

Canada posts a trade surplus in August

For the first time since December 2016, Canada's merchandise trade balance with the world was in a surplus position in August. The \$526 million surplus followed a \$189 million deficit in July. Both imports and exports declined in August.

Source: [International Merchandise Trade, August 2018](#)



Part-time work drives up employment

Employment rose by 63,000 in September, driven by an increase in part-time employment. The unemployment rate declined 0.1 percentage points to 5.9%. Compared with September 2017, employment was up 222,000 or 1.2%, entirely the result of gains in full-time work (+224,000). Over the same period, total hours worked increased 0.7%.

Source: [Labour Force Survey, September 2018](#)

Cannabis prices vary across the country

Among the 10 largest census metropolitan areas (CMAs) in Canada, the price for dried cannabis was highest in Toronto, with an average price of \$8.05 per gram, followed by Edmonton at \$7.52 per gram. Montréal (\$5.92 per gram) and Québec (\$5.97 per gram) had the lowest average prices.



Source: [StatsCannabis data availability: Crowdsourced cannabis prices, third quarter 2018](#)

Canadians and political activities

How do women and men engage in politics?

Top 4 reasons reported by respondents for **not** voting in the 2015 federal election

Women

Not interested in politics	30%
Too busy	23%
Illness or disability	15%
Out of town	10%

Men

Not interested in politics	33%
Too busy	24%
Out of town	13%
Illness or disability	10%



Source: [Infographic: Canadians and political activities](#)