

U.S. Census Bureau News

U.S. Department of Commerce • Washington, D.C. 20233

For Release at 10:00 A.M. EDT, Friday, June 29, 2007

Michael Davis, Joe Huesman or Linnet Holland
(301) 763-1605

CB07-96

MAY 2007 CONSTRUCTION AT \$1,176.6 BILLION ANNUAL RATE

The U.S. Census Bureau of the Department of Commerce announced today that construction spending during May 2007 was estimated at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$1,176.6 billion, 0.9 percent ($\pm 1.6\%$)* above the revised April estimate of \$1,166.0 billion. The May figure is 2.8 percent ($\pm 2.2\%$) below the May 2006 estimate of \$1,210.0 billion.

During the first 5 months of this year, construction spending amounted to \$442.1 billion, 3.9 percent ($\pm 1.8\%$) below the \$460.1 billion for the same period in 2006.

PRIVATE CONSTRUCTION

Spending on private construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$892.1 billion, 0.5 percent ($\pm 1.3\%$)* above the revised April estimate of \$887.6 billion. Residential construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$549.0 billion in May, 0.8 percent ($\pm 1.3\%$)* below the revised April estimate of \$553.6 billion. Nonresidential construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$343.1 billion in May, 2.7 percent ($\pm 1.3\%$) above the revised April estimate of \$334.1 billion.

PUBLIC CONSTRUCTION

In May, the estimated seasonally adjusted annual rate of public construction spending was \$284.5 billion, 2.2 percent ($\pm 2.7\%$)* above the revised April estimate of \$278.3 billion. Educational construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$79.7 billion, 0.7 percent ($\pm 3.5\%$)* above the revised April estimate of \$79.1 billion. Highway construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$76.4 billion, 0.5 percent ($\pm 8.3\%$)* above the revised April estimate of \$76.0 billion.

June 2007 data will be released on July 31, 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 (± 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, 0.6 percent; and public construction, 0.7 percent.

In this May 2007 press release, Total, Public, and State & local construction categories revised back to January 1993 due to a change in methodology. Private communications revised back to January 2003; private gas pipelines and farm nonresidential revised back to January 2004; and all other categories revised 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	May 2007 ^P	Apr 2007 ^r	Mar 2007 ^r	Feb 2007 ^r	Jan 2007 ^r	May 2006 ^r	Percent change May 2007 from -	
							Apr 2007	May 2006
Total Construction	1,176,570	1,165,982	1,163,647	1,162,212	1,160,242	1,210,009	0.9	-2.8
Residential	556,018	560,318	562,214	569,496	574,049	672,087	-0.8	-17.3
Nonresidential	620,552	605,664	601,433	592,716	586,193	537,922	2.5	15.4
Lodging	28,794	27,613	25,907	22,788	21,268	17,035	4.3	69.0
Office	61,349	60,370	61,934	62,742	63,627	52,950	1.6	15.9
Commercial	85,139	84,616	83,984	83,629	82,601	72,992	0.6	16.6
Health care	45,843	45,032	44,279	43,648	42,907	38,794	1.8	18.2
Educational	95,378	94,976	93,186	89,886	92,366	84,784	0.4	12.5
Religious	7,660	7,613	7,637	7,794	7,798	7,800	0.6	-1.8
Public safety	9,522	9,137	9,176	8,814	8,733	7,834	4.2	21.5
Amusement and recreation	20,174	19,190	19,620	18,612	18,675	18,614	5.1	8.4
Transportation	29,559	28,327	27,976	28,524	28,749	26,354	4.3	12.2
Communication	26,469	24,486	25,449	24,891	21,856	20,970	8.1	26.2
Power	49,664	46,538	46,147	42,855	41,087	38,782	6.7	28.1
Highway and street	76,897	76,568	76,598	76,499	77,221	74,188	0.4	3.7
Sewage and waste disposal	24,302	24,249	23,270	25,223	24,325	22,285	0.2	9.1
Water supply	15,871	15,535	16,127	15,701	14,704	15,506	2.2	2.4
Conservation and development	5,468	5,171	4,855	5,173	5,766	5,747	5.7	-4.9
Manufacturing	38,463	36,243	35,288	35,938	34,511	33,287	6.1	15.5
Total Private Construction ¹	892,114	887,638	886,834	889,677	884,379	954,433	0.5	-6.5
Residential	548,989	553,570	555,606	562,934	567,526	665,893	-0.8	-17.6
Nonresidential	343,125	334,068	331,228	326,743	316,853	288,540	2.7	18.9
Lodging	27,770	26,722	25,030	22,016	20,634	16,835	3.9	65.0
Office	51,979	51,444	52,823	53,510	54,497	44,725	1.0	16.2
Commercial	81,674	81,251	80,243	79,906	78,607	70,022	0.5	16.6
Health care	36,951	37,190	36,542	36,315	35,618	32,582	-0.6	13.4
Educational	15,711	15,860	15,301	15,547	15,014	13,561	-0.9	15.9
Religious	7,656	7,613	7,631	7,783	7,792	7,767	0.6	-1.4
Amusement and recreation	9,090	8,673	9,323	8,427	8,448	9,463	4.8	-3.9
Transportation	8,303	8,304	8,226	8,150	8,152	8,000	0.0	3.8
Communication	26,385	24,415	25,380	24,839	21,777	20,944	8.1	26.0
Power	37,553	34,661	34,186	32,854	30,431	29,674	8.3	26.6
Manufacturing	38,215	35,987	34,999	35,736	34,329	33,176	6.2	15.2
Total Public Construction ²	284,456	278,344	276,813	272,535	275,863	255,575	2.2	11.3
Residential	7,030	6,748	6,608	6,562	6,523	6,193	4.2	13.5
Nonresidential	277,426	271,596	270,205	265,973	269,339	249,382	2.1	11.2
Office	9,371	8,927	9,110	9,233	9,130	8,225	5.0	13.9
Commercial	3,464	3,366	3,741	3,723	3,994	2,970	2.9	16.6
Health care	8,892	7,842	7,737	7,333	7,289	6,212	13.4	43.1
Educational	79,667	79,116	77,885	74,339	77,352	71,223	0.7	11.9
Public safety	9,117	8,751	8,786	8,377	8,310	7,392	4.2	23.3
Amusement and recreation	11,084	10,517	10,297	10,185	10,227	9,151	5.4	21.1
Transportation	21,255	20,023	19,751	20,374	20,597	18,355	6.2	15.8
Power	12,111	11,877	11,961	10,000	10,655	9,108	2.0	33.0
Highway and street	76,428	76,043	76,122	76,038	76,833	73,708	0.5	3.7
Sewage and waste disposal	23,969	23,781	23,015	24,938	24,020	21,991	0.8	9.0
Water supply	15,441	15,108	15,794	15,343	14,379	15,009	2.2	2.9
Conservation and development	5,268	5,027	4,763	5,054	5,654	5,665	4.8	-7.0

^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	May 2007 ^P	Apr 2007 ^r	Mar 2007 ^r	Feb 2007 ^r	Jan 2007 ^r	May 2006 ^r	Year-to-date		
							May 2007	May 2006	Percent change
Total Construction	101,117	93,567	88,119	78,895	80,379	104,470	442,078	460,082	-3.9
Residential	48,253	45,132	42,719	37,015	38,649	58,421	211,767	259,746	-18.5
Nonresidential	52,865	48,435	45,401	41,880	41,731	46,049	230,311	200,336	15.0
Lodging	2,400	2,301	2,159	1,899	1,772	1,420	10,531	6,426	63.9
Office	5,305	5,142	4,999	4,851	4,896	4,618	25,193	20,389	23.6
Commercial	7,229	6,891	6,572	6,178	6,045	6,240	32,914	28,661	14.8
Health care	3,939	3,752	3,607	3,384	3,385	3,334	18,066	15,253	18.4
Educational	7,973	7,412	6,823	6,153	6,472	7,093	34,833	31,403	10.9
Religious	639	612	595	584	580	653	3,009	3,024	-0.5
Public safety	776	742	707	645	666	636	3,535	3,007	17.6
Amusement and recreation	1,733	1,612	1,546	1,370	1,357	1,605	7,619	6,869	10.9
Transportation	2,471	2,292	2,015	1,973	2,014	2,256	10,765	9,900	8.7
Communication	2,247	1,935	2,096	1,819	1,628	1,749	9,725	8,168	19.1
Power	4,160	3,776	3,660	3,304	3,271	3,276	18,171	15,312	18.7
Highway and street	6,963	5,506	4,503	3,800	3,821	6,713	24,592	22,734	8.2
Sewage and waste disposal	2,113	1,894	1,705	1,716	1,696	1,942	9,125	8,488	7.5
Water supply	1,327	1,283	1,236	1,166	1,079	1,289	6,090	5,803	4.9
Conservation and development	435	401	373	385	472	456	2,065	2,002	3.1
Manufacturing	3,156	2,883	2,806	2,654	2,579	2,770	14,078	12,898	9.1
Total Private Construction ¹	76,719	71,944	68,772	61,396	62,380	82,476	341,210	369,416	-7.6
Residential	47,627	44,565	42,199	36,533	38,176	57,867	209,099	257,334	-18.7
Nonresidential	29,092	27,379	26,573	24,863	24,204	24,609	132,112	112,082	17.9
Lodging	2,314	2,227	2,086	1,835	1,720	1,403	10,181	6,364	60.0
Office	4,509	4,402	4,279	4,167	4,192	3,908	21,548	17,165	25.5
Commercial	6,944	6,608	6,264	5,906	5,747	5,988	31,470	27,417	14.8
Health care	3,170	3,085	2,987	2,816	2,803	2,796	14,860	12,744	16.6
Educational	1,409	1,325	1,194	1,129	1,089	1,204	6,146	5,308	15.8
Religious	638	612	595	583	579	650	3,007	3,020	-0.4
Amusement and recreation	770	738	770	672	653	806	3,604	3,500	3.0
Transportation	729	691	618	580	616	719	3,234	3,186	1.5
Communication	2,240	1,929	2,090	1,815	1,621	1,746	9,696	8,160	18.8
Power	3,077	2,748	2,798	2,610	2,513	2,479	13,746	11,794	16.6
Manufacturing	3,135	2,862	2,782	2,637	2,564	2,761	13,980	12,809	9.1
Total Public Construction ²	24,399	21,622	19,347	17,500	17,999	21,994	100,867	90,666	11.3
Residential	626	567	520	482	473	554	2,668	2,412	10.6
Nonresidential	23,773	21,055	18,828	17,017	17,526	21,440	98,199	88,254	11.3
Office	796	741	720	684	704	710	3,644	3,224	13.0
Commercial	284	283	307	271	298	252	1,443	1,244	16.0
Health care	769	667	620	569	582	538	3,206	2,509	27.8
Educational	6,563	6,087	5,629	5,025	5,383	5,890	28,687	26,096	9.9
Public safety	741	710	678	614	636	598	3,378	2,830	19.4
Amusement and recreation	963	874	776	698	704	799	4,015	3,369	19.2
Transportation	1,742	1,601	1,397	1,393	1,398	1,536	7,532	6,714	12.2
Power	1,083	1,027	862	693	759	796	4,425	3,519	25.7
Highway and street	6,925	5,465	4,473	3,770	3,793	6,674	24,426	22,583	8.2
Sewage and waste disposal	2,085	1,860	1,686	1,696	1,673	1,918	9,000	8,395	7.2
Water supply	1,290	1,249	1,211	1,143	1,060	1,248	5,954	5,641	5.5
Conservation and development	418	389	365	375	462	449	2,010	1,968	2.1

^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	0.8	1.1	1.0	1.4
Residential	6.0	5.4	8.0	3.0	10.1
Nonresidential	1.0	0.8	1.1	1.0	1.4
Lodging	2.6	2.0	5.0	1.3	5.1
Office	2.5	2.2	3.4	1.8	3.8
Commercial	3.6	3.3	3.5	1.7	3.5
Health care	2.2	1.8	2.6	1.1	2.9
Educational	2.1	1.6	2.5	1.9	3.0
Religious	4.3	3.2	4.9	3.1	5.2
Public safety	4.3	3.5	6.3	2.7	7.3
Amusement and recreation	3.6	2.9	4.4	3.3	5.5
Transportation	2.5	1.9	3.1	2.1	3.9
Communication	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Power	1.4	0.9	1.9	0.6	3.1
Highway and street	3.4	2.1	3.3	5.2	4.7
Sewage and waste disposal	3.3	2.3	3.8	3.1	5.0
Water supply	4.7	3.7	5.1	4.5	6.7
Conservation and development	4.4	3.5	4.1	3.4	4.6
Manufacturing	2.2	2.1	2.8	1.7	3.0
Total Private Construction	1.4	1.2	1.6	0.8	1.7
Residential	5.0	1.1	1.3	0.8	1.4
Nonresidential	1.4	1.2	1.6	0.8	1.7
Lodging	2.7	2.1	5.0	1.3	5.1
Office	3.0	2.6	3.9	2.0	4.2
Commercial	3.8	3.5	3.7	1.8	3.6
Health care	2.5	2.2	3.0	1.3	3.4
Educational	3.9	3.0	4.5	2.1	5.1
Religious	4.3	3.2	4.9	3.1	5.2
Amusement and recreation	4.9	3.5	5.2	3.3	5.5
Transportation	8.3	7.4	13.3	6.6	10.7
Communication	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Power	1.1	0.3	1.1	0.2	2.5
Manufacturing	2.2	2.0	2.8	1.8	2.9
Total Public Construction	1.4	0.9	1.4	1.7	2.0
Residential	6.0	5.4	8.0	3.0	10.1
Nonresidential	1.4	0.9	1.4	1.7	2.1
Office	4.0	3.2	5.4	3.9	6.6
Commercial	6.0	5.4	6.8	5.9	7.9
Health care	3.2	2.5	5.2	2.0	5.8
Educational	2.4	1.8	2.8	2.2	3.5
Public safety	4.5	3.6	6.6	2.8	7.8
Amusement and recreation	5.2	4.6	7.2	5.3	9.2
Transportation	2.6	1.9	3.1	2.1	4.2
Power	4.9	4.2	6.4	2.2	9.7
Highway and street	3.4	2.1	3.3	5.2	4.7
Sewage and waste disposal	3.3	2.4	3.8	3.2	5.1
Water supply	4.8	3.8	5.2	4.7	6.9
Conservation and development	4.5	3.6	4.1	3.5	4.5

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 ^f	2005 ^f	Percent change	Coefficient of Variation
Total Construction	1,192,238	1,132,149	5.3	0.6
Residential	647,416	646,953	0.1	4.9
Nonresidential	544,822	485,196	12.3	0.6
Lodging	18,047	12,840	40.6	2.4
Office	54,644	45,763	19.4	2.0
Commercial	75,518	70,242	7.5	2.0
Health care	39,525	34,430	14.8	1.8
Educational	85,992	79,687	7.9	1.4
Religious	7,700	7,735	-0.5	3.2
Public safety	7,806	7,314	6.7	3.9
Amusement and recreation	18,248	15,236	19.8	2.7
Transportation	27,038	25,052	7.9	2.0
Communication	21,653	18,906	14.5	NA
Power	39,106	35,466	10.3	1.1
Highway and street	71,929	64,139	12.1	2.0
Sewage and waste disposal	22,990	19,867	15.7	2.1
Water supply	14,842	14,028	5.8	2.4
Conservation and development	5,322	4,453	19.5	2.7
Manufacturing	34,461	30,040	14.7	2.1
Total Private Construction ¹	937,047	897,989	4.3	0.9
Residential	641,332	641,345	0.0	1.1
Nonresidential	295,715	256,644	15.2	0.9
Lodging	17,687	12,666	39.6	2.4
Office	46,194	37,276	23.9	2.3
Commercial	72,148	66,584	8.4	2.1
Health care	33,183	28,495	16.5	2.2
Educational	13,745	12,788	7.5	3.1
Religious	7,690	7,715	-0.3	3.2
Public safety	448	408	9.8	10.5
Amusement and recreation	9,041	7,507	20.4	4.0
Transportation	7,937	7,124	11.4	6.1
Communication	21,621	18,846	14.7	NA
Power	30,481	26,304	15.9	1.0
Sewage and waste disposal	284	240	18.3	15.9
Water supply	445	326	36.5	16.3
Manufacturing	34,278	29,886	14.7	2.1
Total Public Construction ²	255,191	234,160	9.0	0.8
Residential	6,084	5,608	8.5	4.9
Nonresidential	249,108	228,552	9.0	0.8
Office	8,451	8,487	-0.4	2.9
Commercial	3,370	3,658	-7.9	4.1
Health care	6,342	5,935	6.9	2.7
Educational	72,247	66,899	8.0	1.5
Public safety	7,358	6,906	6.5	4.1
Amusement and recreation	9,208	7,728	19.2	3.7
Transportation	19,101	17,928	6.5	2.2
Power	8,625	9,161	-5.9	3.1
Highway and street	71,481	63,790	12.1	2.0
Sewage and waste disposal	22,706	19,627	15.7	2.1
Water supply	14,397	13,703	5.1	2.4
Conservation and development	5,238	4,322	21.2	2.7

NA Not applicable ^f Revised

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

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