

Exploring the Socio-Environmental Factors Impacting Canadian Birth Rates



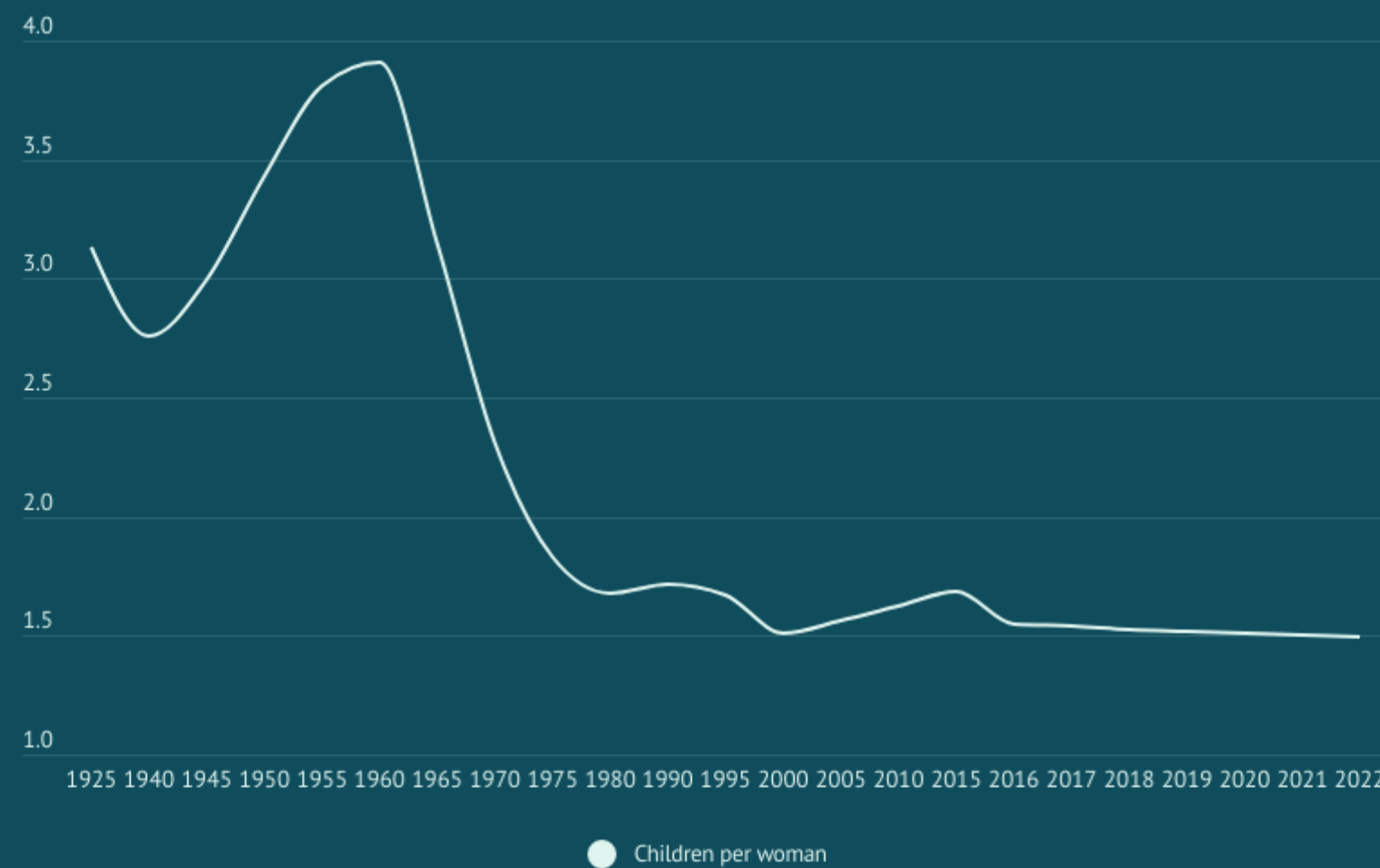
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This research investigates the factors that have contributed to the declining birth rate trends in Canada between 2017 to present day. It offers a detailed examination of the birth rate patterns in Canada, including an overview of the rate of childbirth and an exploration of the primary factors influencing Canadian individuals and couples in their decision-making process.

Trends and Socio-Economic Influences

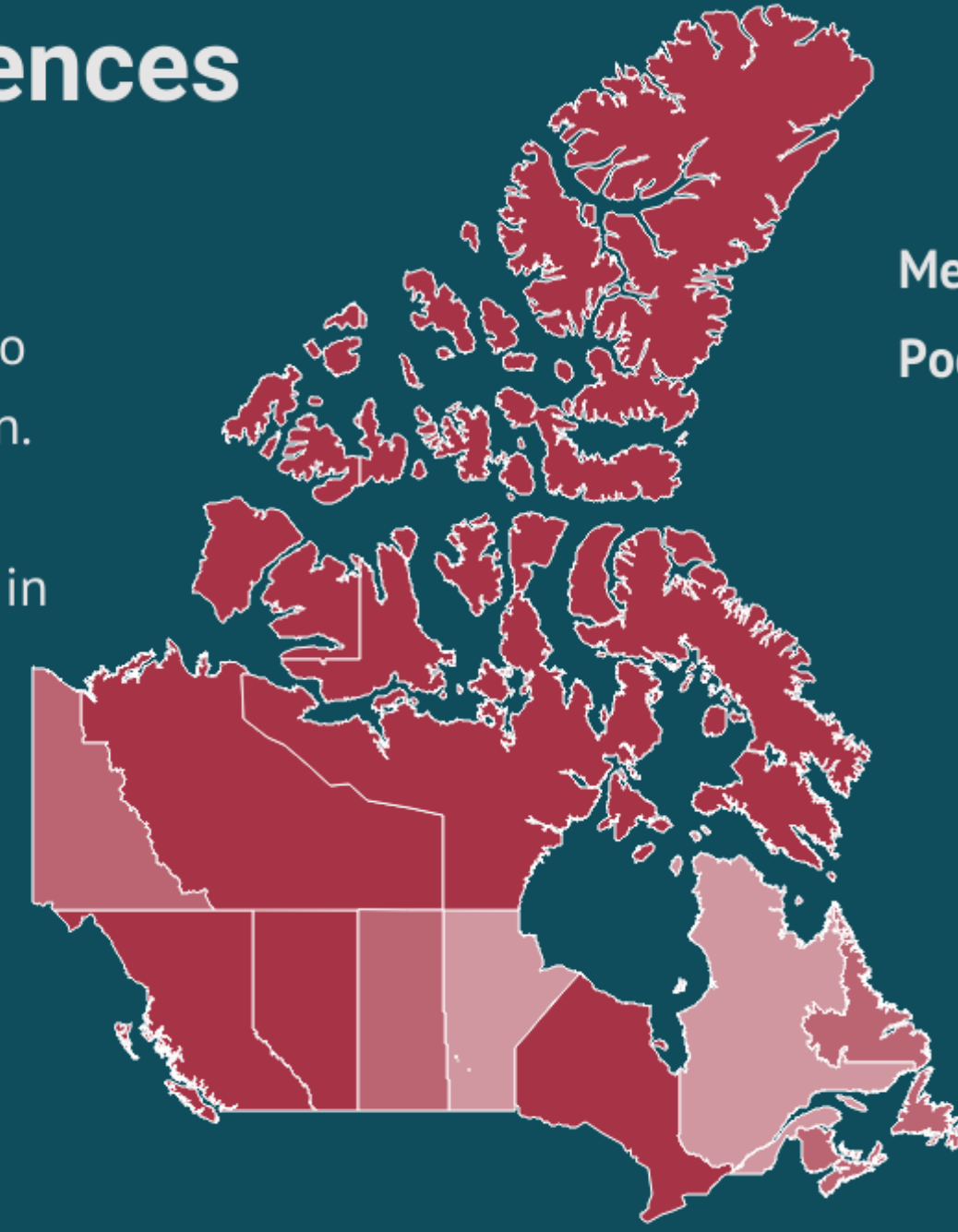
1.48 BIRTH RATE

The fluctuations in Canada's birth rate have raised concerns regarding various policies that impact it, such as parental leave, employment insurance, and care delivery.



2.1 REPLACEMENT RATE

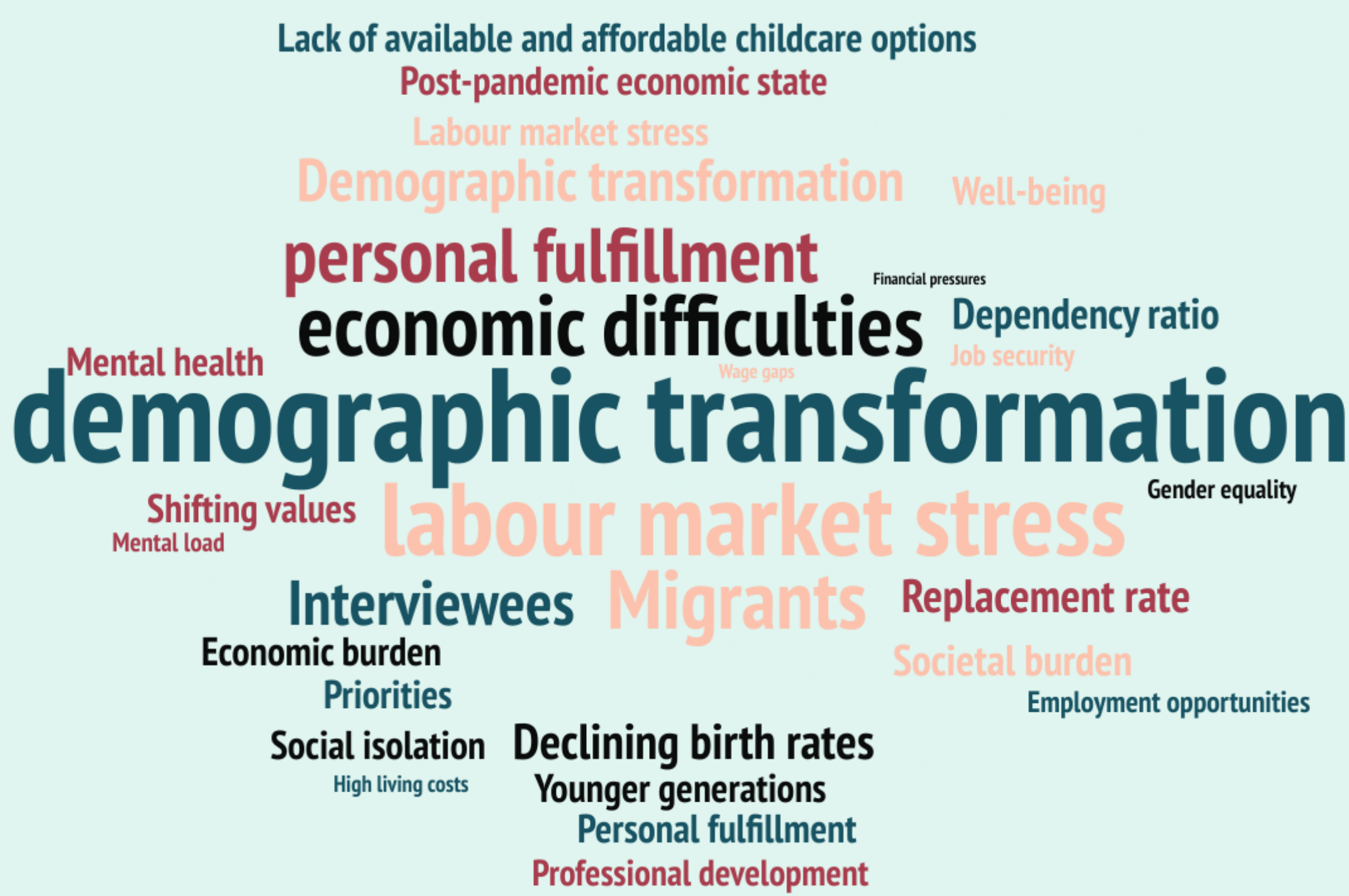
In Canada, expensive childcare has posed a significant challenge to workforce participation. This map reveals the substantial disparities in costs across different regions around the country.



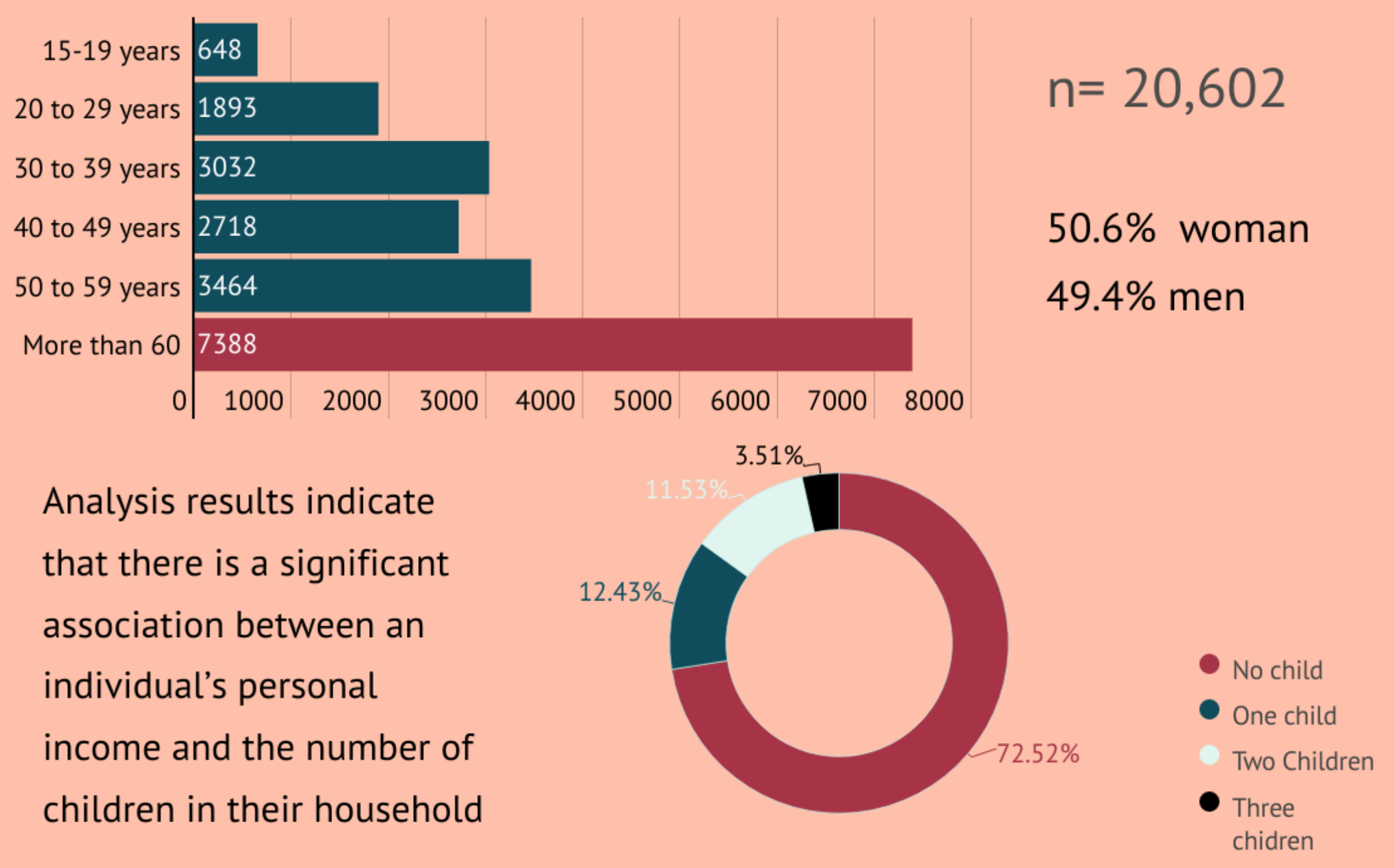
Median Monthly Out-of-Pocket Child Care Costs

The Northwest Territories (CAD \$1,165) and British Columbia (CAD \$1,093) carry the highest monthly out-of-pocket childcare expenses in recent findings.

Analysis and Themes



General Social Survey - 2017



Analysis results indicate that there is a significant association between an individual's personal income and the number of children in their household

Policies

Canada Child Benefit (CCBC)

The policy has been credited with supporting birth rates by lowering child poverty but has limitations in accessibility, particularly for marginalized groups and those without permanent residence.

Employment Insurance (EI)

Provides financial assistance during parental leave. Gaps in this policy particularly impact non-standard employment and low-income families with inconsistencies in levels of assistance available across provinces.

\$10 a Day Child Care Program

Aims to provide affordable childcare options. These efforts have been disrupted by inconsistencies in program delivery across provinces, eligibility barriers, and long wait times for accessing daycare centres.

Canada Affordability Plan

Aims to provide CAD \$12.1 billion in support for sustainable living in Canada. However, many continue to face challenges, including a growing problem of housing affordability for residents.

Recommendations

The following recommendations are intended to support Canadian residents in promoting sustained societal and economic growth and well-being throughout Canada.

- Standardize the delivery of benefits and programs
- Further target low-income families
- Address gender inequality in the labour market
- Increase public childcare programs
- Increase immigrant support