

2021 Design and Construction Industry Outlook

GroundBreak Carolinas surveyed our readers on their thoughts on the design and construction industry in 2021. Here are the results:

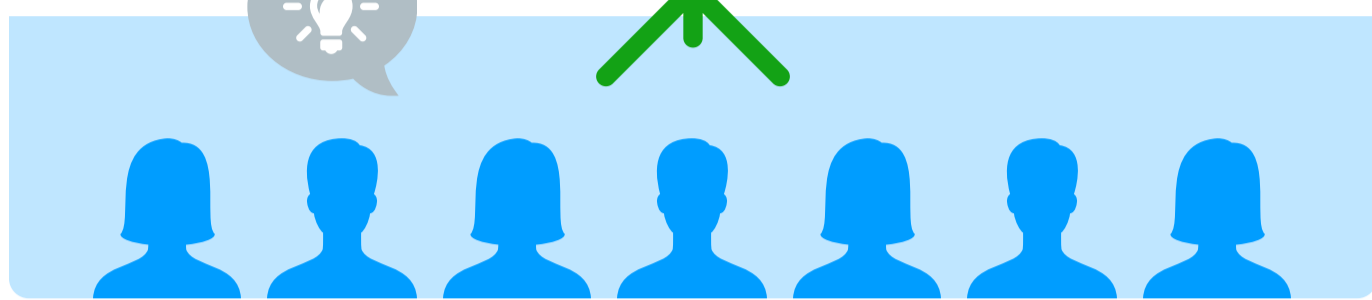
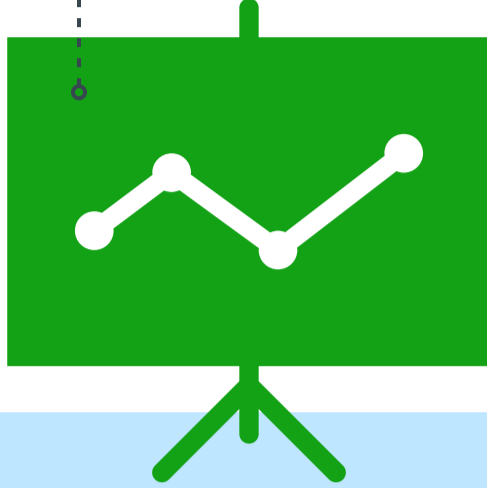
#1 What are your expectations for the economic conditions for the design and construction industry in the Carolinas?

41.4%
slightly improved

29.8%
about the same

17.7%
slightly worse

11.8%
significantly worse



#2 What issues do you think will provide the biggest challenges for your firm in 2021?

41.7% COVID-19 productivity impacts

41.5% political uncertainty

40.7% ability to find new talent

35.3% lack of project activity

35.3% competitive pressures



#3 What initiatives will consume the energy and time of your senior leadership?

50% finding new business

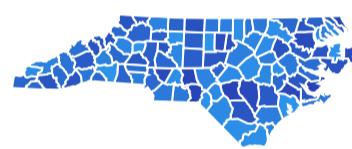
45.7% attracting talent

37.5% training and development



Continued growth in the Carolinas.

#4 What are you most excited about in 2021?



Leaving 2020 behind.

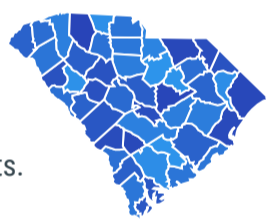
Growth and hoping for the opportunity of growth!

The diversity in our awarded projects, the project volume, and the high quality talent we have acquired in the last few years.

Possibly a new stimulus package coming out to help put us where we need to be.

Getting back to normal.

Pending projects becoming real projects.



If the political situation transitions smoothly and society holds it together, the trending migration of people to the SE US will continue.

#5 What is your biggest concern for 2021?

Uncertainty.

Productivity decline.

A slowdown coupled with social unrest.

Ability to regenerate out business.

Impact of increased regulation.

Finding skilled labor that I can afford to pay for.

Material price increases and government regulations/taxes that could delay or reduce construction projects.

New union contracts especially on military installations. Also government regulations becoming cumbersome

Increased union activity in North Carolina.

Manpower.

Lowball competitive bids.

Increased material prices.

Biggest concern is how COVID will continue to affect business.

That the political unrest and change do not affect the opportunity for new business

COVID and bid activity.

Poor estimates on our bids.

The economy.

The new administration's policies.

Meeting diversity requirements.

Lack of infrastructure spending.

#6 How has COVID 19 impacted your business?



Productivity losses. Delayed projects.

Business is down 25%

Owners putting projects on hold and canceling projects.

Changed the way we interact. So far it feels like we are adapting, but many people are operating with increased tension.

Communication has been more challenging.

Mildly, and has had little or no disruption.

Our sales efforts have been impacted significantly.

Due to a majority of our business coming from the auto industry, our sales are down.

Slowed the process of routine activities.

We lost all of our big job awards to COVID and those that were postponed were pushed to the point of no profit by cramming the work into a small time period. We lost several workers, we paid our employees to keep them employed but the jobs we were working on were small and no where near enough to help pull us out of the hole.

Impacted negatively on our field productivity

Slowed down some projects- shut some down for weeks.

We were very, very fortunate to not be as impacted as bad as expected.

Caused one project to not start and others to be delayed. Caused us to spend a lot of time and effort to ensure craftworker and employee safe working conditions.

Cost. of insurance has remained high.



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For more information on the 2021 Design and Construction Outlook Survey, please visit www.GroundBreakCarolinas.com.