

More Canadians live away from their significant other

In 2017, nearly 1.5 million people in Canada aged 25 to 64 were in a couple relationship with someone living in a different home. The share of "living-apart-together" couples has increased, from 6% of all persons in a couple relationship in 2006 to 9% in 2017.

Source: [Family Matters: Couples living apart](#)

High blood pressure affects a quarter of Canadian adults

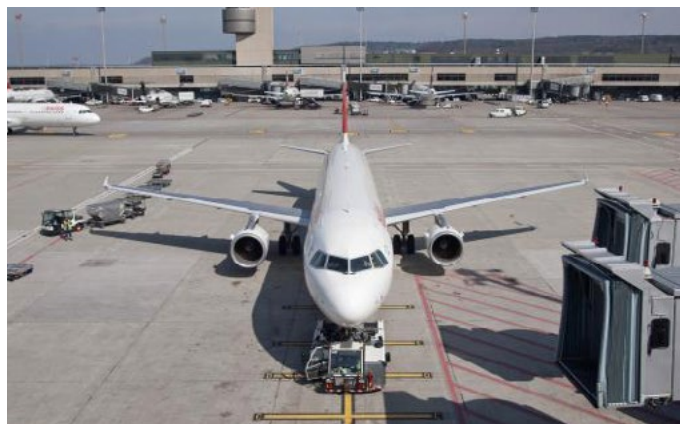
New research shows that nearly one-quarter of Canadian men (24%) and women (23%) have hypertension, and that 84% of people with hypertension are aware of it. Furthermore, being overweight or obese, being physically inactive, or having a diet low in fruits and vegetables significantly increases the risk of developing hypertension.



Source: [Health Reports: Blood pressure, hypertension and leading risk factors](#)

A record year for tourists

Canada received 21.1 million international tourists from abroad in 2018, the highest number on record. This was up 1.2% from the previous record of 20.9 million in 2017, the year of the country's 150th birthday celebrations.



Source: [Travel between Canada and other countries, December 2018](#)

Lower gasoline sales drive down retail spending

Retail sales edged down 0.1% to \$50.4 billion in December. Lower sales at gasoline stations (-3.6%) were partly offset by higher sales at motor vehicle and parts dealers (+1.0%). Excluding gasoline stations, retail sales increased 0.4%.

Source: [Retail trade, December 2018](#)



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