

Construction Industry Round Table

Economic News

A force for positive change in the design / construction industry

10/01/2018 – Construction Spending Levels-Off for Third Summer Month at Historic Numbers

Construction spending during August 2018 was estimated at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$1,318.5 billion, 0.1 percent **above** the *revised* July estimate of \$1,317.4 billion. That makes three months in a row the overall total has been at virtually the same historically high level. However, the spending did “shift” more to the public sector during the month by nearly a full percentage point (the decrease on the private sector side was mostly in residential spending). Notwithstanding, the total August figure is a robust 6.5 percent **above** the August 2017 estimate of \$1,237.5 billion. During the first eight months of this year, construction spending amounted to \$862.0 billion, 5.3 percent **above** the \$818.7 billion for the same period in 2017.

PRIVATE CONSTRUCTION: Spending on private construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$1,001.7 billion, 0.5 percent below the *revised* July estimate of \$1,006.9 billion. Residential construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$548.9 billion in August, 0.7 percent below the revised July estimate of \$553.0 billion. Nonresidential construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$452.9 billion in August, 0.2 percent below the revised July estimate of \$453.9 billion.

PUBLIC CONSTRUCTION: In August, the estimated seasonally adjusted annual rate of public construction spending was \$316.7 billion, 2.0 percent **above** the *revised* July estimate of \$310.5 billion. Educational construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$72.3 billion, 1.0 percent **above** the revised July estimate of \$71.7 billion. Highway construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$99.0 billion, 1.7 percent **above** the revised July estimate of \$97.3 billion.

BY THE NUMBERS:

TOTAL in millions:	AUGUST 2018 \$ 1,318,485
Private Sector:	\$ 1,001,749 (75.98% of total) First time in 2018, below 76%
Residential	\$ 548,892 (41.63%)
Nonresidential	\$ 452,858 (34.35%)
Public Sector:	\$ 316,736 (24.02% of total)
State/Local	\$ 293,710 (22.28%)
Federal	\$ 23,026 (01.74%)

