

PRICE INDEX OF MATERIALS USED IN BUILDING OTHER THAN HOUSE BUILDING OCTOBER 1978

INQUIRIES

If you want to know more about these statistics ring Mr Graeme Groves on Canberra 526237 or our State office, or write to Information Services, ABS, P.O. Box 10, Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616.

For copies of this publication contact Information Services, Canberra 526627 or State offices.

MAIN FEATURES

All groups index	Change between -	
	Sept. 78 and Oct. 78	Oct. 77 and Oct. 78
	%	%
Sydney	+0.4	+7.0
Melbourne	+0.5	+5.5
Brisbane	+0.1	+5.7
Adelaide	+0.2	+5.2
Perth	+0.4	+6.4
Hobart	+0.3	+5.3
Weighted average of six State capital cities	+0.4	+6.1

The All groups index for the weighted average of the six State capital cities rose by 0.4% between September 1978 and October 1978 mainly due to increased prices for electrical installation materials, ready-mixed concrete, clay bricks and mechanical services components. These increases were partly offset by decreased prices for some plumbing fixtures.

The All groups index for the weighted average of the six State capital cities rose by 6.1% between October 1977 and October 1978 compared with a rise of 9.2% between October 1976 and October 1977 and a rise of 12.0% between October 1975 and October 1976.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

This bulletin 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 bulletin (6408.0). Index numbers for the current month and the previous month are preliminary and subject to revision.

Scope and composition

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 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

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.

Prices

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

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 also 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 July 1978 258.5
 Index number as at June 1978 257.8
 Percentage change = $\frac{258.5 - 257.8}{257.8} \times 100 = +0.3\%$

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.
- n.d. 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)							
1975-76	199.0	209.4	216.3	210.4	208.3	210.4	206.2
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
1977-78							
September	234.7	249.2	256.2	249.2	253.4	249.6	244.7
October	236.2	250.0	257.1	250.2	254.6	250.8	245.8
November	237.3	252.7	259.3	252.3	256.9	252.6	247.7
December	239.3	254.3	260.6	253.8	258.1	253.9	249.4
January	240.7	255.7	262.1	255.2	259.3	254.7	250.7
February	242.0	256.5	263.2	256.3	259.7	255.5	251.8
March	243.2	257.7	264.1	257.8	261.4	256.4	252.9
April	245.1	259.0	264.9	259.1	263.1	257.6	254.6
May	245.9	260.1	266.6	260.9	265.1	259.3	255.7
June	248.3	262.1	268.8	262.6	266.9	260.7	257.8
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 p	251.8	262.3	271.4	262.8	269.8	263.5	259.9
October p	252.7	263.7	271.8	263.2	270.8	264.2	260.9
PERCENTAGE CHANGES							
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Change from previous year -							
1975-76	+13.1	+15.9	+15.9	+16.2	+17.9	+17.3	+15.1
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
Change from corresponding month of previous year -							
1977-78							
September	+9.3	+9.1	+9.0	+9.0	+11.2	+8.9	+9.3
October	+9.4	+8.8	+8.9	+9.0	+10.6	+8.9	+9.2
November	+8.9	+9.3	+8.8	+9.3	+10.7	+9.0	+9.2
December	+8.8	+8.6	+8.3	+8.8	+10.2	+8.2	+8.8
January	+8.5	+8.6	+8.4	+8.7	+10.0	+8.2	+8.6
February	+7.6	+7.8	+7.8	+8.1	+9.3	+7.7	+7.9
March	+7.1	+7.6	+7.4	+8.1	+7.9	+7.2	+7.4
April	+7.1	+6.8	+6.9	+7.6	+8.0	+6.8	+7.2
May	+7.5	+7.3	+7.5	+8.2	+8.6	+7.2	+7.6
June	+8.0	+7.5	+7.8	+8.4	+8.9	+7.1	+7.9
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 p	+7.3	+5.3	+5.9	+5.5	+6.5	+5.6	+6.2
October p	+7.0	+5.5	+5.7	+5.2	+6.4	+5.3	+6.1
Change from previous month -							
1977-78							
September	+0.6	+0.4	+0.7	+0.6	+0.6	+0.8	+0.6
October	+0.6	+0.3	+0.4	+0.4	+0.5	+0.5	+0.4
November	+0.5	+1.1	+0.9	+0.8	+0.9	+0.7	+0.8
December	+0.8	+0.6	+0.5	+0.6	+0.5	+0.5	+0.7
January	+0.6	+0.6	+0.6	+0.6	+0.5	+0.3	+0.5
February	+0.5	+0.3	+0.4	+0.4	+0.2	+0.3	+0.4
March	+0.5	+0.5	+0.3	+0.6	+0.7	+0.4	+0.4
April	+0.8	+0.5	+0.3	+0.5	+0.7	+0.5	+0.7
May	+0.3	+0.4	+0.6	+0.7	+0.8	+0.7	+0.4
June	+1.0	+0.8	+0.8	+0.7	+0.7	+0.5	+0.8
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 p	+0.5	+0.1	+0.2	-0.1	+0.2	+0.2	+0.2
October p	+0.4	+0.5	+0.1	+0.2	+0.4	+0.3	+0.4

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	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%
SYDNEY													
1975-76	202.0	217.9	200.1	209.5	198.7	197.5	186.2	230.7	191.3	177.4	200.7	201.1	199.0
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	243.9	263.6	238.7	249.2	241.5	232.2	211.5	266.0	230.5	215.3	246.4	241.5	239.9
1977-78													
September	231.8	260.3	237.6	244.3	237.7	230.6	207.0	263.1	224.3	209.1	240.6	236.6	234.7
October	241.5	260.4	237.6	245.5	237.2	232.0	209.1	263.8	225.2	210.5	241.4	238.1	236.2
November	243.3	261.2	237.8	245.5	238.8	231.9	208.2	263.8	225.6	212.3	243.7	239.0	237.3
December	243.3	262.9	238.2	247.2	241.5	232.7	209.2	267.9	230.7	215.3	245.0	241.1	239.3
January	245.8	265.8	240.6	247.2	242.0	233.4	211.2	267.9	232.1	217.7	247.1	242.1	240.7
February	248.6	267.5	240.8	249.7	243.6	233.4	211.2	268.3	234.6	216.8	248.0	243.8	242.0
March	250.6	267.5	240.8	251.0	244.6	233.9	211.3	268.4	236.0	216.9	250.7	244.8	243.2
April	251.6	272.6	244.3	255.8	245.0	234.2	216.0	268.4	237.1	219.8	253.5	246.6	245.1
May	252.2	266.4	244.6	257.8	245.9	236.5	216.5	268.4	237.8	221.6	254.4	247.3	245.9
June	254.4	267.9	244.9	258.6	249.4	240.1	220.9	268.4	238.9	225.0	255.9	249.6	248.3
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 p	263.5	268.7	246.5	261.2	253.4	241.5	225.3	236.1	239.4	228.4	260.8	252.9	251.8
October p	264.5	272.1	247.3	261.6	253.4	242.2	228.2	237.1	240.9	232.0	261.7	253.5	252.7
MELBOURNE													
1975-76	191.8	215.3	189.8	212.0	239.6	194.1	164.3	249.9	187.6	177.4	201.6	214.1	209.4
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
1977-78													
September	230.4	252.2	217.9	252.1	290.9	231.6	181.0	267.8	212.9	209.1	241.6	254.8	249.2
October	231.3	252.2	219.0	253.5	290.9	233.3	182.3	267.9	214.1	210.5	242.5	255.5	250.0
November	234.4	259.1	220.2	253.8	295.7	234.7	183.1	268.1	214.4	212.3	244.7	258.4	252.7
December	235.1	259.1	220.4	254.8	297.7	237.2	183.6	271.0	216.7	215.3	246.0	259.9	254.3
January	240.0	262.0	220.5	256.4	298.0	237.4	185.3	271.0	217.0	217.7	247.8	261.1	255.7
February	240.3	263.2	223.2	258.9	298.6	237.4	184.7	271.7	218.3	216.8	248.7	262.0	256.5
March	240.5	267.6	223.2	260.6	299.7	237.4	185.6	273.5	218.7	216.9	251.4	263.1	257.7
April	241.5	270.8	225.7	261.6	300.1	237.8	186.8	275.1	219.6	218.8	254.3	264.1	259.0
May	241.9	271.6	226.6	261.9	301.4	240.9	189.6	275.2	220.1	221.6	255.1	265.1	260.1
June	241.4	274.1	227.6	262.2	305.4	240.9	194.9	275.1	219.9	225.0	256.6	267.1	262.1
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	261.7	308.0	246.3	194.9	275.9	221.7	226.8	260.1	266.2	262.0
September p	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 p	227.1	274.8	235.4	262.7	308.3	246.7	200.7	255.1	222.5	232.0	262.3	267.4	263.7

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%
BRISBANE													
1975-76	189.7	234.1	207.8	246.3	249.0	194.4	158.2	234.0	171.5	177.4	201.9	222.9	216.3
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
1977-78													
September	220.2	284.3	245.0	288.3	299.4	220.7	187.9	266.0	197.2	209.1	242.6	263.5	256.2
October	222.1	285.4	245.2	288.5	299.4	225.3	189.3	268.9	199.0	210.5	243.5	264.4	257.1
November	222.2	286.4	245.2	288.7	304.7	225.3	190.5	268.0	199.2	212.3	245.7	266.6	259.3
December	223.5	287.2	245.2	289.9	306.2	225.5	189.3	270.7	199.9	215.3	247.4	267.7	260.6
January	225.1	290.3	248.2	291.5	307.3	225.9	189.5	270.7	201.1	217.7	249.2	269.1	262.1
February	228.6	292.2	248.7	296.6	307.3	225.9	189.9	271.9	201.3	216.8	250.0	270.4	263.2
March	228.6	296.6	248.9	296.8	308.1	225.9	187.9	272.1	202.6	216.9	252.7	271.1	264.1
April	228.9	298.7	248.9	297.2	308.4	225.9	190.4	272.1	202.9	219.8	255.5	271.5	264.9
May	231.7	301.1	250.0	297.6	310.5	229.5	190.4	271.9	203.2	221.6	256.3	273.2	266.6
June	231.7	302.5	251.1	300.4	314.1	229.6	190.8	271.9	203.8	225.0	258.1	275.3	268.8
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 p	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 p	235.3	302.5	257.2	301.7	315.9	230.2	194.3	237.0	211.8	232.0	264.1	277.4	271.8
ADELAIDE													
1975-76	185.7	233.8	221.1	244.3	225.1	185.1	176.6	235.4	192.3	177.4	201.4	215.5	210.4
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
1977-78													
September	226.2	283.5	259.5	289.3	265.4	222.0	199.7	270.2	220.6	209.1	241.3	254.8	249.2
October	229.0	286.3	259.7	289.4	266.5	222.0	200.0	270.4	221.2	210.5	242.2	255.8	250.2
November	230.5	288.3	259.8	289.1	271.1	222.0	199.7	270.5	221.6	212.3	244.4	257.9	252.3
December	231.1	288.3	259.8	291.5	272.8	222.0	200.6	271.8	224.7	215.3	245.7	259.4	253.8
January	232.3	293.1	267.9	291.4	273.2	222.0	202.1	271.8	225.6	217.7	247.4	260.5	255.2
February	238.6	297.0	268.9	291.5	273.9	222.0	202.3	271.8	226.2	216.8	248.3	262.0	256.3
March	241.0	298.0	270.5	293.0	275.5	222.0	201.3	271.8	226.2	216.9	251.1	263.3	257.8
April	241.0	300.0	270.8	293.6	277.1	222.0	204.1	271.8	228.1	219.8	253.9	264.4	259.1
May	236.8	303.0	270.8	297.5	278.7	235.2	205.5	272.0	228.6	221.6	254.7	266.2	260.9
June	233.6	303.2	271.8	300.1	281.9	235.3	210.8	272.0	228.9	225.0	256.2	267.8	262.6
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 p	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 p	207.4	309.2	281.4	303.6	283.5	236.1	217.2	248.5	235.0	232.0	262.0	266.8	263.2

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													
1975-76	169.1	212.2	216.3	219.2	243.5	186.8	158.4	176.8	179.5	177.4	201.7	212.7	208.3
1976-77	194.0	240.7	241.5	249.5	274.6	209.0	178.1	197.4	199.6	226.0	240.9	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
1977-78													
September	215.2	253.9	257.7	270.8	295.9	227.2	176.6	210.8	223.7	209.1	241.9	260.0	253.4
October	215.2	254.1	263.1	271.5	296.4	232.8	178.9	210.8	225.0	210.5	242.8	261.3	254.6
November	216.3	256.5	263.1	272.1	301.5	233.1	179.6	211.0	225.4	212.3	245.2	263.7	256.9
December	216.9	256.9	263.1	273.0	302.6	233.1	179.7	215.1	227.7	215.3	246.5	264.6	258.1
January	216.9	259.9	263.7	273.2	304.4	233.1	180.7	217.5	228.0	217.7	248.2	265.6	259.3
February	216.9	260.2	264.7	274.2	304.6	233.2	180.7	217.7	229.8	216.8	249.1	266.1	259.7
March	216.9	262.7	268.8	277.1	305.2	233.2	182.0	219.5	233.7	216.9	252.5	267.6	261.4
April	217.9	263.0	268.8	279.3	308.2	233.2	182.0	220.2	233.8	219.8	255.3	269.3	263.1
May	221.7	263.0	270.3	279.5	311.8	233.6	181.8	220.2	234.9	221.6	256.1	271.3	265.1
June	223.7	263.4	271.8	279.8	314.3	233.0	185.9	220.2	235.6	225.0	257.6	273.0	266.9
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 p	222.4	264.1	273.0	284.4	318.3	233.2	187.3	219.5	239.4	228.4	262.4	275.5	269.8
October p	222.9	264.3	277.1	284.8	318.8	233.2	188.7	217.0	241.4	232.0	263.2	276.3	270.8
HOBART													
1975-76	185.3	207.8	198.1	222.4	236.9	176.2	176.5	221.6	188.1	177.4	201.7	215.4	210.4
1976-77	206.2	236.5	262.6	249.5	262.9	199.0	193.4	246.5	199.6	226.3	240.0	234.8	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
1977-78													
September	217.1	255.8	282.0	266.8	276.4	219.2	202.3	254.9	221.1	209.1	242.1	255.2	249.6
October	217.1	258.2	292.0	267.0	279.2	218.8	204.0	255.8	222.2	210.5	243.0	256.5	250.8
November	217.1	258.8	293.1	267.0	283.0	218.8	204.1	258.3	222.6	212.3	245.2	258.2	252.6
December	220.8	259.2	293.5	267.7	283.6	218.8	208.6	260.2	224.4	215.3	246.5	259.4	253.9
January	220.8	260.6	294.4	268.3	283.9	218.8	208.6	261.5	225.7	217.7	248.2	259.8	254.7
February	222.9	260.6	294.4	269.2	284.9	219.3	208.6	261.5	226.8	216.8	249.1	260.7	255.5
March	223.3	260.6	292.5	274.2	284.3	219.3	209.1	261.7	230.0	216.9	251.8	261.4	256.4
April	224.5	260.6	293.0	275.4	285.3	219.3	209.6	261.8	230.6	219.8	254.7	262.4	257.6
May	228.8	265.0	294.0	275.7	286.1	224.2	209.6	261.8	232.0	221.6	255.5	264.0	259.3
June	228.9	265.6	297.3	276.0	287.8	224.3	209.6	263.3	232.6	225.0	257.0	265.2	260.7
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	232.4	275.3	297.3	277.7	289.8	224.3	211.6	264.0	235.5	226.8	260.6	267.3	262.9
September p	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 p	232.7	275.4	297.3	278.4	290.5	225.6	213.1	260.7	236.3	232.0	262.7	267.9	264.2

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, sand, etc.	Cement products	Bricks, stone, etc.	Timber, board and joinery	Steel and iron products	Aluminum 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%
WEIGHTED AVERAGE OF SIX STATE CAPITAL CITIES													
1975-76	193.0	220.0	202.7	219.3	223.4	193.6	173.3	232.1	186.8	177.4	201.3	210.1	206.2
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
1977-78													
September	227.7	262.7	238.2	259.0	268.5	228.2	194.3	261.0	217.2	209.1	241.3	249.1	244.7
October	232.3	261.2	239.2	259.9	268.4	230.2	195.9	261.7	218.3	212.2	242.2	250.2	245.8
November	234.1	265.9	239.7	260.1	272.0	230.6	195.9	261.8	218.7	212.3	244.5	252.1	247.7
December	234.6	266.7	239.9	261.5	274.1	231.5	196.6	265.0	222.0	215.3	245.8	253.7	249.4
January	237.3	269.8	242.1	262.1	274.7	232.0	198.1	265.2	222.9	217.7	247.7	254.8	250.7
February	239.6	271.4	243.1	264.6	275.6	232.0	197.8	265.8	224.4	216.8	248.6	256.1	251.8
March	240.7	273.5	243.6	266.1	276.6	232.3	198.0	266.5	225.8	216.9	251.4	257.1	252.9
April	241.4	276.9	245.6	268.7	277.3	232.5	200.8	266.9	226.7	219.8	254.2	258.4	254.6
May	242.2	275.3	246.4	269.8	278.7	236.2	201.9	267.0	227.3	221.6	255.0	259.5	255.7
June	242.8	276.8	247.2	271.0	282.2	237.5	205.9	267.0	227.9	225.0	256.6	261.6	257.8
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	239.1	277.6	249.1	272.3	284.6	239.7	205.9	266.8	229.5	226.8	260.2	262.8	259.4
September p	239.6	277.6	249.3	273.0	285.1	239.6	208.9	265.3	230.8	228.4	261.5	263.1	259.9
October p	241.2	279.6	252.3	273.3	285.4	240.1	211.8	242.1	231.5	232.0	262.4	263.8	260.9

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

	Concrete mix, sand, etc.	Cement products	Bricks, stone, etc.	Timber, board and joinery	Steel and iron products	Aluminum 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%
Change from corresponding month of previous year -													
1977-78													
May	+10.0	+10.2	+8.6	+6.4	+7.5	+7.0	+1.2	+5.6	+7.9	+6.5	+8.5	+7.5	+7.6
June	+9.7	+9.6	+7.1	+6.2	+8.3	+7.2	+4.1	+5.5	+7.6	+8.2	+8.5	+7.8	+7.9
1978-79													
July	+7.4	+7.4	+6.9	+5.3	+7.1	+6.8	+3.5	+3.8	+7.4	+7.2	+8.0	+6.7	+6.9
August	+5.1	+6.6	+6.2	+5.3	+6.5	+7.3	+5.7	+3.1	+6.1	+8.5	+8.6	+6.1	+6.6
September p	+5.2	+5.7	+4.7	+5.4	+6.2	+5.0	+7.5	+3.7	+6.3	+9.2	+8.4	+5.6	+6.2
October p	+3.8	+6.2	+5.5	+5.2	+6.3	+4.3	+8.1	-7.5	+6.0	+10.2	+8.3	+5.4	+6.1
Change from previous month -													
1977-78													
May	+0.3	-0.6	+0.3	+0.4	+0.5	+1.6	+0.5	-	+0.3	+0.8	+0.3	+0.4	+0.4
June	+0.2	+0.5	+0.3	+0.4	+1.3	+0.6	+2.0	-	+0.3	+1.5	+0.6	+0.8	+0.8
1978-79													
July	-0.9	+0.1	+0.4	+0.1	+0.5	+0.2	-1.0	+0.1	+1.3	-0.1	+0.6	+0.3	+0.3
August	-0.6	+0.1	+0.3	+0.4	+0.3	+0.7	+1.0	-0.1	-0.6	+0.9	+0.8	+0.2	+0.3
September p	+0.2	-	+0.1	+0.3	+0.2	+0.2	+1.5	+5.8	+0.6	+0.7	+0.5	+0.1	+0.2
October p	+0.7	+0.7	+1.2	+0.1	+0.1	+0.2	+1.4	-3.7	+0.3	+1.6	+0.3	+0.3	+0.4

(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	1977-78	1978					
		May	June	July	Aug.	Sept. p	Oct. p
Concrete ready mixed	231.5	238.5	239.4	235.8	234.0	234.3	236.1
Cement	237.0	243.8	243.8	246.8	247.1	247.2	247.8
Sand and aggregate	265.4	271.3	269.6	271.6	271.9	273.4	274.2
Asbestos cement sheets	274.0	290.4	290.4	290.1	290.1	290.1	290.1
Concrete masonry blocks	261.1	258.2	260.0	260.7	261.5	261.2	265.9
Pre-cast concrete panels and other pre-cast concrete products (a)	270.1	277.4	280.1	280.8	281.2	281.9	282.8
Clay bricks	245.7	251.1	251.3	252.8	253.2	253.3	257.5
Earthenware pipes and fittings	205.3	208.0	209.0	209.0	209.0	209.0	209.0
Hardwood timber	275.1	281.8	281.8	281.8	282.4	282.2	282.3
Softwood timber	295.6	302.3	303.4	304.6	307.3	307.3	308.3
Plywood, hardboard, softboard	227.0	233.5	234.8	235.0	235.0	236.5	237.4
Partitions, ready made doors and other joinery	258.0	264.8	266.2	266.4	267.9	268.9	268.9
Structural steel	285.0	291.4	296.7	297.8	298.5	299.1	299.1
Reinforcing rods and reinforcing fabric	251.0	251.6	254.4	257.2	257.6	257.6	257.9
Other steel products (b)	287.4	295.2	297.1	298.4	300.7	301.0	300.7
Galvanised steel decking and cladding, sheet and sheet products	244.9	247.9	249.1	249.1	249.2	249.4	250.1
Cast iron pipes and other cast iron products	244.5	253.1	253.8	257.7	260.1	262.3	263.2
Hinges, catches, handles, bolts, etc.	285.4	296.2	296.7	301.2	307.8	307.8	308.8
Aluminium window frames	233.2	237.3	239.0	239.3	241.0	240.9	241.1
Aluminium decking and cladding, downpipe and guttering	235.2	244.2	244.6	245.6	246.7	246.8	246.8
Copper pipes	168.4	170.8	178.0	173.2	176.6	180.5	184.0
Toilet suites and pans, urinals	245.2	247.9	248.0	248.4	247.8	237.9	232.2
Hand basins, sinks, baths	282.4	286.3	286.3	286.3	286.2	264.9	252.1
Paint	216.0	220.6	222.4	224.4	225.0	228.1	228.1
Glass	324.1	333.2	333.6	342.4	330.9	331.1	332.5
Plaster and plaster products	232.2	234.6	236.7	236.9	237.1	241.5	242.2
Ceramic tiles	187.5	193.2	193.9	198.0	203.7	205.1	206.3
Vinyl tiles	179.7	188.0	188.3	190.0	190.0	190.0	192.1
Conductors (c)	165.8	168.0	172.7	169.6	173.0	176.1	181.4
Conduit and accessories (c)	239.3	249.1	254.0	255.1	256.4	257.2	257.9
Switchboard and switchgear material (c)	259.3	268.4	269.3	271.7	272.3	272.6	275.9
Air conditioning	246.5	253.8	255.6	257.2	260.1	261.7	262.5
Heating systems	223.8	231.6	232.0	232.9	233.5	233.5	234.1
Fire protection installations	219.6	221.6	223.9	225.0	225.0	225.3	226.2

(a) Other pre-cast concrete products includes beams, slabs, pipes and fittings. (b) Includes steel doors and frames, steel window frames, steel louvre 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.