

Media Release

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DWELLING CONSTRUCTION UP IN WA

Western Australia has bucked the national trend of declining dwelling construction with a 1.5% rise in dwelling unit construction in the December quarter 2010.

This is in contrast to the rest of Australia which saw a 4.6% fall in the December quarter 2010 following a fall of 3.7% in the September quarter 2010 according to ABS figures released this morning.

The state saw a total of 5449 new dwellings commence in the quarter, compared to September's total of 5,367. Of that total, 4482 new houses were commenced in the December quarter, compared to 4,370 in the September quarter.

"While this figure is not quite something to pop open the champagne about, it's nevertheless an encouraging turn-around for a home building sector which has been declining for many months," said UDIA CEO Debra Goostrey.

"It reflects the overall strength of the West Australian economy and shows that confidence is starting to return to the housing market," she said.

"That's welcome news for the state's home builders who will be looking forward to further improvement in the market," she said.

End.

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