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MAY 2005 CONSTRUCTION AT \$1,103.0 BILLION ANNUAL RATE

The U.S. Census Bureau of the Department of Commerce announced today that construction spending during May 2005 was estimated at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$1,103.0 billion, 0.9 percent ($\pm 1.6\%$)* below the revised April estimate of \$1,113.3 billion. The May figure is 7.0 percent ($\pm 2.4\%$) above the May 2004 estimate of \$1,030.6 billion.

During the first 5 months of this year, construction spending amounted to \$415.4 billion, 9.7 percent ($\pm 1.9\%$) above the \$378.8 billion for the same period in 2004.

PRIVATE CONSTRUCTION

Spending on private construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$856.2 billion, 1.6 percent ($\pm 1.6\%$)* below the revised April estimate of \$870.5 billion. Residential construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$614.3 billion in May, 1.7 percent ($\pm 1.3\%$)* below the revised April estimate of \$624.7 billion. Nonresidential construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$241.9 billion in May, 1.6 percent ($\pm 1.6\%$)* below the revised April estimate of \$245.8 billion.

PUBLIC CONSTRUCTION

In May, the estimated seasonally adjusted annual rate of public construction spending was \$246.8 billion, 1.7 percent ($\pm 2.4\%$)* above the revised April estimate of \$242.8 billion. Educational construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$64.6 billion, 0.8 percent ($\pm 3.4\%$)* above the revised April estimate of \$64.1 billion. Highway construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$64.9 billion, 0.1 percent ($\pm 7.4\%$)* above the revised April estimate of \$64.8 billion.

June 2005 data will be released on August 1, 2005 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, 0.8 percent; private construction, 0.7 percent; and public construction, 1.4 percent.

In this May 2005 press release, revisions to unadjusted and seasonally adjusted data were made back to January 1998 to incorporate and benchmark to the 2003 detailed structures data from the U.S. Census Bureau's Annual Capital Expenditures Survey.

* 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 2005 ^p	Apr 2005 ^r	Mar 2005 ^r	Feb 2005 ^r	Jan 2005 ^r	May 2004 ^r	Percent change May 2005 from -	
							Apr 2005	May 2004
Total Construction	1,102,983	1,113,262	1,125,681	1,128,026	1,049,485	1,030,554	-0.9	7.0
Residential	620,594	631,160	645,969	652,549	582,518	576,650	-1.7	7.6
Nonresidential	482,390	482,102	479,711	475,477	466,966	453,904	0.1	6.3
Lodging	12,078	12,400	12,211	11,803	11,778	11,909	-2.6	1.4
Office	45,412	46,507	46,518	46,405	45,692	45,593	-2.4	-0.4
Commercial	70,179	71,367	69,655	67,964	68,758	66,510	-1.7	5.5
Health care	35,309	35,450	35,325	35,237	35,655	34,805	-0.4	1.4
Educational	76,904	76,774	74,689	73,159	72,378	71,946	0.2	6.9
Religious	7,672	7,745	8,016	7,867	8,102	8,232	-0.9	-6.8
Public safety	9,509	9,245	8,708	8,933	9,265	9,147	2.9	4.0
Amusement and recreation	19,056	18,756	19,178	19,002	18,689	20,586	1.6	-7.4
Transportation	26,098	25,465	25,989	26,364	26,605	25,995	2.5	0.4
Communication	14,428	14,477	14,331	14,870	14,798	13,004	-0.3	11.0
Power	36,739	35,386	37,077	37,411	35,176	30,076	3.8	22.2
Highway and street	65,223	65,357	66,566	67,183	61,459	61,896	-0.2	5.4
Sewage and waste disposal	17,725	17,190	15,436	15,724	15,518	16,396	3.1	8.1
Water supply	12,487	12,005	11,767	11,174	10,882	10,761	4.0	16.0
Conservation and development	5,468	4,828	5,062	4,875	4,794	4,438	13.3	23.2
Manufacturing	28,104	29,149	29,184	27,512	27,424	22,611	-3.6	24.3
Total Private Construction ¹	856,210	870,496	883,342	887,910	819,124	800,133	-1.6	7.0
Residential	614,269	624,684	639,022	645,782	575,801	569,686	-1.7	7.8
Nonresidential	241,942	245,813	244,320	242,128	243,323	230,447	-1.6	5.0
Lodging	11,922	12,211	11,951	11,569	11,617	11,272	-2.4	5.8
Office	34,515	34,929	34,680	34,105	33,599	33,710	-1.2	2.4
Commercial	65,275	66,391	64,535	62,987	64,168	61,314	-1.7	6.5
Health care	26,655	27,175	26,902	27,277	28,024	27,290	-1.9	-2.3
Educational	12,285	12,667	12,786	12,741	12,800	12,669	-3.0	-3.0
Religious	7,666	7,734	8,012	7,834	8,080	8,230	-0.9	-6.9
Amusement and recreation	8,351	8,526	8,520	8,538	8,286	8,861	-2.1	-5.8
Transportation	6,296	6,406	6,174	6,207	6,510	6,447	-1.7	-2.3
Communication	14,282	14,388	14,211	14,777	14,685	12,801	-0.7	11.6
Power	25,359	24,912	26,204	27,029	27,014	23,691	1.8	7.0
Manufacturing	27,983	29,022	29,007	27,394	27,335	22,454	-3.6	24.6
Total Public Construction ²	246,773	242,766	242,338	240,116	230,361	230,421	1.7	7.1
Residential	6,325	6,477	6,947	6,768	6,718	6,965	-2.3	-9.2
Nonresidential	240,448	236,289	235,391	233,348	223,643	223,456	1.8	7.6
Office	10,898	11,578	11,838	12,300	12,093	11,882	-5.9	-8.3
Commercial	4,905	4,977	5,121	4,977	4,591	5,197	-1.4	-5.6
Health care	8,654	8,275	8,423	7,960	7,632	7,515	4.6	15.2
Educational	64,620	64,107	61,903	60,418	59,578	59,277	0.8	9.0
Public safety	9,175	8,957	8,469	8,684	9,031	8,809	2.4	4.2
Amusement and recreation	10,705	10,231	10,659	10,464	10,403	11,726	4.6	-8.7
Transportation	19,802	19,060	19,814	20,157	20,095	19,547	3.9	1.3
Power	11,379	10,474	10,872	10,382	8,161	6,385	8.6	78.2
Highway and street	64,851	64,804	66,206	66,775	61,169	61,506	0.1	5.4
Sewage and waste disposal	17,482	16,942	15,229	15,413	15,191	16,001	3.2	9.3
Water supply	12,255	11,764	11,469	10,623	10,592	10,334	4.2	18.6
Conservation and development	5,295	4,706	4,826	4,718	4,722	4,279	12.5	23.7

^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 2005 ^p	Apr 2005 ^r	Mar 2005 ^r	Feb 2005 ^r	Jan 2005 ^r	May 2004 ^r	Year-to-date		Percent change
							May 2005	May 2004	
Total Construction	95,190	89,129	84,351	74,125	72,633	88,612	415,428	378,799	9.7
Residential	54,388	50,547	48,356	40,922	39,848	50,539	234,061	208,063	12.5
Nonresidential	40,802	38,582	35,995	33,203	32,786	38,072	181,368	170,736	6.2
Lodging	1,007	1,033	1,018	984	982	992	5,023	4,597	9.3
Office	3,875	3,912	3,811	3,508	3,421	3,865	18,527	18,012	2.9
Commercial	5,914	5,770	5,383	4,968	4,932	5,582	26,968	24,504	10.1
Health care	3,037	3,003	2,903	2,746	2,775	2,954	14,463	13,534	6.9
Educational	6,403	6,013	5,485	5,037	5,043	5,959	27,981	26,605	5.2
Religious	629	627	620	584	615	678	3,076	3,105	-0.9
Public safety	781	752	675	663	713	748	3,584	3,477	3.1
Amusement and recreation	1,651	1,590	1,528	1,430	1,373	1,772	7,572	8,030	-5.7
Transportation	2,198	2,035	1,870	1,774	1,830	2,206	9,709	9,808	-1.0
Communication	1,165	1,150	1,199	1,057	1,006	1,003	5,577	4,909	13.6
Power	2,997	3,013	3,047	2,866	2,733	2,400	14,655	14,396	1.8
Highway and street	5,725	4,542	3,724	3,277	3,108	5,408	20,377	19,103	6.7
Sewage and waste disposal	1,590	1,402	1,139	1,047	1,065	1,402	6,243	5,924	5.4
Water supply	1,055	989	890	807	786	892	4,526	4,319	4.8
Conservation and development	423	375	388	359	333	333	1,878	1,678	11.9
Manufacturing	2,351	2,378	2,316	2,096	2,072	1,879	11,212	8,736	28.3
Total Private Construction ¹	74,143	70,329	67,463	58,634	57,558	69,181	328,127	296,625	10.6
Residential	53,849	50,030	47,821	40,432	39,350	49,947	231,481	205,586	12.6
Nonresidential	20,294	20,299	19,642	18,202	18,208	19,234	96,646	91,039	6.2
Lodging	994	1,018	996	964	968	939	4,939	4,320	14.3
Office	2,945	2,942	2,843	2,572	2,503	2,848	13,804	13,276	4.0
Commercial	5,492	5,356	4,997	4,599	4,595	5,129	25,039	22,535	11.1
Health care	2,308	2,322	2,214	2,120	2,175	2,338	11,139	10,657	4.5
Educational	1,051	1,040	1,006	931	937	1,097	4,965	5,013	-1.0
Religious	628	626	620	582	613	678	3,070	3,104	-1.1
Amusement and recreation	718	714	698	680	650	770	3,459	3,349	3.3
Transportation	555	529	439	400	461	577	2,384	2,515	-5.2
Communication	1,153	1,142	1,189	1,050	996	986	5,530	4,835	14.4
Power	2,001	2,129	2,243	2,101	2,159	1,872	10,632	12,153	-12.5
Manufacturing	2,341	2,367	2,301	2,086	2,064	1,866	11,159	8,670	28.7
Total Public Construction ²	21,047	18,800	16,888	15,491	15,075	19,430	87,301	82,175	6.2
Residential	539	517	535	490	498	593	2,579	2,478	4.1
Nonresidential	20,508	18,284	16,353	15,001	14,577	18,838	84,722	79,697	6.3
Office	930	970	968	937	919	1,017	4,723	4,736	-0.3
Commercial	423	414	386	369	337	453	1,929	1,968	-2.0
Health care	728	681	689	626	600	616	3,324	2,877	15.5
Educational	5,352	4,972	4,479	4,106	4,106	4,862	23,016	21,591	6.6
Public safety	753	728	655	642	693	720	3,472	3,353	3.5
Amusement and recreation	933	876	830	751	723	1,002	4,113	4,681	-12.1
Transportation	1,643	1,506	1,432	1,375	1,369	1,630	7,325	7,293	0.4
Power	996	884	804	765	574	528	4,023	2,244	79.3
Highway and street	5,695	4,499	3,703	3,248	3,087	5,375	20,233	18,976	6.6
Sewage and waste disposal	1,572	1,383	1,123	1,023	1,040	1,373	6,141	5,764	6.5
Water supply	1,037	970	868	774	770	859	4,420	4,197	5.3
Conservation and development	409	364	369	346	327	320	1,815	1,599	13.5

^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 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	1.2	1.0	1.5
Residential	6.6	3.7	4.3	2.8	7.7
Nonresidential	1.0	0.8	1.2	1.0	1.5
Lodging	3.8	3.1	4.5	2.6	5.8
Office	3.8	3.5	4.8	2.2	4.7
Commercial	2.9	2.1	2.5	1.9	2.9
Health care	2.6	2.5	3.8	1.7	4.1
Educational	2.2	1.7	2.9	1.9	3.3
Religious	4.2	3.4	4.6	2.6	5.8
Public safety	3.6	2.9	4.0	2.8	4.8
Amusement and recreation	4.0	3.6	4.4	3.6	5.0
Transportation	2.8	3.4	3.8	2.5	4.1
Communication	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Power	1.4	1.2	1.1	1.0	1.3
Highway and street	3.6	2.7	4.0	4.6	5.5
Sewage and waste disposal	3.7	2.7	4.3	4.0	5.5
Water supply	4.2	2.9	4.3	4.5	6.0
Conservation and development	6.2	5.3	7.2	4.3	9.1
Manufacturing	5.1	5.3	6.4	3.4	6.2
Total Private Construction	1.5	1.3	1.8	1.0	1.9
Residential	5.0	1.1	1.3	0.8	1.4
Nonresidential	1.5	1.3	1.8	1.0	1.9
Lodging	3.8	3.1	4.7	2.6	6.0
Office	4.9	4.5	5.9	2.7	5.7
Commercial	3.0	2.2	2.6	2.0	3.0
Health care	3.1	3.0	4.5	1.9	4.6
Educational	4.4	4.1	4.8	2.9	5.3
Religious	4.2	3.4	4.6	2.6	5.8
Amusement and recreation	5.8	5.8	7.5	5.4	7.7
Transportation	7.8	4.4	5.2	1.3	6.0
Communication	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Power	1.2	1.1	0.8	0.7	0.2
Manufacturing	5.2	5.4	6.5	3.5	6.3
Total Public Construction	1.4	1.0	1.6	1.5	2.2
Residential	6.6	3.7	4.3	2.8	7.7
Nonresidential	1.4	1.0	1.6	1.6	2.2
Office	3.3	2.8	2.8	2.4	3.4
Commercial	6.3	3.9	6.9	3.2	8.3
Health care	3.8	3.3	4.5	4.1	6.6
Educational	2.5	1.9	3.3	2.1	3.9
Public safety	3.6	2.9	4.0	2.8	4.8
Amusement and recreation	5.2	3.7	4.5	5.0	5.8
Transportation	4.2	3.7	4.2	2.8	4.7
Power	4.3	2.9	5.5	2.5	5.4
Highway and street	3.6	2.7	4.0	4.6	5.6
Sewage and waste disposal	3.7	2.7	4.4	4.0	5.6
Water supply	4.2	2.9	4.4	4.5	6.2
Conservation and development	6.6	5.5	7.7	4.5	9.7

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	2004 ^f	2003 ^f	Percent change	Coefficient of Variation
Total Construction	1,027,736	925,069	11.1	0.6
Residential	569,981	482,398	18.2	6.4
Nonresidential	457,755	442,672	3.4	0.6
Lodging	12,017	10,934	9.9	2.8
Office	45,082	41,757	8.0	2.6
Commercial	66,586	62,104	7.2	2.0
Health care	34,122	30,866	10.5	2.1
Educational	72,267	69,974	3.3	1.4
Religious	8,087	8,569	-5.6	3.0
Public safety	9,083	9,403	-3.4	2.2
Amusement and recreation	19,860	20,049	-0.9	2.6
Transportation	26,863	25,795	4.1	2.4
Communication	13,530	12,814	5.6	NA
Power	34,607	39,570	-12.5	0.9
Highway and street	60,475	59,304	2.0	2.0
Sewage and waste disposal	15,660	14,643	6.9	2.2
Water supply	10,949	11,031	-0.7	2.2
Conservation and development	4,899	4,329	13.2	5.1
Manufacturing	23,671	21,529	9.9	3.0
Total Private Construction ¹	798,487	701,601	13.8	1.0
Residential	563,376	475,941	18.4	1.7
Nonresidential	235,110	225,660	4.2	1.0
Lodging	11,542	9,930	16.2	2.8
Office	33,112	30,579	8.3	3.2
Commercial	61,582	57,235	7.6	2.1
Health care	26,706	24,217	10.3	2.5
Educational	12,722	13,424	-5.2	3.1
Religious	8,080	8,559	-5.6	3.0
Public safety	289	185	56.2	13.2
Amusement and recreation	8,553	7,781	9.9	3.9
Transportation	6,642	6,250	6.3	5.8
Communication	13,382	12,708	5.3	NA
Power	27,735	32,280	-14.1	0.7
Sewage and waste disposal	342	278	23.0	25.7
Water supply	406	393	3.3	24.2
Manufacturing	23,517	21,434	9.7	3.0
Total Public Construction ²	229,250	223,468	2.6	0.8
Residential	6,605	6,456	2.3	6.4
Nonresidential	222,645	217,012	2.6	0.8
Office	11,970	11,178	7.1	2.5
Commercial	5,004	4,869	2.8	5.0
Health care	7,415	6,649	11.5	2.8
Educational	59,545	56,550	5.3	1.6
Public safety	8,794	9,218	-4.6	2.2
Amusement and recreation	11,307	12,268	-7.8	3.6
Transportation	20,221	19,545	3.5	2.6
Power	6,872	7,289	-5.7	3.0
Highway and street	60,145	59,140	1.7	2.0
Sewage and waste disposal	15,318	14,365	6.6	2.2
Water supply	10,543	10,639	-0.9	2.2
Conservation and development	4,727	4,088	15.6	5.3

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.