

UPDATE



BUILDING ACTIVITY

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Metro Houston's construction starts totaled \$16.1 billion in the 12 months ending November '19, down 21.1 percent from \$20.4 billion for the comparable period in '18, according to the latest data from Dodge Data & Analytics. Nonresidential activity fell 25.2 percent to \$6.7 billion, while residential activity decreased 17.9 percent to \$9.4 billion. The 12-month total peaked at \$30.9 billion in February '15, the height of the chemical plant construction boom. Year-to-date, construction starts were down 23.4 percent from \$19.4 billion in November '18 to \$14.9 billion for the same period in '19.

Houston-Area Construction Starts, 12-Month Total



Source: Dodge Data & Analytics

Construction starts were down in November '19, decreasing 7.1 percent from \$1.4 billion in November '18 to \$1.3 billion in November '19. Nonresidential construction starts rose 42.2 percent, while residential fell 29.5 percent.

| NOVEMBER CONSTRUCTION STARTS, METRO HOUSTON* | | | |
|--|-------------|---------|----------|
| | \$ Millions | | % Change |
| | '19 | '18 | % Change |
| Nonresidential | 600.6 | 422.2 | 42.2 |
| Residential | 656.8 | 931.1 | -29.5 |
| Total Building | 1,257.4 | 1,353.3 | -7.1 |

^{*} Includes Austin, Brazoria, Chambers, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, Liberty, Montgomery, San Jacinto and Waller Counties.

Source: Dodge Data & Analytics

Construction activity in November '19 included the groundbreaking of Saint Thomas' Episcopal School in the Meyerland area. The project consists of 78,000 square feet of new academic buildings for \$29 million. The school had been damaged during Hurricane Harvey, and construction had been delayed due to waiting for FEMA funding. Lone Star College also began construction on its newest campus: Houston North Fallbrook. The 55,000-square-foot construction project is estimated to cost \$9 million.

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