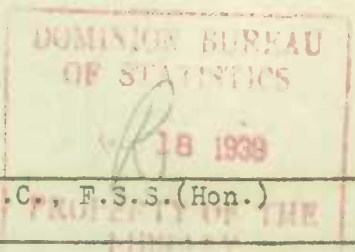


DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND COMMERCE  
DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS  
GENERAL STATISTICS BRANCH  
OTTAWA - CANADA



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BUILDING PERMITS FOR APRIL, 1939, WITH COMPARATIVE STATEMENTS FOR MARCH, 1939,  
AND APRIL, 1938, AND CUMULATIVE FIGURES FOR FIRST FOUR MONTHS, 1920-1939.

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics tabulated returns from 58 cities which granted permits for construction work valued at \$5,936,806 during April, as compared with \$3,351,194 in the preceding month, and \$4,890,677 in the same month of last year. There was, therefore, an increase of \$2,585,612 or 58.3 p.c. as compared with March, and of \$1,046,129 or 21.4 p.c. over April of last year.

The estimated value of the construction authorized in the first four months of the present year was \$12,888,791; this was slightly higher than the aggregate of \$12,775,777 reported in the period, January-April, 1938, although it was lower than in 1937. The cumulative total for the first four months in each of the years since 1931 has been decidedly smaller than the average in the period since 1919. The wholesale prices of building materials have recently been rather lower than in the same months of 1938 or 1937, but were higher than in other years since 1930.

Some 50 cities furnished detailed statistics for April, 1939, showing that they had issued more than 500 permits for dwellings valued at approximately \$1,800,000 and for over 2,300 other buildings, estimated to cost almost \$3,600,000. There were also two engineering projects valued at \$7,000. In March, authority was given for the erection of about 300 dwellings and 1,400 other buildings, valued at approximately \$1,000,000 and \$2,100,000, respectively.

All provinces except Prince Edward Island reported increases in the value of the building represented by the permits issued during April as compared with the preceding month, the greatest advance of \$1,229,309 or 158.8 p.c. taking place in Quebec. The return for Prince Edward Island shows that no permits were taken out during the month under review.

As compared with April, 1938, there were increases in New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba and British Columbia. In this comparison also, the largest gain was in Quebec, where the permits were higher in value by \$1,159,173 or 137.3 p.c. Declines from April, 1938, were recorded in the remaining provinces, that of \$535,659 or 53.1 p.c. in Alberta being most pronounced.

Of the four largest cities, Montreal, Winnipeg and Vancouver showed increases in the building authorized during April as compared with the preceding month, and also over April, 1938. In Toronto, the estimated value was lower than in March, 1939, but was slightly higher than in April of last year. Of the other centres, Sydney, Moncton, Quebec, Sherbrooke, Brantford, Chatham, Fort William, Galt, Guelph, Hamilton, Kingston, Kitchener, London, Oshawa, Port Arthur, St. Catharines, Sault Ste. Marie, Welland, St. Boniface, Calgary, Lethbridge, Kamloops and North Vancouver reported increases in the value of the construction work represented by the permits issued, as compared with March, 1939, and also with April, 1938.

CUMULATIVE RECORD FOR FIRST FOUR MONTHS, 1920-1939.

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).

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO  
DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

January 19, 1954

Dr. J. H. Goldstein  
Department of Chemistry  
University of Chicago  
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Dr. Goldstein:

I have received your letter of January 15, 1954, regarding the  
analysis of the sample of polyethylene which you have  
kindly placed at my disposal. I am sorry that I cannot  
provide you with a more definitive answer at this time.

The sample of polyethylene which you have provided me with  
is of the high density type, and it is possible that the  
analysis of this sample will be more difficult than that of  
the low density type. I am sorry that I cannot provide you  
with a more definitive answer at this time.

I am sorry that I cannot provide you with a more definitive  
answer at this time. I am sorry that I cannot provide you  
with a more definitive answer at this time.

I am sorry that I cannot provide you with a more definitive  
answer at this time. I am sorry that I cannot provide you  
with a more definitive answer at this time.

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answer at this time. I am sorry that I cannot provide you  
with a more definitive answer at this time.

REMARKS ON THE ANALYSIS OF POLYETHYLENE

The analysis of polyethylene is a difficult task, and it is  
possible that the analysis of this sample will be more  
difficult than that of the low density type. I am sorry  
that I cannot provide you with a more definitive answer  
at this time.

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)
1939	5,936,806	12,888,791	31.0	87.4
1938	4,890,677	12,775,777	30.8	91.2
1937	6,106,693	16,634,685	40.0	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	72,506,937	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 slightly larger than in the same period of 1938; it was also greater than in 1936, 1934 or 1933, but was exceeded by the January-April total in 1937, 1935 or 1932 and also by the figures for preceding years for which data are available. The index numbers of wholesale prices of building materials in 1939 were lower than in the months, January-April in 1938 or 1937, but were rather higher than in earlier years since 1930.

Table 1 gives the value of the building permits issued by 58 cities during April and March, 1939, and April, 1938. The 35 cities for which records are available since 1910 are marked thus "x".





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

Cities	April 1939	March 1939	April 1938
	\$	\$	\$
P.E.I. - Charlottetown	1/	Nil	6,100
Nova Scotia	87,865	83,958	156,606
x Halifax	46,800	80,670	116,396
New Glasgow	4,175	88	18,640
x Sydney	36,890	3,200	21,570
New Brunswick	87,630	9,785	47,386
Fredericton	2,000	Nil	8,000
x Moncton	73,250	4,285	23,250
x Saint John	12,380	5,500	16,136
Quebec	2,003,415	774,106	844,242
x Montreal - x Maisonneuve	761,375	623,905	482,352
x Quebec	1,002,720	70,510	100,235
Shawinigan Falls	22,250	20,875	34,805
x Sherbrooke	166,550	33,800	70,200
x Three Rivers	29,250	14,005	33,400
x Westmount	21,270	11,011	123,250
Ontario	2,011,521	1,481,325	1,641,759
Belleville	3,455	5,750	3,400
x Brantford	97,020	29,180	10,580
Chatham	46,700	7,700	8,624
x Fort William	89,435	32,059	23,745
Galt	47,773	12,150	29,761
x Guelph	13,075	2,155	5,000
x Hamilton	275,313	115,102	139,235
x Kingston	36,848	13,801	22,475
x Kitchener	58,842	38,687	43,400
x London	104,960	44,960	93,375
Niagara Falls	7,890	10,525	77,910
Oshawa	10,500	325	10,165
x Ottawa	189,040	55,900	338,470
Owen Sound	5,570	2,000	15,050
x Peterborough	26,642	3,225	28,735
x Port Arthur	53,110	30,563	37,565
x Stratford	11,365	200	14,429
x St. Catharines	168,910	9,360	10,833
x St. Thomas	12,545	1,786	14,495
Sarnia	3,870	7,592	10,832
Sault Ste. Marie	73,150	47,150	22,750
x Toronto	514,467	876,475	503,698
York & East York Townships	92,545	98,050	106,960
Welland	29,875	330	21,750
x Windsor	27,955	30,527	30,030
Riverside	6,450	3,200	8,050
Woodstock	4,216	2,573	10,442
Manitoba	330,760	92,125	254,640
x Brandon	4,075	6,300	4,355
St. Boniface	29,235	9,375	23,585
x Winnipeg	297,450	76,450	226,700
Saskatchewan	41,229	34,376	94,853
x Moose Jaw	3,875	270	7,665
x Regina	35,344	25,381	78,633
x Saskatoon	2,010	8,725	8,555
Alberta	474,060	165,219	1,009,719
x Calgary	196,190	37,424	75,639
x Edmonton	173,165	95,785	926,965
Lethbridge	104,705	31,860	6,065
Medicine Hat	Nil	150	1,050
British Columbia	900,326	710,300	835,372
Kamloops	10,555	2,745	2,440
Nanaimo	4,420	8,250	9,300
x New Westminster	64,660	182,450	51,050
Prince Rupert	12,195	39,640	7,030
x Vancouver	750,155	400,005	703,445
North Vancouver	15,140	6,610	15,025
x Victoria	43,201	70,600	47,082
Total - 58 Cities	5,936,806	3,351,194	4,890,677
Total -x 35 Cities	5,400,137	3,035,256	4,432,943

1/ Report not received in time for April tabulation.

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