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Major Release

Aug 24 1987

Building Permits, June 1987

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- The value of building permits issued decreased 10.3% from May to \$2.3 billion.

Data Availability Announcements

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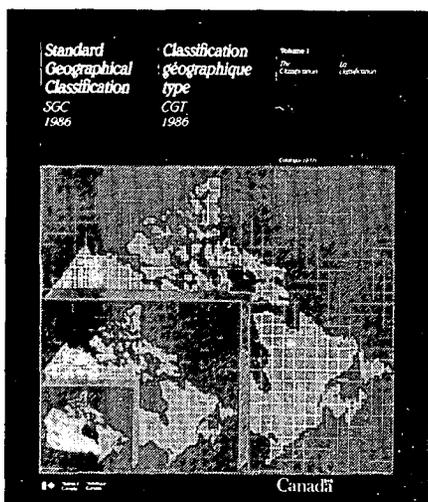
Standard Geographical Classification, 1986

The Standard Geographical Classification (SGC), consisting of a system of names and codes which represent areas of Canada in a three-tiered hierarchy of province, county and municipality is used to identify information for particular geographical areas and to tabulate statistics.

The 1986 SGC, which replaces the 1981 version as the official geographical classification of Statistics Canada is organized into three volumes:

- Volume I, *The Classification*, designed as a reference and coding manual, contains tables of SGC names and codes in numerical and alphabetical order. It also covers related areas based upon the SGC.
- Volume II, *The Reference Maps*, shows the boundaries, names and codes of SGC areas.
- Volume III, *Changes: 1981 to 1986* contains lists of changes which have affected boundaries, names and codes of counties and municipalities.

The prices are as follows: Vol. I (12-571, \$55); Vol. II (12-572, \$35) and Vol. III (12-573, \$75). All three volumes may be ordered separately or as a set for \$140 from Publication Sales (613-993-7276). For more information, contact Brenda Trower (613-991-3466), Standards Division.



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Chart 1
Value of Building Permits Issued in Canada

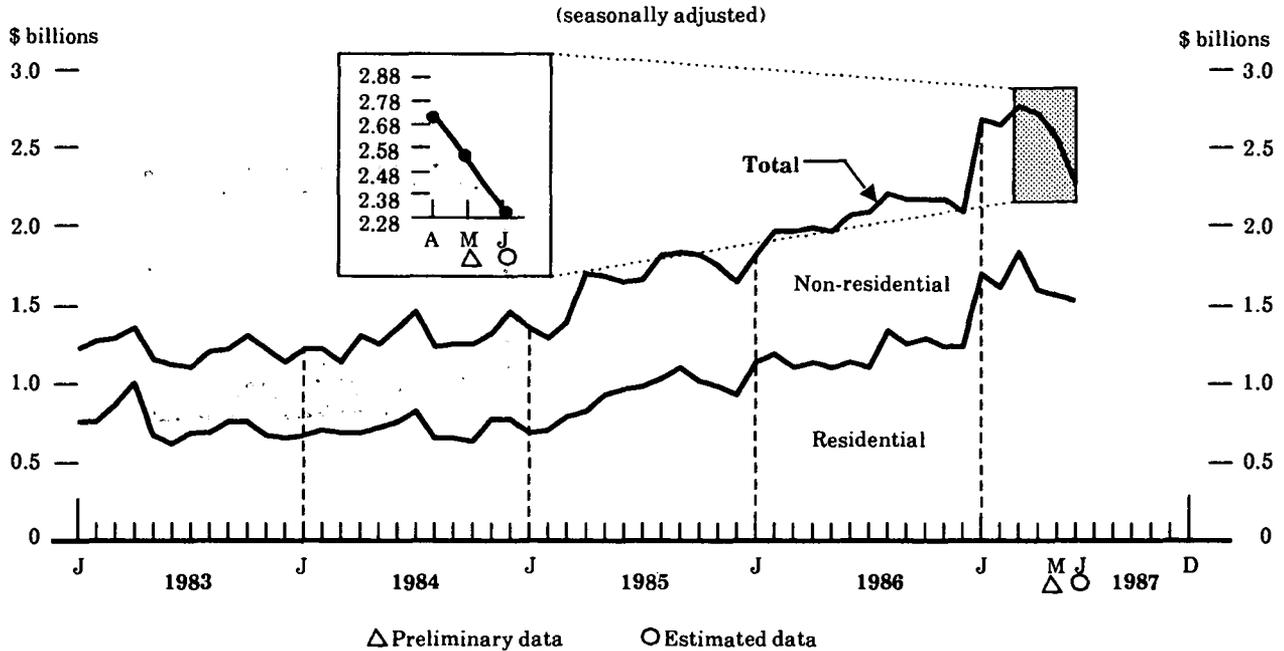


Chart 2
Dwelling Units Authorized in Canada

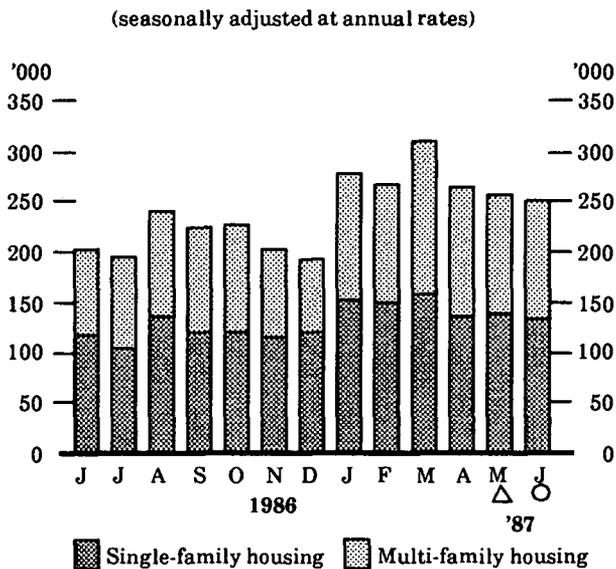
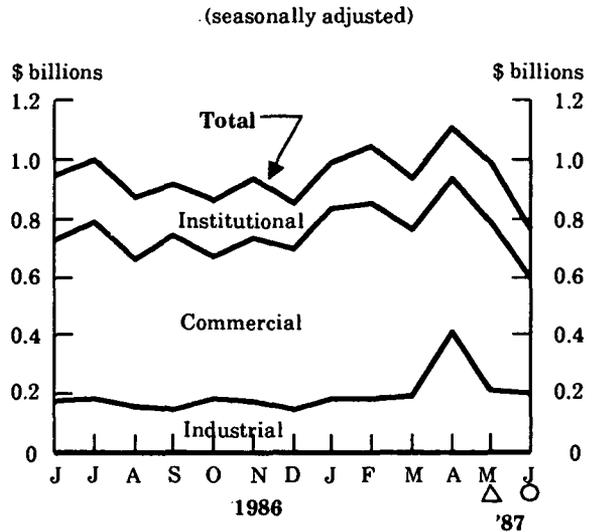


Chart 3
Value of Non-residential permits issued in Canada



Building Permits

June 1987

(Seasonally adjusted data and filtered indexes)

Summary

The estimated value of building permits issued by Canadian municipalities in June was \$2,289.9 million, down 10.3% from \$2,554.4 million in May. This drop was attributable to both the non-residential sector and, to a lesser extent, the residential sector.

This slowdown in the value of building permits issued did not affect the construction leading indicator, which reached 127.0 in April, a 1.4% gain from March.

Residential Sector

- The value of residential permits issued decreased 2.6% in June to \$1,522.8 million compared to \$1,563.2 million in May.
- This decrease was entirely attributable to the single-family dwelling sector which dropped 4.7% to \$1,055.0 million. The multi-family dwelling sector gained 2.7% in June to \$467.8 million.
- The number of dwelling units authorized in June totalled 253,300 units at an annual rate (134,900 single detached and 118,400 multiple dwellings), down 1.7% from May.
- Increases for the number of dwelling units authorized were recorded in the Atlantic region and the Prairies while the rest of the country recorded decreases.
- The filtered index of residential permits issued increased 2.2% in April to 154.2.

Non-residential Sector

- The estimated value of non-residential permits issued dropped 22.6% in June to \$767.1 million from \$991.2 million in May.

- All components decreased in June: the industrial component slipped slightly (-2.9%) to \$206.6 million while the commercial component (-31.2%) and the public component (-18.2%) registered sharper drops to \$401.6 million and \$158.9 million respectively.
- The decrease was widespread in all regions in June.
- The filtered index of non-residential permits rose 0.4% in April to 98.5. Gains in the industrial component more than offset losses registered by the commercial and governmental sectors.

Note to Users:

In order to improve the timeliness of the information provided, this revised version of Building Permits presents, in addition to the usual preliminary data, a national estimate for the latest month. This national estimate is based upon the volume of permits issued in metropolitan areas.

This release also includes the Leading Indicator of Construction Activity (previously published separately). In order to reduce the number of false signals, the leading indicator is lagged two months in relation to the month of reference.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 80 (level 3, 5, 9 to 15) and 129, 137, 443, 989-991, 994, 995 and 4073.

Order the May 1987 issue of *Building Permits* (64-001, \$20/\$200), scheduled for release the second week of September. Contact Francine Monette (613-991-2583), Science, Technology and Capital Stock Division.

Data Availability Announcements

Chemical and Petrochemical Plant Price Indexes

Second Quarter 1987

The Chemical and Petrochemical Plant Price Indexes (1981=100) reached a preliminary level of 129.6 in the second quarter of 1987, up 0.8% from the revised first quarter level of 128.5.

Price increases for construction labour (1.7%), construction indirects (1.5%), and buildings (0.9%) were moderated by lesser increases for engineering, design and administration (0.6%) and the heavily-weighted machinery and equipment component (0.6%). Within machinery and equipment, fabricated equipment advanced 1.3%, due to higher prices for stainless steel storage tanks, while lesser increases were registered for process machinery (0.5%), and structural support, paint and insulation (0.8%). Decreases were recorded for piping, valves and fittings (-0.1%), process instruments and controls (-0.5%), and electric equipment (-0.4%).

Comparing the second quarter of 1987 with the corresponding (and revised) quarter of 1986, the total index climbed 3.3%. Increases for construction labour (3.6%) and buildings (5.2%) were moderated by smaller increases for machinery and equipment (3.2%), construction indirects (3.0%) and engineering, design and administration (3.1%).

On an annual basis (1986/1985), the total index climbed 3.3%. Price changes ranged from a low of 1.9% for the construction labour component to a high of 4.6% for the buildings component.

Data users should note that the labour component indexes and subsequent aggregate indexes have been revised back to the second quarter of 1986.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 294.

Order the second quarter 1987 issue of *Construction Price Statistics* (62-007, \$15/\$60), available in September. Contact Les Graham (613-990-9615), Capital Expenditures, Prices Division.

Chemical and Mineral Process Plant Price Indexes

Second Quarter 1987

The Chemical and Mineral Process Plant Price Indexes (1981=100) reached a preliminary level of 130.0 in the second quarter of 1987, up 0.5% from the revised first quarter level of 129.3.

Price advances for field erection (1.1%), buildings (0.9%), and engineering, design and administration (0.6%) were moderated by an increase of 0.3% for the heavily-weighted machinery and equipment component. Within the machinery and equipment component, increases were posted for fabricated equipment (0.5%), process machinery (0.3%), pumps and compressors (0.8%), other utilities equipment (0.5%), and structural support, paint and insulation (0.8%). Decreases were registered for piping, valves and fittings (-0.1%), process instruments and controls (-0.5%), and electric equipment (-0.2%).

Comparing the second quarter of 1987 with the same (and revised) quarter of 1986, the total index rose 3.6%. Helping to moderate a 5.2% increase in the buildings component were lesser increases for machinery and equipment (3.6%), engineering, design and administration (3.1%), and field erection (2.9%).

On an annual basis (1986/1985), the total index advanced 3.4%. Price changes ranged from a low of 2.3% for the field erection component to a high of 4.6% for the buildings component.

Data users should note that the labour component indexes and subsequent aggregate indexes have been revised back to the second quarter of 1986.

Available on CANSIM: matrix 291.

Order the second quarter 1987 issue of *Construction Price Statistics* (62-007, \$15/\$60), available in September. Contact Les Graham (613-990-9615), Capital Expenditures, Prices Division.

Publications Released

Standard Geographical Classification, Vol. I, The Classification, 1986.
Catalogue number 12-571
(Canada: \$55; Other Countries: \$75).

Standard Geographical Classification, Vol. III, Changes: 1981 to 1986.
Catalogue number 12-573
(Canada: \$75; Other Countries: \$95).

Current Economic Indicators, Vol. 3, No. 7, August 1987. Catalogue number 13-005
(Canada: \$10/\$100; Other Countries: \$11/\$110).

Particleboard, Waferboard and Hardboard, June 1987.
Catalogue number 36-003
(Canada: \$4/\$40; Other Countries: \$5/\$50).

Aviation Statistics Centre Service Bulletin, Vol. 19, No. 8. Catalogue number 51-004
(Canada: \$8.50/\$85; Other Countries: \$9.50/\$95).

Restaurant, Caterer and Tavern Statistics, May 1987. Catalogue number 63-011
(Canada: \$5/\$50; Other Countries: \$6/\$60).

Statistics Canada publications may be purchased by mail order from Publication Sales, Room 1710, Main Building, Statistics Canada, Ottawa K1A 0T6 or phone 613-993-7276.

Please enclose cheque or money order payable to the Receiver General for Canada/Publications and provide full information on publications required (catalogue number, title, issue).

Publications may also be ordered through Statistics Canada's offices in St. John's, Halifax, Montreal, Ottawa, Sturgeon Falls, Toronto, Winnipeg, Regina, Edmonton and Vancouver, or from authorized bookstore agents or other booksellers.

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