

## Canada tops the 37-million mark

According to preliminary estimates, Canada's population was 37,067,011 on April 1, 2018. It took two years and two months for the Canadian population to go from 36 million to more than 37 million. This was the shortest length of time ever observed for an increase of this magnitude.

Source: [Canada's population estimates, first quarter 2018](#)



## Canadian investors buy more foreign securities

Canadian holdings of foreign securities increased 15.2% to \$2,042.7 billion at the end of 2017, the ninth consecutive year of growth following the 2008 global financial crisis. Gains on foreign stock markets, as well as strong acquisitions of foreign equities by Canadian investors during the year, led the increase in the value of these assets.



Source: [Canadian portfolio investment abroad, 2017](#)

## No change in new home prices

New house prices in Canada were unchanged for a second consecutive month, despite increases in some pockets across the country. In April, builders in 19 of the 27 census metropolitan areas surveyed reported flat or declining prices. The Canada-level index has seen no upward movement since December 2017.



Source: [New Housing Price Index, April 2018](#)

## A change in the demographics of the minimum wage population

A new Statistics Canada study, titled "*Recent changes in the composition of minimum wage workers*," shows that as minimum wages increased in 2017 and 2018, the composition of the population of minimum wage employees changed. Older workers accounted for a larger proportion than before, and individuals under the age of 25, a smaller one.

Source: [Study: Recent changes in the composition of minimum wage workers, first quarter of 2017 to first quarter of 2018](#)

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