LBST 202
Labour Research for Social Change: Methods and Approaches

Identifying and finding sources

Shannon Cheng: Shannon_cheng@sfu.ca
Moninder Lalli: Moninder_lalli@sfu.ca

October 2018

Agenda

- Types of sources
- Grey literature
- Evaluating sources
- Policy report vs. Academic Article
- Data and where to find it
  - Statistics Canada
  - Other resources
- Citing data
- Research help/ Contact us!

Sources

	PRIMARY	SECONDARY	TERTIARY
Definition	Original, firsthand information collected at the time of event.	Adaptations, interpretations, or critiques of primary sources	Compilations of primary and secondary sources on a topic
Examples	Diaries, interviews, newspaper articles at time of event, journal articles	Reviews, biographies, critiques, journal articles, books	Encyclopedias, dictionaries, bibliographies, guides, handbooks, textbooks

Grey Literature

...Information produced on all levels of government, academia, business and industry in electronic and print formats not controlled by commercial publishing...

Source: Schnopfel J. Towards a Prague definition of grey literature. Presented at: Twelfth International Conference on Grey Literature: Transparency in Grey Literature. Grey Tech Approaches to High Tech Issues. Prague, 6-7 Dec 2010, Czech Republic. pp.11-26. Retrieved from http://archivesic.ccsd.cnrs.fr/sic_00581570/document.

Academic article or policy report?

bit.ly/2y566a4
bit.ly/2Ns7J6w
bit.ly/2E1FTyF
bit.ly/2C3G6i6

- *What is the structure/ how is the information presented?*
- *Who is the author and what are their credentials?*
- *Who is the intended audience for this article?*
- *Where is it published?*

	Scholarly and peer-reviewed article	Policy report
Type	Formally published ("black & white")	Grey literature
Purpose	Inform or report on original research and contribute to the scholarly conversation	Issue-driven
Access	Database (sometimes locked), takes time	Website (Free or paid), fast
Author	Academic credentials, institutional/ research affiliation	Affiliation varies (think tanks, government agencies, non-profits, professional associations, research institutes, and other organizations)
Audience	Researchers or scholars	Stakeholders or public
Language	Technical or scholarly language	Clear and simple, may use technical language
Structure	Title, abstract, keywords, intro, literature review, methods, results, conclusion/discussion, references, appendices	Title, table of contents, executive summary, introduction, issue, options, recommendations, conclusion, references, appendices
Citations	Extensive and mostly scholarly	May use a range of sources, but fewer

Sources: Western University. [Western University]. (2012, September 4). *Grey literature tutorial* [Video file]. Retrieved https://youtu.be/m9-0ZYnCmAI.
Young, E., & Quinn, L. (2017). An essential guide to writing policy briefs. Retrieved http://www.icpolicyadvocacy.org/sites/icpa/files/downloads/icpa_policy_briefs_essential_guide.pdf

Evaluation of sources

- Who: Authority
- What: Content
- Where: Scope
- When: Currency
- Why: Objectivity

"The reasons for this dire situation include: decimation of habitat by logging and suburban encroachment … and booming populations of its natural predators, including the bald eagle and sasquatch."

Source:
https://www.lib.sfu.ca/help/research-assistance/finding-evaluating-resources#evaluating-sources

Source: Zapato, L. (2018, May 22). *Help save the endangered Pacific Northwest Tree Octopus from extinction!* Retrieved https://zapatopi.net/treeoctopus.

Finding policy reports

- The Library!
  - Library Catalogue
  - Canadian Electronic Library from desLibris
  - Canadian Research Index
  - Article databases (secondary sources)

- Government agencies, organizations, and institutes (look for *Publications* section)
  - Fraser Institute
  - Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives

Demo Canadian Electronic Library

- https://www.lib.sfu.ca
  - Article databases
    - Canadian Electronic Library from desLibris

Data:

[a] reinterpretable representation of information in a formalized manner suitable for communication, interpretation, or processing.

Table 1
Labour force characteristics by age group and sex, seasonally adjusted

	July 2018	August 2018	Standard error [1]	July to August 2018	August 2017 to August 2018	July to August 2018	August 2017 to August 2018
	thousands (except rates)	thousands (except rates)	thousands (except rates)	change in thousands (except rates)	change in thousands (except rates)	% change	% change
15 years and over, both sexes							
Population	30,317.2	30,352.2	...	35.0	396.9	0.1	1.3
Labour force	19,842.5	19,825.7	29.6	-16.8	153.2	-0.1	0.8
Employment	18,682.1	18,630.5	29.4	-51.6	171.7	-0.3	0.9
Full-time employment	15,131.6	15,172.0	41.7	40.4	326.1	0.3	2.2
Part-time employment	3,550.5	3,458.5	38.4	-92.0	-154.4	-2.6	-4.3
Unemployment	1,160.4	1,195.2	25.1	34.8	-18.5	3.0	-1.5

Sources:
Consultative Committee for Space Data Systems (CCSDS), 2012. Reference Model OAIS (Magenta Book), Washington, DC: Consultative Committee for Space Data Systems. Retrieved from https://public.ccsds.org/pubs/650x0m2.pdf.
Statistics Canada. No date. "Labour force characteristics by age group and sex, seasonally adjusted" (table). *The Daily*. Last updated July 6, 2018. https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/daily-quotidien/180706/t001a-eng.htm (accessed October 2, 2018).

Primary Data	Secondary Data
Collected firsthand by researcher for a specific research purpose	Used for a different purpose other than originally intended and/ or by someone who did not collected the original data
• Collected through surveys, observations, or experiments • Expensive • Time consuming • Biases may not be as obvious	• Not tailored to research project • Lacks context • Low(er) cost • Quick access • Access depends on permission – Data can be public or private • Bias

Adapted: Persaud, N. (2010). Primary data source. In N. J. Salkind (Ed.), Encyclopedia of research design. Thousand Oaks, CA: SAGE Publications, Inc. doi: 10.4135/9781412961288.n333.

Where to find data?

Consider: Who, what, when, where, why

- Registries of research data repositories (eg. Re3data.org)

- Research repositories (eg. Abacus)

- Government and other websites (eg. Open Data Inventory)

- Sources referred to in publications (eg. The Daily)

The Daily

- https://www.statcan.gc.ca/eng/start
- The Daily
  - Releases by subject

LABOUR FORCE SURVEY

- https://www.statcan.gc.ca/eng/start

- Surveys and Statistical programs
  - Results and documentation of surveys and statistical programs
    - Labour Force Survey

Labour Force Survey

The Labour Force Survey provides estimates of employment and unemployment. With the release of the survey results only 10 days after the completion of data collection, the LFS estimates are the first of the major monthly economic data series to be released. LFS data are used to produce the well-known unemployment rate as well as other standard labour market indicators such as the employment rate and the participation rate.

Detailed documentation about: Labour Force Survey

Filter results by

Keyword(s)

| Search title, description, etc. |

Subject

- Aboriginal peoples (16)
- Business and consumer services and culture (6)
- Children and youth (14)
- Construction (1)
- Crime and justice (1)
- Economic accounts (1)
- Education, training and learning (25)
- Environment (2)
- Families and households (4)
- Government (1)
- Health (6)
- Immigration and ethnocultural diversity (6)
- Income, pensions, spending and wealth (74)
- Information and communications technology (3)
- Labour (357)
- Languages (1)
- Population and demography (5)
- Science and technology (1)
- Seniors (7)
- Society and community (15)
- Statistical methods (8)
- Less

Type

Data
- Tables (252)

Sort by date Apply

All (419) Data (255) Analysis (154) Reference (10)

1. Education Indicators in Canada: Handbook for the Report of the Pan-Canadian Education Indicators Program
Surveys and statistical programs – Documentation: 81-582-G
Description: This handbook complements the tables of the Pan-Canadian Education Indicators Program (PCEIP). It is a guide that provides general descriptions for each indicator and indicator...
More
Release date: 2018-09-27

2. Education Indicators in Canada: Report of the Pan-Canadian Education Indicators Program
Table: 81-582-X
Description: The Pan-Canadian Education Indicators Program (PCEIP) draws from a wide variety of data sources to provide information on the school-age population, elementary, secondary and...
More
Release date: 2018-09-27

3. Unemployment rates of population aged 15 and over, total and with Aboriginal identity, by educational attainment, Canada
Table: 14-10-0361-01 (formerly: CANSIM 477-0104)
Geography: Canada
Description: Unemployment rates of population aged 15 and over, by educational attainment, Canada. This table is included in Section E: Transitions and outcomes: Labour market outcomes of the Pan...
More

CENSUS

- https://www.statcan.gc.ca/eng/start
- Census Program
  - Census Datasets

CENSUS PROGRAM DATA VIEWER

- https://www.statcan.gc.ca/eng/start
  - Census Program
    - Scroll down to data products
      - Census Program Data Viewer
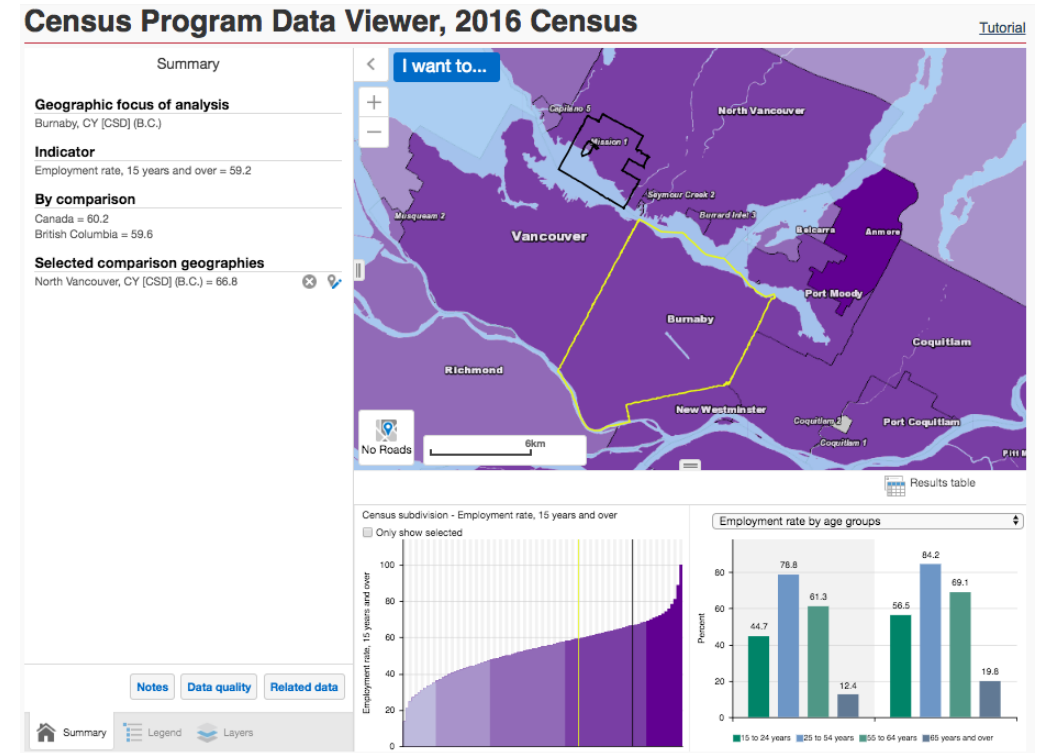
Citing Data in APA Style

- Statistics Canada Reference Builder
www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/12-591-x/2009001/steps-etapes-eng.htm

- SFU Citing Guide for Statistics Canada
www.lib.sfu.ca/find/other-materials/data-gis/data/citing-statistics

Example:

Statistics Canada. (2003). *2001 Census of Canada topic based tabulations, immigration and citizenship tables: Immigrant status and place of birth of respondent, sex, and age groups, for population, for census metropolitan areas, tract census agglomerations and census tracts, 2001 census*. (Catalogue number 95F0357XCB2001002). Retrieved April 7, 2005 from Statistics Canada http://www12.statcan.ca/english/census01/products/standard/themes/ListProducts.cfm?Temporal=2001&APATH=3&THEME=43&FREE=0

Research Help! https://www.lib.sfu.ca/help/ask-us

- Research Help desk in any of the three campus libraries
- *Ask a Librarian* services (via the Library home page)
    - Email or Telephone
- AskAway chat
- Liaison Librarian:
    - Shannon Cheng: shannon_cheng@sfu.ca
    - Moninder Lalli: moninder_lalli@sfu.ca

- Student Learning Commons https://www.lib.sfu.ca/about/branches-depts/slc
    - Writing consultations