

Construction Industry Snapshot¹

December 2017²

Employment

The industry employs over 10.25% of the State Workforce

With 16.9% growth in August 2017 compared to August 2016. Only one decrease in the previous four quarters.

Tradespeople – the industry employs over 70,800 tradespeople

This is the highest number since August 2014 and third highest on record.

Apprenticeships – the industry employs more than 45% of the State's apprentices

Including electrical, there are currently 6,833 apprentices 'in training' which is a 6.2% decrease on the previous year but there has been a 75% reduction in apprenticeship cancellations. There has been an overall decrease in apprentice commencements of 18.6% including electrical.

Traineeships – the industry employs 716 trainees.

Since 2009 there has been a 67% increase in traineeships especially in the Civil Construction sector

Building Approvals and Commencements³

Total Dwelling Units – there was a total of 19,928 approvals for all types of Dwelling Units

This was a reduction of 9.5% on the previous year to October. However, over the last 3 months approvals have remained stable demonstrating that the outlook could be improving into 2018.

Total Houses – there was a total of 14,584 approvals for houses

This was a reduction of 9% in the year to October. The reduction was only 3.5% in the last quarter which shows a levelling of the decline.

Dwelling Commencements – in the year to October, there was a total of 19,666 dwelling commencements.

Value of Construction Work Done

Residential–increase of 4.8% in value in the last quarter to \$6.44B

This shows a marked improvement in activity in the last quarter compared against a reduction of 22.7% on the previous twelve months.

Non-Residential–a decrease of 5.3% in value in the last quarter to \$4.49B

This was against a decrease of 4.0% in the previous twelve months. This is a marked improvement on the year to September 2016 when there was a 10.5% decrease in work done. It demonstrates a stabilisation in the market.

¹ All interpretations and conclusions drawn from this data are those of the Construction Training Fund.

² Published in December 2017 using data based on the latest available monthly/quarterly ABS Data. All apprenticeship and training data is current from TRS Datacubes as at the end of September 2017.

³ Seasonally adjusted ABS 8731.0 & 8752.0