

Supermarket scanner data use during the COVID-19 pandemic



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Australian Bureau of Statistics
Informing Australia's important decisions



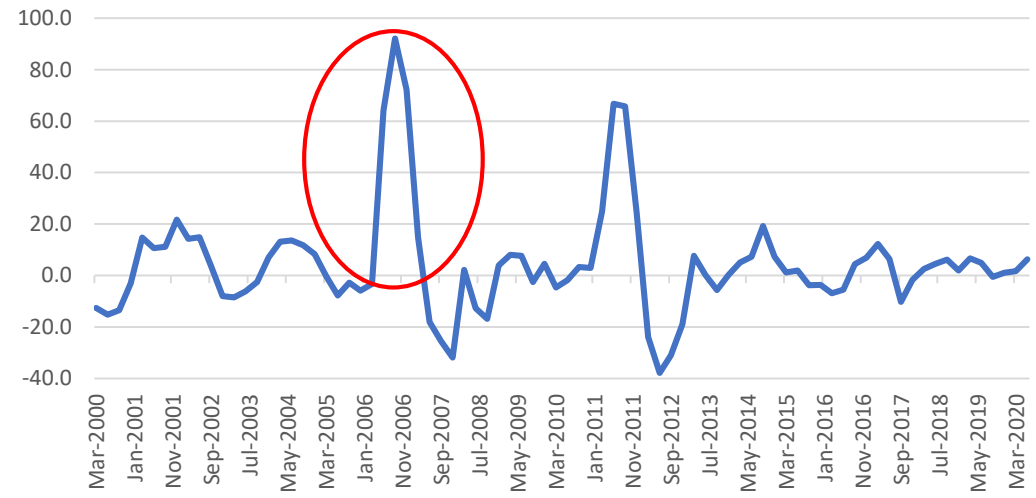
- Introduced multilateral methods (GEKS-Törnqvist) to the CPI late 2017
- Use data from the major supermarket chains in Australia
- Used for grocery products including food, tobacco and other household goods.

Thanks to Michael Holt, Michael Webster, Jan de Haan (CBS). The ABS also acknowledges Fox, Diewert & Ivancic whose research formed the basis of this work.



Advantages of expenditure weighting

CPI Fruit EC - annual percentage change



← 2006
versus
2020 →

Coronavirus COVID-19: Why is everyone buying toilet paper?

ABC Life / By Patrick Wright



Coronavirus fears prompt shoppers to stock up on essential items, stripping supermarket shelves

By Rebeka Powell

Posted Mon 2 Mar 2020 at 2:35pm, updated Mon 2 Mar 2020 at 5:55pm



Has the banana's impact on the CPI been overestimated?

We're told that the banana price blow-out has hit the Consumer Price Index. According to the Australian Bureau of Statistics, fruit contributed 0.6 percentage points to the 4.0% through-the-year Consumer Price Index increase. And the rise in fruit prices was mainly attributable to an increase of approximately 250% in the price of bananas during the [...]

Source: crikey.com.au

Source: abc.net.au

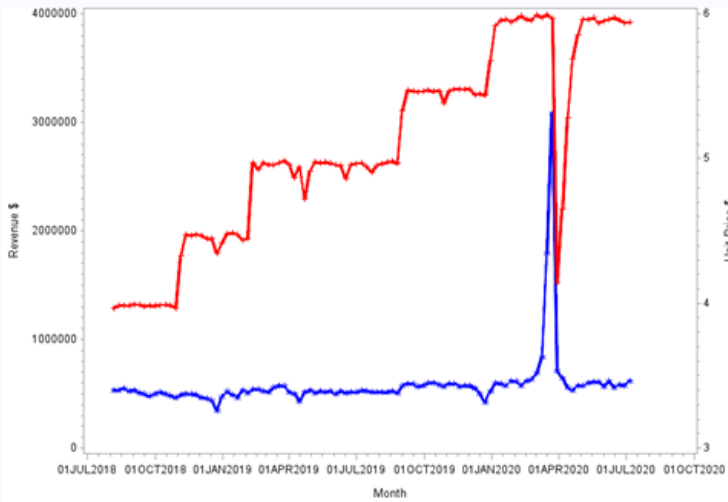


Price impact of stockpiling– March Quarter 2020

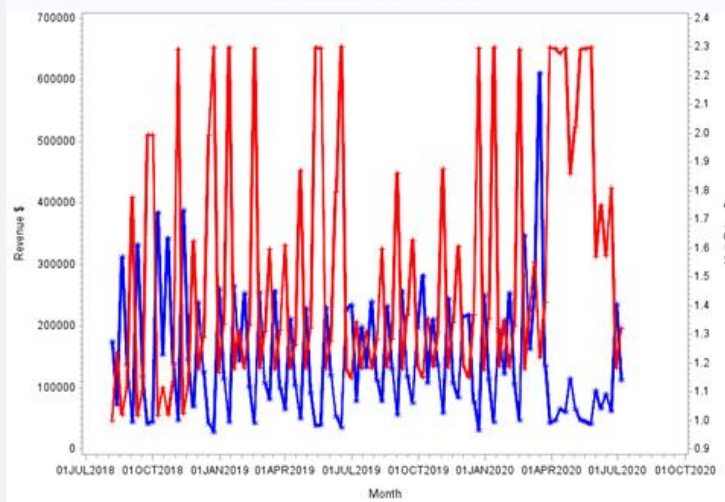
	Quarterly % change (11 weeks of data)	Quarterly % change (13 weeks of data)	Change (%pts)
FOOD & NON-ALC BEVERAGES GROUP	1.5	1.9	+0.4
Bread and cereal products	0.5	1.2	+0.7
Meat and seafoods	1.4	2.0	+0.6
Dairy and related products	0.8	1.1	+0.3
Fruit and vegetables	4.9	6.0	+1.1
Food products n.e.c	1.6	2.3	+0.7
Non alcoholic beverages	1.2	2.0	+0.8

Select scanner data graphs

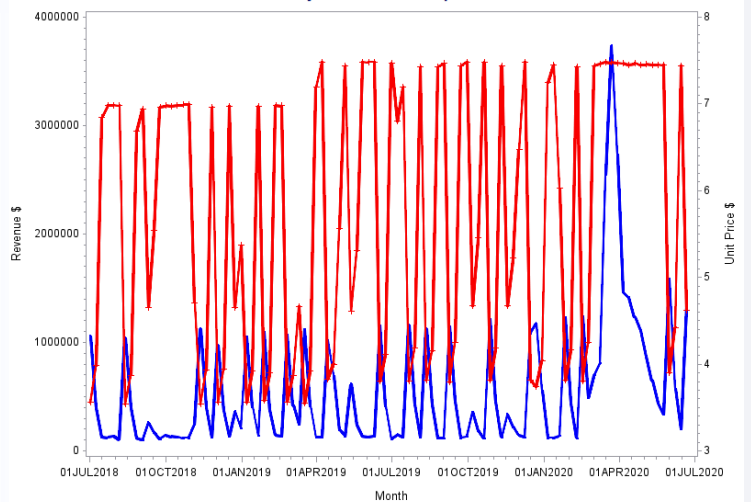
Beef Mince



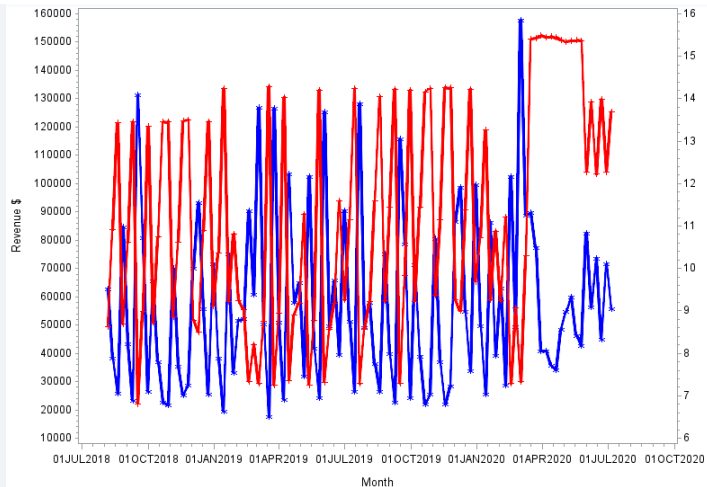
Canned Tuna



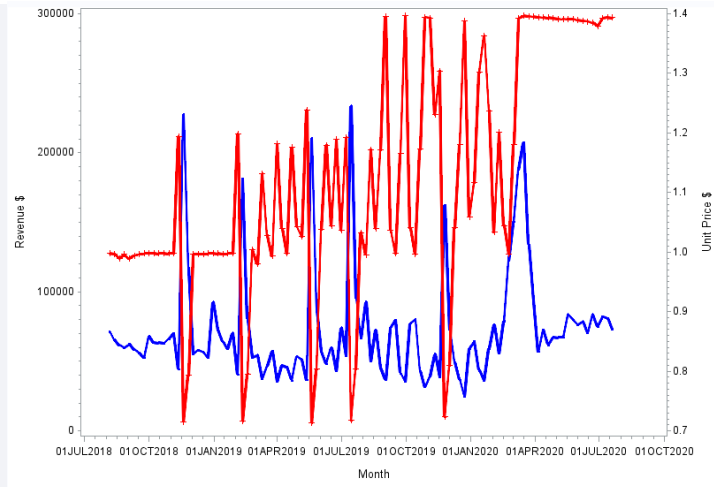
Toilet Paper



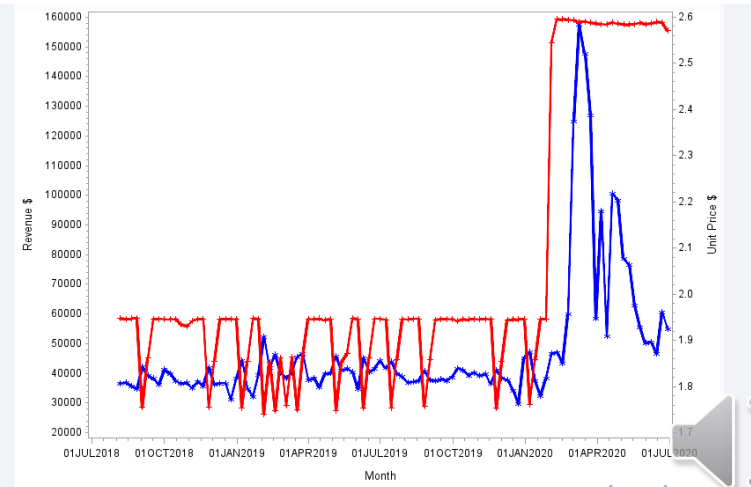
Meat Pies



Canned Tomato



Pasta



PLOT2 — unit_price
PLOT — revenue

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Non-standard response

