

Building approvals

December 2024 | Economic brief

Residential building approvals

Number of residential approvals	NT	Aust
Monthly change (seasonally adjusted)	n.a.	↑0.7%
Monthly change (trend)	↓2.5%	↑1.0%
Year-ended change (seasonally adjusted)	n.a.	↑12.2%
Year-ended change (trend)	↑25.8%	↑14.7%

In December 2024, the trend number of residential building approvals in the Territory decreased by 2.5% from 40 to 39 (chart 1), the weakest result of the jurisdictions, which otherwise ranged from a decrease of 1.2% in Victoria to an increase of 4.7% in the Australian Capital Territory. Nationally, trend residential building approvals increased by 1.0%.

Over the year to December 2024, the trend number of residential building approvals in the Territory increased by 25.8% (chart 2). This was the third strongest result of the jurisdictions, which otherwise ranged from a decrease of 58.7% in the Australian Capital Territory to an increase of 40.7% in Western Australia. Nationally, trend residential building approvals increased by 14.7%.

Value of residential approvals	NT	Aust
Year-average change (original)	↓15.3%	↑11.2%

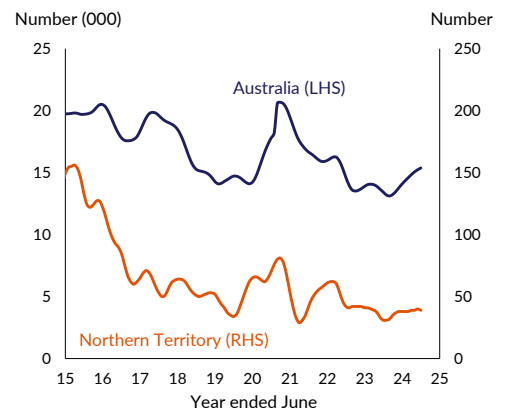
In 2024, the value of residential building approvals in the Territory decreased by 15.3% to \$328.9 million, compared with an increase of 11.2% to \$97.0 billion nationally.

Non-residential approvals

Value of non-residential approvals	NT	Aust
Year-average change (original)	↑63.1%	↓10.7%

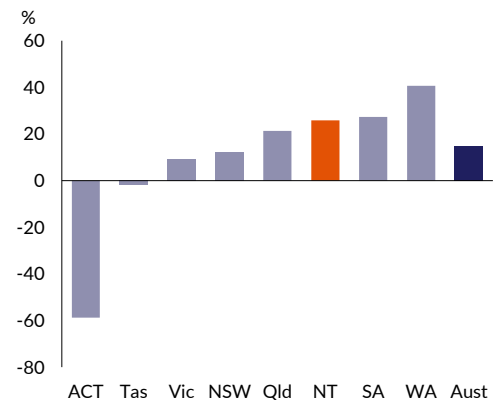
In 2024, the value of non-residential building approvals in the Territory increased by 63.1% to \$1.3 billion. This reflects an increase of 104.0% in the value of public approvals and an increase of 4.8% in the value of private approvals. Nationally, the value of non-residential building approvals decreased by 10.7% to \$65.3 billion.

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



Source: DTF; ABS Cat. No. 8731.0

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



Source: DTF; ABS Cat. No. 8731.0

Table 1 - Residential building approvals

	Period				Change		
	Dec 23	Nov 24	Dec 24	Year to date	Monthly ¹	Year-ended ²	Year-average ³
Northern Territory							
Number							
Original	25	55	25	440	n.p.	0.0%	-7.9%
- houses	23	37	25	372	n.p.	8.7%	-5.6%
- other residential ⁴	2	18	0	66	n.p.	-100.0%	-15.4%
- alterations, additions and conversions	0	0	0	2	n.p.	n.a.	-66.7%
Seasonally adjusted	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	
Trend	31	40	39	444	-2.5%	25.8%	
Value (\$M)							
Original	17.6	39.0	18.8	328.9	n.p.	6.8%	-15.3%
Australia							
Number							
Original	11 937	15 638	13 824	171 394	n.p.	15.8%	4.7%
Seasonally adjusted	13 520	15 071	15 174	170 719	0.7%	12.2%	
Trend	13 412	15 232	15 378	170 354	1.0%	14.7%	
Value (\$M)							
Original	6 549	8 761	7 819	96 992	n.p.	19.4%	11.2%

Table 2 - Non-residential building approvals

	Period				Change		
	Dec 23	Nov 24	Dec 24	Year to date	Monthly ¹	Year-ended ²	Year-average ³
Northern Territory							
Value (\$M)							
Original	29.5	20.7	195.8	1258.9	n.p.	563.4%	63.1%
- private	9.9	12.7	28.5	334.1	n.p.	188.2%	4.8%
- public	19.6	8.0	167.3	924.8	n.p.	752.1%	104.0%
Australia							
Value (\$M)							
Original	4 387	5 636	6 604	65 293	n.p.	50.6%	-10.7%

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 Cat. No. 8731.0

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 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 Approvals, Australia | Australian Bureau of Statistics \(abs.gov.au\)](#)

More information

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