

# U.S. Census Bureau News

U.S. Department of Commerce • Washington, D.C. 20233

For Release at 10:00 A.M. EDT, Tuesday, November 1, 2011

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CB11-178

## SEPTEMBER 2011 CONSTRUCTION AT \$787.2 BILLION ANNUAL RATE

The U.S. Census Bureau of the Department of Commerce announced today that construction spending during September 2011 was estimated at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$787.2 billion, 0.2 percent ( $\pm 1.8\%$ )\* above the revised August estimate of \$786.0 billion. The September figure is 1.3 percent ( $\pm 1.9\%$ )\* below the September 2010 estimate of \$797.3 billion.

During the first 9 months of this year, construction spending amounted to \$580.9 billion, 3.5 percent ( $\pm 1.3\%$ ) below the \$602.0 billion for the same period in 2010.

### PRIVATE CONSTRUCTION

Spending on private construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$501.8 billion, 0.6 percent ( $\pm 1.1\%$ )\* above the revised August estimate of \$499.0 billion. Residential construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$228.3 billion in September, 0.9 percent ( $\pm 1.3\%$ )\* above the revised August estimate of \$226.3 billion. Nonresidential construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$273.5 billion in September, 0.3 percent ( $\pm 1.1\%$ )\* above the revised August estimate of \$272.8 billion.

### PUBLIC CONSTRUCTION

In September, the estimated seasonally adjusted annual rate of public construction spending was \$285.4 billion, 0.6 percent ( $\pm 2.6\%$ )\* below the revised August estimate of \$287.0 billion. Educational construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$73.3 billion, 0.9 percent ( $\pm 3.5\%$ )\* below the revised August estimate of \$73.9 billion. Highway construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$80.3 billion, 1.4 percent ( $\pm 6.4\%$ )\* above the revised August estimate of \$79.2 billion.

*October 2011 data will be released on December 1, 2011 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, 1.1 percent; private construction, 1.6 percent; and public construction, 1.3 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 2011 <sup>P</sup>	Aug 2011 <sup>r</sup>	Jul 2011 <sup>r</sup>	Jun 2011	May 2011	Sep 2010	Percent change Sep 2011 from -	
							Aug 2011	Sep 2010
<b>Total Construction</b>	<b>787,211</b>	<b>786,024</b>	<b>773,296</b>	<b>799,568</b>	<b>787,396</b>	<b>797,259</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>-1.3</b>
Residential	236,320	234,701	232,925	252,273	257,200	238,879	0.7	-1.1
Nonresidential	550,892	551,323	540,371	547,295	530,196	558,380	-0.1	-1.3
Lodging	8,546	8,407	8,387	8,792	8,308	10,529	1.7	-18.8
Office	34,093	34,155	34,172	35,456	34,451	37,592	-0.2	-9.3
Commercial	43,988	44,816	46,032	45,494	43,604	40,109	-1.8	9.7
Health care	41,709	40,815	41,635	41,594	39,395	41,748	2.2	-0.1
Educational	87,375	87,750	84,366	85,107	82,541	90,280	-0.4	-3.2
Religious	4,244	4,203	4,007	3,824	4,131	5,094	1.0	-16.7
Public safety	9,672	10,167	9,606	10,279	9,960	10,649	-4.9	-9.2
Amusement and recreation	15,714	15,550	15,452	15,332	15,896	17,911	1.1	-12.3
Transportation	35,331	36,158	34,165	35,956	35,621	39,411	-2.3	-10.4
Communication	18,142	17,746	18,417	18,306	17,701	18,197	2.2	-0.3
Power	90,693	90,913	88,367	88,976	86,258	76,004	-0.2	19.3
Highway and street	80,362	79,242	75,989	76,369	74,812	85,785	1.4	-6.3
Sewage and waste disposal	23,114	22,712	22,760	23,070	22,990	26,599	1.8	-13.1
Water supply	13,817	14,161	14,238	13,180	13,270	15,725	-2.4	-12.1
Conservation and development	6,602	7,156	6,710	7,126	7,353	6,936	-7.7	-4.8
Manufacturing	37,491	37,373	36,070	38,435	33,907	35,812	0.3	4.7
<b>Total Private Construction<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>501,845</b>	<b>499,044</b>	<b>495,951</b>	<b>515,855</b>	<b>508,863</b>	<b>482,947</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>3.9</b>
Residential	228,312	226,270	225,270	243,939	249,019	228,171	0.9	0.1
New single family	107,147	106,586	105,726	105,226	104,965	107,293	0.5	-0.1
New multi-family	15,129	15,096	14,960	14,011	14,131	14,212	0.2	6.5
Nonresidential	273,534	272,774	270,681	271,916	259,843	254,776	0.3	7.4
Lodging	7,943	7,726	7,784	8,122	7,740	10,016	2.8	-20.7
Office	22,914	23,093	23,152	23,539	22,697	23,865	-0.8	-4.0
Commercial	40,517	41,155	42,511	41,965	39,728	36,995	-1.6	9.5
Health care	30,685	29,654	30,400	30,307	28,569	31,514	3.5	-2.6
Educational	14,088	13,810	14,054	13,860	13,009	12,959	2.0	8.7
Religious	4,214	4,161	3,985	3,797	4,098	5,043	1.3	-16.4
Amusement and recreation	6,828	6,843	6,718	6,475	6,894	6,977	-0.2	-2.1
Transportation	11,342	10,980	10,642	10,601	10,175	9,708	3.3	16.8
Communication	17,972	17,675	18,315	18,235	17,617	18,177	1.7	-1.1
Power	79,199	79,694	76,235	75,869	74,626	63,019	-0.6	25.7
Manufacturing	36,522	36,672	35,435	37,659	33,246	35,096	-0.4	4.1
<b>Total Public Construction<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>285,366</b>	<b>286,980</b>	<b>277,345</b>	<b>283,713</b>	<b>278,533</b>	<b>314,312</b>	<b>-0.6</b>	<b>-9.2</b>
Residential	8,008	8,431	7,655	8,334	8,181	10,708	-5.0	-25.2
Nonresidential	277,358	278,549	269,690	275,379	270,353	303,604	-0.4	-8.6
Office	11,179	11,062	11,019	11,917	11,754	13,727	1.1	-18.6
Commercial	3,472	3,661	3,520	3,529	3,876	3,114	-5.2	11.5
Health care	11,024	11,161	11,235	11,287	10,826	10,234	-1.2	7.7
Educational	73,287	73,940	70,312	71,246	69,532	77,322	-0.9	-5.2
Public safety	9,520	9,970	9,423	10,072	9,762	10,540	-4.5	-9.7
Amusement and recreation	8,886	8,707	8,734	8,857	9,002	10,934	2.1	-18.7
Transportation	23,989	25,178	23,523	25,355	25,447	29,703	-4.7	-19.2
Power	11,494	11,219	12,131	13,108	11,632	12,984	2.5	-11.5
Highway and street	80,327	79,207	75,970	76,360	74,794	85,699	1.4	-6.3
Sewage and waste disposal	22,591	22,220	22,262	22,509	22,442	26,113	1.7	-13.5
Water supply	13,297	13,621	13,535	12,508	12,640	15,015	-2.4	-11.4
Conservation and development	6,521	7,108	6,665	7,089	7,301	6,920	-8.3	-5.8

<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 2011 <sup>P</sup>	Aug 2011 <sup>r</sup>	Jul 2011 <sup>r</sup>	Jun 2011	May 2011	Sep 2010	Year-to-date		
							Sep 2011	Sep 2010	Percent change
<b>Total Construction</b>	<b>73,158</b>	<b>75,295</b>	<b>70,562</b>	<b>72,357</b>	<b>67,296</b>	<b>74,669</b>	<b>580,906</b>	<b>602,013</b>	<b>-3.5</b>
Residential	21,315	22,947	21,682	22,958	22,798	21,646	181,520	187,981	-3.4
Nonresidential	51,842	52,348	48,880	49,400	44,498	53,024	399,386	414,032	-3.5
Lodging	712	701	699	733	692	877	6,371	8,823	-27.8
Office	3,132	3,007	2,892	3,101	2,940	3,441	25,719	28,686	-10.3
Commercial	4,047	4,084	4,105	4,066	3,710	3,681	32,393	30,780	5.2
Health care	3,704	3,509	3,454	3,563	3,318	3,691	29,903	29,639	0.9
Educational	8,068	8,989	8,379	8,215	6,956	8,346	64,688	68,575	-5.7
Religious	380	367	336	319	336	455	3,131	3,917	-20.1
Public safety	934	884	812	888	830	1,033	7,376	8,583	-14.1
Amusement and recreation	1,453	1,381	1,333	1,343	1,368	1,661	11,511	12,709	-9.4
Transportation	3,249	3,370	3,040	3,106	2,959	3,668	26,624	28,564	-6.8
Communication	1,570	1,583	1,460	1,616	1,486	1,555	13,048	13,207	-1.2
Power	7,750	7,884	7,517	7,671	7,085	6,765	62,268	53,966	15.4
Highway and street	9,432	9,316	8,001	7,649	6,358	10,006	57,889	61,097	-5.3
Sewage and waste disposal	2,186	2,110	1,993	2,049	1,920	2,488	17,152	19,349	-11.4
Water supply	1,232	1,299	1,260	1,165	1,117	1,417	10,425	11,422	-8.7
Conservation and development	716	650	548	612	575	786	5,369	5,086	5.6
Manufacturing	3,278	3,217	3,054	3,302	2,848	3,154	25,519	29,629	-13.9
<b>Total Private Construction<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>44,299</b>	<b>46,113</b>	<b>44,125</b>	<b>45,781</b>	<b>43,817</b>	<b>42,950</b>	<b>367,651</b>	<b>373,870</b>	<b>-1.7</b>
Residential	20,535	22,206	21,024	22,194	22,106	20,582	175,182	180,653	-3.0
New single family	10,039	10,087	9,901	9,492	8,952	10,042	79,354	85,775	-7.5
New multi-family	1,297	1,345	1,309	1,230	1,234	1,209	10,753	11,188	-3.9
Nonresidential	23,764	23,907	23,101	23,587	21,711	22,368	192,469	193,217	-0.4
Lodging	662	644	649	677	645	835	5,950	8,554	-30.4
Office	2,027	2,025	1,953	2,043	1,934	2,099	16,879	18,475	-8.6
Commercial	3,691	3,754	3,821	3,761	3,389	3,358	29,804	28,690	3.9
Health care	2,687	2,571	2,541	2,610	2,402	2,734	21,738	22,565	-3.7
Educational	1,197	1,290	1,288	1,318	1,153	1,118	10,154	10,323	-1.6
Religious	378	364	334	317	333	451	3,108	3,876	-19.8
Amusement and recreation	586	577	568	544	583	598	4,683	4,954	-5.5
Transportation	987	993	934	891	837	847	7,842	7,158	9.6
Communication	1,556	1,577	1,451	1,610	1,479	1,553	12,999	13,177	-1.4
Power	6,673	6,835	6,438	6,451	6,047	5,547	53,265	45,209	17.8
Manufacturing	3,197	3,158	3,001	3,238	2,793	3,094	25,009	29,154	-14.2
<b>Total Public Construction<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>28,858</b>	<b>29,182</b>	<b>26,437</b>	<b>26,577</b>	<b>23,479</b>	<b>31,720</b>	<b>213,255</b>	<b>228,143</b>	<b>-6.5</b>
Residential	780	741	659	764	692	1,064	6,338	7,328	-13.5
Nonresidential	28,078	28,441	25,778	25,813	22,787	30,656	206,917	220,815	-6.3
Office	1,105	982	938	1,057	1,007	1,343	8,840	10,211	-13.4
Commercial	356	330	284	305	321	323	2,589	2,091	23.8
Health care	1,018	938	913	953	917	957	8,165	7,075	15.4
Educational	6,871	7,699	7,091	6,898	5,803	7,228	54,534	58,252	-6.4
Public safety	921	866	796	870	813	1,023	7,242	8,399	-13.8
Amusement and recreation	867	804	764	799	785	1,062	6,828	7,755	-12.0
Transportation	2,262	2,377	2,105	2,215	2,122	2,821	18,782	21,406	-12.3
Power	1,077	1,050	1,079	1,220	1,038	1,219	9,003	8,757	2.8
Highway and street	9,429	9,313	7,999	7,649	6,357	9,998	57,864	61,013	-5.2
Sewage and waste disposal	2,137	2,066	1,952	1,995	1,873	2,445	16,735	19,037	-12.1
Water supply	1,181	1,247	1,200	1,114	1,070	1,344	10,000	10,942	-8.6
Conservation and development	709	646	544	609	571	785	5,332	5,063	5.3

<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>0.6</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>1.2</b>
Residential	3.4	2.8	1.9	2.2	2.3
Nonresidential	1.0	0.6	0.8	1.1	1.2
Lodging	5.3	3.8	2.8	2.7	3.7
Office	2.5	2.2	1.9	1.9	2.3
Commercial	3.6	2.5	3.1	1.8	4.1
Health care	2.1	1.4	1.6	1.3	2.3
Educational	2.2	1.7	2.2	2.0	2.7
Religious	6.7	5.4	4.5	4.2	5.8
Public safety	3.3	2.6	2.5	3.1	3.7
Amusement and recreation	4.1	2.6	2.9	2.0	4.2
Transportation	2.7	1.9	2.0	1.6	2.5
Communication	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Power	0.7	0.5	0.9	0.6	1.1
Highway and street	3.7	1.8	2.4	4.0	4.3
Sewage and waste disposal	3.3	2.4	2.3	3.5	3.9
Water supply	3.9	2.6	3.2	3.5	4.5
Conservation and development	2.8	2.0	2.2	2.1	3.6
Manufacturing	1.7	1.6	2.2	1.8	2.5
<b>Total Private Construction</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>1.2</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	10.9	9.4	5.7	5.5	12.0
Nonresidential	1.1	0.8	0.9	0.7	1.2
Lodging	5.5	4.0	2.9	2.9	3.7
Office	3.9	3.4	3.0	2.6	3.6
Commercial	3.9	2.7	3.3	2.0	4.5
Health care	2.7	1.9	1.9	1.6	2.9
Educational	3.7	3.0	3.8	2.1	5.1
Religious	6.8	5.5	4.5	4.2	5.9
Amusement and recreation	4.2	2.9	3.6	2.0	5.0
Transportation	6.6	4.2	9.9	3.6	12.2
Communication	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Power	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.5
Manufacturing	1.7	1.6	2.2	1.8	2.6
<b>Total Public Construction</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>1.7</b>
Residential	3.4	2.8	1.9	2.2	2.3
Nonresidential	1.4	0.8	1.0	1.6	1.7
Office	2.6	1.9	1.9	2.3	2.7
Commercial	8.1	6.5	8.9	4.2	6.4
Health care	2.9	2.0	2.6	1.7	3.2
Educational	2.5	2.0	2.4	2.2	3.0
Public safety	3.3	2.7	2.6	3.1	3.7
Amusement and recreation	5.8	3.7	4.1	3.0	5.6
Transportation	2.8	2.1	2.0	1.7	2.5
Power	5.0	2.5	8.0	5.0	10.8
Highway and street	3.7	1.8	2.4	4.0	4.3
Sewage and waste disposal	3.3	2.5	2.3	3.5	4.0
Water supply	4.1	2.7	3.4	3.5	4.8
Conservation and development	2.8	2.0	2.2	2.1	3.6

NA Not applicable