



Architecture Billings Index (ABI)

January 2021

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 January 2020–January 2021.

ABI

National Regional Sector Practice

National

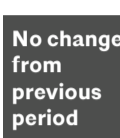
While firm billings continue to decline, signs of future work are improving



Above 50

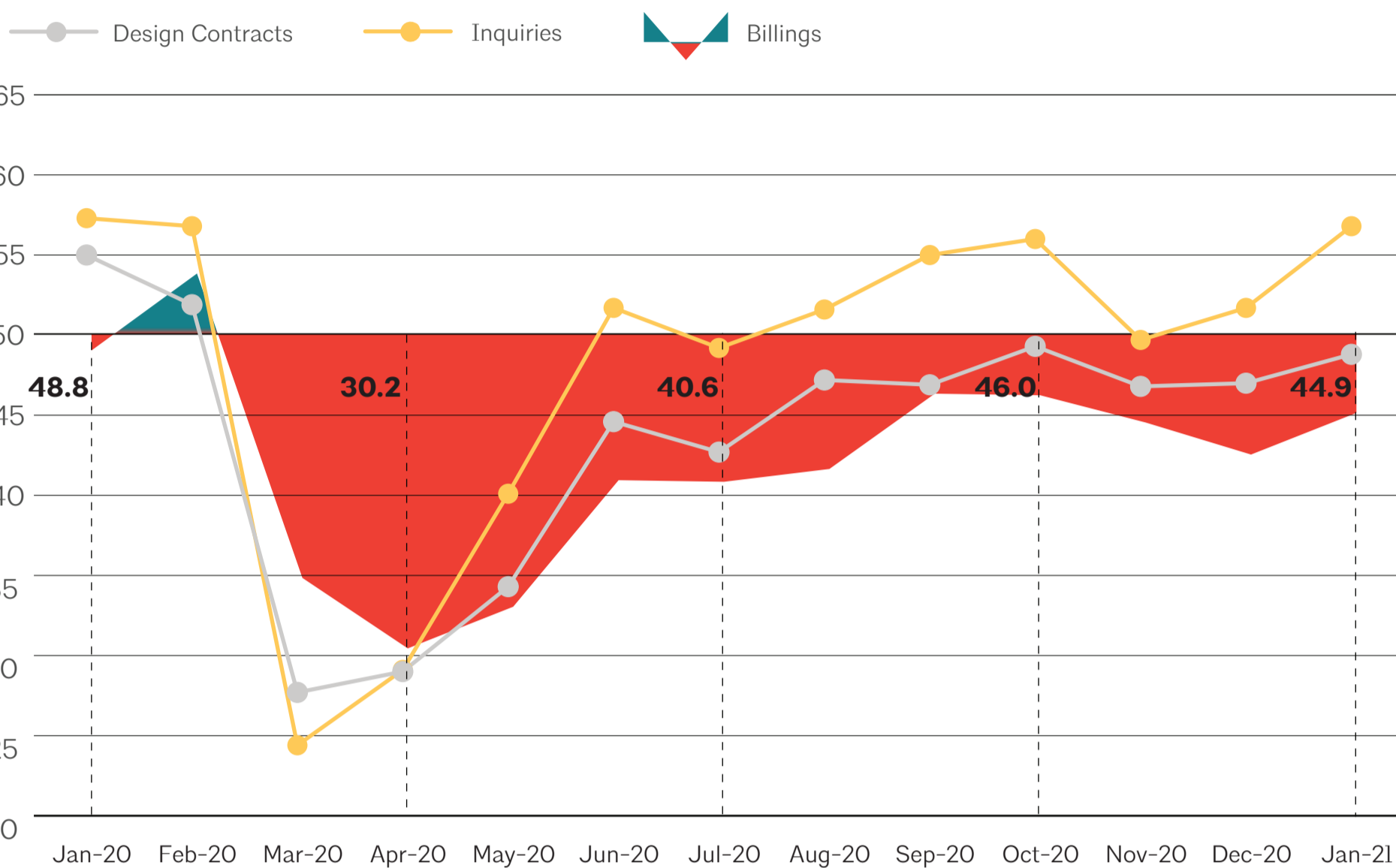


Below 50



No change from previous period

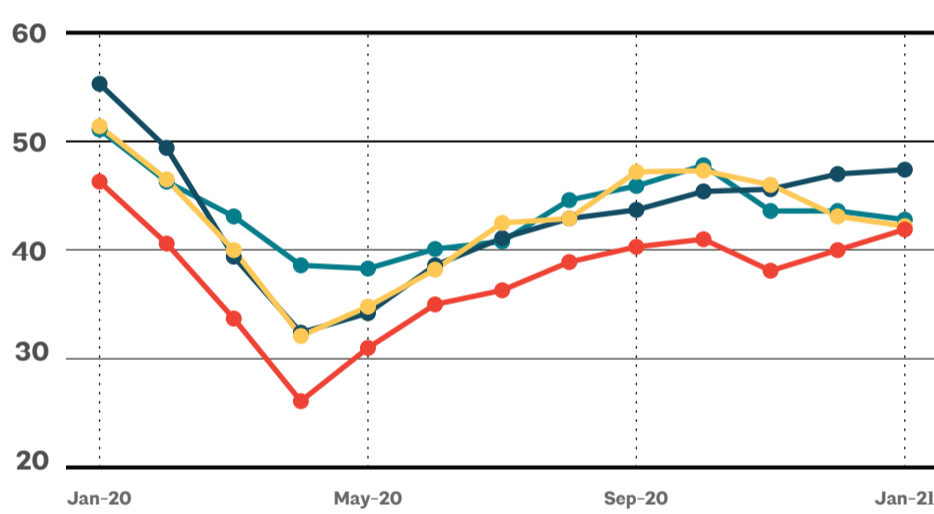
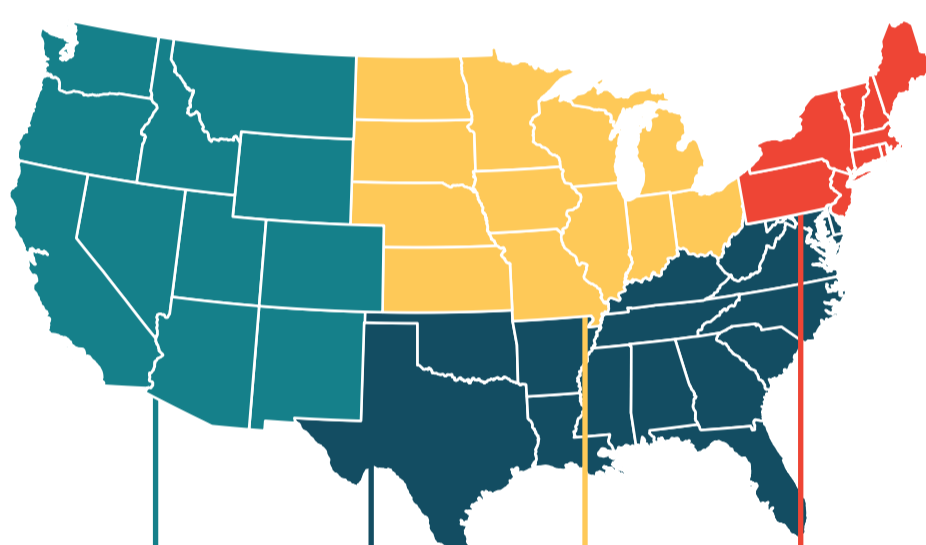
Graphs represent data from January 2020–January 2021.



Regional

Business conditions soften further at firms in the Midwest and West

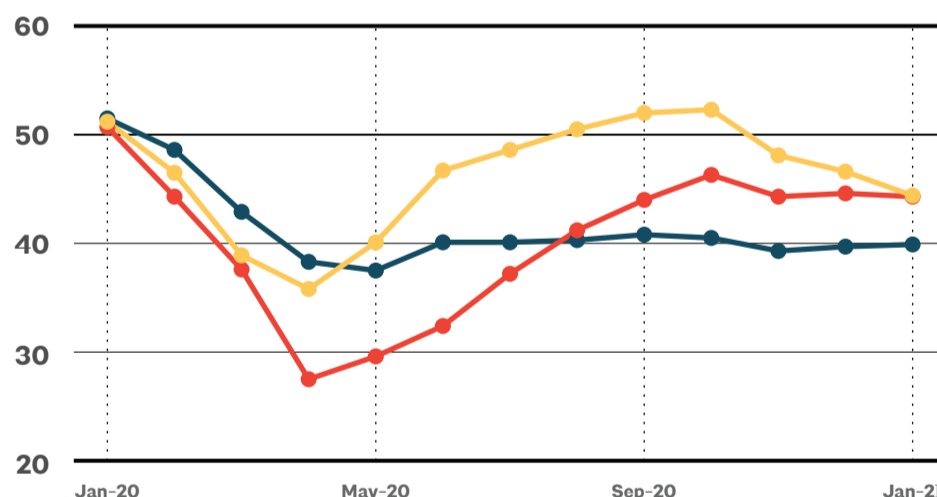
Graphs represent data from January 2020–January 2021 across the four regions. 50 represents the diffusion center. A score of 50 equals no change from the previous month. Above 50 shows increase; Below 50 shows decrease. 3-month moving average.



Sector

Billings decline further at firms of all specializations

Graphs represent data from January 2020–January 2021 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

Nearly two thirds of firms expect their revenue to return to pre-pandemic levels by the end of 2021 at the latest

units: anticipated time period for firm revenue to return to pre-pandemic levels, % of firms

