

## TDSB Students and Families: Demographic Profile

- As the largest school board in Canada, in 2011-12 the Toronto District School Board (TDSB) served over 256,000 students in nearly 600 schools.\*
- In the same school year, the TDSB conducted its second system-wide Student Census of Grade 7-12 students in November 2011, with high return rates among students in Grades 7-8 (95%) and Grades 9-12 (84%); and Parent Census in February 2012, with a return rate of 65% among parents of Junior Kindergarten (JK) to Grade 6 students.
- The findings reported in this Fact Sheet are mainly based on data extracted from the demographic section of the TDSB's 2011 Student Census and 2012 Parent Census.

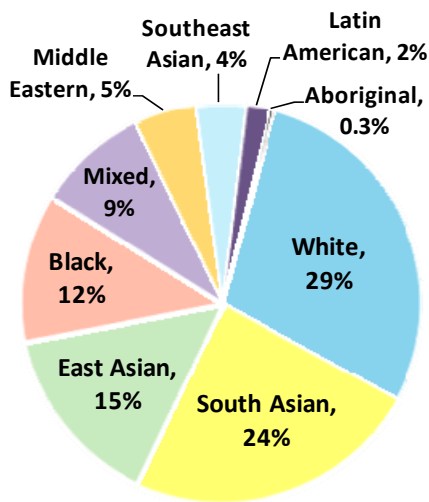
### Gender

- According to the Board's student registration database, there are slightly more male than female students attending TDSB schools, especially at the secondary school panel.\*

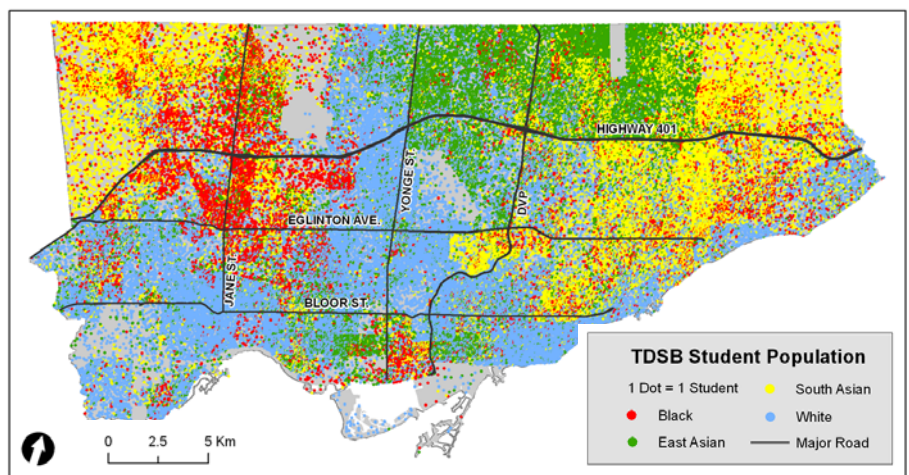
	JK-Gr. 6	Gr. 7-8	Gr. 9-12	Total
<b>Female</b>	<b>49%</b>	<b>49%</b>	<b>47%</b>	<b>48%</b>
<b>Male</b>	<b>51%</b>	<b>51%</b>	<b>53%</b>	<b>52%</b>

### Ethno-Racial Background

- The City of Toronto is among the most ethnically diverse cities world-wide. In the TDSB, the four largest self-identified racialized groups are White (29%), South Asian (24%), East Asian (15%), and Black (12%). The remaining population consists of other groups including "Mixed", Middle Eastern, Southeast Asian, Latin American, and Aboriginal.
- While the percentages of main groups have remained similar over the past five years, there have been some shifts. Compared to the TDSB's 2006 Student Census and 2008 Parent Census, the proportion of both White and East Asian students has dropped by two percentage points, while there has been a slight increase in South Asian students (by one percentage point) and students who identified themselves as "Mixed" (by two percentage points).
- Geographically, each of the four largest ethno-racial groups tends to cluster in pockets throughout the city. Students and parents/guardians identifying as White generally live in the central area as well as areas along the lake. Students from South Asian backgrounds live in greater concentrations in the suburban areas in the east and the west. East Asian families generally live in the former North York and Scarborough areas. Black families live mostly in the north-west area of the city.



**Geographic Distribution of the Four Largest Ethno-racial Groups (JK-Grade 12)**

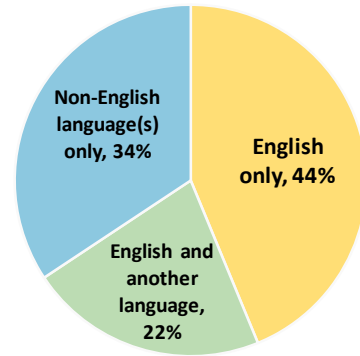


\*Source: TDSB Student Registration Database (Spring 2012)

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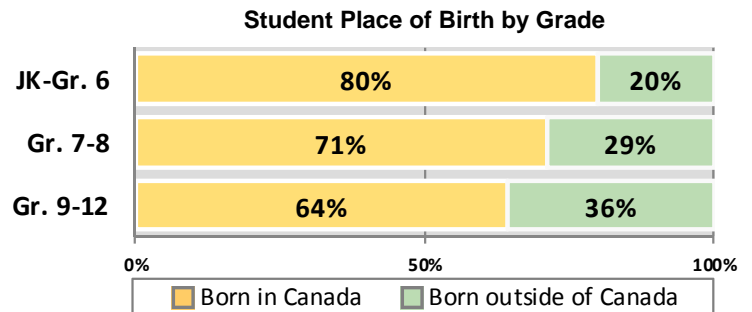
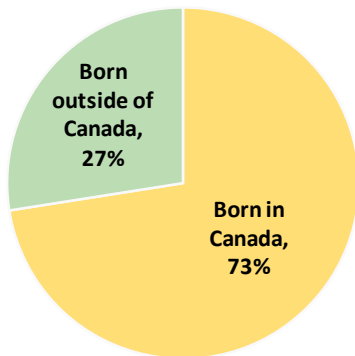
## Home Language

- English is the sole first language for less than half (44%) of TDSB students.
- Less than a quarter (22%) learned English along with another language(s) as their first languages.
- One third (34%) have one or more non-English languages as their mother tongues.
- Altogether over 115 languages are spoken by TDSB students. The top five non-English languages spoken are: Chinese (11%), Tamil (6%), Urdu (5%), Bengali (3%), and Gujarati (2%).\*



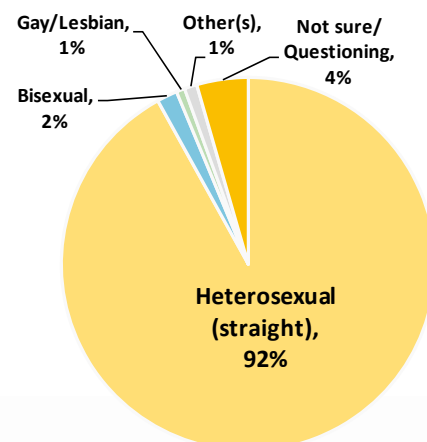
## Student Place of Birth

- About three quarters of TDSB students were born in Canada. The proportion of students born in Canada varies by grade division, with more students in JK-Grade 6 (80%) reported as Canadian-born compared to students in Grades 7-8 (71%) and secondary school students (64%).
- Roughly a quarter of TDSB students immigrated to Canada from over 190 countries. The top five countries of students' birth other than Canada are: China (4%), India (2%), Pakistan (2%), United States (2%), and Bangladesh (1%).\*



## Sexual Orientation (Grades 9-12)

- In terms of sexual orientation, most secondary school students (92%) identified themselves as heterosexual (straight), followed by bisexual (2%), gay/lesbian (1%), and others such as queer, two-spirited, transgender, intersex or asexual (1%). About 4% of students reported they were not sure/questioning.
- The relative proportions reported by the secondary school students in the TDSB's 2011 Student Census reflect the same pattern found five years earlier in the 2006 Student Census.

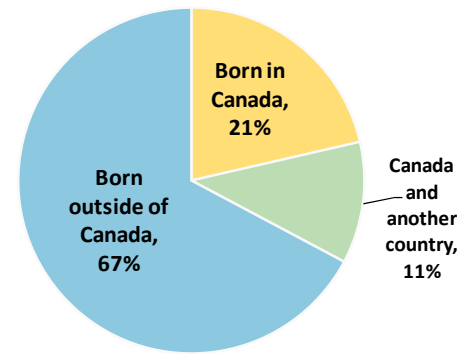


\*Source: TDSB Student Registration Database (Spring 2012)

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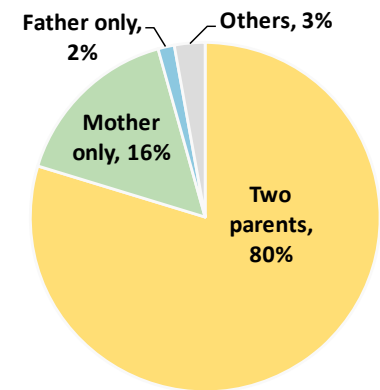
## Parent Place of Birth

- About one fifth of the students have both parents who are Canadian-born, while 11% of students have one parent born in Canada and the other outside Canada.
- The majority (over two-thirds) of TDSB students are from immigrant families with both of their parents born outside Canada (67%).
- Further analysis indicates that over 90% of the visible minority students are of immigrant background - that is, with two parents born outside of Canada.



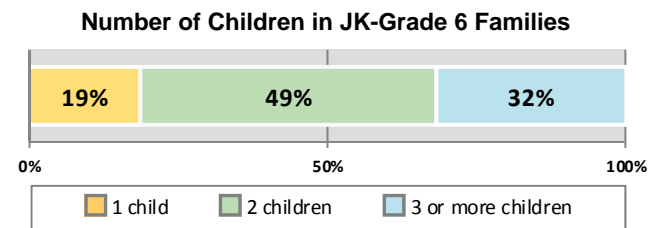
## Parent Presence at Home

- Eighty percent of TDSB students live with two parents at home. These include a small proportion who reported living with each of the parents half-time or with their step-parents.
- Sixteen percent of the students reported living with their mother only, 2% living with their father only, and 3% staying with others such as grandparents or other relatives/friends.
- A small share of students have both parents living outside Canada, ranging from 1% for JK-Grade 6, 2% for Grades 7-8 to 3% for Grades 9-12. More secondary school students have one parent living outside Canada (10%) compared to students in Grades 7-8 (8%) and JK-Grade 6 (4%).



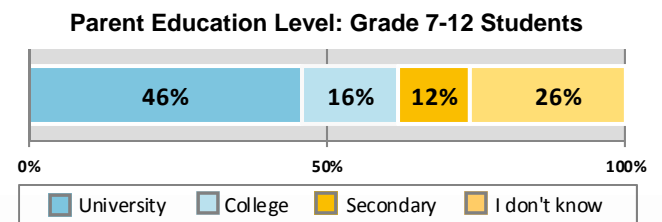
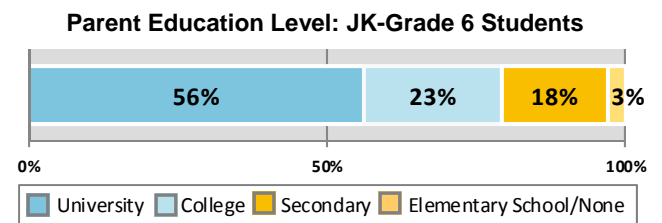
## Family Size (JK-Grade 6)

- Nearly half of TDSB families have two children, while about one third (32%) are larger families with three or more children. The remaining families (19%) have one child.
- Most households have two adults (70%), about 19% have three or more adults, and 11% have one adult.



## Parent Education

- According to the TDSB's 2012 Parent Census, over half (56%) of the JK-Grade 6 students have at least one of their parents with a university degree. For the remaining population, the highest education levels attained by parents include college (23%), high school (18%), and elementary school or none (3%).
- Based on the TDSB's 2011 Student Census, almost half (46%) of the Grade 7-12 students reported at least one of their parents having university education. It should be noted that about a quarter (26%) of the Grade 7-12 students indicated they did not know their parents' educational background.
- Further analysis reveals that immigrant parents are less likely to have university degrees than their Canadian-born counterparts (50% versus 69% for JK-Grade 6 parents, and 42% versus 57% for Grade 7-12 parents).

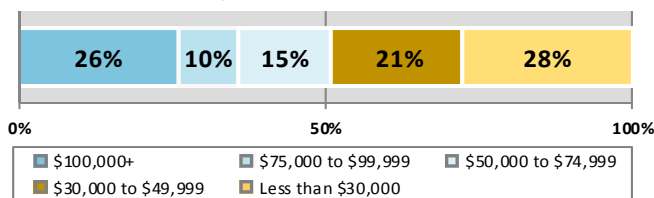


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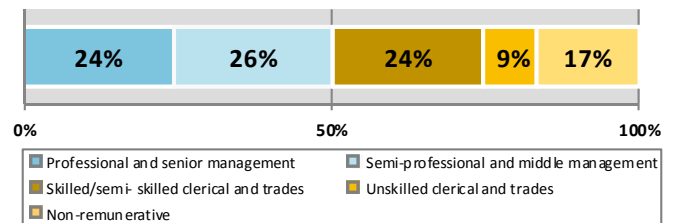
## Socio-economic Status (SES): Family Income (JK-Grade 6) and Parent Occupation (Grades 7-12)

- Based on the TDSB's 2012 Parent Census, about a quarter (26%) of JK-Grade 6 students are from families with an average annual household income of more than \$100,000, followed by another quarter with an average family income between \$50,000 and \$99,999.
- About one-fifth (21%) of the students are from families earning between \$30,000 and \$49,999; but the largest proportion of JK-Grade 6 students are from families with a household income of less than \$30,000. These two lower income bracket groups combined make up almost half of the elementary school population.
- According to the TDSB's 2011 Student Census, about a quarter (24%) of Grade 7-12 students have parents working in professional and senior management sectors, and another quarter (26%) have parents working in semi-professional and middle management sectors.
- The remaining half of the Grade 7-12 population have parents who work in skilled, semi-skilled, and unskilled clerical and trades occupations, and those with parents who are non-remunerative, including homemakers, unemployed, or retired.

Family Income (JK - Grade 6)



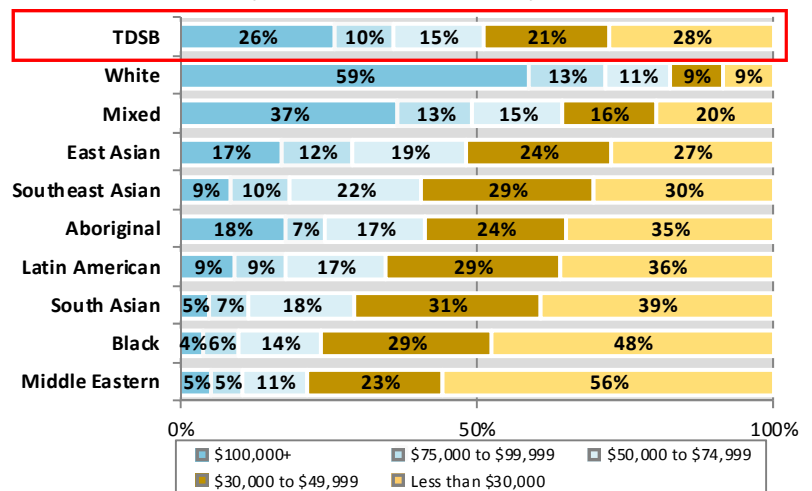
Parent Occupation (Grades 7-12)



### SES and Ethno-racial Background

- Further analysis indicates that the majority of White and "Mixed" JK-Grade 6 students are from higher-income backgrounds, while other visible minority and Aboriginal students are more likely to be from the two lower income bracket groups.
- Similarly, the majority of White and "Mixed" Grade 7-12 students have parents in the professional/semi-professional and senior/middle management sectors, while parents of other racialized groups are more likely to be from the lower SES occupation sectors.

Family Income (JK-Grade 6) by Ethno-racial Group



### Geographic Distribution of Student Population by Family Income (JK-Grade 6)

- The higher income families tend to concentrate in the central and southwest areas of the city as well as areas along the lake.
- Families from the lower income bracket groups spread across the east and west sides of the city with some concentrated pockets in the downtown area.

