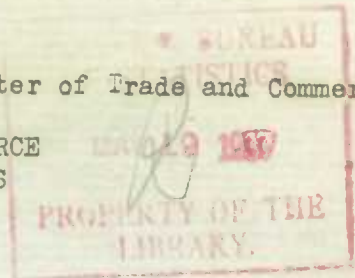


64 001

Published by Authority of Hon. W. D. Euler, M.P., Minister of Trade and Commerce

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE  
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS  
GENERAL STATISTICS BRANCH  
OTTAWA - CANADA



Issued May 18, 1937.

---

Dominion Statistician:	R. H. Coats, LL.D., F.R.S.C., F.S.S.(Hon.)
In Charge Employment Statistics:	M. E. K. Roughsedge.

---

BUILDING PERMITS FOR APRIL, 1937, WITH COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS FOR MARCH, 1937,  
AND APRIL, 1936, AND CUMULATIVE FIGURES FOR FIRST FOUR MONTHS, 1920-1937.

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics tabulated returns from 58 cities which granted permits for construction work valued at \$6,098,036 during April, as compared with \$6,654,516 in the preceding month, and \$3,237,366 in the same month of last year. There was, therefore, a decline of \$556,480 or 8.4 p.c. as compared with March, but in the more significant comparison with April, 1936, there was an increase of \$2,860,670, or 88.4 p.c.

The estimated value of the construction authorized in the first four months of the present year was \$16,568,165; this was considerably higher than the aggregate of \$8,829,837 reported in the period January-April, 1936, being also higher than in these months of any other year since 1931. The cumulative total for the first four months in each of the last six years has been very much lower than in any earlier year of the record; the wholesale prices of building materials, though showing an upward movement in recent months, continue below the average for the seventeen years, 1920 to 1936.

Some 50 cities furnished detailed statistics for April, 1937, showing that they had issued more than 500 permits for dwellings valued at approximately \$1,800,000, and for over 2,700 other buildings, estimated to cost almost \$3,400,000. There was also reported one engineering project, valued at \$357,000. In March, authority was given for the erection of about 370 dwellings and 1,600 other buildings, valued at approximately \$1,210,000 and \$5,400,000, respectively.

Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta recorded increases in the value of the building represented by the permits issued during April as compared with the preceding month, the greatest gain of \$764,079 or 119.4 p.c. taking place in Quebec. In Ontario and British Columbia there were in this comparison declines of \$1,192,677 or 30.5 p.c. and \$828,410, or 44.3 p.c., respectively.

As compared with April, 1936, there were increases in Nova Scotia, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and British Columbia, that of \$1,386,619 or 104.3 p.c. in Ontario and \$970,045 or 218.4 p.c. in Quebec being most noteworthy. In this comparison, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick and Alberta showed declines, of which that of \$389,069 or 59.6 p.c. in Alberta was greatest.

Three of the four largest cities, - Montreal, Toronto and Winnipeg - registered increases in the building authorized during April as compared with the preceding month, and also as compared with April, 1936. In Vancouver, the value was lower than in March, 1937, but higher than in April of last year. Of the other centres, Halifax, New Glasgow, Sydney, Moncton, Saint John, Shawinigan Falls, Sherbrooke, Three Rivers, Westmount, Fort William, Guelph, Hamilton, Kingston, Kitchener, London, Niagara Falls, Owen Sound, Port Arthur, St. Catharines, Sarnia, Sault Ste. Marie, Welland, Riverside, Woodstock, Brandon, St. Boniface, Moose Jaw, Saskatoon, Lethbridge, Medicine Hat, Nanaimo and North Vancouver reported increases in the value of the permits issued as compared with March, 1937, and also with April, 1936.



CUMULATIVE RECORD FOR FIRST FOUR MONTHS, 1920-1937.

The following table gives the value of the building authorized by 58 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 1926 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 in April	Value of permits issued in first four months	Indexes of value of permits issued in first four months (1926=100)	Average indexes of wholesale prices of building materials in first four months, (1926 average =100)
1937	\$6,098,036	\$16,568,165	39.9	93.8
1936	3,237,366	8,829,837	21.3	84.2
1935	6,300,046	14,807,316	35.6	81.5
1934	2,269,157	4,980,156	12.0	82.4
1933	1,595,502	4,661,323	11.2	75.1
1932	4,370,863	13,823,873	33.3	79.1
1931	13,495,165	38,241,259	92.1	83.7
1930	16,978,076	46,471,338	111.9	96.2
1929	29,656,709	72,606,937	174.8	99.4
1928	18,606,167	51,769,505	124.6	95.7
1927	17,312,470	42,340,823	101.9	96.3
1926	19,044,499	41,538,073	100.0	101.7
1925	15,482,383	35,463,398	85.4	103.1
1924	13,689,101	31,737,100	76.4	111.6
1923	19,530,851	39,008,970	93.9	110.8
1922	15,833,688	34,513,861	83.1	107.7
1921	13,500,360	27,069,872	65.2	136.9
1920	15,648,915	34,558,901	83.2	143.1

As already stated, the aggregate for the first four months of this year was decidedly higher than in the same period of 1936, and also substantially exceeded that for any preceding year since 1931. The index numbers of wholesale prices of building materials in 1937, though higher than in the months, January-April in any of the preceding six years, continue lower than in the same period in each of the years, 1920-1930.

Table 1 gives the value of the building permits issued by 58 cities during April and March, 1937, and April, 1936. The 35 cities for which records are available since 1910 are marked thus "x".



Estimated Value of Construction Work as Indicated by Building Permits Issued by 58 Cities.

C i t i e s	April 1937 \$	March 1937 \$	April 1936 \$
P.E.I.- Charlottetown	5,725	4,590	11,675
Nova Scotia	170,339	82,140	108,865
x Halifax	113,799	75,905	102,215
New Glasgow	18,550	250	Nil
x Sydney	37,990	5,985	6,650
New Brunswick	55,834	16,326	61,100
Fredericton	1,400	Nil	37,550
x Moncton	37,660	11,500	10,415
x Saint John	16,774	4,826	13,135
Quebec	1,414,261	640,182	444,216
x Montreal - x Maisonneuve	1,033,065	491,782	304,766
x Quebec	60,356	71,760	35,590
Shawinigan Falls	17,225	3,850	7,525
x Sherbrooke	180,000	30,500	23,175
x Three Rivers	37,315	8,690	32,350
x Westmount	86,300	33,600	40,810
Ontario	2,716,529	3,909,206	1,329,910
Belleville	7,580	36,575	5,350
x Brantford	9,640	10,925	6,138
Chatham	9,300	11,200	37,975
x Fort William	43,480	2,475	23,725
Galt	22,517	40,885	16,925
x Guelph	19,912	6,775	4,251
x Hamilton	189,864	107,231	106,896
x Kingston	36,395	16,770	12,883
x Kitchener	129,728	33,038	26,662
x London	179,885	61,965	59,285
Niagara Falls	15,115	3,572	9,485
Oshawa	1,200	950	16,345
x Ottawa	223,355	768,315	71,485
Owen Sound	10,879	Nil	6,113
x Peterborough	18,484	10,795	26,872
x Port Arthur	421,087	10,170	12,900
x Stratford	6,687	7,530	755
x St. Catharines	85,069	17,252	15,874
x St. Thomas	1,812	2,750	3,530
Sarnia	9,023	6,580	5,720
Sault Ste. Marie	43,640	6,045	27,735
x Toronto	908,436	527,018	530,942
York & East York Townships	236,559	163,400	239,700
Welland	11,873	8,294	8,080
x Windsor	58,409	2,041,881	39,835
Riverside	6,300	3,350	4,700
Woodstock	10,300	3,465	9,749
Manitoba	287,100	37,045	67,725
x Brandon	8,775	4,100	925
St. Boniface	22,825	2,945	1,200
x Winnipeg	255,500	30,000	65,600
Saskatchewan	142,956	23,930	55,976
x Moose Jaw	5,910	4,235	1,200
x Regina	37,146	11,155	40,816
x Saskatoon	99,900	8,540	13,960
Alberta	263,574	70,969	652,643
x Calgary	61,939	33,049	212,343
x Edmonton	155,880	34,320	408,225
Lethbridge	42,405	3,600	31,525
Medicine Hat	3,350	Nil	550
British Columbia	1,041,718	1,870,128	505,256
Kamloops	5,900	4,700	18,990
Nanaimo	16,786	3,020	6,142
x New Westminster	53,600	60,670	24,990
Prince Rupert	500	1,425	320
x Vancouver	922,620	1,754,630	396,040
North Vancouver	6,080	2,110	2,070
x Victoria	36,232	43,573	56,704
Total - 58 Cities	6,098,036	6,654,516	3,237,366
Total - x 35 Cities	5,573,004	6,349,860	2,731,942



1010544914

*[Faint, illegible text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page]*