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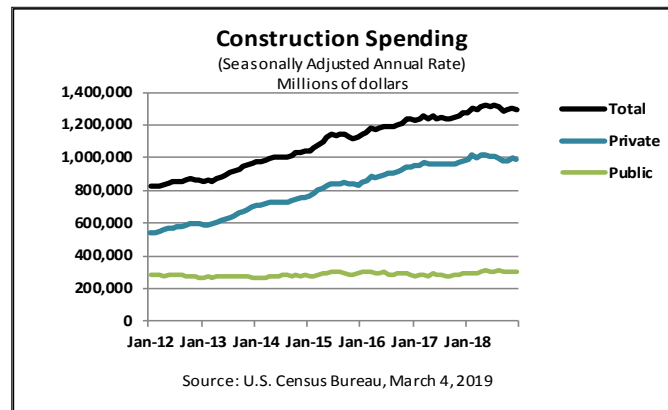
MONTHLY CONSTRUCTION SPENDING, DECEMBER 2018

Release Number: CB19-20

Data collection and processing were delayed for this indicator release due to the lapse in federal funding from December 22, 2018 through January 25, 2019. Processing and data quality were monitored throughout and response rates were consistent with normal levels.

March 4, 2019 — The U.S. Census Bureau announced the following value put in place construction statistics for December 2018:

CONSTRUCTION SPENDING	
DECEMBER 2018	\$1,292.7 billion
NOVEMBER 2018 (revised)	\$1,300.6 billion
Next release: March 13, 2019	
Seasonally Adjusted Annual Rate	
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, March 4, 2019	



Total Construction

Construction spending during December 2018 was estimated at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$1,292.7 billion, 0.6 percent (± 1.0 percent)* below the revised November estimate of \$1,300.6 billion. The December figure is 1.6 percent (± 1.2 percent) above the December 2017 estimate of \$1,272.6 billion.

The value of construction in 2018 was \$1,297.7 billion, 4.1 percent (± 1.0 percent) above the \$1,246.0 billion spent in 2017.

Private Construction

Spending on private construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$991.2 billion, 0.6 percent (± 0.7 percent)* below the revised November estimate of \$997.1 billion. Residential construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$536.7 billion in December, 1.4 percent (± 1.3 percent) below the revised November estimate of \$544.2 billion. Nonresidential construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$454.5 billion in December, 0.4 percent (± 0.7 percent)* above the revised November estimate of \$452.9 billion.

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The value of private construction in 2018 was \$995.6 billion, 3.4 percent (± 1.2 percent) above the \$962.8 billion spent in 2017. Residential construction in 2018 was \$542.3 billion, 3.3 percent (± 2.1 percent) above the 2017 figure of \$524.9 billion and nonresidential construction was \$453.4 billion, 3.5 percent (± 1.2 percent) above the \$437.8 billion in 2017.

Public Construction

In December, the estimated seasonally adjusted annual rate of public construction spending was \$301.5 billion, 0.6 percent (± 1.6 percent)* below the revised November estimate of \$303.5 billion. Educational construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$77.5 billion, nearly the same as (± 1.5 percent)* the revised November estimate of \$77.5 billion. Highway construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$89.1 billion, 0.9 percent (± 4.3 percent)* below the revised November estimate of \$89.9 billion.

The value of public construction in 2018 was \$302.0 billion, 6.6 percent (± 1.8 percent) above the \$283.2 billion spent in 2017. Educational construction in 2018 was \$73.6 billion, 3.8 percent (± 3.5 percent) above the 2017 figure of \$71.0 billion and highway construction was \$92.6 billion, 4.2 percent (± 3.9 percent) above the \$88.9 billion in 2017.

The January 2019 Monthly Construction Spending Report is scheduled for release on March 13, 2019. View the full schedule in the Economic Briefing Room: www.census.gov/economic-indicators/. The full text and tables for this release can be found at www.census.gov/constructionspending/.

The release of data for March 2019 on May 1, 2019, will include adjustments to the estimates for January 2019 forward to account for additional projects identified as eligible for inclusion in the sampling frame. Data back to January 2015 will also be revised to account for these additional projects as part of the annual revisions to be issued later this year.

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

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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, 0.83 percent; private construction, 1.01 percent; and public construction, 1.09 percent. Explanations of confidence intervals and sampling variability can be found on our website at www.census.gov/construction/c30/methodology.html.

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/

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.

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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	Dec 2018 ^p	Nov 2018 ^f	Oct 2018 ^f	Sep 2018	Aug 2018	Dec 2017	Percent change Dec 2018 from -	
							Nov 2018	Dec 2017
Total Construction	1,292,717	1,300,559	1,290,551	1,287,893	1,311,824	1,272,639	-0.6	1.6
Residential	542,178	550,027	532,240	536,093	547,452	550,619	-1.4	-1.5
Nonresidential	750,540	750,532	758,311	751,800	764,372	722,020	0.0	4.0
Lodging	33,578	33,253	33,613	32,461	32,536	30,239	1.0	11.0
Office	74,835	74,253	76,785	73,079	73,778	69,152	0.8	8.2
Commercial	86,188	86,807	88,145	87,815	88,335	89,061	-0.7	-3.2
Health care	41,360	41,052	42,863	41,871	42,155	43,304	0.8	-4.5
Educational	98,462	99,016	98,578	96,087	94,419	93,150	-0.6	5.7
Religious	3,028	3,091	2,967	2,909	2,907	2,977	-2.0	1.7
Public safety	9,335	9,276	9,703	9,217	9,510	8,886	0.6	5.1
Amusement and recreation	27,088	27,403	27,929	28,238	27,886	25,127	-1.1	7.8
Transportation	53,088	53,875	52,652	53,004	53,898	50,000	-1.5	6.2
Communication	24,964	23,872	24,075	23,923	24,187	25,243	4.6	-1.1
Power	98,838	99,008	99,403	100,787	103,578	91,766	-0.2	7.7
Highway and street	89,482	90,220	90,801	91,718	96,808	87,917	-0.8	1.8
Sewage and waste disposal	22,058	22,150	22,111	22,162	22,347	21,105	-0.4	4.5
Water supply	13,041	13,083	14,344	14,163	14,837	12,019	-0.3	8.5
Conservation and development	7,467	7,554	8,444	8,891	9,492	7,580	-1.2	-1.5
Manufacturing	67,727	66,618	65,900	65,475	67,697	64,496	1.7	5.0
Total Private Construction¹	991,171	997,079	984,149	983,239	999,219	983,122	-0.6	0.8
Residential	536,655	544,209	526,095	529,951	540,912	543,679	-1.4	-1.3
New single family	267,440	276,184	282,606	283,894	285,920	281,440	-3.2	-5.0
New multifamily	65,245	63,306	61,905	61,480	57,371	62,001	3.1	5.2
Nonresidential	454,516	452,870	458,054	453,288	458,307	439,443	0.4	3.4
Lodging	32,168	31,863	32,281	31,186	30,966	29,027	1.0	10.8
Office	64,880	64,902	67,003	64,083	63,441	60,242	0.0	7.7
Commercial	82,120	82,972	84,281	84,186	84,908	86,092	-1.0	-4.6
Health care	32,726	31,683	33,567	32,428	32,931	33,379	3.3	-2.0
Educational	20,960	21,534	22,086	20,770	20,658	21,294	-2.7	-1.6
Religious	3,028	3,091	2,967	2,909	2,907	2,977	-2.0	1.7
Amusement and recreation	14,604	14,950	14,832	15,189	15,230	14,440	-2.3	1.1
Transportation	17,510	17,742	17,241	17,587	17,529	16,897	-1.3	3.6
Communication	24,764	23,612	23,764	23,639	23,885	25,146	4.9	-1.5
Power	92,816	92,809	93,135	95,266	97,568	85,496	0.0	8.6
Manufacturing	67,583	66,450	65,554	64,966	67,113	63,952	1.7	5.7
Total Public Construction²	301,546	303,481	306,402	304,654	312,605	289,517	-0.6	4.2
Residential	5,522	5,818	6,145	6,141	6,540	6,939	-5.1	-20.4
Nonresidential	296,024	297,662	300,258	298,513	306,065	282,578	-0.6	4.8
Office	9,954	9,352	9,781	8,996	10,338	8,911	6.4	11.7
Commercial	4,068	3,835	3,863	3,629	3,427	2,969	6.1	37.0
Health care	8,634	9,369	9,296	9,443	9,224	9,924	-7.8	-13.0
Educational	77,502	77,482	76,492	75,318	73,761	71,856	0.0	7.9
Public safety	9,162	9,119	9,564	9,084	9,363	8,811	0.5	4.0
Amusement and recreation	12,483	12,454	13,096	13,049	12,656	10,687	0.2	16.8
Transportation	35,578	36,132	35,411	35,417	36,369	33,103	-1.5	7.5
Power	6,022	6,199	6,268	5,521	6,010	6,270	-2.9	-4.0
Highway and street	89,111	89,884	90,491	91,483	96,565	87,783	-0.9	1.5
Sewage and waste disposal	21,447	21,596	21,525	21,648	21,890	20,947	-0.7	2.4
Water supply	12,855	12,883	14,058	13,987	14,533	11,889	-0.2	8.1
Conservation and development	7,453	7,538	8,424	8,872	9,473	7,576	-1.1	-1.6

^p Preliminary ^f Revised

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.

Data are at an annual rate, adjusted for seasonality but not price changes. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Construction Spending, March 4, 2019. 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>

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	Dec 2018 ^p	Nov 2018 ^r	Oct 2018 ^r	Sep 2018	Aug 2018	Dec 2017	Year-to-date		
							Dec 2018	Dec 2017	Percent change
Total Construction	97,552	107,987	115,136	115,840	121,262	96,734	1,297,659	1,246,000	4.1
Residential	39,149	44,669	46,942	47,573	50,331	40,658	548,658	531,657	3.2
Nonresidential	58,404	63,318	68,194	68,267	70,931	56,075	749,001	714,343	4.9
Lodging	2,737	2,795	2,887	2,724	2,752	2,455	32,031	28,672	11.7
Office	6,059	6,361	6,712	6,437	6,354	5,563	72,975	66,850	9.2
Commercial	6,787	7,319	7,922	7,818	7,884	7,003	89,966	87,733	2.5
Health care	3,373	3,502	3,762	3,676	3,680	3,554	41,994	41,916	0.2
Educational	7,014	7,633	8,166	8,506	9,673	6,609	94,527	91,213	3.6
Religious	240	253	274	273	274	228	3,017	3,366	-10.4
Public safety	760	799	856	858	837	721	9,223	8,290	11.3
Amusement and recreation	2,118	2,318	2,456	2,461	2,493	1,963	26,547	24,851	6.8
Transportation	4,210	4,677	4,795	4,793	4,867	3,953	51,981	45,173	15.1
Communication	2,332	2,188	2,095	1,994	2,044	2,319	24,633	24,831	-0.8
Power	8,301	8,523	8,590	8,420	8,533	7,748	100,175	96,513	3.8
Highway and street	5,327	7,618	9,759	10,302	11,310	5,281	92,824	89,053	4.2
Sewage and waste disposal	1,682	1,897	2,103	2,052	2,097	1,617	22,029	20,386	8.1
Water supply	1,006	1,104	1,307	1,276	1,331	936	13,817	11,806	17.0
Conservation and development	615	647	737	897	871	611	8,155	7,244	12.6
Manufacturing	5,841	5,685	5,771	5,781	5,931	5,516	65,108	66,448	-2.0
Total Private Construction¹	76,249	82,906	86,476	86,071	89,298	76,287	995,636	962,780	3.4
Residential	38,706	44,175	46,390	47,015	49,742	40,103	542,279	524,947	3.3
New single family	19,847	24,208	25,675	26,350	26,652	20,944	284,172	270,163	5.2
New multifamily	5,066	5,315	5,406	5,144	5,011	4,810	60,353	59,945	0.7
Nonresidential	37,543	38,730	40,086	39,056	39,556	36,184	453,356	437,833	3.5
Lodging	2,620	2,679	2,776	2,617	2,621	2,354	30,876	27,985	10.3
Office	5,239	5,576	5,850	5,624	5,438	4,841	63,464	58,564	8.4
Commercial	6,456	6,983	7,591	7,464	7,577	6,761	86,356	84,637	2.0
Health care	2,673	2,729	2,971	2,842	2,881	2,739	32,814	32,645	0.5
Educational	1,584	1,701	1,811	1,712	1,883	1,614	20,915	20,263	3.2
Religious	240	253	274	273	274	228	3,017	3,366	-10.4
Amusement and recreation	1,174	1,261	1,284	1,263	1,336	1,152	14,592	13,757	6.1
Transportation	1,480	1,587	1,554	1,519	1,533	1,417	17,020	14,779	15.2
Communication	2,315	2,166	2,069	1,970	2,019	2,311	24,455	24,701	-1.0
Power	7,828	8,014	8,040	7,933	8,005	7,257	94,167	90,615	3.9
Manufacturing	5,829	5,671	5,743	5,738	5,883	5,470	64,691	65,796	-1.7
Total Public Construction²	21,303	25,081	28,659	29,769	31,964	20,447	302,024	283,220	6.6
Residential	442	494	552	558	589	556	6,379	6,710	-4.9
Nonresidential	20,861	24,587	28,108	29,211	31,375	19,891	295,645	276,510	6.9
Office	821	784	862	814	916	722	9,511	8,286	14.8
Commercial	332	336	332	354	307	241	3,610	3,096	16.6
Health care	700	772	792	834	799	815	9,179	9,270	-1.0
Educational	5,430	5,933	6,356	6,794	7,790	4,996	73,613	70,950	3.8
Public safety	746	786	844	847	825	715	9,092	8,193	11.0
Amusement and recreation	944	1,057	1,173	1,198	1,157	811	11,956	11,094	7.8
Transportation	2,730	3,091	3,241	3,274	3,334	2,536	34,960	30,393	15.0
Power	473	509	550	487	528	491	6,009	5,898	1.9
Highway and street	5,298	7,587	9,730	10,278	11,286	5,270	92,571	88,855	4.2
Sewage and waste disposal	1,634	1,850	2,053	2,003	2,056	1,605	21,647	20,160	7.4
Water supply	991	1,086	1,276	1,260	1,303	925	13,614	11,620	17.2
Conservation and development	614	646	735	896	869	610	8,135	7,225	12.6

^p Preliminary ^r Revised

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.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Construction Spending, March 4, 2019.

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>

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	0.8	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.7
Residential	3.8	2.8	3.6	4.2	3.2
Nonresidential	0.8	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.7
Lodging	1.8	1.4	1.8	0.7	2.5
Office	2.0	1.3	1.9	1.2	1.7
Commercial	2.0	1.7	2.1	1.1	1.7
Health care	1.7	1.2	1.4	1.2	2.3
Educational	2.0	1.3	1.7	0.8	2.1
Religious	5.5	3.9	4.6	3.3	5.6
Public safety	3.7	2.2	2.8	3.0	4.5
Amusement and recreation	2.7	1.8	2.9	1.6	2.8
Transportation	1.4	1.1	1.9	1.0	1.6
Communication	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Power	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.5
Highway and street	3.3	1.7	2.4	2.6	4.0
Sewage and waste disposal	4.0	2.3	3.0	2.5	4.3
Water supply	4.6	2.9	4.8	3.7	5.9
Conservation and development	2.4	2.6	3.3	1.3	2.5
Manufacturing	1.0	0.7	0.9	0.2	1.0
Total Private Construction	0.7	0.5	0.7	0.4	0.7
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	5.8	5.9	3.9	1.3	3.7
Nonresidential	0.7	0.5	0.7	0.4	0.7
Lodging	1.7	1.3	1.8	0.7	2.4
Office	2.2	1.4	1.7	1.3	1.8
Commercial	2.1	1.8	2.1	1.1	1.7
Health care	2.1	1.5	1.7	1.4	2.9
Educational	2.4	1.8	2.6	0.8	2.2
Religious	5.5	3.9	4.6	3.3	5.6
Amusement and recreation	2.9	1.8	2.7	1.0	2.4
Transportation	1.0	1.0	3.3	1.0	2.7
Communication	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Power	0.3	0.3	0.4	0.1	0.5
Manufacturing	1.0	0.7	0.9	0.2	1.0
Total Public Construction	1.4	0.7	1.1	1.0	1.5
Residential	3.8	2.8	3.6	4.2	3.2
Nonresidential	1.4	0.8	1.1	1.0	1.5
Office	3.8	3.2	9.0	2.5	4.6
Commercial	6.6	4.7	6.9	4.5	11.0
Health care	2.5	1.7	2.2	1.8	2.4
Educational	2.4	1.6	2.1	0.9	2.7
Public safety	3.8	2.2	2.8	3.0	4.5
Amusement and recreation	4.7	3.5	5.5	3.4	6.2
Transportation	1.8	1.4	2.2	1.2	1.9
Power	6.8	4.4	5.4	4.6	4.4
Highway and street	3.4	1.7	2.4	2.6	4.0
Sewage and waste disposal	4.0	2.4	3.0	2.5	4.3
Water supply	4.6	3.0	4.9	3.8	6.1
Conservation and development	2.4	2.6	3.3	1.3	2.5

NA Not applicable

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Construction Spending, March 4, 2019. Additional information on the survey methodology may be found at <www.census.gov/construction/c30/meth.html>

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	2018 ^b	2017	Percent change	Coefficient of variation
Total Construction	1,297,659	1,246,000	4.1	0.5
Residential	548,658	531,657	3.2	2.8
Nonresidential	749,001	714,343	4.9	0.5
Lodging	32,031	28,672	11.7	1.4
Office	72,975	66,850	9.2	1.3
Commercial	89,966	87,733	2.5	1.7
Health care	41,994	41,916	0.2	1.2
Educational	94,527	91,213	3.6	1.3
Religious	3,017	3,366	-10.4	3.9
Public safety	9,223	8,290	11.3	2.2
Amusement and recreation	26,547	24,851	6.8	1.8
Transportation	51,981	45,173	15.1	1.1
Communication	24,633	24,831	-0.8	NA
Power	100,175	96,513	3.8	0.3
Highway and street	92,824	89,053	4.2	1.7
Sewage and waste disposal	22,029	20,386	8.1	2.3
Water supply	13,817	11,806	17.0	2.9
Conservation and development	8,155	7,244	12.6	2.6
Manufacturing	65,108	66,448	-2.0	0.7
Total Private Construction¹	995,636	962,780	3.4	0.5
Residential	542,279	524,947	3.3	1.1
New single family	284,172	270,163	5.2	4.0
New multifamily	60,353	59,945	0.7	5.9
Nonresidential	453,356	437,833	3.5	0.5
Lodging	30,876	27,985	10.3	1.3
Office	63,464	58,564	8.4	1.4
Commercial	86,356	84,637	2.0	1.8
Health care	32,814	32,645	0.5	1.5
Educational	20,915	20,263	3.2	1.8
Religious	3,017	3,366	-10.4	3.9
Public safety	131	96	36.5	10.6
Amusement and recreation	14,592	13,757	6.1	1.8
Transportation	17,020	14,779	15.2	1.0
Communication	24,455	24,701	-1.0	NA
Power	94,167	90,615	3.9	0.3
Sewage and waste disposal	382	226	69.0	15.5
Water supply	203	186	9.1	13.3
Manufacturing	64,691	65,796	-1.7	0.7
Total Public Construction²	302,024	283,220	6.6	0.7
Residential	6,379	6,710	-4.9	2.8
Nonresidential	295,645	276,510	6.9	0.8
Office	9,511	8,286	14.8	3.2
Commercial	3,610	3,096	16.6	4.7
Health care	9,179	9,270	-1.0	1.7
Educational	73,613	70,950	3.8	1.6
Public safety	9,092	8,193	11.0	2.2
Amusement and recreation	11,956	11,094	7.8	3.5
Transportation	34,960	30,393	15.0	1.4
Power	6,009	5,898	1.9	4.4
Highway and street	92,571	88,855	4.2	1.7
Sewage and waste disposal	21,647	20,160	7.4	2.4
Water supply	13,614	11,620	17.2	3.0
Conservation and development	8,135	7,225	12.6	2.6

NA Not applicable ^bPreliminary¹Includes 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.Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Construction Spending, March 4, 2019. Additional information on the survey methodology may be found at <www.census.gov/construction/c30/meth.html>