

## The number of elementary and secondary students rises slightly

Just over 5.5 million students in Canada were enrolled in elementary and secondary school programs in 2016/2017, up by a little more than 1% from the previous school year. This includes public schools, private/independent schools, and home-schooling. In the same school year, almost 380,000 students graduated from Canadian high schools.

Source: [Elementary-Secondary Education Survey for Canada, the provinces and territories, 2016/2017](#)



## Employment numbers steady in October

Employment was little changed in October. The unemployment rate decreased 0.1 percentage points to 5.8% as fewer people searched for work. Since November 2017, the unemployment rate has remained between 5.8% and 6.0%.

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

## Cannabis and tobacco use rates about the same in 2017

According to the 2017 Canadian Tobacco, Alcohol and Drugs Survey, similar proportions of Canadians aged 15 and older reported currently smoking cigarettes (15%) or consuming cannabis in the past 12 months (15%). The percentage of people reporting having consumed alcohol, cannabis, tobacco and other illegal drugs tended to be higher among males and those aged 20 to 24.



Source: [Canadian Tobacco, Alcohol and Drugs Survey, 2017](#)

## Gross domestic product rises again in August

Real gross domestic product rose for a seventh consecutive month, edging up 0.1% in August. Growth was concentrated in oil and gas extraction and finance and insurance, which more than offset declines in 12 of 20 industrial sectors.



Source: [Gross domestic product by industry, August 2018](#)