



WHOLESALE PRICE INDEXES PRICE INDEX OF ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION MATERIALS MARCH 1973

This bulletin contains index numbers of the Price Index of Electrical Installation Materials on the reference base Year 1959-60 = 100.0.

- Information on the construction of the index is contained in Labour Report No. 56, 1971. The index provides comparisons of the overall price changes occurring for a combination of materials, fixed as to quantity and quality. The yearly index numbers for the years 1959-60 to 1968-69 are simple averages of index numbers for the months of August, November, February and May in each year while those for following years are simple averages for the twelve monthly index numbers for each year.
- The items in this index have been selected as representative of materials used in electrical installation in structures such as hospitals, schools, factories and multi-storeyed commercial buildings and flats.
- The items are priced as at the middle of the month for which index numbers are published. The basis of pricing is the price to electrical contractors, delivered on site or into store, Sydney and Melbourne. The price series used relate to specific standards for each item and in some cases are combinations of prices for different makes, types, etc.
- In general, the weights for the index were derived from information relating to the values of materials used in selected representative projects in Sydney and Melbourne during the three years 1960-61 to 1962-63. The projects selected for this purpose had a minimum electrical materials and labour content of \$10,000.
- Index numbers for three groupings of items and for the All Groups combination are given in Table 2. In interpreting movements in the index, particularly those from month to month, it should be noted that changes frequently occur in an uneven fashion over time. Changes in index numbers for individual months should not be interpreted in isolation and without reference to changes over longer periods.
- Table 1 below presents, for individual groups and All Groups, percentage changes shown by the index numbers for the current month relative to the index numbers for the preceding month, and the percentage change between the averages of the twelve months ended March 1972 and March 1973 respectively.

TABLE 1. - WHOLESALE PRICE INDEXES
PRICE INDEX OF ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION MATERIALS - MARCH 1973
GROUPS AND ALL GROUPS
Change from previous periods
(Per cent)

Percentage change between -		Conductors	Conduit and accessories	Switch-board and switch-gear material	All groups
Feb. 1973	and Mar. 1973	+0.5	+1.4	+0.5	+0.7
Average of 12 months to Mar. 1972	and Average of 12 months to Mar. 1973	+3.7	+5.1	+4.3	+4.2

TABLE 2. - WHOLESALE PRICE INDEXES
PRICE INDEX OF ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION MATERIALS
GROUPS AND ALL GROUPS
(Base of each index : Year 1959-60 = 100.0 (a))

Period	Conductors	Conduit and accessories	Switch-board and switch-gear material	All groups
Year (b)				
1962-63	96.8	103.6	100.5	99.8
1963-64	93.2	103.7	100.8	98.5
1964-65	110.6	104.6	105.2	107.2
1965-66	105.8	104.2	106.6	105.7
1966-67	120.2	105.8	109.2	112.8
1967-68	119.9	106.0	112.5	113.8
1968-69	119.5	107.3	115.3	115.0
1969-70	142.1	109.6	120.1	126.2
1970-71	128.4	112.8	129.2	124.8
1971-72	126.7	120.9	137.7	129.1
Month (c)				
1970-71				
February	122.8	110.6	130.3	122.3
March	122.9	115.9	132.2	124.4
April	124.5	115.9	134.1	125.7
May	124.1	115.9	134.2	125.6
June	123.2	116.0	135.1	125.6
1971-72				
July	123.5	117.4	135.1	126.0
August	126.6	117.8	135.1	127.4
September	127.1	120.1	136.2	128.5
October	126.4	120.2	137.2	128.6
November	126.4	120.2	137.2	128.6
December	126.0	120.2	137.5	128.5
January	126.0	120.2	137.7	128.6
February	126.2	122.9	138.1	129.5
March	126.4	122.9	138.7	129.8
April	126.1	122.9	139.4	129.9
May	129.7	122.9	140.3	131.7
June	129.9	122.9	140.3	131.8
1972-73				
July	129.8	124.4	140.9	132.3
August	129.8	125.2	140.9	132.5
September	129.8	125.2	140.9	132.5
October	130.8	125.2	140.9	132.9
November	130.8	125.2	143.8	133.9
December	130.8	126.7	143.8	134.3
January	131.0	126.7	144.7	134.7
February	131.1	126.7	145.7	135.1
March	131.7	128.5	146.5	136.1

(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) See page 1, para. 2 for a description of the method used to derive yearly index numbers. (c) As at mid-point of month.

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NOTE. Inquiries concerning these statistics may be made in Canberra by telephoning 63 9111 extension 2053 or, in each State capital, by telephoning the office of the Bureau of Census and Statistics.