

U.S. Census Bureau News

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

For Release at 10:00 A.M. EDT, Tuesday, October 22, 2013

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

CB13-171

AUGUST 2013 CONSTRUCTION AT \$915.1 BILLION ANNUAL RATE

The U.S. Census Bureau of the Department of Commerce announced today that construction spending during August 2013 was estimated at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$915.1 billion, 0.6 percent ($\pm 2.1\%$)* above the revised July estimate of \$909.4 billion. The August figure is 7.1 percent ($\pm 2.3\%$) above the August 2012 estimate of \$854.0 billion.

During the first 8 months of this year, construction spending amounted to \$581.9 billion, 5.9 percent ($\pm 1.5\%$) above the \$549.4 billion for the same period in 2012.

PRIVATE CONSTRUCTION

Spending on private construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$640.5 billion, 0.7 percent ($\pm 1.2\%$)* above the revised July estimate of \$636.1 billion. Residential construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$340.2 billion in August, 1.2 percent ($\pm 1.3\%$)* above the revised July estimate of \$336.2 billion. Nonresidential construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$300.3 billion in August, 0.1 percent ($\pm 1.2\%$)* above the revised July estimate of \$299.9 billion.

PUBLIC CONSTRUCTION

In August, the estimated seasonally adjusted annual rate of public construction spending was \$274.5 billion, 0.4 percent ($\pm 3.3\%$)* above the revised July estimate of \$273.4 billion. Educational construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$63.8 billion, 1.3 percent ($\pm 5.9\%$)* below the revised July estimate of \$64.6 billion. Highway construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$80.6 billion, 0.1 percent ($\pm 7.4\%$)* above the revised July estimate of \$80.5 billion.

September and October 2013 data will be released on December 2, 2013 at 10:00 A.M. EST.

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.

To learn more about this release and the other indicators the U.S. Census Bureau publishes, join us for the 2013 Economic Indicator Webinar Series. For more information go to <http://www.census.gov/econ/webinar>.

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.

* 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	Aug 2013 ^P	Jul 2013 ^r	Jun 2013 ^r	May 2013	Apr 2013	Aug 2012	Percent change Aug 2013 from -	
							Jul 2013	Aug 2012
Total Construction	915,052	909,412	897,113	896,134	878,396	854,048	0.6	7.1
Residential	346,459	342,138	341,146	337,515	329,272	292,782	1.3	18.3
Nonresidential	568,593	567,274	555,966	558,618	549,124	561,266	0.2	1.3
Lodging	15,217	14,825	13,846	14,164	13,728	12,013	2.6	26.7
Office	38,323	37,741	36,996	36,615	36,389	38,662	1.5	-0.9
Commercial	47,294	48,002	46,464	48,413	47,429	46,864	-1.5	0.9
Health care	40,474	40,737	39,836	41,620	40,635	42,688	-0.6	-5.2
Educational	79,872	81,301	80,537	79,935	76,392	84,244	-1.8	-5.2
Religious	3,128	3,198	3,348	3,604	3,507	3,763	-2.2	-16.9
Public safety	9,479	8,824	9,417	9,782	9,684	10,258	7.4	-7.6
Amusement and recreation	14,290	13,365	13,749	13,772	13,873	14,876	6.9	-3.9
Transportation	42,495	42,049	41,806	41,963	40,909	38,393	1.1	10.7
Communication	15,627	15,444	15,438	15,043	15,985	17,103	1.2	-8.6
Power	91,299	91,467	89,804	86,502	83,461	83,214	-0.2	9.7
Highway and street	80,641	80,607	81,577	79,419	77,642	81,668	0.0	-1.3
Sewage and waste disposal	22,163	21,665	20,357	22,062	21,719	21,454	2.3	3.3
Water supply	13,918	13,944	13,624	14,476	14,442	12,876	-0.2	8.1
Conservation and development	5,628	5,354	5,233	5,727	5,857	6,636	5.1	-15.2
Manufacturing	48,747	48,751	43,937	45,521	47,473	46,555	0.0	4.7
Total Private Construction¹	640,508	636,053	624,157	626,953	614,584	574,345	0.7	11.5
Residential	340,214	336,151	334,997	331,271	323,021	286,566	1.2	18.7
New single family	171,779	169,025	168,235	167,358	165,561	134,012	1.6	28.2
New multi-family	32,241	31,254	31,597	31,551	30,788	23,446	3.2	37.5
Nonresidential	300,294	299,902	289,160	295,682	291,563	287,778	0.1	4.3
Lodging	14,399	14,190	13,213	13,760	13,342	11,261	1.5	27.9
Office	30,151	29,687	28,572	28,969	28,653	28,379	1.6	6.2
Commercial	44,996	45,354	44,089	45,933	44,537	43,756	-0.8	2.8
Health care	29,337	29,351	28,211	30,563	29,757	31,380	0.0	-6.5
Educational	16,117	16,731	16,286	17,715	16,680	16,358	-3.7	-1.5
Religious	3,113	3,159	3,303	3,575	3,482	3,716	-1.5	-16.2
Amusement and recreation	6,163	5,849	5,892	6,115	5,711	6,179	5.4	-0.3
Transportation	12,396	12,194	12,497	12,413	11,434	11,380	1.7	8.9
Communication	15,530	15,302	15,184	14,840	15,796	16,827	1.5	-7.7
Power	78,920	78,984	77,088	75,376	73,269	71,880	-0.1	9.8
Manufacturing	47,936	47,988	43,343	44,789	46,683	45,408	-0.1	5.6
Total Public Construction²	274,544	273,358	272,956	269,181	263,813	279,704	0.4	-1.8
Residential	6,244	5,987	6,150	6,244	6,252	6,216	4.3	0.5
Nonresidential	268,299	267,371	266,806	262,937	257,561	273,488	0.3	-1.9
Office	8,173	8,054	8,424	7,646	7,736	10,282	1.5	-20.5
Commercial	2,297	2,648	2,375	2,479	2,892	3,109	-13.3	-26.1
Health care	11,137	11,386	11,625	11,057	10,878	11,308	-2.2	-1.5
Educational	63,755	64,570	64,251	62,220	59,712	67,886	-1.3	-6.1
Public safety	9,364	8,758	9,332	9,699	9,560	10,176	6.9	-8.0
Amusement and recreation	8,127	7,517	7,858	7,657	8,163	8,697	8.1	-6.6
Transportation	30,100	29,855	29,309	29,550	29,475	27,013	0.8	11.4
Power	12,379	12,483	12,715	11,126	10,192	11,334	-0.8	9.2
Highway and street	80,604	80,539	81,511	79,325	77,503	81,453	0.1	-1.0
Sewage and waste disposal	21,708	21,339	19,947	21,580	21,221	20,926	1.7	3.7
Water supply	13,299	13,314	12,797	13,673	13,034	12,498	-0.1	6.4
Conservation and development	5,617	5,330	5,138	5,558	5,807	6,584	5.4	-14.7

^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 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	Aug 2013 ^P	Jul 2013 ^F	Jun 2013 ^F	May 2013	Apr 2013	Aug 2012	Year-to-date		
							Aug 2013	Aug 2012	Percent change
Total Construction	87,009	83,731	81,722	77,327	70,535	81,712	581,899	549,395	5.9
Residential	33,771	32,286	32,503	30,186	26,745	28,570	220,783	184,023	20.0
Nonresidential	53,239	51,445	49,219	47,141	43,790	53,142	361,115	365,372	-1.2
Lodging	1,268	1,235	1,154	1,180	1,144	1,001	9,041	7,341	23.2
Office	3,357	3,231	3,146	3,129	3,021	3,416	24,547	25,034	-1.9
Commercial	4,358	4,295	4,127	4,119	3,928	4,301	31,157	30,275	2.9
Health care	3,505	3,443	3,389	3,516	3,396	3,700	26,782	27,871	-3.9
Educational	8,367	8,163	7,734	6,698	5,993	8,736	53,790	57,793	-6.9
Religious	273	275	277	290	283	329	2,279	2,513	-9.3
Public safety	829	737	797	836	796	900	6,123	6,907	-11.4
Amusement and recreation	1,278	1,156	1,186	1,193	1,135	1,338	9,018	9,872	-8.7
Transportation	3,968	3,745	3,677	3,548	3,269	3,604	26,608	24,006	10.8
Communication	1,350	1,341	1,269	1,282	1,309	1,528	9,829	11,276	-12.8
Power	7,452	7,327	7,121	6,990	6,737	6,944	54,344	53,217	2.1
Highway and street	9,226	8,858	8,165	7,066	5,504	9,582	50,319	52,054	-3.3
Sewage and waste disposal	2,052	1,889	1,786	1,882	1,729	1,984	13,728	14,479	-5.2
Water supply	1,284	1,202	1,211	1,222	1,184	1,170	9,081	8,722	4.1
Conservation and development	504	454	427	463	472	603	3,659	4,047	-9.6
Manufacturing	4,167	4,096	3,753	3,730	3,890	4,006	30,811	29,968	2.8
Total Private Construction¹	59,067	57,214	56,228	54,369	50,022	53,073	405,972	365,486	11.1
Residential	33,229	31,773	31,967	29,647	26,228	28,013	216,819	179,862	20.5
New single family	16,208	15,777	15,165	14,289	13,352	12,663	108,426	81,988	32.2
New multi-family	2,869	2,740	2,744	2,737	2,637	2,089	20,506	13,774	48.9
Nonresidential	25,838	25,441	24,261	24,721	23,795	25,060	189,153	185,624	1.9
Lodging	1,200	1,183	1,101	1,147	1,112	938	8,689	6,866	26.6
Office	2,627	2,545	2,421	2,482	2,365	2,489	19,250	17,740	8.5
Commercial	4,154	4,080	3,923	3,915	3,697	4,025	29,502	28,188	4.7
Health care	2,563	2,499	2,405	2,589	2,482	2,742	19,597	20,644	-5.1
Educational	1,511	1,560	1,530	1,590	1,403	1,552	11,184	11,166	0.2
Religious	272	272	273	287	281	326	2,260	2,492	-9.3
Amusement and recreation	527	493	486	525	470	526	3,779	3,805	-0.7
Transportation	1,150	1,110	1,112	1,076	874	1,060	7,623	7,099	7.4
Communication	1,342	1,329	1,248	1,265	1,293	1,505	9,706	11,118	-12.7
Power	6,282	6,246	5,939	6,042	5,810	5,870	46,347	46,380	-0.1
Manufacturing	4,100	4,032	3,704	3,669	3,824	3,911	30,301	29,257	3.6
Total Public Construction²	27,942	26,517	25,495	22,959	20,513	28,640	175,927	183,909	-4.3
Residential	542	513	536	539	518	557	3,965	4,161	-4.7
Nonresidential	27,400	26,005	24,958	22,420	19,995	28,082	171,962	179,748	-4.3
Office	730	686	726	647	657	927	5,297	7,294	-27.4
Commercial	205	215	204	203	231	276	1,655	2,087	-20.7
Health care	942	944	984	926	914	958	7,185	7,226	-0.6
Educational	6,856	6,603	6,204	5,109	4,590	7,184	42,606	46,627	-8.6
Public safety	819	731	789	828	785	893	6,052	6,823	-11.3
Amusement and recreation	751	663	701	668	665	812	5,240	6,068	-13.6
Transportation	2,818	2,635	2,565	2,472	2,395	2,544	18,986	16,906	12.3
Power	1,171	1,080	1,181	947	927	1,074	7,998	6,837	17.0
Highway and street	9,223	8,851	8,159	7,058	5,493	9,560	50,271	51,949	-3.2
Sewage and waste disposal	2,011	1,863	1,752	1,839	1,688	1,936	13,423	14,118	-4.9
Water supply	1,227	1,150	1,148	1,160	1,069	1,134	8,627	8,444	2.2
Conservation and development	504	452	419	449	468	599	3,620	4,005	-9.6

^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	1.0	0.6	0.9	1.3	1.4
Residential	5.8	4.9	4.9	3.3	6.4
Nonresidential	1.0	0.6	0.9	1.3	1.4
Lodging	3.0	2.3	3.5	1.6	4.4
Office	3.2	2.5	2.8	2.0	2.6
Commercial	3.0	2.0	3.2	2.3	3.4
Health care	2.1	1.5	1.9	1.1	2.3
Educational	2.7	1.9	2.1	3.0	3.6
Religious	7.2	5.3	6.8	3.6	5.5
Public safety	3.3	2.9	2.3	5.2	4.7
Amusement and recreation	4.5	2.9	3.1	3.2	4.6
Transportation	2.8	2.1	2.6	2.6	3.3
Communication	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Power	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.8
Highway and street	3.7	2.1	3.0	4.5	5.0
Sewage and waste disposal	3.6	2.6	3.2	4.1	5.8
Water supply	4.2	3.0	4.3	4.8	6.3
Conservation and development	4.3	4.0	3.7	3.2	4.4
Manufacturing	1.4	1.3	1.7	0.7	1.9
Total Private Construction	1.0	0.8	1.1	0.7	1.1
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	6.7	5.8	7.7	2.3	10.4
Nonresidential	1.0	0.8	1.1	0.7	1.1
Lodging	2.9	2.3	3.6	1.6	4.2
Office	4.3	3.3	4.2	2.4	3.3
Commercial	3.1	2.0	3.5	2.4	3.7
Health care	2.7	2.0	2.5	1.2	2.9
Educational	3.5	3.1	3.7	2.2	4.8
Religious	7.3	5.4	6.8	3.7	5.6
Amusement and recreation	6.0	4.2	4.5	4.9	7.1
Transportation	5.5	3.1	4.2	2.4	4.8
Communication	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Power	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.4	0.3
Manufacturing	1.4	1.3	1.7	0.7	2.0
Total Public Construction	1.5	0.9	1.2	2.0	2.2
Residential	5.8	4.9	4.9	3.3	6.4
Nonresidential	1.5	1.0	1.2	2.0	2.2
Office	2.9	1.9	1.7	3.3	3.7
Commercial	10.1	7.6	6.2	6.7	5.6
Health care	2.7	2.0	2.2	2.2	2.6
Educational	3.2	2.3	2.4	3.6	4.2
Public safety	3.3	3.0	2.3	5.2	4.7
Amusement and recreation	6.2	4.0	4.1	4.3	6.0
Transportation	3.0	2.3	2.8	2.8	3.7
Power	6.2	5.6	5.6	2.9	9.9
Highway and street	3.7	2.1	3.0	4.5	5.0
Sewage and waste disposal	3.6	2.6	3.2	4.1	5.9
Water supply	4.3	3.2	4.4	4.9	6.3
Conservation and development	4.4	4.0	3.7	3.2	4.5

NA Not applicable