



Catalogue no. 64-001-X

Building Permits

March 2008



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Statistics Canada
Investment and capital stock division
Current investment indicators section

Building Permits

March 2008

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- . not available for any reference period
- .. not available for a specific reference period
- ... not applicable
- 0 true zero or a value rounded to zero
- 0^s value rounded to 0 (zero) where there is a meaningful distinction between true zero and the value that was rounded
- p preliminary
- r revised
- x suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the *Statistics Act*
- E use with caution
- F too unreliable to be published

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This publication was prepared under the direction of:

- D. McDowell, Director, Investment and Capital Stock Division
- M. Labonté, Chief, Current Investment Indicators Section
- É. Saint-Pierre, Unit Head, Residential Sector, Current Investment Indicators
- D. Legault, Programmer-Analyst, Current Investment Indicators Section

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Statistics Canada
Investment and Capital Stock Division
Current Investment Indicators Section
Jean Talon Building, 9 D-2
170 Tunney's Pasture Driveway
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0T6
or by telephoning: 613-951-6321

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Highlights

- Construction intentions in Canada continued to cool. As a result of a marked decline in Alberta, the total value of building permits in Canada dropped 4.5% in March to \$5.6 billion. This was the fourth decrease in five months. Both residential and non-residential sectors declined in March.

Analysis – March 2008

Construction intentions in Canada continued to cool. As a result of a marked decline in Alberta, the total value of building permits in Canada dropped 4.5% in March to \$5.6 billion. This was the fourth decrease in five months. Both residential and non-residential sectors declined in March.

The total value of permits reached \$17.3 billion for the first quarter of 2008, down 8.2% from the fourth quarter of 2007 and a third consecutive quarterly retreat.

Construction intentions continue to soften in the housing sector

In the residential sector, the value of building permits decreased 5.7% to \$3.6 billion. This was the second lowest value in 13 months. It was generated by drops in values of both multi-family (-7.8%) and single-family (-4.4%) permits.

The number of multi-family units approved increased 4.6% while single-family units decreased by 8.5% in March. This was consistent with a general tendency observed over the last five years, where the demand has shifted from the more expensive single-family dwellings toward the more affordable multi-family units. The overall number of residential units approved has been on a downward trend since the summer of 2007.

Note to readers

Unless otherwise stated, this release presents seasonally adjusted data, which ease comparisons by removing the effects of seasonal variations.

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 (e.g., waterworks, sewers or culverts) and land.

For the purpose of the Building Permits release, the census metropolitan area of Ottawa–Gatineau is divided into two areas: Ottawa–Gatineau (Quebec part) and Ottawa–Gatineau (Ontario part).

Industrial and institutional permits pull down the non-residential sector

The value of non-residential permits fell 2.4% to \$2.0 billion, a level not seen since April 2007. Intentions peaked for this component in May and June last year.

On the industrial side, the value of permits plunged 21.9% to \$318 million, the third decline in four months and the lowest level since February 2007. This result was fuelled by declines in projects for utility buildings.

Following a 32.3% drop in February, the institutional component fell 4.7% to \$454 million, mainly as a result of a decline in projects for medical buildings.

In the commercial component, the value of permits increased 5.3% to \$1.2 billion, as a result of increases in various types of buildings such as warehouses, hotels, restaurants, recreation buildings and retail and wholesale stores.

Overall, the value of permits in each of the three non-residential components has been on a downward trend since the last part of 2007.

Four provinces post declines in their value of building permits

Alberta recorded the largest reduction in March (-32.9%) among the provinces. This decline had a significant impact on the overall results. Excluding Alberta, the value of building permits would have increased by 5.1% instead of declining 4.5% nationally. With marked retreats in both residential and non-residential sectors, the total value of construction intentions was below the \$1 billion mark for the first time in 13 months.

The cumulative value of permits for the January-to-March period in Alberta totalled \$3.7 billion, down 3.8% from the fourth quarter of 2007 and a third consecutive quarterly decline. This result was 19.2% lower than the peak recorded in the second quarter of 2007.

Newfoundland and Labrador, New Brunswick and Manitoba also recorded reductions in March.

The most significant gain (in dollars) occurred in Ontario (+7.3% to \$2.1 billion), as a rise in construction intentions for multi-family dwellings more than offset a fifth decrease in six months in the non-residential sector.

Saskatchewan and Quebec also posted sizeable gains, thanks in large part to non-residential permits.

Furthermore, in Saskatchewan, the value of residential permits in March was just 1.1% below the record of \$96 million reached in December 2007. The robust demand for housing in Saskatchewan is positively affected by a dynamic economy and strong interprovincial migration. In Quebec, the value of housing permits dropped to \$647 million, a 13 month low.

While the total value of permits increased in British Columbia and Nova Scotia, the level remained almost 10% below the average monthly level in 2007 for both provinces.

The demand for new dwellings falls in Calgary and Montréal

Overall, 11 out of the 34 census metropolitan areas showed a decline in March. The largest retreats (in dollars) were recorded in Calgary, Edmonton and Montréal.

In Calgary, the decline came in large part from the residential sector. The number of new units approved in March (692) was at its lowest level since July 2000.

In Montréal, the 1,536 new residential units approved represented the lowest number on record since December 2002.

In Edmonton, the decline came from a retreat in the non-residential sector after this component reached a near record level in February.

In contrast, the total value of permits in Kitchener reached a record high of \$144 million, thanks to strong results in both residential and non-residential components.

Chart 1
Total value of building permits

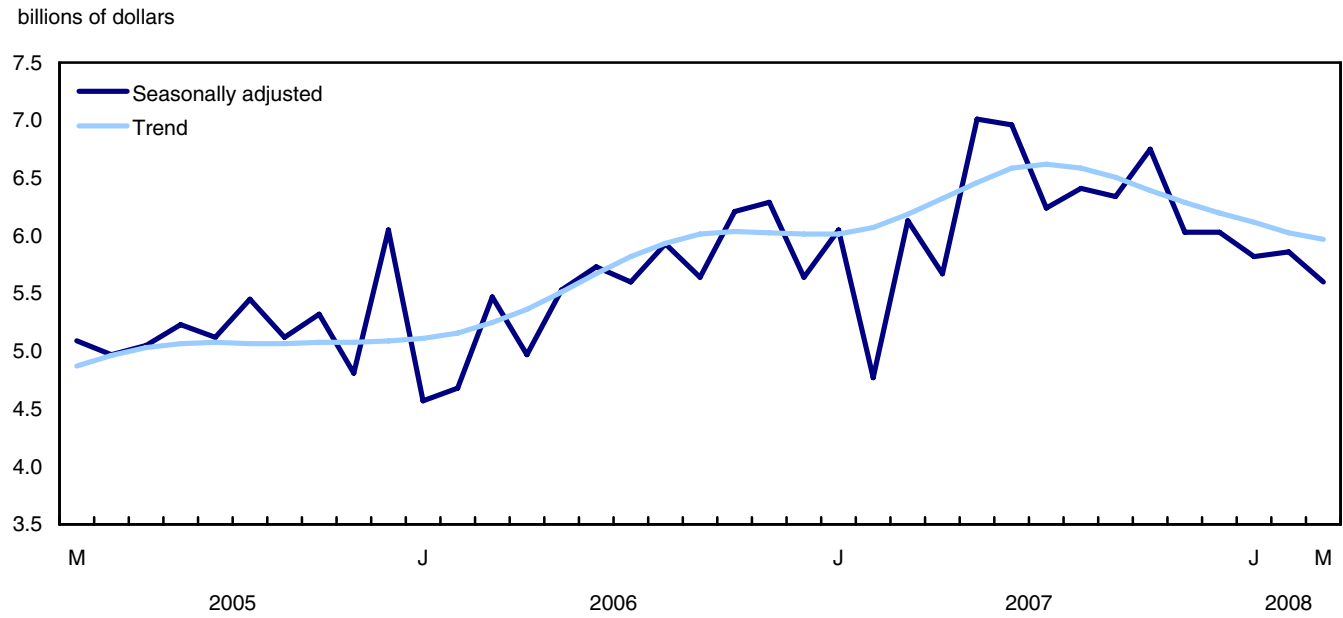


Chart 2
Residential value of building permits – Total

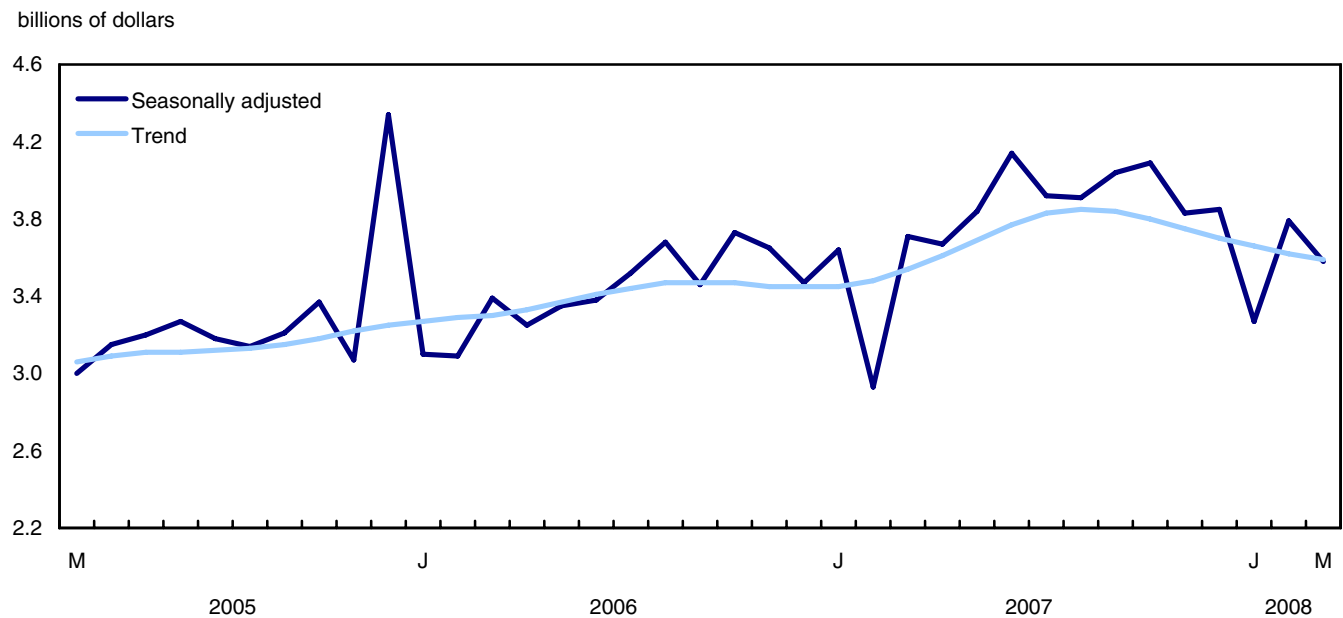


Chart 3
Non residential value of building permits – Total

billions of dollars

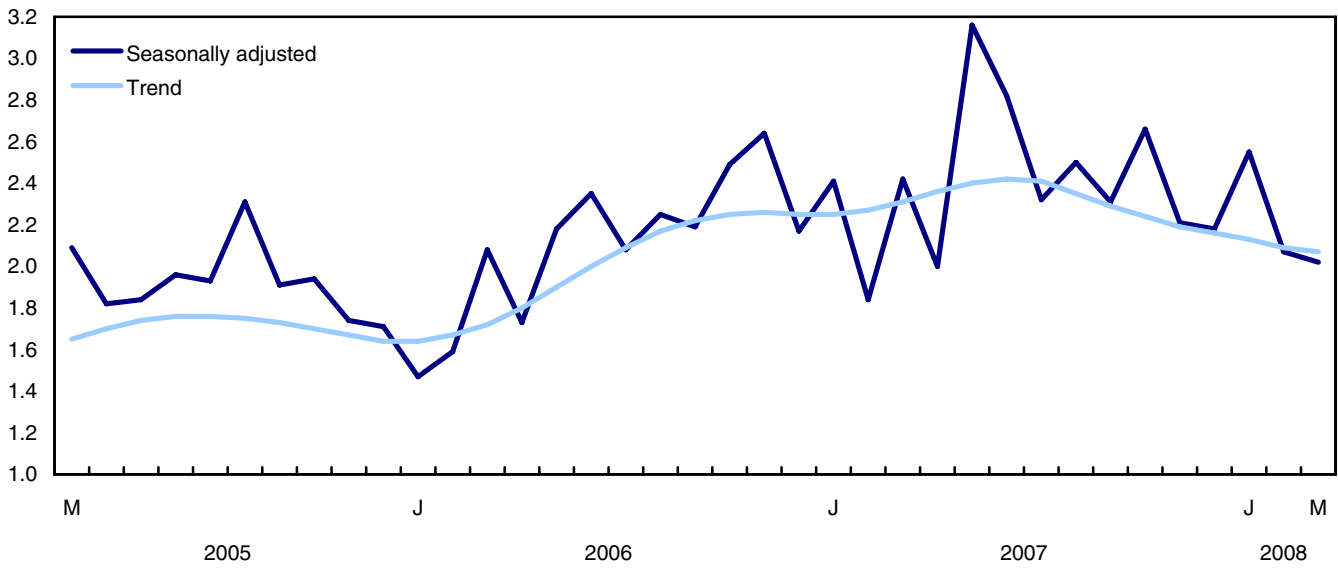


Chart 4
Number of dwelling units – Single and multiple

units

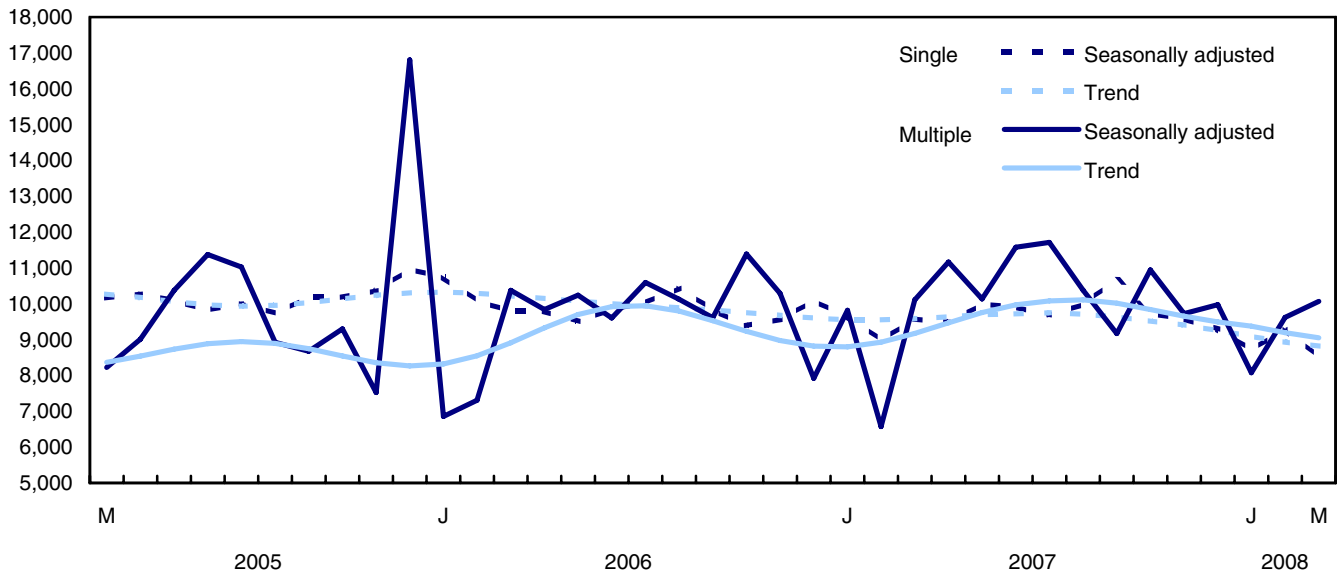


Chart 5
Commercial value of building permits

millions of dollars

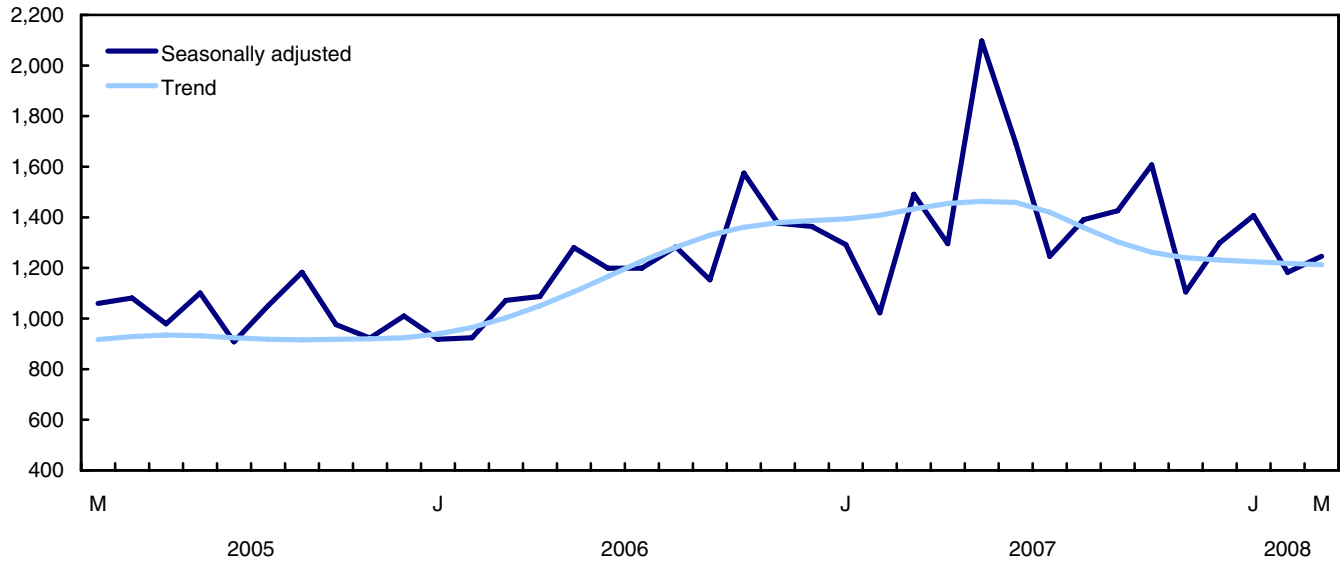


Chart 6
Industrial value of building permits

millions of dollars

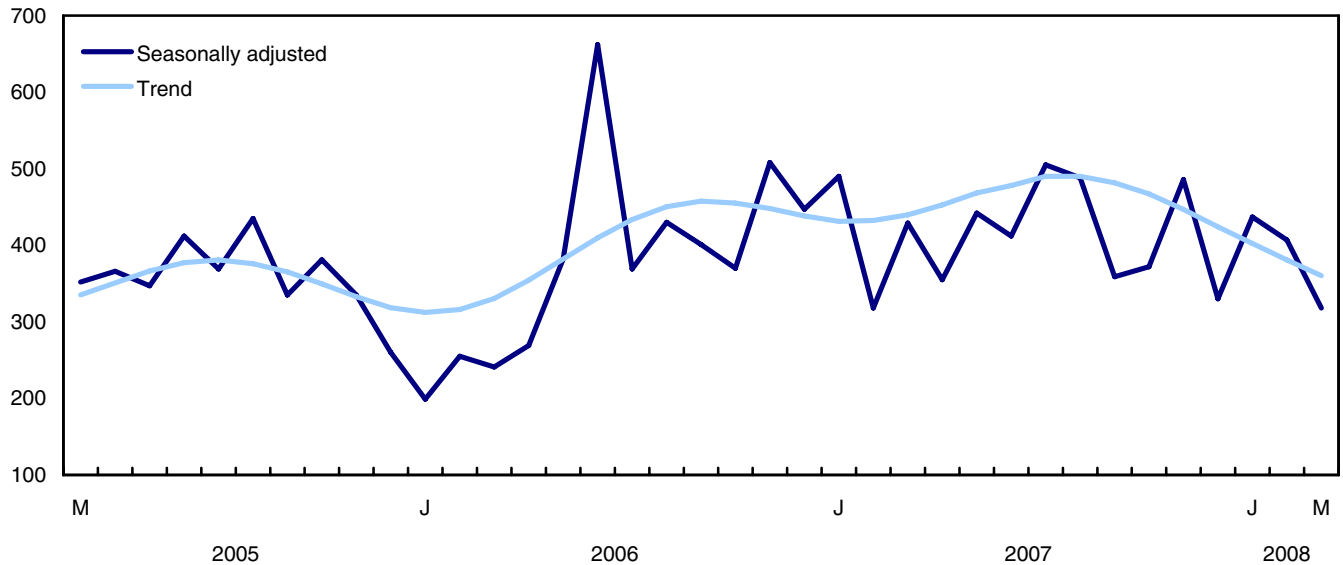
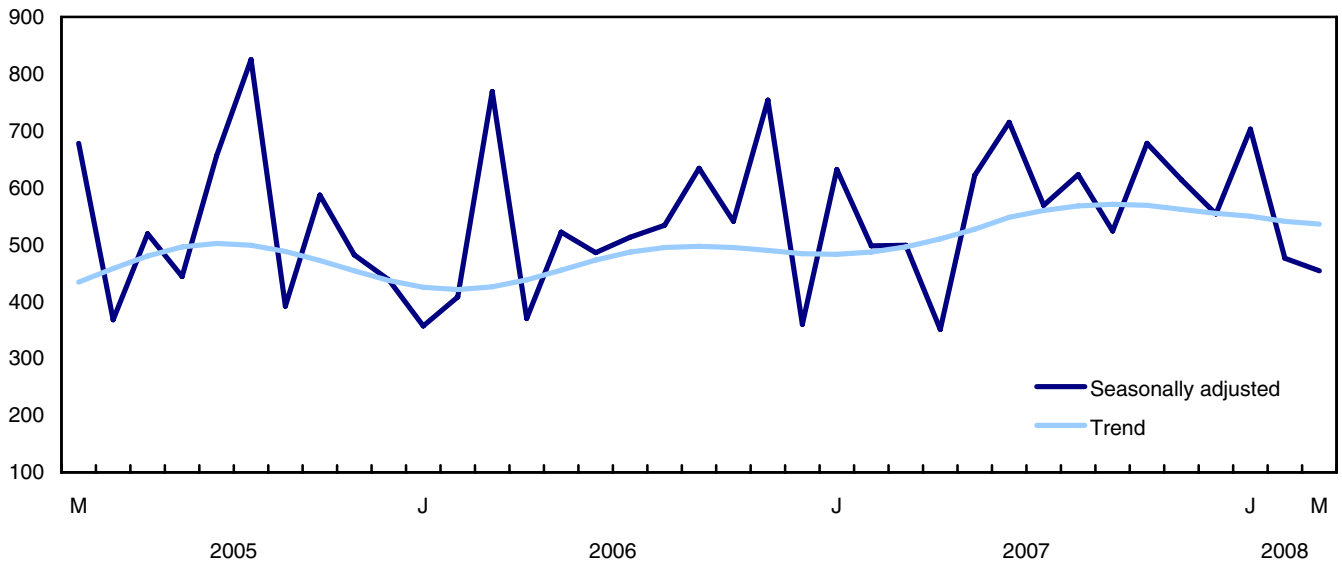


Chart 7
Institutional and governmental value of building permits

millions of dollars



Related products

Selected publications from Statistics Canada

61-205-X	Private and Public Investment in Canada, Intentions
62-202-X	Spending Patterns in Canada
64-203-X	Building Permits, Annual Summary

Selected technical and analytical products from Statistics Canada

62F0014M1996002	An Analysis of Some Construction Price Index Methodologies
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Selected CANSIM tables from Statistics Canada

026-0001	Building permits, residential values and number of units, by type of dwelling, monthly
026-0002	Building permits, dwelling units by type of dwelling and area, monthly
026-0003	Building permits, values by activity sector, monthly
026-0004	Building permits, values by activity sector and area, monthly
026-0005	Building permits, non-residential values by type of structure, monthly
026-0006	Building permits, by type of structure and area, seasonally adjusted, monthly
026-0007	Building permits, dwelling units by type of structure and value and by activity sector, monthly
026-0008	Building permits, values by activity sector, seasonally adjusted and unadjusted, monthly
026-0010	Building permits, residential and non-residential values by type of structure for Canada and urban centres, 10,000 and over, monthly

Selected surveys from Statistics Canada

2802	Building Permits Survey
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Selected summary tables from Statistics Canada

- *Value of building permits, by province and territory (monthly)*
- *Value of building permits, by census metropolitan area (monthly)*
- *Economic indicators, by province and territory (monthly and quarterly)*
- *Value of building permits, by province and territory*
- *Value of building permits by type*

Statistical tables

Table 1
Total value of building permits, provinces and territories, seasonally adjusted

	2008 March ^p	2008 February ^p	March to February	February to January	January to December	December to November	November to October	October to September
	thousands of dollars		percentage change					
Canada	5,595,161	5,860,601	-4.5	0.8	-3.5	-0.1	-10.6	6.4
Newfoundland and Labrador	54,165	63,870	-15.2	43.5	-55.7	68.7	19.9	-20.7
Prince Edward Island	14,978	10,561	41.8	24.5	-31.3	-21.2	-37.8	148.9
Nova Scotia	97,173	91,117	6.6	18.2	5.0	-35.3	-7.7	9.4
New Brunswick	58,260	58,391	-0.2	-10.3	29.3	-41.0	-11.3	29.6
Quebec	999,021	973,048	2.7	-0.8	1.1	-14.4	-5.8	12.9
Ontario	2,144,360	1,998,760	7.3	-17.5	5.2	0.8	-5.4	-9.8
Manitoba	116,641	123,824	-5.8	11.1	14.2	-11.5	-3.5	-14.3
Saskatchewan	145,617	112,275	29.7	-3.1	-46.0	81.2	-7.6	-5.5
Alberta	996,816	1,485,316	-32.9	26.6	3.2	-5.5	-17.6	18.1
British Columbia	946,910	939,089	0.8	15.4	-22.5	16.7	-20.3	37.6
Yukon Territory	2,692	3,478	-22.6	79.3	-81.2	509.3	-50.7	-58.4
Northwest Territories	18,188	868	1,995.4	292.8	-97.7	174.1	121.6	-64.6
Nunavut	340	4	8,400.0	-87.5	...	-100.0	304.7	-64.2

Table 2
Non-residential value of building permits, provinces and territories, seasonally adjusted

	2008 March ^p	2008 February ^p	March to February	February to January	January to December	December to November	November to October	October to September
	thousands of dollars		percentage change					
Canada	2,017,412	2,066,523	-2.4	-18.9	16.7	-1.0	-17.0	15.1
Newfoundland and Labrador	8,406	5,571	50.9	-13.2	-90.4	227.1	104.5	-61.3
Prince Edward Island	7,170	3,286	118.2	-7.5	-32.3	76.4	-79.7	424.5
Nova Scotia	34,067	12,534	171.8	22.2	-53.6	-50.9	-13.6	76.2
New Brunswick	25,764	17,997	43.2	-31.6	153.3	-71.4	-21.8	69.9
Quebec	352,140	265,983	32.4	-12.5	14.3	-33.0	0.5	11.5
Ontario	737,532	751,754	-1.9	-45.0	67.7	-5.1	-11.1	-12.2
Manitoba	23,522	39,323	-40.2	65.1	-11.6	23.9	-48.6	-11.9
Saskatchewan	50,898	27,678	83.9	-24.9	-69.0	139.1	23.2	-30.5
Alberta	482,556	749,227	-35.6	23.5	14.3	9.8	-40.5	78.1
British Columbia	276,047	192,747	43.2	19.0	-48.1	8.6	4.2	35.9
Yukon Territory	890	315	182.5	-40.6	-36.3	110.1	-78.8	-45.3
Northwest Territories	18,080	108	16,640.7	-16.9	-98.5	200.2	205.9	-36.5
Nunavut	340	0	...	...	...	-100.0	-88.0	27,733.3

Table 3
Residential value of building permits, provinces and territories, seasonally adjusted

	2008 March ^p	2008 February ^p	March to February	February to January	January to December	December to November	November to October	October to September
	thousands of dollars		percentage change					
Canada	3,577,749	3,794,078	-5.7	16.1	-15.0	0.5	-6.5	1.4
Newfoundland and Labrador	45,759	58,299	-21.5	53.0	12.2	-13.5	-1.2	7.5
Prince Edward Island	7,808	7,275	7.3	47.5	-30.6	-44.0	20.2	44.0
Nova Scotia	63,106	78,583	-19.7	17.6	30.3	-25.0	-3.3	-14.5
New Brunswick	32,496	40,394	-19.6	4.0	-2.9	-18.7	-1.5	6.2
Quebec	646,881	707,065	-8.5	4.4	-3.9	-4.4	-9.0	13.6
Ontario	1,406,828	1,247,006	12.8	18.1	-29.0	4.4	-1.6	-8.2
Manitoba	93,119	84,501	10.2	-3.6	24.1	-20.2	23.0	-15.7
Saskatchewan	94,719	84,597	12.0	7.0	-17.4	39.3	-21.7	13.2
Alberta	514,260	736,089	-30.1	29.9	-6.5	-15.8	11.0	-16.9
British Columbia	670,863	746,342	-10.1	14.5	-11.7	20.5	-28.2	38.2
Yukon Territory	1,802	3,163	-43.0	124.3	-85.1	631.2	-17.3	-67.7
Northwest Territories	108	760	-85.8	735.2	-93.2	77.2	9.5	-77.7
Nunavut	0	4	-100.0	-87.5	...	-100.0	2,407.1	-94.4

Table 4
Number of dwelling units authorized, province and territories, seasonally adjusted at annual rate

	2008 March ^p	2008 February ^p	March to February	February to January	January to December	December to November	November to October	October to September
	units		percentage change					
Canada	222,744	226,920	-1.8	12.7	-12.9	-0.2	-6.6	4.2
Newfoundland and Labrador	2,892	3,900	-25.8	62.5	13.0	-18.8	-12.1	17.0
Prince Edward Island	744	516	44.2	65.4	-54.4	-24.0	5.6	47.9
Nova Scotia	4,056	5,112	-20.7	16.4	35.1	-36.7	3.1	-4.2
New Brunswick	2,832	3,408	-16.9	-6.0	-0.7	-24.8	10.4	13.0
Quebec	46,764	53,844	-13.1	5.2	-1.7	-2.5	-8.6	14.8
Ontario	83,892	66,636	25.9	4.6	-24.7	16.4	-8.4	-6.1
Manitoba	6,264	5,820	7.6	15.2	-20.1	3.1	26.2	-23.4
Saskatchewan	6,468	5,184	24.8	-4.2	-19.3	30.9	-14.9	-3.5
Alberta	29,196	43,128	-32.3	38.2	-10.8	-29.2	26.5	-13.1
British Columbia	39,516	39,228	0.7	15.3	-4.9	15.2	-33.8	44.9
Yukon Territory	120	132	-9.1	22.2	-88.6	887.5	-11.1	-60.9
Northwest Territories	0	12	-100.0	...	...	...	-100.0	-84.6
Nunavut	0	0	...	...	...	-100.0	1,400.0	-90.0

Table 5
Dwelling units, value of residential and non-residential building permits, provinces and territories, seasonally adjusted, 2008

	Number of dwelling units			Estimated value of construction					Total
	Singles ¹	Multiples	Total dwellings	Residential	Non-residential			Total	
					Industrial	Commercial	Institutional and governmental		
	units			thousands of dollars					
Canada									
February ^r	9,288	9,622	18,910	3,794,078	407,189	1,183,094	476,240	2,066,523	5,860,601
March ^p	8,496	10,066	18,562	3,577,749	317,988	1,245,681	453,743	2,017,412	5,595,161
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	26,491	27,764	54,255	10,640,430	1,161,939	3,835,716	1,632,923	6,630,578	17,271,008
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	28,197	26,498	54,695	10,271,362	1,236,196	3,806,662	1,629,270	6,672,128	16,943,490
Newfoundland and Labrador									
February ^r	314	11	325	58,299	203	4,750	618	5,571	63,870
March ^p	211	30	241	45,759	3,244	3,192	1,970	8,406	54,165
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	719	47	766	142,156	5,419	10,551	4,425	20,395	162,551
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	463	46	509	82,875	9,715	25,097	4,248	39,060	121,935
Prince Edward Island									
February ^r	37	6	43	7,275	1,217	1,354	715	3,286	10,561
March ^p	49	13	62	7,808	282	6,763	125	7,170	14,978
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	99	32	131	20,014	1,822	10,972	1,215	14,009	34,023
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	191	17	208	29,473	1,635	4,977	647	7,259	36,732
Nova Scotia									
February ^r	335	91	426	78,583	1,138	5,841	5,555	12,534	91,117
March ^p	280	58	338	63,106	641	26,079	7,347	34,067	97,173
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	926	204	1,130	208,488	3,394	39,757	13,709	56,860	265,348
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	747	96	843	152,573	11,601	44,454	7,625	63,680	216,253
New Brunswick									
February ^r	234	50	284	40,394	201	13,729	4,067	17,997	58,391
March ^p	153	83	236	32,496	2,520	14,525	8,719	25,764	58,260
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	666	156	822	111,720	3,109	42,228	24,722	70,059	181,779
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	614	123	737	108,690	61,905	42,470	7,733	112,108	220,798
Quebec									
February ^r	1,757	2,730	4,487	707,065	36,841	207,988	21,154	265,983	973,048
March ^p	1,573	2,324	3,897	646,881	96,811	186,812	68,517	352,140	999,021
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	5,231	7,418	12,649	2,030,993	162,000	615,359	144,912	922,271	2,953,264
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	5,574	6,274	11,848	1,902,334	149,797	618,557	228,221	996,575	2,898,909
Ontario									
February ^r	3,243	2,310	5,553	1,247,006	94,191	380,921	276,642	751,754	1,998,760
March ^p	3,108	3,883	6,991	1,406,828	124,437	440,663	172,432	737,532	2,144,360
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	8,973	8,879	17,852	3,709,731	456,275	1,500,981	898,103	2,855,359	6,565,090
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	9,031	7,699	16,730	3,467,697	781,341	1,291,662	774,464	2,847,467	6,315,164
Manitoba									
February ^r	384	101	485	84,501	14,836	16,118	8,369	39,323	123,824
March ^p	359	163	522	93,119	3,202	18,851	1,469	23,522	116,641
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	1,153	275	1,428	265,260	20,446	47,151	19,068	86,665	351,925
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	960	658	1,618	239,432	20,615	53,373	52,684	126,672	366,104
Saskatchewan									
February ^r	389	43	432	84,597	1,610	22,030	4,038	27,678	112,275
March ^p	436	103	539	94,719	8,793	21,878	20,227	50,898	145,617
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	1,160	262	1,422	258,384	12,262	66,203	36,952	115,417	373,801
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	837	299	1,136	189,067	12,271	62,625	37,976	112,872	301,939
Alberta									
February ^r	1,459	2,135	3,594	736,089	223,774	418,871	106,582	749,227	1,485,316
March ^p	1,305	1,128	2,433	514,260	49,161	303,230	130,165	482,556	996,816
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	4,303	4,325	8,628	1,817,037	419,556	1,045,951	372,867	1,838,374	3,655,411
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	6,695	4,966	11,661	2,115,701	104,901	970,170	277,396	1,352,467	3,468,168

See footnotes at the end of the table.

Table 5 – continued

Dwelling units, value of residential and non-residential building permits, provinces and territories, seasonally adjusted, 2008

	Number of dwelling units			Residential	Estimated value of construction				Total
	Singles ¹	Multiples	Total dwellings		Non-residential			Total	
					Industrial	Commercial	Institutional and governmental		
	units			thousands of dollars					
British Columbia									
February ^r	1,124	2,145	3,269	746,342	33,109	111,289	48,349	192,747	939,089
March ^p	1,012	2,281	3,293	670,863	28,547	205,198	42,302	276,047	946,910
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	3,231	6,165	9,396	2,069,277	77,180	437,277	116,319	630,776	2,700,053
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	3,048	6,176	9,224	1,938,548	70,267	686,386	235,113	991,766	2,930,314
Yukon Territory									
February ^r	11	0	11	3,163	69	95	151	315	3,478
March ^p	10	0	10	1,802	100	460	330	890	2,692
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	29	1	30	6,375	176	1,068	491	1,735	8,110
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	26	10	36	8,261	11,813	396	3,051	15,260	23,521
Northwest Territories									
February ^r	1	0	1	760	0	108	0	108	868
March ^p	0	0	0	108	50	18,030	0	18,080	18,188
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	1	0	1	959	100	18,218	0	18,318	19,277
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	4	0	4	1,181	335	5,291	12	5,638	6,819
Nunavut									
February ^r	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	4
March ^p	0	0	0	0	200	0	140	340	340
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	0	0	0	36	200	0	140	340	376
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	7	134	141	35,530	0	1,204	100	1,304	36,834

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

Table 6
Dwelling units, value of residential and non-residential building permits, census metropolitan areas, seasonally adjusted, 2008

	Number of dwelling units			Estimated value of construction					Total
	Singles ¹	Multiples	Total dwellings	Residential	Non-residential			Total	
					Industrial	Commercial	Institutional and governmental		
	units			thousands of dollars					
Abbotsford, British Columbia									
February ^r	26	132	158	20,862	1,052	400	0	1,452	22,314
March ^p	36	271	307	30,183	7,653	5,938	0	13,591	43,774
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	97	535	632	74,607	10,250	26,333	40	36,623	111,230
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	164	317	481	75,470	2,405	11,495	0	13,900	89,370
Barrie, Ontario									
February ^r	94	0	94	24,481	1,376	28,457	8,915	38,748	63,229
March ^p	73	0	73	19,849	377	1,551	81	2,009	21,858
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	251	1	252	62,340	3,423	32,019	9,225	44,667	107,007
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	143	9	152	39,437	2,701	12,319	10,426	25,446	64,883
Brantford, Ontario									
February ^r	30	1	31	5,506	338	1,634	1	1,973	7,479
March ^p	18	128	146	13,480	495	155	286	936	14,416
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	74	135	209	24,084	833	1,862	8,012	10,707	34,791
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	52	41	93	11,222	2,910	15,106	7,322	25,338	36,560
Calgary, Alberta									
February ^r	494	1,457	1,951	404,208	1,778	176,207	25,938	203,923	608,131
March ^p	376	316	692	166,553	3,563	121,389	42,158	167,110	333,663
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	1,293	2,119	3,412	735,250	102,121	443,675	80,119	625,915	1,361,165
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	1,909	1,391	3,300	661,965	15,504	515,311	146,889	677,704	1,339,669
Edmonton, Alberta									
February ^r	227	319	546	119,165	41,306	128,078	24,358	193,742	312,907
March ^p	227	466	693	127,503	26,903	76,415	16,026	119,344	246,847
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	792	1,194	1,986	413,663	96,988	271,411	118,369	486,768	900,431
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	2,009	2,151	4,160	707,656	30,001	195,909	31,883	257,793	965,449
Greater Sudbury, Ontario									
February ^r	20	6	26	6,080	3,694	1,872	127	5,693	11,773
March ^p	35	2	37	8,399	965	3,005	629	4,599	12,998
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	69	10	79	18,267	5,256	9,220	18,423	32,899	51,166
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	60	4	64	15,510	9,558	9,865	96,981	116,404	131,914
Guelph, Ontario									
February ^r	68	71	139	19,889	84	9,762	3,200	13,046	32,935
March ^p	37	15	52	10,587	57	1,991	185	2,233	12,820
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	138	117	255	39,588	588	12,878	17,855	31,321	70,909
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	141	120	261	40,605	6,943	17,583	2,376	26,902	67,507
Halifax, Nova Scotia									
February ^r	150	73	223	37,243	639	2,394	4,799	7,832	45,075
March ^p	110	14	124	27,181	109	21,199	3,967	25,275	52,456
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	403	93	496	95,946	875	29,063	9,495	39,433	135,379
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	272	37	309	62,007	480	17,839	151	18,470	80,477
Hamilton, Ontario									
February ^r	161	229	390	74,180	4,241	16,297	148,216	168,754	242,934
March ^p	251	551	802	160,567	5,184	27,348	13,194	45,726	206,293
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	569	855	1,424	283,516	17,493	64,114	180,332	261,939	545,455
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	567	377	944	218,284	4,826	26,450	44,759	76,035	294,319
Kelowna, British Columbia									
February ^r	81	360	441	75,332	1,591	6,725	70	8,386	83,718
March ^p	86	189	275	52,628	400	10,220	115	10,735	63,363
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	236	752	988	198,369	4,083	19,356	185	23,624	221,993
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	249	498	747	146,197	4,372	54,759	146	59,277	205,474

See footnotes at the end of the table.

Table 6 – continued

Dwelling units, value of residential and non-residential building permits, census metropolitan areas, seasonally adjusted, 2008

	Number of dwelling units			Residential	Estimated value of construction				Total
	Singles ¹	Multiples	Total dwellings		Non-residential			Total	
					Industrial	Commercial	Institutional and governmental		
	units			thousands of dollars					
Kingston, Ontario									
February ^r	29	2	31	5,959	30	2,008	149	2,187	8,146
March ^p	63	0	63	10,426	383	7,514	375	8,272	18,698
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	100	2	102	17,778	428	14,106	557	15,091	32,869
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	99	15	114	18,594	3,869	7,281	23,131	34,281	52,875
Kitchener, Ontario									
February ^r	108	43	151	30,018	1,552	7,311	3,735	12,598	42,616
March ^p	73	260	333	66,774	13,588	61,948	1,676	77,212	143,986
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	279	389	668	128,422	20,951	76,393	21,395	118,739	247,161
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	237	340	577	100,740	12,065	45,233	23,286	80,584	181,324
London, Ontario									
February ^r	129	159	288	46,937	700	9,261	43,489	53,450	100,387
March ^p	108	37	145	32,436	1,630	4,663	2,198	8,491	40,927
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	354	268	622	116,807	3,398	21,976	150,232	175,606	292,413
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	490	145	635	116,692	8,352	20,702	33,921	62,975	179,667
Moncton, New Brunswick									
February ^r	34	8	42	4,795	30	2,135	1,110	3,275	8,070
March ^p	19	46	65	7,738	2,020	6,311	205	8,536	16,274
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	91	54	145	17,058	2,050	18,830	8,692	29,572	46,630
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	160	54	214	27,018	115	11,631	383	12,129	39,147
Montréal, Quebec									
February ^r	698	1,757	2,455	374,956	17,896	81,566	8,876	108,338	483,294
March ^p	537	999	1,536	279,241	44,719	81,065	15,054	140,838	420,079
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	2,025	4,112	6,137	991,174	73,680	320,705	34,067	428,452	1,419,626
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	2,178	3,280	5,458	914,716	79,555	369,395	127,996	576,946	1,491,662
Oshawa, Ontario									
February ^r	110	16	126	29,406	243	5,549	3,014	8,806	38,212
March ^p	82	55	137	31,792	110	37,190	500	37,800	69,592
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	314	116	430	99,100	9,402	53,407	3,982	66,791	165,891
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	272	83	355	90,466	75,882	8,863	1,821	86,566	177,032
Ottawa-Gatineau, Ontario part, Ontario/Quebec									
February ^r	292	193	485	90,906	4,693	17,107	4,173	25,973	116,879
March ^p	326	508	834	125,128	823	14,061	11,120	26,004	151,132
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	770	1,173	1,943	301,235	5,996	149,743	16,237	171,976	473,211
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	737	784	1,521	259,843	27,185	202,073	54,011	283,269	543,112
Ottawa-Gatineau, Quebec part, Ontario/Quebec									
February ^r	43	78	121	15,857	1,509	8,228	308	10,045	25,902
March ^p	82	103	185	29,047	25	6,520	12,853	19,398	48,445
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	225	274	499	68,653	2,203	20,443	14,542	37,188	105,841
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	214	569	783	92,172	8,237	16,106	18,996	43,339	135,511
Peterborough, Ontario									
February ^r	6	0	6	1,624	301	105	2	408	2,032
March ^p	22	16	38	7,466	461	235	5,310	6,006	13,472
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	36	16	52	10,989	1,481	687	5,351	7,519	18,508
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	45	9	54	11,927	1,028	4,407	322	5,757	17,684
Québec, Quebec									
February ^r	179	330	509	70,335	1,668	65,236	2,983	69,887	140,222
March ^p	193	566	759	89,176	36,352	27,903	4,084	68,339	157,515
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	520	1,076	1,596	213,360	38,990	114,771	9,737	163,498	376,858
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	650	1,054	1,704	217,265	10,642	74,192	41,490	126,324	343,589

See footnotes at the end of the table.

Table 6 – continued

Dwelling units, value of residential and non-residential building permits, census metropolitan areas, seasonally adjusted, 2008

	Number of dwelling units			Residential	Estimated value of construction				Total
	Singles ¹	Multiples	Total dwellings		Non-residential			Total	
					Industrial	Commercial	Institutional and governmental		
	units			thousands of dollars					
Regina, Saskatchewan									
February ^r	102	30	132	26,446	19	1,660	1,764	3,443	29,889
March ^p	71	47	118	19,908	281	12,706	18,369	31,356	51,264
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	256	77	333	65,077	1,374	15,678	20,192	37,244	102,321
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	181	0	181	39,823	103	20,306	6,667	27,076	66,899
Saguenay, Quebec									
February ^r	18	17	35	4,306	113	3,755	208	4,076	8,382
March ^p	36	71	107	14,895	1,535	5,656	163	7,354	22,249
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	67	105	172	22,563	1,933	9,700	1,233	12,866	35,429
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	57	59	116	16,188	362	4,285	1,188	5,835	22,023
Saint John, New Brunswick									
February ^r	51	8	59	9,147	12	5,949	323	6,284	15,431
March ^p	66	6	72	12,729	50	3,063	0	3,113	15,842
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	227	14	241	33,378	87	9,785	457	10,329	43,707
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	153	63	216	29,782	29,768	10,467	0	40,235	70,017
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan									
February ^r	141	6	147	26,568	1,118	9,365	2,206	12,689	39,257
March ^p	158	24	182	30,603	5,821	4,254	1,709	11,784	42,387
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	428	125	553	88,343	7,078	25,204	14,674	46,956	135,299
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	426	296	722	101,658	11,164	20,306	10,350	41,820	143,478
Sherbrooke, Quebec									
February ^r	66	96	162	20,749	25	6,237	630	6,892	27,641
March ^p	54	132	186	24,875	188	12,863	14,239	27,290	52,165
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	184	308	492	66,320	419	21,714	15,078	37,211	103,531
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	180	150	330	48,967	5,471	8,611	793	14,875	63,842
St. Catharines-Niagara, Ontario									
February ^r	40	12	52	15,508	2,765	3,727	920	7,412	22,920
March ^p	71	53	124	25,494	2,304	3,827	2,126	8,257	33,751
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	165	156	321	68,648	6,419	21,077	3,391	30,887	99,535
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	175	16	191	45,927	6,325	39,542	2,875	48,742	94,669
St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador									
February ^r	240	10	250	43,683	100	4,277	554	4,931	48,614
March ^p	114	22	136	29,357	2,313	1,796	0	4,109	33,466
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	491	38	529	94,281	2,413	8,195	2,361	12,969	107,250
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	257	46	303	49,212	1,720	20,427	4,023	26,170	75,382
Thunder Bay, Ontario									
February ^r	0	0	0	46	35	418	1,258	1,711	1,757
March ^p	10	2	12	2,607	0	201	6,938	7,139	9,746
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	14	34	48	5,992	47	2,645	8,424	11,116	17,108
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	24	1	25	5,177	610	3,749	10,519	14,878	20,055
Toronto, Ontario									
February ^r	1,254	1,358	2,612	623,854	20,856	200,292	30,590	251,738	875,592
March ^p	1,110	2,009	3,119	630,876	49,989	223,729	113,976	387,694	1,018,570
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	3,332	4,906	8,238	1,747,078	236,376	837,074	351,299	1,424,749	3,171,827
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	3,405	5,233	8,638	1,798,007	307,098	682,444	318,762	1,308,304	3,106,311
Trois-Rivières, Quebec									
February ^r	25	21	46	7,389	5,828	921	1,151	7,900	15,289
March ^p	24	53	77	8,575	497	5,751	408	6,656	15,231
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	81	224	305	36,935	6,426	7,620	3,359	17,405	54,340
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	79	141	220	31,339	6,920	8,699	6,818	22,437	53,776

See footnotes at the end of the table.

Table 6 – continued

Dwelling units, value of residential and non-residential building permits, census metropolitan areas, seasonally adjusted, 2008

	Number of dwelling units			Residential	Estimated value of construction				Total
	Singles ¹	Multiples	Total dwellings		Non-residential			Total	
					Industrial	Commercial	Institutional and governmental		
	units			thousands of dollars					
Vancouver, British Columbia									
February ^r	349	962	1,311	328,902	25,970	69,607	19,094	114,671	443,573
March ^p	350	1,116	1,466	321,389	6,386	128,706	14,568	149,660	471,049
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	1,077	3,200	4,277	982,374	39,704	267,432	50,297	357,433	1,339,807
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	996	3,533	4,529	1,023,488	33,271	460,648	101,252	595,171	1,618,659
Victoria, British Columbia									
February ^r	86	114	200	44,171	475	16,072	13,452	29,999	74,170
March ^p	57	164	221	51,284	172	10,044	10,960	21,176	72,460
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	220	376	596	141,745	2,151	31,828	25,021	59,000	200,745
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	224	702	926	205,008	4,287	10,057	71,007	85,351	290,359
Windsor, Ontario									
February ^r	33	4	37	8,085	710	504	329	1,543	9,628
March ^p	33	9	42	10,411	165	552	1,120	1,837	12,248
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	75	13	88	20,499	1,394	10,892	3,796	16,082	36,581
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	102	14	116	25,510	8,252	15,850	14,598	38,700	64,210
Winnipeg, Manitoba									
February ^r	199	89	288	52,272	4,811	11,713	2,728	19,252	71,524
March ^p	180	141	321	59,024	502	14,158	369	15,029	74,053
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	591	238	829	164,283	6,173	34,514	11,826	52,513	216,796
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	556	595	1,151	159,621	1,596	43,342	28,080	73,018	232,639

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

Table 7
Dwelling units, provinces and territories, unadjusted, 2008

	Singles, includes mobile homes	Cottages	Doubles	Rows	Apartments	Conversions	Total dwellings
number of dwelling units							
Canada							
February ^r	6,045	12	676	1,593	6,244	311	14,881
March ^p	8,064	21	852	2,349	6,201	387	17,874
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	19,206	46	2,221	5,057	17,171	1,012	44,713
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	22,714	54	2,557	5,136	16,227	960	47,648
Newfoundland and Labrador							
February ^r	70	0	0	0	8	3	81
March ^p	92	0	2	0	22	6	122
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	207	0	2	0	36	9	254
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	129	0	4	0	14	28	175
Prince Edward Island							
February ^r	9	2	4	0	2	0	17
March ^p	36	1	6	6	0	1	50
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	48	3	10	6	15	1	83
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	79	2	16	0	1	0	98
Nova Scotia							
February ^r	170	1	18	22	33	19	263
March ^p	213	4	24	3	31	0	275
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	516	10	49	29	105	22	731
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	405	11	37	0	45	15	513
New Brunswick							
February ^r	60	0	0	32	8	11	111
March ^p	108	2	26	0	41	16	193
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	228	2	26	36	66	29	387
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	255	2	26	5	77	15	380
Quebec							
February ^r	1,403	3	172	221	1,512	147	3,458
March ^p	1,924	6	210	212	1,503	218	4,073
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	4,186	11	568	475	3,831	520	9,591
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	4,803	18	511	456	3,521	445	9,754
Ontario							
February ^r	2,010	4	197	655	1,277	57	4,200
March ^p	2,787	1	257	1,596	1,867	65	6,573
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	6,545	7	642	2,852	4,924	173	15,143
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	7,117	12	937	2,783	3,520	177	14,546
Manitoba							
February ^r	238	0	2	13	85	1	339
March ^p	330	2	16	10	131	6	495
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	802	4	25	23	220	7	1,081
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	724	0	34	30	593	1	1,382
Saskatchewan							
February ^r	216	0	4	0	37	2	259
March ^p	361	3	25	11	62	5	467
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	728	3	35	50	170	8	994
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	580	1	14	108	42	135	880
Alberta							
February ^r	922	2	192	271	1,666	6	3,059
March ^p	1,255	2	206	78	836	8	2,385
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	3,259	5	625	623	3,062	15	7,589
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	5,902	6	753	871	3,322	20	10,874
British Columbia							
February ^r	944	0	87	379	1,616	65	3,091
March ^p	955	0	80	433	1,708	62	3,238
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	2,680	1	239	963	4,742	227	8,852
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	2,704	2	225	876	4,958	121	8,886

Table 7 – continued

Dwelling units, provinces and territories, unadjusted, 2008

	Singles, includes mobile homes	Cottages	Doubles	Rows	Apartments	Conversions	Total dwellings
	number of dwelling units						
Yukon Territory							
February ^r	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
March ^p	3	0	0	0	0	0	3
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	6	0	0	0	0	1	7
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	5	0	0	0	10	0	15
Northwest Territories							
February ^r	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
March ^p	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	4	0	0	0	0	0	4
Nunavut							
February ^r	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
March ^p	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	7	0	0	7	124	3	141

Table 8
Dwelling units, census metropolitan areas, unadjusted, March 2008

	Singles, includes mobile homes	Cottages	Doubles	Rows	Apartments	Conversions	Total dwellings
number of dwelling units							
Abbotsford, British Columbia	34	0	0	0	271	0	305
Barrie, Ontario	71	0	0	0	0	0	71
Brantford, Ontario	17	0	0	7	120	1	145
Calgary, Alberta	382	0	94	25	197	0	698
Edmonton, Alberta	230	0	70	8	381	7	696
Greater Sudbury, Ontario	34	0	0	0	2	0	36
Guelph, Ontario	36	0	3	0	6	6	51
Halifax, Nova Scotia	90	0	14	0	0	0	104
Hamilton, Ontario	244	0	17	220	314	0	795
Kelowna, British Columbia	81	0	0	32	151	6	270
Kingston, Ontario	61	0	0	0	0	0	61
Kitchener, Ontario	71	0	6	28	225	1	331
London, Ontario	105	0	2	25	0	10	142
Moncton, New Brunswick	16	0	18	0	20	8	62
Montréal, Quebec	690	0	54	127	601	120	1,592
Oshawa, Ontario	80	0	4	51	0	0	135
Ottawa-Gatineau, Ontario/Quebec	422	0	52	493	52	4	1,023
Ottawa-Gatineau, Ontario part, Ontario/Quebec	317	0	19	447	40	2	825
Ottawa-Gatineau, Quebec part, Ontario/Quebec	105	0	33	46	12	2	198
Peterborough, Ontario	21	0	0	0	16	0	37
Québec, Quebec	247	0	25	11	461	15	759
Regina, Saskatchewan	69	0	9	0	36	2	116
Saguenay, Quebec	46	0	6	0	28	30	110
Saint John, New Brunswick	56	1	6	0	0	0	63
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan	153	0	8	0	14	2	177
Sherbrooke, Quebec	70	0	14	16	86	3	189
St. Catharines-Niagara, Ontario	69	0	2	45	0	6	122
St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador	65	0	0	0	16	6	87
Thunder Bay, Ontario	10	0	2	0	0	0	12
Toronto, Ontario	1,078	0	175	721	1,101	12	3,087
Trois-Rivières, Quebec	31	0	2	0	44	2	79
Vancouver, British Columbia	330	0	8	319	753	36	1,446
Victoria, British Columbia	52	0	2	18	141	5	218
Windsor, Ontario	32	0	0	4	4	1	41
Winnipeg, Manitoba	173	0	14	10	117	0	314

Table 9
Dwelling units, census metropolitan areas, unadjusted, cumulative, January to March 2008

	Singles, includes mobile homes	Cottages	Doubles	Rows	Apartments	Conversions	Total dwellings
number of dwelling units							
Abbotsford, British Columbia	88	0	0	0	534	1	623
Barrie, Ontario	200	0	0	0	0	1	201
Brantford, Ontario	58	0	0	13	120	2	193
Calgary, Alberta	1,050	0	260	318	1,538	3	3,169
Edmonton, Alberta	649	0	254	200	730	10	1,843
Greater Sudbury, Ontario	59	0	0	0	6	4	69
Guelph, Ontario	108	0	7	31	61	18	225
Halifax, Nova Scotia	239	0	29	18	27	19	332
Hamilton, Ontario	475	0	40	394	415	6	1,330
Kelowna, British Columbia	215	0	0	80	662	10	967
Kingston, Ontario	87	0	2	0	0	0	89
Kitchener, Ontario	221	0	28	73	281	7	610
London, Ontario	283	0	4	93	159	12	551
Moncton, New Brunswick	38	0	18	0	24	12	92
Montréal, Quebec	1,741	0	187	294	2,225	244	4,691
Oshawa, Ontario	249	0	12	104	0	0	365
Ottawa-Gatineau, Ontario/Quebec	832	0	115	849	395	15	2,206
Ottawa-Gatineau, Ontario part, Ontario/Quebec	635	0	37	803	323	10	1,808
Ottawa-Gatineau, Quebec part, Ontario/Quebec	197	0	78	46	72	5	398
Peterborough, Ontario	31	0	0	0	16	0	47
Québec, Quebec	486	0	72	49	689	49	1,345
Regina, Saskatchewan	194	0	9	0	66	2	271
Saguenay, Quebec	69	0	6	0	36	44	155
Saint John, New Brunswick	103	1	6	3	4	1	118
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan	335	0	14	22	85	4	460
Sherbrooke, Quebec	164	0	39	22	167	6	398
St. Catharines-Niagara, Ontario	138	0	10	66	74	6	294
St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador	165	0	0	0	30	8	203
Thunder Bay, Ontario	13	0	2	0	32	0	47
Toronto, Ontario	2,684	0	455	1,140	3,248	63	7,590
Trois-Rivières, Quebec	71	0	32	2	88	21	214
Vancouver, British Columbia	974	0	72	596	2,381	154	4,177
Victoria, British Columbia	198	0	3	83	271	21	576
Windsor, Ontario	62	0	0	4	8	1	75
Winnipeg, Manitoba	515	0	20	19	198	1	753

Table 10
Value of residential and non-residential building permits, provinces and territories, unadjusted, 2008

	Value of construction				Total
	Residential	Non-residential			
		Industrial	Commercial	Institutional and governmental	
thousands of dollars					
Canada					
February r	2,931,111	385,594	1,014,659	474,332	4,805,696
March p	3,325,739	294,885	1,203,280	441,843	5,265,747
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	8,572,863	1,092,521	3,307,145	1,597,434	14,569,963
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	8,599,311	1,193,912	3,370,810	1,618,236	14,782,269
Newfoundland and Labrador					
February r	15,057	203	4,750	618	20,628
March p	18,486	3,244	3,192	1,970	26,892
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	42,761	5,419	10,551	4,425	63,156
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	28,079	9,715	25,097	4,248	67,139
Prince Edward Island					
February r	2,700	1,217	1,354	715	5,986
March p	7,331	282	6,763	125	14,501
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	13,117	1,822	10,972	1,215	27,126
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	14,613	1,635	4,977	647	21,872
Nova Scotia					
February r	42,956	1,138	5,841	5,555	55,490
March p	49,188	641	26,079	7,347	83,255
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	123,876	3,394	39,757	13,709	180,736
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	93,452	11,601	44,454	7,625	157,132
New Brunswick					
February r	12,712	201	13,729	4,067	30,709
March p	23,187	2,520	14,525	8,719	48,951
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	46,423	3,109	42,228	24,722	116,482
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	49,633	61,905	42,470	7,733	161,741
Quebec					
February r	564,162	36,841	150,496	19,246	770,745
March p	670,034	96,811	157,888	56,617	981,350
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	1,563,624	162,000	473,267	109,423	2,308,314
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	1,540,646	149,797	488,393	217,187	2,396,023
Ontario					
February r	851,895	72,596	306,953	276,642	1,508,086
March p	1,238,530	101,334	402,049	172,432	1,914,345
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	2,892,349	386,857	1,166,076	898,103	5,343,385
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	2,806,751	739,057	1,050,601	774,464	5,370,873
Manitoba					
February r	55,972	14,836	16,118	8,369	95,295
March p	85,629	3,202	18,851	1,469	109,151
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	189,232	20,446	47,151	19,068	275,897
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	187,061	20,615	53,373	52,684	313,733
Saskatchewan					
February r	52,028	1,610	22,030	4,038	79,706
March p	81,802	8,793	21,878	20,227	132,700
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	174,413	12,262	66,203	36,952	289,830
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	139,278	12,271	62,625	37,976	252,150
Alberta					
February r	654,278	223,774	381,896	106,582	1,366,530
March p	505,574	49,161	328,367	130,165	1,013,267
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	1,636,333	419,556	994,377	372,867	3,423,133
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	1,879,521	104,901	905,543	277,396	3,167,361
British Columbia					
February r	677,940	33,109	111,289	48,349	870,687
March p	645,303	28,547	205,198	42,302	921,350
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	1,888,174	77,180	437,277	116,319	2,518,950
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	1,820,677	70,267	686,386	235,113	2,812,443

Table 10 – continued

Value of residential and non-residential building permits, provinces and territories, unadjusted, 2008

	Value of construction				Total
	Residential	Non-residential			
		Industrial	Commercial	Institutional and governmental	
thousands of dollars					
Yukon Territory					
February ^r	647	69	95	151	962
March ^p	567	100	460	330	1,457
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	1,566	176	1,068	491	3,301
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	2,889	11,813	396	3,051	18,149
Northwest Territories					
February ^r	760	0	108	0	868
March ^p	108	50	18,030	0	18,188
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	959	100	18,218	0	19,277
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	1,181	335	5,291	12	6,819
Nunavut					
February ^r	4	0	0	0	4
March ^p	0	200	0	140	340
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2008	36	200	0	140	376
Cumulative Jan. to Mar. 2007	35,530	0	1,204	100	36,834

Table 11
Value of residential and non-residential building permits, census metropolitan areas, unadjusted, March 2008

	Value of construction				Total
	Residential	Non-residential			
		Industrial	Commercial	Institutional and governmental	
	thousands of dollars				
Abbotsford, British Columbia	29,538	7,653	5,938	0	43,129
Barrie, Ontario	17,444	377	1,442	81	19,344
Brantford, Ontario	13,049	495	144	286	13,974
Calgary, Alberta	167,111	3,563	121,389	42,158	334,221
Edmonton, Alberta	127,855	26,903	76,415	16,026	247,199
Greater Sudbury, Ontario	7,411	965	2,793	629	11,798
Guelph, Ontario	9,559	57	1,851	185	11,652
Halifax, Nova Scotia	22,099	109	21,199	3,967	47,374
Hamilton, Ontario	153,421	5,184	25,419	13,194	197,218
Kelowna, British Columbia	50,228	400	10,220	115	60,963
Kingston, Ontario	9,167	383	6,984	375	16,909
Kitchener, Ontario	64,514	13,588	57,578	1,676	137,356
London, Ontario	29,278	1,630	4,334	2,198	37,440
Moncton, New Brunswick	6,655	2,020	6,311	205	15,191
Montréal, Quebec	298,603	44,719	71,588	15,054	429,964
Oshawa, Ontario	28,903	110	34,567	500	64,080
Ottawa-Gatineau, Ontario/Quebec	148,152	848	18,827	23,973	191,800
Ottawa-Gatineau, Ontario part, Ontario/Quebec	116,935	823	13,069	11,120	141,947
Ottawa-Gatineau, Quebec part, Ontario/Quebec	31,217	25	5,758	12,853	49,853
Peterborough, Ontario	6,772	461	218	5,310	12,761
Québec, Quebec	94,950	36,352	24,641	4,084	160,027
Regina, Saskatchewan	18,830	281	12,706	18,369	50,186
Saguenay, Quebec	15,887	1,535	4,995	163	22,580
Saint John, New Brunswick	9,233	50	3,063	0	12,346
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan	28,646	5,821	4,254	1,709	40,430
Sherbrooke, Quebec	26,539	188	11,359	14,239	52,325
St. Catharines-Niagara, Ontario	23,211	2,304	3,557	2,126	31,198
St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador	13,425	2,313	1,796	0	17,534
Thunder Bay, Ontario	2,307	0	187	6,938	9,432
Toronto, Ontario	586,548	49,989	207,948	113,976	958,461
Trois-Rivières, Quebec	9,177	497	5,079	408	15,161
Vancouver, British Columbia	310,285	6,386	128,706	14,568	459,945
Victoria, British Columbia	49,392	172	10,044	10,960	70,568
Windsor, Ontario	9,343	165	513	1,120	11,141
Winnipeg, Manitoba	53,411	502	14,158	369	68,440

Table 12

Value of residential and non-residential building permits, census metropolitan areas, unadjusted, cumulative, January to March 2008

	Value of construction				Total
	Residential	Non-residential			
		Industrial	Commercial	Institutional and governmental	
	thousands of dollars				
Abbotsford, British Columbia	72,593	10,250	26,333	40	109,216
Barrie, Ontario	47,265	3,423	26,937	9,225	86,850
Brantford, Ontario	20,747	833	1,580	8,012	31,172
Calgary, Alberta	704,055	102,121	443,675	80,119	1,329,970
Edmonton, Alberta	395,423	96,988	271,411	118,369	882,191
Greater Sudbury, Ontario	14,550	5,256	7,289	18,423	45,518
Guelph, Ontario	32,297	588	10,888	17,855	61,628
Halifax, Nova Scotia	61,193	875	29,063	9,495	100,626
Hamilton, Ontario	253,142	17,493	52,949	180,332	503,916
Kelowna, British Columbia	190,322	4,083	19,356	185	213,946
Kingston, Ontario	14,306	428	11,756	557	27,047
Kitchener, Ontario	113,129	20,951	68,557	21,395	224,032
London, Ontario	97,194	3,398	17,582	150,232	268,406
Moncton, New Brunswick	9,952	2,050	18,830	8,692	39,524
Montréal, Quebec	812,933	73,680	261,289	34,067	1,181,969
Oshawa, Ontario	79,906	9,402	46,416	3,982	139,706
Ottawa-Gatineau, Ontario/Quebec	322,165	8,199	123,729	30,779	484,872
Ottawa-Gatineau, Ontario part, Ontario/Quebec	264,094	5,996	106,948	16,237	393,275
Ottawa-Gatineau, Quebec part, Ontario/Quebec	58,071	2,203	16,781	14,542	91,597
Peterborough, Ontario	9,299	1,481	539	5,351	16,670
Québec, Quebec	186,376	38,990	93,415	9,737	328,518
Regina, Saskatchewan	48,889	1,374	15,678	20,192	86,133
Saguenay, Quebec	21,489	1,933	8,197	1,233	32,852
Saint John, New Brunswick	16,549	87	9,785	457	26,878
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan	70,183	7,078	25,204	14,674	117,139
Sherbrooke, Quebec	56,107	419	18,366	15,078	89,970
St. Catharines-Niagara, Ontario	59,385	6,419	15,771	3,391	84,966
St. John's, Newfoundland and Labrador	34,137	2,413	8,195	2,361	47,106
Thunder Bay, Ontario	5,451	47	1,898	8,424	15,820
Toronto, Ontario	1,483,302	236,376	654,373	351,299	2,725,350
Trois-Rivières, Quebec	27,290	6,426	6,558	3,359	43,633
Vancouver, British Columbia	941,460	39,704	267,432	50,297	1,298,893
Victoria, British Columbia	134,679	2,151	31,828	25,021	193,679
Windsor, Ontario	16,312	1,394	7,524	3,796	29,026
Winnipeg, Manitoba	134,243	6,173	34,514	11,826	186,756

Table 13
Value of the non-residential permits by type of building, provinces and territories, March 2008

	Canada	Newfoundland and Labrador	Prince Edward Island	Nova Scotia	New Brunswick	Quebec	Ontario
thousands of dollars							
Total non-residential	1,940,008	8,406	7,170	34,067	25,764	311,316	675,815
Industrial	294,885	3,244	282	641	2,520	96,811	101,334
Factories, plants	119,079	2,300	250	0	0	42,365	48,289
Transportation, utilities	115,812	920	0	0	2,000	42,565	26,400
Mining and agriculture	17,907	0	0	0	0	4,350	9,062
Minor industrial projects, new and improvements ¹	42,087	24	32	641	520	7,531	17,583
Commercial	1,203,280	3,192	6,763	26,079	14,525	157,888	402,049
Trade and services	337,166	825	1,800	17,485	6,654	40,732	150,165
Warehouses	177,369	0	0	0	1,675	9,650	40,181
Service stations	13,863	0	0	0	0	3,900	5,750
Office buildings	281,334	350	4,490	3,044	1,899	32,266	133,861
Recreation	124,997	0	0	0	1,198	5,583	8,201
Hotels, restaurants	107,967	0	0	2,194	425	24,411	10,301
Laboratories	13,942	0	0	0	0	11,198	440
Minor commercial projects, new and improvements ¹	146,642	2,017	473	3,356	2,674	30,148	53,150
Institutional and governmental	441,843	1,970	125	7,347	8,719	56,617	172,432
Schools, education	157,657	0	0	0	7,875	11,567	41,438
Hospitals, medical	115,464	1,900	0	500	0	33,032	60,061
Welfare, home	70,739	0	0	3,967	0	0	20,692
Churches, religion	7,706	0	0	1,283	320	500	1,570
Government buildings	68,694	0	0	1,550	0	7,316	39,164
Minor institutional and governmental projects, new and improvements ¹	21,583	70	125	47	524	4,202	9,507
thousands of dollars							
	Manitoba	Saskatchewan	Alberta	British Columbia	Yukon Territory	Northwest Territories	Nunavut
Total non-residential	23,522	50,898	507,693	276,047	890	18,080	340
Industrial	3,202	8,793	49,161	28,547	100	50	200
Factories, plants	2,015	5,439	6,525	11,896	0	0	0
Transportation, utilities	0	0	34,627	9,300	0	0	0
Mining and agriculture	0	0	2,076	2,419	0	0	0
Minor industrial projects, new and improvements ¹	1,187	3,354	5,933	4,932	100	50	200
Commercial	18,851	21,878	328,367	205,198	460	18,030	0
Trade and services	2,000	9,444	68,602	39,459	0	0	0
Warehouses	960	3,007	106,745	15,151	0	0	0
Service stations	0	0	2,013	2,200	0	0	0
Office buildings	8,064	5,550	52,358	21,452	0	18,000	0
Recreation	0	500	26,053	83,462	0	0	0
Hotels, restaurants	2,751	400	47,760	19,475	250	0	0
Laboratories	0	0	2,304	0	0	0	0
Minor commercial projects, new and improvements ¹	5,076	2,977	22,532	23,999	210	30	0
Institutional and governmental	1,469	20,227	130,165	42,302	330	0	140
Schools, education	0	250	86,366	10,161	0	0	0
Hospitals, medical	0	0	8,200	11,771	0	0	0
Welfare, home	1,084	0	29,490	15,506	0	0	0
Churches, religion	0	1,233	1,300	1,500	0	0	0
Government buildings	0	18,352	2,312	0	0	0	0
Minor institutional and governmental projects, new and improvements ¹	385	392	2,497	3,364	330	0	140

1. Refer to projects valued at less than \$250,000 for which the breakdown by type of building is not available.

Description – Monthly survey of building permits

The following information should be used to ensure a clear understanding of the basic concepts that define the data provided in this product, of the underlying methodology of the survey, and of key aspects of the data quality. This information will provide you with a better understanding of the strengths and limitations of the data, and of how they can be effectively used and analysed. The information may be of particular importance to you when making comparisons with data from other surveys or sources of information, and in drawing conclusions regarding change over time.

Data source and methodology

The purpose of the **Monthly Survey of Building Permits** issued by Canadian municipalities is to collect data on construction intentions. The results of this survey are used by C.M.H.C. (Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation) as a reference base for conducting a monthly survey of housing starts and completions in accordance with its mandate. The statistics on building permits are also essential for the computation of capital expenditures. Furthermore, since the issuance of a building permit is one of the first steps in the construction process, these statistics are widely used as a leading indicator of building activity.

General methodology : The Building Permits Survey covers all Canadian municipalities that issue permits. The number of Canadian municipalities currently surveyed approximately 2,400, representing all the provinces and territories. They account for 95% of the Canadian population. Participation in the survey is mandatory; the survey does not use a predetermined sample of municipalities. The communities representing the other 5% of the population are very small, and their level of building activity have little impact on the total. In practice, all urban agglomerations are represented in the survey, as well as a fair percentage of rural municipalities. With certain exceptions, the minimum coverage corresponds to the municipalities already included in the Housing Starts and Completions C.M.H.C.'s Survey. Non-responding municipalities that issue permits are urged on a regular basis to respond to the Building Permit Survey. Therefore, the number of municipalities covered is increasing continually.

The survey is usually conducted by mail, although certain municipalities choose to respond by telephone. The municipal officer responsible for issuing permits is asked to fill out a form each month describing all major construction projects.

The municipalities forward a copy of their completed report to Statistics Canada Head Office and another copy to the local office of the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (C.M.H.C.). To reduce their overhead, an increasing number of respondents are producing a computerized report. Only those municipalities that are late in reporting and that are included in the above-mentioned C.M.H.C. survey are subject to follow-up by telephone.

The reports received at Statistics Canada Head Office are verified, coded and processed.

Strict quality control procedures are applied to ensure that collection, coding and data processing are as accurate as possible. Checks are also performed on totals and the magnitude of data. Reports that fail to meet the quality standards are subject to verification and are corrected as required.

Imputations are required for each characteristic for which no report has been received. These are calculated automatically, subject to certain constraints, by applying to previously used values, the month-to-month and year-to-year changes in similar values of responding municipalities and the historical pattern of the missing municipalities. No estimation is done for lack of coverage, concealment or the underevaluation of permits issued. For this reason, the sampling error cannot be computed.

The monthly statistics are not corrected for cancelled or expired permits. According to the municipal officers, the proportion of cancelled and unused permits is below 5%.

Reference period : The reference period for data collection purposes is the calendar month. Reports from municipalities which are part of a census metropolitan area or a census agglomeration must be received within 20 days following the month of reference. The other municipalities have 30 days to produce their reports. Results are released between 35 and 40 days after the end of the reference month. Annual data for the preceding calendar year are released with the data for the January survey month.

Revisions : Two types of revisions can affect the results of the Building Permits Survey:

Revisions due to the correction of coding errors

These types of revisions are done on a monthly basis only to the data pertaining to the month preceding the reference period.

Revisions due to the addition of late reports

Late reports for the month preceding the reference period are incorporated into the survey results on a continuing basis. However, reports received after the two-month deadline following the reference month are introduced only at the end of the year. As a result, the data for the last twelve months are subject to revision.

Seasonal adjustment : Seasonal changes cause predictable fluctuations in the data. The data series disseminated includes both seasonally adjusted (i.e., excludes predictable annual influences) and the unadjusted data. Seasonally adjusted data for the total number of housing units as well as for the aggregate value of building permits are obtained indirectly, i.e., by adding their seasonally adjusted components. The total number of dwelling units is obtained by summing the seasonally adjusted data for single-family and multiple-use units; the total value of building permits is obtained by summing the following elements: single-family and multiple-family dwellings, industrial, commercial and institutional. Some series contain no apparent seasonality. In these cases, unadjusted values have been tabulated and aggregated to the adjusted values of the other series. At the end of the year, the chronological series adjusted for seasonality are revised to take into account the most recent seasonal fluctuations. Generally, these revisions apply only to the last three years in the series. The revised data are introduced into the CANSIM databank.

Concepts and variables measured

The statistical data presented in this product refers to the number of dwelling units authorized and the **value of building permits**. The value of the permits reported includes the following expenditures: materials, labour, profit and overhead. The cost of land is never included in the estimated value of the permit while acquisition costs (legal fees, surveying fees and accrued interest) may be included at times.

The classification used in this publication deals strictly with structures for which a building permit was issued. Permits are generally issued for the following: construction of new buildings, alterations, additions, renovations, etc. Minor repair jobs such as painting, tiling, roofing, etc., for which no permit is required, and engineering work (such as dams, roads, pipelines, etc.), which, by definition, is not a building, are not included in the building permit series. Estimates of such work may be obtained on Cansim, tables 029-0039 to 029-0040 for the «Capital expenditures by type of asset» and tables 029-0005 to 029-0024 and 032-0001 to 032-0002 for the «Private and Public Investment in Canada Intentions» (cat. no. 61-205-X).

The description given by the municipalities as to the type of building (box #6 of Section A on the form) and the type of work involved (box #7 of Section A on the form) forms the basis for classification. The classification of buildings into major groups and subgroups is based on the following: intended use in the case of new buildings; present or intended use of buildings to which improvements are to be made; present use of the existing structure where the proposed construction is intended to provide additional facilities; principal use of the structure where the proposed construction has more than one intended use; however, where the building contains dwellings, the value of the construction is divided between residential and non-residential use.

Building categories

This publication, uses the following classification for the **value of permits issued** for construction of new buildings or for improvements: residential, industrial, commercial, institutional and government.

Residential : Includes all buildings intended for private occupancy whether on a permanent basis or not. Dwellings are divided into the following types: single-family, mobile, cottage, semi-detached, row house and apartment building.

Industrial : Includes all buildings used for manufacturing and processing; transportation, communication and other utilities, and agriculture, forestry and mining.

Commercial : Includes all buildings used to house activities related to the tertiary sector, such as stores, warehouses, garages, office buildings, theatres, hotels, funeral parlours and beauty salons.

Institutional and Government : Includes expenditures made by the community, public and government for buildings and structures like schools, universities, hospitals, clinics, churches, homes for the aged.

The **number of dwelling units** indicates the number of self contained dwelling units created. This should not be confused with the number of structures. For example, an apartment building containing six dwellings will be shown as six dwelling units. When an existing structure is converted into additional housing units, the number of units added is included. This publication uses the following classification for dwelling units:

Single-family : Refers to dwellings commonly called "**single house**". It includes single dwellings that are completely isolated on all sides, including single dwellings linked to other dwellings below ground. Included are bungalows, split levels, two-storey single-family homes built by conventional methods or prefabricated.

Mobile homes : Refers to houses designed and constructed to be transported on their own chassis and for easy moving.

Cottage : Refers to dwellings that cannot be occupied year-round or on a permanent basis because the facilities required for comfort are inadequate.

Double or Semi-detached : Refers to dwellings in which each of the two dwellings are side by side and joined by a common wall or garage, but not attached to any other building and surrounded by open space.

Row Dwellings : Refers to a row of three or more dwellings attached to each other without dwellings above or below.

Apartment Building : Includes dwellings in a variety of buildings such as duplexes, semi-detached duplexes, triplexes, row duplexes, apartments as such and dwellings adjacent to non-residential structures.

Conversion : Refers to the number of dwellings added by conversion of existing structures.

Geographic classification

Geographic entities are classified according to Standard Geographical Classification (SGC) used by Statistics Canada. Each reporting entity is assigned a twelve-digit SGC code for identification according to the following geographic levels:

Province and territory (PR) : There are ten provinces and three territories.

Economic region (ER) : Refers to intraprovincial regions established by the Standards Division of Statistics Canada. There are seventy-six ERs.

Census division (CD) : Refers to a group of census subdivisions established by provincial law. There are two hundred and eighty-eight CDs (data on this geographic group is available on request).

Census metropolitan area (CMA) : Its delineation corresponds to the 2006 Census definition. The term CMA refers to the main labour market area of an urban area (the urbanized core) of at least 100,000 population, based on the Census population figures. The thirty-three CMAs are shown in this publication. Although the 2006 Census defines the Ottawa-Gatineau area as a single CMA, the area is shown in this publication as two separate entities since it is located in two different provinces.

Census agglomeration (CA) : Refers to the smaller labour market area of an urbanized core of at least 10,000 population, as defined by the 2006 Census. There are one hundred and eleven CAs in Canada. When a CA overlaps the boundaries of two provinces, it is shown partly in each province. The Lloydminster agglomeration is an exception to this rule. It is treated as if it was totally located in Alberta.

Other municipalities of at least 10,000 population : Refers to municipalities not included in census agglomerations but with populations of at least 10,000 inhabitants. The distinction is made between these municipalities and CAs in order to permit comparison between the Building Permits Survey and the Housing Starts and Completions Survey which refers to this geographical concept.

Rural area : Refers to all geographic entities not included in a CMA or CA and not identified as an urban centre by the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation.

Census subdivision (CSD) : Refers to the general term applying to municipalities, Indian reserves, Indian settlements and unorganized territories. However, since Indian reserves and settlements do not issue building permits, they are not included in this publication.

Non-standard geographic unit : The geographic units shown in this publication do not all satisfy the above definition of census subdivision. Some provincial or municipal administrations producing monthly reports do not correspond to the official geographic entities; they are nevertheless shown in this publication under the geographic entity used by these administrations. These so-called non-standard geographic units are few in number and are mostly concentrated in the Maritime provinces.

Territorial revisions

Territorial boundaries were established according to the 2006 Census definitions. Changes in boundaries, status or name of census subdivisions between censuses are introduced in this publication on a yearly basis. Changes affecting the other geographic units (CMAs, CAs, CDs and ERs) are introduced every five years, eighteen months following the census.

Data accuracy

Since the building permit data are extracted from municipal administrative documents, two types of response errors are possible: errors attributable to the permit applicant and errors in transcription by the responding municipality. However, experience has shown that transcription errors are not very common and the increasing number of municipalities producing computerized reports tends to reduce the frequency of this type of error. Errors attributable to an understatement of the cost of construction are more probable. Since permit fees are in most cases based on the value of the construction, this leads unquestionably to under-estimation of project values.

The other source of error are the processing error and the non-response error. In 2007, more than 99% of the municipalities covered by the survey sent their monthly Building Permits reports.

Comparability of data and related sources

Comparison of data must be done with reservation considering that the methods of issuing permits and the methods of estimating building values can differ from one municipality to another. Also, comparisons involving different periods must take into account the constant increase in the number of municipalities participating in the survey.

This publication contains only part of the data produced on building permits. However, you may order unpublished tables or address special requests, to the Current Investment Indicators Section (613-951-6321 or 1-800-579-8533). The series presented here is also available on CANSIM: Tables 026-0001 to 026-0008 and 026-0010.

Appendix I

Geographical abbreviations

C	Cité / City
CC	Chartered community
CÉ	Cité
CG	Community government
CM	County (municipality)
CN	Colonie de la couronne / Crown colony
COM	Community
CT	Canton (municipalité de)
CU	Cantons unis (municipalité de)
CY	City
DM	District municipality
HAM	Hamlet
ID	Improvement district
IGD	Indian government district
IM	Island municipality
IRI	Réserve indienne / Indian reserve
LGD	Local government district
LOT	Township and royalty
M	Municipalité / Municipality
MD	Municipal district
MÉ	Municipalité
MU	Municipality
NH	Northern hamlet
NL	Nisgaa land
NO	Non organisé / Unorganized
NV	Northern village
NVL	Nisgaa village
P	Paroisse (municipalité de) / Parish
PE	Paroisse (municipalité de)
RCR	Communauté rurale / Rural community
RDA	Regional district electoral area
RG	Region
RGM	Regional municipality
RM	Rural municipality
RV	Resort village
S-É	Établissement indien / Indian settlement
SA	Special area
SC	Subdivision municipalité de comté / Subdivision of county municipality
SÉ	Établissement / Settlement
SET	Settlement
SM	Specialized municipality
SNO	Subdivision non organisée / Subdivision of unorganized
SV	Summer village
T	Town

TC	Terres réservées aux Cris
TI	Terre inuite
TK	Terres réservées aux Naskapis
TL	Teslin land
TP	Township
TV	Ville / Town
V	Ville
VC	Village cri
VK	Village naskapi
VL	Village
VN	Village nordique