

Lisa Kaida and Monica Boyd. 2021. Revisiting gender occupational segregation trends in Canada. Presented at the annual meeting of the Canadian Population Society, on-line presentation. May 18-21.

Abstract:

The COVID-19 pandemic highlights the reality of persistent gender occupational segregation in the Canadian labour market and its far-reaching consequences for women's greater vulnerability in pay cuts, job loss and exposure to COVID-19. However, no Canadian research on gender occupational segregation exists past the early 2000s. This paper tracks recent trends in gender occupational segregation using newly developed harmonized occupational classifications which resolve temporal changes in occupational classifications. Our analysis of the 1996-2016 Canadian Census Masterfiles finds gender occupational segregation, whether measured by the Index of Dissimilarity or Gini Coefficient, has steadily declined since the 1990s, yet the pace of its decline has slowed down since 2000. This can be explained by the slowing decline in vertical segregation, measured with inequality in earnings across occupations. Our results contribute to an ongoing debate about stalled (or slowed) gender revolution.