

## Construction & Materials Outlook

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#### **Current economic influences**

- Muni bond market has improved since September, but not bank lending
- Rising vacancies for office, retail, hotel
- Tax revenue shortfalls → deeper spending cuts
- No job growth, rising unemployment
- Stimulus (details: www.agc.org/stimulus)



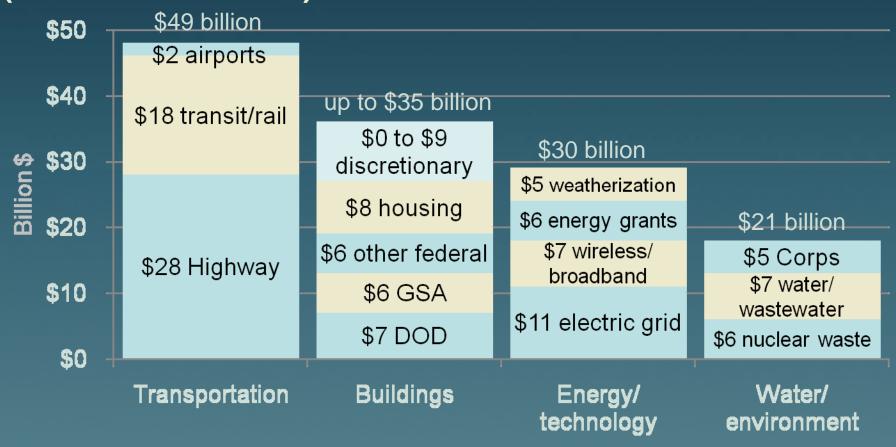
# **Economic stimulus package**

Total: \$787 billion in spending increases, 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 2008 NOL for small business (<\$15 mil. in gross receipts)</li>
- 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

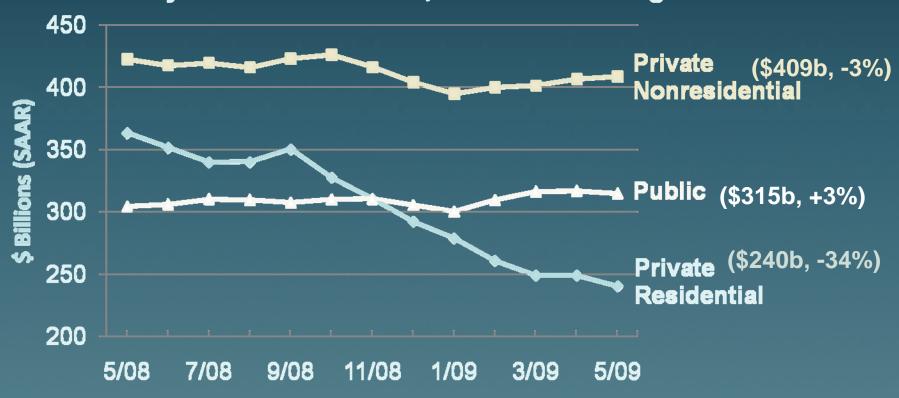
- Jobs: 28,500 per \$1 billion
  - 1/3 direct, onsite construction
  - 1/6 indirect, supplying industries
  - 1/2 induced by direct, indirect spending
- **GDP:** \$3.4 billion
- Personal Earnings: \$1.1 billion



# The shifting construction market

(construction spending, seasonally adjusted annual rate)

May 2009: \$964 billion, 12-month change: -12%



**Source: Census Bureau** 



#### 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

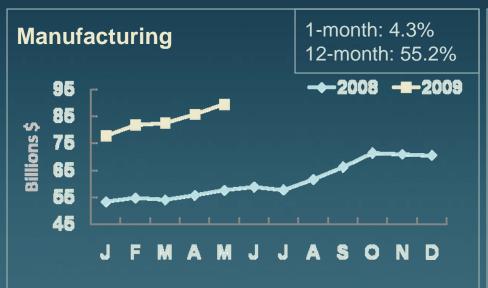
	5/09 Total	Share	vs. 4/09	vs. 5/08
Nonresidential total	\$717 billion	100%	0%	0%
Educational	109	15	+ 1	+ 4
Power	92	13	+ 2	+ 13
Manufacturing	89	12	+ 4	+ 55
Highway and street	79	11	- 1	- 1
Commercial	64	9	- 5	- 28
Office	61	9	- 1	- 12
Health care	48	7	0	+ 2
Transportation	34	5	+ 1	+ 1
Lodging	31	4	- 3	- 18
Sewage and waste disposal	26	4	0	+ 6
Communication	21	3	0	- 29

Other (amusement/recreation; water; public safety; relig.; conservation): 7% of total

**Source: Census Bureau** 



#### Construction spending: industrial, heavy











#### Construction spending: developer-financed







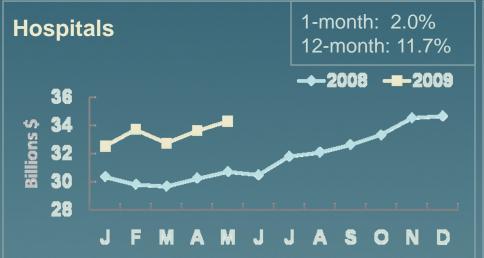




#### Construction spending: institutional (private + state/local)



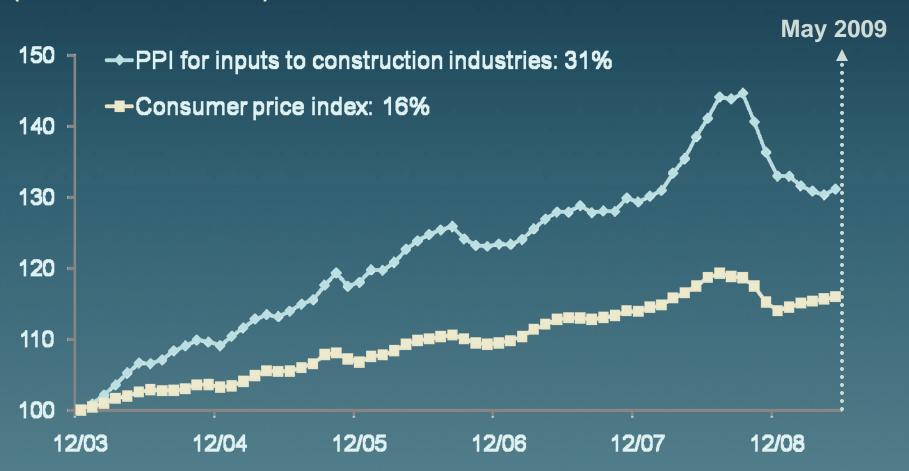








Change in producer prices for construction vs. consumer prices, 2003 - 2009 (December 2003 = 100)



Source: BLS (CPI, PPI)



#### Producer price indexes, 1/07-6/09







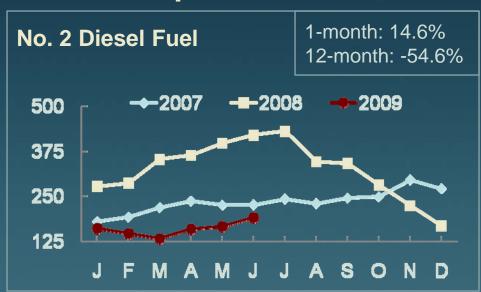


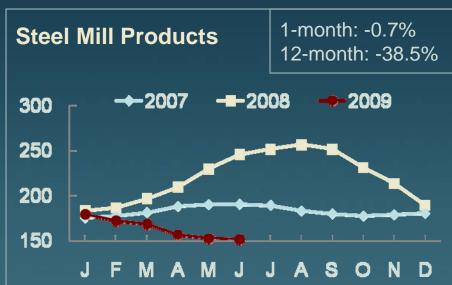
Nonresidential buildings

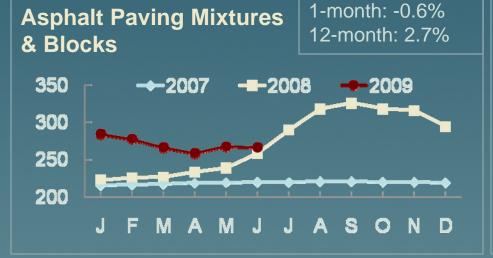
1-month: 0.9%



#### Producer price indexes, 1/07-6/09







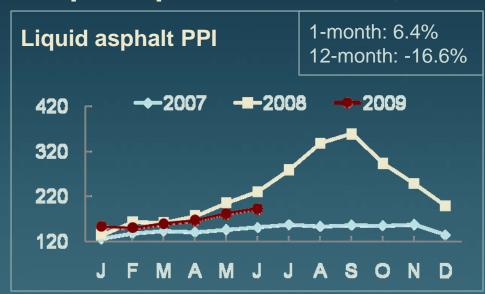


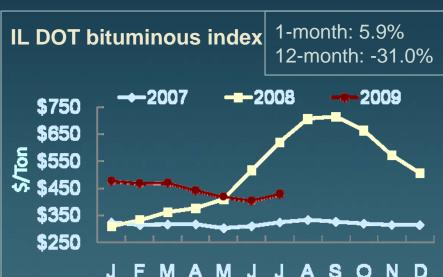
**Concrete Products** 

1-month: 0.1%



#### Asphalt price indicators, 2007 - 2009









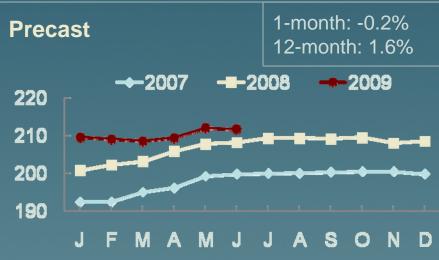


#### PPIs for cement and concrete products, 1/07-6/09











# Outlook for materials in '09 compared to '08

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



# Outlook for materials (beyond '09)

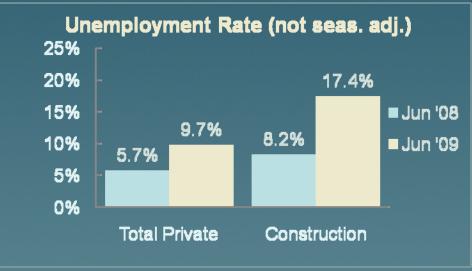
- Industry depends on specific materials that:
  - are in demand worldwide
  - have erratic supply growth
  - are heavy, bulky or hard to transport
- Construction requires physical delivery
- Thus, industry is subject to price spurts, transport bottlenecks, fuel price swings
- Expect 6 to 8% PPI increases,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

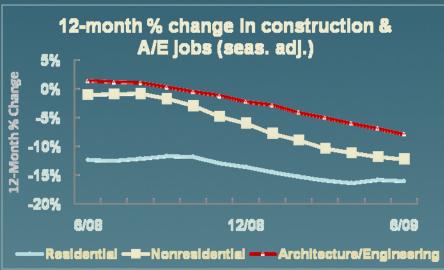


#### Construction employment falls, but wages rise

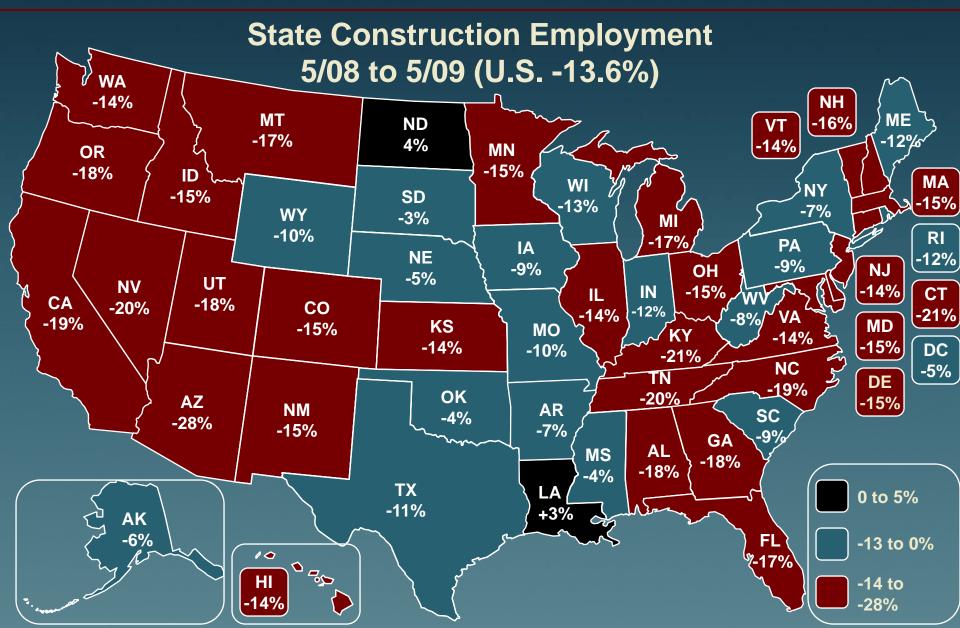












# **Summary for 2009**

- 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, 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 and metro data
- Stimulus information: www.agc.org/stimulus
- Webinars (next: Thurs., 7/23, 2-3:30 PM ET)
- Feedback on stimulus jobs, credit market