Supermarket scanner data use during the COVID-19 pandemic

Catherine.Smyth@abs.gov.au
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• 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?

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

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
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Quarterly % change (11 weeks of data)</th>
<th>Quarterly % change (13 weeks of data)</th>
<th>Change (%pts)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FOOD &amp; NON-ALC BEVERAGES GROUP</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>+0.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bread and cereal products</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>+0.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meat and seafoods</td>
<td>1.4</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>+0.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dairy and related products</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>+0.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fruit and vegetables</td>
<td>4.9</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>+1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food products n.e.c</td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>+0.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non alcoholic beverages</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>+0.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Select scanner data graphs

**Beef Mince**

**Canned Tuna**

**Toilet Paper**

**Meat Pies**

**Canned Tomato**

**Pasta**
Non-standard response

Total Revenue
Perishable Goods vs Non-Perishable Goods vs All Other Products

Revenue Change Feb 20 - Mar 20

Australian Bureau of Statistics  Informing Australia’s important decisions