

# U.S. Census Bureau News

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

For Release at 10:00 A.M. EST, Friday, February 1, 2008

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CB08-19

## DECEMBER 2007 CONSTRUCTION AT \$1,140.2 BILLION ANNUAL RATE

The U.S. Census Bureau of the Department of Commerce announced today that construction spending during December 2007 was estimated at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$1,140.2 billion, 1.1 percent ( $\pm 1.3\%$ )\* below the revised November estimate of \$1,153.0 billion. The December figure is 2.3 percent ( $\pm 1.9\%$ ) below the December 2006 estimate of \$1,167.3 billion.

The value of construction spending in 2007 was \$1,161.3 billion, 2.6 percent ( $\pm 1.4\%$ ) below the \$1,192.2 billion spent in 2006.

### PRIVATE CONSTRUCTION

Spending on private construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$842.4 billion, 1.0 percent ( $\pm 1.6\%$ )\* below the revised November estimate of \$850.8 billion. Residential construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$462.0 billion in December, 2.8 percent ( $\pm 1.3\%$ ) below the revised November estimate of \$475.1 billion. Nonresidential construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$380.4 billion in December, 1.3 percent ( $\pm 1.6\%$ )\* above the revised November estimate of \$375.6 billion.

The value of private construction in 2007 was \$874.0 billion, 6.7 percent ( $\pm 1.4\%$ ) below the \$937.0 billion spent in 2006. Residential construction in 2007 was \$524.1 billion, 18.3 percent ( $\pm 1.8\%$ ) below the 2006 figure of \$641.3 billion and nonresidential construction was \$349.8 billion, 18.3 percent ( $\pm 1.4\%$ ) above the \$295.7 billion in 2006.

### PUBLIC CONSTRUCTION

In December, the estimated seasonally adjusted annual rate of public construction spending was \$297.8 billion, 1.5 percent ( $\pm 1.8\%$ )\* below the revised November estimate of \$302.3 billion. Educational construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$86.2 billion, 1.3 percent ( $\pm 3.0\%$ )\* below the revised November estimate of \$87.3 billion. Highway construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$78.5 billion, 2.1 percent ( $\pm 4.3\%$ )\* below the revised November estimate of \$80.2 billion.

The value of public construction in 2007 was \$287.4 billion, 12.6 percent ( $\pm 1.1\%$ ) above the \$255.2 billion spent in 2006. Educational construction in 2007 was \$81.8 billion, 13.3 percent ( $\pm 2.4\%$ ) above the 2006 figure of \$72.2 billion and highway construction was \$76.7 billion, 7.3 percent ( $\pm 2.4\%$ ) above the \$71.5 billion in 2006.

*January 2008 data will be released on March 3, 2008 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 ( $\pm 3.1$ ) 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, 0.5 percent; private construction, 0.6 percent; and public construction, 0.7 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	Dec 2007 <sup>P</sup>	Nov 2007 <sup>r</sup>	Oct 2007 <sup>r</sup>	Sep 2007	Aug 2007	Dec 2006	Percent change Dec 2007 from -	
							Nov 2007	Dec 2006
<b>Total Construction</b>	<b>1,140,200</b>	<b>1,153,034</b>	<b>1,157,538</b>	<b>1,168,336</b>	<b>1,165,331</b>	<b>1,167,261</b>	<b>-1.1</b>	<b>-2.3</b>
Residential	469,140	482,268	496,951	516,080	527,639	587,390	-2.7	-20.1
Nonresidential	671,061	670,766	660,587	652,256	637,693	579,872	0.0	15.7
Lodging	35,680	35,927	34,457	33,716	32,130	21,196	-0.7	68.3
Office	70,060	69,375	69,786	68,636	66,754	60,540	1.0	15.7
Commercial	85,401	86,345	87,677	86,659	85,792	80,798	-1.1	5.7
Health care	47,437	47,370	46,977	46,591	45,578	43,259	0.1	9.7
Educational	104,441	105,305	102,047	100,533	101,017	94,079	-0.8	11.0
Religious	7,155	7,408	7,461	7,825	7,486	7,898	-3.4	-9.4
Public safety	10,544	10,658	10,278	10,417	9,975	8,601	-1.1	22.6
Amusement and recreation	21,631	21,560	21,264	22,442	21,864	19,191	0.3	12.7
Transportation	33,203	33,698	33,300	33,145	32,325	28,447	-1.5	16.7
Communication	28,539	26,924	27,401	27,071	26,648	22,344	6.0	27.7
Power	57,327	57,052	52,252	52,374	49,424	41,539	0.5	38.0
Highway and street	79,062	80,733	80,378	77,753	76,141	72,357	-2.1	9.3
Sewage and waste disposal	25,726	26,130	25,470	25,178	24,465	23,768	-1.5	8.2
Water supply	14,833	15,045	15,700	16,057	15,826	14,864	-1.4	-0.2
Conservation and development	6,748	6,498	6,355	5,846	5,255	5,675	3.8	18.9
Manufacturing	43,276	40,738	39,785	38,015	37,012	35,317	6.2	22.5
<b>Total Private Construction <sup>1</sup></b>	<b>842,358</b>	<b>850,765</b>	<b>859,083</b>	<b>874,098</b>	<b>875,885</b>	<b>896,649</b>	<b>-1.0</b>	<b>-6.1</b>
Residential	462,007	475,145	490,023	509,048	520,056	580,723	-2.8	-20.4
Nonresidential	380,351	375,620	369,059	365,050	355,829	315,926	1.3	20.4
Lodging	34,595	34,746	33,286	32,005	30,768	20,544	-0.4	68.4
Office	59,694	59,020	58,705	58,149	55,919	51,487	1.1	15.9
Commercial	82,146	83,055	84,258	83,249	82,155	76,750	-1.1	7.0
Health care	38,767	38,557	38,154	38,047	37,275	36,330	0.5	6.7
Educational	18,237	18,005	17,749	17,584	17,166	15,250	1.3	19.6
Religious	7,155	7,369	7,421	7,772	7,482	7,894	-2.9	-9.4
Amusement and recreation	10,456	10,390	10,024	10,127	10,062	8,919	0.6	17.2
Transportation	9,126	9,028	9,120	9,175	8,997	7,874	1.1	15.9
Communication	28,410	26,748	27,225	26,879	26,601	22,282	6.2	27.5
Power	46,745	46,440	41,958	42,925	41,146	31,693	0.7	47.5
Manufacturing	42,862	40,188	39,285	37,338	36,415	35,173	6.7	21.9
<b>Total Public Construction <sup>2</sup></b>	<b>297,842</b>	<b>302,269</b>	<b>298,456</b>	<b>294,239</b>	<b>289,446</b>	<b>270,612</b>	<b>-1.5</b>	<b>10.1</b>
Residential	7,132	7,122	6,928	7,032	7,583	6,667	0.1	7.0
Nonresidential	290,710	295,147	291,528	287,206	281,863	263,946	-1.5	10.1
Office	10,366	10,355	11,082	10,487	10,835	9,053	0.1	14.5
Commercial	3,254	3,291	3,418	3,410	3,637	4,048	-1.1	-19.6
Health care	8,670	8,813	8,823	8,544	8,303	6,929	-1.6	25.1
Educational	86,204	87,299	84,298	82,949	83,851	78,829	-1.3	9.4
Public safety	9,896	10,060	9,715	9,856	9,451	8,107	-1.6	22.1
Amusement and recreation	11,175	11,169	11,240	12,316	11,802	10,272	0.1	8.8
Transportation	24,078	24,670	24,181	23,970	23,329	20,573	-2.4	17.0
Power	10,582	10,612	10,295	9,449	8,278	9,846	-0.3	7.5
Highway and street	78,508	80,196	79,866	77,286	75,705	71,917	-2.1	9.2
Sewage and waste disposal	25,248	25,686	25,192	24,880	24,144	23,414	-1.7	7.8
Water supply	14,387	14,576	15,195	15,636	15,411	14,504	-1.3	-0.8
Conservation and development	6,714	6,473	6,337	5,793	5,109	5,594	3.7	20.0

<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	Dec 2007 <sup>P</sup>	Nov 2007 <sup>r</sup>	Oct 2007 <sup>r</sup>	Sep 2007	Aug 2007	Dec 2006	Year-to-date		
							Dec 2007	Dec 2006	Percent change
<b>Total Construction</b>	<b>87,104</b>	<b>97,240</b>	<b>103,525</b>	<b>105,946</b>	<b>111,050</b>	<b>88,347</b>	<b>1,161,322</b>	<b>1,192,238</b>	<b>-2.6</b>
Residential	34,912	40,526	44,722	46,469	51,481	43,772	531,238	647,416	-17.9
Nonresidential	52,192	56,714	58,804	59,477	59,569	44,575	630,084	544,822	15.6
Lodging	2,973	2,994	2,871	2,810	2,678	1,766	29,922	18,047	65.8
Office	5,444	5,831	5,958	5,930	5,757	4,777	65,359	54,644	19.6
Commercial	6,611	7,291	7,744	7,760	7,725	6,184	85,398	75,518	13.1
Health care	3,816	3,982	4,025	3,970	3,854	3,476	45,037	39,525	13.9
Educational	7,820	8,530	8,681	9,122	10,297	6,933	98,441	85,992	14.5
Religious	566	651	657	698	680	624	7,538	7,700	-2.1
Public safety	868	949	913	957	876	707	9,866	7,806	26.4
Amusement and recreation	1,714	1,877	1,907	2,016	1,955	1,490	20,555	18,248	12.6
Transportation	2,691	3,009	3,111	3,096	3,017	2,264	31,305	27,038	15.8
Communication	2,554	2,421	2,553	2,128	2,378	2,015	26,200	21,653	21.0
Power	4,654	4,712	4,600	4,699	4,318	3,353	49,784	39,106	27.3
Highway and street	5,007	6,822	8,077	8,562	8,637	4,487	77,139	71,929	7.2
Sewage and waste disposal	1,983	2,277	2,353	2,338	2,312	1,841	24,603	22,990	7.0
Water supply	1,154	1,272	1,438	1,451	1,430	1,175	15,601	14,842	5.1
Conservation and development	570	551	485	636	477	456	5,690	5,322	6.9
Manufacturing	3,765	3,546	3,430	3,306	3,180	3,028	37,646	34,461	9.2
<b>Total Private Construction <sup>1</sup></b>	<b>65,205</b>	<b>71,790</b>	<b>76,396</b>	<b>77,273</b>	<b>81,949</b>	<b>68,729</b>	<b>873,969</b>	<b>937,047</b>	<b>-6.7</b>
Residential	34,335	39,941	44,156	45,813	50,817	43,243	524,153	641,332	-18.3
Nonresidential	30,870	31,849	32,241	31,460	31,132	25,486	349,816	295,715	18.3
Lodging	2,883	2,896	2,774	2,667	2,564	1,712	28,806	17,687	62.9
Office	4,641	4,968	5,063	4,926	4,801	4,056	55,377	46,194	19.9
Commercial	6,343	7,000	7,474	7,412	7,407	5,867	81,845	72,148	13.4
Health care	3,113	3,236	3,286	3,221	3,179	2,920	36,867	33,183	11.1
Educational	1,392	1,449	1,494	1,495	1,629	1,151	16,620	13,745	20.9
Religious	566	647	654	693	679	623	7,523	7,690	-2.2
Amusement and recreation	840	884	881	865	862	709	9,334	9,041	3.2
Transportation	773	815	823	801	783	651	8,697	7,937	9.6
Communication	2,544	2,406	2,538	2,112	2,374	2,010	26,100	21,621	20.7
Power	3,878	3,868	3,691	3,849	3,545	2,640	39,542	30,481	29.7
Manufacturing	3,731	3,500	3,388	3,249	3,130	3,016	37,262	34,278	8.7
<b>Total Public Construction <sup>2</sup></b>	<b>21,899</b>	<b>25,449</b>	<b>27,129</b>	<b>28,673</b>	<b>29,102</b>	<b>19,618</b>	<b>287,353</b>	<b>255,191</b>	<b>12.6</b>
Residential	577	585	566	655	665	530	7,085	6,084	16.5
Nonresidential	21,322	24,865	26,563	28,017	28,437	19,089	280,267	249,108	12.5
Office	803	863	896	1,004	956	722	9,982	8,451	18.1
Commercial	268	290	270	348	318	317	3,552	3,370	5.4
Health care	703	746	739	749	675	557	8,170	6,342	28.8
Educational	6,428	7,081	7,187	7,627	8,668	5,782	81,822	72,247	13.3
Public safety	818	899	863	905	830	670	9,356	7,358	27.2
Amusement and recreation	874	993	1,027	1,151	1,094	782	11,221	9,208	21.9
Transportation	1,918	2,194	2,288	2,296	2,234	1,613	22,609	19,101	18.4
Power	776	844	910	850	773	713	10,242	8,625	18.7
Highway and street	4,967	6,773	8,031	8,518	8,593	4,455	76,675	71,481	7.3
Sewage and waste disposal	1,939	2,236	2,330	2,313	2,282	1,810	24,263	22,706	6.9
Water supply	1,124	1,233	1,384	1,406	1,382	1,150	15,173	14,397	5.4
Conservation and development	567	549	483	632	465	449	5,588	5,238	6.7

<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>0.9</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>1.2</b>	
Residential	5.3	4.4	6.9	2.9	5.2	
Nonresidential	0.9	0.6	0.9	0.8	1.3	
Lodging	2.2	1.8	3.7	0.9	4.8	
Office	2.4	1.7	2.7	1.5	3.0	
Commercial	3.3	2.2	2.4	2.5	3.1	
Health care	1.9	1.5	2.1	1.2	2.6	
Educational	2.1	1.3	2.1	1.6	3.2	
Religious	4.5	2.9	3.8	2.7	4.4	
Public safety	3.5	2.5	4.6	2.0	5.5	
Amusement and recreation	3.8	2.8	4.1	2.4	4.8	
Transportation	2.5	1.9	3.0	1.3	3.1	
Communication	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	
Power	0.9	1.2	2.4	1.2	1.9	
Highway and street	3.3	1.5	2.6	2.7	5.4	
Sewage and waste disposal	3.3	2.0	3.1	2.7	4.3	
Water supply	4.4	2.5	3.3	3.0	5.3	
Conservation and development	4.8	2.9	3.3	2.8	7.0	
Manufacturing	2.1	1.4	2.1	1.3	2.1	
<b>Total Private Construction</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>1.5</b>	
Residential	5.0	1.1	1.3	0.8	1.4	
Nonresidential	1.3	0.9	1.2	1.0	1.5	
Lodging	2.3	1.8	3.7	0.9	5.0	
Office	2.9	1.9	3.0	1.7	3.2	
Commercial	3.5	2.3	2.5	2.6	3.2	
Health care	2.3	1.8	2.4	1.3	3.0	
Educational	3.5	2.6	4.0	1.9	5.3	
Religious	4.5	2.9	3.8	2.7	4.4	
Amusement and recreation	4.2	3.2	4.8	2.2	5.7	
Transportation	7.6	5.2	8.8	3.5	13.6	
Communication	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	
Power	0.5	1.3	2.6	1.3	1.5	
Manufacturing	1.8	1.3	2.1	1.3	2.2	
<b>Total Public Construction</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>1.9</b>	
Residential	5.3	4.4	6.9	2.9	5.2	
Nonresidential	1.3	0.7	1.1	1.1	1.9	
Office	4.1	3.2	5.0	3.1	7.3	
Commercial	6.1	4.4	5.5	3.2	7.4	
Health care	2.7	2.0	3.6	2.4	3.8	
Educational	2.4	1.5	2.3	1.9	3.6	
Public safety	3.6	2.6	4.8	2.0	5.7	
Amusement and recreation	6.0	4.5	6.5	3.9	7.4	
Transportation	2.7	2.0	3.2	1.4	3.2	
Power	4.8	3.0	4.4	4.2	6.2	
Highway and street	3.4	1.5	2.6	2.7	5.4	
Sewage and waste disposal	3.3	2.0	3.1	2.8	4.3	
Water supply	4.4	2.5	3.4	3.1	5.4	
Conservation and development	4.8	3.0	3.3	2.8	7.2	

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	2007 <sup>p</sup>	2006	Percent change	Coefficient of Variation
<b>Total Construction</b>	<b>1,161,322</b>	<b>1,192,238</b>	<b>-2.6</b>	<b>0.6</b>
Residential	531,238	647,416	-17.9	4.4
Nonresidential	630,084	544,822	15.6	0.6
Lodging	29,922	18,047	65.8	1.8
Office	65,359	54,644	19.6	1.7
Commercial	85,398	75,518	13.1	2.2
Health care	45,037	39,525	13.9	1.5
Educational	98,441	85,992	14.5	1.3
Religious	7,538	7,700	-2.1	2.9
Public safety	9,866	7,806	26.4	2.5
Amusement and recreation	20,555	18,248	12.6	2.8
Transportation	31,305	27,038	15.8	1.9
Communication	26,200	21,653	21.0	NA
Power	49,784	39,106	27.3	1.2
Highway and street	77,139	71,929	7.2	1.5
Sewage and waste disposal	24,603	22,990	7.0	2.0
Water supply	15,601	14,842	5.1	2.5
Conservation and development	5,690	5,322	6.9	2.9
Manufacturing	37,646	34,461	9.2	1.4
<b>Total Private Construction <sup>1</sup></b>	<b>873,969</b>	<b>937,047</b>	<b>-6.7</b>	<b>0.9</b>
Residential	524,153	641,332	-18.3	1.1
Nonresidential	349,816	295,715	18.3	0.9
Lodging	28,806	17,687	62.9	1.8
Office	55,377	46,194	19.9	1.9
Commercial	81,845	72,148	13.4	2.3
Health care	36,867	33,183	11.1	1.8
Educational	16,620	13,745	20.9	2.6
Religious	7,523	7,690	-2.2	2.9
Public safety	510	448	13.8	8.3
Amusement and recreation	9,334	9,041	3.2	3.2
Transportation	8,697	7,937	9.6	5.2
Communication	26,100	21,621	20.7	NA
Power	39,542	30,481	29.7	1.3
Sewage and waste disposal	340	284	19.7	17.8
Water supply	428	445	-3.8	15.9
Manufacturing	37,262	34,278	8.7	1.3
<b>Total Public Construction <sup>2</sup></b>	<b>287,353</b>	<b>255,191</b>	<b>12.6</b>	<b>0.7</b>
Residential	7,085	6,084	16.5	4.4
Nonresidential	280,267	249,108	12.5	0.7
Office	9,982	8,451	18.1	3.2
Commercial	3,552	3,370	5.4	4.4
Health care	8,170	6,342	28.8	2.0
Educational	81,822	72,247	13.3	1.5
Public safety	9,356	7,358	27.2	2.6
Amusement and recreation	11,221	9,208	21.9	4.5
Transportation	22,609	19,101	18.4	2.0
Power	10,242	8,625	18.7	3.0
Highway and street	76,675	71,481	7.3	1.5
Sewage and waste disposal	24,263	22,706	6.9	2.0
Water supply	15,173	14,397	5.4	2.5
Conservation and development	5,588	5,238	6.7	3.0

NA Not Applicable      <sup>p</sup> Preliminary

<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.