

CHAPTER 10

LABOUR, WAGES AND PRICES

For particulars of the Farm Production Price Index, see the chapter Miscellaneous. For current information on the subjects dealt with in this chapter, see the *Monthly Review of Business Statistics*, the *Digest of Current Economic Statistics* (monthly), and the *Quarterly Summary of Australian Statistics*, also the mimeographed statements *Wage Rates and Earnings*, *Consumer Price Index*, *Wholesale Price Index of Materials used in Building other than House Building*, *Wholesale Price Index of Materials used in House Building*, *Wholesale Price Indexes—Price Index of Electrical Installation Materials*, and *Export Price Index*. For further information on these subjects, except the Export Price Index, see the *Labour Report* issued by this Bureau.

RETAIL PRICES AND PRICE INDEXES

Retail prices of food and groceries and average rentals of houses for years extending back to 1901 have been collected by the Commonwealth Statistician, and in some cases were recorded by the Statisticians of various States for earlier years.

Retail prices of a more extensive range of commodities (including clothing) and certain services in common demand have been ascertained at frequent and regular intervals since 1923, and comparable information was ascertained for the month of November in each year from 1914 to 1922. The range of items for which retail prices data are obtained was considerably expanded in 1948 and in later years. Average retail prices of certain food and grocery items in current periods are published in the annual *Labour Report*.

An explanation of the nature and purposes of retail price indexes is given in the various editions of the annual *Labour Report*, together with further particulars of indexes then current. Previous retail price indexes for Australia are briefly described below. The current retail price index, entitled the Consumer Price Index, was published for the first time in August 1960. It was compiled retrospectively to 1948-49. A description of the Consumer Price Index is given on pages 222-4.

Previous retail price indexes

Five series of retail price indexes had been compiled at various times for Australia by the Commonwealth Statistician prior to 1960. Each of these was continued until changed conditions required the compilation of indexes more directly relevant to current conditions. The respective indexes were as follows.

- (i) *The 'A' Series Index* (covering food, groceries and house rents) was first compiled in 1912 with the year 1911 as base = 1,000. It was discontinued in June 1938.
- (ii) *The 'B' Series Index* (covering food, groceries and rent of 4 and 5 roomed houses) was first compiled in 1925 and continued until December quarter 1953. It was the food and rent constituent of the 'C' Series Index and was designed to replace the 'A' Series Index for general statistical purposes.
- (iii) *The 'C' Series Index* (covering food and groceries, rent of 4 and 5 roomed houses, clothing, household drapery, household utensils, fuel, lighting, fares, smoking, and some other miscellaneous items) was first compiled in 1921. It was last issued on its original basis for December quarter 1960. For certain transitional purposes a 'C' Series Index was issued for some quarters after that. This was calculated by varying the index numbers of December quarter 1960 in proportion to movements shown by the Consumer Price Index.
- (iv) *The 'D' Series Index*, derived by combining the 'A' and 'C' Series Indexes, was used by the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration from May 1933 to May 1934 and then discontinued.

- (v) *The Interim Index* (covering food and groceries, rent of 4 and 5 roomed houses, clothing, household drapery, household utensils, fuel, lighting, fares, smoking, certain services and some miscellaneous items) was first compiled in 1954 with the year 1952-53 as base = 100. As its title indicated, it was constructed as a transitional index. Its compilation was discontinued following its replacement by the Consumer Price Index in June quarter 1960.

An index of retail price movements from 1901 to 1970 is shown on page 228 of this Year Book. It is derived by linking together successive indexes (the 'A' Series, the 'C' Series and the Consumer Price Index) available for that period.

In 1937 the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration introduced a 'Court' Index for the purpose of its system of making automatic quarterly adjustments to the basic wage within its jurisdiction. By decision of the Court the 'Court' Index ceased to be issued by the Industrial Registrar as at December quarter 1953. These 'Court' Index numbers were an arithmetical conversion of the 'C' Series Retail Price Index.

Consumer Price Index

This retail price index was first compiled in 1960, retrospectively to September quarter 1948. A full description of the index is given in *Labour Report* No. 54, 1968 and 1969.

Origin

The list of component items and the weighting pattern of the 'C' Series Retail Price Index, first adopted in 1921, were slightly revised by a Conference of Statisticians in 1936, but otherwise continued almost unchanged until the index was discontinued in 1960. The reasons for this and the circumstances which led to the present Consumer Price Index appear from ensuing paragraphs.

From the outbreak of war in 1939 to late in 1948, periodic policy changes in regard to various war-time controls (including rationing) caused recurrent changes in consumption and in the pattern of expenditure. This rendered changes desirable, but made it impracticable either to produce a new index, or to revise the old one, on any basis that would render the index more representative than it already was of the changing pattern of household expenditure in those years.

When commodity rationing had virtually ceased in the latter part of 1948, action was taken by the Statistician to collect price data of about 100 additional items and to gather information about current consumption and expenditure patterns. This was done to facilitate review of the component items and weighting system of the 'C' Series Retail Price Index in the light of the new pattern of wage-earner expenditure and consumption that appeared to be emerging. But there supervened, in the next few years, conditions which caused wide price dispersion coupled with a very rapid rise in prices and a new sequence of changes in consumption and in the pattern of wage-earner expenditure. Under these conditions it was not possible to devise any new weighting pattern likely to be more continuously representative of conditions then current than was the existing 'C' Series Retail Price Index on the 1936 revision.

A Conference of Statisticians considered the matter in June 1953, and resolved (in part) as follows:

- '(a) that, in view of the persistence of recurrent changes in the pattern of consumer expenditure in the post-war period it is undesirable to make a general revision of the list of items and weighting system of the 'C' Series Retail Price Index at present, unless industrial tribunals expressly desire some revision for special purposes;
- (b) that an Interim Retail Price Index be compiled with putative weights and components representative, as nearly as may be, of the post-war pattern of consumer usage and expenditure.'

The 'C' Series Index continued to be compiled on its pre-war basis without significant change in procedures. The Interim Retail Price Index was introduced in 1954 and continued until March quarter 1960.

The Interim Index was a transitional index designed to measure retail price variations on the 'C' Series model in terms of post-war consumption weights as emerging in the early 1950's. It embraced a wider range of commodities and services than did the 'C' Series Retail Price Index, but it did not take into account successive major changes in the pattern of expenditure and modes of living that began to occur early in 1950 and through to 1960. These changes could not in fact be detected and measured promptly and incorporated into an index concurrently with their happening. Nor was it envisaged as desirable to adopt fundamentally new procedures in price index construction until it was fully evident that far-reaching procedural changes were necessary to meet the situation that had developed between about 1950 and 1960.

In this period home-owning largely replaced house-renting, the use of the motor car greatly increased and partly replaced use of public transport, and various items of electrical household equipment and television came into widespread use. The impact of these (and other) changes in usage upon the pattern of household expenditure was heightened by disparate movements in prices. Together, they rendered nugatory the attempt to meet the situation by devising a single Interim Retail Price Index. As studies progressed and new data became available it was clear that no single list of items and no single set of fixed weights would be adequately representative as a basis for measuring retail price changes at all times throughout the post-war period. In consequence, the situation was met by compiling the Consumer Price Index constructed as a chain of linked indexes with significant changes in composition and weighting effected at short intervals.

Purpose, scope and composition

The Consumer Price Index is a quarterly measure of variations in retail prices for goods and services representing a high proportion of the expenditure of wage-earner households. The weighting pattern relates to estimated aggregates of wage-earner household expenditures and not to estimated expenditures of an 'average' or individual household of specified size, type, or mode of living. In this way it is possible to give appropriate representation to owner-occupied houses as well as rented houses and to include motor cars, television sets, and other major expenditures which relate to some households and not to others.

Consumer (retail) price indexes are sometimes loosely called 'cost of living indexes' and are thought to measure changes in the 'cost of living'. Neither the Consumer Price Index nor any other retail price index measures those changes in the cost of living that result directly from changes in the mode or level of living. Changes of that kind are matters for consideration apart from price indexes, but the change in prices of goods and services is a very important part of the change in the cost of living and this part is measured by consumer (retail) price indexes.

The Consumer Price Index covers a wide range of commodities and services arranged in the following five major groups:

- Food;
- Clothing and drapery;
- Housing;
- Household supplies and equipment;
- Miscellaneous.

These groups do not include every item of household spending. It is both impracticable and unnecessary for them to do so. Prices are collected regularly for specified quantities and qualities of a large and representative selection of commodities and services. Movements in the prices of these items, when combined in suitable proportions, provide a representative measure of price change as affecting a high proportion of the expenditure of wage-earner households.

Index numbers for sub-groups and special groupings have been compiled and published for the six State capital cities combined for each quarter from December quarter 1963. From December quarter 1968 onwards, information of contributions by index sub-groups to the total index in terms of All Groups Index Points has also been published. These details are shown in the tables on pages 30-34 respectively, of *Labour Report* No. 54, 1968 and 1969.

Users of these figures should bear in mind that the Consumer Price Index is designed to measure the proportionate change in retail prices as combined in the five major groups and more particularly the total of the groups. For sub-groups or particular items, the index does not necessarily provide comprehensive and valid measures of price changes in those particular fields. Nor does it necessarily measure the relative influences of those classes of items in aggregate variations in prices. The Consumer Price Index is essentially a combination of selected items under various headings and not a dissection of total household expenditure into its component parts. Details of index numbers for sub-groups and special groupings are published to assist interpretation of movements shown by the Consumer Price Index and also to provide additional data of changes in retail prices.

Structure—a chain of linked indexes

Substantial changes have occurred in consumer usage and patterns of expenditure since the 1939-45 War. In order to keep the weighting pattern representative of current expenditures it has been necessary to construct indexes with additional items and changes in the weighting pattern at intervals, rather than on the basis of a list of items and set of weights that remained unchanged throughout the whole period covered. For the six State capital cities six series for short periods (namely, from the September quarter of 1948 to the June quarter of 1952, from the June quarter of 1952 to the June quarter of 1956, from the June quarter of 1956 to the March quarter of 1960, from

the March quarter of 1960 to the December quarter of 1963, from the December quarter of 1963 to the December quarter of 1968, and from the December quarter of 1968 onwards) have therefore been constructed and linked to form a continuous retail price index series known as the Consumer Price Index. (For information regarding these links for Canberra *see Labour Report* No. 54, 1968 and 1969).

During each period between links the items and weighting remained unchanged. At times of linking the weighting pattern was altered, and new items (mainly ones that had become significant in household expenditure) were introduced. Under this method, in effect, average percentage price movements are assessed on one pattern up to the time of the link and on another pattern thereafter. The process of linking ensures that the series reflects only price variations and not differences in cost of the old and new lists of items. The introduction of new items and weights by linking does not, of itself, raise or lower the level of the index.

Tabular statements of retail price index numbers

Consumer Price Index

The index has been compiled for each quarter from September quarter 1948 and for each year from 1948-49. 'All Groups' index numbers and 'Group' index numbers for each of the five major groups are compiled and published regularly for the six State capital cities combined and separately and for Canberra. Index numbers for sub-groups and special groupings of the Consumer Price Index for the six State capital cities combined have been compiled and published for each quarter from December quarter 1963 and for each year from 1966-67. The reference base for these indexes is: Year 1966-67 = 100.0.

Index numbers for each quarter are first issued in mimeographed statistical bulletins available from the Commonwealth Statistician about three weeks after the end of the quarter. These bulletins contain comment on the index and on significant price movements in that quarter. Tables showing index numbers for preceding quarters and years are presented.

The tables on the following pages show Consumer Price Index Numbers (Total All Groups) for the six State capital cities combined and separately and for Canberra for periods from the year 1953-54 (*see* page 225), Consumer Price Index Group Index Numbers for the six State capital cities combined for periods from the year 1953-54 (*see* page 226), and Consumer Price Index Group Index Numbers for each State capital city and for Canberra for recent years and quarters (*see* page 227).

**CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: ALL GROUPS INDEX NUMBERS
SIX STATE CAPITAL CITIES AND CANBERRA, YEARS 1953-54 TO 1969-70 AND QUARTERS
MARCH 1966 TO DECEMBER 1970**

(Base of each index: Year 1966-67 = 100.0)(a)

The separate city indexes measure price movements within each city individually. They do not compare price levels as between cities.

Period	State Capital Cities—Combined and Separately								
	Six State Capital Cities(b)	Sydney	Mel- bourne	Bris- bane	Adel- aide	Perth	Hobart	Can- berra	
Year—									
1953-54	73.5	74.5	72.5	70.9	74.7	74.6	74.4	76.5	
1954-55	74.0	75.0	72.5	71.4	75.6	76.3	74.3	77.5	
1955-56	77.0	77.5	76.8	73.8	78.1	78.3	78.1	80.2	
1956-57	81.5	82.8	81.0	77.8	81.2	81.8	82.8	84.3	
1957-58	82.3	84.0	81.3	79.4	81.8	82.4	82.9	84.8	
1958-59	83.6	84.6	82.9	82.1	83.6	83.2	84.1	85.8	
1959-60	85.7	86.5	85.3	84.2	86.2	84.8	85.6	87.6	
1960-61	89.2	89.6	89.5	87.1	89.8	87.9	90.3	90.3	
1961-62	89.6	89.9	89.8	88.4	89.5	88.2	90.7	91.6	
1962-63	89.8	90.4	89.7	88.7	89.1	88.7	90.7	91.8	
1963-64	90.6	91.4	90.4	89.6	90.2	89.8	91.7	92.5	
1964-65	94.0	94.5	94.0	93.0	93.9	92.6	94.6	95.3	
1965-66	97.4	97.7	97.5	97.5	97.0	96.1	98.0	98.1	
1966-67	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	
1967-68	103.3	103.2	103.7	103.3	102.9	102.9	104.6	102.6	
1968-69	106.0	106.2	106.2	105.5	105.3	105.5	106.1	104.4	
1969-70	109.4	110.6	108.7	108.4	108.2	109.4	108.5	107.4	
Quarter—									
1966—March	97.6	97.8	97.5	98.2	97.2	96.3	97.8	98.2	
June	98.4	98.3	98.4	98.4	98.2	98.1	98.7	98.5	
September	98.8	98.8	98.9	99.0	98.6	98.8	98.6	98.9	
December	99.7	99.9	99.6	99.7	99.7	99.3	99.2	99.7	
1967—March	100.1	100.1	100.0	100.3	100.2	100.3	100.6	100.1	
June	101.3	101.1	101.6	101.0	101.5	101.6	101.5	101.3	
September	102.7	102.5	102.9	102.8	102.6	102.0	104.3	102.2	
December	103.0	102.9	103.3	103.0	102.1	102.5	105.0	102.4	
1968—March	103.4	103.2	103.8	103.7	102.6	103.1	104.6	102.6	
June	104.2	104.0	104.8	103.7	104.2	104.0	104.6	103.2	
September	104.6	104.4	105.1	104.7	104.2	104.3	105.0	103.5	
December	105.7	105.9	106.0	105.3	105.2	104.9	105.8	103.9	
1969—March	106.4	106.7	106.6	105.8	105.5	105.6	106.5	104.8	
June	107.2	107.6	107.2	106.3	106.4	107.0	107.0	105.2	
September	107.8	108.4	107.6	107.2	106.9	107.7	107.4	106.0	
December	108.7	109.6	108.3	107.9	107.3	108.7	108.1	106.7	
1970—March	109.8	111.3	108.9	108.9	108.4	109.9	108.9	108.0	
June	111.2	112.9	110.1	109.7	110.0	111.4	109.6	109.0	
September	111.9	113.9	110.7	111.1	109.9	111.6	110.2	109.7	
December	114.0	116.2	112.6	113.3	111.8	113.5	112.4	113.2	

(a) Figures appearing after the decimal point possess little significance for general statistical purposes. They are inserted to avoid distortions that would occur in rounding off the figures to the nearest whole number. (b) Weighted average.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: GROUP INDEX NUMBERS
WEIGHTED AVERAGE OF SIX STATE CAPITAL CITIES, YEARS 1953-54 TO 1969-70
AND QUARTERS MARCH 1966 TO DECEMBER 1970

(Base of each index: Year 1966-67 = 100.0) (a)

Period	Food	Clothing and drapery	Housing	Household supplies and equipment	Miscel- laneous	All groups
Year—						
1953-54	73.2	84.3	58.5	88.3	67.1	73.5
1954-55	73.7	84.5	60.5	88.1	67.1	74.0
1955-56	77.8	85.4	64.2	88.3	71.1	77.0
1956-57	81.5	86.9	68.1	92.0	79.3	81.5
1957-58	80.1	89.5	71.0	93.4	80.4	82.3
1958-59	81.6	90.5	72.9	94.4	81.4	83.6
1959-60	84.7	91.5	75.4	95.4	83.2	85.7
1960-61	90.2	93.4	80.8	96.6	85.5	89.2
1961-62	88.6	94.4	84.0	97.9	86.1	89.6
1962-63	87.8	94.7	86.5	97.7	86.6	89.8
1963-64	89.0	95.3	89.1	96.4	87.3	90.6
1964-65	93.9	96.8	92.0	97.2	91.4	94.0
1965-66	98.4	97.9	95.9	98.9	95.8	97.4
1966-67	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1967-68	104.7	102.2	104.5	101.2	102.8	103.3
1968-69	105.8	104.3	109.1	102.9	107.5	106.0
1969-70	108.1	107.5	115.5	104.1	111.6	109.4
Quarter—						
1966—March	97.8	97.8	96.2	98.8	97.2	97.6
June	98.8	98.7	97.8	99.5	97.3	98.4
September	98.7	98.9	98.5	99.7	98.7	98.8
December	99.4	99.8	99.5	100.0	100.0	99.7
1967—March	100.0	100.2	100.1	99.9	100.3	100.1
June	101.9	101.1	101.8	100.4	101.0	101.3
September	104.8	101.4	102.9	100.6	101.8	102.7
December	103.9	102.1	104.2	101.1	102.8	103.0
1968—March	104.6	102.3	104.7	101.1	103.1	103.4
June	105.6	102.8	106.0	101.9	103.6	104.2
September	105.3	103.3	106.7	102.1	105.1	104.6
December	105.5	104.1	108.7	102.7	107.3	105.7
1969—March	105.7	104.4	109.7	103.0	108.5	106.4
June	106.6	105.2	111.2	103.7	108.9	107.2
September	106.6	106.0	112.8	103.7	110.0	107.8
December	107.1	107.2	114.7	103.9	110.9	108.7
1970—March	108.7	107.9	116.2	104.0	112.0	109.8
June	110.1	108.9	118.3	104.7	113.5	111.2
September	110.9	109.2	120.2	105.4	113.7	111.9
December	112.0	110.9	122.7	106.6	117.5	114.0

(a) Figures appearing after the decimal point possess little significance for general statistical purposes. They are inserted to avoid distortions that would occur in rounding off the figures to the nearest whole number.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: GROUP INDEX NUMBERS
SIX STATE CAPITAL CITIES AND CANBERRA, YEARS 1948-49 TO 1969-70
AND QUARTERS MARCH TO DECEMBER 1970

(Base of each index: Year 1966-67 = 100.0) (a)

The index numbers hereunder are designed to measure movements in retail prices of specified groups of items for specified cities individually. They measure variations from time to time and not differences in price level as between cities.

City	Year						1970			
	1948-49	1965-66	1966-67	1967-68	1968-69	1969-70	March qtr	June qtr	Sept qtr	Dec. qtr
FOOD GROUP										
Six State Capitals(b)	38.2	98.4	100.0	104.7	105.8	108.1	108.7	110.1	110.9	112.0
Sydney	37.9	98.8	100.0	103.9	104.9	107.8	109.0	110.0	110.8	112.2
Melbourne	38.9	99.0	100.0	106.3	107.3	109.1	109.2	110.9	112.2	112.8
Brisbane	36.8	98.4	100.0	103.7	104.7	107.7	108.6	109.1	110.5	112.8
Adelaide	38.6	97.1	100.0	104.7	106.4	107.1	107.1	108.6	108.2	108.8
Perth	38.4	95.2	100.0	102.9	104.5	108.1	108.4	111.0	111.2	111.3
Hobart	39.1	98.9	100.0	106.8	105.3	106.4	106.9	106.9	108.4	110.1
Canberra	37.6	98.0	100.0	104.3	105.1	107.0	107.4	108.5	109.5	110.7
CLOTHING AND DRAPERY GROUP										
Six State Capitals(b)	48.9	97.9	100.0	102.2	104.3	107.5	107.9	108.9	109.2	110.9
Sydney	49.0	97.7	100.0	102.2	104.2	107.5	107.9	108.8	109.2	110.9
Melbourne	48.6	98.0	100.0	102.1	104.2	107.4	107.8	108.8	109.0	110.7
Brisbane	47.8	97.8	100.0	102.4	104.3	107.3	107.7	108.8	109.2	110.9
Adelaide	49.4	97.8	100.0	102.2	104.5	108.1	108.4	109.8	110.0	111.6
Perth	50.6	97.9	100.0	102.1	104.5	107.8	108.0	109.1	109.4	111.2
Hobart	48.2	98.0	100.0	102.4	104.5	107.9	108.2	109.4	109.5	111.0
Canberra	49.5	97.9	100.0	102.3	104.2	107.5	107.9	109.0	109.2	110.7
HOUSING GROUP										
Six State Capitals(b)	40.5	95.9	100.0	104.5	109.1	115.5	116.2	118.3	120.2	122.7
Sydney	41.1	95.3	100.0	105.0	110.5	119.9	120.8	124.8	128.1	130.1
Melbourne	41.3	96.3	100.0	103.8	107.9	112.2	112.6	113.7	114.4	117.6
Brisbane	41.3	97.3	100.0	105.8	109.6	113.4	113.6	114.1	115.9	116.8
Adelaide	38.4	95.7	100.0	102.1	104.7	109.3	109.9	111.0	111.7	116.0
Perth	36.1	95.4	100.0	105.8	112.7	120.1	121.2	122.1	122.7	125.5
Hobart	36.8	97.1	100.0	103.6	108.4	112.6	113.2	114.1	115.0	117.0
Canberra	41.8	98.6	100.0	100.4	101.9	104.6	106.0	106.4	106.9	118.8
HOUSEHOLD SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT GROUP										
Six State Capitals(b)	58.3	98.9	100.0	101.2	102.9	104.1	104.0	104.7	105.4	106.6
Sydney	59.7	99.3	100.0	101.2	103.0	104.8	105.0	105.5	106.5	108.6
Melbourne	55.0	98.7	100.0	101.4	102.9	103.5	103.1	103.8	104.4	105.1
Brisbane	58.9	98.8	100.0	101.2	104.3	105.5	105.5	105.9	106.5	107.5
Adelaide	64.9	99.2	100.0	100.3	101.1	102.0	101.9	102.9	103.5	104.3
Perth	60.4	98.3	100.0	100.7	102.1	103.7	103.8	104.8	105.8	106.7
Hobart	53.4	98.6	100.0	102.9	104.5	106.1	106.3	106.9	107.6	108.4
Canberra	61.4	99.7	100.0	100.4	100.6	101.9	101.9	102.5	104.0	104.2
MISCELLANEOUS GROUP										
Six State Capitals(b)	44.7	95.8	100.0	102.8	107.5	111.6	112.0	113.5	113.7	117.5
Sydney	46.5	96.4	100.0	103.0	108.5	113.7	114.3	116.1	116.4	120.4
Melbourne	42.2	95.1	100.0	102.5	107.3	110.2	110.3	111.5	111.6	115.0
Brisbane	44.4	95.5	100.0	103.2	106.0	109.2	109.5	110.7	112.9	116.6
Adelaide	47.1	95.7	100.0	102.6	107.0	112.0	112.4	114.8	114.2	117.3
Perth	45.4	95.3	100.0	103.2	105.6	109.8	110.5	111.5	110.9	115.2
Hobart	43.5	96.7	100.0	104.5	108.0	111.0	111.2	112.5	112.2	116.3
Canberra	50.2	97.1	100.0	103.0	107.0	112.4	113.1	114.3	114.7	119.3

(a) Figures appearing after the decimal point possess little significance for general statistical purposes. They are inserted to avoid distortions that would occur in rounding off the figures to the nearest whole number. (b) Weighted average.

Retail Price Index Numbers, 1901 to 1970

The index numbers shown below are presented as a continuous series, but they give only a broad indication of long-term trends in retail price levels. They are derived by linking a number of indexes that differ greatly in scope. The successive indexes used are: from 1901 to 1914, the 'A' Series Retail Price Index; from 1914 to 1946-47, the 'C' Series Retail Price Index; from 1946-47 to 1948-49, a composite of Consumer Price Index Housing Group (partly estimated) and 'C' Series Index excluding Rent; and from 1948-49 onwards, the Consumer Price Index.

RETAIL PRICE INDEX NUMBERS: SIX STATE CAPITAL CITIES
COMBINED, 1901 TO 1970

(Base: Year 1911 = 100)

Year	Index number	Year	Index number	Year	Index number
1901	88	1924	164	1947	198
1902	93	1925	165	1948	218
1903	91	1926	168	1949	240
1904	86	1927	166	1950	262
1905	90	1928	167	1951	313
1906	90	1929	171	1952	367
1907	90	1930	162	1953	383
1908	95	1931	145	1954	386
1909	95	1932	138	1955	394
1910	97	1933	133	1956	419
1911	100	1934	136	1957	429
1912	110	1935	138	1958	435
1913	110	1936	141	1959	443
1914(a)	114	1937	145	1960	459
1915(a)	130	1938	149	1961	471
1916(a)	132	1939	153	1962	469
1917(a)	141	1940	159	1963	472
1918(a)	150	1941	167	1964	483
1919(a)	170	1942	181	1965	502
1920(a)	193	1943	188	1966	517
1921(a)	168	1944	187	1967	534
1922(a)	162	1945	187	1968	548
1923	166	1946	190	1969	564
				1970	586

(a) November.

International comparisons

The following table shows index numbers of consumer (retail) prices for various countries. Except where otherwise noted, the year 1963 is taken as base (= 100). The index numbers show fluctuations in prices in each country, and do not measure relative price levels as between countries.

INDEX NUMBERS OF CONSUMER (RETAIL) PRICES IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES
ALL GROUPS INDEXES, 1962 TO 1970

(Source: Monthly Bulletin of Statistics of the Statistical Office of the United Nations)

(Base of each index: Year 1963 = 100)

Period	Argentina (Buenos Aires)	Australia (a)	Belgium	Brazil (Sao Paulo)	Canada	France	Germany, Federal Republic	India (b)	Indonesia (Djakarta)	Ireland	Italy
1962	81	100	98	58	98	95	97	97	46	98	93
1963	-100-	-100-	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
1964	122	102	104	187	102	103	102	113	205	107	106
1965	157	106	108	302	104	106	106	124	830	112	111
1966	207	110	-113-	443	108	109	110	137	9,502	115	-113-
1967	268	113	116	574	112	112	111	156	25,612	119	118
1968	311	-116-	119	714	117	117	113	160	57,712	-125-	119
1969	335	120	124	879	122	124	116	175	61,250	134	122
1970	380	124	129	1,047	126	131	121	184	68,806	145	128
1970—											
Qtr—											
March	356	122	127	986	125	129	119	178	69,284	139	126
June	366	124	128	1,025	126	130	120	183	68,319	144	128
Sept.	378	124	129	1,065	127	132	121	187	68,392	147	129
Dec.	420	127	130	1,113	126	133	122	188	69,228	150	131

For footnotes see next page.

INDEX NUMBERS OF CONSUMER (RETAIL) PRICES IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES
 ALL GROUPS INDEXES, 1962 TO 1970—*continued*

Period	Japan (c)	Nether- lands	New Zealand	Norway	Pakistan (Kara- chi)	Philip- pines (Manila) (d)	Republic of South Africa (e)	Sweden	Switzer- land	United King- dom	United States of America (f)
1962 .	93	96	98	98	99	95	99	97	97	98	99
1963 .	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
1964 .	104	106	104	106	104	133	103	103	103	103	-101-
1965 .	111	111	-107-	110	110	139	106	109	107	108	103
1966 .	116	117	110	114	118	145	110	116	-112-	113	106
1967 .	121	-121-	117	119	126	155	114	121	116	115	109
1968 .	128	126	122	123	126	156	116	123	119	121	114
1969 .	134	135	128	127	130	161	119	126	122	127	120
1970 .	144	141	136	140	137	168	125	135	126	135	127
1970— Qtr—											
March	141	138	132	137	134	165	122	132	124	132	124
June .	143	140	134	138	136	169	-125.3-	134	125	135	126
Sept. .	145	142	136	141	139	170	126.5	136	127	136	128
Dec. .	149	144	142	144	140	173	127.8	138	129	139	129

(a) Consumer Price Index converted to base 1963 = 100 by Commonwealth Statistician. (b) Beginning 1969, new index—base: 1960 = 100. (c) Prior to 1964, 28 cities only. (d) Beginning 1964, new index—base: 1961 = 100. (e) Index for Europeans only. (f) Prior to 1964 excluding Alaska and Hawaii.

NOTE. Symbol — on each side of an index number (e.g. -95-) indicates that two series have been linked during that period, Symbol — between two index numbers indicates that it is not possible to link two series (because of change in scope, etc.) and therefore the index numbers are not comparable with each other even though they may be shown on the same base period.

WHOLESALE PRICES AND PRICE INDEXES

Two indexes of wholesale prices of basic materials have been compiled by the Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics. These are:

- (i) the Melbourne Wholesale Price Index;
- (ii) the Wholesale Price (Basic Materials and Foodstuffs) Index.

New series of wholesale price index numbers relating to materials used and articles produced by defined areas of the economy are being developed. Two such indexes have already been published. They are the Price Index of Materials used in Building other than House Building (issued April 1969) and the Price Index of Materials used in House Building (issued November 1970). Work continues on the preparation of further measures.

A special purpose index 'Wholesale Price Index of Electrical Installation Materials' is also published by the Bureau (*see* page 237).

Melbourne Wholesale Price Index

An index of Melbourne wholesale prices was first compiled in 1912. It related chiefly to basic materials and foods weighted in accordance with consumption in the years immediately preceding that year. Neither the list of items nor the weighting was varied, except for some changes in the building materials group in 1949. The series has some historical significance as a measure of changes, since the year 1861, in the prices of its component items combined in the proportions in which they were in common use about the year 1910. A description of the index and a list of the commodities included in it were published in *Labour Report* No. 38, 1949, pages 43-5. Index numbers up to the year 1961, the last period for which the index was compiled, were published in Year Book No. 48, 1962.

Wholesale Price (Basic Materials and Foodstuffs) Index

General publication of this index was discontinued with the issue of index numbers for the month of December 1970. Index numbers up to that period may be found in the mimeographed bulletin *Wholesale Price (Basic Materials and Foodstuffs) Index* (Reference No. 9.4) or in the printed publications *Monthly Review of Business Statistics* and *Quarterly Summary of Australian Statistics*.

The index related to commodities priced in their primary or basic form wherever possible and as nearly as might have been at the point where they first made effective impact on the local price structure. With a few important exceptions, prices were from Melbourne sources. The weights were based on estimates of the average annual consumption of the commodities in Australia during the period 1928-29 to 1934-35 inclusive.

A list of the commodities and other information concerning the Wholesale Price (Basic Materials and Foodstuffs) Index is given in *Labour Report No. 53*, 1967, pages 38-41.

Wholesale Price Index of Materials used in Building other than House Building

General

This index was introduced in April 1969 and relates to the construction of buildings other than houses. Further information concerning the method of compiling the index, as well as more detailed group index numbers for each capital city, will be found in the publication *Price Index of Materials used in Building other than House Building* (Reference No. 9. 6) of 23 April 1969 and subsequent issues, as well as in the *Labour Report No. 54*, 1968 and 1969.

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). Its composition is in accordance with the materials usage in actual building projects which were selected as representative for the purpose.

The index includes 72 items, combined in eleven groups, in addition to an 'All Groups' index. Some items carry the weights of similar items not directly priced. Items are described in terms of fixed specifications with the aim of recording price changes for representative materials of constant quality.

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 in the first paragraph of this Section, 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 building 'use-types' (e.g. office building, factory, etc.), the index is not necessarily applicable to any specific building or any particular type of building.

Base period and method of calculation

The reference base of the index is the year 1966-67 = 100.0. The weighting base corresponds broadly with the reference base, but does not exactly coincide because of the nature of the data from which the weights were derived.

The index is a fixed-weights index and is calculated by the method known as 'the weighted arithmetic mean of price relatives'.

Derivation of items and weights

The items and weights used in the index were derived from reported values of each material used in selected representative buildings constructed in or about 1966-67. The selection took account of building use-type and construction characteristics (e.g. type of frame, wall, floor, etc.) within use-types. Information of the former was obtained from building statistics, and of the latter from an ad hoc survey of approximately 800 buildings.

The weights

The weighting pattern used in the index is given in Year Book No 55, pages 1259-60. This single weighting pattern, relating to the whole of Australia, is applied (with minor exceptions) to local price measures in calculating indexes for each State capital city.

The index for the six State capital cities combined is a weighted average of individual city indexes. The relative weighting of the capitals is in proportion to the estimated value on completion of building other than house building in the separate States during the three years ended June 1967.

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 in all State capital cities from representative suppliers of materials used in building. There are, however, some exceptions to the use of local prices in the indexes for each capital city. The main exception is that, for each city, the whole of the group Electrical Installation Materials and the majority of the items in the group Mechanical Services Components are based on Sydney and Melbourne price series.

Index numbers

The index has been compiled for each month from July 1966, and for the financial years from 1966-67. Index numbers for the individual groups and all groups for the weighted average of the six State capital cities, and for all groups combined for each State capital city, are given in the following tables. Figures are published to one decimal place to avoid distortions that would occur in rounding off the index numbers to the nearest whole number.

The separate city indexes measure price movements in each State capital city individually. They enable comparisons to be drawn between capitals as to differences in degree of price movement from period to period, but not as to differences in price level.

WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX OF MATERIALS USED IN BUILDING OTHER THAN
HOUSE BUILDING
GROUP INDEX NUMBERS—WEIGHTED AVERAGE OF SIX STATE CAPITAL CITIES
YEARS 1966-67 TO 1969-70 AND MONTHS JULY 1970 TO JANUARY 1971

(Base of each Index: Year 1966-67 = 100.0)(a)

Period	Concrete mix, cement, sand, etc.	Cement products	Bricks, stone, etc.	Timber, board and joinery	Steel and iron products	Aluminium products
1966-67	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1967-68	101.5	102.2	103.7	103.0	102.3	101.4
1968-69	103.5	106.8	108.2	107.2	106.1	103.9
1969-70	106.9	111.7	112.6	111.2	110.1	107.4
1970-71—						
July	107.4	113.5	115.8	112.8	113.1	109.5
August	108.1	115.2	115.9	112.8	113.7	110.1
September	108.9	115.6	116.7	112.9	113.9	110.1
October	109.4	115.9	117.2	113.9	114.1	110.6
November	110.5	116.2	117.3	114.6	114.4	111.2
December	110.9	116.7	117.7	115.1	114.6	111.3
January	114.7	118.4	118.6	116.1	115.9	113.8

Period	Other metal products	Plumbing fixtures	Miscellaneous materials	Electrical installation materials	Mechanical services components	All groups
1966-67	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1967-68	105.9	102.8	102.3	100.9	101.4	102.2
1968-69	106.8	103.3	103.2	102.1	107.7	105.6
1969-70	126.3	113.7	105.8	112.2	111.8	110.5
1970-71—						
July	125.6	117.3	107.8	113.6	115.6	112.8
August	125.6	117.1	107.8	113.0	116.3	113.2
September	123.9	117.2	108.1	111.5	116.7	113.3
October	123.2	118.8	108.3	109.9	116.1	113.4
November	120.7	119.4	108.7	109.6	116.8	113.8
December	120.1	119.8	108.9	109.4	117.0	114.0
January	121.4	119.9	109.5	109.7	118.9	115.5

(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.

**WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX OF MATERIALS USED IN BUILDING OTHER THAN
HOUSE BUILDING**

**ALL GROUPS INDEX NUMBERS—SIX STATE CAPITAL CITIES
YEARS 1966-67 TO 1969-70 AND MONTHS JULY 1970 TO JANUARY 1971**

(Base of each Index: Year 1966-67 = 100.0)(a)

NOTE. The separate city indexes measure price movements within each city individually. They do not compare price levels as between cities.

Period	State capital cities						Weighted average of six State capital cities
	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	
1966-67 . . .	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1967-68 . . .	102.6	101.7	102.2	101.8	102.0	102.3	102.2
1968-69 . . .	106.5	105.0	105.1	105.0	104.7	105.1	105.6
1969-70 . . .	111.7	109.8	110.3	109.4	108.9	109.7	110.5
1970-71—							
July . . .	114.3	111.3	113.4	111.3	110.9	112.6	112.8
August . . .	114.4	112.0	114.4	111.4	111.1	112.7	113.2
September . . .	114.4	112.4	114.5	111.4	111.0	112.9	113.3
October . . .	114.2	112.9	114.5	111.7	110.9	112.8	113.4
November . . .	114.5	113.3	114.7	112.3	112.0	114.0	113.8
December . . .	114.5	113.5	115.2	112.4	112.5	114.2	114.0
January . . .	116.7	114.7	116.2	113.2	113.6	115.1	115.5

(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.

Wholesale Price Index of Materials used in House Building

General

This index, referring to materials used in house building, was introduced in November 1970 and is complementary to the Price Index of Materials used in Building other than House Building. It is the second in a series of indexes being prepared as circumstances permit and relating to materials used and articles produced by important and defined areas of the economy.

Further information concerning the method of compiling the Index, as well as more detailed group index numbers and the separate weighting patterns for the six State capital cities, will be found in the publication *Price Index of Materials used in Housing Building* (Reference No. 9.9) of 27 November 1970. This and current subsequent issues are available on request.

Scope and composition

The index measures changes in prices of selected materials used in the construction of houses. Its composition is in accordance with the usage of materials in actual houses which were selected as representative for the purpose. The index does not purport to represent buildings of any kind other than houses. The house building construction types included are those which use brick, brick veneer, timber or asbestos cement sheeting as the principal material for the outer walls.

The numbers of items included in the lists for the respective State capital cities vary between 49 and 51. In all cases the selection of materials was based on local usage. Items are combined in eleven groups in addition to the 'All Groups' index. Some items carry the weight of similar items not directly priced. They are described in terms of fixed specifications with the aim of recording price changes for representative materials of constant quality.

Base period and method of calculation

In the interests of uniformity and ease of use, the reference base of the index is the year 1966-67 = 100.0, the same as that used for the Price Index of Materials used in Building other than House Building. However, because of the later time at which the weighting source data were collected, the weighting base approximates more closely to the year 1968-69.

The index is a fixed weights index and is calculated by the method known as 'the weighted arithmetic mean of price relatives'.

Derivation of items and weights

The items and weights used in the index were derived from reported values of each material used in selected representative houses constructed in or about 1968-69 in each State capital city. The selection took account, within the four major construction types, of a range of characteristics of these houses—e.g. internal partitions, windows, roofing, etc., as well as whether such things as paths and fences were included in the job. Information of this nature was obtained from an ad hoc survey of some 250 house builders from whom data regarding approximately 900 houses representative of their operations were obtained. The survey was conducted in all State capital cities.

The analysis form used to obtain particulars of materials used in each subsequently selected house building was set out on a 'trades' basis as in a Bill of Quantities, using trades headings broadly based on those set out in the second edition of the *Australian Standard Method of Measurement of Building Works* (The Institute of Quantity Surveyors (Aust.) and The Master Builders' Federation of Australia; March, 1963). Under each heading it was required that each material used in that particular phase of building should be specified, together with its value.

Satisfactory analyses of materials used were received for 114 house buildings, this number being spread over all six State capital cities. Data obtained in each capital were used to construct for that city its own list of items and its individual weighting pattern. As a first step for each State capital city, the many different varieties, etc., of materials reported were classified into index items, and groupings thereof determined. The values of each material used as obtained from analyses of houses of each of the four major construction types (brick, brick veneer, timber, asbestos cement sheeting) were then combined for each city according to survey results to give construction-type usage patterns. Next, these were amalgamated to produce weighting patterns for the respective cities. The amalgamation was in accordance with the relative importance of each construction type in each given State capital city as indicated by statistics of the value of houses completed in the city in 1968-69. (For practical reasons these two weighting operations were in fact carried out as one). The weighting pattern then derived for the weighted average of the six State capital cities is an aggregation of the individual city patterns, the weight given to each item being proportional to its estimated importance in materials usage in houses completed of the types specified in the six capital cities in 1968-69. In that year the four major construction types mentioned above constituted more than ninety-nine per cent of all house building in the six capitals for which indexes have been prepared.

The group and item weights used in the index for each State capital city are given in the publication referred to in paragraph 2 of 'General' above. The pattern resulting from their aggregation over the six State capitals is given on pages 236-7. Each State capital city has a unique weighting pattern which reflects the difference in the estimated relative importance of given items as between cities. The weighting pattern for each capital city is applied to local price measures in calculating indexes for that city.

Prices

Price series used relate to specified standards of each commodity and are obtained in all State capital cities from representative suppliers of materials used in house building. In the main they are collected as at the mid-point of the month to which the index refers, or as near thereto as practicable.

The point of pricing adopted for the new index is in keeping with sector wholesale price index concept. In terms of this concept a 'ring-fence' is set up around house building. The items to be priced for index purposes are then those materials which are used in building activity within the ring-fence, and the point of pricing is that at which the materials cross the ring-fence. In general, this is the price "delivered on site".

Index numbers

The index has been compiled for each month from July 1966, and for the financial years from 1966-67. Index numbers for the individual groups and all groups for the six State capital cities combined and for all groups combined for each State capital city, are given on pages 234-6. Figures are published to one decimal place to avoid distortions that would occur in rounding off the index numbers to the nearest whole number.

The separate city indexes measure price movements in each State capital city individually. They enable comparisons to be drawn between capitals as to differences in degree of price movement from period to period, but not as to differences in price level.

**WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX OF MATERIALS USED IN HOUSE BUILDING—GROUP INDEX NUMBERS—
WEIGHTED AVERAGE OF SIX STATE CAPITAL CITIES, YEARS 1966-67 TO 1969-70 AND
MONTHS JULY 1966 TO JANUARY 1971**

(Base of each Index: Year 1966-67=100.0) (a)

Period	Concrete mix, cement and sand	Cement products	Clay bricks, tiles, etc.	Timber, board and joinery	Steel products	Other metal products	Plumbing fixtures	Electrical installation materials	Installed appliances	Plaster and plaster products	Miscellaneous materials	All groups
1966-67	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1967-68	101.6	102.8	103.6	103.0	101.9	103.9	101.7	103.3	100.0	101.7	102.9	102.7
1968-69	103.8	107.0	107.8	108.6	104.8	106.3	102.0	105.2	99.7	103.0	104.5	106.3
1969-70	107.1	112.6	112.4	113.5	110.0	111.8	108.7	115.8	102.2	105.1	107.4	110.9
1966-67—												
July	99.3	98.1	97.5	98.7	97.8	95.2	99.6	96.0	100.1	99.3	98.3	98.3
August	99.5	98.6	99.5	98.9	98.4	101.2	99.6	100.0	100.1	99.3	98.6	99.2
September	99.1	99.6	99.5	99.2	99.9	98.1	99.6	97.9	100.2	99.4	98.8	99.3
October	99.5	100.0	99.5	99.8	100.2	100.0	99.7	100.3	100.2	99.4	99.3	99.8
November	99.7	100.3	99.9	100.2	100.4	101.2	100.2	102.7	100.2	99.7	100.1	100.2
December	99.6	100.3	99.9	100.3	100.4	101.2	100.2	102.7	100.2	99.7	100.1	100.3
January	99.6	100.4	99.9	100.3	100.4	101.3	100.2	102.7	100.2	99.8	100.2	100.3
February	99.7	100.4	100.0	100.2	100.4	101.3	100.1	102.7	100.2	100.5	100.3	100.3
March	101.0	100.5	100.1	100.2	100.5	101.5	100.1	100.5	99.5	100.5	100.6	100.4
April	101.0	100.5	100.9	100.3	100.5	99.6	100.2	98.3	99.5	100.5	101.1	100.4
May	101.0	100.5	101.7	100.9	100.9	99.7	100.3	98.3	100.0	100.6	101.3	100.8
June	101.0	100.5	101.7	100.9	100.9	99.7	100.5	98.4	100.0	101.3	101.4	100.9
1967-68—												
July	101.0	102.0	101.8	101.1	101.3	99.7	100.5	98.4	100.1	101.3	101.4	101.1
August	101.4	102.0	102.8	101.3	101.6	99.7	100.8	98.4	100.1	101.3	101.4	101.3
September	101.4	102.1	103.0	102.8	101.7	100.3	102.2	98.4	99.7	101.4	101.7	102.0
October	101.4	102.3	103.6	103.0	101.7	100.7	102.0	99.4	99.7	101.4	101.7	102.2
November	101.7	102.3	103.7	103.2	101.8	105.4	102.0	105.0	99.7	101.4	102.5	102.8
December	101.7	102.3	103.8	103.3	101.9	105.4	101.9	105.4	99.7	101.4	103.7	103.0
January	101.7	102.3	103.9	103.2	101.9	105.4	101.9	105.5	99.5	101.5	103.6	102.9
February	101.5	102.5	104.1	103.3	102.2	105.4	101.9	108.6	99.5	102.0	103.7	103.1
March	101.8	102.5	104.1	103.5	101.9	108.1	101.9	108.8	100.6	102.0	103.7	103.4
April	101.9	103.5	104.1	103.8	102.0	108.1	101.9	105.7	100.6	102.0	103.7	103.6
May	101.9	105.0	104.1	103.8	102.5	105.4	101.5	103.8	100.6	102.2	103.8	103.5
June	101.9	105.0	104.6	104.2	102.5	103.3	101.5	101.7	100.0	102.0	103.8	103.5
1968-69—												
July	102.2	105.6	105.1	104.3	102.5	102.8	101.1	101.7	99.9	102.7	104.4	103.7
August	102.4	105.8	105.4	105.8	102.6	103.6	100.9	102.1	99.9	102.7	104.4	104.4
September	102.6	105.8	105.5	105.9	102.9	104.0	100.9	102.1	99.4	102.7	104.4	104.5
October	102.7	105.9	106.4	106.2	103.0	104.5	101.1	102.7	99.4	102.7	104.2	104.7
November	102.7	105.9	107.8	107.7	103.4	104.5	101.1	102.7	99.6	102.7	104.1	105.5
December	104.4	106.8	108.4	108.4	103.7	105.8	101.6	102.7	99.6	102.8	103.9	106.1
January	104.6	106.8	108.5	108.5	104.8	106.0	101.8	105.5	99.6	102.9	103.8	106.3
February	104.7	106.8	108.7	109.4	105.9	107.9	101.7	108.0	99.6	102.9	104.8	107.0
March	103.5	106.9	109.1	109.9	107.1	108.0	103.1	108.0	99.7	102.9	104.9	107.3
April	105.1	107.2	109.4	112.0	107.3	108.6	103.7	108.3	99.7	103.0	104.9	108.3
May	105.1	109.9	109.4	112.4	107.3	109.5	103.7	108.3	99.7	103.9	104.9	108.8
June	105.1	110.8	109.6	112.8	107.2	110.4	103.7	110.2	99.8	104.1	105.0	109.1
1969-70—												
July	105.4	110.9	109.9	112.7	107.4	110.0	105.7	112.2	101.1	104.1	105.4	109.3
August	106.7	111.1	109.9	113.2	107.8	110.5	105.7	112.4	101.2	104.1	105.7	109.7
September	107.3	111.2	110.7	113.2	108.4	111.3	105.5	114.3	101.2	104.1	106.8	110.1
October	107.4	111.6	111.1	113.6	109.1	110.6	107.2	114.3	102.5	104.1	107.2	110.4
November	107.3	111.7	111.3	113.6	109.0	111.2	107.9	113.1	102.7	104.3	107.3	110.5
December	107.3	111.7	111.3	113.4	109.1	111.8	109.0	115.5	102.3	104.3	107.3	110.6
January	108.0	111.7	112.7	113.4	109.5	112.1	109.2	115.5	102.3	104.5	107.6	110.9
February	107.8	113.7	113.6	113.0	110.7	112.3	110.8	115.5	102.7	106.3	107.6	111.3
March	107.3	113.8	114.2	113.7	111.7	112.8	111.0	115.5	102.7	106.3	108.3	111.7
April	106.4	114.7	114.3	114.1	112.1	114.3	111.3	120.9	102.8	106.4	108.5	112.2
May	107.0	114.7	114.6	114.1	112.2	112.5	110.4	120.9	102.8	106.4	108.5	112.1
June	107.4	114.8	115.0	114.1	112.7	111.8	110.4	119.4	102.5	106.4	108.5	112.1
1970-71—												
July	107.8	114.8	115.4	114.5	113.0	110.6	110.2	119.7	102.5	107.0	108.9	112.3
August	108.5	116.2	115.3	114.5	113.1	110.9	110.4	118.6	102.5	107.0	109.4	112.5
September	109.5	116.9	115.8	114.6	113.4	110.5	110.4	117.0	102.9	107.2	109.6	112.7
October	110.2	117.1	116.0	115.3	113.5	110.5	112.4	114.3	102.9	107.2	109.7	113.1
November	111.4	118.5	116.5	115.9	113.6	111.3	112.5	114.5	103.3	107.3	109.9	113.7
December	111.7	119.4	117.5	116.2	113.7	111.7	112.8	114.5	103.5	109.1	110.1	114.2
January	114.8	124.7	117.6	117.2	113.9	112.5	112.9	114.5	103.9	109.2	110.9	115.3

(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.

WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX OF MATERIALS USED IN HOUSE BUILDING—ALL GROUPS
INDEX NUMBERS—SIX STATE CAPITAL CITIES, YEARS 1966-67 TO 1969-70
AND MONTHS JULY 1966 TO JANUARY 1971

(Base of each Index: Year 1966-67=100.0)(a)

NOTE. The separate city indexes measure price movements within each city individually. They do not compare price levels as between cities.

Period	State capital cities						Weighted average of six State capital cities
	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	
1966-67	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1967-68	103.4	101.3	103.4	102.1	104.0	101.8	102.7
1968-69	109.3	103.6	105.6	107.0	105.9	104.1	106.3
1969-70	115.2	107.2	109.4	112.4	110.3	107.7	110.9
1966-67—							
July	97.9	98.8	98.0	99.1	97.9	98.0	98.3
August	99.0	99.4	99.0	99.8	99.3	98.6	99.2
September	99.0	99.7	99.0	99.3	99.0	99.6	99.3
October	99.7	100.2	99.3	99.5	99.6	99.8	99.8
November	100.2	100.5	100.2	99.9	100.0	100.5	100.2
December	100.2	100.5	100.1	100.3	100.0	100.6	100.3
January	100.2	100.5	100.2	100.3	100.0	100.6	100.3
February	100.4	100.4	100.4	100.3	99.9	100.6	100.3
March	100.6	100.3	100.4	100.4	100.0	100.5	100.4
April	100.8	100.2	100.5	100.3	99.8	100.4	100.4
May	100.8	99.8	101.6	100.4	102.2	100.5	100.8
June	100.9	99.9	101.7	100.4	102.3	100.5	100.9
1967-68—							
July	100.9	100.3	101.8	100.3	102.6	100.8	101.1
August	101.2	100.4	102.6	100.9	102.8	100.8	101.3
September	103.0	100.5	102.8	101.0	103.0	100.9	102.0
October	103.2	100.7	103.1	101.1	103.4	100.9	102.2
November	103.8	101.2	103.7	101.5	104.1	101.5	102.8
December	103.9	101.3	103.8	102.2	104.3	101.5	103.0
January	103.9	101.3	103.6	102.3	104.3	101.5	102.9
February	103.9	101.5	103.7	102.5	104.6	102.2	103.1
March	104.2	101.8	103.8	103.4	104.9	102.7	103.4
April	104.3	102.2	103.9	103.4	104.9	102.9	103.6
May	104.5	102.0	103.8	103.3	104.7	102.8	103.5
June	104.5	101.8	104.1	103.5	104.4	102.8	103.5
1968-69—							
July	104.6	102.2	104.1	103.8	104.7	103.1	103.7
August	106.2	102.4	104.3	104.1	104.9	103.1	104.4
September	106.4	102.4	104.3	104.2	105.0	103.1	104.5
October	106.4	103.2	104.0	104.6	105.1	103.2	104.7
November	108.3	103.1	105.0	105.5	105.2	103.2	105.5
December	109.2	103.2	105.6	107.1	105.7	104.0	106.1
January	109.3	103.4	105.9	107.4	105.9	104.2	106.3
February	110.4	103.9	106.1	108.1	106.6	104.6	107.0
March	111.0	104.0	105.7	109.2	106.6	104.9	107.3
April	113.2	104.4	106.9	109.3	106.8	105.0	108.3
May	113.3	105.3	107.3	110.3	107.0	105.1	108.8
June	113.6	105.7	107.5	110.3	107.8	105.5	109.1
1969-70—							
July	113.5	105.9	108.0	110.8	108.3	105.8	109.3
August	113.7	106.5	108.0	110.9	108.8	106.1	109.7
September	113.7	106.8	108.1	111.8	109.8	106.2	110.1
October	114.5	107.0	108.8	112.0	110.0	106.9	110.4
November	114.6	107.1	108.7	112.1	110.2	107.0	110.5
December	114.6	106.9	109.1	112.3	110.4	107.2	110.6

For footnote see next page.

**WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX OF MATERIALS USED IN HOUSE BUILDING—ALL GROUPS
INDEX NUMBERS—SIX STATE CAPITAL CITIES, YEARS 1966-67 TO 1969-70 AND
MONTHS JULY 1966 TO JANUARY 1971—continued**

Period	State capital cities						Weighted average of six State capital cities
	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	
1969-70—							
January . . .	115.2	107.1	109.3	112.3	110.4	107.8	110.9
February . . .	115.7	107.5	109.9	112.6	110.4	108.0	111.3
March . . .	116.4	107.5	110.6	113.8	110.8	108.1	111.7
April . . .	116.9	107.9	110.8	114.1	111.3	109.1	112.2
May . . .	117.0	107.9	110.6	113.0	111.6	109.3	112.1
June . . .	116.9	107.9	110.7	113.6	111.0	110.5	112.1
1970-71—							
July . . .	117.2	108.2	111.2	113.2	111.0	110.9	112.3
August . . .	117.4	108.4	111.7	113.3	111.1	111.0	112.5
September . . .	117.4	108.8	112.1	114.2	111.0	111.1	112.7
October . . .	117.6	109.5	112.6	114.5	111.2	111.3	113.1
November . . .	118.0	110.2	112.9	115.4	111.7	112.9	113.7
December . . .	118.3	110.5	113.0	115.5	113.4	113.1	114.2
January . . .	119.5	112.1	113.6	115.7	114.8	113.4	115.3

(a) Figures are shown to one decimal place to avoid distortions that would occur in rounding off index numbers to the nearest whole number.

**WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX OF MATERIALS USED IN HOUSE BUILDING
COMPOSITION AND WEIGHTING PATTERN AS AT REFERENCE BASE
YEAR: 1966-67**

Six State Capital Cities

Group and Item	Percentage contribution of:	
	Item to group index	Group to All groups index
1. Concrete mix, cement and sand—		5.73
Concrete, ready-mixed	66.63	
Cement	18.19	
Sand	15.18	
2. Cement products—		8.10
Asbestos cement sheets	20.22	
Concrete tiles	55.09	
Concrete masonry blocks	5.63	
Other cement products	19.06	
3. Clay bricks, tiles, etc.—		12.85
Clay bricks	76.43	
Terracotta tiles	7.52	
Earthenware pipes and fittings	16.05	
4. Timber, board and joinery—		36.16
Hardwood	38.42	
Softwood	25.86	
Plywood and board	0.96	
Doors and frames	8.85	
Windows and frames	10.17	
Cupboards, etc.	15.74	
5. Steel products—		5.86
Steel beams, sections and angles	15.38	
Reinforcing steel	13.98	
Steel balustrading	7.41	
Galvanised steel sheet, decking, etc.	14.66	
Galvanised steel downpipe and guttering	18.86	
Galvanised steel pipes and fittings	13.29	
Hinges, catches, handles, etc.	6.37	
Nails, screws, etc.	10.05	

WHOLESAL PRICE INDEX OF MATERIALS USED IN HOUSE BUILDING
 COMPOSITION AND WEIGHTING PATTERN AS AT REFERENCE BASE
 YEAR: 1966-67 SIX STATE CAPITAL CITIES—*continued*

Group and Item	Percentage contribution of:	
	Item to group index	Group to All groups index
6. <i>Other metal products—</i>		7.20
Aluminium windows, doors, etc.	42.79	
Copper pipes and fittings	28.74	
Taps and valves	17.10	
Latchsets and locksets	11.37	
7. <i>Plumbing fixtures, etc.—</i>		3.74
Toilet suites	23.16	
Hand basins	10.49	
Sinks	14.50	
Wash troughs	15.98	
Baths	23.82	
Shower screens	12.05	
8. <i>Electrical installation materials</i>		1.63
Cable	56.20	
Switches, switch plugs and lampholders	30.90	
Switchboards	12.90	
9. <i>Installed appliances—</i>		5.13
Stoves	51.07	
Hot water services	29.63	
Heating systems	19.30	
10. <i>Plaster and plaster products—</i>		5.64
Fibrous plaster sheet and products	16.36	
Plaster board	79.34	
Hard plaster	4.30	
11. <i>Miscellaneous materials—</i>		7.96
Paint	30.80	
Glass	20.18	
Ceramic wall tiles	20.20	
Ceramic and vinyl floor tiles	11.14	
Plastic pipes and fittings	4.40	
Adhesives	2.07	
Insulation and building paper	7.47	
Silica-lime bricks	1.07	
Building stone	2.67	

Wholesale Price Index of Electrical Installation Materials

This special purpose index was introduced in 1964, and index numbers were published at quarterly intervals from August 1959 to February 1969, when monthly publication commenced. In addition to its use in connection with the Bureau's constant price estimates in the national accounting field, the index has a direct value as a measure of changes in aggregate cost of materials used in an important part of the building industry (other than house building).

Commodities and grouping

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. These items are divided into three main groups for which separate indexes are compiled in addition to the All Groups index. The combination of materials selected is fixed as to quantity and quality.

Price quotations

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, metropolitan area, 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. The units of quantity specified as the basis for collecting prices are representative lots normally purchased by electrical contractors, inclusive of quantity discounts and packing and quantity extras, etc.

Method of construction

The index is a fixed-weights index with the reference base: year 1959-60 = 100. In general, the weights 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. Selected representative items carry the weights of similar items not directly priced. The index is calculated by the method known as 'the weighted arithmetic mean of price relatives'. For each period, base period percentage value weights are applied to indexes of price movement relative to 1959-60.

Index numbers

Index numbers for each group of items and for all groups combined for the index of wholesale prices of electrical installation materials are given in the following table. Current index numbers are published monthly in the mimeographed statement *Wholesale Price Indexes—Price Index of Electrical Installation Materials* (Reference No. 9.5).

**WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX OF ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION MATERIALS GROUP
INDEX NUMBERS, YEARS 1959-60 TO 1969-70 AND MONTHS
JULY 1970 TO JANUARY 1971**

(Base of each index: year 1959-60 = 100.0) (a)

<i>Period</i>	<i>Conductors</i>	<i>Conduit and accessories</i>	<i>Switch-board and switch-gear material</i>	<i>All groups</i>
Year—				
1959-60	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
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—				
July	140.7	111.4	125.0	127.8
August	137.7	111.6	126.0	127.1
September	133.3	111.6	126.1	125.4
October	128.6	111.6	126.4	123.6
November	127.9	110.8	126.8	123.3
December	127.2	110.8	127.0	123.1
January	127.3	111.1	127.7	123.4

(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.

EXPORT PRICE INDEXES

An annual index of export prices has been published by the Bureau since its inception. Brief descriptions of indexes issued between 1901 and 1962 (that is, prior to the introduction of the current Export Price Index) are shown in Year Book No. 55, 1969, pages 256-7.

The current Export Price Index

The current Export Price Index was first published in October 1962, but index numbers were compiled back to July 1959. The reference base of this index is: year 1959-60 = 100. Index numbers from July 1969 have been compiled on an interim basis which incorporates a re-weighting of the items contained in the original index, and the inclusion of some additional items. This interim basis was introduced pending completion of a comprehensive review and re-basing of the index as a whole.

The Export Price Index is a fixed-weights index, and its purpose (as was that of the previous fixed-weights index) is to provide comparisons monthly, over a limited number of years, of the level of export prices of the selected items, making no allowance for variations in quantities exported. The index numbers are thus measures of price change only. The price series used in the index relate to specified standards for each commodity and in most cases are combinations of prices for a number

of representative grades, types, etc. For some commodities price movements in the predominant market, or markets, are used, while for other commodities average realisations in all export markets are used. As nearly as possible, prices used are on the basis f.o.b. at the main Australian ports of export. The index is calculated by the method known as 'the weighted arithmetic mean of price relatives'.

Composition and weighting

Over the period of ten years between July 1959 and June 1969, there were twenty-nine items in the export price index, and the weights used to combine these were based on average annual values of exports during the years 1956-57 to 1960-61. The twenty-nine items constituted in excess of 80 per cent of the total value of Australian exports in the earlier part of the ten years mentioned; this percentage, however, decreased markedly in more recent years. A review of the content and weighting pattern of the index was consequently undertaken, and an interim series incorporating some of the results of this review was introduced with effect from July 1969.

Interim basis

The interim series is a fixed-weights export price index, compiled monthly as from June 1969, which has been linked at June 1969 to the current index in its original form. The weights of the items in the interim series are derived from the values of exports for the year 1969-70, and the group weights have been adjusted to reflect the proportion that the value of wool bore to the value of all exports in that year. In addition to the twenty-nine items of the current index as first introduced, the interim series includes the four items: iron ore, bauxite, alumina and mineral sands. These items are not attached to any of the original single groups of the index but are incorporated in the 'All groups' index number from June 1969. The thirty-three items contained in the interim series constituted 74 per cent of the total value of Australian exports (merchandise and non-merchandise) in 1969-70.

Index numbers

Index numbers for each of the groups and 'All groups' are shown in the following table. The yearly index numbers are simple averages of the twelve monthly index numbers in each year.

EXPORT PRICE INDEX NUMBERS, YEARS 1959-60 TO 1969-70 AND MONTHS JULY 1970 TO JANUARY 1971

(Base of each index: year 1959-60 = 100)

Period	Wool	Meats	Dairy produce	Cereals	Dried and canned fruits	Sugar	Hides and tallow	Metals and coal (a)	Gold	All groups
1959-60.	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
1961-62.	97	100	81	106	95	91	84	91	100	96
1962-63.	104	101	88	107	90	107	72	89	100	101
1963-64.	120	105	93	107	98	175	73	101	100	114
1964-65.	102	110	94	107	100	100	91	123	101	105
1965-66.	107	120	86	107	102	84	107	122	101	107
1966-67.	103	124	84	114	101	67	89	117	101	105
1967-68.	95	125	79	109	95	67	67	120	104	100
1968-69.	99	131	72	104	97	72	73	123	117	102
1969-70(b)	87	148	73	96	99	93	94	143	109	(c)103
1970-71—	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)(c)
July . . .	79	151	78	93	101	92	95	146	102	101
August . . .	75	149	79	94	101	106	95	141	102	101
September . . .	71	144	81	95	100	115	97	141	104	100
October . . .	63	149	83	96	100	113	99	140	106	98
November . . .	68	147	86	97	100	113	98	138	108	100
December . . .	65	146	87	97	100	102	97	138	108	98
January . . .	64	150	87	105	100	101	93	137	109	100

(a) Comprises coal, iron and steel, copper, zinc, lead and silver. Does not include iron ore, bauxite, alumina and mineral sands, which, however, have been included in the 'All groups' index from July 1969. (b) Interim series linked as at June 1969. (c) Interim series includes, in addition to the specified groups the 4 items: iron ore, bauxite, alumina and mineral sands.

Link between current and previous indexes

In order to show approximate movements in export prices over a long period, the 'All groups' indexes of the successive series have been linked together at the earliest year for which each of the indexes was compiled. The table below shows this linked series and a long-term price index for wool, which is the most important single component in the movement of the 'All groups' index.

EXPORT PRICE INDEX NUMBERS—LINKED SERIES 1936-37 TO 1969-70

(Base of each index: year 1959-60 = 100)

Period	Wool	All groups	Period	Wool	All groups
1936-37	29	30	1953-54	145	125
1937-38	23	27	1954-55	127	114
1938-39	19	22	1955-56	109	105
1939-40	23	26	1956-57	136	117
1940-41	24	28	1957-58	111	102
1941-42	24	28	1958-59	85	90
1942-43	28	30	1959-60	100	100
1943-44	28	31	1960-61	92	95
1944-45	28	34	1961-62	97	96
1945-46	28	39	1962-63	104	101
1946-47	41	54	1963-64	120	114
1947-48	68	75	1964-65	102	105
1948-49	86	88	1965-66	107	107
1949-50	111	101	1966-67	103	105
1950-51	235	173	1967-68	95	100
1951-52	133	125	1968-69	99	102
1952-53	145	128	1969-70(a)	87	103

(a) Interim series linked as at June 1969.

WAGES, EARNINGS AND HOURS**Arbitration and Wages Boards Acts and associated legislation**

Particulars regarding the operation of Commonwealth and State Laws for the regulation of wages, hours and other conditions of employment were first compiled for the year 1913, and revised particulars have appeared annually in the *Labour Report*. A summary of the Commonwealth legislation and brief particulars of Commonwealth and State industrial tribunals are given in the following paragraphs.

Commonwealth industrial legislation and tribunals

Under placitum (xxxv) of section 51 of the Commonwealth of Australia Constitution, the Commonwealth Parliament is empowered to make laws with respect to 'conciliation and arbitration for the prevention and settlement of industrial disputes extending beyond the limits of any one State'. The Parliament has made such a law, namely the *Conciliation and Arbitration Act 1904-1970*.

This Act defines an 'industrial dispute' as:

'(a) A dispute (including a threatened, impending or probable dispute) as to industrial matters which extends beyond the limits of any State; and (b) a situation which is likely to give rise to a dispute as to industrial matters which so extends; and includes—(c) such a dispute in relation to employment in an industry carried on by, or under the control of, a State or an authority of a State; (d) a dispute in relation to employment in an industry carried on by, or under the control of, the Commonwealth or an authority of the Commonwealth, whether or not the dispute extends beyond the limits of any one State; and (e) a claim which an organization is entitled to submit to the Commission under section eleven A of the *Public Service Arbitration Act 1920-1969* or an application or matter which the Public Service Arbitrator has refrained from hearing, or from further hearing, or from determining under section fourteen A of that Act, whether or not there exists in relation to the claim, application or matter a dispute as to industrial matters which extends beyond the limits of any one State.'

The Conciliation and Arbitration Act was extensively amended by an Act (No. 44 of 1956) assented to on 30 June 1956. This amendment altered the structure of the arbitration machinery by separating the judicial functions from the conciliation and arbitration functions. The Commonwealth Industrial Court was established to deal with judicial matters under the Act, and the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Commission to handle the functions of conciliation and arbitration. A summary of the provisions of the *Conciliation and Arbitration Act 1904-1970* is given in the following paragraphs.

The Commonwealth Industrial Court is at present composed of a Chief Judge and seven other Judges. The jurisdiction of the Court shall be exercised by not less than two Judges, except in the following circumstances. A single Judge may exercise the jurisdiction of the Court with respect to the dismissal or injury of an employee on account of industrial action, interpretation of awards, questions concerning eligibility of membership of an organisation, disputes between an organisation and its members, and a prescribed matter of practice or procedure. A single Judge may refer a question of law for the opinion of the Court constituted by not less than two Judges. The Court is a Superior Court of Record with the same power to punish contempts of its power and authority as is possessed by the High Court. In general, decisions of the Industrial Court are final; however, an appeal lies to the High Court, but only when the latter grants leave to appeal. The Act provides for the registration of associations of employees and employers, and for inquiries to be held concerning disputed elections in organisations; and certain powers in connection therewith are, by the Act, given to the Industrial Court. Provision is also made for the Commission to exercise the powers of the Court with regard to an application for cancellation of registration of an organisation. Any such change of jurisdiction must be notified by proclamation. This provision could be used if the powers of the Court in this regard were declared, in whole or in part, to be invalid.

Special provision is made concerning the right of audience before the Commonwealth Industrial Court. Briefly, except in proceedings which, in general, involve questions of law or offences against the Act, parties are able to elect whether to appear personally or to be represented by lawyers or officials. Even in proceedings involving questions of law, except appeals from decisions by other Courts to the Industrial Court, on matters arising under this Act or the *Public Service Arbitration Act 1920-1969*, the parties may, if they wish and the Court grants leave, be represented by officials.

The Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Commission at the end of 1970 was composed of a President, six Deputy Presidents, a Senior Commissioner, fourteen Commissioners and three Conciliators. The Commission is empowered to prevent or settle industrial disputes by conciliation or arbitration, and to make suggestions and to do such things as appear right and proper for (a) effecting a reconciliation between parties to industrial disputes; (b) preventing and settling industrial disputes by amicable agreement; and (c) preventing and settling, by conciliation or arbitration, industrial disputes not prevented or settled by amicable agreement. The Commission may exercise its powers of its own motion or on the application of a party.

The President may assign a Commissioner to deal with industrial disputes relating to particular industries, or members of the Commission to deal with a particular industrial dispute. However subject to the approval of the President, it is the duty of the Senior Commissioner to organise and allocate the work of the Commissioners and Conciliators. When an industrial dispute occurs or is likely to occur, a Commissioner shall take steps for the prompt prevention or settlement of that dispute by conciliation or, if in his opinion conciliation is unlikely to succeed or has failed, by arbitration. A Commissioner may arrange with the Senior Commissioner for a Conciliator to assist the parties to reach an amicable agreement and shall do so if the parties so request. If an agreement is reached, a memorandum of its terms shall be made in writing, and may be certified by the Commission. A certified memorandum shall have the same effect as an award.

Only the Commission in Presidential Session, that is, the Commission constituted by at least three presidential members nominated by the President, has the power to make awards, or to certify agreements, concerning standard hours, basic wages and long-service leave. Upon application by a party to an industrial dispute, a Commissioner shall consult with the President as to whether in the public interest any matter in dispute should be dealt with by a Commission constituted by not less than three members nominated by the President, at least one of whom shall be a presidential member and one, where practicable, the Commissioner concerned. The President may direct the Commission to hear the matter in dispute; however, after consideration, the Commission may refer the matter in dispute back for determination to the Commissioner originally dealing with the dispute.

An appeal against the decision of a Commissioner shall be heard by not less than three members nominated by the President, of whom at least two shall be presidential members of the Commission. However, an appeal will not be heard unless the Commission considers it is necessary as a matter of

public interest. The President, after taking account of the views of the parties to a dispute, may appoint a member of the Commission to take evidence on behalf of a presidential bench of the Commission, so that it may have this evidence before it when it commences its hearing.

Full benches of the Commission not constituted by the same persons may sit in joint session at the direction of the President when he considers it desirable and has the opinion that a question is common to the matters before those benches. A joint session may be held whether the benches concerned are constituted pursuant to the Conciliation and Arbitration Act or the Public Service Arbitration Act, and whether they are constituted to hear references or appeals. However, it is left to each appropriate full bench to determine any of the matters before it.

Provision is also made in the Act for a presidential member of the Commission to handle industrial matters in connection with the maritime industries, the Snowy Mountains Area and the stevedoring industry, except in those matters for which the Act requires that the Commission shall be constituted by more than one member. The Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Commission also deals with disputes and industrial matters, interstate or intra-state, associated with undertakings or projects of the Commonwealth Government which have been declared by the Minister to be Commonwealth projects for the purposes of this Act. In effect, this places employees of Commonwealth projects, so declared, under the jurisdiction of the Commission. The Minister has the power to exempt certain persons or classes of persons working on these projects from the jurisdiction of the Commission.

The Commission may make an award in relation to an industrial dispute concerning employees of a Commonwealth project or when the Public Service Arbitrator refrains from dealing with claims made by a Public Service employee organisation or consents to the claims being presented to the Commission, though such an award may be inconsistent with a law of the Commonwealth relating to salaries, wages, rates of pay or terms or conditions of service of employees in the Public Service as defined by section three of the *Public Service Arbitration Act 1920-1969*, not being the *Commonwealth Employees' Compensation Act 1930-1970*, the *Commonwealth Employees' Furlough Act 1943-1968*, the *Superannuation Act 1922-1969* or any other prescribed Act.

An amendment of the Conciliation and Arbitration Act operative from November 1967 provided for the appointment of a person to be the Flight Crew Officers Industrial Tribunal empowered to prevent or settle industrial disputes relating to pilots, navigators, or flight engineers of aircraft.

The Conciliation and Arbitration Act provides that where a State law, or an order, award, decision or determination of a State industrial authority is inconsistent with or deals with a matter dealt within an award of the Commission, the latter shall prevail, and the former, to the extent of the inconsistency or in relation to the matter dealt with, shall be invalid.

For further particulars regarding Commonwealth arbitration legislation, see the annual *Labour Report*. For information concerning the Australian Stevedoring Industry Authority and the Coal Industry Tribunal see the Transport and Communication chapter and the Mineral Industry chapter respectively of this Year Book, and for further information on the Commonwealth Public Service Arbitrator see the *Labour Report*.

State industrial tribunals

New South Wales

The controlling authority is the Industrial Commission of New South Wales, consisting of a President and seven other Judges. Subsidiary tribunals are the Conciliation Commissioners, the Apprenticeship Commissioner, Conciliation Committees, and Apprenticeship Councils constituted for particular industries. Each Conciliation Committee consists of a Conciliation Commissioner as Chairman and equal numbers of representatives of employers and employees. The Apprenticeship Commissioner and the members of the Conciliation Committee for an industry constitute the Apprenticeship Council for the industry. These subsidiary tribunals may make awards binding on industries, but an appeal to the Industrial Commission may be made against any award. Special Commissioners with conciliatory powers and limited arbitration powers may be appointed. Compulsory control commenced in 1901, after the earlier Acts of 1892 and 1899 providing for voluntary submission of matters in dispute had proved abortive.

Victoria

The authorities are separate Wages Boards for the occupations and industries covered, each consisting of a chairman and equal numbers of representatives of employers and employees, and a Court of Industrial Appeals, the latter presided over by a Judge of the County Court. The system was instituted in the State in 1896, and represented the first example in Australia of legal regulation of wage rates.

Queensland

Legal control was first instituted in 1908 with the passing of the Wages Boards Act. 'The Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act of 1961' established the Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Commission and preserved and continued in existence the Industrial Court. The Industrial Court is constituted by the President (a Judge of the Supreme Court of Queensland) sitting alone, and the Full Industrial Court by the President and two Commissioners. The Conciliation and Arbitration Commission is constituted by a Commissioner sitting alone; and the Full Bench of the Commission by at least three Commissioners. Not more than five Commissioners shall be appointed. A Commissioner shall not be capable of being a member of the Executive Council or of the Legislative Assembly, and shall not take part in the management of any business.

South Australia

In South Australia from July 1966 the system of control consists of an Industrial Commission, an Industrial Court, and Conciliation Committees. The Industrial Commission is composed of a President, Deputy President, and two Commissioners and has power to make awards. The President of the Commission is also Judge of the Industrial Court which deals with legal matters. The two Commissioners are chairmen of each of the Conciliation Committees consisting of an equal number of representatives of employers and employees. These committees issue awards. Where complete agreement cannot be reached in these committees the chairman sits as a Commissioner to determine the unresolved matters. Provision is made for references and appeals to the full Commission.

Western Australia

Legal control dates back to 1900. The present system of control comprises a four-man Western Australian Industrial Commission and an Industrial Appeal Court consisting of three Supreme Court Judges who are nominated by the Chief Justice of Western Australia. A Commissioner may, in relation to any dispute or other matter, refer such matters to the Commission in Court Session. Similarly, appeals from decisions of a single Commissioner are heard by the other three Commissioners acting as the Commission in Court Session, but such hearings are restricted to the evidence and matters raised in the proceedings before the single Commissioner. Up to December 1966 the Commission in Court Session fixed and adjusted the basic wage. In December 1966 legislation provided that the Western Australian basic wage rates should be the same as the Commonwealth Six Capitals rates, as soon as these exceeded the State rates. However Commonwealth basic wages were eliminated from Commonwealth awards in July 1967. Western Australian Legislation operative from 22 November 1968 fixed the State basic wages for adult males and adult females and provided for the Commission to review the basic wage at least every twelve months (for further details see page 264). Appeals from the Commission to the Industrial Appeal Court are limited to matters which are erroneous in law or in excess of jurisdiction. The Court has the power to impose penalties for disobedience of orders made by the Commission.

The Western Australian Coal Industry Tribunal, established under the *Mining Act, 1904-1969*, has power to determine any industrial matter in the coal mining industry. It consists of a chairman and four other members (two representatives each of employers and employees). Boards of reference may be appointed by the Tribunal, and decisions of the Tribunal may be reviewed by the Court of Arbitration on the application of a party subject to the decision.

Tasmania

The authority consists of Wages Boards for separate industries, comprising a Chairman (who is common to all Wages Boards) appointed by the Governor, and equal numbers of representatives of employers and employees appointed by the Minister administering the Act. The system was instituted in 1910.

Incidence of industrial awards, determinations and collective agreements

In May 1968 a survey ascertained the approximate proportions of employees whose wages, salaries and conditions of work were normally varied in accordance with variations in awards, determinations and registered collective agreements of Commonwealth and State industrial authorities. The scope, results, etc. of this survey were published in June 1969 in a statistical bulletin *Survey of the Incidence of Industrial Awards, Determinations and Collective Agreements, May 1968* (Reference No. 6.5) and in September 1970 in statistical bulletin *Survey of the Incidence of Industrial Awards, Determinations and Collective Agreements, May 1968 (Bulletin No. 2)* (Reference No. 6.25).

Rates of wage and hours of work

This section contains indexes (with base: year 1954 = 100) of minimum weekly and hourly rates of wage and standard hours of work for adult males and adult females for Australia and each State. In the indexes there are fifteen industry groups for adult males and eight industry groups for adult females. For relevant periods these indexes replace cognate indexes (base: year 1911 = 1,000 for males and April 1914 = 1,000 for females) published in Year Books before No. 46, 1960. The current indexes are based on the occupation structure existing in 1954. Weights for each industry and each occupation were derived from two sample surveys made in that year. The first was the Survey of Awards in April 1954 which showed the number of employees covered by individual awards, determinations and agreements. This provided employee weights for each industry as well as a basis for the Survey of Award Occupations made in November 1954. This second survey showed the number of employees in each occupation within selected awards, etc. thereby providing occupation weights.

The industrial classification used in the current indexes, shown in the table on page 245, does not differ basically from the previous classification, the alterations being largely in the arrangement of classes. The former Pastoral, agricultural, etc. group and the domestic part of the Amusement, hotels, personal service, etc. group are excluded from the current indexes because of coverage difficulties.

The minimum wage rates and standard hours of work used in the current indexes are for representative occupations within each industry. They have been derived entirely from representative awards, determinations and agreements in force at the end of each month or quarter, commencing with March 1939 for adult males and March 1951 for adult females. Particulars have been available as at the end of each month for adult males from January 1957 and for adult females from July 1967. The index for adult males includes rates and hours for 3,415 award designations. However, as some of these designations are operative within more than one industry, or in more than one State, the total number of individual award occupations is 2,313. For adult females the corresponding numbers are 1,100 and 515. Using the industry and occupation weights derived from the surveys described above, these rates and hours were combined to give weighted averages for each industry group for each State and Australia.

Because the indexes are designed to measure movements in prescribed minimum rates of 'wages' as distinct from 'salaries', those awards, etc. which relate solely or mainly to salary earners are excluded.

A more detailed description of the current indexes of minimum rates of wage and standard hours of work is given in the *Labour Report*, which also contains an extensive tabular presentation of the minimum rates of pay for adult males and females in the principal occupations in the capital city of each State. Further particulars of wage rates and index numbers will be found in mimeographed bulletins *Minimum Wage Rates, March 1939 to June 1965* and *Wage Rates Indexes, June 1965 to June 1968*. Current figures are published in the monthly bulletin *Wage Rates and Earnings* (Reference No. 6.16).

Weekly wage rates—adult males

The following table shows, for each State and Australia, the weighted average minimum weekly rates of wage payable to adult male workers for a full week's work and index numbers at the dates specified.

WEEKLY WAGE RATES: ADULT MALES, ALL GROUPS(a), STATES, DECEMBER 1950 TO 1970
WEIGHTED AVERAGE MINIMUM WEEKLY RATES(b) PAYABLE FOR A FULL WEEK'S WORK
(EXCLUDING OVERTIME) AND INDEX NUMBERS OF WAGE RATES

End of December—	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Aust.
RATES OF WAGE(c) (\$)							
1950	20.62	20.18	19.52	19.79	20.06	19.80	20.20
1960	36.28	34.99	35.07	34.22	35.81	35.15	35.50
1968	49.46	48.86	49.01	48.23	47.72	48.98	48.98
1969	52.38	51.73	51.91	50.69	50.69	52.00	51.85
1970	54.01	53.36	54.93	51.73	55.73	53.96	53.86
INDEX NUMBERS (Base: Weighted Average Weekly Wage Rates for Australia, 1954 = 100)							
1950	73.0	71.4	69.1	70.1	71.0	70.1	71.5
1960	128.5	123.9	124.2	121.2	126.8	124.5	125.7
1968	175.1	173.0	173.5	170.8	169.0	173.4	173.4
1969	185.5	183.2	183.8	179.5	179.5	184.1	183.6
1970	191.2	188.9	194.5	183.2	197.3	191.1	190.7

(a) Excludes rural. (b) As prescribed in awards, determinations and agreements. (c) The amounts shown should not be regarded as actual current averages, but as an index expressed in money terms, indicative of trends.

The following table shows for Australia the weighted average minimum weekly rates of wage and index numbers in each industry group and for all groups (excluding rural) at the dates specified.

**WEEKLY WAGE RATES: ADULT MALES, INDUSTRY GROUPS, AUSTRALIA
DECEMBER 1950 TO 1970**

WEIGHTED AVERAGE MINIMUM WEEKLY RATES^(a) PAYABLE FOR A FULL WEEK'S WORK
(EXCLUDING OVERTIME) AND INDEX NUMBERS OF WAGE RATES

Industry group	End of December—				
	1950	1960	1968	1969	1970
RATES OF WAGE^(b)					
(\$)					
Mining and quarrying	25.96	41.47	56.79	59.01	60.37
Manufacturing—					
Engineering, metals, vehicles, etc.	20.17	35.02	48.74	50.86	51.45
Textiles, clothing and footwear	19.74	34.04	45.14	48.18	50.91
Food, drink and tobacco	20.14	35.22	47.22	50.34	52.77
Sawmilling, furniture, etc.	19.60	34.62	46.81	49.93	51.84
Paper, printing, etc.	21.42	37.92	53.13	55.81	56.71
Other manufacturing	19.76	34.72	47.61	50.08	52.08
<i>All manufacturing groups</i>	<i>20.08</i>	<i>35.05</i>	<i>48.14</i>	<i>50.65</i>	<i>52.04</i>
Building and construction	19.86	35.75	50.61	53.14	56.63
Railway services	19.58	34.65	46.42	49.65	51.30
Road and air transport	19.79	35.25	47.90	51.34	53.27
Shipping and stevedoring ^(c)	19.66	34.46	51.23	55.75	60.19
Communication	21.33	38.49	58.77	64.42	67.29
Wholesale and retail trade	20.08	35.71	47.99	51.00	53.63
Public authority (n.e.i.) and community and business services	19.21	34.81	47.86	52.57	53.98
Amusement, hotels, personal service, etc.	19.23	33.73	44.64	47.23	48.93
<i>All industry groups^(d)</i>	<i>20.20</i>	<i>35.50</i>	<i>48.98</i>	<i>51.85</i>	<i>53.86</i>

INDEX NUMBERS

(Base: Weighted Average Weekly Wage Rate for Australia, 1954 = 100)

Mining and quarrying	91.9	146.8	201.1	208.9	213.8
Manufacturing—					
Engineering, metals, vehicles, etc.	71.4	124.0	172.6	180.1	182.2
Textiles, clothing and footwear	69.9	120.5	159.8	170.6	180.3
Food, drink and tobacco	71.3	124.7	167.2	178.2	186.8
Sawmilling, furniture, etc.	69.4	122.6	165.7	176.8	183.6
Paper, printing, etc.	75.9	134.3	188.1	197.6	200.8
Other manufacturing	70.0	122.9	168.6	177.3	184.4
<i>All manufacturing groups</i>	<i>71.1</i>	<i>124.1</i>	<i>170.5</i>	<i>179.3</i>	<i>184.3</i>
Building and construction	70.3	126.6	179.2	188.1	200.5
Railway services	69.3	122.7	164.4	175.8	181.6
Road and air transport	70.1	124.8	169.6	181.8	188.6
Shipping and stevedoring ^(c)	69.6	122.0	181.4	197.4	213.1
Communication	75.5	136.3	208.1	228.1	238.3
Wholesale and retail trade	71.1	126.4	169.9	180.6	189.9
Public authority (n.e.i.) and community and business services	68.0	123.2	169.5	186.1	191.1
Amusement, hotels, personal service, etc.	68.1	119.4	158.1	167.2	173.2
<i>All industry groups^(d)</i>	<i>71.5</i>	<i>125.7</i>	<i>173.4</i>	<i>183.6</i>	<i>190.7</i>

(a) As prescribed in awards, determinations and agreements. (b) The amounts shown should not be regarded as actual current averages, but as an index expressed in money terms, indicative of trends. (c) Includes the value of keep where supplied. (d) Excludes rural.

Adult males—components of total wage rate. A dissection of weighted average minimum weekly wage rates for adult males into three components of the total wage, i.e. basic wage, margin, and loading, with separate particulars for employees covered by awards etc. within Commonwealth and State jurisdictions, has been calculated for months to June 1967 and published in the mimeographed bulletins *Minimum Wage Rates, March 1939 to June 1965* and *Wage Rates Indexes, June 1965 to June 1968*.

Adult males—jurisdiction. Weighted average minimum weekly wage rates for adult males covered by *Commonwealth awards etc.* and for those covered by *State awards etc.* (as defined below) are shown separately in the following table. For the purposes of the index, *Commonwealth awards etc.* include awards of, or agreements registered with, the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Commission, and determinations of the Commonwealth Public Service Arbitrator. *State awards etc.* include awards or determinations of, or agreements registered with, State industrial tribunals, together with certain unregistered agreements when these are dominant in the particular industries to which they refer.

WEEKLY WAGE RATES (a): ALL GROUPS—ADULT MALES, DECEMBER 1950 TO 1970

(\$)

WEIGHTED AVERAGE MINIMUM WEEKLY RATES PAYABLE FOR A FULL WEEK'S WORK (EXCLUDING OVERTIME) AS PRESCRIBED IN AWARDS, DETERMINATIONS AND AGREEMENTS

Jurisdiction	End of December—				
	1950	1960	1968	1969	1970
Commonwealth awards, etc.	20.18	35.14	49.39	52.08	53.28
State awards, etc.	20.23	35.88	48.54	51.60	54.49
All awards, etc.	20.20	35.50	48.98	51.85	53.86

(a) Excludes rural. The amounts should not be regarded as actual current averages, but as an index expressed in money terms, indicative of trends. For definitions see text above.

Weekly wage rates—adult females

The following table shows, for each State and Australia, the weighted average minimum weekly rates of wage payable to adult female workers for a full week's work and index numbers at the dates specified. This series has not been compiled for years prior to 1951.

WEEKLY WAGE RATES: ADULT FEMALES, STATES, DECEMBER 1951 TO 1970

WEIGHTED AVERAGE MINIMUM WEEKLY RATES(a) PAYABLE FOR A FULL WEEK'S WORK (EXCLUDING OVERTIME) AND INDEX NUMBERS OF WAGE RATES

End of December—	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Aust.
RATES OF WAGE(b) (\$)							
1951	17.23	17.22	16.12	17.02	16.25	16.56	17.03
1960	26.12	24.66	23.93	24.29	25.12	23.88	25.17
1968	35.53	34.52	34.70	33.60	34.12	33.45	34.85
1969	38.69	37.08	37.64	35.70	36.68	36.94	37.69
1970	40.59	38.64	40.58	37.14	40.00	38.13	39.61

INDEX NUMBERS

(Base: Weighted Average Weekly Wage Rate for Australia, 1954 = 100)

1951	86.6	86.5	81.0	85.5	81.6	83.2	85.6
1960	131.2	123.9	120.2	122.0	126.2	120.0	126.4
1968	178.5	173.4	174.3	168.8	171.4	168.0	175.0
1969	194.4	186.2	189.0	179.3	184.2	185.6	189.3
1970	203.9	194.1	203.8	186.5	200.9	191.5	198.9

(a) As prescribed in awards, determinations and agreements. (b) The amounts shown should not be regarded as actual current averages, but as an index expressed in money terms, indicative of trends.

The following table shows for Australia weighted average minimum weekly rates of wage and index numbers in each of the industry groups in which the number of females employed is important, and the weighted average for all groups combined, at the dates specified.

**WEEKLY WAGE RATES: ADULT FEMALES, INDUSTRY GROUPS, AUSTRALIA
DECEMBER 1951 TO 1970**

WEIGHTED AVERAGE MINIMUM WEEKLY RATES^(a) PAYABLE FOR A FULL WEEK'S WORK
(EXCLUDING OVERTIME) AND INDEX NUMBERS OF WAGE RATES

Industry Group	End of December—				
	1951	1960	1968	1969	1970
RATES OF WAGE^(b) (\$)					
Manufacturing—					
Engineering, metals, vehicles, etc.	17.09	24.98	34.15	37.05	40.22
Textiles, clothing and footwear	17.12	24.07	32.38	34.77	36.59
Food, drink and tobacco	16.58	24.63	33.68	36.10	37.98
Other manufacturing	16.88	24.80	33.81	36.67	37.78
<i>All manufacturing groups</i>	<i>16.99</i>	<i>24.46</i>	<i>33.17</i>	<i>35.76</i>	<i>37.68</i>
Transport and communication	17.75	26.02	37.92	40.87	43.89
Wholesale and retail trade	17.11	26.36	36.89	39.84	42.05
Public authority (n.e.i.) and community and business services	17.01	25.78	36.57	40.05	41.75
Amusement, hotels, personal service, etc.	16.68	24.50	34.07	36.71	37.94
All industry groups	17.03	25.17	34.85	37.69	39.61

INDEX NUMBERS

(Base: Weighted Average Weekly Wage Rate for Australia, 1954 = 100)

Manufacturing—					
Engineering, metals, vehicles, etc.	85.9	125.5	171.5	186.1	202.0
Textiles, clothing and footwear	86.0	120.9	162.6	174.6	183.8
Food, drink and tobacco	83.3	123.7	169.2	181.3	190.8
Other manufacturing	84.8	124.6	169.8	184.2	189.7
<i>All manufacturing groups</i>	<i>85.4</i>	<i>122.9</i>	<i>166.6</i>	<i>179.6</i>	<i>189.3</i>
Transport and communication	89.2	130.7	190.5	205.3	220.5
Wholesale and retail trade	85.9	132.4	185.3	200.1	211.2
Public authority (n.e.i.) and community and business services	85.4	129.5	183.7	203.2	209.7
Amusement, hotels, personal service, etc.	83.8	123.1	171.1	184.4	190.6
All industry groups	85.6	126.4	175.0	189.3	198.9

^(a) As prescribed in awards, determinations and agreements. ^(b) The amounts shown should not be regarded as actual current averages, but as an index expressed in money terms, indicative of trends.

Standard hours of work

In the fixation of weekly wage rates most industrial tribunals prescribe the number of hours constituting a full week's work for the wage rates specified. The hours of work so prescribed form the basis of the compilation of the weighted averages and index numbers on page 249. The main features of the reduction of hours to forty-four and later to forty per week are summarised below. Further details will be found in previous issues of the Year Book.

The 44-hour week

No permanent reduction to a 44-hour week was effected until 1925, although temporary reductions had been achieved earlier. In 1920 the New South Wales legislature granted a 44-hour week to most industries, but in the following year this provision was withdrawn. Also in 1920 the President of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration (Higgins *J.*), after inquiry, granted a 44-hour week to the Timber Workers' Union, and in the following year he extended the same privilege to the Amalgamated Society of Engineers. In 1921, however, a reconstituted Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration unanimously rejected applications by five trade unions for the shorter standard week and re-introduced the 48-hour week in the case of the above-mentioned two unions then working forty-four hours. During 1924 the Queensland Parliament passed legislation to operate from 1 July 1925 granting the 44-hour standard week to employees whose conditions of work were regulated by awards and agreements of the Queensland State industrial authority. Similar legislative action in New South Wales led to the re-introduction of the 44-hour week in that State as from 4 January 1926.

In 1927 the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration granted a 44-hour week to the Amalgamated Engineering Union and intimated that this reduction in standard hours of work would be extended to industries operating under conditions similar to those in the engineering industry. Applications for the shorter hours by other unions were, however, treated individually, the nature of the industry, the problem of production, the financial status, and the amount of foreign competition being fully investigated. The economic depression delayed the extension of the standard 44-hour week until the subsequent improvement in economic conditions made possible its general extension to employees under Commonwealth awards.

In States other than New South Wales and Queensland the change to the shorter week extended over the years from 1926 to 1941.

The 40-hour week

The New South Wales Parliament passed legislation granting a 40-hour week, operative from 1 July 1947, to industries and trades regulated by State awards and agreements. In Queensland similar legislation was passed by Parliament providing for the 40-hour week to operate from 1 January 1948.

The Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration, in its judgment of 8 September 1947 in the *Standard Hours Inquiry*, 1947 granted the reduction to the 40-hour week from the beginning of the first pay-period commencing in January 1948. On 27 October 1947 the South Australian Industrial Court approved the incorporation of the 40-hour standard week in awards of that State. The Court of Arbitration of Western Australia, on 6 November 1947, approved that provision for a 40-hour week could be incorporated in awards of the Court, commencing from 1 January 1948.

In Victoria and Tasmania the Wages Board met and also incorporated the shorter working week in their determinations, so that from the beginning of 1948 practically all employees in Australia whose conditions of labour were regulated by industrial authorities had the advantages of a standard working week of forty hours or, in certain cases, less.

Hourly wage rates

The average rates of wage in the preceding tables are based on the minimum rates prescribed for selected occupations in awards, etc. for a full week's work, excluding overtime. However, the number of hours constituting a full week's work differs in some instances between various occupations in each State, and between the same occupations in the several States. For some purposes a better comparison may be obtained by reducing the results in the preceding paragraphs to a common basis, namely the rate of wage per hour. The particulars of weighted average minimum hourly rates of wage given in the following tables relate to all industry groups except rural, and shipping and stevedoring. The rural industry is not included in the index, and shipping and stevedoring has been excluded because, for some of the occupations in this group, definite particulars for the computation of average working hours and hourly rates of wage are not available.

The following table shows the weighted average minimum hourly rates of wage payable to adult male workers and index numbers of hourly rates in each State.

**HOURLY WAGE RATES (a): ADULT MALES
STATES, DECEMBER 1950 TO 1970**

WEIGHTED AVERAGE MINIMUM HOURLY RATES PAYABLE AND INDEX NUMBERS OF HOURLY RATES

<i>End of December—</i>	<i>N.S.W.</i>	<i>Vic.</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>S.A.</i>	<i>W.A.</i>	<i>Tas.</i>	<i>Aust.</i>
RATES OF WAGE (b)							
(cents)							
1950 . . .	51.63	50.48	48.83	49.53	50.29	49.52	50.58
1960 . . .	90.91	87.57	87.79	85.61	89.89	88.08	88.92
1968 . . .	123.68	122.08	122.38	120.39	119.48	122.88	122.44
1969 . . .	130.87	129.18	129.57	126.45	126.84	129.55	129.51
1970 . . .	135.14	133.12	137.19	128.75	139.48	134.10	134.54

INDEX NUMBERS							
<i>(Base: Weighted Average Hourly Wage Rates for Australia, 1954 = 100)</i>							
1950 . . .	73.0	71.4	69.0	70.0	71.7	70.0	71.5
1960 . . .	128.5	123.8	124.1	121.0	127.1	124.5	125.7
1968 . . .	174.8	172.5	173.0	170.2	168.9	173.7	173.1
1969 . . .	185.0	182.6	183.1	178.7	179.3	183.1	183.0
1970 . . .	191.0	188.2	193.9	182.0	197.1	189.5	190.1

(a) Weighted average hourly rates of wage for all industry groups except rural, and shipping and stevedoring. See page 248. (b) The amounts shown should not be regarded as actual current averages, but as an index expressed in money terms, indicative of trends.

The following table shows the weighted average minimum hourly rates of wage payable to adult female workers and index numbers of hourly rates in each State.

**HOURLY WAGE RATES: ADULT FEMALES
STATES, DECEMBER 1951 TO 1970**

WEIGHTED AVERAGE MINIMUM HOURLY RATES PAYABLE AND INDEX NUMBERS OF HOURLY RATES

<i>End of December—</i>	<i>N.S.W.</i>	<i>Vic.</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>S.A.</i>	<i>W.A.</i>	<i>Tas.</i>	<i>Aust.</i>
RATES OF WAGE (a)							
(cents)							
1951 . . .	43.58	43.25	40.60	42.81	40.85	41.86	42.92
1960 . . .	66.09	61.94	60.28	61.08	63.14	60.37	63.44
1968 . . .	89.88	86.71	87.40	84.50	85.79	84.44	87.84
1969 . . .	97.89	93.14	94.80	89.76	92.19	93.23	95.00
1970 . . .	102.69	97.06	102.21	93.39	100.55	96.22	99.84

INDEX NUMBERS							
<i>(Base: Weighted Average Hourly Wage Rate for Australia, 1954 = 100)</i>							
1951 . . .	86.9	86.2	80.9	85.3	81.4	83.4	85.6
1960 . . .	131.7	123.5	120.1	121.7	125.8	120.3	126.4
1968 . . .	179.2	172.8	174.2	168.4	171.0	168.3	175.1
1969 . . .	195.1	185.7	189.0	178.9	183.8	185.8	189.4
1970 . . .	204.7	193.5	203.7	186.1	200.4	191.8	199.0

(a) The amounts shown should not be regarded as actual current averages, but as an index expressed in money terms, indicative of trends.

Weighted average standard weekly hours of work

The 40-hour week has operated in Australia generally from 1 January 1948, and in New South Wales from 1 July 1947 (see page 248). However, as stated on page 248, the number of hours constituting a full week's work (excluding overtime) differs between occupations and or between States. The weighted average standard hours of work (excluding overtime) prescribed in awards, determinations and agreements for a full working week, in respect of adult male workers in all industry groups except rural, and shipping and stevedoring, at 31 December 1970, were: New South Wales, 39.95; Victoria, 39.97; Queensland, 39.98; South Australia, 39.96; Western Australia, 39.89; Tasmania, 39.97; Australia, 39.96. Corresponding figures for adult female workers at 31 December 1970 were: New South Wales, 39.53; Victoria, 39.81; Queensland, 39.70; South Australia, 39.77; Western Australia, 39.78; Tasmania, 39.63; Australia, 39.67.

Average weekly earnings

NOTE. Particulars of average weekly earnings for the years 1961-62 to 1969-70 were being revised when this chapter was sent for press. Revised figures will be found in the Appendix.

The figures in this section are derived from particulars of employment and of wages and salaries recorded on pay-roll tax returns, from other direct collections, and from estimates of the unrecorded balance. The figures relate to civilians only.

Particulars of wages and salaries paid are not available for males and females separately from these sources; average weekly earnings have therefore been calculated in terms of male units, i.e. total male employees plus fifty-five per cent of female employees. This proportion is derived from the estimated ratio of female to male earnings in Australia. In calculating the figures shown in the following table the same ratio of female to male earnings has been used in each State. Because the actual ratio may vary between States precise comparisons between average earnings in different States cannot be made on the basis of the figures shown. Quarterly figures corresponding to those shown in the table are published in the quarterly statement *Average Weekly Earnings*, in the monthly bulletin *Wage Rates and Earnings* and in the *Monthly Review of Business Statistics*.

Particulars of average weekly earnings per employed male unit are shown in the following table for each of the years 1960-61 to 1969-70.

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS PER EMPLOYED MALE UNIT^(a)
STATES, 1960-61 TO 1969-70
($\text{\$}$)

Year	N.S.W. ^(b)	Vic.	Qld	S.A. ^(c)	W.A.	Tas.	Aust..
1960-61	48.10	47.20	41.60	43.40	41.60	43.30	46.00
1961-62	49.10	48.50	43.20	44.70	43.00	45.30	47.20
1962-63	50.20	50.10	44.40	45.80	44.20	45.90	48.40
1963-64	52.60	52.50	46.90	48.20	47.20	48.40	50.90
1964-65	56.50	56.40	50.40	52.00	49.50	51.00	54.60
1965-66	58.60	59.20	52.50	53.80	54.10	53.80	57.00
1966-67	62.40	63.00	55.60	56.90	58.30	57.40	60.70
1967-68	66.00	66.80	58.80	60.40	62.50	61.00	64.30
1968-69	71.60	71.20	62.60	64.30	67.20	64.10	68.90
1969-70	77.40	77.00	68.40	69.90	74.90	70.00	75.00

(a) In addition to award rates of pay, includes earnings of salaried employees, overtime earnings, over-award and bonus payments, payments made in advance or retrospectively during the periods specified, etc. See explanatory notes above.
(b) Includes Australian Capital Territory. (c) Includes Northern Territory.

The following table shows, for 'All industries' and for 'Manufacturing', the movement in average weekly earnings from 1960-61 to 1969-70. The 'All industries' index is based on pay-roll tax returns and other data. It relates to average weekly earnings per employed male unit. The index for manufacturing industries is based on the average earnings of male wage and salary earners employed in factories as disclosed by annual factory censuses.

The index numbers for 'All industries' and 'Manufacturing' show the movement in average earnings for each group over a period of time. However, they do not give, at any point of time, a comparison of actual earnings in the two groups. The base of each series is: year 1953-54 = 100, and both series have been seasonally adjusted.

INDEXES OF AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS(a)(b): AUSTRALIA
1960-61 TO 1969-70

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(Base of each index: year 1953-54 = 100)

Year	All industries	Manu- facturing	Year	All industries	Manu- facturing
1953-54	100.0	100.0	1965-66	174.6	173.1
1960-61	140.6	141.1	1966-67	186.0	184.3
1961-62	144.7	143.4	1967-68	197.0	194.9
1962-63	148.3	147.7	1968-69	211.7	208.7
1963-64	155.9	154.8	1969-70	229.5	224.7
1964-65	167.3	167.1			

(a) See footnote (a) to table on page 250.

(b) Average earnings per employed male unit.

Surveys of wage rates, earnings and hours, 1960 to 1969

Since 1960 a number of statistical surveys of wages and hours of work in Australia have been undertaken by this Bureau. The object of these surveys has been to obtain information on wage rates, actual weekly earnings and hours of work on a more comprehensive scale than previously available in Australia. A summary of the scope and coverage of each of these surveys is shown on the following pages.

Survey of wage rates and earnings, September 1960

This survey, relating to the last pay-period in September 1960, obtained information about marginal rates of wage and the dissection and distribution of actual weekly earnings of adult male employees (excluding part-time and casual employees). In addition to the exclusion of government and semi-government employees, and private employees in rural industry and in private domestic service, the survey did not cover the following—shipping and stevedoring industries; the motion picture industry; certain businesses such as those of accountants, consultant engineers, etc.; and trade associations, etc. The survey was based on a stratified random sample of private employers in other industries who were subject to pay-roll tax (that is, employers paying more than \$400 a week in wages and salaries). For information on the results of the survey see Year Book No. 51, pages 439-42.

Survey of weekly earnings, October 1961

This survey was conducted for the last pay-period in October 1961 and provided information about the distribution of actual weekly earnings for adult male employees (excluding part-time and casual employees). The survey did not cover government or semi-government employees, private employees in rural industry and in private domestic service, or employees not covered by pay-roll tax returns. The survey was based on a stratified random sample of private employers in other industries who were subject to pay-roll tax (that is, employers paying more than \$400 a week in wages and salaries). The results of the survey were published in Year Book No. 51, pages 442-4.

Surveys of weekly earnings and hours, October 1962 to 1969 (excluding October 1965)

For details of these surveys see pages 252-7.

Survey of weekly earnings, October 1965

A survey of weekly earnings of male employees was conducted for the last pay-period in October 1965. The survey was conducted by means of: (i) a sample of private employers subject to pay-roll tax (that is those paying more than \$400 a week in wages and salaries); (ii) a complete coverage of Commonwealth and State government departments and semi-government authorities; and (iii) a sample of local government authorities. It related to certain specified industry groups only.

The object of the survey was to obtain estimates of the numbers and proportions of full-time adult male employees in various weekly earnings groups and a dissection of total weekly earnings paid to full-time adult males into: (i) overtime earnings; (ii) ordinary time earnings at 'award, etc. rates'; and (iii) ordinary time earnings in excess of those at 'award, etc. rates' (divided into (a) payment by measured result and (b) other) as defined. The survey also provided figures of average weekly earnings for full-time adult male and junior male employees. Separate details were obtained for (i) managerial, executive, professional and higher supervisory staff, and (ii) other full-time male employees. The results of the survey were published in previous issues of the Year Book. For further details see *Labour Report* No. 52, 1965 and 1966.

Surveys of weekly earnings and hours, October 1962 to October 1969

Sample surveys in respect of most private employers subject to pay-roll tax (i.e. those paying more than \$400 per week in wages and salaries) have been conducted as at the last pay-period in October during recent years. Some results of the 1969 survey and comparisons with earlier such surveys are contained in the following tables. Further particulars including averages for each State were published in statistical bulletin, *Survey of Weekly Earnings and Hours*, October 1969.

In addition to obtaining data for the calculation of average weekly earnings, average weekly hours paid for, and average hourly earnings, information on overtime and ordinary time earnings and hours for full-time employees (other than managerial, etc. staff) was obtained from surveys beginning with the October 1966 survey. The figures of average overtime earnings and average overtime hours are the averages for *all* employees (in the specified category) represented in the survey whether or not they worked overtime. The survey figures do not show the average overtime earnings or hours of only those employees who worked overtime.

Figures of average weekly earnings, average weekly hours paid for, and average hourly earnings as at the selected pay-periods are presented for males and females (adult and junior) separately by industry groups and by States. They reflect the effects of differences (and of changes between points of time) in amounts paid for the various occupations; in amounts paid for the same occupations; in occupational structures within industries; in industry structure; in degrees of business activity (incidence of overtime, etc.); and in the incidence of incentive schemes, piecework and profit-sharing scheme payments, etc.

Coverage

The results of the surveys are based on returns from stratified random samples of private employers subject to pay-roll tax. Employees in rural industry and in private domestic service are excluded because most employers in these two industries are not subject to pay-roll tax. Also excluded from the surveys are: employees of government and semi-government authorities; employees of religious, benevolent and other similar organisations exempt from pay-roll tax; and all employees in the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory. The earnings and hours of waterside workers employed on a casual basis are excluded because they are subject to wide fluctuations for short periods such as those covered by these surveys. Waterside workers on weekly hire employed under the new permanent employment scheme are included in the surveys.

Approximately 4,600 employers were included in the October 1969 survey and the sample represented 1,710,000 male and 761,000 female wage and salary earners.

As the survey was based on a sample, the resultant estimates are subject to sampling variability, that is, variations which might occur by chance because only a sample of employers was surveyed. The extent of the detail published has been determined after considering estimated measures of sampling variability.

Comparability of results

In addition to affecting the results of each sample survey, sampling variability also affects comparison between each year's results.

The industry classification adopted for the 1969 and previous earnings and hours surveys from 1963 onwards (including the 1965 survey) is that used for the 1961 and 1966 population censuses. Because the October 1962 survey was based on a different industry classification only broad comparison with more recent surveys is possible (see tables in Year Book No. 54, pages 302 and 305). Some comparison of the results of the surveys of 1964, 1966, 1967, 1968 and 1969 are shown in the tables on pages 255-7.

The October 1965 Survey of Weekly Earnings was a special purpose survey on a different basis from the surveys compared in this section and, therefore, its results are not shown herein. Results of the 1965 survey were published in detail in *Labour Report* No. 52, 1965 and 1966.

In the surveys of October 1962, 1963 and 1964 employees 'whose hours of work were not known' were reported with managerial, etc. staff. Beginning with the October 1966 survey employers were asked to report these employees in their correct classification, and if necessary estimate their hours of work. It is considered that any reporting differences will have had only a slight effect on comparability of the surveys.

The allocation of employees between 'Managerial, executive, professional and higher supervisory staff' and 'All other full-time employees' (as defined) depends upon the employers' interpretation of the definitions (*see below*).

Definitions

The following definitions refer to terms used in the surveys and in the tables in this section.

Employees refers to male and female employees on the pay-roll and who received pay for the last pay-period in October.

Adults includes all employees 21 years of age and over and those employees who, although under 21 years of age, are paid at the adult rate for their occupation.

Juniors refers to those employees under 21 years of age who are not paid at the adult rate for their occupation.

Full-time employees refers to those employees who ordinarily work 30 hours or more a week and who received pay for the last pay-period in October. Included are 'full-time' employees on short-time; 'full-time' employees who began or ceased work during the pay-period; and 'full-time' employees on paid annual leave, paid sick leave, long service leave and paid holidays taken during the pay-period.

Part-time employees refers to employees who ordinarily work less than 30 hours a week. Employees on short-time who normally work 30 hours or more a week are classified as full-time employees.

Other than managerial, etc. staff includes minor supervisory employees, leading hands, clerical and office staff as well as ordinary wages employees. It excludes *managerial, executive, professional and higher supervisory staff* who were not further defined.

Weekly earnings refers to gross earnings for the last pay-period in October before taxation and other deductions have been made. It includes ordinary time earnings, overtime earnings, shift allowances, penalty rates, commission and similar payments; and that part of paid annual leave, paid sick leave, long service leave and paid holidays taken during the pay-period. It includes one week's proportion of payments made other than on a weekly basis, e.g. salary paid fortnightly or monthly; paid annual or other leave taken during the pay-period; periodical payments under incentive, piecework, profit sharing schemes, etc.; commissions; annual or periodical bonuses, etc. Retrospective payments are excluded.

Overtime earnings refers to that part of gross weekly earnings (as defined above) for hours paid for in excess of award, standard or agreed hours of work. Overtime earnings were not reported for managerial, etc. staff.

Ordinary time earnings refers to that part of gross weekly earnings (as defined above) for award, standard or agreed hours of work. It includes shift allowances, penalty rates, commissions, bonuses and incentive payments, and that part of paid annual and other leave, which relates to these hours.

Weekly man-hours paid for refers to the sum of man-hours for which payment was made. It includes ordinary time hours, overtime hours, paid stand-by or reporting time; and that part of paid annual leave, paid sick leave, long service leave and paid holidays taken during the specified pay-period. For employees paid other than weekly, hours are converted to a weekly basis. For employees who began or ceased work, or were absent without pay for any reason during the specified week, only the man-hours actually paid for are included. Where agreed hours of work are less than award hours, man-hours are based on agreed hours. Hours of work were not reported for managerial, etc. staff.

Overtime hours refers to hours in excess of award, standard or agreed hours of work.

Ordinary time hours refers to award, standard or agreed hours of work. It includes man-hours of stand-by or reporting time which are part of standard hours of work, and that part of paid annual leave, paid sick leave and long service leave taken during the specified week.

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS AND HOURS (OVERTIME AND ORDINARY TIME)(a), FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES (OTHER THAN MANAGERIAL, ETC. STAFF)(b): INDUSTRY GROUPS, AUSTRALIA(c), OCTOBER 1969(d)

Industry group	Average weekly earnings (\$)			Average weekly hours paid for			Average weekly earnings (\$)			Average weekly hours paid for		
	Over-time earnings	Ordinary time earnings		Over-time hours	Ordinary time hours		Over-time earnings	Ordinary time earnings		Over-time hours	Ordinary time hours	
		Total	Total		Total	Total		Total	Total			
	ADULT MALES						JUNIOR MALES					
Manufacturing—												
Extracting, refining and founding of metals	14.70	64.50	79.20	6.5	39.1	45.5	4.10	34.80	38.90	2.8	38.9	41.7
Engineering and metal-working	14.00	61.00	75.10	6.1	38.6	44.7	3.80	32.30	36.00	2.9	38.4	41.3
Ships, vehicles, parts and accessories	11.20	60.80	71.90	4.8	38.4	43.2	2.80	32.40	35.30	2.3	38.8	41.0
Founding, engineering, vehicles, etc.	13.40	61.50	74.90	5.8	38.6	44.5	3.60	32.70	36.30	2.7	38.6	41.3
Textiles, clothing and footwear	10.80	57.40	68.30	5.1	38.7	43.8	4.00	29.50	33.50	3.2	37.9	41.1
Food, drink and tobacco	11.30	57.20	68.50	5.0	38.6	43.7	3.60	31.00	34.60	2.5	38.3	40.8
Paper, printing, book-binding and photography	9.50	70.20	79.60	3.8	38.9	42.7	3.40	34.40	37.80	2.4	38.9	41.3
Chemicals, dyes, explosives, paints, non-mineral oils	10.40	63.50	73.90	4.4	38.6	43.0	3.10	35.30	38.40	2.0	38.7	40.7
Other	12.60	59.10	71.70	5.8	38.5	44.3	3.80	31.50	35.30	3.0	38.6	41.6
Manufacturing groups	12.40	61.00	73.30	5.5	38.6	44.1	3.60	32.30	36.00	2.7	38.5	41.3
Non-manufacturing—												
Mining and quarrying	18.00	77.50	95.50	7.0	37.8	44.8	6.80	45.50	52.30	4.2	38.0	42.2
Building and construction	16.00	64.20	80.20	6.4	38.2	44.6	2.40	34.10	36.50	1.8	39.0	40.8
Transport and storage	19.60	62.10	81.60	7.9	38.8	46.6	4.50	34.80	39.30	3.2	39.1	42.3
Finance and property	1.80	78.00	79.80	0.7	37.9	38.6	0.70	39.00	39.70	0.4	38.3	38.7
Wholesale trade, primary produce dealing, etc.	6.60	62.40	68.90	2.9	38.8	41.7	1.90	32.50	34.40	1.5	39.1	40.6
Retail trade	4.30	58.60	62.90	2.0	39.6	41.6	2.00	30.10	32.20	1.7	39.6	41.4
Other industries(e)	7.50	63.50	71.00	3.4	38.8	42.2	1.80	34.70	36.50	1.3	38.2	39.5
Non-manufacturing groups	10.30	64.60	74.90	4.3	38.7	42.9	2.00	33.70	35.70	1.5	39.0	40.5
All industry groups(f)	11.50	62.50	74.00	4.9	38.7	43.6	2.80	33.00	35.80	2.1	38.8	40.6
	ADULT FEMALES						JUNIOR FEMALES					
Manufacturing groups	2.70	38.50	41.20	1.9	37.9	39.8	1.10	25.90	27.00	1.1	37.9	39.1
Non-manufacturing groups	1.30	44.20	45.50	0.8	38.2	39.0	0.60	28.80	29.40	0.5	38.4	39.0
All industry groups(f)	2.10	41.20	43.20	1.4	38.1	39.4	0.80	27.90	28.60	0.7	38.3	39.0

(a) Average weekly overtime and ordinary time earnings and hours are averages for all employees represented in the survey (see page 253). (b) Private employees only. Excludes managerial, executive, professional and higher supervisory staff. (c) Excludes Northern Territory and Australian Capital Territory. (d) Last pay-period in October. For definitions and particulars of coverage of the survey, etc. see pages 252-3. (e) Includes community and business services; amusement, hotels, cafes, personal service, etc.; electricity, gas, water supply and sanitary services; and forestry, fishing and trapping. (f) Excludes rural industry, and private domestic service.

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS, FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES (OTHER THAN MANAGERIAL ETC. STAFF)(a): INDUSTRY GROUPS, AUSTRALIA(b), OCTOBER 1967, 1968 AND 1969(c)

(\$)

Industry group	Adult males			Junior males			Adult females			Junior females		
	Oct. 1967	Oct. 1968	Oct. 1969	Oct. 1967	Oct. 1968	Oct. 1969	Oct. 1967	Oct. 1968	Oct. 1969	Oct. 1967	Oct. 1968	Oct. 1969
Manufacturing—												
Extracting, refining and founding of metals	67.30	73.10	79.20	34.20	40.20	38.90	39.60	42.40	45.60	28.00	30.80	32.80
Engineering and metalworking	65.30	72.00	75.10	32.00	34.90	36.00	35.90	38.10	42.00	25.70	26.40	29.40
Ships, vehicles, parts and accessories	65.10	67.60	71.90	31.60	34.00	35.30	37.20	38.10	42.40	26.70	26.70	30.20
Founding, engineering, vehicles, etc.	65.60	71.10	74.90	32.20	35.50	36.30	36.30	38.30	42.30	26.10	26.90	29.90
Textiles, clothing and footwear	60.00	63.10	68.30	29.70	31.10	33.50	35.70	36.80	40.50	21.10	21.80	23.80
Food, drink and tobacco	62.10	63.50	68.50	33.40	32.80	34.60	36.60	37.40	40.40	25.00	24.80	27.20
Paper, printing, book-binding and photography	70.50	74.50	79.60	32.20	34.50	37.80	37.60	39.50	41.90	24.50	25.60	28.20
Chemicals, dyes, explosives, paints, non-mineral oils	65.30	69.70	73.90	36.50	37.10	38.40	38.00	40.00	42.70	27.90	29.00	31.00
Other	62.60	65.40	71.70	30.70	32.20	35.30	36.10	36.50	40.70	24.80	24.40	28.50
Manufacturing groups	64.50	68.60	73.30	32.00	34.20	36.00	36.30	37.60	41.20	23.70	24.40	27.00
Non-manufacturing—												
Mining and quarrying	81.50	85.60	95.50	41.00	47.90	52.30	45.30	50.00	54.70	29.70	33.40	36.40
Building and construction	69.40	77.50	80.20	33.00	36.30	36.50	41.50	43.40	46.90	28.60	28.20	32.40
Transport and storage	70.70	74.00	81.60	33.80	36.10	39.30	42.20	44.30	48.80	27.80	28.30	33.30
Finance and property	68.80	70.50	79.80	33.40	35.20	39.70	42.00	44.00	49.90	27.70	28.30	33.50
Wholesale trade, primary produce dealing, etc.	60.00	63.70	68.90	30.40	31.40	34.40	39.40	41.10	45.90	25.50	26.70	30.00
Retail trade	56.40	59.80	62.90	28.30	31.30	32.20	37.70	39.70	43.10	23.50	24.60	26.10
Other industries(d)	61.90	65.20	71.00	32.60	32.90	36.50	38.50	40.80	45.10	25.60	25.90	29.40
Non-manufacturing groups	64.70	69.40	74.90	31.10	33.30	35.70	39.20	41.20	45.50	25.40	26.20	29.40
All industry groups(e)	64.60	69.00	74.00	31.50	33.80	35.80	37.60	39.30	43.20	24.80	25.60	28.60

(a) Private employees only. Excludes managerial, executive, professional and higher supervisory staff. (b) Excludes Northern Territory and Australian Capital Territory. (c) Last pay-period in October. For definitions and particulars of coverage of the surveys, etc. see pages 252-3. (d) Includes community and business services; amusement, hotels, cafes, personal service, etc.; electricity, gas, water and sanitary services; and forestry, fishing and trapping. (e) Excludes rural industry, and private domestic service.

**AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS PAID FOR, FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES (OTHER THAN
MANAGERIAL, ETC. STAFF)(a): INDUSTRY GROUPS, AUSTRALIA(b)
OCTOBER 1967, 1968 AND 1969(c)**

Industry group	Adult males			Junior males			Adult females			Junior females		
	Oct. 1967	Oct. 1968	Oct. 1969	Oct. 1967	Oct. 1968	Oct. 1969	Oct. 1967	Oct. 1968	Oct. 1969	Oct. 1967	Oct. 1968	Oct. 1969
Manufacturing—												
Extracting, refining and founding of metals	44.5	44.8	45.5	41.5	41.4	41.7	39.9	40.0	40.6	39.7	39.7	40.2
Engineering and metal-working	44.2	44.8	44.7	40.9	41.5	41.3	39.0	39.4	40.3	39.0	39.3	38.9
Ships, vehicles, parts and accessories	43.1	41.9	43.2	41.0	41.0	41.0	39.5	38.9	39.8	38.8	39.1	39.5
Founding, engineering, vehicles, etc.	44.0	44.1	44.5	41.0	41.4	41.3	39.1	39.4	40.2	39.0	39.3	39.2
Textiles, clothing and footwear	42.8	43.2	43.8	41.1	40.8	41.1	39.1	39.1	39.7	39.0	38.3	38.8
Food, drink and tobacco	44.1	43.6	43.7	41.8	41.7	40.8	39.9	39.7	39.6	39.5	39.4	39.1
Paper, printing, book-binding and photography	42.3	42.1	42.7	41.3	40.8	41.3	39.8	39.2	39.4	39.7	39.6	39.6
Chemicals, dyes, explosives, paints, non-mineral oils	42.5	43.5	43.0	41.3	41.0	40.7	39.2	39.2	39.3	39.0	39.0	38.7
Other	44.0	43.8	44.3	41.7	40.9	41.6	39.8	39.6	39.8	39.1	39.2	39.2
Manufacturing groups	43.7	43.7	44.1	41.3	41.2	41.3	39.3	39.3	39.8	39.2	39.0	39.1
Non-manufacturing—												
Mining and quarrying	43.8	43.4	44.8	41.1	41.7	42.2	38.1	39.4	39.0	38.7	38.7	39.3
Building and construction	43.6	45.2	44.6	41.3	41.0	40.8	38.6	39.0	39.1	39.1	38.9	39.6
Transport and storage	46.6	45.8	46.6	42.3	41.9	42.3	39.4	39.5	39.4	39.1	38.7	38.9
Finance and property	38.7	38.7	38.6	38.5	38.7	38.7	37.9	38.0	38.0	38.1	38.1	38.1
Wholesale trade, primary produce dealing, etc.	41.3	41.3	41.7	40.6	40.5	40.6	39.0	38.7	38.8	38.8	38.8	38.9
Retail trade	41.5	41.8	41.6	41.2	41.3	41.4	39.5	39.2	39.5	39.7	39.9	39.8
Other industries(d)	42.0	41.9	42.2	39.8	39.7	39.5	39.0	38.9	39.0	37.8	38.1	38.1
Non-manufacturing groups	42.4	42.7	42.9	40.5	40.5	40.5	39.0	38.9	39.0	38.9	39.0	39.0
All industry groups(e)	43.1	43.3	43.6	40.9	40.9	40.9	39.2	39.1	39.4	39.0	39.0	39.0

(a) Private employees only. Excludes managerial, executive, professional and higher supervisory staff. (b) Excludes Northern Territory and Australian Capital Territory. (c) Last pay-period in October. For definitions and particulars of coverage of the surveys, etc. see pages 252-3. (d) Includes community and business services; amusement, hotels, cafes, personal service, etc.; electricity, gas, water and sanitary services; and forestry, fishing and trapping. (e) Excludes rural industry, and private domestic service.

In the following table the average weekly earnings, average weekly hours paid for, and average hourly earnings at the last pay-period in October for the years 1966 to 1969 are shown for full-time males and females (adult and junior).

**AVERAGE EARNINGS AND HOURS FOR FULL TIME EMPLOYEES (OTHER THAN
MANAGERIAL, ETC. STAFF)(a): ALL INDUSTRY GROUPS, AUSTRALIA(b)
OCTOBER 1966 TO 1969(c)**

	Average weekly earnings (\$)				Average weekly hours paid for				Average hourly earnings (\$)			
	Oct. 1966	Oct. 1967	Oct. 1968	Oct. 1969	Oct. 1966	Oct. 1967	Oct. 1968	Oct. 1969	Oct. 1966	Oct. 1967	Oct. 1968	Oct. 1969
Adult males	61.20	64.60	69.00	74.00	43.0	43.1	43.3	43.6	1.42	1.50	1.59	1.70
Junior males	29.40	31.50	33.80	35.80	40.7	40.9	40.9	40.9	0.72	0.77	0.83	0.88
Adult females	35.40	37.60	39.30	43.20	39.2	39.2	39.1	39.4	0.90	0.96	1.00	1.10
Junior females	23.60	24.80	25.60	28.60	39.1	39.0	39.0	39.0	0.60	0.64	0.66	0.73

(a) Private employees only. Excludes managerial, executive, professional, and higher supervisory staff. (b) Excludes Northern Territory and Australian Capital Territory. (c) Last pay-period in October. For definitions and particulars of coverage of the surveys, etc. see pages 252-3.

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS, FULL-TIME MALE MANAGERIAL, EXECUTIVE, ETC. STAFF(a): INDUSTRY GROUPS, AUSTRALIA(b), OCTOBER 1966 TO OCTOBER 1969(c)

(\$)

<i>Industry group</i>	<i>October 1966</i>	<i>October 1967</i>	<i>October 1968</i>	<i>October 1969</i>
Manufacturing—				
Extracting, refining and founding of metals	114.60	120.20	129.40	135.10
Engineering and metalworking	99.40	104.60	111.20	118.30
Ships, vehicles, parts and accessories	100.30	107.20	109.90	117.00
Founding, engineering, vehicles, etc.	100.90	106.60	112.60	119.40
Textiles, clothing and footwear	95.00	100.60	103.20	114.80
Food, drink and tobacco	97.40	98.00	103.40	112.40
Paper, printing, bookbinding and photography	99.50	109.90	111.40	117.90
Chemicals, dyes, explosives, paints, non-mineral oils	109.10	112.90	119.90	126.80
Other	96.50	101.40	106.60	112.70
<i>Manufacturing groups</i>	<i>99.50</i>	<i>104.60</i>	<i>109.80</i>	<i>117.20</i>
Non-manufacturing—				
Mining and quarrying	123.50	134.90	137.50	147.40
Building and construction	103.30	103.00	105.30	117.10
Transport and storage	97.70	103.60	109.80	116.20
Finance and property	106.50	110.80	118.00	130.30
Wholesale trade, primary produce dealing, etc.	97.00	105.30	110.00	118.40
Retail trade	80.70	84.50	88.10	97.00
Other industries(d)	95.30	102.10	107.50	114.80
<i>Non-manufacturing groups</i>	<i>96.00</i>	<i>101.60</i>	<i>106.70</i>	<i>116.60</i>
All industry groups(e)	97.50	102.90	108.10	116.90

(a) Private employees only. Includes managerial, executive, professional and higher supervisory staff. For definitions and particulars of coverage of the surveys, etc. see pages 252-3. (b) Excludes Northern Territory and Australian Capital Territory. (c) Last pay-period in October. (d) Includes community and business services; amusement, hotels, cafes, personal service, etc.; electricity, gas, water and sanitary services; and forestry, fishing and trapping. (e) Excludes rural industry, and private domestic service.

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS, FULL-TIME FEMALE MANAGERIAL, EXECUTIVE, ETC. STAFF(a): INDUSTRY GROUPS, AUSTRALIA(b), OCTOBER 1964 TO 1969

(\$)

<i>Survey</i>	<i>Manu- facturing groups</i>	<i>Non- manu- facturing groups</i>	<i>All industry groups(e)</i>
October(c)—			
1964	38.70	44.20	41.40
1966	54.10	55.20	54.80
1967	60.50	58.90	59.40
1968	60.60	63.50	62.50
1969	64.90	68.00	67.10

For footnotes see table above.

AVERAGE EARNINGS AND HOURS, PART-TIME EMPLOYEES(a): AUSTRALIA(b), OCTOBER 1964 TO 1969(c)

<i>Survey</i>	<i>Average weekly earnings (\$)</i>				<i>Average weekly hours paid for</i>				<i>Average hourly earnings (\$)</i>			
	<i>Adult males</i>	<i>Junior males</i>	<i>Adult females</i>	<i>Junior females</i>	<i>Adult males</i>	<i>Junior males</i>	<i>Adult females</i>	<i>Junior females</i>	<i>Adult males</i>	<i>Junior males</i>	<i>Adult females</i>	<i>Junior females</i>
October(c)—												
1964	16.60	4.70	15.50	4.40	13.4	6.7	17.3	6.4	1.24	0.70	0.90	0.69
1966	19.70	4.50	17.70	4.50	14.1	6.1	17.1	7.0	1.40	0.73	1.03	0.65
1967	20.10	4.40	18.70	4.60	14.1	5.8	17.3	6.3	1.43	0.76	1.08	0.73
1968	21.30	4.50	20.00	5.00	14.1	5.8	17.3	7.4	1.51	0.78	1.16	0.67
1969	23.40	5.70	21.70	7.00	14.1	7.1	17.6	9.4	1.66	0.81	1.23	0.74

(a) Private employees only. Part-time employees are those who normally work less than 30 hours a week. For definitions and particulars of coverage of the surveys, etc. see pages 252-3. (b) Excludes Northern Territory and Australian Capital Territory. (c) Last pay-period in October.

Survey of weekly earnings and hours, October 1970

The results of this survey were first published in January 1971 in a mimeograph statement *Survey of Weekly Earnings and Hours, October 1970 (Preliminary Results)*. A bulletin (Reference No. 6.1) which contains final results of the survey and comparisons with the surveys of October 1962 to 1969 was published on 8 July 1971.

Determination of wage rates in Australia

Before June 1967, when the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Commission decided to eliminate basic wages and margins from Commonwealth awards and to introduce total wages (*see below*), the concept of a basic or living wage was common to wage rates determined by industrial authorities in Australia. Initially, the concept of a basic wage (for adult males) was interpreted as the wage necessary to maintain an average employee and his family in a reasonable state of comfort. However, it was later generally accepted that the basic wage should be fixed at the highest amount which the economy could sustain and that the dominant factor was the capacity of the community to carry the resultant wage levels. Basic wages were determined for adult females as well as for adult males.

In addition to the basic wage, secondary wage payments, including margins for skill, etc. and various kinds of loadings peculiar to the occupation or industry, were determined by industrial authorities. The basic wage and the secondary wage made up the minimum wage rate for a particular occupation.

In the following paragraphs is set out a brief history of the determination of wage rates in Australia by Commonwealth and State industrial authorities. For more detailed information including the history of basic wage determination in Australia *see* previous issues of the Year Book and the annual *Labour Report*.

Commonwealth Basic Wage

Basic wages were a feature of awards of the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Commission (and the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration) over the period 1907 to 1967.

In 1907 the first declaration of a basic wage (\$4.20 a week for Melbourne) was made by Mr Justice Higgins, President of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration. The wage was known as the 'Harvester' wage and the amount was considered reasonable 'for a family of about five'. From this date onwards basic wages became incorporated into Commonwealth awards.

In 1913 the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration took cognisance of the 'A' Series retail price index numbers for the thirty more important towns of Australia published by the Commonwealth Statistician, and as awards came up for review the Court usually revised the basic wage rate of the award in proportion to variations in the retail price index. In 1921 the system of making automatic quarterly adjustments to the basic wage in direct ratio to variations in 'A' Series retail price index numbers was first introduced. The practice of making automatic quarterly adjustments to the basic wage in proportion to variations in retail price index numbers continued until September 1953.

In addition to the automatic adjustments to the basic wage described in the previous paragraph, basic wage rates in Commonwealth awards were varied as a result of basic wage or national wage inquiries. The last time basic wages were varied in this way was in July 1966, when, as a result of the Basic Wage, Margins and Total Wage Cases of 1966, rates were increased by \$2 a week for adult males and \$1.50 a week for adult females. At that time Commonwealth basic wage rates for capital cities ranged from \$31 to \$33.50 a week for adult males and from \$23.25 to \$25.10 a week for adult females. These rates continued to operate until the decision of the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Commission in the National Wage Cases of 1967 to eliminate basic wages and margins from Commonwealth awards and introduce total wages to operate from the beginning of the first pay-period to commence on or after 1 July 1967 (*see* page 260).

For table showing Commonwealth basic wage rates for adult males and adult females *see* previous issues of the Year Book and the Appendix to *Labour Report* No. 54, 1968 and 1969.

Basic wage rates for females

As a result of the 1949-50 Basic Wage Inquiry the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration fixed the basic weekly wage for adult females at 75 per cent of the corresponding male rate from the beginning of the first pay-period commencing in December 1950. This percentage continued to be prescribed in subsequent inquiries and operated until the basic wage was eliminated from Commonwealth awards in July 1967 (*see* above). Prior to December 1950 the relationship of female basic wages to male basic wages varied from award to award, but was generally between 54 and 56 per cent.

For further particulars regarding female basic wage rates see *Labour Report* No. 46, pages 75-81. Tables of rates are published in the Appendix to *Labour Report* No. 54, 1968 and 1969.

Basic wage rates, Australian Territories

The determination of basic wage rates in the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory came within the jurisdiction of the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Commission. Basic wage rates were eliminated from awards operating in these Territories in July 1967 (see above), and total wages were introduced. For tables of basic wages in the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory see Appendix to *Labour Report* No. 54, 1968 and 1969. For further information on the determination of basic wages in the Territories see previous issues of the Year Book and the annual *Labour Report*.

Commonwealth wage margins

In addition to basic wage rates, awards of Commonwealth and State industrial tribunals specified secondary wage payments consisting of margins and loadings. Margins have been defined as 'minimum amounts awarded above the basic wage to particular classifications of employees for the features attaching to their work which justify payments above the basic wage, whether those features are skill or experience required for the performance of that work, its particularly laborious nature, or the disabilities attached to its performance.'

In the Commonwealth jurisdiction prior to 1954 the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration had not made any general determination in respect of wage margins, but general principles of marginal rate fixation had been enunciated by the Court in the Engineers Case of 1924, the Merchant Service Guild Case in 1942, and the Printing Trades Case of 1947. Major decisions of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration, and later the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Commission, affecting margins in Commonwealth awards were made in 1954, 1959, 1963, 1965, and 1966. Details of these decisions can be found in earlier issues of the Year Book and the annual *Labour Report*.

As a result of a decision of the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Commission in the National Wage Cases of 1967, basic wages and margins were eliminated from Commonwealth awards and total wages were introduced with effect from the beginning of the first pay-period to commence on or after 1 July 1967.

Commonwealth work value inquiries

In addition to variations of wage margins in Commonwealth awards as a result of the general inquiries in 1954 to 1966 (see above), variations of margins for various occupations were made by the Commission as individual awards came up for review or upon application by trade unions. Similar procedures existed in regard to awards of State industrial tribunals.

As a result of its decision in the Basic Wage, Margins and Total Wage Cases of 1966, the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Commission, over the period September 1966 and November 1967, undertook a work value inquiry concerning classifications appearing in the Metal Trades Award. On 11 December 1967 the Commission issued a majority decision (Gallagher *J.* and Commissioner Winter, with Moore *J.* dissenting), granting increases to adult male classifications to operate from the beginning of the first pay-period commencing on or after 22 January 1968. Of the total 320 classifications, 18 classifications received no increase, 178 received \$1, 9 received \$1.30, 27 received \$2.75, 16 received \$3.75, 47 (tradesmen) received \$7.40, and the remaining 25 classifications amounts ranging between 10 cents and \$10.05 per week. Adult females received proportionate increases. Further details appear in the previous issue of the Year Book.

Following applications by employers concerning the question of absorption in over-award payments of the increases granted to the metal trades in December 1967, the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Commission heard submissions by employers and trade unions on 14 to 16 February 1968. The pronouncement of the majority of the Commission was made on 21 February 1968.

The Commission, in its pronouncement, made the following decisions. The work value decisions of the Commission in December 1967 (see above) in regard to its amounts should stand. However it was decided that 70 per cent of the prescribed increases should be payable in accordance with the decision of 11 December and that 30 per cent should be deferred. But where the increase was \$1.60 or less per week, the full amount should be paid without deferment, and where the increase was more than \$1.60 the increase payable without deferment should be at least \$1.60. The decision applied to increases granted to adult males and adult females. Adjustments to rates would be in multiples of 5 cents.

The bench of the Commission, which would deal with the economic wage case expected to commence on 6 August 1968, should decide when the deferred portion of the increases should be payable.

On 6 August 1968 the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Commission decided that the metal trades increases deferred by the February decision (*see above*) would become payable from the beginning of the first pay-period commencing on or after 21 August 1968.

Commonwealth total wages

In the national wage cases of 1964 and 1965 applications by employers that basic wages and margins should be deleted from Commonwealth awards and total wages introduced were rejected by the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Commission. However, in its decisions in the Basic Wage, Margins and Total Wage Cases of 1966 the Commission decided to defer the conversion of the wage structure to the basis of a single wage pending further consideration of the present structure of marginal rates (*see page 259*) and further argument. As a result of the National Wage Cases of 1967, in which the employers again applied for a total wage, the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Commission announced the elimination of basic wages and margins from Commonwealth awards and the introduction of total wages. The total wages were arrived at by adding an amount of \$1 a week to the weekly award wages for each adult male and adult female classification to operate from the beginning of the first pay-period to commence on or after 1 July 1967.

Trade unions unsuccessfully challenged in the High Court the abolition of basic wages and the adoption of total wages by the Commonwealth Commission.

On 4 October 1968 in its decision in the National Wage Case 1968 the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Commission increased all wage rates for adults (male and female) in Commonwealth awards by \$1.35 a week. The minimum wage for adult males was increased by the same amount. Male and female juniors including apprentices received proportionate increases. The variations came into operation from the beginning of the first pay-period commencing on or after 25 October 1968.

On 1 December 1969 the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Commission made the following decisions in the National Wage Case 1969. An increase of 3 per cent was awarded to total award wages of adult males and females other than the minimum wage for adult males which was increased by \$3.50 per week. Male and female juniors and apprentices also received a 3 per cent increase in their wage rates. All these variations operated from the beginning of the first pay-period commencing on or after 19 December 1969.

On 14 December 1970 the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Commission, in its decision in the National Wage Case 1970, awarded a 6 per cent increase to total wage rates in Commonwealth awards, other than the rates of minimum wage for adult males, which were increased by \$4.00 a week. These variations operated from the beginning of the first pay-period commencing on or after 1 January 1971.

Commonwealth minimum wage

In July 1966 the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Commission, in its decisions in the Basic Wage, Margins and Total Wage Cases of 1966, inserted in Commonwealth awards provisions for a minimum wage for adult males. The Commission said that it had given detailed consideration to lower paid classifications in the Metal Trades Award and had decided to grant some immediate relief to low wage earners. The Commission in its judgment said that it intended to insert a new provision in awards by which it would be prescribed that no adult male employee should be paid as a weekly wage for working the standard hours of work an amount less than the minimum wage, i.e. his appropriate basic wage rate plus \$3.75 a week. The minimum wage was prescribed for adult male employees only and was applied for all purposes of the award, for example, in calculation of overtime and other penalty rates, piece-work, casual employment, sick leave and annual leave. The Commission stated that the provision for a minimum wage for adult male employees was designed to meet the circumstances of employees in the lowest classifications who were in receipt of award rates and no more. It was not intended to affect the wage of any employee who was already receiving the prescribed minimum through over-award payment. The provision for a minimum wage for adult males operated from the beginning of the first pay-period to commence on or after 11 July 1966. The rates of minimum wage for adult males inserted in Commonwealth awards ranged from \$34.75 to \$37.25 a week for capital cities. These rates were increased by \$1 a week as a result of the decision of the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Commission in the National Wage Cases of 1967, the increases to operate from the beginning of the first pay-period commencing on or after 1 July 1967. Increases of \$1.35 a week operated from the beginning of the first pay-period commencing on or after 25 October 1968 as a result of the National Wage Case 1968. As a result of the National Wage Case 1969 increases of \$3.50 per week operated from the beginning of the first pay-period commencing on or after 19 December 1969. An increase of \$4.00 a week, as a result of the National Wage Case 1970, operated from the beginning of the first pay-period commencing on or after 1 January 1971.

Equal pay

Two benches of the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Commission sat jointly from 25 February 1969 to 22 May 1969 to take evidence and hear argument on trade union claims for equal pay between the sexes in the Equal Pay Cases 1969.

Both benches of the Commission reached a common conclusion and on 19 June 1969 published their decision and reasons for their decision. The Commission said it was prepared to implement the principle of equal pay for equal work by introducing into Commonwealth awards and determinations the principles contained in State acts on equal pay. The Commission stated that no increases should be granted to adult females without an examination of the work done. It also suggested a number of principles to be applied in deciding applications for equal pay. In summary these were: (i) the work considered should be restricted to that performed by both adult males and adult females under terms of the same determination or award; (ii) the work should be the same or of a like nature and of equal value (from the point of view of wage or salary assessment), and to be of the same range and volume and performed under the same conditions; (iii) consideration should be restricted to the general work situation under the determination or award and not to that of one establishment; and (iv) equal pay should not be provided where the work is essentially or usually performed by females but upon which male employees may also be employed.

The Commission decided that implementation of equal pay should be spread over a period so that as from 1 January 1970 implementation would be the same as that under South Australian, Western Australian and Tasmanian Acts. Where a decision was reached prior to 1 October 1969 the female rate would become 85 per cent of the male rate from the beginning of the first pay-period to commence on or after 1 October 1969, increase to 90 per cent of the male rate from the beginning of the first pay-period to commence on or after 1 January 1970, increase to 95 per cent of the male rate from the beginning of the first pay-period to commence on or after 1 January 1971, and become equal to the male rate from the beginning of the first pay-period to commence on or after 1 January 1972. Where a decision was reached on or after 1 October 1969 it should not operate retrospectively. For decisions reached between 1 October 1969 and up to 1 January 1970, 85 per cent of the male rate at the date of operation should apply, and so on according to the above scale. No female rates should be reduced by operation of these formulae.

Determination of wage rates in State awards, etc.**New South Wales**

The first determination of a standard living wage for adult male employees under New South Wales State awards operated from 16 February 1914, when the Court of Arbitration fixed the rate at \$4.80 a week for the metropolitan area. The first living wage for adult females (\$3.00 a week) was declared by the Board of Trade to operate from 17 December 1918.

From 1926 to 1937 basic wage rates were determined by the Industrial Commission of New South Wales. From July 1927 a State scheme of child endowment became operative in New South Wales (see annual *Labour Report* No. 54, 1968 and 1969, pages 169-71), and this continued until superseded by the Commonwealth Government scheme in July 1941.

From October 1937 to October 1955 the State adult male basic wage for Sydney was the same as the Commonwealth basic wage for Sydney. From the beginning of the first pay-period in November 1955 the State basic wage was automatically adjusted each quarter in accordance with movements in retail price index numbers. (Automatic adjustment of Commonwealth basic wages was discontinued in September 1953.) These automatic adjustments continued until October 1964, when legislation provided that the Commonwealth basic wage for Sydney should apply in State awards and industrial agreements to operate from the beginning of the first pay-period which commenced on or after 19 June 1964.

Between October 1937 and November 1950 the State adult female basic wage for Sydney was 54 per cent of the adult male rate. In December 1950 the adult female rate became 75 per cent of the adult male rate. From January 1963 for male and female employees performing work of the same or like nature and of equal value, the Industrial Commission may prescribe in State awards the same basic wage and secondary wage. In March 1967 the Industrial Commission in Court Session, when considering the adoption of Commonwealth marginal increases for State awards, stated that the general principle in future would be to inject Commonwealth wage increases on economic grounds into the State award structure.

Following the increase of \$1 a week in total wages in Commonwealth awards in July 1967, the Industrial Commission increased award rates of wages and salaries for adult males and adult females by the addition of a fixed loading of \$1 per week, described as 'July 1967 economic loading', to take effect from the beginning of the first pay-period to commence on or after 1 July 1967. Subsequently legislation increased the basic wage for adult males from \$33.50 to \$34.50 per week and

for adult females from \$25.10 to \$26.10 per week to operate from 1 January 1968. The increase of \$1 per week in each basic wage absorbed the 'July 1967 economic loading', which was deleted from State awards and agreements. The legislation also provided for the adjustment of wage rates in State awards by the Industrial Commission subsequent to a decision of the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Commission to vary Commonwealth wage rates wholly or partly on economic grounds. Changes in the State basic wage for adult males shall not be more than the amount of increase in Commonwealth minimum wages for adult males, and the increase in the adult female basic wage not less than 75 per cent of the increase in the male basic wage. The Industrial Commission and Conciliation Committees were given power to include provisions for minimum wages for adult males or adult females in State awards.

The Industrial Commission of New South Wales increased the basic wages for adult males and adult females by \$1.35 a week from the beginning of the first pay-period commencing on or after 25 October 1968. The weekly basic wage rates then became \$35.85 for adult males and \$27.45 for adult females.

The Industrial Commission of New South Wales on 12 December 1969 determined that rates of wages for timeworkers in State awards should increase by 3 per cent and this resulted in increased basic wages, margins and certain loadings. The adult male basic wage increased by \$1.05 to \$36.90 per week and the adult female basic wage by 85c to \$28.30 per week. Marginal rates for adult males and adult females were increased by 3 per cent as also were certain loadings (e.g. shift allowances, leading hand allowances). Junior rates of pay were also increased by 3 per cent. These variations operated from the beginning of the first pay-period commencing on or after 19 December 1969.

On 21 December 1970 the Industrial Commission of New South Wales determined that the basic wage for adult males be increased by \$2.20 to \$39.10 a week, and the basic wage for adult females be increased by \$1.70 to \$30.00 a week, as from 1 January 1971. The Commission also determined that the marginal rates of pay in awards be increased by 6 per cent, to operate from the beginning of the first pay-period to commence on or after 1 January 1971.

Further information on New South Wales basic wages is published in the annual *Labour Report*. State basic wage rates for Sydney are published in the Appendix to *Labour Report* No. 54, 1968 and 1969.

Victoria

In Victoria, Wages Boards are constituted for each industry group or calling from representatives of employers and employees with an independent chairman to determine rates of wages and conditions of work.

Except for the period November 1953 to August 1956, when automatic quarterly adjustments to the basic wage in Wages Board determinations operated, Wages Boards in determining wage rates had adopted Commonwealth basic wage rates. The basic wage rates of August 1956 continued to operate until June or July 1959 when the Commonwealth rates for Melbourne, determined as a result of the 1959 Basic Wage Inquiry, were incorporated into Wages Board determinations.

Subsequent to the decisions of the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Commission in the National Wage Cases of 1967 (see page 260), the Industrial Appeals Court decided that basic wages and margins for adult males and adult females should be deleted from Wages Board determinations and that wage rates expressed as total wages should operate from the beginning of the first pay-period in July 1967. At the same time total wages for both adult males and adult females were increased by \$1 a week.

Total wages for both adult males and adult females in Wages Board determinations were further increased by \$1.35 a week operative from the beginning of the first pay-period commencing on or after 25 October 1968.

On 23 December 1969 the Industrial Appeals Court ordered that wage rates in Wages Board determinations should be increased by 3 per cent operative from the beginning of the first pay-period commencing on or after 19 December 1969. The Court also ordered that a minimum wage for adult males of \$42.30 a week should operate in all determinations from the same operative date.

On 11 January 1971 the Industrial Appeals Court, following the 1970 National Wage Case decision (see page 260) granted a 6 per cent increase to all wage rates prescribed by Wages Board determinations, except the minimum wage for adult males which was increased by \$4 to \$46.30 a week. These increases operated from the first pay-period to commence on or after 1 January 1971, except for determinations of the Shearing Industry Board and the Agricultural and Pastoral Workers Board which operated from 4 January 1971.

For further information on basic wages in Victorian Wages Board determinations see the annual *Labour Report*. Rates for adult males and adult females from November 1953 are published in the appendix to *Labour Report* No. 54, 1968 and 1969.

Queensland

The first formal declaration of a basic wage in Queensland determined a basic wage of \$8.50 for adult males and \$4.30 for adult females to operate from 1 March 1921. Prior to this declaration the rate of \$7.70 a week for adult males had been generally recognised in awards as the 'basic' or 'living' wage.

Since 1961 the full bench of the Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Commission, consisting of not less than three Commissioners, has power to make declarations concerning the basic wage for males and females and the standard hours of work. The basic wage for adult males must be sufficient to maintain an employee, his wife, and family of three children in a fair and average standard of comfort. The basic wage for adult females should be not less than is sufficient to enable an employee to support herself in a fair and average standard of comfort. All persons interested must be given an opportunity to be heard before any general declaration regarding the basic wage is made, and the Commission must take into consideration any probable economic effect of such declaration. From 1 May 1961 the basic wage for adult females has been 75 per cent of the male rate.

In March 1965 the Commission stated that it had been decided as a matter of policy, that in the future, it did not propose to deal with an application to vary the basic wage solely because of a change in the Consumer Price Index, unless such a change warranted an alteration of 40 cents or more in the basic wage for adult males.

Following the decision of the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Commission to increase total wages by \$1 a week in July 1967, the Industrial Commission increased all award rates of pay for both adult males and adult females by \$1 per week to operate from 3 July 1967.

The Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Commission decided on 25 October 1968 that the increase of \$1.35 per week for adult males and adult females granted by the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Commission (see page 260) should flow to Queensland State awards, and that the increases should be added to basic wages and operate from 28 October 1968. The Commission also decided that the basic wage concept should be maintained and that the \$1 increase granted to adult males and adult females in July 1967 should be absorbed in the basic wages.

The basic wage rates payable in the Southern Division (Eastern District) including Brisbane were \$35.55 for adult males and \$27.25 for adult females operative from 28 October 1968. For basic wages in other areas of the State district allowances are added to these rates (see the annual *Labour Report*).

The Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Commission of Queensland on 12 December 1969 declared that the basic wages for the Eastern District of the Southern Division should be increased by \$1.10 for adult males to \$36.65 per week and by 80 cents for adult females to \$28.05 per week as from 22 December 1969. The Commission further declared by way of a general ruling that the ascertainable marginal content of each adult male and adult female wage or salary rate should be increased by 3 per cent from the same date of operation. The rates of pay for juniors were increased proportionally to the adult increases.

On 17 December 1970 the Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Commission of Queensland declared that as from 4 January 1971 the basic wage for the Eastern District of the Southern Division should be \$38.85 a week for adult males and \$29.75 a week for adult females. It further declared that as from the same date the ascertainable marginal content of each adult male and adult female wage or salary rate should be increased by 6 per cent and the guaranteed minimum wage for adult males be increased by \$4 to \$46.80 a week.

For further particulars of basic wage determination in Queensland see the annual *Labour Report*. Tables of basic wages are published in the Appendix to *Labour Report* No. 54, 1968 and 1969.

South Australia

The first declaration of a living wage for adult male employees in the metropolitan area was \$7.95 a week operative from 4 August 1921. The first adult female living wage of \$3.50 a week operated from 1 September 1921.

Before July 1966 the Board of Industry had power to declare after public inquiry living wages to be paid to adult males and adult females. Since that date the power has been vested in the Industrial Commission constituted by the President and two Commissioners. However, the South Australian Industrial Code also provides for the declaration of living wages by proclamation to prevent unjustifiable differences between State and Commonwealth rates of wages. This latter method has been used in recent years to declare living wages.

The State living wage for adult males was the same as the Commonwealth basic wage for Adelaide from February 1950 to July 1967, when basic wages were deleted from Commonwealth awards and total wages introduced. The State living wage for adult females was the same as the Commonwealth basic wage for Adelaide from December 1950 to July 1967 and was 75 per cent of the adult male rate.

Following the increase of \$1 a week in total wages in Commonwealth awards in July 1967 (see page 260), by proclamation the State living wages for both adult males and adult females were increased by \$1 a week to operate from 3 July 1967. Further increases of \$1.35 a week were proclaimed to operate from 28 October 1968. The rates then became \$34.65 for adult males and \$26.55 for adult females.

A minimum wage for adult males similar in concept to the Commonwealth award provisions of a minimum wage (see page 260) operates in South Australian State awards. From 28 October 1968 the rate prescribed was \$38.40 a week.

The South Australian Industrial Commission granted the following increases in State awards from 22 December 1969. An 'economic loading' of 3 per cent of the sum of the living wage plus margins was included in all awards and the minimum wage for adult males was increased by \$3.50 to \$41.90 per week.

On 23 December 1970, the Industrial Commission of South Australia made the following decisions, to operate from 4 January 1971. The economic loading of 3 per cent awarded in December 1969 was absorbed in the living wage and margins; new living wages of \$37.85 a week for adult males and \$29.00 a week for adult females were determined; marginal rates were further increased by 6 per cent; and the minimum wage for adult males was increased by \$4.00 to \$45.90 a week.

For further information on South Australian living wages see the annual *Labour Report*. Tables of living wages are published in the Appendix to *Labour Report* No. 54, 1968 and 1969.

Western Australia

The first declaration of the basic wage by the Court of Arbitration operated from 1 July 1926, when rates of \$8.50 for adult males and \$4.59 for adult females were fixed.

Before December 1966 the Western Australian Industrial Commission in Court Session consisting of three Commissioners (previously the Court of Arbitration) could declare a basic wage at any time on its own motion and must do so when requested by a majority of industrial unions or by the Western Australian Employers' Federation, with the limitation that no new determination should be made within twelve months of the preceding inquiry. Legislation also provided that the Commission (or the Court) might make adjustments to the basic wage each quarter after considering retail price index numbers.

From August 1931 to September 1964 separate basic wages were declared for three areas of the State, namely (a) the metropolitan area, (b) south-west land division, and (c) goldfields areas and other parts of the State. In September 1964, when the Commission increased the basic wage after an inquiry, one rate was declared for the whole of the State.

In December 1951 the basic wages for adult females became 65 per cent of the corresponding male rate, and in January 1960 this proportion was increased to 75 per cent. In each case marginal rates of pay for females were reduced or deleted to offset the increase in the female basic wage.

In December 1966 legislation provided that the Western Australian basic wage rates should be the same as the Commonwealth Six Capitals rates as soon as these exceeded the State rates (\$33.50 a week for adult males and \$25.13 a week for adult females) operative from 24 October 1966.

Following the decision of the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Commission to increase total wages by \$1 a week from July 1967 (see page 260), the Industrial Commission made the following decisions. Wage rates for adult males not in receipt of the minimum weekly wage and for adult females were increased by 60 cents a week by way of a special loading. The minimum weekly wage for adult males (see page 260) payable under certain awards was increased from \$36.55 to \$37.55 a week. These increases operated from the beginning of the first pay-period commencing on or after 1 July 1967.

In October 1968 the Western Australian Industrial Commission decided upon application by trade unions, to increase by \$1.35 a week the special loading of 60c (see above) payable to adult males and adult females, to operate from the beginning of the first pay-period commencing on or after 25 October 1968. At the same time the Commission increased the minimum wage for adult males from \$37.55 to \$38.90 a week.

Legislation operative from 22 November 1968 fixed the basic wage for adult males at \$35.45 and for adult females at \$27.08 a week. These new rates absorbed the special loading of \$1.95 a week which was deleted from awards. The legislation also provided for the Commission to review the basic wage at least every twelve months, the variations in the basic wage to take effect only after the expiration of twelve months from the last variation unless there were special reasons. The Commission was also required, upon application, to insert in awards provision for equal pay for male and female workers performing work of the same or like nature and of equal value. If application for equal pay was made before 30 June 1970 the difference in male and female basic wages would be removed not later than 1 January 1972. The equal pay provisions do not apply to persons engaged in work essentially or usually performed by female workers but upon which males may be employed.

The Western Australian Industrial Commission on 21 November 1969 increased the adult male basic wage by \$1.00 to \$36.45 per week and the adult female basic wage by 80c to \$27.88 per week operative from 24 November 1969. Later, following the decision in the National Wage Case, the Commission increased the minimum wage for adult males in State awards by \$3.50 to \$42.40 per week operative from the beginning of the first pay-period commencing on or after 19 December 1969.

On 26 October 1970 the Western Australian Industrial Commission determined that the basic wage for adult males be increased to \$38.45 a week, the basic wage for adult females to \$29.40 a week, and the minimum wage for adult males to \$49.00 a week, all operative from 26 October 1970. The Commission also decided that awards would provide for additions to award rates for adult males to raise their wage rates for ordinary hours of work to 110 per cent of the sum of the basic wage and margin. This provision would not apply to those adult males who were already in receipt of this amount by virtue of award provisions or otherwise. This provision would operate from the date of amendment of each award, the first such amendment being inserted into awards in December 1970.

More detailed information on State basic wages in Western Australia appears in earlier issues of the Year Book and the annual *Labour Report*. Basic wage rates for the metropolitan area are published in the Appendix to *Labour Report* No. 54, 1968 and 1969.

Tasmania

Wages Boards are constituted for a number of industries from representatives of employers and employees with an independent chairman (common to all Wages Boards) with power to determine rates of wage in each industry.

Except for the period February 1956 to August 1956, when Wages Boards adjusted basic wages in accordance with movements in retail price index numbers, Wages Boards generally adopted Commonwealth basic wage rates. From August 1956 the basic wages in determinations remained unchanged until July 1959, when the rates were made the same as the Commonwealth basic wages.

In January 1961 Wages Boards adopted the basic wage for Hobart as the uniform rate applicable throughout the State. During 1962 a number of Wages Boards provided in their determinations for the automatic adoption of Commonwealth basic wages as and when they varied.

In July and August 1967, subsequent to the increase of \$1 in total wages in Commonwealth awards, Wages Boards varied their determinations by increasing basic wages for adult males and adult females by \$1 a week.

In November 1968 the Chairman of Wages Boards recommended a \$1.35 increase in the basic wage for adult males and adult females in Wages Board determinations. The new basic wages operative from the beginning of the first pay-period commencing on or after 15 October 1968 became \$35.75 a week for adult males and \$27.40 for adult females. The increase also applied to the minimum wage for adult males (*see* page 260) which rose from \$38.15 to \$40.45 a week.

Wages Board determinations were amended as follows, these variations operating from the beginning of the first pay-period commencing on or after 19 December 1969. The adult male basic wage was increased by \$1.05 to \$36.80 per week and the adult female basic wage by 80c to \$28.20 per week. Margins were increased by 3 per cent and the minimum wage for adult males was increased by \$2.55 to \$43.00 per week.

On 19 January 1971 the Chairman of Wages Boards announced that determinations of all Tasmanian Wages Boards were to be amended as follows. The basic wage was increased to \$39.00 a week for adult males and to \$29.90 a week for adult females. All margins prescribed in determinations were increased by 6 per cent and the minimum wage for adult males increased by \$4 to \$47.00 a week. These variations operate from the first pay-period commencing on or after 1 January 1971.

Further details of basic wages in Tasmanian Wages Board determinations are published in the annual *Labour Report*. Hobart basic wage rates adopted by Wages Boards from February 1956 are published in the Appendix to *Labour Report* No. 54, 1968 and 1969.

Annual leave

As summarised in the following paragraphs, the majority of employees in Australia at present receive at least three weeks' paid annual leave. Further information will be found in previous issues of the Year Book.

In its judgment in the Three Weeks Annual Leave Inquiry, 1963, the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Commission said that it would implement its intention of granting three weeks' annual leave generally in secondary industry, subject to special cases. A period of twenty-one consecutive days' leave would be allowed to employees who had completed twelve months' continuous service by or after 20 November 1963.

Employees in New South Wales in private industry, other than those covered by Federal awards, were granted three weeks' annual leave by an amendment to the Annual Holidays Act passed in 1958. In 1964 the State Government granted its employees four weeks' annual leave effective from 1 January 1964. From 29 September 1964 annual holiday pay for employees covered by provisions of the Annual Holidays Act has been calculated on the basis of the employee's current weekly earnings instead of current award rates.

Following the decision of the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Commission in 1963 (*see above*) individual Victorian Wages Boards commenced to alter provisions of their determinations to grant employees an extra week of leave. By September 1963 the majority of Boards had included three weeks' annual leave in their determinations.

In June 1963 the Full Bench of the Queensland Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Commission granted an extra week of annual leave to employees under State awards with twelve months' continuous service on or after 30 November 1963. The decision applied to day-workers and non-continuous shift workers receiving two weeks' leave; continuous shift workers receiving three weeks' leave; and day-workers and shift workers receiving additional leave in lieu of extra payment for working on statutory holidays. The order became effective as from 1 June 1963.

The Full Bench of the South Australian Industrial Court in May 1963 announced an increased standard of annual leave in the State, adopting three weeks as the standard as fixed by the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Commission (*see above*).

Following a general inquiry concerning Annual Leave and Public Holidays the Western Australian Court of Arbitration in June 1963 adopted three weeks as the new standard for the normal period of annual leave in State awards, with four weeks for seven-day shift workers. The date of operation was the same as that decided by the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Commission (*see above*). The standard number of public holidays was retained at ten a year.

Following an amendment to the Wages Board Act in 1961, Tasmanian Wages Boards were permitted to grant employees up to three weeks' paid recreational leave. Between June 1962 and early 1963 determinations of Wages Boards were amended to provide for three weeks' annual leave for employees, to operate from 1 January 1963.

Long service leave

Paid long service leave, i.e. leave granted to workers who remain with the one employer over an extended period of time, has been included in the provisions of Commonwealth and State industrial legislation and industrial awards, and a brief summary is given in the following paragraphs. After fifteen years' continuous employment with the one employer, most employees in Australia are now entitled to at least thirteen weeks' paid long service leave. In all cases the transfer of ownership of a business does not constitute a break in continuity of service with the same employer. Further information is contained in the annual *Labour Report*.

Commonwealth

Until May 1964 the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Commission had not included provisions for long service leave in its awards, and had refrained from determining disputes relating to this subject except in the case of the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory (*see below*). Consequently, until then, the provisions of the various State Acts relating to long service leave applied to workers covered by awards of the Commonwealth.

In May 1964, following hearing of claims for insertion of long service leave provisions in Commonwealth awards, the Full Bench of the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Commission announced its decision that long service leave entitlement would be calculated on the basis of thirteen weeks for twenty years of unbroken employment, in respect of employment before 11 May 1964 (or, in New South Wales, 1 April 1963), and at the rate of thirteen weeks for fifteen years in respect of service after 11 May 1964 (or, in New South Wales, 1 April 1963). After further periods of ten years, employees would be entitled to an additional *pro rata* period of leave calculated on the same basis. Those employees who completed an unbroken contract of employment of ten years but less than fifteen years, and whose employment was terminated by death or by the employer for any cause other than serious and wilful misconduct, or by the employee on account of illness, incapacity or domestic or other pressing necessity, would be entitled to *pro rata* payment. The rates of payment while on leave would be current award rates which would be subject to basic wage changes and marginal adjustments which occurred during the leave period.

Australian Territories. Long service leave codes for employees covered by Northern Territory and Australian Capital Territory awards were originally prescribed on 4 December 1961 by the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Commission in Presidential Session. The Commission decided that employees should be granted three months' long service leave after twenty years' service with one employer, even if part of this service was outside the Territory. In addition, the Australian

Capital Territory code prescribed that employees presently employed might 'go back for a period of 25 years in regard to the calculation of their present or future entitlement of long service leave'. In December 1964 the Commission amended the majority of awards covering employees in the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory by granting long service leave on the basis of thirteen weeks after fifteen years' service.

Stevedoring Industry. The *Stevedoring Industry Act* 1962, which came into force on 19 November 1962, amended the *Stevedoring Industry Act* 1956-1961 by extending the eligibility and qualifying periods of the long service leave provisions of the Act. No changes were made to the entitlement for long service leave, which remained at thirteen weeks after twenty years' qualifying service and six and a half weeks for each subsequent ten years' qualifying service. The *Stevedoring Industry Act* 1966, which operated from 29 October 1966, reduced the qualifying period for thirteen weeks' leave from twenty years to fifteen years.

New South Wales

Long service leave was first introduced for the majority of workers by the Industrial Arbitration Act, 1951, which provided such leave for workers under State awards. This Act was replaced by the Long Service Leave Act, 1955, which extended the benefits to any worker within the State. An amendment to the Act in April 1963 provided for three months' long service leave for fifteen years' continuous service with the same employer and proportionate amounts on the same basis after a minimum of five years' service. The Long Service Leave (Metalliferous Mining Industry) Act, 1963 conferred on certain workers in the metalliferous mining industry the right to three months' long service leave after ten years' service. This Act operated from 1 January 1964.

Victoria

The *Factories and Shops (Long Service Leave) Act* 1953 first provided for long service leave for workers in Victoria, the provisions of this Act being subsequently incorporated in the Labour and Industry Act. Leave provided for was thirteen weeks for twenty years' continuous service with the same employer. Contributions by employers to retirement schemes were to be taken into consideration in dealing with exemptions from the Act.

An amendment to the Labour and Industry Act in December 1964 granted employees, from 1 January 1965, thirteen weeks' leave after fifteen years' continuous service. Workers who terminated their employment after ten years but less than the qualifying fifteen years would be able to obtain a *pro rata* entitlement subject to the existing special conditions of the Act. Following amendment to the Public Service Act in 1964, public servants became entitled to four and a half months' leave after fifteen years' service instead of six months after twenty years.

Queensland

In 1952 the Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Acts were amended to include long service leave provisions for employees within the jurisdiction of the Industrial Court, and the Acts were amended again in 1955 to extend these provisions to any employee in respect of whose employment there was not in force an award or industrial agreement under the Act and to seasonal workers in sugar mills and meat works. Leave provided for was thirteen weeks for twenty years' continuous service with the same employer.

An amendment to The Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Acts was passed and assented to in December 1964, granting employees long service leave of thirteen weeks after fifteen years' continuous service. The amendment retained *pro rata* leave entitlement after ten years' service and operated on and from 11 May 1964.

South Australia

The Long Service Leave Act, 1967 provides for thirteen calendar weeks' leave after fifteen years' service with the same employer and for eight and two-thirds weeks' leave for each subsequent complete period of ten years' service. After seven and before fifteen completed years of service the worker is entitled on termination of employment to proportionate payment in lieu of leave for the period worked, except in certain specified circumstances. Entitlement for qualifying service prior to January 1966 is to be calculated at the rate of thirteen weeks' leave for twenty years' service, and an employer shall not be required to grant leave until the worker's total entitlement is thirteen weeks.

An employer may be exempted by the Industrial Commission from the leave entitlement provisions of the Act provided that the employees are entitled under some other scheme to long service leave benefits no less favourable than those provided by the Act.

Western Australia

The Long Service Leave Act was passed in 1958, but it did not apply to employees whose conditions of work were regulated under the Western Australian Industrial Arbitration Act. The Court of Arbitration of Western Australia in an order dated 1 April 1958 incorporated in most of the awards and agreements within its jurisdiction provisions similar to those in the Long Service Leave Act.

Leave provided for was thirteen weeks for twenty years' continuous service with the same employer. Contributions by employers to retirement schemes can be taken into consideration in dealing with exemptions from the Act.

In September 1964 the Industrial Commission began to amend the long service leave provisions of its awards and industrial agreements to provide for thirteen weeks' leave after fifteen years' service on or from 1 October 1964. *Pro rata* entitlement would accrue after ten years' service. The *Long Service Leave Amendment Act (No. 2) 1964*, introduced in October 1964, was in the same terms as the amendments made by the Commission to the various awards and agreements.

Tasmania

The Long Service Leave Act, which was passed in 1956, provided for thirteen weeks' leave for twenty years' continuous service with the same employer. Contributions by employers to retirement schemes could be taken into consideration in dealing with exemptions from the Act. An amendment to the Long Service Leave Act, assented to on 17 December 1964, granted thirteen weeks' leave after fifteen years' continuous service. The amendment operated on and from 11 May 1964.

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES

Detailed information regarding industrial disputes involving stoppage of work is given in the *Labour Report*. A table showing statistics of industrial disputes for each year from 1913 is contained in the Appendix to *Labour Report* No. 54, 1968 and 1969.

Particulars of all disputes in progress during the year are included in the annual figures, whether the dispute commenced in that year or was in progress at the beginning of the year. Consequently, details of 'the number of disputes' and 'workers involved' in disputes which commenced in any year, and were still in progress during the following year, are included in the figures for both years.

The following table gives, for Australia as a whole, particulars of industrial disputes which were in progress during 1970, classified according to industry groups.

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES^(a): INDUSTRY GROUPS, AUSTRALIA, 1970

Industry group	Number	Workers involved ('000)			Working days lost ('000)	Estimated loss in wages (\$'000)
		Directly	Indirectly (b)	Total		
Agriculture, grazing, etc.	2	0.3	..	0.3	1.0	11.0
Coal mining	191	63.7	..	63.7	178.4	2,235.2
Other mining and quarrying	83	20.8	5.6	26.4	76.5	1,236.4
Engineering, metals, vehicles, etc.	822	335.5	25.6	361.0	625.9	7,880.6
Textiles, clothing and footwear	12	5.2	0.4	5.6	18.2	230.5
Food, drink and tobacco	314	122.0	14.8	136.7	250.6	2,978.4
Sawmilling, furniture, etc.	1	2.7	..	2.7	1.5	15.8
Paper, printing, etc.	33	34.6	*	34.6	68.6	809.7
Other manufacturing	219	70.5	3.8	74.3	125.2	1,588.4
Building and construction	291	218.0	9.8	227.8	642.6	9,009.7
Railway and tramway services	37	65.2	2.8	67.9	49.2	535.0
Road and air transport	72	43.5	0.3	43.8	58.3	773.2
Shipping	40	4.6	0.1	4.7	12.7	150.8
Stevedoring	444	192.0	..	192.0	148.3	1,752.6
Amusement, hotels, personal service, etc.	42	7.9	0.1	8.0	13.1	153.3
Other industries(c)	135	117.7	*	117.8	123.7	1,522.8
Total	2,738	1,304.2	63.3	1,367.4	2,393.7	30,883.3

* Less than 50.

(a) Refers only to disputes involving a stoppage of work of ten man-days or more. (b) Persons thrown out of work at the establishments where the stoppages occurred but not themselves parties to the dispute. (c) Includes communication; finance and property; wholesale and retail trade; public authority (n.e.i.); and community and business services.

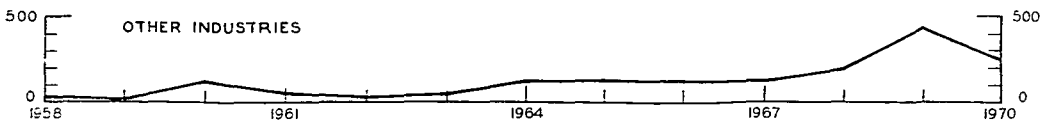
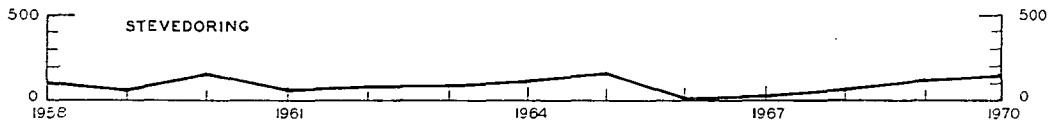
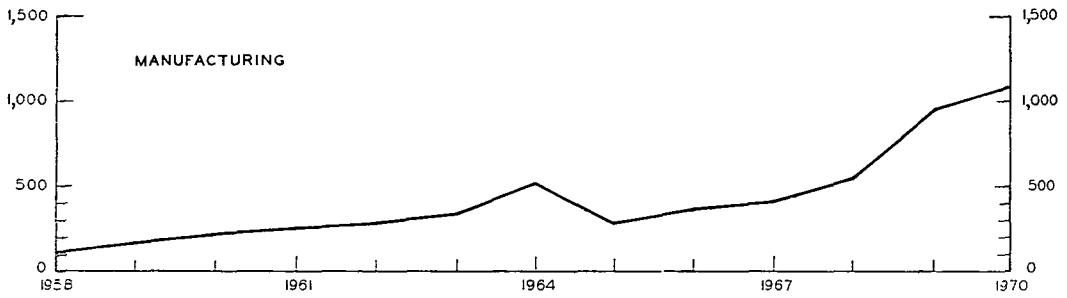
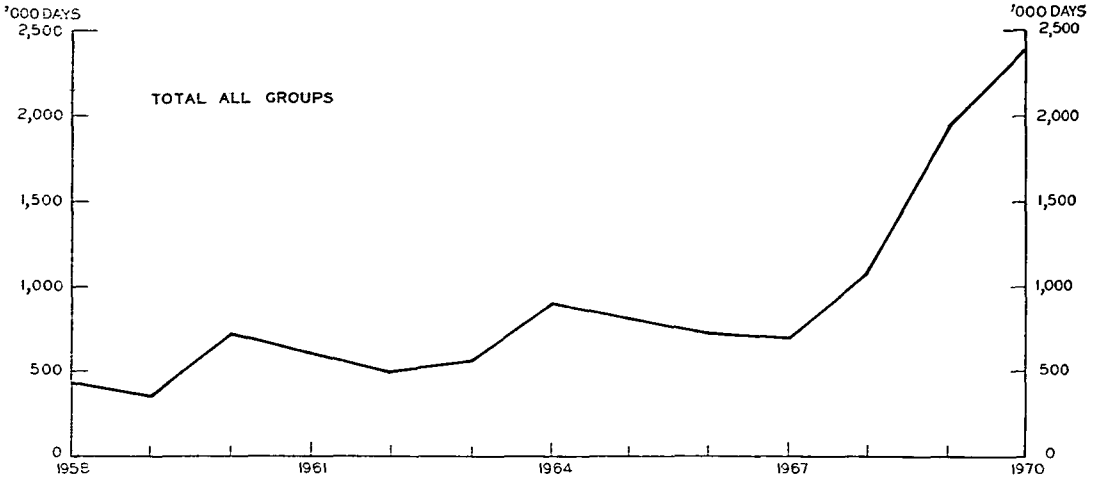
A graph on plate 25, page 269 shows, for the years 1958 to 1970, the working days lost as a result of industrial disputes in the main industry groups.

The following table gives particulars of the number of industrial disputes in each State and Territory, together with the number of workers involved and the losses in working days and wages caused by disputes which were current during each of the years 1966 to 1970.

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES: AUSTRALIA

1958 TO 1970

WORKING DAYS LOST—INDUSTRY GROUPS



INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES(a): STATES AND TERRITORIES, 1966 TO 1970

State or Territory	Year	Number	Workers involved ('000)			Working days lost ('000)	Estimated loss in wages (\$'000)
			Directly	Indirectly (b)	Total		
New South Wales	1966	835	203.7	6.3	210.0	400.1	4,026.0
	1967	836	311.2	9.0	320.2	468.0	4,804.6
	1968	965	345.0	10.5	355.5	583.4	6,653.5
	1969	1,133	507.9	13.8	521.7	743.8	8,666.3
	1970	1,484	703.7	36.9	740.6	1,393.6	17,516.5
Victoria	1966	179	99.6	1.9	101.5	219.6	2,097.2
	1967	212	83.2	1.3	84.5	107.3	1,106.6
	1968	327	169.3	3.5	172.8	243.9	2,731.3
	1969	367	336.7	19.8	356.4	717.2	8,619.6
	1970	447	323.9	9.1	333.0	510.8	6,793.7
Queensland	1966	171	67.1	1.6	68.7	80.7	860.8
	1967	159	45.6	0.6	46.3	88.2	886.7
	1968	193	116.7	3.5	120.2	158.6	1,701.2
	1969	253	215.0	3.5	218.5	238.6	2,523.6
	1970	378	153.7	5.2	158.9	179.2	2,413.1
South Australia	1966	42	8.7	0.1	8.8	20.9	199.7
	1967	55	17.4	0.1	17.4	18.7	199.0
	1968	83	38.0	1.4	39.4	51.1	514.6
	1969	72	101.1	1.7	102.8	129.0	1,551.4
	1970	156	48.9	8.1	57.0	93.1	1,123.1
Western Australia	1966	25	2.9	*	2.9	6.2	64.5
	1967	26	5.0	*	5.1	6.0	62.6
	1968	70	18.3	0.4	18.7	21.8	281.8
	1969	104	57.0	2.1	59.1	101.4	1,284.2
	1970	125	44.4	2.1	46.5	141.1	1,963.3
Tasmania	1966	14	2.5	..	2.5	3.1	34.8
	1967	29	6.2	*	6.2	7.3	82.3
	1968	28	7.5	0.3	7.8	13.0	149.0
	1969	44	8.6	0.1	8.7	9.9	115.3
	1970	66	12.8	2.0	14.8	32.2	451.1
Northern Territory	1966	4	0.3	..	0.3	1.2	17.3
	1967	16	2.7	..	2.7	9.1	113.7
	1968	37	3.7	..	3.7	4.6	50.2
	1969	33	8.0	0.2	8.2	8.7	124.8
	1970	62	11.6	*	11.6	27.0	424.4
Australian Capital Territory	1966	3	0.2	..	0.2	0.2	2.2
	1967	7	0.9	..	0.9	0.8	7.5
	1968	10	2.3	..	2.3	3.0	33.7
	1969	8	9.8	*	9.8	9.4	100.6
	1970	20	5.1	*	5.1	16.8	198.2
Australia	1966	1,273	385.0	9.9	394.9	732.1	7,302.5
	1967	1,340	472.2	11.1	483.3	705.3	7,263.1
	1968	1,713	700.8	19.5	720.3	1,079.5	12,115.2
	1969	2,014	1,244.0	41.2	1,285.2	1,958.0	22,985.7
	1970	2,738	1,304.2	63.3	1,367.4	2,393.7	30,883.3

* Less than 50.

(a) Refers only to disputes involving a stoppage of work of ten man-days or more. (b) Persons thrown out of work at the establishments where the stoppage occurred but not themselves parties to the dispute.

Duration of disputes

The duration of each industrial dispute involving a loss of work, i.e. the time between the cessation and resumption of work, has been calculated in working days, exclusive of Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, except where the establishment involved carries on a continuous process (e.g. metal smelting and cement manufacture).

The following table shows, for the year 1970, industrial disputes in coal mining, engineering, etc., stevedoring and other industries classified according to duration.

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES(a): DURATION, BY INDUSTRY GROUP, AUSTRALIA, 1970

Duration (working days)	Workers involved(b)			Working days lost		Estimated loss in wages (\$'000)
	Number	Number (^{'000})	Proportion of total (per cent)	Number (^{'000})	Proportion of total (per cent)	
COAL MINING						
1 day and less	122	38.2	60.0	33.2	18.6	422.6
2 days and more than 1 day	35	7.9	12.4	12.2	6.8	171.0
3 days and more than 2 days	11	1.2	1.9	2.8	1.6	33.9
Over 3 days and less than 5 days	11	2.0	3.1	8.6	4.8	107.3
5 days and less than 10 days	9	14.1	22.1	115.7	64.9	1,416.3
10 days and less than 20 days	2	0.2	0.3	3.0	1.7	34.5
20 days and less than 40 days	1	0.1	0.2	3.0	1.7	49.8
40 days and over . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..
<i>Total</i>	<i>191</i>	<i>63.7</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>178.4</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>2,235.2</i>
ENGINEERING, METALS, VEHICLES, ETC.						
1 day and less	325	235.3	65.2	121.3	19.4	1,490.3
2 days and more than 1 day	145	50.2	13.9	67.3	10.8	842.3
3 days and more than 2 days	85	20.8	5.8	53.2	8.5	697.6
Over 3 days and less than 5 days	92	25.9	7.2	98.2	15.7	1,242.5
5 days and less than 10 days	119	20.1	5.6	143.4	22.9	1,863.5
10 days and less than 20 days	46	6.3	1.7	80.3	12.8	988.2
20 days and less than 40 days	9	2.4	0.7	60.0	9.6	725.9
40 days and over	1	*	..	2.1	0.3	30.4
<i>Total</i>	<i>822</i>	<i>361.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>625.9</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>7,880.6</i>
STEVEDORING						
1 day and less	377	160.4	83.5	65.5	44.2	801.4
2 days and more than 1 day	33	14.9	7.8	22.0	14.8	250.0
3 days and more than 2 days	11	4.9	2.6	12.1	8.2	137.7
Over 3 days and less than 5 days	11	10.9	5.7	40.5	27.3	457.7
5 days and less than 10 days	10	0.7	0.4	5.1	3.4	69.7
10 days and less than 20 days	2	0.2	0.1	3.1	2.1	36.1
20 days and less than 40 days . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..
40 days and over . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..
<i>Total</i>	<i>444</i>	<i>192.0</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>148.3</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>1,752.6</i>
OTHER INDUSTRIES						
1 day and less	529	540.8	72.0	345.8	24.0	4,302.8
2 days and more than 1 day	252	64.8	8.6	112.0	7.8	1,491.5
3 days and more than 2 days	150	62.9	8.4	164.5	11.4	2,153.8
Over 3 days and less than 5 days	125	25.1	3.3	133.5	9.3	1,783.7
5 days and less than 10 days	159	30.6	4.1	202.3	14.0	2,566.8
10 days and less than 20 days	49	19.7	2.6	313.4	21.7	4,202.9
20 days and less than 40 days	15	6.7	0.9	166.5	11.6	2,436.5
40 days and over	2	0.1	..	3.2	0.2	77.0
<i>Total</i>	<i>1,281</i>	<i>750.6</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>1,441.1</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>19,015.0</i>
ALL INDUSTRIES						
1 day and less	1,353	974.6	71.3	565.8	23.6	7,017.2
2 days and more than 1 day	465	137.9	10.1	213.6	8.9	2,754.8
3 days and more than 2 days	257	89.8	6.6	232.6	9.7	3,022.9
Over 3 days and less than 5 days	239	63.8	4.7	280.8	11.7	3,591.1
5 days and less than 10 days	297	65.5	4.8	466.5	19.5	5,916.2
10 days and less than 20 days	99	26.5	1.9	399.7	16.7	5,261.6
20 days and less than 40 days	25	9.2	0.7	229.5	9.6	3,212.2
40 days and over	3	0.1	..	5.3	0.2	107.5
<i>Grand Total</i>	<i>2,738</i>	<i>1,367.4</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>2,393.7</i>	<i>100.0</i>	<i>30,883.3</i>

* Less than 50.

(a) Refers only to disputes involving a stoppage of work of ten man-days or more. See footnote (b) to table on page 268.

(b) Includes workers indirectly involved.

Causes of disputes

In the following table causes of industrial disputes are analysed in four industry groups and grouped under the following headings.

Wages—claims involving general principles relating to wages, including combined claims relating to wages, hours or conditions of work. *Hours of work*—claims involving general principles relating to hours of work. *Leave, pensions, compensation provisions, etc.*—claims involving general principles relating to these provisions. *Managerial policy*—disputes concerning managerial policy of employers including computation of wages, hours, leave, etc. in individual cases; docking pay, etc.; dismissals, etc.; principles of promotion, etc.; employment of particular persons and personal disagreements; production limitations, etc. *Physical working conditions*—disputes concerning physical working conditions including safety issues; protective clothing and equipment, etc.; amenities; shortage of, or condition of, equipment or material; new production methods, etc.; arduous physical tasks, etc. *Trade unionism*—disputes concerning employment of non-unionists; inter-union and intra-union disputes; sympathy stoppages; recognition of union activities, etc. *Other*—disputes concerning protests directed against persons or situations other than those dealing with employer-employee relationship; non-award public holidays; accidents and funerals; no reason given for stoppage, etc.

For more information concerning these classifications of causes see the statistical bulletin *Industrial Disputes*, December Quarter 1970 (Reference No. 6.6).

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES(a): CAUSES, INDUSTRY GROUPS, AUSTRALIA, 1970

Cause of dispute	Coal mining	Engineer- ing, metals, vehicles, etc.	Stee- doring	Other industries	All industries
Number of disputes—					
Wages	33	416	65	654	1,168
Hours of work	10	2	1	10	23
Leave, pensions and compensation provisions, etc.	3	11	5	18	37
Managerial policy	55	220	162	348	785
Physical working conditions	39	69	125	151	384
Trade unionism	33	97	42	80	252
Other	18	7	44	20	89
<i>Total disputes</i>	<i>191</i>	<i>822</i>	<i>444</i>	<i>1,281</i>	<i>2,738</i>
Workers involved(b) ('000)—					
Wages	5.6	118.9	52.3	328.9	505.8
Hours of work	20.3	0.1	0.1	14.3	34.8
Leave, pensions and compensation provisions, etc.	3.9	8.0	1.6	63.2	76.6
Managerial policy	7.9	45.8	52.5	78.6	184.8
Physical working conditions	7.8	13.0	26.5	26.6	74.0
Trade unionism	7.3	26.7	9.8	15.1	58.9
Other	10.9	148.5	49.3	223.9	432.6
<i>Total workers involved</i>	<i>63.7</i>	<i>361.0</i>	<i>192.0</i>	<i>750.6</i>	<i>1,367.4</i>
Working days lost ('000)—					
Wages	21.7	398.5	85.2	1,018.9	1,524.4
Hours of work	105.3	0.3	*	15.7	121.4
Leave, pensions and compensation provisions, etc.	3.6	5.6	1.5	62.0	72.7
Managerial policy	16.4	81.3	23.7	165.3	286.7
Physical working conditions	12.2	34.1	11.1	51.7	109.1
Trade unionism	11.3	40.6	10.7	28.7	91.2
Other	8.0	65.4	16.1	98.8	188.2
<i>Total working days lost</i>	<i>178.4</i>	<i>625.9</i>	<i>148.3</i>	<i>1,441.1</i>	<i>2,393.7</i>

* Less than 50.

(a) Refers only to disputes involving a stoppage of work of ten man-days or more. See footnote (b) to table on page 268.

(b) Includes workers indirectly involved.

Methods of settlement of disputes

The following table shows particulars of industrial disputes for 1970, classified according to method of settlement, in four industry groups.

**INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES(a): METHODS OF SETTLEMENT, INDUSTRY GROUPS
AUSTRALIA, 1970**

<i>Method of settlement</i>	<i>Coal mining</i>	<i>Engin- eering, metals, vehicles, etc.</i>	<i>Steve- doring</i>	<i>Other industries</i>	<i>All industries</i>
NUMBER OF DISPUTES					
Private negotiation	34	256	45	386	721
Mediation not based on legislation . . . . .	..	4	1	15	20
State legislation—					
Under State Conciliation, etc. legislation	1	37	1	139	178
Reference to State Government officials . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..
Commonwealth and Commonwealth-State legislation—					
Industrial Tribunals under—					
Conciliation and Arbitration Act	2	86	4	94	186
Coal Industry Acts	11	..	..	..	11
Stevedoring Industry Act . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..
Other Acts . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..
Reference to Commonwealth Government officials . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..
Filling places of workers on strike or locked out . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..
Closing down establishment permanently . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..
Resumption without negotiation	143	439	393	647	1,622
Other methods . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..
Total	191	822	444	1,281	2,738

WORKERS INVOLVED(b)('000)					
Private negotiation	17.2	40.8	11.8	128.0	197.8
Mediation not based on legislation . . . . .	..	0.3	*	2.2	2.5
State legislation—					
Under State Conciliation, etc. legislation	*	5.0	*	19.6	24.6
Reference to State Government officials . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..
Commonwealth and Commonwealth-State legislation—					
Industrial Tribunals under—					
Conciliation and Arbitration Act	0.3	21.5	0.5	29.5	51.7
Coal Industry Acts	2.2	..	..	..	2.2
Stevedoring Industry Act . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..
Other Acts . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..
Reference to Commonwealth Government officials . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..
Filling places of workers on strike or locked out . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..
Closing down establishment permanently . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..
Resumption without negotiation	44.0	293.5	179.7	571.5	1,088.7
Other methods . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..
Total	63.7	361.0	192.0	750.6	1,367.4

For footnotes see next page.

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES^(a): METHODS OF SETTLEMENT, INDUSTRY GROUPS
AUSTRALIA, 1970—continued

<i>Method of settlement</i>	<i>Coal mining</i>	<i>Engi- neering, metals, vehicles, etc.</i>	<i>Steve- doring</i>	<i>Other industries</i>	<i>All industries</i>
WORKING DAYS LOST('000)					
Private negotiation	108.5	157.5	9.9	379.3	655.1
Mediation not based on legislation . . . . .	..	1.3	0.1	17.3	18.7
State legislation—					
Under State Conciliation, etc. legislation	*	41.6	0.2	100.3	142.0
Reference to State Government officials . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..
Commonwealth and Commonwealth-State legislation—					
Industrial Tribunals under—					
Conciliation and Arbitration Act	1.2	140.9	2.3	233.8	378.2
Coal Industry Acts	7.9	..	..	..	7.9
Stevedoring Industry Act . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..
Other Acts . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..
Reference to Commonwealth Government officials . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..
Filling places of workers on strike or locked out . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..
Closing down establishment permanently . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..
Resumption without negotiation	60.8	284.6	135.8	710.5	1,191.7
Other methods . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..
Total	178.4	625.9	148.3	1,441.1	2,393.7

* Less than 50.

(a) Refers only to disputes involving a stoppage of work of ten man-days or more. (b) Includes workers indirectly involved. See footnote (b) to table on page 268.

WORKERS' COMPENSATION LEGISLATION

A conspectus of the principal provisions of Workers' Compensation Acts and Ordinances in force in Australia at 31 December 1969 is included in *Labour Report* No. 54, pages 232–43.

LABOUR ORGANISATIONS

Labour organisations in Australia

The figures shown in this section are prepared from a special collection of membership of labour organisations at 31 December each year. The affairs of single unions are not disclosed in the published results and this has assisted in securing complete information. The Bureau is indebted to the secretaries of trade unions for their co-operation in supplying information. More detailed statistics appear in the annual *Labour Report*.

Trade unions

The trade unions in Australia are very diverse in character, and range from the small independent association to the large interstate organisation, which, in its turn, may be a branch of an international body. Broadly speaking, there are four distinct classes of labour organisations: (a) the local independent, (b) the State, (c) the interstate, and (d) the Australasian or international; but a number of variations occur from each of these classes. The schemes of organisation of interstate or federated unions vary greatly in character. In some unions the State organisations are bound together under a system of unification with centralised control, while in others the State units are practically independent and self-governing, the federal bond being loose and existing only for one or two specified purposes. Statistics relating to interstate or federated trade unions are shown in a table on page 276.

Returns showing membership by States and Territories at 31 December each year are obtained for all trade unions and employee organisations. The following table shows the position at the end of each of the years 1968 to 1970.

**TRADE UNIONS: NUMBER AND MEMBERSHIP, STATES AND TERRITORIES
DECEMBER 1968 TO 1970**

State or Territory	Number of separate unions			Number of members ('000)			Percentage increase in membership(a)		
	1968	1969	1970	1968	1969	1970	1968	1969	1970
New South Wales	210	210	208	861.5	884.8	912.3	3.4	2.7	3.1
Victoria	153	152	156	550.7	559.8	591.5	1.0	1.7	5.7
Queensland	135	135	139	334.1	336.4	330.2	-2.9	0.7	-1.8
South Australia	133	135	137	185.6	194.2	202.7	1.9	4.6	4.4
Western Australia	157	153	155	160.9	162.2	168.6	5.7	0.8	4.0
Tasmania	112	112	114	68.2	69.9	73.9	0.2	2.4	5.8
Northern Territory(b)	40	43	45	5.6	5.9	6.6	(b)	(b)	(b)
Australian Capital Territory(b)	70	70	82	24.1	26.0	28.8	(b)	(b)	(b)
Australia	(c) 319	(c) 309	(c) 305	2,190.7	2,239.1	2,314.6	1.8	2.2	3.4

(a) On preceding year. (b) Some unions in the Territories are affiliated with State organisations and their membership is reported under the heading of that State. More accurate reporting of membership by location over the years is reflected in the annual figures for the Territories and this affects their comparability over time. (c) Without interstate duplication see below.

Minus sign (—) denotes decrease.

In the preceding table, under the heading 'Number of separate unions', a union reporting members in a State or Territory is counted as one union within that State or Territory. The figures do not add to the Australian total (shown in the last line) because a union represented in more than one State or Territory is included in the figure for each State or Territory in which it is represented, but is counted only once in the Australian total.

A table showing the number and membership of trade unions in Australia for the years 1912 to 1969 is included in Appendix XVI to *Labour Report* No. 54.

The following table shows the number of unions and members thereof in Australia at the end of each of the years 1968 to 1970 classified according to industry group. The table does not supply a precise classification of trade unions and their members by industry, because where the members of a union are employed in a number of industries they have been classified to the predominant industry for the union concerned. Comparability between years of membership figures for an industry group may be affected by amalgamation of trade unions classified to different industry groups.

TRADE UNIONS: INDUSTRY GROUPS, AUSTRALIA, DECEMBER 1968 TO 1970

Industry group	1968		1969		1970	
	No. of unions (a)	No. of members	No. of unions (a)	No. of members	No. of unions (a)	No. of members
Agriculture, grazing, etc.	3	58.5	3	58.3	3	55.4
Mining and quarrying	12	34.5	12	34.2	12	35.3
Manufacturing—		'000		'000		'000
Engineering, metals, vehicles, etc.	9	352.4	9	363.3	9	389.3
Textiles, clothing and footwear	5	107.3	5	99.9	5	101.7
Food, drink and tobacco	31	125.9	28	134.3	27	143.1
Sawmilling, furniture, etc.	6	34.7	6	32.8	6	32.1
Paper, printing, etc.	5	59.2	5	59.9	5	61.7
Other manufacturing	22	87.6	22	90.4	21	91.8
All manufacturing groups	78	767.1	75	780.5	73	819.6
Building and construction	23	145.5	20	139.1	20	135.1
Railway and tramway services	22	124.3	22	123.7	21	122.2
Road and air transport	11	77.5	12	80.4	13	84.1
Shipping and stevedoring	13	32.0	12	30.6	12	31.1
Banking, insurance and clerical	15	147.0	14	149.0	13	153.2
Wholesale and retail trade	11	89.7	11	88.3	11	86.7
Public administration(b)	71	436.6	69	457.2	70	475.6
Amusement, hotels, personal service, etc.	21	58.6	21	62.4	21	64.3
Other industries(c)	39	219.3	38	235.3	36	252.0
Total	319	2,190.7	309	2,239.1	305	2,314.6

(a) Without interstate duplication. See text above. (b) Includes communication, municipal, etc. (c) Includes community and business services.

Number of trade union members and proportion of wage and salary earners. The following table shows the approximate percentages of wage and salary earners in employment who are members of trade unions. The estimates of total wage and salary earners have been obtained by adding the number of employees in agriculture and in private domestic service recorded at the June 1966 population census to the estimates of employees in all other industries at the end of each year. For this reason, and also because the membership of trade unions includes some persons not in employment, the percentages shown in the table are approximations. In comparing the percentages shown in this table with those shown in the previous issues of the Year Book, allowance should be made for the fact that the present estimates are based on a new series of employment estimates as from June 1966 see Chapter 21, Employment and Unemployment. The change is of most significance for female employees as the new employment estimates include a considerable number of part-time employees who had previously been excluded.

**TRADE UNIONS: NUMBER OF MEMBERS AND PROPORTION OF
TOTAL WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS, AUSTRALIA, 1966 TO 1970**

End of December—	Number of members (‘000)			Proportion of total wage and salary earners(a) (Per cent)		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
1966 . . .	1,657.5	466.0	2,123.5	60	37	53
1967 . . .	1,663.7	487.6	2,151.3	59	37	52
1968 . . .	1,691.1	499.5	2,190.7	59	36	51
1969 . . .	1,717.5	521.6	2,239.1	58	36	50
1970 . . .	1,750.6	564.1	2,314.6	57	36	50

(a) See text above.

Interstate or federated trade unions. The following table gives particulars of the number and membership of interstate or federated trade unions in 1970.

INTERSTATE OR FEDERATED TRADE UNIONS(a): AUSTRALIA, DECEMBER 1970

	Unions operating in—					Total
	2 States	3 States	4 States	5 States	6 States	
Number of unions	11	7	17	27	85	147
„ „ members (‘000)	21.8	23.9	97.1	382.6	1,595.4	2,120.8

(a) Certain unions in this group have, in addition to branches in the States, branches in the Northern Territory or the Australian Capital Territory or both.

Organisations registered under the (Commonwealth) Conciliation and Arbitration Act

Under Part VIII of the *Conciliation and Arbitration Act 1904–1970* any association of employers in an industry who have, or any employer who has, employed, on an average taken per month, not less than 100 employees during the six months preceding application for registration, and any association of not less than 100 employees in any industry, may be registered. However, the Public Service Arbitration Act provides that an association of less than 100 employees may be registered as an organisation under the Conciliation and Arbitration Act if its members comprise at least three-fifths of all persons engaged in that industry in the Public Service. Such organisations are included in the following figures. Registered unions include both interstate associations and associations operating within one State only. Registration under Commonwealth legislation began in 1906. At the end of 1970 the number of employers’ organisations registered under the provisions of the Act was 75. The number of unions registered at the end of 1970 was 153, with membership of 1,939,860, representing 85 per cent of the total membership of all trade unions in Australia. Lists of organisations of employees and of employers registered under this Act are contained in the *Industrial Information Bulletin*, Vol. 26, No. 1, January 1971 published by the Department of Labour and National Service.

Central labour organisations

Trades and Labour Councils. Delegate organisations, usually known as Trades Hall Councils or Labour Councils and consisting of representatives of a number of trade unions, have been established in the capital cities and in a number of other centres in each State. In the centres where these councils

exist most unions or local branches operating in the district are affiliated. The district councils obtain their finance by means of a *per capita* tax on members of affiliated unions. In States other than Western Australia the district councils are generally independent bodies, although provision usually exists in the rules of the central council in the capital city for the organisation of district councils, or for their representation on the central council. Since 1962 in Western Australia separate Trades and Labour Councils, with provincial councils, have been established outside the framework of the Australian Labor Party. At the end of 1963 only the central council (the Trades and Labour Council of Western Australia) was operating, but a number of provincial councils were established from 1964.

The following table shows, for each State and Territory, the number of trades and labour councils and the number of affiliated unions or branches of unions at the end of 1970. The figures for the number of unions do not necessarily represent separate unions, since the branches of a large union may be affiliated with the local trades councils in the several towns in which they are represented.

CENTRAL LABOUR ORGANISATIONS: NUMBER, AND UNIONS AND BRANCH UNIONS AFFILIATED, STATES AND TERRITORIES, DECEMBER 1970

	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A. (a)	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Total
Number of councils	10	9	13	5	3	2	..	1	43
Number of unions and branch unions affiliated	320	274	191	151	127	99	..	22	1,184

(a) See explanation in text above.

As well as trades and labour councils there are councils organised on trade lines and composed of delegates from separate unions whose members' interests are closely connected by reason of their occupations. Delegate councils of bakers, bread carters and mill employees, or of unions connected directly or indirectly with the metal trades, or with the building trades, are examples of such organisations.

Australian Council of Trade Unions. A central labour organisation, now called the Australian Council of Trade Unions, came into being during 1927. The Council was created to function on behalf of the trade unions of Australia, and was founded at an All-Australian Trade Union Congress held in Melbourne in May 1927. The A.C.T.U. consists of affiliated unions and approved State Trades and Labour Councils and Provincial Councils. The State Trades and Labour Council in each State is the State Branch of the A.C.T.U. and it has the right to appoint one representative to act on the executive of the Council. In addition to the four A.C.T.U. officers and representatives of the State Branches of the A.C.T.U., seven delegates are elected by and from Congress, one from each, of the following industry groups: Building, Food and distributing services, Manufacturing, Metal Services, Transport, and the A.W.U. group. The President and Secretary are full-time officials and, with the two Vice-Presidents, are elected by and from the Australian Congress of Trade Unions.

The ordinary meetings of Congress are held in alternate years. The 1969 Biennial Congress was held in September 1969, and was attended by 755 delegates from affiliated organisations, States branches of the A.C.T.U., and provincial councils. Special meetings of Congress are held whenever deemed advisable by decision of the executive, as approved by the majority of its branches, or by resolution supported by unions representing one-third of the total membership of the A.C.T.U.

The objectives of the A.C.T.U. are the socialisation of industry, i.e. production, distribution and exchange, and the utilisation of the resources of Australia for the benefit of the people—ensuring full employment, with rising standards of living, real security, and full cultural opportunities for all. The methods to be adopted are: the closer organisation of the workers by the transformation of the Australian trade union movement from the craft to an industrial basis, by grouping of unions in their respective industries and by the establishment of one union in each industry; the consolidation of the Australian labour movement with the object of unified control, administration, and action; the centralised control of industrial disputes, educational propaganda among unions; and political action to secure satisfactory working-class legislation.

The A.C.T.U. was the first interstate body in Australia with authority to deal with industrial matters of an interstate character affecting the trade union movement generally. It is also the body responsible for submitting to the Commonwealth Government the names of persons suitable for selection as the Australian workers' delegate to the annual International Labour Conference.

Other. In addition to the A.C.T.U., other central labour organisations exist. These include the *Australian Council of Salaried and Professional Associations*, the *Council of Commonwealth Public Service Organisations*, and the *Council of Professional Associations*. Details of these councils will be found in *Labour Report* No. 54, pages 253-4.

International Labour Organisation

The International Labour Organisation (I.L.O.) was established on 11 April 1919 as an autonomous institution associated with the League of Nations. Its original constitution was adopted as Part XIII of the Treaty of Versailles and formed part of other treaties of peace. During the years between its establishment and the outbreak of the 1939-45 War the I.L.O., with headquarters at Geneva, played a leading role in promoting the improvement of labour conditions throughout the world.

In 1940, in order to ensure that the I.L.O. should be able to continue to function freely, a working centre was established at Montreal, Canada. In 1946 the Organisation became the first of the specialised agencies of the United Nations. Under the terms of agreement the United Nations recognises the I.L.O. as a specialised agency having responsibility in the field defined by its constitution, which embraces labour conditions, industrial relations, employment organisations, social security and other aspects of social policy. The Organisation has three basic parts. These are the International Labour Conference, its highest authority, which as a rule meets annually; the Governing Body, its executive council, which usually meets three times each year; and the International Labour Office, which provides the secretariat of the Organisation. The Conference is composed of delegations from the Member States of the Organisation. At the end of 1970 there were 121 Member States, each of which is entitled to be represented by four delegates—two government, one representing employers and one representing workers together with their advisers. Each delegate speaks and votes independently, so that all points of view in each country are fully expressed. The Governing Body consists of the representatives of twenty-four governments and twelve employers' and twelve workers' representatives. Of the twenty-four government representatives, ten are from the ten countries of major industrial importance and fourteen are elected by the remaining governments. These latter fourteen government representatives and the twelve employers' and twelve workers' titular delegates and the deputy members of the three groups are elected by their groups at the Conference every three years. Particulars are given in *Labour Report* No. 54 of the proceedings of International Labour Conferences up to the 52nd Session, held in Geneva in June 1968. For details of I.L.O. conventions ratified by Australia, see *Labour Report* No. 54, pages 257-8.