

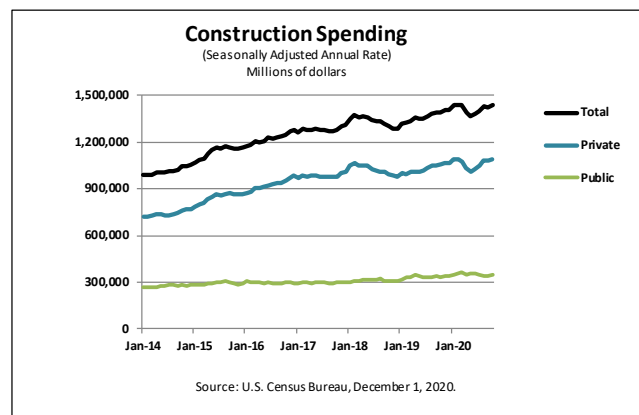
FOR RELEASE AT 10:00 AM EST, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2020

## MONTHLY CONSTRUCTION SPENDING, OCTOBER 2020

Release Number: CB20-184

**December 1, 2020** — The U.S. Census Bureau announced the following value put in place construction statistics for October 2020:

 <b>CONSTRUCTION SPENDING</b>	
<b>OCTOBER 2020</b>	<b>\$1,438.5 billion</b>
<b>SEPTEMBER 2020 (revised)</b>	<b>\$1,420.4 billion</b>
<b>Next release: January 4, 2021</b>	
Seasonally Adjusted Annual Rate Source: U.S. Census Bureau, December 1, 2020	



### Total Construction

Construction spending during October 2020 was estimated at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$1,438.5 billion, 1.3 percent ( $\pm 1.0$  percent) above the revised September estimate of \$1,420.4 billion. The October figure is 3.7 percent ( $\pm 1.3$  percent) above the October 2019 estimate of \$1,386.8 billion. During the first ten months of this year, construction spending amounted to \$1,189.6 billion, 4.3 percent ( $\pm 1.0$  percent) above the \$1,140.4 billion for the same period in 2019.

### Private Construction

Spending on private construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$1,093.7 billion, 1.4 percent ( $\pm 0.7$  percent) above the revised September estimate of \$1,078.9 billion. Residential construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$637.1 billion in October, 2.9 percent ( $\pm 1.3$  percent) above the revised September estimate of \$619.1 billion. Nonresidential construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$456.6 billion in October, 0.7 percent ( $\pm 0.7$  percent)\* below the revised September estimate of \$459.9 billion.

### Public Construction

In October, the estimated seasonally adjusted annual rate of public construction spending was \$344.8 billion, 1.0 percent ( $\pm 1.6$  percent)\* above the revised September estimate of \$341.4 billion. Educational construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$86.4 billion, 1.1 percent ( $\pm 2.5$  percent)\* above the revised September estimate of \$85.4 billion. Highway construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$92.6 billion, 1.6 percent ( $\pm 4.3$  percent)\* above the revised September estimate of \$91.2 billion.

#### Data Inquiries

Economic Indicator Division, Construction Expenditures Branch  
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#### Media Inquiries

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U.S. Department of Commerce  
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU  
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The November 2020 Monthly Construction Spending Report is scheduled for release on January 4, 2021. View the full schedule in the Economic Briefing Room: <[www.census.gov/economic-indicators/](http://www.census.gov/economic-indicators/)>. The full text and tables for this release can be found at <[www.census.gov/constructionspending/](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 (±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/](http://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/](http://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.

#### Data Inquiries

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**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 2020 <sup>p</sup>	Sep 2020 <sup>r</sup>	Aug 2020 <sup>r</sup>	Jul 2020	Jun 2020	Oct 2019	Percent change Oct 2020 from -	
							Sep 2020	Oct 2019
<b>Total Construction</b>	<b>1,438,515</b>	<b>1,420,355</b>	<b>1,426,884</b>	<b>1,398,952</b>	<b>1,383,647</b>	<b>1,386,826</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>3.7</b>
Residential	646,109	628,164	624,410	584,418	562,612	563,877	2.9	14.6
Nonresidential	792,407	792,191	802,475	814,534	821,034	822,950	0.0	-3.7
Lodging	26,063	26,799	27,550	28,538	29,320	34,032	-2.7	-23.4
Office	80,046	80,620	80,914	81,336	81,816	86,493	-0.7	-7.5
Commercial	82,013	82,710	83,566	84,045	83,629	82,441	-0.8	-0.5
Health care	47,786	47,562	48,269	47,655	48,109	46,913	0.5	1.9
Educational	103,488	102,563	100,845	101,766	101,486	108,325	0.9	-4.5
Religious	3,044	3,109	3,115	2,899	2,857	3,512	-2.1	-13.3
Public safety	16,221	14,883	15,675	16,577	15,345	11,624	9.0	39.5
Amusement and recreation	26,216	26,491	26,792	26,870	26,802	28,926	-1.0	-9.4
Transportation	56,782	56,239	55,928	57,190	57,502	56,461	1.0	0.6
Communication	22,593	22,504	22,877	22,935	22,764	21,959	0.4	2.9
Power	113,079	113,789	117,016	119,681	118,545	123,136	-0.6	-8.2
Highway and street	92,881	91,407	94,161	96,496	102,330	88,235	1.6	5.3
Sewage and waste disposal	25,828	26,618	26,486	27,590	27,507	25,534	-3.0	1.2
Water supply	18,735	18,807	19,106	19,128	19,315	17,240	-0.4	8.7
Conservation and development	7,889	7,705	8,250	8,646	8,971	9,064	2.4	-13.0
Manufacturing	69,742	70,385	71,924	73,182	74,736	79,057	-0.9	-11.8
<b>Total Private Construction<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>1,093,730</b>	<b>1,078,944</b>	<b>1,083,208</b>	<b>1,049,661</b>	<b>1,028,280</b>	<b>1,054,246</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>3.7</b>
Residential <sup>2</sup>	637,138	619,090	615,396	575,451	553,721	556,693	2.9	14.5
New single family	324,023	306,935	290,128	274,082	262,230	286,035	5.6	13.3
New multifamily	90,162	89,110	87,311	86,099	81,410	76,126	1.2	18.4
Nonresidential	456,592	459,854	467,812	474,210	474,559	497,553	-0.7	-8.2
Lodging	24,983	25,791	26,468	27,392	28,181	32,587	-3.1	-23.3
Office	69,558	69,729	69,639	69,559	70,057	75,369	-0.2	-7.7
Commercial	77,922	78,693	79,601	80,053	79,796	78,484	-1.0	-0.7
Health care	37,700	37,731	38,967	38,112	38,445	37,558	-0.1	0.4
Educational	17,098	17,136	17,139	17,555	16,991	20,231	-0.2	-15.5
Religious	3,043	3,106	3,107	2,899	2,857	3,512	-2.0	-13.4
Amusement and recreation	11,791	11,814	12,124	12,157	12,254	15,351	-0.2	-23.2
Transportation	14,802	14,688	14,504	16,284	15,755	16,378	0.8	-9.6
Communication	22,429	22,347	22,721	22,796	22,622	21,867	0.4	2.6
Power	106,532	107,409	110,446	113,030	111,697	115,809	-0.8	-8.0
Manufacturing	69,442	70,012	71,581	72,895	74,333	78,710	-0.8	-11.8
<b>Total Public Construction<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>344,785</b>	<b>341,411</b>	<b>343,677</b>	<b>349,291</b>	<b>355,366</b>	<b>332,580</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>3.7</b>
Residential	8,971	9,073	9,013	8,967	8,892	7,183	-1.1	24.9
Nonresidential	335,814	332,338	334,663	340,324	346,475	325,397	1.0	3.2
Office	10,488	10,891	11,274	11,776	11,759	11,125	-3.7	-5.7
Commercial	4,091	4,017	3,964	3,993	3,833	3,957	1.8	3.4
Health care	10,086	9,831	9,302	9,543	9,664	9,356	2.6	7.8
Educational	86,390	85,427	83,706	84,210	84,496	88,094	1.1	-1.9
Public safety	16,120	14,784	15,563	16,475	15,248	11,474	9.0	40.5
Amusement and recreation	14,425	14,677	14,668	14,713	14,548	13,574	-1.7	6.3
Transportation	41,980	41,551	41,424	40,906	41,747	40,083	1.0	4.7
Power	6,547	6,380	6,571	6,651	6,848	7,327	2.6	-10.6
Highway and street	92,643	91,156	93,840	96,202	101,929	87,761	1.6	5.6
Sewage and waste disposal	25,435	26,249	26,069	27,170	27,071	24,913	-3.1	2.1
Water supply	18,267	18,256	18,562	18,542	18,772	16,883	0.1	8.2
Conservation and development	7,797	7,579	8,129	8,572	8,876	8,966	2.9	-13.0

<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 private residential improvements.

<sup>3</sup>Includes 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, December 1, 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](http://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	Oct 2020 <sup>p</sup>	Sep 2020 <sup>r</sup>	Aug 2020 <sup>r</sup>	Jul 2020	Jun 2020	Oct 2019	Year-to-date		
							Oct 2020	Oct 2019	Percent change
<b>Total Construction</b>	<b>128,008</b>	<b>130,251</b>	<b>132,381</b>	<b>128,714</b>	<b>126,016</b>	<b>123,755</b>	<b>1,189,590</b>	<b>1,140,434</b>	<b>4.3</b>
Residential	57,259	57,470	58,458	54,243	51,797	49,732	504,861	460,515	9.6
Nonresidential	70,749	72,781	73,924	74,472	74,219	74,023	684,728	679,920	0.7
Lodging	2,199	2,284	2,340	2,413	2,513	2,902	24,288	27,748	-12.5
Office	7,084	7,141	7,108	6,998	7,099	7,670	68,148	70,990	-4.0
Commercial	7,267	7,455	7,373	7,283	7,354	7,408	70,220	66,965	4.9
Health care	4,180	4,199	4,116	4,038	4,117	4,137	39,813	37,564	6.0
Educational	8,626	9,129	10,256	10,640	10,102	9,079	88,589	89,482	-1.0
Religious	274	286	288	251	244	320	2,603	3,001	-13.3
Public safety	1,393	1,486	1,354	1,375	1,332	1,028	12,437	8,550	45.5
Amusement and recreation	2,329	2,384	2,387	2,362	2,359	2,586	22,868	23,947	-4.5
Transportation	5,175	5,162	5,073	5,069	5,161	5,151	47,329	47,591	-0.6
Communication	1,936	1,940	1,902	1,900	1,876	1,924	18,608	18,138	2.6
Power	9,757	9,628	9,892	10,044	10,125	10,672	99,320	92,311	7.6
Highway and street	9,712	10,522	10,750	10,981	10,548	9,489	84,827	84,698	0.2
Sewage and waste disposal	2,409	2,485	2,475	2,483	2,490	2,418	22,185	21,885	1.4
Water supply	1,661	1,731	1,715	1,712	1,765	1,528	15,626	13,088	19.4
Conservation and development	647	793	754	719	739	747	7,087	7,606	-6.8
Manufacturing	6,102	6,158	6,144	6,205	6,395	6,963	60,780	66,356	-8.4
<b>Total Private Construction<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>96,314</b>	<b>96,624</b>	<b>97,961</b>	<b>93,907</b>	<b>91,845</b>	<b>92,830</b>	<b>893,706</b>	<b>857,774</b>	<b>4.2</b>
Residential <sup>2</sup>	56,462	56,629	57,641	53,443	50,972	49,099	497,753	455,208	9.3
New single family	29,591	28,430	26,783	24,904	23,057	25,921	244,404	232,853	5.0
New multifamily	7,770	7,640	7,544	7,256	7,032	6,584	70,104	67,587	3.7
Nonresidential	39,852	39,995	40,320	40,464	40,873	43,731	395,953	402,566	-1.6
Lodging	2,109	2,200	2,250	2,317	2,418	2,782	23,412	26,806	-12.7
Office	6,165	6,143	6,087	5,996	6,048	6,695	58,746	61,908	-5.1
Commercial	6,919	7,079	7,032	6,952	7,013	7,071	66,920	63,571	5.3
Health care	3,312	3,310	3,318	3,219	3,280	3,332	31,983	29,794	7.3
Educational	1,406	1,418	1,567	1,626	1,601	1,681	14,832	18,069	-17.9
Religious	274	286	287	251	244	320	2,602	3,001	-13.3
Amusement and recreation	1,023	1,017	1,055	1,051	1,055	1,351	10,803	12,633	-14.5
Transportation	1,352	1,295	1,266	1,390	1,385	1,486	12,792	14,306	-10.6
Communication	1,922	1,927	1,889	1,888	1,864	1,916	18,509	18,027	2.7
Power	9,176	9,063	9,319	9,459	9,462	10,007	93,645	86,836	7.8
Manufacturing	6,077	6,127	6,115	6,181	6,361	6,935	60,505	66,087	-8.4
<b>Total Public Construction<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>31,694</b>	<b>33,627</b>	<b>34,421</b>	<b>34,807</b>	<b>34,171</b>	<b>30,925</b>	<b>295,884</b>	<b>282,661</b>	<b>4.7</b>
Residential	797	841	817	800	825	633	7,108	5,306	34.0
Nonresidential	30,898	32,786	33,604	34,007	33,346	30,292	288,776	277,354	4.1
Office	919	998	1,020	1,003	1,051	975	9,402	9,082	3.5
Commercial	348	375	341	331	341	337	3,300	3,394	-2.8
Health care	868	889	798	819	838	805	7,830	7,771	0.8
Educational	7,220	7,711	8,689	9,013	8,501	7,398	73,757	71,413	3.3
Public safety	1,384	1,477	1,344	1,367	1,324	1,015	12,343	8,351	47.8
Amusement and recreation	1,306	1,367	1,332	1,311	1,305	1,235	12,065	11,313	6.6
Transportation	3,823	3,867	3,807	3,679	3,776	3,666	34,536	33,285	3.8
Power	581	565	573	585	663	665	5,674	5,475	3.6
Highway and street	9,690	10,498	10,721	10,953	10,508	9,442	84,539	84,298	0.3
Sewage and waste disposal	2,374	2,450	2,437	2,446	2,452	2,364	21,853	21,305	2.6
Water supply	1,618	1,680	1,666	1,658	1,717	1,495	15,209	12,794	18.9
Conservation and development	640	782	744	713	732	739	7,016	7,552	-7.1

<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 private residential improvements.

<sup>3</sup>Includes the following categories of public construction not shown separately:  
lodging, religious, communication, and manufacturing.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Construction Spending, December 1, 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](http://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
<b>Total Construction</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>0.8</b>
Residential	4.2	4.1	6.5	1.6	10.9
Nonresidential	0.7	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.8
Lodging	1.4	1.2	1.4	0.7	1.1
Office	1.5	1.3	1.4	1.1	1.6
Commercial	1.6	1.0	1.4	0.9	1.6
Health care	1.7	1.5	1.8	1.3	2.4
Educational	1.7	1.4	1.8	1.3	2.1
Religious	6.4	4.8	6.1	3.4	6.5
Public safety	3.0	2.1	4.2	0.9	3.6
Amusement and recreation	2.2	1.7	1.9	1.7	2.5
Transportation	1.2	0.8	1.2	1.0	1.3
Communication	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Power	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.3
Highway and street	2.8	1.8	2.7	2.6	4.3
Sewage and waste disposal	3.0	1.9	3.0	2.1	4.4
Water supply	4.0	2.7	4.2	3.4	5.5
Conservation and development	2.1	2.3	2.6	1.3	3.7
Manufacturing	1.3	1.7	1.4	0.6	1.1
<b>Total Private Construction</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>0.6</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 multifamily	5.5	5.1	3.2	1.4	4.0
Nonresidential	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.4	0.6
Lodging	1.4	1.2	1.5	0.8	1.1
Office	1.7	1.5	1.5	1.2	1.7
Commercial	1.6	1.0	1.4	0.9	1.6
Health care	2.1	1.9	2.2	1.6	2.5
Educational	2.6	2.0	2.0	1.1	2.1
Religious	6.4	4.8	6.1	3.4	6.5
Amusement and recreation	2.8	2.3	2.0	1.9	2.1
Transportation	1.3	0.8	1.7	0.4	1.6
Communication	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Power	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.2
Manufacturing	1.3	1.7	1.4	0.6	1.1
<b>Total Public Construction</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>1.7</b>
Residential	4.2	4.1	6.5	1.6	10.9
Nonresidential	1.1	0.8	1.1	1.0	1.7
Office	2.6	2.8	3.8	3.5	3.1
Commercial	7.1	5.9	6.9	2.0	5.5
Health care	2.3	1.6	2.3	1.5	6.4
Educational	1.9	1.6	2.2	1.5	2.6
Public safety	3.0	2.1	4.3	0.9	3.6
Amusement and recreation	3.1	2.5	3.5	2.4	4.7
Transportation	1.4	0.9	1.5	1.2	1.6
Power	6.8	3.7	8.6	3.7	9.4
Highway and street	2.8	1.8	2.7	2.6	4.4
Sewage and waste disposal	3.0	1.9	3.1	2.1	4.5
Water supply	4.1	2.7	4.2	3.5	5.7
Conservation and development	2.1	2.3	2.6	1.3	3.7

NA Not applicable

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Construction Spending, December 1, 2020. Additional information on the survey methodology may be found at [www.census.gov/construction/c30/meth.html](http://www.census.gov/construction/c30/meth.html)