

WHOLESALE PRICE INDEXES

PRICE INDEX OF MATERIALS USED IN HOUSE BUILDING
MAY 1976

SUMMARY OF RESULTS					
State capital cities	Percentage change between -		Weighted average of six State capital cities Groups and all groups	Percentage change between -	
	Apr. 76 and May 76	May 75 and May 76		Apr. 76 and May 76	May 75 and May 76
Sydney	+1.4	+11.7	Concrete mix, cement and sand	+1.1	+16.1
Melbourne	+1.2	+13.1	Cement products	+0.7	+16.2
Brisbane	+0.8	+16.0	Clay bricks, tiles, etc.	+1.6	+14.8
Adelaide	+2.5	+15.9	Timber, board and joinery	+1.0	+11.9
Perth	+0.8	+16.9	Steel products	+1.3	+21.1
Hobart	+0.9	+15.3	Other metal products	+1.8	+12.3
Weighted average of six State capital cities	+1.3	+13.9	Plumbing fixtures, etc.	+2.1	+16.1
			Electrical installation materials	+2.8	+14.1
			Installed appliances	+1.9	+14.2
			Plaster and plaster products	+0.8	+10.1
			Miscellaneous materials	+1.8	+15.1
			All groups	+1.3	+13.9

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

This bulletin contains index numbers of the Price Index of Materials used in House Building. A detailed description of the index is contained in *Labour Report* No. 58, 1973 (pp. 57-69). A Price Index of Materials used in Building other than House Building is published in a separate bulletin (Reference No. 9.6). *Index numbers for the current month and the previous month are preliminary and subject to revision.*

Scope and composition

2. The index measures changes in prices of selected materials used in the construction of houses. Its composition is in accordance with the usage of materials in actual houses which were selected as representative for the purpose. The index does not purport to represent buildings of any kind other than houses. The house building construction types included are those which use brick, brick veneer, timber or asbestos cement sheeting as the principal material for the outer walls.

Base period and method of calculation

3. The reference base of the index is the year 1966-67 = 100.0. The index is a fixed weights index and is calculated by the method known as the *weighted arithmetic mean of price relatives*.

Derivation of items and weights

4. The items and weights used in the index were derived from reported values of each material used in selected representative houses constructed in or about 1968-69 in each State capital city. Each State capital city has an individual weighting pattern which reflects the difference in the estimated relative importance of given items as between cities. In all cases the selection of materials was based on local usage. The weighting pattern for each capital city is applied to local price measures in calculating indexes for that city. The weights for groups of items are shown in Table 3. Further details concerning the weighting pattern are contained in *Labour Report* No. 58, 1973 (Reference No. 6.7).

Prices

5. Price series used relate to specified standards of each commodity with the aim of incorporating in the index price changes for representative materials of constant quality.

6. In general the point of pricing is *delivered on site*, but in some cases it has been necessary to use the nearest realistic price available, e.g. that for *supplied and fixed*. The price series are obtained in all State capital cities from representative suppliers of materials used in

house building. In the main they are collected as at the mid-point of the month to which the index refers, or as near thereto as practicable.

7. As far as possible, actual transaction prices are used in the index as distinct from *list* prices. Thus measures of special or other discounts are sought where these are believed to be significant. To the extent that they can be determined, significant changes in special discounts are incorporated in the index but this may sometimes be on a partly estimated basis, and may sometimes necessitate revisions.

Index numbers

8. The index has been compiled for each month from July 1966, and for the financial years from 1966-67. Index numbers for the financial years are simple averages of the relative monthly index numbers. Index numbers for each State capital city and for the weighted average of the six capitals are given for all groups combined in Table 1 and for each group of items in Table 3. The separate city indexes measure price movements within each capital city individually. They enable comparisons to be drawn between capitals as to differences in degree of price movement from period to period, but not as to differences in price level.

Percentage changes

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

Sydney —

Index number as at May 1976 221.7 (see Table 1)

Index number as at Apr. 1976 218.6 (see Table 1)

$$\text{Percentage change} = \frac{221.7 - 218.6}{218.6} \times 100 = 1.4\%$$

Interpretation

10. In interpreting movements in the index, particularly those from month to month, it should be noted that changes frequently occur in an uneven fashion both over time and also, between separate capital cities, at the same points of time. Changes in index numbers for individual months should not be interpreted in isolation and without reference to changes over longer periods.

Other A.B.S. publications

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

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

Symbols used

- p — preliminary, subject to revision.
- r — revised.

NOTE: *Inquiries concerning these statistics may be made in Canberra by telephoning Mr Martin Van der Hoeek on 52 5541 or, in each State capital, by telephoning the office of the Australian Bureau of Statistics.*

TABLE 1. - PRICE INDEX OF MATERIALS USED IN HOUSE BUILDING
ALL GROUPS INDEX NUMBERS - SIX STATE CAPITAL CITIES
(Base of each Index : Year 1966-67 = 100.0) (a)

Period	State capital cities						Weighted average of six State capital cities
	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	
1972-73	135.6	126.5	133.8	134.8	126.9	130.8	131.1
1973-74	158.0	147.8	152.2	157.2	141.8	145.5	151.3
1974-75	189.4	178.4	187.0	195.4	172.4	179.1	183.4
1974-75							
April	197.7	184.8	196.2	203.1	180.8	190.8	191.2
May	198.5	186.2	198.8	204.5	183.1	191.6	192.7
June	199.6	189.2	202.1	208.8	185.3	193.1	195.1
1975-76							
July	201.1	191.1	204.1	210.7	188.1	194.3	197.1
August	203.5	192.1	205.3	212.4	191.8	196.4	199.0
September	204.4	193.6	207.0	213.9	193.2	201.1	200.4
October	205.4	194.7	212.0	215.7	196.5	206.4	202.4
November	207.5	196.3	217.1	218.1	198.3	207.1	204.6
December	208.8	197.6	217.5	220.9	199.9	207.8	206.0
January	210.8	199.1	219.5	221.8	201.6	208.1	207.7
February	211.6	200.8	221.0	223.2	203.6	209.5	209.1
March	215.3	204.2	225.2	225.8	206.0	216.1	212.5
April p	218.6	208.1	228.9	231.3	212.4	218.9	216.7
May p	221.7	210.7	230.7	237.0	214.0	220.9	219.5

(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.

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

PERCENTAGE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS PERIOD

Period	State capital cities						Weighted average of six State capital cities
	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Percentage change from previous year -							
1972-73	+ 7.5	+ 6.4	+ 7.2	+ 8.0	+ 4.8	+ 8.4	+ 6.8
1973-74	+16.5	+16.8	+13.8	+16.6	+11.7	+11.2	+15.4
1974-75	+19.9	+20.7	+22.9	+24.3	+21.6	+23.1	+21.2
Percentage change from previous month -							
1974-75							
April	+ 0.6	+ 1.5	+ 1.3	+ 0.5	+ 1.3	+ 3.5	+ 1.1
May	+ 0.4	+ 0.8	+ 1.3	+ 0.7	+ 1.3	+ 0.4	+ 0.8
June	+ 0.6	+ 1.6	+ 1.7	+ 2.1	+ 1.2	+ 0.8	+ 1.2
1975-76							
July	+ 0.8	+ 1.0	+ 1.0	+ 0.9	+ 1.5	+ 0.6	+ 1.0
August	+ 1.2	+ 0.5	+ 0.6	+ 0.8	+ 2.0	+ 1.1	+ 1.0
September	+ 0.4	+ 0.8	+ 0.8	+ 0.7	+ 0.7	+ 2.4	+ 0.7
October	+ 0.5	+ 0.5	+ 2.4	+ 0.8	+ 1.7	+ 2.6	+ 1.0
November	+ 1.0	+ 0.8	+ 2.4	+ 1.1	+ 0.9	+ 0.3	+ 1.1
December	+ 0.6	+ 0.7	+ 0.2	+ 1.3	+ 0.8	+ 0.3	+ 0.7
January	+ 1.0	+ 0.8	+ 0.9	+ 0.4	+ 0.9	+ 0.1	+ 0.8
February	+ 0.4	+ 0.9	+ 0.7	+ 0.6	+ 1.0	+ 0.7	+ 0.7
March	+ 1.7	+ 1.7	+ 1.9	+ 1.2	+ 1.2	+ 3.2	+ 1.6
April p	+ 1.5	+ 1.9	+ 1.6	+ 2.4	+ 3.1	+ 1.3	+ 2.0
May p	+ 1.4	+ 1.2	+ 0.8	+ 2.5	+ 0.8	+ 0.9	+ 1.3

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

Period	Concrete mix, cement and sand	Cement products	Clay bricks, tiles, etc.	Timber, board and joinery	Steel products	Other metal products	Plumbing fixtures, etc.	Electrical installation materials	Installed appliances	Plaster and plaster products	Miscellaneous materials	All groups
SYDNEY												
Value weight (%) (b)	5.24%	7.09%	14.34%	38.23%	4.89%	7.25%	3.95%	1.53%	4.43%	5.57%	7.48%	100.00%
1972-73	134.2	145.4	123.3	146.4	141.1	128.5	131.3	126.1	114.0	120.6	126.6	135.6
1973-74	149.5	155.0	141.3	182.5	156.5	149.5	146.2	145.7	124.9	124.1	136.5	158.0
1974-75	185.4	192.1	177.8	213.3	189.6	173.2	179.6	167.7	158.3	150.8	162.1	189.4
1974-75												
April	197.0	201.7	189.7	220.1	200.5	177.6	188.3	170.2	164.1	159.1	171.6	197.7
May	198.0	204.7	189.8	220.5	200.8	178.0	188.9	172.3	164.1	161.7	173.5	198.5
June	202.1	205.9	190.7	221.1	203.5	179.2	188.9	172.4	164.1	161.9	176.9	199.6
1975-76												
July	203.2	214.4	190.7	220.8	206.1	180.1	193.0	173.6	168.9	164.1	179.5	201.1
August	204.6	215.7	191.3	224.2	208.6	181.9	198.1	179.5	168.9	164.1	183.8	203.5
September	205.6	215.9	193.7	224.3	211.3	182.4	201.9	180.0	169.9	164.1	185.5	204.4
October	209.3	218.1	193.7	224.3	215.4	184.1	203.8	179.5	171.0	168.3	185.6	205.4
November	213.0	224.5	195.5	224.8	222.6	187.0	205.5	181.3	171.8	168.3	187.8	207.5
December	215.1	225.8	195.9	226.4	223.9	188.3	207.7	181.2	175.6	168.3	188.7	208.8
January	218.5	226.9	203.3	226.4	225.3	187.8	208.2	184.7	178.0	173.3	191.4	210.8
February	218.5	229.4	203.6	226.5	228.0	188.9	211.7	184.8	178.0	176.3	192.0	211.6
March	224.7	230.3	205.7	231.8	234.4	193.0	214.5	187.6	180.7	176.3	193.1	215.3
April p	227.2	236.6	205.9	235.8	240.6	197.2	216.5	190.8	182.5	176.3	197.2	218.6
May p	228.9	239.3	213.3	236.6	245.6	200.8	222.2	195.8	189.0	179.5	200.7	221.7
MELBOURNE												
Value weight (%) (b)	4.63%	8.55%	10.48%	37.78%	5.58%	6.47%	3.34%	1.66%	6.87%	7.19%	7.45%	100.00%
1972-73	127.2	141.5	132.0	125.3	135.3	124.8	131.2	125.3	106.8	120.4	124.7	126.5
1973-74	132.8	160.6	148.7	158.7	154.5	147.1	146.4	145.3	115.1	124.2	135.8	147.8
1974-75	159.7	205.2	172.4	190.5	196.5	168.5	177.4	165.9	145.3	151.4	161.6	178.4
1974-75												
April	168.6	218.1	175.8	194.2	208.5	173.3	188.6	166.4	153.4	160.8	168.6	184.8
May	169.6	219.9	176.7	196.1	207.9	174.1	188.6	165.9	154.4	160.8	172.1	186.2
June	175.3	220.1	185.7	199.6	209.3	177.0	188.6	166.2	156.6	160.8	173.0	189.2
1975-76												
July	176.2	229.3	187.0	199.7	211.7	178.3	193.8	173.5	157.8	162.7	175.5	191.1
August	178.5	229.5	187.5	199.9	214.3	181.2	197.3	175.0	157.9	162.7	178.4	192.1
September	182.3	230.0	187.5	201.8	219.0	181.6	199.0	176.1	160.2	162.7	179.9	193.6
October	183.0	231.6	186.0	203.4	223.1	181.4	199.0	176.8	161.4	164.7	180.0	194.7
November	186.5	237.1	189.1	203.6	226.1	181.8	202.4	176.9	161.6	166.0	182.0	196.3
December	186.5	238.0	189.2	205.1	228.4	182.9	203.6	177.4	164.5	166.1	184.8	197.6
January	187.6	240.3	192.4	205.3	233.8	183.0	203.9	179.7	166.5	171.3	184.9	199.1
February	190.1	241.2	195.4	206.4	235.6	183.5	206.3	179.8	171.9	171.6	186.0	200.8
March	196.1	244.4	196.8	212.1	238.5	186.4	207.3	181.8	172.5	171.6	187.0	204.2
April p	198.3	255.1	197.2	214.6	247.2	191.9	211.1	186.5	174.6	171.8	197.2	208.1
May p	203.8	255.2	198.7	217.2	249.9	196.5	215.4	191.0	176.1	172.6	202.1	210.7

For footnotes see end of table.

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

Period	Concrete mix, cement and sand	Cement products	Clay bricks, tiles, etc.	Timber, board and joinery	Steel products	Other metal products	Plumbing fixtures, etc.	Electrical installation materials	Installed appliances	Plaster and plaster products	Miscellaneous materials	All groups
BRISBANE												
Value weight (%) (b)	5.04%	10.44%	9.35%	35.29%	8.03%	8.17%	3.50%	1.81%	4.26%	5.09%	9.02%	100.00%
1972-73	116.5	141.7	137.8	150.2	133.0	115.8	129.0	127.2	94.2	112.7	116.0	133.8
1973-74	137.3	155.2	154.2	176.5	149.7	137.2	143.5	146.2	108.1	114.9	122.4	152.2
1974-75	168.0	180.4	184.5	220.9	188.3	174.6	175.0	172.6	128.9	140.9	146.5	187.0
1974-75												
April	181.0	189.3	189.4	229.1	200.3	188.3	183.0	174.8	132.0	155.0	157.0	196.2
May	183.8	189.3	193.0	234.7	200.5	188.3	182.0	174.7	133.4	155.4	158.8	198.8
June	185.8	189.4	193.8	244.1	203.0	181.4	182.2	174.7	133.4	160.0	157.5	202.1
1975-76												
July	186.7	192.6	196.0	246.0	204.1	182.9	184.0	177.2	138.3	162.1	158.9	204.1
August	190.5	193.0	195.8	246.4	207.4	183.9	185.8	181.8	138.3	162.5	161.2	205.3
September	191.0	193.7	199.7	246.7	212.6	189.5	191.5	182.1	141.7	162.5	162.0	207.0
October	191.5	195.4	200.2	257.0	220.4	189.9	195.3	182.8	142.6	164.0	163.5	212.0
November	191.8	210.5	200.2	264.6	216.3	189.6	201.6	183.3	143.5	166.1	164.0	217.1
December	192.9	212.0	200.2	264.7	227.0	190.1	202.5	183.3	143.7	166.1	164.1	217.5
January	197.9	211.6	203.5	266.0	229.3	196.0	202.9	184.6	143.7	167.8	166.8	219.5
February	199.0	216.4	205.2	267.1	229.6	196.8	206.6	185.5	145.0	169.6	167.5	221.0
March	199.4	217.0	210.6	274.3	231.3	201.4	211.4	187.1	149.0	169.6	170.0	225.2
April p	201.8	219.1	218.5	279.0	239.1	202.1	212.8	190.3	150.2	169.7	170.2	228.9
May p	202.4	222.7	220.8	280.3	241.7	203.2	214.9	198.7	152.3	169.7	170.9	230.7
ADELAIDE												
Value weight (%) (b)	8.13%	6.98%	14.85%	35.52%	6.67%	7.24%	3.42%	1.37%	4.20%	4.19%	7.43%	100.00%
1972-73	127.5	135.0	137.5	142.3	136.2	128.8	135.4	124.4	112.3	118.9	129.1	134.8
1973-74	132.9	157.6	143.4	182.9	152.3	149.3	148.4	144.0	122.4	126.5	143.9	157.2
1974-75	160.9	205.0	181.4	230.5	190.0	170.1	180.4	163.4	147.6	155.6	176.4	195.4
1974-75												
April	170.1	221.8	183.3	238.5	202.7	173.2	185.9	161.4	151.4	166.8	186.7	203.1
May	174.8	221.9	183.3	240.1	202.8	174.8	186.3	162.9	155.3	166.8	187.8	204.5
June	175.9	221.9	198.4	244.6	204.7	175.6	190.3	163.3	155.4	167.7	188.2	208.8
1975-76												
July	178.1	226.1	199.3	246.8	206.3	176.8	192.4	164.2	156.8	168.8	190.1	210.7
August	181.2	226.4	199.3	248.0	210.1	177.9	200.3	168.8	159.9	172.2	191.3	212.4
September	182.2	226.6	199.3	248.8	217.6	181.3	200.2	171.8	162.1	172.3	195.5	213.9
October	183.8	228.2	199.3	250.3	223.2	184.0	203.7	171.3	164.4	174.7	195.6	215.7
November	191.9	230.5	201.0	251.0	228.6	184.4	205.7	172.3	167.5	177.1	198.8	218.1
December	191.9	237.2	209.4	253.0	232.2	186.9	205.7	170.2	170.2	177.1	200.0	220.9
January	196.5	238.0	209.4	253.0	234.3	186.9	207.9	173.0	170.2	179.9	201.4	221.8
February	197.9	238.9	209.7	254.0	236.1	187.7	208.8	173.0	170.2	182.8	207.3	223.2
March	198.7	239.6	210.3	258.9	240.5	188.4	209.5	175.8	172.6	182.8	207.8	225.8
April p	203.3	251.7	224.0	259.0	252.9	198.4	215.6	179.4	176.0	182.8	213.3	231.3
May p	205.6	252.6	224.0	271.7	253.8	201.1	217.0	185.4	179.6	184.3	217.4	237.0

For footnotes see end of table.

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

Period	Concrete mix, cement and sand	Cement products	Clay bricks, tiles, etc.	Timber, board and joinery	Steel products	Other metal products	Plumbing fixtures, etc.	Electrical installation materials	Installed appliances	Plaster and plaster products	Miscellaneous materials	All groups
PERTH												
Value weight (%) (b)	7.94%	8.14%	16.44%	29.60%	6.07%	7.69%	4.59%	1.76%	4.12%	4.01%	9.64%	100.00%
1972-73	121.7	127.7	135.1	126.9	136.6	124.8	121.9	128.1	110.7	113.1	126.7	126.9
1973-74	129.1	138.3	151.5	146.9	153.4	146.9	131.2	150.6	116.2	115.6	136.7	141.8
1974-75	148.7	178.8	190.7	179.2	193.8	165.6	159.0	172.8	140.5	128.3	164.3	172.4
1974-75												
April	159.6	185.7	201.0	187.2	205.4	168.4	167.7	174.2	146.8	132.2	176.6	180.8
May	160.6	197.8	201.0	189.8	206.8	169.7	169.8	172.3	149.3	132.2	177.6	183.1
June	161.1	198.0	211.3	190.7	206.8	170.1	170.2	173.0	150.9	132.2	178.7	185.3
1975-76												
July	161.7	199.4	212.0	195.3	211.0	171.8	171.5	178.1	151.3	132.2	184.2	188.1
August	166.6	202.6	212.0	202.1	218.3	172.2	173.8	180.6	151.9	140.1	185.6	191.8
September	171.1	203.5	212.2	203.2	223.9	172.6	174.8	181.0	152.3	140.1	187.5	193.2
October	171.2	208.4	221.4	206.1	225.9	175.3	174.8	181.6	153.8	140.1	188.7	196.5
November	171.2	209.6	221.9	209.0	231.0	176.8	174.1	184.4	157.3	141.2	189.5	198.3
December	171.9	209.6	222.1	212.2	231.5	179.1	176.5	186.2	158.2	145.5	189.6	199.9
January	171.9	210.4	222.1	215.5	233.1	179.2	177.8	186.7	160.4	145.5	194.0	201.6
February	175.5	216.0	222.1	215.8	233.9	180.3	182.9	186.7	161.2	155.2	198.1	203.6
March	182.3	226.4	222.1	216.6	235.0	182.9	184.8	188.7	164.9	157.1	199.5	206.0
April p	184.3	226.6	236.1	224.9	245.9	188.0	189.9	192.3	164.9	157.1	201.2	212.4
May p	184.3	228.2	237.4	225.1	248.1	191.7	194.3	195.8	168.0	157.1	204.8	214.0
HOBART												
Value weight (%) (b)	7.25%	7.01%	10.14%	38.15%	7.49%	7.93%	2.74%	1.61%	6.98%	4.99%	5.71%	100.00%
1972-73	130.7	137.2	140.2	134.6	135.9	118.1	136.8	126.0	107.6	114.2	132.5	130.8
1973-74	139.8	147.3	159.2	154.2	150.8	130.9	145.5	146.8	115.3	119.2	141.9	145.5
1974-75	157.6	178.6	201.0	192.5	188.7	160.2	173.2	162.4	130.3	157.0	178.6	179.1
1974-75												
April	172.2	183.4	214.2	207.7	201.4	171.7	182.1	161.8	128.3	167.5	190.9	190.8
May	172.2	183.8	218.1	208.2	202.6	172.4	182.1	162.1	128.3	167.5	190.9	191.6
June	173.1	196.4	218.1	208.7	202.8	171.6	182.7	162.4	128.3	175.2	190.9	193.1
1975-76												
July	174.5	196.9	223.0	209.0	203.5	171.6	187.2	169.9	128.6	176.7	193.4	194.3
August	174.5	201.4	231.2	208.9	210.1	172.2	190.6	168.5	131.0	177.2	196.4	196.4
September	181.2	202.2	234.7	215.9	215.5	174.9	195.9	170.6	131.9	177.2	200.0	201.1
October	181.4	202.2	242.1	225.0	221.9	179.4	198.3	171.5	135.0	179.6	200.1	206.4
November	181.4	202.9	241.9	225.2	219.8	179.4	199.5	172.1	136.6	185.8	202.1	207.1
December	181.4	203.4	241.9	225.2	221.5	180.2	201.4	171.2	139.3	191.7	202.1	207.8
January	181.4	203.4	242.3	225.2	224.5	180.4	203.0	172.2	138.7	191.7	202.7	208.1
February	191.0	206.0	242.3	225.3	224.5	181.1	204.3	172.3	138.7	195.1	205.0	209.5
March	192.2	208.4	254.7	235.7	231.4	187.0	205.4	173.7	138.7	195.1	206.2	r216.1
April p	192.2	208.4	r257.3	r239.7	r235.7	r188.1	210.4	177.5	140.9	195.1	211.9	r218.9
May p	192.2	209.2	257.3	242.0	237.7	191.5	214.6	184.5	141.6	197.0	216.3	220.9

For footnotes see end of table.

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

Period	Concrete mix, cement and sand	Cement products	Clay bricks, tiles, etc.	Timber, board and joinery	Steel products	Other metal products	Plumbing fixtures, etc.	Electrical installation materials	Installed appliances	Plaster and plaster products	Miscellaneous materials	All groups
WEIGHTED AVERAGE OF SIX STATE CAPITAL CITIES												
Value weight (%) (b)	5.73%	8.10%	12.85%	36.16%	5.86%	7.20%	3.74%	1.63%	5.13%	5.64%	7.96%	100.00%
1972-73	127.0	139.9	130.7	137.0	136.8	124.9	129.6	126.2	108.3	118.7	124.9	131.1
1973-74	137.5	154.3	146.8	169.1	153.8	146.3	143.2	146.4	117.7	122.2	135.0	151.3
1974-75	165.7	193.1	180.3	203.5	192.1	170.3	174.5	168.3	146.4	147.8	161.5	183.4
1974-75												
April	176.4	203.6	188.2	209.9	203.8	175.9	183.6	169.6	152.6	156.9	171.1	191.2
May	178.0	207.0	188.9	211.8	204.1	176.6	184.1	169.8	153.7	157.8	173.2	192.7
June	181.1	207.6	195.0	214.7	205.8	177.0	184.5	170.1	154.8	158.5	174.5	195.1
1975-76												
July	182.2	214.0	195.8	215.7	208.2	178.2	187.9	174.1	157.2	160.3	177.4	197.1
August	185.0	215.0	196.2	217.9	211.8	179.8	192.3	177.7	157.6	161.4	180.2	199.0
September	187.5	215.6	197.5	218.9	216.5	181.3	194.5	178.5	159.4	161.4	182.0	200.4
October	189.0	217.8	199.2	221.2	221.1	182.5	195.9	178.7	160.7	163.9	182.5	202.4
November	191.9	224.1	200.8	222.9	226.1	183.8	198.2	179.9	161.8	165.0	184.2	204.6
December	192.8	225.4	201.8	224.5	227.7	185.2	199.8	180.2	164.4	165.5	185.4	206.0
January	195.1	226.6	205.5	225.1	230.5	186.0	200.4	182.5	166.1	169.4	187.6	207.7
February	197.0	229.3	206.6	225.7	232.1	186.8	203.8	182.6	168.5	172.1	189.4	209.1
March	201.9	232.4	208.4	230.8	235.7	190.2	206.0	184.8	170.5	172.3	190.7	212.5
April p	204.4	238.8	213.4	234.7	244.1	194.7	209.3	188.6	172.3	172.4	195.7	216.7
May p	206.6	240.5	216.8	237.1	247.2	198.3	213.7	193.8	175.5	173.8	199.3	219.5

(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.

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