

Labour force participation rises among Quebec women

Historically, the labour force participation of women under the age of 45 was lower in Quebec than in Ontario. This situation, however, has changed. Since 2003, the labour force participation of women aged 15 to 44 has been higher in Quebec than in Ontario. In addition, the fertility rates of women in Quebec are now higher than those of women in Ontario, after decades of similarity.



Source: [Study: Fertility rates and labour force participation among women in Quebec and Ontario, 1996 to 2016](#)

About 1 in 10 Canadians report cannabis use for non-medical purposes

A new study indicates that 9.5% of Canadians aged 15 and older used cannabis in the previous year for non-medical purposes exclusively, while another 2.8% reported some cannabis use for self-defined medical purposes in addition to non-medical use. Half of Canadians reporting some self-defined medical use cited pain relief as the primary reason.



Source: [Health Reports: Prevalence and correlates of non-medical only and self-defined medical and non-medical cannabis use](#)

Consumer Price Index posts largest increase in more than six years

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) rose 2.5% on a year-over-year basis in June, following a 2.2% increase in May. This is the largest year-over-year increase in the CPI since February 2012. This month's year-over-year CPI increase follows a year of gradual acceleration in consumer price inflation from a recent low of 1.0% year over year in June 2017.

Source: [Consumer Price Index, June 2018](#)

Retail sales rebound in May

Retail sales increased 2.0% in May to \$50.8 billion, following a 0.9% decline in April. Sales rose in 8 of 11 subsectors, representing 70% of retail trade. Higher sales at motor vehicle and parts dealers and at gasoline stations were the main contributors to the gain in May.

Source: [Retail trade, May 2018](#)



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