

# The Daily

## Statistics Canada

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### Canadian Social Trends

August 2009 online edition

The August online edition of *Canadian Social Trends*, released today, features the article "Online activities of Canadian boomers and seniors."

This article examines how Canadian seniors (those aged 65 and older) use the Internet compared with baby boomers (those aged 45 to 64). It looks at the closing gap between Internet use rates, and describes differences in the types of online activities, as well as in the intensity of Internet use.

This August 2009 online edition of *Canadian Social Trends*, No. 88 (11-008-X, free), is now available from the *Publications* module of our website.

For more information, contact Client Services (613-951-5979; [sasd-dssea@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:sasd-dssea@statcan.gc.ca)), Social and Aboriginal Statistics Division.



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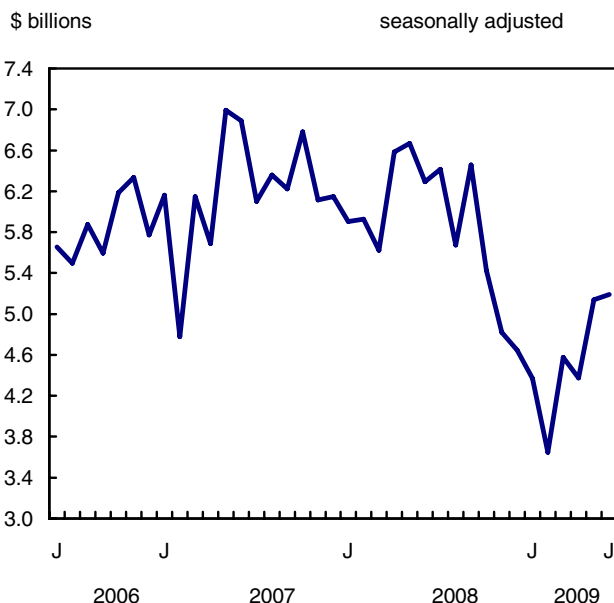
## Releases

### Building permits

June 2009

The value of building permits totalled \$5.2 billion in June, up 1.0% from May. The increase was attributable to gains in both residential and non-residential construction intentions.

#### Total value of permits



In the non-residential sector, the value of permits rose 1.5% to \$2.5 billion, following an increase of nearly 20% in May.

The value of permits increased for the fourth consecutive month in the residential sector. Construction intentions climbed 0.5% to \$2.7 billion in June. Half of the provinces, led by Quebec, posted gains.

The national increase was due to advances in seven provinces. The largest gains were in British Columbia

#### 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.

and Quebec, as a result of increases in every component of the residential sector and the non-residential sector.

Since the beginning of 2009, the value of permits has fallen by 26.2% compared with the same period a year earlier. The institutional component of the non-residential sector was the only component that posted a gain compared with the first six months of 2008.

#### Non-residential sector: The commercial component is up

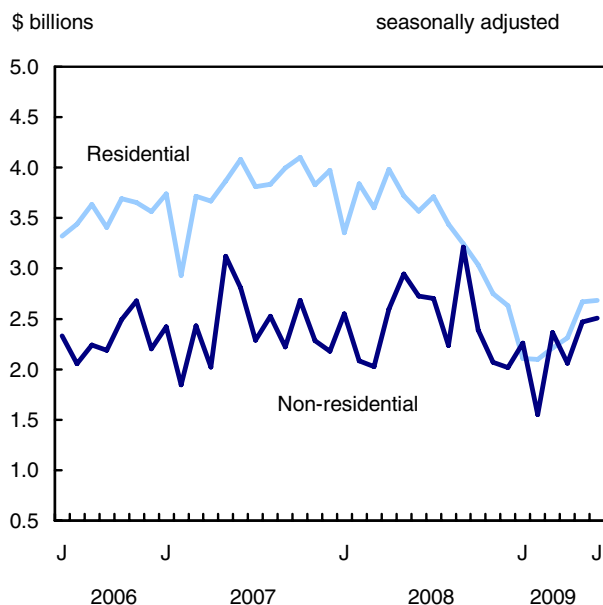
In the commercial component, the value of permits rose 10.6% to \$1.3 billion. This change was attributable to an increase in hotel and laboratory construction intentions in Ontario. In contrast, Saskatchewan and British Columbia experienced the largest declines in this component.

The value of institutional building permits fell 6.2% to \$902 million in June, after increasing 55.6% in May. Increases in seven provinces were not enough to offset the decrease in construction intentions for medical buildings in Alberta.

In the industrial component, the value of permits dropped 7.1% to \$332 million, ending its string of three

consecutive monthly gains. Alberta and Quebec were responsible for most of June's decrease.

### Residential and non-residential sectors



### Residential sector: Higher intentions for single-family permits

The increase in building permits for single-family dwellings canceled out the decline (in dollar terms) in permits for multi-family dwellings. Municipalities issued \$1.7 billion worth of building permits for single-family dwellings in June, 3.6% more than in May. Quebec, Alberta and British Columbia posted the largest gains. Only Ontario, Manitoba and Saskatchewan had decreases.

The value of building permits for multi-family dwellings fell 4.1% to \$1.0 billion, following a 40.1% increase in May. The decline in June was mostly attributable to lower constructions intentions in Ontario.

Municipalities approved the construction of 12,693 new dwellings in June, down 4.3%. The decrease was primarily due to an 11.1% decline in the number of multi-family dwellings, which totalled 7,064 units in June. The number of single-family dwellings approved rose 5.9% to 5,629 units.

### Increases seen in seven provinces

The value of building permits was up in every province except Alberta, Saskatchewan and Prince Edward Island.

The sharpest increases were recorded in British Columbia (+30.3%, for a total value of \$632 million), which had gains in every component except commercial and industrial building permits. Quebec came next (+11.0%, for a total value of \$1.2 billion), as a result of increases in every component except industrial permits.

Alberta and Saskatchewan posted the largest declines, largely due to lower construction intentions in the non-residential sector.

### Metropolitan areas: Increase in Montréal and decline in Calgary

The total value of permits was down in 19 of the 34 census metropolitan areas.

The largest advances were observed in Montréal and Hamilton, as a result of gains in every component of the residential and non-residential sectors. Kelowna followed with an increase in the value of institutional building permits.

In contrast, the total value of permits in Calgary declined in June, following an increase in the value of institutional building permits in May.

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

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2802.**

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

The July building permit estimate will be released on September 8.

To order data, contact Jasmine Gaudreault (toll-free 1-800-579-8533; 613-951-6321; [bdp\\_information@statcan.gc.ca](mailto: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.

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Value of building permits, by census metropolitan area<sup>1</sup>

	February 2009	March 2009	April 2009	May 2009 <sup>r</sup>	June 2009 <sup>p</sup>	May to June 2009
Seasonally adjusted						
	\$ millions					% change
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,597.6</b>	<b>3,485.5</b>	<b>3,031.7</b>	<b>3,741.6</b>	<b>3,848.8</b>	<b>2.9</b>
St. John's	41.5	75.9	37.1	34.4	38.2	11.0
Halifax	46.9	27.8	90.5	80.4	65.6	-18.5
Moncton	68.8	16.4	16.4	17.7	18.9	6.9
Saint John	21.8	15.3	39.7	16.3	21.5	31.5
Saguenay	6.8	13.9	31.5	22.1	24.4	10.0
Québec	84.9	149.8	205.6	155.9	143.4	-8.0
Sherbrooke	16.3	33.4	32.0	23.1	43.8	89.6
Trois-Rivières	13.3	19.6	10.8	35.8	34.4	-3.9
Montréal	332.6	422.0	391.8	413.6	566.3	36.9
Ottawa-Gatineau, Ontario/Quebec	146.5	233.2	182.9	203.0	181.1	-10.8
Gatineau part	35.7	42.1	42.5	43.5	33.7	-22.4
Ottawa part	110.8	191.1	140.4	159.6	147.4	-7.6
Kingston	18.4	5.4	34.2	26.5	13.5	-48.9
Peterborough	4.9	9.2	22.5	8.7	7.3	-16.7
Oshawa	19.1	20.8	47.5	35.8	14.7	-59.1
Toronto	569.7	919.6	721.1	921.0	931.7	1.2
Hamilton	39.3	138.1	40.4	41.2	160.3	289.3
St. Catharines-Niagara	37.5	42.7	33.5	35.7	25.4	-29.0
Kitchener	66.1	117.4	65.6	44.1	94.8	115.0
Brantford	15.8	32.3	8.9	5.2	5.7	10.4
Guelph	20.8	16.2	8.3	6.8	41.4	505.1
London	29.1	51.5	37.9	76.6	35.6	-53.4
Windsor	10.1	8.6	11.6	103.5	39.1	-62.2
Barrie	4.2	16.5	8.0	16.3	24.0	47.2
Greater Sudbury	18.7	14.1	27.6	38.5	33.2	-13.7
Thunder Bay	5.2	3.0	8.3	9.9	8.4	-15.3
Winnipeg	50.1	54.1	81.3	71.6	79.6	11.1
Regina	38.2	32.0	28.7	51.7	44.5	-13.9
Saskatoon	26.1	33.9	41.8	43.9	39.2	-10.9
Calgary	197.1	238.4	310.2	628.1	420.7	-33.0
Edmonton	166.9	296.2	232.2	236.4	230.8	-2.4
Kelowna	20.7	38.7	16.5	38.2	162.9	326.5
Abbotsford-Mission	9.2	26.7	5.7	6.6	13.2	98.1
Vancouver	331.3	203.2	173.6	247.8	245.0	-1.1
Victoria	119.7	159.8	28.1	44.7	40.3	-9.9

<sup>r</sup> revised

<sup>p</sup> 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

	February 2009	March 2009	April 2009	May 2009 <sup>r</sup>	June 2009 <sup>p</sup>	May to June 2009
Seasonally adjusted						
	\$ millions					% change
<b>Canada</b>	<b>3,646.0</b>	<b>4,576.8</b>	<b>4,372.3</b>	<b>5,138.1</b>	<b>5,188.9</b>	<b>1.0</b>
<b>Residential</b>	<b>2,096.3</b>	<b>2,213.7</b>	<b>2,313.4</b>	<b>2,669.3</b>	<b>2,682.4</b>	<b>0.5</b>
<b>Non-residential</b>	<b>1,549.8</b>	<b>2,363.1</b>	<b>2,058.9</b>	<b>2,468.8</b>	<b>2,506.5</b>	<b>1.5</b>
Newfoundland and Labrador	61.2	94.3	57.8	56.7	64.4	13.6
Residential	53.3	64.7	46.2	47.3	53.0	12.1
Non-residential	7.9	29.6	11.6	9.4	11.4	21.3
Prince Edward Island	12.8	12.2	17.2	13.9	11.4	-17.9
Residential	6.5	6.4	10.0	9.1	7.5	-17.4
Non-residential	6.3	5.8	7.2	4.9	4.0	-18.8
Nova Scotia	83.2	60.1	146.8	126.9	130.9	3.1
Residential	63.1	45.3	62.1	61.9	60.7	-1.9
Non-residential	20.0	14.9	84.8	65.0	70.2	7.9
New Brunswick	116.8	60.0	100.9	73.9	93.5	26.6
Residential	37.0	40.3	42.2	48.5	51.7	6.5
Non-residential	79.8	19.8	58.7	25.3	41.9	65.1
Quebec	767.5	1,017.3	1,021.6	1,067.9	1,185.4	11.0
Residential	525.0	611.7	621.6	658.4	739.6	12.3
Non-residential	242.4	405.6	400.1	409.6	445.8	8.8
Ontario	1,246.6	1,818.5	1,547.1	1,813.6	1,891.8	4.3
Residential	745.3	769.9	802.9	1,093.6	962.0	-12.0
Non-residential	501.3	1,048.6	744.1	720.0	929.8	29.1
Manitoba	116.7	87.9	125.6	135.4	160.6	18.6
Residential	64.6	64.8	68.0	87.1	77.0	-11.7
Non-residential	52.1	23.1	57.6	48.3	83.7	73.3
Saskatchewan	98.7	118.1	121.6	189.0	133.7	-29.3
Residential	51.3	53.8	50.7	65.5	56.8	-13.3
Non-residential	47.3	64.4	70.9	123.4	76.8	-37.7
Alberta	519.2	700.2	743.7	1,109.0	843.2	-24.0
Residential	237.0	309.4	349.2	328.4	364.2	10.9
Non-residential	282.2	390.9	394.6	780.6	479.0	-38.6
British Columbia	614.6	597.5	377.4	484.9	631.7	30.3
Residential	309.0	237.6	248.6	261.8	297.6	13.7
Non-residential	305.6	359.9	128.8	223.1	334.1	49.7
Yukon	3.8	2.8	8.7	59.8	4.4	-92.6
Residential	2.6	2.7	4.2	3.2	2.2	-31.4
Non-residential	1.2	0.1	4.4	56.7	2.2	-96.0
Northwest Territories	4.0	1.7	98.3	5.8	19.0	225.0
Residential	0.5	1.2	2.2	3.6	1.4	-59.5
Non-residential	3.5	0.6	96.1	2.3	17.5	669.0
Nunavut	1.0	6.0	5.5	1.2	18.9	1,468.3
Residential	1.0	6.0	5.5	1.0	8.8	774.1
Non-residential	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.2	10.1	4,950.0

<sup>r</sup> revised

<sup>p</sup> preliminary

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

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## Farm product prices

June 2009

Prices received by farmers in June for grains, oilseeds, specialty crops, potatoes, cattle, hogs, poultry, eggs and dairy products are now available.

The June Ontario hog price was \$55.82 per hundredweight, down 7.0% from May, and down 17.2% from June 2008 when the price was \$67.44.

The Saskatchewan non-board wheat price was down 2.7% in June compared with May to stand at \$175.59 per metric tonne. The non-board wheat price for Saskatchewan stood at \$273.77 in June 2008, representing a 35.9% drop.

**Note:** Farm commodity prices are now available on CANSIM. Prices for over 35 commodities are available by province, some series going back 20 years.

**Available on CANSIM: table 002-0043.**

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3436.**

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Nickeisha Patterson (613-951-3249; fax: 613-951-3868; [nickeisha.patterson@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:nickeisha.patterson@statcan.gc.ca)), Agriculture Division. ■

## Canadian Foreign Post Indexes

August 2009

Data on Canadian foreign post indexes are now available for August.

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2322.**

The August 2009 issue of *Canadian Foreign Post Indexes* (62-013-X, free) is now available from the *Publications* module of our website.

For more information, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-866-230-2248; 613-951-9606; [prices-prix@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:prices-prix@statcan.gc.ca)). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Claudio Perez (613-951-1733; [claudio.perez@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:claudio.perez@statcan.gc.ca)), Consumer Prices Division. ■

## Fertilizer Shipments Survey

2008/2009 (fourth quarter)

Data from the Fertilizer Shipments Survey are now available for the fourth quarter of the fertilizer year 2008/2009.

**Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5148.**

For more information, to order data, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Client Services (toll-free 1-800-465-1991; [agriculture@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:agriculture@statcan.gc.ca)), Agriculture Division. ■

## New products

**Canadian Social Trends**, no. 88  
Catalogue number 11-008-X (PDF, free; HTML, free)

**Industry Price Indexes**, June 2009, Vol. 35, no. 6  
Catalogue number 62-011-X (PDF, free; HTML, free)

**Canadian Foreign Post Indexes**, August 2009  
Catalogue number 62-013-X (HTML, free)

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