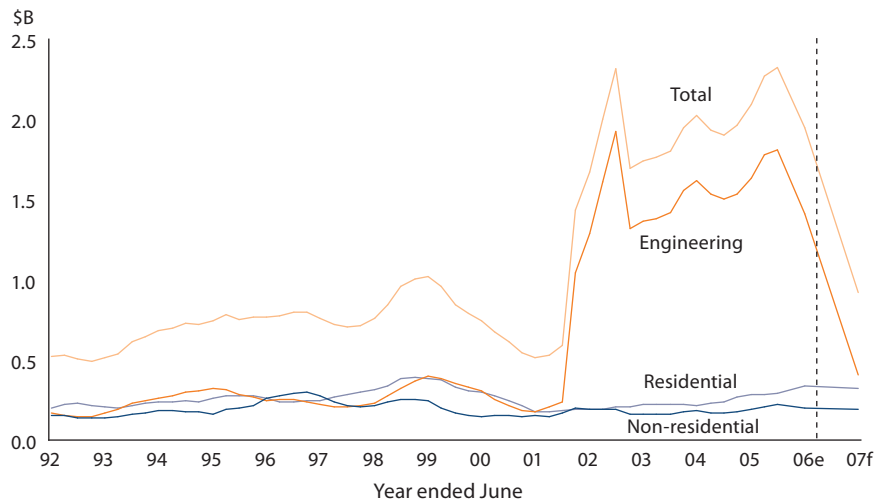




Construction

- Over the past five years, the construction industry has on average accounted for 6.5 per cent of Territory gross state product and employed 7.3 per cent of the workforce.
- The period immediately following the major defence force relocation to the Top End coincided with a marked reduction in construction activity, as economic and population growth weakened.
- Major infrastructure projects such as the Bayu-Undan oil and gas development and the liquefied natural gas plant at Wickham Point, as well as the Alcan G3 refinery expansion, have kept engineering construction at record levels in recent years.
- Property markets have strengthened significantly since 2004. After increasing by 3.9 per cent to \$2.1 billion in 2004-05, the value of construction work done is estimated to decrease by 7.3 per cent to \$1.9 billion in 2005-06.
- In 2006-07, the value of construction work done is forecast to decrease by 52 per cent to \$916 million. The completion of work on the Wickham Point LNG plant is the major factor contributing to the decline.
- In 2006-07, construction activity will again be underpinned by engineering work for major projects, particularly the Alcan G3 refinery expansion, and will be further supported by solid residential activity associated with recovering population growth in the Darwin region.

Territory Construction Work Done



e: estimate; f: forecast

Source: Northern Territory Treasury, ABS Cat. Nos. 8752.0, 8762.0, 8782.0.65.001