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## PRICE INDEXES OF COPPER MATERIALS, AUSTRALIA APRIL 1987

- PHONE INQUIRIES • *about these statistics*—contact Kathy Garton on Canberra (062) 52 5637 or any ABS State office.  
• *about other statistics and ABS services*—contact Information Services on Canberra (062) 52 5402, 52 6007, 52 6627 or any ABS State office.
- MAIL INQUIRIES • *write to Information Services*, ABS, P.O. Box 10, Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616 or any ABS State office.
- ELECTRONIC SERVICES • on VIATEL — key \*656#.  
• on AUSSTATS — phone (062) 52 6017.  
• on TELESTATS — phone (062) 52 5404.

### EXPLANATORY NOTES

#### Introduction

This publication contains index numbers for copper materials used in the manufacture of three types of electrical equipment (namely *Industrial electric motors*; *Distribution transformers*; and *Power transformers*). Each of these indexes is a fixed weights index. The items included in each index have been allocated weights in accordance with the estimated average values of copper materials used in the manufacture of each type of equipment in the year 1982-83. The weights attributed to each item in each index reflect the average usage by industry in 1982-83 and, as such, do not necessarily reflect the relative values of materials used by particular manufacturers.

#### Prices

- The prices used in these indexes relate to the mid-point of each month. Prices are those charged by major manufacturers or distributors of copper materials to electrical equipment manufacturers for materials delivered into store. Price series used in the index relate to materials of fixed specifications.
- The index for *Industrial electric motors* is intended to measure price movements of copper materials used in electric motors for industrial applications only. As a result, this index does not necessarily reflect the price movements of copper materials used in the manufacture of other smaller types of electric motors, such as those used as components in white goods or other domestic appliances.
- A detailed description of these indexes was contained in the Appendix to the June 1984 issue of this publication.

#### Interpretation

- Care should be exercised when interpreting month-to-month movements in the indexes as short-term movements do not necessarily indicate a change in trend.
- Index numbers for financial years are simple averages of monthly index numbers.
- Index numbers for the most recent month are preliminary and subject to revision. However, it may be necessary from time to time to revise index numbers for

earlier periods if incorrect prices for those periods are detected or if the sample of prices used to compile the indexes is found to be unsatisfactory.

#### Related publications

8. Users may also wish to refer to the following publications which are available on request:

*Price Indexes of Articles Produced by Manufacturing Industry, Australia* (6412.0)—issued monthly

*Price Indexes of Materials Used in Manufacturing Industries, Australia* (6411.0)—issued monthly

*Price Index of Materials Used in Building Other than House Building, Six State Capital Cities and Darwin* (6407.0)—issued monthly

*Price Index of Materials Used in House Building, Six State Capital Cities* (6408.0)—issued monthly

9. Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications, Australia* (1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a *Publications Advice* (1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the next few days. The Catalogue and Publications Advice are available from any ABS office.

#### Symbols and other usages

p preliminary—figure or series subject to revision

#### Electronic services

10. VIATEL. Key \*656# for selected current economic, social and demographic statistics.

AUSSTATS. Thousands of up-to-date time series are available on this ABS on-line service through CSIRONET.

For further information phone the AUSSTATS Help Desk on (062) 52 6017.

TELESTATS. This service provides foreign trade statistics tailored to users' requirements.

Further information is available on (062) 52 5404.

IAN CASTLES  
Australian Statistician

TABLE 1. PRICE INDEXES OF COPPER MATERIALS USED IN THE  
MANUFACTURE OF ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT  
INDEX NUMBERS  
(Base of each index: Year 1983-84 = 100.0)

|           | Copper materials used in the manufacture of— |                              |                       |
|-----------|----------------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|
|           | Industrial<br>electric<br>motors             | Distribution<br>transformers | Power<br>transformers |
| 1983-84   | 100.0                                        | 100.0                        | 100.0                 |
| 1984-85   | 105.4                                        | 105.8                        | 108.1                 |
| 1985-86   | 115.4                                        | 113.7                        | 119.8                 |
| 1985-86—  |                                              |                              |                       |
| February  | 115.7                                        | 115.2                        | 120.4                 |
| March     | 118.4                                        | 115.7                        | 120.9                 |
| April     | 119.6                                        | 115.6                        | 124.1                 |
| May       | 117.8                                        | 114.0                        | 122.6                 |
| June      | 120.1                                        | 116.0                        | 124.3                 |
| 1986-87—  |                                              |                              |                       |
| July      | 123.7                                        | 119.2                        | 127.5                 |
| August    | 124.7                                        | 120.6                        | 129.5                 |
| September | 125.6                                        | 121.3                        | 131.1                 |
| October   | 123.4                                        | 123.6                        | 129.1                 |
| November  | 120.8                                        | 121.2                        | 126.3                 |
| December  | 121.3                                        | 121.9                        | 126.8                 |
| January   | 123.3                                        | 122.4                        | 128.8                 |
| February  | 122.5                                        | 121.7                        | 129.3                 |
| March     | 124.2                                        | 123.6                        | 131.4                 |
| April p   | 125.0                                        | 124.2                        | 131.6                 |

#### PERCENTAGE CHANGES

| Change from previous year                        |       |       |       |
|--------------------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1984-85                                          | +5.4  | +5.8  | +8.1  |
| 1985-86                                          | +9.5  | +7.5  | +10.8 |
| Change from corresponding month of previous year |       |       |       |
| 1985-86—                                         |       |       |       |
| February                                         | +10.2 | +8.6  | +9.2  |
| March                                            | +7.1  | +4.2  | +6.9  |
| April                                            | +4.9  | +0.6  | +6.1  |
| May                                              | -3.0  | -6.6  | -2.7  |
| June                                             | +2.6  | -1.7  | +1.1  |
| 1986-87—                                         |       |       |       |
| July                                             | +6.9  | +2.6  | +5.5  |
| August                                           | +9.9  | +6.2  | +9.2  |
| September                                        | +12.1 | +10.3 | +11.8 |
| October                                          | +11.9 | +13.0 | +11.7 |
| November                                         | +7.4  | +8.6  | +7.9  |
| December                                         | +7.5  | +9.1  | +7.5  |
| January                                          | +6.4  | +5.6  | +8.8  |
| February                                         | +5.9  | +5.6  | +7.4  |
| March                                            | +4.9  | +6.8  | +8.7  |
| April p                                          | +4.5  | +7.4  | +6.0  |
| Change from previous month                       |       |       |       |
| 1985-86—                                         |       |       |       |
| February                                         | -0.2  | -0.6  | +1.7  |
| March                                            | +2.3  | +0.4  | +0.4  |
| April                                            | +1.0  | -0.1  | +2.6  |
| May                                              | -1.5  | -1.4  | -1.2  |
| June                                             | +2.0  | +1.8  | +1.4  |
| 1986-87—                                         |       |       |       |
| July                                             | +3.0  | +2.8  | +2.6  |
| August                                           | +0.8  | +1.2  | +1.6  |
| September                                        | +0.7  | +0.6  | +1.2  |
| October                                          | -1.8  | +1.9  | -1.5  |
| November                                         | -2.1  | -1.9  | -2.2  |
| December                                         | +0.4  | +0.6  | +0.4  |
| January                                          | +1.6  | +0.4  | +1.6  |
| February                                         | -0.6  | -0.6  | +0.4  |
| March                                            | +1.4  | +1.6  | +1.6  |
| April p                                          | +0.6  | +0.5  | +0.2  |