

April 29, 2026

Q1 2026 Canadian HVACR Shipments Report

Mississauga, Ontario – The first quarter of 2026 presents a divided landscape across Canada’s HVACR market. While overall shipment volumes declined in most equipment categories, commercial heat pumps stood out with exceptional growth of 162% year-over-year.

In Contrast, several core residential segments experienced notable contractions. Residential heat pumps fell by 48%, while residential air conditioning and furnaces declined by 32% and 16% respectively.

Commercial equipment categories, aside from heat pumps, also trended downward. Air handlers saw steepest decline at 81% followed by chillers (-36%) and commercial air conditioning (-16%).

Below are the Summary of YTD 2026 vs PYTD 2025 data:

Shipment increases for:

Commercial Heat pumps +162%,

Shipment decreases for:

Air- Handlers -81%

Residential Heat Pumps -48%

Chillers -36%

Residential AC’s -32%

Ductless Split Systems -25%

Residential furnaces -16%

Commercial Air-Conditioning -16%

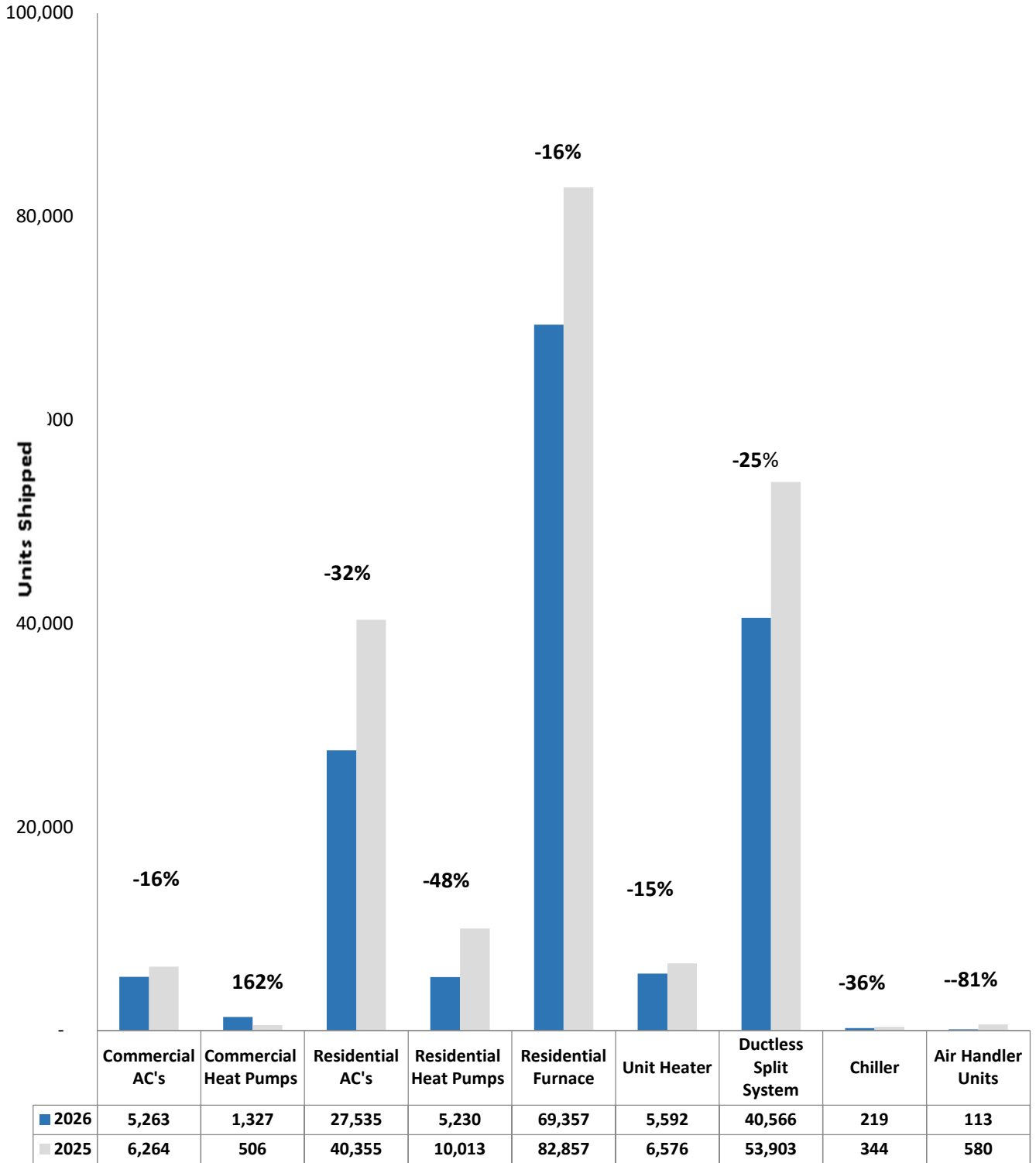
Unit Heaters -15%

The first graph in the report illustrates the year-to-date Canadian shipment data for selected HVACR equipment categories as of the end of Q1 2026.

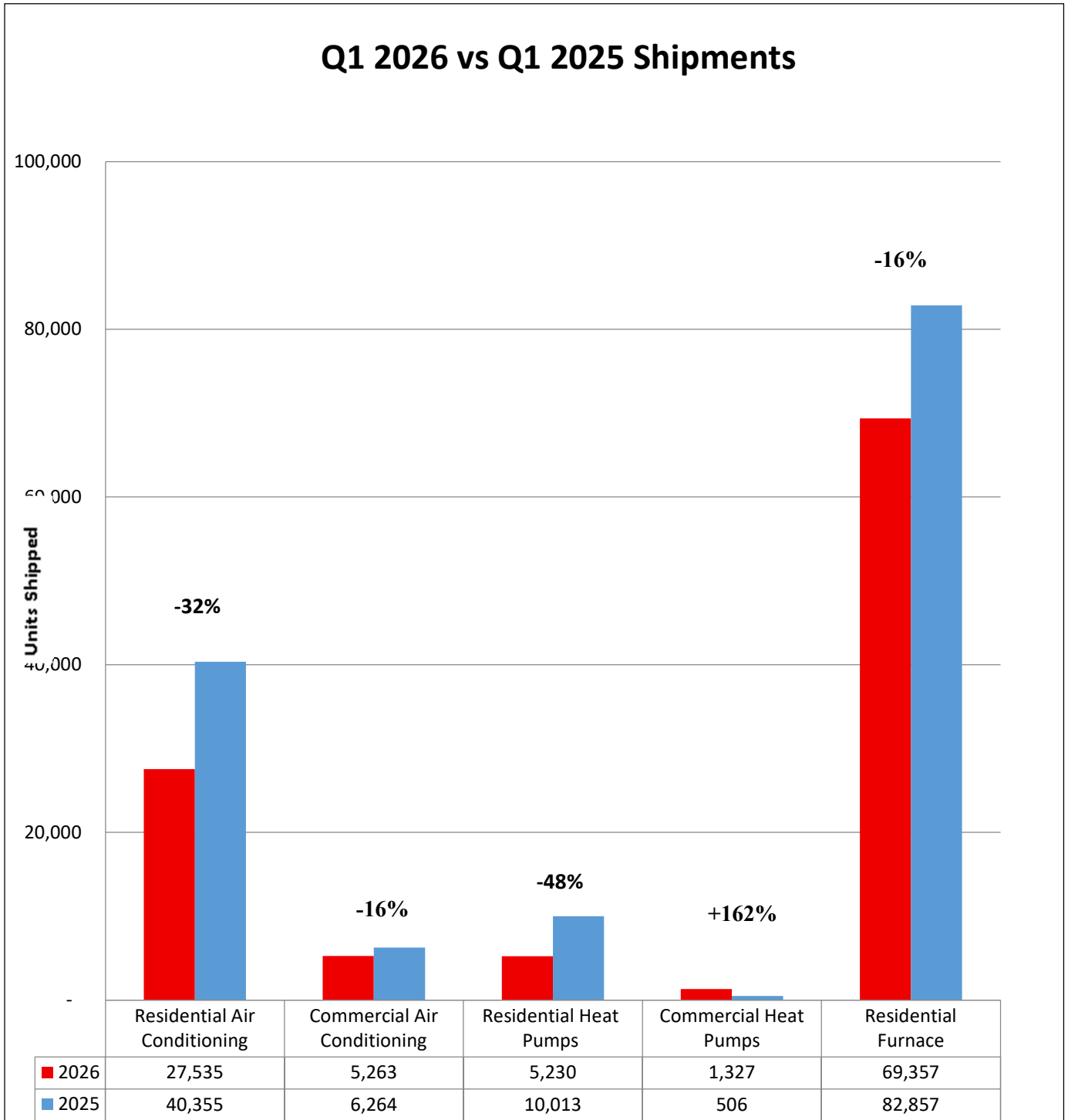
Note: An expansion factor has been applied to the data to account for the estimated share of the market not represented by participating companies.

For category definitions, please see “Definitions” in Page 4.

YTD 2026 vs YTD 2025 Shipments



The graph below presents a quarterly comparison between the Commercial and Residential markets, illustrating the percentage change in product shipments for the current quarter compared to the same period last year



Definitions

- “Residential air conditioning” means ducted split system air conditioning up to 5 tonnes.
- “Commercial air conditioning” means rooftops (combination heat/cool), packaged cooling systems other than heat pumps units above 5 tonnes.
- “Residential heat pumps” means ducted split system heat pumps up to 5 tonnes.
- “Commercial heat pumps” means packed heat pump units above 5 tonnes
- Ductless splits” means heat pumps and conditioning condensing units (cooling only).
- “Furnace” means residential forced air furnaces of all types (gas, oil, electric and combination);
- “Chillers” include large tonnage liquid, reciprocating liquid, and absorption chillers.
- “Unit heater” means self- contained automatically controlled vented units limited to heating of non-residential space and also includes duct furnaces.
- “Air handling unit” means a device used to condition and circulate air containing a blower, filter, sound attenuators and dampers.

The Heating, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Institute of Canada (HRAI), established in 1968, is the national trade association of manufacturers, wholesalers and contractors in the Canadian HVACR industry who provide the products and services for indoor comfort and essential refrigeration processes. HRAI has three (3) industry sector Divisions: HRAI Manufacturers Division; HRAI Wholesalers Division, and HRAI Contractors Division.

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