

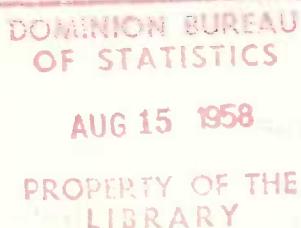
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BUILDING PERMITS

JUNE, 1958

Memorandum



Published by Authority of
The Honourable Gordon Churchill, Minister of Trade and Commerce

DOMINION BUREAU OF STATISTICS

General Assignments Division

Forecast Surveys Section

EXPLANATORY NOTES

When the second and all subsequent columns are blank, it indicates that a "nil" report was received or that the value was less than \$500.

- (1) The figure "1", in the first column of the table, indicates that only annual totals are given in the memorandum covering the years 1951 to 1956.
- (2) The figure "2", in the second column of the table, indicates that the report was not received from the municipality in time for publication. Late returns for the current month will be shown in the memorandum for the following month.
- (3) The figure "3", in the first column of the table, indicates the municipality was added to the survey in 1958.

Abbreviations used -

Twp. - Township	SV - Summer Village
Tp. - Township	Dist. - District
MD. - Municipal District	Reg. - Regulated

BUILDING PERMITS

June, 1958

This series of monthly memoranda, setting forth data on building permits issued by municipalities, is intended to provide information on construction activity in relatively small areas. In order to provide a comparison over time, a memorandum covering similar information for the same areas for the years 1951-1956 inclusive, has been prepared and is available on request.

The increasing interest in economic factors affecting the growth of small areas, both rural and urban, has resulted in the Bureau receiving many requests for information concerning the value and volume of building permits issued. Usually these requests are for data in specific areas and in the past, special compilations had to be prepared to meet each individual request. This procedure is both time consuming and expensive. In addition, because of limited staff, delays are caused in the overall compilation processes. It is felt that by providing the information for all municipalities on a uniform basis, the users of the data will have the information for the areas in which they are interested more quickly and at less cost than has been possible up to now.

One of the principal uses to which the data can be put is in appraising construction activity within municipalities and to a lesser extent, within groups of municipalities over a period of months or years. In cases where it is desirable to make comparisons between two municipalities, and no more suitable information can be found, the data on numbers of residential dwelling units would be more likely to be comparable than that on total value of permits issued for new residential construction. But one would probably want to know also something of the types of houses, such as whether one area was mainly low-cost as compared with another area where the houses were principally of the luxury type. Even with the qualifications which must be attached to building permit data, they still provide one of the few measures of current economic activity available for small areas.

The material contained in this publication is compiled from data supplied by the issuing municipalities and therefore varies from municipality to municipality, with the terms of each individual by-law, with the methods of estimating the value of construction for permit-issuing purposes and with the diligence with which the terms of the by-law are applied. Information is not available on the permits allowed to lapse without the work for which the permit was issued being completed.

For the convenience of the users of the material Quebec and Ontario have been divided into 10 regions each and Manitoba into 4 regions. In this way, data are available for the individual municipalities, metropolitan areas, regions (Quebec, Ontario and Manitoba only), the provinces and for Canada.

BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED IN CANADA

	RESIDENTIAL							NON-RESIDENTIAL				TOTAL
	Single Dwellings	Double Dwellings	Apartments	Total	New	Repair	Total	Industrial	Commercial	Institutional and Government	Other	
	Units				Thousands of Dollars							
NFLD.	39			39	322	78	400		40	805		1,245
P.E.I.	6	2	2	10	78	3	81	1	18			100
N.S.	101	6	95	202	1,412	140	1,552	127	1,914	1,883	1	5,477
N.B.	65	8	33	106	837	118	955	10	217	146	3	1,331
QUE.	1,196	619	2,001	3,816	26,891	1,339	28,230	1,083	6,886	7,180	92	43,471
ONT.	4,760	989	1,343	7,092	67,862	2,260	70,122	7,846	13,880	27,740	230	119,818
MAN.	370	25	147	542	4,827	278	5,105	277	1,494	1,338	1	8,215
SASK.	528	54	23	605	5,950	272	6,222	154	691	4,384	13	11,464
ALTA.	1,248	37	202	1,537	14,235	360	14,595	1,056	4,791	2,606	50	23,098
B.C.	1,060	80	360	1,500	13,457	864	14,321	1,087	2,979	1,910	29	20,326
CANADA	9,373	1,870	4,206	15,449	135,871	5,712	141,583	11,641	32,910	47,992	419	234,545

DEFINITIONS

The definitions used in this memorandum are the same as those used by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics in classifying the data contained in Table 27 of the Canadian Statistical Review. These are as follows:

Residential - includes only self-contained housing units and, therefore, excludes such structures as barracks and dormitories.

No. of units shown under Residential housing indicates the number of self-contained dwelling units added. For example, if an apartment building is constructed and contains 6 apartments, it will be shown as 6 dwelling units. When an existing structure is converted into additional housing units, the number of units added is included. The values of the permits issued for such conversions are included with new residential construction. Prior to January, 1957, the values of these permits were included with repair residential construction.

Apartments include all multiple housing with 3 or more units such as triplexes, rows and terraces, as well as apartments. For the years 1951 to 1955 inclusive triplexes were not included in this group. Flats, regardless of number, that are part of a non-residential structure are also included.

Single residential units includes only one unit dwellings.

Double residential units includes all two unit dwellings such as doubles and duplexes. When an existing single unit residential structure is converted into a two unit structure, the unit added is included under double.

New Residential Construction includes the value of building permits issued for entirely new residential work including detached and attached garages. The values of conversion permits are also included in this group.

Repair Residential Construction includes permits issued for major alterations, improvements, and additions as well as smaller types of repair.

This definition of repair is at variance with that used in Construction in Canada⁽¹⁾ and Private and Public Investment Outlook⁽²⁾ which classify major alterations, improvements and additions as new construction and only those expenditures which return the structure to its previous state, such as painting and pointing of brick work, are considered repair. When this latter category of activity is covered by a building permit, it is included in the total of repair.

Non-residential - building as indicated by building permits contains industrial, commercial, institutional and government building. Permits are issued for some engineering structures such as broadcasting towers, oil refineries, oil tanks, swimming pools and road construction, but the incidence of these structures being covered by a building permit has been relatively rare. The figures include both new and repair construction.

Industrial building includes building permits issued for structures that normally are used in the following industries of the Standard Industrial Classification: agriculture, forestry, fishing, mining manufacturing, construction, transportation, storage, communications and public utilities. Factories are the most common structure.

Commercial building includes building permits issued for structures that fall within the following industries of the Standard Industrial Classification: trade, finance, insurance, real estate and recreation, business and personal service.

Institutional and Government includes expenditures by community, public and government services.

Other includes structures that are not classified elsewhere.

(1) Published by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

(2) A joint publication of the Economics Branch of the Department of Trade and Commerce and the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

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