

# U.S. Census Bureau News

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## SEPTEMBER 2016 CONSTRUCTION AT \$1,150.0 BILLION ANNUAL RATE

The U.S. Census Bureau of the Department of Commerce announced today that construction spending during September 2016 was estimated at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$1,150.0 billion, 0.4 percent ( $\pm 1.3\%$ )\* below the revised August estimate of \$1,154.4 billion. The September figure is 0.2 percent ( $\pm 1.8\%$ )\* below the September 2015 estimate of \$1,152.1 billion.

During the first 9 months of this year, construction spending amounted to \$863.2 billion, 4.4 percent ( $\pm 1.2\%$ ) above the \$826.8 billion for the same period in 2015.

### PRIVATE CONSTRUCTION

Spending on private construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$879.7 billion, 0.2 percent ( $\pm 1.0\%$ )\* below the revised August estimate of \$881.6 billion. Residential construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$453.7 billion in September, 0.5 percent ( $\pm 1.3\%$ )\* above the revised August estimate of \$451.3 billion. Nonresidential construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$426.0 billion in September, 1.0 percent ( $\pm 1.0\%$ )\* below the revised August estimate of \$430.2 billion.

### PUBLIC CONSTRUCTION

In September, the estimated seasonally adjusted annual rate of public construction spending was \$270.3 billion, 0.9 percent ( $\pm 2.5\%$ )\* below the revised August estimate of \$272.8 billion. Educational construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$66.6 billion, 1.1 percent ( $\pm 4.1\%$ )\* below the revised August estimate of \$67.4 billion. Highway construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$86.6 billion, 0.9 percent ( $\pm 5.4\%$ )\* above the revised August estimate of \$85.8 billion.

*October 2016 data will be released on December 1, 2016 at 10:00 A.M. EST.*

*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.

\* 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	Sep 2016 <sup>P</sup>	Aug 2016 <sup>r</sup>	Jul 2016 <sup>r</sup>	Jun 2016	May 2016	Sep 2015	Percent change Sep 2016 from -	
							Aug 2016	Sep 2015
<b>Total Construction</b>	<b>1,150,005</b>	<b>1,154,388</b>	<b>1,160,407</b>	<b>1,154,134</b>	<b>1,143,750</b>	<b>1,152,122</b>	<b>-0.4</b>	<b>-0.2</b>
Residential	459,506	457,806	462,614	454,256	450,683	456,559	0.4	0.6
Nonresidential	690,499	696,582	697,793	699,878	693,068	695,563	-0.9	-0.7
Lodging	28,811	28,712	27,544	27,674	27,814	24,029	0.3	19.9
Office	70,706	71,201	70,325	68,737	64,263	57,504	-0.7	23.0
Commercial	71,771	73,902	72,674	71,547	72,766	67,778	-2.9	5.9
Health care	41,009	41,126	40,745	41,603	41,267	43,899	-0.3	-6.6
Educational	87,074	86,771	86,453	89,936	84,849	84,256	0.3	3.3
Religious	3,725	3,925	3,791	3,896	3,913	4,045	-5.1	-7.9
Public safety	7,730	7,797	8,005	8,019	8,091	8,889	-0.9	-13.0
Amusement and recreation	21,385	21,880	21,673	22,315	21,705	20,660	-2.3	3.5
Transportation	41,653	41,842	43,839	43,152	43,608	46,962	-0.5	-11.3
Communication	18,618	18,981	19,023	18,857	18,959	21,309	-1.9	-12.6
Power	95,100	96,177	97,983	100,600	98,817	96,934	-1.1	-1.9
Highway and street	86,816	86,028	87,901	88,430	89,281	90,800	0.9	-4.4
Sewage and waste disposal	19,711	20,827	20,894	21,463	21,967	24,280	-5.4	-18.8
Water supply	11,492	11,447	11,341	12,319	12,091	13,310	0.4	-13.7
Conservation and development	7,545	7,436	7,061	7,895	8,150	8,008	1.5	-5.8
Manufacturing	77,355	78,531	78,543	73,436	75,527	82,901	-1.5	-6.7
<b>Total Private Construction<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>879,660</b>	<b>881,552</b>	<b>884,852</b>	<b>867,941</b>	<b>860,284</b>	<b>858,889</b>	<b>-0.2</b>	<b>2.4</b>
Residential	453,663	451,321	456,586	448,142	444,403	449,698	0.5	0.9
New single family	236,556	236,323	238,595	238,605	240,062	243,661	0.1	-2.9
New multi-family	62,079	60,845	59,698	60,449	60,329	56,918	2.0	9.1
Nonresidential	425,997	430,231	428,265	419,799	415,882	409,191	-1.0	4.1
Lodging	28,504	28,418	27,208	27,384	27,467	23,050	0.3	23.7
Office	63,078	63,344	62,651	61,163	56,630	49,589	-0.4	27.2
Commercial	68,761	70,475	70,063	68,513	69,399	64,912	-2.4	5.9
Health care	32,158	32,480	32,443	33,228	32,971	35,527	-1.0	-9.5
Educational	20,455	19,393	19,018	18,057	17,865	17,342	5.5	18.0
Religious	3,725	3,925	3,791	3,896	3,913	4,031	-5.1	-7.6
Amusement and recreation	12,095	12,285	11,955	12,261	11,356	10,241	-1.5	18.1
Transportation	13,088	13,015	13,053	12,840	12,729	13,980	0.6	-6.4
Communication	18,523	18,819	18,910	18,712	18,785	21,102	-1.6	-12.2
Power	88,224	89,453	90,229	89,844	88,913	85,635	-1.4	3.0
Manufacturing	76,571	77,738	77,978	72,806	74,922	82,146	-1.5	-6.8
<b>Total Public Construction<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>270,346</b>	<b>272,836</b>	<b>275,556</b>	<b>286,193</b>	<b>283,466</b>	<b>293,233</b>	<b>-0.9</b>	<b>-7.8</b>
Residential	5,843	6,485	6,028	6,114	6,280	6,861	-9.9	-14.8
Nonresidential	264,503	266,351	269,528	280,079	277,186	286,372	-0.7	-7.6
Office	7,628	7,857	7,674	7,574	7,634	7,915	-2.9	-3.6
Commercial	3,010	3,427	2,611	3,034	3,367	2,866	-12.2	5.0
Health care	8,851	8,646	8,302	8,376	8,296	8,372	2.4	5.7
Educational	66,619	67,379	67,435	71,879	66,984	66,914	-1.1	-0.4
Public safety	7,637	7,705	7,900	7,923	8,033	8,781	-0.9	-13.0
Amusement and recreation	9,290	9,595	9,718	10,053	10,349	10,418	-3.2	-10.8
Transportation	28,565	28,827	30,786	30,312	30,879	32,982	-0.9	-13.4
Power	6,876	6,724	7,753	10,755	9,904	11,300	2.3	-39.2
Highway and street	86,634	85,834	87,704	88,086	88,934	90,401	0.9	-4.2
Sewage and waste disposal	19,351	20,449	20,491	21,093	21,641	23,838	-5.4	-18.8
Water supply	11,362	11,314	11,192	12,161	11,944	12,728	0.4	-10.7
Conservation and development	7,493	7,345	6,948	7,769	8,096	7,902	2.0	-5.2

<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	Sep 2016 <sup>p</sup>	Aug 2016 <sup>f</sup>	Jul 2016 <sup>f</sup>	Jun 2016	May 2016	Sep 2015	Year-to-date		
							Sep 2016	Sep 2015	Percent change
<b>Total Construction</b>	<b>106,189</b>	<b>107,930</b>	<b>106,633</b>	<b>105,130</b>	<b>97,620</b>	<b>106,868</b>	<b>863,206</b>	<b>826,819</b>	<b>4.4</b>
Residential	42,523	42,857	43,577	42,223	39,474	42,130	346,354	327,742	5.7
Nonresidential	63,666	65,073	63,057	62,906	58,146	64,737	516,852	499,078	3.6
Lodging	2,500	2,499	2,315	2,322	2,372	2,049	20,098	15,908	26.3
Office	6,379	6,237	6,070	5,943	5,404	5,187	49,452	40,422	22.3
Commercial	6,568	6,711	6,364	6,258	6,155	6,233	54,021	49,405	9.3
Health care	3,670	3,550	3,445	3,565	3,468	3,898	30,446	30,368	0.3
Educational	7,804	8,921	8,933	8,897	7,197	7,579	67,205	63,969	5.1
Religious	342	360	334	330	316	374	2,850	2,714	5.0
Public safety	752	690	665	696	662	866	5,981	6,509	-8.1
Amusement and recreation	1,920	1,951	1,900	1,930	1,893	1,873	16,052	14,764	8.7
Transportation	3,864	3,882	3,897	3,835	3,681	4,450	31,926	33,611	-5.0
Communication	1,660	1,696	1,555	1,627	1,560	1,914	13,950	14,532	-4.0
Power	8,064	8,028	8,091	8,475	8,153	8,263	70,886	68,051	4.2
Highway and street	9,735	10,166	9,462	9,059	7,520	10,469	66,383	66,918	-0.8
Sewage and waste disposal	1,811	1,948	1,857	1,915	1,883	2,292	16,709	18,213	-8.3
Water supply	1,027	1,024	1,003	1,083	1,028	1,206	8,808	9,917	-11.2
Conservation and development	796	655	580	658	644	844	5,744	6,040	-4.9
Manufacturing	6,773	6,755	6,587	6,314	6,212	7,241	56,341	57,737	-2.4
<b>Total Private Construction<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>79,426</b>	<b>79,798</b>	<b>79,535</b>	<b>77,637</b>	<b>73,779</b>	<b>77,468</b>	<b>650,284</b>	<b>609,162</b>	<b>6.8</b>
Residential	41,986	42,280	43,043	41,667	38,933	41,496	341,646	322,862	5.8
New single family	22,144	22,180	22,039	21,268	20,345	22,822	180,282	170,073	6.0
New multi-family	5,358	5,404	4,976	5,270	5,122	4,876	45,092	37,959	18.8
Nonresidential	37,440	37,518	36,491	35,970	34,846	35,972	308,638	286,300	7.8
Lodging	2,475	2,474	2,287	2,298	2,343	1,967	19,822	15,474	28.1
Office	5,650	5,548	5,414	5,275	4,753	4,438	43,695	34,359	27.2
Commercial	6,263	6,395	6,154	5,982	5,875	5,937	51,566	47,482	8.6
Health care	2,846	2,813	2,750	2,847	2,790	3,129	24,063	23,975	0.4
Educational	1,699	1,802	1,756	1,717	1,616	1,442	14,139	12,844	10.1
Religious	342	360	334	330	316	373	2,850	2,707	5.3
Amusement and recreation	1,058	1,048	1,037	1,017	969	897	8,622	7,043	22.4
Transportation	1,212	1,208	1,167	1,135	1,093	1,287	9,266	9,818	-5.6
Communication	1,652	1,683	1,545	1,615	1,545	1,896	13,843	14,409	-3.9
Power	7,460	7,421	7,428	7,404	7,305	7,270	64,258	59,807	7.4
Manufacturing	6,708	6,689	6,540	6,261	6,162	7,178	55,824	57,245	-2.5
<b>Total Public Construction<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>26,763</b>	<b>28,132</b>	<b>27,099</b>	<b>27,493</b>	<b>23,842</b>	<b>29,400</b>	<b>212,922</b>	<b>217,657</b>	<b>-2.2</b>
Residential	537	577	533	556	542	634	4,708	4,880	-3.5
Nonresidential	26,227	27,555	26,565	26,936	23,300	28,765	208,214	212,778	-2.1
Office	729	690	656	668	651	750	5,757	6,063	-5.0
Commercial	305	316	210	276	280	296	2,455	1,923	27.7
Health care	824	737	696	718	678	768	6,383	6,393	-0.2
Educational	6,106	7,120	7,177	7,181	5,582	6,136	53,066	51,125	3.8
Public safety	744	683	658	688	656	857	5,918	6,327	-6.5
Amusement and recreation	862	903	863	913	924	976	7,429	7,721	-3.8
Transportation	2,652	2,674	2,730	2,701	2,588	3,163	22,660	23,793	-4.8
Power	604	607	663	1,072	848	993	6,627	8,244	-19.6
Highway and street	9,715	10,149	9,445	9,032	7,489	10,424	66,204	66,662	-0.7
Sewage and waste disposal	1,779	1,915	1,823	1,882	1,855	2,253	16,433	18,033	-8.9
Water supply	1,016	1,011	991	1,069	1,015	1,151	8,697	9,481	-8.3
Conservation and development	792	647	571	648	640	835	5,685	5,955	-4.5

<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 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>0.8</b>	<b>1.1</b>
Residential	4.5	4.0	4.6	2.0	5.1
Nonresidential	0.9	0.5	0.7	0.8	1.1
Lodging	2.0	1.6	2.3	1.3	2.8
Office	2.5	2.2	2.4	1.7	2.9
Commercial	3.1	1.5	1.9	1.6	2.5
Health care	2.0	1.7	2.4	1.3	2.7
Educational	2.1	1.4	2.0	2.1	2.6
Religious	7.4	5.0	6.6	6.4	8.4
Public safety	3.1	2.3	2.5	2.8	3.7
Amusement and recreation	3.4	2.3	3.1	1.7	4.1
Transportation	1.9	1.3	1.6	1.5	2.2
Communication	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Power	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.5
Highway and street	3.5	1.9	2.3	3.3	4.5
Sewage and waste disposal	3.5	2.4	2.9	2.5	3.2
Water supply	4.4	2.5	3.7	3.2	4.8
Conservation and development	3.6	2.8	3.6	3.7	4.4
Manufacturing	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.6	1.4
<b>Total Private Construction</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>1.0</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	6.0	5.6	4.2	2.1	5.1
Nonresidential	0.9	0.7	0.8	0.6	1.0
Lodging	2.0	1.6	2.4	1.3	2.9
Office	3.0	2.5	2.8	1.9	3.3
Commercial	3.1	1.5	1.9	1.7	2.5
Health care	2.5	2.1	3.0	1.5	3.2
Educational	3.2	2.5	3.4	2.7	5.1
Religious	7.4	5.0	6.6	6.4	8.4
Amusement and recreation	3.5	2.8	4.1	1.6	5.8
Transportation	5.7	3.9	4.4	4.1	4.7
Communication	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Power	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.4
Manufacturing	0.9	1.0	0.9	0.5	1.4
<b>Total Public Construction</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>1.9</b>
Residential	4.6	4.0	4.6	2.0	5.1
Nonresidential	1.5	0.8	1.1	1.5	1.9
Office	3.1	2.3	3.1	2.8	3.4
Commercial	12.3	9.2	13.6	3.2	16.9
Health care	3.0	2.5	3.0	2.3	3.9
Educational	2.5	1.6	2.4	2.5	2.9
Public safety	3.1	2.3	2.6	2.8	3.7
Amusement and recreation	5.6	3.8	4.6	3.1	5.5
Transportation	2.0	1.3	1.7	1.6	2.4
Power	4.8	3.5	3.2	7.6	3.6
Highway and street	3.5	1.8	2.3	3.3	4.5
Sewage and waste disposal	3.5	2.4	2.9	2.5	3.2
Water supply	4.5	2.5	3.9	3.3	5.1
Conservation and development	3.6	2.9	3.6	3.7	4.5

NA Not applicable