

PRICE INDEX OF MATERIALS USED IN BUILDING OTHER THAN HOUSE BUILDING AUGUST 1979

INQUIRIES

If you want to know more about these statistics ring Mr Graeme Groves on Canberra 525556 or our State office, or write to Information Services, ABS, P.O. Box 10, Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616.

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MAIN FEATURES

All groups index	Change between —	
	July 79 and Aug. 79	Aug. 78 and Aug. 79
	%	%
Sydney	+1.4	+11.3
Melbourne	+0.9	+11.6
Brisbane	+1.0	+10.5
Adelaide	+1.2	+13.4
Perth	+1.5	+10.0
Hobart	+1.5	+9.8
Weighted average of six State capital cities	+1.2	+11.2

The 1.2% increase in the All groups index for August 1979 for the weighted average of six State capital cities was caused mainly by increased prices for steel and iron products, aluminium products, mechanical services, timber products, clay bricks and electrical installation materials.

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

Items and weights

3. The index is a fixed weights index. The items and weights were derived from reported values of materials used in selected representative buildings constructed in or about 1966-67. The single weighting pattern relates to the whole of Australia, and is applied (with minor exceptions) in calculating indexes for each State capital city. The weights for groups of items are shown in Table 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.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

This publication contains index numbers of the Price Index of Materials Used in Building Other than House Building. A detailed description of the index is contained in *Labour Report* No. 58, 1973 (pp. 43-56). A Price Index of Materials Used in House Building is published in a separate publication (6408.0). *Index numbers for the current month and the previous month are preliminary and subject to revision.*

Scope and composition

2. The index measures changes in prices of selected materials used in the construction of buildings other than houses and low-rise flats (in general, those up to three storeys). It includes 72 items, combined in eleven groups, in addition to an All groups index. Although the selected materials (or many of them) are also used in house (and low-rise flat) building, in building repair, maintenance and alteration work, and in engineering construction work (e.g. projects such as roads, dams, bridges and the like), the weighting pattern of the index, being designed for the specific purpose mentioned at the

Prices

4. Prices are collected as at the mid-point of the month to which the index refers, or as near thereto as practicable. They relate to specified standards of each commodity and are obtained from representative suppliers of materials used in building. In general the point of pricing is *delivered on site* but in some cases it has been necessary to use the nearest realistic price available, e.g. that for *supplied and fixed*. Local prices are used in the indexes for each capital city, with the main exception that for the whole of the group Electrical installation materials and the majority of the items in the group Mechanical services components, Sydney and Melbourne price series are used. As far as possible, actual transaction prices are used in the index as distinct from list prices. Thus measures of *special* or other discounts are sought where these are believed to be significant. To the extent that they can be determined, significant changes in special discounts are incorporated in the index but this may sometimes be on a partly estimated basis, and may sometimes necessitate revisions.

Index numbers

5. The index has been compiled for each month from July 1966, and for the financial years from

1966-67. Index numbers for financial years are simple averages of the relevant monthly index numbers. Index numbers for each State capital city and for the weighted average of the six capitals are given for *all groups combined* in Table 1 and for *each group of items* in Table 2. The separate city indexes measure price movements within each capital city individually. They enable comparisons to be drawn between cities as to *differences in degree of price movement* from period to period, but not as to the differences in price level.

Percentage changes

6. 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 1979 268.3
 Index number as at December 1978 264.4

$$\text{Percentage change} = \frac{268.3 - 264.4}{264.4} \times 100 = +1.5\%$$

Special purpose index

7. Index numbers for the special purpose index for All groups excluding Electrical installation materials and Mechanical services components are shown for each capital city and the weighted average of the six capitals in the second column from the right in Table 2.

Index numbers for selected items

8. Thirty-four index number series for selected items or combinations of items are shown in Table 4 of this bulletin. These index numbers represent selected components of each of the published groups shown in Table 2. They relate either to single items or to combinations of items as shown in the weighting pattern for this index published on pages 46 and 47 of *Labour Report* No. 58, 1973 (Ref. No. 6.7).

9. A supplement containing monthly item index numbers corresponding to those in Table 4 has been prepared for the period July 1972 to June 1977 and is available, free of charge, on application to the ABS.

10. It has not been possible to include in Table 4 indexes for all of the items which comprise the total index because for some items the available price series are regarded as not sufficiently representative to permit publication at that level. In addition item indexes have not generally been published for items of relatively low importance in the index.

11. The series shown in Table 4 can only be published for the weighted average of the six State capital cities. It is not possible to publish in this detail for each city separately because insufficient price series are available in some instances or because of confidentiality restrictions.

Interpretation

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

Related publications

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

- . *Price Index of Materials Used in House Building* (6408.0)
- . *Price Index of Materials Used in Manufacturing Industry* (6411.0)
- . *Price Indexes of Articles Produced by Manufacturing Industry* (6412.0)
- . *Price Index of Electrical Installation Materials* (6409.0)
- . *Price Indexes of Metallic Materials* (6410.0)

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

- . *Wage Rates Indexes, Preliminary* (6311.0)
- . *Wage Rates* (6312.0)
- . *Average Weekly Earnings* (6302.0)

15. All publications produced by the ABS are listed in *Catalogue of Publications* (1101.0) which is available free of charge from any ABS office.

Symbols and other usages

- p preliminary — figures subject to revision.
- r figures revised since previous issue.
- nil or less than half the final digit shown.

R. J. CAMERON
 Australian Statistician

TABLE 1. PRICE INDEX OF MATERIALS USED IN BUILDING OTHER THAN 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)							
1976-77	221.5	234.8	241.2	234.3	235.4	234.8	230.3
1977-78	239.9	254.4	260.9	254.2	258.3	253.7	249.7
1978-79	259.2	271.4	278.6	274.4	276.8	270.5	268.1
1978-79							
July	249.8	261.4	269.8	263.0	267.6	261.9	258.5
August	250.6	262.0	270.8	263.1	269.3	262.9	259.4
September	251.8	262.3	271.4	262.8	269.8	263.5	259.9
October	252.7	263.7	271.8	263.2	270.8	264.2	260.9
November	254.4	265.4	273.1	264.3	272.1	265.9	262.5
December	255.5	268.1	275.2	269.2	272.8	267.6	264.4
January	260.0	271.1	278.2	274.7	276.4	267.9	268.3
February	264.2	277.2	283.4	281.5	281.0	274.5	273.4
March	265.7	278.7	284.9	283.8	282.9	276.8	275.0
April	267.6	281.1	287.1	288.0	285.3	278.6	277.3
May	268.6	282.7	288.2	289.1	286.6	280.9	278.6
June	269.6	283.2	289.0	289.6	287.0	281.7	279.3
1979-80							
July p	275.0	289.8	296.1	294.9	291.8	284.3	285.2
August p	278.8	292.3	299.1	298.4	296.1	288.6	288.5
PERCENTAGE CHANGES							
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Change from previous year -							
1976-77	+11.3	+12.1	+11.5	+11.4	+13.0	+11.6	+11.7
1977-78	+8.3	+8.3	+8.2	+8.5	+9.7	+8.0	+8.4
1978-79	+8.0	+6.7	+6.8	+7.9	+7.2	+6.6	+7.4
Change from corresponding month of previous year -							
1978-79							
July	+7.5	+6.0	+6.6	+7.2	+7.6	+6.6	+6.9
August	+7.4	+5.5	+6.4	+6.2	+6.9	+6.2	+6.6
September	+7.3	+5.3	+5.9	+5.5	+6.5	+5.6	+6.2
October	+7.0	+5.5	+5.7	+5.2	+6.4	+5.3	+6.1
November	+7.2	+5.0	+5.3	+4.8	+5.9	+5.3	+6.0
December	+6.8	+5.4	+5.6	+6.1	+5.7	+5.4	+6.0
January	+8.0	+6.0	+6.1	+7.6	+6.6	+5.2	+7.0
February	+9.2	+8.1	+7.7	+9.8	+8.2	+7.4	+8.6
March	+9.3	+8.1	+7.9	+10.1	+8.2	+8.0	+8.7
April	+9.2	+8.5	+8.4	+11.2	+8.4	+8.2	+8.9
May	+9.2	+8.7	+8.1	+10.8	+8.1	+8.3	+9.0
June	+8.6	+8.1	+7.5	+10.3	+7.5	+8.1	+8.3
1979-80							
July p	+10.1	+10.9	+9.7	+12.1	+9.0	+8.6	+10.3
August p	+11.3	+11.6	+10.5	+13.4	+10.0	+9.8	+11.2
Change from previous month -							
1978-79							
July	+0.6	-0.3	+0.4	+0.2	+0.3	+0.5	+0.3
August	+0.3	+0.2	+0.4	-	+0.6	+0.4	+0.3
September	+0.5	+0.1	+0.2	-0.1	+0.2	+0.2	+0.2
October	+0.4	+0.5	+0.1	+0.2	+0.4	+0.3	+0.4
November	+0.7	+0.6	+0.5	+0.4	+0.5	+0.6	+0.6
December	+0.4	+1.0	+0.8	+1.9	+0.3	+0.6	+0.7
January	+1.8	+1.1	+1.1	+2.0	+1.3	+0.1	+1.5
February	+1.6	+2.3	+1.9	+2.5	+1.7	+2.5	+1.9
March	+0.6	+0.5	+0.5	+0.8	+0.7	+0.8	+0.6
April	+0.7	+0.9	+0.8	+1.5	+0.8	+0.7	+0.8
May	+0.4	+0.6	+0.4	+0.4	+0.5	+0.8	+0.5
June	+0.4	+0.2	+0.3	+0.2	+0.1	+0.3	+0.3
1979-80							
July p	+2.0	+2.3	+2.5	+1.8	+1.7	+0.9	+2.1
August p	+1.4	+0.9	+1.0	+1.2	+1.5	+1.5	+1.2

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

	Concrete mix, cement, sand, etc.	Cement products	Bricks, stone, etc.	Timber, board and joinery	Steel and iron products	Aluminium products	Other metal products	Plumbing fixtures	Miscellaneous materials	Electrical installation materials (a)	Mechanical services components	Special purpose index (b)	All groups
Value weight (c)	10.41%	3.64%	5.28%	11.90%	30.58%	6.01%	2.59%	1.19%	7.09%	8.61%	12.70%	78.69%	100.00%
SYDNEY													
1976-77	224.4	240.7	222.3	230.0	223.5	215.4	209.0	249.3	209.7	199.6	224.6	223.3	221.5
1977-78	234.9	263.6	238.7	249.2	241.5	232.2	211.5	266.0	230.5	215.3	246.4	241.5	239.9
1978-79	270.1	277.0	252.4	266.7	260.5	246.0	246.8	253.8	242.9	242.6	267.6	259.7	259.2
1978-79													
July	258.4	268.0	245.2	258.7	251.7	240.6	217.9	268.4	241.7	224.8	257.6	251.3	249.8
August	259.9	268.3	246.2	260.3	252.3	241.5	220.9	268.4	237.6	226.8	259.5	251.8	250.6
September	263.5	268.7	246.5	261.2	253.4	241.5	225.3	236.1	239.4	238.4	260.8	252.9	251.8
October	264.5	272.1	247.3	261.6	253.6	242.2	228.2	237.1	240.9	232.8	261.7	253.5	252.7
November	265.5	276.3	247.3	263.1	255.3	242.2	231.6	237.1	240.7	236.8	263.4	254.9	254.4
December	266.0	277.1	249.0	264.0	255.9	243.4	234.7	242.6	241.2	237.8	265.4	255.8	255.5
January	275.8	279.8	251.7	265.6	263.0	245.3	238.1	250.1	242.8	240.9	267.5	260.9	260.0
February	276.2	281.3	256.1	268.4	266.3	248.4	260.0	250.6	243.8	251.0	273.3	264.0	264.2
March	275.8	281.5	257.4	270.6	267.7	248.8	271.3	257.4	244.5	255.2	273.6	265.5	265.7
April	278.3	281.9	258.5	273.3	267.8	249.0	281.9	263.1	247.1	259.6	275.2	267.2	267.6
May	278.9	281.9	260.6	274.8	269.0	252.0	279.5	267.2	247.5	258.9	276.4	268.4	268.6
June	278.9	287.1	262.4	278.9	269.7	256.9	271.9	267.3	248.7	257.6	276.4	269.8	269.6
1979-80													
July p	289.2	291.9	267.0	283.2	276.4	258.7	272.0	273.2	250.5	261.9	282.1	275.3	275.0
August p	289.6	294.5	274.9	287.2	279.7	265.8	278.8	273.2	255.9	266.2	285.3	279.2	278.8
MELBOURNE													
1976-77	216.2	237.3	205.4	238.1	272.3	217.1	183.5	267.5	203.0	199.6	225.6	240.1	234.8
1977-78	235.9	261.0	221.2	256.7	296.3	235.5	185.3	270.0	216.4	215.3	247.3	259.8	254.4
1978-79	248.5	280.9	237.0	268.5	314.1	250.6	217.4	275.5	225.0	242.6	268.1	275.1	271.4
1978-79													
July	228.4	275.1	227.7	262.2	306.5	241.9	192.4	275.9	221.0	224.8	258.1	265.9	261.4
August	222.2	275.1	228.0	262.7	308.0	246.3	194.9	275.9	221.7	226.8	260.1	266.2	262.0
September	221.3	274.5	228.0	263.2	308.0	246.1	197.7	267.5	223.0	228.4	261.4	266.1	262.3
October	227.1	274.8	235.4	262.7	308.3	246.7	200.7	255.1	222.5	232.8	262.3	267.4	263.7
November	235.0	275.5	236.9	262.7	308.5	246.7	202.5	255.1	223.3	236.8	263.9	268.8	265.4
December	241.7	280.8	236.9	264.2	311.5	246.7	204.0	271.0	225.3	237.8	265.9	271.8	268.1
January	249.4	281.7	237.2	265.5	314.4	252.2	208.0	276.2	226.2	240.9	268.1	274.9	271.1
February	266.0	282.8	241.1	270.2	319.0	252.4	227.3	277.6	226.6	251.0	273.7	280.6	277.2
March	266.6	283.0	242.1	271.2	320.3	254.2	238.1	281.8	227.0	255.2	274.1	282.0	278.7
April	270.0	283.8	242.1	278.1	320.8	254.0	249.2	289.8	228.6	259.6	275.5	284.4	281.1
May	277.2	291.4	244.1	278.8	321.4	259.6	248.8	289.9	227.3	258.9	276.7	286.3	282.7
June	276.8	292.0	244.1	281.0	322.0	260.2	245.1	289.7	227.4	257.6	276.9	287.0	283.2
1979-80													
July p	291.5	297.1	250.9	283.6	331.0	263.2	243.8	300.2	230.8	261.9	282.4	294.1	289.8
August p	291.9	298.5	253.3	285.4	334.0	265.6	248.1	300.5	231.9	266.2	285.6	296.2	292.3

For footnotes see page 7.

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

	Concrete mix, cement, sand, etc.	Cement products	Bricks, stone, etc.	Timber, board and joinery	Steel and iron products	Aluminium products	Other metal products	Plumbing fixtures	Metal- lances materials	Electrical installation materials (a)	Mechanical components	Special purpose index (b)	All groups
Value weight (c)	10.41%	3.64%	5.28%	11.90%	30.58%	6.01%	2.39%	1.19%	7.09%	8.61%	12.70%	78.69%	100.00%
BRISBANE													
1976-77	207.4	266.9	234.8	270.7	280.5	212.0	181.2	255.4	183.8	199.6	226.7	248.1	241.2
1977-78	225.0	290.6	247.2	292.5	304.6	224.7	189.3	269.2	200.1	215.3	248.5	267.9	260.9
1978-79	246.0	309.8	263.2	306.0	322.7	233.4	202.9	261.0	214.0	242.6	269.8	283.9	278.6
1978-79													
July	232.4	301.7	252.0	301.8	314.4	229.6	191.6	272.0	210.9	224.8	259.6	276.4	269.8
August	235.0	301.8	253.9	301.7	315.1	229.9	190.7	272.7	210.9	226.8	261.6	277.1	270.8
September	235.0	302.5	254.0	301.7	315.3	230.2	190.7	273.2	211.5	228.4	263.2	277.3	271.4
October	235.3	302.5	257.2	301.7	315.9	230.2	194.3	273.0	211.8	232.8	264.1	277.4	271.8
November	235.9	306.3	261.7	302.3	316.2	230.3	196.5	273.0	211.9	236.8	265.7	278.2	273.1
December	242.4	307.1	263.7	302.4	318.3	231.5	195.2	252.9	212.6	237.8	267.7	280.5	275.2
January	240.8	311.4	264.3	304.1	325.2	231.6	200.4	252.9	212.7	240.9	269.8	283.6	278.2
February	252.3	314.0	266.7	310.2	329.2	232.3	202.7	257.1	213.6	251.0	275.4	288.2	283.4
March	250.3	315.5	269.7	310.8	330.3	236.1	213.7	257.4	216.4	255.2	275.9	289.6	284.9
April	259.3	316.6	271.6	310.8	330.7	237.3	218.8	272.9	217.1	259.6	277.3	291.7	287.1
May	264.7	317.4	271.6	311.0	330.7	240.8	221.4	272.9	218.2	258.9	278.5	292.9	288.2
June	268.8	320.8	271.6	313.2	330.8	240.8	218.8	274.3	219.9	257.6	278.6	294.1	289.0
1979-80													
July p	271.0	325.2	278.8	323.7	341.6	246.0	217.9	281.6	225.7	261.9	284.1	301.8	296.1
August p	279.5	325.7	285.3	324.4	342.9	251.4	217.0	281.8	227.5	266.2	287.4	304.6	299.1
ADELAIDE													
1976-77	209.0	259.0	242.7	273.6	250.1	206.9	202.2	254.1	208.7	199.6	225.4	239.6	234.3
1977-78	232.2	291.8	264.3	291.0	271.9	223.3	202.4	270.8	224.4	215.3	247.0	259.6	254.2
1978-79	250.0	314.7	286.5	312.0	289.6	244.9	236.3	271.2	241.7	242.6	267.8	278.9	274.4
1978-79													
July	226.3	304.2	281.4	300.5	282.4	235.6	209.1	272.0	233.6	224.8	257.9	268.1	263.0
August	220.9	304.2	281.4	300.8	282.8	235.9	210.0	268.5	233.6	226.8	259.9	267.6	263.1
September	212.4	304.2	281.4	301.7	282.9	236.1	213.2	262.6	235.0	228.4	261.1	266.8	262.8
October	207.4	309.2	281.4	303.6	283.5	236.1	217.2	248.5	235.0	232.8	262.0	266.8	263.2
November	208.2	311.4	281.4	305.6	283.6	235.9	218.9	248.8	235.9	236.8	263.6	267.5	264.3
December	241.7	311.8	281.4	308.0	284.4	239.1	219.3	262.2	237.3	237.8	265.6	273.2	269.2
January	259.9	313.3	282.0	311.6	290.2	240.0	224.6	270.3	243.6	240.9	267.8	279.4	274.7
February	272.6	319.6	283.2	317.5	295.0	254.6	243.7	270.9	245.0	251.0	273.5	286.1	281.5
March	274.0	325.2	287.9	319.2	296.3	254.7	241.3	271.2	248.4	255.2	273.8	288.5	283.8
April	291.4	324.6	297.4	322.7	297.0	254.7	272.7	293.2	250.7	259.6	275.2	293.2	288.0
May	291.7	324.6	297.6	325.0	297.9	257.3	276.4	293.1	250.9	258.9	276.5	294.4	289.1
June	293.5	324.6	301.6	327.3	298.6	258.5	269.2	293.1	251.3	257.6	276.5	295.2	289.6
1979-80													
July p	294.1	336.5	306.7	331.9	306.9	258.5	269.8	301.9	254.3	261.9	282.1	300.6	294.9
August p	296.9	337.0	314.6	332.2	310.6	267.5	274.3	305.7	256.2	266.2	285.3	304.1	298.4

For footnotes see page 7.

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

	Concrete mix, cement, sand, etc.	Cement products	Bricks, stone, etc.	Timber, board and joinery	Steel and iron products	Aluminium products	Other metal products	Plumbing fixtures	Miscel- laneous materials	Electrical installation materials (a)	Mechanical services components	Special purpose index (b)	All groups
Value weight (c)	10.41%	3.64%	5.28%	11.90%	30.58%	6.01%	2.59%	1.19%	7.09%	8.61%	12.70%	78.69%	100.00%
PERTH													
1976-77	194.0	240.7	241.5	249.5	274.6	209.0	178.1	197.4	206.8	199.6	226.0	240.9	235.4
1977-78	216.1	258.3	264.2	274.0	302.5	230.5	180.7	215.0	228.2	215.3	247.9	264.6	258.3
1978-79	227.8	270.3	280.2	288.9	324.6	224.2	204.2	224.7	244.2	242.6	269.0	281.8	276.8
1978-79													
July	223.8	263.5	271.8	278.3	315.9	233.2	183.3	219.3	238.6	224.8	259.1	273.6	267.6
August	222.2	263.9	273.0	283.1	318.3	233.6	185.4	218.2	239.2	226.8	261.1	275.3	269.3
September	222.4	264.1	273.0	284.4	318.3	233.2	187.3	219.5	239.4	228.4	262.4	278.5	269.8
October	222.9	264.3	277.1	284.8	318.8	233.2	188.7	217.0	241.4	232.8	263.2	276.3	270.8
November	225.5	270.0	277.5	285.3	318.7	233.2	189.0	215.6	243.7	236.8	264.8	277.1	272.1
December	224.6	270.7	278.4	285.4	318.9	234.7	189.5	218.9	244.9	237.8	266.9	277.6	272.8
January	224.7	271.5	278.4	286.4	327.5	238.4	194.1	218.9	245.1	240.9	269.0	281.5	276.4
February	223.6	273.4	281.1	293.0	330.7	248.0	213.5	224.8	244.6	251.0	274.8	285.3	281.0
March	229.4	275.4	287.8	293.2	331.3	247.9	222.8	226.5	244.7	255.2	278.1	287.2	282.9
April	236.1	275.5	287.8	296.4	331.7	247.9	234.1	239.1	246.3	259.6	276.5	289.5	285.3
May	239.0	275.6	287.8	298.0	332.0	252.0	233.7	239.6	251.1	258.9	277.8	291.0	286.6
June	239.1	276.0	289.1	298.1	332.9	258.6	229.1	239.5	252.1	257.6	277.7	291.9	287.0
1979-80													
July p	239.2	279.0	289.4	299.6	342.7	260.7	229.7	244.7	253.3	261.9	283.1	296.5	291.8
August p	238.8	283.3	305.4	303.5	345.7	274.3	233.9	245.1	256.6	266.2	286.4	300.9	296.1
HOBART													
1976-77	206.2	236.5	262.6	249.5	262.9	199.0	193.4	246.5	209.9	199.6	226.3	240.0	234.8
1977-78	220.9	258.8	290.6	269.8	282.1	218.4	206.3	259.0	225.5	215.3	247.8	258.9	253.7
1978-79	230.6	277.4	310.1	286.5	297.3	229.2	231.3	268.6	241.6	242.6	268.5	274.0	270.5
1978-79													
July	232.0	266.0	297.3	277.6	288.9	224.3	211.4	263.4	235.4	224.8	258.6	266.5	261.9
August	232.1	275.3	297.3	277.7	289.8	224.3	211.6	264.0	235.5	225.8	260.6	267.3	262.9
September	232.4	275.4	297.3	277.9	289.8	225.5	213.1	264.3	235.5	228.4	261.9	267.5	263.5
October	232.7	275.4	297.3	278.4	290.5	225.6	213.1	260.7	236.3	232.8	262.7	267.9	264.2
November	232.7	275.8	311.8	278.9	291.0	225.6	216.0	260.7	236.8	236.8	264.3	269.4	265.9
December	232.9	275.8	311.8	279.9	292.7	227.0	223.3	264.1	240.8	237.8	266.3	271.0	267.6
January	225.4	275.8	312.2	280.8	293.8	227.7	223.3	264.1	243.0	240.9	268.5	270.8	267.9
February	225.4	276.6	312.2	290.9	304.1	229.7	240.5	267.0	243.3	251.0	274.2	277.2	274.5
March	225.4	278.5	321.1	294.8	305.9	229.7	244.6	271.8	244.5	255.2	274.5	279.5	276.8
April	226.4	284.1	321.1	298.0	305.9	230.0	259.7	280.1	247.1	259.6	275.9	281.3	278.6
May	232.6	285.7	321.1	301.3	306.9	240.5	260.6	281.0	248.5	258.9	277.2	283.9	280.9
June	236.8	284.6	321.1	301.3	307.8	240.5	258.5	281.6	251.9	257.6	277.2	285.1	281.7
1979-80													
July p	241.3	284.6	321.1	302.2	310.2	240.9	260.9	284.8	253.2	261.9	282.7	287.0	284.3
August p	243.8	285.2	321.1	303.0	317.6	253.2	260.9	284.8	255.8	266.2	285.9	291.5	288.6

For footnotes see page 7.

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

Value weight (c)	Concrete mix, cement, sand, etc. 10.41%	Cement products 3.64%	Bricks, stone, etc. 5.28%	Timber, board and joinery 11.90%	Steel and iron products 30.58%	Aluminium products 6.01%	Other metal products 2.59%	Plumbing fixtures 1.19%	Miscellaneous materials 7.09%	Electrical installation materials (a) 8.61%	Mechanical services components 12.70%	Special purpose index (b) 78.69%	All groups 100.00%
WEIGHTED AVERAGE OF SIX STATE CAPITAL CITIES													
1976-77	215.6	244.7	224.0	243.6	251.7	213.7	195.0	251.2	204.2	199.6	225.4	234.5	230.3
1977-78	235.3	268.4	241.0	263.2	273.4	230.8	198.1	263.7	221.9	215.3	247.2	253.9	249.7
1978-79	254.8	285.2	256.6	278.8	291.9	244.6	228.4	260.2	234.2	242.6	268.2	270.9	268.1
1978-79													
July	240.5	277.2	248.3	271.2	283.7	238.0	203.9	267.2	230.9	224.8	258.2	262.3	258.5
August	239.6	277.6	249.1	272.3	284.6	239.7	205.9	266.8	229.8	226.8	260.2	262.8	259.4
September	239.6	277.6	249.3	273.0	285.1	239.6	208.9	261.5	230.8	228.4	261.5	263.1	259.9
October	241.2	279.6	252.3	273.3	285.4	240.1	211.8	242.1	231.5	232.8	262.4	263.8	260.9
November	244.1	282.6	253.8	274.1	286.3	240.1	214.2	242.0	231.9	236.8	264.0	265.0	262.5
December	249.9	284.6	254.8	275.2	287.7	241.2	215.9	252.1	233.1	237.8	266.0	267.0	264.4
January	257.1	286.7	256.1	276.8	293.6	243.8	219.9	257.2	234.5	240.9	268.1	271.3	268.3
February	264.3	288.6	259.5	281.5	297.6	247.3	238.0	258.9	234.9	251.0	273.9	275.8	273.4
March	264.6	289.6	261.8	283.0	298.9	248.5	240.4	263.2	236.4	255.2	274.2	277.3	275.0
April	269.8	290.3	263.5	286.4	299.2	248.7	250.5	272.8	238.5	259.6	275.7	279.5	277.3
May	273.3	292.5	264.9	287.7	300.0	252.7	250.2	274.5	238.9	258.9	276.9	281.0	278.6
June	273.9	295.2	266.1	290.5	300.6	255.5	253.6	274.8	239.8	257.6	277.0	282.1	279.3
1979-80													
July p	282.5	r300.4	r271.2	294.8	308.8	r257.9	253.4	282.1	242.7	261.9	r282.5	288.3	285.2
August p	284.1	302.3	277.8	297.4	311.8	264.3	257.9	282.7	245.8	266.2	285.8	291.4	288.5

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

Value weight (c)	Concrete mix, cement, sand, etc. 10.41%	Cement products 3.64%	Bricks, stone, etc. 5.28%	Timber, board and joinery 11.90%	Steel and iron products 30.58%	Aluminium products 6.01%	Other metal products 2.59%	Plumbing fixtures 1.19%	Miscellaneous materials 7.09%	Electrical installation materials (a) 8.61%	Mechanical services components 12.70%	Special purpose index (b) 78.69%	All groups 100.00%
Change from corresponding month of previous year -													
1978-79													
March	+9.9	+3.9	+7.5	+6.4	+8.1	+7.0	+26.0	-1.2	+4.7	+17.7	+9.1	+7.9	+8.7
April	+11.8	+4.8	+7.3	+6.6	+7.9	+7.0	+29.2	+2.2	+5.2	+18.1	+8.5	+8.2	+8.9
May	+12.8	+6.2	+7.5	+6.6	+7.6	+7.0	+28.4	+2.8	+5.1	+16.8	+8.6	+8.3	+9.0
June	+12.8	+6.6	+7.6	+7.2	+6.5	+7.6	+23.2	+2.9	+5.2	+14.5	+8.0	+7.8	+8.3
1979-80													
July p	+17.5	r+8.4	r+9.2	+8.7	+8.8	r+8.4	+24.3	+5.6	+5.1	+16.5	r+9.4	+9.9	+10.3
August p	+18.8	+8.9	+11.5	+9.2	+9.6	+10.3	+25.3	+6.0	+7.1	+17.4	+9.8	+10.9	+11.2
Change from previous month -													
1978-79													
March	+0.1	+0.3	+0.9	+0.5	+0.4	+0.5	+4.8	+1.7	+0.6	+1.7	+0.1	+0.5	+0.6
April	+2.0	+0.2	+0.6	+1.2	+0.1	+0.1	+4.0	+3.6	+0.9	+1.7	+0.5	+0.8	+0.8
May	+1.3	+0.8	+0.5	+0.5	+0.3	+1.6	-0.1	+0.6	+0.2	-0.3	+0.4	+0.5	+0.5
June	+0.2	+0.9	+0.5	+1.0	+0.2	r+1.1	-2.2	+0.1	+0.4	-0.5	-	+0.4	+0.3
1979-80													
July p	+3.1	+11.8	+11.9	+1.5	+2.7	+0.9	-0.1	+2.7	+1.2	+1.7	r+2.0	+2.2	+2.1
August p	+0.6	+0.6	+2.4	+0.9	+1.0	+2.5	+1.8	+0.2	+1.3	+1.6	+1.2	+1.1	+1.2

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

TABLE 4. PRICE INDEX OF MATERIALS USED IN BUILDING OTHER THAN HOUSE BUILDING - INDEXES FOR SELECTED ITEMS
(Base of each index: Year 1966-67 = 100.0)

WEIGHTED AVERAGE OF SIX STATE CAPITAL CITIES

Items or combinations of items	1978-79	1979					
		Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July p	Aug. p
Concrete ready mixed	251.2	262.1	267.7	271.4	272.1	281.3	282.8
Cement	252.8	256.7	258.5	261.1	261.1	264.5	266.8
Sand and aggregate	284.9	292.6	296.6	298.6	298.7	307.6	310.2
Asbestos cement sheets	299.0	304.7	304.8	307.9	307.3	315.7	317.6
Concrete masonry blocks	268.1	269.6	270.8	273.4	281.3	282.8	283.8
Pre-cast concrete panels and other pre-cast concrete products (a)	288.5	294.5	295.4	296.4	297.1	r302.8	305.6
Clay bricks	262.1	268.5	270.2	271.4	271.8	r277.0	286.1
Earthenware pipes and fittings	211.5	211.3	213.1	217.9	221.0	231.5	232.2
Hardwood timber	288.2	293.3	296.0	296.1	300.1	302.4	308.0
Softwood timber	317.6	322.7	329.0	333.7	343.3	350.7	355.7
Plywood, hardboard, softboard	243.3	247.4	252.7	253.8	255.8	264.6	265.3
Partitions, ready made doors and other joinery	273.0	276.4	279.2	280.1	280.4	283.8	284.4
Structural steel	306.2	313.2	313.4	313.5	313.9	r324.8	326.5
Reinforcing rods and reinforcing fabric	264.4	270.8	271.6	273.0	273.9	281.9	285.9
Other steel products (b)	306.1	312.7	313.0	313.9	315.0	321.8	325.6
Galvanised steel decking and cladding, sheet and sheet products	256.3	263.8	263.7	265.0	265.0	265.5	270.0
Cast iron pipes and other cast iron products	269.8	278.9	280.1	280.7	280.7	289.9	296.6
Hinges, catches, handles, bolts, etc.	312.3	317.8	318.3	318.3	323.4	325.7	329.6
Aluminium window frames	246.8	252.8	253.2	255.3	r257.5	r260.9	265.3
Aluminium decking and cladding, downpipe and guttering	248.9	247.6	247.6	256.3	260.9	261.5	272.3
Copper pipes	199.4	222.8	233.3	229.4	216.1	214.1	221.6
Toilet suites and pans, urinals	245.7	248.9	256.4	256.5	256.8	r261.9	262.8
Hand basins, sinks, baths	275.1	277.7	289.6	293.1	293.0	302.9	302.9
Paint	233.3	239.3	241.1	241.2	241.2	245.2	248.9
Glass	340.7	347.6	348.3	348.5	350.1	355.5	360.0
Plaster and plaster products	244.9	246.4	249.6	250.9	255.1	256.5	258.3
Ceramic tiles	205.9	208.0	208.4	208.0	208.0	208.7	212.6
Vinyl tiles	194.0	192.7	200.5	201.2	202.0	202.7	206.1
Conductors (c)	193.1	210.7	218.6	215.7	211.9	214.3	217.4
Conduit and accessories (c)	269.2	278.8	279.5	281.2	282.4	291.6	296.5
Switchboard and switchgear material (c)	284.6	293.2	294.9	295.8	296.0	299.3	304.6
Air conditioning	267.3	273.0	274.0	275.7	275.2	r280.4	282.0
Heating systems	239.4	240.5	245.3	248.0	248.0	r255.8	257.2
Fire protection installations	230.8	236.1	236.5	237.1	237.3	238.6	247.6

(a) Other pre-cast concrete products includes beams, slabs, pipes and fittings. (b) Includes steel doors and frames, steel window frames, steel louver frames and screens, steel roller shutters and grilles, steel balustrading, steel angles and sections and steel suspended ceilings. (c) These items are published as groups in the ABS Bulletin (6409.0) *Price Index of Electrical Installation Materials* on the reference base 1959-60 = 100.0. For the purposes of this bulletin the index numbers have been rebased to the reference base 1966-67 = 100.0.