

# U.S. Census Bureau News

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## AUGUST 2016 CONSTRUCTION AT \$1,142.2 BILLION ANNUAL RATE

The U.S. Census Bureau of the Department of Commerce announced today that construction spending during August 2016 was estimated at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$1,142.2 billion, 0.7 percent ( $\pm 1.5\%$ )\* below the revised July estimate of \$1,150.6 billion. The August figure is 0.3 percent ( $\pm 1.8\%$ )\* below the August 2015 estimate of \$1,145.2 billion.

During the first 8 months of this year, construction spending amounted to \$755.0 billion, 4.9 percent ( $\pm 1.2\%$ ) above the \$720.0 billion for the same period in 2015.

### PRIVATE CONSTRUCTION

Spending on private construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$871.6 billion, 0.3 percent ( $\pm 1.2\%$ )\* below the revised July estimate of \$874.6 billion. Residential construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$449.2 billion in August, 0.3 percent ( $\pm 1.3\%$ )\* below the revised July estimate of \$450.4 billion. Nonresidential construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$422.4 billion in August, 0.4 percent ( $\pm 1.2\%$ )\* below the revised July estimate of \$424.2 billion.

### PUBLIC CONSTRUCTION

In August, the estimated seasonally adjusted annual rate of public construction spending was \$270.5 billion, 2.0 percent ( $\pm 2.5\%$ )\* below the revised July estimate of \$276.0 billion. Educational construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$66.9 billion, 0.4 percent ( $\pm 3.9\%$ )\* below the revised July estimate of \$67.2 billion. Highway construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$84.6 billion, 2.9 percent ( $\pm 5.9\%$ )\* below the revised July estimate of \$87.2 billion.

*September 2016 data will be released on November 1, 2016 at 10:00 A.M. EDT.*

*For more detailed data and methodologies, go to our website:*

<http://www.census.gov/constructionspending>

*To receive the latest updates on the Nation's key economic indicators, download the America's Economy app for Apple and Android smartphones and tablets.*

### EXPLANATORY NOTES

In interpreting changes in the statistics in this release, note that month-to-month changes in seasonally adjusted statistics often show movements which may be irregular. It may take 2 months to establish an underlying trend for total construction and as long as 8 months for specific categories of construction. The statistics in this release are estimated from several sources and surveys and are subject to sampling variability as well as nonsampling error including bias and variance from response, nonreporting, and undercoverage. Estimates of the standard errors are provided in Table 3. Whenever a statement such as "2.3 ( $\pm 3.1$ ) percent above" appears in the text, this indicates the range (-0.8 to +5.4 percent) in which the actual percent change is likely to have occurred. All ranges given are 90 percent confidence intervals and account only for sampling variability. If a range does not contain zero, the change is statistically significant. If it does contain zero, the change is not statistically significant; that is, it is uncertain whether there was an increase or decrease. Statistics for the current month are preliminary estimates subject to revision in following months as additional data become available. The average absolute percent changes from preliminary estimate to first revision for the major seasonally adjusted components are as follows: total construction, 0.93 percent; private construction, 1.02 percent; and public construction, 1.35 percent.

Geographic data for State and Local Construction (2006-2015) are available.  
Go to [http://www.census.gov/construction/c30/historical\\_data.html](http://www.census.gov/construction/c30/historical_data.html).

\* 90% confidence interval includes zero. The U.S. Census Bureau does not have sufficient statistical evidence to conclude that the actual change is different from zero.

**Table 1. Value of Construction Put in Place in the United States, Seasonally Adjusted Annual Rate**

(Millions of dollars. Details may not add to totals due to rounding.)

Type of Construction	Aug 2016 <sup>P</sup>	Jul 2016 <sup>r</sup>	Jun 2016 <sup>r</sup>	May 2016	Apr 2016	Aug 2015	Percent change Aug 2016 from -	
							Jul 2016	Aug 2015
<b>Total Construction</b>	<b>1,142,152</b>	<b>1,150,638</b>	<b>1,154,134</b>	<b>1,143,750</b>	<b>1,142,525</b>	<b>1,145,216</b>	<b>-0.7</b>	<b>-0.3</b>
Residential	455,532	456,529	454,256	450,683	451,747	449,777	-0.2	1.3
Nonresidential	686,620	694,109	699,878	693,068	690,778	695,439	-1.1	-1.3
Lodging	27,317	26,989	27,674	27,814	26,282	23,615	1.2	15.7
Office	70,937	69,538	68,737	64,263	63,836	57,351	2.0	23.7
Commercial	72,240	73,354	71,547	72,766	71,502	67,887	-1.5	6.4
Health care	41,057	40,560	41,603	41,267	40,277	42,390	1.2	-3.1
Educational	86,146	86,179	89,936	84,849	88,662	84,919	0.0	1.4
Religious	3,601	3,721	3,896	3,913	4,287	3,826	-3.2	-5.9
Public safety	7,579	7,932	8,019	8,091	8,064	9,023	-4.5	-16.0
Amusement and recreation	21,319	21,234	22,315	21,705	21,781	20,453	0.4	4.2
Transportation	41,077	43,823	43,152	43,608	42,211	46,253	-6.3	-11.2
Communication	18,991	19,038	18,857	18,959	18,660	21,455	-0.2	-11.5
Power	95,097	97,754	100,600	98,817	96,746	98,805	-2.7	-3.8
Highway and street	84,813	87,378	88,430	89,281	89,652	92,503	-2.9	-8.3
Sewage and waste disposal	21,526	21,400	21,463	21,967	24,331	23,836	0.6	-9.7
Water supply	12,199	12,008	12,319	12,091	11,980	13,346	1.6	-8.6
Conservation and development	7,500	7,060	7,895	8,150	7,692	8,698	6.2	-13.8
Manufacturing	75,223	76,141	73,436	75,527	74,816	81,079	-1.2	-7.2
<b>Total Private Construction<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>871,631</b>	<b>874,601</b>	<b>867,941</b>	<b>860,284</b>	<b>854,624</b>	<b>848,564</b>	<b>-0.3</b>	<b>2.7</b>
Residential	449,188	450,421	448,142	444,403	445,499	443,018	-0.3	1.4
New single family	235,639	237,897	238,605	240,062	243,301	239,263	-0.9	-1.5
New multi-family	62,016	60,537	60,449	60,329	58,898	54,443	2.4	13.9
Nonresidential	422,444	424,180	419,799	415,882	409,125	405,546	-0.4	4.2
Lodging	27,076	26,676	27,384	27,467	25,883	23,011	1.5	17.7
Office	63,389	61,984	61,163	56,630	56,408	49,513	2.3	28.0
Commercial	69,084	70,500	68,513	69,399	68,040	64,595	-2.0	6.9
Health care	32,483	32,285	33,228	32,971	31,631	34,316	0.6	-5.3
Educational	19,209	19,002	18,057	17,865	17,815	17,450	1.1	10.1
Religious	3,601	3,721	3,896	3,913	4,287	3,813	-3.2	-5.6
Amusement and recreation	11,971	11,727	12,261	11,356	11,020	10,076	2.1	18.8
Transportation	12,837	12,847	12,840	12,729	12,903	13,616	-0.1	-5.7
Communication	18,832	18,925	18,712	18,785	18,570	21,279	-0.5	-11.5
Power	88,621	89,932	89,844	88,913	87,455	86,137	-1.5	2.9
Manufacturing	74,485	75,567	72,806	74,922	74,091	80,394	-1.4	-7.4
<b>Total Public Construction<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>270,521</b>	<b>276,037</b>	<b>286,193</b>	<b>283,466</b>	<b>287,902</b>	<b>296,652</b>	<b>-2.0</b>	<b>-8.8</b>
Residential	6,345	6,108	6,114	6,280	6,249	6,759	3.9	-6.1
Nonresidential	264,177	269,929	280,079	277,186	281,653	289,893	-2.1	-8.9
Office	7,548	7,553	7,574	7,634	7,428	7,838	-0.1	-3.7
Commercial	3,156	2,855	3,034	3,367	3,462	3,293	10.5	-4.2
Health care	8,574	8,276	8,376	8,296	8,646	8,075	3.6	6.2
Educational	66,937	67,177	71,879	66,984	70,847	67,469	-0.4	-0.8
Public safety	7,489	7,828	7,923	8,033	8,006	8,887	-4.3	-15.7
Amusement and recreation	9,348	9,507	10,053	10,349	10,761	10,377	-1.7	-9.9
Transportation	28,240	30,976	30,312	30,879	29,309	32,637	-8.8	-13.5
Power	6,476	7,822	10,755	9,904	9,291	12,668	-17.2	-48.9
Highway and street	84,622	87,190	88,086	88,934	89,270	92,249	-2.9	-8.3
Sewage and waste disposal	21,170	20,951	21,093	21,641	23,967	23,599	1.0	-10.3
Water supply	12,063	11,856	12,161	11,944	11,809	12,704	1.7	-5.0
Conservation and development	7,416	6,940	7,769	8,096	7,643	8,621	6.9	-14.0

<sup>P</sup>Preliminary <sup>r</sup>Revised

<sup>1</sup>Includes the following categories of private construction not shown separately: public safety, highway and street, sewage and waste disposal, water supply, and conservation and development.

<sup>2</sup>Includes the following categories of public construction not shown separately: lodging, religious, communication, and manufacturing.

**Table 2. Value of Construction Put in Place in the United States, Not Seasonally Adjusted**

(Millions of dollars. Details may not add to totals due to rounding.)

Type of Construction	Aug 2016 <sup>P</sup>	Jul 2016 <sup>f</sup>	Jun 2016 <sup>f</sup>	May 2016	Apr 2016	Aug 2015	Year-to-date		
							Aug 2016	Aug 2015	Percent change
<b>Total Construction</b>	<b>106,723</b>	<b>105,803</b>	<b>105,130</b>	<b>97,620</b>	<b>92,208</b>	<b>106,856</b>	<b>754,979</b>	<b>719,952</b>	<b>4.9</b>
Residential	42,812	43,190	42,223	39,474	37,523	42,189	303,399	285,611	6.2
Nonresidential	63,911	62,613	62,906	58,146	54,685	64,667	451,580	434,340	4.0
Lodging	2,355	2,271	2,322	2,372	2,192	2,020	17,411	13,859	25.6
Office	6,204	5,989	5,943	5,404	5,279	4,983	42,960	35,235	21.9
Commercial	6,519	6,423	6,258	6,155	5,879	6,103	47,320	43,172	9.6
Health care	3,543	3,419	3,565	3,468	3,304	3,633	26,743	26,471	1.0
Educational	8,869	8,897	8,897	7,197	6,971	8,768	59,312	56,390	5.2
Religious	325	330	330	316	342	348	2,469	2,340	5.5
Public safety	671	662	696	662	651	784	5,207	5,644	-7.7
Amusement and recreation	1,888	1,847	1,930	1,893	1,798	1,822	14,015	12,891	8.7
Transportation	3,803	3,900	3,835	3,681	3,385	4,293	27,985	29,160	-4.0
Communication	1,696	1,555	1,627	1,560	1,470	1,825	12,289	12,619	-2.6
Power	7,871	8,012	8,475	8,153	7,802	8,277	62,585	59,788	4.7
Highway and street	9,984	9,430	9,059	7,520	6,130	10,777	56,435	56,449	0.0
Sewage and waste disposal	1,996	1,885	1,915	1,883	1,920	2,233	14,974	15,921	-5.9
Water supply	1,090	1,063	1,083	1,028	974	1,213	7,908	8,711	-9.2
Conservation and development	665	582	658	644	612	768	4,960	5,196	-4.5
Manufacturing	6,432	6,350	6,314	6,212	5,977	6,821	49,008	50,496	-2.9
<b>Total Private Construction<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>78,910</b>	<b>78,684</b>	<b>77,637</b>	<b>73,779</b>	<b>70,317</b>	<b>76,494</b>	<b>569,119</b>	<b>531,694</b>	<b>7.0</b>
Residential	42,248	42,655	41,667	38,933	37,008	41,587	299,239	281,366	6.4
New single family	22,156	22,006	21,268	20,345	19,586	22,500	158,081	147,250	7.4
New multi-family	5,527	5,058	5,270	5,122	4,940	4,785	39,939	33,083	20.7
Nonresidential	36,663	36,029	35,970	34,846	33,309	34,907	269,880	250,328	7.8
Lodging	2,335	2,245	2,298	2,343	2,158	1,970	17,166	13,507	27.1
Office	5,544	5,344	5,275	4,753	4,661	4,303	37,972	29,921	26.9
Commercial	6,234	6,193	5,982	5,875	5,605	5,804	45,182	41,545	8.8
Health care	2,812	2,726	2,847	2,790	2,593	2,948	21,192	20,846	1.7
Educational	1,786	1,755	1,717	1,616	1,510	1,623	12,424	11,401	9.0
Religious	325	330	330	316	342	347	2,469	2,334	5.8
Amusement and recreation	1,018	1,010	1,017	969	933	856	7,508	6,146	22.2
Transportation	1,193	1,151	1,135	1,093	1,033	1,256	8,023	8,531	-6.0
Communication	1,683	1,545	1,615	1,545	1,462	1,811	12,191	12,512	-2.6
Power	7,289	7,344	7,404	7,305	7,017	7,100	56,582	52,537	7.7
Manufacturing	6,371	6,302	6,261	6,162	5,917	6,764	48,561	50,067	-3.0
<b>Total Public Construction<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>27,812</b>	<b>27,119</b>	<b>27,493</b>	<b>23,842</b>	<b>21,891</b>	<b>30,362</b>	<b>185,860</b>	<b>188,258</b>	<b>-1.3</b>
Residential	564	535	556	542	515	602	4,161	4,245	-2.0
Nonresidential	27,248	26,584	26,936	23,300	21,376	29,760	181,699	184,013	-1.3
Office	660	645	668	651	617	679	4,988	5,314	-6.1
Commercial	285	229	276	280	275	299	2,138	1,627	31.4
Health care	732	693	718	678	711	685	5,551	5,625	-1.3
Educational	7,083	7,141	7,181	5,582	5,461	7,145	46,888	44,989	4.2
Public safety	664	654	688	656	646	773	5,152	5,470	-5.8
Amusement and recreation	870	836	913	924	865	966	6,507	6,745	-3.5
Transportation	2,610	2,749	2,701	2,588	2,352	3,038	19,963	20,630	-3.2
Power	582	668	1,072	848	785	1,176	6,003	7,251	-17.2
Highway and street	9,968	9,414	9,032	7,489	6,104	10,752	56,278	56,238	0.1
Sewage and waste disposal	1,965	1,847	1,882	1,855	1,891	2,213	14,729	15,781	-6.7
Water supply	1,078	1,051	1,069	1,015	962	1,150	7,808	8,330	-6.3
Conservation and development	658	572	648	640	608	762	4,905	5,121	-4.2

<sup>P</sup>Preliminary <sup>f</sup>Revised

<sup>1</sup>Includes the following categories of private construction not shown separately: public safety, highway and street, sewage and waste disposal, water supply, and conservation and development.

<sup>2</sup>Includes the following categories of public construction not shown separately: lodging, religious, communication, and manufacturing.

**Table 3. Coefficients of Variation and Standard Errors by Type of Construction**  
(Percent)

Type of Construction	Coefficient of variation		Standard error		
	Monthly estimate	Year-to-date estimate	Year-to-date change	Month-to-month change	Month-to-month change from prev. year
<b>Total Construction</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>1.1</b>
Residential	4.5	4.0	4.9	5.1	6.1
Nonresidential	0.9	0.6	0.7	0.9	1.1
Lodging	2.1	1.7	2.5	1.3	2.9
Office	2.6	2.3	2.5	1.8	3.3
Commercial	3.1	1.7	2.0	1.8	2.7
Health care	2.0	1.8	2.5	2.0	3.3
Educational	2.1	1.4	2.2	2.1	3.2
Religious	7.3	5.4	6.9	5.4	8.8
Public safety	3.2	2.3	2.5	2.5	3.6
Amusement and recreation	3.4	2.4	3.3	1.9	4.1
Transportation	2.0	1.3	1.7	2.2	2.6
Communication	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Power	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.6
Highway and street	3.6	1.9	2.4	3.6	3.6
Sewage and waste disposal	3.5	2.5	3.2	3.1	3.2
Water supply	4.3	2.6	4.0	3.7	4.9
Conservation and development	3.5	3.0	3.8	3.4	4.0
Manufacturing	0.9	0.8	0.9	0.5	1.1
<b>Total Private Construction</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>1.1</b>
Residential	5.0	1.1	1.3	0.8	1.4
New single family	5.0	4.0	6.8	6.0	6.0
New multi-family	6.1	5.7	4.3	2.6	4.3
Nonresidential	0.9	0.7	0.8	0.7	1.1
Lodging	2.1	1.7	2.5	1.3	3.0
Office	3.0	2.6	2.9	2.1	3.8
Commercial	3.1	1.7	2.0	1.8	2.7
Health care	2.5	2.2	3.2	2.5	4.0
Educational	3.1	2.4	3.4	3.2	4.8
Religious	7.3	5.4	7.0	5.4	8.8
Amusement and recreation	3.4	2.9	4.2	1.4	5.1
Transportation	5.7	4.1	4.4	1.8	6.9
Communication	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Power	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.4
Manufacturing	0.9	0.8	0.9	0.5	1.1
<b>Total Public Construction</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>1.7</b>
Residential	4.5	4.0	4.9	5.1	6.1
Nonresidential	1.5	0.9	1.1	1.5	1.7
Office	3.1	2.4	3.2	2.8	3.8
Commercial	13.6	10.2	14.0	10.8	19.0
Health care	3.0	2.6	3.1	2.1	3.9
Educational	2.6	1.7	2.5	2.4	3.8
Public safety	3.2	2.3	2.6	2.5	3.7
Amusement and recreation	5.8	4.0	4.8	3.6	5.9
Transportation	2.1	1.4	1.8	2.4	2.8
Power	4.7	3.8	3.5	2.6	3.2
Highway and street	3.6	1.9	2.4	3.6	3.6
Sewage and waste disposal	3.5	2.5	3.2	3.2	3.2
Water supply	4.4	2.7	4.3	3.8	5.2
Conservation and development	3.6	3.0	3.9	3.5	4.0

NA Not applicable