

Builders applaud construction support package

April 23, 2020

Master Builders applauds the State Government for supporting the young men and women within the building and construction sector, hosts and group training organisations by announcing a \$24.5 million support package.

“In a letter to the Premier on the 19th March, Master Builders WA requested through its COVID-19 Support Plan that the Construction Training Fund (CTF) review the investment of additional funds to hosts and group training providers to keep apprentices in training and support subcontractors and builders, so we are pleased the Premier has taken decisive action, said John Gelavis Executive Director of Master Builders WA.

“The Building and Construction Industry contributes 0.2% of the total value of construction (inclusive of GST) or \$200 in every \$100,000 worth of project value to the CTF, so we are pleased that these important industry funds are being used to support our training effort.

“The Building and Construction Industry is a \$24b sector, 120,000 workers, the largest small business sector in the state covering 40,000 of the state’s 220,000 small businesses and we also employ more than 40 per cent of WA’s apprentices, so any measure to assist the building and construction industry to maintain a skilled workforce during the COVID-19 crisis is welcome.

“Coronavirus is a health crisis first but an economic one second. Care for our community is the priority in these anxious times but keeping people in jobs and small businesses going is also important.

“The Premier has committed that the Building and Construction Industry will continue to operate during this time so we are pleased that this new support package will ensure industry is well positioned with a skilled workforce to meet the demands of a post COVID-19 recovery for the State.

“It is now critical that the State Government clearly identify a pipeline of short and long-term future work to retain confidence in the building and construction industry, so small businesses can take up these important measures.

“Refurbishment or maintenance projects would be a good start because some may not require planning or building approvals. If they do, they should be fast tracked.

“The Government could commence with minor school maintenance work, then larger asset creation projects like hospitals and healthcare facilities and then infrastructure investment, which supports all Western Australians” concluded John Gelavis

For more information please contact: John Gelavis, Director – w: 9476 980 m: 0428 884 392

WA Building and Construction Industry Economic Profile

- **\$24.9 BILLION SECTOR**
- **121,124 CONSTRUCTION EMPLOYMENT**
- **EMPLOY 8.9% OF THE STATE'S WORKFORCE**
- **9.1% OF GROSS STATE PRODUCT**
- **EMPLOY OVER 40% OF THE STATE'S APPRENTICES**
- **40,000 OF THE STATE'S 220,000 SMALL BUSINESSES ARE IN THE WA BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY (18% WHICH IS THE LARGEST SMALL BUSINESS SECTOR IN WA)**
- **98% OF BUSINESSES IN THE BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY ARE SMALL BUSINESS**

Number of People Employed by Construction Industry in Each State and Territory by Subsector, November 2019								
	NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	WA	TAS	NT	ACT
Residential Building Construction	51,555	40,607	25,427	7,624	13,349	3,523	990	3,238
Non-Residential Building Construction	18,369	18,141	8,286	3,899	7,988	643	1,108	2,014
Other building construction	23,403	34,242	20,129	4,638	10,306	1,301	1,051	1,241
Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	34,908	25,759	23,263	5,538	13,987	1,870	2,138	1,384
Land Development and Site Preparation	10,316	11,263	12,787	1,633	12,173	1,281	451	572
Building Structure Services	36,137	31,917	28,485	6,513	26,078	5,481	2,836	1,478
Building Installation Services	88,469	75,380	55,144	15,037	18,608	2,093	1,065	4,926
Building Completion Services	60,739	67,675	42,471	14,702	12,764	2,201	911	3,516
Other Construction Services	39,623	32,595	31,861	10,137	5,871	828	296	569
Total Construction Employment	363,518	337,579	247,853	69,722	121,124	19,221	10,846	18,938

Source: Master Builders Australia analysis of ABS 6291.0.55.003

Number of People Employed by Construction Industry in Each State and Territory by Subsector (%), November 2019								
	NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	WA	TAS	NT	ACT
Residential Building Construction	14.2%	12.0%	10.3%	10.9%	11.0%	18.3%	9.1%	17.1%
Non-Residential Building Construction	5.1%	5.4%	3.3%	5.6%	6.6%	3.3%	10.2%	10.6%
Other building construction	6.4%	10.1%	8.1%	6.7%	8.5%	6.8%	9.7%	6.6%
Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction	9.6%	7.6%	9.4%	7.9%	11.5%	9.7%	19.7%	7.3%
Land Development and Site Preparation	2.8%	3.3%	5.2%	2.3%	10.0%	6.7%	4.2%	3.0%
Building Structure Services	9.9%	9.5%	11.5%	9.3%	21.5%	28.5%	26.1%	7.8%
Building Installation Services	24.3%	22.3%	22.2%	21.6%	15.4%	10.9%	9.8%	26.0%
Building Completion Services	16.7%	20.0%	17.1%	21.1%	10.5%	11.5%	8.4%	18.6%
Other Construction Services	10.9%	9.7%	12.9%	14.5%	4.8%	4.3%	2.7%	3.0%
Total Construction Employment	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Source: Master Builders Australia analysis of ABS 6291.0.55.003