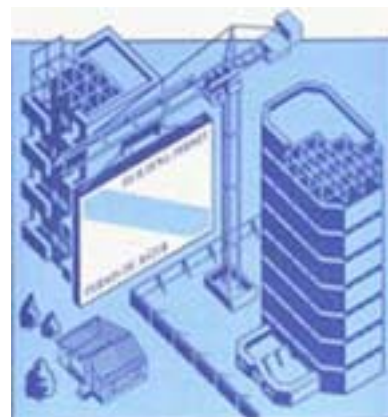




Catalogue no. 64-001-X

# Building Permits

January 2008



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Statistics Canada  
Investment and capital stock division  
Current investment indicators section

# Building Permits

January 2008

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## Symbols

The following standard symbols are used in Statistics Canada publications:

- . not available for any reference period
- .. not available for a specific reference period
- ... not applicable
- 0 true zero or a value rounded to zero
- 0<sup>s</sup> value rounded to 0 (zero) where there is a meaningful distinction between true zero and the value that was rounded
- p preliminary
- r revised
- x suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the *Statistics Act*
- E use with caution
- F too unreliable to be published

## Acknowledgements

This publication was prepared under the direction of:

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## Important notice

Changes in boundaries, status or names of geographical entities that occurred before January 2006, are reflected in this publication. These geographical changes may be obtained by writing to:

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Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0T6  
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## Highlights

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- The value of building permits in January fell below the \$6-billion mark for the first time since April 2007. An increase in the non-residential sector was insufficient to compensate for fewer construction intentions in the residential area.

## Analysis – January 2008

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The value of building permits in January fell below the \$6-billion mark for the first time since April 2007. An increase in the non-residential sector was insufficient to compensate for fewer construction intentions in the residential area.

Municipalities issued \$5.9 billion worth of building permits, down 2.9% from the December 2007 value of \$6.0 billion. This was a third consecutive monthly decline.

Despite the recent declines, building sites should remain busy in the first part of 2008 since construction intentions were strong in 2007. Building permits are a leading indicator for construction activity.

In the residential sector, the value of building permits dropped by 13.9% to \$3.3 billion. This was fuelled by a 26.9% drop in multi-family housing. Intentions also decreased in the single-family component (-5.4%).

After two consecutive monthly decreases, the value of non-residential permits increased by 16.4% to \$2.5 billion. January's gain was due to increases in institutional, commercial and industrial permits.

### Important movement in permits in Ontario

Provincially, the largest gain (in dollars) occurred in Ontario, where municipalities approved \$2.4 billion worth of permits in January. A record high was reached in the value of non-residential permits (+68.8% to \$1.4 billion). The Ontario non-residential components (industrial, commercial and institutional) all had very high values in January. These increases more than offset a 29.1% drop in residential permits, the largest among all provinces.

Alberta also posted a significant gain (+4.2% to \$1.2 billion) in the total value of permits, thanks to growth coming from the industrial and the institutional components.

Quebec experienced, to a lesser extent, a state of affairs similar to Ontario. A decline in residential permits (-2.7%) was offset by an increase in non-residential sector (+14.0%) leading the total value of permits to \$989 million in January, up 1.9% from December.

The total value of building permits fell in four provinces. With significant drops in both residential and non-residential components, the largest decrease in dollars occurred in British Columbia, where the total value of permits dropped 22.4% to \$815 million, the lowest level since April 2006.

#### Note to readers

Unless otherwise stated, this release presents seasonally adjusted data, which ease 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 the Building Permits release, the census metropolitan area of Ottawa–Gatineau is divided into two areas: Ottawa–Gatineau (Quebec part) and Ottawa–Gatineau (Ontario part).

Important retreats also occurred in Saskatchewan (-44.4%) and Newfoundland and Labrador (-54.6%). In both provinces, the drops followed exceptional results in the non-residential sector in December.



## **Housing sector: The demand for multi-family units drops**

The value of permits for multi-family dwellings fell by 26.9% in January to \$1.1 billion, the lowest amount since February 2007. The number of multiple-family units approved decreased by 17.6% to 8,216.

Single-family permits decreased by 5.4% to \$2.2 billion. The corresponding number of units declined by 5.5%.

Both single- and multi-family units approved have been on a downward trend since the summer of 2007.

Strength in employment, growth in disposable income, dynamic economy in Western Canada and tight apartment vacancy rates in certain centres are factors that could affect positively the demand for housing. On the other hand, the impact of price increases on housing affordability and the signs of a weakening US economy and their spillover effects in Canada could erode the demand.

## **All non-residential components are on the rise**

The value of permits in the institutional component jumped 26.6% in January to \$701 million. This gain followed two consecutive monthly declines. Large projects for medical buildings in Ontario and Alberta were behind this marked increase.

The value of commercial permits gained 9.0% in January to \$1.4 billion, thanks to several large projects for office buildings in Ontario. In 2007, this category played a key role in the strong showing of the commercial component.

Having reached a 10-month low in December, the value of industrial permits rebounded with a 28.1% gain in January as the value of permits totalled \$423 million. Construction projects for manufacturing buildings in Ontario and for utility buildings in Alberta led to this gain.

Despite the strong results in January, the value of permits in the commercial and industrial components has been on a downward trend since the summer of 2007. In contrast, the institutional component has been maintaining its upward trend since February 2007.

The non-residential sector continued to be positively affected by low office vacancy rates, the vigorous retail sector and strong corporate profits. Furthermore, business and government intend to increase their spending in non-residential construction in 2008, according to the latest Private and Public Investment Survey released on February 27, 2008.

## **Metropolitan areas: Sharp decline in Vancouver**

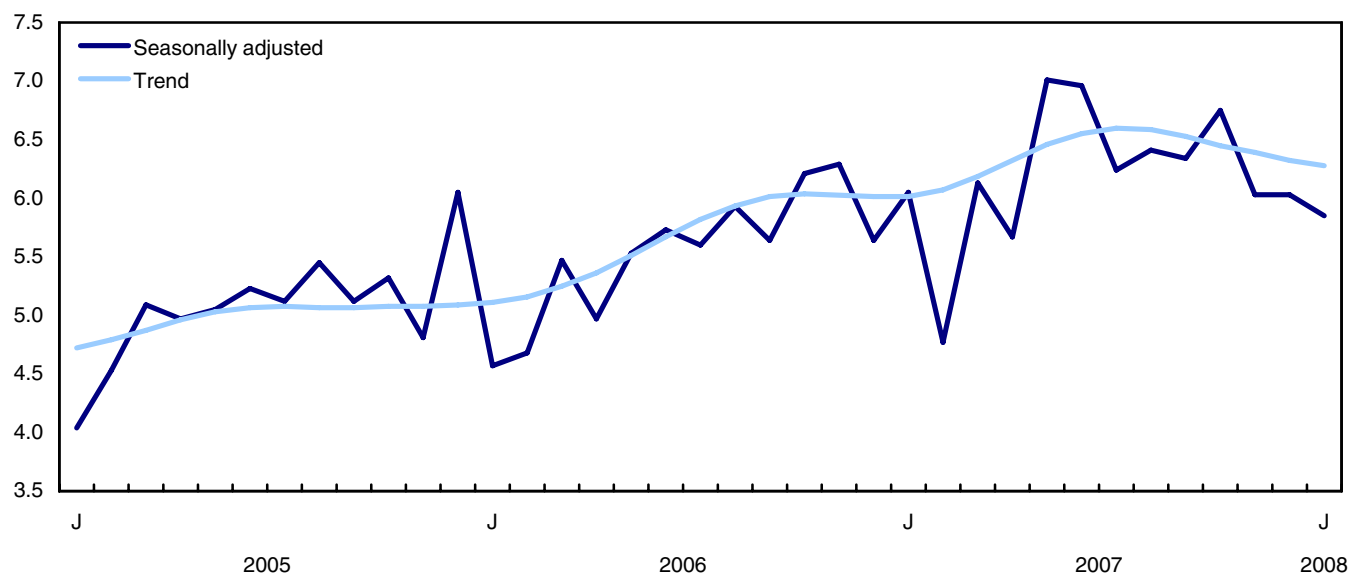
The total value of permits declined in 15 out of the 34 metropolitan areas in January. The largest decline occurred in Vancouver as \$427 million worth of permits were issued, the second lowest level since April 2006 (the lowest being in September 2007 when there was a municipal strike in the city of Vancouver). Marked declines occurred in both residential and non-residential sectors. Barrie and Saskatoon also showed substantial declines in January, after record levels in December 2007.

In contrast, significant increases occurred in Edmonton, London and Montréal due largely to projects in the non-residential sector.

In Toronto, a tremendous gain in the non-residential sector (+143.2%) was largely offset by a sharp decline in residential construction intentions.

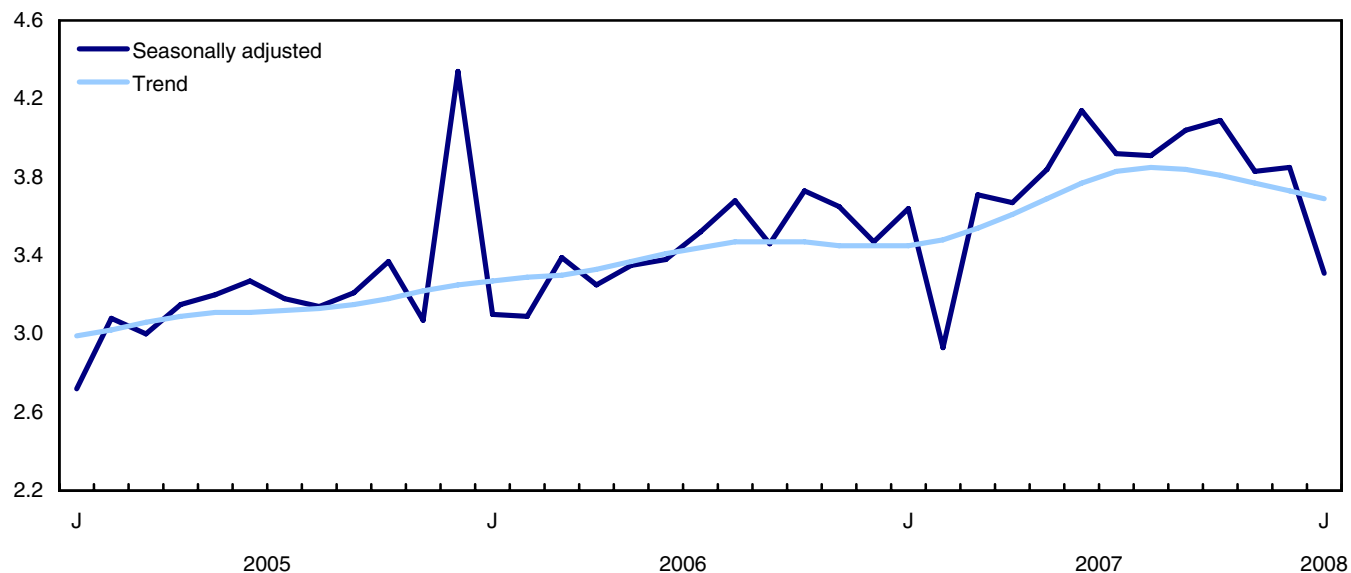
**Chart 1**  
**Total value of building permits**

billions of dollars

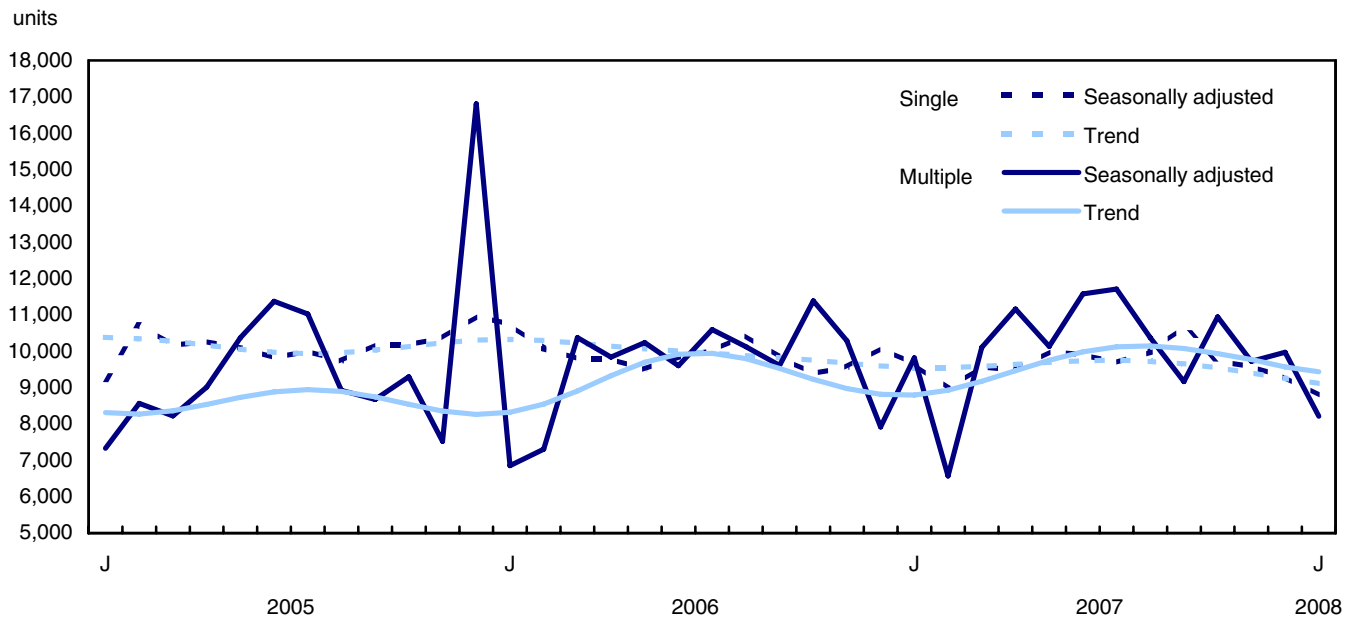


**Chart 2**  
**Residential value of building permits – Total**

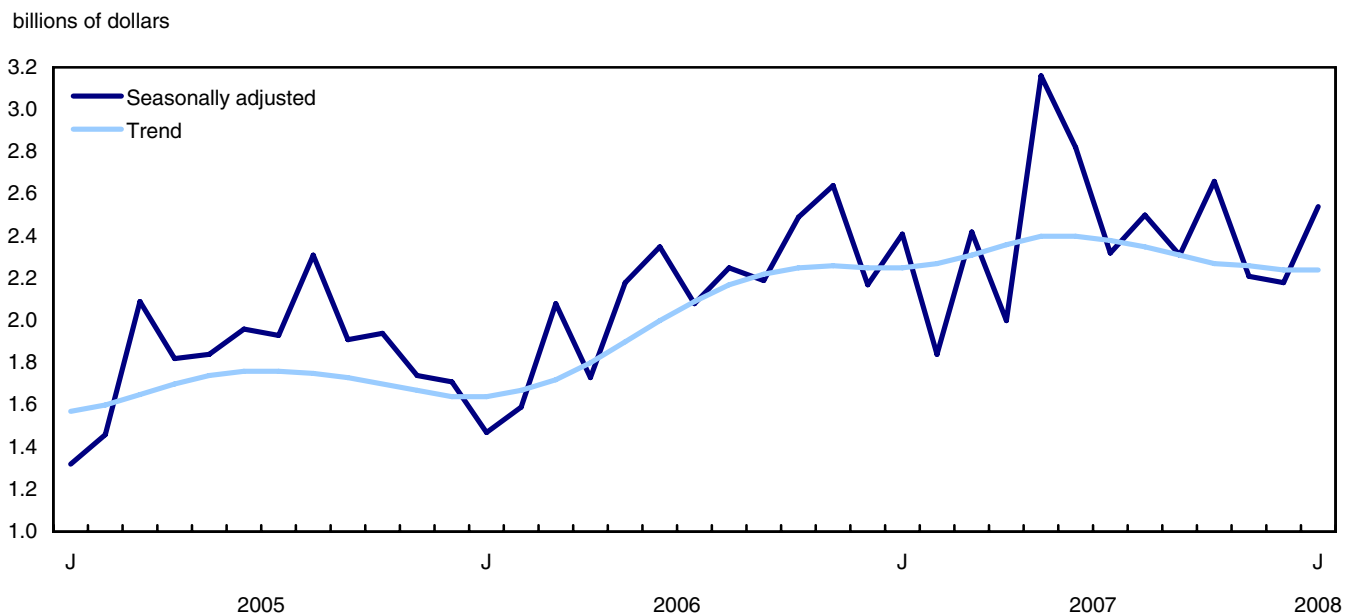
billions of dollars



**Chart 3**  
**Number of dwelling units – Single and multiple**

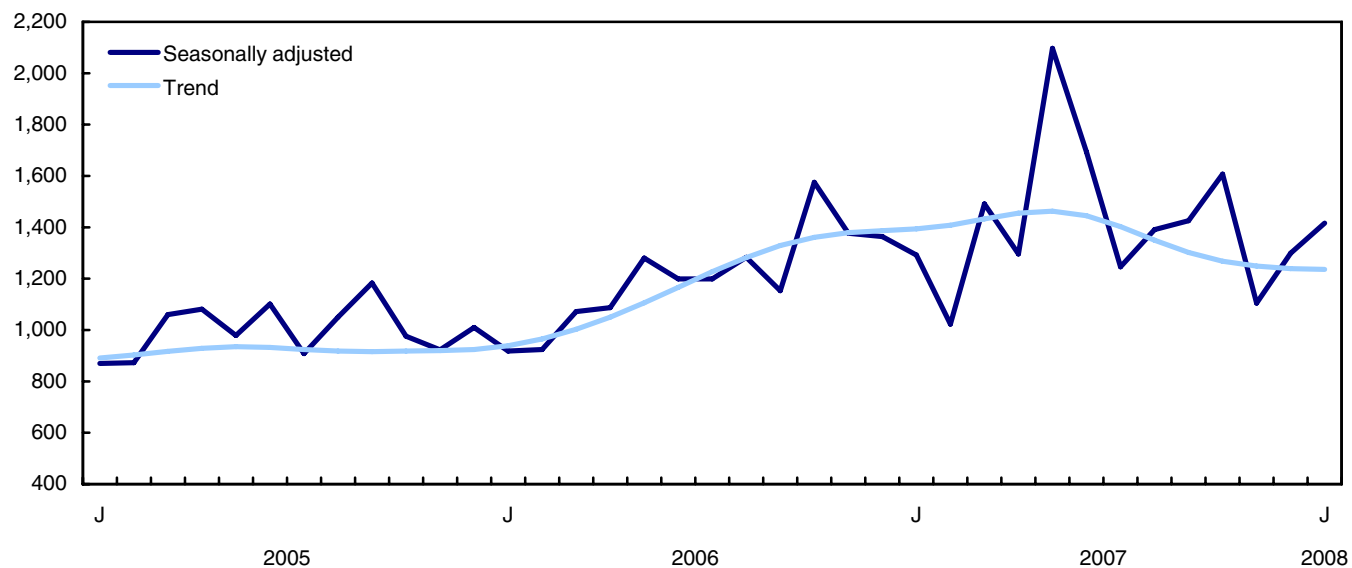


**Chart 4**  
**Non residential value of building permits – Total**



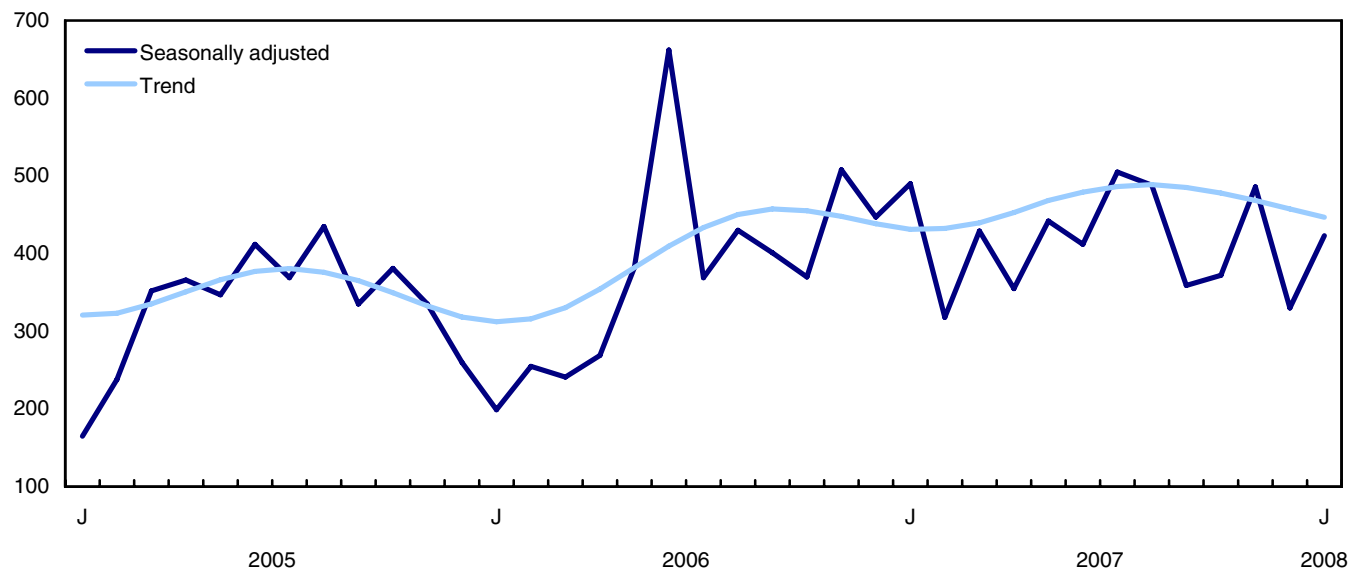
**Chart 5**  
**Commercial value of building permits**

millions of dollars



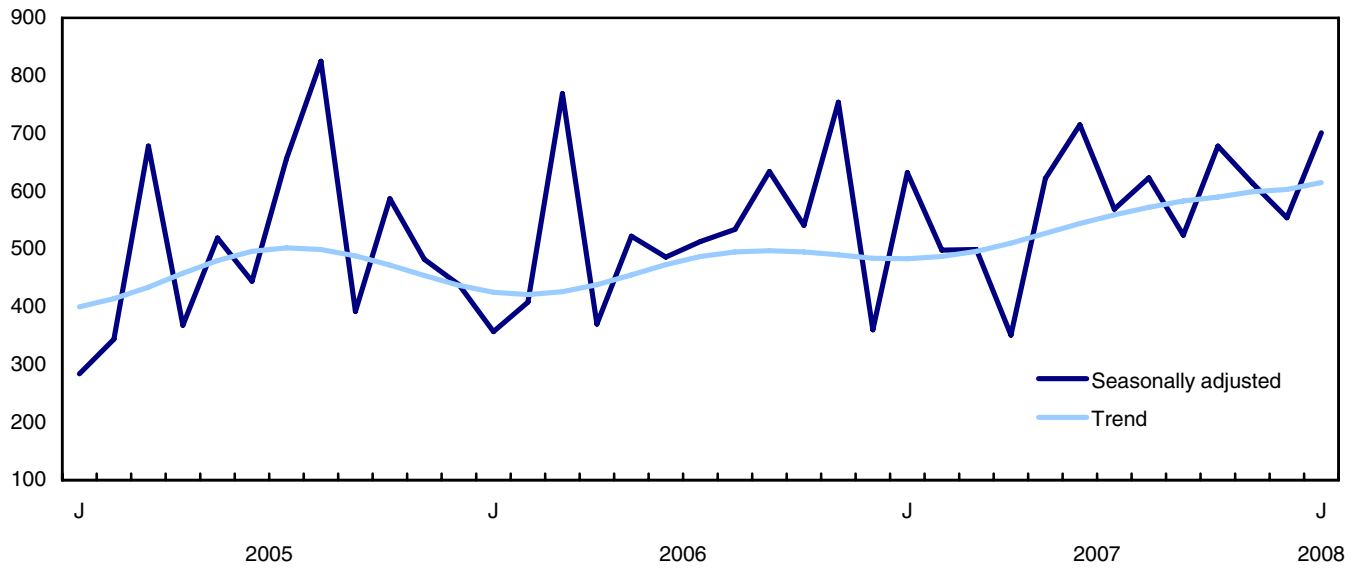
**Chart 6**  
**Industrial value of building permits**

millions of dollars



**Chart 7**  
**Institutional and governmental value of building permits**

millions of dollars



## Related products

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### Selected publications from Statistics Canada

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61-205-X	Private and Public Investment in Canada, Intentions
62-202-X	Spending Patterns in Canada
64-203-X	Building Permits, Annual Summary

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### Selected technical and analytical products from Statistics Canada

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62F0014M1996002	An Analysis of Some Construction Price Index Methodologies
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### Selected CANSIM tables from Statistics Canada

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026-0001	Building permits, residential values and number of units, by type of dwelling, monthly
026-0002	Building permits, dwelling units by type of dwelling and area, monthly
026-0003	Building permits, values by activity sector, monthly
026-0004	Building permits, values by activity sector and area, monthly
026-0005	Building permits, non-residential values by type of structure, monthly
026-0006	Building permits, by type of structure and area, seasonally adjusted, monthly
026-0007	Building permits, dwelling units by type of structure and value and by activity sector, monthly
026-0008	Building permits, values by activity sector, seasonally adjusted and unadjusted, monthly
026-0010	Building permits, residential and non-residential values by type of structure for Canada and urban centres, 10,000 and over, monthly

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### Selected surveys from Statistics Canada

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2802	Building Permits Survey
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## **Selected summary tables from Statistics Canada**

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- *Value of building permits, by province and territory (monthly)*
- *Value of building permits, by census metropolitan area (monthly)*
- *Economic indicators, by province and territory (monthly and quarterly)*
- *Value of building permits, by province and territory*
- *Value of building permits by type*

# Statistical tables

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**Table 1**  
**Total value of building permits, provinces and territories, seasonally adjusted**

	2008 January <sup>p</sup>	2007 December <sup>p</sup>	January to December	December to November	November to October	October to September	September to August	August to July
	thousands of dollars		percentage change					
<b>Canada</b>	<b>5,851,014</b>	<b>6,028,812</b>	<b>-2.9</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>-10.6</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>-1.0</b>	<b>2.7</b>
Newfoundland and Labrador	45,565	100,466	-54.6	68.7	19.9	-20.7	-10.3	26.8
Prince Edward Island	9,207	12,348	-25.4	-21.2	-37.8	148.9	-18.2	-9.6
Nova Scotia	75,633	73,406	3.0	-35.3	-7.7	9.4	-19.5	11.3
New Brunswick	70,139	50,371	39.2	-41.0	-11.3	29.6	-23.3	12.7
Quebec	988,756	970,364	1.9	-14.4	-5.8	12.9	-7.7	-0.1
Ontario	2,428,984	2,302,123	5.5	0.8	-5.4	-9.8	21.5	3.3
Manitoba	111,975	97,593	14.7	-11.5	-3.5	-14.3	9.5	-0.5
Saskatchewan	119,357	214,714	-44.4	81.2	-7.6	-5.5	-27.7	25.4
Alberta	1,184,142	1,136,775	4.2	-5.5	-17.6	18.1	-7.3	-2.2
British Columbia	815,323	1,050,525	-22.4	16.7	-20.3	37.6	-23.7	5.8
Yukon Territory	1,355	10,316	-86.9	509.3	-50.7	-58.4	42.2	-6.6
Northwest Territories	221	9,811	-97.7	174.1	121.6	-64.6	13.3	-59.0
Nunavut	357	0	...	-100.0	304.7	-64.2	-33.4	87.1

**Table 2**  
**Non-residential value of building permits, provinces and territories, seasonally adjusted**

	2008 January <sup>p</sup>	2007 December <sup>p</sup>	January to December	December to November	November to October	October to September	September to August	August to July
	thousands of dollars		percentage change					
<b>Canada</b>	<b>2,540,368</b>	<b>2,182,941</b>	<b>16.4</b>	<b>-1.0</b>	<b>-17.0</b>	<b>15.1</b>	<b>-7.7</b>	<b>7.9</b>
Newfoundland and Labrador	6,378	66,520	-90.4	227.1	104.5	-61.3	155.3	-50.5
Prince Edward Island	3,623	5,245	-30.9	76.4	-79.7	424.5	1.5	-17.4
Nova Scotia	10,158	22,123	-54.1	-50.9	-13.6	76.2	-21.1	-16.3
New Brunswick	26,108	10,381	151.5	-71.4	-21.8	69.9	-35.7	44.6
Quebec	303,385	266,157	14.0	-33.0	0.5	11.5	-6.0	-14.2
Ontario	1,374,470	814,375	68.8	-5.1	-11.1	-12.2	13.6	11.8
Manitoba	23,870	26,952	-11.4	23.9	-48.6	-11.9	85.5	-40.3
Saskatchewan	37,676	118,982	-68.3	139.1	23.2	-30.5	-47.5	47.7
Alberta	592,206	530,553	11.6	9.8	-40.5	78.1	-14.5	3.3
British Columbia	162,293	312,355	-48.0	8.6	4.2	35.9	-47.8	39.8
Yukon Territory	71	832	-91.5	110.1	-78.8	-45.3	23.7	172.0
Northwest Territories	130	8,466	-98.5	200.2	205.9	-36.5	-48.2	-37.6
Nunavut	0	0	...	-100.0	-88.0	27,733.3	-99.8	835.3

**Table 3**  
**Residential value of building permits, provinces and territories, seasonally adjusted**

	2008 January <sup>p</sup>	2007 December <sup>p</sup>	January to December	December to November	November to October	October to September	September to August	August to July
	thousands of dollars		percentage change					
<b>Canada</b>	<b>3,310,646</b>	<b>3,845,871</b>	<b>-13.9</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>-6.5</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>-0.3</b>
Newfoundland and Labrador	39,187	33,946	15.4	-13.5	-1.2	7.5	-38.2	72.1
Prince Edward Island	5,584	7,103	-21.4	-44.0	20.2	44.0	-23.8	-7.1
Nova Scotia	65,475	51,283	27.7	-25.0	-3.3	-14.5	-19.0	26.7
New Brunswick	44,031	39,990	10.1	-18.7	-1.5	6.2	-13.6	-3.9
Quebec	685,371	704,207	-2.7	-4.4	-9.0	13.6	-8.5	8.5
Ontario	1,054,514	1,487,748	-29.1	4.4	-1.6	-8.2	27.8	-2.5
Manitoba	88,105	70,641	24.7	-20.2	23.0	-15.7	-11.0	21.3
Saskatchewan	81,681	95,732	-14.7	39.3	-21.7	13.2	0.8	2.9
Alberta	591,936	606,222	-2.4	-15.8	11.0	-16.9	-2.5	-5.6
British Columbia	653,030	738,170	-11.5	20.5	-28.2	38.2	-10.0	-7.0
Yukon Territory	1,284	9,484	-86.5	631.2	-17.3	-67.7	59.0	-41.4
Northwest Territories	91	1,345	-93.2	77.2	9.5	-77.7	154.1	-77.0
Nunavut	357	0	...	-100.0	2,407.1	-94.4	-3.3	37.2

**Table 4**  
**Number of dwelling units authorized, province and territories, seasonally adjusted at annual rate**

	2008 January <sup>p</sup>	2007 December <sup>p</sup>	January to December	December to November	November to October	October to September	September to August	August to July
	units		percentage change					
<b>Canada</b>	<b>204,000</b>	<b>231,180</b>	<b>-11.8</b>	<b>-0.2</b>	<b>-6.6</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>-2.5</b>	<b>-4.9</b>
Newfoundland and Labrador	2,412	2,124	13.6	-18.8	-12.1	17.0	-47.9	101.5
Prince Edward Island	348	684	-49.1	-24.0	5.6	47.9	-27.3	3.1
Nova Scotia	4,224	3,252	29.9	-36.7	3.1	-4.2	-38.1	39.2
New Brunswick	3,744	3,648	2.6	-24.8	10.4	13.0	-14.5	-13.5
Quebec	52,056	52,080	0.0	-2.5	-8.6	14.8	-12.1	5.7
Ontario	63,480	84,636	-25.0	16.4	-8.4	-6.1	18.7	-7.5
Manitoba	5,088	6,324	-19.5	3.1	26.2	-23.4	-14.0	27.9
Saskatchewan	5,568	6,708	-17.0	30.9	-14.9	-3.5	26.2	-14.3
Alberta	32,988	35,004	-5.8	-29.2	26.5	-13.1	-3.0	-10.9
British Columbia	33,984	35,772	-5.0	15.2	-33.8	44.9	-13.5	-19.0
Yukon Territory	108	948	-88.6	887.5	-11.1	-60.9	15.0	-31.0
Northwest Territories	0	0	...	...	-100.0	-84.6	550.0	-89.5
Nunavut	0	0	...	-100.0	1,400.0	-90.0	-9.1	-15.4

**Table 5**  
**Dwelling units, value of residential and non-residential building permits, provinces and territories, seasonally adjusted, 2008**

	Number of dwelling units			Estimated value of construction					
	Singles <sup>1</sup>	Multiples	Total dwellings	Residential	Non-residential				Total
					Industrial	Commercial	Institutional and governmental	Total	
	units				thousands of dollars				
Canada									
December <sup>r</sup>	9,291	9,974	19,265	3,845,871	330,440	1,298,894	553,607	2,182,941	6,028,812
January <sup>p</sup>	8,784	8,216	17,000	3,310,646	423,328	1,416,302	700,738	2,540,368	5,851,014
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	8,784	8,216	17,000	3,310,646	423,328	1,416,302	700,738	2,540,368	5,851,014
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	9,645	9,818	19,463	3,636,872	489,567	1,292,500	632,419	2,414,486	6,051,358
Newfoundland and Labrador									
December <sup>r</sup>	167	10	177	33,946	647	17,562	48,311	66,520	100,466
January <sup>p</sup>	195	6	201	39,187	1,972	2,569	1,837	6,378	45,565
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	195	6	201	39,187	1,972	2,569	1,837	6,378	45,565
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	151	4	155	23,694	7,506	9,431	808	17,745	41,439
Prince Edward Island									
December <sup>r</sup>	49	8	57	7,103	4,778	362	105	5,245	12,348
January <sup>p</sup>	16	13	29	5,584	323	2,925	375	3,623	9,207
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	16	13	29	5,584	323	2,925	375	3,623	9,207
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	52	0	52	8,611	380	2,648	0	3,028	11,639
Nova Scotia									
December <sup>r</sup>	229	42	271	51,283	858	17,083	4,182	22,123	73,406
January <sup>p</sup>	297	55	352	65,475	1,965	7,386	807	10,158	75,633
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	297	55	352	65,475	1,965	7,386	807	10,158	75,633
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	271	35	306	52,107	3,854	13,623	3,396	20,873	72,980
New Brunswick									
December <sup>r</sup>	211	93	304	39,990	1,887	5,480	3,014	10,381	50,371
January <sup>p</sup>	289	23	312	44,031	353	13,788	11,967	26,108	70,139
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	289	23	312	44,031	353	13,788	11,967	26,108	70,139
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	221	8	229	35,951	276	18,812	1,093	20,181	56,132
Quebec									
December <sup>r</sup>	1,888	2,452	4,340	704,207	46,279	162,782	57,096	266,157	970,364
January <sup>p</sup>	1,914	2,424	4,338	685,371	28,301	222,310	52,774	303,385	988,756
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	1,914	2,424	4,338	685,371	28,301	222,310	52,774	303,385	988,756
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	1,872	1,925	3,797	634,346	29,806	202,506	100,672	332,984	967,330
Ontario									
December <sup>r</sup>	3,125	3,928	7,053	1,487,748	180,207	434,362	199,806	814,375	2,302,123
January <sup>p</sup>	2,589	2,701	5,290	1,054,514	238,575	683,612	452,283	1,374,470	2,428,984
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	2,589	2,701	5,290	1,054,514	238,575	683,612	452,283	1,374,470	2,428,984
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	3,181	3,076	6,257	1,275,968	380,241	461,592	339,461	1,181,294	2,457,262
Manitoba									
December <sup>r</sup>	357	170	527	70,641	3,664	20,418	2,870	26,952	97,593
January <sup>p</sup>	413	11	424	88,105	2,358	12,256	9,256	23,870	111,975
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	413	11	424	88,105	2,358	12,256	9,256	23,870	111,975
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	268	287	555	76,609	13,567	16,311	6,065	35,943	112,552
Saskatchewan									
December <sup>r</sup>	344	215	559	95,732	9,563	13,056	96,363	118,982	214,714
January <sup>p</sup>	346	118	464	81,681	2,266	22,695	12,715	37,676	119,357
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	346	118	464	81,681	2,266	22,695	12,715	37,676	119,357
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	279	95	374	58,043	1,123	22,456	17,525	41,104	99,147
Alberta									
December <sup>r</sup>	1,723	1,194	2,917	606,222	54,073	418,770	57,710	530,553	1,136,775
January <sup>p</sup>	1,624	1,125	2,749	591,936	131,483	324,283	136,440	592,206	1,184,142
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	1,624	1,125	2,749	591,936	131,483	324,283	136,440	592,206	1,184,142
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	2,306	1,686	3,992	749,997	30,912	341,194	49,748	421,854	1,171,851

See footnotes at the end of the table.

Table 5 – continued

**Dwelling units, value of residential and non-residential building permits, provinces and territories, seasonally adjusted, 2008**

	Number of dwelling units			Estimated value of construction					Total
	Singles <sup>1</sup>	Multiples	Total dwellings	Residential	Non-residential				
					Industrial	Commercial	Institutional and governmental		
	units			thousands of dollars					
<b>British Columbia</b>									
December <sup>r</sup>	1,119	1,862	2,981	738,170	27,164	201,158	84,033	312,355	1,050,525
January <sup>p</sup>	1,093	1,739	2,832	653,030	15,675	124,344	22,274	162,293	815,323
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	1,093	1,739	2,832	653,030	15,675	124,344	22,274	162,293	815,323
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	1,032	2,700	3,732	717,906	21,902	199,715	112,080	333,697	1,051,603
<b>Yukon Territory</b>									
December <sup>r</sup>	79	0	79	9,484	0	715	117	832	10,316
January <sup>p</sup>	8	1	9	1,284	7	54	10	71	1,355
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	8	1	9	1,284	7	54	10	71	1,355
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	9	0	9	2,182	0	200	1,571	1,771	3,953
<b>Northwest Territories</b>									
December <sup>r</sup>	0	0	0	1,345	1,320	7,146	0	8,466	9,811
January <sup>p</sup>	0	0	0	91	50	80	0	130	221
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	0	0	0	91	50	80	0	130	221
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	0	0	0	148	0	4,012	0	4,012	4,160
<b>Nunavut</b>									
December <sup>r</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
January <sup>p</sup>	0	0	0	357	0	0	0	0	357
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	0	0	0	357	0	0	0	0	357
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	3	2	5	1,310	0	0	0	0	1,310

1. Included in this category are the following types of dwellings: single-detached, mobile home and cottage.

Table 6

Dwelling units, value of residential and non-residential building permits, census metropolitan areas, seasonally adjusted, 2008

	Number of dwelling units			Estimated value of construction					Total
	Singles <sup>1</sup>	Multiples	Total dwellings	Residential	Non-residential				
					Industrial	Commercial	Institutional and governmental		
units									
thousands of dollars									
<b>Abbotsford, British Columbia</b>									
December <sup>r</sup>	59	0	59	11,821	359	8,160	8,369	16,888	28,709
January <sup>p</sup>	35	132	167	23,617	1,545	19,995	40	21,580	45,197
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	35	132	167	23,617	1,545	19,995	40	21,580	45,197
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	39	267	306	46,216	454	2,025	0	2,479	48,695
<b>Barrie, Ontario</b>									
December <sup>r</sup>	130	154	284	68,207	43,658	1,517	158	45,333	113,540
January <sup>p</sup>	82	1	83	17,699	1,670	2,022	229	3,921	21,620
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	82	1	83	17,699	1,670	2,022	229	3,921	21,620
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	35	4	39	9,075	1,388	4,528	406	6,322	15,397
<b>Brantford, Ontario</b>									
December <sup>r</sup>	19	29	48	5,439	565	239	0	804	6,243
January <sup>p</sup>	26	6	32	5,023	0	74	7,725	7,799	12,822
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	26	6	32	5,023	0	74	7,725	7,799	12,822
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	14	9	23	2,928	80	1,499	4,747	6,326	9,254
<b>Calgary, Alberta</b>									
December <sup>r</sup>	560	661	1,221	248,435	17,167	213,783	8,405	239,355	487,790
January <sup>p</sup>	426	346	772	164,655	86,068	146,079	12,023	244,170	408,825
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	426	346	772	164,655	86,068	146,079	12,023	244,170	408,825
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	621	251	872	201,777	7,661	209,221	16,713	233,595	435,372
<b>Edmonton, Alberta</b>									
December <sup>r</sup>	329	159	488	124,929	16,566	62,940	1,314	80,820	205,749
January <sup>p</sup>	351	411	762	169,634	28,479	67,163	77,993	173,635	343,269
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	351	411	762	169,634	28,479	67,163	77,993	173,635	343,269
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	752	853	1,605	262,338	14,485	52,650	22,304	89,439	351,777
<b>Greater Sudbury , Ontario</b>									
December <sup>r</sup>	28	4	32	7,333	990	570	2,038	3,598	10,931
January <sup>p</sup>	14	2	16	3,729	597	4,366	17,667	22,630	26,359
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	14	2	16	3,729	597	4,366	17,667	22,630	26,359
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	6	0	6	1,734	9,142	3,651	95,579	108,372	110,106
<b>Guelph, Ontario</b>									
December <sup>r</sup>	37	3	40	8,498	3,221	1,777	0	4,998	13,496
January <sup>p</sup>	32	31	63	9,007	447	1,131	14,470	16,048	25,055
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	32	31	63	9,007	447	1,131	14,470	16,048	25,055
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	31	23	54	8,106	70	4,204	180	4,454	12,560
<b>Halifax, Nova Scotia</b>									
December <sup>r</sup>	75	17	92	20,669	42	6,345	1,233	7,620	28,289
January <sup>p</sup>	139	6	145	31,165	127	5,470	729	6,326	37,491
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	139	6	145	31,165	127	5,470	729	6,326	37,491
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	84	18	102	20,388	280	9,510	46	9,836	30,224
<b>Hamilton, Ontario</b>									
December <sup>r</sup>	159	65	224	47,657	570	9,418	2,361	12,349	60,006
January <sup>p</sup>	154	75	229	48,111	8,068	20,577	18,922	47,567	95,678
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	154	75	229	48,111	8,068	20,577	18,922	47,567	95,678
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	197	223	420	70,266	577	9,804	3,554	13,935	84,201
<b>Kelowna, British Columbia</b>									
December <sup>r</sup>	99	247	346	71,787	1,044	7,863	21,726	30,633	102,420
January <sup>p</sup>	69	203	272	70,615	2,092	2,411	0	4,503	75,118
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	69	203	272	70,615	2,092	2,411	0	4,503	75,118
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	74	32	106	27,555	1,890	4,534	0	6,424	33,979

See footnotes at the end of the table.

Table 6 – continued

**Dwelling units, value of residential and non-residential building permits, census metropolitan areas, seasonally adjusted, 2008**

	Number of dwelling units			Estimated value of construction					Total
	Singles <sup>1</sup>	Multiples	Total dwellings	Residential	Non-residential			Total	
					Industrial	Commercial	Institutional and governmental		
	units			thousands of dollars					
<b>Kingston, Ontario</b>									
December <sup>r</sup>	31	13	44	6,753	1,568	1,911	100	3,579	10,332
January <sup>p</sup>	8	0	8	1,371	15	4,608	33	4,656	6,027
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	8	0	8	1,371	15	4,608	33	4,656	6,027
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	20	2	22	3,876	661	1,482	4,786	6,929	10,805
<b>Kitchener, Ontario</b>									
December <sup>r</sup>	149	111	260	45,755	9,959	41,908	40,748	92,615	138,370
January <sup>p</sup>	89	91	180	30,180	5,851	8,892	18,484	33,227	63,407
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	89	91	180	30,180	5,851	8,892	18,484	33,227	63,407
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	77	154	231	32,062	1,485	6,027	11	7,523	39,585
<b>London, Ontario</b>									
December <sup>r</sup>	123	38	161	34,485	6,527	5,578	7,661	19,766	54,251
January <sup>p</sup>	117	72	189	37,509	1,143	8,845	104,545	114,533	152,042
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	117	72	189	37,509	1,143	8,845	104,545	114,533	152,042
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	164	28	192	36,796	1,570	8,609	25,385	35,564	72,360
<b>Moncton, New Brunswick</b>									
December <sup>r</sup>	39	40	79	8,936	479	2,608	636	3,723	12,659
January <sup>p</sup>	42	0	42	4,793	0	10,384	7,377	17,761	22,554
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	42	0	42	4,793	0	10,384	7,377	17,761	22,554
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	63	0	63	6,637	85	1,998	374	2,457	9,094
<b>Montréal, Quebec</b>									
December <sup>r</sup>	763	1,171	1,934	321,768	24,891	69,211	13,711	107,813	429,581
January <sup>p</sup>	803	1,378	2,181	342,744	11,065	159,721	10,142	180,928	523,672
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	803	1,378	2,181	342,744	11,065	159,721	10,142	180,928	523,672
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	741	926	1,667	285,015	17,155	125,341	59,424	201,920	486,935
<b>Oshawa, Ontario</b>									
December <sup>r</sup>	147	69	216	46,833	972	26,687	112	27,771	74,604
January <sup>p</sup>	119	45	164	37,366	9,049	10,724	468	20,241	57,607
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	119	45	164	37,366	9,049	10,724	468	20,241	57,607
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	70	17	87	22,352	75,538	2,019	377	77,934	100,286
<b>Ottawa-Gatineau, Ontario part, Ontario/Quebec</b>									
December <sup>r</sup>	232	198	430	67,734	236	22,994	61,135	84,365	152,099
January <sup>p</sup>	149	472	621	84,670	480	119,202	944	120,626	205,296
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	149	472	621	84,670	480	119,202	944	120,626	205,296
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	137	108	245	42,236	23,063	72,324	40,911	136,298	178,534
<b>Ottawa-Gatineau, Quebec part, Ontario/Quebec</b>									
December <sup>r</sup>	147	292	439	59,058	7	8,660	661	9,328	68,386
January <sup>p</sup>	101	94	195	24,120	669	5,753	1,381	7,803	31,923
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	101	94	195	24,120	669	5,753	1,381	7,803	31,923
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	91	125	216	28,038	23	3,451	13,444	16,918	44,956
<b>Peterborough, Ontario</b>									
December <sup>r</sup>	17	5	22	5,608	1,577	3,880	0	5,457	11,065
January <sup>p</sup>	8	0	8	1,866	719	348	39	1,106	2,972
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	8	0	8	1,866	719	348	39	1,106	2,972
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	3	2	5	1,553	142	513	0	655	2,208
<b>Québec, Quebec</b>									
December <sup>r</sup>	169	451	620	82,485	2,584	62,680	2,893	68,157	150,642
January <sup>p</sup>	153	182	335	55,012	970	21,852	2,670	25,492	80,504
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	153	182	335	55,012	970	21,852	2,670	25,492	80,504
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	214	222	436	60,697	1,743	25,064	14,085	40,892	101,589

See footnotes at the end of the table.

Table 6 – continued

**Dwelling units, value of residential and non-residential building permits, census metropolitan areas, seasonally adjusted, 2008**

	Number of dwelling units			Estimated value of construction					Total
	Singles <sup>1</sup>	Multiples	Total dwellings	Residential	Non-residential			Total	
					Industrial	Commercial	Institutional and governmental		
	units			thousands of dollars					
<b>Regina, Saskatchewan</b>									
December <sup>r</sup>	111	0	111	21,775	0	3,190	1,118	4,308	26,083
January <sup>p</sup>	80	0	80	17,900	1,481	1,842	59	3,382	21,282
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	80	0	80	17,900	1,481	1,842	59	3,382	21,282
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	78	0	78	14,161	40	13,569	5,115	18,724	32,885
<b>Saguenay, Quebec</b>									
December <sup>r</sup>	6	1	7	2,874	0	430	0	430	3,304
January <sup>p</sup>	13	17	30	3,425	285	292	862	1,439	4,864
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	13	17	30	3,425	285	292	862	1,439	4,864
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	11	12	23	3,406	15	1,349	25	1,389	4,795
<b>Saint John, New Brunswick</b>									
December <sup>r</sup>	62	51	113	13,049	0	2,058	36	2,094	15,143
January <sup>p</sup>	120	0	120	12,176	25	523	134	682	12,858
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	120	0	120	12,176	25	523	134	682	12,858
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	72	7	79	11,270	130	6,255	0	6,385	17,655
<b>Saskatoon, Saskatchewan</b>									
December <sup>r</sup>	110	108	218	31,743	2,387	7,172	94,585	104,144	135,887
January <sup>p</sup>	128	95	223	30,791	139	11,585	10,759	22,483	53,274
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	128	95	223	30,791	139	11,585	10,759	22,483	53,274
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	140	94	234	29,408	351	6,689	9,691	16,731	46,139
<b>Sherbrooke, Quebec</b>									
December <sup>r</sup>	37	14	51	9,053	590	1,356	151	2,097	11,150
January <sup>p</sup>	65	80	145	20,947	206	2,641	209	3,056	24,003
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	65	80	145	20,947	206	2,641	209	3,056	24,003
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	51	51	102	14,870	230	3,010	630	3,870	18,740
<b>St. Catharines-Niagara, Ontario</b>									
December <sup>r</sup>	69	18	87	21,505	1,566	15,145	231	16,942	38,447
January <sup>p</sup>	53	91	144	27,417	1,350	13,595	345	15,290	42,707
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	53	91	144	27,417	1,350	13,595	345	15,290	42,707
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	44	4	48	11,319	560	8,029	393	8,982	20,301
<b>St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador</b>									
December <sup>r</sup>	121	10	131	25,207	35	13,581	15	13,631	38,838
January <sup>p</sup>	130	6	136	21,562	0	2,122	1,807	3,929	25,491
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	130	6	136	21,562	0	2,122	1,807	3,929	25,491
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	88	4	92	14,236	466	7,922	788	9,176	23,412
<b>Thunder Bay, Ontario</b>									
December <sup>r</sup>	1	0	1	669	100	1,907	932	2,939	3,608
January <sup>p</sup>	6	32	38	3,671	12	2,037	228	2,277	5,948
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	6	32	38	3,671	12	2,037	228	2,277	5,948
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	7	0	7	1,397	285	834	7,814	8,933	10,330
<b>Toronto, Ontario</b>									
December <sup>r</sup>	1,364	3,000	4,364	924,079	56,019	194,357	73,413	323,789	1,247,868
January <sup>p</sup>	948	1,539	2,487	486,764	165,531	415,237	206,733	787,501	1,274,265
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	948	1,539	2,487	486,764	165,531	415,237	206,733	787,501	1,274,265
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	1,579	2,314	3,893	804,086	114,668	258,010	65,268	437,946	1,242,032
<b>Trois-Rivières, Quebec</b>									
December <sup>r</sup>	45	58	103	15,494	1,908	1,602	0	3,510	19,004
January <sup>p</sup>	32	151	183	20,997	101	957	1,800	2,858	23,855
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	32	151	183	20,997	101	957	1,800	2,858	23,855
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	21	85	106	14,312	416	3,224	0	3,640	17,952

See footnotes at the end of the table.

Table 6 – continued

**Dwelling units, value of residential and non-residential building permits, census metropolitan areas, seasonally adjusted, 2008**

	Number of dwelling units			Estimated value of construction					Total
	Singles <sup>1</sup>	Multiples	Total dwellings	Residential	Non-residential				
					Industrial	Commercial	Institutional and governmental		
	units			thousands of dollars					
<b>Vancouver, British Columbia</b>									
December <sup>r</sup>	360	1,152	1,512	419,962	17,139	133,413	7,509	158,061	578,023
January <sup>p</sup>	381	1,122	1,503	333,841	7,348	69,119	16,635	93,102	426,943
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	381	1,122	1,503	333,841	7,348	69,119	16,635	93,102	426,943
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	378	1,835	2,213	434,134	8,563	133,306	75,237	217,106	651,240
<b>Victoria, British Columbia</b>									
December <sup>r</sup>	66	25	91	24,496	1,176	6,405	1,029	8,610	33,106
January <sup>p</sup>	78	98	176	46,494	1,504	5,712	609	7,825	54,319
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	78	98	176	46,494	1,504	5,712	609	7,825	54,319
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	73	159	232	45,365	1,662	2,841	32,893	37,396	82,761
<b>Windsor, Ontario</b>									
December <sup>r</sup>	13	18	31	9,004	588	61,728	239	62,555	71,559
January <sup>p</sup>	9	0	9	1,968	519	9,888	2,347	12,754	14,722
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	9	0	9	1,968	519	9,888	2,347	12,754	14,722
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	12	4	16	4,112	77	6,688	8,725	15,490	19,602
<b>Winnipeg, Manitoba</b>									
December <sup>r</sup>	166	165	331	42,260	2,160	18,003	2,793	22,956	65,216
January <sup>p</sup>	210	8	218	50,735	860	8,663	8,729	18,252	68,987
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	210	8	218	50,735	860	8,663	8,729	18,252	68,987
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	150	239	389	47,475	866	13,719	4,618	19,203	66,678

1. Included in this category are the following types of dwellings: single-detached, mobile home and cottage.



**Table 7**  
**Dwelling units, provinces and territories, unadjusted, 2008**

	Singles, includes mobile homes	Cottages	Doubles	Rows	Apartments	Conversions	Total dwellings
number of dwelling units							
<b>Canada</b>							
December <sup>r</sup>	5,444	10	701	1,639	7,130	568	15,492
January <sup>p</sup>	5,242	11	704	1,161	4,751	314	12,183
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	5,242	11	704	1,161	4,751	314	12,183
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	6,412	11	835	1,926	5,741	257	15,182
<b>Newfoundland and Labrador</b>							
December <sup>r</sup>	61	0	0	0	10	0	71
January <sup>p</sup>	46	0	0	0	6	0	52
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	46	0	0	0	6	0	52
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	34	0	0	0	4	0	38
<b>Prince Edward Island</b>							
December <sup>r</sup>	16	1	2	0	6	0	25
January <sup>p</sup>	4	0	0	0	13	0	17
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	4	0	0	0	13	0	17
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	14	0	0	0	0	0	14
<b>Nova Scotia</b>							
December <sup>r</sup>	112	4	7	22	11	2	158
January <sup>p</sup>	134	5	7	4	41	3	194
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	134	5	7	4	41	3	194
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	105	4	23	0	4	8	144
<b>New Brunswick</b>							
December <sup>r</sup>	73	2	16	3	69	5	168
January <sup>p</sup>	62	0	0	4	17	2	85
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	62	0	0	4	17	2	85
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	41	1	0	5	2	1	50
<b>Quebec</b>							
December <sup>r</sup>	1,040	0	254	165	2,000	87	3,546
January <sup>p</sup>	862	1	186	42	821	155	2,067
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	862	1	186	42	821	155	2,067
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	795	3	145	121	584	114	1,762
<b>Ontario</b>							
December <sup>r</sup>	2,017	1	211	973	2,337	416	5,955
January <sup>p</sup>	1,775	2	195	606	1,780	51	4,409
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	1,775	2	195	606	1,780	51	4,409
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	2,500	2	335	1,093	1,487	62	5,479
<b>Manitoba</b>							
December <sup>r</sup>	164	0	0	9	160	1	334
January <sup>p</sup>	237	1	7	0	4	0	249
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	237	1	7	0	4	0	249
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	134	0	25	27	234	1	421
<b>Saskatchewan</b>							
December <sup>r</sup>	199	0	4	12	199	1	415
January <sup>p</sup>	154	0	8	39	71	1	273
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	154	0	8	39	71	1	273
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	145	0	0	90	0	5	240
<b>Alberta</b>							
December <sup>r</sup>	1,064	2	125	147	922	0	2,260
January <sup>p</sup>	1,182	1	229	315	580	1	2,308
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	1,182	1	229	315	580	1	2,308
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	1,869	1	270	231	1,183	2	3,556
<b>British Columbia</b>							
December <sup>r</sup>	681	0	82	308	1,416	56	2,543
January <sup>p</sup>	785	1	72	151	1,418	100	2,527
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	785	1	72	151	1,418	100	2,527
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	771	0	37	359	2,243	62	3,472

Table 7 – continued

## Dwelling units, provinces and territories, unadjusted, 2008

	Singles, includes mobile homes	Cottages	Doubles	Rows	Apartments	Conversions	Total dwellings
	number of dwelling units						
<b>Yukon Territory</b>							
December <sup>r</sup>	17	0	0	0	0	0	17
January <sup>p</sup>	1	0	0	0	0	1	2
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	1	0	0	0	0	1	2
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
<b>Northwest Territories</b>							
December <sup>r</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
January <sup>p</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Nunavut</b>							
December <sup>r</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
January <sup>p</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	3	0	0	0	0	2	5

**Table 8**  
**Dwelling units, census metropolitan areas, unadjusted, January 2008**

	Singles, includes mobile homes	Cottages	Doubles	Rows	Apartments	Conversions	Total dwellings
	number of dwelling units						
Abbotsford, British Columbia	30	0	0	0	132	0	162
Barrie, Ontario	64	0	0	0	0	1	65
Brantford, Ontario	20	0	0	6	0	0	26
Calgary, Alberta	330	0	84	69	193	0	676
Edmonton, Alberta	272	0	114	153	143	1	683
Greater Sudbury, Ontario	11	0	0	0	2	0	13
Guelph, Ontario	25	0	4	23	0	4	56
Halifax, Nova Scotia	73	0	1	0	3	2	79
Hamilton, Ontario	120	0	8	67	0	0	195
Kelowna, British Columbia	59	0	0	13	190	0	262
Kingston, Ontario	6	0	0	0	0	0	6
Kitchener, Ontario	69	0	20	30	36	5	160
London, Ontario	91	0	2	39	30	1	163
Moncton, New Brunswick	10	0	0	0	0	0	10
Montréal, Quebec	421	0	78	7	551	83	1,140
Oshawa, Ontario	93	0	2	43	0	0	138
Ottawa-Gatineau, Ontario/Quebec	169	0	26	183	305	7	690
Ottawa-Gatineau, Ontario part, Ontario/Quebec	116	0	4	183	281	4	588
Ottawa-Gatineau, Quebec part, Ontario/Quebec	53	0	22	0	24	3	102
Peterborough, Ontario	6	0	0	0	0	0	6
Québec, Quebec	78	0	16	8	47	26	175
Regina, Saskatchewan	50	0	0	0	0	0	50
Saguenay, Quebec	7	0	0	0	4	5	16
Saint John, New Brunswick	29	0	0	0	0	0	29
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan	80	0	2	22	71	0	175
Sherbrooke, Quebec	34	0	8	0	33	1	76
St. Catharines-Niagara, Ontario	41	0	6	11	74	0	132
St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador	39	0	0	0	6	0	45
Thunder Bay, Ontario	5	0	0	0	32	0	37
Toronto, Ontario	739	0	141	171	1,197	30	2,278
Trois-Rivières, Quebec	17	0	28	0	40	11	96
Vancouver, British Columbia	322	0	34	58	951	81	1,446
Victoria, British Columbia	66	0	0	58	31	9	164
Windsor, Ontario	7	0	0	0	0	0	7
Winnipeg, Manitoba	178	0	4	0	4	0	186

**Table 9**  
**Dwelling units, census metropolitan areas, unadjusted, cumulative, January to January 2008**

	Singles, includes mobile homes	Cottages	Doubles	Rows	Apartments	Conversions	Total dwellings
	number of dwelling units						
Abbotsford, British Columbia	30	0	0	0	132	0	162
Barrie, Ontario	64	0	0	0	0	1	65
Brantford, Ontario	20	0	0	6	0	0	26
Calgary, Alberta	330	0	84	69	193	0	676
Edmonton, Alberta	272	0	114	153	143	1	683
Greater Sudbury, Ontario	11	0	0	0	2	0	13
Guelph, Ontario	25	0	4	23	0	4	56
Halifax, Nova Scotia	73	0	1	0	3	2	79
Hamilton, Ontario	120	0	8	67	0	0	195
Kelowna, British Columbia	59	0	0	13	190	0	262
Kingston, Ontario	6	0	0	0	0	0	6
Kitchener, Ontario	69	0	20	30	36	5	160
London, Ontario	91	0	2	39	30	1	163
Moncton, New Brunswick	10	0	0	0	0	0	10
Montréal, Quebec	421	0	78	7	551	83	1,140
Oshawa, Ontario	93	0	2	43	0	0	138
Ottawa-Gatineau, Ontario/Quebec	169	0	26	183	305	7	690
Ottawa-Gatineau, Ontario part, Ontario/Quebec	116	0	4	183	281	4	588
Ottawa-Gatineau, Quebec part, Ontario/Quebec	53	0	22	0	24	3	102
Peterborough, Ontario	6	0	0	0	0	0	6
Québec, Quebec	78	0	16	8	47	26	175
Regina, Saskatchewan	50	0	0	0	0	0	50
Saguenay, Quebec	7	0	0	0	4	5	16
Saint John, New Brunswick	29	0	0	0	0	0	29
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan	80	0	2	22	71	0	175
Sherbrooke, Quebec	34	0	8	0	33	1	76
St. Catharines-Niagara, Ontario	41	0	6	11	74	0	132
St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador	39	0	0	0	6	0	45
Thunder Bay, Ontario	5	0	0	0	32	0	37
Toronto, Ontario	739	0	141	171	1,197	30	2,278
Trois-Rivières, Quebec	17	0	28	0	40	11	96
Vancouver, British Columbia	322	0	34	58	951	81	1,446
Victoria, British Columbia	66	0	0	58	31	9	164
Windsor, Ontario	7	0	0	0	0	0	7
Winnipeg, Manitoba	178	0	4	0	4	0	186

Table 10

## Value of residential and non-residential building permits, provinces and territories, unadjusted, 2008

	Value of construction				Total
	Residential	Non-residential			
		Industrial	Commercial	Institutional and governmental	
thousands of dollars					
<b>Canada</b>					
December <sup>r</sup>	2,890,457	309,137	1,170,888	526,830	4,897,312
January <sup>p</sup>	2,346,868	398,573	1,092,216	679,957	4,517,614
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	2,346,868	398,573	1,092,216	679,957	4,517,614
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	2,719,824	487,427	1,086,445	624,804	4,918,500
<b>Newfoundland and Labrador</b>					
December <sup>r</sup>	12,649	647	17,562	48,311	79,169
January <sup>p</sup>	9,335	1,972	2,569	1,837	15,713
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	9,335	1,972	2,569	1,837	15,713
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	6,230	7,506	9,431	808	23,975
<b>Prince Edward Island</b>					
December <sup>r</sup>	3,414	4,778	362	105	8,659
January <sup>p</sup>	3,180	323	2,925	375	6,803
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	3,180	323	2,925	375	6,803
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	2,228	380	2,648	0	5,256
<b>Nova Scotia</b>					
December <sup>r</sup>	28,019	858	17,083	4,182	50,142
January <sup>p</sup>	31,916	1,965	7,386	807	42,074
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	31,916	1,965	7,386	807	42,074
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	25,824	3,854	13,623	3,396	46,697
<b>New Brunswick</b>					
December <sup>r</sup>	14,708	1,887	5,480	3,014	25,089
January <sup>p</sup>	11,121	353	13,788	11,967	37,229
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	11,121	353	13,788	11,967	37,229
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	8,201	276	18,812	1,093	28,382
<b>Quebec</b>					
December <sup>r</sup>	468,377	46,279	156,189	30,319	701,164
January <sup>p</sup>	329,859	28,301	164,900	31,993	555,053
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	329,859	28,301	164,900	31,993	555,053
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	286,460	29,806	138,045	93,057	547,368
<b>Ontario</b>					
December <sup>r</sup>	1,181,563	158,904	358,194	199,806	1,898,467
January <sup>p</sup>	810,119	213,820	457,956	452,283	1,934,178
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	810,119	213,820	457,956	452,283	1,934,178
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	1,039,585	378,101	348,724	339,461	2,105,871
<b>Manitoba</b>					
December <sup>r</sup>	36,468	3,664	20,418	2,870	63,420
January <sup>p</sup>	46,464	2,358	12,256	9,256	70,334
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	46,464	2,358	12,256	9,256	70,334
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	49,013	13,567	16,311	6,065	84,956
<b>Saskatchewan</b>					
December <sup>r</sup>	63,446	9,563	13,056	96,363	182,428
January <sup>p</sup>	41,679	2,266	22,695	12,715	79,355
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	41,679	2,266	22,695	12,715	79,355
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	31,846	1,123	22,456	17,525	72,950
<b>Alberta</b>					
December <sup>r</sup>	467,523	54,073	373,525	57,710	952,831
January <sup>p</sup>	496,368	131,483	283,263	136,440	1,047,554
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	496,368	131,483	283,263	136,440	1,047,554
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	624,246	30,912	312,468	49,748	1,017,374
<b>British Columbia</b>					
December <sup>r</sup>	609,730	27,164	201,158	84,033	922,085
January <sup>p</sup>	566,052	15,675	124,344	22,274	728,345
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	566,052	15,675	124,344	22,274	728,345
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	644,303	21,902	199,715	112,080	978,000

Table 10 – continued

## Value of residential and non-residential building permits, provinces and territories, unadjusted, 2008

	Value of construction				Total
	Residential	Non-residential			
		Industrial	Commercial	Institutional and governmental	
thousands of dollars					
<b>Yukon Territory</b>					
December <sup>r</sup>	3,215	0	715	117	4,047
January <sup>p</sup>	327	7	54	10	398
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	327	7	54	10	398
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	430	0	200	1,571	2,201
<b>Northwest Territories</b>					
December <sup>r</sup>	1,345	1,320	7,146	0	9,811
January <sup>p</sup>	91	50	80	0	221
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	91	50	80	0	221
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	148	0	4,012	0	4,160
<b>Nunavut</b>					
December <sup>r</sup>	0	0	0	0	0
January <sup>p</sup>	357	0	0	0	357
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2008	357	0	0	0	357
Cumulative Jan. to Jan. 2007	1,310	0	0	0	1,310

Table 11

## Value of residential and non-residential building permits, census metropolitan areas, unadjusted, January 2008

	Value of construction				Total
	Residential	Non-residential			
		Industrial	Commercial	Institutional and governmental	
thousands of dollars					
Abbotsford, British Columbia	22,755	1,545	19,995	40	44,335
Barrie, Ontario	14,130	1,670	1,346	229	17,375
Brantford, Ontario	4,158	0	49	7,725	11,932
Calgary, Alberta	152,266	86,068	146,079	12,023	396,436
Edmonton, Alberta	160,183	28,479	67,163	77,993	333,818
Greater Sudbury, Ontario	3,047	597	2,907	17,667	24,218
Guelph, Ontario	7,794	447	753	14,470	23,464
Halifax, Nova Scotia	16,164	127	5,470	729	22,490
Hamilton, Ontario	40,553	8,068	13,700	18,922	81,243
Kelowna, British Columbia	67,434	2,092	2,411	0	71,937
Kingston, Ontario	1,118	15	3,068	33	4,234
Kitchener, Ontario	26,605	5,851	5,920	18,484	56,860
London, Ontario	32,241	1,143	5,889	104,545	143,818
Moncton, New Brunswick	1,408	0	10,384	7,377	19,169
Montréal, Quebec	184,181	11,065	125,150	10,142	330,538
Oshawa, Ontario	31,222	9,049	7,140	468	47,879
Ottawa-Gatineau, Ontario/Quebec	91,452	1,149	83,870	2,325	178,796
Ottawa-Gatineau, Ontario part, Ontario/Quebec	78,576	480	79,362	944	159,362
Ottawa-Gatineau, Quebec part, Ontario/Quebec	12,876	669	4,508	1,381	19,434
Peterborough, Ontario	1,486	719	232	39	2,476
Québec, Quebec	29,648	970	17,122	2,670	50,410
Regina, Saskatchewan	10,194	1,481	1,842	59	13,576
Saguenay, Quebec	1,815	285	229	862	3,191
Saint John, New Brunswick	3,661	25	523	134	4,343
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan	22,024	139	11,585	10,759	44,507
Sherbrooke, Quebec	11,280	206	2,069	209	13,764
St. Catharines-Niagara, Ontario	24,787	1,350	9,051	345	35,533
St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador	7,399	0	2,122	1,807	11,328
Thunder Bay, Ontario	3,392	12	1,356	228	4,988
Toronto, Ontario	422,650	165,531	276,455	206,733	1,071,369
Trois-Rivières, Quebec	11,611	101	750	1,800	14,262
Vancouver, British Columbia	316,192	7,348	69,119	16,635	409,294
Victoria, British Columbia	43,336	1,504	5,712	609	51,161
Windsor, Ontario	1,567	519	6,583	2,347	11,016
Winnipeg, Manitoba	35,688	860	8,663	8,729	53,940

Table 12

Value of residential and non-residential building permits, census metropolitan areas, unadjusted, cumulative, January to January 2008

	Value of construction				Total
	Residential	Non-residential			
		Industrial	Commercial	Institutional and governmental	
	thousands of dollars				
Abbotsford, British Columbia	22,755	1,545	19,995	40	44,335
Barrie, Ontario	14,130	1,670	1,346	229	17,375
Brantford, Ontario	4,158	0	49	7,725	11,932
Calgary, Alberta	152,266	86,068	146,079	12,023	396,436
Edmonton, Alberta	160,183	28,479	67,163	77,993	333,818
Greater Sudbury, Ontario	3,047	597	2,907	17,667	24,218
Guelph, Ontario	7,794	447	753	14,470	23,464
Halifax, Nova Scotia	16,164	127	5,470	729	22,490
Hamilton, Ontario	40,553	8,068	13,700	18,922	81,243
Kelowna, British Columbia	67,434	2,092	2,411	0	71,937
Kingston, Ontario	1,118	15	3,068	33	4,234
Kitchener, Ontario	26,605	5,851	5,920	18,484	56,860
London, Ontario	32,241	1,143	5,889	104,545	143,818
Moncton, New Brunswick	1,408	0	10,384	7,377	19,169
Montréal, Quebec	184,181	11,065	125,150	10,142	330,538
Oshawa, Ontario	31,222	9,049	7,140	468	47,879
Ottawa-Gatineau, Ontario/Quebec	91,452	1,149	83,870	2,325	178,796
Ottawa-Gatineau, Ontario part, Ontario/Quebec	78,576	480	79,362	944	159,362
Ottawa-Gatineau, Quebec part, Ontario/Quebec	12,876	669	4,508	1,381	19,434
Peterborough, Ontario	1,486	719	232	39	2,476
Québec, Quebec	29,648	970	17,122	2,670	50,410
Regina, Saskatchewan	10,194	1,481	1,842	59	13,576
Saguenay, Quebec	1,815	285	229	862	3,191
Saint John, New Brunswick	3,661	25	523	134	4,343
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan	22,024	139	11,585	10,759	44,507
Sherbrooke, Quebec	11,280	206	2,069	209	13,764
St. Catharines-Niagara, Ontario	24,787	1,350	9,051	345	35,533
St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador	7,399	0	2,122	1,807	11,328
Thunder Bay, Ontario	3,392	12	1,356	228	4,988
Toronto, Ontario	422,650	165,531	276,455	206,733	1,071,369
Trois-Rivières, Quebec	11,611	101	750	1,800	14,262
Vancouver, British Columbia	316,192	7,348	69,119	16,635	409,294
Victoria, British Columbia	43,336	1,504	5,712	609	51,161
Windsor, Ontario	1,567	519	6,583	2,347	11,016
Winnipeg, Manitoba	35,688	860	8,663	8,729	53,940



**Table 13**  
**Value of the non-residential permits by type of building, provinces and territories, January 2008**

	Canada	Newfoundland and Labrador	Prince Edward Island	Nova Scotia	New Brunswick	Quebec	Ontario
thousands of dollars							
<b>Total non-residential</b>	<b>2,170,746</b>	<b>6,378</b>	<b>3,623</b>	<b>10,158</b>	<b>26,108</b>	<b>225,194</b>	<b>1,124,059</b>
<b>Industrial</b>	<b>398,573</b>	<b>1,972</b>	<b>323</b>	<b>1,965</b>	<b>353</b>	<b>28,301</b>	<b>213,820</b>
Factories, plants	198,214	500	0	1,050	0	7,465	156,631
Transportation, utilities	148,805	0	0	0	0	11,882	35,511
Mining and agriculture	13,248	1,400	0	0	0	2,425	4,590
Minor industrial projects, new and improvements <sup>1</sup>	38,306	72	323	915	353	6,529	17,088
<b>Commercial</b>	<b>1,092,216</b>	<b>2,569</b>	<b>2,925</b>	<b>7,386</b>	<b>13,788</b>	<b>164,900</b>	<b>457,956</b>
Trade and services	243,808	1,236	0	2,245	9,570	35,473	100,807
Warehouses	113,263	0	0	266	427	4,668	19,523
Service stations	27,615	0	300	0	0	300	19,264
Office buildings	395,261	0	2,150	1,000	819	25,254	234,721
Recreation	33,435	0	0	0	300	1,903	11,523
Hotels, restaurants	109,286	0	0	0	0	53,227	11,186
Laboratories	22,560	0	0	0	0	19,735	0
Minor commercial projects, new and improvements <sup>1</sup>	146,988	1,333	475	3,875	2,672	24,340	60,932
<b>Institutional and governmental</b>	<b>679,957</b>	<b>1,837</b>	<b>375</b>	<b>807</b>	<b>11,967</b>	<b>31,993</b>	<b>452,283</b>
Schools, education	176,899	0	0	0	10,900	10,697	124,886
Hospitals, medical	367,966	0	0	729	0	5,490	275,282
Welfare, home	70,344	1,600	0	0	0	6,544	26,876
Churches, religion	17,747	0	375	0	0	1,000	7,893
Government buildings	24,426	0	0	0	0	2,665	9,641
Minor institutional and governmental projects, new and improvements <sup>1</sup>	22,575	237	0	78	1,067	5,597	7,705
	Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Alberta	British Columbia	Yukon Territory	Northwest Territories	Nunavut
thousands of dollars							
<b>Total non-residential</b>	<b>23,870</b>	<b>37,676</b>	<b>551,186</b>	<b>162,293</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Industrial</b>	<b>2,358</b>	<b>2,266</b>	<b>131,483</b>	<b>15,675</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>0</b>
Factories, plants	0	750	23,875	7,943	0	0	0
Transportation, utilities	0	704	100,036	672	0	0	0
Mining and agriculture	1,350	0	2,175	1,308	0	0	0
Minor industrial projects, new and improvements <sup>1</sup>	1,008	812	5,397	5,752	7	50	0
<b>Commercial</b>	<b>12,256</b>	<b>22,695</b>	<b>283,263</b>	<b>124,344</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>0</b>
Trade and services	4,043	1,680	51,556	37,198	0	0	0
Warehouses	994	5,236	72,195	9,954	0	0	0
Service stations	0	1,720	6,031	0	0	0	0
Office buildings	1,185	6,047	104,104	19,981	0	0	0
Recreation	0	0	601	19,108	0	0	0
Hotels, restaurants	958	4,630	24,314	14,971	0	0	0
Laboratories	0	0	2,825	0	0	0	0
Minor commercial projects, new and improvements <sup>1</sup>	5,076	3,382	21,637	23,132	54	80	0
<b>Institutional and governmental</b>	<b>9,256</b>	<b>12,715</b>	<b>136,440</b>	<b>22,274</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Schools, education	300	6,487	14,229	9,400	0	0	0
Hospitals, medical	7,171	2,500	73,094	3,700	0	0	0
Welfare, home	250	0	33,024	2,050	0	0	0
Churches, religion	870	0	5,685	1,924	0	0	0
Government buildings	250	2,869	6,809	2,192	0	0	0
Minor institutional and governmental projects, new and improvements <sup>1</sup>	415	859	3,599	3,008	10	0	0

1. Refer to projects valued at less than \$250,000 for which the breakdown by type of building is not available.

## Description – Monthly survey of building permits

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The following information should be used to ensure a clear understanding of the basic concepts that define the data provided in this product, of the underlying methodology of the survey, and of key aspects of the data quality. This information will provide you with a better understanding of the strengths and limitations of the data, and of how they can be effectively used and analysed. The information may be of particular importance to you when making comparisons with data from other surveys or sources of information, and in drawing conclusions regarding change over time.

## Data source and methodology

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The purpose of the **Monthly Survey of Building Permits** issued by Canadian municipalities is to collect data on construction intentions. The results of this survey are used by C.M.H.C. (Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation) as a reference base for conducting a monthly survey of housing starts and completions in accordance with its mandate. The statistics on building permits are also essential for the computation of capital expenditures. Furthermore, since the issuance of a building permit is one of the first steps in the construction process, these statistics are widely used as a leading indicator of building activity.

**General methodology :** The Building Permits Survey covers all Canadian municipalities that issue permits. The number of Canadian municipalities currently surveyed approximately 2,400, representing all the provinces and territories. They account for 95% of the Canadian population. Participation in the survey is mandatory; the survey does not use a predetermined sample of municipalities. The communities representing the other 5% of the population are very small, and their level of building activity have little impact on the total. In practice, all urban agglomerations are represented in the survey, as well as a fair percentage of rural municipalities. With certain exceptions, the minimum coverage corresponds to the municipalities already included in the Housing Starts and Completions C.M.H.C.'s Survey. Non-responding municipalities that issue permits are urged on a regular basis to respond to the Building Permit Survey. Therefore, the number of municipalities covered is increasing continually.

The survey is usually conducted by mail, although certain municipalities choose to respond by telephone. The municipal officer responsible for issuing permits is asked to fill out a form each month describing all major construction projects.

The municipalities forward a copy of their completed report to Statistics Canada Head Office and another copy to the local office of the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (C.M.H.C.). To reduce their overhead, an increasing number of respondents are producing a computerized report. Only those municipalities that are late in reporting and that are included in the above-mentioned C.M.H.C. survey are subject to follow-up by telephone.

The reports received at Statistics Canada Head Office are verified, coded and processed.

Strict quality control procedures are applied to ensure that collection, coding and data processing are as accurate as possible. Checks are also performed on totals and the magnitude of data. Reports that fail to meet the quality standards are subject to verification and are corrected as required.

Imputations are required for each characteristic for which no report has been received. These are calculated automatically, subject to certain constraints, by applying to previously used values, the month-to-month and year-to-year changes in similar values of responding municipalities and the historical pattern of the missing municipalities. No estimation is done for lack of coverage, concealment or the underevaluation of permits issued. For this reason, the sampling error cannot be computed.

The monthly statistics are not corrected for cancelled or expired permits. According to the municipal officers, the proportion of cancelled and unused permits is below 5%.

**Reference period :** The reference period for data collection purposes is the calendar month. Reports from municipalities which are part of a census metropolitan area or a census agglomeration must be received within 20 days following the month of reference. The other municipalities have 30 days to produce their reports. Results are released between 35 and 40 days after the end of the reference month. Annual data for the preceding calendar year are released with the data for the January survey month.

**Revisions :** Two types of revisions can affect the results of the Building Permits Survey:

### Revisions due to the correction of coding errors

These types of revisions are done on a monthly basis only to the data pertaining to the month preceding the reference period.

### Revisions due to the addition of late reports

Late reports for the month preceding the reference period are incorporated into the survey results on a continuing basis. However, reports received after the two-month deadline following the reference month are introduced only at the end of the year. As a result, the data for the last twelve months are subject to revision.

**Seasonal adjustment** : Seasonal changes cause predictable fluctuations in the data. The data series disseminated includes both seasonally adjusted (i.e., excludes predictable annual influences) and the unadjusted data. Seasonally adjusted data for the total number of housing units as well as for the aggregate value of building permits are obtained indirectly, i.e., by adding their seasonally adjusted components. The total number of dwelling units is obtained by summing the seasonally adjusted data for single-family and multiple-use units; the total value of building permits is obtained by summing the following elements: single-family and multiple-family dwellings, industrial, commercial and institutional. Some series contain no apparent seasonality. In these cases, unadjusted values have been tabulated and aggregated to the adjusted values of the other series. At the end of the year, the chronological series adjusted for seasonality are revised to take into account the most recent seasonal fluctuations. Generally, these revisions apply only to the last three years in the series. The revised data are introduced into the CANSIM databank.

## Concepts and variables measured

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The statistical data presented in this product refers to the number of dwelling units authorized and the **value of building permits**. The value of the permits reported includes the following expenditures: materials, labour, profit and overhead. The cost of land is never included in the estimated value of the permit while acquisition costs (legal fees, surveying fees and accrued interest) may be included at times.

The classification used in this publication deals strictly with structures for which a building permit was issued. Permits are generally issued for the following: construction of new buildings, alterations, additions, renovations, etc. Minor repair jobs such as painting, tiling, roofing, etc., for which no permit is required, and engineering work (such as dams, roads, pipelines, etc.), which, by definition, is not a building, are not included in the building permit series. Estimates of such work may be obtained on Cansim, tables 029-0039 to 029-0040 for the «Capital expenditures by type of asset» and tables 029-0005 to 029-0024 and 032-0001 to 032-0002 for the «Private and Public Investment in Canada Intentions» (cat. no. 61-205-X).

The description given by the municipalities as to the type of building (box #6 of Section A on the form) and the type of work involved (box #7 of Section A on the form) forms the basis for classification. The classification of buildings into major groups and subgroups is based on the following: intended use in the case of new buildings; present or intended use of buildings to which improvements are to be made; present use of the existing structure where the proposed construction is intended to provide additional facilities; principal use of the structure where the proposed construction has more than one intended use; however, where the building contains dwellings, the value of the construction is divided between residential and non-residential use.

## Building categories

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This publication, uses the following classification for the **value of permits issued** for construction of new buildings or for improvements: residential, industrial, commercial, institutional and government.

**Residential** : Includes all buildings intended for private occupancy whether on a permanent basis or not. Dwellings are divided into the following types: single-family, mobile, cottage, semi-detached, row house and apartment building.

**Industrial** : Includes all buildings used for manufacturing and processing; transportation, communication and other utilities, and agriculture, forestry and mining.

**Commercial** : Includes all buildings used to house activities related to the tertiary sector, such as stores, warehouses, garages, office buildings, theatres, hotels, funeral parlours and beauty salons.

**Institutional and Government** : Includes expenditures made by the community, public and government for buildings and structures like schools, universities, hospitals, clinics, churches, homes for the aged.

The **number of dwelling units** indicates the number of self contained dwelling units created. This should not be confused with the number of structures. For example, an apartment building containing six dwellings will be shown as six dwelling units. When an existing structure is converted into additional housing units, the number of units added is included. This publication uses the following classification for dwelling units:

**Single-family** : Refers to dwellings commonly called "**single house**". It includes single dwellings that are completely isolated on all sides, including single dwellings linked to other dwellings below ground. Included are bungalows, split levels, two-storey single-family homes built by conventional methods or prefabricated.

**Mobile homes** : Refers to houses designed and constructed to be transported on their own chassis and for easy moving.

**Cottage** : Refers to dwellings that cannot be occupied year-round or on a permanent basis because the facilities required for comfort are inadequate.

**Double or Semi-detached** : Refers to dwellings in which each of the two dwellings are side by side and joined by a common wall or garage, but not attached to any other building and surrounded by open space.

**Row Dwellings** : Refers to a row of three or more dwellings attached to each other without dwellings above or below.

**Apartment Building** : Includes dwellings in a variety of buildings such as duplexes, semi-detached duplexes, triplexes, row duplexes, apartments as such and dwellings adjacent to non-residential structures.

**Conversion** : Refers to the number of dwellings added by conversion of existing structures.

## Geographic classification

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Geographic entities are classified according to Standard Geographical Classification (SGC) used by Statistics Canada. Each reporting entity is assigned a twelve-digit SGC code for identification according to the following geographic levels:

**Province and territory (PR)** : There are ten provinces and three territories.

**Economic region (ER)** : Refers to intraprovincial regions established by the Standards Division of Statistics Canada. There are seventy-six ERs.

**Census division (CD)** : Refers to a group of census subdivisions established by provincial law. There are two hundred and eighty-eight CDs (data on this geographic group is available on request).

**Census metropolitan area (CMA)** : Its delineation corresponds to the 2006 Census definition. The term CMA refers to the main labour market area of an urban area (the urbanized core) of at least 100,000 population, based on the Census population figures. The thirty-three CMAs are shown in this publication. Although the 2006 Census defines the Ottawa-Gatineau area as a single CMA, the area is shown in this publication as two separate entities since it is located in two different provinces.

**Census agglomeration (CA)** : Refers to the smaller labour market area of an urbanized core of at least 10,000 population, as defined by the 2006 Census. There are one hundred and eleven CAs in Canada. When a CA overlaps the boundaries of two provinces, it is shown partly in each province. The Lloydminster agglomeration is an exception to this rule. It is treated as if it was totally located in Alberta.

**Other municipalities of at least 10,000 population** : Refers to municipalities not included in census agglomerations but with populations of at least 10,000 inhabitants. The distinction is made between these municipalities and CAs in order to permit comparison between the Building Permits Survey and the Housing Starts and Completions Survey which refers to this geographical concept.

**Rural area** : Refers to all geographic entities not included in a CMA or CA and not identified as an urban centre by the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation.

**Census subdivision (CSD)** : Refers to the general term applying to municipalities, Indian reserves, Indian settlements and unorganized territories. However, since Indian reserves and settlements do not issue building permits, they are not included in this publication.

**Non-standard geographic unit** : The geographic units shown in this publication do not all satisfy the above definition of census subdivision. Some provincial or municipal administrations producing monthly reports do not correspond to the official geographic entities; they are nevertheless shown in this publication under the geographic entity used by these administrations. These so-called non-standard geographic units are few in number and are mostly concentrated in the Maritime provinces.

### Territorial revisions

Territorial boundaries were established according to the 2006 Census definitions. Changes in boundaries, status or name of census subdivisions between censuses are introduced in this publication on a yearly basis. Changes affecting the other geographic units (CMAs, CAs, CDs and ERs) are introduced every five years, eighteen months following the census.

## Data accuracy

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Since the building permit data are extracted from municipal administrative documents, two types of response errors are possible: errors attributable to the permit applicant and errors in transcription by the responding municipality. However, experience has shown that transcription errors are not very common and the increasing number of municipalities producing computerized reports tends to reduce the frequency of this type of error. Errors attributable to an understatement of the cost of construction are more probable. Since permit fees are in most cases based on the value of the construction, this leads unquestionably to under-estimation of project values.

The other source of error are the processing error and the non-response error. In 2007, more than 99% of the municipalities covered by the survey sent their monthly Building Permits reports.



## Comparability of data and related sources

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Comparison of data must be done with reservation considering that the methods of issuing permits and the methods of estimating building values can differ from one municipality to another. Also, comparisons involving different periods must take into account the constant increase in the number of municipalities participating in the survey.

This publication contains only part of the data produced on building permits. However, you may order unpublished tables or address special requests, to the Current Investment Indicators Section (613-951-6321 or 1-800-579-8533). The series presented here is also available on CANSIM: Tables 026-0001 to 026-0008 and 026-0010.

# Appendix I

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## Geographical abbreviations

C	Cité / City
CC	Chartered community
CÉ	Cité
CG	Community government
CM	County (municipality)
CN	Colonie de la couronne / Crown colony
COM	Community
CT	Canton (municipalité de)
CU	Cantons unis (municipalité de)
CY	City
DM	District municipality
HAM	Hamlet
ID	Improvement district
IGD	Indian government district
IM	Island municipality
IRI	Réserve indienne / Indian reserve
LGD	Local government district
LOT	Township and royalty
M	Municipalité / Municipality
MD	Municipal district
MÉ	Municipalité
MU	Municipality
NH	Northern hamlet
NL	Nisgaa land
NO	Non organisé / Unorganized
NV	Northern village
NVL	Nisgaa village
P	Paroisse (municipalité de) / Parish
PE	Paroisse (municipalité de)
RCR	Communauté rurale / Rural community
RDA	Regional district electoral area
RG	Region
RGM	Regional municipality
RM	Rural municipality
RV	Resort village
S-É	Établissement indien / Indian settlement
SA	Special area
SC	Subdivision municipalité de comté / Subdivision of county municipality
SÉ	Établissement / Settlement
SET	Settlement
SM	Specialized municipality
SNO	Subdivision non organisée / Subdivision of unorganized
SV	Summer village
T	Town

TC	Terres réservées aux Cris
TI	Terre inuite
TK	Terres réservées aux Naskapis
TL	Teslin land
TP	Township
TV	Ville / Town
V	Ville
VC	Village cri
VK	Village naskapi
VL	Village
VN	Village nordique