

Architecture Billings Index (ABI)

May 2017

The Architecture Billings Index (ABI) is a diffusion index derived from the monthly Work-on-the-Boards survey, conducted by the AIA Economics & Market Research Group. The ABI serves as a leading economic indicator that leads nonresidential construction activity by approximately 9–12 months. The survey panel asks participants whether their billings increased, decreased, or stayed the same in the month that just ended. According to the proportion of respondents choosing each option, a score is generated, which represents an index value for each month. An index score of 50 represents no change in firm billings from the previous month, a score above 50 indicates an increase in firm billings from the previous month, and a score below 50 indicates a decline in firm billings from the previous month.

*All graphs represent data from May 2016–May 2017.

ABI

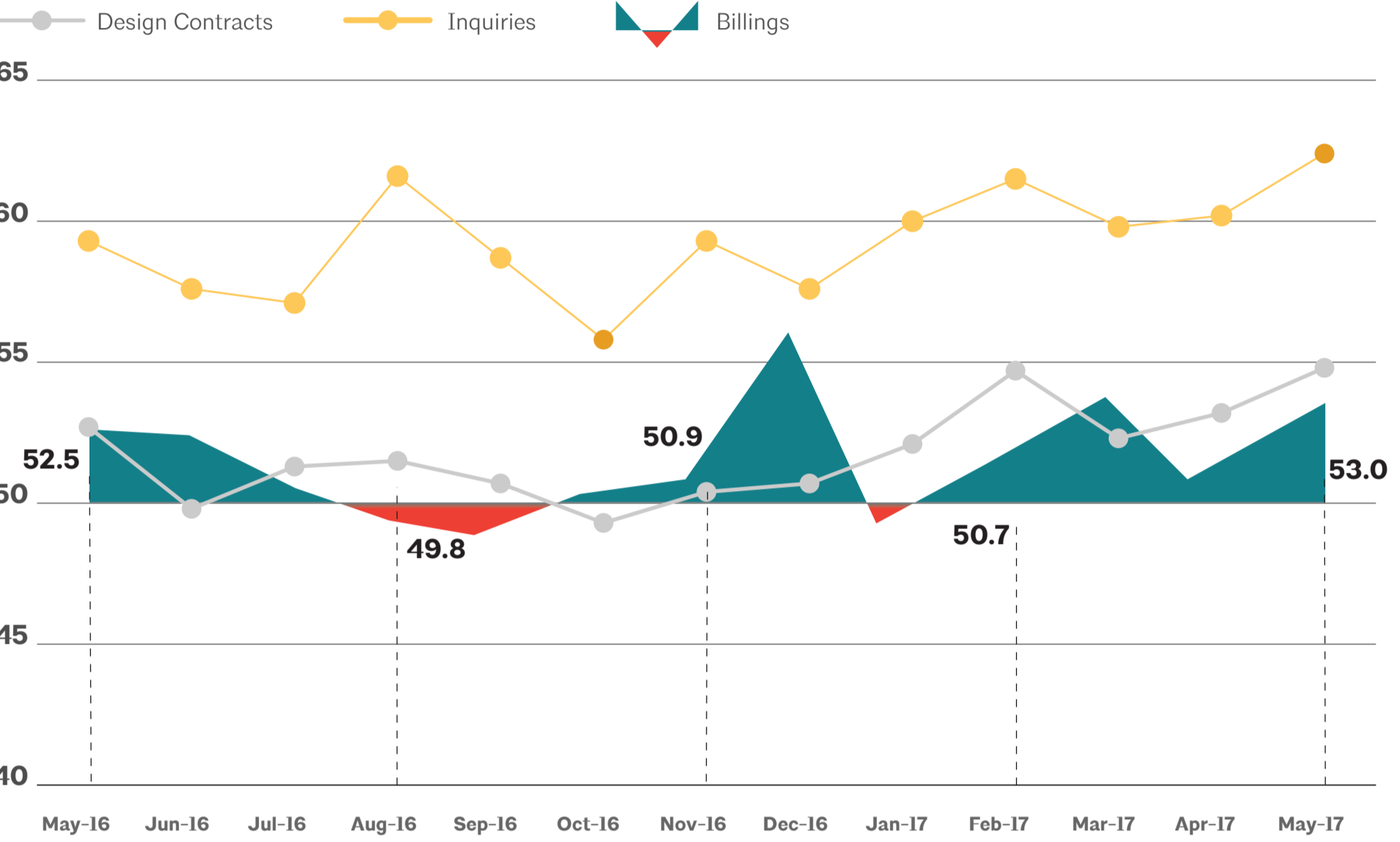
National Regional Sector Practice

National

Solid growth for revenue at architecture firms in May



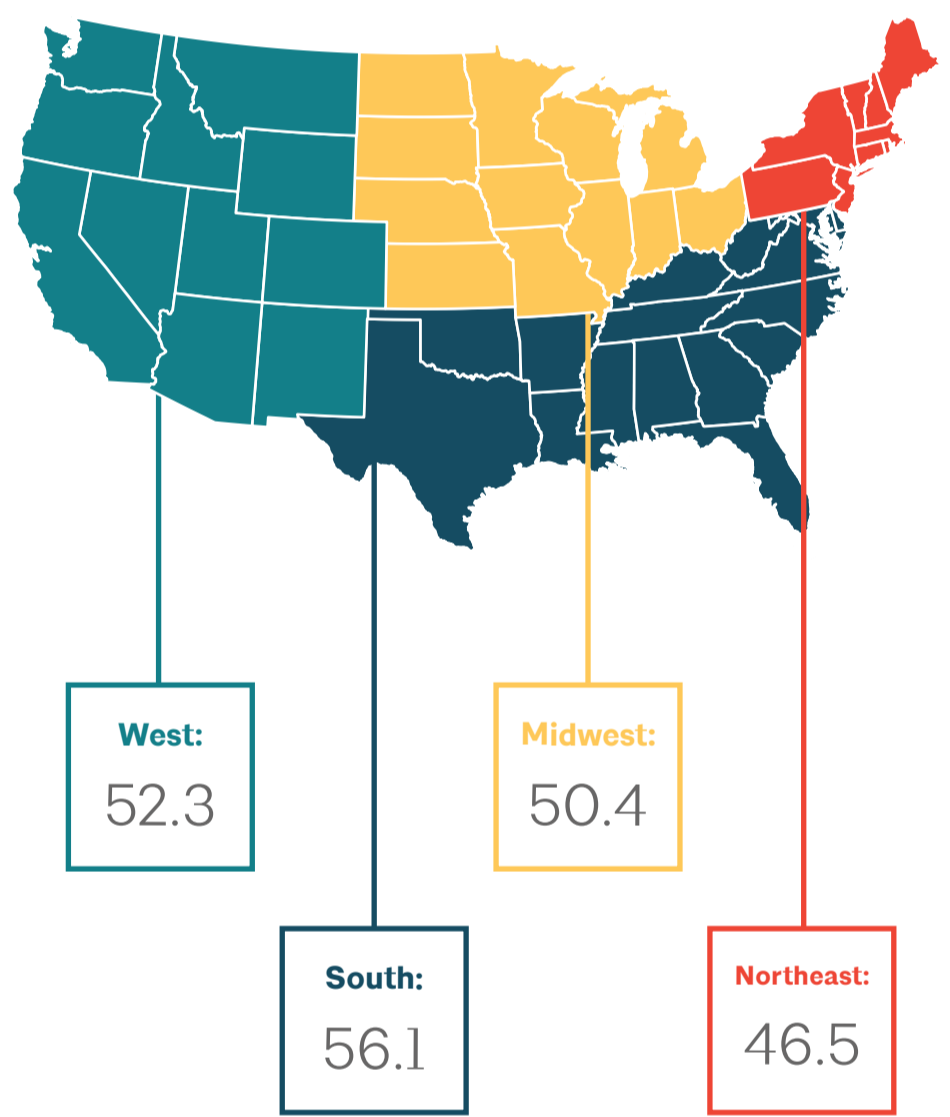
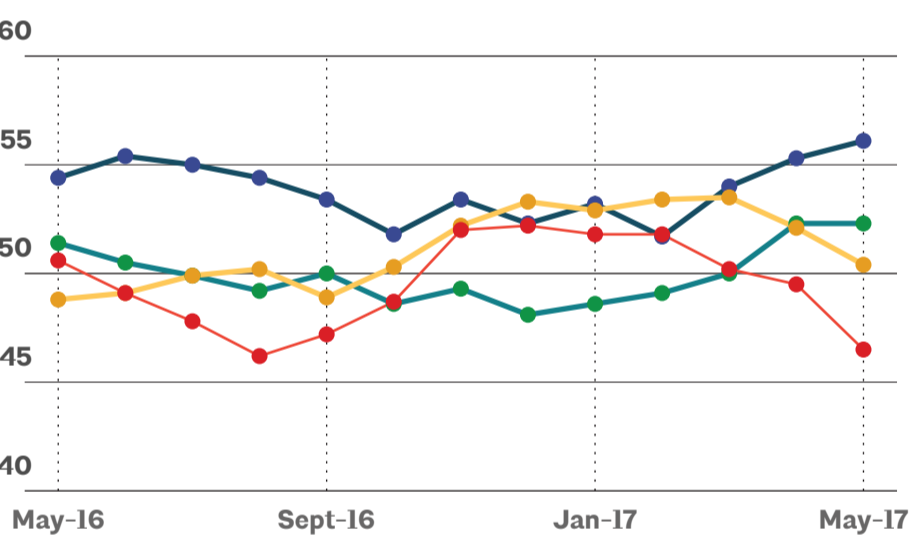
Graphs represent data from May 2016–May 2017.



Regional

Sunbelt firms currently outpacing their Rustbelt counterparts

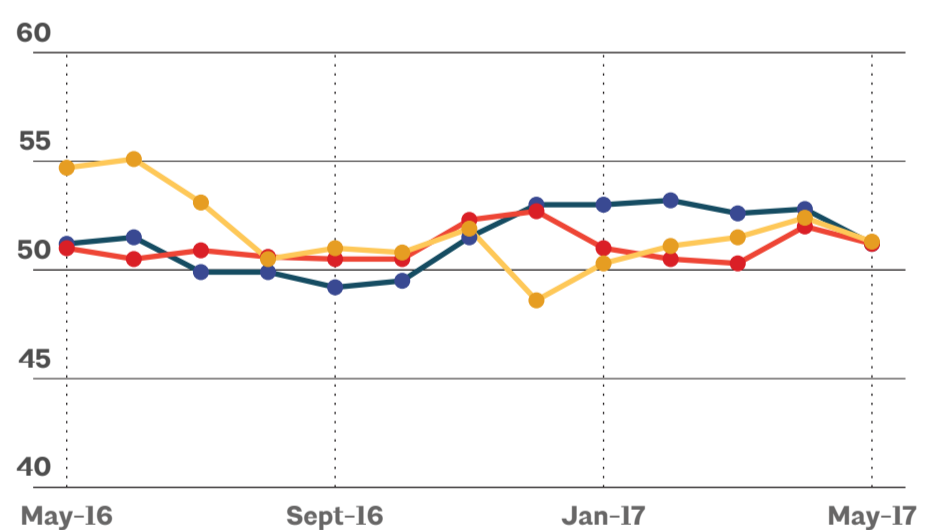
Graphs represent data from May 2016–May 2017 across the four regions. 50 represents the diffusion center. A score of 50 equals no change from the previous month. Above 50 shows increase; Below 50 shows decrease. 3-month moving average.



Sector

Firms with all construction specialties seeing comparable pace of growth at present

Graphs represent data from May 2016–May 2017 across the three sectors. 50 represents the diffusion center. A score of 50 equals no change from the previous month. Above 50 shows increase; Below 50 shows decrease. 3-month moving average.



Practice

Scaling back scope or increasing budgets most common responses to rising construction materials costs

Units: actions that firms or clients have taken to deal with rising construction materials costs (of firms reporting higher construction materials costs, % of firms reporting action; multiple responses allowed)

