



# Architecture Billings Index (ABI)

## December 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.

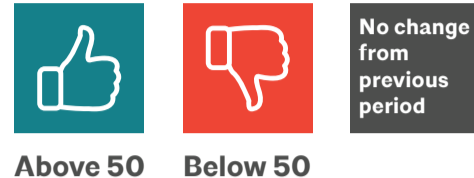
\*All graphs represent data from December 2020–December 2021.

### ABI

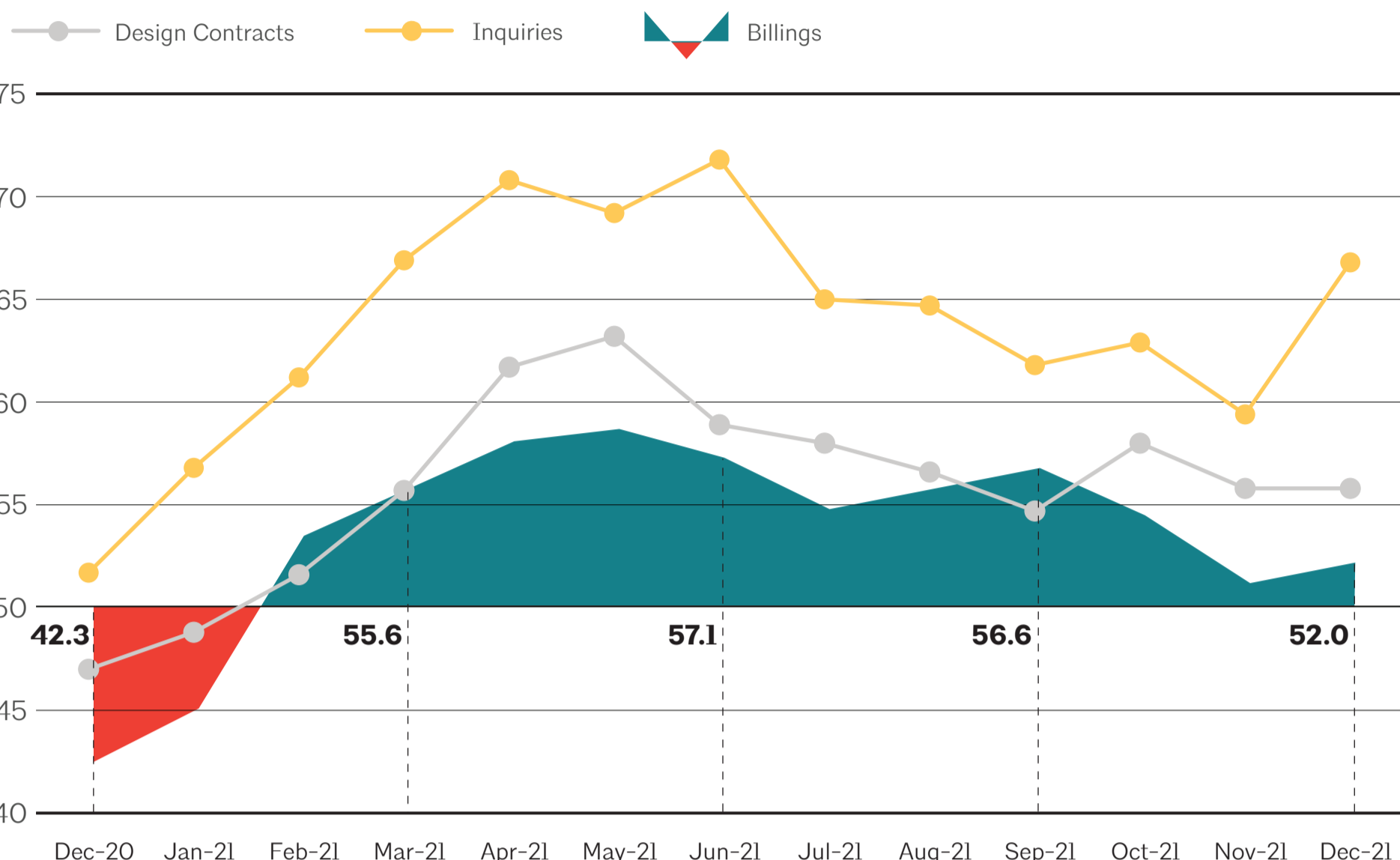
National      Regional      Sector      Practice

## National

### Architecture firm billings increase for eleventh consecutive month in December



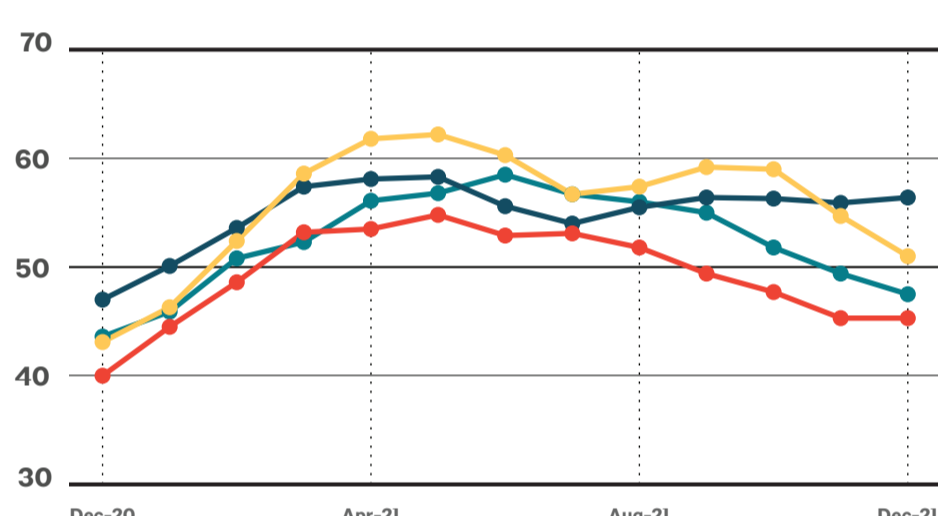
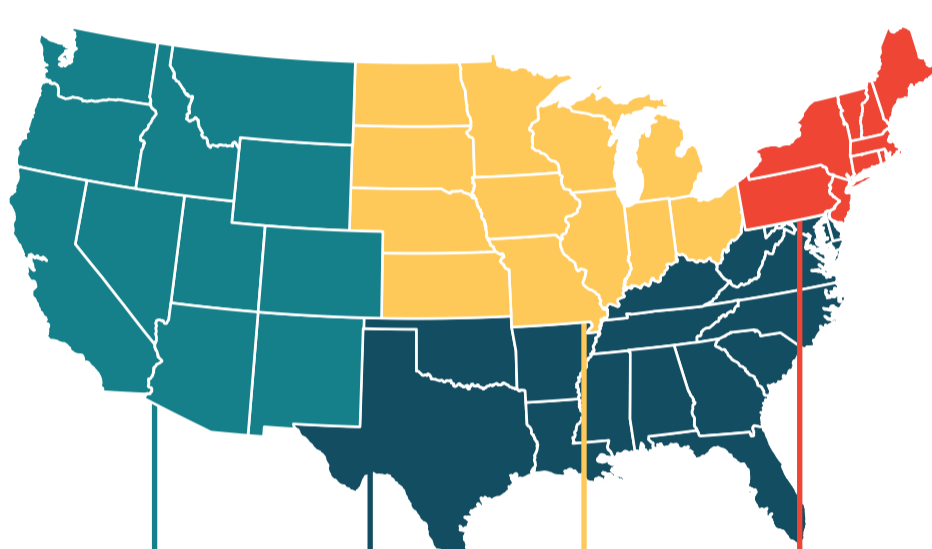
Graphs represent data from December 2020–December 2021.



## Regional

### Business conditions strengthen at firms located in the South, but remain soft at firms in the Northeast and West

Graphs represent data from December 2020–December 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.



West: 47.5

Midwest: 51.0

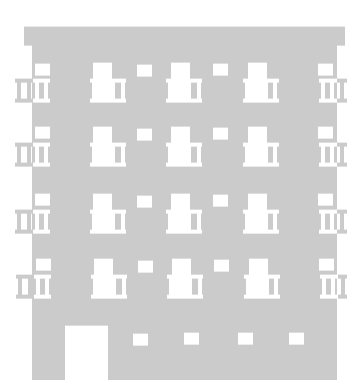
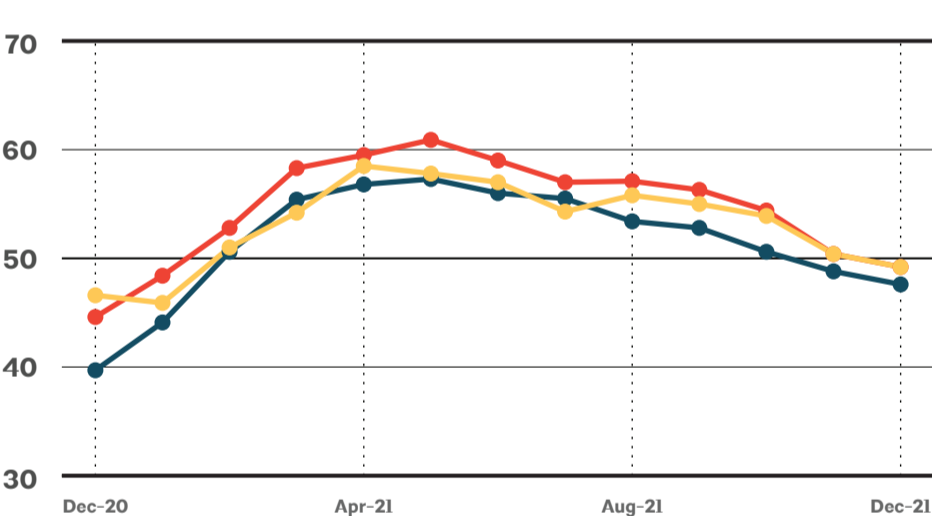
South: 56.4

Northeast: 45.3

## Sector

### Billings soften at all firm specializations

Graphs represent data from December 2020–December 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: 49.2

Institutional: 47.6

Residential: 49.2

## Practice

### Increased salaries, employee benefits thought to be most effective strategy to deal with firm staffing issues

units: % of firms selecting action as one of the top three that they feel have been/will be most effective at addressing staffing issues at their firm, of actions firm has taken or is considering

