

INQUIRIES

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PRICE INDEX OF MATERIALS USED IN HOUSE BUILDING MAY 1977

SUMMARY OF RESULTS

State capital cities	Percentage change between —		Weighted average of six State capital cities Groups and All groups	Percentage change between —	
	Apr. 77 and May 77	May 76 and May 77		Apr. 77 and May 77	May 76 and May 77
Sydney	-0.6	+8.8	Concrete mix, cement and sand	..	+7.6
Melbourne	..	+9.4	Cement products	..	+10.4
Brisbane	..	+9.0	Clay bricks, tiles, etc.	-1.3	+6.1
Adelaide	+0.2	+9.4	Timber, board and joinery	+0.2	+12.1
Perth	+0.3	+11.4	Steel products	+0.1	+9.6
Hobart	+0.2	+9.1	Other metal products	-0.3	+8.3
Weighted average of six State capital cities	-0.1	+9.5	Plumbing fixtures, etc.	..	+6.9
			Electrical installation materials	-0.4	+7.2
			Installed appliances	+0.2	+5.2
			Plaster and plaster products	..	+4.3
			Miscellaneous materials	..	+9.8
			All groups	-0.1	+9.5

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. 58, 1973 (pp. 57-69). 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. The weights for groups of items are shown in Table 3. Further details concerning the weighting pattern are contained in *Labour Report* No. 58, 1973 (Reference No. 6.7).

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 the financial years are simple averages of the relative monthly index numbers. Index numbers for each State capital city and for the weighted average of the six capitals are given for *all groups combined* in Table 1 and for *each group of items* in Table 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.

Percentage changes

9. Table 2 shows, for each State capital city and for the weighted average of the six capitals, monthly and annual percentage changes for all groups combined. The following example illustrates the method of calculating percentage changes:

Sydney —

Index number as at May 1977 241.2 (see Table 1)

Index number as at Apr. 1977 242.6 (see Table 1)

Percentage change = $\frac{241.2 - 242.6}{242.6} \times 100 = -0.6\%$

Interpretation

10. In interpreting movements in the index, particularly those 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.

Related publications

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

- *Price Index of Materials Used in Building Other than House Building* (Reference No. 9.6)
- *Price Index of Materials Used in Manufacturing Industry* (Reference No. 9.13)
- *Price Indexes of Articles Produced by Manufacturing Industry* (Reference No. 9.14)
- *Price Index of Electrical Installation Materials* (Reference No. 9.5)
- *Price Indexes of Metallic Materials* (Reference No. 9.10)

12. Other ABS publications which may be of interest include:

- *Wage Rates Indexes, Preliminary* (Reference No. 6.37)
- *Wage Rates and Earnings* (Reference No. 6.16)
- *Average Weekly Earnings* (Reference No. 6.18)

13. All publications produced by the ABS are listed in *Publications of the Australian Bureau of Statistics* (Reference No. 1.8) which is available free of charge from any ABS office.

Symbols used

p — preliminary, subject to revision.

r — revised.

TABLE 1. 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 average of six State capital cities
	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	
1973-74	158.0	147.8	152.2	157.2	141.8	145.5	151.3
1974-75	189.4	178.4	187.0	195.4	172.4	179.1	183.4
1975-76	211.1	200.1	218.5	222.5	201.9	209.2	208.1
1976-77							
December	231.9	221.7	241.0	247.7	227.4	234.0	230.5
January	236.1	224.7	242.0	250.1	229.1	235.4	233.5
February	240.0	227.2	248.4	254.5	230.9	239.1	236.8
March	242.0	228.4	249.7	256.2	237.3	239.8	239.2
April p	242.6	230.6	251.2	259.5	237.7	240.8	240.6
May p	241.2	230.6	251.3	260.0	238.5	241.2	240.3

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

TABLE 2. PRICE INDEX OF MATERIALS USED IN HOUSE BUILDING
ALL GROUPS - SIX STATE CAPITAL CITIES

PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS PERIOD

Period	State capital cities						Weighted average of six State capital cities
	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Percentage change from previous year -							
1973-74	+16.5	+16.8	+13.8	+16.6	+11.7	+11.2	+15.4
1974-75	+19.9	+20.7	+22.9	+24.3	+21.6	+23.1	+21.2
1975-76	+11.5	+12.2	+16.8	+13.9	+17.1	+16.8	+13.5
Percentage change from previous month -							
1975-76							
April	+ 1.5	+ 1.9	+ 1.6	+ 2.4	+ 3.1	+ 1.3	+ 2.0
May	+ 1.4	+ 1.2	+ 0.7	+ 2.7	+ 0.8	+ 1.0	+ 1.3
June	+ 1.1	+ 0.9	+ 1.3	+ 0.3	+ 1.4	+ 1.1	+ 1.1
1976-77							
July	+ 0.5	+ 1.0	+ 0.5	+ 1.3	+ 0.6	+ 0.4	+ 0.7
August	+ 0.2	+ 0.7	+ 0.3	+ 0.7	+ 1.1	+ 2.1	+ 0.6
September	+ 0.4	+ 1.0	+ 0.7	+ 0.3	+ 1.2	+ 0.4	+ 0.7
October	+ 0.7	+ 0.2	+ 0.3	+ 0.6	+ 1.1	+ 0.3	+ 0.5
November	+ 0.9	+ 0.3	+ 1.1	+ 0.4	+ 0.4	+ 0.3	+ 0.6
December	+ 0.7	+ 1.0	+ 0.3	+ 0.5	+ 0.3	+ 1.0	+ 0.7
January	+ 1.8	+ 1.4	+ 0.4	+ 1.0	+ 0.7	+ 0.6	+ 1.3
February	+ 1.7	+ 1.1	+ 2.6	+ 1.8	+ 0.8	+ 1.6	+ 1.4
March	+ 0.8	+ 0.5	+ 0.5	+ 0.7	+ 2.8	+ 0.3	+ 1.0
April p	+ 0.2	+ 1.0	+ 0.6	+ 1.3	+ 0.2	+ 0.4	+ 0.6
May p	- 0.6	..	..	+ 0.2	+ 0.3	+ 0.2	- 0.1
Percentage change from corresponding month of previous year -							
1975-76							
April	+10.6	+12.6	+16.7	+13.9	+17.5	+14.7	+13.3
May	+11.7	+13.2	+15.9	+16.2	+16.9	+15.3	+13.9
June	+12.3	+12.4	+15.6	+14.1	+17.1	+15.7	+13.7
1976-77							
July	+12.0	+12.4	+15.0	+14.6	+16.0	+15.5	+13.3
August	+11.0	+12.5	+14.7	+14.5	+15.0	+16.7	+12.9
September	+10.9	+12.3	+14.5	+14.0	+15.6	+14.5	+12.9
October	+11.1	+12.4	+12.2	+13.7	+14.9	+11.9	+12.4
November	+10.9	+11.8	+10.7	+13.0	+14.3	+11.9	+11.9
December	+11.1	+12.2	+10.8	+12.1	+13.8	+12.6	+11.9
January	+12.0	+12.9	+10.3	+13.8	+13.6	+13.1	+12.4
February	+13.4	+13.1	+12.4	+14.0	+13.4	+14.1	+13.2
March	+12.4	+11.9	+10.9	+13.5	+15.2	+11.0	+12.6
April p	+11.0	+10.8	+ 9.7	+12.2	+11.9	+10.0	+11.0
May p	+ 8.8	+ 9.4	+ 9.0	+ 9.4	+11.4	+ 9.1	+ 9.5

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, cement and sand	Cement products	Clay bricks, tiles, etc.	Timber, board and joinery	Steel products	Other metal products	Plumbing fixtures, etc.	Electrical installation materials	Installed appliances	Plaster and plaster products	Miscellaneous materials	All groups
SYDNEY												
Value weight (%) (b)	5.24%	7.09%	14.34%	38.23%	4.89%	7.25%	3.95%	1.53%	4.43%	5.57%	7.48%	100.00%
1973-74	149.5	155.0	141.3	182.5	156.5	149.5	146.2	145.7	124.9	124.1	136.5	158.0
1974-75	185.4	192.1	177.8	213.3	189.6	173.2	179.6	167.7	158.3	150.8	162.1	189.4
1975-76	216.5	226.4	200.8	228.5	225.8	189.2	208.8	185.2	177.1	171.6	190.5	211.1
1975-76												
April	227.2	236.6	205.9	235.8	240.6	196.3	216.5	190.8	182.5	176.3	197.2	218.6
May	228.9	239.3	213.3	236.6	245.6	199.9	222.2	195.8	189.0	179.5	200.7	221.7
June	229.3	240.0	217.2	240.6	248.0	200.5	222.2	203.7	190.5	180.7	200.8	224.2
1976-77												
July	231.1	240.0	217.7	241.7	248.0	204.9	222.3	203.2	190.5	180.7	202.7	225.3
August	231.8	244.2	218.0	241.8	249.8	204.5	222.5	201.8	192.5	180.7	202.7	225.8
September	234.7	244.5	218.6	242.5	250.2	204.4	224.4	200.7	194.1	180.7	203.9	226.6
October	235.5	246.3	224.5	243.5	252.2	202.3	226.1	197.9	194.3	183.1	204.9	228.1
November	239.3	252.6	225.4	246.1	257.3	202.4	227.0	196.9	194.3	183.1	205.2	230.2
December	238.3	252.8	225.4	248.6	259.0	206.0	226.9	202.5	194.3	183.1	208.9	231.9
January	242.0	252.9	225.7	257.3	259.0	211.6	226.9	204.3	197.2	183.1	210.6	236.1
February	244.5	254.1	227.8	264.0	260.9	213.5	232.4	206.4	197.2	186.2	211.8	240.0
March	244.2	254.5	228.4	268.0	263.3	215.5	232.9	207.3	198.1	186.2	213.3	242.0
April p	243.8	255.0	229.1	268.2	264.7	217.7	232.9	211.3	198.1	186.3	214.2	242.6
May p	243.4	255.0	220.4	268.2	265.3	215.8	232.9	210.7	198.1	186.5	214.2	241.2
MELBOURNE												
Value weight (%) (b)	4.63%	8.55%	10.48%	37.78%	5.58%	6.47%	3.34%	1.66%	6.87%	7.19%	7.45%	100.00%
1973-74	132.8	160.6	148.7	158.7	154.5	147.1	146.4	145.3	115.1	124.2	135.8	147.8
1974-75	159.7	205.2	172.4	190.5	196.5	168.5	177.4	165.9	145.3	151.4	161.6	178.4
1975-76	189.4	241.1	192.3	207.3	231.9	185.4	204.6	181.0	166.8	168.1	186.7	200.1
1975-76												
April	198.3	255.1	197.2	214.6	247.2	191.9	211.1	186.5	174.6	171.8	197.2	208.1
May	203.8	255.2	198.7	217.2	249.9	196.5	215.4	191.7	176.1	172.6	202.1	210.7
June	204.4	261.9	201.3	218.6	255.3	196.6	216.3	197.0	176.3	173.5	202.3	212.6
1976-77												
July	203.9	268.9	201.6	221.7	255.6	199.2	216.3	199.7	178.3	173.5	202.3	214.8
August	208.3	268.9	205.0	222.6	259.1	199.4	216.3	198.2	179.7	173.7	203.4	216.2
September	211.4	269.1	207.4	226.8	259.6	201.0	219.9	195.6	179.3	173.7	203.1	218.3
October	210.0	272.9	207.4	226.8	260.5	201.8	220.3	192.5	180.2	174.9	204.8	218.8
November	212.7	274.6	207.7	226.8	266.0	200.9	219.4	191.1	180.2	174.9	205.7	219.4
December	212.8	281.0	208.3	229.3	270.9	205.8	218.9	198.0	180.2	174.9	206.0	221.7
January	212.8	281.2	210.9	235.8	271.7	206.4	218.0	199.6	180.9	174.9	207.6	224.7
February	215.9	281.4	212.0	239.9	274.8	209.2	218.0	202.8	182.2	177.7	207.6	227.2
March	215.9	286.0	212.1	239.9	277.0	210.4	218.7	203.6	184.0	177.7	214.2	228.4
April p	217.6	286.9	212.1	244.2	278.6	213.2	219.2	208.2	184.4	177.8	214.8	230.6
May p	217.6	286.9	212.3	243.8	279.5	213.2	219.2	207.2	185.4	177.8	214.2	230.6

For footnotes 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, cement and sand	Cement products	Clay bricks, tiles, etc.	Timber, board and joinery	Steel products	Other metal products	Plumbing fixtures, etc.	Electrical installation materials	Installed appliances	Plaster and plaster products	Miscellaneous materials	All groups
BRISBANE												
Value weight (%) (b)	5.04%	10.44%	9.35%	35.29%	8.03%	8.17%	3.50%	1.81%	4.26%	5.09%	9.02%	100.00%
1973-74	137.3	155.2	154.2	176.5	149.7	137.2	143.5	146.2	108.1	114.9	122.4	152.2
1974-75	168.0	180.4	184.5	220.9	188.3	174.6	175.0	172.6	128.9	140.9	146.5	187.0
1975-76	195.6	209.3	206.1	264.6	226.1	194.3	202.6	187.0	145.4	166.8	166.1	218.5
1975-76												
April	201.8	219.1	218.5	279.0	239.1	202.1	212.8	190.3	150.2	169.7	170.2	228.9
May	202.4	222.7	219.5	280.3	241.7	203.2	214.9	198.8	154.6	169.7	170.9	230.5
June	202.8	227.2	223.3	283.2	244.4	206.4	218.6	207.2	154.6	172.3	174.0	233.6
1976-77												
July	205.0	227.3	223.7	284.6	246.9	210.0	219.2	205.4	156.1	172.7	172.5	234.8
August	207.0	227.3	224.9	284.4	250.4	210.5	219.1	206.7	158.6	171.6	172.5	235.4
September	208.9	230.0	229.5	285.8	251.5	213.8	222.0	203.0	159.0	171.8	172.0	237.0
October	209.5	232.7	229.7	286.2	251.9	215.8	223.9	200.7	159.4	173.0	173.0	237.8
November	212.8	234.9	229.7	289.6	261.3	215.5	223.4	199.9	160.7	172.7	174.1	240.3
December	212.8	236.0	231.0	290.2	261.9	216.3	224.0	200.7	161.8	173.7	174.6	241.0
January	216.2	236.6	232.3	290.3	263.2	220.9	224.6	202.0	161.8	174.4	174.7	242.0
February	216.3	246.0	232.3	303.4	266.1	223.1	223.6	204.2	163.0	175.3	177.7	248.4
March	216.6	246.0	233.3	303.4	267.9	224.6	225.3	205.9	159.4	176.9	187.5	249.7
April p	216.1	246.0	234.6	306.3	268.4	227.1	225.3	208.4	158.7	176.9	189.2	251.2
May p	216.1	246.1	234.6	306.3	268.4	227.7	225.3	209.8	158.7	176.9	189.2	251.3
ADELAIDE												
Value weight (%) (b)	8.13%	6.98%	14.85%	35.52%	6.67%	7.24%	3.42%	1.37%	4.20%	4.19%	7.43%	100.00%
1973-74	132.9	157.6	143.4	182.9	152.3	149.3	148.4	144.0	122.4	126.5	143.9	187.2
1974-75	160.9	205.0	181.4	230.5	190.0	170.1	180.4	163.4	147.6	155.6	176.4	195.4
1975-76	193.2	237.4	209.1	255.9	232.5	188.2	207.1	174.6	169.2	178.4	203.0	222.5
1975-76												
April	203.3	251.7	224.0	259.0	252.9	198.7	215.6	179.4	176.0	182.8	213.3	231.3
May	205.7	252.6	224.0	273.4	253.8	201.4	217.0	185.4	179.6	184.3	217.4	237.6
June	206.7	252.6	224.0	274.2	253.8	202.9	217.9	190.2	180.5	185.9	218.0	238.3
1976-77												
July	212.0	260.0	224.0	278.9	255.7	205.0	219.1	186.7	180.8	185.9	219.4	241.4
August	212.2	260.0	225.8	282.5	256.6	204.4	219.5	184.8	186.4	185.9	219.4	243.2
September	212.2	260.7	225.8	283.1	256.6	205.0	224.2	183.8	186.7	185.9	223.5	243.9
October	212.2	270.6	225.8	284.0	256.5	206.5	224.2	179.3	186.3	187.8	227.0	245.3
November	215.5	271.2	225.8	284.6	264.8	205.4	224.4	178.7	187.7	187.8	227.2	246.4
December	215.6	271.2	225.8	286.8	266.1	207.9	226.0	187.4	189.9	187.8	227.2	247.7
January	217.9	271.2	226.3	291.6	266.3	210.8	226.5	189.3	190.7	187.8	228.2	250.1
February	224.0	280.8	228.1	298.5	267.8	213.0	226.5	191.7	193.9	190.7	228.8	254.5
March	224.1	281.7	228.6	301.2	269.1	213.9	228.1	193.0	195.4	190.7	232.6	256.2
April p	224.3	282.4	238.4	303.9	269.1	218.4	228.1	197.3	196.5	190.7	238.6	259.5
May p	224.4	282.6	238.4	304.9	269.3	218.1	228.3	195.5	196.5	190.7	240.3	260.0

For footnotes 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, cement and sand	Cement products	Clay bricks, tiles, etc.	Timber, board and joinery	Steel products	Other metal products	Plumbing fixtures, etc.	Electrical installation materials	Installed appliances	Plaster and plaster products	Miscellaneous materials	All groups
PERTH												
Value weight (%) (b)	7.94%	8.14%	16.44%	29.60%	6.07%	7.69%	4.59%	1.76%	4.12%	4.01%	9.64%	100.00%
1973-74	129.1	138.3	151.5	146.9	153.4	146.9	131.2	150.6	116.2	115.6	136.7	141.8
1974-75	148.7	178.8	190.7	179.2	193.8	165.6	159.0	172.8	140.5	128.3	164.3	172.4
1975-76	174.8	214.6	223.4	212.9	232.6	179.9	181.5	187.1	159.5	147.7	194.0	201.9
1975-76												
April	184.3	226.6	236.1	224.9	245.9	188.0	189.9	192.3	164.9	157.1	201.2	212.4
May	184.3	228.2	238.6	225.1	248.1	190.6	194.6	195.8	168.0	157.1	204.8	214.1
June	185.2	234.8	238.6	229.1	253.0	190.3	202.9	202.6	169.2	161.6	205.6	217.0
1976-77												
July	189.8	235.7	238.6	229.6	254.2	195.1	203.4	204.2	169.2	161.6	207.1	218.2
August	191.0	235.7	241.2	232.0	255.5	194.7	216.0	202.7	170.3	165.7	210.2	220.6
September	191.8	236.1	249.9	232.2	255.6	195.2	216.0	201.1	170.3	167.3	221.4	223.3
October	194.1	243.7	249.9	235.5	256.9	193.7	220.2	198.0	170.4	167.3	227.9	225.7
November	194.9	245.1	249.9	236.1	261.2	193.1	221.8	196.7	170.5	169.0	229.5	226.7
December	195.4	245.5	249.9	236.7	263.3	196.7	221.8	200.8	170.7	170.0	229.8	227.4
January	199.0	253.7	249.9	237.8	265.3	197.1	221.8	202.6	172.2	170.3	230.9	229.1
February	203.0	254.7	249.9	239.3	266.3	198.7	233.2	205.3	174.4	171.7	231.2	230.9
March	203.0	255.1	259.4	249.6	269.4	200.7	234.1	206.3	174.4	174.0	245.0	237.3
April p	203.0	255.4	259.4	249.6	269.7	202.5	235.3	212.1	175.5	174.0	245.0	237.7
May p	203.0	255.4	259.4	252.9	269.5	200.9	235.3	209.3	175.7	174.0	244.8	238.5
HOBART												
Value weight (%) (b)	7.25%	7.01%	10.14%	38.15%	7.49%	7.93%	2.74%	1.61%	6.98%	4.99%	5.71%	100.00%
1973-74	139.8	147.3	159.2	154.2	150.8	130.9	145.5	146.8	115.3	119.2	141.9	145.5
1974-75	157.6	178.6	201.0	192.5	188.7	160.2	173.2	162.4	130.3	157.0	176.6	179.1
1975-76	184.9	205.9	244.0	226.6	224.2	181.8	202.2	174.6	136.9	188.3	204.8	209.2
1975-76												
April	192.2	208.4	257.3	239.7	236.2	188.1	210.4	177.5	140.9	195.1	211.9	218.9
May	192.2	209.2	257.3	242.0	238.6	191.5	214.4	184.5	141.6	197.0	216.3	221.0
June	194.8	225.8	258.7	241.9	242.5	195.3	215.7	191.6	141.6	197.1	221.1	223.4
1976-77												
July	198.2	225.8	258.5	242.0	246.6	195.8	215.7	192.1	141.6	197.1	226.4	234.4
August	198.8	228.0	270.6	250.0	247.9	196.0	219.4	191.1	142.7	194.8	228.8	239.2
September	202.8	228.6	271.5	250.7	247.9	198.2	221.0	187.3	144.1	194.8	229.9	230.2
October	202.8	228.9	271.5	250.8	248.6	199.2	225.4	186.3	147.3	195.9	232.2	230.9
November	204.2	229.9	271.5	251.4	252.6	199.4	228.0	184.2	147.6	196.1	232.4	231.7
December	204.9	232.5	272.5	256.0	253.4	199.8	230.0	185.7	149.2	196.1	232.5	234.0
January	205.7	233.1	272.5	258.8	253.5	199.9	230.0	188.4	150.0	196.1	233.1	235.4
February	208.1	233.1	272.5	265.0	255.4	200.4	234.1	192.5	150.0	211.0	234.8	239.1
March	208.1	233.1	272.5	265.0	260.2	201.1	234.1	195.5	150.5	211.0	238.6	239.8
April p	208.6	234.7	273.9	265.0	263.1	206.1	233.4	197.6	150.9	211.0	239.2	240.8
May p	208.6	235.1	274.3	265.0	263.4	208.8	233.5	200.5	150.9	211.0	239.3	241.2

For footnotes 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, cement and sand	Cement products	Clay bricks, tiles, etc.	Timber, board and joinery	Steel products	Other metal products	Plumbing fixtures, etc.	Electrical installation materials	Installed appliances	Plaster and plaster products	Miscellaneous materials	All groups
WEIGHTED AVERAGE OF SIX STATE CAPITAL CITIES												
Value weight (%) (b)	5.73%	8.10%	12.85%	36.16%	5.86%	7.20%	3.74%	1.63%	5.13%	5.64%	7.96%	100.00%
1973-74	137.5	154.3	146.8	169.1	153.8	146.3	143.2	146.4	117.7	122.2	135.0	151.3
1974-75	165.7	193.1	180.3	203.5	192.1	170.3	174.5	168.3	146.4	147.8	161.5	183.4
1975-76	195.1	227.0	205.1	226.2	229.3	187.1	201.5	183.5	165.9	167.7	187.9	208.1
1975-76												
April	204.4	238.8	213.4	234.7	244.1	194.5	209.3	188.6	172.3	172.4	195.7	216.7
May	206.6	240.5	216.8	237.1	247.2	197.8	213.7	194.0	175.7	173.8	199.3	219.5
June	207.3	244.9	219.4	240.0	250.7	198.7	216.1	200.8	176.5	175.4	200.0	221.9
1976-77												
July	209.6	247.8	219.6	241.9	251.7	202.2	216.4	201.3	177.5	175.5	200.8	223.4
August	211.4	249.0	221.5	242.9	254.1	202.1	218.9	200.1	179.4	175.9	201.8	224.7
September	213.5	249.7	224.5	244.7	254.6	203.2	221.2	198.1	179.7	176.1	204.4	226.3
October	214.0	253.7	226.6	245.6	255.7	202.9	223.0	195.1	180.3	177.4	206.9	227.5
November	216.7	256.7	227.0	247.1	261.7	202.5	223.3	194.0	180.5	177.7	207.7	228.9
December	216.5	259.1	227.3	249.1	264.1	205.8	223.4	199.1	181.0	177.9	209.0	230.5
January	219.0	260.6	228.2	254.7	264.9	208.7	223.3	200.9	182.3	178.0	210.3	233.5
February	222.2	263.3	229.4	260.6	267.2	210.9	227.2	203.5	183.4	180.8	211.2	236.8
March	222.1	265.0	231.7	263.5	269.4	212.5	228.1	204.6	184.1	181.2	217.8	239.2
April p	222.4	265.5	233.0	265.5	270.6	215.0	228.4	208.9	184.4	181.3	219.0	240.6
May p	222.3	265.6	230.0	265.9	271.0	214.3	228.5	208.0	184.8	181.3	218.9	240.3

(a) Figures are shown to one decimal place to avoid distortions that would occur in rounding the index numbers to the nearest whole number. (b) Composition and weighting pattern as at reference base year; see paragraphs 3 and 4.