



Grade 9 Cohort Post-secondary Pathways, 2011-2016

This fact sheet examines students who confirmed an offer of admission to university only; those who confirmed an offer of admission to community college only; those who applied to both university and community college but did not confirm an offer of admission; and students who did not apply. Comparisons will be made between the current Grade 9 Cohort (2011-2016) and the last Grade 9 Cohort (2006-2011).

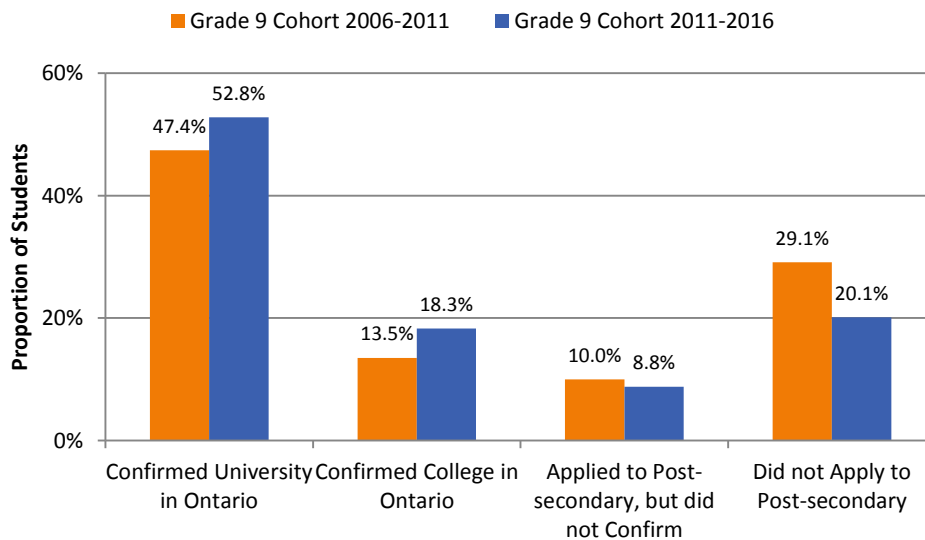
What is the Post-secondary application process?

Students applying to post-secondary institutions in Ontario provide applications through the Ontario Universities' Applications Centre (OUAC) and the Ontario College Application Service (OCAS). We matched the 2015 applications with information in our School Information System (SIS) for the 17-21 year old students in the Toronto District School Board (TDSB) as of March 31, 2016.

We looked at post-secondary applications over the 2015 and 2016 applications cycles (that is, Years 4 and 5 of the cohort). However, note that in later years many TDSB students will apply to post-secondary institutions as adults.

In the 'Direct Transition', secondary to post-secondary, 53% confirmed an offer of admission from an Ontario university, while 18% confirmed an offer from an Ontario college, for a total of 71% of the cohort. An additional 9% applied but did not confirm an offer (many of these students will gain post-secondary entry in future years) (see Figure 1).

Figure 1 – Grade 9 Cohorts Fall 2006-2011 and Fall 2011-2016 Post-secondary Confirmations



Key Findings from the Grade 9 Cohort

In general, since the post-secondary confirmation rate is closely related to the graduation rate, the same predictors for graduation are also predictors of post-secondary access.

Eighty-three percent (83%) of students who graduated by the end of Year 5 confirmed an offer of admission from an Ontario university or college over the 2015 or 2016 application cycle. Since we know that 3-4% of students go to universities outside Ontario, this puts the proportion of graduates attending post-secondary in the most immediate years after high school to 86-87%. Compared with the Grade 9 Cohort of 2006-2011, the confirmation rate to an Ontario post-secondary institution has gone up by 6% (77% to 83%). As with graduation rates, many of the groups with the lowest post-secondary confirmations also had the highest rates of improvement between 2006-2011 and 2011-2016.

Grade 9 Achievement: Most students in the Grade 9 Cohort who achieved under 8 credits in Grade 9 do not confirm post-secondary by the end of five years: 13% of those students with 6 or fewer credits, 43% with 7 credits, 79% with 8 or more credits by the end of Grade 9 confirmed post-secondary. Most students who complete 7 credits by the end of Grade 9 will graduate with a high school diploma. The difference between 7 and 8 credits shows the difference between going on to post-secondary, and not doing so (see Table 1).

Table 1 – Post-secondary Confirmations by Grade 9 Credit Accumulation: 2011-2016 Cohort

Grade 9 Credit Accumulation	Confirmed University in Ontario	Confirmed College in Ontario	Applied to Post-secondary in Ontario with no Confirmation	Did not Apply to Post-secondary
6 or fewer credits (high risk)	2.7%	10.7%	4.9%	81.7%
7 credits (medium risk)	13.0%	30.0%	10.5%	46.6%
8 or more credits (low risk)	60.7%	18.4%	9.1%	11.9%

Program of Study: Eighty-one percent (81%) of students in Academic courses confirmed an offer of admission to post-secondary (university and college) while less than 48% of students enrolled in Applied courses confirmed an offer of admission. Less than 15% of students in Locally Developed courses confirmed an offer of admission to post-secondary in Ontario. Applied students saw the largest improvement in the 2011-2016 cohort of 13% over the 2006-2011 cohort. Locally Developed students saw a 3% decline in confirmation of post-secondary for the 2011-2016 cohort compared to the 2006-2011 cohort (see Table 2).

Gender: Seventy-five percent (75%) of female students confirmed an offer of admission to post-secondary compared to 67% of males, but males had a higher improvement (11%) compared to females (9%) when comparing the 2011-2016 cohort to the 2006-2011 cohort (see Table 2).

Age: Grade 9 Cohort students who are a year older are less likely to confirm an offer of admission to post-secondary when compared to age-appropriate Grade 9 students (49% and 72% respectively), though 15 year old Grade 9 students had a larger improvement than 14 year old students (16% and 9% respectively) when comparing the 2011-2016 cohort to the 2006-2011 cohort (see Table 2).

**Table 2 – Post-secondary Confirmations by Program of Study, Gender, and Age
2011-2016 and 2006-2011 Cohorts**

Variable	Subgroup	Total (2011-2016)	Confirmed University in Ontario (2011-2016)	Confirmed College in Ontario (2011-2016)	Confirmed Post-secondary in Ontario (2011-2016)	Confirmed Post-secondary in Ontario (2006-2011)	Change
Program of Study	Academic	11,599	67.6%	13.6%	81.2%	72.4%	+8.8%
	Applied	3,168	10.2%	37.3%	47.5%	34.9%	+12.6%
	Locally Developed	520	0.6%	14.0%	14.6%	17.8%	-3.2%
	No Program of Study	217	7.8%	4.1%	11.9%	5.0%	+6.9%
Gender	Female	7,485	59.1%	16.1%	75.2%	66.2%	+9.0%
	Male	8,019	46.9%	20.4%	67.3%	55.9%	+11.4%
Age	13	*	*	*	*	73.4%	*
	14	15,154	53.3%	18.2%	71.5%	62.1%	+9.4%
	15	302	25.2%	23.5%	48.7%	33.1%	+15.6%

Note: All categories with less than 100 respondents are not reported.

Sexual Orientation: Heterosexual students are more likely to confirm an offer of admission to post-secondary than LGBTQ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered, queer individuals/communities) and two-spirited students (74% and 57% respectively). Heterosexual students also saw a slightly higher improvement (10%) in post-secondary confirmations than LGBTQ students (9%) when comparing the 2011-2016 cohort to the 2006-2011 cohort (see Table 3).

Table 3 – Post-secondary Confirmations by Sexual Orientation: 2011-2016 and 2006-2011 Cohorts

Variable	Subgroup	Total (2011-2016)	Confirmed University in Ontario (2011-2016)	Confirmed College in Ontario (2011-2016)	Confirmed Post-secondary in Ontario (2011-2016)	Confirmed Post-secondary in Ontario (2006-2011)	Change
Sexual Orientation	Heterosexual	12,868	56.0%	17.9%	73.9%	64.1%	+9.8%
	LGBTQ	286	41.3%	16.1%	57.4%	48.7%	+8.7%

Racial Groups: There is a variation in post-secondary application rates within racial groups. Over 75% of Grade 9 Cohort students who identified themselves as East Asian confirmed an offer of admission to university. This is by far the highest compared to other racial groups. The self-identified racial groups that had the highest percentage of confirmed admissions to post-secondary (university and college) included: East Asian, South Asian, and South East Asian (88%, 85%, and 78% respectively). The self-identified racial groups that had the lowest percentage of confirmed admissions to post-secondary included: Black and Latin American (57% and 58% respectively). However, self-identified Black and Latin American students also had the largest improvement for post-secondary confirmations in the 2011-2016 cohort (16% and 19% respectively) compared to the 2006-2011 cohort (see Table 4).

Region of Birth: Students born in Eastern Asia, South Asia, and Southern and Western Europe have higher percentages of confirmed admission to post-secondary (88%, 86%, and 74% respectively). Students born in English-speaking Caribbean and Central and South America and Mexico have lower percentages of confirmed admissions to post-secondary (37% and 53% respectively). Sixty-nine percent (69%) of students born in Canada confirmed an offer of admission to post-secondary. This is slightly lower than the overall percentage (71%). Students born in Southeast Asia had the largest increase in post-secondary confirmations of 17%, while students born in Eastern Europe saw a decline in their post-secondary confirmations of 6% when comparing the 2011-2016 cohort to the 2006-2011 cohort (see Table 4).

**Table 4 – Post-secondary Confirmations by Racial Group and Region of Birth
2011-2016 and 2006-2011 Cohorts**

Variable	Subgroup	Total (2011-2016)	Confirmed University in Ontario (2011-2016)	Confirmed College in Ontario (2011-2016)	Confirmed Post-secondary in Ontario (2011-2016)	Confirmed Post-secondary in Ontario (2006-2011)	Change
Racial Group	White	4,224	50.1%	15.8%	65.9%	58.0%	+7.9%
	South Asian	3,311	67.3%	17.5%	84.8%	76.0%	+8.8%
	East Asian	2,293	75.7%	12.3%	88.0%	81.9%	+6.1%
	Black	1,801	30.4%	27.0%	57.4%	41.4%	+16.0%
	Mixed	1,089	47.1%	17.2%	64.3%	50.6%	+13.7%
	Middle Eastern	789	52.3%	20.5%	72.8%	61.7%	+11.1%
	Southeast Asian	696	45.1%	32.9%	78.0%	68.3%	+9.7%
	Latin American	291	28.5%	29.6%	58.1%	38.7%	+19.4%
Region of Birth	Canada	10,926	50.0%	19.0%	69.0%	57.9%	+11.1%
	South Asia	1,268	71.1%	14.7%	85.8%	74.4%	+11.4%
	Eastern Asia	1,059	76.8%	10.7%	87.5%	78.3%	+9.2%
	Western Asia	494	56.7%	15.8%	72.5%	60.0%	+12.5%
	Eastern Europe	360	48.3%	13.9%	62.2%	68.2%	-6.0%
	Southeast Asia	307	37.5%	35.2%	72.7%	55.9%	+16.8%
	Central & South America & Mexico	206	33.5%	19.9%	53.4%	45.6%	+7.8%
	English-speaking Caribbean	200	10.5%	26.5%	37.0%	29.1%	+7.9%
	US	151	53.0%	13.2%	66.2%	56.9%	+9.3%
	Eastern Africa	150	42.0%	24.0%	66.0%	50.9%	+15.1%
Southern and Western Europe	136	58.1%	16.2%	74.3%	70.5%	+3.8%	

Note: All categories with less than 100 respondents are not reported.

Student Language: In general, students speaking English (the largest group, accounting for just under half the students) have confirmed admission to post-secondary results of 10% below the average (61% compared to 71%). Students speaking Chinese, Bengali, Tamil, Hindi, and Gujarati, have the highest percentage of confirmed admission to post-secondary while students speaking Spanish and Somali have the lowest percentages of confirmed admission to post-secondary. Dari-speaking students saw the largest improvement in confirmation of post-secondary (24%) when comparing the 2011-2016 cohort to the 2006-2011 cohort (see Table 5).

Table 5 – Post-secondary Confirmations by Student Language: 2011-2016 and 2006-2011 Cohorts

Variable	Subgroup	Total (2011-2016)	Confirmed University in Ontario (2011-2016)	Confirmed College in Ontario (2011-2016)	Confirmed Post-secondary in Ontario (2011-2016)	Confirmed Post-secondary in Ontario (2006-2011)	Change
Student Language	English	6,901	42.1%	19.2%	61.3%	50.6%	+10.7%
	Chinese	1,867	75.6%	13.2%	88.8%	81.6%	+7.2%
	Tamil	959	73.0%	13.7%	86.7%	79.3%	+7.4%
	Urdu	544	66.2%	16.9%	83.1%	69.4%	+13.7%
	Bengali	387	78.0%	9.6%	87.6%	81.2%	+6.4%
	Somali	381	43.8%	18.9%	62.7%	46.9%	+15.8%
	Gujarati	322	70.8%	17.7%	88.5%	78.8%	+9.7%
	Tagalog (Pilipino)	297	33.3%	41.1%	74.4%	53.6%	+20.8%
	Spanish	289	27.3%	27.0%	54.3%	36.9%	+17.4%
	Persian (Farsi)	276	57.2%	15.9%	73.1%	63.0%	+10.1%
	Vietnamese	272	56.3%	21.0%	77.3%	76.4%	+0.9%
	Arabic	259	53.3%	21.6%	74.9%	64.2%	+10.7%
	Punjabi	233	59.7%	25.8%	85.5%	73.0%	+12.5%
	Korean	209	71.8%	11.0%	82.8%	72.4%	+10.4%
	Russian	178	59.6%	16.3%	75.9%	68.9%	+7.0%
	French	138	54.3%	15.9%	70.2%	50.9%	+19.3%
	Greek	134	56.0%	20.1%	76.1%	63.9%	+12.2%
Hindi	134	68.7%	16.4%	85.1%	79.8%	+5.3%	
Dari	115	48.7%	27.0%	75.7%	51.7%	+24.0%	
Serbian	114	68.4%	13.2%	81.6%	76.5%	+5.1%	

Note: All categories with less than 100 respondents are not reported.

Parental Presence: Students with both parents at home are more likely to confirm an offer of admission to post-secondary (76%) when compared to students living with one parent or ‘other’ (61% and 59%, respectively). Students living with one parent saw a larger increase in post-secondary confirmations (11%) than students living with both parents or ‘other’ when comparing the 2011-2016 cohort to the 2006-2011 cohort (see Table 6).

Parental Education: If parents have attended university, their child is more likely to confirm an offer of admission to post-secondary (79%) compared to students whose parents did not attend university, but students whose parents only had a high school education saw the highest improvement in post-secondary confirmations (19%) when comparing the 2011-2016 cohort to the 2006-2011 cohort (see Table 6).

Parental Occupation: Parents’ occupation is used as an indicator of family socio-economic status (SES). When comparing students’ post-secondary application results with their family SES, 80% of students with parents in a “Professional” occupation confirmed an offer of admission to post-secondary. This percentage decreases as students’ SES decreases with 12% fewer students of parents with ‘non-remunerative’ occupations confirming an offer of admission to post-secondary. Students whose parents worked in unskilled clerical occupations improved the most in terms of post-secondary confirmations (15%) when comparing the 2011-2016 cohort to the 2006-2011 cohort (see Table 6).

**Table 6 – Post-secondary Confirmations by Parental Presence/Education/Occupation
2011-2016 and 2006-2011 Cohorts**

Variable	Subgroup	Total (2011-2016)	Confirmed University in Ontario (2011-2016)	Confirmed College in Ontario (2011-2016)	Confirmed Post-secondary in Ontario (2011-2016)	Confirmed Post-secondary in Ontario (2006-2011)	Change
Parental Presence	Both Parents	11,563	58.7%	17.7%	76.4%	68.1%	+8.3%
	One Parent	2,561	39.2%	21.6%	60.8%	49.4%	+11.4%
	Other	319	35.7%	23.2%	58.9%	50.0%	+8.9%
Parental Education	High School	1,396	47.4%	23.2%	70.6%	52.0%	+18.6%
	College	2,112	49.7%	22.7%	72.4%	59.9%	+12.5%
	University	6,902	66.6%	12.1%	78.7%	72.6%	+6.1%
	Don't Know	3,652	40.3%	25.7%	66.0%	57.1%	+8.9%
Parental Occupation	Professional	3,147	69.2%	10.7%	79.9%	73.1%	+6.8%
	Semi-Professional	3,234	60.0%	16.1%	76.1%	66.0%	+10.1%
	Skilled Clerical	2,822	49.7%	23.2%	72.9%	62.7%	+10.2%
	Unskilled Clerical	1,062	47.8%	24.2%	72.0%	56.9%	+15.1%
	Non-remunerative	1,600	47.8%	20.2%	68.0%	56.7%	+11.3%