

Building approvals

October 2025 | Economic brief

Residential building approvals

Number of residential approvals	NT	Aust
Monthly change (seasonally adjusted)	n.a.	↓6.4%
Monthly change (trend)	↑6.9%	↓0.6%
Year-ended change (seasonally adjusted)	n.a.	↓1.8%
Year-ended change (trend)	↑59.0%	↑3.4%

The trend number of residential building approvals in the Territory increased by 6.9% to 62 in October 2025 (Chart 1), this is the strongest result of the jurisdictions, which otherwise ranged from a decline of 3.2% in New South Wales to an increase of 3.2% in Tasmania. Nationally, residential building approvals declined by 0.6%.

The trend number of residential building approvals in the Territory increased by 59.0% over the year to October 2025. This was the second strongest result of the jurisdictions (Chart 2), which ranged from a decline of 5.5% in Victoria to an increase of 164.1% in the Australian Capital Territory. Nationally, residential building approvals increased by 3.4%.

Value of residential approvals	NT	Aust
Year-ended change (original)	↑61.1%	↑3.9%

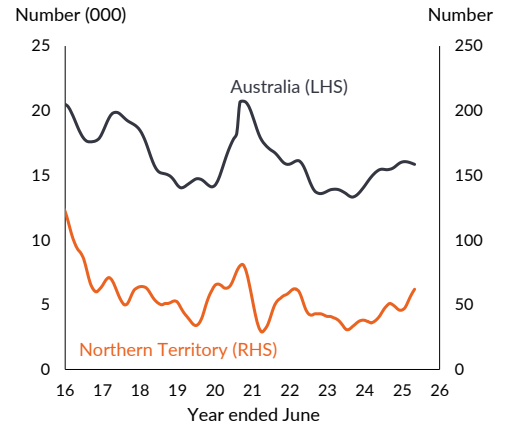
The value of residential building approvals in the Territory increased by 61.1% to \$46.2 million over the year to October 2025, compared with an increase of 3.9% to \$10.1 billion nationally.

Non-residential approvals

Value of non-residential approvals	NT	Aust
Year-ended change (original)	↑134.5%	↑29.7%

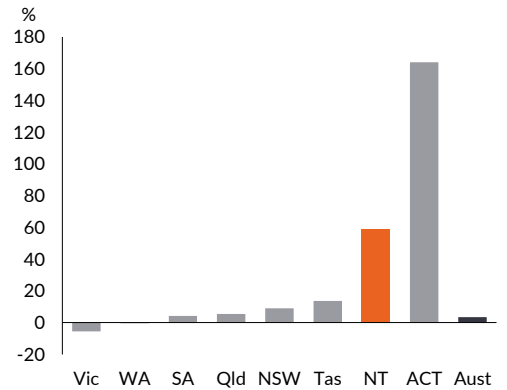
The value of non-residential building approvals in the Territory increased by 134.5% to \$81.1 million, reflecting an increase of 2035.5% in public non-residential building approvals, partly offset by a decline of 55.0% in private non-residential building approvals. Nationally, the value of non-residential building approvals increased by 29.7% to \$7.1 billion.

Chart 1: Number of residential building approvals (monthly, trend)



Source: DTF; ABS, Building Approvals

Chart 2: Number of residential building approvals (year-ended change, trend)



Source: DTF; ABS, Building Approvals

Building approvals

Table 1 - Residential building approvals

	Period				Change		
	Oct 24	Sep 25	Oct 25	Year to date	Monthly ¹	Year-ended ²	Year-average ³
Northern Territory							
Number							
Original	29	67	72	609	n.p.	148.3%	43.6%
– houses	26	48	61	482	n.p.	134.6%	38.5%
– other residential ⁴	2	19	11	120	n.p.	450.0%	69.0%
– alterations, additions and conversions	1	0	0	7	n.p.	n.a.	40.0%
Seasonally adjusted	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	
Trend	39	58	62	599	6.9%	59.0%	
Value (\$M)							
Original	28.7	41.2	46.2	413.1	n.p.	61.1%	24.8%
Australia							
Number							
Original	17 920	18 488	17 016	191 311	n.p.	-5.0%	11.6%
Seasonally adjusted	16 121	16 911	15 832	192 103	-6.4%	-1.8%	
Trend	15 324	15 938	15 844	188 878	-0.6%	3.4%	
Value (\$M)							
Original	9 701	11 029	10 076	111 708	n.p.	3.9%	16.0%

Table 2 - Non-residential building approvals

	Period				Change		
	Oct 24	Sep 25	Oct 25	Year to date	Monthly ¹	Year-ended ²	Year-average ³
Northern Territory							
Value (\$M)							
Original	34.6	31.8	81.1	1246.8	n.p.	134.5%	13.5%
– private	31.4	24.0	14.1	335.8	n.p.	-55.0%	4.3%
– public	3.1	7.8	66.9	911.0	n.p.	2035.5%	17.3%
Australia							
Value (\$M)							
Original	5 485	6 525	7 117	81 251	n.p.	29.7%	27.1%

n.a.: not applicable or not available; n.p.: not published

1 Compares the latest month with the previous month.

2 Compares the latest month with the same month last year.

3 Compares the 12 months up to and including the latest month with the previous 12-month period.

4 Includes units and townhouses.

Caution is advised when using original monthly data, which is often derived from small samples and highly volatile.

Source: Department of Treasury and Finance; ABS, *Building Approvals, Australia*

Term	Definition
Residential building	Buildings that contain one or more dwellings, intended for the provision of long-term accommodation.
Non-residential building	Building either classified as a commercial building, industrial building and other non-residential building.
Commercial building	Buildings primarily occupied with or engaged in commercial trade or work intended for commercial trade, including buildings used primarily for retail and wholesale trade, office and transport activities.
Industrial building	Buildings used for warehousing, primary production and the production and assembly activities of industrial or manufacturing processes.
Other non-residential building	Non-residential buildings for the provision of education, religious worship or other religious activities, aged and health care, recreation, entertainment, or commercial temporary accommodation.

Caution is advised when using monthly 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.

[Building Approvals, Australia | Australian Bureau of Statistics \(abs.gov.au\)](https://abs.gov.au)

More information

Economic Group | Department of Treasury and Finance
P: 08 8999 6718 | E: economics.dtf@nt.gov.au | W: nteconomy.nt.gov.au