

U.S. Census Bureau News

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

For Release at 10:00 A.M. EDT, Monday, May 2, 2016

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CB16-66

MARCH 2016 CONSTRUCTION AT \$1,137.5 BILLION ANNUAL RATE

The U.S. Census Bureau of the Department of Commerce announced today that construction spending during March 2016 was estimated at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$1,137.5 billion, 0.3 percent ($\pm 1.0\%$)* above the revised February estimate of \$1,133.6 billion. The March figure is 8.0 percent ($\pm 1.6\%$) above the March 2015 estimate of \$1,052.9 billion.

During the first 3 months of this year, construction spending amounted to \$240.4 billion, 9.1 percent ($\pm 1.5\%$) above the \$220.3 billion for the same period in 2015.

PRIVATE CONSTRUCTION

Spending on private construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$842.3 billion, 1.1 percent ($\pm 0.8\%$) above the revised February estimate of \$832.8 billion. Residential construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$435.5 billion in March, 1.6 percent ($\pm 1.3\%$) above the revised February estimate of \$428.8 billion. Nonresidential construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$406.8 billion in March, 0.7 percent ($\pm 0.8\%$)* above the revised February estimate of \$404.0 billion.

PUBLIC CONSTRUCTION

In March, the estimated seasonally adjusted annual rate of public construction spending was \$295.2 billion, 1.9 percent ($\pm 2.0\%$)* below the revised February estimate of \$300.8 billion. Educational construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$69.6 billion, 0.4 percent ($\pm 2.8\%$)* above the revised February estimate of \$69.4 billion. Highway construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$97.3 billion, 0.4 percent ($\pm 6.6\%$)* above the revised February estimate of \$96.9 billion.

April 2016 data will be released on June 1, 2016 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, 0.93 percent; private construction, 1.02 percent; and public construction, 1.35 percent.

In the May 2016 press release, normal revisions to the unadjusted and seasonally adjusted data will revise back to January 2014.

* 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 2016 ^P	Feb 2016 ^F	Jan 2016 ^F	Dec 2015	Nov 2015	Mar 2015	Percent change Mar 2016 from -	
							Feb 2016	Mar 2015
Total Construction	1,137,488	1,133,627	1,121,975	1,125,855	1,116,962	1,052,899	0.3	8.0
Residential	441,774	435,276	427,888	446,019	436,437	410,428	1.5	7.6
Nonresidential	695,714	698,352	694,087	679,836	680,526	642,472	-0.4	8.3
Lodging	23,660	23,431	23,410	22,022	22,357	18,527	1.0	27.7
Office	62,585	63,416	59,958	58,188	59,587	52,368	-1.3	19.5
Commercial	73,773	72,917	70,577	70,479	68,354	64,441	1.2	14.5
Health care	40,918	40,263	39,221	38,845	40,240	39,312	1.6	4.1
Educational	88,734	89,263	87,749	87,248	87,013	79,387	-0.6	11.8
Religious	3,360	3,194	3,326	3,090	3,359	3,158	5.2	6.4
Public safety	7,633	8,280	8,299	8,435	8,535	8,704	-7.8	-12.3
Amusement and recreation	21,037	21,251	20,898	20,597	20,151	19,192	-1.0	9.6
Transportation	44,969	45,952	44,495	45,382	44,989	44,457	-2.1	1.2
Communication	19,096	18,412	21,504	22,628	21,777	17,299	3.7	10.4
Power	86,938	89,795	89,780	86,720	87,070	86,261	-3.2	0.8
Highway and street	97,615	97,156	99,710	93,987	87,986	82,150	0.5	18.8
Sewage and waste disposal	25,866	27,008	26,886	24,166	23,247	24,931	-4.2	3.8
Water supply	12,187	12,386	12,060	12,174	13,171	12,984	-1.6	-6.1
Conservation and development	7,437	7,319	7,586	6,966	8,071	7,692	1.6	-3.3
Manufacturing	79,905	78,309	78,629	78,908	84,619	81,610	2.0	-2.1
Total Private Construction¹	842,333	832,787	822,231	832,753	830,195	776,261	1.1	8.5
Residential	435,484	428,824	421,470	439,936	429,850	404,061	1.6	7.8
New single family	236,274	236,211	232,486	231,133	228,557	208,326	0.0	13.4
New multi-family	64,427	61,023	59,510	57,153	56,732	47,851	5.6	34.6
Nonresidential	406,849	403,963	400,761	392,818	400,344	372,201	0.7	9.3
Lodging	23,235	22,876	23,046	21,543	22,003	18,043	1.6	28.8
Office	55,218	55,686	52,513	50,425	51,866	44,550	-0.8	23.9
Commercial	70,382	69,798	67,605	67,596	65,818	62,196	0.8	13.2
Health care	32,065	31,607	30,935	29,943	31,235	30,270	1.4	5.9
Educational	19,119	19,911	19,022	17,579	18,200	15,726	-4.0	21.6
Religious	3,359	3,194	3,326	3,084	3,353	3,147	5.2	6.7
Amusement and recreation	11,009	10,949	10,487	10,373	10,422	8,499	0.5	29.5
Transportation	14,798	13,290	13,415	13,100	13,128	13,347	11.3	10.9
Communication	18,929	18,258	21,345	22,461	21,615	17,083	3.7	10.8
Power	78,335	79,777	80,151	77,412	77,437	76,807	-1.8	2.0
Manufacturing	79,328	77,608	77,974	78,241	84,026	80,981	2.2	-2.0
Total Public Construction²	295,155	300,840	299,744	293,101	286,768	276,638	-1.9	6.7
Residential	6,290	6,451	6,418	6,083	6,587	6,367	-2.5	-1.2
Nonresidential	288,865	294,389	293,326	287,018	280,181	270,271	-1.9	6.9
Office	7,368	7,731	7,445	7,763	7,721	7,818	-4.7	-5.8
Commercial	3,392	3,119	2,972	2,883	2,536	2,245	8.8	51.1
Health care	8,853	8,656	8,286	8,902	9,005	9,042	2.3	-2.1
Educational	69,615	69,352	68,727	69,669	68,813	63,661	0.4	9.4
Public safety	7,553	8,189	8,190	8,266	8,445	8,371	-7.8	-9.8
Amusement and recreation	10,028	10,302	10,411	10,225	9,729	10,694	-2.7	-6.2
Transportation	30,171	32,662	31,080	32,282	31,861	31,109	-7.6	-3.0
Power	8,603	10,018	9,629	9,308	9,633	9,454	-14.1	-9.0
Highway and street	97,263	96,870	99,432	93,640	87,767	81,845	0.4	18.8
Sewage and waste disposal	25,529	26,659	26,564	23,865	23,013	24,745	-4.2	3.2
Water supply	11,969	12,188	11,896	12,094	12,604	12,407	-1.8	-3.5
Conservation and development	7,352	7,233	7,515	6,803	7,939	7,541	1.6	-2.5

^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 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 2016 ^P	Feb 2016 ^f	Jan 2016 ^f	Dec 2015	Nov 2015	Mar 2015	Year-to-date		
							Mar 2016	Mar 2015	Percent change
Total Construction	85,763	77,897	76,758	86,871	93,561	78,963	240,418	220,265	9.1
Residential	34,427	28,956	29,089	33,106	35,945	31,608	92,472	86,017	7.5
Nonresidential	51,336	48,941	47,669	53,764	57,616	47,355	147,946	134,248	10.2
Lodging	1,940	1,914	1,796	1,863	1,929	1,530	5,650	4,330	30.5
Office	4,962	4,824	4,523	4,760	5,101	4,162	14,309	11,707	22.2
Commercial	5,688	5,399	5,042	5,519	5,866	4,966	16,129	14,311	12.7
Health care	3,257	3,159	2,938	3,197	3,418	3,123	9,354	9,086	2.9
Educational	6,403	6,175	5,901	6,277	6,746	5,734	18,479	16,378	12.8
Religious	271	246	250	255	285	252	767	735	4.4
Public safety	594	612	643	696	737	684	1,849	2,002	-7.6
Amusement and recreation	1,626	1,550	1,498	1,634	1,709	1,480	4,675	4,098	14.1
Transportation	3,274	3,059	3,026	3,625	3,941	3,189	9,358	9,042	3.5
Communication	1,562	1,366	1,408	2,209	1,966	1,388	4,336	3,699	17.2
Power	6,619	6,725	6,984	7,385	7,605	6,516	20,328	19,197	5.9
Highway and street	5,320	4,573	4,511	5,875	7,402	4,403	14,405	11,943	20.6
Sewage and waste disposal	1,903	1,853	1,800	1,890	2,010	1,862	5,556	5,217	6.5
Water supply	917	876	862	932	1,120	995	2,656	2,832	-6.2
Conservation and development	588	585	532	584	669	613	1,705	1,800	-5.3
Manufacturing	6,411	6,026	5,953	7,064	7,113	6,458	18,391	17,873	2.9
Total Private Construction¹	65,881	58,976	58,479	65,789	69,820	60,115	183,336	167,224	9.6
Residential	33,970	28,489	28,643	32,622	35,388	31,145	91,101	84,711	7.5
New single family	18,354	15,625	16,084	17,149	20,013	16,125	50,063	45,038	11.2
New multi-family	5,233	4,816	4,465	4,503	4,745	3,878	14,515	11,092	30.9
Nonresidential	31,911	30,488	29,836	33,166	34,432	28,971	92,235	82,513	11.8
Lodging	1,905	1,868	1,766	1,823	1,899	1,489	5,538	4,210	31.5
Office	4,391	4,251	3,976	4,128	4,464	3,552	12,618	9,918	27.2
Commercial	5,425	5,168	4,834	5,284	5,641	4,793	15,426	13,855	11.3
Health care	2,534	2,470	2,305	2,463	2,671	2,384	7,308	6,989	4.6
Educational	1,502	1,469	1,363	1,341	1,426	1,228	4,333	3,567	21.5
Religious	271	246	250	255	284	252	767	734	4.5
Amusement and recreation	890	843	807	833	859	684	2,541	1,960	29.6
Transportation	1,000	778	865	1,084	1,220	885	2,643	2,496	5.9
Communication	1,549	1,353	1,395	2,195	1,953	1,370	4,296	3,656	17.5
Power	6,010	6,006	6,315	6,662	6,839	5,816	18,331	17,056	7.5
Manufacturing	6,363	5,968	5,899	7,008	7,064	6,405	18,230	17,744	2.7
Total Public Construction²	19,882	18,921	18,279	21,082	23,741	18,848	57,082	53,042	7.6
Residential	457	468	446	484	557	463	1,371	1,306	5.0
Nonresidential	19,425	18,453	17,833	20,598	23,184	18,384	55,711	51,736	7.7
Office	571	573	547	633	637	610	1,691	1,789	-5.5
Commercial	263	231	209	235	225	174	703	456	54.2
Health care	723	689	633	734	748	739	2,045	2,096	-2.4
Educational	4,901	4,706	4,539	4,936	5,320	4,506	14,146	12,812	10.4
Public safety	587	606	635	683	729	656	1,829	1,922	-4.8
Amusement and recreation	736	706	692	801	850	796	2,134	2,137	-0.1
Transportation	2,274	2,281	2,161	2,540	2,721	2,304	6,715	6,546	2.6
Power	610	719	669	724	766	700	1,998	2,140	-6.6
Highway and street	5,302	4,559	4,497	5,842	7,378	4,387	14,357	11,896	20.7
Sewage and waste disposal	1,878	1,824	1,777	1,865	1,990	1,849	5,480	5,170	6.0
Water supply	902	864	850	925	1,069	954	2,616	2,716	-3.7
Conservation and development	581	578	526	570	658	600	1,685	1,761	-4.3

^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	0.7	0.9	0.6	1.0
Residential	5.1	5.1	5.6	2.8	5.8
Nonresidential	0.9	0.7	0.9	0.6	1.0
Lodging	2.3	1.9	3.2	1.0	3.2
Office	2.3	2.4	2.8	1.2	2.7
Commercial	2.5	2.1	2.7	1.5	2.6
Health care	2.0	1.9	3.0	1.4	3.1
Educational	2.1	1.7	2.4	1.3	2.9
Religious	7.4	6.0	7.9	4.4	8.8
Public safety	3.1	2.7	2.9	2.5	3.3
Amusement and recreation	3.6	2.6	3.9	1.9	4.6
Transportation	2.1	1.4	2.6	1.4	3.0
Communication	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Power	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.2	0.4
Highway and street	3.5	2.8	4.3	3.9	5.1
Sewage and waste disposal	3.6	3.9	5.8	3.6	6.4
Water supply	4.4	4.1	5.7	4.0	6.9
Conservation and development	3.5	4.2	5.2	2.9	6.9
Manufacturing	0.8	0.6	0.9	0.4	1.2
Total Private Construction	0.8	0.8	1.0	0.5	1.0
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	6.2	6.4	6.2	1.9	6.7
Nonresidential	0.8	0.8	1.0	0.5	1.0
Lodging	2.4	1.9	3.3	1.0	3.3
Office	2.7	2.8	3.3	1.3	3.1
Commercial	2.4	2.1	2.6	1.5	2.5
Health care	2.4	2.3	3.8	1.6	3.9
Educational	3.1	2.8	4.0	1.2	4.1
Religious	7.4	6.0	7.9	4.4	8.9
Amusement and recreation	3.6	3.4	4.6	1.6	4.7
Transportation	6.3	4.8	6.1	2.1	10.6
Communication	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Power	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.3
Manufacturing	0.8	0.6	0.9	0.4	1.2
Total Public Construction	1.4	1.1	1.5	1.2	1.8
Residential	5.1	5.1	5.6	2.8	5.8
Nonresidential	1.4	1.1	1.6	1.2	1.8
Office	3.2	2.6	3.9	2.6	5.1
Commercial	14.1	13.5	20.8	6.6	25.6
Health care	3.2	2.8	3.3	2.8	4.2
Educational	2.6	2.0	2.9	1.7	3.4
Public safety	3.1	2.7	3.0	2.5	3.5
Amusement and recreation	5.9	3.9	5.9	3.5	7.1
Transportation	2.2	1.5	2.7	1.5	3.1
Power	4.6	3.6	3.3	2.4	3.5
Highway and street	3.5	2.8	4.4	4.0	5.2
Sewage and waste disposal	3.6	3.9	5.8	3.6	6.4
Water supply	4.6	4.1	6.1	4.1	7.3
Conservation and development	3.5	4.3	5.3	2.9	7.1

NA Not applicable