



ECONOMICS
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ADMINISTRATION

U.S. CENSUS BUREAU

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SEPTEMBER 2004 CONSTRUCTION AT \$1,013.9 BILLION ANNUAL RATE

Construction put in place spending during September 2004 was estimated at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$1,013.9 billion, nearly the same (± 1.6 percent) as the revised August estimate of \$1,014.0 billion, according to the U.S. Commerce Department's Census Bureau. The September figure is 8.9 (± 1.9) percent above the September 2003 estimate of \$930.8 billion.

During the first 9 months of this year, construction spending amounted to \$741.2 billion, 9.4 (± 1.6) percent above the \$677.8 billion for the same period in 2003.

PRIVATE CONSTRUCTION

Spending on private construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$777.5 billion, 0.1 (± 1.8) percent below the revised August estimate of \$778.4 billion. Residential construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$551.6 billion in September, 0.2 (± 1.8) percent below the revised August estimate of \$553.0 billion. Nonresidential construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$225.8 billion in September, 0.2 (± 1.8) percent above the revised August estimate of \$225.4 billion.

PUBLIC CONSTRUCTION

In September, the estimated seasonally adjusted annual rate of public construction spending was \$236.4 billion, 0.3 (± 2.6) percent above the revised August estimate of \$235.6 billion. Educational construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$64.3 billion, 2.2 (± 3.8) percent above the revised August estimate of \$62.9 billion. Highway construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$63.9 billion, 1.5 (± 6.1) percent below the revised August estimate of \$64.9 billion.

October 2004 data will be released on December 1, 2004 at 10:00 AM EST.

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 errors 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. If the range contains zero, it is uncertain whether there was an increase or decrease; that is, the change was not statistically significant. 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, 0.7 percent; private construction, 0.6 percent; and public construction, 2.0 percent.

More detailed data and a discussion of methodologies appear at our website: <http://www.census.gov/constructionspending>

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	Sep 2004 ^P	Aug 2004 ^r	Jul 2004 ^r	Jun 2004	May 2004	Sep 2003	Percent change Sep 2004 from -	
							Aug 2004	Sep 2003
Total Construction	1,013,892	1,014,028	1,005,129	996,360	992,754	930,763	0.0	8.9
Residential	559,986	561,335	551,309	546,049	543,133	494,681	-0.2	13.2
Nonresidential	453,905	452,693	453,821	450,312	449,622	436,082	0.3	4.1
Lodging	13,458	12,980	13,002	12,864	12,251	10,981	3.7	22.6
Office	43,701	44,266	44,701	44,625	44,094	41,994	-1.3	4.1
Commercial	67,403	68,584	67,950	66,032	64,660	63,113	-1.7	6.8
Health care	33,227	33,092	33,787	33,221	33,543	29,596	0.4	12.3
Educational	77,645	76,080	76,348	77,645	75,320	73,741	2.1	5.3
Religious	8,566	8,282	8,553	8,309	8,273	8,607	3.4	-0.5
Public safety	9,342	9,151	8,806	8,855	8,644	9,325	2.1	0.2
Amusement and recreation	20,198	20,170	20,240	19,924	20,513	19,490	0.1	3.6
Transportation	25,972	26,012	26,818	24,511	25,107	25,426	-0.2	2.1
Communication	13,363	13,168	12,693	12,314	12,381	12,603	1.5	6.0
Power	31,298	30,852	30,214	32,010	31,865	33,058	1.4	-5.3
Highway and street	64,302	65,223	65,966	67,781	69,390	64,914	-1.4	-0.9
Sewage and waste disposal	15,214	14,925	14,880	14,548	15,210	13,932	1.9	9.2
Water supply	10,459	11,002	10,991	10,403	10,100	10,244	-4.9	2.1
Conservation and development	4,743	4,456	4,380	4,081	3,877	4,108	6.4	15.5
Manufacturing	15,016	14,447	14,492	13,189	14,394	14,950	3.9	0.4
Total Private Construction ¹	777,481	778,421	767,132	758,944	756,431	701,230	-0.1	10.9
Residential	551,644	552,997	543,327	538,534	535,543	487,643	-0.2	13.1
Nonresidential	225,838	225,424	223,805	220,410	220,888	213,586	0.2	5.7
Lodging	12,654	12,118	12,263	11,933	11,240	9,605	4.4	31.7
Office	31,915	32,822	32,795	33,095	32,358	30,504	-2.8	4.6
Commercial	63,231	64,428	63,531	61,280	59,969	57,908	-1.9	9.2
Health care	26,483	26,296	27,039	26,399	26,813	23,143	0.7	14.4
Educational	13,383	13,178	12,694	12,191	12,978	13,795	1.6	-3.0
Religious	8,561	8,280	8,550	8,306	8,272	8,603	3.4	-0.5
Amusement and recreation	9,008	9,010	8,836	8,590	8,858	8,231	0.0	9.4
Transportation	6,281	6,391	6,488	6,423	6,412	6,477	-1.7	-3.0
Communication	13,256	13,096	12,599	12,182	12,249	12,486	1.2	6.2
Power	24,304	23,878	23,259	24,724	25,565	26,304	1.8	-7.6
Manufacturing	14,798	14,268	14,275	13,018	14,257	14,783	3.7	0.1
Total Public Construction ²	236,410	235,607	237,997	237,416	236,323	229,533	0.3	3.0
Residential	8,342	8,339	7,982	7,514	7,590	7,038	0.0	18.5
Nonresidential	228,068	227,268	230,016	229,902	228,733	222,495	0.4	2.5
Office	11,786	11,443	11,906	11,530	11,736	11,490	3.0	2.6
Commercial	4,173	4,157	4,419	4,752	4,691	5,205	0.4	-19.8
Health care	6,744	6,796	6,748	6,823	6,729	6,454	-0.8	4.5
Educational	64,262	62,902	63,654	65,454	62,342	59,946	2.2	7.2
Public safety	8,972	8,829	8,504	8,543	8,297	9,032	1.6	-0.7
Amusement and recreation	11,190	11,160	11,404	11,335	11,656	11,259	0.3	-0.6
Transportation	19,691	19,621	20,331	18,088	18,695	18,949	0.4	3.9
Power	6,994	6,974	6,956	7,286	6,300	6,754	0.3	3.6
Highway and street	63,877	64,857	65,620	67,185	68,856	64,712	-1.5	-1.3
Sewage and waste disposal	14,934	14,589	14,560	14,194	14,830	13,460	2.4	11.0
Water supply	10,094	10,556	10,526	9,890	9,671	9,885	-4.4	2.1
Conservation and development	4,218	4,269	4,336	3,586	3,649	3,686	-1.2	14.4

^P Preliminary ^r Revised

¹ Includes the following categories of private construction not shown separately: public safety, highway and street, sewage and waste disposal, water supply, and conservation and development.

² Includes 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	Sep 2004 ^P	Aug 2004 ^r	Jul 2004 ^r	Jun 2004	May 2004	Sep 2003	Year-to-date		Percent change
							Sep 2004	Sep 2003	
Total Construction	94,486	95,559	91,977	90,360	85,213	86,578	741,242	677,791	9.4
Residential	51,819	52,993	50,826	49,648	47,584	45,289	406,745	355,032	14.6
Nonresidential	42,668	42,566	41,151	40,712	37,629	41,289	334,497	322,759	3.6
Lodging	1,122	1,082	1,084	1,072	1,021	915	9,166	8,484	8.0
Office	3,905	3,809	3,812	3,827	3,754	3,755	32,885	30,629	7.4
Commercial	6,273	6,242	6,103	5,808	5,348	5,868	48,516	46,557	4.2
Health care	2,810	2,765	2,797	2,914	2,856	2,549	24,395	22,295	9.4
Educational	7,235	7,699	7,444	7,253	6,221	6,899	57,520	56,551	1.7
Religious	759	755	737	709	683	760	6,082	6,378	-4.6
Public safety	859	796	720	747	706	844	6,424	6,662	-3.6
Amusement and recreation	1,785	1,727	1,726	1,743	1,770	1,757	14,880	14,960	-0.5
Transportation	2,456	2,420	2,371	2,176	2,129	2,422	19,113	18,854	1.4
Communication	1,154	1,151	1,090	1,106	961	1,081	9,247	9,153	1.0
Power	2,747	2,614	2,546	2,654	2,579	2,918	24,378	24,142	1.0
Highway and street	7,377	7,483	6,848	7,003	5,965	7,510	49,455	46,567	6.2
Sewage and waste disposal	1,447	1,404	1,317	1,308	1,285	1,326	10,991	10,087	9.0
Water supply	951	987	953	900	849	950	7,789	7,813	-0.3
Conservation and development	493	401	370	334	291	457	3,141	2,994	4.9
Manufacturing	1,296	1,232	1,234	1,158	1,212	1,280	10,517	10,634	-1.1
Total Private Construction ¹	70,728	71,979	69,614	68,130	65,409	63,269	565,625	508,618	11.2
Residential	51,006	52,260	50,152	48,984	46,951	44,604	401,184	349,996	14.6
Nonresidential	19,722	19,719	19,462	19,146	18,458	18,664	164,442	158,623	3.7
Lodging	1,055	1,010	1,022	994	937	800	8,454	7,555	11.9
Office	2,767	2,822	2,827	2,807	2,742	2,649	24,058	22,219	8.3
Commercial	5,830	5,861	5,717	5,402	4,952	5,312	45,185	43,114	4.8
Health care	2,198	2,193	2,253	2,313	2,303	1,939	19,390	17,615	10.1
Educational	1,165	1,243	1,181	1,120	1,135	1,186	9,766	10,235	-4.6
Religious	758	755	737	709	683	760	6,081	6,370	-4.5
Amusement and recreation	766	756	755	739	766	704	6,346	5,720	10.9
Transportation	559	587	585	585	575	594	4,887	4,881	0.1
Communication	1,145	1,145	1,082	1,095	950	1,071	9,157	9,079	0.9
Power	2,023	1,974	1,956	2,039	2,063	2,223	19,418	20,381	-4.7
Manufacturing	1,278	1,217	1,216	1,144	1,200	1,266	10,367	10,547	-1.7
Total Public Construction ²	23,759	23,581	22,363	22,230	19,804	23,310	175,617	169,173	3.8
Residential	813	733	674	664	633	685	5,562	5,036	10.4
Nonresidential	22,946	22,848	21,689	21,566	19,171	22,625	170,055	164,136	3.6
Office	1,138	987	985	1,020	1,012	1,106	8,827	8,410	5.0
Commercial	444	381	386	406	396	555	3,331	3,444	-3.3
Health care	612	573	544	600	553	610	5,004	4,680	6.9
Educational	6,070	6,457	6,263	6,133	5,086	5,714	47,754	46,316	3.1
Public safety	828	769	695	721	677	820	6,196	6,539	-5.2
Amusement and recreation	1,020	971	971	1,004	1,004	1,053	8,535	9,240	-7.6
Transportation	1,897	1,832	1,786	1,591	1,555	1,827	14,226	13,973	1.8
Power	724	640	590	615	517	695	4,960	3,761	31.9
Highway and street	7,333	7,450	6,815	6,943	5,922	7,489	49,119	46,436	5.8
Sewage and waste disposal	1,422	1,371	1,288	1,279	1,257	1,282	10,719	9,891	8.4
Water supply	916	939	911	857	815	914	7,502	7,507	-0.1
Conservation and development	449	385	367	293	272	422	2,931	2,844	3.1

^P Preliminary ^r Revised

¹ Includes the following categories of private construction not shown separately: public safety, highway and street, sewage and waste disposal, water supply, and conservation and development.

² Includes 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	1.1	0.7	1.0	1.0	1.2	
Residential	5.7	6.1	6.6	3.2	9.0	
Nonresidential	1.0	0.7	1.0	1.1	1.2	
Lodging	4.0	3.2	4.1	2.1	5.7	
Office	3.7	3.2	3.3	1.9	3.8	
Commercial	3.0	2.0	2.7	2.1	3.0	
Health care	3.0	2.5	3.8	1.8	3.5	
Educational	2.4	1.7	2.4	2.1	2.8	
Religious	4.6	3.5	4.1	3.2	5.2	
Public safety	3.6	2.7	3.3	2.9	4.4	
Amusement and recreation	4.0	3.0	3.7	2.2	4.6	
Transportation	1.6	2.5	2.7	2.8	2.8	
Communication	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	
Power	1.3	0.9	1.0	1.6	1.4	
Highway and street	3.6	2.2	2.9	3.8	3.9	
Sewage and waste disposal	3.8	2.5	3.7	3.8	5.3	
Water supply	4.2	2.4	3.7	4.4	6.1	
Conservation and development	4.9	4.2	5.1	10.2	7.5	
Manufacturing	3.7	3.3	3.1	3.2	3.7	
Total Private Construction	1.5	1.2	1.4	1.1	1.6	
Residential	5.0	1.2	1.4	1.1	1.6	
Nonresidential	1.5	1.2	1.4	1.1	1.6	
Lodging	4.1	3.2	4.2	2.1	5.9	
Office	4.8	4.1	4.1	2.2	4.5	
Commercial	3.1	2.1	2.8	2.2	3.1	
Health care	3.5	3.0	4.5	2.1	4.2	
Educational	4.1	3.3	3.7	3.1	4.8	
Religious	4.6	3.5	4.1	3.2	5.2	
Amusement and recreation	5.9	4.4	6.2	3.5	7.0	
Transportation	9.7	5.7	7.3	3.7	7.6	
Communication	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	
Power	1.5	1.2	1.4	1.8	1.6	
Manufacturing	3.7	3.3	3.1	3.2	3.7	
Total Public Construction	1.4	0.9	1.3	1.6	1.8	
Residential	5.7	6.1	6.6	3.2	9.0	
Nonresidential	1.5	0.9	1.3	1.6	1.8	
Office	3.2	2.6	3.4	2.2	5.9	
Commercial	9.0	6.3	9.5	3.8	11.2	
Health care	3.7	3.2	4.6	2.5	5.2	
Educational	2.7	1.9	2.7	2.4	3.3	
Public safety	3.6	2.7	3.3	3.1	4.4	
Amusement and recreation	5.5	4.0	4.4	2.7	6.0	
Transportation	3.2	2.7	3.0	3.2	4.3	
Power	5.1	3.5	4.3	2.9	7.6	
Highway and street	3.6	2.2	2.9	3.8	3.9	
Sewage and waste disposal	3.8	2.5	3.7	3.8	5.4	
Water supply	4.3	2.5	3.8	4.5	6.4	
Conservation and development	5.2	4.5	5.4	10.0	8.2	

NA Not applicable