

## Value of permits up sharply in Vancouver

The total value of building permits issued by Canadian municipalities increased 4.0% to \$9.2 billion in January. The increase was largely due to the census metropolitan area of Vancouver, where the value of permits rose by 81.8% prior to increases in development fees, which came into effect on January 15.



Source: [Building permits, January 2020](#)

## Lung and bronchus cancer more likely to be diagnosed at a later stage

Over half of all cases of cervical cancer (53.6%) were diagnosed at stage I in 2017, and 81.8% of breast cancer cases were diagnosed at either stage I or II. Conversely, over two-thirds of lung and bronchus cases (67.2%) were diagnosed at either stage III or IV. This cancer is the leading cause of cancer

deaths in Canada, taking the lives of approximately 20,000 people every year.



Source: [Cancer incidence by stage in Canada, 2017](#)

## Decade-low capacity utilization rates in manufacturing and forestry and logging

The capacity utilization rate in manufacturing fell 1.4 percentage points year over year to 77.7% in the fourth quarter, the lowest rate since the fourth quarter of 2010. The capacity utilization rate for forestry and logging (66.1%) was at its lowest level since the third quarter of 2009. Work disruptions in British Columbia, plant closures in Eastern Canada and lower prices on the world market contributed to the decline.

Source: [Industrial capacity utilization rates, fourth quarter 2019](#)

## The environmental and clean technology products sector growing at a slower pace than the overall economy

The gross domestic product (GDP) generated by the environmental and clean technology products sector grew 0.8% in real (volume) terms from 2017 to 2018, while the Canadian economy grew 2.2% over the same period. In nominal terms, the value of the total environmental and clean technology products sector in Canada totalled \$66.3 billion in 2018, accounting for 3.2% of Canadian gross domestic product. This share has been relatively stable since the start of the time series in 2007.



Source: [Environmental and Clean Technology Products Economic Account, 2018](#)