

Architecture Billings Index (ABI)

March 2019

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.

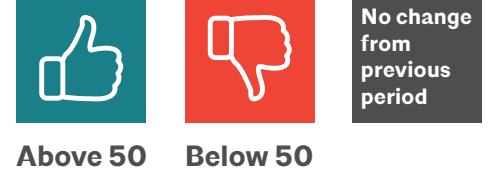
*All graphs represent data from March 2018–March 2019.

ABI

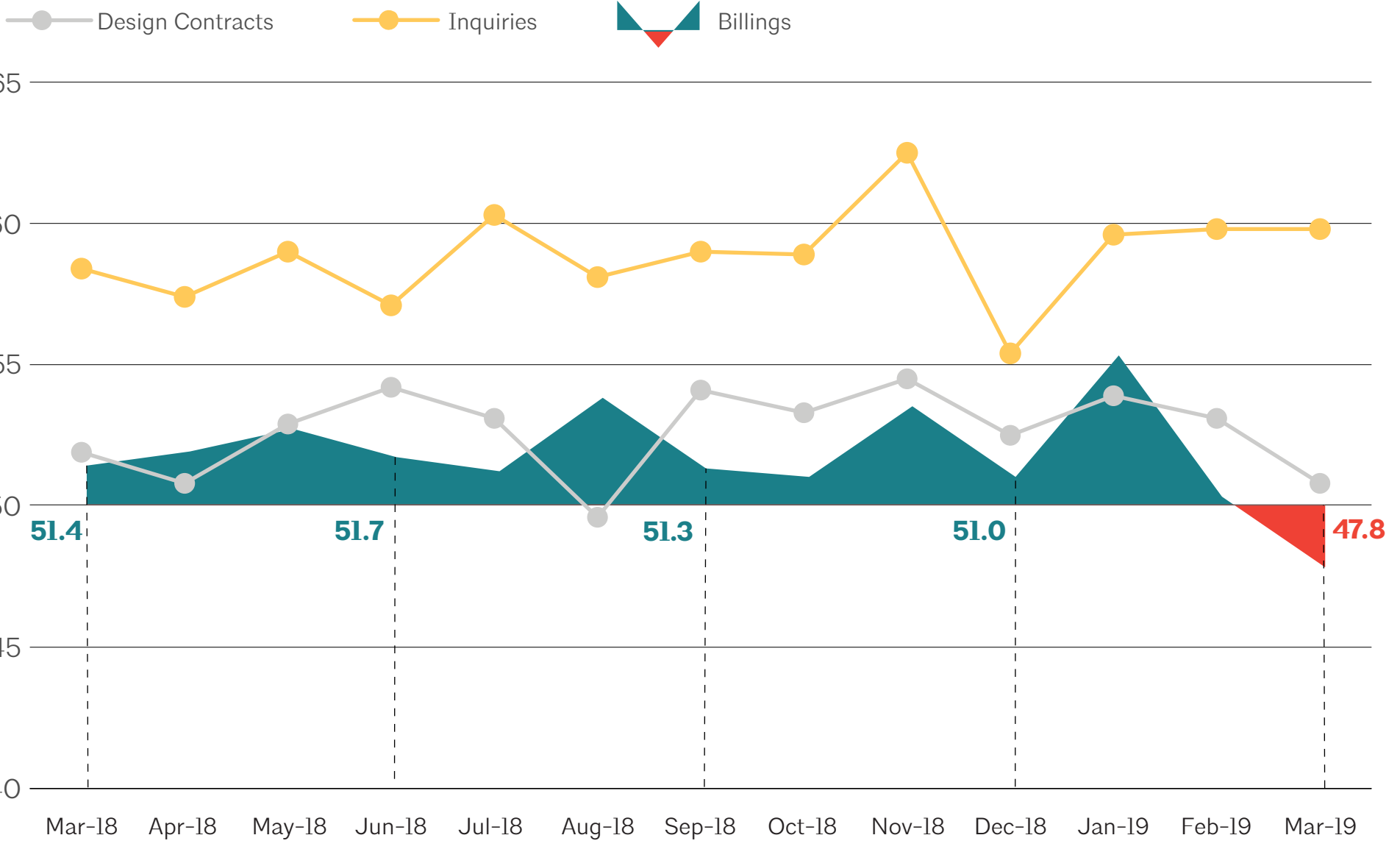
National Regional Sector Practice

National

Architecture firm billings decline in March



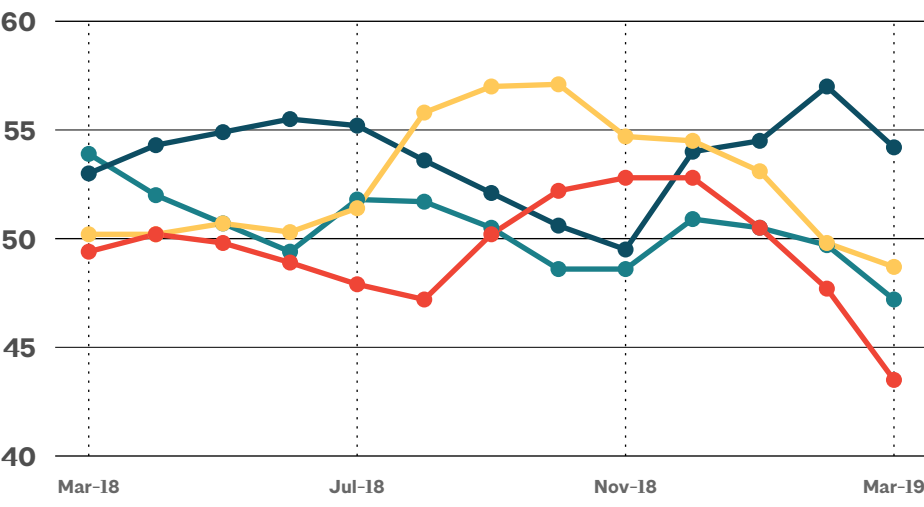
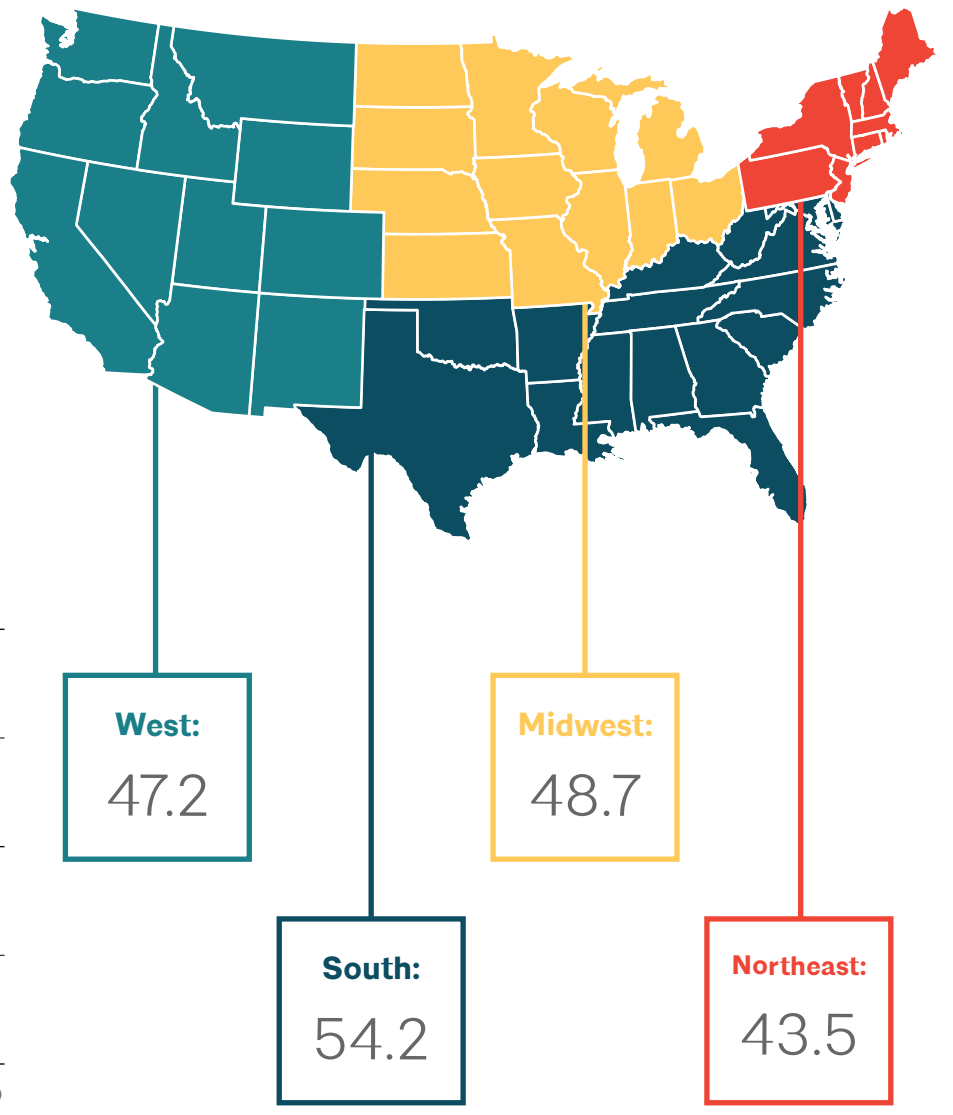
Graphs represent data from March 2018–March 2019.



Regional

Business conditions soften in all regions of the country except the South

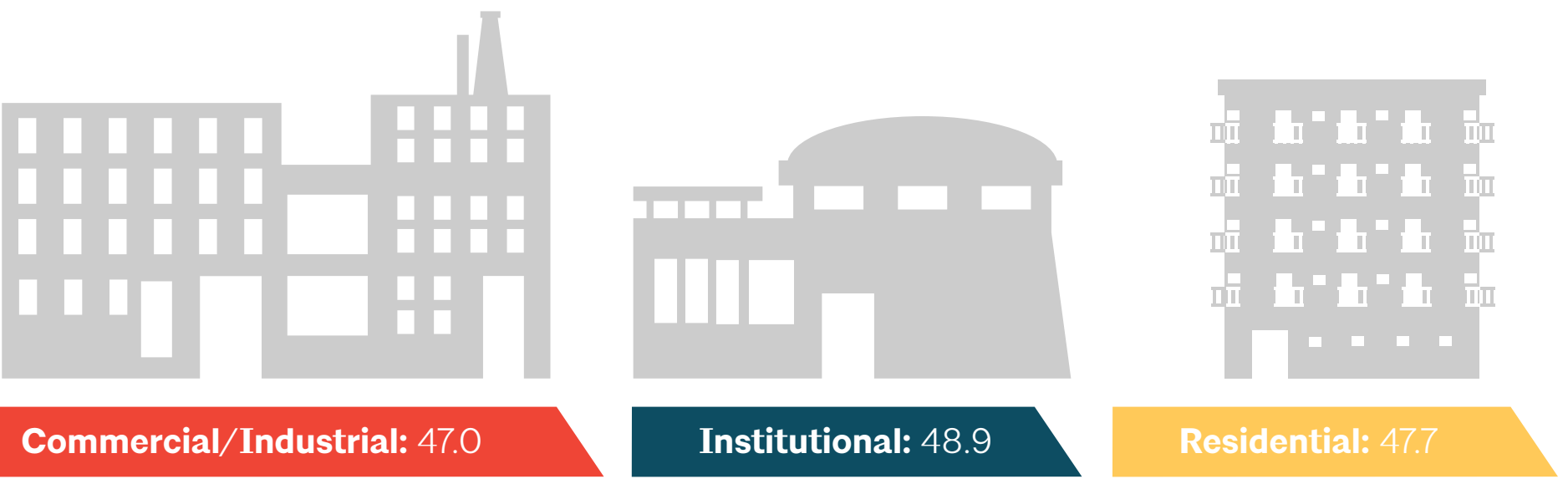
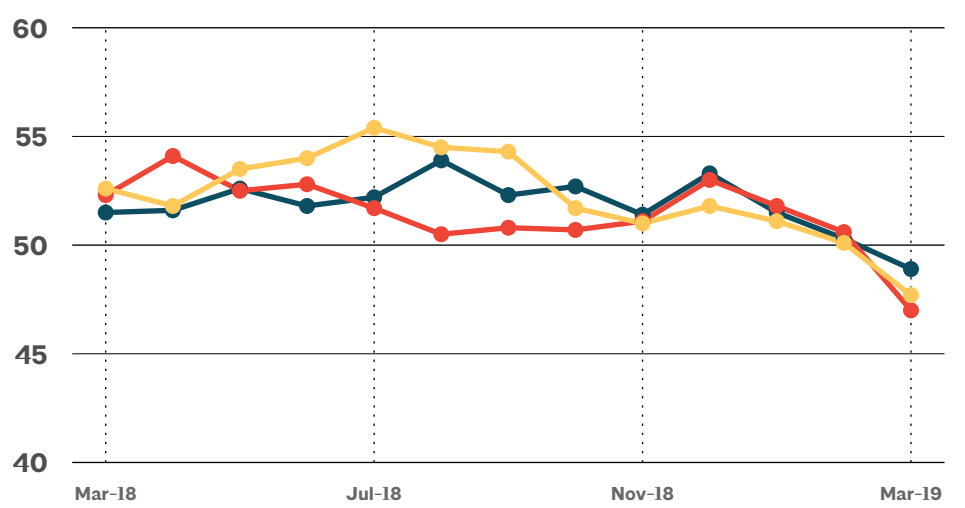
Graphs represent data from March 2018–March 2019 across the four regions. 50 represents the diffusion center. A score of 50 equals no change from the previous month. Above 50 shows increase; Below 50 shows decrease. 3-month moving average.



Sector

Firms of all specializations report weaker billings

Graphs represent data from March 2018–March 2019 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

Career development, competitive compensation are keys to reducing voluntary staff turnover at architecture firms

units: % of firms indicating that given strategy was most successful at minimizing unwanted staff turnover, excluding firms that indicated that turnover has not been an issue

