

Building permits, March 2022

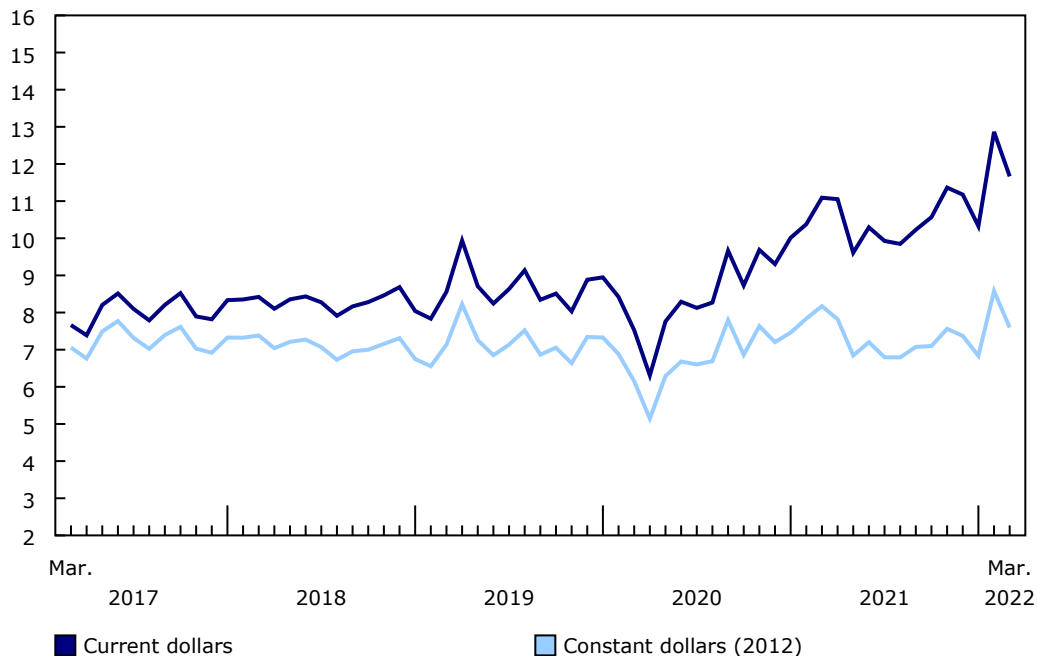
Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time in *The Daily*, Monday, May 9, 2022

The total value of building permits in Canada decreased 9.3% in March to \$11.7 billion, mainly due to the non-residential sector (-29.5% to \$3.7 billion). Two large hospital permits issued in February pushed that month's total to a record high.

On a constant dollar basis (2012=100), the total value of building permits was down 11.5% to \$7.6 billion in March.

Chart 1
Total value of building permits, seasonally adjusted

billions of dollars



Source(s): Table 34-10-0066-01.

Infographic 1 – Building permits, March 2022

March 2022

Building permits

Figure 1 Month-to-month change in total value of building permits (seasonally adjusted)

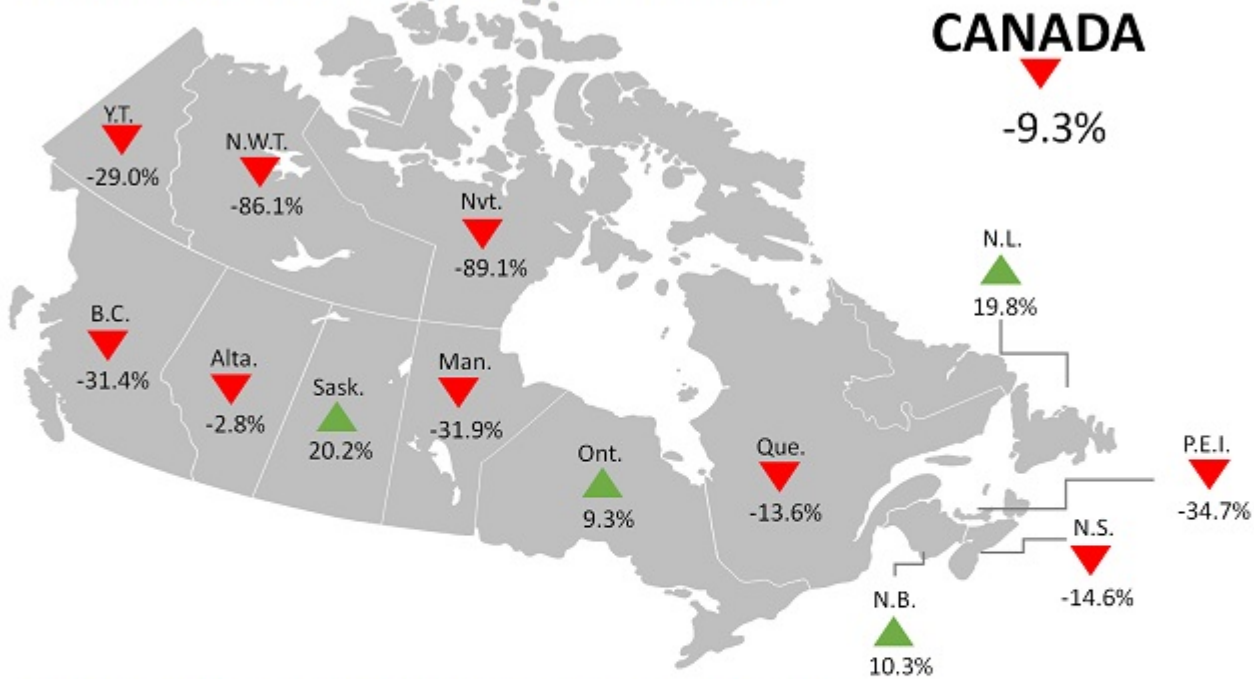
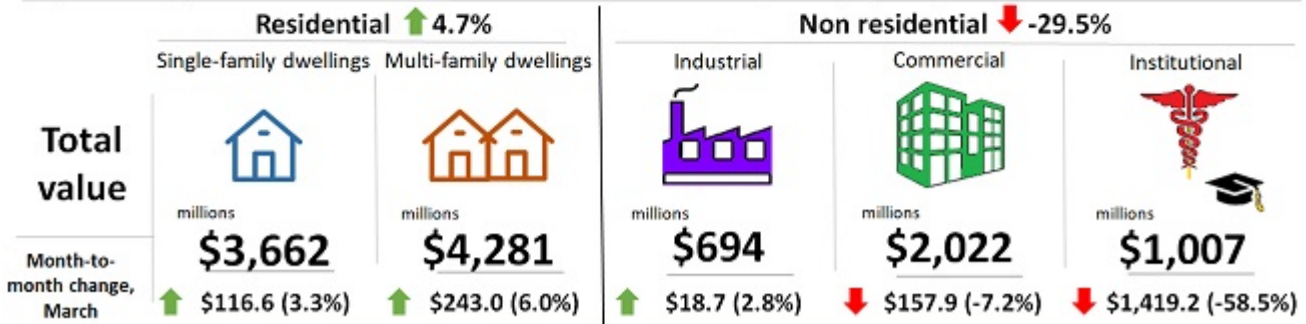


Figure 2 Building permits for residential and non-residential construction in Canada (seasonally adjusted)



Source: Table 34-10-0066-01—Building permits, by type of structure and type of work.

Residential sector up in March

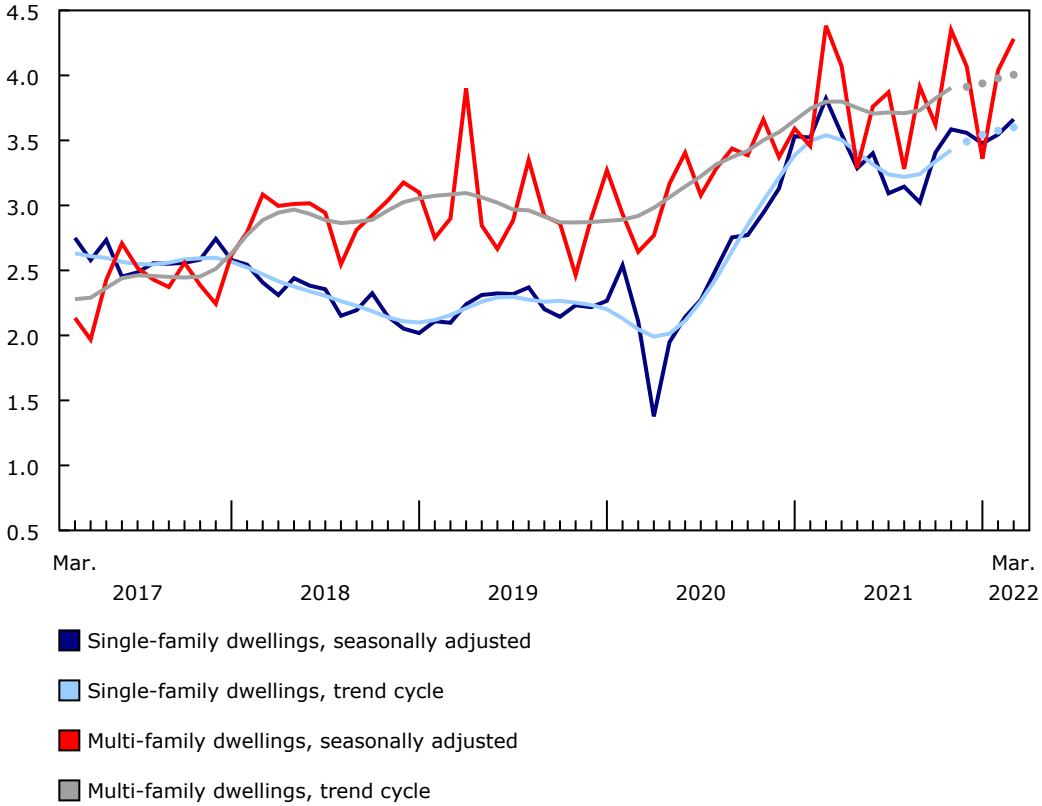
Residential permits in March increased 4.7% to \$7.9 billion nationally.

Construction intentions for single family homes were up 3.3%, reaching the highest value since March 2021, with Ontario registering the largest gain (+12.0%).

The value of multi-family building permits rose 6.0% nationally, helped by high value projects such as a \$457 million permit for the Ravine condos in the city of Toronto.

Chart 2
Value of building permits for the single-family and multi-family components

billions of dollars

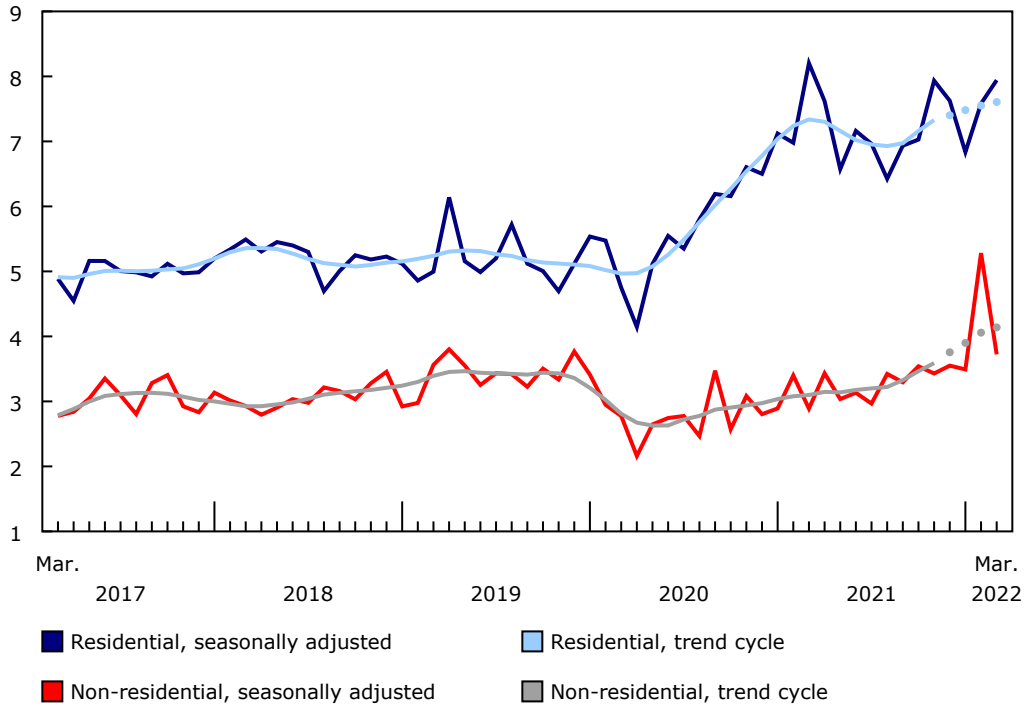


Note(s): The higher variability associated with the trend-cycle estimates is indicated with a dotted line on the chart for the current reference month and the previous three months. For more information, see the note to readers.

Source(s): Table 34-10-0066-01.

Chart 3
Value of building permits for the residential and non-residential sectors

billions of dollars



Note(s): The higher variability associated with the trend-cycle estimates is indicated with a dotted line on the chart for the current reference month and the previous three months. For more information, see the note to readers.
Source(s): Table 34-10-0066-01.

Non-residential sector pulls back following strong February

The total value of non-residential sector permits fell 29.5% in March, largely due to the institutional component (-58.5%) returning to more normal levels after two large hospital permits were issued in February. Commercial building intentions in March saw a 7.2% decline, while industrial construction (+2.8%) was the only component to post an increase.

First quarter of 2022 reaches record high

The total value of building permits in the first quarter of 2022 increased 5.3% from the fourth quarter of 2021, to \$34.9 billion.

The non-residential sector jumped 18.8% in the first quarter of 2022 to a record high of \$12.5 billion, largely due to the institutional component (+58.6%) which saw two hospital permits issued in Vancouver and Quebec, valued at a combined \$1.9 billion. The industrial (+15.3%) and commercial (+2.0%) components also saw gains for the quarter.

The residential sector saw a 1.0% decline in the first quarter of 2022 compared with the fourth quarter of 2021, with a decrease in multi-family permits (-3.0%) more than offsetting a slight gain in single-family construction intentions (+1.3%).

To explore data using an interactive user interface, visit the [Building permits: Interactive Dashboard](#).

To explore the impact of COVID-19 on the socioeconomic landscape, please consult the [Canadian Economic Dashboard and COVID-19](#).

For more information on housing, please visit the [Housing statistics](#) portal.

Statistics Canada has a [Housing Market Indicators](#) dashboard. This web application provides access to key housing market indicators for Canada, by province and by census metropolitan area. These indicators are updated automatically with new information from monthly releases, giving users access to the latest data.

Note to readers

As of February 1, 2022, the Building Permits Survey introduced an electronic questionnaire to replace older collection methods such as paper questionnaires, faxes and emails. As Statistics Canada migrates to this new system, data included in this release may see larger than normal monthly revisions.

Unless otherwise stated, this release presents seasonally adjusted data with current dollar values, which facilitate month-to-month and quarter-to-quarter comparisons by removing the effects of seasonal variations. For information on seasonal adjustment, see [Seasonally adjusted data – Frequently asked questions](#).

Starting with the March 2021 reference period, monthly constant dollar estimates are available for the entire data series (34-10-0066-01). Constant dollars remove the effects of price changes over time and are calculated using quarterly deflators from the Building Construction Price Index (18-10-0135-01). Typically, the first two months of a quarter use the previous quarter's price level and are revised when the new quarterly price index becomes available.

Building components

- **Single-family dwellings:** Residential buildings containing only one dwelling unit (e.g., single-detached house, bungalow, linked home [linked at the foundation]).
- **Multi-family dwellings:** Residential buildings containing multiple dwelling units (e.g., apartment, apartment condominium, row house, semi-detached house).
- **Industrial buildings:** Buildings used in the processing or production of goods, or related to transportation and communication.
- **Commercial buildings:** Buildings used in the trade or distribution of goods and services, including office buildings.
- **Institutional and government buildings:** Buildings used to house public and semi-public services, such as those related to health and welfare, education, or public administration, as well as buildings used for religious services.

Revision

Unadjusted data for the current reference month are subject to revisions based on late responses. Data for the two previous months have been revised. Seasonally adjusted data for the previous three months have also been revised.

Trend-cycle estimates have been added to the charts as a complement to the seasonally adjusted series. Both seasonally adjusted data and trend-cycle estimates are subject to revision as additional observations become available. These revisions could be large and could even lead to a reversal of movement, especially at the end of the series. The higher variability associated with trend-cycle estimates is indicated with a dotted line on the charts.

For information on trend-cycle data, see the [StatCan Blog](#) and [Trend-cycle estimates – Frequently asked questions](#).

Next release

Data on building permits for April will be released on June 2.

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

	March 2021	January 2022 ^r	February 2022 ^r	March 2022 ^p	February to March 2022	March 2021 to March 2022
	millions of dollars				% change	
Total	11,092.2	10,327.3	12,864.7	11,665.9	-9.3	5.2
Residential	8,203.1	6,835.7	7,582.4	7,942.0	4.7	-3.2
Single ¹	3,821.6	3,476.8	3,544.9	3,661.5	3.3	-4.2
Multiple	4,381.5	3,358.9	4,037.5	4,280.5	6.0	-2.3
Non-residential	2,889.1	3,491.6	5,282.3	3,723.9	-29.5	28.9
Industrial	678.6	940.2	675.5	694.2	2.8	2.3
Commercial	1,463.3	1,788.2	2,180.3	2,022.4	-7.2	38.2
Institutional	747.3	763.2	2,426.5	1,007.3	-58.5	34.8
	number of units				% change	
Total dwellings	29,057	22,548	25,118	23,207	-7.6	-20.1
Single ¹	7,565	6,707	6,732	6,283	-6.7	-16.9
Multiple	21,493	15,841	18,386	16,924	-8.0	-21.3

^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 up to totals as a result of rounding.

Source(s): Table 34-10-0066-01.

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

	March 2021	January 2022 ^r	February 2022 ^r	March 2022 ^P	February to March 2022	March 2021 to March 2022
	millions of dollars				% change	
Canada	11,092.2	10,327.3	12,864.7	11,665.9	-9.3	5.2
Residential	8,203.1	6,835.7	7,582.4	7,942.0	4.7	-3.2
Non-residential	2,889.1	3,491.6	5,282.3	3,723.9	-29.5	28.9
Newfoundland and Labrador	31.9	31.1	47.0	56.3	19.8	76.3
Residential	24.7	28.0	34.7	36.9	6.5	49.5
Non-residential	7.2	3.1	12.3	19.3	57.3	168.0
Prince Edward Island	79.5	38.7	68.8	44.9	-34.7	-43.5
Residential	59.4	35.0	47.7	38.0	-20.5	-36.1
Non-residential	20.1	3.7	21.0	6.9 ^E	-67.1	-65.5
Nova Scotia	176.0	184.7	220.7	188.4	-14.6	7.0
Residential	154.2	151.3	169.6	146.8	-13.4	-4.8
Non-residential	21.9	33.5	51.1	41.6	-18.5	90.1
New Brunswick	131.6	101.9	141.8	156.4	10.3	18.8
Residential	97.4	75.6	107.9	110.2	2.2	13.2
Non-residential	34.2	26.3	33.9	46.2	36.1	34.8
Quebec	2,375.3	2,548.7	2,910.2	2,514.8	-13.6	5.9
Residential	1,688.1	1,637.3	1,669.7	1,536.6	-8.0	-9.0
Non-residential	687.2	911.4	1,240.5	978.2	-21.1	42.3
Ontario	4,910.6	4,340.7	4,407.8	4,816.4	9.3	-1.9
Residential	3,670.7	2,906.3	3,123.0	3,419.5	9.5	-6.8
Non-residential	1,239.9	1,434.5	1,284.8	1,396.9	8.7	12.7
Manitoba	317.1	263.7	425.8	289.9	-31.9	-8.6
Residential	204.0	189.9	200.9	183.6	-8.6	-10.0
Non-residential	113.1	73.9	224.9	106.4	-52.7	-5.9
Saskatchewan	125.4	166.7	151.9	182.6	20.2	45.7
Residential	82.3	80.4	83.4	107.8	29.3	31.1
Non-residential	43.1	86.3	68.5	74.8	9.1	73.4
Alberta	1,157.5	1,231.1	1,210.3	1,176.4	-2.8	1.6
Residential	785.5	756.6	778.1	767.1	-1.4	-2.3
Non-residential	371.9	474.6	432.2	409.3	-5.3	10.1
British Columbia	1,761.8	1,416.0	3,248.9	2,229.4	-31.4	26.5
Residential	1,418.5	972.5	1,350.5	1,588.7	17.6	12.0
Non-residential	343.3	443.5	1,898.4	640.7	-66.3	86.6
Yukon	5.0	2.5	11.2	7.9	-29.0	57.1
Residential	3.4	2.0	3.6	5.4	49.7	57.7
Non-residential	1.6	0.5	7.5	2.5	-66.7	55.7
Northwest Territories	15.2	1.3	6.2	0.9	-86.1	-94.4
Residential	12.9	0.8	4.6	0.6	-87.3	-95.5
Non-residential	2.3	0.4	1.5	0.3	-82.3	-88.1
Nunavut	5.2 ^E	0.0	14.2	1.5	-89.1	-70.3
Residential	2.0 ^E	0.0	8.7	0.7	-91.8	-63.7
Non-residential	3.3 ^E	0.0	5.5	0.8	-84.8	-74.3

r revised

P preliminary

E use with caution

Note(s): Data may not add up to totals as a result of rounding.**Source(s):** Table 34-10-0066-01.

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

	March 2021	January 2022 ^r	February 2022 ^r	March 2022 ^p	February to March 2022	March 2021 to March 2022
	millions of dollars				% change	
Total, census metropolitan areas	8,419.7	6,990.3	9,195.7	8,608.4	-6.4	2.2
St. John's	21.1	23.3	38.5	34.0	-11.7	61.3
Halifax	95.6	100.1	112.9	101.6	-10.0	6.3
Moncton	34.9	24.4	48.4	40.6	-16.0	16.6
Saint John	22.0	23.1	19.3 ^E	27.2	40.4	23.5
Saguenay	49.3	37.8	49.3	27.7	-43.7	-43.8
Québec	324.3	211.1	586.6	238.4	-59.4	-26.5
Sherbrooke	78.0	39.4	63.1	68.2	8.1	-12.5
Trois-Rivières	38.0	32.4	51.3	41.6	-18.9	9.4
Montréal	1,073.4	1,104.8	1,257.5	1,108.6	-11.8	3.3
Ottawa–Gatineau, Ontario and Quebec	348.2	328.7	445.2	423.7	-4.8	21.7
Gatineau part	108.1	66.1	138.7	88.7	-36.0	-17.9
Ottawa part	240.1	262.5	306.5	335.0	9.3	39.5
Kingston	38.4	21.0	40.0	40.4	1.0	5.2
Belleville	22.1	36.8	19.8	23.6	19.0	6.6
Peterborough	26.0	39.9	72.3	42.3	-41.5	63.0
Oshawa	233.8	93.8	89.9	133.9	49.0	-42.7
Toronto	2,211.6	1,840.9	1,876.0	2,266.3	20.8	2.5
Hamilton	312.9	130.8	98.8	157.8	59.7	-49.6
St. Catharines–Niagara	135.6	130.8	106.0	134.8	27.2	-0.6
Kitchener–Cambridge–Waterloo	240.9	172.5	142.7	181.0	26.8	-24.9
Brantford	29.8	35.0	51.9	58.0	11.7	94.4
Guelph	48.7	46.3	66.6	53.4	-19.8	9.6
London	281.0	215.1	251.8	195.2	-22.5	-30.6
Windsor	103.8	53.0	39.9	61.2	53.4	-41.0
Barrie	130.6	50.6	60.3	201.2	233.6	54.1
Greater Sudbury	23.5	27.9	24.0 ^E	33.0	37.2	40.6
Thunder Bay	9.8	5.8	7.4	5.3	-29.3	-46.3
Winnipeg	210.7	183.0	269.8	196.4	-27.2	-6.8
Regina	25.3	38.9	43.9	50.7	15.3	100.1
Saskatoon	62.1	76.4	62.8	84.8	34.9	36.5
Lethbridge	26.1	27.3	25.6	29.1	14.0	11.6
Calgary	478.3	550.6	572.6	504.3	-11.9	5.4
Edmonton	360.6	383.3	353.6	383.6	8.5	6.4
Kelowna	101.4	72.6	71.1	155.0	117.9	52.8
Abbotsford–Mission	68.0	44.3	73.4	79.4	8.1	16.8
Vancouver	1,054.0	689.7	1,991.0	1,260.5	-36.7	19.6
Victoria	99.9	99.0	112.0	165.5	47.8	65.7

^r revised

^p preliminary

^E use with caution

1. Go online to view the census subdivisions that make up the [census metropolitan areas](#).

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

Source(s): Table [34-10-0066-01](#).

Available tables: [table 34-10-0066-01](#).

Definitions, data sources and methods: [survey number 2802](#).

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; infostats@statcan.gc.ca) or Media Relations (statcan.mediahotline-ligneinfomedias.statcan@statcan.gc.ca).