Building approvals, May 2020

Source: ABS 8731.0, released 1 July 2020, 11:30 am (AEST)

Key data

Total dwelling approvals monthly change (seasonally adjusted):
Queensland ................................................... ↓ 7.4%
Australia....................................................... ↓ 16.4%

Total dwelling approvals annual change (seasonally adjusted):
Queensland ................................................... ↓ 14.8%
Australia....................................................... ↓ 11.6%

Main findings

Due to the impacts of COVID-19 the ABS has suspended the trend series from May 2020. All results are therefore presented in seasonally adjusted terms.

Dwelling approvals

- The seasonally adjusted estimate for total dwelling units approved in Queensland in May 2020 was 2,242, 7.4% lower than the April 2020 figure. The national seasonally adjusted estimate for total dwelling approvals decreased 16.4% during the month.
- The seasonally adjusted estimate for the number of private sector house approvals in Queensland decreased 9.9% in May 2020, with a total of 1,539 houses approved. Australia’s seasonally adjusted estimate for the number of private sector house approvals was 8,515, a decrease of 4.4% from the April 2020 figure.
- In May 2020, seasonally adjusted total dwelling units approved in Queensland accounted for 17.6% of Australia’s total dwelling unit approvals. Private sector house approvals in Queensland accounted for 18.1% of Australia’s private sector house approvals.
- The seasonally adjusted nominal value of residential building work approved in Queensland decreased 5.3% in May 2020 to a total of $798.0 million. Australia’s seasonally adjusted value of residential building work approved decreased 17.3% during the month to $4,831.6 million.
- In annual terms, the seasonally adjusted estimate for total dwelling units approved in Queensland in May 2020 was 14.8% lower than the May 2019 estimate. In comparison, total dwelling units approved in Australia decreased 11.6% over the same period.

Non–residential building approvals

- The seasonally adjusted value of non-residential buildings approved in Queensland in May 2020 was $558.4 million, a decrease of 24.4% over the month. The value of non-residential buildings approved in Australia in May 2020 was $3,323.0 million, a decrease of 7.1% over the month.