

## January 2017 Monthly Building Permit Report for Saskatchewan

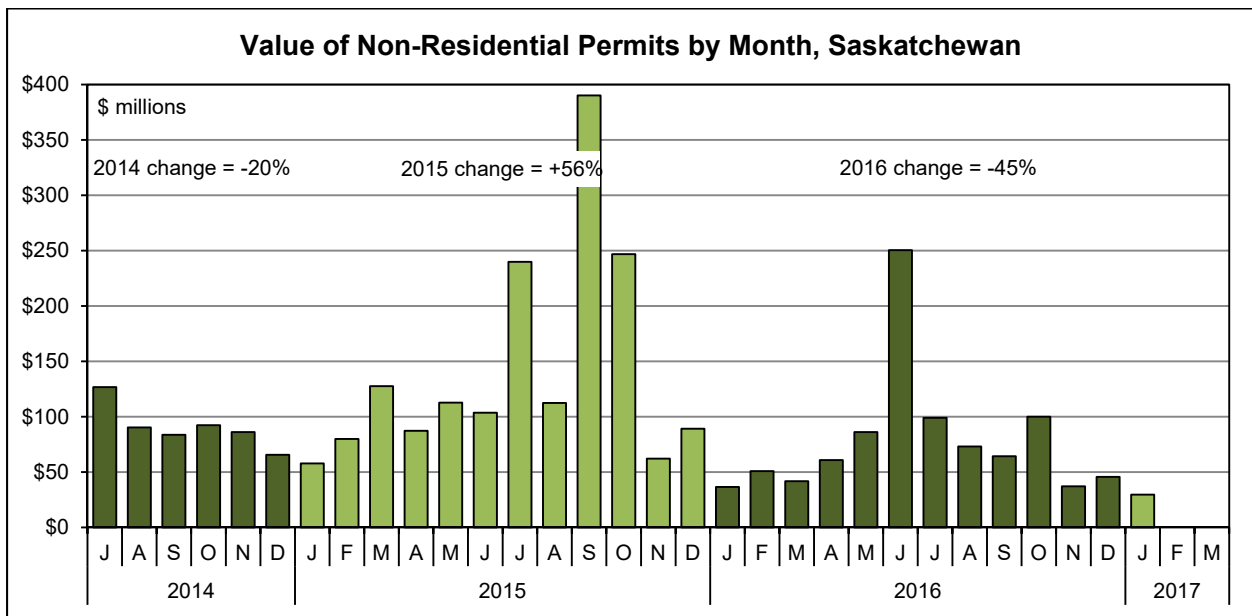
This report was prepared by the Sask Trends Monitor for the Saskatchewan Construction Association on March 8, 2017

### 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 release of the January figures coincides with some minor adjustments to the previously released monthly figures for 2016.

The value of non-residential permits issued in January 2017 was \$29.6 million, down 19% from the \$36.5 million in January 2016. Typically, there are relatively few building permits issued in the winter months so it is important not to place too much stock in the January figures. Notwithstanding that fact, the year-over-year decline means that there is still no recovery in sight for the non-residential construction sector.

The residential sector was also weak with the total of \$46.4 million representing a 3% decline from January 2016.



## Non-Residential Permits by Category

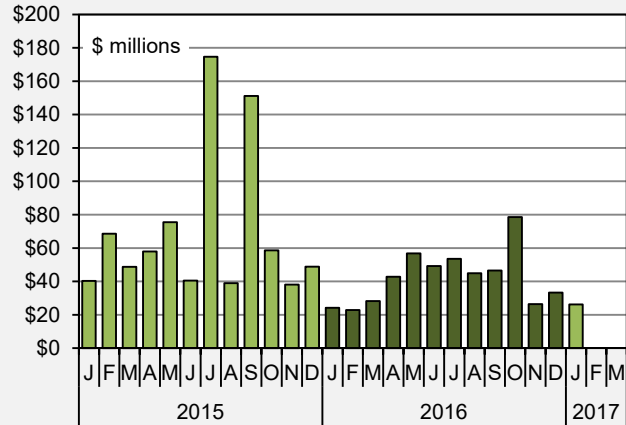
The figures on the right break down the value of non-residential permits into three sub-categories, namely commercial, industrial, and institutional.

Looking at the annual averages, the slowdown last year was relatively uniform across the three groups. In January 2017, there is lower activity relative to January 2016 in two of the three categories.

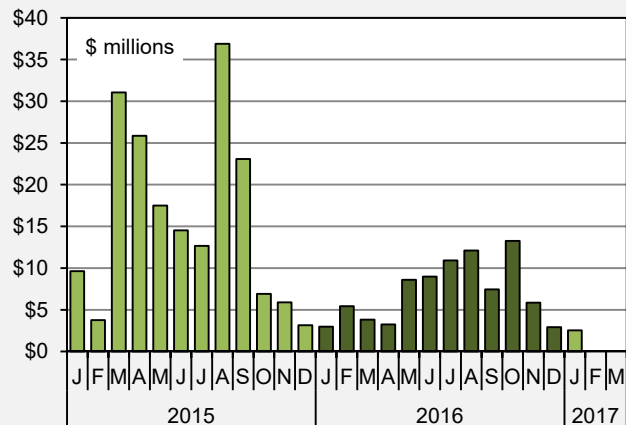
Comparing with January 2016 the value of permits in January 2017 was:

- up by 8.5% in the commercial category, the largest of the three;
- down by 15% in the industrial category, the smallest of the three; and
- down by 91% in the institutional category.

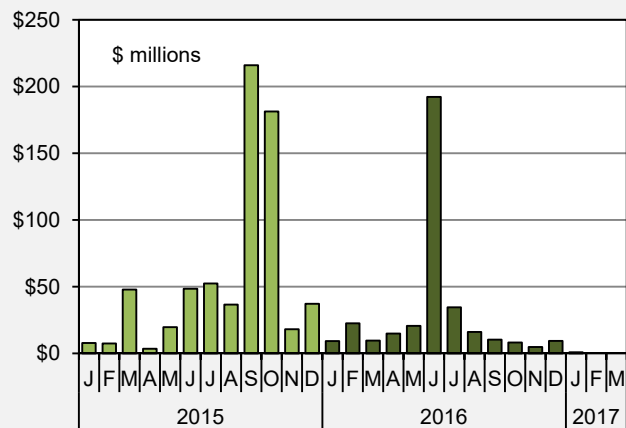
**Value of Commercial Building Permits**



**Value of Industrial Building Permits**



**Value of Institutional Building Permits**



### Non-Residential Permits by Location

The figures on the right show the value of non-residential permits broken down by the location of the project.

Looking at annual averages, the slowdown in 2016 was widespread but was most pronounced outside the two major cities. In January 2017, there is an increase in activity in Regina and a decline in Saskatoon. Outside the two cities, permit values have been almost non-existent over the winter months.

In Saskatoon, the value of non-residential permits issued in January 2017 was \$11.1 million, which is 43% lower than in January 2016. This is close to the decline of 39% in the annual average for 2016.

Non-residential building permit values for Regina in January totalled \$15.3 million, which is double the \$7.8 million recorded in January 2016.

In locations outside Regina and Saskatoon, permit values for non-residential work were down 65% to \$5.8 million in January 2017. This is close to the decline of 45% in the annual average for 2016.

