

UPDATE



BUILDING ACTIVITY

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July 25, 2019

Metro Houston's construction starts totaled \$20.1 billion in the 12 months ending June '19, up 13.0 percent from \$17.8 billion for the comparable period in '18, according to the latest data from Dodge Data & Analytics. Nonresidential activity surged 36.5 percent to \$10.3 billion, while residential activity decreased 4.4 percent to \$9.8 billion. The 12-month total peaked at \$30.9 billion in February '15, the height of the chemical plant construction boom.



Houston-Area Construction Starts, 12-Month Total

After a weak May, construction starts picked up in June '19, increasing 18.6 percent from \$1.6 billion in '18 to \$1.9 billion this year. Nonresidential construction starts jumped 54.3 percent, while residential starts decreased 5.6 percent. Dodge did not report what caused the respective decrease and increase in construction activity.

JUNE CONSTRUCTION STARTS, METRO HOUSTON*			
	\$ Millions		% Change
	' 19	'18	% Change
Nonresidential	1,023.3	663.0	54.3
Residential	923.3	978.3	- 5.6
Total Building	1,946.6	1,641.3	18.6

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

Construction activity in June '19 included the groundbreaking of Houston Spaceport, an \$18.8 million project, at Ellington Airport. The scope of the project's first phase includes streets, water, wastewater, electrical power and distribution, fiber optics and communications facilities, as well as the construction of 53,000 square feet of lab and office space. Completion is expected in May '20. Other nonresidential construction activity included the groundbreaking of the UTHealth's new psychiatric hospital, a \$125 million project that is expected to be complete in early '22, as well as the topping out of the 243,632-square-foot Nancy and Rich Kinder Building, part of the Museum of Fine Arts Houston's \$450 million transformation.

Residential construction activity in June included the groundbreaking of Howard Hughes' seven-story, 179,338-square-foot multifamily project in The Woodlands, Allen Harrison's four-story, 201-unit multifamily development in Spring, and Oden Hughes' 380-unit apartment and townhome project in Clear Lake.

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