

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.

The Contribution of Immigrants and Population Groups Designated as Visible Minorities to Nurse Aide, Orderly and Patient Service Associate Occupations, by Martin Turcotte and Katherine Savage, Statistics Canada, June 2020.

To better understand how different sub-groups of workers were exposed to the risks associated with COVID-19, this article provides a profile of nurse aides, orderlies and patient service associates.

- In 2016, 245,500 people were employed as nurse aides, orderlies and patient service associates in Canada. Of these workers, more than a third (87,925) were immigrants.
- Women accounted for the majority of nurse aides, orderlies and client service associates, among both immigrants (86%) and non-immigrants (87%).
- Between 1996 and 2016, the proportion of immigrants in the occupations of nurse aide, orderly and patient service associate rose from 22% to 36%, an increase of 14 percentage points.
- In 2016, 52% of workers in these occupations in Alberta were immigrants, compared with less than 8% in each of the Atlantic provinces

Link to the full paper:

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/45-28-0001/2020001/article/00036-eng.pdf>

Infographic: Canadians with Mental Health-Related Disabilities by Statistics Canada.

Over 2 million Canadians aged 15 and older have mental health-related disability.

- 31 is the average age when a person with a mental health-related disability begins to feel limited in their daily activities.
- 24% of those with a mental health-related disability consider themselves housebound.
- Among Canadians with a mental health-related disability 1,100,00 (55%) say they require counselling services from a psychologist, psychiatrist, psychotherapist or social worker.

Link to the release:

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/11-627-m/11-627-m2020008-eng.pdf>

The Price of Public Health Care Insurance, 2020 by Milagros Palacios and Bacchus Barua, Fraser Institute, August 2020.

The purpose of this research bulletin is to help individual Canadians and their families better understand how much they annually contribute to Canada's public health care system.

- In 2020, preliminary estimates suggest the average payment for public health care insurance ranges from \$4,190 to \$14,474 for six common Canadian family types, depending on the type of family.
- The 10 percent of Canadian families with the lowest incomes will pay an average of about \$471 for public health care insurance in 2020.
- The 10 percent of Canadian families who earn an average income of \$65,522 will pay an average of \$6,627 for public health care insurance, and the families among the top 10 percent of income earners in Canada will pay \$39,731.
- In 2020, the average unattached (single) individual, earning an average income of \$44,153, will pay approximately \$4,894 for public health care insurance.

Link to the full paper:

<https://www.fraserinstitute.org/sites/default/files/price-of-public-health-care-insurance-2020.pdf>

Toronto After a Decade of Austerity: the Good, the Bad and the Ugly by Beth Wilson, Social Planning Toronto, January 2020.

[This report] looks at how our city has progressed, declined, or stagnated over the past decade in three key areas: housing; child care; and public transit, cycling, and walking. We assess the current state of the city after a decade of austerity budgets using 20 quantitative indicators and offer resolutions to build a better city by continuing to address our funding needs in the years to come.

- Data from Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation's annual Rental Market Survey show average rents have risen by 39.8% for bachelor units, 33.7% for 1-bedrooms, 31.6% for 2-bedrooms, and 23.6% for 3+ bedrooms between 2010 and 2018.
- Recent vacancy rates are 1.6% for bachelor units, 1.2% for 1-bedrooms, 0.9% for 2-bedrooms, and 1.2% for 3+ bedrooms.
- In 2016, 37% of residents used public transit as their main mode of commuting to work, up from 35% in 2006.
- In 2018, 158 pedestrians were seriously injured on our streets. The number of pedestrian fatalities has been especially high from 2013 onwards, with a high of 44 in 2016.

Link to the full paper:

https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/socialplanningtoronto/pages/2279/attachments/original/1578438814/Good_Bad_Ugly_Toronto_After_Austerity-min.pdf?1578438814

Household Food Insecurity in Canada 2017-2018 by Valerie Tarasuk and Andy Mitchell, Research to Identify Policy Options to Reduce Food insecurity (PROOF), Food Insecurity Policy Research, 2020.

Household food insecurity refers to the inadequate or insecure access to food because of financial constraints. Food insecurity takes a serious toll on individuals' health and well-being, and it places a significant burden on our health care system.

- Food insecurity is much more prevalent in Nunavut than any other part of Canada. In 2017-18, 57.0% of households in Nunavut reported some level of food insecurity and almost half of these households were severely food insecure.
- Quebec was the only place in Canada where the prevalence of food insecurity fell significantly between 2015-16 and 2017-18.
- The lowest prevalence of household food insecurity was 11.1% in Quebec.
- Food insecurity is more prevalent among households with children. In 2017-18, 17.3% of children under 18, or more than 1 in 6, lived in households that experienced food insecurity.
- In 2017-18, 65% of food-insecure households were reliant on employment incomes.

Link to the full paper:

https://www.homelesshub.ca/sites/default/files/attachments/FOOD_INSECURITY_2020_EXEC_EN.pdf

Interpreting and Presenting Census Language Data, Statistics Canada, August 2020.

The aim of this paper is to describe the two main approaches and explain how each requires different choices in organizing and presenting language data for dissemination. Statistics Canada has produced this document to provide language data users with key information on what data are available so they can know which data sources can meet their needs.

- The convergence of three major trends in Canada in recent decades exposed certain limitations in the standard approach and warranted the need for new perspectives. First, steady and more and more linguistically diverse immigration since the 1980s has led to significant growth in the size and heterogeneity of the “allophone” group.
- The objective of the language group approach is to study relationships between the groups in a population. By extension, it also explores the characteristics and behaviours of a language group, generally for comparison purposes.
- The language approach does not exclude comparisons between languages or between groups who speak those languages. However, it is best for studying language coexistence, language diversity and multilingualism, among other examples, than the language group approach.

Link to the full paper:

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/89-657-x/89-657-x2020003-eng.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/>