

Building activity

September 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)	↑8.4%	↑1.0%
Year-on-year change (original)	↑16.9%	↑2.3%

Quarterly results

In the September quarter 2023, the trend value of total building work done in the Territory increased by 8.4% to \$309 million. Nationally, the trend value of total building work done increased by 1.0% to \$34.5 billion in the quarter.

Year on year results

In the year to the September quarter 2023, the total value of building work done in the Territory increased by 16.9% 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 a decrease of 7.0% in the Australian Capital Territory to an increase of 9.7% in Western Australia. Nationally, the value of building work done increased by 2.3% to \$135.6 billion over the same period.

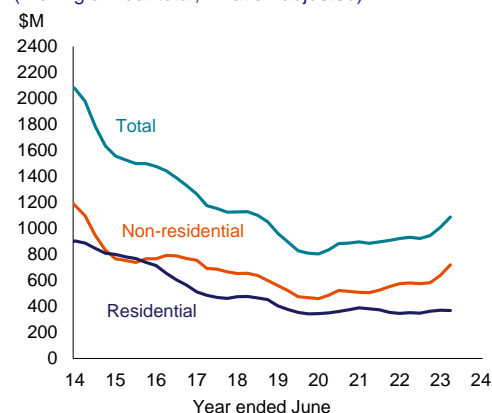
Non-residential building work done in the Territory increased by 24.1% to \$720 million, reflecting an increase of 38.6% in public sector work done, partially offset by a decrease of 0.6% in private sector work done (Chart 2). Residential building work done increased by 5.1% to \$369 million, reflecting an increase of 9.5% in private sector activity, partially offset by a decrease of 9.5% in public sector activity work done (Chart 3).

Residential building work done comprised an increase of 26.1% in new houses to \$234 million, a decrease of 18.0% in new units to \$27 million and a decrease of 18.6% in alterations, additions and conversions to \$108 million.

Building work yet to be done

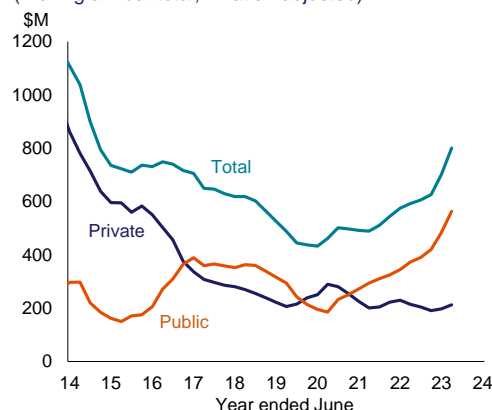
In the September quarter 2023, the value of building work yet to be done in the Territory decreased by 10.7% to \$1.3 billion. This reflects a decrease of 10.8% in residential work yet to be done to \$162 million and a decrease of 10.7% in non-residential work yet to be done to \$1.1 billion. Nationally, the value of building work yet to be done decreased by 4.6% to \$103.3 billion over the same period.

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



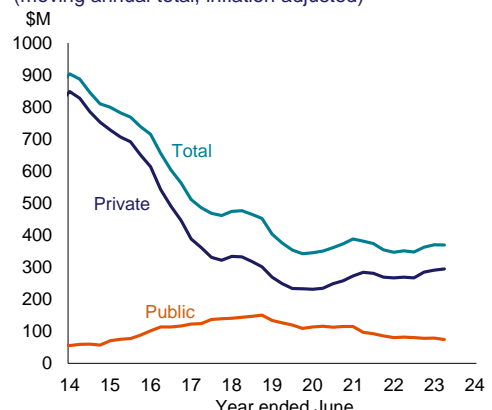
Source: DTF, ABS Cat. No. 8752.0

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		
	Sep qtr 22	Jun qtr 23	Sep qtr 23	Year to date	Quarterly ¹	Annual ²	Year-on-year ³
Northern Territory							
Total building	235	294	316	1 089	7.6%	34.7%	16.9%
– private	126	130	145	508	11.5%	15.3%	5.0%
– public	109	164	171	581	4.5%	57.0%	29.7%
Seasonally adjusted	230	292	313	1 091	7.1%	36.2%	
Trend	228	285	309	1 090	8.4%	35.6%	
Non-residential building							
Total building	135	195	217	720	11.4%	60.6%	24.1%
– private	45	54	60	213	11.5%	34.6%	-0.6%
– public	91	141	157	507	11.4%	73.4%	38.6%
Residential building							
Total building	100	99	99	369	0.1%	-0.6%	5.1%
– private	81	76	85	295	11.5%	4.7%	9.5%
– public	18	23	14	74	-38.2%	-23.8%	-9.5%
by type							
– new houses	51	63	65	234	3.1%	27.3%	26.1%
– new units	10	7	6	27	-14.5%	-38.6%	-18.0%
– alterations & additions	38	28	27	108	-2.8%	-28.1%	-18.6%
Australia							
Total building	34 272	35 037	35 455	135 552	1.2%	3.5%	2.3%
– private	29 778	30 307	30 828	117 613	1.7%	3.5%	2.0%
– public	4 493	4 730	4 627	17 939	-2.2%	3.0%	3.8%
Seasonally adjusted	33 187	34 364	34 330	135 563	-0.1%	3.4%	
Trend	32 917	34 138	34 497	135 651	1.0%	4.8%	

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

	Period			Change	
	Sep qtr 22	Jun qtr 23	Sep qtr 23	Quarterly ¹	Annual ²
Northern Territory					
Total building	991	1 464	1 307	-10.7%	31.8%
– non-residential	782	1 283	1 145	-10.7%	46.4%
– residential	209	182	162	-10.8%	-22.6%
Dwellings under construction (number)	740	610	528	-13.4%	-28.6%
Australia					
Total building	101 727	108 365	103 340	-4.6%	1.6%
– non-residential	42 420	47 907	46 469	-3.0%	9.5%
– residential	53 626	55 096	51 921	-5.8%	-3.2%

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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