

# Building permits jump in Saskatoon

THE STARPHOENIX JULY 7, 2011

The impact of the start of the spring/summer construction season was illustrated by Statistics Canada on Wednesday.

The national agency reported the value of building permits rose by 37.2 per cent in the Saskatoon region between April and May, rising to \$112.1 million from \$81.7 million. From May 2010 to May 2011, the value of the city's building permits also increased, rising 13.4 per cent from \$98.9 million last year.

Comparatively, Regina noted a 51.1 per cent decrease in the value of its building permits from April to May, falling to \$20.6 million from \$42.1 million. Year-over-year to May, the capital region saw its building permits value fall 71.8 per cent from \$73.2 million in May 2010.

Provincially, the value of Saskatchewan's building permits rose by three per cent to \$186.5 million in May from \$181.2 million in April. Between May 2010 and May 2011, however, the value of the province's building permits fell 18.7 per cent from \$229.4 million last year.

Much of the drop in Saskatchewan's year-over-year building permit figure can be attributed to a decline in non-residential building permits, which fell 30 per cent to \$81.9 million from \$117.1 million in May 2010. Between April in May, such building permit values rose 25 per cent from \$65.4 million.

Residential building permits in the province dropped 9.7 per cent from April to May, falling to \$104.6 million from \$115.8 million. Between May 2010 and May 2011, Saskatchewan's residential building permits fell by 6.9 per cent from \$112.3 million.

Nationally, building permit values increased by 4.6 per cent between May 2010 and May 2011, rising to \$6.4 billion from \$6.1 billion.

From April to May, Canada's building permits rose by 20.9 per cent from \$5.3 billion

© Copyright (c) The StarPhoenix