

The Daily

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Building permits, September 2009

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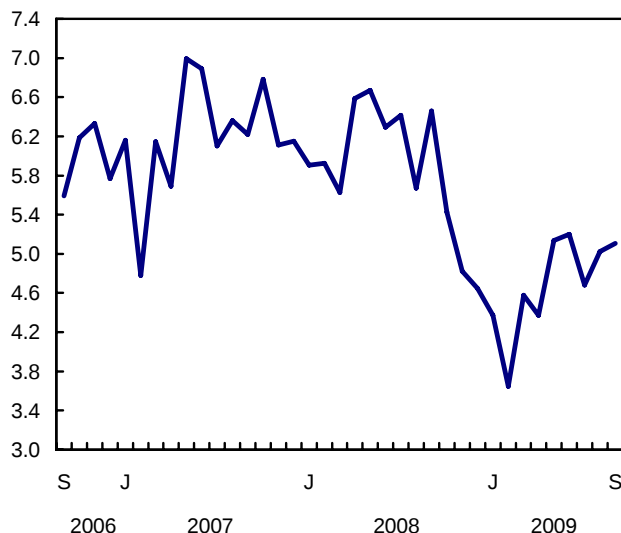
The value of residential permits increased 9.4% to \$3.2 billion, a level not seen since September 2008. The increase was mainly a result of gains in the value of multi-family dwellings, especially in British Columbia and Ontario.

In the non-residential sector, the value of permits fell 9.1% to \$1.9 billion in September. The decline largely reflects drops in the institutional and commercial components in British Columbia.

Total value of permits

\$ billions

seasonally adjusted



Note to readers

Unless otherwise stated, this release presents seasonally adjusted data, which eases comparisons by removing the effects of seasonal variations.

The Building Permits Survey covers 2,400 municipalities representing 95% of the population. It provides an early indication of building activity. The communities representing the other 5% of the population are very small, and their levels of building activity have little impact on the total.

The value of planned construction activities shown in this release excludes engineering projects (e.g., waterworks, sewers or culverts) and land.

For the purpose of this release, the census metropolitan area of Ottawa–Gatineau (Ontario/Quebec) is divided into two areas: Gatineau part and Ottawa part.

Overall, the value of building permits fell in three provinces (British Columbia, Manitoba, Newfoundland and Labrador) and two territories (Nunavut and Yukon).

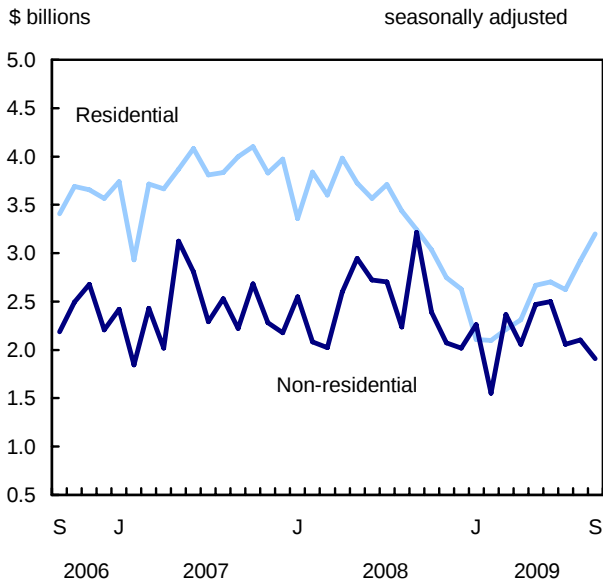
Residential sector: Higher intentions for multi-family permits

Municipalities took out \$1.1 billion worth of building permits for multi-family dwellings, up 32.1% from August. This increase was fuelled by higher construction intentions in eight provinces and two territories, led by British Columbia and Ontario.

The value of single-family permits edged up 0.2% to \$2.1 billion. Intentions in this component increased in six provinces, which was enough to offset a 5.4% drop in Ontario.

Municipalities approved the construction of 15,250 new dwellings in September, up 13.3%. The increase was largely attributable to multi-family dwellings, which rose 27.8% to 7,835 units.

The number of single-family dwellings approved rose 1.2% to 7,415 units.

Residential and non-residential sectors**Non-residential sector: Decreases in the institutional and commercial components**

In the institutional component, the value of permits declined 18.5% to \$597 million in September, a fourth consecutive monthly decrease. British Columbia and Newfoundland and Labrador were largely responsible for the monthly decline. On the other hand, six provinces posted gains in institutional permits, as a result of higher construction intentions for home care facilities.

In the commercial component, intentions fell 11.0% to \$950 million. This decrease came largely from lower construction intentions of laboratories and recreational buildings in British Columbia and office buildings in Ontario.

The value of industrial permits rose for a second consecutive month, up 20.0% to \$363 million in September. The increase was due mostly to higher intentions for utility buildings in Quebec and Ontario.

Provinces: Increases in Quebec and Alberta

The value of building permits increased in seven provinces in September.

The most significant increases occurred in Quebec (+10.7% to \$1.2 billion), Alberta (+13.8% to \$906 million) and Ontario (+5.7% to \$1.8 billion). The increase for all three provinces was the result of higher construction intentions in both the residential and non-residential sectors.

British Columbia (-27.3%) posted the largest decline, following a 48.1% increase in August. The decline was a result of decreases in all three components of the non-residential sector.

Metropolitan areas: Gains in Kingston and Calgary

The total value of permits was up in 19 of the 34 census metropolitan areas.

The largest increases occurred in Kingston, Calgary and Saint John, the result of gains in multi-family permits and in the institutional component.

In contrast, Kelowna recorded declines in all three components of the non-residential sector. In Toronto, the value of permits declined in both the residential and non-residential sectors, despite an increase in multiple-family permits.

Available on CANSIM: tables 026-0001 to 026-0008 and 026-0010.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2802.

The September 2009 issue of *Building Permits* (64-001-X, free) will be available soon.

Building permits data for October will be released on December 7.

To order data, contact Jasmine Gaudreault (toll-free 1-800-579-8533; 613-951-6321; bdp_information@statcan.gc.ca). For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Nicole Charron (613-951-0087), Investment and Capital Stock Division.

□

Value of building permits, by census metropolitan area¹

	May 2009	June 2009	July 2009	August 2009 ^r	September 2009 ^p	August to September 2009
Seasonally adjusted						
	\$ millions					% change
Total	3,741.6	3,841.2	3,258.9	3,580.9	3,718.2	3.8
St. John's	34.4	37.6	51.6	40.2	27.9	-30.6
Halifax	80.4	65.9	63.6	43.5	56.6	29.9
Moncton	17.7	18.9	29.4	17.3	21.5	24.2
Saint John	16.3	21.5	27.8	15.8	76.8	386.8
Saguenay	22.1	27.2	29.0	22.8	19.1	-16.4
Québec	155.9	141.7	123.4	144.8	186.1	28.5
Sherbrooke	23.1	43.2	46.6	35.5	30.6	-13.8
Trois-Rivières	35.8	34.0	24.8	20.6	37.3	81.6
Montréal	413.6	558.1	534.2	477.3	498.2	4.4
Ottawa–Gatineau, Ontario/Quebec	203.0	183.0	193.7	192.1	186.3	-3.0
Gatineau part	43.5	33.4	30.1	34.7	40.4	16.2
Ottawa part	159.6	149.6	163.7	157.4	145.9	-7.3
Kingston	26.5	13.6	14.3	15.0	96.9	546.7
Peterborough	8.7	7.3	13.3	32.4	9.6	-70.3
Oshawa	35.8	14.8	37.8	36.9	59.7	62.0
Toronto	921.0	928.1	434.4	796.0	721.6	-9.3
Hamilton	41.2	157.8	117.1	42.0	49.5	17.7
St. Catharines–Niagara	35.7	25.5	25.4	36.2	78.8	117.5
Kitchener	44.1	94.4	90.6	56.3	106.9	90.1
Brantford	5.2	5.7	27.9	16.8	7.1	-57.9
Guelph	6.8	41.4	31.3	12.3	13.3	7.9
London	76.6	35.7	69.5	78.7	91.8	16.6
Windsor	103.5	39.1	14.4	12.4	15.1	22.3
Barrie	16.3	24.0	13.1	29.8	11.7	-60.8
Greater Sudbury	38.5	33.7	21.1	28.7	15.2	-47.1
Thunder Bay	9.9	8.9	10.0	4.7	10.3	117.1
Winnipeg	71.6	79.6	105.8	76.8	56.8	-26.1
Regina	51.7	44.7	42.0	37.7	29.7	-21.3
Saskatoon	43.9	38.9	75.3	47.3	58.5	23.5
Calgary	628.1	424.1	266.0	243.9	307.3	26.0
Edmonton	236.4	231.0	295.1	354.8	357.9	0.9
Kelowna	38.2	163.2	30.1	144.9	29.7	-79.5
Abbotsford–Mission	6.6	13.3	9.1	13.8	13.5	-1.8
Vancouver	247.8	245.5	348.3	381.0	372.0	-2.4
Victoria	44.7	39.6	42.7	72.5	64.9	-10.4

^r revised

^p preliminary

1. Go online to view the census subdivisions that comprise the census metropolitan areas.

Note: Data may not add to totals as a result of rounding.

Value of building permits, by province and territory

	May 2009	June 2009	July 2009	August 2009 ^r	September 2009 ^p	August to September 2009
Seasonally adjusted						
	\$ millions					% change
Canada	5,138.1	5,201.5	4,679.7	5,025.4	5,107.1	1.6
Residential	2,669.3	2,704.3	2,621.3	2,923.6	3,197.6	9.4
Non-residential	2,468.8	2,497.1	2,058.4	2,101.8	1,909.5	-9.1
Newfoundland and Labrador	56.7	63.5	75.9	64.1	51.2	-20.2
Residential	47.3	52.2	48.2	43.8	40.5	-7.5
Non-residential	9.4	11.4	27.7	20.3	10.7	-47.5
Prince Edward Island	13.9	11.5	19.8	20.0	20.3	1.8
Residential	9.1	7.5	14.8	12.7	12.9	1.3
Non-residential	4.9	4.0	5.0	7.3	7.5	2.6
Nova Scotia	126.9	135.6	138.6	106.8	125.5	17.4
Residential	61.9	61.9	78.8	72.6	86.6	19.3
Non-residential	65.0	73.7	59.9	34.2	38.9	13.5
New Brunswick	73.9	93.6	124.4	82.2	135.6	65.0
Residential	48.5	51.7	53.0	50.7	48.5	-4.3
Non-residential	25.3	41.9	71.5	31.5	87.1	176.4
Quebec	1,067.9	1,178.4	1,102.0	1,047.7	1,159.7	10.7
Residential	658.4	733.7	690.7	706.2	722.0	2.2
Non-residential	409.6	444.7	411.3	341.5	437.7	28.2
Ontario	1,813.6	1,897.2	1,397.7	1,686.8	1,782.1	5.7
Residential	1,093.6	969.1	780.7	1,012.5	1,069.5	5.6
Non-residential	720.0	928.1	617.0	674.2	712.6	5.7
Manitoba	135.4	161.1	169.5	129.9	102.8	-20.8
Residential	87.1	77.6	74.7	69.1	72.5	4.9
Non-residential	48.3	83.5	94.8	60.8	30.3	-50.1
Saskatchewan	189.0	136.8	216.0	139.1	139.7	0.4
Residential	65.5	57.2	70.7	61.6	62.4	1.2
Non-residential	123.4	79.7	145.3	77.5	77.3	-0.2
Alberta	1,109.0	846.0	771.6	796.2	906.3	13.8
Residential	328.4	368.2	426.1	534.9	587.4	9.8
Non-residential	780.6	477.8	345.6	261.3	318.9	22.0
British Columbia	484.9	634.2	619.0	916.8	666.7	-27.3
Residential	261.8	312.0	373.7	350.3	487.0	39.0
Non-residential	223.1	322.1	245.3	566.5	179.6	-68.3
Yukon	59.8	5.7	6.6	15.6	6.8	-56.5
Residential	3.2	3.3	6.3	2.5	2.8	13.5
Non-residential	56.7	2.4	0.4	13.1	4.0	-69.8
Northwest Territories	5.8	19.0	3.8	2.5	5.5	124.1
Residential	3.6	1.2	2.0	1.2	2.0	61.8
Non-residential	2.3	17.8	1.8	1.3	3.6	184.1
Nunavut	1.2	18.9	34.8	17.8	5.0	-72.1
Residential	1.0	8.8	1.7	5.5	3.6	-33.6
Non-residential	0.2	10.1	33.1	12.3	1.3	-89.3

^r revised

^p preliminary

Note: Data may not add to totals as a result of rounding.

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National and provincial input-output tables

2005 (final) and 2006 (preliminary)

The final provincial input-output tables for 2005 and the preliminary data for 2006 are now available. The data are aligned to the national data released by the Income and Expenditure Accounts Division in May 2009.

Available on CANSIM: tables 379-0023, 379-0024, 381-0009 to 381-0016 and 386-0002.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 1401.

The products *Interprovincial Trade Flows*, 2006 (15F0002X, various prices); *Input-output Model Simulations (national model)*, 2006 (15F0004X, various prices); *Input-output Model Simulations (interprovincial model)*, 2006 (15F0009X, various prices); *National input-output Tables*, 2006 (15F0041X, various prices); *Interprovincial Input-output Tables*, 2006 (15F0042X, various prices); *National and Provincial Multipliers*, 2006 (15F0046X, various prices), *National Symmetric Input-output Tables, Aggregation Level S*, 2006 (15-207-X, \$250); *National Symmetric Input-Output Tables, Aggregation Level L*, 2006 (15-208-X, \$535); and *Provincial Gross Domestic Product (GDP) by Industry and Sector at Basic Price*, 1997 to 2006 (15-209-X), are now available. See *How to order products*.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Fabienne Leclerc (613-951-3659), Industry Accounts Division. ■

New products

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