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THE BLACK COMMUNITY OF OTTAWA: A SUMMARY PORTRAIT USING THE 2021 CENSUS

PREPARED BY THE SOCIAL PLANNING COUNCIL OF OTTAWA WITH DATA COMPLIMENTS OF THE
OTTAWA AND REGION DATA CONSORTIUM

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Key points

The Black community in Ottawa is dynamic and diverse. It is characterized by a rich tapestry of various backgrounds and experiences. Some members of this community have deep-rooted Canadian ancestry, while others have immigrated more recently. Regardless of their origins, they have all played significant roles in shaping the city's growth, enhancing its cultural diversity, and driving its development.

This report provides an introductory portrait of the Black population in Ottawa, through a review of data collected by the Statistics Canada 2021 census of population (the most current population statistics available). The report is an update of the Summary Portrait of Ottawa's Black Community in Comparison with the General Population based on the 2016 census¹.

- ❖ The Black community in Ottawa is growing in numbers and diversity.
- ❖ Ottawa's Black population is more youthful than the general population.
- ❖ Black Ottawa residents are more likely to be bilingual or Francophone than the general population.
- ❖ Significant Economic Disparities
 - Despite having a higher participation rate in the labour force, the Black population has a greater unemployment rate than the general population.
 - Compared with the total population, the Black population in Ottawa has much lower incomes and higher rates of poverty.
 - One in five of Ottawa's Black residents is burdened by the cost of their housing.

Indicator (2021)	General population	Racialized population	Black population	Non-racialized population	Non-racialized and non-Indigenous population
Poverty - below the low income measure after tax (LIM-AT)	8.90%	14.10%	16.80%	6.40%	6.20%
Women's poverty (below LIM-AT)	9.30%	14.60%	17.80%	6.70%	6.50%
Child poverty (aged 0 - 17 below LIM-AT)	10.70%	16.90%	20.70%	6.20%	5.80%
Senior poverty (aged 65+ below LIM-AT)	9.70%	20.20%	20.40%	7.40%	7.40%
In the bottom half of income deciles	38.10%	51.10%	59.80%	31.80%	31.20%
In the lowest income decile	8.70%	13.30%	15.30%	6.50%	6.30%
Median employment income (2020)	\$47,600	\$35,200	\$29,200	\$53,200	\$53,600

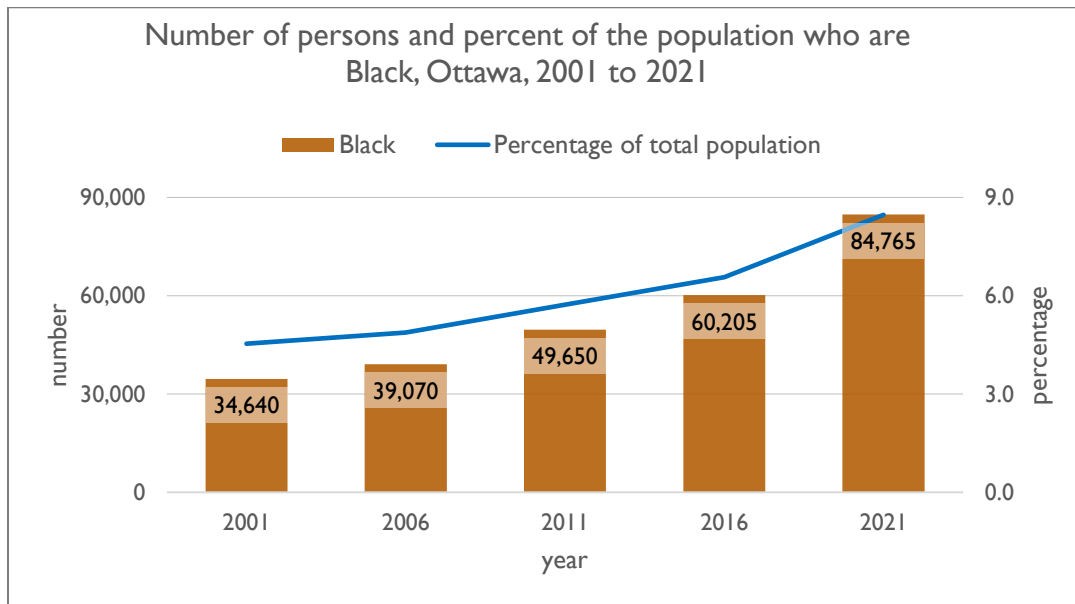
¹ Summary Portrait of Ottawa's Black Community in Comparison with the General Population based on the 2016 census. Social Planning Council of Ottawa. Accessed at <https://neighbourhoodequity.ca/racism/>

Growing in Size and Diversity

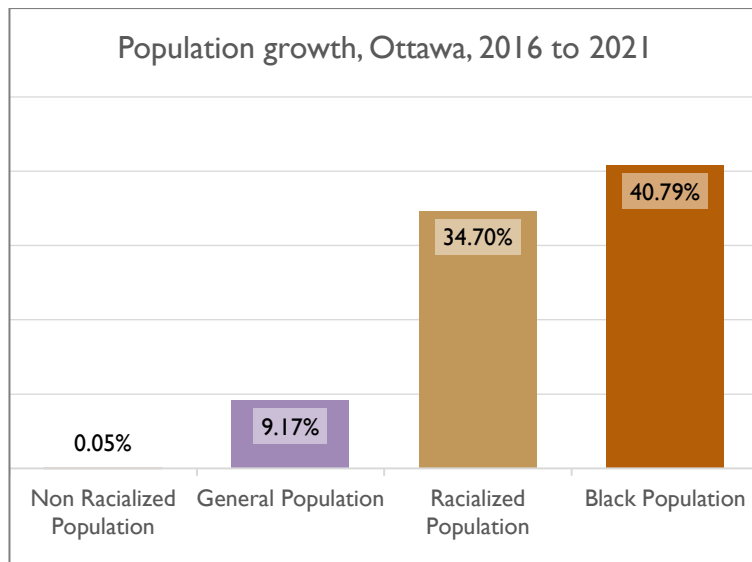
The Black population in Ottawa is growing in size and diversity. Close to 85,000 self-identified Black individuals currently live in Ottawa, representing 8.5 percent of the area’s population. The population has been growing and has increased 2.5 times in number over the past 20 years.

Population growth

Change in the Black population between 2001 and 2021, Ottawa



Change in the population of various groups between 2016 and 2021, Ottawa

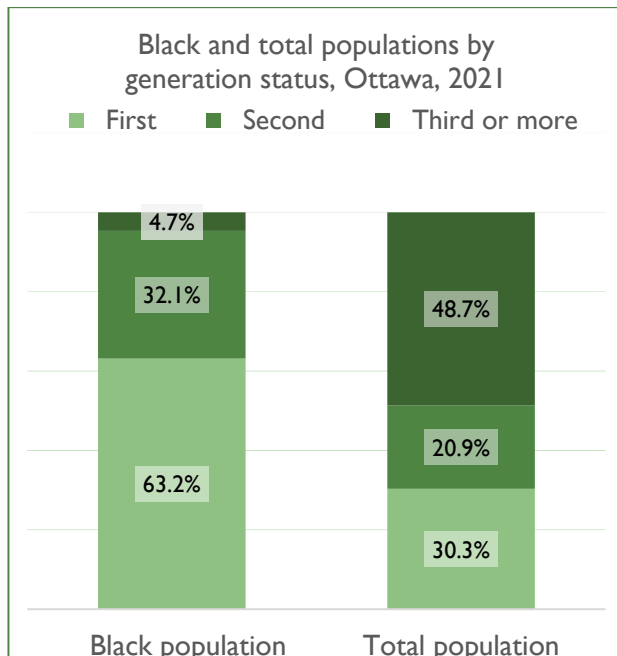


Between 2016 and 2021 Ottawa's Black population increased by 40.8%, the most rapid growth since 2001.

The latest growth of Ottawa’s Black community surpassed the increase of the general population and the overall racialized population.

Currently, the Black community is the largest among the racialized Ottawa communities. Over 26% of the total racialized population in Ottawa identifies as Black.

Canada is the top place of birth of the Ottawa Black population. In 2021, close to 4 in 10 Ottawa Black people were born in Canada (e.g., being of second, third, or more generations).



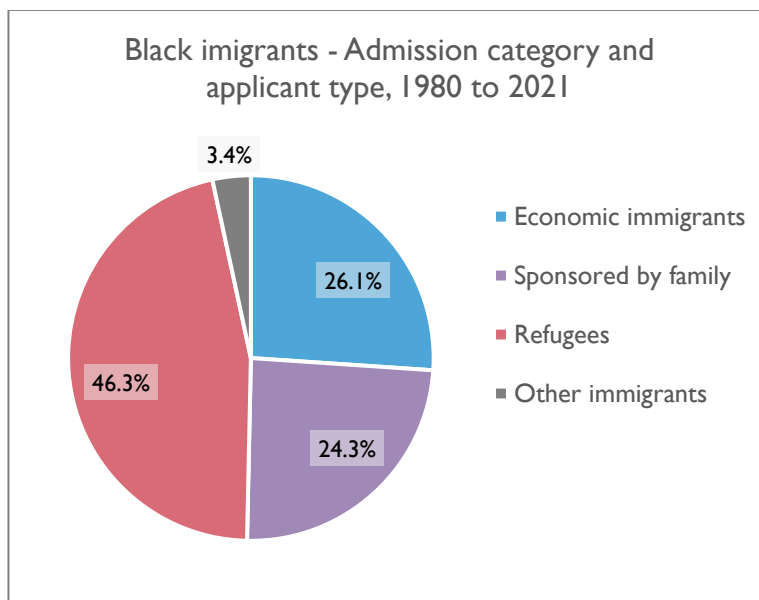
Generation status indicates how many generations a person has been in Canada.

- ❖ **First generation** includes persons who were born outside Canada.
- ❖ **Second generation** includes persons born in Canada with at least one parent born outside Canada. For the most part, these are the children of immigrants.
- ❖ **Third generation or more** includes persons born in Canada with all parents born in Canada.

In 2021, about 44,805 Black people were immigrants, and another 7,660 were non-permanent residents.

About 11,025 people in Ottawa were Black newcomers who arrived between 2016 and 2021, representing 24.6% of all Black immigrants.

Admission category and applicant type of Black immigrants, Ottawa, 1980 to 2021.

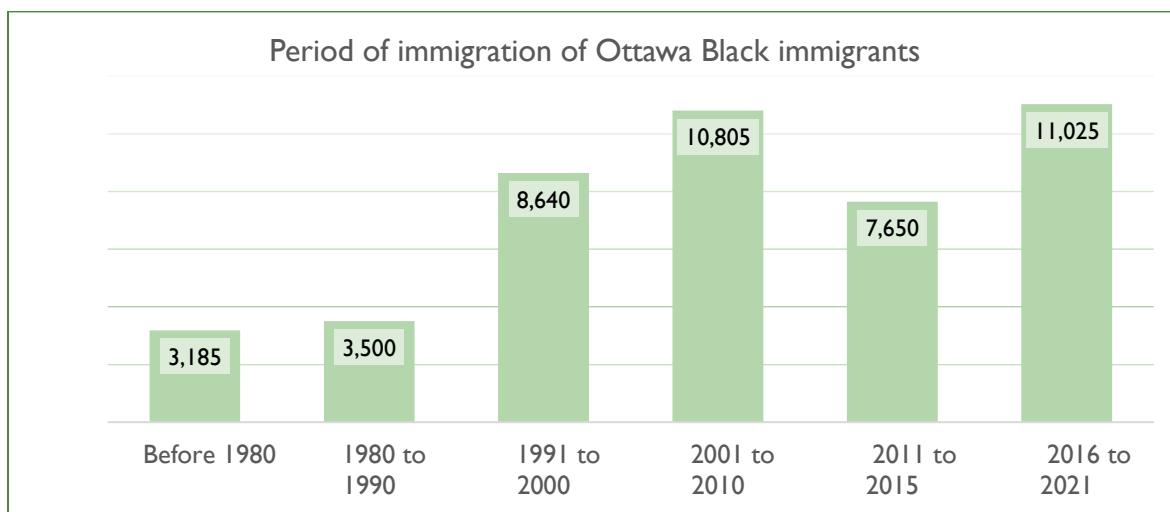


Between 1980 and 2021 the majority (46.3%) of Ottawa Black immigrants came to Canada as refugees.

'Refugees' includes immigrants who were granted permanent resident status based on a well-founded fear of returning to their home country.

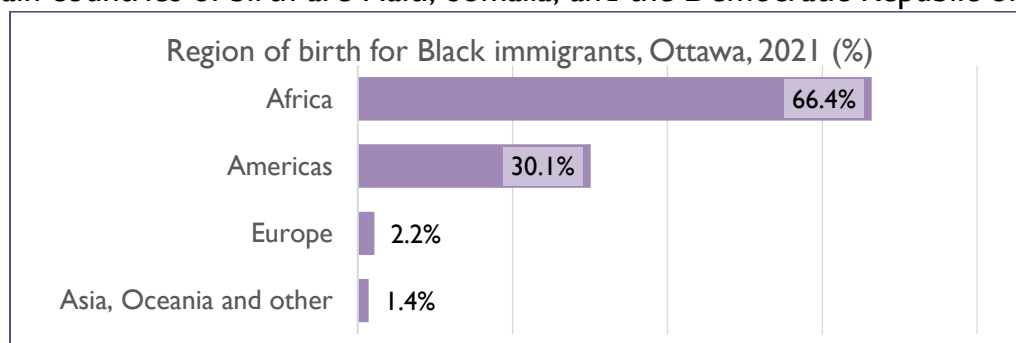
Economic immigrants and sponsored by family immigrants each accounted for a quarter of the Black immigrant population.

Ottawa's Black immigrants came to Canada at different points in time.



Ottawa's Black immigrants came to Canada from different regions and countries. Africa and the Caribbean are the two predominant regions of origin for established Black immigrants.

The main countries of birth are Haiti, Somalia, and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

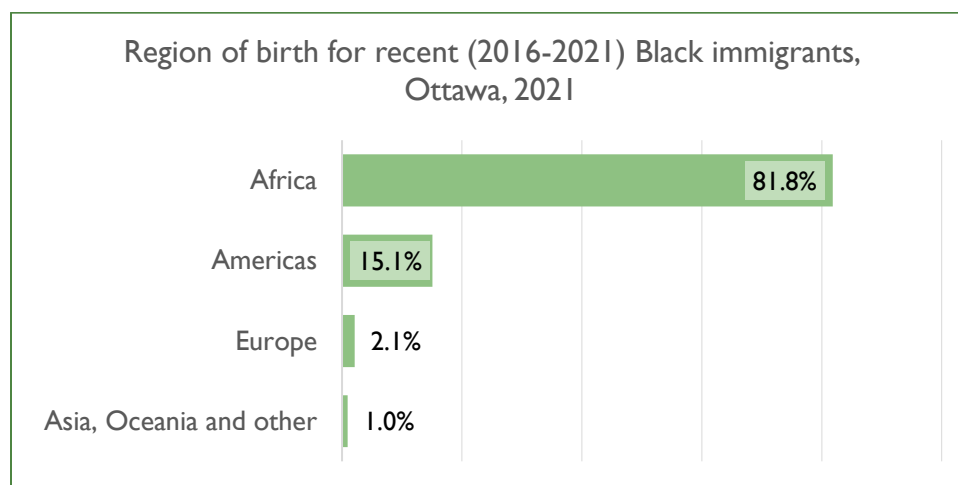


Countries of birth for Black immigrants, Ottawa, 2021

Top countries of birth for Black immigrants	Number	Percentage
Total	44,805	
Haiti	6,525	14.6%
Somalia	4,370	9.8%
Democratic Republic of Congo	3,940	8.8%
Nigeria	3,195	7.1%
Jamaica	2,855	6.4%
Ethiopia	2,745	6.1%
Other places of birth in Americas	1,725	3.9%
Eritrea	1,485	3.3%
United States of America	1,450	3.2%
Trinidad and Tobago	560	1.2%
Other places of birth in Asia	505	1.1%
United Kingdom	335	0.7%
Guyana	325	0.7%
France	250	0.6%
Republic of South Africa	205	0.5%

Black newcomers (2016-2021) are coming predominantly from Africa.

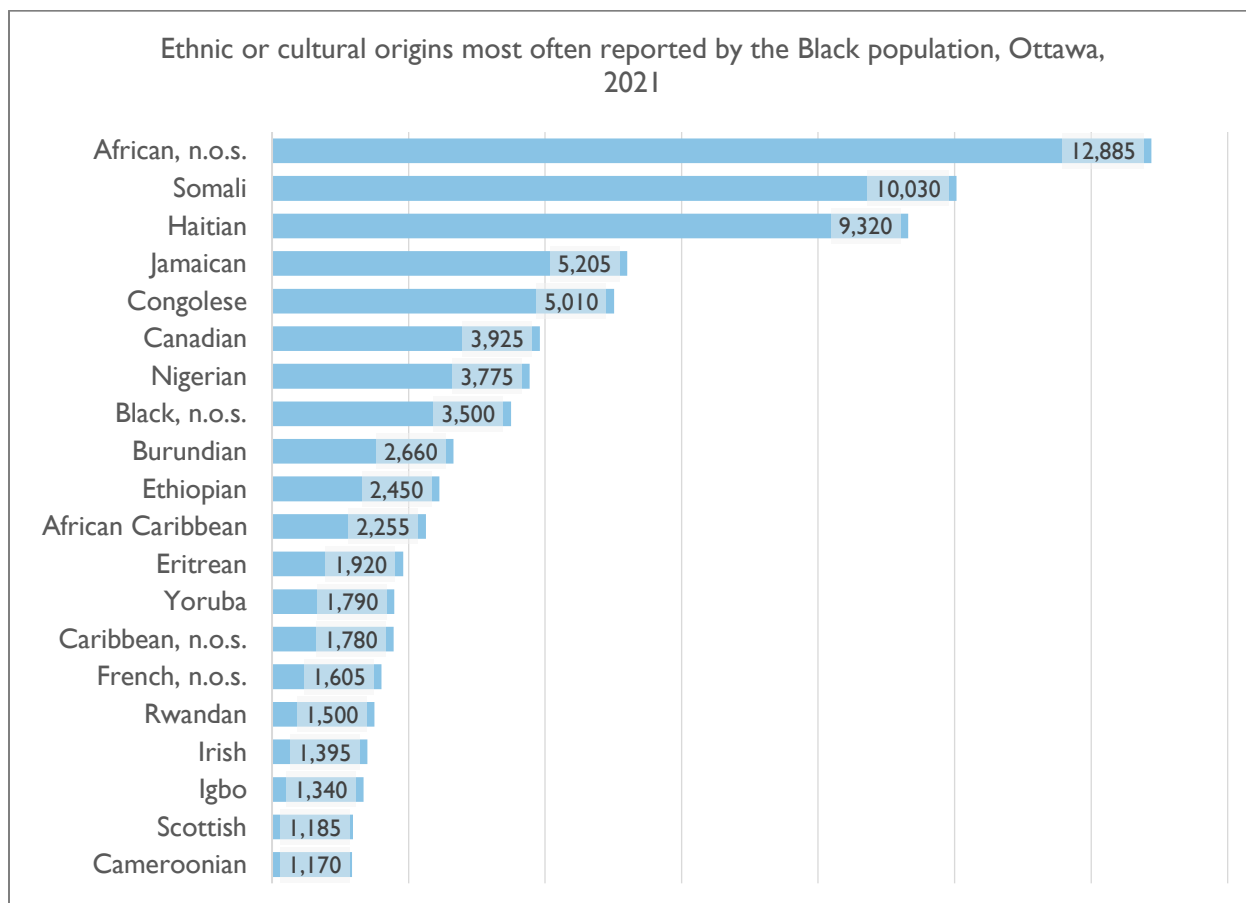
The top countries of birth for Black immigrants admitted between 2016 and 2021 were Nigeria, Burundi and the Democratic Republic of Congo.



Countries of birth for recent (2016-2021) Black immigrants, Ottawa, 2021

Top countries of birth for recent (2016-21) Black immigrants	Number	Percentage
Total	11,025	
Other places of birth in Africa	2,300	20.9%
Nigeria	1,780	16.1%
Burundi	1,305	11.8%
Democratic Republic of Congo	1,060	9.6%
Haiti	910	8.3%
Eritrea	555	5.0%
Somalia	555	5.0%
Cameroon	480	4.4%
Ethiopia	430	3.9%
United States of America	405	3.7%
Côte d'Ivoire	270	2.4%
Jamaica	185	1.7%
Other places of birth in Americas	165	1.5%
Sudan	155	1.4%
Republic of South Africa	105	1.0%
France	75	0.7%

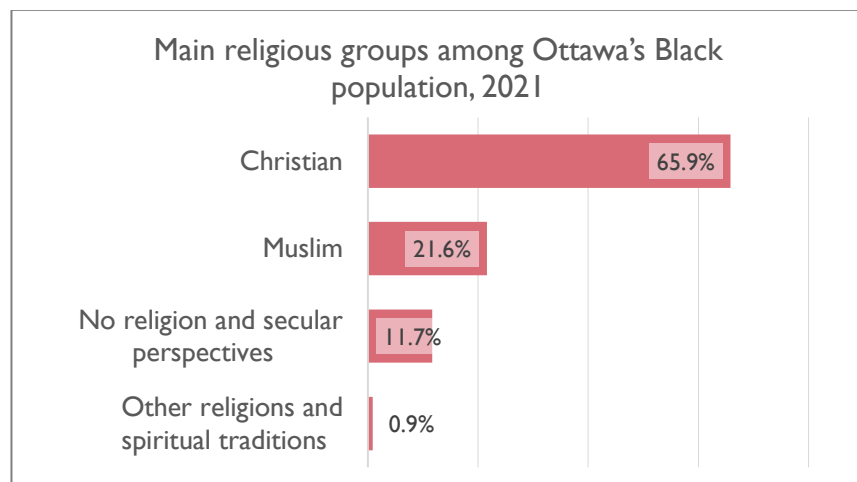
Over 150 ethnic or cultural origins were reported by the Black population in Ottawa. Most frequently reported were African, Somali, Haitian, Jamaican, Congolese, Canadian, and Nigerian origins.



Ethnic or cultural origin refers to the ethnic or cultural origins of the person's ancestors. A person may report more than one ethnic or cultural origin in the census.

The abbreviation "n.o.s." means "not otherwise specified." For example, the "African n.o.s." category includes responses indicating African origins other than the specified countries (e.g., "African").

Religion

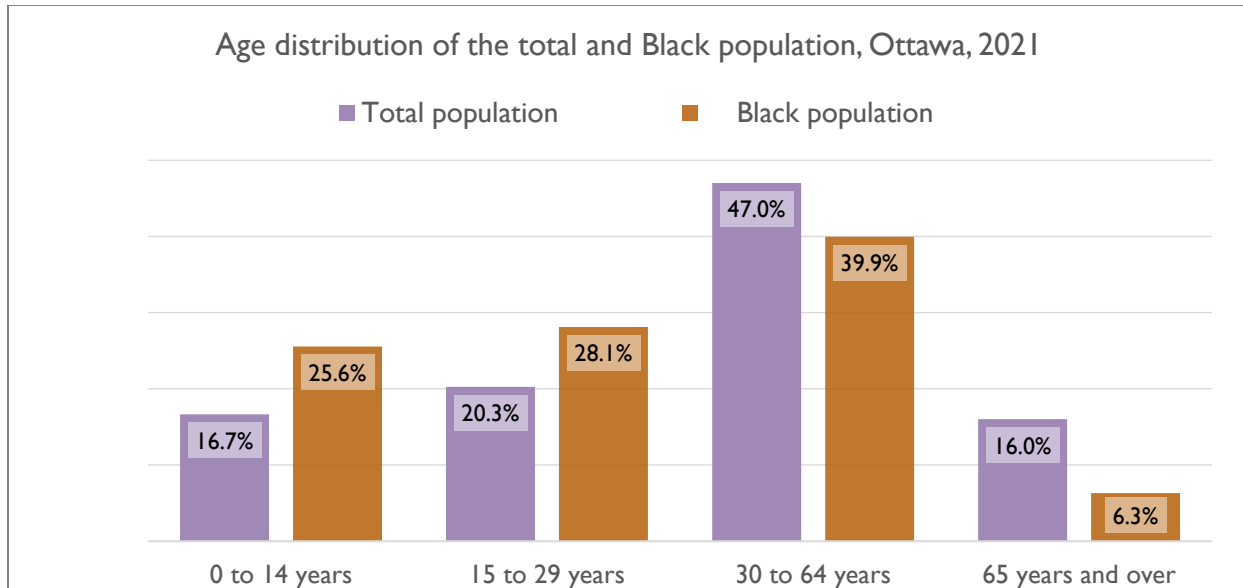


The largest religious group among Ottawa's Black population is Christian (65.9%) followed by Muslim (21.6%).

Compared to the general population, the Black community has fewer members with no religious affiliation. Only 11.7% of Black individuals are not religious vs 31.6% of all Ottawa residents.

Demographics

Ottawa's Black population is notably younger than the general population. Over half (53.7%) are children and youth aged 0 to 29 years, compared to 36.9% in the general population. The median age of the Black population is 27.6 years vs 39,2 years in the general population.



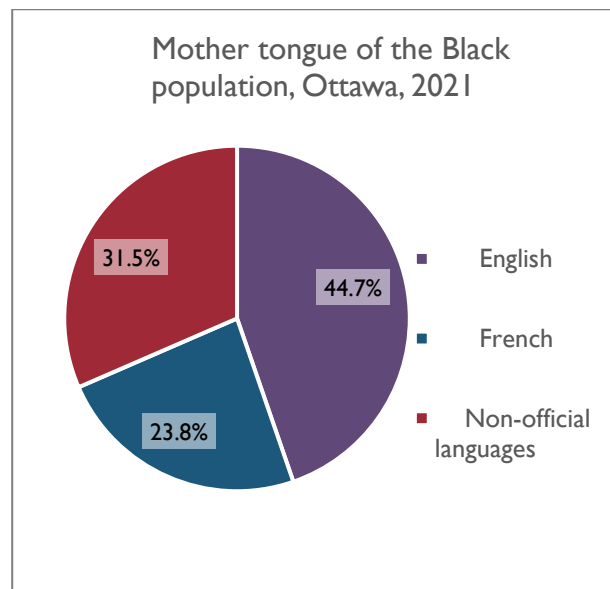
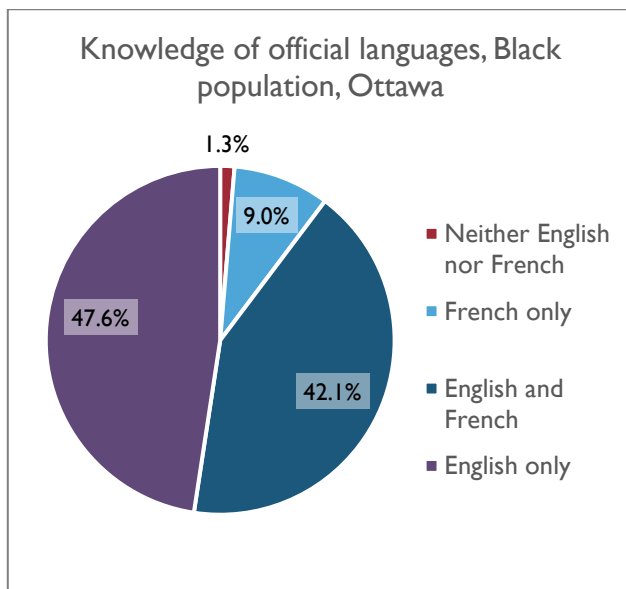
Languages

A higher percentage of people within the Black community are bilingual (42.1%) compared to the general population (36.5%).

Black Ottawa residents are more likely to be Francophone. About a quarter (23.8%) of the Black population has French as a mother tongue vs 13.1% of the total population.

English was the mother tongue of 44.7% of the Black population.

Mother tongue is defined as the language first learned at home in childhood and still understood.



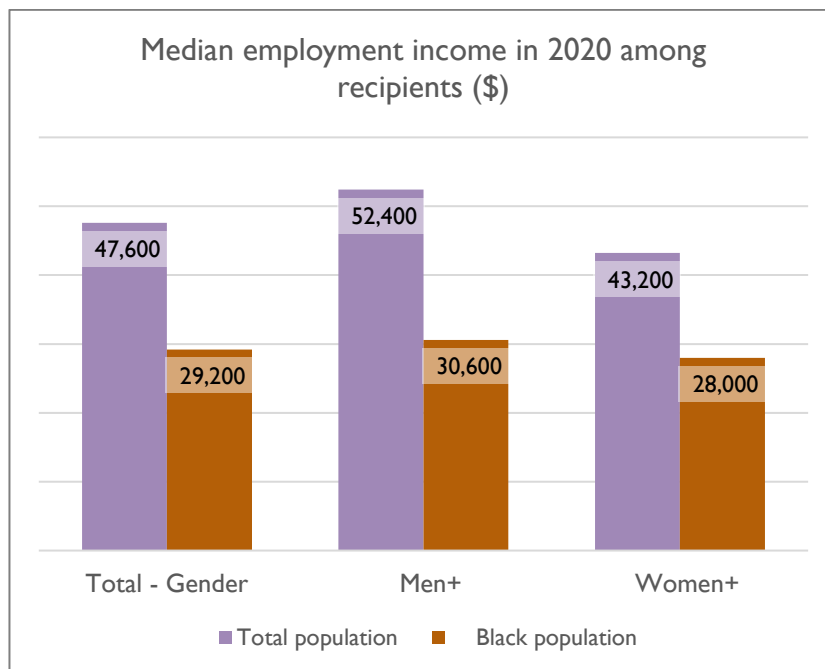
Employment

Compared to the rest of the population the Black community experiences significantly higher rates of unemployment.

Despite having a higher participation rate in the labour force, the Black population has a greater unemployment rate than the general population. This is especially true for Black women, who have the highest unemployment rate, 5 points above the women in the general population.



Employment income

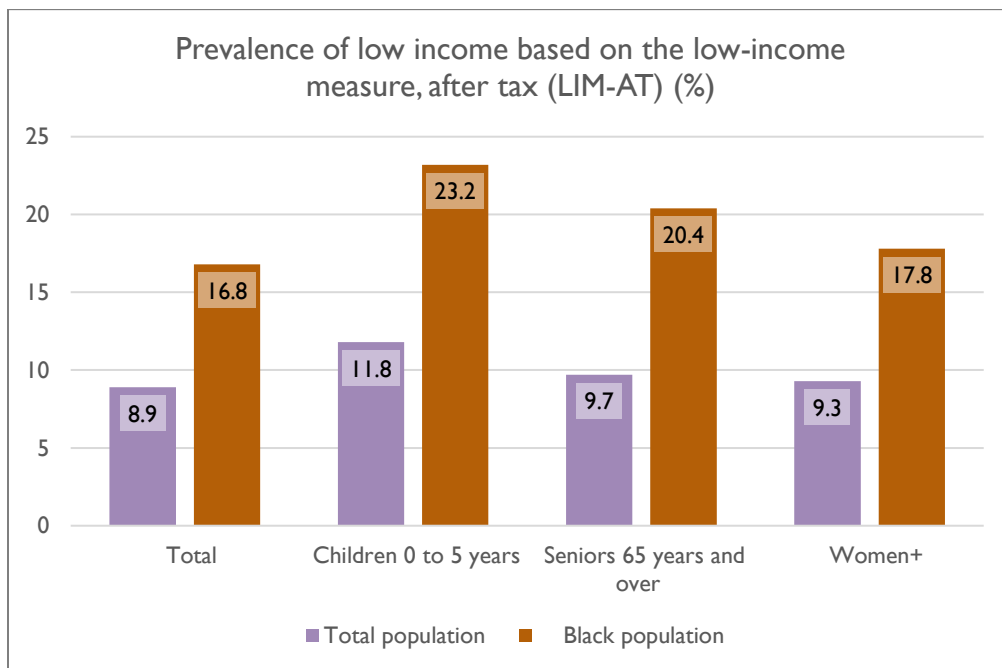


The Black population has significantly lower employment income, compared to the general population.

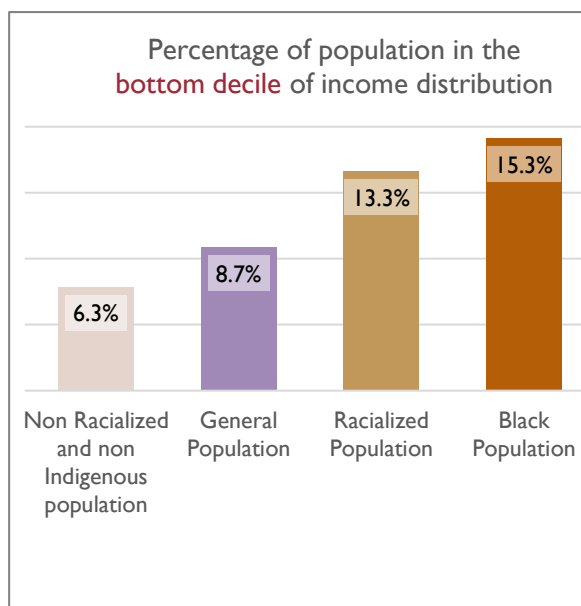
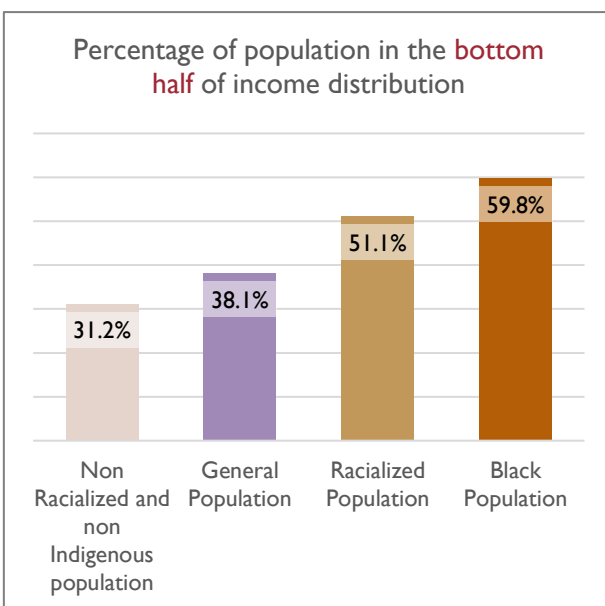
The median employment income for Black men is over \$20,000 lower (58%) than the income of men from the general population. Black women have the lowest employment income earning only \$28,000 on average (65%) less than women in general.

Income Inequity

Compared with the total population, the Black population in Ottawa has lower incomes and higher rates of poverty. The impact of low income can have a major impact on children, youth, and older adults. Nearly one in four Black children aged 0 to 5 years experience a state of low income. The poverty rate in Black children, women and seniors is more than twice the rate of the same groups in the general population.



Income polarization

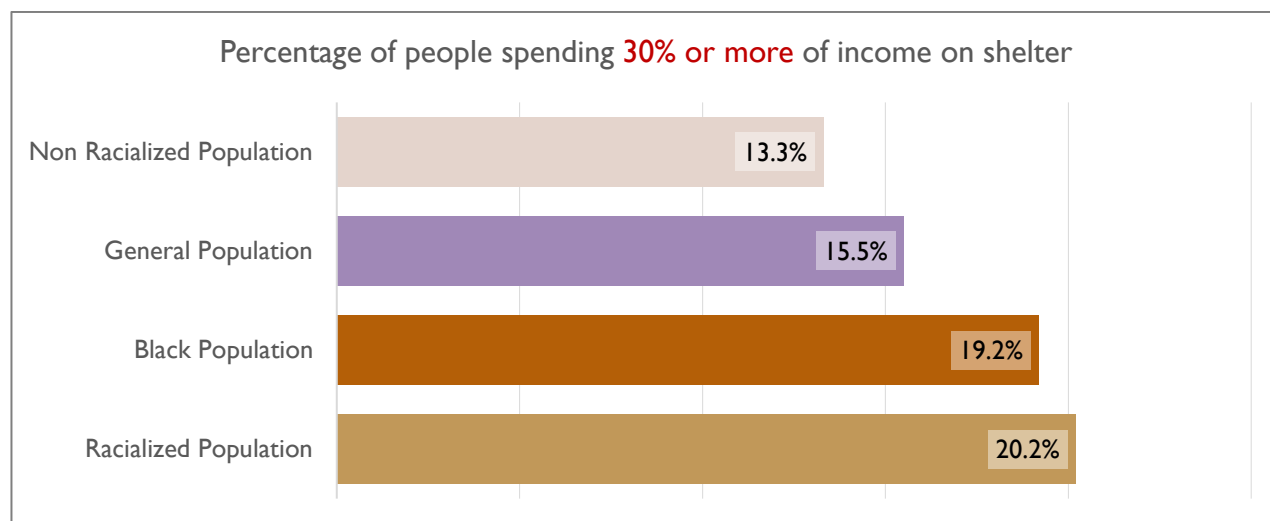


The Black population is twice as likely to have income in the lower half of the income distribution (59.8%) compared to the white population (31.2%). The share of people in the poorest, bottom decile is notably higher in the Black community (15.3%) vs 6.3% in the non-racialized population.

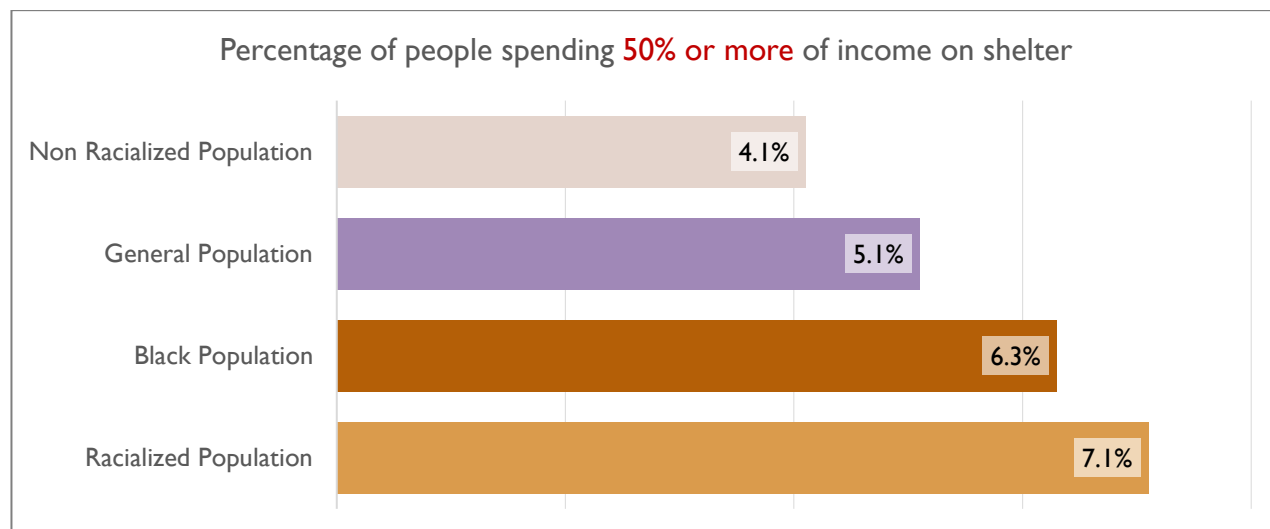
Housing Inequity

Ottawa's Black population is twice as likely to live in rented residences (60.4%) compared to the general population (31.2%). Renters experience a greater burden than homeowners as they are facing low vacancies, rising rents and displacement pressures. Subsequently, renters are more likely to be forced to choose where to spend their limited resources: paying for rent or affording necessities like groceries, health care, education, or transportation. Each of these trade-offs can negatively impact a person's health, education, and economic opportunities.

Housing affordability is different among various groups. One in five of Ottawa's Black residents has a hard time making their monthly housing payments and is burdened by the cost of their housing, meaning they are spending more than 30 percent of their monthly income on housing. The Black and racialized populations spend a significantly greater proportion of their income on shelter, compared to the general (15.5%) and non-racialized (13.3%) population.



With rapidly growing rents and interest rates, the housing costs become an even greater burden, forcing some renters and owners to spend 50% or more of their income on shelter. A higher percentage of the Black and racialized population are in this extreme housing unaffordability situation compared to the non-racialized and general population.



Mental health

The mental well-being of Black individuals is frequently influenced by factors such as microaggressions, racism, discrimination, and inequity. These experiences can induce stress, potentially heightening the risk of mental disorders and affecting overall psychological health².

People of colour are both underserved by the present health system and underrepresented in its workforce. There is a racial divide between service providers and clients that suggests a need for close attention to issues of diversity. Racism amplifies stressors such as poverty, familial adversity, and homelessness. Black Canadians especially experience discrimination and systemic racism in employment, housing, education, the child welfare system and the criminal justice system.³

It is likely that Black Canadians stray away from mental health services due to cultural stigma related to mental illness and mistrust of mainstream health services.

A research study conducted in 2020 by Ottawa Public Health (OPH)⁴ concluded that the Black community in Ottawa faces significant barriers when it comes to accessing mental health services such as stigma, cultural sensitivities, racism, and lack of access to culturally competent care providers. These barriers are both structural and systemic in nature.

The stigma associated with mental illness in Black communities is high, with many individuals fearing judgment or viewing seeking treatment as a sign of personal failure. According to the same OPH study, 66% of participants believe that most people would think less of someone who is affected by a mental illness. Similarly, 40% believe that seeking treatment for a mental health issue is a sign of personal failure. These beliefs prevent many from talking to their families about their struggles and getting help.

Furthermore, finding a Black mental health professional who can relate to their experiences can be very challenging for Black individuals. It can be difficult to build trust if the help seeker does not believe that the professional who doesn't share common ground can understand their point of view. This can further deter individuals from the Black community from seeking help.

In addition, there is a general mistrust in reaching out to mental health care providers among the Black community. More than half of the OPH survey participants (56%) rated the quality of interaction with mental health services as fair, poor or very poor. Nearly 30% of those who tried to access mental health services felt prejudice or negative attitude towards them from their service providers.

Addressing these issues requires a multifaceted approach, including increasing cultural competency, diversifying providers, offering affordable options, and breaking down the stigma associated with mental health in Black communities.

² Mamy Kalambay, RP. Breaking down barriers to mental health in Black communities. Feb, 2023. Accessed at <https://www.dialogue.co/en/blog>

³ Hasford, J., Amponsah, P., & Hylton, T. (2018). Anti-racist praxis with street-involved African Canadian youth. In *Mental Health & Addiction Interventions for Youth Experiencing Homelessness*.

⁴ Ottawa Public Health. Mental Health of Ottawa's Black Community. 2020. Accessed at https://icreate7.esolutionsgroup.ca/231134_OttawaPublicHealth/en/reports-research-and-statistics/mental-health-reports.aspx

Summary statistics: Prepared using Statistics Canada, 2021 census of population. Custom tables courtesy of the Ottawa and Region Data Consortium.

Summary Portrait of the Black Community in Ottawa Compared to the General Population, the Total Racialized Population, and the Non Non-Related Population.

Focus	Variable (Data point)	Total Ottawa Population	Racialized Population	Black Population	Non-Racialized Population
Size of Population and Age Groups					
Number of the population in selected age groups					
	Total Population	1,000,935	324,960	84,770	675,975
	0 to 14 years	166,800	70,270	21,685	96,530
	15 to 64 years	673,705	225,770	57,710	447,930
	15 to 24 years	130,395	54,900	16,725	75,490
	25 to 29 years	72,490	27,935	7,125	44,555
	65 years and over	160,435	28,915	5,375	131,520
	85 years and over	15,135	2,620	460	12,515
Percent of population in selected age groupings					
	0 to 14 years	16.7%	21.6%	25.6%	14.3%
	15 to 64 years	67.3%	69.5%	68.1%	66.3%
	15 to 24 years	13.0%	16.9%	19.7%	11.2%
	25 to 29 years	7.2%	8.6%	8.4%	6.6%
	65 years and over	16.0%	8.9%	6.3%	19.5%
	85 years and over	1.5%	0.8%	0.5%	1.9%
Median age	Median age	39.2	31.8	27.6	43.6
Income and Poverty (Source 2)					
Number living in low income (below the low income measure after tax)					
	All ages	89,230	45,925	14,240	43,305
	0 to 17 years	21,570	14,315	5,415	7,250
	0 to 5 years	7,035	4,825	1,905	2,205
	18 to 64 years	52,035	25,755	7,725	26,275
	65 years and over	15,630	5,850	1,100	9,775
	Women+ of all ages	47,400	24,335	7,910	23,065
Percent living in low income (below the low income measure after tax)					
	All ages	8.9%	14.1%	16.8%	6.4%
	0 to 17 years	10.7%	16.9%	20.7%	6.2%
	0 to 5 years	11.8%	18.7%	23.2%	6.5%
	18 to 64 years	8.2%	12.2%	14.5%	6.2%
	65 years and over	9.7%	20.2%	20.4%	7.4%
	Women+ of all ages	9.3%	14.6%	17.8%	6.7%
Income					
	Median after-tax income in 2020 among recipients (\$)	44,000	34,400	34,000	48,400
	Median employment income in 2020 among recipients (\$)	47,600	35,200	29,200	53,200

Focus	Variable (Data point)	Total Ottawa Population	Racialized Population	Black Population	Non-Racialized Population
Income deciles for economic families (selected)					
	Percent in the bottom half of income deciles	38.1%	51.1%	59.8%	31.8%
	Percent in the bottom (10th) income decile	8.7%	13.3%	15.3%	6.5%
	Percent in the top half of income deciles	61.9%	48.9%	40.2%	68.2%
	Percent in top (1st) income decile	16.8%	10.2%	5.4%	20.0%
Employment					
	Labour market participation rate: all ages 15+, all genders	65.9%	68.4%	69.1%	64.8%
	Labour Market participation rate: Women+, all ages 15+	62.4%	64.4%	66.9%	61.6%
	Labour Market participation rate: Youth aged 15-24, all genders	61.0%	54.8%	54.0%	65.4%
	Employment rate: all ages 15+, all genders	59.1%	59.3%	58.3%	59.0%
	Employment rate: Women+, all ages 15+	55.5%	54.9%	56.1%	55.8%
	Employment rate: Youth aged 15-24, all genders	45.5%	40.1%	37.2%	49.4%
Unemployment rate					
	Unemployment rate: all ages 15+, all genders	10.3%	13.3%	15.6%	8.9%
	Unemployment rate: all ages 15+, Women+	11.1%	14.8%	16.1%	9.4%
	Unemployment rate: Youth aged 15-24, all genders	25.3%	26.8%	31.0%	24.4%
Work Activity					
	Percent that did not work in (e.g. retired)	34.2%	34.6%	35.4%	34.1%
	Percent that worked full year, full time	38.5%	34.2%	30.4%	40.4%
	Percent that worked part year and/or part time	27.3%	31.2%	34.1%	25.5%
Self-employed	Percent self-employed	12.2%	11.9%	9.3%	12.4%
Labour force					
Percent of labour force by occupation - National Occupational Classification (NOC)					
	0 Legislative and senior management occupations	1.6%	0.8%	0.6%	1.9%
	1 Business, finance and administration occupations	20.3%	17.0%	17.6%	21.9%
	2 Natural and applied sciences and related occupations	15.2%	18.0%	8.2%	13.9%
	3 Health occupations	7.5%	9.8%	14.4%	6.4%
	4 Occupations in education, law and social, community and government services	17.9%	14.5%	16.3%	19.4%
	5 Occupations in art, culture, recreation and sport	3.8%	2.4%	2.2%	4.4%
	6 Sales and service occupations	21.4%	26.8%	28.2%	18.9%
	7 Trades, transport and equipment operators and related occupations	10.2%	8.6%	10.9%	10.9%
	8 Natural resources, agriculture and related production occupations	1.0%	0.4%	0.5%	1.3%
	9 Occupations in manufacturing and utilities	1.2%	1.5%	1.1%	1.0%

Focus	Variable (Data point)	Total Ottawa Population	Racialized Population	Black Population	Non-Racialized Population
Percent of labour force by Industry - North American Industry Classification System (NAICS)					
	11 Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting	0.5%	0.2%	0.2%	0.6%
	21 Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%	0.1%
	22 Utilities	0.3%	0.2%	0.2%	0.3%
	23 Construction	5.2%	3.0%	2.9%	6.3%
	31-33 Manufacturing	3.0%	3.3%	1.6%	2.9%
	41 Wholesale trade	2.0%	2.0%	0.9%	2.1%
	44-45 Retail trade	10.0%	10.8%	9.9%	9.6%
	48-49 Transportation and warehousing	3.5%	4.8%	6.4%	2.9%
	51 Information and cultural industries	2.4%	2.2%	1.7%	2.5%
	52 Finance and insurance	3.4%	3.7%	3.6%	3.3%
	53 Real estate and rental and leasing	1.6%	1.2%	1.2%	1.8%
	54 Professional, scientific and technical services	11.5%	11.8%	6.1%	11.4%
	55 Management of companies and enterprises	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%
	56 Administrative and support, waste management and remediation services	4.2%	4.9%	8.4%	3.8%
	61 Educational services	7.8%	6.8%	7.4%	8.3%
	62 Health care and social assistance	11.7%	13.9%	21.6%	10.7%
	71 Arts, entertainment and recreation	1.8%	1.0%	1.3%	2.2%
	72 Accommodation and food services	5.2%	8.2%	6.0%	3.9%
	81 Other services (except public administration)	3.8%	3.8%	3.4%	3.9%
	91 Public administration	21.7%	18.1%	16.8%	23.3%
Mode of commuting for the employed labour force, by percent of population					
	Car, truck, van - as a driver	69.0%	64.0%	59.7%	71.4%
	Car, truck, van - as a passenger	7.8%	9.0%	7.4%	7.2%
	Public transit	11.2%	17.7%	24.2%	8.1%
	Walked	7.0%	5.4%	4.7%	7.8%
	Bicycle	1.5%	0.9%	0.6%	1.8%
	Other method	3.4%	2.9%	3.3%	3.6%
Commuting duration for the employed labour force					
	Less than 15 minutes	26.9%	23.9%	20.9%	28.3%
	15 to 29 minutes	42.2%	42.0%	39.9%	42.2%
	30 to 44 minutes	20.1%	20.9%	22.2%	19.7%
	45 to 59 minutes	5.8%	6.3%	7.5%	5.5%
	60 minutes and over	5.1%	6.8%	9.5%	4.2%
Time leaving for work for the employed labour force					
	Between 5 a.m. and 5:59 a.m.	5.2%	3.9%	5.0%	5.9%
	Between 6 a.m. and 6:59 a.m.	17.5%	14.2%	17.7%	19.2%
	Between 7 a.m. and 7:59 a.m.	26.1%	21.9%	22.3%	28.1%
	Between 8 a.m. and 8:59 a.m.	21.9%	21.0%	16.4%	22.4%
	Between 9 a.m. and 11:59 a.m.	13.6%	17.0%	10.9%	11.9%
	Between 12 p.m. and 4:59 a.m.	15.7%	21.9%	27.7%	12.5%

Focus	Variable (Data point)	Total Ottawa Population	Racialized Population	Black Population	Non-Racialized Population
Education Level of persons aged 25 to 64 years					
Highest Education Level for the population 25 to 64, by percent of the population					
	No certificate, diploma or degree	5.6%	7.5%	8.6%	4.7%
	Secondary (high) school diploma or equivalency certificate	17.6%	14.7%	18.3%	19.0%
	Postsecondary certificate, diploma or degree	76.8%	77.8%	73.1%	76.4%
	i. Apprenticeship or trades certificate	3.7%	3.4%	6.0%	3.8%
	ii. College, CEGEP or other non-university certificate or diploma	21.6%	15.6%	21.7%	24.3%
	iii. University certificate or diploma below bachelor level	2.1%	3.2%	4.1%	1.6%
	iv. University certificate, diploma or degree at bachelor level or above	49.5%	55.6%	41.3%	46.7%
	iv.a. Bachelor's degree	29.5%	30.9%	25.1%	28.8%
	iv.b. University certificate or above	2.6%	2.7%	2.9%	2.5%
	iv.c. Degree in medicine, dentistry, veterinary medicine or optometry	1.2%	1.8%	1.0%	0.8%
	iv.d. Master's degree	13.8%	16.8%	10.8%	12.5%
	iv.e. Earned doctorate	2.5%	3.4%	1.5%	2.1%
Major Fields of Study (Top 5 by % of the population)					
	1st most common field of study	Business, management, marketing and related support services (14.1%)	Business, management, marketing and related support services (16%)	Business, management, marketing and related support services (15.2%)	Business, management, marketing and related support services (13.2%)
	2nd most common field of study	Health professions and related programs (7.6%)	Engineering (10.4%)	Health professions and related programs (13.7%)	Social sciences (6.9%)
	3rd most common field of study	Social sciences (6.6%)	Health professions and related programs (9.5%)	Social sciences (7.1%)	Health professions and related programs (6.8%)
	4th most common field of study	Engineering (6.2%)	Computer & information sciences and support services (6.4%)	Engineering (3.7%)	Engineering (4.3%)
	5th most common field of study	Computer & information sciences and support services (4.9%)	Social sciences (5.9%)	Computer & information sciences and support services (3.4%)	Computer & information sciences and support services (4.2%)

Focus	Variable (Data point)	Total Ottawa Population	Racialized Population	Black Population	Non-Racialized Population
Where education was obtained					
	Percent with location of study outside of Canada	18.9%	39.5%	29.5%	9.2%
Not in Employment, Education or Training (Percent of population aged 15 to 24) (Source 3)					
	% aged 15 to 24 not attending school and did not work in the reference year aged 15 to 24	9.0%	9.3%	12.6%	8.8%
Language, Culture and Identity					
Knowledge of official languages					
	English only	60.6%	65.6%	47.6%	58.1%
	French only	1.4%	2.8%	9.0%	0.7%
	English and French	36.5%	27.5%	42.1%	40.8%
	Neither English nor French	1.5%	4.0%	1.3%	0.3%
Mother tongue (single response)					
	English	62.1%	32.0%	44.7%	75.5%
	French	13.1%	7.7%	23.8%	15.6%
	Non-official languages	24.8%	60.3%	31.5%	8.9%
Top 5 non-official language mother tongue (with number of people)					
	1st most common non-official language	Arabic (43,725)	Arabic (39,930)	Somali (62,20)	Italian (78,20)
	2nd most common non-official language	Mandarin (22,155)	Mandarin (22,150)	Haitian Creole (3,245)	Russian (6,780)
	3rd most common non-official language	Spanish (14,235)	Spanish (11,145)	Rundi (Kirundi) (1,865)	Polish (5,090)
	4th most common non-official language	Cantonese (10,045)	Cantonese (10,035)	Amharic (1,675)	German (4,220)
	5th most common non-official language	Italian (7,860)	Vietnamese (6,625)	Swahili (1,435)	Portuguese (4,065)
Citizenship	Percent Canadian Citizens	90.5%	75.5%	74.8%	97.7%
Immigration	Percent of the population who are immigrants	25.9%	57.5%	52.9%	10.7%
Period of immigration					
	Before 1980	16.5%	7.7%	7.1%	39.1%
	1980 to 1990	11.5%	11.3%	7.8%	12.2%
	1991 to 2000	20.0%	21.1%	19.3%	17.2%
	2001 to 2010	21.6%	24.0%	24.1%	15.5%
	2011 to 2021	30.4%	35.9%	41.7%	16.1%
	2011 to 2015	12.1%	14.4%	17.1%	6.2%
	2016 to 2021 (Recent immigrants)	18.3%	21.5%	24.6%	9.9%
	Non-permanent residents	11.4%	14.0%	17.1%	4.9%
Admission category and applicant type for those who landed between 1980 and 2016 (by % of all immigrants)					
	Economic immigrants	48.1%	46.6%	26.1%	54.0%
	Immigrants sponsored by family	26.0%	25.6%	24.3%	27.6%
	Refugees	24.5%	26.1%	46.3%	17.8%
	Other immigrants	1.4%	1.7%	3.4%	0.6%

Focus	Variable (Data point)	Total Ottawa Population	Racialized Population	Black Population	Non-Racialized Population
Activity Limitations (Disability) (Source 7)					
	Percent of the population with activity limitations (disabilities) - always	14.2%	8.5%	8.3%	16.9%
Parents in One Parent Family					
	Total Single Parents	4.4%	4.9%	8.3%	4.2%
	One parent Men+	21.0%	16.4%	12.1%	23.6%
	One parent Women+	79.0%	83.6%	87.9%	76.4%
Housing and Neighbourhoods (Source 4 to 6)					
Housing Quality and Affordability					
	Individuals in housing in Need of Major Repair	5.2%	5.1%	7.5%	5.3%
	Individuals in households spending 30% or more of income on shelter	15.5%	20.2%	19.2%	13.3%
	Individuals in households spending 50% or more of income on shelter	5.1%	7.1%	6.3%	4.1%
	Households in core housing need	11.2%	Not available	Not available	Not available
Selected Housing Types					
	Households in single detached housing (by percent of households)	41.7%	Not available	Not available	Not available
	Households in apartment buildings with 5 storeys or more (by percent of households)	18.9%	Not available	Not available	Not available
Neighbourhood Equity					
	Living in the 10 neighbourhoods with the highest equity concern (percent of individuals)	5.2%	10.3%	17.1%	Not available
Housing Tenure					
	Total Ownership	68.8%	59.2%	39.6%	73.5%
	Owner Men+	49.0%	48.5%	48.2%	49.2%
	Owner Women+	51.0%	51.5%	51.8%	50.8%
	Total percent of Renters	31.2%	40.8%	60.4%	26.5%
	Renter Men+	48.6%	48.7%	47.0%	48.5%
	Renter Women+	51.4%	51.3%	53.0%	51.5%

Data Sources

Data Source unless otherwise indicated: Statistics Canada, 2021 Census, Custom Table: Target Group Profile of **visible minority population**, Accessed at the [Ottawa and Region Data Consortium](#)

Source 2: Statistics Canada, 2021 Census, Custom Table: Target group profile of the **low-income population** (LIM-AT), Accessed at the [Ottawa and Region Data Consortium](#)

Source 3: Statistics Canada, 2021 Census, Custom Table: Target group profile of the **population by school attendance**, Accessed at the [Ottawa and Region Data Consortium](#)

Source 4: Statistics Canada, 2021 Census, Custom Table: Target group profile of the **population in households spending 30%+ and 50%+ of income on shelter costs**, Accessed at the [Ottawa and Region Data Consortium](#)

Source 5: Statistics Canada, 2021 Census, Custom Table: Target group profile of the **population living in owner and renter households**, Accessed at the [Ottawa and Region Data Consortium](#)

Source 6: Statistics Canada, 2021 Census, Custom Table: Target group profile of the **population living in dwellings in need of major repairs**, Accessed at the [Ottawa and Region Data Consortium](#)

Source 7: Statistics Canada, 2021 Census, Custom Table: Target group profile of **population with activity limitations**, Census, 2021, Accessed at the [Ottawa and Region Data Consortium](#)

Selected Definitions

Racialized population	Statistics Canada uses the term "Visible Minority". Visible minority refers to whether a person belongs to a visible minority group as defined by the Employment Equity Act and, if so, the visible minority group to which the person belongs. The Employment Equity Act defines visible minorities as "persons, other than Aboriginal peoples, who are non-Caucasian in race or non-white in colour". The visible minority population consists mainly of the following groups: South Asian, Chinese, Black, Filipino, Latin American, Arab, Southeast Asian, West Asian, Korean and Japanese.
Income decile	The economic family income decile group provides a rough ranking of the economic situation of a person based on his or her relative position in the Canadian distribution of the adjusted after-tax income of economic families for all persons in private households. Using data from the 2021 Census of Population, the population in private households is sorted according to its adjusted after-tax family income and then divided into 10 equal groups each containing 10% of the population. The decile cut points are the levels of adjusted after-tax family income that defined the 10 groups. The reference period for income variables is the calendar year 2020.
Activity Limitation	Statistics Canada uses the term "Activity Limitation", which would be comparable to "disability" in plain language. Activity limitation refers to difficulties a person may have doing certain activities as a result of physical, mental, or other health-related conditions or problems.
Core housing need	A household is said to be in 'core housing need' if its housing falls below at least one of the adequacy, affordability or suitability standards and it would have to spend 30% or more of its total before-tax income to pay the median rent of alternative local housing that is acceptable (meets all three housing standards).