

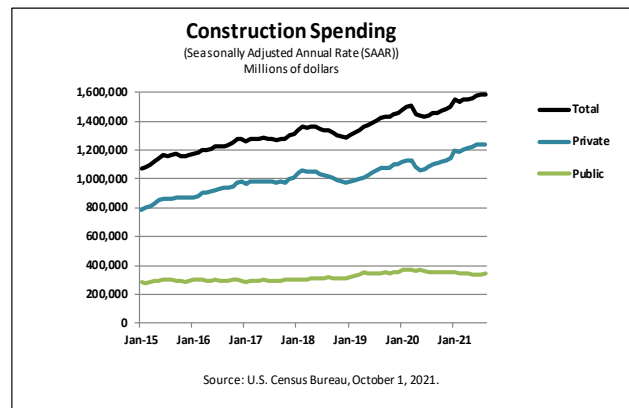
FOR RELEASE AT 10:00 AM EDT, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2021

MONTHLY CONSTRUCTION SPENDING, AUGUST 2021

Release Number: CB21-159

October 1, 2021 — The U.S. Census Bureau announced the following value put in place construction statistics for August 2021:

CONSTRUCTION SPENDING	
AUGUST 2021	\$1,584.1 billion
JULY 2021 (revised)	\$1,584.0 billion
Next release: November 1, 2021	
Seasonally Adjusted Annual Rate (SAAR)	
Source: U.S. Census Bureau, October 1, 2021	



Total Construction

Construction spending during August 2021 was estimated at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$1,584.1 billion, virtually unchanged from (± 1.0 percent)* the revised July estimate of \$1,584.0 billion. The August figure is 8.9 percent (± 1.5 percent) above the August 2020 estimate of \$1,455.0 billion. During the first eight months of this year, construction spending amounted to \$1,034.5 billion, 7.0 percent (± 1.0 percent) above the \$966.7 billion for the same period in 2020.

Private Construction

Spending on private construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$1,242.2 billion, 0.1 percent (± 0.5 percent)* below the revised July estimate of \$1,243.7 billion. Residential construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$786.6 billion in August, 0.4 percent (± 1.3 percent)* above the revised July estimate of \$783.5 billion. Nonresidential construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$455.6 billion in August, 1.0 percent (± 0.5 percent) below the revised July estimate of \$460.2 billion.

Public Construction

In August, the estimated seasonally adjusted annual rate of public construction spending was \$341.9 billion, 0.5 percent (± 1.6 percent)* above the revised July estimate of \$340.3 billion. Educational construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$79.8 billion, 1.1 percent (± 2.0 percent)* above the revised July estimate of \$78.9 billion. Highway construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$98.3 billion, 1.6 percent (± 4.4 percent)* above the revised July estimate of \$96.8 billion.

Data Inquiries

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The September 2021 Monthly Construction Spending Report is scheduled for release on November 1, 2021. 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, 0.94 percent; private construction, 1.14 percent; and public construction, 0.70 percent. Explanations of confidence intervals and sampling variability can be found on our website at <www.census.gov/construction/c30/meth.html/>.

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	Aug 2021 ^P	Jul 2021 ^r	Jun 2021 ^r	May 2021	Apr 2021	Aug 2020	Percent change Aug 2021 from -	
							Jul 2021	Aug 2020
Total Construction	1,584,085	1,584,038	1,579,265	1,564,153	1,553,547	1,455,002	0.0	8.9
Residential	795,498	792,558	789,827	771,911	761,588	642,031	0.4	23.9
Nonresidential	788,587	791,480	789,438	792,242	791,959	812,971	-0.4	-3.0
Lodging	18,872	19,410	19,344	19,994	22,069	27,401	-2.8	-31.1
Office	81,163	81,208	81,143	80,860	80,739	85,401	-0.1	-5.0
Commercial	88,933	89,587	89,225	88,453	86,698	83,196	-0.7	6.9
Health care	48,196	48,677	48,336	47,944	47,837	48,243	-1.0	-0.1
Educational	94,657	93,874	94,394	97,073	99,580	102,396	0.8	-7.6
Religious	2,944	3,023	2,950	3,141	3,106	3,343	-2.6	-11.9
Public safety	11,562	11,845	11,647	11,392	11,592	17,931	-2.4	-35.5
Amusement and recreation	24,476	24,614	24,669	25,188	24,908	27,164	-0.6	-9.9
Transportation	56,375	56,397	56,720	56,382	55,869	61,379	0.0	-8.2
Communication	21,706	21,621	21,756	21,680	21,752	22,519	0.4	-3.6
Power	111,953	113,588	113,907	112,817	114,344	110,743	-1.4	1.1
Highway and street	98,655	97,225	95,341	98,367	97,674	96,080	1.5	2.7
Sewage and waste disposal	28,007	27,922	28,055	27,399	27,620	26,054	0.3	7.5
Water supply	19,401	19,093	18,969	18,699	18,815	19,192	1.6	1.1
Conservation and development	7,628	7,980	7,876	7,267	7,111	9,417	-4.4	-19.0
Manufacturing	74,060	75,417	75,106	75,587	72,247	72,512	-1.8	2.1
Total Private Construction¹	1,242,217	1,243,745	1,240,715	1,223,061	1,209,782	1,098,852	-0.1	13.0
Residential ²	786,589	783,521	780,726	762,852	752,819	632,725	0.4	24.3
New single family	413,449	416,184	412,997	404,489	400,562	298,903	-0.7	38.3
New multifamily	99,467	100,269	100,259	99,174	99,150	88,257	-0.8	12.7
Nonresidential	455,627	460,224	459,990	460,209	456,963	466,127	-1.0	-2.3
Lodging	18,238	18,664	18,612	19,189	21,252	26,304	-2.3	-30.7
Office	69,930	69,783	69,865	69,833	69,427	72,975	0.2	-4.2
Commercial	85,316	85,998	85,655	84,969	83,115	79,162	-0.8	7.8
Health care	38,187	38,606	38,294	37,975	37,773	38,165	-1.1	0.1
Educational	14,884	15,002	14,692	14,770	15,325	17,629	-0.8	-15.6
Religious	2,939	3,019	2,946	3,128	3,099	3,343	-2.6	-12.1
Amusement and recreation	11,499	11,496	11,339	11,535	11,042	12,743	0.0	-9.8
Transportation	14,799	15,163	15,568	15,505	14,528	15,447	-2.4	-4.2
Communication	21,587	21,524	21,632	21,606	21,675	22,409	0.3	-3.7
Power	102,934	104,364	105,160	104,844	106,289	104,168	-1.4	-1.2
Manufacturing	73,632	74,941	74,571	75,275	71,976	72,134	-1.7	2.1
Total Public Construction³	341,869	340,293	338,550	341,092	343,765	356,150	0.5	-4.0
Residential	8,909	9,037	9,101	9,060	8,768	9,306	-1.4	-4.3
Nonresidential	332,960	331,256	329,449	332,033	334,996	346,844	0.5	-4.0
Office	11,234	11,425	11,278	11,027	11,312	12,426	-1.7	-9.6
Commercial	3,617	3,590	3,570	3,483	3,583	4,034	0.8	-10.3
Health care	10,009	10,071	10,041	9,969	10,064	10,078	-0.6	-0.7
Educational	79,774	78,872	79,701	82,304	84,254	84,767	1.1	-5.9
Public safety	11,392	11,694	11,500	11,305	11,482	17,809	-2.6	-36.0
Amusement and recreation	12,977	13,117	13,330	13,652	13,866	14,421	-1.1	-10.0
Transportation	41,576	41,234	41,152	40,877	41,342	45,932	0.8	-9.5
Power	9,019	9,224	8,747	7,973	8,055	6,575	-2.2	37.2
Highway and street	98,276	96,767	94,926	97,968	97,293	95,723	1.6	2.7
Sewage and waste disposal	27,616	27,554	27,624	26,993	27,269	25,614	0.2	7.8
Water supply	18,785	18,498	18,394	18,054	18,231	18,568	1.6	1.2
Conservation and development	7,501	7,887	7,791	7,224	7,072	9,311	-4.9	-19.4

^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 private residential improvements.

³Includes 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, October 1, 2021. 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	Aug 2021 ^p	Jul 2021 ^r	Jun 2021 ^r	May 2021	Apr 2021	Aug 2020	Year-to-date		
							Aug 2021	Aug 2020	Percent change
Total Construction	148,020	145,448	143,405	134,298	126,982	135,189	1,034,490	966,720	7.0
Residential	75,273	73,434	71,995	66,778	63,216	60,290	512,529	407,531	25.8
Nonresidential	72,747	72,014	71,411	67,520	63,766	74,900	521,961	559,189	-6.7
Lodging	1,583	1,623	1,643	1,678	1,867	2,337	14,010	20,286	-30.9
Office	7,105	7,010	7,118	6,861	6,669	7,476	53,511	59,555	-10.1
Commercial	7,841	7,729	7,853	7,513	7,204	7,316	57,535	58,516	-1.7
Health care	4,141	4,152	4,144	4,069	3,967	4,114	31,531	32,028	-1.6
Educational	9,567	9,648	9,343	8,358	7,861	10,416	66,482	74,380	-10.6
Religious	260	258	253	265	256	303	2,019	2,337	-13.6
Public safety	1,004	983	1,016	951	968	1,517	8,390	12,219	-31.3
Amusement and recreation	2,206	2,149	2,180	2,149	2,077	2,410	16,404	18,546	-11.5
Transportation	5,138	5,023	5,036	4,881	4,530	5,629	36,835	39,390	-6.5
Communication	1,827	1,795	1,754	1,767	1,793	1,891	14,031	14,648	-4.2
Power	9,573	9,582	9,661	9,316	9,279	9,377	75,201	78,026	-3.6
Highway and street	11,015	10,733	10,005	8,839	7,166	10,845	62,810	65,012	-3.4
Sewage and waste disposal	2,605	2,507	2,550	2,363	2,195	2,415	17,769	17,151	3.6
Water supply	1,767	1,722	1,742	1,670	1,558	1,726	12,355	12,563	-1.7
Conservation and development	724	687	665	577	533	879	4,878	5,961	-18.2
Manufacturing	6,390	6,413	6,448	6,263	5,844	6,249	48,201	48,569	-0.8
Total Private Construction¹	113,863	111,938	110,776	104,616	100,060	99,665	808,646	725,756	11.4
Residential ²	74,476	72,636	71,160	66,005	62,490	59,453	506,584	401,501	26.2
New single family	38,155	37,816	36,279	34,137	32,661	27,585	263,971	190,799	38.4
New multifamily	8,642	8,444	8,638	8,374	8,403	7,625	65,546	55,367	18.4
Nonresidential	39,387	39,302	39,615	38,611	37,571	40,212	302,061	324,255	-6.8
Lodging	1,530	1,561	1,582	1,611	1,799	2,245	13,473	19,568	-31.1
Office	6,088	6,017	6,099	5,911	5,715	6,357	46,052	51,310	-10.2
Commercial	7,525	7,433	7,540	7,220	6,910	6,966	55,192	55,820	-1.1
Health care	3,275	3,287	3,278	3,229	3,131	3,257	24,958	25,590	-2.5
Educational	1,358	1,391	1,378	1,318	1,296	1,616	10,333	12,918	-20.0
Religious	260	257	253	263	255	303	2,015	2,337	-13.8
Amusement and recreation	1,009	986	975	964	936	1,104	7,553	9,176	-17.7
Transportation	1,252	1,276	1,376	1,363	1,206	1,321	9,947	10,482	-5.1
Communication	1,817	1,787	1,744	1,761	1,787	1,882	13,970	14,598	-4.3
Power	8,766	8,785	8,835	8,591	8,594	8,795	69,576	73,080	-4.8
Manufacturing	6,354	6,374	6,404	6,237	5,822	6,218	47,978	48,325	-0.7
Total Public Construction³	34,158	33,511	32,630	29,682	26,921	35,525	225,845	240,964	-6.3
Residential	798	798	834	773	726	837	5,945	6,030	-1.4
Nonresidential	33,360	32,713	31,796	28,909	26,195	34,688	219,900	234,934	-6.4
Office	1,017	993	1,019	951	954	1,119	7,459	8,245	-9.5
Commercial	316	296	313	292	293	350	2,343	2,696	-13.1
Health care	866	865	866	841	836	857	6,573	6,439	2.1
Educational	8,210	8,257	7,965	7,040	6,566	8,801	56,149	61,463	-8.6
Public safety	989	971	1,003	943	958	1,507	8,302	12,122	-31.5
Amusement and recreation	1,198	1,163	1,205	1,185	1,140	1,306	8,852	9,371	-5.5
Transportation	3,886	3,747	3,660	3,518	3,323	4,308	26,888	28,908	-7.0
Power	807	797	826	725	685	582	5,625	4,946	13.7
Highway and street	10,979	10,689	9,962	8,804	7,135	10,812	62,557	64,755	-3.4
Sewage and waste disposal	2,568	2,476	2,509	2,325	2,168	2,374	17,515	16,880	3.8
Water supply	1,712	1,669	1,692	1,612	1,509	1,670	11,972	12,192	-1.8
Conservation and development	713	679	658	574	530	871	4,842	5,905	-18.0

^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 private residential improvements.

³Includes the following categories of public construction not shown separately: lodging, religious, communication, and manufacturing.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Construction Spending, October 1, 2021.

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	0.6	0.9
Residential	5.1	4.8	4.4	2.7	4.4
Nonresidential	0.7	0.4	0.6	0.6	0.9
Lodging	2.6	2.2	1.7	0.7	1.5
Office	1.7	1.4	1.5	0.7	1.8
Commercial	1.3	0.9	1.3	0.9	1.6
Health care	1.8	1.3	1.8	0.8	2.3
Educational	1.8	1.5	1.9	1.0	2.2
Religious	5.4	3.5	4.3	2.8	5.2
Public safety	2.3	2.5	2.1	1.5	1.7
Amusement and recreation	2.7	2.1	2.0	1.7	2.2
Transportation	1.1	0.8	1.1	1.1	2.1
Communication	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Power	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.3
Highway and street	2.7	1.6	2.5	2.7	4.1
Sewage and waste disposal	2.7	1.9	3.0	2.4	3.4
Water supply	3.7	2.1	3.0	3.3	5.6
Conservation and development	2.3	2.3	2.4	1.6	4.2
Manufacturing	1.3	0.9	1.3	0.4	1.9
Total Private Construction	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.3	0.7
Residential	5.0	1.1	1.3	0.8	1.4
New single family	7.9	8.5	4.0	0.7	5.4
New multifamily	5.7	5.8	2.8	1.0	3.3
Nonresidential	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.3	0.7
Lodging	2.6	2.3	1.7	0.7	1.5
Office	1.9	1.6	1.7	0.8	2.0
Commercial	1.3	0.9	1.3	0.9	1.6
Health care	2.2	1.5	2.1	1.0	2.6
Educational	2.8	2.6	2.4	1.5	3.0
Religious	5.4	3.5	4.3	2.8	5.2
Amusement and recreation	3.3	2.7	2.5	1.9	3.1
Transportation	1.9	1.7	1.2	0.7	1.4
Communication	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Power	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Manufacturing	1.3	0.9	1.3	0.4	1.9
Total Public Construction	1.1	0.7	1.0	1.0	1.6
Residential	5.1	4.8	4.4	2.7	4.4
Nonresidential	1.1	0.7	1.1	1.0	1.6
Office	2.8	2.3	3.1	1.4	4.4
Commercial	6.7	5.7	7.7	2.0	9.5
Health care	2.1	1.7	2.4	1.3	3.7
Educational	2.0	1.7	2.2	1.2	2.6
Public safety	2.3	2.5	2.1	1.5	1.7
Amusement and recreation	4.1	3.1	3.2	2.6	3.1
Transportation	1.2	0.9	1.2	1.3	2.4
Power	7.0	7.9	8.7	3.6	12.1
Highway and street	2.7	1.6	2.5	2.7	4.1
Sewage and waste disposal	2.8	2.0	3.0	2.4	3.5
Water supply	3.7	2.1	3.0	3.4	5.7
Conservation and development	2.3	2.3	2.5	1.5	4.2

NA Not applicable

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Construction Spending, October 1, 2021. Additional information on the survey methodology may be found at <www.census.gov/construction/c30/meth.html>