

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.

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**Police Resources in Canada, 2017** by Patricia Conor, Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, Statistics Canada, March 2018.

The roles and responsibilities of police services has changed over time, creating new challenges in areas such as crime prevention, law enforcement, public assistance, maintenance of public order and responding to emergencies. As such, police, policy-makers and the public require information to monitor and make information-based decisions regarding the administration of policing.

- There were 69,027 police officers in Canada on May 15, 2017, 168 more than the previous year
- This represents a rate of police strength of 188 officers per 100,000 population and a decline of 1% from the previous year
- On May 15, 2017, women accounted for 21% of all sworn officers. Women represented 15% of senior officers in 2017—the highest proportion ever recorded—compared with 7% in 2007 and less than 1% in 1986
- The proportion of police officers aged 40 years and older has grown from 52% in 2013 to 56% in 2017

For link to the report:

<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/85-002-x/2018001/article/54912-eng.pdf>

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**Distributions of Household Economic Accounts for Income, Consumption, Saving and Wealth of Canadian Households, 2017** by Statistics Canada, March 2018.

New estimates for the distributions of household disposable income, final consumption expenditure, net saving and wealth indicate that households in the top disposable income quintile held 48.9% of total household wealth, while the bottom disposable income quintile held 5.8% in 2016.

- The share of the top quintile's wealth has remained relatively unchanged since 2010, when this group held 50.1% of total household wealth
- The distribution of disposable income across Canadian households was also concentrated in the top quintile in 2016
- Similar to wealth, the top 20% of income earning Canadian households accounted for 40.9% of total household disposable income
- Compared with the entire Canadian economy, these households accounted for 23.5% of total gross national income accruing to Canadians from all sources

For link to the report:

<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/daily-quotidien/171214/dq171214b-eng.pdf>

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**Ontario's Lost Decade: 2007–2016** by Ben Eisen and Milagros Palacios, Fraser Institute, March 2018.

Ontario has historically been one of the most prosperous provinces in Confederation and an engine of national economic growth. Ontario's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) per person has historically been above the national average, and for decades following the Second World War, household incomes in Ontario were consistently 10 to 20 percent above the national average. Unfortunately, in recent years, Ontario's economic fortunes have taken a substantial turn for the worst.

- Between 2007 and 2016, Ontario was mired in a prolonged period of economic weakness and lost ground compared to the rest of the country
- Ontario underperformed the rest of the country in each of the metrics examined in this study, specifically, real economic growth per person, private sector job growth, progress in real median household incomes, or debt accumulated per capita
- Out of the 10 provinces, Ontario finishes near the bottom of the provincial pack (between 7th and 10th place) for each of the indicators examined
- Such a prolonged and severe period of economic weakness will have long-lasting implications for Ontario's prosperity

For link to the report:

<https://www.fraserinstitute.org/sites/default/files/ontarios-lost-decade-2007-2016.pdf>

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**Portraits 2017 International Trade & Globalization** by Kiran Alwani, Giancarlo Acquaviva, Robert Wolfe & Andrew Parkin, Mowat Centre, March 2018.

Most Ontarians support international trade agreements and a majority of Ontarians support more rapid globalization. The report analyzes data from a survey of 2,000 Ontarians and 1,000 Quebecers conducted in November 2017 – significantly larger samples than typical for national opinion polls. Its findings offer reassurance to Canada's governments as they continue working to preserve, implement and expand international trade agreements.

- Four in five (81 per cent) support Canada negotiating new trade agreements with other countries, while only one in ten (9 per cent) are opposed
- Three in five (59 per cent) support Canada encouraging more rapid globalization, while only one in four (26 per cent) are opposed
- Seven in ten Ontarians (71 per cent) say that Canada benefits from international trade agreements, and two in three (66 per cent) say that the province does as well

For link to the report:

[https://mowatcentre.ca/wp-content/uploads/publications/163\\_portraits\\_international\\_trade\\_globalization.pdf](https://mowatcentre.ca/wp-content/uploads/publications/163_portraits_international_trade_globalization.pdf)

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**A Day in the Life: How do Older Canadians Spend Their Time?** By Paula Arriagada, Statistics Canada, March 2018.

This study uses the 2015 General Social Survey on Time Use to examine the time spent by Canadian seniors aged 65 and over on various activities. The paper focuses on three types of activities: unpaid household work, active pursuits and passive leisure activities. It examines the factors associated with time spent on these activities, and also provides comparisons with the 1986 General Social Survey on Time Use.

- In 2015, 91% of senior women (aged 65 and over) engaged in unpaid household work on a typical day, compared with 83% of senior men
- About three-quarters of men and women aged 65 and over engaged in active pursuits such as exercising, socializing and using technology, spending approximately 3.5 hours doing so on a typical day
- Factors that affect the time use of seniors include age, sex, employment status, educational attainment and living arrangements
- Between 1986 and 2015, the participation rate of senior women in active pursuits declined, from 77% to 69%

For link to the report:

<http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/75-006-x/2018001/article/54947-eng.pdf>

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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](http://www.toronto.ca/wellbeing)

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