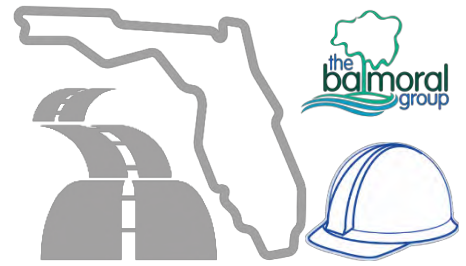
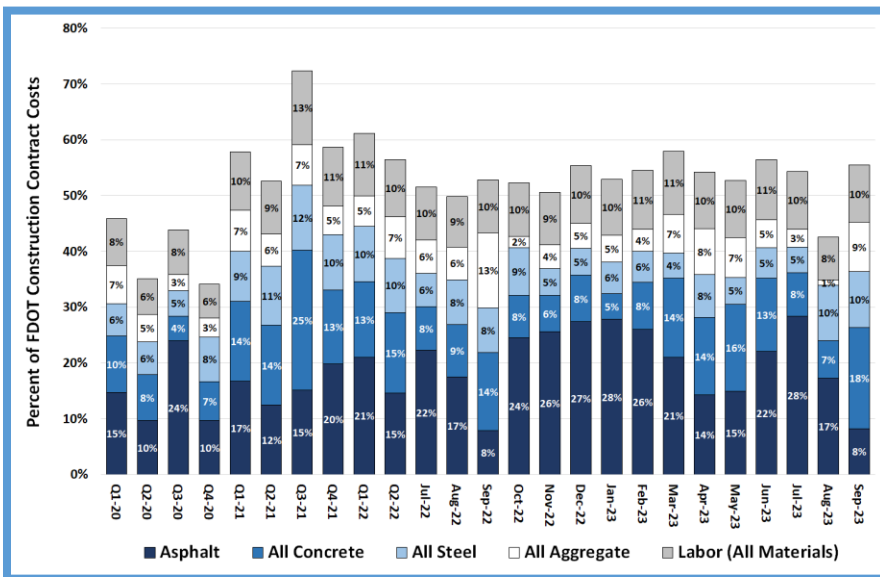
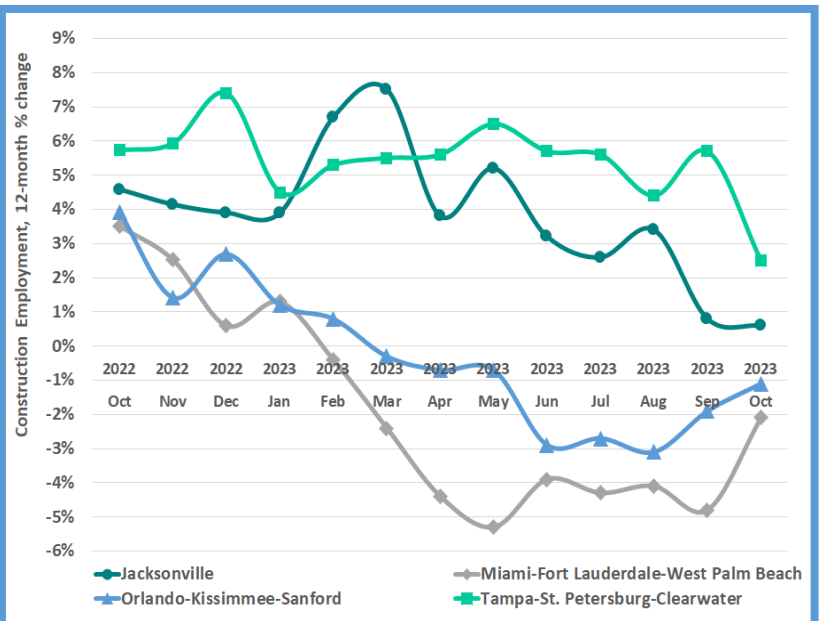


November 2023: Prices High Going into Holidays

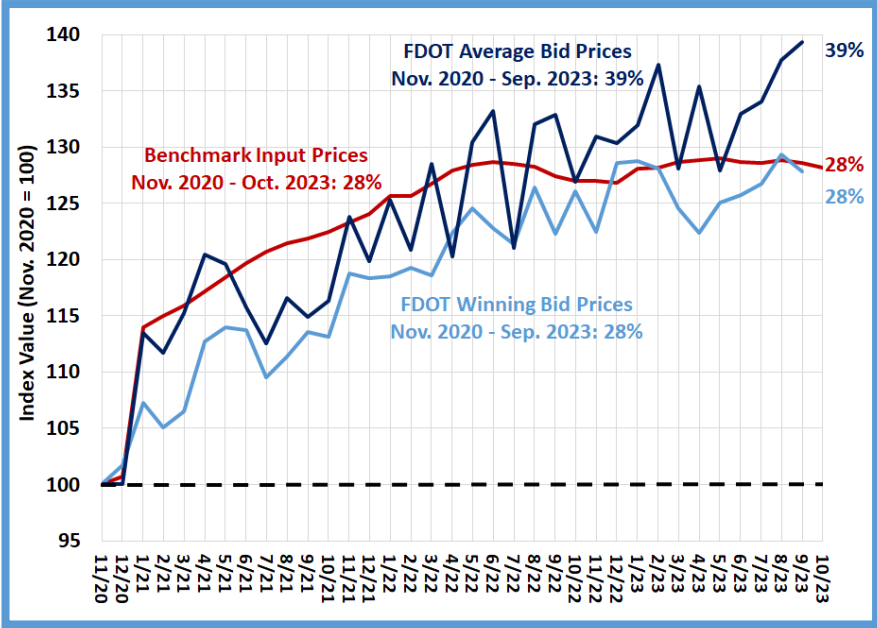


The index of FDOT awarded bids remained close to regional benchmarks through September 2023 according to updated data. Average bids spiked 10% higher than benchmark input costs over the same period. Benchmark input prices changes were relatively flat in October, with only marginal increases or declines. However, most material costs are still at record high levels. Most producers do not expect substantial declines in the next quarter. Construction employment gains in major metro areas appear to be trailing off. However, there has been limited rebound in the Miami and Orlando metro area employment markets over the last two months.

- In October 2023, statewide construction employment grew by 1.4%, year-over-year.
- Total nonfarm employment rose 2.9% and unemployment was 2.8%.
- Tampa construction employment grew 2.5%, year-over-year. The high growth rates seen in previous months seem to be moderating.
- Similarly, construction employment growth in Jacksonville trailed off at 0.6% in October 2023 compared to October 2022.
- Construction employment in Miami and Orlando declined by 2.1% and 1.1%, respectively, last month. While still negative, these results are an improvement on previous months.



- According to FDOT Estimating Systems Support, the latest available bid data is September 2023 as no contracts have been executed since October 3.
- Updated September data shows that concrete costs as a share of total costs rose dramatically compared to previous months to 18%.
- Asphalt costs were half of historical levels in September at 8% of total.
- The share of steel costs remained high, while aggregate costs soared due to recent price increases.
- Labor costs were 10% of total costs.



- Industry benchmark input costs were 28% higher in October 2023 vs November 2020. Some material prices saw a slight month-over-month decline.
- October 2023 bid data was not available for this analysis according to FDOT Estimating Systems Support.
- For winning bids in September 2023, FDOT costs declined slightly and were 28% higher than November 2020 levels.
- On average, FDOT bids were 39% higher in September 2023 compared to the baseline (all bids, not just awarded).
- Cost increases were largely driven by asphalt, aggregate, and concrete bids.