

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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## **Census 2021 Release Schedule for 2022** by Statistics Canada, May 2021.

There will be seven major 'themed' release dates for the dissemination of data from the 2021 Census of Population. Each major release of data by theme will be highlighted in The Daily, Statistics Canada's official release bulletin, and each major release will offer data, analytical, and reference products for our users to access and consume.

- The first release will be on February 9, 2022 on population and dwelling counts
- The last release on Nov 30, 2022 will include education, labour, language of work, commuting and instruction in the official minority language
- This census will include data on religious diversity (Oct 26, 2022)

Link to the Census 2021 release schedule:

<https://www12.statcan.gc.ca/census-recensement/2021/ref/prodserv/release-diffusion-eng.cfm>

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## **Toronto Employment Survey 2020** by City Planning, City of Toronto, April 2021.

The Toronto Employment Survey collects annual employment information from establishments across the city. This information is used to measure the city's economy and monitor the progress of Official Plan policies. The 2020 Toronto Employment Survey offers a detailed picture of Toronto's economy, highlighting key citywide trends and emerging patterns in the growth management areas of the Official Plan.

- Toronto experienced an estimated Gross Domestic Product (GDP) decline of -5.3% in 2020
- In 2020, the Toronto Employment Survey recorded 1,449,910 jobs citywide, a decrease of 119,890 jobs or 7.6% from 2019
- In 2020, the impact of job losses was more severe for part-time employees, particularly in the Community, Entertainment and Service sectors. Part-time jobs were lost at almost three times the rate of full-time jobs in 2020
- Most of the loss in Personal Services is in Restaurants, which saw a decline of 36.8% or 20,000 jobs, largely due to COVID-19 related temporary and permanent closures
- Starting in 2019, the Toronto Employment Survey conducted research on Toronto's tech sector, which has experienced significant employment growth to almost double in size over the past five years, from 32,830 jobs in 2015 to 60,670 jobs in 2020, representing an increase of 84.8 per cent

Link to the full bulletin:

<https://www.toronto.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/9829-Toronto-Employment-Survey-2020-Bulletin.pdf>

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**An Uneven Recovery: Measuring COVID-19 Vaccine Equity in Ontario** by James Iveniuk & Scott Leon, Wellesley Institute, April 2021.

A recent report released by the Institute for Clinical and Evaluative Sciences (ICES) demonstrated a serious inequity in the rollout of COVID-19 vaccines. Areas of Ontario with the highest cumulative incidence of COVID-19 are the areas with the lowest levels of vaccination. This finding has received widespread media attention,<sup>2–4</sup> and suggests that social inequalities in Ontario are driving who gets vaccinated and who does not. This paper quantifies inequities in vaccination within Ontario, displaying a baseline to help monitor our progress towards vaccine equity.

- When considering Ontario as a whole, cumulative COVID-19 rates in a neighbourhood were positively associated with vaccination rates once poverty rates, age composition, and racialized groups were taken into consideration
- Per cent of South Asian, Black, and Latin American were associated with lower rates of vaccination. Per cent aged 65 and older was associated with higher rates of vaccination
- [I]n Toronto, and to a lesser extent in the neighbourhoods around Toronto, there is a negative association between COVID-19 rates and vaccination – a seeming mismatch between need and supply

Link to the report:

<https://www.wellesleyinstitute.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/An-uneven-recovery-Measuring-COVID-19-vaccine-equity-in-Ontario.pdf>

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**Canada's Aging Population and Income Support Programs** by Steven Globerman, Fraser Institute, April 2021.

The aging of Canada's population is a demographic phenomenon that is well underway and that will have profound impacts on Canada's economy, including the financial ability of the federal and sub-federal governments to continue to fund existing age-sensitive social programs. One set of government programs that is directly tied to the aging of Canada's population is income support, most notably the Old Age Security (OAS) and the Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS), programs that transfer income to seniors. These two programs are noteworthy inasmuch as they are funded through taxation. Hence, in the case of the OAS and the GIS, the aging of the population has direct implications for the federal government's fiscal position.

- Over the 10-year period from 2020 to 2030, total expenditures on the OAS and GIS (plus the GIS Allowance and administrative costs) are projected to increase by almost 70 percent and by an additional 136 percent from 2030 to 2060
- Total expenditures related to these income support programs are projected to range between 2.8 percent and 3.1 percent of Gross Domestic Product between 2020 and 2060 with a peak between 2030 and 2035
- By way of context, expenditures on the OAS and GIS programs were almost 50 percent greater than the federal government's transfer payments to the provinces for health care services
- OAS expenditures are projected to peak at 2.39 percent of GDP in 2035, and total income support expenditures are projected to reach 3.12 percent of GDP in that same year

Link to the report:

<https://www.fraserinstitute.org/sites/default/files/canadas-aging-population-and-income-support-programs.pdf>

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### **Provisional Death Counts and Excess Mortality, January 2020 to February 2021** by Statistics Canada, May 2021.

COVID-19 continues to affect communities and families in Canada. Beyond deaths attributed to the disease itself, the pandemic could also have indirect consequences that increase or decrease the number of deaths as a result of various factors, including delayed medical procedures or increased substance use. To understand both the direct and indirect consequences of the pandemic, it is important to measure excess mortality, which occurs when there are more deaths during a period of time than what would be expected for that period.

- From January 2021 to early February 2021, there were 31,509 deaths in Canada. This amounts to 2.1%, or 658, more deaths than expected if there were no pandemic, after accounting for changes in the population, such as aging
- Almost 90% of people who died of COVID-19 in 2020 had a least one other comorbidity
- Dementia or Alzheimer's is the most common comorbidity associated with deaths due to COVID-19
- 63% of women who died of COVID-19 were older than 85, whereas 47% of men who died of COVID-19 were older than 85

Link to the article:

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/daily-quotidien/210514/dq210514c-eng.htm>

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### **COVID-19 Vaccine Willingness Among Canadian Population Groups** by Statistics Canada, March 2021.

Vaccine hesitancy is a complex issue defined by the World Health Organization as a delay in acceptance, or refusal of vaccines despite availability of vaccination services. Results from the Canadian Community Health Survey (CCHS) for the period of September 1 to December 12, 2020 show that 76.9% of Canadians (excluding residents of the territories) aged 12 and older reported being somewhat or very willing to receive the COVID-19 vaccine.

- [T]he most common reasons were lack of confidence in the safety of the vaccine (54.2%) and concerns about its risks and side effects (51.7%)
- Compared to non-visible minorities (77.6%), a much lower proportion of the Black population (56.6%) reported being somewhat or very willing to receive a COVID-19 vaccine
- A lower rate of vaccine willingness was also seen among the Latin American population (66.0%)
- Conversely, a higher proportion of the South Asian population (82.5%) reported a willingness to receive the vaccine

Link to the article:

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/en/pub/45-28-0001/2021001/article/00011-eng.pdf?st=4dAqGmxx>

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/>