

**PRICE INDEX OF
ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION MATERIALS :
AUSTRALIA
Catalogue No. 6409.0**

MARCH 1978

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS Canberra

CATALOGUE NO. 6409.0

NOON 12 APRIL 1978

PRICE INDEX OF ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION MATERIALS MARCH 1978

INQUIRIES

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SUMMARY OF RESULTS

The prices of some major components in this index are affected by fluctuations in the price of copper. Changes in index numbers for individual months, therefore, do not necessarily indicate changes in trend; they should not be interpreted in isolation and without reference to changes over longer periods.

	Change between -	
	Feb. 1978 and Mar. 1978	Mar. 1977 and Mar. 1978
	%	%
Conductors	-0.2	-3.2
Conduit and accessories	+0.4	+9.1
Switchboard and switchgear material	+0.6	+10.5
All groups	+0.3	+5.3

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

This bulletin contains index numbers of the *Price Index of Electrical Installation Materials*. The index provides comparisons of the overall price changes occurring for a combination of materials, fixed as to quantity and quality. Information on the construction of the index is contained in *Labour Report No. 56, 1971*.

Items and weights

2. This index is a *fixed weights index*. 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.

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.

Prices

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.

Index numbers

5. Index numbers for financial years are simple averages of the relevant monthly index numbers. Index numbers for the current month are subject to revision.

Related publications

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

- Price Indexes of Articles Produced by Manufacturing Industry* (6412.0)
- Price Index of Materials used in Manufacturing Industry* (6411.0)
- Price Index of Materials Used in Building Other than House Building* (6407.0)
- Price Index of Materials Used in House Building* (6408.0)
- Price Indexes of Metallic Materials* (6410.0)

7. All publications produced by the ABS are listed in *Catalogue of Publications 1977* (1101.0) which is available free of charge from any ABS office.

R. J. CAMERON
Australian Statistician

TABLE 1. PRICE INDEX OF ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION MATERIALS
GROUPS AND ALL GROUPS
(Base of each index : Year 1959-60 = 100.0)

Value weight (a)	Conductors	Conduit and accessories	Switchboard and switchgear material	All groups
	40%	25%	35%	100%
1974-75	168.2	169.6	192.3	177.0
1975-76	178.1	199.0	224.5	199.6
1976-77	197.5	227.8	252.8	224.4
1976-77 -				
February	202.7	232.1	253.9	228.0
March	206.3	235.5	259.6	232.3
April	207.2	237.3	267.9	236.0
May	201.6	238.2	267.9	234.0
June	200.7	238.6	268.1	233.8
1977-78 -				
July	198.7	242.2	273.6	235.8
August	195.0	243.4	274.6	235.0
September	193.8	244.7	275.3	235.1
October	195.2	246.0	277.5	236.7
November	197.7	247.8	279.2	238.8
December	199.0	255.5	282.0	242.2
January	202.7	255.7	285.1	244.8
February	200.2	255.9	285.1	243.8
March p	199.7	256.9	286.9	244.5

(a) Composition and weighting pattern as at reference base year; see paragraphs 2 and 3. p - preliminary, subject to revision.

TABLE 2. PRICE INDEX OF ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION MATERIALS
GROUPS AND ALL GROUPS
PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS PERIOD

Period	Conductors	Conduit and accessories	Switchboard and switchgear material	All groups
<i>Change from corresponding month of previous year -</i>				
1976-77 -				
February	+16.5	+15.4	+ 9.8	+13.5
March	+14.9	+16.8	+10.9	+13.8
April	+ 9.9	+11.8	+13.3	+11.7
May	+ 2.6	+11.6	+12.0	+ 8.5
June	+ 2.9	+11.0	+11.0	+ 8.1
1977-78 -				
July	- 0.7	+11.6	+12.6	+ 7.5
August	- 1.0	+10.9	+13.1	+ 7.5
September	+ 0.2	+11.5	+13.4	+ 8.2
October	+ 4.2	+11.6	+14.1	+10.0
November	+ 8.0	+10.6	+13.8	+11.0
December	+ 3.3	+13.5	+13.8	+10.0
January	+ 2.7	+13.3	+13.4	+ 9.6
February	- 1.2	+10.3	+12.3	+ 6.9
March p	- 3.2	+ 9.1	+10.5	+ 5.3
<i>Change from previous month -</i>				
1976-77 -				
February	+2.7	+2.8	+1.0	+2.1
March	+1.8	+1.5	+2.2	+1.9
April	+0.4	+0.8	+3.2	+1.6
May	-2.7	+0.4	..	-0.8
June	-0.4	+0.2	+0.1	-0.1
1977-78 -				
July	-1.0	+1.5	+2.1	+0.9
August	-1.9	+0.5	+0.4	-0.3
September	-0.6	+0.5	+0.3	..
October	+0.7	+0.5	+0.8	+0.7
November	+1.3	+0.7	+0.6	+0.9
December	+0.7	+3.1	+1.0	+1.4
January	+1.9	+0.1	+1.1	+1.1
February	-1.2	+0.1	..	-0.4
March p	-0.2	+0.4	+0.6	+0.3