

Engineering construction activity

December quarter 2024 | Economic brief

Engineering construction work done (trend)

Value of engineering work done	NT	Aust
Quarterly change (trend)	↑ 11.6%	↑ 2.3%
Year-ended change (trend)	↑ 26.2%	↑ 6.5%

In the December quarter 2024, the trend value of engineering construction work done in the Territory increased by 11.6% to \$722 million. Nationally, the trend value of engineering construction work done increased by 2.3% to \$35.7 billion.

The trend value of engineering construction work done in the Territory increased by 26.2% over the year to the December quarter 2024 (Chart 1). This reflects public sector activity increasing by 34.5% and private sector activity increasing by 15.6%, both mainly due to works for bridges, railways and harbours.

The Territory recorded the strongest result of the jurisdictions, which otherwise ranged from a decline of 6.9% in South Australia to an increase of 12.0% in Victoria.

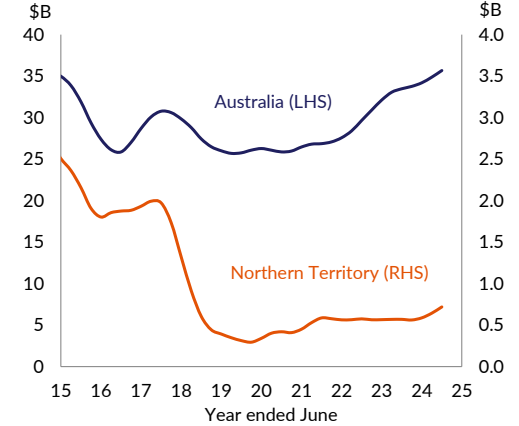
Engineering work commenced (original)

The value of Territory engineering construction work commenced increased by 10.2% to \$348 million over the year to the December quarter 2024.

Private sector activity commenced was at \$255 million and largely related to works for heavy industry, while public sector work commenced was at \$92 million and largely related to works for roads, highways and subdivisions.

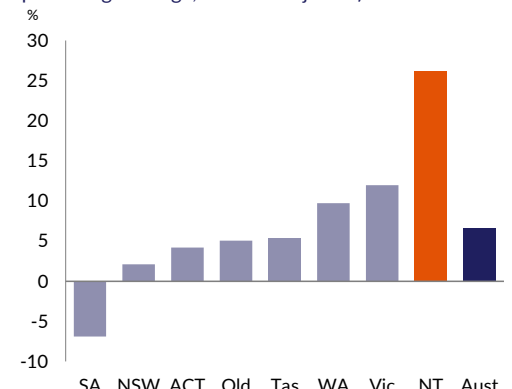
Nationally, the value of engineering work commenced declined by 4.1% to \$28 billion over the year to the December quarter 2024.

Chart 1: Engineering work done (quarterly, trend, inflation adjusted)



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

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



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

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

	Period				Change		
	Dec qtr 23	Sep qtr 24	Dec qtr 24	Year to date	Quarterly ²	Year-ended ³	Year-average ⁴
Northern Territory							
Original	639	626	747	2 484	n.p.	16.9%	7.8%
– public ¹	169	246	227	829	n.p.	34.5%	20.8%
– private ¹	490	417	566	1 793	n.p.	15.6%	7.8%
Seasonally adjusted	639	626	747	2 484	19.2%	16.8%	
Trend	572	647	722	2 523	11.6%	26.2%	
Australia							
Original	34 834	34 605	36 465	138 114	n.p.	4.7%	6.0%
– public	15 299	16 286	16 781	65 106	n.p.	9.7%	11.4%
– private	19 535	18 320	19 685	73 009	n.p.	0.8%	1.6%
Seasonally adjusted	34 084	35 169	35 707	138 204	1.5%	4.8%	
Trend	33 479	34 877	35 672	138 509	2.3%	6.5%	

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

	Period				Change		
	Dec qtr 23	Sep qtr 24	Dec qtr 24	Year to date	Quarterly ²	Year-ended ³	Year-average ⁴
Northern Territory							
Original	316	334	348	1 478	n.p.	10.2%	0.4%
– public	48	112	92	462	n.p.	92.8%	5.1%
– private	268	223	255	1 016	n.p.	-4.6%	-1.5%
Australia							
Original	29 154	32 833	27 969	115 209	n.p.	-4.1%	-4.5%
– public	14 672	15 285	12 294	51 969	n.p.	-16.2%	-7.5%
– private	14 482	17 548	15 675	63 239	n.p.	8.2%	-1.8%

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

Term	Definition
Engineering construction	Any construction that does not have a roof.
Heavy industry	Includes construction of production, storage and distribution facilities; refineries; pumping stations; construction of mines; drilling wells; chemical plants; blast furnaces; steel mills; other industrial processing plants; ovens.
Roads, highways and subdivisions	Includes parking areas; foot and cycle paths; airport runways; pedestrian and vehicle overpasses; traffic lights; roundabouts; associated road drainage works; street and highway lighting; road resurfacing, kerbing and guttering, road tunnels.
Bridges, railways and harbours	Includes those for the support of roads, railways, causeways and elevated highways when spanning a geographical obstacle eg river, lake, valley etc; tracklaying; overhead power lines and signals; platforms; tramways; tunnels for underground railways; fuel hoppers; boat and yacht basins; breakwaters; retaining walls; docks and piers; terminals; wharves; dredging works; marinas.
Public sector	Public sector includes Commonwealth Departments and Authorities, State Departments and Authorities, Local Government Authorities, Water, Sewerage and Electricity Authorities and government owned businesses and Statutory Authorities.
Private sector	All remaining organisations not classified as public sector.
Current prices	The value in nominal terms, not adjusted for inflation or changes in the purchasing power of money. It is the market value for the good or service at the time it was being sold.
Chain volume/Inflation adjusted prices	A measure of growth that captures the change in quantity while removing the effects of price changes.
Year-ended change	Compares the latest quarter with the same quarter last year
Year-average change	Compares the 12 months up to and including the latest quarter with the previous 12 month period
Seasonally adjusted	A seasonally adjusted series involves estimating and removing the cyclical and seasonal effects from the original data. Seasonally adjusting a time series is useful if you wish to understand the underlying patterns of change or movement in a population, without the impact of the seasonal or cyclical effects.
Trend	A trend series is a seasonally adjusted series that has been further adjusted to remove irregular effects and 'smooth' out the series to show the overall 'trend' of the data over time.

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.

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

More information

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