

# Media Release

## WA Leading the Nation in Women in Construction

8 January 2025

WA is leading the nation with female participation in building and construction according to recent Bureau of Statistics data.

“The WA building and construction industry is proudly leading the country with female participation and employment in our sector.”, said MBAWA CEO Matthew Pollock.

“The latest ABS Labour Force figures for construction employments shows WA’s female participation rate is 17.4%.

“This is head and shoulders above every other state and well above the national average of 13.4%.

“What the numbers show is WA has a building and construction industry sector which is inclusive and rewarding for women.

“Master Builders has long championed that building a better industry is centred on its workforce and having the right approaches to attracting and retaining workers.

“We need to attract over 40,000 extra workers into the construction industry in the next two years. We’re going to need more people from all parts of the community to choose a career in construction if we are to meet these targets.

“Master Builders continues to lead with its initiatives and programs for attracting women into the industry.

“Meeting future workforce targets is the most important factor if we are to meet the demand for new housing and major projects to support a growing WA economy.” Mr Pollock concluded.

**For more information, please contact:**

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Overview of construction employment by state and territory, November 2024

	Australia	New South Wales	Victoria	Queensland	South Australia	Western Australia	Tasmania	Northern Territory	ACT
<b>Total construction employment - November 2024</b>	<b>1,362,476</b>	410,135	351,065	291,940	90,771	165,126	25,384	10,948	17,106
<b>Change on November 2023</b>									
<i>Increase/decrease in number of people</i>	+41,493	-6,997	+1,002	+13,760	+13,447	+21,669	-1,152	+1,058	-1,294
<i>Percentage change (+/-%)</i>	+3.1%	-1.7%	+0.3%	+4.9%	+17.4%	+15.1%	-4.3%	+10.7%	-7.0%
<b>Change on August 2024</b>									
<i>Increase/decrease in number of people</i>	+74,196	+28,354	-954	+24,459	+9,456	+14,807	-2,032	+147	-41
<i>Percentage change (+/-%)</i>	+5.8%	+7.4%	-0.3%	+9.1%	+11.6%	+9.9%	-7.4%	+1.4%	-0.2%
<b>By sex:</b>									
Women	<b>183,122</b>	50,296	43,994	41,331	11,861	28,660	3,317	1,403	2,259
Men	<b>1,179,354</b>	359,839	307,072	250,609	78,911	136,466	22,067	9,545	14,847
<i>Female share of total construction employment</i>	<b>13.4%</b>	12.3%	12.5%	14.2%	13.1%	17.4%	13.1%	12.8%	13.2%
<b>Full time/Part time</b>									
Full-time construction jobs	<b>1,168,477</b>	352,635	303,633	253,420	72,194	140,737	20,751	10,011	15,097
Part-time construction jobs	<b>193,999</b>	57,500	47,433	38,520	18,578	24,390	4,633	938	2,009
<i>Full-time jobs as share of total (%)</i>	<b>85.8%</b>	86.0%	86.5%	86.8%	79.5%	85.2%	81.7%	91.4%	88.3%
<b>Construction's share of total employment</b>									
<i>Construction's share of total employment</i>	<b>9.3%</b>	9.1%	9.2%	9.7%	9.6%	10.0%	9.0%	7.9%	6.2%
<b>Average number of hours worked per worker per week</b>									
<i>Average number of hours worked per worker per week</i>	<b>37.5</b>	37.8	35.3	38.9	37.2	38.8	36.1	39.0	36.7

Source: Master Builders Australia analysis of ABS Labour Force, Australia, Detailed (Table EQ06) (November 2024 edition)