

Higher trade surplus with the United States



Exports to the United States rose 8.2% to a record \$39.7 billion in June, supported

by higher exports of crude oil and passenger cars and light trucks. As a result, Canada's trade surplus with the United States widened from \$5.9 billion in May to \$8.3 billion in June, the largest surplus since August 2008.

Source: [Canadian international merchandise trade, June 2021](#)

Refinery production declines year over year in May

In May, refinery production was limited by scheduled maintenance shutdowns that started the previous month at some refineries. Input of crude oil to



Canadian refineries declined 1.7% year over year to 7.1 million cubic metres, while net production of finished petroleum products was down 2.3% to 8.0 million cubic metres in May, the second-lowest level since April 2020.

Source: [Energy statistics, May 2021](#)

High-income families were more likely to work from home

From April 2020 to June 2021, 45% of dual-earner salaried couples in the top 10% of the earnings distribution had both spouses working from home.



This was nine times the rate of 5% observed for their counterparts in the bottom 10% of the earnings distribution.

Source: [Working from home during the COVID-19 pandemic, April 2020 to June 2021](#)

Ontario residential permits bounce back

High-value permits for new apartment buildings in Toronto and Hamilton helped push multi-family permits up 13.5% to \$3.7 billion nationally in June.

Source: [Building permits, June 2021](#)