

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 Giving Report 2023 by CanadaHelps, Imagine Canada with Environics Analytics, April 2023.

This is our sixth iteration of The Giving Report, a raw and honest look at the state of the charitable sector in Canada. Historically, we balance the narrative by sharing important impact stories about the vital work charities do to create societal change — but not this year. The issues CanadaHelps uncovered are simply too concerning and our focus is to ensure the gravity of the situation is understood and acted upon by Canadians and charities.

- 22% of Canadians say they plan to access charitable services to meet essential needs in the next six months. This is an increase from 14% in January 2022 (+8% in nine months)
- 57.3% of charities cannot meet current levels of demand
- 55.2% of charities have fewer volunteers than before the pandemic
- In 2022, 963K Canadians, representing 3.1% of Canada's adult population, donated \$439 million dollars to more than 30,455 charities through CanadaHelps

Link to the report: https://indd.adobe.com/view/publication/1fdaa5b9-65af-4325-86e2-628a1f02d797/wk62/publication-web-resources/pdf/TGR_23_FullReport.pdf

Previous reports: <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/the-giving-report/download-the-report/>

Acquisitions for Affordable Housing: Creating Non-market Supply and Preserving Affordability by Joseph Daniels, Martine August, University of British Columbia, 2023.

Canada has long suffered a crisis in housing affordability, particularly affecting renters. Tenants experience high levels of housing need compared to owners, and marginalized populations are disproportionately impacted. The loss of existing affordable rental housing has contributed to this crisis, driven by the financialization of rental housing and public sector withdrawal from social housing provision since the 1990s. This report explores acquisitions programs as one part of the solution to Canada's affordable housing crisis, drawing on current research, interviews with stakeholders, and the examination of our database of 107 programs.

- Canada has a deficit of 1.7 million homes affordable to households making less than median income
- Renters make up one-third of households across the country but account for two-thirds (66%) of households in "core housing need"
- Canada lost 322,000 homes affordable to families earning less than \$30,000 (i.e. with rents below \$750 per month) from 2011-2016
- [T]he Parliamentary Budget Office called attention to the loss of over 180,000 non-profit units (42% of stock) due to the end of government operating agreements since 2015

Link to the report: <https://hart.ubc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/HART-Acquisition-Report.pdf>

Accumulation of Human Capital in Canada, 1970 to 2020: An Analysis by Gender and the Role of Immigration by Wulong Gu, Statistics Canada, April 2023.

Human capital is the most important component of total wealth, where total wealth is defined as the sum of produced capital (both tangible physical capital and intangible knowledge capital), natural capital and human capital. Total wealth represents the capacity to generate and increase a future income level that is sustainable. This paper provides a gender analysis of human capital and examines the contribution of women to the level and growth of human capital in Canada from 1970 to 2020.

- The average human capital of women was lower than that of men. However, the gender gap in human capital declined over time as a result of the relatively faster growth of human capital among women, which arose from large increases in the labour force participation, education level and earnings of women compared with those of men
- By 2020, the average human capital of immigrant women was 66% of that of immigrant men, while the average human capital of Canadian-born women was about 71% of that of Canadian-born men
- As a result of rapid growth in human capital among women, the share of total human capital accounted for by women rose from 30% in 1970 to 41% in 2020
- After 1995, immigrants accounted for about 40% of the growth in human capital—56% of which may be attributed to immigrant men and 44% to immigrant women

Link to the paper:

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/en/pub/11f0019m/11f0019m2023002-eng.pdf?st=k8CanxWX>

Gender-Related Homicide of Women and Girls in Canada by Danielle Sutton, Statistics Canada, April 2023.

Although most homicide victims are men and boys, women and girls are disproportionately killed by someone they know, namely an intimate partner or a family member. This Juristat draws on data from Statistics Canada's Homicide Survey to explore trends and characteristics of gender-related homicides of women and girls over time and across location to enhance public understanding of gender-related killings. The current study pools eleven years of police-reported data to present information on victim, accused and incident characteristics of gender-related homicides overall, as well as those with Indigenous women and girls as victims.

- Between 2011 and 2021, police reported 1,125 gender-related homicides of women and girls in Canada
- Of these homicides, two-thirds (66%) were perpetrated by an intimate partner, 28% a family member, 5% a friend or acquaintance and the remaining 1% a stranger
- In 2021, the rate of gender-related homicide in Canada was more than 2.5 times greater in rural areas compared to urban areas
- In 2021, the rate of gender-related homicide of Indigenous victims was more than triple that of gender-related homicides of women and girls overall
- In 2021, the territories recorded the highest rate of gender-related homicide of women and girls (3.20 per 100,000 women and girls) and, for the provinces, the highest rate was in Saskatchewan (1.03), followed by Manitoba (0.72) and Alberta (0.68)

Link to the paper:

<https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/en/pub/85-002-x/2023001/article/00003-eng.pdf?st=mNTgFtHC>

Canada's Housing Mismatch: Many Canadians Prefer Ground-Oriented Homes, But Not Enough Are Being Built
by Josef Filipowicz and Steve Lafleur, Fraser Institute, March 2023.

Not only is Canada experiencing a significant shortage of housing overall, as established by a growing body of literature, but there also appears to be an important mismatch between the housing types preferred by many Canadians and their families, and the housing types being built. By highlighting this issue, this Bulletin seeks to spur further research on the causes and consequences of, as well as possible solutions to, this mismatch.

- Canada-wide, home prices are 28% higher since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic
- "Ground-oriented" single-family home and townhouse prices increased by 31%, compared with a 17% increase in prices for apartments over the same period
- Significant variations occurred among housing types, with prices for "ground-oriented" single-family homes and townhouses increasing by 31% over the same period, compared with a 17% increase for apartments
- [T]he absolute supply of housing in Canada experienced a high point in the 1970s, averaging 229,113 housing completions, annually, and peaking at 257,243 in 1974. No decade since has reached similar levels of housing production, with annual completions exceeding 200,000 units in only 12 out of 43 years since 1979

Link to the bulletin: <https://www.fraserinstitute.org/sites/default/files/canadas-housing-mismatch.pdf>

COVID-19 Prevalence And Infection Control Measures At Homeless Shelters And Hostels In High-Income Countries: A Scoping Review by Justine Levesque, Jordan Babando, et al., York University, October 2022.

The COVID-19 pandemic has revealed major inequities in communities around the world as vulnerable populations have been disproportionately impacted. Among those most vulnerable are people experiencing homelessness (PEH). The risk of COVID-19 infection increases among PEH given the higher prevalence of co-existing medical conditions and their lack of safe and adequate housing. To better understand the impacts of COVID-19 among people experiencing homelessness, researchers at the Canadian Observatory on Homelessness (COH) conducted a literature review exploring the spread of COVID-19 in homeless shelters and hostels as well as the infection, prevention, and control practices in these settings.

- This review revealed that there is no clear indication of generally accepted IPAC standards for shelter residents and workers
- A profile of sub-populations that were overrepresented among the shelter residents testing positive was identified. These sub-populations included, adults aged 40, and older, males, and People of Colour
- [I]n Boston, 31.9% of COVID-19-positive shelter residents identified as Black/African American and 16.1% as Hispanic/Latino, and in Toronto, 61.9% identified as racialized including Black, Asian, and Latino

Link to the study: <https://systematicreviewsjournal.biomedcentral.com/articles/10.1186/s13643-022-02089-x>

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/>