



**January 5, 2022**

# **U.S. & Texas Construction Outlook**

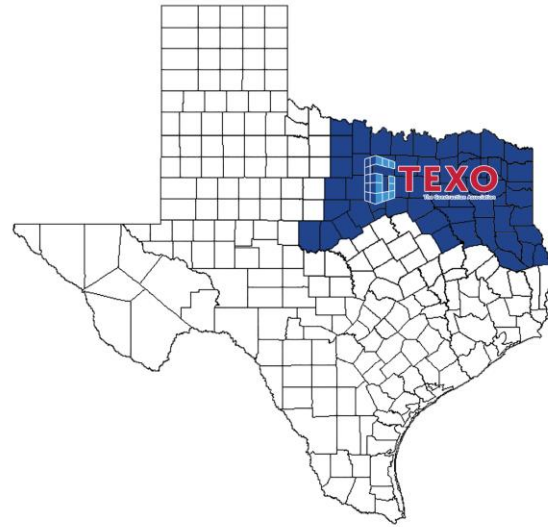
## **SAME Fort Worth Chapter**

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## PREFERRED PARTNERSHIPS



### TEXO By The Numbers:

- **230 Contractor Members**
- **100 Industry Members**
- **\$15B in Volume**
- **60 Counties**

# Unify

# Advocate

# Advance

# Current Market Conditions

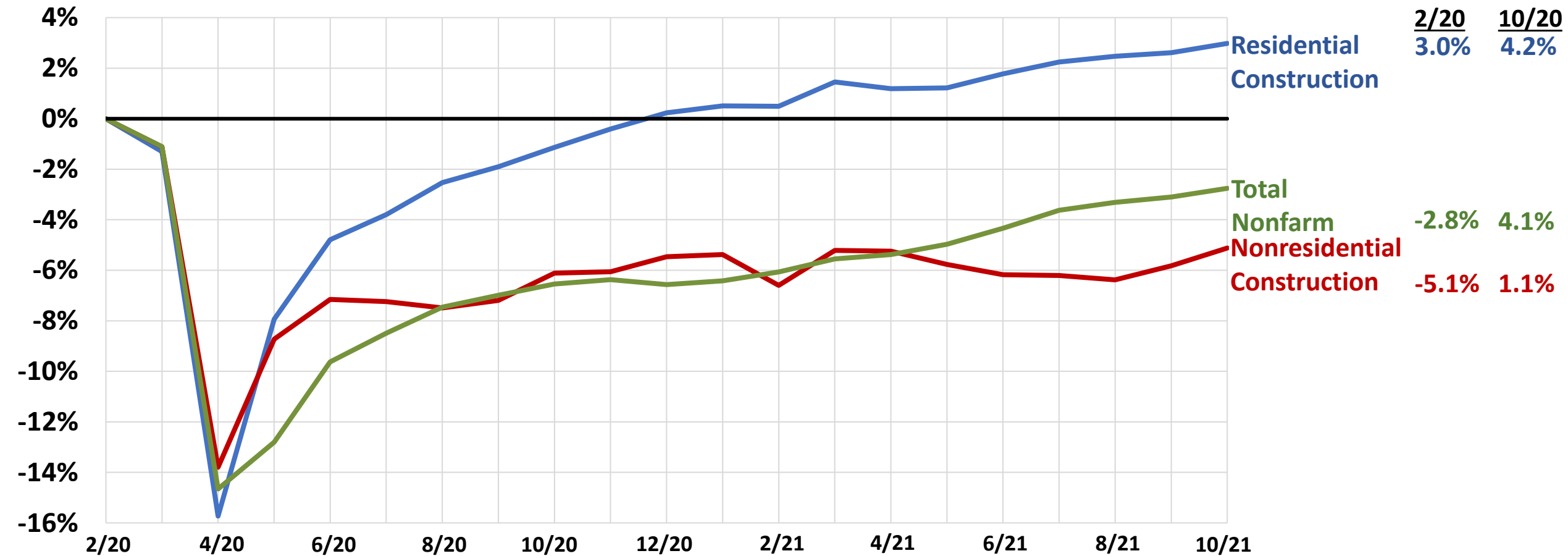
- **Material shortage / price escalation**
- **Labor shortage**
  - Degree professionals
  - Craft professionals
- **Rapidly changing technology**
- **Texas continues to boom**
- **Construction has not stopped / tired / burned out workforce**
- **Residential construction continues to rise**

# Total Nonfarm & Construction Employment, Feb. 2020–Oct. 2021

cumulative change (seasonally adjusted)

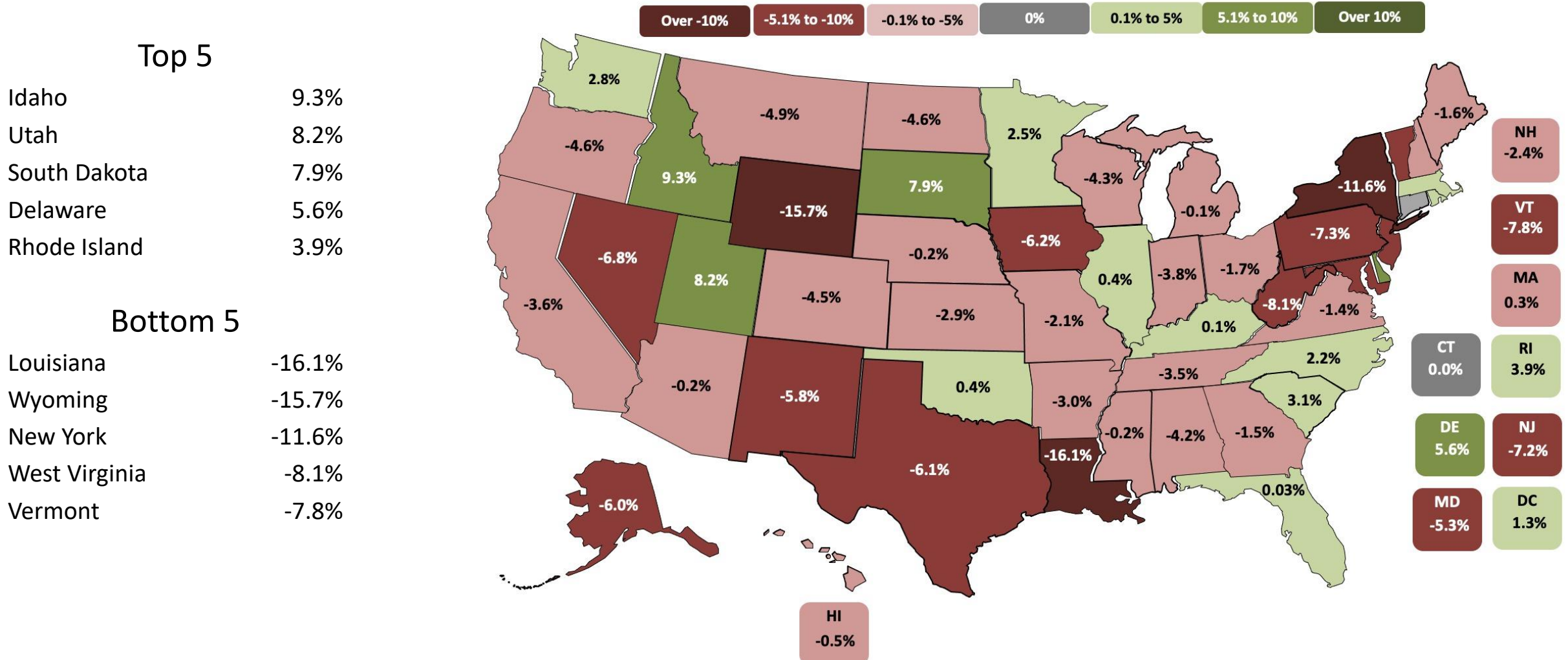


Change to 10/21 from:



# State construction employment change, Feb. 2020–Sep. 2021

14 states and DC **up**, 1 state **flat**, 35 states **down** (U.S.: **-2.6%**)

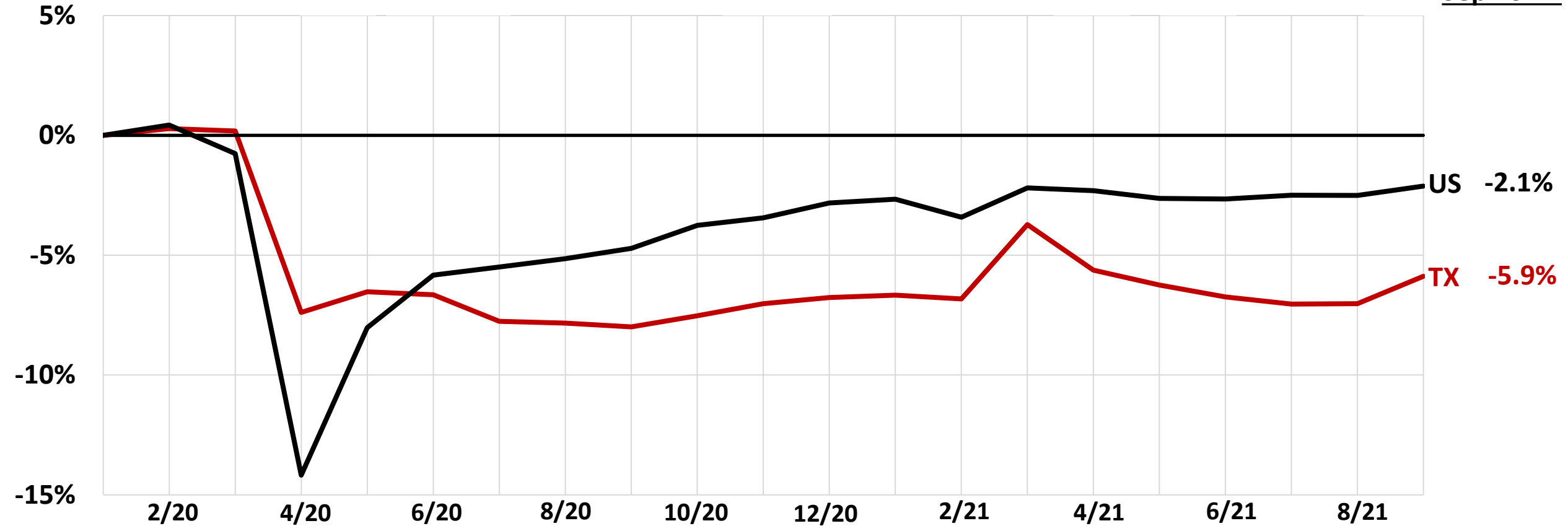


# US & TX Construction Employment

Cumulative change, Jan 2020-Sep 2021, seasonally adjusted

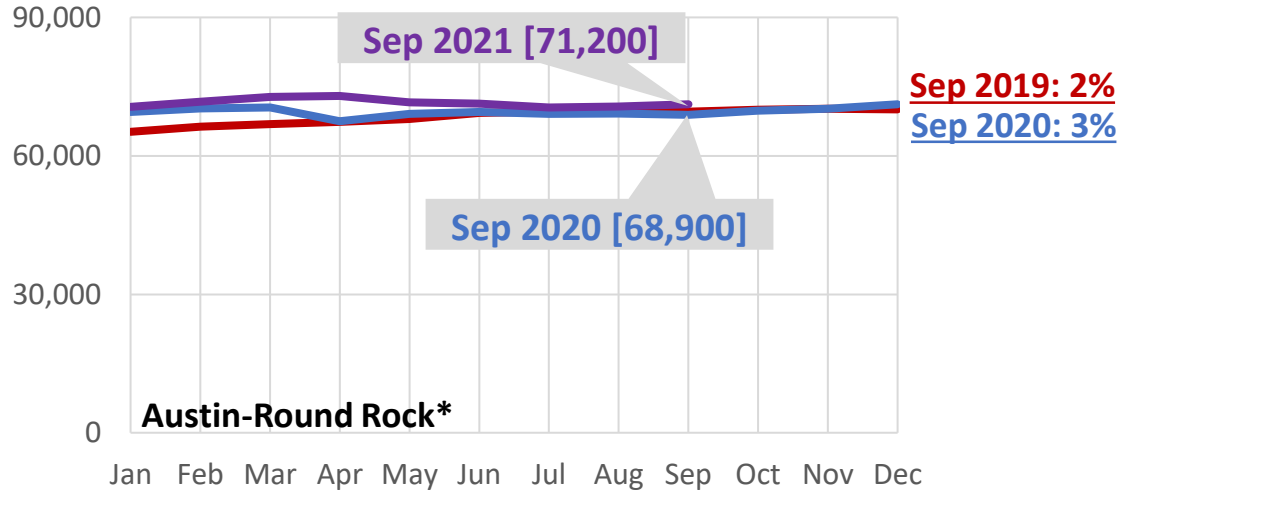
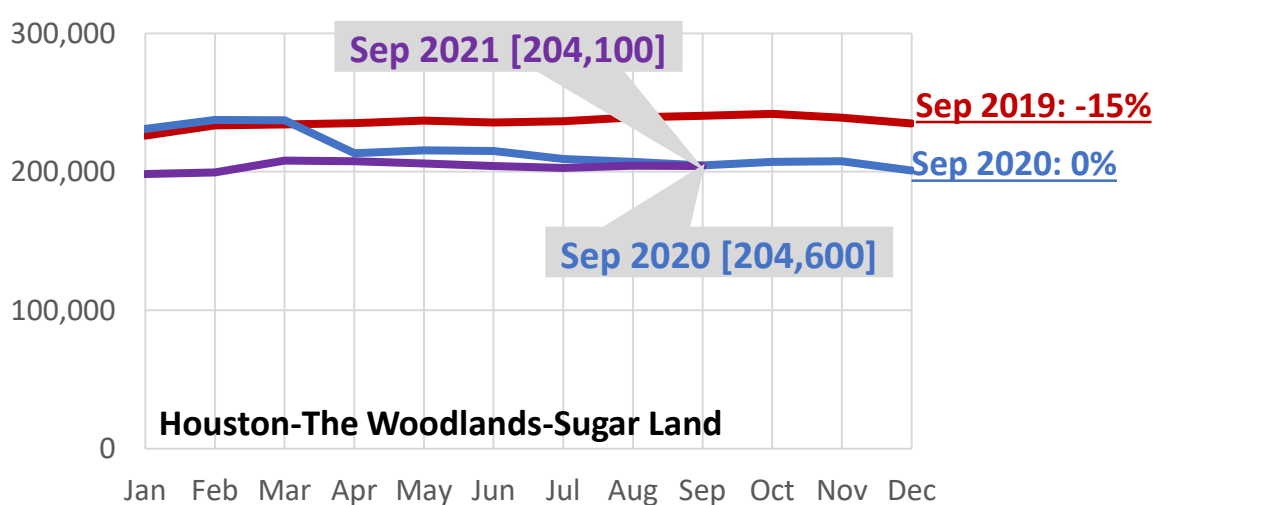
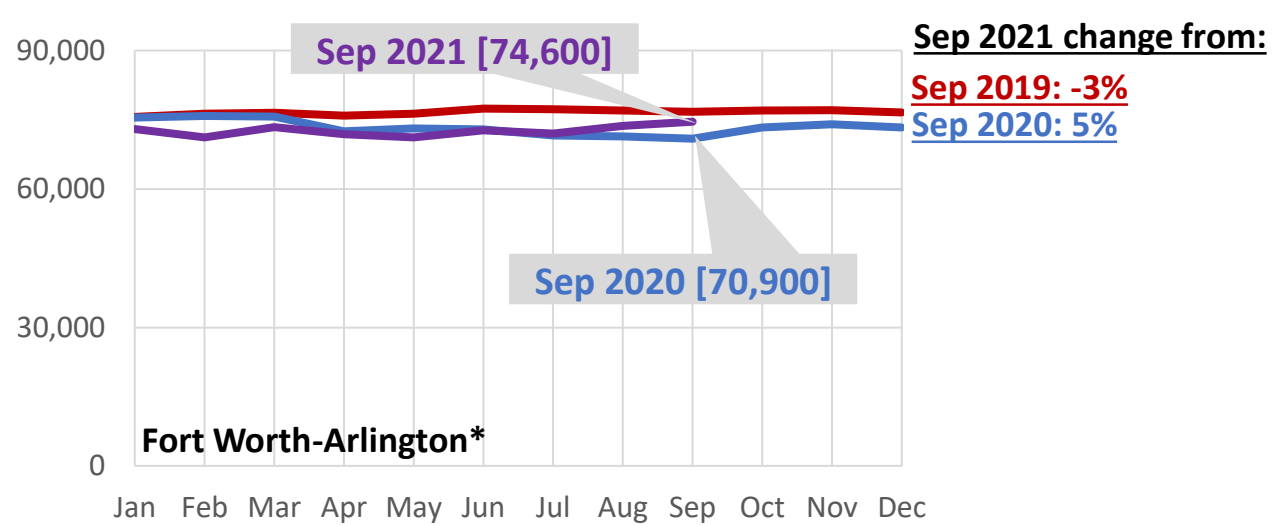
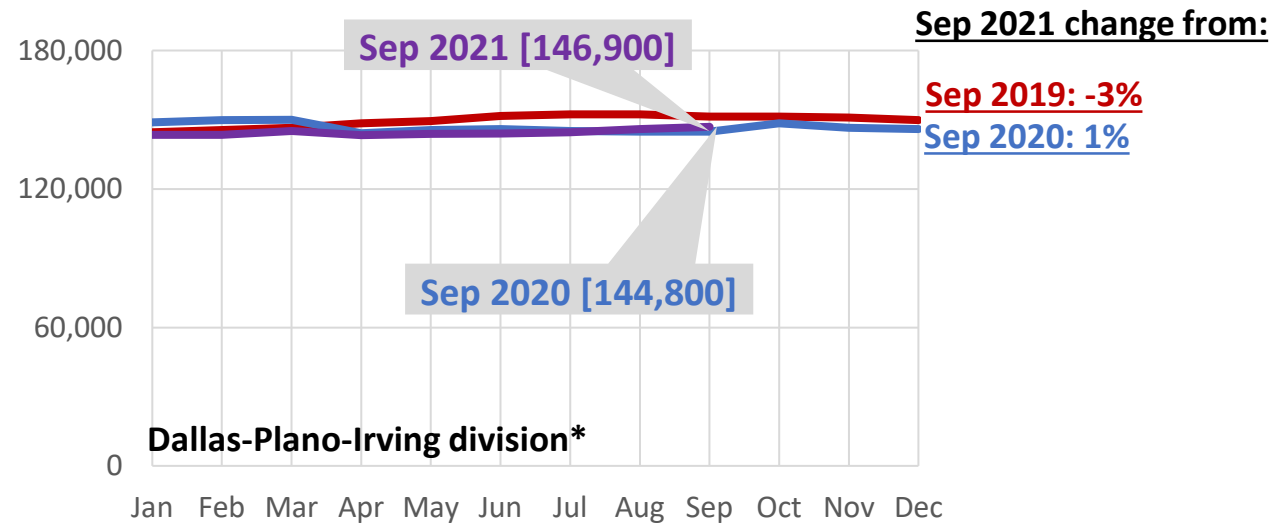


**% change  
Jan 2020-  
Sep 2021:**



# Texas Metro Area Construction Employment

January 2019–September 2021, not seasonally adjusted

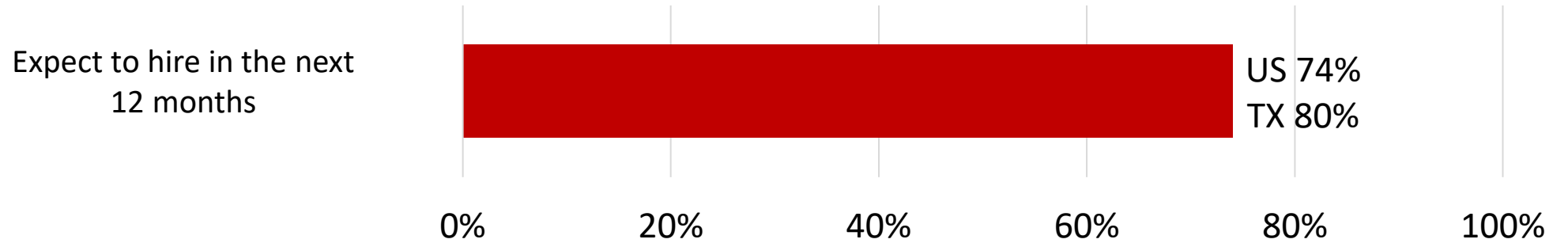


# 2021 AGC Workforce Survey Results

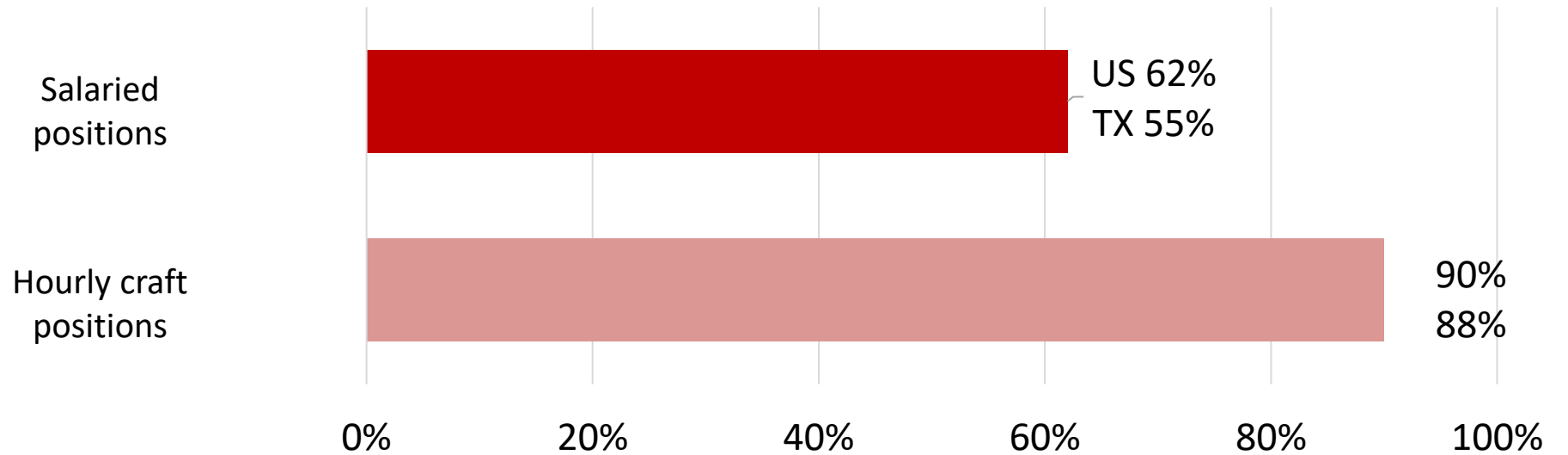
(responses: US 2,136, TX 164)



## Hiring expectation



## Need to fill open positions

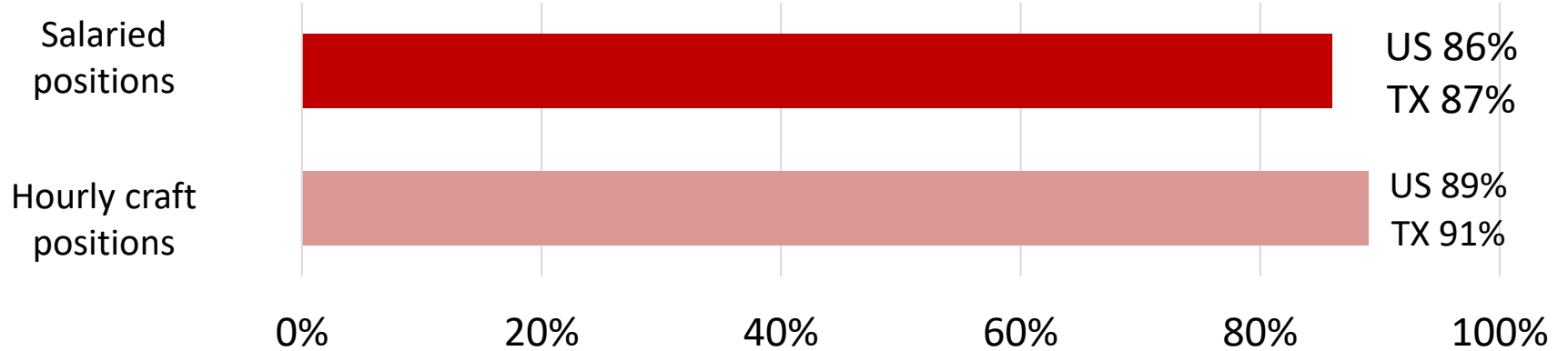




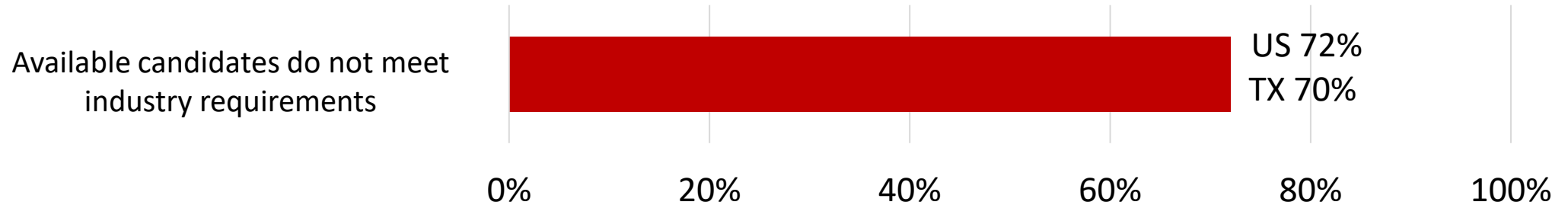
# 2021 AGC Workforce Survey Results



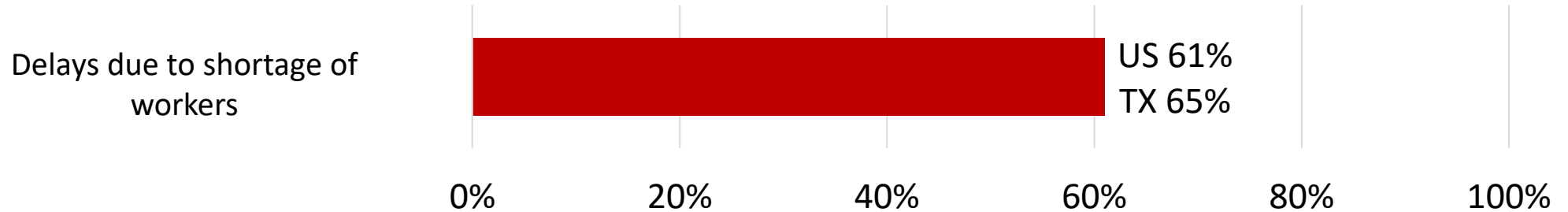
## We are having a hard time filling some or all positions



## Difficulty finding quality workers



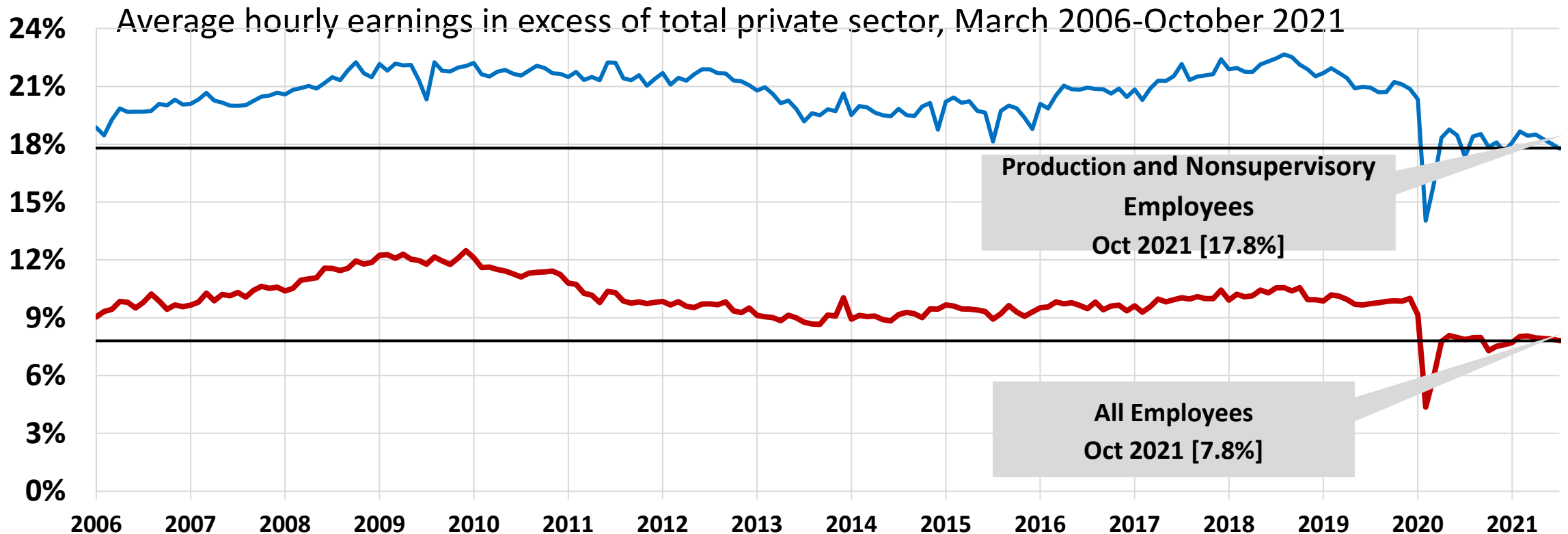
## Construction delays



# 2 concerns about construction worker supply



- Low vaccination rate: 53% for construction workers, 81% for other occupations
- “Premium” for construction wages relative to total private sector has shrunk
  - From 10-23% to <18% for production & nonsupervisory employees
  - From 9-12% to <12% for all employees



# Year-to-date construction spending: Jan-September 2021 vs. Jan-September 2020 (not seasonally adjusted)

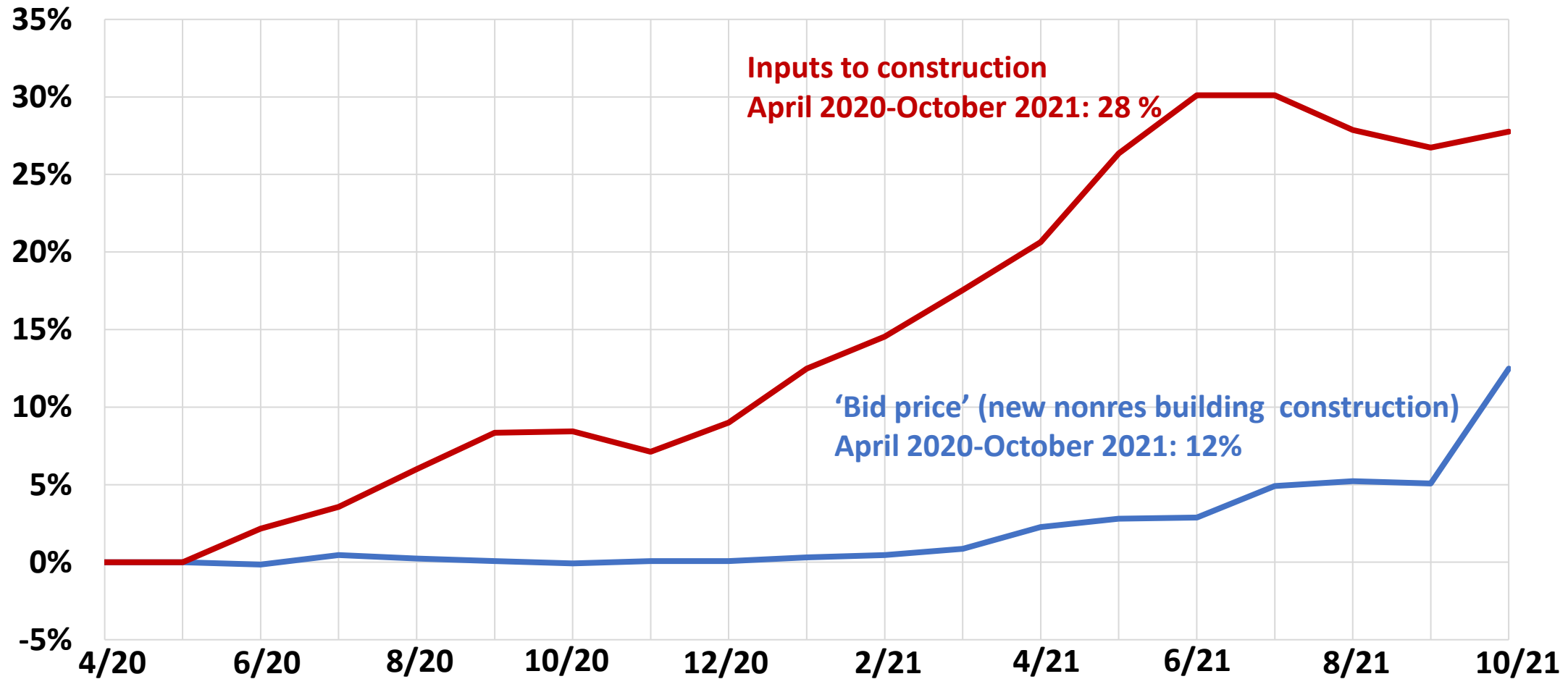
- Total 7%; private residential 25% (single-family 37%; multi 18%); private nonres -6%; public -6%

## Largest segments (in descending order of 2021 year-to-date spending)

- Power -3% (electric -1%; oil/gas fields & pipelines -8%)
- Education -11% (primary/secondary -8%; higher ed -16%)
- Highway and street -1%
- Commercial 0% (warehouse 12%; retail -13%)
- Office -9%
- Mfg. -0.2% (chemical 6%; transp. equip. 2%; food/beverage/tobacco 20%; electronic/electric -16%)
- Transportation -6% (air -11%; freight rail/trucking -6%; mass transit 2%)
- Health care -1% (hospital 0.4%; medical building 4%; special care -3%)
- Lodging -32%

# Construction input and 'bid price' producer price indexes (PPIs)

cumulative change in PPIs, April 2020 - October 2021 (not seasonally adjusted)

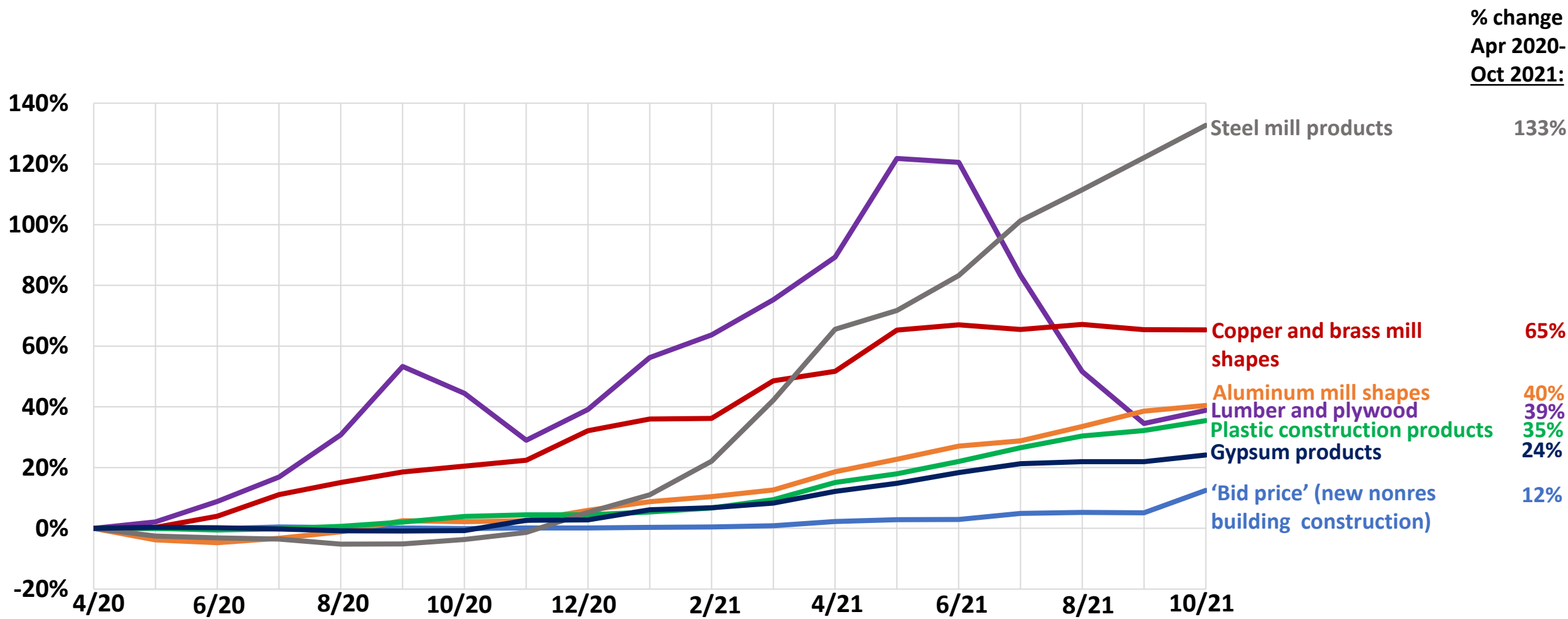


**Inputs to construction**  
**April 2020-October 2021: 28 %**

**'Bid price' (new nonres building construction)**  
**April 2020-October 2021: 12%**

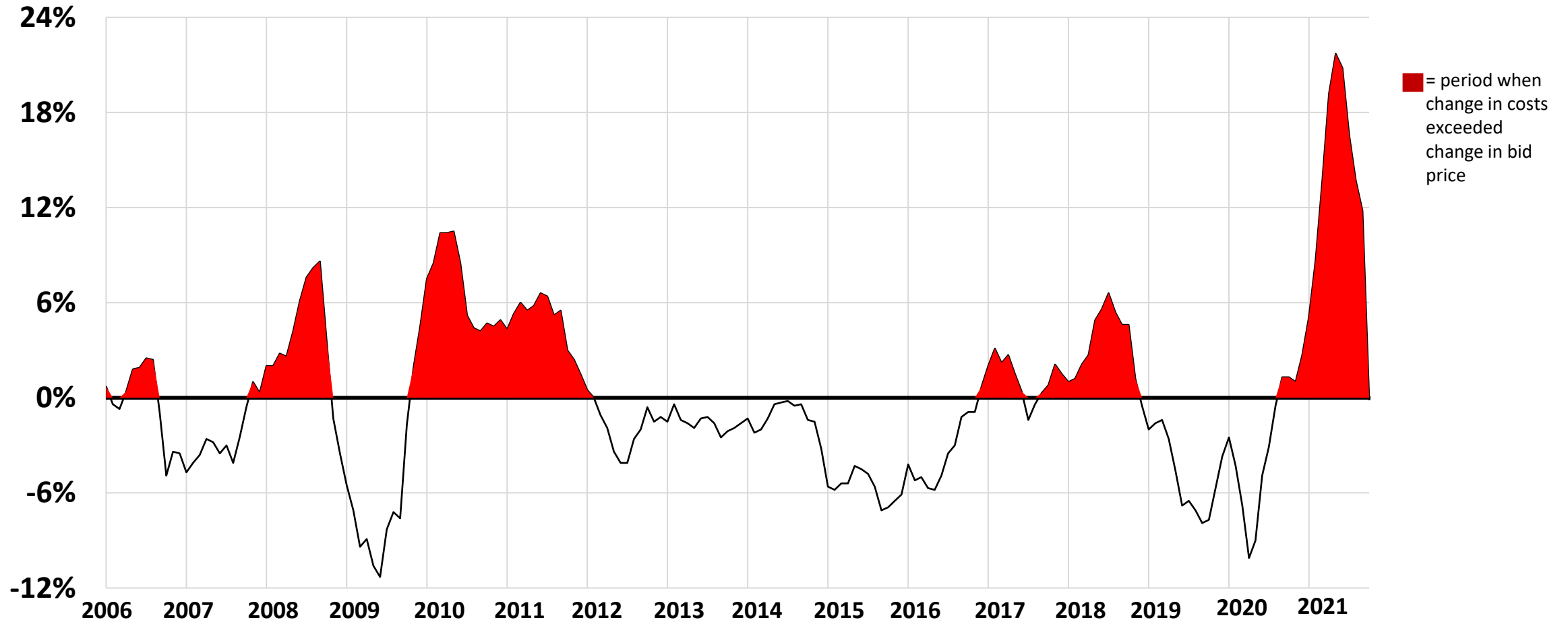
# PPIs for construction and selected inputs

cumulative change in PPIs, April 2020 – October 2021 (not seasonally adjusted)



# Cost squeeze on contractors can last two years or more

Difference between year-over-year change in materials costs vs. bid prices, Jan 2006-Oct 2021



“The inflation drumbeat continues. With each passing month, the possibility that meaningful inflation will be long-lived increases. For various reasons ranging from sky-high shipping costs to labor shortages and global supply chain disruptions, construction input prices continue to march higher.”

- ABC National Chief Economist, Anirban Basu

# AGC's responses to material cost and supply-chain issues

- *Construction Inflation Alert*: <https://www.agc.org/learn/construction-data/agc-construction-inflation-alert>
- ConsensusDocs Price Escalation Resource Center: <https://www.consensusdocs.org/price-escalation-clause/>
- Recording of webinar on “Soaring Material and Supply-Chain Costs and Delays”:  
<https://store.agc.org/Store/CSI/Store/Product List WebEds.aspx>
- Presentations to government contracting officials and owner groups
- Lobbying for tariff relief on lumber, steel, aluminum, and products
  - Presentation to National Economic Council, VP's chief economist, Commerce chief economist
  - Presentations in coalitions to counselor to Commerce secretary, Senate & House trade staff



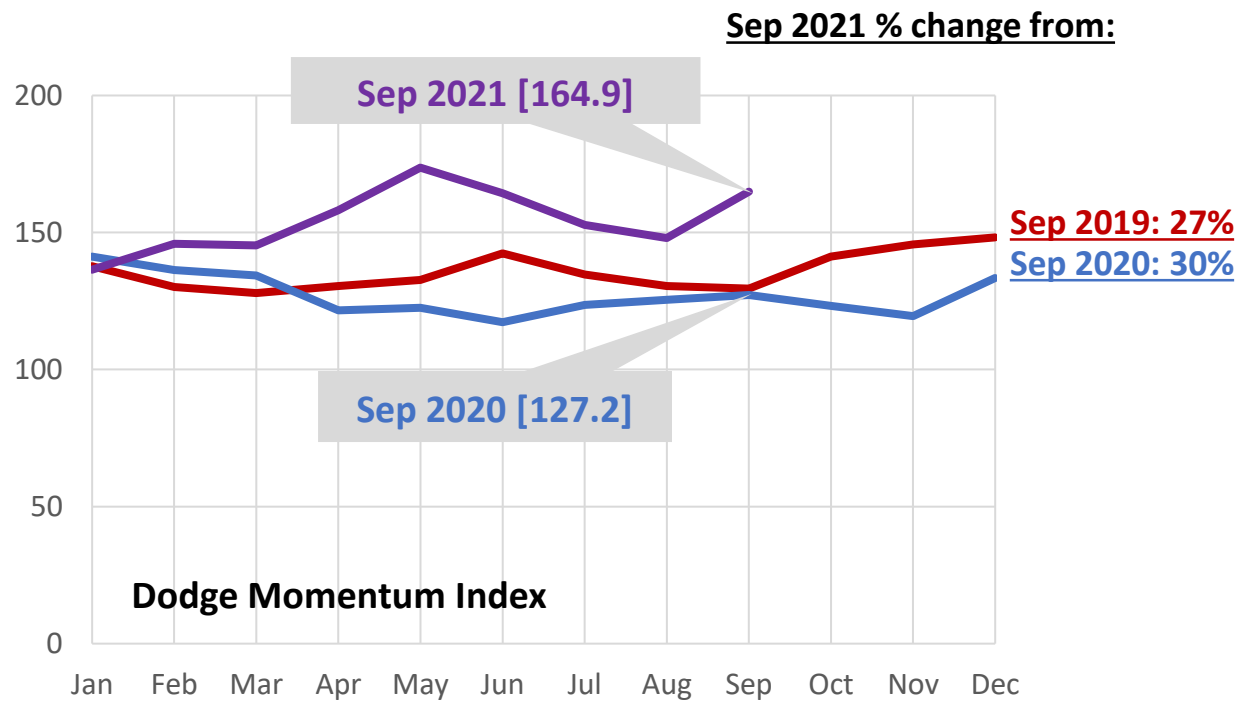
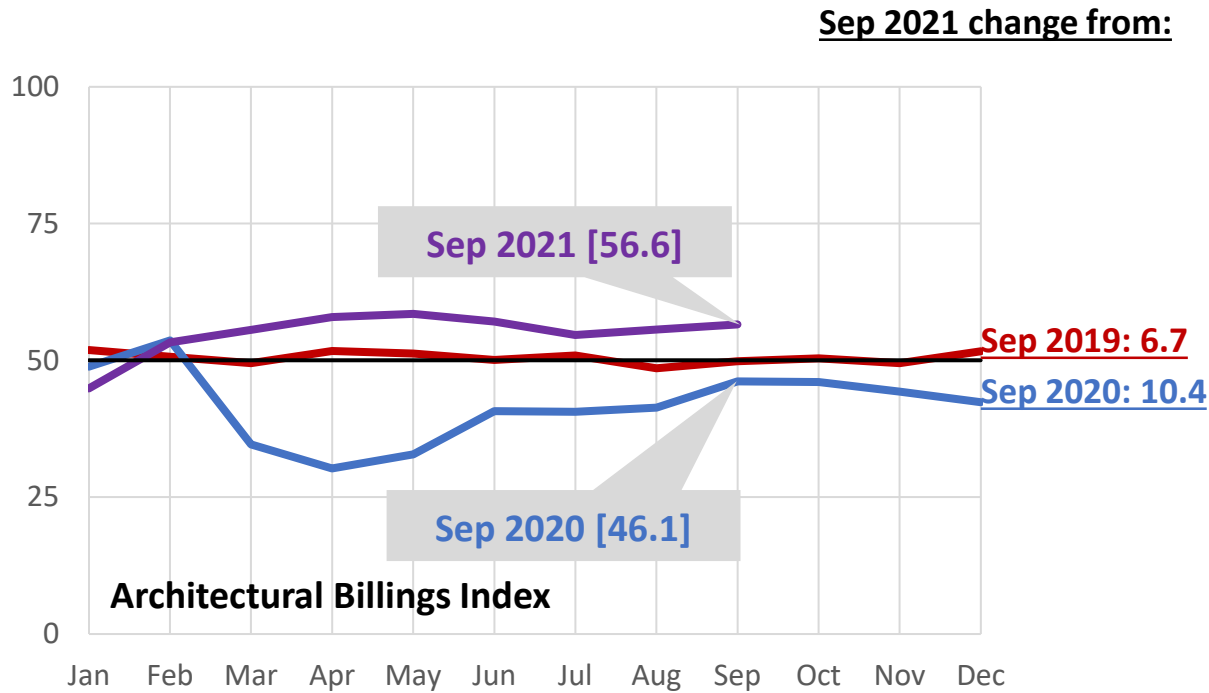
# Forward-looking indicators



<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Latest date</b>	<b>Current value</b>	<b>Year-ago value</b>
Architecture Billings Index (ABI)	Sept.	56.6	46.1
Dodge Momentum Index (DMI)	Oct.	181	123
Multifamily permits not yet started	Sept.	103,000	72,000

# Architecture Billings and Dodge Momentum Indexes

January 2019–September 2021, seasonally adjusted



# Medium-term impacts as recovery begins



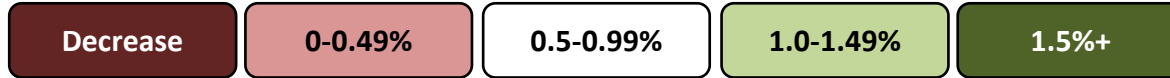
- Economic recovery looks more certain, but virus risks remain, especially for construction: low worker vaccination rate; possible pullback by owners on project starts
- Slower rebound than for other sectors as owners, investors/lenders, institutions, and public agencies face uncertainty about future demand, project costs, and completion times
- Continuing cost and supply challenges may lead to more project deferrals
- Infrastructure funds will take time to distribute and award to individual projects, muting the medium-term impact on labor and materials supply

# Long-run construction outlook (post-pandemic)



- Slower population growth means slower demand growth for most construction
- Permanent shift from retail to e-commerce/distribution structures
- More specialized and online healthcare facilities; fewer hospitals, nursing homes
- More wind, solar, battery storage and charging facilities, and related manufacturing
- Less oil drilling and pipeline construction
- Continuing demand for K-12 but much less for higher ed construction
- Not clear if offices will decentralize or remain in less demand
- Not clear yet if urban/rural or state-to-state trends will change

# Population change by state, July 2019–July 2020 (U.S.: 0.35%)

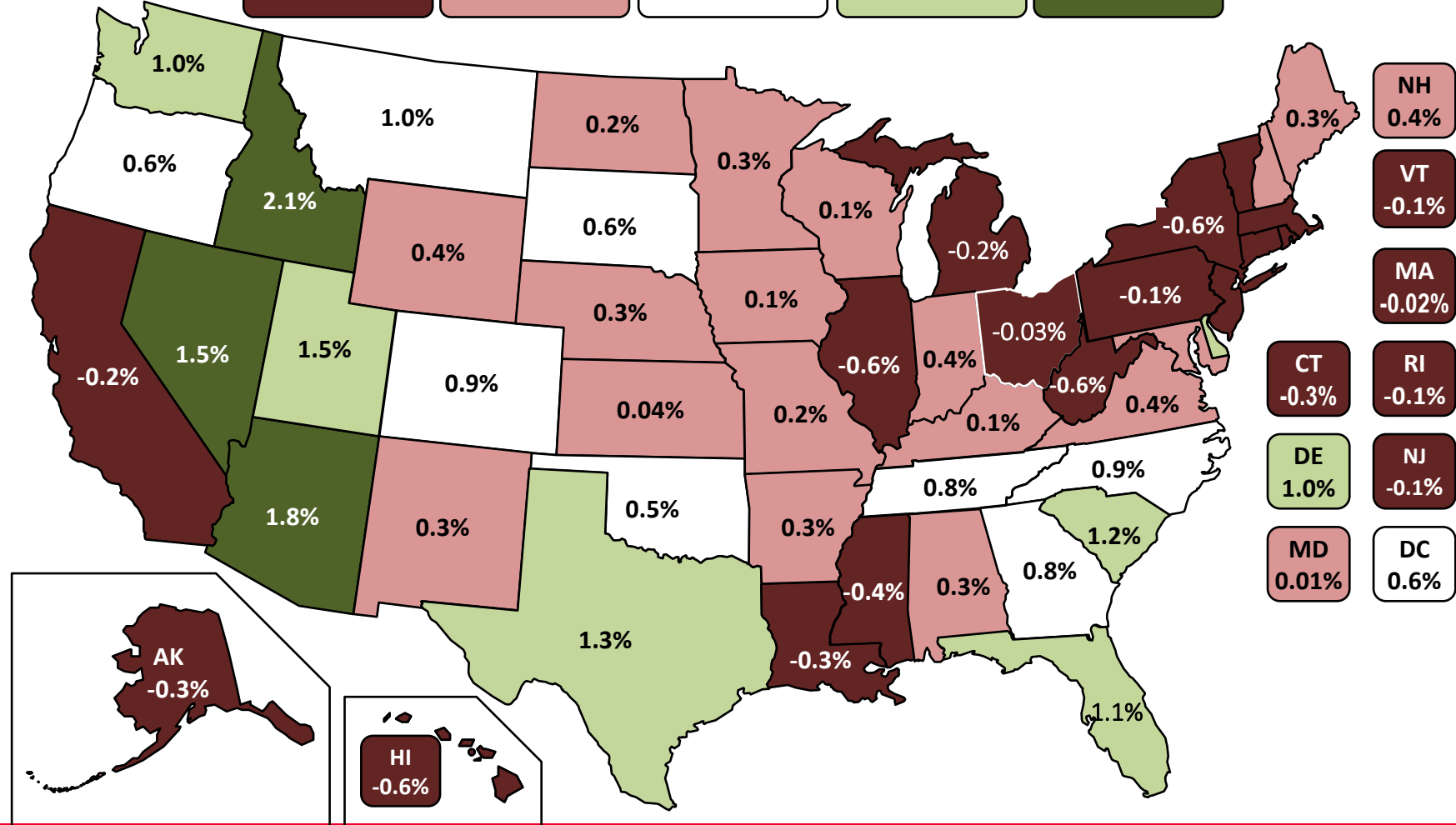


## Top 5

ID	2.1%
AZ	1.8%
NV	1.5%
UT	1.5%
TX	1.3%

## Bottom 5

NY	-0.6%
IL	-0.6%
HI	-0.6%
WV	-0.6%
MS	-0.4%



# DFW Contractor Trends



## Project Starts

- Strong Q1 & Q2 2022
- Manufacturing and light industrial markets
- K-12 market strong

## Employment

- Lots of movement in the industry
- Can't find enough talent – all positions
- Firms continue to hire graduates to avoid an industry wide age gap

# DFW Contractor Trends



## Materials

- Feeling our way through the dark!

## Mental Health Status

- Second highest industry for suicide
- We are a tired industry

## Training

- Companies continue to increase their training (technical & professional skills)

# 87<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislative Update – Ended 06.21.2021



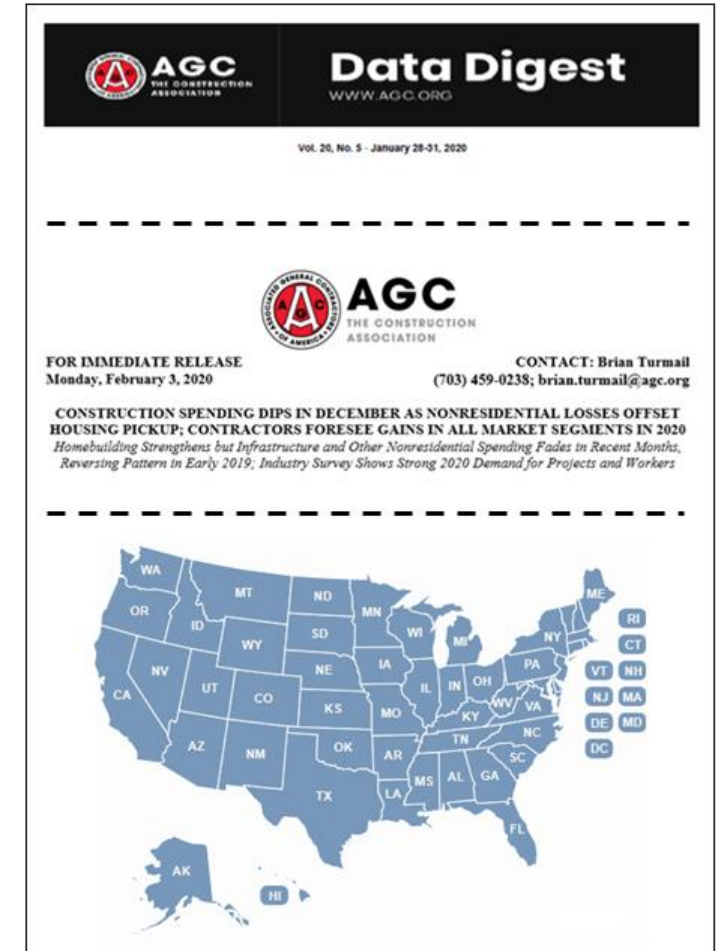
- Contractors not liable for design defects – SB 219 | effective September 1, 2021
- Shorten statute of repose for public work from 10 yrs (+2) to 8 yrs (+1) – HB 3069 | effective June 14, 2021
- Modernizing / simplifying lien laws – HB 2237 | effective January 1, 2022
- Mayors / county judges can't shut down commercial construction during pandemic – SB 968 | effective June 16, 2021



# AGC economic resources

(email [ken.simonson@agc.org](mailto:ken.simonson@agc.org))

- *The Data DIGest*: weekly 1-page email (subscribe at <http://store.agc.org>)
- *Construction Inflation Alert*:  
<https://www.agc.org/learn/construction-data/agc-construction-inflation-alert>
- ConsensusDocs Price Escalation Resource Center:  
<https://www.consensusdocs.org/price-escalation-clause/>
- Surveys, state and metro data, fact sheets: [www.agc.org/learn/construction-data](http://www.agc.org/learn/construction-data)
- Monthly press releases: construction spending; producer price indexes; national, state, metro employment with rankings





# Thank you! Questions?

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