

Provincial Economic Outlook for May 8, 2026

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
Real GDP Growth (y/y % chng)											
2024	2.0	1.1	3.0	3.0	1.7	1.6	1.7	2.7	3.1	3.8	2.7
2025	1.7	2.0	2.7	2.2	1.3	1.3	0.6	2.0	2.3	2.8	3.5
2026	1.0	1.0	2.4	2.0	1.2	0.8	0.5	1.2	1.4	1.3	3.5
2027	2.1	2.4	2.6	2.3	1.7	2.2	1.6	1.5	1.8	1.5	2.0
Employment Growth (y/y % chng)											
2024	1.9	2.4	2.9	2.6	2.6	1.7	0.9	2.8	3.2	3.6	2.7
2025	1.4	1.1	2.8	2.5	1.7	1.0	1.7	1.3	0.3	1.0	-0.2
2026	0.3	-0.7	2.9	1.0	1.3	-0.1	-0.3	1.4	0.5	2.8	1.8
2027	0.6	0.6	1.4	1.0	0.8	0.7	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.5	0.0
Unemployment Rate (percent)											
2024	6.4	5.6	7.1	5.5	5.5	7.0	5.4	7.1	6.5	7.8	10.1
2025	6.8	6.2	7.2	5.2	5.9	7.7	5.6	7.1	6.6	8.0	10.2
2026	6.8	6.5	6.4	5.4	5.9	7.6	5.8	6.8	6.9	7.4	9.5
2027	6.4	6.3	5.7	5.2	5.7	7.2	5.6	6.7	6.7	7.2	9.5
Housing Starts (thousands)											
2024	245	45.8	47.7	4.3	7.2	74.5	48.8	6.2	7.4	1.2	1.7
2025	258	44.2	55.0	6.1	7.9	65.3	59.2	7.6	9.8	1.7	1.6
2026	240	40.0	53.0	5.0	8.0	62.0	55.0	6.0	8.5	1.2	1.2
2027	230	38.0	53.0	4.8	7.5	59.0	52.0	5.8	8.0	1.1	1.0
Consumer Price Index (y/y % chng)											
2024	2.4	2.6	2.9	1.5	1.1	2.4	2.4	2.3	2.4	2.0	1.9
2025	2.1	2.1	1.9	2.1	2.7	1.9	2.5	1.7	2.0	1.4	1.4
2026	3.0	3.1	3.2	3.6	3.6	2.7	3.1	3.4	3.7	3.2	3.2
2027	2.2	2.1	2.4	2.3	1.9	2.2	2.1	2.0	2.1	1.9	2.0
Budget Balance (\$ mlns)											
FY24/25	-66,900	-9,614	-4,134	-1,211	-1,666	-12,326	-7,655	-1,378	-1,249	-450	-729
% of GDP	-1.2	-1.7	1.8	-0.2	-1.2	-0.1	-0.8	-0.2	0.4	-1.5	-0.7
FY25/26	-65,300	-13,309	-9,373	-819	-498	-13,844	-6,265	-1,394	-1,191	-410	-688
% of GDP	-2.1	-2.2	-0.9	-1.0	-1.7	-1.0	-1.2	-2.8	-1.8	-4.0	-1.7
Net Debt¹ (\$ mlns)											
FY25/26	1,399,300	127,969	51,400	19,723	39,714	485,120	259,500	15,902	27,995	4,505	20,800
% of GDP	41.5	27.4	10.5	16.2	38.2	38.1	38.9	30.8	39.5	38.1	43.4

Bolded values represent forecasts; ¹ federal = accumulated deficit

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