

CHAPTER 2. WHOLESALE PRICES AND PRICE INDEXES

General

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

New series of wholesale price index numbers relating to materials used and articles produced by defined areas of the economy are being developed. Three such indexes have already been published. They are the Price Index of Materials used in Building other than House Building (issued April 1969), the Price Index of Materials used in House Building (issued November 1970) and the Price Index of Metallic Materials used in the Manufacture of Fabricated Metal Products (issued December 1972). Descriptions of and index numbers from these indexes are given on pages 45-58, 59-71 and 72-74 respectively. Work continues on the preparation of further measures.

Two special purpose measures, the Price Index of Electrical Installation Materials and Price Indexes of Copper Materials used in the Manufacture of Electrical Equipment, are also published by the Bureau. Descriptions of and index numbers for the latter measure are given on pages 75-77.

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.

Wholesale Price (Basic Materials and Foodstuffs) Index

The index related to commodities priced in their primary or basic form wherever possible and as nearly as might have been at the point where they first made effective impact on the local price structure. With a few important exceptions, prices were from Melbourne sources. The weights were based on estimates of the average annual consumption of the commodities in Australia during the period 1928-29 to 1934-35 inclusive. General publication of the index was discontinued with the issue of index numbers for the month of December 1970.

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

Last available index numbers for this index were published in Labour Report No. 55, 1970, page 45.

Wholesale Price Index of Electrical Installation Materials

This special purpose index was introduced in 1964 and index numbers have been published from August 1959 to February 1969 on a quarterly basis and thereafter at monthly intervals. In addition to its use in connection with the Bureau's constant price estimates in the national accounting field, the index is used as the indicator of price change for the Electrical Installation Materials group of the Wholesale Price Index of Materials used in Building other than House Building. A description of this index is given in Labour Report No. 56, 1971, pages 44-45. Index numbers are shown in the monthly publication Price Index of Electrical Installation Materials (Reference No. 9.5).

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 being prepared as circumstances permit and relating to materials used and articles produced by important and defined areas (or 'sectors') of the economy.

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
1. Concrete mix, cement, sand, etc.		10.41
Concrete, ready-mixed	80.23	
Cement	8.58	
Sand	4.66	
Aggregate	4.56	
Lime	1.97	
2. Cement products		3.64
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	
3. Bricks, stone, etc.		5.28
Clay bricks	71.64	
Earthenware pipes and fittings	11.66	
Terrazzo	10.94	
Building stone	5.76	
4. Timber, board and joinery		11.90
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	
5. Steel and iron products		30.58
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	
6. Aluminium products		6.01
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
7. Other metal products		2.59
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	
8. Plumbing fixtures		1.19
Toilet suites and pans	29.81	
Hand basins	21.66	
Sinks	24.18	
Urinals	20.60	
Baths	3.75	
9. Miscellaneous materials		7.09
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	
10. Electrical installation materials		8.61
Conductors	40.00	
Conduit and accessories	25.00	
Switchboard and switchgear materials	35.00	
11. Mechanical services components		12.70
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 wholesale price index described on page 44 of this volume.

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. 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 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 give rise to problems. For the purpose of the index the aim is, of course, to determine and use actual transaction prices as distinct from 'list' prices. Hence it is necessary to seek, in addition to measures of normal trade discounts, measures of 'special' or other discounts of this nature where these are known to be significant. When the latter have been ascertained their effect is reflected in the index. However, because of the varying incidence of these special discounts and the manner in which some of them may be applied, it is not always possible to determine or measure them for incorporation into the index. The problem is kept under continuing attention, and significant changes in special discounts, to the extent that they are determined, are incorporated in the index. This may sometimes be on a partly estimated basis, and may sometimes necessitate revisions.

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.

In interpreting movements in the index, particularly those from month to month, it should be noted that changes frequently occur in an uneven fashion both over time and also, between separate capital cities, at the same points of time. Changes in index numbers for individual months should not be interpreted in isolation and without reference to changes over longer periods.

**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	
1967-68.	102.6	101.7	102.2	101.8	102.0	102.3	102.2
1968-69.	106.5	105.0	105.1	105.0	104.7	105.1	105.6
1969-70.	111.7	109.8	110.3	109.4	108.9	109.7	110.5
1970-71.	116.4	115.1	116.4	113.9	113.3	115.0	115.5
1971-72.	122.4	123.9	124.4	122.7	121.3	122.6	123.0
1969-70—							
January	111.6	109.8	110.5	109.1	108.7	109.6	110.4
February	112.7	110.9	111.5	110.1	109.3	110.8	111.5
March	113.3	111.2	111.9	110.9	110.3	111.1	112.0
April	114.1	111.5	112.6	111.5	110.7	112.0	112.6
May	114.3	111.4	112.8	111.4	110.9	112.1	112.7
June	114.1	111.3	112.7	111.3	110.8	112.4	112.6
1970-71—							
July	114.3	111.3	113.4	111.3	110.9	112.6	112.8
August	114.4	112.0	114.4	111.4	111.1	112.7	113.2
September	114.4	112.4	114.5	111.4	111.0	112.9	113.3
October	114.2	112.9	114.5	111.7	110.9	112.8	113.4
November	114.5	113.3	114.7	112.3	112.0	114.0	113.8
December	114.5	113.5	115.2	112.4	112.5	114.2	114.0
January	116.7	114.7	116.2	113.2	113.6	115.1	115.5
February	117.6	116.3	117.6	114.3	114.2	116.5	116.6
March	118.4	117.6	118.7	116.0	115.0	117.2	117.7
April	118.8	118.3	118.9	116.6	115.6	117.2	118.2
May	118.9	118.6	118.8	117.2	115.8	117.0	118.3
June	120.1	119.6	119.8	118.4	116.9	118.2	119.4
1971-72—							
July	120.5	120.7	120.3	119.0	118.1	119.0	120.2
August	121.4	121.8	121.6	120.5	119.1	120.7	121.3
September	122.1	122.3	122.5	121.0	119.9	121.1	121.9
October	122.0	122.8	122.9	121.4	120.3	121.5	122.1
November	122.4	123.1	123.5	122.6	121.0	121.9	122.6
December	122.5	123.1	123.6	122.7	121.1	122.0	122.7
January	122.2	123.7	124.4	122.8	121.4	122.1	122.9
February	122.7	124.3	125.4	123.0	121.6	122.4	123.4
March	123.1	125.2	126.6	123.9	122.3	124.3	124.2
April	123.2	125.7	126.9	124.4	123.1	124.7	124.5
May	123.4	126.4	127.3	125.4	123.5	125.1	125.0
June	123.3	127.4	127.4	125.8	123.7	126.5	125.3
1972-73—							
July	123.6	128.0	127.6	126.5	123.9	127.2	125.7
August	123.6	128.3	127.7	126.7	124.2	127.4	125.9
September	124.1	128.6	127.9	126.9	124.1	127.4	126.1
October	124.6	129.2	128.0	127.8	124.4	127.7	126.7
November	124.9	129.7	128.6	128.1	124.8	127.9	127.0
December	126.1	130.2	128.7	128.7	124.9	128.2	127.8

(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)(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	Pumbing fixtures	Miscellaneous materials	Electrical installation materials (b)	Mechanical services components	All Groups
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
1969-70	109.4	112.7	113.3	113.8	111.0	110.6	130.2	116.1	104.9	112.2	111.8	111.7
1970-71	115.5	119.2	118.2	118.8	116.2	115.4	124.7	123.3	110.3	110.9	118.9	116.4
1971-72	120.0	129.1	120.3	124.5	122.8	120.0	125.5	136.8	117.7	114.7	127.5	122.4
1970-71—												
January	118.8	120.7	118.7	117.9	116.7	115.4	124.8	122.1	109.4	109.7	118.8	116.7
February	119.8	122.0	118.6	120.7	117.0	117.0	122.5	126.5	110.1	108.7	121.0	117.6
March	119.9	122.1	118.9	122.6	117.5	117.3	122.3	128.4	111.8	110.6	121.9	118.4
April	119.9	122.1	119.4	122.7	117.6	117.3	122.8	128.7	114.3	111.7	122.5	118.8
May	119.9	122.3	119.6	122.9	117.7	117.3	123.1	127.6	114.3	111.6	122.2	118.9
June	119.9	123.3	119.6	122.5	121.5	117.3	123.6	127.4	114.3	111.6	122.7	120.1
1971-72—												
July	119.9	123.3	119.6	122.6	122.7	117.4	123.6	126.8	114.8	112.0	122.7	120.5
August	120.6	123.3	120.6	123.6	123.1	117.7	124.5	126.8	115.3	113.2	125.6	121.4
September	120.6	125.0	120.6	123.7	123.9	118.8	126.0	128.8	116.0	114.2	126.4	122.1
October	120.6	125.5	120.3	123.8	122.6	120.0	126.2	130.7	116.8	114.3	127.3	122.0
November	120.6	130.4	120.3	123.7	122.5	120.4	126.0	140.3	117.6	114.3	127.8	122.4
December	120.6	130.5	120.3	123.9	122.3	120.5	125.7	140.3	118.6	114.2	128.0	122.5
1970-71—												
January	120.6	130.5	119.8	123.9	121.7	120.5	124.9	140.3	117.4	114.3	128.1	122.2
February	120.5	130.8	120.3	124.8	122.2	120.7	124.9	139.6	118.9	115.1	128.3	122.7
March	120.2	130.8	120.3	123.2	123.2	120.7	125.2	139.6	118.9	115.4	128.6	123.1
April	119.8	133.0	120.3	123.1	123.1	121.0	126.1	139.0	118.9	115.5	128.6	123.2
May	118.8	133.1	120.3	126.1	123.1	121.0	126.1	145.2	119.4	117.1	129.1	123.4
June	117.2	133.5	120.7	126.3	122.7	121.6	127.1	144.1	119.5	117.2	129.5	123.3
1972-73—												
July	116.2	133.6	120.5	126.8	122.6	121.7	127.8	142.1	122.5	117.6	130.6	123.6
August	115.1	133.6	121.1	127.4	122.5	122.1	127.8	141.8	122.5	117.8	130.8	123.6
September	116.5	133.6	123.3	127.8	122.4	123.2	128.0	141.4	123.8	117.8	130.8	124.1
October	115.5	133.3	123.3	130.2	122.4	123.5	128.0	141.4	124.9	118.1	132.2	124.9
November	113.9	135.7	123.8	131.8	122.6	123.6	128.0	141.4	125.7	119.0	132.7	124.6
December	122.0	135.7	123.8	133.3	122.7	123.6	128.0	141.3	127.3	119.4	132.4	126.1

(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.

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 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
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
1969-70	104.4	108.5	110.5	107.8	110.4	108.7	124.1	111.8	106.4	112.2	112.1	109.8
1970-71	111.9	115.1	115.8	113.4	116.0	117.1	120.8	121.6	110.2	110.9	119.4	115.1
1971-72	124.9	122.6	123.0	118.7	128.4	125.0	118.6	136.4	115.5	114.7	128.0	123.9
1970-71—												
January	113.2	114.3	114.6	112.1	115.3	120.4	121.7	119.2	109.2	109.7	119.3	114.7
February	112.9	117.0	117.3	116.8	116.8	121.3	119.0	124.8	110.4	108.7	121.5	116.3
March	117.9	118.1	119.4	117.5	117.4	121.1	120.3	127.6	111.5	110.6	122.3	117.6
April	120.0	118.1	119.8	117.6	117.7	121.1	118.8	127.6	114.1	111.7	123.0	118.3
May	120.9	118.3	119.8	117.9	118.4	121.1	117.1	127.5	114.1	111.6	122.7	118.6
June	121.4	118.4	119.8	118.0	121.3	121.1	116.8	127.5	114.1	111.6	123.2	119.6
1971-72—												
July	121.4	118.4	119.8	117.8	124.7	122.4	117.0	127.8	114.1	112.0	123.1	120.7
August	121.8	118.4	119.8	117.9	126.5	122.5	117.8	128.2	114.1	113.2	126.1	121.8
September	121.7	120.3	119.8	118.0	126.9	122.3	118.8	129.9	114.7	114.2	127.0	122.3
October	121.7	120.6	119.9	118.2	127.5	123.9	118.6	130.0	115.7	114.3	127.8	122.8
November	122.1	121.2	119.9	118.2	127.6	124.1	118.6	136.8	116.0	114.3	128.4	123.1
December	122.2	121.2	124.5	118.5	126.8	125.5	118.6	136.8	114.5	114.2	128.5	123.1
January	126.6	121.8	125.4	118.5	126.9	126.0	118.6	138.5	114.5	114.3	128.7	123.7
February	127.9	123.0	125.2	118.5	127.7	126.1	118.7	138.5	115.1	115.1	128.9	124.3
March	128.4	124.3	125.1	118.9	130.0	126.1	118.8	138.5	115.5	115.4	129.1	125.2
April	128.2	126.7	125.4	119.5	131.0	126.3	118.9	138.6	115.9	115.5	129.2	125.7
May	128.4	127.8	125.6	119.8	131.6	126.8	119.1	146.4	116.7	117.1	129.6	126.4
June	128.0	127.8	125.5	120.3	133.5	128.5	119.2	146.5	119.5	117.2	130.1	127.4
1972-73—												
July	129.3	130.1	125.7	122.1	133.4	128.6	120.1	146.5	119.8	117.6	131.1	128.0
August	129.0	130.2	126.6	122.3	133.8	130.4	120.1	146.5	119.8	117.8	131.3	128.3
September	129.5	130.5	126.6	122.6	134.2	130.4	120.1	146.5	120.7	117.8	131.4	128.6
October	129.3	131.6	126.6	122.9	134.7	131.9	120.1	146.5	121.9	118.1	132.8	129.2
November	129.3	131.6	126.8	124.6	134.9	132.8	120.1	146.5	121.9	119.0	133.3	129.7
December	129.3	131.9	129.6	124.9	135.6	133.5	120.1	146.5	123.1	119.4	133.0	130.2

(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.

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)(g)

Period	Concrete m/s, ceastl, sand, etc.	Cement products	Bricks, stone, etc.	Timber, board and joinery	Steel and iron products	Aluminium products	Other metal products	Plumbing fixtures	Miscel- laneous materials	Electrical installation materials (h)	Mechanical services components	All Groups
1967-68	100.5	101.4	103.7	103.8	102.3	101.7	106.0	102.7	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	103.6	102.1	107.6	105.1
1969-70	105.3	116.1	114.9	112.0	110.4	104.1	118.9	112.7	105.2	112.2	111.7	110.3
1970-71	112.7	120.8	123.4	121.2	118.3	107.1	113.2	119.5	108.5	110.9	118.9	116.4
1971-72	118.0	128.0	133.1	131.5	128.6	112.2	111.3	132.0	115.4	114.7	127.5	124.4
1970-71—												
January	112.0	121.9	124.8	120.6	118.6	107.0	112.0	118.8	108.0	109.7	118.8	116.2
February	113.6	122.8	125.6	126.7	118.8	107.9	112.5	120.4	108.8	108.7	121.0	117.6
March	113.6	123.1	125.6	127.7	120.0	109.5	111.8	122.4	111.2	110.6	121.9	118.7
April	113.6	123.3	126.0	127.8	120.1	109.6	111.8	122.7	111.2	111.7	122.5	118.9
May	113.6	123.3	126.0	127.8	120.1	109.7	111.8	122.7	110.8	111.6	122.2	118.8
June	113.6	123.9	126.0	127.7	122.8	109.7	111.3	122.7	111.6	111.6	122.7	119.8
1971-72—												
July	113.6	123.9	126.0	128.1	124.2	109.7	110.4	122.7	112.6	112.0	122.7	120.3
August	113.6	123.9	126.0	128.1	126.4	109.7	115.3	123.6	112.9	113.2	125.6	121.6
September	113.6	125.6	133.0	128.2	127.2	110.1	114.5	124.4	112.9	114.2	126.4	122.5
October	113.6	125.6	134.4	128.4	127.2	111.4	110.2	126.0	115.0	114.3	127.3	123.9
November	114.8	125.9	134.4	129.4	127.6	112.3	110.5	134.3	115.7	114.3	127.9	123.5
December	114.8	126.9	134.4	129.4	127.6	112.3	110.5	134.3	115.7	114.2	128.0	123.6
1972-73—												
January	122.0	127.1	134.4	129.5	127.6	112.3	110.5	134.3	115.7	114.3	128.2	124.4
February	122.8	129.4	134.8	134.7	127.7	113.0	110.5	134.4	116.4	115.1	128.4	125.4
March	122.8	129.4	134.8	134.6	131.3	113.7	110.6	134.1	116.5	115.4	128.6	126.9
April	122.8	131.5	134.8	134.9	132.0	113.7	110.6	134.2	116.0	115.5	128.6	126.9
May	122.8	133.1	134.8	136.0	131.9	113.8	110.6	140.6	116.0	117.1	129.1	127.3
June	118.2	133.2	134.9	136.6	132.3	113.9	110.9	140.8	118.8	117.2	129.6	127.4
1972-73—												
July	115.0	133.9	134.9	140.1	132.5	113.9	110.9	140.8	117.8	117.6	130.6	127.6
August	114.0	133.8	136.4	140.8	132.5	115.6	110.9	140.8	116.5	117.8	130.8	127.7
September	114.0	133.8	136.4	140.9	132.6	116.5	110.9	140.8	117.4	117.8	130.8	127.9
October	109.8	135.1	138.9	140.9	133.0	117.1	110.8	141.1	117.6	118.1	132.3	128.0
November	106.6	135.3	138.9	140.9	135.6	117.1	110.8	141.1	117.6	119.0	132.8	128.6
December	107.3	135.3	138.9	140.9	135.5	117.1	110.8	141.2	117.7	119.4	132.5	128.7

(g) Figures are shown to one decimal place to avoid distortions that would occur in rounding off the index numbers to the nearest whole number. (h) The Wholesale Price Index of Electrical Installation Materials is used as the indicator for this group.

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 ply	Steel and iron products	Aluminium products	Other metal products	Plumbing fixtures	Miscel- laneous materials	Electrical installation materials (b)	Mechanical services components	All Groups
1967-68	101.2	101.9	104.6	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
1969-70	107.9	112.5	113.5	108.9	108.2	100.2	126.8	112.3	106.9	110.2	111.7	109.4
1970-71	109.7	118.8	121.3	114.8	112.6	107.2	122.5	121.4	111.4	110.9	118.9	113.9
1971-72	119.3	127.0	130.0	124.3	123.5	116.0	122.5	134.5	118.8	114.7	127.5	122.7
1970-71—												
January	109.1	117.0	119.6	113.2	112.8	106.1	121.7	120.2	110.1	109.7	118.8	113.2
February	109.2	121.2	119.9	115.1	113.2	110.6	120.0	122.1	112.4	108.7	121.1	114.3
March	109.4	122.8	124.6	119.4	114.2	112.1	120.2	125.9	113.6	110.6	121.9	116.0
April	109.5	122.8	125.3	121.0	114.2	113.0	120.2	123.9	115.9	111.7	122.6	116.6
May	113.4	122.8	126.1	121.6	114.3	113.0	120.2	125.9	116.4	111.6	122.3	117.2
June	113.4	122.8	126.1	121.5	118.3	113.0	120.2	125.9	116.4	111.6	122.7	118.4
1971-72—												
July	113.4	122.9	126.1	121.6	119.9	113.0	120.2	125.9	116.4	112.0	122.7	119.0
August	114.1	122.9	126.3	121.9	121.8	114.8	122.2	128.5	118.7	113.2	125.6	120.5
September	114.1	125.1	126.3	121.9	122.4	115.7	122.7	129.3	118.7	114.2	126.5	121.0
October	114.3	125.1	126.3	122.9	122.4	116.6	122.7	129.2	118.9	114.3	127.4	121.4
November	120.7	125.5	130.6	124.5	122.4	116.8	122.7	135.7	118.7	114.3	127.9	122.6
December	120.9	128.0	131.3	124.7	122.3	116.8	122.7	135.5	117.9	114.2	128.0	122.7
January	121.1	128.0	131.7	124.7	122.5	116.8	122.7	135.5	118.1	114.3	128.2	122.8
February	121.3	128.0	132.2	124.7	122.6	116.8	122.7	135.5	118.5	115.1	128.4	123.0
March	121.3	128.2	132.2	125.7	125.1	115.9	122.7	135.5	118.6	115.4	128.6	123.9
April	122.8	129.7	132.2	125.7	126.0	116.1	122.7	135.6	118.6	115.5	128.6	124.4
May	122.9	130.4	132.2	125.9	127.4	116.1	122.7	143.7	120.9	117.1	129.1	125.4
June	124.3	130.5	132.2	127.3	127.4	117.1	122.7	143.7	121.0	117.2	129.5	125.8
1972-73—												
July	124.6	133.9	137.8	127.6	127.3	118.1	122.7	143.0	121.0	117.6	130.6	126.5
August	125.2	133.9	137.8	127.9	127.3	118.1	123.5	143.0	121.0	117.8	130.8	126.7
September	125.2	133.9	137.8	128.3	128.3	118.1	123.5	143.0	121.2	117.8	130.8	126.9
October	125.3	133.3	137.8	128.3	129.4	119.1	123.5	143.0	121.4	118.1	132.3	127.8
November	125.7	133.3	138.3	129.0	129.5	119.1	123.7	143.2	122.2	119.0	132.8	128.1
December	128.5	133.9	138.3	130.8	129.5	119.1	123.7	143.2	123.3	119.4	132.5	128.7

(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.

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, stones, 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
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
1969-70	102.8	111.3	111.4	111.3	107.1	102.6	127.0	110.8	107.8	112.2	111.5	108.9
1970-71	107.0	118.3	119.0	115.4	112.9	105.8	117.4	112.7	111.8	110.9	118.7	113.3
1971-72	113.6	119.8	128.8	119.6	125.1	115.0	114.4	118.3	119.2	114.7	127.3	121.3
1970-71—												
January	108.5	118.2	120.3	117.2	113.1	105.3	116.8	112.1	111.9	109.7	118.6	113.6
February	110.0	118.3	120.3	117.2	113.4	107.8	112.7	111.8	113.4	108.7	120.8	114.2
March	110.1	120.7	120.3	118.3	114.2	108.3	112.2	111.9	113.4	110.6	121.7	115.0
April	110.1	120.2	124.2	118.4	114.8	108.4	112.2	111.9	113.5	111.7	122.4	115.6
May	110.1	120.2	125.5	118.4	115.5	108.8	112.3	111.9	113.5	111.6	122.1	115.8
June	110.1	119.2	125.5	117.9	119.0	108.8	112.3	111.9	113.9	111.6	122.4	116.9
1971-72—												
July	110.1	119.2	125.5	118.1	122.9	109.1	112.0	111.9	114.1	112.0	122.4	118.1
August	110.1	119.2	125.5	118.5	123.4	110.5	112.8	111.9	116.1	113.2	125.3	119.1
September	110.6	119.2	125.7	118.6	124.1	113.6	114.5	113.8	117.8	114.2	126.3	119.9
October	111.7	119.2	126.1	118.7	124.3	113.9	114.5	113.5	117.8	114.3	127.1	120.3
November	111.7	119.4	130.4	119.7	124.1	116.6	115.0	117.1	120.6	114.3	127.7	121.0
December	111.7	119.5	130.4	119.7	124.2	116.6	115.0	119.9	119.9	114.2	127.8	121.1
January	116.2	119.5	130.4	119.8	123.5	116.6	114.7	119.9	119.9	114.3	128.0	121.4
February	116.2	119.5	130.4	119.4	123.9	116.6	114.7	119.9	120.2	115.1	128.2	121.6
March	116.2	119.5	130.4	119.4	126.2	116.4	114.8	119.9	120.8	115.4	128.4	122.3
April	116.2	121.2	130.4	120.8	127.7	116.4	114.7	121.6	120.8	115.5	128.5	123.1
May	116.5	121.2	130.4	120.8	128.2	116.4	114.7	125.0	121.1	117.1	128.9	123.5
June	116.4	121.2	130.4	121.6	128.2	117.4	114.9	125.0	121.4	117.2	129.4	123.7
1972-73—												
July	116.4	121.2	130.4	122.6	127.8	115.9	115.4	125.6	122.2	117.6	130.4	123.9
August	116.4	126.9	130.4	122.7	128.0	115.9	115.5	125.6	122.1	117.8	130.6	124.2
September	116.4	126.9	130.4	122.8	127.5	115.9	115.5	125.6	123.0	117.8	130.5	124.1
October	116.3	128.2	130.4	122.8	127.7	115.9	115.5	126.2	123.1	118.1	132.0	124.4
November	116.3	128.2	130.4	122.8	128.2	116.5	115.5	126.4	123.6	119.0	132.5	124.8
December	116.3	128.2	130.4	123.2	128.3	116.5	115.7	126.6	124.1	119.4	132.2	124.9

(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.

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 joinery	Steel and iron products	Aluminum products	Other metal products	Plumbing fixtures	Miscel- laneous materials	Electrical installation materials (b)	Mechanical services components	All Groups
1967-68	104.8	100.4	103.1	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
1969-70	109.1	107.1	111.3	108.9	109.8	100.9	122.3	114.0	107.5	112.2	111.8	109.7
1970-71	116.0	112.8	118.3	116.6	114.6	106.6	125.3	122.7	111.6	110.9	118.9	115.0
1971-72	123.4	123.7	118.3	122.2	126.4	110.8	126.0	135.1	115.8	114.7	127.5	122.6
1970-71—												
January	117.8	112.7	120.4	115.3	115.0	106.2	125.9	121.6	111.0	109.7	118.8	115.1
February	117.9	115.5	120.4	120.3	115.4	111.5	125.9	122.6	111.5	108.7	121.0	116.5
March	118.6	116.3	120.7	120.2	116.0	112.6	125.9	125.5	111.8	110.6	121.8	117.2
April	118.7	116.3	115.5	120.2	115.8	112.6	125.9	128.2	113.4	111.7	122.5	117.2
May	118.7	117.0	115.5	120.5	115.8	109.5	126.6	127.5	113.6	111.6	122.2	117.0
June	118.7	117.0	115.5	120.6	119.1	110.0	126.8	127.5	114.7	111.6	122.7	118.2
1971-72—												
July	118.7	117.0	116.5	120.9	121.3	110.0	125.9	127.5	114.7	112.0	122.7	119.0
August	120.7	117.0	116.7	121.1	124.5	110.0	125.9	128.0	114.7	113.2	125.6	120.7
September	120.7	117.4	116.7	121.1	124.8	110.0	125.9	130.2	115.2	114.2	126.5	121.1
October	120.7	118.9	116.7	121.5	125.1	110.8	125.9	130.3	116.5	114.3	127.3	121.5
November	120.7	120.3	118.3	121.6	125.4	110.9	125.9	136.2	116.9	114.3	127.9	121.9
December	120.7	120.3	118.4	122.0	125.6	111.0	125.9	137.0	115.9	114.2	128.0	122.0
1972-73—												
January	120.7	120.3	118.4	122.1	125.7	111.0	125.9	137.0	115.9	114.3	128.2	122.1
February	121.2	123.5	118.4	122.1	125.9	111.0	125.9	137.0	115.3	115.1	128.4	122.4
March	129.0	127.5	118.4	122.2	129.1	111.0	125.9	137.0	115.3	115.4	128.5	124.3
April	129.0	131.7	118.4	122.2	129.7	111.0	126.8	137.9	115.3	115.5	128.6	124.7
May	129.1	133.1	118.4	122.3	129.8	111.0	126.8	138.7	116.8	117.1	129.1	125.1
June	129.2	137.8	124.6	127.7	130.2	111.4	124.7	144.9	116.8	117.2	129.5	126.5
1972-73—												
July	129.2	137.8	125.0	129.4	131.0	111.4	124.7	144.9	116.9	117.6	130.5	127.2
August	129.2	138.4	125.0	129.5	131.5	111.4	124.2	144.9	117.3	117.8	130.7	127.4
September	129.2	138.4	125.0	129.7	131.6	111.4	124.3	140.7	117.8	117.8	130.7	127.4
October	129.2	138.4	125.0	129.8	131.6	111.4	124.3	140.7	118.4	118.1	132.2	127.7
November	129.2	138.4	125.0	130.0	131.6	111.4	124.3	142.3	118.4	119.0	132.6	127.9
December	129.2	138.4	126.6	130.2	131.9	111.4	124.3	142.3	119.9	119.4	132.3	128.2

(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.

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 mkt., cement, sand, etc.	Concrete products	Bricks, stone, etc.	Timber, board and joinery	Steel and iron products	Aluminum products	Other metal products	Plumbing fixtures	Miscel- laneous materials	Electrical installation materials (b)	Mechanical services components	All Groups
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
1969-70	106.9	111.7	112.6	111.2	110.1	107.4	126.3	113.7	105.8	112.2	111.8	110.5
1970-71	118.0	118.0	118.6	117.0	115.8	113.0	121.4	121.3	110.3	110.9	119.0	115.5
1971-72	120.6	126.1	124.2	123.4	125.4	119.3	120.6	134.3	116.9	114.7	127.7	123.0
1970-71—												
January	114.7	118.4	118.6	116.1	115.9	113.8	121.4	119.9	109.5	109.7	118.9	115.5
February	115.4	120.2	119.1	119.8	116.5	115.5	119.3	123.5	110.5	108.7	121.2	116.6
March	116.8	120.9	120.5	121.2	117.2	116.0	119.5	125.8	111.9	110.6	122.0	117.7
April	117.4	120.9	121.1	121.4	117.4	116.1	119.3	126.0	113.9	111.7	122.7	118.2
May	117.9	121.1	121.4	121.6	117.7	116.0	119.0	125.4	113.9	111.6	122.4	118.3
June	118.0	121.5	121.4	121.4	121.1	116.0	119.0	125.4	114.1	111.6	122.8	119.4
1971-72—												
July	118.0	121.5	121.5	121.5	123.2	116.5	118.9	125.3	114.4	112.0	123.8	120.2
August	118.6	121.5	121.9	122.0	124.4	116.9	120.4	125.8	115.0	113.2	125.7	121.3
September	118.6	123.1	122.8	122.1	125.0	117.6	121.3	127.4	115.6	114.2	126.6	121.9
October	118.7	123.4	122.9	122.3	124.7	118.9	120.8	128.4	116.5	114.3	127.4	122.1
November	119.6	125.7	123.7	122.7	124.7	119.4	120.8	136.2	117.2	114.3	128.0	122.6
December	119.6	126.1	125.0	122.8	124.5	119.9	120.7	136.4	117.1	114.2	128.1	122.7
1972-73—												
January	122.1	126.3	125.1	122.8	124.2	120.1	120.4	136.9	116.6	114.3	128.3	122.9
February	122.5	127.1	125.3	123.9	124.7	120.2	120.4	136.6	117.5	115.1	128.5	123.4
March	122.8	127.6	125.3	124.5	126.7	120.2	120.5	136.6	117.7	115.4	128.7	124.2
April	122.7	129.8	125.4	124.9	127.2	120.4	120.9	136.5	117.7	115.5	128.8	124.5
May	122.4	130.5	125.4	125.1	127.5	120.5	121.0	143.0	118.4	117.1	129.2	125.0
June	121.2	130.8	125.7	125.8	128.0	121.4	121.4	142.8	119.6	117.2	129.7	125.3
1972-73—												
July	120.7	131.9	126.3	127.1	127.9	121.4	122.0	141.9	120.8	117.6	130.7	125.7
August	120.2	132.3	127.0	127.5	128.0	122.3	122.0	141.8	120.7	117.8	130.9	125.9
September	120.8	132.4	127.8	127.8	128.1	123.6	122.1	141.5	121.6	117.8	130.9	126.1
October	119.9	133.9	128.1	128.9	128.5	123.6	122.1	141.6	122.4	118.1	132.4	127.0
November	118.8	134.0	128.4	130.0	128.9	123.9	122.1	141.7	122.9	119.0	132.9	127.0
December	118.4	134.1	129.3	130.9	129.2	124.1	122.1	141.7	124.1	119.4	132.6	127.8

(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.

**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 average of six State capital cities
	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	
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
1969-70	111.6	109.1	109.9	108.7	108.1	109.1	110.1
1970-71	116.6	114.8	116.6	113.4	112.7	114.8	115.5
1971-72	122.4	124.2	124.9	122.8	121.0	122.7	123.1
1969-70—							
January	111.7	109.5	110.4	108.5	108.1	109.2	110.3
February	112.4	110.0	110.9	109.2	108.2	110.0	110.9
March	113.0	110.3	111.2	110.0	109.2	110.2	111.4
April	113.7	110.4	111.9	110.4	109.6	111.1	111.9
May	114.0	110.2	112.1	110.4	109.8	111.2	112.0
June	113.9	110.4	112.2	110.4	109.8	111.8	112.0
1970-71—							
July	114.1	110.3	113.0	110.4	109.8	111.9	112.2
August	114.3	111.2	114.2	110.5	110.1	112.1	112.7
September	114.3	111.8	114.5	110.6	110.1	112.5	112.9
October	114.4	112.7	114.8	111.2	110.3	112.6	113.3
November	114.7	113.1	115.0	111.9	111.5	114.0	113.7
December	114.7	113.3	115.5	112.0	112.1	114.3	114.0
January	117.1	114.6	116.5	112.7	113.2	115.1	115.6
February	118.0	116.3	118.0	113.9	113.7	116.6	116.8
March	118.7	117.6	119.0	115.6	114.4	117.1	117.8
April	119.0	118.3	119.1	116.2	114.9	116.9	118.2
May	119.1	118.7	119.1	116.9	115.3	116.8	118.4
June	120.6	119.9	120.2	118.5	116.5	118.2	119.8
1971-72—							
July	121.1	121.3	120.9	119.1	118.1	119.2	120.6
August	121.7	122.1	121.9	120.5	118.7	120.7	121.4
September	122.3	122.4	122.8	120.9	119.5	120.9	122.0
October	122.0	122.9	123.1	121.1	119.8	121.4	122.1
November	122.4	123.2	123.9	122.6	120.7	121.8	122.7
December	122.5	123.2	123.9	122.7	120.7	121.9	122.7
January	122.1	124.0	124.9	122.9	121.1	121.9	122.9
February	122.6	124.6	126.1	123.0	121.2	122.2	123.5
March	123.1	125.7	127.5	124.1	122.1	124.6	124.4
April	123.2	126.3	127.9	124.7	123.0	125.1	124.8
May	123.2	126.9	128.2	125.7	123.3	125.4	125.1
June	123.0	128.1	128.1	126.2	123.5	127.1	125.5
1972-73—							
July	123.1	128.6	128.2	126.8	123.5	127.7	125.8
August	123.1	129.0	128.3	127.0	123.9	127.9	125.9
September	123.7	129.4	128.5	127.2	123.8	128.0	126.3
October	124.1	129.8	128.4	128.1	123.9	128.0	126.7
November	124.3	130.3	129.0	128.3	124.2	128.1	127.0
December	125.8	130.9	129.1	129.1	124.4	128.5	127.9

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

Wholesale Price Index of Materials used in House Building

1. General

This index, relating to materials used in house building, was introduced in November 1970. It is the second in the series of indexes referred to in '1. General' of the description of the Wholesale Price Index of Materials used in Building other than House Building and is complementary to that index.

2. Scope and composition

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

The following numbers of items are included in the lists for the respective State capital cities; Melbourne, Adelaide and Hobart, 50; Sydney, 50, but vinyl floor tiles are not included in the item elsewhere described as 'Ceramic and vinyl floor tiles'; Brisbane, 49 (heating systems not included); and Perth, 51 (building stone and silica-lime bricks included but plaster board not included). In all cases the selection of materials was based on local usage. Items are combined in eleven groups in addition to the 'All Groups' index. Some items carry the weight of similar items not directly priced. They are described in terms of fixed specifications with the aim of recording price changes for representative materials of constant quality.

3. Base period and method of calculation

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

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

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

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

Satisfactory analyses of materials used were received for 114 house buildings, this number being spread over all six State capital cities. Data obtained in each capital were used to construct for that city its own list of items and its individual weighting pattern. As a first step for each State capital city, the many different varieties, etc., of materials reported were classified into index items, and groupings thereof determined. The values of each material used as obtained from analyses of houses of each of the four major construction types (brick,

brick veneer, timber, asbestos cement sheeting) were then combined for each city according to survey results to give construction-type usage patterns. Next, these were amalgamated to produce weighting patterns for the respective cities. The amalgamation was in accordance with the relative importance of each construction type in each given State capital city as indicated by statistics of the value of houses completed in the city in 1968-69. (For practical reasons these two weighting operations were in fact carried out as one). The weighting pattern then derived for the weighted average of the six State capital cities is an aggregation of the individual city patterns, the weight given to each item being proportional to its estimated importance in materials usage in houses completed of the types specified in the six capital cities in 1968-69. In that year the four major construction types mentioned above constituted more than ninety-nine per cent of all house building in the six capitals for which indexes have been prepared.

The materials-used analyses obtained in the respective State capitals did not always include sufficient varieties of houses to give adequate coverage of the range of different types shown by the survey to have been built. Some imputation was therefore necessary. Where this was done the materials usage values shown in the analyses were adjusted as appropriate. The major instance of imputation was the use of analyses for houses with asbestos cement outer walls, collected only in Sydney, in relation to other State capitals.

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 both 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.

The Wholesale Price Index of Materials used in Building other than House Building uses as the indicator for the Electrical Installation Materials group the Wholesale Price Index of Electrical Installation Materials. That index cannot appropriately be so used in relation to house building. It has therefore been necessary to set up new collections of prices in each State capital for representative items of materials used in electrical installation in house building.

5. The weights

The group and item weights used in the index for each State capital city are given on pages 62-3. The pattern resulting from their aggregation over the six State capitals is also shown. Each State capital city has a unique weighting pattern which reflects the difference in the estimated relative importance of given items as between cities. The weighting pattern for each capital city is applied to local price measures in calculating indexes for that city.

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 house building. In the main they are collected as at the mid-point of the month to which the index refers, or as near thereto as practicable.

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

(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 this basis, the nearest realistic price available has been taken.

Discounts also give rise to problems. For the purpose of the index the aim is, of course, to determine and use actual transaction prices as distinct from 'list' prices. Hence it is necessary to seek, in addition to measures of normal trade discounts, measures of 'special' or other discounts of this nature where these are known to be significant. When the latter have been ascertained their effect is reflected in the index. However, because of the varying incidence of these special discounts and the manner in which some of them may be applied, it is not always possible to determine or measure them for incorporation into the index. The problem is kept under continuing attention, and significant changes in special discounts to the extent that they are determined, are incorporated in the index. This may sometimes be on a partly estimated basis, and may sometimes necessitate revisions.

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 group of items and for all groups combined are given in the tables on pages 64-71 for each State capital city and for the six capital cities combined. In addition, a table showing All Groups index numbers for the State capital cities separately and in combination has 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 within each 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.

In interpreting movements in the index, particularly those from month to month, it should be noted that changes frequently occur in an uneven fashion both over time and also, between separate capital cities, at the same points of time. Changes in index numbers for individual months should not be interpreted in isolation and without reference to changes over longer periods.

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

Group and item	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	Six State capital cities							
	Percentage contribution of (i) Item to group index, (ii) Group to All Groups index													
	(i)	(ii)	(i)	(ii)	(i)	(ii)	(i)	(ii)	(i)	(ii)	(i)	(ii)	(i)	(ii)
1. Concrete mix, cement and sand		5.24		4.63		5.04		8.13		7.94		7.25		5.73
Concrete, ready-mixed	66.52		70.00		72.05		67.04		58.26		82.92		66.63	
Cement	19.67		15.61		15.86		16.97		21.64		12.07		18.19	
Sand	13.81		14.39		12.09		15.99		20.10		5.01		15.18	
2. Cement products		7.09		8.55		10.44		6.98		8.14		7.01		8.10
Asbestos cement sheets	27.03		11.40		32.58		14.20		17.41		12.84		20.22	
Concrete tiles	53.54		65.02		46.98		60.58		47.89		9.14		55.09	
Concrete masonry blocks	6.16		6.11		1.43		6.32		1.46		64.58		5.63	
Other cement products	13.27		17.47		19.01		18.90		33.24		13.44		19.06	
3. Clay bricks, tiles, etc.		14.34		10.48		9.35		14.85		16.44		10.14		12.85
Clay bricks	70.07		82.03		72.06		80.74		82.54		49.86		76.43	
Terracotta tiles	11.35		3.56		4.37		7.90		5.74		23.46		7.52	
Earthenware pipes and fittings	18.58		14.41		23.57		11.36		11.72		26.68		16.05	
4. Timber, board and joinery		38.23		37.78		35.29		35.52		29.60		38.15		36.16
Hardwood	18.75		52.67		63.61		11.53		45.83		50.50		38.42	
Softwood	48.41		10.86		14.05		52.09		2.61		2.18		25.86	
Plywood and board	0.62		0.65		2.21		1.22		0.77		4.16		0.96	
Doors and frames	7.55		8.11		5.67		10.02		16.08		10.06		8.85	
Windows and frames	7.14		12.17		5.14		10.50		17.29		12.09		10.17	
Cupboards, etc.	17.53		15.54		9.32		14.64		17.42		21.01		15.74	
5. Steel products		4.89		5.58		8.03		6.67		6.07		7.49		5.86
Steel beams, sections and angles	15.44		8.71		15.11		22.41		23.89		12.48		15.38	
Reinforcing steel	18.44		10.28		13.69		24.70		8.08		10.28		13.98	
Steel balustrading	6.19		8.20		13.20		2.38		5.40		4.24		7.41	
Galvanised steel sheet, decking, etc.	9.69		19.07		11.68		13.19		15.82		34.16		14.66	
Galvanised steel downpipe and guttering	23.31		19.04		14.94		14.41		18.92		12.00		18.86	
Galvanised steel pipes and fittings	9.78		15.72		15.04		10.08		14.53		14.48		13.29	
Hinges, catches, handles, etc.	7.75		7.61		4.72		5.53		4.42		4.23		6.37	
Nails, screws, etc.	9.40		11.37		11.62		7.30		8.94		8.13		10.05	

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

Group and item	Sydney		Melbourne		Brisbane		Adelaide		Perth		Hobart		Six State capital cities	
	Percentage contribution of (i) Item to group index, (ii) Group to All Groups index													
	(i)	(ii)	(i)	(ii)	(i)	(ii)	(i)	(ii)	(i)	(ii)	(i)	(ii)	(i)	(ii)
6. Other metal products		7.25		6.47		8.17		7.24		7.69		7.93		7.20
Aluminium windows, doors, etc.	50.01		38.75		55.23		47.20		22.30		50.12		42.79	
Copper pipes and fittings	25.99		27.15		18.97		25.60		46.66		25.02		28.74	
Taps and valves	13.96		20.95		14.94		14.19		20.14		15.80		17.10	
Latchsets and locksets	10.04		13.15		10.86		13.01		10.90		9.06		11.37	
7. Plumbing fixtures, etc.		3.95		3.34		3.50		3.42		4.59		2.74		3.74
Toilet suites	24.19		23.26		22.13		22.83		21.94		23.72		23.16	
Hand basins	11.69		9.55		11.07		11.51		8.84		12.80		10.49	
Sinks	13.76		13.85		15.60		16.16		15.38		14.48		14.50	
Wash troughs	13.39		17.71		15.07		19.03		17.22		18.28		15.98	
Baths	24.66		18.83		27.39		21.71		28.01		25.61		23.82	
Shower screens	12.31		16.80		8.74		8.76		8.61		5.11		12.05	
8. Electrical installation materials		1.53		1.66		1.81		1.37		1.76		1.61		1.63
Cable	52.87		60.28		49.73		65.27		55.74		59.27		56.20	
Switches, switch plugs and lampholders	31.95		27.72		37.58		25.74		31.78		29.41		30.90	
Switchboards	15.18		12.00		12.69		8.99		12.48		11.32		12.90	
9. Installed appliances		4.43		6.87		4.26		4.26		4.12		6.98		5.13
Stoves	66.28		37.43		59.08		52.87		57.26		39.90		51.07	
Hot water services	30.14		23.83		40.92		42.07		32.49		25.69		29.63	
Heating systems	3.58		38.74		..		5.06		10.25		34.41		19.30	
10. Plaster and plaster products		5.57		7.19		5.09		4.19		4.01		4.99		5.64
Fibrous plaster sheet and products	7.62		6.40		7.20		19.02		84.84		6.57		16.36	
Plaster board	91.55		90.67		89.54		67.93		..		89.81		79.34	
Hard plaster	0.83		2.93		3.26		13.05		15.16		3.62		4.30	
11. Miscellaneous materials		7.48		7.45		9.02		7.43		9.64		5.71		7.96
Paint	28.98		28.27		41.06		28.38		30.32		39.42		30.80	
Glass	19.09		22.57		17.06		20.33		19.64		32.35		20.18	
Ceramic wall tiles	24.62		21.50		17.94		22.03		12.54		16.10		20.20	
Ceramic and vinyl floor tiles	11.86		11.93		10.45		10.04		10.46		1.88		11.14	
Plastic pipes and fittings	1.84		6.43		7.07		10.11		1.34		1.47		4.40	
Adhesives	2.32		2.89		2.17		1.20		0.68		2.37		2.07	
Insulation and building paper	11.29		6.41		4.25		7.91		5.35		6.41		7.47	
Silica-lime bricks	..		..		..		..		5.61		..		1.07	
Building stone	..		..		..		..		14.06		..		2.67	

WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX OF MATERIALS USED IN HOUSE BUILDING

**WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX OF MATERIALS USED IN HOUSE BUILDING
ALL GROUPS INDEX NUMBERS—SIX STATE CAPITAL CITIES**
(Base of each Index: Year 1966-67 = 100.0)(a)

Period	State capital cities						Weighted average of six State capital cities
	Sydney	Melbourne	Brisbane	Adelaide	Perth	Hobart	
1967-68.	103.4	101.3	103.4	102.1	104.0	101.8	102.7
1968-69.	109.3	103.6	105.6	107.0	105.9	104.1	106.3
1969-70.	115.2	107.2	109.4	112.4	110.3	107.7	110.9
1970-71.	119.8	112.3	115.2	116.7	113.9	114.3	115.7
1971-72.	126.1	118.9	124.8	124.8	121.1	120.7	122.7
1969-70—							
January	115.2	107.1	109.3	112.3	110.4	107.8	110.9
February	115.7	107.5	109.9	112.6	110.4	108.0	111.3
March	116.4	107.5	110.6	113.8	110.8	108.1	111.7
April	116.9	107.9	110.8	114.1	111.3	109.1	112.2
May	117.0	107.9	110.6	113.0	111.6	109.3	112.1
June	116.9	107.9	110.7	113.6	111.0	110.5	112.1
1970-71—							
July	117.2	108.2	111.2	113.2	111.0	110.9	112.3
August	117.4	108.4	111.7	113.3	111.1	111.0	112.5
September	117.4	108.8	112.1	114.2	111.0	111.1	112.7
October	117.6	109.5	112.6	114.5	111.2	111.3	113.1
November	118.0	110.2	112.9	115.4	111.7	112.9	113.7
December	118.3	110.5	113.0	115.5	113.4	113.1	114.2
January	119.5	112.1	113.6	115.7	114.8	113.4	115.3
February	120.9	115.1	118.2	117.1	115.0	117.0	117.5
March	122.2	115.9	118.9	119.4	116.1	117.5	118.6
April	122.8	116.2	119.2	119.9	116.8	117.6	119.1
May	122.9	116.4	119.2	120.7	117.1	117.5	119.3
June	123.2	116.6	119.5	121.0	117.7	117.8	119.6
1971-72—							
July	123.4	116.7	120.1	121.2	118.2	118.3	119.9
August	124.1	116.8	120.4	121.8	118.6	118.5	120.3
September	124.8	117.3	121.3	122.5	119.5	118.9	121.0
October	125.3	117.8	122.0	122.9	119.5	119.4	121.4
November	125.6	118.0	123.4	124.3	120.9	119.9	122.0
December	126.2	118.6	123.4	124.7	121.1	120.0	122.5
January	126.0	119.0	123.7	124.7	121.5	120.2	122.7
February	126.4	119.2	128.3	125.5	121.5	120.8	123.5
March	126.8	119.7	128.4	126.4	121.8	121.9	123.9
April	127.9	120.6	128.5	126.8	123.1	122.2	124.8
May	128.1	121.1	128.8	127.8	123.4	122.5	125.2
June	128.0	121.6	129.2	128.8	123.6	126.3	125.5
1972-73—							
July	128.7	122.6	130.8	129.9	124.3	127.1	126.5
August	128.9	122.7	131.2	130.1	124.3	127.2	126.6
September	129.6	123.0	131.8	130.8	124.5	127.2	127.1
October	133.2	123.2	131.8	131.3	124.7	127.2	128.4
November	133.3	124.1	131.7	131.5	124.8	127.3	128.7
December	134.8	125.0	131.9	133.6	124.8	128.5	129.7

(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 HOUSE BUILDING

WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX OF MATERIALS USED IN HOUSE BUILDING

GROUP INDEX NUMBERS—SYDNEY
(Base of each Index: Year 1966-67 = 100.0)(a)

Period	Concrete mix, cement and sand	Cement products	Clay bricks, tiles, etc.	Timber, board and joinery	Steel products	Other metal products	Plumbing fixtures, etc.	Electrical installation materials	Installed appliances	Plaster and plaster products	Miscellaneous materials	All groups
1967-68	103.0	102.2	104.2	104.7	102.0	103.4	102.7	103.1	99.9	101.5	102.2	103.4
1968-69	107.0	108.2	108.4	115.4	104.4	107.7	102.3	104.5	99.7	101.5	103.7	109.3
1969-70	111.9	111.6	113.3	123.2	110.1	112.8	112.9	114.8	103.0	103.7	106.7	115.2
1970-71	119.3	121.7	117.5	126.7	116.9	115.4	117.0	114.7	107.0	108.3	112.4	119.8
1971-72	125.1	135.1	119.7	131.8	131.0	119.5	127.3	120.3	114.8	118.6	116.7	126.1
1970-71— January	122.3	125.4	117.2	125.1	115.9	116.4	116.5	114.1	106.4	107.8	112.0	119.5
February	124.1	126.5	117.8	127.3	117.0	115.3	120.9	112.2	109.5	108.1	112.9	120.9
March	124.3	126.9	118.1	129.8	118.4	116.4	121.6	112.2	109.6	108.1	113.8	122.2
April	124.3	126.9	118.4	130.2	118.8	116.4	121.6	113.5	109.6	113.7	114.3	122.8
May	124.3	127.0	118.6	130.4	119.5	116.4	120.4	113.5	110.0	113.7	114.1	122.9
June	124.3	127.4	118.6	130.7	122.3	117.1	120.3	115.4	110.0	113.7	114.1	123.2
1971-72— July	124.3	127.4	118.6	130.9	125.0	117.1	119.7	115.4	109.8	113.9	114.0	123.4
August	125.5	127.4	118.6	131.5	125.9	118.0	119.8	117.8	112.7	113.9	115.2	124.1
September	125.6	128.8	118.6	131.5	128.6	119.9	122.7	117.8	115.1	114.2	115.9	124.8
October	125.6	128.8	119.8	131.5	129.1	119.7	122.9	120.5	115.1	119.1	116.2	125.3
November	125.6	129.7	119.8	130.9	129.6	119.6	129.6	120.5	115.1	120.2	117.6	125.6
December	125.6	138.5	119.8	131.0	129.1	119.6	129.5	120.5	115.1	120.2	117.6	126.2
January	125.6	138.7	119.5	131.0	129.1	119.3	129.5	120.5	115.1	120.2	116.3	126.0
February	126.3	138.7	120.2	131.2	130.1	119.3	128.7	120.5	116.0	120.3	117.4	126.4
March	125.9	139.0	120.2	131.8	133.4	119.3	128.7	120.5	116.0	120.3	117.4	126.8
April	124.7	141.2	120.2	133.6	137.1	120.1	129.5	121.9	116.0	120.3	117.4	127.9
May	124.6	141.2	120.5	133.5	137.1	120.1	134.5	124.1	116.0	120.3	117.4	128.1
June	120.7	141.2	120.7	133.6	137.3	122.1	132.5	124.1	116.0	120.3	117.5	128.0
1972-73— July	119.9	141.2	119.7	134.9	138.7	122.9	131.3	124.1	114.4	120.3	121.8	128.7
August	117.2	141.2	120.4	135.5	138.7	123.9	130.8	124.1	114.4	120.3	121.9	128.9
September	117.9	141.2	123.0	135.8	138.8	124.4	129.8	124.1	114.4	120.3	124.0	129.6
October	134.8	142.5	123.0	142.1	138.9	125.4	129.9	124.1	114.4	120.4	124.8	133.2
November	134.8	142.7	123.0	142.3	139.2	125.7	129.8	124.1	114.4	120.4	125.0	133.3
December	135.6	142.7	123.9	145.5	139.2	125.6	130.3	124.1	114.7	120.8	125.7	134.8

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

WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX OF MATERIALS USED IN HOUSE BUILDING
GROUP INDEX NUMBERS—MELBOURNE
(Base of each Index: Year 1966-67 = 100.0)(c)

Period	Concrete mix, cement and sand	Cement products	Clay bricks, tiles, etc.	Timber, board and joinery	Steel products	Other metal products	Plumbing fixtures, etc.	Electrical instal- lation materials	Installed appliances	Plaster and plaster products	Miscel- laneous materials	All groups
1967-68	100.0	104.0	102.4	99.6	101.5	104.1	100.9	103.4	100.0	102.0	103.2	101.3
1968-69	101.1	108.2	107.7	101.5	104.8	107.1	101.6	105.3	99.9	103.8	104.7	103.6
1969-70	103.3	118.8	110.9	103.8	110.0	112.0	101.8	116.6	101.8	106.0	107.5	107.2
1970-71	110.4	129.9	115.7	109.2	113.9	114.0	110.9	114.7	102.7	111.6	111.4	112.3
1971-72	122.0	138.2	123.5	114.5	126.4	119.4	120.5	119.6	104.3	119.2	116.5	118.9
1970-71—												
January	111.3	135.9	114.2	107.5	113.1	115.2	109.8	114.1	102.8	111.4	111.5	112.1
February	111.9	136.6	115.7	113.8	114.0	116.2	114.4	112.0	103.4	111.4	113.0	115.1
March	116.1	136.9	119.4	113.9	114.5	116.9	114.9	112.0	103.5	111.4	113.7	115.9
April	117.6	135.6	119.9	114.0	114.8	115.6	114.9	112.5	103.1	115.8	114.1	116.2
May	117.7	136.0	119.9	114.2	115.3	116.5	114.9	113.2	103.2	115.8	114.1	116.4
June	118.2	135.9	119.9	114.3	117.4	116.3	114.4	114.8	103.2	115.8	114.1	116.6
1971-72—												
July	118.3	137.0	119.9	113.9	120.8	116.7	114.4	114.8	103.3	115.8	114.1	116.7
August	118.8	135.9	119.9	113.8	122.8	117.3	115.0	117.4	103.3	115.8	114.1	116.8
September	118.7	136.5	119.9	113.9	124.4	119.2	116.3	117.4	103.9	115.8	115.6	117.3
October	118.7	137.6	119.9	113.9	124.5	118.8	115.5	119.7	103.8	120.0	116.9	117.8
November	118.7	137.2	119.9	113.9	124.7	119.0	119.9	119.7	104.3	120.3	116.9	118.0
December	118.7	138.4	125.3	113.9	124.9	119.5	119.9	119.7	103.8	120.3	116.0	118.6
1972-73—												
January	124.4	138.5	126.2	113.9	125.0	119.8	120.8	119.7	103.8	120.3	116.0	119.0
February	125.2	138.7	126.0	113.9	125.7	120.9	121.2	119.7	103.8	120.3	116.3	119.2
March	125.4	139.1	125.9	114.7	128.7	120.5	121.2	119.7	104.0	120.3	116.3	119.7
April	125.6	139.8	126.2	115.8	131.6	120.5	123.8	120.9	105.5	120.3	116.4	120.6
May	125.6	140.0	126.4	116.0	131.8	120.5	128.7	123.4	106.1	120.3	118.6	121.1
June	125.7	140.0	126.3	116.7	132.1	120.6	128.9	123.4	106.3	120.3	120.3	121.6
1972-73—												
July	126.9	140.4	126.2	118.8	131.8	122.5	128.9	123.4	106.1	120.4	120.7	122.6
August	126.3	140.5	127.2	119.0	131.8	121.6	128.9	123.4	106.0	120.4	120.8	122.7
September	126.9	140.4	127.1	119.3	132.1	122.4	128.9	123.4	106.0	120.4	122.2	123.0
October	127.0	140.8	127.2	119.5	132.4	122.8	128.9	123.4	106.0	120.4	123.0	123.2
November	126.9	140.8	127.5	121.7	132.4	123.5	129.1	123.4	106.0	120.4	122.5	124.1
December	127.0	140.9	130.7	122.2	134.1	124.9	129.2	123.4	107.3	120.4	124.1	125.0

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

WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX OF MATERIALS USED IN HOUSE BUILDING

WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX OF MATERIALS USED IN HOUSE BUILDING
GROUP INDEX NUMBERS—BRISBANE
(Base of each Index: Year 1966-67 = 100.0)(a)

Period	Concrete mix, cement and sand	Cement products	Clay bricks, tiles, etc.	Timber, board and joinery	Steel products	Other metal products	Plumbing fixtures, etc.	Electrical instal- lation materials	Installed appliances	Plaster and plaster products	Miscel- laneous materials	All groups
1967-68	100.8	100.9	104.2	105.7	102.2	103.5	101.3	102.8	98.3	101.0	103.7	103.4
1968-69	100.6	103.8	107.5	109.5	103.5	102.9	101.7	105.0	97.0	101.6	104.9	105.6
1969-70	105.0	107.0	113.9	114.0	107.7	102.9	109.4	115.8	100.7	103.6	105.2	109.4
1970-71	113.1	114.5	121.3	123.8	112.4	98.6	114.5	115.7	100.3	106.8	106.6	115.2
1971-72	118.9	127.0	131.1	135.6	123.9	110.6	122.8	121.4	98.6	111.8	111.7	124.8
1970-71—												
January	112.3	112.3	121.4	120.7	110.8	97.0	113.9	115.2	101.8	107.1	106.1	113.6
February	114.3	117.4	122.5	130.4	113.2	99.5	115.1	113.4	101.8	107.2	106.6	118.2
March	114.3	118.7	122.5	130.7	115.2	101.4	116.6	113.4	98.7	107.8	108.9	118.9
April	114.3	118.8	122.5	130.8	115.5	103.5	117.1	114.6	98.7	108.1	109.0	119.2
May	114.3	118.8	122.5	130.8	115.6	103.5	117.1	114.6	98.7	109.3	108.5	119.2
June	114.3	119.2	122.8	130.8	117.9	103.5	117.4	116.6	98.7	108.5	108.7	119.5
1971-72—												
July	114.3	119.4	122.8	130.9	121.0	106.8	117.1	118.8	98.7	108.5	108.7	120.1
August	114.3	119.4	122.8	131.0	122.2	108.6	116.5	118.8	98.9	108.5	108.7	120.4
September	114.3	120.8	129.3	131.0	122.6	109.0	118.4	118.8	100.2	108.5	108.8	121.3
October	114.3	120.8	133.0	131.1	121.8	107.8	120.0	121.9	100.4	111.1	111.1	122.0
November	115.9	123.9	133.0	131.8	121.9	111.7	124.3	121.9	100.4	113.2	112.5	123.4
December	115.9	123.9	133.0	131.8	121.9	111.7	124.3	121.9	100.7	113.2	112.5	123.4
1972-73—												
January	122.4	123.9	133.0	131.8	121.9	111.7	124.3	121.9	100.7	113.2	112.5	123.7
February	123.8	133.1	133.0	141.4	122.8	111.7	124.3	121.9	100.7	113.8	112.7	128.3
March	123.8	133.1	133.1	141.3	126.1	111.7	123.8	121.9	100.7	112.8	112.7	128.4
April	123.8	135.0	133.1	141.4	127.9	111.4	125.1	121.9	94.4	112.8	112.5	128.5
May	123.8	135.0	133.4	141.8	128.2	111.4	127.7	121.9	93.5	112.8	112.5	128.8
June	120.5	135.1	133.4	142.0	128.3	113.4	127.7	123.8	93.5	112.8	115.3	129.2
1972-73—												
July	117.6	136.2	133.4	146.8	128.8	113.4	127.7	124.9	93.5	112.8	114.1	130.8
August	116.6	136.1	136.5	147.3	129.3	113.4	128.3	124.9	93.5	112.8	113.4	131.2
September	116.6	138.6	136.5	147.3	130.1	114.1	128.3	124.9	93.5	112.8	115.6	131.8
October	112.8	139.8	136.7	147.3	130.7	114.1	128.3	124.9	93.5	112.8	115.6	131.8
November	109.9	139.8	137.1	147.3	130.5	114.4	128.3	124.9	93.5	112.8	115.9	131.7
December	111.5	139.9	137.3	147.3	131.4	114.5	128.3	124.9	94.0	112.8	116.2	131.9

(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 PRICES AND PRICE INDEXES

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

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

Period	Concrete mix, cement and sand	Cement products	Clay bricks, tiles, etc.	Timber, board and joinery	Steel products	Other metal products	Plumbing fixtures, etc.	Electrical installation materials	Installed appliances	Plaster and plaster products	Miscellaneous materials	All groups
1967-68	100.4	101.5	104.3	101.9	103.5	103.1	101.7	104.0	99.7	100.0	101.6	102.1
1968-69	105.3	106.0	109.0	110.3	106.2	102.5	101.4	106.0	99.7	100.4	105.6	107.0
1969-70	108.2	109.5	113.5	116.9	111.0	109.7	109.6	117.3	103.8	101.2	112.1	112.4
1970-71	110.0	120.3	121.1	119.9	116.4	111.8	117.5	114.7	105.9	104.8	113.8	116.7
1971-72	119.1	127.9	128.6	127.5	128.9	122.2	127.7	118.8	110.2	115.1	119.6	124.8
1970-71—												
January	109.2	121.4	119.6	118.4	115.0	111.8	116.1	114.1	105.6	104.3	113.3	115.7
February	109.3	122.6	120.0	120.4	115.5	115.6	118.6	111.8	106.1	105.7	114.3	117.1
March	109.8	123.2	124.8	123.4	117.7	117.0	121.0	111.8	106.5	106.1	115.4	119.4
April	110.0	123.2	124.8	124.4	118.0	117.0	121.0	112.7	106.8	108.7	115.1	119.9
May	113.4	123.2	125.7	125.5	118.0	117.0	121.0	112.7	106.8	108.9	115.8	120.7
June	113.4	123.2	125.7	125.5	122.0	117.0	121.0	114.3	106.8	108.9	115.8	121.0
1971-72—												
July	113.4	123.2	125.7	125.5	125.3	117.0	121.0	114.3	106.1	108.9	115.8	121.2
August	113.9	123.2	125.7	125.5	126.0	119.7	122.8	117.1	107.4	108.9	118.0	121.8
September	113.9	124.1	125.7	125.5	127.7	123.0	124.4	117.1	110.6	110.4	118.1	122.5
October	114.9	124.1	125.7	126.0	127.8	123.0	124.2	118.9	110.6	114.5	118.1	122.9
November	120.1	124.7	129.5	126.5	127.8	123.2	128.7	118.9	110.6	114.7	118.3	124.3
December	120.5	124.7	130.2	126.7	127.8	123.2	128.6	118.9	110.6	115.3	119.3	124.7
1972-73—												
January	121.0	124.7	130.2	126.7	128.0	123.2	128.6	118.9	110.8	115.3	119.5	124.7
February	121.3	132.9	130.2	126.7	128.5	123.2	128.6	118.9	111.0	118.5	119.5	125.5
March	121.3	132.9	130.2	129.5	128.7	122.3	128.6	118.9	111.0	118.5	119.5	126.4
April	122.6	133.5	130.2	129.5	131.9	122.3	128.6	118.9	110.6	118.5	119.5	126.8
May	122.7	133.5	130.2	130.2	133.4	122.3	134.3	122.5	111.5	118.7	124.7	127.8
June	123.9	133.5	130.2	132.0	133.4	124.8	134.3	122.5	111.5	118.7	125.0	128.8
1972-73—												
July	124.6	134.1	136.0	132.7	133.4	124.5	133.8	122.5	111.5	118.7	125.0	129.9
August	125.1	134.1	136.0	132.7	133.4	125.0	133.8	122.5	111.4	118.8	125.0	130.1
September	125.1	134.1	136.0	134.6	134.5	125.0	133.9	122.5	111.4	118.8	125.4	130.8
October	125.5	134.7	136.0	135.4	134.6	125.7	133.9	122.5	111.4	118.8	126.3	131.3
November	126.1	134.7	136.0	135.5	134.7	126.4	133.9	122.5	111.6	118.8	127.5	131.5
December	129.0	134.7	136.0	140.5	134.7	126.9	133.9	122.5	112.3	118.8	128.0	133.6

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

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

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

Period	Concrete mix, cement and sand	Cement products	Clay bricks, tiles, etc.	Timber, board and joinery	Steel products	Other metal products	Plumbing fixtures, etc.	Electrical installation materials	Installed appliances	Plaster and plaster products	Miscellaneous materials	All groups
1967-68	102.3	104.5	103.5	105.8	101.6	105.3	101.3	103.3	101.4	103.0	103.5	104.0
1968-69	102.8	106.5	106.2	107.5	106.2	107.5	102.7	105.2	101.1	107.1	104.7	105.9
1969-70	105.3	109.1	111.4	111.1	110.8	118.4	108.1	115.1	102.6	109.4	107.7	110.3
1970-71	110.6	113.8	118.5	115.5	115.5	115.4	109.0	115.5	102.8	109.8	110.2	113.9
1971-72	117.2	121.9	129.5	121.3	128.8	119.7	114.6	120.7	107.5	110.6	117.7	121.1
1970-71—												
January	112.8	115.4	119.5	117.5	114.4	113.7	108.3	115.4	102.9	110.1	110.8	114.8
February	113.7	115.7	119.5	117.5	115.5	112.8	108.4	113.3	102.9	110.1	112.0	115.0
March	114.1	117.0	119.5	119.9	117.4	114.4	108.5	113.3	104.0	110.1	112.2	116.1
April	114.1	117.0	124.0	120.1	117.7	114.4	108.5	113.3	104.0	110.1	110.9	116.8
May	114.1	117.1	125.6	120.1	117.7	114.5	108.5	113.3	103.8	110.1	110.9	117.1
June	114.1	120.5	125.6	119.8	122.8	114.6	108.5	115.2	104.8	110.1	111.0	117.7
1971-72—												
July	114.1	120.6	125.6	120.6	125.6	114.9	108.7	115.3	105.9	110.1	111.1	118.2
August	114.1	120.6	125.7	120.7	125.3	116.1	108.9	117.6	105.9	110.1	113.3	118.6
September	114.4	120.6	125.7	121.5	126.6	119.4	111.4	117.6	105.9	110.1	115.8	119.5
October	115.2	120.2	126.1	120.7	127.1	119.5	111.3	121.4	106.5	110.1	115.8	119.5
November	115.2	120.5	131.1	120.9	126.4	120.6	113.9	121.4	107.7	110.1	119.0	120.9
December	115.2	120.5	131.1	120.9	126.6	121.1	116.0	121.4	107.7	110.1	118.8	121.1
1972-73—												
January	119.7	120.5	131.3	121.0	126.8	120.9	116.0	121.4	108.0	110.1	118.8	121.5
February	119.7	120.5	131.3	120.7	128.0	120.9	116.0	121.4	108.5	110.1	118.8	121.5
March	119.7	120.5	131.3	120.7	129.8	120.8	116.0	121.4	108.6	111.6	119.8	121.8
April	119.7	125.9	131.7	122.6	133.8	120.4	117.8	121.4	108.6	111.6	119.9	123.1
May	119.9	125.9	131.7	122.6	134.9	120.4	119.7	123.9	108.3	111.6	120.4	123.4
June	119.9	125.9	131.7	122.8	134.9	121.4	119.8	123.9	108.3	111.6	120.9	123.6
1972-73—												
July	119.9	125.9	131.7	123.9	135.1	122.0	120.0	123.9	111.0	111.6	123.1	124.3
August	119.9	126.2	131.7	123.9	135.0	122.3	120.0	123.9	111.1	111.6	123.1	124.3
September	119.9	126.2	131.7	124.1	135.0	122.3	120.0	123.9	111.1	111.6	124.6	124.7
October	119.3	126.9	131.7	124.1	134.8	122.5	121.0	123.9	111.1	113.3	124.6	124.7
November	119.3	126.9	131.7	124.2	135.1	122.7	121.2	123.9	110.2	113.3	125.3	124.8
December	119.3	126.9	131.7	124.3	135.3	123.0	121.4	123.9	110.0	113.3	125.4	124.8

(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 PRICES AND PRICE INDEXES

WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX OF MATERIALS USED IN HOUSE BUILDING

GROUP INDEX NUMBERS—HOBART

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

Period	Concrete mix, cement and sand	Cement products	Clay bricks, tiles, etc.	Timber, board and joentry	Steel products	Other metal products	Plumbing fixtures, etc.	Electrical installation materials	Installed appliances	Plaster and plaster products	Miscellaneous materials	All groups
1967-68	104.8	100.9	104.6	100.8	100.9	103.3	101.9	103.5	100.1	100.2	102.3	101.8
1968-69	108.0	105.3	109.6	102.8	104.0	102.5	104.5	105.9	99.9	104.6	103.1	104.1
1969-70	109.1	110.4	111.7	105.4	110.4	108.3	115.8	118.2	100.9	105.3	110.0	107.7
1970-71	116.0	114.6	120.6	113.9	116.5	113.7	123.8	115.9	102.5	108.1	115.5	114.3
1971-72	123.6	124.2	123.8	120.3	129.2	117.1	132.8	120.9	105.8	113.5	123.3	120.7
1970-71—												
January	117.8	113.4	121.6	111.7	115.6	113.7	123.1	115.3	102.0	107.5	114.5	113.4
February	117.8	118.9	122.0	119.1	115.3	117.6	124.0	113.0	102.2	107.5	117.0	117.0
March	118.9	118.9	122.0	118.7	119.2	118.2	126.6	113.0	103.8	107.6	117.2	117.5
April	118.9	118.9	120.5	118.7	119.4	118.3	125.6	114.0	103.8	111.5	117.3	117.6
May	118.9	119.6	120.5	118.7	119.5	116.5	125.9	114.9	103.0	111.5	117.4	117.5
June	118.9	119.6	120.5	118.8	122.0	116.7	125.9	116.0	103.0	111.5	118.4	117.8
1971-72—												
July	118.9	119.6	120.9	119.2	124.7	116.4	125.9	116.7	103.7	111.5	119.4	118.3
August	120.8	119.6	120.8	119.2	125.4	116.4	126.8	119.0	104.4	111.5	119.4	118.5
September	120.8	119.7	120.8	119.2	126.4	116.4	128.8	119.0	106.3	111.5	121.3	118.9
October	120.8	120.3	121.5	119.5	127.2	116.5	129.9	121.4	105.9	114.1	122.1	119.4
November	120.8	123.1	121.9	119.6	127.4	117.1	133.5	121.0	105.2	114.1	123.3	119.9
December	120.8	123.1	121.9	119.7	127.9	117.1	134.2	121.0	105.2	114.1	123.3	120.0
January	120.8	123.1	121.9	120.0	128.2	117.1	134.2	121.0	105.2	114.1	123.9	120.2
February	121.4	124.2	126.1	120.0	129.2	117.1	134.4	121.0	106.0	114.1	123.9	120.8
March	129.4	125.8	126.1	120.0	133.1	117.1	134.4	121.0	106.5	114.1	123.9	121.9
April	129.4	127.4	126.1	120.0	133.8	118.2	135.2	121.5	107.0	114.1	123.9	122.2
May	129.5	128.0	126.1	120.0	133.7	118.2	136.2	123.9	107.2	114.2	127.8	122.5
June	129.5	136.1	131.1	127.0	133.8	117.5	139.7	123.9	107.2	114.2	127.9	126.3
1972-73—												
July	129.5	136.1	131.1	129.1	133.8	117.5	139.7	123.9	107.2	114.2	127.9	127.1
August	129.5	137.3	131.1	129.1	133.7	116.7	140.1	123.9	107.2	114.2	128.9	127.2
September	129.5	137.3	131.1	129.3	133.8	116.7	133.1	124.5	107.2	114.2	130.0	127.2
October	129.5	137.3	131.1	129.3	133.9	116.7	133.1	124.5	107.2	114.2	130.7	127.2
November	129.5	137.3	131.1	129.3	133.9	116.7	136.2	124.5	107.2	114.2	130.8	127.3
December	129.5	137.3	141.5	129.4	134.7	117.5	136.6	124.5	107.2	114.2	131.1	128.5

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

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

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

Period	Concrete mix, cement and sand	Cement products	Clay bricks, tiles, etc.	Timber, board and joentry	Steel products	Other metal products	Plumbing fixtures, etc.	Electrical installation materials	Installed appliances	Plaster and plaster products	Miscellaneous materials	All groups
1967-68	101.6	102.8	103.6	103.0	101.9	103.9	101.7	103.3	100.0	101.7	102.9	102.7
1968-69	103.8	107.0	107.8	108.6	104.8	106.3	102.0	105.2	99.7	103.0	104.5	106.3
1969-70	107.1	112.6	112.4	113.5	110.0	111.8	108.7	115.8	102.2	105.1	107.4	110.9
1970-71	113.4	121.8	118.0	118.5	115.0	112.4	113.6	115.0	103.8	109.4	111.0	115.7
1971-72	121.2	132.0	124.5	124.8	127.9	118.5	122.6	120.2	107.4	116.9	116.4	122.7
1970-71—												
January	114.8	124.7	117.6	117.2	113.9	112.5	112.9	114.5	103.9	109.2	110.9	115.3
February	115.9	126.2	118.3	121.4	115.1	113.0	115.9	112.5	105.0	109.4	112.1	117.5
March	117.2	126.9	119.8	122.8	116.5	114.2	116.7	112.5	104.9	109	113.0	118.6
April	117.6	126.5	120.9	123.1	116.9	114.2	116.8	113.3	104.8	113.	113.0	119.1
May	118.0	126.7	121.4	123.5	117.2	114.4	116.4	113.3	104.9	113.3	112.9	119.3
June	118.1	127.3	121.4	123.4	120.2	114.6	116.2	115.3	105.0	113.2	113.0	119.6
1971-72—												
July	118.1	127.7	121.4	123.5	123.2	115.2	116.0	115.6	105.1	113.3	113.0	119.9
August	118.7	127.4	121.4	123.7	124.3	116.3	116.3	117.8	106.0	113.3	113.9	120.3
September	118.8	128.3	122.0	123.8	125.9	118.3	118.5	117.8	107.3	113.5	115.1	121.0
October	119.1	128.6	122.8	123.8	126.1	118.0	118.5	120.5	107.4	117.2	115.8	121.4
November	119.8	129.3	124.2	123.7	126.2	118.8	123.3	120.5	107.7	117.9	117.1	122.0
December	119.9	132.1	123.6	123.8	126.1	119.0	123.7	120.5	107.5	117.9	116.9	122.5
1972-73—												
January	123.0	132.2	125.8	123.8	126.2	118.9	123.9	120.5	107.6	117.9	116.5	122.7
February	123.6	134.3	126.0	125.0	127.1	119.2	123.8	120.5	107.9	118.2	117.0	123.5
March	123.8	134.5	126.0	125.6	129.8	119.0	123.7	120.5	108.0	118.3	117.1	123.9
April	123.9	136.6	126.2	126.8	132.9	119.2	129.3	121.3	108.0	118.3	117.2	124.8
May	123.6	136.7	126.4	127.0	133.3	119.2	129.2	123.7	108.2	118.3	118.3	125.2
June	122.3	136.8	126.5	127.6	133.5	120.5	128.8	123.7	108.3	118.3	119.4	125.5
1972-73—												
July	122.2	137.2	126.6	129.5	133.9	121.3	128.4	123.8	108.1	118.3	121.0	126.5
August	121.2	137.3	127.4	129.8	133.9	121.5	128.3	123.8	108.1	118.4	121.0	126.6
September	121.5	137.6	128.3	130.2	134.3	122.0	127.9	123.9	108.1	118.4	122.6	127.1
October	125.9	138.4	128.4	132.4	134.5	122.5	128.1	123.9	108.1	118.6	123.2	128.4
November	125.7	138.5	128.5	133.2	134.6	122.9	128.2	123.9	108.0	118.6	123.4	128.7
December	126.4	138.5	129.7	134.8	135.3	123.4	128.4	123.9	108.6	118.7	124.1	129.7

(d) 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 Metallic Materials used in the Manufacture of Fabricated Metal Products

1. General

This index, relating to important metallic materials used in the manufacture of fabricated metal products, was introduced in December 1972. In addition to constituting a further step in the publication of an expanded range of wholesale price indexes, this index and the Wholesale Price Index of Copper Materials used in the Manufacture of Electrical Equipment (described on page 75) have been designed as a modern replacement for the metals components of the Wholesale Price (Basic Materials and Foodstuffs) Index.

2. Scope and composition

This index includes important metallic materials selected and combined in accordance with a weighting pattern reflecting value of usage as reported at the 1968-69 Census of Manufacturing Establishments for establishments classified to the Fabricated Metal Products Sub-division of Manufacturing Industry (Australian Standard Industrial Classification Sub-division 31).

Index numbers are compiled and published for four groupings of items and for the All Groups combination. The materials have been grouped under the headings Iron and Steel, Aluminium, Copper and Brass, and Other Metallic Materials.

The composition and weighting pattern of the index is given below.

WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX OF METALLIC MATERIALS USED IN THE MANUFACTURE OF FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS COMPOSITION AND WEIGHTING PATTERN AS AT REFERENCE BASE YEAR: 1968-69

Group and item	Percentage contribution of	
	Item to group index	Group to All Groups index
1. Iron and steel		83.2
Pig iron	0.5	
Steel bar, flats, rounds, squares and plate (excluding stainless steel)	29.8	
Stainless steel	5.4	
Steel sheet and strip (other than stainless steel and tinplate)	23.1	
Tinplate	9.7	
Wire rod	1.7	
Steel angles, channels, joists, beams and other structural sections	11.6	
Uncoated coiled steel wire (round, strip and sections)	8.8	
Coated (galvanised) coiled steel wire (round, strip and sections)	4.5	
Ferrous pipes and tubes	2.7	
Forgings and castings of iron and steel	1.8	
Electrodes	0.4	
2. Aluminium		8.9
Aluminium and alloy refinery shapes	14.0	
Aluminium and alloy sections (excluding wire)	66.3	
Aluminium and alloy sheet, plate, strip, circles, slugs, foilstock, etc.	0.8	
Aluminium and alloy castings	18.9	
3. Copper and brass		5.7
Copper and alloy refinery shapes	5.3	
Copper and alloy sections (excluding wire)	27.9	
Copper and alloy sheet, plate, strip, circles, slugs, foilstock, etc.	1.2	
Copper and alloy single wire and wire drawn from rod	1.6	
Brass sections (excluding wire)	36.8	
Brass sheet, plate, strip, circles, slugs, foilstock, etc.	3.6	
Brass refinery shapes	23.6	
4. Other metallic materials		2.2
Zinc and alloy refinery shapes	9.8	
Zinc and alloy castings	13.4	
Silver	76.8	

3. Base period and method of calculation

The reference base of the index is the year 1968-69 = 100.0. The index is a fixed weights index and is calculated by the method known as 'the weighted arithmetic mean of price relatives.'

4. Prices

Prices for each of the items relate to representative goods of fixed specification collected from a selection of representative sources. In each case, these specifications are sufficiently detailed to ensure that the price changes incorporated in the indexes are measured, as far as possible, on the basis of constant quality.

The price series used are obtained monthly, by mail collection, from major Australian manufacturers of the relevant materials. In the main prices are collected as at the mid-point of each month.

The prices collected are, as far as possible, those normally charged to representative manufacturers for goods delivered into their stores.

5. Index numbers

The index has been compiled for each month from July 1968, and for financial years from 1968-69. Index numbers for financial years are simple averages of the relevant monthly index numbers. Index numbers for each group and all groups are given below. In interpreting movements in the index, particularly those from month to month, it should be noted that changes frequently occur in an uneven fashion over time. Changes in index numbers for individual months should not be interpreted in isolation and without reference to changes over longer periods. Figures are published to one decimal place to avoid distortions that would occur in rounding off the index numbers to the nearest whole number.

Current index numbers are published monthly in *Wholesale Price Indexes of Metallic Materials* (Reference No. 9.10).

WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX OF METALLIC MATERIALS USED IN THE MANUFACTURE OF FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS—GROUP AND ALL GROUPS INDEX NUMBERS

(Base of each Index: Year 1968-69=100.0)(a)

Period	Iron and steel	Aluminium	Copper and brass	Other metallic materials	All groups
1968-69	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1969-70	104.2	102.2	122.5	93.8	104.8
1970-71	106.7	104.5	106.5	90.9	106.2
1971-72	116.2	106.8	106.2	83.6	114.1
1968-69—					
July	98.7	99.5	92.4	114.3	98.7
August	98.7	99.7	92.4	109.1	98.6
September	98.7	99.7	92.8	109.6	98.7
October	98.9	100.0	93.8	99.9	98.7
November	98.9	100.0	93.8	101.3	98.7
December	98.9	100.0	97.6	100.2	98.9
January	100.9	100.0	101.7	100.8	100.9
February	101.2	100.0	103.3	94.0	101.1
March	101.3	100.0	103.3	95.1	101.1
April	101.3	100.1	106.1	93.1	101.3
May	101.3	100.1	109.3	93.2	101.5
June	101.4	101.2	113.5	88.2	101.8

(a) Figures are published 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 METALLIC MATERIALS USED IN THE MANUFACTURE OF
FABRICATED METAL PRODUCTS—GROUP AND ALL GROUPS INDEX
NUMBERS—continued**

(Base of each Index: Year 1968-69=100.0)(a)

Period	Iron and steel	Aluminium	Copper and brass	Other metallic materials	All groups
1969-70—					
July	101.4	101.2	112.2	87.2	101.7
August	101.4	101.2	117.7	88.4	102.1
September	102.1	101.2	121.6	93.4	103.0
October	102.5	101.2	117.6	96.3	103.1
November	103.0	101.2	120.2	99.2	103.7
December	103.0	101.6	125.1	94.2	103.9
January	105.6	101.6	126.4	96.9	106.2
February	106.1	103.5	124.6	98.2	106.8
March	106.1	103.5	128.4	97.7	107.0
April	106.2	103.5	130.9	96.9	107.2
May	106.4	103.5	126.4	89.5	106.9
June	106.4	103.6	118.5	88.6	106.4
1970-71—					
July	106.4	103.6	113.6	90.4	106.2
August	106.4	103.6	112.4	94.6	106.3
September	105.9	103.5	109.0	95.3	105.6
October	105.9	104.2	107.2	93.1	105.6
November	105.9	104.4	104.9	93.0	105.5
December	105.9	104.4	102.3	88.8	105.2
January	105.9	105.1	102.7	88.7	105.3
February	106.1	105.1	102.1	87.1	105.3
March	106.2	105.1	103.2	91.6	105.6
April	106.3	105.1	108.2	91.8	106.0
May	107.2	105.2	107.5	89.6	106.6
June	112.8	105.2	104.8	87.5	111.1
1971-72—					
July	113.4	105.3	106.1	89.5	111.7
August	113.6	106.0	109.0	88.7	112.1
September	113.8	106.7	108.5	82.8	112.1
October	113.8	107.7	106.8	78.8	112.1
November	113.8	107.7	106.7	78.0	112.1
December	113.8	107.7	105.1	80.2	112.0
January	113.8	106.8	105.0	82.5	112.0
February	117.4	106.8	105.3	83.0	115.0
March	118.9	106.6	105.6	83.1	116.2
April	120.2	106.6	105.5	84.9	117.4
May	121.1	107.0	105.4	85.8	118.1
June	121.1	107.0	105.2	86.5	118.2
1972-73—					
July	121.1	107.1	105.1	89.5	118.3
August	121.2	107.1	105.2	97.3	118.5
September	121.2	107.1	104.8	93.9	118.4
October	121.5	108.2	102.5	96.0	118.7
November	121.5	108.2	102.5	95.9	118.7
December	121.6	108.3	102.5	99.0	118.9

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

Wholesale Price Indexes of Copper Materials used in the Manufacture of Electrical Equipment

1. General

This special purpose measure was introduced in December 1972. In addition to constituting a further step in the publication of an expanded range of wholesale price indexes, it has been designed to supplement the Price Index of Materials used in the Manufacture of Fabricated Metal Products in providing a replacement for the metals components of the Wholesale Price (Basic Materials and Foodstuffs) Index.

2. Scope and composition

The composition and weighting of these indexes was determined on the joint advice of the Electricity Supply Association of Australia and the Australian Electrical Manufacturers' Association, whose members use measures of this type for price adjustment of important contracts.

Four copper materials have been combined into indexes for five separate activities of electrical equipment manufacturing. The selected activities are:

- (a) Electric motors and motor control equipment manufacturing,
- (b) High voltage and low voltage switchgear manufacturing,
- (c) Distribution transformers manufacturing,
- (d) Power transformers manufacturing,
- (e) General transformers manufacturing.

3. Base period and method of calculation

Each of the indexes is a fixed weights index compiled on the reference base 1968-69 = 100.0 using the method known as the 'weighted arithmetic mean of price relatives.'

4. Prices

Prices for each of the items relate to representative goods of fixed specification collected from a selection of representative sources. In each case, these specifications are sufficiently detailed to ensure that the price changes incorporated in the indexes are measured, as far as possible, on the basis of constant quality.

The price series used are obtained monthly, by mail collection, from major Australian manufacturers of the relevant materials. In the main prices are collected as at the mid-point of each month.

The prices collected are, as far as possible, those normally charged to representative manufacturers for goods delivered into their stores.

5. Index numbers

The index has been compiled for each month from July 1968, and for financial years from 1968-69. Index numbers for financial years are simple averages of the relevant monthly index numbers. Index numbers for each group and all groups are given on pages 76-77. In interpreting movements in the index, particularly those from month to month, it should be noted that changes frequently occur in an uneven fashion over time. Changes in index numbers for individual months should not be interpreted in isolation and without reference to changes over longer periods. Figures are published to one decimal place to avoid distortions that would occur in rounding off the index numbers to the nearest whole number.

Current index numbers are published monthly in *Wholesale Price Indexes of Metallic Materials* (Reference No. 9.10).

6. Weighting pattern

The weighting patterns for the selected activities are as follows:

Copper materials	Proportions of value of usage in the manufacture of—				
	Electric motors and motor control equipment	High voltage and low voltage switchgear	Distribution transformers	Power transformers	General transformers
	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent
Busbar	15	84	..	4	30
Paper covered strip . . . . .	..	..	35	95	8
Polyvinyl chloride cable	26	11	..	..	2
Enamelled winding wire	59	5	65	1	60
	100	100	100	100	100

WHOLESALE PRICE INDEXES OF COPPER MATERIALS USED IN THE
MANUFACTURE OF ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT

INDEX NUMBERS FOR SELECTED ACTIVITIES

(Base of each Index: Year 1968-69 = 100.0)(a)

	Copper materials used in the manufacture of—				
	Electric motors and motor control equipment	High voltage and low voltage switchgear	Distribution transformers	Power transformers	General transformers
1968-69	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1969-70	114.9	124.3	115.0	123.0	116.4
1970-71	104.0	105.7	101.3	100.3	103.0
1971-72	104.8	104.9	101.3	95.2	104.0
1968-69—					
July	94.6	92.5	94.2	92.0	94.1
August	94.6	92.5	94.2	92.0	94.1
September	94.6	92.5	94.2	92.0	94.1
October	95.4	93.1	95.4	93.7	95.0
November	95.5	93.8	94.8	92.5	95.0
December	95.8	95.4	96.6	97.3	96.0
January	97.0	96.8	98.1	100.9	97.0
February	104.5	104.9	103.6	103.1	104.2
March	104.5	104.9	103.6	103.1	104.2
April	105.5	107.3	106.3	108.8	106.1
May	107.3	110.9	107.9	109.8	108.6
June	110.7	115.3	111.0	114.7	111.7

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

**WHOLESALE PRICE INDEXES OF COPPER MATERIALS USED IN THE
MANUFACTURE OF ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT
INDEX NUMBERS FOR SELECTED ACTIVITIES—continued**

(Base of each Index: Year 1968-69 = 100.0)(a)

	Copper materials used in the manufacture of—				
	Electric motors and motor control equipment	High voltage and low voltage switchgear	Distribution transformers	Power transformers	General transformers
1969-70—					
July	110.6	114.3	110.1	113.3	110.8
August	113.6	119.5	114.9	121.7	114.9
September	116.5	124.6	115.7	119.2	118.0
October	112.0	119.5	111.1	117.7	112.5
November	113.2	121.9	113.7	122.3	114.5
December	116.2	127.0	117.0	126.7	118.3
January	116.4	128.4	116.8	126.3	118.7
February	115.2	126.0	115.3	124.3	116.9
March	117.1	129.7	118.5	129.6	119.9
April	119.2	132.5	119.6	130.3	121.7
May	117.3	128.8	116.9	126.3	118.8
June	111.8	118.8	110.3	117.6	111.4
1970-71—					
July	108.7	113.6	106.5	112.0	107.5
August	106.3	111.8	103.4	107.1	105.3
September	104.0	107.9	100.3	102.1	102.4
October	102.1	106.1	99.5	101.1	101.4
November	107.1	105.4	102.9	94.8	105.7
December	103.2	102.3	98.6	93.1	101.1
January	103.1	101.8	98.8	93.7	101.0
February	102.1	101.4	98.8	93.7	100.9
March	102.1	101.4	101.1	99.9	101.4
April	102.9	105.7	103.0	105.3	103.4
May	102.9	105.7	102.2	103.2	103.3
June	102.9	105.5	100.0	97.1	102.7
1971-72—					
July	102.7	104.2	100.9	99.4	102.4
August	103.3	107.3	100.3	98.0	103.4
September	104.7	106.8	101.5	96.7	104.6
October	104.6	106.6	100.1	92.9	104.2
November	104.6	106.6	100.0	92.6	104.2
December	104.2	104.1	99.6	91.5	103.2
January	104.1	103.5	99.9	92.2	103.0
February	104.1	103.5	100.7	94.4	103.2
March	105.1	103.9	101.6	97.0	103.5
April	105.3	103.3	104.0	97.0	105.6
May	107.6	104.3	103.6	95.7	105.6
June	107.5	104.2	103.1	94.5	105.5
1972-73—					
July	107.5	104.2	102.6	93.2	105.4
August	107.5	104.2	102.6	93.2	105.4
September	107.4	104.2	102.6	93.2	105.4
October	108.1	109.0	102.6	93.4	107.1
November	108.3	109.0	102.6	93.4	107.1
December	108.0	108.9	102.6	93.4	107.1

(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.