



The Children's Aid Society of Ottawa's Race-Based Data

In 2017, the *Ontario Anti-Racism Act* came into effect, providing a framework for public sector organizations to identify and eliminate systemic racism. In addition, in 2018, the government of Ontario mandated the collection of race-based data. This data collection allows for public agencies to support the development of fair policies, equitable strategies, culturally appropriate resources for all communities and to help address the racism and discrimination that exist in government structures.

The Children's Aid Society of Ottawa (CASO) is committed to providing services that are equitable and inclusive. Our new 5-year strategic plan outlines the various strategies and initiatives in place to support improved services to families from Black, Racialized, First Nation, Inuit and Métis communities.

As our agency releases our race-based data, we recognize the limitations involved in this report. We acknowledge that our data is incomplete, and this work must, and shall, be prioritized. We also commit to sharing this information on a yearly basis hereafter.

Notwithstanding incomplete data collection, evidence reflects disproportionalities among Black, Racialized, First Nation, Inuit and Métis families.

Investigation Data

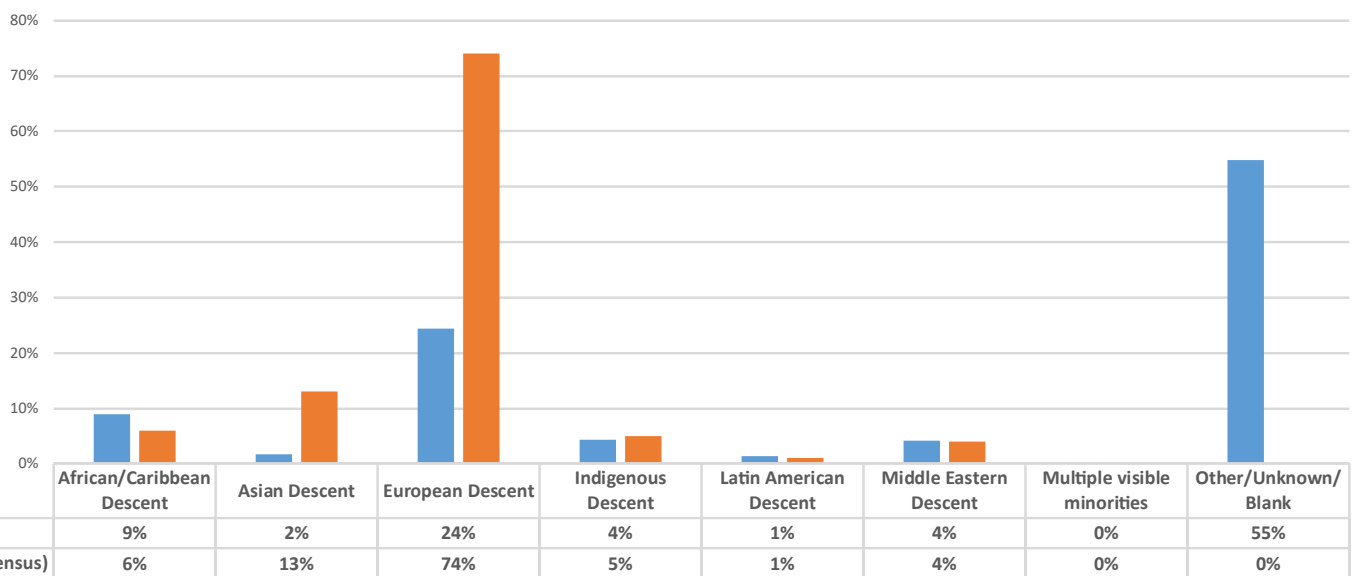
Protection workers investigate detailed information following a report. Information gathered during an investigation determines if the file is to be closed or if ongoing services are required.

Key Data Findings

CASO's investigation data represents an overrepresentation with the Black (African/Caribbean Descent) population group. In contrast, white families are significantly underrepresented among families investigated.

It's important to note that 55% of files do not have an identified race, significantly impacting data outcomes.

Ethnicity of Primary Client in Investigation Cases Compared with Population of Ottawa as of November 2, 2020



The data reflects the total open investigation files, as of November 2, 2020. The columns in orange reflect the Ottawa population, while the blue columns represent the percentage of CASO investigations.

Distribution of Investigation Files by Reported Concern

Reason for Service:	Total Files:
Physical/sexual harm by commission	27%
Harm by omission	9%
Emotional harm	35%
Separation from parent/caregiver	6%
Caregiver capacity	22%

For further details regarding each service definition, read the [Ontario Child Welfare Eligibility Spectrum](#)

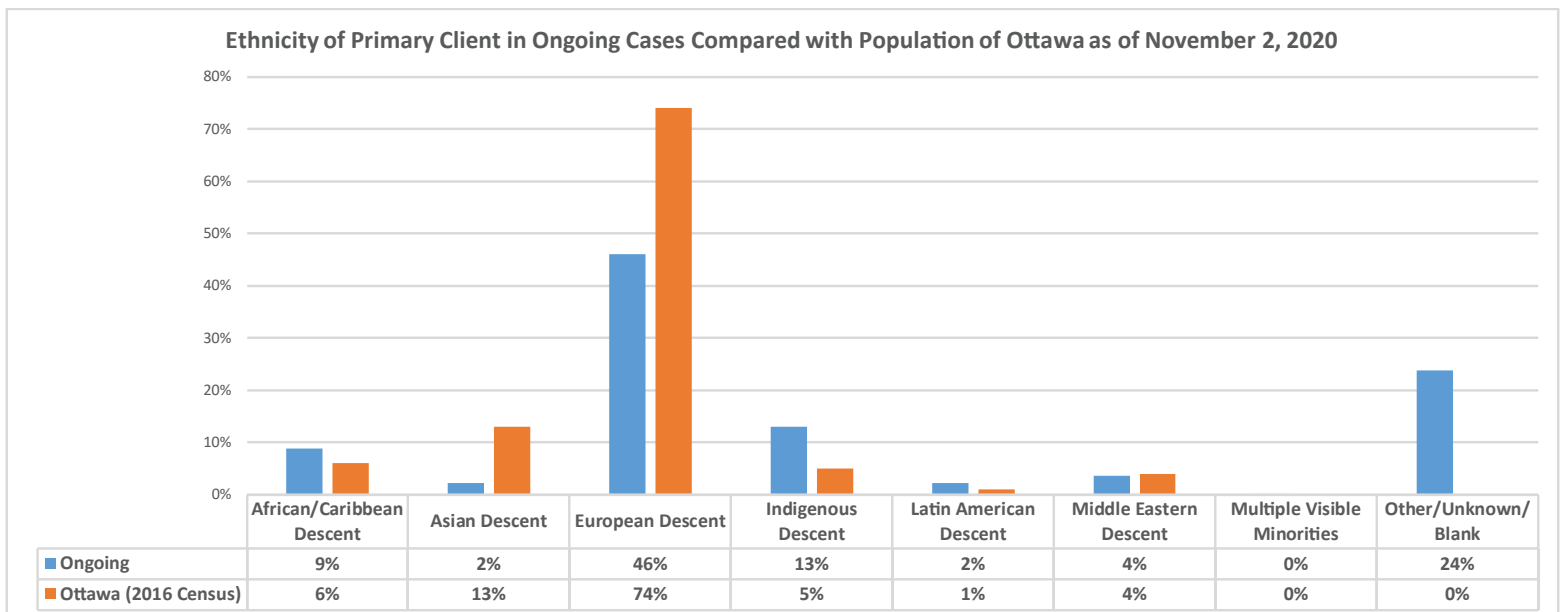
Ongoing Data

An ongoing file is opened when CASO determines a client is in need of additional support services following an investigation.

Key Data Findings

CASO's ongoing service data represents an overrepresentation with the Black (African/Caribbean Descent), First Nation, Inuit and Métis population groups. In contrast, white families are significantly underrepresented among families receiving ongoing services.

Important to note that 24% of files do not have an identified race, impacting data outcomes.



The data reflects the total ongoing files, as of November 2, 2020. The columns in orange reflect the Ottawa population, while the blue columns represent the percentage of ongoing files.

Distribution of Ongoing Files by Service Reason

Reason for Service:	Total Files:
Physical/sexual harm by commission	10%
Harm by omission	11%
Emotional harm	22%
Separation from parent/caregiver	11%
Caregiver capacity	46%
Request for assistance	<1%

For further details regarding each service definition, read the [*Ontario Child Welfare Eligibility Spectrum*](#)

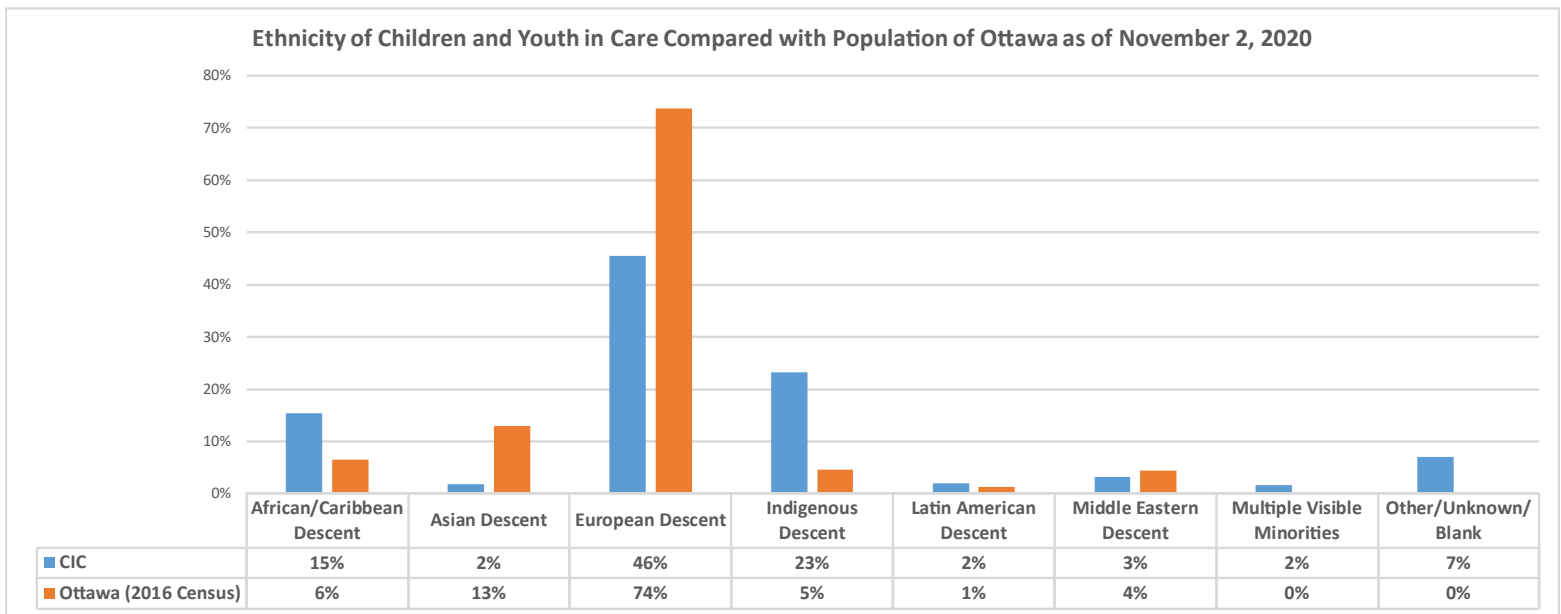
Children in Care (CIC) Data

Key Data Findings

- Black children (African/Caribbean Descent) are admitted into care 2.5 times more than the proportion of the Black population in Ottawa.
- First Nation, Inuit and Métis children are admitted into care 4.6 times more than the proportion of the First Nation, Inuit and Métis population in Ottawa.
- In contrast, white children are significantly underrepresented among children admitted into care.

Black and First Nation, Inuit and Métis children are overrepresented in admissions into care. They are also more likely to be brought into care following an investigation.

Important to note that 7% of files do not have an identified race.



The data reflects the total child in care files, as of November 2, 2020. The columns in orange reflect the Ottawa population, while the blue columns represent the percentage of CASO child in care files.

Distribution of Children in Care by Care Type

Adoption Probation	7%
Child in Care	43%
Continued Care and Support for Youth (ages 18-21)	28%
Formal Customary Care	1%
Kinship Service	18%
Voluntary Youth Services (Youth ages 16-17)	3%