

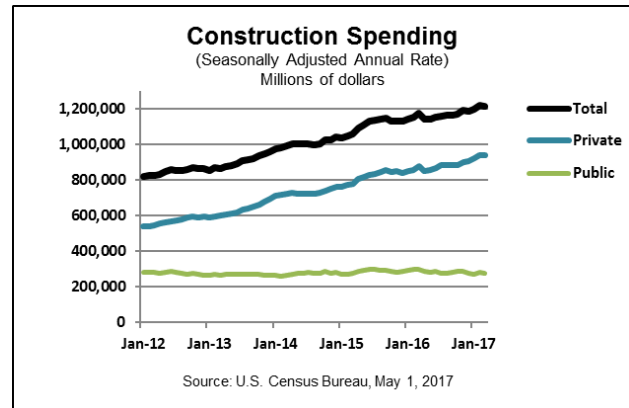
FOR RELEASE AT 10:00 AM EDT, MAY 1, 2017

MONTHLY CONSTRUCTION SPENDING, MARCH 2017

Release Number: CB17-67

May 1, 2017 — The U.S. Census Bureau announced the following value put in place construction statistics for March 2017:

CONSTRUCTION SPENDING	
MARCH 2017	\$1,218.3 billion
FEBRUARY 2017 (revised)	\$1,220.7 billion
Next release: June 1, 2017	
Seasonally Adjusted Annual Rate Source: U.S. Census Bureau, May 1, 2017	



Total Construction

Construction spending during March 2017 was estimated at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$1,218.3 billion, 0.2 percent (± 2.1 percent)* below the revised February estimate of \$1,220.7 billion. The March figure is 3.6 percent (± 1.5 percent) above the March 2016 estimate of \$1,176.4 billion. During the first 3 months of this year, construction spending amounted to \$259.5 billion, 4.9 percent (± 1.6 percent) above the \$247.5 billion for the same period in 2016.

Private Construction

Spending on private construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$940.2 billion, nearly the same as (± 3.3 percent)* the revised February estimate of \$940.1 billion. Residential construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$503.4 billion in March, 1.2 percent (± 1.3 percent)* above the revised February estimate of \$497.4 billion. Nonresidential construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$436.8 billion in March, 1.3 percent (± 3.3 percent)* below the revised February estimate of \$442.6 billion.

Public Construction

In March, the estimated seasonally adjusted annual rate of public construction spending was \$278.1 billion, 0.9 percent (± 2.0 percent)* below the revised February estimate of \$280.7 billion. Educational construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$70.2 billion, 2.0 percent (± 2.6 percent)* below the revised February estimate of \$71.6 billion. Highway construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$91.5 billion, 0.5 percent (± 4.9 percent)* above the revised February estimate of \$91.1 billion.

Notice

In the May 2017 press release, normal revisions to the unadjusted and seasonally adjusted data will revise back to January 2015.

Data Inquiries

Economic Indicator Division, Construction Expenditures Branch
301-763-1605
eid.ceb.customer.service@census.gov

Media Inquiries

Public Information Office
301-763-3030
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U.S. Department of Commerce
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General Information

The April 2017 Monthly Construction Spending Report is scheduled for release on June 1, 2017 . 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 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, 0.83 percent; private construction, 1.01 percent; and public construction, 1.09 percent.

Explanations of confidence intervals and sampling variability can be found on our website at <www.census.gov/construction/c30/methodology.html/>.

America's Economy Mobile App

The America's Economy app provides real-time updates for 19 key economic indicators released from the U.S. Census Bureau, Bureau of Labor Statistics, and Bureau of Economic Analysis.

<www.census.gov/mobile/economy/>

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/>

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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	Mar 2017 ^P	Feb 2017 ^r	Jan 2017 ^r	Dec 2016	Nov 2016	Mar 2016	Percent change Mar 2017 from -	
							Feb 2017	Mar 2016
Total Construction	1,218,285	1,220,735	1,198,779	1,188,941	1,191,468	1,176,380	-0.2	3.6
Residential	509,643	503,736	491,247	481,759	477,406	475,094	1.2	7.3
Nonresidential	708,642	716,999	707,533	707,182	714,062	701,287	-1.2	1.0
Lodging	28,384	28,187	28,408	28,321	28,971	26,219	0.7	8.3
Office	73,342	75,222	74,856	76,148	75,502	63,365	-2.5	15.7
Commercial	80,511	83,332	82,278	81,578	79,109	72,606	-3.4	10.9
Health care	41,413	40,720	40,959	41,381	41,243	42,016	1.7	-1.4
Educational	90,801	93,960	93,014	90,464	92,615	89,910	-3.4	1.0
Religious	3,453	3,498	3,370	3,597	3,670	3,725	-1.3	-7.3
Public safety	8,056	8,144	7,498	8,772	8,159	7,860	-1.1	2.5
Amusement and recreation	23,178	23,215	22,435	22,428	22,629	21,229	-0.2	9.2
Transportation	39,695	40,990	39,986	41,815	41,638	45,285	-3.2	-12.3
Communication	21,820	21,818	22,605	21,643	20,625	18,421	0.0	18.5
Power	99,290	99,939	97,761	96,055	93,860	94,682	-0.6	4.9
Highway and street	91,821	91,419	88,076	87,831	92,356	94,054	0.4	-2.4
Sewage and waste disposal	19,195	19,717	19,019	19,160	20,483	24,704	-2.6	-22.3
Water supply	10,591	10,567	10,812	12,007	11,755	12,304	0.2	-13.9
Conservation and development	7,507	7,122	7,027	7,452	7,971	7,839	5.4	-4.2
Manufacturing	69,587	69,151	69,431	68,533	73,476	77,066	0.6	-9.7
Total Private Construction¹	940,210	940,084	924,379	909,664	904,708	878,990	0.0	7.0
Residential	503,425	497,437	485,264	475,167	470,807	468,362	1.2	7.5
New single family	258,479	257,612	254,319	251,536	249,191	246,787	0.3	4.7
New multi-family	66,080	64,767	62,956	60,827	61,611	61,543	2.0	7.4
Nonresidential	436,785	442,647	439,115	434,496	433,900	410,629	-1.3	6.4
Lodging	28,028	27,835	28,086	28,001	28,592	25,801	0.7	8.6
Office	65,637	67,377	67,122	68,128	67,045	55,761	-2.6	17.7
Commercial	77,593	80,165	79,192	78,474	75,970	68,834	-3.2	12.7
Health care	32,729	32,252	32,830	32,746	32,681	33,054	1.5	-1.0
Educational	20,584	22,323	21,253	20,425	20,817	17,854	-7.8	15.3
Religious	3,453	3,498	3,370	3,597	3,670	3,725	-1.3	-7.3
Amusement and recreation	12,473	12,510	12,150	12,550	12,585	11,152	-0.3	11.8
Transportation	11,455	11,566	11,831	11,384	11,466	12,547	-1.0	-8.7
Communication	21,718	21,718	22,488	21,488	20,529	18,238	0.0	19.1
Power	93,410	93,957	90,912	89,064	86,829	86,337	-0.6	8.2
Manufacturing	68,895	68,583	68,813	67,874	72,935	76,414	0.5	-9.8
Total Public Construction²	278,075	280,651	274,400	279,277	286,761	297,390	-0.9	-6.5
Residential	6,218	6,298	5,983	6,592	6,599	6,732	-1.3	-7.6
Nonresidential	271,857	274,353	268,418	272,685	280,162	290,658	-0.9	-6.5
Office	7,704	7,845	7,734	8,020	8,457	7,604	-1.8	1.3
Commercial	2,918	3,168	3,085	3,104	3,139	3,773	-7.9	-22.7
Health care	8,684	8,468	8,129	8,635	8,562	8,962	2.6	-3.1
Educational	70,216	71,638	71,762	70,039	71,799	72,056	-2.0	-2.6
Public safety	8,002	8,021	7,374	8,642	8,054	7,784	-0.2	2.8
Amusement and recreation	10,705	10,705	10,285	9,878	10,044	10,077	0.0	6.2
Transportation	28,241	29,424	28,155	30,431	30,172	32,738	-4.0	-13.7
Power	5,880	5,982	6,849	6,990	7,031	8,346	-1.7	-29.5
Highway and street	91,516	91,089	87,793	87,629	92,163	93,783	0.5	-2.4
Sewage and waste disposal	18,979	19,514	18,822	18,904	20,201	24,363	-2.7	-22.1
Water supply	10,375	10,382	10,398	11,881	11,607	12,147	-0.1	-14.6
Conservation and development	7,486	7,099	6,976	7,399	7,917	7,772	5.5	-3.7

^PPreliminary ^rRevised

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, May 1, 2017. 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	Mar 2017 ^P	Feb 2017 ^F	Jan 2017 ^F	Dec 2016	Nov 2016	Mar 2016	Year-to-date		
							Mar 2017	Mar 2016	Percent change
Total Construction	92,954	84,003	82,553	91,645	100,555	88,984	259,510	247,496	4.9
Residential	39,997	33,620	32,858	35,927	39,702	36,635	106,474	98,177	8.5
Nonresidential	52,957	50,384	49,695	55,718	60,853	52,349	153,036	149,319	2.5
Lodging	2,295	2,190	2,160	2,333	2,468	2,127	6,644	5,899	12.6
Office	5,796	5,676	5,624	6,126	6,401	5,060	17,096	14,141	20.9
Commercial	6,225	6,114	5,947	6,417	6,779	5,624	18,286	16,086	13.7
Health care	3,323	3,138	3,101	3,401	3,512	3,375	9,562	9,444	1.2
Educational	6,613	6,456	6,307	6,490	7,203	6,542	19,376	18,482	4.8
Religious	273	254	246	290	312	299	773	825	-6.3
Public safety	630	589	572	729	714	614	1,791	1,865	-4.0
Amusement and recreation	1,817	1,680	1,634	1,753	1,913	1,666	5,131	4,660	10.1
Transportation	2,927	2,808	2,773	3,342	3,647	3,332	8,507	9,381	-9.3
Communication	1,766	1,536	1,548	2,053	1,938	1,492	4,850	4,383	10.7
Power	7,770	7,738	7,826	8,277	8,264	7,402	23,334	22,273	4.8
Highway and street	5,159	4,341	4,060	5,387	7,996	5,252	13,560	14,313	-5.3
Sewage and waste disposal	1,429	1,355	1,318	1,481	1,766	1,819	4,102	5,376	-23.7
Water supply	817	763	795	934	1,009	938	2,375	2,670	-11.0
Conservation and development	604	562	509	645	667	623	1,674	1,799	-6.9
Manufacturing	5,514	5,186	5,276	6,061	6,264	6,186	15,976	17,722	-9.9
Total Private Construction¹	73,910	66,353	65,535	71,669	76,585	68,585	205,798	189,793	8.4
Residential	39,532	33,169	32,439	35,397	39,135	36,132	105,140	96,728	8.7
New single family	20,093	17,057	17,629	18,714	21,839	19,142	54,779	52,720	3.9
New multi-family	5,365	4,971	4,793	4,733	5,173	4,982	15,129	14,023	7.9
Nonresidential	34,378	33,184	33,097	36,272	37,449	32,452	100,659	93,065	8.2
Lodging	2,265	2,160	2,133	2,306	2,436	2,093	6,558	5,787	13.3
Office	5,195	5,100	5,047	5,475	5,698	4,466	15,342	12,396	23.8
Commercial	5,999	5,877	5,732	6,163	6,499	5,328	17,608	15,293	15.1
Health care	2,607	2,461	2,483	2,681	2,803	2,636	7,550	7,425	1.7
Educational	1,619	1,637	1,543	1,552	1,637	1,414	4,798	4,041	18.7
Religious	273	254	246	290	312	299	773	825	-6.3
Amusement and recreation	1,022	962	936	1,006	1,052	911	2,920	2,562	14.0
Transportation	772	710	800	963	1,075	837	2,282	2,418	-5.6
Communication	1,757	1,528	1,539	2,041	1,930	1,477	4,823	4,341	11.1
Power	7,358	7,299	7,339	7,726	7,717	6,799	21,996	20,224	8.8
Manufacturing	5,457	5,138	5,225	6,006	6,219	6,132	15,820	17,548	-9.8
Total Public Construction²	19,044	17,651	17,017	19,976	23,970	20,399	53,712	57,704	-6.9
Residential	464	451	419	531	567	503	1,335	1,449	-7.9
Nonresidential	18,579	17,200	16,598	19,446	23,403	19,897	52,377	56,255	-6.9
Office	600	576	577	651	703	594	1,754	1,745	0.5
Commercial	227	236	215	254	280	296	678	793	-14.5
Health care	716	678	618	719	709	739	2,012	2,019	-0.3
Educational	4,995	4,820	4,764	4,938	5,566	5,128	14,578	14,441	0.9
Public safety	626	580	563	719	705	607	1,768	1,844	-4.1
Amusement and recreation	795	717	699	747	860	755	2,211	2,098	5.4
Transportation	2,155	2,098	1,972	2,379	2,573	2,495	6,225	6,963	-10.6
Power	412	439	487	551	547	603	1,338	2,050	-34.7
Highway and street	5,142	4,322	4,043	5,369	7,976	5,237	13,507	14,271	-5.4
Sewage and waste disposal	1,414	1,340	1,304	1,461	1,742	1,795	4,057	5,288	-23.3
Water supply	801	749	764	923	996	927	2,314	2,634	-12.1
Conservation and development	602	560	505	640	662	617	1,667	1,780	-6.3

^PPreliminary ^FRevised

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, May 1, 2017. 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	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.3	0.9
Residential	5.4	6.8	6.9	3.1	7.9
Nonresidential	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.3	0.9
Lodging	2.1	3.6	3.9	1.3	3.3
Office	2.7	2.1	2.7	1.5	2.6
Commercial	3.2	5.7	5.9	8.3	2.7
Health care	2.1	1.7	2.4	1.4	2.4
Educational	1.9	1.5	2.1	1.2	2.0
Religious	7.3	7.0	8.1	4.7	9.4
Public safety	3.1	2.9	3.6	3.4	4.1
Amusement and recreation	3.7	3.6	4.3	5.1	5.9
Transportation	1.8	1.4	1.9	1.5	2.2
Communication	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Power	0.3	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.3
Highway and street	3.5	3.1	3.9	3.0	4.5
Sewage and waste disposal	3.4	3.2	3.3	3.1	3.9
Water supply	4.5	4.0	4.6	7.1	6.4
Conservation and development	4.2	4.2	5.3	3.3	4.9
Manufacturing	0.9	0.6	0.7	0.4	0.7
Total Private Construction	1.0	1.3	1.4	2.0	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 multi-family	5.4	4.9	5.4	1.8	5.3
Nonresidential	1.0	1.3	1.4	2.0	0.9
Lodging	2.1	3.6	3.9	1.3	3.4
Office	3.0	2.4	3.0	1.7	2.9
Commercial	3.3	6.0	6.1	8.6	2.7
Health care	2.6	2.1	3.0	1.8	2.8
Educational	3.1	2.6	3.7	1.2	3.5
Religious	7.3	7.0	8.1	4.7	9.4
Amusement and recreation	3.4	3.1	4.6	2.1	4.5
Transportation	4.0	3.4	7.8	4.3	9.0
Communication	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Power	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.2
Manufacturing	0.9	0.6	0.7	0.4	0.7
Total Public Construction	1.4	1.1	1.4	1.2	1.6
Residential	5.4	6.8	6.9	3.1	7.9
Nonresidential	1.4	1.1	1.4	1.2	1.6
Office	3.4	2.9	3.8	2.8	4.2
Commercial	7.4	6.8	14.5	4.8	11.2
Health care	2.7	2.3	3.3	2.0	3.9
Educational	2.3	1.8	2.5	1.6	2.4
Public safety	3.1	2.8	3.6	3.4	4.2
Amusement and recreation	6.8	6.9	7.5	11.0	11.5
Transportation	1.9	1.5	1.8	1.5	2.1
Power	4.5	3.7	2.2	4.5	2.3
Highway and street	3.5	3.1	3.9	3.0	4.6
Sewage and waste disposal	3.4	3.2	3.3	3.1	3.9
Water supply	4.5	4.0	4.6	7.2	6.4
Conservation and development	4.2	4.2	5.4	3.3	5.0

NA Not applicable

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Construction Spending, May 1, 2017. Additional information on the survey methodology may be found at www.census.gov/construction/c30/meth.html.