

# MEDIA RELEASE



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## WA primed for steady recovery in 2021

New figures show Western Australia's residential building sector will continue to recover over the coming 12 months, HIA WA Executive Director Cath Hart said today.

HIA's latest economic outlook for WA shows the positive impact of the recently announced extension to the commencement timeframes for the Building Bonus, with an increase in dwelling starts forecast for 2021.

"We're now forecasting 18,209 dwelling starts for 2020/21 so it's great to see WA's new home building market recovering given the challenges of 2020," Ms Hart said.

"This latest data shows that with the combination of both the federal HomeBuilder scheme and WA's Building Bonus, the state is on track for a sustained rise in activity in 2021 and beyond.

"The extension to the commencement timeframes of the Building Bonus and HomeBuilder means builders and trades have a more even and sustainable workflow.

"In 2019/20, we saw an historic low of 13,454 dwelling starts which reflects the bottom point of the most recent cycle and also shows the initial impact of the downturn in activity caused by the COVID shutdown - total starts in Western Australia fell to a record low of 2,901 in the June 2020 quarter.

"However, the subsequent impact of the stimulus measures as part of WA's economic recovery has been exceptional, and we next expect WA's share of national dwellings starts will jump from around eight per cent to 12 per cent in the coming year.

"The effects of the stimulus are likely to begin to moderate towards the end of 2021."