

Addressing barriers to post-secondary education:

Findings from The Gateway Cities Project

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Gateway Cities Project

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- Institutional partners at:
 - University of Chicago Consortium on School Research
 - Research Alliance for New York City Schools
 - University of Sheffield
 - Toronto District School Board
 - *University of British Columbia



The Gateway Cities Project

What is a “Gateway City” anyway?



Introduction: The Gateway Cities Project

- **Extremely fortunate to have TDSB collecting data on students.**
- Comparability of data a big issue
 - Decisions have to be made about priorities
 - The issue of British Columbia Ministry of Education data

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- Focus for Toronto/Other city comparison depended on nature of data
- There are many differences we could focus on
 - We decided to focus on race and sex differences in postsecondary outcomes

Toronto

Almost half of TDSB students expelled over last 5 years are black, report says



48% of expelled students self-identified as black over period covered by report, TDSB says

Lisa Naccarato - CBC News · Posted: Apr 11, 2017 5:00 AM ET | Last Updated: April 11, 2017



Toronto

Black students in Toronto streamed into courses below their ability, report finds

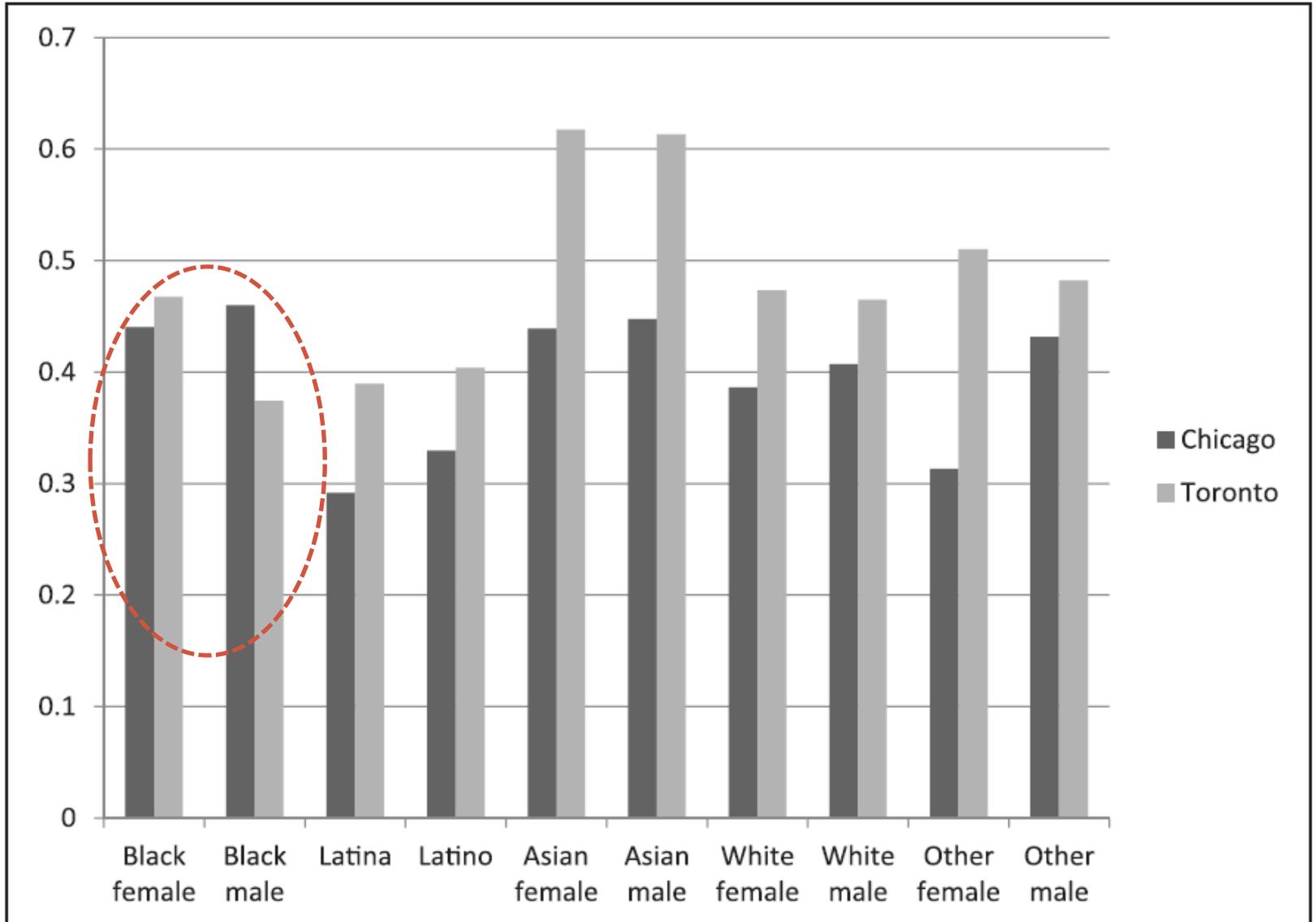


Report also finds black students suspended at much higher rates than counterparts

Muriel Draaisma - CBC News · Posted: Apr 24, 2017 8:14 AM ET | Last Updated: April 24, 2017



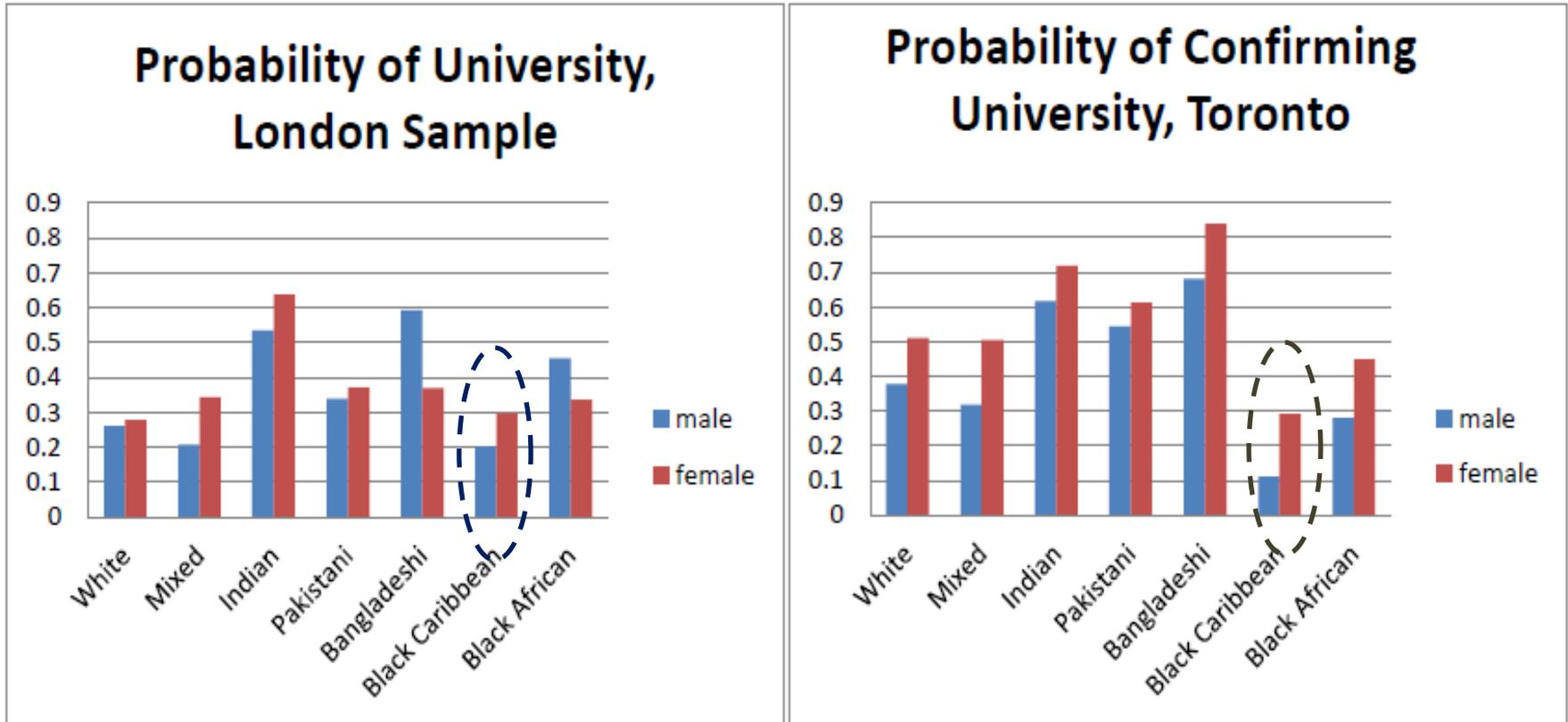
Toronto/Chicago Analysis



Predicted probabilities of enrolling in four-year college.

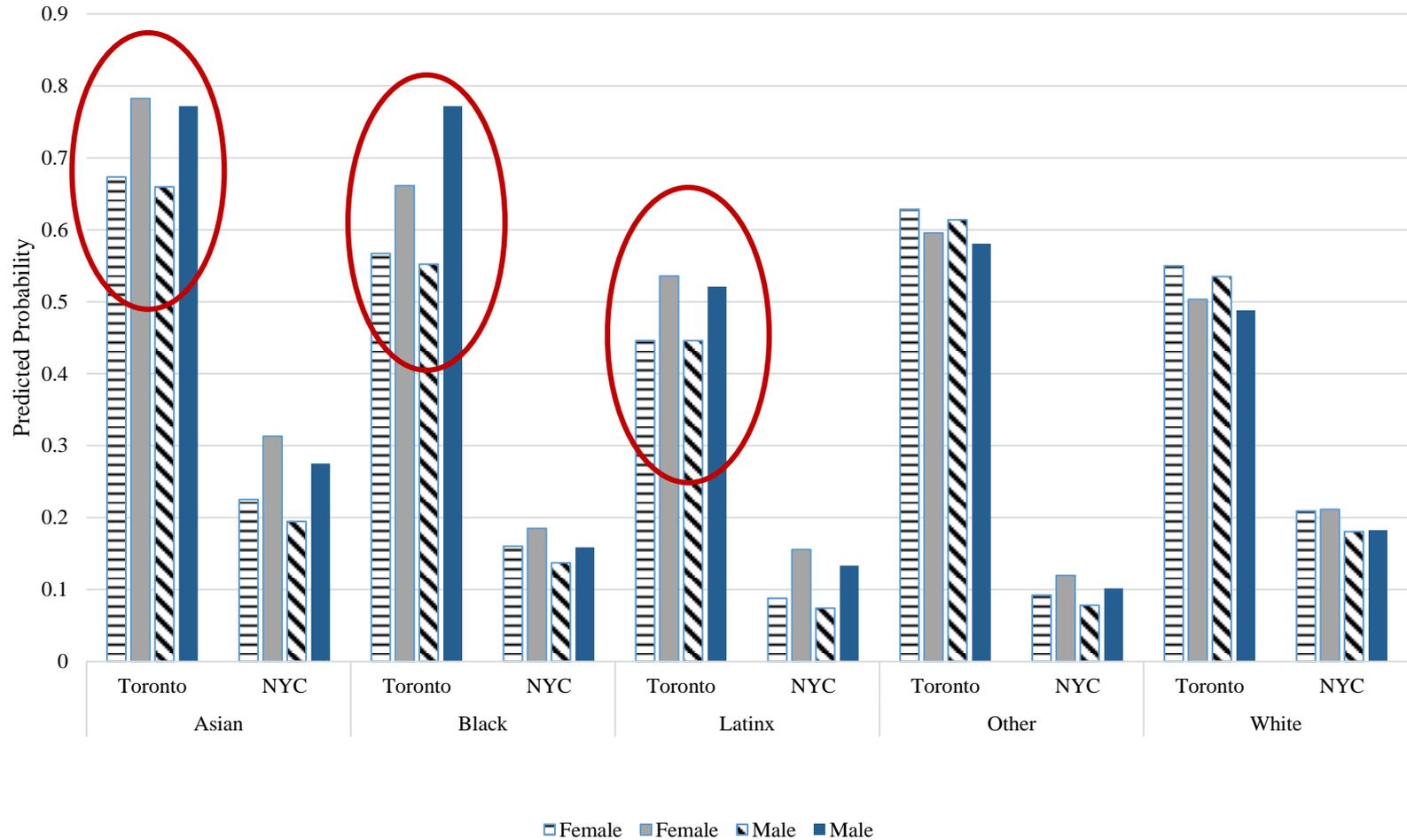
Robson, K., Anisef, P., Brown, R. S., & Nagaoka, J. (2019). A comparison of factors determining the transition to postsecondary education in Toronto and Chicago. *Research in Comparative and International Education*, 14(3), 338-356.

London (UK) vs Toronto: Race and Sex on University Enrollments



Black Caribbean boys about half as likely to go to university in Toronto, compared to London

Toronto/NYC Analysis – with a focus on immigrant status



Black, and Asian immigrant youth less likely to go to university in Toronto. Latin and Asian immigrant students less likely to go in NYC.

Conclusions

- There is a lot to consider about CONTEXT here
 - institution-type comparability
 - eliteness of institutions?
- But why are Black students (boys/immigrants) doing worse in Toronto when we do these comparisons?
 - Consider the policies and practices that produce these findings (i.e. streaming, policies that disproportionately target racialized youth)
- **Comparative research demonstrates the situation can be different**

Thank you!

<https://socialsciences.mcmaster.ca/the-gateway-cities-project>

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