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JULY 2006 CONSTRUCTION AT \$1,200.0 BILLION ANNUAL RATE

The U.S. Census Bureau of the Department of Commerce announced today that construction spending during July 2006 was estimated at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$1,200.0 billion, 1.2 percent ($\pm 1.4\%$)* below the revised June estimate of \$1,214.2 billion. The July figure is 5.1 percent ($\pm 2.7\%$) above the July 2005 estimate of \$1,141.2 billion.

During the first 7 months of this year, construction spending amounted to \$680.4 billion, 8.0 percent ($\pm 1.9\%$) above the \$630.2 billion for the same period in 2005.

PRIVATE CONSTRUCTION

Spending on private construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$930.9 billion, 1.3 percent ($\pm 1.1\%$) below the revised June estimate of \$943.2 billion. Residential construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$627.4 billion in July, 2.0 percent ($\pm 1.3\%$) below the revised June estimate of \$640.5 billion. Nonresidential construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$303.5 billion in July, 0.3 percent ($\pm 1.1\%$)* above the revised June estimate of \$302.7 billion.

PUBLIC CONSTRUCTION

In July, the estimated seasonally adjusted annual rate of public construction spending was \$269.1 billion, 0.7 percent ($\pm 2.4\%$)* below the revised June estimate of \$271.1 billion. Educational construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$69.9 billion, 1.0 percent ($\pm 4.0\%$)* above the revised June estimate of \$69.2 billion. Highway construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$76.6 billion, 0.6 percent ($\pm 5.9\%$)* below the revised June estimate of \$77.0 billion.

August 2006 data will be released on October 2, 2006 at 10:00 A.M. EDT.

For more detailed data and methodologies, go to our website:

<http://www.census.gov/constructionspending>

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, 0.5 percent; private construction, 0.7 percent; and public construction, 1.1 percent.

New Length of Time data for Private Nonresidential, Private Multifamily and State and Local Construction are available. Go to the Related Studies menu on our website.

* 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	Jul 2006 ^p	Jun 2006 ^r	May 2006 ^r	Apr 2006	Mar 2006	Jul 2005	Percent change Jul 2006 from -	
							Jun 2006	Jul 2005
Total Construction	1,199,990	1,214,249	1,209,192	1,214,449	1,212,385	1,141,238	-1.2	5.1
Residential	636,550	649,893	656,629	667,288	673,641	654,794	-2.1	-2.8
Nonresidential	563,440	564,357	552,562	547,161	538,745	486,444	-0.2	15.8
Lodging	21,320	21,872	19,831	18,848	17,071	11,888	-2.5	79.3
Office	56,057	53,793	52,138	51,081	49,625	45,602	4.2	22.9
Commercial	80,939	80,963	79,826	79,243	78,325	72,287	0.0	12.0
Health care	41,788	41,692	40,796	40,677	39,856	37,208	0.2	12.3
Educational	83,156	82,585	82,674	82,646	82,988	79,627	0.7	4.4
Religious	8,193	8,359	8,389	8,132	8,457	7,953	-2.0	3.0
Public safety	10,675	10,877	10,907	11,071	11,322	10,152	-1.9	5.2
Amusement and recreation	22,333	22,416	21,451	22,595	21,020	18,201	-0.4	22.7
Transportation	30,692	30,645	29,595	29,543	29,244	26,283	0.2	16.8
Communication	14,994	15,375	14,955	15,190	15,323	13,459	-2.5	11.4
Power	41,308	41,921	39,612	40,157	39,880	35,801	-1.5	15.4
Highway and street	76,843	77,389	78,447	74,770	72,711	65,167	-0.7	17.9
Sewage and waste disposal	19,176	19,175	18,846	18,144	18,858	16,878	0.0	13.6
Water supply	12,626	12,941	13,077	12,212	12,700	11,081	-2.4	13.9
Conservation and development	5,654	5,602	5,729	5,493	5,684	5,145	0.9	9.9
Manufacturing	37,686	38,751	36,288	37,359	35,679	29,712	-2.7	26.8
Total Private Construction ¹	930,928	943,162	939,186	948,467	948,697	895,473	-1.3	4.0
Residential	627,387	640,496	647,205	657,807	664,234	646,619	-2.0	-3.0
Nonresidential	303,541	302,666	291,980	290,661	284,464	248,855	0.3	22.0
Lodging	20,981	21,521	19,594	18,673	16,879	11,620	-2.5	80.6
Office	45,101	42,752	41,203	40,207	39,332	34,881	5.5	29.3
Commercial	77,171	77,252	75,977	74,915	73,853	67,794	-0.1	13.8
Health care	32,038	31,980	31,432	31,463	30,811	28,268	0.2	13.3
Educational	13,262	13,356	13,680	13,457	13,972	12,804	-0.7	3.6
Religious	8,178	8,356	8,343	8,121	8,450	7,945	-2.1	2.9
Amusement and recreation	8,952	8,949	8,407	9,671	8,486	7,048	0.0	27.0
Transportation	9,547	9,359	9,143	9,002	9,124	7,072	2.0	35.0
Communication	14,957	15,300	14,879	15,115	15,323	13,337	-2.2	12.1
Power	34,680	33,733	31,570	31,516	31,228	27,133	2.8	27.8
Manufacturing	37,374	38,579	36,111	37,078	35,340	29,592	-3.1	26.3
Total Public Construction ²	269,062	271,088	270,006	265,981	263,688	245,764	-0.7	9.5
Residential	9,163	9,396	9,424	9,481	9,407	8,175	-2.5	12.1
Nonresidential	259,899	261,691	260,582	256,500	254,281	237,590	-0.7	9.4
Office	10,956	11,041	10,935	10,874	10,294	10,721	-0.8	2.2
Commercial	3,769	3,711	3,849	4,328	4,472	4,493	1.6	-16.1
Health care	9,750	9,712	9,364	9,215	9,046	8,940	0.4	9.1
Educational	69,894	69,229	68,995	69,189	69,016	66,823	1.0	4.6
Public safety	10,310	10,499	10,517	10,660	10,887	9,608	-1.8	7.3
Amusement and recreation	13,381	13,467	13,045	12,924	12,534	11,153	-0.6	20.0
Transportation	21,145	21,286	20,452	20,542	20,121	19,210	-0.7	10.1
Power	6,629	8,189	8,042	8,641	8,652	8,668	-19.0	-23.5
Highway and street	76,555	76,980	77,979	74,462	72,266	64,763	-0.6	18.2
Sewage and waste disposal	18,955	18,914	18,567	17,871	18,571	16,737	0.2	13.3
Water supply	12,293	12,570	12,656	11,840	12,289	10,909	-2.2	12.7
Conservation and development	5,558	5,490	5,645	5,414	5,595	5,047	1.2	10.1

^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 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	Jul 2006 ^P	Jun 2006 ^r	May 2006 ^r	Apr 2006	Mar 2006	Jul 2005	Year-to-date		Percent change
							Jul 2006	Jul 2005	
Total Construction	110,562	111,230	104,760	97,285	92,787	105,478	680,382	630,235	8.0
Residential	59,782	60,053	57,534	53,857	51,848	61,517	372,794	358,437	4.0
Nonresidential	50,781	51,177	47,226	43,428	40,939	43,961	307,588	271,798	13.2
Lodging	1,777	1,823	1,653	1,571	1,423	991	10,737	7,383	45.4
Office	4,714	4,674	4,526	4,286	4,115	3,830	29,907	27,571	8.5
Commercial	7,133	7,274	6,820	6,457	6,196	6,362	45,258	40,848	10.8
Health care	3,522	3,656	3,500	3,401	3,256	3,108	23,464	20,639	13.7
Educational	8,181	7,808	6,973	6,400	6,154	7,862	46,972	44,311	6.0
Religious	714	732	698	652	654	693	4,628	4,473	3.5
Public safety	900	925	881	887	860	857	6,104	5,324	14.7
Amusement and recreation	1,920	1,975	1,879	1,870	1,674	1,532	12,326	10,425	18.2
Transportation	2,746	2,711	2,532	2,364	2,087	2,352	16,208	14,416	12.4
Communication	1,200	1,357	1,265	1,147	1,291	1,085	8,472	7,580	11.8
Power	3,436	3,562	3,268	3,239	3,301	2,991	22,651	20,620	9.8
Highway and street	8,112	7,936	7,014	5,297	4,221	6,903	39,573	33,885	16.8
Sewage and waste disposal	1,696	1,770	1,638	1,418	1,407	1,491	10,481	8,806	19.0
Water supply	1,086	1,126	1,104	1,004	964	958	7,016	6,256	12.1
Conservation and development	471	464	464	427	470	434	3,124	2,665	17.2
Manufacturing	3,174	3,386	3,013	3,008	2,865	2,512	20,667	16,596	24.5
Total Private Construction ¹	84,942	85,757	81,545	76,846	74,191	82,083	533,563	496,918	7.4
Residential	58,989	59,217	56,723	53,097	51,125	60,807	367,573	353,827	3.9
Nonresidential	25,953	26,541	24,823	23,749	23,066	21,276	165,990	143,091	16.0
Lodging	1,748	1,793	1,633	1,556	1,407	968	10,603	7,245	46.3
Office	3,810	3,716	3,575	3,376	3,260	2,944	23,710	21,140	12.2
Commercial	6,818	6,947	6,495	6,097	5,846	6,000	42,974	38,256	12.3
Health care	2,708	2,814	2,708	2,613	2,532	2,372	18,099	15,589	16.1
Educational	1,227	1,237	1,208	1,125	1,104	1,171	7,852	7,369	6.6
Religious	713	732	694	651	654	692	4,620	4,461	3.6
Amusement and recreation	757	761	719	816	694	587	5,058	4,423	14.4
Transportation	842	845	823	748	644	621	5,070	3,893	30.2
Communication	1,196	1,350	1,259	1,141	1,291	1,075	8,446	7,544	12.0
Power	2,869	2,836	2,574	2,532	2,679	2,221	18,240	15,899	14.7
Manufacturing	3,148	3,372	2,998	2,984	2,837	2,502	20,500	16,526	24.0
Total Public Construction ²	25,621	25,473	23,215	20,439	18,596	23,394	146,819	133,316	10.1
Residential	793	836	812	760	723	710	5,221	4,610	13.3
Nonresidential	24,828	24,636	22,403	19,679	17,873	22,685	141,598	128,707	10.0
Office	904	959	950	911	856	886	6,197	6,432	-3.7
Commercial	315	327	325	360	350	362	2,284	2,592	-11.9
Health care	815	843	791	788	724	735	5,365	5,050	6.2
Educational	6,954	6,571	5,765	5,276	5,050	6,691	39,120	36,943	5.9
Public safety	868	891	846	852	827	810	5,876	5,129	14.6
Amusement and recreation	1,162	1,214	1,159	1,053	980	945	7,268	6,001	21.1
Transportation	1,904	1,866	1,709	1,617	1,443	1,731	11,138	10,523	5.8
Power	568	727	694	707	623	770	4,411	4,721	-6.6
Highway and street	8,084	7,894	6,974	5,276	4,194	6,863	39,373	33,682	16.9
Sewage and waste disposal	1,678	1,746	1,616	1,398	1,386	1,479	10,339	8,668	19.3
Water supply	1,055	1,096	1,071	978	933	942	6,819	6,128	11.3
Conservation and development	463	455	457	421	463	426	3,073	2,581	19.1

^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	1.0	0.7	1.2	0.9	1.7
Residential	5.8	6.7	8.1	5.3	9.7
Nonresidential	1.0	0.7	1.2	1.0	1.7
Lodging	3.2	3.0	4.3	1.9	6.6
Office	2.9	2.0	4.0	1.4	4.1
Commercial	2.4	2.1	2.9	1.5	4.8
Health care	2.7	2.1	3.1	1.3	3.5
Educational	2.2	1.6	2.3	2.2	3.8
Religious	4.4	4.0	5.1	3.5	6.4
Public safety	5.0	4.6	5.7	2.3	4.7
Amusement and recreation	4.5	3.2	4.2	2.2	5.0
Transportation	3.6	2.2	3.4	2.0	4.7
Communication	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Power	1.5	6.3	7.0	1.8	2.3
Highway and street	3.3	2.1	3.7	3.7	5.4
Sewage and waste disposal	3.5	2.7	4.0	2.8	5.0
Water supply	3.9	3.0	4.5	4.2	5.7
Conservation and development	5.7	3.5	6.8	3.2	5.9
Manufacturing	3.2	2.3	5.2	1.7	4.9
Total Private Construction	1.3	1.0	1.7	0.7	2.2
Residential	5.0	1.1	1.3	0.8	1.4
Nonresidential	1.3	1.0	1.7	0.7	2.2
Lodging	3.2	3.0	4.4	2.0	6.7
Office	3.6	2.3	4.8	1.7	4.8
Commercial	2.6	2.2	3.1	1.6	5.1
Health care	3.2	2.4	3.6	1.4	4.1
Educational	4.2	3.5	5.1	2.5	5.9
Religious	4.4	4.0	5.1	3.5	6.4
Amusement and recreation	7.6	4.8	6.3	3.7	8.6
Transportation	11.1	8.3	10.5	3.1	12.2
Communication	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Power	1.0	8.0	9.2	0.5	1.6
Manufacturing	3.2	2.3	5.2	1.7	4.9
Total Public Construction	1.4	0.9	1.4	1.5	2.3
Residential	5.8	6.7	8.1	5.3	9.7
Nonresidential	1.4	0.9	1.5	1.5	2.3
Office	3.8	3.6	3.8	2.4	4.8
Commercial	5.0	3.9	4.0	3.5	5.7
Health care	4.2	3.7	4.4	2.0	4.8
Educational	2.5	1.8	2.6	2.5	4.3
Public safety	5.1	4.8	5.9	2.3	5.0
Amusement and recreation	5.0	4.2	5.4	2.6	5.9
Transportation	3.7	2.2	3.5	2.3	4.9
Power	4.5	3.8	5.3	6.6	9.2
Highway and street	3.4	2.1	3.7	3.7	5.4
Sewage and waste disposal	3.5	2.7	4.1	2.8	5.0
Water supply	4.0	3.1	4.5	4.3	5.8
Conservation and development	5.9	3.6	7.2	3.3	6.1

NA Not applicable