

2019 NT Market Basket Survey



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Acronyms	Full form
ALPA	Arnhem Land Progress Association
CDB	Current Diet Basket
HFB	Healthy Food Basket
MBS	Market Basket Survey
NT	Northern Territory

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Please check for any corrections to this document. This was produced early to meet deadlines for the Commonwealth Inquiry into food prices and food security in remote communities and is potentially subject to further change

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1. Executive summary

1.1 Survey results – 2019

- The 2019 Market Basket Survey (MBS) is the nineteenth survey of remote stores in the Northern Territory (NT).
- Fifty-eight remote stores were surveyed between June and August 2019; a supermarket and corner store in the major town/city in each of the district centres were also surveyed for comparison.
- A Healthy Food Basket (HFB) and Current Diet Basket (CDB) were priced in each of the stores. The HFB is based on foods recommended in the Australian Guide to Healthy Eating, the CDB is based on the most recent survey of dietary patterns of Aboriginal* people in Australia. Both baskets contain sufficient food to feed a hypothetical family of six for a fortnight. 2019 is the third year the CDB has been included.
- The average cost of the CDB was higher than the HFB in all districts and all store types.
- The CDB was 7% higher in remote stores (\$913 compared to \$848), 6% higher in corner stores (\$847 compared to \$800) and 17% higher in district centre supermarkets (\$650 compared to \$542) compared to the HFB.
- On average, the HFB in remote stores was 56% more expensive than in the district centre supermarkets and 6% higher than the average of the district centre corner stores.
- On average, the CDB in remote stores was 40% more expensive than in the district centre supermarkets and 8% higher than the average of the district centre corner stores.
- Compared to 2017, when the last survey was conducted, the average cost of the HFB decreased by 1% in remote stores and increased by 1% in district centre supermarkets.
- 61% of people employed in remote community stores were Aboriginal.
- 87% of fresh fruit and vegetables were rated to be of 'good' quality.
- 96% of items in the HFB were available, or usually available, in the remote stores surveyed.

1.2 Trend Data 2000 – 2019

- In remote stores, there has been a rising trend in the average number of varieties of fresh fruit and vegetables from 2000 to 2019. The average number of varieties of fresh vegetables available was highest in 2017 when there was an average of 18 varieties available.
- On average, the cost of the HFB has risen annually by 3.1% in remote stores and 2.1% in district centre supermarkets. The average consumer price index over this period was 2.7%.
- Compared to district centre supermarkets the HFB was the most expensive in 2017 (60%), this gap has decreased in 2019 (56%).

2. Background and history

In 1995 the then Northern Territory (NT) Department of Health and Community Services released the NT Food and Nutrition Policy. One of the strategies identified in this policy was to develop a tool to monitor food cost, availability, variety and quality in remote community stores as the community store is a major contributor to the food supply in remote communities. The tool developed was the Market Basket Survey (MBS), the first survey of a sample of remote stores was conducted in 1998 and the first Territory wide survey was done in 2000.

2.1 Food baskets used in the MBS

Market Basket Surveys 2000 – 2015

Surveys conducted during this period priced a basket of foods which would meet the average energy and recommended nutrient needs of a hypothetical family of six for a fortnight. The family represents a cross-section of people who have different nutrient requirements because of their age and sex. The family consists of:

- a grandmother aged 60 years
- a man aged 35 years
- a woman aged 33 years
- a male aged 14 years
- a girl aged eight years
- a boy aged four years.

The NUTTAB 2010¹ database and Nutrient Reference Values for Australia and New Zealand² were used to determine the quantities of each food in the basket required to provide 95% of the family's energy requirements and 100% of selected nutrient** requirements for a fortnight. Details are available in previously published surveys³.

Market Basket Surveys 2016 - 2019

In 2016, the cost of a wider range of foods was collected to enable the comparison of two baskets, a HFB and a CDB. The HFB is based on recommendations for the number of serves of food from each of the food groups detailed in the Australian Guide to Healthy Eating⁴. The CDB is based on information from the Australian Bureau of Statistics⁵ on the average diet Aboriginal people in Australia consumed in 2012-13. It contains both healthy and unhealthy foods. Both baskets contain sufficient food to feed the family of six described above for a fortnight. Details of the foods contained in the HFB and CDB are contained in Appendix A.

2.2 Additional survey information

In addition to collecting information on cost, the MBS also collects information on store management, employment of Aboriginal people and existence of a store nutrition policy.

**Nutrients selected were those used in modelling for the development of the current Australian Guide to Healthy Eating.⁶

A major supermarket and corner store in each of the district centres are surveyed so urban and remote store prices can be compared. The corner store is a small suburban supermarket which provides a benchmark store with similar buying power to the remote stores.

3. Results for 2019 survey

58 remote stores were surveyed between June and August 2019; results are shown below.

3.1 Remote store characteristics

Table 1: Ownership/management characteristics by district, remote stores, 2019

Ownership*	Alice Springs	Darwin	East Arnhem	Katherine	Total remote stores
Owned and managed by community or Aboriginal corporation	4	7	0	1	12
Privately owned	8	4	0	6	18
Owned and/ or managed by store group (e.g. ALPA)	9	5	4	10	28
Other/Not recorded	0	0	0	0	0
Management characteristics					
Store committee	14	11	4	12	41
Nutrition policy	11	9	4	9	33
Number of stores	21	16	4	17	58

- 21% (12) of stores were owned and managed by the community or a local Aboriginal corporation.
- 48% (28) of stores were either owned or managed by a store group [e.g. Arnhem Land Progress Association (ALPA) and Outback Stores].
- 31% (18) of stores were privately owned.
- 71% (41) of stores had a store committee.
- 57% (33) of stores stated they had a nutrition policy.

Licensing involves the Australian Government setting standards stores need to meet to help make sure they have fresh and healthy food available and are sustainable operations.

Table 2: Store licensing by district, remote stores, 2019

	Alice Springs	Darwin	East Arnhem	Katherine	Total remote stores
Licensed	19	13	4	14	50
Not licensed	2	3	0	3	8
Number of stores	21	16	4	17	58

- 86% (50) of stores were licensed by the Australian Government, Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet.

Table 3: Employment characteristics by store ownership and management, remote stores, 2019

	Owned and managed by community or Aboriginal corporation	Privately owned/ Leased from Community	Managed and/ or owned by store group (e.g. Outback Stores, ALPA)	Other/not recorded	All remote stores
Number of stores with Aboriginal employees	10	6	25	0	43
Number of Aboriginal employees	82	29	242	0	353
Total employees	148	101	328	0	577
Percent Aboriginal employees	55%	29%	74%	0	61%
Number of stores	12	18	28	0	57

- 61% of employees in the remote stores surveyed were Aboriginal.
- The proportion of Aboriginal employees was highest in stores owned and/or managed (74%) by a store group (e.g. ALPA and Outback Stores).

3.2 Variety and quality of fresh fruit and vegetables

In this survey, variety is defined as a type of fruit or vegetable (e.g. apple or capsicum). If different options are found (e.g. red and green capsicum) they are usually counted as one variety.

Table 4: Number of varieties of fresh fruit and vegetables by district, remote stores, 2019

	Alice Springs	Darwin	East Arnhem	Katherine	All remote stores
Average number of fresh fruit varieties	8	13	17	11	11
Range	0 - 18	3 - 20	13 - 20	4 - 19	0 - 20
Average number of fresh vegetable varieties	13	21	21	16	16
Range	0 - 25	8 - 32	20 - 22	2 - 28	0 - 32
Number of stores	20	16	4	17	57

On average there were 11 varieties of fresh fruit and 16 varieties of fresh vegetables in remote stores.

Table 5: Quality** of fresh fruit by district and remote stores, 2019

	Alice Springs	Darwin	East Arnhem	Katherine	All remote Stores
Good	84%	85%	91%	91%	87%
Fair	16%	13%	7%	8%	12%
Poor	1%	1%	-	1%	1%
Rotten	-	-	1%	-	>1%
Not rated	-	-	-	-	-

Table 6: Quality** of fresh vegetables by district, remote stores, 2019

	Alice Springs	Darwin	East Arnhem	Katherine	All remote stores
Good	90%	82%	75%	95%	87%
Fair	9%	16%	18%	5%	11%
Poor	1%	2%	4%	0.4%	1%
Rotten	-	>1%	4%	-	1%
Not rated	-	-	-	-	-

** Rating quality of fresh food is difficult and dependent on the opinion of those undertaking the survey. Descriptive tables were included in the survey sheets to help reduce the variance amongst those undertaking the survey.

- Overall, 87% of fresh fruit and 87% of fresh vegetables were rated to be of 'good' quality on the day of survey.
- Katherine remote stores had the highest proportion of 'good' fresh fruit and 'good' fresh vegetables on the day of survey (95%).

3.3 Food basket costs

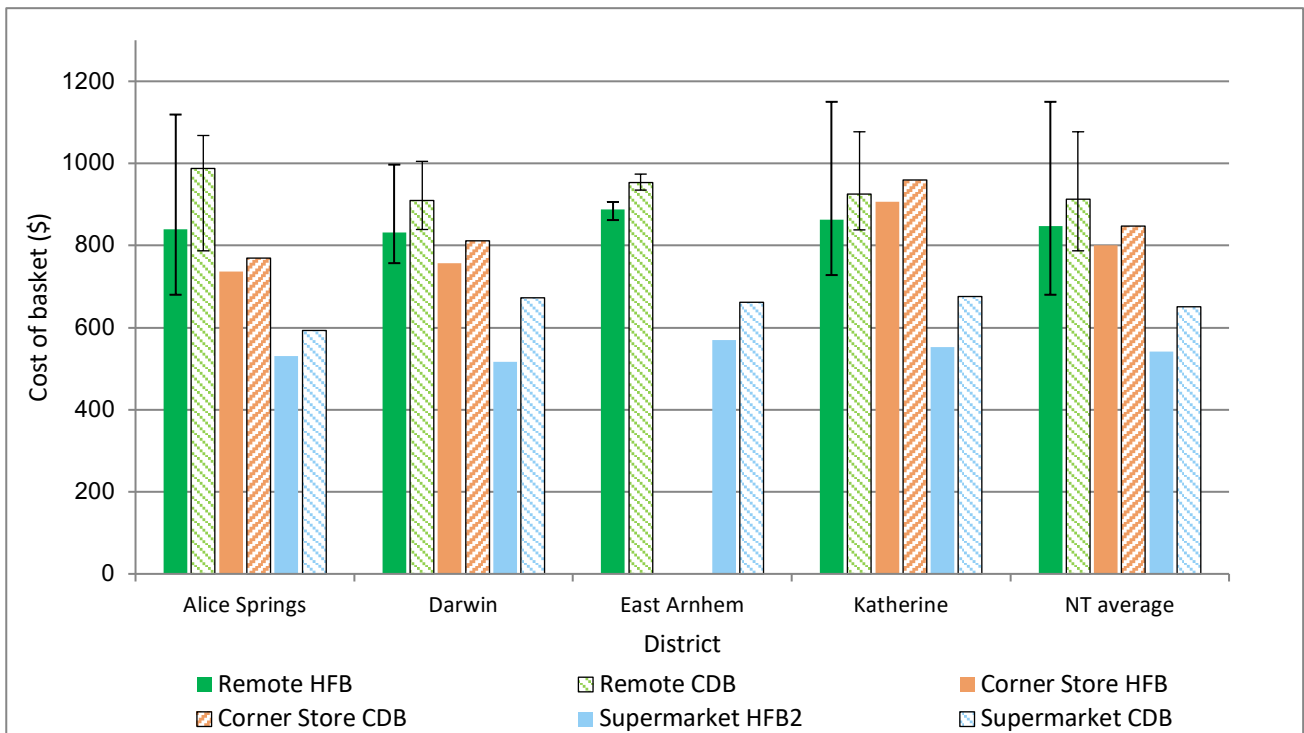
In order to compare the cost of the food basket between stores, it is sometimes necessary to establish a price for items not in stock on the day of the survey, or not carried by the store. If the item is not in stock, its usual price is used. If the item is not carried by the store, the average price of the item in other remote stores in the same district is used instead.

Table 7: Usual availability of HFB (CDB) items by district, remote stores, 2019

	Alice Springs	Darwin	East Arnhem	Katherine	All remote stores
Average availability of prices of items in food basket	93% (92%)	98% (97%)	98% (97%)	96% (96%)	96% (95%)
Range	53 - 100% (58 - 100%)	90 - 100% (92 - 100%)	97-100% (94 - 100%)	87-100% (83 - 100%)	53 - 100% (58- 100%)
Number of stores with 100% of items	10 (4)	11 (7)	2 (1)	9 (7)	32 (19)
Number of stores	21	16	4	17	58

- On average 96% of items in the HFB and 95% of items in the CDB were available or usually available in remote stores.
- 55% (32) of the 58 remote stores had, or usually had, all the items in the HFB available in their store.

Figure 1: Cost of the food baskets by district and type of store, 2019



N.B. Bars on columns represent the range of different basket costs for districts and store types.

Table 8: Cost[#] of food baskets by district and type of store, 2019

	Alice Springs	Darwin	East Arnhem	Katherine	Average
Supermarket					
Healthy food basket	\$530	\$517	\$552	\$569	\$542
Current diet basket	\$593	\$672	\$676	\$661	\$650
Corner store					
Healthy food basket	\$736	\$757	-	\$907	\$800
Current diet basket	\$770	\$811	-	\$959	\$847
Remote stores					
Healthy food basket (range)	\$840 (\$680-\$1,119)	\$832 (\$757-\$997)	\$888 (\$862-\$906)	\$863 (\$728-\$1,150)	\$848 (\$680-\$1,150)
Current diet basket (range)	\$897 (\$787-\$1,068)	\$910 (\$880-\$1,005)	\$954 (\$935-\$974)	\$925 (\$850-\$1,077)	\$913 (\$787-\$1,077)

[#] Due to rounding of numbers the sum of food groups does not equal the total basket cost in some instances in Table 8.

Supermarket

- The HFB was the most expensive in Katherine (\$569) and cheapest in Darwin (\$517).
- The CDB was the most expensive in East Arnhem (\$676) and cheapest in Alice Springs (\$593).

Remote stores

- The East Arnhem district had the most expensive HFB (\$888) and CDB (\$954).
- Darwin was the cheapest district for the HFB (\$832) and Alice Springs district had the cheapest CDB (\$897).
- The HFB in remote stores was 6% more expensive than the district centre corner stores (\$848 compared to \$800) and 56% more than the district centre supermarkets (\$848 compared to \$542).
- The CDB in remote stores was 8% more expensive than in the district centre corner stores (\$913 compared to \$847) and 40% more than the district centre supermarkets (\$913 compared to \$650).

HFB vs CDB

- The CDB was more expensive than the HFB in all districts and store types.
- The CDB was 7% more expensive in remote stores (\$913 compared to \$848), 6% more in corner stores (\$847 compared to \$800) and 17% more expensive in district centre supermarkets (\$650 compared to \$542) compared to the HFB.

Table 9: Percentage difference in the cost of the food groups in the basket between remote stores and respective district centre supermarket, by district, 2019

	Alice Springs	Darwin	East Arnhem	Katherine	Average (remote stores and district centre supermarkets)
Bread & cereals					
Healthy food basket	45%	40%	96%	28%	47%
Current diet basket	40%	33%	79%	19%	38%
Fruit					
Healthy food basket	91%	78%	62%	71%	75%
Current diet basket	97%	82%	69%	72%	79%
Vegetables					
Healthy food basket	33%	47%	1%	43%	33%
Current diet basket	39%	55%	5%	57%	42%
Meat & alternative					
Healthy food basket	69%	75%	50%	68%	58%
Current diet basket	70%	46%	78%	66%	63%
Dairy					
Healthy food basket	70%	68%	127%	71%	58%
Current diet basket	77%	77%	134%	77%	63%
Takeaway					
Healthy food basket	-38%	-37%	-13%	-20%	-25%
Current diet basket	21%	0%	4%	1%	3%
Other foods					
Healthy food basket	28%	33%	167%	60%	54%
Current diet basket	70%	68%	49%	70%	64%
Total basket					
Healthy food basket	58%	61%	56%	65%	56%
Current diet basket	51%	35%	44%	37%	40%

- On average, the cost of the HFB was 56% higher in remote stores than in district centre supermarkets.
- On average, the cost of the CDB was 40% higher in remote stores than in district centre supermarkets.
- Katherine district remote stores had the greatest difference compared to the district supermarket (65% more expensive) and East Arnhem district remote stores had the lowest difference in HFB price (56% more expensive than the East Arnhem supermarket).

3.4 Cost variations, 2019 compared to 2017

Variation in the cost of the food groups in the HFB and CDB by district, remote stores, corner stores and supermarkets

(See Appendix C: Tables 10, 11 and 17 for underlying data)

District centre average supermarket costs for the different portions of the HFB and CDB showed much more variation than in remote stores.

Between 2017 and 2019 in remote stores the:

- average NT cost of both the HFB and CDB decreased by 1%
- largest decrease in total cost of the HFB (-4%) and the CDB (-3%) was in Alice Springs region
- greatest increase in the total cost of the HFB (9%) and CDB (1%) was in East Arnhem region
- 'dairy portion' of the HFB was the only portion to increase (1%)
- 'takeaway' portion of the HFB had the largest decrease (-9%)
- CDB average remote stores' costs by food type showed little or no variation with the largest being a 3% decrease in the meat component of the CDB.

Between 2017 and 2019 in district centre supermarkets the:

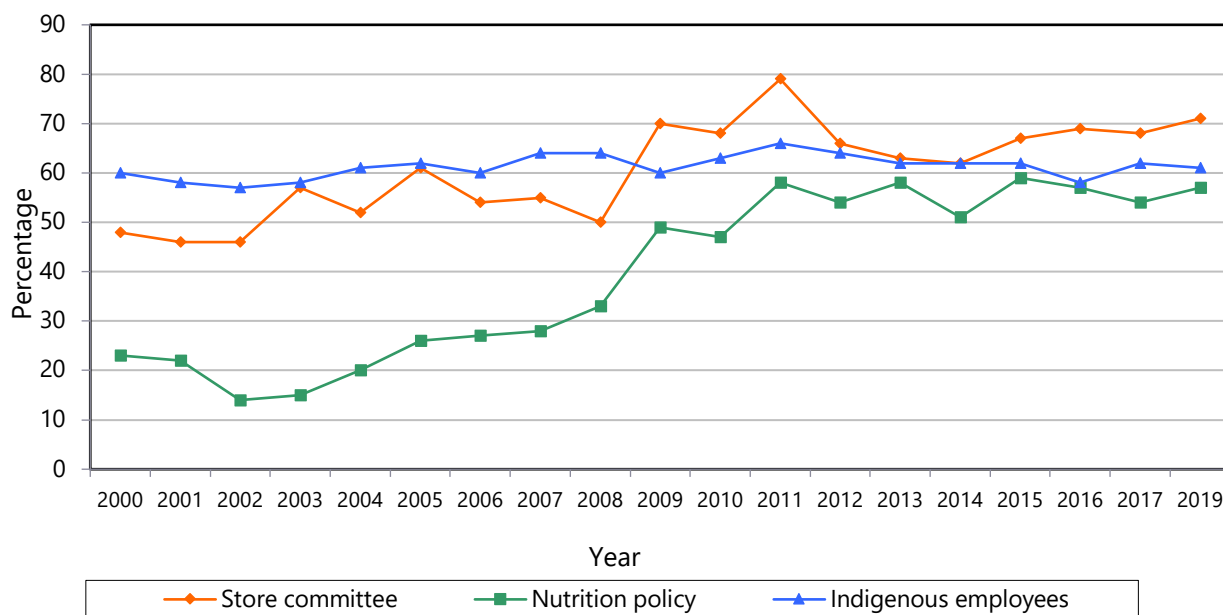
- average NT cost of the HFB increased (1%) and the CDB decreased (-1%)
- 'meat' portion of the HFB had the greatest average cost increase (14%)
- 'takeaway' portion of the HFB had the greatest average cost decrease (-26%)
- 'bread and cereal' portion of the CDB had the greatest cost increase (14%)
- 'vegetable' portion of the CDB decreased the most (-10%).

Between 2017 and 2019, the NT average cost of both the HFB and CDB rose significantly in corner stores (by 14% and 16% respectively).

4. Survey trends, 2000 to 2019

4.1 Store characteristics

Figure 2: Store governance and employment characteristics in remote stores from 2000-



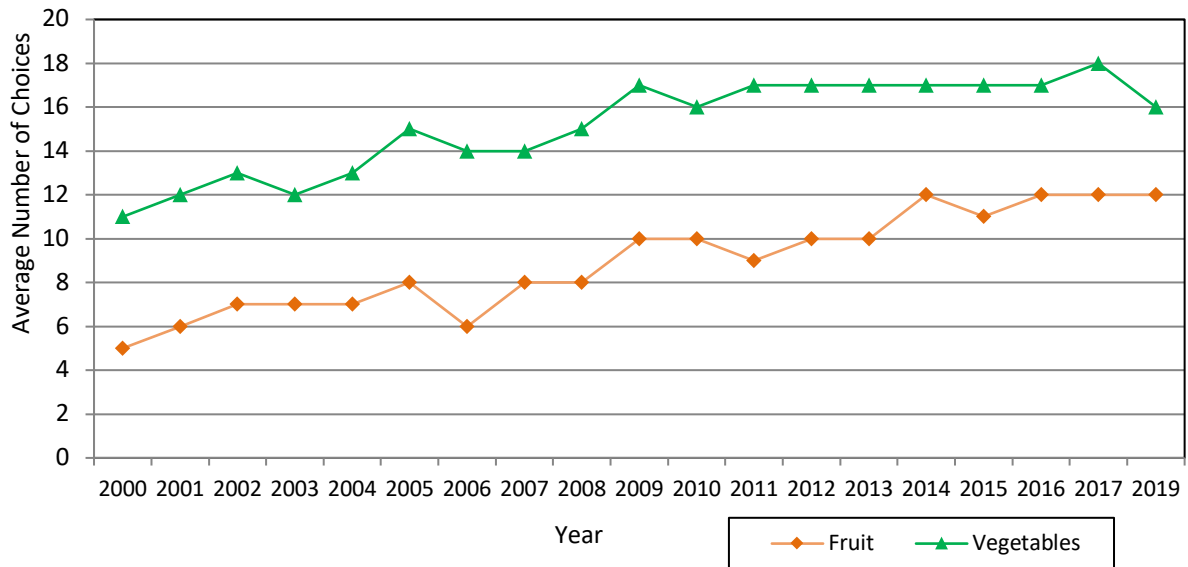
2019

(See Appendix C: Table 12 for the underlying data)

- The percentage of stores with a store committee was highest in 2011 (79%).
- There was a marked increase in the percentage of stores with a nutrition policy in the 2009 survey, this was sustained in subsequent surveys.
- The percentage of Aboriginal employees has been mostly stable from 2000 to 2019.

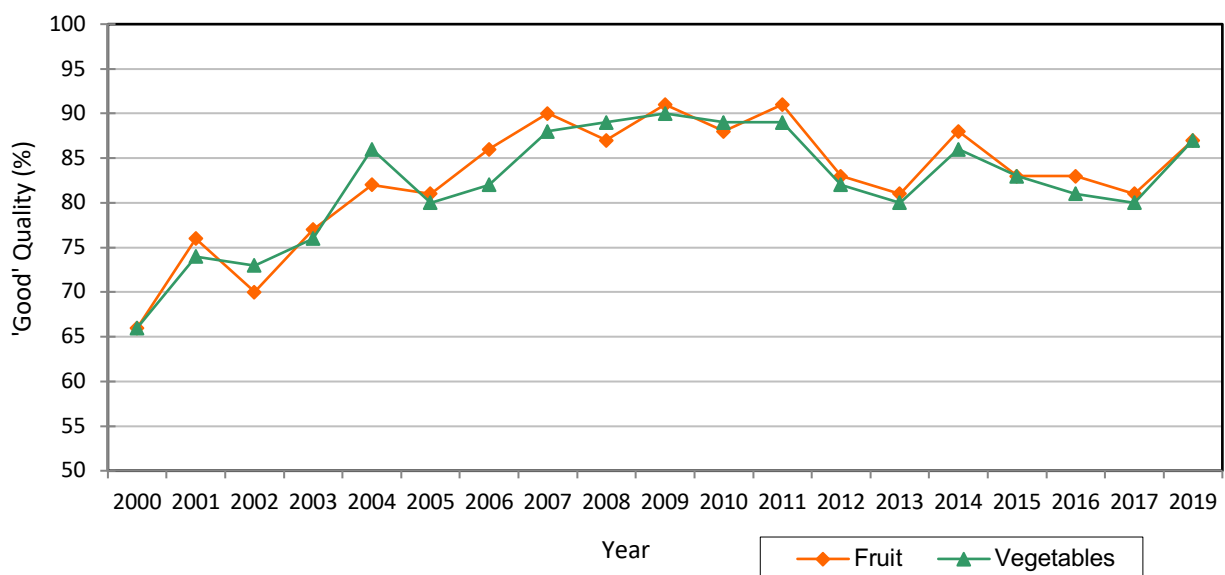
4.2 Food variety and quality

Figure 3: Average number of varieties of fresh fruit and vegetables, remote stores, 2000 – 2019



- Since 2000 there has been an increasing trend in the average number of varieties of fresh vegetables available in remote stores.
- Since 2014 the average number of varieties of fresh fruit available has been at its highest with an average of 12 varieties available.
- The average number of varieties of fresh vegetables available was highest in 2017 when there was an average of 18 varieties available.

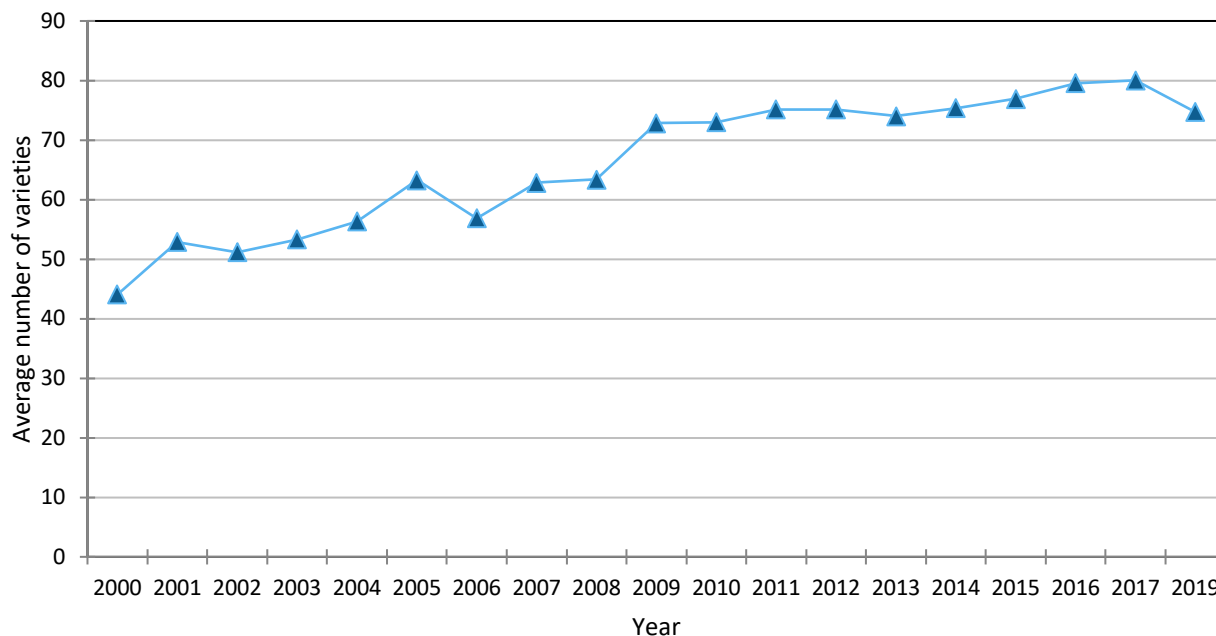
Figure 4: Percentage of fresh fruit and vegetables rated as 'good', remote stores, 2000–



2019

- Fruit and vegetable quality has varied over the years 2000 to 2017 and is now rising again.

Figure 5: Average number of varieties of selected healthy food and drink available, remote stores, 2000-2019



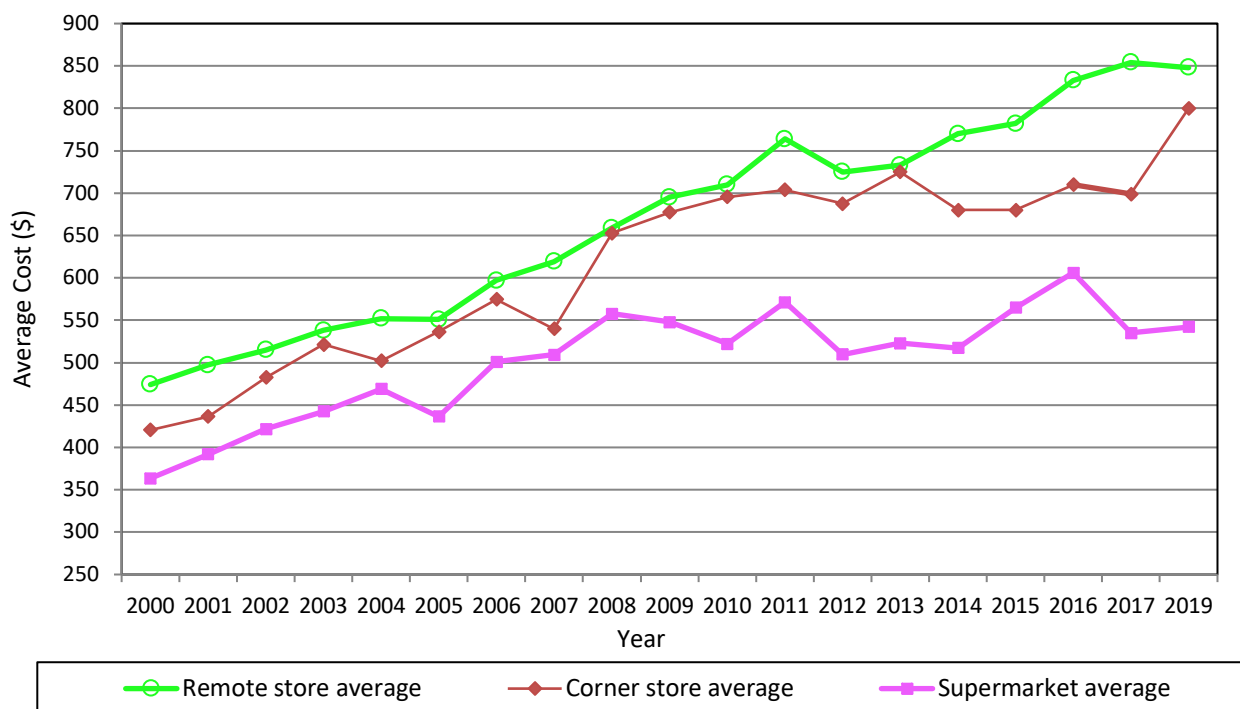
(See Appendix C: Table 13 for the underlying data)

- The average number of varieties of all food and drinks available in remote stores has shown an increasing trend from 2000 to 2017, with a decline in 2019.
- The average number of varieties of all food and drinks was highest in 2017, with stores offering on average 80 lines of the selected foods.
- Selected healthy foods include items from the categories of: bread and breakfast cereals; canned, dried and fresh fruit and vegetables; diet cordials and soft drinks; dried biscuits; fish/seafood; lean meat and meat and vegetable meals. Products are included if they meet specified nutrition criteria.

4.3 Price comparisons

As discussed previously, a number of new food items were added to the survey in 2016 to enable the calculation of the CDB. As these products were not included in prior surveys, comparison of the CDB is not possible. Data shown below is therefore for the HFB only.

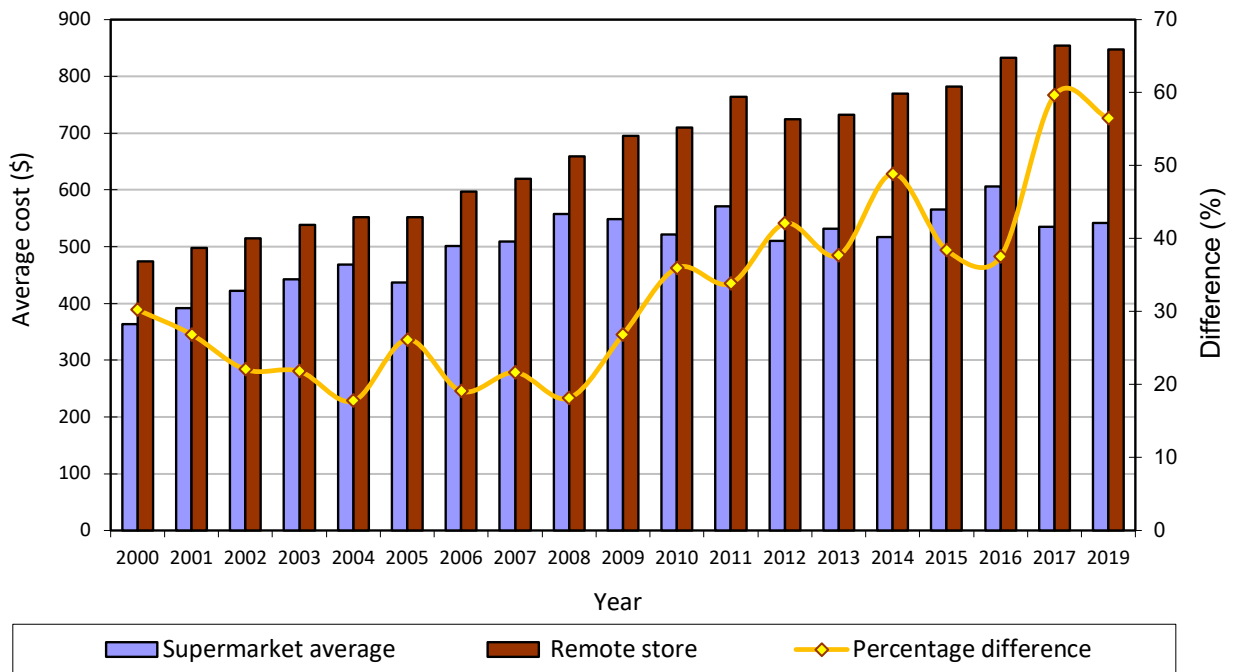
Figure 6: Average cost of the HFB, store type, 2000–2019



(See Appendix C: Table 14 for the underlying data.)

- The general trends in average HFB costs shown in Figure 6 for remote stores and urban centre corner stores are upwards as can be expected due to inflation over time.
- The average cost of the HFB for urban centre supermarkets trended upwards from 2000 to 2008; however, from 2008 to 2019, the cost has stabilised within a range from \$510 (2012) to \$606 (2016).

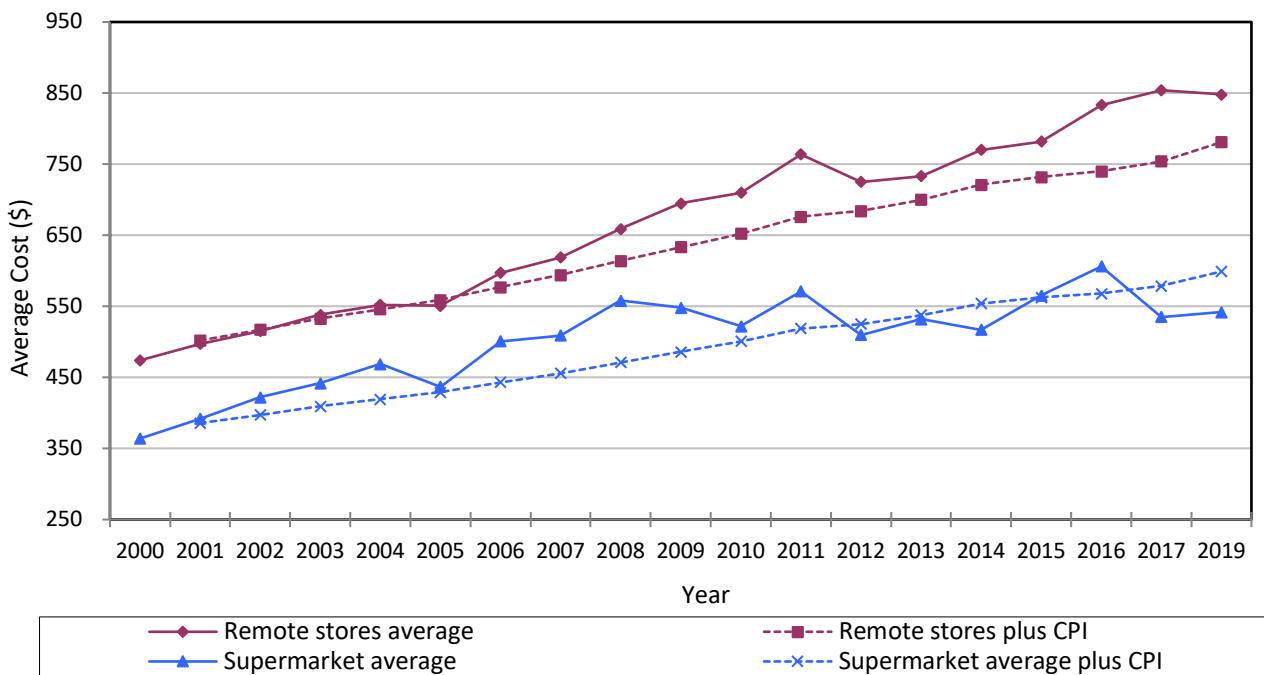
Figure 7: Cost of the HFB, remote stores compared with NT supermarkets, 2000 – 2019



(See Appendix C: Table 15 for the underlying data)

- The cost difference between remote stores and the district centre supermarkets was least in 2004 and 2008, when the HFB cost 18% more in remote stores.
- The cost difference between remote stores and the district centre supermarkets was the highest in 2017 when the HFB cost 60% more in remote stores.

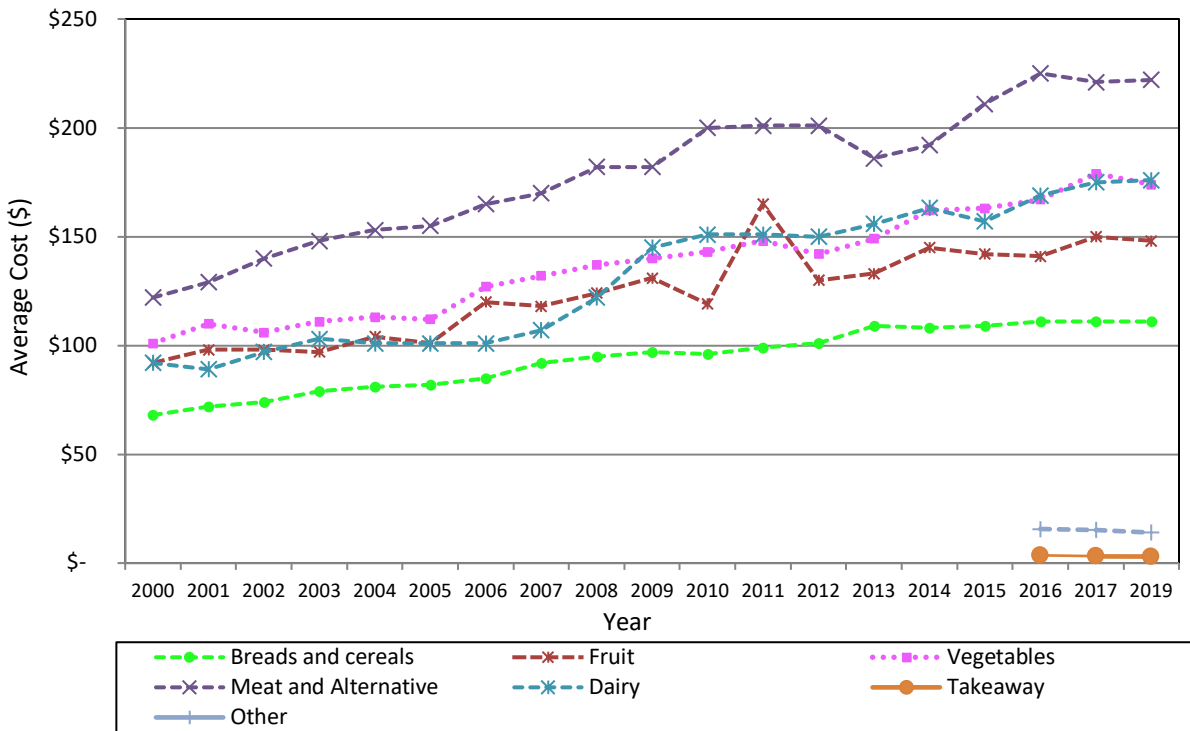
Figure 8: Cost of the HFB compared with projected cost of the HFB with annual Consumer Price Index (CPI) increase, remote stores and district centre supermarkets, 2000 - 2019



(See Appendix C: Table 15 for the underlying data)

- In remote stores the actual cost of the HFB has been higher than the projected cost of the HFB using annual CPI⁸ rates, from 2006 to 2019.
- In the district centre supermarkets the actual cost tended to be above projected cost between 2005 and 2011 and in 2016.

Figure 9: Cost of food groups in the HFB in remote stores, 2000 – 2019



* A price for the 'takeaway' and 'other foods' portions of the basket were not available prior to 2016.

(See Appendix C: Table 16 for the underlying data)

- A large increase is evident in the cost of the 'fruit' portion of the basket from 2010 to 2011, returning to trend in 2012. This was mostly due to a spike in the price of bananas as a result of a cyclone destroying banana plantations in Queensland.

5. Discussion

The 2019 MBS is the nineteenth survey of remote community stores in the Northern Territory. The 2019 survey was the third survey to enable the comparison of the cost of a basket of foods which represents the current dietary patterns of Aboriginal people with an ideal, or 'healthy', basket of foods.

5.1 External influences on the survey

Since the MBS was first conducted in 2000, the Australian Government has introduced two initiatives which have the potential to impact on results of this survey.

Outback Stores - In 2007 the Australian Government established Outback Stores, a company set up to manage stores on behalf of remote communities to ensure their commercial viability and a reliable supply of healthy, affordable food.

Licensing of remote stores - In late 2007 the Australian Government commenced licensing of remote stores to improve both the management of stores and the quality of food they provide. In 2012 the licensing of stores was incorporated into legislation through the *Stronger Futures in the Northern Territory Act 2012*. This is required for food security reasons in remote areas where little or no competition exists. Under the Act (s37(3)) "Food security means a reasonable ongoing level of access to a range of food, drink and grocery items that is reasonably priced, safe and of sufficient quantity and quality to meet nutritional and related household needs."

As a result, stores in NT remote Aboriginal communities in this survey are required to be licensed. Stores in more accessible areas (e.g. in small towns on major highways) are not required to be licensed. As part of licensing conditions stores are expected to have a reasonable range of groceries and consumer items, including healthy food and drinks. In this survey 86% of remote stores were licensed.

5.2 Store characteristics

The local store is an important source of employment for people living in remote communities. Stores managed and/or owned by a store groups (e.g. ALPA and Outback Stores) have a policy of employing local Aboriginal people to work in their stores. In each year the MBS has been conducted, the proportion of Aboriginal employees has been consistently higher in stores managed and/or owned by a stores group than in other stores. In the 2019 survey, 79% of employees in stores managed and/or owned by a stores group were Aboriginal. No information on the type of employment (e.g. full time, part time or casual) was collected as part of the survey.

Stores with a nutrition policy and a store committee increased from 2000 to 2011. The proportion of stores with a nutrition policy has remained stable since 2011; however, there has been a slight decline in stores with a store committee since 2011 (Figure 3). It is likely both have been maintained at higher levels from pre 2011 due to the introduction of stores licensing and/or an increase in the number of stores managed by Outback Stores.

5.3 Fruit and vegetable variety

There is strong evidence to suggest an adequate intake of vegetables has a protective effect against cardiovascular disease and research has strengthened the evidence of the beneficial effects

of various non-starchy vegetables in reducing risk of some site-specific cancers.⁹ Aboriginal people in the NT have a low intake of vegetables, with only 1.6% reporting an adequate intake in the 2018-19 National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey.¹⁰

There is also strong evidence, including fruit in the diet is protective against cardiovascular disease and there is a protective effect against a number of chronic diseases when vegetables and fruit have been studied together.⁹ The National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Survey (2018-19) reported 40.4% of NT Aboriginal persons had adequate daily fruit consumption.¹⁰

For these reasons there is a focus on fruit and vegetable quality and variety in this survey. While there are no recommendations about the number of varieties of vegetables which should be available in remote stores, a diet including daily consumption of a wide variety of vegetables is recommended.⁹ MBS results indicate there has been an increase in the average number of varieties of fresh fruit and vegetables available in remote stores since 2000 (Figure 3).

5.4 Basket costs

Healthy diet costs compared to current diet costs

The CDB basket was more expensive than the HFB in all store types and all districts in this survey suggesting a healthy diet is less expensive than the current diet consumed by Aboriginal people. While the CDB contains both healthy and unhealthy foods, the most expensive portion of the CDB was the 'takeaway' portion which contains only discretionary (unhealthy) foods. These findings are similar to those of Lee et al¹¹ who found 'healthy diets can be more affordable than current (unhealthy) diets in Australia'. Lee et al used a similar methodology, but costed a more comprehensive range of foods and included alcohol in the current (unhealthy) diet.

Food basket costs in remote stores compared to costs in district centres

In 2019, the average cost of the HFB and CDB in remote stores were 56% and 40% higher than the average of district centre supermarket baskets. This is the second highest difference in cost of the HFB between remote stores and the district centre supermarkets in any of the years surveyed. However the district centre supermarket in Tennant Creek (Barkly Region) was not able to be surveyed in 2019. This supermarket is historically more expensive than other supermarkets. The absence of this supermarket is likely to account for part of the increase in price difference in 2019.

The 'takeaway' portion of both the HFB and CDB was the only portion to be less in remote stores than the district centre supermarket average, with the exception of the HFB in East Arnhem Land. The HFB contains only one takeaway item, bottled water, which is sold at a discounted price in many remote stores to encourage consumption of water rather than sugar sweetened beverages. This discount accounts for the lower cost of the 'takeaway' portion of the HFB in remote stores.

Compared to 2017, only a small change was evident in the average cost of the HFB and CDB in remote stores and district centre supermarkets in 2019. The average cost of the HFB decreased by 1% in remote stores and increased by 1% in district centre supermarkets; the average cost of the CDB decreased by 1% in both remote stores and district centre supermarkets. In contrast, the average cost of both the HFB and CDB rose significantly between 2017 and 2019 in district corner stores (14% and 16% respectively). The large difference in cost in district centre corner stores is due to the small number of corner stores surveyed and different corner stores were surveyed between

2017 and 2019. In 2017 corner store information was not available for the Katherine district, in 2019 corner store information was not available for East Arnhem.

5.5 Limitations of the survey

When interpreting the results of this survey, a number of issues must be considered. These include the following:

- A letter was sent to each store manager prior to the survey period informing them their store would be surveyed in the coming months. Prior notice may have influenced store prices and availability of foods during the survey period.
- The MBS measures the variety, quality and availability of some healthy food items; it makes no attempt to measure the quantities available or purchased.
- The food basket contains a relatively small number of items (41). The prices of these items are then multiplied by varying amounts to provide the total cost in each of the food baskets. Therefore significant changes in the price of one or two items may have an unduly inflated effect on the total cost of the basket. An example of this occurred in 2006 and 2011 when banana crops in Queensland were destroyed by tropical cyclones, resulting in an increase in the price of bananas. As a result, the cost of the 'fruit' portion of the basket in NT supermarkets increased by 45% in 1996 and 68% in 2011, compared to the preceding years.
- The 2019 survey was conducted over a three month period. During this time frame there is the potential for variation in the prices of fresh fruit and vegetables. To reduce the impact of this variation surveyors are encouraged to conduct the district centre supermarket surveys in the middle of the survey period as these stores are used as a benchmark.
- When conducting the survey, surveyors are asked to record the price of a particular brand and pack size for many items. For occasions when the standard brand and pack size is not available, surveyors are provided a set of instructions on which alternative product to price (i.e. a different brand or pack size). Therefore on some occasions a larger or smaller pack size (of a different brand) may be priced in a remote store compared to the district centre stores. This may have a notable impact on the price of the basket in some individual store reports; however this impact will be lessened with the aggregated data provided in this report.
- As described previously, surveyors are asked to record the price of a particular brand and pack size for many items. This is not necessarily the cheapest option for some items and actual food costs could be lower in all store types than is reported in this survey.
- Items in the food baskets are chosen from those commonly found in remote stores. This limits the occasions when the price for a substitute product is recorded and minimises inaccuracies in price comparisons between stores. It does however, limit the number of items which can be included in the survey, particularly as some stores are in small communities and stock a smaller range of foods than larger stores and supermarkets.
- One store's management group reviewed their data for the 2019 survey and found a number of discrepancies in the recorded data compared to what was available through their computer systems. These discrepancies suggest the MBS data could have overestimated the cost of the HFB in their stores by approximately 5% and the CDB by 3%. Reasons for the discrepancies could include: incorrect recording of price or weight of item by the surveyor; incorrect price on display; and/or incorrect choice of product by the surveyor. Methods to reduce these errors will be investigated for future surveys.

- While efforts are made to include the same stores in the survey each year this is not always possible. For example in 2015 only one store in the Barkly Region was able to be surveyed (as opposed to an average of six). Data from this store was therefore amalgamated with data from the Alice Springs district.

6. Summary

58 remote stores were surveyed in the NT between June and August 2019. These surveys collected information on the cost of two baskets of foods, a 'healthy' basket and a basket which reflects current eating patterns ('current' diet). Both baskets contained sufficient food to feed a family of six for a fortnight. Information was also collected on the quality, variety and availability of a selection of healthy foods and store management characteristics.

The 2019 survey found the CDB was, on average, 7% more expensive in remote stores than the HFB and the HFB was, on average, 56% higher in remote stores than in district centre supermarkets. Between 2017 and 2019 the cost of the HFB decreased by 1% in remote stores and increased by 1% in district centre supermarkets.

From 2000 to 2019, the cost of the HFB has risen by an average 3.1% annually in remote stores and 2.1% in district centre supermarkets. The average consumer price index increase over this period was 2.7%.

Appendix A: List of foods in the HFB and CDB

	Serve size	Healthy Food Basket		Current diet - basket			
		Volume in basket	Number serves	Volume in basket	Number serves		
Breads and Cereal							
Bread, white high fibre, iron enriched	40g	8400g	12 x 700g loaves	210	8400g	12 X 700g loaves	210
Flour, white, plain	50g	4000g	4 x 1kg bags	80	4000g	4 x 1kg bags	80
Weetbix	30g	1500g	4 X 375g packets	50	1125g	3 x 375g boxes	38
Oats, rolled	30g	1000g	2 x 500g packets	33	0g	-	0
Rice, white	35g	2000g	2 X 1kg packet	57	0g	-	0
2 minute noodles	26g	0g	-	0	560g	8 x 70g packets	22
Spaghetti in tomato & cheese sauce, canned	200g	840g	2 x 420g tins	4	840g	2 x 420g tins	4
		Total serves		435	Total serves		353
		Recommended number serves		434	Serves from ATSI Health survey		353
Fruits							
Apple, red	150g	4500g	30 apples	30	3150g	21 apples	21
Orange, navel/valencia	150g	5075g	35 oranges	34	3045g	21 oranges	20
Banana	150g	4340g	35 bananas	29	3100g	25 bananas	21
Peach, canned in light syrup	150g	3280g	8 x 410g cans	22	3280g	8 x 410g cans	22
Orange juice, 100% no added sugar	125ml	5000ml	5 x 1 litre bottles	40	4000ml	4 x 1 litre bottles	32
		Total serves		155	Total serves		116
		Recommended number serves		154	Serves from ATSI Health survey		116
Vegetables							
Tomato	75g	2000g	2kg	27	1000g	1 kg	13
Potato, washed	75g	8000g	8kg	107	2500g	2.5kg	33
Pumpkin	75g	3000g	3kg	40	500g	0.5kg	7
Cabbage	75g	3000g	1 cabbage	40	750g	0.25 cabbage	10
Carrots	75g	4000g	4kg	53	500g	0.5kg	7
Onions, brown	75g	3000g	3kg	40	500g	0.5kg	7
Peas and carrots, canned	75g	2520g	6 x 420g cans	34	1680g	4 x 420g cans	22
Mixed vegetables, frozen	75g	3000g	6 x 500g packets	40	1500g	3 x 500g packets	20
Tomatoes, canned	75g	2075g	5 x 415g cans	28	1245g	3 x 415g cans	17
Baked beans, canned in tomato sauce*	150g	3080g	14 x 220g cans	21	0g	-	0
		Total serves		428	Total serves		136
		Recommended number serves		427	Serves from ATSI Health survey		136
Meat and alternatives							
Baked beans, canned in tomato sauce*	75g	3080g	14 x 220g cans	41	0g	-	0
Beef, corned, canned	65g	0g	-	0	3060g	9 x 340g cans	47
Meat and vegetable meal, canned	375g	4000g	10 X 400g cans	11	4000g	10 X 400g cans	11
Beef mince (medium fat)	90g	6000g	6kg	67	2000g	2kg	22
Sausages	90g	0g	-	0	2000g	2kg	22
Chicken drumsticks	90g	6000g	6kg	67	2500g	2.5kg	28
Eggs	132g	1400g	2 dozen	6	1400g	2 dozen	11
		Total serves		191	Total serves		141
		Recommended number serves		182	Serves from ATSI Health survey		123
Dairy							
Milk, powdered, full cream	34g	3600g	9 X 400g packets	106	1600g	4 x 400g packets	47
Milk, UHT, full cream	250ml	25000ml	25 x 1 litre cartons	100	12000ml	12 x 1 litre cartons	48
Iced coffee, full cream	250ml	0ml	-	0	2400ml	4 x 600ml cartons	10
Cheese cheddar	40g	750g	3 x 250g packets	19	0g	-	0
		Total serves		225	Total serves		105
		Recommended number serves		224	Serves from ATSI Health survey		104
Other							
Margarine		0g	-		500g	1 x 500g tub	
Sugar		0g	-		5000g	5 x 1kg packet	
Oil, monounsaturated		2000ml	2 x 1 litre bottle		1000ml	1 x 1 litre bottle	
Scotch Finger biscuit		0g	-		1500g	6 x 250g packets	
Cordial base		0g	-		3000g	3 x 1 litre bottles	
Takeaway items							
Pie		0g	-		2280g	12 x 190g pies	
Chips		0g	-		2400g	16 x 150g buckets	
Coke		0g	-		15000g	40 x 375ml cans	
Water		1200ml	2 x 600ml bottles		0ml	-	

Energy provided	645,980KJ	639,111KJ
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*Baked beans have been counted in both 'vegetable' and 'meat and alternatives' groups

Appendix B: 2019 Market Basket Survey by district and food group

	Alice Springs		Darwin		East Arnhem		Katherine		NT Average	
	HFB	CDB	HFB	CDB	HFB	CDB	HFB	CDB	HFB	CDB
Bread & cereals										
Supermarket	\$76	\$73	\$81	\$79	\$60	\$60	\$84	\$84	\$75	\$74
Corner store	\$107	\$100	\$82	\$69			\$114	\$111	\$101	\$93
Remote stores	\$110	\$102	\$114	\$104	\$118	\$108	\$107	\$100	\$111	\$103
Fruit										
Supermarket	\$77	\$58	\$82	\$62	\$90	\$68	\$87	\$67	\$84	\$64
Corner store	\$114	\$88	\$132	\$105			\$159	\$121	\$135	\$105
Remote stores	\$147	\$114	\$147	\$113	\$146	\$114	\$149	\$115	\$148	\$114
Vegetables										
Supermarket	\$133	\$42	\$111	\$35	\$150	\$45	\$129	\$38	\$131	\$44
Corner store	\$153	\$50	\$175	\$56			\$182	\$57	\$170	\$54
Remote stores	\$178	\$58	\$164	\$54	\$151	\$47	\$184	\$59	\$174	\$56
Meat & alternative										
Supermarket	\$126	\$129	\$124	\$148	\$176	\$130	\$136	\$135	\$140	\$136
Corner store	\$207	\$184	\$200	\$192			\$249	\$240	\$219	\$205
Remote stores	\$213	\$219	\$216	\$217	\$263	\$231	\$228	\$223	\$222	\$220
Dairy										
Supermarket	\$102	\$51	\$104	\$52	\$84	\$44	\$104	\$53	\$98	\$50
Corner store	\$142	\$75	\$153	\$76			\$187	\$97	\$161	\$83
Remote stores	\$174	\$91	\$175	\$92	\$190	\$104	\$177	\$94	\$176	\$93
Takeaway										
Supermarket	\$4	\$192	\$5	\$247	\$2	\$259	\$4	\$251	\$4	\$237
Corner store	\$5	\$214	\$3	\$247			\$6	\$259	\$5	\$240
Remote stores	\$3	\$232	\$3	\$246	\$2	\$269	\$3	\$253	\$3	\$245
Other foods										
Supermarket	\$12	\$48	\$12	\$49	\$7	\$55	\$8	\$47	\$9	\$50
Corner store	\$9	\$59	\$11	\$67			\$10	\$74	\$10	\$67
Remote stores	\$15	\$82	\$18	\$83	\$19	\$82	\$13	\$81	\$14	\$82
Total basket										

Supermarket	\$530	\$593	\$517	\$672	\$569	\$661	\$552	\$676	\$542	\$650
Corner store	\$736	\$770	\$757	\$811			\$907	\$959	\$800	\$847
Remote stores	\$840	\$897	\$832	\$910	\$888	\$954	\$863	\$925	\$848	\$913

Appendix C: Detailed data - Tables 10 to 17

Table 10: Variation in the cost of the food groups in the HFB and CDB by district, remote stores, 2017 to 2019

	Alice Springs		Darwin		East Arnhem		Katherine		Remote store average	
	HFB	CDB	HFB	CDB	HFB	CDB	HFB	CDB	HFB	CDB
Bread & cereals	-1%	0%	2%	0%	5%	-3%	-3%	-7%	<1%	0%
Fruit	-6%	-6%	6%	6%	10%	15%	-4%	1%	-1%	-2%
Vegetables	-5%	-4%	-9%	-5%	-3%	5%	8%	26%	-3%	-1%
Meat & alternative	-6%	-3%	2%	-3%	15%	-6%	6%	-3%	<1%	-3%
Dairy	2%	0%	-3%	-3%	12%	4%	-2%	-10%	1%	<1%
Takeaway foods	-20%	-3%	-21%	3%	-7%	-2%	19%	-6%	-9%	1%
Other	5%	1%	-22%	-4%	29%	6%	-4%	-1%	-5%	<-1%
Total basket	-4%	-3%	-1%	0%	9%	1%	1%	-3%	-1%	<-1%

Table 11: Variation in the cost of the food groups in the HFB and CDB by district, supermarkets, 2017 to 2019

	Alice Springs		Darwin		East Arnhem		Supermarket average	
	HFB	CDB	HFB	CDB	HFB	CDB	HFB	CDB
Bread & cereals	3%	2%	20%	17%	-6%	9%	10%	14%
Fruit	-16%	-17%	8%	6%	-3%	-3%	-3%	-4%
Vegetables	-12%	-17%	-21%	-20%	19%	17%	-6%	-10%

Meat & alternative	17%	-1%	16%	22%	14%	-15%	14%	0%
Dairy	0%	0%	1%	1%	-20%	-21%	-5%	-5%
Takeaway foods	-14%	-20%	0%	3%	-62%	-2%	-25%	-4%
Other	26%	26%	-11%	-2%	1%	5%	<-1%	7%
Total basket	-2%	-9%	1%	6%	3%	-4%	1%	-1%

Table 12: Store governance and employment characteristics in remote stores from 2000-2019

Year	% with store committee	% with nutrition policy	% Aboriginal employees	Number stores surveyed
2000	48%	23%	60%	56
2001	46%	22%	58%	53
2002	46%	14%	57%	70
2003	57%	15%	58%	61
2004	52%	20%	61%	60
2005	61%	26%	62%	66
2006	54%	27%	60%	74
2007	55%	28%	64%	67
2008	50%	33%	64%	66
2009	70%	49%	60%	65
2010	68%	47%	63%	76
2011	79%	58%	66%	73
2012	66%	54%	64%	82
2013	63%	58%	62%	72
2014	62%	51%	62%	79

2015	67%	59%	62%	81
2016	69%	57%	58%	67
2017	68%	54%	62%	71
2019	71%	57%	61%	58

Table 13: Average number of varieties of selected food and drinks available, remote stores, 2000-2019

Year	Bread	Cereals	Dry Biscuits	Fresh Fruit	Dried Fruit	Canned Fruit	Fresh Vegetables	Frozen Vegetables	Dried Vegetables	Canned Vegetables	Fish/Seafood	Lean Meat	Meat & Vegetable Meals	Diet Cordials	Diet Soft Drinks	TOTAL*
2000	1	3	1	3	2	4	6	3	1	7	4	3	5	1	2	44
2001	1	3	1	4	3	4	7	5	2	8	5	3	5	1	2	53
2002	1	2	1	4	2	4	7	4	2	8	4	3	5	1	2	51
2003	1	2	1	4	2	4	7	5	2	8	4	3	6	1	2	53
2004	1	3	1	5	2	5	8	5	2	8	5	3	7	1	2	56
2005	2	3	1	6	3	5	9	6	2	9	5	4	6	1	2	63
2006	2	2	1	4	3	5	8	5	2	8	4	3	6	1	2	57
2007	2	3	1	6	3	5	9	6	2	9	5	4	6	1	2	63
2008	2	3	2	6	3	5	9	5	2	9	5	4	6	1	2	63
2009	3	4	2	8	4	5	12	6	2	8	5	5	7	1	3	73
2010	2	3	2	7	4	5	11	6	2	9	5	5	7	1	3	73
2011	3	3	2	7	4	5	11	6	2	10	5	5	7	1	3	75

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2012	3	2	2	8	4	5	11	6	2	10	5	5	8	2	3	75
2013	3	3	2	8	3	5	12	6	1	10	5	5	7	2	3	74
2014	3	3	2	9	3	4	12	6	1	10	5	5	7	1	4	75
2015	3	3	2	8	3	5	11	6	1	10	5	6	8	1	4	77
2016	3	4	2	9	3	4	12	7	1	10	6	6	8	2	4	80
2017	3	4	2	9	3	5	13	7	1	10	5	5	9	2	3	80
2019	3	3	2	9	3	5	11	7	1	10	5	5	7	2	3	75

* Values are rounded to the nearest whole number hence totals may differ from the sum of food and drink varieties.

Table 14: Average cost of the HFB, CBD, store type, 2000–2019

Year	Supermarket average HFB	Corner store average HFB	Remote store average* HFB	HFB Percentage difference Supermarket/remote	Supermarket average CDB	Corner store average HFB	Remote store average CDB	CDB Percentage difference Supermarket/remote
2000	\$364	\$420	\$474	30%				
2001	\$392	\$436	\$497	27%				
2002	\$422	\$482	\$515	22%				
2003	\$442	\$521	\$538	22%				
2004	\$469	\$502	\$552	18%				
2005	\$437	\$537	\$551	26%				
2006	\$501	\$575	\$597	19%				
2007	\$509	\$540	\$619	22%				
2008	\$558	\$653	\$659	18%				
2009	\$548	\$677	\$695	27%				
2010	\$522	\$695	\$710	36%				

2011	\$571	\$704	\$764	34%				
2012	\$510	\$687	\$725	42%				
2013	\$532	\$725	\$733	38%				
2014	\$517	\$680	\$770	49%				
2015	\$565	\$680	\$782	38%				
2016	\$606*	\$710	\$833	38%*	\$694	\$754	\$898	29%
2017	\$535*	\$699	\$854	60%*	\$658	\$730	\$920	39%
2019	\$542	\$800	\$848	56%*	\$650	\$847	\$913	40%
Average annual increase#		3.0%						

* Barkly supermarket not surveyed. Historically Barkly supermarket has been more expensive than other supermarkets. Barkly supermarket not surveyed in 2016, both Barkly supermarket and Katherine supermarket were not surveyed in 2017, historically these supermarkets have been more expensive than other supermarkets.

average increase = $[(\text{final value}/\text{initial value})^{1/\text{number years}}] - 1$.

Table 15: Cost of the HFB compared with projected cost of the HFB with annual CPI increases, remote stores and district centre supermarkets, 2000 – 2019

Year	Remote stores average	Remote stores plus CPI percent increase	Supermarket average	Supermarket average plus CPI percent increase	Consumer Price Index
2000	\$474	-	\$364	-	
2001	\$497	\$502	\$392	\$386	6.0%
2002	\$515	\$517	\$422	\$397	2.9%
2003	\$538	\$533	\$442	\$409	3.1%
2004	\$552	\$546	\$469	\$419	2.4%
2005	\$551	\$559	\$437	\$429	2.4%
2006	\$597	\$577	\$501	\$443	3.2%
2007	\$619	\$594	\$509	\$456	2.9%
2008	\$659	\$614	\$558	\$471	3.4%
2009	\$695	\$633	\$548	\$486	3.1%
2010	\$710	\$652	\$522	\$501	3.1%
2011	\$764	\$676	\$571	\$519	3.6%
2012	\$725	\$684	\$510	\$525	1.2%
2013	\$733	\$700	\$532	\$538	2.4%
2014	\$770	\$721	\$517	\$554	3.0%
2015	\$782	\$732	\$565	\$562	1.5%
2016	\$833	\$740	\$606*	\$568	1.0%
2017	\$854	\$754	\$535 [#]	\$579	1.9%
2019	\$848	\$781	\$542	\$599	1.9 (2018), 1.6%(2019)
Average annual increase*	3.1%	2.7%	2.1%	2.7%	

*average increase = $[(\text{final value}/\text{initial value})^{1/\text{number years}}] - 1$.

Table 16: Cost of food groups in the HFB in remote stores, 2000-2019

Year	Bread & cereals	Fruit	Vegetables	Meat & alternative	Dairy	Takeaway*	Other*
2000	\$68	\$92	\$101	\$122	\$92		
2001	\$72	\$98	\$110	\$129	\$89		
2002	\$74	\$98	\$106	\$140	\$97		
2003	\$79	\$97	\$111	\$148	\$103		
2004	\$81	\$104	\$113	\$153	\$101		
2005	\$82	\$101	\$112	\$155	\$101		
2006	\$85	\$120	\$127	\$165	\$101		
2007	\$92	\$118	\$132	\$170	\$107		
2008	\$95	\$124	\$137	\$182	\$122		
2009	\$97	\$131	\$140	\$182	\$145		
2010	\$96	\$119	\$143	\$200	\$151		
2011	\$99	\$165	\$148	\$201	\$151		
2012	\$101	\$130	\$142	\$201	\$150		
2013	\$109	\$133	\$149	\$186	\$156		
2014	\$108	\$145	\$162	\$192	\$163		
2015	\$109	\$142	\$163	\$211	\$157		
2016	\$111	\$141	\$167	\$225	\$169	\$4	\$3
2017	\$111	\$150	\$179	\$221	\$175	\$3	\$15
2019	\$111	\$148	\$174	\$222	\$176	\$3	\$14

* A price for the 'takeaway' and 'other foods' portions of the basket were not available prior to 2016.

Table 17: 2019 Market Basket Survey by district and community

Central Australia

	Store Ownership *	Nutrition policy	Store committee	Number Aboriginal staff	Number non Aboriginal staff	Healthy Food Basket	Current Diet Basket	Availability HFB	Fruit (fresh) variety	Fruit (fresh) quality	Vegetable (fresh) variety	Vegetable (fresh) quality	Population
	P	No	Unknown	0	2	\$1,119	\$1,068	93%	8	8 good	11	11 good	100-399
	C	Yes	Yes	0	8	\$963	\$960	97%	4	1 good, 3 fair	11	7 good, 4 fair	400-799
	P	Yes	No	0	2	\$924	\$834	77%	3	3 good	6	6 good	100-399
	P	No	No	0	3	\$911	\$936	57%	3	3 good	7	7 good	100-399
	C	No	Yes	3	6	\$904	\$963	100%	10	9 good, 1 fair	18	16 good, 2 fair	100-399
	C	No	Yes	2	1	\$894	\$984	88%	9	6 good, 3 fair	7	6 good, 1 fair	100-399
	P	No	Yes	5	2	\$891	\$942	91%	3	1 good, 2 fair	7	7 good	100-399
	P	No	Yes	5	6	\$890	\$935	97%	9	5 good, 3 fair, 1 poor	10	10 good	100-399
	P	Unknown	No	0	1	\$845	\$934	53%	0	N/A	0	N/A	100-399
	MSG	Yes	Yes	1	9	\$827	\$993	100%	9	8 good, 1 fair	25	20 good, 2 fair	400-799
	C	No	Yes	3	4	\$814	\$925	100%	10	8 good, 2 fair	19	15 good, 3 fair, 1 poor	100-399
	MSG	Yes	Yes	3	2	\$811	\$868	100%	13	13 good	19	17 good, 2 fair	100-399
	MSG	Yes	Yes	6	6	\$809	\$876	100%	13	12 good, 1 fair	18	15 good, 2 fair	400-799
	P	No	Unknown	3	1	\$794	\$798	93%	6	5 good, 1 fair	9	8 good, 1 fair	100-399
	P	Unknown	Unknown	0	0	\$776	\$809	100%					800-1599
	MSG	Yes	Yes	0	1	\$773	\$866	100%	12	11 good, 1 fair	14	13 good, 1 fair	100-399
	MSG	Yes	Yes	7	1	\$768	\$874	90%	8	7 good, 1 fair	12	12 good	100-399
	MSG	Yes	Yes	3	1	\$757	\$840	100%	9	7 good, 2 fair	13	13 good	100-399
	MSG	Yes	Unknown	6	0	\$743	\$806	100%	10	8 good, 2 fair	15	15 good	100-399
	MSG	Yes	Yes	14	2	\$737	\$849	100%	18	15 good, 3 fair	18	15 good, 3 fair	400-799
	MSG	Yes	Yes	2	1	\$680	\$787	97%	7	7 good	13	11 good, 1 fair, 1 poor	100-399
Remote Stores Average				4	4	\$840	\$8973	87%	8		13		
Supermarket						\$530	\$593						
Corner Store						\$736	\$770						

*C = owned and managed by community or Aboriginal corporation, P = private, MSG = owned or managed by store group, L = leased from community, O = other

Top End

	Store Ownership *	Nutrition policy	Store committee	Number Aboriginal staff	Number non Aboriginal staff	Healthy Food Basket	Current Diet Basket	Availability	Fruit (fresh) variety	Fruit (fresh) quality	Vegetable (fresh) variety	Vegetable (fresh) quality	Population
	P	Yes	Yes	1	5	\$1,150	\$1,077	90%	9	9 good	7	7 good	400-799
	C	Unknown	Unknown	0	5	\$1,109	\$1,077	100%	4	4 good	5	5 good	100-399
	P	No	Unknown	0	1	\$1,034	\$1,045	97%	4	3 good, 1 fair	11	8 good, 2 fair, 1 poor	<100
	P	No	No	0	3	\$997	\$1,005	93%	8	8 good	8	8 good	100-399
	P	No	Yes	0	5	\$973	\$987	93%	11	9 good, 2 fair	11	11 good	400-799
	P	No	No	0	12	\$951	\$1,016	87%	5	5 good	2	2 good	100-399
	P	No	No	0	4	\$918	\$927	93%	10	10 good	18	18 good	400-799
	MSG	Yes	Yes	12	3	\$906	\$974	97%	13	13 good	21	15 good, 3 fair, 1 poor, 2 mouldy/ rotten	400-799
	C	Yes	Yes	5	13	\$905	\$954	100%	17	17 good	31	27 good, 4 fair	>=1600
	P	Unknown	Unknown	0	0	\$904	\$934	93%	9	9 good	20	20 good	800-1599
	MSG	Yes	Yes	30	4	\$898	\$954	100%	20	18 good, 2 fair	22	20 good, 2 fair	800-1599
	MSG	Yes	Yes	26	4	\$888	\$952	100%	18	15 good, 3 fair	22	16 good, 5 fair, 1 poor	800-1599
	MSG	No	Yes	3	2	\$881	\$937	87%	11	11 good	17	17 good	100-399
	C	Yes	No	3	3	\$865	\$916	90%	3	3 good	10	7 good, 3 fair	100-399
	MSG	Yes	Yes	12	2	\$863	\$918	100%	17	12 good, 3 fair, 2 poor	24	12 good, 8 fair, 3 poor, 1 mouldy/ rotten	100-399
	MSG	Yes	Yes	Unknown	Unknown	\$862	\$935	97%	17	16 good, 1 rotten/ mouldy	20	12 good, 6 fair, 1 poor, 1 mouldy/ rotten	800-1599
	P	No	No	12	3	\$846	\$917	97%	14	11 good, 3 fair	20	10 good, 9 fair, 1 poor	800-1599
	MSG	Yes	Yes	14	3	\$833	\$924	100%	13	11 good, 2 fair	22	18 good, 4 fair	100-399
	C	Unknown	Yes	8	6	\$821	\$913	100%	14	10 good, 4 fair	29	19 good, 8 fair, 2 poor	>=1600
	C	Yes	Yes	10	3	\$812	\$918	93%	12	9 good, 3 fair	16	16 good	400-799
	C	Yes	Yes	30	10	\$799	\$869	100%	17	15 good, 1 fair, 1 poor	20	16 good, 4 fair	800-1599
	MSG	Yes	Yes	5	1	\$797	\$890	100%	13	10 good, 2 fair, 1 poor	23	22 good, 1 fair	100-399
	C	No	Yes	13	5	\$794	\$906	100%	16	12 good, 4 fair	25	22 good, 3 fair	>=1600
	MSG	Yes	Yes	11	1	\$788	\$887	100%	13	13 good	17	16 good, 1 fair	400-799

2019 NT Market Basket Survey

	Store Ownership *	Nutrition policy	Store committee	Number Aboriginal staff	Number non Aboriginal staff	Healthy Food Basket	Current Diet Basket	Availability	Fruit (fresh) variety	Fruit (fresh) quality	Vegetable (fresh) variety	Vegetable (fresh) quality	Population
	C	No	Yes	5	2	\$784	\$901	100%	11	9 good, 2 fair	20	16 good, 4 fair	100-399
	MSG	Yes	Yes	11	3	\$780	\$902	100%	9	8 good, 1 fair	20	19 good, 1 fair	100-399
	MSG	Yes	Yes	10	2	\$780	\$873	100%	13	12 good, 1 fair	21	19 good, 2 fair	400-799
	MSG	Yes	Yes	4	1	\$778	\$873	100%	14	14 good	14	14 good	100-399
	MSG	Yes	Yes	7	3	\$774	\$866	100%	13	10 good, 3 fair	18	18 good	100-399
	P	No	No	3	15	\$769	\$839	100%	20	18 good, 2 fair	31	27 good, 4 fair	800-1599
	MSG	No	Yes	0	3	\$769	\$856	97%	9	7 good, 2 fair	15	12 good, 3 fair	100-399
	MSG	Yes	Yes	13	7	\$761	\$873	100%	19	19 good	28	28 good	800-1599
	MSG	Yes	Yes	8	5	\$757	\$880	100%	18	18 good	18	18 good	800-1599
	P	No	No	0	7	\$756	\$838	97%	13	13 good	23	23 good	100-399
	MSG	Yes	Yes	7	1	\$755	\$853	100%	15	15 good	20	20 good	100-399
	MSG	Yes	Yes	17	10	\$751	\$866	100%	15	10 good, 4 fair, 1 poor	16	12 good, 3 fair, 1 poor	800-1599
	<u>Remote Stores Average</u>			<u>8</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>\$852</u>	<u>\$922</u>	<u>97%</u>	<u>13</u>		<u>19</u>		
	<u>Supermarket</u>					<u>\$546</u>	<u>\$670</u>						
	<u>Corner Store</u>					<u>\$832</u>	<u>\$885</u>						

*C = owned and/or managed by community or Aboriginal corporation, P = private, MSG = owned or managed by store group, L = leased from community, O = other

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