

Strong foreign investment in Canadian debt securities continues

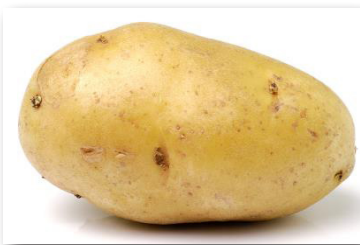
Foreign investors added a record \$10.9 billion of federal government short-term debt securities to their holdings in May, after acquiring \$10.2 billion in April. Total foreign holdings of these instruments more than doubled—from \$17.7 billion in March to \$38.7 billion in May. The federal government borrowed \$85.8 billion in the form of money market instruments.



Source: [Canada's international transactions in securities, May 2020](#)

Potato planting down amid pandemic

Canadian farmers (excluding Quebec) planted fewer hectares of potatoes this spring on lower demand for processed potatoes. The partial shutdown of the restaurant industry this spring contributed to the reduced demand for French fries.



Source: [Canadian potato production, June 2020](#)

Teleworking and working remotely has almost doubled since the start of the pandemic

Nearly one-third of businesses reported 10% or more of their workforce was teleworking or working remotely on May 29, almost twice the level reported on February 1. Over one-fifth of businesses expect that their workforce will continue to telework or work remotely once the pandemic is over.

Source: [Canadian Survey of Business Conditions: Impact on COVID-19 on businesses in Canada, May 2020](#)

Indigenous people more likely to report that the pandemic has hurt them financially

Just over one-third of Indigenous participants to a recent crowdsourcing survey reported that the pandemic had a strong or moderate impact on their ability to meet their financial obligations or essential needs, compared with one-quarter of non-Indigenous participants.



Source: [Economic impact of COVID-19 among Indigenous people](#)