

March 2019

BUDGET

2019
2020

INVESTING NOW TO TAKE CHARGE OF OUR FUTURE

BUDGET IN BRIEF



INVESTING NOW

TO TAKE CHARGE OF OUR FUTURE

Budget 2019-2020 presents major initiatives aimed at addressing the concerns of the population and implementing a long-term vision that will enable Québec to take charge of its future.


The government's actions are focused on health, education and the economy, but certain measures are also included to reduce the tax burden on taxpayers, accelerate the transition to a greener economy and enhance support for communities.

The first budget of the new government addresses current needs while laying the foundations for a modern and thriving Québec in which future generations will be able to reach their full potential.



PUTTING MONEY BACK IN THE POCKETS OF QUEBECERS

Additional initiatives totalling \$3.1 billion



Gradual elimination of the additional contribution for childcare

As of 2019, more than 140 000 families will pay a lower contribution

Average reduction of \$1 200 per year in the financial burden on families by 2022

Gradual standardization of school tax rates

Reduction in the amount of school taxes as of July 2019: \$200 million more in the pockets of Quebecers

Increase in the exemption for support payments in respect of dependent children

The amount that can be exempted from the calculation of government financial assistance will be raised from:

- \$100 to \$350 per month per child for the social assistance programs
- \$1 200 to \$4 200 per year per child for the student financial assistance program
- \$0 to \$4 200 for the legal aid program and the housing assistance programs



Between the fall 2018 update and 2023-2024, nearly \$5.2 billion will have been put back in the pockets of Quebecers

FOSTERING EDUCATIONAL SUCCESS

Additional initiatives totalling \$2.4 billion

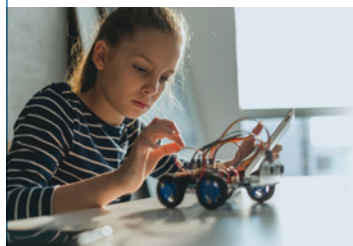


Roll out of 4-year-old kindergartens

250 new kindergarten classes starting in September 2019

- Adding an extra hour of extracurricular activities a day in secondary schools
- Enhancing support for student success and retention and adding special education classes
- Increasing support to teachers and to the promotion of the profession
- Increasing funding for CEGEPs and regional universities
- Financing cultural outings for students and enriching the content of school libraries
- Fostering early detection of learning disabilities
- Reimbursing the cost of glasses and contact lenses for children 17 and under

Investments totalling \$20.3 billion in the Québec Infrastructure Plan



- School renovation and construction
- Building maintenance
- Additional class space



A 5.1% increase in spending on education and higher education in 2019-2020

IMPROVING THE ACCESSIBILITY AND QUALITY OF HEALTH SERVICES

Additional investments of \$4.9 billion

- Increasing support to seniors
- Improving informal caregivers' quality of life
- Offering more home care
- Improving access to care and frontline services
- Adding caregiving staff in residential and long-term care centres (CHSLDs) and hospitals



**Construction of
30 seniors' homes in
the coming years**

Addition of
900 residential beds and
spaces in CHSLDs

Investments of \$20.2 billion in the Québec Infrastructure Plan



- Construction or improvement of infrastructure
- Replacement of infrastructure
- Renovation of infrastructure



**A 5.4% increase in spending on health and social services
in 2019-2020**

INCREASING THE POTENTIAL OF THE ECONOMY

Additional investments of \$3.7 billion



\$1.7 billion to increase participation in the labour market

- Enhancing the career extension incentive for workers aged 60 or over
- Reducing payroll taxes for SMBs who hire workers aged 60 or over
- Promoting better integration of immigrants into Québec society

\$709 million to stimulate innovation and create the jobs of tomorrow



- Speeding up the adoption of artificial intelligence
- Developing strategic sites for innovative businesses throughout Québec

- **Boosting Investissement Québec's share capital by \$1 billion**
- **\$1 billion for the growth of businesses and the retention of head offices**

\$715 million to boost regional development

- **Ensuring access to high-speed Internet and a broadband cellular network in all regions of Québec**
- **Stimulating tourism in Québec**



\$250 million to increase investments in the agricultural and agri-food sector



\$75 million to foster entrepreneurship and participation of young people in the economy

Supporting entrepreneurship and businesses financing

Encouraging employment and business succession

Creation of 4 new campuses for the École des entrepreneurs du Québec



\$18 million to support Québec researchers

Facilitating access to data for researchers

ACTING FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

Investments of \$1.3 billion for the environment

Over \$1 billion to fight climate change and foster transportation electrification

- Supporting businesses in reducing their GHG emissions
- Facilitating the adaptation of living environments to the impacts of climate change



Extension of the Drive Green program

Promoting the acquisition of 66 000 electric vehicles to encourage sustainable transportation

\$126 million to protect the environment

\$100 million to improve the management of residual materials



- Modernizing recycling centres
- Supporting the development of technological innovations and the creation of outlets

Implementing an enhanced approach that will reflect the reality of Québec and aim to make Québec's environmental policies more effective

- Exporting Québec's hydroelectricity and green technologies
- Lightening the current governance structure

SUPPORTING COMMUNITIES

\$1.7 billion to support communities



AccèsLogis

\$250 million to support the building of over 10 000 AccèsLogis Québec housing units

\$30 million to enhance the Support Program for Community Organizations

\$151 million for home adaptation and renovation for low-income households

Enhancing the Rénovation Québec and RénoRégion programs

Support for vulnerable persons

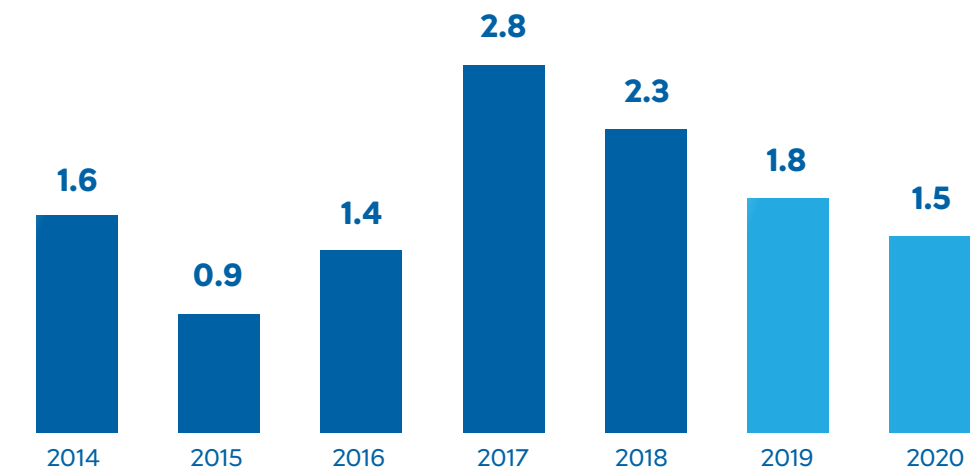
- **\$50 million to better support victims of sexual violence**

Support for Aboriginal communities

- **Enhancing the Aboriginal Initiative Fund that contributes to improving the socioeconomic situation of Aboriginal communities**
- **Implementing measures to reduce the cost of living in Nunavik**

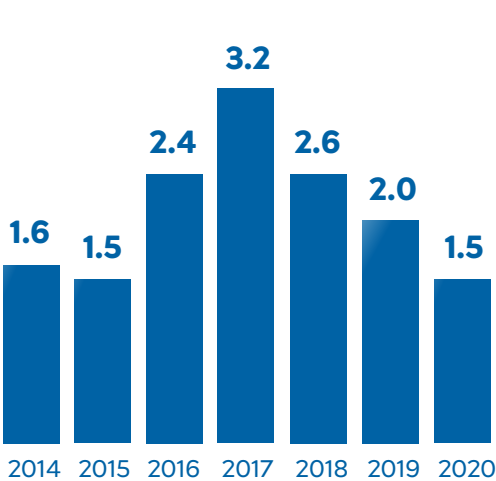
CONTINUED ECONOMIC GROWTH

ECONOMIC GROWTH IN QUÉBEC
(real GDP, percentage change)

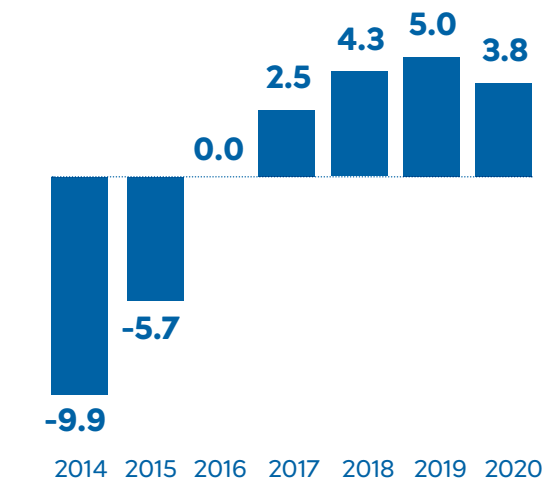


Households and businesses will support economic growth in the coming years.

HOUSEHOLD CONSUMPTION
EXPENDITURE IN QUÉBEC
(percentage change, in real terms)

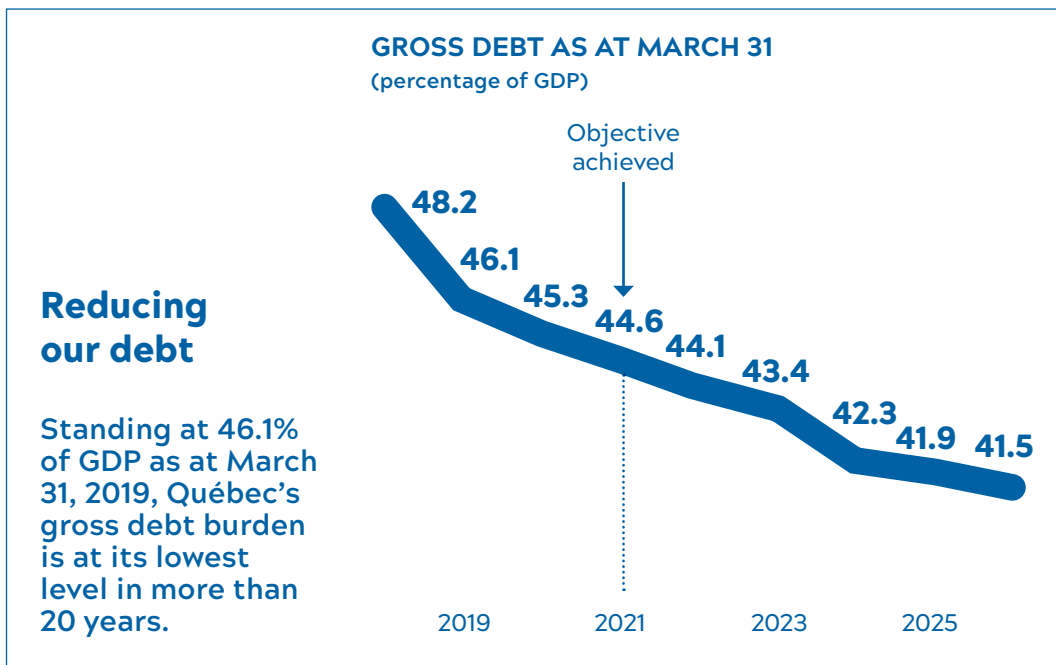


TOTAL NON-RESIDENTIAL BUSINESS
INVESTMENT IN QUÉBEC
(percentage change, in real terms)



RESPONSIBLE MANAGEMENT OF PUBLIC FINANCES

A balanced budget is forecast for the years 2019-2020 to 2023-2024, without using the stabilization reserve.



www.budget.finances.gouv.qc.ca/2019-2020