

Engineering construction activity

June quarter 2026 | Economic brief

Engineering construction work done

Value of engineering work done	NT	Aust
Quarterly change (trend)	↓8.1%	↑0.5%
Year-ended change (trend)	↓33.5%	↑0.5%
Quarterly change (seasonally adjusted)	↑9.9%	↓4.7%
Year-ended change (seasonally adjusted)	↓88.5%	↓3.7%

In the June quarter 2026, the trend value of engineering construction work done in the Territory declined by 8.1% to \$411 million. Nationally, the trend value of engineering construction work done increased by 0.5% to \$36.5 billion.

The trend value of engineering construction work done in the Territory declined by 33.5% to \$411 million in the year-ended June quarter 2026 (Chart 1). This reflects public sector activity declining by 12.2%, mainly due to work for bridges, railways and harbours, and private sector activity declining by 92.1%, mainly due to work for heavy industry.

The Territory recorded the weakest result of the jurisdictions, which otherwise ranged from a decline of 14.3% in the Australian Capital Territory to an increase of 16.5% in South Australia (Chart 2).

Seasonally adjusted

In the June quarter 2026, the seasonally adjusted value of engineering construction work done in the Territory increased by 9.9% to \$443 million. Nationally, the seasonally adjusted value of engineering construction work done declined by 4.7% to \$37.2 billion.

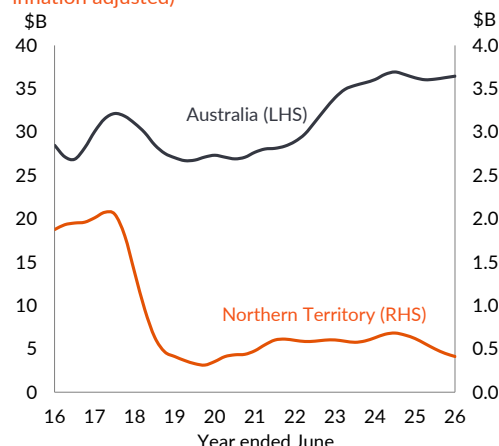
The seasonally adjusted value of engineering construction work done in the Territory declined by 88.5% to \$443 million in the year-ended June quarter 2026 (Chart 1). The year-ended result reflects the significant work done for the Santos Barossa LNG project including the estimated \$3 billion floating production, storage, and offloading vessel in the June quarter 2025.

Engineering work commenced

The value of Territory engineering construction work commenced declined by 25.3% to \$319 million in the year-ended June quarter 2026. Nationally, the value of engineering work commenced declined by 0.6% to \$37.6 billion over the same period.

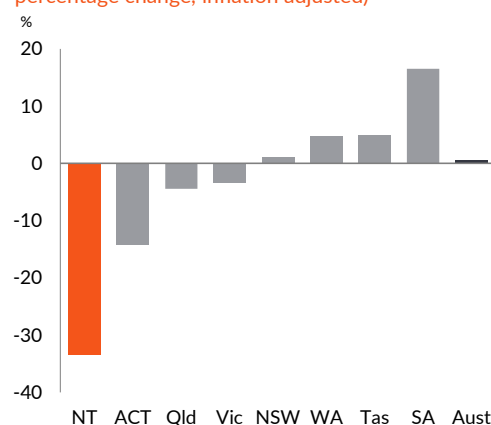
Private sector work commenced increased by 2.7% to \$255 million, mainly reflecting increases in work for telecommunications and roads, highways and subdivisions. Public sector work commenced declined by 64.2% to \$64 million, mainly reflecting decreases in roads, highways and subdivisions.

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



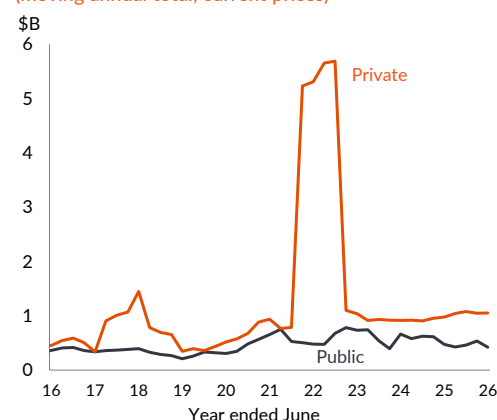
Source: ABS Engineering Construction Activity; DTF

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



Source: ABS Engineering Construction Activity; DTF

Chart 3: Engineering work commenced (moving annual total, current prices)



Source: ABS Engineering Construction Activity; DTF

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

	Period				Change		
	Jun qtr 25	Mar qtr 26	Jun qtr 26	Year to date	Quarterly ²	Year-ended ³	Year-average ⁴
Northern Territory							
Original	3 843	352	443	1 930	n.p.	-88.5%	-67.1%
– public ¹	195	129	171	632	n.p.	-12.2%	-29.3%
– private ¹	3 836	242	303	1 404	n.p.	-92.1%	-73.0%
Seasonally adjusted	3 838	403	443	1 930	9.9%	-88.5%	
Trend	619	447	411	1 915	-8.1%	-33.5%	
Australia							
Original	40 687	36 095	39 184	149 283	n.p.	-3.7%	-0.2%
– public	17 837	14 765	17 338	65 114	n.p.	-2.8%	-4.0%
– private	22 850	21 330	21 846	84 170	n.p.	-4.4%	2.9%
Seasonally adjusted	38 634	39 038	37 200	149 281	-4.7%	-3.7%	
Trend	36 276	36 291	36 463	144 926	0.5%	0.5%	

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

	Period				Change		
	Jun qtr 25	Mar qtr 26	Jun qtr 26	Year to date	Quarterly ²	Year-ended ³	Year-average ⁴
Northern Territory							
Original	427	338	319	1 472	n.p.	-25.3%	1.6%
– public	179	122	64	421	n.p.	-64.2%	-10.9%
– private	248	217	255	1 051	n.p.	2.7%	7.7%
Australia							
Original	37 861	31 180	37 639	130 300	n.p.	-0.6%	3.3%
– public	18 187	11 339	13 281	49 402	n.p.	-27.0%	-15.4%
– private	19 674	19 841	24 358	80 898	n.p.	23.8%	19.3%

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 *Engineering Construction Activity*

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 \(www.abs.gov.au\)](https://www.abs.gov.au)

More information

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