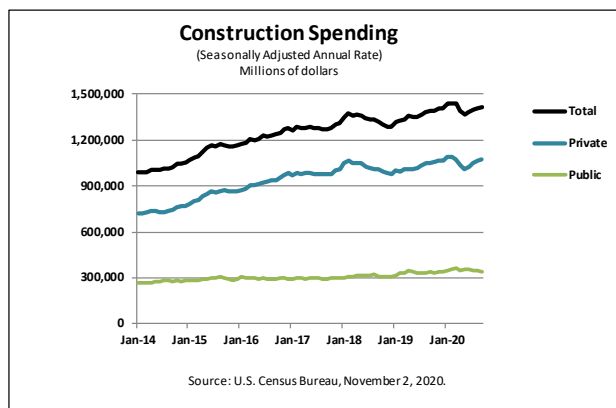


MONTHLY CONSTRUCTION SPENDING, SEPTEMBER 2020

Release Number: CB20-168

November 2, 2020 — The U.S. Census Bureau announced the following value put in place construction statistics for September 2020:

 CONSTRUCTION SPENDING	
SEPTEMBER 2020	\$1,414.0 billion
AUGUST 2020 (revised)	\$1,410.4 billion
Next release: December 1, 2020	
Seasonally Adjusted Annual Rate Source: U.S. Census Bureau, November 2, 2020	



Total Construction

Construction spending during September 2020 was estimated at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$1,414.0 billion, 0.3 percent (± 1.0 percent)* above the revised August estimate of \$1,410.4 billion. The September figure is 1.5 percent (± 1.3 percent) above the September 2019 estimate of \$1,393.3 billion. During the first nine months of this year, construction spending amounted to \$1,058.5 billion, 4.1 percent (± 1.0 percent) above the \$1,016.7 billion for the same period in 2019.

Private Construction

Spending on private construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$1,074.9 billion, 0.9 percent (± 0.7 percent) above the revised August estimate of \$1,065.6 billion. Residential construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$610.9 billion in September, 2.8 percent (± 1.3 percent) above the revised August estimate of \$594.3 billion. Nonresidential construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$464.1 billion in September, 1.5 percent (± 0.7 percent) below the revised August estimate of \$471.3 billion.

Public Construction

In September, the estimated seasonally adjusted annual rate of public construction spending was \$339.1 billion, 1.7 percent (± 1.5 percent) below the revised August estimate of \$344.8 billion. Educational construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$85.3 billion, 2.0 percent (± 1.8 percent) above the revised August estimate of \$83.7 billion. Highway construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$89.3 billion, 5.4 percent (± 4.1 percent) below the revised August estimate of \$94.5 billion.

Data Inquiries

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The October 2020 Monthly Construction Spending Report is scheduled for release on December 1, 2020. View the full schedule in the Economic Briefing Room: <www.census.gov/economic-indicators/>. The full text and tables for this release can be found at <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 percentage 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, 1.00 percent; private construction, 1.33 percent; and public construction, 0.87 percent. Explanations of confidence intervals and sampling variability can be found on our website at <www.census.gov/construction/c30/meth.html/>.

RESOURCES

API

The Census Bureau's application programming interface lets developers create custom apps to reach new users and makes key demographic, socio-economic and housing statistics more accessible than ever before. <www.census.gov/developers/>

FRED Mobile App



Receive the latest updates on the nation's key economic indicators by downloading the FRED App <<https://fred.stlouisfed.org/fred-mobile/>> for both Apple and Android devices. FRED, the signature database of the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, now incorporates the Census Bureau's 13 economic indicators.

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* The 90 percent confidence interval includes zero. There is insufficient evidence to conclude that the actual change is different from zero.

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U.S. Department of Commerce
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU
census.gov

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 2020 ^p	Aug 2020 ^r	Jul 2020 ^r	Jun 2020	May 2020	Sep 2019	Percent change Sep 2020 from -	
							Aug 2020	Sep 2019
Total Construction	1,414,027	1,410,438	1,398,952	1,383,647	1,369,363	1,393,304	0.3	1.5
Residential	619,761	603,239	584,418	562,612	547,787	562,791	2.7	10.1
Nonresidential	794,266	807,199	814,534	821,034	821,576	830,512	-1.6	-4.4
Lodging	27,893	28,353	28,538	29,320	29,094	32,951	-1.6	-15.4
Office	80,985	81,140	81,336	81,816	81,097	86,747	-0.2	-6.6
Commercial	81,330	82,894	84,045	83,629	84,191	80,838	-1.9	0.6
Health care	47,059	47,155	47,655	48,109	46,734	45,924	-0.2	2.5
Educational	102,768	101,209	101,766	101,486	104,480	107,995	1.5	-4.8
Religious	3,058	2,980	2,899	2,857	3,022	3,233	2.6	-5.4
Public safety	14,649	15,506	16,577	15,345	15,981	11,026	-5.5	32.9
Amusement and recreation	26,396	27,043	26,870	26,802	27,243	28,505	-2.4	-7.4
Transportation	57,325	57,721	57,190	57,502	57,068	58,420	-0.7	-1.9
Communication	22,485	22,858	22,935	22,764	22,982	22,430	-1.6	0.2
Power	115,094	117,762	119,681	118,545	118,001	121,592	-2.3	-5.3
Highway and street	89,543	94,796	96,496	102,330	105,181	95,808	-5.5	-6.5
Sewage and waste disposal	26,826	26,713	27,590	27,507	26,108	28,577	0.4	-6.1
Water supply	18,880	19,029	19,128	19,315	18,620	16,884	-0.8	11.8
Conservation and development	7,671	8,277	8,646	8,971	8,603	9,379	-7.3	-18.2
Manufacturing	72,304	73,762	73,182	74,736	73,172	80,204	-2.0	-9.8
Total Private Construction¹	1,074,925	1,065,608	1,049,661	1,028,280	1,010,666	1,049,595	0.9	2.4
Residential	610,871	594,264	575,451	553,721	539,555	555,879	2.8	9.9
New single family	305,843	289,302	274,082	262,230	266,436	282,651	5.7	8.2
New multifamily	88,134	87,095	86,099	81,410	79,047	77,931	1.2	13.1
Nonresidential	464,054	471,343	474,210	474,559	471,110	493,716	-1.5	-6.0
Lodging	26,812	27,233	27,392	28,181	28,045	31,553	-1.5	-15.0
Office	69,971	69,759	69,559	70,057	69,771	75,100	0.3	-6.8
Commercial	77,549	79,070	80,053	79,796	80,023	76,669	-1.9	1.1
Health care	37,677	37,994	38,112	38,445	37,308	36,271	-0.8	3.9
Educational	17,423	17,533	17,555	16,991	16,140	21,039	-0.6	-17.2
Religious	3,053	2,971	2,899	2,857	3,022	3,233	2.8	-5.6
Amusement and recreation	11,858	12,183	12,157	12,254	13,194	14,904	-2.7	-20.4
Transportation	15,657	15,921	16,284	15,755	15,549	17,129	-1.7	-8.6
Communication	22,354	22,729	22,796	22,622	22,898	22,324	-1.6	0.1
Power	108,580	111,077	113,030	111,697	110,893	113,991	-2.2	-4.7
Manufacturing	71,922	73,428	72,895	74,333	72,784	79,887	-2.1	-10.0
Total Public Construction²	339,102	344,831	349,291	355,366	358,697	343,708	-1.7	-1.3
Residential	8,890	8,975	8,967	8,892	8,231	6,912	-0.9	28.6
Nonresidential	330,212	335,856	340,324	346,475	350,466	336,796	-1.7	-2.0
Office	11,014	11,381	11,776	11,759	11,326	11,647	-3.2	-5.4
Commercial	3,780	3,825	3,993	3,833	4,169	4,169	-1.2	-9.3
Health care	9,382	9,162	9,543	9,664	9,426	9,653	2.4	-2.8
Educational	85,345	83,676	84,210	84,496	88,341	86,956	2.0	-1.9
Public safety	14,565	15,407	16,475	15,248	15,879	10,853	-5.5	34.2
Amusement and recreation	14,538	14,861	14,713	14,548	14,049	13,601	-2.2	6.9
Transportation	41,669	41,800	40,906	41,747	41,519	41,291	-0.3	0.9
Power	6,514	6,685	6,651	6,848	7,108	7,600	-2.6	-14.3
Highway and street	89,330	94,477	96,202	101,929	104,816	95,379	-5.4	-6.3
Sewage and waste disposal	26,560	26,323	27,170	27,071	25,798	27,982	0.9	-5.1
Water supply	18,332	18,501	18,542	18,772	17,999	16,525	-0.9	10.9
Conservation and development	7,583	8,168	8,572	8,876	8,517	9,319	-7.2	-18.6

^p Preliminary ^r Revised

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.

Data are at an annual rate, adjusted for seasonality but not price changes. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Construction Spending, November 2, 2020.
Table 3 provides estimated measures of sampling variability. Additional information on the survey methodology may be found at
<www.census.gov/construction/c30/meth.html>

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 2020 ^p	Aug 2020 ^r	Jul 2020 ^r	Jun 2020	May 2020	Sep 2019	Year-to-date		
							Sep 2020	Sep 2019	Percent change
Total Construction	129,103	130,462	128,714	126,016	116,902	126,732	1,058,514	1,016,680	4.1
Residential	56,211	56,147	54,243	51,797	47,274	51,033	444,034	410,783	8.1
Nonresidential	72,892	74,315	74,472	74,219	69,628	75,700	614,481	605,897	1.4
Lodging	2,372	2,403	2,413	2,513	2,453	2,798	22,240	24,846	-10.5
Office	7,172	7,128	6,998	7,099	6,880	7,708	61,115	63,321	-3.5
Commercial	7,291	7,316	7,283	7,354	7,190	7,187	62,734	59,557	5.3
Health care	4,162	4,011	4,038	4,117	3,961	4,063	35,492	33,427	6.2
Educational	9,151	10,274	10,640	10,102	8,878	9,630	80,004	80,403	-0.5
Religious	280	273	251	244	253	300	2,307	2,681	-14.0
Public safety	1,469	1,341	1,375	1,332	1,306	1,065	11,015	7,522	46.4
Amusement and recreation	2,369	2,408	2,362	2,359	2,344	2,558	20,545	21,361	-3.8
Transportation	5,256	5,242	5,069	5,161	4,883	5,324	42,417	42,440	-0.1
Communication	1,937	1,899	1,900	1,876	1,831	1,905	16,668	16,214	2.8
Power	9,751	9,962	10,044	10,125	9,919	10,338	89,756	81,639	9.9
Highway and street	10,331	10,809	10,981	10,548	9,068	10,656	74,983	75,209	-0.3
Sewage and waste disposal	2,499	2,489	2,483	2,490	2,283	2,667	19,804	19,466	1.7
Water supply	1,736	1,706	1,712	1,765	1,636	1,525	13,961	11,560	20.8
Conservation and development	788	756	719	739	692	987	6,438	6,859	-6.1
Manufacturing	6,328	6,298	6,205	6,395	6,052	6,990	55,004	59,393	-7.4
Total Private Construction¹	95,709	95,954	93,907	91,845	86,281	93,202	794,471	764,944	3.9
Residential	55,392	55,333	53,443	50,972	46,569	50,390	437,747	406,110	7.8
New single family	28,372	26,779	24,904	23,057	22,586	26,248	214,752	206,932	3.8
New multifamily	7,551	7,540	7,256	7,032	6,729	6,612	62,241	61,003	2.0
Nonresidential	40,317	40,621	40,464	40,873	39,712	42,811	356,724	358,835	-0.6
Lodging	2,282	2,310	2,317	2,418	2,366	2,681	21,444	24,025	-10.7
Office	6,168	6,102	5,996	6,048	5,902	6,632	52,620	55,213	-4.7
Commercial	6,939	6,987	6,952	7,013	6,841	6,786	59,816	56,500	5.9
Health care	3,306	3,227	3,219	3,280	3,168	3,191	28,575	26,462	8.0
Educational	1,447	1,604	1,626	1,601	1,442	1,746	13,493	16,388	-17.7
Religious	279	272	251	244	253	300	2,306	2,681	-14.0
Amusement and recreation	1,022	1,063	1,051	1,055	1,109	1,300	9,793	11,283	-13.2
Transportation	1,370	1,390	1,390	1,385	1,350	1,493	11,639	12,820	-9.2
Communication	1,926	1,889	1,888	1,864	1,824	1,896	16,586	16,111	2.9
Power	9,172	9,377	9,459	9,462	9,308	9,670	84,637	76,829	10.2
Manufacturing	6,296	6,270	6,181	6,361	6,019	6,964	54,753	59,152	-7.4
Total Public Construction²	33,394	34,508	34,807	34,171	30,621	33,531	264,044	251,736	4.9
Residential	820	814	800	825	705	642	6,287	4,673	34.5
Nonresidential	32,574	33,695	34,007	33,346	29,916	32,888	257,757	247,062	4.3
Office	1,004	1,026	1,003	1,051	978	1,076	8,495	8,107	4.8
Commercial	353	329	331	341	349	401	2,918	3,057	-4.5
Health care	856	784	819	838	793	872	6,916	6,965	-0.7
Educational	7,704	8,670	9,013	8,501	7,436	7,884	66,511	64,016	3.9
Public safety	1,462	1,333	1,367	1,324	1,296	1,051	10,932	7,335	49.0
Amusement and recreation	1,347	1,345	1,311	1,305	1,235	1,258	10,752	10,078	6.7
Transportation	3,886	3,853	3,679	3,776	3,533	3,831	30,778	29,619	3.9
Power	579	585	585	663	611	668	5,120	4,810	6.4
Highway and street	10,311	10,780	10,953	10,508	9,037	10,614	74,721	74,856	-0.2
Sewage and waste disposal	2,474	2,452	2,446	2,452	2,255	2,609	19,517	18,941	3.0
Water supply	1,686	1,659	1,658	1,717	1,583	1,492	13,591	11,299	20.3
Conservation and development	781	747	713	732	685	982	6,379	6,813	-6.4

^p Preliminary ^r Revised

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.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Construction Spending, November 2, 2020.

Table 3 provides estimated measures of sampling variability. Additional information on the survey methodology may be found at
<www.census.gov/construction/c30/meth.html>

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	0.7	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.8
Residential	4.4	4.2	6.2	1.3	11.8
Nonresidential	0.7	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.8
Lodging	1.4	1.2	1.7	0.7	1.3
Office	1.5	1.2	1.4	1.0	1.6
Commercial	1.7	1.1	1.6	0.8	1.6
Health care	1.7	1.6	1.9	1.3	2.3
Educational	1.7	1.4	1.8	1.0	2.2
Religious	6.5	5.9	6.8	4.3	7.6
Public safety	3.1	2.2	4.4	1.1	3.9
Amusement and recreation	2.1	1.7	1.9	1.4	2.4
Transportation	1.2	0.9	1.3	0.8	1.6
Communication	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Power	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.4
Highway and street	2.8	1.9	2.7	2.5	3.6
Sewage and waste disposal	3.0	2.1	3.2	2.8	5.3
Water supply	3.9	2.6	4.3	2.8	4.8
Conservation and development	2.1	1.5	2.0	1.4	3.0
Manufacturing	1.2	1.3	1.3	0.5	0.9
Total Private Construction	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.4	0.6
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 multifamily	5.6	5.2	3.0	1.2	3.1
Nonresidential	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.4	0.6
Lodging	1.4	1.2	1.7	0.7	1.3
Office	1.6	1.3	1.5	1.2	1.7
Commercial	1.7	1.1	1.6	0.8	1.6
Health care	2.1	1.9	2.3	1.6	2.6
Educational	2.6	2.1	2.2	1.8	2.3
Religious	6.5	5.9	6.8	4.3	7.6
Amusement and recreation	2.8	2.4	2.0	1.9	2.4
Transportation	1.2	1.1	1.8	0.4	1.8
Communication	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Power	0.1	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.2
Manufacturing	1.3	1.3	1.3	0.5	0.9
Total Public Construction	1.1	0.8	1.2	0.9	1.5
Residential	4.4	4.2	6.2	1.3	11.8
Nonresidential	1.1	0.8	1.2	0.9	1.6
Office	2.6	3.0	4.0	1.3	5.0
Commercial	7.0	6.3	7.2	2.4	6.1
Health care	2.3	1.6	2.2	1.8	3.3
Educational	1.9	1.6	2.3	1.1	2.7
Public safety	3.1	2.2	4.5	1.1	3.9
Amusement and recreation	3.0	2.4	3.5	2.0	4.4
Transportation	1.4	1.0	1.6	0.9	2.0
Power	6.9	3.9	9.0	6.1	9.5
Highway and street	2.8	1.9	2.7	2.5	3.6
Sewage and waste disposal	3.0	2.1	3.3	2.8	5.5
Water supply	4.0	2.6	4.3	2.9	4.8
Conservation and development	2.1	1.5	2.0	1.4	3.0

NA Not applicable

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Construction Spending, November 2, 2020. Additional information on the survey methodology may be found at www.census.gov/construction/c30/meth.html