

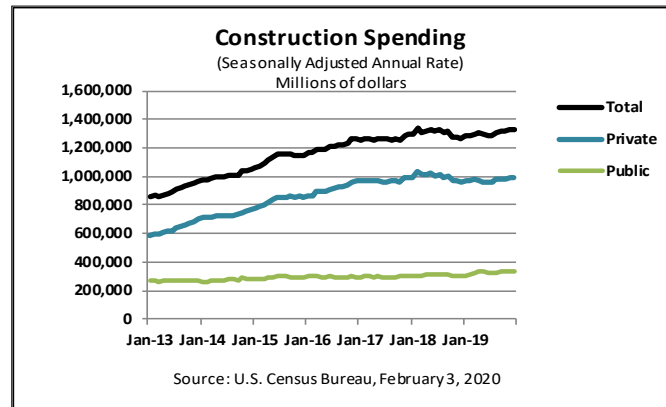
FOR RELEASE AT 10:00 AM EST, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2020

MONTHLY CONSTRUCTION SPENDING, DECEMBER 2019

Release Number: CB20-21

February 3, 2020 — The U.S. Census Bureau announced the following value put in place construction statistics for December 2019:

CONSTRUCTION SPENDING	
DECEMBER 2019	\$1,327.7 billion
NOVEMBER 2019 (revised)	\$1,329.9 billion
Next release: March 2, 2020	
Seasonally Adjusted Annual Rate Source: U.S. Census Bureau, February 3, 2020	



Total Construction

Construction spending during December 2019 was estimated at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$1,327.7 billion, 0.2 percent (± 0.8 percent)* below the revised November estimate of \$1,329.9 billion. The December figure is 5.0 percent (± 1.3 percent) above the December 2018 estimate of \$1,264.8 billion.

The value of construction in 2019 was \$1,303.5 billion, 0.3 percent (± 1.0 percent)* below the \$1,307.2 billion spent in 2018.

Private Construction

Spending on private construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$991.2 billion, 0.1 percent (± 0.5 percent)* below the revised November estimate of \$992.2 billion. Residential construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$540.7 billion in December, 1.4 percent (± 1.3 percent) above the revised November estimate of \$533.3 billion. Nonresidential construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$450.5 billion in December, 1.8 percent (± 0.5 percent) below the revised November estimate of \$458.9 billion.

The value of private construction in 2019 was \$974.7 billion, 2.5 percent (± 1.0 percent) below the \$1,000.2 billion spent in 2018. Residential construction in 2019 was \$514.3 billion, 4.7 percent (± 2.1 percent) below the 2018 figure of \$539.6 billion and nonresidential construction was \$460.4 billion, virtually unchanged from (± 1.0 percent)* the \$460.5 billion in 2018.

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Public Construction

In December, the estimated seasonally adjusted annual rate of public construction spending was \$336.4 billion, 0.4 percent (± 1.3 percent)* below the revised November estimate of \$337.7 billion. Educational construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$80.4 billion, 2.1 percent (± 2.1 percent)* below the revised November estimate of \$82.1 billion. Highway construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$99.9 billion, 3.1 percent (± 3.1 percent)* above the revised November estimate of \$96.9 billion.

The value of public construction in 2019 was \$328.8 billion, 7.1 percent (± 1.8 percent) above the \$307.1 billion spent in 2018. Educational construction in 2019 was \$79.0 billion, 3.4 percent (± 3.6 percent)* above the 2018 figure of \$76.4 billion and highway construction was \$98.8 billion, 8.8 percent (± 4.6 percent) above the \$90.8 billion in 2018.

The January 2020 Monthly Construction Spending Report is scheduled for release on March 2, 2020. View the full schedule in the Economic Briefing Room: <www.census.gov/economic-indicators/>. The full text and tables for this release can be found at <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 percentage 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, 1.06 percent; private construction, 1.39 percent; and public construction, 1.18 percent. Explanations of confidence intervals and sampling variability can be found on our website at <www.census.gov/construction/c30/methodology.html/>.

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RESOURCES

API

The Census Bureau's application programming interface lets developers create custom apps to reach new users and makes key demographic, socio-economic and housing statistics more accessible than ever before. <www.census.gov/developers/>

FRED Mobile App



Receive the latest updates on the nation's key economic indicators by downloading the FRED App <<https://fred.stlouisfed.org/fred-mobile/>> for both Apple and Android devices. FRED, the signature database of the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, now incorporates the Census Bureau's 13 economic indicators.

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* The 90 percent confidence interval includes zero. There is insufficient evidence to conclude that the actual change is different from zero.

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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 2019 ^p	Nov 2019 ^f	Oct 2019 ^f	Sep 2019	Aug 2019	Dec 2018	Percent change Dec 2019 from -	
							Nov 2019	Dec 2018
Total Construction	1,327,663	1,329,924	1,320,788	1,315,229	1,305,986	1,264,818	-0.2	5.0
Residential	548,027	540,457	532,521	529,455	525,229	517,951	1.4	5.8
Nonresidential	779,636	789,467	788,266	785,775	780,757	746,867	-1.2	4.4
Lodging	30,808	31,868	33,457	32,590	33,588	32,064	-3.3	-3.9
Office	79,275	80,095	79,999	80,109	79,997	75,639	-1.0	4.8
Commercial	82,560	85,050	86,330	85,604	83,506	86,036	-2.9	-4.0
Health care	43,039	43,654	43,918	44,038	43,411	42,632	-1.4	1.0
Educational	98,347	100,338	101,613	100,602	97,256	97,194	-2.0	1.2
Religious	2,866	2,922	2,920	2,845	2,827	3,216	-1.9	-10.9
Public safety	10,850	10,960	10,873	10,598	10,673	9,859	-1.0	10.1
Amusement and recreation	27,045	27,528	27,325	27,082	27,961	27,886	-1.8	-3.0
Transportation	54,977	55,482	54,984	55,750	55,512	52,496	-0.9	4.7
Communication	23,659	23,451	23,118	23,559	23,676	24,778	0.9	-4.5
Power	97,453	98,101	98,820	99,353	100,922	90,624	-0.7	7.5
Highway and street	100,220	97,222	94,429	97,514	95,429	87,823	3.1	14.1
Sewage and waste disposal	25,946	26,638	26,721	27,178	26,778	24,165	-2.6	7.4
Water supply	17,983	18,310	17,799	17,074	16,428	13,458	-1.8	33.6
Conservation and development	10,032	9,923	9,774	9,478	9,803	8,580	1.1	16.9
Manufacturing	74,578	77,924	76,186	72,402	72,991	70,417	-4.3	5.9
Total Private Construction¹	991,218	992,209	986,322	979,976	976,716	963,178	-0.1	2.9
Residential	540,734	533,330	525,269	522,540	518,495	512,324	1.4	5.5
New single family	289,295	281,806	277,881	273,993	271,037	274,923	2.7	5.2
New multifamily	57,711	58,758	58,827	60,102	61,120	62,146	-1.8	-7.1
Nonresidential	450,484	458,879	461,053	457,436	458,221	450,854	-1.8	-0.1
Lodging	29,744	30,725	32,248	31,391	32,619	31,175	-3.2	-4.6
Office	68,451	68,610	68,733	68,901	68,925	65,741	-0.2	4.1
Commercial	78,462	81,051	81,701	81,066	79,306	81,762	-3.2	-4.0
Health care	34,193	34,837	34,958	34,957	34,317	33,898	-1.8	0.9
Educational	17,901	18,208	18,518	18,938	18,610	19,884	-1.7	-10.0
Religious	2,866	2,922	2,920	2,845	2,827	3,216	-1.9	-10.9
Amusement and recreation	13,234	13,539	13,477	13,407	13,765	15,452	-2.3	-14.4
Transportation	16,265	16,253	16,401	16,843	16,375	18,124	0.1	-10.3
Communication	23,530	23,338	23,022	23,439	23,556	24,572	0.8	-4.2
Power	90,101	90,413	91,653	92,127	93,574	85,308	-0.3	5.6
Manufacturing	74,353	77,552	75,866	72,099	72,708	70,263	-4.1	5.8
Total Public Construction²	336,445	337,715	334,466	335,253	329,270	301,640	-0.4	11.5
Residential	7,293	7,128	7,252	6,915	6,734	5,627	2.3	29.6
Nonresidential	329,152	330,588	327,214	328,339	322,536	296,012	-0.4	11.2
Office	10,824	11,484	11,266	11,208	11,072	9,898	-5.7	9.4
Commercial	4,098	3,999	4,629	4,538	4,200	4,274	2.5	-4.1
Health care	8,846	8,817	8,960	9,080	9,094	8,734	0.3	1.3
Educational	80,446	82,130	83,095	81,664	78,646	77,310	-2.1	4.1
Public safety	10,732	10,830	10,738	10,424	10,462	9,657	-0.9	11.1
Amusement and recreation	13,810	13,990	13,849	13,675	14,197	12,434	-1.3	11.1
Transportation	38,712	39,229	38,583	38,907	39,137	34,372	-1.3	12.6
Power	7,352	7,688	7,167	7,226	7,348	5,316	-4.4	38.3
Highway and street	99,884	96,916	94,061	97,202	95,138	87,533	3.1	14.1
Sewage and waste disposal	25,367	26,067	26,059	26,619	26,185	23,443	-2.7	8.2
Water supply	17,700	17,966	17,494	16,773	16,138	13,230	-1.5	33.8
Conservation and development	9,965	9,844	9,686	9,400	9,549	8,563	1.2	16.4

^p Preliminary ^f Revised

¹Includes the following categories of private construction not shown separately:
public safety, highway and street, sewage and waste disposal, water supply, and conservation and development.

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

Data are at an annual rate, adjusted for seasonality but not price changes. Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Construction Spending, February 3, 2020. Table 3 provides estimated measures of sampling variability. Additional information on the survey methodology may be found at <www.census.gov/construction/c30/meth.html>

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 2019 ^p	Nov 2019 ^r	Oct 2019 ^r	Sep 2019	Aug 2019	Dec 2018	Year-to-date		
							Dec 2019	Dec 2018	Percent change
Total Construction	100,403	111,857	118,134	120,078	120,278	95,415	1,303,469	1,307,248	-0.3
Residential	40,120	45,856	47,181	48,224	47,954	37,485	520,869	546,136	-4.6
Nonresidential	60,282	66,001	70,953	71,853	72,324	57,929	782,600	761,113	2.8
Lodging	2,483	2,649	2,866	2,785	2,867	2,590	33,407	31,496	6.1
Office	6,368	6,813	7,036	7,070	6,906	6,066	79,144	74,450	6.3
Commercial	6,541	7,176	7,800	7,686	7,466	6,792	84,595	95,420	-11.3
Health care	3,540	3,675	3,873	3,912	3,731	3,471	44,093	42,642	3.4
Educational	6,974	7,656	8,490	9,024	9,966	6,890	98,014	97,777	0.2
Religious	231	243	267	265	261	257	2,915	3,262	-10.6
Public safety	887	937	977	1,015	943	798	10,202	9,468	7.8
Amusement and recreation	2,122	2,264	2,434	2,445	2,496	2,176	27,765	27,924	-0.6
Transportation	4,335	4,803	5,075	5,083	4,999	4,146	54,746	51,446	6.9
Communication	2,284	2,112	2,035	2,002	2,020	2,328	23,507	24,645	-4.6
Power	8,158	8,433	8,524	8,347	8,418	7,657	99,372	93,176	6.6
Highway and street	5,690	8,038	9,994	10,841	11,098	5,116	99,184	91,124	8.8
Sewage and waste disposal	1,950	2,287	2,518	2,518	2,500	1,830	26,124	23,931	9.2
Water supply	1,353	1,533	1,603	1,562	1,516	1,008	16,435	15,317	7.3
Conservation and development	851	830	809	999	893	700	9,295	8,253	12.6
Manufacturing	6,515	6,553	6,653	6,300	6,246	6,106	73,803	70,782	4.3
Total Private Construction¹	76,931	84,232	87,001	87,236	86,804	74,311	974,710	1,000,154	-2.5
Residential	39,546	45,254	46,533	47,583	47,339	37,043	514,324	539,607	-4.7
New single family	21,464	24,638	25,197	25,457	25,274	20,341	272,155	289,582	-6.0
New multifamily	4,493	4,915	5,126	5,059	5,309	4,817	61,355	59,593	3.0
Nonresidential	37,385	38,979	40,468	39,653	39,465	37,269	460,386	460,547	0.0
Lodging	2,395	2,554	2,765	2,685	2,786	2,516	32,349	30,464	6.2
Office	5,498	5,847	6,033	6,047	5,922	5,268	68,485	64,591	6.0
Commercial	6,199	6,830	7,404	7,253	7,101	6,438	80,329	91,799	-12.5
Health care	2,809	2,954	3,116	3,089	2,940	2,765	35,183	33,255	5.8
Educational	1,337	1,419	1,524	1,560	1,692	1,494	19,022	21,351	-10.9
Religious	231	243	267	265	261	257	2,915	3,262	-10.6
Amusement and recreation	1,059	1,106	1,168	1,165	1,203	1,232	14,149	15,522	-8.8
Transportation	1,395	1,485	1,519	1,498	1,437	1,533	16,523	16,605	-0.5
Communication	2,273	2,103	2,027	1,992	2,010	2,311	23,370	24,461	-4.5
Power	7,589	7,795	7,882	7,692	7,746	7,250	92,964	87,708	6.0
Manufacturing	6,496	6,522	6,626	6,275	6,222	6,094	73,545	70,330	4.6
Total Public Construction²	23,472	27,625	31,133	32,841	33,474	21,103	328,759	307,094	7.1
Residential	575	602	648	641	615	442	6,545	6,529	0.2
Nonresidential	22,898	27,022	30,485	32,201	32,859	20,661	322,214	300,566	7.2
Office	870	967	1,003	1,023	984	798	10,659	9,859	8.1
Commercial	343	346	397	433	364	355	4,266	3,622	17.8
Health care	731	721	757	824	790	706	8,910	9,387	-5.1
Educational	5,638	6,237	6,966	7,463	8,274	5,397	78,992	76,426	3.4
Public safety	878	927	965	1,000	926	782	10,013	9,298	7.7
Amusement and recreation	1,064	1,158	1,266	1,280	1,293	943	13,617	12,403	9.8
Transportation	2,940	3,318	3,556	3,585	3,562	2,613	38,224	34,841	9.7
Power	569	638	642	654	673	408	6,408	5,469	17.2
Highway and street	5,668	8,011	9,960	10,812	11,072	5,097	98,847	90,842	8.8
Sewage and waste disposal	1,904	2,240	2,462	2,466	2,447	1,772	25,461	23,474	8.5
Water supply	1,330	1,503	1,575	1,534	1,488	989	16,137	15,052	7.2
Conservation and development	845	823	802	992	872	698	9,228	8,226	12.2

^p Preliminary ^r Revised

¹Includes the following categories of private construction not shown separately:
public safety, highway and street, sewage and waste disposal, water supply, and conservation and development.

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

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Construction Spending, February 3, 2020.

Table 3 provides estimated measures of sampling variability. Additional information on the survey methodology may be found at
<www.census.gov/construction/c30/meth.html>

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	0.7	0.4	0.6	0.5	0.8
Residential	3.8	3.2	4.3	1.9	9.2
Nonresidential	0.7	0.4	0.6	0.5	0.8
Lodging	1.5	1.7	1.8	0.6	1.7
Office	1.6	1.3	1.5	0.7	1.8
Commercial	1.8	1.0	1.5	1.1	1.6
Health care	1.8	1.6	1.7	0.8	5.0
Educational	1.5	1.2	1.8	1.1	2.2
Religious	6.5	4.7	4.4	2.3	5.6
Public safety	3.2	2.8	3.7	1.6	4.5
Amusement and recreation	2.0	1.6	1.9	1.3	2.2
Transportation	1.2	1.0	1.4	0.9	1.3
Communication	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Power	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.2	0.6
Highway and street	2.9	1.7	2.8	1.9	4.0
Sewage and waste disposal	3.2	2.4	3.1	2.4	5.7
Water supply	3.9	2.4	3.9	3.5	7.2
Conservation and development	2.1	1.4	2.0	1.9	2.8
Manufacturing	0.9	1.0	1.4	0.4	1.3
Total Private Construction	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.3	0.9
Residential	5.0	1.1	1.3	0.8	1.4
New single family	5.0	4.0	6.8	6.0	6.0
New multifamily	6.1	5.7	3.2	2.0	3.7
Nonresidential	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.3	0.9
Lodging	1.5	1.7	1.8	0.6	1.7
Office	1.8	1.5	1.6	0.8	2.0
Commercial	1.8	1.0	1.6	1.1	1.6
Health care	2.2	1.8	2.0	0.9	6.0
Educational	2.6	2.1	2.3	1.9	3.4
Religious	6.5	4.7	4.4	2.3	5.6
Amusement and recreation	2.1	1.4	1.6	1.2	2.0
Transportation	1.3	2.0	1.7	0.5	1.6
Communication	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Power	0.2	0.2	0.5	0.1	0.6
Manufacturing	0.9	1.0	1.4	0.4	1.3
Total Public Construction	1.1	0.7	1.1	0.8	1.5
Residential	3.8	3.2	4.3	1.9	9.2
Nonresidential	1.1	0.7	1.1	0.8	1.5
Office	2.6	1.8	3.8	1.4	4.4
Commercial	4.6	3.2	5.6	5.8	9.0
Health care	2.6	3.3	3.1	1.8	2.9
Educational	1.8	1.4	2.2	1.3	2.7
Public safety	3.2	2.8	3.8	1.6	4.6
Amusement and recreation	3.4	2.8	3.8	2.1	4.8
Transportation	1.5	1.1	1.8	1.0	1.7
Power	6.2	6.0	7.2	5.4	12.6
Highway and street	2.9	1.7	2.8	1.9	4.0
Sewage and waste disposal	3.2	2.4	3.2	2.4	5.8
Water supply	3.9	2.5	3.9	3.6	7.3
Conservation and development	2.1	1.4	2.0	2.0	2.8

NA Not applicable

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Construction Spending, February 3, 2020. Additional information on the survey methodology may be found at <www.census.gov/construction/c30/meth.html>

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	2019 ^P	2018	Percent change	Coefficient of variation
Total Construction	1,303,469	1,307,248	-0.3	0.4
Residential	520,869	546,136	-4.6	3.2
Nonresidential	782,600	761,113	2.8	0.4
Lodging	33,407	31,496	6.1	1.7
Office	79,144	74,450	6.3	1.3
Commercial	84,595	95,420	-11.3	1.0
Health care	44,093	42,642	3.4	1.6
Educational	98,014	97,777	0.2	1.2
Religious	2,915	3,262	-10.6	4.7
Public safety	10,202	9,468	7.8	2.8
Amusement and recreation	27,765	27,924	-0.6	1.6
Transportation	54,746	51,446	6.4	1.0
Communication	23,507	24,645	-4.6	NA
Power	99,372	93,176	6.6	0.3
Highway and street	99,184	91,124	8.8	1.7
Sewage and waste disposal	26,124	23,931	9.2	2.4
Water supply	16,435	15,317	7.3	2.4
Conservation and development	9,295	8,253	12.6	1.4
Manufacturing	73,803	70,782	4.3	1.0
Total Private Construction¹	974,710	1,000,154	-2.5	0.5
Residential	514,324	539,607	-4.7	1.1
New single family	272,155	289,582	-6.0	1.0
New multifamily	61,355	59,593	3.0	5.7
Nonresidential	460,386	460,547	0.0	0.5
Lodging	32,349	30,464	6.2	1.7
Office	68,485	64,591	6.0	1.5
Commercial	80,329	91,799	-12.5	1.0
Health care	35,183	33,255	5.8	1.8
Educational	19,022	21,351	-10.9	2.1
Religious	2,915	3,262	-10.6	4.7
Public safety	189	169	11.8	23.0
Amusement and recreation	14,149	15,522	-8.8	1.4
Transportation	16,523	16,605	-0.5	2.0
Communication	23,370	24,461	-4.5	NA
Power	92,964	87,708	6.0	0.2
Sewage and waste disposal	663	457	45.1	16.9
Water supply	297	265	12.1	21.7
Manufacturing	73,545	70,330	4.6	1.0
Total Public Construction²	328,759	307,094	7.1	0.7
Residential	6,545	6,529	0.2	3.2
Nonresidential	322,214	300,566	7.2	0.7
Office	10,659	9,859	8.1	1.8
Commercial	4,266	3,622	17.8	3.2
Health care	8,910	9,387	-5.1	3.3
Educational	78,992	76,426	3.4	1.4
Public safety	10,013	9,298	7.7	2.8
Amusement and recreation	13,617	12,403	9.8	2.8
Transportation	38,224	34,841	9.7	1.1
Power	6,408	5,469	17.2	6.0
Highway and street	98,847	90,842	8.8	1.7
Sewage and waste disposal	25,461	23,474	8.5	2.4
Water supply	16,137	15,052	7.2	2.5
Conservation and development	9,228	8,226	12.2	1.4

NA Not applicable ¹Preliminary

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

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

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Construction Spending, February 3, 2020. Additional information on the survey methodology may be found at <www.census.gov/construction/c30/meth.html>