

10.—Labour Content, Cost of Materials and Value of Work Performed in Construction, by Province and by Employer 1953-57—concluded

Employer and Year	Labour Content		Cost of Materials Used	Value of Work Performed
	Number	Value		
Employer		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Contractors.....	1953	322,889	1,110,446	3,358,410
	1954	321,525	1,101,370	3,381,630
	1955	343,322	1,213,022	3,875,878
	1956	409,287	1,522,051	4,849,493
	1957	434,514	1,616,976	5,140,743
Utilities.....	1953	79,870	233,692	540,341
	1954	77,137	243,910	537,576
	1955	75,707	239,877	602,942
	1956	86,266	285,461	708,853
	1957	87,118	288,120	725,591
Governments.....	1953	56,640	148,278	318,278
	1954	68,724	179,767	383,558
	1955	61,176	167,492	361,725
	1956	59,590	173,820	370,658
	1957	63,036	184,611	392,130
Others.....	1953	55,661	158,974	422,616
	1954	50,800	155,085	420,603
	1955	53,813	166,928	470,084
	1956	50,579	163,485	459,828
	1957	49,183	158,514	443,608

Subsection 2.—Contracts Awarded and Building Permits Issued

In this Subsection statistics are given of work actually in sight either as contracts awarded or as building permits. These figures are related to those of work performed during the year only so far as the work thus provided for is completed and duly reported in the capital expenditure surveys. Further, values of contracts awarded, and especially of building permits, are estimates (more often under-estimates) of work to be done.

**Contracts Awarded.**—According to figures published by *Hugh C. MacLean Building Reports*, the Canadian construction industry registered new gains in 1956. Total construction contract awards reached \$3,426,905,500 by the year-end, an increase of 7.6 p.c. over 1955. This gain, however, was not as great as was indicated even as late as mid-summer. Contract volume lagged during the last four months of the year as a result of the deflationary measures imposed by the Federal Government on financial institutions.

During 1956, engineering construction led with a gain of 30.0 p.c. and contributed 31.1 p.c. of the total awards, almost equalling the proportion contributed by residential construction. Industrial work gained 17.9 p.c. and commercial and institutional construction 8.9 p.c. Residential construction was lower by 11.4 p.c. The regional spread of new work was somewhat uneven in 1956. Solid gains were shown in Ontario and Quebec but specific declines in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick brought the Maritime total down from 1955. Also a sharp drop in British Columbia more than counterbalanced gains in the three Prairie Provinces.