

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.

Human Trafficking in Canada, Ontario, and Peel by the Peel Institute on Violence Prevention, Family Services of Peel, February 2018.

Human trafficking is a multi-dimensional phenomenon considered to be one of the most profitable crimes worldwide; organized crime syndicates and individual opportunists benefit from trafficking people for sexual exploitation and forced labour. The clandestine nature of human trafficking has made it hard to quantify. In Canada, victims of human trafficking have been Canadian citizens, permanent residents and foreign nationals.

- In 2014, Canadian police services reported 206 violations of human trafficking in Canada, accounting for less than 1% of all police-reported incidents
- Between 2013 and 2014, the rate of human trafficking violations almost doubled (0.33 per 100,000 population and 0.58 per 100,000 population, respectively)
- 25.13 % of the female victims are under the age of 18 years and 46.95% of them are between the ages of 18 to 25 years (almost 70% of the victims are under the age of 25 years)

For Link to the report:

https://fspeel.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/Human_Trafficking_in_Canada_Ontario_and_Peel_Feb2018.pdf

The Effect of Unemployment on Life Satisfaction: A Cross-National Comparison between Canada, Germany, the United Kingdom and the United States by Wen-Hao Chen and Feng Hou, Statistics Canada, July, 2018.

This paper investigates the effect of unemployment on subjective well-being from a comparative perspective, using data on reported life satisfaction as a proxy measure for individual well-being. It also tests whether the link between unemployment and life satisfaction is moderated by contextual unemployment—either through a negative spillover or a positive social-norm effect, or both—across regions within a country. In particular, this paper contributes to the literature by offering empirical tests for four countries in a systematic manner.

- The unemployed tend to have lower levels of life satisfaction than the employed, everything else being equal
- The amount of money required to compensate the unemployed to close the life satisfaction gap would be substantial
- Others' unemployment is a strong moderating factor of own unemployment in Canada and to a lesser extent in the United States

For link to the report:

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/pub/11f0019m/11f0019m2018408-eng.pdf>

Political Typology Reveals Deep Fissures on the Right and Left, by Pew Research Centre, October 2017.

This political typology reveals that even in a political landscape increasingly fractured by partisanship, the divisions within the Republican and Democratic coalitions may be as important a factor in American politics as the divisions between them. These are among the findings of Pew Research Center's new political typology, which sorts Americans into cohesive groups based on their values, attitudes and party affiliation, and provides a unique perspective on the nation's changing political landscape.

- Republicans can be divided into four groups: Core Conservatives, Country-First Conservatives, Market-Skeptics and New Era Enterprisers.
- Democrats can be divided into: Solid Liberals, Opportunity Democrats, Disaffected Democrats and Devout & Diverse.
- Political partisanship and polarization in the US have increased dramatically over the last 20 years.

For links to the reports:

<http://assets.pewresearch.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/5/2017/10/31115611/10-24-2017-Typology-release.pdf>

<http://assets.pewresearch.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/5/2017/10/05162647/10-05-2017-Political-landscape-release.pdf>

Rich Man, Poor Man: The Policy Implications of Canadians Living Longer by Kevin Milligan and Tammy Schirle, C.D. Howe Institute, August 2018.

Increases in longevity have been brisk for Canadians, with both men and women experiencing longer lifespans past age 50 than the generations before them. Until now, however, there has been no study of long-term changes in longevity across earnings groups in Canada. This matters because with those extra years of life come some costs such as pensions, healthcare, and other age-dependent expenditures.

- Men have added 7.7 years of life after age 50 since 1965 – and 1.9 years over the last decade alone
- The increase for women has been slightly slower, at 6.4 years gained, narrowing the gap between men and women
- Results show clear evidence of an earnings-longevity gradient for Canadians born between 1923 and 1955, with the highest male earners outliving the lowest earners by 8 years. For women, the earnings gradient is flatter than for men.

For link to the study:

https://www.cdhowe.org/sites/default/files/attachments/research_papers/mixed/Rich%20Man%2C%20Poor%20Man%20-%20The%20Policy%20Implications%20of%20Canadians%20Living%20Longer.pdf

The State of Homelessness in Australia's Cities: A Health and Social Cost Too High by Paul Flatau et al., Centre for Social Impact, The University of Western Australia, 2018.

Since 2010 Australian homelessness services, largely operating in the inner city areas of Australian cities, have undertaken interviews with over 8,000 people sleeping rough or otherwise homeless in concentrated data collection efforts called Registry Weeks. First implemented by US homelessness services as part of campaigns to end homelessness in US cities, Registry Weeks aim to develop a register of those who are homeless in areas in which homelessness services operate using a common interview schedule

- The Registry Week data is comprised of 8,618 interviews with 8,370 individuals; some individuals were interviewed more than once over the 2010-2017 period
- Most of the Registry Week respondents, 90.6%, identified as Straight, 2.9% identified as Lesbian/Gay, 3.2% as Bisexual and 0.1% as Queer
- Approximately one in five people interviewed identified as Indigenous, despite Indigenous people making up only 2.8% of the Australian population
- People sleeping rough, report problematic alcohol and/or other drug use, and are frequent users of acute health services

For link to the report:

http://www.csi.edu.au/media/THE_STATE_OF_HOMELESSNESS_IN_AUSTRALIA27S_CITIES_REPORT_Preliminary_Release.pdf

Previous issues of the SPAR Monitor can be viewed online at: <http://bit.ly/2iltgRQ>

Social Policy, Analysis and Research Information Resources:

Wellbeing Toronto: www.toronto.ca/wellbeing

City of Toronto Data, Research & Maps: <https://web.toronto.ca/city-government/data-research-maps/>