

U.S. Census Bureau News

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

For Release at 10:00 A.M. EDT, Monday, June 1, 2015

Joseph Huesman, Linnet Holland, or Trent Langley
(301) 763-1605

CB15-93

APRIL 2015 CONSTRUCTION AT \$1,006.1 BILLION ANNUAL RATE

The U.S. Census Bureau of the Department of Commerce announced today that construction spending during April 2015 was estimated at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$1,006.1 billion, 2.2 percent ($\pm 1.5\%$) above the revised March estimate of \$984.0 billion. The April figure is 4.8 percent ($\pm 2.0\%$) above the April 2014 estimate of \$960.3 billion.

During the first 4 months of this year, construction spending amounted to \$288.7 billion, 4.1 percent ($\pm 1.5\%$) above the \$277.3 billion for the same period in 2014.

PRIVATE CONSTRUCTION

Spending on private construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$725.2 billion, 1.8 percent ($\pm 1.2\%$) above the revised March estimate of \$712.1 billion. Residential construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$353.1 billion in April, 0.6 percent ($\pm 1.3\%$)* above the revised March estimate of \$351.1 billion. Nonresidential construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$372.1 billion in April, 3.1 percent ($\pm 1.2\%$) above the revised March estimate of \$361.0 billion.

PUBLIC CONSTRUCTION

In April, the estimated seasonally adjusted annual rate of public construction spending was \$280.9 billion, 3.3 percent ($\pm 2.8\%$) above the revised March estimate of \$271.9 billion. Educational construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$63.3 billion, 3.6 percent ($\pm 4.3\%$)* above the revised March estimate of \$61.2 billion. Highway construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$87.1 billion, 8.5 percent ($\pm 9.0\%$)* above the revised March estimate of \$80.3 billion.

May 2015 data will be released on July 1, 2015 at 10:00 A.M. EDT.

For more detailed data and methodologies, go to our website:

<http://www.census.gov/constructionspending>

To learn more about this release and the other indicators the U.S. Census Bureau publishes, join us for the Investigating Economic Indicators Webinar Series. For more information, visit www.census.gov/econ/webinar.

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.

The U.S. Census Bureau updated its Application Programming Interface (API) with monthly and quarterly economic indicators. The API allows developers to combine Census Bureau statistics with other data sets to create tools for research on a variety of topics.

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, 0.75 percent; private construction, 0.86 percent; and public construction, 1.22 percent.

In the May 2015 press release, normal revisions to the unadjusted and seasonally adjusted data will revise back to January 2013.

* 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	Apr 2015 ^P	Mar 2015 ^r	Feb 2015 ^r	Jan 2015	Dec 2014	Apr 2014	Percent change Apr 2015 from -	
							Mar 2015	Apr 2014
Total Construction	1,006,060	983,996	978,999	972,776	984,502	960,349	2.2	4.8
Residential	359,384	357,238	360,626	359,638	355,209	365,801	0.6	-1.8
Nonresidential	646,676	626,758	618,373	613,138	629,293	594,547	3.2	8.8
Lodging	18,787	17,816	16,916	15,988	17,881	15,977	5.5	17.6
Office	51,973	50,095	49,130	48,385	48,154	43,568	3.7	19.3
Commercial	62,979	61,300	60,734	61,619	62,969	53,619	2.7	17.5
Health care	39,641	38,836	38,785	38,130	38,972	38,644	2.1	2.6
Educational	79,205	76,717	76,939	74,736	78,052	78,923	3.2	0.4
Religious	3,342	3,235	3,233	3,195	3,552	3,623	3.3	-7.8
Public safety	8,841	8,645	8,768	8,653	9,164	9,363	2.3	-5.6
Amusement and recreation	19,527	19,051	18,855	18,366	18,653	15,838	2.5	23.3
Transportation	45,940	45,233	44,332	43,389	43,506	41,171	1.6	11.6
Communication	15,350	16,315	15,398	15,530	15,857	16,170	-5.9	-5.1
Power	91,359	89,149	88,961	93,960	96,242	103,016	2.5	-11.3
Highway and street	87,403	80,521	81,734	82,123	84,644	83,374	8.5	4.8
Sewage and waste disposal	24,434	24,309	24,548	25,014	25,667	21,261	0.5	14.9
Water supply	12,883	12,795	11,949	13,077	13,606	12,777	0.7	0.8
Conservation and development	8,205	7,909	8,833	7,497	8,192	7,004	3.7	17.1
Manufacturing	76,807	74,831	69,259	63,477	64,184	50,220	2.6	52.9
Total Private Construction¹	725,187	712,097	706,032	702,460	704,483	689,006	1.8	5.3
Residential	353,086	351,139	354,714	354,031	349,643	360,826	0.6	-2.1
New single family	206,349	203,023	205,665	206,672	204,172	188,979	1.6	9.2
New multi-family	51,415	49,857	50,738	48,409	48,882	41,262	3.1	24.6
Nonresidential	372,101	360,958	351,318	348,429	354,840	328,180	3.1	13.4
Lodging	18,348	17,323	16,453	15,457	17,426	15,295	5.9	20.0
Office	43,888	42,485	41,281	40,369	40,097	35,808	3.3	22.6
Commercial	61,033	59,164	58,745	59,796	61,006	51,889	3.2	17.6
Health care	30,537	29,679	29,768	29,445	29,518	28,401	2.9	7.5
Educational	15,872	15,564	15,559	15,929	16,164	16,577	2.0	-4.3
Religious	3,334	3,224	3,226	3,190	3,552	3,615	3.4	-7.8
Amusement and recreation	9,462	8,997	8,801	8,938	9,139	7,426	5.2	27.4
Transportation	13,869	13,494	13,030	12,977	13,207	11,617	2.8	19.4
Communication	15,202	16,094	15,243	15,403	15,684	16,017	-5.5	-5.1
Power	82,999	79,318	78,939	82,513	83,509	90,849	4.6	-8.6
Manufacturing	76,217	74,192	68,754	63,035	63,658	49,644	2.7	53.5
Total Public Construction²	280,873	271,899	272,967	270,316	280,019	271,343	3.3	3.5
Residential	6,298	6,099	5,912	5,607	5,566	4,976	3.3	26.6
Nonresidential	274,576	265,800	267,056	264,709	274,453	266,368	3.3	3.1
Office	8,085	7,610	7,849	8,016	8,057	7,760	6.2	4.2
Commercial	1,946	2,136	1,989	1,823	1,963	1,731	-8.9	12.4
Health care	9,103	9,157	9,018	8,684	9,453	10,243	-0.6	-11.1
Educational	63,334	61,153	61,379	58,808	61,888	62,346	3.6	1.6
Public safety	8,608	8,323	8,448	8,296	8,847	9,253	3.4	-7.0
Amusement and recreation	10,065	10,055	10,054	9,429	9,514	8,412	0.1	19.7
Transportation	32,071	31,740	31,302	30,412	30,299	29,554	1.0	8.5
Power	8,360	9,831	10,022	11,447	12,733	12,168	-15.0	-31.3
Highway and street	87,115	80,319	81,518	81,922	84,040	83,311	8.5	4.6
Sewage and waste disposal	24,253	24,141	24,356	24,810	25,443	20,988	0.5	15.6
Water supply	12,343	12,210	11,350	12,587	13,036	12,264	1.1	0.6
Conservation and development	8,109	7,763	8,641	7,371	8,028	6,920	4.5	17.2

^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	Apr 2015 ^P	Mar 2015 ^F	Feb 2015 ^F	Jan 2015	Dec 2014	Apr 2014	Year-to-date		
							Apr 2015	Apr 2014	Percent change
Total Construction	80,905	73,770	66,533	67,532	76,374	76,940	288,740	277,308	4.1
Residential	29,614	27,306	23,606	24,461	26,147	29,627	104,986	104,352	0.6
Nonresidential	51,291	46,465	42,927	43,071	50,227	47,313	183,754	172,956	6.2
Lodging	1,566	1,485	1,410	1,332	1,490	1,331	5,792	4,997	15.9
Office	4,269	3,943	3,643	3,671	3,961	3,599	15,525	13,102	18.5
Commercial	5,060	4,685	4,409	4,504	5,001	4,383	18,658	15,988	16.7
Health care	3,249	3,059	2,955	2,937	3,227	3,176	12,199	12,262	-0.5
Educational	6,230	5,532	5,216	5,153	5,679	6,240	22,131	22,133	0.0
Religious	268	255	249	247	289	291	1,019	1,107	-7.9
Public safety	724	678	644	672	765	766	2,717	2,924	-7.1
Amusement and recreation	1,597	1,476	1,358	1,345	1,484	1,290	5,775	4,633	24.6
Transportation	3,716	3,238	2,922	2,992	3,496	3,306	12,868	11,672	10.2
Communication	1,248	1,331	1,092	1,045	1,571	1,317	4,716	5,092	-7.4
Power	7,389	7,031	6,924	7,345	8,512	8,369	28,690	33,790	-15.1
Highway and street	6,157	4,404	3,811	3,848	5,265	5,925	18,220	18,097	0.7
Sewage and waste disposal	1,909	1,803	1,635	1,689	2,022	1,675	7,036	5,900	19.3
Water supply	1,038	978	848	951	1,060	1,040	3,815	3,627	5.2
Conservation and development	660	630	672	552	694	558	2,514	2,082	20.7
Manufacturing	6,214	5,939	5,139	4,789	5,709	4,048	22,081	15,551	42.0
Total Private Construction¹	59,299	55,146	49,445	50,491	56,010	55,915	214,381	205,189	4.5
Residential	29,083	26,843	23,185	24,050	25,699	29,221	103,160	102,845	0.3
New single family	16,642	15,699	13,520	14,273	15,040	15,321	60,134	54,701	9.9
New multi-family	4,384	4,030	3,885	3,682	3,830	3,525	15,980	12,603	26.8
Nonresidential	30,216	28,303	26,260	26,441	30,311	26,694	111,221	102,344	8.7
Lodging	1,529	1,444	1,371	1,288	1,452	1,275	5,632	4,854	16.0
Office	3,585	3,347	3,073	3,066	3,303	2,942	13,070	10,670	22.5
Commercial	4,903	4,514	4,261	4,375	4,838	4,245	18,053	15,486	16.6
Health care	2,501	2,321	2,254	2,263	2,437	2,333	9,339	9,000	3.8
Educational	1,338	1,190	1,119	1,159	1,226	1,399	4,806	4,981	-3.5
Religious	267	255	248	246	289	290	1,016	1,104	-8.0
Amusement and recreation	791	728	686	703	746	620	2,907	2,298	26.5
Transportation	1,126	899	773	876	1,120	922	3,674	3,096	18.7
Communication	1,236	1,312	1,079	1,034	1,557	1,304	4,662	5,033	-7.4
Power	6,671	6,303	6,195	6,573	7,518	7,280	25,742	30,113	-14.5
Manufacturing	6,165	5,886	5,097	4,753	5,665	4,000	21,899	15,367	42.5
Total Public Construction²	21,606	18,624	17,088	17,041	20,364	21,025	74,359	72,118	3.1
Residential	531	463	421	411	448	406	1,826	1,507	21.2
Nonresidential	21,075	18,162	16,667	16,630	19,915	20,619	72,533	70,612	2.7
Office	684	596	570	604	659	657	2,455	2,432	0.9
Commercial	158	171	148	129	163	138	606	502	20.7
Health care	748	738	700	673	790	842	2,860	3,262	-12.3
Educational	4,892	4,342	4,097	3,994	4,452	4,842	17,325	17,151	1.0
Public safety	705	650	621	644	739	757	2,619	2,884	-9.2
Amusement and recreation	806	748	673	642	738	669	2,868	2,335	22.8
Transportation	2,590	2,339	2,149	2,117	2,375	2,384	9,195	8,576	7.2
Power	718	729	729	772	995	1,089	2,947	3,677	-19.9
Highway and street	6,135	4,392	3,799	3,834	5,211	5,920	18,160	18,085	0.4
Sewage and waste disposal	1,894	1,791	1,619	1,674	2,004	1,652	6,977	5,798	20.3
Water supply	996	936	811	914	1,012	1,000	3,657	3,466	5.5
Conservation and development	652	618	656	541	681	551	2,467	2,055	20.0

^PPreliminary ^FRevised

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	0.9	0.6	0.9	0.9	1.2
Residential	6.0	5.1	5.4	9.4	11.4
Nonresidential	0.9	0.6	0.9	0.9	1.2
Lodging	2.5	2.1	5.0	2.2	5.2
Office	1.8	1.7	2.8	1.2	3.8
Commercial	2.2	1.8	2.9	2.5	3.5
Health care	2.0	2.1	2.6	1.3	2.7
Educational	2.4	1.7	2.6	2.1	3.2
Religious	6.4	5.2	8.1	5.9	9.0
Public safety	3.6	2.4	3.4	3.1	3.9
Amusement and recreation	4.1	3.1	4.3	3.8	5.1
Transportation	2.6	2.3	3.2	3.0	3.8
Communication	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Power	0.4	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.4
Highway and street	3.5	2.3	3.7	5.5	5.2
Sewage and waste disposal	3.7	3.7	5.0	4.3	5.4
Water supply	4.8	4.1	5.7	4.9	6.8
Conservation and development	3.3	3.3	4.8	3.5	5.0
Manufacturing	0.9	0.9	1.5	0.8	1.5
Total Private Construction	0.8	0.7	1.0	0.7	1.2
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	5.4	5.7	7.4	3.1	7.8
Nonresidential	0.8	0.7	1.0	0.7	1.2
Lodging	2.5	2.1	5.1	2.2	5.2
Office	2.1	2.0	3.2	1.2	4.4
Commercial	2.3	1.9	3.0	2.6	3.6
Health care	2.5	2.7	3.4	1.5	3.5
Educational	3.1	2.6	3.5	1.9	3.9
Religious	6.4	5.2	8.1	6.0	9.0
Amusement and recreation	4.7	3.7	5.7	3.2	6.9
Transportation	6.3	5.8	5.4	11.5	4.7
Communication	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Power	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2
Manufacturing	0.9	0.9	1.5	0.8	1.6
Total Public Construction	1.4	1.0	1.5	1.7	2.0
Residential	6.0	5.1	5.4	9.4	11.4
Nonresidential	1.4	1.0	1.5	1.7	2.1
Office	3.1	3.4	3.9	3.6	4.6
Commercial	7.1	6.0	7.9	4.5	8.8
Health care	2.6	2.2	2.3	2.6	2.9
Educational	2.8	2.0	3.1	2.6	4.0
Public safety	3.7	2.5	3.3	3.3	3.8
Amusement and recreation	6.0	4.7	6.4	6.4	7.4
Transportation	2.8	2.5	3.5	3.1	4.2
Power	4.3	2.6	5.4	3.0	5.5
Highway and street	3.5	2.3	3.7	5.5	5.2
Sewage and waste disposal	3.8	3.7	5.0	4.3	5.4
Water supply	5.0	4.3	6.0	5.0	7.0
Conservation and development	3.3	3.3	4.9	3.4	5.1

NA Not applicable