



The Economic Impact of Construction in the United States and California

Economic Impact of Construction:

- U.S. gross domestic product (GDP)—the value of all goods and services produced in the country—totaled \$19.3 trillion in 2017; construction contributed \$826 billion (4.3%). In California, construction contributed \$107.5 billion (3.9%) of the state's GDP of \$2.7 trillion, less than the industry's 4.3% share of U.S. GDP.
- Construction wages and salaries in 2017 totaled \$427 billion in the United States, including \$55.6 billion in California.

Nonresidential Construction Spending:

- Nonresidential spending in the U.S. totaled \$714 billion in 2017 (\$438 billion private, \$277 billion public).
- Private nonresidential spending in California totaled \$30.1 billion in 2017. State and local spending totaled \$30.3 billion.
- Nonresidential starts in California totaled \$48.2 billion in 2017 and \$37.7 billion in 2016, according to ConstructConnect.

Construction Employment (Seasonally Adjusted):

- Construction (residential + nonresidential) employed 7.3 million workers in August 2018, an increase of 315,000 (4.3%) from August 2017, but 5.7% less than in April 2006, when U.S. construction employment peaked.
- Construction employment in California in August 2018 totaled 855,700, an increase of 5.0% from August 2017, but 9% less than the state's peak in February 2006.
- Construction unemployment is near a series low. In AGC's August 2018 workforce survey, 80% of firms in the U.S. and 78% in California reported difficulty filling hourly craft worker positions.

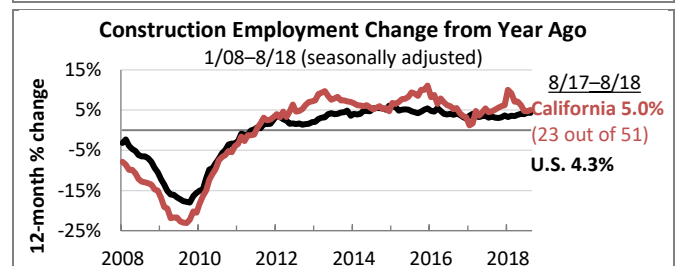
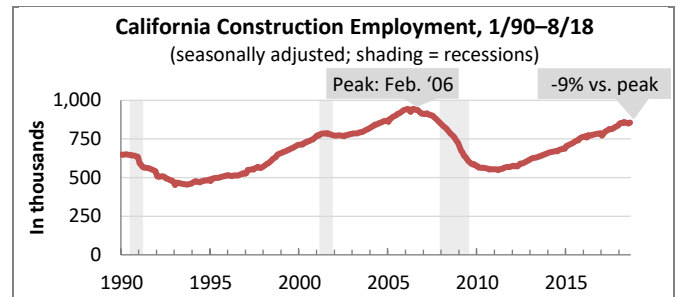
Construction Industry Pay:

- In 2017, pay for all construction *industry* employees in the U.S. averaged \$60,700, 10% more than the average (mean) for all private-sector employees. Pay for construction industry employees in California was \$67,600 in 2017, 3% more than the state average for all private-sector employees.
- The five most numerous construction *occupations* in California had higher median pay than the median for all employees in the state. (Half of workers earn more than the median; half earn less.)

Small Business:

- The United States had 669,000 construction firms in 2015, of which 92% were small (1 to 19 employees). California had 68,900 construction firms in 2015, of which 91% were small.

*The Bureau of Labor Statistics reports employment for construction, mining and logging combined for metro areas in which mining and logging have few employers. To allow comparisons between states and their metros, the table shows combined employment change for these metros. Not seasonally adjusted statewide data is shown for both construction-only and combined employment change.



Empl. Change by Metro (not seasonally adjusted)		Rank
Metro area or division	8/17-8/18	(out of 358)
Statewide (Construction)	5%	
Statewide (Mining, logging, and construction)*	5%	
Anaheim-Santa Ana-Irvine Div.	0.4%	285
Bakersfield	0%	288
Chico*	10%	43
El Centro*	11%	24
Fresno	9%	62
Hanford-Corcoran*	0%	288
Los Angeles-Long Beach-Glendale Div.	2%	255
Madera*	11%	24
Merced*	32%	1
Modesto*	6%	119
Napa*	7%	91
Oakland-Hayward-Berkeley Div.	3%	225
Oxnard-Thousand Oaks-Ventura	11%	24
Redding*	3%	225
Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario	4%	180
Sacramento--Roseville--Arden-Arcade	0.3%	287
Salinas	3%	225
San Diego-Carlsbad	4%	180
San Francisco-Redwood City-South San Francisco Div.	0%	288
San Jose-Sunnyvale-Santa Clara	5%	151
San Luis Obispo-Paso Robles-Arroyo Grande*	5%	151
San Rafael Div.	9%	62
Santa Cruz-Watsonville*	11%	24
Santa Maria-Santa Barbara	6%	119
Santa Rosa	10%	43
Stockton-Lodi	9%	62
Vallejo-Fairfield	6%	119
Visalia-Porterville*	7%	91
Yuba City*	8%	78

5 most numerous construction jobs and median annual pay in California			
Occupation	Number of employees	Median annual pay	Pay relative to median
All occupations	16,695,010	\$40,980	
Construction Laborers	96,480	\$41,190	+1%
Carpenters	96,460	\$54,390	+33%
Electricians	63,060	\$64,220	+57%
First-Line Supervisors of Construction Trades and Extraction Workers	51,710	\$77,020	+88%
Plumbers, Pipefitters, and Steamfitters	47,600	\$53,120	+30%