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## OCTOBER 2009 CONSTRUCTION AT \$910.8 BILLION ANNUAL RATE

The U.S. Census Bureau of the Department of Commerce announced today that construction spending during October 2009 was estimated at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$910.8 billion, nearly the same as ( $\pm 1.6\%$ )\* the revised September estimate of \$910.4 billion. The October figure is 14.4 percent ( $\pm 1.6\%$ ) below the October 2008 estimate of \$1,064.1 billion.

During the first 10 months of this year, construction spending amounted to \$794.0 billion, 12.6 percent ( $\pm 1.1\%$ ) below the \$908.9 billion for the same period in 2008.

### PRIVATE CONSTRUCTION

Spending on private construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$589.0 billion, 0.3 percent ( $\pm 1.1\%$ )\* above the revised September estimate of \$587.2 billion. Residential construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$250.3 billion in October, 4.4 percent ( $\pm 1.3\%$ ) above the revised September estimate of \$239.7 billion. Nonresidential construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$338.6 billion in October, 2.5 percent ( $\pm 1.1\%$ ) below the revised September estimate of \$347.5 billion.

### PUBLIC CONSTRUCTION

In October, the estimated seasonally adjusted annual rate of public construction spending was \$321.8 billion, 0.4 percent ( $\pm 2.4\%$ )\* below the revised September estimate of \$323.2 billion. Educational construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$85.7 billion, 1.1 percent ( $\pm 2.9\%$ )\* above the revised September estimate of \$84.7 billion. Highway construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$87.2 billion, 0.3 percent ( $\pm 6.6\%$ )\* below the revised September estimate of \$87.4 billion.

*November 2009 data will be released on January 4, 2010 at 10:00 A.M. EST.*

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

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

### 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, 0.5 percent; private construction, 0.6 percent; and public construction, 0.7 percent.

\* 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	Oct 2009 <sup>P</sup>	Sep 2009 <sup>F</sup>	Aug 2009 <sup>F</sup>	Jul 2009	Jun 2009	Oct 2008	Percent change Oct 2009 from -	
							Sep 2009	Oct 2008
<b>Total Construction</b>	<b>910,767</b>	<b>910,366</b>	<b>925,524</b>	<b>934,235</b>	<b>945,137</b>	<b>1,064,103</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>-14.4</b>
Residential	258,546	248,111	252,733	245,898	245,279	335,253	4.2	-22.9
Nonresidential	652,221	662,255	672,791	688,337	699,858	728,850	-1.5	-10.5
Lodging	20,232	21,469	23,232	24,409	27,479	36,788	-5.8	-45.0
Office	51,006	51,206	53,947	55,978	57,164	70,698	-0.4	-27.9
Commercial	49,695	51,464	52,677	55,720	57,922	79,941	-3.4	-37.8
Health care	46,490	46,999	47,223	48,344	50,317	49,226	-1.1	-5.6
Educational	102,072	101,407	103,326	105,213	108,056	104,991	0.7	-2.8
Religious	6,142	5,994	6,138	6,234	6,442	7,243	2.5	-15.2
Public safety	13,767	14,339	14,039	14,530	15,312	13,114	-4.0	5.0
Amusement and recreation	18,202	18,040	18,450	19,286	19,798	21,315	0.9	-14.6
Transportation	37,274	38,298	37,259	37,817	35,231	34,615	-2.7	7.7
Communication	19,361	20,402	20,025	20,062	20,076	22,098	-5.1	-12.4
Power	87,202	89,855	91,792	90,799	92,164	85,774	-3.0	1.7
Highway and street	87,327	87,560	85,663	85,497	84,430	83,494	-0.3	4.6
Sewage and waste disposal	24,807	25,050	24,424	23,945	24,407	25,873	-1.0	-4.1
Water supply	15,049	15,850	15,740	16,472	16,190	17,013	-5.1	-11.5
Conservation and development	6,372	5,390	5,687	5,706	5,656	5,201	18.2	22.5
Manufacturing	67,224	68,934	73,170	78,325	79,215	71,466	-2.5	-5.9
<b>Total Private Construction <sup>1</sup></b>	<b>588,951</b>	<b>587,168</b>	<b>605,167</b>	<b>608,434</b>	<b>619,535</b>	<b>754,062</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>-21.9</b>
Residential	250,333	239,696	244,651	237,273	236,970	327,745	4.4	-23.6
Nonresidential	338,618	347,472	360,517	371,161	382,565	426,317	-2.5	-20.6
Lodging	20,184	21,416	23,177	24,334	27,427	36,577	-5.8	-44.8
Office	35,644	36,453	39,300	39,967	42,103	56,471	-2.2	-36.9
Commercial	45,891	47,641	48,848	51,795	53,541	76,515	-3.7	-40.0
Health care	36,350	36,521	37,222	37,784	39,930	40,218	-0.5	-9.6
Educational	16,420	16,720	16,822	16,221	17,001	19,259	-1.8	-14.7
Religious	6,111	5,912	6,123	6,213	6,439	7,243	3.4	-15.6
Amusement and recreation	6,544	6,643	7,334	7,906	8,244	10,209	-1.5	-35.9
Transportation	9,155	9,115	9,142	9,368	9,395	9,999	0.4	-8.4
Communication	19,317	20,381	20,013	20,033	20,020	21,957	-5.2	-12.0
Power	75,104	76,955	78,628	78,747	78,812	74,856	-2.4	0.3
Manufacturing	66,728	68,327	72,565	77,633	78,603	70,985	-2.3	-6.0
<b>Total Public Construction <sup>2</sup></b>	<b>321,816</b>	<b>323,198</b>	<b>320,356</b>	<b>325,801</b>	<b>325,603</b>	<b>310,041</b>	<b>-0.4</b>	<b>3.8</b>
Residential	8,213	8,415	8,083	8,626	8,310	7,508	-2.4	9.4
Nonresidential	313,603	314,783	312,274	317,175	317,293	302,533	-0.4	3.7
Office	15,362	14,753	14,647	16,011	15,061	14,227	4.1	8.0
Commercial	3,803	3,823	3,829	3,925	4,381	3,426	-0.5	11.0
Health care	10,140	10,478	10,001	10,560	10,388	9,008	-3.2	12.6
Educational	85,652	84,687	86,503	88,992	91,055	85,732	1.1	-0.1
Public safety	13,400	13,862	13,544	14,241	15,017	12,570	-3.3	6.6
Amusement and recreation	11,658	11,396	11,116	11,380	11,555	11,105	2.3	5.0
Transportation	28,120	29,183	28,117	28,449	25,836	24,616	-3.6	14.2
Power	12,098	12,900	13,164	12,052	13,352	10,918	-6.2	10.8
Highway and street	87,208	87,431	85,574	85,399	84,303	83,311	-0.3	4.7
Sewage and waste disposal	24,337	24,526	23,906	23,500	24,081	25,247	-0.8	-3.6
Water supply	14,858	15,619	15,530	16,164	15,897	16,399	-4.9	-9.4
Conservation and development	6,348	5,362	5,657	5,687	5,646	5,140	18.4	23.5

<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 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	Oct 2009 <sup>P</sup>	Sep 2009 <sup>r</sup>	Aug 2009 <sup>r</sup>	Jul 2009	Jun 2009	Oct 2008	Year-to-date		Percent change
							Oct 2009	Oct 2008	
<b>Total Construction</b>	<b>81,515</b>	<b>84,662</b>	<b>87,895</b>	<b>86,192</b>	<b>85,352</b>	<b>95,574</b>	<b>794,024</b>	<b>908,880</b>	<b>-12.6</b>
Residential	23,614	23,064	25,278	23,398	22,487	30,276	216,833	309,632	-30.0
Nonresidential	57,901	61,598	62,618	62,795	62,865	65,298	577,192	599,248	-3.7
Lodging	1,686	1,789	1,936	2,034	2,290	3,066	22,124	30,152	-26.6
Office	4,382	4,637	4,640	4,788	4,923	6,168	47,932	59,258	-19.1
Commercial	4,419	4,668	4,723	4,877	5,044	7,224	49,890	72,677	-31.4
Health care	3,999	4,092	4,004	4,032	4,328	4,289	39,772	39,456	0.8
Educational	8,626	9,249	10,417	10,560	10,287	8,965	89,028	88,254	0.9
Religious	550	533	546	533	533	650	5,372	5,883	-8.7
Public safety	1,165	1,393	1,204	1,270	1,311	1,150	11,929	10,444	14.2
Amusement and recreation	1,600	1,619	1,629	1,685	1,753	1,874	16,127	18,167	-11.2
Transportation	3,505	3,645	3,488	3,413	3,069	3,205	29,421	28,362	3.7
Communication	1,699	1,745	1,640	1,713	1,815	2,013	16,596	21,667	-23.4
Power	7,339	7,998	8,139	7,914	8,156	7,428	74,240	66,631	11.4
Highway and street	8,940	9,927	9,770	9,417	8,669	8,608	71,996	69,825	3.1
Sewage and waste disposal	2,350	2,318	2,216	2,107	2,138	2,458	20,800	20,911	-0.5
Water supply	1,358	1,415	1,398	1,411	1,406	1,568	13,217	14,117	-6.4
Conservation and development	461	603	488	509	460	401	4,732	4,428	6.9
Manufacturing	5,822	5,968	6,382	6,535	6,684	6,232	64,015	49,016	30.6
<b>Total Private Construction <sup>1</sup></b>	<b>52,248</b>	<b>52,570</b>	<b>55,977</b>	<b>54,393</b>	<b>54,792</b>	<b>67,108</b>	<b>524,572</b>	<b>650,879</b>	<b>-19.4</b>
Residential	22,931	22,269	24,576	22,628	21,733	29,660	210,089	303,484	-30.8
Nonresidential	29,317	30,301	31,401	31,765	33,059	37,448	314,483	347,394	-9.5
Lodging	1,682	1,785	1,931	2,028	2,286	3,048	22,062	29,752	-25.8
Office	3,096	3,222	3,345	3,380	3,595	4,996	35,335	48,314	-26.9
Commercial	4,113	4,283	4,379	4,539	4,665	6,946	46,682	69,746	-33.1
Health care	3,185	3,124	3,185	3,158	3,435	3,541	31,555	32,318	-2.4
Educational	1,421	1,408	1,578	1,517	1,563	1,631	14,451	15,683	-7.9
Religious	547	526	545	531	532	650	5,358	5,856	-8.5
Amusement and recreation	561	559	617	669	699	880	6,800	8,782	-22.6
Transportation	819	808	804	791	807	886	7,580	8,193	-7.5
Communication	1,695	1,744	1,639	1,711	1,811	2,001	16,563	21,530	-23.1
Power	6,309	6,796	6,924	6,869	6,941	6,484	63,429	56,737	11.8
Manufacturing	5,780	5,918	6,331	6,477	6,633	6,192	63,534	48,599	30.7
<b>Total Public Construction <sup>2</sup></b>	<b>29,267</b>	<b>32,092</b>	<b>31,918</b>	<b>31,799</b>	<b>30,560</b>	<b>28,466</b>	<b>269,452</b>	<b>258,001</b>	<b>4.4</b>
Residential	683	795	702	770	754	616	6,744	6,147	9.7
Nonresidential	28,584	31,297	31,216	31,030	29,806	27,850	262,709	251,854	4.3
Office	1,286	1,415	1,294	1,408	1,328	1,172	12,597	10,944	15.1
Commercial	306	385	344	338	378	278	3,208	2,931	9.5
Health care	813	968	820	874	893	747	8,218	7,138	15.1
Educational	7,205	7,840	8,839	9,043	8,724	7,334	74,577	72,571	2.8
Public safety	1,132	1,349	1,159	1,244	1,285	1,099	11,582	9,870	17.3
Amusement and recreation	1,039	1,061	1,012	1,016	1,055	994	9,327	9,386	-0.6
Transportation	2,686	2,837	2,684	2,621	2,262	2,319	21,841	20,169	8.3
Power	1,030	1,202	1,215	1,046	1,215	944	10,811	9,894	9.3
Highway and street	8,928	9,915	9,761	9,408	8,657	8,590	71,895	69,642	3.2
Sewage and waste disposal	2,308	2,270	2,171	2,070	2,106	2,402	20,424	20,439	-0.1
Water supply	1,340	1,391	1,376	1,388	1,384	1,506	12,934	13,510	-4.3
Conservation and development	459	600	485	507	459	396	4,708	4,380	7.5

<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 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>0.5</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>1.0</b>	
Residential	4.2	2.7	3.5	2.6	4.7	
Nonresidential	0.9	0.5	0.7	1.0	1.0	
Lodging	1.9	1.6	1.5	1.3	1.5	
Office	2.3	1.9	2.3	1.5	1.8	
Commercial	3.3	2.2	1.5	2.3	1.5	
Health care	2.0	1.6	2.1	1.2	3.3	
Educational	2.1	1.4	2.0	1.6	2.5	
Religious	5.6	3.4	3.6	3.2	5.6	
Public safety	2.9	1.9	3.1	1.5	3.6	
Amusement and recreation	3.8	3.0	3.2	2.6	3.6	
Transportation	2.8	2.1	2.5	4.1	3.7	
Communication	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	
Power	0.9	0.6	0.8	0.6	0.6	
Highway and street	3.6	1.7	2.4	4.1	4.9	
Sewage and waste disposal	3.8	2.1	2.6	2.2	3.6	
Water supply	3.7	2.3	2.9	3.5	4.0	
Conservation and development	2.9	1.5	3.7	2.2	7.1	
Manufacturing	1.4	1.1	1.7	0.6	1.2	
<b>Total Private Construction</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>0.8</b>	
Residential	5.0	1.1	1.3	0.8	1.4	
Nonresidential	1.0	0.7	0.8	0.7	0.8	
Lodging	1.9	1.6	1.5	1.3	1.5	
Office	3.2	2.6	2.5	2.1	1.8	
Commercial	3.5	2.4	1.5	2.5	1.5	
Health care	2.5	1.9	2.4	1.4	3.9	
Educational	3.6	2.8	3.0	2.7	3.5	
Religious	5.6	3.4	3.6	3.3	5.6	
Amusement and recreation	5.4	4.3	3.7	4.3	3.1	
Transportation	10.5	7.8	5.8	5.0	8.4	
Communication	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	
Power	0.8	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.4	
Manufacturing	1.4	1.1	1.7	0.6	1.2	
<b>Total Public Construction</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>1.9</b>	
Residential	4.2	2.7	3.5	2.6	4.7	
Nonresidential	1.4	0.7	1.1	1.5	1.9	
Office	2.2	1.9	4.2	1.8	4.5	
Commercial	6.8	5.1	6.5	2.6	10.9	
Health care	2.8	2.2	3.4	2.1	5.0	
Educational	2.4	1.5	2.3	1.8	2.9	
Public safety	3.0	2.0	3.3	1.6	3.8	
Amusement and recreation	5.0	4.2	5.0	3.2	6.5	
Transportation	2.8	2.1	2.7	4.3	4.0	
Power	4.4	3.3	6.6	2.3	6.0	
Highway and street	3.7	1.7	2.5	4.1	4.9	
Sewage and waste disposal	3.8	2.1	2.7	2.2	3.6	
Water supply	3.8	2.4	3.0	3.6	4.1	
Conservation and development	2.9	1.5	3.7	2.2	7.2	

NA Not applicable