Architecture Billings Index (ABI)
October 2022

The Architecture Billings Index (ABI) is a diffusion index derived from the monthly Work-on-the-Boards survey completed 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. Based on the proportion of respondents choosing each option, an index value for each month is calculated, with a score of 50 representing no change in billings from the previous month, above 50 indicating an increase, and below 50 a decrease. A 3-month moving average is calculated to indicate trends.

### National
Billings growth is generally flat across all regions of the country.

**Graphs represent data from October 2021–October 2022.**

A score of 50 equals no change from the previous month. Above 50 shows increase; Below 50 shows decrease.

#### Regions
- **West:** 49.6
- **Midwest:** 50.8
- **South:** 50.6
- **Northeast:** 50.3

### Regional
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### Practice
Firm leaders find that recent graduates of architecture programs are more likely to be well-prepared for practice now than five to 10 years ago.

#### Level of preparedness
- Compared rating of 5: 19%
- Compared rating of 4: 28%
- Compared rating of 3: 46%
- Compared rating of 2: 5%
- Not well prepared at all: 5%

#### Level of preparedness for practice of recent graduates of architecture programs

- Much better prepared: 6%
- About the same level of preparedness: 46%
- Much less prepared: 7%
- About the same level of preparedness: 17%
- Not well prepared at all: 18%

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Practice: Billings continue to expand at firms with an institutional specialization, while declining at other firms.

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