The Daily

Statistics Canada

Tuesday, July 6, 2010

Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time

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Building permits, May 2010

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Releases

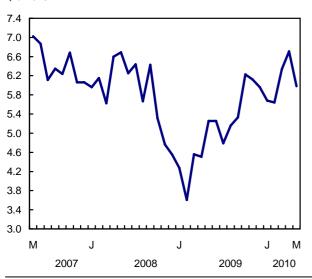
Building permits

May 2010

Municipalities issued building permits worth \$6.0 billion in May, a 10.8% decline from April. The decline follows two consecutive monthly increases. The value of permits in May was 13.9% higher than the level in May 2009.

Total value of permits





Decreases occurred in both the residential and non-residential sectors. The value of residential permits fell 5.3% to \$3.7 billion due to a decline in the single-family component.

After three months of increases, the value of non-residential permits fell 18.3% to \$2.3 billion. The value of commercial and institutional permits decreased, while the value of industrial permits rose to its highest level since September 2008.

The value of permits increased in three provinces: British Columbia, Saskatchewan and Prince Edward Island.

Non-residential sector: Declines in the commercial and institutional components

In the commercial component, the value of permits fell 35.2% to \$988 million in May following a 30.7%

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.

Revision

Preliminary data are provided for the current reference month. Revised data, based on late responses, are updated for the previous month.

increase in April. Lower construction intentions were spread across a wide variety of buildings, such as office buildings, recreational, hotels and warehouses. Commercial building intentions fell in eight provinces.

The value of permits in the institutional component fell 21.6% to \$690 million, halting three consecutive monthly increases. Lower construction intentions in educational, medical buildings and welfare homes contributed to this decline.

In the industrial component, the value of permits rose 47.1% to \$644 million, the fifth monthly increase in a row. The gains came mostly from utility buildings in Ontario and manufacturing buildings in Quebec. Industrial construction intentions rose in eight provinces.

Residential sector: Intentions down for single-family permits

A marked decline in the value of permits for single dwellings brought down intentions in the residential sector in May.

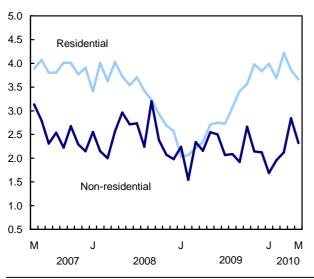
Municipalities issued \$2.3 billion worth of permits for single-family dwellings in May, down 9.2% from April. This was the second consecutive monthly decline following gains in the first three months of 2010. May's decrease was due to lower construction intentions in seven provinces.

Following an 11.4% decline in April, the value of permits for multi-family dwellings increased 2.5% to \$1.3 billion in May. This increase was mainly the result of higher construction intentions in Quebec, British Columbia and Saskatchewan.

Nationally, municipalities approved 17,124 new dwellings in May, down 4.4% from April. The decline was largely attribuable to single-family dwellings, which fell 6.5% to 8,168 units. The number of multi-family units approved declined 2.4% to 8,956.

Residential and non-residential sectors

\$ billions



Largest declines in Alberta, Ontario and Nova Scotia

The value of building permits fell in seven provinces in May.

The largest decreases occurred in Alberta, Ontario and Nova Scotia. In all three provinces, the decline was the result of lower intentions in the non-residential sector, which had posted strong gains in April.

British Columbia and Saskatchewan posted the largest gains in May, mainly the result of increases in institutional and multi-family permits. In Prince Edward Island, the increase came from the residential sector and the institutional component in the non-residential sector.

Value of permits down in more than half of the census metropolitan areas

The total value of permits fell in 18 of the 34 census metropolitan areas in May.

The largest declines were in Edmonton, Calgary and Windsor. In Edmonton, the decrease came mainly from the commercial component following a large increase in April. Calgary posted a decrease mainly in the single-family and the commercial component. In Windsor, the decline was attributable to all components in the non-residential sector.

The largest gains occurred in Montréal, Vancouver and St. Catharines–Niagara. In Montréal, the increase came mostly from multi-family and industrial permits. In Vancouver and St. Catharines–Niagara, the increase was due mainly to higher construction intentions in the non-residential institutional component.

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

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2802.

The May 2010 issue of *Building Permits* (64-001-X, free) will be available soon.

Building permit data for June will be released on August 5.

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.

Dwelling units, value of residential and non-residential building permits May March May April May 2009 2010 2010^r 2010^p to 2009 May 2010 to May 2010 Seasonally adjusted number of units % change **17,909** 8,733 9,176 19,523 17,124 -4.4 29.9 Total dwellings 13,186 5,595 7,591 8,168 8,956 -6.5 -2.4 Single¹ Multiples 9,462 10,061 46.0 18.0 value in \$ millions % change **6,707.5** 3,864.6 5,255.3 6,335.1 5,983.5 -10.8 13.9 Total 3,661.4 2,316.7 Residential 2,709.1 4,213.8 -5.3 35.2 Single¹ Multiple 1,632.9 2,732.3 2,552.5 -9.2 41.9 1,076.2 1,481.4 1,312.1 1,344.6 2.5 24.9 Non-residential 2,546.2 2,121.3 2,843.0 2,322.1 -18.3 -8.8 62.8 -15.3 Industrial 395.5 435.5 437.8 643.9 47.1 Commercial 1,167.0 1,166.9 1,525.3 988.4 -35.2 -21.6 Institutional 983.7 518.9 879.8 689.8 -29.9

revised

preliminary

Included in this category are the following types of dwellings: single-detached, mobile home and cottage.

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

Value of building permits, by province and territory

May	March	April	May	April	Ma
2009	2010	2010 ^r	2010 ^p	to	2009
				May	to
				2010 2010	May
					2010

	Seasonally adjusted						
		\$ millions					
Canada	5,255.3	6,335.1	6,707.5	5,983.5	-10.8	13.9	
Residential	2,709.1	4,213.8	3,864.6	3,661.4	-5.3	35.2	
Non-residential	2,546.2	2,121.3	2,843.0	2,322.1	-18.3	-8.8	
Newfoundland and Labrador	55.5	114.2	103.2	64.8	-37.2	16.8	
Residential	46.1	103.1	79.3	50.6	-36.2	9.8	
Non-residential	9.4	11.1	23.8	14.2	-40.6	51.0	
Prince Edward Island	14.1	23.4	16.1	29.0	80.7	106.1	
Residential	9.2	10.6	10.0	19.9	98.3	116.0	
Non-residential	4.9	12.9	6.0	9.1	51.3	87.3	
Nova Scotia	130.0	107.4	293.5	120.9	-58.8	-7.0	
Residential	65.0	76.2	93.6	82.4	-12.0	26.8	
Non-residential	65.0	31.2	199.9	38.5	-80.7	-40.7	
New Brunswick	73.5	85.1	123.2	103.8	-15.7	41.3	
Residential	48.4	64.0	57.2	56.0	-2.1	15.6	
Non-residential	25.0	21.2	65.9	47.8	-27.5	91.0	
Quebec	1,085.8	1,339.7	1,300.2	1,273.5	-27.3 -2.1	17.3	
Residential	667.0	964.8	863.7	827.2	-4.2	24.0	
Non-residential	418.8	374.9	436.5	446.3	2.2		
				2,425.4		6.6	
Ontario	1,818.3	2,400.3	2,661.0		-8.9	33.4	
Residential	1,092.0	1,515.6	1,398.8	1,325.2	-5.3	21.4	
Non-residential	726.2	884.8	1,262.3	1,100.2	-12.8	51.5	
Manitoba	136.6	142.9	164.0	154.1	-6.0	12.8	
Residential	88.6	90.9	125.3	99.1	-21.0	11.8	
Non-residential	48.0	52.0	38.6	55.1	42.6	14.8	
Saskatchewan	188.5	204.4	192.3	223.1	16.0	18.4	
Residential	65.5	125.5	108.7	114.1	4.9	74.1	
Non-residential	123.0	78.9	83.6	109.0	30.4	-11.4	
Alberta	1,190.7	1,006.1	1,149.8	820.5	-28.6	-31.1	
Residential	348.6	603.6	640.1	588.3	-8.1	68.7	
Non-residential	842.0	402.5	509.7	232.2	-54.4	-72.4	
British Columbia	493.8	876.5	673.9	754.1	11.9	52.7	
Residential	270.0	653.6	480.1	489.1	1.9	81.2	
Non-residential	223.9	222.9	193.8	265.0	36.7	18.4	
Yukon	59.2	23.6	15.1	4.9	-67.8	-91.8	
Residential	2.6	4.3	6.7	3.6	-46.6	38.8	
Non-residential	56.7	19.3	8.4	1.3	-84.7	-97.7	
Northwest Territories	7.8	6.5	3.7	7.5	104.7	-3.2	
Residential	4.6	1.4	0.9	4.7	422.4	1.4	
Non-residential	3.2	5.1	2.8	2.9	2.4	-10.0	
Nunavut	1.6	4.9	11.6	1.8	-84.9	7.8	
Residential	1.4	0.4	0.1	1.2		-15.7	
Non-residential	0.2	4.5	11.5	0.6	-95.2	175.0	
INUITIESIUEIIIIAI	0.2	4.5	11.3	0.0	-3J.Z	175.0	

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... not applicable

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

Value of building permits, by consus metropolitan area1

May	March	April	May	April	May
2009	2010	2010 ^r	2010 ^p	to	2009
				May	to
				2010	May
					2010

	ocasonally adjusted						
	\$ millions				% change		
Total	3,759.0	4,468.7	4,851.7	4,504.5	-7.2	19.8	
St. John's	33.6	63.1	60.0	44.0	-26.7	30.8	
Halifax	82.0	54.8	66.6	56.2	-15.5	-31.4	
Moncton	17.8	23.6	22.7	42.5	87.0	138.3	
Saint John	15.9	21.7	35.0	11.5	-67.2	-27.7	
Saguenay	23.0	26.4	29.5	37.0	25.4	60.9	
Québec	156.9	188.6	186.4	141.2	-24.3	-10.0	
Sherbrooke	23.4	49.0	50.5	36.1	-28.6	54.2	
Trois-Rivières	36.6	29.2	21.3	34.4	61.3	-5.9	
Montréal	414.4	559.4	524.4	624.1	19.0	50.6	
Ottawa-Gatineau, Ontario/Quebec	203.3	204.5	214.7	193.2	-10.0	-4.9	
Gatineau part	42.3	39.9	43.4	41.5	-4.3	-1.8	
Ottawa part	161.0	164.6	171.3	151.7	-11.5	-5.8	
Kingston	26.9	12.6	15.0	29.5	96.7	9.9	
Peterborough	8.9	26.8	12.5	17.1	37.4	92.2	
Oshawa	35.5	58.2	72.8	40.6	-44.2	14.3	
Toronto	913.7	1,067.6	1,251.5	1,193.4	-4.6	30.6	
Hamilton	42.4	110.0	168.2	173.6	3.2	309.1	
St. Catharines-Niagara	36.8	54.9	52.2	149.2	186.1	306.0	
Kitchener	43.6	143.0	150.5	107.7	-28.5	147.1	
Brantford	5.3	12.8	7.7	10.7	38.6	102.4	
Guelph	6.6	68.8	30.2	15.3	-49.2	132.2	
London	76.6	108.0	96.1	84.6	-11.9	10.4	
Windsor	104.0	14.9	114.2	15.2	-86.7	-85.3	
Barrie	16.5	15.8	39.7	25.2	-36.7	52.2	
Greater Sudbury	38.3	7.5	13.5	25.1	86.4	-34.3	
Thunder Bay	10.4	22.6	7.0	22.3	218.9	114.0	
Winnipeg	72.5	98.0	119.3	86.7	-27.3	19.7	
Regina	51.5	59.5	59.2	73.3	23.8	42.2	
Saskatoon	44.8	62.7	85.1	90.3	6.1	101.8	
Calgary	630.7	411.8	333.0	200.4	-39.8	-68.2	
Edmonton	244.2	261.2	564.4	358.9	-36.4	46.9	
Kelowna	38.6	57.6	35.9	32.3	-10.0	-16.2	
Abbotsford-Mission	6.9	14.2	10.4	20.8	98.7	199.1	
Vancouver	251.8	494.3	348.3	447.8	28.5	77.8	
Victoria	45.6	65.7	53.6	64.0	19.5	40.5	

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

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

Canadian Foreign Post Indexes

July 2010

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

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2322.

The July 2010 issue of *Canadian Foreign Post Indexes* (62-013-X, free) is now available from the *Key resource* module of our website under *Publications*.

For more information, contact Client Services 1-866-230-2248; 613-951-9606; (toll-free 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), Consumer Prices Division.

Domestic travel

First quarter 2010 (preliminary)

The preliminary data of domestic travel from the Travel Survey of Residents of Canada are now available for the first quarter.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 3810.

For more information, or to obtain data, contact Client Services (613-951-9169; toll-free 1-800-307-3382; fax: 613-951-2909: tourism@statcan.gc.ca). To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Marinka Ménard (613-951-9602; marinka.menard@statcan.gc.ca), 613-951-2909; Tourism and the Centre for Education Statistics.

New products and studies

Canadian Foreign Post Indexes, July 2010 Catalogue number 62-013-X (HTML, free)

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Statistics Canada's official release bulletin

Catalogue 11-001-XIE.

Published each working day by the Communications and library Services Division, Statistics Canada, 10G, R.H. Coats Building, 100 Tunney's Pasture Driveway, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0T6.

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