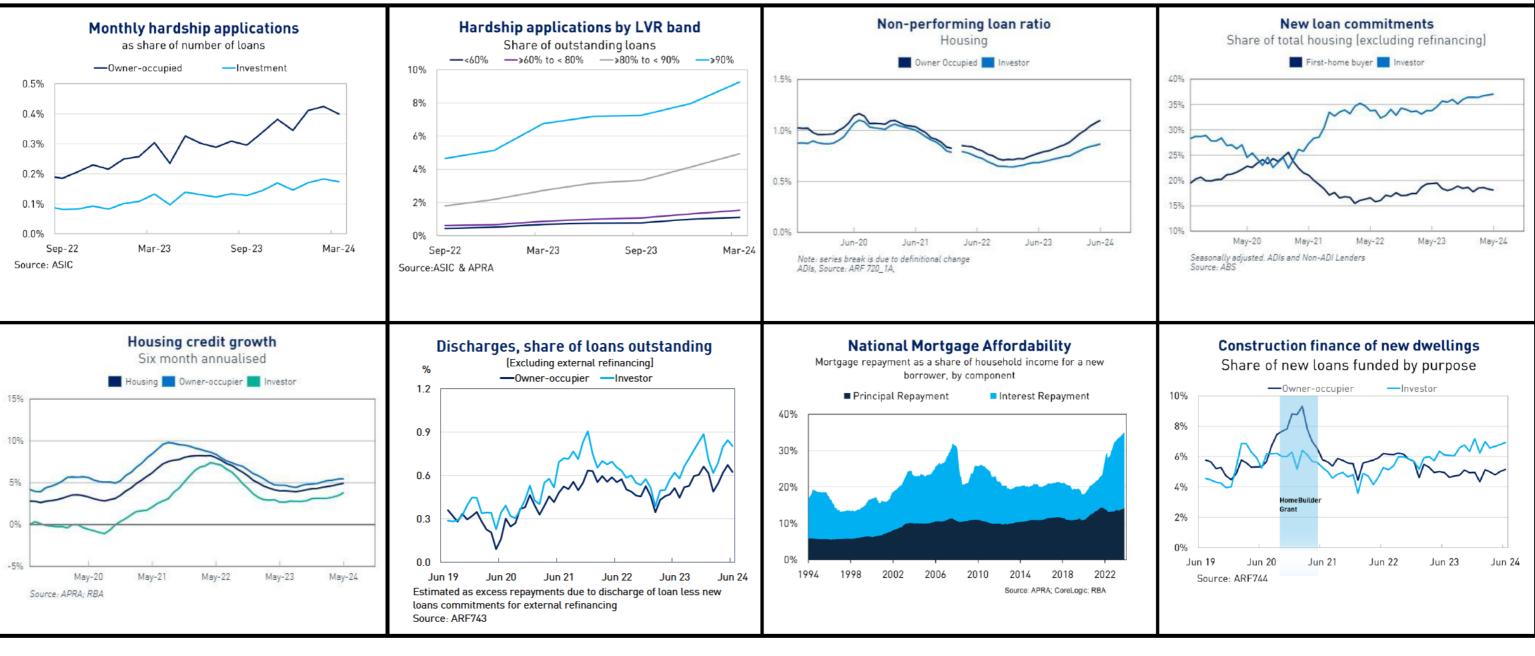
Retail

Existing lending

The deterioration in asset quality continues to gather pace, especially for owner-occupiers. Hardship application volumes remained high, especially pronounced for borrowers with very high LVRs (see: Hardship update). NPLs are expected to continue to climb, reflecting high debt servicing costs combined with a weakening labour market, offset by relief from stage 3 tax cuts which are not yet reflected in the data.

New lending

- New lending continued to grow, with investors' share of new commitments now at a 7-year high of 37 per cent. However, investors' overall credit growth remained well below owner-occupiers', as investors continue to discharge loans (be it through sale or another means other than refinancing) at a high rate.
- Limited housing supply is a key driver of falling mortgage affordability as the supply of housing remains constrained. Improving the availability of credit for the purchase of existing properties is likely to worsen affordability, by increasing demand while the construction industry continues to face challenges in delivering new supply.
- Owner-occupiers are partially pulling back from new home construction. Lending to households for construction has remained broadly stable, with investors increasing activity. Non-ADIs are a key provider of credit in this space. For more detail, see residential construction deep-dive.





Non-retail

Section 22