

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.

Housing and Homelessness Programs in Ontario prepared by Michelle Gordon and Matthew Gurnham, Financial Accountability Office, 2021.

This report reviews the Government of Ontario's (the Province's) housing and homelessness programs, identifies recent program and spending changes, and projects the impact of Province's housing and homelessness programs on core housing need and chronic homelessness.

- In 2018-2019, approximately 297,200 households received support through the Province's housing programs. 189,000 households lived in RGI housing, 93,600 households lived in below-market rent housing units, 7,200 households received rent supplements and 7,300 households benefitted from homeownership assistance
- Between 2011 and 2018, the number of households in core housing need grew from 616,900 to 735,000, an increase of 118,100 households, or 19.1 per cent
- Over the next three years, the Financial Accountability Office (FAO) projects that the Province's base homelessness programs spending will grow at an annual average of 3.4 per cent, increasing from \$403 million in 2019-20 to \$446 million in 2022-23. This spending growth is significantly lower than the 8.0 per cent spending growth from 2013-14 to 2020-21

Link to the report:

[https://www.fao-on.org/web/default/files/publications/FA1906%20Affordable%20Housing/Housing%20and%20Homelessness%20Programs-EN.pdf](https://www.fao.on.org/web/default/files/publications/FA1906%20Affordable%20Housing/Housing%20and%20Homelessness%20Programs-EN.pdf)

Income and Mobility of Immigrants, 2018 by Statistics Canada, February 2021.

The COVID-19 pandemic has affected many aspects of Canadian immigration, including reduced permanent resident admissions and lower labour market outcomes. This article presents the latest economic and mobility outcomes of immigrants admitted to Canada using data from the 2019 Longitudinal Immigration Database, and provides baseline estimates prior to the pandemic for future analyses.

- The median entry wage for immigrants admitted to Canada in 2017 was the highest to date, reaching \$30,100 in 2018.
- The proportion of immigrant taxfilers with pre-admission experience was higher among immigrants admitted in 2017 (46.5%) than among those admitted in 2016 (38.7%)
- In 2018, 10 years after admission, economic principal applicants who were born in the United Kingdom (\$91,000) and Brazil (\$78,200) had the second and third highest median wages

Link to the full paper:

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/en/daily-quotidien/210201/dq210201a-eng.pdf?st=IP86jieG>

Household Economic Well-being During the COVID-19 Pandemic by Statistics Canada, March 2021.

Over the first three quarters of 2020, disposable income for the lowest-income households increased 36.8%, more than for any other households. At the same time, the youngest households recorded the largest gain in their net worth (+9.8%). These changes were driven by unprecedented increases in transfers to households, as the value of government COVID-19 support measure exceeded losses in wages and salaries and self-employment income.

- Households in the lowest income quintile increased their share of disposable income from 6.1% in the first quarter to a high of 7.2% in the second quarter of 2020, while those in the highest income quintile decreased their share from 40.1% to 37.7% over the same period
- In the early months of 2020, because of volatility in financial markets and as the emergence of COVID-19 cases led to various restrictions in economic activity across the country, disposable income declined for all households in Canada
- The introduction of various COVID-19 support measures led to an unprecedented increase in current transfers (+57.6%) to all households in the second quarter of 2020

Link to the full report:

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/en/daily-quotidien/210301/dq210301b-eng.pdf?st=ZG9f9UBS>

Aging and Expenditures on Health Care by Steven Globerman, Fraser Institute, March 2021.

The purpose of this bulletin is to summarize existing evidence on the linkage between population aging and the demand for health care as measured by health care expenditures. A related purpose is to estimate changes in health care expenditures based on projected changes in the age distribution of Canada's population as well as the total number of individuals aged 65 and older who are disproportionate users of the health care system.

- [H]ealth care expenditures on individuals aged 65 and older accounted for 45.7 percent of total health care expenditures in 2019. Given the projected aging of the population, individuals aged 65 and older will account for fully 71.4 percent of total health care expenditures in 2040
- Canada's population is projected to age substantially in the years ahead. Specifically, while individuals aged 65 and older accounted for 16.2 percent of the total population in 2018, they are projected to account for 23.4 percent of the population in 2040
- Total health care expenditures for individuals aged 65 and older are projected to increase from \$74.61 billion in 2019 to \$110.04 billion in 2030 and then to \$140.52 billion in 2040

Link to the paper:

<https://www.fraserinstitute.org/sites/default/files/aging-and-expenditures-on-health-care.pdf>

Canadian Income Survey, 2019 by Statistics Canada, March 2021.

The median after-tax income of Canadian families and unattached individuals was \$62,900 in 2019. This was virtually unchanged from the previous year. Canada's official poverty rate fell to 10.1% in 2019, down 0.9 percentage points. While these estimates are for 2019, emerging evidence for 2020 suggests that COVID-related pandemic benefits may have offset increases in low income for many Canadian families.

- The median after-tax income of Canadian families and unattached individuals was \$62,900 in 2019, up 0.5%, which was not a statistically significant change over 2018
- For non-senior families, where the highest-income earner was under 65 years of age, the median after-tax income was \$93,800 in 2019. Couples with children's median after-tax income was \$105,500, while the median after-tax income of female lone parent families was \$52,500
- In 2019, 2.7 million adults aged 18 to 64 lived below the poverty line. The poverty rate in this age group was 11.6%, down 0.9 percentage points from 2018
- In 2019, about 127,000, or 18.0% of Indigenous peoples aged 16 and older living off-reserve were below the poverty line. Among Indigenous peoples, 22.1% of First Nations peoples and 13.0% of Métis lived in poverty in 2019

Link to the paper:

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/en/daily-quotidien/210323/dq210323a-eng.pdf?st=ASKCTmY6>

Socioeconomic Profile of the Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual population, 2015 to 2018 by Statistics Canada, March 2021.

Statistics Canada began collecting data on sexual orientation using the Canadian Community Health Survey (CCHS) in 2003. Previous analysis focused on topics such as health and victimization, leaving a gap in available socioeconomic information about the lesbian, gay and bisexual (LGB) population.

- According to CCHS data from 2015 to 2018, an estimated 900,000 Canadians were lesbian, gay, or bisexual, representing 3.3% of the population aged 15 and older. Within this group, a slightly larger proportion identified as bisexual than lesbian or gay (1.8% versus 1.5%)
- Women were more than twice as likely to identify as bisexual than lesbian or gay (2.4% versus 1.1%) and men were more likely to identify as gay than bisexual (1.9% versus 1.2%)
- The LGB population was younger than the heterosexual population. Youth (aged 15 to 24) comprised 18.3% of the lesbian or gay population aged 15 and older, compared with 13.7% of the heterosexual population. Bisexual men and women (36.2%) were 2.5 times more likely to be aged 15 to 24 than their heterosexual counterparts (13.7%)

Link to paper:

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/en/daily-quotidien/210326/dq210326a-eng.pdf?st=SGGif-f>

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/>