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APRIL 2009 CONSTRUCTION AT \$968.7 BILLION ANNUAL RATE

The U.S. Census Bureau of the Department of Commerce announced today that construction spending during April 2009 was estimated at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$968.7 billion, 0.8 percent ($\pm 1.3\%$)* above the revised March estimate of \$961.3 billion. The April figure is 10.7 percent ($\pm 1.8\%$) below the April 2008 estimate of \$1,085.2 billion.

During the first 4 months of this year, construction spending amounted to \$286.3 billion, 11.3 percent ($\pm 1.4\%$) below the \$322.8 billion for the same period in 2008.

PRIVATE CONSTRUCTION

Spending on private construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$657.3 billion, 1.4 percent ($\pm 1.3\%$) above the revised March estimate of \$648.2 billion. Residential construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$249.2 billion in April, 0.7 percent ($\pm 1.3\%$)* above the revised March estimate of \$247.4 billion. Nonresidential construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$408.2 billion in April, 1.8 percent ($\pm 1.3\%$) above the revised March estimate of \$400.8 billion.

PUBLIC CONSTRUCTION

In April, the estimated seasonally adjusted annual rate of public construction spending was \$311.4 billion, 0.6 percent ($\pm 2.1\%$)* below the revised March estimate of \$313.2 billion. Educational construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$89.1 billion, 1.8 percent ($\pm 2.9\%$)* below the revised March estimate of \$90.7 billion. Highway construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$79.0 billion, 0.9 percent ($\pm 6.9\%$)* above the revised March estimate of \$78.3 billion.

May 2009 data will be released on July 1, 2009 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, 0.5 percent; private construction, 0.6 percent; and public construction, 0.7 percent.

In the May 2009 press release, normal revisions to the unadjusted and seasonally adjusted data will revise back to January 2007.

* 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	Apr 2009 ^P	Mar 2009 ^r	Feb 2009 ^r	Jan 2009	Dec 2008	Apr 2008	Percent change Apr 2009 from -	
							Mar 2009	Apr 2008
Total Construction	968,673	961,331	957,127	977,249	1,012,017	1,085,175	0.8	-10.7
Residential	256,406	254,841	264,420	293,726	305,451	390,584	0.6	-34.4
Nonresidential	712,268	706,490	692,707	683,523	706,566	694,591	0.8	2.5
Lodging	32,879	32,116	30,811	30,612	33,751	36,304	2.4	-9.4
Office	63,846	64,545	64,724	65,137	68,059	71,302	-1.1	-10.5
Commercial	68,661	70,484	69,922	71,296	74,813	90,816	-2.6	-24.4
Health care	47,271	47,408	46,899	45,695	48,283	45,532	-0.3	3.8
Educational	106,753	108,895	106,372	104,498	102,990	103,218	-2.0	3.4
Religious	6,609	6,587	6,993	6,915	7,246	7,054	0.3	-6.3
Public safety	13,408	13,283	13,257	13,243	13,970	11,866	0.9	13.0
Amusement and recreation	20,909	21,001	20,996	20,071	21,245	23,234	-0.4	-10.0
Transportation	33,555	32,948	33,146	32,837	33,885	35,007	1.8	-4.1
Communication	19,755	18,645	18,374	20,063	22,347	26,719	6.0	-26.1
Power	82,936	77,369	72,200	71,688	77,855	65,850	7.2	25.9
Highway and street	79,170	78,417	80,532	79,060	79,429	79,032	1.0	0.2
Sewage and waste disposal	26,307	26,905	24,938	24,663	26,183	25,211	-2.2	4.3
Water supply	15,073	16,021	15,944	16,253	17,546	16,058	-5.9	-6.1
Conservation and development	5,712	5,756	5,659	4,828	5,954	4,893	-0.8	16.7
Manufacturing	89,424	86,113	81,940	76,666	73,012	52,497	3.8	70.3
Total Private Construction ¹	657,316	648,164	647,114	675,741	705,303	783,681	1.4	-16.1
Residential	249,165	247,413	256,593	286,397	298,356	383,493	0.7	-35.0
Nonresidential	408,152	400,750	390,521	389,344	406,947	400,188	1.8	2.0
Lodging	32,809	32,026	30,718	30,504	33,485	35,886	2.4	-8.6
Office	47,429	48,365	48,454	49,113	52,021	57,666	-1.9	-17.8
Commercial	65,231	66,636	66,541	68,152	71,558	87,474	-2.1	-25.4
Health care	38,256	38,091	37,697	36,947	39,278	36,696	0.4	4.3
Educational	17,628	18,168	18,080	18,626	18,575	18,525	-3.0	-4.8
Religious	6,609	6,587	6,986	6,909	7,246	7,042	0.3	-6.1
Amusement and recreation	9,334	9,711	9,627	9,060	9,434	11,377	-3.9	-18.0
Transportation	9,920	9,832	9,891	9,720	9,817	10,236	0.9	-3.1
Communication	19,726	18,616	18,341	19,994	22,253	26,458	6.0	-25.4
Power	70,813	65,669	61,148	62,491	69,041	54,459	7.8	30.0
Manufacturing	88,954	85,586	81,429	76,187	72,565	51,960	3.9	71.2
Total Public Construction ²	311,357	313,168	310,013	301,508	306,715	301,494	-0.6	3.3
Residential	7,241	7,428	7,827	7,329	7,096	7,091	-2.5	2.1
Nonresidential	304,116	305,740	302,186	294,179	299,619	294,403	-0.5	3.3
Office	16,417	16,180	16,270	16,024	16,038	13,636	1.5	20.4
Commercial	3,429	3,848	3,381	3,143	3,255	3,342	-10.9	2.6
Health care	9,015	9,316	9,203	8,748	9,005	8,835	-3.2	2.0
Educational	89,124	90,727	88,292	85,872	84,415	84,693	-1.8	5.2
Public safety	13,112	12,983	12,732	12,732	13,509	11,131	1.0	17.8
Amusement and recreation	11,574	11,291	11,368	11,011	11,811	11,856	2.5	-2.4
Transportation	23,635	23,116	23,256	23,116	24,068	24,772	2.2	-4.6
Power	12,123	11,700	11,052	9,197	8,814	11,392	3.6	6.4
Highway and street	78,980	78,283	80,437	78,938	79,290	78,826	0.9	0.2
Sewage and waste disposal	25,861	26,527	24,504	24,231	25,822	24,565	-2.5	5.3
Water supply	14,583	15,475	15,405	15,699	16,877	15,275	-5.8	-4.5
Conservation and development	5,694	5,648	5,642	4,807	5,910	4,853	0.8	17.3

^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	Apr 2009 ^P	Mar 2009 ^r	Feb 2009 ^r	Jan 2009	Dec 2008	Apr 2008	Year-to-date		Percent change
							Apr 2009	Apr 2008	
Total Construction	78,048	73,273	67,003	67,996	78,083	87,561	286,319	322,770	-11.3
Residential	20,807	19,565	17,883	19,297	22,442	31,592	77,553	116,680	-33.5
Nonresidential	57,240	53,708	49,119	48,699	55,641	55,969	208,766	206,090	1.3
Lodging	2,740	2,676	2,568	2,551	2,813	3,025	10,535	11,387	-7.5
Office	5,392	5,210	4,914	4,898	5,371	6,112	20,414	22,903	-10.9
Commercial	5,536	5,449	5,084	5,093	5,810	7,327	21,162	27,587	-23.3
Health care	3,909	3,822	3,596	3,580	3,977	3,826	14,906	14,474	3.0
Educational	8,395	7,954	7,274	7,272	7,641	8,124	30,895	29,501	4.7
Religious	526	510	527	521	582	569	2,084	2,188	-4.8
Public safety	1,095	1,019	966	1,002	1,169	964	4,081	3,626	12.5
Amusement and recreation	1,761	1,656	1,525	1,439	1,686	1,941	6,382	7,187	-11.2
Transportation	2,711	2,406	2,327	2,313	2,718	2,804	9,756	10,136	-3.7
Communication	1,605	1,558	1,317	1,380	2,206	2,164	5,860	8,475	-30.9
Power	6,772	6,326	5,527	5,576	6,446	5,443	24,200	20,914	15.7
Highway and street	5,650	4,512	3,973	3,836	5,053	5,700	17,972	18,069	-0.5
Sewage and waste disposal	2,095	1,994	1,711	1,727	2,049	2,010	7,527	7,429	1.3
Water supply	1,233	1,260	1,181	1,158	1,341	1,339	4,832	4,764	1.4
Conservation and development	452	439	399	374	527	380	1,664	1,597	4.2
Manufacturing	7,369	6,918	6,230	5,979	6,254	4,242	26,496	15,854	67.1
Total Private Construction ¹	53,705	51,184	46,937	48,470	55,458	63,986	200,296	239,545	-16.4
Residential	20,206	18,993	17,312	18,774	21,863	31,013	75,284	114,527	-34.3
Nonresidential	33,499	32,192	29,625	29,696	33,595	32,973	125,012	125,018	0.0
Lodging	2,734	2,669	2,560	2,542	2,790	2,991	10,505	11,140	-5.7
Office	4,030	3,919	3,725	3,721	4,110	4,979	15,394	18,714	-17.7
Commercial	5,247	5,151	4,837	4,862	5,540	7,054	20,098	26,551	-24.3
Health care	3,145	3,035	2,865	2,899	3,230	3,064	11,944	11,607	2.9
Educational	1,460	1,387	1,311	1,368	1,420	1,535	5,526	5,739	-3.7
Religious	526	510	526	521	582	568	2,083	2,180	-4.4
Amusement and recreation	782	800	755	700	766	949	3,038	3,729	-18.5
Transportation	826	736	698	729	805	847	2,989	3,061	-2.4
Communication	1,603	1,556	1,315	1,374	2,199	2,143	5,847	8,416	-30.5
Power	5,701	5,443	4,734	4,925	5,810	4,448	20,802	17,401	19.5
Manufacturing	7,330	6,875	6,187	5,939	6,217	4,197	26,331	15,679	67.9
Total Public Construction ²	24,342	22,088	20,066	19,526	22,625	23,575	86,023	83,225	3.4
Residential	601	572	572	524	579	579	2,269	2,153	5.4
Nonresidential	23,741	21,516	19,494	19,003	22,046	22,996	83,754	81,072	3.3
Office	1,362	1,291	1,190	1,178	1,260	1,133	5,020	4,189	19.8
Commercial	290	297	247	231	269	273	1,064	1,036	2.7
Health care	764	786	730	681	747	762	2,962	2,868	3.3
Educational	6,935	6,567	5,964	5,904	6,221	6,589	25,369	23,761	6.8
Public safety	1,070	995	929	966	1,136	901	3,960	3,357	18.0
Amusement and recreation	979	856	770	739	920	992	3,344	3,458	-3.3
Transportation	1,885	1,670	1,629	1,584	1,913	1,957	6,767	7,075	-4.4
Power	1,071	883	793	651	637	995	3,399	3,513	-3.2
Highway and street	5,636	4,504	3,967	3,827	5,043	5,685	17,935	17,974	-0.2
Sewage and waste disposal	2,060	1,967	1,682	1,696	2,019	1,958	7,405	7,272	1.8
Water supply	1,192	1,216	1,142	1,120	1,291	1,272	4,669	4,504	3.7
Conservation and development	451	430	398	372	523	376	1,651	1,576	4.8

^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	0.9	0.6	0.9	0.8	1.1
Residential	3.2	3.2	5.2	5.3	6.6
Nonresidential	0.9	0.7	0.9	0.8	1.1
Lodging	1.8	1.7	2.1	1.4	2.2
Office	2.5	2.4	2.9	1.4	3.4
Commercial	3.0	2.6	2.2	2.3	2.1
Health care	1.9	1.8	2.3	1.3	2.6
Educational	2.1	1.8	2.5	1.5	2.6
Religious	5.1	5.4	5.5	3.7	6.6
Public safety	3.1	2.3	3.7	2.3	4.6
Amusement and recreation	3.3	3.3	3.8	4.3	3.7
Transportation	2.6	1.9	2.7	1.8	2.6
Communication	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Power	1.2	0.9	1.1	1.2	1.4
Highway and street	3.5	2.3	3.1	4.3	4.9
Sewage and waste disposal	3.6	2.6	4.0	3.8	4.5
Water supply	3.8	2.8	3.8	4.3	5.6
Conservation and development	3.9	1.9	5.9	3.3	7.1
Manufacturing	1.5	1.7	2.6	1.2	3.6
Total Private Construction	1.0	0.9	1.1	0.8	1.2
Residential	5.0	1.1	1.4	0.8	1.4
Nonresidential	1.0	0.9	1.1	0.8	1.2
Lodging	1.8	1.7	2.1	1.4	2.2
Office	3.2	3.2	3.0	1.8	3.4
Commercial	3.2	2.8	2.3	2.4	2.1
Health care	2.3	2.1	2.7	1.5	3.1
Educational	3.6	3.4	3.8	1.8	3.7
Religious	5.1	5.4	5.5	3.7	6.6
Amusement and recreation	4.6	5.5	5.3	7.5	4.2
Transportation	8.4	8.5	6.3	9.7	6.8
Communication	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Power	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.2	0.7
Manufacturing	1.5	1.8	2.7	1.2	3.7
Total Public Construction	1.3	0.9	1.4	1.3	1.8
Residential	3.2	3.2	5.2	5.3	6.6
Nonresidential	1.3	0.9	1.4	1.3	1.9
Office	2.6	1.7	7.9	1.9	9.2
Commercial	6.3	5.3	6.7	8.1	9.2
Health care	2.9	2.4	3.9	2.1	4.5
Educational	2.4	2.0	2.9	1.8	3.0
Public safety	3.2	2.3	4.0	2.3	5.1
Amusement and recreation	4.6	3.9	5.5	4.2	5.9
Transportation	2.7	1.9	2.9	1.7	2.8
Power	6.9	5.6	13.7	14.6	18.4
Highway and street	3.5	2.3	3.1	4.3	4.9
Sewage and waste disposal	3.7	2.6	4.0	3.8	4.6
Water supply	3.9	2.9	4.0	4.5	5.9
Conservation and development	3.9	1.8	6.0	3.0	7.2

NA Not applicable