

# U.S. Census Bureau News

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## FEBRUARY 2007 CONSTRUCTION AT \$1,170.8 BILLION ANNUAL RATE

The U.S. Census Bureau of the Department of Commerce announced today that construction spending during February 2007 was estimated at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$1,170.8 billion, 0.3 percent ( $\pm 1.4\%$ )\* above the revised January estimate of \$1,167.7 billion. The February figure is 2.4 percent ( $\pm 2.2\%$ ) below the February 2006 estimate of \$1,199.9 billion.

During the first 2 months of this year, construction spending amounted to \$159.9 billion, 2.4 percent ( $\pm 2.2\%$ ) below the \$163.8 billion for the same period in 2006.

### PRIVATE CONSTRUCTION

Spending on private construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$884.4 billion, 0.2 percent ( $\pm 1.4\%$ )\* above the revised January estimate of \$882.5 billion. Residential construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$562.4 billion in February, 1.0 percent ( $\pm 1.3\%$ )\* below the revised January estimate of \$567.9 billion. Nonresidential construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$322.0 billion in February, 2.3 percent ( $\pm 1.4\%$ ) above the revised January estimate of \$314.6 billion.

### PUBLIC CONSTRUCTION

In February, the estimated seasonally adjusted annual rate of public construction spending was \$286.4 billion, 0.4 percent ( $\pm 2.1\%$ )\* above the revised January estimate of \$285.2 billion. Educational construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$74.5 billion, 0.4 percent ( $\pm 4.0\%$ )\* above the revised January estimate of \$74.2 billion. Highway construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$78.8 billion, 0.4 percent ( $\pm 5.0\%$ )\* above the revised January estimate of \$78.5 billion.

*March 2007 data will be released on April 30, 2007 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 ( $\pm 3.1$ ) 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, 0.8 percent; private construction, 0.7 percent; and public construction, 1.4 percent.

In the May 2007 press release, Total, Public, and State & local construction categories will revise back to January 1993 due to a change in methodology. All other categories revise back to January 2005.

\* 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	Feb 2007 <sup>p</sup>	Jan 2007 <sup>r</sup>	Dec 2006 <sup>r</sup>	Nov 2006	Oct 2006	Feb 2006	Percent change Feb 2007 from -	
							Jan 2007	Feb 2006
<b>Total Construction</b>	<b>1,170,817</b>	<b>1,167,668</b>	<b>1,173,917</b>	<b>1,181,645</b>	<b>1,181,364</b>	<b>1,199,873</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>-2.4</b>
Residential	570,909	576,522	586,945	601,312	609,346	671,588	-1.0	-15.0
Nonresidential	599,908	591,146	586,972	580,333	572,018	528,285	1.5	13.6
Lodging	23,909	23,016	22,674	23,491	23,030	15,659	3.9	52.7
Office	63,690	63,513	61,305	59,991	57,629	50,025	0.3	27.3
Commercial	84,144	82,729	83,628	83,304	83,088	76,855	1.7	9.5
Health care	45,514	45,173	45,067	44,278	43,021	39,698	0.8	14.7
Educational	90,123	89,460	91,419	88,900	84,975	82,647	0.7	9.0
Religious	8,293	8,167	8,245	8,140	7,842	8,161	1.5	1.6
Public safety	12,030	12,110	11,938	11,586	11,456	11,248	-0.7	7.0
Amusement and recreation	22,035	21,962	23,157	23,310	23,060	20,605	0.3	6.9
Transportation	31,371	31,324	30,483	29,153	29,360	28,163	0.2	11.4
Communication	18,262	17,145	16,362	15,903	16,572	15,590	6.5	17.1
Power	39,923	38,074	42,483	41,792	40,196	37,972	4.9	5.1
Highway and street	79,205	78,832	72,727	74,527	75,890	71,405	0.5	10.9
Sewage and waste disposal	20,795	20,847	20,428	19,753	20,332	19,103	-0.2	8.9
Water supply	12,730	12,745	12,629	12,682	12,640	11,905	-0.1	6.9
Conservation and development	6,416	6,574	6,381	5,988	5,538	5,449	-2.4	17.7
Manufacturing	41,469	39,474	38,046	37,535	37,389	33,800	5.1	22.7
<b>Total Private Construction <sup>1</sup></b>	<b>884,380</b>	<b>882,477</b>	<b>893,186</b>	<b>904,032</b>	<b>908,252</b>	<b>940,334</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>-6.0</b>
Residential	562,404	567,870	577,607	592,076	600,751	662,557	-1.0	-15.1
Nonresidential	321,976	314,607	315,579	311,956	307,502	277,777	2.3	15.9
Lodging	22,536	21,968	21,624	22,355	22,162	15,504	2.6	45.4
Office	52,108	52,199	49,751	48,287	45,861	39,508	-0.2	31.9
Commercial	79,032	77,666	78,607	77,998	78,468	72,753	1.8	8.6
Health care	34,474	34,364	34,793	33,787	33,036	30,711	0.3	12.3
Educational	15,631	15,236	15,299	14,723	14,383	13,403	2.6	16.6
Religious	8,276	8,158	8,242	8,097	7,833	8,154	1.4	1.5
Amusement and recreation	8,311	8,598	9,226	9,619	9,639	8,580	-3.3	-3.1
Transportation	8,898	8,754	8,054	7,652	7,361	8,957	1.6	-0.7
Communication	18,188	17,035	16,272	15,842	16,489	15,572	6.8	16.8
Power	31,751	29,898	34,211	34,531	33,505	29,820	6.2	6.5
Manufacturing	41,149	39,206	37,833	37,279	37,154	33,430	5.0	23.1
<b>Total Public Construction <sup>2</sup></b>	<b>286,437</b>	<b>285,191</b>	<b>280,731</b>	<b>277,612</b>	<b>273,112</b>	<b>259,539</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>10.4</b>
Residential	8,505	8,652	9,338	9,236	8,595	9,031	-1.7	-5.8
Nonresidential	277,932	276,539	271,393	268,377	264,517	250,508	0.5	10.9
Office	11,582	11,315	11,553	11,704	11,768	10,517	2.4	10.1
Commercial	5,112	5,063	5,021	5,307	4,620	4,102	1.0	24.6
Health care	11,040	10,809	10,274	10,492	9,985	8,987	2.1	22.8
Educational	74,492	74,224	76,121	74,177	70,593	69,244	0.4	7.6
Public safety	11,571	11,637	11,468	11,081	11,013	10,834	-0.6	6.8
Amusement and recreation	13,724	13,365	13,931	13,691	13,421	12,025	2.7	14.1
Transportation	22,473	22,571	22,429	21,501	21,999	19,206	-0.4	17.0
Power	8,171	8,176	8,272	7,261	6,691	8,152	-0.1	0.2
Highway and street	78,800	78,511	72,310	74,095	75,460	71,123	0.4	10.8
Sewage and waste disposal	20,524	20,574	20,088	19,382	20,051	18,879	-0.2	8.7
Water supply	12,371	12,403	12,269	12,277	12,253	11,525	-0.3	7.3
Conservation and development	6,287	6,458	6,300	5,912	5,469	5,364	-2.6	17.2

<sup>p</sup> Preliminary    <sup>r</sup> Revised

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> 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	Feb 2007 <sup>p</sup>	Jan 2007 <sup>r</sup>	Dec 2006 <sup>r</sup>	Nov 2006	Oct 2006	Feb 2006	Year-to-date		
							Feb 2007	Feb 2006	Percent change
<b>Total Construction</b>	<b>79,071</b>	<b>80,830</b>	<b>88,475</b>	<b>99,964</b>	<b>105,805</b>	<b>80,983</b>	<b>159,901</b>	<b>163,757</b>	<b>-2.4</b>
Residential	36,768	38,805	43,296	50,934	55,092	43,829	75,573	89,720	-15.8
Nonresidential	42,304	42,025	45,179	49,030	50,713	37,154	84,328	74,037	13.9
Lodging	1,992	1,918	1,890	1,958	1,919	1,305	3,910	2,492	56.9
Office	4,912	4,915	4,868	5,021	4,899	3,840	9,827	7,591	29.5
Commercial	6,164	5,943	6,383	6,991	7,336	5,688	12,107	11,379	6.4
Health care	3,563	3,568	3,633	3,741	3,657	3,100	7,131	6,130	16.3
Educational	6,223	6,343	6,778	7,085	7,174	5,722	12,566	11,456	9.7
Religious	621	601	651	706	700	607	1,221	1,178	3.7
Public safety	892	944	984	1,039	1,034	830	1,837	1,652	11.2
Amusement and recreation	1,618	1,623	1,818	1,980	2,025	1,537	3,240	3,009	7.7
Transportation	2,106	2,131	2,413	2,581	2,759	1,899	4,236	3,768	12.4
Communication	1,303	1,280	1,440	1,449	1,510	1,104	2,583	2,213	16.7
Power	3,036	2,946	3,498	3,504	3,418	2,901	5,981	5,845	2.3
Highway and street	3,942	3,933	4,528	6,409	7,579	3,517	7,875	6,992	12.6
Sewage and waste disposal	1,398	1,458	1,546	1,707	1,836	1,274	2,856	2,551	12.0
Water supply	938	939	982	1,083	1,162	863	1,877	1,733	8.3
Conservation and development	475	515	494	517	450	402	989	828	19.4
Manufacturing	3,121	2,970	3,274	3,260	3,256	2,566	6,092	5,222	16.7
<b>Total Private Construction <sup>1</sup></b>	<b>60,501</b>	<b>61,963</b>	<b>67,990</b>	<b>76,601</b>	<b>81,016</b>	<b>64,205</b>	<b>122,464</b>	<b>130,282</b>	<b>-6.0</b>
Residential	36,139	38,168	42,548	50,173	54,366	43,167	74,307	88,423	-16.0
Nonresidential	24,362	23,794	25,442	26,429	26,650	21,038	48,156	41,859	15.0
Lodging	1,878	1,831	1,802	1,863	1,847	1,292	3,709	2,466	50.4
Office	4,053	4,032	3,953	4,055	3,935	3,055	8,085	5,974	35.3
Commercial	5,789	5,575	5,998	6,528	6,964	5,391	11,364	10,772	5.5
Health care	2,691	2,696	2,793	2,852	2,820	2,391	5,387	4,725	14.0
Educational	1,145	1,112	1,165	1,190	1,189	986	2,257	1,951	15.7
Religious	619	600	650	702	699	606	1,219	1,177	3.6
Amusement and recreation	659	662	734	815	832	683	1,321	1,310	0.8
Transportation	571	610	654	680	673	574	1,180	1,169	0.9
Communication	1,297	1,271	1,433	1,444	1,504	1,102	2,568	2,209	16.3
Power	2,457	2,353	2,878	2,909	2,803	2,330	4,811	4,751	1.3
Manufacturing	3,095	2,948	3,256	3,239	3,236	2,535	6,043	5,162	17.1
<b>Total Public Construction <sup>2</sup></b>	<b>18,570</b>	<b>18,867</b>	<b>20,485</b>	<b>23,363</b>	<b>24,789</b>	<b>16,778</b>	<b>37,437</b>	<b>33,475</b>	<b>11.8</b>
Residential	629	637	748	762	726	661	1,265	1,297	-2.5
Nonresidential	17,941	18,231	19,737	22,602	24,063	16,116	36,172	32,178	12.4
Office	859	883	916	966	964	785	1,742	1,617	7.7
Commercial	376	368	385	463	371	297	744	608	22.4
Health care	872	872	840	889	837	709	1,744	1,405	24.1
Educational	5,078	5,231	5,614	5,895	5,985	4,736	10,309	9,505	8.5
Public safety	860	911	950	998	994	802	1,771	1,592	11.2
Amusement and recreation	958	961	1,084	1,165	1,194	854	1,919	1,699	12.9
Transportation	1,535	1,521	1,758	1,901	2,086	1,325	3,056	2,600	17.5
Power	578	592	621	595	614	571	1,170	1,094	6.9
Highway and street	3,915	3,911	4,499	6,369	7,541	3,498	7,826	6,951	12.6
Sewage and waste disposal	1,379	1,438	1,515	1,674	1,811	1,258	2,816	2,516	11.9
Water supply	917	919	957	1,051	1,122	841	1,837	1,686	9.0
Conservation and development	464	505	487	511	444	395	969	815	18.9

<sup>p</sup> Preliminary    <sup>r</sup> Revised

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> 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
<b>Total Construction</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>1.4</b>
Residential	6.2	3.3	4.6	2.5	4.6
Nonresidential	1.0	1.0	1.4	0.9	1.4
Lodging	2.9	1.8	6.8	1.5	6.8
Office	2.4	3.1	4.2	1.9	4.2
Commercial	3.1	4.1	4.0	2.1	4.0
Health care	2.4	2.1	2.9	1.4	2.9
Educational	2.1	1.9	3.3	2.2	3.3
Religious	4.3	4.3	7.2	2.4	7.2
Public safety	4.9	3.2	5.6	2.4	5.6
Amusement and recreation	4.1	3.2	5.0	4.3	5.0
Transportation	2.7	2.8	4.5	2.0	4.5
Communication	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Power	1.6	0.7	1.7	1.0	1.7
Highway and street	3.5	3.5	5.4	3.1	5.4
Sewage and waste disposal	3.5	3.0	5.2	2.7	5.2
Water supply	4.5	6.0	6.3	5.9	6.3
Conservation and development	5.5	6.3	8.0	5.0	8.0
Manufacturing	2.6	2.3	4.4	1.8	4.4
<b>Total Private Construction</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>2.0</b>
Residential	5.0	1.1	1.3	0.8	1.4
Nonresidential	1.3	1.5	2.0	0.9	2.0
Lodging	3.0	1.8	6.7	1.6	6.7
Office	2.9	3.8	4.9	2.3	4.9
Commercial	3.3	4.4	4.2	2.2	4.2
Health care	2.8	2.4	3.3	1.5	3.3
Educational	4.0	3.6	5.1	2.1	5.1
Religious	4.3	4.3	7.2	2.4	7.2
Amusement and recreation	6.4	4.2	5.5	3.4	5.5
Transportation	9.3	8.2	17.1	10.1	17.1
Communication	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Power	1.2	0.2	1.1	0.4	1.1
Manufacturing	2.6	2.3	4.4	1.7	4.4
<b>Total Public Construction</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>2.0</b>
Residential	6.2	3.3	4.6	2.5	4.6
Nonresidential	1.4	1.3	2.0	1.4	2.0
Office	4.1	3.8	6.6	2.9	6.6
Commercial	5.9	7.0	9.0	4.2	9.0
Health care	3.5	2.8	5.2	3.3	5.2
Educational	2.4	2.2	3.8	2.5	3.8
Public safety	5.1	3.3	5.8	2.4	5.8
Amusement and recreation	5.0	4.9	8.4	7.4	8.4
Transportation	2.8	3.0	4.6	2.0	4.6
Power	5.2	3.0	5.4	5.2	5.4
Highway and street	3.6	3.5	5.4	3.1	5.4
Sewage and waste disposal	3.6	3.0	5.2	2.8	5.2
Water supply	4.6	6.1	6.5	6.0	6.5
Conservation and development	5.6	6.5	8.1	5.1	8.1

NA Not applicable

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	2006 <sup>†</sup>	2005	Percent change	Coefficient of Variation
<b>Total Construction</b>	<b>1,197,446</b>	<b>1,143,655</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>0.6</b>
Residential	638,930	650,517	-1.8	4.9
Nonresidential	558,516	493,138	13.3	0.6
Lodging	19,883	13,069	52.1	2.4
Office	54,862	47,736	14.9	2.0
Commercial	80,620	73,744	9.3	2.0
Health care	41,773	36,583	14.2	1.8
Educational	83,950	78,633	6.8	1.4
Religious	8,100	7,787	4.0	3.2
Public safety	11,118	10,040	10.7	3.9
Amusement and recreation	22,380	18,542	20.7	2.7
Transportation	29,548	26,869	10.0	2.0
Communication	15,610	13,414	16.4	NA
Power	40,723	37,003	10.1	1.1
Highway and street	75,214	65,720	14.4	2.0
Sewage and waste disposal	19,307	16,473	17.2	2.1
Water supply	12,590	11,407	10.4	2.4
Conservation and development	5,851	5,021	16.5	2.7
Manufacturing	36,990	31,096	19.0	2.1
<b>Total Private Construction <sup>1</sup></b>	<b>928,253</b>	<b>898,970</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>0.9</b>
Residential	630,012	642,276	-1.9	1.1
Nonresidential	298,241	256,694	16.2	0.9
Lodging	19,340	12,809	51.0	2.4
Office	43,773	36,823	18.9	2.3
Commercial	76,261	69,143	10.3	2.1
Health care	32,257	27,723	16.4	2.2
Educational	13,817	12,787	8.1	3.1
Religious	8,087	7,772	4.1	3.2
Public safety	435	380	14.5	10.5
Amusement and recreation	9,205	7,693	19.7	4.0
Transportation	8,368	7,347	13.9	6.1
Communication	15,555	13,346	16.6	NA
Power	33,209	28,958	14.7	1.0
Sewage and waste disposal	287	271	5.9	15.9
Water supply	420	261	60.9	16.3
Manufacturing	36,734	30,914	18.8	2.1
<b>Total Public Construction <sup>2</sup></b>	<b>269,193</b>	<b>244,686</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>0.8</b>
Residential	8,918	8,242	8.2	4.9
Nonresidential	260,275	236,444	10.1	0.8
Office	11,089	10,914	1.6	2.9
Commercial	4,358	4,601	-5.3	4.1
Health care	9,516	8,860	7.4	2.7
Educational	70,133	65,846	6.5	1.5
Public safety	10,683	9,660	10.6	4.1
Amusement and recreation	13,174	10,849	21.4	3.7
Transportation	21,180	19,523	8.5	2.2
Power	7,514	8,046	-6.6	3.1
Highway and street	74,806	65,382	14.4	2.0
Sewage and waste disposal	19,020	16,202	17.4	2.1
Water supply	12,170	11,146	9.2	2.4
Conservation and development	5,765	4,890	17.9	2.7

NA Not applicable <sup>†</sup> Revised

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

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