

Total Construction Work Done

Total construction work done in the Territory is influenced by large engineering projects and therefore tends to be volatile. Total construction work done increased in 2008, with each quarter recording positive growth.

| | NT | Aust |
|-------------------------------|--------|--------|
| Change in the quarter (s.a.) | ↑37.8% | ↑1.6% |
| Change in the year (original) | ↑32.4% | ↑10.0% |

In the December quarter 2008, seasonally adjusted construction work done increased by 37.8% to \$896M in the Territory, compared to a national increase of 1.6%.

In 2008, total construction work done has increased by 32.4% to \$2.65B in the Territory (see Chart 1). The level of expenditure remains above the 10 year average of \$1.97B and the growth in year on year terms is attributed to the completion of large engineering projects including ENI's Bonaparte gas project and the expansion of the GEMCO manganese refinery (see Chart 2).

| | NT | Aust |
|-------------------------------|--------|--------|
| Change in the quarter (s.a.) | ↑55.3% | ↑5.1% |
| Change in the year (original) | ↑52.2% | ↑17.4% |

In the December quarter 2008, seasonally adjusted engineering work done in the Territory increased by 55.3% to \$697M.

In 2008, engineering work done increased by 52.2% to \$1.86B, reflecting completion of mining and energy projects in the year.

Residential Building Work Done (original data)

In the December quarter 2008, residential work done was effectively unchanged.

In 2008, residential work done decreased by 2% to \$407M, comprising:

- Construction of 'new houses' decreased by 13% to \$177M
- 'Other residential' (primarily units) construction activity increased by 9.7% to \$167M
- 'Alterations & additions' increased by 5.1% to \$63M

Non-residential Building Work Done (original data)

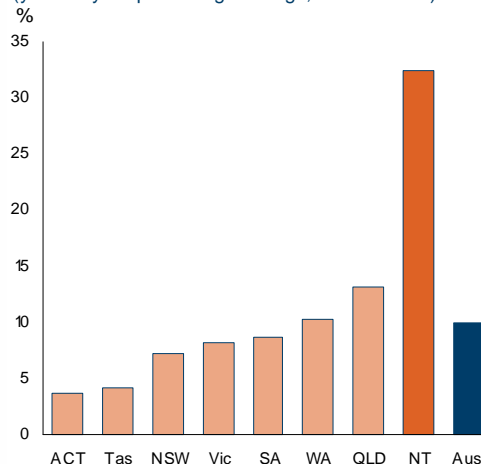
Non-residential building activity in small jurisdictions like the Territory tends to be volatile.

In 2008, non-residential building work done increased by 5.3% to \$380M, with public sector work done increasing by 24.5% to \$124M, and private sector work done decreasing by 2% to \$256M.

Work Yet To Be Done

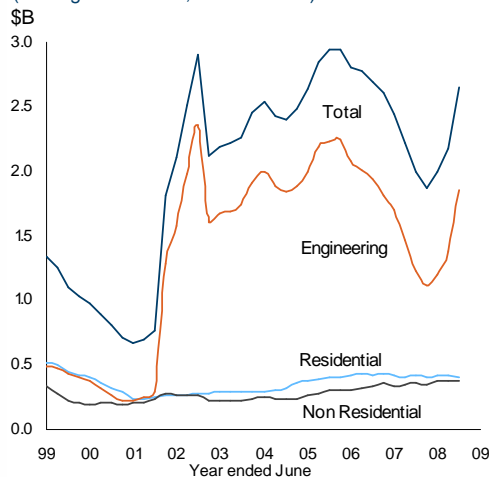
When comparing the December quarter 2008 with December quarter 2007, construction work yet to be done in the Territory increased by 61.1% to \$866M (see Chart 3), mainly due to a 173.3% increase in engineering work yet to be done.

Chart 1: Construction Work Done
(year on year percentage change, chain volume)



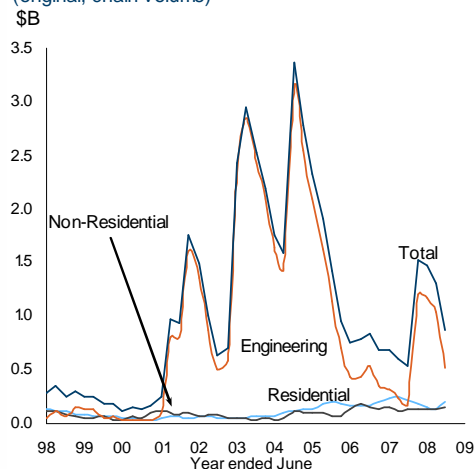
Source: ABS Cat. No. 8252.0, 8762.0

Chart 2: Territory Construction Work Done
(moving annual total, chain volume)



Source: ABS Cat. No. 8752.0, 8762.0

Chart 3: Territory Work Yet to be Done
(original, chain volume)



Source: ABS Cat. No. 8752.0, 8762.0, 8782.0.65

Construction Work Done (\$M, chain volume)

| | December Quarter | | change | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------|--------------|------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| | quarter | year to date | quarterly ¹ | annual ² | year on year ³ |
| Northern Territory | | | | | |
| original | 908 | 2 649 | 32.8% | 111.9% | 32.4% |
| <i>residential building</i> | 106 | 407 | 1.0% | -4.6% | -2.0% |
| <i>non-res building</i> | 106 | 380 | 5.1% | 3.6% | 5.3% |
| <i>engineering</i> | 696 | 1 862 | 45.6% | 223.2% | 52.2% |
| seasonally adj | 896 | 2 634 | 37.8% | 114.6% | |
| <i>building</i> | 199 | 785 | -1.3% | -1.4% | |
| <i>engineering</i> | 697 | 1 850 | 55.3% | 223.0% | |
| Australia | | | | | |
| original | 36 713 | 136 864 | 4.0% | 13.7% | 10.0% |
| <i>residential building</i> | 10 660 | 41 783 | -3.7% | 1.9% | 2.3% |
| <i>non-res building</i> | 7 946 | 30 439 | -0.9% | 5.0% | 6.7% |
| <i>engineering</i> | 18 107 | 64 643 | 11.7% | 26.8% | 17.4% |
| seasonally adj | 35 580 | 136 637 | 1.6% | 13.5% | |
| <i>building</i> | 17 989 | 72 113 | -1.6% | 3.2% | |
| <i>engineering</i> | 17 591 | 64 524 | 5.1% | 26.5% | |

Construction Work Yet To Be Done (\$M, original, chain volume)

| | December Quarter | | change | | |
|---------------------------|------------------|--------------|------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| | quarter | year to date | quarterly ¹ | annual ² | year on year ³ |
| Northern Territory | 866 | | -33.9% | 61.1% | |
| residential building | 195 | | 37.8% | -10.8% | |
| non-res building | 146 | | 11.3% | 14.8% | |
| engineering | 526 | | -49.3% | 173.3% | |
| Australia | 83 292 | | -6.6% | 2.7% | |
| residential building | 18 645 | | -6.3% | 1.1% | |
| non-res building | 17 497 | | -8.4% | 6.3% | |
| engineering | 47 119 | | -6.0% | 2.1% | |

¹ compares the latest quarter with the previous quarter

² compares the latest quarter with the same quarter last year

³ compares the 4 quarters up to and including the latest quarter with the previous 4 quarter period

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

Source: ABS Cat. No. 8752.0, 8762.0, 8782.0.65.001

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