



INQUIRIES

If you want to know more about these statistics ring Mr Martin Van der Hoek on Canberra 525541 or our State office or write to Information Services, Australian Bureau of Statistics P.O. Box 10 Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616.

PRICE INDEX OF MATERIALS USED IN BUILDING OTHER THAN HOUSE BUILDING  
DECEMBER 1976

	Percentage change between -		Weighted average of six State capital cities Groups and All groups	Percentage change between -	
	Nov. 76 and Dec. 76	Dec. 75 and Dec. 76		Nov. 76 and Dec. 76	Dec. 75 and Dec. 76
	State capital cities				
Sydney	+0.9	+11.6	Concrete mix, cement, sand, etc.	0.1	+12.3
Melbourne	+1.3	+13.0	Cement products	+0.4	+12.3
Brisbane	+1.0	+12.2	Bricks, stone, etc.	+0.4	+12.2
Adelaide	+1.0	+11.7	Timber, board and joinery	+0.8	+10.2
Perth	+1.0	+13.3	Steel and iron products	+0.8	+13.7
Hobart	+1.3	+12.4	Aluminum products	+0.8	+10.7
Weighted average of Six State capital cities	+1.1	+12.2	Other metal products	+0.2	+ 8.7
			Plumbing fixtures	+0.4	+ 9.7
			Miscellaneous materials	+2.3	+11.1
			Electrical installation materials	+2.9	+13.2
			Mechanical services components	+1.1	+12.2
			All group		

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

This bulletin contains index numbers of the Price Index of Materials used in Building other than House Building. A detailed description of the index is contained in *Labour Report* No. 58, 1973 (pp. 43-56). A Price Index of Materials used in House Building is published in a separate bulletin (Reference No. 9.9). *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 buildings other than houses and *low-rise* flats (in general, those up to three storeys). It includes 72 items, combined in eleven groups, in addition to an *All groups* index. Although the selected materials (or many of them) are also used in house (and low-rise flat) building, in building repair, maintenance and alteration work, and in *engineering construction* work (e.g. projects such as roads, dams, bridges and the like), the weighting pattern of the index, being designed for the specific purpose mentioned at the beginning of this paragraph, is not applicable to these

other activities of the construction industry. In addition, since the weights are based on an average materials usage over a range of types of building within the defined area (building other than house building), the index is not necessarily applicable to any specific building or type of building included in that area.

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 were derived from reported values of materials used in selected representative buildings constructed in or about 1966-67. The single weighting pattern relates to the whole of Australia, and is applied (with minor exceptions) in calculating indexes for each State capital 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. Prices are collected as at the mid-point of the month to which the index refers, or as near thereto as practicable. They relate to specified standards of each commodity and are obtained from representative suppliers of materials used in building. 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*. Local prices are used in the indexes for each capital city, with the main exception that for the whole of the group Electrical installation materials and the majority of the items in the group Mechanical services components, Sydney and Melbourne price series are used. 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

6. The index has been compiled for each month from July 1966, and for the financial years from 1966-67. Index numbers for financial years are simple averages of the relevant 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 cities as to *differences in degree of price movement* from period to period, but not as to the differences in price level.

## Percentage changes

7. 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 Dec. 1976 220.0 (see Table 1)

Index number as at Nov. 1976 218.0 (see Table 1)

Percentage change =  $\frac{220.0 - 218.0}{218.0} \times 100 = 0.9\%$

## Special purpose index

8. Index numbers for the special purpose index for All groups excluding Electrical installation materials and Mechanical services components are shown for each capital city and the weighted average of the six capitals in the second column from the right in Table 3.

## Interpretation

9. 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

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

. *Price Index of Materials Used in House Building* (Reference No. 9.9)

. *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)

11. 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)

## Symbols used

p - preliminary, subject to revision.

r - revised.

TABLE 1. PRICE INDEX OF MATERIALS USED IN BUILDING OTHER THAN 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	144.1	148.0	149.0	145.8	142.9	143.8	145.8
1974-75	176.0	180.6	186.6	181.0	176.7	179.3	179.2
1975-76	199.0	209.4	216.3	210.4	208.3	210.4	206.2
1975-76							
November	195.7	206.2	213.7	207.2	205.1	207.9	203.0
December	197.1	207.2	214.5	208.9	206.8	208.8	204.3
January	199.0	208.4	216.3	210.3	207.9	209.7	205.9
February	200.4	210.9	217.8	211.6	209.7	211.5	207.6
March	204.4	215.8	223.4	217.3	214.5	217.8	212.3
April	208.6	219.4	227.2	221.7	219.8	220.3	216.3
May	211.2	222.2	228.9	223.7	221.8	222.1	218.8
June	212.2	224.3	231.0	225.3	223.9	223.9	220.4
1976-77							
July	213.4	225.4	232.9	226.9	225.3	225.5	221.7
August	214.0	227.1	234.0	228.1	226.6	227.8	222.8
September	214.8	228.5	235.0	228.7	227.9	229.2	223.9
October	r215.9	r229.8	r236.1	r229.5	r230.2	r230.3	r225.1
November p	r218.0	r231.2	r238.4	r230.9	r232.0	r231.7	r226.9
December p	220.0	234.1	240.7	233.3	234.3	234.6	229.3

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

TABLE 2. PRICE INDEX OF MATERIALS USED IN BUILDING OTHER THAN 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	
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
<i>Percentage change from previous year -</i>							
1973-74	+13.3	+12.8	+14.3	+12.3	+13.1	+10.9	+13.1
1974-75	+22.1	+22.0	+25.2	+24.1	+23.7	+24.7	+22.9
1975-76	+13.1	+15.9	+15.9	+16.2	+17.9	+17.3	+15.1
<i>Percentage change from previous month -</i>							
1975-76							
November	+1.1	+1.0	+1.3	+1.4	+0.8	+0.8	+1.0
December	+0.7	+0.5	+0.4	+0.8	+0.8	+0.4	+0.6
January	+1.0	+0.6	+0.8	+0.7	+0.5	+0.4	+0.8
February	+0.7	+1.2	+0.7	+0.6	+0.9	+0.9	+0.8
March	+2.0	+2.3	+2.6	+2.7	+2.3	+3.0	+2.3
April	+2.1	+1.7	+1.7	+2.0	+2.5	+1.1	+1.9
May	+1.2	+1.3	+0.7	+0.9	+0.9	+0.8	+1.2
June	+0.5	+0.9	+0.9	+0.7	+0.9	+0.8	+0.7
1976-77							
July	+0.6	+0.5	+0.8	+0.7	+0.6	+0.7	+0.6
August	+0.3	+0.8	+0.5	+0.5	+0.6	+1.0	+0.5
September	+0.4	+0.6	+0.4	+0.3	+0.6	+0.6	+0.5
October	+0.5	+0.5	+0.4	+0.3	+1.0	+0.4	+0.4
November p	r+1.0	+0.6	r+1.0	+0.6	r+0.8	+0.6	+0.8
December p	+0.9	+1.3	+1.0	+1.0	+1.0	+1.3	+1.1

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

	Concrete mix, cement, sand, etc	Cement products	Bricks, stone, etc	Timber, board and joinery	Steel and iron products	Aluminium products	Other metal products	Plumbing fixtures	Miscel- laneous materials	Electrical installation materials (b)	Mechanical services components	Special purpose index (c)	All groups
* Value weight (%) (d)	10.41%	3.64%	5.28%	11.90%	30.58%	6.01%	2.59%	1.19%	7.09%	8.61%	12.70%	78.69%	100.00%
SYDNEY													
1973-74	140.2	147.5	141.5	161.2	140.7	136.6	171.1	158.5	137.5	138.3	143.7	144.8	144.1
1974-75	173.4	184.1	177.5	190.7	175.4	171.4	175.7	195.5	166.9	157.4	181.1	177.3	176.0
1975-76	202.0	217.9	200.1	209.5	198.7	197.5	186.2	230.7	191.3	177.4	200.7	201.1	199.0
1975-76													
November	198.7	216.2	194.7	205.3	196.0	195.9	181.1	228.0	188.2	171.8	199.0	197.8	195.7
December	200.7	216.9	194.7	207.6	196.7	195.7	182.5	230.7	188.9	176.2	199.5	198.9	197.1
January	204.8	218.3	205.6	207.8	198.3	199.3	182.8	230.8	192.0	177.5	199.1	201.3	199.0
February	204.9	220.5	204.3	209.1	200.4	200.4	183.8	235.5	193.4	178.6	200.0	202.8	200.4
March	209.6	223.1	205.1	215.0	205.0	203.1	188.3	240.6	194.6	181.5	204.3	206.9	204.4
April	210.3	224.2	205.1	217.6	212.6	203.3	197.7	242.2	197.5	187.9	207.9	211.0	208.6
May	213.7	232.2	213.1	218.1	213.9	205.7	204.5	243.2	200.4	191.8	209.3	213.6	211.2
June	213.2	233.5	215.0	219.7	214.9	206.7	204.8	243.2	200.6	192.4	211.2	214.5	212.2
1976-77													
July	215.6	233.6	215.0	221.1	215.2	208.8	212.6	243.2	202.0	195.0	212.1	215.6	213.4
August	216.2	233.7	215.1	221.3	215.9	208.2	211.0	243.3	202.0	194.4	215.3	215.9	214.0
September	219.1	233.9	215.7	222.3	215.9	211.2	209.6	247.9	204.6	193.1	215.9	217.0	214.8
October	219.9	237.0	222.0	223.7	216.6	r212.3	199.1	250.2	207.2	191.4	r218.5	218.1	r215.9
November p	223.4	239.3	222.0	224.6	221.6	r212.5	194.0	250.1	207.7	191.3	r219.5	220.6	r218.0
December p	222.9	240.6	223.0	224.9	222.5	214.2	201.7	250.1	209.4	195.7	225.8	221.7	220.0
MELBOURNE													
1973-74	135.6	145.0	146.0	156.7	155.5	149.6	153.2	167.7	133.6	138.3	144.3	149.6	148.0
1974-75	162.6	176.7	169.3	189.9	197.8	174.2	152.7	210.2	164.8	157.4	182.1	182.9	180.6
1975-76	191.8	215.3	189.8	212.0	199.6	194.1	164.3	249.9	187.7	177.4	201.6	214.1	209.4
1975-76													
November	188.7	213.0	187.1	209.0	236.6	189.9	159.0	247.9	185.1	171.8	199.8	211.0	206.2
December	188.8	213.7	187.1	209.7	237.4	191.0	160.1	249.0	186.6	176.2	200.3	211.8	207.2
January	189.3	216.3	190.0	209.9	238.9	195.3	160.5	249.1	186.9	177.5	199.9	213.2	208.4
February	192.8	220.4	192.6	211.0	243.3	195.0	161.5	250.9	189.0	178.6	200.8	216.1	210.9
March	197.3	223.1	194.1	216.7	251.2	196.0	165.9	252.7	189.9	181.5	205.2	221.2	215.8
April	200.4	224.4	194.5	219.0	255.4	198.0	173.2	258.2	193.6	187.9	208.9	224.5	219.4
May	206.0	224.5	195.7	220.9	256.9	208.0	179.7	264.5	196.7	191.8	210.2	228.5	222.2
June	206.6	231.0	197.9	222.3	260.6	208.7	179.9	264.6	196.7	192.4	212.2	229.8	224.3
1976-77													
July	206.1	232.4	197.9	225.2	261.4	208.7	185.1	264.6	196.9	195.0	213.1	230.7	225.4
August	210.3	232.5	200.9	226.1	262.9	209.0	183.8	266.0	198.0	194.4	216.3	232.4	227.1
September	212.8	232.8	203.0	230.4	264.5	212.2	181.0	270.9	198.1	193.1	216.9	234.3	228.5
October	212.6	234.9	203.0	230.5	267.5	213.8	176.7	270.9	199.7	191.4	r219.5	235.6	r229.8
November p	215.6	236.5	203.0	230.6	270.4	214.0	172.5	269.8	201.0	191.3	r220.5	237.2	r231.2
December p	215.5	237.3	204.0	234.3	273.5	216.1	180.4	267.5	201.2	195.7	226.8	239.5	234.1

For footnotes see end of table.

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

	Concrete mix, cement, sand, etc.	Cement products	Bricks, stone, etc.	Timber, board and joinery	Steel and iron products	Aluminium products	Other metal products	Plumbing fixtures	Miscel- laneous materials	Electrical installation materials (b)	Mechanical services components	Special purpose index (c)	All groups
Value weight (%) (d)	10.41%	3.64%	5.28%	11.90%	30.58%	6.01%	2.59%	1.19%	7.09%	8.61%	12.70%	78.69%	100.00%
BRISBANE													
1973-74	133.2	154.0	157.4	167.7	159.1	132.4	141.6	160.3	125.8	138.3	143.7	151.0	149.0
1974-75	162.3	199.8	189.6	211.0	207.6	168.9	150.9	199.6	150.9	157.4	181.7	190.5	186.6
1975-76	189.7	234.1	207.8	246.3	249.0	194.4	158.2	234.0	171.5	177.4	201.9	222.9	216.3
1975-76													
November	185.8	226.3	202.5	244.6	247.5	193.0	151.1	232.1	170.8	171.8	200.1	220.4	213.7
December	186.6	227.8	202.5	245.3	248.1	193.2	153.2	232.7	170.8	176.2	200.6	221.0	214.5
January	191.8	227.8	205.3	247.1	249.3	195.4	158.7	232.9	172.9	177.5	200.2	223.2	216.3
February	193.1	237.9	207.1	247.8	250.0	197.9	162.8	239.9	173.5	178.6	201.1	224.8	217.8
March	193.5	240.3	211.7	255.2	260.1	201.3	164.1	247.7	175.3	181.5	205.7	230.8	223.4
April	195.8	246.0	219.2	257.7	265.2	201.5	165.5	248.3	175.2	187.9	209.3	234.3	227.2
May	196.5	252.5	219.6	259.3	266.6	203.5	170.0	248.6	175.6	191.8	210.6	235.9	228.9
June	197.0	260.2	221.8	260.4	270.1	203.9	171.4	250.2	177.0	192.4	212.5	238.2	231.0
1976-77													
July	199.4	260.3	228.6	262.6	271.6	203.9	177.9	251.8	177.1	195.0	213.6	240.2	232.9
August	201.6	260.6	229.4	262.7	272.5	203.9	179.8	252.1	177.2	194.4	217.4	241.0	234.0
September	203.6	261.9	233.3	264.3	273.2	207.2	178.0	254.5	177.3	193.1	217.9	242.3	235.0
October	204.3	264.7	233.6	264.7	274.9	208.1	178.0	256.0	178.8	191.4	r220.6	243.5	r236.1
November p	206.7	266.7	233.9	266.5	279.3	209.1	176.6	256.0	181.3	191.3	r221.6	246.2	r238.4
December p	206.7	267.2	234.6	267.5	282.1	211.3	177.0	256.1	181.4	195.7	227.9	247.7	240.7
ADELAIDE													
1973-74	131.0	151.8	149.2	165.7	147.6	136.5	156.4	161.4	134.9	138.3	143.7	146.9	145.8
1974-75	156.1	194.4	191.4	212.0	187.5	163.7	160.6	204.6	168.6	157.4	181.6	183.5	181.0
1975-76	185.7	233.8	221.1	244.3	225.1	185.1	176.6	235.4	192.3	177.4	201.4	215.5	210.4
1975-76													
November	184.0	227.7	211.8	240.5	223.2	181.8	171.0	235.6	188.4	171.8	199.6	212.3	207.2
December	184.0	232.9	220.5	242.2	224.2	183.4	171.1	235.6	190.3	176.2	200.1	213.9	208.9
January	189.4	233.6	220.5	242.2	225.5	187.8	171.7	235.9	191.3	177.5	199.7	215.7	210.3
February	190.3	235.7	220.8	243.7	226.1	188.6	172.4	236.1	196.8	178.6	200.6	217.0	211.6
March	191.0	238.5	223.7	251.7	237.2	190.6	174.4	238.7	197.2	181.5	205.0	223.2	217.3
April	195.2	246.4	236.8	251.8	241.2	189.6	191.1	246.6	199.9	187.9	208.6	227.5	221.7
May	196.2	247.8	236.8	258.8	241.5	191.8	197.5	246.7	202.5	191.8	210.0	229.4	223.7
June	197.6	248.7	237.0	260.4	242.8	199.6	197.7	247.4	203.1	192.4	211.9	231.1	225.3
1976-77													
July	203.1	250.2	237.6	263.5	242.9	199.6	202.8	247.4	204.1	195.0	212.8	232.7	226.9
August	203.2	250.2	239.2	267.2	243.9	199.7	201.2	251.5	204.1	194.4	216.1	233.8	228.1
September	203.2	250.9	239.2	269.1	244.1	203.2	198.7	254.5	205.6	193.1	216.7	234.5	228.7
October	203.3	255.6	239.2	269.3	246.4	200.5	195.1	254.5	204.7	191.4	r219.3	235.3	r229.5
November p	205.4	257.3	239.2	269.9	249.3	202.2	190.9	254.5	205.2	191.3	r220.3	236.9	r230.9
December p	205.4	257.6	239.9	272.6	251.4	202.2	200.3	255.0	205.5	195.7	226.6	238.5	233.3

For footnotes see end of table.

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

	Concrete mix, cement, sand etc.	Cement products	Bricks, stone, etc.	Timber, board and joinery	Steel and iron products	Aluminium products	Other metal products	Plumbing fixtures	Miscel- laneous materials	Electrical installation materials (b)	Mechanical services components	Special purpose index (c)	All groups
Value weight (%) (d)	10.41%	3.64%	5.28%	11.90%	30.58%	6.01%	2.59%	1.19%	7.09%	8.61%	12.70%	78.69%	100.00%
PERTH													
1973-74	125.0	141.1	147.8	151.1	151.0	128.4	146.8	136.6	133.5	138.3	143.6	143.3	142.9
1974-75	143.0	171.3	185.1	186.9	198.5	156.0	151.4	158.6	156.5	157.4	181.5	178.0	176.7
1975-76	169.1	212.2	216.3	219.2	243.5	186.8	158.4	176.8	179.5	177.4	201.7	212.7	208.3
1975-76													
November	165.1	207.6	215.2	216.1	240.7	185.0	153.7	171.2	175.6	171.8	199.9	209.6	205.1
December	166.0	207.6	215.2	219.0	242.3	188.6	156.0	172.7	176.0	176.2	200.5	211.2	206.8
January	166.0	208.6	215.2	221.2	243.4	191.0	155.7	174.5	179.6	177.5	200.1	212.5	207.9
February	170.1	221.6	215.6	221.6	243.8	192.9	156.5	176.4	183.7	178.6	201.0	214.5	209.7
March	174.9	221.8	215.6	223.4	254.0	192.9	160.4	178.4	185.1	181.5	205.4	219.6	214.5
April	179.0	222.0	227.7	230.4	259.6	196.3	166.2	181.2	186.7	187.9	209.1	224.9	219.8
May	179.1	224.1	229.0	230.7	263.0	195.3	171.9	189.2	190.4	191.8	210.4	227.0	221.8
June	179.5	235.5	229.0	234.9	264.8	197.5	172.0	190.5	191.6	192.4	212.4	229.2	223.9
1976-77													
July	184.8	235.6	229.0	236.0	265.0	199.4	178.3	191.2	192.8	195.0	213.3	230.6	225.3
August	186.5	235.6	230.8	237.9	265.8	200.5	176.9	192.7	193.7	194.4	216.6	231.7	226.6
September	187.6	236.3	238.4	239.0	266.4	201.2	175.7	192.7	193.1	193.1	217.1	233.4	227.9
October	190.7	238.9	238.4	240.9	r269.7	204.1	171.9	195.7	203.8	191.4	r219.8	236.1	r230.2
November p	191.6	239.5	238.4	242.6	r273.2	207.6	168.9	196.5	r205.8	191.3	r220.9	238.2	r232.0
December p	191.8	240.5	238.4	245.8	274.5	208.2	175.7	196.5	206.6	195.7	227.2	239.6	234.3
HOBART													
1973-74	139.3	149.3	150.0	154.6	148.7	117.3	150.1	154.0	129.1	138.3	143.5	144.4	143.8
1974-75	157.5	179.5	197.6	191.2	195.0	149.1	168.8	189.4	161.1	157.4	181.3	181.4	179.3
1975-76	185.3	207.8	238.1	222.4	236.9	176.2	176.5	221.6	188.1	177.4	201.7	215.4	210.4
1975-76													
November	181.3	204.0	238.2	221.0	234.4	172.7	174.6	222.2	187.0	171.8	200.1	213.1	207.9
December	181.6	205.4	238.2	221.1	235.7	172.7	174.7	222.4	187.2	176.2	200.6	213.7	208.8
January	181.8	205.4	238.8	221.1	237.4	175.3	174.7	222.7	187.6	177.5	200.2	214.8	209.7
February	191.8	206.6	238.8	221.3	238.0	178.1	176.0	222.9	189.4	178.6	201.1	216.7	211.5
March	192.9	215.0	245.5	231.6	247.7	183.6	177.1	226.0	190.8	181.5	205.7	223.7	217.8
April	192.9	215.0	250.2	234.2	250.2	183.6	178.7	229.4	192.6	187.9	209.3	225.6	220.3
May	193.7	216.0	250.2	235.2	251.9	187.4	186.1	230.7	194.9	191.8	210.5	227.3	222.1
June	195.9	226.6	252.0	234.5	252.9	189.6	188.7	232.0	199.3	192.4	212.6	229.3	223.9
1976-77													
July	199.3	226.9	252.0	234.6	254.7	189.8	190.4	232.0	202.5	195.0	213.5	230.8	225.5
August	199.8	230.3	257.7	242.3	255.7	189.8	190.6	239.0	203.8	194.4	216.9	233.2	227.8
September	203.7	231.9	260.3	242.9	256.9	196.2	190.4	240.3	204.5	193.1	217.4	235.0	229.2
October	203.7	232.7	260.3	243.0	259.0	196.4	191.2	245.2	206.5	192.4	r220.1	236.2	r230.3
November p	205.1	233.9	260.3	243.7	261.8	196.4	192.2	245.6	207.6	191.3	r221.1	237.8	r231.7
December p	205.8	235.8	262.4	249.2	263.9	197.0	192.2	248.1	209.2	195.7	227.4	240.0	234.6

For footnotes see end of table.

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

	Concrete mix, cement, sand, etc.	Cement products	Bricks, stone, etc.	Timber, board and joinery	Steel and iron products	Aluminium products	Other metal products	Plumbing fixtures	Miscel- laneous materials	Electrical installation materials (b)	Mechanical services components	Special purpose index (c)	All groups
Value weight (%) (d)	10.41%	3.64%	5.28%	11.90%	30.58%	6.01%	2.59%	1.19%	7.09%	8.61%	12.70%	78.69%	100.00%
WEIGHTED AVERAGE OF SIX STATE CAPITAL CITIES													
1973-74	136.0	147.7	146.3	160.2	148.8	138.4	158.5	159.6	134.2	138.3	143.9	147.0	145.8
1974-75	164.6	183.9	179.4	194.7	189.2	169.2	162.7	197.7	163.4	157.4	181.3	181.3	179.2
1975-76	193.0	220.0	202.7	219.3	223.4	193.6	173.3	232.1	186.8	177.4	201.3	210.1	206.2
1975-76													
November	189.7	216.6	198.2	215.9	220.7	191.2	168.1	229.9	184.1	171.8	199.5	207.0	203.0
December	190.7	217.9	199.0	217.5	221.7	191.7	169.3	231.5	185.0	176.2	200.1	208.1	204.3
January	193.8	219.3	203.2	218.1	223.1	195.3	170.4	231.6	187.0	177.5	199.6	210.0	205.9
February	195.7	223.8	204.9	219.1	225.2	196.3	171.6	235.2	189.0	178.6	200.5	211.9	207.6
March	199.2	226.4	206.7	225.1	232.8	198.5	175.3	239.3	190.2	181.5	204.9	216.9	212.3
April	201.3	228.6	210.1	227.9	238.4	199.1	183.2	242.5	192.8	187.9	208.6	220.7	216.3
May	204.5	233.0	213.9	229.5	239.9	203.5	189.5	245.3	195.5	191.8	209.9	223.2	218.8
June	204.7	237.6	215.5	231.0	242.0	204.9	190.0	245.6	196.1	192.4	211.8	224.8	220.4
1976-77													
July	206.9	238.2	216.4	232.9	242.7	206.0	196.4	246.0	196.8	195.0	212.8	226.1	221.7
August	208.7	238.4	217.9	234.1	243.6	205.9	195.4	247.2	197.2	194.4	216.1	227.0	222.8
September	211.0	238.9	219.8	236.1	244.3	209.0	193.6	250.9	199.1	193.1	216.6	228.5	223.9
October	211.5	241.7	222.4	236.9	246.1	r210.0	187.5	252.4	200.9	191.4	r219.3	229.7	r225.1
November p	214.4	243.6	222.4	237.7	250.1	r210.7	183.6	252.2	202.1	191.3	r220.3	231.8	r226.9
December p	214.2	244.6	223.3	239.7	252.0	212.3	190.3	251.7	203.0	195.7	226.6	233.4	229.3

(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. (b) The Price Index of Electrical Installation Materials is used as the indicator for this group. (c) All groups excluding Electrical installation materials and Mechanical services components. (d) Composition and weighting pattern as at reference base years; see paragraph 3 and 4.

D. V. YOUNGMAN  
Acting Australian Statistician

Australian Bureau of Statistics  
Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616