



MEDIA RELEASE

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INFRASTRUCTURE CONSTRUCTION: INFRASTRUCTURE TO FALL \$13.4 BILLION THIS YEAR AS WA & QLD GET 'ROUGH END OF PINEAPPLE'

The latest infrastructure construction figures show strengthening public infrastructure investment in transport and utilities – while mining remains at historic lows, according to the latest *IPA/BIS Oxford Economics Australian Infrastructure Metric*.

“The latest figures indicate that Australia may be reaching the bottom of the slump in infrastructure investment, as large increases in transport infrastructure lift overall activity,” said IPA Chief Executive Brendan Lyon.

“This financial year will see infrastructure construction fall by \$13.4 billion across the country, but large investments in Victorian and NSW transport projects see this slump moderating to circa \$3.9 billion next financial year.

“Transport infrastructure will improve by around \$3 billion this year, but this is effectively all in NSW and Victoria.

“These figures show the highest-ever level of rail investment, led by Victoria’s level crossings and ongoing transport infrastructure investment in New South Wales.

“Essentially all the new transport and rail work is concentrated in Victoria and New South Wales, because those states have leased assets to fund new infrastructure.

“People in the mining states are getting the rough end of the pineapple, hit with the 95 per cent collapse in mining infrastructure on the one hand and missing out on the transport boom underway in NSW and Victoria on the other.

“The resource states should be very honest with the public that without real money, they cannot build new projects.”

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The Australian Infrastructure Metric is produced quarterly by Infrastructure Partnerships Australia and BIS Oxford Economics – surveying more than 30 per cent of the national construction sector to provide a robust leading indicator of actual investment.

