



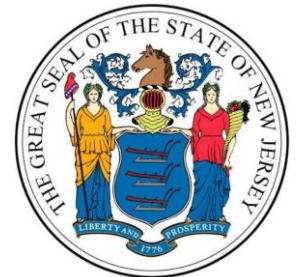
# New Jersey's Construction Sector

A Detailed Analysis of Labor  
Market Information

Published Spring 2026



Office of Research  
and Information



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# Industries included in this sector

NAICS	Industry Description
236	Construction of Buildings
237	Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction
238	Specialty Trade Contractors



- All information presented refers exclusively to New Jersey data, unless otherwise stated
- Data reflects the most recent year available: 2024

# Construction Sector Highlights

- 2024 Construction: 22,251 establishments employed 164,000 workers
- Gross Domestic Product: \$29.6 billion (3.9% of total output)
- Average Annual Wage: \$89,761 (7.2% above state average)
- Total Wages Paid\*: \$14.7 billion (4.8% of all wages paid)
- The value of construction building permits totaled nearly \$5.9 billion in 2024.

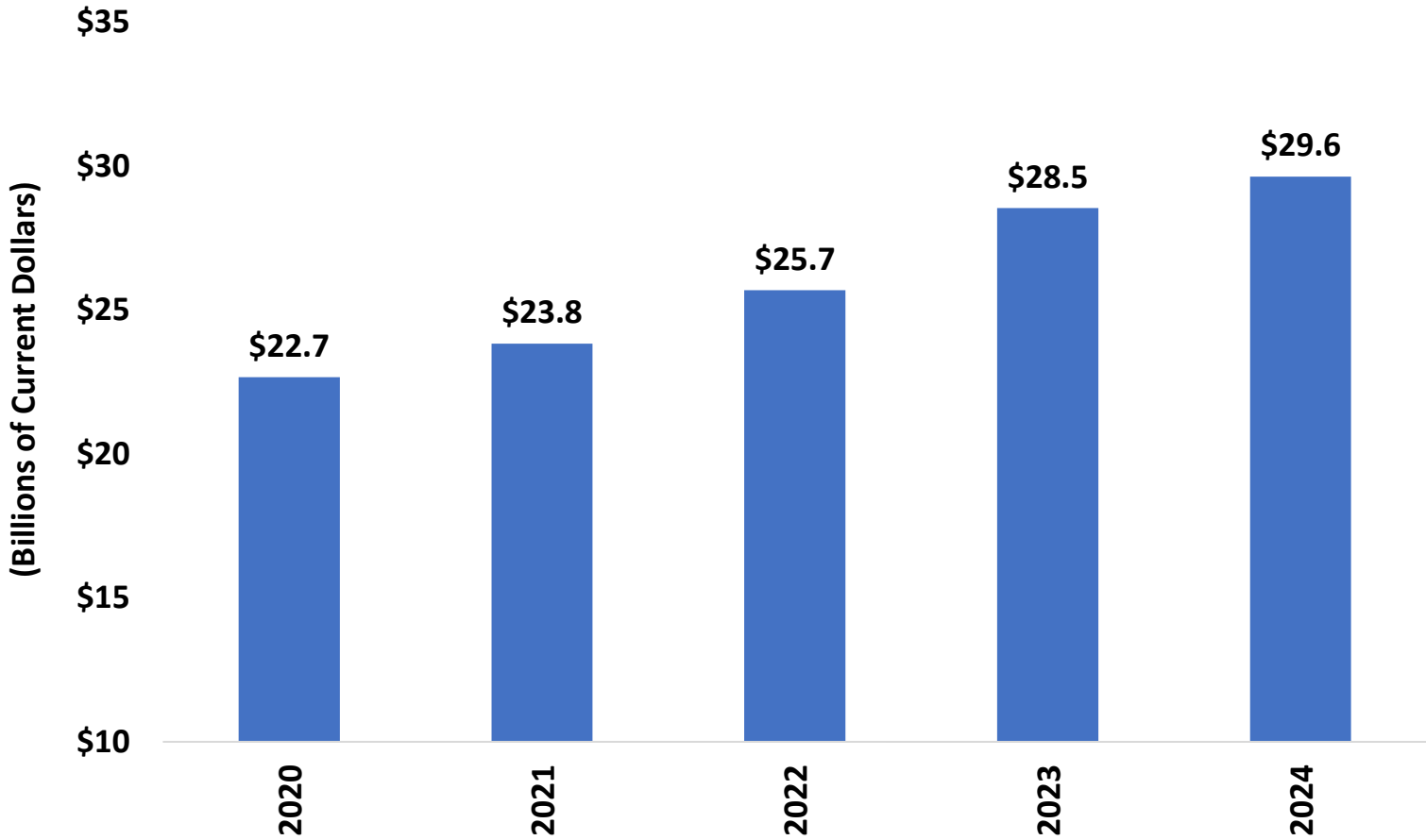
\* Wages include those earned by workers covered by unemployment insurance but do not include 1099 workers (independent contractor)



Industry  
Analysis and  
Economic  
Overview



# The construction industry contributed more than \$29.6 billion to the Gross Domestic Product in 2024 (3.9% of private sector GDP)

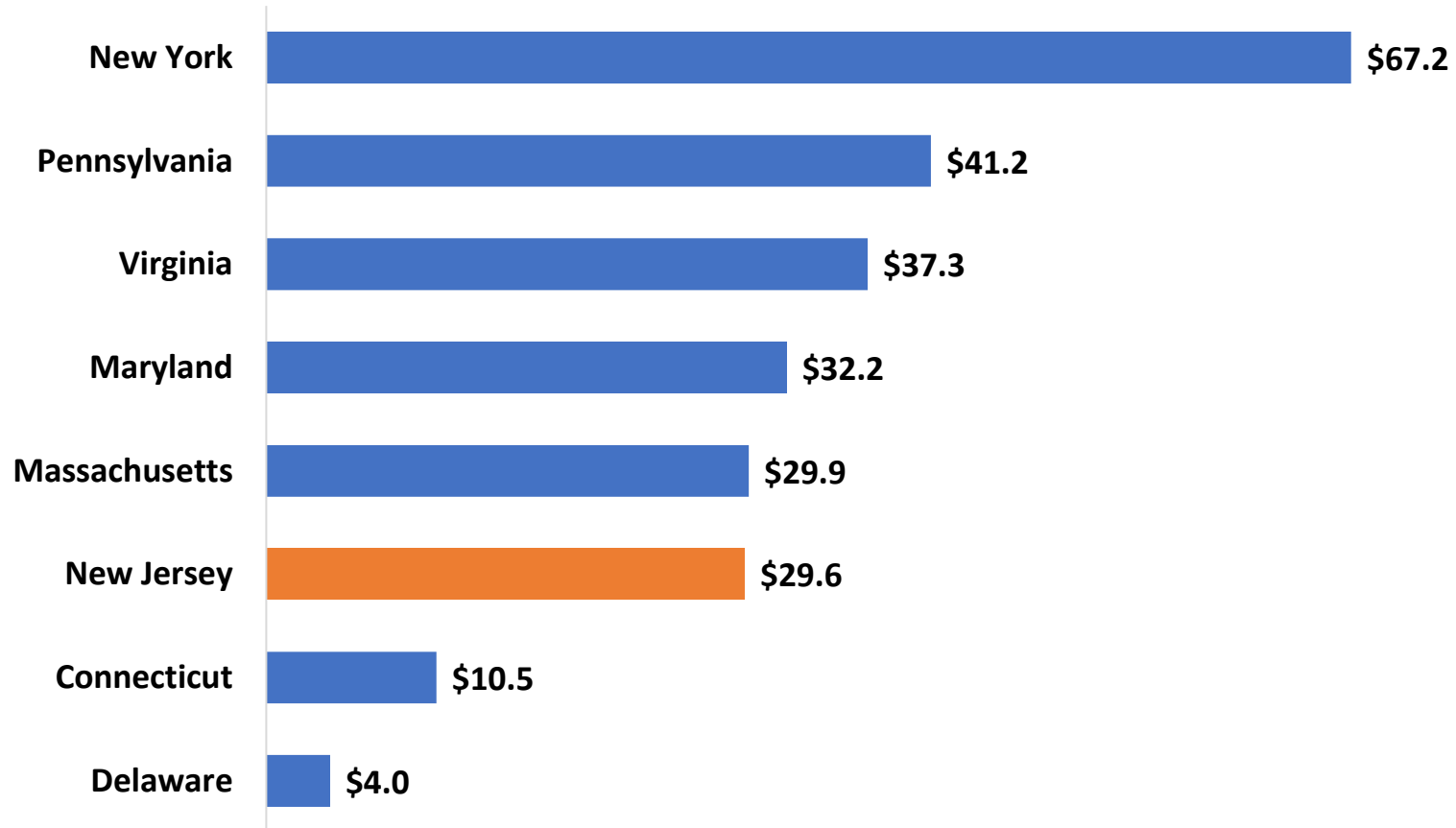


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SOURCE United States Bureau of Economic Analysis

# Ranked sixth highest GDP among regional states

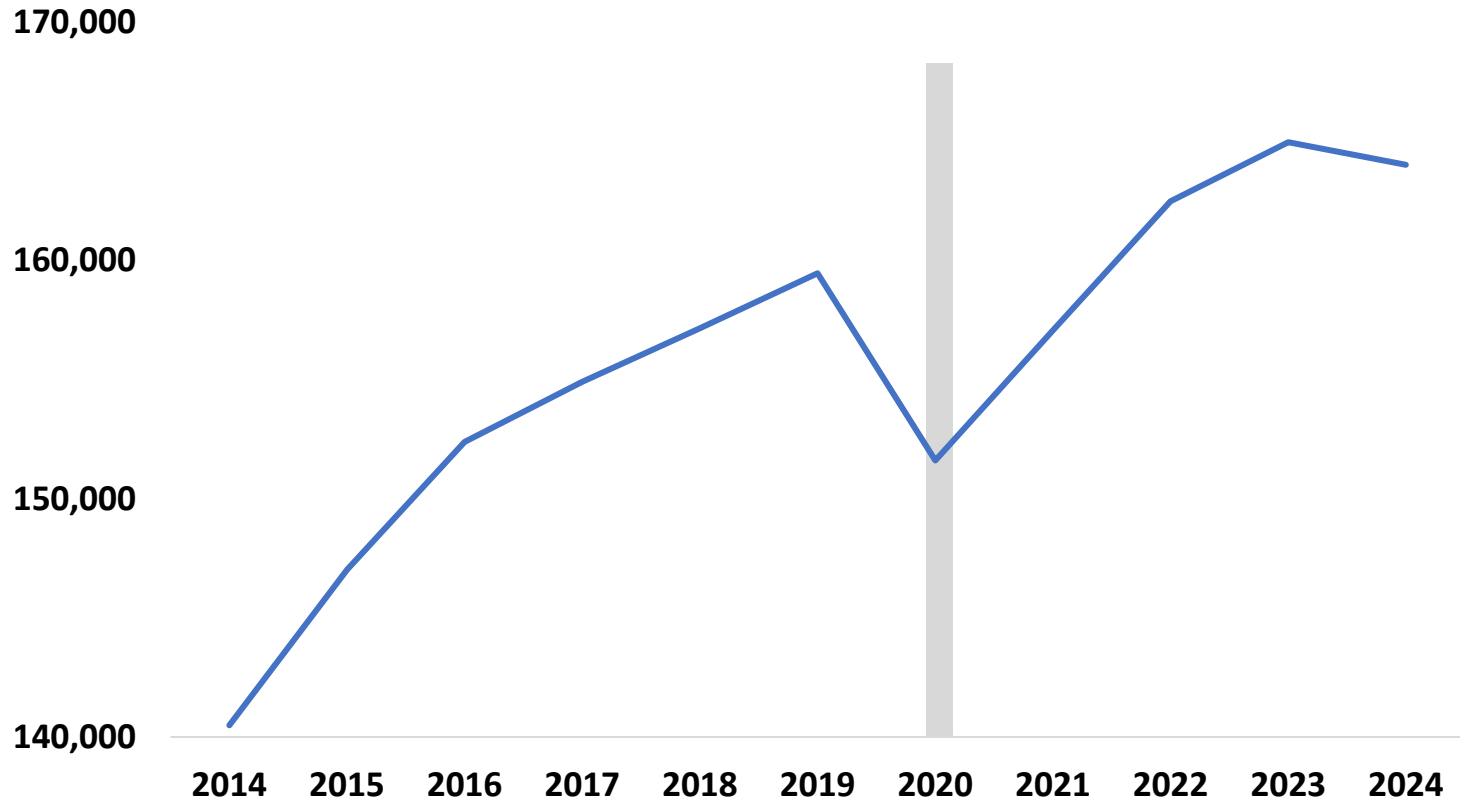
Construction 2024 GDP (Billions of current dollars)



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SOURCE United States Bureau of Economic Analysis

# Employment has increased by 23,525 jobs since 2014



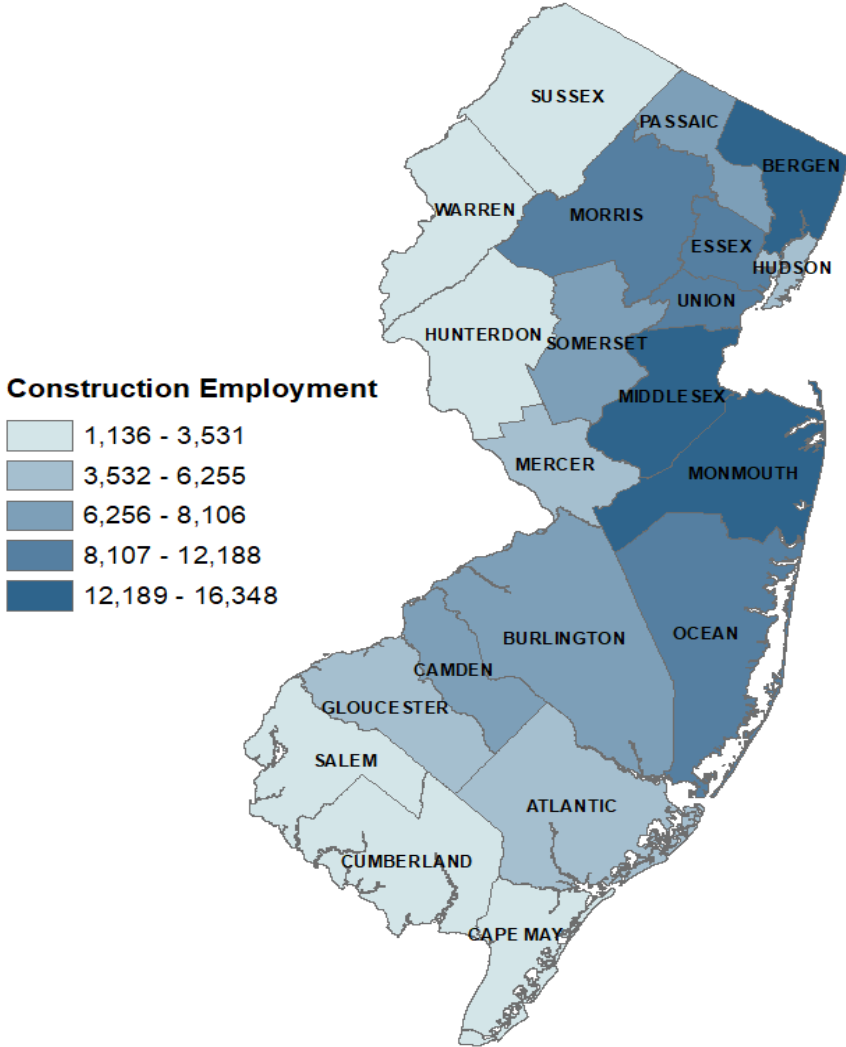
\*Gray area denotes U.S. economic recession as defined by the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER)



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SOURCE NJDOL, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

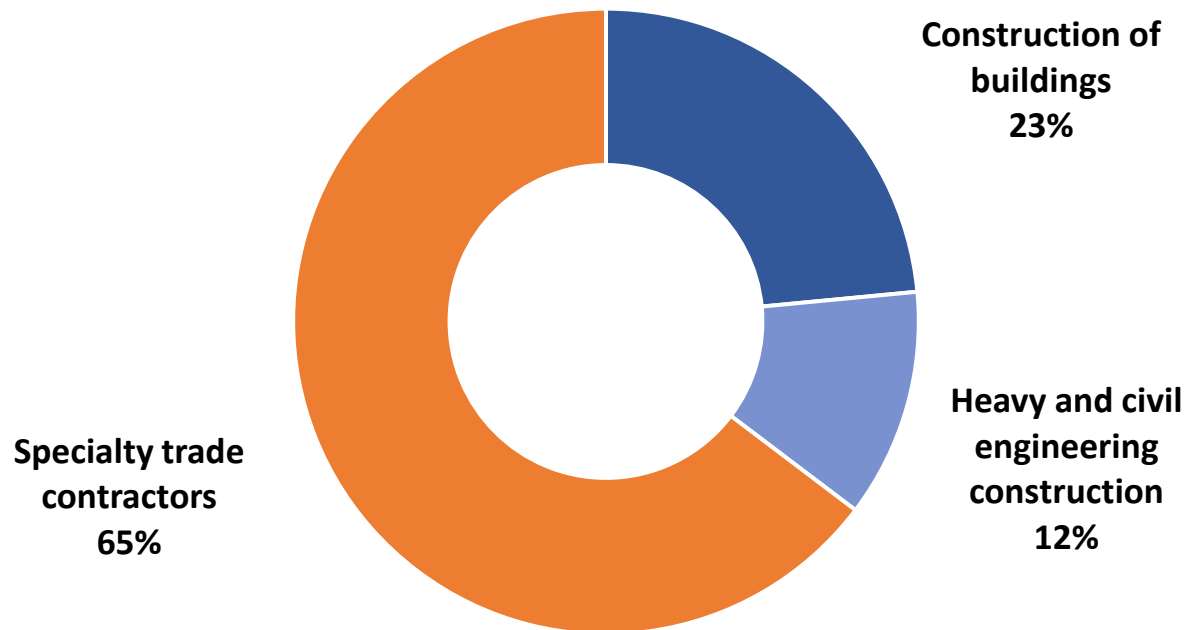
# Construction Employment by County



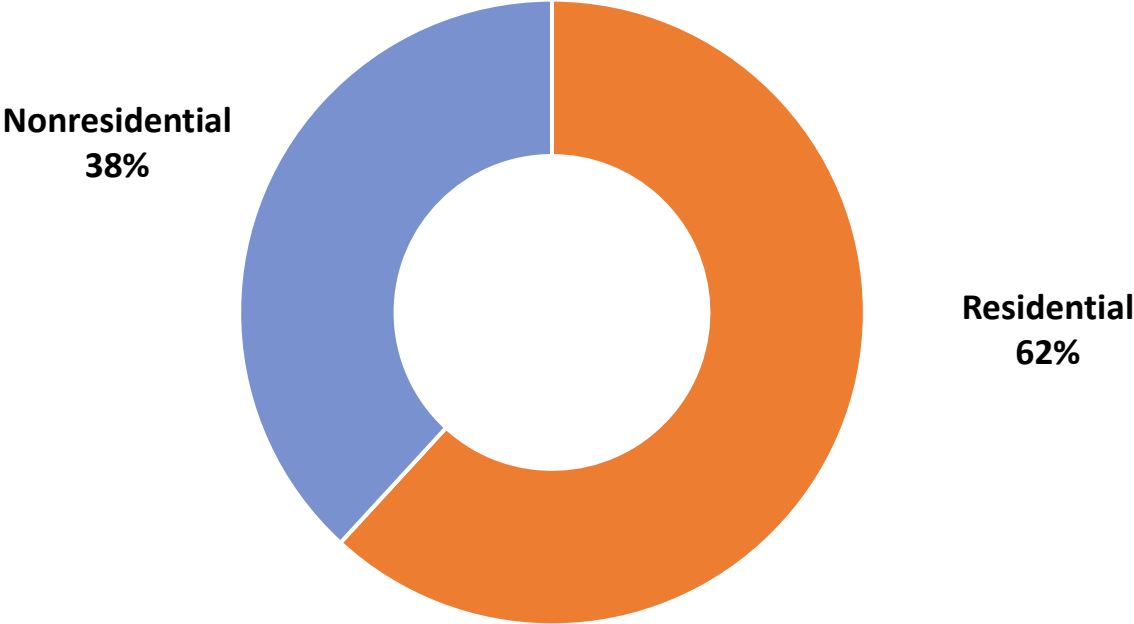
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SOURCE NJDOL, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

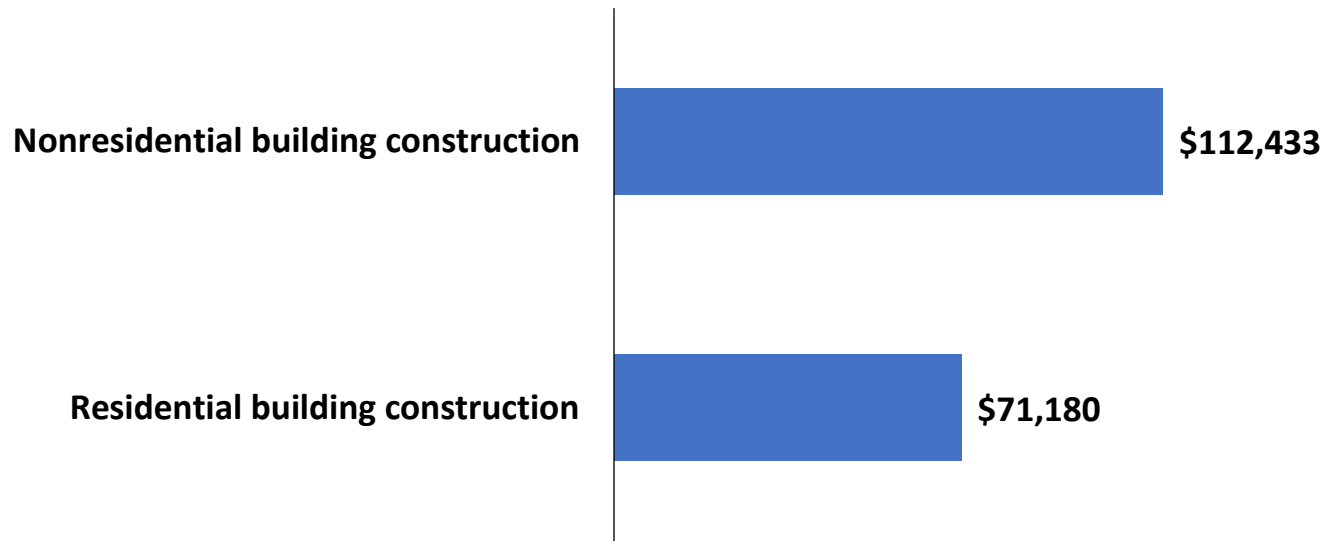
# 65 percent of construction jobs are in the specialty trade contractors subsector (highlighted in orange)



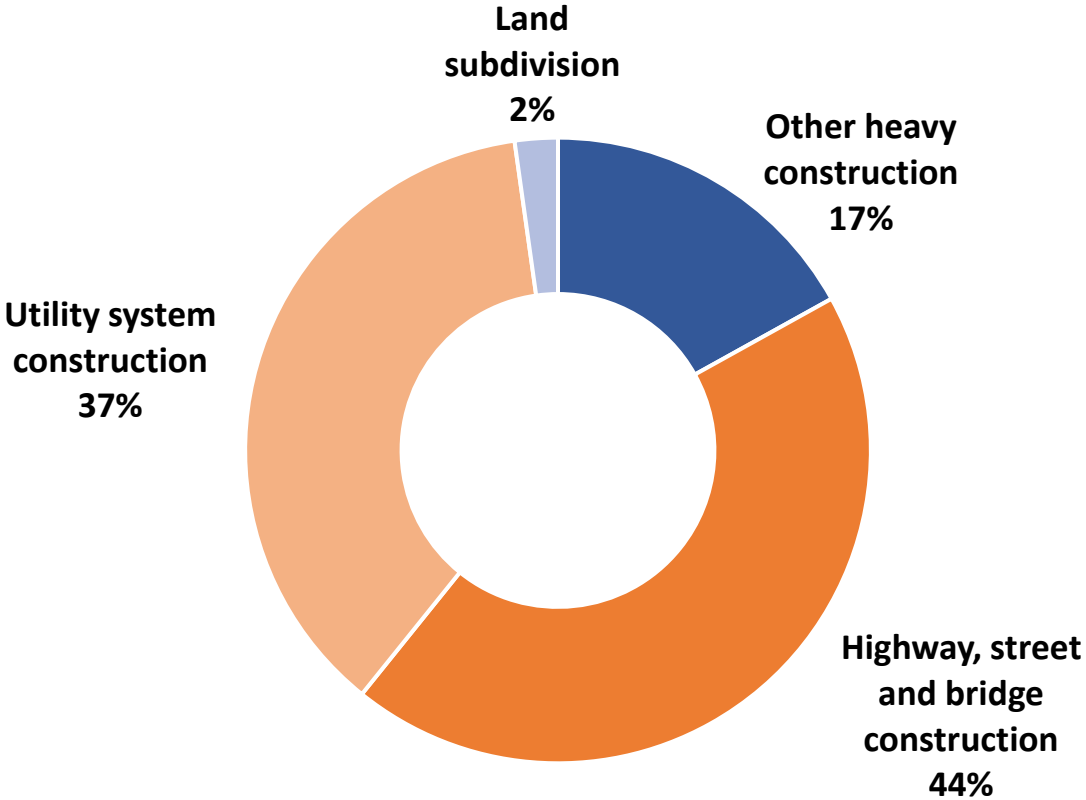
# Most of the jobs in the sector are in residential construction (highlighted in orange)



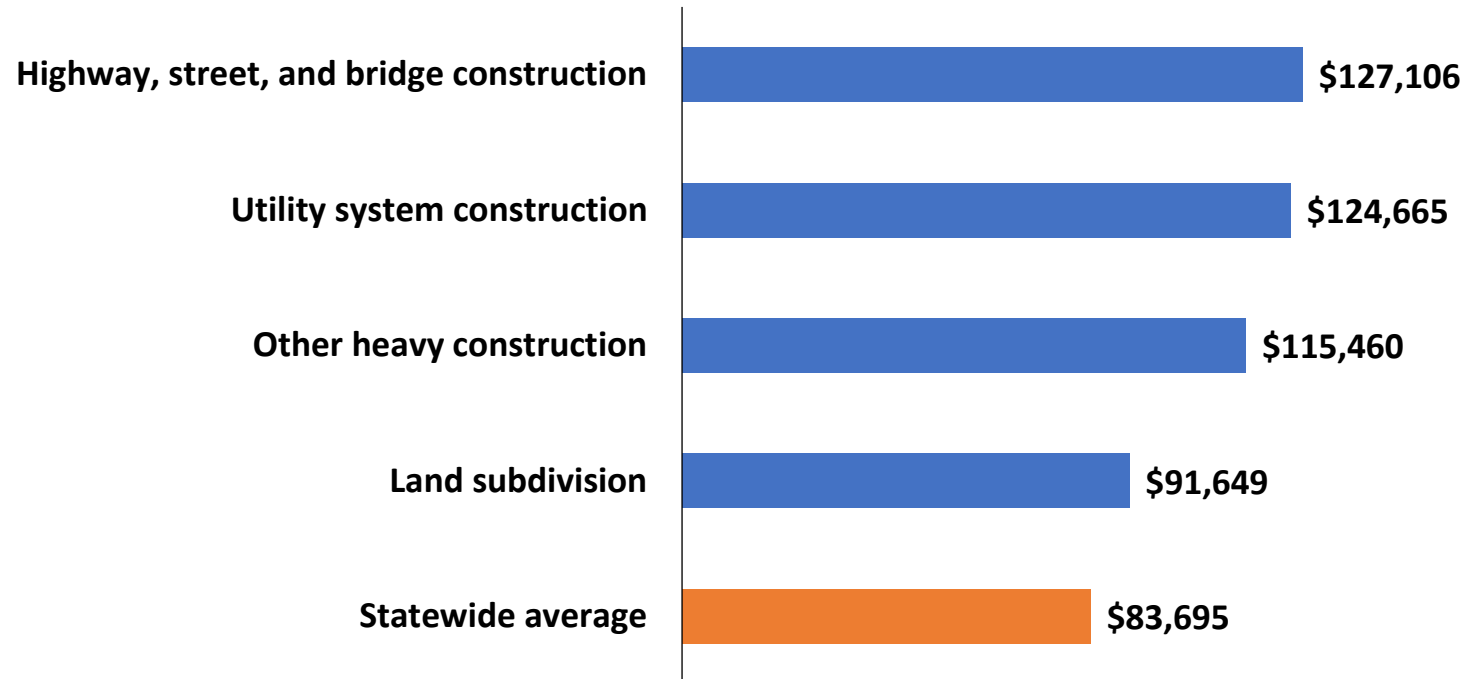
# Nonresidential construction workers earn \$41,253 more on average than residential home builders



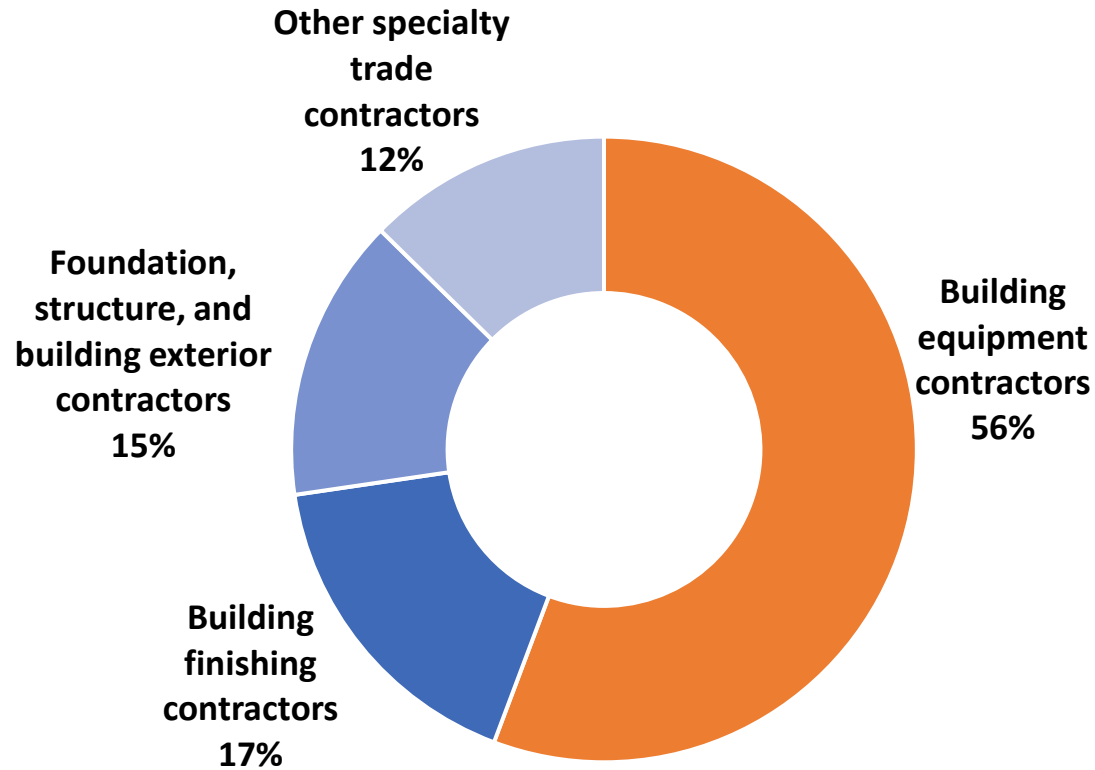
81 percent of heavy and civil engineering jobs specialize in utility systems and highway, street, and bridge construction (highlighted in orange)



# All components of heavy and civil engineering earn well above the state's average annual salary



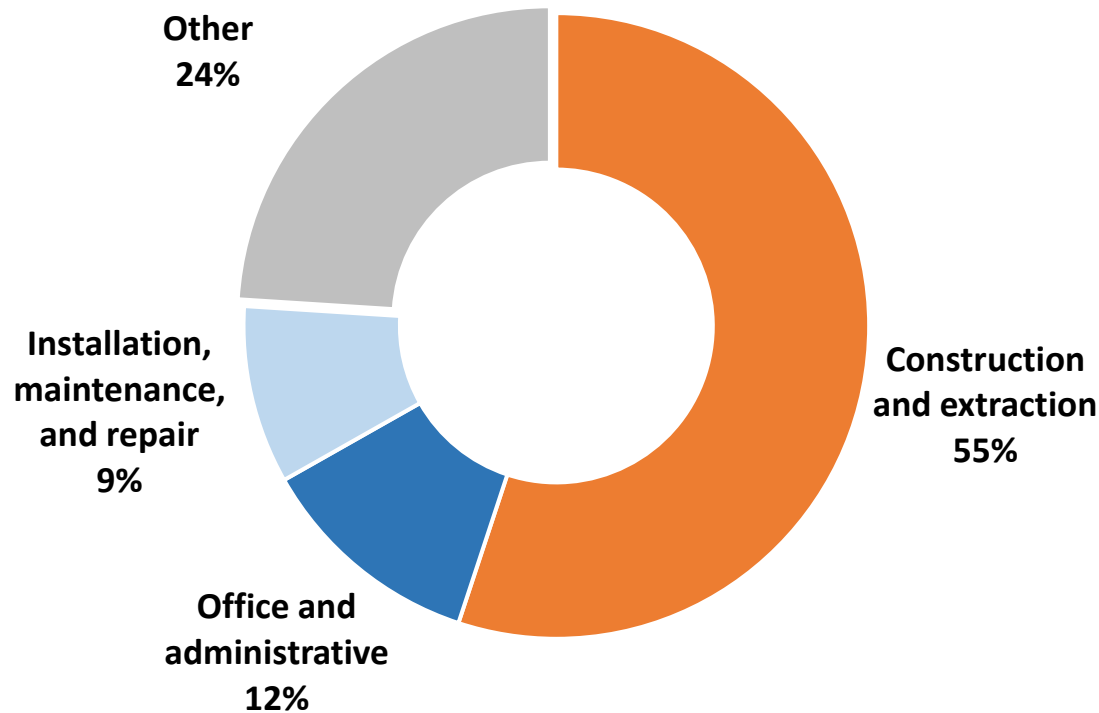
The largest component of specialty trade contractors are classified as building equipment contractors (highlighted in orange)



# Occupational Analysis



55 percent of construction occupations are in the trades, followed by office and administrative workers (highlighted in orange)



“Other” represents occupational groups such as management occupations, business and financial operations, sales, and several others.

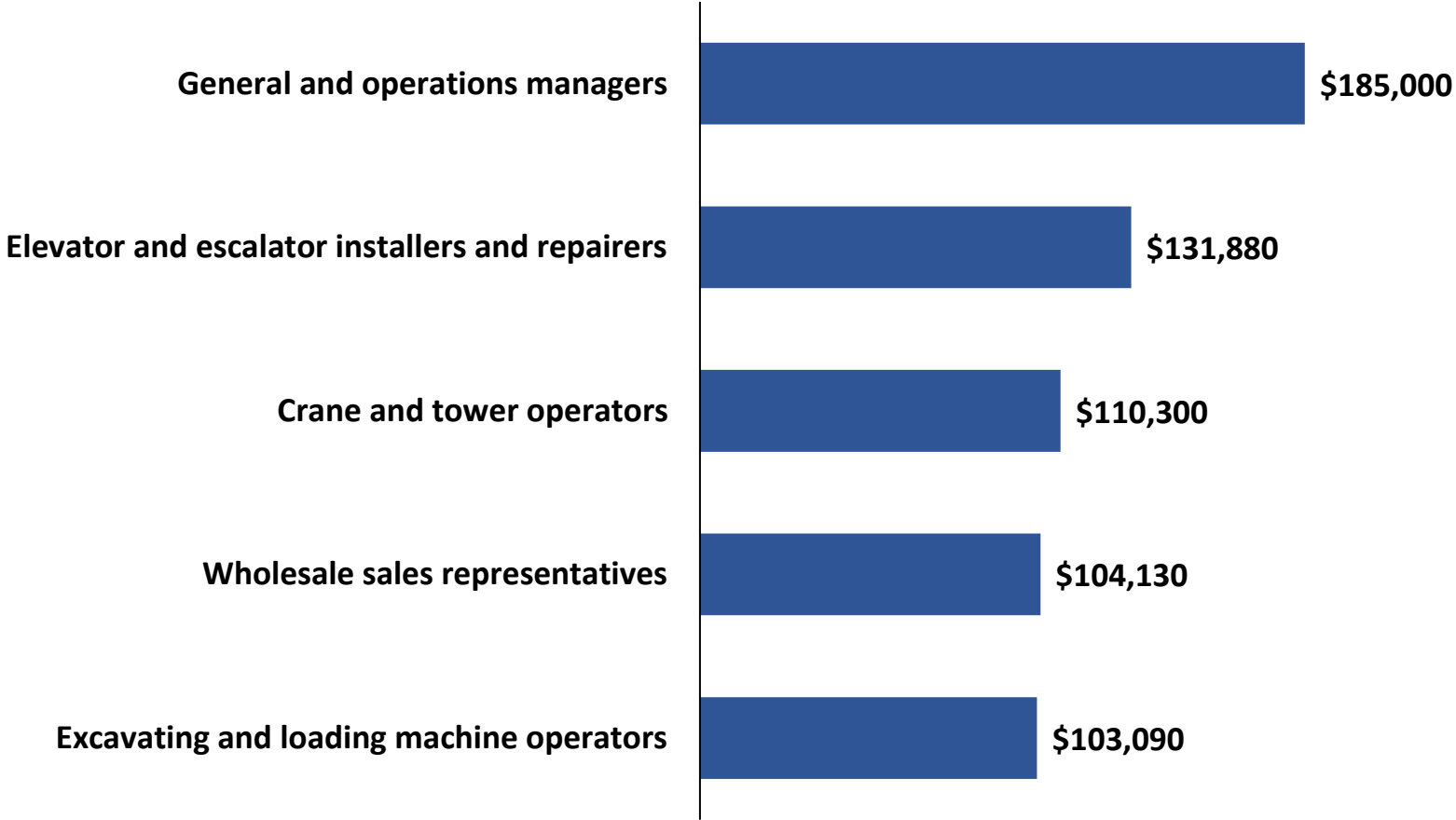


# The top 10 occupations account for 55 percent of employment in the sector

Occupation	Employment	Average Salary	Minimum Educational Requirement
Construction laborers	17,680	\$73,600	No formal educational credential
Electricians	12,670	\$80,850	High school diploma or equivalent
Supervisors of construction and extraction	12,270	\$109,720	High school diploma or equivalent
Carpenters	10,140	\$75,000	High school diploma or equivalent
Plumbers, pipefitters, and steamfitters	7,970	\$92,870	High school diploma or equivalent
HVAC mechanics and installers	7,540	\$70,160	Postsecondary nondegree award
Construction managers	7,000	\$138,110	Bachelor's degree
Office clerks, general	6,300	\$55,890	High school diploma or equivalent
Sales representatives of services	4,250	\$102,190	High school diploma or equivalent
Secretaries and administrative assistants	4,170	\$49,830	High school diploma or equivalent
<b>Total, top 10 construction occupations</b>	<b>89,990</b>		



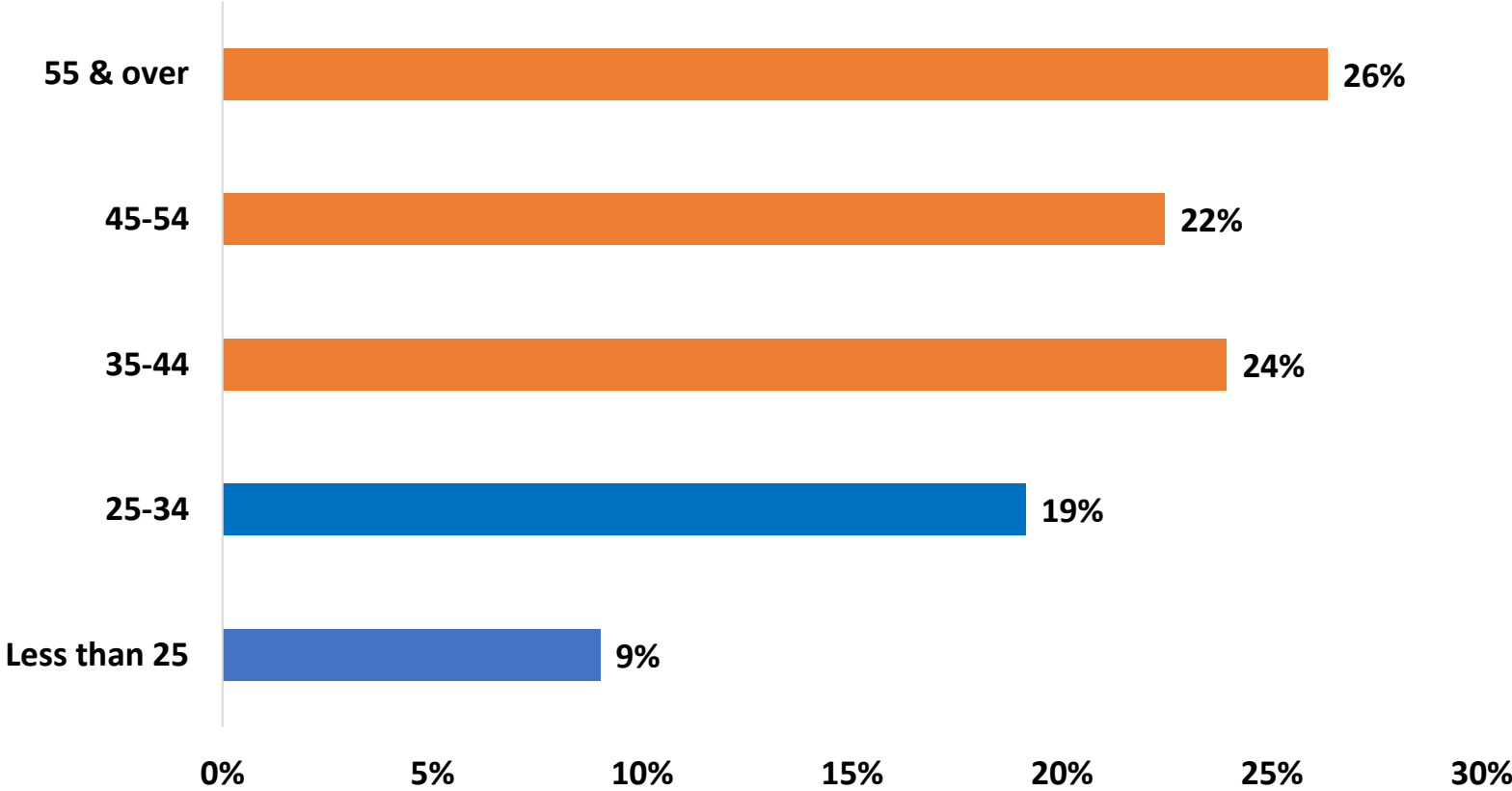
# Salaries for some higher-end construction occupations



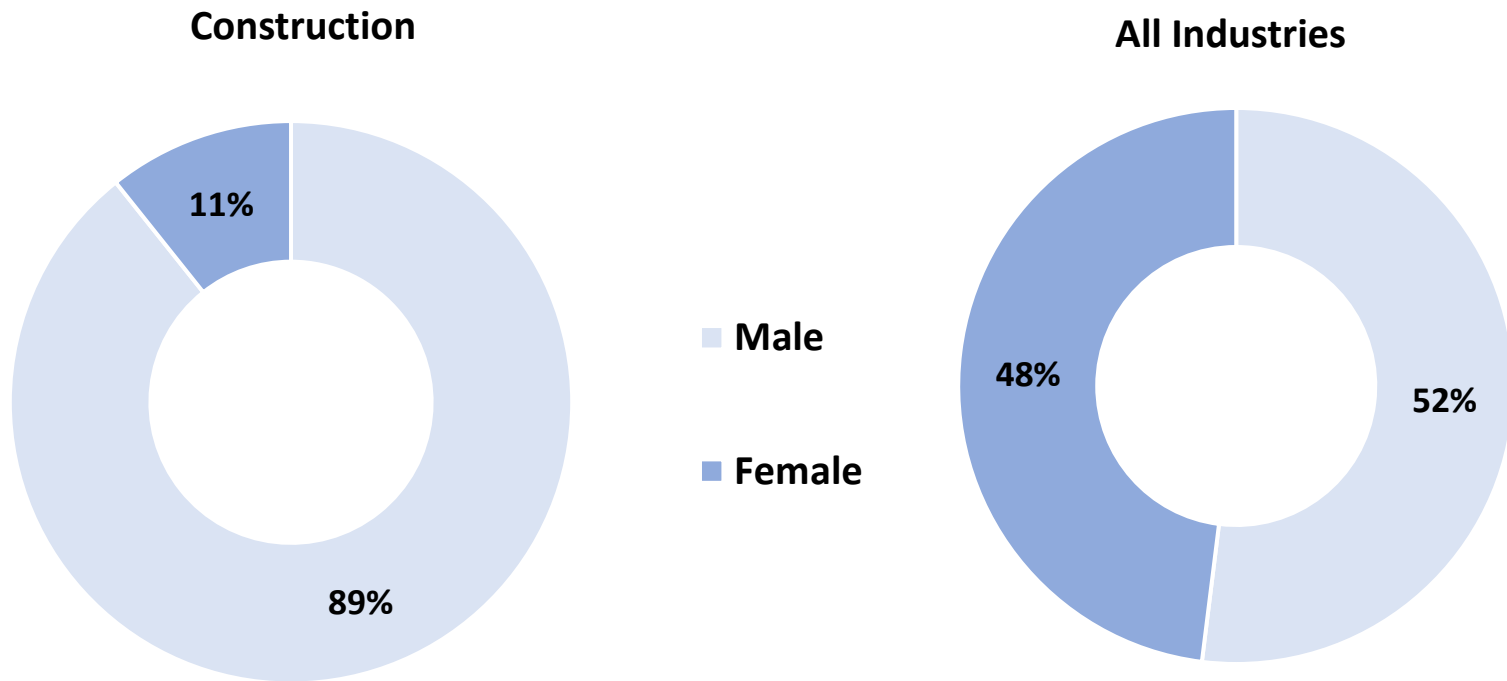
# Demographic Profile



# 72 percent of the workforce is aged 35 and older (highlighted in orange)



# The construction workforce is predominantly male



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