Budget Watch

An Analysis of Provincial Budgets
Provided by the Office of the Budget, Ministry of Finance

2017 FEDERAL ECONOMIC AND FISCAL UPDATE – OCTOBER 24, 2017

Highlights

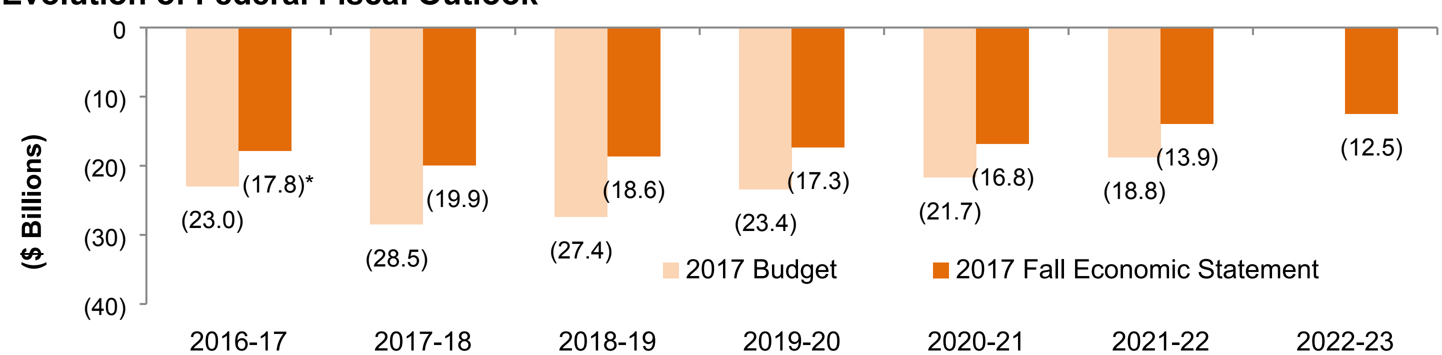
- The federal government is projecting deficits of $19.9 billion in 2017-18 and $18.6 billion in 2018-19. No date for a return to balance has yet been provided.
    - Compared to the 2017 federal budget, the budgetary balance shows an improvement of $8.6 billion in 2017-18 and of $8.8 billion in 2018-19, and continued budgetary balance improvements in 2019-20 and beyond.
- Before any new policy measures, the strengthening economy and other fiscal developments are providing an additional $8.9 billion in fiscal room in 2017-18 and $10.4 billion in 2018-19, relative to the 2017 federal budget.
    - Total revenues are $5.9 billion higher in 2017-18 than the 2017 budget, and $7.4 billion higher in 2018-19.
- The average private sector economic outlook for Canada has been revised upwards. Canadian real GDP growth is expected to be 3.1 per cent in 2017, which is 1.1 percentage points higher than in the 2017 federal budget. Nominal GDP growth for 2017 is tracking at 5.5 per cent, up from 4.2 per cent in the 2017 budget.
- In the fall update, the federal government announced:
    - indexation of the Canada Child Benefit to inflation, two years ahead of what was committed in the fall of 2016;
    - its intention to further enhance the Working Income Tax Benefit by $500 million annually starting in 2019;
    - a proposal to lower the small business tax rate to 10 per cent, effective January 1, 2018, and to nine per cent, effective January 1, 2019;
    - its commitment to address unfair tax advantages, including moving forward with restricting income sprinkling by private corporations and moving forward to limit the benefit of investing passively in private corporations.

Fiscal Plan Summary, $ Billions

	2016-17 Actual	2017-18 Update	2018-19 Forecast	2019-20 Forecast	2020-21 Forecast	2021-22 Forecast	2022-23 Forecast
Total Revenues	293.5	310.7	323.1	333.3	345.3	359.6	371.3
Program Spending	287.2	304.9	312.2	319.0	328.9	338.6	347.9
Public Debt Interest	24.1	24.2	26.6	28.7	30.2	31.9	32.8
Total Spending	311.3	329.1	338.8	347.7	359.1	370.5	380.7
Other Adjustments	-	1.5	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0
Budgetary Balance	(17.8)	(19.9)	(18.6)	(17.3)	(16.8)	(13.9)	(12.5)
Per Cent of GDP	*(0.9)*	*(0.9)*	*(0.8)*	*(0.8)*	*(0.7)*	*(0.6)*	*(0.5)*
Federal Debt	631.9	652.8	671.5	688.8	705.6	719.5	732.0
Per Cent of GDP	*31.2*	*30.5*	*30.2*	*29.9*	*29.5*	*29.1*	*28.5*

Source: 2017 2017 federal Fall Economic Statement and 2016-17 federal Public Accounts
Note: Federal debt represents accumulated deficits. *Budgetary Balance as per cent of GDP figures for 2022-23 is unavailable.*

Evolution of Federal Fiscal Outlook



Source: 2017 federal budget and 2017 federal Fall Economic Statement
Note: *2022-23 figures are unavailable for the 2017 budget. * represents actuals.*

Fiscal Outlook Update

- The 2017 federal Fall Economic Statement shows significant improvements in the fiscal outlook relative to projections from the 2017 federal budget.
  - The federal government is projecting deficits of $19.9 billion in 2017-18 and $18.6 billion in 2018-19. Over the remainder of the forecast horizon, deficits are expected to decline from $17.3 billion in 2019–20 to $12.5 billion in 2022–23.
    - Compared to the 2017 federal budget, the budgetary balance shows an improvement of $8.6 billion in 2017-18, $8.8 billion in 2018-19, $6.1 billion in 2019-20 and $4.9 billion in each of the following two years.
    - Consistent with the 2017 federal budget, the adjustment for risk has been set at $3 billion for every year, with the exception of 2017-18, where it has been reduced by half from $3 billion to $1.5 billion.

- This Fall Statement reflects economic and fiscal developments since the 2017 federal budget, including some new measures announced in this Fall Economic Statement by the federal government.

- Major transfers to provincial and territorial governments are higher than the projections in the 2017 budget due to improved outlook for nominal GDP growth, to which the Canada Health Transfer and Equalization are pegged.

Updated Projections for Major Transfers, $ Billions

	2016-17	2017–18	2018–19	2019–20	2020–21	2021–22	2022-23
Canada Health Transfer	36.1	37.1	38.6	40.3	41.8	43.3	44.9
Change from Budget 2017	-	-	0.2	0.4	0.4	0.4	*n/a*
Canada Social Transfer	13.3	13.7	14.2	14.6	15	15.5	15.9
Change from Budget 2017	-	-	-	-	-	-	*n/a*
Equalization	17.9	18.3	19.0	19.8	20.5	21.3	22
Change from Budget 2017	-	-	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	*n/a*

Source: 2017 federal budget and 2017 federal Fall Economic Statement

Debt Details

- The federal debt-to-GDP ratio is projected to decline over the forecast horizon, from 30.5 per cent in 2017-18 to 29.1 per cent in 2021-22, ultimately reaching 28.5 per cent in 2022-2023.
  - The current debt forecast is an improvement over the 2017 federal budget, which projected that federal debt-to-GDP ratio would reach 31.6 per cent by 2017-18, only falling to 30.9 per cent in 2021-22.
  - The 2017 federal Fall Economic Statement maintains the government’s commitment, expressed in the previous Fall Statement and the 2017 budget, to ensure a declining debt-to-GDP ratio throughout their mandate.

- According to the 2017 federal Fall Economic Statement, the federal debt levels are $12.7 billion lower in 2017-18 and $21.4 billion lower in 2018-19 compared to the 2017 federal budget.

- Public debt charges are expected to be $24.2 billion in 2017-18, which is $0.5 billion lower than projected in the 2017 federal budget. This is a result of both lower projected debt levels and lower projected inflation.
  - According to the federal 2017 Fall Economic Statement, public debt charges are forecast to be higher in 2018-19 and in 2019-20, largely due to higher projected interest rates.
  - However, from 2020-21 onwards, the expected improvement in the federal debt resulting from significantly smaller deficits more than offsets the impact of projected rate increases.

Changes in Federal Debt

	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
Federal Debt ($ billions)							
Budget 2017	637.1	665.5	692.9	716.3	738.1	756.9	*n/a*
Fall Statement 2017	631.9	652.8	671.5	688.8	705.6	719.5	732.0
Change	*(5.2)*	*(12.7)*	*(21.4)*	*(27.5)*	*(32.5)*	*(37.4)*	*n/a*
Federal Debt to GDP (per cent)							
Budget 2017	31.5	31.6	31.6	31.5	31.3	30.9	*n/a*
Fall Statement 2017	31.2	30.5	30.2	29.9	29.5	29.1	28.5
change	*(0.3)*	*(1.1)*	*(1.4)*	*(1.6)*	*(1.8)*	*(1.8)*	*n/a*

Source: 2017 federal Budget and 2017 federal Fall Economic Statement.

Revenue

- Total Federal revenues are projected to increase by 5.9 per cent in 2017–18, reflecting strong economic growth. Over the medium-term, revenues are projected to grow at an average annual rate of 3.6 per cent, roughly in line with projected growth in nominal GDP.

- Federal Personal income tax revenues are projected to increase by $9.0 billion, or 6.3 per cent, to $152.7 billion in 2017–18. The strong growth in 2017–18 reflecting:
  1. An improved economic outlook and
  2. the unwinding of the impact of tax planning that held down revenues in 2016–17, whereby high-income individuals recognized additional income in the 2015 tax year and lower income in the 2016 tax year when the new 33 per cent tax rate came into effect.
     - Over the remainder of the projection period, personal income tax revenues are forecast to increase faster than growth in nominal GDP, averaging 4.4 per cent annually, reflecting the progressive nature of the income tax system combined with projected real income gains.

- Federal Corporate income tax revenues are projected to increase by $4.9 billion, or 11.7 per cent, to $47.1 billion in 2017–18, largely reflecting higher corporate profits and the strength in recent financial results.
  Over the remainder of the projection period, corporate income tax revenues are projected to grow at an average annual rate of 2.0 per cent, less than the rate of growth in nominal GDP, reflecting the projected outlook for profit growth, anticipated use of loss carry-forwards as well as the reduction of the small business tax rate to 9 per cent.

Personal Income Tax Measures

- The federal government is proposing to reduce the amount by which it grosses up ineligible dividends from 17 per cent in 2017 to 16 per cent for the 2018 taxation year, and to 15 per cent for the 2019 and subsequent taxation years.
  The federal dividend tax credit for ineligible dividends is proposed to be 10.0313 per cent of the taxable dividend in 2018 and 9.0301 per cent in 2019, in line with the reductions in the small business tax rate.

- The government is proposing to enhance the Working Income Tax Benefit (WITB) by an additional $500 million annually, starting in 2019.
  This new enhancement will provide even greater support to current recipients by raising maximum benefit levels and will expand the income range of the WITB so that more workers can qualify.
  There is no impact from this proposed change to the WITB on Ontario.

Corporate Income Tax Measures

- The federal government confirmed announcements made with respect to tax planning through private corporations:
  Proposals addressing “income sprinkling” to family members will proceed, but will be simplified. A new legislative proposal will be released later this fall.
  Proposed changes to limit multiplication of the lifetime capital gains exemption will not proceed.
  Measures to address the tax advantage of investing passively in a private corporation will proceed.

  - Investments already held in private corporations, including any future income from such investments, would not be affected.
  - In addition, only annual passive investment income above $50,000 would be subject to the new measures. Legislative amendments will be released as part of the 2018 federal budget.

- Measures addressing the conversion of regular income into capital gains will not proceed. The federal government will consult over the next year with farmers, fishers and other business owners to develop proposals to better accommodate intergenerational transfers of businesses.

- Consistent with its 2015 election promises, the federal government is reducing the small business tax rate from the current 10.5 per cent to 10 per cent, effective January 1, 2018, and from 10 per cent to 9 per cent, effective January 1, 2019.

  The small business tax rate generally applies to the first $500,000 of a corporation's active business income.

Overview of Income Tax Revenue Projections

- Improvements in income tax revenues represent a significant portion of the total positive economic and fiscal developments since the 2017 federal budget.

Changes in Income Tax Revenue from Budget 2017 to Fall Statement, $ Billions

	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
Personal Income Tax							
Budget 2017	143.2	152.1	157.8	164.4	171.0	178.6	*n/a*
Fall Statement 2017	143.7	152.7	161.3	168.4	174.8	182.3	189.5
change	*0.5*	*0.6*	*3.5*	*4.0*	*3.8*	*3.7*	*n/a*
Corporate Income Tax							
Budget 2017	42.5	43.6	44.4	45.7	47.6	50.1	*n/a*
Fall Statement 2017	42.2	47.1	47.2	47.4	48.4	50.6	52.0
change	*(0.3)*	*3.5*	*2.8*	*1.7*	*0.8*	*0.5*	*n/a*
Non-residential Income Tax							
Budget 2017	6.6	6.9	7.1	7.5	7.8	8.0	*n/a*
Fall Statement 2017	7.1	7.8	7.8	8.2	8.4	8.6	8.8
change	*0.5*	*0.9*	*0.7*	*0.7*	*0.6*	*0.6*	*n/a*
Total							
Budget 2017	192.3	202.6	209.3	217.6	226.4	236.7	*n/a*
FES 2017	193.0	207.6	216.3	224.0	231.6	241.5	250.3
change	*0.7*	*5.0*	*7.0*	*6.4*	*5.2*	*4.8*	*n/a*

Source: 2017 federal Budget and 2017 federal Fall Economic Statement.

- The personal income tax revenue projections in recent federal budgets suggest that the federal government has included a growing negative fiscal impact from tax planning.

  Initially the 2016 federal budget projected minimal growth in personal income tax revenue; however, subsequent revenue figures for 2016-17 show a slight decline in personal income tax revenue over the previous year.

Comparison of PIT Revenues Projections in 2015, 2016 and 2017 federal budgets

($ Billions)		2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
Personal Income Tax (2017 Fall Economic Statement)		135.7	144.9	143.7	152.7
	Growth rate		*6.8%*	*-0.8%*	*6.3%*
Personal Income Tax (2017 Budget, updated for 2016-17 Public Accounts)		135.7	144.9	143.7	152.1
	Growth rate		*6.8%*	*-0.8%*	*5.9%*
Personal Income Tax (2017 Federal Budget)		135.7	144.9	143.2	152.1
	Growth rate		*6.8%*	*-1.2%*	*6.2%*
Personal Income Tax (2016 Federal Budget)		135.7	142.7	143.9	153.7
	Growth rate		*5.2%*	*0.8%*	*6.8%*
Personal Income Tax (2015 Federal Budget)		134.2	143.4	151.8	159.3
	Growth rate		*6.9%*	*5.9%*	*4.9%*

Source: 2015, 2016, and 2017 federal Budgets, 2016-17 federal Public Accounts, and 2017 federal Fall Economic Statement.

Expenditure Measures

Canada Child Care Benefits

- The federal government announced that it will index the Canada Child Benefit (CCB) starting in July 2018, which will increase the CCB benefit amounts and phase-out thresholds.
  - In 2016, the federal government had previously stated that it would begin indexation of the CCB in 2020-21.
  - The federal government estimates this change will cost an additional $400 million in 2018-19, $1.1 billion in 2019-20, $1.3 billion in 2020-21, and $1.4 billion in 2021-22 and 2022-23.

- The CCB is a tax-free child benefit provided to families with children under the age of 18.
  - The CCB currently provides a maximum benefit of $6,400 per child under the age of 6, and $5,400 per child aged 6 through 17.
  - The current phases out thresholds are $30,000 and $65,000.

- No additional program parameter changes were proposed.

- According to the federal estimate, indexing the CCB sooner would provide an additional $5.6 billion in support to Canadian families over the 2018-19 to 2022-23 period.
  - Ontario families would receive approximately $2.2 billion (based on Ontario`s population share) between 2018-19 and 2022-23.

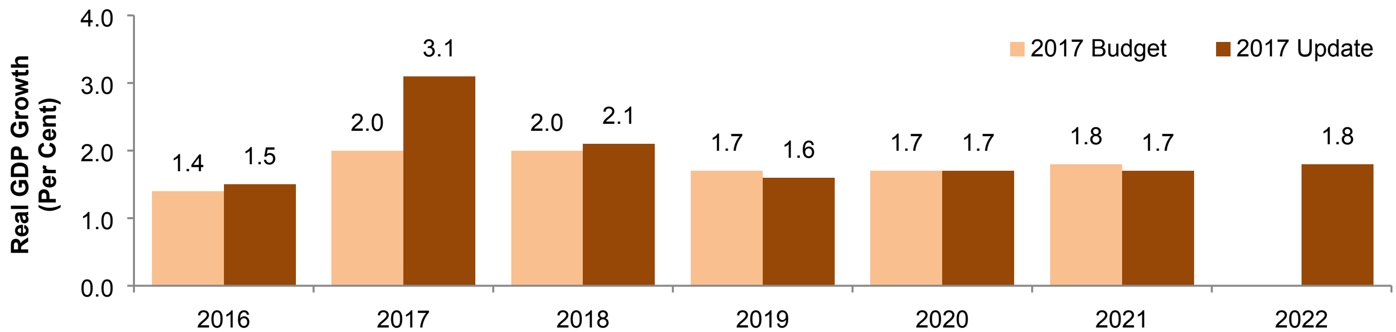
Economic Outlook Update

- The federal economic and fiscal planning projections are based on the average private-sector forecast, from a survey conducted in September 2017.

- Since the release of the 2017 federal budget, the average private sector outlook for Canadian real GDP has been revised higher.
  - Private sector economists now expect Canadian real GDP growth of 3.1 per cent in 2017 and 2.1 per cent in 2018, higher for both years than the 2.0 percent growth assumed in the 2017 federal budget.
  - Real GDP growth over the remaining years of the forecast is slightly lower than projected in the 2017 federal budget.
  - Based on the federal government's planning assumption, Canadian nominal GDP growth is projected to be 5.5 per cent in 2017 (up 1.3 percentage points since the 2017 federal budget), 4.0 per cent in 2018 (unchanged) and 3.6 per cent annually over the 2019 to 2021 period (down about 0.1 percentage points on average annually over the 2019-2021 period).
  - As a result, the level of nominal GDP is higher by $30 billion on average per year over the 2017-21 period.

- Economic activity in Canada has increased since the second half of 2016, with growth becoming more balanced across regions and sectors. Global growth has also strengthened in recent quarters.

Private Sector Average Outlook for Canada's Real GDP Growth



Source: 2017 Budget and Update to Economic and Fiscal Projections
Note: 2022 figures are unavailable for the 2017 budget.

Risks to the Canadian Economic Projection

- There are both downside and upside risks to the average private sector outlook. Overall, the risks to the September 2017 economic outlook appear broadly balanced.

Downside Risks

- Elevated corporate debt levels and the slow pace of economic reforms in China could lead to a greater-than-expected slowdown in growth.
- Uncertainty over U.S. economic policies could affect Canadian business confidence.
- Global financial markets could experience periods of turbulence as advanced-economy central banks begin or continue normalizing monetary policy.
- Canada's household debt-to-income ratio remains elevated. This could limit the contribution to growth of both housing and consumer spending in the coming years, particularly in a rising interest rate environment.

Upside Risks

- Stronger global growth could be more durable and self-sustaining than anticipated, which would reinforce Canadian growth. As a result, investment growth could surprise on the upside, boosting Canadian long-term productivity capacity.

Appendix I. Fiscal Projection

Impact of Economic and Fiscal Developments Since Budget 2017, $ Billions

	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
Budget 2017 budgetary balance	**(23.0)**	**(28.5)**	**(27.4)**	**(23.4)**	**(21.7)**	**(18.8)**	**n/a**
Adjustment for risk from Budget 2017		3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0	
Budget 2017 budgetary balance (without forecast adjustment)	**(23.0)**	**(25.5)**	**(24.4)**	**(20.4)**	**(18.7)**	**(15.8)**	
Economic and fiscal developments since 2017 budget							
Budgetary revenues							
Income taxes	0.6	5.0	6.9	6.9	5.9	5.2	
Excise taxes/duties	0.7	1.9	1.4	1.0	0.8	0.4	
Employment Insurance premiums	(0.2)	(0.2)	(0.4)	(0.7)	(0.8)	(0.9)	
Other revenues	0.3	(0.7)	(0.5)	(1.2)	(0.2)	(0.8)	
Program expenses							
Major transfers to persons	0.3	0.7	0.7	1.0	0.8	0.6	
Major transfers to other levels of government	0.1	(0.2)	(1.1)	(1.6)	(1.8)	(2.0)	
Direct program expenses	3.4	1.9	3.6	4.7	4.0	4.8	
Public debt charges	0.1	0.6	(0.3)	(0.4)	0.2	1.4	
Net Impact of Economic and fiscal developments	5.3	8.9	10.4	9.7	8.9	8.7	
Revised budgetary balance before policy actions and investments	**(17.8)**	**(16.6)**	**(14.0)**	**(10.7)**	**(9.8)**	**(7.1)**	**(5.2)**
Policy actions since Budget 2017							
Investing in critical services for Canadians		(0.7)	(0.6)	(0.6)	(0.8)	(1.1)	(1.5)
Actions to lower taxes for small business and achieve greater tax fairness							
Income Sprinkling		0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Reducing the Small Business Tax Rate to 9%		0.0	(0.1)	(0.7)	(0.9)	(0.7)	(0.7)
Other policy actions since Budget 2017		(1.3)	(0.6)	(1.0)	(0.7)	(0.5)	(0.4)
Total		(1.8)	(1.1)	(2.1)	(2.2)	(2.0)	(2.3)
Investments in 2017 *Fall Economic Statement*							
Working Income Tax Benefit enhancement			(0.1)	(0.5)	(0.5)	(0.5)	(0.5)
Earlier indexation of the Canada Child Benefit			(0.4)	(1.1)	(1.3)	(1.4)	(1.4)
Total			(0.5)	(1.6)	(1.8)	(1.9)	(1.9)
Total policy actions and investments		(1.8)	(1.6)	(3.7)	(4.0)	(3.8)	(4.2)
Budgetary balance (without risk adjustment)	(17.8)	(18.4)	(15.6)	(14.3)	(13.8)	(10.9)	(9.5)
Adjustment for risk		(1.5)	(3.0)	(3.0)	(3.0)	(3.0)	(3.0)
Final budgetary balance	**(17.8)**	**(19.9)**	**(18.6)**	**(17.3)**	**(16.8)**	**(13.9)**	**(12.5)**

Source: 2017 federal Economic Statement
Notes: Totals may not add due to rounding. A negative number implies a deterioration in the budgetary balance (lower revenues or higher spending), while a positive number implies an improvement in the budgetary balance (higher revenues or lower spending).

Revenue

- Relative to the 2017 federal budget, revenues are higher over the entire budget forecast.
- Fiscal and economic developments since the 2017 budget increased revenues by $5.9 billion in 2017-18 and $7.4 billion in 2018-19.

Much of this increase is due to upward revisions to personal and corporate income tax projections over the forecast horizon, which reflects the overall improvement in the economic outlook, particularly in the corporate sector, as well as the carry-forward of better-than-expected results in 2016-17.
Excise taxes and duties are higher over the forecast horizon as well.

- Employment Premium revenues are lower over the forecast horizon due to lower projected Employment Insurance(EI) benefits as a result of the stronger economy.

- Other revenues, such as those resulting from loans and investments, interest and penalties, Crown corporations' revenues and assets held in the Exchange Fund Account are all lower over the forecast horizon, largely due to a downward revision to the projected revenue from consolidated Crown corporations.

Expense

- Compared to the 2017 federal budget, program expense projections are relatively unchanged over the forecast horizon.
  Fiscal developments since the 2017 budget have increased program expenses by $2.4 billion in 2017-18 and $3.2 billion in 2018-19.

- Major transfers to persons are projected to be lower throughout the forecast horizon, as the stronger economic outlooks is projected to lead to lower EI benefit expenses and projected lower Old Age Security benefit expenses.

- Direct program expenses are projected to be lower over the forecast horizon, reflecting the carry-forward of 2016-17 results including lower bad debt on tax receivables and lower projected expenses for consolidated Crown corporations.
  Additionally, expenses related to pensions and employee future benefits reflecting actuarial gain on plan liabilities from higher interest rates and the performance of plan assets.

- Public debt charges are expected to be lower in 2017-18, but are expected to be higher in 2018-19 due to higher projected interest rates. From 2020-21 onwards debt charges are projected to be lower due to smaller projected federal deficits more than offsetting the impact of projected rate increases.

Comparison of Key Fiscal Indicators, 2017-18, $ Millions

	NL	PEI	NS	NB	QC	ON	MB	SK	AB	BC	FED
Own-Source Revenue	6,083	1,107	7,028	6,127	84,279	115,969	11,938	11,712	37,027	44,035	310,700
Federal Transfers	1,256	706	3,546	3,062	22,029	25,826	4,163	2,454	7,988	8,372	n.a.
Total Revenues	7,339	1,812	10,574	9,189	106,308	141,795	16,101	14,165	45,015	52,407	310,700
Program Spending	7,004	1,686	9,662	8,680	93,852	129,614	16,065	14,419	53,461	49,186	304,900
Public Debt Interest	1,112	126	850	701	9,868	11,581	991	381	1,398	2,675	24,200
Total Spending	8,116	1,812	10,512	9,381	103,720	141,195	17,056	14,800	54,859	51,861	329,100
Other Adjustments			(40)		(2,588)	600	115	(50)	(500)	(300)	(1,500)
Budgetary Balance	(778)	1	21	(192)	-	-	(840)	(685)	(10,344)	246	(19,900)
Net Debt	15,234	2,220	15,060	14,359	186,503	311,921	24,772	12,244	23,115	42,919	652,800
Per Cent of GDP											
Own-Source Revenue	19.3	16.6	16.8	17.5	20.6	13.9	16.6	14.2	11.1	16.0	14.6
Program Spending	22.3	25.3	23.1	24.8	23.0	15.6	22.4	17.5	16.1	17.9	14.3
Public Debt Interest	3.5	1.9	2.0	2.0	2.4	1.4	1.4	0.5	0.4	1.0	1.1
Budgetary Balance	(2.5)	0.0	0.1	(0.5)	0.0	0.0	(1.2)	(0.8)	(3.1)	0.1	(0.9)
Net Debt	48.4	33.4	36.1	41.1	45.7	37.5	34.5	14.9	7.0	15.6	30.6
$ Per Capita											
Own-Source Revenue	11,502	7,280	7,367	8,065	10,040	8,171	8,922	10,062	8,639	9,141	8,464
Program Spending	13,245	11,088	10,129	11,426	11,181	9,132	12,006	12,388	12,473	10,211	8,306
Public Debt Interest	2,103	829	891	923	1,176	816	741	327	326	555	659
Budgetary Balance	(1,470)	4	22	(253)	-	-	(628)	(588)	(2,413)	51	(542)
Net Debt	28,807	14,606	15,788	18,903	22,219	21,977	18,513	10,519	5,393	8,910	17,784
Year-to-Balance	2022-23	2017-18	2016-17	2020-21	2015-16	2017-18	n/a	2019-20	n/a	2013-14	n/a

Sources: Federal and Provincial Budgets, Updates and Public Accounts; Ontario Ministry of Finance; GDP and population estimates from Statistics Canada and the Conference Board of Canada (August 2017)

Notes: Notes apply to this and all following tables. Some figures have been adjusted by Ontario Ministry of Finance to improve comparability across provinces. However, figures may not be directly comparable across provinces due to differences in accounting treatments. Due to internal breaks following the implementation of accounting reform, data are not directly comparable with earlier years in QC from 2009-10 onwards, in ON from 2001-02 onwards, from 2015-16 onwards, in MB from 2003-04 onwards, and in AB from 2008-09 onwards.
All recent figures are on a consolidated accounting basis with the exception of NS which is presented on a non-consolidated basis for 2017-18.
Some fiscal updates do not include updated figures for federal transfers, public debt interests and net debt. In these cases, figures are assumed unchanged from the budget figures. This assumption may affect calculations for own-source revenue and program spending.
QC's balance estimates are based within the meaning of the Balanced Budget Act. QC's 2012-13 deficit excludes the $1.9 billion write-off due to the closure of the Gentilly-2 nuclear plant. Federal transfers include the Quebec Abatement, and may not match publicly reported federal transfer figures.
Starting in Budget 2015, SK reports budgetary balances before adjustments to account for pension costs on an accrual basis, which are liabilities in its net debt.
Due to lack of detailed information, NB federal transfers only include transfers in the ordinary account and exclude federal transfers recorded in other accounts.
Federal debt figures represent accumulated deficits.
Estimates presented as a share of GDP may not match provincial or federal estimates as Ontario Finance uses GDP estimates from the Conference Board of Canada. Numbers may not add due to rounding.

Comparison of Key Fiscal Indicators for 2016-17, $ Millions

	NL	PEI	NS	NB	QC	ON	MB	SK	AB	BC	FED
Own-Source Revenue	6,053	1,058	7,728	5,760	81,968	116,190	11,595	10,671	34,424	43,292	293,485
Federal Transfers	1,104	675	3,500	3,130	20,498	24,544	4,128	2,955	7,980	8,167	n.a.
Total Revenues	7,157	1,732	11,228	8,890	102,466	140,734	15,723	13,626	42,404	51,459	293,485
Program Spending	7,349	1,626	10,242	8,336	90,387	130,016	15,557	14,301	52,171	46,135	287,156
Public Debt Interest	956	124	837	673	9,687	11,709	930	544	1,017	2,587	24,109
Total Spending	8,305	1,750	11,079	9,009	100,074	141,725	16,487	14,844	53,188	48,722	311,265
Other Adjustments					(2,142)						
Budgetary Balance	(1,148)	(18)	150	(119)	250	(991)	(764)	(1,218)	(10,784)	2,737	(17,780)
Net Debt / (Assets)	13,598	2,196	14,955	13,827	185,214	301,648	22,693	10,192	8,901	37,795	631,899
Per Cent of GDP											
Own-Source Revenue	19.5	16.5	18.8	17.0	20.9	14.6	17.0	13.9	11.2	16.5	14.5
Program Spending	23.7	25.4	25.0	24.6	23.0	16.3	22.8	18.6	17.0	17.6	14.2
Public Debt Interest	3.1	1.9	2.0	2.0	2.5	1.5	1.4	0.7	0.3	1.0	1.2
Budgetary Balance	(3.7)	(0.3)	0.4	(0.4)	0.1	(0.1)	(1.1)	(1.6)	(3.5)	1.0	(0.9)
Net Debt	43.9	34.3	36.5	40.8	47.2	37.8	33.3	13.3	2.9	14.4	31.2
$ Per Capita											
Own-Source Revenue	11,414	7,077	8,146	7,606	9,850	8,313	8,797	9,291	8,126	9,099	8,093
Program Spending	13,858	10,881	10,796	11,006	10,861	9,303	11,802	12,451	12,315	9,697	7,918
Public Debt Interest	1,803	829	882	889	1,164	838	706	473	240	544	665
Budgetary Balance	(2,164)	(120)	158	(157)	30	(71)	(580)	(1,061)	(2,546)	575	(490)
Net Debt	25,641	14,694	15,765	18,256	22,256	21,583	17,216	8,873	2,101	7,944	17,425

Comparison of Key Fiscal Indicators for 2015-16, $ Millions

	NL	PEI	NS	NB	QC	ON	MB	SK	AB	BC	FED
Own-Source Revenue	4,918	1,114	7,507	5,434	76,771	113,008	11,234	11,478	35,477	39,955	295,453
Federal Transfers	1,059	645	3,430	2,953	23,352	23,140	3,820	2,155	7,142	7,647	n.a.
Total Revenues	5,977	1,759	10,938	8,386	100,123	136,148	15,054	13,634	42,619	47,602	295,453
Program Spending	7,281	1,642	10,082	7,969	86,470	128,063	15,038	14,650	48,285	44,005	270,845
Public Debt Interest	902	130	869	678	10,009	11,600	855	504	776	2,786	25,595
Total Spending	8,183	1,772	10,951	8,647	96,479	139,663	15,893	15,153	49,061	46,791	296,440
Other Adjustments					(1,453)						
Budgetary Balance	(2,206)	(13)	(13)	(261)	2,191	(3,515)	(839)	(1,520)	(6,442)	811	(987)
Net Debt / (Assets)	12,504	2,170	15,076	13,660	185,025	295,400	21,371	7,899	(3,919)	39,597	615,986
Per Cent of GDP											
Own-Source Revenue	16.3	18.0	18.7	16.4	20.2	14.8	17.1	14.5	10.9	16.0	14.9
Program Spending	24.2	26.5	25.1	24.1	22.7	16.8	22.8	18.4	14.8	17.6	13.6
Public Debt Interest	3.0	2.1	2.2	2.1	2.6	1.5	1.3	0.6	0.2	1.1	1.3
Budgetary Balance	(7.3)	(0.2)	(0.0)	(0.8)	0.6	(0.5)	(1.3)	(1.9)	(2.0)	0.3	(0.0)
Net Debt	41.5	35.1	37.5	41.3	48.6	38.7	32.4	9.9	(1.2)	15.8	31.0
$ Per Capita											
Own-Source Revenue	9,300	7,588	7,974	7,207	9,300	8,195	8,672	10,147	8,492	8,511	8,245
Program Spending	13,769	11,186	10,708	10,569	10,475	9,287	11,609	12,951	11,558	9,373	7,559
Public Debt Interest	1,706	884	922	899	1,212	841	660	445	186	593	714
Budgetary Balance	(4,172)	(89)	(14)	(346)	265	(255)	(648)	(1,343)	(1,542)	173	(28)
Net Debt	23,645	14,783	16,012	18,118	22,414	21,422	16,497	6,983	(938)	8,434	17,191