



## Overview

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) released the March quarter 2019 edition of Producer Price Indexes, Australia (ABS cat. 6427.0) on 26 April 2019. The Producer Price Indexes include indexes on road and bridge construction.

The price of road and bridge construction influences the value of road and bridge engineering projects. The price index is released one quarter earlier than the value of road and bridge engineering construction data<sup>1</sup>. This statistical alert compares these price indexes across the mainland states.

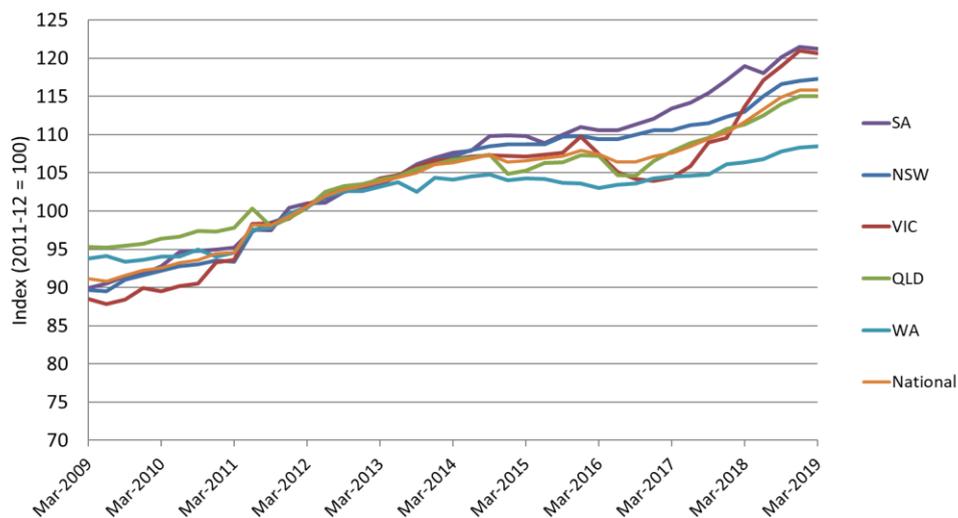
### Road and bridge construction index, National

In the March quarter 2019 there was no change in the road and bridge construction price index for Australia relative to the previous quarter. This is the lowest quarterly growth in the index since the September quarter 2016 and is notable given that quarterly growth has run well above the ten year average of 0.6 per cent per quarter every quarter since the June quarter 2017. Compared to the same quarter in 2018, the index rose 3.7 per cent, still above the ten year average of 2.4 per cent.

### State road and bridge construction indexes

The road and bridge construction price index fell by 0.3 per cent in Victoria in the March quarter 2019 — Victoria had been one of the main drivers of increasing prices since mid-2017 with quarterly growth peaking in the state at 3.7 per cent in the March quarter 2018. The price index also fell in South Australia. While the price indexes did not fall in the other states, the quarterly growth in each state was well below its ten year average.

Road and bridge construction price index by state



Source: Producer Price Indexes, Australia (ABS cat. no. 6427.0)

<sup>1</sup> Road and bridge construction data is presented in Engineering Construction Activity, Australia (ABS cat. no. 8762.0) for which a statistical alert for the December quarter 2018 was provided on 27 March 2019.

**Next scheduled release**

2 August 2019 - Producer Price Indexes, Australia - ABS cat. 6427.0 (June quarter 2019)

**Related releases**

22 May 2019 - Construction Work Done, Australia - ABS cat. 8755.0 (March quarter 2019)

26 June 2019 - Engineering Construction Activity, Australia - ABS cat. 8762.0 (March quarter 2019)

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The Australian Bureau of Statistics releases the data summarised in this alert.

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