

April 2017 Monthly Building Permit Report for Saskatchewan

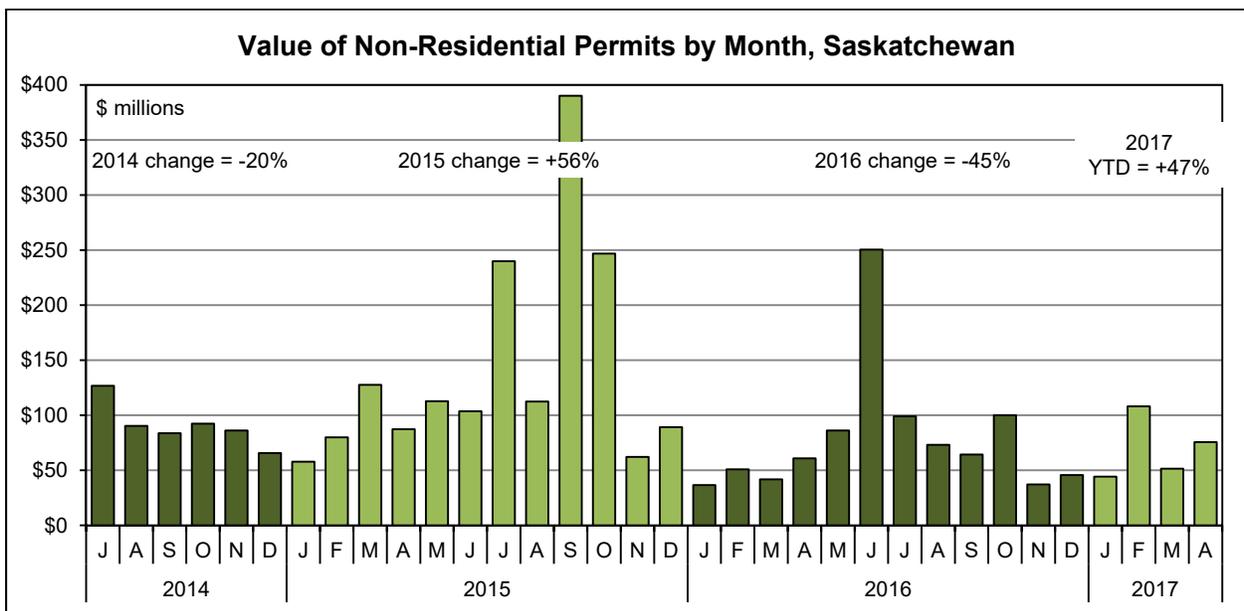
This report was prepared by the Sask Trends Monitor for the Saskatchewan Construction Association on June 7, 2017

Value of Non-Residential Building Permits

The value of building permits issued by local governments is a “leading indicator” for construction activity over the next six to twelve months. The value of non-residential permits issued in April 2017 was \$76 million, a 24% increase from the \$61 million in April 2016. The residential sector also showed an increase, albeit a more modest 4%.

In the first four months of 2017, the value of non-residential permits has increased from \$190 million to \$279 million – the equivalent of a 47% increase. This was partly because of a large-value industrial permit issued in February but April marks the fourth month in a row for year-over-year increases in the value of non-residential building permits.

It would be prudent to wait for data describing permits issued after the recent provincial budget to be sure, but it does look like the province is coming out of the recent slump.



Non-Residential Permits by Category

The figures on the right break down the value of non-residential permits into three sub-categories, namely commercial, industrial, and institutional.

Looking at the annual averages, the slowdown last year was relatively uniform across the three groups. In early 2017, we are seeing a higher level of activity in all three categories so the turnaround is widespread and most firms should be seeing an increase in demand.

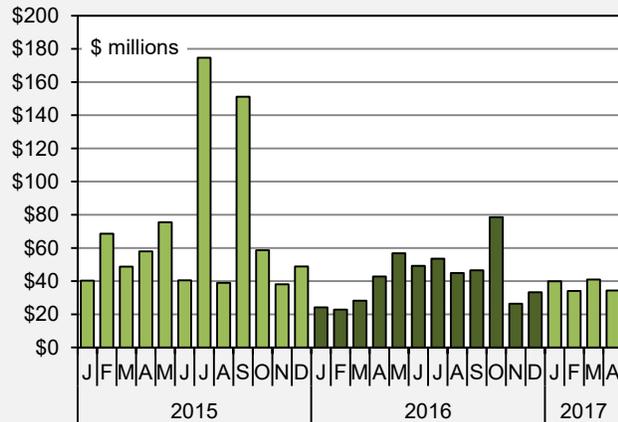
Compared with April 2016 the value of permits in April 2017 was:

- down by 20% in the commercial category, the largest of the three;
- up by 77% in the industrial category, normally the smallest of the three; and
- up by 139% in the institutional category.

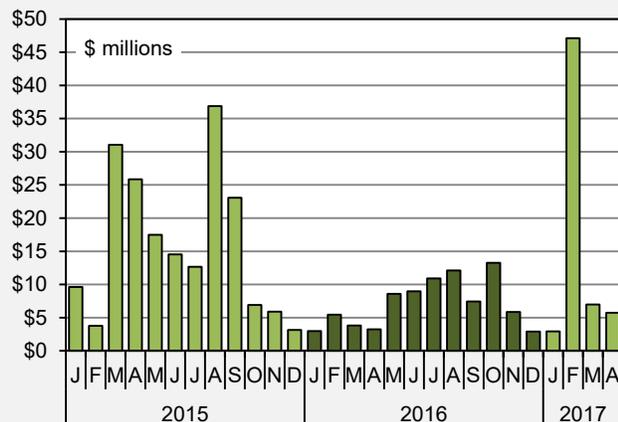
The year-to-date changes for the first four months of 2017 are:

- up 26% in the commercial category;
- up 305% in the industrial category; and
- up 19% in the institutional category.

Value of Commercial Building Permits



Value of Industrial Building Permits



Value of Institutional Building Permits

