



GREATER HOUSTON
PARTNERSHIP

UPDATE



BUILDING ACTIVITY

The Partnership sends updates for the most important economic indicators each month. If you would like to opt-in to receive these updates, please click [here](#).

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January 25, 2019

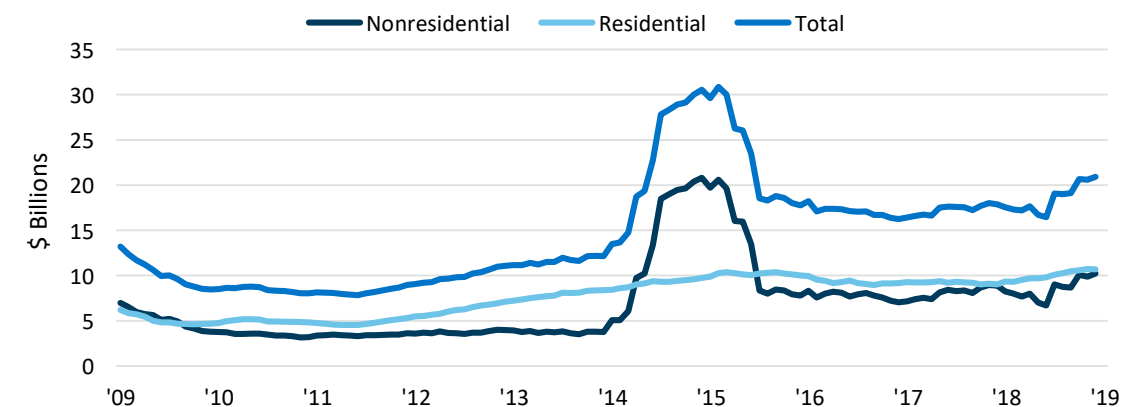
Construction starts in Houston totaled \$1.23 billion in December, a 25.7 percent increase from \$0.98 billion in December '17, according to the latest report from Dodge Data & Analytics. Residential construction activity decreased 12.8 percent since last December, while nonresidential activity more than doubled. Dodge did not report what caused the increase in nonresidential construction activity.

DECEMBER CONSTRUCTION STARTS, METRO HOUSTON*			
	\$ Millions		% Change
	'18	'17	
Nonresidential	661.2	324.8	+ 103.5
Residential	573.2	657.0	- 12.8
Total Building	1,234.3	981.8	+ 25.7

* includes Austin, Brazoria, Chambers, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, Liberty, Montgomery, San Jacinto and Waller Counties. Source: Dodge Data & Analytics

For the full year, construction starts totaled \$19.9 billion, up 9.1 percent from \$18.3 billion in '17. The 12-month total peaked at \$30.9 billion in February '15, the height of the chemical plant construction boom. Since January '16, the 12-month total has held within a narrow range—\$16.2 billion to \$19.2 billion. However, with a recent uptick in chemical plant construction the 12-month total began to trend up again.

Houston-Area Construction Starts, 12-Month Total



Source: Dodge Data & Analytics

Notable projects that started construction in December '18 include the River Oaks Baptist School \$65-million expansion, the Village at Katy 84-acre master plan community and the Woodlands' new 12-acre retail center Creekside Park West.

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