

Architecture Billings Index (ABI) July 2022

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 2021–July 2022.



Regional

Business conditions improve at firms in the South, soften further at those in the Northeast

Graphs represent data from July 2021–July 2022 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 with an institutional specialization



Practice

Construction issues, changing market conditions top list of factors contributing to recent stalled, delayed, and canceled projects at architecture firms

units: % of firms, one most significant factor that has contributed to projects at their firm being stalled/delayed/canceled recently by firm specialization



Rising material prices

12%

Supply chain issues/materials availability

22%

Contractor bids coming in too high or schedules too long

20%

Changing market conditions make clients nervous about proceeding