

HOUSEHOLD EXPENDITURE, 1982-83 and 1981-82

The following table gives an analysis by commodity group and sub-group of average weekly expenditure per surveyed household for the years ended 31 March 1982 and 1981-82. The average increased from \$268.02 in the year ended 31 March 1982 to \$287.14 in the year ended 31 March 1983. This represents an increase of 7.1 percent. Food, clothing and transport are the most significant categories of household expenditure, each representing about 20 percent of total household expenditure.

AVERAGE WEEKLY EXPENDITURE PER SURVEYED HOUSEHOLD, BY COMMODITY GROUP AND SUB-GROUP: 1982-83 and 1981-82⁽¹⁾

Commodity Group and Sub-group	Average Weekly Household Expenditure ⁽²⁾ (\$)		Percent of Total Net Expenditure	
	1982-83	1981-82	1982-83	1981-82
FOOD				
Meat	4.25	3.75	1.5	1.4
Poultry	4.45	4.05	1.5	1.5
Fish	9.85	9.30	3.4	3.5
Eggs	1.40	1.30	0.5	0.5
Dairy	1.20	1.10	0.4	0.4
Vegetables, fruits, oils	7.70	6.90	2.7	2.6
Cereals, cereal products	7.05	6.40	2.4	2.4
Syrups, spreads, beverages	6.65	6.20	2.3	2.3
Foodstuffs	2.75	2.60	1.0	1.0
Consumed in eating places; away foods	9.50	8.45	3.3	3.2
Total, Food	54.80	50.05	19.1	18.7
HOUSING				
Rent	10.25	8.35	3.6	3.0
Utilities	-2.70	7.40	-1.0	2.8
Property purchase and sale expenses	2.10	2.35	0.7	0.9
Property mortgage repayment	16.80	14.60	5.8	5.4
Property rates and insurance	7.10	5.65	2.5	2.1
Housing costs	19.60	21.10	6.8	7.9
Total, Housing	53.10	59.45	18.5	22.2
HOUSEHOLD OPERATION				
Gas and power	7.90	6.80	2.8	2.5
Appliances	11.95	10.20	4.2	3.8
Furniture	5.30	4.90	1.8	1.8
Repairs	1.30	1.05	0.5	0.4
Cleanings	2.75	2.25	1.0	0.8
Household textiles	2.90	2.50	1.0	0.9
Household equipment and utensils	2.95	3.20	1.0	1.2
Household supplies	4.35	4.20	1.5	1.6
Household services	8.10	6.65	2.8	2.5
Total, Household Operation	47.50	41.80	16.5	15.6

⁽¹⁾Care should be exercised in interpreting differences between 1981-82 and 1982-83 in average weekly household expenditure at the sub-group level. Because of sampling error, seemingly large differences in average weekly household expenditure between the two years may not be statistically significant.

⁽²⁾Averages have been rounded to the nearest five cents.

HOUSEHOLD INCOME, 1982-83 and 1981-82

The average gross (before-tax) weekly income per surveyed household was \$432.13 in the year ended 31 March 1983, compared with \$376.05 in the year ended 31 March 1982. The following table analyses these overall averages by income source.

AVERAGE GROSS WEEKLY INCOME PER SURVEYED HOUSEHOLD, BY INCOME SOURCE: 1982-83 and 1981-82

Income Source	Average Gross Weekly Income Per Household ⁽¹⁾ (\$)	
	1982-83	1981-82
Wages and salary	292.50	267.75
Self-employment	51.75	37.30
National Superannuation	37.80	30.65
Other government benefits	16.25	14.85
Interest, rent, dividends, royalties	21.20	16.65
Other regular income	12.70	8.85
Total Income	432.15	376.05

⁽¹⁾Averages have been rounded to the nearest five cents.

Commodity Group and Sub-group	Average Weekly Household Expenditure ⁽²⁾ (\$)		Percent of Total Net Expenditure	
	1982-83	1981-82	1982-83	1981-82
APPAREL				
Mens clothing	3.95	3.75	1.4	1.4
Womens clothing	6.80	6.65	2.4	2.5
Boys, girls and infants clothing	2.20	2.20	0.8	0.8
Other clothing costs	2.60	2.40	0.9	0.9
Mens footwear	1.00	0.90	0.3	0.3
Womens footwear	1.80	1.75	0.6	0.7
Childrens footwear and footwear costs	1.15	0.95	0.4	0.4
Total, Apparel	19.45	18.65	6.8	7.0
TRANSPORTATION				
Public transport in N.Z.	3.10	2.80	1.1	1.0
Overseas travel	5.50	5.40	1.9	2.0
Purchase of vehicles	18.80	14.65	6.5	5.5
Fuel, oil, parts, accessories	18.70	16.50	6.5	6.2
Vehicle repair and maintenance	4.10	3.95	1.4	1.5
Vehicle insurance and fees	3.85	2.95	1.3	1.1
Other private transport costs	1.40	1.25	0.5	0.5
Total, Transportation	55.45	47.55	19.3	17.7
TOBACCO AND ALCOHOL				
Tobacco	4.30	3.95	1.5	1.5
Alcohol	9.65	8.70	3.4	3.3
Total, Tobacco and Alcohol	14.00	12.70	4.9	4.7
OTHER SUPPLIES				
Medical and health supplies	0.95	0.85	0.3	0.3
Toiletries and cosmetics	2.45	2.25	0.8	0.8
Personal supplies	1.20	1.05	0.4	0.4
Personal goods	2.10	2.10	0.7	0.8
Stationery supplies	1.15	1.05	0.4	0.4
Leisure and recreational equipment, goods and supplies	5.25	4.50	1.8	1.7
Newspapers, magazines and books	3.60	3.15	1.2	1.2
New and used recreational and towed vehicles	1.45	2.25	0.5	0.8
Supplies not elsewhere classified	2.75	2.25	1.0	0.8
Total, Other Supplies	20.85	19.50	7.3	7.3
OTHER SERVICES				
Health services	3.25	2.75	1.1	1.0
Personal services	2.00	1.70	0.7	0.6
Educational, cultural, leisure and recreational services	6.20	5.20	2.2	1.9
Accommodation services	1.60	1.25	0.6	0.5
Miscellaneous services	9.05	7.40	3.2	2.8
Total, Other Services	22.05	18.40	7.7	6.9
Total Net Expenditure	287.15	268.00	100.0	100.0
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS	4,488	3,487		

Furthermore, the percentage increase in after-tax income between the two surveys would have been considerably less than the 14.9 percent increase in before-tax income, especially as the reduction in personal income-tax rates from 1 October 1982 occurred outside the period that comparisons between the 1981-82 and 1982-83 survey results effectively cover (see preceding paragraph).

Percentage increases in average household income, for individual income sources, between the 1981-82 and 1982-83 surveys must be interpreted with considerable caution. It is quite possible for an unrepresentative mix of wage/salary earners, self-employed persons, National Superannuitants, persons receiving other government benefits, and persons receiving income from investments, to occur in one or both surveys. As a result, percentage increases from the

1981-82 survey to the 1982-83 survey in average household income from a particular source may be more a reflection of a difference in sample composition than a difference in income levels of the population as a whole.

As for income, the 7.1 percent increase in average household expenditure between the 1981-82 and 1982-83 surveys tends to be a measure of the increase in average household expenditure between points in time in the June 1981 and June 1982 quarters, not between April 1982 and March 1983.

The average number of persons per surveyed household was 2.96 in 1982-83, compared with 3.02 in 1981-82. Average expenditure per surveyed person increased by 9.3 percent between the 1981-82 and 1982-83 surveys.

NOTES ON BETWEEN-SURVEY COMPARISONS

Average gross weekly income per surveyed household increased by 14.9 percent between the 1981-82 and 1982-83 surveys. That increase may seem high given the existence of a wage freeze during most of the latest survey year, but the 14.9 percent increase is not a measure of the increase in average household income between April 1982 and March 1983.

The methods used to collect income data in the survey produce an average-income statistic that tends to relate to a time in the June quarter of the survey year, rather than to the middle or later part of the survey year. Thus, the 14.9 percent increase in average household income tends to be a measure of the increase in average household income between points in time in the June 1981 and June 1982 quarters.