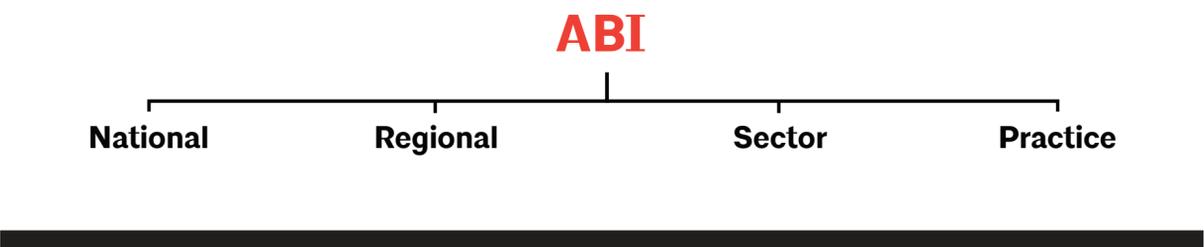


Architecture Billings Index (ABI)

December 2016

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 2015–December 2016.

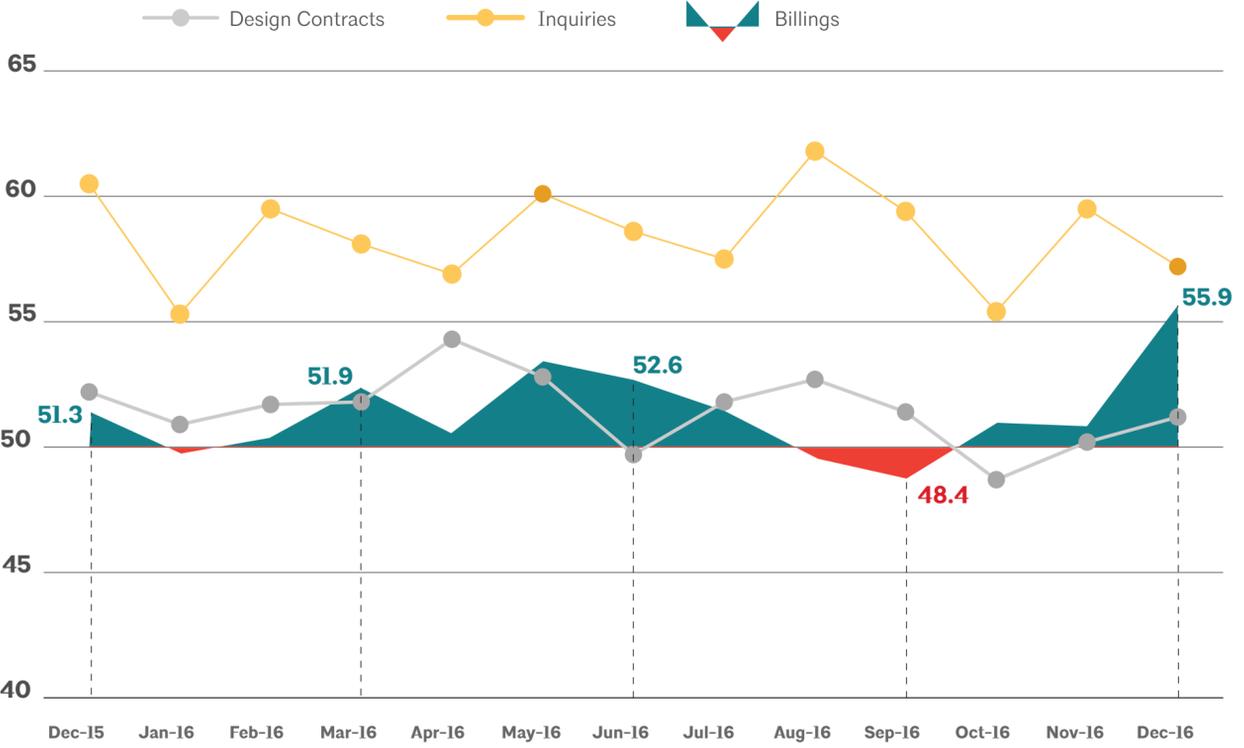


National

A strong finish to the year for design activity



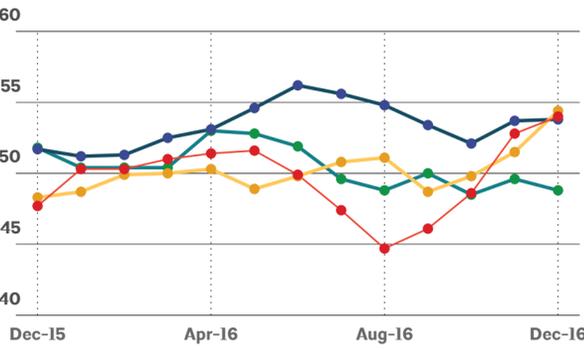
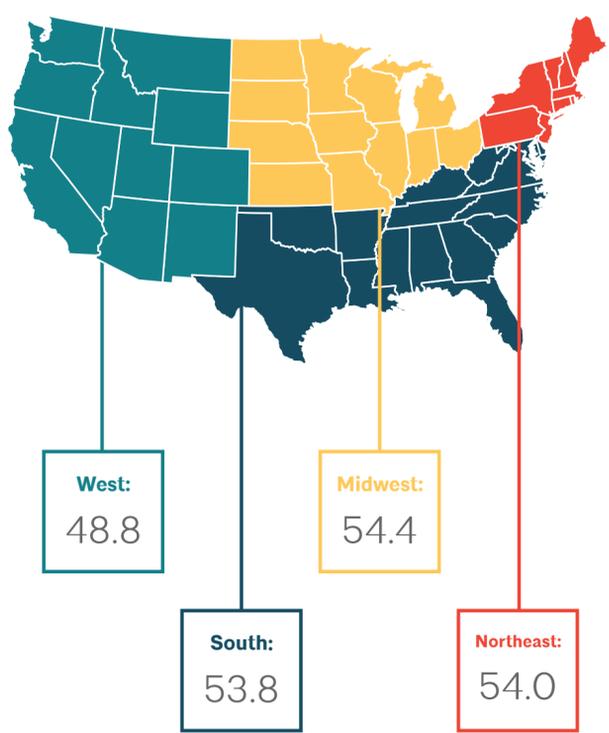
Graphs represent data from December 2015–December 2016.



Regional

Sharp upturn in December lifts firms in all regions but West

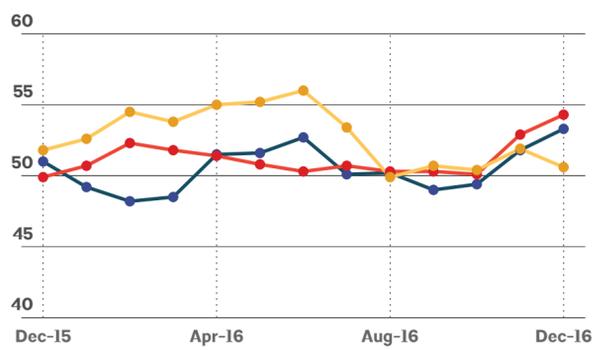
*Graphs represent data from December 2015–December 2016 across the four regions. 50 represents the diffusion center. A score of 50 equals no change from the previous month. Above 50 shows increase; Below 50 shows decrease. 3-month moving average.



Sector

Billings growth pushes up scores at commercial/industrial and institutional firms

*Graphs represent data from December 2015–December 2016 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.



Practice

Business volatility, cost of running a firm top list of challenges to architecture firm profitability

Units: % of architecture firms mentioning as single most important challenge to firm profitability

