

INQUIRIES

If you want to know more about these statistics ring Mr Don Catlin on Canberra 525555 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 ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION MATERIALS MAY 1977

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.

Percentage change between	
Apr. 77	May 76
and	and
May 77	May 77

Conductors	-2.7	+ 2.6
Conduit and accessories	+0.4	+11.6
Switchboard and switchgear material	..	+12.0
All groups	-0.8	+ 8.5

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.

Base period and method of calculation

2. This index is compiled on the reference base : year 1959-60 = 100.0 using the method known as the *weighted arithmetic mean of price relatives*.

Weights

3. 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.

Composition

4. 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

5. 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

6. Index numbers for three groupings of items and for the All groups combination are given in Table 1.

7. The annual index numbers for the years 1959-60 to 1968-69 are simple averages of index numbers for the months of August, November, February and May in each year while those for following years are simple averages of the twelve monthly index numbers for each year.

Related Publications

8. 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 House Building (Reference No. 9.9)
- Price Indexes of Metallic Materials (Reference No. 9.10)
- Price Indexes of Materials Used in Manufacturing Industry (Reference No. 9.13)
- Price Indexes of Articles Produced by Manufacturing Industry (Reference No. 9.14)

9. 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.

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

Value weight (%) (b)	Conductors	Conduit and accessories	Switchboard and switchgear material	All groups
	40%	25%	35%	100%
1966-67	120.2	105.8	109.2	112.8
1967-68	119.9	106.0	112.5	113.8
1968-69	119.5	107.3	115.3	115.0
1969-70	142.1	109.6	120.1	126.2
1970-71	128.4	112.8	129.2	124.8
1971-72	126.7	120.9	137.7	129.1
1972-73	133.5	126.8	144.2	135.5
1973-74	165.1	138.5	156.6	155.5
1974-75	168.2	169.6	192.3	177.0
1975-76	178.1	199.0	224.5	199.6
1974-75 -				
April	167.8	179.6	200.4	182.2
May	166.0	179.6	201.9	182.0
June	165.6	180.7	205.2	183.2
1975-76 -				
July	167.8	183.8	207.2	185.6
August	171.5	188.9	209.4	189.1
September	173.6	189.0	209.9	190.2
October	172.4	189.7	211.5	190.4
November	171.8	197.0	214.9	193.2
December	172.3	197.3	228.2	198.2
January	173.7	199.1	229.6	199.6
February	174.0	201.2	231.3	200.9
March	179.6	201.6	234.1	204.2
April	188.6	212.3	236.5	211.3
May	196.5	213.4	239.2	215.7
June	195.1	214.9	241.6	216.3
1976-77 -				
July	200.1	217.1	242.9	219.3
August	197.0	219.4	242.7	218.6
September	193.5	219.4	242.8	217.2
October	187.3	220.4	243.3	215.2
November	183.0	224.1	245.3	215.1
December	192.7	225.2	247.8	220.1
January	197.3	225.7	251.5	223.4
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 p	201.6	238.2	267.9	234.0

(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) Composition and weighting pattern as at reference base year; see paragraphs 3 and 4. p - preliminary, subject to revision.