

# Building permits, March 2025

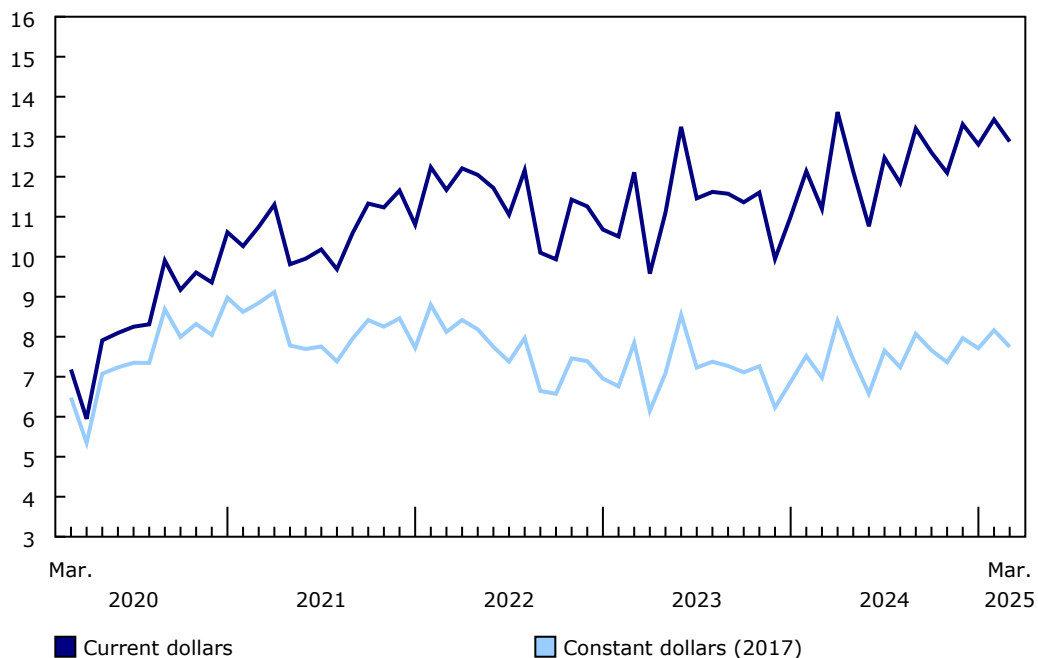
Released at 8:30 a.m. Eastern time in *The Daily*, Wednesday, May 14, 2025

In March, the total value of building permits issued in Canada decreased by \$549.4 million (-4.1%) to \$12.9 billion. The decrease was led by the non-residential sector (-\$716.3 million), and it was tempered by the residential sector (+\$166.9 million).

On a constant dollar basis (2017=100), the total value of building permits issued in March decreased 5.1% from the previous month and was up 11.1% on a year-over-year basis.

**Chart 1**  
**Total value of building permits, seasonally adjusted**

billions of dollars



Source(s): Table 34-10-0285-01.

Infographic 1 – Building permits, March 2025

# March 2025

## Building permits

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

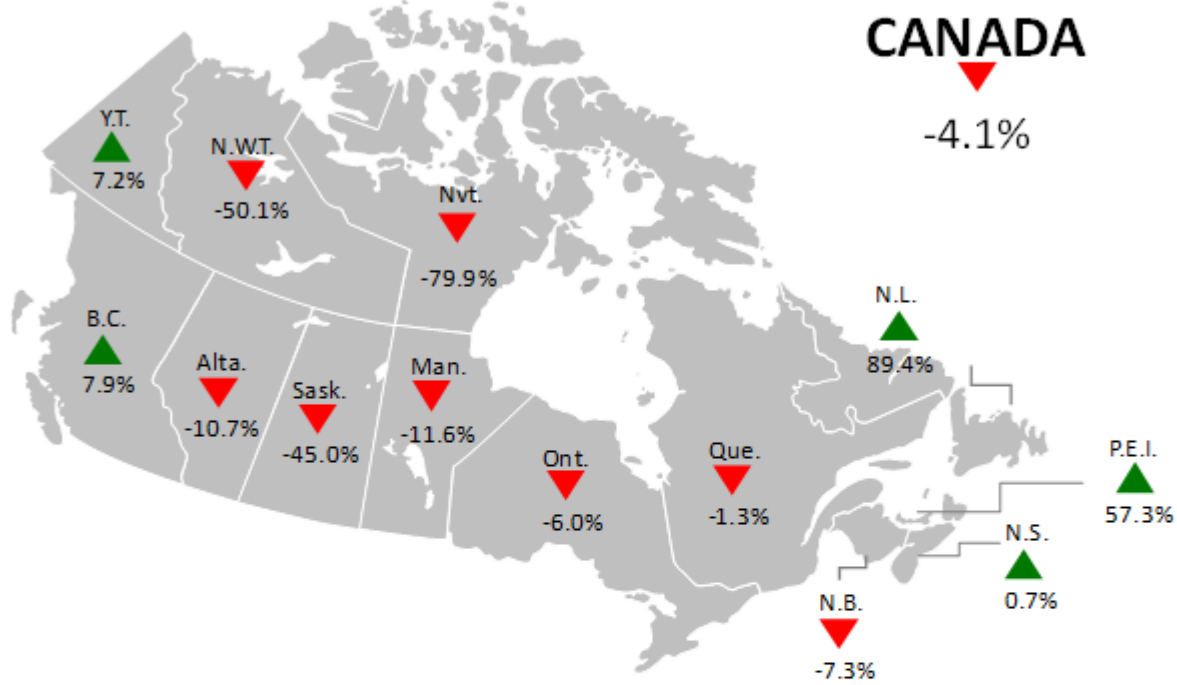
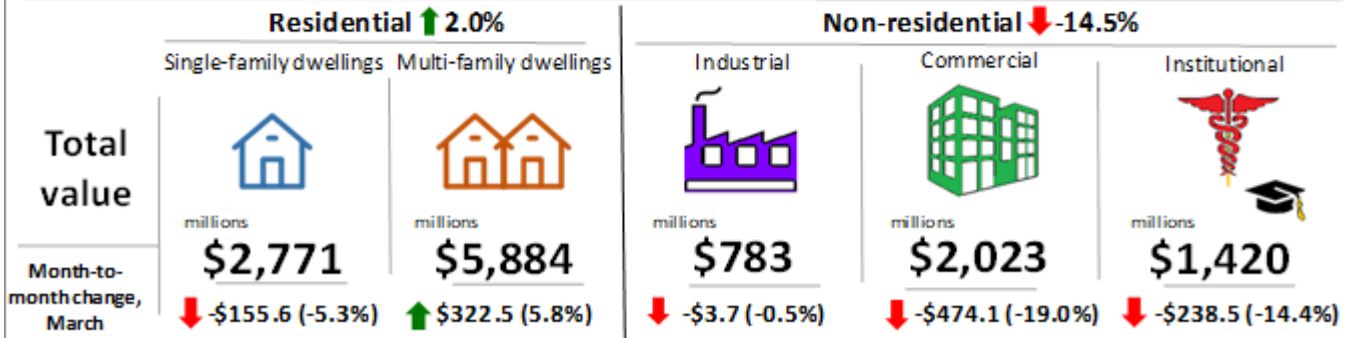


Figure 2 Building permits for residential and non-residential construction in Canada (seasonally adjusted, current dollars)



Source(s): Table 34-10-0285-01—Building permits, by type of building and type of work.



Statistics Canada / Statistique Canada

Canada

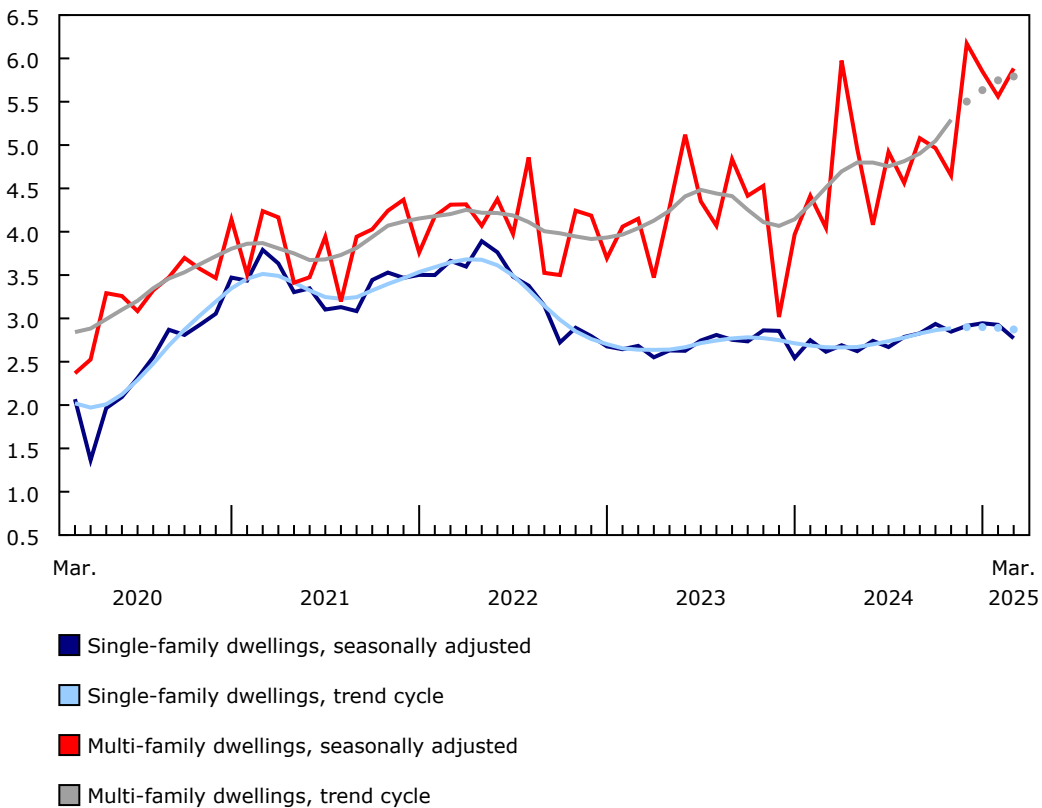
## Commercial construction intentions drive the fall in the non-residential sector

The value of non-residential building permits decreased by \$716.3 million to \$4.2 billion in March, marking a 14.5% decline from the previous month. Commercial construction intentions led the decline, dropping \$474.1 million (-19.0%) to \$2.0 billion in March. Meanwhile, the institutional component (-\$238.5 million; -14.4%) also saw a decrease. The industrial component (-\$3.7 million; -0.5%) experienced a minor decline, continuing its downward trend seen since October 2024.

The reduction in commercial construction intentions in March 2025 was most pronounced in Ontario (-\$268.6 million), and it was supported by declines in British Columbia (-\$187.1 million), three additional provinces and two territories. Concurrently, Saskatchewan (-\$293.7 million) drove the institutional component decrease; this component rose in February, driven by a building permit being issued for a hospital. Losses in the institutional component in March were partially offset by a gain in Ontario (+\$121.1 million), supported by construction intentions for long-term care facilities and day care centres in the province. The loss in the industrial component was driven by Alberta (-\$152.4 million); there were additional decreases in six provinces and one territory. Ontario's increase of \$177.2 million helped mitigate the overall decline.

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

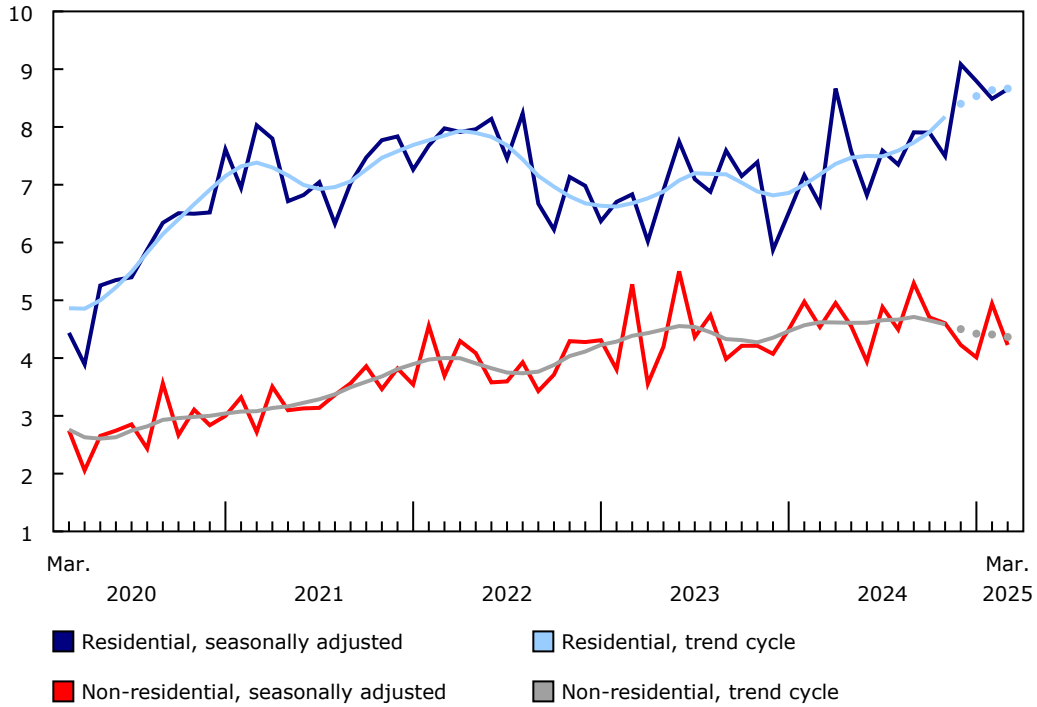
billions of dollars



**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 34-10-0285-01.

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

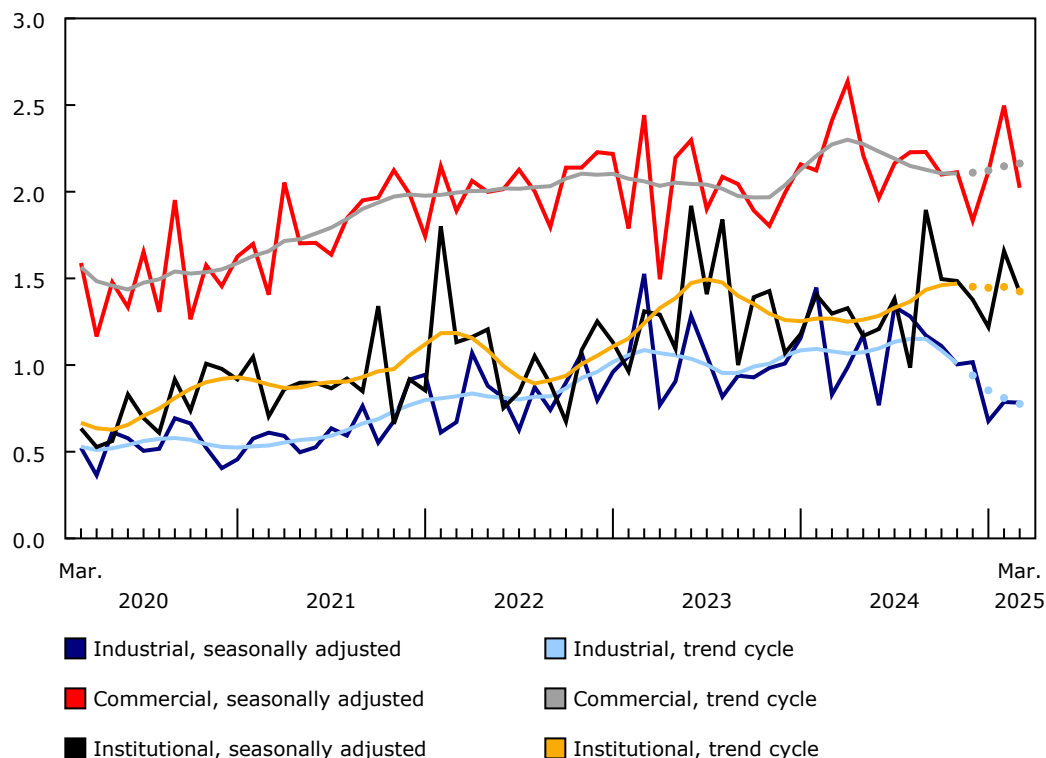
billions of dollars



**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 34-10-0285-01.

**Chart 4**  
**Value of building permits for the industrial, commercial and institutional 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 34-10-0285-01.

### Single-family permits slow residential sector growth

Residential construction intentions in Canada increased \$166.9 million (+2.0%) in March to reach \$8.7 billion. A gain in the multi-family component (+\$322.5 million to \$5.9 billion) was partially offset by a decline in the single-family component (-\$155.6 million to \$2.8 billion).

The rise in the multi-family component in March was particularly strong in British Columbia (+\$397.8 million), driven by the Vancouver census metropolitan area (CMA) (+\$652.3 million).

Meanwhile, the single-family component decrease was primarily observed in Ontario (-\$185.7 million) and was supported by Quebec (-\$26.0 million).

Overall, 22,800 multi-family dwellings and 4,400 single-family dwellings were authorized for construction in March, representing a 4.6% increase from the previous month.

### Quarterly review: British Columbia leads gains in the first quarter

The total value of building permits in the first quarter was \$39.1 billion, up 2.9% from the previous quarter (\$38.0 billion), a fifth consecutive quarterly increase. British Columbia (+\$1.7 billion) led the growth in construction intentions.

The residential sector grew \$1.5 billion (+5.9%) to \$25.9 billion in the first quarter, fuelled by a gain in the multi-family component (+\$1.5 billion; +9.6%) to reach a record high of \$17.3 billion. The gain in multi-family construction intentions was concentrated in British Columbia (+\$1.2 billion), driven by broad-based growth in the Vancouver CMA.

Meanwhile, single-family construction intentions edged down \$55.0 million (-0.6%) to \$8.6 billion, with Alberta (-\$75.2 million) and Ontario (-\$64.1 million) leading the decline. Nova Scotia (+\$34.7 million) tempered these losses, along with five other provinces and one territory.

Non-residential construction intentions declined by \$354.1 million (-2.6%) to \$13.2 billion in the first quarter, a second consecutive quarterly decline. Decreases in the industrial (-\$884.5 million) and institutional (-\$60.7 million) components were tempered by a gain in the commercial component (+\$591.1 million).

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

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

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

### **Did you know we have a mobile app?**

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### Note to readers

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](#).

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

Data may not add up to totals as a result of rounding.

Table 34-10-0285 will be archived and replaced by table 34-10-0292 with the April 2025 reference period, which will be released on June 11, 2025. Data from January 2018 onwards, previously available in table 34-10-0285, remain accessible in the new table, except for the constant dollar series, which will be rebased to 2023=100.

### 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, and buildings used for religious services.

### Revision

Data are subject to revisions based on late responses, methodological changes and classification updates. Unadjusted data have been revised for the previous month and from January 2024 to December 2024. Seasonally adjusted data have been revised back to January 2021.

### Next release

Data on building permits for April will be released on June 11.

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

	March 2024	January 2025 <sup>r</sup>	February 2025 <sup>r</sup>	March 2025 <sup>P</sup>	February to March 2025	March 2024 to March 2025
	millions of dollars				% change	
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,196.0</b>	<b>12,805.8</b>	<b>13,429.8</b>	<b>12,880.3</b>	<b>-4.1</b>	<b>15.0</b>
Residential	6,659.4	8,794.2	8,487.8	8,654.7	2.0	30.0
Single <sup>1</sup>	2,614.5	2,944.4	2,926.4	2,770.8	-5.3	6.0
Multiple	4,044.9	5,849.8	5,561.4	5,883.9	5.8	45.5
Non-residential	4,536.6	4,011.6	4,941.9	4,225.6	-14.5	-6.9
Industrial	828.8	676.8	786.7	783.0	-0.5	-5.5
Commercial	2,410.7	2,115.8	2,497.0	2,022.9	-19.0	-16.1
Institutional	1,297.1	1,219.0	1,658.2	1,419.7	-14.4	9.5
	number of units				% change	
<b>Total dwellings</b>	<b>21,518</b>	<b>29,101</b>	<b>26,067</b>	<b>27,267</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>26.7</b>
Single <sup>1</sup>	4,304	4,733	4,696	4,445	-5.3	3.3
Multiple	17,214	24,368	21,371	22,822	6.8	32.6

<sup>r</sup> revised

<sup>P</sup> 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 [34-10-0285-02](#).

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

	March 2024	January 2025 <sup>r</sup>	February 2025 <sup>r</sup>	March 2025 <sup>p</sup>	February to March 2025	March 2024 to March 2025
	millions of dollars				% change	
<b>Canada</b>	<b>11,196.0</b>	<b>12,805.8</b>	<b>13,429.8</b>	<b>12,880.3</b>	<b>-4.1</b>	<b>15.0</b>
Residential	6,659.4	8,794.2	8,487.8	8,654.7	2.0	30.0
Non-residential	4,536.6	4,011.6	4,941.9	4,225.6	-14.5	-6.9
Newfoundland and Labrador	67.1	58.0	42.1	79.8	89.4	18.9
Residential	31.8	36.7	37.5	56.7	51.2	78.5
Non-residential	35.4	21.3	4.6	23.1	398.3	-34.6
Prince Edward Island	66.8	41.1	41.8	65.8	57.3	-1.5
Residential	34.2	34.0	36.8	58.8	60.0	71.8
Non-residential	32.6	7.1	5.1	7.0	38.2	-78.6
Nova Scotia	240.5	328.8	323.1	325.3	0.7	35.3
Residential	180.5	195.1	197.1	198.6	0.8	10.0
Non-residential	60.0	133.7	126.1	126.7	0.5	111.0
New Brunswick	200.9	458.3	191.5	177.6	-7.3	-11.6
Residential	103.7	263.9	154.7	128.8	-16.7	24.2
Non-residential	97.2	194.3	36.9	48.8	32.5	-49.8
Quebec	2,054.5	2,342.8	2,384.1	2,352.9	-1.3	14.5
Residential	1,346.0	1,785.5	1,622.4	1,604.4	-1.1	19.2
Non-residential	708.5	557.3	761.7	748.5	-1.7	5.6
Ontario	4,774.4	4,961.8	4,929.2	4,635.8	-6.0	-2.9
Residential	2,515.3	3,206.4	3,292.2	2,969.2	-9.8	18.0
Non-residential	2,259.1	1,755.4	1,637.0	1,666.6	1.8	-26.2
Manitoba	473.2	327.8	350.5	309.9	-11.6	-34.5
Residential	174.9	158.0	231.0	192.9	-16.5	10.2
Non-residential	298.2	169.8	119.6	117.1	-2.1	-60.7
Saskatchewan	216.5	229.8	496.9	273.1	-45.0	26.1
Residential	74.8	139.0	115.5	197.2	70.7	163.8
Non-residential	141.8	90.8	381.4	75.9	-80.1	-46.5
Alberta	1,576.7	1,778.0	2,007.3	1,792.9	-10.7	13.7
Residential	1,044.7	1,193.1	1,217.0	1,250.4	2.7	19.7
Non-residential	532.0	585.0	790.3	542.6	-31.4	2.0
British Columbia	1,505.4	2,243.9	2,646.6	2,854.5	7.9	89.6
Residential	1,145.1	1,772.4	1,573.9	1,987.3	26.3	73.5
Non-residential	360.3	471.6	1,072.7	867.2	-19.2	140.7
Yukon	10.4	34.3	9.8	10.5	7.2	1.0
Residential	4.4	8.9	8.9	8.9	0.6	105.1
Non-residential	6.0	25.3	0.9	1.6	72.8	-74.3
Northwest Territories	2.6	0.8	2.7	1.3	-50.1	-48.4
Residential	1.7	0.8	0.9	0.8	-12.7	-52.7
Non-residential	0.9	0.0	1.8	0.5	-69.6	-40.1
Nunavut	6.9	0.4	4.1	0.8	-79.9	-88.2
Residential	2.4	0.4	0.1	0.8	...	-65.7
Non-residential	4.5	0.0	4.0	0.0	-99.9	-99.9

<sup>r</sup> revised

<sup>p</sup> preliminary

... not applicable

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

**Source(s):** Table 34-10-0285-01.

**Table 3**  
**Value of building permits, by census metropolitan area – Seasonally adjusted<sup>1</sup>**

	March 2024	January 2025 <sup>r</sup>	February 2025 <sup>r</sup>	March 2025 <sup>p</sup>	February to March 2025	March 2024 to March 2025
	millions of dollars				% change	
<b>Total, census metropolitan areas</b>	<b>8,844.0</b>	<b>9,340.2</b>	<b>9,933.5</b>	<b>10,029.7</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>13.4</b>
St. John's	54.9	41.6	28.5	43.6	52.9	-20.6
Halifax	156.1	178.2	196.4	130.2	-33.7	-16.6
Moncton	57.4	183.7	90.2	62.2	-31.0	8.3
Saint John	29.5	18.2	25.5	20.5	-19.7	-30.5
Fredericton	28.8	101.0	13.7	27.0	96.7	-6.4
Saguenay	38.5	41.4	44.0	45.5	3.4	18.1
Québec	236.4	261.3	215.1	297.1	38.1	25.7
Sherbrooke	51.2	71.2	50.2	58.4	16.3	14.2
Trois-Rivières	79.5	60.6	65.3	41.9	-35.9	-47.3
Drummondville	52.1	45.8	39.8	36.4	-8.6	-30.2
Montréal	903.6	1,054.7	1,093.0	991.5	-9.3	9.7
Ottawa–Gatineau, Ontario and Quebec	419.8	339.3	417.0	338.3	-18.9	-19.4
Gatineau part	78.4	37.7	124.9	81.9	-34.4	4.5
Ottawa part	341.4	301.6	292.1	256.4	-12.2	-24.9
Kingston	38.2	131.4	43.5	27.0	-38.0	-29.4
Belleville–Quinte West	19.4	19.9	17.2	24.5	42.0	26.2
Peterborough	23.7	30.5	30.5	11.0	-63.9	-53.6
Oshawa	203.2	59.1	93.0	49.0	-47.3	-75.9
Toronto	1,816.7	2,025.8	2,385.9	2,198.8	-7.8	21.0
Hamilton	697.5	143.9	184.6	466.8	152.8	-33.1
St. Catharines–Niagara	116.5	92.1	140.9	134.1	-4.8	15.1
Kitchener–Cambridge–Waterloo	192.8	238.3	169.9	193.7	14.0	0.4
Brantford	16.9	35.6	29.5	52.0	76.1	207.3
Guelph	48.7	12.9	31.1	13.1	-57.9	-73.1
London	337.1	305.1	158.5	183.5	15.8	-45.6
Windsor	157.0	126.7	108.5	74.0	-31.8	-52.9
Barrie	83.4	63.8	52.9	108.5	104.9	30.0
Greater Sudbury	93.2	28.8	32.2	26.4	-17.9	-71.6
Thunder Bay	20.8	115.0	16.0	17.7	10.6	-15.0
Winnipeg	234.9	234.1	230.9	217.7	-5.7	-7.4
Regina	36.8	50.9	34.7	69.6	100.7	89.3
Saskatoon	82.6	111.9	103.7	121.4	17.1	47.0
Lethbridge	34.8	41.0	39.1	116.4	198.0	234.1
Calgary	649.0	826.5	877.7	907.2	3.4	39.8
Red Deer	4.3	17.1	18.1 <sup>E</sup>	5.3	-70.7	24.8
Edmonton	547.5	578.8	680.5	494.5	-27.3	-9.7
Kelowna	83.4	69.6	78.9	82.5	4.5	-1.1
Kamloops	31.8	11.4	14.0	9.0	-35.8	-71.7
Chilliwack	19.8	26.3	36.0	16.6	-54.1	-16.2
Abbotsford–Mission	97.7	81.3	53.6	76.5	42.8	-21.6
Vancouver	863.4	1,338.9	1,849.7	2,136.1	15.5	147.4
Victoria	159.2	116.3	129.0	97.2	-24.7	-38.9
Nanaimo	25.9	10.1	14.3	7.4	-48.7	-71.6

<sup>r</sup> revised

<sup>p</sup> preliminary

<sup>E</sup> use with caution

<sup>1</sup> 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 34-10-0285-01.

**Available tables:** table [34-10-0285-01](#).

**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](mailto:infostats@statcan.gc.ca)) or Media Relations ([statcan.mediahotline-ligneinfomedias.statcan@statcan.gc.ca](mailto:statcan.mediahotline-ligneinfomedias.statcan@statcan.gc.ca)).