

# Provincial Economic Outlook for Feb. 26, 2021

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)											
2019	1.9	2.7	0.1	-0.7	0.6	2.1	2.7	1.2	2.4	5.1	4.0
2020	<b>-5.4</b>	<b>-4.6</b>	<b>-6.5</b>	<b>-4.5</b>	<b>-5.2</b>	<b>-5.6</b>	<b>-5.7</b>	<b>-3.0</b>	<b>-3.4</b>	<b>-2.5</b>	<b>-6.8</b>
2021	<b>5.0</b>	<b>5.7</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>4.3</b>
2022	<b>4.5</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>3.2</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>2.0</b>
<b>Employment Growth</b> (y/y % chng)											
2019	2.2	2.9	0.6	1.7	1.0	2.8	2.0	0.7	2.3	3.4	1.3
2020	-5.1	-6.5	-6.5	-4.6	-3.7	-4.7	-4.8	-2.6	-4.7	-3.2	-5.9
2021	<b>4.5</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>4.3</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>5.8</b>
2022	<b>3.5</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>4.4</b>	<b>3.3</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>0.2</b>
<b>Unemployment Rate</b> (percent)											
2019	5.7	4.7	7.0	5.6	5.4	5.6	5.2	8.2	7.4	8.6	12.3
2020	9.6	9.0	11.6	8.4	8.1	9.6	8.9	10.1	9.8	10.7	14.2
2021	<b>8.0</b>	<b>6.8</b>	<b>9.3</b>	<b>7.3</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>8.5</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>9.4</b>	<b>7.8</b>	<b>9.9</b>	<b>12.2</b>
2022	<b>6.5</b>	<b>5.8</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>7.0</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>6.5</b>	<b>5.9</b>	<b>8.7</b>	<b>7.2</b>	<b>9.5</b>	<b>12.0</b>
<b>Housing Starts</b> (thousands)											
2019	208	45.0	27.3	2.4	7.0	68.9	48.0	2.9	4.7	1.3	0.9
2020	219	38.0	24.2	3.1	7.3	81.2	54.7	3.7	4.9	1.0	0.8
2021	<b>220</b>	<b>37.0</b>	<b>28.0</b>	<b>2.8</b>	<b>7.5</b>	<b>80.0</b>	<b>55.0</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>0.7</b>
2022	<b>210</b>	<b>37.0</b>	<b>30.0</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>75.0</b>	<b>50.0</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>0.6</b>
<b>Consumer Price Index</b> (y/y % chng)											
2019	1.9	2.3	1.7	1.7	2.3	1.9	2.1	1.7	1.6	1.2	1.0
2020	0.8	0.8	1.1	0.6	0.5	0.6	0.8	0.2	0.3	0.0	0.2
2021	<b>2.0</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>1.6</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>1.5</b>	<b>1.2</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>1.2</b>
2022	<b>2.1</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>1.7</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>1.6</b>
<b>Budget Balance<sup>1</sup></b> (\$ mlns)											
FY19/20 e	-39,400	-321	-12,152	-319	-360	-8,700	2,638	49	2	-4	-1,386
% of GDP	-1.7	-0.1	-3.4	-0.4	-0.5	-1.0	0.6	0.1	0.0	0.0	-3.9
FY20/21	<b>-381,600</b>	<b>-13,643</b>	<b>-20,192</b>	<b>-2,044</b>	<b>-2,048</b>	<b>-38,500</b>	<b>-12,347</b>	<b>-183</b>	<b>-778</b>	<b>-178</b>	<b>-1,838</b>
% of GDP	<b>-17.5</b>	<b>-4.8</b>	<b>-6.6</b>	<b>-2.7</b>	<b>-2.7</b>	<b>-4.5</b>	<b>-2.8</b>	<b>-0.5</b>	<b>-1.8</b>	<b>-2.4</b>	<b>-6.0</b>
<b>Net Debt<sup>2</sup></b> (\$ mlns)											
FY20/21	<b>963,200</b>	<b>61,918</b>	<b>62,500</b>	<b>14,600</b>	<b>27,668</b>	<b>397,972</b>	<b>189,406</b>	<b>14,070</b>	<b>16,800</b>	<b>2,496</b>	<b>16,400</b>
% of GDP	<b>50.7</b>	<b>21.8</b>	<b>20.3</b>	<b>19.4</b>	<b>36.3</b>	<b>47.0</b>	<b>42.9</b>	<b>38.6</b>	<b>38.2</b>	<b>34.3</b>	<b>53.8</b>

Bolded values represent forecasts; <sup>1</sup> FY20/21 federal deficit estimated by BMO; <sup>2</sup> federal = accumulated deficit

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