

Every Student Counts

Student Demographic Survey - Report 2021 - 2022



being **CREATIVE**



being **WELL**



being **COMMUNITY**



Peterborough Victoria
Northumberland and Clarington
Catholic District School Board

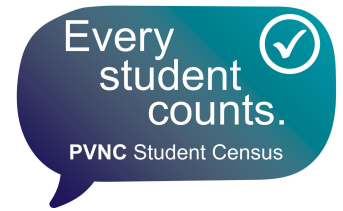
Student Demographic Survey - Report

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Distribution and Timing of the Survey

The PVNC Student Demographic Survey ran from October 1, 2021 to October 25, 2021. All questions on this anonymous survey were optional, and individual results remain confidential.



There were two virtually identical versions of the survey:

- [Survey for Parents / Guardians](#) where the parent / guardian would answer on behalf of or with their Grade 1 - 8 child(ren).
- [Survey for Students in Grades 9 - 12](#) where students answered the questions themselves. Students in Grades 9 and 10 required parent / guardian consent to participate in the survey.

Survey Questions

The first 23 questions and response options were provided by the Ministry of Education. An additional five questions around discrimination experiences and seeing one's identity reflected in the school were developed by the board's equity advisor in consultation with board staff.

Response Rate

Over 3,600 people participated in the survey. There were 1,473 responses to the parent / guardian version of the survey, a 15% response rate, while the 2,154 responses to the student version of the survey represent a 44% response rate. Overall, the response rate of the two groups combined was 24.1%.

Where possible, students were given time at school to complete the survey. The parent / guardian response rate may have been lower given that almost three-quarters of the respondents spent at least 10 minutes completing the survey and may therefore have only wanted to complete it for one child rather than multiple times in cases where they had more than one child.

Reporting of Results

No students or schools have been identified in the reporting of results. Board results and trends for questions have only been reported in cases where at least 15 people responded.

Summary of Results for Grades 1 - 12

- First Language(s) Spoken: 94% responded that English was the first language they learned to speak as a child, in some cases along with one or more other languages. The next four most common answers were French, American Sign Language, Spanish and Tagalog.
- Indigenous Identity: Nearly 5% of respondents identified as First Nations, Métis or Inuit.
- Racial Background: White was the most commonly selected racial group at 78% followed by Black at 6% and Southeast Asian at 4%.
- Religion: More than half of respondents (52%) stated their religion as Christian - Catholic with 14% indicating Christian - Non-Catholic and 8% saying they are spiritual but not religious.
- Gender Identity: Boy/Man was chosen by 46% of respondents, Girl/Woman was chosen by 51% and 3% chose a gender diverse identity.
- Sexual Orientation: 76% of respondents chose Straight / Heterosexual and 11% of respondents chose an LGBTQQ2IA+ sexual orientation.
- Special Needs: 11% of respondents saw themselves as a person with a disability. Within this group, the most common responses were Learning Disability, Mental Health and Autism Spectrum Disorder.

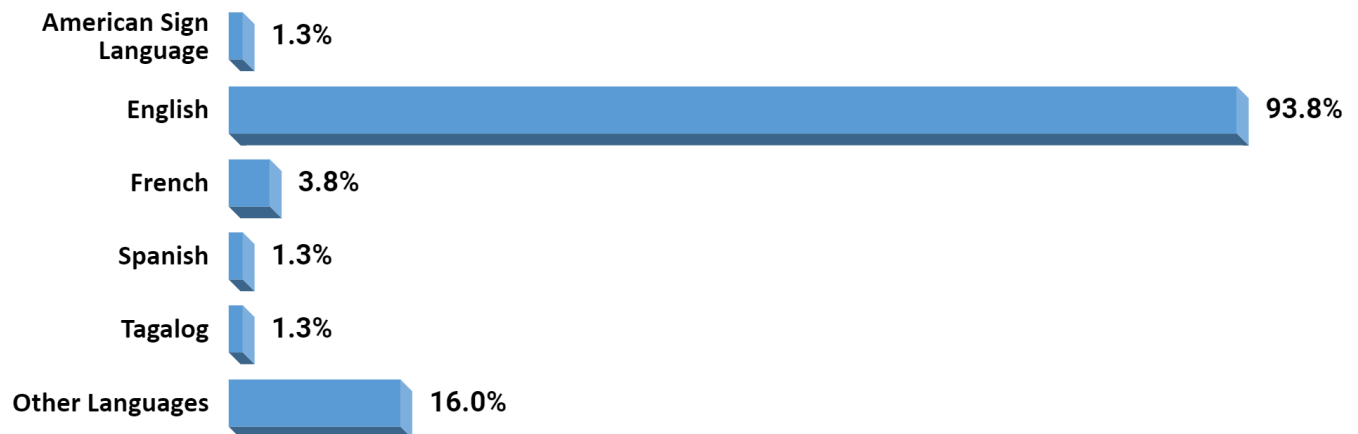
First Language(s) Spoken

English was by far the most common first language chosen with almost 94% of responses indicating people learned English as their first language, in some cases along one or more other languages. In all, respondents listed over 35 different languages.

What is the first language you learned to speak as a child? Select all that apply.	Number of Respondents (n = 3,627)	Percentage of Respondents
American Sign Language	44	1.3%
English	3,144	93.8%
French	128	3.8%
Spanish	43	1.3%
Tagalog	43	1.3%
Other language(s)	536	16.0%
Did not respond	274	7.6%

*Percentages do not add to 100% given that respondents could select more than one category.

What is the first language(s) you learned to speak as a child? Select all that apply.



Indigenous Identity

More than 4% of respondents said they identified with one or more Indigenous identities with First Nations being the most frequent response at 2.6% followed by Métis (1.6%) and Inuit (<0.5%). Specific numbers have not been released for those who said Inuit as the total number of respondents was below 15.

Do you identify as First Nations, Métis and / or Inuit? If yes, select all that apply.	Number of Respondents (n = 3,627)	Percentage of Respondents
No	3,285	90.6%
Yes, First Nations	96	2.6%
Yes, Métis	57	1.6%
Yes, Inuit	<15	<0.5%
Did not respond	192	5.3%

*Percentages do not add to 100% given that respondents could select more than one category.

Do you identify as First Nations, Métis and / or Inuit? If yes, select all that apply.



Race

While the majority of respondents (78%) indicated they were from European descent, possibly along with other races. The next most common selections were Black (6%), Southeast Asian (4%) and Indigenous (3%).

Which racial group(s) best describes you? Select all that apply.	Number of Respondents (n = 3,627)	Percentage of Respondents*
Black (African, Afro-Caribbean, African-Canadian descent)	227	6.3%
East Asian (Chinese, Korean, Japanese, Taiwanese descent)	52	1.4%
Indigenous (First Nations, Métis, Inuit descent)	108	3.0%
Latino / Latina / Latinx (Latin American, Hispanic descent)	79	2.2%
Middle Eastern (Afghan, Arab, Egyptian, Iranian, Kurdish, Lebanese, Persian, Turkish, etc.)	47	1.3%
South Asian (East Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi, Sri Lankan, Indo-Caribbean, etc.)	93	2.6%
Southeast Asian (Filipino, Vietnamese, Cambodian, Thai, Indonesian, etc.)	140	3.9%
White (European descent)	2,811	77.5%
A racial group(s) not listed above. Please specify:	26	0.7%
Did not respond	337	9.3%

*Percentages do not add to 100% given that respondents could select more than one category.

Which racial group(s) best describes you? Select all that apply.



Religion

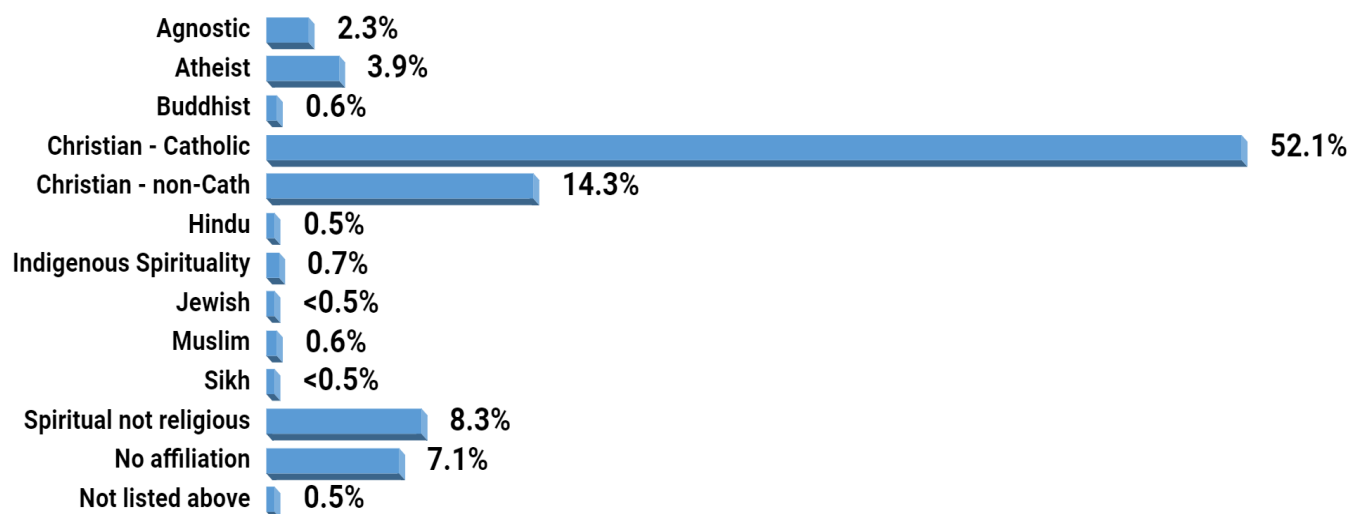
Approximately two-thirds of respondents indicated their Religion is Christian with the majority of them identifying as Catholic. The next largest groups of respondents said they were spiritual, but not religious (8%) or had no religious or spiritual affiliation (7%).

What is your religion and / or spiritual affiliation? Select all that apply.	Number of Respondents (n = 3,627)	Percentage of Respondents*
Agnostic	85	2.3%
Atheist	143	3.9%
Buddhist	21	0.6%
Christian - Catholic	1888	52.1%
Christian - non-Catholic	517	14.3%
Hindu	18	0.5%
Indigenous Spirituality	26	0.7%
Jewish	<15	<0.5%
Muslim	21	0.6%
Sikh	<15	<0.5%
Spiritual, but not religious	302	8.3%
No religious or spiritual affiliation	259	7.1%

Religion(s) or spiritual affiliation(s) not listed.	18	0.5%
Not sure	223	6.1%
I do not understand this question	18	0.5%
Did not respond	357	9.8%

*Percentages do not add to 100% given that respondents could select more than one category.

What is your religion and / or spiritual affiliation? Select all that apply.



Gender Identity

Survey respondents who selected “My gender identity is not listed above” were invited to further specify their gender in a followup question.

What is your gender identity?	Number of Respondents (n = 3,627)	Percentage of Respondents*
Boy / Man	1,538	42.4%
Girl / Woman	1,697	46.8%
My gender identity is not listed above	87	2.4%
Did not respond	305	8.4%

*Percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding.

What is your gender identity?



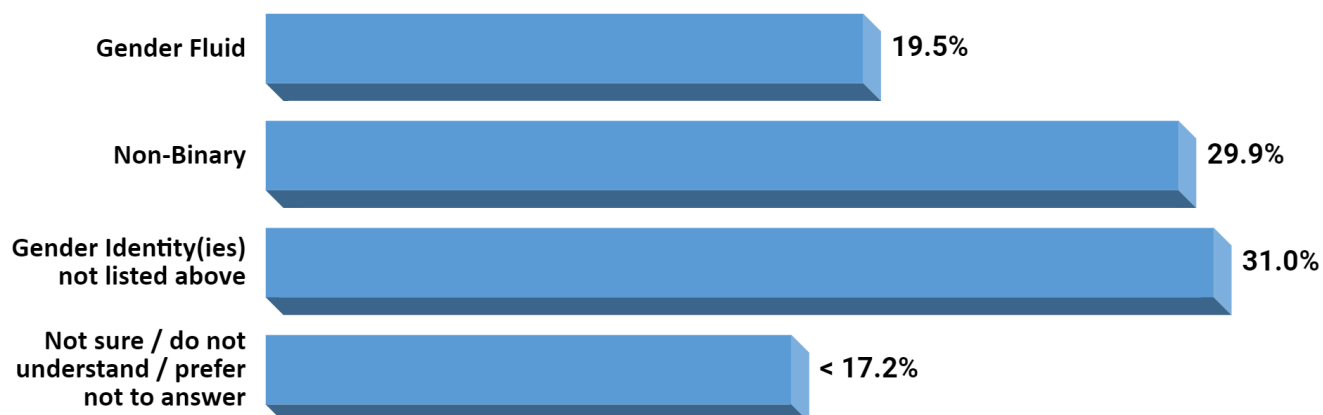
Gender Identity (continued)

Survey participants were presented with the original question. If they chose the third option, “My gender identity is not listed above,” as more than 2% of respondents did, they were presented with a further list of options. The most common answers given by people who responded to the second question were Non-Binary and Gender Fluid. There were more options offered, but with a group size of 87 people, most options had fewer than 15 responses, so they have been grouped together with the “Gender identity(ies) not listed above” responses.

The percentages shown in the table are based on the 87 people who had the opportunity to answer this question, not the full group of survey participants.

In the previous question, you indicated that your gender identity was not listed. What is your gender identity? Select all that apply.	Number of Respondents (n = 87)	Percentage of Respondents*
Gender Fluid	17	19.5%
Non-Binary	26	29.9%
Gender Identity(ies) not listed above	27	31%
Not sure / do not understand / prefer not to answer	<15	<17.2%
Did not respond	<15	<17.2%

In the previous question, you indicated that your gender identity was not listed. What is your gender identity?



Percentages in this graph are based on the 87 people who had the option to answer this question.

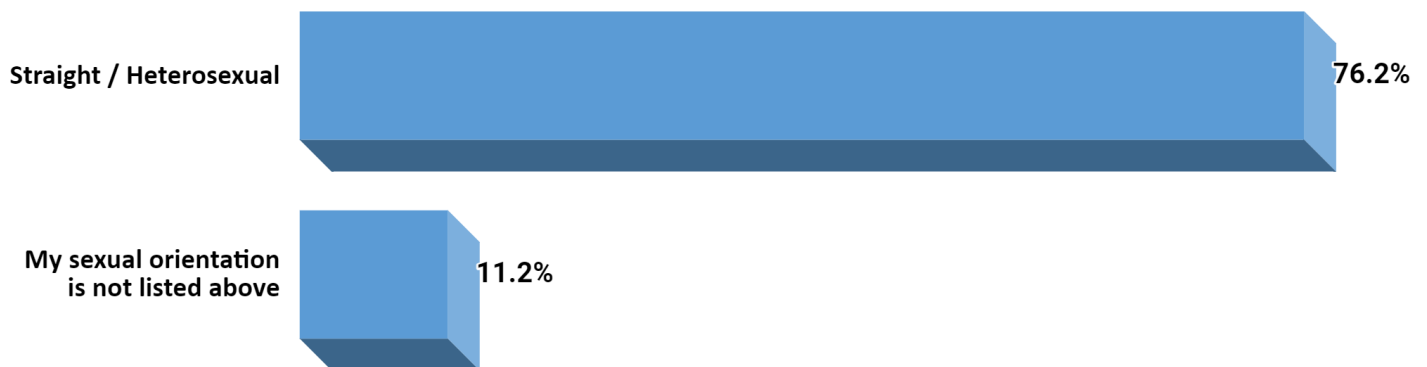
Sexual Orientation

Survey respondents who selected “My sexual orientation is not listed above” were invited to further specify their sexual orientation in a followup question.

What is your sexual orientation?	Number of Respondents (n = 3,627)	Percentage of Respondents*
Straight / Heterosexual	2,762	76.2%
My sexual orientation is not listed above	406	11.2%
Did not respond	459	12.7%

*Percentages do not add to 100% due to rounding.

What is your sexual orientation?



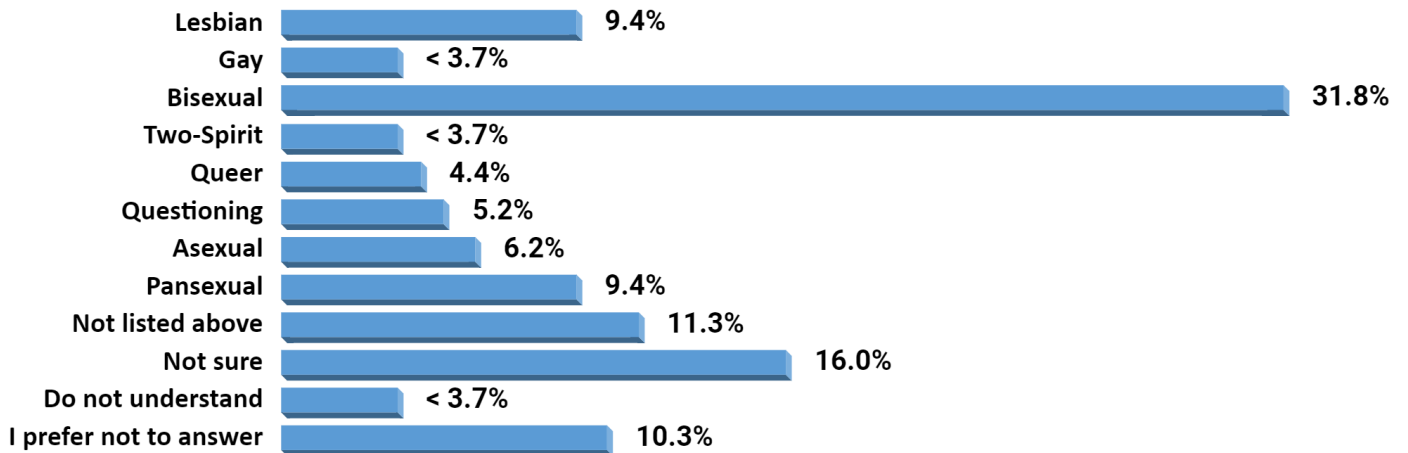
Sexual Orientation (continued)

Survey participants were presented with the original question. If they chose the second option, “My sexual orientation is not listed above,” as more than 11% of respondents did, they were presented with a further list of options. The most common answer given by people who responded to the second question was Bisexual.

The percentages shown in the table are based on the 406 people who had the opportunity to answer this question, not the full group of survey participants.

In the previous question, you indicated that your sexual orientation was not listed. What is your sexual orientation? Select all that apply.	Number of Respondents (n = 406)	Percentage of Respondents*
Lesbian	38	9.4%
Gay	<15	<3.7%
Bisexual	129	31.8%
Two-Spirit	<15	<3.7%
Queer	18	4.4%
Questioning	21	5.2%
Asexual	25	6.2%
Pansexual	38	9.4%
A sexual orientation(s) not listed above	46	11.3%
Not sure	65	16.0%
I do not understand this question	<15	<3.7%
I prefer not to answer	42	10.3%
Did not respond	<15	<3.7%

In the previous question, you indicated that your sexual orientation was not listed. What is your sexual orientation?



Percentages in this graph are based on the 406 people who had the option to answer this question.

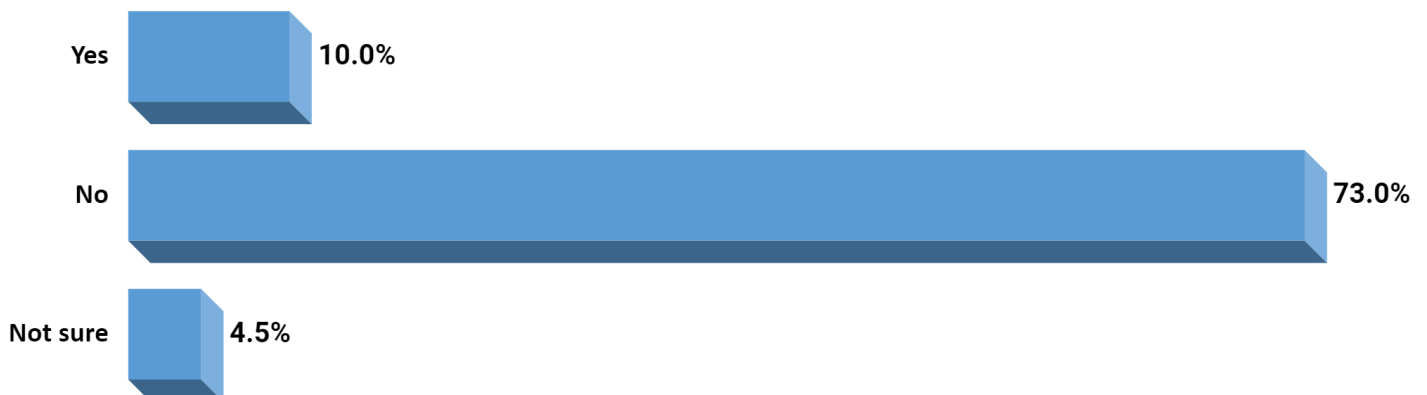
Disabilities

Survey respondents who selected “Yes” were invited to further specify their disability(ies) in a followup question.

Do you consider yourself to be a person with a disability or disabilities?	Number of Respondents (n = 3,627)	Percentage of Respondents*
Yes	364	10.0%
No	2,646	73.0%
Not sure	164	4.5%
I do not understand this question	16	0.4%
I prefer not to answer	75	2.1%
Did not respond	362	10.0%

*Percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding.

Do you consider yourself to be a person with a disability or disabilities?



Disabilities (continued)

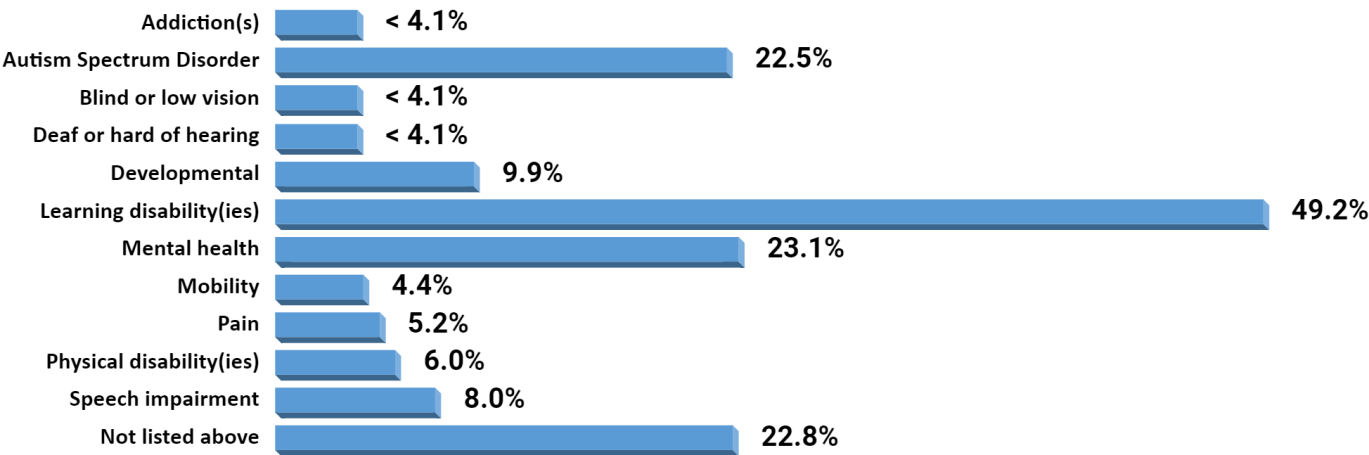
The 364 respondents who said “Yes” to the “Do you consider yourself to be a person with disabilities” question were invited to specify their disability(ies) from the list. The percentages below are related to the people who responded to this question, not the entire group.

Slightly more than half of the responses to the “Any disability(ies) not listed above” specified ADD (Attention-Deficit Disorder) or ADHD (Attention-Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder).

If you responded yes, select all that apply.	Number of Respondents (n = 364)	Percentage of Respondents*
Addiction(s)	<15	<4.1%
Autism Spectrum Disorder	82	22.5%
Blind or low vision	<15	<4.1%
Deaf or hard of hearing	<15	<4.1%
Developmental disability(ies)	36	9.9%
Learning disability(ies)	179	49.2%
Mental health disability(ies)	84	23.1%
Mobility	16	4.4%
Pain	19	5.2%
Physical disability(ies)	22	6.0%
Speech impairment	29	8.0%
Any disability(ies) not listed above	83	22.8%
Did not respond	<15	<4.1%

*Percentages do not add to 100% given that respondents could select more than one category. Percentages in this chart are based on the 364 respondents who responded “Yes” in the previous question, “Do you consider yourself to be a person with a disability or disabilities?”

If you responded yes, select all that apply.



Percentages in this graph are based on the 364 people who had the option to answer this question.

Discrimination Experiences at School

This question had a much higher non-response rate than the previous questions. Even within this question, more people responded to the first situation (First language) than the remaining areas which had a non-response rate of approximately 45%. It is impossible to know whether people who did not respond were indicating that they had not experienced discrimination in this area or whether they were deliberately choosing not to respond.

There were six response options to each of these areas: Always, Very Often, Sometimes, Rarely, Never and I do not know. The responses have been grouped together here because of small numbers (< 15) in some of the responses.

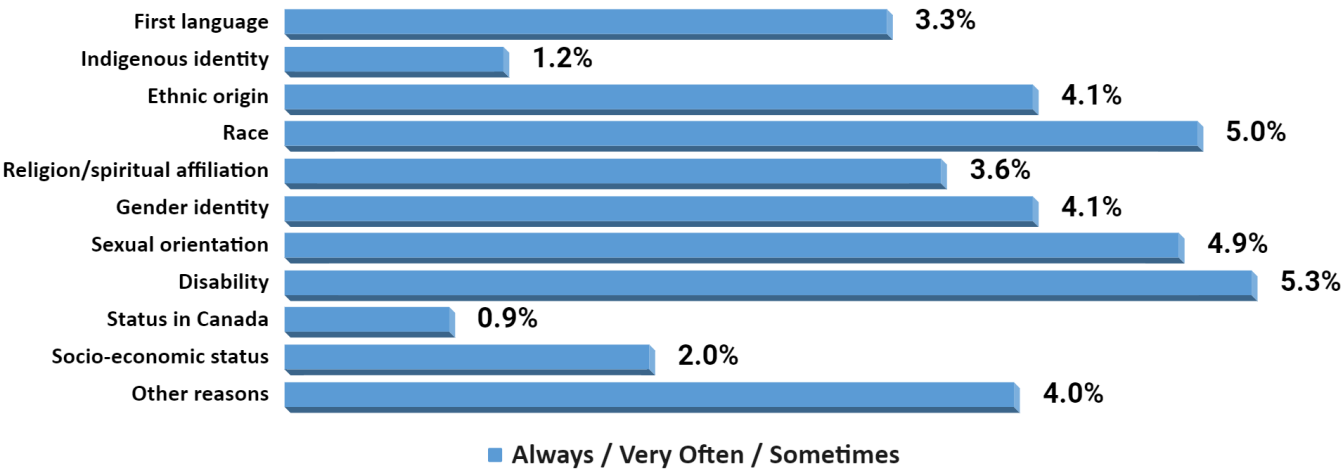
The majority of people who did respond to this question indicated Rarely or Never in terms of experiencing discrimination. However approximately one-third of the people in the Always / Very Often / Sometimes responses selected Always or Very Often.

How often have you experienced discrimination at school as a result of the following factors?	Always / Very Often / Sometimes	Rarely / Never	I do not know	Did not respond
First language	3.3%	62.8%	5.8%	28.2%
Indigenous identity	1.2%	52.8%	3.7%	42.2%
Ethnic origin	4.1%	46.8%	4.5%	44.6%
Race	5.0%	46.7%	3.5%	44.8%
Religion or spiritual affiliation	3.6%	47.1%	4.5%	44.9%
Gender identity	4.1%	47.6%	3.9%	44.4%
Sexual orientation	4.9%	46.5%	4.1%	44.6%
Disability	5.3%	47.1%	2.8%	44.8%
Status in Canada (e.g. refugee, landed immigrant)	0.9%	51.2%	2.8%	45.1%
Socio-economic status	2.0%	47.2%	6.1%	44.7%
Other reasons	4.0%	34.6%	9.3%	52.2%

*Percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding.

Almost 70% of participants responded to the First Language question while approximately 55% of participants responded to the remaining areas which is why the top bar is longer than the others.

How often have you experienced discrimination at school as a result of the following factors?



Identity at School

Approximately 50% of the survey respondents indicated that they felt they could express and learn about their identities along with learning about other identities.

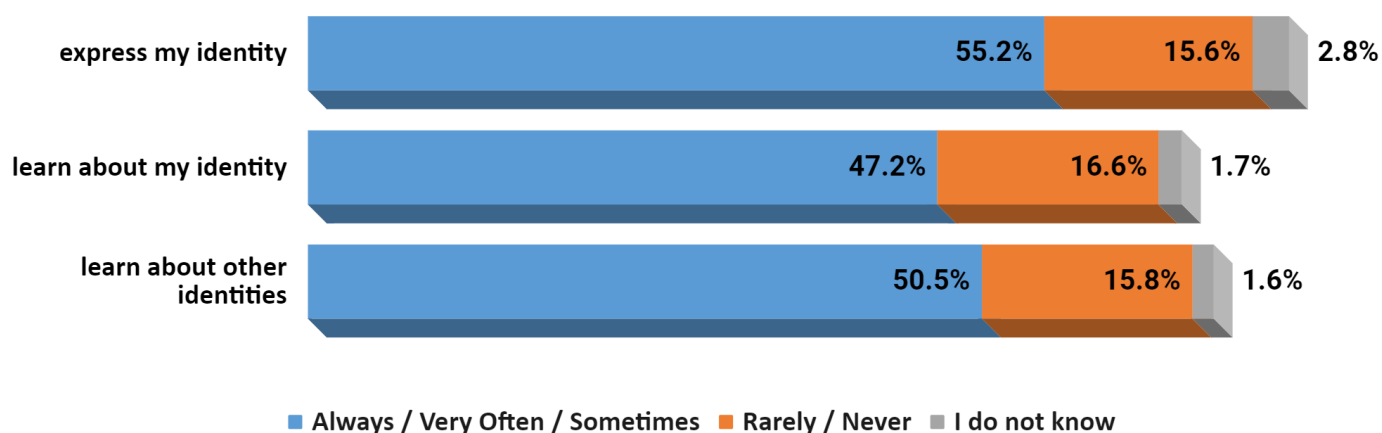
There were six response options for each question about identity: Always, Very Often, Sometimes, Rarely, Never and I do not know. The responses have been grouped together here because of small numbers (< 15) in some of the responses.

In the case of people indicating Always, Very Often or Sometimes, the “Sometimes” responses accounted for six percentage points of the group with “Always” or “Very Often” making up the remaining 41 to 49 percentage points.

At school, I feel that I am able to:	Always / Very Often / Sometimes	Rarely / Never	I do not know	Did not respond
express my identity (e.g. race, gender identity, sexual orientation)	55.2%	15.6%	2.8%	26.4%
learn about my identity (e.g. race, gender identity, sexual orientation)	47.2%	16.6%	1.7%	34.6%
learn about other identities (e.g. race, gender identity, sexual orientation)	50.5%	15.8%	1.6%	32.0%

*Percentages may not add to 100% across the rows due to rounding.

At school, I feel that I am able to:



Representation at School

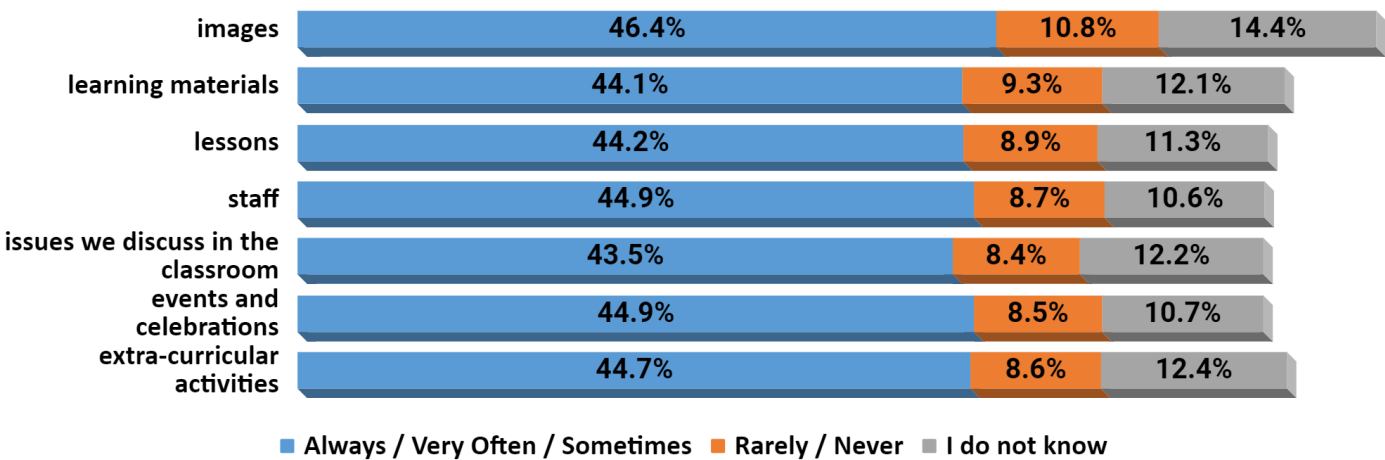
There were six response options for each question about identity: Always, Very Often, Sometimes, Rarely, Never and I do not know. The responses have been grouped together here because of small numbers (< 15) in some of the responses.

In the case of people indicating Always, Very Often or Sometimes, the responses were split approximately equally across the three options in all areas. For example, in the “events and celebrations” area where 44.9% of the responses were Always, Very Often or Sometimes, each of those three options had about 15% of the responses.

In my school, I see myself / my identity reflected positively in:	Always / Very Often / Sometimes	Rarely / Never	I do not know	Did not respond
images (posters, pictures, murals, etc.)	46.4%	10.8%	14.4%	28.3%
learning materials (books, videos, internet content, etc.)	44.1%	9.3%	12.1%	34.4%
lessons	44.2%	8.9%	11.3%	35.5%
staff	44.9%	8.7%	10.6%	35.8%
issues we discuss in the classroom	43.5%	8.4%	12.2%	35.7%
events and celebrations	44.9%	8.5%	10.7%	35.9%
extra-curricular activities	44.7%	8.6%	12.4%	34.2%

*Percentages may not add to 100% across the rows due to rounding.

In my school, I see myself / my identity reflected positively in:



Opportunities to Learn About Other Identities

The response rate for this question was just above 50%, and it is not clear whether the lack of responses is because it was the last question or because people felt they did not have an opportunity to learn about different identities at school.

Areas where people felt they had the most opportunity to learn about other identities were in the cases of Indigenous identity, race and religion. They felt they had the least opportunity to learn about gender identity and sexual orientation.

I have an opportunity to learn about authors, characters, scientists, historical figures at school who have an identity different from my own, such as the following:	Number of Respondents (n = 3,726)	Percentage of Respondents*
Indigenous identity (First Nations, Métis, and / or Inuit)	1,586	43.7%
Ethnic origin	977	26.9%
Race	1,229	33.9%
Religion or spiritual affiliation	1,113	30.7%
Gender identity	574	15.8%
Sexual orientation	513	14.1%
Disability	900	24.8%
Status in Canada (e.g. refugee, landed immigrant)	960	26.5%
Socio-economic status	698	19.2%
Did not respond	1,726	47.6%

*Percentages do not add to 100% given that respondents could select more than one category.

I have an opportunity to learn about authors, characters, scientists, historical figures at school who have an identity different from my own, such as the following:

