The AIA/Deltek 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 March 2023–March 2024.
National
Architecture firm billings soften further in March

Graphs represent data from March 2023–March 2024.

Billings
Inquiries
Design Contracts

Above 50
Below 50
No change from previous period

Billings


49.3 49.2 45.3 46.5 43.6
Regional
Business conditions remain weak across the country

Graphs represent data from March 2023–March 2024 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 are flat at firms with an institutional specialization, declining at other firm types

Graphs represent data from March 2023–March 2024 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.

**Commercial/Industrial:** 42.9

**Institutional:** 49.9

**Residential:** 44.2
Practice

The most profitable fee methods at architecture firms also tend to be the least risky

units: % of firms indicating level of profitability and risk for each fee method at their firm as compared to other methods (excluding firms that do not use that method and/or can’t compare that method to others)