



AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS
CANBERRA

EMBARGO - 6 P.M. 6 MARCH 1974

Reference No. 9.5

WHOLESALE PRICE INDEXES
PRICE INDEX OF ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION MATERIALS
JANUARY 1974



This bulletin contains index numbers of the Price Index of Electrical Installation Materials on the reference base: Year 1959-60 = 100.0.

2. Information on the construction of the index is contained in *Labour Report* No. 56, 1971. The index provides comparisons of the overall price changes occurring for a combination of materials, fixed as to quantity and quality. The yearly index numbers for the years 1959-60 to 1968-69 are simple averages of index numbers for the months of August, November, February and May in each year while those for following years are simple averages for the twelve monthly index numbers for each year.

3. The items in this index have been selected as representative of materials used in electrical installation in structures such as hospitals, schools, factories and multi-storeyed commercial buildings and flats.

4. The items are priced as at the middle of the month for which index numbers are published. The basis of pricing is the price to electrical contractors, delivered on site or into store, Sydney and Melbourne. The price series used relate to specific standards for each item and in some cases are combinations of prices for different makes, types, etc.

5. In general, the weights for the index were derived from information relating to the values of materials used in selected representative projects in Sydney and Melbourne during the three years 1960-61 to 1962-63. The projects selected for this purpose had a minimum electrical materials and labour content of \$10,000.

6. Index numbers for three groupings of items and for the All Groups combination are given in Table 2. In interpreting movements in the index, particularly those from month to month, it should be noted that changes frequently occur in an uneven fashion over time. Changes in index numbers for individual months should not be interpreted in isolation and without reference to changes over longer periods.

7. Table 1 below shows for each index the percentage change of the index numbers for the month of January 1974 from the preceding month (December 1973) and the percentage change for the month of January 1974 from the corresponding month of the previous year (January 1973).

TABLE 1. - WHOLESALE PRICE INDEXES
PRICE INDEX OF ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION MATERIALS - JANUARY 1974
GROUPS AND ALL GROUPS
Change from previous periods
(Per cent)

Percentage change between -	Conductors	Conduit and accessories	Switch-board and switch-gear material	All groups
December 1973 and January 1974	-3.0	+0.6	+0.1	-1.1
January 1973 and January 1974	+22.1	+7.6	+6.2	+12.7

TABLE 2. - WHOLESALE PRICE INDEXES
PRICE INDEX OF ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION MATERIALS
GROUPS AND ALL GROUPS
(Base of each index : Year 1959-60 = 100.0) (a)

Period	Conductors	Conduit and accessories	Switch-board and switch-gear material	All groups
Year (b)				
1963-64	93.2	103.7	100.8	98.5
1964-65	110.6	104.6	105.2	107.2
1965-66	105.8	104.2	106.6	105.7
1966-67	120.2	105.8	109.2	112.8
1967-68	119.9	106.0	112.5	113.8
1968-69	119.5	107.3	115.3	115.0
1969-70	142.1	109.6	120.1	126.2
1970-71	128.4	112.8	129.2	124.8
1971-72	126.7	120.9	137.7	129.1
1972-73	133.5	126.8	144.2	135.5
Month (c)				
1971-72				
December	126.0	120.2	137.5	128.5
January	126.0	120.2	137.7	128.6
February	126.2	122.9	138.1	129.5
March	126.4	122.9	138.7	129.8
April	126.1	122.9	139.4	129.9
May	129.7	122.9	140.3	131.7
June	129.9	122.9	140.3	131.8
1972-73				
July	129.8	124.4	140.9	132.3
August	129.8	125.2	140.9	132.5
September	129.8	125.2	140.9	132.5
October	130.8	125.2	140.9	132.9
November	130.8	125.2	143.8	133.9
December	130.8	126.7	143.8	134.3
January	131.0	126.7	144.7	134.7
February	131.1	126.7	145.7	135.1
March	131.7	128.5	146.5	136.1
April	140.2	129.0	147.2	139.9
May	142.6	129.0	147.5	140.9
June	143.5	129.7	147.5	141.4
1973-74				
July	152.3	130.3	149.7	145.9
August	166.3	134.2	151.7	153.2
September	158.4	134.2	152.3	150.2
October	156.5	134.3	152.5	149.6
November	163.5	134.3	152.7	152.4
December	164.8	135.5	153.5	153.5
January	159.9	136.3	153.6	151.8

(a) Figures are shown to one decimal place to avoid distortion that would occur in rounding off the index numbers to the nearest whole number. (b) See page 1, para. 2 for a description of the method used to derive yearly index numbers. (c) As at mid-point of month.

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NOTE. Inquiries concerning these statistics may be made in Canberra by telephoning Mr D. Collins on 63 9111 extension 2053 or, in each State capital, by telephoning the office of the Australian Bureau of Statistics.