## Beforepay

# Consumer spending rebounds as daily average spend jumps 5% in April 2024

6 May 2024

**Sydney, Australia –** The Beforepay Cost of Living Index for April 2024 showed a month-on-month surge in household expenses, as daily average spending increased to \$63.28 for the month. The figure is up 5% from \$60.28 in March 2024, which may suggest increased consumer confidence as discretionary spending categories lead the month-on-month spending increase. Year-on-year daily average spending also rose by 7.6%, up from \$58.84 in March 2023.

Consumer spending increased across all categories, led by food and drink expenses which surged 7.7% to a daily average spend of \$10.65, up from \$9.89 in March. Fitness and health expenses also climbed, up 7.5% to \$3.02 from \$2.81 in March.

The trend in rising consumer spending across discretionary expenses continued in the categories of shopping, entertainment and leisure and durable shopping, which includes large items and whitegoods. We saw consumers increase their daily average spend in entertainment and leisure by 6.9% month-on-month, up to \$4.64 from \$4.34. Shopping expenses saw the same 6.9% increase, up to \$8.10 from \$7.58.

Non-discretionary expenses saw lower but similarly notable increases in April. The Index revealed a 3.9% daily average spending increase in groceries to \$15.27, and a 2.4% increase in petrol and auto to \$7.75. Utilities saw only a slight increase, up 0.7% to \$6.77.

While the data suggests consumers are forking out more for non-essential expenses, budgeting and effective management of finances remains critical to helping households stay prepared and resilient among fluctuating cost of living pressures.

Jamie Twiss, CEO of Beforepay, commented: "While it's positive to see the recent uplift in spending across all key household categories, it's a timely reminder for households to maintain diligent budgeting practices. Effective financial management can be the key to helping individuals and families be well-prepared to manage their expenses and any changes in the economic climate."

For more information, please contact mediaenquiries@beforepay.com.au

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### **Beforepay Cost of Living Index**

April 2024



April 2024





\$**60.28** March 2024

\$**58.84** April 2023

Beforepay

Note: Data is derived from Beforepay data, not adjusted for seasonality. It is provided for general info only and shouldn't be relied on. See full disclaimer at: blog.beforepay.com.au/the-beforepay-cost-ofliving-index-april-2024

| ß                          | Apr 2023 | May 2023 | Jun 2023 | Jul 2023 | Aug 2023 | Sep 2023 | Oct 2023 | Nov 2023 | Dec 2023 | Jan 2024 | Feb 2024 | Mar 2024 | April 2024 |
|----------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|------------|
|                            |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |            |
| Cost Of Living<br>Index    | \$58.84  | \$55.49  | \$58.88  | \$65.13  | \$61.92  | \$61.14  | \$60.52  | \$62.23  | \$64.69  | \$58.12  | \$60.78  | \$60.28  | \$63.28    |
| Sub Categories             |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |            |
| Groceries                  | \$15.24  | \$14.62  | \$14.70  | \$15.85  | \$15.60  | \$15.34  | \$15.43  | \$15.28  | \$15.43  | \$15.17  | \$15.07  | \$14.70  | \$15.27    |
| Food & Drink               | \$10.52  | \$10.06  | \$10.45  | \$12.02  | \$11.65  | \$11.24  | \$11.12  | \$11.07  | \$11.32  | \$10.53  | \$9.90   | \$9.89   | \$10.65    |
| Petrol And Auto            | \$7.85   | \$7.35   | \$7.46   | \$7.99   | \$8.09   | \$8.30   | \$8.18   | \$8.41   | \$7.95   | \$7.53   | \$7.68   | \$7.57   | \$7.75     |
| Shopping                   | \$7.04   | \$6.58   | \$8.30   | \$8.56   | \$7.47   | \$7.36   | \$7.37   | \$8.06   | \$10.19  | \$6.80   | \$7.50   | \$7.58   | \$8.10     |
| Utilities                  | \$5.96   | \$5.76   | \$5.98   | \$6.47   | \$6.14   | \$6.21   | \$6.06   | \$6.34   | \$6.02   | \$6.10   | \$6.74   | \$6.72   | \$6.77     |
| Entertainment &<br>Leisure | \$3.10   | \$2.89   | \$3.05   | \$3.52   | \$3.28   | \$3.35   | \$3.29   | \$3.29   | \$3.56   | \$3.19   | \$4.38   | \$4.34   | \$4.64     |
| Durable<br>Shopping        | \$6.69   | \$6.01   | \$6.55   | \$8.08   | \$7.09   | \$6.77   | \$6.61   | \$7.20   | \$7.42   | \$6.35   | \$6.61   | \$6.67   | \$7.08     |
| Fitness & Health           | \$2.44   | \$2.23   | \$2.39   | \$2.64   | \$2.60   | \$2.57   | \$2.46   | \$2.58   | \$2.80   | \$2.45   | \$2.90   | \$2.81   | \$3.02     |



### About the Beforepay Cost of Living Index

The Beforepay Cost of Living Index shows the average daily spend of Beforepay registered users across multiple household expense categories. As of March 2024, the average annual individual Beforepay customer gross income was \$65,783 (counting only the main source of income) with a broadly representative geographic and gender breakdown. The data may vary depending on the main bank account linked with Beforepay. To the maximum extent permitted by law, Beforepay and its related bodies corporate, make no representation or warranty, express or implied, as to the accuracy, completeness, timeliness or reliability of the contents of this article and do not accept any liability for any loss whatsoever arising from the use of this article or its contents or otherwise arising in connection with it.

For more information about the Cost of Living Index visit the Beforepay website: <u>https://blog.beforepay.com.au/tag/cost-of-living-index</u>

### **About Beforepay**

Beforepay Group is an ethical-lending fintech founded in 2019 to create safe and affordable lending products.

Beforepay Group operates two business lines: Carrington Labs, which builds and deploys AI-powered loan-decisioning systems and high-efficiency lending platforms, and Beforepay, the Company's direct-to-consumer business.

Beforepay's flagship pay advance product is a safe and affordable way for customers to access a portion of their pay, on demand, for a single fixed fee to help them through short-term cash-flow challenges.

The Beforepay app also includes free budgeting tools and spending insights.

For more information visit: www.beforepay.com.au