

Statistics Canada: Data, Research and Opportunity

Beatrice Baribeau

Assistant Chief Statistician

Strategic Data Management, Methods
and Analysis Field



Statistics
Canada

Statistique
Canada

Canada

Overview



A bit about me



About Statistics Canada



Recent economic and labour market trends



Accessing Statistics Canada Data



Jobs at Statistics Canada

Biography

A bit about me

Beatrice, Assistant Chief Statistician



From Math & Statistics to National Impact

- Started at Statistics Canada as a co-op student and built a career driven by curiosity, evidence, and public service.
- My specialization is in math and statistics
- Over 20 years experience



Passionate About Data That Matters

Worked on data and insights related to:

- Health and well-being
- Child development
- Cannabis use
- COVID-19 impacts



Innovator & Problem-Solver

Leading modern, rigorous approaches to official statistics to better serve Canadians, including:

- Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Projects to support sustainable, cost-effective data production that deliver quality



Connected to the Global Statistical Community

- Accredited Professional Statistician (P.Stat.),
- Member of the Statistical Society of Canada, the American Statistical Association and the International Association for Official Statistics

Statistics Canada

Who we are & what we do

About Us – Who we are

Trusted statistics.

Informed citizens.

Stronger democracy.



The national
statistical agency
of Canada
–
Producer of
Official Statistics

Mission: Serving
Canadians with
high-quality
statistical
information that
matters

Recognized
as one of the
world's leading
statistical agencies

About Us – What we do



How does the *Statistics Act* underpins our work

The Act gives the *authority* to *collect* information for public good (privileged information).

A light blue downward-pointing arrow indicating a flow from the first point to the second.

It legislates the highest standards of confidentiality and protection.

A light blue downward-pointing arrow indicating a flow from the second point to the third.

Confidentiality is strictly guarded by the Oath of office or solemn affirmation, and need-to-know frameworks to preserve the privacy of Canadians.

About Us – Who we are & What we do

A few facts:

- Originally founded in 1918 as the Dominion Bureau of Statistics
- A federal department and reporting to the Minister of Innovation, Science and Industry (currently Mélanie Joly)
- Led by the Chief Statistician of Canada (currently André Loranger)

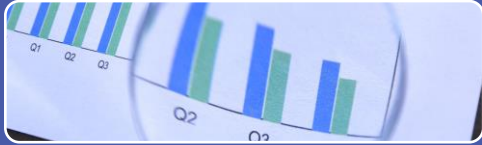
Significant Outputs:

- The Census, the Labour Force Survey, the Gross Domestic Product (GDP), the Consumer Price Index, + many more
- We produce data tables, a free online bulletin [*The Daily*](#), [*the Eh Sayers Podcasts*](#), a peer-reviewed statistical journal [*Survey Methodology*](#), [infographics](#), and free and for fee [training](#)

Some recent advancements:

- Greater use of administrative data & alternative data
- ML & AI integration

About the Organization



Economic Statistics Field

- Economic Data such as the GDP, data on businesses, CPI, international trade, etc.



Social, Health and Labour Statistics Field

- Data on employment, justice, health, education, demography, Indigenous people, etc.



Census, Regional Services and Operations Field

- Census, data collection, processing and dissemination, & managing regional offices (e.g., Halifax)



Strategic Data Management, Methods and Analysis Field

- Methods to produce quality data, data management and stewardship, data access and research.



Digital Solutions Field

- Focused on information technology support and solutions.



Corporate Strategy and Management Field

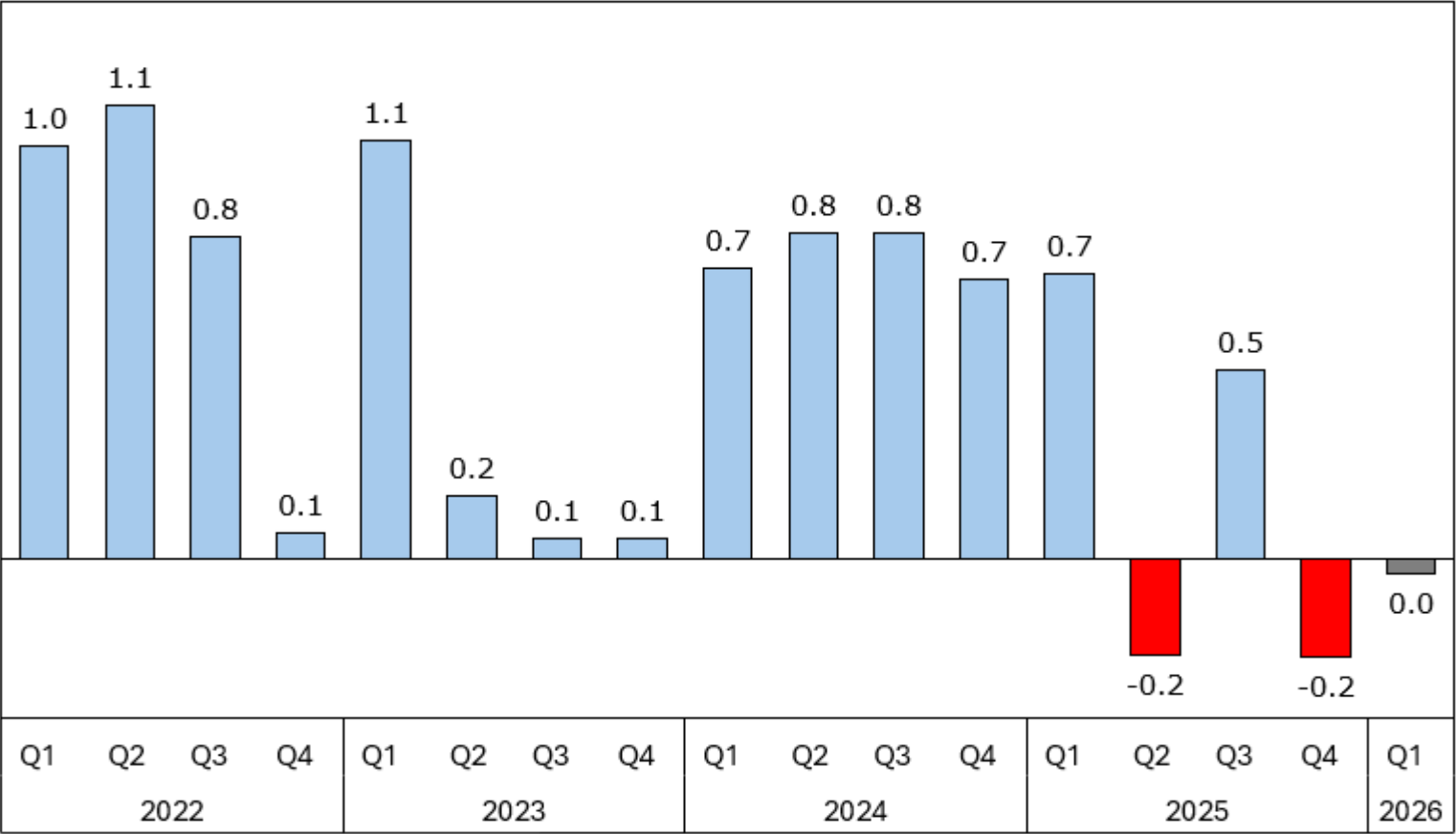
- Provides HR and financial services, security, facilities and communication.

My
Area

Recent economic and labour market trends

Economic growth stalled amid uncertainty and trade tensions

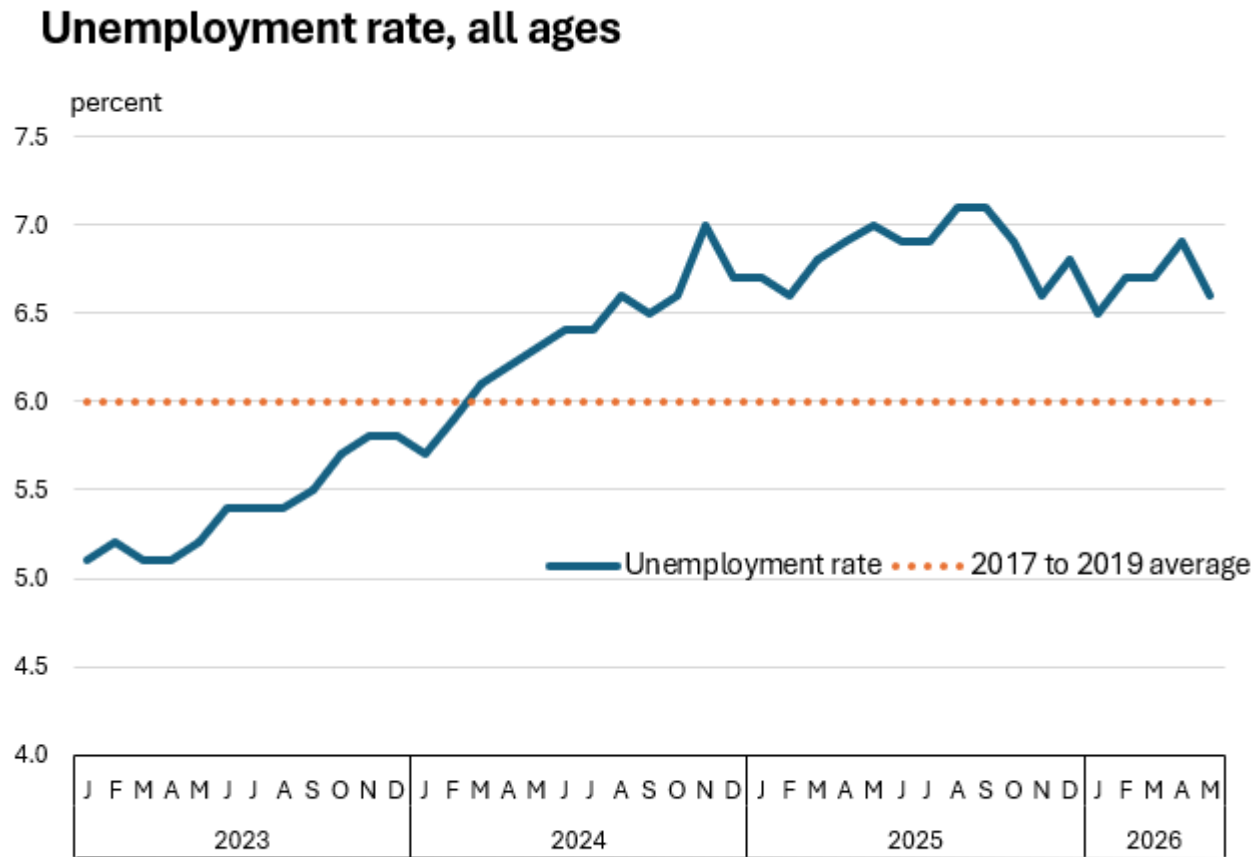
Real gross domestic product
percentage change, quarter-over-quarter



- Real gross domestic product (GDP) was basically unchanged in the first quarter of 2026 after contracting in two of the previous three quarters.
- Most of the tariffs introduced by the United States came into effect during the second quarter of 2025.
- Real GDP rose by 1.9% in 2025 after expanding by 2.0% in each of the previous two years.
 - Lower export volumes (-1.4%) weighed on economic activity in 2025.

Source: Statistics Canada, table 36-10-0104-01.

The unemployment rate edged higher in early 2026 before employment rose on full-time gains in May



Source: Statistics Canada table 14-10-0287-01.

- The unemployment rate rose to 6.9% in April 2026 but remained below the recent peak of 7.1% reported in August and September of 2025.
- In May, the unemployment rate fell to 6.6% as employment increased by 88,000. The number of people working full-time rose by 154,000.
 - As employment rose, the job-finding rate ticked up. Just over one-quarter (26.3%) of people who were unemployed in April found work in May.

Youth unemployment remains at elevated levels

Unemployment rate, 15 to 24 year-olds

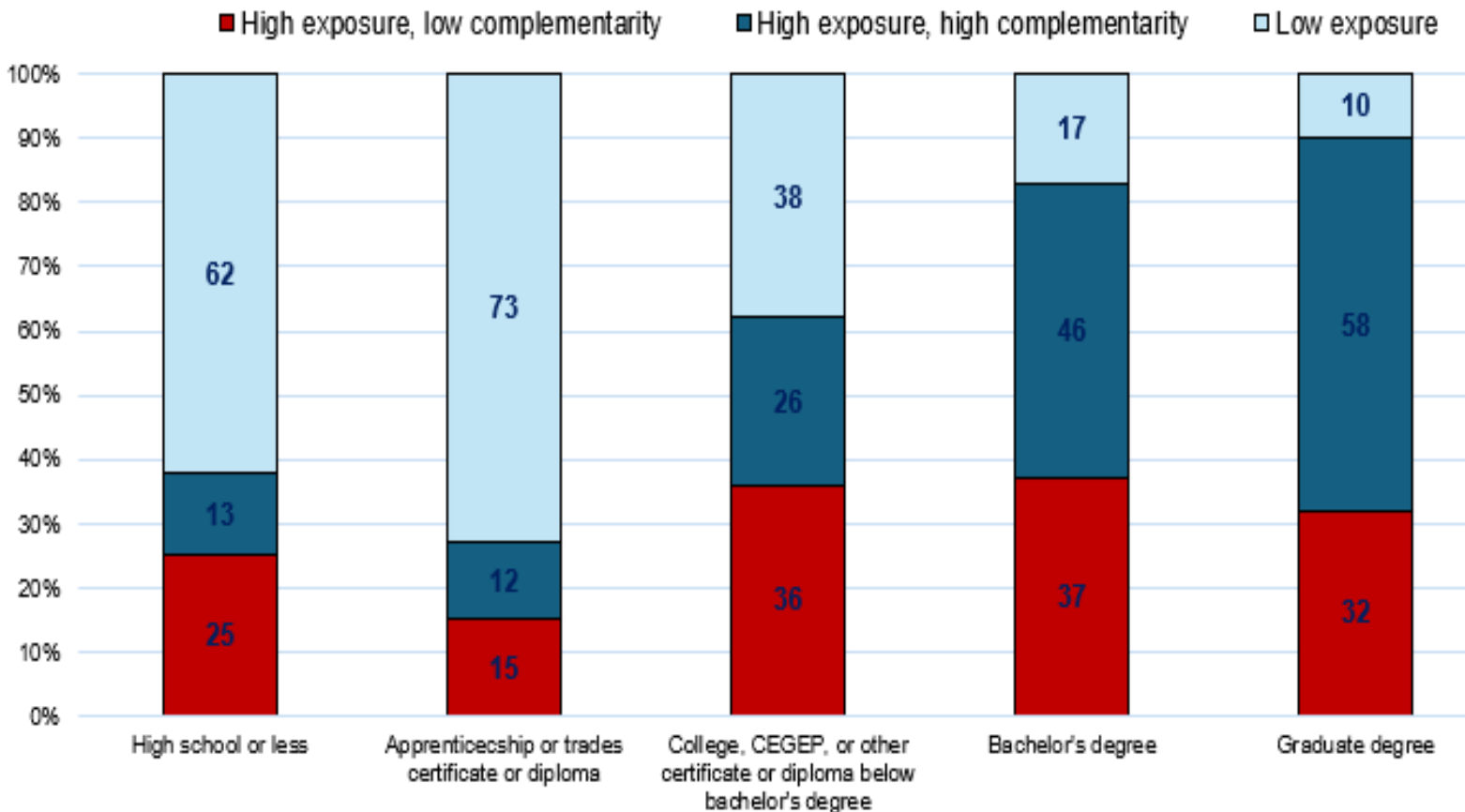


Source: Statistics Canada table 14-10-0287-01.

- Young workers continue to face a challenging labour market as hiring has slowed.
- The youth unemployment rate declined to 13.4% in May 2026 but remained well above its pre-pandemic average of 10.8% from 2017 to 2019 .
- From 2023 to 2025, employment losses in accommodation and food services and in retail trade were largely responsible for lower employment growth among young Canadians.

Highly educated workers are more likely than their less educated counterparts to be in jobs that are highly exposed to job transformation related to artificial intelligence

Potential AI occupational exposure and complementarity across educational levels in Canada, May 2021

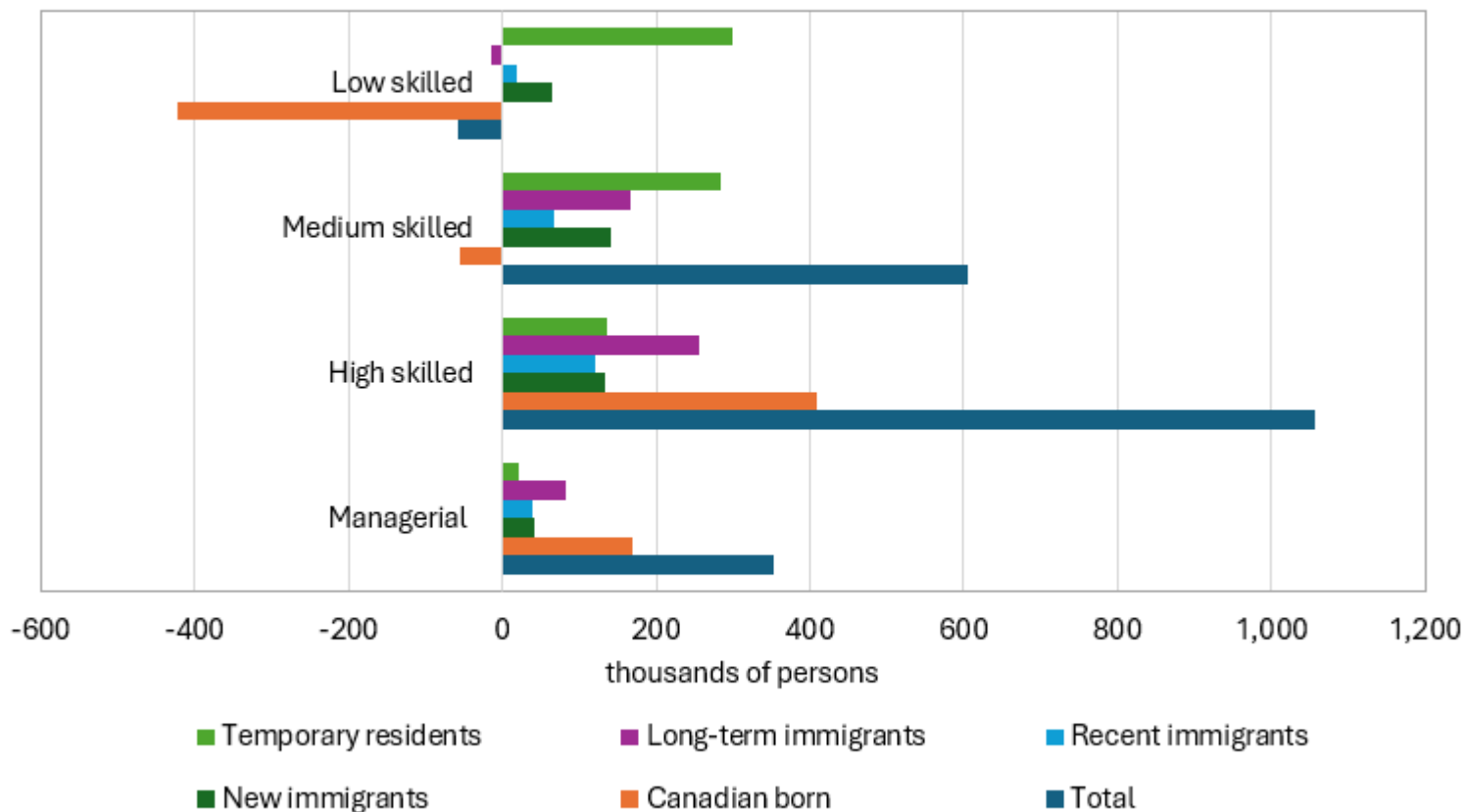


Source: Mehdi, T. and M. Frenette. 2024. *Economic and Social Reports*. Statistics Canada.

- As higher educated workers are more likely to be in jobs that tend to have cognitive-oriented tasks, they are more likely to be affected by AI.
- Over four out of five workers with a bachelor's degree or higher are in jobs that could be highly exposed to AI-related job transformation.

Immigrants and temporary foreign workers account for 85% of employment growth since 2010

Change in employment by occupational skill level and immigration status, 2019-2025

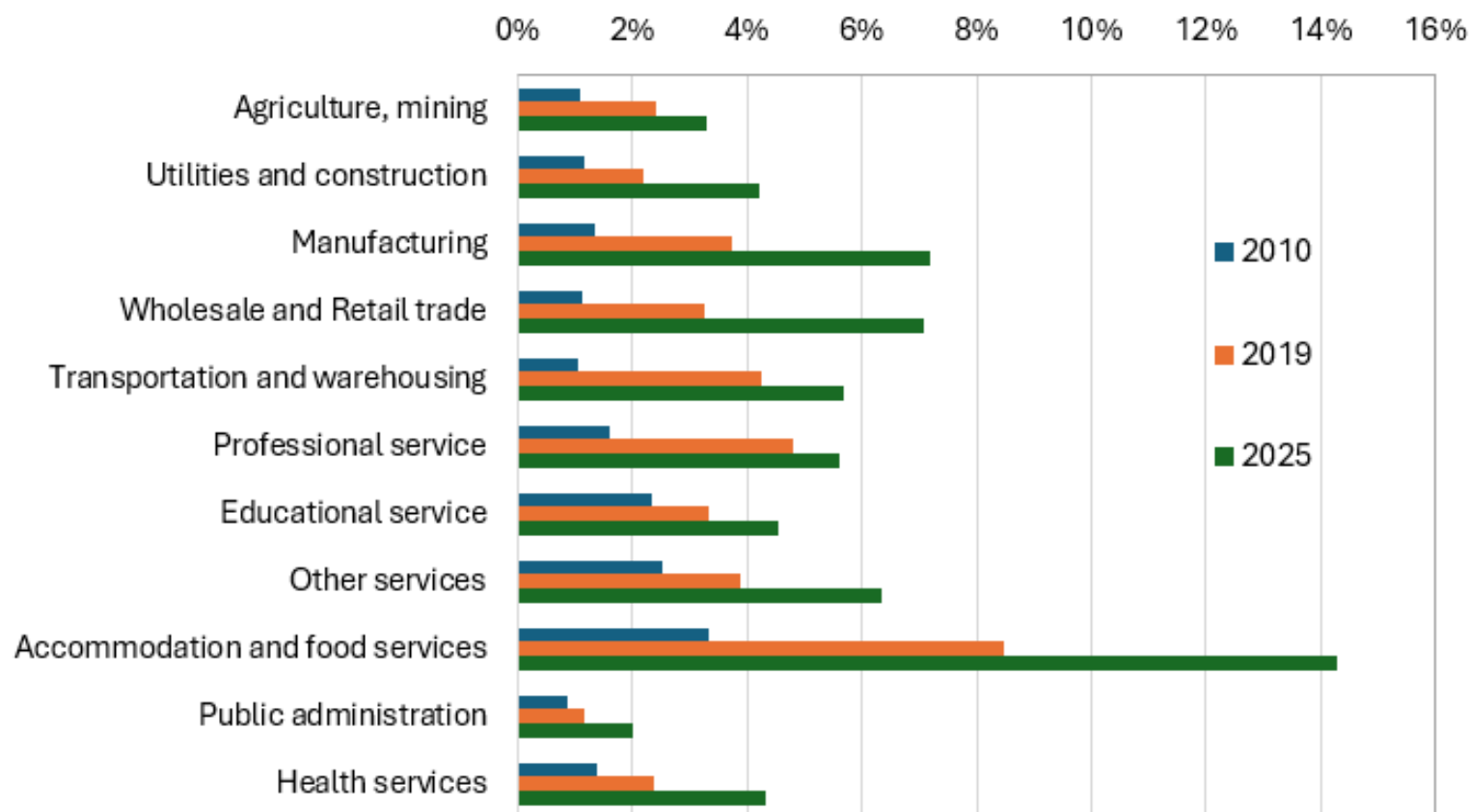


Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey.

- From 2010 to 2025, immigrants and temporary foreign workers accounted for 90% of the growth in the labour force and 60% of the increase in high skilled jobs.
- From 2019 to 2025, the number of Canadian-born workers employed in high skilled occupations has risen by 400,000, offsetting declines in low skilled occupations.
- Employment gains in low skilled occupations have been concentrated among temporary residents.

The share of employment accounted for by new immigrants, recent immigrants, and temporary foreign workers has risen in many sectors

Share of industry employment accounted for by temporary foreign workers, selected years

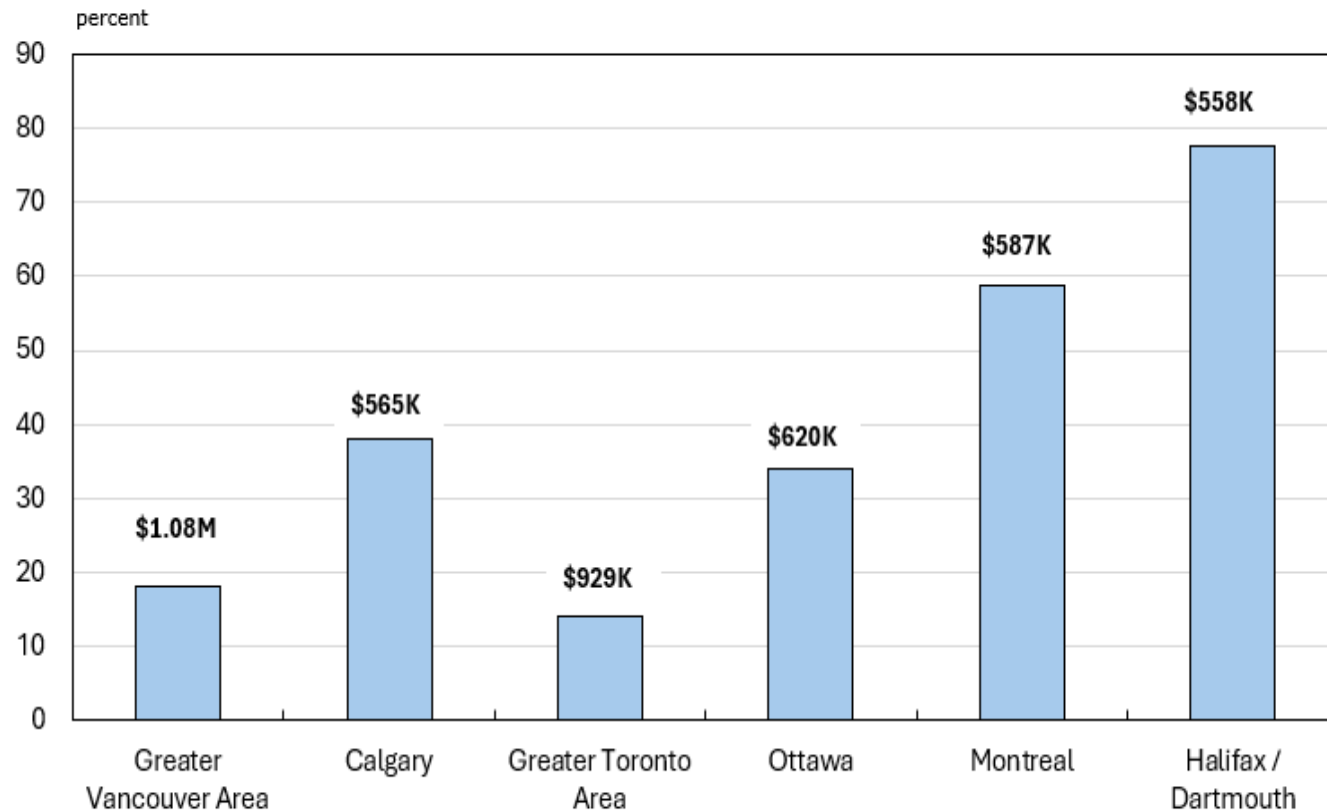


- Since 2010, the shares of new and recent immigrants and temporary foreign workers grew the fastest in accommodation and food services, transportation and warehousing, and professional services.
- In 2025, temporary foreign workers accounted for almost one in six workers in accommodation and food services, and seven percent of workers in manufacturing.

Source: Statistics Canada, Labour Force Survey.

Housing affordability remains a key challenge, especially for younger Canadians

Growth in housing prices, February 2020 to March 2026



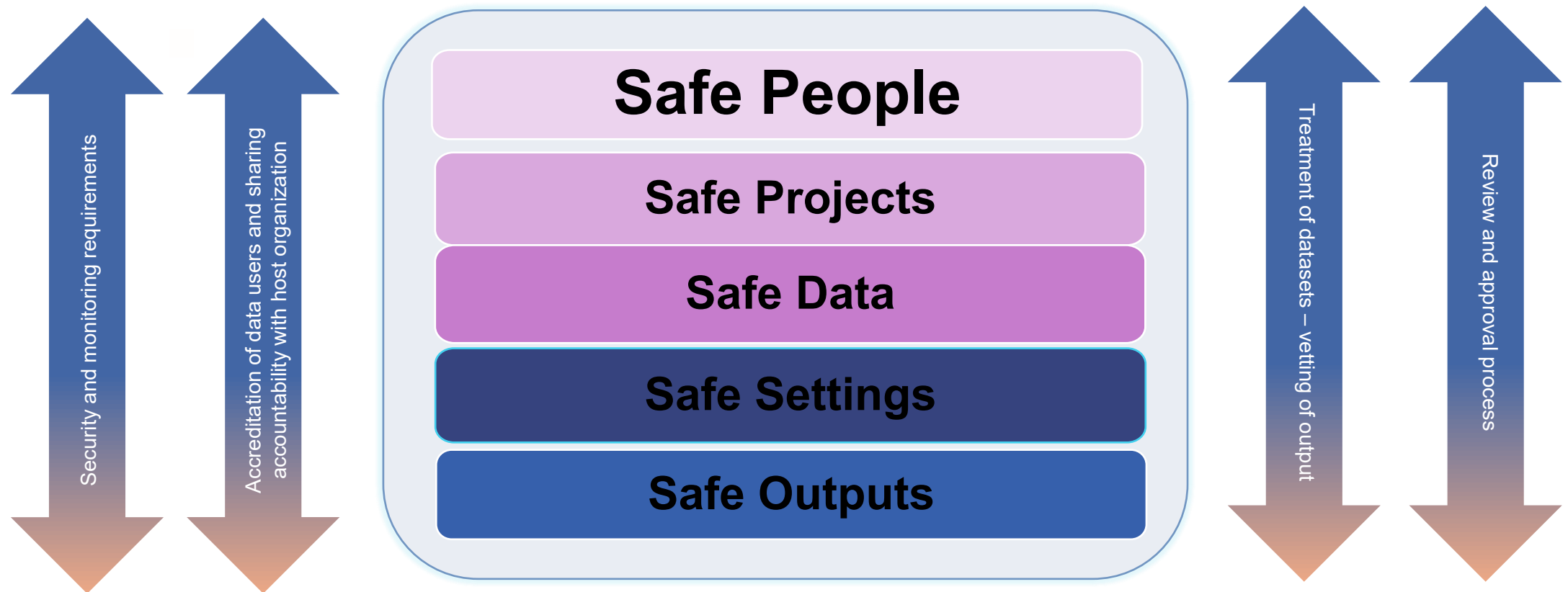
Note: Dollar values represent benchmark composite home prices in April 2026. Prices are adjusted for seasonality.

Source: Canadian Real Estate Association, MLS HPI.

- Shelter costs have risen by almost 30% since inflation began to ramp up in early 2021.
- Shelter inflation began to cool steadily in 2025 and fell below 2.0% in early 2026.
- After accounting for those living with their parents, millennials had the lowest rate of homeownership compared with Gen-Xers and Baby Boomers when they were aged 25 to 39 years.
- Millennial homeowners were also less likely to live in single-detached houses relative to earlier generations, especially in Vancouver and Toronto.

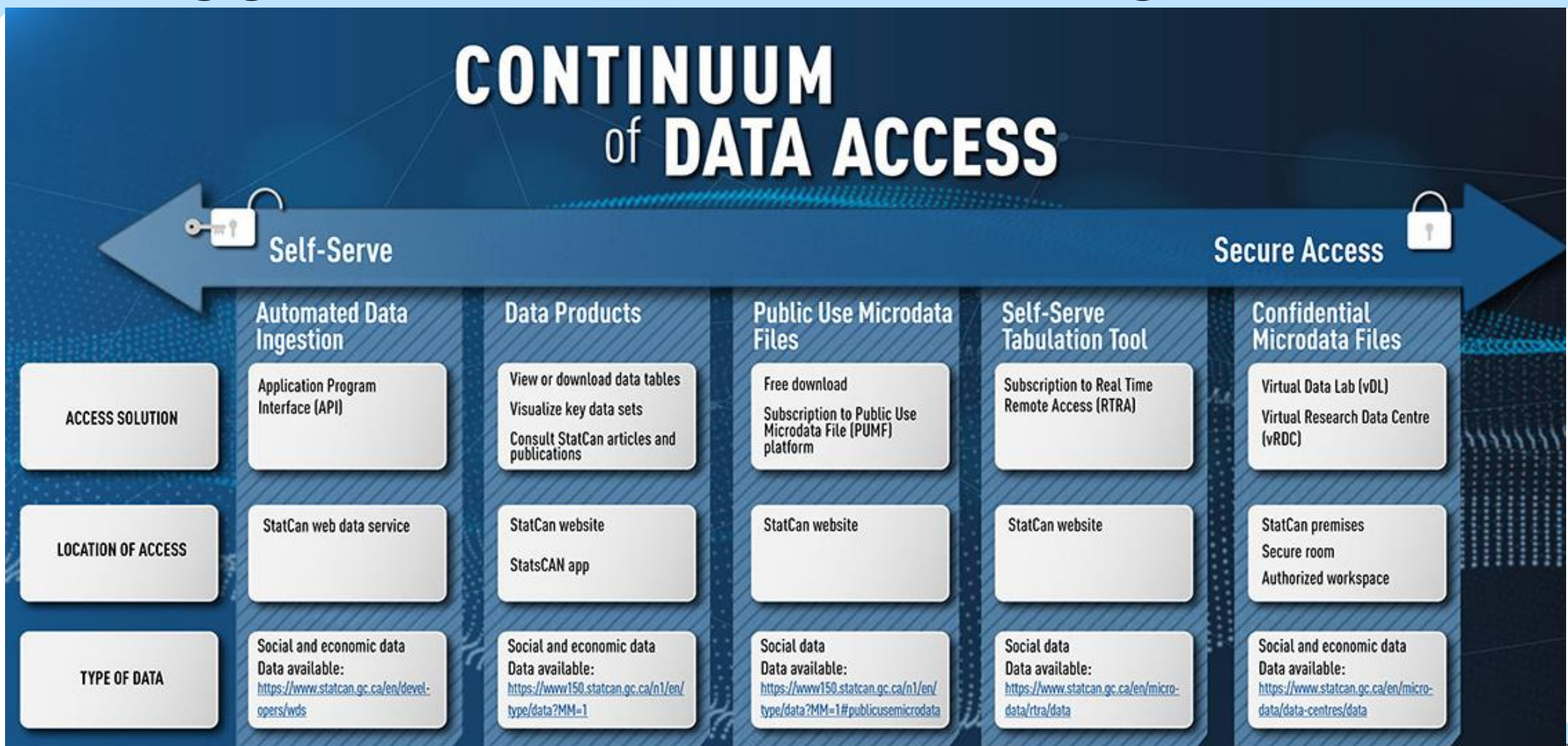
Statistics Canada Data Access

Using the Five Safes Framework as Guiding Principles



The 5 Safes are considered in combination - and on a sliding scale - depending on type of researcher, access and data.

Enabling greater access - from self-serve to guided access



Accessing Statistics Canada data

Easily accessible
data through the
Statistics Canada
website

Open Data Portal
Open data

Public Use
Microdata Files
(PUMFs): Statistics
Canada Microdata
page.

Data Liberation
Initiative (DLI): a
program for
Canadian
universities

Web Data Service
(WDS): Statistics
Canada Web Data
Service.

Research Data
Centres (RDCs):
Statistics Canada
Research Data
Centres.

Data available on Statistics Canada's [Web Site](#)

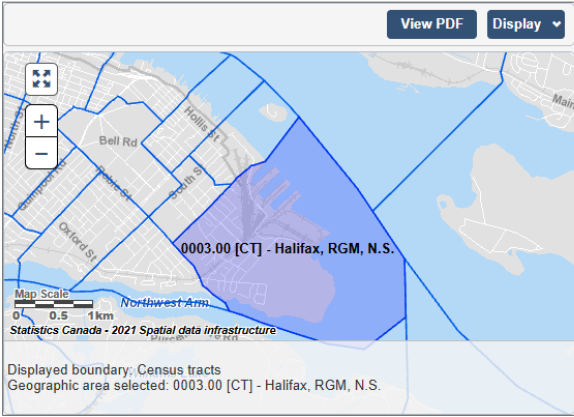
2021 Census of Population geographic summary

2050003.00 [Census tract], Nova Scotia

View a profile table

View PDF

Display



2,885

Population, 2021

- 2.4

Population percentage change, 2016 to 2021

1,220.0

Population density per square kilometre

37.8

Average age of the population

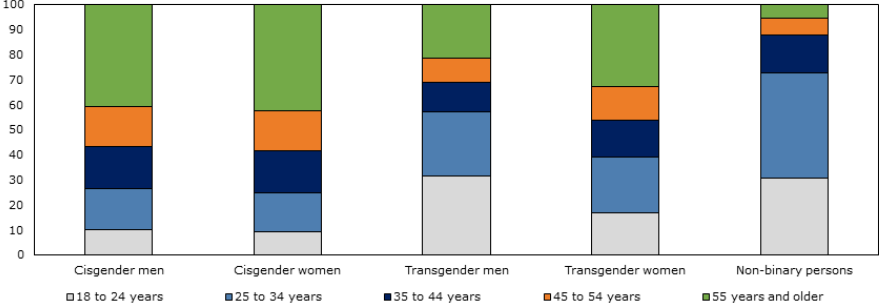
Sociodemographic and employment characteristics

Transgender and non-binary people are younger on average than cisgender people

Results from the 2021 Census data show that the transgender and non-binary populations—particularly non-binary people—were considerably younger, on average, than the cisgender population, as reflected in their age distributions (Chart 1). In 2021, among the population aged 18 years and older, the average ages of non-binary people (31.8 years), transgender men (38.0 years) and transgender women (45.1 years) were lower than those of cisgender men (49.4 years) and cisgender women (50.4 years). A person's journey of self-discovery as transgender or non-binary, and their willingness to share who they are, is influenced by social factors ⁽⁹⁾ such as increasing awareness and acceptance of gender diversity, ⁽¹⁰⁾ and evolving gender norms. ⁽¹¹⁾ These societal shifts may help explain some of the differences observed between age groups.

Chart 1

Age distribution of population aged 18 and older, by gender diversity status, Canada, 2021



Notes: Sample includes individuals aged 18 and older living in private households, and excludes non-permanent residents. Totals may not add to 100% due to rounding.

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Population, 2021.

Key indicators

Quarterly population estimate

(*)

41,472,081

-0.2%

1 January 2026

(quarterly change)

Consumer Price Index

2.8%▲

April 2026

(12-month change)

Unemployment rate

6.6%

-0.3 pts

May 2026

(monthly change)

Real GDP by expenditure

0.0%—

First quarter 2026

(quarterly change)

More: [Key indicators](#)

Statistics Canada

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Real Time Remote Access

Access



- The **Real Time Remote Access (RTRA)** tool is an online tabulation tool enabling quick access to microdata through SAS Programs.
- It is a subscription-based service.

Ideal for



- Generating a full range of descriptive statistics that can be used for research, training and policy briefings
- Calculating frequencies, means, percentiles, proportions, ratios and share

Benefits



- Conduct analysis on descriptive statistics
- Quick access to releasable tabulations
- RTRA **does not** gain users direct access to the microdata, nor does it allow users view microdata file content.

Fees

- **\$10,000/year (up to 5 user accounts)**
- **Additional user accounts \$2,000**

May be available though the university library – contact the data librarian

Public Use Microdata Files

Access



- Subscribers of the **Public Use Microdata Files (PUMFs) Collection** are granted access to all anonymized and non-aggregated data in the PUMF collection

Ideal for:



- Data Exploration, Extractions and as an Analytical tool for Academic and Policy Research:
 - Calculating frequencies, cross tabulations, means, percentiles, percent distribution, proportions, ratios, and shares
- Use as an analytical training tool

Benefits



- In-depth searches with selected and rounded outputs in file format
- Operates on an open license
- Principal product used for teaching data literacy
- Data are all cautiously modified and reviewed for research purposes

PUMF Collection

- No fees
- Part of the institutional agreement with SMU

Research Data Centre (RDC) Network Across Canada



Centres located in 33 Universities Across Canada

St. Mary's University (SMU) affiliated researchers primarily access Statistics Canada confidential microdata through the Atlantic Research Data Centre (ARDC)

Microdata Access



- [Access to microdata \(statcan.gc.ca\)](https://statcan.gc.ca)
- Provides an overview of access to confidential microdata



Popular microdata products among St. Mary's RDC researchers

Longitudinal Immigration
Database (IMDB)

Education and Labour
Market Longitudinal
Platform (ELMLP)

Census of Population

Custom extractions from
the Canadian Employer–
Employee Dynamics
Database (CEEDD)

Custom economic
microdata record
linkages facilitated
through the Business
Linkable File
Environment

St. Mary's University Research Activity – Key areas of research



Labour market dynamics

- The labour market returns to French immersion



Immigration and integration

- An Analysis of Labour Market Integration of Visible Minorities in Canada
- Economic integration of immigrants in smaller regions of Canada



Innovation and government support to firms

- Crowding in or crowding out? Government support for firm level innovation in Canada



Post-secondary education and training

- Returns to human capital by religious affiliation in Canada

Jobs at Statistics Canada

Jobs at Statistics Canada

Recruitment and development programs



Social statistics and economics (Economists, analysts, sociologists, social scientists)



Mathematical statistics (Mathematical statisticians, methodologists, researchers)



Computer and information systems (Application developers, database administrators, analysts, security experts)



Other recruitment and development programs (Financial Officer, Human Resources advisor, Internal Auditor)

Thank you / Merci !



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Eh Sayers podcast

StatsCAN Plus

The Daily

My StatCan

Website

Surveys and statistical programs

Data service centres



Questions? Contact us: infostats@statcan.gc.ca



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