

Residential construction investment, second quarter 2015

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Investment in residential construction totalled \$28.9 billion in the second quarter, up 4.0% from the same quarter in 2014.

Renovation spending (up 4.3% to \$13.9 billion), investment in apartment and apartment-condominium buildings (up 9.9% to \$3.9 billion) and acquisition costs for new dwelling units built (up 9.9% to \$2.7 billion) were responsible for most of the advance at the national level.

Total investment in residential construction increased in four provinces in the second quarter, with Ontario posting the largest advance, followed by British Columbia, Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia.

In Ontario, investment rose 8.1% to \$10.4 billion in the second quarter compared with the same quarter of 2014. Spending on single-family dwellings, renovation, apartment and apartment-condominium buildings as well as acquisition costs related to new dwelling units built were the largest contributors to the advance.

In British Columbia, residential construction investment increased 14.6% in the second quarter to \$4.3 billion. The advance came from higher investment in all dwelling types, except mobile homes. However, single-family dwellings, renovation of existing residential buildings, apartment and apartment-condominium buildings and acquisition costs accounted for much of the gain.

In Prince Edward Island, total investment in residential construction increased 68.8% to \$120 million. The gain was mainly attributable to higher renovation spending.

In Nova Scotia, total spending on residential construction increased 6.3% from the same quarter a year earlier to \$543 million in the second quarter. The increase was the result of higher investment in apartment and apartment-condominium building construction and, to a lesser degree, higher spending in renovation work.

The largest declines were registered in Alberta, Quebec and Saskatchewan.

In Alberta, investment in residential construction decreased 2.3% to \$4.6 billion in the second quarter. Lower spending on renovations, single-family dwellings and mobile homes more than offset increased investment in apartment and apartment-condominium buildings and row houses, as well as acquisition costs.

In Quebec, spending in the construction of residential buildings declined 1.2% to \$6.4 billion. The decline was mainly the result of lower investment in single housing, apartment and apartment-condominium buildings, and converted dwelling units, as well as lower acquisition costs. However, spending on renovation work was up 8.5% to \$4.1 billion in the quarter.

In Saskatchewan, investment totalled \$917 million in the second quarter, down 3.0% from the same quarter in 2014. The decrease occurred mostly as a result of lower investment in the construction of single-family houses and mobile homes, as well as lower acquisition costs.



Note to readers

Data on residential construction investment are not seasonally adjusted and all comparisons in this release are between the second quarter of 2014 and the second quarter of 2015. Data are expressed in current dollars and are available at national and provincial levels.

A new revision schedule has been implemented. Annual revisions of the three most recent calendar years will take place during the release of the third quarter data at the beginning of December, rather than in June, as was previously the practice.

With this release, data for the first quarter have been revised.

Unless otherwise stated, the highlights are ranked in terms of dollar change rather than percentage change.

Next release

Data on residential construction investment for the third quarter will be released on December 3.

Table 1
Residential construction investment

	Second quarter 2014	Second quarter 2015	Second quarter 2014 to second quarter 2015
	millions of dollars		% change
Canada	27,817.5	28,933.8	4.0
Newfoundland and Labrador	452.4	428.9	-5.2
Prince Edward Island	70.9	119.7	68.8
Nova Scotia	510.6	542.9	6.3
New Brunswick	421.8	397.4	-5.8
Quebec	6,432.7	6,356.0	-1.2
Ontario	9,593.1	10,372.2	8.1
Manitoba	808.0	796.1	-1.5
Saskatchewan	945.4	917.3	-3.0
Alberta	4,748.8	4,637.7	-2.3
British Columbia	3,733.4	4,277.6	14.6
Yukon	44.4	41.1	-7.5
Northwest Territories	32.7	28.8	-11.9
Nunavut	23.2	18.1	-21.9

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

Source(s): CANSIM table [026-0013](#).

Available in CANSIM: table [026-0013](#).

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number [5016](#).

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