

Employment rebounds and unemployment rate falls



Employment increased by 259,000 (+1.4%) in February, after falling by 266,000 over the previous two months.

The unemployment rate fell 1.2 percentage points to 8.2% in February, the lowest rate since the onset of the pandemic in March, while the labour underutilization rate fell to 16.6%, the lowest level since February last year.

Source: [Labour Force Survey, February 2021](#)

Fewer charitable donors give more in 2019

Total donations claimed on tax returns rose for the third consecutive year, up 3.6% from a year earlier to \$10.3 billion in 2019. The median donation claimed by tax filers was \$310. Fewer Canadians donated in 2019 from a year earlier, continuing the eight year downward trend.



Source: [Charitable donors, 2019](#)

Provincial and territorial adult custodial population rises every month from June to September

The number of adults in provincial or territorial custody fell by over one-quarter (-26%) during the early stages of the pandemic, declining from 24,085 in February to 17,802 in May. From July to September, the average daily count of adults in provincial or territorial custody increased every month, rising 6% overall to 19,380 people.



Source: [Changes in federal, provincial and territorial custodial populations during the COVID-19 pandemic, July to September 2020](#)

Fewer Canadians contributed to a RRSP in 2019

Just over 5.9 million Canadians contributed to a registered retirement savings plan in 2019, down 1.5% from a year earlier. However, the amount they contributed rose 1.8% to \$44.3 billion for a median contribution of \$3,260.

Source: [Registered retirement savings plan contributions, 2019](#)