AIA/Deltek Architecture Billings Index (ABI)

July 2024

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 July 2023–July 2024.

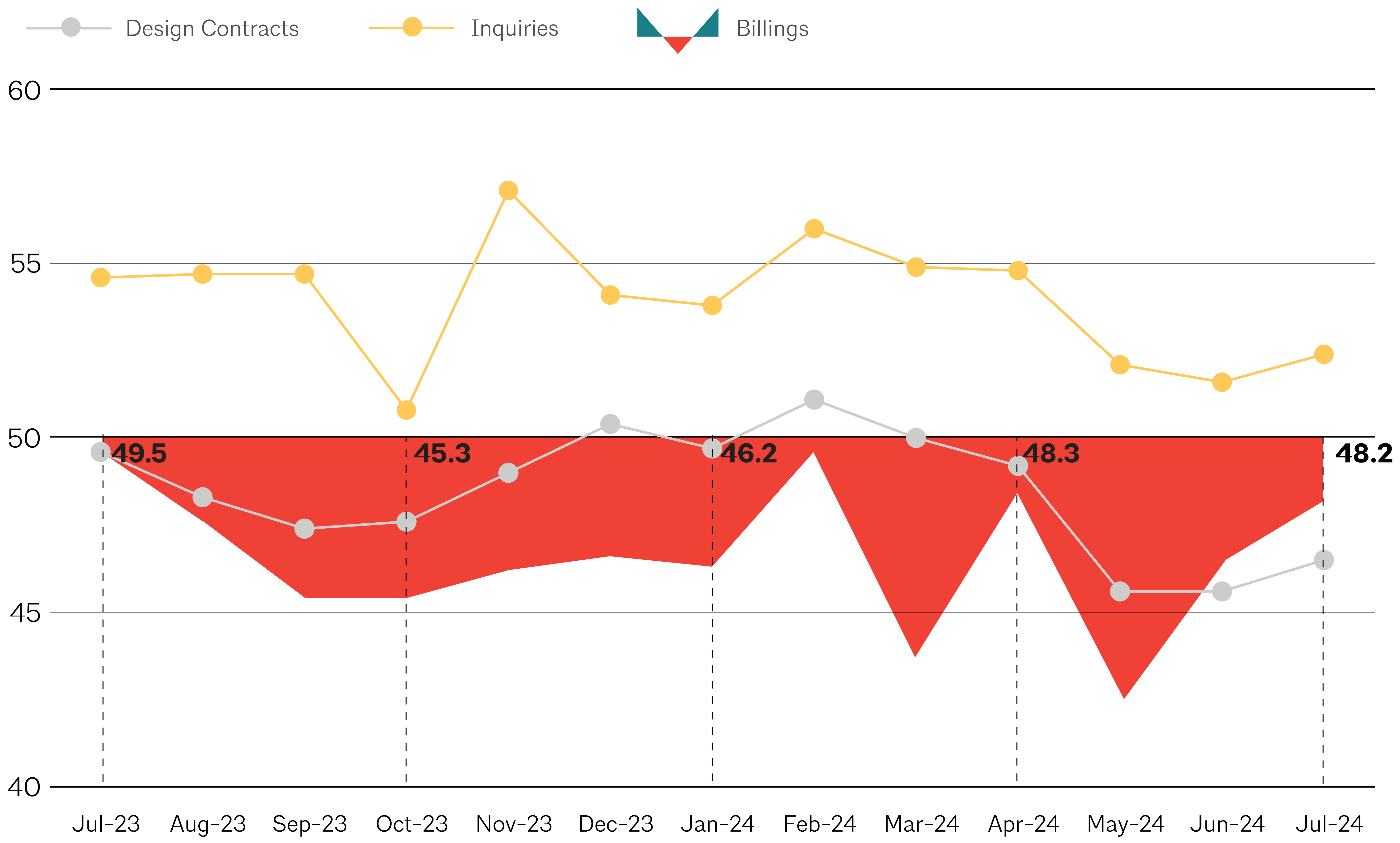
ABI

National **Regional** **Sector** **Practice**

National

Architecture firms billings decline at slower pace in July

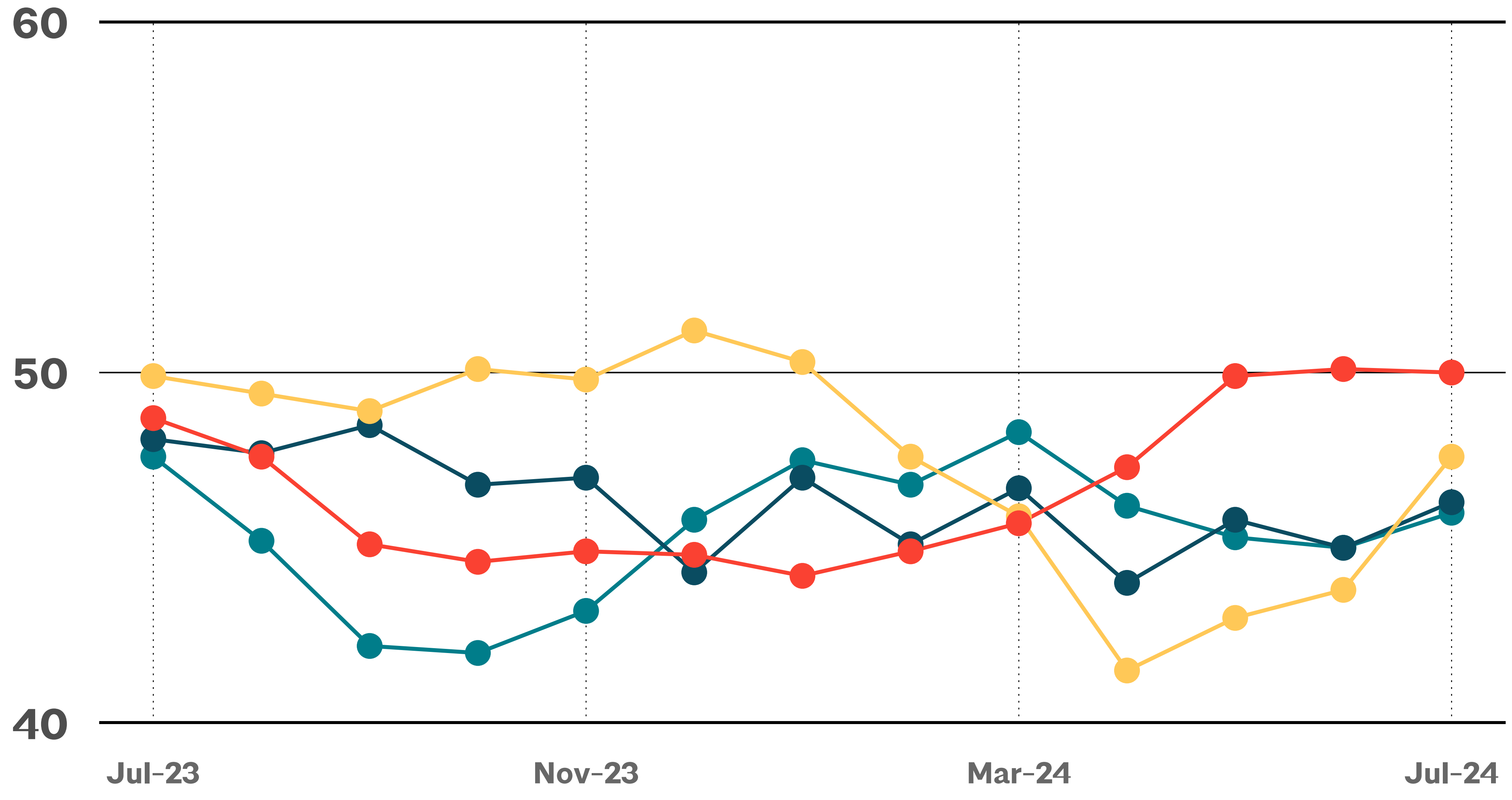
Graphs represent data from July 2023–July 2024.

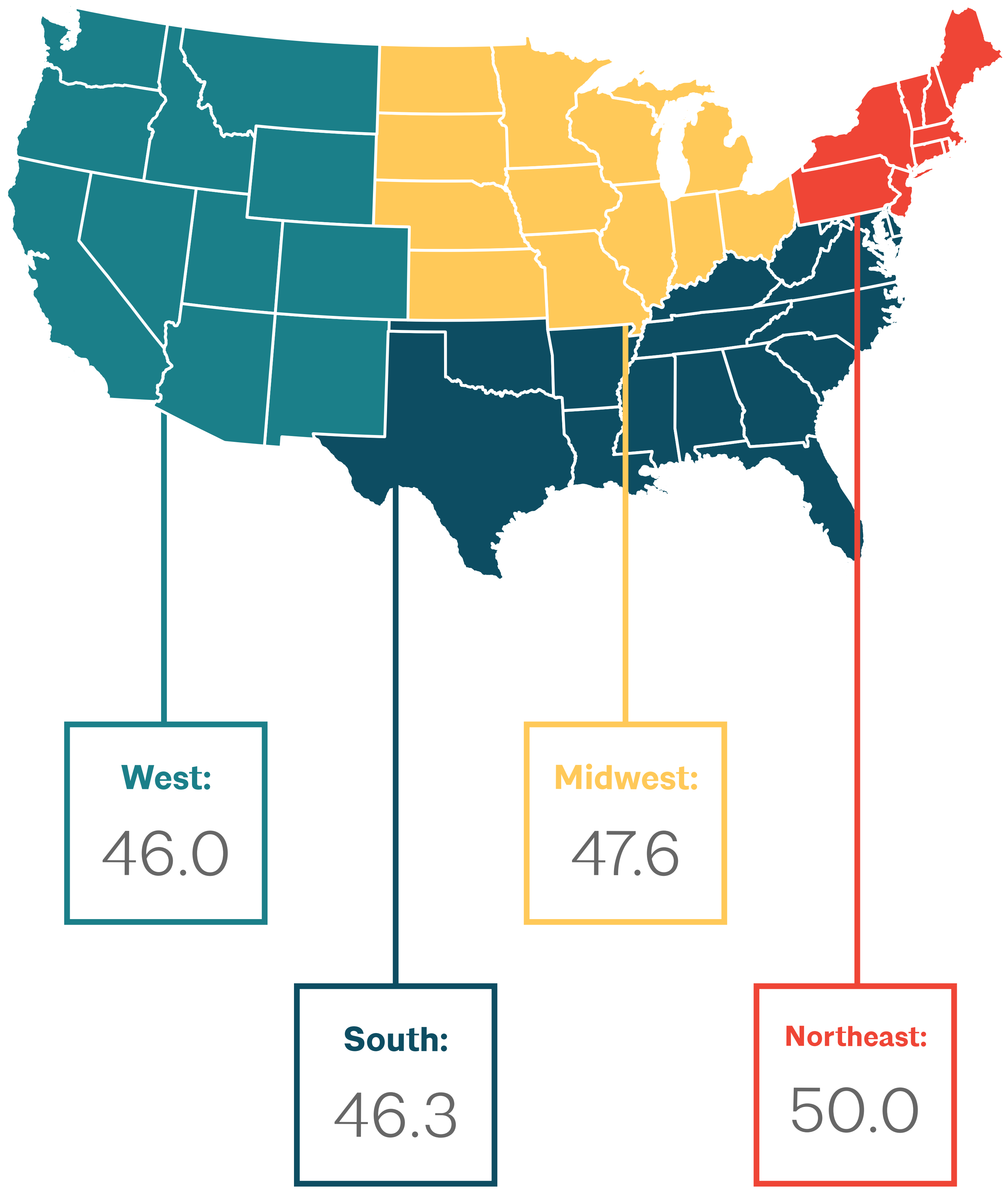


Regional

Billings remain flat at firms in Northeast, while decreasing elsewhere

Graphs represent data from July 2023–July 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.

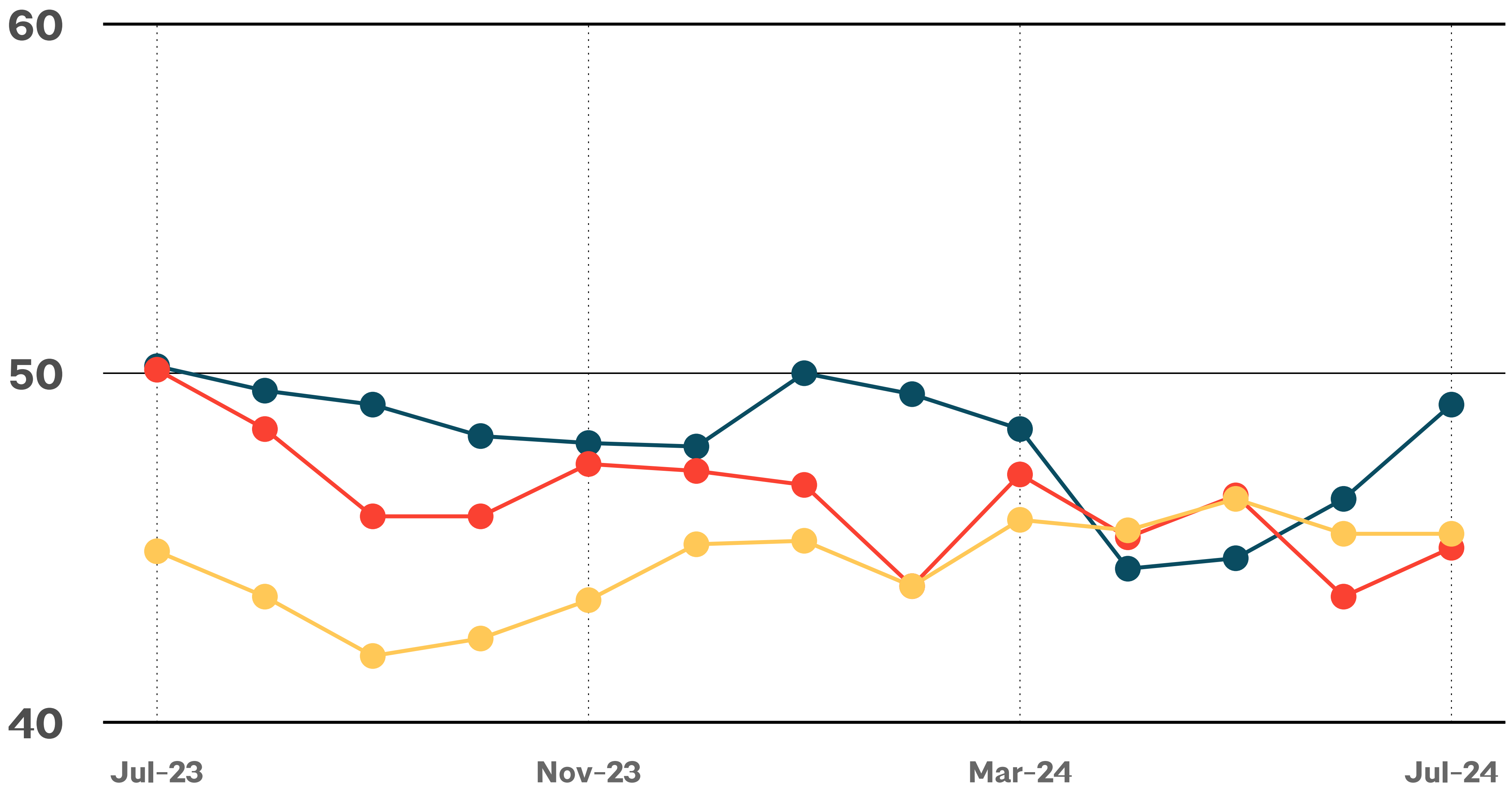




Sector

Business conditions still softest at firms with commercial/industrial, multifamily residential specializations

Graphs represent data from July 2023–July 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: 45.0

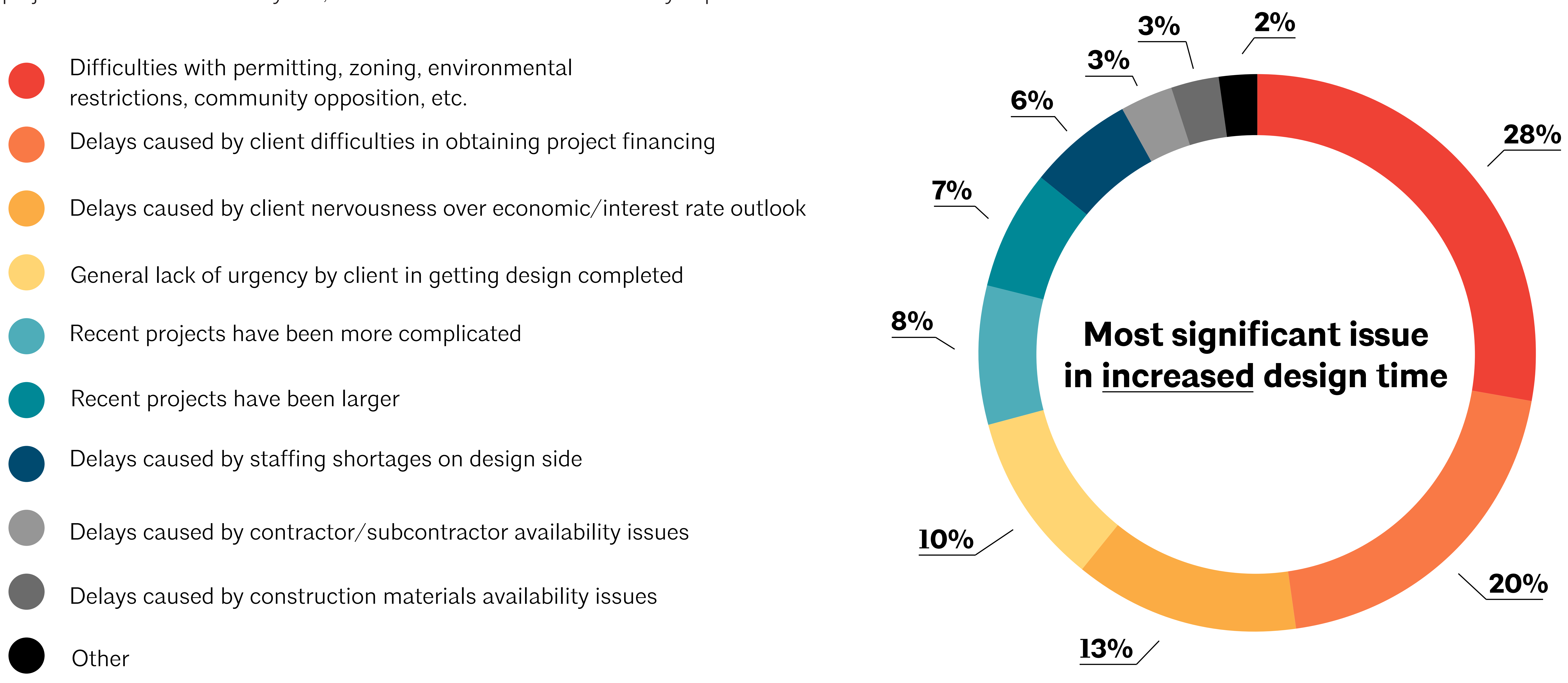
Institutional: 49.1

Residential: 45.4

Practice

Permitting issues are top issue contributing toward increased design time at firms, while client urgency is primary driver of decreased design time

units: % of firms selecting issue as most significant issue in increased/decreased design time for a typical project at their firm in recent years, of firms that rated that issue as “very important”



Practice

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- Greater urgency by client in getting design completed
- Recent projects have been smaller
- Higher share of projects are additions/retrofits to existing facilities
- Technology improvements have decreased required design time
- Lower workloads at our firm have allowed us to accelerate schedules
- Recent projects have been simpler
- Other