

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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**Inter-Generational Comparisons of Household Economic Well-Being** by Statistics Canada, December 2020.

This study of data from the Distribution of Household Economic Accounts compares household's economic well-being from a macro-economic accounts perspective, as measured by net saving and net worth for each generation when the major income earner for a household in one generation reached the same point in the life cycle as the major income earner for a household in another generation.

- [Y]ounger generations have higher disposable income and higher consumption expenditure than older generations when they reached the same age
- [Y]ounger generations' economic well-being may be more at risk due to the COVID-19 pandemic since they depend more on employment as a primary source of income, they have higher debt relative to income, and they have less equity in financial and real estate assets
- [W]hen generation X households reached a median age of 47 in 2019, their income was \$102,500, compared to \$84,900 for boomer households who reached that same age in 2003.

Link to the study:

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/en/pub/13-605-x/2020001/article/00006-eng.pdf?st=SlNkUz7>

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**The Long-Term Impact of the COVID-19 Recession on Homelessness in Canada: What to Expect, What to Track, What to Do** by Nick Falvo, Nick Falvo Consulting, December 2020.

This report argues that the COVID-19 Recession may contribute to rising homelessness across Canada, but that the matter is complicated by several factors, namely: a lag effect of up to five years; many unknowns; and differences from one community to another. In order to monitor the many complex factors involved in this dynamic, this report recommends indicators for Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC) to track.

- On average, the 811,000 people whose EI payment will be less than \$500 a week will make only \$312 a week. In other words, over three quarters of a million people will see their support drop by an average of almost \$200 a week
- In anticipating the current recession's likely impact on homelessness, observers will be tempted to compare current events with those that transpired during the 2008-2009 Recession
- In May 2020, the Government of Canada announced a \$300 tax-free one-time payment to seniors receiving Old Age Security, plus an additional \$200 one-time benefit for seniors receiving the Guaranteed Income Supplement

Link to the full paper:

<https://nickfalvo.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Falvo-Final-report-for-ESDC-FINAL-28nov2020.pdf>

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**Selected Police-Reported Criminal Incidents in the First Eight Months of the Pandemic, March to October 2020** by Statistics Canada, January 2021.

Previous studies have shown that during the pandemic, Canadians reported lower levels of life satisfaction, heightened concerns around health and mental health issues and, for some groups, feeling less safe, including concerns about violence in the home.

- In the first eight months of the pandemic, 19 police services across Canada reported that selected criminal incidents were down by almost one-fifth (18%) compared with the same period a year earlier
- In contrast, the number of calls for service, particularly wellness checks, mental health calls and calls to attend domestic disturbances, rose 8%
- [A]s businesses, services and public spaces began to reopen, police reported that crime increased from April to May (+5%), from May to June (+12%), and from June to July (+11%)

Link to the full report:

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/en/daily-quotidien/210127/dq210127c-eng.pdf?st=arl3lu9z>

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**City Budget Matters 101: Nonprofits Organizations**, by Social Planning Toronto, 2020.

The City of Toronto is a key funder of nonprofits, committed to working with them to deliver essential community services and investing more than \$1.2 billion per year in the sector.

- Nonprofits employ more than 200,000 people in Toronto and contribute at least \$14 billion per year to our city's revenue
- The pandemic means nonprofits face devastating financial challenges. The Ontario Nonprofit Network estimated that 20% of organizations have closed their doors since the start of the pandemic and may not reopen because of a loss of funding and other revenue sources
- The City of Toronto funds nonprofits to provide a wide range of community services and programs on its behalf. But the City is starting its 2021 budget process with a gap of about \$1.8 billion, and nonprofits are concerned about potential funding cuts

Link to the primer:

<https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/socialplanningtoronto/pages/2420/attachments/original/1608131256/nonprofits-FINAL.pdf?1608131256>

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**The Impact of Short-duration Credentials After an Undergraduate Degree on Labour Market Outcomes** by Aimé Ntwari and Eric Fecteau, Statistics Canada, October 2020.

Both in Canada and around the world, the labour market is constantly changing and requires the maintenance of skills and acquisition of knowledge focused on what is needed with the transformation of industries. These changes affect the behaviour of workers, not only in Canada, but in all developed and emerging countries. School-to-work transitions have become the subject of interest for employers, employees, students and decision-makers.

- Of the 102,865 graduates who earned an undergraduate degree from a public postsecondary institution in Canada before the age of 25 in 2010, 34,715 (33.7%) completed one or more additional educational qualification between 2010 and 2016
- Comparing two years before and two years after earning an additional short-duration credential, the proportion of graduates employed in “low value-added service industries” fell from 22.1% to 9.9%.
- While one third (33.3%) of graduates with an additional short-duration credential earned their second qualification in the same field of study as their undergraduate degree, large outflows were observed in the fields of “Social and behavioural sciences” and “Arts and humanities” towards fields related to “Business and administration” (35.0% and 27.0%, respectively)

Link to the study:

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/81-595-m/81-595-m2020001-eng.pdf>

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### Canadians' Health and COVID-19: Interactive Dashboard by Statistics Canada, 2021.

The new "Canadians' Health and COVID-19: Interactive Dashboard" presents a selection of indicators relevant to monitoring COVID-19 vaccine willingness, precautions taken by Canadians to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and impacts of COVID-19 on Canadians' mental health. This dashboard showcases data collected through the Canadian Community Health Survey in September and October 2020.

- In October 2020, three in four Canadians (75%) aged 12 and older reported that they are very or somewhat willing to receive the COVID-19 vaccine
- [R]oughly one-third (32%) of Canadians reported that their mental health was somewhat or much worse compared with before the pandemic and 58% reported their mental health was about the same
- [T]he overwhelming majority of Canadians reported wearing a mask in public places (98%), washing their hands more frequently (96%), maintaining a two-metre distance from others (96%), avoiding crowds and large gatherings (95%) and avoiding leaving the house for non-essential reasons (74%)

Links to article and dashboard:

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/daily-quotidien/210203/dq210203a-eng.htm>

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/71-607-x/71-607-x2021003-eng.htm>

Previous issues of the SPAR Monitor can be viewed online at: <https://bit.ly/3h42Zob>

Wellbeing Toronto: [www.toronto.ca/wellbeing](http://www.toronto.ca/wellbeing)

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