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# Province sees surge in non-residential construction

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WINNIPEG — Spending on non-residential construction projects increased at one of the fastest paces in the country during the second quarter of this year, according to new data released today.

Statistics Canada said \$294 million worth of investments in commercial, industrial and institutional construction projects was registered in the province during the quarter.

That was an increase of 5.3 per cent from the first-quarter total of \$279 million. Only Saskatchewan saw a bigger quarterly increase, at six per cent.

Manitoba's Q2 total was also a 13.5 per cent improvement from a year earlier, when \$259 million was invested. That was the third-biggest year-over-year increase behind Newfoundland and Labrador's 41.9 per cent and Saskatchewan's 21.4 per cent.

Nationally, investment in non-residential projects grew by 1.8 per cent to \$11.2 billion, StatsCan said. That followed three consecutive quarters of declining investment.

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