



Architecture Billings Index (ABI)

April 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.

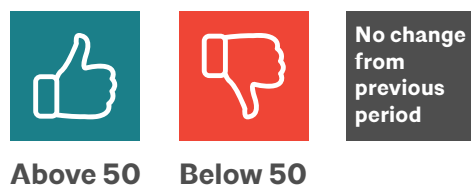
*All graphs represent data from April 2020–April 2021.

ABI

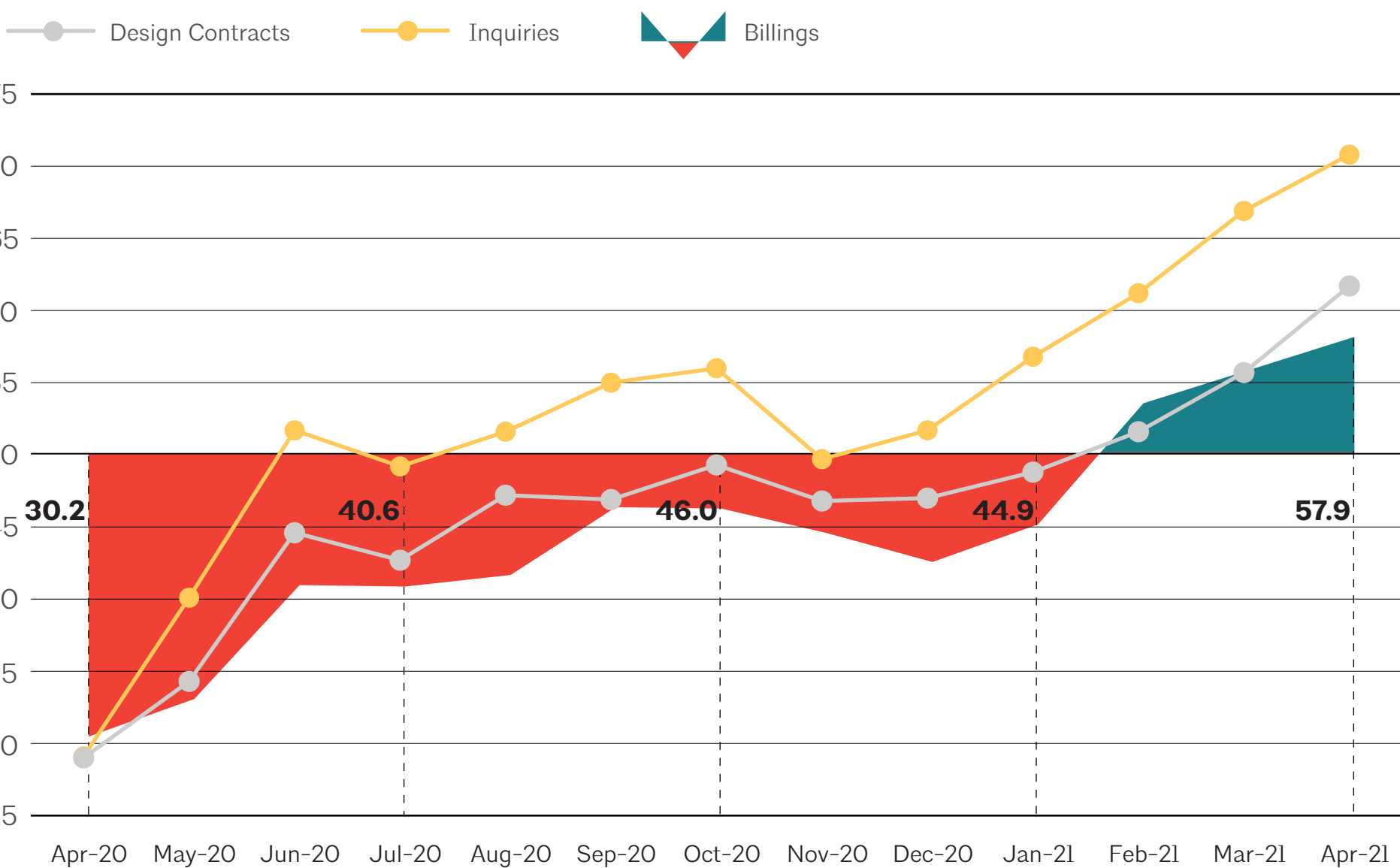
National Regional Sector Practice

National

Architecture firms report another strong month of business in April



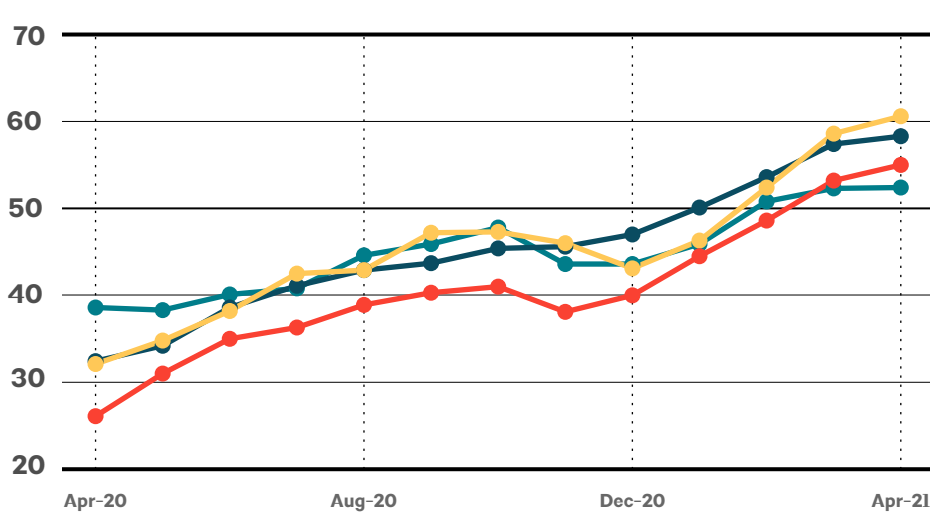
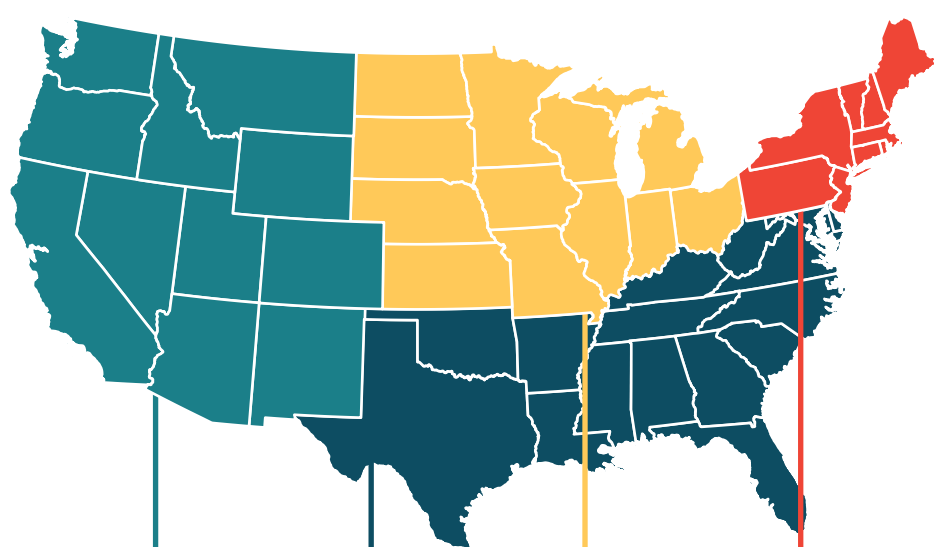
Graphs represent data from April 2020–April 2021.



Regional

Billings accelerating fastest at firms located in the Midwest and South

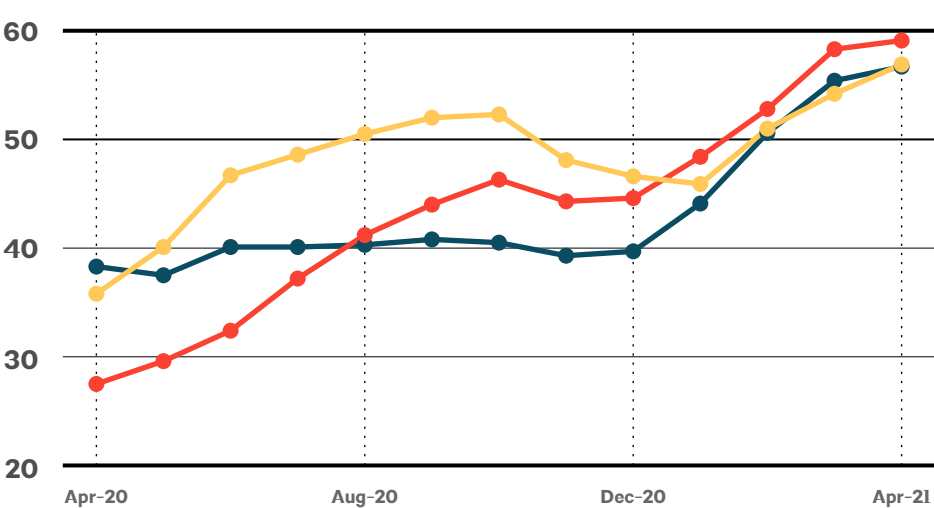
Graphs represent data from April 2020–April 2021 across the four regions. 50 represents the diffusion center. A score of 50 equals no change from the previous month. Above 50 shows increase; Below 50 shows decrease. 3-month moving average.



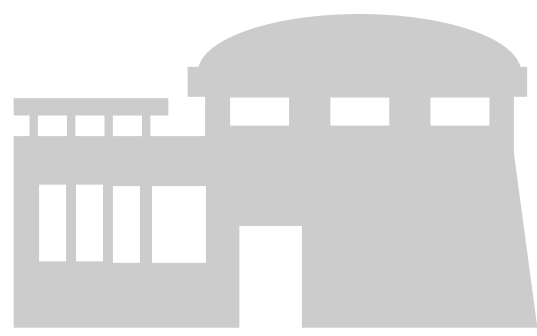
Sector

Business conditions strengthen further at firms of all specializations

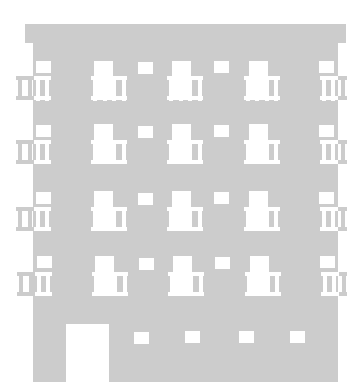
Graphs represent data from April 2020–April 2021 across the three sectors. 50 represents the diffusion center. A score of 50 equals no change from the previous month. Above 50 shows increase; Below 50 shows decrease. 3-month moving average.



Commercial/Industrial: 59.1



Institutional: 56.7



Residential: 56.9

Practice

Higher construction bids, project budget overruns ranked as most serious problems at firms due to increased costs/lack of availability of construction materials/products

units: % of firms indicating degree of seriousness of problem of given impact due to issues their firm has experienced with increased costs and/or lack of availability of construction materials/products in the last six months

