



PRICE INDEX OF MATERIALS USED IN HOUSE BUILDING SIX STATE CAPITAL CITIES OCTOBER 1984

PHONE INQUIRIES *for more information about these statistics*—contact Mr Geoff Brown on Canberra (062) 52 6198 or any of our State offices.

other inquiries including copies of publications—contact Information Services on Canberra (062) 52 6627 or in any of our State offices.

MAIL INQUIRIES *write to* Information Services, ABS, P.O. Box 10, Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616 or any of our State offices.

MAIN FEATURES

	Change between—	
	Sept. 84 and Oct. 84	Oct. 83 and Oct. 84
All groups index	%	%
Sydney	+0.4	+7.8
Melbourne	+0.4	+10.1
Brisbane	+0.1	+8.4
Adelaide	+0.9	+9.1
Perth	+0.3	+7.0
Hobart	+3.2	+13.5
Weighted average of six State capital cities	+0.5	+8.7

The main price changes between September and October were:

Prices for clay bricks increased in Sydney, Melbourne, and Adelaide.

Prices for softwood timber increased in Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide and Hobart.

Note: Corrected prices for periods as far back as January 1982 have been obtained for: sand; timber doors and frames; galvanised steel downpipe and guttering; toilet suites; hand basins; sinks; baths; switchboards; and plastic pipes and fittings. The index numbers affected have been revised in this issue. For further information see the Appendix.

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 months of the current financial year 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.

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 midpoint 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 1984	445.2
Index number as at December 1983	442.2

$$\text{Percentage change} = \frac{445.2 - 442.2}{442.2} \times 100 = +0.7\%$$

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

R. J. CAMERON
Australian Statistician

TABLE 1. 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	r354.9	407.2	427.2	373.0	371.7	377.7
1982-83	407.6	392.0	r447.1	r480.2	r407.9	405.5	r413.6
1983-84 p	r433.1	r430.3	r483.1	r519.2	r434.6	r439.4	r445.7
1981-82—							
January	377.4	355.7	402.1	422.6	370.5	367.5	376.2
February	382.5	358.3	420.0	432.6	376.5	377.0	382.7
March	388.6	364.1	423.5	441.5	386.2	385.0	389.3
April	391.4	368.8	425.1	445.2	388.3	391.0	392.5
May	393.1	372.4	427.9	448.7	389.9	393.6	395.1
June	394.9	r374.6	430.0	456.3	392.7	394.4	397.7
1982-83—							
July	397.9	r379.4	434.1	r461.5	397.5	396.4	401.8
August	399.8	381.5	437.3	464.4	402.3	397.1	404.4
September	402.3	384.0	439.8	469.0	403.6	399.9	406.9
October	404.5	383.8	441.6	470.9	404.4	402.8	408.1
November	403.9	385.2	442.6	475.0	405.4	401.2	408.9
December	404.4	387.1	444.4	r476.2	r407.0	400.0	r410.2
January	r405.9	391.8	r446.9	r482.5	r409.8	400.7	r413.4
February	r408.3	396.9	r450.5	r483.8	r411.9	403.8	r416.6
March	r411.5	r401.6	r453.0	r488.3	r412.5	405.8	r419.9
April	r415.5	401.9	r457.9	r494.8	r412.6	415.8	r422.6
May	r416.7	404.6	r458.7	r496.4	r413.3	r419.7	r424.1
June	419.9	406.1	r458.6	r500.3	r414.7	r422.2	r426.2
1983-84—							
July p	421.7	r408.9	r462.7	r502.4	r416.0	r422.6	r428.5
August p	423.7	412.2	r464.0	r503.9	r422.3	r425.9	r431.5
September p	422.7	r414.6	r466.5	r507.7	r424.5	r428.5	r432.9
October p	424.9	r419.8	r470.0	r508.8	r426.6	r428.8	r436.1
November p	r426.0	r422.5	r478.7	r513.4	r431.7	r430.8	r439.5
December p	r428.5	r425.8	r481.9	r516.8	r433.1	r431.8	r442.2
January p	r431.6	r428.1	r485.0	r519.1	r437.7	r434.4	r445.2
February p	r435.4	r435.3	r495.1	r523.5	r438.1	r446.2	r450.5
March p	r441.4	r445.1	r495.9	r529.5	r442.1	r448.4	r456.6
April p	r443.5	r447.3	r496.2	r530.4	r444.4	r448.6	r458.4
May p	r446.9	r450.9	r500.3	r532.2	r448.7	r461.9	r462.2
June p	450.1	r453.0	r501.1	r542.8	r450.4	r464.5	r465.3
1984-85—							
July p	r452.3	r456.6	r501.5	r545.7	r453.5	r465.8	r467.7
August p	r453.4	r458.8	r509.0	r547.2	r453.7	r469.4	r469.8
September p	r456.1	r460.3	r509.3	r550.1	r455.0	r471.4	r471.7
October p	458.1	462.3	509.7	555.0	456.4	486.5	473.9

TABLE 1. PRICE INDEX OF MATERIALS USED IN HOUSE BUILDING—ALL GROUPS—continued

	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Weighted average of six State capital cities
PERCENTAGE CHANGES							
Change from previous year—							
1981-82	+8.8	+9.3	+12.0	+10.6	+10.5	+9.9	+9.8
1982-83	+7.8	+10.5	+9.8	+12.4	+9.4	+9.1	+9.5
1983-84 p	+6.3	+9.8	+8.1	+8.1	+6.5	+8.4	+7.8
Change from corresponding month of previous year—							
1981-82—							
January	+8.8	+9.7	+11.4	+9.6	+10.2	+9.0	+9.7
February	+9.0	+9.4	+12.7	+10.4	+10.3	+11.1	+9.9
March	+9.8	+9.9	+13.0	+11.8	+12.2	+10.8	+10.8
April	+9.7	+10.8	+13.0	+12.6	+12.7	+12.2	+11.2
May	+9.6	+11.1	+13.2	+12.2	+12.7	+12.0	+11.3
June	+9.4	+11.4	+12.9	+13.7	+12.7	+11.7	+11.4
1982-83—							
July	+9.6	+11.7	+11.9	+13.4	+11.4	+11.8	+11.1
August	+9.5	+11.8	+12.1	+13.6	+12.4	+11.8	+11.4
September	+9.7	+12.2	+12.2	+14.1	+11.9	+12.1	+11.5
October	+9.4	+12.7	+12.3	+13.9	+11.4	+12.6	+11.2
November	+8.5	+10.4	+11.7	+13.4	+11.2	+10.6	+10.4
December	+8.4	+10.6	+11.7	+13.2	+10.2	+9.5	+10.2
January	+7.6	+10.1	+11.1	+14.1	+10.6	+9.0	+9.9
February	+6.7	+10.8	+7.3	+11.8	+9.4	+7.1	+8.9
March	+5.9	+10.3	+7.0	+10.6	+6.8	+5.4	+7.9
April	+6.2	+9.0	+7.7	+11.1	+6.0	+6.3	+7.7
May	+6.0	+8.6	+7.2	+10.6	+6.0	+6.6	+7.3
June	+6.3	+8.4	+6.7	+9.6	+5.6	+7.0	+7.2
1983-84—							
July p	+6.0	+7.8	+6.6	+8.9	+4.7	+6.6	+6.6
August p	+6.0	+8.0	+6.1	+8.5	+5.0	+7.3	+6.7
September p	+5.1	+8.0	+6.1	+8.3	+5.2	+7.2	+6.4
October p	+5.0	+9.4	+6.4	+8.0	+5.5	+6.5	+6.9
November p	+5.5	+10.2	+8.2	+8.1	+6.5	+7.4	+7.5
December p	+6.0	+10.0	+8.4	+8.5	+6.4	+7.8	+7.8
January p	+6.3	+9.3	+8.5	+7.6	+6.8	+8.4	+7.7
February p	+6.6	+9.7	+9.9	+8.2	+6.4	+10.5	+8.1
March p	+7.1	+10.8	+9.5	+8.4	+7.2	+10.5	+8.7
April p	+6.7	+11.3	+8.4	+7.2	+7.7	+7.9	+8.5
May p	+7.2	+11.4	+9.1	+7.2	+8.6	+10.1	+9.0
June p	+7.3	+11.5	+8.4	+8.5	+8.6	+10.0	+9.2
1984-85—							
July p	+7.1	+11.7	+8.4	+8.6	+9.0	+10.2	+9.1
August p	+7.0	+11.3	+9.7	+8.6	+7.4	+10.6	+8.9
September p	+7.9	+10.2	+9.2	+8.4	+7.2	+10.0	+9.0
October p	+7.8	+10.1	+8.4	+9.1	+7.0	+13.5	+8.7
Change from previous month—							
1981-82—							
January	+1.1	+1.7	+1.0	+0.5	+0.4	+0.6	+1.1
February	+1.4	+0.7	+4.5	+2.3	+1.6	+2.6	+1.7
March	+1.6	+1.6	+0.8	+2.1	+2.6	+2.1	+1.7
April	+0.7	+1.3	+0.4	+0.8	+0.5	+1.6	+0.8
May	+0.4	+1.0	+0.7	+0.8	+0.4	+0.7	+0.7
June	+0.5	+0.6	+0.5	+1.7	+0.7	+0.2	+0.7
1982-83—							
July	+0.8	+1.3	+1.0	+1.1	+1.2	+0.5	+1.0
August	+0.5	+0.6	+0.7	+0.6	+1.2	+0.2	+0.6
September	+0.6	+0.7	+0.6	+1.0	+0.3	+0.7	+0.6
October	+0.5	+0.1	+0.4	+0.4	+0.2	+0.7	+0.3
November	+0.1	+0.4	+0.2	+0.9	+0.2	+0.4	+0.2
December	+0.1	+0.5	+0.4	+0.3	+0.4	+0.3	+0.3
January	+0.4	+1.2	+0.6	+1.3	+0.7	+0.2	+0.8
February	+0.6	+1.3	+0.8	+0.3	+0.5	+0.8	+0.8
March	+0.8	+1.2	+0.6	+0.9	+0.1	+0.5	+0.8
April	+1.0	+1.0	+1.1	+1.3	—	+2.5	+0.6
May	+0.3	+1.0	+0.2	+0.3	+0.2	+0.9	+0.4
June	+0.8	+0.4	—	+0.8	+0.3	+0.6	+0.5
1983-84—							
July p	+0.4	+0.7	+0.9	+0.4	+0.3	+0.1	+0.5
August p	+0.5	+0.8	+0.3	+0.3	+1.5	+0.8	+0.7
September p	+0.2	+0.6	+0.5	+0.5	+0.5	+0.8	+0.8
October p	+0.5	+1.3	+0.8	+0.2	+0.5	+0.1	+0.7
November p	+0.3	+0.6	+1.9	+0.9	+1.2	+0.5	+0.8
December p	+0.6	+0.8	+0.7	+0.7	+0.3	+0.2	+0.6
January p	+0.7	+0.5	+0.6	+0.4	+1.1	+0.6	+0.7
February p	+0.9	+1.1	+0.7	+0.8	+0.1	+2.7	+1.2
March p	+1.4	+2.3	+0.2	+1.1	+0.9	+0.5	+1.4
April p	+0.5	+0.5	+0.1	+0.2	+0.5	—	+0.4
May p	+0.8	+0.8	+0.8	+0.3	+1.0	+3.0	+0.8
June p	+0.9	+0.5	+0.2	+2.0	+0.4	+0.6	+0.7
1984-85—							
July p	+0.4	+0.8	+0.1	+0.5	+0.7	+0.3	+0.5
August p	+0.2	+0.5	+1.5	+0.3	—	+0.8	+0.4
September p	+0.6	+0.3	+0.1	+0.5	+0.3	+0.4	+0.4
October p	+0.4	+0.4	+0.1	+0.9	+0.3	+3.2	+0.5

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	491.9	373.6	r354.5	385.1	284.5	352.6	407.6	
1983-84 p	514.4	496.4	395.0	r456.0	r525.6	420.7	r380.9	r421.2	296.6	378.4	r433.1	
1983-84—												
August p	507.2	481.0	385.4	r446.5	515.9	411.9	r376.0	r414.1	287.1	368.1	423.7	
September p	503.4	481.5	384.3	r443.1	518.4	412.0	r378.0	r418.4	288.8	370.4	422.7	
October p	508.1	482.2	385.7	r446.2	520.7	412.0	r383.3	r408.8	286.8	373.2	424.9	
November p	513.6	486.0	389.4	r445.7	525.4	404.9	r383.0	r407.6	289.9	375.8	r426.0	
December p	511.3	488.0	393.0	r449.1	528.4	411.0	r383.2	r407.4	288.7	377.2	r428.5	
January p	509.7	493.8	396.5	r454.5	526.2	414.3	r383.2	r407.4	288.7	378.5	r431.6	
February p	516.5	502.6	401.6	r457.7	526.9	419.7	r384.6	r405.4	288.7	381.0	r435.4	
March p	521.2	511.5	402.2	r465.1	527.8	432.7	r382.1	r442.4	294.0	385.3	r441.4	
April p	521.3	512.2	402.2	r469.2	531.2	437.5	r382.5	r443.4	294.0	384.3	r443.5	
May p	525.1	512.8	406.5	r472.7	535.8	444.1	r379.8	r441.7	295.7	389.1	r446.9	
June p	529.4	522.8	413.4	r476.9	r536.7	444.6	r380.4	r442.0	296.4	389.8	450.7	
1984-85—												
July p	529.5	528.1	413.3	r477.7	r534.3	451.0	r384.5	r449.8	298.0	r392.0	r452.3	
August p	531.5	531.0	r413.1	r477.8	r539.5	r452.0	r386.7	r451.8	303.2	r392.3	r453.4	
September p	533.7	532.7	r421.8	r480.6	r539.8	r452.6	r388.5	r451.9	303.2	r392.6	r456.1	
October p	533.3	532.7	422.0	484.5	544.0	453.4	391.5	453.0	303.6	393.0	458.1	
	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
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	352.7	358.2	443.0	352.4	r339.7	348.3	272.4	262.2	322.5	354.9
1982-83	376.2	549.0	409.6	381.9	492.1	386.9	r372.4	400.9	296.9	308.5	r352.3	392.0
1983-84 p	397.7	596.9	458.6	429.9	529.6	421.1	r410.6	459.1	305.9	321.0	r377.3	r430.3
1983-84—												
August p	384.2	589.2	433.2	399.4	516.0	418.0	r400.0	441.8	301.2	320.8	r367.7	r412.2
September p	378.8	589.1	445.8	400.6	522.5	417.5	r403.9	454.3	302.9	320.8	r370.1	r414.6
October p	390.2	590.1	445.8	411.4	526.6	418.5	r405.0	446.6	302.8	320.8	r374.5	r419.8
November p	392.5	590.1	453.4	414.6	530.5	420.2	r407.2	451.2	302.4	320.8	r376.1	r422.5
December p	393.8	590.4	458.3	420.3	534.0	421.3	r407.5	454.1	305.3	321.0	r375.7	r425.8
January p	400.0	590.8	458.3	424.9	536.0	422.2	r408.2	454.0	305.3	321.0	r376.9	r428.1
February p	403.4	598.4	458.3	439.7	534.6	427.9	r408.6	453.0	307.5	321.0	r381.6	r435.3
March p	408.4	617.5	472.9	454.4	532.7	428.1	r421.2	475.7	309.6	321.0	r381.4	r445.1
April p	408.7	616.3	482.3	458.8	534.6	419.0	r419.0	480.2	309.0	321.1	r382.8	r447.3
May p	411.0	616.3	482.3	466.5	536.4	420.3	r423.1	477.7	309.2	321.6	r386.7	r450.9
June p	414.9	604.6	482.6	472.5	537.4	421.6	r423.6	477.7	314.7	321.6	r387.6	r453.0
1984-85—												
July p	431.1	605.4	482.6	479.3	r539.1	418.0	r424.8	479.2	r313.7	321.6	r392.4	r456.6
August p	r433.0	606.8	482.6	483.4	r543.0	415.8	r433.2	486.2	r312.0	321.6	r394.4	r458.8
September p	r434.3	r620.1	483.1	482.9	r543.6	420.0	r431.4	r487.6	r313.2	321.6	r395.1	r460.3
October p	435.7	621.7	490.4	485.8	545.1	413.9	434.6	488.4	310.3	321.6	399.9	462.3

For footnotes see page 10.

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	r531.9	482.3	385.0	366.0	420.8	263.4	r333.1	r447.1	
1983-84 p	502.2	493.6	457.0	r579.3	514.1	405.7	397.0	r470.7	277.9	r357.5	r483.1	
1983-84—												
August p	473.3	476.8	439.4	r551.0	507.3	390.7	392.8	r455.2	272.8	r344.5	r464.0	
September p	484.2	476.9	438.2	r553.8	510.4	393.3	393.5	r464.1	273.0	r347.2	r466.5	
October p	491.2	480.8	438.2	r557.6	509.9	398.6	401.9	r461.6	273.0	r352.4	r470.0	
November p	496.4	489.4	448.1	r572.7	513.4	406.9	400.9	r459.8	276.9	r354.1	r478.7	
December p	497.0	491.0	448.1	r580.0	516.3	406.0	400.9	r466.5	276.9	r355.3	r481.9	
January p	512.8	499.1	448.1	r582.1	516.4	406.1	399.7	r466.5	276.8	r360.2	r485.0	
February p	512.3	504.4	476.2	598.4	516.5	413.2	398.9	r465.2	278.9	r364.6	r495.1	
March p	519.9	503.4	476.2	598.6	518.0	413.1	395.9	r485.8	280.2	r364.3	r495.9	
April p	520.5	502.7	476.2	599.0	516.4	412.8	397.6	r488.0	279.4	r366.7	r496.2	
May p	520.6	509.6	477.7	604.1	519.3	418.6	397.0	r490.0	287.3	r369.2	r500.3	
June p	522.7	511.9	477.7	604.2	520.1	422.0	397.3	r489.7	287.3	r369.8	r501.1	
1984-85—												
July p	522.7	517.0	477.7	r600.9	521.1	426.3	405.1	r488.3	288.9	r371.9	r501.5	
August p	523.7	r521.0	485.1	r615.8	525.7	428.2	408.7	r489.2	r293.4	r373.2	r509.0	
September p	r522.6	r519.6	485.1	r617.0	r524.7	428.8	407.8	r483.5	r295.7	374.0	r509.3	
October p	524.0	519.4	485.1	617.1	524.9	432.1	408.9	487.7	294.4	374.1	509.7	
	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
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%	100.00%
1981-82	437.6	484.7	435.7	481.3	444.5	312.1	362.0	326.3	300.4	379.5	427.2	
1982-83	500.7	569.5	501.3	535.3	499.9	339.1	384.4	371.9	313.7	344.0	425.3	r480.2
1983-84 p	520.7	614.0	550.2	r581.9	r534.8	373.4	420.6	411.6	325.5	358.4	460.5	r519.2
1983-84—												
August p	509.0	584.7	526.4	r563.9	r523.1	372.4	409.2	409.2	322.1	357.0	447.9	r503.9
September p	508.8	584.7	538.6	r567.0	r526.3	378.2	412.7	405.1	323.4	r357.8	450.4	r507.7
October p	508.8	584.7	541.2	r568.0	r526.3	376.2	414.8	404.2	323.8	r357.8	454.9	r508.8
November p	522.8	617.0	541.2	r572.6	r529.5	361.2	427.6	399.9	326.8	r357.8	455.4	r513.4
December p	523.2	617.1	545.9	r579.0	r534.4	362.6	424.6	411.5	322.8	r357.8	456.3	r516.8
January p	522.9	619.5	550.9	r580.3	r536.6	367.8	424.6	411.5	324.6	357.8	460.9	r519.1
February p	528.1	621.6	553.8	r587.1	r536.8	374.8	423.2	411.4	327.5	359.0	464.4	r523.5
March p	526.4	621.6	564.8	r594.9	r539.6	384.4	430.3	432.9	326.5	359.0	469.6	r529.5
April p	526.0	623.1	573.3	r595.7	r542.9	378.8	421.6	420.6	325.2	359.9	468.8	r530.4
May p	525.0	644.8	568.5	r596.9	r549.6	378.6	420.0	409.4	328.9	359.9	473.2	r532.2
June p	537.0	666.5	571.7	r614.8	r550.5	381.0	432.9	411.4	333.5	359.9	478.4	r542.8
1984-85—												
July p	537.3	667.1	571.8	r620.6	r550.4	381.8	437.5	420.0	333.5	359.9	484.4	r545.7
August p	535.6	r668.0	567.6	r626.2	r551.0	385.5	430.3	412.8	337.6	359.9	487.0	r547.2
September p	535.1	r668.9	567.6	r634.8	r549.9	382.1	430.4	413.2	336.5	359.9	487.0	r550.1
October p	534.5	668.6	584.4	639.6	559.0	382.2	430.2	419.7	336.4	359.9	488.0	555.0

For footnotes see page 10.

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	459.9	r433.1	r426.0	461.4	352.7	r405.2	r396.8	247.4	312.6	424.2	r407.9
1983-84 p	r377.2	484.1	468.3	r455.9	r490.8	r368.7	r442.9	r443.4	253.7	333.2	r448.6	r434.6
1983-84—												
August p	r372.9	475.1	455.0	r437.4	r482.8	366.5	r424.9	r438.1	253.4	330.1	429.4	r422.3
September p	r373.6	475.1	456.8	r442.4	r484.6	363.3	r424.9	r439.3	253.4	330.1	424.5	r424.5
October p	r377.9	475.1	456.4	r445.7	r483.7	359.4	r436.2	r433.5	253.7	330.1	r442.2	r426.6
November p	r381.5	483.6	456.4	r455.9	r489.3	364.4	r438.6	r434.5	254.1	332.9	r442.9	r431.7
December p	r380.0	485.8	460.7	r455.9	r491.8	367.6	r439.9	r437.6	254.1	332.9	r444.0	r433.1
January p	r382.2	489.3	475.7	r458.3	r491.1	364.4	r445.5	r439.6	254.1	332.9	r455.0	r437.7
February p	r382.2	489.3	475.4	r458.4	r493.7	364.5	r447.7	r438.0	254.4	332.9	r456.5	r438.1
March p	r386.8	489.3	477.4	r463.3	r495.0	374.0	r455.8	r453.6	254.6	332.9	r460.9	r442.1
April p	r379.3	491.8	477.6	r471.2	r495.7	r374.8	r456.7	r461.7	r252.4	332.9	r462.0	r444.4
May p	r374.1	491.8	491.9	r474.9	r499.4	r377.4	r462.4	r454.8	r253.4	340.1	r465.9	r448.7
June p	r372.2	490.1	493.3	r479.3	r500.4	r379.1	r462.8	r451.7	r253.4	345.9	r466.3	r450.4
1984-85—												
July p	r370.4	490.3	494.3	r482.7	r501.2	r397.7	r465.8	r456.1	254.2	350.6	r468.1	r453.5
August p	r361.5	r493.6	495.1	r482.7	r502.1	r399.0	r460.7	r457.2	259.4	352.0	r470.7	r457.7
September p	r369.0	r492.0	495.1	r484.4	r504.0	r399.0	r464.8	r459.9	259.4	356.4	r468.7	r455.0
October p	380.3	493.3	496.5	485.0	505.2	394.0	469.0	453.9	258.7	359.9	469.5	456.4
HOBART												
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	
1982-83	318.4	425.2	437.3	448.8	464.8	368.2	r397.6	376.4	203.2	391.2	405.5	
1983-84 p	348.7	448.5	462.4	r498.8	r494.8	396.9	r428.2	428.0	212.2	406.4	r439.4	
1983-84—												
August p	339.0	431.0	457.8	475.9	r490.1	390.6	r418.0	413.4	211.4	398.3	r425.9	
September p	340.6	449.6	458.6	477.1	r489.9	392.8	r418.5	420.1	211.6	400.9	r428.5	
October p	343.3	449.6	460.0	r476.2	r491.6	392.2	r423.7	420.0	211.2	402.0	r428.8	
November p	347.7	449.6	460.0	r477.5	r492.9	397.5	r425.7	418.3	211.6	408.4	r430.8	
December p	349.7	449.6	460.0	r477.7	r493.1	398.3	r425.7	423.4	211.6	413.8	r431.8	
January p	349.7	449.6	465.5	r483.1	r493.1	398.1	r425.7	422.8	211.6	413.9	r434.4	
February p	349.7	451.8	465.5	r514.4	r496.2	397.9	r429.5	424.9	212.9	407.0	r446.2	
March p	350.0	451.8	465.5	r515.4	r498.1	401.1	r437.4	443.7	212.7	414.7	r448.4	
April p	356.3	451.8	468.1	r515.6	r498.9	402.5	r439.1	446.3	213.3	407.2	r448.6	
May p	360.2	458.0	473.2	r545.4	r502.4	403.4	r439.1	447.5	213.9	409.9	r461.9	
June p	360.5	458.6	473.2	r552.0	r505.8	404.0	r438.9	446.2	213.5	r407.7	r464.5	
1984-85—												
July p	361.7	459.3	482.9	r552.1	r506.3	404.0	r438.9	452.6	213.0	407.9	r465.8	
August p	361.8	483.8	482.9	r555.8	r506.1	407.0	r442.7	454.0	214.4	408.1	r469.4	
September p	366.5	482.8	483.6	r560.1	r507.0	406.7	r442.7	453.5	214.2	408.3	r471.4	
October p	368.2	482.8	483.6	597.7	506.7	409.6	444.7	455.2	214.5	410.9	466.5	

For footnotes see page 10.

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	374.0	406.8	434.9	343.1	351.5	345.9	263.9	273.1	348.2	377.7
1982-83	430.9	497.2	416.2	434.2	485.4	372.3	437.2	395.8	282.7	317.8	437.4	413.6
1983-84 p	451.3	534.5	446.7	473.3	519.3	405.7	446.4	442.9	291.3	332.5	440.6	445.7
1981-82—												
January	371.5	440.6	372.3	404.7	431.0	341.8	350.4	341.7	264.3	272.8	346.5	376.2
February	376.9	452.6	375.5	412.0	444.6	352.5	353.7	343.2	268.8	273.2	349.4	382.7
March	387.7	453.7	385.9	417.1	450.1	356.8	358.3	359.4	270.6	290.1	355.5	389.3
April	391.6	458.2	391.7	418.9	453.6	357.5	363.4	363.7	276.0	290.6	361.2	392.5
May	393.1	464.3	391.4	422.8	456.8	359.3	363.3	367.0	276.3	290.9	364.0	395.1
June	402.7	467.8	397.4	425.0	462.6	358.7	361.0	364.2	276.9	291.4	363.5	397.7
1982-83—												
July	417.0	474.5	399.3	426.6	468.4	360.8	363.0	364.9	278.3	308.0	367.8	401.8
August	423.1	479.8	402.3	428.1	471.3	364.6	363.5	369.8	280.7	308.4	371.0	404.4
September	425.7	483.8	412.5	429.0	472.6	363.1	366.4	382.0	281.4	308.7	371.7	406.9
October	425.8	490.8	413.3	429.0	475.3	363.7	367.6	385.6	281.7	309.2	373.1	408.1
November	422.0	492.9	415.0	429.1	479.6	366.8	367.7	387.6	282.0	309.2	374.8	408.9
December	428.6	497.1	415.0	428.8	484.2	369.8	369.1	398.9	282.2	309.4	374.9	410.2
January	438.6	500.5	420.0	431.8	487.2	370.2	374.7	400.2	282.6	310.5	374.9	413.4
February	439.2	506.9	421.6	433.2	489.2	375.0	376.3	403.0	282.6	329.1	378.2	416.6
March	439.5	509.6	423.5	438.3	494.8	377.6	377.7	405.3	283.2	329.7	382.8	419.9
April	436.0	509.8	424.0	443.4	496.8	382.1	381.7	408.9	284.7	329.9	385.4	422.6
May	436.7	510.4	424.1	445.3	498.5	387.2	383.7	413.2	285.3	330.1	387.3	424.1
June	438.9	510.7	423.3	448.3	504.3	387.9	387.3	429.9	286.9	331.0	387.3	426.2
1983-84—												
July p	438.8	514.4	425.2	450.0	507.4	396.0	394.8	433.3	287.2	331.0	388.2	428.5
August p	440.3	520.8	430.5	452.7	509.2	399.3	396.9	432.0	287.6	331.7	390.7	431.5
September p	439.2	521.2	434.6	453.2	512.8	399.6	399.0	438.4	288.9	331.7	394.3	432.9
October p	445.1	522.3	435.3	458.6	514.4	399.8	404.4	431.8	288.8	331.8	400.0	436.1
November p	445.3	528.5	439.4	463.0	518.6	398.8	406.2	432.5	289.7	332.2	402.4	439.5
December p	449.8	529.6	443.1	467.4	521.8	401.6	406.4	435.6	290.3	332.4	403.6	442.2
January p	453.0	533.3	447.9	471.4	521.9	402.8	407.5	435.9	290.4	332.4	408.1	445.2
February p	456.4	539.2	452.4	480.3	522.2	407.7	408.4	434.6	291.7	332.7	411.9	450.5
March p	460.6	547.7	457.8	488.8	522.6	414.3	412.8	459.9	294.1	332.6	415.5	456.6
April p	459.2	547.9	461.0	492.7	524.3	413.0	412.1	462.5	293.4	333.0	415.7	458.4
May p	459.7	550.8	465.1	498.1	527.8	416.7	413.2	459.6	295.2	334.0	420.9	462.2
June p	463.2	551.4	468.2	503.5	528.8	418.1	414.7	459.2	297.9	334.6	422.1	465.3
1984-85—												
July p	466.8	554.0	468.5	506.5	528.9	422.0	418.2	463.2	298.2	335.2	425.9	467.7
August p	465.9	556.9	468.9	510.1	532.4	423.5	420.1	465.8	300.3	335.4	427.4	469.8
September p	468.4	561.2	472.1	512.0	532.7	424.6	420.9	466.0	300.9	335.9	427.7	471.7
October p	471.2	561.9	475.8	516.0	535.3	422.9	423.7	466.6	299.7	336.3	429.6	473.9

For footnote see page 10.

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—												
1981-82—												
January	+10.1	+13.6	+11.3	+7.8	+10.6	+10.2	+10.3	+8.6	+10.4	+12.0	+8.6	+9.7
February	+10.9	+15.7	+10.3	+8.0	+13.1	+12.0	+7.8	+7.8	+10.0	+10.9	+8.2	+9.9
March	+13.2	+15.5	+11.8	+8.5	+13.9	+11.6	+8.9	+12.6	+10.0	+16.5	+8.8	+10.8
April	+13.9	+15.5	+13.2	+8.5	+14.1	+10.5	+10.0	+13.3	+11.9	+16.6	+10.3	+11.2
May	+14.1	+15.9	+11.4	+9.0	+14.2	+11.0	+9.5	+14.3	+11.5	+16.6	+10.0	+11.3
June	+15.6	+15.9	+12.4	+9.3	+14.4	+10.2	+8.7	+11.7	+11.0	+16.3	+9.2	+11.4
1982-83—												
July	+16.6	+14.9	+11.5	+8.6	+13.8	+10.5	+7.6	+12.0	+10.3	+20.7	+10.0	+11.1
August	+17.7	+15.7	+12.2	+8.7	+13.7	+11.1	+6.0	+10.6	+11.0	+20.8	+10.4	+11.4
September	+18.3	+15.4	+14.8	+8.6	+13.3	+9.8	+5.9	+13.9	+10.4	+20.4	+9.8	+11.5
October	+18.8	+15.8	+14.6	+8.0	+12.2	+9.3	+6.1	+15.2	+10.1	+20.5	+9.2	+11.2
November	+16.6	+15.7	+13.0	+7.3	+12.7	+9.6	+6.0	+14.3	+9.5	+13.6	+9.1	+10.4
December	+17.6	+16.3	+12.0	+6.9	+13.1	+9.4	+6.3	+16.5	+8.6	+13.5	+8.8	+10.2
January	+18.0	+13.6	+12.8	+6.7	+13.0	+8.3	+6.9	+17.1	+6.9	+13.8	+8.2	+9.9
February	+16.5	+12.0	+12.3	+5.1	+10.5	+6.4	+5.1	+17.4	+5.1	+20.5	+8.2	+8.9
March	+13.3	+12.3	+9.7	+5.1	+9.9	+5.8	+4.7	+13.7	+4.7	+13.7	+7.7	+7.9
April	+11.4	+11.3	+8.2	+5.8	+9.5	+6.9	+5.0	+12.4	+3.2	+13.5	+6.7	+7.7
May	+11.1	+9.9	+8.4	+5.3	+9.1	+7.8	+5.6	+12.6	+3.3	+13.5	+6.4	+7.3
June	+8.9	+9.2	+6.5	+5.5	+9.0	+8.1	+7.3	+18.0	+3.6	+13.6	+6.5	+7.2
1983-84—												
July p	+5.2	+8.4	+6.5	+5.5	+8.3	+9.8	+8.8	+18.7	+3.2	+7.5	+5.5	+6.6
August p	+4.1	+8.5	+7.0	+5.7	+8.0	+9.5	+9.2	+16.8	+2.5	+7.6	+5.3	+6.7
September p	+3.2	+7.7	+5.4	+5.6	+8.5	+10.1	+8.9	+14.8	+2.7	+7.5	+6.1	+6.4
October p	+4.5	+6.4	+5.3	+6.9	+8.2	+9.9	+10.0	+12.0	+2.5	+7.3	+7.2	+6.9
November p	+6.7	+7.2	+5.9	+7.9	+8.1	+8.7	+10.5	+11.6	+2.7	+7.4	+7.4	+7.5
December p	+4.9	+6.5	+6.8	+9.0	+7.8	+8.9	+10.1	+9.2	+2.9	+7.4	+7.7	+7.8
January p	+3.3	+6.6	+6.6	+9.2	+7.1	+8.8	+8.8	+8.9	+2.8	+7.1	+8.9	+7.7
February p	+3.9	+6.4	+7.3	+10.9	+6.3	+8.7	+8.5	+7.8	+3.2	+1.1	+8.9	+8.1
March p	+4.8	+7.5	+8.1	+11.5	+5.6	+9.7	+9.3	+13.5	+3.8	+0.9	+8.5	+8.7
April p	+5.3	+7.5	+8.7	+11.1	+5.5	+8.1	+8.0	+13.1	+3.1	+0.9	+7.9	+8.5
May p	+5.3	+7.9	+9.7	+11.9	+5.9	+7.6	+7.7	+11.2	+3.5	+1.2	+8.7	+9.0
June p	+5.5	+8.0	+10.6	+12.3	+4.9	+7.8	+7.1	+6.8	+3.8	+1.1	+8.9	+9.2
1984-85—												
July p	+6.4	+7.7	+10.2	+12.6	+4.2	+6.8	+5.9	+6.9	+3.8	+1.3	+9.7	+9.1
August p	+5.8	+6.9	+8.9	+12.7	+4.6	+6.1	+5.9	+7.8	+4.4	+1.1	+9.4	+8.9
September p	+6.7	+7.7	+8.6	+13.0	+3.9	+6.3	+5.5	+6.3	+4.2	+1.3	+8.5	+9.0
October p	+5.9	+7.6	+9.3	+12.5	+4.1	+5.8	+4.8	+8.1	+3.8	+1.4	+7.4	+8.7

For footnote see page 10.

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

Value weight (a)	Concrete mix, cement and sand 5.73%	Cement products 8.10%	Clay bricks, tiles, etc. 12.85%	Timber, board and joinery 36.16%	Steel products 5.86%	Other metal products 7.20%	Plumbing fixtures, etc. 3.74%	Electrical installation materials 1.63%	Installed appliances 5.13%	Plaster and plaster products 5.64%	Miscellaneous materials 7.96%	All groups 100.00%
Change from previous month—												
1981-82—												
January	+1.9	+3.1	+0.5	+0.9	+0.7	+1.4	+0.9	-0.2	+1.7	+0.1	+0.5	+1.1
February	+1.5	+2.7	+0.9	+1.8	+3.2	+3.1	+0.9	+0.4	+1.7	+0.1	+0.8	+1.7
March	+2.9	+0.2	+2.8	+1.2	+1.2	+1.2	+1.3	+4.7	+0.7	+6.2	+1.7	+1.7
April	+1.0	+1.0	+1.5	+0.4	+0.8	+0.2	+1.4	+1.2	+2.0	+0.2	+1.6	+0.8
May	+0.4	+1.3	-0.1	+0.9	+0.7	+0.5	—	+0.9	+0.1	+0.1	+0.8	+0.7
June	+2.4	+0.8	+1.5	+0.5	+1.3	-0.2	-0.6	+0.7	+0.2	+0.2	-0.1	+0.7
1982-83—												
July	+3.6	+1.4	+0.5	+0.4	+1.3	+0.6	+0.6	+0.2	+0.5	+5.7	+1.2	+1.0
August	+1.5	+1.1	+0.8	+0.4	+0.6	+1.1	+0.1	+1.3	+0.9	+0.1	+0.9	+0.6
September	+0.6	+0.8	+2.5	+0.2	+0.3	-0.4	+0.8	+3.3	+0.2	+0.1	+0.2	+0.6
October	—	+1.4	+0.2	—	-0.6	+0.2	+0.3	+0.9	+0.1	+0.2	+0.4	+0.3
November	-0.9	+0.4	+0.4	—	+0.9	+0.9	—	+0.5	+0.1	—	+0.5	+0.2
December	+1.6	+0.9	—	+0.1	+1.0	+0.5	+0.4	+2.9	+0.1	+0.1	—	+0.3
January	+2.3	+0.7	+1.2	+0.7	+0.6	+0.4	+1.5	+0.3	+0.1	+0.4	—	+0.8
February	+0.2	+1.3	+0.4	+0.3	+0.8	+1.3	+0.4	+0.7	—	+6.0	+0.9	+0.8
March	+0.1	+0.5	+0.5	+1.2	+0.7	+0.7	+0.4	+0.6	+0.2	+0.2	+1.2	+0.8
April	-0.8	—	+0.1	+1.2	+0.4	+1.2	+1.1	+0.9	+0.5	+0.1	+0.7	+0.6
May	+0.1	+0.1	—	+0.4	+0.3	+1.3	+0.5	+1.1	+0.2	+0.1	+0.5	+0.4
June	+0.5	+0.1	-0.2	+0.7	+1.2	+0.2	+0.9	+4.0	+0.6	+0.3	—	+0.5
1983-84—												
July p	—	+0.7	+0.4	+0.4	+0.6	+2.1	+1.9	+0.8	+0.1	—	+0.2	+0.5
August p	+0.3	+1.2	+1.2	+0.6	+0.4	+0.8	+0.5	-0.3	+0.1	+0.2	+0.6	+0.7
September p	-0.2	+0.1	+1.0	+0.1	+0.7	+0.1	+0.5	+1.5	+0.5	—	+0.9	+0.3
October p	+1.3	+0.2	+0.2	+1.2	+0.3	+0.1	+1.4	-1.5	—	—	+1.4	+0.7
November p	+1.2	+0.2	+0.9	+1.0	+0.8	-0.3	+0.5	+0.2	+0.3	+0.1	+0.6	+0.8
December p	-0.1	+0.2	+0.8	+1.0	+0.6	+0.7	—	+0.7	+0.2	+0.1	+0.3	+0.6
January p	+0.7	+0.7	+1.1	+0.9	—	+0.3	+0.3	+0.1	—	—	+1.1	+0.7
February p	+0.8	+1.1	+1.0	+1.9	+0.1	+1.2	-0.2	-0.3	-0.4	+0.1	+0.9	+1.2
March p	+0.9	+1.6	+1.2	+1.8	+0.1	+1.6	+1.1	+5.8	+0.8	—	+0.9	+1.4
April p	-0.3	+0.7	+0.8	+0.3	-0.3	-0.3	-0.2	+0.6	-0.2	+0.1	—	+0.4
May p	+0.1	+0.5	+0.9	+1.1	+0.7	+0.9	+0.3	-0.6	+0.6	+0.3	+1.3	+0.8
June p	+0.8	+0.1	+0.7	+1.1	+0.2	+0.3	+0.4	-0.1	+0.9	+0.2	+0.3	+0.7
1984-85—												
July p	+0.8	+0.5	+0.1	+0.6	—	+1.1	+0.8	+0.9	+0.1	+0.2	+0.9	+0.5
August p	-0.2	+0.1	+0.1	+0.7	+0.7	+0.3	+0.5	+0.6	+0.7	+0.1	+0.4	+0.4
September p	+0.5	+0.8	+0.7	+0.4	+0.1	+0.2	+0.2	+0.2	+0.1	+0.1	+0.1	+0.4
October p	+0.6	+0.1	+0.8	+0.8	+0.5	-0.4	+0.7	+0.1	-0.4	+0.1	+0.4	+0.5

(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.

APPENDIX

PRICE INDEX OF MATERIALS USED IN HOUSE BUILDING (6408.0)

This appendix contains revisions to several series of index numbers. These revisions are necessary because the ABS has discovered that the original information reported about prices of a number of building materials was incorrect. It is standard ABS practice that wherever corrected prices are obtained after publication of index numbers based on incorrect prices the index numbers affected are revised.

2. In common with all the price indexes published by the ABS, this index aims to reflect changes in *actual transactions prices*—that is the prices actually paid by building contractors or subcontractors to suppliers for materials delivered on building sites. The actual price paid for anything can 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 (a particular type of) discount' and so on. It is these *net prices* that buyers pay to sellers for materials which the ABS aims to use in compiling this price index.

3. 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 ways in which they are applied by sellers pose considerable problems for the ABS. In 1983 the ABS became aware that prices being reported for many building materials were no longer reflecting a range of discounts, particularly competitive discounts, being offered to buyers. As a result the ABS has had to carry out an extensive review of prices previously reported for a number of materials.

4. So far investigations for the following materials have been carried out and revisions published in the various issues shown:

- **July 1983 issue—**
 - galvanised steel decking and cladding
 - concrete masonry blocks
- **March 1984 issue—**
 - clay bricks
 - timber windows
- **April 1984 issue—**
 - hardwood
 - softwood
 - hinges, catches, handles, etc.
 - nails, screws, etc.
 - insulation and building paper
- **July 1984 issue—**
 - aluminium windows, doors, etc.
 - fibrous plaster sheet and products
 - plaster board
 - hard plaster
- **August and September 1984 issue—**
 - paint
 - ceramic wall tiles
 - ceramic and vinyl floor tiles
 - concrete masonry blocks
 - hot water services
 - galvanised steel pipes and fittings
 - earthenware pipes and fittings
 - asbestos cement sheets

• **October 1984 issue (see following tables)—**

- sand
- timber doors and frames
- galvanised steel downpipe and guttering
- toilet suites
- handbasins
- sinks
- baths
- switchboards
- plastic pipes and fittings

5. Investigations into the accuracy of prices reported for a number of other materials are still in progress. Revisions to index numbers resulting from these investigations are expected to appear progressively in future issues of this publication during the next few months.

6. The size and number of revisions shown in the following tables varies between cities. Most of the revisions are downwards and most are quite small. Ninety-five per cent of the reductions are less than one per cent on the previously published index numbers. All the rest of the reductions are in the range of one per cent to two per cent. The tables detail revised index numbers for each city affected and for the weighted average of the six State capital cities.

7. Errors in prices which affect published index numbers in this issue have been detected as far back as January 1982 in some cases. Thus, the revisions affect not only the periods for which index numbers have been marked as 'p' (preliminary) in previous issues of this publication but for many earlier periods as well. The tables to this appendix show revised index numbers back to the earliest months affected for each index series. In other words where an index number is shown in these tables for a particular period there has been a revision. Conversely, if no index number is shown beside a particular month in the tables to this Appendix the index number for that series for that period has not been revised. For example, an index number of 405.9 is shown for All groups for Sydney against January 1983 (see table A1). This means that the January 1983 index number for All groups for Sydney has been revised. No index number is shown against December 1982 for All groups for Sydney. This means that the index number previously published for that month has not been revised.

8. Broader group index numbers can be affected by revisions to any of their component items. Therefore in those cases where the investigations into prices for only some of the components of a published group (e.g. Other metal products or All groups) have been finalised the present index numbers may be revised again a number of times in subsequent issues of this publication as corrected prices become available for different component materials.

9. The ABS is aware that these index numbers are used for a variety of purposes including escalation provisions in contracts and that parties who have used previously published index numbers may be inconvenienced by these revisions. The necessity for revisions arose because of incorrect reporting of prices to the ABS. When it is discovered that published statistical series are incorrect, the ABS has no alternative but to investigate the errors and publish revised figures.

TABLE A1. PRICE INDEX OF MATERIALS USED IN HOUSE BUILDING
REVISED INDEX NUMBERS(a)
SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE
(Base of each index: Year 1966-67 = 100.0)

	Sydney				Melbourne		
	All Groups Table No. 1	Timber Board and Joinery Table No. 2	Plumbing Fixtures etc. Table No. 2	Electrical Installation Materials Table No. 2	All Groups Table No. 1	Plumbing Fixtures etc. Table No. 2	Miscellaneous Materials Table No. 2
1981-82					354.9	339.7	
1982-83			354.5			372.4	352.3
1983-84	433.1	456.0	380.9	421.2	430.3	410.6	377.3
1981-82—							
January						334.8	
February						341.8	
March						348.0	
April						357.5	
May						357.4	
June					374.6	359.6	
1982-83—							
July					379.4	361.1	
August						362.1	
September			350.1			366.9	
October			351.8			366.9	
November			350.5			366.9	
December			350.4			368.0	
January	405.9		353.7			371.8	
February	408.3		355.5			374.0	
March	411.5	430.6	356.0		401.6	374.8	359.3
April	415.5	437.5	360.2			381.3	361.1
May	416.7	438.4	362.7			382.2	364.6
June		444.4	364.6			392.2	365.2
1983-84—							
July		445.6	375.1	416.2	408.9	400.1	366.7
August		446.5	376.0	414.1		400.0	367.7
September		443.1	378.0	418.4	414.6	403.9	370.1
October		446.2	383.3	408.8	419.8	405.0	374.5
November	426.0	445.7	383.0	407.6	422.5	407.2	376.1
December	428.5	449.1	383.2	407.4	425.8	407.5	375.7
January	431.6	454.5	383.2	407.4	428.1	408.2	376.9
February	435.4	457.7	384.6	405.4	435.3	408.6	381.6
March	441.4	465.1	382.1	442.4	445.1	421.2	381.4
April	443.5	469.2	382.5	443.4	447.3	419.0	382.8
May	446.9	472.7	379.8	441.7	450.9	423.1	386.7
June		476.9	380.4	442.0	453.0	423.6	387.6
1984-85—							
July	452.3	477.7	384.5	449.8	456.6	424.8	392.4
August	453.4	477.8	386.7	451.8	458.8	433.2	394.4
September	456.1	480.6	388.5	451.9	460.3	431.4	395.1

(a) Where no index number appears for a particular year or month the index number previously published has not been revised.

TABLE A2. PRICE INDEX OF MATERIALS USED IN HOUSE BUILDING
REVISED INDEX NUMBERS(a)
BRISBANE AND ADELAIDE
(Base of each index: Year 1966-67 = 100.0)

	Brisbane				Adelaide		
	All Groups Table No. 1	Timber Board and Joinery Table No. 2	Electrical Installation Materials Table No. 2	Other Materials Table No. 2	All Groups Table No. 1	Timber Board and Joinery Table No. 2	Steel Products Table No. 2
1981-82							
1982-83	447.1	531.9		333.1	480.2	535.1	498.7
1983-84	483.1	579.3	470.7	357.5	519.2	581.9	534.8
1981-82— January							
February							
March							
April							
May							
June							
1982-83— July					461.5		481.7
August							486.5
September				327.2			488.0
October				328.6			488.6
November				330.1			494.2
December				330.3	476.2		500.3
January	446.9			329.4	482.5		502.6
February	450.5	532.5		336.6	483.8		504.3
March	453.0	535.1		341.1	488.3		506.2
April	457.9	546.3		341.8	494.8		507.0
May	458.7	546.4		341.3	496.4		506.8
June	458.6	547.0	451.1	340.1	500.3	561.8	517.8
1983-84— July	462.7	550.0	456.5	341.1	502.4	562.3	522.2
August	464.0	551.0	455.2	344.5	503.9	563.9	523.1
September	466.5	553.8	464.1	347.2	507.7	567.0	526.3
October	470.0	557.6	461.6	352.4	508.8	568.0	526.3
November	478.7	572.7	459.8	354.1	513.4	572.6	529.5
December	481.9	580.0	466.5	355.3	516.8	579.0	534.4
January	485.0	582.1	466.5	360.2	519.1	580.3	536.6
February	495.1		465.2	364.6	523.5	587.1	536.8
March	495.9		485.8	364.3	529.5	594.9	539.6
April	496.2		488.0	366.7	530.4	595.7	542.9
May	500.3		490.0	369.2	532.2	596.9	549.6
June	501.1		489.7	369.8	542.8	614.8	550.5
1984-85— July	501.5		488.3	371.9	545.7	620.6	550.4
August	509.0		489.2	373.2	547.2	626.2	551.0
September	509.3		483.5		550.1	634.8	549.9

(a) Where no index number appears for a particular year or month the index number previously published has not been revised.

TABLE A3. PRICE INDEX OF MATERIALS USED IN HOUSE BUILDING
REVISED INDEX NUMBERS(a)
PERTH
(Base of each index : Year 1966-67 = 100.0)

	All Groups Table No. 1	Concrete mix Cement and Sand Table No. 2	Timber Board and Joinery Table No. 2	Steel Products Table No. 2	Plumbing Fixtures etc. Table No. 2	Electrical Installation Materials Table No. 2	Miscellaneous Materials Table No. 2
1981-82							
1982-83	407.9		426.0		405.2	396.8	
1983-84	434.6	377.2	455.9	490.8	442.9	443.4	448.6
1981-82—							
January							
February							
March							
April							
May							
June							
1982-83—							
July					391.8		
August					392.5		
September					394.1	387.3	
October					396.5	390.1	
November					398.4	390.8	
December	407.0		425.2		404.3	398.9	
January	409.8		426.0		408.7	398.2	
February	411.9		426.4		411.1	401.3	
March	412.5		427.6	470.0	414.0	402.9	
April	412.6		429.2	471.7	416.2	408.4	429.1
May	413.3		427.6	472.2	416.4	414.9	429.1
June	414.7		427.6	479.9	417.9	429.7	424.0
1983-84—							
July	416.0		428.2	482.1	419.8	438.4	424.6
August	422.3	372.6	437.4	482.8	424.9	438.1	
September	424.5	373.6	442.4	484.6	424.9	439.3	434.0
October	426.6	377.9	445.7	483.7	436.2	433.5	442.2
November	431.7	381.5	455.9	489.3	438.6	434.5	442.9
December	433.1	380.0	455.9	491.8	439.9	437.6	444.0
January	437.7	382.2	458.3	491.1	445.5	439.6	455.0
February	438.1	382.2	458.4	493.7	447.7	438.0	456.5
March	442.1	386.8	463.3	495.0	455.8	453.6	460.9
April	444.4	379.3	471.2	495.7	456.7	461.7	462.0
May	448.7	374.1	474.9	499.4	462.4	454.8	465.9
June	450.4	372.2	479.3	500.4	462.8	451.7	466.3
1984-85—							
July	453.5	370.4	482.7	501.2	465.8	456.1	468.1
August	453.7	361.5	482.7	502.1	460.7	457.2	470.7
September	455.0	369.0	484.4	504.0	464.8	459.9	468.7

(a) Where no index number appears for a particular year or month the index number previously published has not been revised.

TABLE A4. PRICE INDEX OF MATERIALS USED IN HOUSE BUILDING
REVISED INDEX NUMBERS(a)
HOBART

(Base of each index : Year 1966-67 = 100.0)

	All Groups Table No. 1	Timber Board and Joinery Table No. 2	Steel Products Table No. 2	Plumbing Fixtures etc. Table No. 2	Other Materials Table No. 2
1981-82					
1982-83				397.6	
1983-84	439.4	498.8	494.8	428.2	
1981-82—					
January					
February					
March					
April					
May					
June					
1982-83—					
July					
August					
September					
October					
November					
December					
January					
February					
March					
April			472.0		
May	419.7		472.5	402.3	
June	422.2		477.0	402.3	
1983-84—					
July	422.6		485.1	417.4	
August	425.9		490.1	418.0	
September	428.5		489.9	418.5	
October	428.8	476.2	491.6	423.7	
November	430.8	477.5	492.9	425.7	
December	431.8	477.7	493.1	425.7	
January	434.4	483.1	493.1	425.7	
February	446.2	514.4	496.2	429.5	
March	448.4	515.4	498.1	437.4	
April	448.6	515.6	498.9	439.1	
May	461.9	545.4	502.4	439.1	
June	464.5	552.0	505.8	438.9	407.7
1984-85—					
July	465.8	552.1	506.3	438.9	
August	469.4	555.8	506.1	442.7	
September	471.4	560.1	507.0	442.7	

(a) Where no index number appears for a particular year or month the index number previously published has not been revised.

TABLE A5. PRICE INDEX OF MATERIALS USED IN HOUSE BUILDING
REVISED INDEX NUMBERS(a)
WEIGHTED AVERAGE OF SIX STATE CAPITAL CITIES
(Base of each index : Year 1966-67 = 100.0)

	<i>All Groups Table No. 1</i>	<i>Concrete mix Cement and Sand Table No. 2</i>	<i>Timber Board and Joinery Table No. 2</i>	<i>Steel Products Table No. 2</i>	<i>Plumbing Fixtures etc. Table No. 2</i>	<i>Electrical Installation Materials Table No. 2</i>	<i>Miscellaneous Materials Table No. 2</i>
1981-82							
1982-83	413.6		434.2	485.4	373.2		377.4
1983-84	445.7	451.3	473.3	519.3	406.4	442.9	406.1
1981-82—							
January					350.4		
February							
March					358.3		
April					363.4		
May					363.3		
June					361.0		
1982-83—							
July					363.0		
August					363.5		
September					366.4		
October				475.3	367.6	385.6	
November				479.6	367.7		374.8
December	410.2		428.8	484.2	369.1		374.9
January	413.4		431.8	487.2	374.7		374.9
February	416.6		433.2	491.2	376.3		378.2
March	419.9		438.3	494.8	377.7		382.8
April	422.6		443.4	496.8	381.7		385.4
May	424.1		445.3	498.5	383.7	413.2	387.3
June	426.2		448.3	504.3	387.3	429.9	387.3
1983-84—							
July	428.5		450.0	507.4	394.8	433.3	388.2
August	431.5	440.3	452.7	509.2	396.9	432.0	390.7
September	432.9		453.2	512.8	399.0	438.4	394.3
October	436.1	445.1	458.6	514.4	404.4	431.8	400.0
November	439.5	450.3	463.0	518.6	406.2	432.5	402.4
December	442.2	449.8	467.4	521.8	406.4	435.6	403.6
January	445.2	453.0	471.4	521.9	407.5	435.9	408.1
February	450.5	456.4	480.3	522.2	408.4	434.6	411.9
March	456.6	460.6	488.8	522.6	412.8	459.9	415.5
April	458.4	459.2	492.7	524.3	412.1	462.5	415.7
May	462.2	459.7	498.1	527.8	413.2	459.6	420.9
June	465.3	463.2	503.5	528.8	414.7	459.2	422.1
1984-85—							
July	467.7	466.8	506.5	528.9	418.2	463.2	425.9
August		465.9	510.1	532.4	420.1	465.8	427.4
September	471.7	468.4	512.0	532.7	420.9	466.0	427.7

(a) Where no index number appears for a particular year or month the index number previously published has not been revised.