

Architecture Billings Index (ABI)

July 2018

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 July 2017–July 2018.

ABI

National Regional Sector Practice

National

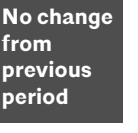
Architecture firm billings growth slows again



Above 50

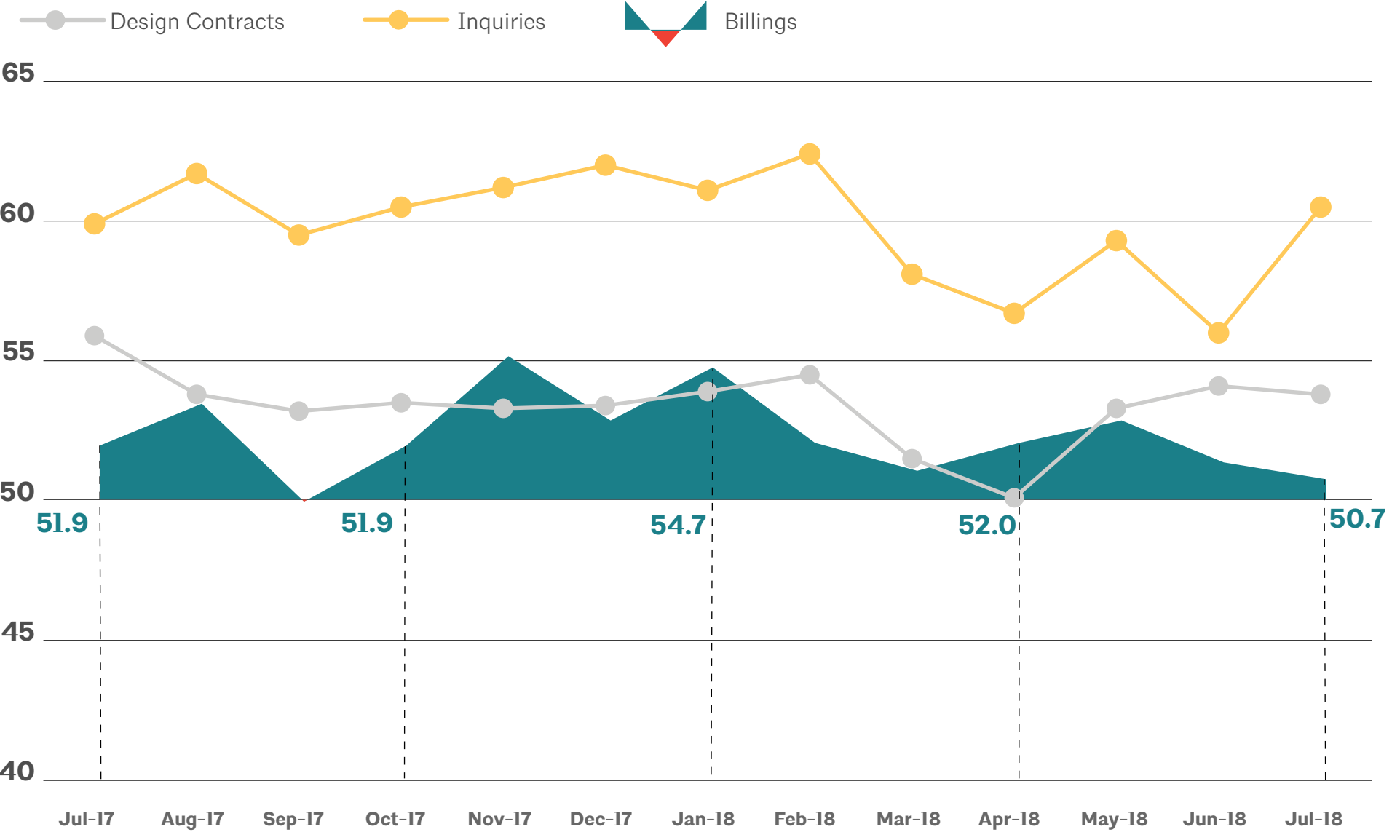


Below 50



No change from previous period

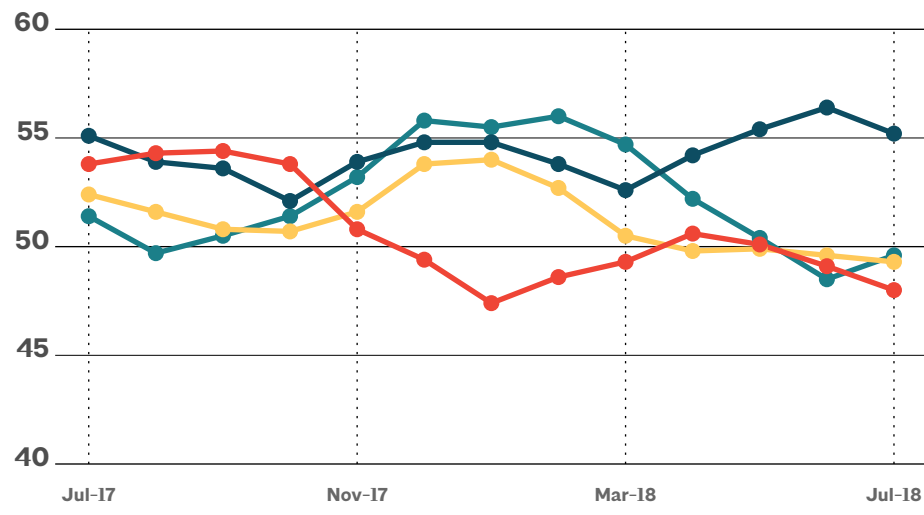
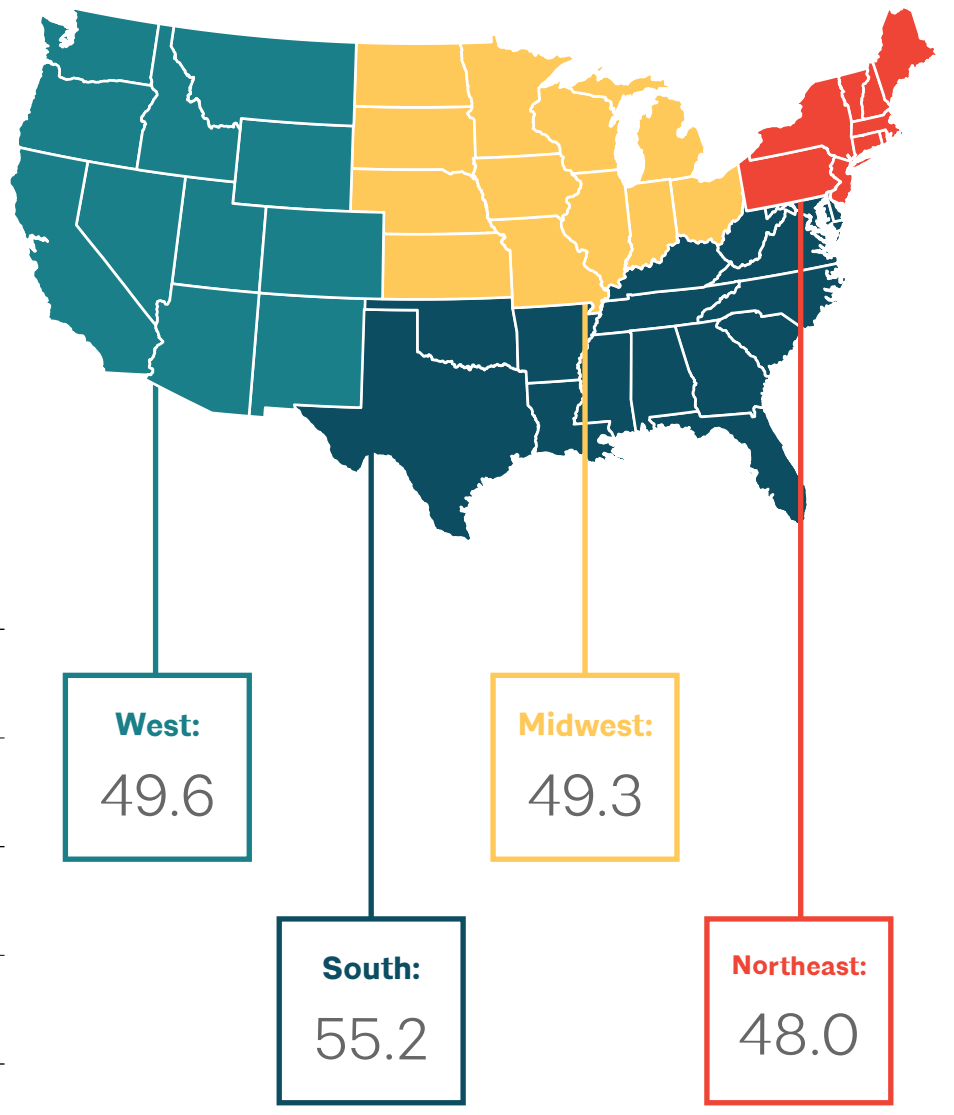
Graphs represent data from July 2017–July 2018.



Regional

Billings decline in all regions except the South

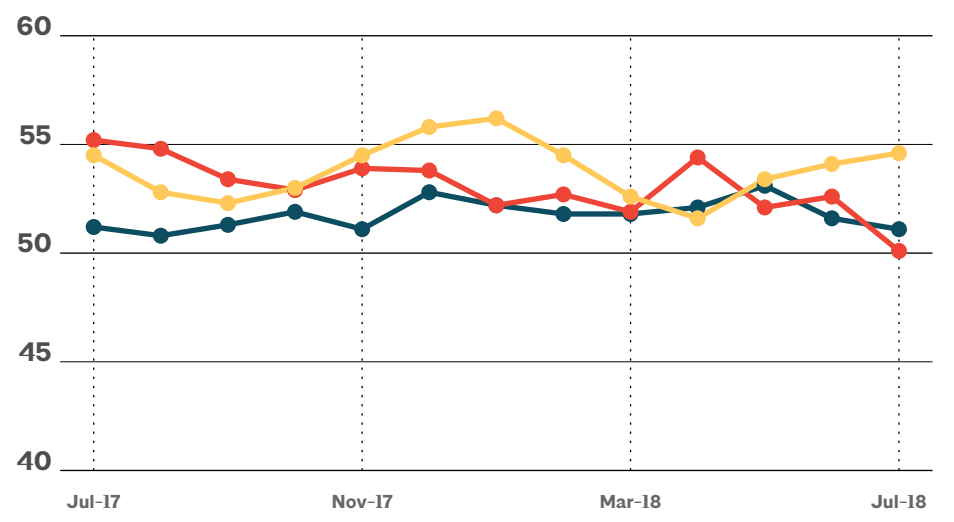
Graphs represent data from July 2017–July 2018 across the four regions. 50 represents the diffusion center. A score of 50 equals no change from the previous month. Above 50 shows increase; Below 50 shows decrease. 3-month moving average.



Sector

Business conditions remain strong at firms with multifamily residential and institutional specializations

Graphs represent data from July 2017–July 2018 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

Firms primarily making adjustments to project materials and designs due to impact of tariffs

units: % of firms reporting that they have seen specific consequences on projects to date from recent tariffs, changes made as a result of the tariffs

