ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REGINA

REGINA'S ECONOMIC BRIEF

July 2026

GRA continues to have a strong summer

Inflation in the Greater Regina area (GRA) began to ease in June 2026, dipping to 3.8% from 4.3% in May 2026. Year-over-year (YoY) employment grew to 157,500 in June 2026 (June 2025: 152,900 employed), with 4,600 jobs added to the local economy, outperforming both Saskatchewan and Canada. Unemployment had a small improvement, dropping to 5.9% from 6.0% in May 2026. The GRA's manufacturing sector continues to ride the wave of heightened electricity and energy prices, with sales up 37.1% YoY in May 2026.

Source: Statistics Canada (Unadjusted)

GRA job market outpaces province, nation

The GRA's job market posted another month of growth, adding 4,600 jobs in June 2026 (+3.0% YoY) to reach 157,500. Regina's gains continue to outpace the downturns in employment experienced provincially and nationally, with Saskatchewan's job market shrinking by 4,300 jobs (-0.7%) and Canada's adding only 90,300 jobs (+0.4 %).

Source: Statistics Canada

Unemployment shrinks

In June 2026, the GRA's average YoY unemployment rate had a slight drop to 5.9% from 6.0% in May 2026, maintaining the downward trend since February 2026. Regina's unemployment rate was in line with Saskatchewan's at 6.1%, both considerably lower than the national average of 6.6%.

Source: Statistics Canada

Inflation easing

Inflation in the GRA eased in June 2026, falling to 3.8%, down from 4.3% in May 2026. The decline was tempered by continued high gasoline and electricity prices, which kept pressure on transportation and household budgets even as the overall rate moved lower. Inflation in Regina remained in line with Saskatchewan (4.0%), with both still considerably higher than Canada (2.8%) over the same period.

Source: Statistics Canada

Manufacturing celebrates another win

The GRA's manufacturing sector recorded another strong month, up 37.1% YoY in May 2026 to $949M (April 2025: $692M). Regina's manufacturing sector continues to benefit from heightened energy prices.

Source: Statistics Canada

Bank of Canada continues to play waiting game

The Bank of Canada held its lending rate at 2.25% in June 2026, marking the sixth consecutive hold since it was lowered in October 2025. Economic growth is improving, and inflation is gradually easing, but energy prices tied to the conflict in the Middle East remain a risk. The Bank continues to take a wait-and-see approach, monitoring for longer-term impacts on the Canadian economy.

Source: Bank of Canada

Housing prices continue to surge

In June 2026, the GRA's Housing Price Index (HPI) Benchmark Value continued to climb, setting another record at $356,400, an increase of $16,500 (4.9%) from June 2025. Regina's housing market has continued to be defined by strong demand and slower supply, leading to these record prices.

Source: Canadian Real Estate Association, Saskatchewan Realtors Association

POSITIVE **NEED TO WATCH** **NEGATIVE**

KEY NUMBERS

3.8%

INFLATION IN THE GRA EASED TO 3.8% IN JUNE 2026 FROM 4.3% IN MAY 2026.

Source: Statistics Canada

4,600

THE GRA'S JOB GROWTH IN JUNE 2026, UP 3.0% YOY, OUTPERFORMING BOTH CANADA AND SASKATCHEWAN, WHERE EMPLOYMENT GROWTH CONTINUES TO STAGNATE.

Source: Statistics Canada

$949M

MANUFACTURING ROSE 37.1% YOY IN MAY 2026 TO $949M, AS IT CONTINUES TO BENEFIT FROM HEIGHTENED ENERGY PRICES.

Source: Statistics Canada

$356,400

THE GRA'S AVERAGE HOUSING PRICE INDICATOR BENCHMARK VALUE FOR JUNE 2026, UP 4.9% YOY, REACHING RECORD HEIGHTS.

Source: Canadian Real Estate Association

2.25%

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

Source: Bank of Canada

A DEEPER LOOK...

The Deal That Feeds America — and Saskatchewan's Uncertainty.

On July 1, six years to the day since the Canada-United States-Mexico Agreement (CUSMA) replaced the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), American negotiators walked into trilateral talks and declined to extend the deal. For Regina, a city whose economy runs on commodities that flow south across the border every day, this was not an abstract diplomatic event. It was a flashing yellow light on a very long highway.

Saskatchewan sends more than half its exports to the United States. Crude oil, potash, canola oil, and uranium account for roughly three-quarters of that trade. The potash number alone is striking: between 80 and 90% of what American farmers spread on their fields comes from mines dug into the Saskatchewan prairie.

When Washington briefly hit potash with a 25% tariff in early 2025, American farm groups reacted within days. The tariff was cut to 10% almost immediately. That episode illustrated both Saskatchewan's leverage and its vulnerability — the province matters, but it cannot take access for granted.

Canola tells a similar story. The new Cargill crush plant will process a million tonnes annually, boosting Regina's industrial base. But stricter rules of origin could create new border hurdles for processed canola products.

Investment is already feeling the chill. The Bank of Canada projects Canadian GDP will finish 2026 roughly 1.5% below its pre-tariff path. Deloitte puts growth at a thin 0.7%. The Bell data centre now rising just south of Regina's city limits, a $1.7B project, was designed in a world of predictable cross-border capital flows. Every month of CUSMA uncertainty adds a risk premium that future investors will price in.

Canada's negotiating priorities are clear enough: preserve tariff-free access for goods that qualify, resist American pressure to open supply-managed dairy, and keep the dispute-settlement mechanism that gives exporters somewhere to go when Washington acts unfairly. Saskatchewan's specific ask is simpler still. Predictable rules, honoured consistently, are worth more to a resource economy than any concession on paper that might be reversed by executive order tomorrow morning.

The review could stretch into 2027. Until it resolves, Regina sits in an uncomfortable position: close enough to the American market to benefit enormously when things go well and exposed enough to feel every tremor when they do not. And for a province that grows a third of the world's potash and sends over half of its exports south, the stakes could hardly be higher.

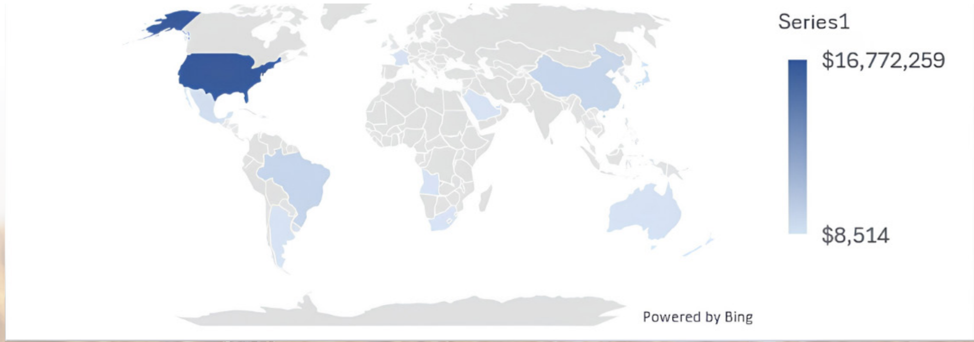

Figure 1: Saskatchewan exports by country of destination

News Worth Watching

Wigs to wine, Canadian good targeted in Trump's latest tarrify threat

A proposed U.S. tariff package targeting billions of dollars worth of Canadian exports is raising concerns among businesses, with some of the products on the list leaving industry observers puzzled.

Source: Global News

'Long road ahead' in Canada's housing market recovery: RBC report

Canada's housing market took a "small step" toward recovery last month, according to the Royal Bank of Canada (RBC) Monthly Housing Market Update, but a sustained rebound is yet to be seen.

Source: CTV News

Trade tensions dominate premiers' meeting as Trump's tariff threat looms

All 13 of Canada's premiers meet in Charlottetown, with the threat of new U.S. tariffs looming over talks that ranged across a long list of domestic priorities.

Source: CTV News

Nine Saskatchewan agricultural businesses to get $10M in funding

Nine farm-related businesses in Saskatchewan will get a total $10 million for processing, trade diversification and, the government hopes, increased food security.

Source: The Western Producer

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GRA REPORT CARD

	YEAR OVER YEAR				YEAR TO DATE			
	June 2025	June 2026	Chg	%Chg	June 2025	June 2026	Chg	%Chg
Employment	152,900	157,500	4,600	3.0%	147,683	154,483	6,800	4.6%
Umployment Rate (%)	5.3	5.9	0.6	-	5.8	6.4	0.6	-
Housing Price Index Benchmark Value ($)	339,900	356,400	16,500	4.9%	326,950	343,833	16,883	5.2%
Consumer Price Index (2002=100)	166.9	173.2	6.3	3.8%	166.2	171.4	5.2	3.1%

	May 2025	May 2026	Chg	%Chg	May 2025	May 2026	Chg	%Chg
Housing Starts Total (Units)	60	89	29	48.3%	852	660	-192	-22.5%
Building Permits Total ($000s)	50,593	59,749	9,156	18.1%	242,273	358,171	115,898	47.8%
Building Permits Residential ($000s)	35,488	26,856	-8,632	-24.3%	154,111	166,141	12,030	7.8%
Manufacturing Sales ($000s)	692,280	949,297	257,017	37.1%	3,149,550	3,696,719	547,169	17.4%

	2023	2024	Chg	%Chg
Population (persons) July 1	285,039	291,187	6,148	2.2%

	2024	2025f	Chg	%Chg
Gross Domestic Product (2017 $M)	18,226	18,674	448	2.5%

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.