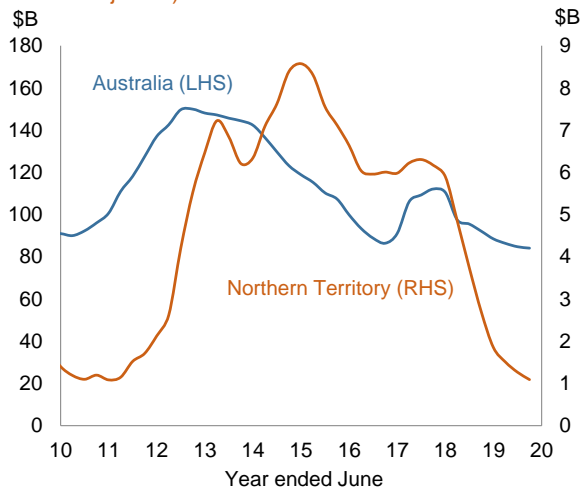


# Engineering construction activity

March quarter 2020

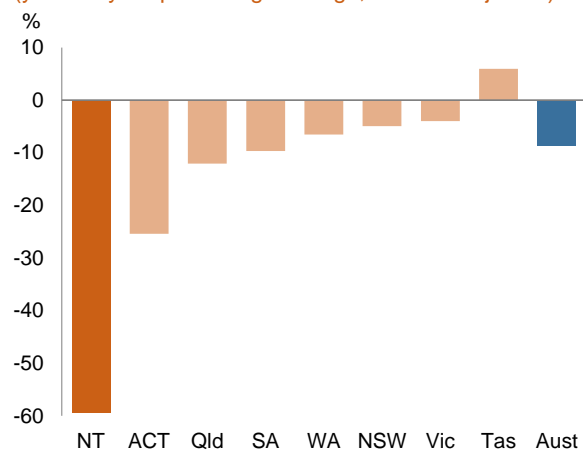
Released: 1 July 2020 | Next release: 30 September 2020

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



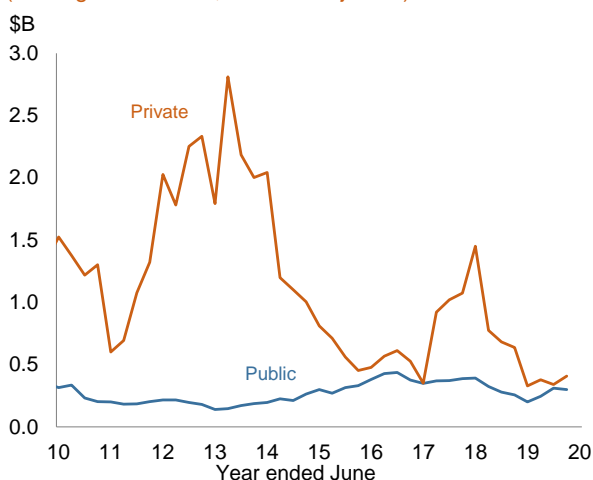
Source: Department of Treasury and Finance, ABS Cat. No. 8762.0

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



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

Chart 3: Engineering work commenced (moving annual total, inflation adjusted)



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

## Engineering construction work done

Value of engineering work done	NT	Aust
Quarterly change (trend)	↓17.4%	↓0.8%
Annual change (trend)	↓41.0%	↓3.9%
Year-on-year change (original)	↓59.3%	↓8.7%

In the March quarter 2020, the trend value of engineering construction work done in the Territory decreased by 17.4 per cent to \$215 million.

In the year to March 2020, total engineering construction work done in the Territory declined by 59.3 per cent to \$1.1 billion (Chart 1). The decline in work done reflects falls in private sector work done (down 65.8 per cent) and in the public sector (down 6.2 per cent).

The decrease in private sector activity in the year to March 2020 reflects declining demand for heavy industry construction which detracted 46.2 percentage points from growth. The year-on-year decrease in public sector activity reflects work for bridges, railways and harbours (detracting 8.0 percentage points).

The value of engineering construction work done declined across all jurisdictions apart from Tasmania, and the Territory recorded the largest year-on-year decline (Chart 2). Year-on-year changes ranged from a decline of 25.4 per cent in the Australian Capital Territory to an increase of 6.0 per cent in Tasmania. Nationally, the value of engineering construction work decreased by 8.7 per cent to \$84.1 billion in the year to March 2020.

## Engineering work commenced

In the March quarter 2020, the value of engineering construction work commenced decreased by 21.1 per cent to \$169 million, with a decrease in the public sector (down by \$104 million), mainly due to work for bridges, railways and harbours. This was partially offset by an increase in the private sector (up 69.6 per cent to \$144 million).

In the year to March 2020, the value of engineering work commenced decreased by 21.1 per cent to \$706 million. Public sector work commenced increased by 16.4 per cent to \$298 million, which was mainly driven by work for bridges, railways and harbours. Work commenced by the private sector fell by 36.1 per cent to \$407 million in the year to March 2020, mainly influenced by electricity generation, transmission and pipelines (Chart 3).

Nationally, the value of engineering work commenced declined by 11.6 per cent to \$80.5 billion over the same period.

## Engineering construction activity March quarter 2020

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

	March quarter 2020		Change		
	Quarter	Year to date	Quarterly <sup>2</sup>	Annual <sup>3</sup>	Year-on-year <sup>4</sup>
<b>Northern Territory</b>					
Original	184	1 087	-33.9%	-48.2%	-59.3%
– public <sup>1</sup>	37	264	-59.1%	-24.4%	-6.2%
– private <sup>1</sup>	145	822	-22.7%	-53.0%	-65.8%
Seasonally adjusted	184	1 087	-33.9%	-48.2%	
Trend	215	1 091	-17.4%	-41.0%	
<b>Australia</b>					
Original	19 621	84 092	-8.3%	-3.3%	-8.7%
– public	8 109	34 165	-5.0%	2.2%	-7.0%
– private	11 512	49 927	-10.4%	-6.8%	-9.7%
Seasonally adjusted	20 839	84 244	0.0%	-3.0%	
Trend	20 789	84 150	-0.8%	-3.9%	

Table 2- Engineering work commenced (\$M, original, chain volume)

	March quarter 2020		Change		
	Quarter	Year to date	Quarterly <sup>2</sup>	Annual <sup>3</sup>	Year-on-year <sup>4</sup>
<b>Northern Territory</b>					
Original	169	706	-21.1%	47.8%	-21.1%
– public <sup>1</sup>	24	298	-81.0%	-35.0%	16.4%
– private <sup>1</sup>	144	407	69.6%	88.4%	-36.1%
<b>Australia</b>					
Original	21 805	80 526	30.1%	-8.2%	-11.6%
– public <sup>1</sup>	9 438	37 511	23.5%	34.2%	28.0%
– private <sup>1</sup>	12 367	43 015	35.6%	-26.1%	-30.3%

n.p.: data not published

1 Chain volume equivalent Department of Treasury and Finance estimates.

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, 8782.0.65.001

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

Although all due care has been exercised in the preparation of this material, no responsibility is accepted for any errors or omission.

### More information:

Economic Group | Department of Treasury and Finance

P: 08 8999 6801 | E: [economics.dtf@nt.gov.au](mailto:economics.dtf@nt.gov.au) | W: <https://nteconomy.nt.gov.au/>