

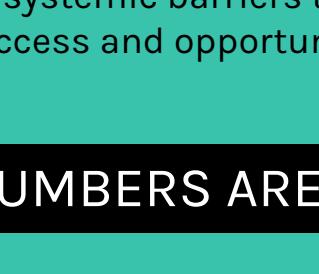
# THE CASE FOR RACE-BASED STATISTICS

## WHY COLLECT RACE-BASED STATISTICS?

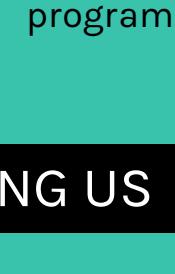
The Ontario Human Rights Commission finds data collecting can help:

- verify, monitor, measure and address gaps, trends, progress and perceptions
- proactively identify opportunities for improvement and growth
- improve the quality of decision-making, service delivery and programming

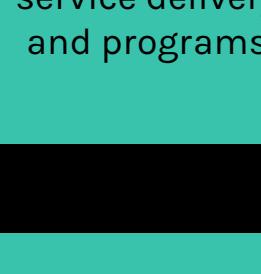
Examples of why collecting data is a good idea:



Prevent or address systemic barriers to access and opportunity



Plan special programs

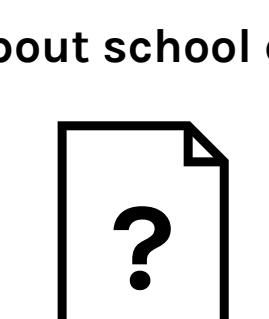


Improve equitable service delivery and programs

## WHAT THE NUMBERS ARE TELLING US

LAO currently doesn't collect data about the race of applicants or clients, but we do rely on secondary data about race. Here's how stats shed a light on our services in the various areas of law that we cover.

### About the child welfare system:



42%

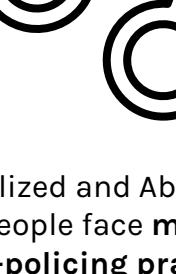
23%

Ontario's children's aid societies have agreed to collect race data to help figure out needs of Black and Aboriginal families

of youth in care of the Children's Aid Society of Toronto are Black, but only 8.2% of the city's under 18 population is Black

of children in care province-wide are Aboriginal, but only 2.5% of Ontario's under 18 population is Aboriginal

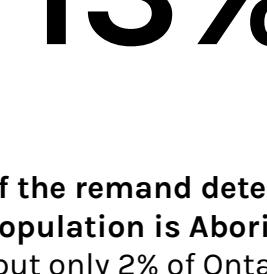
### About school disciplinary hearings:



Not all Ontario school boards collect data on race and suspension rates

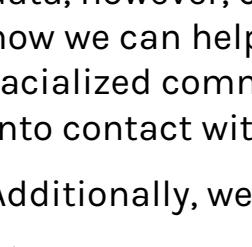


Toronto District School Board data revealed that Black students are suspended disproportionately compared to white students

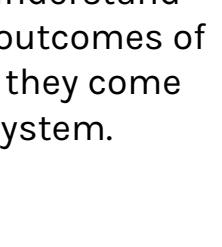


LAO will provide funding to two organizations to help Black students who are suspended and facing expulsion hearings

### About the bail system:



Racialized and Aboriginal people face more over-policing practices and racial profiling



Racialized and Aboriginal people are more likely to find themselves in pre-trial detention

13%

of the remand detention population is Aboriginal but only 2% of Ontario's population is Aboriginal

## SOURCES



[legalaid.on.ca/rcs](http://legalaid.on.ca/rcs)

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Canadian Race Relations Foundation. "A national policy on the collection of race-based statistics." <http://www.crrf-fcrr.ca/en/component/flexicontent/292-policies-and-research/23598-a-national-policy-on-the-collection-of-race-based-statistics>

Statistics Canada. "Ethnic diversity study." <http://www23.statcan.gc.ca/imdb/p2SV.pl?Function=getSurvey&SDDS=4508>

Commission on Systemic Racism in the Ontario Criminal Justice System. "Report on the Commission on Systemic Racism in the Criminal Justice System." <http://archive.org/details/reportracismont00comm>

Statistics Canada. "Admissions to adult correctional services in Canada, 2011/2012." <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/85-002-x/2014001/article/11918-eng.htm>

Toronto District School Board. "Caring and Safe Schools Census." <http://www.tdsb.on.ca/Portals/research/docs/reports/CaringSafeSchoolsCensus201112.pdf>

### Next steps:

In early engagement sessions, LAO has repeatedly heard about the need to collect data about clients' race.

LAO has begun the process of figuring how to gather and analyze this data. Updates will be provided as more information becomes available.