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MARCH 2013 CONSTRUCTION AT \$856.7 BILLION ANNUAL RATE

The U.S. Census Bureau of the Department of Commerce announced today that construction spending during March 2013 was estimated at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$856.7 billion, 1.7 percent ($\pm 1.5\%$) below the revised February estimate of \$871.2 billion. The March figure is 4.8 percent ($\pm 1.6\%$) above the March 2012 estimate of \$817.8 billion.

During the first 3 months of this year, construction spending amounted to \$181.7 billion, 4.7 percent ($\pm 1.6\%$) above the \$173.6 billion for the same period in 2012.

PRIVATE CONSTRUCTION

Spending on private construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$598.4 billion, 0.6 percent ($\pm 1.2\%$)* below the revised February estimate of \$602.0 billion. Residential construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$294.9 billion in March, 0.4 percent ($\pm 1.3\%$)* above the revised February estimate of \$293.8 billion. Nonresidential construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$303.5 billion in March, 1.5 percent ($\pm 1.2\%$) below the revised February estimate of \$308.2 billion.

PUBLIC CONSTRUCTION

In March, the estimated seasonally adjusted annual rate of public construction spending was \$258.3 billion, 4.1 percent ($\pm 2.5\%$) below the revised February estimate of \$269.2 billion. Educational construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$62.8 billion, 2.9 percent ($\pm 5.9\%$)* below the revised February estimate of \$64.7 billion. Highway construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$73.8 billion, 5.2 percent ($\pm 6.3\%$)* below the revised February estimate of \$77.8 billion.

April 2013 data will be released on June 3, 2013 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 (± 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, 0.9 percent; private construction, 1.2 percent; and public construction, 1.0 percent.

In the May 2013 press release, normal revisions to the unadjusted and seasonally adjusted data will revise back to January 2011.

* 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	Mar 2013 ^P	Feb 2013 ^r	Jan 2013 ^r	Dec 2012	Nov 2012	Mar 2012	Percent change Mar 2013 from -	
							Feb 2013	Mar 2012
Total Construction	856,719	871,231	858,145	893,634	892,448	817,842	-1.7	4.8
Residential	301,638	299,662	293,342	303,549	306,184	256,156	0.7	17.8
Nonresidential	555,080	571,569	564,802	590,086	586,264	561,686	-2.9	-1.2
Lodging	12,414	12,220	11,202	11,608	11,302	11,122	1.6	11.6
Office	36,800	37,548	37,465	37,977	37,989	35,780	-2.0	2.9
Commercial	46,365	47,715	47,468	46,432	47,420	46,425	-2.8	-0.1
Health care	39,308	40,101	39,403	39,943	39,747	40,154	-2.0	-2.1
Educational	79,665	82,177	79,831	82,231	82,262	85,520	-3.1	-6.8
Religious	3,846	3,769	3,789	3,745	3,675	4,019	2.0	-4.3
Public safety	9,064	9,636	9,337	9,570	9,426	10,577	-5.9	-14.3
Amusement and recreation	13,783	13,891	14,516	15,056	15,811	15,820	-0.8	-12.9
Transportation	39,045	39,704	39,086	38,921	39,224	32,793	-1.7	19.1
Communication	16,302	15,597	17,129	16,995	17,153	17,008	4.5	-4.2
Power	98,202	100,976	99,042	116,381	111,662	94,195	-2.7	4.3
Highway and street	73,905	77,896	76,660	77,578	78,309	77,797	-5.1	-5.0
Sewage and waste disposal	18,604	20,761	20,345	21,298	22,895	22,915	-10.4	-18.8
Water supply	12,686	13,549	13,411	13,416	12,995	13,446	-6.4	-5.7
Conservation and development	5,682	6,004	5,965	5,956	6,082	6,323	-5.4	-10.1
Manufacturing	49,411	50,026	50,153	52,978	50,312	47,791	-1.2	3.4
Total Private Construction¹	598,418	602,011	592,890	624,682	618,048	544,797	-0.6	9.8
Residential	294,948	293,776	287,134	297,136	299,486	249,452	0.4	18.2
New single family	161,968	159,431	151,331	146,340	144,457	117,712	1.6	37.6
New multi-family	27,536	27,451	27,847	26,010	24,365	18,028	0.3	52.7
Nonresidential	303,470	308,235	305,756	327,546	318,562	295,345	-1.5	2.8
Lodging	12,040	11,759	10,710	11,227	10,860	10,225	2.4	17.8
Office	28,824	28,603	28,907	28,728	28,999	24,552	0.8	17.4
Commercial	43,649	45,052	44,726	43,839	44,347	43,234	-3.1	1.0
Health care	29,225	30,163	29,115	28,750	28,640	29,560	-3.1	-1.1
Educational	16,858	17,475	16,974	17,292	16,407	17,465	-3.5	-3.5
Religious	3,823	3,741	3,770	3,709	3,667	3,989	2.2	-4.2
Amusement and recreation	5,541	5,496	5,639	6,275	6,966	6,414	0.8	-13.6
Transportation	10,544	10,428	10,548	10,466	10,710	9,346	1.1	12.8
Communication	16,011	15,439	16,968	16,841	16,972	16,696	3.7	-4.1
Power	87,376	89,402	87,780	106,607	99,869	85,778	-2.3	1.9
Manufacturing	48,640	49,168	49,444	52,197	49,555	46,762	-1.1	4.0
Total Public Construction²	258,301	269,220	265,255	268,953	274,399	273,045	-4.1	-5.4
Residential	6,691	5,887	6,208	6,413	6,698	6,704	13.7	-0.2
Nonresidential	251,611	263,334	259,047	262,540	267,702	266,341	-4.5	-5.5
Office	7,976	8,945	8,558	9,249	8,991	11,229	-10.8	-29.0
Commercial	2,717	2,663	2,741	2,594	3,073	3,191	2.0	-14.9
Health care	10,083	9,938	10,288	11,193	11,107	10,594	1.5	-4.8
Educational	62,806	64,702	62,857	64,939	65,855	68,055	-2.9	-7.7
Public safety	8,944	9,475	9,208	9,425	9,325	10,486	-5.6	-14.7
Amusement and recreation	8,241	8,394	8,877	8,781	8,845	9,407	-1.8	-12.4
Transportation	28,501	29,276	28,538	28,455	28,514	23,447	-2.6	21.6
Power	10,826	11,574	11,262	9,774	11,792	8,417	-6.5	28.6
Highway and street	73,778	77,815	76,583	77,428	78,122	77,687	-5.2	-5.0
Sewage and waste disposal	18,244	20,025	19,752	20,457	22,052	22,254	-8.9	-18.0
Water supply	12,377	13,041	13,062	12,997	12,619	13,069	-5.1	-5.3
Conservation and development	5,659	5,981	5,939	5,897	6,018	6,237	-5.4	-9.3

^PPreliminary ^rRevised

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

²Includes 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	Mar 2013 ^p	Feb 2013 ^r	Jan 2013 ^r	Dec 2012	Nov 2012	Mar 2012	Year-to-date		
							Mar 2013	Mar 2012	Percent change
Total Construction	63,500	59,084	59,090	69,520	76,737	60,939	181,673	173,582	4.7
Residential	22,345	19,174	19,424	22,004	25,852	18,755	60,943	52,356	16.4
Nonresidential	41,155	39,909	39,665	47,516	50,885	42,184	120,730	121,226	-0.4
Lodging	1,035	1,018	934	967	942	927	2,986	2,534	17.8
Office	2,900	2,814	2,837	2,987	3,205	2,865	8,552	8,144	5.0
Commercial	3,621	3,511	3,406	3,505	3,949	3,646	10,538	10,402	1.3
Health care	3,198	3,087	3,058	3,245	3,351	3,264	9,343	9,578	-2.5
Educational	5,861	5,674	5,518	5,907	6,441	6,363	17,053	18,255	-6.6
Religious	302	293	290	303	323	321	886	973	-8.9
Public safety	708	720	715	777	813	836	2,143	2,470	-13.2
Amusement and recreation	1,069	995	1,051	1,162	1,367	1,237	3,114	3,572	-12.8
Transportation	2,834	2,701	2,708	3,082	3,430	2,435	8,242	7,181	14.8
Communication	1,237	1,103	1,195	1,614	1,543	1,363	3,535	3,780	-6.5
Power	7,681	7,593	7,571	11,333	10,710	7,500	22,845	22,284	2.5
Highway and street	3,968	3,758	3,718	4,764	6,805	4,333	11,444	11,826	-3.2
Sewage and waste disposal	1,411	1,461	1,437	1,678	2,025	1,760	4,310	5,079	-15.1
Water supply	961	981	948	1,032	1,124	1,041	2,890	3,030	-4.6
Conservation and development	431	442	448	489	516	499	1,322	1,390	-4.9
Manufacturing	3,939	3,758	3,832	4,673	4,343	3,797	11,529	10,730	7.4
Total Private Construction¹	45,740	41,804	42,025	50,206	53,640	41,788	129,570	118,554	9.3
Residential	21,839	18,749	18,963	21,489	25,288	18,246	59,551	50,768	17.3
New single family	12,489	10,369	10,332	10,761	12,606	9,018	33,191	24,516	35.4
New multi-family	2,260	2,148	2,115	2,006	2,048	1,476	6,522	4,148	57.2
Nonresidential	23,902	23,055	23,063	28,717	28,352	23,542	70,019	67,787	3.3
Lodging	1,003	980	893	936	905	852	2,876	2,355	22.1
Office	2,283	2,166	2,205	2,248	2,440	1,969	6,654	5,582	19.2
Commercial	3,411	3,308	3,201	3,291	3,686	3,393	9,920	9,669	2.6
Health care	2,365	2,308	2,244	2,333	2,442	2,389	6,916	7,025	-1.6
Educational	1,336	1,283	1,239	1,294	1,295	1,404	3,858	3,820	1.0
Religious	301	291	289	300	322	319	880	967	-9.0
Amusement and recreation	461	428	442	510	587	537	1,331	1,553	-14.3
Transportation	717	649	727	887	988	667	2,094	1,974	6.1
Communication	1,213	1,090	1,182	1,601	1,528	1,337	3,484	3,718	-6.3
Power	6,863	6,763	6,784	10,581	9,735	6,859	20,411	20,304	0.5
Manufacturing	3,875	3,686	3,773	4,607	4,280	3,712	11,334	10,501	7.9
Total Public Construction²	17,760	17,279	17,064	19,314	23,097	19,151	52,103	55,028	-5.3
Residential	506	425	461	515	564	509	1,392	1,589	-12.4
Nonresidential	17,254	16,854	16,603	18,799	22,533	18,642	50,711	53,439	-5.1
Office	617	649	633	740	765	896	1,899	2,562	-25.9
Commercial	210	203	205	214	263	253	618	733	-15.7
Health care	833	779	814	912	909	875	2,426	2,553	-5.0
Educational	4,524	4,392	4,280	4,612	5,146	4,958	13,195	14,434	-8.6
Public safety	698	708	706	767	805	828	2,112	2,441	-13.5
Amusement and recreation	608	567	609	652	780	700	1,784	2,019	-11.6
Transportation	2,116	2,051	1,981	2,194	2,442	1,768	6,149	5,206	18.1
Power	818	830	786	752	975	641	2,434	1,980	22.9
Highway and street	3,958	3,754	3,713	4,753	6,786	4,324	11,425	11,802	-3.2
Sewage and waste disposal	1,381	1,406	1,392	1,611	1,947	1,705	4,180	4,927	-15.2
Water supply	940	950	924	996	1,089	1,014	2,813	2,938	-4.3
Conservation and development	429	440	446	484	511	491	1,316	1,367	-3.7

^pPreliminary ^rRevised

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

²Includes 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
Total Construction	1.0	0.8	1.0	0.9	1.0
Residential	4.5	3.9	4.8	3.6	5.2
Nonresidential	1.0	0.8	1.0	0.9	1.0
Lodging	2.9	2.8	4.6	1.8	4.6
Office	3.6	3.4	3.8	1.7	3.6
Commercial	3.3	2.5	4.1	2.2	3.8
Health care	2.1	1.7	2.0	1.9	1.9
Educational	2.3	2.1	2.3	2.9	2.7
Religious	7.4	8.6	10.0	4.4	11.3
Public safety	3.1	3.0	2.9	2.9	3.1
Amusement and recreation	4.8	3.4	3.5	3.2	3.9
Transportation	2.5	1.8	3.0	1.9	3.1
Communication	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Power	0.4	0.4	0.8	0.3	0.5
Highway and street	3.6	3.0	3.8	3.8	3.7
Sewage and waste disposal	3.4	3.2	3.5	3.8	3.7
Water supply	3.9	4.0	5.3	4.0	5.8
Conservation and development	3.9	4.8	4.4	4.4	3.0
Manufacturing	1.3	1.5	1.7	1.0	1.5
Total Private Construction	1.1	0.9	1.3	0.7	1.3
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	7.8	5.7	10.1	2.7	8.9
Nonresidential	1.1	0.9	1.3	0.7	1.3
Lodging	2.9	2.9	4.8	1.8	4.9
Office	5.1	4.6	5.9	2.1	5.5
Commercial	3.5	2.5	4.6	2.2	4.0
Health care	2.8	2.3	2.6	2.4	2.4
Educational	3.4	3.0	4.1	2.0	3.9
Religious	7.4	8.6	10.1	4.4	11.4
Amusement and recreation	6.0	4.9	4.8	2.6	5.3
Transportation	5.5	3.7	4.7	3.4	5.0
Communication	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Power	0.2	0.2	0.7	0.1	0.2
Manufacturing	1.3	1.6	1.8	1.0	1.6
Total Public Construction	1.4	1.1	1.3	1.5	1.4
Residential	4.5	3.9	4.8	3.6	5.2
Nonresidential	1.4	1.1	1.4	1.5	1.4
Office	2.6	2.0	1.9	2.2	2.2
Commercial	9.3	11.1	8.7	8.6	10.1
Health care	2.4	2.0	2.7	2.6	2.8
Educational	2.8	2.5	2.7	3.6	3.1
Public safety	3.1	3.0	2.9	3.0	3.1
Amusement and recreation	6.7	4.5	4.7	4.9	5.3
Transportation	2.7	2.0	3.3	2.1	3.5
Power	5.0	4.5	7.2	2.7	8.9
Highway and street	3.6	3.0	3.8	3.8	3.7
Sewage and waste disposal	3.5	3.1	3.5	3.7	3.8
Water supply	4.0	4.1	5.5	4.2	5.9
Conservation and development	4.0	4.8	4.4	4.4	3.0

NA Not applicable