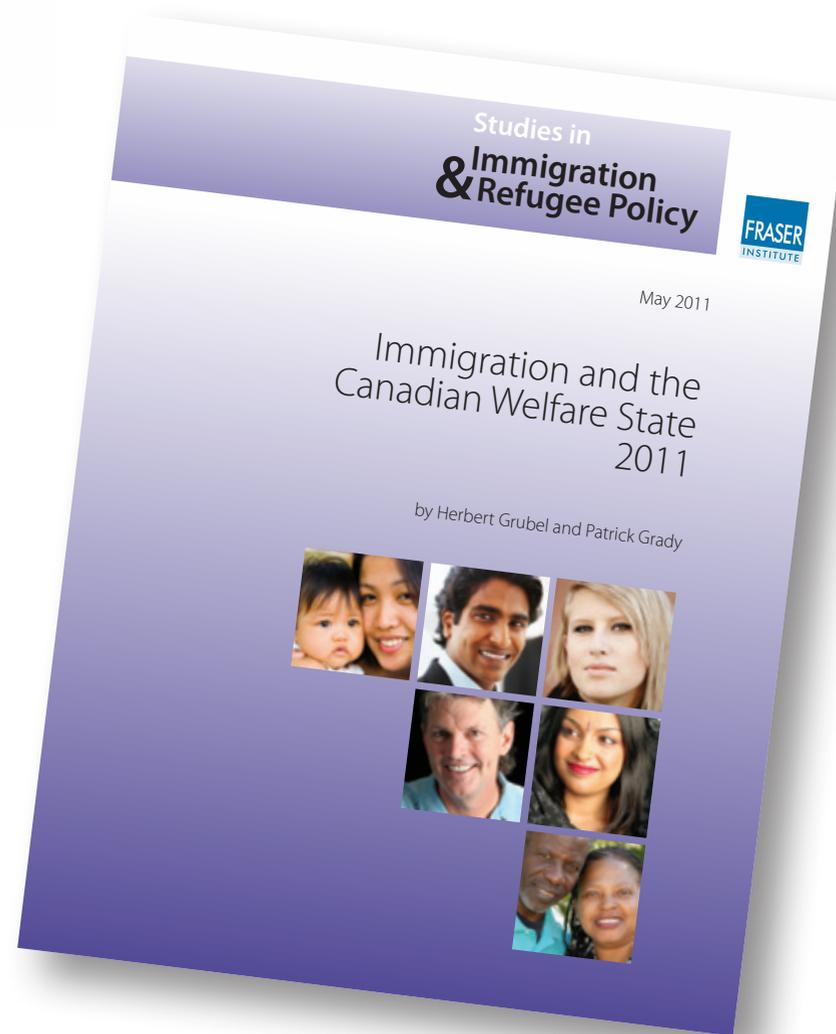


Immigration and the Canadian welfare state

A new report by the Fraser Institute recommends that Canada's immigrant selection process needs to be revamped to focus on admitting people with Canadian job offers and skills needed by employers.

"Recent immigrants earn incomes that are, on average, just 72% of those earned by other Canadians and pay only about one-half of the income taxes. At the same time, they absorb nearly the same value of government services and transfers as other Canadians. As a result of Canada's welfare-state policies, our progressive income taxes, and universal social programs, these immigrants impose a huge fiscal burden on Canadian taxpayers."

The Fraser Institute's Immigration study concludes that in the fiscal year 2005/06 the immigrants on average received an excess of \$6,051 in benefits over taxes paid. Depending



on assumptions about the number of recent immigrants in Canada, the fiscal burden in that year is estimated to be between \$23.6 billion and \$16.3 billion. These estimates are not changed by the consideration of other alleged benefits brought by immigrants.

[Read the complete report](#)

To understand health insurance performance, measure the right outcomes

Are Canadians getting good value for money from their health insurance system? This question is often discussed among health economists and policy makers. And while it's important to know whether citizens are getting the best "bang for their health buck," it's imperative that the appropriate outcomes are measured in order to accurately assess the economic performance of a health insurance system.

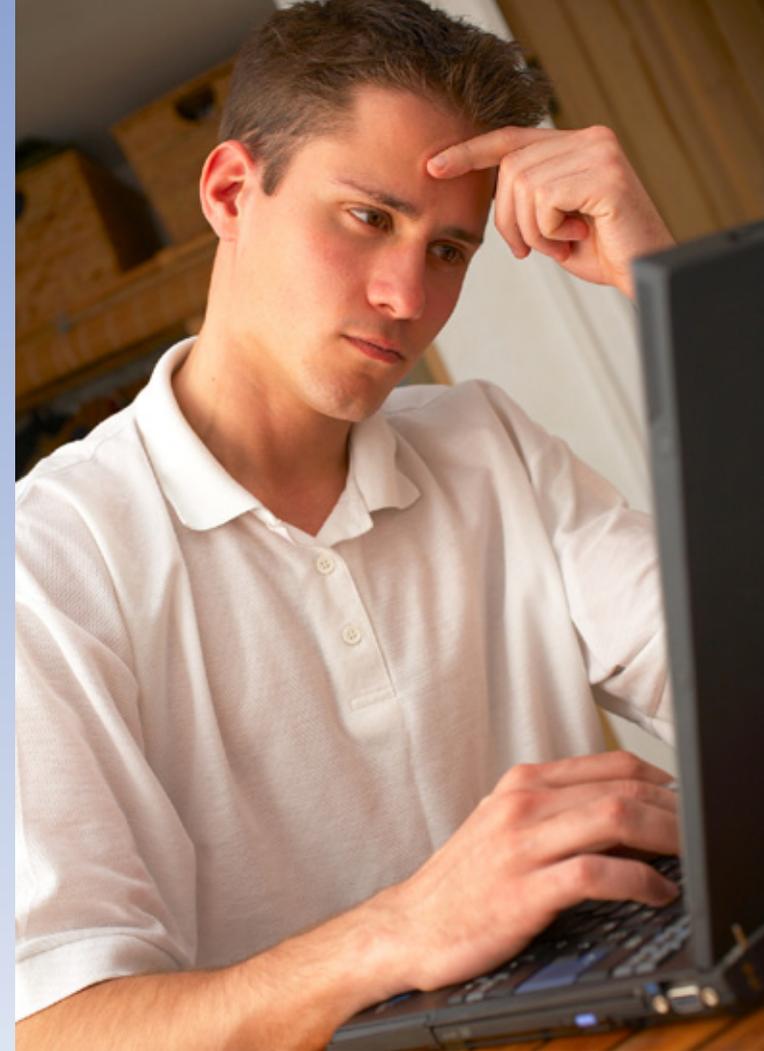
The best way to gauge whether citizens are getting value for the money spent through a health insurance system is to determine the availability of medical goods and services in relation to the associated level of national health spending. Unfortunately, some health researchers continue to measure broad population health statistics, which really doesn't tell us how well a health insurance system is performing.

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