



Highlights

- Canadian permits flat in July
- Ontario reported a surge in residential permits, while non-residential building permits decreased

Ontario construction sector permit volumes increased in July

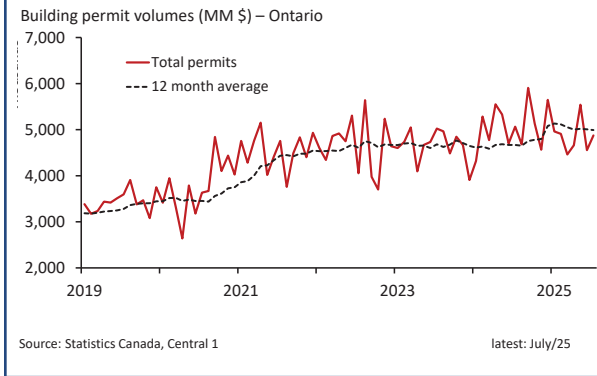
Ivy Ruan, Senior Analyst

The total value of building permits issued in Canada was almost flat in July following the notable decline in the prior month. On a seasonally-adjusted basis, permits edged down 0.1 per cent to \$11.9 billion, with the monthly decline in lower non-residential permits offset by the increase in residential permits. Year-to-date, building permits issued were up by 4.5 per cent on a nominal term but 1.1 per cent on a constant dollar basis.

Following the significant decline in June, Ontario reported a rebound in permits issued in July. Seasonally-adjusted total permits increased by 7.0 per cent to \$4.9 billion, partially reversing the 17.8 per cent decrease in the previous month. Despite the monthly fluctuation, the 12-month moving average continued to be elevated in 2025 yet trended slightly lower. Year-to-date, permits were down by 3.0 per cent on nominal basis and 5.7 per cent on a constant dollar basis.

The declines in the non-residential sector (-7.9 per cent to \$2.1 billion) were driven by the institutional sector and industrial sector components, which saw permits fall by 13.2 per cent and 29.2 per cent, respectively. On the other hand, commercial building permits increased by 7.6 per cent, reaching \$1.2 billion, the highest level since March 2024.

Building permits in Ontario rose in July



Ontario's residential sector permits growth led to the national increase. Total residential permits jumped by 21.7 per cent to \$2.8 billion. Within the sector, single dwelling building permits increased by 14.8 per cent while a 25.3 per cent rise in multiple dwelling building permits marked the highest level since February 2025.

In Ontario's metro areas, Hamilton permits increased by 38.7 per cent while they grew in Toronto by 3.5 per cent. In St. Catharines–Niagara, permits increased by 28.6 per cent. In contrast, permits in Ottawa declined by 21.3 per cent while down in London by 46.7 per cent.

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