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SEPTEMBER 2006 CONSTRUCTION AT \$1,195.9 BILLION ANNUAL RATE

The U.S. Census Bureau of the Department of Commerce announced today that construction spending during September 2006 was estimated at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$1,195.9 billion, 0.3 percent ($\pm 1.6\%$)* below the revised August estimate of \$1,200.0 billion. The September figure is 2.9 percent ($\pm 2.6\%$) above the September 2005 estimate of \$1,162.1 billion.

During the first 9 months of this year, construction spending amounted to \$903.2 billion, 6.6 percent ($\pm 1.8\%$) above the \$847.1 billion for the same period in 2005.

PRIVATE CONSTRUCTION

Spending on private construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$922.7 billion, 0.7 percent ($\pm 1.1\%$)* below the revised August estimate of \$929.4 billion. Residential construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$610.0 billion in September, 1.1 percent ($\pm 1.3\%$)* below the revised August estimate of \$617.0 billion. Nonresidential construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$312.7 billion in September, 0.1 percent ($\pm 1.1\%$)* above the revised August estimate of \$312.3 billion.

PUBLIC CONSTRUCTION

In September, the estimated seasonally adjusted annual rate of public construction spending was \$273.2 billion, 0.9 percent ($\pm 2.4\%$)* above the revised August estimate of \$270.7 billion. Educational construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$72.6 billion, 3.0 percent ($\pm 3.0\%$)* above the revised August estimate of \$70.5 billion. Highway construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$74.7 billion, 1.7 percent ($\pm 5.6\%$)* below the revised August estimate of \$75.9 billion.

October 2006 data will be released on December 1, 2006 at 10:00 A.M. EST.

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.

* 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	Sep 2006 ^P	Aug 2006 ^r	Jul 2006 ^r	Jun 2006	May 2006	Sep 2005	Percent change Sep 2006 from -	
							Aug 2006	Sep 2005
Total Construction	1,195,927	1,200,046	1,200,230	1,209,249	1,209,192	1,162,066	-0.3	2.9
Residential	618,388	625,472	635,904	648,862	656,629	662,691	-1.1	-6.7
Nonresidential	577,539	574,574	564,326	560,387	552,562	499,375	0.5	15.7
Lodging	22,432	21,582	20,914	20,060	19,831	13,495	3.9	66.2
Office	58,701	57,940	56,494	52,964	52,138	47,795	1.3	22.8
Commercial	86,112	84,108	80,734	80,100	79,826	74,075	2.4	16.2
Health care	42,984	43,141	42,059	41,527	40,796	39,050	-0.4	10.1
Educational	86,042	83,719	83,327	83,101	82,674	77,606	2.8	10.9
Religious	8,241	8,159	8,076	8,275	8,389	7,700	1.0	7.0
Public safety	10,759	10,583	10,727	10,661	10,907	11,040	1.7	-2.5
Amusement and recreation	23,276	23,111	22,744	22,265	21,451	18,587	0.7	25.2
Transportation	30,297	30,395	30,854	30,128	29,595	27,264	-0.3	11.1
Communication	16,487	15,398	14,933	15,313	14,955	13,247	7.1	24.5
Power	38,811	42,860	41,354	41,751	39,612	37,335	-9.4	4.0
Highway and street	75,013	76,382	77,418	77,921	78,447	66,239	-1.8	13.2
Sewage and waste disposal	20,126	19,454	19,624	19,168	18,846	16,537	3.5	21.7
Water supply	13,337	13,021	12,908	13,140	13,077	11,691	2.4	14.1
Conservation and development	5,723	5,335	5,575	5,818	5,729	5,473	7.3	4.6
Manufacturing	39,201	39,388	36,584	38,196	36,288	32,241	-0.5	21.6
Total Private Construction ¹	922,714	929,382	930,276	937,190	939,186	917,338	-0.7	0.6
Residential	610,014	617,041	627,305	639,426	647,205	654,959	-1.1	-6.9
Nonresidential	312,700	312,341	302,971	297,765	291,980	262,379	0.1	19.2
Lodging	21,403	20,828	20,365	19,724	19,594	13,236	2.8	61.7
Office	47,190	46,818	45,464	42,045	41,203	37,442	0.8	26.0
Commercial	81,933	80,126	76,854	76,440	75,977	69,716	2.3	17.5
Health care	33,112	33,360	32,489	32,035	31,432	29,978	-0.7	10.5
Educational	13,436	13,209	13,275	13,244	13,680	13,219	1.7	1.6
Religious	8,224	8,138	8,068	8,275	8,343	7,690	1.1	6.9
Amusement and recreation	9,946	9,680	9,341	8,801	8,407	7,949	2.7	25.1
Transportation	8,443	8,415	9,132	8,492	9,143	7,455	0.3	13.3
Communication	16,456	15,319	14,858	15,273	14,879	13,196	7.4	24.7
Power	31,945	35,609	35,137	33,771	31,570	29,348	-10.3	8.8
Manufacturing	38,964	39,200	36,319	38,034	36,111	31,883	-0.6	22.2
Total Public Construction ²	273,213	270,664	269,954	272,059	270,006	244,728	0.9	11.6
Residential	8,374	8,431	8,600	9,437	9,424	7,732	-0.7	8.3
Nonresidential	264,839	262,233	261,355	262,622	260,582	236,996	1.0	11.7
Office	11,511	11,122	11,031	10,919	10,935	10,354	3.5	11.2
Commercial	4,179	3,983	3,880	3,661	3,849	4,358	4.9	-4.1
Health care	9,873	9,781	9,571	9,492	9,364	9,072	0.9	8.8
Educational	72,606	70,509	70,053	69,858	68,995	64,387	3.0	12.8
Public safety	10,306	10,174	10,261	10,214	10,517	10,652	1.3	-3.2
Amusement and recreation	13,330	13,431	13,403	13,464	13,045	10,638	-0.8	25.3
Transportation	21,854	21,980	21,722	21,636	20,452	19,809	-0.6	10.3
Power	6,866	7,251	6,218	7,980	8,042	7,987	-5.3	-14.0
Highway and street	74,682	75,943	77,035	77,474	77,979	65,999	-1.7	13.2
Sewage and waste disposal	19,834	19,189	19,346	18,902	18,567	16,318	3.4	21.5
Water supply	12,869	12,589	12,455	12,780	12,656	11,421	2.2	12.7
Conservation and development	5,615	5,241	5,485	5,705	5,645	5,323	7.1	5.5

^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 2006 ^p	Aug 2006 ^r	Jul 2006 ^r	Jun 2006	May 2006	Sep 2005	Year-to-date		
							Sep 2006	Sep 2005	Percent change
Total Construction	109,457	113,745	110,629	110,785	104,760	107,220	903,206	847,096	6.6
Residential	55,902	59,748	59,839	60,228	57,534	60,609	488,675	482,257	1.3
Nonresidential	53,556	53,997	50,790	50,557	47,226	46,611	414,530	364,840	13.6
Lodging	1,869	1,799	1,743	1,672	1,653	1,125	14,220	9,575	48.5
Office	5,159	4,994	4,752	4,590	4,526	4,250	40,013	35,760	11.9
Commercial	7,806	7,597	7,049	7,080	6,820	6,738	60,384	54,269	11.3
Health care	3,670	3,657	3,536	3,599	3,500	3,328	30,747	27,199	13.0
Educational	7,940	8,490	8,191	7,850	6,973	7,141	63,454	59,525	6.6
Religious	741	745	699	722	698	690	6,089	5,853	4.0
Public safety	1,007	942	903	910	881	1,046	8,041	7,277	10.5
Amusement and recreation	2,086	2,053	1,944	1,963	1,879	1,649	16,477	13,705	20.2
Transportation	2,883	2,842	2,754	2,675	2,532	2,587	21,906	19,576	11.9
Communication	1,353	1,397	1,192	1,353	1,265	1,134	11,211	9,930	12.9
Power	3,578	3,891	3,482	3,544	3,268	3,459	30,147	27,043	11.5
Highway and street	8,293	8,695	8,211	7,955	7,014	7,446	56,678	48,921	15.9
Sewage and waste disposal	1,920	1,842	1,733	1,771	1,638	1,584	14,281	11,949	19.5
Water supply	1,217	1,197	1,103	1,140	1,104	1,066	9,461	8,421	12.4
Conservation and development	603	495	469	499	464	600	4,255	3,762	13.1
Manufacturing	3,432	3,363	3,030	3,235	3,013	2,768	27,168	22,077	23.1
Total Private Construction ¹	82,513	86,539	84,901	85,247	81,545	82,855	702,064	664,423	5.7
Residential	55,117	59,001	59,095	59,389	56,723	59,854	481,970	476,153	1.2
Nonresidential	27,395	27,538	25,806	25,858	24,823	23,000	220,094	188,271	16.9
Lodging	1,784	1,736	1,697	1,644	1,633	1,103	13,921	9,383	48.4
Office	4,076	4,027	3,843	3,646	3,575	3,243	31,776	27,415	15.9
Commercial	7,366	7,242	6,727	6,756	6,495	6,280	57,299	50,786	12.8
Health care	2,811	2,845	2,739	2,776	2,708	2,535	23,749	20,596	15.3
Educational	1,139	1,255	1,223	1,221	1,208	1,118	10,225	9,692	5.5
Religious	740	744	698	722	694	689	6,079	5,838	4.1
Amusement and recreation	855	830	791	752	719	678	6,768	5,715	18.4
Transportation	762	762	799	773	823	669	6,479	5,225	24.0
Communication	1,351	1,390	1,186	1,350	1,259	1,129	11,176	9,882	13.1
Power	2,940	3,194	2,940	2,848	2,574	2,696	24,458	20,777	17.7
Manufacturing	3,412	3,348	3,008	3,222	2,998	2,738	26,970	21,959	22.8
Total Public Construction ²	26,945	27,206	25,727	25,538	23,215	24,365	201,142	182,673	10.1
Residential	785	747	744	839	812	754	6,705	6,104	9.8
Nonresidential	26,160	26,459	24,984	24,699	22,403	23,611	194,436	176,569	10.1
Office	1,083	967	909	944	950	1,008	8,237	8,345	-1.3
Commercial	440	356	323	324	325	458	3,085	3,483	-11.4
Health care	859	812	797	823	791	793	6,999	6,603	6.0
Educational	6,801	7,235	6,968	6,629	5,765	6,023	53,228	49,833	6.8
Public safety	964	903	861	870	846	1,008	7,714	7,002	10.2
Amusement and recreation	1,231	1,223	1,152	1,211	1,159	971	9,709	7,990	21.5
Transportation	2,121	2,080	1,955	1,903	1,709	1,919	15,427	14,352	7.5
Power	638	697	542	696	694	762	5,689	6,267	-9.2
Highway and street	8,260	8,650	8,171	7,911	6,974	7,422	56,388	48,662	15.9
Sewage and waste disposal	1,894	1,816	1,710	1,747	1,616	1,565	14,082	11,769	19.7
Water supply	1,165	1,147	1,060	1,110	1,071	1,037	9,151	8,237	11.1
Conservation and development	594	487	462	490	457	588	4,187	3,654	14.6

^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	1.1	1.0	1.6
Residential	6.1	6.1	7.1	3.1	5.6
Nonresidential	1.0	0.7	1.1	1.0	1.6
Lodging	3.2	2.8	4.0	2.1	7.9
Office	2.7	1.8	4.0	1.5	4.1
Commercial	2.5	2.1	2.8	1.5	3.6
Health care	2.6	1.9	3.0	1.3	3.9
Educational	2.2	1.6	2.3	1.7	3.7
Religious	4.3	3.5	4.9	3.3	6.0
Public safety	5.2	4.6	5.6	3.0	7.0
Amusement and recreation	4.5	3.0	4.0	3.1	5.7
Transportation	3.2	2.3	3.4	2.8	5.2
Communication	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Power	1.6	4.7	5.4	0.9	1.8
Highway and street	3.4	2.1	3.5	3.5	5.7
Sewage and waste disposal	3.6	2.4	3.7	3.1	6.3
Water supply	4.0	2.7	4.0	3.7	6.5
Conservation and development	5.7	2.9	5.7	3.7	6.7
Manufacturing	3.0	2.2	4.6	1.7	5.2
Total Private Construction	1.3	1.0	1.6	0.7	1.9
Residential	5.0	1.1	1.3	0.8	1.4
Nonresidential	1.3	1.0	1.6	0.7	1.9
Lodging	3.2	2.8	4.0	2.1	7.8
Office	3.3	2.1	4.8	1.6	4.7
Commercial	2.7	2.2	3.0	1.5	3.8
Health care	3.1	2.3	3.6	1.5	4.5
Educational	4.2	3.4	4.9	2.5	5.5
Religious	4.3	3.5	4.9	3.3	6.0
Amusement and recreation	7.5	4.6	6.3	2.8	8.8
Transportation	10.9	7.3	6.7	4.7	6.2
Communication	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Power	1.2	5.9	7.1	0.5	1.9
Manufacturing	3.0	2.1	4.6	1.8	5.3
Total Public Construction	1.4	0.9	1.4	1.5	2.4
Residential	6.1	6.1	7.1	3.1	5.6
Nonresidential	1.4	0.9	1.4	1.5	2.4
Office	4.0	3.2	3.4	3.3	5.3
Commercial	5.1	3.7	4.0	3.1	7.8
Health care	4.0	3.2	3.9	1.5	4.4
Educational	2.4	1.8	2.6	1.9	4.3
Public safety	5.4	4.8	5.9	3.1	7.3
Amusement and recreation	5.1	3.9	5.1	5.5	7.4
Transportation	3.3	2.4	3.7	3.0	5.8
Power	4.7	3.4	4.3	3.5	3.7
Highway and street	3.4	2.1	3.5	3.5	5.7
Sewage and waste disposal	3.6	2.4	3.7	3.1	6.3
Water supply	4.1	2.7	4.0	3.7	6.5
Conservation and development	5.8	3.0	6.0	3.8	6.9

NA Not applicable