

Recent Developments in the Index of Economic Well-Being in Canada

Andrew Sharpe (Centre for the Study of Living Standards) and Paul Pietraru (University of Ottawa and CSLS)

This paper provides estimates for the Index of Economic Well-being (IEWB) for Canada for the 1981-2023 period, with a focus on recent developments, the IEWB is a composite measure developed by the Centre for the Study of Living Standards that assesses the economic well-being of Canadians through the lens of consumption flows, stocks of wealth, economic equality, and economic security. The paper report finds that the IEWB increased at a 0.4 per cent average annual rate in Canada between 2008 and 2023, less than one half the rate of increase of GDP per capita. The rise was driven by increased consumption and stocks of wealth. Both economic equality and especially economic security declined.