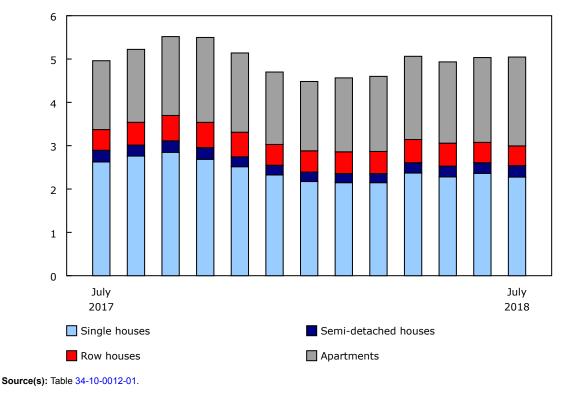
Investment in new housing construction, July 2018

Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time in The Daily, Thursday, September 20, 2018

Investment in new housing construction increased 1.7% year over year to \$5.0 billion in July. The growth was driven solely by investment in apartment building construction, as construction of single, double and row houses all declined compared with July 2017.

Chart 1 Investment in new housing construction, by type of dwelling



billions of dollars

Spending was up in four provinces, led by Quebec (+\$98.5 million) and British Columbia (+\$71.4 million) and, to a lesser extent, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. The growth in Quebec and British Columbia resulted from investment in apartment building construction, while in Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, the increase was mainly attributable to investment in single home construction.

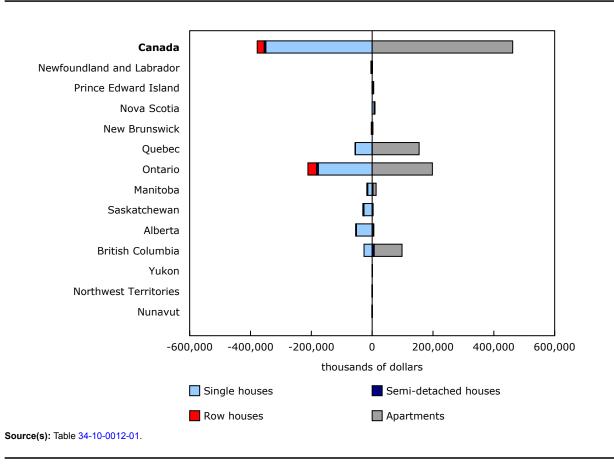
Spending on apartment building construction was up 29.1% (+\$462.0 million) to \$2.1 billion in July. Investment was up in every province, led by Ontario (+\$198.0 million), Quebec (+\$154.0 million) and British Columbia (+\$91.5 million). Apartment building construction in Ontario grew 39.7% compared with July 2017 to \$696.8 million, the highest level on record. In Quebec, apartment building construction rose 41.8% and has posted double-digit year-over-year increases since June 2017.





In Alberta, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, investment in apartment building construction rose following several consecutive year-over-year drops. Alberta (+1.0% or +\$1.7 million) and New Brunswick (+15.2% or +\$0.9 million) both posted their first year-over-year gains since February 2018. A similar pattern was observed in Nova Scotia (+1.8% or +\$0.6 million), where investment in apartment building construction increased for the first time since January 2018.

Chart 2 Year-over-year change of investment in new housing construction (by dwelling type)



Investment in single home construction declined for a fifth consecutive month, down 13.3% or \$349.7 million year over year in July. Investment in single home construction was down in eight provinces, mainly in Ontario (-\$177.2 million), Quebec (-\$55.4 million) and Alberta (-\$51.8 million). Meanwhile, investment in Nova Scotia (+\$6.6 million) and Prince Edward Island (+\$2.7 million) increased.

Spending on row unit construction was down \$22.8 million or 4.8% in July, marking the first year-over-year decrease since July 2013. The largest drop in spending was in Ontario, down \$28.3 million compared with July last year.

Table 1Investment in new housing construction, by type of dwelling, Canada

| | July 2017 | July 2018 | July 2017 to July 2018 |
|----------------------|---------------------|--------------|------------------------|
| | millions of dollars | | % change |
| New dwellings, total | 4,961.2 | 5,045.2 | 1.7 |
| Single houses | 2,625.5 | 2,275.7 | -13.3 |
| Semi-detached | 268.6 | 263.3 | -2.0 |
| Row houses | 478.4 | 455.6 | -4.8 |
| Apartments | 1,588.7 | 2,050.7 | 29.1 |

Source(s): Table 34-10-0012-01.

Table 2

Investment in new housing construction, by province and territory

| | July 2017 | July 2018 | July 2017 to July 2018 |
|---------------------------|---------------------|-----------|------------------------|
| | millions of dollars | % change | |
| Canada | 4,961.2 | 5,045.2 | 1.7 |
| Newfoundland and Labrador | 24.8 | 21.5 | -13.5 |
| Prince Edward Island | 16.8 | 21.7 | 28.9 |
| Nova Scotia | 72.3 | 81.2 | 12.3 |
| New Brunswick | 37.0 | 36.3 | -1.9 |
| Quebec | 809.7 | 908.2 | 12.2 |
| Ontario | 1,950.5 | 1,937.2 | -0.7 |
| Manitoba | 151.2 | 146.6 | -3.0 |
| Saskatchewan | 104.0 | 76.5 | -26.4 |
| Alberta | 760.4 | 711.6 | -6.4 |
| British Columbia | 1,023.1 | 1,094.5 | 7.0 |
| Yukon | 7.2 | 7.7 | 7.5 |
| Northwest Territories | 2.3 | 1.6 | -33.1 |
| Nunavut | 1.9 | 0.7 | -62.0 |

Source(s): Table 34-10-0012-01.

Infographic 1 – New housing construction investment, June 2018

July 2018 New housing investment

Figure 1: Year-over-year change of investment in new housing

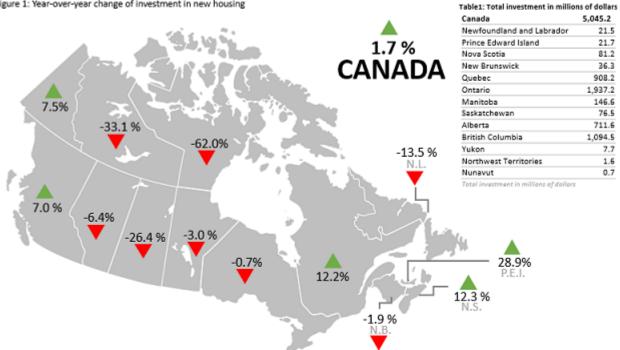
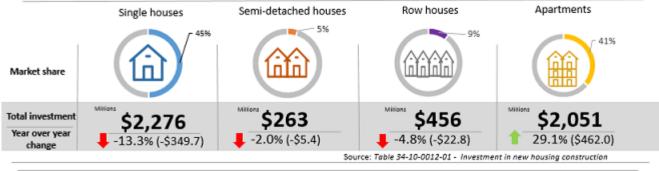


Figure 2. Investment in new housing construction; market share and year-over-year changes



Note to readers

Data on investment in new housing construction (including single-family housing, semi-detached housing, row housing, apartments and condominiums) are not seasonally adjusted, and all comparisons in this release are between July 2017 and July 2018.

Data in table 34-10-0012-01 are available at the national and provincial-territorial levels in both current and constant dollars (base year 2007).

Unless otherwise specified, the highlights refer to current dollars and are ranked in terms of dollar change rather than percentage change.

Available tables: table 34-10-0012-01.

Definitions, data sources and methods: survey number 5155.

For more information, or to enquire about the concepts, methods or data quality of this release, contact us (toll-free 1-800-263-1136; 514-283-8300; **STATCAN.infostats-infostats.STATCAN@canada.ca**) or Media Relations (613-951-4636; **STATCAN.mediahotline-ligneinfomedias.STATCAN@canada.ca**).