

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.

Dimensions of Poverty Hub, Statistics Canada.

"Opportunity for All" introduces a dashboard of 12 indicators to track progress on deep income poverty as well as the aspects of poverty other than income, including indicators of material deprivation, lack of opportunity and resilience.

- Canada's poverty rate was 12.1% in 2015 and 9.5% in 2017
- 9% of Canadian youth were not in employment, education or training (NEET)
- 5.1% of Canadians were living in deep income poverty in 2017, down from 5.4% in 2016

For link to the dashboard:

<https://www.statcan.gc.ca/eng/topics-start/poverty>

Using Data to Enable Better Outcomes for Young People Leaving Care, by Dr. Naomi Nichols, McGill University and Arisha Khan, Youth in Care Canada, May 2019.

This brief was written to be useful to policy analysts and decision-makers in provincial, territorial, and federal governments as well as advocates striving for better outcomes for youth in and leaving Canada's child welfare systems.

- Child welfare files contain important information about serious occurrences (e.g., serious injuries; calls to police), deaths, educational outcomes, and even placement numbers of young people in care
- While there is increasing recognition of the need for better data systems in Canada's public sector, tensions between the right to privacy and the right to information continue to structure government responses
- [A]ccess to one's own administrative records can also help alleviate the fragmentation between social service systems, which undermines young people's safe and sustained transitions from state care
- Data must be made available in order to monitor systems-level youth outcomes; identify systemic inequities and structural drivers of inequality; and enable continuous quality improvement efforts within the system

For link to the paper:

<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5623f0e8e4b0126254053337/t/5cec19937817f1809d35073/1558976916181/YouthinCareAdministrativeData.pdf>

Highly Educated Immigrants: Economic Contributions and Implications for Public Policy, by Steven Globerman, Fraser Institute, July 2019.

This report sets out an economic framework for evaluating the consequences of increased immigration by educated individuals to the host economy and considers the relevant evidence bearing upon both the effects of such increased immigration and the factors that condition those effects.

- [T]he available data confirm that Canada has been relatively successful in attracting highly educated immigrants. To the extent that educated immigrants make net positive contributions to the per-capita disposable incomes of native-born workers, there is a potential case for policy makers in Canada to expand and intensify initiatives to attract more highly educated immigrants
- Immigration can also have indirect effects on the marginal productivity of native-born workers, even if highly educated immigrants are not direct substitutes for highly educated native-born
- Immigration can lower the costs of tangible capital assets to the extent that immigrants are more inclined to assume business risks than the native-born. That is, domestic capital formation is likely to be promoted by immigration if immigrants are more entrepreneurial than their native-born counterparts

For link to the paper:

<https://www.fraserinstitute.org/sites/default/files/highly-educated-immigrants.pdf>

Study: The Role of Social Capital and Ethnocultural Characteristic in the Employment Income of Immigrants Over Time, by Rose Evra and Abdolmohammad Kazempur, Statistics Canada, June 2019.

The study follows a cohort of immigrants aged 25 to 54 who came to Canada in 2001, and examines their employment income over the next 15 years (from 2002 to 2016). It is based on a new data set combining the Longitudinal Survey of Immigrants to Canada with the Longitudinal Immigration Database.

- [M]any immigrants to Canada benefit from some form of social capital. For example, among immigrants admitted in 2001, 63% had friends in the country prior to their admission, and 44% had relatives in the country
- Having friends is associated with higher employment incomes
- In the six months following their admission, the vast majority (89%) said they had made new friends, and 20% reported that nearly all of their new friends were outside their ethnic group
- Immigrants who identified as being one of the designated visible minority groups had lower employment incomes compared with the rest of the immigrant population

For link to the paper:

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/en/pub/75-006-x/2019001/article/00009-eng.pdf?st=dvQ-yFU7>

Does Geography Matter in Mortality? An Analysis of Potentially Avoidable Mortality by Remoteness Index in Canada, by Rajendra Subedi, T. Lawson Greenberg and Shirin Roshanafshar, Statistics Canada, May 2019.

Avoidable mortality rates specific to remote areas cannot be investigated unless there is a clear geographic classification of remoteness. Therefore, this research uses a newly developed remoteness index to explore the geographic variability of avoidable mortality in Canada.

- Avoidable mortality represents over 70% of total deaths of individuals younger than age 75 in Canada and consists of two subgroups: preventable mortality and treatable mortality
- The preventable and treatable mortality rates are significantly higher in more remote areas than in easily accessible areas.
- Data analysis shows that about 25% of all premature deaths and about 35% of all avoidable deaths from 2011 to 2015 in Canada were treatable

For link to the paper:

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/en/pub/82-003-x/2019005/article/00001-eng.pdf?st=evBpo7-D>

States With High Opioid Prescribing Rates Have Higher Rates of Grandparents Responsible for Grandchildren, by Lydia Anderson, US Census Bureau, April 2019.

This research uses both survey estimates from the 2012-2016 American Community Survey five-year data and administrative 2016 Opioid Prescribing Data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

- Four states - Alabama, Arkansas, Louisiana and Mississippi - have among the highest rates on both measures
- The percentage of the population age 30 and over who are raising grandchildren is higher in states that have higher opioid prescribing rates
- Five states among those with the highest percentage of both the population age 30 and over raising grandchildren and opioid prescribing rates are located in the South.

For link to the paper:

<https://www.census.gov/library/stories/2019/04/opioid-crisis-grandparents-raising-grandchildren.html>

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/>