

Building activity

December quarter 2023 | Economic brief

The Australia Bureau of Statistics (ABS) building activity statistics includes residential and non-residential building work done and commenced, which is more updated information to that reported in the construction work done economic brief.

Value of total building work done	NT	Aust
Change in quarter (trend)	↑0.1%	↑0.2%
Year-on-year change (original)	↑21.1%	↑3.5%

Quarterly results

In the December quarter 2023, the trend value of total building work done in the Territory increased by 0.1% to \$289 million. Nationally, the trend value of total building work done increased by 0.2% to \$34.5 billion in the quarter.

Year on year results

In 2023, the total value of building work done in the Territory increased by 21.1% to \$1.1 billion (Chart 1).

The Territory recorded the largest increase in the value of building work done of all the jurisdictions, which otherwise ranged from an increase of 0.1% in the Australian Capital Territory to an increase of 9.6% in Western Australia. Nationally, the value of building work done increased by 3.5% to \$136.9 billion over the same period.

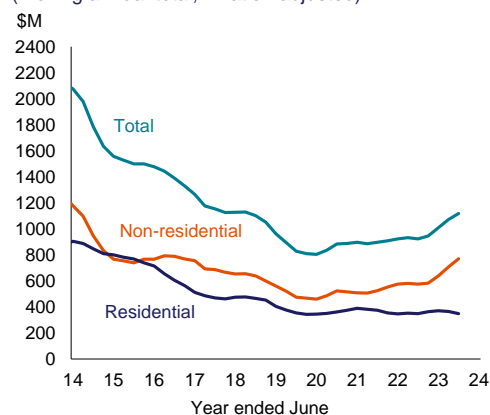
Non-residential building work done in the Territory increased by 33.8% to \$770 million, reflecting an increase of 47.5% in public sector work done and an increase of 9.1% in private sector work done (Chart 2). Residential building work done increased by 0.1% to \$348 million, reflecting an increase of 4.7% in private sector activity, partially offset by a decrease of 15.3% in public sector activity work done (Chart 3).

Residential building work done comprised an increase of 14.2% in new houses to \$220 million, a decrease of 12.4% in new units to \$25 million and a decrease of 18.7% in alterations, additions and conversions to \$103 million.

Building work yet to be done

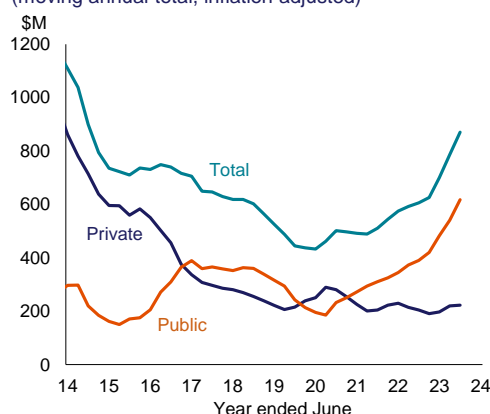
In the December quarter 2023, the value of building work yet to be done in the Territory decreased by 9.7% to \$1.2 billion. This reflects a decrease of 10.4% in non-residential work yet to be done to \$1 billion and a decrease of 4.6% in residential work yet to be done to \$159 million. Nationally, the value of building work yet to be done decreased by 3.7% to \$103.7 billion over the same period.

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



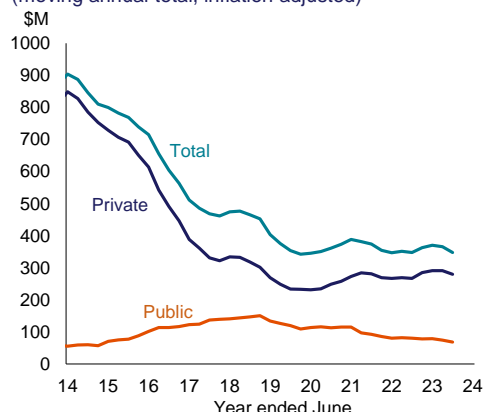
Source: DTF, ABS Cat. No. 8752.0

Chart 2: Territory non-residential work done (moving annual total, inflation adjusted)



Source: DTF, ABS Cat. No. 8752.0, 8782.065.001

Chart 3: Territory residential work done (moving annual total, inflation adjusted)



Source: DTF, ABS Cat. No. 8752.0, 8782.065.001

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

	Period				Change		
	Dec qtr 22	Sep qtr 23	Dec qtr 23	Year to date	Quarterly ¹	Annual ²	Year-on-year ³
Northern Territory							
Total building	260	299	306	1 118	2.3%	17.8%	21.1%
– private	126	148	117	503	-20.9%	-6.7%	6.6%
– public	134	151	189	615	25.0%	40.6%	36.3%
Seasonally adjusted	239	295	276	1 111	-6.4%	15.6%	
Trend	239	288	289	1 115	0.1%	20.8%	
Non-residential building							
Total building	173	204	237	770	15.9%	36.8%	33.8%
– private	59	67	62	223	-7.9%	5.1%	9.1%
– public	114	137	175	547	27.5%	53.1%	47.5%
Residential building							
Total building	87	95	70	348	-26.9%	-20.1%	0.1%
– private	67	81	55	280	-31.6%	-17.1%	4.7%
– public	20	14	14	68	0.9%	-30.2%	-15.3%
by type							
– new houses	51	61	41	220	-32.7%	-19.0%	14.2%
– new units	6	7	3	25	-56.3%	-50.3%	-12.4%
– alterations & additions	30	27	25	103	-6.5%	-16.0%	-18.7%
Australia							
Total building	33 618	35 640	34 762	136 882	-2.5%	3.4%	3.5%
– private	29 137	30 927	30 044	118 620	-2.9%	3.1%	3.3%
– public	4 480	4 713	4 718	18 262	0.1%	5.3%	4.6%
Seasonally adjusted	33 142	34 572	34 223	136 835	-1.0%	3.3%	
Trend	33 248	34 417	34 469	136 862	0.2%	3.7%	

Table 2: Building work yet to be done (\$M, current prices)

	Period			Change	
	Dec qtr 22	Sep qtr 23	Dec qtr 23	Quarterly ¹	Annual ²
Northern Territory					
Total building	1 037	1 321	1 192	-9.7%	15.0%
– non-residential	832	1 154	1 033	-10.4%	24.1%
– residential	205	167	159	-4.6%	-22.3%
Dwellings under construction (number)	750	530	514	-3.0%	-31.5%
Australia					
Total building	103 905	107 682	103 718	-3.7%	-0.2%
– non-residential	44 615	49 327	46 730	-5.3%	4.7%
– residential	53 947	53 132	51 881	-2.4%	-3.8%

1 Compares the latest quarter with the previous quarter.

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

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

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

Source: Department of Treasury and Finance; ABS Cat. No. 8752.0, 8782.065.001

Caution is advised when using data for the Territory, as it is often derived from small samples and can be highly volatile. Although all due care has been exercised in preparing this material, no responsibility is accepted for any errors or omission.

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

More information

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