Construction contracts down 8%, figures show

Construction contracts dropped 8 percent to $317.6 million in 1991 over 1990 for the Baton Rouge area and fell 8 percent to $2.9 billion for the state, the F.W. Dodge division of McGraw-Hill Inc. reported.

The Baton Rouge area — comprised of East and West Baton Rouge, Ascension and Livingston parishes — capped 1991 with a 48 percent decrease in construction contracts to $20.0 million from $38.6 million for December 1990.

Non-residential construction plummeted 75 percent to $8.1 million for December from $31.8 million for the same period in 1990. The 1991 non-residential total reached $168.9 million, a 26 percent drop from $229.5 million for 1990.

Residential construction jumped 74 percent last month to $11.9 million from $6.8 million in December 1990. The 1991 total hit $44.8 million, a 27 percent increase from $116.7 million for 1990.

Statewide, December construction contracts for non-residential, residential and non-building activity was $317.7 million, an 82 percent drop from $1.7 million in December 1990.

Non-residential construction contracts nearly tripled to $200.6 million in December from $69.3 million for the same month in 1990.

For the year, non-residential construction slipped 20 percent to $1.1 billion from $1.3 billion in 1990.

Residential contracts fell 54 percent to $66.2 million in December from $42.8 million in 1990. The 1991 total reached $848.0 million, a 20 percent increase from $708.1 million a year ago.

Non-building contracts slipped 19 percent in December to $50.9 million from $62.6 million the previous year.

Non-building activity hit an annual total of $1.0 billion for 1991, an 11 percent drop from $1.1 billion in 1990.
percent decrease from $1.1 billion in 1990.

The non-building category accounts for highways, bridges, dams, harbors, airports, communication systems, utilities and space facilities.