

THE DPCDSB STUDENT CENSUS 2022: KINDERGARTEN TO GRADE 3 AND STUDENTS WITH DIFFERING ABILITIES

You are the people of God; he has loved you and chose you for his own. So then, you must clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience.

Colossians 3:12

**Summary of
Parent- and
Guardian-
Reported Student
Social Identities**

The DPCDSB Student Census: Summary of Student Identities

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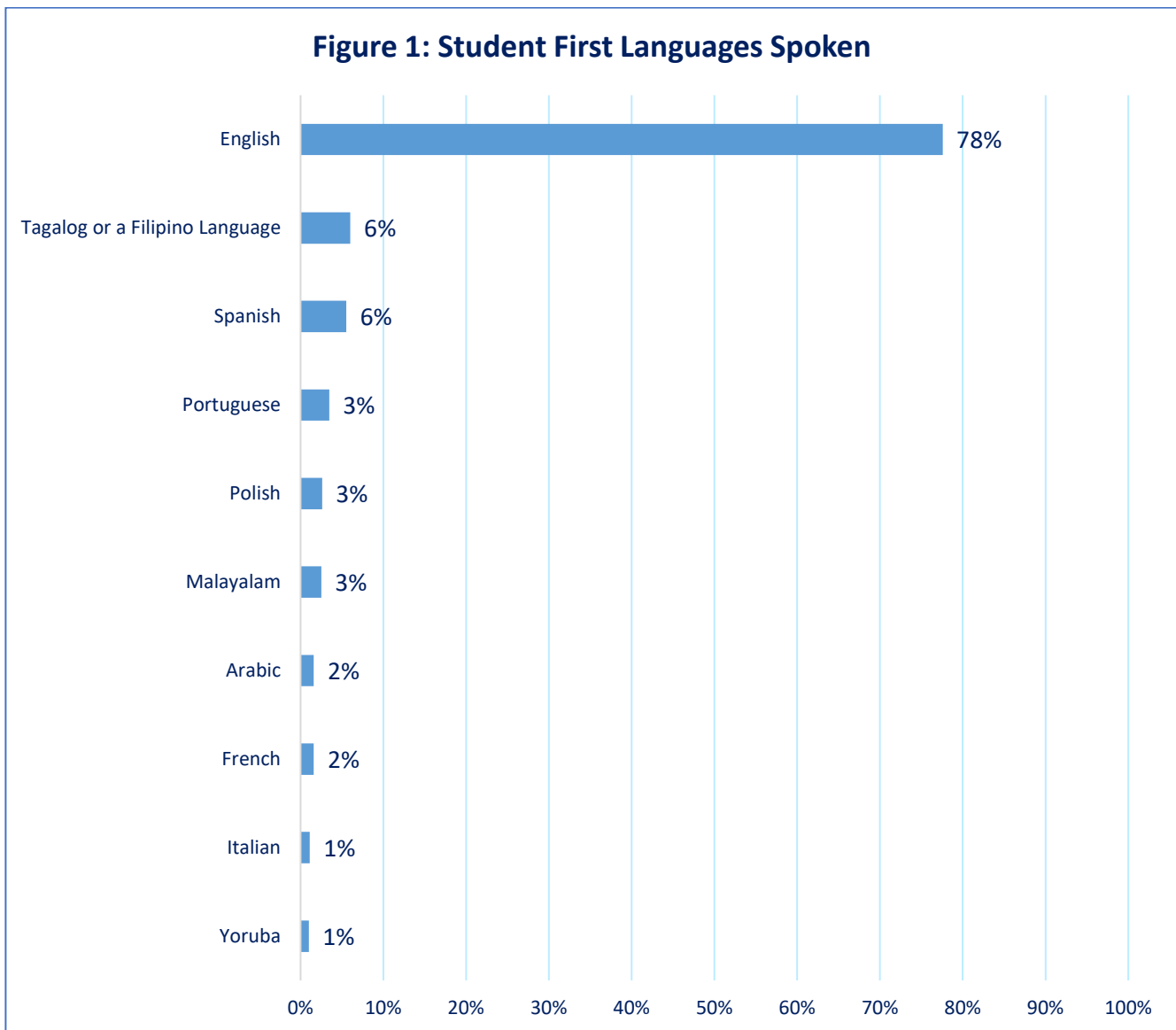
Purpose of this Report

Identity findings from the DPCDSB Student Census, whether reported by students themselves or by their parents and guardians, indicated the DPCDSB is a highly diverse school district in terms of first languages learned, ethnicities, racial groups, and religious affiliation. This report describes the social identities reported by parents and guardians for their students in Kindergarten through Grade 3 and older students who required parent or guardian support to complete the census. Data supplied by parents and guardians represented over 3,000 students.

Detailed reports regarding findings from the Grades 4 through 12 student-completed census are available at www.dpcdsb.org.

Language(s) First Spoken

Figure 1 (below, following page) shows the ten most commonly reported first languages learned as indicated by parents and guardians for their students.



Indigenous Identity

Table 1 (below) summarizes student responses to the census item regarding Indigeneity. Note that each parent and guardian could select more than one option, as applicable to their student's identity.

Table 1: Indigenous Identity

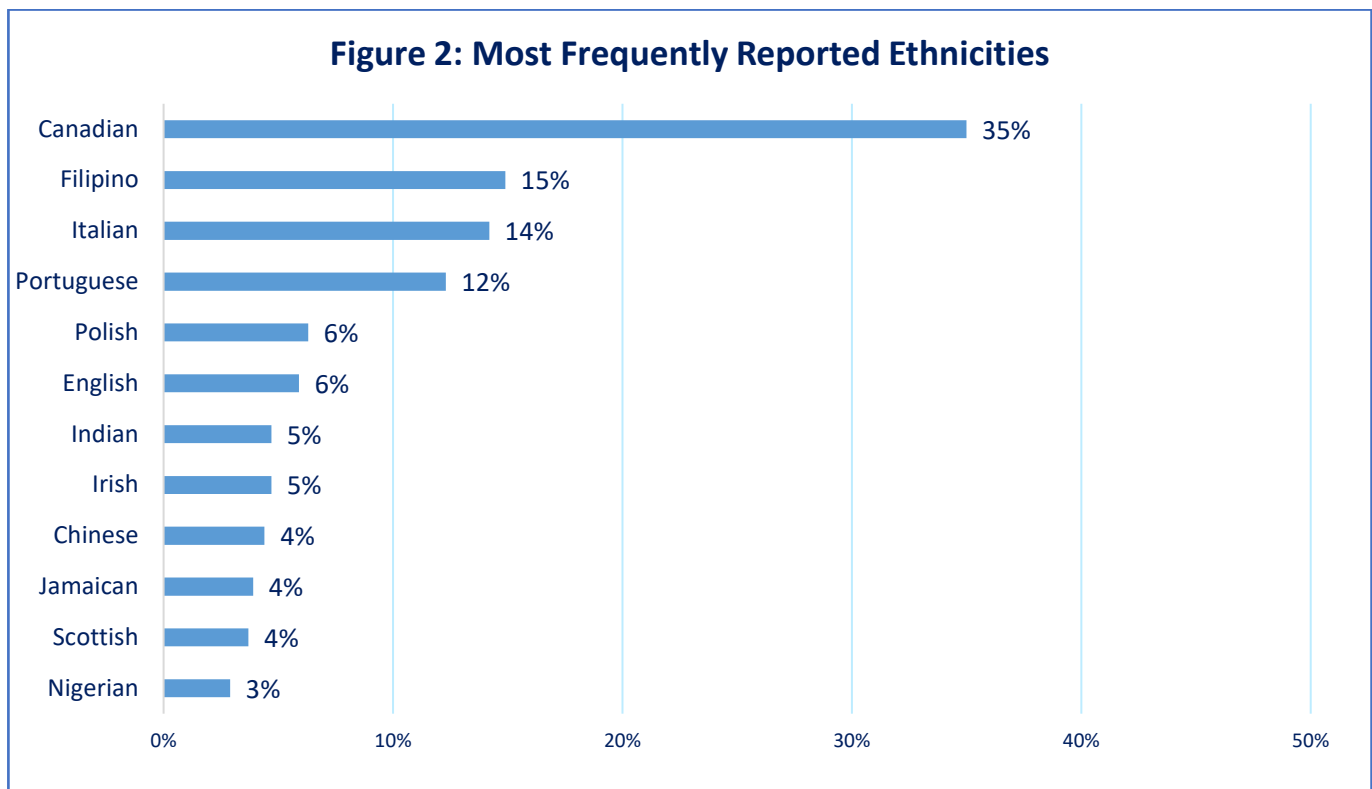
Identity	Number of Students Represented by Parent/Guardian Responses	Percentage of Students Represented by Parent/Guardian Responses
First Nations	54	2%
Métis	15	<1%
Inuit	<10	NR ¹
Other Indigenous identity	13	<1%
Not Indigenous	3,478	98%

¹ NR means not reported due to less than 10 students in this category.

In addition, students could report they were Indigenous in other ways on the census and through the student information system. When staff looked at all these sources, parents and guardians of primary students and those requiring parent and guardian assistance identified a total of **77 individual students who were Indigenous**.

Ethnicity

Figure 2 (below) lists the ethnicities reported by parents and guardians, as single responses or in combination with other ethnicities, for 100 or more students in primary grades or among older students requiring parent and guardian assistance to complete the census.

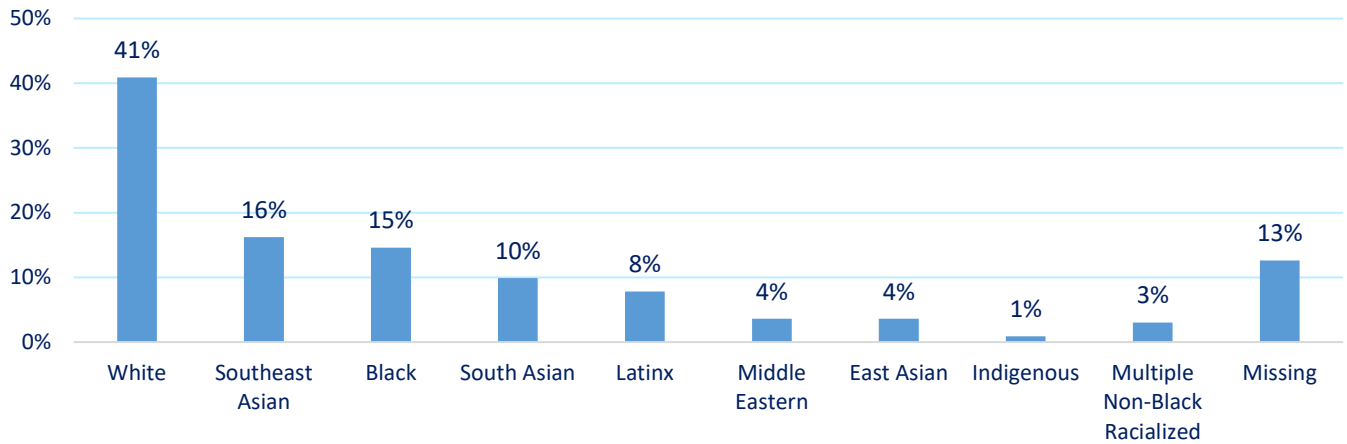


Race

Race is a **social classification, not based in science or biology** (Anti-Racism Directorate, 2019:27), which broadly categorizes people based on physical similarities (e.g., skin colour). Stereotypes and biases have been associated with different racial categories and have led to different levels of power and advantage. Therefore, a person's race has impact on a variety of aspects of their life, including how they may be treated by others and by institutions. Figure 3 (below, following page) summarizes the student racial breakdown based on parent and guardian responses.

The DPCDSB student census asked students to indicate their race from a pre-determined set of options. Students could select as many races as needed, and/or type information into an open text box to describe themselves.

Figure 3: Analysis of Races Reported for Students

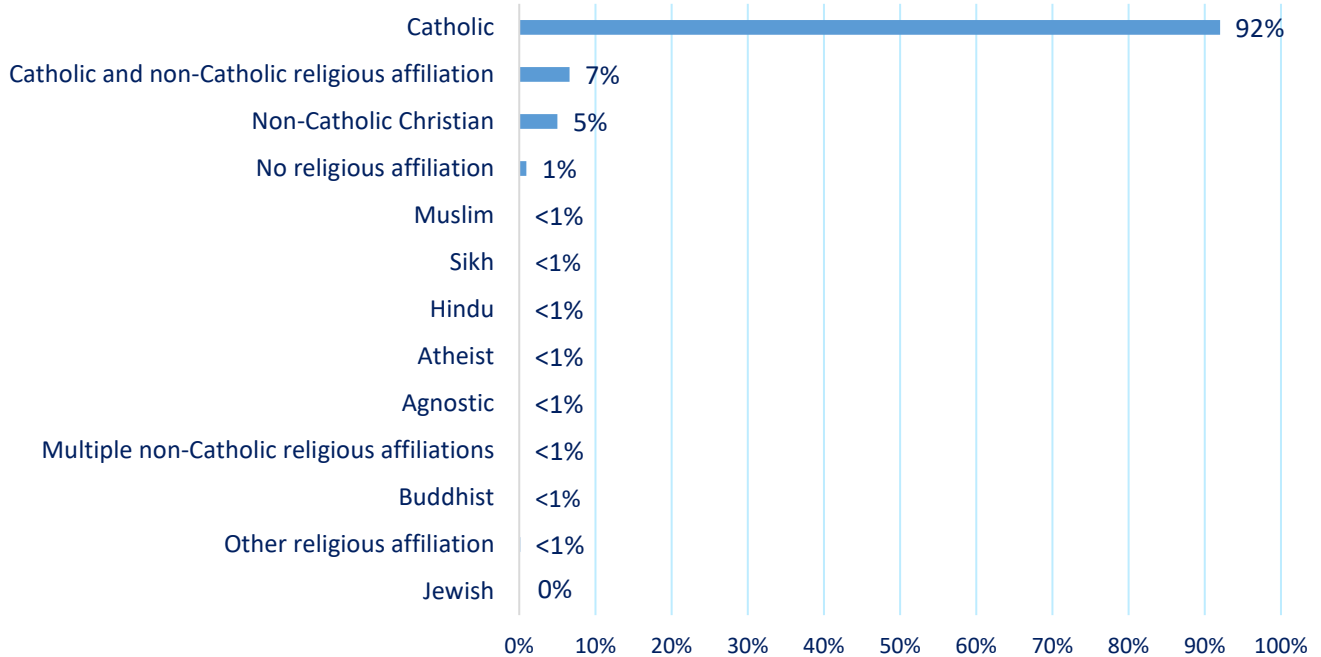


Religious or Spiritual Affiliation

The DPCDSB student census asked students to indicate their religious affiliation from a pre-determined set of options. Students could select as many religious affiliations as needed, and/or type information into an open text box to describe themselves. Figure 4 (below) summarizes the religious affiliations reported by parents and guardians regarding their students.

Note that reported religious affiliations differed greatly between students in Grades 4-8 and Grades 9-12 due to religious requirements to access elementary schools in DPCDSB.

Figure 4: Religious Affiliations Reported for Students

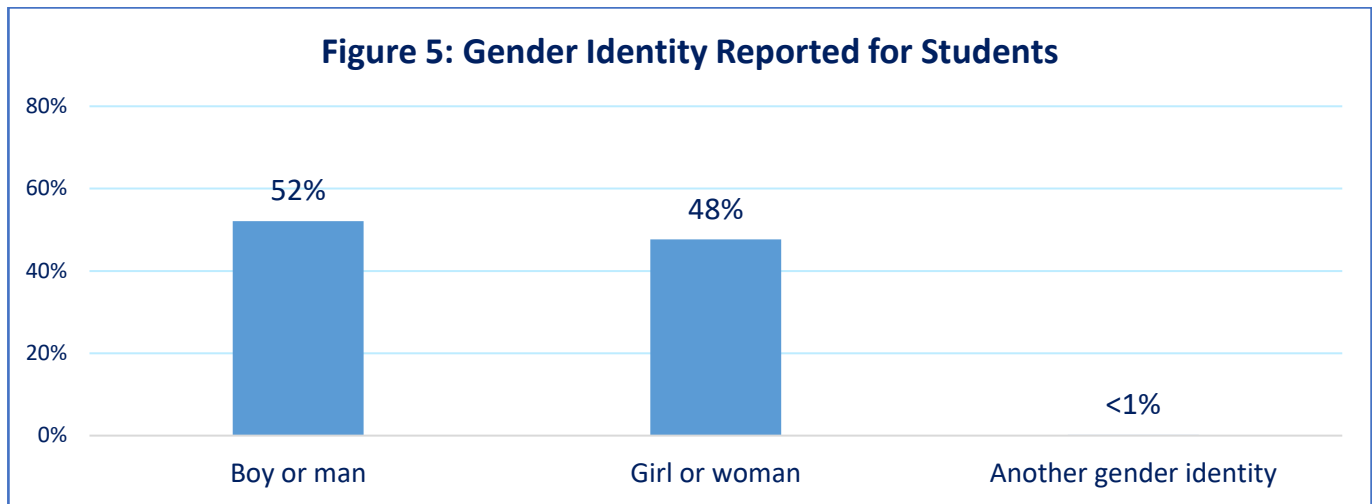


Gender Identity

As a Catholic educational institution, DPCDSB is aware of the Church's position on gender; however, the positions of the Church and the Ontario Human Rights Commission regarding gender differ. Regardless of the different positions on gender, DPCDSB recognizes that everyone's human dignity must be respected and protected. School districts, including Catholic ones, are **required to ask students about their gender identity**. Figure 5 (below) summarizes the responses from parents and guardians to describe the gender identities of their students.

To collect these important data, DPCDSB used a census item that permitted selection of any of the two cis-genders (boy/man and girl/woman) and/or an open text field in which students could enter their gender identity, if they preferred.

Nearly all students were described by their parents and guardians as having a cisgender identity, split nearly equally between boys and girls. Less than 10 students were reported as identifying with a non-cisgender identity using the open text field in the census.

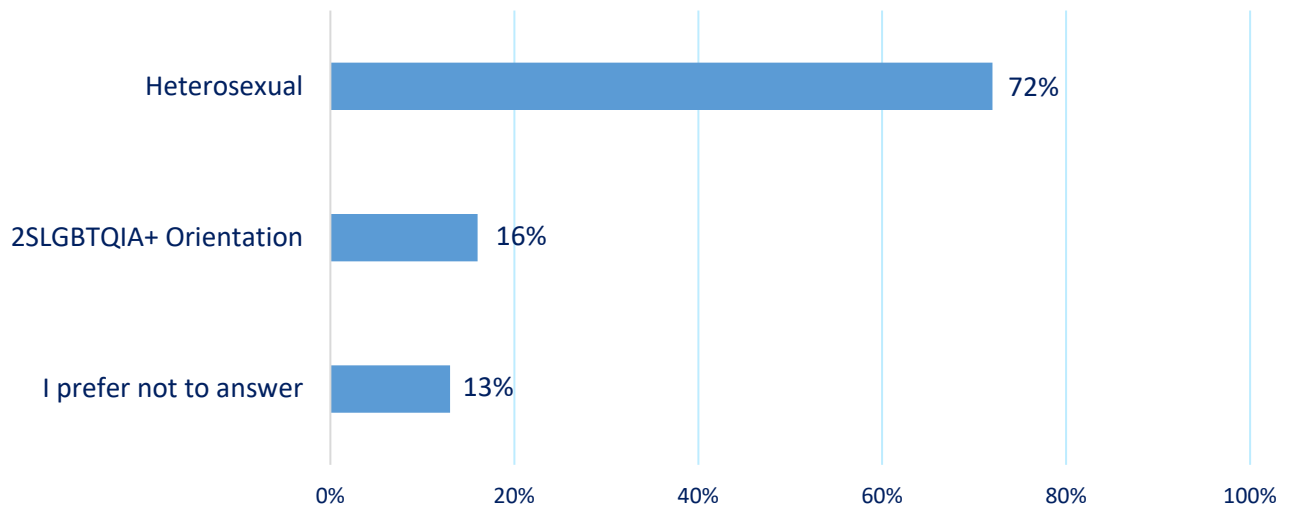


Sexual Orientation

As a Catholic educational institution, DPCDSB is aware of the Church's position on sexual orientation. At the same time, sexual orientation is also one of the protected grounds of the *Ontario Human Rights Code*, meaning it is against the law to discriminate against or harass someone based on their sexual orientation. DPCDSB recognizes that everyone's human dignity must be respected and protected, and that failure to address sexual orientation and related impacts on individuals is exclusionary and harmful to students and community members who have other than heterosexual attraction. Consistent with timing of this topic in the *Ontario Curriculum, Health and Physical Education*, the DPCDSB student census provided the opportunity for parents and guardians to report the sexual orientation of their students in Grades 8 and older. Figure 6 (below, following page) summarizes the sexual orientations reported.

Students in Grades 8 and older could select as many sexual orientations as needed, and/or type information into an open text box, to describe themselves. They could also skip this item or indicate they preferred not to answer. This census item was not asked of younger students.

Figure 6: Sexual Orientations Reported for Students

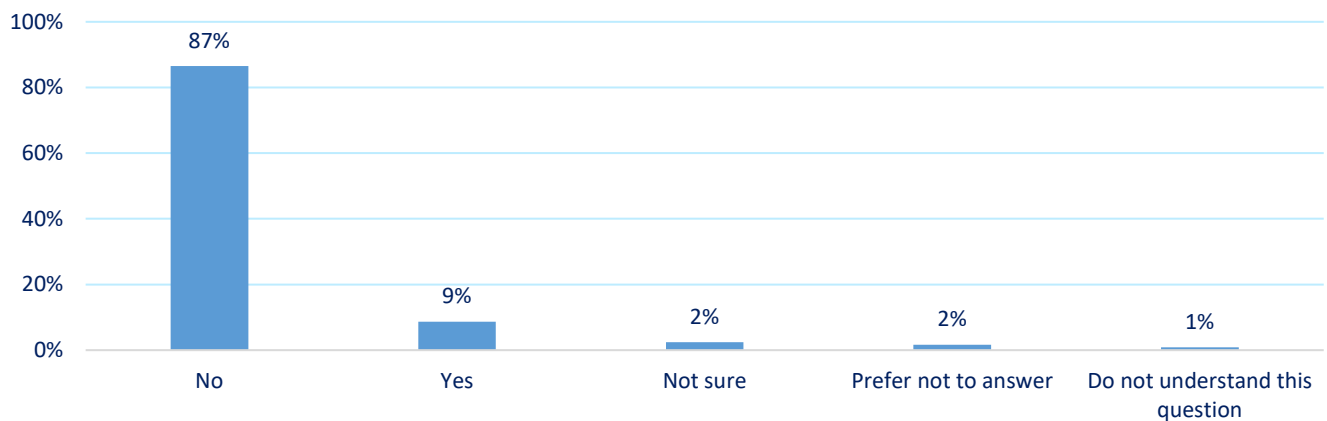


Disability

The DPCDSB Student Census asks students whether they have a disability, given that some people with disabilities face barriers related to physical access, inclusion, negative attitudes, and/or access to information. Parents and guardians were asked if they considered their students to be persons with a disability. Figure 7 (below) illustrates the responses to this item. The most common disabilities reported by parents and guardians who indicated their students were persons with a disability included autism and learning disabilities.

The language of this item is specifically that of “disability”, based on the language of the protected grounds of the Ontario Human Rights Code.

Figure 7: Report of Student Being a Person with a Disability



Status in Canada

The DPCDSB Student Census asked parents and guardians to indicate their students' status in Canada. Table 2 (below) summarizes the status in Canada for students whose parents and guardians completed the census on their behalf. Note that the proportion of students reported by their parents and guardians as Canadian citizens includes students born in Canada and those born outside Canada.²

Table 2: Status in Canada

Status in Canada	Count of Students Reported with this Status by Parents and Guardians	Percentage of Students Reported with this Status by Parents and Guardians
Canadian citizen	3,188	91%
Landed immigrant/permanent resident	251	7%
Refugee claimant	<10	NR
International student	33	1%
I do not understand the question	<10	NR
I prefer not to answer	10	<1%
Not sure	18	1%

Reference

Anti-Racism Directorate. (2019). *Data Standards for the Identification and Monitoring of Systemic Racism*. Retrieved July 27, 2020, from: <https://www.ontario.ca/document/data-standards-identification-and-monitoring-systemic-racism>

² NR means not reported due to less than 10 students in this category.