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Dominion Statistician: R.H.Coats, B.A., F.S.S.(Hon.), F.R.S.C.  
Chief, General Statistics Branch: S.A.Cudmore, M.A., F.S.S.

BUILDING PERMITS FOR APRIL, 1929, WITH COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS FOR MARCH, 1929, AND APRIL, 1928, AND CUMULATIVE FIGURES FOR FIRST FOUR MONTHS, 1920-1929.

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics tabulated returns from 61 cities which granted building permits valued at \$29,621,097 during April, as compared with \$24,057,456 in the preceding month and \$18,606,167 in the same month of last year. There was, therefore, an increase of \$5,563,641 or 23.1 p.c. in the first comparison, and of \$11,014,930 or 59.2 p.c. in the second. The aggregate for the elapsed months of this year - \$72,516,702 - exceeds that for any other since the record was begun in 1920, while building costs continue lower than in most years of the record.

Some 50 cities furnished detailed statistics, showing that they had issued nearly 1,700 permits for dwellings valued at over \$9,000,000 and for some 4,000 other buildings estimated to cost more than \$17,000,000. In March, authority was given for the erection of some 1,200 dwellings and 1,900 other buildings, valued at approximately \$4,700,000 and \$18,000,000, respectively.

Nova Scotia, Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia recorded increases in the value of the building permits issued during April as compared with March, the greatest gains, of \$3,531,686 or 53.1 p.c., and \$2,552,095 or 177.7 p.c., taking place in Ontario and British Columbia, respectively.

As compared with April, 1928, all provinces except Alberta reported increases in the value of the building authorized. Quebec indicated the most pronounced advance, of \$3,786,151, or 126.5 p.c. Alberta recorded a loss of \$400,463 or 18.5 p.c.

Of the larger cities, Toronto and Winnipeg registered increases in the building authorized during April as compared with the preceding month and with April, 1928; in Montreal, there was a decline in the former, but an increase in the latter comparison. Of the smaller centres, Halifax, New Glasgow, Moncton, Quebec, Sherbrooke, Three Rivers, Brantford, Fort William, Galt, Guelph, Niagara Falls, Ottawa, Peterborough, Port Arthur, Stratford, St. Catharines, St. Thomas, Sault Ste. Marie, Windsor, Ford, Riverside, Sandwich, Woodstock, Brandon, Regina, Saskatoon, Medicine Hat, Kamloops, Nanaimo, New Westminster and Victoria reported increases in the value of the permits issued as compared with March, 1929, and April 1928.

CUMULATIVE RECORD FOR FIRST FOUR MONTHS, 1929.

The following table gives the value of the building authorized by 61 cities during April and in the first four months of each year since 1920, as well as index numbers for the latter, based upon the total for 1920 as 100. The average index numbers of wholesale prices of building materials in the first four months of the same years are also given (1926=100).

Year	Value of permits issued		Indexes of value of permits issued first four months (1920=100)	Average indexes of wholesale prices of building materials in first four months (1926 average=100)
	In April	In first Four Months		
	\$	\$		
1929	29,621,097	72,516,702	209.8	99.2
1928	18,606,167	51,769,505	149.8	96.8
1927	17,312,470	42,340,823	122.5	96.8
1926	19,044,499	41,538,073	120.2	101.7
1925	15,482,383	35,463,398	102.6	103.1
1924	13,689,101	31,737,100	91.8	111.6
1923	19,530,851	39,008,970	112.9	110.8
1922	15,833,688	34,513,861	99.9	107.7
1921	13,500,360	27,069,872	78.3	136.9
1920	15,648,915	34,558,901	100.	143.1

The aggregate for the first four months of this year was 40.1 p.c. greater than in 1928, the previous high level of the record, while the average index number of wholesale prices of the building materials continued lower than in most years since 1920.

Table 1 gives the value of the building permits issued by 61 cities during April and March, 1929, and April, 1928. The 35 cities for which records are available since 1910 are marked thus "x".





Estimated Cost of Building Work as Indicated by Permits Issued by 61 Cities.

Cities	April, 1929	March, 1929	April, 1928
	\$	\$	\$
Prince Edward Island - Charlottetown	- 3/	15,000	Nil
Nova Scotia	1,520,931	568,365	153,555
x Halifax	1,419,295	551,070	97,260
New Glasgow	81,875	Nil	26,715
x Sydney	19,761	17,295	29,580
New Brunswick	208,004	304,410	120,595
Fredericton	- 3/	13,000	10,115
x Moncton	65,350	2,645	52,580
x Saint John	142,454	288,765	57,900
Quebec	6,778,155	11,373,955	2,992,004
x Montreal - Maisonneuve	4,955,460	10,954,170	1,862,030
x Quebec	995,620	233,145	331,084
Shawinigan Falls	42,525	30,315	80,065
x Sherbrooke	87,000	35,060	23,600
x Three Rivers	255,075	74,275	124,175
x Westmount	442,475	46,990	571,050
Ontario	10,181,793	6,650,107	7,925,141
Belleville	13,515	7,800	87,655
x Brantford	75,116	17,740	58,235
Chatham	46,225	20,200	49,175
x Fort William	1,035,225	53,025	96,300
Galt	58,133	28,800	30,443
x Guelph	48,465	28,125	43,876
x Hamilton	353,150	786,350	814,800
x Kingston	86,759	32,785	171,732
x Kitchener	272,141	302,843	133,830
x London	206,985	101,450	336,725
Niagara Falls	150,628	29,150	104,895
Oshawa	69,750	61,050	379,880
x Ottawa	900,000	160,430	351,150
Owen Sound	6,000	28,000	12,100
x Peterborough	131,040	24,515	38,827
x Port Arthur	75,125	23,875	71,230
x Stratford	59,485	26,680	9,435
x St. Catharines	328,903	34,135	98,220
x St. Thomas	22,340	12,225	4,915
Sarnia	42,055	37,575	48,575
Sault Ste Marie	89,634	17,050	39,496
x Toronto	3,850,436	2,830,217	3,103,740
York & East York Townships	919,830	1,029,530	1,018,406
Welland	18,530	1,490	44,480
x Windsor	737,966	426,965	463,438
Ford	117,300	91,186	105,900
Riverside	96,450	28,625	63,500
Sandwich	38,375	27,950	17,225
Walkerville	234,000	355,000	85,000
Woodstock	98,232	25,341	41,958
Manitoba	1,972,315	1,019,275	1,633,190
x Brandon	68,600	10,925	24,990
St. Boniface	34,765	16,100	150,300
x Winnipeg	1,868,950	992,250	1,457,900
Saskatchewan	3,205,536	1,158,140	1,052,770
x Moose Jaw	46,990	5,575	50,360
x Regina	2,185,458	779,745	413,005
x Saskatoon	972,088	372,820	589,405
Alberta	1,766,147	1,532,083	2,166,610
x Calgary	935,907	688,448	1,407,750
x Edmonton	528,785	798,825	568,615
Lethbridge	135,125	27,705	185,765
Medicine Hat	166,330	17,105	4,480
British Columbia	3,988,216	1,436,121 1/	2,562,302
Kamloops	31,464	15,675	23,347
Nanaimo	6,000	4,100	3,220
x New Westminster	125,300	81,940	123,800
Prince Rupert	- 3/	800	18,000
x Vancouver 2/	1,481,295	1,226,250	1,715,207
North Vancouver	10,425	21,475	485,740
x Victoria	2,333,732	85,881	192,988
Total - 61 Cities	29,621,097	24,057,456 1/	18,606,157
x Total - 35 Cities 1/	27,113,931	22,107,434	14,892,712

1/ Revised Total

2/ Includes Point Grey and South Vancouver formerly given separately. From Jan. 1, 1929, when the amalgamation of these cities was effected, the total for the 35 cities includes the "Greater Vancouver" aggregate instead of that of the area formerly known as Vancouver.

3/ Data not received.

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