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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Income and Poverty in the United States: 2018, by Jessica Semega, Melissa Kollar, John Creamer, and Abinash Mohanty, U.S. Census Bureau, September 2019.

This report contains two main sections, one focuses on income and the other on poverty. Each section presents estimates by characteristics such as race, Hispanic origin, nativity, and region. Other topics, such as earnings and family poverty rates, are included only in the relevant section.

➢ Median household income was $63,179 in 2018, not statistically different from the 2017 median, following 3 consecutive years of annual increases
➢ The number of full-time, year round workers increased by 2.3 million, between 2017 and 2018
➢ The number of people in poverty in 2018 was 38.1 million, 1.4 million fewer people than 2017
➢ The 2018 real median income of Asian households increased 4.6 percent from 2017 to $87,194, while the real median incomes of non-Hispanic White ($70,642), Black ($41,361), and Hispanic ($51,450) households were not statistically different from their 2017 medians

For link to the paper:
https://www.census.gov/content/dam/Census/library/publications/2019/demo/p60-266.pdf
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The Transition from School to Work: the NEET (Not in Employment, Education or Training) Indicator for 20 to 24 year Olds, by Sylvie Brunet, Statistics Canada, July 5, 2019.

This fact sheet presents the NEET (Not in employment, education or training) indicator for young people aged 20 to 24. It is the last in a series of three fact sheets that examine the NEET population in Canada based on the three age groups that are usually considered when studying the transition from school to work (young people aged 15 to 19, 20 to 24, and 25 to 29).

➢ For several years, Canadian women aged 20 to 24 have had lower NEET rates than the average for women of the same age in OECD countries
➢ Aboriginal youth (excluding those on reserves) have higher NEET rates than youth overall for both women and men. In 2018/2019, the NEET rate for Aboriginal young people aged 20 to 24 was 23%, whereas it was 12% for the overall population of the same age
➢ Youth aged 20 to 24 without a high school diploma are not only overrepresented among NEETs, as shown in the previous section, but also overrepresented among young people of the same age who report being permanently unable to work

For link to the paper:
https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/81-599-x/81-599-x2019001-eng.pdf
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Taxes Versus the Necessities of Life: the Canadian Consumer Tax Index, by Milagros Palacios and Jake Fuss, Fraser Research Bulletin, August 2019.

The Canadian tax system is complex and there is no single number that can give us a complete idea of who pays how much. That said, the Fraser Institute annually calculates the most comprehensive and easily understood indicator of the overall tax bill of the average Canadian family: Tax Freedom Day.

➢ Taxes have grown much more rapidly than any other single expenditure for the average Canadian family: expenditures on shelter increased by 1,593%, clothing by 769%, and food by 639% from 1961 to 2018
➢ In 2018, the average Canadian family earned an income of $88,865 and paid total taxes equaling $39,299 (44.2%).
➢ In 1961, the average family had an income of $5,000 and paid a total tax bill of $1,675 (33.5%)

For link to the paper:
https://www.fraserinstitute.org/sites/default/files/canadian-consumer-tax-index-2019.pdf

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Measuring and Analyzing the Gender Pay Gap: A Conceptual and Methodological Overview, by Melissa Moyser, Statistics Canada, August 30, 2019.

At present, there are no internationally-recognized standards for measuring the gender pay gap, leaving considerable scope of political choice. The purpose of this paper, then, is to inform the development of international standards for measuring the gender pay gap by explaining the assumptions underlying, and the implications following from, various methods.

➢ Given that gender-based earnings inequality tends to increase with age, as the workforce ages (due to both the aging of Canada's population and the increasing labour force participation of older age groups), estimates of the gender pay gap based on those aged 15/16 years and older and those aged 25 to 54 may eventually diverge
➢ Even when women were employed on a full-time basis, they spend more time on domestic labour than their male counterparts: 21.0 vs. 16.1 hours per week (a difference of nearly 5 hours)
➢ The exclusion of workers employed on a part-time basis from measurement of the gender pay gap implies the idealization of full-time, full-year employment – a pattern typified by men, both historically and currently

For link to the paper:
https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/en/pub/45-20-0002/452000022019001-eng.pdf?st=wbJLqI4V

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