



The Economic Impact of Construction in the United States and Massachusetts

Economic Impact of Construction:

- U.S. gross domestic product (GDP)—the value of all goods and services produced in the country—totaled \$19.5 trillion in 2017; construction contributed \$781 billion (4.0%). In Massachusetts, construction contributed \$19.6 billion (3.6%) of the state’s GDP of \$543.0 billion, less than the industry’s 4.0% share of U.S. GDP.
- Construction wages and salaries in 2017 totaled \$436 billion in the United States, including \$11.7 billion in Massachusetts.

Nonresidential Construction Spending:

- Nonresidential spending in the U.S. totaled \$714 billion in 2017 (\$438 billion private, \$277 billion public).
- Private nonresidential spending in Massachusetts totaled \$10.6 billion in 2017. State and local spending totaled \$5.7 billion.
- Nonresidential starts in Massachusetts totaled \$9.7 billion in 2018 and \$10.2 billion in 2017, according to ConstructConnect.

Construction Employment (Seasonally Adjusted):

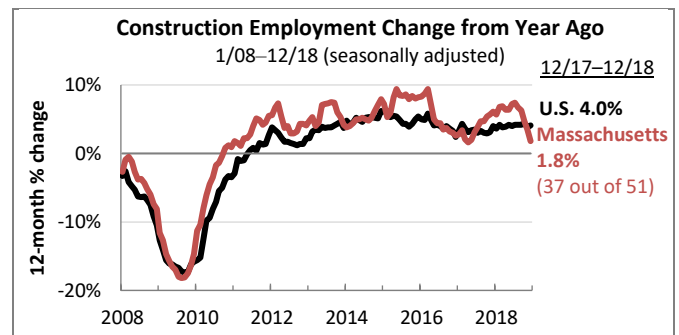
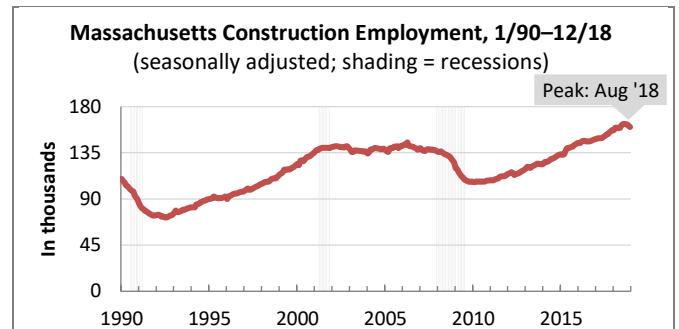
- Construction (residential + nonresidential) employed 7.3 million workers in December 2018, an increase of 282,000 (4.0%) from December 2017, but 4.8% less than in April 2006, when U.S. construction employment peaked.
- Construction employment in Massachusetts in December 2018 totaled 160,100, an increase of 1.8% from December 2017, but 2% less than the state's peak in August 2018.
- Construction unemployment is near a series low. In AGC’s 2019 Hiring and Business Outlook Survey, 78% of firms in the U.S. and 81% in Massachusetts reported difficulty filling salaried and 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 Massachusetts was \$75,400 in 2017, 7% more than the state average for all private-sector employees.
- The five most numerous construction *occupations* in Massachusetts 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). Massachusetts had 17,900 construction firms in 2015, of which 93% were small.



Empl. Change by Metro (not seasonally adjusted)		Rank
Metro area or division	12/17-12/18	(out of 358)
Statewide (Construction)	2%	
Statewide (Mining, logging, and construction)*	2%	
Barnstable Town NECTA*	6%	113
Boston-Cambridge-Newton NECTA Div.*	7%	91
Brockton-Bridgewater-Easton NECTA Div.*	6%	113
Framingham NECTA Div.*	11%	32
Haverhill-Newburyport-Amesbury Town, MA-NH NECTA Div.*	14%	14
Lawrence-Methuen Town-Salem, MA-NH NECTA Div.*	-9%	358
Leominster-Gardner NECTA*	5%	150
Lowell-Billerica-Chelmsford, MA-NH NECTA Div.*	3%	205
Lynn-Saugus-Marblehead NECTA Div.*	0%	274
New Bedford NECTA*	19%	6
Peabody-Salem-Beverly NECTA Div.*	0%	274
Pittsfield NECTA*	5%	150
Springfield, MA-CT NECTA*	0%	274
Taunton-Middleborough-Norton NECTA Div.*	6%	113
Worcester, MA-CT NECTA	3%	205
Nashua, NH-MA NECTA Div.*	6%	113
Providence-Warwick, RI-MA NECTA	5%	150

NECTA: New England City and Town Area (equivalent of metropolitan statistical area)

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

5 most numerous construction jobs and median annual pay in Massachusetts (2017 data)			
Occupation	Number of employees	Median annual pay	Pay relative to median
All occupations	3,528,070	\$47,440	
Construction Laborers	19,560	\$48,400	+2%
Carpenters	18,220	\$56,860	+20%
Electricians	15,820	\$63,030	+33%
Plumbers, Pipefitters, and Steamfitters	12,380	\$61,910	+31%
First-Line Supervisors of Construction Trades and Extraction Workers	11,870	\$77,070	+62%