

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.

Corrections:

"The report in the previous issue titled Starting on Solid Ground: The Municipal Role in Immigrant Settlement was incorrectly dated as 2018. That report was from 2012. We apologize for the error."

Census Report: Presentation of Select 2016 Population and Immigration Census Data of the Toronto West LIP Catchment Area by Toronto West Local Immigration Partnership, August 2018.

To better understand the demographics of the Toronto West Local Immigration Partnership (TWLIP) catchment area, TWLIP initiated a project in the 2016-2017 program year to compile select 2016 census data on population, immigration and citizenship. The purpose of this report is to present key information collected from the project.

- The majority of immigrants to Canada in the 2011-2016 period are economic immigrants (60.3%), followed by sponsored immigrants (26.8%) and refugees (11.6%)
- Toronto is still one of the main destinations for recent immigrants, with 187,950 of them settling in the city between 2011 and 2016
- 68% of the population in North Etobicoke are between the ages of 15-64. Nearly half of the population are immigrants and more than one third came to Canada as sponsored immigrants

For link to the reports:

http://www.torontowestlip.ca/wp-content/uploads/TWLIP-Select-Census-Report_-Aug-2018.docx

Students in the Labour Market: Beyond the Recession by Dylan Saunders and Myriam Hazel, Statistics Canada, September 2018.

The labour market situation of Canadian youth has been a source of preoccupation of late, with key labour market indicators related to this group not having fully recovered from their pre-recession levels nearly 10 years after the economic downturn in 2008/2009. As in earlier recessions, previous research noted that following the start of the economic downturn in October 2008, youth bore a disproportionate share of job losses.

- Between the 2007/2008 and 2016/2017 school years, the student participation rate declined 3.9 percentage points to 42.9%, compared with virtually no change in the rate for non-students, at 87.4%
- Over the same period, younger students (i.e., aged 15 to 17) and male students experienced relatively larger declines in their participation and employment rates compared with older students (i.e., aged 18 to 24) and female students

- Declines in the participation and employment rates of students were registered in about half of the provinces, with Newfoundland and Labrador being the sole province reporting an increase in these rates

For link to the report:

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/75-004-m/75-004-m2018002-eng.pdf>

Poverty: 2016 and 2017, American Community Survey Briefs by Alemayehu Bishaw and Craig Benson, United States Census Bureau, September 2018.

Planners, policymakers, and community stakeholders use poverty estimates as key indicators to evaluate trends and current economic conditions within communities and to make comparisons across demographic groups. This brief uses the 2016 and 2017 American Community Surveys (ACS) 1-year estimates to analyze poverty rates for 2017 as well as the changes in poverty from 2016 for the nation, states and the District of Columbia, and the most populous metropolitan areas.

- In 2017, 13.4 percent of the U.S. population had income below the poverty level, a decline from 14.0 percent in 2016
- The poverty rate declined in 20 states and the District of Columbia between 2016 and 2017
- In 13 of the 25 most populous metropolitan areas, the poverty rate declined between 2016 and 2017
- The percentage of the U.S. population with income less than 50 percent of their poverty threshold declined to 6.0 percent in 2017, from 6.2 percent in 2016

For link to the report:

<https://www.census.gov/content/dam/Census/library/publications/2018/acs/acsbr17-02.pdf>

Economic Freedom of the World: 2018 Annual Report by James Gwartney, Robert A. Lawson, Joshua C. Hall, Ryan Murphy, Pál Czeglédi, Fred McMahon and Carlos Newland, Fraser Institute, September 2018.

This index measures the degree to which the policies and institutions of countries are supportive of economic freedom. The cornerstones of economic freedom are personal choice, voluntary exchange, freedom to enter markets and compete, and security of the person and privately owned property. Forty-two data points are used to construct a summary index and to measure the degree of economic freedom in five broad areas.

- Top-rated countries are: Hong Kong and Singapore [...] New Zealand, Switzerland, Ireland, United States, Georgia, Mauritius, United Kingdom, Australia, and Canada.
- Other major country rankings are Germany (20), Japan (41), Italy (54), France (57), Mexico (82), Russia (87), India (96), China (108), and Brazil (144).
- Nations in the top quartile of economic freedom had an average per-capita GDP of \$40,376 in 2016, compared to \$5,649 for bottom quartile nations.

For link to the report:

<https://www.fraserinstitute.org/sites/default/files/economic-freedom-of-the-world-2018.pdf>

The Future of the Suburbs: Policy Challenges and Opportunities in Canada by David Gordon, The School of Public Policy, University of Calgary, August 2018.

Canada is often described as a highly urbanized country. Increasingly, however, researchers recognize that Canada is in fact a suburban nation. This recognition has sparked a new research agenda on the Canadian suburbs from a variety of disciplines and perspectives. The population of all Canadian metropolitan regions grew much faster on their outside edges than in their active cores.

- Canada's eight biggest CMAs saw their active cores grow by 10 per cent, from 2006–16, with Toronto and Vancouver leading the way
- In contrast, the automobile suburbs and exurbs accounted for 73 per cent of population growth during the same period
- The total population in active core neighbourhoods declined by two per cent across Canadian mid-sized metropolitan areas from 2006-11

For link to the paper:

<https://www.policyschool.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/08/Canadas-Suburbs.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/>