



Reference No. 9.9

## WHOLESALE PRICE INDEXES

### PRICE INDEX OF MATERIALS USED IN HOUSE BUILDING JUNE 1974

#### SUMMARY OF RESULTS

|                                                 | Percentage change between —  |                               |
|-------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
|                                                 | May 1974<br>and<br>June 1974 | June 1973<br>and<br>June 1974 |
| State Capital Cities                            |                              |                               |
| Sydney                                          | +2.8                         | +18.6                         |
| Melbourne                                       | +3.0                         | +24.1                         |
| Brisbane                                        | +2.3                         | +19.2                         |
| Adelaide                                        | +4.7                         | +24.9                         |
| Perth                                           | +3.3                         | +16.8                         |
| Hobart                                          | +1.6                         | +17.2                         |
| Weighted average of<br>six State capital cities | +3.0                         | +20.5                         |

An analysis of percentage changes for individual groups follows on page 2.

#### EXPLANATORY NOTES

##### Introduction

This bulletin contains index numbers of the Price Index of Materials used in House Building. A detailed description of the index is contained in *Labour Report* No. 57, 1972 (pp.59-71). A Price Index of Materials used in Building other than House Building is published in a separate bulletin (Reference No. 9.6). Index numbers for the current month and the previous month are preliminary and subject to revision.

##### Scope and composition

2. The index measures changes in prices of selected materials used in the construction of houses. Its composition is in accordance with the usage of materials in actual houses which were selected as representative for the purpose. The index does not purport to represent buildings of any kind other than houses. The house building construction types included are those which use brick, brick veneer, timber or asbestos cement sheeting as the principal material for the outer walls.

##### Base period and method of calculation

3. The reference base of the index is the year 1966-67=100.0. The index is a fixed weights index and is calculated by the method known as the *weighted arithmetic mean of price relatives*.

##### Derivation of items and weights

4. The items and weights used in the index were derived from reported values of each material used in selected representative houses constructed in or about

1968-69 in each State capital city. Each State capital city has an individual weighting pattern which reflects the difference in the estimated relative importance of given items as between cities. In all cases the selection of materials was based on local usage. The weighting pattern for each capital city is applied to local price measures in calculating indexes for that city.

##### Prices

5. Price series used relate to specified standards of each commodity with the aim of incorporating in the index price changes for representative materials of constant quality.

6. In general the point of pricing is *delivered on site*, but in some cases it has been necessary to use the nearest realistic price available, e.g. that for *supplied and fixed*. The price series are obtained in all State capital cities from representative suppliers of materials used in house building. In the main they are collected as at the mid-point of the month to which the index refers, or as near thereto as practicable.

7. As far as possible, actual transaction prices are used in the index as distinct from *list* prices. Thus measures of special or other discounts are sought where these are believed to be significant. To the extent that they can be determined, significant changes in special discounts are incorporated in the index but this may sometimes be on a partly estimated basis, and may sometimes necessitate revisions.

##### Index numbers

8. The index has been compiled for each month from July 1966, and for the financial years from 1966-67. Index numbers for each State capital city and for the weighted average of the six capitals are given for each group of items and for all groups combined in Tables 2 and 3. The separate city indexes measure price movements within each capital city individually. They enable comparisons to be drawn between capitals as to differences in degree of price movement from period to period, but not as to differences in price level.

##### Interpretation

9. In interpreting movements in the index, particularly these from month to month, it should be noted that changes frequently occur in an uneven fashion both over time and also, between separate capital cities, at the same points of time. Changes in index numbers for individual months should not be interpreted in isolation and without reference to changes over longer periods.

10. Table 1 below shows, for each group and the all groups of the index, the percentage change for the weighted average of the six State capital cities for the current month from the preceding month and the corresponding month of the previous year.

TABLE 1. - PRICE INDEX OF MATERIALS USED IN HOUSE BUILDING  
GROUPS AND ALL GROUPS - WEIGHTED AVERAGE OF SIX STATE CAPITAL CITIES

| Group                             | Percentage change from previous periods |                               |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
|                                   | Percentage change between -             |                               |
|                                   | May 1974<br>and<br>June 1974            | June 1973<br>and<br>June 1974 |
| Concrete mix, cement and sand     | + 1.7                                   | +11.5                         |
| Cement products                   | + 4.1                                   | +19.1                         |
| Bricks, tiles, etc.               | + 2.7                                   | +15.6                         |
| Timber, board and joinery         | + 3.0                                   | +26.4                         |
| Steel products                    | + 2.5                                   | +20.0                         |
| Other metal products              | + 2.6                                   | +22.1                         |
| Plumbing fixtures, etc.           | + 4.0                                   | +17.2                         |
| Electrical installation materials | + 5.4                                   | +25.1                         |
| Installed appliances              | + 5.4                                   | +22.5                         |
| Plaster and plaster products      | + 1.2                                   | + 8.3                         |
| Miscellaneous materials           | + 2.3                                   | +12.3                         |
| All groups                        | + 3.0                                   | +20.5                         |

TABLE 2. - PRICE INDEX OF MATERIALS USED IN HOUSE BUILDING  
ALL GROUPS INDEX NUMBERS - SIX STATE CAPITAL CITIES  
(Base of each Index : Year 1966-67 = 100.0) (a)

| Period    | State capital cities |           |          |          |        |        | Weighted<br>average of<br>six State<br>capital cities |
|-----------|----------------------|-----------|----------|----------|--------|--------|-------------------------------------------------------|
|           | Sydney               | Melbourne | Brisbane | Adelaide | Perth  | Hobart |                                                       |
| 1971-72   | 126.1                | 118.9     | 124.8    | 124.8    | 121.1  | 120.7  | 122.7                                                 |
| 1972-73   | 135.6                | 126.5     | 133.8    | 134.8    | 126.9  | 130.8  | 131.1                                                 |
| 1973-74p  | 158.0                | 147.8     | 152.2    | 157.2    | 141.8  | 145.5  | 151.3                                                 |
| 1972-73   |                      |           |          |          |        |        |                                                       |
| May       | 141.7                | 131.6     | 137.9    | 140.8    | 130.4  | 134.5  | 136.2                                                 |
| June      | 144.7                | 134.9     | 139.3    | 141.9    | 132.7  | 136.0  | 138.8                                                 |
| 1973-74   |                      |           |          |          |        |        |                                                       |
| July      | 146.7                | 137.6     | 143.4    | 145.9    | 133.8  | 137.8  | 141.3                                                 |
| August    | 149.2                | 138.9     | 145.0    | 147.8    | 135.4  | 138.9  | 143.1                                                 |
| September | 152.3                | 140.2     | 146.0    | 149.4    | 136.5  | 139.6  | 144.9                                                 |
| October   | 154.6                | 140.2     | 147.2    | 149.5    | 137.3  | 139.7  | 145.9                                                 |
| November  | 155.2                | 141.8     | 147.8    | 150.9    | 138.5  | 140.4  | 146.9                                                 |
| December  | 157.0                | 145.0     | 150.1    | 155.2    | 139.7  | 144.4  | 149.4                                                 |
| January   | 158.6                | 146.2     | 152.3    | 156.8    | 140.5  | 145.5  | 150.8                                                 |
| February  | 159.3                | 148.5     | 153.2    | 158.1    | 142.0  | 146.7  | 152.2                                                 |
| March     | 160.5                | 150.4     | 154.0    | 160.5    | 145.3  | 147.2  | 154.0                                                 |
| April     | 163.6                | r155.4    | 158.8    | 165.9    | r147.0 | r148.9 | 157.8                                                 |
| May p     | r167.0               | r162.5    | 162.4    | 169.3    | r150.1 | 156.9  | r162.4                                                |
| June p    | 171.6                | 167.4     | 166.1    | 177.2    | 155.0  | 159.4  | 167.2                                                 |

(a) Figures are shown to one decimal place to avoid distortions that would occur in rounding off the index numbers to the nearest whole number.

p - preliminary, subject to revision. r - revised.

TABLE 3. - PRICE INDEX OF MATERIALS USED IN HOUSE BUILDING - GROUP INDEX NUMBERS  
(Base of each index : Year 1966-67 = 100.0) (a)

| Period    | Concrete mix,<br>cement and<br>sand | Cement<br>products | Clay bricks,<br>tiles, etc | Timber, board<br>and joinery | Steel<br>products | Other metal<br>products | Plumbing<br>fixtures,<br>etc. | Electrical<br>installation<br>materials | Installed<br>appliances | Plaster<br>and plaster<br>products | Miscellaneous<br>materials | All groups |
|-----------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------|------------|
| SYDNEY    |                                     |                    |                            |                              |                   |                         |                               |                                         |                         |                                    |                            |            |
| 1971-72   | 125.1                               | 135.1              | 119.7                      | 131.8                        | 131.0             | 119.5                   | 127.3                         | 120.3                                   | 114.8                   | 118.6                              | 116.7                      | 126.1      |
| 1972-73   | 134.2                               | 145.4              | 123.3                      | 146.4                        | 141.1             | 128.5                   | 131.3                         | 126.1                                   | 114.0                   | 120.6                              | 126.6                      | 135.6      |
| 1973-74p  | 149.5                               | 155.0              | 141.3                      | 182.5                        | 156.5             | 149.5                   | 145.9                         | 145.5                                   | 124.9                   | 124.1                              | 136.5                      | 158.0      |
| 1972-73   |                                     |                    |                            |                              |                   |                         |                               |                                         |                         |                                    |                            |            |
| May       | 143.6                               | 150.7              | 124.8                      | 156.4                        | 146.0             | 136.0                   | 132.4                         | 132.6                                   | 113.2                   | 120.8                              | 131.8                      | 141.7      |
| June      | 143.7                               | 151.0              | 125.8                      | 162.8                        | 146.6             | 137.8                   | 136.3                         | 132.6                                   | 113.2                   | 120.8                              | 132.2                      | 144.7      |
| 1973-74   |                                     |                    |                            |                              |                   |                         |                               |                                         |                         |                                    |                            |            |
| July      | 144.7                               | 151.6              | 128.5                      | 165.2                        | 148.2             | 140.6                   | 138.1                         | 135.6                                   | 117.4                   | 120.9                              | 132.4                      | 146.7      |
| August    | 144.3                               | 152.6              | 129.3                      | 169.0                        | 150.9             | 146.1                   | 142.4                         | 142.9                                   | 118.4                   | 121.1                              | 132.9                      | 149.2      |
| September | 144.5                               | 152.5              | 129.3                      | 177.2                        | 151.1             | 145.2                   | 142.4                         | 140.2                                   | 118.4                   | 121.1                              | 132.9                      | 152.3      |
| October   | 144.9                               | 152.6              | 139.2                      | 179.4                        | 150.8             | 145.2                   | 142.6                         | 139.4                                   | 119.1                   | 121.5                              | 133.4                      | 154.6      |
| November  | 144.5                               | 152.6              | 139.2                      | 180.2                        | 152.8             | 145.3                   | 142.6                         | 142.0                                   | 119.6                   | 121.5                              | 134.2                      | 155.2      |
| December  | 145.4                               | 152.7              | 144.4                      | 182.3                        | 153.8             | 146.2                   | 142.6                         | 144.5                                   | 120.0                   | 121.5                              | 134.6                      | 157.0      |
| January   | 149.1                               | 153.7              | 145.4                      | 184.4                        | 155.7             | 147.6                   | 142.6                         | 142.8                                   | 124.0                   | 122.6                              | 135.1                      | 158.6      |
| February  | 151.0                               | 153.7              | 146.6                      | 185.0                        | 156.3             | 148.7                   | 142.9                         | 144.5                                   | 124.0                   | 122.7                              | 135.2                      | 159.3      |
| March     | 151.6                               | 154.4              | 146.8                      | 187.0                        | 157.3             | 148.7                   | 144.1                         | 145.0                                   | 124.6                   | 126.5                              | 135.3                      | 160.5      |
| April     | 155.9                               | 155.2              | 146.8                      | 189.1                        | r162.8            | 155.2                   | r150.9                        | 148.8                                   | 132.4                   | 129.0                              | 141.7                      | 163.6      |
| May p     | r156.1                              | 158.0              | 148.4                      | 194.1                        | r166.1            | r161.2                  | r155.3                        | 155.4                                   | 134.2                   | 129.4                              | 143.2                      | r167.0     |
| June p    | 162.2                               | 170.4              | 151.1                      | 196.9                        | 172.5             | 163.6                   | 164.1                         | 165.0                                   | 146.6                   | 131.2                              | 146.5                      | 171.6      |
| MELBOURNE |                                     |                    |                            |                              |                   |                         |                               |                                         |                         |                                    |                            |            |
| 1971-72   | 122.0                               | 138.2              | 123.5                      | 114.5                        | 126.4             | 119.4                   | 120.5                         | 119.6                                   | 104.3                   | 119.2                              | 116.5                      | 118.9      |
| 1972-73   | 127.2                               | 141.5              | 132.0                      | 125.3                        | 135.3             | 124.8                   | 131.2                         | 125.3                                   | 106.8                   | 120.4                              | 124.7                      | 126.5      |
| 1973-74 p | 132.8                               | 160.6              | 148.7                      | 158.8                        | 154.5             | 147.1                   | 146.3                         | 145.3                                   | 115.1                   | 124.2                              | 135.8                      | 147.8      |
| 1972-73   |                                     |                    |                            |                              |                   |                         |                               |                                         |                         |                                    |                            |            |
| May       | 127.7                               | 142.9              | 142.9                      | 132.5                        | 140.5             | 127.4                   | 135.0                         | 131.4                                   | 107.1                   | 120.5                              | 128.9                      | 131.6      |
| June      | 127.8                               | 142.8              | 143.3                      | 139.7                        | 141.6             | 132.6                   | 137.8                         | 131.4                                   | 107.5                   | 120.5                              | 129.4                      | 134.9      |
| 1973-74   |                                     |                    |                            |                              |                   |                         |                               |                                         |                         |                                    |                            |            |
| July      | 128.1                               | 151.2              | 145.2                      | 141.9                        | 143.9             | 138.9                   | 140.9                         | 134.8                                   | 107.8                   | 120.7                              | 131.9                      | 137.6      |
| August    | 128.7                               | 153.3              | 146.8                      | 142.0                        | 147.7             | 143.5                   | 141.9                         | 142.4                                   | 110.3                   | 120.8                              | 133.0                      | 138.9      |
| September | 129.5                               | 153.4              | 146.8                      | 145.6                        | 147.5             | 141.6                   | 142.7                         | 140.4                                   | 110.5                   | 120.8                              | 133.2                      | 140.2      |
| October   | 128.9                               | 153.4              | 146.8                      | 145.6                        | 148.3             | 141.8                   | 142.7                         | 140.3                                   | 110.5                   | 120.8                              | 133.2                      | 140.2      |
| November  | 128.9                               | 153.4              | 146.8                      | 148.8                        | 149.3             | 143.4                   | 143.6                         | 142.1                                   | 111.8                   | 120.8                              | 133.9                      | 141.8      |
| December  | 130.0                               | 153.4              | 148.1                      | 155.8                        | 150.5             | 146.3                   | 143.6                         | 143.2                                   | 112.6                   | 121.1                              | 134.2                      | 145.0      |
| January   | 130.8                               | 155.2              | 148.1                      | 158.3                        | 151.8             | 145.7                   | 143.6                         | 140.7                                   | 113.1                   | 121.1                              | 134.3                      | 146.2      |
| February  | 134.1                               | 160.6              | 148.1                      | 161.6                        | 152.0             | 145.2                   | 143.6                         | 143.2                                   | 114.1                   | 125.2                              | 135.5                      | 148.5      |
| March     | 136.5                               | 162.3              | 148.1                      | 164.0                        | 157.8             | 147.5                   | 143.6                         | 145.4                                   | 114.7                   | 128.4                              | 135.2                      | 150.4      |
| April     | 137.9                               | 162.8              | 148.1                      | 173.1                        | r162.5            | 148.5                   | 155.0                         | 149.0                                   | r122.6                  | r129.9                             | 135.9                      | r155.4     |
| May p     | 139.2                               | 182.2              | 151.1                      | 181.7                        | r169.8            | r158.3                  | 155.1                         | 156.8                                   | r124.2                  | r129.9                             | 142.4                      | r162.5     |
| June p    | 140.9                               | 185.7              | 160.7                      | 187.0                        | 173.3             | 164.0                   | 158.9                         | 164.7                                   | 128.9                   | 130.5                              | 146.6                      | 167.4      |

For footnote and symbols see end of table.

TABLE 3. - PRICE INDEX OF MATERIALS USED IN HOUSE BUILDING - GROUP INDEX NUMBERS - continued  
(Base of each Index : Year 1966-67 = 100.0) (a)

| Period    | Concrete mix,<br>cement and<br>sand | Cement<br>products | Clay bricks,<br>tiles, etc. | Timber, board<br>and joinery | Steel<br>products | Other metal<br>products | Plumbing<br>fixtures,<br>etc. | Electrical<br>installation<br>materials | Installed<br>appliances | Plaster<br>and plaster<br>products | Miscellaneous<br>materials | All groups |
|-----------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------|------------|
| BRISBANE  |                                     |                    |                             |                              |                   |                         |                               |                                         |                         |                                    |                            |            |
| 1971-72   | 118.9                               | 127.0              | 131.1                       | 135.6                        | 123.9             | 110.6                   | 122.8                         | 121.4                                   | 98.6                    | 111.8                              | 111.7                      | 124.8      |
| 1972-73   | 116.5                               | 141.7              | 137.8                       | 150.2                        | 133.0             | 115.8                   | 129.0                         | 127.2                                   | 94.2                    | 112.7                              | 116.0                      | 133.8      |
| 1973-74 p | 137.1                               | 155.2              | 154.2                       | 176.5                        | 149.7             | 137.3                   | 143.5                         | 146.2                                   | 108.3                   | 114.9                              | 122.3                      | 152.2      |
| 1972-73   |                                     |                    |                             |                              |                   |                         |                               |                                         |                         |                                    |                            |            |
| May       | 123.3                               | 144.7              | 141.6                       | 156.1                        | 137.6             | 119.6                   | 130.1                         | 133.5                                   | 95.1                    | 113.0                              | 118.0                      | 137.9      |
| June      | 126.7                               | 152.3              | 142.2                       | 156.6                        | 138.6             | 120.0                   | 133.4                         | 133.5                                   | 96.0                    | 112.3                              | 118.1                      | 139.3      |
| 1973-74   |                                     |                    |                             |                              |                   |                         |                               |                                         |                         |                                    |                            |            |
| July      | 126.3                               | 152.4              | 142.8                       | 166.2                        | 140.4             | 123.5                   | 135.5                         | 136.3                                   | 97.7                    | 112.3                              | 118.5                      | 143.4      |
| August    | 123.8                               | 152.8              | 142.8                       | 167.5                        | 143.4             | 128.7                   | 139.5                         | 143.5                                   | 102.0                   | 113.6                              | 119.3                      | 145.0      |
| September | 124.6                               | 152.7              | 147.7                       | 167.8                        | 143.8             | 133.3                   | 139.5                         | 141.7                                   | 102.0                   | 113.6                              | 119.3                      | 146.0      |
| October   | 134.0                               | 152.9              | 150.4                       | 168.2                        | 144.7             | 134.9                   | 139.7                         | 141.2                                   | 102.8                   | 113.5                              | 119.6                      | 147.2      |
| November  | 136.0                               | 153.0              | 152.1                       | 168.5                        | 144.9             | 134.7                   | 141.2                         | 142.7                                   | 104.4                   | 113.5                              | 120.9                      | 147.8      |
| December  | 136.2                               | 153.6              | 155.7                       | 172.5                        | 148.5             | 135.2                   | 140.8                         | 143.3                                   | 106.3                   | 113.7                              | 122.1                      | 150.1      |
| January   | 138.6                               | 154.0              | 157.1                       | 177.5                        | 149.2             | 135.3                   | 141.2                         | 142.0                                   | 106.5                   | 113.7                              | 122.3                      | 152.3      |
| February  | 139.5                               | 154.4              | 157.7                       | 179.2                        | 149.7             | 136.2                   | 141.3                         | 144.1                                   | 107.6                   | 113.4                              | 122.4                      | 153.2      |
| March     | 139.8                               | 155.2              | 158.1                       | 179.7                        | 151.4             | 136.5                   | 143.4                         | 144.1                                   | 110.7                   | 116.1                              | 122.6                      | 154.0      |
| April     | 148.5                               | 157.5              | 160.9                       | 186.3                        | 156.3             | 143.3                   | 146.6                         | 149.6                                   | 112.9                   | 117.2                              | 123.9                      | 158.8      |
| May p     | 148.8                               | 158.8              | 162.0                       | 189.6                        | 159.7             | 150.9                   | 153.2                         | 159.4                                   | 123.1                   | 117.9                              | 128.3                      | 162.4      |
| June p    | 148.8                               | 165.0              | 162.9                       | 194.5                        | 164.4             | 154.5                   | 158.7                         | 168.3                                   | 124.2                   | 120.2                              | 128.9                      | 166.1      |
| ADELAIDE  |                                     |                    |                             |                              |                   |                         |                               |                                         |                         |                                    |                            |            |
| 1971-72   | 119.1                               | 127.9              | 128.6                       | 127.5                        | 128.9             | 122.3                   | 127.7                         | 118.8                                   | 110.2                   | 115.1                              | 119.6                      | 124.8      |
| 1972-73   | 127.5                               | 135.0              | 137.5                       | 142.3                        | 136.2             | 128.8                   | 135.4                         | 124.4                                   | 112.3                   | 118.9                              | 129.1                      | 134.8      |
| 1973-74 p | 132.9                               | 157.6              | 143.4                       | 182.9                        | 152.3             | 149.3                   | 148.4                         | 144.0                                   | 122.4                   | 126.5                              | 143.9                      | 157.2      |
| 1972-73   |                                     |                    |                             |                              |                   |                         |                               |                                         |                         |                                    |                            |            |
| May       | 129.0                               | 135.9              | 139.2                       | 154.3                        | 140.2             | 135.2                   | 137.8                         | 130.3                                   | 114.3                   | 119.0                              | 133.1                      | 140.8      |
| June      | 129.3                               | 136.3              | 139.6                       | 156.4                        | 140.8             | 136.5                   | 141.0                         | 130.3                                   | 114.3                   | 119.6                              | 133.8                      | 141.9      |
| 1973-74   |                                     |                    |                             |                              |                   |                         |                               |                                         |                         |                                    |                            |            |
| July      | 129.8                               | 150.3              | 139.9                       | 161.7                        | 142.7             | 143.7                   | 144.1                         | 133.9                                   | 117.6                   | 119.6                              | 134.1                      | 145.9      |
| August    | 129.8                               | 151.0              | 139.9                       | 164.5                        | 146.3             | 148.0                   | 144.2                         | 142.1                                   | 118.2                   | 119.6                              | 137.0                      | 147.8      |
| September | 130.1                               | 151.0              | 139.9                       | 169.4                        | 146.0             | 146.4                   | 144.2                         | 136.8                                   | 119.4                   | 119.6                              | 136.8                      | 149.4      |
| October   | 130.2                               | 151.0              | 139.9                       | 169.6                        | 146.2             | 146.4                   | 144.4                         | 138.7                                   | 119.6                   | 119.6                              | 136.8                      | 149.5      |
| November  | 130.2                               | 151.0              | 139.9                       | 173.2                        | 148.3             | 145.4                   | 144.4                         | 141.1                                   | 119.7                   | 119.6                              | 136.9                      | 150.9      |
| December  | 131.4                               | 151.0              | 143.4                       | 181.8                        | 151.4             | 148.1                   | 144.5                         | 142.2                                   | 120.2                   | 121.5                              | 138.0                      | 155.2      |
| January   | 132.5                               | 153.6              | 144.7                       | 183.1                        | 151.9             | 147.0                   | 144.7                         | 140.6                                   | 119.6                   | 124.2                              | 146.7                      | 156.8      |
| February  | 133.4                               | 154.2              | 146.1                       | 184.0                        | 153.5             | 149.6                   | 147.5                         | 142.2                                   | 120.7                   | 128.4                              | 147.0                      | 158.1      |
| March     | 134.5                               | 155.1              | 146.1                       | 189.3                        | 154.7             | 149.9                   | 148.4                         | 142.2                                   | 120.8                   | 132.5                              | 147.7                      | 160.5      |
| April     | 135.1                               | 172.8              | 146.1                       | 197.9                        | 157.2             | 149.9                   | 155.1                         | 148.5                                   | 125.1                   | 135.6                              | 151.8                      | 165.9      |
| May p     | 138.1                               | 174.1              | 146.1                       | 202.7                        | 163.5             | 153.5                   | 155.9                         | 156.3                                   | 131.4                   | 139.0                              | 152.8                      | 169.3      |
| June p    | 139.5                               | 175.9              | 149.2                       | 217.4                        | 166.1             | 163.2                   | 162.9                         | 163.3                                   | 136.7                   | 139.0                              | 161.0                      | 177.2      |

For footnote and symbols see end of table.

TABLE 3. - PRICE INDEX OF MATERIALS USED IN HOUSE BUILDING - GROUP INDEX NUMBERS - continued  
(Base of each index : Year 1966-67 = 100.0) (a)

| Period    | Concrete mix,<br>cement and<br>sand | Cement<br>products | Clay bricks,<br>tiles, etc. | Timber, board<br>and joinery | Steel<br>products | Other metal<br>products | Plumbing<br>fixtures,<br>etc. | Electrical<br>installation<br>materials | Installed<br>appliances | Plaster<br>and plaster<br>products | Miscellaneous<br>materials | All groups |
|-----------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------|------------|
| PERTH     |                                     |                    |                             |                              |                   |                         |                               |                                         |                         |                                    |                            |            |
| 1971-72   | 117.2                               | 121.9              | 129.5                       | 121.3                        | 128.8             | 119.7                   | 114.6                         | 120.7                                   | 107.5                   | 110.6                              | 117.7                      | 121.1      |
| 1972-73   | 121.7                               | 127.7              | 135.1                       | 126.9                        | 136.6             | 124.8                   | 121.9                         | 128.1                                   | 110.7                   | 113.1                              | 126.7                      | 126.9      |
| 1973-74 p | 129.1                               | 138.3              | 151.5                       | 146.9                        | 153.4             | 146.9                   | 131.2                         | 150.6                                   | 116.1                   | 115.6                              | 136.7                      | 141.8      |
| 1972-73   |                                     |                    |                             |                              |                   |                         |                               |                                         |                         |                                    |                            |            |
| May       | 123.7                               | 130.4              | 138.9                       | 131.4                        | 139.5             | 130.2                   | 123.3                         | 137.1                                   | 110.6                   | 114.4                              | 130.5                      | 130.4      |
| June      | 123.7                               | 130.4              | 139.7                       | 137.2                        | 140.5             | 132.0                   | 125.5                         | 137.1                                   | 110.6                   | 114.6                              | 131.1                      | 132.7      |
| 1973-74   |                                     |                    |                             |                              |                   |                         |                               |                                         |                         |                                    |                            |            |
| July      | 123.6                               | 130.4              | 139.7                       | 139.6                        | 141.5             | 135.8                   | 125.6                         | 137.9                                   | 111.6                   | 115.0                              | 131.7                      | 133.8      |
| August    | 123.6                               | 130.8              | 141.9                       | 140.0                        | 143.7             | 142.2                   | 127.4                         | 148.4                                   | 112.1                   | 115.0                              | 132.7                      | 135.4      |
| September | 123.6                               | 130.8              | 147.5                       | 141.2                        | 143.7             | 141.2                   | 127.6                         | 145.0                                   | 112.9                   | 115.0                              | 132.3                      | 136.5      |
| October   | 123.6                               | 136.2              | 147.7                       | 141.2                        | 145.1             | 141.1                   | 128.0                         | 146.3                                   | 115.2                   | 115.0                              | 133.0                      | 137.3      |
| November  | 123.6                               | 136.3              | 147.7                       | 144.0                        | 149.1             | 143.1                   | 128.4                         | 147.4                                   | 115.2                   | 115.0                              | 133.0                      | 138.5      |
| December  | 123.6                               | 136.3              | 147.7                       | 146.2                        | 151.0             | 145.4                   | 128.6                         | 147.4                                   | 115.2                   | 115.0                              | 134.9                      | 139.7      |
| January   | 126.0                               | 139.0              | 148.3                       | 147.3                        | 152.6             | 144.8                   | 128.6                         | 145.9                                   | 115.3                   | 115.3                              | 134.9                      | 140.5      |
| February  | 132.0                               | 139.6              | 148.6                       | 148.1                        | 154.0             | 146.5                   | 131.7                         | 147.9                                   | 116.7                   | 115.3                              | 136.9                      | 142.0      |
| March     | 137.3                               | 141.6              | 160.7                       | 149.6                        | 154.9             | 147.5                   | 131.7                         | 150.4                                   | 116.7                   | 115.6                              | 137.7                      | 145.3      |
| April     | 137.3                               | r142.9             | 160.7                       | 149.8                        | 161.5             | r152.8                  | 135.9                         | 157.2                                   | 118.1                   | 115.6                              | 141.7                      | r140.1     |
| May p     | 137.3                               | r143.9             | 162.5                       | 153.6                        | r170.5            | r159.6                  | r138.4                        | 162.4                                   | 118.6                   | 115.6                              | 144.7                      | r150.1     |
| June p    | 137.3                               | 151.2              | 164.5                       | 162.4                        | 173.1             | 162.5                   | 142.9                         | 170.5                                   | 126.1                   | 119.6                              | 146.4                      | 155.0      |
| HOBART    |                                     |                    |                             |                              |                   |                         |                               |                                         |                         |                                    |                            |            |
| 1971-72   | 123.6                               | 124.2              | 123.8                       | 120.3                        | 129.2             | 117.1                   | 132.8                         | 120.9                                   | 105.8                   | 113.5                              | 123.3                      | 120.7      |
| 1972-73   | 130.7                               | 137.2              | 140.2                       | 134.6                        | 135.9             | 118.1                   | 136.8                         | 126.0                                   | 107.6                   | 114.2                              | 132.5                      | 130.8      |
| 1973-74 p | 139.8                               | 147.3              | 159.2                       | 154.0                        | 150.7             | 130.8                   | 145.5                         | 146.9                                   | 115.3                   | 119.2                              | 141.9                      | 145.5      |
| 1972-73   |                                     |                    |                             |                              |                   |                         |                               |                                         |                         |                                    |                            |            |
| May       | 130.7                               | 137.4              | 147.2                       | 140.2                        | 140.6             | 120.5                   | 137.4                         | 131.3                                   | 108.4                   | 114.2                              | 135.7                      | 134.5      |
| June      | 138.8                               | 137.4              | 149.9                       | 141.6                        | 141.5             | 121.2                   | 138.0                         | 131.3                                   | 108.4                   | 114.5                              | 135.7                      | 136.0      |
| 1973-74   |                                     |                    |                             |                              |                   |                         |                               |                                         |                         |                                    |                            |            |
| July      | 139.4                               | 143.8              | 155.2                       | 141.7                        | 142.2             | 126.3                   | 140.1                         | 134.8                                   | 109.3                   | 114.4                              | 137.1                      | 137.8      |
| August    | 139.4                               | 145.7              | 155.3                       | 142.4                        | 144.5             | 126.5                   | 142.5                         | 143.9                                   | 111.7                   | 115.2                              | 137.4                      | 138.9      |
| September | 139.4                               | 145.7              | 155.5                       | 143.5                        | 144.6             | 127.0                   | 142.5                         | 142.7                                   | 113.4                   | 115.2                              | 139.3                      | 139.6      |
| October   | 139.4                               | 145.7              | 155.5                       | 143.5                        | 146.3             | 126.9                   | 142.5                         | 142.7                                   | 113.4                   | 115.2                              | 139.7                      | 139.7      |
| November  | 139.4                               | 145.7              | 155.5                       | 144.9                        | 146.2             | 127.4                   | 142.5                         | 143.8                                   | 114.9                   | 115.2                              | 139.9                      | 140.4      |
| December  | 139.4                               | 145.7              | 157.4                       | 154.2                        | 146.3             | 128.1                   | 142.5                         | 145.0                                   | 114.9                   | 119.4                              | 140.0                      | 144.4      |
| January   | 139.4                               | 145.7              | 158.6                       | 156.5                        | 148.4             | 127.5                   | 142.5                         | 144.4                                   | 115.0                   | 119.4                              | 140.0                      | 145.5      |
| February  | 139.8                               | 145.9              | 159.3                       | 157.9                        | 150.2             | 130.1                   | 143.5                         | 144.9                                   | 115.3                   | 119.4                              | 142.6                      | 146.7      |
| March     | 139.7                               | 146.0              | 159.3                       | 157.9                        | 153.8             | 130.1                   | 143.5                         | 146.4                                   | 115.3                   | 124.1                              | 142.6                      | 147.2      |
| April     | 139.7                               | 146.6              | 164.3                       | 158.4                        | r157.3            | 133.5                   | 150.6                         | 149.4                                   | 116.0                   | 124.5                              | 142.8                      | r148.9     |
| May p     | 139.7                               | 154.9              | 164.2                       | 173.3                        | r162.0            | 141.9                   | r152.3                        | 157.3                                   | 121.6                   | 124.1                              | r147.4                     | 156.9      |
| June p    | 142.7                               | 155.9              | 170.7                       | 173.4                        | 166.9             | 144.8                   | 160.9                         | 166.9                                   | 123.0                   | 124.7                              | 153.6                      | 159.4      |

For footnote and symbols see end of table.

TABLE 3. - PRICE INDEX OF MATERIALS USED IN HOUSE BUILDING - GROUP INDEX NUMBERS - continued  
(Base of each index: Year 1966-67 = 100.0) (a)

| Period                                       | Concrete mix,<br>cement and<br>sand | Cement<br>products | Clay bricks,<br>tiles, etc. | Timber, board<br>and joinery | Steel<br>products | Other metal<br>products | Plumbing<br>fixtures,<br>etc. | Electrical<br>installation<br>materials | Installed<br>appliances | Plaster<br>and plaster<br>products | Miscellaneous<br>materials | All groups |
|----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------|------------|
| WEIGHTED AVERAGE OF SIX STATE CAPITAL CITIES |                                     |                    |                             |                              |                   |                         |                               |                                         |                         |                                    |                            |            |
| 1971-72                                      | 121.2                               | 132.0              | 124.5                       | 124.8                        | 127.9             | 118.5                   | 122.6                         | 120.2                                   | 107.4                   | 116.9                              | 116.4                      | 122.7      |
| 1972-73                                      | 127.0                               | 139.9              | 130.7                       | 137.0                        | 136.8             | 124.9                   | 129.6                         | 126.2                                   | 108.3                   | 118.7                              | 124.9                      | 131.1      |
| 1973-74 p                                    | 137.5                               | 154.3              | 146.8                       | 169.1                        | 153.8             | 146.3                   | 143.1                         | 146.3                                   | 117.7                   | 122.2                              | 135.0                      | 151.3      |
| 1972-73                                      |                                     |                    |                             |                              |                   |                         |                               |                                         |                         |                                    |                            |            |
| May                                          | 131.2                               | 142.8              | 135.3                       | 145.0                        | 141.3             | 130.0                   | 131.6                         | 132.9                                   | 108.5                   | 118.9                              | 129.0                      | 136.2      |
| June                                         | 131.8                               | 144.1              | 136.1                       | 150.5                        | 142.2             | 132.5                   | 134.7                         | 132.9                                   | 108.8                   | 118.9                              | 129.4                      | 138.8      |
| 1973-74                                      |                                     |                    |                             |                              |                   |                         |                               |                                         |                         |                                    |                            |            |
| July                                         | 132.2                               | 148.0              | 137.6                       | 153.9                        | 143.9             | 136.9                   | 136.6                         | 135.7                                   | 110.6                   | 119.0                              | 130.4                      | 141.3      |
| August                                       | 132.0                               | 149.2              | 138.8                       | 155.6                        | 147.0             | 142.1                   | 139.2                         | 143.7                                   | 112.5                   | 119.3                              | 131.4                      | 143.1      |
| September                                    | 132.3                               | 149.2              | 140.3                       | 160.1                        | 147.0             | 141.6                   | 139.4                         | 141.1                                   | 112.8                   | 119.3                              | 131.4                      | 144.9      |
| October                                      | 133.3                               | 150.1              | 144.1                       | 160.9                        | 147.6             | 141.9                   | 139.8                         | 140.9                                   | 113.3                   | 119.4                              | 131.7                      | 145.9      |
| November                                     | 133.4                               | 150.1              | 144.2                       | 162.9                        | 149.3             | 142.6                   | 140.1                         | 143.0                                   | 114.2                   | 119.4                              | 132.3                      | 146.9      |
| December                                     | 134.1                               | 150.3              | 147.1                       | 167.5                        | 151.1             | 144.4                   | 140.1                         | 144.3                                   | 114.9                   | 119.7                              | 133.2                      | 149.4      |
| January                                      | 136.3                               | 151.8              | 147.8                       | 169.8                        | 152.5             | 144.4                   | 140.2                         | 142.4                                   | 116.2                   | 120.3                              | 134.0                      | 150.8      |
| February                                     | 139.2                               | 153.7              | 148.5                       | 171.5                        | 153.2             | 145.3                   | 141.1                         | 144.5                                   | 116.9                   | 122.1                              | 134.8                      | 152.2      |
| March                                        | 141.2                               | 155.0              | 151.0                       | 173.6                        | 155.8             | 146.2                   | 141.8                         | 145.7                                   | 117.7                   | 125.2                              | 135.0                      | 154.0      |
| April                                        | 143.8                               | r157.2             | 151.4                       | 178.7                        | r160.8            | r150.4                  | r149.0                        | 150.4                                   | r123.7                  | r126.9                             | 138.4                      | 157.8      |
| May p                                        | r144.6                              | r164.8             | 153.1                       | 184.7                        | r166.5            | r157.7                  | r151.8                        | 157.7                                   | r126.5                  | 127.3                              | 142.0                      | r162.4     |
| June p                                       | 147.0                               | 171.6              | 157.3                       | 190.2                        | 170.7             | 161.8                   | 157.9                         | 166.2                                   | 133.3                   | 128.8                              | 145.3                      | 167.2      |

(a) Figures are shown to one decimal place to avoid distortions that would occur in rounding off the index numbers to the nearest whole number.

p - preliminary, subject to revision. r - revised.

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NOTE: Inquiries concerning these statistics may be made in Canberra by telephoning Mr D. Collins on 63 91 11 extension 2053 or, in each State capital, by telephoning the office of the Australian Bureau of Statistics.