

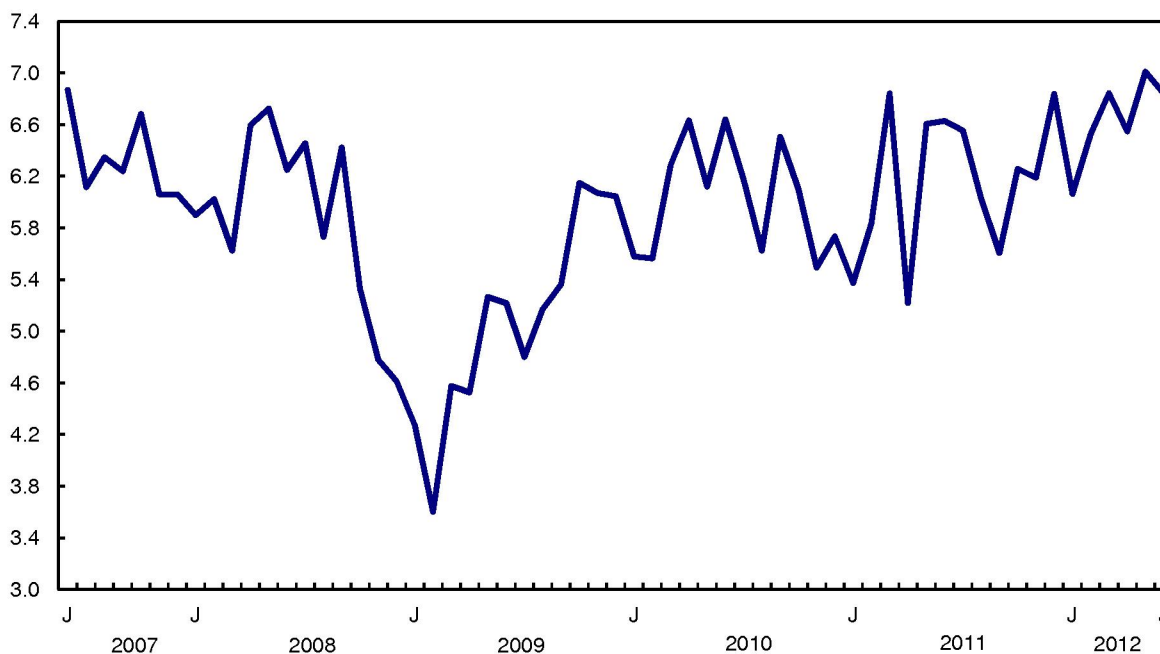
Building permits, June 2012

Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time in *The Daily*, Tuesday, August 7, 2012

The total value of building permits fell 2.5% to \$6.8 billion in June, following a 7.1% increase in May. The decline was largely the result of a decrease in the non-residential and residential sectors in Alberta and British Columbia.

Chart 1
Total value of permits

billions of dollars



Contractors took out \$2.5 billion worth of permits in the non-residential sector, down 12.3%. This decrease followed a 3.6% gain in May. Non-residential construction intentions declined in six provinces, with Alberta and British Columbia accounting for most of the decrease.

In the residential sector, the value of permits rose 4.2% to \$4.4 billion in June, a second consecutive monthly increase. The June advance was mostly attributable to an increase in Ontario.

Non-residential sector: Institutional component down sharply

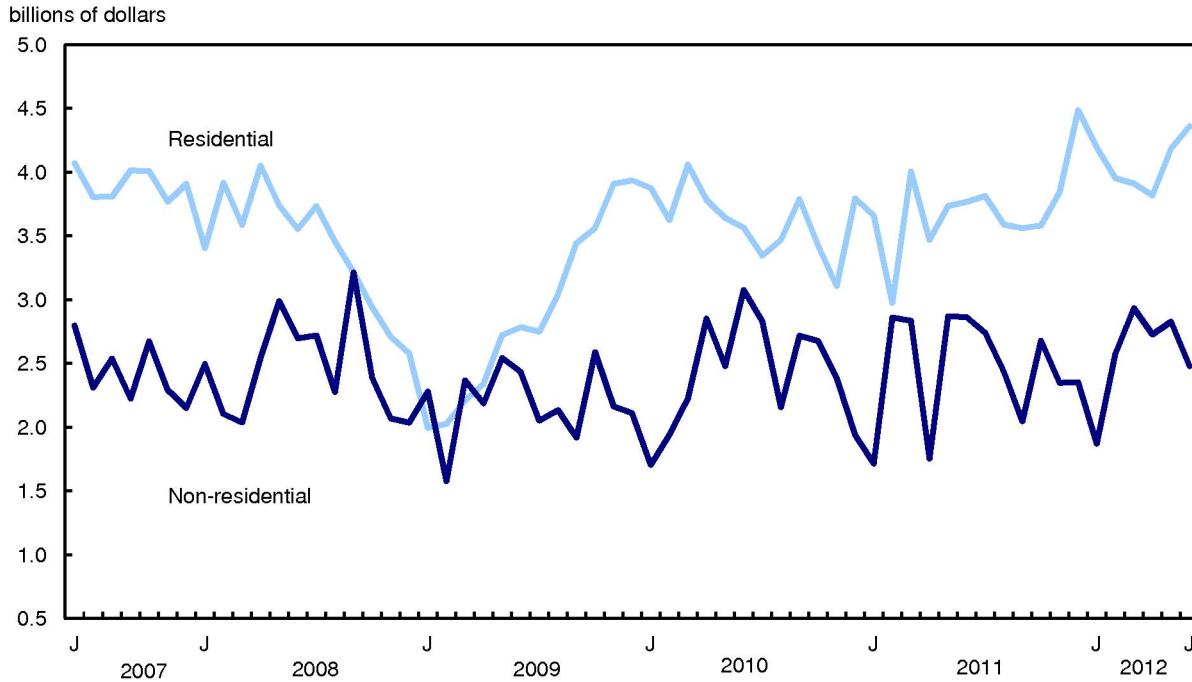
The value of institutional building permits dropped 45.9% to \$519 million in June, following a 72.0% gain the previous month. British Columbia and Alberta led the eight provinces that posted declines. The decrease in British Columbia reflected lower construction intentions for government buildings, while Alberta's decline was mainly the result of lower construction intentions for medical facilities.

In the industrial component, the value of permits edged down 0.2% to \$476 million in June, following a 17.0% decrease in May. This decline was attributable to a decrease in industrial construction intentions in most provinces. Gains in Ontario, British Columbia, Manitoba and New Brunswick were not enough to offset the declines in the six other provinces.



The value of commercial building permits was \$1.5 billion in June, up 6.8%, following a 12.9% decrease in May. The advance was largely attributable to construction intentions for recreational facilities in Ontario. Higher construction intentions for various types of commercial buildings in Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Quebec also contributed to the advance.

Chart 2
Residential and non-residential sectors



Residential sector: Higher intentions for single-family and multi-family dwellings

Construction intentions for single-family dwellings rose 4.2% to \$2.4 billion, a second consecutive monthly increase. The advance was attributable to higher construction intentions in five provinces, led by Ontario.

Municipalities issued \$1.9 billion worth of building permits for multi-family dwellings in June, 4.2% more than in May. The increase was largely the result of higher construction intentions in five provinces. Ontario posted the largest gain, well ahead of Quebec and Manitoba.

Nationally, municipalities approved the construction of 19,605 new dwellings, up 4.1% from May. The increase came from both single-family dwellings, which rose 5.1% to 7,316 units, and multi-family dwellings, which increased 3.6% to 12,289 units.

Declines in most provinces

The total value of building permits was down in seven provinces in June, with Alberta and British Columbia posting the largest declines.

Alberta's decreases stemmed from lower construction intentions in both the residential and non-residential sectors. In British Columbia, the decline resulted from lower construction intentions for institutional and commercial buildings and for multi-family dwellings.

Ontario had the largest monthly increase, a result of growth in the value of building permits for residential and non-residential construction.

Permits value down in most census metropolitan areas

The total value of permits declined in 22 of the 34 census metropolitan areas.

Vancouver, Calgary and Edmonton experienced the largest declines. In Vancouver, the decrease was primarily attributable to construction intentions for institutional buildings and, to a lesser extent, multi-family dwellings, which had recorded large increases in May. In Calgary, the decrease resulted from lower construction intentions for multi-family dwellings and institutional and commercial buildings. The decline observed in Edmonton was mainly attributable to lower construction intentions for institutional buildings and single-family dwellings.

Toronto posted the largest advance, a result of increases in construction permits for residential buildings, mainly semi-detached houses, row houses and single homes, and, to a lesser extent, for non-residential buildings.

Note to readers

Unless otherwise stated, this release presents seasonally adjusted data, which facilitates comparisons by removing the effects of seasonal variations. For more information on seasonal adjustment, see [Seasonal adjustment and identifying economic trends](#).

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 (for example, 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

Data for the current reference month are subject to revision based on late responses. Data have been revised for the previous month.

Table 1
Dwelling units, value of residential and non-residential building permits, Canada – Seasonally adjusted

	June 2011	April 2012	May 2012 ^r	June 2012 ^p	May to June 2012	June 2011 to June 2012
	millions of dollars				% change	
Total	6,627.6	6,544.7	7,010.3	6,837.9	-2.5	3.2
Residential	3,766.4	3,817.7	4,184.8	4,360.5	4.2	15.8
Single ¹	2,233.4	2,266.4	2,348.8	2,448.2	4.2	9.6
Multiple	1,533.0	1,551.3	1,836.0	1,912.3	4.2	24.7
Non-residential	2,861.2	2,727.1	2,825.5	2,477.3	-12.3	-13.4
Industrial	597.4	575.2	477.4	476.4	-0.2	-20.3
Commercial	1,587.8	1,593.6	1,387.7	1,481.4	6.8	-6.7
Institutional	676.0	558.2	960.4	519.5	-45.9	-23.2
	number of units				% change	
Total dwellings	17,252	16,497	18,827	19,605	4.1	13.6
Single ¹	6,979	6,822	6,963	7,316	5.1	4.8
Multiple	10,273	9,675	11,864	12,289	3.6	19.6

^r revised

^p preliminary

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

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

Table 2
Value of building permits, by province and territory – Seasonally adjusted

	June 2011	April 2012	May 2012 ^r	June 2012 ^p	May to June 2012	June 2011 to June 2012
	millions of dollars				% change	
Canada	6,627.6	6,544.7	7,010.3	6,837.9	-2.5	3.2
Residential	3,766.4	3,817.7	4,184.8	4,360.5	4.2	15.8
Non-residential	2,861.2	2,727.1	2,825.5	2,477.3	-12.3	-13.4
Newfoundland and Labrador	90.5	90.3	87.1	68.5	-21.3	-24.3
Residential	60.7	62.0	62.6	55.9	-10.7	-7.8
Non-residential	29.9	28.3	24.5	12.6	-48.4	-57.7
Prince Edward Island	24.0	27.9	30.9	31.0	0.4	29.4
Residential	12.2	15.5	13.5	12.4	-7.7	1.9
Non-residential	11.8	12.4	17.4	18.6	6.7	57.9
Nova Scotia	119.1	102.0	134.6	169.0	25.5	41.9
Residential	79.6	68.7	97.4	93.7	-3.8	17.8
Non-residential	39.5	33.3	37.2	75.2	102.0	90.7
New Brunswick	92.1	100.4	75.3	72.5	-3.7	-21.3
Residential	51.1	54.1	49.6	46.7	-5.8	-8.5
Non-residential	41.0	46.3	25.7	25.7	0.3	-37.2
Quebec	1,624.6	1,395.5	1,316.8	1,312.0	-0.4	-19.2
Residential	853.4	874.8	833.8	861.7	3.3	1.0
Non-residential	771.2	520.7	482.9	450.3	-6.7	-41.6
Ontario	2,358.4	2,212.7	2,294.5	2,710.8	18.1	14.9
Residential	1,263.2	1,315.5	1,455.1	1,721.2	18.3	36.3
Non-residential	1,095.2	897.2	839.4	989.6	17.9	-9.6
Manitoba	171.7	170.2	196.3	192.4	-2.0	12.0
Residential	118.0	105.7	94.4	116.4	23.3	-1.4
Non-residential	53.7	64.5	101.9	76.0	-25.4	41.6
Saskatchewan	230.7	230.7	385.7	308.1	-20.1	33.5
Residential	138.2	168.9	163.9	183.4	11.9	32.7
Non-residential	92.6	61.8	221.8	124.7	-43.8	34.7
Alberta	1,003.7	1,340.9	1,376.1	1,047.8	-23.9	4.4
Residential	567.8	643.4	738.2	624.9	-15.4	10.0
Non-residential	435.8	697.5	637.9	423.0	-33.7	-2.9
British Columbia	881.0	858.3	1,092.5	914.0	-16.3	3.7
Residential	599.0	505.1	664.2	635.3	-4.3	6.1
Non-residential	281.9	353.1	428.3	278.6	-35.0	-1.2
Yukon	15.4	12.8	9.0	7.5	-17.3	-51.4
Residential	10.1	3.1	5.9	6.5	11.1	-35.5
Non-residential	5.3	9.7	3.2	1.0	-69.1	-81.5
Northwest Territories	2.4	3.0	2.1	1.2	-41.5	-47.4
Residential	2.0	0.9	1.7	1.0	-43.1	-51.0
Non-residential	0.4	2.1	0.4	0.3	-34.5	-28.1
Nunavut	14.1	0.0	9.5	3.1	-67.6	-78.2
Residential	11.1	0.0	4.6	1.4	-70.0	-87.6
Non-residential	3.0	0.0	4.9	1.7	-65.3	-43.4

^r revised

^p preliminary

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

Table 3
Value of building permits, by census metropolitan area – Seasonally adjusted¹

	June 2011	April 2012	May 2012 ^r	June 2012 ^p	May to June 2012	June 2011 to June 2012
	millions of dollars				% change	
Total, census metropolitan areas	5,155.4	4,933.4	5,367.7	5,268.0	-1.9	2.2
St. John's	56.3	59.3	56.7	45.2	-20.3	-19.8
Halifax	72.3	48.8	79.4	106.5	34.2	47.4
Moncton	32.0	32.0	26.1	29.7	13.8	-7.0
Saint John	22.7	21.0	12.4	6.2	-49.6	-72.6
Saguenay	34.5	40.3	34.9	35.7	2.3	3.5
Québec	180.3	136.9	173.7	154.7	-11.0	-14.2
Sherbrooke	33.2	34.7	34.1	33.3	-2.5	0.2
Trois-Rivières	15.9	21.0	32.8	27.9	-14.8	75.4
Montréal	973.9	715.0	645.9	636.5	-1.5	-34.6
Ottawa–Gatineau, Ontario/Quebec	202.3	173.4	261.3	216.1	-17.3	6.8
Gatineau part	45.2	56.5	45.3	49.5	9.3	9.4
Ottawa part	157.1	116.9	216.1	166.6	-22.9	6.1
Kingston	24.7	43.2	25.8	23.6	-8.3	-4.3
Peterborough	18.4	5.9	17.9	17.5	-2.2	-4.8
Oshawa	98.9	73.3	78.0	76.6	-1.8	-22.6
Toronto	998.5	1,063.3	1,067.8	1,502.7	40.7	50.5
Hamilton	115.3	117.9	110.6	123.1	11.3	6.8
St. Catharines–Niagara	41.0	43.7	65.8	33.6	-48.9	-17.9
Kitchener–Cambridge–Waterloo	149.9	91.5	81.5	81.8	0.3	-45.5
Brantford	10.3	21.4	18.6	10.3	-44.7	0.3
Guelph	14.9	15.2	37.6	25.4	-32.5	70.4
London	231.9	87.8	117.4	112.0	-4.7	-51.7
Windsor	29.8	34.8	33.8	76.4	125.8	156.2
Barrie	35.0	22.7	22.8	14.2	-37.8	-59.4
Greater Sudbury	21.6	10.9	28.0	21.9	-21.5	1.8
Thunder Bay	29.1	110.1	22.1	18.6	-16.0	-36.0
Winnipeg	100.8	111.2	122.1	134.5	10.2	33.5
Regina	49.8	55.5	71.8	116.3	61.9	133.6
Saskatoon	108.1	112.5	191.7	115.3	-39.9	6.7
Calgary	445.2	685.1	519.9	392.7	-24.5	-11.8
Edmonton	311.9	288.9	479.2	367.7	-23.3	17.9
Kelowna	62.4	28.8	21.9	22.3	1.8	-64.4
Abbotsford–Mission	19.1	10.2	12.0	18.6	54.3	-2.7
Vancouver	526.5	561.9	785.3	629.7	-19.8	19.6
Victoria	89.2	55.2	78.5	41.3	-47.3	-53.7

^r revised

^p preliminary

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

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

Available without charge in CANSIM: tables 026-0001 to 026-0008 and 026-0010.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 2802.

The June 2012 issue of *Building Permits* (64-001-X, free) will soon be available.

The July building permits data will be released on September 7.

For more information, contact Statistics Canada's National Contact Centre
(toll-free 1-800-263-1136; 613-951-8116; infostats@statcan.gc.ca).

To enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact Mahamat Hamit-Haggar
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