

Vaping is far more prevalent among younger Canadians

In 2019, 15% of teenagers aged 15 to 19 reported having vaped in the 30 days preceding the survey, and over one-third (36%) reported having tried it at some point in their lives. In comparison, less than 3% of adults aged 25 and older reported using a vaping product in the 30 days preceding the survey, and 12% indicated that they had tried vaping at some point.



Source: [Canadian Tobacco and Nicotine Survey, 2019](#)

Labour productivity and hourly compensation grow in 2019

Labour productivity of Canadian businesses grew 0.6% in 2019, after edging down 0.1% the previous year. Unit labour costs for Canadian businesses rose 2.9%, mainly because of growth in hourly compensation (+3.4%).

Source: [Labour productivity, hourly compensation and unit labour cost, fourth quarter 2019](#)

Notable employment gains in Quebec

Employment in Quebec increased for the third consecutive month, up by 20,000 in February. The unemployment rate fell 0.6 percentage points to 4.5%, the lowest rate in the province since comparable data became available in 1976. Most of the employment gains in February were among youth aged 15 to 24.



Source: [Labour Force Survey, February 2020](#)

Trade with China down sharply in the wake of the coronavirus outbreak

Exports to China decreased 7.8% in January, with lower exports of gold, potash and wood pulp contributing to the drop. Imports from China fell 12.1% to \$3.4 billion, the lowest level in three years, led by lower imports of communication and audio and video equipment (mainly cellphones).



Source: [Canadian international merchandise trade, January 2020](#)