ⁽³⁾	SAP0131	500g	3.20	3.10	-3.1
Sugar – white ⁽³⁾	SAP0132	1.5kg	3.13	3.06	-2.2
Tomato sauce – canned	SAP0146	575g	3.20	3.05	-4.7
Chocolate – block (supermarket only)	SAP0134	250g	3.93	3.88	-1.3
Potato crisps ⁽⁴⁾	SAP0145	190g	1.80	1.79	-0.6
Spaghetti – canned	SAP0136	420g	1.69	1.76	4.1
Non-alcoholic beverages subgroup (supermarket & convenience store)					
Coffee – instant	SAP0137	100g	5.87	5.94	1.2
Tea bags (supermarket only)	SAP0138	box of 100	4.77	4.52	-5.2
Soft drink	SAP0139	1.5 litres	2.52	2.39	-5.2
Bottled water	SAP0140	750ml	2.16	2.16	0.0
Fruit juice – apple based (supermarket only) ⁽³⁾⁽⁴⁾	SAP0144	1 litre	4.30	3.99	-7.2
Restaurant meals and ready-to-eat food subgroup					
Fish and chips	SAP0142	1 fish/chips	5.73	5.75	0.3
Meat pie – hot	SAP0143	each	3.60	3.60	0.0

1. Calculated by applying index movements to weighted average prices for the June 2006 month. These are not statistically accurate measures of average transaction price levels, but do provide a reliable indicator of percentage changes in prices.
2. 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.
3. Based on the cheapest available brand or variety in each retail outlet at the time of price collection.
4. Calculated by applying index movements to weighted average prices for the June 2011 month.

Table 4

Contribution to food price index and percentage change

By subgroup, class, or selected section

Subgroup, class, or section ⁽¹⁾	Expenditure (weight) June 2011 ⁽²⁾	From previous month		From same month of previous year	
		Percentage change	Index points contribution ⁽²⁾	Percentage change	Index points contribution ⁽²⁾
Fruit and vegetables subgroup	14.02	-2.2	-4.02	7.8	13.03
Fruit	5.30	-3.7	-2.64	4.3	2.80
Vegetables	8.72	-1.2	-1.38	10.1	10.23
Meat, poultry, and fish subgroup	15.68	0.2	0.37	-0.8	-1.64
Meat and poultry	13.27	-0.1	-0.13	-1.4	-2.36
Beef and veal	3.58	2.8	1.25	0.7	0.32
Pork	0.87	-5.7	-0.65	-8.1	-0.94
Mutton, lamb, and hogget	1.17	1.0	0.13	-9.6	-1.40
Poultry	3.09	-2.0	-0.86	0.9	0.38
Preserved, prepared, and processed meat	4.56	-0.1	-0.01	-1.3	-0.73
Fish and other seafood	2.41	1.6	0.50	2.3	0.73
Grocery food subgroup	38.13	-1.6	-7.40	-3.5	-17.08
Bread and cereals	11.07	-0.2	-0.29	-1.1	-1.57
Bread	4.01	-1.6	-0.80	-2.5	-1.27
Cakes and biscuits	3.31	2.7	1.15	2.5	1.05
Breakfast cereals	1.15	1.4	0.24	3.2	0.50
Pasta products	0.31	-4.1	-0.16	-2.2	-0.09
Pastry-cook products	0.99	-4.4	-0.53	-7.6	-0.96
Other cereal products	1.30	-1.1	-0.18	-4.9	-0.80
Milk, cheese, and eggs	10.10	-1.3	-1.56	-7.1	-9.15
Fresh milk	4.60	0.0	0.00	-9.2	-5.40
Preserved milk	0.38	0.1	0.00	5.7	0.27
Yoghurt	1.22	-4.7	-0.76	-6.8	-1.12
Cheese	2.35	-2.8	-0.74	-10.8	-3.08
Other milk products	0.58	-0.5	-0.04	-0.5	-0.04
Eggs	0.97	-0.3	-0.03	1.7	0.22
Oils and fats	1.88	-1.9	-0.37	-14.4	-3.35
Food additives and condiments	2.86	-4.0	-1.46	-4.3	-1.59
Confectionery, nuts, and snacks	8.95	-3.2	-3.75	-1.7	-1.95
Other grocery food	3.27	0.2	0.04	1.3	0.53
Non-alcoholic beverages subgroup	11.20	-0.5	-0.78	-1.3	-1.83
Coffee, tea, and other hot drinks	1.97	-0.1	-0.02	-1.3	-0.34
Soft drinks, waters, and juices	9.22	-0.7	-0.76	-1.3	-1.49
Restaurant meals and ready-to-eat food subgroup	20.97	0.2	0.84	1.4	3.73
Restaurant meals	7.69	0.5	0.49	1.8	1.86
Ready-to-eat food	13.28	0.2	0.35	1.1	1.86
Food group	100.00	-0.9	-10.98	-0.3	-3.80

1. Sections are given for selected classes.

2. Due to rounding, individual figures may not sum to stated totals.

Source: Statistics New Zealand

Table 5

Food expenditure weights
By subgroup, class, or selected section

Subgroup, class, or section ⁽¹⁾	Base month expenditure weight	
	June 2008	June 2011
	Percent ⁽²⁾	
Fruit and vegetables subgroup	13.97	14.02
Fruit	5.18	5.30
Vegetables	8.78	8.72
Meat, poultry, and fish subgroup	16.63	15.68
Meat and poultry	14.22	13.27
Beef and veal	3.46	3.58
Pork	0.95	0.87
Mutton, lamb, and hogget	1.30	1.17
Poultry	3.46	3.09
Preserved, prepared, and processed meat	5.04	4.56
Fish and other seafood	2.42	2.41
Grocery food subgroup	38.34	38.13
Bread and cereals	11.03	11.07
Bread	4.05	4.01
Cakes and biscuits	3.37	3.31
Breakfast cereals	1.27	1.15
Pasta products	0.37	0.31
Pastry-cook products	0.89	0.99
Other cereal products	1.07	1.30
Milk, cheese, and eggs	10.19	10.10
Fresh milk	4.68	4.60
Preserved milk	0.35	0.38
Yoghurt	1.42	1.22
Cheese	2.25	2.35
Other milk products	0.47	0.58
Eggs	1.03	0.97
Oils and fats	1.76	1.88
Food additives and condiments	2.48	2.86
Confectionery, nuts, and snacks	9.09	8.95
Other grocery food	3.79	3.27
Non-alcoholic beverages subgroup	10.18	11.20
Coffee, tea, and other hot drinks	1.91	1.97
Soft drinks, waters, and juices	8.27	9.22
Restaurant meals and ready-to-eat food subgroup	20.88	20.97
Restaurant meals	8.45	7.69
Ready-to-eat food	12.43	13.28
Food group	100.00	100.00

1. Section expenditure weights are given for selected classes.
2. Due to rounding, individual figures may not sum to stated totals.

Source: Statistics New Zealand

Table 6

Population weights⁽¹⁾
By region/pricing centre

Region/pricing centre	Base month population weight	
	June 2008	June 2011
	Percent ⁽²⁾	
Auckland	32.98	33.43
Wellington	11.13	11.07
Rest of North Island	32.04	31.73
Whangarei	3.64	3.60
Hamilton	9.43	9.42
Tauranga	4.45	4.48
Rotorua	1.88	1.82
Napier-Hastings	4.69	4.61
New Plymouth	2.54	2.50
Wanganui	1.56	1.49
Palmerston North	3.86	3.81
Canterbury	12.94	12.96
Christchurch	11.55	11.59
Timaru	1.39	1.37
Rest of South Island	10.92	10.82
Nelson	3.95	3.91
Dunedin	4.77	4.75
Invercargill	2.20	2.16
Total	100.00	100.00

1. Based on the estimated census usually resident population of the pricing centre's regional council area. Where there is more than one pricing centre within a region, the proportion of the regional council area allocated to each pricing centre is based on the population of the pricing centre's territorial authority. Regional council areas without a pricing centre are allocated to a neighbouring region. See the 'Data quality' section of this release for further details.
2. Due to rounding, individual figures may not sum to stated totals.

Source: Statistics New Zealand