

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.

Disaggregating Wage Growth: Trends and Considerations by Statistics Canada, June 2022.

On a year-over-year basis, recent increases in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) have been faster than the increase in average hourly wages... partially eroding longer-term wage gains workers have seen since the strong labour market conditions immediately prior to the pandemic.

- From April 2019 to April 2022 average hourly wages rose by 12.5% while the CPI increased by 10.5%
- COVID-19 contributed to a shift in employment towards higher-wage industries
- Most of the highest-wage industries have seen strong employment growth over the past three years, while employment has decreased in most of the lowest-wage industries
- In the accommodation and food services industry, growth in average hourly wages from March 2019 to March 2022 lagged behind CPI growth. In professional, scientific and technical services, growth in average wages, offered wages and weekly earnings each exceeded inflation

Link to the article: <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/11-631-x/11-631-x2022002-eng.pdf>

Understanding the Changing Ratio of Working-Age Canadians to Seniors and Its Consequences by Ben Eisen and Joel Emes, Fraser Institute, May 2022.

This bulletin presents the most recent data and projections about population aging in Canada. It focuses particularly on the change in the ratio of working-age people to seniors over age 65.

- The share of Canada's population aged 65 or older increased from 14.1 percent in 2010 to 19.0 percent in 2022.
- Statistics Canada data projects this number will increase to 25 percent by the middle of the century
- In 1966 there were 7.7 working-age individuals for every senior. This ratio has dropped quickly since then and stands at 3.4 in 2022. There will be just 3.0 working-age people for each senior by 2027, after which the ratio will slowly fall further to reach 2.3 by 2068
- OECD projections show that health care costs from aging will cause health care expenditures to increase by 0.8 percent age points of GDP between 2017 and 2045

Link to the briefing:

<https://www.fraserinstitute.org/sites/default/files/understanding-changing-ratio-of-working-age-canadians-to-seniors-consequences.pdf>

Canadian Residential Facilities For Victims Of Abuse, 2020/2021 by Dyna Ibrahim, Statistics Canada, April 2022.

Based on data from the second iteration of the Survey of Residential Facilities for Victims of Abuse (SRFVA), this article examines the availability and accessibility of residential supports for victims of abuse across Canada during 2020/2021. The SRFVA collects information on facility characteristics, the clients they serve, and the types of services available. This information is presented, along with funding information, expenses and the challenges faced by the facilities and their residents in 2020/2021.

- In 2020/2021, there were 557 residential facilities across Canada that were primarily mandated to serve victims of abuse
- In total, residential facilities for victims of abuse admitted just under 47,000 people in 2020/2021, much lower (-31%) than reported in 2017/2018, when data was last collected
- On the snapshot date of April 14, 2021, there were 5,466 people living in residential facilities for victims of abuse: more than half (54%) were adult women, and just over four in ten (44%) were children accompanying adults in the facilities
- A large majority (84%) of the 2,749 women residing in the facilities for reasons of abuse on the snapshot day were escaping intimate partner violence; most often, the abuser was a current common-law partner (38%) or spouse (25%). Seven in ten (70%) women residents were living with their abuser prior to seeking shelter

Link to the report:

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/en/pub/85-002-x/2022001/article/00006-eng.pdf?st=5yTx4Wg>

Trafficking in Persons in Canada, 2020 by Statistics Canada, June 2022.

The Juristat article, "Trafficking in persons in Canada, 2020," released today, uses police-reported and court data to provide an overview of trends in human trafficking incidents, prior police contact among accused persons and the outcomes of cases that go through the court system. In addition, the infographic "Police-reported human trafficking in Canada, 2010-2020" presents some recent trends in police-reported data on human trafficking.

- Following a notable jump in police-reported human trafficking incidents in 2019, the number was slightly lower in 2020, decreasing from 546 to 515 incidents. The number of human trafficking incidents in 2020, however, exceeded annual counts documented from 2010 to 2018, a period when the number of incidents generally rose
- Since 2010, the highest average annual rates of human trafficking in the provinces were generally documented in Nova Scotia and Ontario, findings that remained true in 2020. Specifically, Nova Scotia reported 6.2 incidents and Ontario 2.3 incidents per 100,000 population in 2020, both well above the national average (1.4 incidents)
- From 2010 to 2020, women and girls represented the vast majority (96%) of detected victims of human trafficking, and 25% of all victims were under the age of 18. Conversely, the large majority (79%) of persons accused of human trafficking were men
- As the most serious decision in adult criminal court, a finding of guilt was less common for cases involving human trafficking charges (12%), than for those involving sex trade charges (33%) or violent charges (48%)

Link to the article: <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/daily-quotidien/220609/dq220609c-eng.htm>

No Fixed Address – The Intersections of Justice Involvement and Homelessness Part One by the John Howard Society, Social Research and Demonstration Corporation and Canadian Observatory on Homelessness, April 2022.

This report presents and synthesizes information from literature on homelessness and justice involvement, as well as from data describing the housing status of individuals who enter incarceration. The report, which is intended to be Part One of Two, begins with outlining the problem by presenting a summary of literature and a discussion of key issues. How do individuals enter the cycle of incarceration and homelessness? Who is in the cycle? How is the cycle maintained and reinforced?

- In 2018/2019, there were 51,000 people admitted to one of the 25 correctional institutions in Ontario
- On any given day, there are approximately 7,400 inmates incarcerated in a provincial correctional facility
- The recidivism rate for people in Ontario provincial correctional centres was 37% in 2015/2016
- 1/3 of all people leaving correctional facilities are released with No Fixed Address
- 22% of people are living with homelessness at the time of their incarceration

Link to the article: <https://johnhoward.on.ca/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/No-Fixed-Address-Final-Report.pdf>

Canada Across The Religious Spectrum: A Portrait Of The Nation's Inter-Faith Perspectives During Holy Week by Cardus and the Angus Reid Institute, April 2022.

The non-profit Angus Reid Institute, in partnership with Cardus, offers a comprehensive and first-of-its-kind look at the faith journeys of Canadians not just among majority religious communities, but across the religious spectrum. This data explores not only the connection and conviction of Canadians of faith among more traditionally prevalent demographics – Catholic, Mainline Protestant, and Evangelical communities – but also among Canadians who identify as Jewish, Hindu, Muslim, and Sikh. What do these communities of faith have in common? How are they different?

- Evangelicals and Muslims are also both most enthusiastic about the positive impact that faith-based communities have on Canadian society, with at least 55 per cent of each saying that this influence is “more good than bad”. This, compared to three-in-ten Roman Catholics (29%), 33 per cent of Hindus and just 12 per cent of the non-religious who agree
- Canada's religious core continues to be found in the Prairie provinces. In Alberta (24%), Saskatchewan (25%), and Manitoba (25%), one-quarter of residents are categorized as Religiously Committed on the Spectrum of Spirituality. Quebec residents are most likely to eschew religion, whether more personal or overtly formal
- One-third (36%) of Canadians pray at least once or twice a month, including nearly all (86%) of Evangelical Christians and three-quarters (72%) of Muslims. Frequent prayer is common among Hindus (57%) and Sikhs (62%), but less so for Roman Catholics (41%), Protestants (34%) and Jewish Canadians (32%)

Link to the report: <https://angusreid.org/canada-religion-interfaith-holy-week/>

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

Wellbeing Toronto: www.toronto.ca/wellbeing

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