

1947 and 1948. Evidence of this appears in the keener competitive bidding of recent years and in the easier supply situation currently in existence with regard to both labour and materials.

Year	Total New and Repair Construction	P.C. Increase Over Previous Year in—		Year	Total New and Repair Construction	P.C. Increase Over Previous Year in—	
		Value	Volume			Value	Volume
	\$'000,000				\$'000,000		
1946.....	1,607	33.4	11.2	1950.....	3,132	9.7	4.2
1947.....	2,016	25.5	12.4	1951.....	3,661	16.9	5.5
1948.....	2,571	27.5	13.1	1952.....	4,088	11.7	6.2
1949.....	2,856	11.1	5.7	1953.....	4,359	6.6	3.9

Construction trends in recent years in constant as well as current dollars are also of interest. These are presented in Table 7 for new and repair and total construction, along with total construction as a percentage of gross national product. The constant dollar figures, which offer a rough measure of construction volume, indicate that the expected total volume of construction in 1953, both new and repair, is nearly 63 p.c. greater than in 1946. This compares with a current value increase of 170 p.c. over the same period, illustrating the importance of keeping in mind the influence of cost factors when making value comparisons. It is also apparent from the constant dollar estimates that practically all of the volume increase from 1946 to 1953 has occurred in new construction, with repair construction remaining at a relatively constant level. In consequence, repair work is now a much smaller proportion of the total than in earlier years, having decreased from about 34 p.c. in 1946 to 21 p.c. in 1953.

#### 7.—Value of New Construction and Repair and Maintenance Construction in Current and Constant Dollars, 1946-53

NOTE.—“Constant Dollars” means that the amount is given in terms of 1935-39 prices.

(Millions of Dollars)

Year	New Construction		Repair and Maintenance Construction		Total Construction		Total Construction as P.C. of Gross National Product	
	Current	Constant	Current	Constant	Current	Constant	Current	Constant
1946.....	1,074	753	533	385	1,607	1,138	13.4	12.6
1947.....	1,424	897	592	382	2,016	1,279	14.6	14.0
1948.....	1,877	1,049	694	397	2,571	1,446	16.5	15.3
1949.....	2,124	1,129	732	400	2,856	1,529	17.3	15.7
1950.....	2,366	1,196	766	397	3,132	1,593	17.2	16.1
1951.....	2,734	1,248	927	432	3,661	1,680	17.1	16.2
1952.....	3,158	1,375	931	409	4,089	1,784	17.8	16.2
1953.....	3,433	1,458	926	396	4,359	1,854	..	..

Estimates of the value of work performed by construction contractors and by others in various branches of industry, business and government who use their own labour force to perform construction work are given in Table 8. There is little indication of any change from year to year in the proportionate division of total construction work between these two categories. The construction industry proper accounted for about 68 p.c. of the total value of all work performed in each of the three years and the remaining 32 p.c. was undertaken by other business and government bodies. A further elaboration of these data and their relationship to numbers employed, salaries and wages paid, and value of materials used is given in Table 12, p. 768.