

DID YOU KNOW?

A NEW REPORT ESTIMATES THAT **405,373** CHILDREN HAVE A PARENT IN CANADIAN CUSTODY

Based on biological parents in Canadian federal custody, provincial/territorial custody, youth detention custody + immigration detention custody. Unfortunately, parallel info regarding the diversity of important kinship relationships, including adopted children and families is not available.

WHAT

A new report that presents estimates of the number of children with a biological parent in custody.

The number of children with imprisoned parents is not collected by prison institutions in Canada.

WHY

WHY IS DATA IMPORTANT?

Up-to-date data about the actual numbers of children of incarcerated parents can help identify unknown trends, clarify the extent + types of issues faced by families and help governments show that they are meeting their obligations.

HOW

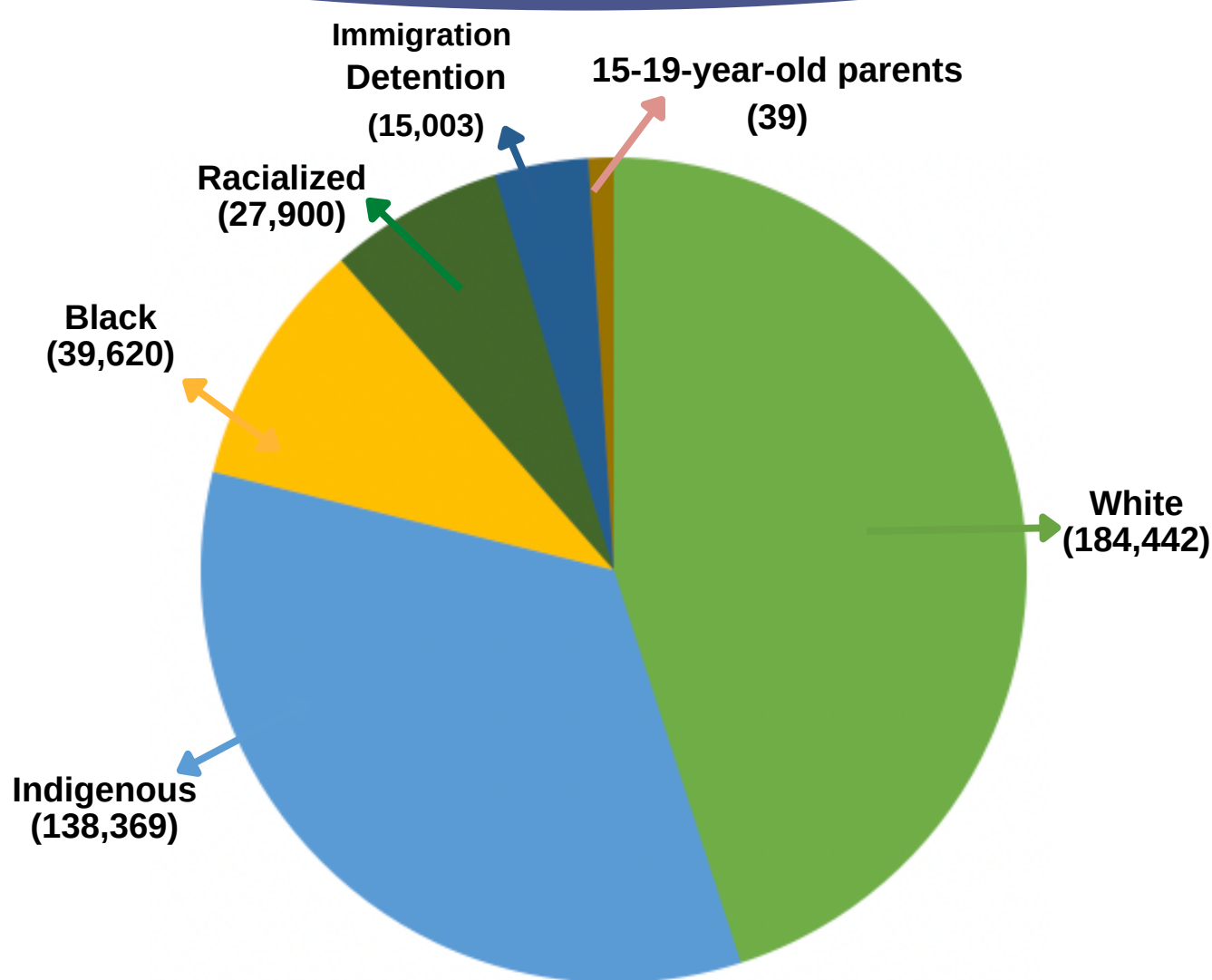
Estimates are based on disaggregated fertility rates, actual in-counts in custody + total admissions to custody in 2019/2020.

On any given day, an estimated **64,290** children have a biological parent in custody in Canada.

IMPACT



CALCULATIONS:
Number of children with a biological parent admitted to custody in 2019/20*
(405,373)



* Federal custody, provincial/territorial custody, youth detention custody + immigration detention custody

Calculations are categorized by race, using fertility rates and total custodial admissions of white, Indigenous, Black + other racialized adults + youth.

Recommendations

Survey a sample of federal, provincial/territorial, youth institutions, + immigration holding centres to understand the number of children impacted by their parent's imprisonment.

Conduct a survey with the support of people with lived experience. The survey should include differences among imprisoned people (i.e. race, gender, etc.) and diversity of family dynamics.

The data collection process should affirm the rights and dignity of imprisoned people and kin.

For more recommendations access **Linda Mussell's** full report here:

[Estimating the Number of Children with a Biological Parent in Canadian Custody, 2019/20](#)



QUAKERS
Canadian Friends
Service Committee

