

REGINA'S ECONOMIC BRIEF

GRA enters summer with strong momentum

Inflation in the Greater Regina Area (GRA) continued to climb in May 2026, reaching 4.3%, up from 3.8% in April as gasoline prices sharply spiked. Year-over-year (YoY) employment growth remained strong, rising 3.9% to 156,300 in May (May 2025: 150,500) as 5,800 jobs were added, outperforming Saskatchewan and Canada. Unemployment also improved, dropping to 6.0% from 6.2% in April. The GRA's manufacturing sector saw another breakout performance, with sales up 41.8% YoY in April, supported by heightened energy prices tied to the conflict in the Middle East.

Source: Statistics Canada (Unadjusted)

GRA job market maintains growth

The GRA's job market maintained strong annual growth, adding 5,800 jobs in May 2026 (+3.9% YoY), with significant gains in health care, construction, and public administration. Regina's gains continue to stand out against the provincial and national averages, with Saskatchewan's job market shrinking by 6,800 jobs (-1.1%), and Canada's stalling, adding only +130,200 (0.6%) jobs.

Source: Statistics Canada

Unemployment shrinks

In May 2026, the GRA's average YoY unemployment rate fell to 6.0% (April 2026: 6.2%), continuing its downward trend since February. Regina's unemployment rate matched Saskatchewan at 6.1%, both well below the national average of 6.9%.

Source: Statistics Canada

Inflation rate keeps climbing

Inflation in the GRA continued to climb in May 2026, reaching 4.3%, up from 3.8% in April 2026. The rise in inflation is once again largely driven by higher gasoline prices stemming from global supply chain disruptions. However, inflation in Regina was still in line with Saskatchewan (4.4%), both considerably higher than Canada (3.2%) over the same period.

Source: Statistics Canada

Manufacturing posts another stellar month

The GRA's manufacturing sector recorded another strong month, up 41.8% YoY in April 2026 to \$766M (April 2025: \$541M). Growth continues to be driven largely by significant gains in the energy sector.

Source: Statistics Canada

Bank of Canada holds rate once again

The Bank of Canada held its lending rate at 2.25% in June 2026, its fifth consecutive hold since lowering it in October 2025. While inflation continues to rise due to surging energy costs, the Bank believes these pressures have yet to significantly spread to other prices. It is once again opting to monitor for longer-term impacts on the Canadian economy.

Source: Bank of Canada

Housing prices continue to surge

In May 2026, the GRA's Housing Price Index (HPI) Benchmark Value reached a record \$350,200, an increase of \$12,400 (3.7%) from May 2025. Despite continued price growth, Regina remains one of the more affordable housing markets among major Canadian cities.

Source: Canadian Real Estate Association, Saskatchewan Realtors Association

KEY NUMBERS

4.3%

INFLATION IN THE GRA CLIMBED TO 4.3% IN MAY 2026 FROM 3.8% IN APRIL 2026 DUE IN PART TO SURGING GASOLINE PRICES.

Source: Statistics Canada

5,800

THE GRA'S JOB GROWTH IN MAY 2026, UP 3.9% YOY, OUTPERFORMING BOTH CANADA AND SASKATCHEWAN, WHERE EMPLOYMENT GROWTH REMAINED LARGELY STAGNANT.

Source: Statistics Canada

41.8%

MANUFACTURING ROSE 41.8% YOY IN APRIL 2026, THE STRONGEST GROWTH THE SECTOR HAS SEEN SINCE 2022.

Source: Statistics Canada

\$350,200

THE GRA'S AVERAGE HOUSING PRICE INDICATOR BENCHMARK VALUE FOR MAY 2026, UP 3.7% YOY, CONTINUING TO CLIMB FROM APRIL.

Source: Canadian Real Estate Association

2.25%

THE BANK OF CANADA HELD THE TARGET RATE AT 2.25% IN JUNE 2026, THE FIFTH HOLD IN A ROW.

Source: Bank of Canada

A DEEPER LOOK...

The Beautiful game and the Billion Dollar Opportunity

The biggest sporting event in human history is unfolding across North America. The 2026 FIFA World Cup, with 48 nations, 104 matches and a projected global TV audience of more than \$5B, is being co hosted by Canada, the United States and Mexico. For the host cities, the scale of the moment is just as staggering.

FIFA's economic assessment estimates the tournament will contribute up to \$3.8B in economic output for Canada, including \$2B in GDP and support for 24,100 jobs nationwide. Deloitte Canada estimates the World Cup could generate \$940M for Greater Toronto area, while [British Columbia](#) projects over \$1B in tourism revenue for Vancouver over the five years after the event. On average, each of the 13 matches in Canada is expected to add \$155 to GDP and generate or sustain about 1,850 jobs.

Here's where it gets interesting for Regina. Mosaic Stadium seats 33,000, can expand to 40,000, has a sunken bowl design that brings fans close to the action, was built with a wider field suited to soccer and is equipped with broadcast grade LED lighting.

It is, by any measure, a serious facility and will host the Grey Cup next year — clear proof that Regina can deliver a world class sporting event on the national stage.

FIFA's requirements go well beyond seating. Standards for airport access, hotel capacity and tourism infrastructure meant Regina was always a better fit for a Team Base Camp than for hosting matches. A base camp would have brought a national squad, staff and thousands of supporters for several weeks. Twenty five communities across North America played that role this tournament. Hosting a team for a month — full hotels, busy restaurants, global media filing from Regina — would have delivered real economic impact and boosted future bids.

In sports economics, the World Cup is more than an event. It is a global branding opportunity money can't buy. Host cities will appear in highlight reels, travel lists and boardroom decks for years. The lesson is clear: the 2027 Grey Cup shows what Regina can deliver. The task now is building the relationships and bid capacity to be ready for the next major international opportunity.

Projection	Narration	Source
\$3.8B	Total economic output for Canada	FIFA Estimate
\$2B	Contribution to Canadian GDP	Deloitte Canada
24,100	Jobs created or sustained nationally (2023-2026)	Deloitte Canada
\$155M	GDP impact per match played in Canada	Deloitte Canada
5B+	Global TV viewers	FIFA Estimate
\$1.09	GDP return for every \$ spent on hosting	FIFA Estimate
+1400%	Hotel bookings surge in basecamp host cities (Dallas example)	Dallas News

News Worth Watching

Saskatchewan inks nuclear energy deal with Poland

Saskatchewan Premier Scott Moe signed a memorandum of understanding with Poland to advance collaboration in nuclear energy development, including workforce development, research and innovation, and supply-chain opportunities.

Source: [CTV News](#)

Sask. outlook remains positive despite recession concerns: economist

The Canadian economy slipped into a technical recession earlier this month for the first time since 2020, but local economists say the term isn't the best measure of health, adding the future in Saskatchewan looks positive.

Source: [CTV News](#)

Small modular nuclear reactor testing centre planned for Regina

The Saskatchewan steel industry received a financial boost from the Government of Canada as the sector navigates global trade disruptions.

Source: [CBC News](#)

Ottawa aims to cut grocery bills with \$3.2B food security strategy

The federal government unveiled a \$3.2-billion national food security strategy aimed at lowering grocery bills by overhauling how food is grown, processed and sold in Canada.

Source: [Global News](#)

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GRA REPORT CARD

YEAR OVER YEAR

YEAR TO DATE

May 2025	May 2026	Chg	%Chg
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May 2025	May 2026	Chg	%Chg
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	Employment	150,500	156,300	5,800		3.9%
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146,640	153,880	7,240		4.9%
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	Employment Rate (%)	4.7	6	1.3		-
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5.9	6.5	0.6		-
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	Housing Price Index Benchmark Value (\$)	337,800	350,200	12,400		3.7%
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324,360	341,320	16,960		5.2%
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	Consumer Price Index (2002=100)	166.7	173.8	7.1		4.3%
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166.1	171.0	4.9		3.0%
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April 2025	April 2026	Chg	%Chg
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April 2025	April 2026	Chg	%Chg
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	Housing Starts Total (Units)	281	399	118		42.0%
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792	571	-221		-27.9%
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	Building Permits Total (\$000s)	67,097	66,991	-106		-0.2%
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191,680	298,422	106,742		55.7%
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	Building Permits Residential (\$000s)	32,544	34,311	1,767		5.4%
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118,623	139,285	20,662		17.4%
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	Manufacturing Sales (\$000s)	540,717	766,468	225,751		41.8%
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2,457,270	2,747,422	290,152		11.8%
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2023	2024	Chg	%Chg
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	Population (persons) July 1	285,039	291,187	6,148		2.2%
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2024	2025f	Chg	%Chg
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	Gross Domestic Product (2017 \$M)	18,226	18,674	448		2.5%
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ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT
REGINA

Sources: Statistics Canada Cansim 2820128, 0270034, 326-0020, 0260003, 0510056, MLS® HPI, and Conference Board of Canada Major Cities Outlook Fall 2025 Outlook.

Note: Year-over-year figures may differ from year-to-date figures, as year-to-date values represent an average over a period while year-over-year figures reflect a point-in-time snapshot.