

CPI November 2025

The all-groups unadjusted CPI was unchanged for the second month in a row in November, with the annual rate easing 0.4ppts to 3.4%.

The seasonally adjusted CPI rose by 0.2% in the month following a 0.4% increase in October, to be up by 3.5% YoY.

Trimmed mean CPI rose by a seasonally adjusted 0.3% for the fourth month in a row, with the annual rate easing 0.1ppts to 3.2%, although this remains above the upper bound of the RBA's 2-3% target range.

Trimmed mean inflation is the RBA's preferred measure of underlying inflation, but the central bank has made it clear that it will continue to focus on the quarterly trimmed mean, at least for now.

%	MoM	YoY
Headline CPI	0.0	3.4
Headline CPI (Seasonally Adjusted)	0.2	3.5
Trimmed Mean CPI (Seasonally Adjusted)	0.3	3.2
Market Sector Ex 'Volatile Items'	-0.3	2.7
Goods	0.2	3.3
Services	-0.2	3.6
Tradables	-0.3	1.8
Non-tradables	0.2	4.3

Data is original (not seasonally adjusted) unless stated otherwise.

Groups

A 5.2% increase in the housing group made the biggest contribution to inflation over the past year. However, this was largely due to electricity prices, which continue to be distorted by the timing of government rebates.

The energy index was up 6.8% in the quarter and 19.7% YoY. Excluding the impact of rebates, the electricity index would have risen 4.6% YoY

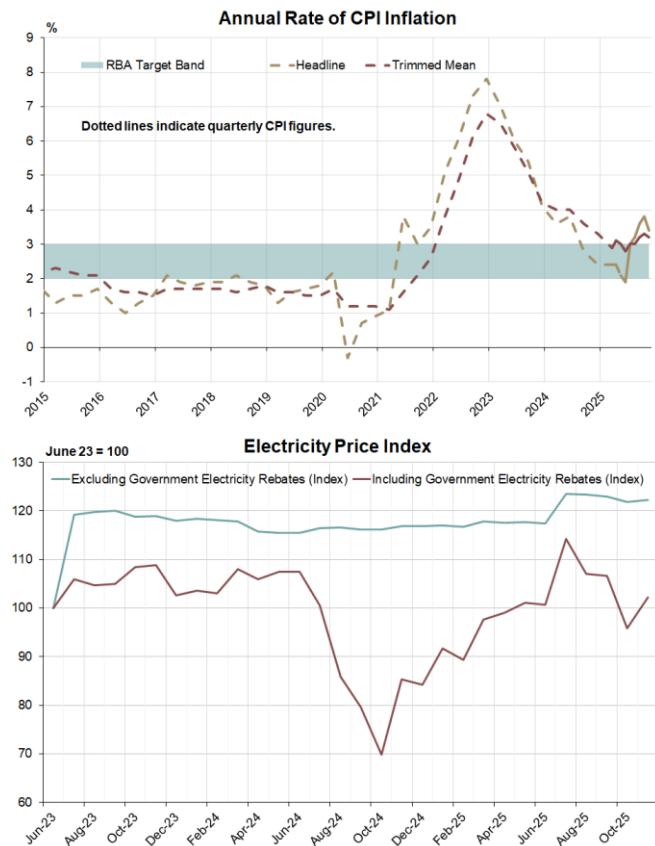
The other major contributors to annual inflation were food and alcoholic beverages, as well as transport, led by a rise in fuel prices.

Capital Cities

Inflation rates remain variable across state capitals, with the CPI falling in Perth, Brisbane and Hobart.

The annual inflation rate was lowest in Perth CPI, while inflation jumped to over 5.0% in Brisbane, largely due to the impact of Queensland State Government electricity rebates.

Capital Cities (%, Original)	MoM	YoY
Perth	-0.3	2.8
Sydney	0.2	3.4
Melbourne	0.1	3.0
Brisbane	-0.3	5.1
Adelaide	0.1	3.3
Hobart	-0.1	3.6



Comment

The monthly CPI delivered another flat headline result and a small deceleration in the monthly pace of underlying inflation, though only to the second decimal place.

With both annual headline and trimmed mean inflation easing in November, there are signs that inflation may have peaked.

However, with annual inflation remaining above target and the monthly trimmed mean increase still too high – even with the decline from 0.34% to 0.26% – the February meeting remains very much live in terms of the possibility of a cash rate increase.

When it comes to trimmed mean inflation, the RBA has said that it will continue to rely on the quarterly figure until it is more confident in the relatively new monthly number.

Given the continued focus on the quarterly trimmed mean, the December CPI, due on 28 January will go a long way to determining whether the RBA increases the cash rate in February.

A quarterly rise of 0.8% or more would open the possibility of a February cash rate hike, providing the labour force report due on 22 January doesn't bring any nasty surprises.

7 January 2026