

Gross domestic product accelerates in the second quarter

Real gross domestic product growth accelerated to 0.7% in the second quarter, following a 0.4% gain in the previous quarter.

Growth was mainly driven by export volumes, which rose 2.9%—the largest gain since the second quarter of 2014.



Source: [Gross domestic product, income and expenditure, second quarter 2018](#)

Increase expected for barley, decline for canola, wheat, soybeans, corn for grain and oats

Farmers expect to increase barley production compared with 2017, while production of canola, wheat, soybeans, corn for grain and oats is expected to decrease. Weather conditions, including lower-than-average precipitation in several parts of Canada, are expected to drive down production and lower anticipated yields for some crops. In addition, high temperatures in some areas may have contributed to an expected decrease in production and yields for some crops.



Source: [Production of principal field crops, July 2018](#)

Younger Canadians more likely to use or purchase digital products

Two-thirds of adults in Canada purchased digital products from July 2017 to June 2018. This proportion decreased with age, with 40% of Canadians aged 65 and older buying at least one digital product, compared with 83% of Canadians aged 18 to 24. Canadians spent \$8.1 billion on digital products, or an average of \$412 per purchaser. Men (\$505) spent more on average than women (\$312).

Source: [Digital economy, July 2017 to June 2018](#)



Industrial spending on research and development is relatively unchanged

In-house industrial research and development spending (R&D) totalled \$18.1 billion in 2016, relatively unchanged from 2015. The services-producing sector accounted for over half of this spending, at \$10.3 billion. Companies in Canada projected spending \$17.6 billion on in-house industrial R&D in 2017 and \$17.9 billion in 2018.

Source: [Industrial research and development characteristics, 2016 \(actual\), 2017 \(preliminary\) and 2018 \(intentions\)](#)