

The OECD's Better Life Index for Canada and the Provinces: Challenges and Results

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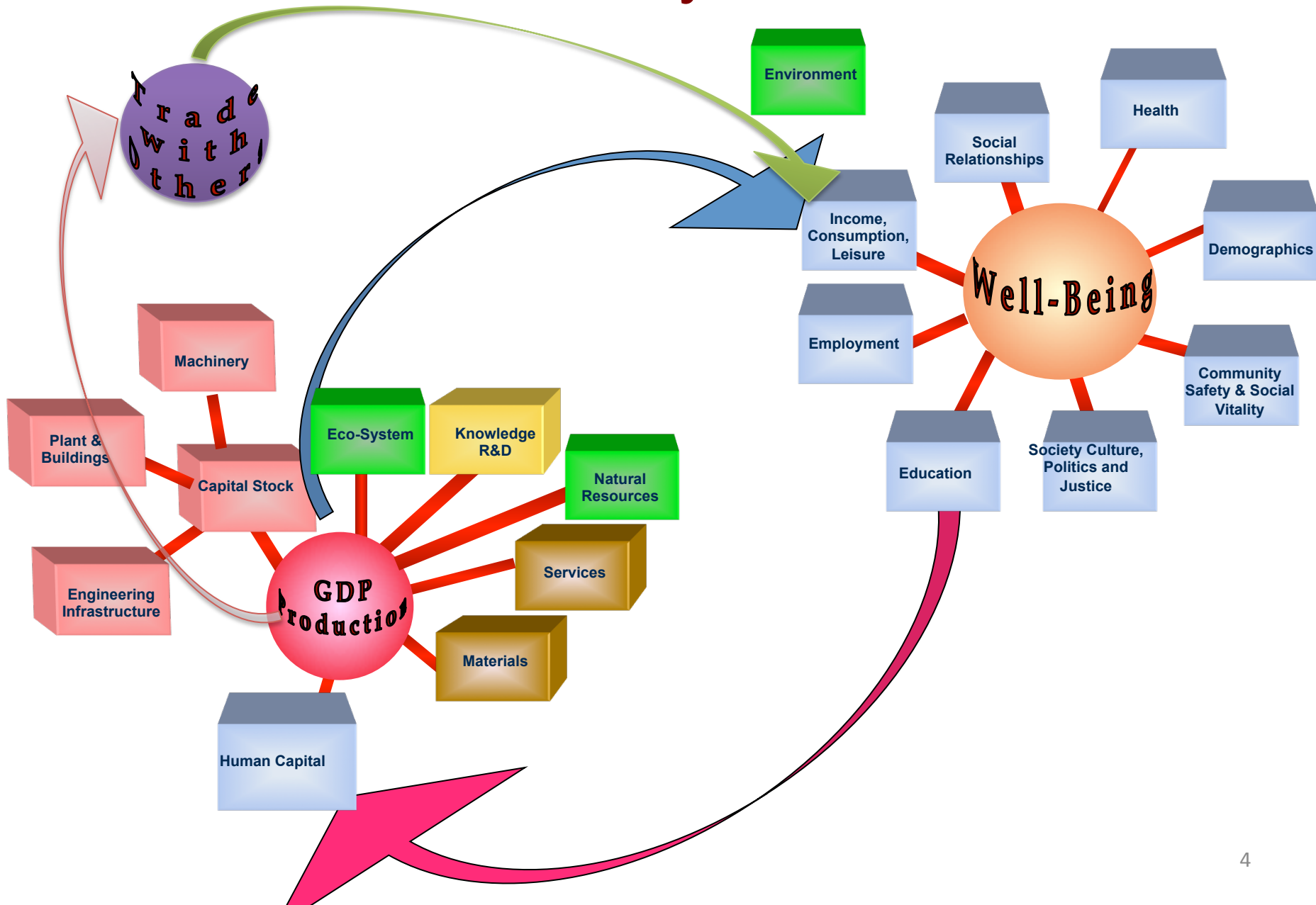
Presentation Framework

- Background
- Motivation
- Results:
 - Provinces and Canada
 - Provinces over time: 2000-2013
 - Provinces changing domain weights
 - Provinces changing indicator weights
 - Provinces and OECD countries
- Challenges and Caveats to using the indicators.
- Web graphics for public engagement
- Next Steps
- Questions

Background: Past 15 Years

- In 1998, the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador released its Strategic Social Plan with a general **Vision** for the Province.
- The Plan called for evidence-based policy development and promised to publish a **Social Audit** within 5 years.
- This audit would provide statistical evidence on what is working, why and for whom.
- The socio-economic indicators to monitor outcomes would include those dealing well-being, employment and economic security, and community stability.
- The “**System of Community Accounts**” was developed to support the Social Audit. See www.communityaccounts.ca

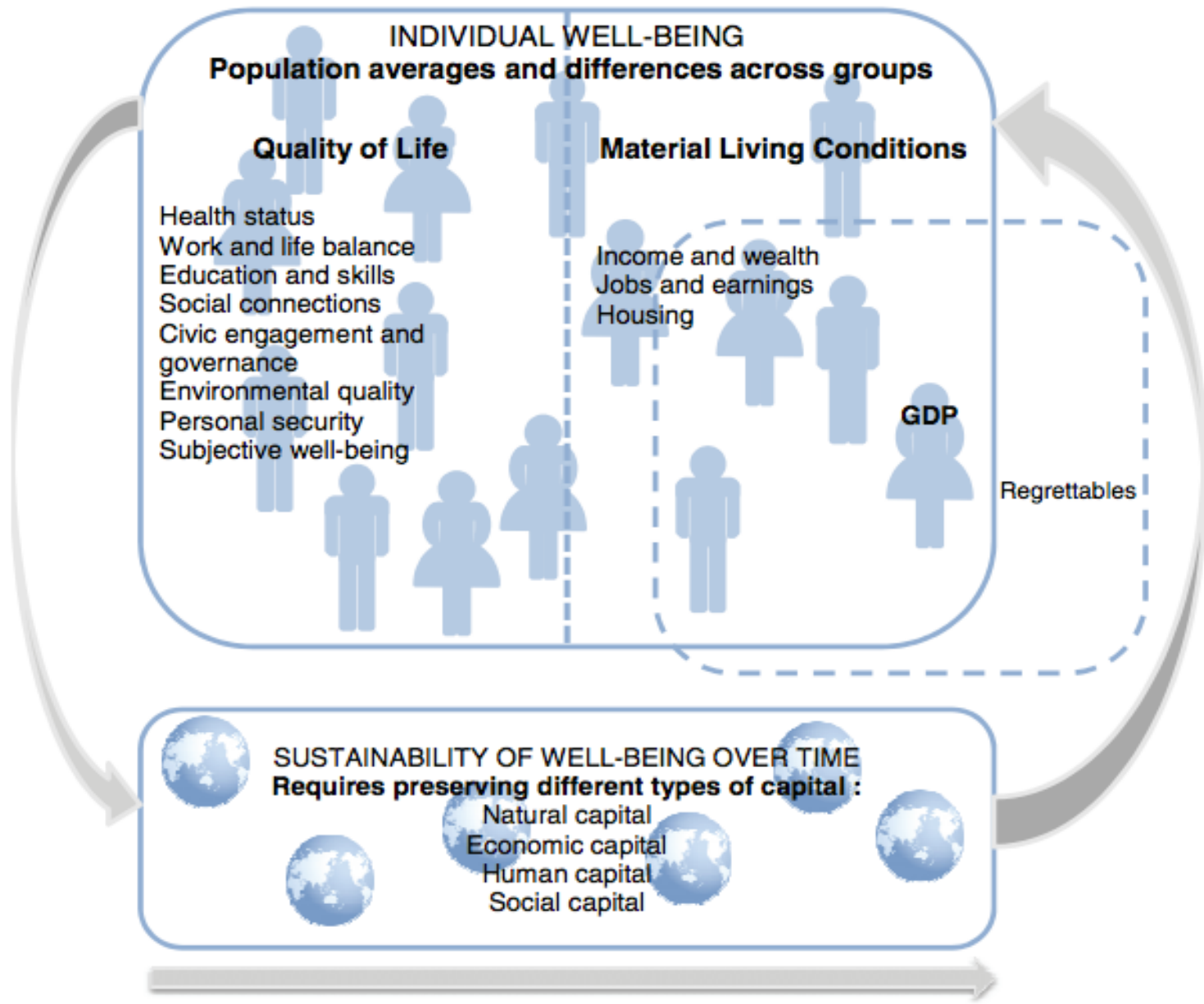
The Community Accounts



Motivation: Producing OECD's Better Life Index (BLI) for the Provinces

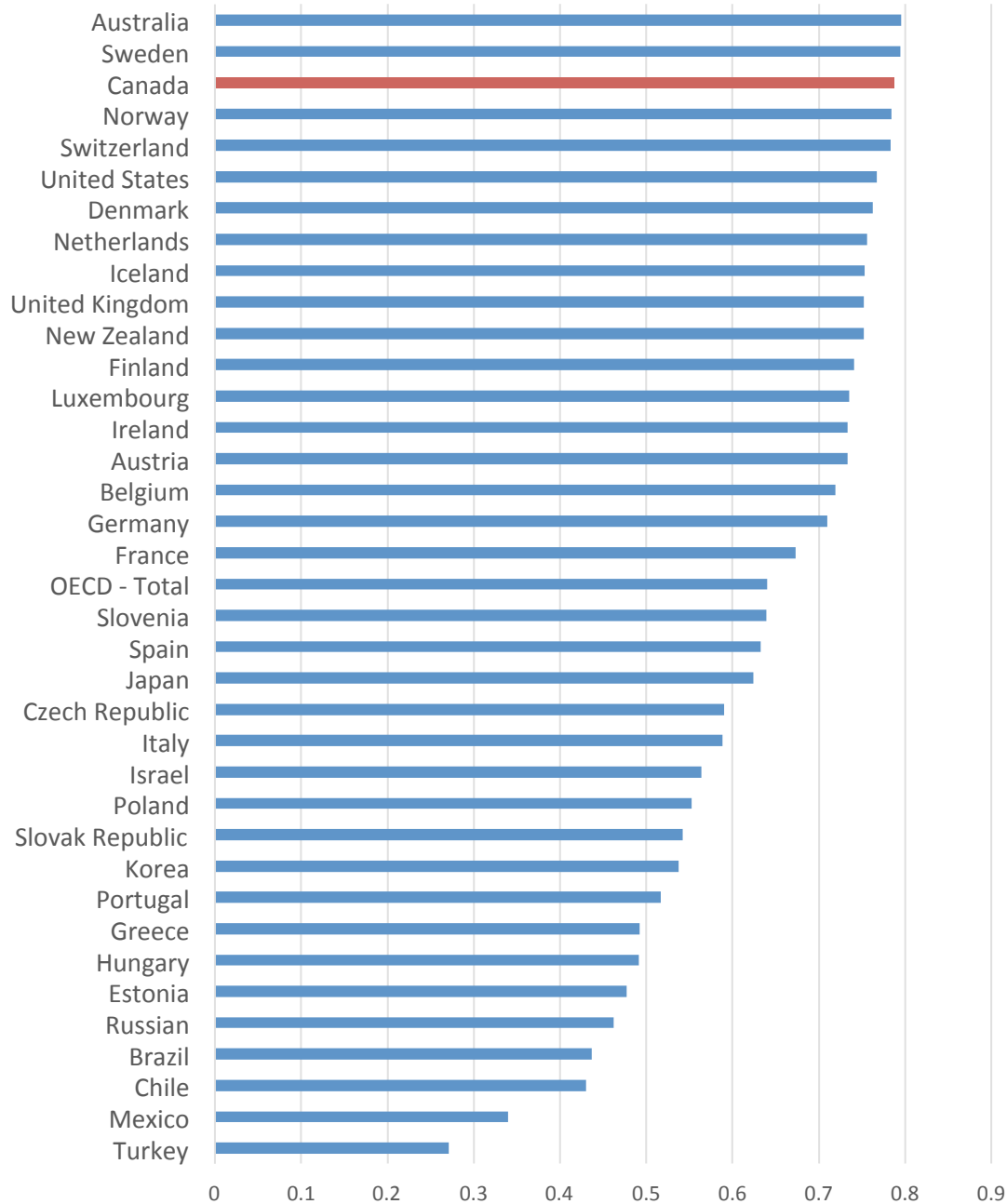
- A composite index is a “hook” for public engagement. Gets people interested in what’s important in our lives. Encourages them to drill down into the various domains.
- The “domains” of the OECD’s BLI followed those of the existing Community Accounts. (See next slide)
- People naturally compare themselves, their communities, their provinces to others and producing the BLI for the provinces would help to maintain public interest and discussion in trying to answer the questions: “What is important in our society and our lives?” “What sort of society do we want?” “Are we making social progress?”
- The OECD already generates a great deal of discussion in the media about the Better Life Index, what’s important in our lives, social progress and moving beyond a focus on just GDP (beyond economic to social).

OECD Framework for Measuring Well-Being and Progress

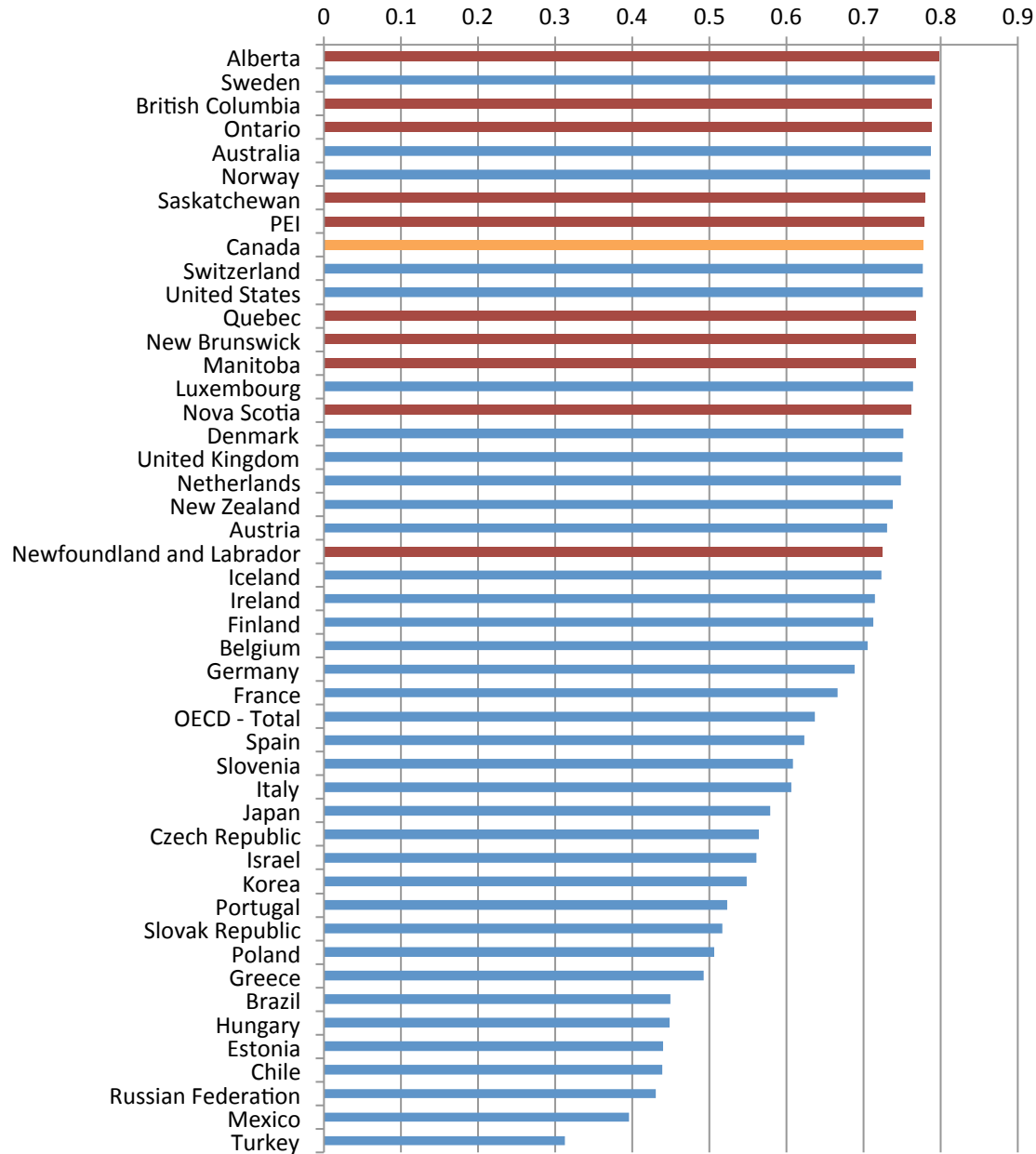


The Results

OECD Better Life Index - Overall Ranking

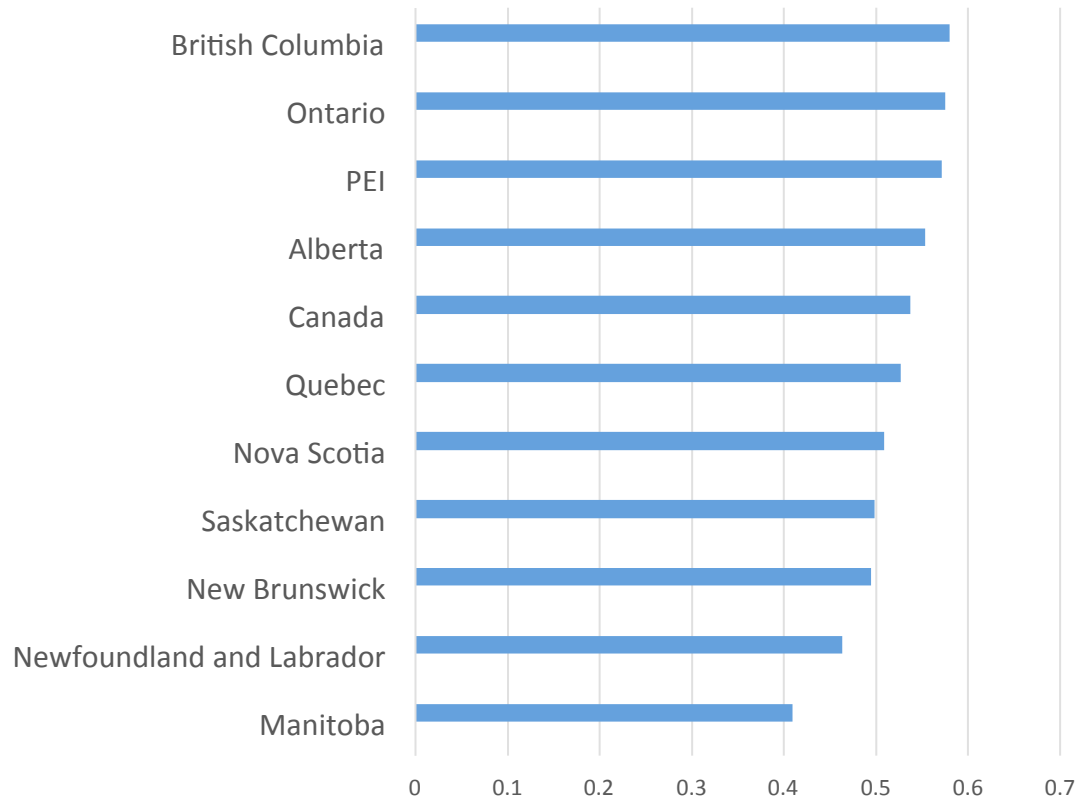


Better Life Index with Canada, Provinces and OECD Countries



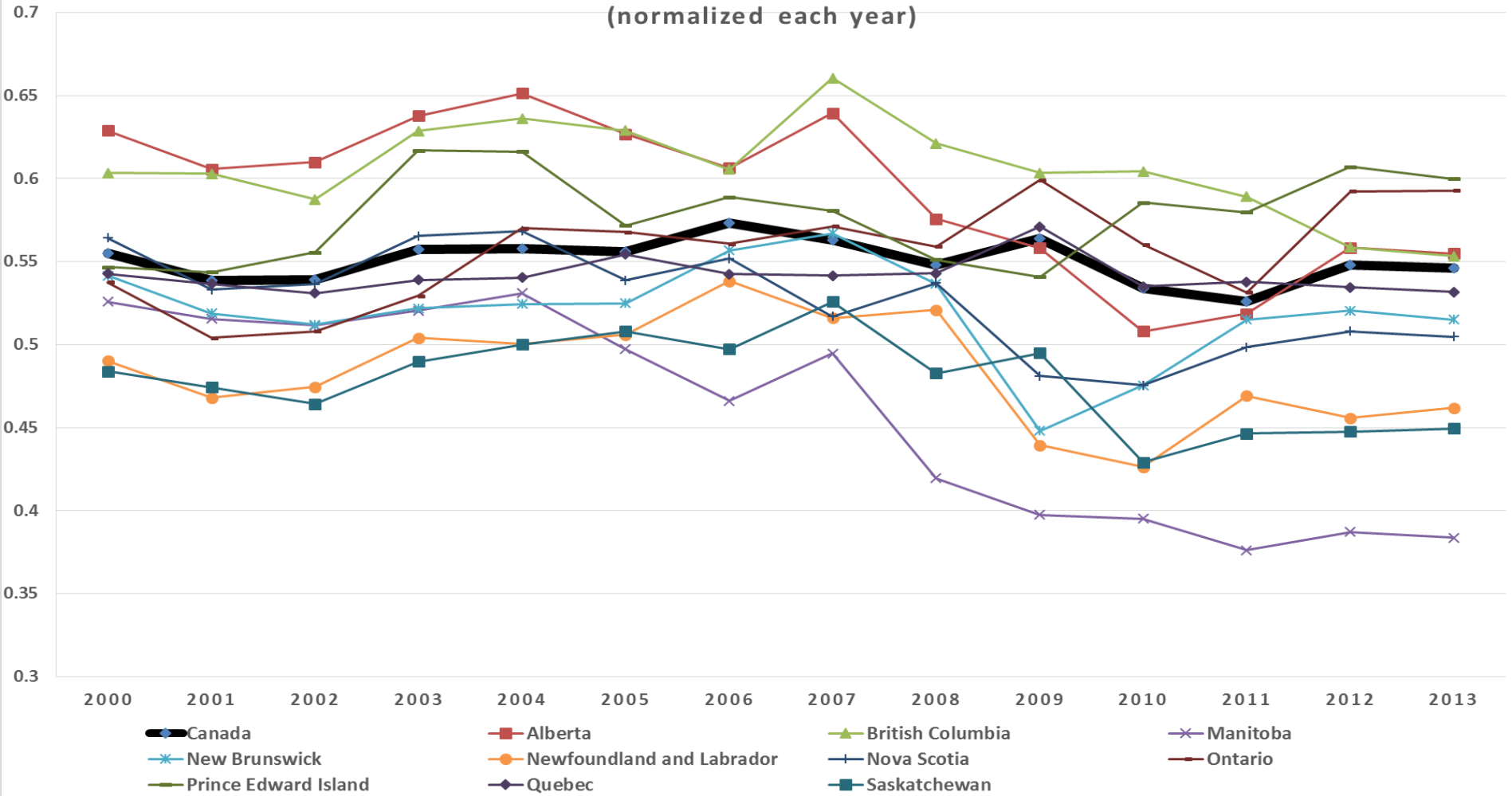
OECD's "BLI" for Canada and Provinces

**Better Life Index: Canada and Provinces,
2013**



Time Series Data for Canada and Provinces

BETTER LIFE INDEX
CANADA AND THE PROVINCES, 2000-2013
(normalized each year)



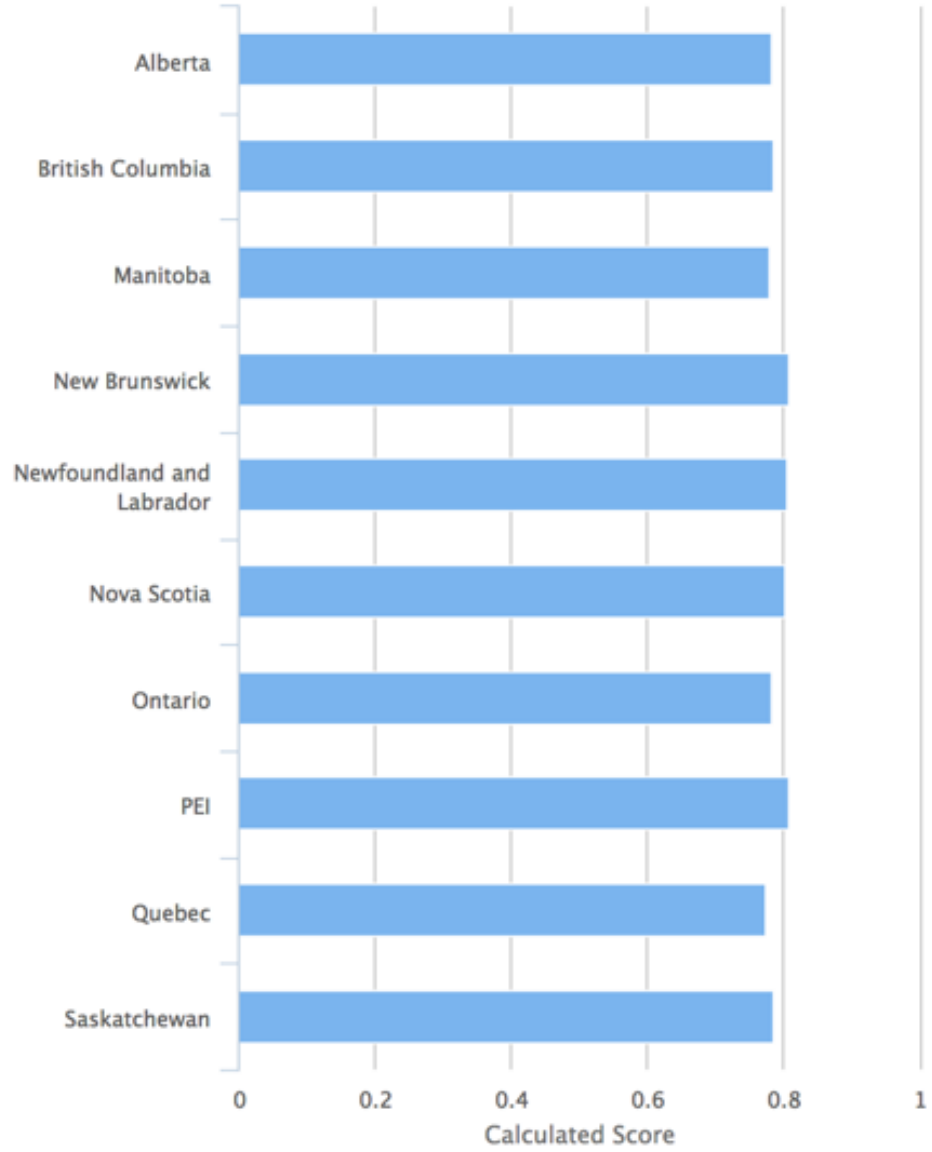
Changing Domain Weights

Better Life Index Rankings

Calculate Me

Include OECD Countries:

Housing:5	<input type="range"/>
Income:0	<input type="range"/>
Jobs:0	<input type="range"/>
Community:5	<input type="range"/>
Education:1	<input type="range"/>
Environment:1	<input type="range"/>
Civic engagement:1	<input type="range"/>
Health:0	<input type="range"/>
Life Satisfaction:1	<input type="range"/>
Safety:1	<input type="range"/>
Work-Life Balance:5	<input type="range"/>



www.carenl.org/oecd.html

Better Life Index with Provinces Added and Slider for Indicator Weights

Select Domain Weights	0	Domain	Select Indicator Weights	1	Indicator
<input type="text" value="1"/>	1	Housing	<input type="text" value="1"/>	1	Dwellings without basic facilities
<input type="text" value="1"/>	1		<input type="text" value="1"/>	1	Housing expenditure
<input type="text" value="1"/>	1		<input type="text" value="1"/>	1	Rooms per person
<input type="text" value="1"/>	1	Income	<input type="text" value="1"/>	1	Household net adjusted disposable income
<input type="text" value="1"/>	1		<input type="text" value="1"/>	1	Household net financial wealth
<input type="text" value="1"/>	1	Jobs	<input type="text" value="1"/>	1	Employment rate
<input type="text" value="1"/>	1		<input type="text" value="1"/>	1	Job security
<input type="text" value="1"/>	1		<input type="text" value="1"/>	1	Long-term unemployment rate
<input type="text" value="1"/>	1		<input type="text" value="1"/>	1	Personal earnings
<input type="text" value="1"/>	1	Community	<input type="text" value="1"/>	1	Quality of support network
<input type="text" value="1"/>	1	Education	<input type="text" value="1"/>	1	Educational attainment
<input type="text" value="1"/>	1		<input type="text" value="1"/>	1	Student skills
<input type="text" value="1"/>	1		<input type="text" value="1"/>	1	Years in education
<input type="text" value="1"/>	1	Environment	<input type="text" value="1"/>	1	Air pollution
<input type="text" value="1"/>	1		<input type="text" value="1"/>	1	Water quality

OECD_scores

OECD_RAW_DATA

OECD_CI_PROVINCES



Challenges and Caveats

- Finding indicator data for the provinces using OECD “official (Stats Can) data” is relatively straightforward. BUT the OECD uses Gallup World Poll data which is NOT available for provinces. Comparisons of provinces with countries is not strictly correct.
- Note that ranking of countries can change when provinces are added!!
- Annual time series data may not be available for certain series e.g. series from censuses.
- We dropped certain indicators (dwellings without basic facilities) and replaced others (e.g household net financial wealth with household net worth).

Finding Data for the Provinces

We can extend these to the provinces with relatively minor adjustments.

- dwellings without basic facilities
- housing expenditure,
- rooms per person,
- household net adjusted disposable income
- household net financial wealth
- employment rate
- job security
- long-term unemployment rate
- personal earnings
- educational attainment
- student skills
- years in education
- voter turnout
- life expectancy
- self-reported health
- homicide rate
- employees working very long hours
- time devoted to leisure and personal care

	Environment	
	Air pollution	Water quality
Year(OECD)	<u>2009</u>	<u>2012</u>
Year(Our Sources)	<u>2009</u>	<u>2011</u>
Canada (OECD)	16	89
Canada (Our Sources)	11.62	68
Alberta	12.03	68
British Columbia	9.45	80
Manitoba	12.03	67
New Brunswick	12.77	70
Newfoundland and Labrador	12.77	64
Nova Scotia	12.77	77
Ontario	10.40	65
Prince Edward Island	12.77	81
Quebec	13.92	63
Saskatchewan	12.03	76
	Ground-Level Ozone and Fine Particulate Matter Air Quality Indicators Data (url: http://www.ec.gc.ca/indicateurs-indicators/default.asp?lang=en&n=25C196D8-1#pm_2)	CANSIM: Table 153-0063 Households and the environment survey, primary type of drinking water consumed, Canada and provinces, 2011 (percentage of households drinking primarily tap water)

	Housing		
	Dwellings without basic facilities	Housing expenditure	Rooms per person
Year(OECD)	<u>1997</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2006</u>
Year(Our Sources)	<u>1997</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2006</u>
Canada (OECD)	0.20%	0.220	2.6
Canada (Our Sources)	0.19%	0.238	2.6
Alberta	0.18%	0.231	2.6
British Columbia	0.22%	0.239	2.6
Manitoba	0.51%	0.243	2.5
New Brunswick	0.18%	0.190	2.8
Newfoundland and Labrador	0.00%	0.187	2.9
Nova Scotia	0.21%	0.201	2.8
Ontario	0.14%	0.236	2.5
Prince Edward Island	0.40%	0.205	2.7
Quebec	0.21%	0.206	2.5
Saskatchewan	0.25%	0.232	2.8
	Survey of consumer finances (Canada)	CANSIM Table 203-0021, Survey of household spending (SHS)	Statistics Canada, 2006 Census of Population

Finding Data for the Provinces (2)

When the OECD uses non-official sources

- For example, the Gallup World Poll is used for Life Satisfaction, Quality of Support Network, Water Quality and Assault Rate
- These are more difficult to replicate
- We can use the CCHS to measure Life Satisfaction for Canada and the Provinces, for example, but the results will not match those from the Gallup World Poll

Rank Reversal

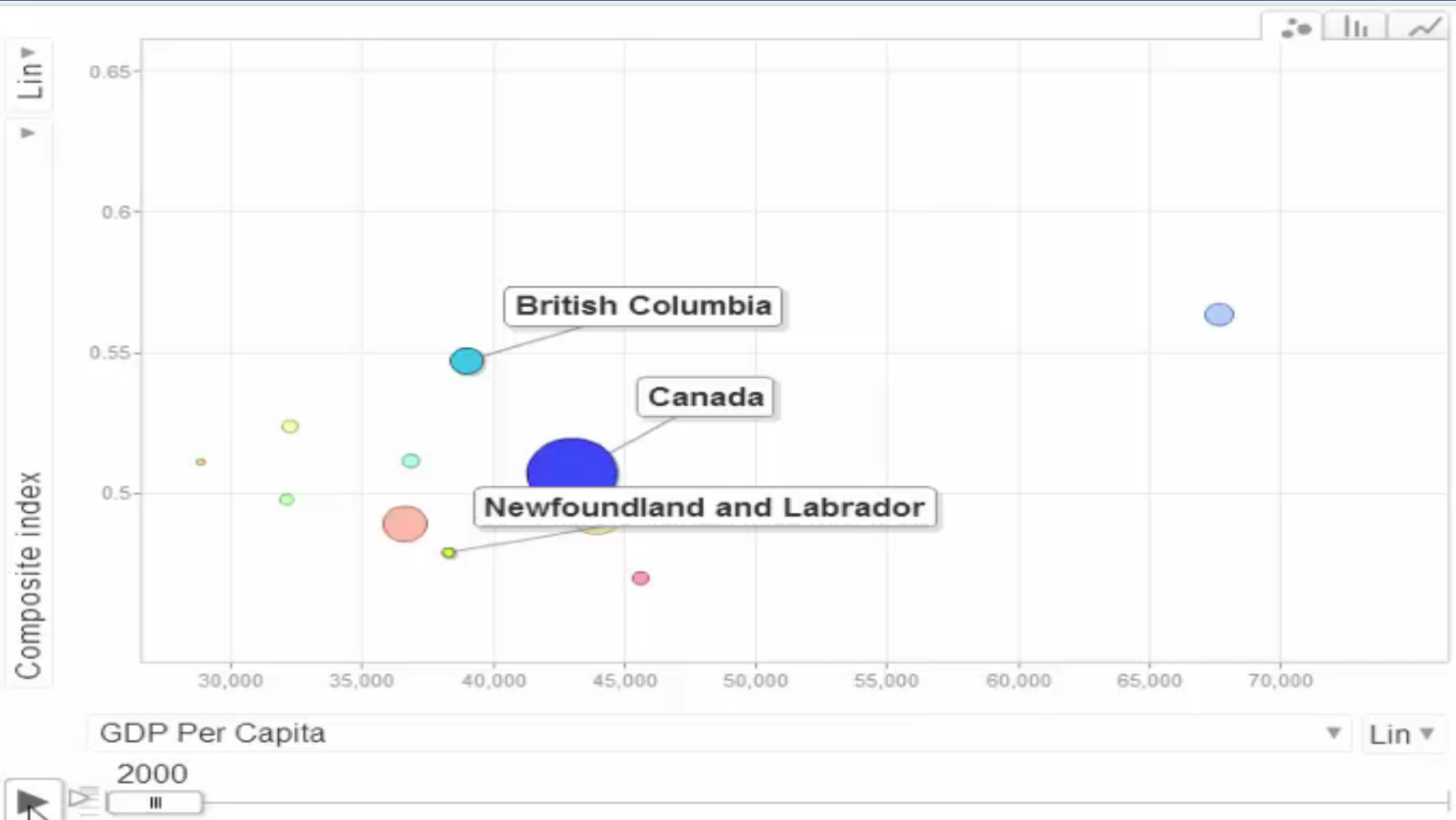
- We see that Canada's relative rank amongst the OECD countries is now fourth instead of third with Norway ranked one spot above Canada rather than one spot below.
- Since the maximum and minimum values of indicators may have changed by including data for the 10 Canadian provinces, the normalized values of an indicator may have changed as well, causing the rankings of the OECD countries to change relative to each other.
- This illustrates one of the deficiencies of the OECD's aggregation procedure. The normalization and aggregation process does not satisfy the "independence of irrelevant alternatives".
- Even though the original data for Canada and Norway has not changed, by simply adding more "countries" to the list we have altered the relative positions of the two countries.

Time Series Data for Canada and Provinces

- We keep the conceptual framework and methodology of the OECD Better Life Index but we do make a few changes to the list of indicators.
- We dropped the dwellings without basic facilities indicator from the housing domain.
- In the Income domain we replace the household net adjusted disposable income with household net income and replaced household net financial wealth with household net worth.
- This is done primarily because of data issues; we wanted to make sure that we had enough data points for each indicator to enable an analysis of the composite index over time.

Web Graphics

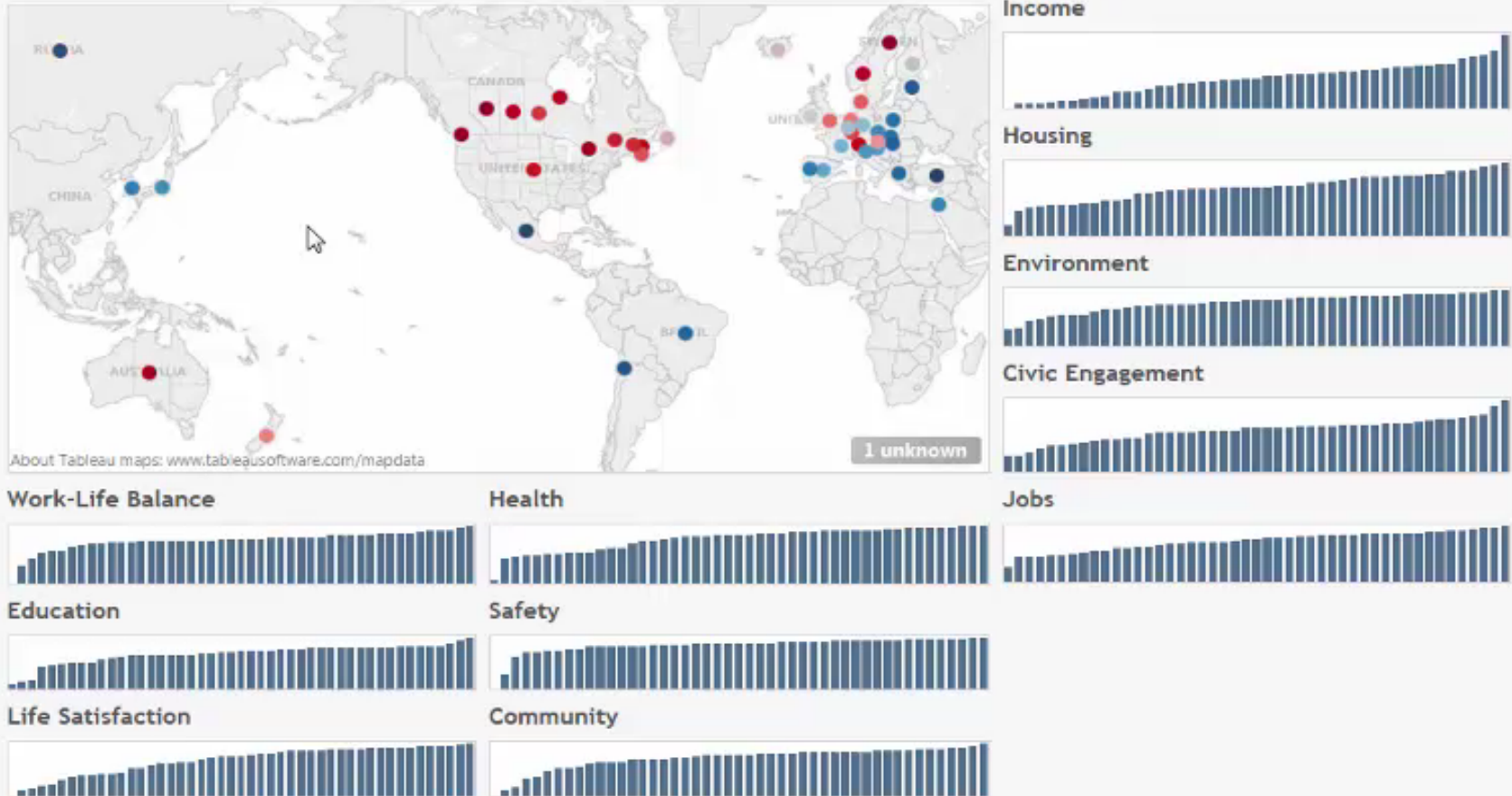
Motion Charts for Time Series Data



See html5 version on your smartphone: www.carenl.org/motion.html

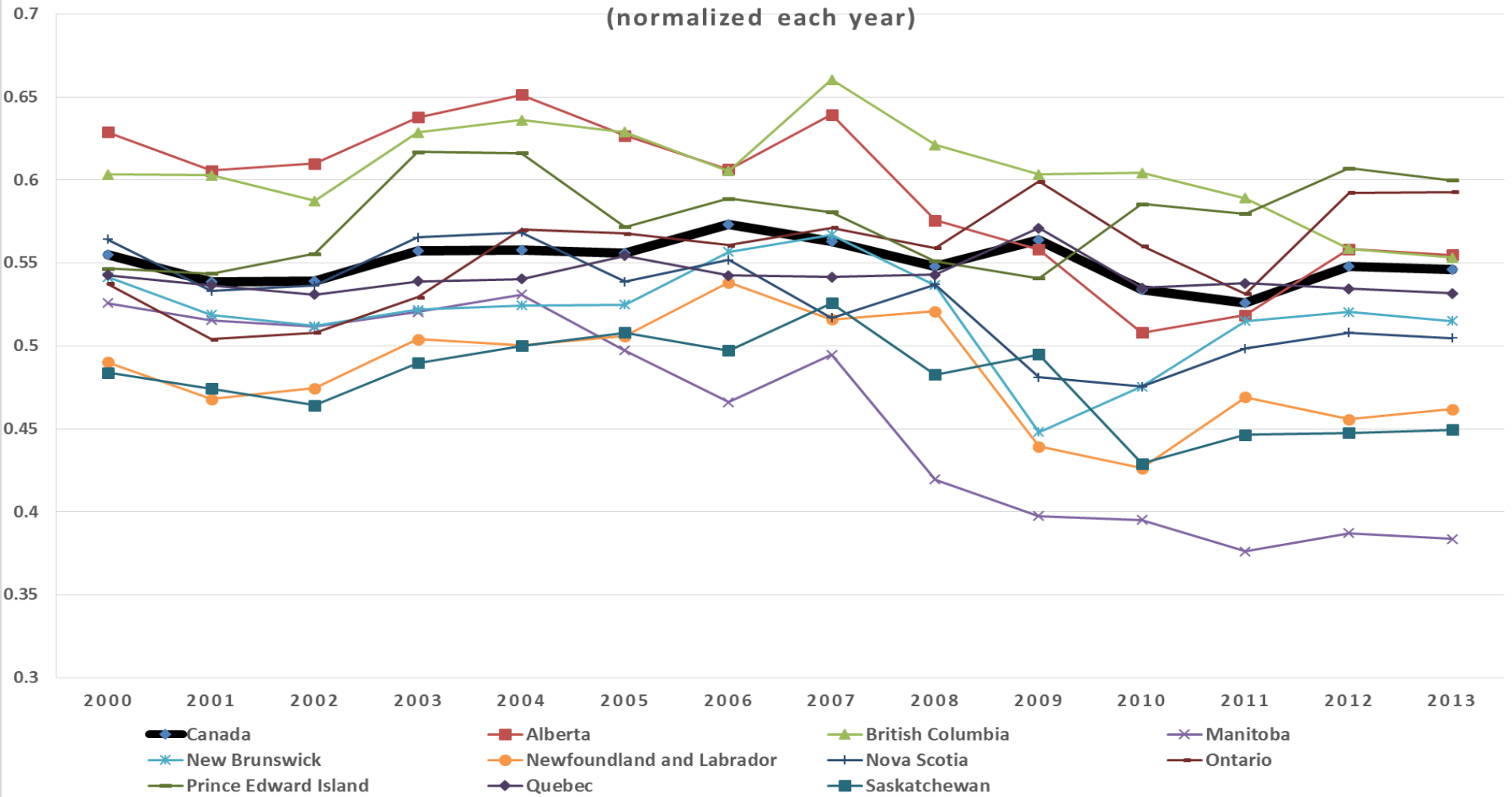
Use of Tableau

OECD's Better Life Index with Canada and the Provinces - 2013

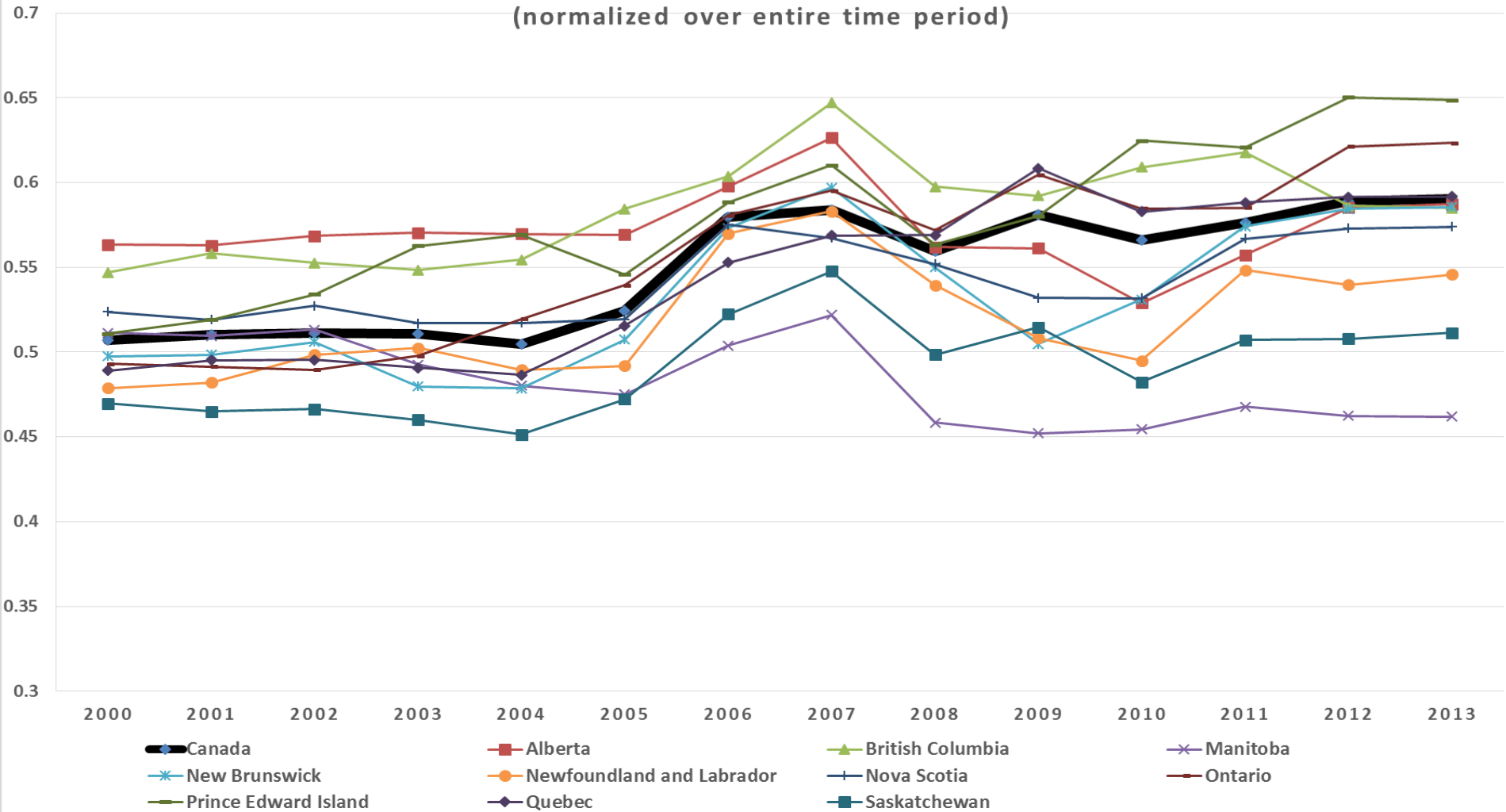


The Winner Is ????

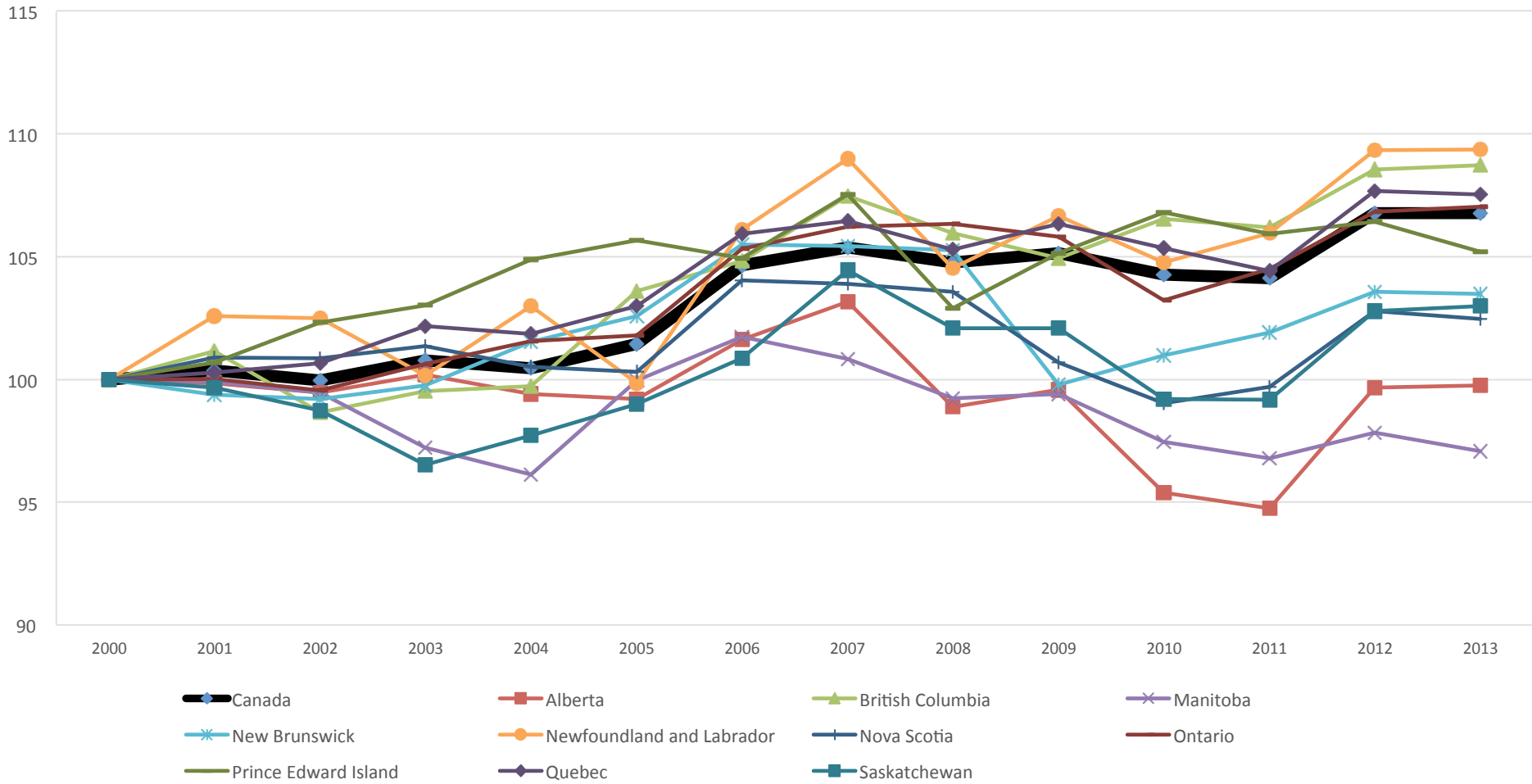
BETTER LIFE INDEX CANADA AND THE PROVINCES, 2000-2013 (normalized each year)



BETTER LIFE INDEX CANADA AND THE PROVINCES, 2000-2013 (normalized over entire time period)



BETTER LIFE INDEX - BASE 100 CANADA AND THE PROVINCES, 2000-2013



Next Steps

- Estimation of Determinants Model of Life Satisfaction (select weights, estimate equivalent variation) > Working Paper available soon
- Incorporating this work into the Community Accounts.
- Using our own indicators in the Community Accounts for our domains > started
- Ranking communities and sub-provincial regions for NL. > SAE estimates for survey data as well as administrative data are available.



Well-Being & Indicators



Profiles



Tables and Charts



Maps



2011 Census Data



General Model of the Determinants of Quality of Life

Reset Menus

View Methodology

Download

By selecting from one or more of the menus below, you can view how the probability of a person having a good, average, or poor quality of life changes.

Region

Grand Falls-Windsor Area

Demographics

Age

60-64

Gender

Male

Marital Status

Separated/Divorce/Widowed

Number of Children in Household age 5 to 12

0

Number of Children in Household Less Than 5

0

Education

Education Level

University Master's/Doctorate Degree/Post undergrad

Labour Markets

Employment

Did not work at least one week in 2001 (fully unemployed)

Occupation Type

Social Science, Education, Government Service, and

On the Job Training

Have not receive informal/formal on the job training

Income

Workers' Compensation

Did not receive W.C. in 2001

Long-Term Disability

Did not receive L.T.D. in 2001

Social Assistance

Did not receive S.A. in 2001

Total Household Income

\$15,000 or less

Consumption

Home Ownership

Rent

Newfoundland and Labrador Well-Being and Indicators

Change Geography

Analytical Features

Personal Indicators

General Model of Determinants of Quality of Life

General Model of Determinants of Quality of Life: By selecting from the options within the feature (based on different factors that affect well-being), you can view how the probability of a person having a good, average, or poor quality of life changes.

Launch the Model



Clareville* Well-Being and Indicators

The Municipality of **Clareville** is a standard geography (that can be defined by Statistics Canada or Postal Code boundaries) and is available for most data tables. geography, Local Area 55: Smith Sound-Random Island.

Hide

Hide by Default

Change Geography

Analytical Features

Personal Indicators

Subjective Indicators

Percentage of population with excellent or very good self-assessed health status
(Year: 2009-10, Statistic Type: Percent, Gender: Total) [about](#)

63.0% (+/- 11.2%)



153rd of 431



Ranks Table



Charts



Map

Percentage of population with a very strong or somewhat strong sense of belonging to a community
(Year: 2009-10, Statistic Type: Percent, Gender: Total) [about](#)

86.5% (+/- 8.1%)



227th of 430



Ranks Table



Charts



Map

Percentage of population that are very satisfied or satisfied with life in general
(Year: 2009-10, Statistic Type: Percent, Gender: Total) [about](#)

96.3% (+/- 4.5%)



32nd of 432



Ranks Table



Charts



Map

Percentage of population with life stress as extremely or quite a bit
(Year: 2009-10, Statistic Type: Percent, Gender: Total) [about](#)

10.2% (+/- 4.5%)^{E+}



1st of 356



Ranks Table



Charts

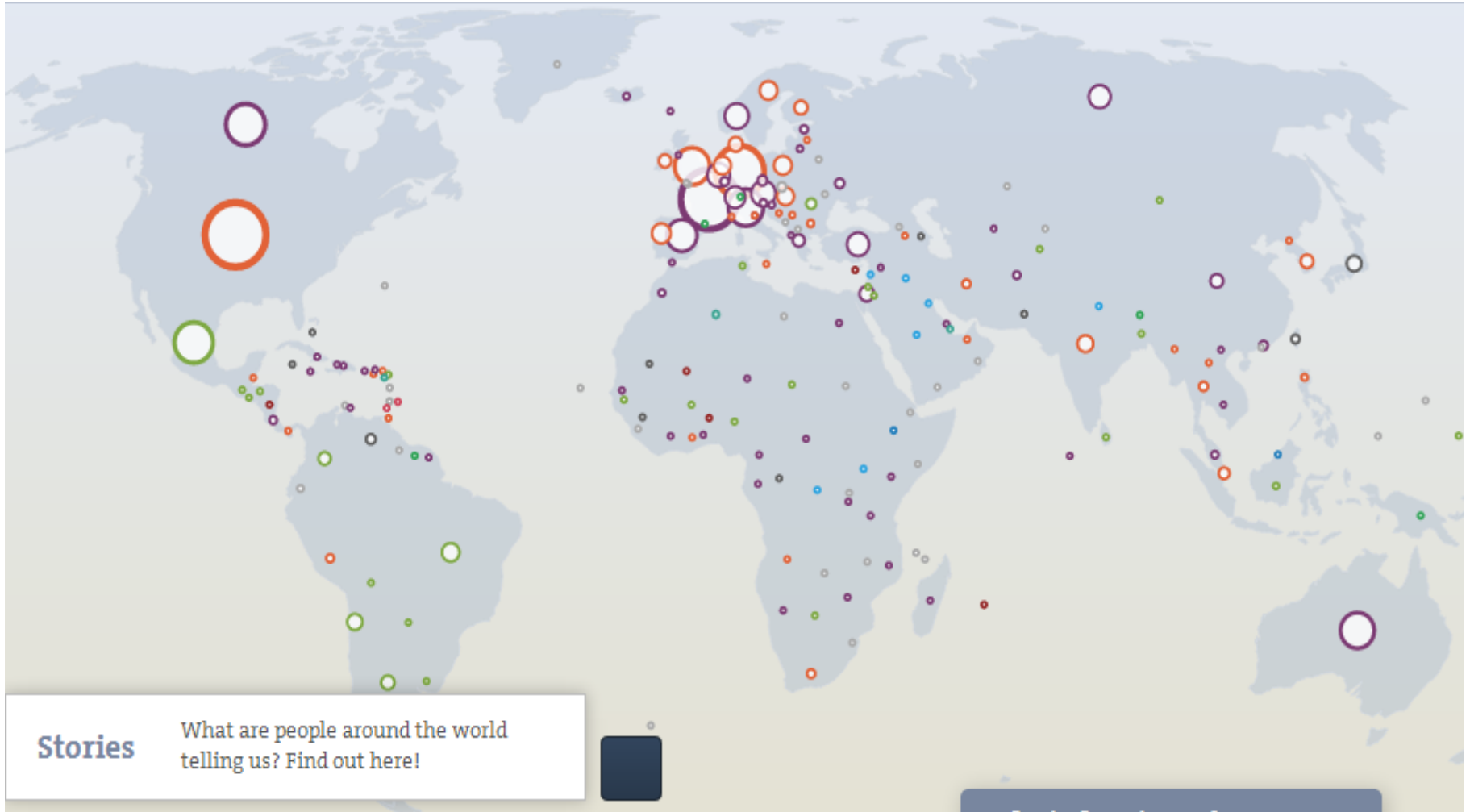


Map

Questions?

- Should we use other methods to calculate the composite index movement over time?
- Should we follow the OECD and encourage user responses by provinces/regions/communities?

Responses



Stories

What are people around the world telling us? Find out here!

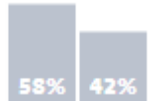
Responses



Canada

3712 responses

Gender



Age



15 25 35 45 55 65

Topics



Health is ranked in position 1.

Compare with

Contact

dmay@mun.ca

Background paper and pdf of all slides will be available at <http://www.carenl.org>

Motion charts and Tableau visualization available at <http://nl.communityaccounts.ca/bli/>