



PRICE INDEX OF MATERIALS USED IN HOUSE BUILDING SIX STATE CAPITAL CITIES MAY 1985

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MAIN FEATURES

	Change between—	
	April 85 and May 85	May 84 and May 85
All groups index		
	%	%
Sydney	+0.9	+9.1
Melbourne	+0.8	+6.8
Brisbane	+0.4	+5.1
Adelaide	+1.9	+10.5
Perth	+0.7	+4.9
Hobart	+0.4	+9.6
Weighted average of six State capital cities	+0.9	+7.4

More than half of the increase in the All groups index for the weighted average of the six State capital cities, between April and May 1985, was caused by higher prices for timber, electrical cable and clay bricks.

The main price changes were:

- Prices for softwood increased in all cities except Perth and Hobart.
- Prices for hardwood increased in Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide.
- Prices for electrical cable increased in all cities.
- Prices for clay bricks increased in Melbourne and Adelaide.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

This publication 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 (Ref. No. 6.7)* (pp. 57-69). A Price Index of Materials Used in Building Other than House Building is published in a separate publication (6407.0). All index numbers for the current month and the three previous months are preliminary and subject to revision. However, it may be necessary from time to time to revise index numbers for earlier periods if incorrect prices for those periods are detected.

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.

Items and weights

3. The index is a fixed weights index. The items and weights 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 2. Further details concerning the weighting pattern are contained in *Labour Report No. 58, 1973 (Ref. No. 6.7)*. The reference base of the index is the year 1966-67 = 100.0.

Prices

4. 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.
5. 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.
6. As far as possible, *actual transactions prices* are used in this index—that is the prices actually paid by building contractors or subcontractors to materials suppliers for materials delivered on building sites. The actual price paid for anything can, of course, be described in various ways. Instead of being described as a single price (as usually happens in retail shops) a price for a

building material may be described in terms of the components that make up the price—for instance 'list price plus sales tax', 'suppliers price plus freight', 'basic price less (particular types of) discount' and so on. It is these *net* prices that buyers pay to sellers in exchange for materials that the ABS aims to use in compiling this price index.

7. The ABS asks respondent businesses to report details of the discounts they offer so that actual transactions prices can be calculated. However as building materials suppliers offer many different types of discounts to buyers (e.g. trade discounts, settlement discounts, quantity discounts, competitive discounts) the identification of the discounts and the way in which they are applied by sellers pose considerable problems for the ABS. To the extent that discounts are identified and measured their effects are taken into account in calculating the index. However, because of the difficulties involved in obtaining full details of discounts the effect of the discounts may sometimes be on a partly estimated basis. Sometimes new discounts or changes in the way discounts are applied by sellers are identified only after index numbers for a particular period have been published. In such cases revisions to index numbers will occur in subsequent issues of this publication.

8. Sales taxes levied on building materials are included in the prices used to compile the index. Materials used in the construction of Commonwealth, State and Local Government owned houses are exempt from sales tax. At any particular time when there is a change in the rate of sales tax on building materials, the movement in the index takes into account the proportion of materials sold subject to sales tax at that time and the proportion of materials exempt from sales tax.

Index numbers

9. 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 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 2. 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

10. Tables 1 and 3 show price movements expressed in terms of percentage changes. The following example illustrates the method of calculating percentage changes, with reference to Table 1.

Weighted average of six State capital cities—

Index number as at January 1985	478.5
Index number as at December 1984	477.1

$$\text{Percentage change} = \frac{478.5-477.1}{477.1} \times 100 = +0.3\%$$

Interpretation

11. 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 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

12. 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, Six State Capital Cities and Darwin (6407.0)—issued monthly

Price Index of Materials Used in Manufacturing Industry, Australia (6411.0)—issued monthly

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

Price Indexes of Metallic Materials, Australia (6410.0)—issued monthly

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

Award Rates of Pay Indexes, Australia (6312.0)—issued monthly

Average Weekly Earnings, States and Australia (6302.0)—issued quarterly

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

Symbols and other usages

- p preliminary—figures subject to revision
- nil or rounded to zero
- r figures revised since previous issue

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TABLE I. PRICE INDEX OF MATERIALS USED IN HOUSE BUILDING—ALL GROUPS

	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Weighted average of six State capital cities
INDEX NUMBERS							
(Base of each index: Year 1966-67 = 100.0)							
1981-82	378.2	354.9	407.2	427.2	373.0	371.7	377.7
1982-83	407.5	392.0	447.1	480.2	407.6	405.3	413.5
1983-84	432.9	430.3	482.8	519.1	434.2	438.7	445.6
<i>1983-84—</i>							
March	441.2	445.1	495.5	529.4	441.7	447.6	456.4
April	443.2	447.3	495.9	530.4	443.9	447.9	458.2
May	446.7	450.9	499.9	532.2	448.2	461.2	462.0
June	450.5	453.0	500.8	542.8	449.9	463.8	465.1
<i>1984-85—</i>							
July	452.1	456.6	500.0	545.7	453.0	465.1	467.4
August	453.2	458.8	507.4	547.2	453.0	468.7	468.7
September	455.9	460.3	509.0	550.1	454.7	470.8	471.5
October	461.2	462.4	509.6	555.3	455.5	485.9	474.7
November	462.1	462.9	511.9	557.8	457.7	487.8	476.0
December	462.9	463.6	512.7	559.0	460.0	489.5	477.1
January	465.0	465.3	513.3	560.0	460.3	490.3	478.5
February p	469.3	468.3	515.9	564.8	461.6	493.7	481.7
March p	477.4	472.7	519.4	570.4	463.3	495.8	486.8
April p	482.9	477.5	523.3	577.5	466.8	503.5	491.8
May p	487.3	481.4	525.5	588.2	470.1	505.5	496.1
PERCENTAGE CHANGES							
Change from previous year—							
1981-82	+8.8	+9.3	+12.0	+10.6	+10.5	+9.9	+9.8
1982-83	+7.7	+10.5	+9.8	+12.4	+9.3	+9.0	+9.5
1983-84	+6.2	+9.8	+8.0	+8.1	+6.5	+8.2	+7.8
Change from corresponding month of previous year—							
<i>1983-84—</i>							
March	+7.2	+10.8	+9.4	+8.4	+7.2	+10.4	+8.7
April	+6.7	+11.3	+8.3	+7.2	+7.7	+7.8	+8.4
May	+7.2	+11.4	+9.0	+7.2	+8.5	+10.0	+8.9
June	+7.3	+11.5	+9.2	+8.5	+8.6	+10.0	+9.2
<i>1984-85—</i>							
July	+7.2	+11.7	+8.1	+8.6	+9.0	+10.2	+9.1
August	+7.0	+11.3	+9.4	+8.6	+7.4	+10.2	+8.9
September	+7.9	+11.0	+9.2	+8.4	+7.2	+10.0	+9.0
October	+8.6	+10.1	+8.5	+9.2	+6.9	+13.5	+8.9
November	+8.5	+9.6	+7.0	+8.7	+6.1	+13.4	+8.4
December	+8.1	+8.9	+6.5	+8.2	+6.3	+13.5	+7.9
January	+7.8	+8.7	+5.9	+7.9	+5.3	+13.0	+7.5
February p	+7.8	+7.6	+4.3	+7.9	+5.5	+10.8	+7.0
March p	+8.2	+6.2	+4.8	+7.7	+4.9	+10.8	+6.7
April p	+9.0	+6.8	+5.5	+8.9	+5.2	+12.4	+7.3
May p	+9.1	+6.8	+5.1	+10.5	+4.9	+9.6	+7.4
Change from previous month—							
<i>1983-84—</i>							
March	+1.4	+2.3	+0.1	+1.1	+0.9	+0.5	+1.4
April	+0.5	+0.5	+0.1	+0.2	+0.5	+0.1	+0.4
May	+0.8	+0.8	+0.8	+0.3	+1.0	+0.8	+0.8
June	+0.9	+0.5	+0.2	+2.0	+0.4	+0.6	+0.7
<i>1984-85—</i>							
July	+0.4	+0.8	-0.2	+0.5	+0.7	+0.3	+0.5
August	+0.2	+0.5	+1.5	+0.3	—	+0.8	+0.8
September	+0.6	+0.3	+0.3	+0.5	+0.4	+0.4	+0.4
October	+1.2	+0.5	+0.1	+0.9	+0.2	+3.2	+0.4
November	+0.2	+0.1	+0.5	+0.5	+0.5	+0.4	+0.7
December	+0.2	+0.2	+0.2	+0.2	+0.5	+0.3	+0.2
January	+0.5	+0.4	+0.1	+0.2	+0.1	+0.2	+0.3
February p	+0.9	+0.6	+0.5	+0.9	+0.3	+0.7	+0.7
March p	+1.7	+0.9	+0.7	+1.0	+0.4	+0.4	+1.1
April p	+1.2	+1.0	+0.8	+1.2	+0.8	+1.6	+1.0
May p	+0.9	+0.8	+0.4	+1.9	+0.7	+0.4	+0.9

TABLE 2. PRICE INDEX OF MATERIALS USED IN HOUSE BUILDING—GROUP INDEX NUMBERS
(Base of each index: Year 1966-67 = 100.0)

	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	Other materials(b)	All groups	
SYDNEY												
Value weight(a)	5.24%	7.09%	14.34%	38.23%	4.89%	7.25%	3.95%	1.53%	4.43%	13.05%	100.00%	
1981-82	433.2	422.8	347.6	408.2	439.8	345.1	347.0	343.1	277.3	320.5	378.2	
1982-83	506.2	470.0	381.0	427.5	490.8	373.6	354.5	385.1	284.5	352.6	407.5	
1983-84	514.4	496.4	395.0	456.0	521.7	420.7	380.9	421.2	296.6	378.4	432.9	
1983-84—												
March	521.2	511.5	402.2	465.1	523.3	432.7	382.1	442.4	294.0	385.3	441.2	
April	521.3	512.2	402.2	469.2	526.6	437.5	382.5	443.4	294.0	384.3	443.2	
May	525.1	512.8	406.5	472.7	531.1	444.1	379.8	441.7	295.7	389.1	446.7	
June	529.4	522.8	413.4	476.9	532.1	444.6	380.4	442.0	296.4	389.8	450.5	
1984-85—												
July	529.5	528.1	413.3	477.8	529.6	451.0	384.5	449.8	298.0	392.0	452.1	
August	531.5	531.0	413.1	477.9	534.8	452.0	386.7	451.8	303.2	392.3	453.2	
September	533.7	532.7	421.8	480.6	535.2	452.6	388.5	450.4	303.2	392.6	455.9	
October	533.3	532.7	422.0	493.3	539.3	453.4	391.5	451.3	303.6	393.0	461.2	
November	531.4	532.8	424.2	493.8	539.9	454.7	394.3	466.5	304.9	393.0	462.1	
December	532.4	532.8	424.2	494.4	540.8	454.6	394.7	465.9	307.3	395.6	462.9	
January	533.7	533.3	434.1	495.1	540.9	456.8	394.7	472.5	307.1	395.8	465.0	
February p	534.0	538.4	442.4	499.6	546.8	461.8	395.2	478.4	306.6	398.3	469.3	
March p	530.3	538.4	437.9	516.0	550.4	469.0	397.1	484.6	306.6	412.2	477.4	
April p	528.5	539.9	439.2	528.2	553.0	470.4	399.6	495.3	310.3	412.1	482.9	
May p	532.7	539.9	441.0	532.9	558.0	486.9	400.6	528.1	310.1	413.4	487.3	
MELBOURNE												
Value weight(a)	4.63%	8.55%	10.48%	37.78%	5.58%	6.47%	3.34%	1.66%	6.87%	7.19%	7.45%	100.00%
1981-82	338.9	476.4	352.2	358.2	443.0	352.4	339.7	348.3	272.4	262.2	322.5	354.9
1982-83	376.2	549.0	409.4	381.9	492.1	386.9	372.4	400.9	296.9	308.5	352.3	392.0
1983-84	397.7	596.9	458.6	429.9	529.6	421.1	410.6	459.1	305.9	321.0	377.3	430.3
1983-84—												
March	408.4	617.5	472.9	454.4	532.7	428.1	421.2	475.7	309.6	321.0	381.4	445.1
April	408.7	616.3	482.3	458.8	534.6	419.0	419.0	480.2	309.0	321.1	382.8	447.3
May	411.0	616.3	482.3	466.5	536.4	420.3	423.1	477.7	309.2	321.6	386.7	450.9
June	414.9	604.6	482.6	472.5	537.4	421.6	423.6	477.7	314.7	321.6	387.6	453.0
1984-85—												
July	431.1	605.4	482.6	479.3	539.1	418.0	424.8	479.2	313.7	321.6	392.4	456.6
August	433.0	606.8	482.6	483.4	543.0	415.8	433.2	486.2	312.0	321.6	394.4	458.8
September	434.3	620.1	483.0	482.9	543.6	420.0	431.4	488.6	313.2	321.6	395.1	460.3
October	435.7	623.2	490.4	485.8	545.1	413.9	434.6	489.4	310.3	321.6	399.7	462.4
November	437.0	621.6	490.7	485.5	546.9	416.9	433.3	506.3	310.7	321.6	399.6	462.9
December	438.6	622.7	494.5	485.5	547.8	416.8	433.3	510.2	311.7	321.6	399.6	463.6
January	443.9	624.2	495.8	487.6	549.8	418.4	438.7	511.9	311.7	321.6	400.1	465.3
February p	445.6	624.5	499.5	492.4	550.5	418.2	443.3	524.2	312.1	321.6	401.1	468.3
March p	448.9	626.5	499.5	496.3	551.3	425.8	444.5	532.5	312.8	345.5	404.9	472.7
April p	449.0	629.7	502.8	503.0	553.9	433.6	448.5	548.5	316.5	345.5	409.4	477.5
May p	450.4	628.6	511.7	507.9	553.9	436.4	448.3	588.3	317.2	346.0	412.6	481.4

For footnotes see page 7.

TABLE 2. PRICE INDEX OF MATERIALS USED IN HOUSE BUILDING—GROUP INDEX NUMBERS—continued
(Base of each index: Year 1966-67 = 100.0)

	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	Other materials(b)	All groups
BRISBANE											
Value weight(a)	5.04%	10.44%	9.35%	35.29%	8.03%	8.17%	3.50%	1.81%	4.26%	14.11%	100.00%
1981-82	369.2	407.4	398.9	495.4	425.8	359.1	339.8	359.9	236.4	297.2	407.2
1982-83	440.1	451.4	441.6	531.8	482.3	385.0	366.0	420.2	263.4	333.1	447.1
1983-84	502.2	493.6	457.0	579.3	514.0	405.7	397.0	455.3	277.9	357.5	482.8
1983-84—											
March	519.9	503.4	476.2	598.6	517.8	413.1	395.9	468.5	280.2	364.3	495.5
April	520.5	502.7	476.2	599.0	516.2	412.8	397.6	470.5	279.4	366.7	495.9
May	520.6	509.6	477.7	604.1	519.0	418.6	397.0	472.5	287.3	369.2	499.9
June	522.7	511.9	477.7	604.2	519.9	422.0	397.3	472.2	287.3	369.8	500.8
1984-85—											
July	519.5	510.9	477.7	600.9	515.8	426.3	405.1	470.8	288.9	371.9	500.0
August	519.5	514.9	485.1	615.8	520.3	428.2	408.7	471.7	293.4	373.2	507.4
September	520.8	513.4	485.1	620.4	519.3	428.8	407.8	466.2	295.7	374.0	509.0
October	524.2	512.2	485.1	620.3	522.4	429.7	416.3	470.4	294.4	374.2	509.6
November	524.2	516.7	485.1	622.8	522.7	429.9	419.0	483.0	294.4	378.2	511.9
December	524.2	521.0	485.7	623.2	525.8	426.4	419.0	483.7	294.4	379.2	512.7
January	527.5	522.0	487.8	623.2	529.3	426.0	420.2	468.2	295.2	379.8	513.3
February p	527.6	525.4	487.8	628.1	529.9	424.2	421.8	474.2	295.6	383.2	515.9
March p	528.8	529.0	489.5	636.3	527.4	421.7	427.7	481.9	295.2	383.5	519.4
April p	530.6	530.2	489.5	645.5	532.9	419.5	430.1	488.5	298.8	383.6	523.3
May p	531.3	530.4	489.5	645.7	535.4	422.4	430.9	517.2	299.3	390.2	525.5
ADELAIDE											
Value weight(a)	8.13%	6.98%	14.85%	35.52%	6.67%	7.24%	3.42%	1.37%	4.20%	4.19%	7.43%
1981-82	437.6	484.7	435.7	481.3	444.5	312.1	362.0	326.3	293.0	300.4	427.2
1982-83	500.7	569.5	501.3	535.3	498.7	339.1	384.4	371.9	313.7	344.0	425.3
1983-84	520.7	613.4	550.2	581.9	534.8	373.4	420.6	409.6	325.5	358.4	460.5
1983-84—											
March	526.4	621.6	564.8	594.9	539.6	384.4	430.3	429.2	326.5	359.0	469.6
April	526.0	623.1	573.3	595.7	542.9	378.8	421.6	420.9	325.2	359.9	468.8
May	525.0	644.8	568.5	596.9	549.6	378.6	420.0	409.8	328.9	359.9	473.2
June	537.0	666.5	571.7	614.8	550.5	381.0	432.9	411.7	333.5	359.9	478.4
1984-85—											
July	537.3	667.1	571.8	620.6	550.4	381.8	437.5	420.3	333.5	359.9	484.4
August	535.6	668.0	567.6	626.2	551.0	385.5	430.3	413.1	337.6	359.9	484.8
September	535.1	668.9	567.6	634.8	549.9	382.1	431.7	413.5	336.5	359.9	487.0
October	534.5	668.6	584.4	640.5	559.0	382.2	431.5	420.0	338.4	359.9	487.5
November	536.0	669.7	585.1	645.0	561.6	383.9	435.4	441.6	328.1	359.9	490.1
December	535.2	669.7	589.4	645.1	566.8	383.7	441.8	441.2	328.1	359.8	491.5
January	535.1	670.2	589.4	645.2	571.0	385.8	441.5	443.7	327.5	361.7	496.2
February p	535.7	674.7	589.4	655.4	572.5	392.5	441.2	451.9	329	361.7	497.6
March p	542.2	674.6	593.0	661.1	577.0	401.5	446.1	456.9	330.5	376.9	506.3
April p	546.3	675.8	599.3	674.7	579.4	404.9	448.1	474.0	329.0	380.2	508.7
May p	563.6	678.6	613.6	688.4	582.9	411.1	453.3	489.0	332.2	380.2	520.0

For footnotes see page 7.

TABLE 2. PRICE INDEX OF MATERIALS USED IN HOUSE BUILDING—GROUP INDEX NUMBERS—continued
(Base of each index: Year 1966-67 = 100.0)

	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(a)	7.94%	8.14%	16.44%	29.60%	6.07%	7.69%	4.59%	1.76%	4.12%	4.01%	9.64%	100.00%
1981-82	312.0	404.0	404.3	393.8	418.3	326.9	377.1	345.5	228.5	272.3	395.1	373.0
1982-83	363.3	459.8	433.1	426.0	456.5	352.7	405.2	396.5	247.4	312.6	424.2	407.6
1983-84	377.2	483.9	468.3	455.9	485.1	368.7	442.9	438.5	253.7	333.2	448.6	434.2
1983-84—												
March	386.8	489.1	477.4	463.3	489.3	374.0	455.8	445.9	254.6	332.9	460.9	441.7
April	379.3	491.2	477.6	471.2	490.0	374.8	456.7	451.4	252.4	332.9	462.0	443.9
May	374.1	491.6	491.9	474.9	493.7	377.4	462.4	444.8	253.4	340.4	465.9	448.2
June	372.2	490.0	493.3	479.3	494.7	379.1	462.8	441.7	253.4	345.9	466.3	449.9
1984-85—												
July	370.4	490.2	494.3	482.7	495.3	397.7	465.8	446.0	254.2	350.6	468.1	453.0
August	361.5	491.8	495.1	482.7	496.2	399.0	460.7	447.1	259.4	352.0	470.7	453.0
September	369.0	490.2	495.1	485.9	498.1	399.0	464.8	449.8	257.9	356.4	468.7	454.7
October	380.3	490.2	496.5	486.1	499.4	389.3	469.0	443.1	256.6	359.9	469.5	455.5
November	393.2	489.9	496.6	488.8	501.5	389.4	480.5	464.4	257.1	359.9	469.3	457.7
December	396.5	490.5	496.6	493.0	502.2	388.8	479.8	464.0	257.1	363.2	469.3	460.0
January	396.5	490.9	496.6	493.1	502.9	389.1	480.6	467.3	257.1	364.6	469.6	460.3
February p	396.5	493.7	497.5	493.5	500.6	397.9	480.8	470.8	257.7	364.6	471.8	461.3
March p	396.5	494.4	498.6	494.9	503.4	403.4	481.1	480.5	258.1	370.1	472.2	466.6
April p	402.5	497.5	499.4	498.8	504.3	407.3	489.7	482.3	258.1	376.1	477.4	466.8
May p	411.7	499.9	498.9	500.6	504.4	414.5	488.4	520.0	259.3	380.8	482.2	470.1
HOBBART												
Value weight(a)	7.25%	7.01%	10.14%	38.15%	7.49%	7.93%	2.74%	1.61%	6.98%	10.70%	100.00%	
1981-82	285.9	385.6	409.7	414.5	423.1	334.0	373.4	325.7	190.6	349.1	371.7	371.7
1982-83	318.4	425.2	437.3	448.8	462.6	368.0	397.6	376.4	203.2	391.2	405.3	405.3
1983-84	348.7	448.5	462.4	498.8	487.7	395.5	428.2	428.0	212.2	406.4	438.7	438.7
1983-84—												
March	350.0	451.8	465.5	515.4	489.8	399.6	437.4	443.7	212.7	414.7	447.6	447.6
April	356.3	451.8	468.1	515.6	490.6	400.9	439.1	446.3	213.3	407.2	447.9	447.9
May	360.2	458.0	473.2	545.4	494.1	401.8	439.1	447.5	213.9	409.9	461.2	461.2
June	360.5	458.6	473.2	552.0	497.4	402.5	438.9	446.2	213.5	407.7	463.8	463.8
1984-85—												
July	361.7	459.3	482.9	552.1	498.0	402.5	438.9	452.6	213.0	407.9	465.1	465.1
August	361.8	483.8	482.9	555.8	497.8	405.5	442.7	454.0	214.4	408.1	468.7	468.7
September	366.5	482.8	483.6	560.1	498.6	405.1	442.7	453.5	214.2	409.6	470.8	470.8
October	368.2	482.8	483.6	597.7	498.1	408.1	444.7	455.7	214.5	412.3	483.9	483.9
November	368.6	483.6	483.6	600.5	501.3	409.5	449.4	471.3	214.3	412.5	487.8	487.8
December	368.1	485.3	497.1	600.9	502.4	409.6	449.4	471.3	215.9	412.2	489.5	489.5
January	368.0	487.4	497.1	600.9	503.0	410.6	451.3	482.3	216.9	414.2	490.3	490.3
February p	368.3	487.4	499.1	607.8	503.3	413.5	456.3	484.2	216.9	415.1	493.7	493.7
March p	370.5	490.2	499.1	608.0	503.3	417.7	456.3	491.8	220.1	424.1	495.8	495.8
April p	378.6	492.8	499.1	625.3	503.3	419.5	458.0	513.6	219.9	422.0	503.5	503.5
May p	380.1	492.8	503.0	625.4	507.2	424.8	458.0	539.5	220.7	425.3	505.5	505.5

For footnotes see page 7.

TABLE 2. PRICE INDEX OF MATERIALS USED IN HOUSE BUILDING—GROUP INDEX NUMBERS—continued
(Base of each index: Year 1966-67 = 100.0)

	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(a)	5.73%	8.10%	12.85%	36.16%	5.86%	7.20%	3.74%	1.63%	5.13%	5.64%	7.96%	100.00%
1981-82	373.8	438.4	373.9	408.8	434.9	343.1	351.5	345.9	263.9	273.1	348.2	377.7
1982-83	430.9	497.2	416.1	434.2	484.2	372.3	373.2	395.6	282.7	317.8	377.4	413.5
1983-84	451.3	533.9	446.7	473.3	517.2	405.6	406.4	439.9	291.3	332.5	406.1	445.6
1983-84—												
March	460.6	547.6	457.8	488.8	520.3	414.2	412.8	456.0	294.4	332.6	415.5	456.4
April	459.2	547.9	461.0	492.7	521.9	412.9	412.1	458.4	293.4	333.0	415.7	458.2
May	459.7	550.7	465.1	498.1	525.4	416.6	413.2	455.5	295.2	334.0	420.9	462.0
June	463.2	551.4	468.2	503.5	526.4	418.1	414.7	455.1	297.9	334.6	422.1	465.1
1984-85—												
July	466.5	553.0	468.5	506.5	525.7	422.9	418.2	459.2	298.2	335.2	425.9	467.4
August	465.4	555.6	468.9	510.1	529.1	423.5	420.1	461.8	300.3	335.4	427.4	469.5
September	468.2	560.0	472.1	512.6	529.4	424.6	421.0	461.8	300.7	335.9	427.8	471.5
October	471.2	560.7	475.8	519.0	532.5	421.8	424.7	462.3	299.4	336.3	429.5	474.7
November	474.0	561.0	476.8	519.9	533.9	421.8	428.1	459.8	299.4	336.2	430.6	476.0
December	475.3	562.1	478.4	520.9	535.6	422.6	428.6	480.2	300.5	336.6	432.2	477.1
1984-85—												
January	477.3	563.0	482.4	521.9	537.3	423.9	430.4	481.5	300.6	336.8	433.1	478.5
February p	477.9	565.9	486.4	526.5	538.9	427.3	432.0	489.1	300.8	336.8	436.5	481.7
March p	478.6	567.2	485.6	534.8	540.5	433.0	434.1	496.7	301.3	358.9	437.3	486.8
April p	480.2	569.5	487.6	544.0	543.2	436.2	438.1	507.6	304.0	359.5	439.7	491.8
May p	485.9	569.7	491.7	548.6	545.5	444.5	438.6	541.5	304.7	360.3	444.7	496.1

TABLE 3. PRICE INDEX OF MATERIALS USED IN HOUSE BUILDING—PERCENTAGE CHANGES
WEIGHTED AVERAGE OF SIX STATE CAPITAL CITIES

	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
Value weight (a)	5.73%	8.10%	12.85%	36.16%	5.86%	7.20%	3.74%	1.63%	5.13%	5.64%	7.96%	100.00%
Change from corresponding month of previous year—												
1984-85—												
December	+5.7	+6.2	+8.0	+11.4	+3.1	+5.2	+5.5	+10.9	+3.5	+1.3	+7.1	+7.9
January	+5.4	+5.6	+7.7	+10.7	+3.4	+5.2	+5.6	+11.4	+3.5	+1.3	+6.1	+7.5
February p	+4.7	+5.0	+7.5	+9.6	+3.7	+4.8	+5.8	+13.5	+3.1	+1.2	+6.0	+7.0
March p	+3.9	+3.6	+6.1	+9.4	+3.9	+4.5	+5.2	+8.9	+2.4	+0.7	+5.2	+6.7
April p	+4.6	+3.9	+5.8	+10.4	+4.1	+5.6	+6.3	+10.7	+3.6	+8.0	+5.8	+7.3
May p	+5.7	+3.5	+5.7	+10.1	+3.8	+6.7	+6.1	+18.9	+3.2	+7.9	+5.7	+7.4
Change from previous month—												
1984-85—												
December	+0.3	+0.2	+0.3	+0.2	+0.3	-0.1	+0.1	+0.1	+0.4	+0.1	+0.4	+0.2
January	+0.4	+0.2	+0.8	+0.2	+0.3	+0.3	+0.4	+0.3	—	+0.1	+0.2	+0.3
February p	+0.1	+0.5	+0.8	+0.9	+0.3	+0.8	+0.4	+1.6	+0.1	—	+0.8	+0.7
March p	+0.1	+0.2	-0.2	+1.6	+0.3	+1.3	+0.5	+1.6	+0.2	+6.6	+0.2	+1.1
April p	+0.3	+0.4	+0.4	+1.7	+0.5	+0.7	+0.9	+2.2	+0.9	+0.7	+0.5	+1.0
May p	+1.2	—	+0.8	+0.8	+0.4	+1.9	+6.1	+6.7	+0.2	+0.2	+1.1	+0.9

(a) Composition and weighting pattern as at reference base year, see paragraph 3. Explanatory Notes. (b) This series is a combination of the two series formerly published as Plaster and Plaster Products and Miscellaneous Materials.