

Non-medical purposes dominate cannabis spending



In 2017, about 4.9 million Canadians aged 15 to 64 spent an estimated \$5.7 billion on cannabis for medical and non-medical purposes. This was equivalent to approximately \$1,200 per cannabis consumer. The majority of the household spending on cannabis (over 90%) was for non-medical purposes.

Source: [Cannabis Economic Account, 1961 to 2017](#)

Retail sales rise in November 2017

Retail sales increased for the third consecutive month in November, rising 0.2% to \$50.1 billion. Sales were up in 6 of 11 subsectors, representing 37% of total retail trade.

Source: [Retail trade, November 2017](#)

Relocating around Canada to find work

A new Statistics Canada study shows that, in the medium term, the primary working-age population of economic regions in Canada—that is, the population of individuals aged 15 to 64—adjusts significantly to economic shocks through labour mobility.



Source: [The effect of labour demand on regional demographics, 2001 to 2015](#)

Consumer prices climb 1.6% in 2017

In 2017, the annual average increase in the Consumer Price Index was 1.6%. This increase followed gains of 1.4% in 2016 and 1.1% in 2015. Prices were up on an annual average basis in seven of eight major components in 2017.

Source: [Consumer Price Index: Annual review, 2017](#)