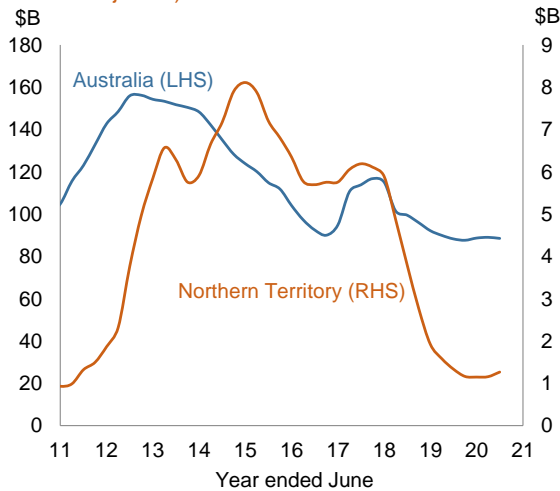


# Engineering construction activity

December quarter 2020

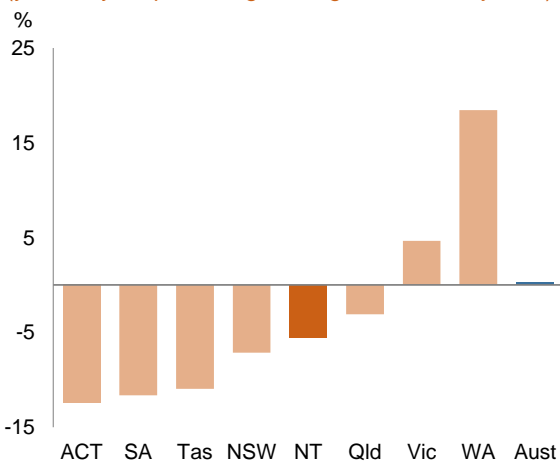
Released: 31 March 2021 | Next release: 30 June 2021

Chart 1: Engineering work done (moving annual total, inflation adjusted)



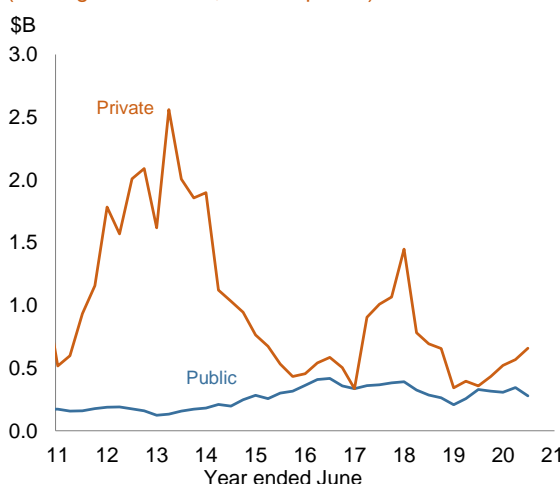
Source: Department of Treasury and Finance, ABS Cat. No. 8762.0

Chart 2: Engineering work done (year-on-year percentage change, inflation adjusted)



Source: Department of Treasury and Finance, ABS Cat. No. 8762.0

Chart 3: Engineering work commenced (moving annual total, current prices)



Source: Department of Treasury and Finance, ABS Cat. No. 8762.0

## Engineering construction work done

Value of engineering work done	NT	Aust
Quarterly change (seasonally adjusted)	▲21.0%	▼4.8%
Annual change (seasonally adjusted)	▲37.7%	▼2.5%
Year-on-year change (original)	▼5.5%	▲0.3%

In the December quarter 2020, the seasonally adjusted value of engineering construction work done in the Territory increased by 21% to \$400 million.

In year-on-year terms, Territory engineering construction work done decreased by 5.5%. This reflects private sector activity declining by 8%, reflecting decreased demand for heavy industry construction (detracting 20.7 percentage points from growth), with public sector activity increasing by 5%, reflecting increased demand for electricity generation, transmission and pipelines (contributing 9.8 percentage points).

In 2020, all jurisdictions except Western Australia and Victoria reported declines, with the Territory recording the second smallest year-on-year decline. In other jurisdictions, year-on-year change ranged from a 12.4% decline in the Australian Capital Territory to an 18.5% increase in Western Australia (Chart 2).

## Engineering work commenced

In the December quarter 2020, the value of engineering construction work commenced decreased by 16.5% to \$254 million. This reflects a decrease in public sector activity (down by 49.5% to \$71 million) mainly due to work done for recreation and other (down by 94.4% to \$2 million).

In 2020, the value of engineering work commenced increased by 36.1% to \$938 million. Private sector work commenced increased by 83.6% to \$659 million, reflecting work for heavy industry. Work commenced by the public sector fell by 15.5% to \$279 million (Chart 3), mainly influenced by bridges, railways and harbours, and roads, highways and subdivisions.

Nationally, the value of engineering work commenced fell by 11.8% to \$76.8 billion over the same period.

## Engineering construction activity December quarter 2020

Table 1: Engineering construction work done (\$M, chain volume)

	Period				Change		
	Dec qtr 19	Sep qtr 20	Dec qtr 20	Year to date	Quarterly <sup>2</sup>	Annual <sup>3</sup>	Year-on-year <sup>4</sup>
<b>Northern Territory</b>							
Original	291	331	401	1 241	21.0%	37.7%	-5.5%
– public <sup>1</sup>	98	86	95	307	10.1%	-2.8%	5.0%
– private <sup>1</sup>	200	252	311	957	23.5%	56.1%	-8.0%
Seasonally adjusted	291	331	400	1 241	21.0%	37.7%	
Trend							
– trend series suspended from the June 2020 release							
<b>Australia</b>							
Original	22 305	21 901	21 802	88 570	-0.5%	-2.3%	0.3%
– public	8 852	8 501	7 972	35 024	-6.2%	-9.9%	-0.6%
– private	13 453	13 399	13 830	53 546	3.2%	2.8%	0.8%
Seasonally adjusted	21 857	22 385	21 307	88 456	-4.8%	-2.5%	
Trend							
– trend series suspended from the June 2020 release							

Table 2- Engineering work commenced (\$M, original, current prices)

	Period				Change		
	Dec qtr 19	Sep qtr 20	Dec qtr 20	Year to date	Quarterly <sup>2</sup>	Annual <sup>3</sup>	Year-on-year <sup>4</sup>
<b>Northern Territory</b>	228	305	254	938	-16.5%	11.6%	36.1%
– public	137	141	71	279	-49.5%	-48.0%	-15.5%
– private	91	163	183	659	11.9%	101.6%	83.6%
<b>Australia</b>	17 855	18 805	17 646	76 790	-6.2%	-1.2%	-11.8%
– public	8 141	8 431	6 979	33 252	-17.2%	-14.3%	-10.4%
– private	9 714	10 374	10 666	43 537	2.8%	9.8%	-12.9%

n.p.: data not published

1 Current prices.

2 Compares the latest quarter with the previous quarter.

3 Compares the latest quarter with the same quarter last year.

4 Compares the 4 quarters up to and including the latest quarter with the previous 4 quarter period.

Source: Department of Treasury and Finance, ABS Cat. No. 8762.0

Caution is advised when using quarterly data for the Territory, which is often derived from small samples and highly volatile.

Although all due care has been exercised in the preparation of this material, no responsibility is accepted for any errors or omission.

### More information:

Economic Group | Department of Treasury and Finance

P: 08 8999 6801 | E: [economics.dtf@nt.gov.au](mailto:economics.dtf@nt.gov.au) | W: <https://nteconomy.nt.gov.au/>