

The Daily

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Building permits, October 2009

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Building permits

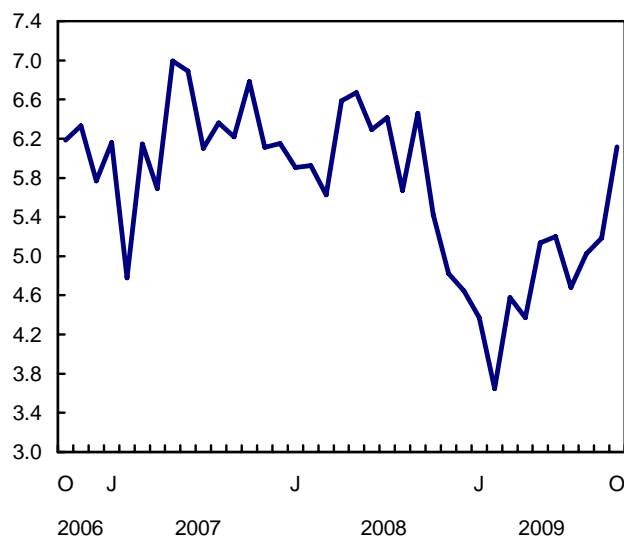
October 2009

The value of building permits rose 18.0% in October to \$6.1 billion. The increase was mainly a result of gains in the value of non-residential permits and in construction intentions for single-family dwellings.

Total value of permits

\$ billions

seasonally adjusted



In the residential sector, the value of permits was up for a third consecutive month. Residential construction intentions climbed 3.8% to \$3.4 billion. Ontario and Quebec accounted for much of the growth seen at the national level.

In the non-residential sector, municipalities issued permits worth \$2.7 billion, up 42.4% following a 9.2% decline in September. All three components of

Note to readers

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

non-residential construction permits increased in October.

The total value of building permits increased in six provinces, led by Alberta and Ontario.

Municipalities issued building permits worth \$48.3 billion between January and October, 20.8% less than in the same period in 2008.

Non-residential sector: Gains in every component

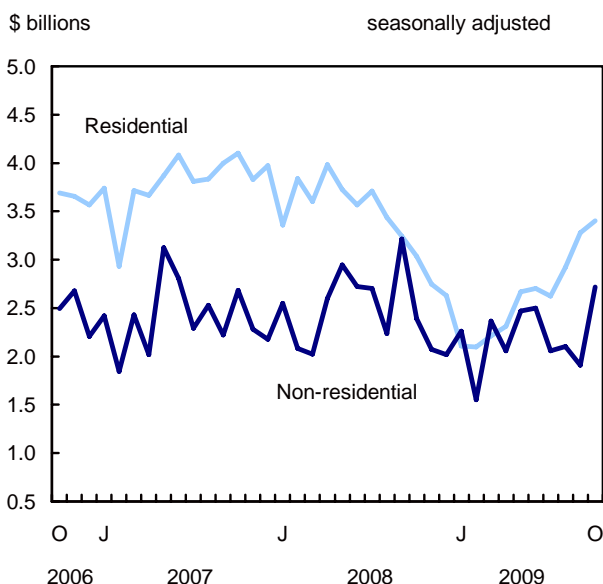
Intentions increased in every component of the non-residential sector in October.

In the industrial component, the value of building permits doubled to \$709 million. This was the third consecutive monthly increase, fuelled by higher construction intentions in Alberta, Ontario and Quebec.

After four monthly consecutive declines, the value of institutional building permits increased 50.9% to \$904 million. The gain was largely attributable to educational institution projects in Alberta, Saskatchewan, Quebec and British Columbia. Ontario had an increase in the value of permits for medical buildings.

The value of commercial building permits totalled \$1.1 billion, up 15.3% from September. The increase was mainly due to construction intentions for office buildings and retail stores in Ontario and warehouses in Saskatchewan.

Residential and non-residential sectors



Residential sector: The increase in permits for single-family dwellings more than offset the decline in multiple dwellings

An increase in the value of building permits for single-family dwellings more than offset a decline in multiple dwelling intentions.

The value of building permits for single-family dwellings increased for an eighth consecutive month, up 10.1% to \$2.4 billion in October. Every province except Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island contributed to the advance in single-family construction intentions.

The value of building permits for multi-family dwellings fell 8.2% to \$1.0 billion, after increasing 34.3% in September. British Columbia, Alberta and Nova Scotia had the largest declines, while Ontario posted the biggest gain in construction intentions for multi-family dwellings.

Municipalities approved the construction of 15,725 new dwelling units in October, up 0.5%. The 8.2% increase in the number of single-family dwellings, which totalled 8,264, more than offset the 6.9% decline in the number of multi-family dwellings, which totalled 7,461.

Strong gains in Alberta and Ontario

The value of building permits was up in six provinces.

The largest increases were in Alberta, Ontario, Saskatchewan and Quebec. All four provinces saw growth in the value of building permits for single-family dwellings and in the non-residential sector.

After substantial gains in September, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia posted the largest declines in October.

Metropolitan areas: Large increases in Toronto and Calgary

The total value of permits was up in 20 of the 34 census metropolitan areas.

The strongest gains were in Toronto, Calgary and Edmonton. They were attributable to increases in the non-residential sector and single-family construction intentions.

In contrast, the largest declines were in Kingston and the census metropolitan area of Québec. They stemmed from decreases in all components.

Available on CANSIM: tables 026-0001 to 026-0008 and 026-0010.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2802.

The October 2009 issue of *Building Permits* (64-001-X, free) will soon be available.

The November building permits data will be released on January 11, 2010.

To order data, contact Jasmine Gaudreault (toll-free 1-800-579-8533; 613-951-6321; bdp_information@statcan.gc.ca). For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Nicole Charron (613-951-0087), Investment and Capital Stock Division.

□

Value of building permits, by census metropolitan area¹

	June 2009	July 2009	August 2009	September 2009 ^r	October 2009 ^p	September to October 2009
Seasonally adjusted						
	\$ millions					% change
Total	3,841.2	3,258.9	3,580.9	3,772.0	4,599.5	21.9
St. John's	37.6	51.6	40.2	29.0	37.3	28.8
Halifax	65.9	63.6	43.5	55.7	47.3	-15.0
Moncton	18.9	29.4	17.3	21.5	32.0	48.4
Saint John	21.5	27.8	15.8	76.8	16.4	-78.6
Saguenay	27.2	29.0	22.8	19.5	66.8	241.8
Québec	141.7	123.4	144.8	187.5	124.5	-33.6
Sherbrooke	43.2	46.6	35.5	31.0	30.9	-0.3
Trois-Rivières	34.0	24.8	20.6	37.7	34.9	-7.3
Montréal	558.1	534.2	477.3	507.8	578.0	13.8
Ottawa-Gatineau, Ontario/Quebec	183.0	193.7	192.1	189.4	188.8	-0.3
Gatineau part	33.4	30.1	34.7	41.2	34.1	-17.1
Ottawa part	149.6	163.7	157.4	148.2	154.7	4.4
Kingston	13.6	14.3	15.0	97.4	11.2	-88.5
Peterborough	7.3	13.3	32.4	9.9	27.6	178.0
Oshawa	14.8	37.8	36.9	60.9	87.0	43.0
Toronto	928.1	434.4	796.0	733.8	1,042.2	42.0
Hamilton	157.8	117.1	42.0	50.5	59.5	17.8
St. Catharines-Niagara	25.5	25.4	36.2	79.8	27.6	-65.4
Kitchener	94.4	90.6	56.3	108.4	78.5	-27.6
Brantford	5.7	27.9	16.8	7.3	5.1	-29.1
Guelph	41.4	31.3	12.3	13.6	31.8	134.6
London	35.7	69.5	78.7	93.3	56.1	-39.9
Windsor	39.1	14.4	12.4	15.4	34.6	124.7
Barrie	24.0	13.1	29.8	11.9	39.4	230.7
Greater Sudbury	33.7	21.1	28.7	15.5	33.0	112.8
Thunder Bay	8.9	10.0	4.7	10.5	12.5	19.0
Winnipeg	79.6	105.8	76.8	57.8	77.9	34.8
Regina	44.7	42.0	37.7	29.9	85.3	184.9
Saskatoon	38.9	75.3	47.3	58.9	126.8	115.4
Calgary	424.1	266.0	243.9	311.1	588.0	89.0
Edmonton	231.0	295.1	354.8	363.4	587.7	61.7
Kelowna	163.2	30.1	144.9	30.2	25.9	-14.3
Abbotsford-Mission	13.3	9.1	13.8	13.8	14.0	1.3
Vancouver	245.5	348.3	381.0	376.9	344.4	-8.6
Victoria	39.6	42.7	72.5	65.9	46.3	-29.7

^r revised

^p preliminary

1. Go online to view the census subdivisions that comprise the census metropolitan areas.

Note: Data may not add up to totals as a result of rounding.

Value of building permits, by province and territory

	June 2009	July 2009	August 2009	September 2009 ^r	October 2009 ^p	September to October 2009
Seasonally adjusted						
	\$ millions					% change
Canada	5,201.5	4,679.7	5,025.4	5,184.5	6,117.3	18.0
Residential	2,704.3	2,621.3	2,923.6	3,276.1	3,400.7	3.8
Non-residential	2,497.1	2,058.4	2,101.8	1,908.4	2,716.6	42.4
Newfoundland and Labrador	63.5	75.9	64.1	51.9	68.1	31.3
Residential	52.2	48.2	43.8	41.5	41.2	-0.8
Non-residential	11.4	27.7	20.3	10.4	26.9	160.0
Prince Edward Island	11.5	19.8	20.0	20.3	14.1	-30.8
Residential	7.5	14.8	12.7	12.9	10.2	-20.8
Non-residential	4.0	5.0	7.3	7.5	3.9	-48.2
Nova Scotia	135.6	138.6	106.8	124.9	105.1	-15.8
Residential	61.9	78.8	72.6	86.0	60.7	-29.4
Non-residential	73.7	59.9	34.2	38.9	44.4	14.1
New Brunswick	93.6	124.4	82.2	136.7	89.6	-34.4
Residential	51.7	53.0	50.7	49.5	53.8	8.5
Non-residential	41.9	71.5	31.5	87.1	35.9	-58.8
Quebec	1,178.4	1,102.0	1,047.7	1,175.7	1,286.4	9.4
Residential	733.7	690.7	706.2	733.0	786.8	7.3
Non-residential	444.7	411.3	341.5	442.7	499.6	12.9
Ontario	1,897.2	1,397.7	1,686.8	1,812.5	2,060.8	13.7
Residential	969.1	780.7	1,012.5	1,110.1	1,211.5	9.1
Non-residential	928.1	617.0	674.2	702.3	849.3	20.9
Manitoba	161.1	169.5	129.9	105.7	128.9	21.9
Residential	77.6	74.7	69.1	74.4	80.5	8.2
Non-residential	83.5	94.8	60.8	31.3	48.4	54.7
Saskatchewan	136.8	216.0	139.1	140.4	275.6	96.3
Residential	57.2	70.7	61.6	63.2	75.6	19.7
Non-residential	79.7	145.3	77.5	77.3	200.0	158.8
Alberta	846.0	771.6	796.2	917.4	1,395.9	52.2
Residential	368.2	426.1	534.9	597.0	600.3	0.5
Non-residential	477.8	345.6	261.3	320.4	795.6	148.3
British Columbia	634.2	619.0	916.8	674.8	666.6	-1.2
Residential	312.0	373.7	350.3	495.4	475.5	-4.0
Non-residential	322.1	245.3	566.5	179.4	191.1	6.5
Yukon	5.7	6.6	15.6	13.2	11.4	-13.3
Residential	3.3	6.3	2.5	8.2	3.3	-59.1
Non-residential	2.4	0.4	13.1	5.0	8.1	61.3
Northwest Territories	19.0	3.8	2.5	5.1	13.7	165.5
Residential	1.2	2.0	1.2	1.6	0.5	-67.1
Non-residential	17.8	1.8	1.3	3.6	13.1	268.1
Nunavut	18.9	34.8	17.8	6.0	1.1	-82.2
Residential	8.8	1.7	5.5	3.3	0.6	-81.1
Non-residential	10.1	33.1	12.3	2.6	0.4	-83.6

^r revised

^p preliminary

Note: Data may not add up to totals as a result of rounding.

North American Transportation Statistics 2008

An updated version of the *North American Transportation Statistics* (NATS) database, a unique online source for comprehensive information on transportation activity, is being released today. The database is the result of a tripartite initiative representing the transportation and statistical agencies of Canada, United States and Mexico.

All three countries have updated the tables to include 2008 data where available.

The database covers 12 specific areas of interest, including transportation and the economy, passenger and freight transportation, transportation and energy consumption, as well as transportation safety.

The NATS database provides consistent and comparable data across modes of transportation and countries to help evaluate transportation benefits and impacts. It helps in understanding changes in dynamic transportation markets in this era of global economic growth.

Written in English, French and Spanish, the NATS database is available online (<http://nats.sct.gob.mx>).

For more information on the NATS database in Canada, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-866-500-8400; transportationstatistics@statcan.gc.ca), Transportation Division. ■

New products

Industry Price Indexes, October 2009, Vol. 35, no. 10
Catalogue number 62-011-X (PDF, free; HTML, free)

All prices are in Canadian dollars and exclude sales tax. Additional shipping charges apply for delivery outside Canada.

Catalogue numbers with an -XWE, -XIB or an -XIE extension are Internet versions; those with -XMB or -XME are microfiche; -XPB or -XPE are paper versions; -XDB or -XDE are electronic versions on diskette; -XCB or -XCE are electronic versions on compact disc; -XVB or -XVE are electronic versions on DVD and -XBB or -XBE a database.

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