

**PRICE INDEX OF  
ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION MATERIALS :  
AUSTRALIA  
Catalogue No. 6409.0**

MARCH 1980

# AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS Canberra

CATALOGUE NO. 6409.0

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## PRICE INDEX OF ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION MATERIALS AUSTRALIA MARCH 1980

### INQUIRIES

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

### EXPLANATORY NOTES

#### Introduction

This publication contains index numbers of the *Price Index of Electrical Installation Materials*. The index provides comparisons of the overall price changes occurring for a combination of materials, fixed as to quantity and quality. Information on the construction of the index is contained in *Labour Report No. 56, 1971*.

#### Items and weights

2. This index is a *fixed weights index*. 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.

3. 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.

#### Prices

4. The items are priced as at the middle of the month for which index numbers are published. The basis 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.

#### Index numbers

5. Index numbers for financial years are simple averages of the relevant monthly index numbers. Index numbers for the current month are subject to revision.

#### Interpretation of the index

6. 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. In particular, the prices of some major components in this index are affected by fluctuations in the price of copper. Changes in index numbers for individual months, therefore, do not necessarily indicate changes in trend; they should not be interpreted in isolation and without reference to changes over longer periods.

#### Related publications

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

- . *Price Indexes of Articles Produced by Manufacturing Industry* (6412.0)
- . *Price Index of Materials Used in Manufacturing Industry* (6411.0)
- . *Price Index of Materials Used in Building Other than House Building* (6407.0)
- . *Price Index of Materials Used in House Building* (6408.0)
- . *Price Indexes of Metallic Materials* (6410.0)

8. All current 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.J. CAMERON  
Australian Statistician

TABLE 1. PRICE INDEX OF ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION MATERIALS

Value weight (a)	Conductors	Conduit and accessories	Switchboard and switchgear material	All groups
	40%	25%	35%	100%
INDEX NUMBERS (Base of each index: Year 1959-60 = 100.0)				
1976-77	197.5	227.8	252.8	224.4
1977-78	199.3	253.1	283.2	242.1
1978-79	232.1	284.8	310.7	272.8
1978-79				
February	244.3	293.5	318.0	282.4
March	253.3	295.0	320.2	287.1
April	262.8	295.7	322.0	291.8
May	259.3	297.5	323.0	291.2
June	254.7	298.8	323.2	289.7
1979-80				
July	257.6	308.5	326.8	294.5
August	261.3	313.7	333.0	299.5
September	271.4	313.9	336.4	304.8
October	285.1	316.0	338.9	311.7
November	276.7	318.5	341.0	309.6
December	285.3	329.5	347.3	318.1
January	297.3	329.7	353.1	324.9
February	332.3	333.6	362.7	343.3
March p	314.9	340.8	376.5	342.9
PERCENTAGE CHANGES				
	%	%	%	%
<i>Change from previous year -</i>				
1976-77	+10.9	+14.5	+12.6	+12.4
1977-78	+ 0.9	+11.1	+12.0	+ 7.9
1978-79	+16.5	+12.5	+ 9.7	+12.7
<i>Change from corresponding month of previous year -</i>				
1978-79				
February	+22.0	+14.7	+11.5	+15.8
March	+27.9	+14.8	+11.6	+17.7
April	+30.1	+15.0	+10.3	+18.0
May	+28.4	+12.9	+10.2	+16.9
June	+22.7	+11.2	+ 9.9	+14.5
1979-80				
July	+26.4	+14.3	+10.1	+16.5
August	+25.6	+15.6	+12.0	+17.4
September	+28.2	+15.4	+13.0	+18.6
October	+30.8	+15.8	+11.5	+19.1
November	+25.6	+12.8	+11.0	+16.3
December	+28.9	+15.9	+12.7	+18.9
January	+30.6	+16.0	+13.5	+19.9
February	+36.0	+13.7	+14.1	+21.6
March p	+24.3	+15.5	+17.6	+19.4
<i>Change from previous month -</i>				
1978-79				
February	+7.3	+3.3	+2.2	+4.2
March	+3.7	+0.5	+0.7	+1.7
April	+3.8	+0.2	+0.6	+1.6
May	-1.3	+0.6	+0.3	-0.2
June	-1.8	+0.4	+0.1	-0.5
1979-80				
July	+1.1	+3.2	+1.1	+1.7
August	+1.4	+1.7	+1.9	+1.7
September	+3.9	+0.1	+1.0	+1.8
October	+5.0	+0.7	+0.7	+2.3
November	-2.9	+0.8	+0.6	-0.7
December	+3.1	+3.5	+1.8	+2.7
January	+4.2	+0.1	+1.7	+2.1
February	+11.8	+1.2	+2.7	+5.7
March p	-5.2	+2.2	+3.8	-0.1

(a) Composition and weighting pattern as at reference base year; see paragraphs 2 and 3 of explanatory notes.