

Construction & Materials Outlook

June 17, 2009
Ken Simonson, Chief Economist
AGC of America
simonsonk@agc.org



Current economic influences

- Muni bond market has improved since September, but not bank lending
- Rising vacancies for office, retail, hotel
- Falling state and local spending
- No job growth, rising unemployment
- Stimulus (details: www.agc.org/stimulus)



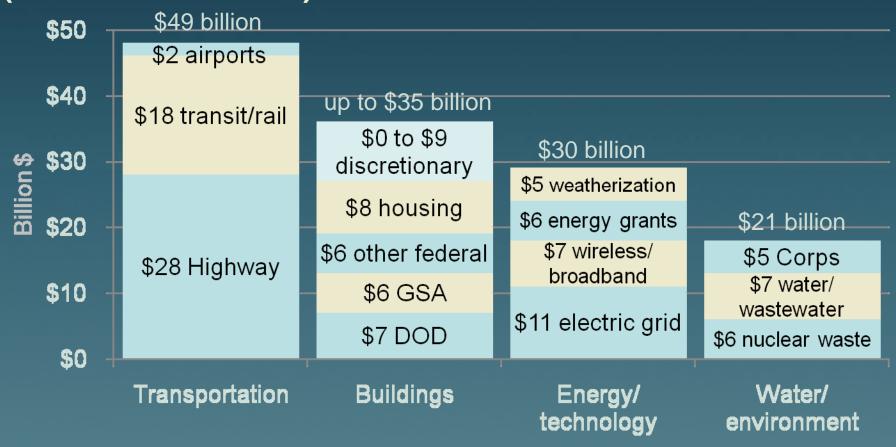
Economic stimulus package

Total of \$787 billion in spending and tax cuts

- \$308 billion in appropriated spending
- \$267 billion in direct spending (refundable portion of tax credits, unemployment benefits, Medicaid reimbursement to states, etc.)
- \$212 billion in tax cuts



Construction-related stimulus funding (Total \$135+ billion)



Source: Author



Stimulus tax provisions affecting construction

- 1-year delay (to 2012) in 3% withholding on gov.
- Increased expensing
- Net operating loss: 5 year carryback of NOL for small business (<\$15 mil. in gross receipts)
- Qualified school construction bonds
- "Build America" bonds
- Bonds for "recovery zones," tribal areas, renewable energy, energy conservation
- Modified renewable energy, conservation credits



Stimulus timing, strings

Timing

- Highway bid lettings, some projects underway
- Agencies have announced many projects or grants

Conditions

- Davis-Bacon
- Buy American
- Reporting requirements: jobs, executives' pay
- No E-Verify requirement or broad-based FAR
- No project labor agreement mandate, but....



Economic impact of nonresidential construction

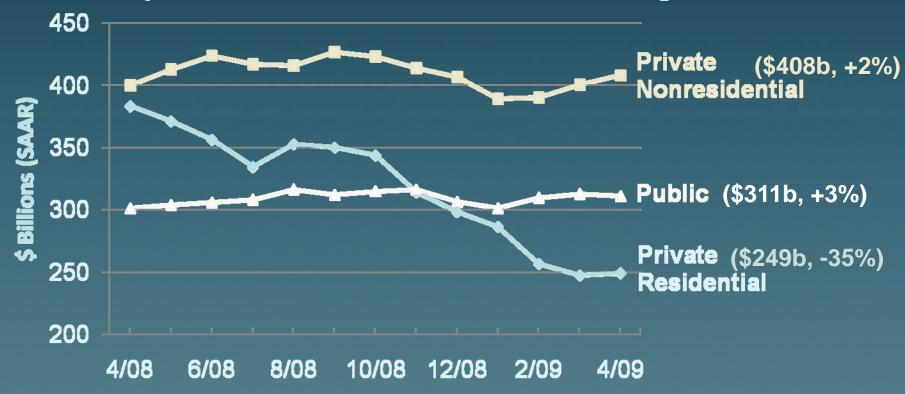
- **Jobs:** 28,500 per \$1 billion
 - 1/3 direct, onsite construction
 - 1/6 indirect supplying industries
 - 1/2 induced by direct, indirect spending
- **GDP:** \$3.4 billion
- Personal Earnings: \$1.1 billion



The shifting construction market

(construction spending, seasonally adjusted annual rate)

April 2009: \$969 billion, 12-month change: -11%



Source: Census Bureau

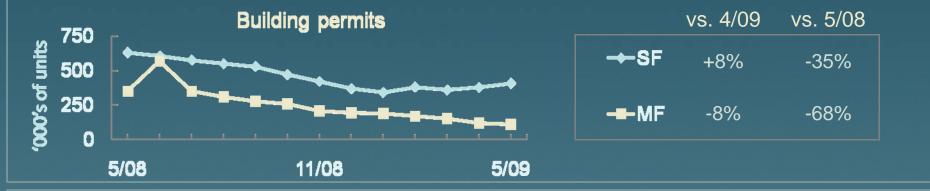


-41%

-55%

Single-family (SF) vs. multifamily (MF)









Housing outlook

- SF: starts, permits in May hit 6-mo highs; totals should begin to top year-ago figures in late '09
- MF: No improvement likely until '11
 - Rental demand hurt by job losses among would-be renters
 - Supply swelled by owners who are trying to rent out houses and condos
 - Banks remain unwilling to lend to developers



Nonres totals, share, 1- & 12-month change

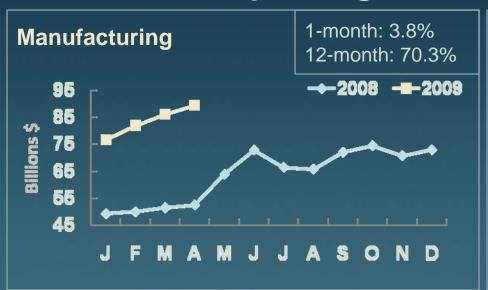
	4/09 Total	Share	vs. 3/09	vs. 4/08
Nonresidential total	\$712 billion	100%	+ 1%	+ 3%
Educational	107	15	- 2	+ 3
Manufacturing	89	13	+ 4	+ 70
Power	83	12	+ 7	+ 26
Highway and street	79	11	+ 1	0
Commercial	69	10	- 3	- 24
Office	64	9	- 1	- 10
Health care	47	7	0	+ 4
Transportation	34	5	+ 2	- 4
Lodging	33	5	+ 2	- 9
Sewage and waste disposal	26	4	- 2	+ 4
Amusement and recreation	21	3	0	- 10

Other (communication; water; public safety; relig.; conservation): 9% of total

Source: Census Bureau



Construction spending: industrial, heavy



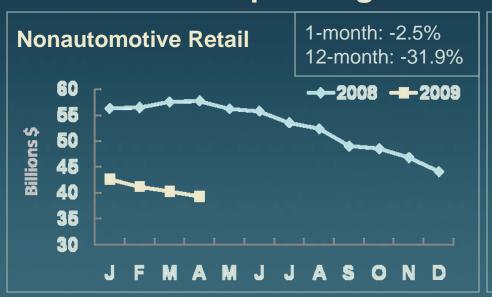


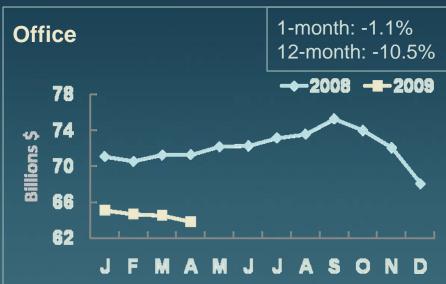


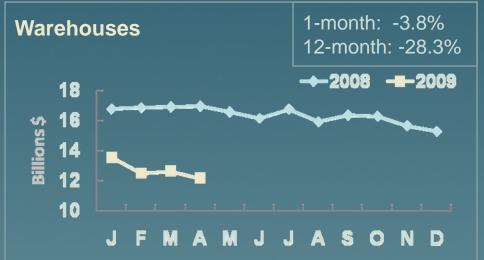




Construction spending: developer-financed





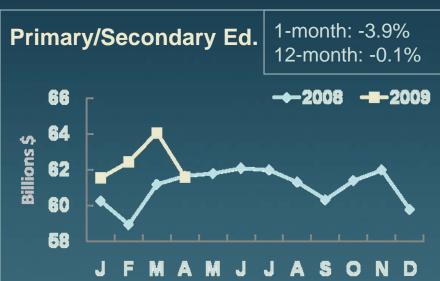


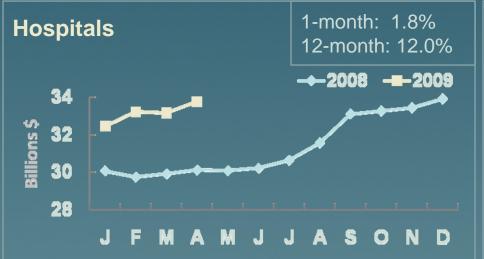


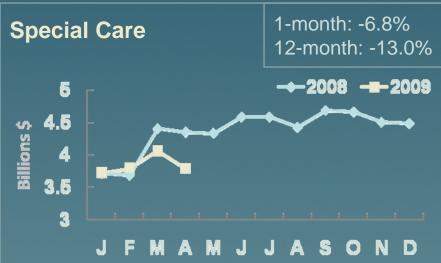


Construction spending: institutional











Public construction (seas. adj. annual rate)

	4/09 Total \$311 billion	State/Local \$288 billion	Federal \$23 billion
Educational	89	87	2
Highway and street	79	78	1
Sewage and waste disposal	26	25	
Transportation	24	22	2
Office	16	11	5
Water supply	15	14	
Public safety	13	10	3
Power	12	11	1
Amusement and recreation	12	11	

Other (health care; residential; conservation; commercial): \$25 billion

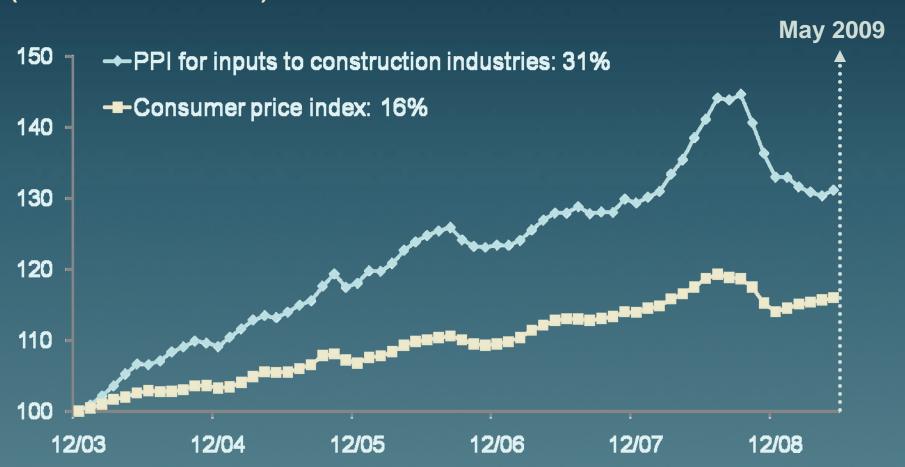


Spending outlook for 2009

	Actual 2008	Jan-Apr '09/'08	Forecast 2009
Residential	- 27%	-34%	- 2 to +2%
Nonresidential	+11%	+1%	- 3 to - 9%
Total	- 6%	-11%	- 1 to - 7%



Change in producer prices for construction vs. consumer prices, 2003 - 2009 (December 2003 = 100)

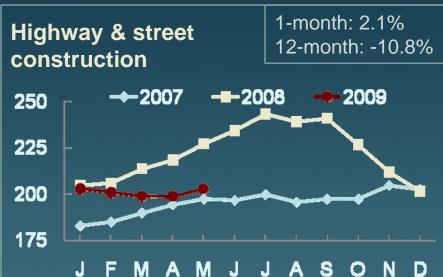


Source: BLS (CPI, PPI)



Producer price indexes, 2007 - 2009







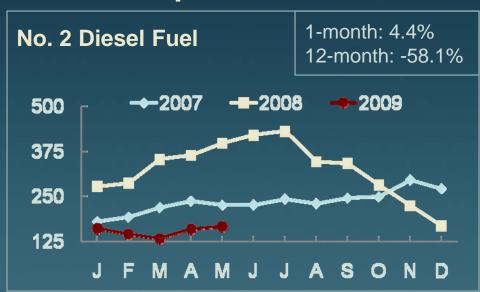


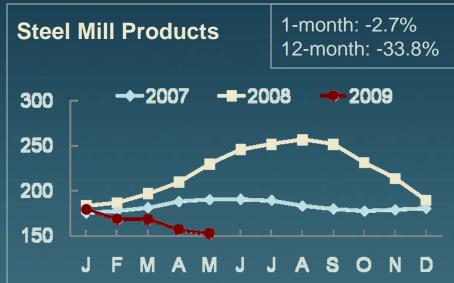
Nonresidential buildings

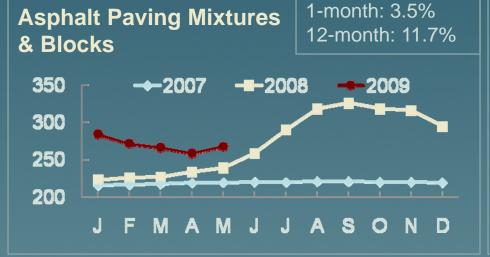
1-month: 0.6%



Producer price indexes, 2007 - 2009







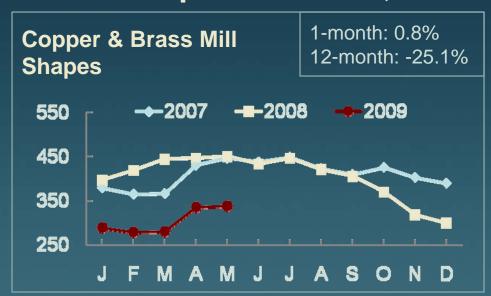


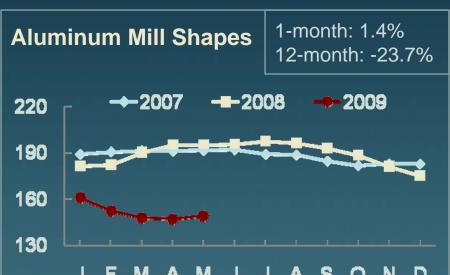
Concrete Products

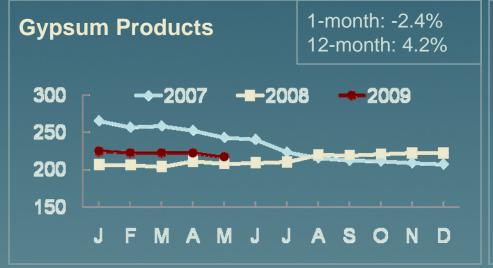
1-month: -0.1%



Producer price indexes, 2007 - 2009









Lumber and Plywood

1-month: -0.9%

12-month: -13.8%



Outlook for materials in '09 compared to '08

- Lower average prices: diesel, copper, steel, aluminum
- Possible increases: concrete, gypsum
- Year-over-year PPI change: -4% to 0%
- A limited-time sale...



Outlook for materials (beyond 2009)

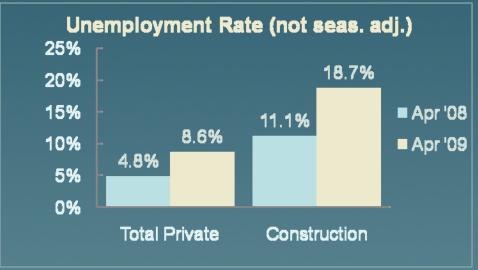
- Industry depends on specific materials that:
 - are in demand worldwide
 - have erratic supply growth
 - are heavy, bulky or hard to transport
- Construction requires physical delivery
- Thus, industry is subject to price spurts, transport bottlenecks, fuel price swings
- Expect 6 to 8% PPI increases, higher spikes

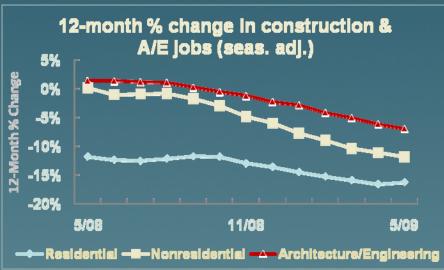


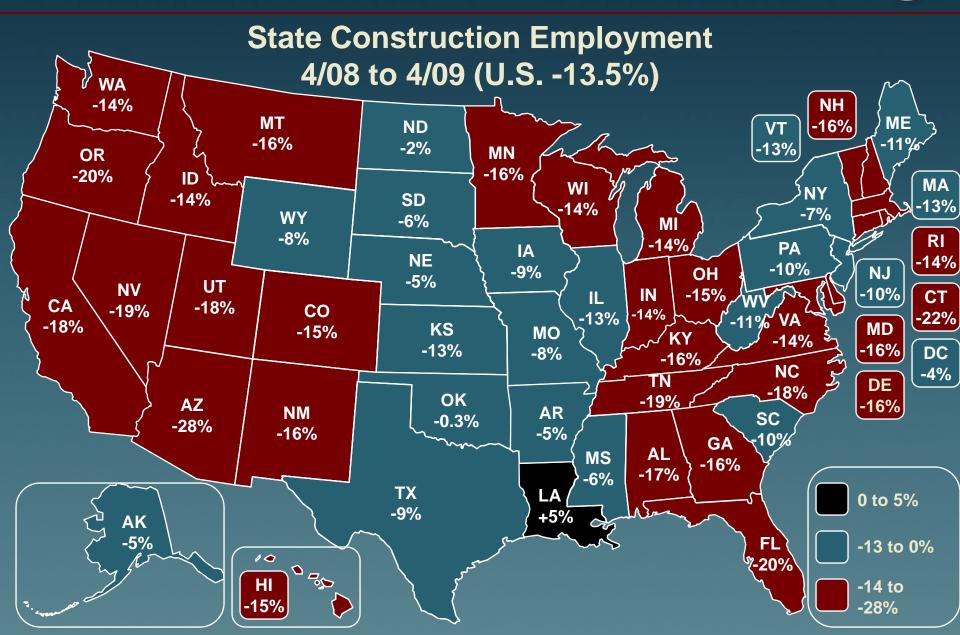
Construction jobs fall, but wages rise (seasonally adjusted)













Summary for 2009

- Nonres spending: -3 to -9% (up: power, BRAC, stimulus; down: private, state & local gov-funded)
- Res: -2 to +2% (SF up in 2d half, MF down all year)
- Total construction spending: -1% to -7%
- Materials costs: -4% to 0%
- Labor costs: +3% to +4%



Summary for 2010

- Nonres spending: 0 to -5% (more stimulus put in place, maybe gains in retail, higher ed, hosp)
- Res: +5 to +10% (SF up all year, MF down all year)
- Total construction spending: -4% to +2%
- Materials costs: 0% to +8%
- Labor costs: +3% or less



AGC economic resources (sign up by email to simonsonk@agc.org)

- The Data DIGest: weekly one-page email
- PPI tables: emailed monthly
- State-specific stimulus estimates and fact sheets: www.agc.org/stimulus
- Webinars/audioconferences
- Member emails on stimulus jobs, credit market