



2021 Summer Institute

The Early Years: From Disruption to Recovery and Beyond

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Background

- A Toronto Child and Family Network initiative, co-chaired by City of Toronto's Children's Services
- An online interactive platform that visualizes inequities experienced by children and families in Toronto
- Brings together data about from Census, surveys, school boards, the Early Development Instrument, etc
- Outcomes identified for children, families and Indigenous children and families
- 100+ indicators associated with outcomes

RaisingtheVillage.ca



- A Toronto Child and Family Network initiative aimed at improving outcomes for Toronto's children and families
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Inequities by Outcomes

- Child Outcomes: physical health and development, mental health and social development, learning and education, rights and opportunities, and nurture and care
- Family Outcomes: family health, resilience and support, lifelong learning, financial security, and culture and community
- Indigenous Outcomes: self knowledge, strong families, vibrant communities, cultural equity, and self-determination
- The results can be examined at a neighbourhood level or by disaggregated racial data.
- An **Equity Analysis Toolkit** allows for TDSB student census data by race
- Inequities based on Race can be identified using the **Neighbourhood Comparison Dashboard**.

Inequities by Outcomes

Equity Analysis Toolkit

Select socio-demographic: ▼

Student's Race ▼

- In between
- Least positive outcome
- Most positive outcome

Student's Race

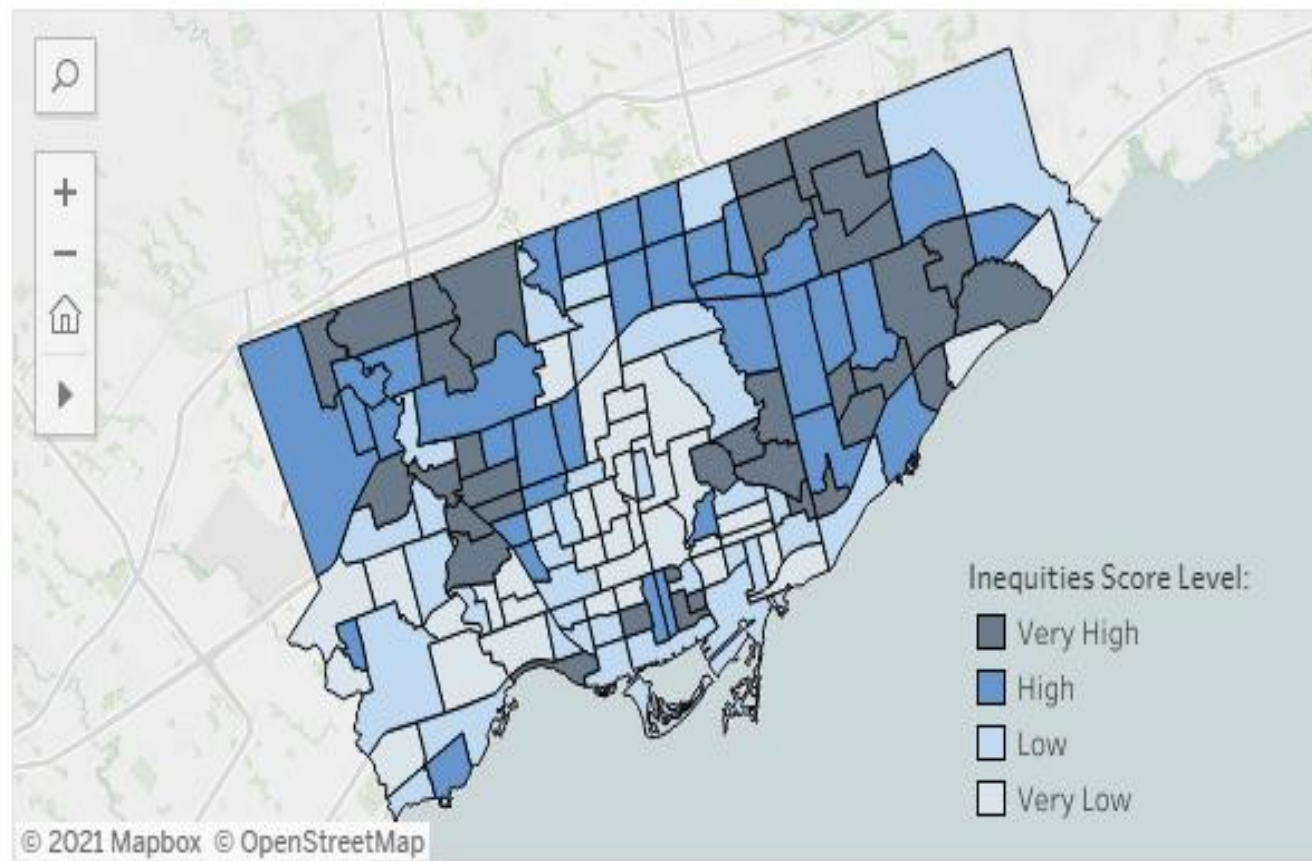
This information can be used to help identify people's experiences based on race including experiences of systemic racism, histories of slavery and the impact of colonization that continue to create a gap between racialized and Indigenous people and others. This gap includes worse outcomes in education, employment, income and health for Indigenous and Black populations. Understanding where this gap exists is critical to the development of anti-racist and equitable policy, programs and services.

Outcome ²⁺ ▼	Short indicator name	Comparing groups with most and least positive outcomes*	Black students	East Asian students	Indigenous students	Latin American students	Middle Eastern students	Mixed-race students	South Asian students	Southeast Asian students	White students
Physical Health & Development	8+ hours of sleep per night	1.2X	62.1%	68.7%	56.1%	64.4%	67.8%	61.3%	66.6%	61.0%	69.4%
	Active transportation to school	1.3X	41.2%	45.2%	47.1%	43.2%	39.8%	43.4%	43.5%	46.2%	51.2%
	Good/Very good self-rated physical health	1.2X	83.5%	76.4%	76.0%	82.2%	84.6%	83.5%	79.9%	77.7%	87.6%
	Healthy Eating: dairy products/alternatives	1.2X	78.4%	85.8%	71.7%	85.2%	83.7%	85.2%	87.7%	81.4%	89.4%
	Healthy Eating: eat fruits	1.2X	82.4%	92.6%	80.0%	88.9%	88.5%	88.8%	87.3%	85.8%	92.1%
	Healthy Eating: eat vegetables	1.3X	68.6%	89.8%	76.9%	77.2%	77.7%	83.8%	78.9%	73.9%	88.2%
	Less than 2 hours screen time: computer/vid..	1.3X	73.4%	82.6%	63.3%	78.3%	82.2%	80.7%	83.9%	70.0%	83.3%
	Less than 2 hours screen time: TV or videos	1.3X	59.7%	74.3%	56.7%	63.9%	68.5%	67.5%	71.3%	58.2%	73.1%
	Rarely/never feel tired	1.2X	50.2%	50.3%	54.8%	50.0%	51.3%	45.9%	55.1%	48.3%	47.7%
	Unhealthy Eating: rarely/never drink pop	2.5X	30.4%	58.7%	23.6%	40.1%	40.5%	48.2%	45.3%	40.5%	55.9%
Unhealthy Eating: rarely/never eat fast food	1.8X	36.2%	59.0%	45.8%	47.6%	44.6%	53.9%	45.1%	39.9%	64.3%	

Neighbourhood Inequities

- Raising the Village Dashboard showing variation in child and family inequities across neighbourhoods.
- The score represents different factors that were determined to contribute to inequity, including: LIM, parental employment and education, no official language knowledge and core housing need

Map: Child & Family Inequities Score [Info](#)



Inequities and COVID

- Toronto Public Health Covid-19 Risk Score data suggests that neighbourhoods with high Covid-19 risk mirror neighbourhoods with high inequities where low income, employment status, and racial background are all intersecting.
- COVID impacts on family employment, remote work arrangements, virtual schooling and health and safety concerns seem to also be disproportionately impacting equity deserving groups.
- BIPOC parents have been more likely to report a decrease in income due to COVID-19
- Children and youth from lower income households have also been more likely to report that they have felt unsafe, were going outside less, and had more difficulty concentrating.

Inequities and COVID cont'd

The Ontario Parent Survey which was conducted in the spring of 2020 showed:

- 1 in 3 parents or caregivers reported moderate to high levels of anxiety, and almost 60% reported symptoms that met the criteria for depression
- Parents also reported difficulty in managing their children's behaviour (31%), and their child's anxiety and depression (48%)
- 40% of parents reported their child's mood/behaviour had deteriorated
- Family dysfunction was also measured with 21% of parents reporting getting into long arguments with their children and 49% indicating a high level of conflict with their spouse

(Source: Gonzalez A. Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on Ontario families with children: findings from the initial lockdown [Internet]. Hamilton, ON: McMaster University; Offord Centre for Child Studies; 2020 [cited 2020 Nov 30]. Available from: <https://strongfamilies.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/OPS-Executive-Report-v6-FINAL.pdf>)

Building Equity in the Toronto System

- Fee subsidy **policy flexibility** (using ‘exceptional circumstances’)
- Use of high COVID risk indicators and system level data to distribute **Safe Restart funding** to most child care centres in neighbourhoods most impacted
- **EarlyON online programming** and wrap-around supports
- **Virtual consultations** for families of children with extra support needs
- Reinvested underutilized **2020 provincial allocations**
- Health & Safety **training and supports**
- **Professional learning** regarding children with extra support needs
- **Mental health** education series
- **Vaccine education**



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A community-driven initiative that measures child well-being outcomes at a population level.

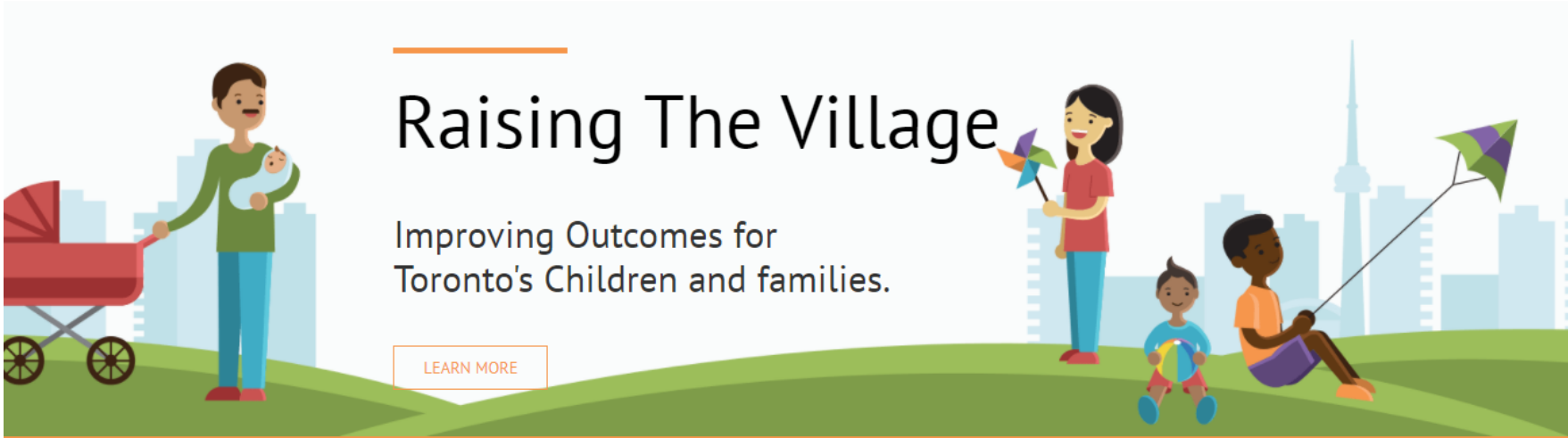


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Raising The Village

Improving Outcomes for Toronto's Children and families.

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Raising the Village is an initiative of the Toronto Child & Family Network (TC&FN).

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