Media Release

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Led by houses and apartments, Victoria’s building permits top $31 billion in 2015-16

The value of building work in Victoria in the 2015-16 financial year exceeded $31 billion for the first time, according to building permit data reported to the Victorian Building Authority (VBA).

At $31.5 billion, the total value of building permits reported by Victorian building surveyors is 12.3 per cent higher than the record of $28 billion set in 2014-15 financial year. The number of building permits reported in 2015-16 jumped 4.4 per cent to 110,069 - the second highest number on record after the 113,669 reported in 2009-10.

The major contributors to the record value of building permits were the buildings where Victorians live – Domestic (houses) jumped 12.5 per cent from the previous year’s record total to $16.2 billion, and Residential (including apartments) rose 23.7 per cent from 2014-15 to a new record total of $6 billion. Together the two categories covering dwellings reached a record $22.2 billion, which is almost double the combined total of $12 billion reported in 2008-09.

In all, the value of building permits reported to the VBA rose in five of the seven building use categories in 2015-16 compared with 2014-15:

- Domestic increased 12.5 per cent to $16.2 billion
- Residential rose 23.7 per cent to $6.0 billion
- Commercial rose 23.7 per cent to $3.7 billion
- Retail increased 5.6 per cent to $2.0 billion
- Industrial fell 33.2 per cent to $551 million
- Hospital/Healthcare fell 24.8 per cent to $1.1 billion
- Public Buildings rose 18.3 per cent to $2.0 billion.

In terms of a breakdown by region, Metropolitan Melbourne recorded a year-on-year growth of 18.8 per cent in the value of building and 6 per cent in the number of permits reported to the VBA.

The value of building permits by region in 2015-16 compared with 2014-15 showed:

- Inner Melbourne rose 14.5 per cent to $14.7 billion
- Outer Melbourne increased 24.9 per cent to $11.4 billion
- Gippsland rose 3.4 per cent to $887 million
- North Central fell 26.6 per cent to $1.0 billion
- North East rose 4.5 per cent to $735 million
- North West fell 21.7 per cent to $895 million
- South West fell 5.6 per cent to $1.8 billion.

Nine municipalities in Victoria reported building permits totals in excess of $1 billion in 2015-16:

1. Melbourne ($4.10 billion)
2. Wyndham ($1.50 billion)
3. Casey ($1.34 billion)
4. Monash ($1.31 billion)
5. Boroondara ($1.27 billion)
6. Stonnington ($1.25 billion)
7. Greater Geelong ($1.20 billion)
8. Hume ($1.07 billion)
9. Mornington Peninsula ($1.01 billion)

The VBA collects Victorian building permit information monthly from building surveyors who provide details of building permits they issue. For more information visit www.vba.vic.gov.au

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