

# U.S. Census Bureau News

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

For Release at 10:00 A.M. EST, Monday, March 3, 2008

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CB08-37

## JANUARY 2008 CONSTRUCTION AT \$1,121.5 BILLION ANNUAL RATE

The U.S. Census Bureau of the Department of Commerce announced today that construction spending during January 2008 was estimated at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$1,121.5 billion, 1.7 percent ( $\pm 1.1\%$ ) below the revised December estimate of \$1,140.4 billion. The January figure is 3.3 percent ( $\pm 2.1\%$ ) below the January 2007 estimate of \$1,160.2 billion.

### PRIVATE CONSTRUCTION

Spending on private construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$827.4 billion, 2.2 percent ( $\pm 1.1\%$ ) below the revised December estimate of \$845.7 billion. Residential construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$455.8 billion in January, 3.0 percent ( $\pm 1.3\%$ ) below the revised December estimate of \$469.7 billion. Nonresidential construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$371.6 billion in January, 1.2 percent ( $\pm 1.1\%$ ) below the revised December estimate of \$376.0 billion.

### PUBLIC CONSTRUCTION

In January, the estimated seasonally adjusted annual rate of public construction spending was \$294.1 billion, 0.2 percent ( $\pm 1.8\%$ )\* below the revised December estimate of \$294.7 billion. Educational construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$85.9 billion, 0.6 percent ( $\pm 3.5\%$ )\* above the revised December estimate of \$85.4 billion. Highway construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$77.5 billion, 1.3 percent ( $\pm 4.3\%$ )\* below the revised December estimate of \$78.5 billion.

*February 2008 data will be released on April 1, 2008 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, 0.5 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	Jan 2008 <sup>P</sup>	Dec 2007 <sup>r</sup>	Nov 2007 <sup>r</sup>	Oct 2007	Sep 2007	Jan 2007	Percent change Jan 2008 from -	
							Dec 2007	Jan 2007
<b>Total Construction</b>	<b>1,121,480</b>	<b>1,140,416</b>	<b>1,155,995</b>	<b>1,157,538</b>	<b>1,168,336</b>	<b>1,160,242</b>	<b>-1.7</b>	<b>-3.3</b>
Residential	462,835	476,788	489,175	496,951	516,080	574,049	-2.9	-19.4
Nonresidential	658,645	663,628	666,820	660,587	652,256	586,193	-0.8	12.4
Lodging	33,036	34,014	35,072	34,457	33,716	21,268	-2.9	55.3
Office	68,809	68,326	68,075	69,786	68,636	63,627	0.7	8.1
Commercial	82,990	83,049	86,783	87,677	86,659	82,601	-0.1	0.5
Health care	45,631	46,016	46,734	46,977	46,591	42,907	-0.8	6.3
Educational	104,173	103,279	105,071	102,047	100,533	92,366	0.9	12.8
Religious	7,105	6,996	6,914	7,461	7,825	7,798	1.6	-8.9
Public safety	10,736	10,735	10,821	10,278	10,417	8,733	0.0	22.9
Amusement and recreation	21,641	21,448	21,233	21,264	22,442	18,675	0.9	15.9
Transportation	33,140	33,336	33,720	33,300	33,145	28,749	-0.6	15.3
Communication	27,368	29,035	27,338	27,401	27,071	21,856	-5.7	25.2
Power	54,940	56,971	56,970	52,252	52,374	41,087	-3.6	33.7
Highway and street	78,104	79,012	79,982	80,378	77,753	77,221	-1.1	1.1
Sewage and waste disposal	25,120	25,251	25,663	25,470	25,178	24,325	-0.5	3.3
Water supply	14,247	14,255	14,779	15,700	16,057	14,704	-0.1	-3.1
Conservation and development	5,900	6,374	5,960	6,355	5,846	5,766	-7.4	2.3
Manufacturing	45,706	45,533	41,705	39,785	38,015	34,511	0.4	32.4
<b>Total Private Construction <sup>1</sup></b>	<b>827,351</b>	<b>845,714</b>	<b>856,427</b>	<b>859,083</b>	<b>874,098</b>	<b>884,379</b>	<b>-2.2</b>	<b>-6.4</b>
Residential	455,753	469,723	482,029	490,023	509,048	567,526	-3.0	-19.7
Nonresidential	371,598	375,991	374,398	369,059	365,050	316,853	-1.2	17.3
Lodging	31,999	32,989	33,919	33,286	32,005	20,634	-3.0	55.1
Office	58,364	57,950	57,958	58,705	58,149	54,497	0.7	7.1
Commercial	79,537	79,803	83,383	84,258	83,249	78,607	-0.3	1.2
Health care	37,338	37,716	37,906	38,154	38,047	35,618	-1.0	4.8
Educational	18,293	17,914	17,782	17,749	17,584	15,014	2.1	21.8
Religious	7,050	6,996	6,877	7,421	7,772	7,792	0.8	-9.5
Amusement and recreation	10,719	10,609	10,417	10,024	10,127	8,448	1.0	26.9
Transportation	9,388	9,633	9,553	9,120	9,175	8,152	-2.5	15.2
Communication	27,298	28,926	27,196	27,225	26,879	21,777	-5.6	25.4
Power	44,185	46,283	46,181	41,958	42,925	30,431	-4.5	45.2
Manufacturing	45,208	45,160	41,185	39,285	37,338	34,329	0.1	31.7
<b>Total Public Construction <sup>2</sup></b>	<b>294,129</b>	<b>294,701</b>	<b>299,568</b>	<b>298,456</b>	<b>294,239</b>	<b>275,863</b>	<b>-0.2</b>	<b>6.6</b>
Residential	7,082	7,065	7,146	6,928	7,032	6,523	0.2	8.6
Nonresidential	287,047	287,637	292,423	291,528	287,206	269,339	-0.2	6.6
Office	10,445	10,376	10,117	11,082	10,487	9,130	0.7	14.4
Commercial	3,453	3,246	3,400	3,418	3,410	3,994	6.4	-13.5
Health care	8,292	8,300	8,828	8,823	8,544	7,289	-0.1	13.8
Educational	85,881	85,365	87,289	84,298	82,949	77,352	0.6	11.0
Public safety	10,109	10,154	10,254	9,715	9,856	8,310	-0.4	21.6
Amusement and recreation	10,921	10,838	10,816	11,240	12,316	10,227	0.8	6.8
Transportation	23,752	23,704	24,167	24,181	23,970	20,597	0.2	15.3
Power	10,755	10,688	10,789	10,295	9,449	10,655	0.6	0.9
Highway and street	77,498	78,494	79,429	79,866	77,286	76,833	-1.3	0.9
Sewage and waste disposal	24,740	24,862	25,254	25,192	24,880	24,020	-0.5	3.0
Water supply	13,662	13,760	14,292	15,195	15,636	14,379	-0.7	-5.0
Conservation and development	5,880	6,343	5,935	6,337	5,793	5,654	-7.3	4.0

<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	Jan 2008 <sup>p</sup>	Dec 2007 <sup>r</sup>	Nov 2007 <sup>r</sup>	Oct 2007	Sep 2007	Jan 2007	Year-to-date		
							Jan 2008	Jan 2007	Percent change
<b>Total Construction</b>	<b>77,879</b>	<b>87,161</b>	<b>97,603</b>	<b>103,525</b>	<b>105,946</b>	<b>80,379</b>	<b>77,879</b>	<b>80,379</b>	<b>-3.1</b>
Residential	30,557	35,507	41,216	44,722	46,469	38,649	30,557	38,649	-20.9
Nonresidential	47,322	51,654	56,388	58,804	59,477	41,731	47,322	41,731	13.4
Lodging	2,753	2,835	2,923	2,871	2,810	1,772	2,753	1,772	55.4
Office	5,304	5,341	5,755	5,958	5,930	4,896	5,304	4,896	8.3
Commercial	6,108	6,440	7,364	7,744	7,760	6,045	6,108	6,045	1.0
Health care	3,620	3,730	3,953	4,025	3,970	3,385	3,620	3,385	6.9
Educational	7,373	7,719	8,503	8,681	9,122	6,472	7,373	6,472	13.9
Religious	526	552	604	657	698	580	526	580	-9.3
Public safety	816	882	962	913	957	666	816	666	22.5
Amusement and recreation	1,594	1,701	1,840	1,907	2,016	1,357	1,594	1,357	17.5
Transportation	2,331	2,698	2,998	3,111	3,096	2,014	2,331	2,014	15.7
Communication	2,000	2,599	2,466	2,553	2,128	1,628	2,000	1,628	22.9
Power	4,283	4,615	4,691	4,600	4,699	3,271	4,283	3,271	30.9
Highway and street	3,888	4,970	6,706	8,077	8,562	3,821	3,888	3,821	1.8
Sewage and waste disposal	1,765	1,935	2,226	2,353	2,338	1,696	1,765	1,696	4.1
Water supply	1,042	1,107	1,251	1,438	1,451	1,079	1,042	1,079	-3.4
Conservation and development	486	535	501	485	636	472	486	472	3.0
Manufacturing	3,434	3,995	3,647	3,430	3,306	2,579	3,434	2,579	33.2
<b>Total Private Construction <sup>1</sup></b>	<b>58,479</b>	<b>65,568</b>	<b>72,468</b>	<b>76,396</b>	<b>77,273</b>	<b>62,380</b>	<b>58,479</b>	<b>62,380</b>	<b>-6.3</b>
Residential	30,036	34,939	40,627	44,156	45,813	38,176	30,036	38,176	-21.3
Nonresidential	28,443	30,629	31,841	32,241	31,460	24,204	28,443	24,204	17.5
Lodging	2,667	2,749	2,827	2,774	2,667	1,720	2,667	1,720	55.1
Office	4,505	4,525	4,900	5,063	4,926	4,192	4,505	4,192	7.5
Commercial	5,845	6,177	7,067	7,474	7,412	5,747	5,845	5,747	1.7
Health care	2,965	3,060	3,203	3,286	3,221	2,803	2,965	2,803	5.8
Educational	1,350	1,364	1,430	1,494	1,495	1,089	1,350	1,089	24.0
Religious	521	552	601	654	693	579	521	579	-10.0
Amusement and recreation	837	854	887	881	865	653	837	653	28.2
Transportation	714	811	855	823	801	616	714	616	15.9
Communication	1,994	2,590	2,454	2,538	2,112	1,621	1,994	1,621	23.0
Power	3,498	3,833	3,836	3,691	3,849	2,513	3,498	2,513	39.2
Manufacturing	3,393	3,964	3,603	3,388	3,249	2,564	3,393	2,564	32.3
<b>Total Public Construction <sup>2</sup></b>	<b>19,400</b>	<b>21,593</b>	<b>25,135</b>	<b>27,129</b>	<b>28,673</b>	<b>17,999</b>	<b>19,400</b>	<b>17,999</b>	<b>7.8</b>
Residential	521	568	588	566	655	473	521	473	10.1
Nonresidential	18,879	21,025	24,547	26,563	28,017	17,526	18,879	17,526	7.7
Office	800	816	854	896	1,004	704	800	704	13.6
Commercial	263	263	297	270	348	298	263	298	-11.7
Health care	654	670	750	739	749	582	654	582	12.4
Educational	6,022	6,356	7,073	7,187	7,627	5,383	6,022	5,383	11.9
Public safety	773	839	914	863	905	636	773	636	21.5
Amusement and recreation	757	848	953	1,027	1,151	704	757	704	7.5
Transportation	1,617	1,888	2,143	2,288	2,296	1,398	1,617	1,398	15.7
Power	785	782	855	910	850	759	785	759	3.4
Highway and street	3,845	4,934	6,655	8,031	8,518	3,793	3,845	3,793	1.4
Sewage and waste disposal	1,736	1,900	2,188	2,330	2,313	1,673	1,736	1,673	3.8
Water supply	1,006	1,074	1,211	1,384	1,406	1,060	1,006	1,060	-5.1
Conservation and development	484	532	499	483	632	462	484	462	4.8

<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>0.8</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>1.3</b>
Residential	5.4	4.4	6.3	3.4	6.3
Nonresidential	0.9	0.8	1.3	0.7	1.3
Lodging	2.2	2.0	3.2	1.0	3.2
Office	2.4	2.5	3.3	1.8	3.3
Commercial	3.2	2.8	3.4	1.9	3.4
Health care	1.9	1.7	2.5	1.1	2.5
Educational	2.1	2.1	3.2	1.9	3.2
Religious	4.6	5.3	5.3	2.5	5.3
Public safety	3.5	3.1	5.9	2.6	5.9
Amusement and recreation	3.9	3.6	4.6	2.3	4.6
Transportation	2.5	2.1	3.7	3.4	3.7
Communication	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Power	1.1	2.1	3.0	1.2	3.0
Highway and street	3.3	3.3	5.3	2.7	5.3
Sewage and waste disposal	3.3	3.1	4.3	2.6	4.3
Water supply	4.2	4.2	5.8	3.5	5.8
Conservation and development	4.8	6.2	7.2	4.0	7.2
Manufacturing	2.0	1.9	3.0	1.2	3.0
<b>Total Private Construction</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>1.6</b>
Residential	5.0	1.1	1.4	0.8	1.4
Nonresidential	1.2	1.1	1.6	0.7	1.6
Lodging	2.3	2.1	3.3	1.0	3.3
Office	2.8	2.9	3.6	2.1	3.6
Commercial	3.4	2.9	3.5	1.9	3.5
Health care	2.3	2.0	2.8	1.2	2.8
Educational	3.5	3.5	5.3	2.2	5.3
Religious	4.6	5.3	5.3	2.4	5.3
Amusement and recreation	4.2	4.5	6.3	2.2	6.3
Transportation	7.2	3.3	10.6	1.5	10.6
Communication	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Power	0.7	2.1	3.2	1.1	3.2
Manufacturing	1.8	1.9	3.1	1.2	3.1
<b>Total Public Construction</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>1.9</b>
Residential	5.4	4.4	6.3	3.4	6.3
Nonresidential	1.3	1.2	1.9	1.1	1.9
Office	4.2	5.0	6.6	2.0	6.6
Commercial	6.1	6.7	9.4	3.7	9.4
Health care	2.7	3.2	4.4	2.0	4.4
Educational	2.4	2.4	3.6	2.2	3.6
Public safety	3.6	3.2	6.1	2.6	6.1
Amusement and recreation	6.0	5.7	6.8	3.9	6.8
Transportation	2.6	2.3	3.8	3.8	3.8
Power	5.2	8.0	6.9	7.1	6.9
Highway and street	3.4	3.4	5.3	2.7	5.3
Sewage and waste disposal	3.3	3.1	4.3	2.6	4.3
Water supply	4.3	4.3	5.9	3.6	5.9
Conservation and development	4.8	6.2	7.4	4.0	7.4

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>f</sup>	2006	Percent change	Coefficient of Variation
<b>Total Construction</b>	<b>1,161,742</b>	<b>1,192,238</b>	<b>-2.6</b>	<b>0.6</b>
Residential	532,523	647,416	-17.7	4.4
Nonresidential	629,219	544,822	15.5	0.6
Lodging	29,712	18,047	64.6	1.8
Office	65,180	54,644	19.3	1.7
Commercial	85,300	75,518	13.0	2.2
Health care	44,922	39,525	13.7	1.5
Educational	98,314	85,992	14.3	1.3
Religious	7,479	7,700	-2.9	2.9
Public safety	9,891	7,806	26.7	2.5
Amusement and recreation	20,505	18,248	12.4	2.8
Transportation	31,301	27,038	15.8	1.9
Communication	26,290	21,653	21.4	NA
Power	49,723	39,106	27.1	1.2
Highway and street	76,985	71,929	7.0	1.5
Sewage and waste disposal	24,505	22,990	6.6	2.0
Water supply	15,532	14,842	4.6	2.5
Conservation and development	5,604	5,322	5.3	2.9
Manufacturing	37,977	34,461	10.2	1.4
<b>Total Private Construction <sup>1</sup></b>	<b>875,010</b>	<b>937,047</b>	<b>-6.6</b>	<b>0.9</b>
Residential	525,443	641,332	-18.1	1.1
Nonresidential	349,566	295,715	18.2	0.9
Lodging	28,604	17,687	61.7	1.8
Office	55,195	46,194	19.5	1.9
Commercial	81,745	72,148	13.3	2.3
Health care	36,780	33,183	10.8	1.8
Educational	16,572	13,745	20.6	2.6
Religious	7,464	7,690	-2.9	2.9
Public safety	500	448	11.6	8.3
Amusement and recreation	9,350	9,041	3.4	3.2
Transportation	8,775	7,937	10.6	5.2
Communication	26,194	21,621	21.2	NA
Power	39,465	30,481	29.5	1.3
Sewage and waste disposal	328	284	15.5	17.8
Water supply	431	445	-3.1	15.9
Manufacturing	37,599	34,278	9.7	1.3
<b>Total Public Construction <sup>2</sup></b>	<b>286,733</b>	<b>255,191</b>	<b>12.4</b>	<b>0.7</b>
Residential	7,080	6,084	16.4	4.4
Nonresidential	279,653	249,108	12.3	0.7
Office	9,986	8,451	18.2	3.2
Commercial	3,554	3,370	5.5	4.4
Health care	8,142	6,342	28.4	2.0
Educational	81,741	72,247	13.1	1.5
Public safety	9,392	7,358	27.6	2.6
Amusement and recreation	11,155	9,208	21.1	4.5
Transportation	22,526	19,101	17.9	2.0
Power	10,258	8,625	18.9	3.0
Highway and street	76,523	71,481	7.1	1.5
Sewage and waste disposal	24,177	22,706	6.5	2.0
Water supply	15,101	14,397	4.9	2.5
Conservation and development	5,502	5,238	5.0	3.0

NA Not Applicable <sup>f</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.