

# Provincial Economic Outlook for Jan. 31, 2025

A Publication of BMO Capital Markets Economic Research • Douglas Porter, CFA, Chief Economist, BMO Financial Group

	Canada	British Columbia	Alberta	Saskatchewan	Manitoba	Ontario	Quebec	New Brunswick	Nova Scotia	P.E.I.	Nfld & Labrador
<b>Real GDP Growth</b> (y/y % chng)											
2023	1.5	2.4	2.3	2.3	1.7	1.7	0.6	1.6	2.0	2.2	-2.6
2024	<b>1.3</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>2.3</b>
2025	<b>1.9</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>2.0</b>
2026	<b>1.9</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>0.9</b>
<b>Employment Growth</b> (y/y % chng)											
2023	3.0	1.6	3.6	1.8	2.5	2.4	2.3	3.4	2.7	5.7	1.7
2024	1.9	1.8	3.0	2.2	2.5	1.6	0.6	2.9	3.3	4.1	2.7
2025	<b>1.6</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>-0.6</b>
2026	<b>1.5</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>0.2</b>
<b>Unemployment Rate</b> (percent)											
2023	5.4	5.2	5.9	4.8	4.8	5.7	4.5	6.6	6.4	7.4	9.9
2024	6.4	5.6	7.0	5.5	5.3	6.9	5.3	7.1	6.4	7.9	10.0
2025	<b>6.9</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>7.3</b>	<b>6.1</b>	<b>6.1</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>7.3</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>9.0</b>	<b>10.7</b>
2026	<b>6.7</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>6.1</b>	<b>7.3</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>7.3</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>8.9</b>	<b>10.6</b>
<b>Housing Starts</b> (thousands)											
2023	242	50.6	35.9	4.6	7.1	90.0	39.9	4.7	11.5	0.9	1.0
2024	245	45.8	47.8	4.3	7.2	74.6	48.7	6.2	14.5	1.2	1.7
2025	<b>235</b>	<b>43.0</b>	<b>45.0</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>72.0</b>	<b>43.5</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>12.0</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>1.4</b>
2026	<b>225</b>	<b>40.5</b>	<b>45.0</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>68.5</b>	<b>42.0</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>10.0</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>1.2</b>
<b>Consumer Price Index</b> (y/y % chng)											
2023	3.9	4.0	3.3	3.9	3.6	3.8	4.5	3.5	4.0	2.9	3.3
2024	2.4	2.6	2.9	1.5	1.1	2.4	2.4	2.3	2.4	2.0	1.9
2025	<b>2.0</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>2.1</b>
2026	<b>2.3</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>2.0</b>
<b>Budget Balance</b> (\$ mlns)											
FY23/24 e	-61,876	-5,035	4,285	182	-1,971	-647	-5,994	501	144	-15	-459
% of GDP	-2.1	-1.2	0.9	0.2	-2.1	-0.1	-1.0	1.1	0.2	-0.1	-1.2
FY24/25	<b>-48,300</b>	<b>-9,408</b>	<b>4,563</b>	<b>-744</b>	<b>-1,309</b>	<b>-6,637</b>	<b>-8,755</b>	<b>-92</b>	<b>-654</b>	<b>-85</b>	<b>-218</b>
% of GDP	<b>-1.6</b>	<b>-2.2</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>-0.7</b>	<b>-1.4</b>	<b>-0.6</b>	<b>-1.4</b>	<b>-0.2</b>	<b>-1.1</b>	<b>-0.8</b>	<b>-0.5</b>
<b>Net Debt<sup>1</sup></b> (\$ mlns)											
FY24/25	<b>1,281,500</b>	<b>90,759</b>	<b>38,061</b>	<b>15,969</b>	<b>34,591</b>	<b>429,012</b>	<b>236,600</b>	<b>12,206</b>	<b>20,217</b>	<b>3,064</b>	<b>18,300</b>
% of GDP	<b>41.9</b>	<b>21.4</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>14.0</b>	<b>36.4</b>	<b>36.9</b>	<b>39.0</b>	<b>25.1</b>	<b>32.7</b>	<b>29.0</b>	<b>44.4</b>

Bolded values represent forecasts; <sup>1</sup> federal = accumulated deficit

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