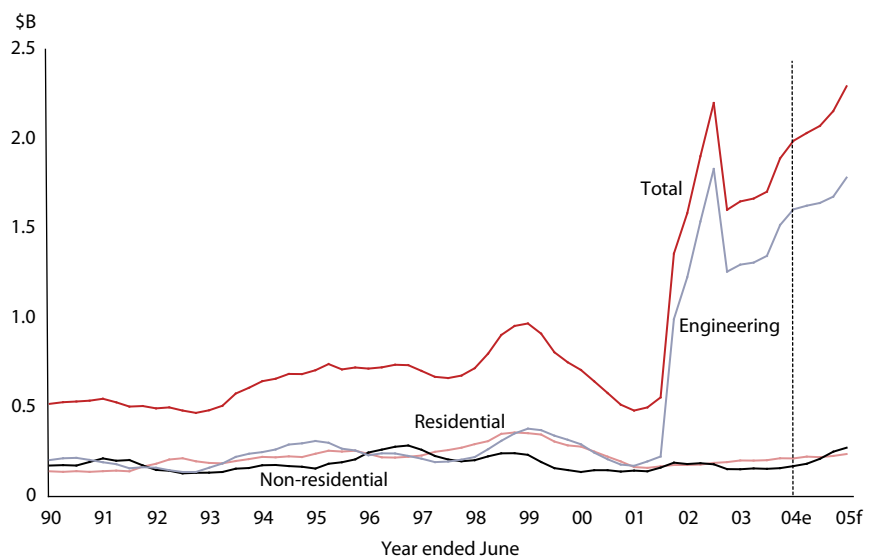


Construction

- In the Territory, the construction industry accounted for 6.9 per cent of Gross State Product on average during the 1990s, and employed almost 8.0 per cent of the workforce.
- Construction activity slowed markedly in the period immediately following the major defence force relocation to the Top End in the late 1990s as economic and population growth weakened.
- Since then, residential and non-residential building and property markets have continued to be relatively weak, and the Territory has not participated in the national construction and property boom in recent years.
- Major infrastructure projects such as construction of the Alice Springs to Darwin leg of the rail link with Adelaide and work to develop the Bayu-Undan oil and gas project have kept engineering construction at record levels in recent years.
- Largely as a consequence of the liquefied natural gas plant being constructed at Wickham Point, the value of construction is forecast to increase by around 15 per cent to \$2.3 billion in 2004-05, after increasing by around 20 per cent to \$2 billion in 2003-04.

Chart 9: Territory Construction Work Done (moving annual total, 2001-02 dollars)



e: estimate f: forecast

Source: NT Treasury, ABS Cat. Nos 8752.0, 8762.0, 8782.0.65.001