

# Media Release

## Cost of new WA homes go through the roof

30 January 2026

Western Australians building a new home in 2026 are now paying almost twice the amount they would have if they'd built before the pandemic.

Newly-released Australian Bureau of Statistics data has revealed that the cost of a newly built home in Western Australia is now 95.6 per cent higher than in 2019.

Master Builders Western Australia (MBAWA) CEO Matt Moran said that WA was experiencing the largest escalation of costs in the nation.

"A 95.6 per cent increase in new home building costs means that a home costing \$300,000 to build in 2019 would cost \$586,800 in December 2025," said Mr Moran.

"This represents the largest total change in house building output across all Australian states and territories, and is over double the national average of 47 per cent."

Master Builders Australia Chief Economist Shane Garrett's fresh analysis of today's Producer Price Index data also shows that building material costs rose 0.3 per cent in the December quarter, and have increased by 39.4 per cent since 2019.

Mr Garrett said that product categories facing the largest cost increases over the six years to December 2025 were ceramic products (+ 110.4 per cent), cement products (+ 57.2 per cent) and timber, board and joinery products (+ 39.9 per cent).

"Costs have deteriorated across nearly every category of building product. Fortunately, steel product prices have only grown by 17.1 per cent over the same period. If it wasn't for steel prices, the pace of building products inflation would be even worse," said Mr Garrett.

Mr Moran said that, with the industry already experiencing pressure due to a significant worker shortage, these building materials price rises were likely to further stifle efforts to end the housing crisis.

"MBAWA is committed to working with the State Government on pragmatic policies to assist the local industry to build the affordable houses our community needs."

"MBAWA believes that focusing on supply-side solutions, such as boosting the building and construction workforce and increasing the availability of land, is critical," said Mr Moran.

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### **About Master Builders WA**

*Master Builders WA services the needs of the entire building and construction industry, from residential to commercial, civil engineering businesses, principal contractors to subcontractors, manufacturers and suppliers. We assist members by providing access to a wide range of specialised services, recognition through awards, as well as advocacy to government and industry. MBAWA also serves the Western Australian public by fostering best practice work standards.*

### **About FutureBuild Academy**

*A Master Builders WA initiative, FutureBuild Academy is a Group Training Organisation specialising in building and construction trades. A Master Builders WA membership is not required to become a host employer, although member discounts are available. If you are interested in an apprenticeship or taking on an apprentice, please reach out to the [FutureBuild Academy](#).*

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