

## CHAPTER 2. WHOLESALE PRICES AND PRICE INDEXES

### General

Two indexes of wholesale prices of basic materials have been compiled by the Bureau. These are: (i) The Melbourne Wholesale Price Index (now obsolete, *see* page 43), and (ii) The Wholesale Price (Basic Materials and Foodstuffs) Index.

The latter index is also outmoded. New series of wholesale price index numbers relating to materials used and articles produced by defined areas of the economy are being developed. The first of these indexes, the Wholesale Price Index of Materials used in Building other than House Building, was issued on 23 April 1969. A description of, and index numbers from, this index are given on pages 51-64. Work continues on the preparation of two further measures, relating to materials used in house building and in manufacturing industry respectively. Taken together, these first three series will, to a considerable extent, constitute a currently representative replacement for the Wholesale Price (Basic Materials and Foodstuffs) Index. Meanwhile that index has continued to be published in the form shown below as an interim service mainly to meet the needs of those who, for special purposes, require the particular series included.

A special purpose index 'Wholesale Price Index of Electrical Installation Materials' is also published by the Bureau (*see* page 47).

### Wholesale Price (Basic Materials and Foodstuffs) Index

#### 1. General

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. However, since February 1969 the published groups of this index have been limited to the five series shown in the table below.

Commodities in the index are priced in their primary or basic form wherever possible and as nearly as may be at the point where they first make effective impact on the Australian price structure. The prices of imported goods, for instance, are on an ex-bond or into factory basis. The prices used have, in the main, been obtained directly from manufacturers and merchants. With a few important exceptions, they are from Melbourne sources.

The index is calculated on the simple aggregative fixed-weights formula. The weights (quantity-multipliers) are based on estimates of the average annual consumption of the commodities in Australia during the period 1928-29 to 1934-35 inclusive. The validity of the weighting and the representativeness of the index have become increasingly affected by changes in usage and in industrial structure.

## 2. Index numbers

Index numbers for selected groups of commodities, and for all groups combined, for the index of wholesale prices of basic materials and foodstuffs are given in the following table. Currently available index numbers, on the base: Average of three years ended June 1939 = 100, are published in the mimeographed statement, *Wholesale Price (Basic Materials and Foodstuffs) Index* and in the *Monthly Review of Business Statistics*.

## WHOLESALE PRICE (BASIC MATERIALS AND FOODSTUFFS) INDEX NUMBERS

(Base of each Group: Year 1928 = 100)

| Period              | Basic Materials    |                              |              | Foodstuffs<br>and<br>Tobacco | Basic<br>Materials<br>and<br>Foodstuffs<br>All<br>Groups<br>(b) |
|---------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|--------------|------------------------------|---|
|                     | Metals<br>and Coal | Building<br>Materials<br>(a) | Total<br>(b) |                              |   |
| 1928 . . . . .      | 100                | 100                          | 100          | 100                          | 100   |
| 1943 . . . . .      | 103                | 181                          | 135          | 121                          | 126   |
| 1944 . . . . .      | 103                | 183                          | 135          | 123                          | 127   |
| 1945 . . . . .      | 103                | 184                          | 133          | 127                          | 129   |
| 1946 . . . . .      | 102                | 187                          | 131          | 129                          | 129   |
| 1947 . . . . .      | 107                | 194                          | 137          | 137                          | 136   |
| 1948 . . . . .      | 129                | 204                          | 157          | 156                          | 155   |
| 1949 . . . . .      | 160                | 213                          | 175          | 172                          | 172   |
| 1950 . . . . .      | 179                | 258                          | 208          | 200                          | 202   |
| 1951 . . . . .      | 235                | 327                          | 261          | 242                          | 248   |
| 1952 . . . . .      | 299                | 432                          | 304          | 272                          | 285   |
| 1953 . . . . .      | 307                | 394                          | 301          | 286                          | 291   |
| 1954 . . . . .      | 305                | 380                          | 290          | 293                          | 288   |
| 1955 . . . . .      | 314                | 411                          | 298          | 304                          | 298   |
| 1956 . . . . .      | 322                | 466                          | 316          | 309                          | 309   |
| 1957 . . . . .      | 317                | 486                          | 322          | 308                          | 311   |
| 1958 . . . . .      | 311                | 457                          | 304          | 311                          | 304   |
| 1959 . . . . .      | 306                | 445                          | 303          | 319                          | 308   |
| 1960 . . . . .      | 316                | 459                          | 308          | 349                          | 327   |
| 1961 . . . . .      | 310                | 460                          | 303          | 331                          | 314   |
| 1962 . . . . .      | 306                | 460                          | 298          | 318                          | 306   |
| 1963 . . . . .      | 303                | 473                          | 298          | 329                          | 312   |
| 1964 . . . . .      | 302                | 516                          | 303          | 339                          | 319   |
| 1965 . . . . .      | 310                | 531                          | 308          | 355                          | 330   |
| 1966 . . . . .      | 309                | 533                          | 319          | 372                          | 344   |
| 1967 . . . . .      | 312                | 536                          | 318          | 386                          | 350   |
| 1968 . . . . .      | 313                | 548                          | 322          | 387                          | 353   |
| 1969 . . . . .      | 333                | 577                          | 333          | 382                          | 356   |
| 1968—               |                    |                              |              |                              |   |
| January . . . . .   | 313                | 536                          | 319          | 375                          | 345   |
| February . . . . .  | 313                | 538                          | 320          | 376                          | 346   |
| March . . . . .     | 314                | 540                          | 321          | 379                          | 348   |
| April . . . . .     | 314                | 544                          | 322          | 397                          | 358   |
| May . . . . .       | 314                | 544                          | 322          | 405                          | 362   |
| June . . . . .      | 311                | 548                          | 322          | 406                          | 362   |
| July . . . . .      | 310                | 550                          | 321          | 403                          | 361   |
| August . . . . .    | 311                | 551                          | 320          | 391                          | 354   |
| September . . . . . | 312                | 554                          | 322          | 386                          | 352   |
| October . . . . .   | 314                | 558                          | 324          | 380                          | 350   |
| November . . . . .  | 317                | 559                          | 325          | 375                          | 348   |
| December . . . . .  | 316                | 559                          | 324          | 375                          | 348   |

(a) See page 45, 1. General, paragraph 3. Note also that this index is subject particularly to movements in the prices of imported softwood timber, a major component of the group. (b) In addition to the groups shown, includes Oils, fats and waxes; Textiles; Chemicals; and Rubber and hides.

**WHOLESALE PRICE (BASIC MATERIALS AND FOODSTUFFS)  
INDEX NUMBERS—continued**

| Period              | Basic Materials    |                              |              | Foodstuffs<br>and<br>Tobacco | Basic<br>Materials<br>and<br>Foodstuffs |
|---------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|--------------|------------------------------|---|
|                     | Metals<br>and Coal | Building<br>Materials<br>(a) | Total<br>(b) |                              | All<br>Groups<br>(b)                    |
| 1969—               |                    |                              |              |                              |   |
| January . . . . .   | 321                | 560                          | 326          | 376                          | 349                                     |
| February . . . . .  | 323                | 567                          | 329          | 378                          | 351                                     |
| March . . . . .     | 324                | 569                          | 330          | 384                          | 355                                     |
| April . . . . .     | 328                | 577                          | 333          | 387                          | 358                                     |
| May . . . . .       | 330                | 577                          | 334          | 386                          | 358                                     |
| June . . . . .      | 333                | 580                          | 335          | 384                          | 357                                     |
| July . . . . .      | 338                | 583                          | 336          | 385                          | 359                                     |
| August . . . . .    | 338                | 583                          | 335          | 384                          | 357                                     |
| September . . . . . | 339                | 584                          | 335          | 385                          | 358                                     |
| October . . . . .   | 340                | 582                          | 335          | 380                          | 355                                     |
| November . . . . .  | 341                | 582                          | 335          | 378                          | 354                                     |
| December . . . . .  | 344                | 583                          | 336          | 378                          | 355                                     |

(a) See page 45, 1. General, paragraph 3. Note also that this index is subject particularly to movements in the prices of imported softwood timber, a major component of the group. (b) In addition to the groups shown, includes Oils, fats and waxes; Textiles, Chemicals; and Rubber and hides.

## Wholesale Price Index of Electrical Installation Materials

### 1. General

This special purpose index was introduced in 1964 and index numbers, from August 1959 onwards, have been published at quarterly intervals\*. 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 the aggregate cost of materials used in an important part of the building industry (other than house-building).

### 2. 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 in addition to the 'All Groups' index are compiled. The combination of materials selected is fixed as to quantity and quality. A list of the components of the index is set out below with the percentage contribution of each to the All Groups index in the reference base year 1959-60.

### 3. 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.

### 4. 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

\* Since February 1969 published monthly.

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 compiled by the method known as 'the weighted arithmetic mean of price relatives'. Base period percentage value weights are applied to indexes of price movement calculated for each period relative to 1959-60.

**WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX OF ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION  
MATERIALS**  
COMPOSITION AND WEIGHTING PATTERN AS AT REFERENCE BASE YEAR: 1959-60

| Components  | Percentage contribution<br>to All Groups index |
|---|--|
| <b>1. CONDUCTORS GROUP</b>                            | <b>40.00</b>                                   |
| Mains—  |  |
| Insulated cables                                      | 14.79  |
| Glands  | 0.70   |
| Bare copper strand                                    | 0.50   |
| Copper bus-bar  | 3.50   |
|   | 19.49  |
| Circuits—   |  |
| Insulated cables and wire                             | 19.08  |
| Bare copper strand                                    | 1.43   |
|   | 20.51  |
| <b>2. CONDUIT AND ACCESSORIES GROUP</b>               | <b>25.00</b>                                   |
| Conduit and Ducting—                                  |  |
| Metal conduit   | 10.79  |
| Metal and plastic ducting                             | 9.46   |
|   | 20.25  |
| Accessories—  |  |
| Metal and plastic junction boxes                      | 2.59   |
| Metal and plastic accessories—Other                   | 2.16   |
|   | 4.75   |
| <b>3. SWITCH-BOARD AND SWITCH-GEAR MATERIAL GROUP</b> | <b>35.00</b>                                   |
| Bakelite Accessories—                                 |  |
| Mounting blocks                                       | 0.65   |
| Switches  | 1.40   |
| Terminal boxes  | 0.10   |
|   | 2.15   |
| Fluorescent Components and Lamps—                     |  |
| Fluorescent tubes and starters                        | 1.37   |
| Incandescent lamps                                    | 0.58   |
|   | 1.95   |
| Iron Clad Accessories—                                |  |
| Switch plug   | 1.67   |
| Plug top  | 0.64   |
| Other accessories                                     | 1.30   |
|   | 3.61   |
| Switch-board Accessories' Components—                 |  |
| Mild steel  | 3.07   |
| Aluminium bar   | 0.86   |
| Contactors  | 4.90   |
| Circuit breakers                                      | 11.00  |
| Other accessories                                     | 7.46   |
|   | 27.29  |
| <b>TOTAL</b>  | <b>100.00</b>                                  |

### 5. 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 statistical bulletin *Wholesale Price Indexes—Price Index of Electrical Installation Materials*.

### WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX OF ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION MATERIALS

GROUPS AND ALL GROUPS—INDEX NUMBERS

(Base of each Index: Year 1959-60 = 100.0 (a))

| Period                     | Conductors | Conduit and Accessories | Switch-board and Switch-gear Material | All Groups |
|----------------------------|------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------|
| <b>Year—</b>               |            |                         |                                       |            |
| 1959-60 . . . . .          | 100.0      | 100.0                   | 100.0                                 | 100.0      |
| 1960-61 . . . . .          | 99.5       | 102.3                   | 100.9                                 | 100.7      |
| 1961-62 . . . . .          | 98.7       | 102.8                   | 99.8                                  | 100.1      |
| 1962-63 . . . . .          | 96.8       | 103.6                   | 100.5                                 | 99.8       |
| 1963-64 . . . . .          | 93.2       | 103.7                   | 100.8                                 | 98.5       |
| 1964-65 . . . . .          | 110.6      | 104.6                   | 105.2                                 | 107.2      |
| 1965-66 . . . . .          | 105.8      | 104.2                   | 106.6                                 | 105.7      |
| 1966-67 . . . . .          | 120.2      | 105.8                   | 109.2                                 | 112.8      |
| 1967-68 . . . . .          | 119.9      | 106.0                   | 112.5                                 | 113.8      |
| 1968-69 . . . . .          | 119.5      | 107.3                   | 115.3                                 | 115.0      |
| 1966-67—February . . . . . | 122.6      | 106.3                   | 110.1                                 | 114.2      |
| May . . . . .              | 111.3      | 106.3                   | 110.0                                 | 109.6      |
| 1967-68—August . . . . .   | 111.5      | 106.3                   | 110.3                                 | 109.8      |
| November . . . . .         | 123.1      | 105.3                   | 112.4                                 | 114.9      |
| February . . . . .         | 127.7      | 105.7                   | 113.0                                 | 117.0      |
| May . . . . .              | 117.1      | 106.7                   | 114.2                                 | 113.5      |
| 1968-69—August . . . . .   | 112.2      | 106.5                   | 113.8                                 | 111.3      |
| November . . . . .         | 113.9      | 106.8                   | 115.6                                 | 112.7      |
| February . . . . .         | 124.8      | 106.8                   | 115.7                                 | 117.1      |
| March . . . . .            | 124.8      | 109.1                   | 115.7                                 | 117.7      |
| April . . . . .            | 125.9      | 109.1                   | 115.6                                 | 118.1      |
| May . . . . .              | 127.2      | 109.1                   | 116.2                                 | 118.8      |
| June . . . . .             | 131.4      | 109.1                   | 116.5                                 | 120.6      |
| 1969-70—July . . . . .     | 134.8      | 109.1                   | 116.7                                 | 122.0      |
| August . . . . .           | 135.8      | 109.1                   | 118.3                                 | 123.0      |
| September . . . . .        | 141.3      | 109.1                   | 118.5                                 | 125.2      |
| October . . . . .          | 140.2      | 109.2                   | 118.9                                 | 125.0      |
| November . . . . .         | 137.9      | 109.2                   | 119.6                                 | 124.3      |
| December . . . . .         | 143.8      | 109.3                   | 119.6                                 | 126.7      |

(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.

### Melbourne Wholesale Price Index

An index of Melbourne wholesale prices was first computed in 1912. It related chiefly to basic materials and foods weighted in accordance with consumption in the years immediately preceding that date. 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 in the prices, since the year 1861, 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 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, are shown in Labour Report No. 49, page 42.

### International comparisons: Wholesale price index numbers

The following table gives index numbers of wholesale prices during the period 1963 to December 1969, for Australia and other countries. Except where otherwise noted, the average prices in each country for the year 1963 are taken as base (= 100). The figures, which have been taken from the *Monthly Bulletin of Statistics* published by the Statistical Office of the United Nations, show fluctuations in prices in each country, and do not measure relative price levels as between the various countries included.

**INDEX NUMBERS OF WHOLESALE PRICES IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES**  
(Source: *Monthly Bulletin of Statistics* of the Statistical Office of the United Nations)

(Base: 1963 = 100)

| Period                       | AUSTRALIA (a) | BELGIUM | BRAZIL | CANADA | DENMARK | FRANCE | GERMANY (Fed. Rep.) | INDIA (b) | IRELAND(c) |
|------------------------------|---------------|---------|--------|--------|---------|--------|---------------------|-----------|------------|
| 1963 . . . . .               | 100           | 100     | 100    | 100    | 100     | 100    | 100                 | 100       | 100        |
| 1966 . . . . .               | 110           | 108     | 396    | 106    | 109     | 105    | 105                 | 134       | 113        |
| 1967 . . . . .               | 112           | 107     | 497    | 108    | 110     | 104    | 104                 | 154       | 116        |
| 1968 . . . . .               | 113           | 107     | 617    | 110    | 114     | 106    | 99                  | 153       | 123        |
| 1969 . . . . .               | 114           | 113     | ..     | 115    | 117     | 115    | 101                 | 156       | 132        |
| 1968—<br>Dec Qtr . . . . .   | 112           | 109     | 666    | 112    | 113     | 110    | 99                  | 154       | 125        |
| 1969—<br>March Qtr . . . . . | 113           | 110     | 687    | 114    | 115     | 112    | 100                 | 151       | 129        |
| June . . . . .               | 115           | 112     | 707    | 116    | 117     | 114    | 100                 | 155       | 133        |
| Sept. . . . .                | 115           | 113     |        | 116    | 118     | 115    | 101                 | 161       | 133        |
| Dec. . . . .                 | 114           | 115     |        | 116    | 121     | 120    | 103                 | 157       | 134        |

| Period                      | ITALY | JAPAN (Tokyo) | NETHERLANDS | NEW ZEALAND | NORWAY | PHILIPPINES (Manila) | SOUTH AFRICA | SWEDEN | UNITED KINGDOM(d) | UNITED STATES OF AMERICA |
|-----------------------------|-------|---------------|-------------|-------------|--------|----------------------|--------------|--------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 1963 . . . . .              | 100   | 100           | 100         | 100         | 100    | 100                  | 100          | 100    | 100               | 100                      |
| 1966 . . . . .              | -107  | 103           | 115         | 107         | 109    | 112                  | 110          | 112    | 108               | 106                      |
| 1967 . . . . .              | 106   | 105           | 115         | 107         | 111    | 117                  | 112          | 112    | 108               | 106                      |
| 1968 . . . . .              | 107   | 106           | 116         | 115         | 112    | 120                  | 114          | 113    | 117               | 108                      |
| 1969 . . . . .              | 111   | 109           | 117         | 121         | 116    | 121                  | 116          | 118    | 121               | 113                      |
| 1968—<br>Dec. Qtr. . . . .  | 107   | 106           | 118         | 118         | 114    | 118                  | 115          | 114    | 118               | 109                      |
| 1969—<br>March Qtr. . . . . | 108   | 107           | 115         | 118         | 115    | 119                  | 115          | 116    | 120               | 111                      |
| June . . . . .              | 110   | 108           | 116         | 121         | 114    | 118                  | 116          | 116    | 120               | 112                      |
| Sept. . . . .               | 112   | 109           | 116         | 123         | 116    | 121                  | 116          | 118    | 121               | 113                      |
| Dec. . . . .                | 114   | 110           | 120         | 122         | 117    | 126                  | 118          | 121    | 124               | 114                      |

(g) See page 45, 1, 'General', paragraph 2. (h) New series, base 1961-62 = 100, converted to base 1963 = 100.  
(e) Home produced goods only. (d) Revision of series from July 1967.

NOTE: The symbol - on each side of an index number (e.g. -95-) indicates that two series have been linked at that period.

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

### 1. General

This index was introduced in April 1969 and relates to the construction of buildings other than houses. It is the first of a series of indexes which will be prepared as circumstances permit and which will relate to materials used and articles produced by important and defined areas (or 'sectors') of the economy. To a considerable extent it provides an up-to-date replacement for the Building Materials group of the Wholesale Price (Basic Materials and Foodstuffs) Index.

### 2. 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 building 'use-types' (e.g. office building, factory, etc.) directly represented are:

- (i) 'High-rise' flats (in general, those of more than three storeys)
- (ii) Offices
- (iii) Factories
- (iv) Health buildings (i.e. hospitals, nurses' quarters, clinics, etc.)
- (v) Education buildings (i.e. schools, universities, kindergartens, etc.)
- (vi) Other Commercial Premises (i.e. the Building Statistics categories of Hotels, Hostels, etc.; Shops; and Other Business Premises).

The completed values of these types of buildings constituted approximately 86 per cent of the completed values of all new buildings other than houses and low-rise flats in the years 1964-65 to 1966-67 inclusive. Not directly represented are buildings for entertainment and recreation purposes, buildings for religious purposes, and the Building statistics category 'Miscellaneous' buildings.

The index includes 72 items, combined in eleven groups, in addition to an 'All Groups' index. A special purpose index for All Groups excluding Electrical Installation Materials and Mechanical Services Components is also compiled. 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 part, is not applicable to these other activities of the Construction industry. In addition, since the weights are based on an average materials usage over the stated range of building use-types, the index is not necessarily applicable to any specific building or any of the separate use-types.

### 3. 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'.

### 4. 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 form used to obtain particulars of materials used in each selected building was set out on a 'trades' basis in the manner employed 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*. 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 were received for 83 buildings, whose aggregate value was equivalent to approximately ten per cent of the value of building (other than house building) completed during 1966-67. The data from these analyses were combined to obtain a single list of materials and values relating to the sum of all building use-types directly represented in the index. Within each use-type the data were combined in accordance with the estimated relative importance of buildings of different value sizes. The data for the different use-types were then combined in accordance with their relative proportions by value in building commencements in Australia over the three years ended June, 1967. The final step was to combine the hundreds of different varieties, etc., of materials into index items and to determine groupings thereof.

Where, as frequently occurred, any particular phase of a building operation was the subject of a sub-contract, the supplier of the analysis was asked to obtain particulars of materials used from the sub-contractor concerned, or where this was not feasible, to prepare careful estimates from his own knowledge of the job. Failing either of these procedures, the total value of the sub-contract was requested so that estimates based on an average pattern of materials usage in other similar jobs could be made.

Special treatment was given to the trades Mechanical Services and Electrical Services. In these cases only contract values, types of installations and names of supplying contractors were sought from those providing analyses, since they were obviously unable to detail the materials used in these building phases. Necessary data were obtained later from the suppliers of the services.

## **5. The weights**

The weighting pattern used in the index is given below. 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.



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

| Group and item  | Percentage contribution of |                           |
|---|----------------------------|---------------------------|
|   | Item to group index        | Group to All Groups index |
| <b>1. Concrete mix, cement, sand, etc.</b>                                    |                            | <b>10.41</b>              |
| Concrete, ready-mixed . . . . .   | 80.23                      |                           |
| Cement . . . . .  | 8.58                       |                           |
| Sand . . . . .  | 4.66                       |                           |
| Aggregate . . . . .   | 4.56                       |                           |
| Lime . . . . .  | 1.97                       |                           |
| <b>2. Cement products</b>   |                            | <b>3.64</b>               |
| Asbestos cement sheets . . . . .  | 32.40                      |                           |
| Concrete masonry blocks . . . . .   | 32.99                      |                           |
| Pre-cast concrete panels . . . . .  | 19.73                      |                           |
| Other pre-cast concrete products (beams, slabs, pipes and fittings) . . . . . | 14.88                      |                           |
| <b>3. Bricks, stone, etc.</b>   |                            | <b>5.28</b>               |
| Clay bricks . . . . .   | 71.64                      |                           |
| Earthenware pipes and fittings . . . . .                                      | 11.66                      |                           |
| Terrazzo . . . . .  | 10.94                      |                           |
| Building stone . . . . .  | 5.76                       |                           |
| <b>4. Timber, board and joinery</b>   |                            | <b>11.90</b>              |
| Timber—hardwood . . . . .   | 27.11                      |                           |
| Timber—softwood . . . . .   | 12.93                      |                           |
| Plywood . . . . .   | 9.34                       |                           |
| Hardboard and softboard . . . . .   | 4.42                       |                           |
| Partitions . . . . .  | 13.71                      |                           |
| Doors, ready made . . . . .   | 7.07                       |                           |
| Other joinery . . . . .   | 25.42                      |                           |
| <b>5. Steel and iron products</b>   |                            | <b>30.58</b>              |
| Structural steel . . . . .  | 47.15                      |                           |
| Reinforcing rods . . . . .  | 11.68                      |                           |
| Reinforcing fabric . . . . .  | 3.85                       |                           |
| Steel doors and frames . . . . .  | 3.69                       |                           |
| Steel window frames . . . . .   | 1.79                       |                           |
| Steel louvre frames and screens . . . . .                                     | 1.09                       |                           |
| Steel roller shutters and grilles . . . . .                                   | 1.82                       |                           |
| Steel balustrading . . . . .  | 1.70                       |                           |
| Steel angles and sections . . . . .   | 1.93                       |                           |
| Steel suspended ceilings . . . . .  | 1.16                       |                           |
| Galvanised steel decking and cladding . . . . .                               | 9.11                       |                           |
| Galvanised steel sheet and sheet products . . . . .                           | 4.76                       |                           |
| Galvanised steel chainwire partitions and fences . . . . .                    | 1.61                       |                           |
| Galvanised steel wire fabric and ties . . . . .                               | 0.41                       |                           |
| Steel pipes and fittings . . . . .  | 1.99                       |                           |
| Cast iron pipes and other cast iron products . . . . .                        | 2.36                       |                           |
| Hinges, catches, handles, bolts, etc. . . . .                                 | 2.87                       |                           |
| Nails, screws, etc. . . . .   | 1.03                       |                           |
| <b>6. Aluminium products</b>  |                            | <b>6.01</b>               |
| Aluminium window frames . . . . .   | 59.89                      |                           |
| Aluminium screens, doors, louvres, etc. . . . .                               | 8.10                       |                           |
| Aluminium decking and cladding . . . . .                                      | 16.72                      |                           |
| Aluminium downpipe and guttering . . . . .                                    | 6.38                       |                           |
| Aluminium dampcourse and flashing . . . . .                                   | 4.97                       |                           |
| Aluminium sections and angles . . . . .                                       | 3.94                       |                           |

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

| Group and item                                 | Percentage contribution of |                           |
|--|----------------------------|---------------------------|
|  | Item to group index        | Group to All Groups index |
| <b>7. Other metal products</b>                 |                            | <b>2.59</b>               |
| Copper pipes . . . . .                         | 49.11                      |                           |
| Copper sheet and sheet products . . . . .      | 15.43                      |                           |
| Brass pipe fittings . . . . .                  | 16.64                      |                           |
| Taps and valves . . . . .                      | 14.03                      |                           |
| Lead products . . . . .                        | 4.79                       |                           |
| <b>8. Plumbing fixtures</b>                    |                            | <b>1.19</b>               |
| Toilet suites and pans . . . . .               | 29.81                      |                           |
| Hand basins . . . . .                          | 21.66                      |                           |
| Sinks . . . . .                                | 24.18                      |                           |
| Urinals . . . . .                              | 20.60                      |                           |
| Baths . . . . .                                | 3.75                       |                           |
| <b>9. Miscellaneous materials</b>              |                            | <b>7.09</b>               |
| Paint . . . . .                                | 17.31                      |                           |
| Glass . . . . .                                | 18.82                      |                           |
| Plaster and plaster products . . . . .         | 9.36                       |                           |
| Tiles, acoustic . . . . .                      | 9.93                       |                           |
| Tiles, ceramic . . . . .                       | 9.94                       |                           |
| Tiles, vinyl . . . . .                         | 14.46                      |                           |
| Plastic sheeting . . . . .                     | 3.10                       |                           |
| Other plastic products . . . . .               | 4.05                       |                           |
| Insulation . . . . .                           | 8.13                       |                           |
| Building paper . . . . .                       | 2.17                       |                           |
| Bituminous built-up roofing . . . . .          | 2.73                       |                           |
| <b>10. Electrical installation materials</b>   |                            | <b>8.61</b>               |
| Conductors . . . . .                           | 40.00                      |                           |
| Conduit and accessories . . . . .              | 25.00                      |                           |
| Switchboard and switchgear materials . . . . . | 35.00                      |                           |
| <b>11. Mechanical services components</b>      |                            | <b>12.70</b>              |
| Air conditioning . . . . .                     | 59.80                      |                           |
| Heating systems . . . . .                      | 9.33                       |                           |
| Elevators and escalators . . . . .             | 16.32                      |                           |
| Fire protection installations . . . . .        | 14.55                      |                           |

**6. Prices**

(i) *Sources.* 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 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. However, the indicator used for the group Electrical Installation Materials is the separate quarterly wholesale price index described on page 47 of this volume, for which index prices were obtained each February, May, August and November until February 1969 when monthly compilation was commenced. In the Electrical Installation Materials group index observations are therefore quarterly up to February 1969, with the last observed level being used in intervening months, and monthly from February 1969 onwards.

There are some exceptions to the use of local prices in the indexes for each State capital city. In a few cases where suitable price series are not currently available for an item in a given city, imputation is necessary. (See also paragraph 3 of (iii) below regarding calculation.

of some price series prior to July 1968.) For each metropolitan area, 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.

(ii) *Point of pricing.* 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 building other than 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'.

(iii) *Special problems.* Certain practical problems of classification and measurement arise. In the main these involve cases where the manufacturer or wholesaler of a component material is also the installer or fixer of the article concerned. In such cases, it is desirable to isolate that part of such suppliers' activities which may be regarded as on-site building. As indicated in (ii) above, the required point of pricing is that at which the materials enter this area. However, where it has not been possible to obtain a measure of price on the conceptual basis, the nearest realistic price available has been taken.

Discounts also pose special problems. For the purpose of the index the aim is, of course, to determine actual prices being paid. Hence it has been necessary to seek measures of 'special' (as opposed to normal 'trade') discounts. Where these have been ascertained their effect has been reflected in the index. However, because of the forms which special discounts may take and the manner in which they may be applied, it is not always feasible to measure them even on an approximate basis. Nevertheless the problem continues to receive attention, and significant changes in special discounts, to the extent that they are determined, will be incorporated in the indexes. This may sometimes be on a partly estimated basis.

Price series for selected building materials had been collected regularly for a number of years in each State capital city. For the much wider range of materials included in the index it was necessary to obtain, retrospectively, price series over the earlier part of the period covered by the index. In a number of cases these series were calculated using processes of imputation from those for like items or component materials, from those available for other cities, or by extraction of prices from trade journals, etc. Direct collection of price series for all items was established by July 1968.

Some materials which are supplied to individual order, such as structural steel, present special problems in the measurement of price change. In such cases it has been arranged for respondents to calculate and supply prices on the basis of fixed detailed specifications for certain jobs deemed representative.

## 7. Index numbers

The index has been compiled for each month from July 1966, and for the financial years from 1966-67. Index numbers for each State capital city for each group of items and for all groups combined are given in the following tables. In addition, tables showing index numbers for All Groups and for All Groups excluding Electrical Installation Materials and Mechanical Services Components, for the State capitals separately and combined, have been included. 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  
ALL GROUPS INDEX NUMBERS—SIX STATE CAPITAL CITIES**

*(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  |
| 1966-67—            |                      |           |          |          |       |        |  |
| January . . . . .   | 100.3                | 100.4     | 100.4    | 100.3    | 100.3 | 100.5  | 100.4  |
| February . . . . .  | 100.5                | 100.6     | 100.7    | 100.4    | 100.3 | 100.7  | 100.5  |
| March . . . . .     | 100.9                | 100.5     | 100.6    | 100.5    | 100.4 | 100.6  | 100.7  |
| April . . . . .     | 100.9                | 100.3     | 100.5    | 100.3    | 100.2 | 100.4  | 100.6  |
| May . . . . .       | 100.5                | 99.9      | 100.3    | 100.0    | 100.4 | 100.1  | 100.3  |
| June . . . . .      | 100.7                | 99.9      | 100.3    | 100.0    | 100.4 | 100.2  | 100.4  |
| 1967-68—            |                      |           |          |          |       |        |  |
| July . . . . .      | 100.9                | 100.3     | 100.6    | 100.2    | 100.6 | 100.8  | 100.6  |
| August . . . . .    | 101.1                | 100.2     | 100.8    | 100.4    | 100.6 | 100.8  | 100.7  |
| September . . . . . | 101.6                | 100.4     | 101.0    | 100.5    | 100.9 | 100.9  | 101.0  |
| October . . . . .   | 101.7                | 100.5     | 101.1    | 100.6    | 101.2 | 101.0  | 101.1  |
| November . . . . .  | 102.6                | 101.4     | 102.1    | 101.6    | 102.0 | 101.9  | 102.1  |
| December . . . . .  | 102.6                | 101.5     | 102.2    | 101.7    | 102.2 | 101.9  | 102.1  |
| January . . . . .   | 102.6                | 101.6     | 102.2    | 101.8    | 102.2 | 101.9  | 102.2  |
| February . . . . .  | 103.1                | 102.7     | 103.2    | 102.9    | 102.6 | 103.2  | 102.9  |
| March . . . . .     | 103.6                | 102.9     | 103.3    | 103.2    | 102.9 | 103.5  | 103.3  |
| April . . . . .     | 103.7                | 103.1     | 103.4    | 103.2    | 102.9 | 103.8  | 103.5  |
| May . . . . .       | 103.6                | 102.8     | 103.1    | 102.9    | 102.6 | 103.6  | 103.2  |
| June . . . . .      | 103.8                | 102.8     | 103.1    | 103.0    | 102.9 | 103.8  | 103.3  |
| 1968-69—            |                      |           |          |          |       |        |  |
| July . . . . .      | 104.1                | 102.9     | 103.2    | 103.4    | 103.1 | 103.8  | 103.5  |
| August . . . . .    | 104.2                | 102.9     | 103.0    | 103.3    | 103.2 | 103.7  | 103.5  |
| September . . . . . | 104.6                | 103.2     | 103.1    | 103.4    | 103.5 | 103.8  | 103.8  |
| October . . . . .   | 104.9                | 103.9     | 103.5    | 103.7    | 103.8 | 104.0  | 104.2  |
| November . . . . .  | 105.6                | 104.6     | 104.3    | 104.2    | 104.4 | 104.5  | 104.9  |
| December . . . . .  | 106.5                | 104.8     | 105.5    | 104.6    | 104.5 | 104.7  | 105.5  |
| January . . . . .   | 106.8                | 105.2     | 105.9    | 105.1    | 104.8 | 105.1  | 105.9  |
| February . . . . .  | 107.5                | 105.8     | 106.5    | 105.8    | 105.5 | 105.5  | 106.5  |
| March . . . . .     | 107.9                | 106.0     | 104.9    | 106.4    | 105.7 | 106.1  | 106.6  |
| April . . . . .     | 108.3                | 106.4     | 106.7    | 106.5    | 105.8 | 106.1  | 107.2  |
| May . . . . .       | 108.8                | 106.6     | 107.5    | 106.9    | 106.0 | 106.6  | 107.6  |
| June . . . . .      | 109.2                | 107.1     | 107.6    | 107.1    | 106.4 | 106.9  | 107.9  |
| 1969-70—            |                      |           |          |          |       |        |  |
| July . . . . .      | 109.4                | 107.3     | 108.0    | 107.4    | 106.8 | 107.4  | 108.2  |
| August . . . . .    | 109.7                | 108.2     | 108.0    | 107.6    | 107.2 | 107.7  | 108.6  |
| September . . . . . | 110.1                | 108.7     | 108.4    | 108.3    | 107.9 | 108.0  | 109.1  |
| October . . . . .   | 110.2                | 108.8     | 108.9    | 108.4    | 107.8 | 108.5  | 109.2  |
| November . . . . .  | 110.3                | 108.9     | 109.1    | 108.4    | 107.8 | 108.5  | 109.3  |
| December . . . . .  | 110.7                | 109.2     | 109.5    | 108.7    | 108.1 | 108.7  | 109.7  |

(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  
GROUP INDEX NUMBERS—SYDNEY

(Base of each Index; Year 1966-67 = 100.0)(e)

| Period    | Concrete mix, cement, sand, etc. | Cement products | Bricks, stone, etc. | Timber, board and joinery | Steel and iron products | Aluminium products | Other metal products | Plumbing fixtures | Miscellaneous materials | Electrical installation materials (f) | Mechanical services components | 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   | 102.8                            | 103.0           | 104.7               | 104.5                     | 102.2                   | 102.2              | 105.8                | 103.4             | 102.0                   | 100.9                                 | 101.4                          | 102.6      |
| 1968-69   | 105.7                            | 109.0           | 109.1               | 109.7                     | 106.6                   | 106.4              | 108.8                | 102.9             | 102.3                   | 102.1                                 | 107.6                          | 106.5      |
| 1967-68—  |                                  |                 |                     |                           |                         |                    |                      |                   |                         |                                       |                                |            |
| January   | 102.7                            | 102.9           | 104.9               | 104.8                     | 101.7                   | 102.0              | 110.8                | 104.1             | 102.3                   | 102.2                                 | 100.6                          | 102.6      |
| February  | 102.4                            | 102.9           | 104.9               | 104.8                     | 102.2                   | 102.0              | 110.8                | 104.1             | 102.3                   | 104.0                                 | 102.2                          | 103.1      |
| March     | 103.0                            | 103.0           | 104.9               | 104.8                     | 103.0                   | 102.0              | 116.2                | 104.1             | 102.3                   | 104.0                                 | 102.6                          | 103.6      |
| April     | 103.0                            | 104.2           | 104.9               | 104.8                     | 103.2                   | 102.0              | 116.2                | 104.1             | 102.1                   | 104.0                                 | 102.6                          | 103.7      |
| May       | 103.0                            | 105.5           | 104.9               | 105.6                     | 103.4                   | 102.0              | 106.4                | 102.4             | 102.3                   | 100.9                                 | 104.0                          | 103.6      |
| June      | 103.0                            | 106.2           | 106.5               | 105.7                     | 103.5                   | 104.7              | 101.1                | 102.4             | 101.8                   | 100.9                                 | 104.7                          | 103.8      |
| 1968-69—  |                                  |                 |                     |                           |                         |                    |                      |                   |                         |                                       |                                |            |
| July      | 103.0                            | 106.2           | 106.5               | 105.7                     | 104.1                   | 105.0              | 100.9                | 102.1             | 103.0                   | 100.9                                 | 105.2                          | 104.1      |
| August    | 103.2                            | 106.5           | 106.7               | 106.8                     | 104.1                   | 105.0              | 100.9                | 101.0             | 103.1                   | 99.0                                  | 105.5                          | 104.2      |
| September | 103.2                            | 106.5           | 106.7               | 107.2                     | 105.1                   | 105.0              | 101.9                | 100.8             | 103.0                   | 99.0                                  | 105.9                          | 104.6      |
| October   | 103.5                            | 106.5           | 106.7               | 107.3                     | 105.4                   | 106.4              | 102.8                | 100.8             | 102.6                   | 99.0                                  | 106.9                          | 104.9      |
| November  | 103.5                            | 107.1           | 109.9               | 108.3                     | 105.8                   | 106.4              | 103.4                | 101.3             | 102.6                   | 100.2                                 | 108.0                          | 105.6      |
| December  | 106.9                            | 109.9           | 110.1               | 110.5                     | 106.0                   | 106.9              | 107.7                | 102.9             | 101.3                   | 100.2                                 | 108.0                          | 106.5      |
| 1969-70—  |                                  |                 |                     |                           |                         |                    |                      |                   |                         |                                       |                                |            |
| January   | 107.0                            | 110.3           | 110.1               | 110.5                     | 107.0                   | 106.7              | 107.8                | 101.9             | 100.8                   | 100.2                                 | 108.1                          | 106.8      |
| February  | 107.1                            | 110.3           | 110.1               | 110.9                     | 107.4                   | 106.7              | 112.7                | 101.9             | 102.2                   | 104.1                                 | 108.2                          | 107.5      |
| March     | 107.4                            | 110.7           | 110.5               | 111.2                     | 107.9                   | 106.7              | 112.8                | 105.4             | 102.2                   | 104.6                                 | 108.6                          | 107.9      |
| April     | 107.8                            | 110.7           | 110.5               | 112.3                     | 108.3                   | 106.7              | 115.9                | 105.4             | 102.1                   | 105.0                                 | 108.8                          | 108.3      |
| May       | 107.8                            | 111.5           | 110.5               | 112.3                     | 108.0                   | 107.4              | 118.1                | 105.4             | 102.3                   | 105.7                                 | 109.1                          | 108.8      |
| June      | 107.8                            | 111.5           | 111.2               | 113.2                     | 109.9                   | 108.1              | 120.9                | 105.4             | 102.3                   | 107.2                                 | 109.3                          | 109.2      |
| 1969-70—  |                                  |                 |                     |                           |                         |                    |                      |                   |                         |                                       |                                |            |
| July      | 107.9                            | 111.5           | 111.4               | 112.8                     | 109.0                   | 108.3              | 121.4                | 109.5             | 102.2                   | 108.4                                 | 109.4                          | 109.4      |
| August    | 108.0                            | 111.6           | 111.4               | 112.9                     | 109.1                   | 108.6              | 125.5                | 110.4             | 102.8                   | 109.3                                 | 109.7                          | 109.7      |
| September | 108.0                            | 111.7           | 111.4               | 113.0                     | 109.3                   | 108.9              | 128.5                | 110.0             | 104.1                   | 111.3                                 | 109.3                          | 110.1      |
| October   | 108.0                            | 111.7           | 111.4               | 113.7                     | 109.4                   | 108.9              | 126.5                | 111.1             | 104.1                   | 111.2                                 | 109.3                          | 110.2      |
| November  | 108.0                            | 111.7           | 111.4               | 113.7                     | 109.6                   | 108.8              | 127.3                | 114.5             | 104.7                   | 112.5                                 | 109.3                          | 110.3      |
| December  | 108.2                            | 112.0           | 111.6               | 113.5                     | 109.7                   | 108.9              | 132.2                | 117.3             | 104.7                   | 110.7                                 | 109.4                          | 110.7      |

(a) Figures are shown to one decimal place to avoid distortions that would occur in rounding off the index numbers to the nearest whole number.  
(b) The Wholesale Price Index of Electrical Installation Materials is used as the indicator for this group. This indicator was on a quarterly basis until February 1969 when monthly compilation was commenced.

WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX OF MATERIALS USED IN BUILDING OTHER THAN HOUSE BUILDING  
GROUP INDEX NUMBERS—MELBOURNE

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

| Period    | Concrete<br>mix,<br>cement,<br>sand, etc. | Cement<br>products | Bricks,<br>stone, etc. | Timber,<br>board and<br>joinery | Steel and<br>iron<br>products | Aluminium<br>products | Other metal<br>products | Plumbing<br>fixtures | Miscel-<br>laneous<br>materials | Electrical<br>installation<br>materials<br>(b) | Mechanical<br>services<br>components | 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   | 99.9                                      | 101.0              | 102.4                  | 100.8                           | 102.4                         | 100.9                 | 105.8                   | 102.4                | 102.8                           | 100.9  | 101.4                                | 101.7      |
| 1968-69   | 101.1                                     | 103.1              | 107.3                  | 104.0                           | 106.2                         | 104.0                 | 106.7                   | 103.4                | 104.3                           | 102.1  | 108.0                                | 105.0      |
| 1967-68—  |   |                    |                        |                                 |                               |                       |                         |                      |                                 |  |                                      |            |
| January   | 100.1                                     | 100.6              | 102.8                  | 100.4                           | 101.4                         | 101.1                 | 110.6                   | 102.8                | 103.8                           | 102.2  | 100.7                                | 101.6      |
| February  | 99.7                                      | 100.6              | 102.8                  | 100.6                           | 103.8                         | 101.1                 | 110.6                   | 102.8                | 103.8                           | 104.0  | 102.3                                | 102.7      |
| March     | 99.7                                      | 100.6              | 102.8                  | 100.7                           | 103.8                         | 101.1                 | 116.4                   | 102.8                | 103.8                           | 104.0  | 102.7                                | 102.9      |
| April     | 99.7                                      | 102.4              | 102.8                  | 102.0                           | 104.0                         | 101.1                 | 116.4                   | 102.8                | 103.8                           | 104.0  | 102.7                                | 103.1      |
| May       | 99.7                                      | 102.4              | 102.8                  | 102.0                           | 104.0                         | 101.0                 | 106.3                   | 102.8                | 103.8                           | 100.9  | 104.1                                | 102.8      |
| June      | 99.7                                      | 102.4              | 103.0                  | 102.1                           | 104.0                         | 101.1                 | 101.3                   | 102.8                | 104.0                           | 100.9  | 104.8                                | 102.8      |
| 1968-69—  |   |                    |                        |                                 |                               |                       |                         |                      |                                 |  |                                      |            |
| July      | 99.7                                      | 102.4              | 103.2                  | 102.2                           | 104.0                         | 102.3                 | 98.7                    | 102.8                | 104.1                           | 100.9  | 105.5                                | 102.9      |
| August    | 99.7                                      | 102.4              | 104.4                  | 102.2                           | 104.0                         | 103.3                 | 99.1                    | 102.8                | 104.1                           | 99.0   | 105.8                                | 102.9      |
| September | 99.7                                      | 102.4              | 104.5                  | 102.3                           | 104.0                         | 103.0                 | 101.7                   | 103.2                | 104.1                           | 99.0   | 106.2                                | 103.2      |
| October   | 101.5                                     | 102.4              | 107.8                  | 103.1                           | 104.5                         | 104.4                 | 102.4                   | 103.2                | 104.0                           | 99.0   | 107.2                                | 103.9      |
| November  | 101.5                                     | 102.4              | 108.1                  | 103.6                           | 105.7                         | 104.4                 | 103.5                   | 102.8                | 104.0                           | 100.2  | 108.3                                | 104.6      |
| December  | 101.5                                     | 102.4              | 108.1                  | 103.6                           | 106.0                         | 104.6                 | 105.4                   | 102.8                | 104.0                           | 100.2  | 108.4                                | 104.8      |
| 1969-70—  |   |                    |                        |                                 |                               |                       |                         |                      |                                 |  |                                      |            |
| January   | 101.5                                     | 102.4              | 108.4                  | 103.8                           | 107.2                         | 105.0                 | 104.5                   | 102.8                | 104.0                           | 100.2  | 108.4                                | 105.2      |
| February  | 101.5                                     | 102.4              | 108.7                  | 104.6                           | 107.4                         | 104.2                 | 109.0                   | 102.3                | 104.3                           | 104.1  | 108.5                                | 105.8      |
| March     | 101.5                                     | 102.4              | 108.7                  | 104.7                           | 107.7                         | 103.7                 | 109.5                   | 103.1                | 104.4                           | 104.6  | 108.9                                | 106.0      |
| April     | 101.7                                     | 104.7              | 108.7                  | 105.5                           | 107.8                         | 104.2                 | 112.5                   | 105.1                | 104.4                           | 105.0  | 109.1                                | 106.4      |
| May       | 101.7                                     | 105.6              | 108.7                  | 105.6                           | 107.8                         | 104.2                 | 114.8                   | 105.2                | 104.8                           | 105.7  | 109.5                                | 106.6      |
| June      | 101.7                                     | 105.6              | 108.7                  | 106.7                           | 107.8                         | 105.0                 | 118.8                   | 105.2                | 104.8                           | 107.2  | 109.6                                | 107.1      |
| 1969-70—  |   |                    |                        |                                 |                               |                       |                         |                      |                                 |  |                                      |            |
| July      | 101.8                                     | 106.1              | 108.7                  | 106.9                           | 107.8                         | 105.3                 | 118.9                   | 106.1                | 104.8                           | 108.4  | 109.7                                | 107.3      |
| August    | 107.4                                     | 106.6              | 108.7                  | 107.9                           | 107.9                         | 106.0                 | 119.5                   | 109.5                | 105.2                           | 109.3  | 110.0                                | 108.2      |
| September | 107.4                                     | 107.1              | 109.0                  | 108.0                           | 108.4                         | 106.0                 | 125.1                   | 110.8                | 105.5                           | 111.3  | 109.6                                | 108.7      |
| October   | 107.0                                     | 107.5              | 109.0                  | 108.5                           | 108.5                         | 107.6                 | 122.5                   | 110.6                | 105.8                           | 111.2  | 109.6                                | 108.8      |
| November  | 107.0                                     | 108.3              | 109.0                  | 108.0                           | 108.8                         | 107.6                 | 122.8                   | 110.7                | 106.3                           | 110.5  | 109.6                                | 108.9      |
| December  | 107.1                                     | 108.2              | 109.1                  | 108.0                           | 108.9                         | 107.6                 | 124.7                   | 111.0                | 106.4                           | 112.7  | 109.7                                | 109.2      |

(a) Figures are shown to one decimal place to avoid distortions that would occur in rounding off the index numbers to the nearest whole number.  
(b) The Wholesale Price Index of Electrical Installation Materials is used as the indicator for this group. This indicator was on a quarterly basis until February 1969 when monthly compilation was commenced.

WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX OF MATERIALS USED IN BUILDING OTHER THAN HOUSE BUILDING  
GROUP INDEX NUMBERS—BRISBANE

(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 | Other metal products | Plumbing fixtures | Miscellaneous materials | Electrical installation materials (b) | Mechanical services components | 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   | 100.5                            | 107.0           | 107.8               | 107.5                     | 106.2                   | 101.6              | 103.4                | 103.5             | 102.6                   | 100.9                                 | 101.5                          | 102.2      |
| 1968-69   | 100.5                            | 107.0           | 107.8               | 107.5                     | 106.2                   | 101.6              | 103.4                | 103.5             | 102.6                   | 102.1                                 | 107.6                          | 105.1      |
| 1967-68—  |                                  |                 |                     |                           |                         |                    |                      |                   |                         |                                       |                                |            |
| January   | 100.8                            | 101.4           | 104.0               | 104.2                     | 101.4                   | 101.7              | 111.0                | 102.7             | 103.1                   | 102.2                                 | 100.7                          | 102.2      |
| February  | 100.8                            | 100.9           | 104.0               | 104.2                     | 103.7                   | 101.7              | 111.0                | 102.7             | 103.1                   | 104.0                                 | 102.3                          | 103.2      |
| March     | 100.8                            | 100.9           | 104.0               | 104.2                     | 103.4                   | 101.7              | 116.5                | 102.7             | 103.1                   | 104.0                                 | 102.7                          | 103.3      |
| April     | 100.8                            | 102.7           | 104.0               | 104.2                     | 103.5                   | 101.7              | 116.5                | 102.7             | 103.1                   | 104.0                                 | 102.7                          | 103.4      |
| May       | 100.8                            | 102.7           | 104.0               | 104.2                     | 103.5                   | 101.7              | 106.7                | 102.7             | 103.1                   | 100.9                                 | 104.1                          | 103.1      |
| June      | 100.8                            | 102.7           | 104.0               | 104.8                     | 103.5                   | 101.7              | 101.3                | 102.7             | 103.1                   | 100.9                                 | 104.8                          | 103.1      |
| 1968-69—  |                                  |                 |                     |                           |                         |                    |                      |                   |                         |                                       |                                |            |
| July      | 100.8                            | 102.5           | 104.0               | 104.8                     | 103.5                   | 101.7              | 101.3                | 102.7             | 103.1                   | 100.9                                 | 105.2                          | 103.2      |
| August    | 100.8                            | 102.5           | 104.0               | 104.8                     | 103.5                   | 101.7              | 101.3                | 102.7             | 103.3                   | 99.0                                  | 105.5                          | 103.0      |
| September | 100.8                            | 102.5           | 104.3               | 104.8                     | 103.5                   | 101.1              | 101.4                | 102.7             | 103.4                   | 99.0                                  | 106.0                          | 103.1      |
| October   | 95.8                             | 102.5           | 104.3               | 104.8                     | 105.9                   | 101.3              | 102.4                | 102.5             | 103.3                   | 99.0                                  | 106.9                          | 103.5      |
| November  | 94.8                             | 104.7           | 109.2               | 107.7                     | 105.9                   | 101.3              | 102.4                | 103.0             | 103.3                   | 100.2                                 | 108.0                          | 104.3      |
| December  | 104.2                            | 104.7           | 109.6               | 108.0                     | 106.3                   | 101.3              | 102.2                | 102.6             | 103.8                   | 100.2                                 | 108.1                          | 105.5      |
| 1969-70—  |                                  |                 |                     |                           |                         |                    |                      |                   |                         |                                       |                                |            |
| January   | 104.2                            | 104.7           | 109.6               | 108.1                     | 107.6                   | 101.4              | 102.9                | 102.6             | 103.7                   | 100.2                                 | 108.1                          | 105.9      |
| February  | 104.1                            | 107.9           | 109.6               | 108.2                     | 108.1                   | 101.5              | 103.8                | 102.6             | 103.5                   | 104.1                                 | 108.2                          | 106.5      |
| March     | 89.1                             | 109.3           | 109.6               | 109.0                     | 106.9                   | 101.7              | 105.1                | 104.2             | 103.8                   | 104.6                                 | 108.6                          | 104.9      |
| April     | 103.7                            | 113.9           | 109.6               | 109.6                     | 107.0                   | 101.7              | 100.9                | 105.3             | 104.0                   | 105.0                                 | 108.8                          | 106.7      |
| May       | 103.7                            | 114.4           | 109.6               | 110.2                     | 108.6                   | 101.7              | 106.5                | 105.3             | 104.1                   | 105.7                                 | 109.2                          | 107.5      |
| June      | 104.3                            | 114.1           | 109.7               | 110.2                     | 107.8                   | 102.4              | 110.5                | 105.4             | 104.1                   | 107.2                                 | 109.3                          | 107.6      |
| 1969-70—  |                                  |                 |                     |                           |                         |                    |                      |                   |                         |                                       |                                |            |
| July      | 105.2                            | 114.1           | 110.5               | 110.2                     | 107.8                   | 102.4              | 112.0                | 107.6             | 104.1                   | 108.4                                 | 109.4                          | 108.0      |
| August    | 105.2                            | 114.1           | 110.5               | 110.4                     | 107.5                   | 102.4              | 112.8                | 108.1             | 103.7                   | 109.3                                 | 109.7                          | 108.0      |
| September | 105.2                            | 114.7           | 110.5               | 110.4                     | 107.9                   | 103.3              | 113.3                | 108.2             | 104.4                   | 111.3                                 | 109.3                          | 108.4      |
| October   | 105.2                            | 115.8           | 116.2               | 110.3                     | 108.1                   | 103.3              | 114.3                | 110.5             | 105.4                   | 111.2                                 | 109.2                          | 108.9      |
| November  | 105.2                            | 115.8           | 116.2               | 110.7                     | 108.7                   | 103.3              | 114.5                | 110.7             | 105.6                   | 110.5                                 | 109.3                          | 109.1      |
| December  | 105.2                            | 116.2           | 116.4               | 110.9                     | 108.7                   | 103.3              | 120.8                | 113.4             | 105.7                   | 112.7                                 | 109.3                          | 109.5      |

(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. (b) The Wholesale Price Index of Electrical Installation Materials is used as the indicator for this group. This indicator was on a quarterly basis until February 1969 when monthly compilation was commenced.

WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX OF MATERIALS USED IN BUILDING OTHER THAN HOUSE BUILDING  
GROUP INDEX NUMBERS—ADELAIDE

(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 | Other metal products | Plumbing fixtures | Miscellaneous materials | Electrical installation materials (b) | Mechanical services components | 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   | 101.2                            | 101.9           | 104.5               | 101.5                    | 102.3                   | 100.1              | 106.0                | 102.7             | 101.1                   | 100.9                                 | 101.4                          | 101.8      |
| 1968-69   | 105.3                            | 107.6           | 108.7               | 105.1                    | 105.3                   | 99.2               | 105.2                | 103.5             | 103.1                   | 102.1                                 | 107.7                          | 105.0      |
| 1967-68—  |                                  |                 |                     |                          |                         |                    |                      |                   |                         |                                       |                                |            |
| January   | 101.8                            | 102.2           | 105.8               | 101.4                    | 101.2                   | 100.1              | 110.8                | 103.1             | 100.9                   | 102.2                                 | 100.6                          | 101.8      |
| February  | 101.5                            | 102.2           | 105.8               | 101.4                    | 103.9                   | 100.1              | 110.8                | 103.1             | 101.4                   | 104.0                                 | 102.2                          | 102.9      |
| March     | 101.5                            | 102.2           | 105.8               | 101.9                    | 103.9                   | 100.1              | 116.5                | 103.1             | 101.4                   | 104.0                                 | 102.6                          | 103.2      |
| April     | 101.5                            | 102.2           | 105.8               | 101.9                    | 104.0                   | 100.1              | 116.5                | 103.1             | 101.4                   | 104.0                                 | 102.6                          | 103.2      |
| May       | 101.5                            | 102.9           | 105.8               | 101.9                    | 104.1                   | 100.1              | 106.4                | 103.1             | 101.4                   | 100.9                                 | 104.0                          | 102.9      |
| June      | 101.5                            | 102.9           | 105.8               | 102.2                    | 104.2                   | 100.2              | 101.9                | 103.1             | 101.5                   | 100.9                                 | 104.7                          | 103.0      |
| 1968-69—  |                                  |                 |                     |                          |                         |                    |                      |                   |                         |                                       |                                |            |
| July      | 104.6                            | 102.9           | 105.8               | 102.3                    | 104.2                   | 100.4              | 100.6                | 103.2             | 102.0                   | 100.9                                 | 105.1                          | 103.4      |
| August    | 104.6                            | 102.9           | 105.8               | 102.8                    | 104.2                   | 99.2               | 100.6                | 102.8             | 102.0                   | 99.0                                  | 105.5                          | 103.3      |
| September | 105.0                            | 102.9           | 105.8               | 102.8                    | 104.4                   | 99.2               | 100.6                | 102.8             | 101.8                   | 99.0                                  | 105.9                          | 103.4      |
| October   | 105.3                            | 106.4           | 105.8               | 103.1                    | 104.4                   | 99.2               | 101.2                | 102.8             | 101.4                   | 99.0                                  | 106.9                          | 103.7      |
| November  | 105.5                            | 106.4           | 106.4               | 103.9                    | 104.5                   | 99.2               | 101.2                | 102.7             | 101.7                   | 100.2                                 | 108.0                          | 104.2      |
| December  | 105.4                            | 109.6           | 110.4               | 104.2                    | 104.7                   | 99.2               | 102.9                | 102.7             | 102.2                   | 100.2                                 | 108.0                          | 104.6      |
| 1969-70—  |                                  |                 |                     |                          |                         |                    |                      |                   |                         |                                       |                                |            |
| January   | 105.5                            | 109.6           | 110.4               | 105.0                    | 105.5                   | 99.4               | 103.2                | 102.7             | 102.9                   | 100.2                                 | 108.0                          | 105.1      |
| February  | 105.4                            | 109.6           | 110.4               | 105.2                    | 105.8                   | 99.4               | 108.0                | 102.7             | 104.3                   | 104.1                                 | 108.2                          | 105.8      |
| March     | 105.5                            | 109.6           | 110.9               | 107.7                    | 106.6                   | 98.7               | 108.0                | 104.5             | 104.3                   | 104.6                                 | 108.6                          | 106.4      |
| April     | 105.5                            | 109.6           | 110.9               | 107.7                    | 106.6                   | 98.7               | 109.7                | 104.8             | 104.4                   | 105.0                                 | 108.8                          | 106.5      |
| May       | 105.6                            | 110.6           | 110.9               | 108.3                    | 106.6                   | 98.7               | 112.7                | 104.8             | 105.2                   | 105.7                                 | 109.1                          | 106.9      |
| June      | 105.6                            | 110.6           | 110.9               | 108.4                    | 106.5                   | 99.3               | 114.6                | 104.9             | 105.5                   | 107.2                                 | 109.3                          | 107.1      |
| 1969-70—  |                                  |                 |                     |                          |                         |                    |                      |                   |                         |                                       |                                |            |
| July      | 105.6                            | 110.6           | 110.9               | 108.4                    | 106.6                   | 99.3               | 116.8                | 106.0             | 106.8                   | 108.4                                 | 109.4                          | 107.4      |
| August    | 105.6                            | 110.6           | 110.9               | 108.4                    | 106.6                   | 99.3               | 119.7                | 106.0             | 106.8                   | 109.3                                 | 109.6                          | 107.6      |
| September | 107.0                            | 111.9           | 110.9               | 108.8                    | 107.1                   | 99.3               | 126.3                | 106.4             | 106.8                   | 111.3                                 | 109.2                          | 108.3      |
| October   | 108.5                            | 111.9           | 110.9               | 108.8                    | 107.1                   | 99.3               | 122.6                | 108.8             | 106.8                   | 111.2                                 | 109.2                          | 108.4      |
| November  | 108.5                            | 111.9           | 110.9               | 108.8                    | 107.1                   | 99.3               | 123.6                | 110.3             | 106.8                   | 110.5                                 | 109.3                          | 108.4      |
| December  | 108.6                            | 111.9           | 110.9               | 108.8                    | 107.1                   | 99.3               | 127.8                | 111.9             | 106.8                   | 112.7                                 | 109.3                          | 108.7      |

(a) Figures are shown to one decimal place to avoid distortions that would occur in rounding off the index numbers to the nearest whole number. (b) The Wholesale Price Index of Electrical Installation Materials is used as the indicator for this group. This indicator was on a quarterly basis until February 1969 when monthly compilation was commenced.



WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX OF MATERIALS USED IN BUILDING OTHER THAN HOUSE BUILDING  
GROUP INDEX NUMBERS—PERTH

(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 | Other metal products | Plumbing fixtures | Miscellaneous materials | Electrical installation materials (b) | Mechanical services components | 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   | 100.6                            | 104.3           | 103.0               | 104.1                     | 101.7                   | 99.7               | 105.7                | 101.7             | 102.7                   | 100.9                                 | 101.4                          | 102.0      |
| 1968-69   | 101.4                            | 108.1           | 106.2               | 108.0                     | 104.2                   | 101.8              | 106.4                | 103.4             | 103.9                   | 102.1                                 | 107.5                          | 104.7      |
| 1967-68—  |                                  |                 |                     |                           |                         |                    |                      |                   |                         |                                       |                                |            |
| January   | 100.6                            | 103.9           | 103.0               | 104.3                     | 101.8                   | 99.7               | 110.7                | 101.8             | 103.2                   | 102.2                                 | 100.6                          | 102.2      |
| February  | 100.6                            | 104.9           | 103.0               | 104.3                     | 101.8                   | 99.7               | 110.7                | 101.8             | 103.6                   | 104.0                                 | 102.2                          | 102.6      |
| March     | 100.6                            | 104.8           | 103.0               | 104.7                     | 101.8                   | 99.7               | 116.1                | 101.8             | 103.6                   | 104.0                                 | 102.7                          | 102.9      |
| April     | 100.6                            | 106.4           | 103.0               | 104.8                     | 101.8                   | 99.7               | 116.1                | 101.8             | 103.6                   | 104.0                                 | 102.7                          | 102.9      |
| May       | 100.6                            | 106.4           | 103.0               | 104.8                     | 102.0                   | 99.7               | 106.3                | 101.8             | 103.6                   | 100.9                                 | 104.0                          | 102.6      |
| June      | 101.2                            | 106.4           | 103.3               | 105.2                     | 102.8                   | 99.2               | 100.9                | 101.9             | 103.6                   | 100.9                                 | 104.8                          | 102.9      |
| 1968-69—  |                                  |                 |                     |                           |                         |                    |                      |                   |                         |                                       |                                |            |
| July      | 101.2                            | 106.4           | 104.8               | 105.2                     | 102.8                   | 99.7               | 100.7                | 101.9             | 103.6                   | 100.9                                 | 105.1                          | 103.1      |
| August    | 101.2                            | 106.4           | 105.0               | 106.3                     | 102.8                   | 100.2              | 100.9                | 101.9             | 103.8                   | 99.0                                  | 105.4                          | 103.2      |
| September | 101.3                            | 106.4           | 105.0               | 107.2                     | 103.6                   | 100.2              | 100.0                | 101.9             | 103.8                   | 99.0                                  | 105.8                          | 103.5      |
| October   | 101.3                            | 106.9           | 105.0               | 107.4                     | 103.5                   | 102.2              | 101.0                | 101.9             | 103.8                   | 99.0                                  | 106.8                          | 103.8      |
| November  | 101.3                            | 107.7           | 106.1               | 107.9                     | 104.0                   | 102.2              | 101.0                | 101.9             | 103.8                   | 100.2                                 | 107.8                          | 104.4      |
| December  | 101.3                            | 108.1           | 106.3               | 108.2                     | 104.1                   | 102.4              | 103.0                | 103.5             | 103.8                   | 100.2                                 | 107.9                          | 104.5      |
| 1969-70—  |                                  |                 |                     |                           |                         |                    |                      |                   |                         |                                       |                                |            |
| January   | 101.3                            | 108.8           | 106.3               | 108.3                     | 104.6                   | 102.4              | 105.2                | 104.5             | 103.8                   | 100.2                                 | 107.9                          | 104.8      |
| February  | 101.6                            | 108.9           | 107.1               | 108.9                     | 104.8                   | 102.4              | 109.8                | 104.5             | 104.0                   | 104.1                                 | 108.1                          | 105.5      |
| March     | 101.6                            | 108.9           | 107.1               | 108.9                     | 105.0                   | 102.6              | 109.8                | 104.6             | 104.0                   | 104.6                                 | 108.4                          | 105.7      |
| April     | 101.6                            | 108.9           | 107.1               | 108.9                     | 105.0                   | 102.6              | 112.1                | 104.8             | 104.4                   | 105.0                                 | 108.6                          | 105.8      |
| May       | 101.6                            | 108.9           | 107.1               | 109.3                     | 105.0                   | 102.6              | 114.9                | 104.8             | 104.2                   | 105.7                                 | 108.9                          | 106.0      |
| June      | 101.6                            | 110.4           | 107.1               | 109.9                     | 105.0                   | 102.6              | 118.2                | 104.8             | 104.3                   | 107.2                                 | 109.0                          | 106.4      |
| 1969-70—  |                                  |                 |                     |                           |                         |                    |                      |                   |                         |                                       |                                |            |
| July      | 102.2                            | 110.4           | 107.5               | 110.0                     | 105.0                   | 103.7              | 118.1                | 107.3             | 105.4                   | 108.4                                 | 109.2                          | 106.8      |
| August    | 102.4                            | 110.4           | 107.5               | 110.9                     | 105.0                   | 103.2              | 122.1                | 107.3             | 107.3                   | 109.3                                 | 109.4                          | 107.2      |
| September | 102.9                            | 110.4           | 110.8               | 111.0                     | 105.5                   | 103.3              | 125.9                | 107.3             | 107.8                   | 111.3                                 | 109.0                          | 107.9      |
| October   | 102.9                            | 110.4           | 110.8               | 111.0                     | 105.6                   | 102.9              | 122.2                | 107.3             | 107.8                   | 111.2                                 | 109.0                          | 107.8      |
| November  | 102.9                            | 110.4           | 110.8               | 111.0                     | 105.6                   | 102.5              | 124.5                | 110.6             | 107.8                   | 110.5                                 | 109.0                          | 107.8      |
| December  | 102.9                            | 110.4           | 111.0               | 111.0                     | 105.6                   | 102.5              | 128.6                | 111.6             | 107.8                   | 112.7                                 | 109.1                          | 108.1      |

(a) Figures are shown to one decimal place to avoid distortions that would occur in rounding off the index numbers to the nearest whole number. (b) The Wholesale Price Index of Electrical Installation Materials is used as the indicator for this group. This indicator was on a quarterly basis until February 1969 when monthly compilation was commenced.

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

GROUP INDEX NUMBERS—HOBART

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

| Period    | Concrete mix, cement, sand, etc. | Cement products | Bricks, stone, etc. | Timber, board and joistery | Steel and iron products | Aluminum products | Other metal products | Plumbing fixtures | Miscellaneous materials | Electrical insulating materials (b) | Mechanical services components | 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   | 104.8                            | 100.4           | 101.1               | 101.7                      | 102.5                   | 100.8             | 105.9                | 103.2             | 101.7                   | 100.9                               | 101.4                          | 102.3      |
| 1968-69   | 108.0                            | 103.8           | 108.5               | 103.8                      | 105.5                   | 99.6              | 103.1                | 105.5             | 103.0                   | 102.1                               | 107.7                          | 105.1      |
| 1967-68—  |                                  |                 |                     |                            |                         |                   |                      |                   |                         |                                     |                                |            |
| January   | 104.2                            | 100.1           | 101.9               | 101.7                      | 101.4                   | 100.9             | 110.9                | 103.7             | 101.8                   | 102.2                               | 100.6                          | 101.9      |
| February  | 104.2                            | 100.1           | 104.5               | 101.7                      | 103.9                   | 100.9             | 110.9                | 103.7             | 101.8                   | 104.0                               | 102.3                          | 103.2      |
| March     | 104.2                            | 100.1           | 104.5               | 102.3                      | 103.9                   | 100.9             | 116.3                | 103.7             | 101.8                   | 104.0                               | 102.7                          | 103.5      |
| April     | 106.6                            | 100.9           | 104.5               | 102.3                      | 104.1                   | 100.9             | 116.3                | 103.7             | 101.9                   | 104.0                               | 102.7                          | 103.8      |
| May       | 107.0                            | 101.5           | 104.5               | 102.3                      | 104.1                   | 100.9             | 106.5                | 103.7             | 102.2                   | 100.9                               | 104.1                          | 103.6      |
| June      | 107.0                            | 101.9           | 108.2               | 102.4                      | 104.2                   | 101.1             | 101.1                | 103.7             | 102.4                   | 100.9                               | 104.8                          | 103.8      |
| 1968-69—  |                                  |                 |                     |                            |                         |                   |                      |                   |                         |                                     |                                |            |
| July      | 107.0                            | 103.1           | 108.2               | 102.4                      | 104.2                   | 99.4              | 101.1                | 103.7             | 102.5                   | 100.9                               | 105.3                          | 103.8      |
| August    | 107.0                            | 103.1           | 108.3               | 102.4                      | 104.2                   | 99.5              | 101.1                | 103.7             | 102.4                   | 99.0                                | 105.6                          | 103.7      |
| September | 107.0                            | 103.7           | 108.4               | 102.5                      | 104.2                   | 99.5              | 101.1                | 103.7             | 103.0                   | 99.0                                | 106.0                          | 103.8      |
| October   | 107.2                            | 103.7           | 108.4               | 102.5                      | 104.3                   | 99.5              | 101.1                | 103.7             | 103.0                   | 99.0                                | 107.0                          | 104.0      |
| November  | 107.6                            | 103.7           | 108.6               | 103.2                      | 104.6                   | 99.5              | 101.1                | 104.6             | 103.0                   | 100.2                               | 108.1                          | 104.5      |
| December  | 107.6                            | 103.7           | 108.6               | 104.2                      | 104.9                   | 99.5              | 101.1                | 104.6             | 103.0                   | 100.2                               | 108.1                          | 104.7      |
| January   | 108.6                            | 103.7           | 108.6               | 104.2                      | 105.8                   | 99.5              | 101.1                | 104.6             | 103.0                   | 100.2                               | 108.1                          | 105.1      |
| February  | 108.8                            | 103.7           | 108.6               | 104.7                      | 107.0                   | 99.5              | 101.1                | 104.6             | 103.1                   | 104.1                               | 108.3                          | 105.5      |
| March     | 108.8                            | 103.7           | 108.6               | 104.7                      | 107.0                   | 99.5              | 102.1                | 108.3             | 103.2                   | 104.6                               | 108.7                          | 106.1      |
| April     | 108.8                            | 103.7           | 108.6               | 104.7                      | 107.1                   | 99.5              | 112.3                | 108.3             | 103.3                   | 105.7                               | 109.2                          | 106.6      |
| May       | 108.8                            | 103.7           | 108.6               | 104.7                      | 107.1                   | 100.3             | 112.3                | 108.3             | 103.3                   | 105.7                               | 109.2                          | 106.6      |
| June      | 108.8                            | 106.4           | 108.7               | 105.7                      | 107.1                   | 100.3             | 112.3                | 108.3             | 103.2                   | 107.2                               | 109.3                          | 106.9      |
| 1969-70—  |                                  |                 |                     |                            |                         |                   |                      |                   |                         |                                     |                                |            |
| July      | 108.8                            | 106.4           | 109.2               | 107.9                      | 107.2                   | 100.4             | 113.2                | 108.8             | 103.2                   | 108.4                               | 109.5                          | 107.4      |
| August    | 108.8                            | 106.6           | 109.2               | 108.1                      | 107.2                   | 100.4             | 117.3                | 111.5             | 103.9                   | 109.3                               | 109.7                          | 107.7      |
| September | 108.8                            | 106.6           | 109.5               | 108.1                      | 107.6                   | 100.4             | 117.3                | 111.5             | 103.9                   | 111.3                               | 109.3                          | 108.0      |
| October   | 108.8                            | 106.6           | 109.5               | 108.1                      | 107.6                   | 100.8             | 124.5                | 113.1             | 107.6                   | 111.2                               | 109.3                          | 108.5      |
| November  | 109.0                            | 106.6           | 109.7               | 108.1                      | 107.7                   | 100.8             | 124.7                | 113.4             | 107.6                   | 110.5                               | 109.3                          | 108.5      |
| December  | 109.0                            | 106.6           | 109.8               | 108.1                      | 107.9                   | 100.8             | 124.0                | 114.4             | 107.5                   | 112.7                               | 109.4                          | 108.7      |

(a) Figures are shown to one decimal place to avoid distortions that would occur in rounding off the index numbers to the nearest whole number. (b) The Wholesale Price Index of Electrical Installation Materials is used as the indicator for this group. This indicator was on a quarterly basis until February 1969 when monthly compilation was commenced.

WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX OF MATERIALS USED IN BUILDING OTHER THAN HOUSE BUILDING  
 GROUP INDEX NUMBERS—WEIGHTED AVERAGE OF SIX STATE CAPITAL CITIES

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

| Period    | Concrete<br>mkt.,<br>cement,<br>sand, etc. | Cement<br>products | Bricks,<br>stone, etc. | Timber,<br>board and<br>joist | Steel and<br>iron<br>products | Aluminum<br>products | Other metal<br>products | Plumbing<br>fixtures | Miscel-<br>laneous<br>materials | Electrical<br>installation<br>materials<br>(b) | Mechanical<br>services<br>components | 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   | 101.5                                      | 102.2              | 103.7                  | 103.0                         | 102.3                         | 101.4                | 105.9                   | 102.8                | 102.3                           | 100.9  | 101.4                                | 102.2      |
| 1968-69   | 103.5                                      | 106.8              | 108.2                  | 107.2                         | 106.1                         | 103.9                | 106.8                   | 103.3                | 103.2                           | 102.1  | 107.7                                | 105.6      |
| 1967-68—  |  |                    |                        |                               |                               |                      |                         |                      |                                 |  |                                      |            |
| January   | 101.6                                      | 102.0              | 104.1                  | 103.1                         | 101.6                         | 101.4                | 110.8                   | 103.3                | 102.7                           | 102.2  | 100.6                                | 102.2      |
| February  | 101.3                                      | 102.0              | 104.1                  | 103.2                         | 103.0                         | 101.4                | 110.8                   | 103.3                | 102.8                           | 104.0  | 102.2                                | 102.9      |
| March     | 101.5                                      | 102.1              | 104.1                  | 103.3                         | 103.3                         | 101.4                | 116.3                   | 103.3                | 102.7                           | 104.0  | 102.7                                | 103.3      |
| April     | 101.6                                      | 103.4              | 104.1                  | 103.7                         | 103.6                         | 101.4                | 116.3                   | 103.3                | 102.8                           | 104.0  | 102.7                                | 103.5      |
| May       | 101.6                                      | 104.0              | 104.1                  | 103.9                         | 103.6                         | 101.3                | 106.4                   | 102.6                | 102.8                           | 100.9  | 104.0                                | 103.2      |
| June      | 101.7                                      | 104.3              | 104.9                  | 104.2                         | 103.7                         | 102.4                | 101.2                   | 102.6                | 102.7                           | 100.9  | 104.8                                | 103.3      |
| 1968-69—  |  |                    |                        |                               |                               |                      |                         |                      |                                 |  |                                      |            |
| July      | 101.9                                      | 104.3              | 105.1                  | 104.2                         | 103.9                         | 102.9                | 100.3                   | 102.5                | 103.3                           | 100.9  | 105.3                                | 103.5      |
| August    | 102.1                                      | 104.4              | 105.5                  | 104.8                         | 103.9                         | 103.0                | 100.4                   | 102.0                | 103.3                           | 99.0   | 105.6                                | 103.5      |
| September | 102.1                                      | 104.5              | 105.6                  | 105.0                         | 104.5                         | 102.9                | 101.3                   | 102.0                | 103.3                           | 99.0   | 106.0                                | 103.8      |
| October   | 102.1                                      | 104.8              | 106.5                  | 105.3                         | 105.0                         | 104.0                | 102.3                   | 102.0                | 103.1                           | 99.0   | 107.0                                | 104.2      |
| November  | 102.0                                      | 105.4              | 108.7                  | 106.4                         | 105.5                         | 104.0                | 102.8                   | 102.2                | 103.1                           | 100.2  | 108.1                                | 104.9      |
| December  | 104.5                                      | 106.9              | 109.1                  | 107.4                         | 105.7                         | 104.3                | 105.3                   | 103.0                | 102.7                           | 100.2  | 108.1                                | 105.5      |
| 1969-70—  |  |                    |                        |                               |                               |                      |                         |                      |                                 |  |                                      |            |
| January   | 104.6                                      | 107.1              | 109.2                  | 107.5                         | 106.8                         | 104.4                | 105.4                   | 102.6                | 102.5                           | 100.2  | 108.1                                | 105.9      |
| February  | 104.7                                      | 107.5              | 109.4                  | 108.0                         | 107.1                         | 104.1                | 109.5                   | 102.5                | 103.3                           | 104.1  | 108.3                                | 106.5      |
| March     | 102.8                                      | 107.8              | 109.6                  | 108.5                         | 107.3                         | 104.0                | 109.9                   | 104.5                | 103.3                           | 104.6  | 108.7                                | 106.6      |
| April     | 105.0                                      | 109.1              | 109.6                  | 109.2                         | 107.5                         | 104.1                | 111.7                   | 105.3                | 103.4                           | 105.0  | 108.9                                | 107.2      |
| May       | 105.0                                      | 109.7              | 109.6                  | 109.4                         | 108.0                         | 104.4                | 114.8                   | 105.3                | 103.6                           | 105.7  | 109.2                                | 107.6      |
| June      | 105.1                                      | 109.9              | 109.9                  | 110.1                         | 107.9                         | 105.1                | 117.9                   | 105.3                | 103.6                           | 107.2  | 109.4                                | 107.9      |
| 1969-70—  |  |                    |                        |                               |                               |                      |                         |                      |                                 |  |                                      |            |
| July      | 105.3                                      | 110.1              | 110.1                  | 110.1                         | 107.9                         | 105.4                | 118.6                   | 107.8                | 103.9                           | 108.4  | 109.5                                | 108.2      |
| August    | 106.8                                      | 110.3              | 110.1                  | 110.5                         | 108.0                         | 105.6                | 121.2                   | 109.2                | 104.3                           | 109.3  | 109.7                                | 108.6      |
| September | 107.0                                      | 110.6              | 110.5                  | 110.6                         | 108.3                         | 105.8                | 124.9                   | 109.4                | 105.1                           | 111.3  | 109.3                                | 109.1      |
| October   | 107.1                                      | 110.9              | 111.2                  | 110.9                         | 108.4                         | 106.2                | 123.1                   | 110.4                | 105.4                           | 111.2  | 109.3                                | 109.2      |
| November  | 107.1                                      | 111.1              | 111.4                  | 110.9                         | 108.6                         | 106.1                | 123.8                   | 112.2                | 105.8                           | 110.5  | 109.4                                | 109.3      |
| December  | 107.2                                      | 111.2              | 111.4                  | 110.9                         | 108.7                         | 106.2                | 127.8                   | 114.1                | 105.8                           | 112.7  | 109.4                                | 109.7      |

 (a) Figures are shown to one decimal place to avoid distortions that would occur in rounding off the index numbers to the nearest whole number.  
 (b) The Wholesale Price Index of Electrical Installation Materials is used as the indicator for this group. This indicator was on a quarterly basis until February 1969 when monthly compilation was commenced.

**WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX OF MATERIALS USED IN BUILDING OTHER THAN  
HOUSE BUILDING**  
**SPECIAL PURPOSE INDEX: ALL GROUPS EXCLUDING ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION  
MATERIALS AND MECHANICAL SERVICES COMPONENTS**  
**INDEX NUMBERS—SIX STATE CAPITAL CITIES**

*(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<br>average of<br>six State<br>capital<br>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.        | 103.0                | 101.8     | 102.4    | 102.0    | 102.2 | 102.6  | 102.4  |
| 1968-69.        | 106.8                | 104.8     | 105.1    | 104.9    | 104.6 | 105.0  | 105.6  |
| <b>1966-67—</b> |                      |           |          |          |       |        |  |
| July            | 97.5                 | 98.4      | 98.2     | 98.9     | 98.3  | 97.9   | 98.0   |
| August          | 98.8                 | 99.5      | 99.5     | 99.9     | 99.7  | 99.3   | 99.3   |
| September       | 99.0                 | 99.4      | 99.4     | 99.4     | 99.5  | 99.5   | 99.2   |
| October         | 99.5                 | 100.0     | 99.6     | 99.6     | 99.8  | 99.7   | 99.7   |
| November        | 100.1                | 100.3     | 100.1    | 100.1    | 100.1 | 100.2  | 100.2  |
| December        | 100.3                | 100.3     | 100.0    | 100.2    | 100.1 | 100.4  | 100.2  |
| January         | 100.2                | 100.4     | 100.2    | 100.2    | 100.1 | 100.4  | 100.2  |
| February        | 100.4                | 100.5     | 100.6    | 100.3    | 100.1 | 100.6  | 100.4  |
| March           | 101.0                | 100.5     | 100.6    | 100.5    | 100.3 | 100.6  | 100.7  |
| April           | 101.0                | 100.3     | 100.5    | 100.3    | 100.1 | 100.4  | 100.6  |
| May             | 101.0                | 100.2     | 100.7    | 100.4    | 100.9 | 100.5  | 100.7  |
| June            | 101.3                | 100.3     | 100.8    | 100.4    | 100.9 | 100.6  | 100.8  |
| <b>1967-68—</b> |                      |           |          |          |       |        |  |
| July            | 101.5                | 100.6     | 101.1    | 100.6    | 101.0 | 101.3  | 101.1  |
| August          | 101.8                | 100.7     | 101.4    | 100.9    | 101.1 | 101.3  | 101.3  |
| September       | 102.3                | 100.8     | 101.6    | 101.0    | 101.4 | 101.5  | 101.6  |
| October         | 102.4                | 100.9     | 101.6    | 101.1    | 101.8 | 101.5  | 101.7  |
| November        | 103.0                | 101.4     | 102.3    | 101.7    | 102.3 | 102.1  | 102.3  |
| December        | 103.0                | 101.6     | 102.4    | 101.9    | 102.4 | 102.1  | 102.4  |
| January         | 103.0                | 101.7     | 102.4    | 101.9    | 102.5 | 102.1  | 102.4  |
| February        | 103.2                | 102.6     | 103.3    | 103.0    | 102.5 | 103.3  | 103.0  |
| March           | 103.7                | 102.8     | 103.4    | 103.2    | 102.8 | 103.6  | 103.3  |
| April           | 103.8                | 103.1     | 103.5    | 103.3    | 102.9 | 104.0  | 103.5  |
| May             | 103.8                | 102.8     | 103.2    | 103.0    | 102.6 | 103.8  | 103.3  |
| June            | 103.9                | 102.7     | 103.1    | 102.9    | 102.9 | 104.0  | 103.3  |
| <b>1968-69—</b> |                      |           |          |          |       |        |  |
| July            | 104.3                | 102.7     | 103.1    | 103.4    | 103.0 | 103.9  | 103.5  |
| August          | 104.5                | 102.9     | 103.1    | 103.4    | 103.2 | 103.9  | 103.7  |
| September       | 105.0                | 103.1     | 103.1    | 103.4    | 103.7 | 104.0  | 104.0  |
| October         | 105.2                | 103.9     | 103.4    | 103.7    | 103.9 | 104.1  | 104.4  |
| November        | 105.8                | 104.5     | 104.1    | 104.0    | 104.3 | 104.4  | 104.9  |
| December        | 106.9                | 104.7     | 105.6    | 104.6    | 104.5 | 104.6  | 105.7  |
| January         | 107.3                | 105.2     | 106.2    | 105.1    | 104.8 | 105.1  | 106.1  |
| February        | 107.8                | 105.5     | 106.5    | 105.5    | 105.2 | 105.2  | 106.5  |
| March           | 108.2                | 105.6     | 104.4    | 106.3    | 105.3 | 105.8  | 106.5  |
| April           | 108.6                | 106.1     | 106.5    | 106.3    | 105.5 | 105.8  | 107.1  |
| May             | 109.1                | 106.3     | 107.5    | 106.6    | 105.6 | 106.2  | 107.5  |
| June            | 109.4                | 106.6     | 107.4    | 106.8    | 105.9 | 106.5  | 107.8  |
| <b>1969-70—</b> |                      |           |          |          |       |        |  |
| July            | 109.5                | 106.7     | 107.7    | 107.0    | 106.2 | 107.0  | 107.9  |
| August          | 109.8                | 107.8     | 107.6    | 107.1    | 106.6 | 107.2  | 108.4  |
| September       | 110.1                | 108.3     | 107.9    | 107.8    | 107.3 | 107.4  | 108.8  |
| October         | 110.2                | 108.4     | 108.6    | 107.9    | 107.2 | 108.1  | 109.0  |
| November        | 110.4                | 108.6     | 108.9    | 108.0    | 107.3 | 108.1  | 109.2  |
| December        | 110.7                | 108.7     | 109.2    | 108.2    | 107.5 | 108.2  | 109.4  |

(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.