

This bulletin is a quick inventory of recent social research information. Its purpose is to promptly disseminate the most current external and internal research relevant to social policy.

2016 Census: Population and Dwelling Counts by Social Policy Analysis & Research Unit, City of Toronto, February 2017.

The 2016 Census Day was May 10, 2016. On February 8, 2017, Statistics Canada released its first set of data from this Census, on population and dwelling counts. Toronto's population grew by 116,511 residents between 2011 and 2016, an increase of 4.5%.

- Three cities in Canada saw their population grow by more than 100,000 people between 2011 and 2016: Calgary, up by 142,387; Edmonton, up by 120,345; and Toronto with 116,511 more people
- The 2016 population of the Greater Toronto and Hamilton Area (GTHA) is 6,954,433, or 19.8% of Canada's population. The city of Toronto accounts for 39.3% of the GTHA's population
- Growth rates varied across the GTHA's 26 municipalities, ranging from 0.2% to 30.5%. This includes the single-tier municipalities of Toronto and Hamilton and the cities and towns in the GTHA

For link to the Backgrounder:

<http://www1.toronto.ca/City%20of%20Toronto/City%20Planning/SIPA/Files/pdf/C/2016%20Census%20Backgrounder%20Population%20Dwellings%202017%2002%2009.pdf>

Future Shock? The Impact of Automation on Canada's Labour Market by Matthias Oschinski and Rosalie Wyonch, C.D. Howe Institute, March 2017.

Innovation is a driving factor of productivity and economic growth, but increasing productivity means that fewer people are needed to produce the same amount of goods. The increasing pace of technological change has led some to speculate that, in the digital era, technology might destroy old jobs faster than new ones are created.

Some of the key findings:

- It is very unlikely that employment in occupations highly susceptible to automation (35 percent of Canada's employment) will be completely replaced by smart machines over the next few years
- Canadian employment is concentrated in industries that have a low risk of automation, with industries where less than a quarter of the jobs are susceptible to automation accounting for 27.5 percent of total employment (4.9 million jobs)
- Occupations high in abstract, complex-decision-making skills with a strong focus on creativity, critical thinking and interpersonal social skills have a relatively low risk of being automated. An increase in demand for these skills is likely over the near and medium term

For link to the report:

https://www.cdhowe.org/sites/default/files/attachments/research_papers/mixed/Update_Commentary%20472%20web.pdf

Growth and Change in Toronto's Neighbourhoods: The Challenges of Planning for Growth and Density in the Downtown and Inner Suburbs by Dahab Ibrahim, Social Planning Toronto, February 2017.

This report provides an overview of changes to the population and dwelling counts in Toronto, a review of the implications of those changes and recommendations on how to accommodate those changes. Although Toronto's population has not shifted dramatically, the city's internal growth has certainly seen some fluctuation.

- The exceptional increase in housing supply has occurred in a way that has a limited net effect on affordability, reinforcing the need for a coherent housing affordability plan that relies on more than market forces to address local needs
- Growth has impacts on communities that require engaged, community-informed strategies that address issues like gentrification and service planning
- Rapid growth near high-level transit nodes reflect planning on intensification in relation to transit capacity, but other areas of growth show that transit planning is not systematically addressing growing needs

For link to the report:

<https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/socialplanningtoronto/pages/574/attachments/original/1487348389/Report-v4-web.pdf?1487348389>

The Sustainability of Health Care Spending in Canada 2017 by Bacchus Barua, Milagros Palacios and Joel Emes, Fraser Institute, March 2017.

Health care is the single largest budget item for every province in Canada, ranging from 34.3 percent of total program spending in Quebec to 43.2 percent in Ontario in 2016. Any changes in the amount spent on health care can have a significant impact on a government's fiscal balance (deficits or surpluses), the resources available for other programs such as education and social services, and/or tax competitiveness.

- Health care spending is projected to grow at about 5.3 percent per annum on average between 2016 and 2031
- Total of \$228.1 billion was spent on health care in Canada in 2016.2 which represents about 11.1 percent of Canada's economy, or roughly \$6,299 per Canadian
- The public sector's share of total health care spending (69.8 percent) totalled \$159.1 billion and includes payments made by government at the federal, provincial or territorial, and municipal levels as well as by workers' compensation boards and other social security schemes

For link to the report:

<https://www.fraserinstitute.org/studies/sustainability-of-health-care-spending-in-canada-2017>

Immigrant Businesses in Knowledge-Based Industries by Garnett Picot and Yuri Ostrovsky, Statistics Canada, March 2017.

This article describes the extent to which immigrant-owned businesses are in the 'knowledge-based' economy, in the more traditional ethnic economy, or in other industrial sectors. It further outlines the differences among immigrant classes (family, refugee, business and economic classes) in the types of businesses owned. The analysis focuses on two types of businesses: privately-owned incorporated companies and the unincorporated self-employed.

- For about 55% of unincorporated self-employed immigrants, their business is their main economic activity and self-employment is their main source of earnings
- 13.2% of private incorporated businesses owned by immigrants were located in the Knowledge-Based Industries (KBI) sector compared with 11.1% of private incorporated businesses owned by the Canadian-born.
- Approximately 60% of immigrant-owned private incorporated companies were in six broad industry sectors in 2010
- Immigrant-owned private incorporated companies tend to be smaller than those owned by the Canadian-born

For link to the report:

<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/11-626-x/11-626-x2017069-eng.pdf>

Previous issues of the SPAR Monitor can be viewed online at: <http://bit.ly/1ez7uDB>

Social Policy, Analysis and Research Information Resources:

Wellbeing Toronto: www.toronto.ca/wellbeing

Demographics & other resources: www.toronto.ca/demographics