U.S. Census Bureau News

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

For Release at 10:00 A.M. EDT, Wednesday, July 1, 2015

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

CB15-112

MAY 2015 CONSTRUCTION AT \$1,035.8 BILLION ANNUAL RATE

The U.S. Census Bureau of the Department of Commerce announced today that construction spending during May 2015 was estimated at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$1,035.8 billion, 0.8 percent ($\pm 1.5\%$)* above the revised April estimate of \$1,027.0 billion. The May figure is 8.2 percent ($\pm 2.0\%$) above the May 2014 estimate of \$957.6 billion.

During the first 5 months of this year, construction spending amounted to \$382.1 billion, 5.9 percent ($\pm 1.5\%$) above the \$360.8 billion for the same period in 2014.

PRIVATE CONSTRUCTION

Spending on private construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$752.4 billion, 0.9 percent ($\pm 0.8\%$) above the revised April estimate of \$745.6 billion. Residential construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$359.5 billion in May, 0.3 percent ($\pm 1.3\%$)* above the revised April estimate of \$358.5 billion. Nonresidential construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$392.8 billion in May, 1.5 percent ($\pm 0.8\%$) above the revised April estimate of \$387.1 billion.

PUBLIC CONSTRUCTION

In May, the estimated seasonally adjusted annual rate of public construction spending was \$283.4 billion, 0.7 percent $(\pm 2.5\%)^*$ above the revised April estimate of \$281.5 billion. Educational construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$65.3 billion, 0.7 percent $(\pm 3.9\%)^*$ below the revised April estimate of \$65.8 billion. Highway construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$85.1 billion, 2.1 percent $(\pm 6.9\%)^*$ above the revised April estimate of \$83.3 billion.

June 2015 data will be released on August 3, 2015 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.

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 this May 2015 press release, normal revisions to the unadjusted and seasonally adjusted data revised 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		- 1	Mar 2015 ^r	Feb 2015 ^r	Jan 2015 ^r	May 2014 ^r	Percent change May 2015 from -	
	May 2015 ^p						Apr 2015	May 2014
Total Construction	1,035,763	1,027,045	1,006,351	993,465	990,051	957,641	0.8	8.2
Residential	366,129	364,993	363,879	366,651	364,833	338,268	0.3	8.2
Nonresidential	669,634	662,052	642,472	626,814	625,218	619,373	1.1	8.1
Lodging	19,884	19,275	18,527	18,018	17,509	15,222	3.2	30.6
Office	55,384	54,500	52,368	49,790	50,097	44,441	1.6	24.6
Commercial	66,520	67,645	64,441	64,060	65,877	59,727	-1.7	11.4
Health care	39,097	39,345	39,312	38,892	38,507	37,914	-0.6	3.1
Educational	81,513	82,211	79,387	79,190	77,817	80,102	-0.8	1.8
Religious	3,430	3,384	3,158	3,134	3,203	3,142	1.4	9.2
Public safety	8,216	8,919	8,704	8,825	8,554	9,320	-7.9	-11.8
Amusement and recreation	21,376	20,210	19,192	18,616	17,894	16,473	5.8	29.8
Transportation	44,701	45,104	44,457	43,395	43,250	42,391	-0.9	5.4
Communication	20,008	19,374	17,299	16,368	17,014	17,289	3.3	15.7
Power	86,418	86,387	86,261	83,783	82,482	112,964	0.0	-23.5
Highway and street	85,579	83,749 25,895	82,150	80,265	82,644	83,808	2.2 -2.2	2.1 13.3
Sewage and waste disposal	25,333	,	24,931	24,731	25,222	22,367		
Water supply Conservation and development	13,122 8,731	13,005 8,038	12,984 7,692	11,998 8,463	13,706 7,438	14,073 6,859	0.9 8.6	-6.8 27.3
Manufacturing	90,323	85,012	81,610	77,288	7,438	53,283	6.2	69.5
Manuracturing	90,323	65,012	81,010	77,200	74,003	33,263	0.2	09.5
Total Private Construction ¹	752,354	745,592	729,713	720,819	716,185	681,986	0.9	10.3
Residential	359,513	358,450	357,512	360,575	358,940	333,522	0.3	7.8
New single family	209,391	209,329	208,326	212,531	215,751	188,289	0.0	11.2
New multi-family	48,762	48,669	47,851	48,153	45,817	40,352	0.2	20.8
Nonresidential	392,841	387,142	372,201	360,244	357,245	348,464	1.5	12.7
Lodging	19,462	18,846	18,043	17,570	17,002	14,923	3.3	30.4
Office	46,594	46,248	44,550	41,828	42,003	36,707	0.7	26.9
Commercial	64,253	65,588	62,196	61,957	63,965	57,732	-2.0	11.3
Health care	30,055	30,302	30,270	30,123	29,983	28,527	-0.8	5.4
Educational	16,164	16,378	15,726	16,102	16,197	16,915	-1.3	-4.4
Religious	3,418	3,376	3,147	3,127	3,198	3,139	1.2	8.9
Amusement and recreation	10,200	9,615	8,499	8,456	8,060	6,987	6.1	46.0
Transportation	13,598	13,584	13,347	12,430	12,832	12,026	0.1	13.1
Communication	19,843	19,228	17,083	16,218	16,863	17,139	3.2	15.8
Power	78,086	78,039	76,807	74,019	72,034	100,433	0.1	-22.3
Manufacturing	89,685	84,417	80,981	76,800	73,579	52,732	6.2	70.1
Total Public Construction ²	283,409	281,453	276,638	272,646	273,865	275,655	0.7	2.8
Residential	6,616	6,543	6,367	6,076	5,893	4,746	1.1	39.4
Nonresidential	276,793	274,910	270,271	266,570	267,973	270,909	0.7	2.2
Office	8,790	8,252	7,818	7,962	8,095	7,734	6.5	13.7
Commercial	2,267	2,057	2,245	2,103	1,911	1,996	10.2	13.6
Health care	9,042	9,044	9,042	8,770	8,525	9,387	0.0	-3.7
Educational	65,349	65,833	63,661	63,088	61,620	63,188	-0.7	3.4
Public safety	7,958	8,612	8,371	8,494	8,198	9,140	-7.6	-12.9
Amusement and recreation	11,176	10,595	10,694	10,160	9,834	9,486	5.5	17.8
Transportation	31,103	31,520	31,109	30,965	30,418	30,365	-1.3	2.4
Power	8,332	8,349	9,454	9,764	10,448	12,530	-0.2	-33.5
Highway and street	85,099	83,329	81,845	79,981	82,414	83,687	2.1	1.7
Sewage and waste disposal	25,147	25,710	24,745	24,521	24,974	22,112	-2.2	13.7
Water supply	12,656	12,494	12,407	11,400	13,135	13,529	1.3	-6.5
Conservation and development	8,638	7,938	7,541	8,270	7,313	6,755	8.8	27.9

^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	840		Mar 2015 ^r	Feb 2015 ^r	lan	May 2014 ^r		ear-to-date	
	May 2015 ^p	Apr 2015 ^r			Jan 2015 ^r		May 2015	May 2014	Percent change
Total Construction	88,167	82,687	75,260	67,671	68,272	81,704	382,057	360,796	5.9
Residential	32,289	30,033	27,905	24,252	24,798	29,834	139,276	130,886	6.4
Nonresidential	55,879	52,654	47,355	43,419	43,474	51,870	242,781	229,910	5.6
Lodging	1,641	1,623	1,530	1,439	1,361	1,274	7,593	6,239	21.7
Office	4,664	4,479	4,162	3,753	3,792	3,742	20,850	17,202	21.2
Commercial	5,571	5,544	4,966	4,652	4,693	5,055	25,425	22,261	14.2
Health care	3,274	3,266	3,123	2,994	2,969	3,208	15,625	15,320	2.0
Educational	6,906	6,513	5,734	5,358	5,286	6,814	29,797	29,152	2.2
Religious	278	271	252	239	244	255	1,284	1,255	2.3
Public safety	677	736	684	649	668	780	3,414	3,664	-6.8
Amusement and recreation	1,847	1,665	1,480	1,333	1,285	1,421	7,609	6,064	25.5
Transportation	3,809	3,636	3,189	2,881	2,973	3,613	16,488	15,147	8.9
Communication	1,605	1,585	1,388	1,177	1,134	1,414	6,889	6,779	1.6
Power	7,001	6,787	6,516	6,250	6,431	8,962	32,985	45,313	-27.2
Highway and street	7,289	5,979	4,403	3,725	3,815	7,263	25,212	25,304	-0.4
Sewage and waste disposal	2,134	2,042	1,862	1,666	1,689	1,904	9,393	8,035	16.9
Water supply	1,108	1,049	995	854	983	1,194	4,990	4,941	1.0
Conservation and development	677	646	613	649 5 804	539 5 613	541	3,123	2,559	22.0 55.3
Manufacturing	7,400	6,832	6,458	5,804	5,612	4,430	32,105	20,677	55.3
Total Private Construction ¹	64,331	60,874	56,412	50,603	51,146	58,295	283,366	265,070	6.9
Residential	31,735	29,474	27,441	23,830	24,377	29,426	136,857	129,031	6.1
New single family	17,836	16,887	16,125	14,002	14,910	16,017	79,761	70,325	13.4
New multi-family	4,156	4,176	3,878	3,707	3,507	3,478	19,424	15,540	25.0
Nonresidential	32,596	31,400	28,971	26,773	26,769	28,868	146,509	136,038	7.7
Lodging	1,605	1,587	1,489	1,402	1,319	1,249	7,402	6,092	21.5
Office	3,915	3,787	3,552	3,176	3,190	3,085	17,619	14,137	24.6
Commercial	5,382	5,382	4,793	4,500	4,562	4,890	24,619	21,573	14.1
Health care	2,529	2,517	2,384	2,305	2,301	2,424	12,035	11,302	6.5
Educational	1,446	1,394	1,228	1,170	1,169	1,525	6,407	6,579	-2.6
Religious	277	270	252	238	244	255	1,281	1,252	2.3
Amusement and recreation	882	804	684	648	628	600	3,647	2,827	29.0
Transportation	1,210	1,107	885	757	855	1,062	4,813	4,202	14.5
Communication	1,591	1,573	1,370	1,164	1,122	1,402	6,820	6,709	1.7
Power	6,286	6,079	5,816	5,543	5,697	7,887	29,421	40,467	-27.3
Manufacturing	7,347	6,782	6,405	5,763	5,576	4,384	31,873	20,453	55.8
Total Public Construction ²	23,836	21,814	18,848	17,068	17,126	23,409	98,691	95,726	3.1
Residential	554	559	463	422	421	408	2,419	1,854	30.5
Nonresidential	23,283	21,254	18,384	16,647	16,705	23,002	96,272	93,872	2.6
Office	750	692	610	577	602	657	3,231	3,066	5.4
Commercial	189	162	174	152	130	165	806	688	17.2
Health care	745	749	739	689	669	784	3,591	4,018	-10.6
Educational	5,459	5,119	4,506	4,189	4,117	5,289	23,391	22,573	3.6
Public safety	654	710	656	626	641	764	3,286	3,608	-8.9
Amusement and recreation	964	861	796	684	657	820	3,963	3,237	22.4
Transportation	2,599	2,530	2,304	2,124	2,118	2,551	11,675	10,945	6.7
Power	715	709	700	707	734	1,075	3,564	4,846	-26.5
Highway and street	7,251	5,953	4,387	3,709	3,801	7,253	25,100	25,273	-0.7
Sewage and waste disposal	2,117	2,026	1,849	1,650	1,672	1,881	9,314	7,931	17.4
Water supply	1,067	1,007	954	817	946	1,146	4,790	4,735	1.2
Conservation and development	669	638	600	633	528	533	3,068	2,509	22.3

^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 3. Coefficients of Variation and Standard Errors by Type of Construction (Percent)

	Coefficient of variation		,		
Type of Construction	Monthly estimate	Year-to-date estimate		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	4.8	5.3	4.6	7.5
Nonresidential	0.9	0.6	0.9	0.9	1.2
Lodging	2.5	2.2	5.0	1.7	5.1
Office	1.8	1.8	2.9	1.2	3.2
Commercial	2.3	1.7	3.0	1.3	3.5
Health care	2.0	2.2	2.8	1.1	3.0
Educational	2.3	1.7	2.5	2.0	3.2
Religious	6.4	5.1	8.0	3.5	8.4
Public safety	3.5	2.3	3.1	2.4	3.2
Amusement and recreation	4.1	3.1	4.6	4.5	7.3
Transportation	2.6	2.2	3.0	1.7	3.0
Communication	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Power	0.4	0.2		0.3	0.3
Highway and street	3.4	2.0		4.2	4.1
Sewage and waste disposal	3.8	3.6		4.0	5.7
Water supply	4.7	3.9		4.4	5.8
Conservation and development	3.5	3.1	4.5	3.7	5.8
Manufacturing	0.9	0.8	1.5	0.4	1.4
Total Private Construction	0.8	0.7	1.0	0.5	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	5.5	5.7	7.3	2.1	6.9
Nonresidential	0.8	0.7	1.0	0.5	1.2
Lodging	2.5	2.2		1.7	5.2
Office	2.1	2.0		1.3	3.6
Commercial	2.3	1.8		1.4	3.6
Health care	2.5	2.8		1.3	3.7
Educational	3.2	2.6		1.7	4.2
Religious	6.5	5.1	8.0	3.5	8.4
Amusement and recreation	4.7	3.6		1.9	6.7
Transportation	5.6	5.3		2.8	5.0
Communication	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Power Manufacturing	0.2 0.9	0.1 0.8		0.2 0.4	0.3 1.5
Total Public Construction	1.4	0.9		1.5	1.9
Residential	6.0	4.8		4.6	7.5
Nonresidential	1.4	0.9		1.5	1.9
Office	3.2	3.9		3.3	6.4
Commercial	7.3	5.7		6.8	19.1
Health care	2.7	2.7		2.1	4.0
Educational	2.7	2.0		2.4	4.0
Public safety	3.6	2.3		2.4	3.1
Amusement and recreation	6.1	4.8		8.1	11.5
Transportation	2.7	2.4		1.8	3.3
Power	4.2	2.6		2.9	3.8
Highway and street	3.4	2.0		4.2	4.1
Sewage and waste disposal	3.8	3.6		4.0	5.8
Water supply	4.9	4.1	5.4	4.6	6.0
Conservation and development	3.4	3.1	4.6	3.7	5.9

Table 4. Annual Value of Construction Put in Place in the United States

(Millions of dollars. Details may not add to totals due to rounding.)

Type of Construction	2014 ^r	2013 ^r	Percent change	Coefficient of Variation
Total Construction	962,057	918,349	4.8	0.5
Residential	343,748	341,215	0.7	3.7
Nonresidential	618,310	577,134	7.1	0.5
Lodging	16,124	13,484	19.6	2.6
Office	46,056	-	21.3	1.5
Commercial	62,708	53,159	18.0	2.1
Health care	38,410	40,689	-5.6	1.5
Educational	79,700	79,060	0.8	1.3
Religious	3,248	3,590	-9.5	4.1
Public safety	9,380	9,506	-1.3	2.4
Amusement and recreation	16,630	15,207	9.4	2.5
Transportation	41,786	39,459	5.9	1.7
Communication	17,093	17,783	-3.9	NA
Power	101,216	93,317	8.5	0.3
Highway and street	84,220	81,364	3.5	1.6
Sewage and waste disposal	23,321	22,425	4.0	2.5
Water supply	13,334	13,597	-1.9	2.9
Conservation and development	7,323	5,967	22.7	2.0
Manufacturing	57,761	50,548	14.3	0.8
Total Private Construction ¹	686,359	647,667	6.0	0.7
Residential	338,693	335,379	1.0	1.1
New single family	193,600	170,768	13.4	4.0
New multi-family	41,806	31,500	32.7	4.7
Nonresidential	347,666	312,288	11.3	0.7
Lodging	15,698	13,028	20.5	2.6
Office	38,403	30,133	27.4	1.8
Commercial	60,761	50,947	19.3	2.2
Health care	28,556	29,696	-3.8	1.9
Educational	16,699	16,919	-1.3	2.5
Religious	3,242	3,565	-9.1	4.1
Public safety	219	125	75.2	16.6
Amusement and recreation	7,481	6,916	8.2	3.4
Transportation Communication	11,823	11,029	7.2 -4.0	3.6 NA
Power	16,919 89,389	17,619 81,278	10.0	0.2
	239	356	-32.9	17.8
Sewage and waste disposal Water supply	559	591	-52.9 -5.4	7.3
Manufacturing	57,239	49,863	14.8	0.8
Total Public Construction ²	275,698	270,682	1.9	0.7
Residential	5,054	5,836	-13.4	3.7
Nonresidential	270,644	264,846	2.2	0.7
Office	7,653	7,847	-2.5	1.8
Commercial	1,947	2,212	-12.0	4.9
Health care	9,854	10,993	-10.4	2.2
Educational	63,001	62,141	1.4	1.6
Public safety	9,160	-	-2.4	2.4
Amusement and recreation	9,150		10.4	3.7
Transportation	29,963	28,430	5.4	1.8
Power	11,826		-1.8	4.3
Highway and street	83,961	81,250	3.3	1.6
Sewage and waste disposal	23,082		4.6	2.5
Water supply	12,775	-	-1.8	2.9
Conservation and development	7,142		22.0	2.0

NA Not applicable Revised

¹Includes the following categories of private construction not shown separately: highway and street, and conservation and development.

²Includes the following categories of public construction not shown separately: lodging, religious, communication, and manufacturing.