



# PRICE INDEX OF MATERIALS USED IN BUILDING OTHER THAN HOUSE BUILDING

SIX  
STATE  
CAPITAL  
CITIES

EMBARGO: 11:30AM (CANBERRA TIME) MON 5 MAY 1997

## MARCH KEY FIGURES

	% change Feb 97 to Mar 97	% change Mar 96 to Mar 97
<b>Weighted average of six State capital cities</b>	0.1	0.8
Sydney	0.1	0.7
Melbourne	0.2	0.3
Brisbane	0.3	1.4
Adelaide	-0.3	1.2
Perth	0.0	1.5
Hobart	0.1	1.3

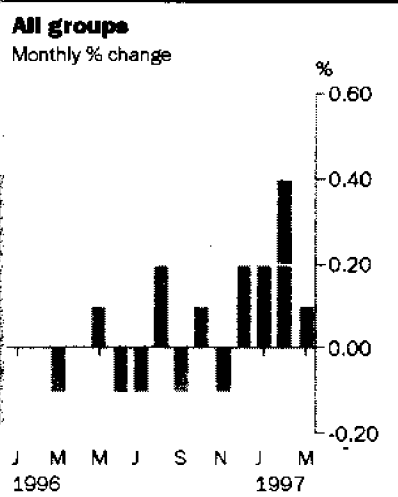
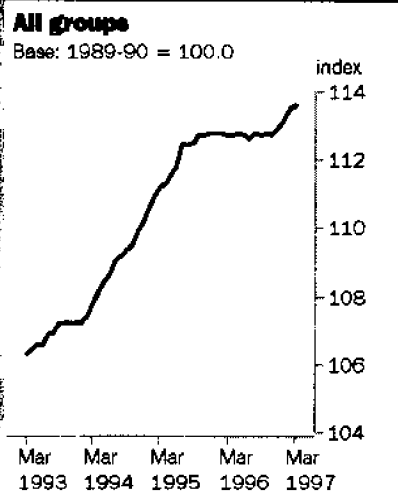
## MARCH KEY POINTS

### WEIGHTED AVERAGE INDEX

- An increase in prices for bituminous plastic sheeting was the main contributor to the small increase in the index.
- This increase was partly offset by decreases in prices for elevators, escalators and travelators.

### CAPITAL CITIES INDEX

- Prices for bituminous plastic sheeting increased in Sydney and Melbourne, overshadowing small decreases in Adelaide and Hobart, while Brisbane and Perth remained unchanged.
- Elevators, escalators and travelators prices decreased in all state capitals.



## INQUIRIES

- For further information about these and related statistics, contact Peter Cordy on 06 252 6198, or any ABS Office.

# NOTES

## FORTHCOMING ISSUES

<i>ISSUE</i>	<i>RELEASE DATE</i>
April 1997	5 June 1997
May 1997	7 July 1997
June 1997	5 August 1997

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## CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

There are no changes in this issue.

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W. McLennan  
Australian Statistician



## ALL GROUPS INDEXES, Index Numbers(a)

Period	Weighted average of six State capital cities	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart
<b>1993-94</b>	107.5	107.0	106.7	110.1	107.9	107.1	110.1
<b>1994-95</b>	110.4	110.3	108.9	112.9	110.9	110.1	112.2
<b>1995-96</b>	112.7	112.5	111.1	115.0	112.7	113.2	115.1
<b>1996</b>							
January	112.8	112.7	111.4	115.0	112.6	113.3	115.3
February	112.8	112.5	111.6	115.0	112.7	113.4	115.2
March	112.7	112.5	111.1	114.9	113.0	113.4	115.1
April	112.7	112.5	111.3	114.9	113.0	113.5	115.1
May	112.8	112.6	111.2	114.9	112.9	113.6	115.2
June	112.7	112.5	111.3	114.9	112.9	113.5	115.3
July	112.6	112.4	110.8	115.0	112.9	113.9	115.8
August	112.8	112.7	110.8	115.2	113.1	114.0	115.9
September	112.7	112.3	110.8	115.4	113.4	114.2	115.8
October	112.8	112.6	110.6	115.5	113.8	114.3	116.0
November	112.7	112.4	110.2	115.5	114.1	114.1	116.1
December	112.9	112.7	110.5	115.6	114.3	114.4	116.2
<b>1997</b>							
January	113.1	113.0	110.7	115.7	114.5	114.6	116.3
February	113.5	113.2	111.2	116.1	114.6	115.1	116.5
March	113.6	113.3	111.4	116.5	114.3	115.1	116.6

(a) Base of each index: 1989-90 = 100.0

## ALL GROUPS INDEXES, Percentage Changes

Period	Weighted average of six State capital cities	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart
		PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous year)					
<b>1993-94</b>	1.4	0.5	2.2	1.1	2.7	1.3	1.8
<b>1994-95</b>	2.7	3.1	2.1	2.5	2.8	2.8	1.9
<b>1995-96</b>	2.1	2.0	2.0	1.9	1.6	2.8	2.6
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from corresponding month of previous year)							
<b>1996</b>							
January	2.1	2.1	2.1	1.9	1.2	3.0	2.9
February	1.7	1.4	2.0	1.2	1.0	2.6	2.4
March	1.3	1.4	1.4	0.9	0.8	1.8	2.0
April	1.3	1.2	1.5	0.8	1.3	1.7	1.4
May	1.1	0.9	1.3	0.3	0.7	1.8	1.2
June	0.8	0.5	1.5	0.1	0.7	1.3	1.0
July	0.2	-0.1	0.4	-0.1	0.5	1.1	1.0
August	0.4	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.5	1.0	0.9
September	0.2	0.0	0.0	-0.1	0.8	1.4	0.8
October	0.1	0.1	-0.5	0.2	1.1	1.1	0.4
November	0.0	-0.3	-0.9	0.8	1.5	0.9	0.7
December	0.1	-0.1	-0.6	0.5	1.7	1.1	1.0
<b>1997</b>							
January	0.3	0.3	-0.6	0.6	1.7	1.1	0.9
February	0.6	0.6	-0.4	1.0	1.7	1.5	1.1
March	0.8	0.7	0.3	1.4	1.2	1.5	1.3
PERCENTAGE CHANGE (from previous month)							
<b>1996</b>							
January	0.0	-0.1	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.1	0.2
February	0.0	-0.2	0.2	0.0	0.1	0.1	-0.1
March	-0.1	0.0	-0.4	-0.1	0.3	0.0	-0.1
April	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0
May	0.1	0.1	-0.1	0.0	-0.1	0.1	0.1
June	-0.1	-0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	-0.1	0.1
July	-0.1	-0.1	-0.4	0.1	0.0	0.4	0.4
August	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1
September	-0.1	-0.4	0.0	0.2	0.3	0.2	-0.1
October	0.1	0.3	-0.2	0.1	0.4	0.1	0.2
November	-0.1	-0.2	-0.4	0.0	0.3	-0.2	0.1
December	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.1
<b>1997</b>							
January	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.1
February	0.4	0.2	0.5	0.3	0.1	0.4	0.2
March	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3	-0.3	0.0	0.1

ALL GROUPS INDEX, Contribution of Major Building Materials(a)

Category	February 1997	March 1997	Change
Weighted average of six State capital cities	113.5	113.6	0.10
GROUPS: Contribution to Weighted Average of six State capital cities index (index points)			
Structural timber	0.82	0.82	0.00
Joinery products	4.54	4.55	0.01
Clay bricks	1.53	1.53	0.00
Ready mixed concrete	10.17	10.13	-0.04
Precast concrete products	3.97	3.99	0.02
Plaster and plaster products	1.57	1.57	0.00
Steel decking and cladding	3.37	3.38	0.01
Structural steel	9.62	9.59	-0.03
Reinforcing steel bar, fabric and mesh	7.63	7.63	0.00
Aluminium windows	6.23	6.23	0.00
Aluminium screens, doors and louvres	1.89	1.91	0.02
Suspended ceilings and access floors	1.12	1.10	-0.02
Fabricated steel products	3.78	3.77	-0.01
Builders' hardware	1.39	1.39	0.00
Elevators, escalators and travelators	5.85	5.77	-0.08
Sand and aggregate	0.12	0.12	0.00
Carpet	2.71	2.74	0.03
Paint and other coatings	1.17	1.17	0.00
Non-ferrous pipes and fittings	2.04	2.04	0.00
Conductors	2.31	2.33	0.02
Switchboards and switchgear	2.18	2.18	0.00
Lamps and light fittings	2.24	2.25	0.01
Fire protection	3.58	3.58	0.00
Air conditioning equipment excluding piping and electrical materials	9.93	9.95	0.02
Other	23.74	23.88	0.14

(a) For an explanation of this table see paragraph 19 of the Explanatory Notes



SELECTED ANZSIC GROUPS, Index Numbers(a)

WEIGHTED AVERAGE OF SIX STATE CAPITAL CITIES.....

Period	Wood and wood products (231-232)	Ceramics (262)	Cement, plaster and concrete products (263)	Iron and steel products (271)	Structural metal products (274)	Sheet metal products (275)	Fabricated metal products (276)	Electrical equipment and appliances (285)	Industrial machinery and equipment (286)	Other materials	All groups
<b>1993-94</b>	112.8	107.6	107.1	112.1	105.1	110.2	116.2	105.5	106.1	108.1	107.5
<b>1994-95</b>	115.0	109.8	111.7	113.3	107.1	113.4	118.0	111.0	107.1	111.8	110.4
<b>1995-96</b>	114.6	111.4	110.5	116.0	109.9	117.3	121.6	117.2	110.4	114.4	112.7
<b>1996</b>											
January	114.5	111.7	110.5	117.7	110.2	117.1	121.5	117.4	110.3	114.4	112.8
February	114.4	111.9	110.2	117.5	110.1	117.5	121.5	117.5	110.4	114.5	112.8
March	114.4	111.6	109.8	117.5	110.1	117.9	121.6	117.4	111.4	113.6	112.7
April	114.2	110.7	109.8	117.4	109.9	118.2	123.0	116.9	111.7	114.1	112.7
May	114.9	110.5	109.3	117.1	110.0	118.3	123.1	116.9	111.6	114.5	112.8
June	115.1	110.5	109.1	117.2	110.0	117.0	123.0	116.3	111.9	114.8	112.7
July	115.3	110.5	109.7	116.0	110.1	117.2	123.0	114.4	112.0	114.4	112.6
August	115.2	111.4	109.5	116.0	110.6	117.3	122.8	113.9	112.3	114.6	112.8
September	115.0	111.3	109.7	115.9	110.4	117.6	122.7	113.9	111.6	114.5	112.7
October	114.9	111.2	109.8	115.9	110.9	117.7	124.0	114.2	111.5	114.3	112.8
November	114.9	111.7	109.9	116.1	111.0	118.4	123.8	113.2	110.4	114.0	112.7
December	115.0	111.8	110.2	116.2	111.1	119.2	124.3	113.6	110.4	114.4	112.9
<b>1997</b>											
January	115.2	112.8	110.5	116.3	111.3	119.2	124.8	114.5	110.4	114.5	113.1
February	115.5	112.8	110.8	119.7	111.4	119.4	125.0	114.8	110.6	114.7	113.5
March	115.7	112.9	110.8	120.0	111.3	120.2	125.0	115.1	109.9	115.6	113.6

(a) Base of each index: 1989-90 = 100.0



SELECTED BUILDING MATERIALS, Index Numbers(a)

WEIGHTED AVERAGE OF SIX STATE CAPITAL CITIES.....

Period	Structural timber	Hardwood	Softwood	Plywood and board	Joinery products	Ceramic sanitary-ware	Ceramic tiles	Clay bricks	Cement	Ready mixed concrete
<b>1993-94</b>	127.1	114.0	137.4	113.9	108.9	115.7	102.9	107.8	108.5	106.7
<b>1994-95</b>	128.3	122.7	137.3	117.5	110.9	120.2	102.3	111.0	109.8	112.4
<b>1995-96</b>	120.5	121.7	127.8	111.0	113.4	127.5	102.5	110.0	113.9	108.2
<b>1996</b>										
January	120.1	121.7	127.3	110.7	113.4	127.9	103.2	109.9	114.5	108.3
February	119.8	121.3	127.0	110.6	113.3	128.4	103.1	110.1	115.7	107.5
March	118.6	119.9	125.7	110.5	113.5	128.8	103.1	109.2	116.1	106.5
April	117.6	119.5	124.6	110.0	113.7	128.7	101.8	108.1	116.0	106.5
May	116.7	119.2	123.5	109.8	114.8	128.7	102.0	107.4	116.0	105.9
June	116.6	118.9	123.4	109.6	115.2	128.7	101.8	107.4	116.0	105.4
July	116.8	118.4	123.8	108.9	115.6	128.7	101.8	107.5	116.0	106.0
August	116.3	117.6	123.3	108.7	115.6	132.6	101.3	107.7	116.0	105.7
September	115.1	116.9	121.9	108.8	115.6	133.1	100.5	107.7	116.0	105.7
October	114.9	116.2	121.8	107.5	115.7	133.4	100.2	107.7	116.0	105.8
November	114.9	116.3	121.8	106.8	115.9	133.8	100.2	108.6	116.0	105.9
December	115.2	118.0	121.9	107.4	115.9	134.8	100.2	108.1	116.0	106.4
<b>1997</b>										
January	115.8	119.5	122.3	107.2	116.1	138.2	100.4	108.1	116.0	106.8
February	116.8	119.9	123.5	107.9	116.1	138.1	99.8	108.7	116.0	107.4
March	117.0	120.2	123.7	108.3	116.3	139.5	98.9	108.9	116.8	107.0

(a) Base of each index: 1989-90 = 100.0

SELECTED BUILDING MATERIALS, Index Numbers(a) *continued*

WEIGHTED AVERAGE OF SIX STATE CAPITAL CITIES.....

Period	Precast concrete products	Concrete masonry blocks	Plaster and plaster products	Fibrous cement products	Steel decking and cladding	Cast iron pipes and products	Structural steel	Reinforcing steel bar, fabric and mesh	Aluminium windows	Aluminium screens, doors, louvers
<b>1993-94</b>	108.1	106.5	112.3	112.8	107.5	128.3	104.3	112.7	99.7	101.5
<b>1994-95</b>	112.3	106.5	113.6	117.7	108.9	132.1	105.3	111.5	105.4	109.2
<b>1995-96</b>	115.0	112.8	114.9	120.5	110.9	132.4	109.3	112.0	108.4	114.9
<b>1996</b>										
January	115.2	111.4	114.4	120.6	112.8	133.0	110.3	112.1	108.3	114.9
February	115.4	112.8	114.4	120.6	112.7	133.2	110.2	111.9	108.3	114.9
March	115.3	115.7	114.4	120.6	112.8	133.1	110.2	111.7	108.2	114.9
April	115.2	114.5	115.7	120.6	112.6	133.1	110.3	110.8	108.2	114.9
May	115.3	113.5	115.3	120.2	112.2	133.0	110.6	110.4	108.2	115.0
June	115.5	113.9	115.9	120.1	112.2	132.6	110.6	110.2	108.0	114.9
July	115.6	114.5	116.0	122.0	111.3	132.6	110.9	110.2	107.9	114.9
August	115.9	113.7	115.4	122.6	111.3	132.2	111.4	111.6	108.0	114.9
September	117.0	113.6	115.6	122.7	111.0	132.2	111.4	110.8	108.1	114.9
October	117.2	113.5	115.6	122.6	110.8	132.4	112.2	111.0	108.7	115.2
November	117.1	113.4	115.7	122.6	110.8	132.4	112.8	111.2	108.5	114.7
December	117.4	113.5	115.7	122.8	111.0	132.7	113.1	111.2	108.5	115.2
<b>1997</b>										
January	117.5	113.4	115.7	122.7	111.0	132.7	113.2	111.5	108.5	115.2
February	117.7	113.6	115.7	122.7	115.5	132.7	113.2	111.4	108.5	115.2
March	118.4	113.8	115.8	122.7	115.8	133.2	112.9	111.4	108.5	116.5

(a) Base of each index: 1989-90 = 100.0



SELECTED BUILDING MATERIALS, Index Numbers(a) *continued*

## WEIGHTED AVERAGE OF SIX STATE CAPITAL CITIES.....

Period	Suspended ceilings and access floors	Fabricated steel products	Sheet steel sanitary-ware	Builders' hardware	Sand and aggregate	Carpet	Paint and other coatings	Glass products	Non-ferrous pipes and fittings	Plastic floor coverings
<b>1993-94</b>	100.0	107.3	114.3	115.3	118.7	99.2	119.9	102.5	102.4	110.0
<b>1994-95</b>	102.2	108.9	116.4	116.6	121.6	99.4	123.3	105.7	118.1	114.7
<b>1995-96</b>	105.3	111.9	121.6	119.5	119.1	102.6	129.1	110.3	129.4	119.9
<b>1996</b>										
January	106.0	111.8	121.5	119.0	118.7	103.1	127.8	109.8	128.5	120.5
February	106.0	111.9	121.5	118.9	118.7	103.1	130.4	109.8	128.5	121.4
March	106.1	112.1	121.7	118.9	118.8	103.5	130.0	109.9	128.3	121.4
April	106.2	112.3	121.8	121.7	118.5	103.5	129.7	111.6	128.3	120.4
May	106.2	113.7	121.9	120.5	118.4	103.6	129.9	111.8	131.7	120.4
June	106.2	113.7	121.9	119.4	118.4	103.6	134.4	111.8	131.6	115.9
July	106.2	114.1	122.3	119.7	118.4	102.8	135.3	111.8	129.0	115.6
August	106.1	114.1	122.1	119.1	118.5	102.8	136.4	112.1	128.5	115.6
September	106.0	114.1	122.1	118.9	118.2	103.4	135.8	112.9	128.5	115.6
October	106.0	114.1	122.1	118.5	118.5	103.4	136.4	113.1	125.6	115.6
November	106.0	114.0	122.3	117.4	118.5	103.0	136.2	113.1	124.2	114.0
December	106.2	113.9	122.2	117.3	119.1	102.8	136.3	113.1	127.1	114.0
<b>1997</b>										
January	106.3	114.6	121.7	117.7	119.5	102.8	136.2	113.1	127.3	113.5
February	106.3	115.3	121.7	118.3	120.0	103.0	135.0	113.1	130.5	113.5
March	104.9	115.1	121.9	118.0	120.7	104.0	135.2	113.1	130.5	113.5

(a) Base of each index: 1989-90 = 100.0



SELECTED MAJOR BUILDING MATERIALS, Index Numbers(a)-Sydney and Melbourne

Period	Structural timber	Clay bricks	Ready mixed concrete	Pre-cast concrete products	Steel decking and cladding	Structural steel	Re-inforcing steel bar, fabric and mesh	Aluminium windows	Fabricated steel products	Builders' hardware	Sand and aggregate	Carpet	Paint and other coatings	Non-ferrous pipes and fittings
SYDNEY														
<b>1993-94</b>	132.2	99.7	90.4	105.6	110.8	110.0	121.3	98.3	104.6	115.0	113.3	98.8	122.5	109.0
<b>1994-95</b>	132.0	103.7	100.8	109.5	111.6	107.8	119.3	106.2	105.7	118.1	116.4	99.4	123.8	124.8
<b>1995-96</b>	121.5	102.8	99.2	112.3	112.3	110.0	120.6	109.3	109.7	123.2	113.8	103.5	124.9	136.2
<b>1996</b>														
January	119.9	104.1	99.9	112.8	113.7	110.9	120.5	108.9	109.6	122.3	113.2	104.6	121.8	135.6
February	120.5	104.1	97.9	112.6	113.4	110.7	120.3	108.9	109.9	122.4	113.2	104.6	126.6	135.6
March	119.7	102.1	97.7	112.7	113.6	110.5	120.3	108.9	110.0	122.4	113.2	105.0	126.6	135.5
April	117.9	99.6	97.7	112.4	113.3	110.5	120.3	108.9	110.0	128.9	112.4	105.0	126.3	135.5
May	117.2	97.3	97.3	112.1	113.3	110.6	119.8	108.9	112.5	126.3	112.1	105.0	126.3	139.7
June	116.8	97.3	97.3	112.5	113.3	110.6	119.6	108.9	112.6	123.7	112.1	105.0	130.8	139.3
July	118.0	97.3	97.5	112.5	113.7	111.2	119.2	108.9	113.7	122.3	112.1	104.0	132.1	137.3
August	118.6	97.7	97.5	112.6	113.6	112.3	120.9	108.9	113.3	120.5	112.1	104.0	132.6	136.9
September	117.5	97.2	97.8	114.8	113.0	111.9	118.1	109.0	113.3	120.0	112.1	104.4	132.6	136.9
October	117.2	97.2	98.0	115.1	113.0	113.2	118.2	110.6	113.3	119.1	112.8	104.4	132.6	132.7
November	117.1	97.2	97.6	115.1	113.0	113.2	118.6	110.1	112.9	116.6	112.8	104.4	132.6	131.9
December	117.0	97.1	97.6	115.1	113.0	113.1	118.6	110.1	112.8	116.4	112.8	103.9	132.6	136.6
<b>1997</b>														
January	117.0	97.1	98.0	115.1	113.0	113.4	119.6	110.1	112.8	116.7	113.1	103.9	132.6	136.4
February	117.8	98.2	98.2	115.2	116.5	113.5	119.6	110.1	112.8	117.2	113.1	103.9	129.5	140.0
March	118.0	98.2	98.2	115.4	117.2	112.6	119.7	110.1	111.6	116.7	115.1	104.8	130.0	140.0
MELBOURNE														
<b>1993-94</b>	119.5	109.3	123.4	99.2	104.7	93.3	102.0	96.5	109.4	116.2	119.5	98.3	125.0	86.5
<b>1994-95</b>	123.0	112.3	124.2	104.8	106.5	95.3	101.8	98.8	110.7	113.7	118.5	98.5	131.2	100.8
<b>1995-96</b>	116.1	112.1	118.6	108.1	109.9	100.9	102.7	100.8	113.1	114.5	114.6	101.6	141.2	112.2
<b>1996</b>														
January	116.9	111.3	118.6	108.1	112.6	102.3	103.2	100.8	112.9	114.6	114.6	101.9	141.5	111.9
February	115.5	111.3	118.7	108.1	112.6	102.3	103.2	100.8	113.0	114.1	114.6	101.9	142.4	112.0
March	112.8	111.3	115.5	107.8	112.6	102.3	102.5	100.8	113.0	114.1	114.6	102.4	141.1	112.0
April	112.4	111.3	115.3	107.9	112.6	102.3	100.2	100.8	113.4	114.1	114.6	102.4	140.8	112.0
May	111.8	111.3	114.2	108.7	111.2	103.1	100.2	100.8	114.8	114.1	114.6	102.4	141.1	114.8
June	112.0	111.3	113.5	108.7	111.2	103.1	100.2	100.8	114.8	114.0	114.6	102.4	145.5	114.8
July	111.4	111.3	113.4	108.8	107.4	103.1	100.2	100.6	114.8	115.6	114.6	101.0	147.6	112.3
August	109.8	111.3	112.3	109.1	107.4	103.1	100.6	100.6	114.8	115.6	115.2	101.0	147.6	112.3
September	107.0	111.3	111.1	109.0	107.4	103.3	100.8	100.6	114.8	115.6	113.8	101.0	146.8	112.3
October	106.8	111.2	109.9	109.0	106.7	104.1	100.8	100.6	114.8	115.6	113.8	101.0	146.8	111.6
November	106.8	113.7	109.4	109.3	106.7	104.1	100.8	100.6	114.8	115.6	114.1	101.0	146.8	108.8
December	108.1	113.7	110.7	110.2	107.4	104.3	100.8	100.6	114.8	115.6	116.2	101.0	146.8	108.8
<b>1997</b>														
January	110.1	113.7	111.5	110.3	107.4	104.4	100.8	100.6	116.2	116.0	115.8	101.0	146.8	109.6
February	111.6	113.7	112.2	110.3	113.2	104.5	100.8	100.6	118.2	117.5	118.4	101.0	146.8	112.4
March	111.7	113.7	111.0	111.9	113.2	104.5	100.8	100.6	119.2	117.4	117.5	102.8	147.1	112.4

(a) Base of each index: 1989-90 = 100.0

## SELECTED MAJOR BUILDING MATERIALS, Index Numbers(a)—Brisbane and Adelaide

Period	Structural timber	Clay bricks	Ready mixed concrete	Pre-cast concrete products	Steel decking and cladding	Structural steel	Re-inforcing steel bar, fabric and mesh	Aluminium windows	Fabricated steel products	Builders' hardware	Sand and aggregate	Carpet	Paint and other coatings	Non-ferrous pipes and fittings
BRISBANE														
<b>1993-94</b>	123.8	113.2	114.8	112.8	105.6	118.7	119.3	100.4	114.7	110.0	141.0	95.5	112.6	126.4
<b>1994-95</b>	124.0	112.7	114.7	113.8	105.1	126.8	119.1	102.7	117.4	111.3	155.0	92.6	115.1	141.0
<b>1995-96</b>	115.7	102.0	105.3	111.3	107.4	135.6	114.6	104.8	117.2	109.0	156.6	93.2	122.7	155.0
<b>1996</b>														
January	115.7	98.3	105.0	111.6	109.7	137.3	113.5	105.3	117.5	107.0	156.6	93.2	124.2	150.8
February	115.0	99.4	105.0	111.8	109.7	137.3	113.5	105.3	117.6	107.1	156.6	93.2	123.9	149.9
March	114.0	99.4	104.1	111.2	109.7	137.3	113.5	104.2	117.7	107.1	156.6	93.6	123.9	149.9
April	114.0	99.4	103.9	111.2	109.2	138.2	112.2	104.2	117.7	107.1	156.6	93.6	123.9	149.9
May	109.7	99.4	103.0	111.2	109.2	137.7	111.6	103.4	117.6	107.1	156.6	93.6	123.9	153.3
June	109.7	99.4	101.6	111.2	109.2	138.0	110.8	103.4	117.6	107.1	156.6	93.6	123.9	153.5
July	109.2	100.7	102.2	111.0	109.2	138.0	112.5	102.3	118.6	103.7	156.6	94.0	125.2	153.5
August	109.2	100.7	102.4	110.5	109.6	136.8	114.6	103.3	117.8	103.7	156.6	94.0	128.6	153.5
September	109.3	102.5	102.3	112.4	109.6	136.8	114.6	103.9	118.2	103.7	156.6	95.0	128.6	153.5
October	109.3	102.7	102.7	112.9	109.6	137.2	114.6	103.8	117.3	104.0	156.6	95.0	128.6	150.7
November	109.3	104.9	103.2	113.1	109.6	137.2	114.6	103.8	117.8	104.0	156.6	95.0	128.0	149.4
December	108.9	104.9	103.4	113.1	109.6	137.2	114.6	103.8	117.8	104.0	156.6	95.0	128.0	152.6
<b>1997</b>														
January	108.9	104.9	103.4	113.1	109.6	136.1	114.6	103.8	121.3	104.4	156.6	95.0	128.0	152.6
February	110.2	105.8	104.6	112.0	113.7	136.1	114.6	103.8	122.0	104.2	156.6	95.0	128.0	156.1
March	110.2	105.8	104.7	113.2	113.7	136.1	114.6	103.8	122.9	104.3	156.6	95.0	128.0	156.1
ADELAIDE														
<b>1993-94</b>	152.7	115.6	101.5	115.6	105.5	102.4	106.9	104.0	103.7	115.5	113.3	99.8	104.0	103.7
<b>1994-95</b>	153.3	119.0	112.1	118.1	108.3	106.6	106.5	110.9	107.1	118.6	114.5	101.6	109.6	117.3
<b>1995-96</b>	148.4	120.1	104.3	120.2	114.1	108.9	108.7	115.6	112.0	120.2	114.8	106.1	115.7	126.2
<b>1996</b>														
January	148.4	119.8	102.7	120.4	116.7	108.7	109.1	115.3	111.9	120.1	114.5	106.2	114.7	124.6
February	147.9	120.1	103.0	120.4	116.7	108.7	109.1	115.9	111.9	120.1	114.5	106.1	116.1	124.9
March	147.9	119.9	104.6	120.4	116.7	109.7	109.1	115.9	111.9	120.1	115.4	106.1	116.1	123.1
April	147.9	119.9	104.6	120.4	116.7	109.7	109.1	115.9	112.3	120.1	115.4	106.1	116.1	123.1
May	147.3	120.1	103.9	120.5	116.7	109.7	109.1	115.9	112.3	120.6	115.4	106.8	116.1	124.6
June	147.3	119.6	101.9	120.5	116.7	109.7	109.1	115.9	112.3	120.8	115.4	106.8	124.3	126.0
July	147.3	119.6	101.9	120.5	116.7	109.7	109.1	116.5	112.3	121.9	115.4	107.1	120.4	122.7
August	147.3	119.6	101.9	120.5	116.7	109.7	111.4	116.5	112.3	122.5	115.4	107.1	126.7	122.7
September	147.8	119.6	105.3	120.3	116.7	109.7	112.5	116.5	112.3	122.5	115.4	110.6	121.9	122.3
October	148.3	119.6	108.7	120.3	116.7	109.7	113.7	116.5	112.3	122.5	115.2	110.6	128.5	120.7
November	148.3	119.6	112.5	118.3	116.7	114.6	113.7	116.5	112.3	122.5	115.2	110.6	128.5	119.5
December	148.7	115.1	113.8	119.3	116.7	114.6	113.7	116.5	112.3	122.5	115.2	110.6	127.7	120.8
<b>1997</b>														
January	148.7	115.1	113.8	119.4	116.7	114.6	113.7	116.5	112.3	122.5	116.0	110.6	127.7	121.4
February	148.7	115.1	113.1	119.5	119.7	114.6	113.7	116.5	112.3	122.5	116.0	113.0	127.7	123.9
March	149.2	116.5	112.5	119.7	119.7	114.6	113.7	116.5	112.3	122.5	117.2	113.5	127.7	123.9

(a) Base of each index: 1989-90 = 100.0

## SELECTED MAJOR BUILDING MATERIALS, Index Numbers(a)-Perth and Hobart

Period	Struct- ural timber	Clay bricks	Ready mixed concrete	Pre- cast concrete products	Steel decking and cladding	Struct- ural steel	Re- inforcing steel bar, fabric and mesh	Alu- minium windows	Fabri- cated steel products	Builders' hardware	Sand and aggregate	Carpet	Paint and other coatings	Non- ferrous pipes and fittings
PERTH														
<b>1993-94</b>	110.6	113.9	116.6	122.5	106.3	100.4	112.3	104.4	107.1	119.6	116.4	105.0	120.6	95.1
<b>1994-95</b>	110.6	118.0	117.8	127.8	108.6	103.6	110.7	112.4	108.5	122.9	119.9	105.2	124.0	115.2
<b>1995-96</b>	109.3	120.7	115.0	133.0	108.6	107.5	109.4	118.1	110.3	127.5	115.8	105.9	136.4	127.5
<b>1996</b>														
January	109.2	120.2	114.4	132.3	109.8	108.2	110.7	118.2	110.2	128.1	115.3	105.9	135.8	127.1
February	109.1	120.2	114.1	135.4	109.8	108.2	109.2	118.2	110.2	128.1	115.3	105.9	137.2	127.2
March	109.1	120.2	114.1	135.4	109.8	108.2	109.2	118.2	110.7	128.1	115.3	105.9	137.2	127.2
April	108.6	120.2	114.7	135.4	109.8	108.2	107.7	118.2	110.7	128.1	115.3	105.9	137.2	127.2
May	108.6	123.4	114.7	135.4	109.8	108.8	105.9	118.2	110.7	128.1	115.3	105.9	137.2	130.5
June	108.6	123.4	114.7	135.8	109.8	108.8	105.9	116.4	110.7	128.2	115.3	105.9	143.2	130.5
July	108.6	123.4	119.8	135.8	109.8	108.8	105.9	116.4	110.7	135.0	115.4	105.9	143.2	123.2
August	105.9	123.4	119.5	138.7	109.8	109.7	106.8	116.4	111.2	135.0	115.5	105.9	143.8	120.3
September	105.9	123.6	119.4	138.7	109.8	111.2	109.9	116.4	111.2	135.0	115.5	105.9	143.8	120.3
October	105.7	123.6	119.4	138.7	109.8	111.2	110.2	116.4	111.2	135.0	115.7	105.9	143.8	116.3
November	105.6	123.6	119.6	138.7	109.8	113.4	110.2	116.4	111.2	135.0	115.7	102.3	143.1	115.9
December	105.6	123.6	119.6	138.7	109.8	115.7	110.2	116.4	111.2	135.0	115.7	102.3	143.8	120.2
<b>1997</b>														
January	105.6	123.6	119.6	138.7	109.8	116.0	108.7	116.4	111.2	135.5	115.7	102.3	143.8	120.2
February	107.4	123.6	121.8	141.6	116.6	116.1	107.8	116.4	111.2	135.6	115.7	102.3	143.8	123.4
March	107.6	123.6	121.7	141.6	116.9	116.1	107.8	116.4	111.5	135.6	115.7	102.3	143.8	123.4
HOBART														
<b>1993-94</b>	115.9	114.2	117.5	112.9	106.4	116.0	109.1	100.5	106.6	115.7	129.6	102.1	114.1	133.1
<b>1994-95</b>	124.5	116.8	117.8	122.2	107.6	116.4	106.7	101.2	106.7	112.8	133.0	102.6	116.0	172.6
<b>1995-96</b>	119.0	122.6	115.3	129.5	111.5	121.4	108.9	104.5	109.0	118.2	133.1	105.0	120.1	172.9
<b>1996</b>														
January	120.1	123.3	116.9	130.4	111.0	121.9	109.2	104.5	108.3	118.3	133.1	104.1	121.5	169.1
February	116.9	123.3	115.9	128.4	112.1	121.9	109.2	104.5	108.1	117.7	133.1	105.4	121.5	169.4
March	116.9	123.7	113.2	128.4	112.3	121.9	109.2	104.7	108.3	117.7	133.1	105.4	121.5	169.4
April	116.9	123.7	113.2	128.4	112.3	122.7	109.2	104.4	111.5	117.3	133.1	105.9	118.1	172.8
May	114.4	123.7	112.9	128.4	112.3	122.7	109.2	104.4	111.5	116.0	133.1	105.9	120.6	174.5
June	113.8	124.5	112.1	128.4	112.3	123.7	109.2	104.4	111.9	116.1	133.1	105.9	124.5	174.5
July	114.5	124.5	114.2	132.6	112.3	125.2	109.2	104.4	111.9	115.4	133.1	105.9	126.1	168.7
August	112.7	124.5	115.5	132.6	112.3	126.0	110.7	104.4	112.4	118.9	133.1	105.9	126.1	167.9
September	112.7	124.5	114.7	132.6	112.3	124.7	110.8	104.4	113.6	119.0	133.1	105.9	126.7	167.9
October	110.6	124.5	115.8	132.6	112.3	124.7	110.9	105.5	113.6	119.1	133.1	105.9	126.7	160.8
November	110.3	125.6	115.8	132.6	112.2	126.5	110.9	105.5	113.4	119.1	133.1	105.9	127.0	160.9
December	108.9	125.6	116.3	132.6	112.2	126.7	110.9	105.5	113.4	118.2	133.1	105.9	128.2	162.4
<b>1997</b>														
January	108.9	125.7	116.3	132.6	112.2	126.7	110.9	108.8	113.4	118.2	135.0	105.9	127.8	162.4
February	108.9	125.7	116.6	132.6	118.6	126.7	111.0	108.8	113.4	118.0	134.2	105.9	127.3	163.1
March	109.8	125.7	117.3	131.3	118.6	126.7	110.9	108.8	113.5	115.1	134.2	105.9	127.2	166.9

(a) Base of each index: 1989-90 = 100.0

SPECIAL SERIES, Index Numbers(a)-Weighted Average of Six State Capital Cities

ELECTRICAL MATERIALS.....

Period	All groups excluding electrical materials and mechanical services	Conductors	Conduit and accessories	Switchboards and switchgear	Lamps and light fittings	All electrical materials	All electrical materials excluding lamps and light fittings
WEIGHTED AVERAGE OF SIX STATE CAPITAL CITIES							
<b>1993-94</b>	107.8	99.2	114.2	114.1	102.7	105.5	106.7
<b>1994-95</b>	110.6	114.2	126.1	116.5	104.2	112.2	116.1
<b>1995-96</b>	112.0	127.5	135.0	120.8	106.9	119.2	125.1
<b>1996</b>							
January	112.2	126.8	135.4	121.0	107.8	119.4	125.0
February	112.1	126.7	135.6	121.3	108.3	119.6	125.0
March	111.9	126.5	135.0	121.3	107.8	119.3	124.9
April	111.9	125.3	132.9	121.7	106.9	118.6	124.2
May	112.0	123.6	133.0	122.2	107.4	118.4	123.7
June	112.0	122.2	133.1	122.4	106.9	117.9	123.1
July	112.1	115.3	134.4	122.7	106.9	115.9	120.1
August	112.3	114.2	135.5	122.8	106.0	115.3	119.8
September	112.2	114.1	136.5	122.7	106.1	115.4	119.8
October	112.4	114.1	136.6	122.8	106.3	115.5	119.8
November	112.4	110.8	136.3	122.8	106.3	114.4	118.2
December	112.5	111.1	136.6	122.9	106.5	114.6	118.4
<b>1997</b>							
January	112.8	113.4	136.6	123.9	106.5	115.6	119.9
February	113.1	114.2	134.5	124.2	106.5	115.8	120.2
March	113.3	115.0	137.0	124.2	106.6	116.3	120.9

(a) Base of each index: 1989-90 = 100.0



SPECIAL SERIES, Index Numbers(a)-Weighted Average of Six State Capital Cities *continued*

MECHANICAL SERVICES COMPONENTS..... PLUMBING MATERIALS.....

Period	MECHANICAL SERVICES COMPONENTS				PLUMBING MATERIALS			
	Air conditioning	Fire protection	Elevators, escalators and travelators	All mechanical services	Hydraulic plumbing	Drainage	Roof plumbing	All plumbing materials
WEIGHTED AVERAGE OF SIX STATE CAPITAL CITIES								
<b>1993-94</b>	111.0	110.6	90.9	107.5	110.9	115.7	107.4	110.5
<b>1994-95</b>	113.9	112.1	92.2	109.7	117.5	122.7	109.0	116.8
<b>1995-96</b>	117.1	115.8	97.3	113.7	124.5	124.3	108.6	123.2
<b>1996</b>								
January	116.8	115.9	97.6	113.7	124.4	123.4	109.3	123.0
February	117.1	115.9	97.4	113.8	124.3	122.0	109.3	122.8
March	117.4	116.0	99.0	114.4	124.4	122.1	110.2	122.9
April	117.7	116.7	99.0	114.7	124.3	120.6	110.0	122.7
May	117.8	117.4	99.0	114.9	125.9	125.1	109.8	124.5
June	117.4	117.8	99.4	114.9	126.1	126.3	109.8	124.8
July	117.1	117.8	99.5	114.7	124.9	125.9	109.5	123.6
August	117.1	117.6	100.2	114.9	125.6	126.7	109.5	124.3
September	117.0	117.6	99.1	114.5	125.3	122.1	109.4	123.7
October	116.8	120.0	99.0	114.8	124.5	121.5	109.4	123.0
November	116.6	120.2	97.2	114.1	124.3	121.3	109.4	122.8
December	117.0	121.4	97.2	114.5	125.4	121.3	109.4	123.7
<b>1997</b>								
January	117.2	121.8	97.2	114.7	126.2	120.8	109.7	124.4
February	117.4	121.8	97.5	114.9	127.3	121.3	113.2	125.5
March	117.6	121.8	96.1	114.6	127.7	121.9	114.0	125.9

(a) Base of each index: 1989-90 = 100.0

## ELECTRICAL MATERIALS.....

Period	All groups excluding electrical materials and mechanical services	Conductors	Conduit and accessories	Switchboards and switchgear	Lamps and light fittings	All electrical materials	All electrical materials excluding lamps and light fittings
SYDNEY							
<b>1993-94</b>	106.7	105.5	112.3	116.1	100.6	107.2	110.0
<b>1994-95</b>	109.8	125.2	128.6	119.5	104.6	115.7	122.4
<b>1995-96</b>	111.4	139.7	142.6	124.8	108.5	125.1	132.9
<b>1996</b>							
January	111.6	138.2	143.5	124.9	110.3	125.3	132.4
February	111.3	138.1	143.5	124.9	110.3	125.3	132.3
March	111.3	138.0	144.5	124.9	110.3	125.3	132.4
April	111.4	134.9	140.1	125.1	108.2	123.4	130.6
May	111.4	135.0	140.3	126.1	108.9	124.0	131.0
June	111.4	132.4	140.3	126.6	108.0	123.0	130.0
July	111.4	127.0	142.5	126.6	108.0	121.4	127.7
August	111.7	126.9	145.8	127.0	107.9	121.8	128.2
September	111.3	126.6	147.9	126.6	107.9	121.7	128.1
October	111.5	126.6	147.9	126.9	107.9	121.8	128.2
November	111.4	125.3	147.9	126.9	107.9	121.4	127.6
December	111.5	125.3	147.9	127.1	108.0	121.4	127.7
<b>1997</b>							
January	111.9	128.3	147.9	128.4	108.0	122.8	129.7
February	112.0	129.0	146.1	128.6	108.0	122.9	129.9
March	112.1	130.1	149.2	128.6	108.0	123.4	130.7
MELBOURNE							
<b>1993-94</b>	106.6	109.1	120.8	109.8	100.3	107.3	110.8
<b>1994-95</b>	108.5	126.0	129.8	112.2	99.2	113.5	120.8
<b>1995-96</b>	109.7	139.6	129.0	116.0	100.9	119.4	126.7
<b>1996</b>							
January	110.0	140.3	131.0	117.2	101.4	120.3	129.8
February	110.1	140.1	131.0	117.2	103.0	120.8	129.7
March	109.4	139.8	126.0	117.1	101.4	119.7	128.9
April	109.5	139.6	124.6	117.1	101.4	119.6	128.7
May	109.7	133.6	124.2	117.1	101.3	117.6	125.8
June	109.7	133.3	124.2	117.1	101.3	117.5	125.6
July	109.5	120.9	124.2	117.2	101.3	113.6	119.8
August	109.5	118.7	122.9	117.2	101.1	112.7	118.6
September	109.5	118.6	123.1	117.2	101.1	112.7	118.6
October	109.3	118.6	123.1	117.1	101.1	112.7	118.6
November	109.2	113.8	123.1	117.2	101.0	111.2	116.3
December	109.6	114.6	124.1	117.1	101.5	111.6	116.8
<b>1997</b>							
January	109.7	115.6	124.1	118.3	101.5	112.3	117.8
February	110.3	116.5	121.3	118.7	101.5	112.5	118.0
March	110.7	117.1	121.6	118.7	101.5	112.7	118.4

(a) Base of each index: 1989-90 = 100.0



SPECIAL SERIES, Index Numbers(a)-Sydney and Melbourne *continued*

MECHANICAL SERVICES COMPONENTS.....

PLUMBING MATERIALS.....

Period	Air conditioning	Fire protection	Elevators, escalators and travelators	All mechanical services	Hydraulic plumbing	Drainage	Roof plumbing	All plumbing materials
SYDNEY								
<b>1993-94</b>	112.0	112.0	90.0	108.3	120.9	118.2	109.4	116.6
<b>1994-95</b>	115.0	113.3	92.2	110.8	127.2	121.1	110.6	122.3
<b>1995-96</b>	117.8	114.9	96.1	113.8	135.1	125.2	103.3	129.1
<b>1996</b>								
January	117.5	114.9	96.1	113.7	135.2	124.4	103.6	129.1
February	117.5	114.9	95.9	113.7	135.0	122.6	102.3	128.8
March	117.9	114.9	97.0	114.2	135.2	123.2	102.5	129.0
April	118.0	114.9	97.0	114.3	135.2	121.6	102.2	128.9
May	118.4	116.6	97.0	114.7	137.3	127.4	101.7	131.1
June	117.5	117.4	97.6	114.6	137.4	130.0	101.7	131.4
July	117.2	117.4	97.6	114.4	136.8	130.0	100.7	130.8
August	117.2	117.4	97.9	114.5	137.8	132.0	100.7	131.9
September	116.6	117.4	96.8	113.8	136.8	122.0	100.5	130.2
October	116.4	122.9	96.8	114.6	135.6	120.7	100.5	129.1
November	116.7	123.2	95.2	114.3	135.3	120.7	100.5	128.8
December	117.5	125.5	95.2	115.1	137.3	120.7	100.6	130.6
<b>1997</b>								
January	117.7	125.6	95.2	115.2	139.7	120.4	101.2	132.6
February	117.9	125.6	95.6	115.5	140.9	121.8	102.9	133.8
March	118.5	125.6	94.5	115.4	141.5	122.5	104.1	134.4
MELBOURNE								
<b>1993-94</b>	110.9	108.0	89.8	106.8	102.8	114.6	105.1	105.3
<b>1994-95</b>	114.0	107.5	90.9	108.9	110.1	124.4	108.4	112.6
<b>1995-96</b>	118.0	111.3	98.5	114.1	116.7	125.7	114.7	118.9
<b>1996</b>								
January	117.8	111.5	98.8	114.1	117.0	124.0	114.3	119.1
February	118.2	111.5	98.8	114.4	117.0	123.9	116.1	119.1
March	118.4	111.5	101.5	115.3	117.0	124.9	118.6	119.2
April	119.2	111.5	101.5	115.8	116.8	125.1	118.6	119.1
May	118.7	111.5	101.5	115.5	118.2	129.1	118.6	120.7
June	118.7	111.5	101.8	115.6	118.5	129.6	118.6	120.9
July	118.1	111.5	102.2	115.4	116.8	128.2	118.6	119.3
August	118.0	111.5	103.5	115.8	117.7	127.7	118.7	120.2
September	118.2	111.5	102.9	115.7	117.7	127.3	118.7	120.1
October	118.2	111.5	102.6	115.6	117.7	127.5	118.7	120.1
November	117.8	111.5	99.8	114.5	117.2	126.7	118.7	119.6
December	117.8	112.0	99.8	114.5	117.2	126.6	118.7	119.6
<b>1997</b>								
January	117.9	112.0	99.8	114.6	116.8	124.9	118.7	118.9
February	118.0	112.0	100.4	114.9	117.6	125.0	126.6	120.1
March	118.2	112.0	98.5	114.3	117.6	125.2	126.7	120.1

(a) Base of each index: 1989-90 = 100.0



## ELECTRICAL MATERIALS.....

Period	<i>All groups excluding electrical materials and mechanical services</i>	Conductors	Conduit and accessories	Switchboards and switchgear	Lamps and light fittings	All electrical materials	<i>All electrical materials excluding lamps and light fittings</i>
BRISBANE							
<b>1993-94</b>	112.5	75.9	102.0	115.3	108.7	98.4	94.2
<b>1994-95</b>	115.4	91.1	109.9	117.6	104.9	103.1	103.1
<b>1995-96</b>	116.6	106.6	120.1	123.3	106.3	110.7	113.8
<b>1996</b>							
January	116.6	106.1	116.5	122.5	106.5	110.1	112.8
February	116.6	106.0	118.9	124.3	106.4	110.7	113.8
March	116.4	105.5	118.9	124.3	106.1	110.5	113.6
April	116.3	105.7	120.0	124.3	106.1	110.6	113.8
May	116.3	105.7	121.1	125.2	106.1	110.9	114.3
June	116.2	103.3	121.6	125.3	106.1	110.3	113.3
July	116.3	98.7	125.3	126.1	106.1	109.3	111.9
August	116.6	98.7	125.5	125.3	106.5	109.2	111.5
September	116.9	98.6	125.5	125.6	106.1	109.2	111.7
October	117.0	98.6	127.6	125.6	106.1	109.3	111.9
November	117.1	95.5	127.6	125.6	106.3	108.4	110.5
December	117.2	96.2	127.6	125.7	106.9	108.9	110.8
<b>1997</b>							
January	117.3	96.9	127.6	126.6	106.9	109.3	111.5
February	117.8	98.9	126.3	128.1	107.0	110.2	112.9
March	118.2	99.6	127.7	128.1	107.0	110.6	113.4
ADELAIDE							
<b>1993-94</b>	107.8	95.7	113.7	117.8	104.5	106.0	106.6
<b>1994-95</b>	111.7	86.5	121.0	117.3	109.0	104.7	102.5
<b>1995-96</b>	112.8	93.9	131.4	120.4	109.7	109.3	108.9
<b>1996</b>							
January	112.7	92.9	131.7	120.2	109.7	108.9	108.4
February	112.9	92.6	131.6	120.9	109.7	109.0	108.5
March	113.2	92.8	131.4	120.8	109.7	109.1	108.6
April	113.0	93.0	130.1	123.6	109.7	109.8	109.7
May	112.9	93.2	130.1	123.6	109.7	109.9	109.8
June	112.8	93.0	130.1	123.8	109.7	109.8	109.7
July	112.9	89.8	129.9	125.5	109.7	109.3	108.9
August	113.2	85.0	130.2	125.5	109.7	107.8	106.7
September	113.8	88.0	130.2	125.5	109.7	108.8	108.1
October	114.5	87.4	130.0	125.5	110.0	108.7	107.8
November	115.4	77.4	126.8	125.8	110.0	105.4	102.9
December	115.6	77.2	126.5	125.8	110.5	105.4	102.8
<b>1997</b>							
January	115.6	82.4	126.5	125.8	110.5	107.1	105.2
February	115.8	83.2	124.6	125.9	110.6	107.2	105.4
March	115.6	83.1	129.5	125.4	110.6	107.4	105.7

(a) Base of each index: 1989-90 = 100.0

SPECIAL SERIES, Index Numbers(a)-Brisbane and Adelaide *continued*

MECHANICAL SERVICES COMPONENTS.....

PLUMBING MATERIALS.....

Period	Air conditioning	Fire protection	Elevators, escalators and travelators	All mechanical services	PLUMBING MATERIALS.....			
					Hydraulic plumbing	Drainage	Roof plumbing	All plumbing materials
BRISBANE								
<b>1993-94</b>	108.6	112.3	94.1	106.8	115.3	120.3	106.9	112.9
<b>1994-95</b>	110.2	115.0	95.3	108.5	119.4	124.8	102.7	116.5
<b>1995-96</b>	113.6	119.0	99.5	112.3	126.5	125.7	101.5	122.7
<b>1996</b>								
January	113.5	119.6	99.6	112.4	125.2	125.0	103.7	121.6
February	113.3	119.6	99.5	112.2	123.7	124.1	103.7	120.3
March	114.2	119.6	100.3	113.0	123.8	123.0	103.7	120.2
April	114.3	119.6	100.3	113.0	123.7	121.3	103.7	120.0
May	114.6	119.6	100.3	113.2	125.4	126.1	103.7	121.9
June	114.6	119.6	100.6	113.3	125.7	125.3	103.7	122.0
July	115.3	119.6	100.6	113.6	124.9	125.3	103.7	121.4
August	115.3	120.3	101.3	114.0	125.3	123.8	104.0	121.6
September	116.0	120.3	100.4	114.1	125.9	126.9	104.0	122.4
October	116.0	120.3	100.4	114.1	125.1	127.0	104.0	121.7
November	115.7	120.3	99.1	113.5	125.5	127.0	104.0	122.0
December	116.0	121.0	99.1	113.8	126.3	125.7	104.0	122.6
<b>1997</b>								
January	116.0	121.0	99.1	113.8	126.3	127.0	104.0	122.7
February	116.3	121.0	99.4	114.0	127.4	126.7	107.9	123.8
March	116.5	121.0	98.2	113.8	127.6	126.9	107.9	123.9

ADELAIDE

<b>1993-94</b>	115.2	115.0	88.5	110.5	104.6	106.9	106.4	105.0
<b>1994-95</b>	117.0	119.5	87.1	111.7	109.7	117.7	109.1	110.4
<b>1995-96</b>	118.7	126.3	90.8	115.0	115.8	113.8	111.8	115.7
<b>1996</b>								
January	118.5	126.0	91.3	114.9	114.9	114.3	114.1	115.0
February	118.6	126.0	91.1	114.9	115.6	111.4	114.1	115.4
March	118.6	126.9	92.3	115.5	115.5	109.0	114.1	115.2
April	118.8	126.9	92.3	115.6	115.7	109.1	114.1	115.3
May	119.2	126.9	92.3	115.8	116.4	109.5	114.1	116.0
June	119.5	127.2	92.7	116.2	117.1	110.5	114.1	116.7
July	119.1	127.2	92.7	115.9	115.9	108.8	114.1	115.5
August	119.1	127.2	92.9	116.0	115.9	107.8	114.1	115.5
September	119.2	127.2	91.3	115.5	116.1	106.3	114.1	115.5
October	118.1	127.2	91.3	114.9	115.6	106.3	114.1	115.1
November	117.9	127.2	89.8	114.3	115.3	106.4	114.1	114.8
December	117.9	127.2	89.8	114.4	115.6	107.8	114.1	115.1
<b>1997</b>								
January	118.4	127.2	89.8	114.6	115.8	108.1	114.1	115.3
February	118.6	127.2	89.8	114.7	116.4	106.8	115.3	115.9
March	117.5	127.2	88.7	113.8	116.7	110.8	115.3	116.4

(a) Base of each index: 1989-90 = 100.0

## ELECTRICAL MATERIALS.....

<i>Period</i>	<i>All groups excluding electrical materials and mechanical services</i>	<i>Conductors</i>	<i>Conduit and accessories</i>	<i>Switchboards and switchgear</i>	<i>Lamps and light fittings</i>	<i>All electrical materials</i>	<i>All electrical materials excluding lamps and light fittings</i>
PERTH							
<b>1993-94</b>	108.3	84.7	120.6	113.7	107.5	101.9	99.7
<b>1994-95</b>	111.3	97.6	130.7	115.0	108.2	107.3	107.5
<b>1995-96</b>	113.4	108.2	142.2	115.9	112.0	113.0	114.1
<b>1996</b>							
January	113.6	107.4	141.1	115.6	111.8	112.5	113.5
February	113.5	107.4	141.1	115.6	111.8	112.5	113.5
March	113.4	107.4	143.3	116.1	111.8	112.8	114.0
April	113.3	107.8	145.9	116.8	112.3	113.5	114.7
May	113.2	107.8	146.5	116.8	113.7	114.0	114.8
June	113.1	107.8	146.5	116.8	113.2	113.9	114.8
July	114.0	103.3	147.3	116.9	113.2	112.6	112.9
August	114.3	103.2	147.9	116.9	106.3	110.3	112.9
September	114.7	101.6	147.9	117.0	107.3	110.2	112.2
October	114.7	101.6	147.9	117.1	107.3	110.2	112.3
November	114.9	99.1	147.9	117.1	107.3	109.4	111.1
December	115.2	99.1	147.9	117.1	107.7	109.6	111.1
<b>1997</b>							
January	115.2	101.5	147.9	117.1	107.7	110.3	112.2
February	115.9	101.9	145.6	117.3	107.7	110.3	112.2
March	115.9	103.6	150.5	117.3	108.7	111.5	113.6
HOBART							
<b>1993-94</b>	111.0	87.7	114.7	122.8	99.7	104.7	107.0
<b>1994-95</b>	112.7	107.0	126.3	123.8	96.3	110.8	118.0
<b>1995-96</b>	115.5	126.9	136.6	125.3	97.1	118.6	129.2
<b>1996</b>							
January	115.9	126.2	131.5	124.4	97.3	117.8	127.9
February	115.6	126.2	131.5	124.4	97.3	117.8	127.9
March	115.3	126.8	140.8	124.2	96.9	118.6	129.3
April	115.2	126.6	131.4	126.0	96.9	118.3	128.8
May	115.3	126.6	131.6	129.2	98.1	119.6	130.1
June	115.3	126.3	131.6	129.1	98.2	119.5	130.0
July	116.1	126.3	132.3	129.1	98.2	119.5	130.0
August	116.5	122.5	134.1	128.3	84.4	113.7	128.1
September	116.3	122.5	135.6	128.8	84.4	113.9	128.5
October	116.2	122.4	134.8	128.7	97.9	118.3	128.3
November	116.6	122.4	134.8	128.7	97.9	118.3	128.3
December	116.7	122.4	134.8	128.7	97.9	118.3	128.3
<b>1997</b>							
January	116.8	122.8	134.8	128.7	97.8	118.4	128.5
February	117.1	122.8	134.8	128.7	97.8	118.4	128.5
March	117.1	119.7	135.9	128.6	98.0	117.6	127.1

(a) Base of each index: 1989-90 = 100.0



SPECIAL SERIES, Index Numbers(a)-Perth and Hobart *continued*

MECHANICAL SERVICES COMPONENTS.....

PLUMBING MATERIALS.....

Period	Air conditioning	Fire protection	Elevators, escalators and travelators	All mechanical services	Hydraulic plumbing	Drainage	Roof plumbing	All plumbing materials
PERTH								
<b>1993-94</b>	106.6	105.4	94.4	104.2	98.6	121.7	107.4	105.1
<b>1994-95</b>	109.6	109.8	95.2	106.8	107.8	130.4	109.8	114.4
<b>1995-96</b>	114.0	120.0	100.1	112.3	113.9	126.0	116.6	120.1
<b>1996</b>								
January	113.6	119.5	101.3	112.4	113.7	125.9	119.5	120.0
February	114.6	119.6	101.1	112.9	114.0	123.1	119.7	120.0
March	114.9	119.6	102.1	113.4	113.8	121.4	119.7	119.7
April	114.9	126.4	102.1	114.4	113.4	115.4	119.7	118.9
May	115.1	126.4	102.1	114.5	114.7	117.8	119.7	120.3
June	115.1	126.4	102.3	114.6	114.8	117.3	119.7	120.4
July	114.5	126.4	102.3	114.3	111.5	117.7	119.7	117.3
August	114.4	124.4	102.9	114.1	111.5	120.3	119.7	117.4
September	114.4	124.4	101.0	113.5	111.9	119.8	119.7	117.9
October	114.9	124.4	101.0	113.8	111.1	119.2	119.7	117.0
November	113.5	124.4	99.7	112.6	111.6	118.6	119.7	117.4
December	113.7	124.4	99.7	112.7	113.2	119.5	119.7	119.0
<b>1997</b>								
January	113.7	128.4	99.7	113.3	113.3	118.5	119.7	119.1
February	113.9	128.4	99.7	113.4	114.4	118.5	120.4	120.1
March	113.9	128.4	98.1	112.9	114.9	117.0	122.2	120.5
HOBART								
<b>1993-94</b>	112.1	115.4	97.4	109.6	113.3	105.2	109.8	110.1
<b>1994-95</b>	115.5	120.5	98.8	112.6	129.5	108.5	114.2	124.6
<b>1995-96</b>	117.1	122.2	102.9	115.1	133.0	107.5	119.2	127.7
<b>1996</b>								
January	116.3	122.1	103.6	114.8	132.7	109.0	118.7	127.5
February	117.4	122.1	103.6	115.4	132.8	108.5	119.3	127.6
March	117.6	122.1	104.1	115.7	132.8	108.5	120.8	127.6
April	118.2	122.5	104.1	116.1	132.0	104.1	120.7	126.6
May	118.2	122.5	104.1	116.1	132.5	104.1	121.6	127.1
June	118.5	122.6	105.1	116.5	132.7	104.1	122.6	127.3
July	118.1	122.7	105.1	116.3	131.9	108.3	127.0	127.0
August	119.2	122.7	106.6	117.4	130.7	107.7	127.0	126.0
September	119.6	122.7	106.6	117.6	130.8	107.7	127.0	126.0
October	118.9	122.7	106.6	117.3	124.7	103.6	126.0	120.4
November	119.0	122.7	104.0	116.5	125.2	103.6	124.0	120.7
December	119.0	122.7	104.0	116.5	125.7	103.6	124.0	121.2
<b>1997</b>								
January	119.0	123.4	104.0	116.6	125.3	103.6	124.0	120.8
February	119.1	123.3	104.0	116.6	125.5	103.6	124.0	121.0
March	120.7	123.3	102.6	117.1	128.7	104.1	129.2	122.3

(a) Base of each index: 1989-90 = 100.0

## EXPLANATORY NOTES

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### INTRODUCTION

**1** This publication presents index numbers measuring changes in prices of selected materials used in the construction of buildings other than houses — the Price Index of Materials Used in Building Other than House Building. It is calculated on the reference base 1989–90 = 100.0 for the six State capital cities.

**2** Index numbers for the current month and the previous three months are preliminary and subject to revision.

### SCOPE

**3** The index includes 63 items which are combined into 10 industry of origin groups and an 'All groups' total. Table 1 presents 'All groups' index numbers for the weighted average of the six State capital cities, for each of the cities separately. Although many of the selected materials are also used in house 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 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.

### CLASSIFICATION

**4** For the weighted average of the six State capital cities the selected materials have been combined into broad groups on an industry of origin basis. Table 4 presents index numbers for groups defined in terms of the Groups (3 digit level) of the 1993 *Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification* (ANZSIC); the percentage contributions for individual materials and groups are shown in Table A1 of the Appendix of the October 1993 issue of this publication. The 'industry of origin' is not necessarily identical to the industry which supplies the materials to builders. The 'industry of origin' is the industry in which the material is *primarily produced*, determined in accordance with the classification rules of the ANZSIC. For instance, many of the materials are classified to the appropriate producing industries, rather than the wholesale trading industries. Some materials used in constructing buildings in Australia are imported. Imported materials are allocated to the similar industry of origin as Australian produced materials.

### ITEMS AND WEIGHTS

**5** The index is a fixed weights index. The items were selected and allocated weights in accordance with the estimated average values of materials used in the construction of buildings other than houses completed in each of the seven capital cities in the five years ended June 1992. This same weighting pattern is used for each of the seven capital cities. The weighting pattern for the 'All groups' index is set out in Appendix A of the October 1993 issue of this publication.

### PRICE MEASUREMENT

**6** Prices are collected at the mid point of the month to which the index refers, or the nearest trading day. They relate to specific standards of each material 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. 'delivered to electrical contractor's store'. Local prices are used in the indexes for each capital city.

# EXPLANATORY NOTES

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## PRICE MEASUREMENT (continued)

**7** As far as possible, actual transactions prices are used in this index — that is, prices actually paid by building contractors or subcontractors to suppliers for materials delivered on building sites. The actual price paid for anything can be described in various ways. Instead of being described as a single price (as usually happens in retail shops) a price for a building material may be described in terms of the components which make up the price — for instance 'list price plus sales tax', 'suppliers price plus freight', 'basic price less (particular types of) discount' and so on. It is these *net* prices that buyers pay to sellers for materials that the ABS aims to use in compiling this index.

**8** The ABS asks respondent businesses to report details of the discounts they offer so that actual transactions prices can be calculated. However, as building material suppliers offer many different types of discounts to buyers (e.g. trade discounts, settlement discounts, quantity discounts, competitive discounts), the identification of the discounts and the way in which they are applied by sellers pose considerable problems for the ABS. To the extent that discounts are identified and measured, their effects are taken into account in calculating the index. Sometimes new discounts, or changes in the way discounts are applied by sellers, are identified only after index numbers for a particular period have been published. In such cases, or in any other case where it is discovered that incorrect prices have been used in compiling the indexes, revisions to index numbers may occur in subsequent issues of this publication.

**9** To minimise the incidence of revisions, the ABS has stringent procedures to verify that prices reported in its mail collections are transactions prices net of discounts.

**10** Sales taxes levied on building materials are included in the prices used to compile the index. Materials used in the construction of Commonwealth, State and Local Government owned buildings are exempt from sales tax; materials used in most non-government 'health' and 'education' buildings and buildings for non-profit organisations such as religious and charitable institutions are also exempt. At any particular time, when there is a change in the rate of sales tax on building materials, the movement in the index takes into account the proportion of materials sold subject to sales tax and the proportion of materials exempt from sales tax.

**11** On request, the ABS can provide further information on the treatment of sales tax in the index including details of factors to either include the full effects of sales tax changes or exclude entirely the effects of sales tax changes.

## INDEX NUMBERS

**12** Index numbers for financial years are averages of monthly index numbers.

## SELECTED MATERIALS

**13** Table 5 contains index numbers for selected materials used in constructing buildings other than houses for the weighted average of the six State capital cities. In general these indexes relate to either single items or combinations of items as shown in the weighting pattern published in Table A1 of the Appendix to the October 1993 issue of this publication. Tables 6 to 9 contain index numbers for selected major materials for each State capital city.

## SPECIAL COMBINATIONS OF MATERIALS

**14** Tables 10 to 12 contain index numbers for the following special combinations of materials, for the weighted average of the six State capital cities and each State capital city:

- All groups excluding electrical materials and mechanical service components
- Electrical materials
- Mechanical services components
- Plumbing materials

## EXPLANATORY NOTES

### REVISIONS

**15** Index numbers for the current month and the previous three months are preliminary and subject to revision. From time to time index numbers for earlier months may also be revised. This will occur whenever the ABS obtains more complete information or discovers that incorrect prices have been used.

### ANALYSIS OF INDEX CHANGES

**16** Care should be exercised when interpreting month-to-month movements in the indexes as short-term movements do not necessarily indicate changes in trend.

**17** The separate city indexes measure price movements over time in each capital city individually. They do not measure differences in price levels between cities.

**18** Movements in indexes from one period to another can be expressed either as changes in 'index points' or as percentage changes. The following example illustrates the method of calculating index points changes and percentage changes between any two periods:

Weighted average of six State  
capital cities index numbers —

March 1997	113.6	(see Table 1)
less March 1996	112.7	(see Table 1)
• Change in index points	0.9	
Percentage change	$\frac{0.9}{112.7} \times 100 = 0.8$	

**19** Table 3 provides an analysis of the contribution which selected major building materials make to the All groups index for the weighted average of the six State capital cities. For example, Ready mixed concrete contributed 10.13 index points to the All groups index number of 113.6 for March 1997 and -0.04 index points to the net change of 0.9 index points.

### FURTHER INFORMATION

**20** Further information on the index is presented in the publication *Producer and Foreign Trade Price Indexes: Concepts, Sources and Methods* (6419.0).

### RELATED PUBLICATIONS

**21** Users may also wish to refer to the following price index publications which are available from ABS Bookshops:

*Price Index of Materials Used in House Building, Six State Capital Cities and Canberra* (6408.0)

*Price Indexes of Materials Used in Manufacturing Industries, Australia* (6411.0)

*Price Indexes of Articles Produced by Manufacturing Industry, Australia* (6412.0)

*Price Indexes of Copper Materials, Australia* (6410.0)

**22** Other ABS publications that may be of interest include:

*Award Rates of Pay Indexes, Australia* (6312.0)

*Average Weekly Earnings, States and Australia* (6302.0)

## EXPLANATORY NOTES

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RELATED PUBLICATIONS (continued) **23** Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products, Australia* (1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a *Release Advice* (1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the next few days. The Catalogue and Release Advice are available from any ABS office.

UNPUBLISHED STATISTICS **24** As well as the statistics included in this and related publications, the ABS may have other relevant unpublished data available. Inquiries should be made to Peter Cordy on 06 252 6198 or to any ABS office.

SYMBOLS AND OTHER USAGES ANZSIC Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification  
r figure or series revised since previous issue





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ISSN 1325-2151

RRP \$15.50