

## Employment is little changed for the third straight month

Employment was little changed for the third consecutive month in July. The unemployment rate increased by 0.2 percentage points to 5.7% as more people searched for work.



Source: [Labour Force Survey, July 2019](#)

## New housing prices have been flat or falling for almost one year

New housing prices were down 0.1% at the national level for the second consecutive month in June. Prices have been flat or falling since last August. Calgary (-1.0%) reported the largest decrease in June, with builders tying the decline to deteriorating market conditions.



Source: [New Housing Price Index, June 2019](#)

## Mortgage debt nearly doubles from 1999 to 2016

The median mortgage debt of Canadian families with a mortgage almost doubled from 1999 to 2016, rising from \$91,900 to \$180,000 in 2016 constant dollars.



Source: [Study: Homeownership, mortgage debt and types of mortgage among Canadian families, 1999 to 2016](#)

## The value of building permits rises in the second quarter

Municipalities issued \$25.8 billion of permits in the second quarter, up 5.8% from the previous quarter and 4.1% higher compared with the same quarter in 2018.

Source: [Building permits, June 2019](#)