

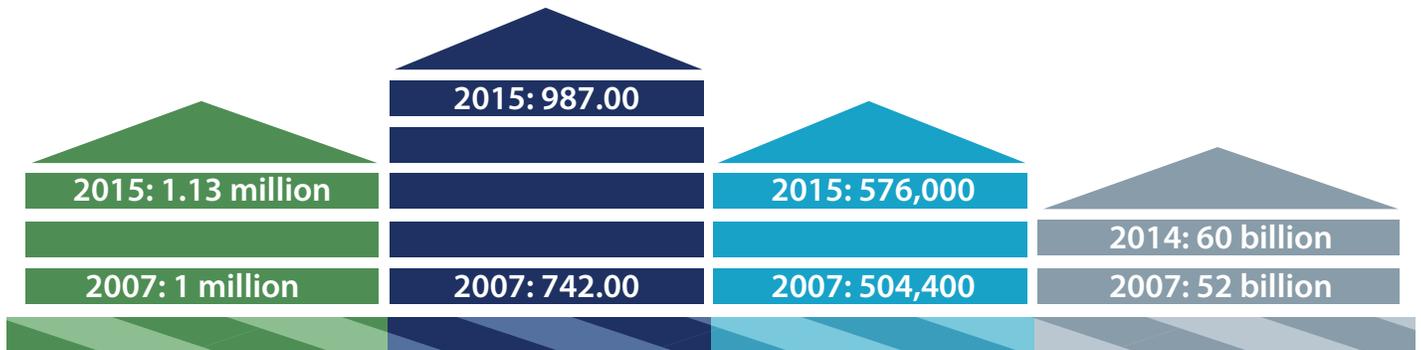
Saskatchewan's Construction SUCCESS STORY

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Saskatchewan's Business Climate *A Record of Growth:*

Since 2007, Saskatchewan's construction sector has experienced an unprecedented period of growth and opportunity. By almost any measure – investment, building permits, employment – business owners and residents alike have experienced almost boundless growth and opportunity in our province.



13%
Population

33%
Average Weekly Wage

14%
Employment

6.5%
GDP

Small Business Tax



Saskatchewan Construction *Inside the Numbers:*

Along with provincial growth, Saskatchewan's open shop construction sector has experienced unprecedented increases in almost every metric.

Construction Employment

Construction Employment up by **72%**

2007: 32,000 Since 2007, 1 out of every 3 new jobs in Saskatchewan has been in construction.
2015: 55,000 23,000 new construction jobs: that's 8 new jobs, every day, for the past 8 years.

Building Permits

Building Permits up by **62%**

2007: \$1.65 billion Since 2007, the value of Saskatchewan's annual building permits has increased by
2014: \$2.66 billion \$1 billion.

Construction Investment

Construction Investment up by **124%**

2007: \$142 million Since 2007, private and public investment in Saskatchewan's construction sector
2014: \$320 million has increased by \$177 million. Over the same time, a combined total of \$1.9 billion was invested in construction in our province.

Construction GDP

Construction GDP up by **62%**

2007: \$2.9 billion Since 2007, Saskatchewan's construction sector Gross Domestic Product
2014: \$4.7 billion has grown by \$1.8 billion or 62%. In the same period, the overall GDP for Saskatchewan has grown 21%.

Ensuring an Even Playing Field

Merit Saskatchewan is proud to have played a leading role in advocating for legislative and regulatory changes that have benefited our members, their employees and the entire province:

2008 - Bill 6: the Trade Union Amendment Act brought more "balance" to legislation dealing with union certification. It made the workplace more democratic by requiring secret ballot votes when workers consider unionizing, putting an end to the old "card check" system. It also legislated that employers had the right to communicate with their employees during a certification drive.

2009 - Bill 80: the Construction Industry Labour Relations Act provided some significant changes for the industry including:

- enabling any trade union to certify an employer, not just the Building Trade Unions
- allowing employers to choose the Representative Employers' Organization that will represent them
- allowing a union to organize a company on a multi-trade, or "all employee" basis (project-based certification) as well as on a craft, or single trade basis
- providing clarity and definition on the issue of union abandonment

2014 - Bill 85: the Saskatchewan Employment Act modernized and clarified Saskatchewan's labour policy by combining 12 outdated and often-conflicting statutes into one comprehensive Act. As part of its advocacy for Bill 85, Merit Saskatchewan led the fight for changes in the hours of work permitting system that required a government permit for each and every modified work arrangement. Now contractors are able to negotiate hours of work directly with their employees and simply retain on file the employees' consent to those modified work arrangements.

Merit Contractors Association of Saskatchewan **Saskatchewan is BUILT on MERIT**