

Canola volumes up while the wheat crop declines

Canadian farmers reported increased production of canola, soybean, oats and corn for grain in 2017, while wheat and barley production was lower than in 2016. Despite producers' concerns of drought in the Prairies and heavier than average precipitation in parts of Eastern Canada this summer, farmers reported that yields have improved from expectations reported in the July 2017 Farm Survey.



Source: [Production of principal field crops, November 2017](#)

What employers are after in new hires

Nearly half (48%) of the 367,000 job vacancies reported by Canadian businesses in 2016 were entry-level jobs, jobs for which the employer does not seek a minimum level of work experience. Of the remaining job vacancies, 32% required two years of work experience or less, and the other 20% required more than two years of work experience. The results are based on data from the Job Vacancy and Wage Survey.

Source: [Study: Getting your foot in the door: A look at entry level job vacancies in Canada, 2016](#)

Post-secondary enrolments top the 2-million mark

Enrolments in Canadian public postsecondary institutions (colleges and universities) totalled 2,034,957 in the 2015/2016 academic year, the fourth consecutive year enrolments have exceeded two million. During the 2015 calendar year, 513,141 students received a credential such as a certificate, diploma or degree from a public postsecondary institution.

Source: [Canadian postsecondary enrolments and graduates, 2015/2016](#)



Housing plays a major role in net worth of Canadians

The median net worth of Canadian families was \$295,100 in 2016, up 14.7% from 2012 (\$257,200), the last time the survey was conducted. The 2016 median was more than double that of 1999 (\$144,500). Housing is both the largest asset and the largest debt for Canadians. In 2016, 61.7% of Canadian families reported a principal residence as an asset and 57.3% of these families reported holding a mortgage on their principal residence.

Source: [Survey of Financial Security, 2016](#)

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