

## **Race and Candidate Nomination in Canada |**

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In Canada, a party nomination is the primary channel into electoral politics. Although there has been some research on the gendered nature of nomination processes, there is almost none on the role of race. This paper uses new data to understand not just who comes forward as a nomination contestant but also the role that race plays in candidate emergence. I find that while the proportion of racialized contestants is smaller than that of white contestants, it matches racialized Canadians' presence in the population. Although this suggests some degree of political equality, I demonstrate that racialized contestants are subjected to a different nomination context than their white counterparts. They are siloed into a narrow slice of districts and are less likely to enter as incumbents, to emerge in open seats, or to win their nominations through acclamation. The fact so many racialized Canadians are selected as candidates is in many ways a testament to their ability to overcome the hurdles they face along the way.