

Wage Price Index – June Quarter 2017

ABS Cat. No. 6345.0

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ACT Wage Price Index grew by 0.6 per cent in the June Quarter 2017

ACT (Original)¹

The Wage Price Index (WPI)² increased by 0.6 per cent in the June quarter 2017. Through the year³ to the June quarter 2017, WPI increased by 1.9 per cent.

In the June quarter 2017, the public sector WPI increased by 0.6 per cent and the private sector WPI increased by 0.4 per cent. Through the year to the June quarter 2017, the public sector WPI increased by 1.6 per cent, while the private sector WPI increased by 2.2 per cent.

National (Seasonally adjusted)

Wage Price Index increased by 0.5 per cent in the June quarter 2017. Through the year to the June quarter 2017, WPI increased by 1.9 per cent.

In the June quarter 2017, the public sector WPI increased by 0.6 per cent and the private sector WPI increased by 0.4 per cent. Through the year to the June quarter 2017, public sector WPI increased by 2.4 per cent and private sector WPI increased by 1.8 per cent.

Wage Price Index, ACT and Australia, June Quarter 2017

	Index ^(a)	Change (%)	
		Quarterly	tty ³
<u>ACT — Original</u>			
Private	124.5	0.4	2.2
Public	125.0	0.6	1.6
Total	124.9	0.6	1.9
<u>Australia — Seasonally Adjusted</u>			
Private	125.5	0.4	1.8
Public	128.7	0.6	2.4
Total	126.3	0.5	1.9

Source: ABS Cat. No. 6345.0; (a) Reference period of each index is 2008-09 = 100.0

Commentary

In the June quarter 2017, the ACT (up 0.6 per cent) recorded the strongest overall WPI growth, growing at 0.2 percentage points stronger than Victoria (up 0.4 per cent), and double the rate of New South Wales, Queensland and Western Australia (each 0.3 per cent). The through the year result to June 2017 of 1.9 per cent was slightly above the outcome estimated at the 2017-18 Budget, of a 1¾ per cent increase in the WPI.

This overall result was driven by strong public sector WPI growth, with the ACT (up 0.6 per cent) recording the highest growth in public sector WPI in the quarter. Similarly, the ACT recorded the equal highest private sector WPI growth (up 0.4 per cent) in the quarter, along with New South Wales and Victoria.

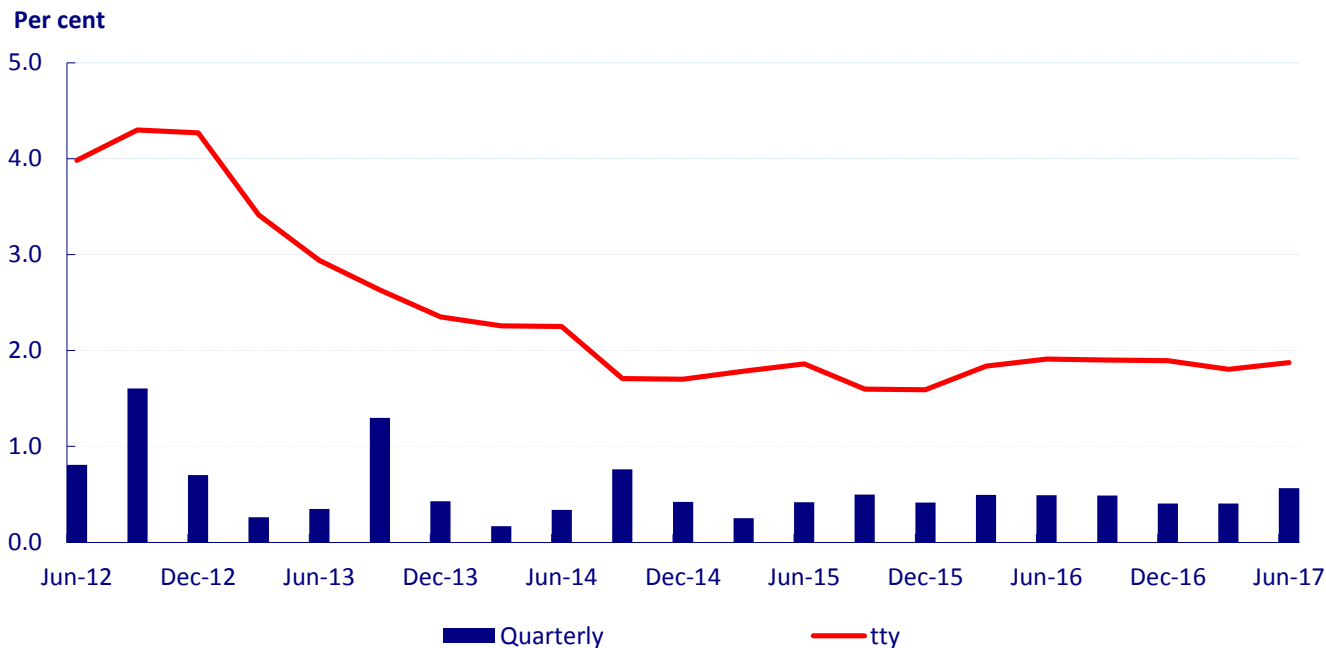
¹ Data for states and territories is available in original terms only; original data should be used with caution due to its volatility.

² Total hourly rates of pay excluding bonuses.

³ Through the year (tty) is the percentage change from the same quarter in the previous year.

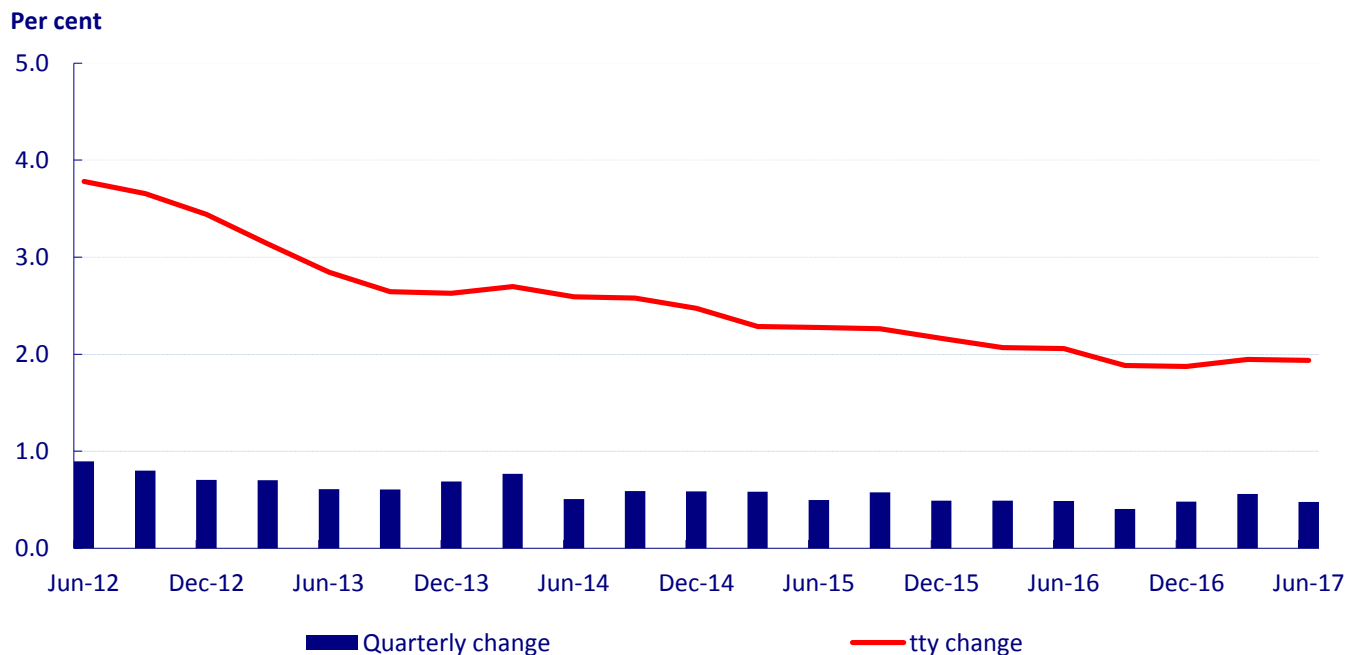
Despite strong quarterly growth in the public sector WPI, through the year to the June quarter 2017, the ACT (up 1.6 per cent) recorded the weakest growth in the public sector WPI. The ACT's public sector WPI has been growing at a lower rate than the national average in through the year terms for the last 15 consecutive quarters.

Wage Price Index — ACT (Original Data)



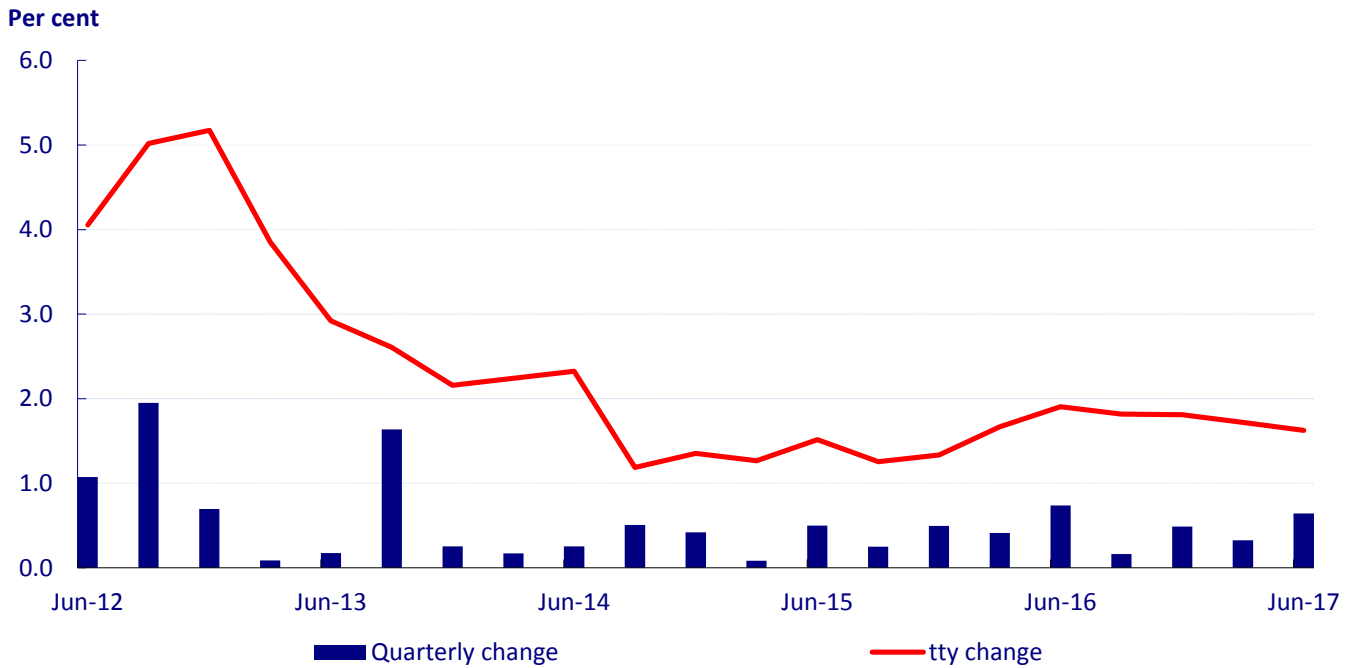
Source: ABS Cat. No. 6345.0

Wage Price Index — Australia (Seasonally Adjusted Data)



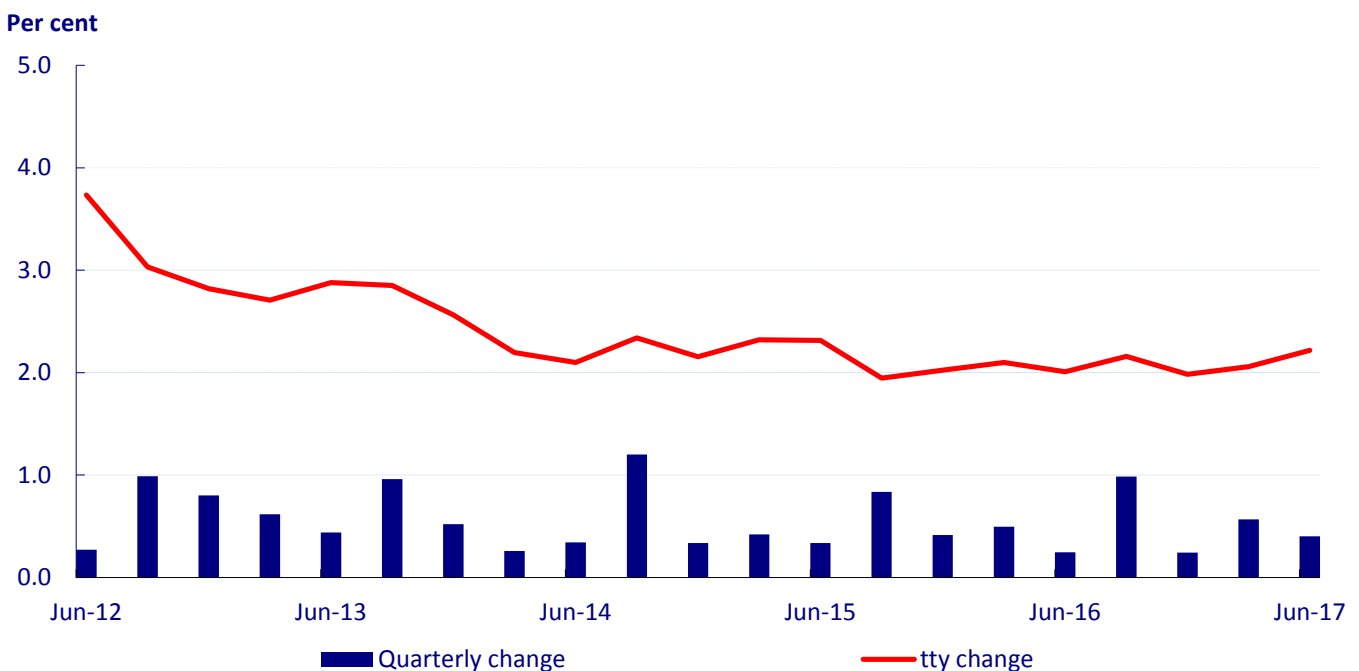
Source: ABS Cat. No. 6345.0

ACT Wage Price Index — Public Sector (Original Data)



Source: ABS Cat. No. 6345.0

ACT Wage Price Index — Private Sector (Original Data)



Source: ABS Cat. No. 6345.0

Definition

The WPI is a price index which measures changes over time in wages and salaries for employee jobs, unaffected by changes in the quality or quantity of work performed. Changes in wages and salaries resulting from changes in the composition of the labour market are excluded from the WPI movements.

Weighting

The weights used to compile the WPI were updated in the December quarter 2016 using expenditure on wages and salaries from the 2016 Survey of Employee Earnings and Hours. The weighting data are adjusted for price change to represent current period values.