The share of firms reporting an increase in the number and size of kitchens continued to grow
Change in the number and size of kitchens, % of respondents; data from Q4 2020 compared to data from Q4 2019

*Number of separate kitchen facilities, secondary food storage/food prep. areas, or messy kitchen
Source: The American Institute of Architects Home Design Trends Survey
Outdoor kitchens continue to top the list of popular features while pantries increase in popularity

% of respondents reporting popularity “increasing” minus % reporting “decreasing”; data from Q4 2020 compared to data from Q4 2019

- Outdoor kitchens: 50% (2020) vs. 48% (2019)
- Butler's pantry/working pantries/prep pantries: 45% (2020) vs. 41% (2019)
- Increase in natural lighting*: 36% (2020) vs. 41% (2019)
- Open to household living space: 36% (2020) vs. 47% (2019)
- Wine refrigerator/storage: 30% (2020) vs. 30% (2019)
- Computer work/recharge area devices (e.g., cell phones, tablets): 22% (2020) vs. 29% (2019)
- Adaptability/universal design: 19% (2020) vs. 22% (2019)
- Coffee bars: 22% (2020) vs. 24% (2019)

Increase in natural lighting (more, larger windows) not asked in 2019

* (more, larger windows)

Source: The American Institute of Architects Home Design Trends Survey
Hands free/sensor faucets was asked as touch-activated/sensor faucets in 2019, Antimicrobial surfaces/coatings not asked in 2019
*(e.g., lighting strips under cupboards)
Source: The American Institute of Architects Home Design Trends Survey
Bathrooms remain a popular focus in homes, with more firms reporting that number is increasing

Change in the number and size of bathrooms, % of respondents; data from Q4 2020 compared to data from Q4 2019

Source: The American Institute of Architects Home Design Trends Survey
FIGURE 5  Larger walk-in showers continue to be reported as a leading feature for bathrooms while outdoor showers increase in popularity

% of respondents reporting popularity “increasing” minus % reporting “decreasing”; data from Q4 2020 compared to data from Q4 2019

Source: The American Institute of Architects Home Design Trends Survey
FIGURE 6  

Showers continue to be reported as leading consideration in bathroom design features and sensor faucets increase in popularity

% of respondents reporting popularity “increasing” minus % reporting “decreasing”; data from Q4 2020 compared to data from Q4 2019

Hands free/sensor faucets was asked as sensor operated faucets in 2019, wall hung toilets not asked in 2019

Source: The American Institute of Architects Home Design Trends Survey
Project billings, inquiries, and design contracts end the year strong

Diffusion index: 50 = no change from previous quarter; data are seasonally adjusted; data from Q4 2015-Q4 2020

Source: The American Institute of Architects Home Design Trends Survey
FIGURE 8  Project backlogs remain healthy at residential architecture firms

Number of months of project backlogs, averages across all firms; data are not seasonally adjusted; data from Q4 2015–Q4 2020

Source: The American Institute of Architects Home Design Trends Survey
Firms in all regions continue to report strong growth in Q4

Diffusion index for billings: 50 = no change from previous quarter; data is seasonally adjusted; data from Q4 2015-Q4 2020

Source: The American Institute of Architects Home Design Trends Survey
On average firms estimate a 4% increase in revenue for the first quarter of 2021 compared to the fourth quarter of 2020.

% of respondents estimated change in revenue in Q1 2021 from Q4 2020:

- 4.0%; Increased (25% or more)
- 15.6%; Increased (10 to 24%)
- 29.5%; Increased (5% to 9%)
- 38.2%; Remained about the same (plus or minus 4%)
- 7.5%; Decreased (5% to 9%)
- 2.3%; Decreased (10% to 24%)
- 2.9%; Decreased (25% or more)

National average: 4.1%

Source: The American Institute of Architects Home Design Trends Survey
On average firms estimate a 5% increase in revenue for the year compared to 2020. % of respondents estimated change in revenue in 2021 from 2020:

- 8.0%; Increased (25% or more)
- 17.8%; Increased (10 to 24%)
- 28.7%; Increased (5% to 9%)
- 29.3%; Remained about the same (plus or minus 4%)
- 6.9%; Decreased (5% to 9%)
- 4.6%; Decreased (10% to 24%)
- 2.9%; Decreased (25% or more)

National average: 5.3%

Source: The American Institute of Architects Home Design Trends Survey
All sectors reported growth with home improvement continuing to report the strongest gains

% of respondents reporting sector “improving” minus % reporting “weakening”; data from Q4 2020 compared to data from Q4 2019

Source: The American Institute of Architects Home Design Trends Survey