

BACKGROUND

The ABS releases final building activity data on a quarterly basis approximately four months after the reference period. The release includes data on a variety of key building indicators, including dwelling commencements, dwelling units in the pipeline and the value of construction work done.

This brief covers the final data on construction activity from the ABS *Building Activity, Australia* publication and *Engineering Construction Activity, Australia*.

Building approvals are published monthly and reported in detail in a separate brief.

Note: for some indicators, preliminary data for the latest quarter has already been published in [Construction Work Done, Australia, Preliminary](#).

DWELLING COMMENCEMENTS

During the June quarter 2026, the number of dwelling unit commencements:

- rose by 7.0% in South Australia, to be 19% higher than a year earlier. Nationally, dwelling unit commencements rose by 7.0% to be 14% higher than a year earlier (seasonally adjusted terms).

Table 1: **Total Dwelling Unit Commencements**
(% changes, seasonally adjusted)

	Jun qtr 26 (no.)	Jun qtr 26 v Mar qtr 26 (%)	Jun qtr 26 v Jun qtr 25 (%)
NSW	11,252	-5.5	-1.1
VIC	16,239	14.9	16.8
QLD	11,671	2.9	22.2
SA	3,913	7.0	19.3
WA	7,240	22.1	23.3
TAS	648	1.1	17.2
NT	249	29.7	64.9
ACT	561	-62.3	-2.4
AUS	52,201	7.0	14.4

DWELLING COMPLETIONS

- During the June quarter 2026, the number of dwelling completions in South Australia was 3,112.
- Over the eight quarters since the beginning of the September quarter 2024 the cumulative number of dwelling completions is 26,625.

Chart 1: **Quarterly Dwelling Unit Commencements**
(‘000, seas adj.)

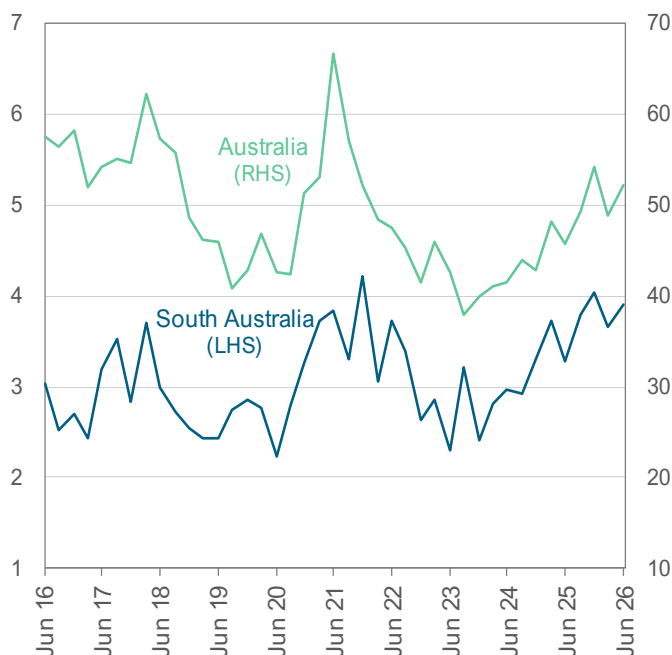
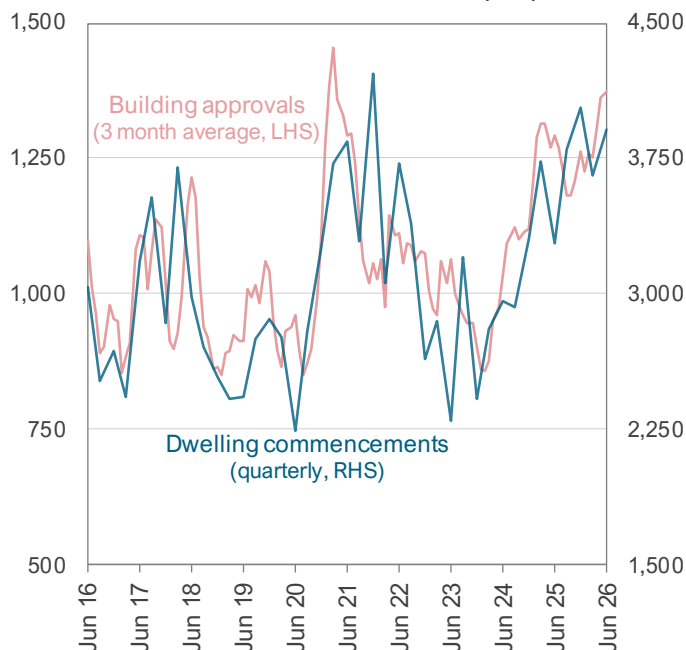


Chart 2: **South Australian Dwelling Approvals and Commencements (no.)**



DWELLING UNITS IN THE PIPELINE

The number of dwelling units under construction:

- in South Australia rose by 3.3% in the June quarter 2026 (from 15,376 to 15,880) to be 12% higher than a year earlier. 60% of these were detached houses (up from an average of 49% in the year to March 2020).
- nationally, rose by 1.9% in the June quarter (from 244,132 to 248,733) to be 11% higher than a year earlier.

The number of dwelling units approved but not yet commenced:

- in South Australia rose by 4.8% in the June quarter 2026 (from 3,501 to 3,669) but was 13% lower than a year earlier. 62% of these were detached houses (up from an average of 50% in the year to March 2020).
- nationally, rose by 0.7% in the June quarter (from 30,035 to 30,242) but was 13% lower than a year earlier.

The total number of dwelling units in the pipeline (both under construction, and approved but not yet commenced):

- in South Australia rose by 3.6% in the June quarter 2026 (from 18,877 to 19,549) to be 6.5% higher than a year earlier.
- nationally, rose by 1.8% in the June quarter (from 274,167 to 278,975) to be 7.6% higher than a year earlier.

In 2025-26, the average completion time for new houses:

- in South Australia was 3.00 quarters, down from 3.39 quarters in 2024-25.
- nationally, was 2.80 quarters, down from 3.06 quarters in 2024-25.

In 2025-26, the average completion time for new townhouses:

- in South Australia was 4.40 quarters, down from 4.97 quarters in 2024-25.
- nationally, was 3.74 quarters, down from 3.90 quarters in 2024-25.

(Average completion times are published annually in the June quarter release.)

Chart 3: South Australian Dwelling Units in the Pipeline ('000 original)

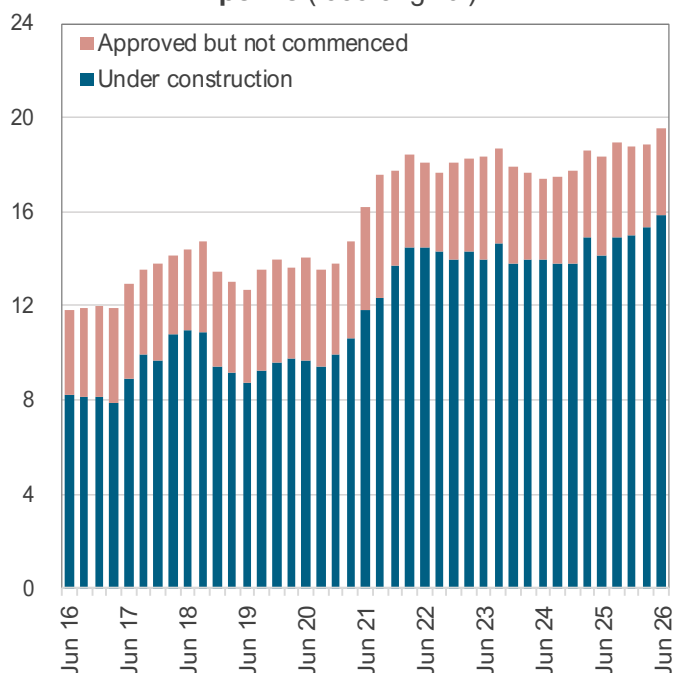
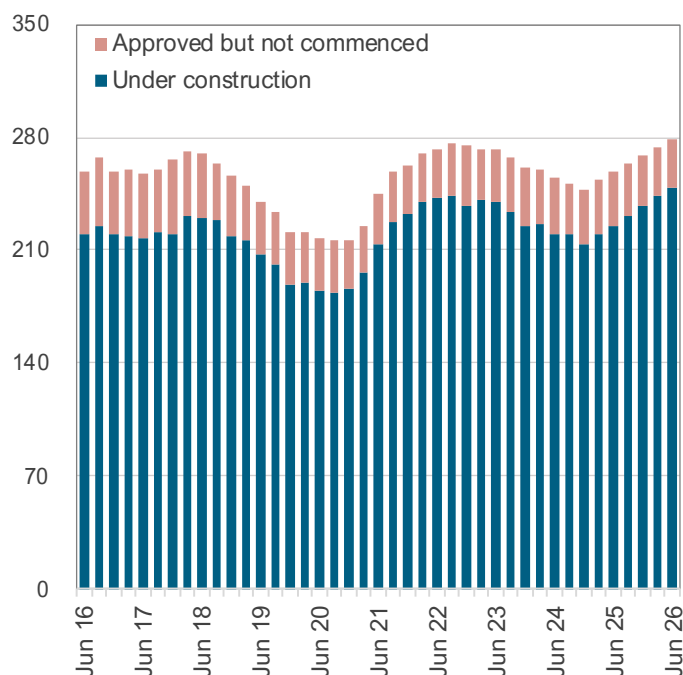


Chart 4: Australian Dwelling Units in the Pipeline ('000 original)



CONSTRUCTION WORK DONE

(Quarterly, **seasonally adjusted** value)

The value of total construction work done:

In South Australia rose by 1.5% in the June quarter 2026 to be 11% higher than a year earlier. The total rise in the quarter reflects:

- a rise of 4.1% (\$49m) in non-residential;
- a rise of 3.8% (\$59m) in residential; and
- a fall of 0.9% (\$25m) in engineering.

Nationally, total construction fell by 1.6% in the June quarter but was 3.4% higher than a year earlier.

Chart 5: **South Australian Construction Work Done**
(\$b, real, seas adj.)

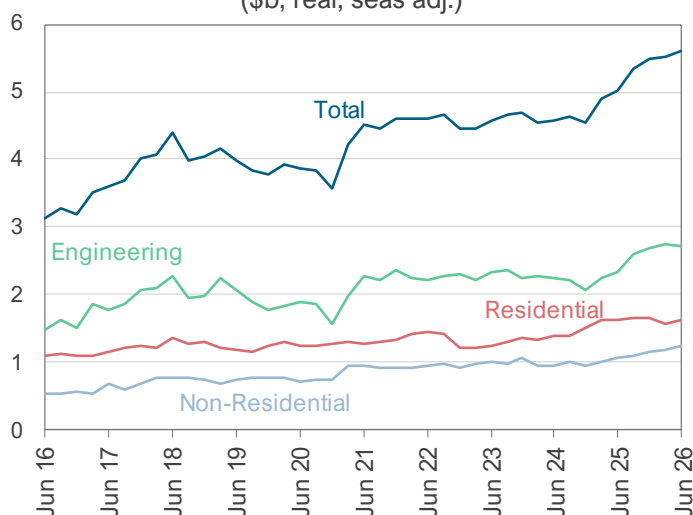
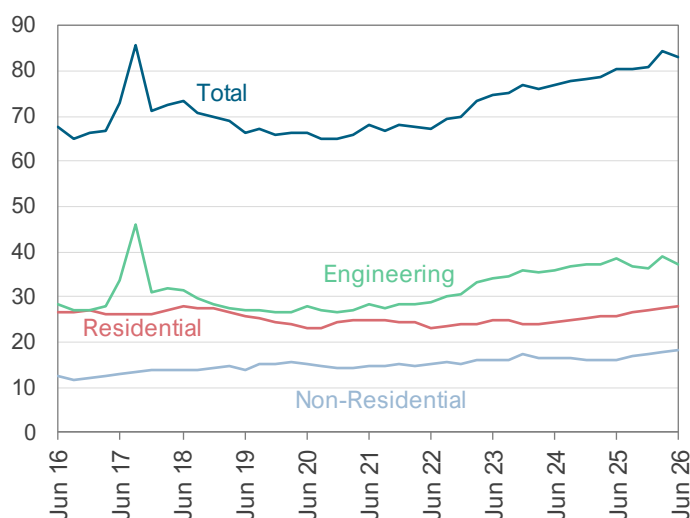


Chart 6: **Australian Construction Work Done**
(\$b, real, seas adj.)



CONSTRUCTION WORK IN THE PIPELINE

(Quarterly, **original** value)

The value of total construction work in the pipeline:

In South Australia fell by 1.4% in the June quarter 2026 to be 0.1% lower than a year earlier. The total fall in the quarter reflects:

- a fall of 4.3% (\$396m) in engineering;
- a fall of 1.2% (\$106m) in non-residential; and
- a rise of 3.0% (\$177m) in residential.

Nationally, total pipeline value rose by 1.9% in the June quarter to be 7.5% higher than a year earlier.

Chart 7: **South Australian Construction Work in the Pipeline** (\$b, original)

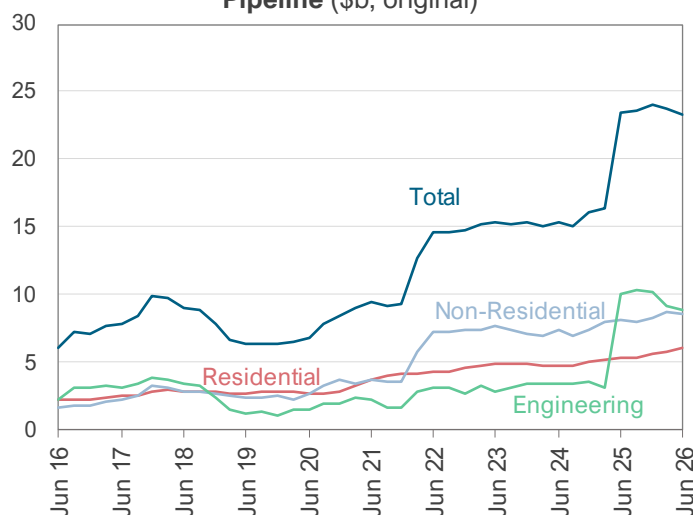
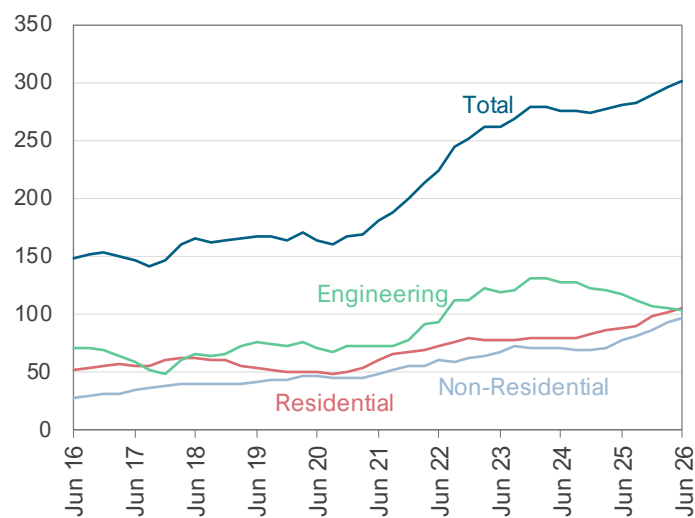


Chart 8: **Australian Construction Work in the Pipeline**
(\$b, original)



Next release of [ABS Building Activity](#) is 13 January 2027.