# THE BLACKNESS IN CANADA PROJECT

# A snapshot of the Black experience in Canada

Racial discrimination in Canada is a multi-layered phenomenon that requires a multi-layered approach. Therefore, the Black Canadian National Survey research project\*, the first-of-its-kind, is a national survey of Canadian ethnoracial relations designed to explore social, political, and economic ties between races and ethnicities.

The data collection tools for this preliminary report consist of a national web survey of over 5,000 respondents and a national black community web survey. These two surveys were combined with a wiki survey with a total of 10,199 votes.

### THE IMPORTANCE OF RACIAL IDENTITY

How important is racial identity in Canadian society?

Percentage of Canadian respondents indicating that racial identity is fundamental to their identity

56%	Black
27%	other non-White
25%	Indigenous
22%	East Asian or S.E. Asiar
10%	White

**62%** of Black Canadians believe racism is a problem in their communities.



Percentage of respondents indicating they face racism regularly or from time to time

<b>70</b> %	Black	
<b>49</b> %	Indigenous	
48%	other non-White	
<b>47</b> %	East Asian or S.E. Asian	
18%	White	

Percentage of respondents indicating they have been treated as lacking intelligence in the last 12 months

67%	Black
35%	other non-White
34%	Indigenous
28%	East Asian or S.E. Asian
20%	White

#### **EMPLOYMENT**

How serious is racism on the job?



of Black Canadians believe racism is a problem in the workplace.



of White Canadians believe racism in the workplace is a minor problem or **not** a problem at all.

90% of **Black Canadians** indicate it is important or crucial to **promote** racial and ethnic diversity in the workplace.

### **HEALTHCARE**

How serious is racism in the healthcare sector?



of Black Canadians think racism is a problem in the healthcare system. (Indigenous people followed closely at 59%.)

#### CHILDCARE AND SOCIAL SERVICES

How does race figure into childcare and social services?

Indigenous people indicate racism is more acute in the **healthcare**, **child protection** and foster care systems than in other sectors.



of Black and Indigenous Canadians recognize racism as a severe problem in child protection and foster care systems.

### JUSTICE SYSTEM

How big a problem is racism within the criminal justice system?



of Black Canadians experience racism in the criminal justice system as a serious problem. (Indigenous people followed closely at 82%.)



<sup>\*</sup> This research project aims to provide disaggregated data to enable effective evidence-based strategies and plans for moving forward in various sectors.

This study was carried out by the Institute for Social Research (ISR) and co-sponsored by the Canadian Race Relations Foundation (CRRF), the Multicultural History Society of Ontario (MHSO) Social Sciences & Humanities Research Council (SSHRC), and York University's Faculty of Liberal Arts & Professional Studies.

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#### INTERACTIONS WITH THE POLICE

How many Black Canadians have been unfairly stopped by police?



### **CANADA-WIDE**

- 22% of Black Canadians have been unfairly stopped by police in the last 12 months.
- · White Canadians have had minimal experience of being unfairly stopped by police (5%).
- Non-white and Indigenous groups indicated that they have been stopped more than White Canadians but less than Black Canadians (10%).

Indigenous	4%	10%
Non-White	15%	15%
White	6%	6%
East Asian/ S.E. Asian	10%	9%
Quebec	Ť	
Black	31%	17%
Indigenous	14%	0%
Non-White	16%	4%
White	7%	1%

**Atlantic** Canada **Black** 

**British** Columbia

41% **Black** Indigenous 14% Non-White 13% White 10% East Asian/ 9% S.E. Asian

21% 3% 4% 6% 2%

**Prairie Provinces** 

Black 26% Indigenous 10% Non-White 10% White East Asian/ 17% S.E. Asian

14% 11% 0% 1% 14% **Ontario** 30% **Black** 

Indigenous 17% Non-White 17% White 10% East Asian/ 9% S.E. Asian

4% 7% 1% 3% East Asian/ 11% 2% S.E. Asian

Percentage of respondents indicating that they have been unfairly stopped by police in the past 12 months

### DOES RACE PLAY A PART IN SUCCESS OR HARDSHIP?

Percentage of respondents indicating that their race or ethnicity has made it harder to succeed in life



Black Canadians



other non-White Canadians



Indigenous Canadians

Only 5% of White respondents indicate their race or ethnicity has made it harder to succeed

In comparison, about 45% of White respondents indicate their race or ethnicity has made success easier.



#### TOP CHANGES BLACK CANADIANS WOULD LIKE TO SEE

- Encourage an expanded, strengthened, enforced and disaggregated employment equity framework.
- **Reform** the justice system.
- Have more educational opportunities and support for Black people from grade school through apprenticeships, college, and university.
- Work to **decolonize** all government institutions.
- Change laws and policies to be equitable for all.
- Assess and equalize international degrees to transition into professions in Canada.

### **ISSUES OF LESSER IMPORTANCE** TO BLACK CANADIANS

Equality for all.

Education, education ... Awareness is

Encourage ways for people to know and experience belonging.

Give and issue public apologies recognizing wrongs committed against Black people.

Adjust the **immigration levels** to levels that can be successfully integrated.

Implement lower taxes and deregulation to allow small businesses to start up, since African countries are entrepreneurial.





canadienne des relations raciales Foundation



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