



## Construction Industry Round Table

## Economic News

A force for positive change in the design / construction industry

### 7/01/10 – May Put-in-Place Construction Slips to \$842 Billion Annual Rate – Down 2% from April

The U.S. Census Bureau of the Department of Commerce announced today that construction spending during May 2010 was estimated at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$841.9 billion, 0.2 percent below the *revised* April estimate of \$843.3 billion (which had already been pared back some 3.0% from what was reported earlier). The May figure is 8.0 percent below the May 2009 estimate of \$915.4 billion. During the first 5 months of this year, construction spending amounted to \$314.2 billion, a sizable 12.0 percent below the \$356.9 billion for the same period in 2009.

**PRIVATE CONSTRUCTION:** Spending on private construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$536.3 billion, 0.5 percent below the revised April estimate of \$538.9 billion. Residential construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$260.8 billion in May, 0.4 percent below the revised April estimate of \$261.7 billion. Hardest hit was nonresidential construction at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$275.6 billion in May, 0.6 percent below the revised April estimate of \$277.2 billion.

**PUBLIC CONSTRUCTION:** In May, the estimated seasonally adjusted annual rate of public construction spending was \$305.5 billion, 0.4 percent **above** the revised April estimate of \$304.4 billion. Educational construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$74.0 billion, 0.9 percent below the revised April estimate of \$74.6 billion. Highway construction was at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of \$83.1 billion, 2.7 percent **above** the revised April estimate of \$80.9 billion. The ratio of public to private spending is again moving in an unsustainable direction with the split hitting a new high of 36.3% to 63.7%.

#### BY THE NUMBERS:

TOTAL in millions:	May 2010 \$841,888
<b>Private Sector:</b>	\$ 536,344 (63.70% of total)
Residential	\$ 260,790 (30.97%)
Nonresidential	\$ 275,554 (32.73%) <b>Down sharply from April</b>
<b>Public Sector:</b>	\$ 305,545 (36.30% of total)
State/Local	\$ 275,053 (32.67%) <b>Virtually matching Nonresidential</b>
Federal	\$ 30,492 (03.63%) <b>New %age high</b>